

The Honorable Senator Patty Murray
2988 Jackson Federal Building
915 2nd Ave.
Seattle, WA 98174

October 30, 2015

Dear Senator Murray:

I have been a delegate to the Democratic National Convention, and have run successfully as a Democrat for local office three times. I was the first woman candidate for County Commissioner to win on a planning platform in San Juan County. I was one of the key players in prohibiting personal watercraft in San Juan County that won in the Supreme Court because we are recognized as a place of "peace and tranquility." I have lived here on Lopez for over 30 years.

On this past Wednesday evening, *not for the first time*, at 7:30 p.m., I had to throw my hands up over my ears to prevent them from hurting due to an overflight of the Growler EA-18 jet from NAS Whidbey. I was walking one block from my home to Lopez Village's community center for a community event featuring a famous author. This is the second time to cover my ears from excruciating noise from this jet, BUT it is the umpteenth time that I have had to stop a conversation or open my door to make sure that there was not thunder or other danger happening, only to discover that this unnerving rumble was yet another Growler test.

The Growler flight plan does not even include overflight of Lopez Village, which it has been regularly doing this past week. I know people are leaving their homes on this beautiful island due to the noise. There is now a real estate disclosure statement required for homes on the southern part of this island. Our property values are going down.

But perhaps the most tragic of all, other than severe damage to citizen's health, is the fact that the brunt of the noise is at our National Monument properties. Where is our "peace and tranquility?" If you check this website <http://sjcgis.org/aircraft-noise-reporting/> you can see recording after recording of complaints from this jet, which arrived AFTER we did. There is no comparison between the Growler and any former aircraft. *I now live in a war zone.*

Please mitigate this excruciating noise immediately.

Sincerely,

Rhea Y. Miller
Lopez Island, WA 98261