



Update: October 19, 2019

Growler Impacts And Regional Concerns Are Spreading

Concern about the impacts on citizens by EA-18 Growler overflights in the region is mounting. Quiet Skies has begun to hear from Orcas citizens that the impact is now being felt there.



**SOUND DEFENSE
ALLIANCE**

Save The Date!
Orcas Island Community Forum
Thursday, November 14th
6-8pm @ Parish Hall

Rhea Miller & Larry Morrell of the Sound Defense Alliance will present the latest accomplishments and concerns around the Growler EA-18 flights in the region. There will be a presentation, Q & A time, and a call to action exercise with attendees. Refreshments will be served.

RESTORE THE BALANCE: We are asking you for two things:

1. Please continue reporting Growler overflights and excessive jet noise to the County website. The look of the website has been changed and has a new URL. See this webpage for "how-to" information:

<https://www.quietskies.info/access-the-county-report-site>

2. We ask that you make a "birthday" donation to the Sound Defense Alliance at this time. As we near the end of the year, funding is needed to continue hiring staff (social media, community organizing, website updates, executive director, and any consultants for the coming year). It is these donations that have allowed us to reach not only the region, but Washington, D.C. We appreciate any size donation.

Click here to donate:

<https://sounddefensealliance.org/donate-today/>

New Video

One of the best videos about the impact on the Olympic Peninsula, as well as in the islands, can be found at:

<https://www.npca.org/advocacy/50-save-the-wild-natural-sounds-of-the-olympic-peninsula>

Imagine being at Iceberg Point, or Point Colville, or even Watmough for the first time ever, and all of a sudden subjected to the sound of the EA-18 Growler aircraft.

We have had visitors stop at our booth at the Farmers' Market and wonder what the sound was that rattled their time at these National Monument sites on Lopez Island. Now we think of those on the south end, and increasingly on the east side of Lopez, being regularly subjected to this sound.

People's adrenalin starts to flow, whether at the overflight, or the incessant rumbling that flows over the island, wondering if they have a chimney fire, an explosion, or an earthquake.

On the Navy's Radar

San Juan Council member Rick Hughes met for several minutes with the Secretary of the Navy.

The lawsuit filed by Washington States' Attorney General Bob Ferguson finally caught the attention of the leadership of the U.S. Navy. The Secretary arranged for a meeting on Whidbey Island. Hughes ably represented the concerns of our County to him.

Support From Congress

Three members of Congress—Cantwell, Larsen, and Killmer (Peninsula region) have asked for actual on the ground real-time sound monitoring. We have yet to know the result of those requests, but it is a major breakthrough to have this attention in Congress.

Finally, in concern for our declining marine life, underwater sound monitoring is being done when the Growler overflights are happening. The first monitors with their readings disappeared, but we are hopeful for future success.

Sound Defense Alliance

Just one year ago Quiet Skies joined the Sound Defense Alliance (SDA), and this past May, Rhea Miller of Lopez Island was elected Chair of the SDA.

Until joining the SDA, Quiet Skies had been unable to lift the urgency of this invasion of sound to the attention of the region. We are now a part of a regional effort asking for the Growlers' deafening noise over our homes, national treasures, and wildlife be stopped.

Know that we will update you whenever any significant actions occur concerning Growler noise.

Remember to check for more information at the Quiet Skies and Facebook postings.

www.quietskies.info

<https://www.facebook.com/quietskiesoversanjuancounty/>

Please join the Sound Defense Alliance now.

If you have not done this already, please sign up to be a member of the Sound Defense Alliance.

<https://sounddefensealliance.org/take-action/join-us/>. Donations to the Sound Defense Alliance are greatly appreciated.