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**Quietskies**

**Over San Juan County**

**Update: October, 2015**

**Second Edition – CALL FOR ACTION, NOW**

**GREETINGS:**

A couple of weeks ago we sent out word that Representative Larsen's office was not hearing from us and had assumed the Growler noise problem was not a problem.

This last week we were informed that U.S. Senator Murray was not aware that San Juan County has a Growler noise problem and did not recall co-signing a letter with Rep. Larsen requesting funding for a Hush House to mitigate the Growler noise.

Needless to say, Quiet Skies is wondering what has happened to our communications to Senator Murray's office in the last two years.

IN RESPONSE, S.J. County Councilman Jamie Stephens scheduled a conference call last Friday with Senator Murray's regional director in Washington State and with her Military aide in Washington D.C. He asked for an in-person meeting with Senator Murray here in Washington State. Stay tuned!

HERE IS WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU - NOW: Senators Murray and Cantwell need to hear what it's really like to live with the jet noise. They need to hear your real experiences. After a day like yesterday which started roaring at 8:44am continued roaring until 8:30pm we all have something to share.

**10 DAY PLAN:**In the next 10 days please write a letter to each one. It can be the same letter. We need their help.  We need them to work together to find mitigation for the noise and overflights. We need action now - not in two years or 10. \*\*\*\*NOW\*\*\*\* They were part of bringing the noise to us. Now they need to need to be accountable and help us regain our quiet skies.

YOUR COMMENTS COULD INCLUDE:
\* How is living with this noise affecting your life?
\* Are you concerned about your property values?
\* Is the noise affecting your use of your home? Inviting friends to dinner? Overnight guests? Gardening? Being outside?
\* How do you cope with the noise? Noise canceling ear protection? Leaving your home during Field Carrier Landing practice?
\* Does the noise affect your sleep?
\* Do you have health concerns such as anxiety, stress, higher blood pressure that are affected by the Growler noise?
\* Are you taking medication to help you endure the noise?
\* What would help you to cope with the Growler noise? Training Schedules? Evidence that the Navy hears our complaints and is trying to mitigate?
\* Your concerns about how the noise may increase if additional Growlers are added.

IN ADDITION TO HOW THE NOISE IS AFFECTING YOUR DAILY LIFE -
1. Ask them to sign onto Representative Larsen's 6 mitigation points. (Larsen's points are listed below)
2. Ask them both to schedule meetings in the near future with San Juan County Councilman Jamie Stephens to discuss an action plan for mitigation.

ADDRESS YOUR LETTER TO SENATORS MURRAY AND CANTWELL

**Honorable Senator Murray**

154 Russell Senate Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20510

Phone: (202) 224-2621

Fax: (202) 224-0238

Toll Free: (866) 481-9186

Website: [www.murray.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/contactme](http://www.murray.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/contactme)‎

**Honorable Senator Cantwell**

311 Hart Senate Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20510

Phone: (202) 224-3441

Fax: (202) 228-0514

Website: [www.cantwell.senate.gov/contact/](http://www.cantwell.senate.gov/contact/)

**Honorable Representative Rick Larsen (WA 2nd District)**

2113 Rayburn House Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: (202) 225-2605 (Washington D.C.)

Phone: (425) 252-3188 (Everett Office)

Fax: (202) 225-4420 (Washington D.C.)

Website:   [www.larsen.house.gov/office/washington-dc](http://www.larsen.house.gov/office/washington-dc)

rick.larsen@mail.house.gov

LETTERS SHOULD BE BRIEF, REAL AND RESPECTFUL.

PLEASE SEND YOUR LETTERS BY SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8 - before we all get swept up in the holidays.

IF WE DON'T ALL STEP UP AND STATE OUR CONCERNS - MITIGATION WON'T HAPPEN.

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Stay in touch:

Quiet Skies: www.quietskies.info
Report Jet Noise: sjcgis.org/aircraft-noise-reporting/
(Our reports are sent to our legislators and the Navy)

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ANOTHER GREAT ARTICLE BY DAHR JAMAIL:
<http://www.truth-out.org/news/item/33387-us-navy-allegedly-broke-federal-laws-to-push-forward-electromagnetic-war-training-over-national-forests>

HOLD OUR REPRESENTATIVES ACCOUNTABLE!

SIX POINTS

In December 2014 REPRESENTATIVE LARSEN, who maintains a firm position of supporting the expansion of NASWI into a Premiere Base, sent out his long-term strategy for addressing the impacts Growler noise in our region. He states that he is exploring the following ideas with the Navy:

1) Reducing noise from engine testing by building a Hush House.

2) Reducing engine noise by adding chevrons which could muffle jet noise without sacrificing engine performance.

3) Reducing Future flights by using software which could reduce the amount of training pilots need before deploying to a carrier.

4) Expanded sound monitoring which would include adding sound measurements in San Juan County to the current Environmental Impact Statement.

5) Growler Schedule for Ault Field.

6) Improved use of data from the San Juan County jet noise website.

We have not, however, seen any results.

SENATOR MURRAY: Other than joining Representative Larsen to suggest a Hush House, Senator Murray has been silent, rarely responding to constituent letters requesting mitigation of Growler noise.

SENATOR CANTWELL: Senator Cantwell has no official position on the Growlers and their impact on San Juan County residents. The Senator states that her staff is monitoring the situation and sends out form letters that do not relate well to constituent concerns.