NEWS RELEASE May 24, 2005

MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS 411 NORTH 5^{TH} ST SHELTON, WA 98584 (360) 427-9670 EXT. 419

TO: KMAS, KRXY, SHELTON-MASON COUNTY JOURNAL, THE OLYMPIAN, SHELTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, NORTH MASON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, CITY OF SHELTON, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE SUN

RE: Open House for the Lynch Cove/North Shore Potential Sewer Service Area

Mason County will host an open house on Wednesday, June 8 to inform residents about and solicit public input on a Delineation Study that will assist the County in defining the limits of a potential sewer service area in the Lynch Cove and North Shore areas of Lower Hood Canal.

On March 6, 2002, poor water quality conditions lead to the State of Washington Department of Health declaring a severe public health hazard in the Lynch Cove area of the Lower Hood Canal. The poor water quality conditions have been attributed to on-site sewage systems in the area.

The purpose of the Delineation Study is to identify areas in the Lynch Cove/North Shore area that are, or have the potential to, contribute to the water quality conditions that have resulted in the declaration of a severe public health hazard. Areas that are identified as having potential to contribute to the poor water quality conditions may be included in a sewer service area that would be part of the initial or future phases of the proposed Belfair Sewer System.

The open house will take place from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Sand Hill Elementary School, 791 NE Sand Hill Road, Belfair. The event will be informal. Participants can drop in any time during the open house and stay as long as they like. Those who attend will be able to talk directly with County officials and members of the consulting team the County has hired to conduct the study.

If you have questions about the scope of the ongoing Delineation Study, please contact Doug Micheau, Director of Parks, Utilities, and Waste Management at (360) 427-9670 extension 270.

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