NEWS RELEASE September 13, 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: Public Meeting for the Lynch Cove/North Shore Potential Sewer Service Area

Mason County will host a public meeting on Monday, September 26 to present the findings of the Lynch Cove/North Shore Sewer Service Area Delineation Study.

Last June Mason County hosted an open house to inform residents about and solicit public input on the Delineation Study that was being conducted to 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. The Delineation Study is complete and will be presented and discussed at the public meeting.

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. Poor water quality conditions, attributed to on-site sewage systems in the area, lead to the State of Washington Department of Health (DOH) declaring a severe public health hazard in the Lynch Cove area of the Lower Hood Canal in March of 2002.

The Delineation Study will be used by Mason County to define a potential sewer service area, in which homes may be served by a public sewer system in the initial or future phases of the proposed Belfair Sewer System project.

The public meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Sand Hill Elementary School, 791 NE Sand Hill Road, Belfair and conclude at 8:30 p.m. The public meeting will consist of a formal presentation that will include a brief overview of the Delineation Study, its findings and the next steps in providing sewer service to the Belfair/Lynch Cove/North Shore area, followed by a question and answer period with county officials, staff and consultants.

The Delineation Study can be viewed and obtained on the Mason County web site at www.co.mason.wa.us. If you have questions please contact Doug Micheau, Director of Parks, Utilities, and Waste Management at (360) 427-9670 extension 270, or through the local Belfair number at 275-4467 extension 270.

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