

A close-up photograph of several people's hands and forearms, all clasped together in a supportive, huddled gesture. The skin tones are diverse, and the lighting is warm and slightly dim, creating an intimate and emotional atmosphere. The hands are stacked on top of each other, with fingers interlaced or resting firmly. The background is blurred, focusing attention on the physical connection between the individuals.

Why should King
County reject the
Marine Recovery
Area
expansion
proposal?



What we
have
learned

County Tactics

- * Use of exaggerated language
 - a. “Broad support for the proposition”
 - b. “The State has asked us to act”
- * Don’t reveal the truth
 - a. “Skagit County is all in an MRA”
 - b. “VMI MRA Advisory Committee already approved”
- * Mislead and repeat it often
 - a. Originally targeted all of Vashon Island in the MRA
 - b. “MRA expansion is required”



What has
happene
d?

Grass roots efforts

* ~~After sent to 1300~~ **Waterfront Property owners**

- a. Over 120 people have emailed the PH Board
 - b. Support to reject the proposition continues to grow
-

* **Science and data continue to support rejection**

- a. Waters around Vashon Maury are “pristine”
 - b. “We aren’t fixing a problem, we are preventing one”
-

* **Impact those that will be voting on the proposal**

- a. Teresa Mosqueda has listened and been persuaded to answer looming questions
- b. The proposal may be altered and will be put off for a few months

What is
next?

Getting the word

Out

* **Present the facts, the science is persuasive**

- a. Word of Mouth
- b. Present at VMICC and other meeting venues

* **Guest Column in the Beachcomber**

- a. Column in the Vashon Loop
- b. Invite people to reach out the 30 PH Board Members

* **Develop a Facebook Website**

- a. Continue to expose misrepresentations
- ~~b. Continue to expose the EPA fines, the real pollution sources~~

Gaslighting 101

“MRA expansion is required”

- * Why?
- * What did the State say?
- * Under what conditions

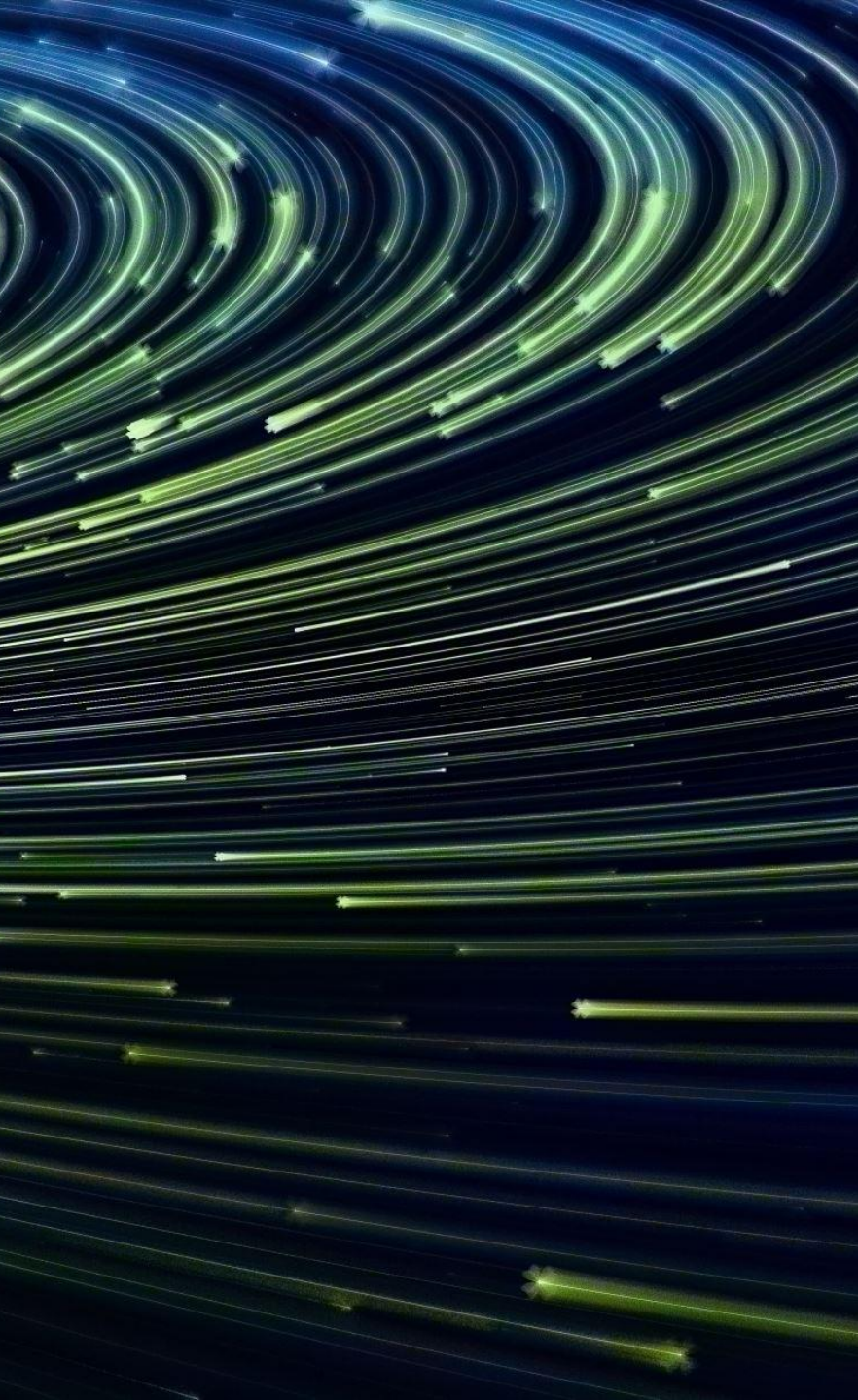
“The State has asked us to act”

- * Which criteria under RCW70A.110.040 is KC using as the

justification

“Current conditions require it!”

- * Where is the problem?



Our grass roots group of concerned Vashon residents continues to expand as they learn the facts. Our presenters tonight.....

Armen Yousoufian



Andy Amstrup



Beth de Groen



Retired Justice Richard Sanders

Andy Amstrup

A thick, hand-drawn style orange line underlining the text.

We must be
prepared
for Tricky
Questions
... (the
ones we
don't have
good
answers
for)

Agenda and minutes for the VMI MRA Advisory Committee Meetings dated May 2026 highlighted a section called "Tricky Questions".

"Clear reason why expanding to 'all' shoreline; protecting proactively rather than responsively. There is going to be significant push back unless there is substantial financial assistance."

*Meagan Jackson- "There isn't a present problem, we just want to prevent one from happening in the future!"

State law to expand an MRA – at least one of 3 criteria must exist. **RCW 70A.110.040**

“... areas where existing on-site sewage disposal systems are a **significant factor** contributing to concerns associated with:

a. Shellfish growing areas that have been threatened or downgraded by the department under chapter 69.30 RCW;

(b) Marine waters that are listed under 303(d) for low-dissolved oxygen or fecal coliform

(c) Marine waters where nitrogen has been identified as a contaminant of concern by the local health officer.

“A solution in search of a problem?”

* No Human Biomarkers -The counties own “best argument” study 2018-2020. March 2020 entitled “Fecal Pollution Sources and Water Quality Sampling on Vashon-Maury Island, 2018-2020” states in its conclusion...

qPCR analysis of samples for human, dog and ruminant genetic markers, and a source of fecal bacteria could not be determined.”

* 2014 study showed only 0.6% of Nitrogen in the Harbor comes from Septic Systems.

Manzanita Beach “Examples” in 2023, and 2026 were two isolated cases quoted by Meagan Jackson as “Examples of what we are now seeing. 2400 cfu 100mL and 3200 cfu 100 mL which shocked the audience. When challenged “out of how many?” Meagan admitted that these were not from a study and these were the only two examples.

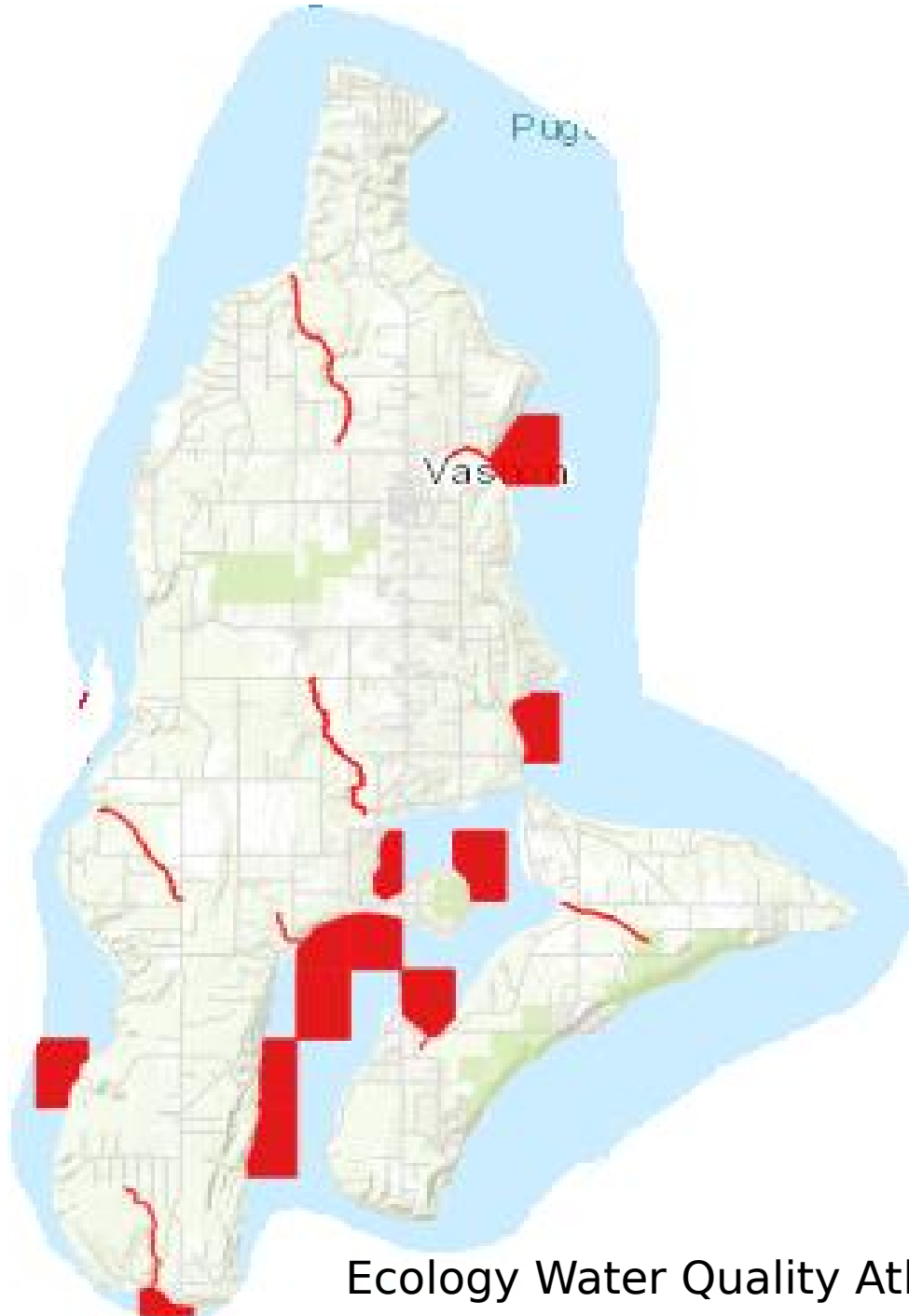
Criteria Meagan pointed to that would justify the expanded MRA to the entire VMI shoreline is as follows.

- According to RCW 70A.110.040(4), “After July 1, 2007, the local health officer may designate additional marine recovery areas meeting the criteria of this section, according to new information.”if you look at Ecology’s Water Quality Atlas, you will see that there are some areas around Vashon island on the 303(d) list (category 5). Some areas along the shoreline meet these minimum criteria for establishing a Marine Recovery Area.

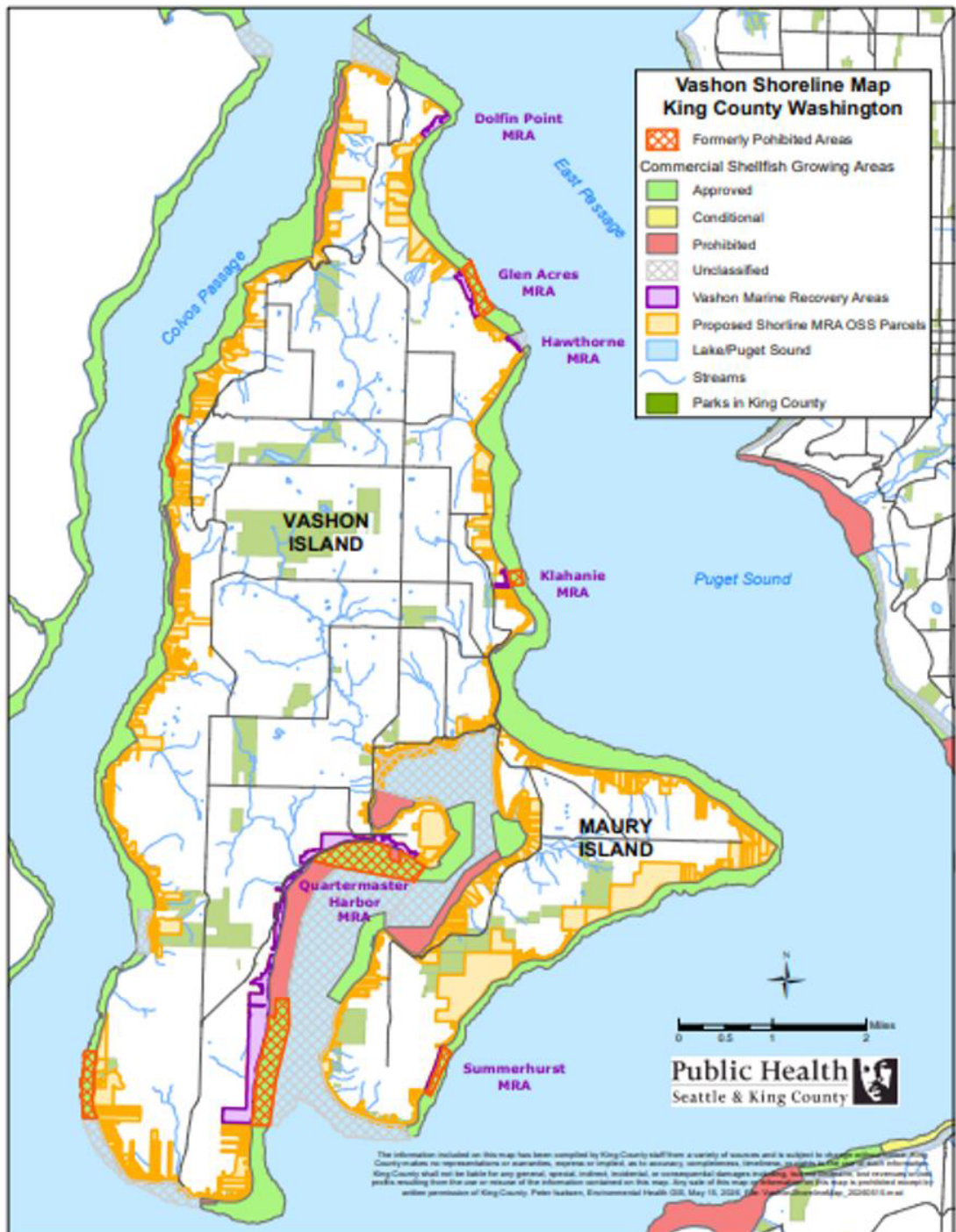
Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act, **lists all water bodies in the polluted water category.**

WAC 246-272A-0015 develop and update a local management plan

Nothing in 246-272A is related to or refers to the MRA or MRA criterium.



Ecology Water Quality Atlas



Is it legal
to
expand
the MRA?

Not unless one of the three
required criterium has been
met. RCW70A.110.040

To prevent future pollution
isn't a legal reason to
expand the MRA to the entire
shoreline.

Expanding the MRA is only
legal in new areas if septic
system failures are a
“Significant factor!”

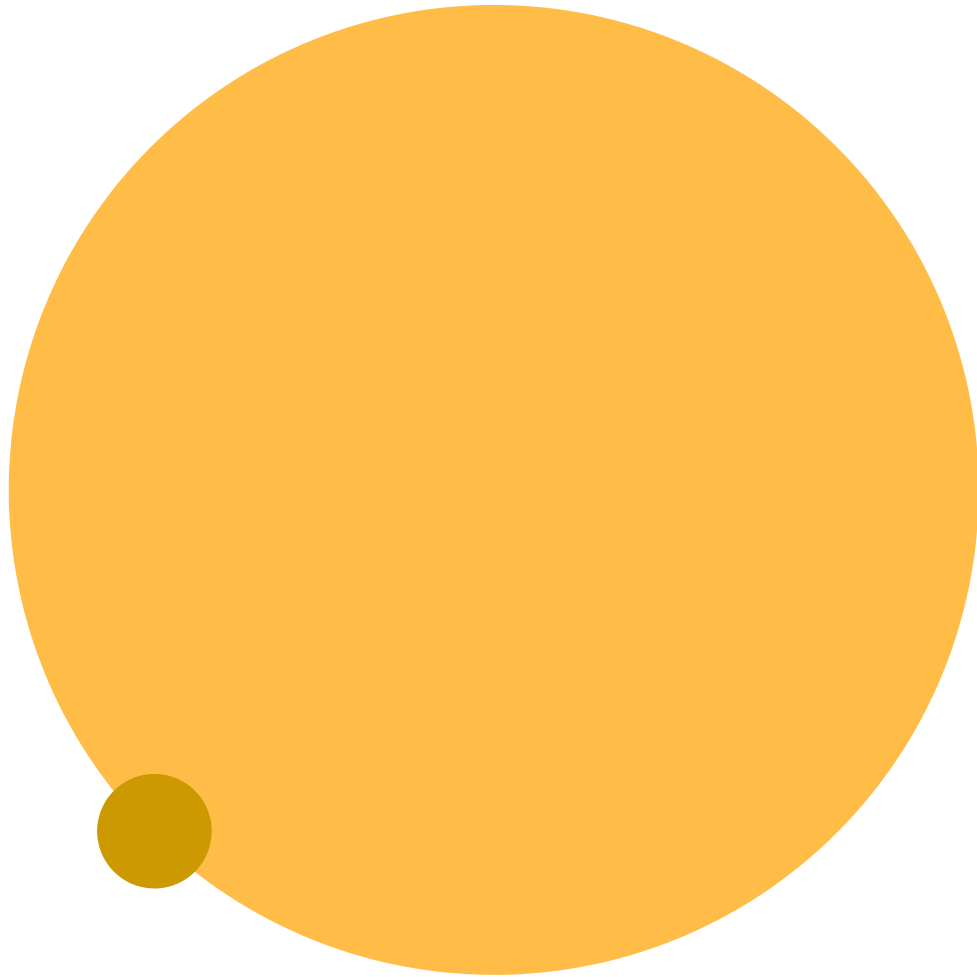


Follow the science

Follow the counties own data.

Follow the counties own admission that there almost no present issues, beyond the present MRA.

In our view, no criteria has been met warranting a total MRA for the entire VMI shoreline.



Why start this initiative on Vashon, when the County should be handling their own treatment plant issues. 1 billion gallons per year average. 10% of which is raw sewage. EPA fines in 9 out of the last 11 years for 1 million dollars fines!! Known pollution vs. maybe preventing issues down the line...what should we choose?



Beth de Groen



Every
person
on VMI
will be
affected!
Everyone

....

Marine Recovery Area =
Pollution !!

* Property values impacted

* Tourism reduced

* Businesses struggle

Retired Justice Richard
Sanders





Warrantless Septic Search Program:

- 
1. Homeowner must hire “private” inspector at homeowner expense or pay \$25/day fine
 2. Fine will be lien on your property leading to forced sale
 3. Inspector must be approved by government
 4. Inspector will dig up tank and portions of drain field
 5. Inspector will search interior of home
 6. Inspector will file mandatory report of findings with government

Fourth Amendme nt U.S. Constituti on

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable search and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Section 7
Washington
Constitution:
INVASION
OF PRIVATE
AFFAIRS OR
HOME
PROHIBITED

No Person shall be
disturbed in his private
affairs, or his home
invaded, without
authority of law.



“A person is a state actor if that person functions as an agent or instrumentality of the state.”

Pasco v. Shaw, 166 P.3d 1157 Para.
17 (2007)

If there is “valid consent”, “the absence of a warrant is immaterial because consent vitiates the need for a warrant.”

Schneckloth v. Bustamonte, 412 U.S. 218 (1973); *Seattle v. McCready* 124 Wn.2d 300,303-04 (1994)

“Under the well-settled doctrine of ‘unconstitutional conditions,’ the government may not require a person to give up a constitutional right...in exchange for a discretionary benefit...”

Dolan v. City of Tigard, 512 U.S. 374, 385 (1994)

“A plaintiff suffers a ‘constitutional cognizable injury’ whenever the government succeeds in pressuring the plaintiff into forfeiting a constitutional right in exchange for a benefit or the government withholds a benefit based on the plaintiff’s refusal to surrender a constitutional right.”

Koontz v. St. Johns River, 570 U.S. 595, 606-07 (2013)

Bottom Line:

Passage of this program will cost you attorney fees to protect your constitutional rights, but your taxes will pay the government lawyer to take them away.

Armen Yousoufian

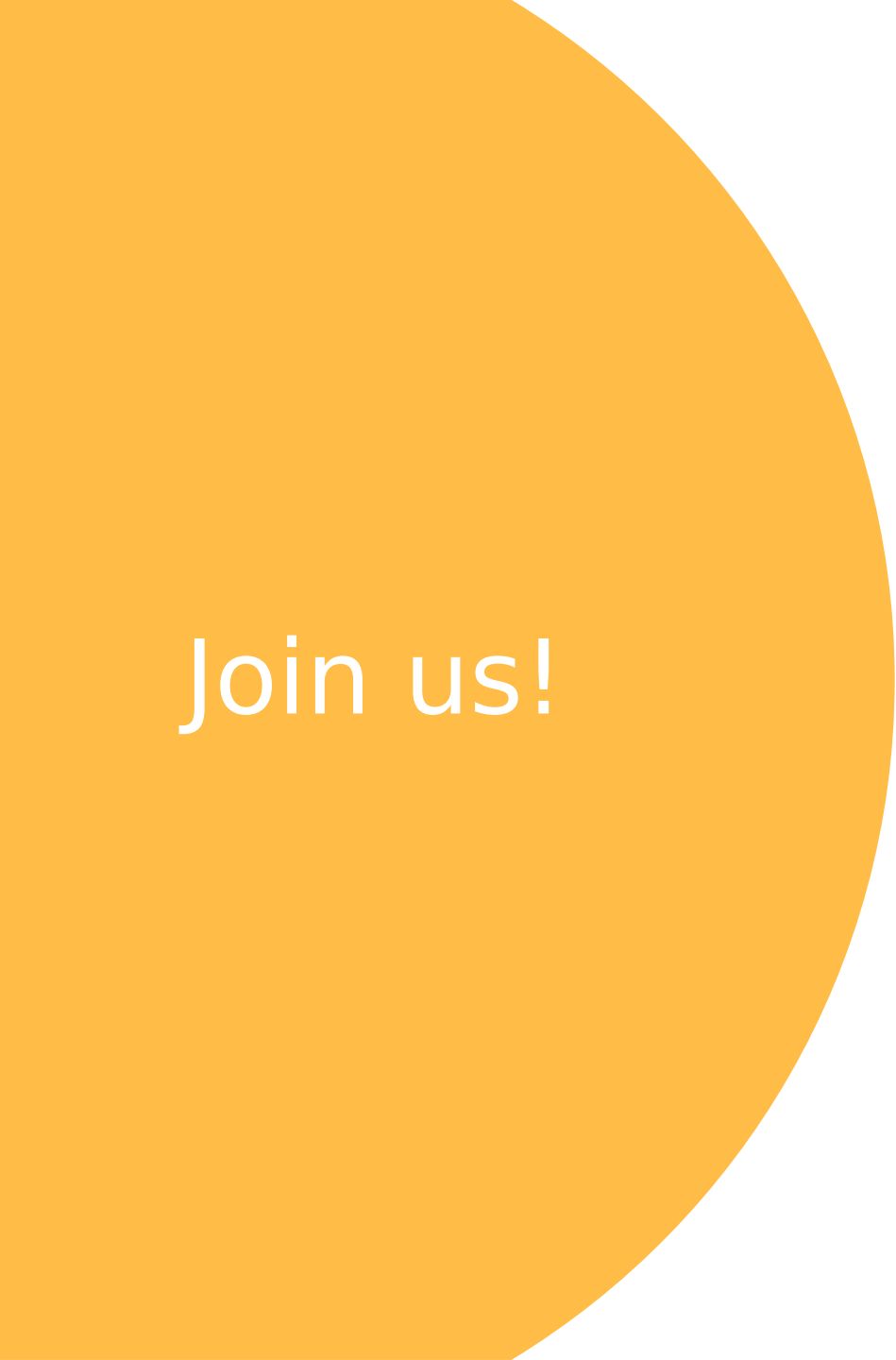


Conclusion?

The negative impact to Vashon Maury Island will be significant and lasting. It is also unnecessary

This is complete unnecessary overreach!

This expansion shouldn't be "delayed until waterfront owners can prepare for it"... it should be rejected now!



Join us!

If studies show beach water have elevated human coliforms, then move to add those areas to a targeted MRA.

Work on County pollution problems that are already here!

Tell the Public Health- Seattle and King County Board to say "NO".

Septic Sanity 2026@gmail.com

Glenn Gray
