

## **ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION**

Of

### **THE CRANE ISLAND NATURE PRESERVE**

February 1975, Amended 1982

#### **ARTICLE I – Name**

The name of this organization shall be the Crane Island Nature Preserve.

#### **ARTICLE II – Duration**

The duration of this organization shall be in perpetuity.

#### **ARTICLE III – Purposes**

The Crane Island Nature Preserve is established for the exclusive purposes of securing, protecting and preserving natural areas on Crane Island, San Juan County, Washington in order to provide a wilderness area of biological diversity for the protection and preservation of wildlife and for the scientific study of natural populations and their ecology.

#### **ARTICLE IV – Members, Associates, and Scholars**

**Member.** Any member of the Crane Island Association who has contributed \$100.00 or more to the Crane Island Nature Preserve is a member of the Preserve. Members may enjoy all of the activities and privileges of the Preserve, vote on matters affecting the Preserve, serve as trustees, and hold office.

**Associate.** Anyone who has contributed \$100.00 or more to The Crane Island Nature Preserve, but is not a member of the Crane Island Association; and any member who sells his/her Crane Island property (and thus is no longer a member of the Crane Island Association); is an associate of the Crane Island Nature Preserve. Associates may visit and enjoy the Preserve as a guest of a member, attend meetings, field trips, and lectures, but may not become a trustee, hold office, nor vote.

**Scholar.** Any responsible, qualified scholar may submit in writing a proposal involving scientific inquiry into the flora, fauna, or ecology of the Preserve to the Board of Trustees. Such proposals must not involve killing, trapping or molesting of animals nor significant harm to trees or other plants, and must conform to the land use restrictions of The Preserve. Upon approval of such a proposal the scholar may conduct his study for the period specified. The results may be published and any findings must be public property. Scholars have no privileges except those specifically spelled out in the letter of acceptance of the proposal.

## ARTICLE V – Trustees and Officers

Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees shall consist of not less than six or not more than nine members.

They shall be elected by majority vote of the members to serve three year terms, staggered so that as nearly as possible one-third of the board will be elected at each annual meeting.

Trustees are responsible for the business of The Preserve and the execution of policy determined by the members. They may delegate authority to Officers and may fill vacancies on The Board or in any Office until the next annual election.

Officers. Officers shall be President, Vice-President, and Secretary -Treasurer (which may be split into two offices at the discretion of the Board of Trustees). Each officer is elected by The Board of Trustees from its members for terms of one year immediately following each annual meeting.

The President shall be the senior officer of The Preserve and shall have general responsibility for it between meetings. This person shall arrange for and preside over meetings of the Board and general meetings, appoint members to committees, and approve expenditures.

The Vice President shall exercise the duties of the President in this person's absence or inability to function.

The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep minutes of The Board and Annual Meetings of The Preserve, keep records of The Preserve, serve as its fiscal officer and make payments authorized by the Members the Board, or the President.

## ARTICLE VI – Disposition of Income and Assets

No income to the Preserve may be used for any purpose other than the furtherance of the purposes of the Crane Island Nature Preserve as specified in ARTICLE III.

Disposition of assets other than real property may be made by majority vote of The Board of Trustees. Disposition of Real Estate anywhere except on Crane Island may be made on recommendation of The Board of Trustees and the approval of the majority of the members present and voting at a regular or special meeting. Disposition of Real Estate on Crane Island may be made only upon recommendation of the Board of Trustees and a three-quarters approval by all members (a mail ballot may be authorized).

No member, officer or trustee of The Crane Island Nature Preserve may receive any salary or other compensation for his services to The Preserve.

No part of the income nor income derived from the disposition of assets of The Preserve shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that The Preserve shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in ARTICLE III. No substantial part of the activities of The Preserve shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and The Preserve shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, The Preserve shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from Federal Income Tax under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law) or (b) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under section 170 (c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

#### ARTICLE VII – Dissolution

Should the Crane Island Nature Preserve ever be dissolved or otherwise cease to exist, The Board of Trustees shall dispose of all assets of The Preserve to the organization (or organizations) qualified as exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501 ( c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) which appears best able to carry on the purposes of The Crane Island Nature Preserve as specified in ARTICLE III.

#### ARTICLE VIII – Property use Restrictions

Since the purpose of The Crane Island Nature Preserve is to provide a natural wild habitat for plants and animals then it follows that the influence of man on land owned by The Preserve must be minimal; essentially limited to restoring and maintaining the land to as nearly as possible its original wild state. There shall be no hunting, trapping, or molesting of wild animals and only the necessary thinning of trees and shrubs as determined by The Board of Trustees to provide an optimum wild-life environment. No camping nor fires will be permitted, and no structures will be built with the exceptions of ponds and/or wells (in accordance with the agreement of January 31, 1976 between the Crane Island Association and The Crane Island Nature Preserve).

#### ARTICLE IX – Amendments

Amendments to these articles of organization may be made by a three-quarters affirmative vote by all members (a mail vote may be authorized).