



**40**  
PUGET  
SOUNDKEEPER®  
Established in 1984

**FORTY YEARS  
ON THE SOUND**

# A Look Inside:

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*Photos courtesy Puget Soundkeeper, unless otherwise noted.  
Cover art by Erika Harada, erikaharada.com.*



Stefani León, Puget Soundkeeper's  
Corporate Engagement & Membership  
Manager, examines intertidal life at  
Constellation Park. Photo by Daniel Truong.

Puget Soundkeeper acknowledges that we are on the land of many Coast Salish peoples and their ancestors. We acknowledge the past and present harms to Indigenous and marginalized peoples, and the land and waters of this region. We honor the ancestors and those today who continue to steward the land and the Salish Sea. We pledge to care for this ecosystem by taking action to protect and enhance our shared waters.

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## **MISSION**

Puget Soundkeeper's mission is to protect and enhance the waters of Puget Sound for the health and restoration of our aquatic ecosystems and the communities that depend on them.

## **VISION**

We envision Puget Sound teeming with diverse marine life and providing safe opportunities for swimming, fishing, recreation, and sustainable economic activity. We seek a Sound that supports the lifeways and traditional cultural practices of Indigenous peoples, provides all communities with a clean, healthy place to live and work, and once again is home to an abundance of salmon and orca.



**W**elcome to a momentous occasion—the celebration of Puget Soundkeeper’s 40th anniversary. It is with immense pride and gratitude that we introduce this special document, commemorating four decades of unwavering commitment to the protection of clean water in Puget Sound.

In the world of environmental conservation, reaching a 40-year milestone is a testament to the enduring passion, dedication, and resilience of our organization and our clean water community. Over the years, we have seen the tides of change ebb and flow, but our mission remains steadfast: to protect and enhance the waters of Puget Sound for current and future generations.

This document serves as a window into our rich history, and a testament to the milestones we’ve achieved, the challenges we’ve surmounted, and the incredible impact we’ve made together. It reflects our collective journey, as well as the shared dreams, aspirations, and accomplishments of our community of supporters, volunteers, staff, and partners.

As we reflect on these past four decades, we invite you to embark on a journey through time with us, exploring the pivotal moments, transformative projects, and inspiring stories that have shaped our organization. From the early days of grassroots activism to our present-day initiatives, this document is a tapestry of our shared dedication to Puget Sound’s clean water and the diverse ecosystems it sustains.

We take this opportunity to express our deepest gratitude to each and every one of you who has been a part of our journey. Your unwavering support, whether through financial contributions, volunteerism, advocacy, or simply



spreading awareness, has been the wind in our sails. Looking forward, we remain committed to our mission with renewed vigor, knowing that the challenges we face are complex and the stakes are higher than ever. But together, we can write the next chapter in our shared legacy of environmental stewardship.



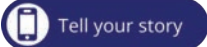
The Space Needle and Seattle's Queen Anne neighborhood. Lake Union and Lake Washington are visible in the background.

Thank you for being a part of our journey. Here's to 40 more years of dedication, passion, and progress in protecting clean water in Puget Sound.

See you on the water,  
*Puget Soundkeeper Staff and Board of Directors*

### **Tell Us Your Soundkeeper Story!**

Do you have a memorable Soundkeeper moment to share? Maybe you remember your first time joining a cleanup or seeing salmon in our urban streams. We want to hear from you! Use the QR code to fill out our storytelling prompt.



# The Clean Water Act

*“Restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation’s waters...” (CWA § 101)*



Enjoying a Puget Sound sunset.



**T**he 1972 Clean Water Act (CWA) proposed to control pollution at its source, protecting and restoring our interconnected waters. It aimed to eliminate the discharge of pollutants into our waters by 1985. Puget Soundkeeper formed in 1984 and has been busy enforcing the law ever since.



Puget Soundkeeper's former patrol boat, The Parker.



Puget Soundkeeper and its membership base enforce the Clean Water Act through a provision of the law which, while using the word “citizen,” clarifies that any community member harmed by water pollution may bring forward a lawsuit against a polluter. Together, we pursue the most egregious violators, while scrutinizing clean water pollution permits to ensure CWA goals are met. We also monitor facilities across Puget Sound for CWA compliance.

Puget Soundkeeper’s goal is to bring polluters into full compliance with the law and their respective permit(s). Soundkeeper also considers legal action against regulations and permits to achieve the strongest possible protections for clean water.



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## HOW WE WORK

**Monitoring and Enforcement:** Puget Soundkeeper is on the water year-round. We patrol Puget Sound and its tributaries looking for illegal pollution, and we enforce the Clean Water Act by bringing polluters into compliance with the law and representing the rights of our community.

**Policy and Civic Engagement:** Soundkeeper actively participates in municipal and state permitting processes by offering expert advice, submitting formal comments on permits and regulations, and litigating against municipal, state, and federal entities to challenge flawed permits. We contribute to multiple environmental coalitions tackling local issues like King County International Airport pollution and regional challenges like Southern Resident Killer Whale protections. Soundkeeper also collaborates with stakeholder groups to advance legislation, and connects youth with their representatives in Olympia.

**Education and Stewardship:** Soundkeeper leads several long-term community science projects including microplastics analysis, mussel watch, salmon surveys, and pollution prevention. Our microplastics analysis and Escaped Trash Assessment Protocol cleanups follow Environmental Protection Agency guidelines to maintain the highest possible standards for data collection. Soundkeeper is a coordinator for International Coastal Cleanup, and our regional results contribute to a global marine debris dataset used to advance policy decisions. We engage students of all ages in the classroom and in the field, and we connect our community members to their parks, shorelines, and waterways through volunteer opportunities.

# Laying the Foundation

Bob Boyle, a legendary figure in the Hudson River Valley, etched his name into environmental history as the trailblazing founder of Hudson Riverkeeper. He joined a group of concerned Hudson River fishermen in 1966 who were discussing the escalating pollution and destruction of the Hudson River.

A former outdoor editor and writer at *Sports Illustrated*, Boyle's passion for nature led him to a transformative discovery: the 1898 Rivers and Harbors Act. This law, nearly forgotten and underutilized for over six decades, prohibited the actions of polluters in the Hudson River and—critically—created a pathway for the public to enforce that prohibition.

The group's subsequent legal actions and community river patrols initiated what would become Hudson Riverkeeper and the Waterkeeper model. The 1972 passage of the Clean Water Act (CWA) invigorated environmentalists across the nation and provided a new suite of tools to protect clean water.

Puget Soundkeeper became one of six founding Waterkeepers and the first organization in Washington State to bring a CWA lawsuit against a polluter. Waterkeeper Alliance unites over 300 organizations spanning six continents, and champions waterways worldwide.

“Puget Soundkeeper's influence extends beyond regional borders; it played a central role in founding Waterkeeper Alliance. The organization has been at the forefront of preserving the ecological integrity of Puget Sound, an important inlet to the Pacific Ocean. Puget Soundkeeper's enduring commitment to water protection stands as a beacon, shaping the narrative on clean water locally and emphasizing the universal right to clean water in communities around the world.”

MARC YAGGI, CEO, WATERKEEPER ALLIANCE



## Stewardship & Education

### 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

Puget Soundkeeper's Stewardship & Education program connects community members directly to our shared waterways.

## Waterkeeper Alliance Highlights



Soundkeeper volunteers paddle on Lake Union during a cleanup event.

**52**

total paddle cleanups on Lake Union, Lake Washington, the Duwamish River, and the Green River

**22**

Salmon Surveyors monitoring Urban Runoff Mortality Syndrome in Longfellow Creek

**15**

community science workshops on microplastics, water quality monitoring, and cleanup protocol

**7,000**

pounds of marine debris removed from our waterways

**2,000+**

volunteers protecting Puget Sound

**52**

outreach and education events at schools, festivals, and symposiums

**311**

Waterkeeper groups worldwide

**1 million+**

volunteers worldwide

**5.9 million**

square miles of waterways monitored by Waterkeeper groups

**1,000**

Waterkeeper group staff members

**47**

countries represented in the Waterkeeper movement



# Growing Our Roots

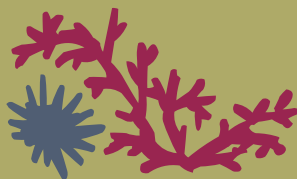
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**F**ounded in 1984 as the Puget Sound Alliance (PSA), Soundkeeper was the first grassroots organization to focus exclusively on protecting the marine environment of Puget Sound.

Initially, PSA fought successfully for secondary wastewater treatment at West Point in Seattle and a Puget Sound Management Plan. After rebranding as Puget Soundkeeper Alliance several years later, the organization hired Ken Moser as its first Soundkeeper in 1990 and began patrolling the waters of the Sound by boat.





Puget Soundkeeper founding board member Tom Putnam volunteers at Springbrook Creek in Renton, WA. Photo by Hannah Letinich.



Westward view from Discovery Park in Seattle, WA. The West Point Treatment Plant is behind the viewer.



Founding Board Member Tom Putnam—still a member of the Soundkeeper Board of Directors—speaks with Puget Soundkeeper about the early years.

**PUGET SOUNDKEEPER:** I've heard people describe the successful push to implement secondary wastewater treatment at West Point Treatment Plant as Puget Soundkeeper's first big "win." Is that where it all started? What led up to that victory?

**TOM PUTNAM:** I'll go back to the original days of what was then the Puget Sound Alliance. In 1982, a local environmentalist named Kathy Fletcher was interested in getting political and public support to increase Puget Sound advocacy. She wanted to have a state agency that directly addressed problems in the Sound, and she formed a group called Puget Sound Alliance. It consisted of about 60 board members who represented mostly environmental groups and agencies. I represented Audubon at that point.

The stated goal of the Puget Sound Alliance at the time was to gain secondary treatment at West Point. The facility was still using primary treatment and there was a big political push to get it to secondary treatment. That was achieved, eventually, along with the treatment of dredge spoils and the establishment of the Puget Sound Water Quality Authority as an entity housed in the governor's office.

**PSK:** What happened to Puget Sound Alliance after the formation of the Puget Sound Water Quality Authority?

**TP:** Kathy was appointed the head of PSWQA and brought her best people to the government authority. We were left with a skeleton crew, though Polly Dyer served as PSA's president at the time. She helped establish North Cascades National Park, and added Shi Shi Beach to Olympic National Park, during her lifetime of conservation work. Then, one of our board members, Ken Pritchard, learned about Hudson Riverkeeper. That was the first of the Waterkeepers, hired by Hudson River fishermen.

**PSK:** What about Hudson Riverkeeper stood out to you at the time?

**TP:** We saw that the model was based on the Clean Water Act and we hadn't focused on, or thought much about, the Act at the time. We flew out Long Island Soundkeeper Terry Backer and Hudson Riverkeeper John Cronin, and they gave us a presentation on their program. We were convinced, and hired the first Soundkeeper in about 1990, with almost no budget and no staff. We tried to reinvent PSA as Puget Soundkeeper. And we did it.

**PSK:** When did you feel like Puget Soundkeeper was standing on its own feet?

**TP:** We bought a patrol boat, and we started litigating. We won our first two cases with the help of Bobby Kennedy and the Sierra Club legal defense fund (now known as Earthjustice). Sierra Club was one of the only lawyer teams working on environmental issues at the time. That was the real beginning of the Soundkeeper program.

**PSK:** What keeps you passionate about the Soundkeeper approach to saving the Sound?

**TP:** Puget Sound holds immense ecological significance and the Soundkeeper approach to litigation is a pivotal tool for protecting our unique marine ecosystem. The Clean Water Act helps us protect the entire watershed by holding polluters accountable for the damage they cause.

# Taking Shape: the 1990s

*Puget Soundkeeper gains its identity.*



## **HIGHLIGHT:**

### **City of Bremerton**

Puget Soundkeeper's 1993 lawsuit against the City of Bremerton was the first public interest lawsuit in Washington State brought under the Clean Water Act's "citizen suit" provision. Soundkeeper and the City of Bremerton settled the litigation when Bremerton agreed, in an exhaustive consent decree, to make extensive sewage system investments and improvements. Bremerton brought its sewer overflows and wastewater under control over the course of 20 years and became a model for other Puget Sound municipalities.

In 2003, ten years into the improvement process, the shellfish beds in Dyes Inlet near Bremerton were able to open for the first time in 40 years. This milestone was especially significant to the Suquamish Tribe, which stewards its ancestral lands in the area and historically harvested shellfish. The Tribe continues to practice its traditional food systems and lifeways to this day.

**D**uring this pivotal decade, Soundkeeper launched many activities and programs that exist to this day. Our tactics included precedent-setting lawsuits, educational collaborations for recreational boating best practices, an increasing focus on the Duwamish River and Longfellow Creek, a boat patrol program, and more.



A Navy vessel in Bremerton, WA.

**HIGHLIGHT:**

## **Puget Sound Naval Shipyard**

Sinclair Inlet in Bremerton, home of the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard (PSNS), was added to the Federal Superfund list in 1994. Puget Soundkeeper reached a tentative consent decree with PSNS that same year. The facility had been in violation of its pollution discharge permits since 1988. PSNS was required to implement best management practices and minimize pollution entering the impaired waterway.

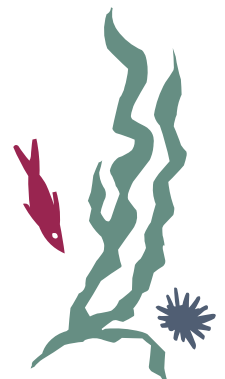
However, between the end of 1994 and the summer of 1995, the Navy violated its consent decree and continued to spill into Sinclair Inlet dozens of times. Some of the documented pollution included oil, jet fuel, mercury, PCBs, copper, lead, zinc, chromium, untreated sewage, and radioactive water. At the end of 1995, Soundkeeper considered returning to court to force the Navy into compliance.

In 1995, the court ruled that PSNS must come into compliance with its discharge permits, repair its sewer systems, provide Puget Soundkeeper with water quality monitoring information, and fully implement stormwater management best practices, or face contempt of court charges.

## **Another Naval Shipyard Violation**

The Suquamish Tribe, Puget Soundkeeper, Washington Environmental Council (now Washington Conservation Action), and the State of Washington settled with the United States Navy in January 2020, resolving alleged hull scraping of an inactive aircraft carrier docked at the Navy's facility in Bremerton.

Sinclair Inlet is a Superfund Site and has been part of the Suquamish Tribe's traditional fishing area since time immemorial. Tribal fishers continue to exercise their Treaty-reserved fishing rights in the waterway and alleged hull scraping contributed to the discharge of toxic chemicals into an impaired waterway.



# Building Momentum & Connection

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**BJ** Cummings—researcher, community organizer, and author—was the second person to hold the Soundkeeper position.

She spoke with Puget Soundkeeper about her commitment to the Duwamish River and its potential as an urban waterway.

BJ Cummings stands on the bank of the Duwamish River.  
Photo by Steve Shay.

**PUGET SOUNDKEEPER:** How did you find your way to Puget Soundkeeper?

**BJ CUMMINGS:** As I finished up my graduate work in Belize, I was interested in not just being a scientist but also crafting solutions. My work focused on what I then called the intersection of the environment and human rights—now we use the term environmental justice.

It became clear to me that I couldn't be a responsible field ecologist and have blinders on to the social context around me. It was not my role or my right to craft solutions for places that weren't 'mine.' I had to figure out where home was. I had ties here and I came to Seattle. The first job I got was with Puget Soundkeeper as the volunteer coordinator, and I was very quickly drawn to our river.

**PSK:** I've been reading through some of Soundkeeper's archives, and I see that the Duwamish River becomes more of a focus in the 1990s. Do you think your interest influenced the direction of the organization?

**BJC:** I've been working on the Duwamish since 1994, and one of my main jobs at Soundkeeper was to train volunteer kayakers. Before I had even been there a year, Ken (Moser) left the organization and I became the Soundkeeper. The Duwamish was one of my weekly patrol routes. Puget Soundkeeper was a small organization at the time, and the Duwamish was easy pickings because none of the industry was complying with its permits. It was so easy to find pollution violations—the absolute nuts and bolts of the Clean Water Act. Soundkeeper had focused on high-profile cases, and I did work outside the Duwamish as well, but a lot of my time was spent going along the river and trying to get all the industries permitted and in compliance.

**PSK:** How did that extensive time on the water change your perspective regarding protecting the river?

**BJC:** The Clean Water Act lawsuits and the confluence of people working together for the river, like James Rassmussen, John Beal, and later the Duwamish River Community Coalition (DRCC), were foundational to what we can do today. In those early years, going out with small groups was essential for building people's relationships with Seattle's river. The industrial wall was so impenetrable from land. You couldn't even find the river, though DRCC eventually published a map as a wayfinding tool. We couldn't expect people to get behind us if they didn't have a meaningful relationship with the river. That's true for any place. Build a connection to create momentum for environmental protection.

**PSK:** Did it change you as a person?

**BJC:** I really fell in love with the river as I got to know it. The hours and hours of paddling experiences cemented my relationship with the water. I hope that we instilled the same in the kayakers we trained. We wanted to reinvigorate on-the-water use of the river during those years.

**PSK:** Do you feel that you found your home here, with the Duwamish River and the Puget Sound watershed?

**BJC:** I feel like I've found my work home. Calling this place home, and what that means for me, has changed over the years. I have a much deeper understanding now of what it means to be a settler here. At the same time, I'm in a relationship with both the Indigenous stewards of the river and the first-generation, non-Indigenous stewards. I've come to understand that even here, I'm still a little bit "other." But the intentional partnership between Indigenous and immigrant activists bringing this river back to life is so powerful. Working in that allyship and partnership is very much my work home.



# The Duwamish River

*Seattle's river slowly flows toward recovery, but wildlife and communities need clean water now.*

The Duwamish River, running through the heart of Seattle and a host of upriver communities above the confluence of the Black and Green Rivers, has been filled in, straightened, regraded, built over, and otherwise developed by industrial and commercial operations for well over a century. Because of this long (and continuing) history of pollution and the risks posed to the communities and ecosystems of the river, two huge portions of the waterway, the Lower Duwamish and Harbor Island, have been listed as federal Superfund sites since 2001 and 1983, respectively.

The federal Superfund process, according to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), lays out how the nation's most contaminated land and water resources can be cleaned up. Largely, this work is carried out by those responsible for the pollution under the management and oversight of the federal EPA. Over the past several decades, work has progressed at these two sites, but, overall, there are years—if not decades—of more work ahead.

Along the Lower Duwamish River, some early successes include Duwamish River People's Park in the South Park neighborhood (completed in 2022). Some upland work capturing and eliminating pollution from sites along the river's edge and early action sites led to the removal of an estimated 50% of the accessible PCB contamination on the riverbed itself. On Harbor Island, various sections of the sprawling 400-acre industrial zone have seen toxic contaminants and polluted groundwater removed.

That said, the EPA only released an interim cleanup plan for the East Waterway of the Harbor Island Site (expected to take 10–20 more years to design, launch, and conclude efforts to address most of the toxic pollution), and has just begun planning the implementation phases of the removal of pollution from the Lower Duwamish River itself. Much more work remains, both to determine how to handle ongoing toxic stormwater and CSO discharges as well as how to plan for the ultimate restoration of the watershed's lost and degraded habitats.

After over 40 years of work on the Harbor Island site, and approaching 25 years of work on the Lower Duwamish River, the communities and ecosystems of today, tomorrow, and the next generation cannot afford any more delay. Our legacy of inequitable toxic pollution must be remedied fully, and these waterways restored.



# Healing the River



“ Our main mission has been to make sure we’re working with communities that are not represented, working with our partners, and working with the government to keep them accountable. We want to see [the Clean Water Act] in action, not on paper. We want to see it happening right now.

PAULINA LÓPEZ, DUWAMISH RIVER COMMUNITY COALITION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## Preferred Plan

The EPA released a cleanup proposal in 2023 detailing several potential cleanup plan options. Puget Soundkeeper supports the EPA’s “preferred alternative,” that is, the cleanup plan that the EPA itself recommends. This plan includes some initial stormwater regulation, which is critical for holistic river management and true, sustainable, long-term remediation. Soundkeeper and Duwamish River Community Coalition suggested the following improvements:

**Address river areas** that receive high volumes of polluted stormwater from outfalls, and which overlap with fishing areas.

**Include upstream stormwater** management that treats and controls polluted stormwater entering the Duwamish River upstream of Harbor Island.

**Accelerate remediation** so the EPA continues to see this project through to completion as quickly as possible.

Ultimately, the long-term sustainability of the entire Duwamish watershed demands a comprehensive pollution prevention, toxic remediation, and ecological restoration effort.

## Contaminants of Concern

The EPA identified several contaminants of concern (COCs) in the East Waterway and specified polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), arsenic, carcinogenic polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (cPAHs), and dioxins/furans as posing the greatest risk to human health and wildlife. Some of the COCs in the Duwamish River bioaccumulate in fish and shellfish posing a human health hazard and an environmental justice threat for the many people who fish for subsistence, commercial, and ceremonial purposes.



Paulina López, Duwamish River Community Coalition Executive Director. Photo by Hannah Letinich.



TIMELINE:

# A Brief History of Puget Soundkeeper, Part I



**1985:** Puget Sound Alliance sends its first newsletter and reiterates its top priorities. Some of these include:

- Toxics control and elimination through industrial treatment, banning certain products, hot spot cleanup and capping, and a comprehensive nonpoint source control plan.
- Secondary, or better, sewage treatment throughout Puget Sound, and the elimination of combined sewer overflows.

**1985:** Legislature authorizes the Puget Sound Water Quality Authority with a mandate to create a comprehensive water quality plan for Puget Sound. Puget Sound Alliance helps draft the legislation defining the PSWQA and its charge.

**1986:** Funding passes in the state legislature for statewide wastewater facility improvement.

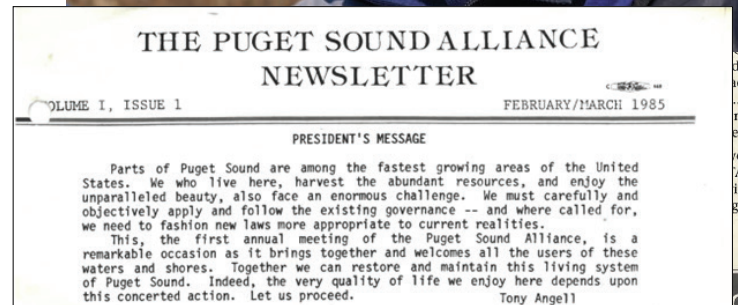
**1989:** PSA retains its first volunteer staff member.

**1989:** Navy Homeport Settlement is reached in an out-of-court agreement with the U.S. Navy on the proposed port in Everett.

**1990:** Puget Sound Alliance adopts the Waterkeeper model.



Chris Wilke



## Navy case settled

### Alliance forces compliance with Clean Water Act

Puget Soundkeeper Alliance, former Puget Soundkeeper Ken Moser and the Washington Public Interest Research Group reached a settlement with the U.S. Navy to resolve a suit alleging violations of the Clean Water Act at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton. The settlement requires the Navy's shipyard to repair its faulty sewer system, eliminate toxic spills, and fully implement "best management practices" (BMPs) to avoid discharges of hazardous wastes to Sinclair Inlet. Sinclair Inlet was added to the National Priority List of Superfund sites earlier this year.

The settlement also requires the Navy to provide Puget Soundkeeper Alliance with the shipyard's discharge monitoring reports, compliance records, and emergency spill response tapes for a period of two years. The Navy is allowed only two spills per year, or faces federal Contempt of Court charges. The Navy has six months to come into compliance with the terms of the settlement.

"This is a major win for the citizens and the environment of Puget Sound," said Alliance President Tom Putnam. "We have held the Navy to the same standard as all other businesses, and with this settlement, we are in a position to enforce compliance... We now have a level playing field."

All shipyards and businesses discharging wastewater into Puget Sound require a NPDES (National Pollution Discharge Elimination System) permit.



Puget Sound Naval Shipyard has been operating in violation of the conditions of its NPDES permit since at least 1988. Since federal facilities cannot enforce against one another, the Environmental Protection Agency taken action on the shipyard violations. S...

By Chris Wilke

**Years in the making, Clean Marina Washington is now a reality.**

On August 13, 2005, Puget Soundkeeper Alliance (PSA), Northwest Marine Trade Association and the EnviroStars Cooperative announced a partnership to help reduce pollution from recreational boating. The program encourages participation from marinas and their tenants and provides technical assistance and rewards for environmental leadership. The Department of Ecology, Washington DNR and Washington Sea Grant actively support the project.



### Pollution permits reviewed

The Puget Soundkeeper Alliance and its North Sound Baykeeper (ReSources) and Commencement Baykeeper (Citizens for a Healthy Bay) are reviewing and commenting on virtually every Department of Ecology issued National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit affecting Puget Sound. Our goal is the continued decrease in effluent limits and attainment of the Clean Water Act goal to eliminate the discharge of pollutants into our waters. Program Assistant Derek Wentorf is our lead on permit reviews.

### News & Features



## Lake Union protection group forms, targets CSOs

...ect that our citizen suit... ing the plow to bring... mpliance with their... mination System permit... en more pleasing is the... as sent out an industry... ers who are out of com... Puget Sound waters. ...issing NPDES deadlines... ugust issue of *Water Life*.

A new citizen's group has formed to tackle water quality issues on Lake Union.

A citizen's group comprised of Lake Union area residents have started *Friends of Lake Union*. As one of their first tasks, *Friends* is reviewing plans for the reduction of Combined Sewer Overflow events, which occur when heavy rains overflow the city's combined storm and sanitary sewer system. The overflow of the city's sewers causes the discharge of raw sanitary waste to Lake Union and Portage Bay.

Metro has proposed a way to limit CSO events by directing low flows to the city's sanitary sewers for treatment and increasing storage capacity for high flows. However, *Friends* objects to an alternative proposal to fully separate the sewers, because the plan means that storm runoff would never be treated. Oily and polluted rainwater would run from city streets and parking lots directly to the "receiving waters" of Lake Union.

For more information on the CSO proposals or *Friends of Lake Union* contact Dave Moore, 325-5463.



...ups are threatening law... fail to meet water qual... required by their NPDES... its... Any company that fails to meet... risks receiving a letter threatening a... ntly a [Northwest Marine Trade Asso... er boatyard received such a letter from... ndkeeper Alliance."

...not targeted this industry, we apprec... stance in getting the word out. Hope... lt in greater compliance with water... ns and fewer citizen enforcement ac...

- Ken Moser  
Puget Soundkeeper

...e a member... & protect Puget Sound

...er Cleanup

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### In defense of our waters

**Grand Opening Reaching Home: Pacific Salmon, Pacific People**  
The Whale Museum, Friday Harbor.  
Meet photographer Natalie Fobes at the opening of this famed exhibit, illustrating the relationship between the lives of people, animals and the salmon. Exhibit runs through Jan. 15.

**P**uget Soundkeeper BJ Cummings is part of a growing "Keeper" network - the National Alliance of River, Sound and Bay Keepers. The Keeper programs started with Hudson Riverkeeper John Cronin and the New York Fisherman's Association. Cronin borrowed the concept from the old



unique responsibility of each keeper to be an advocate and spokesperson for their estuary, and to work full-time in defense of their local waters. Beyond that, all programs are custom-made to meet the individual needs of their river, sound or bay. Like the Puget Soundkeeper, most keeper programs will defend their waters in court.

## NOAA Scientists Investigate Stormwater Link to Dying Salmon

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Sue Joerger

**1990:** First boat patrol.

**1991:** Announcing Ken Moser as the first Soundkeeper.

**1993:** Clean Water Act case against the City of Bremerton for water quality violations due to the operation of an antiquated sewer system.

**1994:** Announcing BJ Cummings as Soundkeeper.

**1994:** Sinclair Inlet is added to Federal Superfund list.

**1995:** Puget Sound Naval Shipyard consent decree is signed, initiating a stop to almost 10 years of permit violations.

**1995:** First July 5th fireworks cleanup on Lake Union.

**1996:** Soundkeeper partners with Citizens for a Healthy Bay (now Communities for a Healthy Bay) to launch a Commencement Bay program, supporting pollution prevention best practices for boaters and marinas.

**1998:** Tacoma and Bellingham Baykeepers launch their Waterkeeper programs.

**1999:** Announcing Sue Joerger as Soundkeeper.

**2001:** Duwamish River declared a Superfund site.

**2005:** Clean Marina Washington program launches after long-time partnership with EnviroStars.

**2006:** Soundkeeper begins to publicize salmon mortality research and community science in Longfellow Creek.

**2009:** Soundkeeper and People for Puget Sound win an appeal against the Department of Ecology's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit. This major victory requires municipalities to utilize low impact development (LID) where feasible as the preferred method for new development.

**2010:** Announcing Chris Wilke as Soundkeeper.



# Soundkeeper Y2K: the 2000s

*Puget Soundkeeper maintained a strong focus on water quality issues through the 2000s. Early legal and policy efforts came to fruition, laying the groundwork for some of today's top priorities.*



A dead coho salmon on the bank of Longfellow Creek. Photo by Tom Reese.

## **HIGHLIGHT:**

### **Salmon Mortality**

In the early 2000s, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration began to show interest in the mysteriously high coho salmon mortality rates in Longfellow Creek. We now know that the tire chemical derivative 6PPD-quinone causes Urban Runoff Mortality Syndrome in coho salmon.

## **HIGHLIGHT:**

### **Clean Marinas**

The Clean Marina Washington program launched in 2005 after successful boater education and outreach in Snohomish County and Tacoma. Engagement with marinas led, in part, to the No Discharge Zone designation in Puget Sound. Clean Marina Washington is an incentive-based certification program that helps marinas assess their operation and make improvements to better protect the environment. The program is now managed by Washington Sea Grant.

## **HIGHLIGHT:**

### **Challenging Permits**

Soundkeeper honed its approach to permit challenges that would garner significant victories over the next two decades. In fact, we have challenged every iteration of the Department of Ecology's Industrial Stormwater General Permit since 2000 and continue to do so today. Soundkeeper is already working on feedback for the 2024 draft permit.

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### **Examples of improvements to Department of Ecology stormwater permits since 2000 include:**

- Preventing new pollution discharges to impaired waterways
- The invalidation of certain forms of industry self-regulation
- More stringent limits on turbidity and total suspended solids
- Improved pH monitoring
- Increased transparency and public participation in the permitting process
- Utilization of Low Impact Development to treat and control stormwater
- Highway retrofits to increase stormwater controls

# Zooming Out: the 2010s

*Puget Soundkeeper settled a variety of fossil fuel litigation in the 2010s, and participated in coalition and grassroots efforts to protect our region from extractive industry.*



## **HIGHLIGHT:**

### **Fossil Fuels and Railways**

In 2011, after a successful Clean Water Act lawsuit brought by Soundkeeper to address permit violations, Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) implemented numerous stormwater control measures at its Seattle-based Balmer Yard facility.

In addition to addressing pollution and doing what was required to come into compliance with its permits, BNSF was required to pay a then-record-high environmental benefit settlement. This payment initiated the Puget Sound Restoration Fund at the Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment.

In 2016, a coalition including Soundkeeper, the Sierra Club, Columbia Riverkeeper, RE Sources for Sustainable Communities, Natural Resource Defense Council, Spokane Riverkeeper, and Friends of the Columbia Gorge settled with BNSF for coal dust pollution and Clean Water Act violations. This victory forced BNSF to pay \$1 million toward conservation projects, initiate cleanup at waterbodies most impacted by the company's coal trains, and study best management practices for covering train cars transporting coal.

# THE 2010S CONTINUED

## HIGHLIGHT:

### Effluent Discharge and Refineries

In 2014, Soundkeeper, North Sound Baykeeper and Friends of the Earth challenged the wastewater discharge permit issued to BP's Cherry Point oil refinery. The whole effluent toxicity (WET) test is the only tool which measures the combined impact of pollutants in wastewater discharge. The permit, however, allowed BP to fail a WET test without violating the Clean Water Act.

The Washington State Court of Appeals came down strongly on the side of clean water, ruling in July 2015 that a single WET test failure must constitute a Clean Water Act violation. In the meantime, Soundkeeper and Friends of the Earth filed separate appeals with the Pollution Control Hearings Board to extend the ruling to the Tesoro oil refinery in Anacortes, and the Phillips 66 refinery and Intalco aluminum smelter located in Ferndale. The Washington Department of Ecology updated the permits for all of these facilities to reflect the Court of Appeals' decision.

## HIGHLIGHT:

### “Paddle for Seattle”

In 2015, thousands of Indigenous people and community members around the Sound said, “Shell no!” The Port of Seattle agreed to open Terminal 5 to Shell's Arctic drilling fleet after a series of closed-door meetings, sparking regional outrage. Soundkeeper made the rounds in our patrol boat during a peaceful on-the-water demonstration and hosted a KOMO-TV news crew to help bring the story to the world.

We also joined several other environmental organizations in proceedings against the Port's secret deal with Shell. The company ultimately ended its drilling operations in Alaska.

## HIGHLIGHT:

### “No Discharge Zone” Victory

In 2012, Soundkeeper joined thousands of boaters, community members, and environmental groups advancing “No Discharge Zone” (NDZ) protection for Puget Sound.

In 2022, after a decade of advocacy, the U.S. District Court in Washington, D.C. upheld Puget Sound's NDZ designation. Ships and boats are prohibited from discharging raw or partially treated sewage across 2,300 square miles of marine waters as well as contiguous waters around Lake Washington and Lake Union.



Trains wind their way along much of Puget Sound's waterfront.



Pumpouts help boaters manage wastewater.



## The Rose Foundation and Clean Water Act Settlements

Puget Soundkeeper pursues Clean Water Act litigation within the Puget Sound watershed. These settlements require the polluter to implement changes and prevent ongoing water pollution. Settlements can also require “payment in lieu of penalty.” This payment can fund a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) to further improve water quality in the impacted region.

When Soundkeeper settles with a polluter, SEP funding is usually directed to a granting organization called Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment. Payments can also go directly to a water quality improvement project.

## Rose Foundation Impact



Soundkeeper has directed over \$7 million to The Rose Foundation since 2012, supporting 300 local water quality and environmental justice projects at over one hundred organizations.

Recently, Rose Foundation funding has supported the following projects:

- Black Star Farmers trained 10 BIPOC apprentices on commercial and residential site management for water resources.
- Toxic Free Future raised awareness about everyday products that leach chemicals into our waterways and the Puget Sound food web.
- South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group worked with the Squaxin Island Tribe as co-managers to restore salmon habitat and uphold the Treaty of Medicine Creek.
- The Friends of the Snoqualmie Trail and River pursued legal expertise for water resource management in the North Bend area.
- The City of Anacortes and Friends of Skagit Beaches formed a partnership to research water quality at 79 municipal outfalls.
- MiniMart City Park opened as a green building and community space on the site of a former Georgetown gas station. The building uses passive technology to clean petroleum pollution from the ground.



# Better Together

*Celebrating clean water partnerships from the Spokane River to Springbrook Creek.*

**S**oundkeeper works with many organizations in the Puget Sound watershed, but some of our most profound partnerships extend across the state. Our sister Waterkeepers and affiliated colleagues stretch from Spokane to Gray's Harbor, and from the San Juans to the Columbia River. Their priority issues are both familiar and unique to their region, highlighting the diverse land- and waterscapes we're lucky to call home.



Spokane Riverkeeper  
Jule Schultz conducts  
turbidity research.

## **PARTNER FOCUS:**

### **Spokane Riverkeeper**

*Water Protector Katelyn Scott on the soul of the region*

#### **What are some of the unique challenges in your region?**

Because the Spokane River is so central, we are often faced with false perceptions of an abundance of water in our watershed which includes 111 river miles and the greater Spokane-Coeur d'Alene region. Average daily domestic water use per person in Spokane County is 235 gallons per day, which is almost three times the national average of 82 gallons per person per day.

#### **What makes your watershed special?**

The city of Spokane is here because of the river. For many thousands of years, Indigenous people of the Columbia Plateau made the Spokane River their home due to the resources it provided, including huge salmon runs that once thrived in the river. People today make their home here for similar reasons. The Spokane River remains central to the soul of our region.



Twin Harbors Waterkeeper staff L-R: Lee First, Sue Joerger, and Carlos Osario along the Chehalis River Estuary.

**PARTNER FOCUS:**

## **Communities for a Healthy Bay**

*Executive Director Melissa Malott on the potential for recovery and restoration*

### **What are some of the unique challenges in your region?**

Commencement Bay is in Tacoma, which has been the regional sacrifice zone for industrial development. We are a target location for polluters who don't want to be held accountable. As a result, Tacoma has some of the worst health inequities in the state—people who live near the industrial parts of the tideflats have a life expectancy up to 30 years shorter than people who live in other parts of the city.

### **What makes your watershed special?**

A lot has been done to degrade and pollute the tide flats and Commencement Bay, but change is happening. Tacoma rejected a proposal to site the world's largest methanol refinery here. The City of Tacoma passed a land use code that prohibits the expansion of heavy polluting industry, especially oil companies. I believe this watershed will be a beacon for what can happen: degraded places can be restored, but we need help to make change.

**PARTNER FOCUS:**

## **Twin Harbors Waterkeeper**

*Co-founder and Waterkeeper Lee First on life after extractive industry*

### **What are some of the unique challenges in your region?**

We serve the Chehalis and Willapa watersheds, including Willapa Bay and the Chehalis River estuary. We also serve the watersheds on the west side of the Olympic Peninsula, including the Quinault, Queets, Hoh, and Quileute. Our region is immense.

For over 100 years, extractive industries took a huge environmental toll. Big trees and big fish were harvested, and timber is still being harvested. Unemployment rates, funding of schools, and our quality of life and health rank at the bottom of Washington's 39 counties.

### **What clean water wins are especially important to you?**

The Supplemental Environmental Project funds from our Clean Water Act cases have been equally divided between our friends at the Chehalis and Quinault Tribes. They use these funds to mitigate harm caused to water quality and habitat.

# BETTER TOGETHER CONTINUED

## PARTNER FOCUS:

### Unleash The Brilliance



Unleash The Brilliance (UTB), a youth mentorship nonprofit, began partnering with Puget Soundkeeper in 2017. Lost Urban Creeks (LUC) developed out of our partnership and is now a paid training program for youth environmental leaders. LUC focuses on Springbrook Creek, a Green River tributary, flowing through Kent, Renton, and Auburn.

UTB challenges the school-to-prison pipeline by empowering youth to actively engage in their education. The organization is led by founder and CEO Terrell Dorsey.

### Lost Urban Creeks



Springbrook Creek supports coho salmon, cutthroat trout, and winter steelhead. This creek suffers from high levels of bacteria, high temperatures, and low oxygen levels, and is harmed by a lack of native vegetation and surrounding development. Moving downstream, the waterway transforms from a vibrant creek to a stormwater conveyance system, polluted with toxic runoff.

Lost urban creeks like Springbrook help clean our air, cool our communities, and safeguard Puget Sound. Yet they are all too often forgotten and neglected. Soundkeeper hopes that our LUC project will support the community-led revival of lost urban creeks. Eventually, we hope to see it replicated throughout Puget Sound.

LUC youth leaders are trained as entry-level water quality technicians, and practice community outreach. Their hands-on projects include:

- Building green stormwater infrastructure
- Community cleanups
- Producing multi-media outreach tools
- Advocating for policy change at the state and local level
- Long-term water quality monitoring research
- Riparian restoration and maintenance
- Microplastics analysis

“Lost Urban Creeks youth leaders benefit by being exposed to a community of their peers. They expand their horizons when they learn about environmental justice careers. And they learn the skills necessary to be a good steward for our environment.”

TERRELL DORSEY UNLEASH THE BRILLIANCE  
FOUNDER, PRESIDENT, AND CEO



Unleash The Brilliance founder and CEO Terrell Dorsey. Photo by Danny Ngo.



LUC youth leaders monitor water quality at Longfellow Creek in West Seattle.



# It's Springbrook Creek!

Did you know that Twin Harbors Waterkeeper Executive Director Sue Joerger served as our Soundkeeper in the 2000s and later as a Field Director in the 2010s?

Sue was instrumental in focusing Puget Soundkeeper's energy on stormwater permits and initiating our relationship with Springbrook Creek—now the center of our Lost Urban Creeks youth leadership program.

In 2016, she wrote: "I first met Springbrook Creek last year. I sampled industrial stormwater running into a storm drain that ran directly into the creek, found high levels of zinc and copper and reported the data to the Washington State Department of Ecology. But it wasn't until an Ecology Inspector called it a ditch that I thought there might be something going on between me and the creek. 'It's not a ditch!' I nearly shouted at him over the phone, 'It's Springbrook Creek.'"



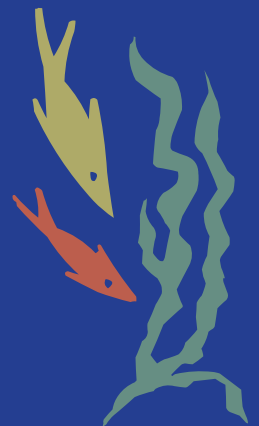
Sharlene Pioquinto (L) and Emanuel Chavez (R). Photo by Hannah Letinich.

“Some people think that youth aren't doing anything, but we're out here putting in the effort. We're aware of the social injustices that lower income communities face, because of their neighborhood creeks and streams. Learning about that has really changed my mind and my perspective.”

SHARLENE PIOQUINTO, COLLEGE STUDENT AND FORMER LOST URBAN CREEKS YOUTH LEADER

“That's why we do [this work], right? It's to take care of each other. It's a reciprocal relationship and it's like a food chain. That's what we're trying to take care of here.”

EMANUEL CHAVEZ, COLLEGE STUDENT AND FORMER LOST URBAN CREEKS YOUTH LEADER



# Law & Policy

## Enforcement Mapping Project

This exciting new project debuts this year! Soundkeeper is using ArcGIS to compile, categorize, sort, and measure data about water pollution in specific geographic areas of Puget Sound. We will focus on a section of the Duwamish River for the first effort, developing a visual story of land use, permit violations, and water quality impact. After decades of clean water enforcement work, Soundkeeper is ratcheting up our pressure on the commercial and industrial sites most deleteriously and illegally affecting communities and watersheds.

## Climate Resilience

Communities around the Sound are impacted by rising sea levels, increased King Tides, and urban heat islands. Our ability to adapt to, and ultimately survive, the changing climate baseline depends upon an environmentally just and resilient future. Clean Water Act Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs) and our Rose Foundation partnership direct funding toward regional clean water projects that foster environmental justice and climate resilience.

## Stormwater Advocacy

Washington State needs comprehensive stormwater runoff management. We use science and policy to advocate for improved regulations and permits, better design and planning priorities, and up-to-date coverage for all sources of stormwater pollution. In 2024, Soundkeeper will address updates to the Municipal and Industrial Stormwater General Permits, and continue our decades-long work managing, stopping, and making up for all the stormwater-driven impacts to our waterways.

## 6PPD

Soundkeeper continues to advocate for responsible solutions to the tire chemical 6PPD and its acutely toxic derivative 6PPD-quinone. We are working on road runoff and stormwater management, secondary tire markets, infrastructure design and planning, end of life and tire disposal, and procurement practices. We are operating at the local, state, and federal levels and in private and public spheres to advance best practices and protective regulations.

Representative Liz Berry addresses clean water advocates in Olympia. Photo by Ricky Osborne.



Katelyn Kinn, Soundkeeper's former Senior Attorney and Director of Law & Policy, observes Seattle Iron & Metals Corp from the Duwamish River.



# Clean Water Program

## A Healthier Legacy

Soundkeeper is thrilled to announce that it was awarded a Washington Department of Ecology Public Participation Grant to fund a new program, Salmon and Legacy Debris. This two-year project will map legacy debris in the Duwamish River, provide outreach and education around 6PPD-quinone, and connect community members to cleanup opportunities.

## Riparian Restoration

Our Lost Urban Creeks (LUC) youth leaders continue to deepen their commitment to Springbrook Creek in South King County with a multi-year restoration project. Springbrook Creek flows through a heavily impacted landscape and much of its bank is overgrown with non-native plants like Himalayan Blackberry and Reed Canary Grass.

In 2023, LUC youth leaders and community volunteers removed noxious weeds and planted 300 native plants along 5,000 feet of riparian shoreline. This project will expand to a larger site in 2024 while LUC youth leaders continue to monitor site progress.

## Duwamish Paddles

The River Access Paddle Program (RAPP) invests in local expertise through a partnership among the Duwamish River Community Coalition, the Duwamish Tribe, Maritime High School, People of the Confluence, Puget Soundkeeper, and YETI. This multi-organizational collaboration removes barriers to community access on the Duwamish River by training local river guides. Soundkeeper is proud to support RAPP.

“Coast Salish people have traveled these waterways for thousands of years. By hosting free and paid opportunities for BIPOC youth and other community members, we want to diversify what a water person looks like out here in Coast Salish territory.”

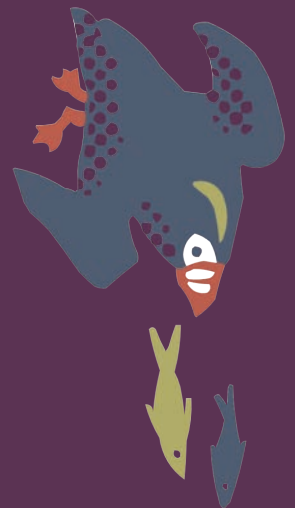
LEE, RIVER ACCESS PADDLE PROGRAM CO-FOUNDER

Lost Urban Creek youth leaders and Soundkeeper volunteers restore a riparian buffer along Springbrook Creek. Photo by Hannah Letinich.



## What is 6PPD-quinone?

In 2020, researchers based in Washington State identified 6PPD-quinone as the deadly chemical in stormwater runoff that kills coho salmon. It is lethal to other salmonids and sublethal to other aquatic species. 6PPD-quinone derives from 6PPD, a chemical added to car tires to prevent ozonation. When car tires wear down and 6PPD interacts with ozone and light, it becomes 6PPD-quinone. This chemical enters waterways via stormwater and other sources, like tire bulkheads.



**TIMELINE:**

# A Brief History of Puget Soundkeeper, Part II

**2015:** PSA Terminals is required to install stormwater treatment systems at their 200-acre Terminal 18 container facility at the Port of Seattle on Harbor Island—one of the largest such facilities in the world.

**2016:** Louis Dreyfus grain terminal must make significant upgrades to prevent grain spillage from its conveyor loading system. It is also required to infiltrate land-based industrial stormwater rather than discharging it into Elliott Bay.

**2017:** Nature's Scorecard report centralizes information on municipal compliance with stormwater permit requirements, making this critical information more accessible to the public. Soundkeeper publishes follow-up reports in 2019 and 2022.

**2018:** Our Sound, Our Salmon coalition's successful advocacy, and Governor Inslee's decision to phase out Atlantic salmon net pens, marks the beginning of the end for farmed Atlantic salmon in Washington. In 2023, DNR Commissioner Hilary Franz bans net pens in WA waters.

**2019:** Soundkeeper sends a 60-day notice to Pacific Coast Coal Company for stormwater pollution violations at the John Henry Number 1 Coal Mine, a coal surface mining operation that has been closed since 1999. Soundkeeper's Clean Water Act litigation permanently closes the mine in 2021.

**2020:** Soundkeeper's settlement requires LRI Landfill to pay \$734,000 to fund third-party environmental grants in the vicinity of the Nisqually



The Seattle Sounders clean up Myrtle-Edwards Park along Elliott Bay. The Louis Dreyfus grain terminal is visible in the background. Photo courtesy Swire Coca Cola



The Puyallup River with Mount Rainier in the background.



River watershed and areas impacted by decades of illegal landfill discharges.

**2020:** Soundkeeper and Waste Action Project reach a consent decree with Boeing Company addressing multiple pollution violations at the company's Military Delivery Center. Violations include PCB discharges. Boeing pays \$750,000 for the completion of salmon habitat at the Čakwab restoration project on the Green River.

**2021:** Plastic Free Washington / Washington Sin Plástico helps pass a law banning certain expanded polystyrene products, requiring opt-in for accessory foodware for take-out food, and mandating post-consumer recycled content in bottles and trash bags.

**2019:** Soundkeeper reaches a \$1 million settlement with Seattle Iron & Metals (SIM). In 2020, Soundkeeper and SIM file an amended consent decree with additional penalties after SIM fails to meet pollution control deadlines.

**2019:** Announcing Chris Rilling as Soundkeeper.

**2021:** Announcing Sean Dixon as Soundkeeper.

**2022:** Soundkeeper and CHB reach an agreement with Electron Hydro in 2022. This resolves alleged violations of the Clean Water Act, specifically alleged unpermitted discharges of pollutants including heat, dead and dying fish, sediments, oils, greases, and lubricants into the Puyallup River. Other litigation against Electron Hydro is ongoing.

**2023:** Plastic Free Washington / Washington Sin Plástico helps pass a bill requiring foam dock floats to be encapsulated with rigid material of a minimum thickness of 0.15 inches of HDPE, concrete, or steel, reducing toxic foam pollution in Puget Sound.

**2024:** Soundkeeper works to reduce the presence of 6PPD-quinone in our waters through legislative funding to study tire waste, pushing for the designation of 6PPD-quinone as a Safer Products WA regulated toxicant, and more.



# Tributes & Tributaries

*Forty years of partnership, collaboration, and community*

Puget Sound is a vast estuary, home to over four million people and 70% of Washington's population. Ten thousand rivers and streams drain 42,800 square kilometers of watershed, from the smallest creeks to the mightiest of rivers.

All life in our region depends on this network of waterways, just as Puget Soundkeeper's work depends on our network of people. We pay tribute to what these myriad relationships teach us as we build a healthy, resilient future for Puget Sound.

## Thank You

It's our absolute privilege to stand alongside organizations like Duwamish River Community Coalition and King County International Airport Community Coalition in the fight for equity and justice in South Park and Georgetown. We are proud that our educational outreach has grown to include a partnership with Maritime High School, nurturing the next generation of maritime professionals.

Of course, there are dozens of additional partners near and far who make our work possible—we're looking at you, Northwest Outdoor Center. Thank you to our friends at River Access Paddle Program, and our legal counsel at Earthjustice and Smith & Lowney. Thank you to our collaborators on the Orca Salmon Alliance and the Plastic Free Washington / Washington Sin Plástico coalition.

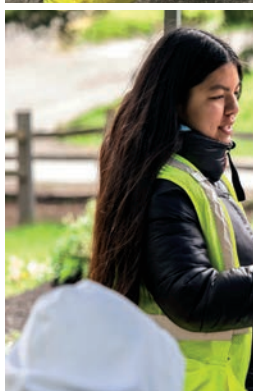
Thank you to our volunteers, supporters, advocates, and everyone who we don't have room to include.

Most importantly, thank you to our staff and board, past and present. We couldn't do it without you.

Youth advocates in Olympia. Photo by Ricky Osborne.



A cleanup event along the Fremont Ship Canal.



Volunteers clean up Golden Gardens beach. Photo by Fosters Creative.

## Stay in touch

Soundkeeper's film *Against the Current: Protecting Clean Water* in Puget Sound weaves together the distinct voices of some of our incredible partners across the Green-Duwamish watershed. Use this QR code to watch the film and share it with your community!





Soundkeeper Development Director Teresa Nelson and intern Jacqueline Miller.



Volunteers clean up Gas Works Park. Photo by San Mar Canada.



Education & Stewardship Coordinator Amelia Ouellet Rich and a volunteer conduct a Salmon Survey.



Lost Urban Creeks community outreach. Photo by David Inman.



River Access Paddle Program co-founder Lee explains kayak safety.



Volunteers pose on the bridge above Longfellow Creek.



Clean Water Program Director Anna Bachmann leads water quality monitoring. Photo by David Inman.

# Puget Soundkeeper is...

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Julie Angell, *Operations Director*  
 Belle Arenson, *Outreach & Engagement Coordinator*  
 Anna Bachmann, *Clean Water Program Director*  
 Sean Dixon, *Soundkeeper & Executive Director*  
 Kelsey Furman, *Associate Attorney*  
 Emily Gonzalez, *Staff Attorney and Director of Law & Policy*  
 Stefani León, *Corporate Engagement & Membership Manager*  
 Nicole Loeffler-Gladstone, *Communications Manager*  
 Teresa Nelson, *Development Director*  
 Amelia Ouellet Rich, *Education & Stewardship Coordinator*  
 Aarin Wilde, *Stewardship & Education Manager*

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Tim Carlson	
Allan Chartrand	



*Photo by Hannah Letinich*



## Get involved!

Join us around the Sound in our 40th anniversary year.



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