

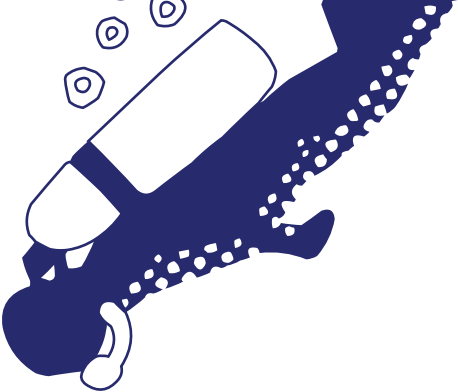


PUGET SOUNDKEEPER

2024 Impact Report



PUGET
SOUNDKEEPER®
Established in 1984



Welcome

Thank you for joining us in 2024 as we celebrated 40 years of impact around the Puget Sound!

Over the past four decades, we’ve worked with tens of thousands of supporters, partners, students, scientists, friends, families, and volunteers to drive steady progress. We couldn’t have sustained our momentum or achieved what we’ve achieved without you and this committed community.

With our amazing staff and board team of professional educators, litigators, non-profit leaders and community advocates, we are confident our vision for the Sound – of clean water, vibrant ecosystems, and equitable, thriving communities – is achievable. We look forward to working with you in 2025, launching another era of Puget Sound leadership and progress.

See you on the water,

Sean T. Dixon
Soundkeeper & Executive Director

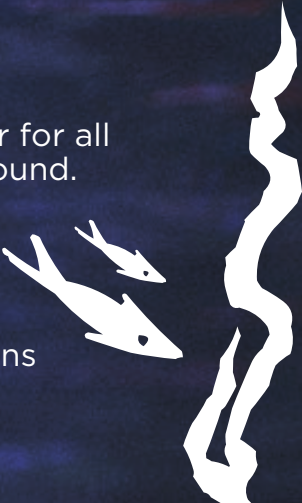
Puget Soundkeeper acknowledges that we are on the land of many Coast Salish peoples and their ancestors. We acknowledge the past and present harms to Indigenous and marginalized peoples, and the land and waters of this region. We honor the ancestors and those today who continue to steward the land and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

Mission

Puget Soundkeeper’s mission is to be a trusted leader and collaborator for all communities, in court and on the water, fighting for a healthy Puget Sound.

Vision

Puget Soundkeeper’s vision is a Puget Sound where clean water sustains vibrant ecosystems and fosters equitable, thriving communities.



Earth Day Cleanup 2024 - Magnuson Park

Photo Credit: Edward Yamut

Tell us your Puget Sound 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 below to fill out our storytelling prompt.



Clean Water Enforcement Highlights:

Puget Soundkeeper settled 3 legal actions, requiring corrective actions and payment of \$1,235,000 to third parties for restoration and environmental benefit projects in affected waterways:

1 | The Kenan Advantage Group

Commencement Bay (stormwater treatment and mitigation system) and \$350,000 to the Puyallup Tribe for salmon habitat restoration in the affected watershed.

2 | Pacific Steel Group

Commencement Bay (stormwater treatment and mitigation system) and \$200,000 to the Puyallup Tribe for salmon habitat restoration in the affected watershed.

3 | Pick n Pull

Scriber Creek Basin and Central Puget Sound (stormwater treatment and mitigation system) and \$685,000 to the Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment for projects to benefit water quality in Central Puget Sound and large-scale habitat restoration projects.



Permit/Regulatory Advocacy

Puget Soundkeeper moved forward on the following appeals:

- 2025 WA Phase I and Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permits - arguing for improved standards, meaningful implementation, reducing loopholes, and increasing efficacy, especially regarding 6PPD and 6PPD-quinone pollution from tires.
- Puget Sound Nutrient General Permit - challenging the permit's approach to nitrogen discharges from the 53 wastewater treatment plants that discharge directly to Puget Sound.
- West Point Wastewater Treatment Permit - focusing on several permit terms, including nitrogen regulation at the facility which contributes the largest amount of nutrients to the Puget Sound.
- Combined Animal Feeding Operation Permit - arguing for improved standards, meaningful implementation, and increased efficacy.
- 2025 Industrial Stormwater General Permit - challenging the new permit as it relates to well over a thousand sites statewide.



2024 Legislative Accomplishments

- State-led Tire Study on where tires go when discarded
- Tire bumper removal on floating docks
- Bill addressing 6PPD in motorized vehicle tires through safer products for Washington.

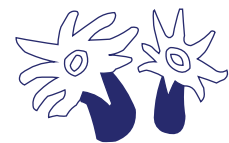


Clean Water Program

In July 2024, Puget Soundkeeper launched its new program, Salmon & Legacy Debris, which maps legacy debris in the Duwamish River, provides outreach and education around tire pollution (6PPD-quinone), and connects community members to cleanup opportunities. In 2024, Puget Soundkeeper staff hosted 6 cleanups with 130 volunteers, removing over 8,200 pounds of legacy debris from the Duwamish River.

Each year, Puget Soundkeeper serves as the regional coordinator for the International Coastal Cleanup (ICC), and 2024 was no different. With 13+ cleanups from Tacoma to Bellingham, 741+ volunteers collected 2, 608+ pounds of debris, reducing the amount of litter that enters our oceans and waterways.

Special thanks to all our partners for making our 2024 ICC events possible – we couldn't do it without you! This includes: Des Moines Waterfront Farmers Market, Environmental Science Center, the King County Public Health Department, Lakeside School, MAST Center Aquarium, Ocean Conservancy, Poogooder, Re SOURCES/North Sound Waterkeeper, Renton Sailing Center, Seattle Dive Tours, Sealife Response Rehabilitation and Research (SR3), Surfrider Foundation, Sustainable Bainbridge, and Whidbey Camano Land Trust.



GET INVOLVED!



Want to be part of our Salmon & Legacy Tires cleanup team? We're looking for folks with specific skill sets for certain volunteer roles. Use this QR code to complete our volunteer interest form.

SALUTE TO THE SOUND GALA

Thank you for a wonderful 40th celebration!

In September 2024, Puget Soundkeeper staff and board members were thrilled to celebrate our 21st annual Salute to the Sound Gala and Auction with featured Keynote Speaker Marc Yaggi, Waterkeeper Alliance CE (pictured below.) We honored two community partners as our 2024 Inspiration Awards Recipients: Front & Centered and Seattle Reign FC.

SAVE THE DATE for this year's Salute to the Sound

Saturday, October 18, 2025
6:30PM-9:30PM
Seattle Aquarium



Photo credit: Edward Yamut

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, June 7, 2025

for our
**World Oceans Day
Fundraiser**

On the historic
Virginia V

Photo credit:
Doug Brusig



Upper Right: Puget Soundkeeper Law & Policy Director Emily Gonzalez & Front & Centered Co-Executive Director Deric Gruen; Lower Left: Waterkeeper Alliance CEO Marc Yaggi; Lower Right (L-R): Emily Gonzalez, Seattle Reign FC Social Impact Manager Steph Hirsch, Good Play America Executive Director Alejandro Henao, Puget Soundkeeper Executive Director Sean Dixon.



2024 BY THE NUMBERS



\$1,235,000

in Clean Water Act settlement funds directed to repair impacted waterways and communities



33

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



17,000+

pounds of marine debris removed from our waterways



71

youth interns were paid and trained in water quality monitoring, watershed ecology, pollution detection and reporting, and outreach



50

pollution reports were directed to the appropriate public agency



5

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



24

public comment letters on regulatory and policy issues advocating for more stringent water quality protections



45

outreach and education events at schools, festivals, and symposiums



65

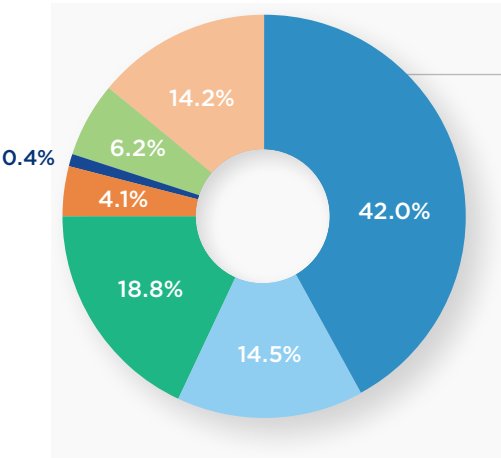
tires were turned in at Puget Soundkeeper's inaugural Tire Turn-in Event



200+

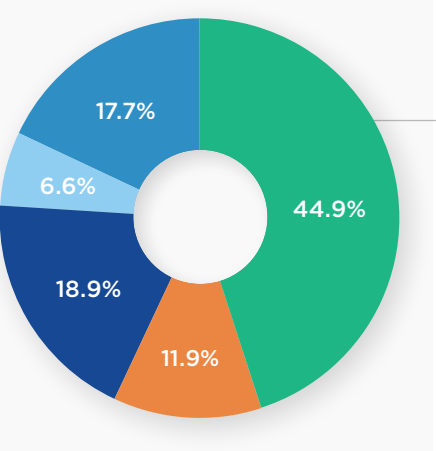
native plants added to 42,838 sq feet of urban riparian buffer, restoring habitat along Springbrook Creek

2023 FINANCIALS



INCOME: \$1,372,511

Foundation Support	\$ 576,042
Business & Corporate Support	194,587
Individual Support	198,984
Government Grants	56,153
EarthShare Income	4,900
Special Events	84,439
Interest & Other Income	257,406



EXPENSES: \$1,334,859

Law & Policy Program	\$ 598,852
Education & Outreach	159,280
Clean Water Program	235,874
Management & General	88,270
Fund Development	252,583



Earth Month Cleanup 2024

Photo Credit: Edward Yamut

Acting Now for Tomorrow

Including Puget Soundkeeper in your will now is an act that will have lasting effects for future generations. Together, we can ensure that Puget Sound will always have advocates willing to stand up to protect its health and the aquatic wildlife that calls it home. Use our free tool, provided by FreeWill, to set up your will and bequests today.



Create your free will

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Patricia Baird, President
- Allan Chartrand, Vice President
- Walt Tabler, Treasurer
- Erin Breslin
- Janette Brimmer
- Tim Carlson
- Marla Dunn
- Ross Chambers
In Memoriam
Board Service 2006-2022
- Jonathan Frodge
- Elana Garton
- Shannon McIntyre
- Cynthia Moomaw
- Sarah Parker
- Walt Tabler, Treasurer
- Tom Putnam
Director Emeritus &
Founding Board Member



STAFF

- Julie Angell
Operations Director
- Belle Arenson
2023-2024
Outreach & Engagement Coordinator
- Anna Bachmann
Clean Water Program Director
- Tanya Balaji
Stewardship & Education Manager
- Jessica Carling
Donor Relations Manager
- Jillian Currier
2024-2025
Clean Water Program Specialist
- Sean Dixon
Executive Director & Soundkeeper
- Kelsey Furman
Associate Attorney
- Emily Gonzalez
2024 Law & Policy Director
- Stefani León
Corporate Engagement &
Membership Manager
- Teresa Nelson
Development Director
- Amelia Ouellet Rich
2023-2024 Education &
Stewardship Coordinator
- Cassie Whittemore
2024-2025 Clean Water
Program Specialist

Thank you!

Thank you to 2,158 volunteers who joined us in 2024 on shorelines, on the water, and parks throughout Puget Sound.



130 Nickerson Street, Suite 107
Seattle, WA 98109
206.297.7002
pugetsoundkeeper.org

