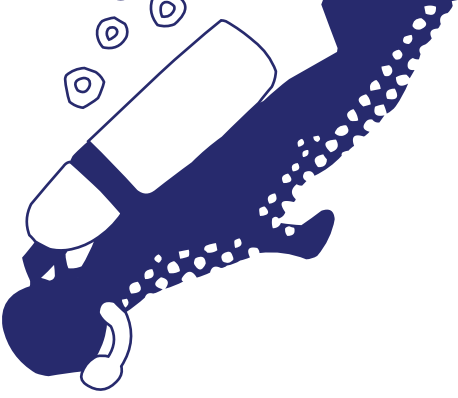




# 2025 Impact Report



**PUGET  
SOUNDKEEPER®**



# Welcome

Thank you for joining us in 2025 as we celebrated 41 years of impact around 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 2026, launching another era of Puget Sound leadership and progress.

See you on the water,

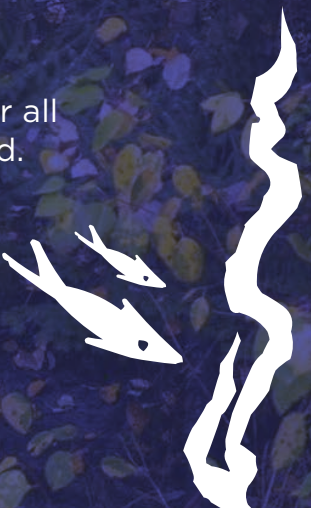
**Sean T. Dixon**  
*Soundkeeper & Executive Director*

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.

Photo credit Erik Bell



**Earth Day Cleanup 2025 - Magnuson Park**

Photo Credit: Edward Yamut

## Tell us your Puget Sound story!

Do you have a memorable Puget 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: Puget Soundkeeper's Win at the U.S. Supreme Court

Puget Soundkeeper holds big polluters accountable. In summer 2025, this work brought us all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court - and we prevailed.

## Puget Soundkeeper v. Port of Tacoma

Back in 2018, Puget Soundkeeper brought an enforcement action against industrial polluters discharging stormwater into Tacoma's West Sitcum waterway. After years of action in this case, in 2024 Puget Soundkeeper won a favorable ruling at the federal Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals; that decision was promptly appealed by the permittees - SSA Terminals and Port of Tacoma - to the U.S. Supreme Court. After another year of briefing, an administration change and an unfavorable U.S. Solicitor General's opinion asking the Court to take the case and block these types of "citizen suits" from being allowed, the United States Supreme Court denied the Port of Tacoma and SSA Marine's appeal challenging our ability to hold them accountable for stormwater pollution in Commencement Bay.

This denial locked in our win at the Court of Appeals affirming the public's ability to bring enforcement cases like this under the federal Clean Water Act (CWA).



# 2025 Legislative Accomplishments

2025 was a big year for environmental and human health protections.

## HB 1670: Sewage Spill Right to Know - PASSED

This bill requires Ecology to set up a website within 14 months to alert people to the location of intentional or accidental discharges of untreated or under-treated sewage.

## SB 5284: Recycling Reform Act - PASSED

This bill creates an extended producer responsibility program for most kinds of paper and packaging. It also establishes a statewide recycling collection list and calls for adding curbside recycling for all homes that already have curbside trash service.

## SB 5033: PFAS in Biosolids - PASSED

This bill requires Ecology to establish PFAS testing requirements for municipal biosolids. It also requires quarterly sampling of the biosolids to assess for "forever chemicals".

## HB 1937/SB 5712: Presumption of Compliance - DID NOT PASS

Puget Soundkeeper, alongside Earthjustice and other community partners, was integral in putting an end to this bill, which would have prevented Ecology from enforcing water quality standards and risked limiting the public's right to bring polluters into compliance via federal citizen suits.



## Stay in the know!

- Check out the State Legislature 2026 webpage on our website
- Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn
- Sign up for our email newsletters



## Clean Water Program

In the summer of 2025, the Clean Water Program (CWP) team continued carrying out cleanups as part of the Salmon & Legacy Debris project – a project launched in 2024 to address tire pollution and its impacts on salmon. As part of this project, Puget Soundkeeper staff hosted four cleanups and mobilized 115 volunteers to remove over 1665.5 pounds of legacy debris from the Duwamish River.

In partnership with Twin Harbors Waterkeeper and Unleash the Brilliance, Puget Soundkeeper ran our first-ever overnight beach cleanup and camping trip! Our youth interns and volunteers fought through inclement weather to remove 362 pounds of debris from both Ocean City and Twin Harbors State Park.

Additionally, Puget Soundkeeper continued serving as the regional coordinator for the International Coastal Cleanup program. With over 13 cleanups spanning the coast from Bellingham to Bainbridge Island, over 560 volunteers came together to catalogue nearly 13,188 pieces of trash.

The CWP team also supported the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) with their annual Mussel Watch project, a study assessing the accumulation of contaminants throughout Puget Sound. In November 2025, 40 Puget Soundkeeper volunteers went out at night during the ultra-low “zero-tide” to deploy mussel cages to assist WDFW with their study.



## Salute to the Sound Gala

Thank you for a wonderful 41st celebration!

In October 2025, Puget Soundkeeper staff and board members were thrilled to celebrate our 22nd annual Salute to the Sound Gala and Auction. There, we celebrated the important work being done to protect Puget Sound and honored River Access Paddle Program with our 2025 Inspiration Award. Thanks to the generosity of our attendees and donors, we were able to exceed our fundraising goal for the year!



**SAVE THE DATE**  
October 24, 2026

Salute to the Sound  
23rd Annual Gala

5-9 PM

Bell Harbor  
International  
Conference Center



Upper Left and Right: Gala attendees. Middle Left: Sean Dixon, Puget Soundkeeper Executive Director. Middle Right: Jillian Currier, Puget Soundkeeper Clean Water Program Specialist. Bottom Right: Cari Simson and Lee Lee, RAPP Co-Founders, Sean Dixon. Bottom Right: Nani Welsh, Puget Soundkeeper Clean Water Program Specialist.

Photo credit: Edward Yamut

2025 BY THE NUMBERS



\$1,576,000

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



2000+

total volunteers working with Puget Soundkeeper for clean water



8000+

pounds of marine debris removed from our waterways



64

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



30

pollution reports were directed to the appropriate public agency



61

trash cleanups on kayak and on foot



15

water pollution enforcement cases and permit appeals launched, settled, or won in the federal and state court



52

outreach and education events at schools, festivals, and symposiums, with an estimated 2097 people engaged throughout these events



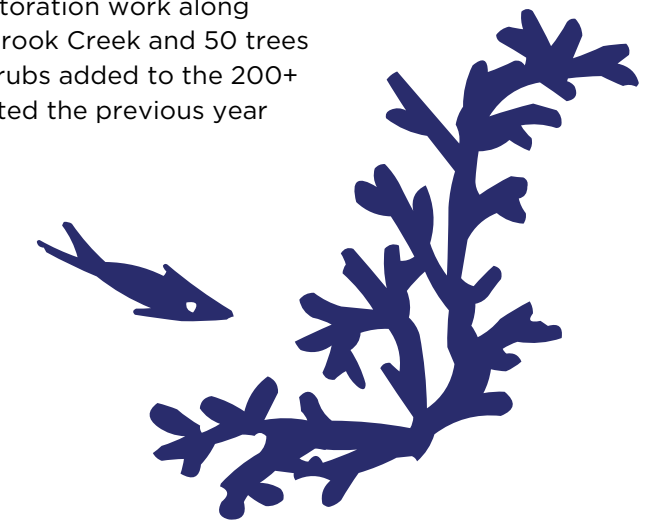
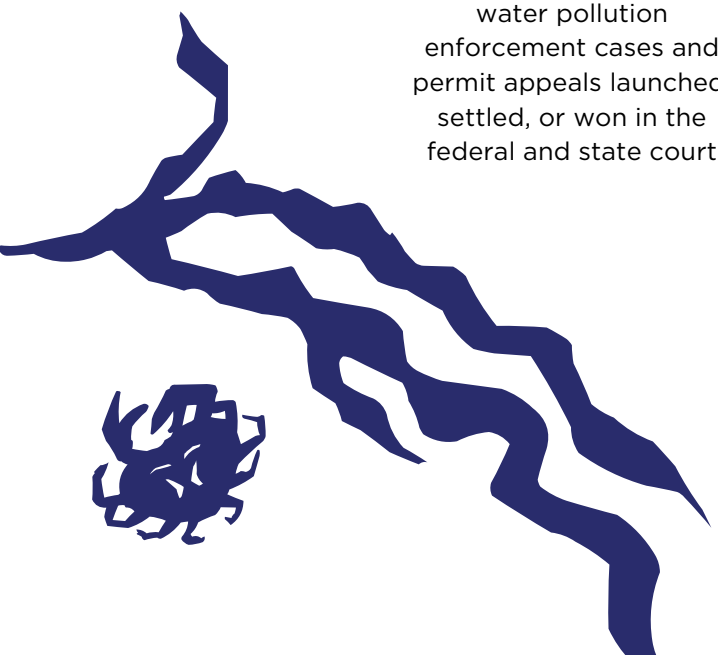
496

salmon observed in the annual salmon survey at Longfellow Creek

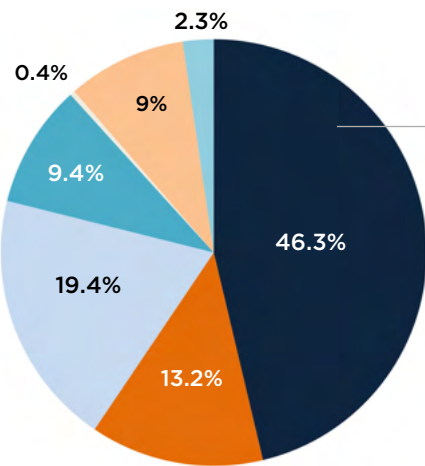


7800

sq ft of habitat added to our restoration work along Springbrook Creek and 50 trees and shrubs added to the 200+ planted the previous year

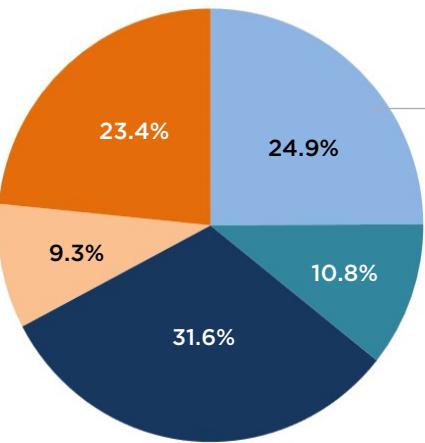


2024 FINANCIALS



INCOME: \$1,315,384

|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| Foundation Support .....           | \$ 608,829 |
| Business & Corporate Support ..... | 173,154    |
| Individual Support .....           | 255,807    |
| Government Grants .....            | 123,116    |
| EarthShare Income .....            | 5,039      |
| Special Events .....               | 118,670    |
| Interest & Other Income .....      | 30,767     |



EXPENSES: \$1,262,631

|                            |            |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Law & Policy Program ..... | \$ 314,632 |
| Education & Outreach ..... | 136,358    |
| Clean Water Program .....  | 398,446    |
| Management & General ..... | 117,560    |
| Fund Development .....     | 295,635    |



5th of July Cleanup - Lake Union

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Tim Carlson, President
- Allan Chartrand, Vice President
- Erin Breslin
- Janette Brimmer
- Ross Chambers, *In Memoriam*  
Board Service 2006-2022
- Marla Dunn
- Jonathan Frodge
- Lizzie Jespersen
- John Koblinsky
- Sara Parker
- Tom Putnam  
*Director Emeritus & Founding Board Member*

STAFF

- Julie Angell  
Operations Director
- Anna Bachmann  
Clean Water Program Director
- Tanya Balaji  
Stewardship & Education Manager
- Gail Cabahug  
Advocacy and Policy Manager
- Jessica Carling  
Donor Relations Manager
- Jillian Currier  
2024-2025 Clean Water Program Specialist
- Sean Dixon  
Executive Director & Soundkeeper
- Kelsey Furman  
Staff Attorney
- Ewan Henderson  
2025-2026 Clean Water Program Specialist
- Allison Holmes  
Community Partnerships Manager
- Teresa Nelson  
Development Director
- Nani Welsh  
2025-2026 Clean Water Program Specialist
- Cassie Whittemore  
2024-2025 Clean Water Program Specialist

Thank you!

Thank you to the 2000+ volunteers who joined us in 2025, on shorelines, on the water, and in the parks throughout Puget Sound.

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





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SOUNDKEEPER®**

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