

# **Protect the Sound from human waste**

Pump Out, Don't Dump Out!

## BOATERS,

#### WHAT'S THE STINK ABOUT?

There are 153,000

recreational boaters

in Puget Sound







Sam the Clam

Recreational vessels in Puget Sound produce about

47.7 million gallons of concentrated sewage per year.

When boaters release raw or partially-treated sewage from their vessels, high levels of disease-carrying pathogens and holding tank chemical additives enter the Puget Sound, rendering the water unsafe.

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2,000,000 -

1,500,000 -

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500,000 -

Studies show vessel sewage averages more than 2 million coliform forming units (cful/100 ml)...



...compared to our state's legal standard of 14 cful/100 ml for public health and water quality protection.



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Additives to improve the smell of your holding tank often contain hundreds of chemical compounds that negatively impact our water quality.



Human waste contains bacteria, viruses and parasites, which could lead to the closure of swimming beaches and shellfish harvest beds







Shellfish filter great quantities of salt water and quickly bio-accumulate disease-carrying bacteria, viruses, and other microorganisms when exposed to even small amounts of sewage.

#### KEEP SOUND WATERS CLEAN



In 2018, Puget Sound was designated as a Vessel Sewage No Discharge Zone (NDZ) to address this source of pollution.

Report Illegal
Discharges at:
206-594-0000 or
nwroerts@ecy.wa.gov

- www.ecology.wa.gov
- f facebook.com/EcologyWA
- © @ecologywa

Every year, boaters can divert millions of gallons of vessel sewage from Puget Sound by using pumpout stations.





Download the FREE Pumpout Nav app to see the No Discharge Zone and locate pumpout stations near you.

**PumpoutWashington.org** 

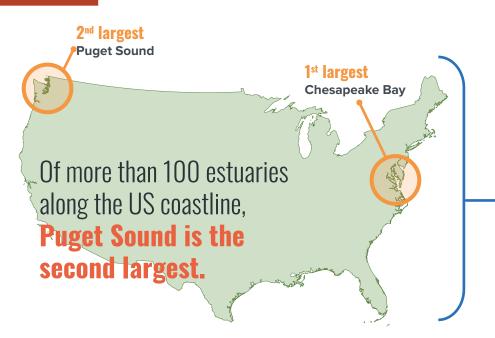


Puget Sound is a unique marine environment

Pump Out, Don't Dump Out!

### PROTECT THE SOUND

FROM HUMAN WASTE



Estuaries—where freshwater and saltwater merge—are among the most productive places for life to exist.

They are home to thousands of species of birds, mammals, fish, and other wildlife, including more than two thirds of the fish and shellfish harvested domestically in the US.

# Puget Sound is made of 4 deep basins separated by prominent rises in the seabed.

These basins play a major role in the circulation of water in Puget Sound, limiting the water's ability to flush out pollution and restore healthy oxygen levels. Because of this limited circulation, Puget Sound is a sensitive marine environment that is extremely susceptible to pollution.



Puget Sound has 4 or 5 genetically distinct populations of oysters, corresponding roughly to the different basins that make up the sound.





- 1. Admiralty Inlet
- 2. Whidbey Basin
- 3. Central Basin
- 4. Hood Canal
- 5. South Basin





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# Puget Sound is a vital part of Washington's economy

ECOLOGY, CULTURE, AND ECONOMY

AT STAKE

**Washington State's** aquaculture industry is the largest in the nation, contributing an estimated \$184 million annually and employing more than 3,200 people.

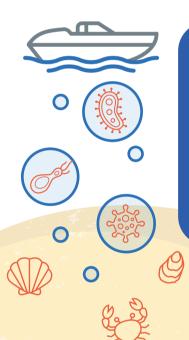
Pump Out, Don't **Dump Out!** 



WHAT'S THE STINK **ABOUT THE NO DISCHARGE ZONE?** 

Recreational vessels in the **Puget Sound produce about** 47.7 million gallons of concentrated sewage per year.

When boaters release raw or partially-treated sewage from their vessels, high levels of disease-carrying pathogens and holding tank chemical additives enter Puget Sound.



Shellfish filter great quantities of salt water and quickly bio-accumulate disease-carrying bacteria, viruses, and other microorganisms when exposed to even small amounts of sewage.

Commercial shellfish bed closures threaten up to 2,700 jobs and upwards of \$70 million in income per year. Closures can also impact the harvest rights of tribes.

More than 650 acres of commercial shellfish beds have been re-opened to date as a result of the Puget Sound No Discharge Zone rule!

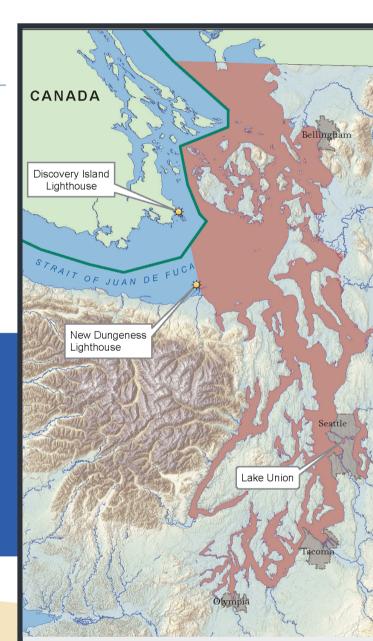
Sewage pumpouts = A healthy shellfish industry!

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**Puget Sound is a No-Discharge Zone** 



**Compliance with NDZ is critical** for protecting and recovering shellfish beds throughout the Puget Sound.





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