

John Holding

Thank you for your thorough and careful evaluation of the need to designate Puget Sound as a No Discharge Zone. Puget Sound should join 90 other iconic waterways across the United States as a No Discharge Zone.

To date, our region is the only one in the nation that has not designated No Discharge Zones for any waters. Puget Sound, a national treasure, needs this type of protection. I fully support Department of Ecology's determination and proposal to establish the Puget Sound No Discharge Zone.

This simple and common sense approach will protect public health, keep our waters clean, protect sensitive marine waters, and support important shellfish harvesting areas.

Fortunately, over 97% of boaters already do the right thing they have holding tanks onboard to store sewage (also called blackwater), then pump it out using any one of the 100 designated pumpout facilities that are available throughout the Puget Sound.

I live in the sound on Lopez Island. The increased tourism and boaters requires that we take action to protect this amazing resource for all.

Again, thank you for your hard work. Please establish the Puget Sound No Discharge Zone.