

Carolyn DeFord-Eden

Thank you for your thorough and careful evaluation of the need to designate Puget Sound as a No Discharge Zone.

The Federal Government has an obligation to maintain fishing rights for native peoples under Article 3 of the Treaty of Medicine Creek of 1854. I urge you to consider the dumping of human waste in treaty waters a violation of treaty rights, human rights and the environmental protections promised in the Endangered Species act and the Clean Water Act.

It would be shameful if Puget Sound didn't join the 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 and plead with you to also review and evaluate the impacts of expanded industry, fossil fuel and cumulative of the pollution released by these industries.

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

I, along with many residents and users of Puget Sound, strongly support establishing a No Discharge Zone for Puget Sound and federal oversight of hazardous industry in regards to the cumulative impacts of pollution on the water, community, and sealife. The maritime community values Puget Sound and I am confident that the remaining vessels that don't have proper holding tanks onboard will step up to do their part to keep our waters clean.

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