

Jay Spearman

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

I believe it to be a political correctness issue that will not have any measurable effect on water quality in Puget Sound. We should not care what other parts of the country do. Let's get specific about our problems and what solutions might work.

I spent my career working with environmental issues and support WDOEs efforts. I have conducted WQ studies around marinas. I am unconvinced this proposal is any more than ineffective eye wash. One case in point is the volume of discharge already permitted from municipal treatment plants. Don't hide behind the silo'd fact it is a separate permit. That volume dwarfs most all other sources. How about the chemicals and medical drugs that pass through untreated? The proposed no discharge designation will not address that real and significant impact on Puget Sound.

Another major problem that is given attention but is far from being adequately mitigated is storm water runoff from new upland developments all around Puget Sound. I have seen neighboring industrial applicants with separate permits programs experience significantly different discharge requirements. There are programatic explanations, but the environment doesn't distinguish and the applicants are not treated on an equal basis. That kind of thing should be a much higher priority than subject proposal.

I, along with many practical residents and users of Puget Sound, strongly disagree with establishing a No Discharge Zone for Puget Sound. The maritime community and I regard this as a well intended but unproductive and costly exercise of tax resources.

Again, thank you for your hard work. Please re-evaluate your priorities to protect Puget Sound.