

Holly Stuart

An egregious loophole allows cruise ships to burn one of the dirtiest fossil fuels on earth--heavy fuel oil--by 'scrubbing' the exhaust and discharge the toxin-laden wastewater directly into the ocean. But 'scrubbing' is a misnomer; these mechanisms only convert horrible air pollution into horrible ocean pollution. That is unacceptable.

The marine ecosystem needs a healthy home even to survive, let alone thrive. The COVID-19 pandemic has been an ongoing tragedy on a global scale, but the resulting cessation of cruise vessel traffic in the Puget Sound has been a welcome reprieve from the water pollution these ships create. That's why scrubber dumping cannot return to the Sound. This is a perfect opportunity for the cruise sector to show that they are committed to changing their polluting ways by agreeing to end the dumping of all scrubber wastes in Puget Sound.

Please approve amendment #2 and ban scrubbers.