

Rex Payne

Water circulates all over the Earth. It belongs to everyone, including the other life forms with which we share the planet. It is a public trust. Yet private interests are allowed to foul it with their effluent. If those private interests cannot make a profit without dumping their waste into public waters, they should not be in business, because their profit is coming out of a public resource. That is socialism for the wealthy: converting public resources into private property.

Private interests extract what they want and dump what they don't want back into the oceans. Life in the oceans is being extracted and/or poisoned at an alarming rate, with the result that it is now only about 20% of what it was in the 19th century. The sea obviously cannot support extraction at that level. And the poisoning must stop. No more dumping into Puget Sound or into public waters anywhere!