

Hazel Gordon

As an occasional visitor to the Puget Sound region, I deeply appreciate its beauty and environment as the third largest estuary in the U.S. A heavily trafficked region, the Sound once supported multitudes of salmonids, Orcas, harbor seals, marine invertebrates, seabirds and other rapidly disappearing species due to human activities. The continuing discharge of aqueous exhaust, petroleum-based effluent from cruise ships by means of their scrubber technologies adds another load to the cumulative damaging effects on these organisms. The Memorandum of Understanding to manage the Puget Sound region mentions its Amendment 2 as a strategy to permanently ban such scrubbers from Puget Sound. I urge you to ban scrubbers in order to continue to provide better habitat for the survival of these species while at the same time augmenting the lucrative tourist industry that thrives on visitors viewing these impressive marine species. Thank you for considering these comments.