

Todd Stark

I support amendment #2

It's time to close the loophole that 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. That's why I support amendment #2 to ban scrubbers.

This is a huge 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.

Marine ecosystem needs a healthy home to survive. 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. I support amendment #2.

Thank you to the cruise ship industry for making this commitment to protecting the waters you utilize—and all the endangered wildlife that reside in them. Banning scrubbers in WA waters—and hopefully all environmentally sensitive waters around the world—can be a win-win for the cruise ship industry, for wildlife and for the state of Washington.