

## Norm Conrad

As you know very well, despite the good news of a few new arrivals, the southern resident Orca pod has been declining over the past several decades. This is the result of several factors, some new and some old. One of the relatively new factors has been the recent expansion of cruise ship activity in Puget Sound.

There is a yawning loophole in the current MOU 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.

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.

Do not allow cruise ships to destroy the vital marine ecosystem in the Sound. Stop the ships from dumping their toxins here. Can you stop them from dumping those toxins anywhere and force them to sequester them in safe containers at safe sites?