

## Bonnie Bledsoe

Why are we polluting Puget Sound...affecting the health of all creatures in the Sound, orcas and salmon among them? Please regulate the wastewater discharge for the Everett Wastewater Treatment Plant to reduce harmful discharges of PBDEs, PFAS, and nutrient pollution. The science is clear that these are harmful. They are found in our salmon, and we eat the salmon along with the orcas. For PFAS contamination, the permit should set deadlines for industrial users to conduct initial sampling and reporting, and to implement monitoring and pollution prevention and reduction practices. The permit should also require that industrial users conduct EPA-recommended ongoing quarterly sampling. Further, the permit should require the plant itself to evaluate strategies to reduce PFAS if source control efforts aren't sufficient to bring PFAS levels down. For nutrient pollution, the permit should set limits on the levels of nitrogen and phosphorous that can be discharged. Scientists have already established limits that are achievable and will help address Puget Sound's persistent nutrient pollution problems – Everett and Ecology just need to listen to the experts. The Department of Ecology has an opportunity through the renewal of this permit to do more to protect our marine environment, salmon, orcas, and people. We hope Washington State can become a leader in these efforts by issuing a permit that will reduce our exposure to these pollutants.