

Carrie Anderson

PLEASE implement strong measures in the wastewater discharge permit for the Everett Wastewater Treatment Plant that will be effective in reducing harmful discharges of PBDEs, PFAS, and nutrient pollution. Wastewater treatment plants are a primary source and have been found in salmon, orcas, and also in human breast milk. PFAS and nutrient pollution are pervasive nationwide, including in our beloved waterways. More must be done to prevent these waste streams from harming our communities and aquatic ecosystems. The permit should also require that industrial users conduct EPA-recommended ongoing quarterly sampling. 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 protect our marine environment, salmon, orcas, and people.