## **Funds Distribution Report**



8802 27th Ave NE Tulalip, WA 98271

TulalipCares.org

## **Recipient Organization:**

## **Puget Soundkeeper Alliance**

#### Address:

130 Nickerson St, Suite 107 Seattle, WA 98109

#### **Contact:**

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https://pugetsoundkeeper.org

### **Organization's General Goals:**

We monitor Puget Sound water quality, help set strong policies and regulations that protect our waterways and our health, enforce environmental regulations, engage citizens and businesses in waterway cleanups and recovery projects, educate and involve the public in local water pollution issues, and partner with local and regional groups to advance solutions that protect Puget Sound.

Date of Award: Level:

2018 Q4 \$7,501 to \$10,000

For more information, please read the attached report from Puget Soundkeeper Alliance.



Puget Soundkeeper Grant Report to Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions: Q4 2018

14.2

Grant Period: December 2018 - November 2019

Website: www.pugetsoundkeeper.org

**Total number of impacted:** Puget Soundkeeper's mission benefits 4.4 million people in the greater Puget Sound community and watershed.

Puget Soundkeeper (Soundkeeper) is grateful to Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions for the grant received on 4/1/2019. The grant was used for general operating expenses.

### **Pollution Prevention Program Results and Highlights**

# Goal 1: Educate residents about water quality, increase understanding of the interconnectedness of watersheds and promote individual behavior change

During the grant period, staff conducted outreach at 98 events including volunteer events, public presentations, volunteer trainings, and tabling events, and have helped enrich Soundkeeper's online content and social media presence.

Through Soundkeeper's year-round Lost Urban Creeks Project, 25 youth interns were paid \$15/hour and trained in water quality monitoring, watershed ecology, pollution detection and reporting, and outreach. Youth interns also participated in cleanups, boat patrols, kayak patrols, outreach activities, lunch and learns, Springbrook Creek field investigations, and they planted 250 trees in the Black River Riparian Forest.

# Goal 2: Reduce marine debris in Puget Sound and increase public awareness about plastics in our environment

Puget Soundkeeper operates a marine debris program that involves over 2,500 volunteers annually. Cleanups have measurable impacts on habitat, water quality and community spaces. They are also great opportunities to introduce people to the water in a safe way and develop an ethic of environmental stewardship. From December 2018 - November 2019, 2,631 volunteers participated in 131 marine debris cleanups and removed 13,247 pounds of trash.

#### Goal 3: Certify Clean Marinas and reduce boater-generated pollution

Puget Soundkeeper coordinates the statewide Clean Marina Program. During this grant period, staff certified one new marina, renewed the certifications of one marina and distributed Clean Boating tools to thousands of boaters throughout Puget Sound. The new Boating Programs Manager, Blair Englebrecht, started in September 2019 and hit the ground running in boater outreach and engagement.

### Soundkeeper Program Results and Highlights Goal 1 - Obtaining improved Pollution Discharge Permits

From December 2018 to November 2019, Soundkeeper:

• Participated in 145 coalition and stakeholder meetings designed to align advocacy efforts, inform Ecology and other agencies about pollution and water quality issues and provide legal and technical comments on draft pollution discharge permits, and other water quality related regulations.

- Litigated 6 appeals to strengthen regulations for key pollution sources:
  - December 2018: Intervened in appeal filed by American Waterway Operators challenging certification of Puget Sound as No Discharge Zone for marine sewage in order to defend rule at a time when the U.S. EPA will not (US District Court for the District of Columbia).
  - January 2019: Were granted Certificate of Appealability enabling expedited appeal of unfavorable lower court decision on appeal to improve Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) permits (WA Court of Appeals).
  - April 2019: Intervened in WA Cattleman's Association's lawsuit challenging the 2015 "Waters of the U.S." rule designating which waterways are protected by the Clean Water Act in order to defend it from industry attack (US District Court Western WA).
  - July 2019: Filed appeals of Phase I and Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permits (Pollution Control Hearings Board).
  - August 2019: Dismissed appeal of Shell Seattle Terminal's permit after agency cancelled permit (PCHB); will closely monitor facility compliance with new permit.
  - October 2019: Prevailed at hearing on State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) issue enabling continued challenge of Tesoro's efforts to expand its Anacortes oil refinery to also export mixed xylenes (Thurston Superior Court).

### **Goal 2 - Increasing Compliance with Permits and Other Regulations**

From December 2018 to November 2019, Soundkeeper:

- Moved forward with 4 existing lawsuits to protect local waterways from ongoing pollution:
  - o LRI Landfill (polluted stormwater and wastewater from landfill and leachate spills to salmon-bearing tributary to Nisqually River in Graham).
  - o Boeing Military Delivery Center (PCB-laden stormwater discharges to the Duwamish River in Seattle).
  - o Port of Tacoma and SSA Marine (pollution industrial stormwater from marine cargo terminal to West Sitcum Waterway in Tacoma).
  - US Navy (in-water scraping of decommissioned aircraft carrier in Sinclair Inlet, Bremerton). During the grant period, the WA Attorney General's office intervened in the lawsuit in support of Puget Soundkeeper, The Squamish Tribe and Washington Environmental Council.
- Resolved three major lawsuits against egregious polluters with substantial results:
  - APM Pacific Terminals (\$368,000 to local projects after tenant vacated marine terminal without installing required stormwater treatment system) – case against Port owner remains active to control site's future uses.
  - Seattle Iron & Metals (extensive site updates to improve stormwater and wastewater treatment, address onsite fires, and measure and control fugitive dust emissions plus \$200,000 to local projects).
  - Total Terminals International and Port of Seattle (\$735,000 to local projects after tenant vacated marine terminal without updating stormwater treatment, and Port requirements to improve treatment depending on new tenant uses).
- December 2018: Filed a new lawsuit against City of Anacortes for violations of Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit.

Soundkeeper has continued to track and review municipal code updates to gauge compliance with the Municipal Stormwater Permits for Western Washington. In 2019, Soundkeeper released a *newly revised* Nature's Scorecard report showing substantial progress from 2017 as a result of this positive accountability project: <a href="www.naturesscorecard.com/">www.naturesscorecard.com/</a>

Soundkeeper currently has 5 active Clean Water Act lawsuits.

Goal 3 – Improving Civic Engagement and Policies to Protect the Waters of Puge From December 2018 to November 2019, Soundkeeper engaged over 14,000 commun members and policy makers while increasing its participation in stakeholder processes coalitions working on issues related to Puget Sound.

### Goal 4 – Conduct On-water and monitoring and Field Investigations

During this grant period, Soundkeeper conducted 53 patrols with over 450 volunteers, documented and responded to 37 pollution hotline incidents and conducted 27 field investigations. Six Clean Water Act enforcement cases were supported by field investigations. The geographic range of water quality monitoring and field investigation included most watersheds from Port Angeles to Olympia and Bellingham to Tacoma.

Thank you for your support of Puget Soundkeeper's mission to protect and preserve Pu Sound.











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