



Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:
Puget Soundkeeper Alliance

Address:
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Seattle, WA 98109

Contact:
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Organization's General Goals:

Puget Soundkeeper's mission is to protect and enhance the waters of Puget Sound for the health and restoration of our aquatic ecosystems and the communities that depend on them. 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:
2023 Q4	\$2,501 to \$5,000

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

8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271
TulalipCares.org

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Puget Soundkeeper Grant Report to Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions: Q4 2023 14.2

Grant Period: December 2023 - November 2024

Website: www.pugetsoundkeeper.org

Address: 130 Nickerson Street, Suite 107, Seattle, WA 98109

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

Puget Soundkeeper is grateful to Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions for the \$[REDACTED] grant received on 4/10/2024. 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 43 events including volunteer events, public presentations, volunteer trainings, and tabling events, and have helped enrich Soundkeeper's online content and social media presence.

Through Puget Soundkeeper's year-round Lost Urban Creeks Project, 60 paid youth interns were trained to conduct 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 and Springbrook Creek field investigations.

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

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 2023 - November 2024, 1,710 volunteers participated in 95 marine debris cleanups and removed 15,944 pounds of trash.

Soundkeeper Program Results and Highlights

Goal 1 - Obtaining improved Pollution Discharge Permits

From December 2023 to November 2024, Puget Soundkeeper:

- A) Participated in over 138 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.

B) Moved forward on 5 appeals including:

- Appeal of WA Phase I and Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permits to argue for improved standards, meaningful implementation, reducing loopholes, and increasing efficacy.
- Appeal of 2020 WA Industrial Stormwater General Permit to uphold Ecology intention for permit coverage at transportation facilities.
- Appeal of Puget Sound Nutrient General Permit (PSNGP) to challenge WA's permit that regulates nitrogen discharges from 53 wastewater treatment plants.
- Appeal of West Point Wastewater Treatment permit for lack of nitrogen regulation at the facility which contributes the largest amount of nutrients to the Puget Sound.
- Appeal of Combined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) permit to argue for improved standards, meaningful implementation, and increased efficacy.

Goal 2 - Increasing Compliance with Permits and Other Regulations

During the grant term, Puget Soundkeeper settled 3 legal actions, requiring corrective actions and payment of \$438,160 to third parties for restoration and environmental benefit projects in affected waterways:

- The Kenan Advantage Group (KAG), Commencement Bay (stormwater treatment and mitigation system) and \$350,000 to the Puyallup Tribe for salmon habitat restoration in the affected watershed.
- Seattle Iron and Metals, Duwamish River (noncompliance with mitigation) and \$77,000 to Just Health Action for air and water environmental projects benefiting the communities directly affected by the defendant's pollution.
- Ardagh Glass, Duwamish River (noncompliance with mitigation) and \$11,160 to Seattle Parks Foundation for environmental projects benefiting the communities directly affected by defendant's pollution.

Goal 3 – Improving Civic Engagement and Policies to Protect the Waters of Puget Sound

From December 2023 to November 2024, Soundkeeper:

- Reached and engaged its social media audience of 14,897.
- Submitted 24 public comment letters on regulatory and policy issues advocating for more stringent water quality protections.
- Conducted 43 speaking events, reaching 1,284 people with water quality messages.

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

- During this grant period, Soundkeeper conducted 32 patrols with 344 volunteers, documented and responded to 47 pollution hotline incidents.
- Soundkeeper contributed to the scientific understanding of toxic water pollution through monitoring projects such as pre-spawn mortality salmon surveys on Longfellow Creek in Fall 2024.

Recent publications: [2023 Impact Report](#) & [40th Anniversary Booklet](#)

Thank you for your support of Puget Soundkeeper.

