

# Sierra Club Loo Wit Group Battles Coal, Oil and Methanol in Southwest Washington



*Klickitat platform - Trying to protect clean water and salmon resources, the Yakama/Klickitat Tribes are adamantly opposed to oil trains in the Columbia gorge and to the proposed oil terminal in Vancouver. A Native fishing platform is shown here at Lyle Falls on the Klickitat River. Photo by Alona Steinke*

By Don and Alona Steinke – LooWit Group, Beyond Fossil Fuels Task Force, Vancouver

We have been fighting the largest oil train terminal proposal, the largest coal export proposal, and the largest methanol plant in North America for years. Here is an update on the results of our efforts.

## Oil Terminal

In a huge setback to the proposed Tesoro terminal, the Energy Facilities Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) unanimously

agreed to deny the project. This decision came at the end of November when the council met to deliberate their recommendation in public. Once the official recommendation reaches Governor Inslee, he then has 60 days to reject the project, approve it with a long list of conditions, or approve it without conditions. Rallies held in Seattle and Vancouver WA early in December were designed to give Governor Inslee the support he needs to reject the oil terminal.

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*View from Oyster Dome at the Blanchard State Forest. Photo courtesy of Bill Gregory, Mt. Baker Group.*

## Two Decades of Conservation Advocacy Nears Fruition for Blanchard Forest

By Lizbeth DeWitt, Mount Baker Group

Visited by approximately 100,000 people a year, Blanchard State Forest is located south of Bellingham and is home to Blanchard Mountain, Oyster Dome, Lily Lake, and Oyster Creek. Beloved by hikers, mountain bikers, hang gliders, horseback riders, and bird-watchers alike, Blanchard Forest has been at risk of logging for decades because it is state trust land. The Mount Baker Group of the Sierra Club has been fighting to preserve this unique stretch of forest connecting the Cascade Mountains to the Salish Sea since 1997. If the currently stalled state Capital Budget is finally passed, the

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# The Crest

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## Message from the Washington State Chapter Chair



By Julia Reitan

The year 2017 has been a rough one nationally for our democracy, civil rights, and the environment. However, it has been truly inspiring to see communities rising up, local governments fighting back, and the continued progress of our efforts here in this Washington.

As described in the article from the Loo Wit Group, we have had major victories against oil, coal and methanol in SW Washington. The decision against the Tesoro Oil Terminal by the Washington Energy Facilities Site Council gave a huge boost to stopping that project. We saw the defeat of the last coal export terminal proposal remaining, with three key permits denied. Although the company has not yet walked away, this project planned for Longview WA, is dead man walking. In addition, the Kalama methanol plant proposal was sent back to the drawing board after the Sierra Club and our partners won a legal appeal that retracted two necessary permits.

Furthermore, we are closer than ever to securing the retirement of all four units at the Colstrip coal plant in Montana, which are partially owned by Puget Sound Energy. PSE reached a settlement with the Sierra Club and other stakeholders to pay down all of its debts on Colstrip by 2027.

Our Political Chair, Bonnie Gail, summarizes the recent election results and explains their significance for environmental causes in Washington State. The landslide victory of Sierra Club-endorsed candidate Don Orange for Vancouver Port Commissioner has all but guaranteed the defeat of the Tesoro Savage oil export terminal. Manka Dhingra's election to the Washington State senate flipped state senate leadership to more environmentally-minded Democrats, solidifying what national pundits are calling the "blue wall" of Democrat-led senate, house and governorships in WA, OR and CA.

These are great reminders that Sierra Club, with committed community leaders and volunteers, can win even against tough odds.

So, what will we take on next year?

Washington State is facing an onslaught of new fracked-gas refineries, pipelines,  
*Continued on page 3*

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Funds donated support work in Washington State.



# Totem Pole Journey Supports Opposition to Fossil Fuel Projects

By Victoria Leistman, Sierra Club Associate Organizer

In the last several years, the Pacific Northwest has been bombarded with coal and oil export proposals. Thanks to the hard opposition work around the state, most of those proposals have been stopped. But more dirty proposals have emerged: fracked gas and petrochemicals, which deepen our dependence on climate changing fossil fuels.

Last year, the Lummi Nation prevailed in its fight to block the largest coal port ever proposed in North America. The proposed Cherry Point coal terminal would have been located on the ancestral lands of the Lummi Nation known as Xwe'chi'eXen. The U.S.



Blessing at Totem Pole journey send-off in Bellingham, WA

Photo: Victoria Leistman

Army Corps of Engineers, the agency reviewing permits ruled that the project would be an unacceptable infringement on Lummi treaty fishing rights.

We've made progress, but also face a long road ahead to protecting what we love. To draw attention to that this year, members of the Lummi Community em-

barked on a six-city tour, named "Kwel'Hoy" (We Draw the Line!), to celebrate victories, commemorate alliances, and prepare for the coming battles. This

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## Message from the Washington State Chapter Chair

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power plants, and more. Combined, these projects could spell disaster for our efforts to reduce greenhouse gasses in Washington.

We will continue to work for two important climate actions: 1) a price on carbon pollution that is based on justice and equity and 2) a commitment to more renewable energy in Washington State. We will be actively working to ensure that the state moves forward without any counter-productive provisions, such as allowing more nuclear power or dams. Stay tuned.

And in our beloved wild places, we will work to halt Atlantic salmon net pens in Puget Sound; continue the push in Eastern Washington to remove four deadbeat Lower Snake River dams to restore salmon and orca populations; and statewide, continue to protect our waters, forests, and wildlife.

Thank you so much for supporting all of this work, as a member, a funding partner, a Sierra Club activist, leader or volunteer, or all of the above. Together we're making a difference for Washington State!

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## **Sierra Club Loo Wit Group Battles Coal, Oil and Methanol in Southwest Washington**

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### **The voters spoke**

On November 7, the voters of Vancouver gave our endorsed candidate, Don Orange, a resounding victory against Kris Greene, the oil company candidate. Orange has promised to vote with Commissioner LaBrant to cancel the lease for the oil terminal as soon as possible. We are very close to winning. During the campaign, our Sierra Club group teamed up with Washington Conservation Voters to knock on 25,000 doors. Despite huge donations from the oil industry for their candidate, Don Orange got 65% of the votes. Tesoro was caught exceeding its air pollution permits and settled for \$425 million on July 18, 2016. The company changed its name to Andeavor in July of 2017, possibly to hide some of their history. We doubt that Andeavor /Savage will give up yet.

### **Coal Terminal**

The Longview Coal Export terminal now has four nails in its coffin. Most recently, the Washington Department of Ecology denied the Water Permit, and a hearings examiner denied the Shorelines permit. In September, Ecology found that the proposed coal export terminal near Longview

would have caused significant and unavoidable harm in nine environmental areas: air quality, vehicle traffic, vessel traffic, rail capacity, rail safety, noise pollution, social and community resources, cultural resources, and tribal resources. In November, a Cowlitz County hearing examiner denied two shoreline permits that Millennium Bulk Terminals needed for its \$680 million project, dealing a major blow to the proposed Longview coal dock. This review added a tenth impact: greenhouse gas. Estimates are that the terminal would increase global greenhouse gas emissions by 2 million metric tons annually. Nevertheless, Millennium Coal will appeal the decision.

### **Fracked Gas to Methanol in Kalama**

As reported in the previous issue of the Crest, the Washington State Department of Ecology is requiring the applicant to repeat the permitting process because the original Environmental Impact Statement, on which the permits were based, did not include off-site fugitive emissions of methane. These include methane leaked during the drilling and transportation of fracked gas required for the methanol plant.

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## **Totem Pole Journey Supports Opposition to Fossil Fuel Projects**

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was their fifth journey focusing on the fossil fuel industry.

A totem pole, created by Master Carver Jewell James of the Lummi Nation House of Tears carvers, joined the journey. The totem pole was to remind us of our place within nature, our responsibility to future generations, and also our connections to each other and our communities.

The Totem Pole stopped in Vancouver BC and Seattle to draw attention to the Kinder Morgan TransMountain Pipeline, opposed by the Tsleil-Waututh and many other nations. The journey then moved on to Tacoma where the Puyallup are fighting Puget Sound Energy's proposed liquid natural gas (LNG) facility. It then went south to Vancouver, WA in solidarity with opposition to Tesoro's proposal for North America's largest oil-by-rail terminal, as well as in opposition to the world's largest methanol refinery proposed by the Chinese owned company Northwest Innovation Works. The final stop on the west coast was Portland OR, to highlight the LNG fight at Jordan Cove.

Hundreds of people turned out to the events, with around 350 attendees in Seattle. The totem pole was blessed by

tribal elders, community leaders, and activists. The Lummi asked for blessing and protection of sacred lands and waters of the greater Salish Sea bioregion.

Following the Pacific Northwest tour, this year's totem pole went across the country, ending at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh. At the Carnegie Museum, it inaugurated an international gathering at the conference "Humanity in the Age of the Anthropocene." The totem pole and the exhibit about the journey will be at the Museum for six months and seen by an estimated 200,000 people.

This journey connected us all to the local fights we face, with information about how to get involved. Presenters and performers brought in the arts, threading together our hearts and minds because what moves us is also what motivates us.

*For further information, contact Victoria Leistman at [victoria.leistman@sierraclub.org](mailto:victoria.leistman@sierraclub.org) or 206-378-0114 x320*

# WASHINGTON FLIPPED THE STATE SENATE: Better Environmental Representation!



Sign Waving for Don Orange five days before the election. Photo: Don Steinke  
By Bonnie Gail, Washington State Chapter Political Chair

The Sierra Club's mission is to explore, enjoy and protect wild places. What does that have to do with politics? Everything! As former Sierra Club President, Aaron Mair said, "Critical to our work is having a democracy and representative government that works to protect the environment for all Americans."

The 2017 special election in the 45th state legislative district was pivotal in setting the stage for improving key environmental programs. With numerous statewide wins for environmentally friendly candidates this year, 2016 federal disappointments seem like an anomaly. With the environment

under constant attack from the White House, it serves as a reminder that without constant vigilance we can become a country of individualists instead of a community. Here is a sample of what our community of Sierra Club members were able to accomplish:

Please go to our Sierra Club website for a full list of wins.

[www.sierraclub.org/washington/endorsements-2017-general](http://www.sierraclub.org/washington/endorsements-2017-general)

**Issue:** Key race in Vancouver to get control of the Port and stop oil exports -

Don Orange, Vancouver Port Commission - District 1 - **Elected.**

**Issue:** Key race to return control of green representation to the state senate-

Manka Dhingra, 45th Legislative District - Senate - **Elected.**

**Issue:** Protect our northern ports from Canadian pipelines-

Won majority of seats on Whatcom County Council to block threat of pipeline and maintain thin green line.

**Issue:** Removal of incumbent who voted for Shell oil rig at Port of Seattle Terminal...

Ryan Calkins, Port of Seattle Commissioner Position 1 - **Elected.**

These are just a few examples of how we can win when we join together. 2018 will be our biggest fight yet to keep the thin green line against fossil fuels in Puget Sound. Please donate to the State PAC. Your dollars go to key races where we are able to make a difference and elect environmental leaders: Leaders who understand our issues and believe in healthy communities.

*Bonnie Gail can be contacted at [msjeangail@gmail.com](mailto:msjeangail@gmail.com)*

## Two Decades of Conservation Advocacy Nears Fruition for Blanchard Forest

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hard work will have paid off.

Conservation groups collaborated over the past two decades to preserve Blanchard Forest. In 2006 they created the Blanchard Forest Strategy Agreement, protecting 1,600 acres of the core from logging by designating it a Natural Resource Conservation Area. Because it is state trust land, the state would be required to purchase alternate, income-generating forests to replace the protected core. The State Legislature included the final \$7.7 million needed to

purchase replacement lands in the 2017 Capital Budget, but the budget has not been approved and remains stalled.

The Mt. Baker Group is hopeful that, with the leadership of Rep. Kevin Ranker and other conservation-minded legislators, the budget will be passed with funding for Blanchard Forest intact. Sierra Club members are encouraged to thank Rep. Ranker for his leadership in this effort at [ranker.kevin@leg.wa.gov](mailto:ranker.kevin@leg.wa.gov), and to contact their representatives urging them to pass the Capital Budget with funding for the Blanchard State Forest.



## “Arreglense! Nos Vamos ir Caminando.” “Get Ready! We’re Going Hiking.”

By Iris Zacarias, a participant on a Sierra Club/ Latino Outdoors trip to Mt. Rainier.

Mi Mami’s voice would ring through the house as we scurried to find a pair of shorts and a t-shirt. After a bit of running around, the six of us packed ourselves into Papi’s camioneta and we were off on another perfect family outing.

Once I moved to Washington, my family hikes suddenly turned into solo hikes. Moving to a new state by yourself does that. After a while of exploring trails on my own, I stumbled upon Latino Outdoors, a non-profit organization that focuses on connecting Latinos to nature through free outdoor activities and workshops. Welcomed with open arms at my first event – which was co-hosted with Sierra Club - I discovered the magic of snowfall at Paradise, Mount Rainier. The name is truly fitting. Hailing from Southern California, I had never seen so much snow in my entire life, let alone seeing it actually fall from the sky. It’s a sight I will never forget.

Aside from the beauty I encountered that day, there was one detail that could not go unnoticed. We were the only group of Latinos we saw. Honestly, that didn’t surprise me at all. There is a large lack of diversity in the outdoors. One of the biggest barriers people face is finding financial means of pursuing outdoor activities, which in turn deters them from actually going out for the first time.

So when you hear this current federal administration is proposing a fee increase—nearly tripling the cost of entering our National Parks—know that it will turn thousands of people away: People who have never been to a National Park, people who want to experience our country’s unique and beautiful treasures, people who want to see snow fall for the first time.

## Legislative Preview for 2018: A WILD RIDE

By Tim Gould, Legislative Committee chair

The Legislature convenes on Monday, January 8 for its 2018 scheduled 60-day session. We expect a fast and furious pace with Democrats holding slim majorities in both the Senate and House as a result of the 2017 election. The state Supreme Court finding that education funding for the 2017-19 biennium is still not adequate to meet the requirements of its McCleary decision will force a relook at funding options. The outcome could have major implications for environmental policies on which the Legislature may take action.

Sierra Club will follow through with work to protect water supplies and in-stream flows, picking up where this issue stalled at the conclusion of the 2017 session. Along



Latino Outdoors trip to Rainier, author third from the right

Photo: Alex Craven

The fee increase is only the latest attempt from this Administration to reduce our sense of place. We watch the news and observe the many attempts to separate people from their land: shrinking National Monuments that are sacred sites for Native communities, deporting undocumented immigrants to a country they don’t call home, attempting to drill the Gwich’in homeland in the Arctic Refuge—the list goes on.

My parents shared their love of the outdoors with my sisters and me, and my love for the outdoors has never stopped growing. Latino Outdoors has pushed this love further and pushed me to new places too. I feel very fortunate to have these connections, but I know many people are not so lucky. Instead of creating more obstacles, Trump and Zinke need to be making our shared lands more accessible for all to enjoy—not turning them into another gated community.

Submit your comment on national parks to secretary Zinke before December 22: [www.addup.org/campaigns/70-to-enter-a-national-park-say-no/](http://www.addup.org/campaigns/70-to-enter-a-national-park-say-no/).

with environmental community and tribal allies, we will push our Legislative champions to defend the Hirst court decision by ensuring that existing water rights are respected, basins are not overdrawn, and stream flows are adequate for salmon and other aquatic species.

Our Legislative priorities also include stricter standards for use of net pens in fish farming, along with a ban on non-native fish raised in net pens. Several bills are expected to be introduced on this topic and Sierra Club will push for standards that make Washington more consistent with the rest of the west coast.

We anticipate action on improved energy standards for buildings, transportation funding that includes deliv-

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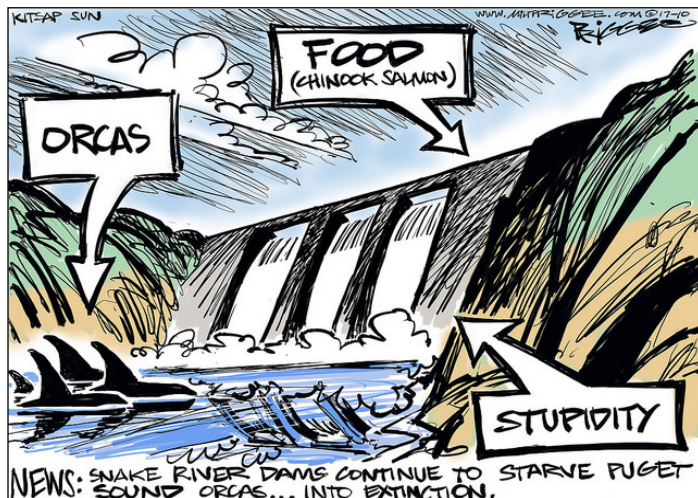
## ONE DECISION BY GOVERNOR INSLEE CAN HELP TWO NORTHWEST ICONS: Restore Wild Salmon to Protect our Orca

By Bill Arthur and Alex Craven

The fates of two iconic Northwest species, Chinook salmon and Puget Sound orca are inextricably linked. The numbers of Southern Resident orcas listed under the Endangered Species Act in 2005 are at a 30 year low today. Only 76 whales remain.

A primary reason for the plight of the orca population is lack of prey - they are starving! This is due to the decline of their primary food source: Chinook salmon. Many salmon runs are in serious trouble in Puget Sound and in the Columbia Basin; and several species are on the Endangered Species list. Restoring salmon is essential to protecting and restoring the orca.

We need to help salmon recover in both Puget Sound and coastal rivers. Orca travel outside of Puget Sound and feed along the coasts of Washington and Oregon, as well as at the mouth of the Columbia River. We need long-term action to restore salmon in Puget Sound rivers and to remove the four dams on the Lower Snake River. However, there are actions we can take in the short-term that will help.



Eric Barker, Lewiston Tribune, September 10, 2017.  
Reprinted with permission of the Columbia Institute for Water Policy.

One of the most important immediate actions we can take to aid salmon and orca is to increase spill water over the Columbia and Snake Rivers dams. Spill delivers young out-migrating salmon to the Pacific Ocean more safely, more quickly, and in better condition. This leads to larger numbers of adults returning and more food for orca. We

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## TEACHING OLD BUILDINGS NEW TRICKS: Saving Energy and Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions

By Holly Beale, Microsoft Cloud and Infrastructure Operations,  
and Spyros Sakellariadis, Ph.D. Applied Innovation-Smart  
Buildings, Microsoft Digital

How much time do you spend in buildings? How much do you think about the buildings you are in and about their energy use? Fortunately, many teams globally are doing just this – spending a lot of time thinking about buildings and how technology can improve the way we manage building systems to save energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Buildings vary in many ways, of course, but there's one thing almost all have in common – they use electricity. The more efficiently you manage a building's heating, cooling, and lighting, the less electricity it uses. Simple, but it has a huge impact. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), a staggering 75% of all electricity produced in the U.S. is used to operate buildings. And in 2010, the building sector was responsible for nearly half of U.S. CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions. Many of these emissions can be eliminated with better infrastructure, management systems, and operating procedures.

Solutions are available today that analyze data from buildings to help engineers identify problems, fix them quickly, and implement energy-saving processes. Software applications, ranging from simple to highly complex, add an analytical layer on top of existing building management systems, without the need to replace infrastructure. This enables individuals or businesses to aggregate and unlock insights from building data whatever the quantity and type, whether structured or unstructured. Many companies have developed software programs for increasing energy efficiency. For example, Microsoft now uses 120M kWh less electricity per year than in 2012 for its Puget Sound campus — the equivalent of reducing carbon emissions by about 37,000 metric tons a year! Similar solutions are being deployed elsewhere that have led to dramatic savings in greenhouse gas emissions.

*For further information, contact Jessica Koski at [jessica.koski@sierraclub.org](mailto:jessica.koski@sierraclub.org)*



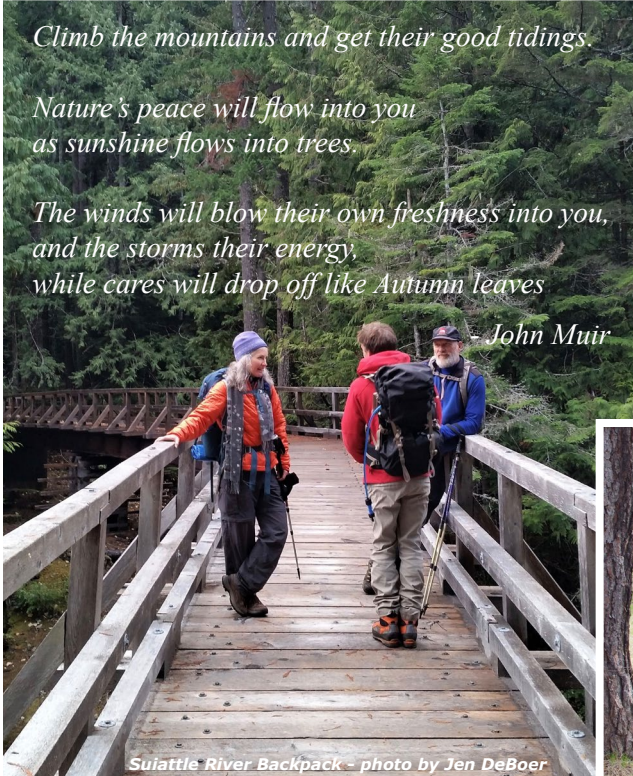
# Washington Sierra Club

*Climb the mountains and get their good tidings.*

*Nature's peace will flow into you  
as sunshine flows into trees.*

*The winds will blow their own freshness into you,  
and the storms their energy,  
while cares will drop off like Autumn leaves*

*- John Muir*



Suiattle River Backpack - photo by Jen DeBoer



Solar Eclipse - photo by David Burdick



Sontag Park - photo by Rich Leon



Slavin Conservation Area - photo by Rich Leon

*“Leading Outings is simply the most enjoyable and easiest form of environmental activism there is. You get people out on the trail and the woods and mountains and rivers do all the persuading. People have a great time and there’s no need to preach or cajole. Leading outings is a great way to recharge and reconnect with what got you into the Sierra Club in the first place. I highly recommend it!”*

—Local Outings Leader Rick Marshall, Camas, WA

## Fun and Educational Outings: Hiking, bicycling, skiing, snowshoeing, birding walks, canoeing, kayaking and more!



### Nordic Ski Outings with Loo Wit Group Coming Up

by Lehman Holder, Loo Wit outings leader  
During January, February and March, the Loo Wit Group will again be offering Nordic (cross country) ski outings for winter sports lovers.

It’s looking like another excellent ski season at Mt. Hood. At this writing several feet of snow have already fallen and the mountain’s downhill areas have opened.

Outing details have yet to be finalized, but possible dates are Jan. 7, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, Feb. 18, Mar. 4 and Mar. 18. Dates will be confirmed and outings information posted a week in advance of each outing on the Portland-Vancouver Sierra Club outings webpage:

[www.meetup.com/portland-vancouver-sierra-club-outings-events](http://www.meetup.com/portland-vancouver-sierra-club-outings-events)



## Educational Outings



Mt Adams - photo by Noel Romines



June Hiking: Lizard Lake - photo by Lynn Colson



Hope Island - photo by Angie

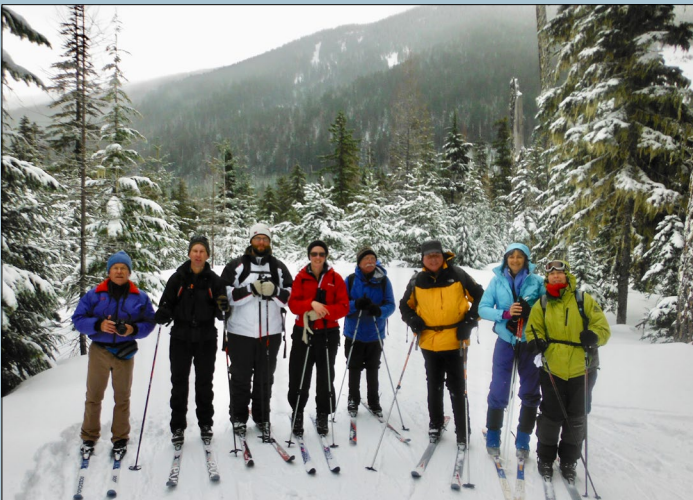


Scott Paul Trail - photo by Judith Akins

Participants should have basic skills – moving forward, stopping and turning. The Jan. 21 outing will be instructional.

*If you have questions, contact the outing leader, Lehman Holder, directly: [tripsGuy@aol.com](mailto:tripsGuy@aol.com)*

*Need skis? Rentals are available en route to the outing location, next door to where we have breakfast before skiing.*



Participants in a Loo Wit Group Nordic ski outing pause to take in the spectacular winter scenery on the trail at Teacup Lake Nordic Area near Mt. Hood. Photo by Lehman Holder

To Join our future outings, please look at our webpage:  
[www.sierraclub.org/washington/outings](http://www.sierraclub.org/washington/outings)

Better yet, if you are interested in training to be an outings leader, you can find out more details at:  
[www.sierraclub.org/washington/outings-committee](http://www.sierraclub.org/washington/outings-committee)

We welcome your participation.  
If you have any questions, please contact Tom Crisp at:  
[Outings.chair@washington.sierraclub.org](mailto:Outings.chair@washington.sierraclub.org).



# Sierra Club Pushing Puget Sound Energy to Commit to Clean Energy



Carbon-Free PSE Regional Activist Summit in June 2017

Photo: Eric Ross

By Angela London, Vashon Climate Action Group and the Carbon-Free PSE Campaign

This has been an exciting year for the Carbon-Free Puget Sound Energy (PSE) campaign. Hundreds of activists, community leaders, and elected officials turned out in Bellevue and Olympia at two Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) hearings during the summer to demand that PSE retire its Colstrip coal plant by 2025 and commit to a 100 percent renewable energy replacement with no new gas infrastructure.

Our voices were heard! The rate case process yielded a preliminary settlement that accelerates the debt payment schedule for Colstrip from 2045 to 2027. The UTC will issue its final decision on the settlement any day now.

## More Threats of Dirty Energy Looming

The UTC will soon be taking comments on PSE's 2017 20-year resource plan, known more formally as an "integrated resource plan" or IRP. PSE filed its final 2017 long-term plan in November, and there is serious cause for concern. PSE projects that the Colstrip coal plant will

continue to operate as late as 2035. This flies in the face of industry trends, where coal plants retiring years ahead of schedule due to competition from cheaper and cleaner alternatives. The plan also calls for 717 MW of new fracked gas plants. Equally alarming, PSE is attempting to move swiftly to build an 8 million gallon liquefied natural gas (LNG) facility in Tacoma despite local opposition from the Puyallup Tribe and other major stakeholders.

We can't afford the option of building new gas infrastructure. Fracked gas leaks! At every step in its production and use, from extraction to combustion, fracked gas releases methane, an extremely potent greenhouse gas.

PSE sells itself as a "green" company. But the utility's 2017 plan clearly reveals a stubborn and dangerous addiction to fossil fuels. PSE is also suing to repeal Washington's Clean Air Rule and has signed onto a white paper pushing for a five-year delay in the national Clean Power Plan. The Clean Power Plan is a key piece of Obama's climate legacy that the Trump Administration is intent on dismantling.

The UTC will be collecting public comments and hosting a public hearing on PSE's IRP in early 2018. Customers have a right to voice opinions on how the power they use is generated, and this is the moment to stand up and be heard. We need to deliver a loud and clear message: no more coal and, no new gas.

Dates for the comment period and hearing will be announced soon, so stay tuned to learn more about how you can join the fight for 100% renewable energy future!

**Contacts: Angela London [angslondon@gmail.com](mailto:angslondon@gmail.com)  
and Jessica Koski [jessica.koski@sierraclub.org](mailto:jessica.koski@sierraclub.org)**

## Legislative Preview for 2018: A Wild Ride

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ery of transit projects, and oil transport spill prevention regulations. Additional action is possible on pricing of carbon emissions, via a fee and invest proposal similar to HB 1646 considered last session. The Sierra Club will be fighting for state funding priorities that will protect our air, water, and public health, and reduce the negative impact of our carbon emissions on the climate. Prepare for a wild ride in 2018!

**For further information, contact Tim Gould  
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Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

*Preserve the Future*

Not everyone can make a large gift to protect the environment during their lifetime, but you can preserve the environment for generations to come by remembering Sierra Club in your will. There are many gift options available. We can even help you plan a gift for your local Chapter.

For confidential assistance, contact:  
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San Francisco, CA 94105  
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## Inspiring Connection Outdoors

www.SeattleICO.org

## ONE DECISION BY GOVERNOR INSLEE CAN HELP TWO NORTHWEST ICONS:

### Restore Wild Salmon to Protect our Orca

*Continued from page 7*

have abundant high quality habitat upstream in Central Idaho, SE Washington and NE Oregon, but we must get more salmon back to utilize it.

In April of this year Judge Simon ordered the federal agencies to increase spill starting with the 2018 migration season.

But Washington State's water standard prevents us from providing spill levels that the science says would benefit salmon.

Washington State can modify our state water standard to allow for more spill to benefit our salmon and orca. Oregon already has a better standard in place. Washington must modify ours to allow for more spill. And, we must do

it before the 2018 out-migration season.

Contact Governor Jay Inslee, <https://Sierra.secure.force.com/actions/National?actionid=AR0095997> today, or send a personal letter or post card to him at the address below. Ask him to act quickly to increase spill and help Columbia and Snake River salmon and the endangered orca that rely on them.

### Write to:

Governor Jay Inslee  
Office of the Governor  
PO Box 40002  
Olympia, WA 98504-0002

*For further information, contact Bill Arthur and Alex Craven  
[billwarthur@gmail.com](mailto:billwarthur@gmail.com) or [alex.craven@sierraclub.org](mailto:alex.craven@sierraclub.org)*

Help save paper & money!  
We're planning a future option for an emailed electronic Crest.  
Please provide your email address even if you think we have it.

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## Meet Michelle Piñon, New Puget Sound Sierra Club Organizer



As a Puget Sound Organizer, Michelle will be working specifically on water quality issues. Hailing from sunny Southern California, Michelle is a Seattle transplant working to protect Puget Sound.

Michelle's initial attraction to environmentalism arose while organizing against workers' rights violations in the food industry. Through activism within her Latino community, she began to question how communities form and connect to nature. She holds a bachelor's

degree from Yale University and is an active volunteer with Latino Outdoors.

Michelle spends her free time exploring the US and learning about regional environmental issues, while dodging wayward bears and enduring Gulf Coast heat waves. Michelle is excited to pursue her lifelong dream of living in the great Northwest, frolicking in alpine meadows and hiking with mountain goats. She will be working on protecting Puget Sound with the Sierra Club in the coming years.

*Contact Michelle Piñon at [michelle.pinon@sierraclub.org](mailto:michelle.pinon@sierraclub.org)*



March Stevans Pass

Photo: Tom Crisp

### VOLUNTEER POSITIONS AVAILABLE

**Outings Publicist:** Assist outings leaders get the word out about our activities. Use email, social media (Meetup, Facebook and others), and post activities on the State Chapter calendar and other media. You can work from home to support outings leaders statewide.

**Photo Curator:** So many photos of so many splendid trips! Build an organized repository of photos that will be useful to inspire enjoyment and protection of our beautiful lands.

*Contact Tom Crisp: [Tom.Crisp@Washington.SierraClub.org](mailto:Tom.Crisp@Washington.SierraClub.org)*