

# Environment and Natural Resources

*By balancing economic success with environmental stewardship port districts help build a more resilient healthy community. Ports invest in large scale cleanup projects, habitat restoration, pollution prevention, and sustainable land and water use practices - ensuring environmental health while supporting local communities.*



## MODEL TOXICS CONTROL ACT

Support for full funding of port capital projects and continued collaboration with stakeholders to maintain revenue from the Hazardous Substance Tax (HST) within the MTCA account where it can support things like the Remedial Action Grants that ports rely on to pursue complex environmental cleanups in their communities.



Port of Bellingham, The Portal, waterfront downtown cleanup.

### MTCA Key metrics:

Nearly every community in Washington is benefiting from results driven by MTCA funding.

**7400**

Contaminated sites have been cleaned up with MTCA funds since it became law in 1989.

**\$108M**

Ecology's 2025-27 budget request for 23 total cleanup projects, 11 port projects.

### OTHER KEY PRIOTITIES:

#### STORMWATER COMPLIANCE

Support efforts to help the regulated community better comply with the expanded 2025 industrial stormwater general permit (ISGP). This includes the development of presumed compliance provisions that protect regulated entities from enforcement if they are taking corrective actions to address exceedances in stormwater runoff benchmarks.

#### DERELICT STRUCTURES: TIRE REEFS

Artificial tire reefs created in the 1970s were dumped into the Puget Sound for wildlife habitat around piers. The tires release bits of rubber, plastics, and metals as they break apart. Support increased funding in the **2025-27 budget** at DNR to survey and remove the reefs through the Derelict Structures Program.

#### WATERWAY HEALTH AND SALMON RECOVERY

Support waterway health initiatives and state salmon recovery efforts in a holistic watershed approach. Additional support for an approach that includes adequate resources for culvert barrier removal as a pathway to increase habitat recovery.

## WASHINGTON PUBLIC PORTS ASSOCIATION

COLLABORATION, ADVOCACY, EDUCATION, RESEARCH

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