

Environment and Sustainability

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#### **Foreword**

This year marks an important milestone for the Port of Seattle as we present the Port's inaugural 2023 Environment and Sustainability Report, showcasing our commitment to bold innovation, tangible progress, and proactive partnerships in environmental stewardship. We are proud of the environmental work our teams, our tenants, and our community partners accomplished in 2023. Successfully operating as a triple bottom line organization, one that creates economic opportunity, increases sustainability, and expands equity requires partnership with others who share a vision - and we have that here at the Port of Seattle.

The Port of Seattle operates in a region with incredible natural resources, strong environmental values, and an engaged and active community. The Port decided years ago that implementing environmental practices in the operation of our maritime and aviation gateways alone is not enough. Aviation and maritime transportation are national and global operations. To achieve our Port vision requires being a leader nationally and internationally to help drive the transformation we need across the entire aviation and maritime sectors.

This report showcases our comprehensive environmental and sustainability programs and documents progress on accomplishing our long-term goals that are being pursued across the Port and all of our operations. The results reflect the direction and values of our Port Commissioners and the stewardship excellence demonstrated by all employees. We are excited to share our progress.

Addressing climate change is the challenge of the times. In 2023, we continued our work to phase out emissions from our own operations by 2040 and to help all industries operating at our seaport and airport to be carbon neutral or better by 2050. In 2023, we saw a significant decrease in Port-controlled emissions due to our purchase of renewable natural gas for both airport and seaport buildings. We are conducting research and building partnerships for the development of clean transportation fuels, and advocating for state and national policies to support clean fuel production. We are also installing shore power in our third cruise terminal, which means in 2024, the Port of Seattle will be the first homeport in the world to offer shore power at three cruise berths. In addition, through our joint venture with the Northwest Seaport Alliance, we supported building two shore power connections on container Terminal 5, the first container terminal in Washington State with shore power for cargo vessels.

This past year, we formalized land stewardship practices, continued our research on kelp restoration, removed contaminated soil and sediments, and monitored salmon using our newly restored estuarine habitats. The Port also completed more sound insulation projects for near-airport communities, piloted innovative Al-powered waste sorting, and developed rules requiring reuseable or compostable service ware for all SEA Airport concessions (going into effect in 2024) which will significantly reduce waste to landfills.

We know we cannot do this work alone. We want to ensure open communication, an exchange of ideas and authentic community partnership. The Port awarded \$150,000 of environmental grants to community groups, budgeted a new position solely focused on environmental justice, and supported engagement through over 60 environmental-related community events.

The Port of Seattle does not shy away from taking on some of the most difficult environmental challenges. We are committed to building on our current momentum, pushing the boundaries of environmental sustainability, and collaborating with all stakeholders to build a greener and more sustainable future. Large-scale change takes time. It is our job to look ahead - to innovate, adapt and lead - to position the Port and our related industries for tomorrow's opportunities, with an approach that reflects the unique values of this special region. We invite you to explore this report and join us on this journey.

Sincerely,

Port of Seattle

Stephen P. Metruck
Executive Director

Sandra Kilroy
Senior Director, Environment and Sustainability
Port of Seattle



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# Sustainability Fuels Our Future

Seaports and airports are core transportation hubs for moving people and goods around the world. Our Port values demand that we do this work responsibly, prioritizing sustainability and environmental stewardship.

Since 1911, the Port of Seattle ("The Port") has been a driving force behind the region's economic boom, fostering job creation and a high quality of life. However, our success extends beyond the economic sphere. We've become a leader in innovative environmental stewardship, going beyond mere compliance to achieve sustainable growth alongside environmental protection. Good stewardship isn't just a legal obligation; it's ingrained in our mission and fuels our future.

We stand as a unique leader, managing both a major international airport and a global seaport. This position drives our innovative approach to sustainability. We strategically invest in programs and initiatives designed to protect our natural resources and establish ourselves as the greenest, most energy-efficient port in North America.

As environmental stewards, the Port embraces its responsibility not only to the region's economic prosperity, but also to its environmental health. This includes promoting environmental justice by ensuring that communities, especially those historically overburdened by pollution, benefit from our sustainability efforts. We actively engage with residents, community groups, and local organizations to understand their concerns and see how our programs can address local needs.

The Port has a very comprehensive Environment and Sustainability program that includes decarbonization, sound insulation and noise abatement, wetlands and habitat restoration, waste reduction and recycling, water quality improvement and water conservation, stormwater management, hazardous materials management, contaminated site cleanup, and energy conservation.

We understand that achieving our sustainability goals requires strong partnerships. The Port actively engages with a diverse range of stakeholders, from local partners to international organizations. Through collaboration, we develop and implement effective programs that address our region's environmental challenges and help build sustainability into operations to achieve global impact.

With our extensive knowledge, experience, and unwavering determination, the Port of Seattle is poised to become a model for green port operations in North America and around the world, and contribute to a more vibrant and sustainable region where economic prosperity thrives alongside a healthy environment for all communities.



The Port of Seattle is an independent special purpose agency governed by five elected commissioners. The Port's mission is to promote economic opportunities and quality of life in the region. The Port operates Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SEA), one of the nation's busiest airports, and manages a diverse portfolio of maritime facilities. These include cruise ship terminals, Fishermen's Terminal, home of the North Pacific fishing fleet, and cargo terminals that are part of the Northwest Seaport Alliance (NWSA), in partnership with the Port of Tacoma. We are home to one of the largest cruise and container operations in North America. The Port has substantial economic impact across Washington state and beyond.

175,000

Jobs Supported

\$1 Billion

**Operating Budget** 

\$47.4 Billion

Business Activity Contributing to Washington State's GDP

The Port of Seattle supports the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as part of its commitment to environmental responsibility. The Port actively pursues initiatives aligned with the United Nation's 17 SDGs, addressing climate change, ecosystem health, and economic prosperity for all. This is indicated via goal icons throughout the report.



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#### **2023 Highlights**

2,568

juvenile salmon, including hundreds of Chinook, and healthy marsh vegetation found at Duwamish River People's Park and Shoreline Habitat's first fish sampling



Adopted Land Stewardship Principles, ensuring sustainability is a core value in operations and development



Signed Pacific Northwest to Alaska Green Corridor project charter and developed scope for green methanol feasibility study

\$150,000

in funding awarded to **5 environmental grant recipients** 



opportunities across the region

projects (over one million square feet!) targeting third-party sustainability certification

**50% Reduction** 

in Port emissions! Scope 1 & 2 (Port-controlled GHG emissions) had a **7% reduction from last year** 

New SEA Airport tenant requirements will mandate the use of reusable or certified compostable to-go options at **all retail and dining locations at SEA Airport** taking effect in 2024



Environmental clean-up and long-term monitoring ongoing at 16 historically contaminated sites



electric vehicles in the Port of Seattle fleet

Oyster shell refresh in 4 bioretention swales at SEA Airport

34,836
meals donated to local food banks



13,000+ trees and shrubs planted

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### Charting the Course to Zero

The Port of Seattle takes a comprehensive approach to sustainability, focusing on emissions reductions, climate change mitigation, air quality improvements, and resource conservation. Our ambitious goals drive our strategy: achieving net-zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions for Portowned operations by 2040 and collaborating with customers and tenants to achieve carbon neutrality across the entire Port by 2050. To achieve these goals, the Port actively fosters collaboration with tenants, industry partners, regional entities, and the public. Our aim is to help drive the transformation of the industry by modeling best practices, leading research and innovation, and advocating supportive policies.













#### **Scope 1 and 2 Emissions – Our Port Emissions**

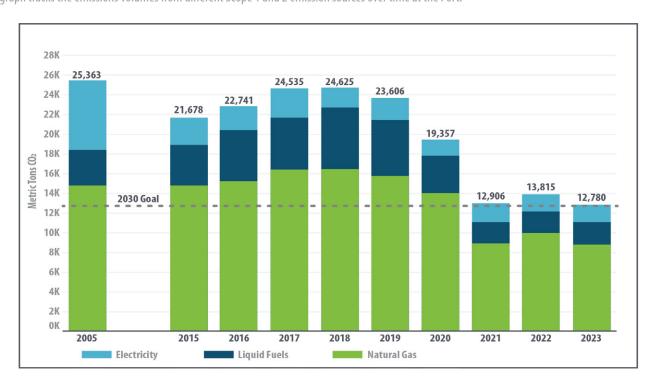
The Port of Seattle is aggressively tackling our own emissions, aiming for net-zero emissions or better for Port-controlled sources by 2040 from a 2005 baseline. Our Port-controlled emissions come from building energy, fleet vehicles, and other direct Port operations. To advance progress, we set an interim goal to achieve a 50% reduction by 2030. This year, the Port met our initial 2030 target seven years early! This success is largely attributed to the purchase of renewable natural gas (RNG), a natural gas resulting from the decomposition of organic matter in landfills. Since 2020, SEA Airport has purchased RNG to replace fossil natural gas use for heating the airport terminal and fueling the rental car bus fleet. Starting in 2023, the Port replaced all fossil natural gas used in Maritime and Economic Development Division buildings with RNG and began use in all the non-terminal buildings at SEA Airport. In 2023, SEA Airport achieved a 48% reduction in Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions from 2005, and the Maritime and Economic Development Division has achieved a 65% reduction for a combined 50% reduction across all Port-controlled emissions.

**50%** reduction in Port-controlled emissions

**7%** reduction from 2022

#### **Scope 1 and 2 Emissions – Sources**

This graph tracks the emissions volumes from different Scope 1 and 2 emission sources over time at the Port.

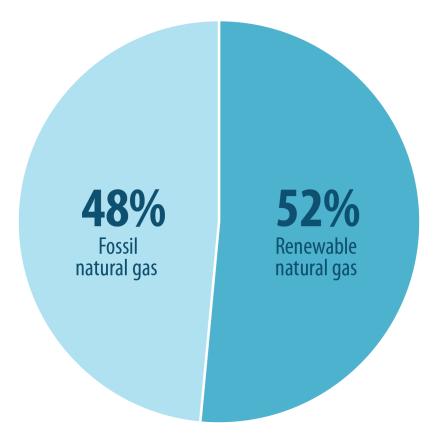


#### **Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy**

Energy efficiency and renewable energy are cornerstones of our climate strategy at the Port of Seattle. We're committed to reducing our energy use, lowering GHG emissions, and saving costs, all while ensuring our energy needs are met sustainably. We're actively implementing strategies across our operations, including conservation measures identified through energy audits, installation of energy-efficient lighting and controls, elimination of fossil natural gas use, and maximizing renewable energy production.

96% of electricity from zero carbon sources (hydro, solar, wind)

#### **Building Energy Use – Natural Gas**



- » More solar projects are planned for Terminal 91 and the Maritime Innovation Center at waterfront locations
- » Solar energy produced 184,682 kWh renewable energy over the year at waterfront locations
- » 5 projects are underway to transition to LED lighting and upgrade lighting controls

#### **Zero-emission Fleet Vehicles and Equipment**

The Port of Seattle relies on a robust fleet of vehicles and equipment to keep daily operations running smoothly. These vehicles transport employees and supplies and are essential for maintaining Port properties and assets. Fleet vehicles and equipment have historically run on fossil fuels like diesel, gasoline, propane, and natural gas. Fossil fuel use from Port-owned fleet vehicles and equipment accounts for 17% of all Port-owned or controlled emissions. Transitioning this vital fleet to zero-emissions is a critical step in reducing our Scope 1 and 2 emissions. In 2021, the Port published a Sustainable Fleet Plan that outlines actions to reduce GHG emissions, including developing a plan to expand electric vehicle (EV) charging, prioritize investments in fleet management technology, and support efforts to modernize and electrify the Port's fleet.

In 2023, the Port completed a study for EV charging infrastructure across waterfront properties. These projects are moving forward with design in 2024 and will begin construction by 2025. Additionally, the Port secured an \$800,000 grant to replace two diesel forklifts with electric models at Terminal 91, with delivery expected by 2026.

The Port is using a combination of electrification and renewable fuels to reduce emissions from Port-owned vehicles at SEA Airport. The bus fleets that serve SEA Airport's rental car facility and employee parking operations are powered by renewable natural gas, and the Port purchases renewable diesel for all the heavy-duty diesel-powered equipment in the fleet, such as snowplows and sweepers. In 2024, SEA Airport will complete a planning study to evaluate the future electrical capacity needs to transition the fleet to electric vehicles, paving the way for installing short-term charging options and planning for future needs.

of maritime light-duty fleet are electric

**31** electric vehicles

**4%** of aviation light-duty fleet are electric

74% of fleet fuels from renewable diesel and renewable natural gas



#### **Scope 3 Emissions – Our Tenant Emissions**

The Port recognizes the impact that extends from Port business beyond the operations we directly own and control, encompassing what are known as Scope 3 emissions. Scope 3 emissions sources include oceangoing vessels, airplanes, tenant-owned equipment and energy use, and even customer travel to and from SEA Airport. While these activities are critical to the region's economy and transportation needs, they also contribute to GHG emissions and climate change at a scale much larger than the Port's Scope 1 and 2 emission sources. Without direct control over these sources of emissions, the Port collaborates with tenants, industry partners, policy makers, and other stakeholders to reduce emissions and support the transition to zero-emission fuels and technology needed to achieve our Scope 3 GHG goal of carbon neutral or better by 2050. By working together, the Port of Seattle aims to create a cleaner transportation hub for the entire region.

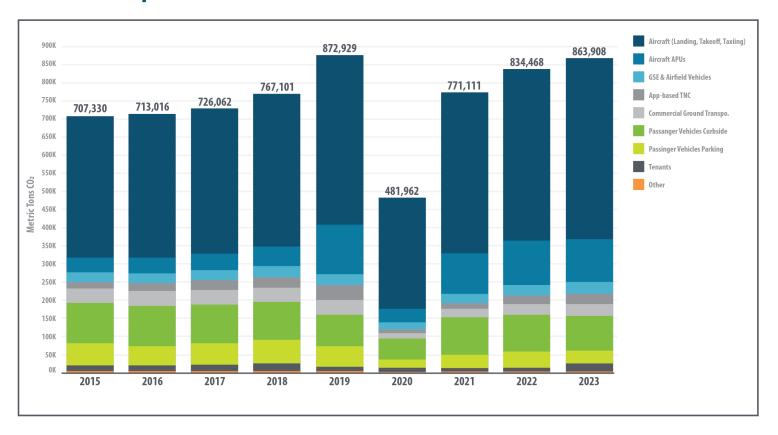
Scope 3 emissions are indirect greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that occur along the Port of Seattle's value chain but are not directly controlled or owned by the Port itself. Unlike Scope 1 emissions (direct emissions from owned or controlled sources) and Scope 2 emissions (indirect emissions from purchased energy), Scope 3 emissions encompass a broader range of activities and can be more challenging to measure and track.

#### **SEA Airport**

SEA Airport is one of the busiest airports in the United States, connecting Washington state and the Pacific Northwest to destinations worldwide. Built in 1949 to serve a fraction of its current capacity, SEA Airport now welcomes over 50 million passengers annually. SEA Airport champions sustainability initiatives and strives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions even as operations grow. As airplanes and passenger vehicle emissions comprise most of SEA Airport's Scope 3 carbon emissions, we focus our sustainability programs on promoting clean, low carbon fuels, vehicles, and infrastructure, and fuel-reducing behaviors and programs. For example, aircraft auxiliary power unit (APU) use decreased by 2% from 2022 to 2023 due to better utilization and better temperature controls of the Port's preconditioned air system. This reduction occurred even while aircraft total operations increased by 5%. Additionally, electric vehicle activity in app-based ride hailing services (also known as TNCs, or transportation network companies) is now at 15%, and total emissions in this category have reduced by 24% between 2019 and 2023, after EV incentives were introduced into their operating agreement.



#### **Aviation Scope 3 Emissions – Sources**



#### **Flight Operations and Passengers by Year**

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Flight Operations	381,408	412,170	416,124	438,391	450,487	296,048	374,510	401,351	422,497
Passengers	42,340,537	45,737,115	46,934,619	49,849,520	51,829,239	20,045,348	36,154,015	45,964,167	50,885,450

#### **Preconditioned Air Systems**

Preconditioned air (PCA) systems are specifically designed for airplanes to provide temperature and humidity-controlled environments inside the aircraft while parked at the gate. These systems allow airplanes to shut down their auxiliary power units (APUs), which emit greenhouse gases and other emissions, and add to airline fuel costs. SEA Airport has equipped 83 gates with units that connect the plane to the PCA system, which includes all of the fixed gates at the airport (i.e. not available at regional jet gate positions). In 2023, the Port completed an assessment of the performance of the Port's centralized PCA system, due to poorer aircraft connection rates in recent years compared with historic rates. The report recommended several operational and capital changes to improve the system, including temperature setpoints, fan speeds, rebalancing, and changes to air hose systems. Some of the operational changes have been implemented, resulting in improved connection rates compared with 2022. Further capital changes will be introduced once identified items are tested and prioritized.

**42%** of aircraft operations connected to preconditioned air



#### **Sustainable Aviation Fuel**

Traditional jet fuel is a significant contributor to greenhouse gas emissions in the aviation industry. The Port of Seattle was the first United States airport operator to set a specific timetable and goals for transitioning all airlines at SEA Airport to commercially competitive sustainable aviation fuels (SAF). The first goal is to power every flight fueled at SEA Airport with at least a 10% blend of SAF by 2028. SAF is a jet fuel made from renewable or waste-derived sources, such as cooking oil, municipal solid waste, and renewable energy. The Port is a strong advocate of local, state, and federal policies and programs to promote SAF use, financing, and production.

In 2023 Washington state passed a SAF bill (SB 5447). This new legislation creates policy and per-gallon price incentives for the production and use of SAF in Washington. The new law creates a per-gallon incentive for SAF with lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions that are at least 50 percent lower than traditional jet fuel. The incentive increases for each one percent reduction in lifecycle GHG beyond 50 percent, up to a potential incentive of \$2 per gallon. The Port actively supported this legislation.

In 2023, the Port of Seattle and King County completed a study to explore the feasibility of producing SAF from municipal solid waste (MSW) in the region. In prior studies (addressing feedstock availabilities and infrastructure needs), the Port learned that MSW is a viable feedstock (or source) for SAF. This study found that there is enough waste going to the large landfills in the region to support one or more SAF production facilities, but smaller landfill volumes alone are not economically feasible. Even with the volume of waste, the production and distribution of SAF is complicated. The study further explored the infrastructure opportunities and challenges of this idea.

The Port is using this work to reach out to fuel producers, MSW owners, landfills, and other stakeholders to build awareness and explore the opportunity for partnerships. King County plans to use this work to inform the options for their waste in their Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan ("Comp Plan"). One of the major policy decisions being deliberated is long-term disposal after the closure of Cedar Hills in 2040. Five options are currently being considered, including MSW-to-SAF technologies. This update to the Comp Plan is expected to be complete in 2026 and in accordance with interlocal agreements with King County's 37 partner cities.

#### **Ground Transportation**

Vehicles traveling to and from SEA Airport, including passenger drop-off, taxis, ride shares, and employee cars contribute to airport emissions. The Port encourages the use of public transportation and electric vehicles and is actively assessing strategies to reduce emissions from ground transportation. At SEA Airport, taxis, and Transport Network Companies (TNCs), like Uber and Lyft, are incentivized to meet miles per gallons thresholds to encourage emission reductions. These incentives have successfully reduced emissions from these vehicles by 50%, or nearly 30,000 tons per year. The Port is also partnering with the US Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) on a computer model to estimate carbon reductions from a range of strategies to influence passenger travel behavior, including access fees and incentives for public transit use.

In 2023, the Port completed the draft *Ground Transportation Emission Reduction Strategy* and draft *Active Transportation Plan*. These plans evaluate carbon reduction strategies, including programs to electrify commercial vehicles, such as taxis and TNCs, that transport passengers to and from SEA Airport and key infrastructure to connect cyclists and pedestrians to SEA Airport facilities. The Port recognizes that the dramatic increase in new electric bikes and scooters creates greater demand for safe and reliable infrastructure for our employees and passengers traveling to and from SEA Airport. Our plan provides access not just to and from SEA Airport, but also connects the airport to the extensive network of bike and pedestrian trails throughout the Pacific Northwest region.

To support a transition to EVs, SEA Airport is investing in electric charging stations. To date, SEA Airport has installed 94 EV charging stations in our parking garage to support our passengers, and two chargers in the Cell Phone Waiting Lot. SEA Airport is currently installing 10 chargers in the TNC and Taxi Holding Lot in partnership with the Washington Department of Commerce.

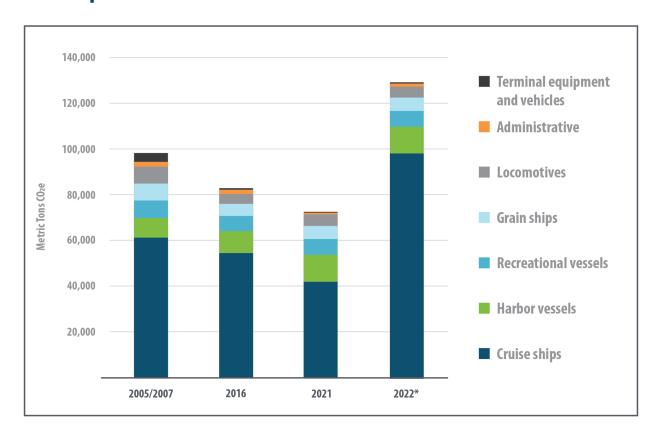


#### **Maritime and Economic Development Divisions Scope 3**

Scope 3 sources from the Port's maritime operations primarily include cruise ships, harbor vessels, recreational vessels, and rail locomotives. The Port of Seattle is the largest cruise home port on the west coast, bringing critical economic opportunities to the Seattle region. In addition, the Port hosts the North Pacific Alaskan fishing fleet, a grain terminal, and numerous marinas. The Port has developed two foundational strategic planning documents to direct its path to decarbonization. The Northwest Ports Clean Air Strategy is a collaboration between the Ports of Seattle and Tacoma, the Northwest Seaport Alliance, and the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority. This plan, adopted by Commission, lays out the key strategies and goals to move the regional maritime industry to zero emission by 2050. The Port of Seattle also has a robust Maritime Climate and Air Action Plan, also adopted by Commission, that provides more detailed actions the Port will take in the next 10 years.

Progress towards our goals is measured through emissions inventories. The Port measures its maritime Scope 3 emissions every five years through the Puget Sound Maritime Air Emissions Inventory (PSEI), an emissions modeling study that quantifies the air pollution and GHG emissions from different maritime-related activities throughout the Puget Sound region. The PSEI baseline year is 2005. As of 2022, maritime Scope 3 GHG emissions have increased 31% from the baseline. The increase is largely the result of increasing oceangoing and harbor vessel activity.

#### **Maritime Scope 3 Emissions – Sources**



<sup>\*2005</sup> Puget Sound Emission Inventory data used as proxy for 2007 Scope 3 GHG baseline

#### **Number of Cruise Calls and Revenue Passengers by Year**

	2005/2007	2016	2021	2022
Cruise Calls	169	203	103	296
Revenue Passengers	686,978	983,539	229,060	1,430,000

It is worth noting that the methodology used to measure emissions from oceangoing vessels and harbor vessels, including cruise ships, changed with the 2021 PSEI and 2022 cruise emissions inventory. Emissions from vessels are now measured using Automatic Identification System (AIS) vessel tracking data. AIS data includes real-time information on vessel speed and location, allowing for a more accurate accounting of vessel travel distance and time within Puget Sound. Earlier emissions inventory years in 2005 and 2016 used arrival and departure time to estimate travel time and distance. AIS data was not available for earlier inventory years. While the methodology change improves the accuracy of the 2021 and 2022 results and future emissions tracking, it does limit our ability to directly compare current emissions levels to our baseline. The Port is looking into ways to provide an accurate comparison.

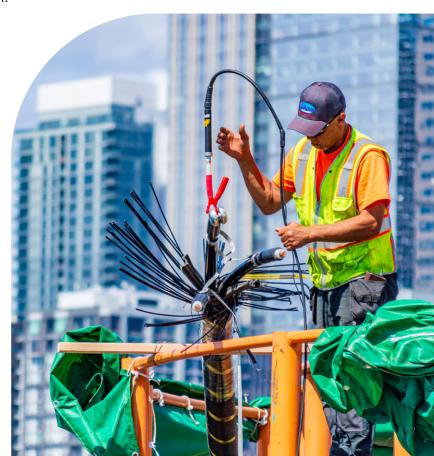
#### **Shore Power**

Shore power is a proven and commercially available technology to nearly eliminate emissions while ships are docked at Port of Seattle berths. Each time a cruise ship docks in Seattle, it takes an average of 10 hours to offload guests and their luggage, load provisions, welcome new guests, and prepare for its next departure. While ships are at berth, they still need energy to run lights, chill food, operate equipment, and power a myriad of onboard services. Shore power connection allows cruise ships to plug into cleaner, landside electrical power and turn off diesel engines while at berth. As a result, each cruise ship that plugs in can reduce diesel emissions by 80% and carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions by 66% on average. Two out of the Port's three cruise berths are already equipped, and the remaining berth at Pier 66 will complete its shore power system in 2024.

**2 of 3** cruise berths have shore power

connections avoided +2,700 metric tons GHG

35% of cruise calls connected to shore power



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<sup>\*2022</sup> includes 2022 Cruise Ship and Administrative GHG data and 2021 data for all other sources that were not inventoried in 2022

<sup>\*</sup>Emissions estimating methodology changed in 2021/2022 to be more accurate but may impact the ability to accurately compare emissions trends between recent and past years

<sup>\*</sup>Administrative includes Business Air Travel, Solid Waste, Employee Commuting, Tenant Energy Use



#### **Sustainable Maritime Fuels**

The maritime industry continues to primarily be powered by fossil fuels that contribute to air pollution and climate change. While fuel efficiency improvements and strategies like shore power can provide some reduction in emissions, achieving the Port's goals will require the large-scale deployment of zero-emission technology and fuels across the maritime industry. Although the Port of Seattle has no role in providing fuel for its tenants, the Port is taking an active role in researching, developing, and implementing clean fuels and energy projects to support and accelerate maritime decarbonization. In 2023, the Port made significant progress through the following initiatives:

#### » Hydrogen Storage Risk Assessment:

The Port completed the first year of a collaborative study with Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) and Sandia National Labs, evaluating the risks associated with hydrogen storage for potential use in maritime applications.

#### » Sustainable Maritime Fuels Collaborative:

The Port initiated a collaborative effort to bring together stakeholders across the industry to explore the production, distribution and adoption of clean fuels for maritime operations in the region.

#### » Pacific Northwest Sustainable Maritime Fuels Roadmap Study:

In partnership with RMI, Washington Department of Commerce, Washington Maritime Blue, and the Consortium for Hydrogen and Renewable E-Fuels (CHARGE), the Port launched a comprehensive study to develop a roadmap for sustainable maritime fuels in Washington state.

#### **MARITIME INDUSTRY IN THE SEATTLE HARBOR:**

Over 10 million KWH of electricity was used as fuel, mainly as shore power for commercial fishing and cruise ships



#### **Pacific Northwest to Alaska Cruise Green Corridor**

The Pacific Northwest to Alaska Cruise Green Corridor project launched in May 2022 as a collaborative partnership between the major cruise lines, home ports, and several ports of call in the Alaska cruise market to explore low and zero- greenhouse gas emission cruising between Washington, British Columbia, and Alaska. The Port of Seattle is one of thirteen "First Mover" partner organizations. In 2023, the First Movers signed a project charter that formalizes project definitions, governance, and decision-making to guide collaborative work on the green corridor. First Movers also made progress toward launching a feasibility study and partnered with the Maersk Mc-Kinney Møller Center for Zero Carbon Shipping to scope study objectives and identify green methanol as a focus fuel. Technical analysis of green methanol production and feasibility, port and bunkering infrastructure requirements, vessel technology and deployment, and costs will continue in 2024.

Convene Partnership

Establish Project Charter Scope Feasibility
Study

Complete Feasibility Study

Strategy Roadmap

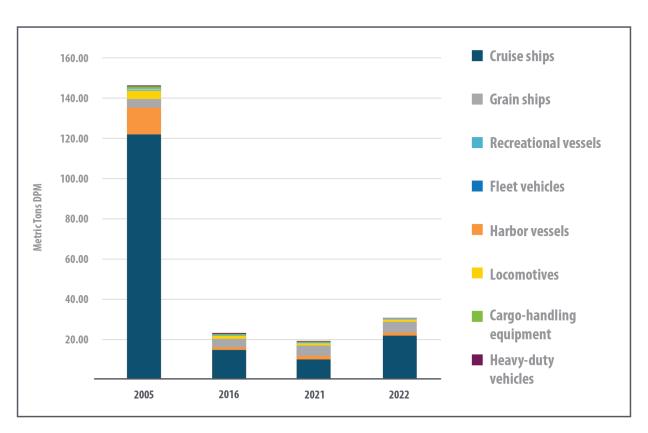
Implementation

#### **Diesel Particulate Matter**

As part of our commitment to phasing out all seaport-related emissions by 2050, the Port of Seattle tracks diesel particulate matter (DPM) through our emission inventory study. Drivers in air pollution reduction since 2005 include turnover to newer, cleaner diesel and electric equipment, expanded use of shore power, and new regulations, like the North American Emissions Control Area that require cleaner burning low sulfur fuels.

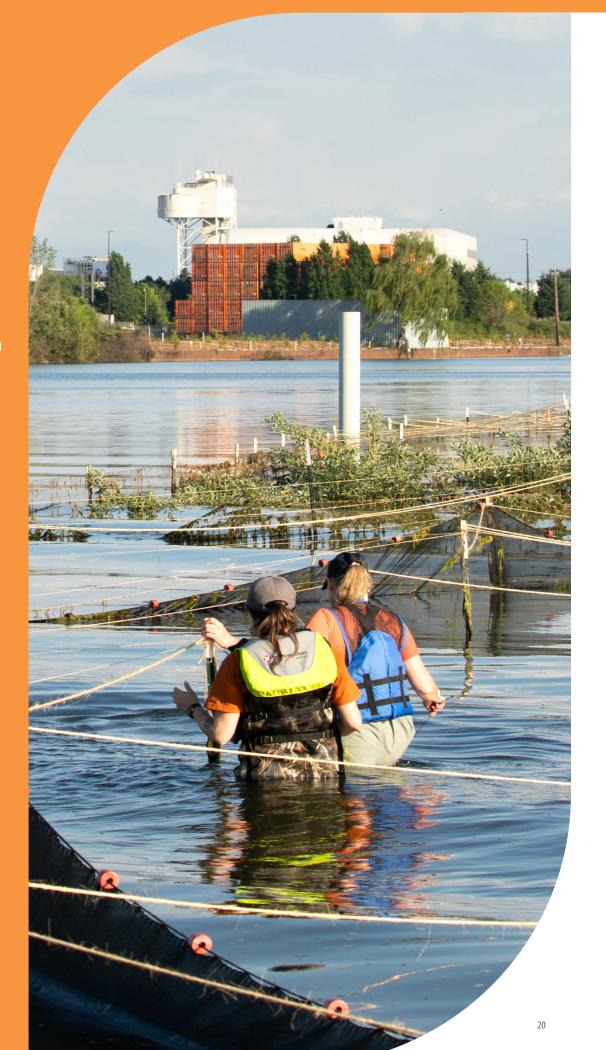
**79%** reduction in diesel particulate matter since 2005 (PSEI, 2022)

#### **Maritime Diesel Particulate Matter – Sources**



# Stewarding Healthy Land and Habitats

The Port of Seattle is voluntarily taking action to restore critical habitat and increase public access for our communities. We are creating a lasting legacy of stewardship that fosters the health of our communities and region for generations to come. Our work supports the survival and recovery of critical species, such as salmon and orcas, while also enhancing the health of our communities through improved environmental quality and enriching recreational opportunities, such as waterfront parks, inland creeks, and marinas.

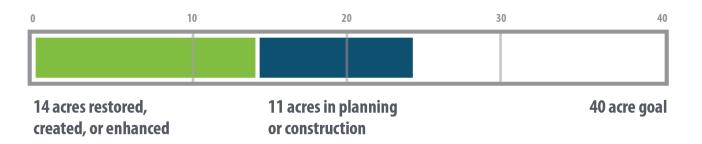






#### **Our Commitment to Habitat Restoration**

By 2040, the Port will restore, create, and enhance an additional 40 acres of habitat in the Green-Duwamish Watershed. We have already restored 14 acres and are actively working on another 11 acres as of 2023.



#### Salmon Return to the Duwamish River People's Park

One year after opening the Duwamish River People's Park and Shoreline Habitat, the largest restoration project on the Duwamish River in a generation, a team composed of Port of Seattle staff and University of Washington researchers found 216 juvenile Chinook salmon and 2,352 chum salmon during fish sampling. Our team also documented extensive healthy marsh and riparian vegetation. 2023 marked the first of 10 years of monitoring the Port will conduct at the site to ensure that the habitat restoration project meets its performance standards.

#### **Mitigation Banks to Restore Habitat**

In 2022, the Port of Seattle launched a groundbreaking multi-site mitigation bank program aimed at restoring critical shoreline and wetland habitat in the Green-Duwamish River, a vital area for salmon recovery in our region. This self-sustaining model allows the Port to restore crucial habitat, sell credits, and use the revenue to restore more habitat.

Available credits:

260.5

Credits sold in 2023:

0\*

\*The Port has received interest and is engaged with potential buyers

#### **Building Sustainable Shorelines and Healthy Aquatic Environments**

The Port of Seattle plays a vital role as a steward of over 15 miles of shorelines and aquatic environments. We need hardened shorelines for our maritime operations, but wherever possible, we remove hardened banks and reconnect land and water. This includes adding native vegetation along shorelines previously dominated by hard structures such as seawalls; enhancing kelp forests and eelgrass beds that benefit fish, wildlife, and invertebrates; and deploying floating wetlands in areas where natural restoration is challenging.

2,095 sq. ft.

of shoreline in Centennial Park was restored or enhanced this year

4,186 ft.

linear feet of shoreline are currently being assessed for shoreline enhancement opportunities

#### **Making Strides in Blue Carbon Restoration**

**Eelgrass:** Our collaborative monitoring project with the Department of Natural Resources at Smith Cove, as part of the Blue Carbon project, yielded positive results. Eelgrass coverage increased by 25% since 2018, highlighting the success of our restoration efforts.

**Kelp:** We partner with the Seattle Aquarium and the Puget Sound Restoration Fund to advance kelp restoration efforts. Together, we completed summer surveys of eight kelp sites, and completed macroalgal surveys, providing valuable data on our marine resources. Public signage related to the initiative is in progress.

#### **Quiet Sound Program: Protecting Endangered Orcas**

Quiet Sound is a multi-party effort, initiated by the Port of Seattle, to address underwater noise impacts on marine animals. Slowing vessels traveling in Puget Sound is a key strategy. Quiet Sound, now managed by Washington Maritime Blue, led a voluntary slowdown program that made significant strides in 2023. Preliminary data indicates the slowdown achieved a 71% participation rate from large commercial vessels and an impressive 85% rate from cruise lines. This program also successfully connected the Whale Report Alert System to other networks, leading to a 585% increase in whale alerts for commercial mariners.

#### **Combatting Ocean Acidification**

The Port of Seattle continues to be the only port member of the International Alliance to Combat Ocean Acidification and adopted Ocean Acidification Plan. We continue to pursue progress on coastal restoration and decarbonization of the maritime and aviation industries — two key strategies to combat ocean acidification.

#### **SEA Airport Stream Restoration: Reviving Miller Creek**

In partnership with the City of Burien and the City of SeaTac, the Port of Seattle is helping restore a vital section of Miller Creek. This joint project involves:

- » Replacing 450 feet of piping with a natural stream channel, mimicking the creek's original form and improving aquatic habitat
- » Restoring the streamside forest, creating natural flood storage, and providing shade for cooler water temperatures
- » Replacing a fish barrier with a passable structure, allowing salmon and other aquatic organisms to migrate freely

Construction is underway and is scheduled for completion in 2024. This project demonstrates the Port's commitment to community partnerships to facilitate initiatives and projects that wouldn't otherwise be feasible. Importantly, the restoration site also integrates community access to parkland and a regional trail system, all of which is located on Port property.

#### **Building Stronger Relationships with Local Tribes**

The Port of Seattle has a long history of working with tribal governments on environmental issues, operational logistics, and permit approvals. The Port is committed to continuing stronger government-to-government relationships with Tribes based on mutual respect and collaboration. This commitment is exemplified by this year's Memorandum of Agreement with the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe. This establishes regular and structured communication between leadership and expands collaboration opportunities in areas of shared interest, including economic development, advocacy, education and job training, and habitat restoration. We are in conversations with the Suguamish Tribe for a similar agreement.





# Cleaning Up Contaminated Land

The Port of Seattle transforms historically polluted areas into healthy lands near our airport and waterfront, fostering economic growth and environmental stewardship in local communities.





2023 Annual Report



#### Safeguarding the Future: Advances in Environmental Cleanup

The Port of Seattle is committed to protecting the environment for future generations by investing in long-term contaminated soil, groundwater, and sediment cleanup projects. These projects involve removing and reducing exposure to harmful contaminants, often taking years and decades to complete due to their complex nature. The linear process, including investigations, design, cleanup, and long-term monitoring, ensure a comprehensive and scientific approach to restoring the health of our waterways and surrounding environment.

#### **2023 Project Count**



#### **2023 Highlights:**

- **» Terminal 108**: Completed the first phase of field investigation to identify the nature and extent of contamination and launched a community engagement program
- **» South Park Marina**: Finalized the investigation phase, identifying the nature and extent of contamination
- » East Waterway: Deployed sediment traps to identify sources of contamination
- » Terminal 91 Berth 6 & 8: Developed an interim action workplan for upcoming sediment cleanup.
- **» Lower Duwamish Waterway Upper Reach**: Partnered with the City of Seattle, King County, and Boeing to complete the design phase of the upper third of the site
- » **Terminal 25 South**: Initiated field investigation to identify nature and extent of contamination
- » SEA Airport Former United-Continental Fuel Farm Site: Successfully completed cleanup in 2023

#### **Removing Contamination from Soil and Ground Water**

Safe removal of contaminated materials is a vital component of our environmental cleanup efforts. In 2023, we focused on Terminal 30, our only site currently undergoing active cleanup. This process successfully removed:

- » 73.2 pounds of Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPH) vapors
- » 90.6 gallons of free product

#### **Maximizing Cost Recovery**

The Port actively pursues cost recovery for environmental cleanup projects. In 2023, we secured:

\$2.1 Million to support future cleanup efforts at Terminal 91, with a portion used to reimburse insurance for past costs.

\$4.7 Million in Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) cleanup grants to support past investigation and cleanup activities at multiple sites.

**Shared Costs** for the former United-Continental Fuel Farm Site cleanup through collaboration with other parties.

**Shared Costs** for the T108, T115, South Park Marina, East Waterway and Lower Duwamish Waterway sites through collaboration with other parties.

#### **Environmental Legacy Fund**

The Port established a new Environmental Legacy Fund, a dedicated account into which the Port will deposit property tax dollars for use in addressing historical industrial pollution on its properties. This fund helps ensure predictable and responsible resource allocation for long-term cleanup efforts.

#### **Reducing PFAS at SEA Airport**

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a growing concern due to their environmental persistence and potential health risks. Often called "forever chemicals," these human-made substances are used in a variety of common products, including firefighting foam.

Following guidance from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), which historically mandated specific firefighting foam types at airports, SEA Airport is actively transitioning to fluorine-free firefighting foam. In 2023, we focused on planning and preparation for this critical shift. With these efforts in place, SEA Airport is positioned to become a regional leader in eliminating PFAS-containing foam from its fire department in 2024.



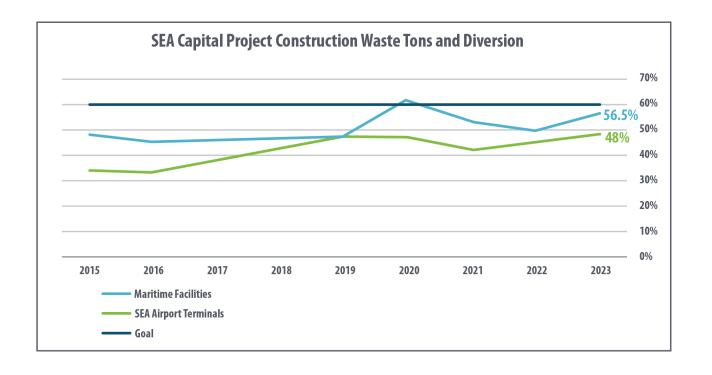
#### Reducing Waste

Operating a major airport and seaport means there can be a lot of waste. SEA Airport alone is a 24/7 operation that serves over 50 million passengers a year and employs 20,000 people. It is akin to managing a city, including the need for waste management. The Port actively works to embrace the call to "reduce, reuse, and recycle" in all of our facilities.



#### **Diverting Waste from Landfills**

The Port diverts materials from landfills through robust recycling, composting, and other innovative programs. Our ambitious goals include 60% diversion from landfills in municipal solid waste and 90% diversion from landfill in construction waste.



**56.5%** (1,887 tons) diverted from maritime facilities

**48%** (4,170 tons) diverted from SEA Airport terminals

#### **Construction Waste Diversion (90% goal)**

99.8% diverted from SEA Airport capital projects

diverted from maritime capital projects





#### **SEA Airport Highlights**

SEA Airport exemplifies our dedication to waste reduction. The Port works closely with tenants to tackle waste by reducing single-use plastic, donating meals to food banks, composting, and recycling a wide range of materials, including used cooking oil. The used cooking oil is turned into renewable diesel and sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) which reduces carbon emissions.

To further minimize waste, new tenant requirements, taking effect in July 2024, will mandate the use of reusable or certified compostable to-go options at all retail and dining locations at SEA Airport. These actions will reduce SEA Airport's largest source of single use plastics (food packaging) and recover more food waste from passengers and businesses.

34,836 meals donated to local food banks

1,394

tons of waste collected for composting

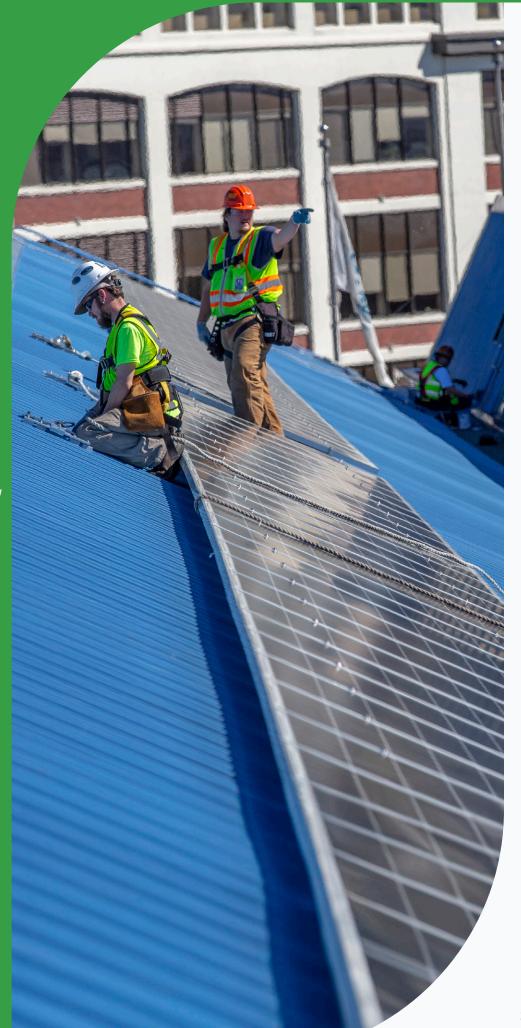
**79** 

tons (18,970 gallons!) of cooking oil recycled into renewable diesel and SAF



#### **Building Resilient and** Sustainable Infrastructure

Building infrastructure that is sustainable and resilient in the long-term is important for financial stewardship, community effects, and environmental protection. We need to stop the causes of climate change while at the same time controlling and preparing for the possible impacts. The Port of Seattle aims to build and maintain its facilities in a smart, sustainable way to ensure they function for our community well into the future.





#### **Environmental Review and Permitting**

Our expert teams go above and beyond to assure compliance, secure necessary permits, and conduct environmental reviews. In 2023, we had:

**102** active projects in the maritime division **164** active projects in the aviation division

Each of these projects require numerous complex environmental and building permits. In 2023, 50 environmental permit actions were completed to support these projects.

#### **Resiliency and Planning**

We're at the forefront, along with our resiliency partners, of critical initiatives like offshore wind, sea level rise solutions, and public space improvements (Bell Harbor Marina, Elliott Bay Trail, and Sound Transit, to name a few). In 2023, the Port launched a new Waterfront Resilience Partnership: The AdaptSea Seattle Waterfront Resilience Partnership. Other members include major Seattle waterfront infrastructure owners, operators, and regulators, including the City of Seattle, King County, and Washington State Ferries. Other private, public, and Tribal entities are engaged as Advisors. The Partnership creates a forum for coordinating Seattle waterfront capital investments and climate and sea level rise adaptation projects to increase competitiveness for grants, improve effectiveness of regulation for major waterfront infrastructure, and make public investments more efficient by working together to prioritize and sequence projects to optimize for the long-term. The Partnership may also ultimately create a mechanism for partnering financially on projects of mutual benefit. The group will continue to meet quarterly through 2025. The Port applied for federal funding to extend the work and expand the scope to include a joint vulnerability assessment.

#### **Promoting Green and Sustainable Development**

The Sustainable Evaluation Framework, adopted by the Port in 2019, is a key tool for integrating sustainable design and equity principles into new capital construction projects. As part of this framework, teams discuss and analyze sustainability opportunities and create detailed sustainable design strategies for projects. Opportunities range from water conservation, low carbon construction materials, energy efficiencies, transportation choices, and more.

**140** capital projects started the sustainable review process

sustainable design strategies were completed



#### **Snapshot: Emissions Reduction**

The Terminal 91 Uplands project will construct 400,000 square feet of flexible, light industrial building space to help support maritime manufacturers and fishing industry suppliers. The design estimates over 100 tons of lifetime CO2 emissions will be reduced through energy efficient HVAC system and solar installation.

The SEA Airport's C Concourse Expansion and Airline Realignment projects are estimated to jointly reduce emissions by over 113 tons of CO2e emissions annually, saving an estimated 1,130 tons of emissions over a decade. This expansion project reimagines the travel experience with an intuitive design that prioritizes calmness, climate consciousness, and passenger comfort. The new concourse will more than triple the existing space, boasting 226,530 square feet packed with amenities inspired by the Pacific Northwest's natural beauty and Seattle's vibrancy. Notably, the C Concourse Expansion is the first project to follow the Port's Sustainable Evaluation Framework, setting a precedent for future Port projects with its focus on sustainability. This includes features like fossil fuel-free systems, rooftop solar panels, water-saving fixtures, and biophilic design strategies that promote a harmonious relationship between design and environmental responsibility.



#### **Third-Party Environmental Certifications**

The Port of Seattle actively pursues third-party certifications for projects demonstrating exceptional green design. Currently, seven projects totaling over one million square feet are pursuing certifications:

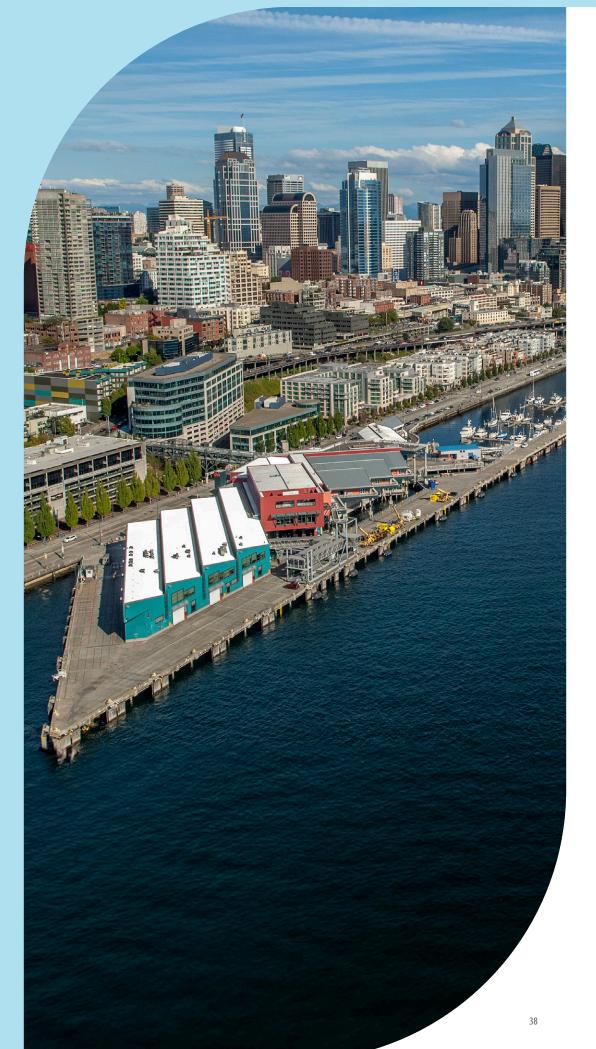
- » Concourse C Expansion at SEA Airport: Targeting LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver by 2026
- » Employee Service Center: Targeting WELL certification in 2024
- » International Arrivals Facility: Targeting LEED Silver by 2024
- » Maritime Innovation Center: Targeting Living Building Challenge certification by 2025
- » SEA Gateway: North Main Terminal Redevelopment: Targeting LEED Silver in 2026
- **» S Concourse Evolution Project**: Targeting LEED Silver in 2033
- » Terminal 91 Uplands Phase I: Targeting LEED Silver certification by 2025

We are proud of Salty's at the SEA and BrewTop Social becoming the first airport tenants to achieve LEED certification in 2023.



### **Protecting Water Quality**

The Port of Seattle implements programs and processes, collaborates with our tenants, and invests in innovative treatment technologies to ensure we avoid or minimize any effects on the health of Puget Sound and foster a clean and vibrant marine environment.





The Port of Seattle set a Century Agenda goal to meet or exceed agency requirements for stormwater and wastewater leaving Port-owned and operated facilities.



All permit requirements met in 2023



4 innovative techniques currently piloted



We invest in innovative treatment systems to minimize stormwater runoff and debris from our facilities. Over time we have incorporated numerous new techniques for our maritime stormwater system including Retain Drain, Hula Bug, and Splash Boxx products, as well as our use of oyster shells in barrels, swales, and catch basins. SEA Airport facilities have been retrofitted to detain and treat 100% of stormwater runoff. In 2023, we did an oyster shell refresh in four of our bioretention swales at SEA Airport.

#### **Salmon-Safe Certifications**

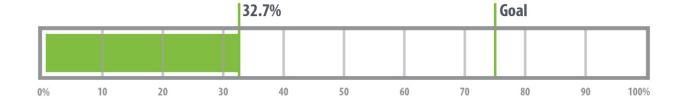
SEA Airport and Maritime parks and public spaces hold prestigious Salmon-Safe certifications.

Salmon-Safe is one of the nation's leading ecolabels, implementing, and recognizing practices that protect water quality, maintain watershed health, and restore habitat.

#### **New and Improved Systems**

Our Port stormwater system is critical for maintaining the safety of our terminals as well as our ability to manage water quality. SEA Airport is enhancing the industrial wastewater system. The project received key approvals in 2023 and will begin design development. We will advertise for bids in Summer 2024.

Rehabilitating our maritime stormwater system is essential to maintain a highly functioning and effective system. We've set an ambitious goal of rehabilitating 75% of the system by 2035. Major progress was made this year with rehabilitation projects at T91, T46, and Shilshole Bay Marina.

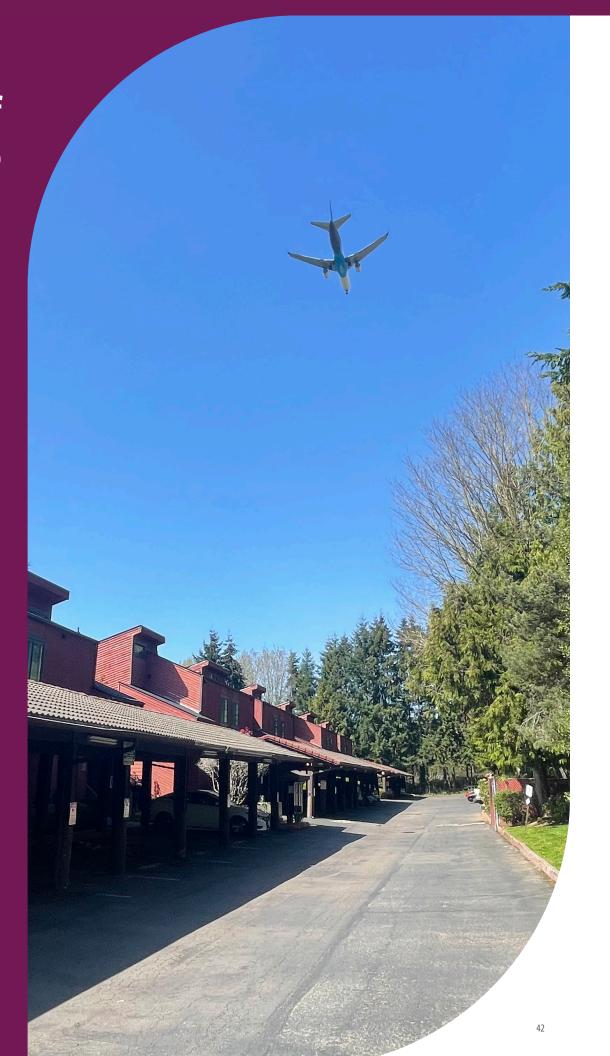






#### Lessening the Impact of Aircraft Noise

Seattle-Tacoma International
Airport (SEA) was one of the
first airports in the country to
establish a noise mitigation
program. Since 1985, the Port has
been delivering a comprehensive
Airport Noise Program to minimize
noise pollution around the
airport. The program has three
main components: residential
sound insulation projects, airline
collaboration and recognition, and
community engagement.



#### **Building a Quieter Future Together**

As part of the Port of Seattle's long-term commitment to communities surrounding the airport, the Port offers sound insulation for eligible properties within the current Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) approved noise remedy boundary. In 2023, the Sound Insulation Program made significant progress in all target segments of single-family homes, condominiums, apartments, and places of worship.

**APARTMENT UNITS:** Nine complexes with 320 apartment units had designs finalized.

**SINGLE FAMILY HOMES:** Eight homes were insulated in 2023.

**PLACES OF WORSHIP:** Three places of worship chose to participate in the sound insulation program, and designs were initiated for all three in 2023.

**CONDOMINIUMS:** The final three condo units at Villa Enzian were completed in 2023, closing out the sound insulation of 28 units in this complex.

**SCHOOLS:** In 2002, a partnership was formed with the FAA and Highline School District to upgrade 15 schools through a \$100 million joint investment. Ten schools are complete, and Pacific Middle School will be the 11th with voter approval for a bond measure in November 2023. The Port and FAA will invest \$3.389 million, supporting 950 students. Pacific Middle School is scheduled to open in August 2027.

#### **Total Sound Insulations Completed to Date:**



**Single Family Homes:** 9,400+



**Places of Worship:** 3 (in progress)



**Apartments:** 9 (in progress)



**Condominiums:** 6 complexes



Schools: 10

#### **Encouraging and Recognizing Airline Noise-Reduction Practices**

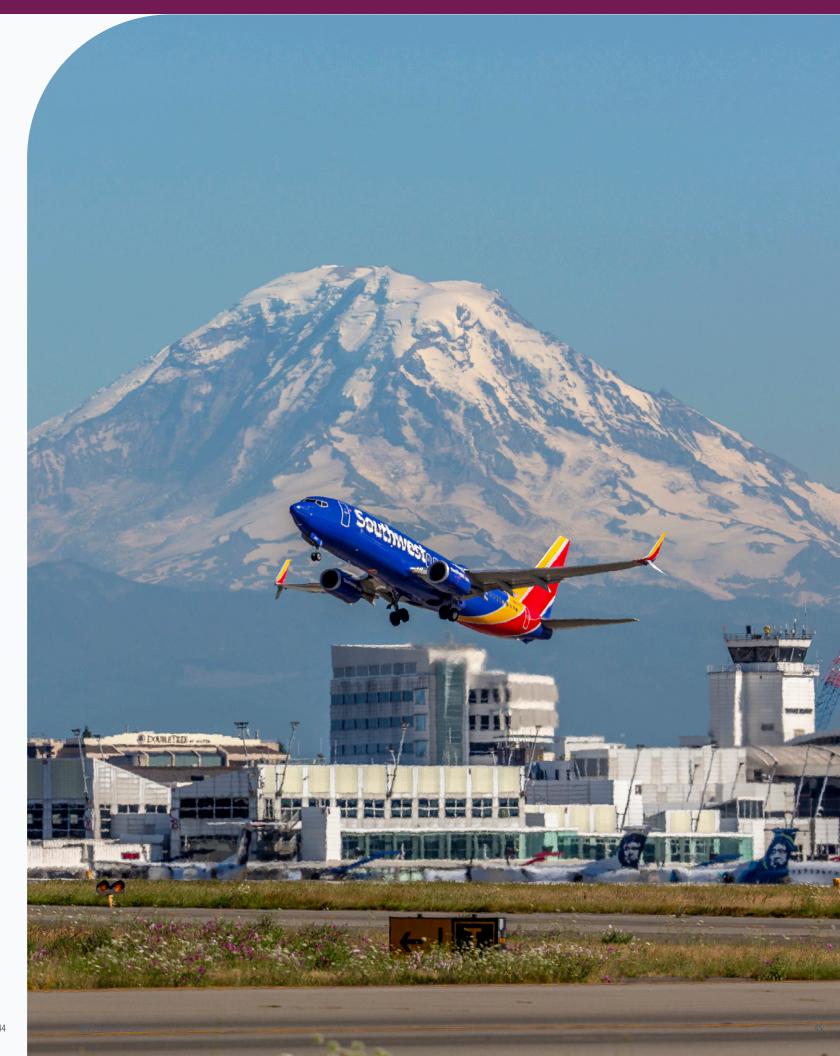
The Port of Seattle's Fly Quiet Awards program celebrates airlines who go the extra mile to reduce aircraft noise and minimize their impact on local communities. Fly Quiet encourages airline compliance with noise abatement efforts by evaluating flight procedures for jet aircraft, as well as jet aircraft noise levels, and recognizing the two airlines with best record of achievement in the scoring categories. A third award is given to an airline that showed significant noise improvement or made an impactful change that lessened their noise over the course of the year at SEA Airport.



#### **Fostering Collaboration and Community with StART Efforts**

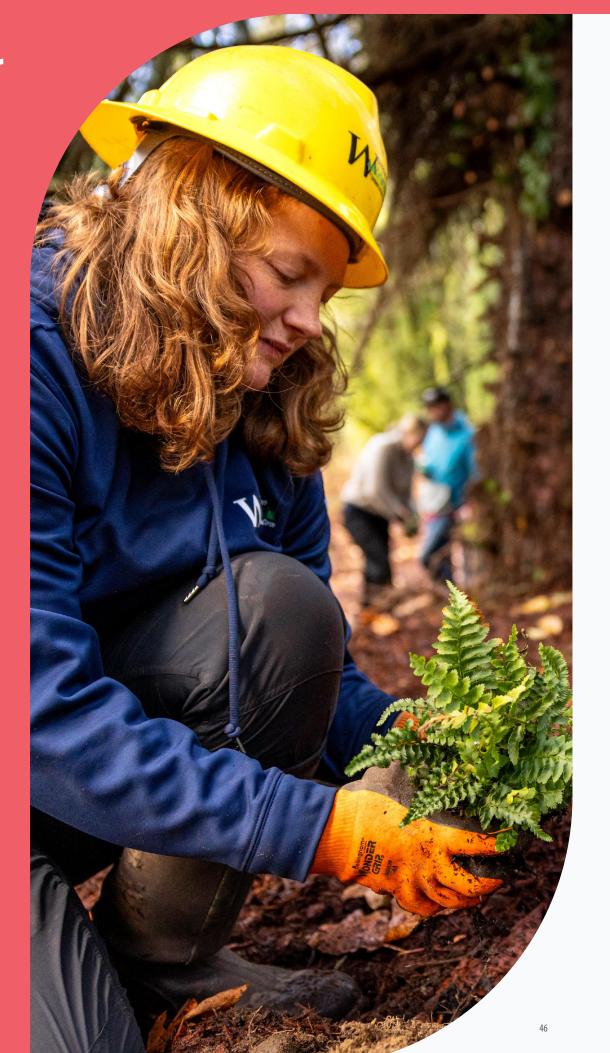
The SEA Airport Stakeholder Advisory Round Table (StART) is building stronger communities by fostering a spirit of goodwill, respect, and openness while encouraging candid discussion between the Port, the FAA, airline representatives, and residential and business community members from the Highline Forum-member cities of SeaTac, Burien, Des Moines, Normandy Park, Tukwila, and Federal Way. StART is the preeminent forum for addressing airport-related noise concerns and providing feedback to the Port. Fifteen meetings were held in 2023, including dedicated noise and federal policy working groups, and full StART sessions.





### **Engaging Our Community**

Recognizing that a healthy environment is vital for both the Port and surrounding communities, the Port of Seattle prioritizes collaborative environmental stewardship. Through education and outreach programs, the Port empowers near-Port residents and regional communities to participate in decision-making and advocate for environmental well-being. This commitment to community engagement fosters trust, empowers informed decisionmaking, and harnesses the power of collective action for a more sustainable future.









**Events and Learning Opportunities** 

The Port hosted and participated in over **60 stewardship and learning opportunities** in 2023. Activities range from behind-the-scenes tours and tree planting events to community festivals and presentations.

#### 2023 Highlights:

- >>> Facilitated over 20 tours of SEA Airport and the Duwamish River People's Park and Shoreline Habitat for various audiences, including media, government agencies, community groups, and the general public.
- Participated in community events such as Duwamish Alive!, Northwest Seaport Alliance (NWSA) Truck and Bike Safety Fair, and StormFest, providing educational presentations and activities for community members, especially students.
- Hosted a Clean Air and Climate Resilience Panel and Information Fair with the NWSA, designed and moderated by Duwamish Valley and South King County youth.
- >> Offered over 15 harbor cruises and Duwamish River boat tours, highlighting the Port's infrastructure and environmental efforts.
- >>> Hosted booths at community events like the Duwamish River Festival, Winterfest Market and Infrastructure Week to connect with the public and showcase environmental initiatives.
- >> Co-sponsored a Seattle University design capstone project for civil and environmental engineering seniors and hosted a UW Environmental Studies senior for a capstone project designing a community engagement board game.
- >>> Held two community stewardship events near SEA Airport to plant 300 trees and shrubs and remove invasive species at a site overgrown with invasive plant species.
- >>> Hosted an event with Schmidt Ocean Institute to announce the discovery of three new hydrothermal vents from their inaugural expedition and to celebrate their Artist-at-Sea program.
- >>> Developed and distributed translated handouts on spill prevention best practices in multiple languages.
- >>> Hosted seven environmental tours for community and business groups onboard Seattle cruise vessels.
- >> Partnered with the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe and Suquamish Tribe on youth programs and restoration activities at various locations.
- >>> Collaborated with the Duwamish Alive Coalition to plan and hold spring and fall stewardship events at harapus Village Park and Shoreline Habitat, a public shoreline access site. These events engaged volunteers in improving and managing the native riparian and marsh vegetation at the site.



#### **Environmental Grant Programs**

The Port of Seattle recognizes the power of community-driven solutions. We offer environmental grant programs to support local organizations working on innovative projects that address sustainability challenges. These grants empower communities to take ownership of their environmental future.

In 2023, the Port awarded \$150,000 in funding for the third cycle of the South King County Community Impact Fund Environmental Grants to five organizations serving communities around SEA Airport. The grants fund projects in cities around the airport to enhance livability and improve green spaces. The grant recipients are:

- » Congolese Integration Network (\$60,000): Clean up parks and build a community garden with culturally relevant food in Tukwila.
- » Friends of Normandy Park Foundation (\$29,448): Restore Nist Park's forest in Normandy Park through invasive species removal, tree planting, and educational workshops.
- » Key Tech Labs (\$20,000): Expand solar power and educational opportunities at New Start Community Garden in Burien.
- » New Start Community Garden (\$20,000): Install a patio garden, interpretive signs, and a tool shed; offer free classes on food security and habitat creation in Burien.
- » Valley Kangaroo Rugby Club (\$20,000): Partner with youth players to improve Pat Ryan Field in SeaTac through cleanup, signage, tree planting, and field leveling.



#### **Duwamish Valley Port Community Action Team (PCAT)**

The Duwamish Valley Port Community Action Team (PCAT) functions as a bridge between the Port of Seattle and the surrounding community upholding the co-created Duwamish Valley Community Equity Program and Community Benefits Commitment, adopted in 2019. This collaborative effort aims to uplift the Duwamish Valley by focusing on capacity building for the Port and the community to learn from each other, supporting environmental health initiatives, and creating economic opportunities for BIPOC residents. The program aims to collaborate with and empower community members to influence Port operations and programs. The PCAT is actively working towards a cleaner, more prosperous future for the Duwamish Valley through efforts like the Duwamish River Community Hub supporting career fairs and small business as well as habitat restoration trainings and clean air education.

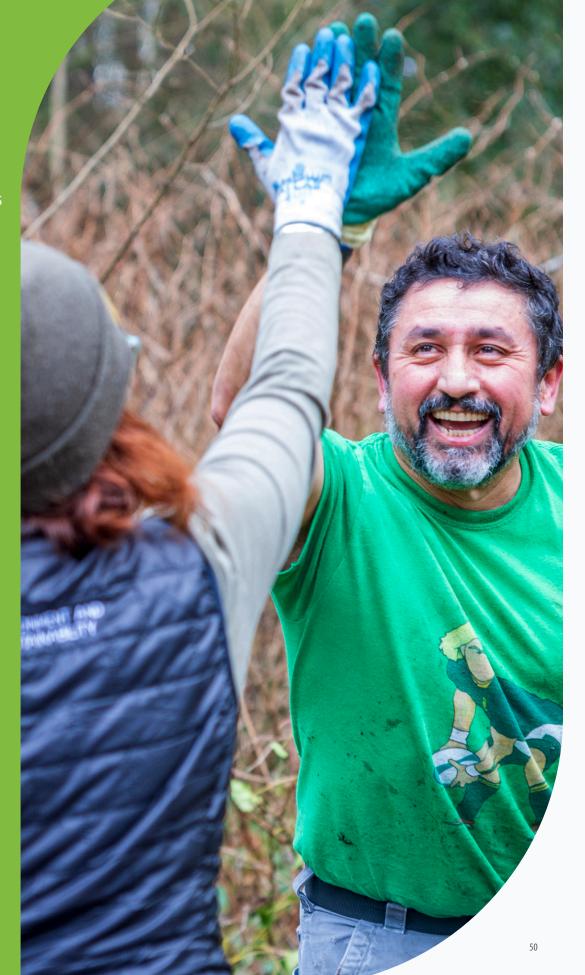
#### **Internships and Fellowships**

We invest in the next generation of environmental leaders by offering internship and fellowship opportunities ranging from high schoolers to doctorate students. These programs provide valuable hands-on experience and connect aspiring professionals with mentors and subject matter experts at the Port. **The environmental teams hosted 17 internship and fellowship staff in 2023.** 



# Practicing Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

The Port of Seattle actively advances Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) through its environmental programs. This includes prioritizing business inclusion programs that empower diverse-owned businesses, fostering green job creation, and providing a pathway to economic opportunity for residents, with a particular focus on under-represented communities. Additionally, the Port champions environmental justice initiatives that address historical disparities in environmental burdens.





We are committed to fostering a more equitable and inclusive business landscape. In 2023, we surpassed our ambitious five-year goal, tripling the number of WMBE firms collaborating with the Port annually. This translates to a significant 12.4% WMBE spend across our projects, totaling \$77.7 million, directly contributing to regional economic growth for diverse businesses.

#### **Workforce Inclusion and Green Jobs**

The Port's Green Jobs program prioritizes two crucial areas: upskilling the local workforce and promoting green career pathways within the maritime industry. Through partnerships with organizations like Seattle Jobs Initiative, we identify in-demand green jobs like electricians and HVAC technicians. Additionally, dedicated training programs and resources empower individuals from historically disadvantaged communities to enter and excel in these green fields. This approach not only strengthens the Port's environmental efforts but also cultivates a more inclusive and sustainable future for our regional workforce.

The Port successfully held the third Annual Pathways to Opportunities Environment and Jobs Symposium. Participants heard from local and regional leaders in the environmental and workforce space and learned about funding sources. We also collaborated with Dirt Corps and Duwamish Valley Youth Corps for the Duwamish River Green Jobs Program that provides nine weeks of paid training in green jobs to both youth and adults. The two cohorts included approximately 15 participants, each including a number of Spanish speaking community members with on-the-job interpretation provided.

#### **New Environmental Justice Program Manager**

The Port of Seattle created and filled a new position for an Environmental Justice Program Manager. This person will lead, plan, coordinate, and oversee the prioritization, development, and implementation of the Port's environmental justice efforts, programs, and policies. A key aspect of the work will include designing an institutional framework to prioritize and invest in issues that have the greatest environmental justice impact on near-Port communities. This vital role integrates environmental justice considerations throughout the Port's decision-making processes, paving the way for a more inclusive and sustainable future.

#### **Maritime Environmental Justice Work Group**

The Port operationalizes our equity and anti-racism values via the Port's Change Team and other initiatives. The Environmental Justice Work Group is an internal collective focused on both internal and external actions to enable the Port to become a more equitable and anti-racist organization while advancing environmental justice. These actions may be in the form of policy development, programs, and practices. The team has 15 members that meet monthly from the environmental team and Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. The focus in 2023 was to develop SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-Bound) equity goals for each team within the Maritime Environment and Sustainability group, and to review new environmental justice initiatives.

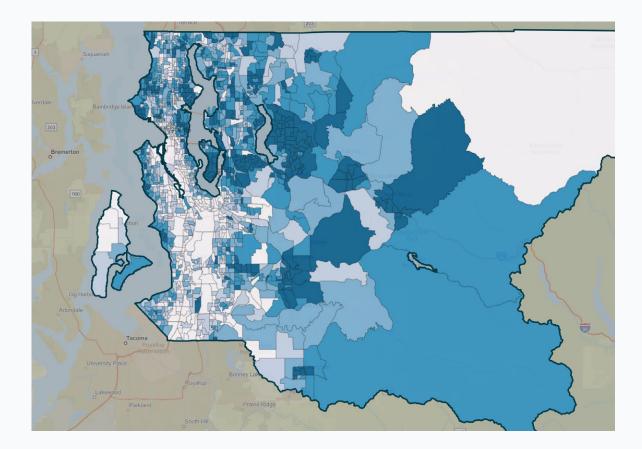






#### **Environmental Justice and the Port's Equity Index**

The Port of Seattle's Equity Index is an interactive map serving as a visual representation of social and environmental disparities across King County. This valuable tool utilizes 21 indicators across four categories (economy, livability, accessibility, and environment) to illuminate the disproportionate impact pollution burdens and social inequities have on different communities. The Equity Index informs our decision-making, ensuring projects consider environmental justice and equity concerns.



#### Four planning projects that have recently used the index include:

#### **Duwamish River People's Park and Shoreline Habitat:**

This ongoing project exemplifies our commitment to environmental justice. Located in the heart of South Park, this once-contaminated area has been transformed into a thriving green space. A 10-year monitoring program ensures its success as a haven for both the community and local wildlife.

#### **SEA Airport Noise Programs:**

By leveraging the Equity Index, the Noise Programs Office tailors outreach materials and programs to better serve residents within the noise remedy boundary. This includes offering translated materials and using inclusive language.

#### **SEA Airport Active Transportation Plan:**

Many of the communities near the airport could benefit from active transportation options and those are the areas that rank highly on the Port's Equity Index. These communities are also home to many people who work at SEA Airport.

#### **SEA Airport Land Stewardship Plan:**

By leveraging the Equity Index and equity criteria, the Port can prioritize sites for planting.



### Awards and Recognition

Throughout the year, we strive to implement innovative solutions and collaborate with stakeholders to achieve our sustainability goals. These awards and acknowledgements represent the dedication and hard work of our team and partners, and further motivate us to continue on the path of environmental stewardship and community engagement.



#### **Green Marine**

Green Marine is a voluntary environmental certification program specifically designed for the North American maritime industry. By participating in Green Marine, the Port of Seattle commits to improving environmental performance beyond what's mandated by regulations. Environmental performance is rated on a scale of 1 to 5 in accordance with the environmental program's detailed framework and an external verification of the results. The Port of Seattle was the first west coast port to be certified Green Marine and continues to sustain high ratings.



#### **IAPH Sustainability Awards**

The IAPH Sustainability Awards are prestigious recognitions presented by the International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH) to member ports that demonstrate exceptional achievements in sustainability practices. These awards celebrate initiatives across various sustainability categories. In 2023, the Duwamish River People's Park and Shoreline Habitat cleanup and restoration project was selected as a finalist in the environmental care category.

#### **Sustainable Century Awards**

The Port of Seattle's Sustainable Century Awards annually recognize outstanding environmental achievements of our customers, tenants, non-profit partners, and businesses of all sizes operating at SEA Airport and our maritime facilities. These awards acknowledge businesses that go above and beyond regulations to promote environmental sustainability and align with the Port's Century Agenda environmental goals.

Maritime division winners include Alaska Marine Lines, Muckleshoot Indian Tribe Fish Commission, Quiet Sound, and Stormwater Controls. Aviation division winners include Alaska Airlines, Concessions International, Condor, and McDonald's. Uber received an honorable mention.

#### **Thank You**

The success of the Port's environmental work can be attributed to a culture of stewardship that emanates from our top leadership through all of our divisions and departments. It takes all groups working together to visualize, plan and implement our environmental work. We thank everyone for their support.

#### **Port of Seattle Commission**



Ryan Calkins • Toshiko Hasegawa • Sam Cho Hamdi Mohamed • Fred Felleman





#### **Executive Leadership**

#### **Stephen P. Metruck**

**Executive Director** 

#### Karen Goon

**Deputy Executive Director** 

#### **Pearse Edwards**

**Senior Director External Relations** 

#### **Glenn Fernandes**

**Director Internal Audit** 

#### **Katie Gerard**

Senior Director Human Resources

#### **Bookda Gheisar**

Senior Director Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

#### **Stephanie Jones Stebbins**

Managing Director Maritime Division

#### Sandra Kilroy

Senior Director Environment and Sustainability

#### **Lance Lyttle**

Managing Director Aviation Division

#### **Dave McFadden**

**Managing Director Economic Development** 

#### Mikel O'Brien

**Senior Director Labor Relations** 

#### **Pete Ramels**

**General Counsel** 

#### **Dan Thomas**

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