

#### **WELCOME!**

**SPONSOR** - Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Recreational Boating Safety Program

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE** - We are grateful to the following professionals who provided technical guidance throughout:



Northwest Marine Trades Association

COS

Pierce County Public Works

WA Department of Ecology

WA Department of Natural Resources

WA State Parks

WA Department of Health

WA Department of Fish and Wildlife

Puget Soundkeeper

Washington Sea Grant

Recreational Boating Association of Washington

Port of Anacortes

Port of Kingston

Washington Public Ports Association

Northwest Mobile Pumpout

SPECIAL THANKS to our regional partners and added subject matter experts for their support:

California State Parks and California Coastal Commission

Oregon Sea Grant

Florida Sea Grant

Washington Kayak Club

#### **WELCOME!**

#### **PROJECT TEAM**

#### **STATE PARKS**

**Rob Sendak** Boating Programs Manager

Lydia Moorehead CVA Grant Program Manager

**Rhonda Dobbs Boating Programs Support** 

**CONSULTANTS** 



**MAKERS** 





Julie Bassuk, AICP Partner-in-charge



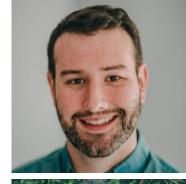
Laura Basile Planning Support



**Associates** 

**BST** 



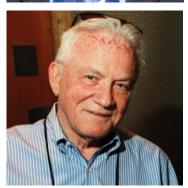


**Facet** 





**Paul Sorensen** Economist/Analyst







Erik Dahl **Engineering Support** 

#### **WELCOME!**

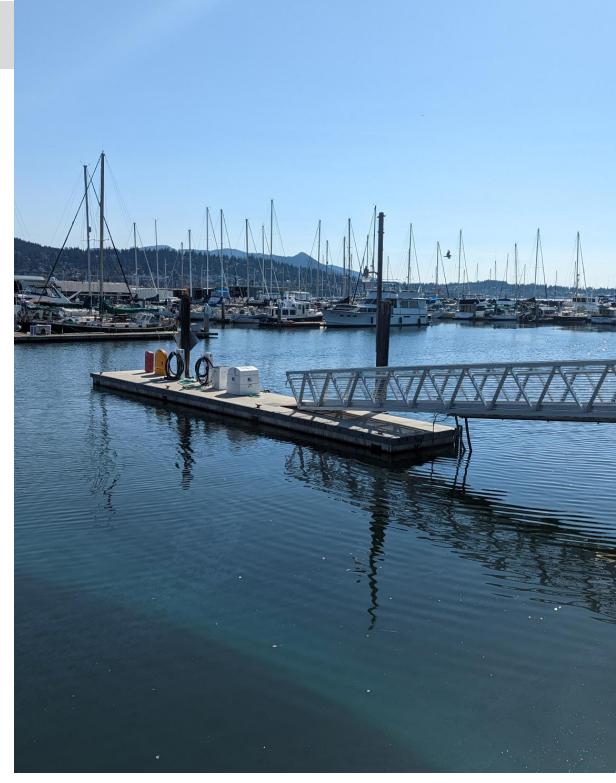
#### A FEW GROUND RULES...

- If comfortable for you, please turn your camera on
- You will need your phone to participate in polling questions
- All participants will be muted except for the presenters
- Please add questions to the chat and they will be answered as time allows at the end of the meeting

#### **WEBINAR OVERVIEW**

#### **AGENDA**

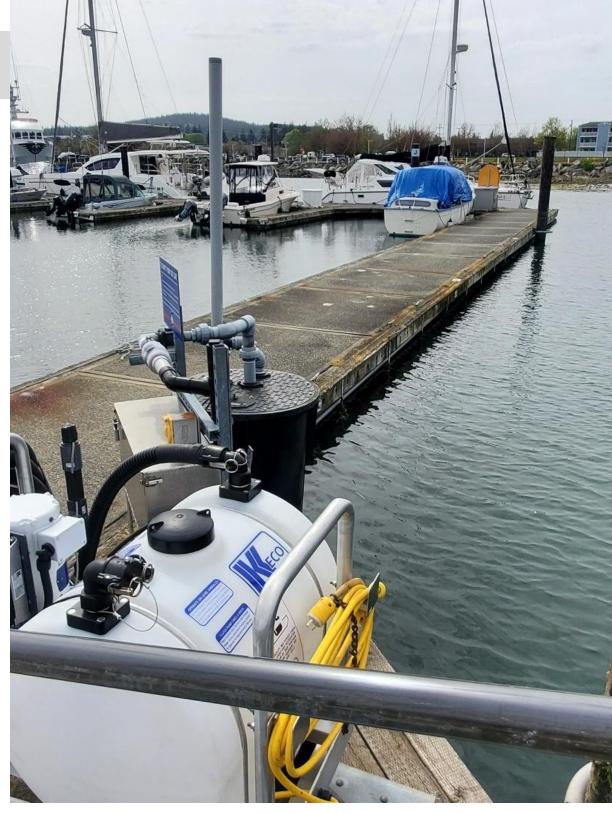
- Introduce the Recreational Boating Pumpout Facility Assessment
- Test your knowledge on boating waste disposal
- Review key assessment findings
- Highlight priority recommendations
- Connect to additional resources



## **WEBINAR OVERVIEW**

#### WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU

- Share your brilliance through polling responses and comments in the chat
- Potentially learn a little something about Washington's boater and water recreator waste disposal system
- After the webinar please review the draft assessment, provide your feedback, and share with your friends!









## PURPOSE AND IMPORTANCE

# WHAT IS THIS ASSESSMENT AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

- Updates the prior assessment, last completed in 2018
- Assesses Washington State's waste disposal infrastructure
- Determines what is needed to adequately support boaters and other water recreators
- Recommends legislative investments to improve the waste disposal system and boater education and outreach, positively impacting water quality throughout the state



Areas with recent decline in Eelgrass High bacteria and low levels of dissolved oxygen



#### **PROCESS**

#### **HOW WAS IT DEVELOPED?**

- Reviewed boating behavior and trends
- Analyzed boating sewage disposal facility supply and demand and identified sewage disposal facility gaps
- Completed an engineering assessment and estimated costs to fill in sewage disposal facility gaps
- Interviewed recreational boating program managers in Oregon, California, and Florida



#### **PROCESS**

#### 2024 ENGAGEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Coordinated with an advisory committee of 13 state agency and boating organization representatives
- Facilitated 11 discussion groups
- Surveyed moorage facility owners, receiving over 40 responses
- Completed a statistically significant survey of statewide boaters, receiving 1,200 responses

Note: select "2024 pumpout boater survey" findings are highlighted throughout this webinar; complete results are included as Appendix A in the assessment



#### **CONTENTS**

#### DOCUMENT ORIENTATION

- Planning Context
- Recreational Boating and the Waste Disposal System
- Key Findings
- Issues
- Recommendations

#### **APPENDICES**

- A. Survey data
- B. Recommendation summary
- C. Project cost estimates
- D. Boating sewage disposal facility supply and demand
- E. State best practice findings





WASHINGTON
RECREATIONAL
BOATING
PUMPOUT FACILITY
ASSESSMENT

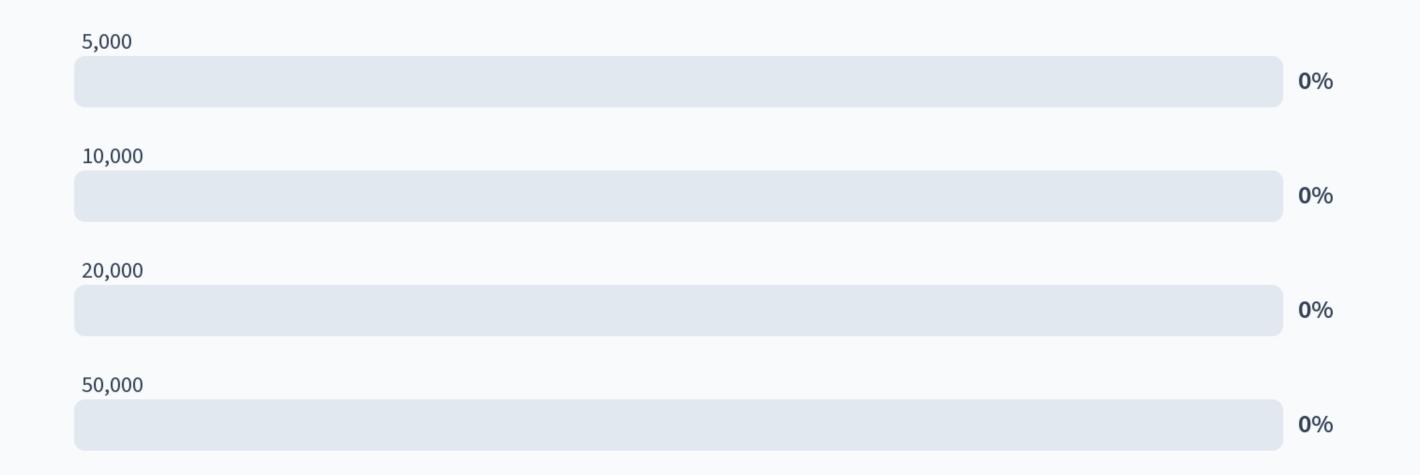
WASHINGTON STATE PARKS

**MARCH 2025** 





# Approximately how many years old is the oldest boat ever identified estimated to be, according to the Nautical Channel?



## LET'S TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

According to the Nautical Channel, the Pesse Canoe was discovered in Norway and is estimated to be from between 8040 BCE and 7510 BCE!

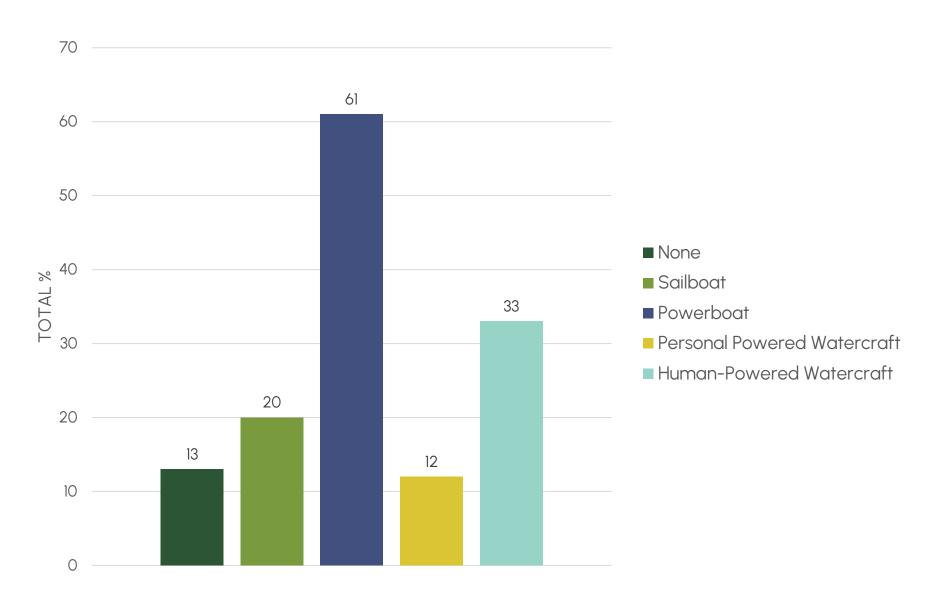


# How many registered boats (excludes vessels not propelled by a motor or sail) are there in Washington?



## RECREATIONAL BOATS IN WASHINGTON

- As of 2023, there were 222,000 registered boats<sup>1</sup> in Washington
- Of the 1,200+ 2024 pumpout boater survey respondents:
  - Almost 2/3 use a powerboat
  - One third use personal powered or human-powered vessels



1 WA Department of Licensing; registered boats exclude boats that don't have a motor or sail

Data Source: 2024 pumpout boater survey

## How many marinas are there in Washington State?

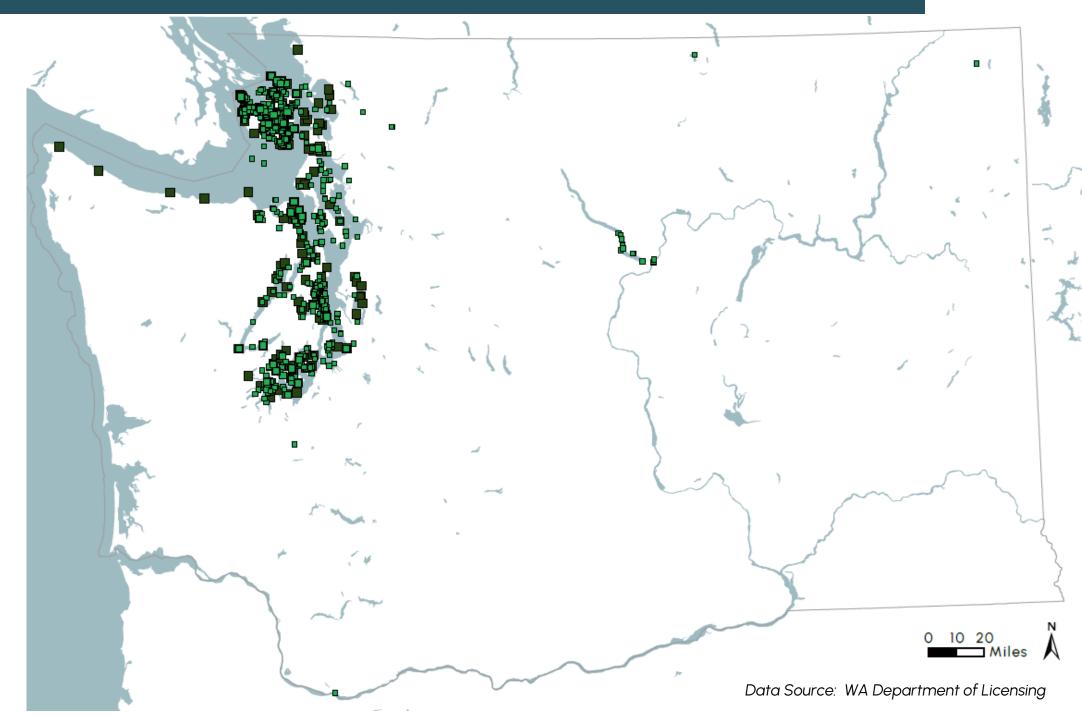


## RECREATIONAL BOATS IN WASHINGTON

- There are 330
  marinas, 1,482 mooring
  buoys, and 169
  anchorages across the
  state!
- 98% are located within the Puget Sound and San Juan Islands



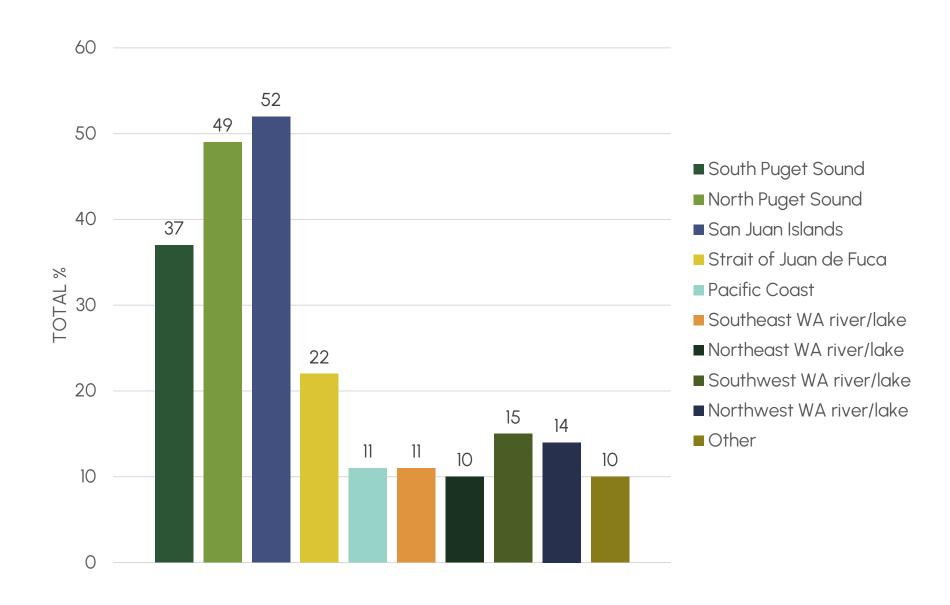
- Anchorage
- Mooring buoy



## RECREATIONAL BOATS IN WASHINGTON

Though there is data on berthing and launching, data on boat travel is not collected

 37-52% of boater survey respondents travel to locations in the Puget Sound or San Juan Islands



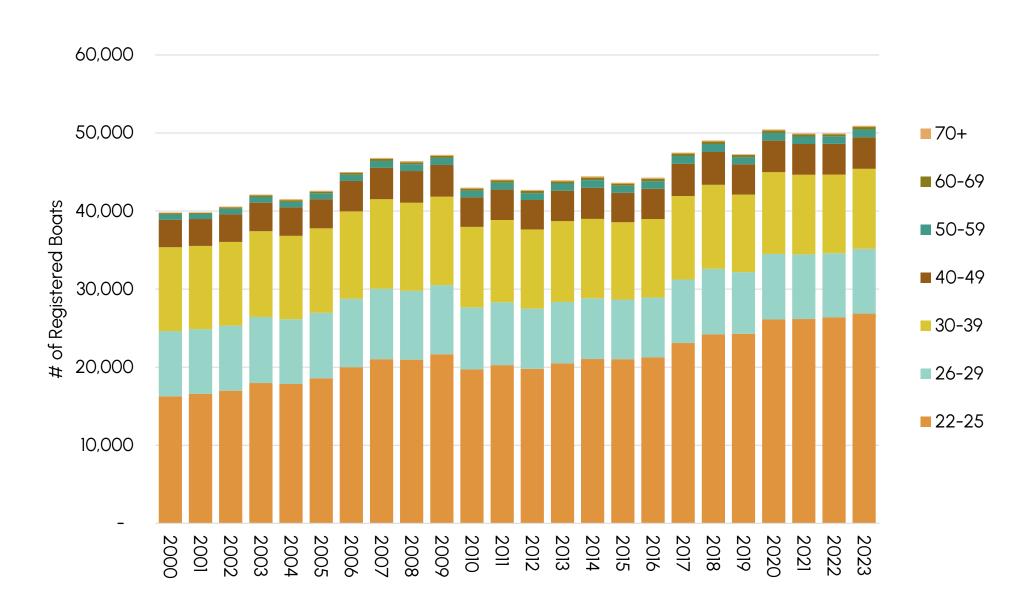
Data Source: 2024 pumpout boater survey

#### What boat length category has increased the most in Washington State over the past 20 years?

25 feet and under	
	0%
26-29 feet	
	0%
30-39 feet	
	0%
40-49 feet	
	0%
50-59 feet	
	0%
60-69 feet	
	0%
Over 70 feet	
	0%

## RECREATIONAL BOATS IN WASHINGTON

- Most growth is in
   22-25' boats
- Boats 26' and above have minimal growth
- According to the 2023
   Recreation and
   Conservation Plan, 52%
   of the state participates
   in paddle sports, one of
   the state's top 10
   activities, increasing by
   28% since 2017



Data Source: WA Department of Licensing

## **WASTE FACILITY TYPES**

#### **Pumpout**

Equipment that pumps sewage from a marine sanitation device





## Upland restroom

Restrooms on land



#### **Dump station**

Disposal spot for portable toilet sewage



Portable waste disposal device



#### Floating restroom

Floating sewage facility typically on lakes and reservoirs





#### Human waste bags

Disposal waste bags

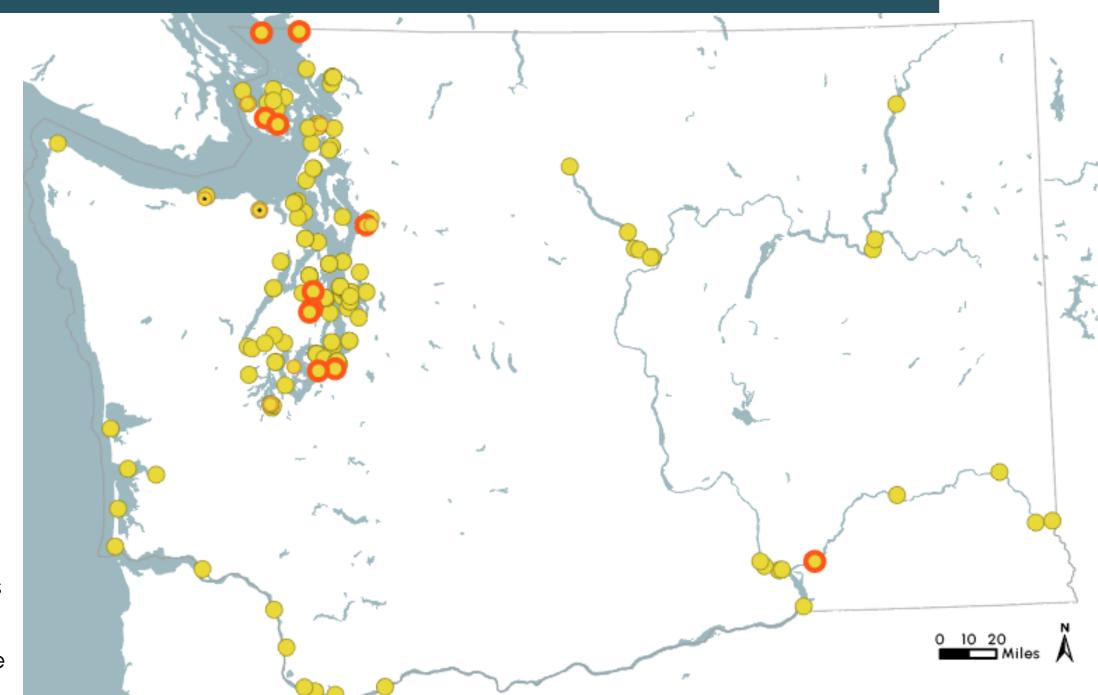
#### How many fixed pumpout facilities are in Washington state?

8	
	0%
57	
	0%
175	
	0%
192	
	0%
453	
	0%
I don't know but I can't wait to find out!	
	0%

# **PUMPOUTS**

- 192 pumpouts
- 21 mobile pumpouts (pumpout boats)

- Pumpout
- Regional mobile pumpouts
- Marina-based mobile pumpouts
- Peninsula Pumpout serves Port Angeles Marina and John Wayne Marina



#### What does CVA stand for?

Cost-Volume Analysis	
	0%
Curriculum Vitae Application	
	0%
Clean Vessel Act	
	0%
Cumulative Volume Average	
	0%
Clean Vehicle Act	
	<b>0</b> %

## What's the No Discharge Zone or NDZ?

The area where spillage of fuels is prohibited	
	0%
The area where the discharge of untreated vessel sewage is prohibited	
	0%
The area where the discharge of vessel sewage is prohibited	
	0%
The area where exhaust is limited to low-emission vehicles and boats	
	0%
I'm not sure	
	0%

## What is Pumpout Washington?

An initiative to get healthy by building muscle mass	
	0%
An educational campaign dedicated to promoting proper recreational boating sewage disposal	
	0%
An educational campaign to limit oil and fueling spills	
	0%
A research initiative to determine the statewide need for pumping out septic systems	
	0%
I don't know	
	0%

#### **COMMON TERMS**

- The Clean Vessel Act (CVA) aims to reduce water pollution from vessel sewage discharges
- The CVA Grant Program provides funding for vessel sewage disposal systems, including pumpouts, dump stations, floating restrooms, pumpout boats
- The No Discharge Zone (NDZ) is a designated body of water where vessel sewage discharge is prohibited, Washington's NDZ is roughly the Salish Sea
- Pumpout Washington is an online resource for pumpout locations, reporting, and pumpout boat contact info; see pumpoutwashington.org and the Pumpout Nav app



#### \*Treated\* sewage discharges are allowed in which bodies of water? Select all that apply.

Freshwater lakes and reservoirs	
	0%
Rivers not capable of navigation by interstate vessel traffic	
	0%
Zero to three miles from shore	
	0%
Three+ miles from shore	
	0%
In a No Discharge Zone	
	0%
None of the above	
	0%
I don't know	
	0%

## **WASTE DISPOSAL REGULATIONS**

#### **DISCHARGE IS PROHIBITED**

 In freshwater lakes/reservoirs, rivers not navigable by interstate vessels, and in NDZs

#### 0-3 MILES FROM SHORE

- Discharging untreated sewage is prohibited
- Sewage must be treated by a specific marine sewage device (MSD)

#### 3+ MILES FROM SHORE

Sewage must be stored in a holding tank or specific MSD until discharged





#### KEY ASSESSMENT FINDINGS

# Gaps in operational pumpouts

- Goal: one pumpout per 300 moorage spaces
- 15 new pumpouts are needed
- More mobile pumpout service is desired
- Operational issues can limit pumpout use

# Insufficient upland/floating facilities

- Upland restrooms are aging and require access improvements
- More floating restrooms are desired

# Limited human-powered vessel data

- Paddlesport data is limited
- Waste disposal practices may be an issue
- Outreach and education is needed

#### **KEY ASSESSMENT FINDINGS**

# Waste disposal education gaps

- Boaters may not be aware of regulations
- Illegal dumping still occurs; enforcement is challenging
- Additional information would be helpful

# CVA funds use restrictions and minimal inland use

- 25% matching funds may be a barrier
- Some project type limitations
- Reporting and record keeping can be difficult

# Outdated and multi-sourced data

- Data collection issues with some pumpouts
- Incomplete data on dump station and restroom use

#### PRIORITY RECOMMENDATIONS

# NEW DISPOSAL FACILITIES

15 new pumpouts are recommended

- · San Juans 6
- · Puget Sound 7
- · Hood Canal 1
- · Westport area 1

# NON-OPERATIONAL PUMPOUTS

- Address non-operational pumpouts in the Puget Sound
- Connect marinas with CVA grant funds when possible

# UPLAND WASTE FACILITIES

- Add and improve upland restrooms
- Ensure restrooms are easy to find and accessible

#### PRIORITY RECOMMENDATIONS

# CVA GRANT STRATEGIES

- Reduce barriers to CVA grant fund use
- Update and improve CVA data
- Increase support for grant fund recipients

# WASTE DISPOSAL EDUCATION

- Stand up an educational campaign for boaters
- Update the Pumpout Nav app

# HUMAN-POWERED VESSELS

- Develop an educational campaign targeting nonmotorized boaters
- Collect data on paddle sport recreation

#### PRIORITY RECOMMENDATIONS

#### RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY

- Solutions include potential action leads and supporters as well as potential funding sources
- A summary of recommendations can be found at the end of Chapter 5, sorted by priority: near, medium, and long term
- Recommendations are also summarized in a table in Appendix B and include information on proposed action leads and supporters as well as potential funding sources

#### RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY

The following table summarizes recommendations by priority.

RECOMMENDATIONS	Ac fon Lead	Supporters	Potential Funding Source
HIGHER PRIORITY			
New Boating Sewage Disposal Facilities			
Blakely Island Area	Parks CVA	Sea Grant	CVA grant, matching
Lopez Island - Southeast Area	Grant Manager		funds from the facility
Boston Harbor Marina			owner
Longbranch Area			
Kirkland Area			
S Seattle Area			
Everett Area			
Seabeck Area			
Westport Area			
Add floating restrooms in high-traffic areas.	Parks	DNR, WDFW	CVA grant
		RBAW, municipalities,	1
Support addition of mobile pumpout boats.	Parks	WPPA	
Non-Operational Facilities			
Arabella's Landing	Parks CVA	Sea Grant	CVA grant maintenance
Blake Island Marina	Grant Manager		and operations funds.
CVA Grant Strategies			marina matching fund
Advocate to reduce barriers by adjusting CVA grant fund eligibility restrictions.	RBAW, NMTA	Parks	?
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Washington Recreational Boating Pumpout Facility Assessment



#### **NEXT STEPS**

#### Where is the assessment?

https://parks.wa.gov/about/grants/clean-vessel-act-grant-program/2025-recreational-boating-pumpout-facility-assessment

#### How do I comment?

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WARecPumpoutStudy

#### When are my comments due?

All comments are due by July 9, 2025

#### WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE?

#### Where do I pumpout?

Pumpout Nav app or <a href="https://pumpoutwashington.org/">https://pumpoutwashington.org/</a>

#### Know someone who could use a CVA grant?

https://parks.wa.gov/about/grants/clean-vessel-act-grant-program

#### Other questions?

Lydia Moorehead, Parks (<u>Lydia.Moorehead@parks.wa.gov</u>)

#### Other resources

Northwest Marine Trades Association

WA Department of Natural Resources

WA Department of Fish and Wildlife

Recreational Boating Association of Washington

**WA State Parks** 

Washington Public Ports Association

<u>Puget Soundkeeper</u>

Northwest Mobile Pumpout

WA Department of Ecology

WA Department of Health

Washington Sea Grant



**Questions?** 

#### **THANK YOU!**