



**2019 Environmental Leadership Award  
Dr. Ron Thom**



It is an honor to present this Environmental Leadership Award to Dr. Ron Thom.

Dr. Thom has contributed enormously to Puget Sound since 1971 through his research on coastal ecosystem restoration, climate change and adaptation, and ecology of fisheries resources. A few of his accomplishments include serving as director of 200 multidisciplinary ecological studies, publication of five book chapters, about 100 peer reviewed papers, hundreds of reports, and delivery of hundreds of professional presentations.

Although his professional accomplishments are numerous, Dr. Thom has gone beyond his duties to lend his expertise as a volunteer to help organizations in their own pursuits to restore and protect Puget Sound. This



includes serving as a current gubernatorial appointee to the Northwest Straits Commission, Chair of the Commission's Science Advisory Committee and President of the Washington State Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Thom is also a leading voice on using sound science to make informed decisions, as evidenced by serving as the Senior Science Advisor to the Puget Sound Partnership, his work to refresh the Puget Sound vital signs and his leadership on developing metrics to track the success of restoration projects—including his leadership on building the Northwest Straits Initiative Actions to Impacts program.

Though he spent his career at Pacific Northwest National Labs, where he now holds emeritus status, Dr. Thom has positively influenced the work of many here in Puget Sound and abroad. He not only continues to be respected for his expertise, but for his selfless efforts to encourage and mentor those who are following in his footsteps.