

# REAUTHORIZATION

## NW Straits Initiative

empowers local people with economic, recreational and environmental interests to engage in projects and advisory activities that maintain marine resources for the benefit of their communities.

## We seek permanent reauthorization of the Initiative

to continue critical marine resources work that puts the interests of local communities first.

Supported by all seven Northwest Washington county elected governments representing a population of over 1.4 million people



The Northwest Straits region includes Clallam, Island, Jefferson, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom Counties and their adjoining inland marine waters.





# AT-A-GLANCE

The NW Straits Region  
contributes to the:

**16,000**

jobs in WA state's  
commercial and recreational  
fishing industries

**\$150**

million in estimated economic  
output for WA state's  
aquaculture industry

NW Straits Initiative  
contributed to the:

**1,800**

invasive European green crabs  
captured, and more than 25,000  
trap sets helping to protect  
shellfish economies

Removal and  
prevention of **60+**

derelict boats, disposed  
through vessel turn-in events,  
providing local residents with  
an affordable solution



## BENEFITS OF THE NORTHWEST STRAITS INITIATIVE

### CITIZEN DRIVEN MARINE RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP

- Inspiring local citizens of the Pacific Northwest to get involved in sustainable use and conservation of marine resources.
- We support local Marine Resources Committees in northwest Washington that **empower bottom-up engagement** and cross-sector collaboration.
- We **protect economically and recreationally important native species** by combating invasive species and restoring habitat.

### OPPORTUNITIES AND CONNECTIONS FOR RURAL ECONOMIES

- Northwest Straits Initiative **builds connections between local communities and the work of agencies** and Tribal co-managers.
- **We amplify local impacts** by connecting and convening partners across counties, agencies, NGOs, Tribes, ports and marine-based businesses.
- Our work **benefits marine industries** and rural businesses that rely on a healthy Puget Sound.

### LEVERAGING FEDERAL DOLLARS

We **leverage federal funds** with volunteer time as well as state, and county dollars **to magnify our impacts** on local engagement, job creation, and marine resources stewardship.



**Northwest  
Straits**  
INITIATIVE

[www.nwstraits.org](http://www.nwstraits.org)

## Reauthorization Contact

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Report



Photo credits: Jessica Owens, Aerial view of San Juan Islands and Blue Heron and Boat demolition; Caroline Gibson, Sea star; Monica Montgomery, Boy on Beach and Group on Beach; Leah Robison, Regional Map and European Green Crab; Don Meehan, Kayaker; Annie England, Kids on the Beach.