

Port of Port Townsend Public Workshop
May 12, 2021, starting at 9:30 AM via [Zoom](#)
Presentation: "Salmon recovery in the Salish Sea and Beyond"

Presentation: "Salmon recovery in the Salish Sea and Beyond" by Jacques White, Executive Director of Long Live the Kings and Joseph Bogaard, Executive Director of Save Our Wild Salmon Coalition

Presentation Description:

Salmon are an iconic part of our environment, culture, and economy in the Pacific Northwest. Many organizations including Long Live the Kings and Save Our Wild Salmon have worked to identify critical challenges facing salmon, bringing together needed experts and resources to provide scientific understanding and then driving informed management solutions and actions based on that understanding. A prime example of such a challenge is poor marine survival of Chinook and Coho salmon and steelhead populations in the Salish Sea which have declined by up to 90%, and their abundance remains well below what it was 30 years ago. In addition, barriers to migration in the Salish Sea and its watersheds and in the Columbia River basin are severely limiting access to and from upstream habitats that have been identified as high-quality refugia for our fish populations in the face of a changing climate, and are therefore limiting recovery options. In the meantime, salmon and steelhead in the North Pacific Ocean have experienced hotter water and poor ocean feeding conditions for multiple years in a row, further stressing our populations. These factors mean our investments in hatchery and harvest reform and in freshwater and estuarine habitat protection and restoration, including dam and barrier removal in places like the Snake River Basin are even more important now. The loss of salmon threatens the heart of Pacific Northwest culture, a multi-billion-dollar fishing industry, deeply rooted Native American rights and traditions, and the health of our freshwater and marine ecosystems including our iconic southern resident killer. We will discuss efforts under way to address these challenges locally and regionally, some new and emerging opportunities, and some suggestions for how the Port of Port Townsend might contribute.

Biographies of the Speakers:



Jacques White grew up in Olympia, earned degrees from the University of Washington, Louisiana State University, and the University of Maryland, and has led research in the deep sea and along coastlines. Jacques currently works with Long Live the Kings staff, Board and partners to bring new approaches to solving complex endangered species and natural resource problems. He provides support and guidance as an Executive Committee member of the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council of the Puget Sound Partnership, served as part of Governor Jay Inslee's Southern Resident Killer Whale Task Force, and serves on the Advisory Panel for the U.S. Section of the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission.



Joseph Bogaard is the executive director for the Save Our wild Salmon Coalition. He began working for Save Our wild Salmon (SOS) in the mid-1990s. SOS is a 30-year-old coalition of 40+ conservation, commercial and sport fishing, orca and clean energy non-profit organizations working to protect and restore harvestable salmon populations in the Columbia-Snake River Basin for the benefit of people, fish and wildlife, and ecosystems. Joseph has an educational background in science and natural resource policy.

Joseph will lead a discussion about the groundbreaking proposal introduced in February by Congressman Mike Simpson (R-ID) that aims to restore salmon in the Snake River Basin and across the Northwest, uphold our nation's responsibilities to Tribes, and invest in our region's communities and energy and transportation infrastructure.