

# Protect the Salish Sea: 4 Days of Action

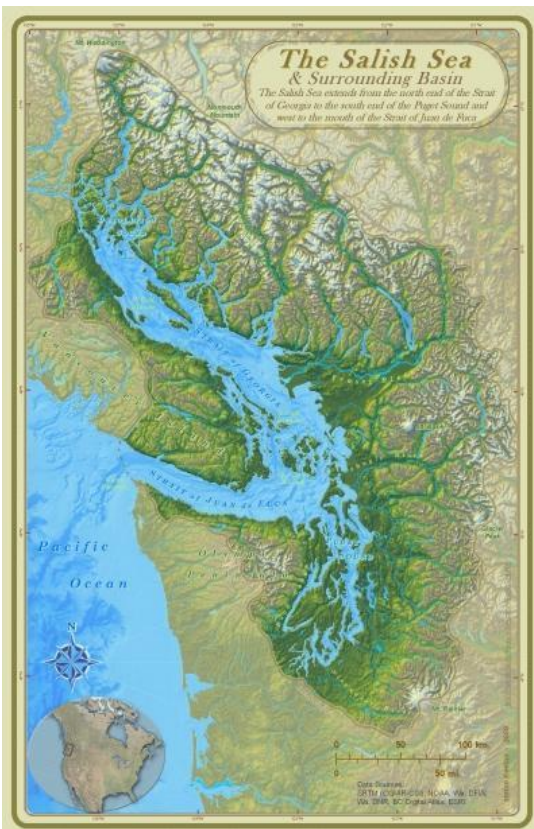
Friday, September 19th - Monday, September 22nd 2014

*A multi-national, cross-cultural, and intergenerational collaboration*



## WHERE IS THE SALISH SEA?

Many people of the Pacific Northwest are unaware that they live on or near the coast of the Salish Sea. The reason? It was only just officially recognized in 2009 as the Salish Sea by the U.S. and Canada when marine biologist Bert Webber proposed the term in order to combine the waters in the region under one name. The Salish Sea is a network of coastal waterways located between the northwestern tip of Washington State and the southwestern tip of British Columbia, and includes Puget Sound, the Strait of Juan de Fuca, the Georgia Strait, along with all of their connecting water channels. The intent was to raise consciousness about taking care of the unified ecosystem and habitats of the inland waters, and to acknowledge Coast Salish Indigenous people and their culture. Major port cities on the Salish Sea include Seattle, Olympia, Tacoma, Bellingham, and Victoria and Vancouver, B.C.



## INTERNATIONAL TREATY TO PROTECT THE SACREDNESS OF THE SALISH SEA

A coalition of Coast Salish Nations have drafted the International Treaty to Protect the Sacredness of the Salish Sea. The International Treaty will enable Coast Salish Nations and their allies, the **Nawt-samaat Alliance**, to speak with one voice regarding tankers, ports, and pipelines. Through the leadership of the Tsleil-Waututh Nation and the Sacred Trust, presentations have been made to over 30 Chiefs and a treaty signing ceremony is being planned for September 21st and 22nd, 2014. An International Rally at Peace Arch will be taking place at the border on September 20th. Participants in the Peace Arch Rally are encouraged to attend the Treaty Signing at Tsleil-Waututh Nation in Vancouver, B.C. the following day.

## OBJECTIVE OF THE PROTECT THE SALISH SEA 4 DAYS OF ACTION

To mobilize multi-national, cross-cultural and intergenerational action and heighten awareness of the increased risks and threats to the Salish Sea from the proposed Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion in British Columbia, along with all other fossil fuel threats in the region including oil trains, coal trains, and tankers.

## **WHY IS ACTION NEEDED NOW?**

The proposed pipeline expansion poses significant risk to the Salish Sea and adjoining communities.

- Current oil tanker traffic will increase from 5 to 34 tankers a month (approx. 212 million barrels).
- 52 products would be approved to be transported. All behave differently if spilled.
- Most of the product in tankers would be bitumen components, which are carcinogenic: the composition of diluted bitumen is unknown and proprietary.
- The Hecate Strait – a main body of water for the proposed tanker route - is considered the fourth most dangerous body of water in the world because of quickly changing winds and sea states.
- There are significant negative impacts to the environment, health and economy in the event of a major spill.
- Recovery from a spill would be measured in decades.
- A major spill would have profoundly negative economic impacts for residents and businesses in cities and towns that border the Salish Sea.
- Potential environmental impacts could devastate already vulnerable marine environments.

## **WHAT WILL HAPPEN ON THE 4 DAYS OF ACTION?**

There will be a variety of actions in communities surrounding the Salish Sea. These will include:

- Signing of the International Treaty to Protect The Sacredness of the Salish Sea by Coast Salish Nations and their Allies at Tsleil-Waututh Nations and other locations throughout the Salish Sea
- The “Climate Knows No Borders” International Rally at the Peace Arch border crossing between Vancouver, B.C. and Washington on September 20th and organized by 350 Seattle, Wilderness Committee, and the Georgia Strait Alliance
- Oil Spill Drills to highlight the potential impacts of a spill (a major drill is planned by Orcas Island for Sept. 20)
- Community organized educational events
- Awareness building events by supporting organizations
- Training workshops by local experts
- Social media intensive
- Media intensive
- Pilgrimage to Tsleil-Waututh to witness the Treaty Signing
- The 4 Days of Action coincides with the Peoples Climate March on September 20th and 21st in NYC and being organized by 350.org, as well as United Nations International Day of Peace.

## **PARTNER WITH US TO EXPAND OUR AWARENESS CAMPAIGN AND COLLABORATE ON EVENTS**

We welcome your participation to make known the threats to the Salish Sea and engage our communities in understanding the issues and possible solutions. We are looking to educate the general public and the decision makers. There are numerous ways to become involved including:

- Create an educational event in your community
- Help to publicize the 4 Days of Action
- Organize an oil spill drill
- Create public art that amplifies the threats to the Salish Sea
- Write and share educational materials
- Help to organize the 4 Days of Action
- Attend the International Rally at Peace Arch on 9/20 and Treaty Signing the following day
- Encourage Interspiritual engagement with faith communities in fostering opportunities for practical actions of ecological stewardship and ‘Caring for Creation.’

## nəcəʔmat Alliance

*One House. One Heart. One Prayer.  
United in Power to Protect the Sacred.*

### **WHO IS THE NAWT-SA-MAAT ALLIANCE?**

The alliance is a coalition of Coast Salish Nations, environmental, interfaith, and youth activists, and impassioned community members who love the land and waters of the Salish Sea and call it home. The Nawt-sa-maat Alliance is calling for “Unprecedented Unified Action” to protect and restore the Salish Sea and the communities surrounding it.

### **JOIN US FOR THE BLESSING AND LAUNCH OF THE NAWT-SA-MAAT ALLIANCE!**

On Sunday, September 7th, a historic Gathering is happening at Daybreak Star Indian Cultural Center in Seattle. **The Gathering will be the blessing and launch of the Nawt-sa-maat Alliance, and all members of the human family are warmly invited.** Join us in Ceremony, a Salmon Bake, and have the opportunity to connect and network as we prepare for the 4 Days of Action from September 19th to September 22nd, culminating in the Signing of the International Treaty to Protect the Sacredness of the Salish Sea at Tsleil-Waututh Nation in Vancouver, B.C. The Gathering will be an opportunity to learn about the purpose, guiding principles, and members of the Alliance, and for you to decide for yourself if you or your organization want to take part.

**Please RSVP and give your contribution for the Salmon Bake and facility *as soon as possible*. We are ordering and paying for salmon now and need to get the head count as close as possible! We won't turn anyone away, but we would like to have enough for everyone.**

RSVP here: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/832983>

### **WHO ARE THE MEMBERS?**

We currently have commitments from:

- 350.org | 350 Seattle
- BROKE (Burnaby Residents Opposing Kinder Morgan Expansion)
- Backbone Campaign
- Civil Liberties Defense Center
- Climate Solutions
- Compassion Games International
- Compassionate Seattle
- CRED
- Crosscut
- Dakota Nation
- Earthship Seattle
- ECONET (the Education, Communication, and Outreach Network for the Puget Sound Partnerships)
- Ecosocialists Vancouver
- Evergreen Islands
- First Nations and Native American tribes including Tsleil-Waututh Nation, Lummi Nation, Tulalip Nation
- Forest Ethics
- Forest Action Network
- Four Worlds International Institute
- Friends of North Creek Forest
- Friends of the Earth
- Friends of the San Juans

- Georgia Strait Alliance
- Greenpeace Canada
- Greenpeace US
- Idle No More - Washington
- Irthlingz Arts-Based Environmental Education
- Interspiritual Center of Vancouver
- IOSA - Islands Oil Spill Association
- Lopez Community Land Trust
- Lummi Nation
- New Stories
- Northwest Interfaith Community Outreach
- Olympia Confronting the Climate Crisis
- Orca Network
- Pacific Peoples Partnership
- Plant for the Planet
- Puget Soundkeeper Alliance
- PIPE UP Network
- ReSources Bellingham
- Rising Tide Seattle
- Salish Sea Foundation and Salish Sea Marine Sanctuary
- San Juans Alliance
- SeaDoc Society
- Sierra Club BC
- Sightline Institute
- Sum of Us
- Tar Sands Action Seattle
- Thrive Lopez Island/LICLT
- Thrive San Juan Islands
- Transition US
- Tseil-Waututh Nation
- Tulalip Nation
- Unify
- United Religions Initiative of North America
- US National Park Service
- YES! Magazine
- Washington Environmental Council
- Washington State Department of Ecology
- Wilderness Committee
- Wisdom at Work

**All members of the Human Family are warmly welcomed to take action and be part of this forming Alliance!**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

**Hereditary Chief Phil Lane Jr. 604 542-8991 [phillanejr@gmail.com](mailto:phillanejr@gmail.com)**

**Jon Ramer 206 972-7356 [jon@compassiongames.org](mailto:jon@compassiongames.org)**

# PROTECT THE SALISH SEA FROM FOSSIL FUEL THREATS



## JOIN US FOR THE LAUNCHING OF THE NAWTSAMAAT ALLIANCE

"One House. One Heart. One Prayer. United in Power to Protect the Sacred."

**SUN. SEPT 7 // 2PM - 7PM** DAYBREAK STAR  
All members of the Human Family are warmly invited. @DISCOVERY PARK

Networking • CEREMONY • Salmon Bake

**\$20** INCLUDES SALMON BAKE. NO ONE WILL BE TURNED AWAY.  
RSVP HERE: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/832983>

THE NAWT-SA-MAAT ALLIANCE BRINGS TOGETHER A BROAD MULTI-NATIONAL, CROSS-CULTURAL COLLABORATION OF TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS, ORGANIZATIONS, & INDIVIDUALS TO TAKE "UNPRECEDENTED UNIFIED ACTION" TO PROTECT THE SACREDNESS OF THE SALISH SEA.

*Many people of the Pacific Northwest are unaware that they live on or near the coast of the Salish Sea. It is a network of coastal waterways located between the northwestern tip of Washington State and the southwestern tip of British Columbia, and includes Puget Sound, the Strait of Juan de Fuca, the Georgia Strait, along with all of their connecting water channels. The purpose of this gathering is to address the challenges we face from the proposed expansion of the Kinder Morgan Alberta Tar Sands project and other fossil fuel threats to Coast Salish territories and the shared waters of the Salish Sea.*

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

Daybreak Star Indian Cultural Center // 5011 Bernie Whitebear Way // Seattle, WA 98199 US