



Springing Forward

A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Well, spring is here; but for most of Washington, it feels like February with below normal temperatures and lowland snow around the Puget Sound. The good news is that we have made up for much of the snowpack deficit we started the year with. However, several areas around the state—most notably the lower Yakima and Walla Walla basin—are still well below normal. Let's keep our fingers crossed that what we do have will last until summer, or we will, unfortunately, experience another drought this year.

Earth Day is April 22nd, but let's make an effort all month long to restore and protect our rivers, streams, and waterways. We have listed some Earth Day events throughout the state you can participate in.

The 2022 legislative session has ended, and our priorities had mixed results. Most notably, only part of the Governor's Salmon package was funded. While this is a good start—over \$120 million allocated to salmon habitat programs—more needs to be done. If we want to truly move the needle on salmon restoration, we must protect water resources and stream flows. Our current policies on managing water resources were not implemented with climate change in mind and do

not account for the broad suite of impacts our region is starting to face. Droughts have become a significant challenge in recent years and these impacts are not felt equally among water users. CELP is committed to making Washington's water resource policies more equitable and sustainable.

We will continue to work with our partners towards our goals throughout the 2023/24 legislative sessions, but we can't do it alone! CELP relies on donations from our supporters like you to continue this important work. If your membership to CELP has lapsed, please renew it at [our website](#) today.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Todd D. H.".



IN THIS ISSUE

Legislative Session
Wrap-up

Staff Update

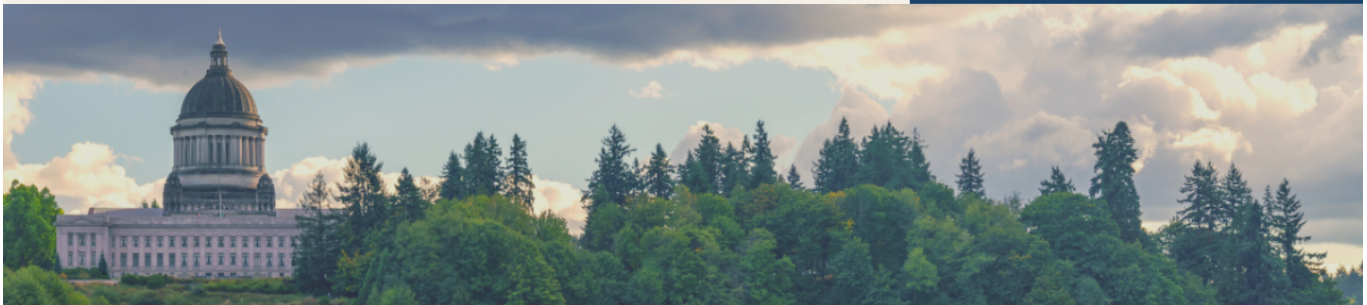
Executive Director
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Tell Your Story

Celebrate Earth Day

In the News

Give Big 2022



2022 Legislative Session

A REVIEW OF SUCCESSES AND FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

Sustaining Hydropower License Fees - HB 1931

Summary: Eliminates sunset date on hydropower fees that support agency participation in licensing

CELP's Position: Supported

Status: Passed and signed into law



Domestic Wastewater Discharge Fees - SB 5585

Summary: Update Dept. of Ecology fee schedule allowing for more effective regulation

CELP's Position: Supported

Status: Passed and signed into law



Kelp Forest and Eelgrass Meadow Conservation Initiative - SB 5619 / HB 1661

Summary: Conserve or restore 10,000 acres of these ecosystems by 2040

CELP's Position: Supported

Status: Passed and signed into law



Lorraine Loomis Act - SB 5757 / HB 1838

Summary: Riparian habitat protection and

“Future generations
depend on

restoration

CELP's Position: Supported

Status: Failed to pass committee

Next Steps: Hope to see reworked and reintroduced for 2023 session, but unlikely

our actions today,
and they deserve
healthy salmon runs ”

- Mindy Roberts, Puget Sound
Program Director, WEC

RENEW Act - SB 5697

Summary: Would establish Extended Producer Responsibility

CELP's Position: Supported

Status: Failed to make it out of committee

Next Steps: With over 60 lobbyists representing corporate interests from within and without the state, we saw historic opposition--however--the grassroots movement in support eventually reached an equally fervent pitch; with the community more well informed and better prepared, we are optimistic for 2023



Drought Bill - SB 5746

Summary: Drought preparedness, response, and funding

CELP's Position: Supported, with concerns

Status: No action taken; Returned to Senate Rules & Committee

Next Steps: Hope to see reintroduced in 2023, but we will advocate for added measures that will require any entity that receives funding to adopt more water-efficient delivery practices

Water Storage - SB 5632

Summary: Investment in water infrastructure

CELP's Position: Opposed

Status: No action taken; Returned to Senate Rules & Committee

Next Steps: We will reach out to partners to rework and reintroduce in a form that will ensure any project to mitigate climate change is vetted through UW's climate impacts group and consults tribes that may be impacted

Drinking Water Resiliency - SB 5626

Summary: Adds climate resilience element to water system plans

CELP's Position: Supported

Status: No action taken; Returned to Senate Rules & Committee

Next Steps: Will push for reintroduction in 2023



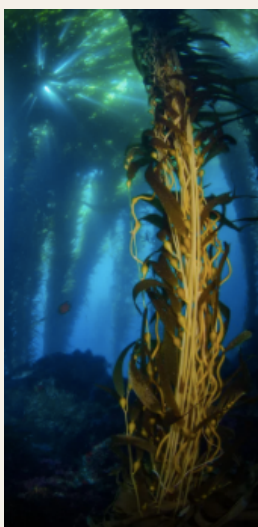


Welcome, Kaeli!

COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH COORDINATOR

Kaeli has always been captivated by the ocean; her fascination with marine ecosystems nourished by summers spent exploring the rocky coastlines of New England and pestering aquarium docents with an endless stream of questions. She earned her B.S. in Marine Biology from the University of Rhode Island in 2013 and has since worked in a variety of settings from environmental compliance monitoring and fisheries assessment to scientific research and informal education. Each new experience brought her closer to discovering her role in the movement to build a sustainable and environmentally just future for all. Kaeli is excited to get to work utilizing her educational background and analytical research skills to bridge the gap between scientific consensus, the general public, and policymakers.

When she isn't passionately advocating for Washington's waterways, you can usually find Kaeli with her husband and adorable pup Finley exploring the great outdoors, enjoying a local craft beer, or plotting the next adventure.



SHARE YOUR *Water Story*



Think back to the last time a story gripped you—as you were transported to another place, maybe you noticed your palms start to sweat or your heart flutter. Scientific research shows that as you hear a story unfold, your brain waves actually start to synchronize with those of the storyteller and that personal testimony is the most effective way to persuade others.

As we continue to work to bring equity to Washington water management and protect this precious resource for humans, wildlife, and life itself, we need your help! Unleash the power of your water story to highlight the vital importance of clean, flowing waters in our communities.

[Submit Your Story Here](#)

Happy
Earth Day!

EVENTS TO HELP YOU CELEBRATE

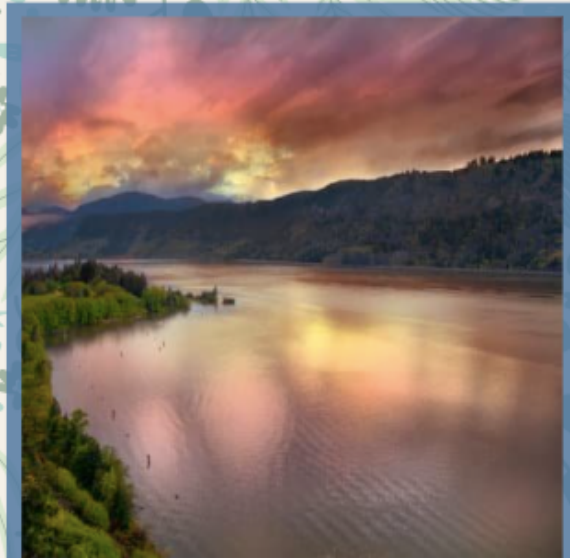
— FRIDAY 4/22 —



WA State Parks FREE Day

Statewide · dawn - dusk

Skip the pay box and recreate your way in one of our state's many beautiful state parks



Sunset Walk at Hood River Park

Hood, OR · 7:30p

Gather with like minded folks in celebration of our time on this incredible planet

— SATURDAY 4/23 —

