Washington Environmental Council has an over forty-five year history of working to achieve smart environmental protections for our state. We bring people together to advance bold solutions that make Washington a better place to live and work. We focus on state level environmental policy and have played a significant role in the adoption and enforcement of Washington state’s most successful environmental laws and policies - protecting our land, air, water, and quality of life.
WEC builds unstoppable momentum.

Our state is in the middle of an enormous fight with fossil fuel companies, and we’re leading the charge. WEC uses state-of-the-art data tools and strategies to educate and mobilize voters to speak up to protect our state and counter the profit-driven agendas of the oil and coal industries. This grassroots presence along with our campaign leadership ensures that citizens have a chance to say no to oil terminals in their communities and that decision-makers advance policy to protect our communities and waterways. Alongside tribal nations and key allies around the state, WEC is powering Washington beyond fossil fuels and into a safer, cleaner future.

Just picture it. Nearly 2,000 people attended public hearings and over 4,000 sent in comments all with one message: no more oil transport across our state and through our waterways. The power of grassroots voices paired with leadership from elected officials, business owners, tribal leaders, faith communities, and others is reaching key decision-makers in Olympia and across the nation loud and clear.

Oil trains are already traveling under downtown Seattle and along Puget Sound. We need to pay attention to the risks to our communities.

- King County Executive Dow Constantine

WEC builds the vision of a cleaner Puget Sound.

Water that runs off our streets, picks up trash and toxics, and flows directly into our waterways is the number one pollution problem for Puget Sound. That’s why we work to secure funding for projects that improve water quality and use innovative green infrastructure to save money. But we don’t stop there, we’re amplifying the impact of local cities and counties that have championed stormwater improvements, incentivizing future projects, and advancing the dialogue around sustainable funding sources for these projects. WEC isn’t just Puget Sound’s strongest defender today, we’re forging the path for clean waterways for years to come.

We helped secure $100 million in state funding so that communities across the state can transform their stormwater landscapes. For example, Puyallup used porous asphalt, permeable sidewalks, and raingardens to direct polluted stormwater runoff into the soil, instead of picking up toxics and trash to pollute waterways. This project is a win-win-win: clean water, new gardens, and $100,000 in savings.

This funding opportunity allowed us to implement innovative stormwater management principles while addressing a failing pavement section and improving safety.

- Joy Rodriguez, Puyallup Associate Stormwater Engineer
WEC builds powerful partnerships.

By building powerful partnerships across Washington, we’re making real progress toward reducing carbon pollution, supporting the clean energy economy, and offering cleaner choices at the pump. Pushing for political action on climate change is one of the biggest and most urgent fights we’ve ever taken on, which is why we’re building a strong coalition by engaging business, labor, health, faith, and community of color groups. From igniting unstoppable grassroots momentum to bringing communities together to support cleaner fuels, we’re advancing on our commitment to turn the challenges of climate change into opportunities to build the clean energy economy and create a healthier state for us all.

Here at WEC, we amplify voices. For the summer months of 2014, seven fellows from the Washington Bus, a progressive youth organization, made over 8,500 phone calls to elevate our climate change work—plus, they recruited nearly 60 people to sign on as volunteers.

If you know your neighbors, you advocate together when bad things happen. That’s necessary in every community as we face the impacts of climate change. It’s all of our actions bound together with a common goal that actually changes the world.

– Nicole Keenan, former Policy Director at Puget Sound Sage

WEC builds sustainable futures.

By supporting forest owners committed to ecological practices and by verifying forestland to provide beneficial carbon storage, WEC is working to transform management of one million acres of private forests and restore the region's native biological diversity while providing sustainable jobs and income. For decades, WEC worked to develop and establish Washington’s foundation of forestry laws and protections, and now we’re working on the ground to build strong communities and protect habitat through sustainable forest management.

Puget Sound stays healthy in part because of freshwater from the 78 mile-long Nisqually River. The Nisqually River stays healthy because of the forests that filter water and stabilize streambanks. We’re supporting the Nisqually Community Forest which aims to sustainably manage 30,000 acres of private forestland to protect habitat and sustain living wage jobs for the community.

Forests are absolutely critical to survival of species like Chinook salmon, steelhead trout, northern spotted owl, marbled murrelet, and many others. Unless we can influence how forests are managed across a very large landscape, the work we’re doing on salmon habitat is not going to be enough.
FINANCIALS

Support & Revenue

- Grants: $1,218,113
- Dues & Contributions: $761,619
- Bequests: $278,678
- Events: $222,878
- Interest & Dividends: $42,783
- Workplace Campaigns: $25,969
- Endowment Income: $22,675
- Reimbursements & Misc: $1,522

Total Revenue: $2,574,237

Expenses

- Environmental Programs: $1,727,331
- Development & Fundraising: $272,401
- Administration: $102,957

Total Expenses: $2,102,689

Net Assets Beginning: $2,196,566
Net Assets Ending: $2,668,114

Net Increase in Assets: $471,548

Washington Environmental Council is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Financial information in this report is drawn from audited statements by the accounting firm of Dave Bembridge, CPA PS. WEC maintains a four-star rating from Charity Navigator, the highest possible ranking.

Photo credits: Jeff Few, Michael Matti, Charles Miles, & Natalie Jamerson