



**MILLS to  
MARITIME**  
RESTORING JOBS. STRENGTHENING ECONOMY.

# Climate Change Overview & Discussion

**Erik Gerking**

Director of Environmental Programs

Sept 15, 2020



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# AGENDA

- Background - Port of Everett's Environmental Program
- Potential Effects of Climate Change on Port Operations
- Current Actions by Port of Everett
- Discussion

# Port of Everett Environmental Program



## Why?

Addressing the Legacy,  
Strengthening Our Future

## What?

Land, Water, Air Regulatory  
Environment

## Who?

Commissioners, Port Staff,  
Outside Experts, Partners,  
Tribes, Agencies, Community

# Environmental Policy and Implementation Plan

Environmental Policy	Implementation Plan
Regulatory Compliance	Environmental Compliance Assessment Program (ECAP)
Cleanup	Washington State Puget Sound Initiative (PSI)
Pollution Prevention	ECAP, PSI, Clean Marina, Green Marine, Stormwater Management, BMPs
Continual Improvement	Green Marine, Clean Marina, green purchasing, recycling programs, climate change/sea level rise, Puget Sound Air Emissions Inventory
Relationships and Partnerships	Department of Ecology, Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), Department of Natural Resources, Corps of Engineers, City of Everett, Tribes, local residents, tenants
Integrated Planning and Decision Making	Make economical and resilient improvements as appropriate when planning operations, facilities, redevelopment plans, policies, procedures, etc.
Regulatory Engagement	Washington Public Ports Association (WPPA), American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA), participate in rule/regulation making processes
Communication and Response	Port communications programs, spill response
Restoration	Blue Heron Slough, Union Slough, beneficial reuse of dredged material
Financial and Resource Planning	Budgeting: operations, capital improvement program (CIP), Contingent Liability Improvement Program (CLIP), leverage grants.



# Climate Change Information



## MEMORANDUM

To: Port of Everett Commission  
From: Erik Gerking, Director of Environmental Programs  
CC: Lisa Lefeber, Port of Everett CEO  
Date: March 11, 2020  
RE: Climate Change Summary

### Purpose of Memorandum

This memorandum was prepared at the request of the Port of Everett (Port) CEO as a step to start a discussion on the topic of climate change. The purpose of the memorandum is to:

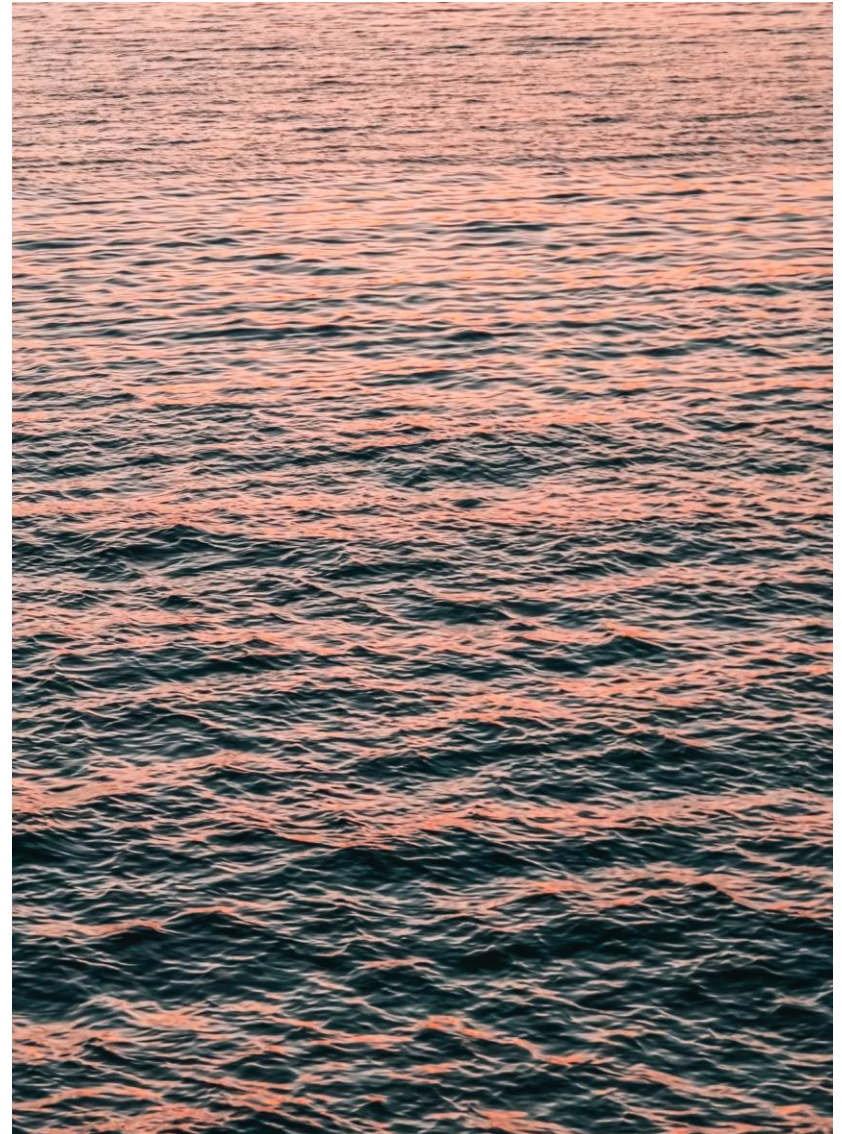
- Provide background on climate change,
- Provide information on the range of possible effects climate change may have on the Port,
- Describe past and current actions the Port is taking in response to climate change,
- Pose questions related to topics reviewed, and
- Present options the Port could implement to address this important issue.

While the Port, through its progressive environmental stewardship work, has been tracking and taking actions to address this issue for a number of years, the Port has not prepared a climate action strategy tied to metrics thus far. Rather, the Port has adopted sustainable practices as a touchstone of its projects and operations and uses it as a measure of success. To improve transparency on our current efforts, however, this document captures the current body of work and serves as a potential starting point for taking further steps toward programmatic action that can be tied to metrics, if desired by the Port Commission.

The memorandum was prepared by Port staff, led by the Environmental Programs team, and includes information provided by the Seaport, Marina, Properties, Public Affairs, Procurement, Government Affairs, and Finance departments. The information provided herein comes from a range of external sources as well, including the University of Washington Climate Impacts Group, Washington State Department of Ecology, City of Everett, Snohomish County, United Nations International Maritime Organization, United Nations International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), various public universities, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

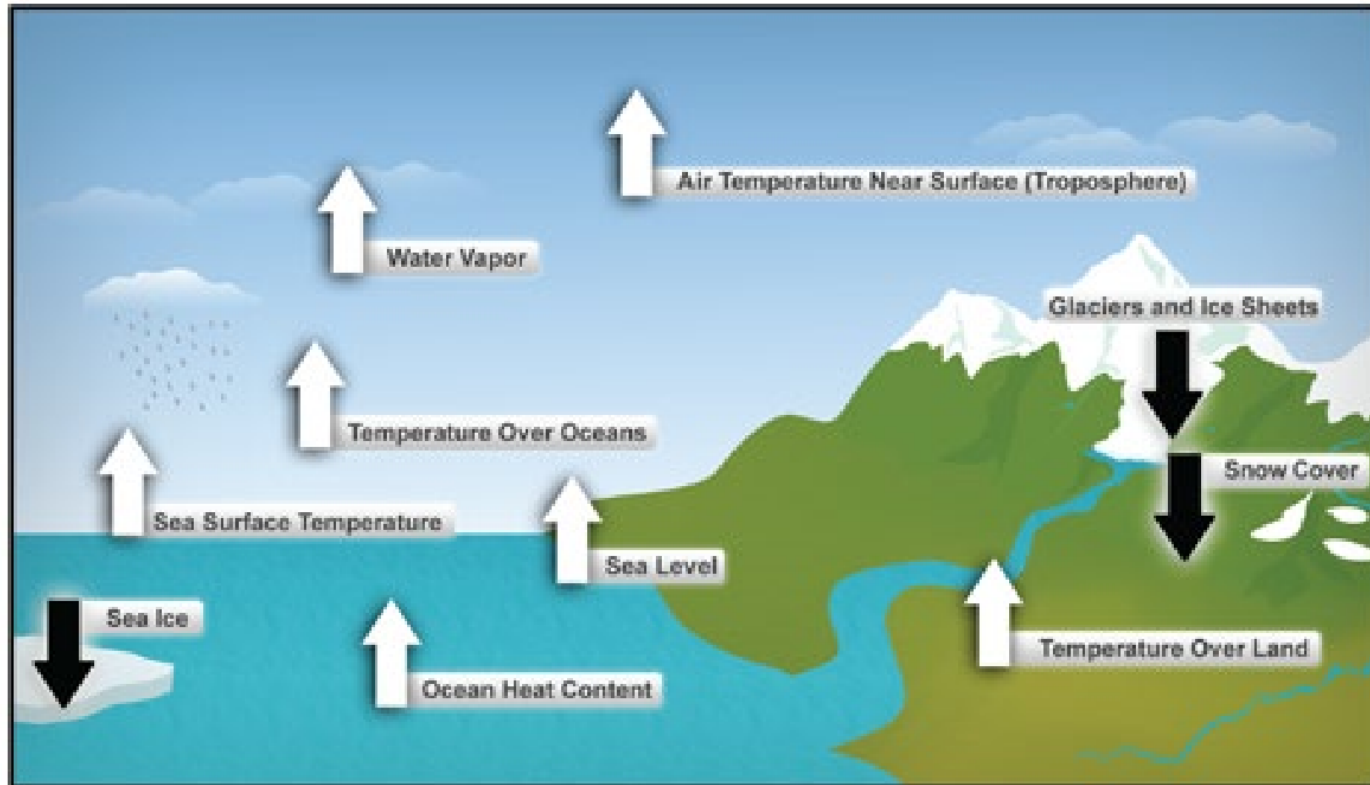
### Climate Change Background

According to references reviewed for this memorandum, including the United Nations International Panel on Climate Change 2014 Report (IPCC 2014), University of Washington Climate Change in Puget



# Physical Observations

## Ten Indicators of a Warming World



**Figure 2.1.** These are just some of the indicators measured globally over many decades that show that the Earth's climate is warming. White arrows indicate increasing trends, and black arrows indicate decreasing trends. All the indicators expected to increase in a warming world are, in fact, increasing, and all those expected to decrease in a warming world are decreasing. (Figure source: NOAA NCDC based on data updated from Kennedy et al. 2010<sup>3</sup>).



# Potential Effects to Port of Everett

## Physical Effects



## Global Trade



Natural Resources:  
Fish, habitat, ocean  
acidification, Orca,  
Forests

## Changes in Transportation & Energy



Other:  
Regulatory Requirements  
Bond Rating  
Social Responsibility

# Two Categories of Action

**Adaptation:** are the actions take to address actual or anticipated impacts of climate change

**Mitigation:** is the effort to slow climate change through a global or regional effort by reducing greenhouse gas emissions



# Current Port of Everett Actions

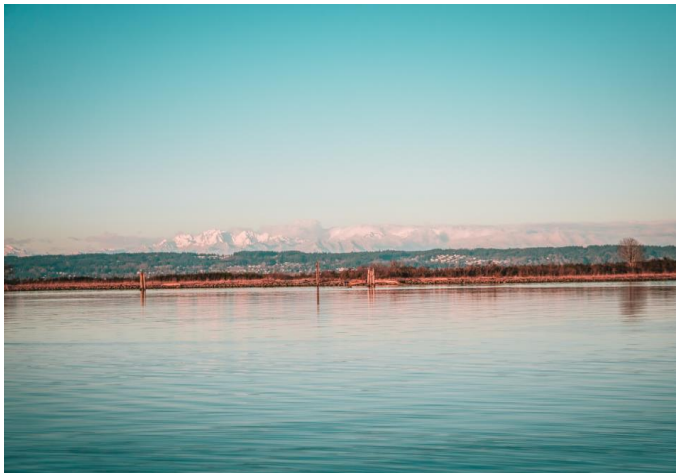
Riverside & Bay Wood



Waterfront Place Central & Marina Docks



Puget Sound Air Emissions



Blue Heron Slough



# Discussion? Questions?





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## Thank You!



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