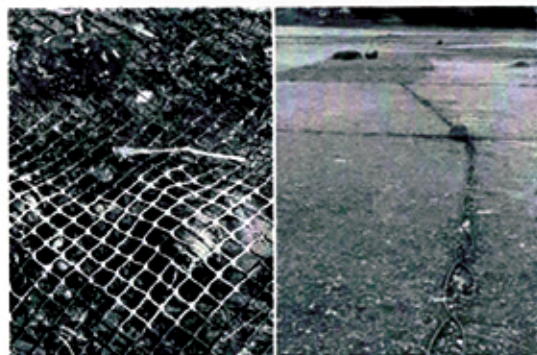


## What is an Estuary?

Burley Lagoon is a beautiful estuary located in Pierce County in the southern Puget Sound. An estuary is an ecosystem where fresh water creeks or rivers mingle with tidal salt water to provide a unique habitat. Burley estuary boasts two salmon-spawning streams and is known for a variety of critical habitats. Estuaries are a necessary part of the larger ecosystem. They are connected by water to many different surrounding environments and are affected by whatever happens in those environments.

Burley Lagoon is a barrier estuary connected by a narrow opening to Henderson Bay with Purdy and Burley Creeks mixing their fresh water with the lagoon's salt water. Burley estuary provides a safe haven and protective nursery for forage fish, migrating birds, coastal shore animals, shellfish and more. Visitors and residents enjoy recreational opportunities. Many people boat, fish, beachcomb, swim, and enjoy bird-watching in Burley estuary.



Plastic predator exclusion nets stretched across the lagoon bed.

## Who We Are

### About Us

Friends of Burley Lagoon (FOBL) is a nonprofit organization comprised of citizens interested in addressing current and future issues that may have impacts on Burley Lagoon and other areas of Puget Sound through:

- **Education and research** of current events and impacts
- **Representation and response** to public officials and government agencies
- **Community outreach** so that all may be informed.

### Mission Statement

Friends of Burley Lagoon is organized exclusively for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes to increase public awareness of the value of the ecological health, species diversity, natural character, aesthetic qualities and recreational uses of Puget Sound.

Contact Friends of Burley Lagoon

**Email:** [board@friendsofburleylagoon.org](mailto:board@friendsofburleylagoon.org)

**Website:** [www.friendsofburleylagoon.org](http://www.friendsofburleylagoon.org)

FRIENDS OF BURLEY LAGOON

PO Box 363

Burley, WA 98322-0363

*"We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors. We borrow it from our children and protect it for generations to come."*

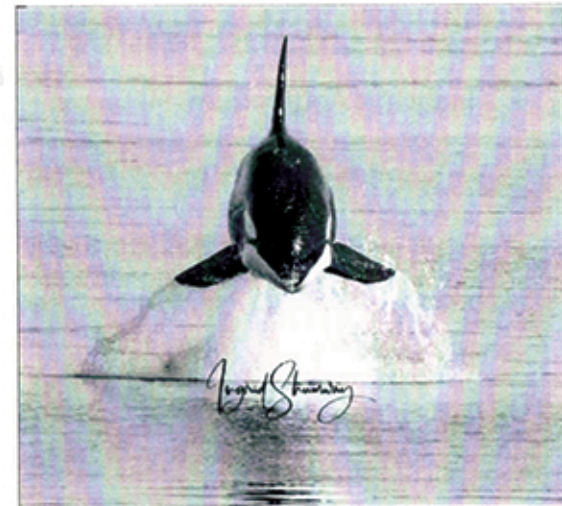


Photo courtesy of Ingrid Shumway.

Burley Lagoon was once again visited by orcas in August 2022. This orca photo was taken at neighboring Henderson Bay, summer 2021.

# Friends of Burley Lagoon

*Striving to protect the  
environment, wildlife,  
biodiversity &  
recreational uses.*

