

Focusing on the Issues

- Industrial Aquaculture



Industrial plastic geoduck tubes.

Burley Lagoon has been a home for oyster farming since the early 1900s. Later, clams were also cultivated. Until 2012, the practices used to grow and harvest in the estuary seemed low-key and were considered benign by area residents. Biodiversity in the lagoon was obvious given the rich variety of marine life on the beach, and there was little noise and disruption to the community from the operation.

After the change in aquaculture management in 2012, a more industrialized approach began, and it appeared to residents that marine life was declining. Practices such as scraping, clearing, and netting the seabed seemed to cause ecological changes to the lagoon. Noise, lights and glare affected the residential neighborhood.

The aquaculture corporation is now seeking approval for a permit from Pierce County to establish a 25.5-acre geoduck

installation that could result in pounding 43,000 plastic tubes per acre into the lagoon bed.

If the permit is allowed, the geoduck installation could disrupt the environment, recreational use, and property values. FOBL is committed to protecting Burley Lagoon.

- Forage Fish, Salmon & Orcas

Burley Lagoon is a documented forage fish habitat. Forage fish are critical to sustain the marine food web. The forage fish feed the salmon, and the salmon feed the orcas.



Burley Lagoon.

- Water Quality

Science has shown plastic and plastic microparticles impact the environment and could put Puget Sound, the Burley estuary, its ecosystem, and the marine food web at risk. Representatives from Friends of Burley Lagoon attend joint Pierce and Kitsap County quarterly meetings to monitor the water quality of the lagoon.

- SR-302 Route Options

Washington State is considering various route options to ease congestion for motorists

heading to and from the Key Peninsula. FOBL is tracking this issue.

- Purdy Creek Culvert Replacement
WSDOT is planning to remove barriers that impede fish migration under SR-16 and SR-302 (Spur) at Purdy Creek.

- Maintaining Sense of Place
FOBL wants to protect the distinctive and unique character of the Burley Lagoon community.



What You Can Do?

Stay informed...

Visit our website at www.friendsofburleylagoon.org and sign up for email updates.

Donate to cover costs...

Costs may include legal and scientific experts to represent the interests of Burley Lagoon.

Actively Participate...

Attend meetings, review documents, share with your neighbors, contact your public officials, and let your voice be heard. Email us at board@friendsofburleylagoon.org to get involved.