

LWVWA Climate, Natural Resources & Transportation Lobby Team

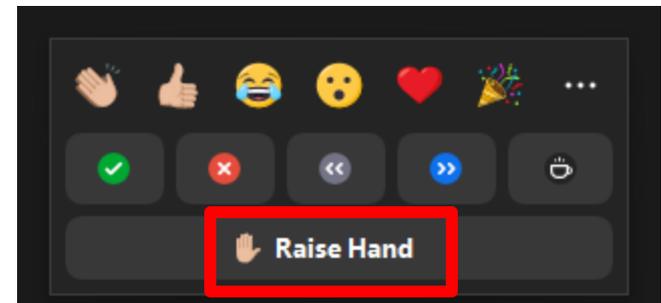
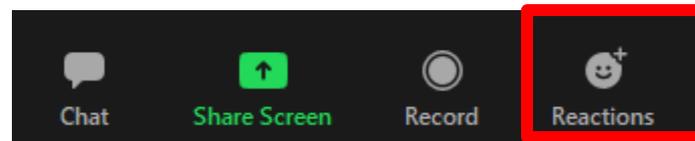
Outlook for 2022 and Beyond

And how you can participate

Martin Gibbins

LWVWA Climate & Natural Resources Lobby Team

- Who's on the team.
- Brief outlook for addressing climate change in Washington State.
- Opportunities for action.
- Type questions in the Chat or raise your hand during Q&A at end



This will be a high-level overview.

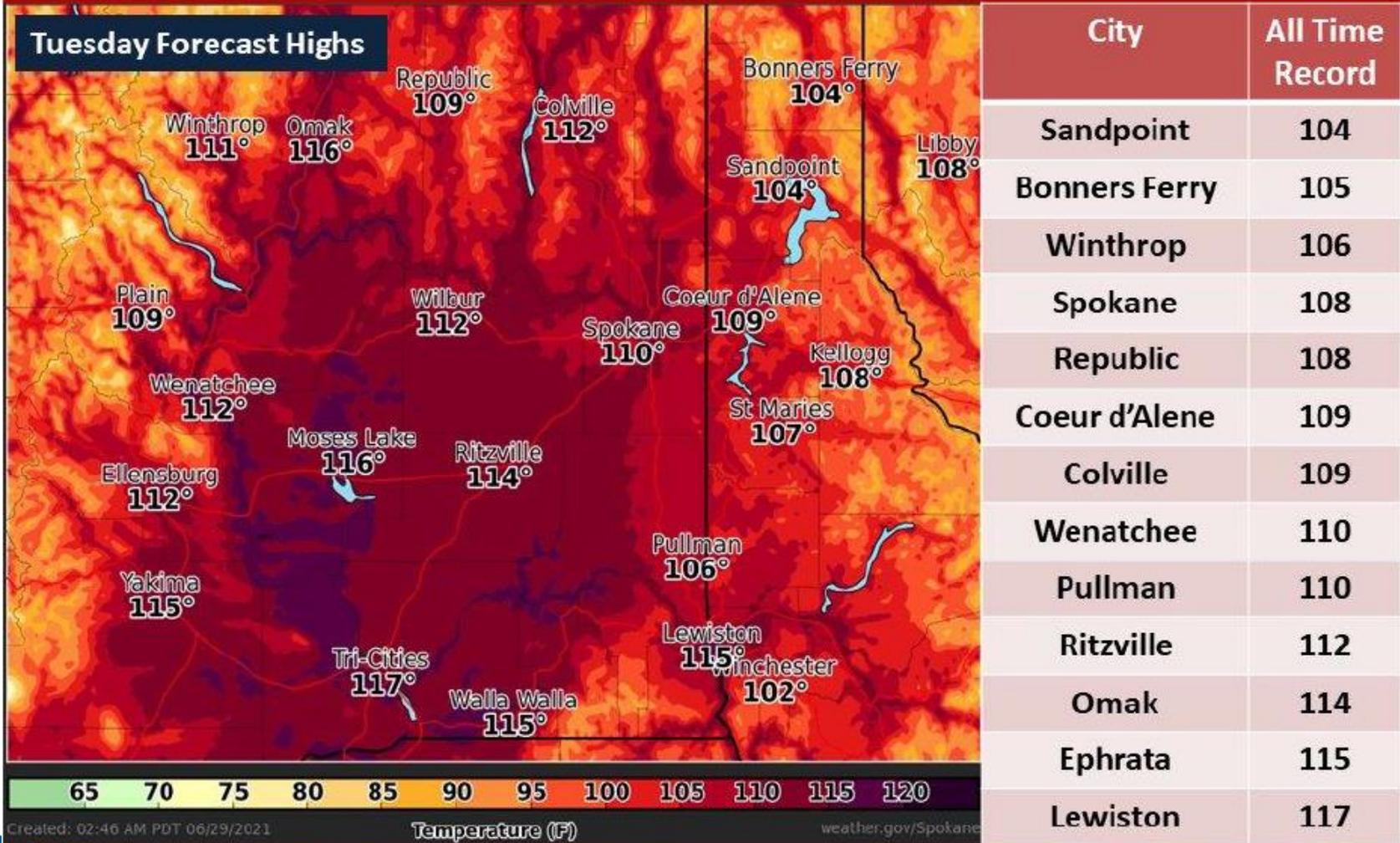
The LWVWA Environment Team

- Climate Change and Energy Marty Gibbins
- Forests Sherri Dysart
- Rivers Raelene Gold
- Transportation, Land use, Growth Management Cynthia Stewart

With assistance from Phyllis Farrell and Ann Aagaard
<https://www.lwwa.org/2021Issues>

Olympia, we have a problem...

ALL TIME Record Heat Today, 6-29-21



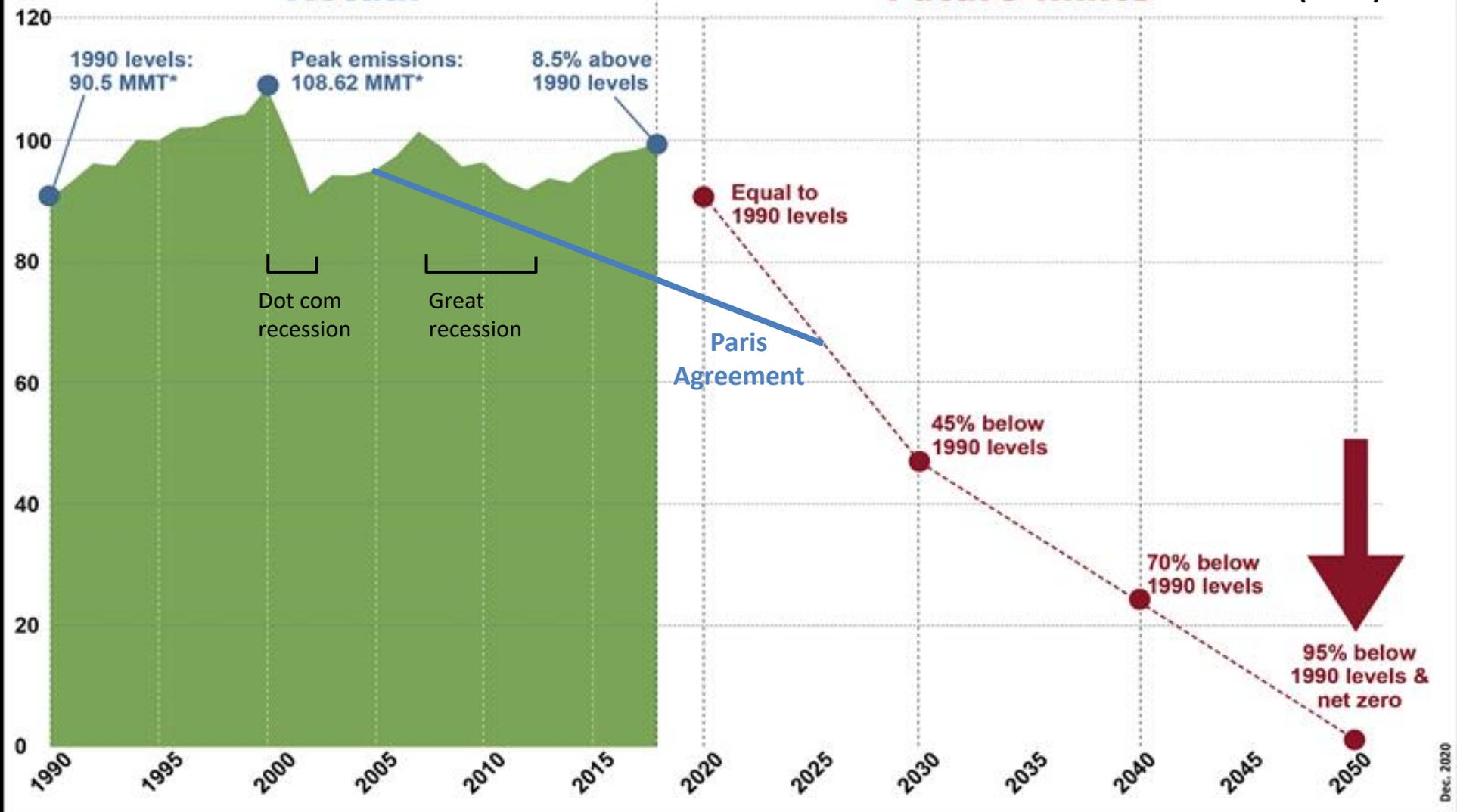
Tracking Washington's Greenhouse Gases

*Million Metric Tons of CO₂ equivalent

(Paris Agreement line is Unofficial)

Actual

Future limits HB 2311 (2020)



Tracking Washington's Greenhouse Gases

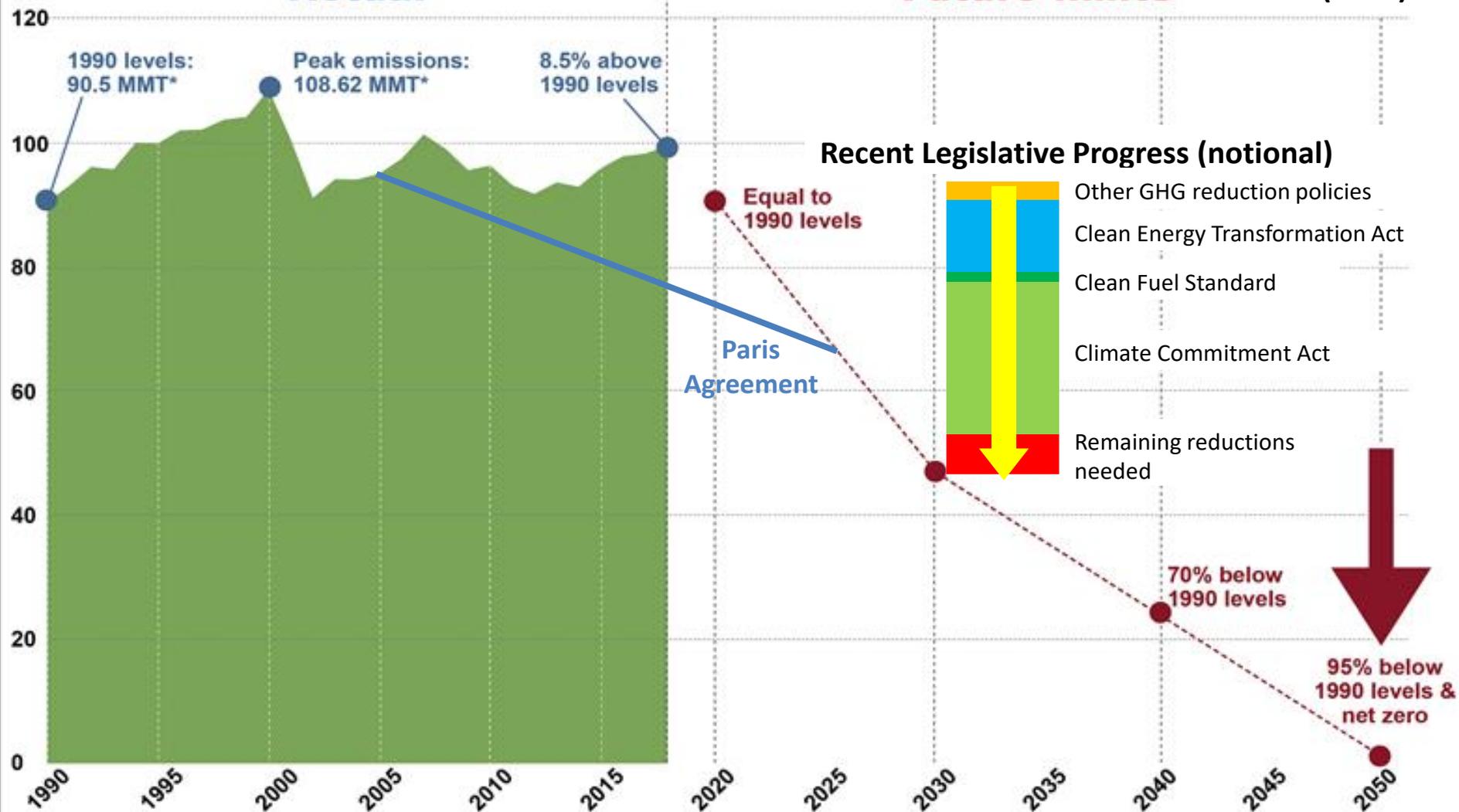


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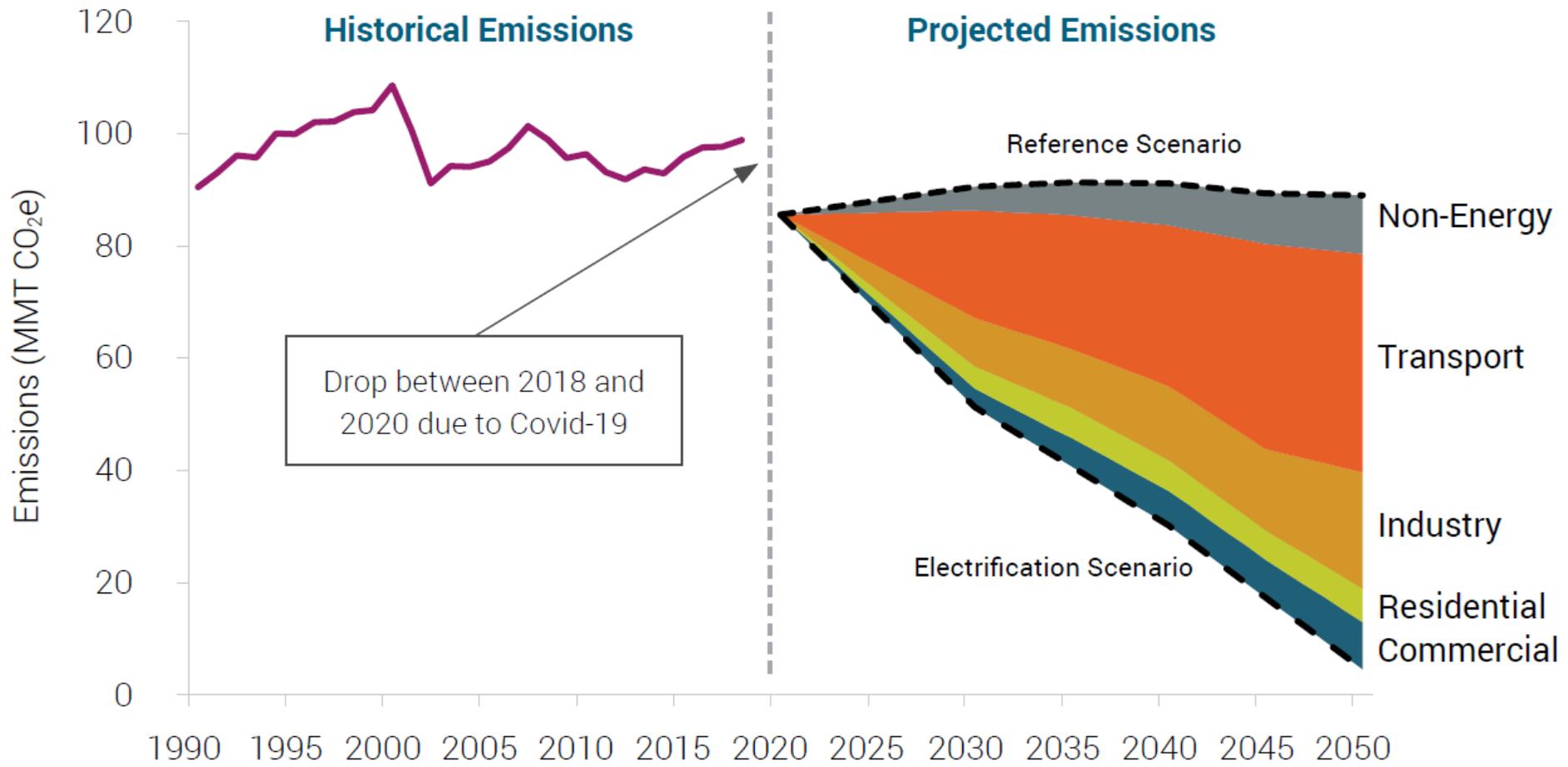
(Paris Agreement & Legislative Progress are Unofficial)

Actual

Future limits HB 2311 (2020)



Historical And Projected Gross Greenhouse Gas Emissions In Washington State – How We Will Reach the Goal



Source: Washington State Department of Ecology for historical emissions (2018 value is preliminary).

Appendix A – Deep Decarbonization Pathways Modeling Technical Report, December 11, 2020 (p. 26). 2021 State Energy Strategy

WA State Legislative Outlook and Progress

Climate & Energy

- Take another run at Clean Buildings HB 1084 stalled in 2021
 - Break into perhaps 4 bills covering: performance standards for smaller buildings, increase incentives for electrification and reduce disincentives, focus on reducing natural gas.
- Attention expected on a standard for green hydrogen.
- Continued emphasis on climate equity in legislation and tracking (HEAL Act).
- Reduce plastic waste by improving packaging and enabling more effective recycling.
- Update GMA to improving climate response through comprehensive planning and close a loophole in rural development permitting.
- Refinements to the Climate Commitment Act (SB 5126).
- A Climate Assembly was held last fall and winter.

WA State Legislative Outlook and Progress

Raelene Gold - Rivers & Water

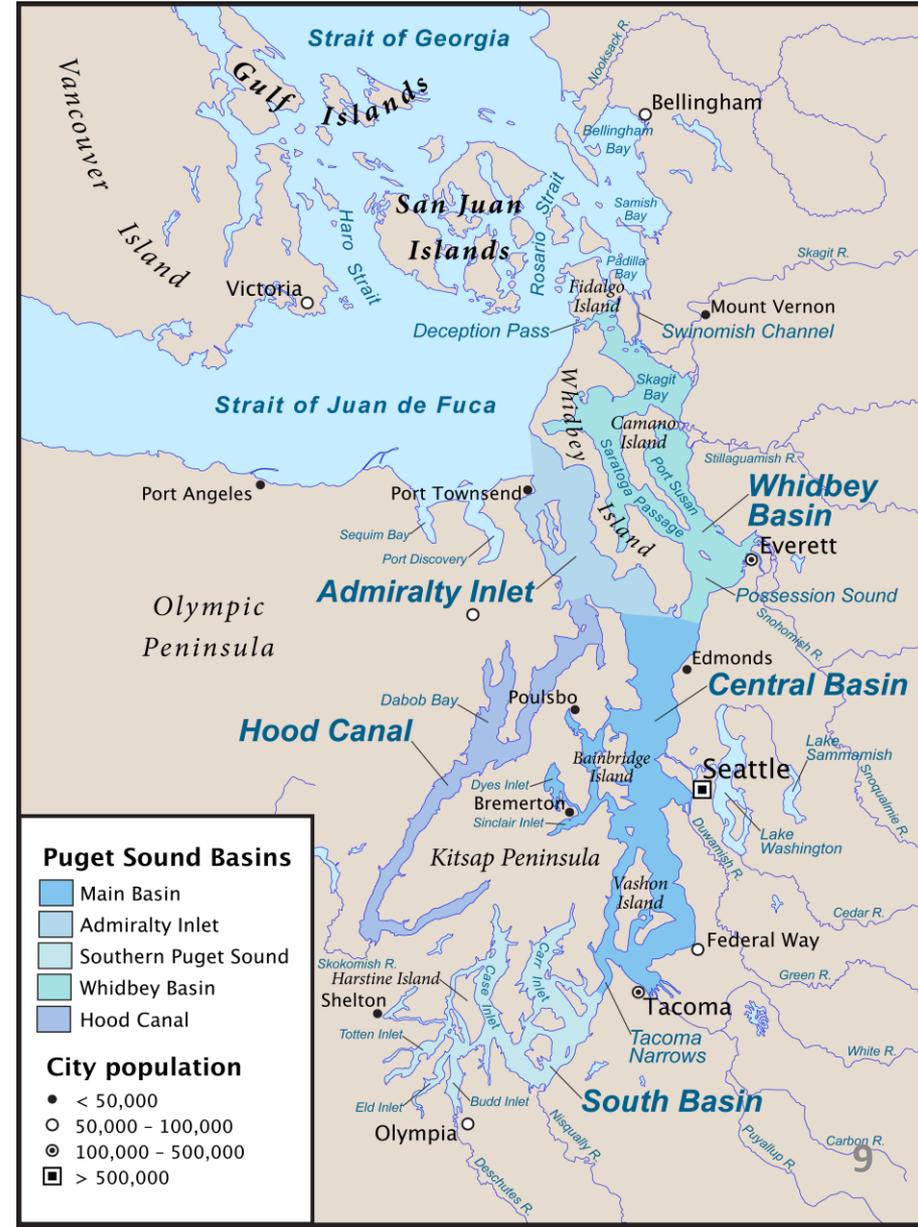
Bills for 2022

1. State Salmon

Strategy update Governor and Treaty Tribes bold effort to save our salmon, focusing on endangered salmon runs, and riparian habitat restoration. Upholding tribal treaty rights to salmon.

2. Saving Salmon, Saving Orcas

focus on Puget Sound shoreline survey and restoration for forage fish, prey for chinook salmon, prey for southern resident orcas.



WA State Legislative Outlook and Progress

Rivers & Water

Other Issues:

3. Columbia River Treaty

Ongoing Negotiations with Canada

- Update on 1964 Treaty that creating 3 storage dams in CA. Canada managed to maximize hydropower production and for flood risk.
- Modernized treaty includes goal of ecosystem function to preserve flows and habitat best for salmon.

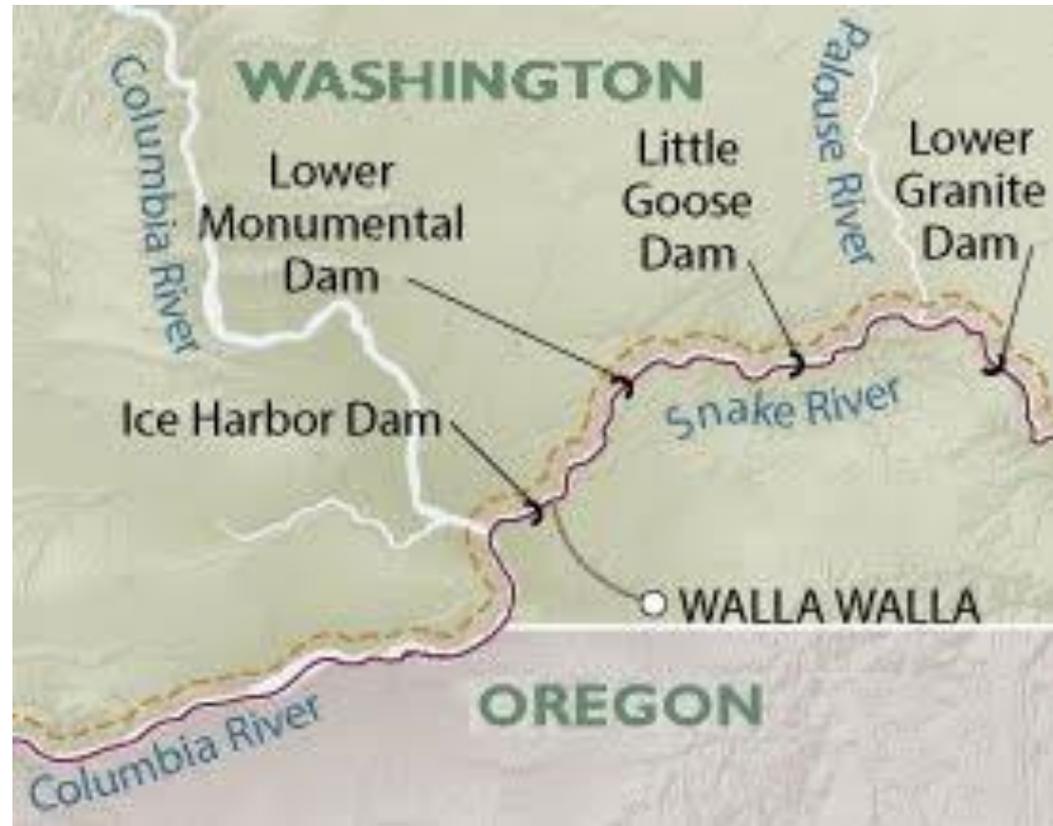


WA State Legislative Outlook and Progress

Rivers & Water

4. Lower Snake River Dam Removal -

- Best action to increase Chinook salmon. Support by NW Tribes.
- Idaho's Rep. Mike Simpson' Initiative spurred Governor Inslee and Senator Murray to work on a plan equitable to all interests, due July, 2022.
- Hydropower, barging, wheat growers, and Ports of Clarkston and Lewiston affected.



WA State Legislative Outlook and Progress

Rivers & Water

5. **Yakima River Basin Integrated Plan (YBIP)** - cooperated effort of irrigators and Yakama tribe to provide water storage and fish passage. Request for funding.
6. **Chehalis River Strategy** - to address flooding in basin and preserve salmon and steelhead in river. Request for funding.



WA State Legislative Outlook and Progress

Sherri Dysart – Forests

- Carbon Sequestration & Biodiversity (Pro-forestation)
- "Keep Washington Evergreen" Initiative
- Court Case: Conservation NW, et al. v. Commissioner of Public Lands et al., No. 99183-9.

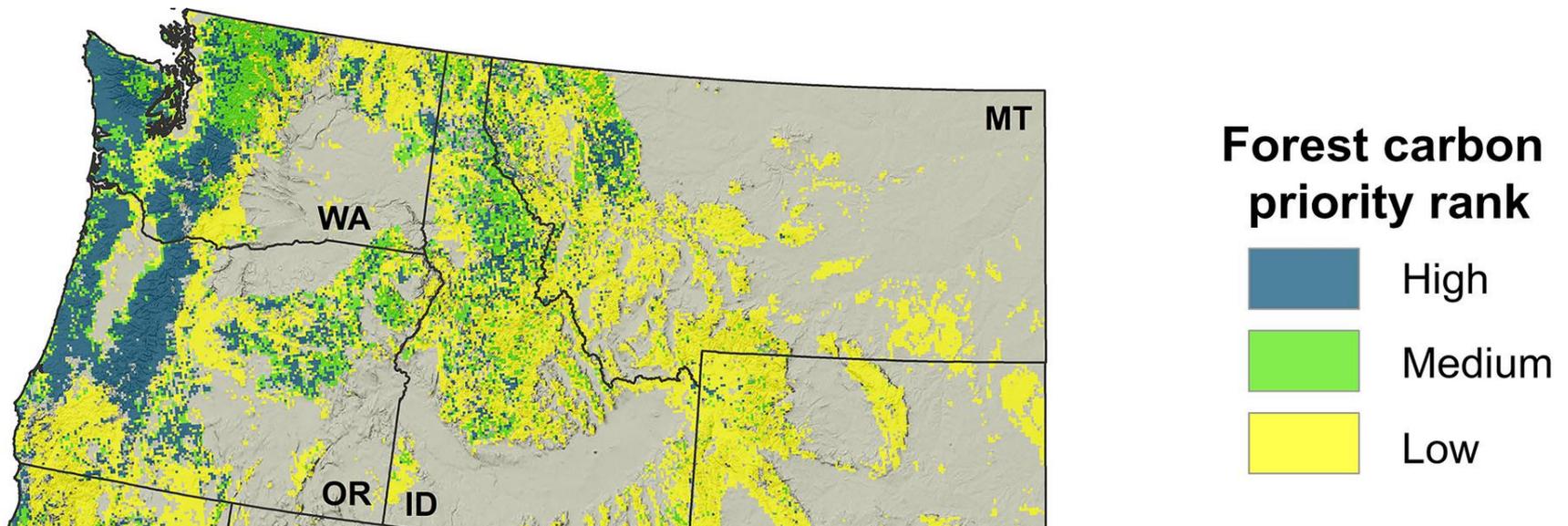


WA State Legislative Outlook and Progress

Pro-forestation

- Forested land in the western United States classified into priority for preservation to mitigate climate change.
- Priority based on the co-occurrence of low vulnerability to drought and fire plus low, medium, and high potential carbon sequestration.

Carbon sequestration and biodiversity co-benefits of preserving forests in the western United States



Ecological Applications, Volume: 30, Issue: 2, First published: 04 December 2019, DOI: (10.1002/eap.2039)

WA State Legislative Outlook and Progress

Forests

“Keep Washington Evergreen”: Restore, Conserve, Reforest

Initiated by Public Lands Commissioner Hilary Franz

Co-Sponsors: Rep. Harris-Talley and Sen. Christine Rolfes

Goals:

- *Restore*: 1 million acres of forest health restored
- *Conserve*: 1 million acres of working forest conserved
- *Reforest*: 1 million acres reforested by 2040

Funding Asks:

- **Operating \$1M** analyses to identify and prioritize our most critical and threatened working forests and urban tree canopy
- **Capital \$25M** purchase critical forested lands at risk of permanent conversion

WA State Legislative Outlook and Progress

Forests

Washington State Supreme Court Case

Conservation NW, et al. v. Commissioner of Public Lands et al., No.; 99183-9

- Oral arguments: held October 21, 2021; can be viewed on TVW
- Asks the Court to interpret WA State Constitution, Article 16, Section 1, as providing that “all the public lands granted to the state are held in trust for all the people.”
- That means “Manage for a diversity of values beyond maximizing economic return”

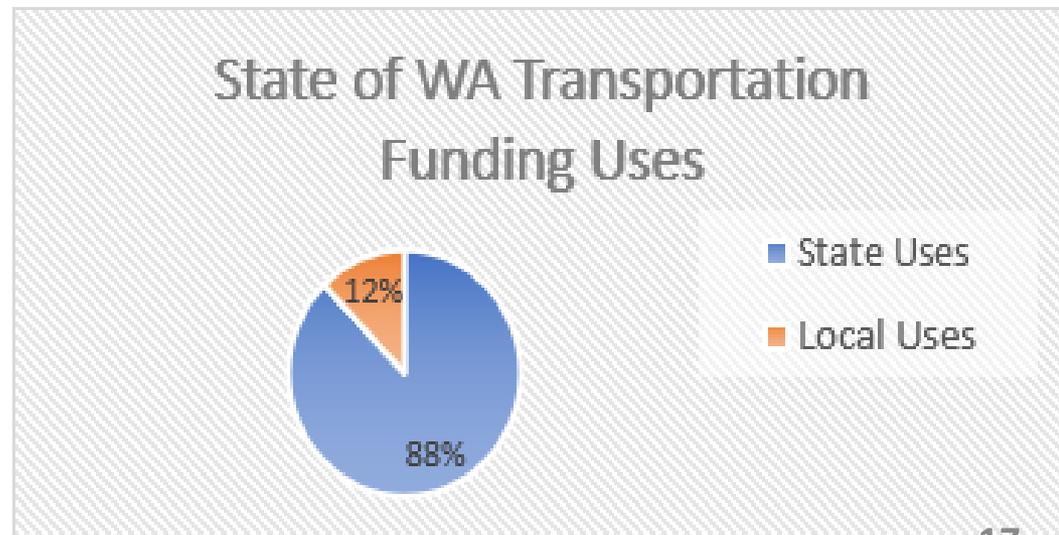
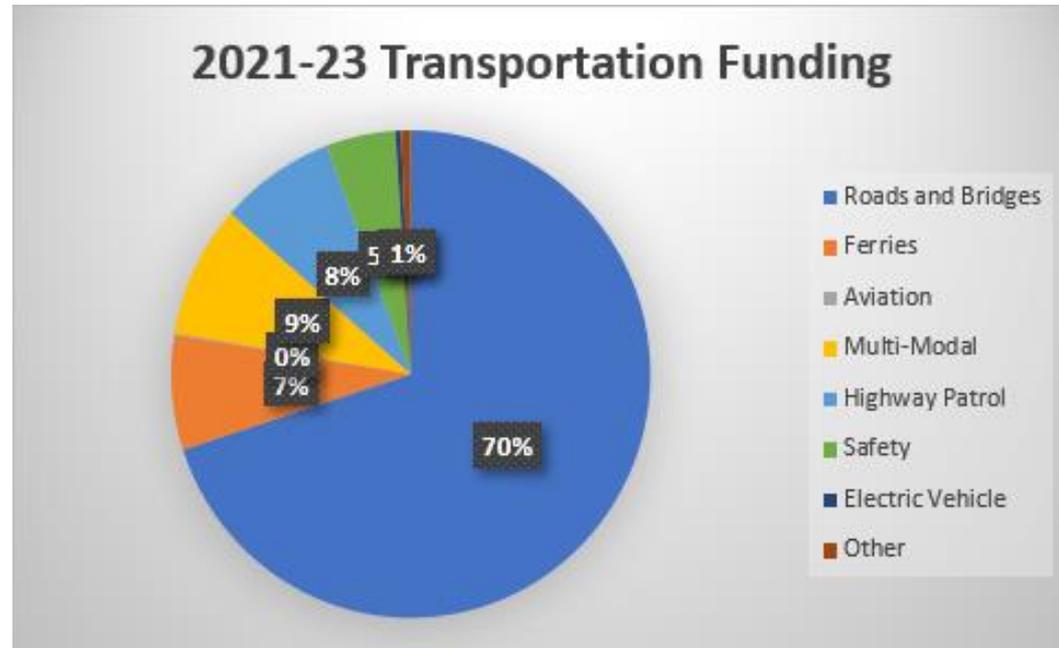
Simply by existing, our forests combat climate change, prevent landslides and floods, nurture thousands of different animal species many of which are endangered, and much more By logging our forests, we systematically remove all these benefits and turn them into cash. . . . Forests do things nothing else can, for Washington state citizens, Washington state animals, and the world at large. They are irreplaceable - money is not.

--Climate Action Families Youth Member Joey J.

WA State Legislative Outlook and Progress

Cynthia Stewart – Transportation

- Last state transportation package adopted in 2018
- Sen. Hobbs replacement will determine priorities for 2022
- Current funding allocations as shown



WA State Legislative Outlook and Progress

Transportation

League is pushing for massive transit funding infusion

- Need shift in priorities
- Local transit agencies need help
- Federal infrastructure funding helpful

Cynthia Stewart - Growth Management Act (GMA)

- GMA adopted in 1990; now 31 years old
- Intention to preserve rural & resource lands
- Mandated categories for comprehensive plans:
 - Land Use
 - Housing
 - Capital Facilities Plan
 - Utilities
 - Transportation
 - Ports
- Optional (desired):
 - Parks and Recreation
 - Economic Development
 - Conservation

WA State Legislative Outlook and Progress

Growth Management Act (GMA)

2022 Bills League supports:

- SB 5042 to fix Loophole in preserving rural & resource lands (vesting currently allowed)
- HB 1099 to mandate climate mitigation plans
- Funding to support HB 1220, 2021 requirement for housing plans

Environment Newsletter

Our Climate Radar

December 2021

A Monthly Newsletter of the Washington LWV Environment Affinity Group: Presentations, Activities and Information

This newsletter is intended for communication within an affinity group and is not an official newsletter of the LWVWA.

Anita Rose, Editor, LWVKitsap ineedarose2@gmail.com

Please contact Martin Gibbins [mgibbins@lwvwa.org](mailto:m gibbins@lwvwa.org) if you would like to subscribe.

Seasons Greetings League Environmentalists!



As you well know, a busy season is suddenly here with holidays, families and friends descending upon us to add to our already bursting schedules. Here are some more terrific activities and webinars for you.

LOOK WHAT IS NEW!

Check out the LWV Kitsap Climate Solutions Blog featuring upcoming online events nationally as well as with the LWV Kitsap unit *plus* tons of climate reading materials to keep you up to <https://lwvkitsapclimate.blogspot.com/>

Volunteer Opportunities

- **Survey the legislative session:** search in Leg.WA.gov for bills of significance to environmental concerns and perform a preliminary evaluation for bills of interest.
- **Legislative bill evaluation** – read bill text and related documentation and summarize in terms of LWVWA and LWVUS policy positions; recommend for or against position. Monitor progress through the legislative process.

This is a fast-paced activity.

- **Solid waste and recycling in WA** – Reducing solid waste is a frequent issue in legislative bills. Research what is effective in recycling and what is not.
- **Water supply and purity** – Climate change is disrupting the historic water cycle in the state (precipitation and snowpack seasons) and putting pressure on agriculture, drinking water, and wildlife.
- **Climate progress analysis** – Track the projections of climate bills to reduce the state’s greenhouse gas releases. Assess the state’s goals against the Paris Agreement and COPP.
- **Regulations** – Follow the regulation creation process for enacted environmental bills.

Volunteer Opportunities

- **Issue research**
 - **Electrical Energy Storage** – Clean electrical sources will depend on electrical energy storage.
 - **Electric Vehicle use fee** – Investigate the proposed options for replacing the gas tax with a use fee to cover electric vehicles, hydrogen vehicles, and plug-in hybrid vehicles.
 - **Fact checking** – positions of some other organizations can seem extreme and may use dubious facts. Determine what is true and what is false.
- **Contribute to the Environment Newsletter**
- **Monitor your local transit funding** and advocate for more.
- **What would you like to do?**

Discussion

- Questions
- Clarifications
- Discussion
- What do you need from the Lobby Team?

Up Next! 25 Minute Lunch Break, Followed by More Issue Breakout Sessions

12:25 p.m. – 1:20 p.m.

Pick one of the following breakout sessions to attend. You can find links to each session in your email from this morning and at lwwa.org/Action-Workshop-2021/

1. Democracy Issues (including Money in Politics)
2. Public Bank
3. Revenue

All breakout sessions will be recorded and posted to the Action Workshop webpage listed above.

