

HOT OFF THE WIRE

Climate News to Keep You in the Loop

Local News

Clallam County is developing a Community Wildfire Protection Program. OCA is working with the County to host a Wildfire Education Workshop this Spring. In the meantime, **consider commenting by February 9th.** We generally support the plan's approach because it can help preserve forests for habitat and ecosystem services and focuses on homeowner actions.

Regional News

Federal Energy Regulators (FERC) OK'd a pumped-storage project on the Columbia River at a Yakama Nation sacred site. Pumped-storage is essentially a giant water battery. Water moves through tunnels underground from an upper reservoir to a lower outlet. If the project is constructed in 2027, it would destroy a sacred food-and-medicine-gathering and ceremonial site. Project developers and regulators pointed to rising energy demand and grid reliability as issues the project could help address.



2026 WA Legislative Session

Curious how to engage with Olympia? Check out the resources below:

The 2026 legislative session is underway in Washington. Things move quickly because it is a short session. There are numerous bills relating to energy and land use that we recommend exploring.

OCA is requesting that you sign in CON on HB 2620.

Washington Conservation Action helps to organize the [Environmental Priorities Coalition \(EPC\)](#), a group of more than 25 statewide environmental organizations. **Check out their legislative priorities for 2026 and subscribe for updates/action items.**

The [350 WA Civic Action Team](#) is a grassroots group of volunteers who support sound and just climate policy in



Take Action

1. Review DNR's Elwha Watershed Public [Survey](#).
2. Sign on letter to the DOI to oppose offshore drilling [here](#).
3. [Comment](#) on the Clallam Community Wildfire Protection Plan by February 9th.

Upcoming Events

1. Community Education Class at Peninsula College, Saturdays from February 14th - March 7th. Learn more about "Climate Change and You" [here](#).
2. Join the Elwha Legacy Forest Coalition at Salt Creek for a hike on February 21st at 10am.
3. Special Elwha Legacy Forest Coalition Meeting Tuesday, February 17th 6pm - 8pm at the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribal Center to discuss cultural impacts of logging in the Elwha watershed
4. [The North Olympic Salmon Coalition is looking for volunteers](#) for student planting trips.

Newsletter Submissions

Submit news, events, action items, or images to be included to
ocanewslettersubmissions@gmail.com

the Legislature. [Sign up](#) to receive their bi-weekly emails.

The League of Women Voters of Washington publishes a weekly newsletter during the legislative session with analyses and actions related to a broad variety of issues, including environment, climate, and forests; [subscribe here](#).

See the [Sierra Club's Legislative Priorities & sign up for their Legislative Action Updates](#).

Follow the [Washington State Standard's online Politics page](#).

Check it Out!

Regional Resources - Free

[Puget Sound Info](#) – Collaborative platform for sharing and reporting Puget Sound Restoration Efforts.

[Northwest Climate Adaptation Science Center](#)

[Newsletter](#) – Latest Science, Tools, and Opportunities across the Northwest for Climate Resilience and Adaptation.

[Columbia Riverkeeper](#) – Clean water and salmon restoration research and education.

[Washington Climate Policy Dashboard](#) – See WA climate legislation and policy updates

[North Olympic Salmon Coalition Newsletter](#)

[North Olympic Land Trust Monthly Newsletter](#)

National Newsletters - Free

[The Grist Newsletters](#) – Periodic Non-profit climate newsletters.

[InsideClimateNews](#) – variety of nonpartisan climate newsletters