In Washington State, faithful activists want a government that works to protect the health of our neighbors and the natural world entrusted to our care. We put our faith into action through advocacy to solve problems, protect our families, plan for the future, and invest in a high quality of life for all.

Each year, Earth Ministry/WAIPL builds the moral foundation for environmental justice in the state legislature by supporting bills that align with our values of caring for the most vulnerable and stewardship of God’s creation. Here are our priorities for Washington’s 2020 Legislative Session.

Join us in supporting these bills today!

Clean Fuels Now – HB 1110

The transportation sector is responsible for nearly half of our climate and air pollution in Washington. We need our transportation to be clean, affordable, and accessible. A clean fuel standard will require fuel producers and importers to reduce pollution from the fuels that power our transportation system. It is a tested and effective policy that would clean our air, give us more options to fuel our vehicles (such as electricity and local renewable biofuels), create economic development, cut climate pollution, and move us beyond oil.

HB 1110 will require a 20% reduction in carbon intensity of fuels by 2035, putting Washington on an effective and affordable path to cleaner air. Washington is on a pathway to a 100% clean grid, and now we can electrify most of our transportation sector, reducing our climate impact with emission-free vehicles. What we can’t electrify, we can transition to cleaner fuels. A clean fuel standard prioritizes creating incentives for those clean, low-carbon choices to power our transportation.

Climate Pollution Limits HB 2311

Climate action requires carbon reductions across the board and deep investments in healthier natural landscapes—shorelines, forests, and farms. This means setting credible and ambitious climate pollution limits, providing clear direction to meet these limits, and investing in nature-based solutions like trees and soils to capture excess carbon. This priority will update the state’s greenhouse gas limits to reflect current science and lay groundwork to reach net zero carbon emissions and beyond.

For more information contact Jessica Zimmerle
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Our Top Priority!

Make Your Voice Heard!

Call your legislators in support of these important environmental bills today!
Washington State Legislative Hotline: 1-800-562-6000
Healthy Habitat/Healthy Orcas HB 2550
Failed to pass out of committee

Orcas and salmon are iconic species and their health is an indicator of our collective health and quality of life. After decades of degradation and habitat loss, we seek passage of a new standard, net ecological gain, to protect and restore habitat faster and leave our environment better than we found it for future generations. In addition to setting a higher standard, we seek to work with local governments for successful implementation to accomplish results as quickly as possible.

Reduce Plastic Pollution ESSB 5323

Our local waterways, ocean, and recycling systems are overloaded with plastic pollution. Thin plastic bags that are used for just a few minutes and then thrown away pose a particular problem: only 6% ever get recycled. Single-use bags enter into our waterways and the ocean where they clog the stomachs of wildlife. They also clog recycling equipment where they are costly to remove and are the major contaminant in our commercial compost. The Reusable Bag Act would eliminate thin carry-home plastic bags at all retail establishments and help Washington address a growing recycling crisis.

Safer Firefighting Foam Act HB 2265

Two years ago, Washington State became the first state in the nation to phase out the use of firefighting foam containing toxic PFAS chemicals, going a long way to safeguard our drinking water and protect the health of firefighters. The law, however, exempted chemical plants and oil facilities, major users of PFAS foams in our state. HB 2265 seeks to close the loopholes in the existing law, protecting our drinking water from these dangerous chemicals.

Transportation for All HB 2688 / SB 6399
Failed to pass out of committee

We envision a clean and equitable transportation system for Washington that reduces climate pollution, improves community health and economic opportunity, and creates sustainable alternatives to congestion management. This bill will require new transportation investments and any transportation funding cuts to meet health, equity, and environment goals. Planning our transportation infrastructure based on desired goals and outcomes will move us towards a more sustainable and accessible transportation system that reduces greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution, and improves community health, safety, and access to mobility options.

Clean Air Act Update HB 2892/SB 6628

Earlier this year, the State Supreme Court gave the state legislature a clear message – to tackle the climate crisis, Washington needs additional authority under the Clean Air Act. The court ruled that although the largest sellers and distributors of fossil fuels account for a huge amount of Washington’s climate pollution, the state currently does not have authority to regulate these companies for the pollution that drives their profits. This bill will enable the Department of Ecology to regulate greenhouse gas emissions associated with those fossil fuel sellers and distributors, updating our state’s ability to tackle climate pollution.