City of South Bend
Council Meeting Via *Zoom*
Monday, November 22, 2021 @ 5:30 pm

Zoom Link - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84211213662?pwd=WmFIa0hXWFlndlh2R1RIbXVqYWhEUT09

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Approval of Agenda and Consent Agenda

   Approval of Minutes: *November 8, 2021 Regular Meeting*
3. Correspondence
4. *Ordinance #1568 – 2022 Budget (Second Reading) (Action)*
5. *New Hire Vaccination Policy* ***DRAFT***
6. *Better Beaches & Byways*
7. Items from the Public
8. Department Head Reports:
   - i) Police Chief Stigall
   - ii) City Supervisor Houk
   - iii) Clerk/Treasurer Roberts
9. Mayor's Report
10. Public Comments – Current agenda Items
11. Council Comments
12. Future Agenda Topics
13. Adjournment

ORAL PUBLIC TESTIMONY

If you wish to provide oral public comments during the November 22, 2021 council meeting, please submit an email to dee.roberts@southbend-wa.gov containing the following information:

1. The Meeting Date
2. Your First and Last Name, Your City of Residence
3. The Agenda Items(s) that you would like to provide comment oral public comment on
4. The Telephone Number that you will be calling from

   Please note the information you provide may be subject to disclosure pursuant to Washington State's Public Record Act, chapter 42.56 RCW.

To join the Zoom web meeting:
Meeting ID: 842 1121 3662 Password: 666730 Dial-In Phone Number: 1-253-215-8782
Emailed requests to be added to our "Speakers List" must be received by 4:00 pm on November 22, 2021 and **MUST** include **ALL** of the above information. Any omitted information will render the request incomplete and will not be included for public comment during the meeting.

WRITTEN PUBLIC TESTIMONY

If you wish to provide written public comments during the November 22, 2021 council meeting, please email your comments to dee.roberts@southbend-wa.gov and include the following information with your comments:

1. The Meeting Date
2. Your First and Last Name, Your City of Residence
3. The Agenda Item(s) that you are speaking to.

The City of South Bend strives to provide access and services to all members of the public. Please notify the city at least 48 hours prior to an event if reasonable accommodations are needed.

***NOTICE** – All proceedings of this meeting are sound recorded*
Except Executive Sessions.

Next Regular Meeting Monday, December 13, 2021 @ 5:30 PM via Zoom unless otherwise notified.

South Bend Council Meeting

Monday, November 22, 2021

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Vendor Checks

Vendors – Check #47038 thru Check #47064 - *$538,199.45* Including EFT Payments

11/22/2021

	VENDOR		AMOUNT	
47038	Gray & Osborne, Inc. (Hand Pay)	$	7,692.36	Professional Services - WTP Upgrades (Underpaid Invoice #21267.00-5 on 11/8 in error-This to correct)
EFT Pay	***Bank of the Pacific - EFT Pay***		$4,239.94	Funding Interest - Water Treatment Plant Upgrades - Funded by USDA RD
47039	Beans & Rocks, LLC	$	1,195.76	Streets - Stockpile
47040	Brim Tractor Company, Inc.	$	373.04	Operating Supplies - Streets/Water
47041	Bubba Madrid	$	200.00	2021 Boot Allowance
47042	CAN Surety	$	90.00	Notary Renewal - Z Sowa
47043	Chinook Observer	$	87.12	Employment Ad
47044	City of Raymond	$	177,845.89	RWWTP M & O - October 2021 $28,742.06, Loan $116,823.98 (next 6/22, Payoff 2052) and Loan (Design) $32,279.85 (next 4/22 Payoff 2031)
47045	Crystal Springs	$	331.36	Operating Supplies - Water Fund (2 Months)
47046	Dept of Ecology	$	1,876.00	2022 Water Plants - General Permits (7/1/2021-6/30/2022)
47047	Dept of Transportation	$	1,947.32	Fuel - Police $1,156.44 and Public Works $790.88
47048	Dilk Tire Factory	$	568.77	Repair/Maintenance - Parks/Water/Sewer
47049	Englund Marine & Industrial Supply	$	714.47	Operating Supplies - Streets $116.19, Docks $421.43 (repair/maint), Parks $55.54, Water $60.65 and Sewer $60.66
47050	Gerald Ashley	$	38.36	LEOFF 1 Benefits
47051	H.D. Fowler	$	16,762.70	Operating Supplies - Water $16700.00 and Sewer $62.70
47052	HB Portables	$	100.00	Sani Cans - Boat Launch
47053	Jonathan Quittner	$	775.00	Municipal Court Public Defender - November 2021
47054	Killian Dunkeson	$	900.00	Municipal Court Prosecutor - November 2021
47055	LeMay Mobile Shredding	$	52.50	Document Shredding
47056	McClure and Sons, Inc.	$	111,197.68	WTP Upgrade - Pay Request #7 (USDA Funded)
47057	MS Communications	$	272.95	Repair/Maintenance - Parks
47058	NC Machinery	$	2,144.16	Repair/Maintenance - Fire Dept
47059	Northwest Rock, Inc.	$	561.98	Streets - Stockpile
47060	Rognlin's, Inc.	$	200,335.35	Adams Street Reconstruction - Pay Request #3 (TIB Funded)
47061	State Auditor's Office	$	565.50	Audit - October 2021
47062	Tierney & Correa, P.C.	$	1,120.00	Legals Services - August - October 2021
47063	Vermeer Northwest	$	5,500.00	Vac Truck Rental - Covered by Insurance
47064	Vision Forms, LLC	$	711.24	Statement Automation - November 2021
	TOTAL	$	538,199.45	

CITY OF SOUTH BEND
***HYBRID* COUNCIL MEETING – 11/08/2021**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The council meeting was called to order by Mayor Struck at 5:30 pm. Followed by roll call by Clerk/Treasurer Roberts. Members present: Councilor Kuiken, Councilor Manlow, Councilor Neve, Councilor Davis, Councilor Hall, Police Chief Stigall, City Supervisor Houk and Clerk/Treasurer Roberts.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA, CONSENT AGENDA AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Prior to the motion to approve the Agenda, the Consent Agenda and the minutes of the October 25, 2021 regular meeting Councilor Hall requested an amendment to the agenda adding Item *#8a – Vaccination Policy for New Hires.*

Councilor Neve made a motion to approve the amended Agenda, the Consent Agenda and the minutes of the October 25, 2021 regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hall. **Vote: Ayes-5, Noes-Ø, Absent- Ø**

Vendors – Check #47004 thru Check #47037 - *$87,032.85 Including* EFT Payments

Payroll – Check #24982 thru Check #24988 - *$118,732.87 Including Direct Deposit*

3. CORRESPONDENCE - NONE

4. PUBLIC HEARING @ 5:34 PM – 2022 FINAL BUDGET

Clerk/Treasurer Roberts gave a brief overview of the proposed 2022 Budget. Citizen Craig Spredeman asked where the utility tax was that the city collects and he was advised that it is a separate line item under revenues called Water/Sewer Utility Tax. Citizen Chris Thompson suggested that the city consider buying a speed monitoring device with some of ARPA funds that the city has received. There was no further public comment and the public hearing was closed at 5:42 pm.

5. ORDINANCE #1565 – 2022 PROPERTY TAX LEVY (SECOND READING)

Councilor Neve made a motion to accept Ordinance #1565 – 2022 Property Tax Levy as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Manlow. **Vote: Ayes-5, Noes-Ø, Absent- Ø**

6. ORDINANCE #1567 – 2021 BUDGET AMENDMENTS (SECOND READING)

Councilor Neve made a motion accept Ordinance #1567 – 2021 Budget Amendments as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Davis. **Vote: Ayes-5, Noes-Ø, Absent- Ø**

7. ORDINANCE #1568 – 2022 BUDGET (FIRST READING)

Councilor Neve made a motion to move Ordinance #1568 – 2022 Budget to a second reading. The motion was seconded by Councilor Kuiken. **Vote: Ayes-5, Noes-Ø, Absent- Ø**

8. COVID-19 QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION

Councilor Hall expressed his opinion regarding hybrid meetings, face coverings during meetings and vaccination status – numbers vs percentages – with regards to city hall employees. General discussion followed.

8A. VACCINATION POLICY FOR NEW HIRES

At the October 25, 2021 council meeting Councilor Davis suggested that the city institute a policy that would require all new hires to be vaccinated. Following a lengthy discussion Councilor Neve made a motion directing Clerk/Treasurer Roberts to draft a vaccination policy for new hires for the council to review at their next council meeting *(November 22, 2021)*. Councilor Davis seconded the motion. **Vote: Ayes-3, Noes-2, Absent- Ø** *(Ayes –Councilor Neve, Councilor Davis, and Councilor Hall. Noes – Councilor Kuiken and Councilor Manlow)*

9. HYBRID COUNCIL MEETINGS

Councilor Hall made a motion to go back to Zoom only council meetings until further notice. The motion was seconded by Councilor Neve. **Vote: Ayes-4, Noes-1, Absent- Ø** *(Ayes – Councilor Manlow, Councilor Neve, Councilor Davis, and Councilor Hall. Noes – Councilor Kuiken)*

10. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Citizen Loran Bergerson – 424 Central – explained that for the last year and three months he has been talking with Police Chief Stigall and City Supervisor Houk regarding the condition of the residence at 410 and 414 Central Avenue. When the city talks to the owner of the property, they clean up a little and then they stop. They just recently brought in two more vehicles and are dismantling cars including bringing in old tires. He also submitted signatures from 56 neighbors who are unhappy with the condition of this property. Police Chief Stigall and City Supervisor Houk advised that they have been in contact with the owner and are working with him to get the area cleaned up. They will continue to follow up. It is a process and it does take time.

Mr. Bergerson also mentioned that speeding on Central Avenue has become an issue as well.

Citizen Linda Buchanan asked if city hall was open and if masks were required. She was advised that yes, city hall is open and masks are required for anyone that enters the building and for staff if they are assisting anyone at the front counter.

11. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

- Police Chief Stigall noted that he had received one complaint over the last couple of weeks about speeders on Central Avenue. He has asked his officers to concentrate on that area.

- Police Chief Stigall thanked Sergeant Gonzalez for filling in for him so he could take the day off to go hunting.

- Councilor Hall asked Police Chief Stigall if he had officers at the recent Raymond School Board meeting. He was advised yes and he felt that the officers made the right call in not escalating the situation. Councilor Hall asked if Police Chief Spoor was there would he have been the one giving direction and Councilor Hall was advised yes, that would be correct. Police Chief Stigall reiterated that he felt that the situation was handled correctly by all officers involved.

- City Supervisor Houk reported that the Water Treatment Plant Upgrade is going well. Currently they are just waiting on a few supplies but overall, everything is on site and the project is moving forward.

- City Supervisor Houk explained that Adams Street will be striped the middle of next week and most of the landscaping was done today.

- City Supervisor Houk noted that the city is currently working with the Dollar General on the ponding issue near their business. The owners of the Dollar General are talking with Rognlin's about a potential fix.

- City Supervisor Houk explained that Quigg Brothers have given the city a quote of $24,000 for repairing/replacing the log boom which includes having the boom built and installed.

- Councilor Hall asked City Supervisor Houk about the sidewalks on both sides of street as part of the Adams Street Project. City Supervisor Houk explained that the South Bend School pigged backed onto the project to help get sidewalks on both sides.

12. MAYOR'S REPORT

✓ Mayor Struck reported on the recent Federal Infrastructure Bill. It appears that the focus will be more on "regional" projects. Right now, it is impossible to know what will filter down to our area.

✓ Mayor Struck congratulated Councilor Davis and Councilor Neve for their reelection to the council. Right now, council position #5 is still undecided. Bunny Williams and Richard Pearson are only separated by 10 votes. The next vote count and certification is November 23rd. Mayor Struck will also be the Mayor of South Bend for another four years! Mayor Struck congratulated Clerk/Treasurer Roberts for her win as Mayor-elect for the City of Raymond.

13. PUBLIC COMMENT – CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS

Citizen Craig Spredeman would like encourage the council to spend less effort in finding ways around being more cautious in COVID-19 related issues. Present yourself as leaders of the community and take extra precautions to show that you are trying to protect the community. The city should err on the side of caution. Regarding vaccinations for new hires. If the city requires drug testing for new hires wouldn't a vaccination requirement not be much different.

Citizen Chris Thompson suggested that if the city receives any of the federal monies that was mentioned under the Mayor's Report that maybe it could be used to purchase one of the speed monitors.

14. COUNCIL COMMENTS

- Councilor Davis noted that the new road by the school (Adams Street Project) looks great. She also mentioned that she was recently in the Dollar General and it is a nice store.

- Councilor Neve also noted that the intersection at Adams Street looks nice. She also pointed out that the clock in the council chambers was still on daylight savings time.

- Councilor Hall wondered why the Dollar General is still watering their grass on a regular basis during the recent heavy rains.

- Councilor Hall suggested that Clerk/Treasurer Roberts or Mayor Struck reach out to the Auditors Office and advise them that it is the desire of the council to have one more vote count before November 23rd. Mayor Struck advised that she is not sure who makes those decisions but she will talk to them.

15. FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS – BETTER BEACHES & BYWAYS

16. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:43 PM to meet again on Monday, November 22, 2021 for the next regularly scheduled council meeting via Zoom unless otherwise announced.

ATTEST: _____

Julie K. Struck	**Dee Roberts**
Mayor	**Clerk/Treasurer**

ORDINANCE #1568

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF SOUTH BEND, WASHINGTON, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City of South Bend, Washington completed and placed on file with the City clerk a proposed budget and estimate of the amount of the moneys required to meet the public expenses, bond redemption and interest, reserve funds and expenses of government of said City for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2022, and a notice was published that the Council of said City would meet on the 8th of November, 2021 at the hour of 5:40 PM, at the Council Room in the City Hall of said City for the purpose of making and adopting a budget for said fiscal year and giving taxpayers within the limits of said City an opportunity to be heard upon said budget; and

WHEREAS, the said City Council did meet at said time and place and did then consider the matter of said proposed budget; and

WHEREAS, the said proposed budget does not exceed the lawful limit of taxation allowed by law to be levied on the property within the City of South Bend for the purposes set forth in said budget, and the estimated expenditures set forth in said budget being all necessary to carry on the government of said City during said period.

NOW THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of South Bend, Washington do ordain as follows:

The budget for the City of South Bend, Washington for the year 2022 is hereby adopted per the attached document entitled *City of South Bend, 2022 Budget*. Estimated resources, including fund balances or working capital for each separate fund of the City of South Bend, Washington and estimated expenditures for all funds combined, for the year 2022 are set forth in the attached summary and are appropriated for expenditure during the year 2022.

The Clerk/Treasurer is directed to transmit a certified copy of the budget hereby adopted to the Division of Municipal Corporations in the Office of State Auditor and to the Association of Washington Cities.

INTRODUCED this 8th day of November, 2021 **AND PASSED** on the 22nd day of November, 2021 by the following vote:

Ayes – **Noes –** **Absent –**

_____
Julie K. Struck, Mayor

AUTHENTICATED BY: _____
Dee Roberts, Clerk/Treasurer

Publish: 12/01/2021

POLICY

POL-020 – COVID-19 New Hire Vaccination Policy

PURPOSE

The purpose of this COVID-19 new hire vaccination policy is to: (1) protect the health and safety of the City of South Bend community and organization; and (2) reduce the incidents of serious illness and possible death of employees from COVID-19.

COVID-19 vaccination(s) is a condition of employment. Employees who have not provided proof of receiving a first vaccination on **Day 21** and (when necessary) a second vaccination by **Day 49**, or who have not received a reasonable accommodation exempting them from this requirement, shall be separated from employment.

Effective Date January 1, 2022

Signatures of Governing Body:

_____, Councilor
Wyatt Kuiken

_____, Councilor
Darren Manlow

_____, Councilor
Patricia Neve-Corcoran

_____, Councilor
Jan Davis

_____, Councilor
Bob Hall

_____, Mayor
Julie K. Struck (Non-Voting)

dee.roberts@southbend-wa.gov

From: AWC RMSA HR-Cyber HELPLINE <hrupdates@enquironensights.com>
Sent: Monday, November 15, 2021 9:39 AM
To: dee.roberts@southbend-wa.gov
Subject: HR Alert | Federal Court Blocks OSHA COVID-19 Vaccination and Testing ETS

Federal Court Blocks OSHA COVID-19 Vaccination and Testing ETS

The fifth Circuit Court of Appeals ordered a temporary stay on the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) on mandatory COVID-19 vaccination and Testing for the workplace. The order effectively prevents enforcement of this ETS until a final decision regarding the legality of this standard is published.

READ MORE →

October 22, 2021

City of South Bend
Mayor and City Council
Mayor Julie Struck
Council Member Wyatt Kuiken
Council Member Darren Manlow
Council Member Patricia Neve
Council Member Jan Davis
Council Member Robert Hall
South Bend, WA. 98586

Dear South Bend Mayor and Council Members,

Better Beaches and Byways is a group of Pacific County residents that have come together to address the ongoing impact of fireworks during the Fourth of July period.

We appreciate your continued discussion looking into developing a new fireworks ordinance for the City of South Bend. We hope that you not only take in consideration your residential survey, but also looking carefully at the impact fireworks has on our environment and our residents.

Better Beaches and Byways is calling for a full ban on the sale, possession and use of consumer fireworks in South Bend, and Pacific County, Washington.

A Ban will benefit the well-being of our community by:

- Keeping our beaches and byways healthy and beautiful for generations to come; free from the fireworks toxins that pollute the beach, ocean, waterways, and air.
- Eliminating the many forms of harm it causes to residents, pets, wildlife, and the environment.
- Preventing fires, loss of property, and injury.

We are committed to working with communities, businesses, local governing bodies, and agencies to create and promote family-friendly celebrations and activities that attract and welcome visitors in ways that keep our community vibrant and preserve our natural landscapes.

The South Bend Shoreline Management Program outlines the vision for the city. Is the decision to continue to allow fireworks congruent with these key elements of South Bend's vision for the city:

Preserve Our Natural Beauty: "The City of South Bend is a special, peaceful place of great natural and aesthetic beauty. The community's greatest asset contributing to its singular charm is the Willapa River and its shorelines."

Protect Our Natural Resources: "The health of South Bend's shorelines is the foundation to its natural beauty. Clean water, abundant fish and wildlife, and large, scenic open spaces contribute to the quality of life of residents and visitors alike."

"South Bend's quality of everyday life owes much to the health of the Willapa River and its sloughs. The shorelines provide significant opportunities for commercial and recreational fisheries, seafood processing, active and passive water-enjoyment recreation, and tourism. When people and the natural environment coexist in harmony, the shorelines will continue to provide a bright future for South Bend."

Encourage Tourism: "With good planning ..., South Bend's waterfront can become a model Washington community, much like Port Townsend, Langley, and La Conner."

However, it is important to note that the three towns listed above have a complete ban on fireworks. They rely on other cultural and nature-based tourism to draw high spending visitors.

By preserving this natural environment, which requires no investment other then being congruent with your vision, we believe long term resiliency and stability could be achieved for the South Bend. By supporting South Bend's vision of preserving natural assets, more lucrative tourism opportunities become available.

For instance, just steps away from South Bend, land has been designated as an international site of importance for migratory birds (WSHRN). Bird watching is a $41 billion dollar industry from which we could benefit year around. It is beneficial to preserve our river and sloughs, as natural habitat for wildlife and to attract visitors. Willapa Bay, one of the most pristine estuaries left in the United States, is noted for its beauty and for its importance as a shellfish economy. South Bend is a river-bay economy that we have been given the stewardship to preserve and protect.

> "It is estimated that over $800 billion is spent a year in outdoor recreation in the U.S., with birdwatching having an economic benefit of $41 billion dollars, roughly $17.30 billion is spent annually in wildlife watching trip related expenses . . . " - The Daily Beast, July 2019

However, fireworks are not congruent with South Bend's prosperity goals, because:

- Fireworks contains heavy metal toxicants that are known to harm salmon, a keystone species important to South Bend.
- Fireworks debris such as plastics harms birds, ocean animals, and wildlife. Plastics often leads to the death of ocean animals and wildlife.
- Copper toxicants leads to acidification and warming of oceans and estuaries.
- Noise pollution from fireworks seriously affects many people, especially veterans that suffer with PTSD. It also creates great anxiety in our pets, as well as wildlife.
- Fireworks contain toxic metals that turn to fine particles, when exploded drift in the air and are breathed up for ten days.

We are also greatly concerned about wildfires caused by fireworks that could destroy our precious resources including homes, businesses, and wildlife. South Bend is at greater risk because the houses are so close together. Six towns burned down on the west coast this past summer, and they didn't think it could happen to them. Reducing days does not protect against a wildfire; it only takes a second and one spark.

We have included supporting documentation and research on the harmful effects fireworks has on our community as well as visitorship.

Better Beaches and Byways looks forward to working with South Bend to make decisions that protect the well-being of the community: our homes, environment, businesses, residents, pets, wildlife, and river.

Sincerely,

Better Beaches and Byways
Steering Committee
Diana Thompson

Jim Unwin

Shelby Mooney

Catherine Brown

Kathleen Davies

Rebecca Lexa

Fire Danger

Fire is an increasing and serious threat due to ongoing drought and excessive heat episodes. Fire is danger to towns, nature, and the lives of people and animals.

Overwhelming evidence shows that wildfires and drought are not going away anytime soon and in fact, are intensifying each year. Reducing days does not protect against a fire, it only takes one second, one spark.

- Six towns on the West Coast burned down this year (2021)
- More fires occur on the 4th of July in the U.S than at any other time
- We recently this summer experienced a wildfire, and had the wind been strong, it would have been devastating to the nearby town of Ilwaco
- A Tokeland family, including a disabled person, "had to be rescued from their home by two good Samaritans, and lost part of their home due to fireworks landing on their roof"

Greenville, CA / Photo: AP/Noah Berger

"We are gravely concerned about the potential for humans to accidentally start fires – from fireworks and other activities – by adding ignitions to this combination of historic drought, heat, and dry vegetation."

- 150 forest, climate, environmental, fire ecology, wildfire, and marine scientists urged a ban on the 4th of July 2021 - - theconversation.com, SFChronicle, U.S. News, Grist

Fireworks are harmful to people, domestic animals, and wildlife

Having military-grade personal explosives being set off in the community for days on end causes harm

- stress from noise and mayhem
- debris and toxins deposited on beaches and washed out into the ocean where birds and animals get caught in and or ingest plastic and debris
- Many pets were lost to anxiety and stroke
- Fireworks contain toxic metals that turn to fine particles when exploded, drift in the air, and are breathed for up to 10 days

Toxic Pollution: Air and Debris

"We have advised concerned citizens about how they can protect themselves from the negative health effects...to be aware that fireworks smoke has a lot of toxins including fine particle pollution and heavy metals...after July 4th Independence Day fireworks found particle pollution increases ranging from 42% to 370%."

- Ranil Dhammapala, Atmospheric Scientist, Air Quality Program, Washington Dept of Ecology - email August 24, 2021

"The global plastic pollution crisis is approaching an irreversible 'tipping point' ... Up to 23 million metric tons of plastic end up in rivers, lakes, and oceans each year, and that amount could potentially double by 2025 if nothing is done to stop it."
August 2021—oceana.org

Noise Pollution

Justine Coordt, Resident, Raymond

"Something I haven't heard anyone speak about is our veterans and the PTSD that affects them so much during fireworks. I think the way veterans are treated and disposed of is atrocious and people need to consider them way more than they do in every aspect of life. This one especially." - 1:15:10 / Pacific County Commisioners Hearing August 24, 2021

Dawnya Davis, Business Owner, Long Beach

"The death count on the dogs which are my clients was enormous this year... PTSD many dogs put to sleep suffering strokes" – 1:00 / Pacific County Commissioners Hearing August 24 2021

"Birds are just as frightened of fireworks as cats and dogs are. When fireworks explode in the vicinity of a roost, or even around individual birds, the results can be fatal."

-Ray Brown, Talkin' Birds podcast, NPR article

Fireworks Trash is costly to the community

In recent years high tides have washed fireworks debris and trash into the ocean before the clean-up volunteers can arrive. Businesses, fighting for fireworks, benefit economically at the expense of residents and environment.

- 40 tons of fireworks debris and other trash was cleaned up from the beach by groups and resident volunteers

- Residents (and visitors) continue to pick up debris months after the 4th of July

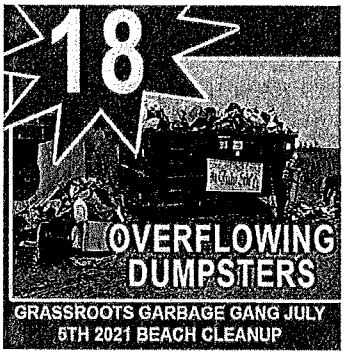
- Plastics in trash have become a major problem worldwide. Birds and sea animals eat plastic mistaking it for food and die. Plastic disintegrates into micro-particles which have now been found in the air and waterways, animals and humans.

*

"11,547 Peninsula volunteers cleaned up 381.62 tons of trash between 2002-2021" - *2009 and 2020 not counted/2021 volunteers count not in yet--ourbeach.org

"$330,251.38 is the cost of our volunteer labor at U.S. volunteer rate of $28.54 counting only 1 hour per person." - April 2021, Globenewswire

What's the cost of charges at dump, cost of dumpsters, bags, hauling, any rented equipment?



Visitorship

News Headlines Travel, Fireworks - What Prospective Visitors See

2015

Seattle Times

Life | Local News | Northwest | Travel

Long Beach Peninsula, staggered by last year's July 4 partiers, says 'come again, but behave'

Originally published June 24, 2016 at 2:23 pm | *Updated June 24, 2016 at 2:34 pm*

2020

Public Broadcasting

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PUBLIC BROADCASTING

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Northwest Coastal Beach Communities Bracing For July 4th Revelers ... And Their Trash

By Tom Banse July 1, 2020

On July 5, 2019, volunteers on the Long Beach Peninsula collected approximately 16 tons of trash left behind by Independence Day revelers. Courtesy of Grassroots Garbage Gang

2021

https://www.chinookobserver.com › news › local › penins...

Peninsula readies for July 4 fireworks frenzy - Chinook Observer

Jun 21, 2021 — **LONG BEACH PENINSULA** — Although the city of **Long Beach** won't be holding its official Fourth of July **fireworks** show this year, the **peninsula** ...

Enforcement

The chaos from 4th of July fireworks is not new. In fact, it has made the news at least since **2015.** Camping was eradicated after that. But enforcement is still lacking as problems grow.

- Lack of resources to enforce ordinances
- Talk this year about better management and more officers on the beach and in town

2016

"If you're thinking of heading to the ocean beaches for a wild and rowdy Fourth of July, you might want to think again. Folks on Washington's Long Beach Peninsula — law enforcement personnel included — will be watching for you." Jacob Nierenberg, Seattle Times 2016

"the community is teaming up with local and state governments in order to promote safe and responsible celebration" - Jacob Nierenberg, Seattle Times, 2016

2021

If there are not resources to clean up the beach, enforce the laws, protect neighborhoods. those on the beach, and protect against wildfires or house fires, even though promised, then just on this fact alone shouldn't consumer fireworks be banned on the 4th of July (and on New Year's Eve)?

Other events are regulated by fire safety, occupancy, standing laws of behavior, driving laws, parking, food handling, but fireworks are not?

Video

This video documents Pacific County's "New Tradition"

Link:
http://www.lightinmotionshowcontrol.com/BBB/BetterBeaches03.mp4?fbclid=IwAR2Su1yEFi3YXGl2u7_yOKV8FUSah6yy2Y50ZtOkPM25vV7RtuMV5ivw13s

Tourism and Fireworks

Many visitors come to the Peninsula and Pacific County drawn by the beauty of place. They come to Hike in Nature, Go to the Beach, Kayak, Visit the Wildlife Refuges, Bird and Wildlife Watch, Fish and Clam dig, and Explore Historic Sites.

- We need to preserve and protect our natural landscapes, beaches, oceans, and waterways so we can attract additional nature and bird-watching tourism which is a billion dollar industry.

"Birding (Yes, Birding) is a Multi-Billion Dollar Ecotourism Industry" - thedailybeast.com, July 2019

"It is estimated that over $800 billion is spent a year in outdoor recreation in the United States, with birdwatching having an economic benefit of $41 billion dollars. Roughly $17.30 billion is spent annually in wildlife-watching trip-related expenses in the U.S., with more than 20 million Americans taking birding-specific trips. " - thedailybeast.com, July 2019

Photo illustration by Sarah Rogers/The Daily Beast

We Need To Do Our Part

Organizations such as the Columbia Land Trust, Nature Conservancy, and the Willapa National Wildlife Refuge have preserved land here that is home to wildlife and migratory birds. There is also a Swan Preserve at Hines Marsh and a preserve for the western Snowy Plover, a threatened bird, at Leadbetter Point. Bald Eagles nest on the beach. Oysters and shellfish farming from Willapa Bay are a major part of our economy and employer in Pacific County, as is the fishing industry in the Columbia River and Pacific Ocean.

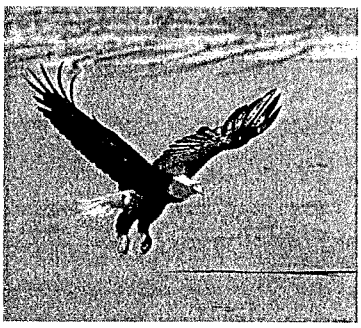
*

Seashore Conservation Area

The Seashore Conservation Area was established in 1967 to provide and preserve recreational use on Washington's coast for generations to come.

The Seashore Conservation Area comprises 62 miles of the state's coastline between: Cape Disappointment, from the mouth of the Columbia River to Leadbetter Point. (Long Beach Peninsula — 27 miles) The mouth of Willapa Bay, in Tokeland, and Point Chehalis, in Westport (South Beach — 13 miles)

"Our beaches constitute some of the last unspoiled seashore remaining in the United States." - WA State Seashore Conservation Area Plan



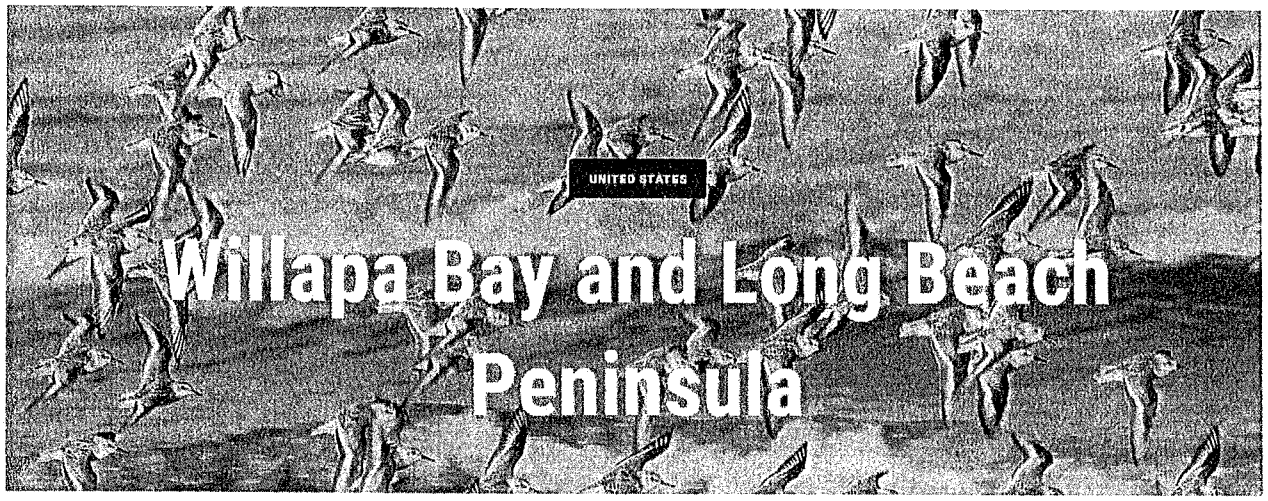
*

Willapa Bay

Willapa Bay is one of the most pristine estuaries in the United States and is the second largest estuary on the Pacific Coast. Estuaries are among the most productive natural systems on earth due to the mixing of nutrients from land and sea.

fws.gov

An International Site of Importance for Migratory Birds



"Willapa Bay and Long Beach Peninsula are located in southwest Washington State between Grays Harbor to the North and is a WHSRN (Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network). It is of hemispheric Importance for migratory shore birds; and a critical link along the Pacific Flyway threatened by human disturbance and climate change."

wshrn.org

Marine Shoreline

"The marine shoreline is a vibrant ecosystem found in Western Washington. From the Pacific coast to the Puget Sound, this ecosystem supports a wide range of fish and wildlife. The dynamic nature of marine shorelines and the interactions between water and land is what makes this ecosystem so rich and filled with life."

- WA Department of Fish & Wildlife, September 2021

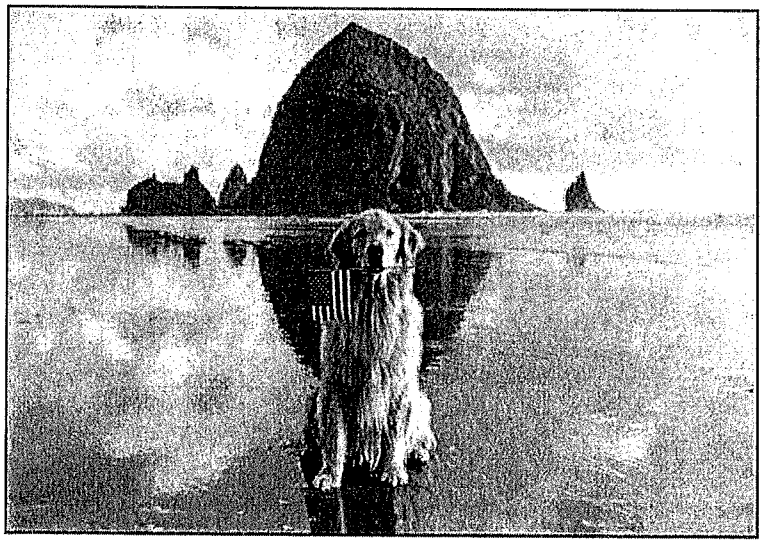
Visitorship and Fireworks

Visitorship:

- The 2021 Long Beach Visitors Bureau Fireworks Survey of about 250 Businesses shows that Cannon Beach's visitorship was up while Long Beach's visitorship was down
- The PCTB survey shows that 41.2% of businesses want a ban on fireworks
- Cannon Beach banned all fireworks and has thrived

"In July of 2020 Cannon Beach City Council decided, based on the public concerns for fire danger as well as animals and sea birds, to ban all fireworks in the city limits of Cannon Beach. " - Cannon Beach Gazette

Cannon Beach Tourism Slogan is: 'Safe Zone for birds, pets and wildlife."
- Cannon Beach Gazette



Cannon Beach

Contact Information:

Better Beaches and Byways

Steering Committee

Diana Thompson
James Unwin
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Cathy Brown
Kathleen Davies
Rebecca Lexa

betterbeachesandbyways@gmail.com

Bibliography

DATA AND SURVEYS

photo: Rebecca Lexa, Beach Approach at Loomis Lake State Park

Surveys

The City of Long Beach, South Bend, Pacific County Commissioners, and Long Beach Peninsula Visitors Bureau have done surveys of residents and in the case of PCVB they surveyed businesses.

Results

Results for zero days or eight days are close yet for the **County, the most people surveyed, zero wins out.**

City of Long Beach Fireworks Survey

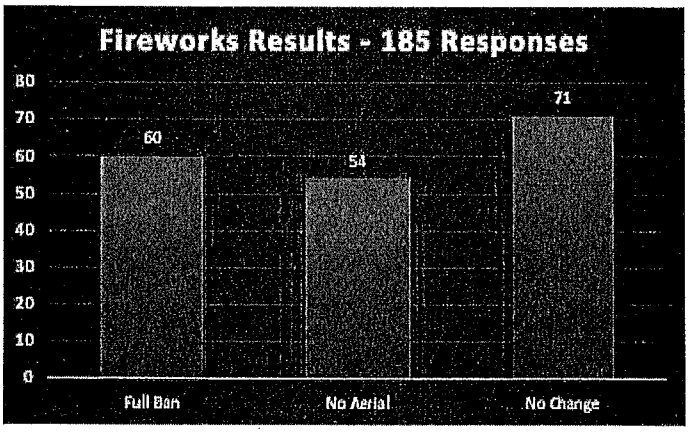
277 respondents

Zero days 69
8 days 84

South Bend

185 respondents

Ban 60
No Aerial 54
No change 71

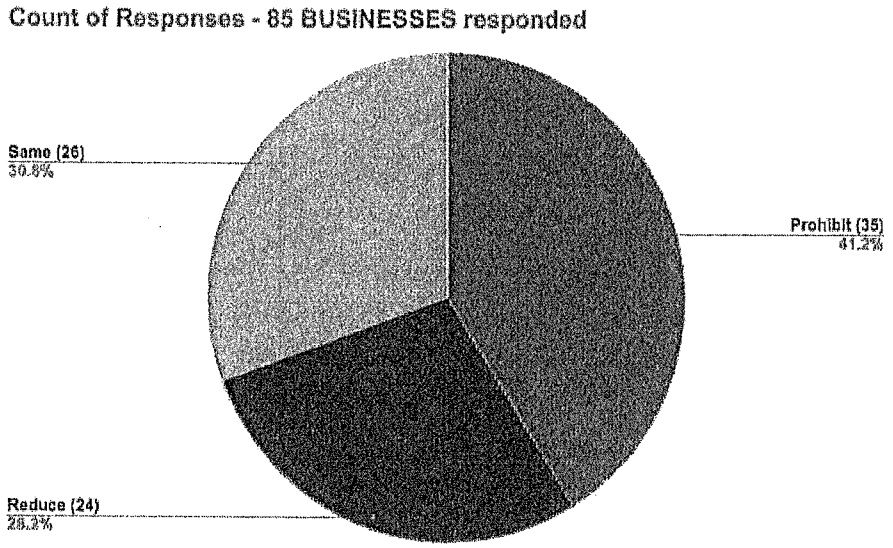


Pacific County Fireworks Survey

1231 respondents

0 days 378
8 days 249

Pacific County Tourism Bureau
Fireworks Survey to Pacific County Business
Chart of Responses



Responses:	Number of Businesses
Attraction	6
Lodging	25
Lodging/Restaurant	1
Restaurant	15
Retail	17
Retail/Restaurant	5
Service	15
Service/Retail	1

Total Responses: 85

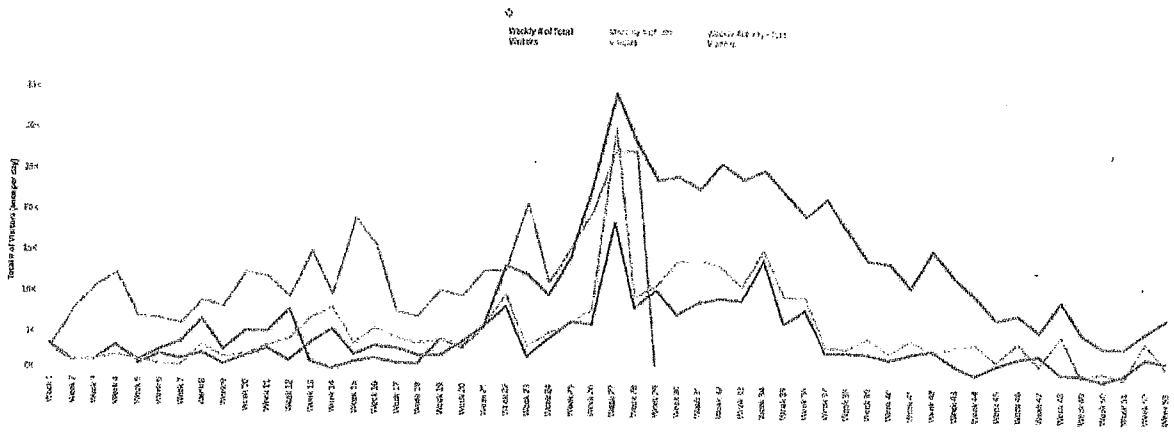
Pacific County Tourism Bureau
Visitorship Graphs
Our Beach

green = 2021
red = 2020
yellow = 2019
blue = 2018

We est. % of those on beach week of 4th staying in paid lodging:

2021 – 24%
2020 – 26%
2019 – 35%
2018 – 38%

Total Visitors



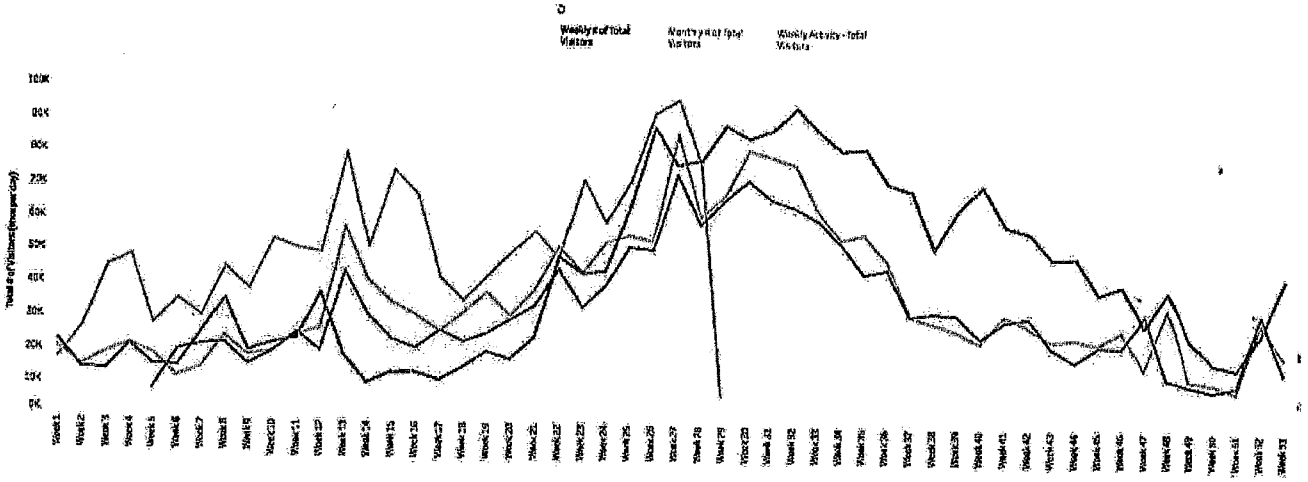
Our Beach – (Seaview to Surfside)

4/4

Pacific County Tourism Bureau
Visitorship Graphs
Cannon Beach

green = 2021
red = 2020
yellow = 2019
blue = 2018

Total Visitors



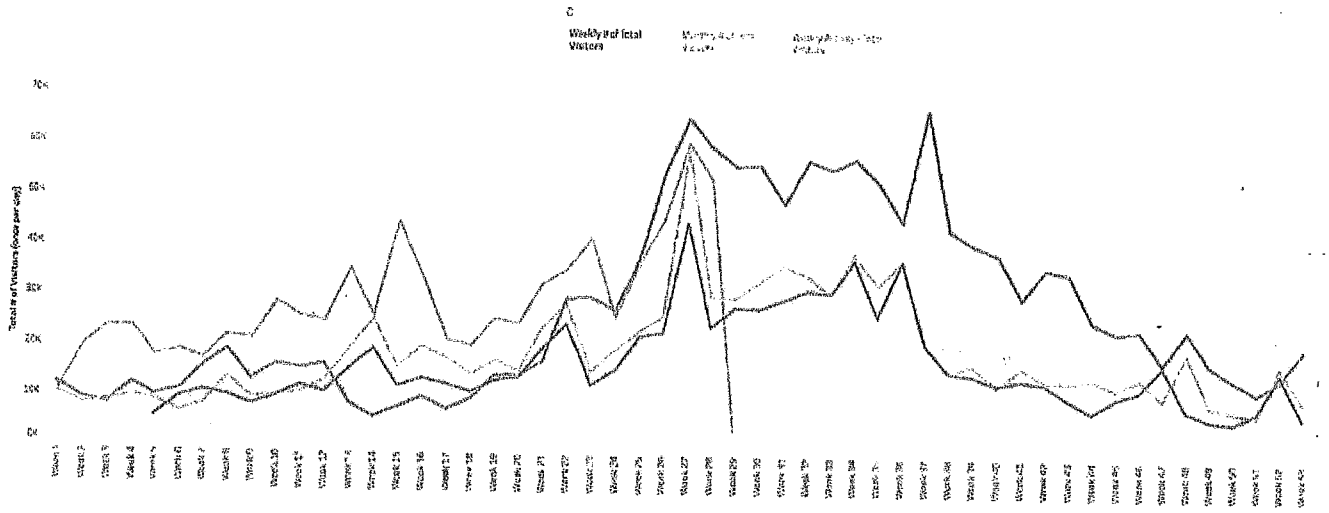
Cannon Beach - weekly total visitors
Voted to ban all pers. fireworks in 2020

1/4

Pacific County Tourism Bureau
Visitorship Graphs
Long Beach

green = 2021
red = 2020
yellow = 2019
blue = 2018

Total Visitors



City of Long Beach - weekly total

3/4

Pacific County Tourism Bureau
Visitorship Survey Comments
Long Beach

Comments from Pacific County Businesses explaining why they want a ban

"My business spends thousands of dollars and hundreds of hours a year promoting the peninsula as a quiet, wildlife friendly, dog friendly, vacation spot. The 4th undoes that work with a massive display of ecologically harmful fireworks. We end up closing as the group in town clogs roads, shoots off fireworks in our parking lot and steals things. The massive lack of law enforcement doesn't help, this year I had customers leave early due to the noise and commotion. "

*

"Hospitality would be 100% anyway without all the added problems. The City is totally sponsoring the irresponsible "Drink All Day and blow shit up all night" crowd and putting all citizens and their property in danger, while purposely destroying the environment for profit."

*

Please stop the madness"

*

"Our neighborhood and beach are a war zone long into the night...there is a blue haze of smoke covering the neighborhood. The animals and pets are scared out of their minds. The beach is left trashed and we have to pick it up. Can't think a reason to have personal fireworks, not to mention the danger of dune fires."

*

"I know the tourists bring money to the community, but the harm they cause far outweighs the gains."

Pacific County Tourism Bureau
Visitorship Survey Comments
Long Beach

"The noise is unwelcome to humans and frightens the animals (both domestic and wild). I am of the opinion, contrary to some, that this area will survive and tourists will still come without the fireworks."

*

"Concerned about fires and wildlife. "

*

"It's time to make a move to protect our environment!"

*

"I'm surprised the EPA hasn't taken the lead on this issue"

*

"We need to protect the water, the wildlife, the birds and the beaches from this craziness that has gotten worse and worse over the years"

*

Everyone I've spoken with, dozens and dozens..and the two blog forums are extremely upset and want no fireworks anymore, If anything I lost business. The drunk people began rolling in and we closed early. No one wanted to be kind and follow any kind of rules. No decency. We want to move away because of this. The beach sells itself.

*

"The fireworks have gotten totally out of hand. This needs to stop."

Better Beaches and Byways Petition

A Call to Ban Fireworks in Pacific County

Sign on and join us in the call to ban the sale, possession, and use of personal consumer fireworks in Pacific County.

Better Beaches & Byways supports a full ban on the sale, possession and use of consumer fireworks in Pacific County, Washington.

A Ban will benefit the well-being of our community by:

- Keeping our beaches and byways healthy and beautiful for generations to come, free from the fireworks toxins that pollute the beach, ocean, waterways, and air.

- Eliminating the many forms of harm it causes to residents, pets, wildlife, and the environment.

- Preventing fires and injury

Better Beaches and Byways is committed to working with communities and businesses to create and promote family-friendly celebrations and activities that attract and welcome visitors in ways that keep our community vibrant, and also preserve our natural landscapes.

Petition Start Date: September 7, 2021

Signatures as of September 30, 2021: Over 250

Petition Status: Ongoing

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Photo: AP/Noah Berger

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Five Towns Destroyed in Oregon by Wildfires
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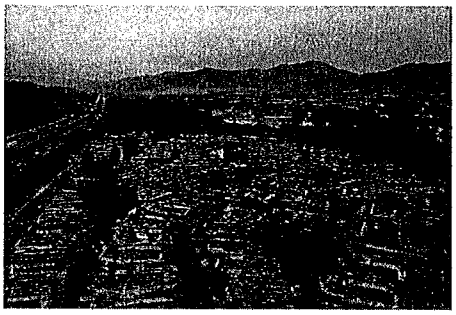

Photo: Reuters/Andrees Latif

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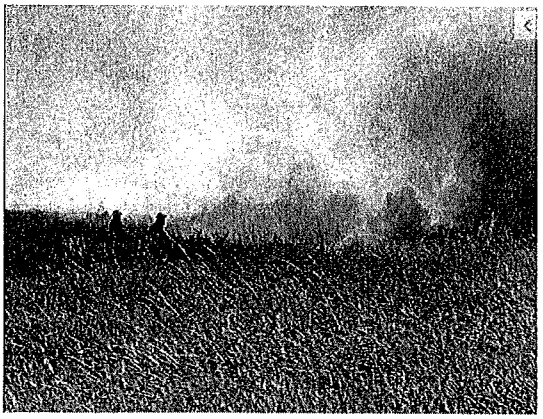

Photo: Chinook Observer

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KHQ-Q6 NBC

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Why fire scientists want you to skip the fireworks this fourth of july / Grist

https://grist.org/climate/a-terrible-idea-why-fire-scientists-want-you-to-skip-the-fireworks-this-fourth-of-july/

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Pacific County Commissioners Hearing, August 24, 2021/Testimony starts at 27.51

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Ranil Dhammapala, Atmospheric Scientist, Washington Department of Ecology

Direct email to Kathleen Davies / Better Beaches and Byways Communications Team

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Festive Fireworks Create Harmful Pall of Pollution

Fireworks create highly toxic gases and pollutants that poison the air, the water, and the soil, making them toxic to birds, wildlife, pets, livestock – and people
https://www.forbes.com/sites/grrlscientist/2019/12/31/festive-fireworks-create-harmful-pall-of-pollution/

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"the particulate matter generated by the pyrotechnic displays could have an atmospheric residence time of more than one week in the case of firework combustion because many of the elements released are both toxic and finely respirable." Found metal particles that are very dangerous can be inhaled and settle in water. Ba (barium) pb (lead) Sr (strontium)
Effects of Outdoor Pyrotechnic displaces on the Regional Air Quality of Western Washington State: Journal of Air & Waste Management Association: Vol 49, No 2 (tandfonline.com)

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"Although firework related recreational pollution episodes are transeint in nature they are highly concentrated, contribute significantly to total annual metal emission, and are on average fine enough to be easily inhaled and a health risk to susceptible individuals."
Recreational atmospheric polluiton episodes: Inhalable metalliferous particles from firework displays – Science Direct

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What are MicroPlastics?
Plastic is the most prevalent type of marine debris found in our ocean and Great lakes.
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Audio of Meetings

43

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Audio of Meeting

Harm to Oceans and Salmon

44

Contaminants reduce abundance of Salmon

Contaminants in juvenile Chinook salmon above fish health thresholds may reduce the abundance of returning adult Chinook salmon, thus impacting the food supply available to Southern Resident killer whales, as well as decreasing recreational, commercial, tribal ceremonial and subsistence fishing opportunities.

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Dissolved copper is a particularly pervasive contaminant that threatesn salmon and steelhead survival. PDF

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Salmon Dying from Hot Water in Colunbia River

july 27 2021 - We are losing so much more than a fish," said Giulia Good Stefani, a senior attorney with NRDC. "Salmon support a way of life

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Aerosals with high copper concentrations negatively affect...oceans

Note that with increasing human activities and global environmental changes (e.g. ocean acidification, warming, deoxygenation, etc.) the input of aerosol Cu could exceed toxicity thresholds at certain times.

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