

# The State of Washington



## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, Puget Sound significantly supports our state's economy by providing cultural, recreational, commercial and tourism opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, a healthy and vibrant Puget Sound is an important part of our Northwest culture, quality of life, tribal treaty responsibilities, and legacy for future generations; and

**WHEREAS**, the health of Puget Sound waterways directly impacts the food we eat, the water we drink and the beaches we play on; and

**WHEREAS**, the health, value and opportunities of Puget Sound have declined due to human activities and behaviors including polluted stormwater runoff, loss of natural habitats and the impacts of a changing climate; and

**WHEREAS**, the Puget Sound watershed includes Clallam, Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Mason, Pierce, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Thurston and Whatcom counties; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 750 state and federal agencies, local governments, nonprofits, businesses and tribes are working together to efficiently and effectively raise awareness about how individual behavior impacts our waterways through the Puget Sound Starts Here campaign; and

**WHEREAS**, the Puget Sound Starts Here campaign is working to connect Puget Sound residents with activities and opportunities to reduce their individual and cumulative impacts on Puget Sound;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim May 2015 as

### *Puget Sound Starts Here Month*

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 21<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2015

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jay Inslee".

Governor Jay Inslee

