WEAN

2026 Mini Donor Report

Whidbey Environmental Action Network



JANUARY–OCTOBER 2026

A year of *wins* you made possible

In the courtroom, in council chambers, and out on the land, your generosity carried Whidbey and Camano's ecosystems through a remarkable year.

Fall maple by Linda LaMar

Dear friends, look what we did together.

We began 2026 grieving our remarkable friend Nancy Nordhoff, whose belief in WEAN helped build the organization you know today. We carried her optimism with us all year—and it carried us far.

Together, we won in court, moved forest protections forward, and made sure science and community voices continue to shape the future of our islands. We grew stronger, too, with new staff, new members, and new partners at our side.

None of it happens without you. Every gift turns your love for these islands into lasting defense of the ecosystems and beings with whom we make this place home. Thank you.

With gratitude,

Marnie Jackson
Executive Director

THANK YOU FOR A REMARKABLE YEAR

2026 *at a glance*

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OUR 2026 GOALS, TWO MONTHS EARLY

27 goals already met or exceeded

+13 more on track to finish strong

Each year our team adopts Specific, Measurable, Ambitious, Relevant, Time-bound, Inclusive, and Equitable (SMARTIE) goals. A few of 2026's proudest:

- Won our SEPA appeal against Oak Harbor
- Summer Benefit raised 164% of goal
- Hired WEAN's first Program Director
- Membership beat its goal by 23%
- Public comments on harmful projects reached 158% of goal

3,800+

STORYMAP VIEWS

Educating the public and lawmakers about complex science and policy issues affecting shorelines, wetlands, and communities

156

VOTING MEMBERS

Households that applied to join since we launched formal membership in 2025, past our goal of 127.

3

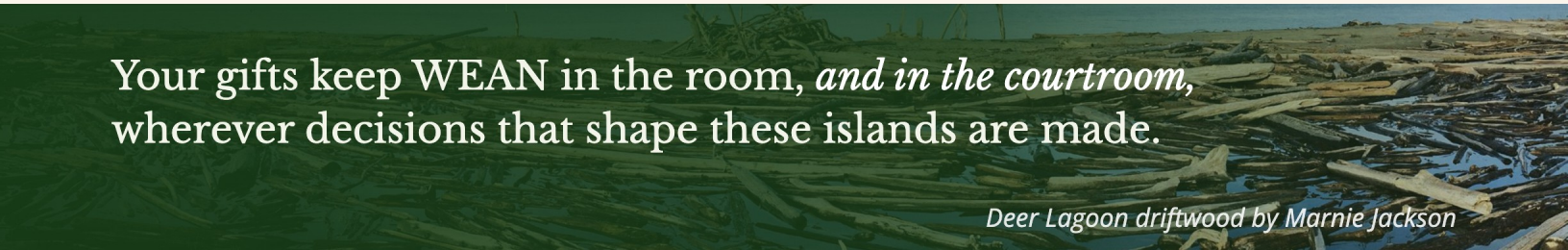
NEW STAFF MEMBERS

All in first-ever roles that expand what WEAN can do and what communities we can serve. Our staff is now a team of five (two full time, three part time).

173

HOURS IN OAK HARBOR & CAMANO

Showing up in person to connect with Oak Harbor and Camano residents over just four months (July through October). Up from 21 hours in all of January through June.



Your gifts keep WEAN in the room, *and in the courtroom,* wherever decisions that shape these islands are made.

Deer Lagoon driftwood by Marnie Jackson

WHAT YOUR GIVING MADE POSSIBLE

Wins for the *land*, the *water*, and the *public's voice*

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Oak Harbor residents defend their vote on park land. Photo by Amanda Bullis.

> *"I really think that paying attention to local things and getting involved is important . . . it's important for your own soul. You want some kinship with the land, and with your neighbors . . ."*
>
> —Antonia Malchik,
> Action Hour Podcast Guest

COURT VICTORY · OCTOBER 19

Holding the line on environmental review

In 2024, Oak Harbor passed Ordinance 1999, stripping residents of their right to vote before the City sells developed park land, after a developer eyed Hal Ramaley Memorial Park for a hotel parking lot. WEAN challenged the passage in court. In October 2026, the Washington Court of Appeals agreed the ordinance required environmental review under the State Environmental Policy Act and ruled in WEAN's favor. Challenging this illegal action is part of how we protect our parks—and the precedent helps protect every community that relies on SEPA being fairly applied.

FORESTS

From logging to stewardship

Our advocacy moved Commissioners to create a PBRS pathway that rewards forest landowners for stewardship over harvest. Public hearing: **December 1**.

PLANNING FOR 2045

Science in the 20-year plan

We delivered **900+** pages of guidance on the County's Comprehensive Plan, won key gains, and appealed where it falls short of state standards.

WETLANDS & SHORELINES

Data shows what's being lost

Nearly half of **163** local mitigation projects had no monitoring. We shared that in our new Storymap and are pressing Ecology for real enforcement.

WATCHDOGGING

Eyes on every application

We formalized land use monitoring with new scientific rigor. After we and others spoke up, Coupeville schools ruled out an ecologically harmful building site.

GROWING STRONGER, TOGETHER

Keeping WEAN rooted in *community*

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Summer Benefit panelists Grethe Cammermeyer, Marnie Jackson, and Violet Bluemer. Photo by Linda LaMar.



Indigenous-ignited prairie burn at Pacific Rim Institute. Photo by Nia Martin.

Showing up for each other

You packed our second Summer Benefit and met us across the islands: on walks, at festival tables, at film screenings, and at coffee shops. Civic Voice workshops took off, inspiring speakers in the county boardroom and at state shoreline hearings.

A team grown to last

Dr. Autumn Maust became our first Program Director, Sara Hinck our Community Relations Manager, and Nia Martin our Communications & Membership Manager. Our board welcomed a new Treasurer and formed four formal committees.

Your next gift goes straight to work

- **PBRS reform:** making the case for stewardship standards on December 1, then tracking enrollment and impact
- **DNR appeal:** challenging an erroneous clearcut approval in a forested wetland near Quade and Maxwelton creeks
- **Comp Plan appeal:** challenging rural density without septic capacity, and the plan's missing habitat protections
- **Shoreline rules:** pushing the state for mandatory enforcement to protect critical habitat
- **Critical Areas:** reviewing habitat protections line by line, and closing gaps that harm our fragile ecosystems

Thank you for *standing with* these islands.

Watch your mailbox for our winter appeal letter in late November, and look for our full 2026 Donor Report in Spring 2027.

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