



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

November 7, 2016

**CONTACTS:**

Bridget Trosin, WSG Coastal Policy Specialist, [bemmett@uw.edu](mailto:bemmett@uw.edu)

MaryAnn Wagner, WSG Communications, [maryannb@uw.edu](mailto:maryannb@uw.edu)

## **Witness Washington's Highest Tide of Year in Port Townsend**

*Join coastal experts at the King Tide Viewing Party.  
Fri., Nov. 18, 2016 at Northwest Maritime Center*

*Port Townsend*--Each winter, king tides—the highest tides of the year—offer a spectacular shoreside show and a sneak preview of what rising sea levels will mean in years to come. Join Washington Sea Grant for Port Townsend's first King Tide Viewing Party, presented with support from the Washington Department of Ecology. Free snacks and hot beverages will take the edge off the chill, and coastal experts will explain the science of these jumbo tides. Bring your camera and post your king tide photos on the King Tide Project's online gallery.

**What:** King Tide Viewing Party

**When:** Friday, Nov. 18 at 8 a.m.

**Where:** Salmon Club Boat Ramp, Northwest Maritime Center, Port Townsend

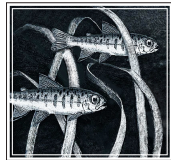
Bridget Trosin, Washington Sea Grant's coastal policy specialist and the event organizer explains that, "Extreme high tides, known as king tides, are a dramatic feature of Washington winters, that occur when the moon comes closest to earth." King tides don't result from climate change, but these high-water events provide a visual glimpse of the future along Puget Sound, as a changing climate causes sea levels to rise.

All are invited to take part in the King Tides Project and document Washington's extreme tides. Photograph your favorite Puget Sound park, beach or wetland when the tide peaks and upload your photos at [www.washington.kingtides.net](http://www.washington.kingtides.net).

Department of Ecology Coastal Planner, Bobbak Talebi, points out that, "This project promotes awareness of sea level rise impacts and helps residents visualize what it

will mean in vulnerable coastal areas. Your photos can help coastal communities prepare for and adapt to sea level rise. Ecology supports the King Tides initiative and provides an [atlas](#) to find public beaches. This year Washington Sea Grant will be joined by two new partners: Jefferson County Marine Resources Committee and Local 20/20.

*Washington Sea Grant, based at the University of Washington, provides statewide marine research, outreach, and education services, helping people understand and address the challenges facing our ocean and coasts. The National Sea Grant College Program is part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.*  
[www.wsg.washington.edu](http://www.wsg.washington.edu).



Jefferson County  
**Marine  
Resources  
Committee**

Photo credits:

Salmon Club Boat Ramp at Northwest Maritime Center, Port Townsend, WA. Photo by Barney Burke, Sept. 29, 2016.

Salmon Club Boat Ramp at Northwest Maritime Center during storm two weeks later, Port Townsend, WA. Photo by Jeff Taylor, Oct. 15, 2016.