



SEATTLE AQUARIUM

Your 2018

# impact report

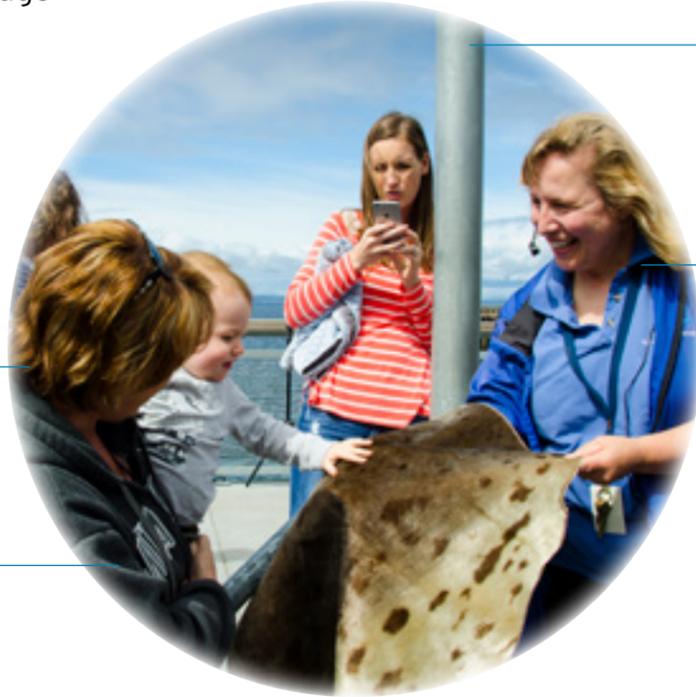
See how your gift makes a difference.

## Impact:

Because of your gift, the Seattle Aquarium motivates visitors to understand, then care about Puget Sound and Earth's one big ocean—and to take action to protect them.

# Forward motion for the ocean

Sharing ocean knowledge to inspire action



The ocean makes life on Earth possible—from the oxygen we breathe, to the water we drink, to the food we eat.

Every year at the Aquarium, over 850,000 people experience the hidden, underwater world and the animals that call it home.

• Staff and volunteers use a low-signage, high-talk model to encourage questions and engage visitors in conservation conversations.

• Volunteers donate over 100,000 hours of service each year, sharing their passion for the ocean and what we can all do to protect it with Aquarium visitors.

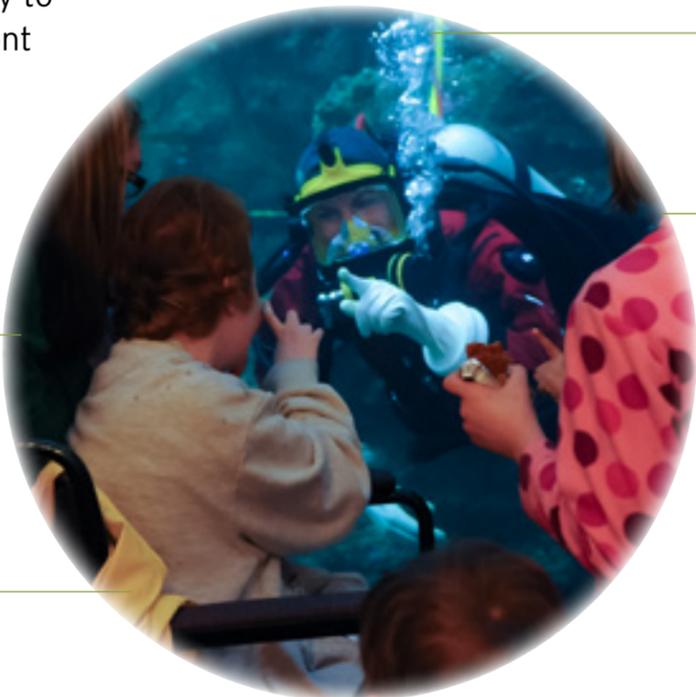
**Did you know** there are only nine northern fur seals in U.S. zoos and aquariums, and two are right here at the Aquarium?

## Impact:

Because of your gift, the Seattle Aquarium can welcome visitors that reflect the diversity of our community and remove barriers so everyone can experience the wonders of our marine environment.

# Come on in, the water's fine!

Connecting community to our marine environment



Last year, the Seattle Aquarium Connections program provided over 69,000 free tickets to more than 300 partner organizations that meet an array of needs in our community.

In 2018, DreamNight welcomed 884 guests over two nights, providing children and adults with disabilities or special health care needs a chance to explore the Aquarium at their own pace.

• Cedar River Salmon Journey volunteers spoke with 16,306 individuals out in the community about salmon and the Cedar River Watershed.

• The Aquarium was nationally recognized by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums for its programming to foster empathy toward marine life, with the goal of encouraging conservation behavior.

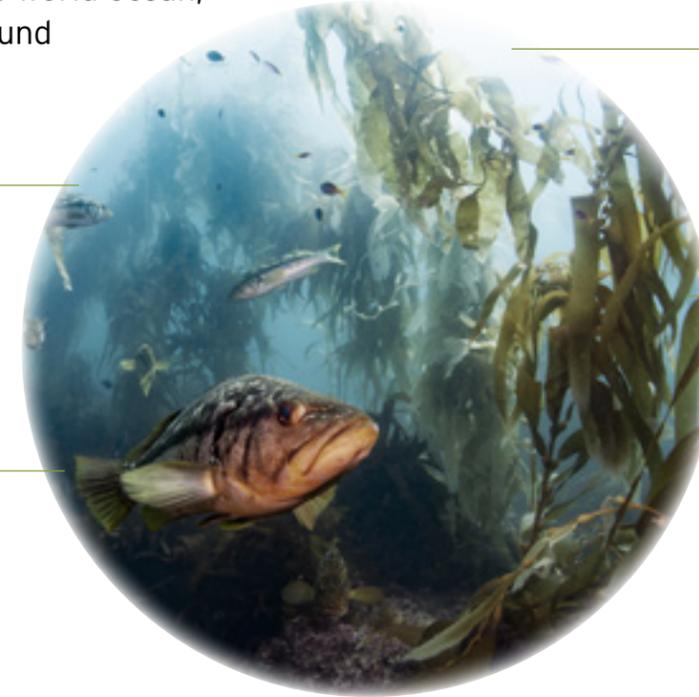
**Did you know** the Aquarium provides sign language interpreters for special community events to help share the wonder of the ocean with all?

## Impact:

Because of your gift, the Seattle Aquarium is expanding our conservation reach to create a healthy future for Puget Sound and the greater ocean.

# Turning the tide

Creating a healthy one world ocean, beginning in Puget Sound



We all need a healthy ocean to sustain us, and so must we sustain the ocean.

The Aquarium leverages our unique position in the community to reduce the impacts of plastics in our ocean, like advocating for Seattle's ban on plastic straws and utensils.

• Erin Meyer, Ph.D. was hired as our new director of conservation programs and partnerships. Dr. Meyer will focus the Aquarium's conservation work, allowing us to take a greater role in advocacy and the shaping of ocean policies.

• Aquarium staff conducted a fact-finding trip to Indonesia in April 2018 to meet potential conservation partners in the Coral Triangle.

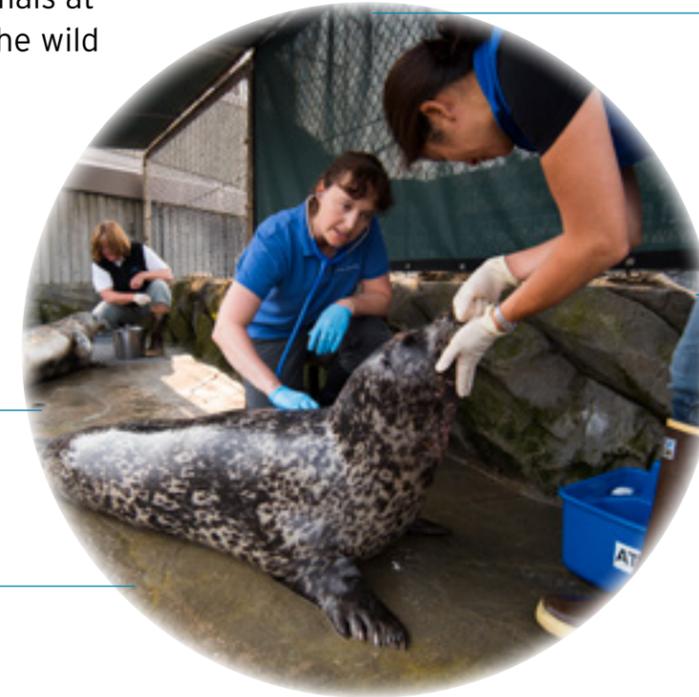
**Did you know** Seattle has banned plastic straws, and local companies have pledged to reduce disposable plastics?

## Impact:

Because of your gift, the Seattle Aquarium cares for animals at the Aquarium and in the wild—sharing their stories and inspiring action toward a healthier ocean for all life.

# Fish, feathers and fur!

Caring for marine animals at the Aquarium and in the wild



Animal care, and the study of species in our exhibits and the wild, is a fundamental component of the Seattle Aquarium and supports the very core of our mission.

Each animal is an ambassador for its kind in nature, creating a connection for visitors to the impact they have on marine wildlife.

• Our scientists regularly monitor the hormone levels of the animals at the Aquarium, with a focus on fur seals, sea otters and seabirds. Hormone studies allow us to measure animals' biological responses to normal situations, like reproduction, and provide a better understanding of physiology and biology.

• For 17 years the Aquarium has participated in the annual sea otter survey, documenting the health of the population off the Washington coast. In 2017, we observed 2,058 otters.

**Did you know** the Aquarium is home to over 500 species of invertebrates, fish, birds and mammals?

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### The future of conservation

The Seattle Aquarium is charting a new course for conservation, connecting our focus on the Salish Sea and Washington Waters to the Coral Triangle near Indonesia, an area so rich with marine life it has been called the Amazon of the ocean. By sharing the common challenges of these two related geographies on either side of the Pacific, we will be better positioned to help address the issues facing our one world ocean on a local and global scale.