



UPCOMING EVENT IN MAY: TOTEM POLE JOURNEY

The staff of Earth Ministry/WAIPL (who network with CCN) are on the planning team for the Snake River to Salish Sea Spirit of the Waters Totem Pole Journey, being led by members of the Lummi Nation and the Indigenous nonprofit Se'Si'Le. EM/WAIPL is the lead nonprofit supporting the Tacoma event on May 20; they're also supporting the Bellingham (May 3), Nez Perce (May 16), and Seattle (May 19) stops.

The presence of the faith community as witness has been explicitly requested so they're doing a big push for turnout. Please see the pertinent information below.

- Landing page on Earth Ministry/WAIPL website with info and links for each stop on the journey: <https://earthministry.org/stand-with-northwest-tribes-for-the-snake-river-to-salish-sea-spirit-of-the-waters-totem-pole-journey/>
- RSVP page specifically for the faith community that includes all stops (RSVP is not required but we're doing this so we can be sure we're garnering a good turnout by the faith community and can follow up with folks who express interest in attending) <https://secure.everyaction.com/Od9LLs5p3EutbyvhQEHCuQ2>
- Bulletin Blurbs: we've written up short paragraphs that we're asking houses of worship and organizations to share in their worship bulletin or electronic/print newsletter. There are versions for each stop so communities can share what is most local for them but also a statewide version. https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pq-58B6eTBoXQ3j_xpq1kmFFd3dFxZXyW132_f8WpA/edit?usp=sharing

This Totem Pole Journey is focused on the recovery of sacred salmon and orca through restoring a free-flowing Lower Snake River. Gov. Inslee and Sen. Murray are producing a report looking at replacing the services of the four dams on the Lower Snake River, which science has repeatedly shown would give salmon their best chance. There is strong Indigenous leadership in this campaign and the faith community perspective is especially helpful as it can be a divisive conversation. EM/WAIPL will be organizing faith community responses to the draft of that report, expected to be released next month.