

EARTH

# ONE BIG OCEAN

Earth's one ocean is vast, awe-inspiring and critically important

Approximately one billion people worldwide rely on fish as their primary source of animal protein. About 75 percent of all fish caught around the world is for human consumption; the remainder is converted to fish meal/oil and used primarily for animal feed and farmed fish.



The ocean makes up 70 percent of the Earth's surface, and 99 percent of its living space.

94 percent of all life on Earth is aquatic, and our world's one ocean contains 96.5 percent of all the water on the globe.

One of every six jobs in the United States is marine-related; coastal and marine waters support more than 28 million American jobs.

Over one third of the total market value of all the goods and services produced in the U.S. each year originates in coastal areas, amounting to over seven billion dollars.

The usual annual river discharge into Puget Sound is 41,000 cubic feet per second, which is roughly equivalent to all the water in Lake Washington draining into the Sound every 48 hours.

Puget Sound is a large saltwater estuary, fed by freshwater from the Cascade and Olympic mountain watersheds.

**YOU ARE HERE!**



**PACIFIC OCEAN AND WEST COAST**

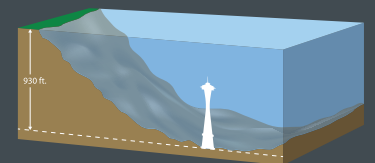
**PUGET SOUND WATERSHED**

Puget Sound encompasses 1,332 miles of shoreline.

The ocean is largely unexplored. To date, we've explored less than five percent of it.

Approximately 44 percent of the world's population lives less than 100 miles from the ocean. In the United States, over half of our population lives less than 50 miles from the coast.

Puget Sound is home to eight species of marine mammals and over 200 species of fish.



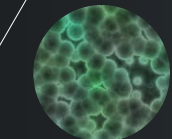
The average depth of Puget Sound is 205 feet; its maximum depth is 930 feet—or just about 1-1/2 Space Needles.



There are over one million known species of plants and animals in the ocean. Scientists say there may be over nine million more that we haven't yet discovered.



The ocean controls our climate: it regulates the concentration of CO2 in the atmosphere by absorbing, storing and releasing the gas in a variety of places and ways.



Much of the life in the ocean is invisible to the naked eye. Just one dropper of ocean water contains about a million bacteria.

The average depth of the ocean is over 12,000 feet. Light can't penetrate more than 330 feet below the ocean's surface, which means most of the ocean is perpetually dark.

At over 35,000 miles, the longest mountain range on Earth is beneath the ocean's surface. It has peaks higher than those found in the Alps and comprises 23 percent of the Earth's surface.

