

Coalition Against Oil Pollution records, 1970-1981

Overview of the Collection

Creator	Coalition Against Oil Pollution (Wash.)
Title	Coalition Against Oil Pollution records
Dates	1970-1981 (inclusive) 1970 1981
Quantity	8.17 cubic feet (10 boxes)
Collection Number	3599 (Accession No. 3599-003)
Summary	Records of an environmental organization founded to oppose the establishment of oil ports and off-loading facilities on Puget Sound in Washington State.
Repository	University of Washington Libraries, Special Collections Special Collections University of Washington Libraries Box 352900 Seattle, WA 98195-2900 Telephone: 206-543-1929 Fax: 206-543-1931 speccoll@uw.edu
Access Restrictions	The records are open to all users.
Languages	English
Sponsor	Funding for encoding this finding aid was partially provided through a grant awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Historical Note

The Coalition Against Oil Pollution (CAOP) was founded in 1972 by Robert Lynette as a non-partisan organization to protect the waters of Puget Sound in Washington State. It opposed the opening on Puget Sound of oil ports and off-loading facilities that would connect with the proposed Northern Tier Pipeline. The coalition included both individuals and organizations, such as the Washington Environmental Council, and claimed to have support from environmentalists, tourist industry representatives, and commercial fishermen. CAOP constantly pushed for oil tankers to unload their crude oil at or west of Port Angeles, Washington, and won many legislative and legal victories. However, discord erupted within the coalition as many environmentalists began to feel that it only opposed oil tankers in Puget Sound, while remaining blind to the dangers of an oil pipeline across the state and supertankers in the Strait of Juan de Fuca.

Oil tankers in Puget Sound became a pressing issue during the energy crisis of the 1970s. The upper Midwest of the United States got much of its crude from Canada, which had already cut back on oil exports and announced that after 1982 it would no longer sell oil abroad. To compensate for the loss of Canadian oil, more crude had to be brought in from the Middle East, Indonesia, and the newly exploited fields of Alaska. Puget Sound was a logical receiving point for much of this oil, where

there were already refineries and where a pipeline could be built to transport crude to Montana and Minnesota. The Northern Tier Pipeline Company was the first to propose a pipeline from Washington to the Midwest; it remained at the center of debates throughout the period.

The development of supertankers in the 1960s and 1970s exacerbated the situation. The coalition's data showed that these larger ships not only spilled more oil, but were more prone to accidents. When Northern Tier planned to bring supertankers to Anacortes and Cherry Point in northern Puget Sound, the CAOP opposed it. In 1975 the coalition won its first major victory when the state legislature passed the Tug Escort Law, which banned oil tankers over 125,000 deadweight tons (dwt) from entering Puget Sound for at least two years (supertankers could be as large as 1,000,000 dwt). In 1976 the coalition won another victory when Governor Dan Evans amended the state's Coastal Zones Management Plan to prevent construction of supertanker docks in Puget Sound.

Although the coalition had succeeded in gaining favorable legislation and policies from the state government, the political landscape changed dramatically in 1977, when Dixy Lee Ray became governor. Ray had close ties to the oil industry and promised to approve a supertanker port at Cherry Point. Fortunately for the coalition, the federal government took control of the issue, when United States Senator Warren Magnuson inserted an amendment into the Marine Mammals Protection Act of 1977 to prevent construction of a "superport" in Puget Sound.

While the CAOP did not want more oil tankers in Puget Sound, it had never opposed building a superport at or west of Port Angeles with a pipeline going around—but not across—Puget Sound. The reasoning behind its endorsement of such a compromise was that there was less chance of a spill if tankers did not cross into Puget Sound, and a spill in the Strait of Juan de Fuca would be much less harmful than one in Puget Sound.

As this compromise plan began to look more like a possibility after 1975, many people and organizations who had supported the Coalition Against Oil Pollution began to turn against it. Arguing that any oilport or pipeline would be too hazardous, an environmental group called No Oilport formed in 1975 to oppose the coalition's compromise plan. Many citizens also opposed the CAOP's compromise, which became apparent when 65 percent of Port Angeles voters showed their disapproval in a plebiscite. Despite opposition to an oilport, coalition founder Bob Lynette said, "The superport is a bitter pill that the people of Port Angeles are going to have swallow."

In 1977 the Coalition Against Oil Pollution underwent changes in its leadership. Jay Pearson replaced Lynette as executive director and Mike Galvin became president. Friction between the coalition and its members continued to grow as it softened its stance further and considered endorsing a Northern Tier plan that would build a pipeline through, rather than around Puget Sound and Whidbey Island. In 1977 the Washington Environmental Council, over the coalition's objection, passed a resolution to oppose any transshipment of oil through Washington State. In 1978 the Seattle Audubon Society withdrew its CAOP membership, and in 1979 the coalition's lobbyist, Dan Seligman, resigned because he felt the coalition had abandoned its environmental goals to promote the Northern Tier pipeline.

In 1980 Northern Tier received the CAOP's approval to build a pipeline through Puget Sound, while eight environmental organizations, nine Indian tribes, and two local governments tried to block the plan through litigation. In 1981 Northern Tier suffered another setback when the Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council recommended that Governor John Spellman reject the company's application for a Port Angeles superport and underwater pipeline. Despite pressure from the U.S. President Ronald Reagan administration and many national politicians, Spellman rejected the application. As of 1997, no superport has been built on the Olympic Peninsula and only tankers under 125,000 dwt cross Puget Sound.

The Coalition Against Oil Pollution disbanded in 1982.

Content Description

The records of the Coalition Against Oil Pollution includes minutes, correspondence, reports, legislation, newsletters, testimony, court papers, clippings, ephemera, slides, and a scrapbook dating from 1970 to 1981. Much of the collection consists of documents from various officers and lobbyists for the CAOP. William Becker and Thomas H.S. Brucker, both of whose activities are documented in these records, were attorneys for the coalition, and Martin Baker was a lobbyist. Major correspondents include Senator Warren G. Magnuson, Senator Henry M. Jackson, Governor Daniel Evans, Governor Dixy Lee Ray, President Jimmy Carter, the Army Corps of Engineers, Northern Tier Pipeline Co., Thomas H.S. Brucker, Robert Lynette, and Mike Galvin. Also represented in the records are the Washington Environmental Council and the Oceanographic Commission of Washington.

Use of the Collection

Restrictions on Use

The literary rights of representatives of the records-creating organization have been transferred to the University of Washington Libraries.

Preferred Citation

Coalition Against Oil Pollution Records. Special Collections Division, University of Washington Libraries, Seattle, Washington.

Administrative Information

Arrangement

Arranged into 2 series:

- Organizational Files, 1971-1980
- Officers and Lobbyists Papers, 1970-1980

Acquisition Information

Donated by Mike Galvin in 1984 and 1989.

Processing Note

Processed in April 1996 by Rachel Davies.

Related Materials

Records of Mike Galvin, which mainly relate to his presidency of the Washington Environmental Council (1974-1975), were originally part of this gift but have been made into a separate collection, the Mike Galvin Papers, Manuscript Collection 3612.

See also the No Oilport Records, Manuscript Collection 3614, Special Collections Division, University of Washington Libraries.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Organizational Files, 1971-1980, undated

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
1/1	Organizational Information	undated
1/2	General Correspondence	1972-1979, undated
	Minutes	
Box/Folder		
1/3	Coalition Against Oil Pollution Board	1972-1978
1/4	Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council	1977-1978
1/5	Others	1975-1980
	Newsletters	
Box/Folder		
1/6	Coalition Against Oil Pollution	1972-1977
1/7	Sierra Club	1972
Box/Folder		
1/8	Journal -- <i>Ecolibrium</i>	1977
	Lists	
Box/Folder		

Container(s)	Description	Dates
1/9	Membership	1976-1977
1/10	Mailing	1976-1978
1/11	Contacts	1972-1976
	Court Papers	
Box/Folder		
1/12-15	ARCO v. Evans	1975-1976
1/16	ARCO v. Evans -- Evans' Appeal	1976-1977
1/17	Clallam County v. United States	1976-1977
1/18-19	Coalition Against Oil Pollution v. the State of Washington	1977
1/20	Northern Tier Application	1976-1979
1/21	Miscellaneous	1976, undated
Box/Folder		
1/22	Testimony	undated
1/23	Legislation -- California	1978
	Reports	
Box/Folder		
2/1	Coalition Against Oil Pollution	1979, undated
2/2-3	Concerning Puget Sound	1973, 1974, 1977
2/4-5	Concerning Washington State	1971, 1975-1978
2/6	Concerning the Pacific Northwest	1975, undated
2/7	Tanker <i>Metula</i>	1974-1975

Container(s)	Description	Dates
2/8	Alaska North Slope	1975-1977
2/9-12	Alaska North Slope Petroleum	1976
2/13	Oil and Marine Environments	1972-1975, undated
2/14-15	Miscellaneous	1975-1977, undated
Box/Folder		
2/16-17	Environmental Impact Statements	1977, undated
3/1-2	Clippings	undated
Box:Oversize		
10	Scrapbook	1971-1976
Box/Folder		
3/3	Ephemera	undated

Officers and Lobbyist Papers, 1970-1980, undated

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Lynette, Robert		
General Correspondence		
Box/Folder		
3/4	Evans, Daniel J.	1974
3/5	Jackson, Henry M.	1973-1975
3/6	Magnuson, Warren G.	1973-1977, undated
3/7	U.S. Congressmen from Washington State	1974-1978

Container(s)	Description	Dates
3/8-9	Miscellaneous Chronological Files	1972-1978, undated
Box/Folder		
3/10	Memoranda -- Oil Barrel Tax	1975
	Legislation	
Box/Folder		
3/11	California Legislation	1978
3/12	Durkan Resolution (Washington State Senate Resolution 209)	1974
3/13-14	Federal Legislation	1972-1975
3/15	House Bill 559: Oil Transfer and Safety Act	1975
3/16	Legislative Effort	1977
3/17	Ports and Waterways Safety Act	1972-1977
3/18	Refinery Siting Bill	1973-1975
3/19	Tanker Liability	1975-1977
3/20	Tug Escort Act (Washington State House Bill 527)	1975
3/21-22	Washington State Legislation	1971-1976
3/23	Other	1972-1976
Box/Folder		
3/24	Legal Documents	1973-1975
	Lists	
Box/Folder		
3/25	Congressional Committees	undated

Container(s)	Description	Dates
3/26	Contacts	undated
3/27	Environmental Groups and Organizations	undated
Box/Folder		
3/28	Flyers	1972-1977
	Slide Show	
Box/Folder		
3/29	Information and Slides	1974
3/30	Originals	1974
Box/Folder		
3/31	Transparencies	undated
4/1	Slides	undated
4/2	Negatives	undated
4/3	Audiotape Reel	undated
4/4	Bibliographies	undated
4/5	Directory -- Environmental Protection Agency	undated
	Newsletters	
Box/Folder		
4/6	Environmental Protection Agency	1977-1978
4/7	Miscellaneous	1973-1978
	Reports	
Box/Folder		

Container(s)	Description	Dates
4/8	Captain M.M. Walk	undated
4/9	Others	undated
Box/Folder		
4/10	News Releases	1973-1978, undated
4/11	Testimony	1973-1977
4/12	Notes	undated
4/13	Clippings	1971-1977
4/14	Miscellany	undated
	Subject Files	
Box/Folder		
4/15	Air Quality	1974-1976
4/16-17	Alaska Pipeline	1971-1973
4/18	Aqua Culture Businesses	1972
4/19	ARCO	1975-1977
4/20	Bellevue Pipeline	1973-1974
4/21	Boating Groups	1971-1972
4/22	Canadian Allocation	1975-1976
4/23	Coalition Against Oil Pollution Taxes	1975
4/24	Casualty Rates	1978
4/25	Chamber of Commerce, Seattle	1974-1976
4/26	Cherry Point	1971-1974

Container(s)	Description	Dates
4/27	Commercial Fishermen	1973
4/28	Community Organizations and Contacts	1971
4/29	Contributors	1970-1977
4/30	Costs of Oil Spills, etc.	undated
4/31	Deep Water Ports	1972-1974
4/32	Deschamps, Captain Robert	1972-1976
4/33	Drilling	1970-1975
4/34	Economic Development Council	1973-1974
4/35	Economics	1972-1975
4/36	Environmental Organizations -- New England	1973-1978
4/37	Evans, Governor Daniel J.	1975
4/38	Financial Data	1972-1976
4/39	Highway Energy Studies	1971-1972
4/40	Information on Grants	undated
4/41	Kitimat Terminal	1976-1978
4/42	Legal Aspects	1974-1977
4/43	Lindholm, Captain George	1974-1975
4/44	Magnuson, Warren G.	1974-1975
4/45	Mobil Oil Corporation	1977
5/1-3	Monobuoys	1971-1974
5/4	Northwest Oil Port Proposal	1975

Container(s)	Description	Dates
5/5-6	Oil and the Northwest	1973-1977
5/7	Oil Clean-up	1973-1976
5/8	Oil Industry	1972-1978
5/9	Oil Spills -- General	1971-1977
5/10	Outer Continental Shelf	1975
5/11	Perry, Robert, Representative	1973-1975
5/12	Pipeline Hearing	1973
5/13	Pittston County, Maine -- Laws, Rulings	1971-1975
5/14	Port Angeles	1975-1978
5/15-16	Puget Sound and Oil	1972-1978
5/17	Puget Sound Council	1974
5/18	Puget Sound Pilots	1972-1978
5/19	Ray, Governor Dixy Lee	1976-1977
5/20	Shoreline Management	1971-1975
5/21	Sierra Club	1972-1977
5/22	SOHIO-BP Tanker Terminal (California)	1977
5/23	State Experts	1973-1976
5/24	Superspill	1974
5/25	Tanker Construction	1974-1975
5/26	U.S. Coast Guard	1975-1977
5/27	U.S. Federal Energy Administration	1975-1977

Container(s)	Description	Dates
5/28	Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council	1975-1977
5/29	Washington Legislature, Energy and Utilities Committees	1977-1978
5/30	Washington Legislature, House of Representatives, Transportation and Utilities Committee	1975-1977
5/31	Washington Oceanographic Commission (OCW)	1972-1977
5/32	West Falmouth, Massachusetts, Oil Spill	1973-1974
Galvin, Mike		
Box/Folder		
6/1	Outgoing Letters -- Carter, Jimmy	1977-1979, undated
General Correspondence		
Box/Folder		
6/2	Jackson, Henry M.	1977-1981
6/3	Magnuson, Warren G.	1977-1980, undated
6/4	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	1975-1980
6/5	Northern Tier Pipeline Company	1977-1980
6/6	U.S. Congressmen from Washington State	1977-1980
6/7-10	Miscellaneous Chronological	1972-1981, undated
Legislation		
Box/Folder		
6/11	General	1976-1979

Container(s)	Description	Dates
6/12	Northern Tier States	1976
6/13	Federal Legislation	1977
Box/Folder		
6/14	Legal Documents	1976, 1978
6/15	Court Papers	1977-1978
6/16	Resolutions (Non-Coalition Against Oil Pollution)	1979
6/17	Speeches and Writings	undated
6/18	Articles	undated
6/19	Lists	undated
6/20	Pamphlets	undated
6/21	Notes	undated
6/22	Transparencies	undated
6/23	Newletters	1977-1979
	News Releases	
Box/Folder		
6/24	Coalition Against Oil Pollution	1977-1979, undated
6/25	Others	1977-1980
Box/Folder		
6/26	Testimony	undated
6/27	Originals	undated
	Reports	

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
6/28	Coalition Against Oil Pollution	undated
6/29	Concerning Washington State	undated
6/30	Northern Tier Pipeline	1977-1978
6/31	Biological/Ecological Impact	1970-1977
7/1	Miscellaneous	1977-1978, undated
Environmental Impact Statements		
Box/Folder		
7/2-5	ARCO/TM	undated
7/6	Miscellaneous	1976-1977
Box/Folder		
7/7	Miscellany	undated
7/8	Ephemera	undated
7/9-12	Clippings	undated
Subject Files		
Box/Folder		
7/13	BN/GATX Proposal	1978
7/14	Canada	1977-1979
7/15	Coastal Zone Management	1975-1977
7/16	Department of Energy Hearings Concerning Alaskan Oil	1978
7/17	Environmental Articles and Statements	1976-1980

Container(s)	Description	Dates
7/18	Evans Amendment	1975-1979
7/19	Federal Effort	1977
7/20	Fund Raising	1978
7/21	Legal Material	1975-1978
7/22	Legal Proceedings	1976-1979
7/23	Liquid Natural Gas	undated
8/1	LNG/LPG Study	1977-1978
8/2	Media	1978
8/3	No Oilport	1976-1979
8/4-7	Northern Tier Pipeline	1977-1979
8/8	Northern Tier Pipeline Inquiry	1978-1979
8/9	Northwest Electrical Energy Conservation Project	1977-1978
8/10	Ocean Pollution Workshop	1978
8/11	Oil Ports Inquiry	1977-1978
9/1	Other Environmental Groups	1977-1978
9/2	U.S. Department of Energy	1978
9/3	Washington Energy Policy Council	1974-1978
9/4	Washington Oceanographic Commission	1977
Box/Folder		
9/5	Coalition Against Oil Pollution, Directors Board	1977-1979
9/6-7	Baker, Martin	1976-1978

Container(s)	Description	Dates
9/8	Becker, William A.	1976-1977
9/9	Brucker, Thomas H. S.	1977-1978
9/10	Pearson, Jay	1977
9/11	Seligman, Dan	1974-1976
9/12	Washington Environmental Council	1976-1981
9/13	Duplicates	undated

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Environmental protection--Washington (State)
 Oil pollution of rivers, harbors, etc.--Law and legislation--Washington (State)
 Oil pollution of rivers, harbors, etc.--Washington (State)
 Oil pollution of rivers, harbors, etc.--Washington (State)--Puget Sound
 Oil pollution of the sea--Law and legislation--Washington (State)
 Oil pollution of the sea--Washington (State)
 Oil spills--Prevention
 Petroleum pipelines--Washington (State)
 Petroleum--Transportation--Law and legislation--Washington (State)
 Petroleum--Transportation--Washington (State)--Puget Sound
 Tankers--Law and legislation--Washington (State)

Personal Names :

Baker, Martin W
 Becker, William A
 Brucker, Thomas H. S
 Carter, Jimmy, 1924-
 Evans, Daniel J., 1925-
 Galvin, Mike
 Jackson, Henry M. (Henry Martin), 1912-1983
 Lynette, Robert
 Magnuson, Warren G. (Warren Grant), 1905-1989
 Ray, Dixy Lee
 Seligman, Daniel

Corporate Names :

Coalition Against Oil Pollution (Wash.)--Archives
 Northern Tier Pipeline Company
 Oceanographic Commission of Washington
 United States. Army Corps. of Engineers
 Washington Environmental Council

Geographical Names :

Northern Tier Pipeline
Puget Sound (Wash.)--Environmental conditions

Form or Genre Terms :

Bills, legislative
Clippings (Books, newspapers, etc.)
correspondence
legal files
minutes
Newsletters
Press releases
reports
Scrapbooks
Slides
testimonies
Transparencies

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Personal Papers/Corporate Records (University of Washington)

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