

KNKX:

Issues & Programs List

2024: First quarter (January-March)

Local newscasts on Morning Edition air every half hour from 6:30 to 8:30 AM Local newscasts on All Things Considered air every half hour from 3 to 6 PM All stories listed aired both morning and afternoon on the day noted -- sometimes the stories aired as many as 4x in one day.

POLITICS

[Eight lawmakers to watch in Washington's 2024 session](#)

January 4, 2024

The state's 147 citizen legislators will soon arrive in Olympia to convene for 60 days, beginning Jan. 8.

[Ballot initiatives cast shadow over Washington legislative session](#)

January 5, 2024

Democratic and Republican lawmakers want to work on climate, public safety, education and transportation. The measures could affect what gets accomplished.

[Oregon Supreme Court rules that Republican senators who walked out last year can't seek reelection](#)

February 1, 2024

In an opinion that could have reverberations for the upcoming legislative session, the court sided with state elections officials' interpretation of the ballot measure voters approved aiming to end legislative walkouts.

[Is Washington's moderate era over? One candidate for governor hopes to revive it](#)

February 5, 2024

Many Washington voters used to vote for Republicans and Democrats on the same ballot. That's not so true anymore. But Democratic candidate Mark Mullet is hoping to revive the center lane.

Many WA voters will decide fate of old schools in February election

February 9, 2024

In more than 40 districts statewide in Washington, voters will decide on Feb. 13 whether or not to rebuild aging schools, many that are in desperate need of repair.

Sen. Patty Murray makes rare endorsement in contested Tacoma-area primary

March 18, 2024

Washington Senator Patty Murray has made a rare endorsement in a contested primary, setting up a competitive August race for voters in the 6th Congressional District.

Voters unenthusiastic about both frontrunners in WA primary

March 14, 2024

Democrat turnout is way down in the primary, and about 8% of voters are "uncommitted" to Biden in early returns.

ENVIRONMENT

New alert system aims to reduce the number of whales hit by vessels

March 20, 2024

The U.S. Coast Guard has developed a new system to try to reduce the number of whales hit by vessels. It's a 4-year pilot project in the waters in and around Seattle.

10 years after the deadliest US landslide, climate change is increasing the danger

March 20, 2024

Friday marks 10 years since the side of a mountain collapsed, and buried an entire neighborhood in rural Washington state, killing 43 people.

Study shows short pesticide exposure harms fish

March 17, 2024

A common type of pesticide can harm fish for generations after just days of exposure. That's according to a new study. And researchers say it could also be a problem for people.

[**Contaminated wells near Yakima Training Center getting filter fix from the Army**](#)

March 15, 2024

The U.S. Army wants to install filters to help clean up contaminated well water in Central Washington. First, people need to fill out specific paperwork.

[**As the Northwest turns toward spring experts eye the snowpack**](#)

March 13, 2024

The next couple of weeks will determine just how challenging it could get this summer for agricultural irrigators, fish and wildfire.

[**New golden eagle to provide Yakama Nation with sacred ceremonial feathers**](#)

March 13, 2024

Golden eagle feathers are sacred in many cultures. The Yakama Nation aviary is now home to a 1-year old golden eagle. That's a big deal because it's hard to get those feathers legally from the federally protected birds.

[**Judge rejects attempt to delay building code update with new heat pump rules**](#)

March 11, 2024

The changes are set to go into effect on March 15. They still face a challenge in court.

[**EPA proposes adding portions of upper Columbia River to the Superfund list**](#)

March 7, 2024

Lead contamination is the main concern along popular rivershore and recreational sites

[**New food forest will bring year-round foraging to Tacoma's South End**](#)

March 7, 2024

A Tacoma park where blueberries can be picked for free during the summer is about to add a year-round food forest for gleaning after receiving a state urban forestry grant.

[**Early return of gray whales mirrors timing of unusual mortality event**](#)

February 28, 2024

The "Sounders" returned to the Puget Sound region during their annual migration. However, the whales' early arrival could signal widespread hunger and starvation.

[Oregon researchers hope to provide new tools to help wine growers address climate change, smoke](#)

February 27, 2024

Oregon State University is using science to block even a smudge of wildfire flavors in prime Northwest wines

[Water worries on the rise: Nooksack addresses increased flooding](#)

February 25, 2024

Nooksack officials and homeowners are concerned about problematic drainage that appears to be getting worse.

[New Columbia Basin plan promises \\$1B for fish restoration and a break from court cases](#)

February 24, 2024

After decades of fighting to protect salmon and steelhead, Northwest tribal leaders signed a historic agreement with state and federal officials – the Columbia Basin Restoration Initiative.

[Tacoma's rezoning efforts aim to increase density while preserving trees](#)

February 22, 2024

The City of Tacoma is working to increase the density and affordability of housing while also adding tree protections that could be the first of its kind for the state.

[Pollution causing problems for nighttime pollinators](#)

February 21, 2024

Car exhaust at night is drowning out flower scents – a big problem for little insects. That's according to a new study from the University of Washington.

[Puyallup Tribe celebrates as Electron Hydro is ordered to remove temporary rock dam](#)

February 16, 2024

The tribe filed suit under the Endangered Species Act because they say the wall is harming three species of endangered fish, including Chinook salmon. A judge ruled in favor of the tribe Friday, after visiting the dam site.

Washington's key climate law is under attack. Big Oil wants it to survive

February 15, 2024

How did a cap-and-trade program considered the "gold standard" gain the support of oil companies?

Environmental justice groups voice concerns as WA carbon market linkage bill advances

February 14, 2024

A proposal to link Washington's market for carbon pollution allowances with its counterparts in California and Québec is gaining traction in Olympia.

Northwest Treaty Tribes call for 'big fixes' as salmon recovery lags

February 12, 2024

Amid all the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the pivotal Boldt decision, there's concern about the future of the fish.

50 years ago Boldt decision affirmed Northwest tribes' treaty fishing rights

February 12, 2024

In 1974, Judge George H. Boldt handed down a landmark ruling affirming Indigenous fishing rights in Washington state. Here's how the Boldt decision came about and what it means today.

Largest proposed wind farm in WA slashed in half, firefighting issues are part of the problem

February 6, 2024

A controversial wind farm that was set to be the largest in Washington has been slashed nearly in half. The project developer said the new restrictions could be bad for renewable energy development around the state.

Energy company is back in court for endangering fish on the Puyallup River

February 5, 2024

The Puyallup Tribe is demanding the removal of a temporary rock dam four years after a whistleblower exposed Electron Hydro's illegal use of AstroTurf in the Puyallup River.

High gas prices drive 'big oil transparency' legislation in Olympia

February 1, 2024

Big oil transparency legislation is moving forward after critics attributed last year's high gas prices to the state's landmark cap and trade law, the Climate Commitment Act.

Accomplished climber shifts focus to urgent work of fighting climate change

January 31, 2024

Graham Zimmerman has scaled some of the tallest peaks in the world, but recently he's taken on a new challenge — advocating for action to turn back the effects of climate change.

Green hydrogen plans take shape for former Alcoa site at Cherry Point

January 27, 2024

The closed aluminum smelter will be sold to a Canadian energy company that wants to redevelop the complex to produce “green” hydrogen. The renewable energy project still faces hurdles.

Despite cycles of settlers and development, this rare urban stand of Garry oaks remains

January 25, 2024

Suburban cities like Lakewood, Washington, are struggling to increase the urban tree canopy. But the city is also home to an extensive stand of native oak trees, a hub for ecosystem restoration, stewardship, and outreach.

Washington leaders try to find solutions for wolf depredations and killing of wolves

January 23, 2024

Many ranchers say it's time to find creative ways to deal with wolf attacks on livestock. That's what a new bill in the Washington state Senate hopes to do – to the frustration of some wildlife rights groups.

Ports take steps to reduce emissions with \$12M infrastructure grant

January 23, 2024

Ports in Seattle and Tacoma will use new federal infrastructure funding to develop electric truck charging hubs to phase out emissions from heavy-duty diesel trucks.

New fossils suggest kelp forests have swayed in the seas for at least 32 million years

January 23, 2024

A new study of kelp fossils from the coast of Washington state shows that kelp forests, which host all manner of marine life, developed tens of millions of years ago.

Early January storms bring much-needed snow to the Northwest – is it enough?

January 19, 2024

Snow and ice have hit the lowlands across the Northwest lately, but how are we doing up high? What's the snowpack looking like across Washington and Oregon?

[Brrrr...it's cold out there: Temps dip in Western Washington](#)

January 11, 2024

Temperatures are in the teens and low 20s in Western Washington on Friday. Parts of the region are dealing with high winds and some snow accumulation.

[Cleanup process in Olympia's Budd Inlet starts with sediment samples](#)

January 10, 2024

The Port of Olympia started work this week on a plan to remove legacy pollution from the waters of Budd Inlet at the southernmost tip of Puget Sound.

ARTS AND CULTURE

[Mountlake Terrace High School is rooting for Lily Gladstone](#)

March 8, 2024

Lily Gladstone won a Golden Globe and SAG award for her performance in "Killers of the Flower Moon." Now she's up for an Oscar.

[Foam, fabric, passion and competitive cosplay at Emerald City Comic Con](#)

March 8, 2024

Cosplayers competing at Emerald City Comic Con put in hours of work constructing their detailed outfits. And then they go before the judges.

[A special place for sci-fi: 10 great films with Pacific Northwest ties](#)

February 28, 2024

In honor of the release of "Dune: Part Two," here are some of the other memorable sci-fi movies born right here in the Pacific Northwest, in one way or another.

[Bellevue Arts Museum asks the public to help keep its doors open](#)

February 27, 2024

The museum launched a six-week-long campaign to raise \$300,000 to keep them afloat until its next fundraising opportunities.

Seattle Kraken specialty logo celebrates Black hockey history

February 25, 2024

Local artist Barry Johnson designed the Kraken's specialty jersey for the team's Black Hockey History Night. The team has found ways to celebrate inclusive theme nights, despite NHL restrictions.

Meet the composer behind 'X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X'

February 22, 2024

"X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X" made its debut in the 1980s, but it's popularity is on the rise as it arrives in Seattle.

Side hustles get big: Tacoma's Side Piece Kitchen finds success with authentic advertising

February 18, 2024

Side Piece Kitchen is a part of a growing trend of restaurants that started with pop ups and have grown into full-fledged businesses, thanks in part to a strong following on social media.

An ongoing exhibit exploring Asian identity returns to Pioneer Square

February 13, 2024

The third installment of the art exhibit "Have you eaten?" features over 30 Asian American and Pacific Islander artists exploring more than just food, but the meaning of home.

Food holds special meaning on the Lunar New Year. Readers share their favorite dishes

February 12, 2024

Much like Thanksgiving, many dishes eaten during the Lunar New Year are special to the holiday. NPR readers shared their most cherished dishes.

Sacred Summit: How an Indigenous hiker seeks inclusion atop Tahoma

February 11, 2024

In the heart of the Pacific Northwest, Indigenous activist and educator Rachel Heaton has long felt a profound connection to the majestic Tahoma.

Is Bigfoot real? A new book dives deep into the legend

February 10, 2024

The Secret History of Bigfoot is a smart, hilarious, and wonderfully immersive journey into the history of Bigfoot, the culture around it, the people who obsess about it, and the psychology behind it.

[SEA Vinyl Society brings sounds of Southeast Asia's past to the present](#)

February 9, 2024

The SEA Vinyl Society is a group of people working to collect, preserve, and share old records from across Southeast Asia.

[Accomplished climber shifts focus to urgent work of fighting climate change](#)

January 31, 2024

Graham Zimmerman has scaled some of the tallest peaks in the world, but recently he's taken on a new challenge — advocating for action to turn back the effects of climate change.

[Washington state represents in the James Beard semifinalists list](#)

January 24, 2024

14 chefs and restaurants from Washington state were named James Beard semifinalists.

['The Rocket' lives on in the WA State Library's digital archive](#)

January 19, 2024

All issues of the former music magazine, "The Rocket," are now available online to the public for free thanks to the Washington State Library and University of Washington.

[PNW: a pinball paradise \(mostly\), how a Tri-Cities man is solving the 'inland drought'](#)

January 14, 2024

From Seattle to Portland, many people consider the Pacific Northwest a pinball paradise. But, there just aren't many machines in some places. That's why one Tri-Cities man is trying to ramp up pinball pandemonium in southeastern Washington, with the help of fellow pinball fans.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

ICE identifies man found dead at Northwest ICE Processing Center

March 8, 2024

Police said a 61-year-old man was found unresponsive on Thursday at the ICE facility in Tacoma.

Six arrested at Seattle City Hall as asylum seekers plead for help with housing

February 28, 2024

A Seattle City Council meeting on Tuesday grew contentious when asylum seekers marched there to plead for help with housing. Local activists joined them and demanded that the money come from funding the city has already allocated for police surveillance.

An Indigenous teen in Washington disappeared amid clear signs of danger

February 24, 2024

It took police more than a year to start investigating Kit's disappearance. Kit is from a part of the country that's become unusually accustomed to children disappearing.

Venezuelan asylum seekers begin adjusting to new life in the Pacific Northwest

February 16, 2024

Earlier this month, asylum seekers, most of them from Venezuela, marched to Seattle City Hall and pleaded for shelter. Now they've been moved into a new space.

Another WA agency sues private prison company running ICE facility

February 13, 2024

The Department of Labor and Industries has sued GEO Group because it has not allowed officials to inspect the Northwest ICE Processing Center in Tacoma.

Partial video released of Tacoma immigration site's use of 'chemical agents' on detainees

February 5, 2024

The Northwest Immigrant Rights Project is fighting in court for about 12 hours of video capturing the February 2023 incident at the privately run detention center.

[Wait, drive and worry: What it's like being a Seattle rideshare driver](#)

January 30, 2024

Washington state rideshare drivers might be among the best paid in the country, but the drivers, many of whom are low-income immigrants, remain concerned about money and safety.

[Seattle's Wing Luke Museum unveils mural after alleged hate crime](#)

January 30, 2024

The mural stretches across nine windows in the Chinatown-International district that were smashed by a white man who was allegedly yelling racist slurs.

[Seattle will pay \\$10 million to protesters who said police used excessive force during 2020 protests](#)

January 25, 2024

Seattle has agreed to pay demonstrators who sued over the police department's heavy-handed response to protests following the killing of George Floyd by Minneapolis police.

[Connecting Skagit's food producers and food needs](#)

January 20, 2024

Food needs have grown in recent years, but two programs in Skagit County are trying to combat hunger by using local growers to build relationships within the local food system.

[WA Dept. of Health sues over lack of inspections at ICE facility](#)

January 18, 2024

The Washington state Department of Health said it's tried to enter the ICE facility in Tacoma twice to inspect it but has been turned away.

[Opposition forms as Renton voters weigh minimum wage proposal](#)

January 16, 2024

The Washington Hospitality Association and the Washington Food Industry Association are among those who have contributed to a new PAC opposing a minimum wage proposal in Renton, Wash.

MANUEL ELLIS DEATH

[Unsealed interviews illuminate how Tacoma Police evaluated ex-officers conduct](#)

March 4, 2024

In the final episode of The Walk Home podcast, KNKX examines the recently unsealed internal affairs interviews with the Tacoma Police officers involved the night Manuel "Manny" Ellis died.

[Tacoma Mayor Victoria Woodards reflects on death of Manny Ellis, police reform](#)

February 29, 2024

Nearly four years after the death of Manny Ellis in Tacoma police custody, Mayor Victoria Woodards reflects on the city's response during an interview for The Walk Home, the award-winning podcast from KNKX and The Seattle Times.

[Tacoma Council approves police contract after officers cleared in Ellis death](#)

January 17, 2024

Tacoma City Council approved a police union contract the same day the city's police chief cleared the three officers recently acquitted in the March 2020 death of Manny Ellis.

[Tacoma Police Chief clears ex-officers in 2020 death of Manny Ellis](#)

January 16, 2024

Three Tacoma police officers involved in the March 2020 death of Manny Ellis agreed to resign and the department cleared them of wrongdoing under policies that were in effect at the time. The city agreed to pay each of them \$500,000.

[Justice Department announces probe into death of Manny Ellis in Tacoma police custody](#)

January 12, 2024

The U.S. Justice Department is investigating whether Tacoma police officers violated federal law when they beat, Tasered and hogtied Manuel "Manny" Ellis, a 33-year-old Black man, before his death in March 2020, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Washington.