



Applying knowledge to improve water quality

Pacific Northwest

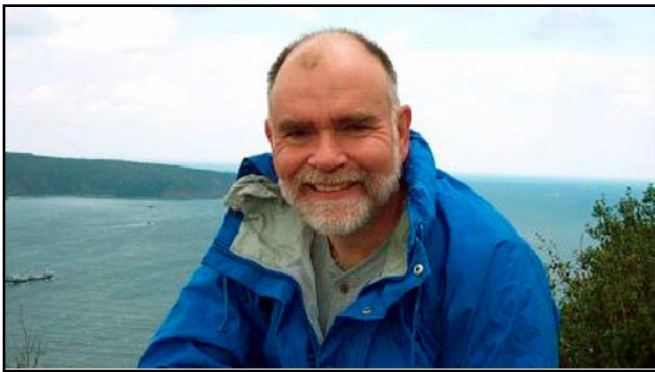
Regional Water Program

A Partnership of USDA CSREES
& Land Grant Colleges and Universities

Spring 2006
PNWWATER 086

Oregon State University:

Campana Leads Institute for Water and Watersheds



Dr. Michael E. Campana, a hydrogeologist and international expert on a range of water management and education issues, became Director of the Institute for Water and Watersheds at Oregon State University (OSU) on June 1, 2006. Prior to assuming the position at OSU, Dr. Campana served as the director of the Water Resources Program at the University of New Mexico. He has done extensive research on water resources in developing countries, transboundary water resource issues, water allocation and availability, and other areas. He is also founder and president of a charitable foundation that funds and undertakes water, health, and sanitation projects in developing nations. Dr. Campana

received his doctorate in hydrology from the University of Arizona.

The Institute for Water and Watersheds (IWW) is the state water resources research institute for Oregon and is one of 54 state- or territory-based, institutes established by the 1964 Federal Water Resources Research Act. Through this program, the IWW receives federal matching funds from the US Geological Survey (USGS) to support water resources research and education activities in Oregon. In this role, it replaces the Center for Water and Environmental Sustainability (CWEST) which operated from 2000-2005 and the the Oregon Water Resources Research Institute (OWRRI) which operated from 1960-2000. The OSU-IWW involves the work of more than 80 faculty members in six colleges.

“Oregon and the rest of the Pacific Northwest are facing a variety of water and environmental problems,” Campana said. “OSU’s water expertise must be brought to bear in solving these problems, and the IWW needs to reach a point where it is the first organization Oregonians and others think of when water issues arise.”

Campana said he hopes to focus the institute’s efforts on large, multidisciplinary, long-term projects and significantly increase external funding for water research activities at the university, which is now about \$11 million a year. He also hopes to boost educational and outreach programs, aid the creation of science-based water policy, bring more leading national experts to Oregon for lectures and other work, and develop more student scholarships for OSU water programs.

Much of his recent work has been in foreign countries in Central America, the South Caucasus, and Central Asia, Campana said, and he plans to increase OSU’s international visibility in projects such as this. Campana has served on a number of federal research committees, is the past chair of the 10,000 member Association of Ground Water Scientists and Engineers, and has participated in many other national and international water research and management initiatives.

In anticipation of Dr. Campana’s arrival at OSU, he was appointed to the National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council (NAS-NRC) Committee on Hydrology, Ecology, and Fishes of the Klamath River Basin this spring.



**Pacific Northwest Regional Water
Quality Coordination Project
Partners**

Land Grant Universities

Alaska

Cooperative Extension Service
Contact Fred Sorensen:
907-786-6311

<http://www.uaf.edu/ces/water/>

University Publications:

<http://www.alaska.edu/uaf/ces/publications/>

Idaho

University of Idaho
Cooperative Extension System
Contact Bob Mahler: 208-885-7025

<http://www.uidaho.edu/wq/wqhome.html>

University Publications:

<http://info.ag.uidaho.edu/Catalog/catalog.html>

Oregon

Oregon State University
Extension Service
Contact Mike Gamroth: 541-737-3316

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/>

University Publications:

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/>

Washington

Washington State University
WSU Extension
Contact Bob Simmons:

360-427-9670 ext. 690

<http://wawater.wsu.edu/>

University Publications:

<http://pubs.wsu.edu/>

Northwest Indian College
Contact Dan Burns:

360-392-4328

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<http://www.nwic.edu/>

Water Resource Research Institutes

Water and Environmental Research
Center (Alaska)

<http://www.uaf.edu/water/>

Idaho Water Resources
Research Institute

<http://www.boise.uidaho.edu/>

Institute for Water and
Watersheds (Oregon)

<http://water.oregonstate.edu/>

State of Washington
Water Research Center

<http://www.swwrc.wsu.edu/>

Environmental Protection Agency

EPA, Region 10

The Pacific Northwest

<http://www.epa.gov/r10earth/>

Office of Research and Development,
Corvallis Laboratory

<http://www.epa.gov/wed/>

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“The Klamath River situation has been categorized by some as the archetypical ‘fish vs. farmers’ conflict,” said Campana. “To some, irrigated agriculture is the culprit, threatening the fish, while others question the excessive concern for fish and the seeming disregard for the welfare of people and the local irrigation-based economy.” The NAS-NRC “Klamath 2” committee will build upon the work of the first Klamath River committee, which issued its report in 2004. Its specific charges will be to: review the Bureau of Reclamation’s effort to reconstruct the “natural” (pre-development) flows of the Klamath River; review a study of habitat needs for coho salmon and other anadromous fishes; review and evaluate the implications of those studies vis-à-vis threatened and endangered species; and identify additional data and information gaps. To that end, the Committee plans meetings in Yreka July 25-27 and Klamath Falls October 3-4, 2006.

Other IWW projects include:

Umatilla County Critical Groundwater Solutions Taskforce Planning

IWW is assisting Umatilla County Critical Groundwater Solutions Taskforce (<http://www.co.umatilla.or.us/Groundwater.htm>) with their efforts at developing one of the first community management groundwater programs in the State of Oregon. Two graduate students were funded to develop a historical chronology of water-related events in the county, synthesize the wealth of water resources studies that date back nearly 100 years, and to compile maps depicting the breadth of the nearly 400 feet of water level changes that have occurred over the past 50 years in the Umatilla Basin. The Critical Groundwater Solutions Taskforce will use these materials in a broad education and information campaign as part of their 2050 water planning program.

Deschutes Water Alliance

IWW assisted the Deschutes Water Alliance with coordinating peer reviews of five white papers describing the water situation in the Deschutes River Basin. IWW also participated in the Deschutes Water Summit held at Warm Springs, Oregon, where over 200 people participated in a water planning dialogue in preparation for finalizing reports to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Water 2025 program.

USGS Minigrants

Twenty one proposals were received from academic institutions located across the State of Oregon. IWW awarded research grants totaling approximately \$140,000 using a combination of funds from the US Geological Survey and IWW. Funded proposals for 2006 are described at:

http://water.oregonstate.edu/funding/usgs_projects_06.htm.

For more information on the Institute of Water and Watersheds at Oregon State University visit <http://water.oregonstate.edu>. Campana can be contacted at 541-737-2413 (office); 541-602-4085 (cell); or aquadoc@oregonstate.edu.

National Water Quality Program Areas

The four land grant universities in the Pacific Northwest have aligned our water resource extension and research efforts with eight themes of the USDA’s Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension System.

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| 1. Animal Waste Management | 5. Pollution Assessment and Prevention |
| 2. Drinking Water and Human Health | 6. Watershed Management |
| 3. Environmental Restoration | 7. Water Conservation and Management |
| 4. Nutrient and Pesticide Management | 8. Water Policy and Economics |

CSREES is the Cooperative States Research, Education, and Extension Service, a sub-agency of the United States Department of Agriculture, and is the federal partner in this water quality program.