



Applying knowledge to improve water quality

# Pacific Northwest

## Regional Water Program

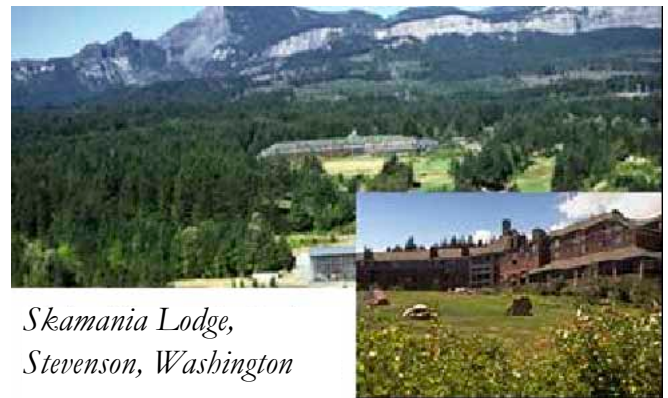
A Partnership of USDA NIFA  
& Land Grant Colleges and Universities

Winter 2007  
PNWWATER 101

### Upcoming November Conference:

## Water in the Pacific Northwest: Moving Science into Policy and Action

The Pacific Northwest Water Quality Team is proud to announce that its fourth conference on regional water resources issues will be held this fall at the Skamania Lodge in Stevenson, Washington on November 7-9, 2007. This regional conference merges water science and policy to promote collaboration between scientists and policy makers on water-policy decisions. It was developed in response to comments from previous water quality and groundwater conference participants who stressed the need to better integrate science and policy. The conference will include presentations, featured speakers, panel discussions, and a poster session. More information will be available soon on our Web site at <http://www.swwrc.wsu.edu> or call 509-335-3530.



Skamania Lodge,  
Stevenson, Washington

The goals of the conference are to: 1) improve the interaction, collaboration, and communication between scientists and policy makers; 2) inform scientists of the needs, constraints, and opportunities policy makers face; and 3) inform policy makers of the contributions and the limits that science can offer to the policy process.

The Skamania Lodge (<http://www.skamania.com/>) venue has proven to be a popular destination for conference participants in the past and is strategically located with respect to the five PNW land-grant universities (UAF, UI, OSU, WSU, and the Northwest Indian College).

Located just 45 minutes away from Portland, Oregon, Skamania Lodge is easily accessible by ground transportation and is serviced from most major cities by the Portland International Airport. The lodge, located in the Columbia River Gorge, has excellent facilities for hosting conferences such as this.

A Call for Papers and Posters will be sent out soon. This years' conference will focus on the essential topic of incorporating science into action and include the broadly defined themes: Challenges and Strategies for Integrating Science and Policy; Social Aspects of Water Policy; Policy

### CONFERENCE GOALS

- ◆ Improve the interaction, collaboration, and communication between scientists and policy makers.
- ◆ Inform scientists of the needs, constraints, and opportunities policy makers face.
- ◆ Inform policy makers of the contributions and the limits that science can offer to the policy process.



**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.htm>

**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 Charlotte Clausing:  
360-392-4319

[cclausing@nwic.edu](mailto:cclausing@nwic.edu) or

<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 Project**

Land Grant Universities, Water Research Institutes, and EPA Region 10 have formed a partnership to provide research and education to communities about protecting or restoring the quality of water resources. This partnership is being supported in part by the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).

**Our Goal and Approach**

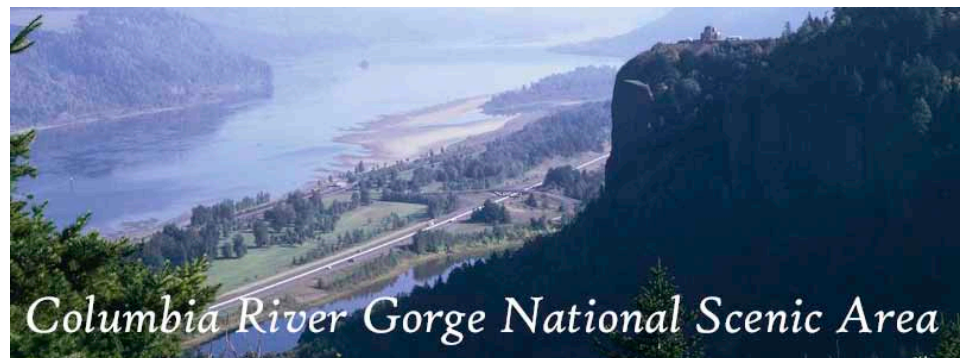
The goal of this Project is to provide leadership for water resources research, education, and outreach to help people, industry, and governments to prevent and solve current and emerging water quality and quantity problems. The approach to achieving this goal is for the Partners to develop a coordinated water quality effort based on, and strengthening, individual state programs.

**Our Strengths**

The Project promotes regional collaboration by acknowledging existing programs and successful efforts; assisting program gaps; identifying potential issues for cross-agency and private sector collaboration; and developing a clearinghouse of expertise and programs. In addition, the Project establishes or enhances partnerships with federal, state, and local environmental and water resource management agencies, such as by placing a University Liaison within the offices of EPA Region 10.

Response to Environmental Changes; Scientific Uncertainties and Disagreements; Roles and Responsibilities in Policy Making; The Human Dimension: What Makes People Act; Feed-back Loops in Decision Making Processes; Laws and Legislative Actions; and Transboundary Considerations. Expanded theme topics are listed on the Web. The deadline for submitting poster and presentation abstracts will be May 4, 2007.

The conference will include featured speakers, panel discussions, oral presentations, and a poster session aimed at highlighting successes, failures, and lessons learned from the Pacific Northwest. Our experience has demonstrated that the networking and small-group discussions that occur during session breaks are also extremely productive. Here is your chance to shape the direction of interactions between university researchers, extension specialists, NGO's, and policy makers. So save the date and plan on attending this year's event! You won't want to miss it.



**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 National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

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

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