



Applying knowledge to improve water quality

Pacific Northwest

Regional Water Program

A Partnership of USDA CSREES
& 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.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

dburns@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/>

For more information contact
Jan Seago at 206-553-0038 or
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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 Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension System (CSREES).

Our Goal and Approach

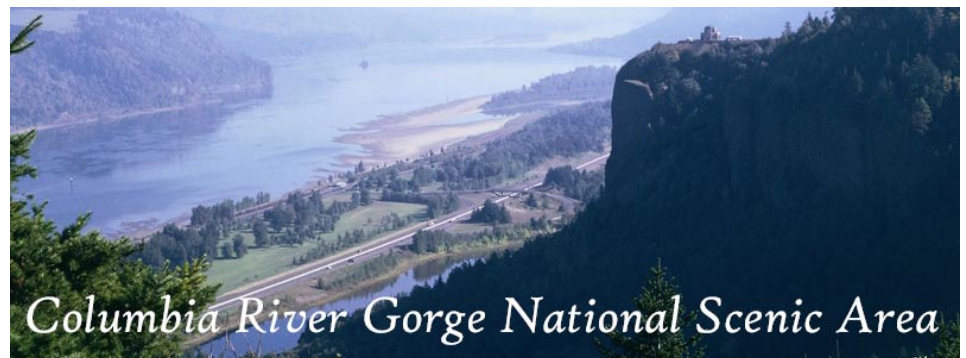
The goal of this Project is to provide leadership for water resources research, education, and outreach to help people, industry, and governments to prevent and solve current and emerging water quality and quantity problems. The approach to achieving this goal is for the Partners to develop a coordinated 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 Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension System.

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

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.