



Applying knowledge to improve water quality

Fall 2002
PNWWATER 006

Pacific Northwest

Regional Water Program

A Partnership of USDA CSREES
& Land Grant Colleges and Universities

Research and Extension Regional Water Quality Conference

The Research and Extension Regional Water Quality Conference held in Vancouver, Washington, February 20 and 21, 2002, was the first of its kind in the region. The conference provided an excellent opportunity for research, extension, and agency personnel to exchange information on water quality issues, such as total maximum daily loads and animal waste management, that are important for the region. The main objective of the conference was to present current science and scientific advances as well as their application for technology transfer and outreach. Leading professionals from Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and other states came together to debate the emerging water issues that will shape the future of the region and the nation.



Overall, results from evaluation forms collected at the conference showed attendees thought that the conference agenda, oral and poster presentations, and conference organization were good to excellent despite some minor technical difficulties. In addition, of those attendees who responded, 100 percent agreed that there should be more conferences in the future with more emphasis on total maximum daily loads, monitoring, restoration, and storm water and watershed issues, to name a few. The entire summary of conference evaluation results is located on the State of Washington Water Research Center website at:

<http://www.swsrc.wsu.edu/conference/index.html>. What's more, the proceedings, program and some photographs taken at the conference are also located there.

Plans for the next Research and Extension Regional Water Quality Conference are in the works. The next conference is tentatively scheduled for the fall of 2003 and will again likely be held in the Portland-Vancouver area. Information regarding this event will be posted as soon as it is available on the State of Washington Water Research Center website listed above. We hope you will join us because the next conference should prove to be both fun and interesting.



Oregon State
UNIVERSITY



University of Idaho
A LEGACY OF LEADING



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/index.html>

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: Michael Cochrane:
360-392-4299

mcochrane@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 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.



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.