



*National Association of  
Environmental Professionals*

*37th Annual NAEP Conference*



NWAEP

***Science, Politics, and Policy:  
Environmental Nexus***

**Final Program**

*May 21-24, 2012*

*Portland Hilton & Executive Towers  
Portland, Oregon*



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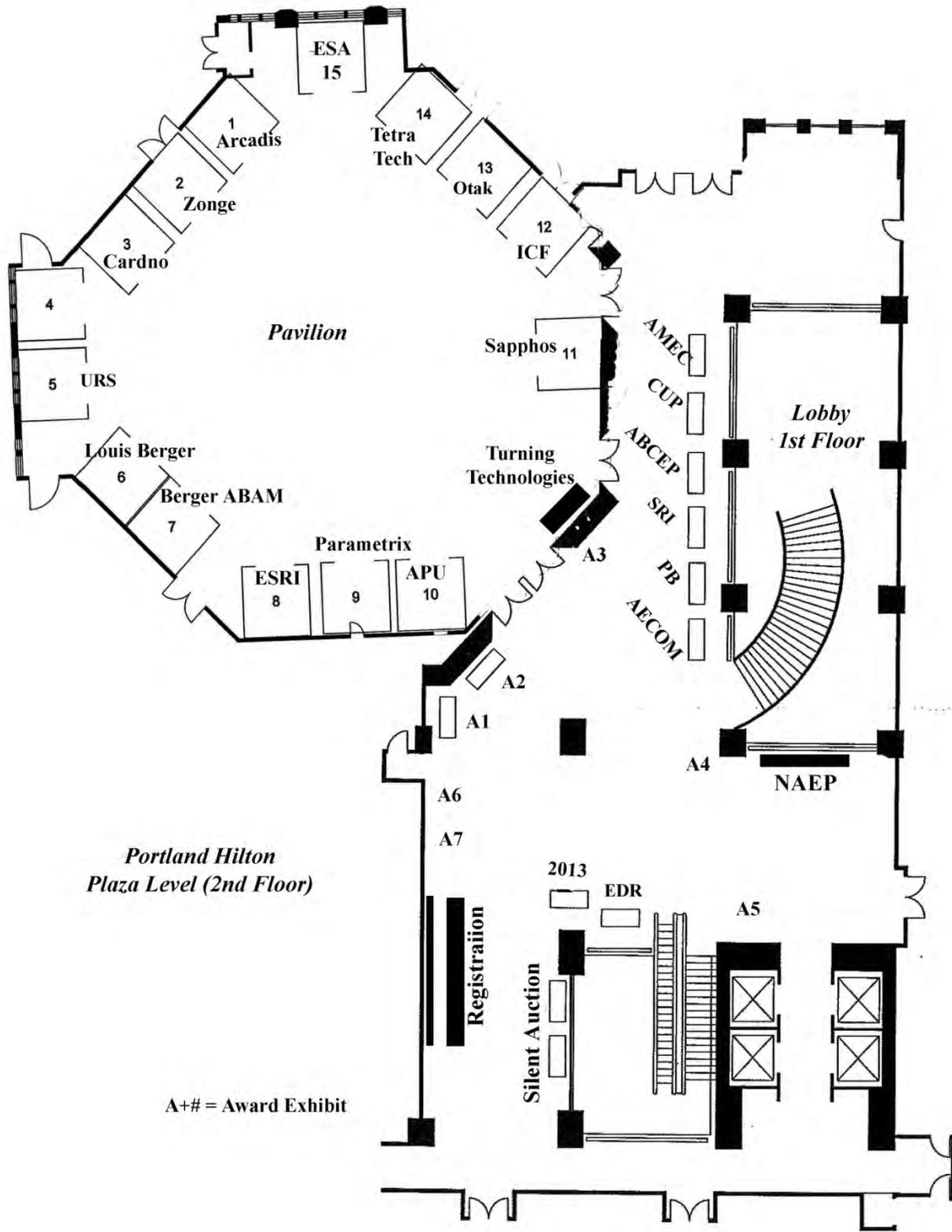
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Exhibitor Diagram



## Welcome Letter from NAEP President

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Welcome everyone. We are excited that you have joined us for our 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference “Science, Politics, and Policy: Environmental Nexus”. One of the jewels of the Pacific Northwest, the Portland area has many examples of this joining of science and practice to enhance the basic environmental beauty of the area. Do yourself a favor and get to the top floor of our hotel where you can see beautiful views of the twin magnificence of Mount St. Helens and Mount Hood. This city is full of fantastic parks and local attractions. Give yourself a wonderful break and add a day to your stay. There are so many sights to see and things to experience. Take a moment and peruse the sights. I highly recommend an early morning walk along the river front in Waterfront Park.

This year’s conference has a lot for you to enjoy. Our keynote speakers are local experts in planning and law who will touch on the ideas of environmental leadership, environmental protection, and the intersection of human recreation and the natural environment. Each of these people will be exciting and inspirational.

If you have already made the difficult decision concerning the Monday symposia, you know what I mean when I say we are going all out this year to provide the best in professional education opportunities. Between the **Advanced Topics in Visual Resource Impact Assessment** and **NEPA and Decision Making** courses with their individual stellar casts of instructors, your choice cannot be bad. If you have figured a way to clone yourself, you might have the solution and attend both.

As a way to help emphasize the inherent local natural beauty, I want to invite each of you to the President’s Dinner cruise on the Portland Spirit Tuesday evening. We will travel along the Willamette River and see the sites of Portland and surroundings as the sun sets and the stars come out.

We have a full array of tracks, some returning (brownfields, wetlands, land and watershed management, transportation); some new (visual resources, cultural resources, energy boot camp, public participation). We still have the premier NEPA presence in the country here, and this year promises to be full of information and new developments.

All of us, no matter our tenure, will benefit from the Professional Development track. In the current economy we are providing our professionals with the skills and knowledge to weather the storm.

No matter the number of conferences you have attended with NAEP, I can guarantee that there will be something new presented by the best professionals in the business. All of our tracks and individual presentations will hold the interest of attendees and some will provide surprise information for us all. To help you make your plans for your best fit, look at the Interdisciplinary Guide developed by Jennifer Lundberg (Page 11) to help you plan your unique experience.

I do want to sincerely thank Jennifer for her tireless efforts to make this conference successful. With the help of the Northwest Association of Environmental Professionals, our local presence, we have been able to break both attendance and sponsorship goals this year. Please take some time to express your gratitude to the planners and Donna who work hard for a year and a half before we get here. It is through the efforts of the conference planners and volunteers that each and every annual conference is the highlight of the year for NAEP.

Please also visit our exhibitors. Without them and our sponsors we would not be here. They are the support of NAEP and the backbone to this incredible assembly of expertise and fellowship. I do want to specifically thank the Board of Directors who took the challenge of helping increase sponsorships and exhibitors this year. Job well done.

Finally, this year we have revisited the idea of Hot Topic Lunches. I believe you will find an exciting array of topics. The hottest topic will be especially interesting in that it is dealing with the results of an NAEP inspired and completed pilot project for the Whitehouse Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ). The Best Practice Principles for Environmental Assessments topic has proven to be quite successful and has had some controversy develop as part of developing a new concept. The report will cover the results of a survey of over 1,000 practitioners concerning how we currently operate within NEPA. The results show should be interesting.

Our other Hot Topics also promise to be fantastic. The title of Engineers without Borders is intriguing. CEP's in Action will provide you with a look at what those three letters behind your name can mean for you as a professional. Rounding out the lunch topics is another treatment of Visual Resources that should be a capstone to a full conference concerning this subject.

As the final piece of the puzzle, we need each of you to take the initiative to discover new attendees and to reintroduce yourself to some of your old acquaintances. The human interaction at these conferences is unique and exciting. We need each of you to continue to make the connections that make us a strong Association. Make an effort to seek me out and tell me your impressions of the conference. We need your feedback to continue to make this the premier conference for the premier environmental association.

Last year President Ron Deverman summed up the real essence of these conferences, "I challenge all of you, over the next few days, to learn, grow, and expand your reach beyond your current thought horizons, and leave a part of yourself and your wisdom with us too. It is through the focused and dedicated efforts of individuals like yourself that our environmental professions and this association thrive." My thoughts exactly.

Come say hi!!!

Paul B. Looney, CEP



## From the Conference Co-Chairs

Welcome to the 2012 annual conference of the National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP) and to the City of Roses, Portland, Oregon! We thank you for choosing to attend our conference. Our deepest appreciation and heartfelt thanks also go to our sponsors and exhibitors, who helped make this conference affordable to all. We ask participants to take a moment to peruse the lists of sponsors and to visit the exhibitors. We hope you will also take the time to thank the committee members, students, and other volunteers. Because of their unwavering participation and dedication, the 2012 NAEP conference will doubtless inform and inspire growing numbers of professionals in the environmental—and other—fields.

The 2012 NAEP conference title is “Science, Politics, and Policy: Environmental Nexus.” The first part of the title combines science, politics, and policy in a single phrase, as environmental professionals consistently face this trio in their work—often simultaneously. These three aspects frequently feed the management practices and decision-making processes that we explain, implement, or facilitate for our clients and employers. In early discussions surrounding the conference’s title, the conference committee members spoke of the three aspects with respect to finding a “balance”—but what would it take to strike a balance between the three, and does the word “balance” infer that we must “add” or “subtract” from science itself? And yet, the NAEP’s multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary nature certainly lends itself to a conference that addresses science, politics, and policy. “Nexus” is most often defined as “a means of connection; a link or tie.” This word underscores that we, as environmental professionals, must address the connections and links between science, politics, and policy. Our goal is to provide conference attendees with ongoing discussion and readily applicable tools they can implement in their daily lives and practices, and to gain information that serves them in the long term from this year’s wide range of speakers, expert panels, and professional sessions and presentations.

We are also pleased to provide two symposiums this year: “NEPA and Decision Making” and “Advanced Topics in Visual Resources Impact Assessment.” The NEPA symposium provides an interactive learning opportunity for NEPA professionals to discuss what happens after the NEPA document is prepared and how that information is useful in the preparation of a better and more legally defensible NEPA document. The Visual Resources symposium is a facilitated workshop that expands the knowledge of the VR and NEPA practitioner to complete a more thorough and defensible visual resources impact assessment, regardless of the jurisdiction. Both symposiums have strong tracks associated with them to continue the learning and collaboration through the week.

We have multiple opportunities to network, including a mixer and the President’s Dinner cruise. The exhibitor hall is a wonderful place to congregate and see old and new friends. Enjoy, learn, and take away the many ways of maintaining, improving, and protecting our environment, highlighted throughout this conference for use in your own environmental practice. Welcome to Portland!

Sincerely,



Jennifer Lundberg, CEP, and



Carol Snead

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### **Registration**

The registration desk is located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> level in the Plaza Level of the main building.

### **Registration Hours**

Monday, May 21  
7:00 am – 5:00 pm

Tuesday, May 22  
7:00 am – 5:00 pm

Wednesday, May 23  
7:00 am – 5:00 pm

Thursday, May 24  
7:00 am – 5:00 pm

### **Exhibits**

Exhibits are located on the Plaza level near registration and in the Pavilion.

Exhibitor Set Up  
Monday, May 21  
8:00 am – 4:30 pm

Exhibitor Tear Down  
Thursday, May 24  
3:15 pm – midnight

### **Exhibit Hours**

Monday, May 21  
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Tuesday, May 22  
7:00 am – 5:00 pm

Wednesday, May 23  
7:00 am – 5:30 pm

Thursday, May 24  
7:00 am – 3:15 pm

### **Speaker Registration**

All speakers and panel members need to pick up your name badges at the registration desk during registration hours.

### **Door Prize Drawings!**

There will be 3 drawings, each for a \$100 certificate good toward your 2013 NAEP Annual Conference registration. The drawings will be held at the beginning of lunch (Tue & Wed) and at the beginning of the membership meeting Thursday morning, so don't be late! You must be present to win.

### **Electronic Devices**

Please turn off or put in silent mode all cell phones, pagers and PDA's during sessions and lunches.

### **Internet Access**

We are providing free wireless internet access in the meeting space area. See the registration desk for log in information. There will also be an NAEP computer available for you to check your email or print a file. This computer will be located in the registration area.

### **Conference Attire**

Business casual attire is appropriate for all events during the conference.

This year, NAEP brings you two Symposiums. In addition to AICP Certification Maintenance points, NAEP has applied for Continuing Education Units from DePaul University. The NEPA Symposium will apply for 5.5 Oregon MCLE (Minimum Continuing Legal Education) credits. Lunch and breaks are included with the symposium fee.

### **NEPA and Decision Making**

The NEPA Symposium focuses on what happens after NEPA documents are prepared, and how that informs us for the next one. Ninth Circuit Judge Diarmuid F. O'Scannlain will answer questions in an open session on judicial review of NEPA documents. What is a "hard look," and how should we know we reached it? Attendees are encouraged to bring questions.

Panels include an agency decisionmaker and NEPA litigators on both sides of the question of NEPA adequacy. Professor Rodgers from the University of Washington School of Law will speak on substantive NEPA. All panels are interactive. MCLE credits for Oregon attorneys will be applied for. Owen L. Schmidt is Symposium Chair.

### **Advance Topics in Visual Resource Impact Assessments**

This day-long training provides visual resource specialists, public land managers, NEPA practitioners, and developers a basic understanding of visual impact assessment (VIA) procedures. The purpose of the training is to improve and expand upon our understanding of what is required to complete a thorough and defensible visual resource impact analysis to support NEPA-related or state-specific documentation of anticipated impacts, regardless of jurisdiction. This session will be a facilitated interactive workshop with critical group review of selected past analyses. The class will engage in group discussion on variations, strengths and weaknesses in reporting, and an exchange of ideas for opportunities to improve for the purpose of establishing consistency of excellence within our industry. Registrants will be invited and encouraged to submit examples of their own work in advance for use in the workshop.

The training will focus on VIAs prepared for large scale renewable energy projects targeted for both private and federal public lands, and the similarities and differences in assessment methods. Individuals will finish the training with a "tool-kit" to complete a thorough and defensible VIA consistently for a broad range of projects. Discussion points from the training session will be recorded and disseminated to participants. Those wishing to review documentation of different VIA methods are encouraged to visit the following website: <http://www.esf.edu/es/via/>.

Training Leads: Matt Arnn, *US Forest Service*, Brad Cownover, *US Forest Service*, Steven Elkinton, *National Park Service*, Louise Kling, *URS*, Andrew Lewis, *Truescape*, Donna Mattson, *US Forest Service*, John McCarty, *Bureau of Land Management*, Jim Palmer, *Scenic Quality Consultants*, Steven Ross, *National Park Service*, Steven Sheppard, *University of British Columbia*, and Richard Smardon, *SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry*

## Keynote Speakers

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### **John Morgan**

John Morgan is the Executive Director of the Chinook Institute for Civic Leadership and the Leader of the Chinook Institute, the premier leadership development program for top-level public officials on the west coast. Mr. Morgan has spent his career in public service focusing on community development and organizational leadership in government organizations. A former Community Development Director, Planning Director, and City Manager, Mr. Morgan brings to the Chinook Institute a strong focus on organizational development, strategic thinking and processes, a passion for public service, and a clear understanding of leadership that works and how to learn and apply its principles.



Mr. Morgan is also a principal with the MorganCPS Group, an urban planning and organizational development consulting firm. MorganCPS provides long-range, current, and strategic planning services to many agencies and jurisdictions. He currently is working with Oregon's newest city, Damascus, in forging the structure and processes of an innovative new local government structure.

John and his wife, Mary Lynn, are graduates of Willamette University in Salem. His degree is in political science and urban and regional government. Their four sons are fifth generation Oregonians. He skis and teaches adaptive skiing for handicapped skiers in the winter, and loves to travel and camp in the summer.

### **John Kroger**

John Kroger is the Attorney General of Oregon. John has devoted his entire career to public service as a United States Marine, federal prosecutor, public policy expert, teacher and chief law enforcement officer for the State of Oregon. As Attorney General John has actively responded to many challenges facing our state, creating Oregon's first Environmental Crimes Enforcement Unit and DOJ's Mortgage Fraud Task Force and Rural Drug Crimes Strike Force. An experienced prosecutor, Attorney General Kroger has argued two important cases before the United States Supreme Court since he took office. His second appearance before the Court earned him recognition by the National Law Journal as "[Appellate Lawyer of Week](#)".



As a federal prosecutor, John won major cases against mafia killers, drug kingpins and corrupt government officials. He helped prosecute crooked Enron executives and served on the emergency response team to the 9/11 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center. John is a recipient of awards and commendations from the FBI, Drug Enforcement Administration and State Department. In 1999 he received the Director's Award for Outstanding Performance as an Assistant United States Attorney from Attorney General Janet Reno for convicting two mafia

captains who committed multiple murders. John wrote about his experience as a prosecutor in his autobiography *Convictions*, which won the Oregon Book Award in 2009.

John is an avid runner, cyclist and hiker. He ran Oregon's Hood-to-Coast Relay seven times and biked across the United States. John received a bachelor's and master's degrees in Philosophy from Yale University and graduated with honors from Harvard Law School. Prior to his election as Attorney General, John was a law professor at Lewis & Clark Law School in Portland.

### **Mike Houck**

Mike Houck- a native Portlander- graduated from Estacada Union High School before obtaining a B. S. in Zoology from Iowa State University- in Ames- Iowa in 1969 and a Masters of Science in Teaching in Biology at Portland State University in 1972. After graduate school he directed the Oregon Museum of Science & Industry's Community Research Center and the museum's National Science Foundation's Summer Science Teaching research program in field Ecology- Archaeology and Paleontology at the Hancock Field Station in the John Day Basin of eastern Oregon. Mike joined the staff at the Audubon Society of Portland in 1980 after two years of teaching biology at Oregon Episcopal School. Mike founded and became Executive Director of the Urban Greenspaces Institute ([www.urbangreenspaces.org](http://www.urbangreenspaces.org)) in 1999.



Mr. Houck has been a leader at the local- regional- national and international levels in urban park and greenspace issues since his founding the Urban Naturalist Program at the Audubon Society of Portland in 1980. Since that time he has worked on urban parks- trails- greenspaces and natural resources in the Portland-Vancouver metropolitan region. He speaks locally- nationally and internationally on issues related to urban natural resources and sustainable development. He helped found *The Intertwine Alliance* [[www.theintertwine.org](http://www.theintertwine.org)] a coalition of government agencies, nonprofits and businesses dedicated to creating *The Intertwine*, a bi-state system of parks, trails, and natural areas for the almost 3,000 square mile Portland-Vancouver metropolitan region.

Mike directs the Urban Greenspaces Institute ([www.urbangreenspaces.org](http://www.urbangreenspaces.org)) out of the Center for Spatial Analysis and Research at Portland State University's Geography Department where he is an adjunct instructor. Mike serves on the national steering committee of the Ecological Cities Project of Amherst- MA, He is a member of the City of Portland's Planning and Sustainability Commission.

## President's Dinner - Tuesday

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This year the President's Dinner will be held on the *Portland Spirit*, a 150' yacht with three public decks, two of which are enclosed and climate controlled. Boarding will begin at 6 PM on Tuesday and the boat will leave the dock at 6:30 PM. We will return to the dock no later than 9 PM.

During dinner, we will cruise south (upriver) on the Willamette River to the Lake Oswego/Milwaukie area past house boats along the river, Waverly Country Club, Oaks Park and the wonderful homes that border the river. We will then head north to the Steele Bridge - passing downtown Portland's City Skyline filled with lights. The *Portland Spirit* will have cash bars and buffets on two different decks.

We will be walking to the dock from the Hilton. It is 6 short downhill blocks to the dock where we will board. And 6 blocks (longer of course and uphill) back to the hotel. Come by the registration desk Monday or Tuesday for directions or a map.

Each award winner may have a poster and a display table with more information on their winning project. These posters and display tables are located in the Plaza Foyer near registration.

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**\* *President's Award - Tuesday, 11:45am-1:15pm***

Project Name: State Route 15 Mid-City Bus Rapid Transit

Award Presented to: Caltrans District 11, SANDAG, MTS, CH2M HILL, IBI Group, KTU+A

Caltrans – District 11, SANDAG, and San Diego MTS propose to construct bus rapid transit (BRT) stations and dedicated BRT lanes in the Mid City community of San Diego in order to facilitate efficient transfers with other local routes and enhance existing bus routes. Station design will be consistent with the existing architectural design elements and current character found within the project corridor. It is anticipated that the new transit service will transform the Mid-City community from an economically-isolated area to a highly-connected hub, with high-speed transit to downtown and other employment centers through Smart Growth philosophies. SANDAG and Caltrans initiated a community-based planning process with local stakeholders to determine the most effective location and design of the facility, to discuss associated key opportunities and constraints as well as the progress and design of the final alternatives.

The project's environmental public review process included a multi-media and multi-language format that provided video simulations and poster displays for all three build alternatives and translators in three foreign languages (Spanish, Somali, and Vietnamese). This project represents the constructive collaboration, active participation, and open communication with multiple agencies, stakeholders, and the community in order to produce the most effective transportation decision making.

**\* *Environmental Management Award– Tuesday 8-9:30am***

Project Name: Cove Point Pier Reinforcement Project

Award Presented to: Dominion Cove Point LNG, LP

This project combines the need for placement of dredged material associated with the Cove Point Pier Reinforcement Project (PRP) with the protection of Cove Point Marsh, a unique freshwater ecosystem along the western shore of the Chesapeake Bay. The beach separating the Marsh from the Bay was breached during a 4-day northeaster in 2006. In order to provide a placement site for the PRP dredged material, a placement site consisting of a salt marsh and armoring material was designed to seal the breach and repair the beach and dune system lost by the breach. The design also expanded to protect and enhance habitat for the federally listed northeastern beach tiger beetle, which was historically found on the beach. The Cove Point marsh protection placement project has three components: (1) repair of the 2006 breach that converted the former freshwater Cove Point marsh into a brackish water system, (2) a dredged material placement site, which includes a continuous containment structure, placement of dredged material, and creation of tidal marsh, and (3) a segmented breakwater and beach nourishment to protect the beach south of the placement site from shoreline erosion and to enhance habitat for the northeastern beach tiger beetle.

**\* NEPA Excellence Award – Tuesday 8-9:30am**

Project Name: I-70 Mountain Corridor Programmatic EIS

Award Presented to: Colorado Department of Transportation (Tony DeVito, Scott McDaniel, Wendy Wallach, Jane Hann, Sandi Kohrs, Vanessa Henderson, Tracey MacDonald, Kerrie Neet); FHWA (Monica Pavlik); Jacobs (Gina McAfee); CH2M Hill (Mandy Whorton)

The I-70 Mountain Corridor is a 144-mile-long interstate that stretches from the Denver metropolitan area to Glenwood Springs, Colorado. The corridor experiences many hours of congestion, particularly on weekends, as travelers access ski areas, hiking areas, and other recreational destinations in the Rocky Mountains. CDOT conducted a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) to evaluate alternatives for a reconstruction project to add capacity and improve mobility along the corridor. The prior Tier 1 Programmatic Draft EIS (DEIS) had identified a Preferred Alternative that did not have the support of the majority of corridor stakeholders. Beginning in 2007, CDOT initiated a collaborative decision making process to identify a new Preferred Alternative and to prepare a revised Programmatic DEIS, FEIS and ROD that includes capacity, travel mode, and general location for the reconstruction and widening of I-70, including an Advanced Guideway System.

The process used to complete the I-70 Mountain Corridor PEIS is a major achievement involving such national organizations as the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Federal Highway Administration, the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. EPA, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and numerous state and local agencies and groups. It used very innovative approaches to collaborative decision making, reader friendly NEPA documentation, streamlined agency and consultant teams, environmental stewardship, and an unprecedented (on major highway projects) adaptive management approach to implementing a Preferred Alternative.

The first Tier 2 project to be developed for this corridor is the Twin Tunnels EA project, which is currently underway.

**\* Public Involvement/Partnership Award- Tuesday 8:00 – 9:30am**

Project Name: South San Diego Bay Restoration & Enhancement Project

Award Presented to: Port of San Diego - San Diego Audubon Society, San Diego Oceans Foundation, Ocean Discovery Institute and Coronado Rotary Club

This restoration and enhancement project created 280 acres of saltmarsh and upland transition habitat in South San Diego Bay. To accomplish this restoration project, tidal channels were created, uplands were excavated to elevations which would support salt marsh habitat, and a shorebird nesting beach was built. Volunteers planted salt marsh plants to provide habitat for the endangered Light-footed clapper rail. Overall, 768 volunteers, an estimated 1500 hours of volunteer time was utilized to remove over 46 tons of invasive plants and debris and plant thousands of salt marsh plants. We knew we had created something great, when in the middle of construction, 20 endangered birds nested on the newly created beach.

**★ *Environmental Conservation Programs Award – Tuesday, 11:45am-1:15pm***

Project Name: US 93, Hoover Dam to MP 17 Highway Widening Project Desert Bighorn Sheep Overpasses

Award Presented to: Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, National Park Service, Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Land Management, Arizona Game and Fish Department, Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society, AMEC Environment and Infrastructure, Inc., FNF Constructio

The Black Mountains in northwestern Arizona are home to the world's largest herd of Desert Bighorn Sheep (DBS). The upgrade of US 93 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway would create a barrier to DBS movement and fragment the sheep population, leading to survival consequences as traffic volumes continue to rise and DBS attempt to cross the highway. Three wildlife overpasses were constructed to safely and effectively convey DBS and other wildlife across the highway.

**★ *Education Excellence Award– Tuesday 11:45am– 1:15pm***

Project Number: Refugee Training Project

Award Presented to: Farmland Foods Salt Lake City, UT

For this project Farmland Foods, Salt Lake City, teamed up with the local Catholic Community Services and set up training course that taught basic life skills to refugees that had recently come to the United States. One area focused on the importance of recycling, preserving our natural resources, and protecting the environment. This was in hopes of giving the refugees knowledge to take back to their families and communities. Many of them were not aware of what recycling was or why it was important. Farmland Foods taught 3 groups with approximately 8 refugees in each class.

**★ *Best Available Environmental Technology Award – Wednesday, 11:30am-1:00pm***

Project Name: Columbia River Crossing Hydroacoustic Impacts Analysis on Threatened and Endangered Fish

Award Presented to: Columbia River Crossing Team

The Columbia River Crossing project (CRC) is large and complex, with the potential for multiple years of in-water construction. The project spans the Columbia River, a migratory corridor for 13 ESA-listed fish species. Over 1,000 temporary steel piles will be required to install permanent drilled shafts and build the superstructures of the new bridges. Impact driver “proofing” of these temporary piles could result in injury or death of fish, and was considered the major impact to listed fish from the project. To determine potential hydroacoustic exposure, the CRC team developed a hydroacoustics analysis method that accounted for moving and stationary fish in the project area by week of year and assumed construction techniques. Daily, weekly, annual, and total project exposure factors were calculated and applied as structured decrements against estimates of fish populations to assess potential weekly, annual and project effects. The CRC team modeled fish abundance by species, life-stage and statistical week for input to the exposure model. Draft exposure models were prepared to provide estimates of effects during preliminary design phases, through which construction techniques and the model were refined. The proposed design is now expected to impact little of any given run. By working closely with regulatory agencies, the CRC team was able to demonstrate that impacts were so low on an annual and cumulative basis that an in-water work window extension of approximately 12 weeks was granted, allowing construction to be completed several years earlier than it could have otherwise.

**\* *Planning Integration Award - Wednesday 11:30am –1:00pm***

Project Name: PA Program Development and Project Delivery: Linking Planning, NEPA, and Design through an Integrated Partnership

Award Presented to: PennDOT and PA Metropolitan/Rural Planning Organizations

Pennsylvania Program Development and Project Delivery Process was redefined through and integrated partnership with stakeholders across the state. The new process emphasizes the identification of issues early in the planning stages in order to influence project prioritization; have a better understanding of project scopes, schedules, and budgets; and improve predictability and efficiency in programming and project delivery. Implementation included updates to PennDOT policy, procedure, and guidance documents and the introduction of an automated screening tool which documents known land use, economic development, environmental, and engineering issues associated with proposed transportation improvements.

**\* *Environmental Stewardship Award – Wednesday 11:30am – 1:00pm***

Project Name: East Fork Raw Water Supply Project

Award Presented to: North Texas Municipal Water District and Alan Plummer Associates, Inc.

In 2004, the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) faced a critical raw water supply shortage. Water demands in NTMWD's rapidly growing service area north and east of Dallas, Texas, would soon outpace NTMWD's capability to meet them from their existing raw water sources. New surface water supplies planned at that time would not be completed in time to contribute to the solution.

NTMWD addressed this problem by developing an environmentally friendly, fast-track project that would yield the raw water supply needed to meet the increased water demand — the East Fork Raw Water Supply Project. The East Fork Raw Water Supply Project represents the largest water reuse project in the United States utilizing a constructed wetland to reclaim water for the purpose of augmenting a surface water supply source. Functionally, the project works as follows: NTMWD diverts treated effluent (return flows) from the East Fork of the Trinity River that have been contributed by NTMWD- or customer-owned wastewater treatment facilities into a 2,000-acre constructed wetland for removal of sediments and nutrients from the water. The wetland-treated water is then conveyed 43.5 miles to Lavon Lake for subsequent treatment and use by NTMWD customers. The East Fork Raw Water Supply Project is capable of providing over 102,000 acre-feet of water per year, enough water to serve 500,000 people. This is comparable to the yield of a new reservoir, but was completed at a cost of less than 25% of developing a new reservoir and in about 20% of the time. As such, the East Fork Raw Water Supply Project is a signature solution of innovation.

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**\* *Zirzow Student Award***

Award Recipient: Maren Fulton

School: Portland State University

Maren Fulton has been selected as this year's Zirzow Student Award recipient. Maren is a graduate student at Portland State University, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, majoring in Environmental Engineering. She was nominated by Dr. Gwynn Johnson, Associate Professor, at Portland State's Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering for her academic achievement and dedication. She will be recognized for this award at the Conference Luncheon on Wednesday, May 23. Maren is a new NAEP student member and looks forward to attending the technical sessions and meeting our members. Please introduce yourself to Maren and congratulate her!

## Meeting Schedule

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Meeting Name	Day	Time	Room
ABCEP	Monday	8 pm – 5 pm	Council
Turning Technology/Session Chairs	Monday	7 pm – 7:30 pm	Broadway
Conference Committee	Wednesday	8 am – 9 am	Parlor
NEPA Practice	Wednesday	8 am – 9 am	Broadway
Transportation	Wednesday	8 am – 9 am	Galleria North
2013 Conference	Wednesday	5 pm - 6 pm	Council
Environmental Policy Committee	Wednesday	5 pm - 6 pm	Galleria South
Chapters Committee	Wednesday	5 pm - 6 pm	Broadway
Education Committee	Wednesday	5 pm - 6 pm	Galleria North
Scenic Resources	Wednesday	5 pm - 6 pm	Parlor
NAEP Board of Directors*	Friday	8 am – 5 pm	Army Corps of Engineers Office

If you are not part of a committee or working group, these meeting are an excellent opportunity to see what they do and get involved.

\* If you wish to attend the NAEP Board of Directors meetings, please contact Tim Bower at [naep@bowermanagementservices.com](mailto:naep@bowermanagementservices.com) or 856-283-7816 for directions and information.

<b>Monday, May 21</b>					
8:00 am – 5:00 pm	Visual Resources Symposium Ballroom II			ABCEP Council	
8:30 am – 4:00 pm	NEPA Symposium Galleria				
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Networking Mixer - Pavilion				
7:00 pm – 7:30 pm	Turning Technologies Training for Session Chairs and Speakers - Broadway				
<b>Tuesday, May 22</b>					
7:00 am – 8:00 am	Continental Breakfast - Pavilion				
8:00 am – 9:30 am	Welcome, Kramer Award, 3 Environmental Excellence Awards, John Morgan - Chinook Institute for Civic Learning - Grand Ballroom				
9:30 am – 9:45 am	Break - Pavilion				
9:45 am – 11:15 am	Session #1 NEPA Legal & Policy update  Broadway	Session #2 Visual Resources Impact Analysis In Transportation  Galleria South	Session #3 Public Part Effective Tools  Galleria North	Session #4 Prof Dev Green Careers Seminar  Parlor	
11:45 am – 1:15 pm	National Environmental Excellence Awards, Keynote: John Kroger – Oregon State Attorney  Grand Ballroom				
1:45 pm – 3:15 pm	Session #5 NEPA Alternative Analysis Selection  Broadway	Session #6 Visual Resources Assessment & Mgmt  Galleria South	Session #7 Prof Dev ABCEP Certification and APU Education  Galleria North	Session #8 Transportation Bridges & Historic Issues  Parlor	
3:15 pm – 3:30 pm	Break - Pavilion				
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm	Session #9 NEPA NEPA in PNW  Broadway	Session #10 Visual Resources Impact Assessment Risk & Prioritization  Galleria South	Session #11 Transportation Northwest Mega- Project Bridges  Galleria North	Session #12 Cultural Resources Creative Cultural Heritage  Parlor	
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	President's Dinner on the Portland Spirit				

<b>Time</b>	<b>Wednesday, May 23</b>				
7:00 am – 8:00 am	Continental Breakfast - Pavilion				
8:00 am – 9:00 am	NEPA Practice  Broadway	Session #40 Visual Resources Camouflage for Visual Mitigation  Galleria South	Transportation  Galleria North	Conference Committee  Parlor	
9:00 am – 9:30 am	Break - Pavilion				
9:30 am – 11:00 am	Session #13 NEPA 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party NEPA Process  Broadway	Session #14 Visual Resources Maine Wind Energy Act  Galleria South	Session #15 Transportation NEPA & High Speed Rail  Galleria North	Session #16 Cultural Resources Challenges of the Recent Past  Parlor	Session #37 Wetlands Wetland Restoration  Council
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	Zirzow Award, Environmental Excellence Awards, Keynote: Mike Houck – Urban Greenspaces Initiative  Grand Ballroom				
1:30 pm – 3:00 pm	Session #17 NEPA & Climate Change  Broadway	Session #18 Visual Resources Land Use & Air Quality  Galleria South	Session #19 Energy Bootcamp 1  Galleria North	Session #20 Cultural Resources NEPA & Section 106  Parlor	Session #38 DoD Eco Management  Council
3:15 pm – 3:30 pm	Break - Pavilion				
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm	Session #21 NEPA Transboundary projects & GHG  Broadway	Session #22 Visual Resources Siting Large Scale Linear Projects  Galleria South	Session #23 Energy Bootcamp 2  Galleria North	Session #24 Prof Dev Body of Knowledge  Parlor	Session #39 NEPA DoD NEPA Practices  Council
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Chapters Committee  Broadway	Environmental Policy Committee  Galleria South	Education Committee  Galleria North	Scenic Resources Committee  Parlor	2013 Conference Committee  Council

<b>Thursday, May 24</b>				
7:30 am – 8:30 am	Breakfast - Pavilion			
8:30 am – 10:00 am	Membership Meeting, Service Awards Grand Ballroom			
10:00 am – 10:15 am	Break - Pavilion			
10:15 am – 11:45 am	Session #25 NEPA Categorical Exclusions  Broadway	Session #26 Visual Resources Wind Turbines in Cape Cod's Ocean Waters  Galleria South	Session #27 Brownfields Oregon Brownfield Projects  Galleria North	Session #28 Cultural Resource Resolving Structural Issues  Parlor
11:45 am – 1:15 pm	Hot Topic Lunch NAEP CEQ Pilot Project  Broadway	Hot Topic Lunch Visual Resources Changes in the Land  Galleria South	Hot Topic Lunch Engineers without Borders  Galleria North	Hot Topic Lunch CEP's in Action  Parlor
1:30 pm – 3:00 pm	Session #29 NEPA Improving NEPA Practice  Broadway	Session #30 Visual Resources Threshold Distances  Galleria South	Session #31 Wetlands Clean Water Act  Galleria North	Session #32 Land & Water Ecosystem Planning  Parlor
3:00 pm – 3:15 pm	Break - Pavilion			
3:15 pm – 4:45 pm	Session #33 NEPA Stakeholder Perspective  Broadway	Session #34 Visual Resources Ecosystem Services  Galleria South	Session #35 Land & Water Meeting Goals of Clean Water Act  Galleria North	Session #36 Transportation Streamlining the Permitting Process  Parlor
<b>Friday, May 25</b>				
8:00 am – 5:00 pm	NAEP Board of Directors Meeting Army Corps of Engineers Office			

Interdisciplinary Guide: As is the nature of many environmental projects, conference sessions cross over many different disciplines and topics. Use this guide to help select the sessions you attend.

Session	Brownfields	Cultural Resources	Energy	Land & Watershed Management	NEPA	Professional Development	Public Participation	Transportation	Visual Resources	Wetlands	Military Installations
1				x	x						
2				x					x		
3			x				x	x			
4						x					
5					x			x			
6					x				x		
7						x					
8		x		x	x			x			
9				x	x			x		x	
10		x	x						x		
11					x			x			
12		x		x	x			x	x		
13					x						
14			x						x		
15					x		x	x			
16		x									
17					x						
18			x		x				x		
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35				x							
36					x			x			
37				x						x	
38				x							x
39					x						x
40									x		
HTL #1					x	x					
HTL #2									x		
HTL #3		x	x	x						x	
HTL #4						x					

Monday, May 21

**7:00 am – 5:00 pm**

**Registration Open – Plaza Foyer**

**SYMPOSIUMS 8:30 am – 5:00 pm**

**NEPA and Decisionmaking**

Room: Galleria

The NEPA Symposium at this year's annual conference focuses on what happens after NEPA documents are prepared, and how that informs us for the next one. Ninth Circuit Judge Diarmuid F. O'Scannlain will answer questions in an open session on judicial review of NEPA documents. What is a "hard look," and how should we know we reached it? Attendees are encouraged to bring questions. Panels include an agency decisionmaker and NEPA litigators on both sides of the question of NEPA adequacy. Professor Rodgers from the University of Washington School of Law will speak on substantive NEPA. All panels are interactive. Owen L. Schmidt is Symposium Chair.

**Attorneys:** 5.5 Oregon MCLE (Minimum Continuing Legal Education) credits will be applied for. Oregon attorneys will need to sign in; once approved by the Oregon State Bar, the MCLE credits will appear on your online OSB MCLE Credits Report.

**Planners:** 6.0 Certification Maintenance credits for AICP members.

**Advanced Topics in Visual Resource Impact Assessment**

Room: Ballroom II

This symposium targets visual resource specialists, public land managers, NEPA practitioners and developers with a basic understanding of visual impact assessment (VIA) procedures. The purpose of the training is to improve and expand upon our understanding of what is required to complete a thorough and defensible visual resource impact analysis to support NEPA-related or state-specific documentation of anticipated impacts, regardless of jurisdiction. The symposium will trace the last 50 years VIA, with a focus on the development of various VIA methods, and the emergence of visualization tools. Speakers will include nationally- and internationally-renown leaders in the field of VIA, who will discuss analytical approaches used across varied federal, state, and local jurisdictions. Leaders in visualization technology will present on the importance of standardized approaches to constructing visual simulations. The training will focus on VIAs prepared for large scale projects targeted for both private and federal public lands. Discussion points from the training session will be recorded and disseminated to participants. Those wishing to review documentation of different VIA methods are encouraged to visit the following website:

<http://www.esf.edu/via>

**Planners:** 8.0 Certification Maintenance credits for AICP members.

**ABCEP Trustee and CRB Meeting**

Room: Council

Monday, May 21

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**5:00 pm – 7:00 pm**

**Networking Mixer/Exhibits Open**

Room: Plaza Foyer and Pavilion

Join us for this networking opportunity to kick off the conference. It will be a great opportunity to connect with old friends and make new contacts.

There will be a cash bar and hors d'oeuvres available.

**7:00 pm – 7:30 pm**

**Turning Technology Training for all Session Chairs and Speakers**

Room: Broadway

All session chairs (and speakers if interested) should attend this training session on use of the electronic, handheld, audience participation devices that every attendee in each session will have. Please try to be there.

Tuesday, May 22

7:00 am – 5:00 pm

**Registration/Exhibits/Poster Presentations Open** – Plaza Foyer, Pavilion, and Grand Ballroom Foyer

7:00 am – 8:00 am

**Continental Breakfast** - Pavilion

7:00 am – 5:00 pm

### **Poster Presentations**

Plaza Foyer and Grand Ballroom Foyer

Pamela Cecere, SWCA Environmental Consultants: *Visualizing the NIMBY: Using Visual Resources to Build Public Consensus*

Johannes Ehmanns, Aviation Consultants Ehmanns: *How airports can gain revenues by consideration of sustainable environmental protection issues.*

William Hall, Parametrix: *Addressing Mitigation Needs for Transportation Impacts in Developed Urban Environments*

Erin Hatchett, HDR: *No Effect of Wind Turbines on Density and Nest Success in Dickcissels (Spiza americana) in North Central Texas*

Craig Johnson, Logan Simpson Design: *Visual analyses of cultural resources. New methodology in evaluating visual impacts to historic properties*

Matt Loscalzo, Tetra Tech: *The Importance of Visual Information in State, City, and County-level Planning Documents*

Adam Merrill, ESA: *Integrating land use planning and natural resource management in the Puget Sound region*

Steve Morrow, Columbia River Crossing: *Minimizing Impact Pile Driving Hydroacoustic Effects On 14 Species Of Endangered Species Act Listed Fish: Tales From A Mega-Project*

Philip Murphy, University of Redlands: *We have a good mitigation calculator for solar energy projects: What is a good process design?*

Wafik Noseir, Egyptian Modern Center: *Our Environmental Career Development*

Stephanie Oslick, Parson Brinckerhoff: *Streamlining the Environmental Mitigation Compliance Process Using Digital Technology*

7:00 am – 5:00 pm

Posters Continued:

Brandon Pelissero, Ecolink, Inc: *Collaborating Your Way to Sustainable Growth: How to Grow and Sustain Your Organization Nationally and Internationally Without Hiring People or Leasing Real Estate*

Brandon Pelissero, Ecolink, Inc.: *The Lessons of Less*

Ann Radil, Parametrix: *An Ecosystems-Based Approach to Evaluating Climate Change*

Larissa Rawlins, Parsons Brinckerhoff: *Assessing the Visual Impacts of Extraordinary Projects at World Renowned Locations*

Jennifer Rose, HDR: *Storm Surge and Sea Level Change: A Comparison of Models for Use in Planning*

Stephanie Sprague, Parsons Brinckerhoff: *Assessing visual impacts of commercial air tours over world-renowned national parks*

Ann Zoidis, Tetra Tech: *Innovative Approaches to Simplifying a Complex Biological Assessment: simplification made simple*

8:00 am – 9:30 am

Opening Remarks – Paul Looney, NAEP President

NWAEP – Molly Brown, NWAEP Past President

Kramer Award – Gary Kelman, ABCEP President

**NAEP National Environmental Excellence Award Presentations:**

**\*NEPA Excellence Award:** Colorado Department of Transportation: I-70 Mountain Corridor Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement

**\*Environmental Management Award:** Dominion Cove Point LNG, LP: Cove Point Marsh Protection Project

**\*Public Involvement/Partnership Award:** Port of San Diego – San Diego Audubon Society, San Diego Oceans Foundation, Ocean Discovery Institute and Coronado Rotary Club: South San Diego Bay Restoration & Enhancement Project



Keynote Speaker: Mr. John Morgan, Chinook Institute and MorganCPS  
Room: Grand Ballroom

*Planners as Leaders: Leading in the Chaos*

Leadership takes many forms. As in so many aspects of our complex world, environmental processes involve a multitude of processes, people, agencies, agendas, and interests. Leading a highly diverse body of involved people and agencies through this chaos is a challenging and daunting challenge. But, somebody has to do it. The Environmental Professional approaches this planning process from their perspective, as can be expected, but the leadership role is understanding that perspective within the context of the interests of all those involved, and then working to discover mutual interests and align those for commonly-sought outcomes. Often the planner is not the appointed leader, but leadership can happen even without title. Understanding that the agreed-upon outcomes are the ultimate goal, and working even from within the ranks to lead people toward those outcomes, is a powerful leadership role that ultimately serves the participants' interests and helps to move society forward.

9:45 am – 11:15 am

### **NEPA**

Session 1: NEPA Legal & Policy Update – Panel

Room: Broadway

This session will provide participants with a comprehensive update of the latest developments in NEPA case law, including cases focusing on alternatives analysis, cumulative impacts, and climate change. The session will also provide an update on the latest NEPA-related initiatives from the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ).

Nicholas Yost, SNR Denton US LLP, Moderator

Michael Smith, ICF International

Ron Bass, ICF International

Lucinda Low Swartz, Lucinda Low Swartz

### **Visual Resources**

Session 2: The View from the Road: Managing Byways, Preserving Communities, and Assessing Visual Impacts

Room: Galleria South

This session will address visual impact analyses related to transportation projects. Topics will include a review of how FHWA's visual impact assessment methodology is applied, including a review of a successful scenic prioritization project in a heavily-travel but historically significant road corridor in West Virginia. The broader topic of scenery management along Scenic Byways will also be discussed.

Brad Cownover, US Forest Service, Moderator

Robin Gyorgyfalvy, Deschutes National Forest: *Preserving Scenic Byway Viewsheds*

James Palmer, Scenic Quality Consultants: *VIA Practices of State DOTs*

Carol Truppi, Truppi Consulting, Brad Cownover, USFS, and Garrett Devier, Jones and Jones: *Visual Assessment and Scenic Prioritization Project, Route 340 WV*

### **Public Participation**

Session 3: Effective Tools for Successful Public Engagement

Room: Galleria North

The public engagement process must provide opportunities for public information, input, review and comment at key decision points, with adequate public notices and access to underlying technical and policy information. Successful projects require meaningful public engagement, but how do we accomplish that? How can we navigate through the maze of traditional and cutting edge public participation strategies to ensure that we have the appropriate tools for our specific project? And do we accomplish this in an era of fiscal constraint?

Valerie Birch, Parsons Brinckerhoff, Moderator

Allison Turner, Katz & Associates: *Planning for Effective Public Involvement: A How-To Guide*

Anne Morris, Anne Morris & Associates: *Report on the Findings of the NCHRP Synthesis 407, Effective Public Involvement Using Limited Resources*

Darrell Cole, Parsons Brinckerhoff: *Social Media at the Project Level - Connections that Count*

Tuesday, May 22

9:45 am – 11:15 am

**Professional Development**

Session 4: Green Careers Seminar - Panel

Room: Parlor

The 7th Annual NAEP Green Careers Seminar is designed to help students, aspiring environmental professionals, and career changers to learn what employers look for in prospective staff. You'll find out what education, personal attributes, training, specialized experience and inside tips you need to secure a career that makes a difference! Participants will also learn about current job and intern opportunities. The Environmental Career Center will lead the discussion and present the results of the 2012 NAEP/ECC Environmental Employment Survey for a comprehensive view of employment trends during a very challenging economic environment.

John Esson, Environmental Careers Center- Moderator

Brock Hoegh, HNTB

Scot Davidson, Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance

11:45 am – 1:15 pm

Lunch

Room: Grand Ballroom

**NAEP Door Prize Drawing**

**Roberts Scholarship – Gary Kelman**

**NAEP National Environmental Excellence Award Presentations:**

**\*President's Award:** Caltrans District 11, SANDAG, MTS, CH2M Hill, IBI Group, KTU+A: State Route 15 Mid City Bus Rapid Transit

**\*Environmental Conservation Award:** Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, National Park Service, Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Land Management, Arizona Game and Fish Department, Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society, AMEC Environment and Infrastructure, Inc., FNF Construction, Inc.: US 93, Hoover Dam to Milepost 17 - Big Horn Sheep Overpass Project in the Lake Mead National Recreation Area, Mohave County Arizona

**\*Education Excellence Award:** Farmland Foods Salt Lake City, UT: Refugee Training Project

11:45 am – 1:15 pm



**Keynote Speaker: Mr. John Kroger, Oregon State Attorney**  
*Protecting Oregon's Environment*

John Kroger will be speaking about his work with the Oregon Department of Justice and other state agencies to protect the environment. Specifically, he established the first environmental crimes unit in the Department of Justice, and will share about some of these cases, their effect on protecting the environment and enforcing the law.

He will also talk about regulatory streamlining, and how the Department of Justice is working with the Governor's office and other state agencies to streamline the regulatory system.

1:45 pm – 3:15 pm

**NEPA**

Session 5: Which and how many: Selecting the right alternatives for detailed evaluation

Room: Broadway

The regulations are clear: Rigorously explore and objectively evaluate all reasonable alternatives (1502.14 (a)) but in practice this task is often difficult and risky. Theoretically the reasonable alternatives emerge from scoping and are rooted in the purpose and need for action. In practice developing and narrowing the range of alternatives is often driven by pressures to expedite schedules and avoid sensitive issues. Agencies vary in their guidance and what they expect the record to show. This panel discussion focuses on how the range of alternatives evaluated in an EIS can and should be developed and documented; examining regulations, key case law and practical application and experiences from different agencies.

David S. Mattern, Parametrix, Moderator  
David Grachen, Federal Highway Administration  
Michael Smith, ICF International  
Shannon Stewart, Bureau of Land Management

Tuesday, May 22

1:45 pm – 3:15 pm

### **Visual Resources**

Session 6: Planning-Level Scenic Resource Assessment and Management

Room: Galleria South

This session will address approaches used to assess and manage scenic resources across large geographic areas. Topics will include: Scenic Stability, an integrated approach to evaluating the sustainability or resiliency of the scenery attributes valued by the public; new applications of web-based psychological and market research techniques to better understand visual preference; and the Intrinsic Landscape Aesthetic Resource Information System (ILARIS), which utilizes advances in GIS and GPS technology to improve and streamline visual assessment techniques.

Brad Cownover, USDA Forest Service, Moderator

Donna Mattson and Jerry Mosier, USFS: *Managing Scenery Resources on Dynamic Landscapes*

Michael Roth, Dortmund University of Technology: *Visual Landscape Quality Assessment in Landscape Planning in Germany – A Validation Approach*

David Sorey, Jones & Jones Architects: *Visual Resource Assessment for Regional Landscapes: A Modern Response To NEPA*

### **Professional Development**

Session 7: ABCEP Certification & APU Education - Helping You Get Where You Want With Your Career - Panel

Room: Galleria North

Today our industry employs more than 1.6 million professionals in green careers. However, in a time where the Dow Jones Industrial average substantially falls based on reports of slow job growth and recession, jobs in the industry are getting more competitive than ever before. Environmental professionals need to stand out in order to compete for jobs or to advance their careers. While a lot may be outside of your own control, there is definitely something you can do to increase your value to your current employer, land a promotion, or a new job; advance your career skills by pursuing education, lifelong learning, and certification. Addressing these topics, NAEP's premiere partners the Academy of Board Certified Environmental Professionals (ABCEP) and American Public University (APU) collaborate on this professional development panel to discuss: how can education and certification help you get where you want with your career, what you may want to consider, and how should you go about it? In a highly competitive market, the Certified Environmental Professional (CEP) certification and APU education can provide the edge you need to stand out. The panel will address the specific considerations about the certification from ABCEP and the education programs in the APU online learning environment.

James Yawn - Walt Disney Imagineering, and ABCEP, Board of Directors, Moderator

John Esson - President / LEED AP, Environmental Career Center

Dr. Kelly Reiss, Ph.D. Environmental Sciences Faculty at American Public University

Tatiana Sehring, M.A., Strategic Relationships Manager, Environmental Leadership & Sustainability

**1:45 pm – 3:15 pm**

**Transportation**

Session 8: Bridges and Historic Issues

Room: Parlor

This session is focused on the environmental issues that go along with bridges, especially the removal of existing bridges. Bridge replacement projects are happening all over the country as many have reached the end of their useful life. The planning and NEPA issues that go along with bridges will be explored during this session. Information will be shared about how to comply with the Migratory Bird Act, the Endangered Species Act, and the National Historic Preservation Act. Case studies and programs that are being used by the Oregon Department of Transportation will be shared along with best practices, as well as things that did not work out so well.

Ted McCaslin, HR Green, Inc., Moderator

Shelley Richards and Brian Bauman, HDR: *Fifteen Mile Creek: A bridge that has it all, from cultural and natural resources to general construction challenges*

**3:30 pm – 5:00 pm**

**NEPA**

Session 9: NEPA in the Pacific Northwest

Room: Broadway

This session will discuss several NEPA case studies for projects in the Pacific Northwest. The projects discussed include highway, bridge and water infrastructure developments. In addition to providing an overview of each of the projects, each speaker will discuss the unique NEPA analyses that were conducted for each and lessons learned from improving and making NEPA analysis more efficient.

Chris Moelter, ICF International, Moderator

James Gregory, HDR: *Expedited Permitting for Fish Passage and Ecosystem Restoration: Gold Dam Removal*

Kevin Halsey, Parametrix: *An Ecosystem Services Approach to NEPA Analysis - A More Robust Project Analysis?*

Kristen Maines & Chuck Kirchner, Tetra Tech: *Replacing the Seattle Seawall: The NEPA/SEPA Process and Environmental Challenges*

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

### **Visual Resources**

Session 10: Visual Resource Impact Risk Assessment and Management Prioritization

Room: Galleria South

This session will address efforts underway to identify and manage risk to scenic quality as a result of development pressure. Corridor management approaches used by the Bureau of Land Management to evaluate and preserve the historic trail settings of high potential segments and sites will be discussed, including discussion of recent field office-wide Trail Inventory, Management, and Interpretive Planning Projects. The Visual Impact Risk Assessment and Mitigation Mapping System (VIRAMMS), a prototype for creating maps of relative visual impact risk associated with wind energy development, will be introduced. This VIRAMMS develops visual impact risk maps based on a distance- and sensitivity-weighted analysis of overlapping viewsheds. The Additional applications of VIRAMMS, such as incorporation of scenic integrity and visual absorption capability and its utility in site design and mitigation will be discussed.

John McCarty, BLM, Moderator

Jeremy Call, AECOM, Craig Bromley, Bureau of Land Management: *Improved Inventory and Management of National Historic Trail Settings*

Robert Sullivan, Argonne National Laboratory: *Visual Impact Risk Assessment and Mitigation Mapping System for Utility-scale Wind Energy Facilities*

### **Transportation**

Session 11: Northwest Bridges Could Fall Down: NEPA Stories from Three Mega-Projects

Room: Galleria North

The Pacific Northwest has recently completed NEPA evaluations of three separate multi-billion dollar programs to replace major highway bridges the SR 520 Bridge Replacement, the Alaskan Way Viaduct Replacement, and the I-5 Columbia River Crossing. Each project has faced different challenges in applying NEPA to technically difficult and politically charged projects involving numerous jurisdictions and multiple co-lead and cooperating agencies. Each project has produced multiple documents in the course of review. NEPA issues have included independent utility, Section 4(f), Endangered Species Act, and Environmental Justice. This panel includes both consultant and agency NEPA leads to describe key successes and lessons learned.

David Mattern, Parametrix, Moderator

Robert Berman, HDR Inc.

Jeff Heilman, Parametrix

Heather Wills, Oregon State Department of Transportation

Tuesday, May 22

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

**Natural/Cultural Resources**

Session 12: Creative Cultural Heritage in Environmental Policy, Planning, and Research

Room: Parlor

This session explores three case studies at the intersections of culture and the environment in the United States and Europe. In these cases, the “environment” refers literally to the cultural use of plants within certain landscapes and how the cultural significance of those plants can affect transportation and other development projects.

Brad Bowden, Historical Research Associates, Moderator

Michael Roth, Dortmund University of Technology: *Agricultural Landscapes as Cultural Heritage - A European View*

Kevin Lyons, Kalispel Tribe of Indians: *Pragmatic Management of Cultural Landscapes and Public Environmental Policy*

Michael Karnosh, Oregon Dep’t of Transportation: *Consultation Experiences Of The Confederated Tribes Of The Grand Ronde Community Of Oregon*

6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

**President’s Dinner - Portland Spirit cruise**



This year the President’s Dinner will be held on the *Portland Spirit*, a 150’ yacht with three public decks, two of which are enclosed and climate controlled. We are walking the 6 blocks from the hotel. Boarding will begin at 6 PM and the boat will leave the dock at 6:30 PM. We will return to the dock no later than 9 PM. There are maps available at the registration desk. Wear a jacket and comfortable walking shoes.

Please notify us at the registration desk if you need other transportation accommodations.

Wednesday, May 23

**7:00 am – 5:00 pm**

**Registration/Exhibits/Poster Presentations Open** – Plaza Foyer, Pavilion and Grand Ballroom Foyer

**7:00 am – 8:00 am**

**Continental Breakfast** – Pavilion

**8:00 am – 9:00 am**

NEPA Working Group Meeting

Room: Broadway

Transportation Working Group Meeting

Room: Galleria North

Permanent Conference Committee Meeting

Room: Parlor

**Visual Resources**

Session 40: The Art and Science of Camouflage for Visual Mitigation in the Landscape

Room: Galleria South

This panel will address ongoing research by the Bureau of Land Management and Hyperstealth to address the effectiveness of using camouflage to mitigate potential impacts to visual resources. This research has included a review of the use of camouflage in military applications, and an evaluation of whether these applications could be adapted for use in a landscape-scale setting. The panel will discuss the history and development of camouflage techniques, including the improvements as the industry has moved from non-digital to digital, and more recently, and fractal-based camouflage.

Moderator: John McCarty, BLM, Moderator

Kate Schwarzler, Otak

Guy Cramer, HyperStealth Biotechnology Corp

9:30 am – 11:00 am

**NEPA**

Session 13: Keys to Successful 3rd Party NEPA Processes - Panel  
Room: Broadway

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires that all federal agencies consider and disclose the environmental impacts associated with major federal actions. As infrastructure in the United States ages and is replaced or new facilities are constructed, 3rd party contracts for NEPA compliance will become more common. These contracts typically involve the applicant requesting federal funding, permits, or approvals, the NEPA lead agency or agencies, and the NEPA 3rd party contractor. In order to maintain the independent 3rd party environmental analysis required under NEPA, and for staffing and budgetary reasons, the NEPA lead agency will often contract this work to a 3rd party consultant with the applicant usually being responsible for funding the NEPA compliance process. This balancing act of working for the NEPA lead agency as a NEPA 3rd party contractor can present challenges in the contracting process. Cost-recovery agreements are sometimes entered into between the NEPA lead agency and the applicant that allows the agency to charge the applicant for the NEPA 3rd party contractor support and agency staff time. Adding to the challenges are often extensive groups of stakeholders, public participation, and local, state, and other federal agencies who participate in the NEPA process.

John Guenther and Demiam Ebert, AECOM

**Visual Resources**

Session 14: Visual Impacts Assessment and the Maine Wind Energy Act  
Room: Galleria South

This panel will introduce the State of Maine’s Wind Energy Act , which requires that viewer experience be central among the criteria for evaluating scenic impacts from proposed wind energy developments. Specifically, the law requires consideration of the following perceptual attributes: The expectations of the typical viewer, and the potential effect that the wind energy facilities' presence would have on the public's continued use and enjoyment of scenic resources of state or national significance. The panel will examine the Act from various perspectives, and present results of surveys of users at viewpoints within significant scenic resources that have been conducted at five proposed wind energy developments in Maine.

James Palmer, Scenic Quality Consultants, Moderator  
Terry DeWan, Terrence J. DeWan & Associates  
James Cassida, Normandeau Associates

**9:30 am – 11:00 am**

### **Transportation**

Session 15: NEPA and High-Speed Passenger Rail: Risk Reduction Using Robust Analysis and Other Tools  
Room: Galleria North

To what extent can NEPA analysis be used to minimize and mitigate a project's risks? Will enhanced time and effort at the front of the NEPA process reduce time and effort at the end? Learn how high-speed rail projects in Washington State and California use tiering, interagency teams, and other tools to reduce the project's risks in order to get their projects built on schedule.

Stephanie Oslick, Parson Brinckerhoff, Moderator

Larry Mattson, Washington State Department of Transportation: *NEPA and High-Speed Passenger Rail: Risk Reduction Using Robust Analysis and Other Tools*

### **Cultural Resources**

Session 16: Addressing Challenges of the Recent Past - Panel  
Room: Parlor

Cultural resource professionals face constantly evolving challenges in identifying, documenting and evaluating historic resources as a result of the ever-moving 50-year threshold established by the National Park Service and used almost exclusively for compliance reasons. As that threshold has moved forward to include resources from the 1950s, and now the 1960s, new challenges have emerged: new property types, architectural styles, and development patterns (all applicable to housing, military properties, educational facilities, and corporate architecture, among others); large numbers of seemingly ubiquitous resources; and a general lack of established contextual information for such resources. Over the last several years, however, the challenges of the recent past have begun to be addressed as federal agencies, departments of transportation, state historic preservation offices, municipalities and other entities have made considerable progress in cultivating an understanding of this period and its resources. Such efforts have come in the form of local and regional context statements, workshops, and national programs, all of which ultimately facilitate the completion of accurate, consistent and thorough documentation and evaluation for compliance purposes. This panel begins by presenting an overview of what has been done throughout the country to address issues surrounding the documentation and evaluation of resources from this period, and follows with three distinct case studies on how such resources are being addressed in practical application.

Heather Miller, Historical Research Associates, Moderator

S. Alan Higgins, Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc

Christina Slattery, Mead & Hunt, Inc.

Jerame Cramer, Federal Emergency Management Agency

Michael Houser, Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation

9:30 am – 11:00 am

**Wetlands**

Session #37: Wetland Restoration: A journey to success

Room: Council

This session will focus on four separate presentations that cover appropriate design guidelines, performance measures, and adaptive management in relation to wetland restoration. The first presentation will provide an update on a recovery project that is part of the post-Hurricane Katrina coastal restoration activities in Alabama. The second presentation will focus on performance measures by highlighting the process of developing measurable success criteria for Florida Bay as part of the Everglades Restoration. Next up is a presentation on design guidelines that facilitate site selection, developing cost effective activities, and building an adaptive management program based on habitat enhancement and creation on the Lower Columbia River. The guidelines also provide specific construction details that further ensure success. The final presentation will focus on a public private partnership and highlight the challenges of restoring wetlands and adaptive management when politics and policy are involved through a comprehensive look at the Loxahatchee Mitigation Bank.

Paul Looney, Volkert, Moderator: *Post Katrina Finfish and Shellfish Recovery: Little Bay, Alabama*

Don Deis, Atkins: *Performance Measures Development for Florida Bay within the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Project*

Jeremy Lowe, ESA PWA: *Design Guidelines for the Enhancement and Creation of Estuarine Habitats in the Middle Reaches of the Lower Columbia River*

Kristin Bennett, Tetra Tech: *Adaptive Management and Science, Politics and Policy: The Story of a Public Private Contractual Relationship when things don't go quite as planned*

11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Lunch

Room: Grand Ballroom

**NAEP Door Prize Drawing**

**NAEP Environmental Excellence Award Presentations:**

**\*Best Available Environmental Technology Award:** Columbia River Crossing Team: Columbia River Crossing Hydroacoustic Impacts Analysis on threatened and Endangered Fish

**\*Environmental Stewardship Award:** North Texas Municipal Water District and Alan Plummer Associates, Inc.: East Fork Raw Water Supply Project

**\* Planning Integration Award:** PennDOT and PA Metropolitan/Rural Planning Organizations: PA Program Development and Project Delivery: Linking Planning, NEPA, and Design through an Integrated Partnership

**Zirzow Student Award – presented by Audrey Binder, US EPA**

11:30 am – 1:00 pm



**Keynote Speaker: Mr. Mike Houck,**

*Exploring The Intertwine, Integrating the Built and Natural Landscapes in the Portland-Vancouver Metropolitan Region*

Mike Houck will describe the evolution of *The Intertwine*, the Portland-Vancouver regional system of parks, trails, and natural areas the roles *The Intertwine Alliance* plays in expanding and managing the system. The Alliance is working to protect biodiversity and watershed health, inside and outside the region's urban growth boundaries, across the urban and rural landscapes. The almost 3,000 square mile *Intertwine* region extends from the north fork of the Lewis River in Clark County, Washington south to the Molalla and Pudding River watersheds, and from the foothills of the coast range to the Cascade Mountains. *The Intertwine Alliance* is a coalition of nonprofit organizations, watershed councils, state and federal agencies, cities and counties, local park providers, and local natural resource agencies all of whom are working collaboratively to implementing *The Intertwine* vision of a world class system of parks, trails and natural areas in the Portland-Vancouver region. *The Alliance* ([www.theintertwine.org](http://www.theintertwine.org)) is engaged in conservation education, acquisition of natural areas and trail corridors, active transportation, conservation, and defining the regional system with local, state and regional park providers. Mike will also describe the Metropolitan Greenspaces Alliance, a coalition of regionally based efforts dedicated to protecting biodiversity and providing access to nature for metropolitan areas across the country.

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

**NEPA**

Session 17: NEPA and Climate Change - Panel

Room: Broadway

This panel session will provide an update on the rapidly-evolving area of how to address greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and other aspects of climate change in NEPA analyses. Panelists will provide an overview of the latest climate change science and climate change policy developments. Next, an overview of recent NEPA court decisions involving climate change issues will be discussed. Then, case studies of NEPA projects that have incorporated climate change analyses will be discussed. The session will conclude with a discussion of the implications of these developments for NEPA practice, including the latest guidance from the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ).

Michael Smith, ICF International – Moderator

Jeff Heilman, Parametrix

Ken Bogdan, ICF International

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

**Visual Resources**

Session 18: The Role of Land Use and Air Quality Regulation in Scenery Management  
Room: Galleria South

This panel will discuss land use and air quality regulations that were established with the goal of maintaining or improving scenic quality in National Scenic Areas, National Parks, and Wilderness Areas. Scenic resource management protections, standards, and guidelines used in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area will be discussed, including cross-jurisdictional collaboration between the USFS Scenic Area Office, the Columbia River Gorge Commission and five counties in Oregon and Washington to adopt and implement the Management Plan for the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area by the USFS Scenic Area. Panelist will discuss the EPA's Regional Haze Rule, including the challenges of assessing compliance with requirements for improving visibility in National Parks and Wilderness Areas. The panel will also address the challenges associated with measuring the value the public places on improved visibility, and explore scientific, economic and legal issues confronting decision makers in the process of achieving national visibility goals.

Brad Cownover, USDA Forest Service, Moderator

Christine Plourde and Lynn Oliver, USFS, and Angie Brewer, Columbia River Gorge Commission: *Scenic Resource Management in the Columbia River Gorge*

John Molenar, Air Resource Specialists, Inc, and Michael Goodstein, Hunsucker Goodstein & Nelson PC: *Seeking Clarity: Scientific, Economic, and Legal Views on Visibility*

**Energy Bootcamp 1**

Session 19: Energy Bootcamp: Environmental Professionals and the Renewable Energy Economy, Part 1  
Room: Galleria North

Description: Energy supplies, energy installations, and energy uses occupy a central role in modern economies, and they generate an increasing amount of work for environmental practitioners in government, companies, consultancies, and academia. Energy Bootcamp speakers will outline a broad framework of factors that impinge upon renewable energy projects. Part 1 will provide perspective on fossil fuels and nuclear power so that practitioners will better understand the ways in which renewable energy sources fit within the current energy economy. Emphasis will be on electricity. We will discuss federal, tribal, state, and local powers, and their effect on the politics of energy development. Site selection for renewable energy projects, financing, and legal matters will also be presented.

John Perkins, The Evergreen State College: Energy – The Big Picture

Scot Davidson, NW Energy Efficiency Alliance: Efficiency – The First Choice Technology

Linda Stumpff, Evergreen State College: Energy Administration – Federal, Tribal, State, and Local Powers

Doug MacCourt, Ater Wynne LLP: The Business of Energy Projects

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

**Cultural Resources**

Session 20: Three Roles, Three Project, and Up to Nine Perspectives on Compliance with NEPA and Section 106 - Panel

Room: Parlor

This panel will explore the nine potential and often conflicting roles/project perspectives each play in three different projects (pre-exploration planning, exploration, and operations expansion). The projects' often conflicting compliance processes of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) are explored from contrasting perspectives with ultimately one goal "economic production of gold on public lands while preserving and protecting the public's resources." AICP's when completed will be able to distinguish the different roles played by planners in the NEPA and Section 106 Process.

Heather Miller, Historical Research Associates, Moderator  
Mark Demuth, Western Cultural Resource Management, Inc  
Debbie Lassiter, Allied Nevada Gold Corp  
Edward Stoner, Western Cultural Resource Management, Inc.

**Department of Defense**

Session #38: DoD Regional Environmental, Energy, and Land Management Issues - Panel

Room: Council

The Department of Defense (DoD) Regional Environmental Offices were established to protect and advance the DoD mission by engaging state governments, regional Federal agencies, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders to identify and address issues and actions that may affect military operations. In addition to providing an overview of what the DoD REOs do, members of the panel will discuss regional environmental, energy, and land management issues. These include encroachment, renewable energy development, natural resources/ecosystem management over large landscapes, emerging contaminants, and sustainability initiatives (e.g. Army's net zero initiative).

Helene Merkel, Marstel-Day LLC, Moderator  
Joan Malik, US Navy  
Mark Mahoney, US Army  
Gary Munsterman, AFCEE Western Regional Environmental Office

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

### **NEPA**

Session 21: Defining Boundaries for Environmental Impact Assessments on Trans-boundary Projects . . . or How far do I have to take my GHG analysis?

Room: Broadway

This panel discussion will focus on how environmental documents can best address the full range of project-related impacts that extend beyond local government boundaries and/or cross state and international borders. Offshore wind farms in the Great Lakes, pipelines traversing Canada delivering oil to US refineries, west coast terminals loading US coal for shipment to Asia are a sampling of projects being proposed whose scope and impacts go beyond spatial and temporal limits identified in traditional NEPA and state environmental impact assessments. . The panel will also discuss the geographic limitations of NEPA and state impact assessment statutes, the pros and cons of administering these requirements in the face of the often global nature of potential impacts, and explore ideas to improve clarity for trans-boundary projects.

Ikuno Masterson, ESA, Moderator

John Ehrlichman, Salish Law PLLC

Julie McKim, Office of the Federal Coordinator for the Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Projects

Lloyd Zola, ESA

### **Visual Resources**

Session 22: Tools and Procedures for Siting and Visual Resource Impact Analysis of Large-Scale Linear Projects

Room: Galleria South

This panel will discuss tools and procedures used to inform siting and visual impact analyses for large-scale linear projects that cross large geographic areas. Panelists will discuss GIS-applications used to identify Visual Magnitude, derived from the combined effects of slope, orientation and distance as part of a visibility analysis. This application can support planners in early identification of visual effects and provide information for project siting. Rapid-assessment techniques used to assess impacts of a multi-state pipeline project will be presented. This technique used inventory data, regional landscape character units to develop a qualitative scale describing the magnitude of change in the visual character of each landscape character type, thereby allowing for a quick and consistent assessment of the potential impacts to the visual landscape. A standard approach to assessing impacts of a large-scale, multi-state EHV Transmission Line will be discussed.

John McCarty, BLM, Moderator

Brent Chamberlain, University of British Columbia: *New Geographical Information Systems tools for Scenery Management*

Mark Schwartz and Randy Palmer, EPG: *Visual Resource Impact Assessment and Mitigation Planning: A Defensible Approach for Multi-State EHV Transmission Line Projects*

Craig Johnson & Diane Simpson Colebank, Logan Simpson Design: *You want it when? An approach to developing a rapid assessment of the baseline visual conditions and impact assessment for large scale, linear projects.*

**3:30 pm – 5:00 pm**

**Energy Bootcamp 2**

Session 23: Energy Bootcamp: Environmental Professionals and the Renewable Energy Economy, Part 2

Room: Galleria North

This second session of the Energy Bootcamp will focus on efficiency, the harvesting of energy through pipelines and transmission facilities that stretch across right-of-ways and vast stretches of land, and climate change and energy. The session will wrap up with a presentation forecasting the political climate in 2012 and its potential impacts on the energy economy.

Tim McMahan, Stoel Rives

Larry Bekkadahl: Bonneville Power Administration: Moving Energy – Pipelines and Transmission Facilities

Arnold Bloom: University of California Davis: Climate Change and Energy

Ralph Murphy, Evergreen State College: Energy Politics in 2012

**Professional Development**

Session 24: Body of Knowledge for Environmental Professionals - Panel

Room: Parlor

Environmental professionals must understand a broad range of scientific, social, and environmental concepts, terms, and principles. We also must be able to access and understand a large amount of useful, accurate, and current information if we are to carry out our activities effectively and professionally. What concepts must be understood? Where can the most useful and relevant information be obtained? Discussions will consider the best methods for reporting the information assembled. The objective of this effort is to advance the cause of maintaining a body of knowledge that will help both new environmental professionals develop their skills, and experienced professionals access information that is needed to carry out activities in this field.

Gary Kelman, Maryland Department of the Environment

Peter Havens, Sound & Sea Technology

Don Deis, Atkins

Richard Burke, ARCADIS

Wednesday, May 23

**3:30 pm – 5:00 pm**

**Department of Defense**

Session 39: DoD NEPA Practices & Emerging Trends

Room: Council

The Department of Defense (DoD), specifically the U.S. Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps undertake a broad array of potentially impact inducing actions on a daily basis in order to fulfill their missions. Because of their unique mission requirements the diversity of the scale, scope, and location of these NEPA inducing actions are unparalleled.

This panel will discuss a broad selection of the various types of proposed actions undertaken by these agencies and some of the unique challenges they entail. Recent and future trends emerging in the DoD community will be discussed as well any unique or innovative NEPA approaches (e.g., Army's performance-based NEPA approach).

SunTemple Helgren, HDR Inc, Moderator

Ron Lamb, HQ US Marine Corps

Michael Doherty, NAVFAC HQ

John Clark, US Air Force

**5:00 pm – 6:00 pm**

**Chapters Committee Meeting**

Room: Broadway

**Energy & Environmental Policy Committee Meeting**

Room: Galleria South

**International Committee Meeting**

Room: Galleria North

**Scenic Resources Working Group Meeting**

Room: Parlor

**2013 Conference Committee Meeting**

Room: Council

These are open meeting. If you have an interest in the "inner workings" of NAEP, you are encouraged to attend and participate with any committee.

Thursday, May 24

**7:00 am – 5:00 pm**

**Registration/Exhibits/Poster Presentations Open** – Plaza Foyer, Pavilion and Grand Ballroom Foyer

**7:30 am – 8:30 am**

**Breakfast - Pavilion**

**8:30 am – 10:00 am**

**NAEP Door Prize – Grand Ballroom**

**Membership Meeting, Service Awards** – Grand Ballroom

**10:15 am – 10:45 am**

**NEPA**

Session 25: Categorical Exclusions - The Evolving Workhorse of NEPA - Panel

Room: Broadway

Categorical Exclusions (CEs) have long been considered the workhorse for completing the environmental review process required under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The vast majority of the projects undertaken by State Departments of Transportation (DOTs) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) are processed as CEs. The workhorse role is expected to be expanded in the face of agency funding constraints that are shifting the focus of transportation programs more toward maintaining and improving the functionality of the existing infrastructure and away from major new construction. Many of the current and programmed transportation projects are widenings, resurfacing, reconstruction, replacing bridges, adding turning lanes or reconfiguring interchanges/intersections to improve roadway functionality. Under these projects the amount of new right-of-way acquisition is generally small and environmental impacts are generally minimal. Such projects are likely to be categorically excluded from preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) or EIS, and thus completed with a Categorical Exclusion (CE).

The intent of this panel is to discuss how CEs are currently being used for transportation projects and how they are evolving. The panel members will address the use of Programmatic CEs to help states better manage the evaluation of smaller projects. They will also discuss the implications of the CEQ's final guidance on CEs, and what FHWA is considering to address the guidance. The panel will present examples and highlight some best practices for use of CEs in helping to streamline the project development process.

Nancy Skinner, Parson Brinckerhoff, Moderator  
David Grachen, Federal Highway Administration  
Owen Lindauer, FHWA

**Visual Resources**

Session 26: Implementation of VIA Process and Guidance for Regional Regulatory Review of Wind Turbines in Cape Cod's Ocean Waters

Room: Galleria South

This session will focus on implementation of a Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) process by the Cape Cod Commission in the regional regulatory review for offshore renewable energy facilities in Cape Cod's ocean waters. The aim of the VIA process is to establish the degree to which a proposed project is likely to affect the visual quality of the scenic resources of Cape Cod, and the resulting effect of these changes on people. Participants will learn about how the VIA process will be used in the Commission's review process to guide developers in establishing the visibility of the project and methods to inventory the visual and scenic resources affected. Participants will also understand the siting and design guidance offered through a VIA Technical Bulletin. Speakers will also describe how visualizations and simulations of the preliminary project design are to be conducted to present to the public and decision making authorities. Finally, the speakers will provide information on the performance standards adopted by the Commission for visual impact and the indicators used to guide the decision-making process as well as an overview of the lessons learned in the development of the Visual Impact Assessment process.

Richard Smardon, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Moderator

Sharon Rooney, Cape Cod Commission

Richard Smardon, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry

**Brownfields**

Session 27: Oregon Brownfield Projects

Room: Tower C

This year's Brownfields Session is spotlighting projects located across the State of Oregon that encompass varying levels of regulatory and scientific complexity, and affect different communities in different ways. Starting with a grassroots effort to transform and re-purpose public property for the public good, we will hear about a unique approach taken by Portland's Cully community to transform a former landfill into a park, and lessons the City of Portland Brownfield Program learned along the way. We will then learn about three case studies where EPA Brownfield Grant Funds and Oregon's Prospective Purchaser program have been used to prepare properties for redevelopment. Finally, we will hear an overview of the upland source control work being performed as part of the Portland Harbor Superfund Cleanup.

Brad Thoms, ALTUS Environmental, Moderator

Jenn Bildersee, City of Portland and Tony DeFalco, Let Us Build Cully Park! Coalition: *Meaningful Community Involvement in Environmental Site Assessments: What's New, What's Possible, and What We Did Wrong*

John Foxwell, R.G., Ash Creek Associates, LLC: *Brownfield Assessment and Remediation in Oregon*

Jim Anderson, Oregon DEQ: *River Cleanups & Source Control - Portland Harbor*

Thursday, May 24

**10:15 am – 11:45 am**

**Cultural Resources**

Session 28: Port Townsend Sidewalk Lid and Utility Improvement Project – Resolving Structural Issues in a Vibrant Historic Commercial District - Panel

Room: Parlor

Many of the sidewalks located within Port Townsend’s National Landmark Historic District span between the building and the adjacent street, creating tunnels or areaways below. These tunnels have been used for access to the basement level of many of the historic buildings to the district. Time has undermined the structural integrity of many of these suspended sidewalks creating a significant challenge for the community: How do you remove and replace the sidewalks and preserve existing historic elements while keeping the street level shops accessible during reconstruction? This presentation will give planners, engineers and historians an opportunity to learn about a collaborative, interdisciplinary and multi-agency project that included historic research, planning, design and ultimately, reconstruction of areaways in a Historic Landmark District. With the efforts of multiple engineering disciplines, historians, city staff, several federal and state agencies and community involvement, the project will be constructed to incorporate all of the required rules and regulations and to the greatest extent possible, minimize impacts to the small businesses of the City’s downtown during construction. The project began in 2007 and construction is scheduled to be complete by Late Spring of 2012.

Heather Miller, Historical Research Associates, Moderator

Samantha Trone, City of Port Townsend

Rick Sepler, City of Port Townsend

Scott Sawyer, Shea Carr Jewell

Terry Reckord, MacLeod Reckord PLLC

**11:45 am – 1:15 pm Hot Topic Lunch – Pavilion & Ballroom**

**(Buffet opens at 11:45; Drinks will be in each breakout room; Sessions begin shortly thereafter)**

**NEPA**

Hot Topic Lunch #1 – CEQ’s Selection of NAEP’s Pilot Project - Panel

Room: Broadway

The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) selected the NAEP Pilot Project *Best Practice Principles for Environmental Assessments* (BPPs for EAs) on October 19, 2011. Attendees will hear how the survey was structured, administered, and what the preliminary analysis looks like. The survey was opened February 28 and closed March 21, 2012. The survey was emailed to 1,061 people--811 NAEP members and 250 Federal NEPA points of contact--and we received 317 responses. The survey will be used to compile experience-based lessons learned and inform the writing of the actual BPPs for EAs and the final report to CEQ. The plan is to draft the BPPs for EAs and the accompanying report to CEQ in mid- to late-summer 2012.

David Keys, NOAA Fisheries

Robin Senner, CH2M Hill

Ron Deverman, HNTB

Rita Holder, Law Office of Rita a. Holder

Paul Looney, Volkert

**11:45 am – 1:15 pm Hot Topic Lunch – Pavilion & Ballroom  
(Buffet opens at 11:45; Drinks will be in each breakout room; Sessions begin shortly thereafter)**

**Visual Resources**

Hot Topic Lunch #2: Changes in the Land: The Transformation in Oregon, 1850-2012

Room: Galleria South

Oregon 160 years ago was a complex landscape of biotic provinces little altered by more than 10,000 years of human presence. In less than 100 years between 1850 and 1950 major forces transformed Oregon. The process was driven by powerful economic activities: fur trade, mineral rushes, agriculture, fishing and canning, logging and lumbering, and harnessing streams for hydroelectricity and irrigation water. Construction of cities, highways, reclamation projects, and channelization of rivers brought additional impacts. The federal government was a driving force in these ventures. It owned 53% of the state's lands and funded agencies to engage in activities with large impacts on the land and its occupants. The changes, though ameliorated, in part, by conservation and environmental protection, continue. Windfarms, liquid natural gas facilities, coal export terminals, and struggles over dam relicensings and removals are only the latest chapters shaping the present and future of Oregon. What was and what happened to it is a story not well known but has much potential to shape policy and corrective action for tomorrow.

Louise Kling, Moderator

Dr. Stephen Dow Beckham, Pamplin Professor of History, Emeritus, Lewis & Clark College.

**Environmental Stewardship**

Hot Topic Lunch #3: Engineers Without Borders: Who We Are - What We Do

Room: Galleria North

This presentation includes a description of what The Portland Professionals Chapter of Engineers Without Borders do when our teams are not traveling. Simply, our mission is to support community-driven development that collaborates with local partners to design and implement sustainable engineering projects, while creating transformative experiences and responsible leaders. We, at the Portland Chapter, are committed to volunteering at home and abroad.

In the second half of our presentation, our most recent travel team discusses the specific civil engagement techniques that were utilized on the site assessment trip to Ecuador. We intend to demonstrate the importance of environmental professionals in volunteer work and how critically important it is to engage with the community through intermediaries, such as NGOs.

Pete Mercouriou, A Couple of Fruits

Erin Carroll, GSI Water Solutions

**11:45 am – 1:15 pm Hot Topic Lunch – Pavilion & Ballroom  
(Buffet opens at 11:45; Drinks will be in each breakout room; Sessions begin shortly thereafter)**

**Professional Development**

Hot Topic Lunch #4: Certified Environmental Professionals In Action

Room: Parlor

Certified Environmental Professionals are working! At a time when job openings continue to be scarce and competition is fierce, staying in your current position, or finding a job if you don't have one, is a daunting and nerve-wracking task. Yet, there is something you can do to increase your value to your current employer or to a prospective one: become a Certified Environmental Professional. The Academy of Board Certified Environmental Professionals confers the Certified Environmental Professional (CEP) to senior managers and other qualified individuals as a way to demonstrate their professional skills and high standard of conduct. Employers often give preference to hiring CEPs.

Peter Havens, Sound and Sea Technology, Inc.  
Elizabeth Ellis, WA Dep't of Natural Resources  
Bruce Hasbrouck, Faller, David & Associates, Inc.  
Heidi Pruess, Mecklenburg County

**1:30 pm – 3:00 pm**

**NEPA**

Session 29: Improving NEPA Practice

Room: Broadway

This session will present a number of case studies of NEPA analyses for a variety of projects, including airports, energy infrastructure, and adaptive management. The analysis methods and strategies employed will be explained, and suggestions for practice improvement will be offered.

Richard Burke, ARCADIS US, Moderator  
Yardena Mansoor, US Department of Energy: *Department of Energy Revises NEPA Procedures, Focusing on Categorical Exclusions*  
John Esson, ECW Environmental Group: *Consolidated Annual Sustainability-NEPA Tracking System*  
Jacob Hoogland, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc: *One of These Things is Not Like the Other: A Comparison of NEPA and Management Planning in Three Land Management Agencies*

**1:30 pm – 3:00 pm**

### **Visual Resources**

Session 30: Visual Impact Threshold Distances

Room: Galleria South

This panel will discuss results and present data from several research programs aimed at determining visual impact threshold distances of onshore and offshore wind facilities on coastal lands, and identify basic visual characteristics of large-scale solar energy facilities. These studies, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, and the National Park Service have important implications for how we define the analysis area for visual impact analyses, and also for siting of wind facilities to avoid or minimize visual impacts to visually sensitive lands. Research aimed at better understanding the visual characteristics of large-scale solar energy facilities will be discussed, including how this information can inform our understanding of effective visual impact mitigation strategies.

John McCarty, BLM, Moderator

Robert Sullivan, Argonne National Laboratory: *Preliminary Assessment of Offshore Wind Turbine Visibility and Visual Impact Threshold Distances; Wind Turbine Visibility and Visual Impact Threshold Distances in Western Landscape, Visual Impacts of Utility-scale Solar Power Facilities on Southwestern Desert Landscapes*

### **Wetlands**

Session 31: Introducing Science to Significance: Lessons learned and new guidance on identifying waters protected by the Clean Water Act

Room: Galleria North

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) have issued guidance regarding which waters/wetlands are regulated and protected under the Clean Water Act (CWA). This session is a panel discussion providing insight on the scientific basis of the current draft guidance and the role science, politics and policy have in determining “significant nexus” which is utilized in determining whether a subject water body, stream, or wetland is protected under CWA. The panel will review water quality, hydrologic, and ecological assessment indicators used in the Arid West to measure the effect of an ephemeral water or wetland on the chemical, physical, or biological integrity of a traditional navigable water. The speakers will invite debate on what factors meet the threshold for determining significance and what levels might be “speculative” or “insubstantial”. Within this context, the discussion will also address how these terms can be interpreted differently in different scientific, political, or policy settings.

Brian Nicholson and Devin Keane, SWCA Environmental Consultants: *Introducing science to significance: Lessons learned and new guidance on identifying waters protected by the Clean Water Act*

Thursday, May 24

**1:30 pm – 3:00 pm**

**Land & Watershed Management**

Session 32: Long Term Ecosystem Planning

Room: Parlor

This session will examine three approaches to long-term resource management – looking at adaptive management programs, ecosystem planning for endangered species and regional ecosystem planning.

Darcey Rosenblatt, ESA, Moderator

Will Allen, The Conservation Fund: *A Green Infrastructure Approach to Endangered and Threatened Species Mitigation*

Michael Mayer, The Louis Berger Group: *The Endangered Species Act and Adaptive Management: The Need for Regulatory Certainty in the Face of Scientific Uncertainty*

Kathy Luther, Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission: *Developing a Green Infrastructure Network: Long Term Natural Resource Planning at the Regional Scale*

**3:15 pm – 4:45 pm**

**NEPA**

Session 33: Organizing Information from a Stakeholder Perspective

Room: Broadway

In this session, we argue that if an agency wants to provide information to an adult, it works better if they orient the information in relation to the adult's mental map. That makes the information more findable and it also helps it to be more resonant, more interesting and more likely to provoke reflection. We point out that people's mental maps reflect a different organization than a DEIS's table of contents. They may also emphasize different material. A stakeholder-focused organization of information is more likely to include relationship and procedural issues (trust, fairness, expediency). It likely will include all the issues that go into a decision, not just "issues in controversy." And it is likely to emphasize the rationale for decisions rather than disparate facts.

Philip Murphy, InfoHarvest, Inc.

Carie Fox, Fox Mediation

Rich Fairbanks, FFM

3:15 pm – 4:45 pm

**Visual Resources**

Session 34: Ecosystem Services, Cumulative Effects, and Climate Change

Room: Galleria South

This panel will address various aspects of visual resource impact assessment. Presentations will include a conceptual model of visual perceptions and social acceptability, an approach to measuring cumulative impacts, and a discussion of visual communication of climate change. Though diverse, these subject areas collectively inform our understanding of changes in scenic quality across large geographic areas and ecosystem services related to scenery and esthetics, and use this information to support local action and decision-making.

Richard Smardon, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Moderator

Robert Ribe, University of Oregon: *Fundamental Challenges In Advancing Defensible and Useful Methods of Visual Impact Analysis: A Conceptual Model*

Karen Caddis, Ecosphere Environmental Services: *Solar Projects and Visual Effects: Two case studies in identifying potential impacts*

Stephen Sheppard, University of British Columbia: *Using Visual Media to Reveal the Effects of Climate Change*

**Land and Watershed Management**

Session 35: Meeting the Environmental Aspirations of the 1970's Requires Difficult Decisions Today

Room: Galleria North

After more than 40 years of progress, it is increasingly clear that fully implementing many of the United States' landmark environmental laws will require tough decisions about the costs and benefits involved. The Clean Water Act ("Act") and the requirements imposed on the Los Angeles River pursuant to the Act provides one of the best examples of this dynamic. Bringing the urban, largely channelized body of water into compliance with the Clean Water Act's goals will take an enormous investment of resources, time and effort that crosses jurisdictional boundaries and will require every individual within the watershed to take responsibility for their impacts. Not surprisingly, this level of investment raises questions about whether the goals set for the water body are appropriate or even attainable.

Darcey Rosenblatt, ESA, Moderator

Andre Monette, Best Best & Krieger LLP

3:15 pm – 4:45 pm

**Transportation**

Session 36: Examples of Expediting and Streamlining the NEPA and Permitting Processes

Room: Parlor

Developing an environmental approvals and permit guide is helping the California's High Speed Train project to meet ambitious project construction schedules. The challenge was to develop a guidance document for obtaining environmental approvals and permits to build and operate an 800 mile high speed train in California so it can qualify for American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 funding. The California High Speed Rail Authority is proposing to construct, operate, and maintain an electric-powered system. When completed, new passenger rail services would be provided to more than 90% of California's population. The system would connect and serve the major metropolitan areas including San Francisco, Sacramento, and San Diego.

Federal and state transportation agencies have been attempting for decades to reduce project delays associated with planning, NEPA compliance and permitting. However, these processes continue to take longer for transportation projects than for any other sector. Recent research conducted for the Transportation Research Board investigated the causes of delays in transportation NEPA and permitting processes, and identified and evaluated the successful strategies that have been used to overcome such delays and to expedite delivery. None of these strategies relies on reducing environmental protection or regulatory compliance. Learn the key lessons from the research including how to identify the hurdles and strategies for expediting delivery of any project or program. While some hurdles are unique to transportation projects, many can apply to other sectors as well.

Larry Mattson, WSDOT, Moderator

Stephanie Oslick, Parsons Brinckerhoff: *Developing an Environmental Approvals and Permitting Guide for California's High-Speed Train Project*

Jeff Heilman, Parametrix: *Research on Best Practices for Expediting Planning, NEPA and Permitting for Transportation Projects and Programs*

Friday, May 25

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**8:00 am – 5:00 pm**

**NAEP Board of Directors Meeting** (all members welcome)

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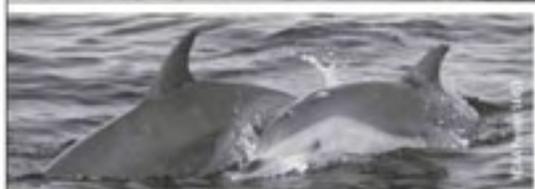
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