CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Abstract Submission System

Abstracts Due December 13, 2013

The Conference Steering Committee invites submissions of abstracts for consideration for the Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference. Notification of acceptance will be issued by early February.

The conference program will cover a wide range of topics that address the science, policy and management of the Salish Sea ecosystem. An earlier Call for Session Proposals identified a range of specific topics to be addressed during conference sessions, listed below. This year’s theme of shared responsibility will be used as criteria for integrating abstracts into the sessions. In addition to submissions from universities and governments, we are also seeking abstracts from within the agricultural, business and industrial sectors, other communities and organizations, and as demonstrated through governance initiatives (undertaken by Tribes and First Nations, local and regional government). We encourage submissions by students (high school, undergrad, graduate) and will be conducting a program to provide student awards, as in past conferences.

Abstracts are invited for oral and poster presentations related to the topics listed below. Abstract submissions for these topics should, where possible, feature interdisciplinary and transboundary collaboration and networking among scientists, policy-makers, students and other stakeholders. Session formats include oral and poster presentations, panels and other facilitated discussions. Presenters should select the specific session(s) in either the list of Special Sessions or General Sessions to which they would like to submit their abstract.

Abstracts are requested from all presenters, including those who have been invited to speak by a session organizer.
Presentation Guidelines

Oral Presentation Guidelines:

The Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference is a place to share information, ideas and findings, and to connect with people to better understand each other and the state of the ecosystem. Within each 90-minute breakout session block we are seeking excellent presentations and the opportunity for meaningful dialogue amongst participants.

For the majority of the sessions, we will use a format of six presenters, each given a 15-minute time slot. In some sessions, a panel format will be used in which one or more 15-minute segments will be used for discussion. Presentations must be no longer than 12 minutes to allow time for questions, other speakers and deeper discussions. Session organizers will work with their respective session participants to clarify particular requirements. In general, we recommend no more than 10 slides for most presentations. Presenters are encouraged to focus on study results and their implications and relate their work and results to those being presented by others, especially other presentations in the session. Session rooms will be equipped with a screen, projector and computer (PC).

Poster Presentation Guidelines:

Poster presentations will use charts, tables, graphs, photos and/or drawings to complement explanatory text. Presenters will be provided with a 4’x 4’ bulletin board area to mount their poster. Presenters will be expected to be available to informally discuss their study or project/program with conference participants at the Poster Gala Reception, currently planned for the late afternoon of May 1, 2014, and during lunches/coffee breaks over the course of the conference. Posters will be grouped according to the topic they address. During the conference, conference organizers will be making efforts to ensure that attendees of oral sessions are notified of and encouraged to visit posters that are related to oral presentations.

Submission Requirements and Procedures

Please make your submission through the online Abstract Submission Site by midnight, December 13, 2013

Authors will need to create an account with the Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference in the Abstract Submission system. An abstract of no more than 2000 characters can be typed into the form online. Supplementary documents in Word or PDF format can be uploaded if further length or additional details are needed

Submissions will be reviewed by respective session organizers, and approved and selected by the Conference Steering Committee in consultation with session organizers. Final program content and format is at the discretion of the Steering Committee. Presenters will receive notice of acceptance in early February.

All presenters are required to register for the conference (minimum of one-day registration) and cover all travel and accommodation expenses.
Conference Timeline

**November 6, 2013**  
Call for Abstracts released

**December 13, 2013**  
Call for Abstracts closes (Midnight)

Evaluation and selection of abstracts (Conference Steering Committee and session conveners)

**February 5, 2014**  
Presenters notified

**April 30 - May 2, 2014**  
Conference held at the Seattle Convention Centre.

**June 1, 2014**  
Proceedings submissions due

Proceedings

The conference organizers will produce web-based proceedings of the conference. Individual presenters will be required to submit proceedings, and have the option of submitting an extended abstract, PDF of PowerPoint presentation or full manuscript of their oral or poster presentation. Session conveners must also submit an edited report or summary of the session and its outcomes.

The deadline for all proceedings submissions is June 1, 2014. Presenters, however, are encouraged to submit their proceedings before then.

List of Sessions

Special Sessions:

- Importance of Puget Sound Lowland streams
- Future Salish Sea water quality
- Changes in Salish Sea water quality and linkages to benthic biotic assemblages
- Harmful algal blooms, climate, shellfish, and public health
- Risks and consequences of increasing fossil fuel transport in the Salish Sea
- Ocean Acidification - A Collaborative Response at the Seattle Aquarium
- Novel Actions to Address Ocean Acidification in the Salish Sea
- Emerging Public Health Issues Related to Shellfish and Climate Change
- Building Community Resilience: Moving beyond climate adaptation planning to implementation
- Assessing, Planning and adapting to climate change related impacts in the Skagit River Watershed, from glacial headwaters to the Salish Sea
- Maritime Consequences of Transport of Fossil Fuel in the Salish Sea
- Future Scenarios for Puget Sound Marine Waters
- Fossil Fuel Exports and Climate Change in the Salish Sea
- Planning for coastal hazards, climate change, and sea level rise in Washington State
- Frontiers of Ocean Acidification Research in the Salish Sea
- Technical Tools to Support Sea Level Rise Adaptation in the Salish Sea
- Toxics in the Nearshore
• Ecosystem Services and Impacts of Sediment for Salish Sea Recovery
• HABs and marine pathogens in a changing world
• Cleaning our Waters: Moving forward on green infrastructure
• Water Pollution Identification & Correction (PIC) Programs: methods, resources, and success stories
• Washington Fish Consumption Rate: one number, hundreds of human health and environmental management decisions, millions of consumers
• Session on Occurrence and Impacts of Contaminants of Emerging Concern in the Salish Sea
• Sources of PCBs in the Green/Duwamish Watershed
• Bioretention for Improving Water Quality
• Changes in the Salish Sea water quality and linkages to benthic biotic assemblages
• Importance of Puget Sound Lowland Streams
• Using Stream Bugs to Manage and Restore Watersheds
• Eelgrass Wasting Disease: A Potential Threat to Salish Sea Ecosystem Health
• Kelp: Assessing Trends and Threats in a Critical Biogenic Habitat
• Kelp Restoration: Grass roots efforts to map and restore floating kelp habitat
• Elwha River Restoration: Evolution of Habitats and Ecosystems During a Massive Dam Removal Project
• Puget Sound Shorelines and the Impacts of Armoring: State of the Science 2014
• Spit and Barrier Beach Restoration: The Importance of Geomorphic Context on Salmon Habitat Restoration
• Reimagining Shorelines: Building relationships and designing successful shoreline enhancement projects using shared values - on private, public and tribal shores
• Pelagic Ecology in the Salish Sea: Landscape and Human Contexts
• A comprehensive transboundary effort to evaluate the marine survival of salmon and steelhead in the Salish Sea: the Salish Sea Marine Survival Project
• Forage Fish Research and Protection in the Salish Sea
• Evaluation, conservation and restoration of species associated with high-relief, rocky habitat in the Salish Sea
• Marine Birds and Mammals of the Salish Sea: Identifying patterns and causes of change - I
• Marine Birds and Mammals of the Salish Sea: Identifying patterns and causes of change – II
• Developing and using nearshore functional assessment and ecosystem service valuation models with stakeholder input and application of model results in an alternative mitigation program and long-term shoreline restoration program
• Investing in Watershed Services: From Valuation to Funding Mechanisms for Maintaining Natural Infrastructure
• Citizen Science as a Tool for Conservation - Best Practices from Local Examples
• “Rethinking Our Waterways: Collaboration and Working Effectively with Landowners, Project Partners and Decision Makers”
• Beyond the Numbers - How science informs decisions to catalyze action
• Campaigns for Engagement
• Developing Social and Ecological Indicators
• Salish Sea Foods: Cultural Practices, Sustainable Markets, and Environmental Stewardship
• Shellfish Aquaculture: Exploring themes of sustainability and ecosystem recovery
• Tracing Cultural Ecosystem Services from Data Collection to Decision Making
• Social Strategies for Ecosystem Recovery: On the Ground Applications of Social Science
• Emerging tools for synthesizing and communicating ecosystem information
• Integrating the Social and Natural Sciences for Better Decision Making
• Using cross-sectoral collaboration to create long-lasting solutions
• Experiences in Integrated Marine Planning
• Integrating landscape-scale assessments into local planning
• Measuring Floodplain Rehabilitation Success to Inform Decision Makers
• Programs to Incentivize Soft Shorelines
• In the Event of an Unthinkable: A Major Oil Spill in our Waters
• “Oil Spills in Our Salish Sea: Emergency Management and spill response perspectives”
• Managing Floodplains for Multiple Benefits
• Ocean Acidification - A Collaborative Response at the Seattle Aquarium
• Recreational Vessel Pollution Prevention in a Trans-boundary Environment: British Columbia and Washington State
• Business and Industry Panel

General Sessions:
• Terrestrial processes, demographics, and land cover changes
• Freshwater ecology – habitat, quantity, quality
• Aquatic vegetation
• Stormwater quality, impacts, treatment, solutions
• Shellfish – natural populations and responses to stressors, aquaculture, etc.
• Invasive species – marine, freshwater, terrestrial
• Marine ecology
• Ecosystem modeling of the Salish Sea
• Case studies on monitoring successful restoration to address problems with sediments, pathogens, nutrients, metals, and other toxics in both fresh and marine systems
• Salmon Recovery: Implementation and Progress
• Salish Sea GIS/Data Management Initiatives
• Implementing Ecosystem Protection and Restoration Actions at both Local and Basin-wide Scales
• Emergency Management and Spills Responsiveness

Questions

Questions may be directed to:

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