

Fall Regional Workshop

October 6-7 Tacoma, WA

Wednesday, October 6

7:00-8:00- Breakfast at Hotel Murano and meet the exhibitors

8:00 – Welcome – Mary Gail Sullivan, President of NWA, Northwestern Energy

8:15 – Keynote

Chris Robinson, General Manager, Chief Operating Officer

9:00 – Meet the Regulators

Attendees will have a chance to hear from local, state, and federal regulators from our region. Hear the view from their desks, what the horizon line looks like, and get a unique opportunity to connect and learn from each other.

Moderator- Heidi Wahto, Stantec

10:30-11:00 – Break

11:00 Latest News from the Region

NWA Update and Opportunities to Contribute, Committee Updates, ESA update, Communications Red Team, Op-Eds, Social Media Efforts

11:45-1:00 Lunch

1:00 Beyond the Heat Dome- Part 1 Operations and Markets

Are we ready for the new way of operating? The first part of the discussion will focus on looking ahead for transmission planning, changes in precipitation patterns (both challenges and opportunities) how operations will be changing moving forward, and how utilities are thinking about the period of record and how that affects FERC licenses and forecasting.

Moderator: Mark Jones, HDR

Looking Ahead- Regional Transmission

A new way of Operating a Utility Perspective

John Chandler, Water Resources Technical Lead, Puget Sound Energy- Period of Record- Should we use shorter or longer data sets? What does 100 years ago tell us now? -Confirmed

2:15-2:45 Break

2:45 Beyond the Heat Dome- Part 2 Natural Resources and Hydrograph

During the second part of the Heat Dome discussion, the focus will shift to how owners may be looking at modifying fish passage, fish movement, how modeling is changing with extreme weather events, how utilities are thinking about staffing, recreation, and assessing shoreline management in drought years.

Moderator: Alene Underwood, Chelan County PUD

Fish Passage/Movement

Planning, Forecasting, & Modeling -Scott Spahr, Snohomish County PUD

Staffing and how recreation has been handled

Shoreline in Drought Years

4:00 Hot Topics, Regional Discussion, National Update

Test Bed Facilities in the NW- OSU and UW's recent FERC licenses for MHK research. What does that mean for the NW utilities? What about other new technologies that are increasingly being installed in the Northwest?

Malcolm Wolff, President and CEO, NHA- What 2021 has held, tax credits, 401, NEPA, infrastructure bills, and how NWAHA members can leverage these initiatives to help in the NW.

Other Hot Topic Expert Presentations

5:00 Closing Comments and Adjourn

5:00-6:30-PM – Welcome Reception at Hotel Murano

Thursday, October 7

7:30 Breakfast

8:00 Fish Passage Updates, Lessons, and Outcomes

A lightning round update from four different projects throughout the region to include updates, lessons learned as well as outcomes from initiatives.

Moderator: Dana Poselwait, R2 Kleinschmidt

Lewis River- Chris Karchesky, PacifiCorp

Trail Bridge

Round Butte and Opal Springs- Megan Hill, Portland General Electric

Cushman- Travis Nelson, Tacoma Power

9:00 Critical Stakeholders- Tribal Relations

This session will ask questions of different tribal representatives. Questions could include, how can our industry do appropriate land acknowledgments or how can relationships be built that respect cultural differences? The moderator will ask nuts and bolts questions surrounding consultations. What is the typical hierarchy and structure of tribes to ensure that nobody is left out from the negotiation process? What does consultation mean for the Bureau of Indian Affairs versus the Tribes? Following the panel, a case study will be presented from the Skokomish Tribe and Tacoma Power to explore lessons learned and how this case study could guide future collaborative efforts.

Moderator: Matt Love, Partner, Cascadia Law Group

Bureau of Indian Affairs- Jennifer Frozena

Joseph Pavel, Skokomish Tribe, Relationship between the utility and the Tribe and lessons learned.

10:00 Adjourn and Tour Leaves

10:15-5:00 – Tour

Participants meet in front of the main lobby for the tour.

NWHA is heading to the Cushman Hydropower Project! Located on the Skokomish River near the Hood Canal, attendees will get a first-hand look at fish facilities designed to reintroduce and enhance salmon populations at the Tacoma Power Cushman project. Attendees will get to see a floating surface collector and two new hatcheries. These facilities are part of a mitigation and settlement agreement following a very lengthy and contentious FERC relicensing proceeding over a 30 year period. Due to the timing of this trip, attendees will likely get to see returning adult salmon, incubating eggs, and juvenile salmon and steelhead rearing at the hatcheries. Lunch will be provided for tour participants as well as water and snacks.