

2022 ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE

# RENEWAL

BRINGING TOGETHER HYDROPOWER FOR A  
RENEWED FUTURE



FEBRUARY 23-25, 2022

Waterfront Marriott Downtown  
Portland, Oregon



INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION AT:

[WWW.NWHYDRO.ORG](http://WWW.NWHYDRO.ORG)

# JOIN US

# RENEWAL

The Northwest Hydroelectric Association is pleased to invite attendees to join us back in person at our Annual Conference. As we move into our 41st year, we are ready to take all the lessons we have learned while apart and bring them together into our annual conference. Plan on joining us to learn from industry experts, garner technical expertise, and catch up on much overdue networking with fellow hydropower professionals.

The conference will offer 16 professional development hours and include 26 events, sessions and networking activities,

We know how much you have missed connecting in person and so we look forward to gathering our industry safely to have important conversations to help grow hydropower's role in our clean energy future. We will see you in February!

## TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Climate Change
- Invasive Mussels in the Northwest
- Dam Safety in Practice
- Empowering Hydro with DEI
- Why You Should Know About the Columbia River Treaty
- Breakfast Club- Topical Networking Discussions
- New Age of Integrating Hydro
- Recent Ecological Monitoring Experiences
- Policy and Regulatory Updates
- Plant Condition & Asset Management
- Legal 401
- Post COVID Hydropower Reality



# REGISTRATION

## REGISTRATION AND FEES

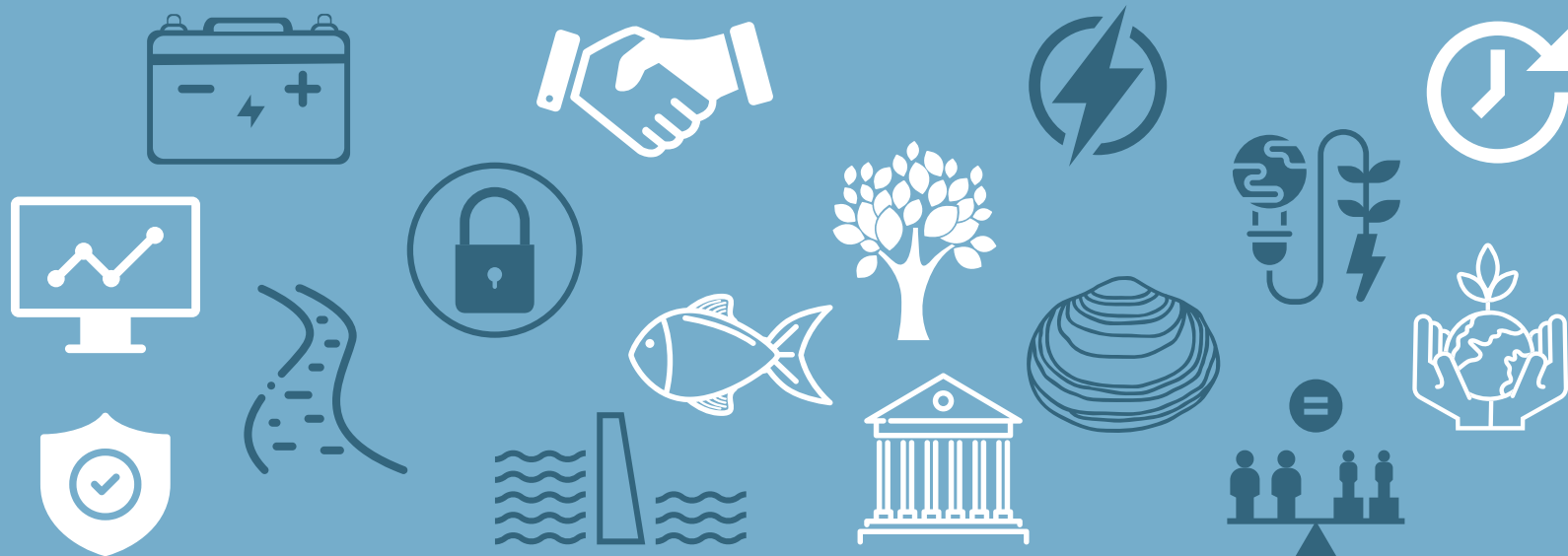
Registration for the NWHHA Annual Conference can be done online by visiting [www.nwhydro.org](http://www.nwhydro.org).

Registration Category	Members	Non-Members
Advanced Registration (by 1/14/22)	\$550	\$650
Full Registration (After 1/14/22)	\$650	\$750
On-Site Registration (After 2/18/22)	\$745	\$845
Student Rate	\$125	\$125

Sponsors and Exhibitors- There are many more features in 2022, so please visit [www.nwhydro.org/annual-conference.html](http://www.nwhydro.org/annual-conference.html) to view the exhibitor and sponsor packages which range from \$1,500-\$2,750 to fit sponsors needs.

Should you have questions regarding accessing the online registration system, please contact Taylor at [Taylor@nwhydro.org](mailto:Taylor@nwhydro.org).

If you have questions regarding exhibits, speakers, or other conference details, please contact Brenna at (503) 502-7262 or [brenna@nwhydro.org](mailto:brenna@nwhydro.org).



## RENEWAL SESSIONS

# TUESDAY FEBRUARY 22

## 1:00-4:00 P.M. SMALL HYDRO WORKSHOP

The small hydro committee is offering a complimentary workshop preceding the conference to focus on small hydro topics for our members to enhance their conference experience. Topics include:

- Tax Incentives for Small Hydro: How can owners use these opportunities?
- Small Hydro and Retrofit Management
- How to get support from your Governor's Office when you need it.
- Legislative Update: What does the Infrastructure Bill mean for small hydro (pending final outcome in 2021).
- What conversations do we need to have in 2022 to advance small hydro?



## 1:00 P.M.-6:00 P.M. EXHIBITOR MOVE IN

## 5:00 P.M. NWAH BOARD MEETING

# WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 23

7:00 A.M. REGISTRATION AND WELCOME BREAKFAST

8:00 A.M. WELCOME AND KEYNOTE

**Welcome:**

**Mary Gail Sullivan – NWA President, Northwestern Energy**

**Keynote:**

Sylvain Fabi, Consul General, Chief Negotiator, Canadian Treaty Negotiating Team

8:30-10:00 A.M. PANEL 1

**Why you Need to Know About the Renegotiation of the Columbia River Treaty**



The Columbia River Treaty is a transboundary water management agreement between Canada and the United States. The treaty optimizes both flood management and power generation through coordinated operations of dams, rivers, and reservoirs on both sides of the border. In the 50-plus years since the treaty was ratified, the hydropower landscape and associated resource views have changed significantly. The U.S., Canada, respective Indian Tribes, and First Nations continue to contemplate how to continue to balance these resources in modern times. Panelists will provide their perspectives on the Treaty and its far-reaching effects on our industry.

**Moderator/Panelists:**

Sylvain Fabi- Consul General, Chief Negotiator, Canadian Treaty Negotiating Team

Kathy Eichenberger- British Columbia- Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Low Carbon Innovation, Lead, Canadian Treaty Negotiating Team

Nathan Matthew, Simpcw First Nation

Rick Agnew, Partner, Van Ness Feldman LLP

10:00-10:30 A.M. COFFEE BREAK IN EXHIBIT AREA

# WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 23

## 10:30-11:30 A.M. PANEL 2

### **Climate Change & Hydro in the Northwest: Assessing & Mitigating Risks, Seeking Opportunities**

Hear the current assessment of climate trends for the Northwest and what they mean for the hydro system. How are we assessing, and beginning to mitigate, risks to the hydro system? Amidst these challenges, are there opportunities?

**Moderator:** Philip Mote, Director and Professor, Oregon State University

#### **Panelists:**

Ronda Strauch, Climate Change Research, Seattle City Light

Andrew Schwarz, State Water Project Climate Action Coordinator, California Department of Water Resources



## 11:30-12:30 COMMITTEE MEETINGS/NETWORKING BREAK

### **All Attendees Welcome to attend committee meetings**

- Legislative/Regulatory
- Communications
- Energy Transition
- Small Hydro
- Technical/O&M
- Natural Resources\*



Attendees may alternatively visit with exhibitors and sponsors during this time.

\*Will be meeting Thursday at Breakfast Club

## 12:30-1:45 P.M AWARDS LUNCHEON AND ANNUAL MEETING

### **All Attendees Welcome**

Attendees will get to meet the newly elected NWAHA Board of Directors, hear about NWAHA 2022 initiatives, ask questions about upcoming work of NWAHA, and most importantly help recognize the lifetime achievement award recipient of the Pamela E. Klatt award. Join us for this seated luncheon to network and celebrate.



# WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 23

1:45-3:00 P.M. PANEL 3

## **Dam Safety: How are We Doing at Developing the Next Generation of Experts in Our Field?**

Panelists will talk about the risks of inadequate planning for the institutional brain trust retiring, training opportunities, and what is currently being done in their respective organizations.



### **Moderator:**

Carrie Harris- Northwestern Energy

### **Panelists:**

Nick Loos- Portland General Electric

Roger Raeburn- PacifiCorp

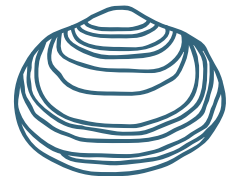
Toby Brewer- Tacoma Power

3:00-3:30 P.M. NETWORKING BREAK

3:30-4:30 P.M. PANEL 4

## **Invasive Mussels: A look Forward for the Northwest**

Panelists will update on current understanding of the threat, response planning, and possible future scenarios.



**Moderator:** Stephen Phillips, Sr. Program Manager, Aquatic Invasive Species, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission

### **Panelists:**

Tom Woolf, AIS Division Chief, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Damian Walter, Risk Management, USACE- Walla Walla District

# WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 23

4:30-5:30 P.M. PANEL 5

## **Empowering the Hydropower Industry with Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**

Diversity, equity and inclusion in the hydro industry is not just about employee composition. Inclusive participation, particularly from under-represented groups, into processes at all turns (staff team, public comments, suppliers, project siting, proposed mitigation) is important to consider and act on to have equitable and sustainable energy resources. Come be a part of this panel/fire-side chat to learn new ways to be inclusive in our hydro industry.

**Moderator:** Maranda Compton, Partner, Van Ness Feldman

**Panelists:**

Tracy Turman, Manager, Human Resources, Puget Sound Energy

Ahlmahz Negash, Sr. Power Analyst- Resources Planning, Tacoma Power



5:30-6:30 P.M. OPENING RECEPTION AND SOCIAL



# THURSDAY FEBRUARY 24

7:30 A.M. REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST

8:30-9:15 A.M. PANEL 6

## **Breakfast Club**

Need informal guidance or advice on a hydro-related issue? Want to share your knowledge with industry colleagues on issues? Submit your issue or questions on Wednesday for small facilitated group discussions during breakfast on Thursday. Small groups organized by topic areas, will discuss issues faced by your fellow conference attendees and include topics like wildfires, COVID-19, as well as diversity, equity, and inclusion. Moderators and experts will be on hand to help facilitate discussions in areas of dam safety, communications/education, licensing, operations & maintenance, fisheries/water quality, land/terrestrial management. Grab your breakfast and follow signs to get join in topical discussions.



Topical networking over breakfast or coffee. Topics will include:

- Dam Safety/Engineering
- Communications/Education
- Licensing
- Fisheries/Water Quality
- Operations
- Terrestrial/Land
- Maintenance
- Permitting

9:15-9:30 A.M. COFFEE AND NETWORKING BREAK

9:30-10:00 A.M. PLENARY KEYNOTE

## **Welcome:**

Brenna Vaughn - NWA Executive Director

## **Keynote:**

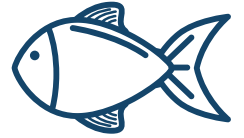
Colonel Michael Helton, Commander and District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,

# THURSDAY FEBRUARY 24

10:00-11:30 A.M. PANEL 7

## **Recent Experiences in Ecological Monitoring**

From eDNA to Drones to new analytical techniques, this panel looks at the advances in technology that enable us to expand the depth and breadth of investigations around hydro projects and their ecological connections including basin-scale considerations. Panelists will showcase their unique approaches and discuss the process for identifying the technology and winning acceptance from agencies, utilities, and scientists.



**Moderator:** Eve Davies, Principal Scientist, PacifiCorp

### **Panelists:**

Ethan Bell, Senior Fisheries Ecologist, Stillwater Sciences- Use of eDNA and long-term monitoring

Dave Coffman, Restoration Program Manager, RES- Performance guarantees for ecological restoration monitoring

Ryan Harnish, Sr. Research Scientist, PNNL- Fish survival through the Columbia River basin system - smolt return rates, based on different flow regimes using alternative data sets

Jordan Tollefson, Northwestern Energy- Blue-green algae monitoring and coordination with counties and agencies

Brandon Overstreet, Hydrologist, USGS, Oregon Water Science Center, Development of bathymetric datasets using remote sensing - methods and applications for streamflow management in the Willamette basin

11:30-1:00 P.M. NETWORKING BREAK AND LUNCH

## **Choose from Women in Hydro Luncheon or Lunch with our Exhibitors**

Attendees may choose to join the women in hydro luncheon (all attendees welcome) or join the exhibitors for an informal luncheon in the exhibit area and foyer.



# THURSDAY FEBRUARY 24

1:00-2:30 P.M. PANEL 8

## **Policy and Regulatory Updates**

Industry experts will provide policy and regulatory updates from inside the Beltway and the Pacific Northwest region. Don't miss this look at the Biden Administration's first year in review, FERC updates, and the impacts of new policies on the hydropower industry.



**Moderator:** Jeff Leahey, Vice President, Strategic Marketing Innovations

### **Panelists:**

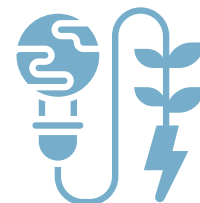
Malcolm Woolf, President & CEO, National Hydropower Association  
Matt Love, Partner, Cascadia Law Group

2:30-3:00 P.M. NETWORKING BREAK

3:00-4:30 P.M. PANEL 9

## **The New Era of Using Hydro and Storage for the Transforming Energy Market**

This panel will explore energy storage capabilities in conjunction with hydropower to provide increased flexibility, environmental benefits, and faster response times. In addition, a discussion on the Energy Imbalance Market and Resource Adequacy in relation to Hydropower facility operators.



**Moderator:** Joe Heinzmann, Senior Product Manager, GE Power Services- Battery Hybrid Electric Gas Turbines - Pairing batteries with hydro

### **Panelists:**

Chris Juchau, Power Analyst, Tacoma Power- Energy Imbalance Market

Ray Johnson, Assistant Power Manager, Tacoma Power- Resource Adequacy

Jon Olson, Director- Energy Trading and Contract, Sacramento Municipal Utility District

Rebecca O'Neil, Researcher, Pacific Northwest National Lab- Trends in storage hybridization and value propositions for hydropower

4:30-5:30 P.M. NWAH SPONSORED SOCIAL

# FRIDAY FEBRUARY 25

8:30 A.M. REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST

9:00-10:00 A.M. PANEL 10

## **From Assessment Management to Condition Assessment- How Practices are Being Applied Across Utilities from Programs to Projects**

Hear from a well-developed asset management program and what their latest efforts are regarding assessment and condition monitoring. This conversation will be followed by a smaller utility member who has applied the approach of the larger owner into their utility as well as how others are developing asset management approaches. The session will conclude with specific case studies resulting from utility's that have applied and/or not applied asset management programs.



### **Moderator:**

John Yarbrough, California Department of Water Resources

### **Panelists:**

Gordon Ashby, Resource Economic Planner- Generating Assets, Bonneville Power Administration- Hydro Asset Management Program "HydroAMP"

James Volk, Principal Hydro Project Engineer, Basler- Applying Asset Management Case Study

Jeremy Bynum, Electric System Engineering Manager, Ketchikan Public Utilities- Generator Rewinds- A Case Study of Not Applying Asset Management

10:00-10:30 A.M. COFFEE NETWORKING BREAK

10:30-11:30 A.M. PANEL 11

## **Current Legal Landscape**

Join us for a staple panel at our Annual Conference! The panel will discuss ongoing litigation and regulation affecting new and existing hydropower interests – ranging from 401 Certifications, TMDLs, and other important rulemakings and court actions.



**Moderator:** Andrea Wortzel, General Counsel- NWA, Partner, Troutman Pepper

### **Panelists:**

Sharon White, Partner, Rock Creek Energy Group

Michael Campbell, Partner, Stoel Rives LLP

Charles Sensiba, Partner, Troutman Pepper

# FRIDAY FEBRUARY 25

11:30-12:30 P.M. PANEL 12

## **Post-COVID: A New Reality or Temporary Inconvenience?**

We have all experienced similar challenges related to the pandemic and there is no timeline for when it will end. As we hit the two-year pandemic milestone this panel will discuss what aspects of the pandemic are the new reality and which are temporary inconveniences. Will the supply chain catch up? Are masks and vaccines required? Do I need to return to the office? This panel will take a deeper dive into these questions, among others, and share best practices from across the industry.

### **Moderator:**

Dave Zayas, Idaho Power

### **Panelists:**

Melissa Boyd, Operations Support Senior Manager, Idaho Power

Jordan Fink, Chief, Electrical Branch, US Army Corps of Engineers, Hydroelectric Design Center



12:30-12:45 P.M. CLOSING, PRIZES, AND ADJOURN

## JOIN A COMMITTEE OF NWAHA

The best way to dive in and get involved with NWAHA as a member is joining a committee. This is one of the largest member benefits to ensure that NWAHA is meeting members' needs and working on issues that matter most. Current committees are:

- Small Hydro
- Technical Operations
- Communications
- Natural Resources
- Legislative and Regulatory
- Energy Transition (formerly Pumped Storage)
- Young Professionals – Boise, Portland and Seattle
- Women in Hydropower – Portland and Seattle

### **We invite any interested members to join us at our committee**

**meetings on Wednesday the 23rd at 11:00** to get involved and hear about the latest topics within each committee. You can sign up to be a member of a committee(s) by emailing [brenna@nwhydro.org](mailto:brenna@nwhydro.org). If you are interested in starting a committee or conversation, please also let us know so we can ensure we are having relevant conversations and commitment to our members.

# INDUSTRY RECOGNITION

## PAMELA E. KLATT AWARD

NWHA members nominate potential candidates for this award honoring Pam Klatt, in memory of her strong advocacy in promoting hydropower during her long-standing support of NWHA. The award recognizes individuals, like Pam, who have made significant contributions to the hydropower industry in the Northwest. For more information, visit [www.nwhydro.org/awards](http://www.nwhydro.org/awards).

The 2022 awardee will be presented the award ceremony on Wednesday at 12:00.

Past recipients –

2010 Jan Lee, Northwest Hydroelectric Assn.

2011 Julie Keil, Portland General Electric

2012 Bruce Meaker, Snohomish PUD

2013 John “Jack” Snyder, McMillen LLC

2014 Patti Kroen, Kroen Consulting

2015 Charles “Chick” Sweeney, Alden Labs

2016 John Esler, Portland General Electric

2017 Steve Padula, McMillen Jacobs Associates

2018 Pat McCarty, Tacoma Power

2019 Gregg Carrington, Chelan County PUD

2020 John Duhamel, Copper Valley Electric Association

2021 Colleen McShane, Seattle City Light

## SCHOLARSHIP HONORING INDUSTRY COLLEAGUE

NWHA established the JULIE A. KEIL WOMEN IN HYDRO SCHOLARSHIP FUND in honor of Julie’s long-term commitment to the industry. In 2021, the scholarship committee selected Elsie Brown to receive the award. Applications are now being accepted for the 2022 scholarship. Julie worked at Portland General Electric for over 25 years and was a mentor and industry leader. Many of the utilities and companies nationwide have been able to benefit from Julie’s leadership, her insight and her ability to work with agencies toward mutual goals. You can honor Julie and help support the advancement of women in the hydropower industry by making a tax-deductible donation to the Julie A. Keil Women in Hydro Scholarship Fund. To donate with a debit or credit card or PayPal, go to [nwhydro.org/scholarships](http://nwhydro.org/scholarships). You can also mail a donation to the Hydropower Foundation. Checks should be made payable to Hydropower Foundation with the notation Julie Keil Fund in the memo line.

Hydropower Foundation

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