



pacific northwest aquatic
monitoring partnership

PNAMP May 2024 Newsletter

Upcoming Events

May 12-
16 [23rd International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species](#)

May 14-
15 [Northwest Power and Conservation Council Meeting](#)

May 21 2024 HCAX Project Workshop - See article below

May 22-
23 [Columbia River Basin Restoration Work Group Meeting](#)

June 4-5 [100th Meridian CRB AID Team Meeting](#)

June 11-
12 [Northwest Power and Conservation Council Meeting](#)

June 12-
13 [Washington Salmon Recovery Funding Board Meeting](#)

Please check the [PNAMP calendar](#) for recently added meetings as well as meeting updates, agendas, and contact information.

If you would like your meetings posted on the PNAMP calendar, please email [Megan Dethloff](#) with details.

Save the Date: May 25th is World Fish Migration Day!

World Fish Migration Day (WFMD) is a global campaign by the World Fish Migration Foundation (WFMF) to celebrate and create awareness about migratory fish and the importance of free-flowing rivers. Occurring every two years, this event takes place on May 25, and this year's theme is "Free Flow", set to celebrate not only fish but all living things that reside in our rivers.

According to the [Living Planet Index for Migratory Freshwater Fish](#), freshwater fish populations declined 76% between 1970 and 2016. This decline is primarily related to human-related impacts. Though these statistics are shockingly high, the WFMF highlights the importance of taking action to reverse this decline and bring back the freshwater fish populations that we once had.

Participants around the world celebrate through events and action campaigns, which can be [registered here](#). If this your first WFMD, or you need ideas for your celebration, follow the [link here](#) to access the WFMD toolkit.



Image courtesy of The World Fish Migration Foundation

Science to Policy Summit 2024: Conservation as Climate Mitigation

Register now and join the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership for the 2024 Science to Policy Summit on May 15, 2024 at the Lacamas Lake Lodge in Camas, WA. Since 2007, the Estuary Partnership has held the summit to expand the dialogue among scientists, natural resource professionals, and community leaders within the region.

With this year's theme, "Conservation as Climate Mitigation: Using carbon programs to protect and restore ecosystems", the Estuary Partnership hopes to highlight that

carbon programs create financial incentives to reduce emissions and have the potential to be integrated into a variety of conservation and restoration programs. Carbon program business leaders, resource managers, researchers, and restoration practitioners will share the latest research on carbon sequestration, how carbon programs are currently operating, and how they are evolving to meet new restoration and conservation initiatives.

The summit will include panel presentations, lightning talks, and networking. It is held virtually and in-person, and in-person attendees get an included lunch and a chance to paddle down the beautiful Lacamas Lake.

To see more information on the summit and to register, visit the [Estuary Partnership](#) registration link.



Image Courtesy of the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership

Applications Open for the Columbia River Basin Restoration Program Grant

EPA's Columbia River Basin Restoration Program released a [Request for Applications](#) for entities interested in improving the understanding of toxics and their effects on water quality in the Columbia River Basin by increasing the number, type,

and scientific rigor of toxics monitoring projects in three program priority areas: 1) characterization and spatiotemporal trend analysis; 2) pathway identification; and/or 3) novel methods and approaches.

The grantee will be responsible for a 25% non-federal cost share/match. Tribal applicants can cost share/match with non-federal and/or federal funds. Tribal applicants who are selected under this competition can ask EPA to fully waive this match requirement.

Eligible applicants include state governments, Tribal governments, regional water pollution control agencies and entities, local government entities, nongovernmental entities, soil and water conservation districts, public or nonprofit institutions of higher education, as well as hospitals operated by state, Tribal, or local governments or that meet the definition of nonprofit at 2 C.F.R. § 200.1.

All applications must be received by electronic submission through Grants.gov by 11:59 PM Eastern on May 17, 2024.

The EPA hosted an informational webinar that is available upon request. For more information on the grant, visit the [EPA website](#).



Columbia River Basin Restoration Group Logo (<https://www.pnamp.org/project/toxics-monitoring-subgroup>)

Join Us for the Final HCAX Project Workshop

The first pilot version of the Hatchery Coordinated Assessments Exchange (HCAX) Data Exchange Standard (DES) has been tested and is nearly ready for data to flow! The pilot testing phase of developing this DES acknowledges that we need to apply the proposed standard in order to identify any needed changes, find small errors and overlooked items, etc. You can get the DES and Access database in a single zip file at <https://app.streamnet.org/ftpfiles/CoordinatedAssessments/DES/>.

The Spring 2024 HCAX Project Workshop will provide:

- a brief recap of HCAX progress to date
- an overview of HCAX data standard development and implementation testing
- discussion of query system to retrieve data from HCAX
- review of the updated Data Use Agreement
- discussion of any remaining tasks and when we can expect to publish data
- planning for future tasks: check-in with data consumers to inform further refinements for analysis and reporting needs

The workshop will be virtual and will take place on **May 21, 2024 from 10:30 - 11:30 AM (PDT)**. On May 21st, you can [click here to join the meeting](#).

Or call in (audio only): [+1 202-640-1187,633828280#](tel:+12026401187633828280)

Phone Conference ID: 633 828 280#

You can find background information on the DES here: [Data Exchange Standards - StreamNet](#).



Image courtesy of StreamNet (<https://www.streamnet.org/resources/>)

A Day in the Life of ODFW Oregon Adult Salmonid Inventory and Sampling Project (OASIS) Winter Steelhead Crew Lead Ricky Hays

I am a crew leader for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's OASIS project based out of Clackamas. The overall objective of the OASIS project is to monitor status and trends of naturally produced adult salmonid stocks in populations across the Oregon Coast and Oregon portions of the Lower Columbia River and its tributaries. In the Lower Columbia area, we have three primary field seasons; Fall Chinook monitoring occurs September through December, coho monitoring from October through January, and winter steelhead and lamprey monitoring February through May. Each of these seasons have multiple dedicated survey crews who maintain lists of survey sites throughout the season.

I have been working with the project as a surveyor since 2013 and have been a crew leader for the past 3 years. I currently oversee 7 surveyors on three crews, though those numbers vary with the seasons. These crews currently conduct steelhead spawning surveys in the Clackamas and Sandy River basins and their tributaries. A lamprey monitoring plan has also been developed and incorporated into the regular steelhead season, and OASIS produces spawner population estimates for pacific lamprey.

All of our sites are randomly selected. Most of our hiking surveys are roughly a mile long, float surveys can be up to 3 miles. On an average day a surveyor could hike 6 to 8 miles or float up to 12. While we do record all live steelhead, our main focus is the number of redds observed. Each redd we come across is marked with a colored rock placed within the redd-- and a unique number is written on a flag and hung along the bank. This ensures redds are only counted once. We also collect data on any steelhead carcasses we come across during our surveys, collecting length, sex, tags or physical markings, and scales. All of our data is entered into our work phones using the ArcGis app, survey123.

For our protocol, surveys are repeated within a 14-day rotation. This means we may sometimes work longer days or even weekends to ensure sites are completed before streams become too dangerous or turbid for reliable surveying. Every morning the crews and I look over hydrographs and weather forecasts, planning surveys around storms and high flows. I am lucky to have a core group of veteran surveyors among my crews whose years of experience and knowledge of the streams help in our daily planning. They know when streams are too high and what streams will blow first, allowing us to move crews around and focus our attention.

While much of my time is spent organizing crews' schedules and ensuring they have the resources needed to safely and effectively conduct this work, I also frequently

attend to other aspects of our large-scale monitoring effort. Many of our surveys are on private property, and I frequently contact landowners for access and coordinate access details for multiple seasons and/or years. I manage relationships with corporate landowners, and coordinate efforts with a large number of ODFW projects as well as agencies and groups outside my agency. I am also involved with the planning and implementation of training in safety and protocols at the beginning of each season, and with weekly progress reports and updates published on the OASIS website and beyond.

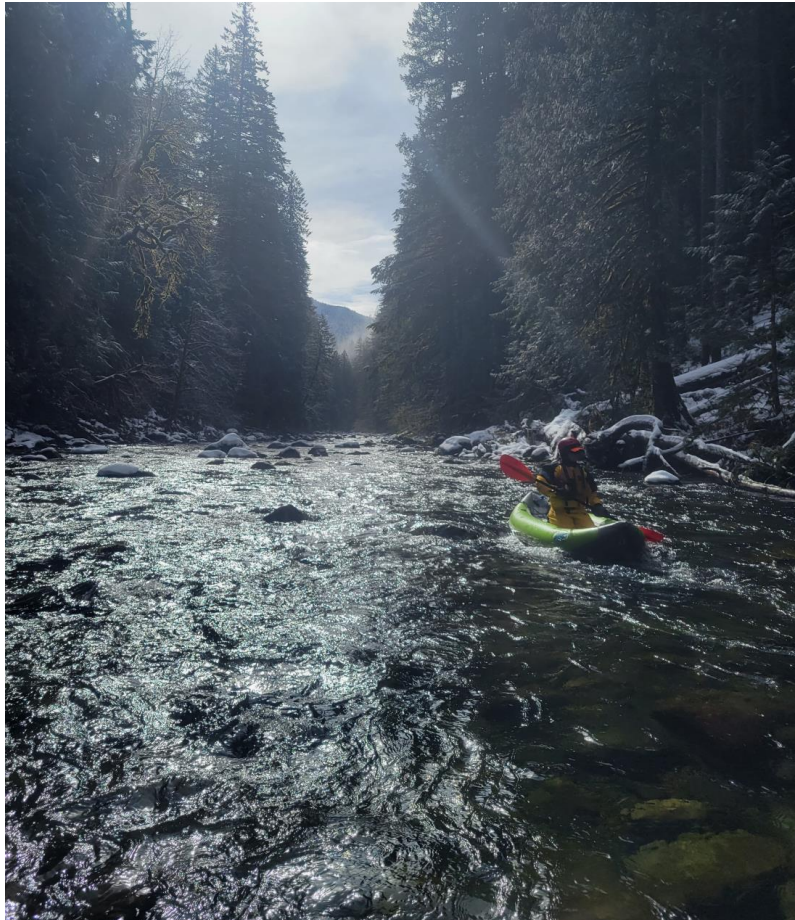


Image Courtesy Ricky Hays, ODFW

Contact us: gs-pnamp_contact@usgs.gov
Find us online: [PNAMP.org website](http://PNAMP.org)
[MonitoringResources.org website](http://MonitoringResources.org)