



pacific northwest aquatic
monitoring partnership

Events

November

Nov 1: [WaterWatch's 40th Anniversary Celebration and Annual Auction \(Portland, OR\)](#)

Nov 3: [Society for Freshwater Science Pacific Northwest Chapter 2025 Annual Meeting \(Garden City, Idaho\)](#)

Nov 3: [2025 NAISMA Annual Conference \(Stateline, NV\)](#)

Nov 17-20: [Pacific Northwest Tribal Clean Water Act Training \(Tulalip, WA\)](#)

Nov 18-19: [Grande Ronde Model Watershed – State of the Science 2025](#)

Nov 18-19: [Northwest Power and Conservation Council Meeting \(Portland, OR\)](#)

Nov 18: [Knowledge Exchange Workshop Series 2025: Rewetting Our Waterways: Floodplain Restoration in an Occupied Landscape \(virtual\)](#)

Nov 19: [NAISMA Webinar: Harnessing AI for Invasive Species Detection: Smart Traps, Drones, and Machine Learning in Action – FREE](#)

Nov 24: [2025 Puget Sound Day on the Sound \(Tacoma, WA\)](#)

December

Dec 2: [Oregon Invasive Species Council Business Meeting \(Salem, OR\)](#)

Dec 9-10: [WA Salmon Recovery Funding Board Meeting \(Olympia, WA\)](#)

Dec 9-11: [9th Annual Lamprey Information Exchange \(Portland, OR\)](#)

Dec 9-11: [Northwest Fish Culture Concepts 74th Annual Meeting \(Pendleton, OR\)](#)

Dec 9-11: [2025 Pacific Coast Steelhead Management Meeting \(Boise, ID\)](#)

Dec 16-17: [Northwest Power and Conservation Council Meeting \(webinar\)](#)

If you have an upcoming event that you would like added to the PNAMP website and newsletter, please reach out to mdethloff@psmfc.org.

Announcements

PNAMP joins the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission

Getting to Know the PNAMP Coordination Team

The Pacific Northwest Aquatic Monitoring Partnership has joined the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC). This new alignment provides additional opportunities for coordination and collaboration across various PSMFC Programs. Learn more about the team below.

Nancy Leonard



Nancy fled the icy grip of Quebec after earning a fisheries and wildlife degree at McGill, only to dive into an even frostier master's in biology at Carleton in Ontario. She landed in Ohio to study fish in Lake Erie, then somehow ended up in Alaska at Toolik Lake. She boomeranged back to Ohio and Michigan, collecting a second master's from Miami University of Ohio and a PhD in fisheries and wildlife from Michigan State University, while working for the Great Lakes Fisheries Commission and teaching fisheries globalization at MSU. Her classroom? MSU classrooms, Russia, Europe, Africa, Madagascar—basically anywhere fish swim and passports are stamped. Nancy joined the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission in 2019. She now leads collaborative fisheries programs focused on data sharing, pikeminnow management, smolt monitoring, and coastal recreational fishing data, while supporting partners through field, data management, and programming expertise. In 2025, she looks forward to strengthening connections with PNAMP partners. Outside of work, Nancy enjoys Oregon's mild climate, cultivating a diverse backyard garden, and managing her spirited Irish setters and Maine coon cats. [Contact Nancy Leonard: nleonard@psmfc.org](mailto:nleonard@psmfc.org)

Jen Bayer



After nearly 22 years at the helm of PNAMP, Jen is delighted to be able to continue to assist PNAMP in her new Advisor role, having retired from the US Geological Survey as of June 2025. She feels this is the best of all situations – she can still be part of the amazing collaborative community of PNAMP while also having more time for her family, travel, and her community. She had a blast volunteering a bit with field work this summer – hit her up if you need an extra pair of hands for a few days (especially if it is with lampreys!) [Contact Jen Bayer: jmbayerNW@pm.me](mailto:jmbayerNW@pm.me)

Sam Cimino



Sam grew up on the Colorado Front Range where he developed a passion for nature, outdoor activities, and Colorado sports teams. He attended the University of Colorado, Boulder (Go Buffs!) as an undergrad earning a B.A. in Environmental Studies. After 25 years in the Centennial State, he moved away from the reds and yellows of the Southwest to the blues and greens of the Pacific Northwest for his M.S. at Portland State University (go Viks?) in the Strecker Aquatic Ecology lab. His research concerned the introduction and establishment of aquatic invasive species with a focus on the New Zealand mud snail. In 2016, he added his talents to PNAMP, finding opportunities to collaborate with monitoring managers and practitioners to promote best practices and data access. When he is away from the office, you can find him playing a variety of sports (trying not to get injured), running long distances (trying not to get injured), and travelling. [Contact Sam Cimino: scimino@psmfc.org](mailto:scimino@psmfc.org)

Meg Dethloff



Hailing from the plains of Nebraska, Meg moved to Oregon in 2003. After graduating from Oregon State (Go Beavs!), she has worked with endangered suckerfish, monitored freshwater escapement of Chinook populations, and tagged and monitored Pikeminnow. Outside of the world of watery wonder, she also worked with threatened and endangered seabirds and owls, conducted management of resources in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, and evaluated salt marsh restoration in New York City. In 2015, she joined the PNAMP Team which led her to further develop her communication skills and lead the PNAMP Fish Monitoring Work Group. She feels her work with PNAMP and PSMFC gives her the ability to coordinate across a variety of different interests. [Contact Meg Dethloff: mdethloff@psmfc.org](mailto:mdethloff@psmfc.org)

Erin Benham



Erin was raised in the Midwest with a love for the outdoors that led her to earn a B.S. in Wildlife Ecology from the University of Wisconsin–Madison. She later completed a M.S. in Conservation Sciences with a fisheries emphasis at the University of Minnesota–Twin Cities. Her graduate research focused on muskellunge spatial ecology and habitat use in the Great Lakes region. Erin’s career has spanned both wildlife and fisheries fields across a variety of ecosystems and species. As the newest member of the PNAMP team, she looks forward to adding her expertise and collaborating across the region. Outside of work, she enjoys hiking, reading, and hanging out with her family and friends. [Contact Erin Benham: ebenham@psmfc.org](mailto:ebenham@psmfc.org)

Mari Williams



Mari moved from North Carolina to Oregon in 2001 with an AmeriCorps program to work with ODFW. She has been an affiliate with NOAA Fisheries Northwest Fisheries Science Center since 2009 and with the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission since 2020. While she started her career in the field, she started leaning into data management as she watched the stack of data she'd collected pile up. She has gone from compiling fish data within the Umpqua River basin to salmon and steelhead in the Columbia River Basin to now engaging with international efforts to improve the availability, exchange, and attribution of salmon data. Dataset citations are cool! [Contact Mari Williams: mwilliams@psmfc.org](mailto:mwilliams@psmfc.org)

ICYMI: October 16th Meeting of the PNAMP Fish Monitoring Work Group

Why the Research Data Alliance?



6 Guiding Principles are at the heart of the RDA community

OPENNESS

COMMUNITY-DRIVEN

CONSENSUS

NON-PROFIT AND
TECHNOLOGY-NEUTRAL

HARMONISATION

INCLUSIVITY

JOIN THE RDA

<https://www.rd-alliance.org/register/>

photo credit: Salmon Research and Monitoring Interest Group –
Introduction to RDA and Working Group Development presentation

The PNAMP Fish Monitoring Work Group (FMWG) held its annual October meeting on the 16th. During this meeting, the group discussed completed tasks, current progress, and new tasks in development. The tech talk highlighted the international collaboration of the Research Data Alliance and one of its interest groups, Salmon Data Mobilization. If you missed the meeting, you can watch the recording on PNAMP's YouTube channel: [Oct 2025 FMWG Meeting Recording](#). Join us on January 15th from 10-11:30 Pacific for the next meeting.

Highlights

Where will you be December 9th - 11th? Registration is now open for these great events!

9th Annual Lamprey Information Exchange

Register Here: [Lamprey Information Exchange - National Fish Habitat Fund, Inc.](#)

Join the Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative's 9th Annual Lamprey Information Exchange on Tuesday, December 9 – Thursday, December 11 in Portland, Oregon or virtually as we explore the science and restoration of Pacific Lamprey and other Pacific West Coast lampreys. The PLCI will be at the Ecotrust's Irving Street Studio ([907 NW Irving Street, Portland, Oregon](#)) If you have any questions, would like to request a registration waiver, or need to change your registration, please contact PLCI's Coordinator, Grace Adams (gadams@nrccorp.com).

Northwest Fish Culture Concepts 74th Annual Meeting

Register Here: [Welcome to Self Service](#)

The 2025 Northwest Fish Culture Concepts Meeting will be held in Pendleton, Oregon, on December 9-11 at the Wildhorse Resort and Casino Rivers Event Center. This meeting is being hosted by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and the Nez Perce Tribe and supported by the Fish Culture Section of The American Fisheries Society. Registration is now open for [participants](#) and [vendors](#). If you have questions about the meeting, please email Mike McLean (MikeMcLean@ctuir.org) or Jen Krajcik (JenKrajcik@ctuir.org).

2025 Pacific Coast Steelhead Management Meeting

Register Here: [Pacific Coast Steelhead Management Meeting](#)

The 2025 Pacific Coast Steelhead Management Meeting will be held at the Riverside Hotel from December 9-11 in Boise, Idaho. The 2025 conference will have sessions focused on collaboration and co-management, freshwater conditions, ocean migration, managing sensitive populations, management tools, and human dimensions in fisheries, as well as an invited papers session and poster session. Both in-person and virtual registration are available. The in-person registration fee is \$250 for all 3 days, including meals. Virtual registration is \$50.

Hotel Block: \$165/night (federal per diem rate) for a limited number of attendees. The block closes on November 21.

[Reserve a room here](#). Agenda questions can be directed to the 2025 Meeting Chair, [Stephen Phillips](#). Registration questions should be directed to [Amy Stark](#).

After 100 Years Salmon Can Finally Return to Okanagan Lake



The exit of the fishway into the Okanagan River below the dam.
Photo courtesy of Okanagan Nation Alliance

After nearly a century, salmon can once again reach Okanagan Lake and its 14 spawning creeks following the August 18, 2025 opening of the Okanagan Lake Dam Fish Passage—

a milestone celebrated by the Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA) and tribal leaders from both Canada and the U.S. The new fishway reconnects Okanagan Lake and River, restoring a vital migration route blocked for 100 years by dams and channelization. The event, marked by ceremony, song, and deep emotion, symbolized both ecological renewal and cultural reconnection for the Syilx Okanagan Nation and partner tribes. ONA's years-long effort, guided by the vision to "put the fish back and put the water back," has already seen extensive habitat restoration and hatchery releases. As ONA geomorphologist Zoe Eyjolfson noted, salmon now have free access to 350 square kilometers of lake habitat, and as Penticton Indian Band Chief Greg Gabriel said, "the salmon have heard your song—they're ready to return."

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)

 [PNAMP.org](https://www.pnamp.org)

 pnamp@psmfc.org

 [PNAMP YouTube channel](#)

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