

# 2026 CHRN Annual Meeting Program

---



**May 19, 2026**  
8:30 am – 5:00 pm PT

In person at Thurston County Fairgrounds  
(3054 Carpenter Rd SE, Lacey, WA 98503)

*Off-site happy hour to follow at 23 Kitchens  
(2440 Marvin Rd NE, Lacey)*

---

***Welcome to a dynamic day bringing together coastal decision-makers, planners, resource managers, researchers, and practitioners to share ideas, build partnerships, and advance coastal resilience efforts across Washington’s coastlines.***

## Meeting Mission Statement

Empowering practitioners and communities to connect on common coastal resilience challenges to collaboratively advance knowledge, partnerships, and solutions.

## Meeting Goals

1. ***Leveraging the Network*** - Participants will strengthen existing relationships and build new connections with CHRN members to enhance collaboration on coastal resilience projects.
  2. ***Knowledge-Sharing*** - Participants will deepen their understanding of the “state of the coast” and how to apply those skills, lessons, and resources in their practice.
  3. ***Advancing Efforts*** - Participants will work together to align ongoing efforts, identify and break down implementation hurdles, and address challenges to advancing coordinated coastal resilience actions statewide.
- 

## Table of Contents

<b>Event &amp; Venue Details</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>Sponsors</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>Overview of Attendees</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>Agenda</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>Presentation Descriptions</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>Acknowledgements</b> .....	<b>14</b>



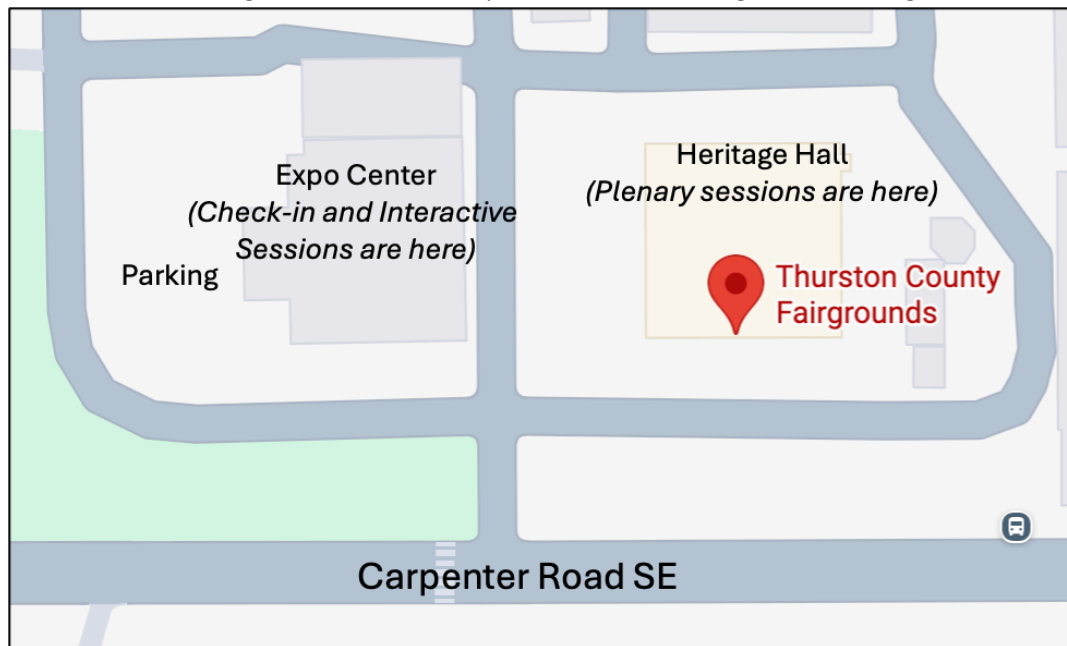
## Event & Venue Details

**Venue Address:** [Thurston County Fairgrounds](#) (3054 Carpenter Rd SE, Lacey, WA 98503)

**Parking:** Free parking on site

### Venue Layout:

Meeting will occur in the Expo Center and Heritage Hall Buildings



### Food and Drink Provided:

- Light refreshments, coffee/tea, and beverages (including non-caffeinated options) will be provided throughout the day - *bringing your own coffee mug/thermos is encouraged!*
- Water fountains are available - *bringing your own water bottle is encouraged!*
- Lunch will be provided and is being catered by [Off the Rez](#) - *diet friendly options will be available*

### Other Accommodations:

- Presentations will be provided to all attendees in digital format to access on their own devices the day of the event
- We have both buildings to ourselves, so there are plenty of spaces to take phone calls or meetings, if needed
- You are welcome to walk the fairgrounds during breaks

### Happy Hour:

- Off-site happy hour to follow at 23 Kitchens, 2440 Marvin Rd NE, Lacey
- 23 Kitchens has food, plenty of non-alcoholic beverage options, and a variety of yard games (including pickle ball!)

**This event is guided by a Code of Conduct.** Learn more here: <https://wsg.washington.edu/about-wsg/code-of-conduct/>



Sponsors

The 2026 CHRN Annual Meeting would not be possible without the generous support from the following:

Shoreline Stabilizer (\$1000+)



Slough Sentinels (\$500+)



*The CHRN is co-led by the Washington Department of Ecology, Washington Sea Grant, and the Washington Emergency Management Division. Funding for CHRN and this year’s Annual Meeting come from the Department of Ecology’s CRRC grant, Washington Sea Grant, Washington Emergency Management Division, and from our sponsors.*



## Overview of Attendees

Registered attendees are from the following organizations/groups:

### **Academia/Research**

Cascadia CoPes Hub  
CRESCENT  
Oregon State University  
UCSC Center for Coastal Climate Resilience  
University of Washington  
UW Center for Disaster Resilient Communities  
UW Climate Impacts Group  
UW Department of Urban Design Planning  
UW Evans School  
UW Puget Sound Institute  
UW WA Sea Grant  
Washington State University  
WSU Extension  
Western Washington University

### **Tribal Government/Tribal Organization**

Chinook Indian Nation  
Hoh Indian Tribe  
Lummi Nation  
Makah Tribe  
Nooksack Indian Tribe  
Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission  
Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe  
Quinault Indian Nation  
Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe  
Squaxin Island Tribe  
Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

### **County/Regional Government**

King County  
King County Dept Natural Resources and Parks  
Kitsap County Dept Emergency Management  
Pierce County  
Pierce County Office of Resilience & Climate Action  
Pierce County Planning and Public Works  
Puget Sound Climate Preparedness Collaborative  
Snohomish County  
Jefferson County South County Task Force  
Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments  
Wahkiakum MRC  
Pacific Conservation District  
Thurston Conservation District

### **City Government**

City of Bainbridge Island  
City of Bremerton  
Town of Cathlamet  
City of Des Moines  
City of Olympia  
City of Tacoma  
City of Tukwila  
City of Seattle  
Seattle Public Utilities  
Seattle Dept. Transportation

### **Nonprofit**

Bonneville Environmental Foundation  
Columbia Land Trust  
Duwamish River Community Coalition  
EcoAdapt  
North Olympic Development Council  
Northwest Straits Foundation  
Pacific Education Institute  
Surfrider Foundation  
Urban Ocean Lab  
Wash Away No More

### **Federal Agency/Government**

NOAA Office for Coastal Management  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Office of Congressman Adam Smith

### **Private/Consultants**

AECOM  
BERK  
Cascadia Consulting Group  
CDM Smith  
EcoAssets Environmental  
ERG  
Environmental Science Associates  
Facet  
Federal Funds Grant Writing Assistance Program  
Hagerty Consulting  
Haley & Aldrich, Inc  
Hazen and Sawyer  
HDR, Inc  
Herrera Environmental Consultants  
KPF  
Landau Associates  
MAKERS Architecture and Urban Design  
Mithun  
Moffat & Nichol  
Natural Systems Design  
Parametrix  
SBGH-Partners  
Shannon & Wilson  
Stantec  
Walker Macy  
W.F. Baird & Associates Ltd.

### **State Agency/Gov**

Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission  
Padilla Bay NERR  
Puget Sound Partnership  
WA Emergency Management Division  
WA Employee Services Division  
WA Dept Ecology  
WA Dept Fish and Wildlife  
WA Dept Natural Resources  
WA Dept of Transportation  
WA State Parks  
WA Office of Insurance Commissioner  
WA Office of the Governor



## Agenda

*(Times are approximate and may adjust slightly)*

Time	Topic	Format/Notes
8:30 - 9:00 am	<b>Check-in, coffee, and connect</b>	<i>Snacks and Coffee/Tea provided</i>  <i>Volunteer and Presenter check-in for details</i>
9:00 - 9:40 am	<b>Session 1: Welcome &amp; State of the Coast</b> <i>Past, Present, and Future of Coastal Resilience in WA</i>	Format: Plenary - Presentations  Speakers: Jonathon Loos (Floodplains By Design) Guillaume Mauger (UW Climate Impacts Group)
9:40 - 10:40 am	<b>Session 2: Sea Level Rise Panel</b> <i>Perspectives on Planning for Sea Level Rise in WA</i>  <i>Topics will cover lessons learned from the State sea level rulemaking process, the Squaxin Island Tribe's sea level rise planning, and the Whatcom Future Shorelines Project.</i>	Format: Plenary - Panel  Panelists: Charlotte Dohrn (WA Dept Ecology) Candace Penn, Erica Marbet (Squaxin Island Tribe) Andrea MacLennan (Herrera), Katy Saunders (MAKERS)
10:40 - 10:55 am	<b>Break</b>	<i>Snacks and Coffee/Tea provided</i>
10:55 - 12:00 pm	<b>Session 3: CHRN World Cafe</b> <i>Visit various stations to provide live feedback on CHRN products and services and help shape future priorities of CHRN.</i>	Format: Interactive - World Cafe
12 - 1:00 pm	<b>Lunch</b>	<i>Lunch provided by Off the Rez</i>
1:00 pm - 1:30 pm	<b>Session 4: CHRN Connections</b> <i>A dedicated block of time for attendees to take advantage of the unique mix of people in the room—meeting new colleagues, sharing ideas, and starting conversations that might not happen during formal sessions. Optional time to meet with your CHRN Buddy.</i>	Format: Open session, various spaces available for connections and conversations
1:30 - 2:30 pm	<b>Session 5: Highlighted Efforts Throughout the Network</b> <i>This session features four lightning talks from communities across Washington State sharing real-world coastal resilience challenges and solutions.</i>	Format: Plenary - Lightning Talks, Facilitated by COHORT  Speakers: Dawn Spilsbury (Facet)



		Alexandra Johnson, Paulina Lopez (Duwamish River Community Coalition) Kristin Lynett (City of Tacoma), Sandra Girgis (Mithun) Andrew Schwartz (South County Task Force), Angela Glore (North Olympic Development Council)
2:30 - 2:45 pm	<b>Break</b>	<i>Snacks and Coffee/Tea provided</i>  <i>Session 6 Presenters can set up their station</i>
2:45 - 4:30 pm	<b>Session 6: Coastal Resilience Fair</b> <i>This session will be split into 2, 45-minute rounds, where each round has a series of stations for attendees to visit and interact with station hosts.</i>	Format: Interactive - open stations  Stations: 36 stations available covering various topics. See 'Presentation Details' section of this program for more details.
4:30 - 4:45 pm	<b>Session 7: Closing Reflections</b> <i>Closing Reflection, Looking Forward, Wrap-up and Closing Remarks</i>	Format: Plenary - Presentation Speakers: CHRN Managers and Henry Bell (ECY)
4:45 pm	<b>Adjourn</b>	Meeting clean-up, Session 6 presenters can take down their materials  Transition to Happy Hour location (optional)
5:00 - 6:30 pm	<b>Post-Event Happy Hour</b>	23 Kitchens

## Presentation Descriptions

---

### SESSION 1: WELCOME - Past, Present, and Future of Coastal Resilience in WA

Presenter: Jonathan Loos (Floodplains By Design)

- Presentation Title: ***Integrating Resilience from Inland to Coast: Lessons from a Decade of Floodplains by Design Investments***
- Description: Since 2013, Washington state has invested more than \$350M in integrated floodplain projects through Floodplains by Design. The December 2025 flood disaster revealed how those investments are interrupting cycles of repetitive flood loss and strengthening local resilience to climate hazards. How can these resilience investments and the lessons, partnerships, and bodies of knowledge they have cultivated inform coastal community resilience? This presentation will explore what Floodplains by Design has taught us, where funding and policy systems must continue to evolve, and outline a vision for a flood resilient Washington from inland to coast.

Presenter: Guillaume Mauger (UW Climate Impacts Group)

- Presentation Title: ***Climate adaptation in 2026: Taking stock, looking forward***
  - Description: Climate adaptation efforts have grown exponentially over the past few decades as the capacity for action has grown along with increasing acceptance of its importance. The field has also evolved to include a broader set of communities and populations, along with an increased emphasis on implementation. This talk will reflect on some of the key principles and lessons learned in adaptation, and what this means for our work going forward.
- 

### SESSION 2: Perspectives on Planning for Sea Level Rise in WA

Presenter: Charlotte Dohrn (WA Dept Ecology)

- Title: ***Updates from Ecology on SMA rulemaking and sea level rise planning during periodic reviews***
- Description: Ecology is currently undertaking a multi-year process to update the implementing rules for the Shoreline Management Act (SMA), including adding a new requirement to address the impact of sea level rise and storms as directed by the 2023 Climate Planning Law. This presentation will provide an update on the status of this project, what this means for local governments during their next shoreline master program periodic review, and the guidance and tools that the agency is beginning to prepare to support this effort.

Presenters: Candace Penn, Erica Marbet (Squaxin Island Tribe)

- Title: ***Where the Creek Meets the Tide***
- Description: Candace and Erica will share Squaxin Island Tribe's approach to sea level rise adaptation

Presenters: Andrea MacLennan, (Herrera), Katy Saunders (MAKERS)

- Title: ***Whatcom County flood vulnerability assessment & adaptation planning project***
  - Description: The Future Shorelines project integrated coastal and riverine planning to assess how sea level rise and river flooding compound risks to communities, housing, and infrastructure. This presentation will highlight key features from the project including a comprehensive vulnerability assessment, pilot adaptation plan, decision-support tools, and multi-jurisdictional coordination.
- 

### SESSION 5: Highlighted Efforts Throughout the Network

Presenter: Dawn Spilsbury (Facet)

- Title: ***Efforts Building Resiliency in Pacific County***
- Description: What started with an initial sea level rise risk and vulnerability assessment in Pacific County has led to follow-up efforts to support the Pacific County communities in becoming more resilient. We will discuss the different ways the initial assessment has been used as a catalyst for a multi-pronged approach to increase awareness and resiliency in a community facing several compounding, climate-driven challenges.

Presenters: Alexandra Johnson and Paulina Lopez (Duwamish River Community Coalition)

- Title: ***Coastal Resilience in the Duwamish Valley***
- Description: An overview of the history of the Duwamish River, Indigenous cultures along the River, the historical significance of settler rerouting of the River, and sea-level rise risks today along with community resilience and flooding adaptation efforts in the Valley.

Presenters: Kristin Lynett (City of Tacoma), Sandra Girgis (Mithun)

- Title: ***Building a Culture of Adaptation through the Commencement Bay Restoration and Resilience Plan***
  - Description: Funded by National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and managed by the City of Tacoma Environmental
-

Services, this plan has already prompted early outcomes supporting adaptation through shared communication, initiatives and relationship building. Partners include Parks Tacoma, the Port of Seattle, the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, many City departments, Pierce County Planning and Public Works and regional NGOs.

Presenter: Andrew Schwartz (South County Task Force), Angela Glore (North Olympic Development Council)

- Presentation Title: **Community led flood resilience in Brinnon on the Hood Canal**
- Description: Andrew and Angela will present on how the Brinnon community is partnering with NODC, Jefferson County, and state partners to address increasing flood risk and build a more resilient future. Brinnon sits within a FEMA-designated floodway and floodplain, which limits development. At the same time, planning requirements direct growth into these same high-risk areas. This creates a difficult situation, leaving the community vulnerable to flooding while also limiting economic opportunity. In 2025, residents began organizing and working together with NODC and public agencies to find practical solutions. This presentation will highlight those efforts, the challenges involved, and the paths being explored to support resilience and sustainable development.

### SESSION 6: Coastal Resilience Fair

Description: This interactive session will feature >30 stations presenting on various coastal resilience efforts around the state. Participants can freely roam the stations and interact directly with station hosts. The session is split into two ~45-minute rounds.

**Odd station numbers will present in Round 1, even numbers will present in Round 2.** Station numbers and descriptions are available below.

#### Category A: Research, Modeling, and Tools

##### **Station 1 | Evaluating and Incentivizing Nature-based Solutions**

- Presenter: Patrick Barnard (UC Santa Cruz Center for Coastal Climate Resilience)
- Description: At this station, we will discuss how quantifying the risk-reduction benefits of Nature-based Solutions is essential for scaling their implementation. Demonstrating these benefits enables the risk industry to incorporate NbS into their models, lower insurance premiums for properties protected by nature, and develop financial products that insure both the green infrastructure and the bonds used to fund it.

##### **Station 2 | USGS CoSMoS in Washington**

- Presenter: Maya Hayden (USGS)
- Description: The USGS Coastal Storm Modeling System (CoSMoS) is a tool that makes maps of inundation and other impacts from storms and future sea level changes widely and freely available. CoSMoS products are currently being rolled out across Washington's coastlines. Come and chat with USGS staff to learn more about the tool and how you can use it to assess exposure and plan for sea level rise and future climate scenarios.

##### **Station 3 | Using NOAA's Sea Level Calculator to Map Future Sea Levels and Extreme Water Levels**

- Presenter: Bret Folger (NOAA)
- Description: NOAA's Sea Level Calculator produces location-specific scenarios for sea level rise and extreme water level flooding, as well as information about present-day and past conditions. Local governments and other practitioners can use this information to make informed decisions about strategic adaptation investments. The site incorporates data, maps, and visualizations and produces automated, location-specific reports.

##### **Station 4 | Design in Kinship**

- Presenter: Deb Guenther (Mithun)
- Description: Led by Catherine De Almeida, associate professor of landscape architecture at the University of Washington College of the Built Environment in collaboration with Deb Guenther and Mithun's R+D program, the research collects the experiences of designers and community-based leaders who have long relationships with each other over time. It explores how trust, power and kinship influence effective outcomes in adaptation of the built environment. This research is posited on data that suggests disinvested communities are most likely to bear greater impacts of urban heat, flooding, and displacement issues and have the greatest insights into how to adapt locally.

##### **Station 5 | How coastal monitoring supports local community projects and science-based coastal management**

- Presenters: Daniel Buscombe, Sumaiya (ECY)



- Description: Washington's marine shorelines face growing pressures from sea-level rise, erosion, habitat loss, and competing uses, increasing the need for science that directly informs coastal management decisions. As a team of scientists and engineers embedded within the state's Coastal Management Program, Washington Ecology's Applied Coastal Research and Engineering Section (ACRE) provides state and local partners with data, analyses, and technical expertise tailored to planning, management, and regulatory needs. Using case studies, we'll demonstrate the value of science-based, applied research in improving the effectiveness of coastal management and fostering collaboration among public, academic, and local stakeholder communities.

#### **Station 6 | Scaling Coastal Resilience: Governance Insights and Lessons from Washington State**

- Presenter: Becca Nixon (UW CIG)
- Description: At this station, participants will be invited to learn about and give feedback on preliminary results from interviews and a literature review on coastal governance in Washington state, conducted by the UW Climate Impacts Group (CIG) as a part of the Coastal Resilience Regional Challenge (CRRC). These results include themes around the key entities and conditions that enable coastal resilience efforts, successes, challenges, and conceptual figures of resilience projects.

#### Category B: Community Engagement

#### **Station 7 | Engaging Communities for Healthy Watersheds and Coastal Resilience**

- Presenter: Carrie Shofner (WSU Extension), Andrea Mah (OSU)
- Description: We will share reflections from our Wahkiakum Common Ground workshops which used a strengths-based approach to build relationships and community collaboration around coastal hazards. Workshops highlighted past successes through presentations and project site visits; identified community, economy, and environmental co-benefits through group activities; and resulted in guiding principles for future efforts.

#### **Station 8 | Community Engagement and Outreach to facilitate Realignment and Restoration – Two project examples from northern Puget Sound**

- Presenter: Andrea MacLennan (Herrera)
- Description: This station will feature two projects: a bluff recession analysis for Puget Sound and adaptation roadmaps for coastal roads in San Juan County, which both implemented significant community outreach to refine project outputs. Products from this work can be used to reach targeted communities for outreach and restoration, quantify need for funding mechanisms to support structure relocations and restoration, further understanding of coastal bluff recession rates which can inform better long-term planning and climate adaptation, and outline next steps to improve safety and extend road life while preserving flexibility for longer-term adaptation or restoration.

#### **Station 9 | Puget Sound Climate Preparedness Collaborative Community Needs Survey Results and Analysis**

- Presenters: Adriana Apintiloaiei, Emma Van Orsow (NOAA CRRC Fellows with King County)
- Description: The Puget Sound Climate Preparedness Collaborative (Collaborative) launched a Community Needs Survey to understand the status of local work on climate preparedness, barriers to action, and to identify opportunities for Collaborative support. The poster will summarize results from the Collaborative's survey, provide a comparative analysis of small and large communities' responses, and an examination of Tribal responses.

#### **Station 10 | Living With Water: Co-developing strategies to protect health while adapting to sea level rise in the Duwamish Valley**

- Presenters: Robin Schwartz (Duwamish River Community Coalition), Clare McCarthy (UW)
- Description: Living With Water was a community-engaged research project co-led by the Duwamish River Community Coalition and the University of Washington to identify flood adaptation strategies that incorporate the values of Duwamish Valley residents, with a focus on nature-based solutions. Project team members will share about the project's process, results, and next steps, as well as lessons learned from working with an interdisciplinary team on community-engaged climate adaptation.

#### **Station 11 | A community-based participatory approach to refine Puget Sound Vital Signs and Indicators**

- Presenters: Rebecca Hollender (Puget Sound Partnership), Mary Ann Rozance, Mike Chang (Cascadia Consulting Group)

- Description: This poster highlights how the Puget Sound Partnership is using a community-based participatory approach to co-develop and refine Human Wellbeing Vital Signs, ensuring they better reflect and serve diverse, overburdened communities in the region.

Category C: Coastal Hazards Science Communication

**Station 12 | Coastal Hazard Communication for Kids**

- Presenters: Elyse Kelsey (WSG Coastal Resilience Fellow with the Quinault Indian Nation)
- Description: Explore emergency preparedness and coastal hazard posters, lesson plans, and games currently in development for different age groups.

**Station 13 | How do we make sea level rise feel real? Bringing the science to the community with engagement and art**

- Presenter: Deb Rudnick (EcoAdapt)
- Description: Sea level rise is a climate hazard that can feel abstract; but waiting to address it is like the proverbial frog in boiling water- the longer we wait the more trouble we face. For the past three years, EcoAdapt has been working with Bainbridge Island and Kitsap County to grow awareness and understanding of sea level rise risks using multiple tools including community surveys, neighborhood conversations, and interactive visualizations and art to help make what can feel like an abstract or future issue more present and understandable. We'll share some of our tools and approaches and look forward to talking with CHRN meeting attendees about their experiences with similar strategies and ideas for amplifying this work.

**Station 14 | Climate 101 for Shoreline Professionals**

- Presenters: Sara Brostrom, Nicole Kiriara (Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve)
- Description: This station will introduce a new Climate 101 workshop that the Coastal Training Program is developing in partnership with the University of Washington Climate Impacts Group. Join us to share what you wish you had known about climate when you first began working in Washington, and what information would be most helpful to you now.

**Station 15 | Shore Friendly Puget Sound: Cultivating Stewardship Behaviors in a Residential Waterfront Community**

- Presenters: Lisa Kaufman, Rondi Nordal (Northwest Straits Foundation), Karin Strelieff (Thurston Conservation District)
- Description: Puget Sound's marine shoreline has a very high percentage of private residential ownership. Shore Friendly is a regional program that supports homeowner decision-making in ways that benefit coastal processes and habitats, by connecting landowners to the expertise, tools and services to manage their shorelines.

**Station 16 | Public Health and Coastal Resilience**

- Presenter: Maya Ades (UW)
- Description: Development of a white paper/ internal guidance for the Washington Coastal Hazards Organizational Resilience Team (COHORT) applying public health principles to coastal resilience work.

**Station 17 | Assessing and Addressing Coastal Resilience Storytelling Gaps**

- Presenter: Ruby DiCarlo, Nadia Hare (ECY)
- Description: Have you ever needed to express the value of your work in a way that folks could connect to? Storytelling is an essential step of a coastal resilience project. It can re/build relationships, solidify project impacts, secure funding, and inspire public stewardship of natural and cultural places. Come talk to Ruby DiCarlo, a NOAA Coastal Resilience Fellow who is working on assessing and addressing storytelling needs in the Washington coastal resilience space. We will talk about engaging storytelling mediums, add your projects to a growing list that demonstrates the need for further storytelling capacity in the state, and learn from each other's creative projects.

**Station 18 | Exploring interactive web-based tool (or game) for communication about Sea Level Rise, habitat impacts, and residential choice scenarios**

- Presenter: Kelly McCaffrey (WDFW)
- Description: WDFW has a small bit of funding to improve our Shore Friendly website. We are exploring how to develop and include an online interactive place-based, web-tool that helps residents understand and lean in to "Shore Friendly"

options, understand resources available, and act sooner rather than later. At this table, we welcome --- testing AND ideas AND thought-partners AND maybe even talk of \$-leveraging, specifically in regards to use and development of web-games. In other states and countries, these games are helping shoreline residents tackle Temporal Bias and Distal Theory (“I have time... that’s a future problem”). We see this as a potential tool to complement our effective 1:1 site assessments, workshops, and beach walks, and ideally, bring more people into the “do now” vs “kick the can” mindset. We’ll have one laptop (maybe a monitor), but we welcome you to come along, open your laptop(s), test out some of the existing games out there for coastal adaptation consideration – NONE of which are specific to Puget Sound or Washington (not YET)!

Category D: Planning & Design

**Station 19 | Tsunami Risk Reduction Efforts in Washington State**

- Presenters: Elyssa Tappero, Dante DiSabatino, Ethan Weller (WA EMD), Daniel Eungard (WGS)
- Description: Subject matter experts from the Washington Emergency Management Division and the Washington Geological Survey will discuss new and ongoing projects aimed at reducing Washington’s tsunami risk. These include tsunami maritime strategies, vertical evacuation structures, hazard modeling, and other resources and collaboration opportunities for coastal hazard partners.

**Station 20 | Partnership & Perseverance in the Washington State Department of Ecology Climate Resilience Regional Challenge Project**

- Presenters: Julia Stinson Ebert (WA ECY), Aubrey Tingler (NOAA/Tellus)
- Description: Come chat and play trivia to learn about how the Washington State Department of Ecology is supporting partners to build resilience along our coastline, and how the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office for Coastal Management (OCM) is supporting the work with a novel technical assistance program. Our table will share knowledge and seek input about how to build successful regional collaboration now and into the future.

**Station 21 | Building resilience projects and capacity with Pacific Conservation District's Marine & Estuarine Resilience Program**

- Presenters: Jackson Blalock, Ben Newman, Rich Desanto (PCD)
- Description: Learn about and discuss PCD’s work to advance collaborative adaptation to flooding, erosion, climate impacts, and other changes affecting our coastal communities and ecosystems. Our program seeks to design and build restoration/resilience projects, create and sustain partnerships, and support other benefits such as local education and food production.

**Station 22 | Incorporating sea level rise planning into the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' aquatic land management practices**

- Presenters: Katalin Plummer, Brittany Poirson (WA DNR)
- Description: WA DNR manages the state's public aquatic lands for the benefit of current and future Washington residents, but the agency's management practices do not currently account for sea level rise. This project explores how WA DNR can foster resilience to sea level rise on state-owned aquatic lands through nature-based solutions.

**Station 23 | Coastal Transportation Vulnerability & Planning Study**

- Presenter: Henry Bell, Sam Giannakos (WA ECY), Susan Kanzler (WSDOT), Sydney Fishman (WSG)
- Description: This project is evaluating state transportation infrastructure across Washington’s 15 coastal counties for vulnerability to coastal hazards and identifying priority areas for potential transportation resilience projects that have habitat restoration and community resilience co-benefits. Come learn about the methods, products, and innovative inter-agency work between the Washington departments of Ecology, Transportation, Fish and Wildlife, and Washington Sea Grant.

**Station 24 | Collaborative Sea Level Rise Planning**

- Presenters: Danielle Butsick (Port of Seattle), Lindsey Sheehan (ESA)
- Description: Planning for the future of Elliott Bay with a variety of infrastructure and stakeholders is complicated! The Port of Seattle’s AdaptSEA effort brings together the Port, City of Seattle, King County, WSDOT, and the Northwest Seaport Alliance (NWSA) to assess vulnerabilities and plan for adaptation. This station will cover progress made by the

AdaptSEA partners and next steps.

**Station 25 | SR105/Graveyard Spit Dynamic Revetment and Dune Restoration Project**

- Presenter: Chelsey Martin (WSDOT)
- Description: The Graveyard Spit project is an innovative nature-based solution to protect State Route 105 and the Shoalwater Bay Tribal Reservation from ongoing coastal erosion. WSDOT recently completed construction to build a 4,000ft cobble revetment and over 28 acres of dune and marsh restoration.

**Station 27 | From Vulnerability to Viability: Implementing Coastal Resilience at Working Waterfronts**

- Presenters: John Phillips (Parametrix), Kurt Bumgarten (Port of Bellingham), Joel Darnell (Moffat & Nichol)
- Description: We will lead a discussion on how working waterfronts are moving from climate vulnerability assessments to implemented coastal resilience solutions. Drawing on real-world projects at ports, industrial shorelines, and transportation hubs, the session will explore practical design choices, adaptive strategies, and coordination across asset owners and agencies. The discussion will focus on lessons learned in delivering resilient infrastructure that protects operations while addressing sea level rise, storm surge, and chronic flooding.

**Station 28 | Developing Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance for WA Coastal Counties**

- Presenters: Alaina Medjo, Kitto Davison-Kunhardt, Sophie Houston, Jenn Monnet (UW)
- Description: We are researching hazard mitigation planning practices to strengthen coastal resilience by providing WA coastal counties with evidence-based guidance and best practices.

**Station 29 | City of Olympia SLR Planning**

- Presenters: Julia-Grace Sanders (Aecomm)
- Description: This station will present on the City of Olympia's upcoming Sea Level Rise monitoring plan, including the development of implementable monitoring activities and development of action thresholds.

*Category E: Workforce Development*

**Station 30 | Washington Sea Grant Marine Science and Policy Fellowship Programs**

- Presenters: Becky Bronstein, Azalea Hermann, Deborah Purce (WSG)
- Description: Washington Sea Grant connects host organizations—including agencies, tribes, local governments, and nonprofits—with early-career professionals for year-long, mutually beneficial fellowships. Fellows contribute fresh energy and high-caliber skills gained through recent academic training, supporting host organizations' projects and initiatives that strengthen Washington's coastal communities and ecosystems.

**Station 31 | Career Connect Washington: Building a Coastal Resilience Workforce**

- Presenters: Drew Cassidy (CCW), Kathryn Kurtz (PEI)
- Description: Discover how CCW partners with employers and educators to design career-connected learning that prepare students and jobseekers for careers in coastal resilience and climate adaptation. Stop by to share your workforce needs and ideas.

*Category F: Funding Mechanisms, Insurance & Economic Resilience*

**Station 32 | Federal Funds Grant Writing Assistance Program (FFGWAP): Free Grant Writing for Washington Climate, Energy, and Resilience Projects**

- Presenters: Bridget Huston, Crysty Skevington (Hagerty Consulting)
- Description: Learn about the Federal Funds Grant Writing Assistance Program (FFGWAP), a Washington State Department of Commerce initiative that provides free grant writing support to help Washington communities access federal funding for climate, clean energy, resilience, and infrastructure projects. The program offers federal funding opportunity scans, proposal development and review, grant writing workshops, and technical assistance for eligible entities including tribes, local governments, ports, utilities, community-based organizations, housing authorities, businesses, and other organizations eligible to receive federal funds.

**Station 33 | Making Mit Happen in Washington**



- Presenters: Jennifer Wamboldt (EMD)
- Description: Learn about natural hazard mitigation grants and projects in Washington State. Stop by to discuss disaster resilience project ideas in your jurisdiction.

**Station 34 | The Missing Chapter: Integrating Economic Resilience into Coastal Hazard Planning**

- Presenter: Kevin Decker (WSG)
- Description: Most hazard mitigation plans identify what a coastal hazard could damage, but not what it could do to the economy. This station explores that gap and offers practical tools to close it, including a self-assessment checklist and key resources to help integrate economic resilience into the planning processes you already use.

**Station 35 | Coastal Hazards and the WA Office of Insurance Commissioners**

- Presenter: Lauren Burnes (OIC)
  - Description: Connect with the Office of the Insurance Commissioners about coastal hazards insurance in Washington.
- 

**SESSION 7: Closing Reflections**

**Presenter: Henry Bell (WA ECY)**

- Description: Henry Bell, one of many former CHRN Coordinators, will provide reflections about the day and ideas for next steps.
-



### Acknowledgements

A Network is nothing without people. Thank you to all attendees, presenters, volunteers, and facilitators for dedicating your time and sharing your knowledge with others in the Network. The 2026 CHRN Annual Meeting would not be possible without the help of the 2026 CHRN Steering Committee and other additional supporters, listed below.

---

#### 2026 CHRN Annual Meeting Steering Committee

Ali Burgos (CoPes Hub)  
Ruby DiCarlo (WA ECY)  
Erika Douglas (WA DFW)

Sydney Fishman (WSG)  
Nadia Hare (WA ECY)  
Brittany Poirson (WA DNR)  
Deb Rudnick (EcoAdapt)

Hannah Tennent (Hoh Indian Tribe)  
Aubrey Tingler (NOAA /Tellus)  
Natalie Weiss (City of Olympia)

---

#### Other Facilitators & Volunteers

Gabby Alampay  
Connie Allen  
Lauren Bauernschmidt  
Liz Bockstiegel  
Taylor Bruntil  
Eileen Canola  
Erin Cooper

Sam Giannakos  
Angela Glore  
Ann Grodnik-Nagle  
Laura Hanna  
Krystal Kyer  
Danielle Mantz  
Robyn Norman

Melissa Poe  
Tricia Sears  
Daniele Spirandelli  
Sanpisa Sritrairat  
Sarah Titcomb  
Savannah Whaley  
Olivia Zimmerman

---

*Please see pages 7-13 for a list of our presenters.*

---

#### Question, comments, or ideas for next year?

Fill out our Post-Meeting Survey here: <https://tinyurl.com/CHRN2026Survey>  
or contact Noah Linck at: [nlin461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:nlin461@ecy.wa.gov)

---