

Northwest Connections

*Quarterly Newsletter of the
Northwest Association of
Environmental Professionals*

President's Letter

Dear Members:

Earlier this fall, I was pleased to attend an NAEP chapter "retreat" in Ontario, California, along with Jeff Norville, NWAEP Vice President. The retreat provided a great opportunity to meet with members of other NAEP affiliates and get an idea of some of their programs and activities. One thing that struck me is that, more than many other professional organizations in our field, NAEP and its affiliates (including NWAEP) caters to the multiple disciplines that together make up the environmental profession. This provides a tremendous opportunity for dialogue among our members as we continue to tackle difficult issues that are part

of our day-to-day professional and personal lives.

In light of this multi-disciplined "focus," NWAEP is in the process of revamping its website. In addition to current content, such as job postings and meeting events, we are hoping to offer a discussion board open to NWAEP members. The board will allow for professional exchanges of ideas, as well as enable our members to lend their unique perspectives to environmental challenges. Only through such dialogue will solutions be found.

On another note, many thanks to Owen Schmidt for once more putting together an outstanding workshop on behalf of NWAEP – "Writing the Perfect FONSI." We look forward to future workshops



from Owen and other leaders in the environmental profession.

Finally, a quick note that NWAEP will be holding elections for four board members this coming March. We will be sending out an announcement for nominees in January, but if you are interested in running and have any questions, please feel free to contact me or other board members and we will be happy to talk with you more.

Aron

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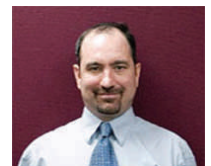
Chapter News

NWAEP Announces Board of Directors Change

NWAEP is sorry to announce that Mary Pfauth has stepped down from the Board of Directors. We wish Mary all the best. To replace Mary, we have appointed Keith

Bellingham to serve on the board. Keith, a soil scientist and geochemist with Stevens Water Monitoring Systems, Inc., has been a frequent attendee of NWAEP events over the last few years and has been active on the

programs committee in Portland. Keith, welcome to the NWAEP Board!



“Although these might seem like small changes, the character of a society is the cumulative result of the countless small actions, day in and day out, of millions of people.”

-Duane Elgin

NWAEP Spring Workshop Will Focus on Endangered Species Act

The NWAEP Spring Workshop will feature speakers from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and will focus on preparing Biological Assessments for the Service. Come and learn how to submit information through their new database management system.

The workshop will be in Portland this spring; watch for future announcements, with registration information, location, date and time.

We Want Your Ideas!

We're looking ahead to 2008 with an eye toward bringing energetic, knowledgeable speakers to our chapter meetings and workshops. You can help by recruiting your mentors and colleagues to present on topics they're passionate about. Make NWAEP work best for you by sharing your ideas and committing just a few hours of your time. We've gained many new members this year, and we hope to harness your fresh ideas to make NWAEP really take wing in 2008.

Other Volunteer Opportunities

Can't think of any speakers? You can also volunteer to take photos and create the newsletter. Or really help shape the organization by volunteering to serve on the Board.



NWAEP Membership On the Rise

Once more we have a slew of new members to announce. Please welcome:

General Members

Anna Bremmer
Sarah Daniels
Josh Fitzpatrick
James Gregory
Cynthia Jones

Barry Lawrence
Jennifer Lundberg, CEP
John Mitchell
C. Blaise Mitsutama
Jan Mulder
Kris Nelson
Shelly Schmidt
Mark Wigg

New Corporate Members
EcoChem, Inc.
Jones & Stokes Associates, Inc.

Chapter Events

Take a break from the holidays in Portland, or celebrate them in Seattle, at your local NWAEP event.

Portland

**Wednesday, December 5
Networking Social, 5:30-7:00 pm**

Take a break from the holidays, grab a beer, and join us for a no-host gathering of environmental professionals at the Lucky Lab, 915 SE Hawthorne. Bring your business cards and resumes; you never know

what contacts you will make. At least one person landed a job after attending our last social in Portland! Look for our NWAEP sign in the main seating area.

Seattle

**Tuesday, December 4
Holiday Happy Hour, 5-7 pm**

Celebrate the holidays while you mix and mingle with your

fellow environmental professionals. Bring your ideas for 2008 and make a new year's resolution to make sure they materialize! NWAEP will cover the cost of food and drinks as we plan and socialize. Join us at Rock Bottom Brewery in downtown Bellevue, 550 106th Ave. NE, #103. All NWAEP members and guests are welcome at both events.

Member Spotlight: Bill Jordan

Bill Jordan is a former Texan who moved to the Northwest about a year and a half ago. He works for HNTB on the Washington State Department of Transportation GEC Team delivering the I-405 Corridor Project. As Environmental Manager for the project, he is responsible for four environmental assessments, their associated ESA clearance, and permitting. In addition, Bill is responsible for the environmental oversight of three current design-build projects: the

Kirkland Nickel Project, the South Bellevue Widening project, and the Renton Nickel Project.

Bill lives near Kirkland, Washington with his wife, Gina, and their three children, Gabriella, Isabella, and Landon. Their favorite family activities are riding the ferries, going to the beach, and hiking.

About two years ago, Bill bought a Buell motorcycle on eBay. It had flipped end over end, so he rebuilt it. He now

rides it as much as he can. It seems he really likes to fix things with wheels: he recently bought an old CJ-7 and is putting in a new transmission. Eventually he plans to retrofit it to use an electronic fuel injection system.

Before joining HNTB, Bill worked with Michael Baker Corporation. He was the statewide Biological Resources lead for the Texas Department of Transportation. He also worked with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality as the lead for the State Implementation Plan for air quality improvement.



Bill Jordan

2008 NAEP / AEP Conference Taking Shape

By the end of March, most of us here in the Northwest are really yearning for a change of climate. Fittingly, *Changing Climates* is the theme of the 2008 NAEP/AEP Annual Conference in balmy San Diego.

You can attend presentations on topics such as Sustainability and Planning; National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA); California Environ-

mental Quality Act (CEQA); Environmental Restoration and Mitigation; Land and Watershed Management; Transportation, Public Participation; and Education, Research and Studies.

In addition to the regular sessions, the conference will offer two special training courses on climate change issues and sustainability. Five mobile workshops will

showcase projects and issues specific to San Diego.

Find more information by visiting the NAEP Conference web page at www.naep.org.



Plan now to attend the 2008 NAEP/AEP Annual Conference, March 25-28, 2008, in sunny San Diego.

Local Board Members Represent NWAEP at National Strategic Planning Retreat

Aron Borok and Jeff Norville attended the National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP) "Chapters" strategic planning retreat in Ontario, California in September. Representatives from NAEP chapters from as far east as Pennsylvania, North Carolina and Georgia, and as far west as Hawaii,

were there to meet, network, and get ideas from other chapters.

Much of the business side of the retreat focused on the relationship between NAEP and the chapters, particularly with regard to membership. NWAEP board members like to encourage people at our

functions to join both organizations, as NAEP provides great services, including the journal *Environmental Practice*, and networking at the national level.

Please contact Aron or any NWAEP Board member with your feedback for other possible services NAEP could provide that would encourage you to join NAEP also.





NWAEP

*Quarterly Newsletter of the
Northwest Association of
Environmental Professionals*

We're on the Web:

www.nwaep.org

The Northwest Association of Environmental Professionals (NWAEP) was founded in 1992 and became official affiliate of the National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP) in 2005. We are a nonpolitical interdisciplinary organization made up of professionals in Washington and Oregon. Our members are from the full range of environmental professions, including environmental management, planning, impact assessment, environmental protection, compliance, research, engineering and education.

Our **goal** is to provide opportunities for and to encourage the professional development and recognition of members through meetings, conferences and other activities.

Our **policy** is to promote advancement in scientific interdisciplinary environmental education, research, planning, assessment, review and management.

Our **objectives** are to encourage and facilitate full participation in NWAEP goals and activities by all persons qualified to be members of NWAEP, and to encourage diversity among members of NWAEP in order to assimilate the widest range of views and concerns of professionals engaged in the environmental field.

Northwest Connections

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