



2017 SCIENCE TO POLICY SUMMIT

Sharing Information + Sharing Values & Needs = Sustaining our River

Speaker Bios

The Honorable Suzanne Bonamici

United States House of Representatives

Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici represents the First Congressional District of Oregon, which comprises the Northwest portion of the state. She is Vice Ranking Member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce in Congress and is dedicated to giving educators and students the support they need to succeed. Suzanne serves as a member of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology and is the top Democratic member on the Subcommittee on the Environment. From this position, she is working to address the causes and risks of global climate change, and to ensure that policy decisions are based on science. Recently Suzanne co-founded the Congressional Estuary Caucus, which promotes the importance of estuaries to our environment, communities, and the national economy. She is also the founder and co-chair of the bipartisan Congressional STEAM Caucus. Suzanne worked her way through college in Eugene, first at Lane Community College, and then at the University of Oregon, where she earned her bachelor's degree and law degree.

Janine Castro

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service

Janine Castro is a geomorphologist for both the US Fish & Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service in Portland, Oregon. She recently spent four months at the Bonneville Power Administration as the Habitat Lead. Janine provides national and international training on geomorphology, stream restoration, and public speaking for scientists. She is co-founder of Science Talk NW, one of the five founding members of River Restoration Northwest, an adjunct faculty in the Environmental Sciences and Management Department at Portland State University, and the Technical Director for the PSU River Restoration Professional Certificate Program. She teaches a variety of short courses and workshops, including Introduction to River Science and Public Speaking for Scientists. Janine holds a BS in Geology and a BA in Geography from California State University, Chico; an MS in Interdisciplinary Studies, Environmental Geomorphology from California State University, Chico; and a PhD in Geosciences from Oregon State University.

Robert Duff

Office of Washington Governor Inslee

Rob Duff is a Senior Policy Advisor to Washington Governor Jay Inslee on natural resource and environmental issues. Prior to that, Rob managed the Environmental Assessment Program at the Washington State Department of Ecology, providing critical environmental monitoring data for agency decision making to protect and enhance human health and the environment in Washington State. Rob was also a toxicologist for the Washington State Department of Health and eventually Director of the Office of Environmental Health Assessments where he led a team of risk assessors, toxicologists, epidemiologists, and health educators toward the goal of reducing human exposure to environmental contaminants. Rob is a current member of the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership Board of Directors. He received a B.S. in Zoology from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst in 1986 and in 1993 an M.S. from the Department of Environmental Health at the University of Washington in Seattle.



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Kim Erion

LKE Corporation

Kim Erion has been the President and Lead Ecologist for LKE CORPORATION since she founded it in 1993. Kim started a construction company specializing in environmental work before it was an “industry.” From Bonners Ferry, Idaho to San Diego and as far east as Chadron, Nebraska to Rapid City, South Dakota, Kim has led LKE’s work in reclamation, wildlife habitat, wetlands development, watershed restoration, in-stream fish enhancements, vegetation management, planting, soil preparation, naturalized landscaping, and environmental services. She holds multiple awards for her work in conservation and employing veterans. Her company employs up to 60 families in the summer and serves the US Army Corps of Engineers, US Forest Service, US Fish & Wildlife Service, and multiple other Federal, State, and local watershed councils throughout the Pacific Northwest. Kim is a member of Women Impacting Public Policy, the National Utility Contractors Association, Associated General Contractors, Northwest Environmental Professionals, and American Fisheries Society. She has degrees in Business Management from Clackamas Community College; Environmental, Contract, and Real Estate Law from Clark College; and Environmental Science from Portland State University.

Susan Holveck, Ph.D.

Department of Teaching and Learning, Beaverton School District

Susan Holveck is the Secondary Science Curriculum Teacher-on-Special-Assignment with the Department of Teaching and Learning at the Beaverton School District. She is also an adjunct professor at Portland State's Center for Science Education. Susan was honored as the 2007 OSTA Middle School Science Teacher of the Year and the Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership Steward of the Year in 2009. She helped develop the 2009 Oregon Science Standards and has helped review the Next Generation Science Standards. She has served for three years as the Oregon Science Teachers Association President. Susan actively supports science teachers in the Beaverton School District and loves getting students outside to learn. She is a current member of the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership Board of Directors. Susan has a B.S. in Genetics from Ohio State, an M.S. in Genetics and Cellular Biology from Washington State University, and a doctorate in Education from the University of Oregon.

Dameon Pesanti

The Columbian

Dameon is the environmental and transportation reporter at The Columbian, Clark County's daily newspaper. His work focuses on the intersection of people, politics, and the natural world on topics ranging from fossil fuel terminals to habitat restoration and climate research. His career has taken him to the oil fields of North Dakota, rafting the entirety of the Cowlitz River, and into the halls of the Washington State Capitol. His reporting has won multiple awards from the Society of Professional Journalists and the Pacific Northwest Newspaper Association. Dameon holds a B.A. in journalism from the University of Montana.