



COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN  
RESTORATION PROGRAM

# Columbia River Basin Restoration Program Working Group Remote Meeting

PROPOSED AGENDA | MAY 11, 2022

12:30 - 4:00 PM PACIFIC TIME

Join on your computer or mobile app: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only): +1 202-991-0477, 107165357# Phone Conference ID: 107 165 357#

12:30 - 12:40

## WELCOME, AGENDA REVIEW, AND TEAMS OVERVIEW

Mary Lou Soscia, EPA, and Greg Frey, Council Oak

12:40 - 1:00

## ICEBREAKER—WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Mary Lou Soscia, EPA, and Greg Frey, Council Oak

Attendees will use an interactive website to answer questions about their work and priorities for the Columbia River Basin. Questions will include:

1. Which watershed in the Basin does your work focus on? (Columbia River Mainstem, Snake, Yakima, Spokane, Kootenai, Willamette, other)
2. Are you representing an entity, and if so which one?
3. What type(s) of future work are most important to you?
  - Using stormwater green infrastructure to decrease and eliminate toxic runoff.
  - Increased toxics monitoring throughout the Columbia River Basin and ensure access to data.
  - Increasing the use of agricultural best practices to reduce toxics and protect water quality.
  - Support targeted, small-scale (non-CERCLA) clean-up actions to remove toxics at contaminated sites.
  - Promoting citizen engagement or education, especially to tribal and environmental justice communities.
  - Pollution prevention to help industries, communities, and private citizens eliminate or reduce toxics at the source.
4. Would you be interested in webinars or increased technical assistance to better participate in the grant program?
5. What kind of assistance would be most helpful to you for preparing future grant application packages (e.g., webinars, help line, templates, fact sheets)?
6. Do you expect to be able to attend an in-person meeting in October 2022 if held in Hood River, Oregon?

1:00 - 1:30

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER: DR MICHEL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPPER COLUMBIA UNITED TRIBES

A member of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, DR has over 36 years of experience in forestry and natural resource management, as well as the technical and policy aspects of working for tribes. He served eight years on the Colville Business Council as both the Vice Chair and the Chair of the Natural Resource Committee. DR enjoys camping on the Columbia River.

## PURPOSE

Provide a forum  
to exchange  
information  
on Columbia  
River Basin  
Restoration Act  
implementation,  
toxics reduction,  
monitoring,  
research, and  
outreach.

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1:30 – 2:00

## EPA UPDATE ON CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 123 COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN RESTORATION PROGRAM

Mary Lou Soscia and Michelle Wilcox, EPA

- **Mary Lou** will discuss EPA Columbia River Basin Restoration Program implementation priorities including Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding and EPA's Justice 40 priorities. Mary Lou also will review accomplishments, including the Columbia River Basin Restoration Program 2022 Update, and priority work efforts over the next 5 years.
- **Michelle** will provide an update on the Clean Water Act Section 123 Columbia River Basin Restoration Program FY21/22 grant opportunity and where we are in the process.

2:00 – 2:30

## GRANTEE UPDATES

Grantees from across the Basin will share updates on their work efforts, recent achievements, or requests for assistance from other group members. Grantee speakers include:

- **Dan Kent** (*Salmon-Safe*) will share progress across the interior Columbia Basin to engage with farmers in transitioning to Salmon-Safe certification practices focusing on water quality protection.
- **Kirk Shimeall** (*Cascade Pacific Resource, Conservation & Development*) and partners from the Urban Waters and Wildlife Partnership will describe their on-going efforts to create a regional coalition to support voluntary stormwater improvements and associated effectiveness monitoring in the Upper Willamette region.
- **Sierra Higheagle** (*Nez Perce Tribe – Water Resources Division*) will provide an update on the partnership to monitor the Clearwater River watershed for toxics and metals.
- **Andy James** (*University of Washington Tacoma*) will discuss progress in sampling the mainstem Columbia River for Contaminants of Emerging Concern.

2:30 – 2:45

## BREAK

2:45 – 3:05

## EPA'S PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS) WORK

Lauren McDaid and Peter Brumm, EPA

**Lauren** and **Peter** will introduce the EPA Office of Research and Development's demonstration project in the Columbia Basin that seeks to prioritize site investigation of PFAS contamination and screen for PFAS chemicals of concern to support Columbia River Basin Tribes and States.

3:05 – 3:20

## UPDATE FROM THE TOXICS MONITORING SUBGROUP

Jen Bayer, USGS

**Jen** will provide an update on the March and April 2022 meetings of the Toxics Monitoring Subgroup and discuss next steps for the effort.

3:20 – 3:45

## BRADFORD ISLAND, TRIBAL FISHING, AND HEALTH RISKS

Laura Shira, Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation

**Laura** will discuss the listing of Bradford Island as a Superfund site on the National Priorities List (NPL), tribal fishing on or near the island, and the implications of contamination on fisheries and human health.

3:45 – 3:55

## EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CELEBRATIONS

Working group members and grantees will have an opportunity to announce an upcoming event or recent success.

3:55 – 4:00

## CLOSING AND NEXT STEPS

## SPEAKER EMAILS

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