

Puget Sound Green Infrastructure Summit Biographies

WELCOME



Aaron Clark – Stewardship Partners Clark is an environmental scientist with experience conducting, communicating, and applying scientific research for the support of healthy, functioning ecosystems. As the Rain Gardens Program Manager, he focuses on building an interdisciplinary network between communities, policy-makers, businesses, architects, engineers, and planners. He received a BA in biology from Reed College and a PhD in biology from the University of Washington; he worked as an environmental consultant and landscape designer before joining Stewardship Partners.



Steve Shestag – The Boeing Company Shestag is the Director of the Environment at The Boeing Company. He is responsible for leading the development of companywide strategy and policy that shapes the environmental performance of Boeing's global operations, products and services, as well as environmental compliance and remediation commitments. Shestag has over 30 years of experience in environmental cleanup and restoration work, geotechnical studies, stormwater management, water supply, and program management. In his 20+ years at Boeing, Steve has enjoyed working with diverse groups of stakeholders to find practical and timely solutions that improve the environment and reduce risks.



Bruce Wulkan – Puget Sound Partnership

DESIGN
THINKING:
Using
Integrated
Green
Infrastructure
to Shape our
Urban Future



Jason King ASLA LEED AP – Mithun King is a licensed landscape architect, urbanist, writer, and educator with 19 years of experience in urban regenerative design, ecological site design, stormwater management, and healing environments. He is currently an associate at Mithun. His extensive professional portfolio includes work throughout Oregon, Washington, and California, with a strong focus on innovative research-based solutions and integrated design processes that work across disciplines in all phases of project work. His 200 built planning and design projects have featured many LID features, such as green roofs, green streets, bioretention planters, pervious pavement, urban habitat, and stormwater art. King has taught at University of Oregon, Portland State University, and Marylhurst University and has presented nationally and locally on stormwater, ecological urbanism, green roofs and historical hydrology.



PANEL:
Intersectional
Strategies:
Growing the
Clean Water
& Green
Infrastructure
Constituency
in Puget
Sound



Pam Emerson – City of Seattle Emerson is a Green Infrastructure Policy Advisor for the City of Seattle, where she promotes strategies to accelerate green infrastructure implementation and normalize low impact development. Pam led the development of Seattle’s five-year GSI Implementation Strategy (2015-2020) and its City-wide low impact development code integration process. Pam holds a BS in biology and an MA in science education from Cornell University, as well as an MLA in landscape architecture/urban ecological design from the University of Washington. Pam worked previously as a policy advisor with the U.S. EPA Region 10 on children’s environmental health issues and air toxics and with the City of Seattle on climate change engagement.



Sudha Nandagopal – Seattle Office of Sustainability and Environment Nandagopal is the Equity and Environment Initiative Program Manager and also a connector, storyteller, organizer, community builder, and campaigner working at the intersection of environmental, racial, and social justice issues. Through her career in strategic communications and campaigns, and her leadership for movement-building organizations such as OneAmerica and OneAmerica Votes, Nandagopal has developed an expertise in engagement that moves people to action with a particular focus on building power with communities of color, immigrants, refugees, and individuals with limited English proficiency. Nandagopal graduated from Cornell University with a degree in Biology and Society and a specialization in environment, policy, and writing.



Alberto Rodriguez - Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition/TAG Originally from Honduras, Rodriguez moved to the Pacific Northwest in 2010 after getting his degree in Biology and working on several environmental conservation, community engagement, and research projects in Honduras and Guatemala. Since joining the Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition Technical Advisory Group (DRCC/TAG) in 2011, his inclusive and unconventional community engagement work has been featured at several local, regional, national, and international conferences. Rodriguez’s work has also been recognized with several awards: locally by the Sustainable Path Foundation and the South Park Neighborhood Association; and internationally by the International River Foundation, International Water Centre Alumni Network, and Oceana Gold Corporation as one of three finalists for the first-ever Emerging River Professional Award.



Dionne Foster – Puget Sound Sage Foster leads climate and environmental justice policy priorities at Puget Sound Sage. She is passionate about using community-powered research to inform policy decisions and support social movements. Prior to joining Sage, Foster worked at Got Green, supporting the development of a grassroots community-led climate agenda through surveying people with low incomes and people of color in Seattle. She is a co-author of the King County Determinants of Equity Report. Dionne holds an MA in Social Work from the University of Washington.



LUNCH: What is innovation? What drives innovation?



Egils Milbergs – Center for Accelerating Innovation Milbergs is the founder and CEO of the Center for Accelerating Innovation that provides policy development and consulting services for innovation-based economic development, entrepreneurship and sustainability. From 2008-2013, he served as executive director of the Washington Economic Development Commission with a mission to help Washington become the most innovative region in the world. He previously served as strategy advisor to the National Innovation Initiative, president of the National Council for Advanced Manufacturing, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Productivity, Technology and Innovation, Executive Director of the President’s Commission on Industrial Competitiveness, and research director at SRI International. He is a graduate of Harvard College.

AFTERNOON PANELS: Innovative Ways to Accelerate Stormwater Action

Panel A: Policy and Partnership



Ellen Southard – Salmon-Safe Southard has worked as the outreach manager for Puget Sound with Salmon-Safe’s alliance team at Stewardship Partners for 6 years. She leads education and community engagement efforts for the Salmon-Safe site certification. Most recently, she has been managing the Salmon-Safe program with Vulcan Development and their commitment to the Clinton Global Initiative to be the first accredited developer working towards net zero impacts on watersheds. Throughout her career, Southard has been involved with a large number of planning and policy initiatives that support urban ecology, farmland preservation, historic resources, and cultural corridor formation.

Craig Holland – NatureVest Holland is NatureVest’s Director of Product Development, specializing in green infrastructure investment and deployment. A contributing author to “Creating Clean Water Cash Flows,” he helped develop private financing mechanisms for Philadelphia’s Green City Clean Waters initiative. He previously served as the Director of Operations for BioLite, a clean energy product manufacturer. Holland holds an MSc in Sustainability Management from Columbia University; his thesis focused on Environmental Impact Bonds for green infrastructure.

Mark Grey – Stephen C. Grey and Associates Grey will discuss his new project, the Tableau Headquarters in Fremont. Inspired by saving salmon, the project features a cascading bioswale which will treat stormwater from the Aurora Bridge.



Panel A:
Policy and
Partnership



Chris van Daalen – Northwest EcoBuilding Guild Van Daalen is the creator and Principal Investigator of the Code Innovations Database and Education Coordinator for the Northwest EcoBuilding Guild. The Code Innovations Database documents how proven innovations in stormwater management meet and support evolving building and development codes. He also facilitates the cross-sector Vision2Action Symposium for regional collaboration on adapting to new low impact development regulations. Van Daalen has 25 years of experience with Pacific Northwest environmental and sustainable development, forging collaborative partnerships with government, educators and industry to promote forest protection, watershed restoration, and green building.



Danielle Shaw – Washington Environmental Council Shaw is the Puget Sound Program Associate for the Washington Environmental Council, a nonprofit, statewide advocacy organization that has been driving positive change to solve Washington's most critical environmental challenges since 1967.

Panel B:
Optimization,
Efficiency,
and Decision-
making



Ani Jayakaran – Washington State University Jayakaran is an Associate Professor with Washington State University Extension. His role is to meet outreach and research needs related to water resources and green stormwater infrastructure. He is affiliated with the Washington Stormwater Center, has a doctoral degree in Biosystems Engineering, and is a licensed engineer in the State of Washington.



Jenifer McIntyre – Washington State University McIntyre is an aquatic ecotoxicologist at Washington State University's Puyallup Research and Extension Center. Her research focuses on the biological effectiveness of green stormwater to prevent toxic impacts in aquatic animals receiving runoff from urban areas.



Panel B:
Optimization,
Efficiency,
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making

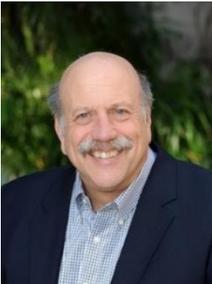


Tracy Stanton – Urban Waters Federal Partnership Stanton is an independent consultant currently funded by the U.S. Forest Service to coordinate the Urban Waters Federal Partnership effort in the Green-Duwamish Watershed in Seattle. This work dovetails with that of the Regional Open Space Strategy, a project under the auspices of the University of Washington’s Green Futures Research and Design Lab, where she leads the Ecosystem Services and Regional Prioritization Committee efforts. Since relocating to Seattle in July 2009, Stanton has worked with a number of regional NGOs including the Bullitt Foundation, The Freshwater Trust, The Willamette Partnership, and Earth Economics. She holds a MPP degree in Public and Environmental Policy from the University of Maryland and a BA from the Ohio State University.



Tracy Tackett PE – Seattle Public Utilities Tackett is the Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) Program Manager for Seattle Public Utilities. She is responsible for management, direction, and decision making for capital improvement projects and significant programs focused on using green infrastructure to reduce the effects of Seattle’s urban stormwater runoff on receiving water bodies. She has designed innovative projects, directed design standards for GSI in Seattle’s street rights-of-ways, and developed GSI requirements for City of Seattle stormwater code. She directs evaluation of GSI solutions as part of capital improvement projects to achieve multiple stormwater goals and works to integrate GSI with other City sustainability goals. Tackett holds an MS in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Washington.

Panel C:
Communicati
ng Green
Infrastructure



Scott Miller – Resource Media Miller is the President of Resource Media, a non-profit communications firm that works with partners to broaden the base of support for policies and actions that promote healthy, just, and sustainable communities. Scott spent 23 years as a television journalist, including 15 years covering the environment for KING 5 TV, the NBC affiliate in Seattle. Miller’s work has won three Emmy awards and was recognized by the Associated Press, the Society of Professional Journalists, and the Society of Environmental Journalists. Scott returned to lead Resource Media in August of 2012. He graduated from the University of Oregon in 1979 with a degree in journalism.



Peter Donaldson – Sustainability Ambassadors Donaldson is a strategic storyteller with over 30 years of experience in theater, public speaking, curriculum design, community facilitation, and classroom instruction from grade school to college. Once, with a full grey beard, he toured the nation in character as Leonardo da Vinci asking the question, “Are we in a new Renaissance?” Donaldson is the Director for Sustainability Ambassadors, coaching student, teacher, and community leaders to drive collective impact by using sustainability education to make measurable improvements in community conditions.



Panel C:
Communicating
Green
Infrastructure



Freeman Anthony – City of Bellingham Anthony has been a project engineer with the City of Bellingham since 2006. He has designed and administered many low impact street projects, including large scale bioretention and porous concrete installations. He is the chair of the APWA Transportation Committee and is on the board of directors for Greenroads

DISCUSSION:
Multiple
Benefits of GI
- Human
Health,
Equitable
Access, and
Green
Economy



Jessie Israel – The Nature Conservancy Isreal is leading The Nature Conservancy's work to clean up and restore Puget Sound as the Puget Sound Conservation Director and is also the chief architect for advancing their work in urban areas. As a public servant, consultant, and non-profit leader, Jessie has a twenty year track record of bringing together groups to invest in local community development, environment, and equity issues. She has trained around the world on building public-private partnerships & developing sustainable communities. Isreal spent more than two years as a volunteer with the United States Peace Corps in rural Guinea, West Africa and has a BA in Political Science from Seattle University.



Cari Simson – Urban Systems Design Simson is the owner of Urban Systems Design, which was founded in 2009 and provides professional consulting services to clients to improve urban livability and resilience through integration of collaborative, whole systems approaches. The firm specializes in delivering expert leadership to projects that exemplify effective public-private partnerships, interagency coordination, and community engagement to transform the built environment. As a trusted community leader, the firm is dedicated to promoting service equity and broad participation to develop creative, resilient solutions to urban water quality challenges.



Kathleen Wolf – University of Washington Wolf is a Research Social Scientist with the College of the Environment at the University of Washington and a research associate with the Pacific Northwest Research Station, USDA Forest Service. Her research focus is the human dimensions of urban forestry and urban ecosystems, particularly human health. Another interest the translation of scientific evidence for use in local government policy and planning.



**CLOSING AND
CALL TO
ACTION**



Mayor Ed Murray – City of Seattle

