

NOTE: All topics, descriptions and objectives are draft and subject to change.

CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES:

By attending this conference, participants will:

- Gain a broad understanding of how climate change will affect watershed restoration
- Be more aware of the role and opportunities local restoration and conservation projects have in helping watershed functions adapt to climate change.
- Gain tools to use in response to and in anticipation of changes in the climate.
- Strengthen their network of professional contacts.
- Be committed to implement at least five ideas to increase awareness of and participation in community watershed enhancement programs.
- Bring back to their organization several practical skills in effective program planning and management that will lead to greater success for on-the-ground projects.

KEYNOTE/LUNCH & DINNER EVENTS

Wednesday

Topic: Climate Change Overview

Issue description: Climate change may affect Pacific Northwest watershed functions and the social/community dynamics. There may be impacts on ecosystems and aquatic systems. Natural resource managers may need to mitigate and adapt to climate change using various land, water and ecosystem management strategies. Communities must work together to create resilient watersheds.

Objectives: Participants will:

- Be able to identify specific ways climate change will impact watershed functions and identify alternative community responses.
- Have a better understanding of how climate change will affect different natural resources economies.
- Be better equipped to communicate potential effects of climate change to their constituents.

Thursday lunch:

Topic: Effective Organizations Engage the Community

Objectives: Participants will:

- Feel inspired and motivated to more effectively manage their organizations.
- Be open to new approaches and will be motivated to actively engage in discussions in the mini-conference sessions immediately following this presentation.
- Be able to list four or five essential characteristics of effective organizations that engage their communities.
- Be able to assess their own organization's strengths and weaknesses as effective organizations engaging their communities.

Thursday dinner:

Topic: **Cleaning America's Rivers**

Objectives: Participants will:

- Feel inspired and motivated to continue their work to restore Oregon's watersheds.
- Learn the importance of setting goals.
- See how determined hard work and persistence pays off.

Confirmed Speaker: Chad Pregracke, founder of Living Lands & Waters (confirmed)

Presentation summary: Pregracke will give a multi-media presentation about one man's crusade to clean America's rivers, starting with the Mississippi.