

2017 CHRN Annual Meeting Summary

Tuesday, May 30 2017

9:00am to 3:30pm

Department of Ecology
300 Desmond Drive SE, Lacey, WA

Meeting Introduction

This meeting convened members of the Washington Coastal Hazards Resilience Network (CHRN) to provide updates on members' work, address common challenges in meeting resilience needs, and identify opportunities for how to make hazards resilience work more effective.

The goals of the meeting were:

- 1) Review and receive updates on CHRN members' recent coastal hazards resilience work.
- 2) Establish an ongoing dialogue about supporting resilience of coastal communities in Washington State.

Focus Topic

Community needs and vulnerabilities were chosen as this meeting's focus because all CHRN members' work is ultimately applied at the community level. State agencies provide planning and technical assistance to local governments, tribes have created some of the most forward-thinking adaptation plans, NGOs and consulting companies are working with communities, and federal agencies support these processes. This meeting was intended to take the idea of community-level work and question how CHRN members can provide products and services that better meet local needs.

The takeaways and questions identified in this summary are items for continuing discussion by the CHRN.

Presentations and Panels

1. Coastal Hazards Year in Review

Ian Miller, Coastal Hazard Specialist, Washington Sea Grant

Ian provided an overview of coastal hazard events and resilience advances made during 2016 and 2017. Topics reviewed included the 2015-2016 El Niño winter, 2016-2017 storm events, erosion at North Cove, recent efforts toward tsunami preparedness, and many advances in climate resilience planning.

2. Morning Panel: Exploring Local Needs and How to Better Meet Them

Communities in Washington face a wide variety of hazard challenges and work under a wide variety of capacities to find solutions. This panel shared perspectives on how federal and state resources are doing at meeting local-level coastal hazards resilience needs. The panel illustrated partnerships or resources that have aided local community resilience and identified remaining challenges.

Jodie Toft, Senior Marine Ecologist, The Nature Conservancy, *Moderator*

Kevin Zerbe, Associate, Cascadia Consulting Group
Integrating Climate Adaptation and Hazard Mitigation to Improve Local Resilience

Hansi Hals, Environmental Planning Program Manager, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
Identifying Local Needs for Dungeness Shoreline Area in Sequim WA

Mayor Crystal Dingler, City of Ocean Shores
Coastal Collaborations

Panel Takeaways

- 1. Federal- and state-provided opportunities for funding should be leveraged, but not depended upon, for coastal resilience. Creative, community-based solutions are still needed in the absence of these opportunities.** Hazard mitigation planning is an available and underused funding avenue for climate adaptation and coastal resilience planning. Still, funding for resilience projects that serve to *avoid future problems*, rather than responding to existing problems, remains an issue for communities.
- 2. A paradigm shift in commonly used planning horizons will be necessary for long-term resilience.** For example, institutional knowledge of long-ranging issues gets lost as administrations and staff change within organizations; homeowners who are elderly may not want to plan or make changes to prepare for conditions more than several decades into the future; and people lose trust as uncertainty in projections increases with time. However, long-term resilience of communities depends on long-term thinking in the present and retention of institutional knowledge about the longevity of hazard issues.
- 3. We are still missing opportunities for horizontal and vertical partnerships, integration, and communication between agencies, and between planners, technical experts, and landowners.** State agencies should contact local planners to discuss their needs and the resources that may be available to meet them. Local agencies should ensure communication between planning staff who may be working in different departments so that resilience thinking is distributed among planning efforts.

Continuing Questions

- How can we maximize community resilience when funding for capital projects is not available?
- What kinds of partnerships do we need to be building now to strengthen community resilience in five years? 10? 50?
- In what areas do communities see the most benefit provided by state and federal agencies, and in what ways do they need increased support?
- What is the best way to communicate about coastal hazards and resilience with individuals and homeowners whose decisions may impact resilience at the community scale?

3. Afternoon Panel: Addressing Social Vulnerabilities in Coastal Hazards Resilience Work

Coastal hazards resilience work often addresses environmental variability, impacts analysis, and management responses. But how much do we know about the people facing coastal hazards in Washington, and how can such knowledge be helpful in improving resilience? This panel was intended to begin a conversation about Washington communities' social vulnerability and socially-shaped capacity for response to coastal hazards and climate change. The panel discussed perspectives on and ways to address differing social vulnerabilities through emergency management, internal agency operations, and applications of community-determined vulnerability indicators.

Michael Chang, Climate Adaptation Specialist, Makah Tribe, *Moderator*

Sarah Miller, Emergency Manager, SK Miller Consulting/King County Zone 3
Vulnerability of Tourists, Women, Children, and the LGBTQ Communities to Coastal Hazards

Marnie Boardman, MPH, Climate Change Coordinator, Washington State Department of Health
Assessment of Coastal Hazards to Build Health Equity and Community Resilience

Elizabeth Felter, Coastal Planner, San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission
Adapting to Rising Tides Program
Sea Level Rise and Community Characteristics

Panel Takeaways

1. **Socially-determined characteristics of communities can play a role in amplifying or diminishing vulnerability to coastal hazards.** These characteristics are often tied to the availability of resources, social networks, and local knowledge that help communities adapt to a hazard event or incremental environmental change, and this information can help prioritize equitable planning and management that reduces risk across multiple groups.
2. **Community-based and participatory methods can be used to identify factors of social vulnerability and shape provision of targeted assistance through state, regional, and local partnerships.** This is an area of interest among CHRN members and should be explored further for the Washington State context.

Continuing Questions

- The link between demographic characteristics and policy responses or solutions to decrease vulnerability is not always clear. What are some further examples or clear ways that we can use this information to produce positive outcomes for resilience in Washington?
- Does reduced risk always lead to increased resilience?

Attendees:

- 1) Kristen Baird Romero, Washington State Department of Health
- 2) Lili Bastian, Washington State Department of Ecology
- 3) Bob Bindschadler, NASA
- 4) Marnie Boardman, Washington State Department of Health
- 5) Molly Bogeberg, The Nature Conservancy
- 6) Michael Chang, Makah Tribe
- 7) Catherine Corbett, Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership
- 8) Joel Darnell, Environmental Science Associates
- 9) Kevin Decker, Washington Sea Grant
- 10) Casey Dennehy, Surfrider Foundation
- 11) Mayor Crystal Dingle, City of Ocean Shores
- 12) Janan Evans-Wilent, Oregon State University
- 13) Nicole Faghin, Washington Sea Grant
- 14) Hansi Hals, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
- 15) Juli Hartwig, Washington State Department of Transportation
- 16) Derrick Hiebert, Washington State Emergency Management Division
- 17) Randy Johnson, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
- 18) George Kaminsky, Washington State Department of Ecology
- 19) Jay Krienitz, Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife
- 20) Michael Levkowitz, Michael Baker International
- 21) Brian Lynn, Washington State Department of Ecology
- 22) Guillaume Mauger, UW Climate Impacts Group
- 23) Ian Miller, Washington Sea Grant
- 24) Sarah Miller, SK Miller Consulting/King County Zone 3
- 25) Harriet Morgan, UW Climate Impacts Group
- 26) Doug Peters, Washington State Department of Commerce
- 27) Jen Pouliotte, Puget Sound Partnership
- 28) Carol Lee Roalkvam, Washington State Department of Transportation
- 29) Gwen Shaughnessy, NOAA Office for Coastal Management
- 30) Hugh Shipman, Washington State Department of Ecology
- 31) Amanda Siok, FEMA
- 32) Kelly Stone, FEMA

- 33) Bobbak Talebi, Washington State Department of Ecology
- 34) Jodie Toft, The Nature Conservancy
- 35) Bree Turner, NOAA Office for Coastal Management
- 36) Brynne' Walker, Pierce County
- 37) Heather Weiner, Washington State Department of Ecology
- 38) Kevin Zerbe, Cascadia Consulting Company

2017 CHRN Annual Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, May 30 2017

9:00am to 3:30pm

8:30am to 9:00am

Check-In and Coffee

9:00am to 9:15am

Welcome

9:15am to 9:45am

Introductions and Pop-Up Talks

Voluntary two-minute update on each member's projects from the past year.

9:45am to 10:30am

Coastal Hazards Year in Review

Ian Miller, Coastal Hazard Specialist, Washington Sea Grant

10:30am to 10:45am

Coffee Break

10:45am to 12:30pm

Panel 1: Exploring Local Needs and How to Better Meet Them

This panel will share perspectives on how federal, state, and private resources are doing at meeting local-level coastal hazards resilience needs. Considering the current structures, opportunities, and work happening in Washington, are the services that the state and others are providing meeting actual local needs, and what is needed to improve?

Jodie Toft, Senior Marine Ecologist, The Nature Conservancy
Moderator

Kevin Zerbe, Associate, Cascadia Consulting Group
Integrating Climate Adaptation and Hazard Mitigation to Improve Local Resilience

Hansi Hals, Environmental Planning Program Manager, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
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Mayor Crystal Dingle, City of Ocean Shores
Coastal Collaborations

12:30pm to 1:30pm

Lunch

Bring your own or purchase food from the on-site cafeteria.

1:30pm to 3:00pm

Panel 2: Addressing Social Vulnerabilities in Coastal Hazards Resilience Work

This panel will discuss perspectives on and ways to address differing social vulnerabilities in coastal hazards resilience efforts. Our work often addresses environmental variability, impacts analysis, and management responses. But how much do we know about the people facing coastal hazards in Washington, and how can such knowledge be helpful in improving resilience?

Michael Chang, Climate Adaptation Specialist, Makah Tribe
Moderator

Sarah Miller, Emergency Manager, SK Miller Consulting/King County Zone 3
Vulnerability of Tourists, Women, Children, and the LGBTQ Communities to Coastal Hazards

Marnie Boardman, MPH, Climate Change Coordinator, WA DOH
Climate Change and Equity Work at the WA State Department of Health

Elizabeth Felter, Coastal Planner, SF BCDC Adapting to Rising Tides
Sea Level Rise and Community Characteristics

3:00 pm to 3:30pm

Closing Round and Next Steps

4:00 pm to 6:00pm

Happy Hour at Oly Taproom!

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