




*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

The Pacific Northwest Economic Region Presents:

Legislative Academy

**Empowering PNWER Leadership:
Unleashing Regional Potential through
Federal Outreach**

Wednesday, November 15 | 1:45pm-2:45pm



Empowering PNWER Leadership: Unleashing Regional Potential Through Federal Outreach



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Key Components of a Success

Working Group Action Item Driven

Legislative and PNWER Leadership

Congressional Engagement

Federal Dept/Agency Engagement

Partnerships/Coalitions

Showcasing Success

Invasive Species



PNWER
RIA Regional
Infrastructure
Accelerator

USMCA RATIFICATION & TARIFFS



**Legislative Energy
Horizon Institute**

North America's Premier Program for
Educating Energy Policy Makers



Invasive Species



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Federal Congressional Engagement with PNW Appropriators & Partners

- Aquatic Invasive Species Working Group Action Item initiated the process advocacy for Congressional Appropriation with Federal Authorized funds in the 2014 Water Resource Development Act (WRDA) to the Region for Protecting the Basin
- Sen. Jim Honeyford Study funding in WA \$50,000 in 2014 for research that showed PNWER as trusted partner in the AIS issue

Working Group Action Item Legislative & PNWER Leadership Support

- Engaged Senate and House Staff and Committees to garner support the appropriation funding process
- Pacific Marine States Fisheries Commission administrates the program
- Sen. Mike Cuffe 5 years of Congressional Visits

- Secure Funding with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on process to get funding to the states for Inspection Station Match funding.
- Years of negotiations and Authorization Bill rewrites with continued Appropriation requests
- Hosted listening sessions in DC with Capitol Hill Staff

Engagement Process with Dept/Agencies (USACE/BLM) Congressional Appropriators

Showcasing Success

- Today the program has generated over \$32M USD four NW states – Testimony in Each State Capital Visit
- More demand now – All of the Western States qualify for match
- PNWER supporting Canadian MOU for Match funds to be recognized in Canada
- This Fall was the first positive detection of invasive mussels West of the Rockies in the PNW Twin Falls, ID



U.S. Sen. Jim Risch, ID with PNWER Delegation holding AIS infested pipe in 2015



Larry Doke Former MLA, SK, U.S. Rep. Suzan DelBene, WA and Matt Morrison in 2020

PNWER



Regional
Infrastructure
Accelerator



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- Working Group Action Item initiated the process of advocating for Congressional Appropriation Federal Authorized funds in the 2015 Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST) to the Create Regional Centers of Excellence
- Sen. Chuck Winder ID and Bruce Agnew lead the action for more to be done

Working Group Action Item
Legislative &
PNWER Leadership
Support

Federal Congressional
Engagement with PNW
Appropriators & Partners

- Engaged Senate and House Staff on their related Committees several other to support the appropriation funding process letters, meetings and testimony
- Letters of support
- Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors
- PNWER shown as a leader in this sector

- Awarded U.S. Department of Transportation Build America Bureau Competitive Grant to create the PNWER Regional Infrastructure Accelerator program for two years 2021
- Competitive Grant funding awarded to PNWER RIA for two years in 2023

Engagement Process with
USDOT/BAB and
Appropriators

Showcasing Success
Next Steps

- Secured more than \$4M in direct funding to PNWER RIA
- PNWER RIA will continue to provide technical assistance to the region with secure funding to 2026
- Communication with administration and congressional staff has grown and is part long term program



U.S. Sen. Patty Murray, WA meets with PNWER on Transportation Issues in 2015



Former Rep. Peter DaFazio and Transportation Committee with Past PNWER President and Former Senator Arnie Roblan, OR in 2017

USMCA RATIFICATION & TARIFFS



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- NAFTA renegotiation 2016-2020
- PNWER Board support Increase Economic through Trade
- Additionally Strengthens Political and Cultural Ties
- PNWER agrees to conduct NAFTA survey and presentations to DC and Ottawa on Findings

Co-Chairs & PNWER
Leadership support using
PNWER resources

Federal Congressional Engagement with PNW Appropriators & Partners

- We conducted 5 visits to Washington, D.C. in 2017 and briefed the region's congressional delegation and members of the U.S. Federal Government executive branch.
- Engaged all border states
- Border Policy research Institute (BPRI)
- Northern Border Caucus
- Nuisance topics (i.e. softwood lumber, wheat grading, dairy products, Mandatory Country of Origin Labeling MCOOL)

- PNWER representatives participated in a visit to Ottawa in May 2017 to facilitate and contribute to discussions on Canada/US border relations, trade and natural resource management, invasive species and transportation issues.



Continuous Engagement
Process with
Appropriators and USACE

USMCA/CUSMA Signed

- The U.S. – Mexico – Canada Agreement (USMCA) trade agreement entered into force on July 1, 2020.



Steve Myers
presenting testimony
to the U.S. Trade
representative in
Washington, D.C. in
2017



Matt Morrison
presenting
testimony to
Parliament in
Ottawa, ON in 2017



Former WH CoS and DHS Sec. John Kelly
with CBP's Michele James met with
Matt Morrison and Brandon
Hardenbrook in 2017 to discuss regional
resilience issues

Legislative Energy Horizon Institute

North America's Premier Program for Educating Energy Policy Makers



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- Energy Working Group Action Item initiated the feasibility of developing a leadership course for legislators
- Rep. Jeff Morris leads the work with PNWER, Dan Kirchner NWGA and Doug Bloom West Coast Energy
- West Coast Energy (Enbridge) led campaign with Private Sector Companies to raise \$200,000 in 2008

Co-Chairs & PNWER Leadership support using PNWER resources

Federal Partners help Develop Program

- LEHI was funded through majority of private sector support but both U.S. DOE and NRCAN are engaged with several partners now contribute to the program
- University of Idaho, NCSL
- The Energy Council, NGA, WGA

- PNWER Leadership routinely briefs legislative committees on the benefits and outcomes from LEHI
- Has graduated over 300
- Sustainment through Private Support w/ quarter of support from Federal Funding and in-kind support

Sharing the Success



LEHI Cohort policy tour wind farm



LEHI Cohort Graduation at the Canadian Embassy in 2023

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Showcasing Successes



Canada Head of State visit to the White House



U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security
Michael Chertoff and Minister of Public
Safety Canada Stockwell Day at PNWER
Summit in Edmonton 2006

Case Study

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Case Study: International Trade Agreements: When the NAFTA Agreement was being renegotiated (and threatened), what lessons can be learned from PNWER's bi-national outreach and advocacy efforts?

- As parties and leadership changes happen, both locally and nationally, how can PNWER remain relevant and continue to build the trust and relationships that are important to address critical issues?
- How can these lessons be applied to future cross-border issues and collaborative initiatives between our region and two-countries?
- What strategies can we take collectively, to amplify the voice of the region to our federal governments?

Discussion Session on Regional Collaboration

- Based on these four examples and case study, how can PNWER be a vehicle to better communicate these and other regional challenges?
- How can this approach be translated into other issues areas? What are some of these regional issues?
- Role of state/provincial/territorial legislator to champion these issues within PNWER?
- Role of state/provinces/territories to pursue funding solution for the regional issues?
- What similar type funding solutions are available in Canada?