

ACTION ITEMS

Agriculture Working Group 2016



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

Over the past several years the Agriculture Working Group has focused on the Canada-US Regulatory Cooperation Council Action Plan and continues to provide input on agriculture related topics.

The group released a statement in support of the RCC to the region's agriculture sectors, calling on the governments of Canada and the U.S. to reaffirm their commitment by ensuring adequate resources are dedicated to the action plan's initiatives.

Action Items	Project Lead	Status
1	Continue to advocate to resolve regulatory barriers affecting Canada-U.S. agri-food trade, such as U.S. grain exports to Canada.	In progress
2	Identify the RCC anti-microbial working group leads and schedule a conference call with our Agriculture and livestock health members to share information and ask questions.	In progress
3	Provide members with the link to the federal registrar to comment on the newly announced USDA rules related to the import of small ruminants to the US and through to Mexico and Latin America .	In progress
4	The Agriculture working group supports the communication and advancement of sustainable agriculture initiatives and will present specific best practices and recommendations on this for delegates to consider at the next PNWER conference.	In progress

ACTION ITEMS

Arctic Caucus Working Group 2016



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

The Arctic Caucus of the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER) is a partnership between Alaska, the Yukon, and the Northwest Territories.

The partnership aims to provide a forum to share information, discuss issues of mutual concern, identify areas for collaboration between the three jurisdictions and the rest of North America, and provide Arctic-relevant input to PNWER working groups and the region at-large.

Action Items	Project Lead	Status	
1	Hold a conference call to discuss and make a decision on the Resolution related to socio-economic data and local input being included in Environmental regulations.	PNWER will host conference call with Caucus members and stakeholders	In progress
2	NWT will take the Chair of the Arctic Caucus for the next year.	Premier Bob McLeod	In progress

ACTION ITEMS

Border Issues Working Group 2016



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

PNWER has continued to provide input on the Beyond the Border and Regulatory Cooperation Council Action Plans. Prior to the action plans' inception in December 2011, PNWER working groups had been instrumental in providing regional input for these documents, which are the cornerstone of North America's economic competitiveness and security strategy. The joint action plans are designed to simplify the process for each country's citizens to travel and do business across the border.

Action Items	Project Lead	Status
1	Compile recommendations from stakeholders regarding improvements to the Beyond the Border Action Plan and provide these recommendations to the next US administration.	In progress
2	Work with DHS and other border partners to develop a proposal for a US—Canada border Center of Excellence.	In progress
3	Link strategically with other cross-border organizations in order to support border improvements in both Ottawa and D.C.	In progress

ACTION ITEMS

Disaster Resilience Working Group



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

The Center for Regional Disaster Resilience works on emergency preparedness and disaster resilience projects across the Pacific Northwest from its Seattle office. The CRDR operates under the umbrella of the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region, and is committed to working with states, provinces, territories, and communities to create public-private partnerships, develop action plans, and undertake pilot projects and activities to improve regional disaster resilience cooperation.

Action Items	Project Lead	Status
1	Engage Canadian provincial and city emergency management organizations to attend 2017 Summit Disaster Resilience Track	In progress

ACTION ITEMS

Energy & Environment Working Group 2016



Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region

The Energy & Environment Working Group, formerly known as Energy II, addresses the convergence of environmental sustainability and economic development while focusing on distributed generation, microgrids, energy efficiency, renewable energy and other issues. focuses on finding sustainable energy resources for the region. The group collaborates with PNWER's Energy Horizon Institute, which works to educate lawmakers as to the current status of energy Infrastructure and delivery system.

Action Items		Project Lead	Status
1	Seek data sources, insights and interests in the research phase of the Roadmap to Resilient, Ultra-low Energy Buildings. Conduct an online survey of PNWER stakeholder networks.	Roadmap Steering Committee	In progress
2	Seek additional private sector support (\$20,000 USD) to finish Roadmap research and White Paper Development. Secure four sponsors by September and promote combined Roadmap and 2016 Economic Development Forum/ 2017 Summit sponsorship opportunities.	Roadmap Steering Committee	In progress
3	Develop a White Paper by November that will include "fact sheets" on consumer demand, case studies, regional benefits / impacts and PNWER Cleantech Solutions, and seek funding to encourage cross border collaboration.	Roadmap Steering Committee	In progress
4	Develop "Roadmap to Resilient, Ultra-low Energy Buildings" by June 2017 that recommends policy solutions and market mechanisms that move the middle of the "market transformation curve" and respond to diversity of carbon pricing regimes (flexible caps, carbon pricing, cap-and-trade).	Roadmap Steering Committee	In progress
5	Continue to secure legislative support in each PNWER jurisdiction for Roadmap process and goals.	Roadmap Steering Committee	In progress
6	Seek support from US DOE for community solar through Sunshot grant		

For more information, visit <http://www.pnwer.org/energy-and-environment.html> or contact Jennifer Grosman. E: Jennifer.grosman@pnwer.org T: (206) 443-7723

ACTION ITEMS

Energy & Environment Working Group 2016



Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region

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Action Items	Project Lead	Status
<p>7 Carbon pricing is gaining traction as a core component of efforts to fight climate change and reduce greenhouse gases. Several PNWER members already have (e.g. British Columbia, Alberta) or are contemplating (e.g. Washington) carbon pricing systems. Disparity in carbon pricing among PNWER members and their trading partners engenders competitiveness challenges, particularly for Energy Intensive Trade Exposed (EITE) sectors that compete across borders. The 26th PNWER summit raised these issues in the Energy and Environment Working group with presentations and discussion among the Alberta Minister of the Environment and leading economists and industry experts. There was a consensus that this discussion was only the beginning of a larger and longer dialogue needed among PNWER members to share experiences with the development, implementation and functioning of carbon pricing mechanism, their respective approaches to protecting the competitiveness of EITEs and, ultimately, toward greater convergence of climate policies as a tool of both PNWER's Energy and Environment Working Group should facilitate this intersectoral dialogue and aim to reconvene a full session on this topic at the 2017 Summit in Portland.</p>	<p>Energy and Environment Working Group in conjunction with other interested working groups (Mining, University Presidents)</p>	<p>In progress</p>

ACTION ITEMS

Forestry Working Group 2016



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

PNWER's Forestry Working Group is supportive of efforts that promote healthy forests, resilient watersheds, and socio-economic sustainability in communities that depend on them.

Action Items	Project Lead	Status
1 Write letter to senate and house supporting the Timber Innovation Act.	Travis Joseph Sen. Chas Vincent	In progress
2 Empower collaboratives in a manner in which they have outcome based solutions and insulate them in the process to incentivize participation.	Travis Joseph Sen. Chas Vincent	In progress
3 Write a bulleted, one page Issue paper on proactive solutions.	Mark Stayton	In progress
4 Discuss with the executive committee the importance of focusing on solutions, rather than bringing up ideas and problems.		In progress

For more information, visit <http://www.pnwer.org/forestry.html> or contact Mark Stayton. E: mark.stayton@pnwer.org T: (206) 443-7723

ACTION ITEMS

Infrastructure Working Group 2016



Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region

Traditional funding mechanisms for large-scale infrastructure and transportation projects have been challenged in recent years, encouraging states/provinces and regional jurisdictions to find innovative strategies to fund projects. Partnering with private funding sources has found success in Canada and select U.S. states, but a lack of regulation harmonization and disparate financing laws between PNWER U.S. member states presents challenges in coordinating infrastructure and transportation planning efforts.

Action Items	Project Lead	Status
1 Research the possibility of facilitating a gap analysis and detailed mapping of best practices by different levels of government in the region toward managing these various sustainability, resilience and adaptation risks from buildings and infrastructure. This analysis could use the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction as a guide to evaluating resilience and adaptation approaches in the region including consideration of codes and standards, disaster management programs, public and private insurance, LCA risk management tools etc.		In progress

ACTION ITEMS

[Session] Working Group 2016



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

The Invasive Species Council is a recent outgrowth of the PNWER working group formed to further increase awareness regarding invasive species in the ten states, provinces, and territories that comprise PNWER. Its task is to address the regional economic and environmental impact of invasive species and promote regional collaboration and sharing of best practices.

Action Items	Project Lead	Status
1 Encourage the states and provinces to pre-approve and create a stock pile of pre-approved materials that can be used for early detection and rapid response (Potash)		In progress
2 Each state to write a letter to Congress and the US Army Corps of Engineers to support allowing WRDA watercraft inspection money to also be used for rapid response in case of detection of Quagga Zebras in a water body in any of the 4 northwest states.		In progress
3 BC and Saskatchewan to talk to agricultural Ministers about growing forward. Use language that includes all invasive species, not just mussels. Determine what could be Canadian federal sources of matching funds for provinces and territories in their efforts at prevention.		In progress
4 Write a letter to US fish and wildlife, region 1, to prioritize filling the wildlife position for AIS		In progress
5 Compile, and seek funding for additional salmon habitat research, showing the impact of AIS and QZ in particular on salmon spawning grounds and habitat, which can positively impact available resources for prevention		In progress
6 Each state and province should compile a contact list of lead persons in the tribes and First Nations who should be interested in AIS prevention. Seek individual meetings, develop champions in the aboriginal community, and work toward a small meeting with tribes about the impacts of QZ, and enlist their sup-		In progress

For more information, visit [working group website] or contact [STAFF NAME]. E: [EMAIL] T: (206) 443-7723

ACTION ITEMS

Invasive Species Working Group 2016



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

Action Items		Project Lead	Status
7	States should work with PNWER to design materials for the CBP officers along the Northern Border about high risk boats, AIS, Clean, Drain, Dry		In progress
8	Case study on BC Public Private partnership that is supporting BC's prevention program		In progress
9	PNWER should write letter to US Secretary Sally Jewell urging containment at the source, federal responsibility in infected waterbodies. Demand process for boats leaving federal waterbodies must be certified and inspected.		In progress
10	PNWER should work with legislative leads and Governor's offices to develop an MOU between the 4 states creating an Advisory Council within PNWER for a Regional Prevention Strategy		In progress

For more information, visit [working group website] or contact [STAFF NAME]. E: [EMAIL] T: (206) 443-7723

ACTION ITEMS

Mining Working Group 2016



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

The Mining Working Group identifies best practices for environmental sustainability to improve the quality of life in the region, in concert with fostering economic development. The working group aims to show how development, when done responsibly, supports economic growth and increases the standard of living.

Action Items		Project Lead	Status
1	Encourage governments to have discussion on competitive pricing on carbon by getting executive staff and stakeholders to work together on a North American strategy.	Dave Ramsay	In progress
2	Organize an initial conference call to help develop a North American strategy.	Steve Myers	In progress
3	Mapping of the natural resources project update and follow up on past action items.	Steve Myers	In progress

ACTION ITEMS

Municipal Economic Development



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

Many of the states and provinces are each others' largest trading partners. PNWER's Trade and Economic Development Working Group collaborates with member states, provinces and territories to determine the best practices for economic development and inter-jurisdictional trade, as well as international trade between the region and international trading partners.

Action Items		Project Lead	Status
1	Collaborate with Workforce & Innovation working group on action items	Municipal Economic Development	In progress
2	Look at holding a session at the Winter Meeting in Boise.		In progress
3	Develop a template that municipal jurisdictions can contribute information regarding their asset inventory; identify metrics to include on template		In progress
4	Identify key stakeholders to engage in working group session moving forward		In progress
5	State of the Region report- a snapshot of economic development of the PNWER mega-region		In progress

For more information, visit www.pnwer.org/trade-and-economic-development.html or contact Rachael Kopp. E: Rachael.Kopp@pnwer.org T: (206) 443-7723

ACTION ITEMS

Natural Gas Working Group 2016



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

The competitive landscape of the global economy, coupled with worldwide environmental challenges, is creating unprecedented demand for scientific discovery and application. The Pacific Northwest region must channel the strengths of its many separate resources into a collaborative, comprehensive effort that maximizes the economic benefits of regional innovation. Through expanding the use of Natural Gas in new applications such as vehicles, mining operations and exporting the vast supply to new markets, we will be able to help maintain our environment, while increasing North American energy independence.

Action Items		Project Lead	Status
1	NWGA will reach out to industry associations to identify existing methane emissions research for distribution to PNWER		In progress
2	Explore a session on methane emissions regulations at next year's Summit including a: --Science panel --Regulatory panel --Industry panel		In progress
3	Organize a twice annual call with industry to identify issues in for the RCC on cross border transport of CNG and LNG		In progress
4	Convene a work group around value added opportunities for natural gas		In progress
5	Seek funding to develop a study to identify methane leaks in the system and share best practices with regional stakeholders		In progress

For more information, visit <http://www.pnwer.org/natural-gas.html> or contact Mark Stayton. E: mark.stayton@pnwer.org T: (206) 443-7723

ACTION ITEMS

Trade-TPP Session 2016



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

Action Items	Project Lead	Status
1 PNWER should express support for Trade and the RCC, reach out to federal legislators in Washington DC and Ottawa, and present specific ideas from the region for the Trudeau government and the next US president to expand RCC		In progress
2 Recognizing that the trade debate has become contentious in both countries, PNWER members should promote the wide array of information available from US and Canadian government websites with members, and ask the PNWER delegates to promote economic education to prepare the rising generation for the global economy		In progress

ACTION ITEMS

Tourism Working Group 2016



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

The Tourism Working Group helps address best practices and solutions to challenges in growing regional tourism. The group is working to develop tools that show tourism's economic impact on the region, encourage two-nation vacations and improve transportation between destinations in the region. The Tourism Working Group has worked on several projects to increase Asian tourism to the region.

Action Items	Project Lead	Status
<p>Tourism Working Group Governance</p> <p>PNWER calls on every member state and province to appoint a policy maker and industry representative to the Tourism Working Group for a two year term</p> <p>1 Once populated with PNWER-wide membership, the PNWER Tourism Working Group will develop a sustainable governance structure including a Charter (Vision) and Terms of Reference. Action point needs PNWER Board support</p>	<p>Paul Nursey, Dave Cowen and Gael Tarleton</p>	<p>In progress</p>
<p>Access Improvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore visa synchronization pilots under the principle of 'checked once/cleared twice' • Support the principle of developing a Trilateral Trusted Traveler program for North America • Restore visa processing to the Canadian Consulate in Seattle • Address impediments to Border entry such as misdemeanor convictions • Support for VRFID on Canadian travel documents <p>2</p>	<p>Dave Cowen, Gael Tarleton</p>	<p>In progress</p>

ACTION ITEMS

Tourism Working Group 2016



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

	Action Items	Project Lead	Status
3	<p>Communication on Trusted Traveler and Known Traveler.</p> <p>Develop a “How To Cross the Border” information packet for the tourism industry. Emphasis on NEXUS benefits and VRFID technology (Passport companion card and enhanced drivers licenses). Ensure consistent information for dissemination.</p>	<p>Andrew Little & James Phillips, Research on Trusted Traveler information coming from Laurie Trautman and Nicole Bates-Eamer</p>	<p>In progress</p>
4	<p>Product development</p> <p>Multimodal transportation. Investigate interest in dedicated project: Increased tourism rail access from Vancouver and Seattle to Montana, Yellowstone and Boise</p>	<p>Bruce Agnew, co chair of Transportation</p>	<p>In progress</p>
5	<p>Data and Collaboration:</p> <p>Find job and economic impact data on local, state, provincial and national levels</p> <p>Collaboration with universities to prepare for preclearance. University of Victoria and BPRI at WWU. Lead: Laurie Trautman and Nicole Bates-Eamer</p> <p>Work toward developing “portal” on the PNWER website Tourism Working Group page that industry, government and legislators can access.</p>	<p>Paul Nursey with support from Laurie Trautman and Nicole Bates-Eamer</p>	<p>In progress</p>

ACTION ITEMS

Transportation Working Group 2016



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

The transportation working group focuses on the infrastructure of our major corridors and gateways, with a special interest on border infrastructure. It is currently working to improve the Northwest Rail System through the Stimulus Package and examining future transportation investments.

Action Items		Project Lead	Status
1	Continue convening key stakeholders - local elected leadership, state regulators, energy producers, railways, federal government and rural communities, to share information on oil train safety and best practices. Organize a full day rail safety/rail capacity session at Boise Economic Leadership Forum and Portland Annual Summit.	Bruce Agnew, Sen. Winder, BNSF, Emergency Management Community, Oil Train Safety Symposium sponsors, Oil Train Safety Symposium speakers, Washington Rail Caucus	In progress
2	Develop PNWER Innovative Finance Task Force into Center of Excellence for performance-based innovative finance infrastructure. Secure federal funding through NW congressional delegation and PNWER state legislative support to match private sector underwriting. (West Coast Infrastructure Exchange, Salem) – w/Leslie Blakey CAGTC	West Coast Infrastructure Exchange, Salem; Leslie Blakey, CAGTC	In progress
3	Build upon previous successful transportation/ border policy tours - 2013 West Coast Border, Ports and Rail Tour and 2014 Border Security and International Market Access Tour by organizing a tour to the Port of Vancouver in October 2016.	NW Seaport Alliance and Washington Rail Caucus, and Canada Consul General - Seattle	In progress
4	Follow-up work on the Great Northern Corridor by supporting FAST Corridor NW. Coordinate support from state/federal/local and private rail industry for capacity improvements from Midwest to PNW ports (patterned after Asia Pacific Gateway and Corridors Initiative		In progress

ACTION ITEMS

Innovation and Workforce 2016



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

Action Items	Project Lead	Status
5	Promote harmonization of oversized truck permits, size & weights in the PNWER region. Idaho DOT will share best practices with the goal of leading harmonization initiatives among NW states. Utilize lessons learned from New West Partnership between Saskatchewan, Alberta and B.C. Topic to be discussed at Boise Economic Leadership Forum.	Idaho DOT In progress

ACTION ITEMS

University Presidents Working Group



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

Action Items	Project Lead	Status
1 Formalize the University Presidents Roundtable as a PNWER Working group with the format of addressing one issue and role academic communities could play in that issue followed but an open roundtable discussion. Add a Non-Academic Co-Chair that will coordinate with the President and the topic that will be suggested. Increase role of student engagement through paper and research presentations on topic		In progress
2 Work on solutions or best practices on how can universities/PNWER do better with communicating/narrating their work to the general public		In progress
3 Explore developing an inventory of cross border collaboration between universities		In progress

ACTION ITEMS

Water Policy Working Group 2016



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

Through its Water Policy Working Group, PNWER provides an important dialogue to address water policy issues throughout the Pacific Northwest region. By connecting with legislators, private-sector and universities, we work to identify best practices to improve water security, adaptation of climate change, and storage options. We also provide updates to the region on the Columbia River Treaty and explore linkages with other working groups, including Invasive Species.

Action Items		Project Lead	Status
1	Continue to address past action items		In progress
2	PNWER to inventory common water themes, between the jurisdiction (e.g. hydropower and water management, that are emerging issues in member jurisdictions		In progress

ACTION ITEMS

Innovation and Workforce 2016



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

The Workforce Development Working Group is identifying the barriers to addressing labor shortages, the key stakeholders, and specific actions that can be implemented to alleviate these shortages. How can we train and retrain the skilled workforce that will be needed to fuel the growth of tomorrow? What are the best practices of industry/government cooperation? How can we ensure greater professional mobility in terms of licensing requirements, as many projects cross multiple jurisdictions? PNWER works to find solutions to these issues and more.

Action Items		Project Lead	Status
1	Innovation Metrics: PNW State of the region study - put together individual jurisdiction data on economic modeling	Innovation Working group	In progress
2	Identify areas for highest demand in jobs and develop gap analysis - set an education attainment rate for the region - Develop a list of attainment rates across PNWER	Workforce	In progress
3	Showcase innovation best practices of remote and rural communities for economic development - i.e. Arctic energy	Innovation Working group	
4	Research easy ways to share workforce needs and match the jobs with the workers within the current regulations of each jurisdiction - Scoping Exercise on matchmaking	Workforce	

ACTION ITEMS

Innovation and Workforce 2016



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

Action Items	Project Lead	Status
<p>Professional Credential Recognition</p> <p>2005: Licensing Reciprocity - Urge licensing bodies to adopt reciprocal professional credential recognition for engineers who have successfully practiced for a set number of years. Assist licensing bodies in preparing amendments to rules or policies to enable reciprocity of licensure.</p> <p>2010 (amended 2011): Pursuant to PNWER's 2006 resolution calling on all PNWER jurisdiction licensing bodies for engineers to adopt policies or present amendments to their respective legislative bodies which allows them to waive the requirement for satisfaction of prescriptive credentials in education and examination if the applicant meets specific criteria adopted by each jurisdiction, PNWER continues to encourage Alaska, Washington, Oregon and Montana to join with Idaho in facilitating this resolution.</p> <p>Suggested Actions: - develop mobility objects to present to the jurisdictions - pursue mobility at higher levels - more national level (perhaps discuss with Regulatory Cooperation Council or Beyond the Border???) - engage ACEC in the various jurisdictions to promote mobility and obtain buy-in. - Push for implementation of cross border emergency protocols for engineers to respond to emergencies on both sides of the border</p>	<p>Shawna Argue and Colin Smith</p>	<p>In progress</p>