



2012 South Sound Science Symposium Speaker Biographies

MILLIE JUDGE – Lighthouse Natural Resource Consulting, Inc.

Millie Judge is an attorney with 22 years of experience in land use, environmental and municipal law. She currently serves as the Snohomish County Hearing Examiner. However, she was just elected to the Snohomish County Superior Court and will take the bench in January, 2013. Millie is a former Snohomish County Assistant Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, where she served for 11 years in the Civil Division. Prior to that time, she worked in private practice as a municipal attorney for various Puget Sound cities at Ogden Murphy Wallace, practiced litigation in several firms in Los Angeles, and served as a deputy prosecutor for Thurston County. Millie served as a law clerk to Chief Justice Fred H. Dore at the Washington State Supreme Court. In her spare time, Millie serves as an elected Commissioner for Snohomish County Fire District No. 1, and is a member of the SNOCOM 911 Dispatch Board of Directors. She is the Chair of the Washington State Bar Association's Land Use and Environmental Law Section. Millie received her B.A. Degree from the University of Washington and a J.D. Degree from Pepperdine University School of Law. Ms. Judge is licensed to practice law in the states of Washington and California.

ERIC GROSSMAN – U.S. Geological Survey

Dr. Eric Grossman is a coastal and marine geologist with the U.S. Geological Survey who leads the Interdisciplinary Studies of Large River Deltas Task of the USGS Coastal Habitats in Puget Sound Project. His research is focused on sediment transport, seafloor and habitat mapping, and modeling of coastal change to assess habitat structure and its likely response to climate change and land use including floodplain and estuary restoration. Grossman and his team have been active in examining sediment impacts to eelgrass, tidal flats, and benthic invertebrate food-prey resources resulting from river-delta channelization in the Skagit.

HUGH SHIPMAN – Washington State Department of Ecology

Hugh has been a coastal geologist with the Washington Department of Ecology since 1989. His interests include beaches, geologic hazards, coastal environmental issues, and nearshore restoration. He provides technical assistance and training to state and local agencies, resource managers, and coastal property owners, and works on a wide range of shoreline and scientific advisory groups. Hugh received his B.A. in Earth Sciences and Engineering from Dartmouth in 1981 and an M.S. in Geological Sciences from the University of Washington in 1986. Hugh grew up near the coast of Maine, but moved to Seattle in 1983. In his spare time, Hugh writes about beaches on his *Gravel Beach* blog.

BRANDEE ERA-MILLER – Washington State Department of Ecology

Brandee was awarded a combined bachelors of Art and Science in Natural History and Environmental Studies from the Evergreen State College in 1999. After working briefly as an intern for the City of Lacey Water Resources Department and then as a session aid during the 1999-2000 legislative session she began working for the Department of Ecology, Environmental Assessment Program, Toxics Studies Unit. She's been with the Toxics Studies Unit for the past 12 years. Brandee has authored many toxics studies reports for the Department of Ecology and has worked in watersheds all over the state. Currently she is working with the Spokane River Toxics Task Force and monitoring for PCBs, PBDEs, dioxins and metals in the Spokane River.

LINDA RHODES – NOAA Fisheries/Northwest Fisheries Science Center

For over 25 years, I have worked in aquatic toxicology and microbial pathogenesis using the tools of histopathology, gene expression analysis, and molecular genetics for finfish and shellfish. Over the past 12 years, research has focused on basic and clinical aspects of bacterial kidney disease in Pacific salmon. Most recently, I have initiated environmental microbiology research to improve our understanding of how bacteria and archaea communities respond to and cause changes in marine environments and food webs. Integration of microbial patterns into ecosystem studies can be complementary to abiotic and "big critter" studies.

SIMONE ALIN – NOAA Fisheries/Northwest Fisheries Science Center

Simone Alin is a Supervisory Oceanographer in marine chemistry at NOAA's Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory in Seattle. Her research focuses on coastal carbon cycle processes and ocean acidification, with an emphasis on West Coast and Puget Sound ecosystems. Simone received her B.S. from Stanford University in 1993 in Biological Sciences and a Ph.D. from University of Arizona in 2001 in Geosciences, where she studied the paleoecological record of biodiversity change in response to land-use change in an East African lake (Tanganyika). She then held a fellowship from the NOAA Climate and Global Change Postdoctoral Fellowship program to study large lake carbon cycling at the University of Minnesota Duluth's Large Lakes Observatory from 2001–2003. Following this, she studied the carbon cycles of large tropical river systems (Amazon, Mekong) at the University of Washington before commencing her current position at NOAA in 2007. At PMEL, Simone leads the coastal carbon research program of the PMEL Carbon Program and is actively involved in national and international efforts to synthesize marine carbon cycle data.

GLENN VAN BLARICOM – University of Washington

Glenn was born and raised in Shelton, Washington and attended the University of Washington (UW), receiving Bachelor of Science Degrees in Zoology and Oceanography in 1972. He completed his doctorate at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in 1978. In 1993, he became the first Assistant Leader for Wildlife at the USGS Washington Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit and joined the faculty of the UW School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences (SAFS). Glenn's primary research interests are in nearshore marine community dynamics, with emphases on natural disturbance processes and ecological mechanisms by which apex consumers influence lower trophic levels. Glenn currently serves on the IUCN Western Gray Whale Advisory Panel and is Chair of the ESA black abalone recovery team. He is past president of the Marine Section of the Society for Conservation Biology, served a total of twelve years as a Member of the Board of Governors of the Society for Marine Mammalogy, and served two terms on the Scientific and Statistical Committee of the Pacific Fishery Management Council. He currently advises four MS students in SAFS, involved in studies of geoduck clam aquaculture, walrus endocrinology, killer whale conservation biology, and the reproductive ecology of black abalone.

CASIMIR RICE – NOAA Fisheries/Northwest Fisheries Science Center

Casey Rice is a Research Fisheries Biologist at NOAA's Mukilteo Research Station. In twenty one years with NOAA he has been involved in research focusing on the biological effects of human activities in coastal marine and estuarine environments. Casey's current research areas include the estuarine ecology of juvenile Chinook salmon and other nearshore fishes and gelatinous zooplankton in Puget Sound, monitoring and assessment of estuarine restoration, relationships between urbanization and marine bird and waterfowl assemblages in nearshore Puget Sound, interactions among juvenile hatchery and wild salmon, and environmental history of the Puget Sound/Georgia Basin. Casey holds B.A. and B.S. degrees from The Evergreen State College (1989), an M.S. in fisheries from the University of Washington (1997), and a Ph.D. from the University of Washington's School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences (2007).

JIM WEST – Department of Fish and Wildlife

Jim West is a Research Scientist with the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife. His work relates to how human activities affect the healthy function of Puget Sound's ecosystem. His primary research is focused on toxic contaminants in the Sound's biota, in particular exposure patterns, effects on health, and long-term trends in these measures. He has been with WDFW since 1990. Jim has also studied artificial reefs, juvenile rockfish, drift algae habitats, rockfish growth and genetics, and Hawaiian reef fish communities. Jim received his B.Sc. in Marine Biology from Southampton College, Long Island, NY in 1980, and his M.Sc. in Zoology from the University of Hawaii in 1985.

ROB DUFF – Washington State Department of Ecology

Rob received a BS in Zoology from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst in 1986. Rob's interest's moved from cancer research to toxicology and, in 1993, he received an MS from the Department of Environmental Health at the University of Washington in Seattle. Rob's thesis was in the field of exposure assessment investigating the dermal uptake of contaminants from soil. Following his thesis work, Rob was employed by the State of New Hampshire in the Bureau of Health Risk Assessment with duties involving risk assessment, community education, grant writing and development of regulatory standards. After moving back to Washington in 1996, Rob did similar work as a toxicologist for the Washington State Department of Health eventually becoming Director of DOH's, Office of Environmental Health Assessments where he led a team of risk assessors, toxicologists, epidemiologists and health educators towards the goal of reducing human exposure to environmental contaminants. Rob currently manages the Environmental Assessment Program at the Department to Ecology. The EA Program provides critical monitoring and analytical capacity to measure toxics, nutrients and bacterial contamination in both marine and freshwater aquatic environments. Assessments of these data provided by program staff are the foundation for agency decision making to protect and enhance human health and the environment in Washington State.

NINA CARTER – Growth Management Hearings Board Member and Administrative Officer

In March 2009 Governor Christine Gregoire appointed Nina Carter to the Growth Management Hearings Board. She has more than two decades in public and non-profit sector management, public policy and environmental conservation in Washington State. From 1990-1994, she served on the Olympia City Council when the city was in the midst of adopting their first land use plans under the Growth Management Act. During the 1980-1990s, she served as a policy analyst and manager at the Departments of Fish and Wildlife, Ecology, Office of Marine Safety and Washington State Parks. Ms. Carter taught for 5 years as an adjunct professor in Environmental Studies at The Evergreen State College. From 2001-2009, Ms. Carter worked for the National Audubon Society, first as the Washington State lobbyist and policy director, then as the Executive Director. She received a Bachelor of Arts in economics and labor studies (1982) and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from The Evergreen State College (1984).

MINDY ROBERTS – Washington State Department of Ecology

Mindy's work focuses on the marine waters and watershed of Puget Sound, including investigations of low dissolved oxygen in South Puget Sound and the Salish Sea and toxics loads to Puget Sound. She has a BS in Civil Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley; MS in Civil and Oceanographic Engineering from MIT and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution; and Ph.D. in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Washington. She has 20 years experience developing computer models of how pollutants move in the environment. Mindy is a registered professional engineer and teaches stream ecology at UW Tacoma. She has worked with a fabulous steering committee of the region's best and brightest to offer the South Sound Science Symposium since 2008.