

**The 2010 South Sound Science Symposium**  
***“Understanding what matters with an eye to the future”***  
**October 27, 2010**  
**Squaxin Island Tribe’s Event Center**

## **CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**

- **Poster Session**
- ***South Puget Sound Abstracts***

A one-day symposium cannot hope to cover the full scope of scientific work underway in South Puget Sound. However, the South Sound Science Symposium does span a variety of important environmental topics and issues of interest to a broad audience. The purpose of this year’s Symposium is to address several questions regarding the South Sound watersheds and marine waters. Are ecosystem components reaching a tipping point or experiencing a gradual decline? What’s driving change in the South Sound ecosystem? What do we protect? How much can the ecosystem sustain?

This year we are asking poster presenters to address ***ecosystem stressors and responses***, and provide ***success stories in managing responses to stressors***. The Symposium also gives researchers an opportunity to share their work by means of a poster gala and an electronic collection of abstracts. To this end, we invite all scientists and technical staff from educational institutions, government and tribal natural resource agencies, non-profit groups, and the private sector to submit poster abstracts to the Symposium. Individuals from several agencies working on a joint project are encouraged to collaborate on an abstract. While abstracts should discuss research conducted in the South Sound, research conducted elsewhere that can be directly related to the South Sound is also acceptable. Reports on restoration activities are acceptable, as well, if the monitoring is sufficient to illuminate ecological functions.

### **Poster Session at the Symposium**

Abstract author(s) are encouraged to prepare a poster for the reception and poster gala.

**Those who wish to prepare a poster must 1) complete the Abstract Submission Form (see below) and 2) register for the Symposium.** Please note that we have room at the event for a limited number of posters and want to make sure that we cover the range of scientific research that is currently occurring in the South Sound region. Selection of abstracts for posters will be based on relevance to the major themes, quality of the abstract and, distinctiveness of the research. Authors are requested to be available to discuss their posters at the reception and poster gala, which begins at 4:30 pm the day of the Symposium.

### ***South Puget Sound Abstracts***

All accepted abstracts will be combined into an electronic document that will be accessible on the web by the time of the Symposium. The compilation will be a valuable resource for those interested in scientific work currently underway or recently completed in South Puget Sound.

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

- Submit abstracts by close of business Friday, September 10, 2010 to Tom Kantz (email: [TKANTZ@co.pierce.wa.us](mailto:TKANTZ@co.pierce.wa.us), phone: 253-798-4625). Use the ABSTRACT SUBMISSION FORM.
- Authors selected for posters will be invited by close of business Friday, September 26, 2010.
- Poster set up is the morning of the Symposium, Wednesday, October 27, 2010, and the reception and poster gala begins at 4:30 pm.

# GUIDELINES FOR POSTER PRESENTATIONS

## General Instructions

- An abstract must contain: title, author(s), and introduction – scope and purpose, i.e., question asked, brief description of methods, results and conclusion.
- An abstract is a single paragraph summary of your entire poster in 350 words or less. It is not an outline of what you are going to present. An abstract is a summary of the major or key points of your methods, results, and conclusions or discussion. It should be concise and focused.
  - In one sentence, describe the general topic you are presenting and why it is important.
  - In one to two sentences, write your scope and purpose of your study or project.
  - Describe in one to two sentences how you did your study (methods).
  - In one to two sentences explain your results, be specific and state only your main points.
  - Finally, in one sentence summarize what you found out about the general topic or question you studied (conclusion).
- Do not include literature citations or references to figures or tables. Remember, meeting participants generally decide whether or not to come to your talk by reading your abstract, and your abstract becomes part of the meeting program and is a permanent record of your presentation.
- Abstracts must use Standard English, and follow English syntax, grammar, and punctuation rules. Poorly written abstracts will be REJECTED.

## Poster Size and Format

- Limit your poster size to 48 inches x 48 inches.
- Presenters are required to assemble and disassemble their own poster.
- Push-pins and poster boards will be provided at the meeting.
- All text must be in English.
- Poster headings should include a title, author's name(s), affiliation(s), and contact information.
- Titles should be > 60 point font and have surrounding space for clarity.
- Use Arial or another san-serif font for titles and headings for clarity and readability.
- Use Times Roman or another serif font for main body text (> 24 point font) so it is legible from at least six feet away.
- Use 24-26 point font for chart axis titles, to match the text.
- Choose figures over tables whenever possible.
- A poster is not a paper: avoid too much information in text and tables; summarize using bullets and multiple smaller tables.
- Text color should contrast well against its background.
- Images and graphics should be large and high quality.
- Put captions under all graphics and credit photos when possible.

- Consider symmetry when laying out your poster, try to balance elements like text boxes, images, etc. so they flow and are easy to follow.
- Seek peer review for your poster for content, design, and readability.
- KEEP IT SIMPLE- Limit yourself to one topic or hypothesis.

### **KEY INFORMATION**

- An evening poster gala is scheduled for October 27<sup>th</sup> beginning at 4:30 pm. There will be additional poster viewing opportunities during the lunch hour, and morning and afternoon breaks.
- Setup Time: early in the morning during registration, but no later than 10:30 am, October 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Poster Mounting: push-pins and poster boards will be provided at the meeting.
- Poster presenters are requested to be present to discuss their posters during the reception and poster gala on Wednesday evening, October 27<sup>th</sup>. Leave business or other cards if you can't stay near your poster.
- Breakdown Time: Any time after the evening reception and poster gala.