

December 2020

NISQUALLY CHAPTER OF THE  
ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL &  
ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS

The Official

# AEG Nisqually Chapter Newsletter

## December Meeting Details

Tuesday, December 1st

**Location: Go To Meeting**

**You must RSVP to**

[aegniskally@gmail.com](mailto:aegniskally@gmail.com)

**By 3pm Dec. 1st**

**Put RSVP in the subject line**

**6:00 Presentation**

**Dinner: At your home**

**FREE for Member or Non-Member**

## Upcoming Meetings:



## December Meeting – A 2020 Retrospective.

With all of the social isolation and the distinct lack of AEG Nisqually in-person meetings, we risk losing track of what everyone has been up to. This month, we will hold a fairly casual AEG Nisqually Chapter meeting where we will pass the microphone and some photos around the virtual campfire and swap stories.

Whether it is photogenic landscapes and field work, construction photos, your quarantined home office experience, or just pics of your cat, we would love to see your photos and hear about it. We want to use this meeting as an opportunity to get together and catch up. I know that there are several of us who have some good 2020 stories and photos to share. I hope everyone will go through the past 12 months of photos and pick a few out to share. We would like to hear from you. Some of you have already offered to share stories and photos at our December meeting. Thanks for that. We may ask you to go first!

## Message from the Chair

### What a year!

Greetings, AEG Nisqually! Well... I don't have to tell any of you that 2020 has been, by most accounts, a challenging and perilous year. All of us have had to adjust to the pandemic over the past eight months, which affects each of us in different ways. Whether you are a student, a teacher, a working geologist, or retired, you have a different kind of practice now. Although a lot of traditional geology can be done in marvelous and safe social isolation, other standard traditions of the geosciences, such as field trips and monthly AEG meetings, have been completely overhauled or scrapped. On top of that, we have had civil unrest, far too many wildfires, and a political circus culminating in an election that forced us to reschedule our November meeting!

It is times like these that I like to look toward science news for a ray of hope. Hmm, probably not the climate news, though... Let's see, there's the seemingly sudden appearance of at least three promising COVID-19 vaccines. Now that puts a positive spin on things! Sign me up! Then, there's the ongoing ETS slow-slip event that Pat Pringle recently made me aware of (indirectly). What other great science news have we had in the past few weeks? Microplastics on Everest? Aw, man. Let's change the subject.

### Local industry news

I don't exactly have my finger on the pulse like some people around here do, but I have heard a *rumor* that the South Puget Sound Community College (SPSCC) is considering doing away with their geology department. Come on, SPSCC! You can't turn out brewers and not teach them about geology! Whether this is true or not, ex-Chair extraordinaire, Trevor, had this data to offer on the topic:

Based on the age demographics of the current geoscience workforce, with an average retirement age of 65, 27% of the existing geoscience workforce will be retiring by 2029. The number of geoscience graduates entering the workforce each year will not be sufficient to fill the gap created by these retirements and the addition of over 22,000 new jobs that are projected to be created in the profession by 2029. As a result, the expected geoscience workforce deficit will be approximately 130,000 full-time equivalent geoscientists by 2029.

Also, based on what we have seen happening in other states, how does everyone feel about a CEU requirement for maintaining your geology licensure? Let's discuss!

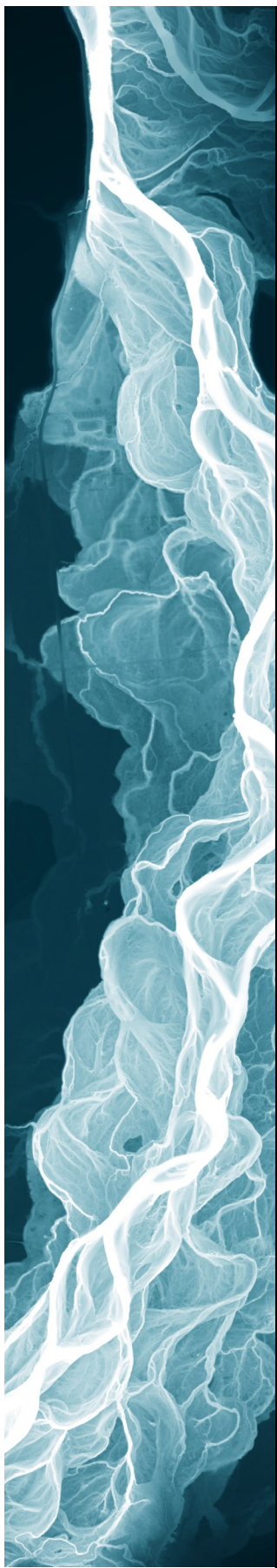
### Choose AEG Nisqually!

After years of fighting traffic on I-5 to get up to Seattle and back for AEG Puget Sound Chapter meetings, we split off and made our own AEG Chapter. We have had a great first few years of meeting at local restaurants, remote meetings, and making our own way. We won the "Chapter on the Rise" Award in 2018! Life is good at AEG Nisqually. Well, we recently learned that five or six of us are still listed as members of the Puget Sound Chapter. This *must* be a mistake, as I know that you are all loyal Nisqually Chapter members! I mean, Trevor was one of them. Please, when you renew your AEG membership next time, be sure to select Nisqually as your Chapter. It puts \$20 into the Chapter coffers and keeps our numbers up.

It's great to be part of AEG Nisqually! I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Gabe Taylor

taylorg@wsdot.wa.gov



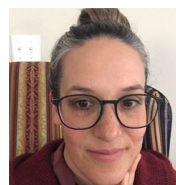
## Section Officers & Committee Chairs



Chair:  
Gabriel Taylor  
WSDOT



Vice Chair:  
Brittany Dayley  
Washington DNR  
Brittany.Dayley@dnr.wa.gov



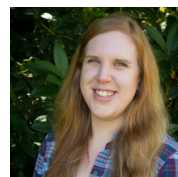
Treasurer:  
Samantha Denham  
Mud Bay Geotechnical  
denhamsamm@gmail.com



Secretary:  
Ashley Cabibbo  
Washington Geological Survey  
Ashley.Cabibbo@dnr.wa.gov



Newsletter:  
Kate Mickelson  
Washington Geological Survey  
Kate.Mickelson@dnr.wa.gov



Virtual Meetings Chair:  
Kara Jacobacci  
Washington Geological Survey  
Kara.Jacobacci@dnr.wa.gov

Field-Trip Chair:  
Vacant

**National AEG webpage:**  
<http://aegweb.org>

## The AEG Nisqually Chapter Newsletter

The Association of Engineering Geologists (AEG) contributes to its members' professional success and the public welfare by providing leadership, advocacy, and applied research in environmental and engineering geology. AEG's values are based on the belief that its members have a responsibility to assume stewardship over their fields of expertise. AEG is the acknowledged international leader in environmental and engineering geology, and is greatly respected for its stewardship of the profession.

AEG NISQUALLY CHAPTER NEWSLETTER is published monthly from September through April. Subscriptions are for members of AEG affiliated with the Nisqually Chapter or other Chapters, and other interested people. E-mail subscriptions are free.

Mailing List sign up link: <http://eepurl.com/c5gyKn>

