

July 2020
Volume 3, Number 8

NISQUALLY CHAPTER OF THE
ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL &
ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS

The Official

AEG Nisqually Chapter Newsletter

July Meeting Details

Tuesday, July 7th

Location: Go To Meeting

You must RSVP to

aegniskally@gmail.com

By 3pm July 7th

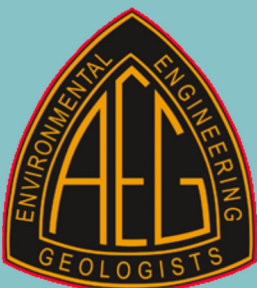
Put RSVP in the subject line

6:00 Presentation

Dinner: At your home

FREE for Member or Non-Member

Upcoming Meetings:



Characterizing Engineering Properties of Geologic Deposits in Washington State

The WSDOT Geotechnical Office has initiated the long-term project of associating geotechnical data from drilling and lab testing with specific geologic deposits. The intent is to use decades of historic data, as well as data from current and future field explorations, to develop generalized engineering properties for significant geologic deposits in Washington State. Challenges are posed by incorporating records that go back to the 1930s, quantifying data quality, and associating samples with mapped geologic units. We chose the Bellingham Glaciomarine Drift as our pilot deposit. In this brief presentation, Gabe Taylor will share the overall approach and the first round of results.

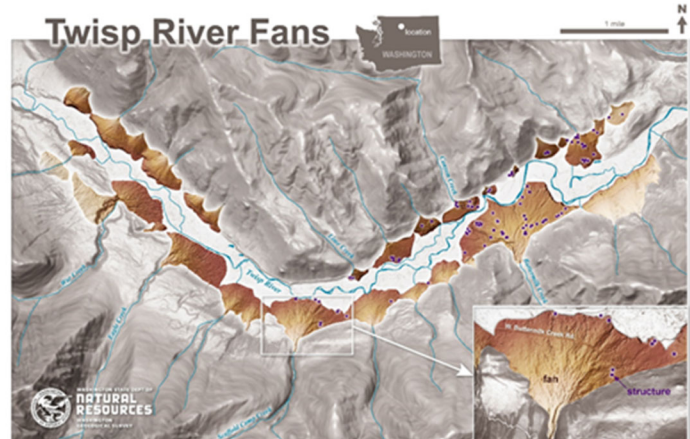
Update on the Activities of the Washington Geological Survey's Landslide Hazard Program with focus on the Wildfire Associated Landslide Emergency Response Team (WALERT)

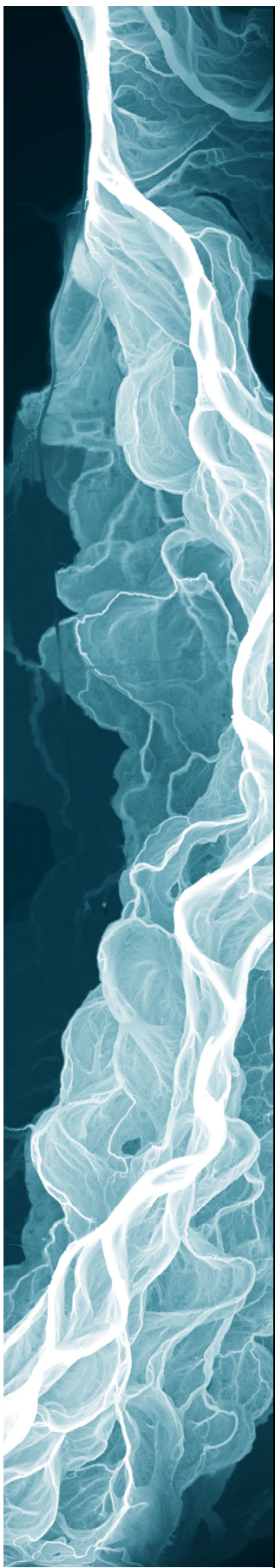
The Washington Geological Survey's Landslide Hazard Program (LHP) was formed in response to the devastating 2014 SR530 Landslide near Oso, Washington. Currently, the program consists of five full-time geologists who map landslide hazards and respond to landslide emergencies. To date LHP has produced several publications, including a landslide inventory protocol detailing their method for mapping landslides. The program has also completed four lidar-based landslide inventories, mapping over 7,500 landslides in an area where 51 percent of the state's population lives. LHP also incorporates alluvial and debris fan mapping into the landslide inventory. To serve the public interest, LHP conducts community meetings and coordinates mapping with local cities, counties, and other stakeholders in addition to publishing final inventories on a website for viewing and downloading.

During wildfire season the LHP evaluates post-wildfire debris flow potential for communities and infrastructure as part of WALERT program. Similar to the U.S. Forest Service's Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) teams this

program evaluates impacts to communities downstream of wildfires. We partner with USFS BAER teams and the USGS to provide input on public safety issues outside of national forest boundaries, on private and state-managed lands.

The Washington Geological Survey's website is an open repository for up-to-date landslide information throughout the State. LHP tracks recent landslides and displays them on the website, helping citizens, emergency managers, and the media to monitor landslide activity across Washington.





Bio: Gabe Taylor

Gabe works as an Engineering Geologist for the Washington State Department of Transportation. A graduate of Western Washington University, he is a licensed Engineering Geologist with 12 years of experience working with geologic hazards along state highways and managing geotechnical elements of transportation-related construction projects.



Bio: Trevor Contreras

Trevor is a Licensed Engineering Geologist with the Landslide Hazards Program at the Washington Geological Survey, where he studies landslides and helps communities understand and mitigate landslide hazards. He has worked for the WGS since 2006 in various positions and in the Forest Practices Division helping foresters understand landslides and evaluate timber harvest proposals. Prior to working for the Survey, he worked for the Washington Department of Ecology, regulating well drilling and water well construction.



Message from the Chair

Board Meeting

After months of social isolation the board met in person and about 10 feet away from one another June 19th at Burfoot Park north of Olympia. It was nice to see the faces of the people who work to keep the group moving forward.

We're expecting that we won't have in person meetings for the duration of this year. Hopefully that will change, we'll see. We'd like to keep the chapter connected and moving forward together and are looking for ways to do this. If you'd like to get involved by becoming a Social Media Chair, and starting a Facebook page, let us know.

Board Elections

We'll send out an email next month asking you to vote for board members. Likely July 15th unless I'm on vacation fossil hunting. If that happens, then look for an email later in the month. I don't expect a lot of write-ins to upset the elections but we'll see. Barring an upset, Gabe Taylor will be Chair in the coming year.

Brittany Dayley has volunteered to be vice-chair in the coming year. She moved to Washington in early February of this year to start working as the Olympic Regional Geologist for DNR. She's spent the last 5+ years working in mining, both as an underground geotechnical/ground control engineer in northeastern Nevada and as a Production Geologist/Voids Drilling Engineer at a surface mine in Colorado. She got her BS degree in Geology from the University of Oregon, and completely fell in love with the Pacific Northwest during that time.

Ashley Cabibbo and Sam Denham are willing to continue serving the chapter as secretary and treasurer for the coming year. I appreciate their dedication and service to group.

I look forward to Gabe and Britt's leadership and the direction of the chapter coming year and Ashley and Sam keeping the group moving forward.

AEG Facebook

Consider signing to the AGE Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/AEGweb/>

Virtual Meetings:

Kara Jacobacci, past Nisqually Chapter Chair has volunteered to be the Virtual Meeting Czar. She'll be setting up and making sure the virtual meetings work smoothly. Thanks for your service Kara!

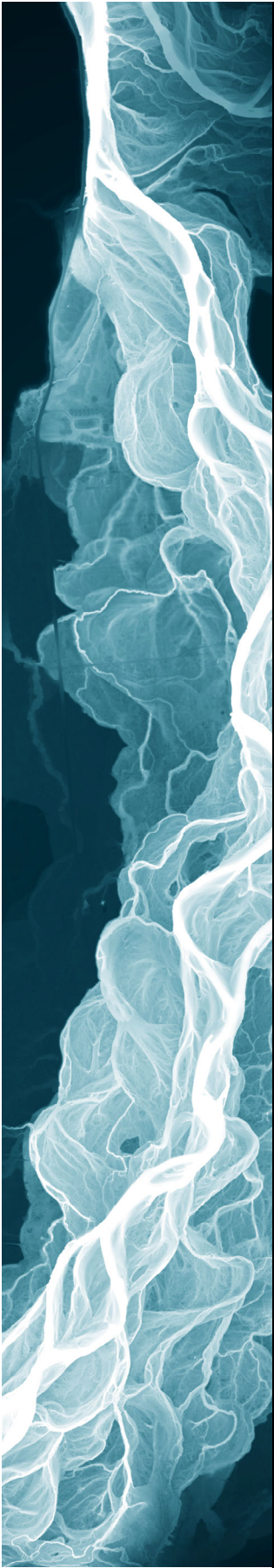
Looking for volunteers:

We're still looking for a field trip chair. Now's the time to be dreaming up a socially distanced field trip for this fall or next spring. You can scope the position however you would like. Please contact Gabe (gabe.cascadian@gmail.com) or me to talk about this position if you are at all interested in organizing field trips.

Stay well and rock on,

Trevor

trevor.contreas@dnr.wa.gov



Section Officers & Committee Chairs



Chair:

Trevor Contreras

Washington Geological Survey

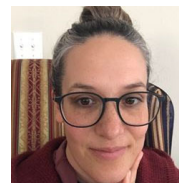
Trevor.Contreras@dnr.wa.gov



Vice Chair:

Gabriel Taylor

WSDOT



Treasurer:

Samantha Denham

Mud Bay Geotechnical

denhamsamm@gmail.com



Secretary:

Ashley Cabibbo

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Newsletter and Technology Chair:

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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>**

