

Pacific Northwest B-WET Grants (FY 2010 funds)

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) grant program promotes locally relevant, experiential environmental education in kindergarten through Grade 12. Funded projects provide meaningful watershed educational experiences for students, teachers and communities. The criteria for these competitive awards emphasize sustained, hands-on, environmental activities that are aligned with appropriate academic learning standards including science, technology, engineering and math (STEM)

NOAA B-WET responds to regional education and environmental priorities through local implementation. In 2008, B-WET expanded into the Pacific Northwest. In 2010, six new projects were selected for funding, along with three continuing projects, originally funded in 2008.

Organization Served	Federal Funding	State
Stillaguamish-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force	\$59,955	Washington
Washington State Department of Ecology	\$93,334	Washington
Salish Sea Expeditions	\$60,000	Washington
Edmonds Community College	\$60,000	Washington
Oregon Department of State Lands/South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve	\$60,000	Oregon
The Freshwater Trust	\$61,787	Oregon
Pacific Education Institute	\$99,288	Washington
Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership	\$59,888	Oregon and Washington
Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association	\$60,000	Washington

Total Funding: \$614,252

Stillaguamish-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force

Project Title: *Watershed Ecologists in Training (WET)*

Principal Investigator: Ms. Cara Ianni

The goal of WET is for students and teachers to become more ocean-literate through increasing their knowledge of estuaries and watersheds and how these ecosystems affect their daily lives. From the source to Puget Sound, students will explore watershed connections through hands-on activities, service projects, student driven field investigation, data analysis and creating interpretive signs.

Washington State Department of Ecology

Project Title: *Puget Sound K-12 Watershed and Estuary Education for Teachers and Students*

Principal Investigator: Mr. Glen Alexander

Teachers will be guided to use training materials including *The Estuary Guide* curriculum to ensure effective use of pre-, post- and on-site student activities. Teachers will be trained each year through Teachers on the Estuary Workshops (TOTE) in extensive interdisciplinary watershed and estuary studies and assist in the development of new lessons that address targeted state standards. Lessons will allow students to participate in field-based experiential learning about watersheds, estuaries, and stewardship behaviors.

Salish Sea Expeditions

Project Title: *Salish Sea Expeditions Sound and Source Project*

Principal Investigator: Mr. Stephen Streufert

Project activities include a 3-5 day research expedition on Puget Sound, 3-5 days of pre- and post-trip planning and synthesis in classrooms, and follow-up research at a local watershed site. In addition, an end-of-year symposium will be held at which students share their research findings with the public and learn from each other and from professional scientists.

Edmonds Community College

Project Title: *Washington Watershed Education Teacher Training Program (WWETT)*

Principal Investigator: Dr. Thomas Murphy

The WWETT project provides a hands-on professional development experience for K-12 educators, with three components: (1) An intensive two-day marine-based workshop in their local area which teaches and models best practices in Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences (MWEE); 12 workshops offered each year. (2) A credit-based online course in which participants develop a MWEE unit. (3) Follow-up support for

teachers in implementing in-the-field MWEE curriculum with their students and community partners. Over three years we expect the WWETT project to serve 690 teachers (480 in workshops, 150 in the online course only), 150 environmental stakeholders/community partners, and 108 college student-mentors. SEA staff and LEAF college students will serve as a link between schools and community partners to help create and support meaningful, ongoing partnerships

Oregon Department of State Lands/South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve

Project Title: *The Oregon Coastal Education Initiative – Advancing Our Understanding through Ecosystem-based Learning*

Principal Investigator: Mr. Tom Gaskill

The Oregon Coastal Education Initiative (OCEI) will develop and disseminate a set of educational modules designed to incorporate a combination of classroom-based, distance learning, and coastal field experiences. The modules will advance the quality and frequency of coastal and watershed education activities in public schools by providing 50 teachers with the tools, training, resources, and on-line support necessary to incorporate coastal watershed education experiences into their curriculum for at least 1250 students.

Pacific Education Institute

Project Title: *Coastal Ecosystem Education: Teaching Watershed and Ocean Literacy through Hands-On Student Projects*

Principal Investigators: Ms. Lynne Ferguson, Dr. Margaret Tudor

Funding will be used to train teachers, project mentors, and field experts to support student projects that collect real field science data and improve the local environment. Projects will be used to educate students, teachers and community members about watershed and ocean issues.

Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership

Project Title: *Lower Columbia River Watershed Stewardship Program*

Principal Investigator: Ms. Debrah Marriott

Over 400 4th and 5th grade students representing communities along the Lower Columbia River estuary in Oregon and Washington will learn about their local watershed, watershed issues and becoming watershed stewards through classroom lessons, outdoor field experiences, on-the-water canoe experiences, service learning and a Student Watershed Summit for peer information sharing.

Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association

Project Title: *Students for Salmon*

Principal Investigator: Ms. Rachel Vasak

Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association will use its B-WET funding to provide 4th through 6th grade students in Whatcom County schools with watershed stewardship outdoor education opportunities. Students will learn how to protect and restore watersheds through direct experiences assessing the health of their local stream and near-shore marine environments.

Map: Oregon and Washington Counties Served by FY2010 PNW B-WET Programs

