



NOAA

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NOAA B-WET program awards \$514,667 to Washington and Oregon organizations for environmental education

NOAA's Pacific Northwest Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) program announced \$514,667 in awards to Washington and Oregon organizations to assist with community-based environmental education programs.

The grants support standards-based, hands-on education activities that promote greater understanding about watersheds, the ocean and protected areas such as national marine sanctuaries.

Funding was awarded to academic, tribal and nonprofit groups serving under-represented students and communities. Programs will provide Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences (MWEEs) for students, related professional development for teachers, and help to support regional education and environmental priorities in the Pacific Northwest, including ocean acidification and ecosystem resiliency. The recipients are:

Washington

- Dungeness River Audubon Center (\$53,272) to improve understanding of the North Olympic Watershed through experiential learning targeting fourth and fifth grade students and teachers in four school districts on the North Olympic Peninsula
- Environmental Science Center (\$49,383) to implement Salmon Heroes, a four-part, six-hour education and stewardship program for students, and related teacher professional development training for teachers in underserved areas of south King County
- Lummi Indian Business Council (\$59,948) to engage Lummi Nation elementary and middle school students and teachers in active stewardship of the environment, focusing on the impacts of poor water quality and development in the watershed on the health of salmon and shellfish
- Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group (\$59,984) for watershed education for first - eleventh grade students, and related professional development for teachers in 17 school districts in eastern Washington
- Nisqually River Foundation (\$59,715) to create an informed community of 50+ teachers through water quality, ocean acidification, and ecosystem resiliency focused trainings leading to student MWEE implementation in South Puget Sound.
- Northwest Maritime Center (\$60,000) to improve and protect the future of Puget Sound by increasing ocean acidification and ecosystem resiliency literacy through the integration of MWEEs into the South Whidbey Public School District curriculum
- Port Townsend School District #50 (\$59,968) to deliver high quality professional development to cohort teachers and long-term classroom integrated MWEEs for students, with an emphasis on ecosystem resiliency, ocean acidification and solutions.

Oregon:

- Discover Your Northwest / Cascade Head Biosphere Reserve (\$59,782) to will engage Lincoln County School District teachers and students in experiencing first-hand the inner workings of the water cycle, how it generates weather systems, creates watersheds, and supports the life cycle of wild salmon
- National Wildlife Federation (\$52,615) to engage K-12 schools in the Portland-Metro area in meaningful project-based learning that contributes to a greater understanding of and stewardship of watersheds within the Columbia River Basin

The NOAA [B-WET Program](#) was established in 2002 to improve the understanding of environmental stewardship of students, teachers and communities across the United States through education. The Pacific Northwest B-WET regional program is managed by NOAA's Office of Education and NOAA's Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary.

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