



2022-2023

Executive Seminar in Natural Resources Leadership

Building Back Resilience: Transitioning to New Ways of Operating in an Uncertain World

The Executive Seminar in Natural Resources Leadership (ESP) is a case-study based professional program run by Portland State University's Hatfield School of Government that helps mid-career natural resource leaders explore and expand leadership competencies and establish pathways for career-long leadership learning and development.

Each year, the program visits communities throughout the west to connect with local leaders wrestling with their own natural resource challenges. Through presentation, conversation and guided study—and peer-to-peer sharing and teamwork—cohort members deepen their sense of leadership, build networks of support, and witness many different styles and approaches to solving complex leadership challenges.

Teanaway Community Forest: Community Engagement & Decision Making

October 17-21, 2022 Based in Cle Elum, Washington

When a large block of private forest land in Central Washington was put up for sale in 2009, partners working on the Yakima Basin Plan rallied together to leverage public funding to acquire the lands as Washington's first community forest. In 2013, the State of Washington purchased 50,241 acres of privately owned forest land creating the Teanaway Community Forest. Today the Teanaway is a critical investment in future water quantity and quality in the Yakima Basin and provides a range of other values for local communities and for recreational visitors. Keeping that coalition operating during the pandemic—and making often difficult management decisions—has required new cooperation and leadership energy. We'll explore how disparate partners helped make the Teanaway a reality, how community engagement underlines this community forest, and leadership lessons from the last five years, including the challenge and interruption of pandemic times.

West Coast Groundfish Recovery: Partnering Back from Brink

February 13-17, 2023 Based in Newport, Oregon

Commercial fishers off the West Coast operate the only certified sustainable trawl fishery in the world, which is particularly significant given the collapse of rockfish stocks in the early 2000s and complete closure of the

groundfish fishery. Since then, a significant collaborative effort involving research, commercial fishers, NGOs and regulatory agencies has resulted in thriving and recovered groundfish populations that have led to businesses that support communities up and down the west coast. This case will explore the history of the groundfish collapse and recovery; the complexities and effectiveness of how the regulatory environment works; the use of new technologies that assist with monitoring and catch forecasting; the development of the Community Supported Fisheries movement; and the role of science and research in recovery.

Restoring the Willamette River: From Mitigation to Stewardship

May 15-19, 2023 Based in the Mid-Willamette Valley

Once a diverse and culturally important resource, Oregon's Willamette River system has experienced dramatic changes that continue to affect the valley landscape, water quality, fish and wildlife habitat and human communities. Periodic investments of leadership, regulation and resources in the last half-century have tried to mitigate impact in the system and accommodate changing needs. Today, state and federal agencies, tribal governments, non-profit and advocacy organizations, land trusts and local governments have established networks that bridge beyond the historic patchwork of mitigation to a wider sense of stewardship and culturally-informed practice. The goal is to scale up resilience in the face of climate change and support overall ecosystem function. Key to this has been acquisition and restoration of 25,000 acres of Willamette Valley habitat through a 15-year, \$117 million Bonneville Power Administration funding agreement. During this week we'll take a measure of the challenges and opportunities facing the Willamette River, examine and visit specific restoration work, and explore the leadership aspects of scaling from mitigation to stewardship in a complex mix of land ownership, land use, jurisdiction and need.

"ESP Connect" Sessions

In December and again in March, the ESP cohort will meet for a three hour block via Zoom to hear from guest presenters, engage in small group work and continue the momentum of leadership learning.



Registration & Cost

The 2022-2023 program fee is \$10,000, or \$3,820.00 per individual case. Participants may register for the full program or any one of the individual cases. All participants are encouraged to join the final Capstone session in June at no additional cost.

Capstone Session

PSU Campus, June 30, 2023

The capstone session integrates the leadership lessons learned over the course of the program with the practical challenges participants face in their agencies. Participants come prepared to discuss issues from their own work experience and apply principles from the year's cases to these issues. This summative learning experience also allows the cohort to connect and network, and transition into their role as ESP alums.

More About ESP

Recurring themes include understanding the role of civic capacity, collaborative governance, empathy, engaging diversity, leadership self-awareness and situational awareness, operating in uncertainty and ambiguity, and coping with risk.

A total of four seminars are held during the program year. Three seminars of approximately one week each are held on site to explore each case. A fourth one-day session is held on the Portland State campus to conclude the program with a review of leadership principles, techniques for policy resolution, and a summarization of insights gained by the participants. Finally, two three-hour "ESP Connect" sessions are held via Zoom during the year to connect recent program material with future sessions, continue the leadership learning, and allow a platform for ongoing cross-cohort interaction and support.

Executive Seminar Program Team



DOUG DECKER | PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Doug served as Oregon State Forester from 2011 to October 2016. During his 29-year career with the agency he led the development of the Tillamook Forest Center, and acquisition of the 70,000-acre Gilchrist State Forest in Central Oregon. Doug's three decades of experience in all aspects of natural resource policy, and his credentials as a collaborative leader of a complex state agency, as well as being an alum of the Executive Seminar Program, allow him to bring insight, practical experience and a passion for communication and learning to program participants. Contact: ddoug@pdx.edu | 503-901-5510



ERIN STEINKRUGER | ACADEMIC LEAD

Erin Steinkruger serves as the Academic Lead for the Executive Seminar Program. She was born and raised in the foothills of the Chugach Mountains in Anchorage, Alaska and studied Political Science at Lewis & Clark College in Portland before pursuing a PhD in Public Affairs and Policy at PSU. Her research focuses on environmental governance and public service leadership development. She is also a co-founder and Programs Director at the Tatoosh School in southeastern Alaska and an adjunct instructor in Civic Leadership at Portland State. Contact: est2@pdx.edu | 907-406-9075



JOSH METZLER | PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Josh is a Program Coordinator at PSU Center for Public Service. He currently supports programs focused on leadership development, natural resources, and disaster resilience, such as the US Army Corps of Engineers Leadership Development Program, Executive Seminar Program, National Policy Process, and the Initiative for Community and Disaster Resilience. Josh was born and raised in Japan and moved to Oregon in 1999. He earned his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering at PSU in 2013. Contact: jmetzler@pdx.edu | 503-725-5190

Register by August 15th: www.pdx.edu/cps/esp