

ACTION ITEMS

Agriculture Working Group 2017



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

Over the past several years the Agriculture Working Group has focused on the Canada-US Regulatory Cooperation Council Action Plan and continues to provide input on agriculture related topics.

The group released a statement in support of the RCC to the region's agriculture sectors, calling on the governments of Canada and the U.S. to reaffirm their commitment by ensuring adequate resources are dedicated to the action plan's initiatives.

Action Items		Project Lead	Status
1	Representatives from agriculture sectors of the Pacific North West Economic Region (PNWER), in both the United States (U.S.) and Canada, recognize the importance of trade and the benefits currently realized under the North American Free Trade Agreement. Members of the PNWER Agriculture Working Group urge both the U.S. and Canadian federal governments to proceed quickly with modernizing NAFTA and commit to do no harm to the integrated North American agriculture industries.		In progress
2	Members of PNWER urge leaders in both the U.S. and Canada to push for science based regulation in the agriculture sector and continue to advance regulatory alignment and cooperation. It is important for the U.S. and Canada to work together and take a leadership role internationally on these issues to ensure that plant and animal health restrictions are based on fact, not feeling. These issues include maximum residue levels, low level presence policies and the advancement of science based standards, guidelines and codes of practice adopted by the Codex Alimentarius Commission and the OIE World Organization for Animal Health.		In progress

ACTION ITEMS

Border and Trade Working Group 2017



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

Action Items	Project Lead	Status
1	The working group will continue to explore ways to improve cross-border flows. This includes utilizing the PNWER preclearance task force to focus on implementation of preclearance across the region by coordinating with CBP and CBSA and regional carriers.	In progress
2	The working group will engage with stakeholders to highlight the progress made under Beyond the Border and heighten awareness of the importance of developing the next guiding framework for policy action on the border. PNWER encourages both countries to recommit to a focus on regulatory cooperation and the principles of the Beyond the Border and Perimeter Security Declaration	In progress
3	The work of the PNWER NAFTA Modernization Task force should include a focus/engage stakeholders on how changing trade policy may impact agriculture and rural areas.	In progress
4	PNWER encourages stakeholders to reach out to policy makers and industry in the U.S. on a district by district basis to promote the importance of Canadian trade, using the resource tool developed by the Business Council of Canada	In progress
5	Join Action Item with Tourism: Seek funding to develop a digital resource guide for cross-border travel which will include an explanation of entry requirements, how they vary by mode of entry, customs requirements, etc.	In progress

ACTION ITEMS

Disaster Resilience Working Group



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

The Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER) launched the Regional Disaster Resilience and Homeland Security Program in November 2001 with the goal of improving the Pacific Northwest's ability to withstand and recover and to protect its critical infrastructures from all-hazards disasters. Based in Seattle, Washington, PNWER is a statutory, non-profit public/private organization that was formed in 1991 by legislatures of the northwest states of Alaska, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Canadian provinces and territories of Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Yukon & Northwest Territories.

Action Items	Project Lead	Status
1 Conduct an Energy and Transportation Workshop with Stephen Flynn on September 28th with a focus on critical infrastructure interdependencies	Eric Holdeman	In progress
2 Coordinate and Conduct Disaster Recovery Earthquake Exercise, Blue Cascades VII in February in 2018	Eric Holdeman	In progress
3 Establish a Module on Disaster Resilience for LEHI & Telecom Institute	Eric Holdeman	In progress
4 2018 Summit: Sessions on insurance & Home Health and Interdependencies	Eric Holdeman	In progress
5 Explore the establishment of a PNWER Resilience Action Statement for Adoption by States, Provinces and Territories - Overall guideline and basic principles for resilience	Eric Holdeman	In progress

ACTION ITEMS

Municipal Economic Development
Working Group 2016



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

Many of the states and provinces are each others' largest trading partners. PNWER's Trade and Economic Development Working Group collaborates with member states, provinces and territories to determine the best practices for economic development and inter-jurisdictional trade, as well as international trade between the region and international trading partners.

Action Items	Project Lead	Status
1	Continue to utilize PNWER as a forum for the sharing of Best Practices from economic development organizations from around the region, states, and provinces. Hold a roundtable of economic development directors at 2018 Summit.	In progress
2	Develop a panel of legislators at future PNWER meeting on breaking down political barriers to economic growth	In progress
3	Develop a list/resource hub to display on PNWER website sharing financing and lending opportunities for small businesses and rural communities	In progress
4	Expand on the topic of financing, funding mechanisms, and access to capital in the PNWER region. Include crowd sourcing (internet fundraising), VCs, angel investors, and community development corporations in future meetings	In progress
5	Collaborate with Workforce Development working group to identify potential subject matter experts for Oregon Manufacturing Innovation Center (OMIC) and Scappoose region.	In progress

For more information, visit <http://www.pnwer.org/trade-and-economic-development.html> or contact Nate Weigel. E: Nate.Weigel@pnwer.org T: (206) 443-7723

ACTION ITEMS

Energy & Environment Working Group 2017



Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region

The Energy & Environment Working Group, formerly known as Energy II, addresses the convergence of environmental sustainability and economic development while focusing on distributed generation, microgrids, energy efficiency, renewable energy and other issues. focuses on finding sustainable energy resources for the region. The group collaborates with PNWER's Energy Horizon Institute, which works to educate lawmakers as to the current status of energy Infrastructure and delivery system.

Action Items	Project Lead	Status	
1	Seek data sources, insights and interests in the research phase of the Roadmap to Resilient, Ultra-low Energy Buildings. Conduct an online survey of PNWER stakeholder networks.	Roadmap Steering Committee	In progress
2	Seek additional private sector support (\$20,000 USD) to finish Roadmap research and White Paper Development. Secure four sponsors by September and promote combined Roadmap and 2016 Economic Development Forum/ 2017 Summit sponsorship opportunities.	Roadmap Steering Committee	In progress
3	Develop "Roadmap to Resilient, Ultra-low Energy Buildings" by June 2018 that recommends policy solutions and market mechanisms that move the middle of the "market transformation curve" and respond to diversity of carbon pricing regimes (flexible caps, carbon pricing, cap-and-trade)	Roadmap Steering Committee	In progress
4	Continue to secure legislative support in each PNWER jurisdiction for Roadmap process and 5 goals.	Roadmap Steering Committee	In progress
5	PNWER will write a letter to Governor Kate Brown, Oregon expressing PNWER's support for NNMREC's Pacific Marine Energy Center. Ocean and marine energy are a tremendous potential resource for many PNWER jurisdictions and the greater region. Include resilience in the letter to Kate Brown.	Rep. Deb Boone and Jason Busch OWET	In progress

ACTION ITEMS

Energy Working Group 2017



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

In the Energy working group, PNWER works to find ways to provide sustainable energy for North America to fuel economic recovery and create a low-carbon future for North America. PNWER brings together key industry leaders from the U.S. and Canada to examine the following key issues:

- Supply and demand
- Transmission
- Permitting across multiple jurisdictions

PNWER also leads the Legislative Energy Horizon Institute (LEHI) to educate legislators on energy policy.

Action Items	Project Lead	Status
1	Consult with utility, regulatory and policy leaders on best practices of new business models that are being tested and demonstrated in the PNWER region and develop a methodology to share them on a regular basis.	In progress
2	Host several conference calls with legislative, regulatory and utility leaders to discuss best practices to allow public power to test innovative models on a limited basis and share results	In progress
3	Examine changing cooperative business legislation to encourage microgrid research and development. Also promote partnerships within investors and utilities	In progress
4	PNWER should partner with NW Power and Conservation Council to hold a seminar on disaster planning on the NW Power system. Consider utilizing natural, technical, and man-made disaster scenario. Seek funding to conduct the seminar. Ask to be included in discussions with NWPPC on disaster response	In progress

ACTION ITEMS

Forestry Working Group 2017



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

PNWER's Forestry Working Group is supportive of efforts that promote healthy forests, resilient watersheds, and socio-economic sustainability in communities that depend on them.

Action Items	Project Lead	Status
1 Encourage federal and local policies that result in large landscape scale treatment and restoration (e.g. federal laws that improve forest planning and implementation efficiencies);		In progress
2 Encourage economic and financial incentives to build or rebuild rural manufacturing and milling infrastructure in hard hit communities (e.g. low interest loans, grants, etc.);		In progress
3 Work with states and provinces to update and modernize building codes for mass timber to keep up with global standards and technology.		In progress
4 Encourage a "Big Picture" analysis of the region that includes social, economic, and environmental factors and the impacts of increasing the domestic supply of wood to those indices (e.g. jobs created, improvements to forest health and wildlife habitat, water quality, fire resiliency, domestic and international market opportunities, etc).		In progress
5 Encourage states and provinces to support local, state, community college, university, and technical programs that train the next generation of skilled labor to meet the growing demand in the wood manufacturing industry.		In progress

ACTION ITEMS

Infrastructure Working Group 2017



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

Traditional funding mechanisms for large-scale infrastructure and transportation projects have been challenged in recent years, encouraging states/provinces and regional jurisdictions to find innovative strategies to fund projects. Partnering with private funding sources has found success in Canada and select U.S. states, but a lack of regulation harmonization and disparate financing laws between PNWER U.S. member states presents challenges in coordinating infrastructure and transportation planning efforts.

Action Items	Status
<p>1 Develop PNWER Innovative Finance Task Force into Center of Excellence for performance-based innovative finance infrastructure in order to prepare the region to secure potential federal investment/policy. Secure federal funding through NW congressional delegation and PNWER state legislative support to match private sector underwriting.</p>	<p>In progress</p>
<p>2 Work with Canadian private sector leaders in p3 to showcase success stories to US legislators</p>	<p>In progress</p>

ACTION ITEMS

Innovation 2017



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

The competitive landscape of the global economy, coupled with worldwide environmental challenges, is creating unprecedented demand for scientific discovery and application. The Pacific Northwest region must channel the strengths of its many separate resources into a collaborative, comprehensive effort that maximizes the economic benefits of regional innovation.

PNWER's Innovation Working Group is committed to:

- Working with the PNWER Innovation Asset Inventory Survey
 - Refining the purpose statement of the Innovation Working Group
 - Exploring non-traditional models of intellectual property management and bringing suggestions to the working group
- Developing policy principles that jurisdictions could adopt for greater innovation collaboration and economic development

Action Items	Project Lead	Status
1 Encourage Map research, technology, and infrastructure assets in the public and private sectors in the PNWER region. Support continued research into autonomous aviation, maritime, and ground transportation or other areas that come out of the initial research.		In progress
2 Encourage establishment of a U.S. National Lab in the Arctic.		In progress
3 Promote use of virtual reality in workforce development, education, and healthcare.		In progress
4 Invite Defense Innovation Unit experimental and DIU Silicon Valley to meet with PNWER to discuss dissemination of federal declassified technologies to startup ecosystems and in turn, how government can use this new technology.		In progress
5 Identify collapsing regional industries that could present opportunities for innovation and start-ups.		In progress
6 Roadmap to accelerate AEC innovation to impact rural communities within PNWER.		In progress

ACTION ITEMS

Mining Working Group 2017



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

The Mining Working Group identifies best practices for environmental sustainability to improve the quality of life in the region, in concert with fostering economic development. The working group aims to show how development, when done responsibly, supports economic growth and increases the standard of living.

Action Items		Project Lead	Status
1	Continue to incorporate Arctic and Northern Community opportunities in planning discussion in the Mining Working Group.		In progress
2	Highlight job training programs that encourage rural and remote communities participation - coordinate with workforce development working group		In progress

ACTION ITEMS

Transportation Working Group 2017



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

The transportation working group focuses on the infrastructure of our major corridors and gateways, with a special interest on border infrastructure. It is currently working to improve the Northwest Rail System through the Stimulus Package and examining future transportation investments.

Action Items	Status
<p>1 Convene "Safety in the Salish Sea" session in Victoria at Economic Leadership Forum. Have high-level dialogue with key parties including B.C. and Washington political leadership, port commissioners, First Nations, Native American Tribes, US and Canadian Coast Guards, pilots, tug boats, tankers, industry and appropriate federal officials.</p>	<p>In progress</p>
<p>2 Investigate applications of ACES: Autonomous, Connected, Electric, & Shared Vehicles in PNWER region. Work towards session in Spokane 2018</p>	<p>In progress</p>
<p>3 PNWER Endorse cost benefit study of high speed rail connection between Seattle, WA and Vancouver, B.C.</p>	<p>In progress</p>

ACTION ITEMS

University Presidents 2017



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

Action Items		Project Lead	Status
1	Draft and Develop Collaboration Challenge that engages the region's universities - look at Microsoft challenge		In progress
2	Engage with Chancellor Christine Johnson of the Spokane Area Colleges on the next PNWER summit		In progress

ACTION ITEMS

Water Policy Working Group 2017



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

Through its Water Policy Working Group, PNWER provides an important dialogue to address water policy issues throughout the Pacific Northwest region. By connecting with legislators, private-sector and universities, we work to identify best practices to improve water security, adaptation of climate change, and storage options. We also provide updates to the region on the Columbia River Treaty and explore linkages with other working groups, including Invasive Species.

Action Items	Contributors	Status
1	Provide updates to the region on the Columbia River Treaty and explore linkages with other working groups, including invasive species	In progress
2	Connecting universities in the PNWER region and identify research groups/teams with expertise in water research, along with PNNL's interest in opportunities to conduct research in water policies	Dr. Ashby, PNNL
3	Identify best practices to improve water security, adaptation of climate change, and storage options. What is the region doing to fund water projects?	In progress

ACTION ITEMS

Workforce Development 2017



*Pacific NorthWest
Economic Region*

The Workforce Development Working Group is identifying the barriers to addressing labor shortages, the key stakeholders, and specific actions that can be implemented to alleviate these shortages. How can we train and retrain the skilled workforce that will be needed to fuel the growth of tomorrow? What are the best practices of industry/government cooperation? How can we ensure greater professional mobility in terms of licensing requirements, as many projects cross multiple jurisdictions? PNWER works to find solutions to these issues and more.

Action Items		Project Lead	Status
1	Hold conference call with legislators on best strategy to develop legislation that would provide the option to waive the Fundamentals of Engineering Examination and Practical Engineer's Examination for an applicant for state license registration, if the applicant has, for at least eight years prior to the date of the registration application, held a registration or license to practice professional engineering in another state, a territory or possession of the United States, the District of Columbia or a foreign country.	Working group	In progress
2	Encourage the NAFTA Modernization Task Force to: ensure that labour mobility provisions for professions and trades are included Core labour standards are addressed in NAFTA including migrant workers/contract laborers	Workforce and Border	In progress
3	Inventory of educational programs that leverage P3s with training and funding from private sector i.e. K-TEC in Idaho, Oregon	Working group	In progress
4	Research easy ways to share workforce needs and match the jobs with the workers within the current regulations of each jurisdiction - Scoping Exercise on matchmaking	Workforce	

ACTION ITEMS

Workforce Development 2017



*Pacific NorthWest
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Action Items	Project Lead	Status
<p>Professional Credential Recognition</p> <p>Professional Credential Recognition 2005: Licensing Reciprocity - Urge licensing bodies to adopt reciprocal professional credential recognition for engineers who have successfully practiced for a set number of years. Assist licensing bodies in preparing amendments to rules or policies to enable reciprocity of licensure. 2010 (amended 2011): Pursuant to PNWER's 2006 resolution calling on all PNWER jurisdiction licensing bodies for engineers to adopt policies or present amendments to their respective legislative bodies which allows them to waive the requirement for satisfaction of prescriptive credentials in education and examination if the applicant meets specific criteria adopted by each jurisdiction, PNWER continues to encourage Alaska, Washington, Oregon and Montana to join with Idaho in facilitating this resolution.</p>	<p>Shawna Argue and Colin Smith</p>	<p>In progress</p>