

## MEETING DESCRIPTION

### **The Science and Management of *Zostera japonica* in Washington: A meeting for state agencies**

**June 18 – 19, 2013**

**Tuesday 8:30 am – 4:00 pm**

**Wednesday 8:30 am – 3:00 pm**

**Lacey Community Center, 6729 Pacific Ave. SE**

Co-sponsors: Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, Washington Department of Ecology, Washington Department of Natural Resources, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington Invasive Species Council.

Purpose: To improve state agency understanding of *Zostera japonica* science and management in Washington State.

- *Objective 1.* Review the science on the ecology of *Z. japonica* in Washington State, including the results of the September 2010 workshop (attached) and studies and research completed since 2010.
- *Objective 2.* Review the existing *Z. japonica* science as it relates to specific policy and management questions.
- *Objective 3.* Provide an opportunity for state resource managers and policy staff to discuss the challenges and options for managing *Z. japonica*, and identify any action items that would increase coordination among state agencies.
- *Objective 4.* Document the outcome of the meeting in three ways:
  1. A fact sheet summarizing the current state of the science (to be created by the Department of Natural Resources)
  2. A compilation of presenter abstracts and science panel report (to be created by Padilla Bay Reserve)
  3. Summary of policy discussion and outcomes (to be created by the Department of Ecology)

#### Facilitator:

Jerry Thielen (Thielen Consulting) will assist in fostering a productive and informative dialogue regarding this important natural resource issue. Jerry has a BS in Environmental Studies (WSU) and retired from Ecology in 2009 as the Regulatory Affairs Manager. In that position, Jerry oversaw all regulation development and was involved in legislative policy review and implementation, including training and coordinating public hearing officers. Jerry has a strong background facilitating public meetings that engage broad interests such as scientists, governments, environmentalists, industry and other stakeholders.

Jane Dewell of the Governor's Office of Regulatory Assistance will assist Jerry. Jane has a BA in Zoology (UW '81) and MS in Environmental Studies (UMT '87). She has planned and coordinated many public forums and facilitated a broad range of public and technical meetings on environmental issues. She currently manages the multi-agency review of the proposed Cherry Point coal shipping terminal.

# The Science and Management of *Zostera japonica* in Washington

## AGENDA

### Day 1: Tuesday, June 18, 8:30 – 4:00

- 8:30 – 9:00**      **Coffee and sign in; meet the speakers**
- 9:00 – 9:30**      **Welcome**  
Introductions, meeting objectives and ground rules
- Jerry Thielen, Facilitator
- Host Welcome and Meeting Purpose
- Gordon White, WA Dept. of Ecology
- Regulatory Overview Handout, Sharing Meeting Results and Future Opportunities
- Cedar Bouta, WA Dept. of Ecology
- 9:30 – 12:15**      **Science Presentations (includes a 45-minute lunch break)**  
**Introduction of panel and speakers by Doug Bulthuis,**  
**Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve**
- 9:30 – 9:45      Summary of 2010 workshop  
                         Jeff Gaeckle, Ph.D., WA Dept. of Natural Resources
- 9:45 – 10:30      *Z. japonica* distribution and spread in the Pacific Northwest  
                         Jim Kaldy, Ph.D., US EPA
- 10:30 – 11:00      Role and growth of *Z. japonica* in its native range  
                         Fred Short, Ph.D., WA Dept. of Natural Resources
- 11:00 – 11:45      Ecosystem functions of *Z. japonica* in the Pacific Northwest  
                         Doug Bulthuis, Ph.D., Padilla Bay
- 11:45 – 12:15      Questions from the audience?
- 12:15 – 1:00**      **LUNCH** (provided)
- 1:00 – 3:45**      **Science Presentations (continued)**  
**Introduction of speakers by Fred Short, Department of Natural Resources**
- 1:00 – 1:45      *Z. japonica* and shellfish culture  
                         Kim Patten, Ph.D., WSU Cooperative Extension
- 1:45 – 2:30      Interactions between *Z. japonica* and estuarine fauna in the Pacific Northwest  
                         Jennifer Ruesink, Ph.D., University of Washington
- 2:30 – 3:15      Interactions between *Z. japonica* and *Z. marina*  
                         Michael Hannam, Ph.D., University of Washington
- 3:15 – 3:45      Questions from the audience?
- 3:45 – 4:00**      **Summary of day one results and accomplishments; overview of day two (Jerry Thielen)**

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## AGENDA

### Day 2: Wednesday, June 19, 8:30 – 3:00

- 8:30 – 9:00**     **Coffee and sign in; meet the panelists**
- 9:00 – 9:30**     **Welcome**  
Introductions, meeting objectives and ground rules
- Jerry Thielen, Facilitator
- Host Welcome and Meeting Purpose
- Gordon White, WA Dept. of Ecology
- Regulatory Overview Handout, Sharing Meeting Results and Future Opportunities
- Cedar Bouta, WA Dept. of Ecology
- 9:30 – 9:50**     **Introduction of state agency representatives and perspectives (Jerry Thielen)**
- 9:50 – 11:30**     **Science Panel**
- 9:50 – 10:00     Introduction of panelists by Fred Short, Department of Natural Resources
- Mary O’Connor, Ph.D., Dept. of Zoology, University of British Columbia
  - Brett Dumbauld, Ph.D., Oregon State University & US Dept. of Agriculture
  - Deborah Shafer, Ph.D., Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi
  - Renee Takesue, Ph.D., USGS Pacific Coastal & Marine Science Center, California
- 10:00 – 10:30     Overall summary of science on *Z. japonica*  
Report on the panel’s evaluation of the strength of science
- 10:30 – 11:30     Q and A
- 11:30 – 12:15**     **LUNCH** (provided)
- 12:15 – 2:45**     **Policy Discussion for State Agencies:  
The challenges of managing *Z. japonica* and possible next steps**
- How do we move forward collaboratively to gain clarity, consistency, and improve coordination across state agencies regarding the management of *Z. japonica*?
- What additional information needs to be gathered?
  - What are our next steps? When and how will we check back to evaluate the effectiveness of this approach?
- 2:45 – 3:00**     **Closing: Review Action Items**