

ILA with University of Washington for WA Sea Grant Fellowships

Presenters:

Graham VanderSchelden, Environmental Project Manager
Alisha Pena, Senior Planner
Allison Lu, 2021-2022 WA Sea Grant Fellow



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Action Requested

Request Managing Members of the Northwest Seaport Alliance (NWSA) authorization for the Chief Executive Officer or their delegate to enter an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) between The Northwest Seaport Alliance (NWSA) and the University of Washington (UW) Sea Grant Fellowship Program, under which the NWSA will host two full-time Hershman Fellows for one year, from September 2022 to September 2023.

Washington Sea Grant Hershman Fellowship

- WSG Hershman Fellowship offers a unique educational opportunity for recent graduates of UW masters programs engaged in studies pertaining to ocean and coastal policy issues
- Host offices with programs that address coastal and marine issues through natural and social science research, local and traditional knowledge, policy, management, environmental justice, and/or equity-centered work
- Fellowships run from Sept. 2022 – Sept. 2023
- WSG Hosts in 2022 – 2023:
 - NWSA
 - Washington State Department of Ecology
 - Makah Tribe
 - Coast Salmon Partnership
 - The Nature Conservancy
 - Puget Sound Partnership

Air Quality & Sustainable Practices Team

Support implementation of Clean Air Strategy:

- Community Engagement Program
 - *Ports Clean Air Quarterly* (new newsletter) – launched in April 2022
 - nwcleanports.org (new web portal) – launching in September 2022
 - Framework for on-going community engagement – under development
- Clean air and climate related policy engagement support (e.g., state Clean Fuels Standard and Climate Commitment Act participation)
- Zero-emission fuels and “Green Corridors”

Planning and Logistics Team

Support Development of the Vulnerability Assessment Response Framework (VARF)

- Support completion of hazards assessment
- Support development of response framework
- Support data collection, analysis, and GIS mapping efforts



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Financial Implications

- Total cost = \$140,000 (\$70,000 per Fellow)
- NWSA contribution = \$102,000 ($\approx 70\%$)
- NWSA contribution to be paid out of AQSP and Planning and Logistics program budgets for 2022-2023

Summary of 2021-2022 Fellowship

Led the following projects:

- Clean Air Quarterly newsletter – two issues published
 - Sign up link: [The Northwest Seaport Alliance - Become a subscriber \(govdelivery.com\)](https://govdelivery.com)
- Community Resource Web Portal: nwcleanports.org
- Ongoing Community Engagement process development
- Port Clean Vessel Incentive review
- NWPCAS Implementation Plan Milestone Dashboard
- Sustainable Building Policy for Port of Tacoma
- Port of Tacoma and NWSA buildings database



Summary of 2021-2022 Fellowship

Volunteering Activities:

- WDFW Stormwater Action Monitoring Mussel Monitoring Survey: volunteered to deploy and retrieve mussels
- Vaughn Elementary STREAM Night: tabled and engaged students in pH testing and bug identification
- Argosy Cruise Ship Port of Tacoma Boat Tour: worked info booth and served as docent on boat tour
- Duwamish River People's Park Opening Celebration: engaged community members and organizations at Clean Air booth



Summary of 2021-2022 Fellowship



Professional Development Activities:

- Advanced Clean Tech Conference in Long Beach
- Green Transportation Summit & Expo in Tacoma
- Capitol Hill Ocean Week Conference (virtual)
- Margaret A. Davidson Coastal Career Development Workshop (virtual) – served on planning team and attended as participant
- Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference (virtual)



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Summary of 2021-2022 Fellowship

Practiced skills and gained knowledge in:

- Project and program management
- Consultant hiring and management
- Policy and legislative research and analysis
- Data analysis and visualization
- Budget and contract development
- Zero emission and renewable energy technology and resources
- Strategy and implementation plan development and monitoring
- Community and stakeholder engagement
- Air quality and greenhouse gas emissions
- Port structure, policies, stakeholder engagement, etc.
- Inter-agency and inter-departmental collaboration

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