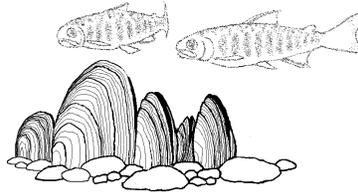


Pacific Northwest Native Freshwater Mussel Workgroup



Workgroup Charter

Purpose of the Workgroup

The purpose of the Workgroup is to provide an open forum for discussions focusing on native freshwater mussels, to disseminate related information, and to provide guidance on integrated planning of mussel research, management, and education.

The goal of the Workgroup is to ensure that freshwater mussel research, management, and educational activities are coordinated, prioritized, and are consistent with identified information needs.

Workgroup Composition

Members serving on the Workgroup should have a vested interest in mussel research, management, and educational issues.

The Workgroup may form committees as necessary to adequately address topics of importance and to provide focus for members' talents, skills, and priorities. When formed, each committee should consist of one chair and several members.

Process

As possible given financial, time, and logistical constraints, members of the Workgroup will periodically hold a freshwater mussel conference for the purpose of reviewing the state of mussel research, management, and education. This conference may be attended by anyone. The conference may be sponsored to defer associated costs. The location of the annual conference will rotate throughout the Pacific Northwest depending on interest and accessibility.

Members of the Workgroup will meet at least four times per year (either in person, via teleconference, or by proxy) to review projects, coordinate work, discuss research priorities, and conduct other associated activities. The expectation is that members of the Workgroup will spend time throughout the year participating in Workgroup activities.