



7th Bainbridge Island Environmental Conference

Saturday, September 29th, 2007

8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (Continental Breakfast at 8:00 a.m.)

IslandWood

☼ Aquatic Life and Habitats of Bainbridge Island ☼

Working together to protect habitat for aquatic life



8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast in Entry Room

8:30 a.m. Welcome to IslandWood - Karen Salsbury, IslandWood

8:35 a.m. Announcements Sallie Maron

8:40 a.m. Keynote Speaker – Bill Curtsinger National Geographic Photographer

9:20 a.m. Washington State Efforts to Protect and Restore Puget Sound John Cambalik

9:40 a.m. Aquatic Animals in Puget Sound and Their Habitat Frank Stowell, Moderator

**9:45 ❶ The state of Bainbridge Island's fish, streams, shorelines and nearshore habitat
Jim Brennan and Wayne Daley**

10:10 a.m. Brief Introduction to Organizations helping to improve Bainbridge Island's Environment

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Association of Bainbridge Communities (ABC) | 11. People for Puget Sound |
| 2. Bainbridge Alliance for Puget Sound | 12. Puget Sound Partnership |
| 3. Bainbridge Island Conservation Voters | 13. Puget Sound Restoration Foundation |
| 4. Bainbridge Island Land Trust | 14. Sustainable Bainbridge |
| 5. Bainbridge Island Metro Parks & Recreation | 15. Trout Unlimited |
| 6. Bainbridge Island Shoreline Stewardship Program | 16. Washington Sea Grant |
| 7. Earth Service Corps at Bainbridge Is. High School | 17. Watershed Council |
| 8. Kitsap Audubon Society | 18. Weed Warriors |
| 9. Kitsap Conservation District | 19. West Sound Wildlife Shelter |
| 10. Natural Landscapes Project • Backyard Habitat | 20. John Williams' Underwater Video |

10:30 a.m. Please visit these organizations which have brought their exhibits for you to learn what they do.

→ **Bill Curtsinger** will be available to sign his books

→ **John Williams** Northwest underwater videos will be showing in the reception area

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12:05 ❺ How Children Investigate Ecosystem Health at IslandWood– Karen Salsbury

12:20 Questions

12:30 Lunch served at the IslandWood Dining Hall, Jim White, Chef

1:30-3:30 AFTERNOON FIELD TRIPS (See back page))

Seventh Bainbridge Island Environmental Conference 2007

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Program Organization Charles Schmid (Co-Chair) Connie Waddington (Co-Chair)
Karen Salsbury Bobbie Morgan Cynthia Bolin
Peter Namtvedt Best Wayne Daley Sallie Maron
Frank Stowell Jo Schaffer

GOVERNMENTAL SPONSORS

City of Bainbridge Island 280 Madison Avenue N www.ci.bainbridge-isl.wa.us 842-2545
B.I. Metro Park and Recreation District PO Box 10010 www.biparks.org 842-2306

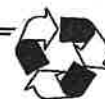
NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION SPONSORS

ABC Conservation/Education Foundation
The Association of Bainbridge Communities (ABC)
Bainbridge Island Land Trust (BILT)
IslandWood

Thanks to IslandWood Support provided by **Cynthia Bolin** and **Karen Salsbury**
and to the Suquamish Tribe for the Boat for beach Seining
Kit Spier will be creating a video to be re-broadcast on Bainbridge Island Television

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- ① **Workshop on Macroinvertebrates at Mac's Pond**- Karen Salsbury will lead the group to Mac's Pond where participants will look at indicators of general health of the system, collect macros, and return to the IslandWood wet lab to get a better look at these amazing creatures. This session will include identification of species and their tolerance-group associations. Participants will have the opportunity to produce watercolor art of the organisms. Meet in the main hall. Jeff Adams from Washington Sea Grant will also join the group.
- ② **Beach Seining at Pritchard Park** – Wayne Daley and Paul Dorn
Explore what fish live beneath the nearshore waters of Eagle Harbor without going for a swim. The City of Bainbridge Island and the Suquamish Tribe will bring their Bainbridge Island beach seining (a type of net) monitoring project to Pritchard Park. This is a n opportunity for all ages to participate in what is an uncommon experience and learn about the rich nearshore ecosystem that lies out-of-sight, just below the surface. Park at the Memorial at Pritchard Park (off Eagle Harbor Drive) and meet down at the beach. Ryan Ericson, intern for the City's shoreline program, will also be joining the group.
- ③ **Tour of Eagle Harbor via Electric Boat** (This tour is full.) – Peter Best and Jim Brennan
During the two-hour boat trip around Eagle Harbor you will see and hear about aquatic life and habitat and share some of the harbor's environmental history. Two small boats have been rented from Eagle Harbor Electric Boats, each holding 10 people (seated). They will depart at 1:50 p.m. from the Harbour Marina dock. Park at the Harbour Pub 231 Parfitt Avenue-carpool if possible. The tour will take 2 hours. The boat is enclosed but you should bring warm clothing if the weather is cool



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7th Environmental Conference
Aquatic Life & Habitat of Bainbridge Island
Resource List

7th
conf.

Association of Bainbridge Communities (ABC) 842-5313
Publishes Scotch Broom

Bainbridge Island Land Trust 842-1216 www.bi-landtrust.org
Works to protect land primarily through conservation easements and acquisition

City of Bainbridge Island www.ci.bainbridge-isl.wa.us
Shoreline Stewardship Program
Watershed Council

Bainbridge Alliance for Puget Sound Frank Stowell (dolier@aol.com)

Bainbridge Conservation Voters www.wcvoters.org/chapters/bainbridge.php
Supports environmentally responsible candidates for local public office

Bainbridge Island Metropolitan Park District 842-2306 www.biparks.org
Stewardship of local parks

Bainbridge Island High School Earth Service Corps
www.bainbridge.wednet.edu
Works on local environmental projects

Kitsap Audubon Society (360)479-3257 www.kitsapaudubon.org
Works to preserve the natural world through education, environmental study, and habitat protection

Kitsap Conservation District (360)337-7171 www.kitsapcd.org

County agency working on natural resource protection, soil and water conservation

Natural Landscapes/Backyard Habitat www.naturallandscapes.org

Works to protect human health, water quality and the environment by providing educational outreach to our community

People for Puget Sound www.pugetsound.org

Works to protect and restore Puget Sound and the Northwest Straits

Puget Sound Partnership www.psp.wa.gov

A state agency established in 2007 to lead efforts to protect and restore Puget Sound.

Puget Sound Restoration Fund www.restorationfund.org

Works to achieve on-the-ground restoration of habitat and native species in Puget Sound by focusing on action, not politics

Sustainable Bainbridge www.sustainablebainbridge.net

Supports cooperation and collaboration to protect and strengthen our community's economic, social and environmental sustainability

Trout Unlimited www.tu.org

Works on fisheries restoration at the local, state and national levels

Weed Warriors Jeannette Franks jfranks@u.washington.edu

Works to eliminate invasive plant species

Washington Sea Grant www.wsg.washington.edu

Serves communities, industries and the people of Washington state, the Pacific Northwest and the nation through research, education and outreach related to marine life.

Wildlife Shelter www.westsoundwildlife.org

A wild animal medical facility working to rescue, diagnose, treat, and release injured and orphaned wildlife

John Williams www.StillHopeProductions.com

Creates video productions about our marine life for local consumers such as educational and environmental organizations

Bainbridge Island Environmental Conference 2007

ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

1. Association of Bainbridge Communities(ABC) has been working to preserve and protect the environment of Bainbridge Island since 1978. It consists of 13 neighborhood groups and over 500 members interested in learning about and acting to protect and restore a clean and healthy environment on our Island for both humans - and fish and wildlife. ABC was instrumental in initiating the cleanup of the Wyckoff creosote site, becoming heavily involved when NOAA found tumors on bottom fish in the harbor. ABC has advocated strong enforcement when habitat is illegally destroyed. Members have worked with the Washington Toxics Coalition to convince B.I. schools, parks and city government to adopt IPM (pesticide) policies to minimize chemicals and hence exposure to humans as well as fish and wildlife. Its newsletter is called the *Broom*. ABC can be contacted via biabc200@yahoo.com .

2. Bainbridge Alliance for Puget Sound is a coalition of Island organizations and citizens working to protect the health of Puget Sound and the shorelines and waters of Bainbridge Island. Contact For further information about the newly formed group contact Frank Stowell at DolierF@aol.com

3. Bainbridge Island Conservation Voters was created in 2004 as a local chapter of Washington Conservation Voters. Their mission is to support and encourage environmentally responsible elected officials and candidates for public office with a focus on local elections. Citizens are kept informed regarding how local government is caring for the environment of Bainbridge Island by monitoring and publishing voting records of the Council and the Planning Commission. Unless we act today to protect this special place, we risk losing it to over development and haphazard growth. Further information may be found at their web site: www.wcvoters.org/chapters/bainbridge.php

4. Bainbridge Island Land Trust's mission is the preservation and stewardship of the diverse natural environment of Bainbridge Island for the benefit of all. It works to acquire interest in land having significant conservation values, such as wetlands, open spaces, tidelands, forest and animal habitats, and stream and wildlife corridors. The Land Trust holds 42 conservation easements, legal agreements to protect natural areas. In all, the Land Trust has worked to protect 1,100 acres on Bainbridge Island. Their phone is 842-1216, and website is www.bi-landtrust.org

5. Bainbridge Island Metro Parks & Recreation serves the community through its stewardship of parks for over 40 years by providing recreational and cultural programs to Islanders of all ages. Many of the recent Open Space purchases have been transferred to the Park District, increasing the Island's park inventory to nearly 1400 acres, with over 90% protected in open space. This land provides residents and visitors a place to enjoy nature, and also serves as vital habitat to wildlife. Their website is www.biparks.org

6. Bainbridge Island Shoreline Stewardship Program was created in 2004 to coordinate and assist with voluntary, community-based shoreline stewardship efforts on private property as well as public lands. The program provides education and outreach as well as technical and financial assistance. The program works with individuals as well as communities, organizations, and agencies. Program staff, trained volunteers, and partners can assist with a wide range of stewardship projects. More information can be obtained by contacting Peter Best at the City's Planning Department at 842-2552 or pbest@ci.bainbridge-isl.wa.us

7. Earth Service Corps is a group of students at Bainbridge Island High school working on environmental issues. One program they have worked on is to install filters in storm drains around Winslow to prevent contaminants from entering the waters of Puget Sound. Further information may be obtained at their website www.bainbrdige.wednet.edu

8. Kitsap Audubon Society was formed to preserve the natural world through education, environmental study, and habitat protection; and to promote awareness and enjoyment of local and regional natural areas. They meet the 2nd Thursday of each month, September to May, in the lower level of the Poulsbo Library. Programs range from adventure travel and wildlife photography to Orcas, bats and owls. They also sponsor educational outreach programs, field birdwatching trips and conservation updates on pending legislation and related issues. For further information contact Doug Hudson at 360-479-0324. Local wildlife sightings are compiled from reports which are sent into wildlifesightings@kitsapaudubon.org and listed on their web page <www.kitsapaudubon.org>.

9. Kitsap Conservation District is a legal subdivision of state government that administers programs developed to conserve natural resources. They are a non-regulatory, grass-roots organization that works with private landowners (mainly within the agricultural community) to reduce soil erosion and impacts to water quality. Through voluntary cooperation with individual landowners, the Kitsap Conservation District promotes Best Management Practices (BMPs) that achieve protection for water quality and soil erosion. They provide education/information programs to adults and children through workshops, demonstration farm tours, a resource library, booth displays, and presentations. Any of these programs can be arranged by contacting the Kitsap Conservation District. Website <<http://www/kitsapcd.org>> or call 360-337-7171.

10. Natural Landscapes Project's mission is to inspire and educate community members to protect the environment by adopting earth-friendly practices right in their own backyards. We have two important projects going on right now. One is the Oysters for Salmon project (mitigating water pollution with oysters sacks hung on docks in Eagle Harbor). The other involves outreach in a variety of ways to educate homeowners about natural lawn and garden care. And we support the newly launched effort that will enable Bainbridge Island to achieve Community Wildlife Habitat certification! Contact us at 842-4815 for more information on these outreach efforts or go to www.naturallandscapes.org. To find out more about the **Backyard Habitat** visit its website at www.nwf.org/backyardwildlifehabitat/

11. People for Puget Sound is a citizens' group working to protect and restore the health of Puget Sound and the Northwest Straits through education and action. Our vision is a clean and healthy Sound, teeming with fish and wildlife, cared for by people who live here. Work ranges from hands-in-the-mud habitat restoration, to advocacy for the Sound at all levels of government. Our programs are based on strategic partnerships and collaborations, scientific credibility, creative use of communications and technology, and a hands-on style. They arrange naturalists trips on the ship the Adventuress which is often seen at the City dock in Eagle Harbor. For more information see their web site <http://www.pugetsound.org>

12. Puget Sound Partnership is a state agency established in 2007 to lead efforts to protect and restore Puget Sound and its spectacular diversity of life, now and for future generations. The Partnership replaces the Puget Sound Action Team. The Partnership will create a long-term plan called the "2020 Action Agenda" by September 2008. The Action Agenda will identify and prioritize actions, name those responsible, identify funding, track progress and report the results publicly. More information can be found at <http://www.psp.wa.gov/>.

13. Puget Sound Restoration Foundation (PSRF) is a nonprofit organization that restores marine habitat, water quality and native species around Puget Sound from Olympia to Canada. It collaborates with tribes, all levels of government, businesses, community groups and private landowners. Locally, PSRF has participated in native oyster restoration, shellfish gardening, the Eagle Harbor Oysters for Salmon project, Manzanita Creek watershed restoration, and Taylor Creek revegetation. PSRF is a non-activist, project-oriented organization committed to a vision of a clean and healthy Sound that is productive, full of life and capable of sustaining a nonprofit organization dedicated exclusively to restoring habitat, water quality and native species in Puget Sound from Olympia to Canada. Website is www.restorationfund.org

14. Sustainable Bainbridge supports cooperation and collaboration among a broad-based network of local organizations, businesses, government and individuals to protect and strengthen our community's economic, social and environmental sustainability for current and future generations. Among many other projects, it is pressing for green building and a low impact development ordinance for the City to help conserve water and lessen non-point source pollution that impacts Puget Sound. Other projects focus on conserving energy at home, supporting recycling and reuse, celebrating Earth Day, and connecting families to local farmers and food producers. Their website is www.sustainablebainbridge.net.

15. Trout Unlimited's mission is to conserve, protect and restore North America's trout and salmon fisheries and their watersheds. See their website www.tu.org. The president of the BI section (#637) of Trout Unlimited is William Strickland.

16. Washington Sea Grant is part of the National Sea Grant system and based out of the University of Washington. Our mission is to serve the needs of the people who manage, use and enjoy Washington's oceans and coasts. Aquatic invasive species are just one of the many challenges that impact the health of our waters. Further information can be obtained from Jeff Adams at jaws@u.washington.edu or from their website www.wsg.washington.edu.

17. Watershed Council The City enjoys a close partnership with the volunteer Watershed Council. The purpose of this program is to give Island citizens various opportunities to help protect and enhance the water quality of Island watershed



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habitats (streams, shorelines, ponds and wetlands). A major focus this year will be stormwater runoff water quality. Citizens are welcome to join this group in exciting stewardship activities around the Island. Meetings are held at Bainbridge Island City Hall once a quarter. For more information please contact Jeannie Huber at huber001@aol.com.

18. Weed Warriors are a coalition working to remove invasive plants from Bainbridge Island and educate people about the problems caused by aggressive, non-native plants. They have had numerous work parties to remove ivy and other noxious weeds and are presently working with the City of Bainbridge Island on Japanese Knotweed removal. Contact Jeannette Franks <jfranks@bainbrdige.net>.

19. West Sound Wildlife Shelter is the only large-scale wildlife shelter in western Puget Sound and strives to provide compassionate rehabilitation services to injured, sick, and orphaned wildlife, assure their safe release, and promote their protection through public outreach, education and involvement. It is located at 7501 Dolphin Dr, and can be reached at 855-9057 or <info@westsoundwildlife.org>. Web site <www.westsoundwildlife.org>

20. Underwater Video. John F. Williams, a local underwater videographer and independent film producer will be showing excerpts from his TV series, "SEA-Inside: Pacific Northwest." This series introduces viewers to their underwater neighbors -- important members of our Puget Sound ecosystem, but ones we seldom get to see. Some of our neighbors displayed will be 14 foot long sharks near Tacoma, schools of mating squid near Blakely Harbor, and perch and gunnels near Pt. White. Further description of the videos can be found at www.StillHopeProductions.com

ABC Conservation/Education Foundation's purpose is to conserve the environment and natural resources of Bainbridge Island. It provides funds to support general education to further this goal and help neighborhood and other groups to improve their understanding of the sensitive areas of their community, including streams, wetlands and wildlife habitat. Address: Marge Williams Center, 221 Winslow Way # 305, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110.

IslandWood is of the nation's most innovative educational facilities, offering programs for everyone - children, graduate students, teachers, families, and adults. IslandWood is a unique 255-acre outdoor learning center designed to provide exceptional learning experiences and inspire lifelong environmental and community stewardship. It offers programs for schools as well as programs for adults, children and families; volunteer opportunities; a host of speaker's series and other community events open to the public. Phone 855-4300 or web page <www.islandwood.org>

Bainbridge Island Environmental Conference 2007

Introduction to the Speakers

Bill Curtsinger has been a photographer for National Geographic for over three decades. A specialist in underwater subjects, he has traveled extensively around the globe, immersing himself in the waters of the world, swimming among predatory sharks and playful seals, and capturing the often elusive denizens of the sea in unsurpassed close-up photography. A collection of his finest works, *Extreme Nature: Images from the World's Edge*, demonstrates Bill's rare mastery of nature photography. In addition to *National Geographic*, his work has appeared in *Smithsonian*, *Natural History*, *Audubon*, *Time*, *Newsweek*, *Life*, *Outside*, *Islands*, and a number of other publications worldwide. Bill is a founding member of the Maine-based art group "10x10" and a member of the Portland-based printmaking cooperative, Peregrine Press. He lives in Port Townsend, WA. More information can be found at his website www.billcurtsingerphoto.com

Peter Namtvedt Best is an Associate Planner for the City of Bainbridge Island working primarily on shoreline and natural resource issues. He coordinates the Bainbridge Island Shoreline Stewardship Program and local salmon recovery efforts. His work includes research and monitoring, planning and regulation, education and outreach, technical and financial assistance, as well as managing restoration and conservation projects.

Jim Brennan has a Master of Sciences Degree in Marine Sciences from Moss Landing Marine Laboratories and 25 years of work experience. The majority of this work has focused on marine fisheries and habitats on the west coast of the U.S. (California, Oregon, Washington), but ranges from Antarctica to Alaska. Jim has worked in both the private and public sectors with responsibilities that include research, education, environmental assessment, watershed planning, restoration, regulatory, and policy programs. The last 17 years of his career have been spent working in Puget Sound on marine

resource management issues with a focus on marine nearshore habitats and species, habitat modifications, ecological assessment, watershed and salmon recovery planning, and the development and implementation of alternative management actions for the protection, enhancement, and restoration of the Puget Sound nearshore ecosystem. Jim is currently working for the Washington Sea Grant Program at the University of Washington.

John Cambalik joined the Puget Sound Partnership in 2001. As a regional liaison, he provides technical and policy advice and assistance to local governments, tribes, non-governmental organizations, businesses and citizen groups in Clallam, Jefferson and Kitsap counties as well as the Mason County portion of Hood Canal. John has a master's degree in marine science from North Carolina State University in Raleigh and a bachelor's degree in fishery biology from the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry at Syracuse. He has worked in industry and all levels of government conducting marine research and providing technical advice and assistance. Prior to joining the Partnership, John was the salmon recovery coordinator for the North Olympic Peninsula Lead Entity.

Wayne Daley is a certified Fisheries Scientist who has restored many habitats in the Northwest, including Bainbridge Island. He formed Daley Design in 1995 and has worked for many non-profit organizations, including People for Salmon, Trout Unlimited, and Long Live the Kings. He was named Kiwanis Citizen of the year in 1998

Shawn Larson is the animal health and conservation research coordinator for the Seattle Aquarium in charge sea otter research where she does research on captive and wild sea otters. The Seattle Aquarium also cares for orphaned and abandoned sea otter pups. She has Ph.D. in Aquatic and Fishery Science from the University of Washington, a master's degree in wildlife biology from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, and a bachelor's degree in Natural Resources Science from the University of California at Berkeley.

Sallie Maron has been working to eliminate the invasive Himalayan blackberry on the Island since 1978. She has picked thousands of the seed bearing fruits over the years, and plans to continue her pursuit as one way to savor the inspiring beauty of our natural environment. She served as president of the B.I. Land Trust and chair of Friends of Pritchard Park.

Betsy Peabody is founder and executive director of Puget Sound Restoration Fund (PSRF). Prior to founding PSRF in 1997, Betsy worked for the Puget Sound Water Quality Authority, King County, the Seattle Aquarium and local non profits. She is currently President of the Pacific Shellfish Institute, a research organization to foster sustainable shellfish resources and a healthy marine environment. She also served as Vice Chair of the Bainbridge Island Harbor Commission until 2002. Betsy has a Bachelor's Degree in English from Stanford University

Karen Salsbury has a M.S.Ed. degree and is the Naturalist and Day Program Coordinator at IslandWood She has been an educator for 28 years. She has worked with students from preschool through community college levels in both private and public schools on the east coast, Seattle, here on Bainbridge, and in Palau, Micronesia. Karen loves sharing her passion for nature with students here at IslandWood as she teaches and mentors in several areas, including our School Overnight and Graduate Residency programs.

Frank Stowell has been a resident of Bainbridge Island since 1983. Now retired, he was formerly the Director of the Seattle office of the Johnson O'Connor Research Foundation, a non-profit aptitude testing and research organization, and is currently on their national Board of Trustees. He has served as president of the B. I. Land Trust and the South Bainbridge Community Association, and on the board of the statewide Washington Environmental Council. He is currently vice-chair of the Kitsap County Parks Advisory Board. He was the recipient of ABC's Environmental Award in the year 2000.

Charles Schmid is secretary of ABC, and writes for their newsletter *The BROOM*. He has served on many City citizen committees, and presently is co-chair of the Pritchard Park Design Advisory Committee. He has worked extensively on the Wyckoff Superfund site ever since ABC helped place it on EPA's cleanup list in 1988. He can often be seen rowing his shell around Eagle Harbor. He has a PhD in electrical engineering, and is an executive director of a scientific society.

Connie Waddington has been involved in open space issues for the last 20 years, and is a member of the City of Bainbridge Island's Open Space Commission.. She was President of the Bainbridge Island Land Trust, and presently serves as secretary for the State's Wildlife and Recreation board. She also instructs and leads field trips each spring with the Sakai 5th graders for the Nature Mapping program. She was the 2002 recipient of ABC's Environmental Award.



Community Services Grant
to assist with the cost of hosting the 2007 Environmental Conference
which was held Saturday, September 29th, 2007

Association of Bainbridge Communities

PO Box 10999

with the Bainbridge Island Land Trust

PO Box 10144

Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

December 10th, 2007

OVERVIEW

The 7th **Bainbridge Island Environmental Conference** was held on September 29th, 2007 at IslandWood. The title for the conference this year was "*Aquatic Life and Habitats of Bainbridge Island.*" The day-long conference began with a keynote speaker, Bill Curtsinger. His biography is included on page 3 of the attached Program (Attachment B). He has been a photographer for National Geographic for over three decades, and had wonderful photos of aquatic life from around the world. John Cambalik, who recently became part of the new Puget Sound Partnership followed him. Jim Brennan and Wayne Daley, local experts from Bainbridge Island, then gave an educational talk on the importance of our local nearshore habitat for aquatic life. Next in the program twenty governmental and non-profit environmental organizations gave one-minute introductions to their missions so attendees could decide which exhibits they wanted to visit during the break. Also during the break John Williams showed his excellent underwater video showing that Puget Sound has its share of exotic aquatic life. The break for the exhibits was followed by a presentation on shellfish and invertebrates of Puget Sound by Betsy Peabody who is an expert in the field of restoring oysters around Puget Sound. Shawn Lawson from the Seattle Aquarium explained her research on sea otters, and gave a brief overview of marine mammals and water birds found around Puget Sound. A short break in the program gave ABC's secretary Charles Schmid a chance to present the 2007 ABC environmental award to Jim Brennan, praising his professional research as well as his efforts to protect the salmon and its habitat on Bainbridge Island. Peter Namtvedt Best then explained the shoreline permitting process and the successful shoreline stewardship program administered by the City of Bainbridge Island. Karen Salsbury from IslandWood gave the final talk of the morning which interactively involved the audience and finished up the morning session.

139 citizens registered for the conference, of which 46 were students or teachers. Only one City Council member (Bill Knobloch) and one Planning Commissioner (Maradel Gale) attended along with one candidate (soon to be Council member Barry Peters). However a number of City staff were in the audience as well as one who gave a presentation. Attendees had a choice of taking one of three afternoon field trips: 1) Workshop on Macroinvertebrates with Karen Salsbury; 2) Beach Seining at Pritchard Park with Wayne Daley; and 3) Tour of Eagle Harbor via an Electric Boat with Peter Best and Jim Brennan. These field trips are described in more detail on page 4 of the handout (Attachment B) and on page 5 in this report. Based on the responses from those attending these workshops, they were very informative and enjoyable as well. Likewise the evaluation forms turned in for the morning part of the conference (see Attachment C) rated this as a very worthwhile meeting. Having so many students attend was a real asset for the conference as well as for the adults attending. Videos of the morning sessions were subsequently broadcast on Bainbridge Island TV, and an article in *the Islander* (Attachment D) by John Quitlund gave further publicity. An article will also be published in ABC's newsletter *the Broom*.

ANNOUNCEMENT/PROMOTION OF CONFERENCE

Announcements were printed in the two local newspapers. A flyer (Attachment A) was sent out to all members of the Association of Bainbridge Communities(ABC), the Bainbridge Island Land Trust (BILT), and others who had attended previous environmental conferences, with care taken to avoid duplication. This amounted to over 1,400 mailings. In addition, one-page flyers were made available to cosponsors for them to distribute. The announcements were copied by the Park and Recreation Metro District pro bono. Governmental sponsors were the City of Bainbridge Island and Bainbridge Island Metro Park and Recreation District. IslandWood placed an announcement in their newsletter which is distributed to the entire island. IslandWood also provided assistance for most of the facility planning and registration. In addition, their charge per attendee was considerably less than IslandWood typically charges for an activity of this scale. The ABC Foundation and the Bainbridge Island Land Trust also provided financial support.

ORGANIZATION/COSTS

The primary organizers for the Conference were the Association of Bainbridge Communities (ABC) and the Bainbridge Island Land Trust (BILT). The back page of the insert for Attachment B lists the ten organizers for the conference: Charles Schmid (Co-Chair), Connie Waddington (Co-Chair), Karen Salsbury, Bobbie Morgan, Cynthia Bolin, Peter Namtvedt Best, Sallie Maron, Frank Stowell, Jo Schaffer, and Wayne Daley. On the front page of the insert are the names of the 8 speakers who gave presentations on various topics dealing with aquatic life and its habitat. Also included on the list are the 20 organizations which provided information on their various missions which included ways to protect aquatic habitat. The morning talks were presented at the main hall of IslandWood, as was John Williams underwater video. Lunch was served in IslandWood's dining area, and prepared by their chef, Jim White. A continental breakfast was also available at the dining room for attendees. IslandWood charged \$20 per person for the lunch and breakfast which was exactly what the registration fee was set at. However as in the past, we made registration free for students and teachers. IslandWood provided assistance for planning, setup, A/V, registration and many other services at no cost. Volunteers carried out mailing, layout of printed material, coordinating the program with speakers, planning the agenda, and providing check-in at the meeting at no cost. The only labor costs were for video taping for Bainbridge Island Broadcasting; an honoraria of \$500 for the keynote speaker, Bill Curtsinger; and John Williams for showing his video. The summary of revenue and expenses is shown on the next page.

This year actual expenses for food ended up way over budget due to our decision to not charge for students. The budget was based on the fact that in the past we have had only had a few students attend. However this year 46 students or teachers registered due to encouragement (and I believe extra credit) from their teachers. 16 other attendees did not pay, some of whom were IslandWood staff - but others who simply did not pay registration. Next year we will be more careful to check that everyone or their organization pays, and maybe charge a small registration fee for students to offset expenses.

In the end, the total cost of the conference was over \$1,000 more than budgeted, primarily due to the free registration for students ($46 \times \$20 = \920) and the 16 who did not pay ($16 \times \$20 = \320). IslandWood offered to pay for the 16 non-students who did not pay registration fees (\$320). The ABC Foundation supported John Williams video (\$250) and the remainder of the deficit was nicely provided by a supplemental donation from the Bainbridge Island Land Trust (\$250) and the ABC Foundation (\$408). This meant that the full \$1,350 community support from the City of Bainbridge Island (Letter contract signed 1/22/07) was required to balance the budget for the conference. An invoice under separate cover has already been submitted to Cathie Currie at the City of Bainbridge Island

POST CONFERENCE PUBLICATIONS

We plan to ask Bainbridge Island Broadcasting to air the morning part of the 2007 conference. An article with photos will be published in ABC's newsletter *The Broom*. An article by John Quitslund appeared in the Sun's publication *The Islander* which is mailed to all households (Attachment D).

EVALUATION

Attachment C1 summarizes the **Multiple Choice** results from the 25 evaluation sheets collected after the morning session. This is a much smaller total number than collected last year (39) due to neglecting to remind attendees to fill them out and hand them in. The low number makes conclusions statistically weak but nevertheless offers some insight into how the conference was judged by the audience. The summary below is based on counting the responses from each of the multiple choices shown on the questionnaire (Attachment C1). Most attendees listed themselves as members of environmental organizations which is not surprising. But also six of those responding were students, and two were teachers.

The program evaluation responses (Section 3 of C1) showed that everyone liked the photos shown by the keynote speaker, Bill Curtsinger, with 19 of 23 responses giving him a VERY GOOD response. The rating for John Cambalik's talk was predominantly GOOD, probably lower than expected since he focused on the process that Puget Sound Partnership plans to take rather than its mission and what it hopes to accomplish. Jim Brennan and Wayne Daley's presentation was equally split between VERY GOOD and GOOD, as was the rating for the Table Top Exhibits. Both Betsy Peabody and Shawn Larson received more VERY GOOD than GOOD ratings, with the audience enjoying their photos and hearing their close involvement with the aquatic life more than text on Power Point slides. Peter Nambveldt Best received a split number of VERY GOOD's and GOOD's, but also a number of FAIR and POOR ratings, probably because of the subject matter was not engaging to some of the attendees. Karen Salsbury received mostly GOOD ratings along with a number of FAIR ratings. It should be noted that the lower responses for the two final speakers might be due to the fact they came just before lunch! Finally we note that the rating of the overall program was equally split between VERY GOOD and GOOD.

All those who responded felt the topic for the conference was appropriate, and 21 of 24 felt it lived up to their expectations. 16 of 22 felt it helped them to understand the issues, and the other 6 reported it provided this goal to some extent. Finally everyone who responded wants the conference to be held again next year.

Attachment C2 lists all the written **Comments from Morning Session**. Responses covered: 1) ideas for subjects for future conferences; 2) helpful suggestions for organizers; and other comments; and 3) thoughts on the future for Bainbridge Island's aquatic life. There were a wide variety of suggestions for topics for future conferences. Comments on the quality of the 2007 conference were mostly supportive of the way the meeting was run and organized with some suggestions for future conferences. There is strong support for holding it at IslandWood and praises for the food served. There were a number of complaints about speakers not having enough time. As in the past there is the problem of striking a balance between having fewer in-depth speakers versus a larger number of speakers who cover more topics but are rushed in their presentations. The presence of students was recognized and applauded. But the few evaluations by students vs. other attendees show that one program format might not suit both groups, with students tending to like photos, interactive presentations, and not as excited with government, process-oriented, or even Power Point presentations (maybe we older members are like that too!) Even the food planning might differ. (One student wanted snacks at the break.) One person also suggested continuing discussions at the lunch – which we had originally planned to do, but somehow forgot. Perhaps attendees just want to socialize at the lunch recess in the program.

Thoughts on the Future for Bainbridge's Aquatic Life (End of Attachment C2)

Responses varied from hopeful to gloomy when they were asked about the future for aquatic life and habitat for the future:

"I have hopes!"

"Hopefully we'll WAKE UP and stop devastating habitat through our bad habits."

"Is BAINBRIDGE going to break my heart? Or restore my faith?"

"We have a lot of work educating citizens now- and here we are 'preaching to the choir.' "

"We must work harder."

FIELD TRIPS

1. Workshop on Macroinvertebrates

There were about 20 people for the macro investigation at Mac's Pond led by Karen Salsbury. Jeff Adams from Sea Grant joined the tour with his enthusiastic son/naturalist-in-training, along with 3 graduate students from IslandWood, and a graduate student from Germany with expertise in this area.

2. Boat Tour of Eagle Harbor

Two electric boats were rented for a two hour trip around Eagle Harbor. Peter Best was the helmsman for one boat with 9 people, and Charles Schmid steered the other boat with 9 people aboard. Peter described harbor features on his boat, and Jim Brennan for the second boat. Passengers were impressed with both Jim's and Peter's knowledge of the Harbor and learned a lot about its health and history during the 2 hour tour.

CONCLUSION FOR 2007/PLANS FOR 2008

In summary, the evaluation sheets showed the 7th Environmental Conference to be very successful and timely. Concern about aquatic life and habitats on Bainbridge Island fits right into the new Puget Sound partnership program. In addition, we are fortunate to have so many experts in this field residing on Bainbridge Island. The overwhelming sense was that the 8th Environmental Conference should take place. There was strong preference for meeting again at IslandWood. Hence ABC and BILT plan to organize an eighth environmental conference in 2008, and will try to reserve a Saturday at IslandWood, preferably in the fall. We should probably charge a nominal \$5 charge for students and teachers or ask the school to contribute funds to balance the budget. A request has been submitted to the City for the same support in 2008 as was granted for 2007.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The video of the conference was produced by Kit Spier. The facilities were provided by IslandWood, and we would like to especially acknowledge Cindy Bolin, Karen Salsbury, and Ben Klasky, Executive Director. Copying for the announcement was provided by the Metro Parks District. Support funding was provided by the City of Bainbridge Island, the Bainbridge Island Land Trust and the ABC Conservation/Education Foundation.

Submitted by

Charles Schmid, Conference Co-Chair
Association of Bainbridge Communities

Connie Waddington, Conference Co-Chair
Bainbridge Island Land Trust

ATTACHMENTS

- A. **Flyer sent out to ABC and BILT members**
- B. **Program/Handout** distributed at meeting with Evaluation forms for morning session
- C. **Tabulation of Evaluation Forms and List of Comments for Morning Session**
 - C1. Summary of Multiple Choice
 - C2. Written Comments
- D. **Article on Conference** by John Quitslund in the *Islander* (October 6-12, 2007)

ATTACHMENT C1

Morning Evaluation: 7th Bainbridge Island Environmental Conference 2007

1. How did you learn about this conference?

Mailing 8 email 7 *Review/Sun* 4 BIB TV 0 Friend 5
 Other School (4), BCV, and Connie's email

2. How do you participate in environmental issues (Pick the most appropriate one)?

Employee in an Environmental Field 0 Volunteer for Environmental Org. 11 Elected Official 1
 Belong to Environmental Organization 9 Student 5 Teacher 2 Press 1 Other citizen (2)

3. PROGRAM EVALUATION	VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	POOR
Keynote Speech/Bill Curtsinger-----	<input type="checkbox"/> 19	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
WA State Efforts re: Puget Sound-----	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 17	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
①State of B.I. fish, streams, habitat-----	<input type="checkbox"/> 11	<input type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
TABLE TOP EXHIBITS -----	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 7	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
②State of Shellfish on B.I.-----	<input type="checkbox"/> 14	<input type="checkbox"/> 10	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
③Marine mammals, seabirds, invertebrates-----	<input type="checkbox"/> 16	<input type="checkbox"/> 7	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
①Shoreline permits/Stewardship Program	<input type="checkbox"/> 10	<input type="checkbox"/> 10	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3
②Teaching Shoreline Ecology at Schools-----	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 11	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
Overall Program -----	<input type="checkbox"/> 10	<input type="checkbox"/> 10	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 0

4. PERSONAL REACTION TO PROGRAM

	YES	TO SOME EXTENT	NO
Was the topic of the 7 th conference appropriate? -----	<input type="checkbox"/> 24	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did the program live up to your expectations?-----	<input type="checkbox"/> 21	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has this conference helped you understand the issues?-----	<input type="checkbox"/> 16	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you think we should have a conference next year? -----	<input type="checkbox"/> 22	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. FUTURE SUBJECTS Recommendations for future subjects: See Attachment C2

6. HELPFUL SUGGESTIONS FOR SPEAKERS/ORGANIZERS Critique of presentations/
 facilities/organization/food See Attachment C2

7. ANY OTHER COMMENTS ABOUT THE MORNING PART OF THE CONFERENCE?

See Attachment C2

8. After listening to the speakers today, what are your thoughts on the past and future for
 Bainbridge Island's aquatic life and habitat? See Attachment C2

Please pass in this sheet at end of morning, or mail to:

"2007 Conference Evaluation"/ABC, PO Box 10999, Bainbridge Is. 98110

Attachment C2 COMMENTS

5. FUTURE SUBJECTS

Alternative Energy Sources - tidal exchange, solar wind, etc.

Stay at IslandWood

(Bring back) Robert Michael Pyle, the butterfly guy.

Farming and diet - how it relates to environmental stewardship.

Population growth

Politics and the environment

Recycling

Sustainable architecture and building

Low impact development

Forest protection

Water Resource quality

Sustainability- community

Function of trees in the ecosystem - variety, function, and purpose.

More photo journalists and authors.

Definitely more wildlife photography.

More about nature photographs.

Impact of development - possibilities for limiting and mitigating adverse impacts

How we can help th environment as a community would be useful to the overall community.

Living sustainable.

Consequences & opportunities related to climate change - related to Bainbridge Is. and Puget Sound.

Legislative processes and public involvement

How to manage and live with NW native species

Getting the public involved

To what extent are public bodies observing environmental regulations?

6. HELPFUL SUGGESTIONS FOR SPEAKERS/ORGANIZERS

I'd like to hear from tribal organizations (didn't have any Native American speakers)

Peter Best should be more dynamic in his presentation

Excellent visual aids

Too little time for subjects.

As usual - too rushed. (You) Try to squeeze too much in too short a time.

The talks were to short to get much out of them. The photos did help a lot.

Limit it to three presentations to allow a more complete coverage.

The site is perfect - Excellent facility.

Great organization of program - good job keeping on time.

Nice facility, great food!

Presentations got long and a lot of boring presentations were about the same things and in the same format

(POWERPOINT gets old) {Note- this is by a student}

I really enjoyed Bill Curtsinger's presentations if you had more presentations like his with a photo journalist, I think this would engage more students and teens.

Puget Sound Partnership -since this is all prospective, there was too much time devoted to this slide show. The speaker was good - the topic was the problem. It could have been shorter or a handout.

Other than running a little late for part of it, everything was great.

Food: have snacks for between lectures (Student)

My favorite part was Bill Curtsinger's photographs and keynote speech. The visuals were amazing and really encouraging to young artists.

I felt that some speakers could have managed their time better, or involved the audience more.

Bill Curtsinger's' presentation was too much about him. He failed to take advantage of the opportunity to talk about the human impacts in the areas he knows well. Curtsinger didn't compare with Robert Michael Pyle as a keynote speaker.

Some talks were too short.

Speakers did not have enough time (too many wonderful choices, not enough time) Address more BAS issues
Where do we need more investment?

Most interesting segments frustratingly short; discussion topics in small groups at lunch

Room was very cold.

Would have liked to hear about "actions" not so much bureaucratic structure.

From my point of view, PowerPoint presentations are challenging to sit through, especially the ones with no pictures. If you continue with the same format in the future, I'd suggest an interactive presentation midway through, instead of at the end.

The one minute speakers' voices and messages weren't always clear. Maybe we can have them each at the front with the mike, and give them a bit more direction in speaking so that everyone can hear. It might be cool to have one slide from each group (logo and mission picture) sent in ahead so they could be projected behind each speaker as they share.

I'm wondering about the table presenters near the dining hall and if how they did out there?

7. OTHER COMMENTS

I LOVE having the students here.

Very timely.

Great job!

Overall very well run.

Excellent cross-section of our marine habitat

Very informative and motivating.

Handouts summarizing Puget Sound Partnership and Peter Best's talk would have been helpful.

Will speaker's talks be available on a website?

Any chance of combining with one of the films of the type Van Calvez used to find?

Congrats to all who worked so hard to put this together. I was pleased to read Jon Quitslund's article in the *Kitsap Sun* - he did a great job highlighting the conference

8. AFTER LISTENING TO THE SPEAKERS TODAY, WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE PAST AND FUTURE FOR BAINBRIDGE ISLAND'S AQUATIC LIFE AND HABITAT?

I have hopes!

Thank you for this wonderful effort to connect all the stakeholders.

Something needs to be done.

Hopefully we'll WAKE UP and stop devastating habitat through our bad habits.

In crisis! Turning point.

We must work harder.

Critical needs.

A conference next year is an absolute.

We have a long, tough road ahead to protect habitat and aquatic life.

Needs ver large infusion of taxpayer dollars.

BI/Puget Sound depends on more awareness and action pertaining t the state of our ecosystem.

Is BAINBRIDGE going to break my heart? Or restore my faith?

We should try to understand the effects we have on the environment and learn to minimize the problems.

It is a privilege to live here and have th opportunity to conserve, restore, and enjoy this environment.

We need to act fast.

Encouraged by growing activism.

We have a lot of work educating citizens now - and here we are "preaching to the choir."

A lifetime of work lies ahead.

Going to take a lot of effort and dedication to manage.

