

WALPA 2026 Conference Agenda, Celebrating Lake Heroes: Critters and Champions, Bellingham, WA								
Session	Mod	Pres ID	Start	Length	Stop	Presentation Title	Presenter	Affiliation
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 7, 2026								
Room Setup			11:30	1:30	13:00	Set-up sponsor tables and posters		
Opening Remarks			13:00	0:10	13:10	Conference Welcome	Wafa Tafesh	WALPA President
1. Sediment Gas, Toxics, and Benthos	Moderator: Will Hobbs	WPM1A Keynote	13:10	0:30	13:40	Reservoirs and Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Recent Progress in Understanding the Global Problem and Local Solutions	John Harrison	Washington State University, Vancouver
		WPM1B	13:40	0:20	14:00	Background Concentrations of Toxics in Washington Lakes and Rivers	William Hobbs	Washington State Department of Ecology
		WPM1C	14:00	0:20	14:20	Lake Chelan Toxics Characterization: Updated Mass Balance Highlights the Importance of Controlling Watershed Discharges of DDT to Lake Chelan	Philip Long	Lake Chelan Research Institute
		WPM1D	14:20	0:20	14:40	Littoral Periphyton Biomass and Community Composition Vary Across Space and Time in Lake Chelan, Washington State's Largest Lake	Nate Hough-Snee	Meadow Run Environmental and Lake Chelan Research Institute
		WPM1D Light	14:40	0:05	14:45	Burbot Modification of Benthic Habitat in Lake Chelan, Washington	Anna Galipeau	Lake Chelan Research Institute
Wednesday Afternoon Break			14:45	0:20	15:05	Break to Visit Sponsors and Posters		
2. HAB Management 1	Moderator: Darren Brandt	WPM2A	15:05	0:20	15:25	Long-term Limnology: What Can We Learn From 30+ years of Monitoring an Urbanizing Lake and its Tributaries?	Angela Strecker	Institute for Watershed Studies, Western Washington University
		WPM2B	15:25	0:20	15:45	Water Quality Improvements Following Sequential Partial Dosing of Lanthanum Modified Bentonite	Ryan Van Goethem	EutroPHIX
		WPM2C	15:45	0:20	16:05	Lessons from White Lake: Implementing Lanthanum for Harmful Algal Bloom Management	Ruth Thirkill and Eric Skibo	Herrera Environmental Consultants and Amaruk Environmental Services
		WPM2D	16:05	0:20	16:25	Continued Lake-Scale Application of Zero Valent Iron for Phosphorus Sequestration in Lake Steilacoom, Pierce County, Washington	Jake Walker	Northwest Aquatic Management
		WPM2E	16:25	0:20	16:45	Evaluating Where / When Zero Valent Iron Will be Effective in Mitigating Hazardous Blooms	Jeffrey Tepper	University of Puget Sound
		WPM2E	16:45	0:20	17:05	Aquatic Plant and Algae Management Permit Monitoring Requirements Feedback	Shawn Ultican	Washington State Department of Ecology
Concurrent Session								
3. Invasive Mussel Management	Moderator: Brian Turner	WPM3A	15:05	0:20	15:25	An Ecological Overview of Invasive Freshwater Mussels	Brian Turner	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
		WPM3B	15:25	0:20	15:45	Protecting our Waters: Prevention and Monitoring for Invasive Freshwater Mussels in Washington	Nicholas Plants and Casey Pruitt	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
		WPM3C	15:45	0:20	16:05	City of Bellingham Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Program	Meghan Crisp and Kelsey Ochoa	City of Bellingham
		WPM3D	16:05	0:20	16:25	Oregon Invasive Freshwater Mussel Prevention and Response Actions	Keith DeHart	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
		WPM3E	16:25	0:20	16:45	TBD		
		WPM3F	16:45	0:20	17:05	Invasive Mussel Discussion	All Presenters	
Auction, Sponsors, and Poster Presentations			17:05	2:00	19:05	Visit Posters, Sponsors, Raffle, and Silent/Live Auctions	Will Hobbs	Washington State Department of Ecology

THURSDAY OCTOBER 8, 2026								
Conference Welcome			8:30	0:10	8:40	Welcome and Announcements	Wafa Tafesh	WALPA President
4. Plankton Heroes	Moderator: Angela Strecker	TAM1A Plenary	8:40	0:50	9:30	Unsung Heroes of the Algae World	Robin Matthews	Western Washington University Emeritus
		TAM1B Keynote	9:30	0:30	10:00	Heroes of Freshwater Food Webs: Plankton Community Dynamics and the Role of Planktonic Grazers across Washington Lakes, Reservoirs and Rivers	Gretchen Rollwagen-Bollens	Washington State University Vancouver
		TAM1C	10:00	0:20	10:20	Long-term Changes and Stability of Lake Washington Zooplankton	Arielle Tonus Ellis	University of Washington
		TAM2D Light	10:20	0:05	10:25	Assessment of Thermal Structure and Plankton Phenology in Lake Whatcom, Washington (USA) in Response to Climate Change	Emily Flarry	Western Washington University
Thursday Morning Break			10:25	0:20	10:45	Break to Visit Sponsors and Posters		
5. Wildlife Heroes	Moderator: Pilar Deniston	TAM2A Plenary	10:45	0:50	11:35	Monet, Me, and the Mallards	Gregory Green	Western Washington University
		TAM2B Keynote	11:35	0:30	12:05	Beaver-Driven Resilience: Where Adaptable Meets Beneficial	Jen Vanderhoof	King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks
		TAM2C	12:05	0:20	12:25	Development of a Phytoplankton and Zooplankton Assessment Tool for Snohomish County	Darren Brandt, Jen Oden	Advanced Eco-Solutions
		TAM2E Light	12:25	0:05	12:30	Food-Web Interactions Along Residentially Lit Shorelines	Kerry Accola	University of Washington
Thursday Lunch and Business Meeting			12:30	1:20	13:50	Annual WALPA Business Meeting with Lunch Provided	Wafa Tafesh	WALPA President
6. HAB Management 2	Moderator: Jen Oden	TPM1A Keynote	13:50	0:30	14:20	Lake Spokane and Utah Lake: A Tale of Two Lakes – Over and Under Treatment	Mike Brett	University of Washington
		TPM1B	14:20	0:20	14:40	Challenges of Managing Both Cyanobacteria Blooms and Noxious Weed Invasions in Green Lake, Seattle, WA	Rob Zisette	Herrera Enviornmental Consultants and Friends of Green Lake
		TPM1C	14:40	0:20	15:00	Unsolved Mysteries - Keogh Lake Edition: The story of a meromictic lake and Planktothrix rubescens	Shannon Brattebo	Tetra Tech, Inc.
		TPM1D	15:00	0:20	15:20	Water Quality Characterization and Alternatives Evaluation for Clackamette Cove, an Urban Lake in Oregon City, OR	Mark Rosenkranz	Aquatic Insight LLC
		TPM1E	15:20	0:20	15:40	Developing LCMPs With Limited Resources: Pattison Lake’s Phased Approach	Katie Rodriguez	Herrera Environmental Consultants
Thursday Afternoon Break			15:40	0:20	16:00	Sponsor Table and Poster Breakdown		
7. Lake Regulation and Organization	Moderator: Rob Zisette	TPM2A	16:00	0:20	16:20	Washington Water Quality Standards Rulemakings: HABs and Lake Nutrients	Kalman Bugica	Washington Department of Ecology
		TPM2B	16:20	0:20	16:40	Holding the Line or Losing Ground? Tracking Shoreline Change in Snohomish County Lakes	Marisa Burghdoff	Snohomish County Surface Water Management
		TPM2C	16:40	0:20	17:00	Beyond the Science: Building Organizational Capacity to Advance Lake Restoration	Adrienne Mason	Executive Director at Friends of Vancouver Lake
		TPM2D	17:00	0:30	17:30	Lake Management Districts at a Crossroads: Lessons from Spanaway Lake and the Future of RCW 36.61	Timothy Clark and Brianne Blackburn	Herrera Environmental Consultants and Pierce County
Closing Remarks			17:30	0:10	17:40	Closing Remarks	Darren Brandt	WALPA President Elect
Evening Social			17:40	2:20	20:00	Share stories at Stemma Brewing - West at 500 Carolina St., Bellingham, WA 98225	Cathy Chen	WALPA Student Director

FRIDAY OCTOBER 9, 2026							
8. Algae ID Workshop	FAM1	8:30	4:00	12:30	Freshwater Algae Identification Workshop at Western Washington University	Robin Matthews	Western Washington University Emeritus
POSTERS							
Posters	Posters available for viewing on Wednesday and Thursday with author presentations on Wednesday evening	Physical and Biological Conditions in the Upper Toutle River System and Interplay with Invasive New Zealand Mudsnaills (NZMS): Possible Impacts on Chinook Salmon Reintroduction				Ash Breault, Rose Chapman, Emily Raker	University of Washington Tacoma
		Evaluating Aluminum Sulfate (Alum) Treatment for Reducing Arsenic Mobility in Lake Killarney Sediments				Zaire Sanders and Aurora Alexander	University of Washington Tacoma
		Sediment Characteristics and Greenhouse Gas Fluxes Following Dam Removals in the Klamath River Basin				Paloma Mireles	Washington State University Vancouver
		In-lab Study Investigating the Efficacy of Lanthanum-Modified Bentonite as an Arsenic Remediation Treatment in Shallow Freshwater Lakes Using Large Microcosms				Sophia McCarragher and Chloe Johnson	University of Washington Tacoma Environmental Sciences
		The Effects of Zero-Valent Iron on Arsenic Immobilization from Lake Sediments in Laboratory Experiments				Kaytlin Turner	University of Washington Tacoma
		Unraveling the Spatiotemporal Variability of Methane Emission Pathways in Small Reservoirs				Ruth Thirkill	Herrera Environmental Consultants
		Large-Scale Nutrient Reduction Efforts in the Coeur d'Alene Lake Basin				Pilar Deniston	Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
		Advancing Arsenic Remediation in the Laboratory: Large Microcosm Investigation of Lanthanum-modified Bentonite and Alum				Jade McCloud	University of Washington Tacoma
		Building a Vernal Pool to Encourage the Return of Pacific Chorus Frogs to Seattle's Green Lake				Rayna Gleason and Rob Zisette	Herrera Environmental Consultants and Friends of Green Lake