

Threat and Hazard Identification Workshop

Presenter Bio's

Day 1

Corina Forson, L.G. is the Chief Hazards Geologist and manages the earthquake, tsunami, and volcanic hazards section of the Survey. She has also performed geothermal research and mapping. Responsibilities include State science representative for the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program, school seismic safety project, tsunami hazard maps, hazard identification and publication. corina.forson@dnr.wa.gov

Helmut Schmidt is the Floodplain Services Supervisor for Pierce County. His work focuses on the Integrated approach for floodplain management. His career spans construction, water quality and infrastructure in the Surface Water Management division.

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Brynne Walker is a Floodplain Management Senior Planner with Pierce County Surface Water Management. She worked for State Emergency Management for 8 years working in the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program and managing the FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation and the Flood Mitigation Assistance programs. Brynne currently works with our Pierce County Flood Control Zone District and is coordinating the 2023 Rivers Flood Hazard Management Plan update.

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Stephen Slaughter is the landslide hazards program manager at the Washington Geological Survey at the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). He has worked on landslide hazards for much of his 15-year career at DNR, starting in forestry and then transitioning to the state geologic survey. The landslide team has published landslide inventories for King and Pierce Counties, the Columbia Gorge, and is completing Whatcom County. Since formation of the program and 5-person team in 2015, they have reviewed 9 percent of the state, covering 51 percent of the population, and identified 7600 landslides. STEPHEN.SLAUGHTER@dnr.wa.gov

Crystal Raymond is a climate adaptation specialist with the Climate Impacts Group (CIG) at the University of Washington. She conducts research on climate impacts and adaptation, and has applied her experience in her previous roles as an adaptation specialist with the US Forest Service and Seattle City Light. She works on climate change impacts related to forests, water, and local communities. She has a PhD in forest ecology from the University of Washington.

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Ashley Blazina is the Washington State Department of Natural Resources Community Wildfire Preparedness Coordinator. She has worked on prescribed burns, wildland fires, and fire risk assessment work in the Midwest, Appalachia, and Washington State.

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Chelsey Bell is an emergency planning coordinator with Pierce County Emergency Management. Responsibilities include conducting the greater Seattle capability assessment, the Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA), and the Pierce County Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA). Chelsey.bell@piercecountywa.gov

Cindy Miron, RN is the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department (TPCHD) Emergency Preparedness and Response Program Manager. She leads a team that plans with department staff and community partners to ensure coordinated health and medical response and recovery actions. Public Health is responsible for implementing the Medical Countermeasures program working with community partners to quickly dispense medications, vaccines, and equipment needed for medical emergencies such as Pandemic Influenza and bioterrorism incidents. She has public health experience as a nurse epidemiologist, Public Health Nurse Consultant, and Immunization Program Manager. cmiron@tpchd.org

Day 2

Richard Smith has a master's degree in Geology and over 26 years of experience with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He is currently the Dam Safety Program Manager for the Seattle District responsible for inspections, assessments, monitoring, training, and emergency response for the District's six dams. Richard.E.Smith@usace.army.mil

Kathy Vatter is the Supervisor of the Incident Response Program for the Olympic Region (Pierce, Thurston, and Kitsap Counties) with Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT). She started her career with WSDOT in as a maintenance technician in Aberdeen. In 1993 she was promoted into the Incident Response Program as a Lead Technician. She has been the supervisor of the Olympic Region for the past 2 years. She has responded to all types of incidents from a 2 car fender bender to a train derailment. VatterK@wsdot.wa.gov

David (Dave) Byers is the statewide Response Manager for the Washington State Dept. of Ecology. Dave's 24/7 hazmat team is responsible for responding to and cleaning up over 4,300 reported spills of oil, hazardous materials, and illegal drug labs annually. DBYE461@ECY.WA.GOV

Hillman S. Mitchell is the Founder and President of Critical Infrastructure CyberSecurity Consultants (CICSC).

Hillman has over 30 years of experience in computer and information systems engineering and security. He started his career with DuPont Research, where he first implemented cybersecurity techniques to protect real-time statistical process control systems that ran refineries and chemical plants, and SCADA systems that operated pipelines and offshore platforms.

He worked with Microsoft Consulting Services, as a Managing Consultant and served in several other roles during his career at Microsoft.

After leaving Microsoft, out of a desire to give back to the community, Hillman started working for the American Red Cross as a Government Liaison. His work at the American Red Cross led him to work in Emergency Management with the City of Tukwila, as the Emergency Management Manager; and then at King County as the Director of the Office of Emergency Management during the potential Howard Hansen Dam/Green River Flood Preparedness and Planning.

His work with regional critical infrastructure owners and operators, located in the Green River valley, sensitized him to the consequences of impact to, and the interdependencies between, critical infrastructure systems.

After leaving King County, Hillman started his consulting company to protect Critical Infrastructure from destabilization and destruction resulting from cyber-attacks. CICSC focuses on about 8 of the 16 Critical Infrastructure Sectors; prioritizing Life-Safety, Life Sustaining, and Quality of Life systems. hillmanm@cicsci.com