



## Robert Wheeler, P.E.

### Senior Associate

---

#### PROFILE

**Bob Wheeler** has over 40 years of experience in project management, meeting facilitation, and public outreach, including 10 years as Public Works Director for the City of Port Townsend. A licensed Professional Engineer, Bob combines a broad understanding of the policy and technical aspects of complex problems with extraordinary people skills and the ability to communicate effectively with scientists, policy-makers, and the public.

---

#### EXPERTISE

- Engineering
- Strategic Planning
- Public Involvement
- Facilitation
- Mediation

---

#### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution
- Water Environment Federation
- American Water Works Assoc.
- American Water Resources Assoc.
- Association for Conflict Resolution

---

#### PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Building Sustainable Agreements in Rural Areas – Association for Conflict Resolution Environment and Public Policy Conference, Portland, OR, June 2011 and USIECR National Conference, Tucson, AZ, 2012
- Int'l UN Forum on Online Dispute Resolution – “Multi-Party Online Dispute Resolution”, Victoria, B.C., Canada, 2008
- AWRA National Convention – “Observations on the State of WA Watershed Management Planning Process”, Seattle, WA, Nov. 10, 2005

---

#### PREVIOUS WORK EXPERIENCE

- Public Works Director, City of Port Townsend, WA 1990-2000
- Assistant Public Works Director, City of Boulder, CO, 1981-1990

---

#### EDUCATION

1977	1974
<i>M.S. Civil Engineering</i>	<i>B.S. Civil Engineering</i>
University of New Hampshire	University of New Hampshire

---

#### SELECTED EXPERIENCE

##### ***King County Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) Strategic Planning, 2016-2018***

- Managed the development of strategic plans for the WTD Biosolids, Recycled Water, and Technology Assessment and Innovation Programs.
- Facilitated Recycled Water Team meetings to develop strategic plan vision statements, goals, objectives, measures and actions.

##### ***NPS National Park Overflights Advisory Group (NPOAG) Facilitation, 2008-Ongoing***

- Facilitated a strategic planning session, NPOAG meetings and conference calls utilizing online collaboration technology.
- Developed agendas and ensured notices were published in the Federal Register for public participation.
- Enabled the Advisory Committee to agree on goals and objectives, and to develop a work plan.

##### ***Lower Duwamish Waterway Cleanup Facilitation and Public Engagement, 2010-2017***

- Organized meetings, provided strategic advice on approaches and presentations for successful meetings, and facilitated meetings for a broad and diverse group of stakeholders including representatives from tribes, trustees, NOAA, USACE, and an organization representing community interests.
- Originally developed a study of a former stakeholder group that led to recommendations on formation of a new stakeholder group. The study included recommendations on a new organizational structure, function, purpose, and steps on how to proceed in the future with these groups.
- Effort included facilitating several technical work sessions including one two-day technical workshop focused on the potential use of activated carbon as a sediment amendment.

## CONTACT



206-583-0655, Ext. 128



[rwheeler@triangleassociates.com](mailto:rwheeler@triangleassociates.com)



/robert-wheeler-1a0570a



/triangleassociates/



[www.triangleassociates.com](http://www.triangleassociates.com)



811 1st Avenue, Suite 255  
Seattle, WA 98104

## SELECTED EXPERIENCE, CONTINUED

### ***National Park Service (NPS) Air Tour Advisory Committee (ATAC) Facilitation, 2009-2011 and 2015***

- Facilitated ATAC meetings from 2009-2011.
- Facilitated a two-day ATAC meeting in April 2015 as it considered numerous issues related to air tours over national parks.
- Led ATAC to provide several recommendations and guidance to NPS on Voluntary Agreement and Interim Operating Authority issues, the Wilderness Air Tour Noise Assessment Framework, criteria for park exemptions, and impact analyses.

### ***Alaska Placer Mining Agency Facilitation, 2014-2015***

- Facilitated conference calls and meetings with Federal and State agency stakeholders, including strong representation from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), as they worked on determining what requirements and components would be included in a new Regional General Permit (RGP) for Alaska Placer mining.
- Stakeholders moved toward agreement and the process resulted in a new USACE Regional General Permit.

### ***NPS Natural Sounds and Night Skies Division (NSNSD) Strategic Planning Retreats, 2009-2011***

- Facilitated annual internal NPS Natural Sounds and Night Skies Division retreats. Attended by both senior leadership and technical staff, these workshops were an opportunity for the Division to work together to review agency goals, objectives, and accomplishments, as well as identify milestones for the next year.
- Triangle's support included interviewing more than 15 agency staff, preparing workload reports for review during the retreats, assisting with agenda and materials development, retreat facilitation, note taking, and developing summary reports.

### ***Lake Ozette Sockeye Salmon Recovery Plan, 2006-Ongoing***

- Led and facilitated regular meetings of the Lake Ozette Sockeye Steering Committee (LOSSC) as it provided input and information to NOAA Fisheries as a Recovery Plan was prepared to address the listing of Lake Ozette Sockeye Salmon. The LOSSC included a diverse public including tribes, governmental representatives, timber companies, private property owners, and environmental interests.
- Provides strategic advice on ongoing implementation efforts.

### ***Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Coos Bay Pilot, 2011***

- Provided facilitation, public involvement guidance, and project management for the BLM and Coquille Tribe as they demonstrated ecosystem restoration and harvest regeneration through a collaborative pilot project.
- Conducted a series of stakeholder interviews and led a BLM – Tribal meeting to help the agency and Tribe identify and resolve key environmental, policy, regulatory, and economic issues.
- Facilitated a public meeting and two “on-the-ground” field trips focused on the pilot project, a new approach for addressing forest management in a “wet” Northwest forest, and a unique BLM/Tribal co-management of the process and timber harvest.

## **SELECTED EXPERIENCE, CONTINUED**

### ***Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Work Group (AMWG) Facilitation and Long term Experimental and Management Plan Environmental Impact Statement (LTEMP EIS), 2012-2016***

- Led the AMWG to agreement on annual water year release recommendations for the Secretary of the Interior, technical study plans, budget recommendations, High Flow Experiment agreements, and approaches for future scenarios in order to meet a variety of riverine goals, including the recovery of the endangered humpback chub.
- Worked collaboratively with the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, Reclamation and Glen Canyon Monitoring and Research Center staff, and others in planning for these meetings, including meeting agendas and other materials.
- Facilitated a three-day live, LTEMP EIS structured decision-making process meeting.
- Facilitated two LTEMP EIS public meetings in early 2016.

### ***Facilitation of the Federal Advisory Committee on Detection and Quantitation Approaches and Use in Clean Water Act Program, 2005-2008***

- Facilitated this process involving states, industry, utilities, environmental laboratories, environmental interests, and EPA. The Committee was tasked to make recommendations to EPA on the determination of a procedure for detection and quantitation in analytical environmental laboratory testing and the uses of such a procedure.
- Coordinated multi-stakeholder interest group meetings using in-person and online collaborative technology.
- Facilitated 10 multi-day Committee meetings in Washington, D.C., three full Committee teleconference meetings, and more than 120 teleconference meetings of technical and policy work groups.
- Facilitated preparation of the Committee's final report to the EPA Administrator.

### ***Facilitation of Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary Management Plan Review, 2007-2009***

- Provided strategic advice and facilitation for initial efforts of the Sanctuary's first Management Plan Review process.
- Designed and facilitated meetings of the Intergovernmental Policy Council to enable the four treaty tribes on the Olympic Coast and the State of Washington to identify their priority topics for Management Plan Review.
- Helped design the facilitation of a successful prioritization process involving the Sanctuary's Advisory Council.

### ***Facilitation of EPA Tribal Water Quality Standards Project, 2007-2008***

- Co-facilitated a pilot process for EPA involving the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality and the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes to build a working relationship for water quality standards development as the Tribes proceeded through the application process for "Treatment in the Same Manner as a State" under the Clean Water Act.
- Worked with tribes, the State, and EPA to reach agreement on the basic water quality standards proposed by the Tribes and develop cooperation and communication protocols for future interactions.

### ***EPA Aquifer Storage and Recovery – "Experts Meeting", 2009***

- Facilitated a group of 45 experts from EPA, both from headquarters and the regions, other federal agencies, states, local governments, and other stakeholders in plenary discussions and breakout groups providing information and input to EPA on ASR projects and programs. The meeting represented both how projects are developed and regulated as well as what role EPA should play in ASR efforts. The results of this successful meeting were used by EPA as they developed a program for more active EPA involvement in ASR efforts.

### ***Public Works Director, City of Port Townsend, WA, 1990-2000***

- Administered and managed the Public Works Department, including supervision of a department of 40 employees.
- Responsible for watershed protection, water, wastewater, stormwater, transportation, parks, recreation, equipment rental, solid waste, facilities, budget, financial studies and rate setting.
- Successfully facilitated, mediated, and negotiated planning, design and construction of watershed, wastewater, water, storm water, parks, and transportation facilities.
- Led public involvement of an active community on a wide range of capital projects that resulted in well-received projects with public support.
- Led negotiations with regulatory agencies, including Washington Departments of Ecology, Health, DNR, and Transportation as well as with the U.S. Forest Service and tribal governments.
- Successfully reached agreement with the U.S. Forest Service on protections and approaches for preserving the City's Big and Little Quilcene Watersheds to avoid costly filtration of the City's water supply. This involved a watershed report on the history, existing situation, and protection needs from the forest, participating in public meetings, and negotiating an agreement with the Quilcene National Forest that provided for forest management protections.