

# THE WILLIAM D. RUCKELSHAUS CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON



## Amanda Murphy

*Sr. Project Lead  
WSU Extension Faculty*

Amanda is a Senior Project Lead at William D. Ruckelshaus Center and Washington State University Extension Faculty. At the Ruckelshaus Center, Amanda designs and leads multi-party collaborative processes that help people work together to develop and implement shared solutions to challenging public policy issues. She designed and leads the Center's Collaboration Governance Training Program and provides trainings on systems thinking, conducting assessments and interviews, collaborative problem-solving, conflict resolution and facilitation. Amanda also designed and co-leads the Center's Collaborative Leaders Internship Program.

### KEY AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Process and Program Design
- Project Management
- Situation Assessment, Survey Design, and Interviewing
- Facilitation
- Conflict Resolution and Collaborative Problem Solving
- Adaptive Leadership, Coaching, and Mentoring
- Collaborative Governance Training
- Intergovernmental Relations
- Strategic Planning

### PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND AFFILIATIONS

- Mentor, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Emerging Leaders in Science & Society
- Leadership Council, Association for Conflict Resolution Environment and Public Policy Section
- University Network for Collaborative Governance

### EDUCATION AND TRAINING

BS, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, University of Arizona, 2007  
MMA, Marine & Environmental Affairs, University of Washington, 2011

### HONORS AND AWARDS

- Volunteer Service Award, National Association for Conflict Resolution, Environment and Public Policy, 2016
- Western Extension and Research Directors Awards of Excellence Regional Qualifying Program, Voluntary Stewardship Program, 2015
- Volunteer Service Award, Emerging Leaders in Science and Society, American Association for the Advancement of Sciences, 2015
- Rob Williams Award for Emerging Environment and Public Policy Leaders, 2012

## Selected Project Experience

**Washington State Criminal Sentencing Task Force, 2019-present:** Project Lead and co-facilitating Washington State's Criminal Sentencing Task Force. Recently created by the Legislature, the Task Force will be reviewing state sentencing laws and providing recommendations on reducing sentencing implementation complexities and errors, improving the effectiveness of the sentencing system, and promoting and improving public safety.

### **A Road Map to Washington's Future, 2017-2019:**

Co-Lead a two-year project, requested by the Legislature, to explore what people desire for Washington's future and identify additions, revisions, or clarifications to the state's growth planning framework needed to reach that future. Conducted 67 workshops in 26 locations across the State and hundreds of interviews to understand how the framework aligns with, creates barriers to, and/or supports the desired future of the communities it is meant to serve. More than 2,500 individuals participated, which included nearly 400 elected officials. The final report to the Legislature provides a series of transformational changes and key reforms that could bring the framework and desired future into better harmony.

### **Washington State Coast Resilience, 2016-2017:**

Lead an assessment sponsored by Washington Department of Ecology and U.S. Representative Derek Kilmer to identify long-term resilience opportunities for Washington's coastal communities in response to growing concerns about erosion, flooding, and landslides; the number and severity of storms; predictions about rising sea levels; and a potentially large earthquake and tsunami. Conducted 104 interviews, designed a coast-wide initiative, and prepared a report with recommendations to enhance and support coast-wide resilience efforts.

**Snohomish Health District, 2016-2017:** Conducted a situation assessment to capture a range of perspectives on how the Snohomish Health District should provide public health services, fund those services, provide effective and efficient governance, and identify opportunities for collaboration. The assessment consisted of interviews with 73 individuals involved with public health in Snohomish County and a report recommending process options to better achieve desired outcomes regarding public health service provision, funding, and effective governance.

### **Ruckelshaus Center Collaborative Leaders Internship Program, 2015-present:**

Developed and co-leading the Center's Collaborative Leaders Internship Program. The program provides graduate students and recent graduates opportunities to work side by side with professionals and mentors on collaborative public policy projects and to cultivate collaborative skill sets needed to be successful in the field.

## Selected Project Experience, continued

**Joint SR 530 Landslide Commission, 2014:** Project manager and co-facilitator for a joint commission formed by the Governor and Snohomish County Executive in response to the SR 530 landslide of March 2014 that took the lives of 43 people in the Stillaguamish Valley. The Commission's report of recommendations led to signed legislation clarifying the state's fire service mobilization law and for \$4.6 million to develop a database of lidar maps of landslide-prone areas.

**Puget Sound Monitoring, 2014:** Conducted a review of the Puget Sound Partnership's Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program, to assess whether essential characteristics, particularly transparent decision-making, availability and credibility of data, and accountability and trust, are being achieved. Such a review was included in the resolution that created PSEMP to evaluate progress towards ecosystem recovery and improve the scientific basis for management actions throughout Puget Sound.

**Columbia River Basin Salmon and Steelhead Recovery Situation Assessment, 2013-2015:** Project manager for the Center and co-led a team of practitioners from WA, OR, and ID asked by NOAA Fisheries to conduct an assessment of regional views about salmon and steelhead recovery planning in the Columbia River Basin over the long term. The assessment consisted of 206 interviews with key people involved in salmon recovery planning from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana, and a report summarizing key themes and potential process options. In partnership with Oregon Consensus, assisted NOAA Fisheries in designing a collaborative regional process called the Columbia Basin Partnership to establish a long-term vision and recovery goals in the Basin.

**Columbia River Gorge Commission, 2012-2015:** Teamed with Oregon Consensus at Portland State University and conducted an assessment to identify common ground for resource protection and community development in the Columbia River Gorge and designed a process to complete legal descriptions for urban areas boundaries for maps of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act.

**Collaborative Governance Training Program and Collaborative Leaders Internship Program, 2011-present:** Developed and currently leading the Center's Collaborative Governance Training Program. Providing trainings on systems thinking, conducting assessments and interviews, collaborative problem-solving, conflict resolution, facilitation, managing change, and communication skills. For example: Provided situation assessment and conflict management training for the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Emerging Leaders in Science & Society Fellows in 2014-2016; communications, conflict resolution and consensus-seeking training to incoming students participating in The Evergreen State College's 2013 Civic Engagement Institute; teamed with Oregon Consensus to provide communication and collaboration training to the Columbia River Gorge Commission and; teamed with the National Policy Consensus Center at Portland State University to provide collaboration training to the staff at the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' Aquatics Division.

**Washington Coastal Marine Advisory Council, 2011-2013:** Project manager and neutral convener of a coastal stakeholder advisory body that provided the WA State Ocean Caucus and the Governor's Office with input on marine and ocean policy issues on Washington's Pacific Ocean Coast.

**Voluntary Stewardship Program, 2010-2014:** Provided facilitation, coordination, and logistical support for this project that has led to a landmark agreement and state legislation on how to collaboratively protect and enhance environmentally critical areas on agricultural land, while preserving a strong farm economy. Project manager from 2012-2014, assisting the Washington State Conservation Commission to implement the VSP.

**Surplus Salmon, 2010:** Provided support for this project to help the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife work with its stakeholders to make recommendations for disposing of salmon at hatcheries in order to best utilize the resource, increase revenues to regional fisheries enhancement groups, and enhance the provision of nutrients to food banks.

**Sacred Sites on US Forest Service Forests and Grasslands, 2010-2011:** Provided project management support and coordination for a year-long effort to review Forest Service policy on tribal access to, and protection of, Sacred Sites on lands managed by the US Forest Service.

**Establishing Water Quality Standards on the Nez Perce Reservation, 2010-2011:** Provided project and facilitation support for the Nez Perce Tribe, the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10 who have agreed to work together through a collaborative approach to explore ways to establish appropriate water quality standards that apply within the Nez Perce Reservation.

**Public Involvement Plan and Facilitation of Shoshone Bannock Tribal Water Quality Standards Development, 2010-2011:** Provided coordination and logistical support to EPA and the Shoshone Bannock Tribes to develop and implement a public involvement strategy, public involvement process, and documents for the public to review for the tribe's water quality standards.