

MEET OUR FELLOWS

NW CASC Research Fellowship & Faculty Fellowship Programs

expand the community of Northwest researchers equipped to effectively co-produce actionable science.

2024-25 Research Fellows

These graduate students and postdocs across the NW CASC Consortium will conduct one-year climate adaptation projects in collaboration with regional natural resource managers, while receiving training in the practice of actionable science.



ALEX BENTLEY

Advisor | Andrés Holz, PSU

What are the Ecological Mechanisms Behind Conifer Decline in Southwest Oregon?



BROOKE BAIN-WHITE

Advisor | Leo Bodensteiner, WWU

Can Lakes Serve as Summertime Refugia for Climate-Sensitive Bull Trout?



JANE VAN GUNST

Advisors | Clinton Epps & Rebecca Terry, OSU

Using Non-invasive Measures of Stress and Microclimate to Assess how Landscape and Habitat Shape Refugia for the American Pika



JEREMY BROOKS

Advisor | Lisa Eby, UM

Can We Promote More Resilient Stream Ecosystems by Managing Fires to Burn as Mosaics?





KATIE KEARNEY

Advisor | Catherine de Rivera, PSU

**Assessing Western Sword
Fern Microhabitat for
Northern Red-Legged
Frogs: A Possible Refuge
in a Warming Climate**



KELECHI IBEH

Advisor | Austin Himes, WSU

**How do Forest Management
Strategies Shape the Future
of Ecosystem Services in the
Pacific Northwest Under
Climate Change?**



MARCIA GARCIA

Advisor | Jennifer Ruesink, UW

**Fish and Crustacean
Response to Native
and Non-native
Eelgrass**



MORGAN CALAHAN

Advisor | Stephanie Galla, BSU

**Estimating Remaining
Diversity in Columbian
Sharp-Tailed Grouse
to Inform Next Steps
in Conservation**



ZACHARY BENGTSSEN

Advisor | Steven Roberts, UW

**How do Environmental
Stressors and
Restoration Practices
Impact Genetic Variation
in Olympia Oysters?**



2026 Faculty Fellows

These faculty across the NW CASC Consortium will collaborate with resource managers to co-produce translational products — like tools, databases, protocols or workshops — derived from recent research to make it readily accessible and useful to decision-makers, while receiving training in the practice of actionable science.



**CLAIRE
WILLING**

University of Washington

**Can Post-fire Fungi Help
Forests Recover After
Stand-replacing Fire?**



**JAY
CARLISLE**

Boise State University

**What do they do Without
their Namesake Tree?
Mapping Suitable Habitat
for Idaho's Pinyon Jays in a
Pinyon-Sparse State**



**REBECCA
HUTCHINSON**

Oregon State University

**How can Machine
Learning Tools and
Citizen Science Data
Support Oregon's State
Wildlife Action Plan?**



**SAM
KASTNER**

Western Washington University

**How do Long Wave
Dynamics and
Temperature Variability
Affect Clam Gardens in
the Northwest?**



**How do we meet
today's climate
challenges?**

***By training a new kind
of scientist.***



NORTHWEST
Climate Adaptation
Science Center

nwcasc.uw.edu