

Emily Stranz

Facilitator & Mediator

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Overview

Emily has over thirteen years of experience as an interpersonal mediator and group facilitator for conflicts ranging from workplace disputes to intergovernmental conflict resolution and consensus building. Since 2012, she has worked on a number of public policy facilitation processes, involving planning, conflict management and consensus building, facilitation, mediation, and communication. She is practiced in working with community stakeholder groups, as well as all levels of Tribal, County, State, and Federal governments, always with a focus on helping give voice to the diversity of perspectives around the table. Emily's attention to transparent, well thought-out process, and her dedication to creating opportunities for participants to fully engage, creates productive and meaningful outcomes. As a result of both professional and educational experiences, Emily brings a depth of knowledge and understanding about conflict, its effective management, and interest-based problem solving. Emily has a unique understanding of how social, environmental, and cultural values shape decision making and public policy, as well as knowledge of ecological systems and natural resource management practices from years of experience working as a Watershed/Resource Technician. Emily holds a Bachelors of Arts in Environmental Studies and a Masters of Science in Conflict Resolution, with a natural resource management focus.

Formal Education

| Masters in Conflict Resolution - Natural Resources Portland State University | 2013 |
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| Volunteer Management Institute Washington State University Extension | 2008 |
| Bachelors of Arts in Environmental Studies University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon | 2006 |
| Intensive Summer Language Program University of Oviedo, Oviedo, Spain | 2004 |

Relevant Work History

DS Consulting, Facilitator/Mediator June 2012- present
Six Rivers Community Mediation, Mediation Coordinator November 2008- November 2013
Underwood Conservation District, Fish Passage/Watershed Technician May 2009- August 2011
Hood River Watershed Group, Watershed Assistant January 2008- November 2008
Eugene Water and Electric Board, Landscape Water Auditor May - September 2006

Related Work Experience

Lake Roosevelt National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Project Specific Programmatic Agreement

January 2022 - present

Lead facilitator of a consensus-seeking multi-stakeholder process aimed at developing a project specific programmatic agreement for the management of cultural resources with the Lake Roosevelt Region and tiered under the Federal Columbia River Power System Programmatic Agreement. This effort includes 8 Tribal, State and Federal government agencies. Efforts include project assessment, process design, facilitation, issue resolution, and interest-based problem-solving support.

Fifteenmile Creek Managed Underground Storage Facility Stakeholder Group September 2021 – February 2023

Lead facilitator of a regional stakeholder group consisting of 16 Tribal, State, Federal, and regional government agencies, along with private businesses, watershed council, and community members. Efforts include process design and planning, stakeholder outreach, meeting facilitation, and conflict management, with the goal of seeking consensus on the ownership and management of the underground water storage facility, a first of its kind in the region.

Flexible Spill Working Group

January 2021- present

Lead facilitator of a regional technical and policy working group consisting of 13 Tribal, State, and Federal natural resource agencies. Efforts include process planning, conflict management and facilitation.

Columbia River Basin Federal Caucus

December 2018-present

Lead facilitator for a collaborative group made up of 10 Federal agencies focused on coordination of endangered fish recovery and water quality efforts within the Columbia River Basin. Efforts include monthly coordination and facilitation of the Caucus meetings, as well as planning and facilitation of bi-annual regional executive meetings.

Columbia River Regional Implementation Oversight Group – Technical Management Team *July 2012 - present*

Lead facilitator of a multi- agency team consisting of 15 Tribal, State, and Federal sovereigns, focused on collaboratively managing the Columbia River system, within the parameters of NOAA biological opinions and the Endangered Species Act. Efforts include facilitation of weekly meetings, process guidance, planning, and documentation; additionally, assist with consensus building and conflict resolution at the group and interpersonal level.

Willamette Action Team for Ecosystem Restoration – Steering Team and Research, Management and Evaluation Team

June 2016 – present

Lead facilitator of the WATER Research, Management and Evaluation Team and process support for the Steering and Managers teams, as part of NOAA's Biological Opinion. (Note: Lead Facilitator of the Steering Team as of January 2022.) Teams include Tribal, State, and Federal sovereigns and the Northwest Power and Conservation Council. Efforts include monthly meeting support and facilitation, assisting with annual workplan development, process guidance, and documentation.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Washington Ecological Services April 2021 – September 2021

Co-Lead Facilitator of strategic planning effort with Washington Ecological Services to develop a statewide five-year strategic plan. Efforts included process design, planning and management, facilitation of a statewide leadership team and eight organizational teams, and drafting and consensus review of the strategic plan.

Columbia River System Operations Senior Executive, Deputy, Legal and Policy TeamsAugust 2017 – January 2021

Lead facilitator of executive, deputies, policy, and legal teams made up of representatives from five Federal action and regulatory agencies. Efforts include weekly coordination, planning, and facilitation of team meetings as part of the National Environmental Policy Act and Endangered Species Act processes. Additional efforts include planning and facilitation of the regional Cooperating Agency Group as part of the Columbia River Systems Operation EIS process; the Cooperating group is made up of representatives from regional Tribal, Federal State, and County governments.

Endangered Species Act Programmatic Consultation for Forest Management Program – Technical and Legal Teams

February 2017-February 2018

Lead facilitator for Endangered Species Act (ESA) consultation effort. Efforts included working with managers and technical leads from US Bureau of Land Management, US Fish and Wildlife, and National Marine Fisheries Service to collaboratively develop the Biological Assessment for programmatic consultation of the BLM's forest management actions in Western Oregon.

Hood River Forest Collaborative

April 2016 - December 2017

Lead facilitator of multi-stakeholder consensus-based process aimed at providing recommendations to the regional U.S. Forest Service Forest Supervisor regarding forest management in the Hood River Ranger District. Stakeholders included 14 interest groups, Tribal, County, State and Federal sovereigns. Efforts included coordination, facilitation, conflict resolution and data tracking processes, and providing written record of group deliberations and decisions.

Additional Training Received

- Over 460 hours of conflict resolution, mediation, facilitation, and public participation training (*April 2009 present*)
- Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery Training from Bob Miller (October 2021)
- Recognizing and Interrupting Racism from Rakeem Washington and Kasia Rutledge, (February 2021)

- Navigating Racism & Oppression in Indian Country While Being an Ally Training from Native Wellness Institute (December 2020)
- Federal Indian Policy training from Bob Miller (July 2020)
- From Fur Traders to Fish Wars Training from Katy Barber (August 2020)
- White Ally Toolkit Training from Dr. David Campt, PhD. (June 2020)
- Becoming a Compassionate Warrior: Ally Skills for Talking About Race from Dr. David Campt, PhD. (November 2018)
- Oregon Farming Co-Existence Mediation Training (January 2016)
- Attended (and assisted with) DHS/OHA "Ethics for Managers" and DHS "Leadership Academy" (2014)
- Advanced Facilitation Training DS Consulting (December 2013)
- Facilitating Collaborative Processes Resolution Northwest (September 2012)
- Washington Dept. of Commerce Foreclosure Fairness Act Mediation Training (June 2011 & May 2013)
- Public Policy Facilitation University of Oregon (February 2010)
- WA Department of Fish & Wildlife Fish Passage Technician Training (May 2009)

Professional Affiliations

Oregon Consensus Affiliated Practitioner Team member, (January 2017- present)

Oregon Department of Justice approved Mediator, Facilitator (November 2016-present)

Oregon USDA Farming Co-Existence Program Mediator (January 2016 - present)

Oregon Mediation Association Member (November 2008 - present)

Six River Dispute Resolution Center Board Member, (April 2017-April 2019)

Oregon Mediation Association Membership Committee Co-Chair (April 2012- February 2015)

Washington Department of Commerce Certified Foreclosure Mediator (June 2011-December 2014)

Resolution Washington Collaboration Committee (March 2012-November 2013)