

Northwest Floodplain Management Association

Alaska / British Columbia / Washington / Oregon / Idaho

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Conference Makes It Official

The Northwest Floodplain Management Association held their first conference in May. The one-day event, "Floods, Salmon, and People", was held in Seattle, Washington. Over 120 people attended, some from each state and province in the Association (Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia).

During breaks, the room was buzzing with small group discussions as the audience reviewed displays on technical products, new literature, and services available from consultants and agencies.

Members elected the 1994 Board of Directors during the conference. (The Board of Directors is presented in the box on page 5.) Membership in the organization has continued to grow and now stands at over 156 people. Judging from the numerous

feedback forms, the conference was successful and fun. Almost all of the speakers were listed as 'most interesting' or 'most informative' by someone in attendance.



We had an attentive audience at our first conference - where's Waldo?

The conference provided a strong technical program as well as a chance to meet and socialize with others involved in floodplain management issues across the region. A welcome letter from Larry Larson, Executive Director of the Association of State Floodplain Managers, was read during the introduction by Alan Wald. Speakers included Washington State Representative Rob Johnson with an update on the 1994 Flood Bill; Eric Bonham of the British Columbia Ministry of Environment with a presentation on Canadian floodplain programs; and Mike Houck of the Urban Streams Council speaking on urban stream values and multiple objective management of floodplains. Other speakers discussed bioengineering, Wild and Scenic Rivers programs, Native American issues, and a panel addressed integration of floodplains, wetlands, stormwater, and recreation projects.



Washington Representative Rob Johnson responds to a question from a Senate staffer in the audience.