



OREGON SECTION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL & ENGINEERING  
GEOLOGISTS

February 2013

Volume 13, Number 6

The Official

# OREGON SECTION AEG NEWSLETTER

<http://www.aegoregon.org>

## February Meeting Details

Tuesday February 19<sup>th</sup>

Location: Old Market Pub

6959 SW Multnomah

Portland, Oregon

6:00 pm Social

6:45 pm Dinner

7:30 pm Presentation

Dinner: Pizza & Salad

\$20 Dinner (\$5 Students)

### Reservations:

[mwegner@cornforthconsultants.com](mailto:mwegner@cornforthconsultants.com)  
with "AEG Reservation" in  
the subject line or 971-222-  
2047 by 4pm Thur. Feb. 14

There is a \$2 surcharge for  
those who do not reserve by  
the deadline.

### Upcoming Meetings:

Mar 19<sup>th</sup> Matthew Morris  
Apr 16<sup>th</sup> Student Poster Night  
May 21<sup>st</sup> James McCaplin



## A tale of two rivers (and a few others); geologic and physiographic controls on gravel bed rivers in Oregon

Guest Speaker: Jim O'Connor

Umpqua River



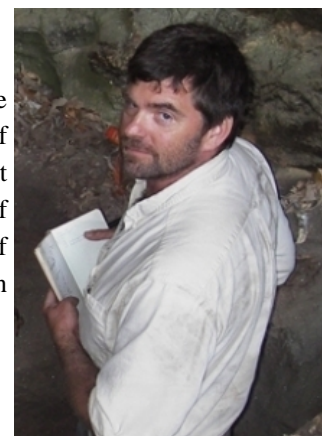
Rogue River

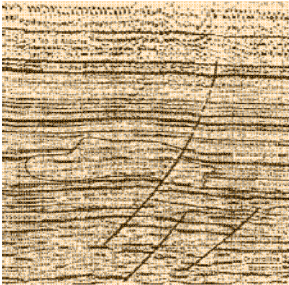


Oregon's beautiful rivers come in a diversity of forms, from the wide and winding gravel channel of the lower Rogue River, to the fluted bare bedrock bed of the Umpqua. What controls these differences? To make a long story short, it's the geology. But it's not the geology of the river bed, it's the geology of the basin. From a regional analysis of river morphology, sediment yield, and aspects of sediment transport, it seems that lithologic controls exert overarching and far-reaching influence on the distribution of alluvial and non-alluvial channels and their consequently distinctive morphologies and behaviors—differences germane for understanding river response to tectonics and environmental perturbations, as well as for implementing effective restoration and monitoring strategies.

## Bio: Jim O'Connor

Jim O'Connor is a Pacific Northwest native long interested in the processes and events that shape the remarkable and diverse landscapes of the region. Following this interest with a Geological Science major at University of Washington and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees at University of Arizona, he has spent the last 20 years focused on the "science of scenery", for the last 17 years with the U.S. Geological Survey Oregon Water Science Center in Portland.





## Message from the Chair

Thanks so much to everyone who attended the Joint ASCE/AEG meeting in January. We had a very successful event, with approximately 100 folks in attendance. I know I speak for all when I say thanks again to the ASCE Geotechnical group and their supporters for sponsoring the students at the meeting. It was a nice surprise for the students, and appreciated by everyone. The presentation on the Willamette River Transit Bridge by Dave Higgins, Derrick Hayes, and Steve Litchfield was wonderful, and we thank Shannon & Wilson and HNTB for supporting their efforts.

Everyone will be delighted to hear Jim O'Connor speak at our February meeting. Jim, whose work's passion is the "science of scenery" (how great is that!), always presents on fantastic topics in an inspiring and insightful way. "Geologic and physiographic controls on gravel bed rivers in Oregon" – I'm expecting geologists and engineers alike will find something to appreciate. With Oregon rivers, you know the photography will be grand. Jim, thanks in advance.

Recently, Scott Braunsten forwarded an email about an Oregon State Board of Geologist Examiners (OSBGE) Engineering Geology Examination Committee Meeting being held February 4th, 10 AM, in Longview, WA. The focus of this meeting is ongoing administration of the joint Oregon-Washington examination for Certified Engineering Geologists, and the outcome could affect our CEG members. Meeting details and agenda can be found here: <http://www.oregon.gov/osbge/pages/index.aspx>. Please let me know if you plan to (or did) attend this meeting.

## AEG 2013 Annual Meeting - Call for Abstracts

The Call for Abstracts for the 2013 Annual AEG Meeting in Seattle has been issued. Details can be found at <http://www.aegweb.org/events/aeg-annual-meeting/2013-seattle>. The deadline for abstracts is May 1, 2013.

## Needs Assessment for AEG

National AEG is kicking off a Needs Assessment, and it needs our collective help. Based on recent trends in declining membership and associated challenges, the purposes of the study are to evaluate where we stand as an organization, identify needs we aren't fulfilling, and provide recommendations for Strategic Planning to get us where we want to be.

The Needs Assessment Team is comprised of members of all types (self-employed and those at consulting firms, students, professors, suppliers, contractors, long-timers, and Past Presidents) and is headed by Deb Green and Duane Krueger. At the team's direction, Loyalty Research Center will be contacting members during winter/spring 2013 to conduct short interviews (by phone or email). Please, for a better future for us and those who follow, respond to the request in an honest and timely manner. Your input matters.

This program was discussed in detail and with enthusiasm at the annual meeting in Salt Lake City. It's good to see it take shape. We will have slides about the Needs Assessment cycling at the February meeting.

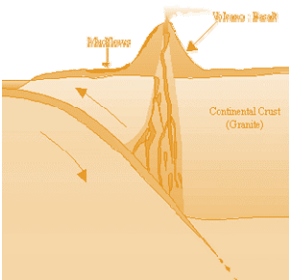
See you there,  
Robin Johnston, RG  
AEG Oregon Section Chair

## Message from the GSA Environmental & Engineering Geology Division

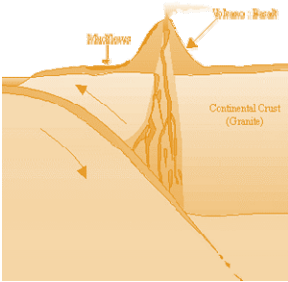
The GSA Rocky Mountain Section Meeting abstract deadline is February 12, 2013. There are several theme sessions on environmental and engineering geology topics, which can be found at <http://www.geosociety.org/Sections/rm/2013mtg/techProg.htm>. We encourage you to submit an abstract and/or attend the Section Meeting.

We would also like to invite you to participate in the upcoming GSA Annual Meeting October 27-30, 2013 in Denver. <http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/2013/>. We will likely have topical sessions at this meeting focused on environmental and engineering geology. 2013 is the 125th anniversary of GSA and the Environmental & Engineering Geology Division would like you to come celebrate with us!

Matt Crawford  
Member-At-Large  
GSA Environmental & Engineering Geology Division  
<http://rock.geosociety.org/egd/index.html>







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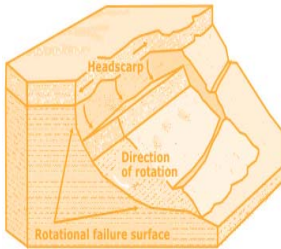
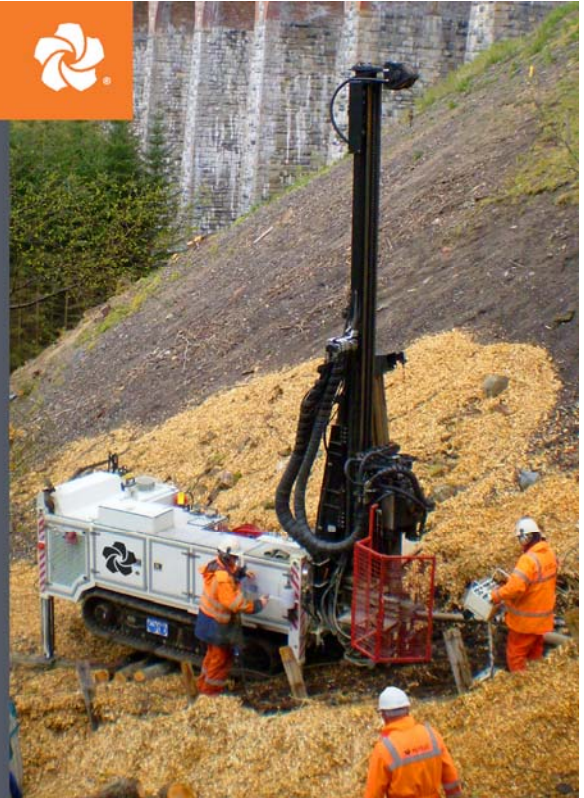
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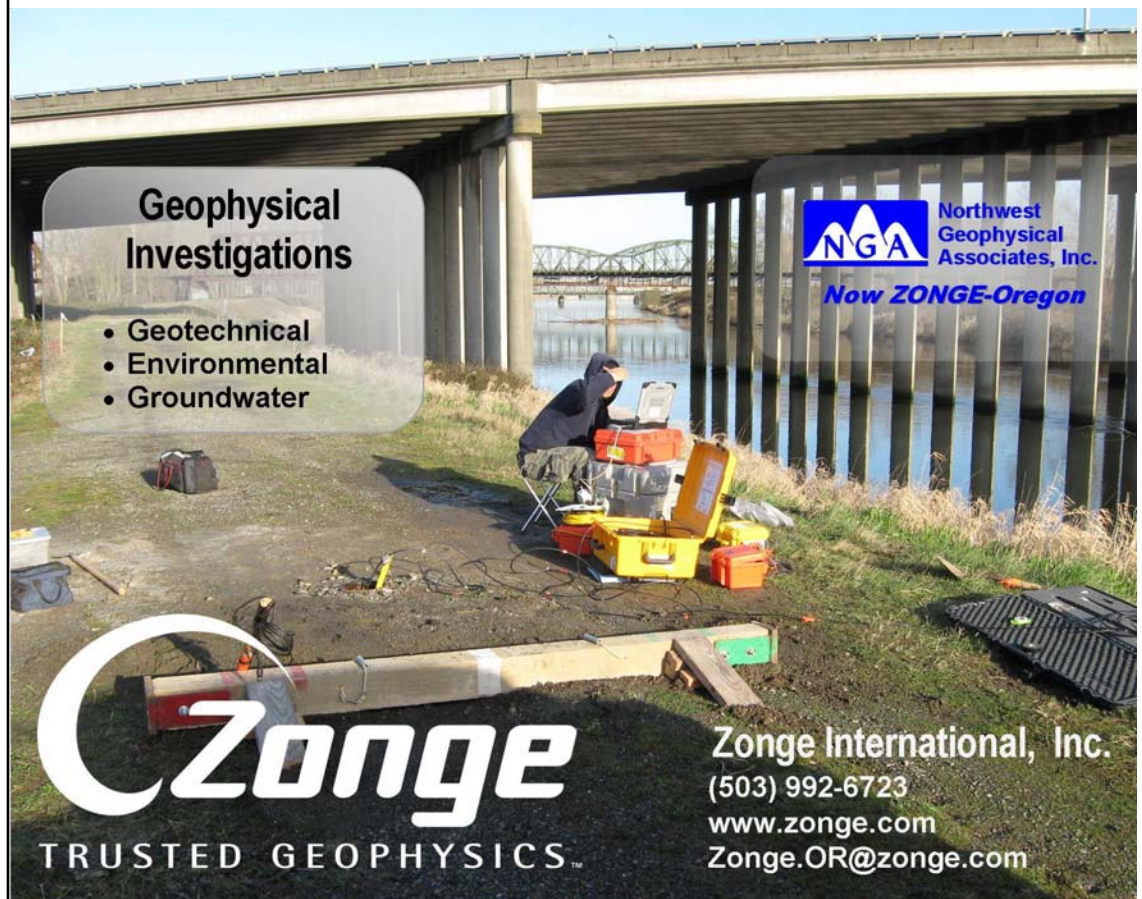
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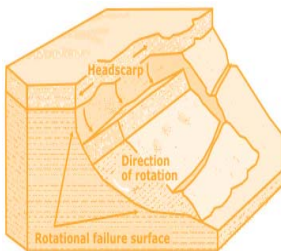
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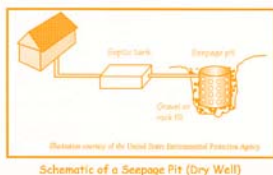
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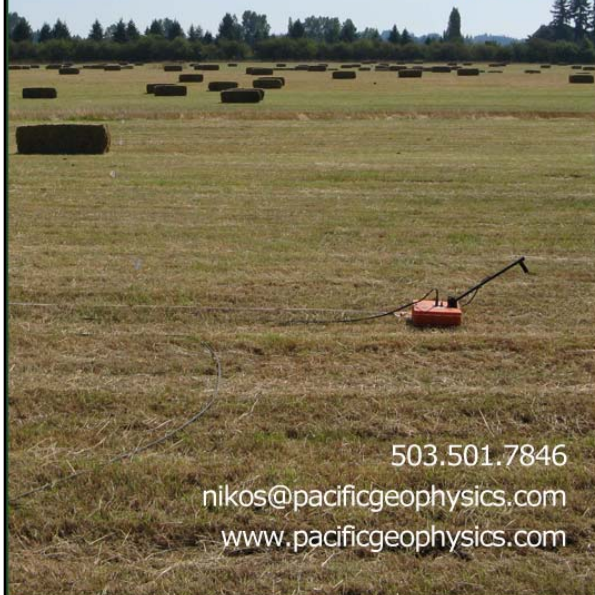
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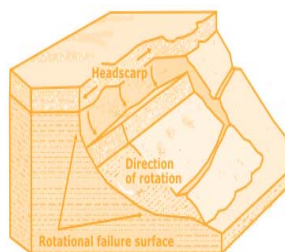
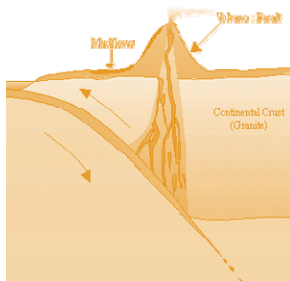


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*"Keen observation is at  
least as necessary as  
penetrating analysis"*

*Karl Terzaghi*



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## The Oregon Section Newsletter

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The Association of Engineering Geologists (AEG) contributes to its members' professional success and the public welfare by providing leadership, advocacy, and applied research in environmental and engineering geology. AEG's values are based on the belief that its members have a responsibility to assume stewardship over their fields of expertise. AEG is the acknowledged international leader in environmental and engineering geology, and is greatly respected for its stewardship of the profession.



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