

AEG OREGON
NEWSLETTER

JULY 2025

VOLUME 13, NUMBER 1



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Letter from the Chair

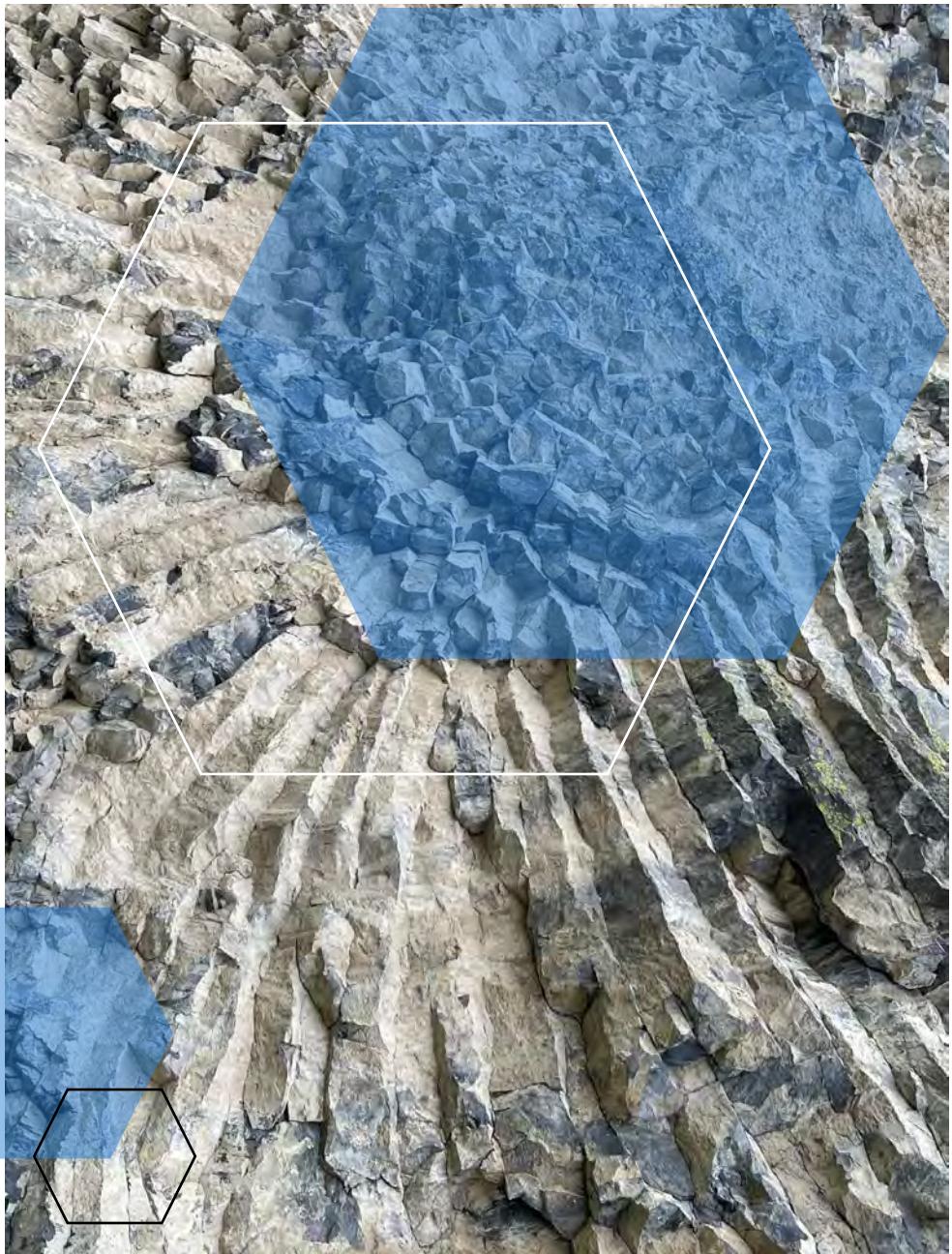
Farewell and thank you.

Ballot for Election of Officers

Leadership for 2025–2026.

AEG Oregon Bulletin

Local industry goings-on.



UPCOMING MEETINGS

AUGUST 21, 2025

August Social, 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Lucky Labrador Brew Pub

JANUARY 20, 2026

ASCE/AEG Joint Meeting

SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

TBD

FEBRUARY 17, 2026

TBD

OCTOBER 21, 2025

TBD

MARCH 17, 2026

TBD

NOVEMBER 18, 2025

TBD

APRIL 21, 2026

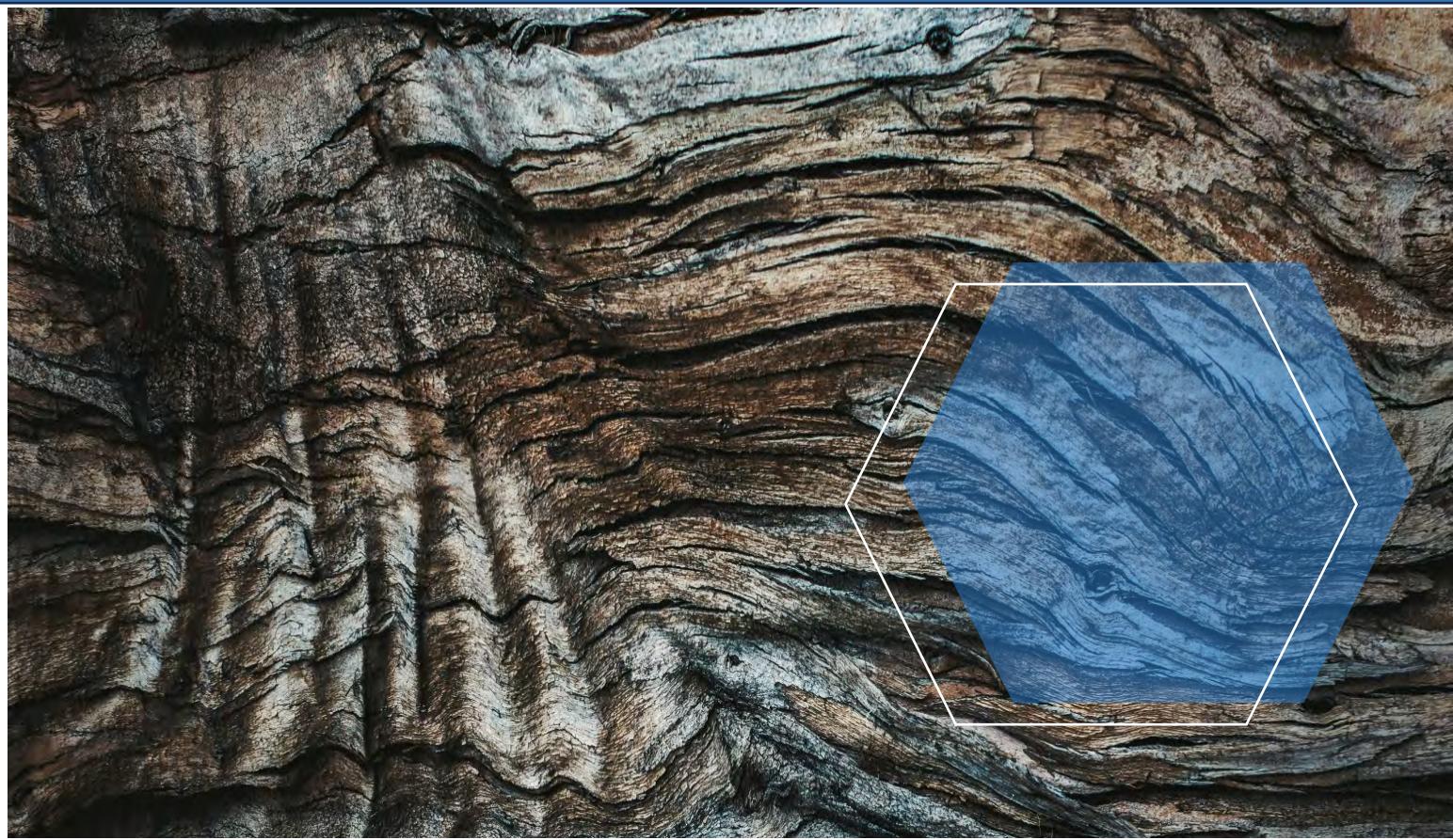
TBD

DECEMBER 16, 2025

TBD

MAY 19, 2026

Student Night



LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

FAREWELL FROM THE CHAIR

Greetings, AEG Oregon!

Welcome to the final newsletter of the 2024–2025 period and the final message from me, as chair. It is time to move into the penumbra, which is the past-chair position. It has been a pleasure sharing with you the news, changes, and progress of the chapter this year. It is time for transition and change, elements of which are in this newsletter.

I am grateful to my fellow board members and officers for their work and support to keep this chapter moving forward, with a special thanks to Ryan Cole for his tenure. You keep the information flowing, you run the background processes that keep the cogs turning, including organizing our monthly meetings and the joint AEG/ASCE meeting, you keep the connection between the section and National AEG active.

Despite it being the middle of summer, we are busy. Elections are coming up; read on for details. We have connected with so many people, some of whom have stepped up to fill roles on the board . . . thank you! We are preparing to restart the field trip program (details are on the way).

The national AEG annual meeting is being held in Chicago in September. Please note that registration prices increase on August 1. Here is the [link to register](#).

We are set for our summer social. See you at the Lucky Labrador on SE Hawthorne Boulevard on August 21, 2025, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. We look forward to seeing everyone soon to catch up on summer goings-on and enjoy pizza and beverages.

Here's to a great year!

Nikos Tzetos

AEG Oregon Chapter Chair...for a bit more

BALLOT FOR ELECTION OF OFFICERS, 2025–2026

CHAIR



NICHOLAS FARNY

Nicholas Farny, LEG, LG is an engineering geologist with over 13 years of experience in the fields of engineering geology and geotechnical engineering. He is currently employed as an Engineering Geologist with Western Federal Lands Highway Division out of Vancouver, Washington. Prior to that, he was employed in the private sector in the Front Range of Colorado. He holds both Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Geology from Purdue University, and it was in college that he started attending AEG meetings in Indianapolis and Chicago. In his spare time, he enjoys fishkeeping, weightlifting, punk and heavy metal music, karaoke, and cooking for his wife, Amy.

WRITE-IN CANDIDATE: _____

CHAIR ELECT



JUSTIN MCCARLEY

Justin McCarley, C.E.G., is a geologist with over seven years of experience in engineering geology in the Pacific Northwest. He is currently employed as an engineering geologist at Cornforth Consultants in Portland, Oregon. Prior to that, he worked for DOGAMI, helping to use LiDAR to identify landslides in the Oregon Coast Range. He also holds an FAA remote pilot license. Justin holds a Masters degree in Geology from Portland State University. He is looking forward to continuing his involvement in AEG.

WRITE-IN CANDIDATE: _____

TREASURER

CATHLEEN MCMAHON, Ph.D.

Cathleen was the AEG Oregon chapter secretary for 2024–2025. As a board member, she has been working on reviving the AEG chapter field trips.

As a continuing board member, she hopes to oversee the development of a consistent field trip schedule, allowing members to get a fresh look at a variety of local geological engineering projects. She also has a goal to increase awareness of AEG lectures and the AEG student night to more schools and professionals in the area, potentially allowing for increased future professional chapter enrollment. As AEG treasurer for 2025–2026, she will strive to keep detailed financials and increase community sponsorship for the organization.



Cathleen has been working at GRI since 2021, where she is the lab manager. She is responsible for running the lab, including scheduling, training, and testing of geological materials. She is also involved in conducting specialized geotechnical analysis, including triaxial and cyclic shear testing. She graduated with a B.S. in Geology from the University of Minnesota and completed M.S. and Ph.D. degrees at the University of Notre Dame, specializing in petrology and geochemical analysis. In her free time, she likes to run marathons, knit, and travel to fun places that usually involve being outside.

WRITE-IN CANDIDATE: _____

SECRETARY

DARLENE VERDUZCO

Darlene has been involved with AEG since serving as the Outreach Coordinator of the Student Chapter of AEG at Portland State University in 2022. She served in that position for two years before moving on to her current role as Membership Chair of the AEG Oregon Chapter, which she has held for the past two years. In this role, she has worked on understanding the strengths of our chapter and deciphered areas in which growth can occur based on membership feedback. Darlene has worked alongside the board to expand the reach of AEG Student Night as well as work toward reviving the long-dormant AEG field trip (an ongoing effort). Outside of AEG, Darlene works at GRI as a staff geologist, where she works on projects related to geologic hazards and environmental geology. Darlene has experience working with professional societies including serving as the Chair of Eastern Washington University's Student Chapter of the Pacific Northwest Section of Air and Waste Management (PNWIS). She is a Geologist in Training in Oregon and will be eligible to test to become a Registered Geologist in 2026.

If elected as Secretary of the Oregon AEG board, her goals for her five-year tenure include providing networking opportunities outside of monthly meetings, strengthening relationships and engagement with educational institutions offering geologic programs in the area, and continuing to address how the board can better serve its members.

RACHEL SWEETEN

Rachel has been active with Oregon AEG since 2020. She received BS and MS degrees in Geology from Portland State University and is continuing postgraduate studies in the form of a PhD with a focus in igneous petrology and economic geology at Portland State University. She has five years of geologic and geotechnical consulting experience, primarily in the Pacific Northwest. She is currently an engineering geology project manager at Certerra Northwest in Camas, Washington, and has worked there for the past two years.

WRITE-IN CANDIDATE: _____

Submit ballots to nicholas.farny@dot.gov by August 21, 2025.





Services Summary

- Sonic & Direct Push Drilling
 - Incl. limited access and angle!
- Well Install/Development/Decom
- Multi-Point Injection Trailer
- Treatment System Install + O&M
- General & HazMat Excavation
- Tank & Fuel System Decom/Install
- And More!

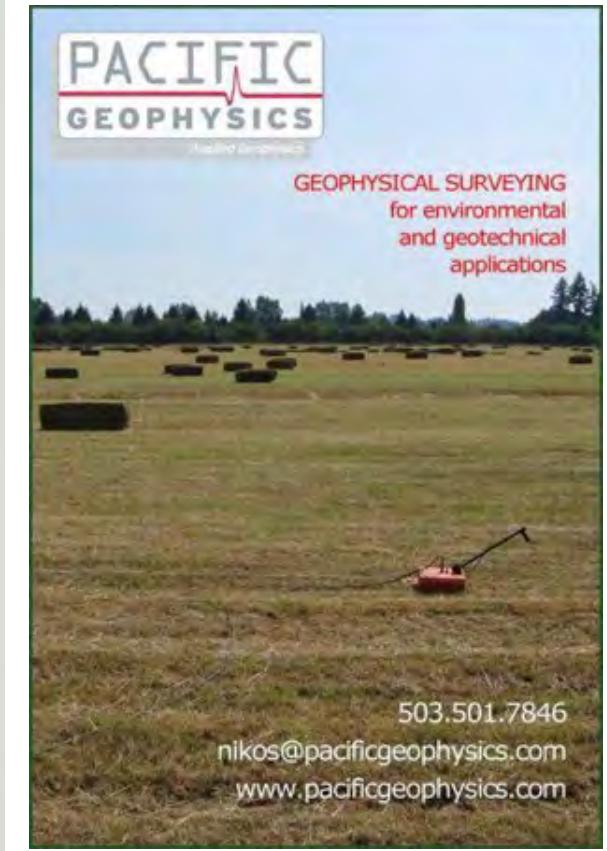
About AEC

- Proud SDVOSB
- Locations in Kelso (HQ), Tacoma, Portland
- All Operations staff w/ HAZWOPER
- Doing business for 25 years!

Contact

Connor Smith | Business Development
connors@aecllc.net | 509.881.7575

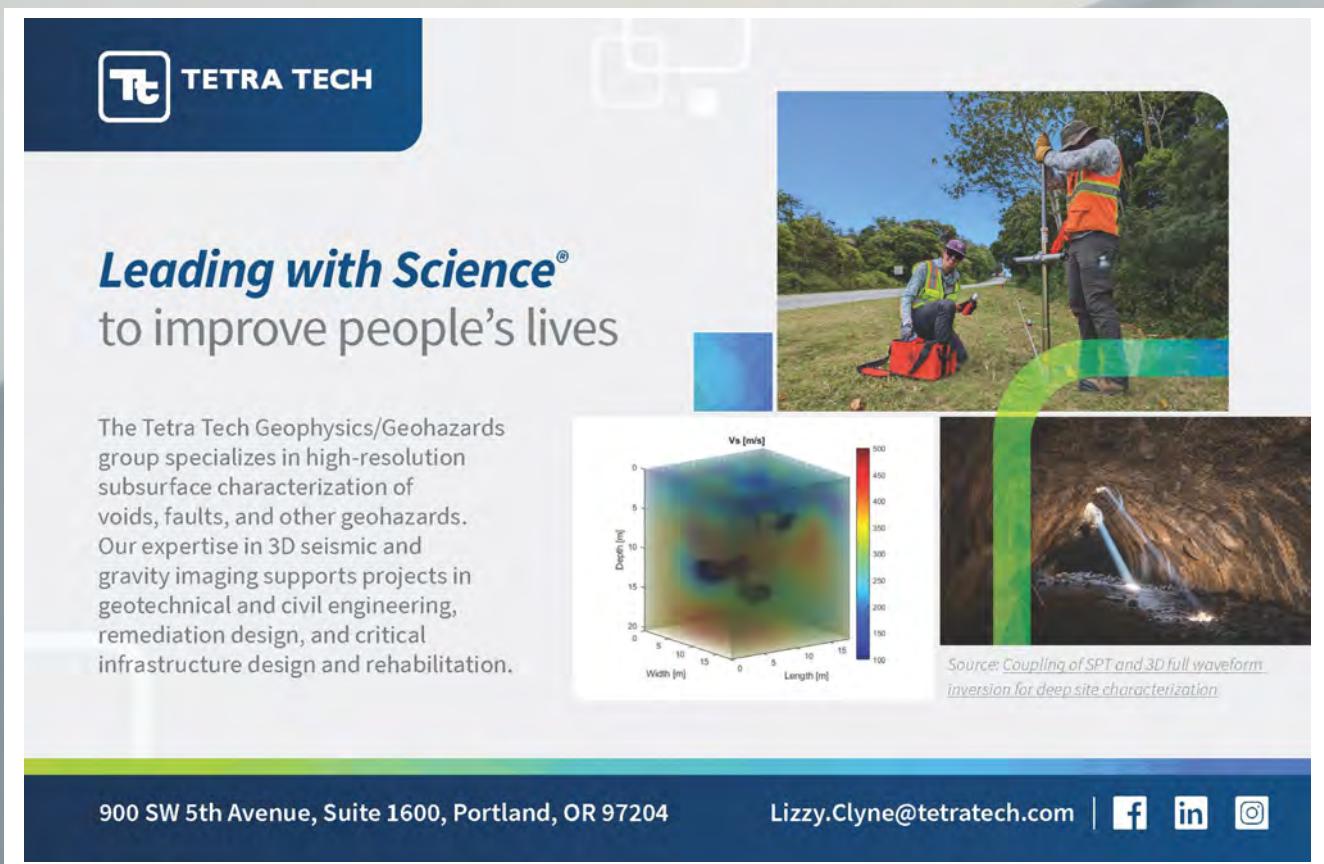




PACIFIC GEOPHYSICS
Geophysical Surveying
for environmental and geotechnical applications

503.501.7846
nikos@pacificgeophysics.com
www.pacificgeophysics.com

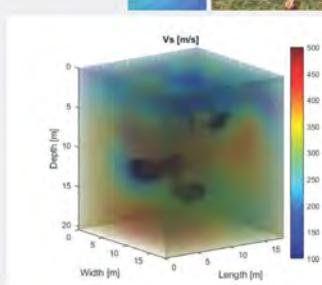
A photograph of a geophysical survey site in a field. A red survey equipment unit is in the foreground, with a cable trailing off to the right. In the background, several black cylindrical objects, likely hay bales or survey markers, are scattered across the grassy field under a clear sky.



TETRA TECH

Leading with Science®
to improve people's lives

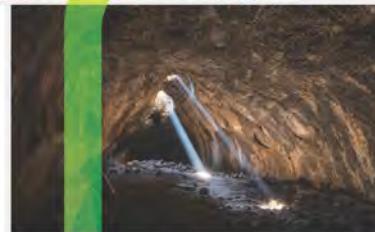
The Tetra Tech Geophysics/Geohazards group specializes in high-resolution subsurface characterization of voids, faults, and other geohazards. Our expertise in 3D seismic and gravity imaging supports projects in geotechnical and civil engineering, remediation design, and critical infrastructure design and rehabilitation.



A 3D surface plot showing seismic wave velocity (Vs) in meters per second (m/s) as a function of depth (0 to 20 meters) and horizontal distance (0 to 15 meters). The color scale ranges from 100 m/s (blue) to 500 m/s (red). A prominent dark, irregular void or fault is visible in the center of the plot, indicating low wave velocity.



Two geotechnical engineers in safety vests and hard hats are working at a site. One is kneeling, and the other is standing, both holding equipment connected to a vertical probe or pipe. A red bag lies on the grass nearby. A green and blue cross-shaped graphic overlays the bottom right corner of the image.



A 3D visualization of a tunnel or excavation site. A green cross-shaped graphic overlays the bottom left corner of the image. The visualization shows a cross-section of the tunnel wall with internal structures and possibly water flow.

Source: Coupling of SPT and 3D full waveform inversion for deep site characterization

900 SW 5th Avenue, Suite 1600, Portland, OR 97204 Lizzy.Clyne@tetrtech.com | [f](#) [in](#) [i](#)

NO TERRAIN TOO TOUGH
PLI Delivers Where Others Can't!



Steep Terrain
Limited Access
Over Water Drilling
Fully Electric Drilling
Crane and Rappelling Drilling

Call: (503) 649-8111

Rock Supremacy

Slope Stabilization



We are a one-stop-shop for your next retaining wall project from a basic cantilevered concrete, battered micropile foundation or a heavy duty anchored soldier pile wall.

Rockfall Mitigation



We are highly skilled in stabilizing rock slopes using pinned Tocco® systems, cable/ring netting, and double twist wire mesh. We also perform rock scaling, rock bolting/doweling and many other rockfall mitigation measures.

Drilling



We have extensive experience in drilling multiple variations of rock bolts/rock dowels, cable anchors, micropiles, rock sockets, tie-backs or horizontal drains in all types of subsurface environments.

Tunnel Rehabilitation



We specialize in rehabilitating or providing new tunnel construction with steel set erection, road heading, tunnel notching, liner removal, and applying shotcrete.

Shotcrete



We use a proprietary formula to effectively seal canals, soil nail walls or rock/soil surfaces. Our mix design is extremely durable and can be colored to match existing native landscapes. We also perform sculpting & staining services.

Landslide Remediation



We have years of experience solving landslide problems with a wide range of solutions to reach the perfect solution.



541.383.ROCK (7625) | Info@RockSupremacy.com | RockSupremacy.com

65147 N Hwy 97, Bend, OR 97701



Environmental/Geotechnical/Clean Water Drilling

- Air Knife Vacuum Truck
- Cable Tool
- Direct Push
- Dual Rotary
- HSA, Mud Rotary and Core
- Limited Access
- Self-contained Decontamination System
- Sonic

High Resolution Site Characterization (HRSC)

utilizes MIP and OIP direct imaging tools to vertically log in-situ conditions that include volatile petroleum hydrocarbon and solvent contamination, permeability, electrical conductivity, and delineation of non-aqueous phase liquid (NAPL) hydrocarbon fuels and oils.



Holt has 4 office locations
Licensed to Drill in 13 States

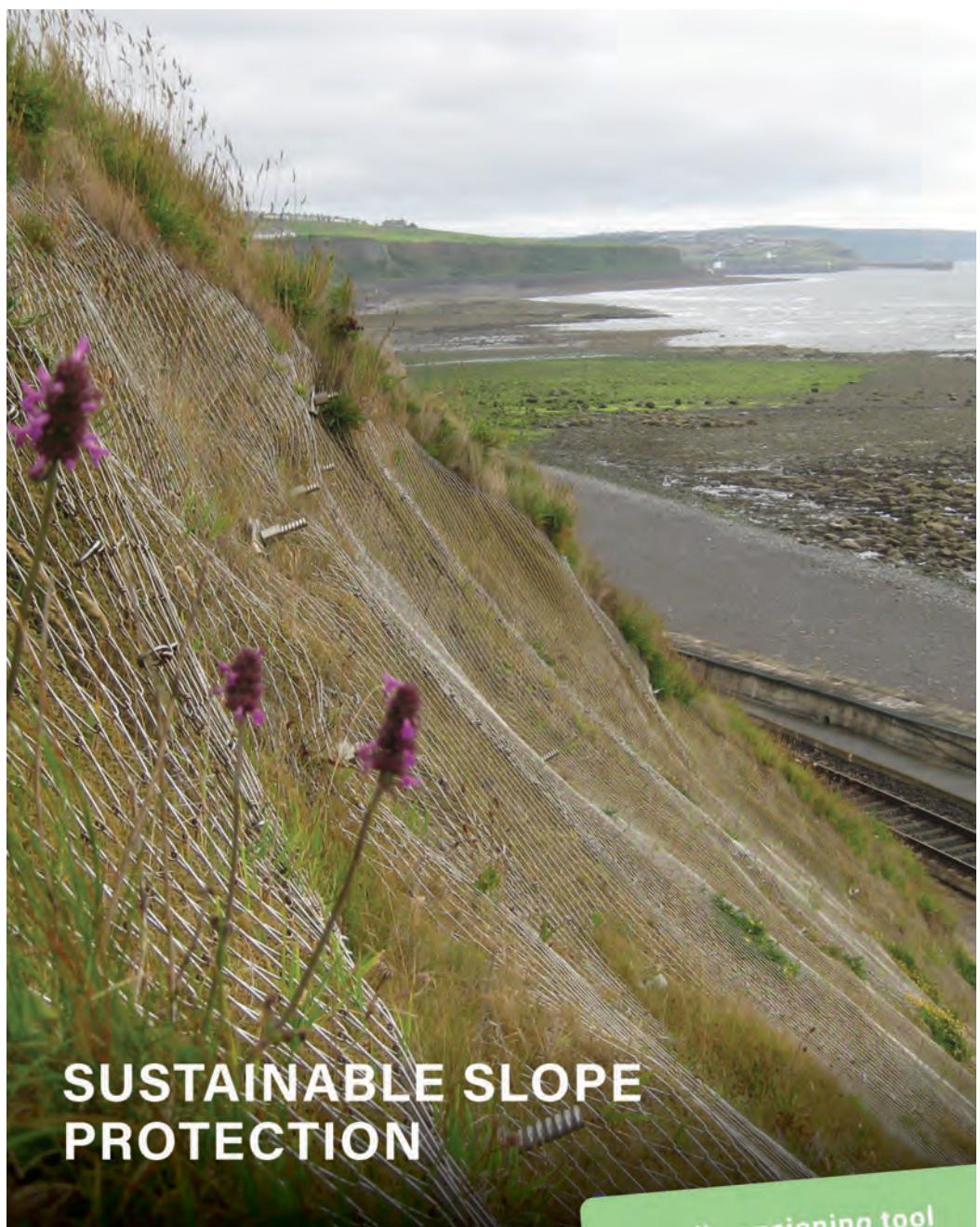
- Edgewood WA
- Vancouver WA
- Everett WA
- Boise ID



Contact Information
253.604.4878
support@holtservicesinc.com

Additional Services Include

- Injection Remediation
- Site Development
- Tank Pulls
- Excavation
- Utility Clearance
- Remediation System Installations
- **AND MORE!**



SUSTAINABLE SLOPE PROTECTION

Anchored TECCO® System
made of high-tensile steel mesh

Free dimensioning tool
www.mygeobrugg.com



Your local Geobrugg specialist:
www.geobrugg.com/contacts

BRUGG
Geobrugg
Safety is our nature

WESTERN STATES
DRILLING

Call : 503-982-1777
www.westernstatessoil.com

The Northwest's Largest Geotech and Environmental Drilling Firm



The industry's most experienced drillers with over 200 years of combined drilling experience.

Committed To Providing Quality Geotechnical & Environmental Drilling Services to the Pacific Northwest

DBE Certified in OR/WA



Great People, Great Results.

We engineer success stories.

Since 1982, PBS Engineering and Environmental Inc. has been a trusted source of practical, sustainable solutions to the region's environmental and engineering challenges—enabling projects to succeed and communities to thrive.

PBSUSA.COM



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES • GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING • HEALTH & SAFETY • STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING • CIVIL ENGINEERING • SURVEY

AEG OREGON BULLETIN

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jul. 28—International Conference on Geology and Climate Change

Aug. 20—International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering

Aug. 21—AEG Oregon August Social! Come share pizza and have a brew while chatting with other members at the Lucky Labrador Brew Pub.

TEST DATES

Applications for the October Oregon PE exam are due August 1.

STUDENT NIGHT

Student night will be May 21, 2026. This is an opportunity for students to present their projects and mingle with industry professionals. And there are prizes! It's never too early to start thinking about what you might present....

2024 – 2025 CHAPTER OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**CHAIR:**

Nikos Tzetas, Pacific Geophysics
nikos@pacificgeophysics.com

**CHAIR-ELECT:**

Nicholas Farny, FHWA Western
Federal Lands
nicholas.farny@dot.gov

**TREASURER:**

Justin McCarley, Conforth
Consultants
justin.mccarley@ccilt.com

**SECRETARY:**

Cathleen McMahon, GRI
cmcMahon@gri.com

**PAST CHAIR:**

Ryan Cole
mcruni@gmail.com

**MEMBERSHIP CHAIR:**

Darlene Verduzco, GRI
dverduzco@gri.com

**PROGRAM CHAIR:**

Nathan Villeneuve, GRI
nvilleneuve@gri.com

**LEGISLATURE CHAIR:**

Sebastian Dirringer, Conforth
Consultants
sebastian.dirringer@ccilt.com

**FIELD-TRIP CHAIR:**

Brittni Bishop, PSU
brbship@pdx.edu

**PSU STUDENT CHAPTER**

PRESIDENT:
Marge Belcastro, PSU
marge@pdx.edu

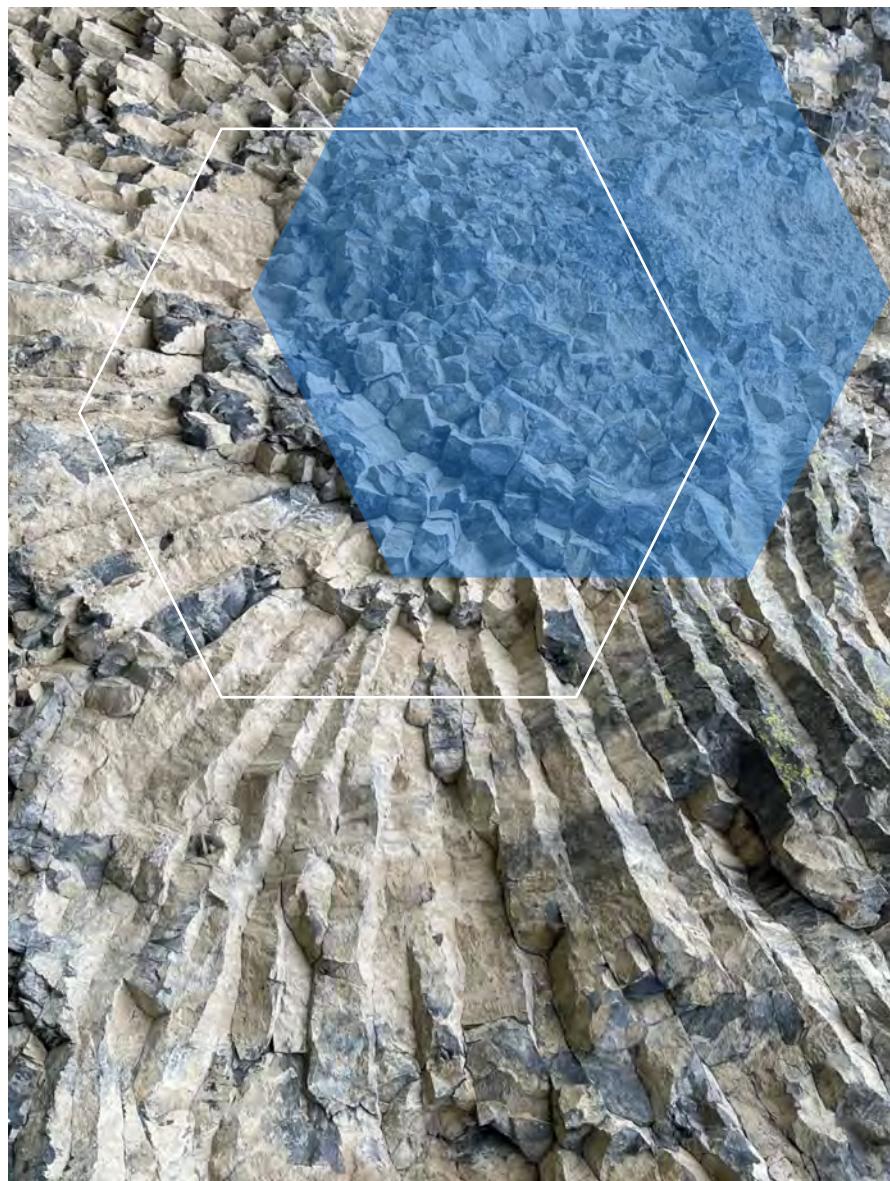
?

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Sarah Norton, GRI
snorton@gri.com

WEBPAGE EDITOR:

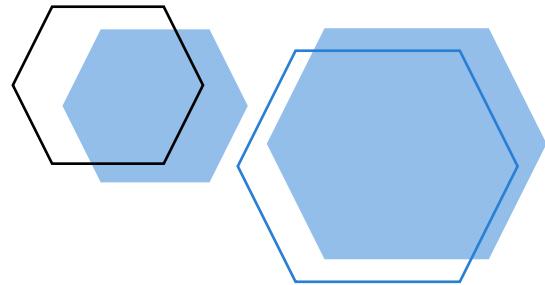
Volunteer Needed
This could be you!



THANKS FOR SUPPORTING AEG

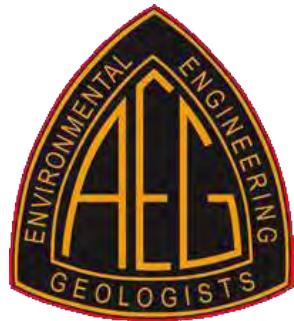
A BIG THANKS TO OUR...

Members, Volunteers, Anderson Environmental Contracting, Aspect Consulting, Cornforth Consultants, Inc., DOGAMI, Earth Dynamics LLC., Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Geobrugg, GRI, Hi-Tech Rockfall Construction, Holt Services, Inc., NACSE, ODOT, Oregon State University, Pacific Geophysics, PBS Engineering and Environmental, PLI Systems, Portland State University, Roc Supremacy, Tetra Tech, Western Oregon University, Western States Drilling



THE OREGON CHAPTER IS ALSO ON THE WEB
<http://www.aegoregon.org>

NATIONAL AEG WEBPAGE
<http://aegweb.org>



THE AEG OREGON CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

The Association of Engineering Geologists (AEG) contributes to its members' professional success and the public's 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.

AEG OREGON CHAPTER NEWSLETTER is published monthly from September through May. Subscriptions are for members of AEG affiliated with the Oregon Chapter or other Chapters and other interested people who have requested and paid a local subscription fee of \$10.00. E-mail subscriptions are free. Subscribe to the newsletter by sending any e-mail to: aegoregon-subscribe@groups.electricmembers.net. News items are invited and should be sent to: Nikos Tzetas, AEG Oregon Chapter Chair, Pacific Geophysics, 5915 NE 30th Avenue, Portland, OR 97211, e-mail: nikos@pacificgeophysics.com, phone 503.501.7846. Electronic media is preferred. Deadline for submittal is the 25th of the month. Advertising: business card size \$100/yr; 1/4 page \$200/yr; 1/2 page \$350/yr; 1 page \$450/yr.

PHOTO CREDITS:

The Eye, Gordon Cliffs. © 2022, Sarah Norton / Gray and White Wallpaper. © 2018, Johannes Plenio / Blank Bulletin Board Texture, © 2022, JOGOS Public Assets, CC BY-SA 4.0 <<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0>>, via Wikimedia Commons. Rotated, cropped /