Build relationships with underserved communities to better understand their engagement preferences, and improve information sharing with all communities.

Facilitator: Anna Kagley Notetaker: Kinsey Frick (don’t forget to grab chats)

**Examples of what we’re already doing:**

*Started to identify underserved communities and their needs*

e.g., Elwha dam removal monitoring: NOAA, Americorps, Citizen Scientists, Tribal partners

* Identify underserved communities and their needs. In Elwha, tribal members and underserved local communities to expand understanding of the system and its importance.
* BPA: research projects done in partnership with tribes throughout the Columbia River Basin. They are 50% partner in most of the restoration efforts.
* Recovery exploitation rate planning for Puget Sound Chinook to set acceptable harvest rates. Visit each watershed to talk to representatives from local tribes and state to translate perspective into local management objectives. Productive but also time consuming.

**Examples of what we’d like to be doing:**

*Better engage with underserved communities to identify, co-develop, and co-produce place-based research and monitoring priorities and promote opportunities for citizen science*

e.g., Climate change research

* Better engage with underserved communities to identify, co-develop, and co-produce place-based research and monitoring priorities and promote opportunities for citizen science. Example: effects of climate change as they will likely disproportionately affect underserved populations.
* Research surveys: stipend for volunteers who come out to make them more accessible to underserved community members. Creation of allowable payment system is a barrier.
* Tribal collaboration involves mostly discussion with non-tribal members (i.e. tribal biologists who may not be tribal members).
* Put similar effort into connections with tribes across the region. Our relationships are with people and based on individual connections that are not evenly distributed (limited bandwidth is a factor).

**Potential barriers:**

*Our mission critical priorities (bias) may not be the same as the partners, unawareness of all underserved communities; gaps in expertise; system complexity*

e.g., Not continuing Elwha dam removal monitoring

* Cutting through red tape to onboard people or include them in on-the-ground efforts
* Our mission critical priorities (bias) may not be the same as the partners, unawareness of all underserved communities; gaps in expertise; system complexity. My example is not continuing our Elwha dam removal monitoring for the length of time it truly takes to see response in our system
* The Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center has been working on making their Center’s footprint more carbon neutral. Dr. Phoebe Woodworth-Jefcoats is a possible contact for asking how their team has approached the red tape barrier to this Climate Equity work.