Columbia Gorge 2019 Economic Symposium Speaker Information

David Anderson, President and CEO of NW Natural

David Anderson is NW Natural’s President and Chief Executive Officer. He is also a member of the Board of Directors. Mr. Anderson previously served as NW Natural’s President and Chief Operating Officer, Executive Vice President of Operations and Regulation, and as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. Before joining NW Natural, Mr. Anderson was Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer at TXU Gas. He previously held executive positions within TXU Corporation (formerly Texas Utilities) including Senior Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer, and Vice President of Investor Relations and Shareholder Services. Mr. Anderson is also a director on the following boards:

- American Gas Association. Chairs the Audit Committee and co-chairs the Carbon Policy Task Force. He is also a member of the Finance Committee and the Safety, Resilience/Reliability, and Security Task Force.
- American Gas Foundation Board.
- Portland State University (PSU) Foundation Board. He is also a past chair of the Investment Committee.
- Oregon Business Council.
- Member of SOLVE’s Founders’ Circle.

David Anderson has also been appointed by Oregon Governor Kate Brown to serve on Oregon’s Global Warming Commission. He is a past board member of the Northwest Gas Association, Portland Business Alliance, Greater Portland Inc., a past president of Oregon Partnership (Lines for Life), past chair of Associated Oregon Industries (AOI) Fiscal Policy Committee and a past advisory board member for PSU School of Business and Oregon Department of Education Business Advisory Team. David holds a BBA in Accounting from Texas Tech University and is a CPA and CGMA.

Scott Bailey, Regional Economist, Washington Employment Security Department

For the past 30 years, Scott Bailey has served as the Regional Economist for the Employment Security Department’s Labor Market & Economic Analysis Branch covering Southwest Washington. Scott is the local source of labor market information for the region, tracking unemployment, industry trends, the occupational outlook, and wages and income. He publishes a monthly newsletter on local and national economic trends. Scott has done extensive research on wages in the state, with a particular focus on the minimum wage. He has served as a national trainer with the Census Bureau for the Local Employment Dynamics database, and is a board member of the Pacific Northwest Regional Economics Conference. He received his master’s degree in economics from Portland State University. Scott is also an adjunct professor at Clark College, teaching economics and geography.
Nicole Bassett, Co-Founder of The Renewal Workshop

Nicole Bassett is the co-founder of The Renewal Workshop, a circular business that is leading the apparel and textile industry towards circular business models restoring value and reducing waste. Prior, Nicole has applied her passion for environmental responsibility and human rights in consumer products. She has served as Director of Sustainability for prAna, Social Responsibility at Patagonia and Head of Human Rights at Specialized Bicycles. Nicole received her Master’s in Environmental Studies with a focus on Business Strategy and Sustainability from York University in Toronto, Canada.

Barbara Briggs, Woman of Many Hats

Barbara is currently semi-retired and living on Silverlake in Cowlitz County, Washington. She spent the last 25 years as a business consultant working primarily with Non-profits and local government. In addition to providing Board Development, Strategic Planning and Facilitation services through her consulting business, at various times she worked as a real estate broker and served a four year term as a Hood River County Commissioner. She has served on multiple boards and commissions, including the Association of Oregon Counties, Mid-Columbia Economic Development District, North Central Regional Solutions Advisory Committee, Historic Columbia River Highway Advisory Committee, Mid-Columbia Council of Governments, Mid-Columbia Center for Living, Oregon Workforce Investment Board, The Oregon Consortium, Hood River County United Way, Oregon State Rehabilitation Council, Hood River County Budget Committee, Oregon State Independent Living Council, Sheridan School District (elected). Prior to starting the consulting business Barbara worked in workforce development positions in Malheur, Umatilla, and Morrow Counties. She later served as the accounting department head in Morrow County Oregon and then as the Executive Director of Columbia Gorge Center (now Opportunity Connections). Her work and volunteer experience have generally centered around workforce, economic development and social services.

Jeanne Carver, Owner of Imperial Stock Ranch

Shaniko Wool Company is Jeanne’s latest effort in support of wool and its timeless importance and role in the history of humankind.

Jeanne and husband Dan Carver, own and operate the historic Imperial Stock Ranch (est. 1871) in north central Oregon, which has produced sheep, cattle, grains and hay through its entire 148 years. In the late 1990’s, with a collapsing wool market and a diminished U.S. textile infrastructure, they moved from commodity wool sales in a new direction. Similar to the farm-to-fork “slow food” movement that reconnects us to our food, Jeanne pieced together a fiber supply chain as close to home as possible.
Combining their ranch’s heritage and mindful stewardship of land and animals in her marketing messages, she connected a growing customer base for textile products to the origin of those products. In an era of outsourcing and disconnect, she brought product traceability and accountability. Jeanne scaled her Imperial Stock Ranch effort while maintaining its intimate connection to land and animals, and became known across multiple segments of the U.S. textile industry.

In 2014, Jeanne and the Imperial Stock Ranch, became the face of Ralph Lauren’s Made in America Olympic uniform program, and she was again their voice for American wool during the 2018 Winter Olympics. In 2017, Imperial Stock Ranch became the first ranch in the world certified under a new global program called the Responsible Wool Standard. Developed by Textile Exchange, it addresses the welfare of sheep and the land they graze on. With the launch of Shaniko Wool Company, Jeanne is supporting regional ranchers and scaling the supply of RWS certified wool in the U.S., meeting the needs and aligning values with many of today’s apparel brands.

Jeanne serves on numerous boards related to agriculture. She received an Orchid Award given by the Portland Business Journal for Women of Influence in 2014, and the Agriculture Connection Award for Oregon Agriculture in 2014. She was also named one of 9 Female Farmers Changing the Fashion Industry (2016) by the Pratt Institute of New York.

Dallas Fridley, Regional Economist, Oregon Employment Department
Dallas Fridley has been employed by the Oregon Employment Department since December of 1991, including Regional Economist – based in Hood River – since October of 1995 and as an Employment Economist – in Salem. Prior work experience includes one year as a Community Development Planner for the Umpqua Regional Council of Governments in Douglas County and three years as an Economic Development Planer for the Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council in Deschutes County. Dallas attended and graduated from Willamette University in Salem Oregon with a BS in Economics. He is a native of Central Oregon and attended Crook County schools. Dallas currently lives in Hood River and is married with three children.

Mike Graham, Founder of Real Carbon
Mike Graham originally from St. Andrews in Scotland, moved to the US in 1987. Mike is a Chemist with an Honors degree in Chemistry from the University of London. He is currently serving as President of Real Carbon Inc., and on the board of directors of the Gorge Technology Alliance, and Technology Association of Oregon. Mike still windsurfs, skis, and plays golf in his free time.

Real Carbon Inc. started in a garage in California, with a dream of lightweight, super strong and very fast Windsurfing boards. Karbon Kreations, as the company was originally called, built the world’s first pre-preg carbon fiber board in 1988. Today, twenty-nine years later, the company, now called Real Carbon Inc., is based in Hood River, Oregon.
Amanda Hoey, Executive Director Mid-Columbia Economic Development District

Amanda Hoey is the Executive Director for Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD), a bi-state regional economic development entity supporting the Columbia Gorge region of Oregon and Washington. Under Amanda’s leadership, MCEDD has diversified regional economic initiatives to include additional opportunities for access to capital and regional cluster development. Prior to MCEDD, Amanda worked in small business development, developing youth entrepreneurship opportunities. She returned to the Gorge in 2006 to join MCEDD. Amanda graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor’s Degree in Economics from Whitman College. She is a Marshall Memorial Fellow. Amanda lives on her family’s dryland wheat farm outside of The Dalles, Oregon with her husband Ben.

Paul Jones, CEO of WyEast Timber Services LLC

Paul Jones is the CEO of WyEast Timber Services, Middle Mountain Trucking and Neal Creek Forest Products based out of Hood River, Oregon. WyEast Timber provides forestry services that include logging, fuels reduction, land management and wildland firefighting throughout Washington and Oregon. WyEast has been a key contractor for the USFS and ODF in regard to wildland firefighting throughout the Gorge. Paul also sits on the Hood River County Forestry Advisory Board, Eastern Oregon Forest Practice Committee, was a graduate of Ag Forestry and is currently a member of Vistage. Fun Fact— Paul also worked one summer for Amanda Hoey’s parents running combine on their wheat ranch east of The Dalles.

Rudy Kellner, Co-Founder and CEO of pFriem Family Brewers

Being born in the former Czechoslovakia, Rudy was no stranger to the kind of mountains, lakes and rivers (and crisp beers) that are plentiful in his adopted home in the Columbia River Gorge. Armed with a technical degree and an MBA, Rudy has felt fortunate to enjoy a successful career in business, but nothing has been as rewarding to him as helping build pFriem Family Brewers from the ground up and being around so many talented people who are passionate about what they're crafting. When he’s not at the brewery, Rudy enjoys hanging out with his wife and two boys catching trout in the beautiful lakes that surround Mt. Hood.
Megan Thompson, Field Representative for Cascade Cherry Growers and Sage Fruit Company

Megan has been a Horticulturist for Cascade Cherry Growers/Sage Fruit, former Oregon Cherry Growers for over 20 years working with fruit growers in the Mid-Columbia Region with the goal of maximizing grower returns. Megan was hired at CCG after graduating from Oregon State University where she received her Bachelor of Science in Horticulture with a minor in Crop and Soil Science. As a field representative she has been involved in many organizations such as Oregon Sweet Cherry Commission, Ag. Link, The Dalles Chamber of Commerce and many more. In addition, her and her husband purchased their own cherry orchard 12 years ago giving her the opportunity to learn first the ins and outs of farming. When she is not pursuing cherries; she is very actively raising 2 boys ages 9 and 12 and assisting in their many activities such as coaching, school events and even refereeing few basketball games. Megan has a true passion for cherries, her growers and ensuring the future of farming for the next generation...

David Windsor, Plant Manager at Cardinal Glass Industries, Inc.

David Windsor is in the People business! His personal mission statement is: “I believe in, invest in, and grow people, personally and professionally.” According to David, the most exciting part of his role is growing leaders and creating opportunities for his company’s employees. David has 33 years of glass industry manufacturing experience and has served as the Plant Manager of Cardinal IG Hood River since its opening 16 years ago. David’s operation is one of 11 insulating glass factories owned by Cardinal Glass Industries with products focused on the residential window and door market. The Hood River IG operation has been through several expansions to meet customer demand and is now 400,000 square feet and employs 380 people.

David’s personal values of Excellence and Integrity align perfectly with Cardinal IG where personnel are expected to produce the best products, be the best partner, and operate a world class facility for safety and productivity. Outside of work David enjoys working on cars and doing anything with his wife, JR, and their two daughters, Skye and Sierra. David has a BA in Industrial Technology from Washington State University and an EMBA from the University of Wisconsin- Madison.