

PROGRAM AND ABSTRACTS

2019 OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD



Tom Ring

The Outstanding Water Resources Professional award for 2019 will be presented to Tom Ring at this year's state conference. Tom recently announced his upcoming retirement from a long and storied career as a hydrologist for the Water Resources Program of the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation. In that capacity, Tom has worked on a variety of projects involving groundwater and surface water quantity and quality, water rights, irrigation and fisheries issues and planning for future water needs. He spent decades working on the Yakima River adjudication and insuring that water flow and quality was adequate to support salmonid fishery in the Yakima River system. Prior to joining the tribal program in 1990, Tom worked in the Water Resources program at the Washington Department

of Ecology. Tom earned a Bachelors degree in Geology at Central Washington State University and a Masters Degree, also in Geology, from Northern Arizona University.

In addition to his work with the Yakama Nation, Tom has contributed to the Water Resources field in other ways as well. He has taught geology and hydrogeology at CWU. He is on the board of the Washington Water Trust and has served on the Board of the Washington Section of the AWRA for many years. While on the AWRA board Tom was instrumental in getting the CWU student section started. With his connections in the larger field of water resources in the west, Tom has been a key to bringing in a number of top – notch speakers for the Washington Section's annual conferences. He has also served as our unofficial photographer, providing images for many of our publications, especially those from our conferences.

Tom is a licensed geologist and hydrogeologist in Washington State. When not working, he enjoys hiking, climbing, and skiing in the mountains of the west.