



Water, Labor and Economic Viability

**Saturday, February 25th, 2017**

**WSU NWREC**

**16650 S.R. 536, Mount Vernon, WA**



# Conference Program

## Platinum Sponsors



## Gold Sponsors



## Silver Sponsors



## Bronze Sponsors



## Conference Schedule— At a glance

(detailed schedule on following pages)

### Saturday, February, 25th

8 am	Registration
8:15 am	Opening remarks
8:30 am	Action Team 1: Water
10:00 am	Break
10:35 am	Action Team 2: Labor
12:00 pm	Lunch (Jim McFerson, WSU Tree Fruit Research Director)
1 pm	Action Team 3: Economic Viability
2:30 pm	Break
2:45 pm	Synthesizing Discussion: Reframing the top priorities from each session
3:15 pm	Poll Everywhere
3:45 pm	Closing and Evaluation
4 pm	Adjourn



# Conference Schedule

## Platinum Sponsors



## Gold Sponsors



Port of Skagit



## Silver Sponsors



## Bronze Sponsors



## In detail

### Saturday morning, Feb 25th

- 8 am Registration
- 8:15 am Introduction/Opening remarks: Don McMoran, WSU Skagit County Extension.
- 8:30 am Action Team 1: Water—Moderator Chad Kruger
- Objective: To educate the Skagit Agricultural Community on case law affecting water rights and availability.
- Water Law 101
- John Rose— Washington State Department of Ecology
- Water and Irrigation Districts
- Peter Ojala— Ojala Law LLC
- Water and the Swinomish Tribe
- Larry Wasserman— Swinomish Tribal Community
- Water Panel— John Rose , Peter Ojala and Larry Wasserman
- 10 am *Break*
- 10:30 am Action Team 2: Labor—Moderator Michael Frazier
- Objective: Highlight the need for farmers and farm workers to come together.
- Labor Law 101
- Sarah Wixsom— Stokes Lawrence Law
- The Next Generation: Farmers and Laborers Working Together
- Ray DeVries— Ralph's Greenhouse
- Thinking differently about labor
- Rosalinda Guillen— Community to Community
- Labor Panel— Sarah Wixsom, Harley Soltes, Tim Terpstra and Rosalinda Guillen



# Conference Schedule

## Platinum Sponsors



## Gold Sponsors



Port of  
Skagit



## Silver Sponsors



## Bronze Sponsors



## Keynote Speaker



### Jim McFerson

Jim McFerson was born and raised in the Midwest. In 1975, Jim received a BS from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in Horticulture; in 1977, an MS in Horticulture from Texas A&M, and in 1982, Jim earned his doctorate in Plant Breeding and Genetics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

From 1983-1988, Dr. McFerson worked as a vegetable breeder for private seed company, and from 1989-1998 Jim was a Research Geneticist with USDA Ag Research Service at Cornell University in Geneva, NY.

Jim has been the manager of the Washington Tree Fruit Research Commission since 1999, and most recently took over as the director for the Washington State University Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center (TFREC) in Wenatchee. McFerson comes to WSU after holding the manager position at the Washington Tree Fruit Research Commission since 1999. He provided part-time transitional leadership to the commission until 2016.

Jim's affiliation with WSU has strengthened the University's ability to build strong partnerships with the tree fruit and allied industries. He understands the industry extraordinarily well and brings a wealth of experience and research knowledge to WSU's tree fruit programs. Jim intends to build on the center's legacy and expand its capacities to provide greater impact for stakeholders and to secure its scientific standing nationally and internationally. His efforts will feature purposeful outreach as well as active educational and training activities to attract and retain top quality students.

McFerson has been active in pursuing the National Tree Fruit Technology Roadmap and many industry research groups including: Rosaceous Genomics, Genetics, and Breeding Executive Committee, Tree Fruit Technical Advisory Committee, Prunus, Pyrus, and Malus Crop Germplasm Committees, and the US Apple Research Committee Specialty Crops Research Team.

Jim lives in Wenatchee with his wife: Carol, who is an Outreach Coordinator with Columbia Valley Community Health. They have two daughters: Maureen – a WSU student, food science major, and KC, a philosophy major at Seattle University.



# Conference Schedule

## Platinum Sponsors



## Gold Sponsors



## Silver Sponsors



## Bronze Sponsors



## In detail

### Saturday afternoon , February 25th

12 pm	Lunch– KEYNOTE—Jim McFerson WSU Tree Fruit and Extension Center
1 pm	Action Team 3: Economic Viability  Moderators: Brandon Roozen and Allen Rozema  Objective: The continued economic viability of Skagit Agriculture.  Value Added  -David Bauermiester, NABC  IPZ and Potential Development Opportunities on Port Properties  -Patsy Martin, Port of Skagit County  Agricultural Economic Development  -Andrew Miller, EDASC  How the Comprehensive Plan Works for Skagit Agriculture  -Skagit County Planning  Economic Viability Panel– David Bauermeister, Patsy Martin, Andrew Miller and Dale Pernula.
2:30 pm	<i>Break</i>
2:45 pm	Synthesizing Discussion: Reframing the top priorities from each session.
3:15 pm	Poll Everywhere
3:45 pm	Closing and Evaluation
4pm	Adjourn

*Skagit Food for Skagit People Presents*

---

# LOCAL FOOD & FARM MIXER

---

Join us Saturday evening directly following the Skagit Ag Summit for a taste of regional beverages and bites to highlight local agriculture at

Your Brewery Logo Here!

Skagit Ag Summit Attendees receive a ticket  
for **one free beer!**

.....

Saturday, February 25th, 2017

5:00-6:00 PM

WSU NWREC

16650 S.R. 536, Mount Vernon, WA

**SPONSORED BY**

Your Logo Here!

Your Logo Here!

Your Logo Here!

Your Logo Here!

Your Logo Here!

Your Logo Here!