**OREGON: Building an Inclusive Environmental Movement Through Environmental Education in Portland**

**WHO?**

**Project Management:**
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**Leadership Organizations:**

**Ally Organizations:**

**WHY?**
To ensure that environmental education reflects the strengths and needs of our increasingly diverse community in the Portland Metropolitan Area!

**WHAT?**
A project workgroup to be completed by December 2016, driven by leadership organizations as defined above, will build priorities and a region-wide vision with recommendations for equitable and inclusive environmental education.

** Desired Outcomes **

- Shared regional vision for environmental education
- Commitment from all partners to implement recommendations
- Environmental education led by people of color and low income
- Mainstream organizations committed to inclusivity
- People of color and low income adequately resourced for this work
Recommendations

• **Shared Racial Equity Analysis** – develop a common understanding of race and equity; many of our team members participated in Center for Diversity & the Environment’s *Environment 2042 Leadership Program*.

• **Inclusive Leadership** – model inclusivity on all levels; follow leadership from diverse communities and pay them for their time.

• **Value Process & Product** – working across difference to create a new paradigm takes time, time where important relationships can be built and new non-dominant processes embraced.

• **Balance Equity & Inclusivity** – pay attention to power dynamics; create space for diverse voices to lead and opportunities for all perspectives to be valued.

• **Justice** – prioritize organizational and community assessments of equity through an historic and current lens.

• **Culture** – value intersectionality and community driven processes and success.

• **Leadership Development & Jobs** – build pipelines for diverse youth to become conservation leaders and capacity for culturally specific organizations to train and employ them.

“Dominator culture has tried to keep us all afraid, to make us choose safety instead of risk, sameness instead of diversity. *Moving through that fear, finding out what connects us, reveling in our differences; this is the process that brings us closer, that gives us a world of shared values, of meaningful community.***”

– bell hooks