

**EXPERIENCE****Executive Director, Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership, Oregon & Washington, August 2020 to present**

Elaine joined the Estuary Partnership in 2020, leading a staff of thirty in building scientific tools and databases, restoring thousands of acres of habitat, instituting monitoring programs, providing applied learning to students, engaging thousands of volunteers in riparian plantings, and coordinating lower river activities. The primary charge is to bring diverse constituents from two states together to assess the state of the estuary, set goals, and implement actions to improve a range of environmental issues. She serves as Chief Executive Officer and manages day-to-day operations for the Board of Directors. She served on the Estuary Partnership Board of Directors from 2014 – April 2020, most recently as Chair.

**Cowlitz County Director of Community Services, Kelso, WA, Director, 2018-June 2020**

Elaine was responsible for the daily operations of multiple departments including GIS, the Department of Building & Planning, and the Department of Health and Human Services. She worked with policy makers, staff and the public to address some of the most complex issues facing the community, including homelessness, lack of affordable housing, encampments, challenges to industrial development, groundwater limitations, and issues related to rapid growth. She led HHS staff through the development of strategies for delivery of coordinated entry services; she worked with staff, policy makers and other agencies to quickly respond to early-season high-risk fire situations, a measles outbreak and the COVID 19 outbreak. She provided cross-department approaches to data management, permitting, and development of holistic policy approaches

**Cowlitz County Department of Building and Planning, Kelso, WA Director, 2013-2018**

Elaine oversaw creation and implementation of the Historic Preservation Commission and Historic Preservation program in Cowlitz County and creation and implementation of the Voluntary Stewardship Program. She managed the completion of the County's Updated Comprehensive Plan, the update of the County's Shoreline Master Program and the Critical Areas Ordinance, and oversaw the completion of complex environmental review documents including the Headquarters Landfill EIS, the Northwest Innovation Works Kalama EIS, the Millennium Bulk Terminals EIS, Columbia River Carbonates MDNS. Elaine successfully led the organizational realignment of the department based on LEAN principles and created and oversaw a community outreach model to enhance public involvement and community awareness in the department.

**Cowlitz County Department of Building and Planning, Kelso, WA, Operations Manager, 2011-2013**

Elaine provided daily and project management to a wide array of development projects including the Cowlitz Game & Anglers Gun Range; she completed administrative and legislative analyses to forecast impacts of budget, program shifts and legislation on the department and provided the research and design for new department policies and code approaches. She also managed the daily permitting activities of the department and led engagement efforts with local contractors and economic development professionals, and she facilitated the monthly Building and Planning Advisory Committee.

**Professional Activities**

Member, EPA/NEP Workgroup on Environmental Justice, July 2020 to present  
Member, EPA/NEP Workgroup on Climate Resiliency, July 2021 to present  
Participant, Columbia Basin Collaborative – 2020 to Present  
Member, Columbia River Basin Restoration Program Working Group – 2020 to Present  
Member, Association of National Estuary Programs, 2020 to Present

**Community Activities**

Appointed by Governor Brown, Board Member, Fair Dismissals Appeal Board, 2021 - present  
Commissioner, Columbia County Planning Commission, 2019 – August 2021  
Board Member, Rainier School Board, 2018 - present  
Board Member, Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership, 2014-2020  
Cowlitz County Innovations Committee, 2013-2016  
Instructor, Cowlitz County Leadership Academy, 2017-2018  
Livestock Project Leader, Columbia County 4H, 2012-present

**Education**

Valdosta State University, Doctor of Public Administration  
University of Nebraska at Omaha, Master of Public Administration  
Park University, B.A. Criminal Justice Administration  
Harvard- Bok Center Higher Education Teaching Certificate  
PMI Grantsmanship Institute, Masters Certificate in Project Management  
FEMA Emergency Management Institute ICS 100, 200, 300, 700, 800, All Hazards Type III Task Force Leader