



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Sarah Lane
Phone: 360-224-0447
Email: sarahlane049@gmail.com
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**METHOW WATERSHED COUNCIL TO HOST CHRIS KONRAD SPEAKING ON:
FIRE AND WATER: HOW FIRES AFFECT METHOW VALLEY STREAMFLOWS**

The Methow Watershed Council (MWC) is pleased to announce an informational expert presentation by Chris Konrad, Research Hydrologist with the Washington Water Science Center, U.S. Geological Survey, Tacoma, Washington.

The presentation will explore how fires affect the Methow Valley streamflows. Wildfire is a recurring process in forests and shrub-steppe in the Methow River watershed. The effects of wildfire extend from the loss of vegetation and changes in the underlying soil to the way that water is stored on and flows through the landscape. The hydrologic effects of wildfire are particularly important because of increased risk from flooding and debris flows but also increased water availability. The response of Methow valley rivers and streams to wildfire in the past provides evidence for what the future may hold for the valley as wildfire continues to be a prominent process in the ecosystem.

Chris's work includes analysis of hydrologic processes in river ecosystems including streamflow-mediated disturbance, groundwater and surface water interactions, sediment transport and geomorphic change, effects of land and water uses on streamflow; assessment of ecological/environmental flow requirements for river ecosystems; evaluation of freshwater conservation and management strategies.

The presentation will be held on Tuesday, March 26, 2019 at 7 P.M., at the Twisp Grange. No RSVP is required. More information can be found on the "Outreach and Education" page of our website, <https://www.methowwatershed.com/outreach-education>. Please contact Sarah Lane at sarahlane049@gmail.com with questions or to request further information.