



PACIFIC NORTHWEST AGRICULTURAL SAFETY & HEALTH CENTER

Research for healthy workers, strong communities & productive agriculture

NOVEMBER, 2019

PNASH eNews



We invite you to learn about our progress this last year in PNASH's Year-end Report. Most important to our mission are our partnerships with agricultural communities, which help ensure that our work is relevant to industry and worker needs. **Thank You** to our partners, advisors, faculty, staff and students. [View our report online.](#)

PNASH Grants Pilot Awards



Kevin Lyons, Associate Professor, Oregon State University, \$25,000

Use of Unexpected Events and Management Requiring Conditions in the Training and Management of Workers

This pilot project will develop and test a methodology for collecting a system of codes that describe the unexpected events and conditions required for managing tasks during choker setting. The inventory of incidents that will be used to inform worker safety training and hazard management to prevent injuries and fatalities in the logging sector. In the future, this project has potential for developing worker safety training material generated by data collected via epidemiological surveillance and in-field risk assessments of staged scenarios.

[Dr. Lyon's bio.](#)



**Edward Kasner, PNASH Outreach Director
and Research Scientist, \$25,000**

**Smoke Monitoring for Agricultural Safety and
Health (SMASH)**

This pilot seeks to develop wildfire decision aid tools driven by data collected from a high-density network of air quality monitoring sensors. During the 2020 wildfire season, smoke sensors will be added to an existing network of weather stations in agriculturally productive regions to explore applications such as worker safety and health, crop protection, and plume tracking. If successful, this pilot study will demonstrate proof-of-concept for air quality monitoring based on the AgWeatherNet platform, garner support from growers for developing a larger monitoring network, and collect preliminary data needed to pursue larger extramural funding opportunities.

[Dr. Kasner's bio.](#)



**Jay Kim, Assistant Professor, Oregon State
University, \$5,000**

**Systematic Evaluation of Exoskeletons in Reducing
Musculoskeletal Disorders in Manual Timber Felling**

This project aims to evaluate stakeholders' awareness and acceptance of exoskeletons, and identify potential barriers/risks to implementation of exoskeletons in forestry. To fulfill the study objectives, semi-structured interviews and questionnaires will be completed with forestry stakeholders including forestry workers, safety managers, educators, and trainees. This proposed pilot study will provide potential opportunities and justifications to adopt exoskeletons as a potential ergonomic control to reduce biomechanical stresses and associated injury risks among forestry workers.

[Dr. Kim's bio.](#)



**Jody Early, Associate Professor, University of
Washington Bothell, \$5,000**

**Sexual Harassment Prevention in Agriculture:
Evaluating a Training Video and Curriculum**

This pilot seeks to support the evaluation of the Basta! Prevent Sexual Harassment in Agriculture, comprehensive sexual harassment prevention program developed with and for the agricultural community. A pre/post-questionnaire will be developed to assess the effectiveness of the training video and curriculum. The questionnaire will be administered with agricultural workers and supervisors during 5 training sessions. Our goal is to determine whether these training materials are

effective at improving participants' knowledge, attitudes, and beliefs regarding sexual harassment. [Dr. Early's bio.](#)

New Awards to PNASHers Marica Blancas and Kit Galvin

Maria Blancas and Kit Galvin share some exceptional qualities: a vision inspired by our stakeholders, and a drive to make challenging ideas take off! We are proud that their work is launching with the help of new funding awards and the support of many partners.

[Read the article >](#)



WESTERN CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AVAILABLE

[Take a look](#) at research shared at the Western Agricultural Safety and Health Conference: Cultivating Collaborations.

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