



## 2022 Partners In Conservation (PIC) Grant Review Committee

### Jim Carlson (he/him)

*EMSWCD Board Member, At-Large 1*

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Elected in 2020, Jim Carlson is co-owner and manager of his family's nursery operation, Carlson Nursery, Inc. Jim lives in the original homestead, which dates to 1890 and which his family has owned since 1905. Jim has held positions with the Oregon Association of Nurseries, Johnson Creek Watershed Committee, USDA Farm Service Agency and the Gresham Farmer's Market. Jim is employed by Horizon Air as a Team Captain in Portland.

### Bruce Barbarasch (he/him)

*Nature and Trails Manager, Tualatin Hills Parks & Recreation*

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Bruce Barbarasch is a resident of SE Portland and the Nature & Trails Manager for the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District. He has worked in the fields of environmental education, trail management, and natural resources conservation for more than 25 years.

### Roy Iwai\* (he/him)

*Water Resources Specialist, Multnomah County Transportation*

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Roy Iwai is a water quality scientist with a passion for collaboration to improve watershed health. He has managed the Water Quality Program at Multnomah County since 2007. He leads several partnerships at the local and state levels, including the Clean Rivers Coalition, a collaborative partnership dedicated to creating the first statewide clean water outreach campaign in Oregon. Roy has a Masters degree in Oceanography from Louisiana State University.

### Leticia (Letty) Martinez (he/they/she)

*Owner, Flying Dogheart Farm/Raceme Farm Collective*

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Letty Dogheart Martinez is the owner of Flying Dogheart Farm and a member of the Raceme Farm Collective. Letty is an Herbalist, Dog Worker, Farmer, and Community Health Educator. Letty operates a micro-farm garden in the Portland area and a small farm on Wapato Island and makes farm-fresh herb products for people and their dogs. Letty also raises rabbits for meat and chickens for eggs.

### Naomi Rodriguez (they/them/theirs)

*Community Watershed Stewardship Program Coordinator, Portland Bureau of Environmental Services*

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Naomi Rodriguez is a Yoeme and Mexican first-generation student in Portland State University's Environmental Science program minoring in Indigenous Nations Studies. They grew up in Southern Oregon and enjoy roller blading on a sunny day, identifying plants, gardening, and being creative with the viola or drawing in their spare time.



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## Jessica Rojas\* (she/her)

*Stewardship Coordinator, Metro Parks and Nature*

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Jessica Rojas currently works as the Stewardship Coordinator at Metro, Parks and Nature sept. Past experiences include working for the NE Coalition of Neighborhoods and the Community Watershed Stewardship Program at Portland's Bureau of Environmental Services. In her spare time, Jess explores the cultural realms of invasive plant medicine, lay herbalism and the intersections of race, class, gender and the environment.

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## Eric Rosewall (he/him)

*Ecological Landscapes Program Coordinator, Portland Parks & Recreation*

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Eric Rosewall has a background in landscape architecture and construction and has been involved in the Portland region's open space system through numerous public and nonprofit organizations, including as executive director of Depave. He currently coordinates Portland Parks and Recreation's Ecologically Sustainable Landscapes Initiative - piloting high-impact landscape transformations that fill the urban nature gap.

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## Nell Tessman (she/her)

*Program Officer, Gray Family Foundation*

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Nell Tessman serves as the Program Officer for Gray Family Foundation, a Think Tank member for Growing Gardens, and on the Advisory Committee for the Oregon Farm to School and School Garden Network. She has committed her career to increase access to opportunities that unify youth and communities in their efforts to be strong stewards of their environments, their health, and each other. Over the past decade, she has worked as an educator, program manager, evaluator, and grant manager in schools, youth-serving organizations, local government, and at a national child health nonprofit. Nell earned her Master's in Educational Leadership and Policy from Portland State University, with a focus on food systems sustainability and place-based education. She lives in Northeast Portland with her partner and her young son and loves to grow fruits and vegetables in her garden, play on her basketball team, and explore Oregon outdoors with her family.

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## Nicolas Townsend (he/him/his)

*Garden Program Supervisor, Serendipity Center, Inc.*

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Nicolas Townsend is the garden program supervisor at Serendipity Center. He has nearly 15 years' experience in the fields of sustainable urban farming and garden education and holds a Master's degree in Leadership for Sustainability Education from PSU. In 2013 he spearheaded the development of the Growing Minds Garden program at Serendipity and has facilitated its growth over the past 9 years. Nicolas' approach is wholistic and interest-based with the goal of meeting students and volunteers where they are and empowering them to grow their own food.



### Stacey Triplett (she/her)

*Community Program Manager, Worksystems, Inc.*

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Stacey Triplett currently serves as the Community Programs Manager at Worksystems, the Workforce Development Board for this region. Worksystems connects federal, state and local support with a network of community-based employment services providers to address community wealth creation and recognizes shared roles in housing and homelessness systems as well as childcare and child welfare systems all in support of job seekers and employers. Her environmental work consists of prior roles with Nature in Neighborhoods at Metro and the Intertwine Alliance. She serves on Groundwork USA and Proud Ground Boards of Directors.

*Ella habla español.* In her youth, Stacey was an exchange student and maintains that language immersion experiences change lives.

### JoAnn Vrilakas (she/her)

*Education Manager, Leach Botanical Garden*

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JoAnn Vrilakas is the Education Manager at Leach Botanical Garden. She has worked as a field biologist, mostly in botany and ornithology, but also did a short stint looking at parthenogenetic lizards. She shifted her focus to humans, became a cultural anthropologist, and spent two years in the Indian Himalayas studying refugee Tibetan Buddhist nuns. After teaching at the college level for many years, she got tired of grading papers, and had the good fortune to be hired as the Education Manager at Leach Botanical Garden.

\*Prior PIC grant review committee member