Aggregate mining sites are about as popular as landfills and dams – no one wants them and yet society needs them. Rock and sand and gravel aggregates provide the necessary building blocks for our roads, bridges, buildings and homes. Engineering and environmental geology play an important role in evaluating and permitting mining sites, as well as reclaiming the sites into secondary beneficial uses.

The technical evaluation of a mine site involves field and laboratory work as well as quantifying the quality and quantity of the aggregate resource, and analyzing the impacts to the environment such as wetlands, wildlife, surface water and groundwater. The political side is as important as the technical side. Understanding neighbors concerns as they relate to mining – water, noise, dust, truck traffic and how a site will be mined and reclaimed are issues that need to be addressed during the permit process.

This talk will present examples of how an engineering geologist evaluates a future mine site. It will detail the field aspects, the proposed mine plan as well as how a site may be reclaimed with case histories. And it will show how geologists play a critical role in the political aspects of permitting mine sites by working with the decision makers. Advocacy of our profession is a huge goal of AEG and I hope to demonstrate how AEG can further educate and promote our profession with the public by presenting case histories.

Bio: Dorian Kuper

Dorian E. Kuper (M-OR) has BA degrees in Geology and Environmental Studies from University of California Santa Barbara and an MS degree in Geology from San Diego State University. She has 26 years of experience in Engineering Geology in Southern California, Oregon and Washington. She is currently the President of Kuper Consulting in Oregon, focusing on engineering geology, permitting and mine plan reclamation for aggregate sites and has professional registration in California, Oregon and Washington as an Engineering Geologist.

Dorian’s AEG professional activities include: Current President of AEG, Legislative Liaison for Oregon AEG, Co-chaired Programs Director for Oregon AEG, co-authored and organized national and local AEG field trips, member since the early 1980’s. Past President of the National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG - 2003), Chair of the Oregon State Board of Geologists (1998, 1999), and President of the San Diego Association of Geologists (1983), member of GSA, ASSMR and BIO:
Message From The Chair

It’s now (as I write) pushing midnight on November 1st, and I’m already late delivering this column – so I won’t be anywhere near as windy as last month.

Speaking of November 1st – today was the day that AEG renewals for 2008 were due. (I just renewed online this morning, so I shouldn’t preach, but …) If you haven’t done so already, please renew as soon as possible – and please consider contributing to one or more of the AEG Foundation funds.

It looked like a good turn-out at the October meeting, when I snuck in late. We still have noise issues at the Old Market (and some of our other venues) – if any of you know of a brew-pubish place, in a convenient location, with a large-enough and quiet meeting room, fairly cheap – please clue in one of your officers. We’re happy to check it out (research!), and we might add it to the rotation.

Our meeting this month (on a Wednesday the 14th, please note) features our national president, Dorian Kuper, so come on down and find out everything there is to know about the inside workings of AEG.

Matt Brunengo
AEG Oregon Section Chair

Licensed Professionals Needed in California Fire Evacuation Areas

The Department of Consumer Affairs, on behalf of Governor Schwarzenegger is asking for board licensees to help emergency efforts in the fire disaster areas in Southern California. Your help will make a difference during this difficult time.

Volunteers who are licensed under one of the following California Boards are needed in the Southern California, especially San Diego:

Contractors State License Board, Medical Board of California, Board of Registered Nursing, Board of Geology, Board of Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors, Board of Psychology, Board of Behavioral Sciences, Pharmacy Board, and Veterinary Medical Board.

I realize that many of you are not licensed in California, but you may know others that are. Please send them this message on behalf of AEG.

Thank you! Becky Roland, AEG

Oregon State Board of Geologist Examiners to Hold Quarterly Meeting at PSU - 12/7/07

The Oregon State Board of Geologist Examiners will hold a quarterly meeting on the campus of Portland State University on Friday, December 7, 2007. The 1 o’clock meeting will be preceded by a morning work session. For additional information about this meeting of the regulatory Board for the practice of geology, please check the Board’s website at http://www.oregon.gov/OSBGE/index.shtml approximately two weeks before the meeting.
Oregon Section AEG T-Shirt Design Contest

It was suggested to make Oregon Section AEG T-shirts this year and to have a T-shirt Design Contest. The shirts will have the AEG logo, etc on the front, but the back needs a design of some type that highlights the Oregon Section of AEG. Maybe our Outstanding section award?!?! Please submit the designs to Bill Burns (info below) prior to January 1, 2008 in digital or paper format. The designs will be voted on by the Board and the winner to go on the shirts.

Bill Burns, 800 NE Oregon Street, Portland, OR 97232 or bill.burns@dogami.state.or.us

The Oregon Section Newsletter

OREGON SECTION AEG NEWSLETTER is published monthly from September through May. Subscriptions are for members of AEG affiliated with the Oregon Section or other Sections, and other interested people who have requested and paid a local subscription fee of $10.00. E-mail subscriptions are free. News items are invited and should be sent to: Bill Burns, OR Section AEG Newsletter Editor, Oregon Department of Geology, 800 NE Oregon Street, Portland, OR 97232, e-mail: <bill.burns@dogami.state.or.us>, phone (971) 673-1555. Electronic media is preferred. Deadline for submittal is Friday three weeks before each meeting. Advertising: business card $10/mo, $100/yr; ¼ page $30/mo, $200/yr; ½ page $35/mo, $350/yr. Please notify Bill if you have a change to your email or mailing address.

The Oregon Section is also on the web at http://www.aegoregon.org
National AEG webpage: http://aegweb.org

Thanks For Supporting AEG !

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Photo of the Month

The November photo is from Yumei Wang from the Oregon Department of Geology (DOGAMI). The photo is of an earthquake induced slope failure from the recent Japan earthquake. Yumei went over to Japan following the earthquake to collect data on critical infrastructure (lifelines) performance. She was part of a team of engineers from the ASCE Technical Council on Lifeline Earthquake Engineering (TCLEE) group. Yumei will be giving several talks on the earthquake, including one to the Oregon ASCE group. Yumei will be giving a number of talks on this earthquake, including three various chapters of the Oregon ASCE.

For more information on Yumei see http://www.oregongeology.com/sub/FIELDOFFICES/profile-wang.htm

To submit a photo, please email the picture in a JPEG or TIF format to bill.burns@dogami.state.or.us. Also include a short paragraph describing the photo and project.