Lara Whitely Binder is an outreach specialist at the University of Washington’s Climate Impacts Group (CIG). Lara assists the CIG with its efforts to disseminate information to decision makers on the impacts of climate variability and climate change on the Pacific Northwest, and to support decision makers in the use of this information. Lara earned her Master’s Degree in Public Affairs at the University of Washington’s Evans School of Public Affairs in 2002. Prior to attending graduate school, Lara served as the Groundwater Protection Coordinator for a consortium of public and private groundwater suppliers in the greater Cincinnati, Ohio metropolitan area. As the Coordinator, Lara developed and administered a multi-jurisdictional groundwater protection program.

About the CIG:

The CIG is an interdisciplinary research group studying the impacts of natural climate variability and global climate change on the U.S. Pacific Northwest. Through these analyses and interaction with the regional stakeholder community, the CIG works to increase the resilience of the Pacific Northwest to fluctuations in climate. Current research focuses on four key sectors: water resources, aquatic and marine ecosystems, forests, and coasts. The CIG is funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Office of Global Programs with additional financial and technical support provided by the University of Washington. The CIG is located in Seattle at the University of Washington with affiliates in Olympia, Washington and Boise, Idaho.