



New Mexico Watershed and Dam Owners Coalition

2023 Conference & Business Meeting

“Connecting the Dots - Holistic Watershed Management”

October 4, 5 & 6, 2023

Isleta Resort and Casino

CONFERENCE AGENDA *(rev 10/03/2023)*

Wednesday, October 4, 2023

8:00 **Breakfast/Registration**

8:45 **Host Welcome**

Representative from Isleta Pueblo *(Invited)*

9:00 **ASDSO Training Workshop (3-hrs)**

Topics: Seepage, Dam Failures, Vegetation and Burrowing Animals

Facilitator: Dr. John Lommler, PE, D.GE and Sushil Chaudhary, D.Eng., PE

10:30 **15-min Break**

10:45 **ASDSO Training Workshop** *(continued)*

12:00 **Lunch Buffet & Networking**

1:30 **Billy T's with an Ethics Twist**

Chuck Caruso, PE – *Owner, AgriMex*

2:15 **Stormwater Capture & Reuse – It's Really Complicated**

Bruce Thomson, PE – *Professor, UNM; Chairman, AMAFCA Board of Directors*

3:00 **15-min Break**

3:15 **Watershed Restoration Approaches to Address Community Issues in New Mexico's Rio Grande Valleys**

Connie Maxwell, PhD – *Research Scientist, New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute*

4:00 **Collaborating for Water Quality in the Watershed**

Patrick Chavez, PE – *Storm Water Quality Engineer, AMAFCA*

4:30 **Valle de Oro Drainage Facility - Coordination, Collaboration, & Cooperation**

Jared Romero, PE – *Development Review Engineer, AMAFCA*

5:00 **End of Presentations**

END OF DAY 1



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Thursday, October 5th

- 7:30 **Breakfast**
- 8:00 **Keynote Speech – State Water Planning and Governor’s Water Policy and Infrastructure Task Force Update**
Mike Hamman, PE – *State Engineer*
- 9:00 **State of New Mexico Dams Address**
Sushil Chaudhary, D.Eng., P.E. - *Dam Safety Bureau Chief, Office of the State Engineer*
- 10:00 **15-minute Break**
- 10:15 OPEN (*pending*)
- 10:45 **US Congressional Update**
Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury – *District 1*
- 11:15 **Interactive Session w/ FEMA: Mitigation Funding Opportunities for New Mexico – Representatives from FEMA Region 6 will be available for an open discussion/conversation with attendees.**
- 12:15 **Lunch Buffet & Speaker**
Senator Pete Campos – District 8 – Senate Finance Committee, Water & Natural Resources Committee
Legislative Update, Non-Recurring Funds Project Coordination between Neighboring Organizations

Thursday Afternoon Presentations (2-Tracks – Technical & Less-Technical)

Track 1 – Less Technical

- 1:30 **25 Years In The Watershed Management Business**
Jerry Lovato, PE & Brad Bingham, PE – *Retired*
- 2:30 **Challenges of Watershed Management as a Single Purpose Flood Control Agency**
Dave Gatterman, PE - *Executive Engineer, SSCAFCA*
Andy Edmondson, PE – *Facility Ops Director, SSCAFCA*
- 3:15 **15-minute Break**
- 3:30 **Watershed Management On The Pecos**
Hannah Riseley-White – *New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission*
- 4:15 **Watershed Restoration: Funding and Opportunities from the New Mexico Forestry Division**
Erin McElroy – *New Mexico Forestry Division*
- 5:00 **End of Presentations**

Track 2 - More Technical

- 1:30 **Regenerative Land Management for Water Security and Riparian Habitat Enhancement**
Ricardo Aguirre, PE, D.WRE, CFM, AP, *Director of Land Management and Water Security, WEST Consultants*
- 2:15 **The St. Vrain Creek Restoration**
L. Clint Brown, P.E. – *VP & Senior Engineer, Engineering Analytics, Inc.*
- 2:45 **15-minute Break**
- 3:00 **Debris Flow Modeling and Mapping for Cascade Creek and Portland Creek in Ouray, Colorado**
Hui-Ming “Max” Shih, Ph.D., P.E., CFM – *Senior Water Resources Engineer, CDM Smith*
Joseph Machala, P.E. - *Water Resources Engineer, CDM Smith*
- 3:45 **Restoration of the Centerfire Creek Watershed at Spur Ranch**
Hugh Floyd, PE – *Manager, RESPEC*
- 4:15 **Flowing Towards Success: Harvesting the Data-Rich Landscape of Irrigation Infrastructure**
Madeline Olivas, EI – *Engineering Intern, Bohannon-Huston*
Alicia Lopez, PE – *Engineering & Mapping Manager, MRGCD*
- 5:00 **End of Presentations**

END OF DAY 2



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Friday, October 6th

- 7:00 **Breakfast Buffet!**
- 8:00 **General Membership Meeting**
Andres Sanchez, PE - *Chair, NMWDOC*
- 9:15 **San Juan & Chama Headwaters – Resilience Building, Upland Forest Response to Climate Change**
Dagmar Llewellyn - *Supervisor, Resource Programs / Planning Group, Bureau of Reclamation, Upper Colorado Basin Region*
- 10:00 **15-min Break**
- 10:15 **Panel: Challenges of Watershed Management as an Irrigation District on the Rio Grande River**
Gary Esslinger – *Executive Director, Elephant Butte Irrigation District*
Jason Casuga – *CEO/Chief Engineer, Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District*
Coley Burgess – *Manager, Carlsbad Irrigation District*
- 11:15 **Waters of the United States – Recent Changes & How They Affect Watershed Management**
Samantha Salopek – *Attorney, EBID*
- 12:00 **Rio Grande Water Fund Update & Other Initiatives**
Matt Picarello – *Rio Grande Water Fund*
- 12:30 **Lunch Buffet - Networking**
- 1:30 **Adjourn Conference**
- 1:45 **Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge Facility Tour (OPTIONAL) – Bring your own vehicle**
Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge is located at [7851 2nd St SW, Albuquerque, NM 87105](#) (approx. 10 minutes from the Isleta Resort & Casino)



END OF CONFERENCE