



## New Mexico Watershed and Dam Owners Coalition

2024 Conference & Business Meeting

*"Back to the Future: Building Resilience from Lessons Learned"*

May 1-3, 2024

Ruidoso Convention Center, Ruidoso, NM

### CONFERENCE AGENDA (rev 04/19/2024)

#### Wednesday, May 1, 2024

7:30 **Breakfast/Registration**

9:00 **O&M Manual Prep Workshop (3-hrs; 09:00-12:00)**

**Facilitators:** Sushil Chaudhary, D.Eng., P.E. - *Dam Safety Bureau Chief, Office of the State Engineer*

Chuck Caruso, P.E. – *Owner, Agrimex*

10:30 **15-min Break**

10:45 **O&M Manual Prep Workshop (continued)**

12:00 **Lunch & Networking**

1:00 **Office of State Engineer/Interstate Stream Commission 101 & Legislative Updates**

John T. Romero, PE – *WRAP Director, Office of the State Engineer*

1:45 **NRCS-SWCD Dam Rehabilitation Program – Santa Cruz Site 1 Lessons Learned**

Elias Gnann, PE – *NM State Conservation Engineer, NRCS*

Alfredo Roybal – *Chairman, Santa Fe-Pojoaque Soil & Water Conservation District*

2:30 **Reclamation's Drought Resilience Efforts in New Mexico**

Genevieve Allan – *Title, Bureau of Reclamation*

3:00 **15-min Break**

3:15 *Vendor Presentation*

Drew Bertelston – *Technical Sales Engineer, Hanes Geo Components*

4:00 *Vendor Presentation*

Joe Schweighofer – *Area Manager, Maccaferri, Inc.*

**END OF DAY 1**



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### Thursday, May 2, 2024

7:00 **Breakfast**

8:30 **State of New Mexico Dams Address**

Sushil Chaudhary, D.Eng., P.E. - *Dam Safety Bureau Chief, Office of the State Engineer*

9:15 **National Watershed Coalition Update**

Dan Sebert – *Coalition Executive Director, National Watershed Coalition*

10:00 **Update on the NM 50-yr Water Plan and the Governor’s Water Task Force**

Tanya Trujillo – *Deputy State Engineer, State of New Mexico*

10:30 **15-min Break**

#### Tract One – Less Technical

10:45 **Using Conservation to Build Resilient Watersheds**

Dierdre Tarr – *District Manager, Claunch-Pinto SWCD*

11:30 **Using system dynamics modeling to evaluate the future of the Santa Fe Municipal Watershed**

Atlin Johnson - *Student, UNM Civil, Construction & Environmental Engineering*

12:00 **Lunch & Networking**

1:00 **NM DHSEM - Disaster Funding Availability, Opportunity, & Support Services**

Jeremy Klass – *Bureau Chief, NM DHSEM*  
Andres Sanchez – *Design Services Director, SSCAFCA*

1:45 **Reclamation Water Management and Grant Funding Programs - Lessons Learned on Building Resilience**

Dagmar Llewellyn, Gary McRae, Mike Benning, and Dale Hamilton – *Bureau of Reclamation*

2:30 **15-min Break**

2:45 **Rehabilitation of High-Hazard Potential Dams Grant Program - Advice on Availability of Funds with Steps to Obtain**

Alan A. Johnson – *Civil Engineer, Mitigation Risk Analysis, FEMA*

3:15 **Hatch and Mesilla Valley: Building Watershed Resilience on Scale**

Dr. Connie Maxwell – *NMSU Water Resource Research Institute*

#### Tract Two – More Technical/ Engineering

10:45 **Emergency Action Planning for Dams**

Charles Thompson, PE – *Owner, Urraca Mesa Consulting*

11:30 **Resiliency in Dam Design and Maintenance**

Clint Brown - *Engineering Analytics*

12:00 **Lunch & Networking**

1:00 **Ethical Considerations: The Role of Engineers in Public Projects – Panel Discussion (2-hr Ethics Credits)**

Bruce Thomson, PhD, PE – *Professor Emeritus, University of New Mexico*

Chuck Easterling, PE - others...

2:00 **15-min Break**

2:15 **Ethical Considerations: The Role of Engineers in Public Projects – Panel Discussion (2-hr Ethics Credits)**

Bruce Thomson, PhD, PE – *Professor Emeritus, University of New Mexico*

3:15 **Safety Evaluation Risk Assessments & Risk-Informed Decision-Making for Maple Grove Dam in Colorado**

Max Shih, Ph.D., PE, CFM – *Senior Water Resources Engineer, CDM Smith*

Jonathan Chill – *CDM Smith*

4:00 **Panel Discussion: Surface Water Delivery - Lessons Learned**

*Moderator: Zack Libbin, PE – Principal, Libbin-Underwood Engineering*

**Panel Members:** Coley Burgess - *Manager, Carlsbad Irrigation District*

Gary Esslinger - *Treasurer/Manager, Elephant Butte Irrigation District*

Alfredo Roybal - *Chairman, Santa Fe-Pojoaque Soil & Water Conservation District*

Others – *TBD*

**END OF DAY 2**



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**Friday, May 3, 2024**

7:00 **Breakfast**

8:30 **Rio Grande Water Fund Update & Other Initiatives**

Matt Picarello – *Rio Grande Water Fund*

9:00 **General Membership Meeting**

Andres Sanchez, PE - *Chair, NMWDOC*

9:45 **Lessons Learned from a Million Years of Applying Watershed Practices**

Dick Smith – *The Man*

10:30 **15-min Break**

10:45 **Post-Fire Watershed Response over Time**

Kyle Shour, PE - *Hydraulic Engineer, TetraTech*

Walt Kuhn, PE – *Project Manager, TetraTech*

11:30 **Watershed Tour - Mescalero Watershed and Forest Management**

Representative, *Mescalero Apache Tribal Government*

12:00 **Box Lunches and Continue Discussion**

1:30 **Adjourn Conference**

1:45 **Watershed Tour – Mescalero Watershed and Forest Management Tour (OPTIONAL)**

*\*\*Gather in the conference center hallway and we will carpool over\*\**

**END OF CONFERENCE**

*See You Next Year!!*