



Colorado Water Congress 2022 Annual Convention and Membership Meeting

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26

7:00 REGISTRATION OPENS

COFFEE AND NETWORKING WITH EXHIBITORS

8:45 CONCURRENT SESSIONS BLOCK A

Note: The overall window of time for concurrent sessions is 60 minutes – allowing 15 minutes for attendees to get from the ballroom to the concurrent session rooms and the same to return. Concurrent sessions will be a maximum of 30 minutes.

Seating in concurrent session rooms will be limited to provide a reasonable measure of social distancing. To allow for additional opportunities to see the concurrent sessions, speakers will repeat their sessions shortly after the Convention. The repeat sessions will be live streamed and posted on the Convention virtual platform for viewing at your convenience.

Note on Division Engineer Concurrent Sessions: Throughout the Convention, attendees have an opportunity to meet with each of the Division Engineers to discuss locally relevant matters.

Concurrent Session A1

South Platte Division Engineer

Concurrent Session A2

Arkansas Division Engineer

Concurrent Session A3

Rio Grande Division Engineer

Concurrent Session A4

Colorado State University Water Conservation Video

CSU received a generous grant to produce videos focusing on bridging the gap in difficult conversations, including urban/rural interface. The video addresses the water conversation in Colorado with the creation of the Interbasin Compact Committee and the roundtables. The video and in-depth discussions regarding the use of roundtables for the difficult water conversations in our future. This session will be repeated on Thursday at 11:15. An in-depth virtual session will follow soon after the Convention.

9:15 BREAK

9:45 OPENING GENERAL SESSION

Convention Welcome

Aurora Mayor Mike Coffman

Mayor Coffman served 10 years in the Colorado House and Senate, 10 years in State Office as Treasurer and Secretary of State, and 10 years in the U.S. House of Representatives.

2022 Political Landscape

Co- Moderators: Floyd Ciruli, Ciruli and Associates (virtual) and Doug Kemper, CWC

Panelists: Mike Dino, Squire Patton Boggs and Dick Wadhams, Political Consultant

Our deeply knowledgeable Democratic and Republican panelists will be our guide as we look ahead to the political scene in 2022 at the state and national levels.

11:00 BREAK FOR CONCURRENT SESSIONS

11:15 CONCURRENT SESSIONS BLOCK B

Concurrent Session B1

DARCA Topic 1

Concurrent Session B2

Colorado Airborne Snow Observatory

As a follow up presentation to the one given at summer Water Congress, the CASO team will present a project update including what ASO flights and opportunities are coming in Spring 2022.

Concurrent Session B3

PFAS Information Session

Jacob Strombeck, AE2S

PFAS, or per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances, have received increased attention in recent years, resulting in discussions within the EPA of regulations on the pollutants in water and wastewater. There are upwards of 5,000 PFAS compounds, all with different toxicities, behaviors, and detection methods. This makes the detection and removal of PFAS from water and wastewater extremely difficult. With a lack of federal action, the current regulatory landscape is a patchwork of rules and guidelines across the country. Within this presentation, the basic chemistries of PFAS will be explained, as well as how these qualities make PFAS a difficult contaminant in water. A summary of current regulations and possible future rules, both federal and at the state level, will be presented. Current removal and detection methods will be discussed, as well as positives and negatives of each. Finally, an overview of what PFAS means for Colorado water systems will be given, and an insight into the possible future struggles will be discussed.

Concurrent Session B4

Gunnison Division Engineer

12:00 LUNCH

Sponsored by Ute Water Conservancy District

12:45 GENERAL SESSION 2

**Moderator: Linn Brooks, Eagle River Water & Sanitation District and CWC President
Governor Jared Polis**

Remarks from Governor Polis will feature an introduction of the Water 2022 campaign.

Water 2022

Jayla Poppleton, Water Education Colorado

Jayla will give a brief overview of activities planned during the year to celebrate Water 2022. For more information, attend her concurrent session that follows.

The Story of Greeley Water

Harold Evans, Greeley Water and Sewer Board

Michael Welsh, Author

Harold and Michael will discuss the story behind the Story of Greeley Water and pay tribute to Justice Greg Hobbs co-author of Confluence, The Story of Greeley Water.

Recognition of William H. Miller

Jim Lochhead, Denver Water

Bill Miller was the recipient of the 1991 Aspinall Water Leader of the Year Award and passed away in October 2021. Bill was a journalist with the Rocky Mountain News and Denver Post, earned a law degree from University of Denver, and served as the manager of the Denver Water Board from 1970 until 1990.

Presentation of the 2022 Aspinall Water Leader of the Year Award

Each year, the Colorado Water Congress presents the prestigious Wayne N. Aspinall "Water Leader of the Year" Award annually to an individual Coloradan who has long demonstrated courage, dedication, knowledge and strong leadership in the development, protection, and preservation of Colorado water.

2:00 BREAK FOR CONCURRENT SESSIONS

2:00 COLORADO WATER RESOURCES AND POWER DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING

2:15 CONCURRENT SESSIONS BLOCK C

Concurrent Session C1

Mediating Water Conflicts (Part 1)

Theory and Best Practices for Attorneys and Parties

Colorado Bar Association Water Section

This is the first of a two-part session – Part 2 at the same time on Thursday.

Concurrent Session C2

Water 2022

Jayla Poppleton, Water Education Colorado

Concurrent Session C3

Colorado River Division Engineer

3:00 **GENERAL SESSION 3**

Colorado River Compact 100th Anniversary
Colorado River Negotiations

Moderator: David Robbins, Hill and Robbins
Rebecca Mitchell, Colorado Water Conservation Board
Lain Leoniak, Colorado Office of Attorney General
John McClow, Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District

Our Annual Convention will begin a series of presentations on the 100th Anniversary of the Colorado River Compact. Our expert and entertaining panel will guide us through their unique perspectives on the Compact and why it continues to be one of the greatest achievements in the history of Western water policy. We will then flow to the crucial decisions ahead regarding the 2007 Colorado River Interim Guidelines that will expire in 2026.

5:00 **VIRTUAL GATHERING AT THE POND**

Our POND event will be virtual this year. Attendees will need to connect to the event through their own computer.

5:30 **VIRTUAL POND ACTIVITY**

POND events are designed to provide an opportunity for attendees to interact in a fun and engaging way. This virtual POND event will last about an hour. As always, the event is top secret up until it begins, but you can expect another unique and interactive event.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27

7:00 **COFFEE AND NETWORKING WITH EXHIBITORS**

7:30 **GENERAL SESSION 4**

Moderator: Chane Polo, Colorado Water Congress

State Affairs

Dianna Orf, Orf and Orf
Peggy Montano, Trout Raley Montano Witwer & Freeman and Chair of CWC State Affairs
Representative Marc Catlin, Vice Chair House Agriculture, Livestock and Water Committee
Other Legislators TBA

8:30 **Protecting Water Supplies Arising on Forest Lands**

Frank Beum, USFS Regional Forester
Dan Gibbs, Colorado Department of Natural Resources

9:00 **Western Water Priorities**

Christine Arbogast, Kogovsek & Associates and CWC Board
Andy Colosimo, Colorado Springs Utilities and CWC Board

9:30 **BREAK**

10:00 **GENERAL SESSION 5**

Unravelling the Mysteries of Funding for Water Infrastructure

11:00 BREAK FOR CONCURRENT SESSIONS

11:15 CONCURRENT SESSIONS BLOCK D

Concurrent Session D1

DARCA Topic 2

Concurrent Session D2

Forest Service Updates

Concurrent Session D3

Yampa Division Engineer

Concurrent Session D4

CSU Water Conversation Video

See description for Concurrent Session A4.

12:00 LUNCH

Sponsored by the Colorado Water Resources and Power Development Authority

1:00 GENERAL SESSION 6

Moderator: Russ Sands, CWCB

Basin Implementation Plans Update

Matt Lindburg, Brown and Caldwell

The Colorado Water Plan - A Grassroots Legacy

Kat Weismiller and Elizabeth Schoder, CWCB

Statewide Public Awareness Survey

Doug Jeavons, BBC

2:00 BREAK FOR CONCURRENT SESSIONS

2:15 CONCURRENT SESSIONS BLOCK E

Concurrent Session E1

Mediating Water Conflicts (Part 2)

See description for Concurrent Session C1.

Concurrent Session E2

CWC Communications Listening Session

Concurrent Session E3

San Juan Division Engineer

Concurrent Session E4

Watering the West Video Overview

3:00 GENERAL SESSION 7

Local Permitting and Decision Making

Moderator: Kelly Romero-Heaney, Colorado Department of Natural Resources

1041 Permitting

[Nick DiMascio, Denver Water](#)
[Greg Felt, Chaffee County Commissioner](#)
[David Nickum, Trout Unlimited](#)

Rights of Nature

[Steve Leonhardt, Burns Figa Will](#)
[Doug Kemper, Colorado Water Congress](#)

4:30 BREAK

4:45 SPECIAL SESSION
Honorable Greg Hobbs Tribute

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28

7:00 COFFEE AND NETWORKING WITH EXHIBITORS

8:30 GENERAL SESSION 8
Fireside Chat
with Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser and Wyoming Attorney General Bridget Hill

9:30 BREAK

10:00 General Session 9
Water, Climate, and Drought:
Impacts and Innovation
Moderator: [Russ Sands, CWCB](#)

State of Water in Colorado
[Kevin Rein, Colorado State Engineer](#)

State of Climate in Colorado
[Jeff Lukas, Western Water Assessment](#)

Facilitated Drought Exercise

[Abby Burk, Audubon Rockies](#)
[Greg Fisher, Denver Water](#)
[Greg Peterson, Colorado Ag Water Alliance](#)

12:00 CONVENTION CONCLUDING ACTIVITY

THANK YOU TO OUR 2022 ANNUAL CONVENTION EXHIBITORS

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Colorado Water Conservation Board*
Colorado Water Resources and Power Development Authority*
Colorado Water Trust
FCS Group*
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Headwaters Corporation/Platte River Recovery Implementation Program
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Northern Water
Obermeyer Hydro, Inc.
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Special District Association of Colorado
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