

SWCD's 38th Southwest Water Seminar: Navigating Shortage

Friday, April 1, 2022

FINAL DRAFT AGENDA 3-17-22

COVID-19: *SWCD is working to ensure participant safety in order to hold this hybrid event. We are limiting attendance to improve opportunities for social distancing and providing a virtual option.*

Based on the most recent local and state public health recommendations, SWCD recommends attendees of its in-person events to participate only if fully vaccinated against COVID-19. While masks are optional, please observe physical distancing of six feet from others.

Please stay home if you are not feeling well or exhibit any COVID-19 symptoms. SWCD can provide rapid COVID-19 tests for event attendees prior to the event upon request.

We will continue to monitor local public health advisories and will modify any recommendations/requirements as necessary.

8:00 **Registration & Breakfast**

8:30 **Welcome and Opening Remarks: Your District at Work**

Steve Wolff, General Manager, Southwestern Water Conservation District
Manuel Heart, Chairman, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe
Jenny Russell, Board President, Southwestern Water Conservation District

8:50 **Video: Southwest Basin: Our Forests and Rivers**

Elaine Chick, Water Information Program

9:10 **Conversation: Southwest Colorado in the Aridification Bullseye**

Moderator: Jenny Russell, President, Southwestern Water Conservation District
Becky Bolinger, Assistant State Climatologist, Colorado State University
Rob Genualdi, Division 7 Engineer, Colorado Division of Water Resources
Dr. Heidi Steltzer, Professor of Environment and Sustainability, Fort Lewis College

9:50 **Networking Break**

10:15 **Navigating Shortages for Southwest Colorado Water Users**

Moderator: Steve Wolff, General Manager, Southwestern Water Conservation District
Susan Behery, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Ken Curtis, Dolores Water Conservancy District
Ben Wolcott, Agriculture Consultant, Mancos Watershed Stream Management Plan

11:00 **Audience Quiz**

11:15 **Tribal Engagement: A New Dynamic on the Colorado River**

Moderator: Gigi Richard, Four Corners Water Center at Fort Lewis College
Lorelei Cloud, Councilwoman, Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Manuel Heart, Chairman, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe

12:00 **Lunch**

- 1:00** **100 Years of the Colorado River Compact**
Moderator: Amy Huff, Director, Southwestern Water Conservation District
Eric Kuhn, Author and Former River District General Manager
Kelsea Macilroy, Macilroy Research and PhD Candidate, Colorado State University
Beth Van Vurst, SWCD General Counsel, Van Vurst Law
Becky Mitchell, Colorado's Commissioner to the Upper Colorado River Commission
- 2:10** **Water 22 - It All Starts Here**
Elaine Chick, Water Information Program
- 2:20** **Balancing Protection and Use of our Natural Resources**
Moderator: Rusty Hinger, Director, Southwestern Water Conservation District
Hattie Johnson, American Whitewater
Jim White, Colorado Parks & Wildlife
Don Schwindt, Family Farm Alliance
- 3:00** **Snack Break**
- 3:15** **Water Quality Impacts as Flows Drop**
Moderator: Charlie Smith, Secretary-Treasurer, Southwestern Water Conservation District
Peter Butler, Bonita Peak Community Advisory Group
John Cyran, Western Resource Advocates
- 4:00** **Closing Remarks**
JR Ford, Director, Southwestern Water Conservation District