



# SOUTHWESTERN WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SOUTHWEST WATER SEMINAR

## FLUID HORIZONS:

## NAVIGATING THE WATERS OF INNOVATION

**Details:** March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Sky Ute Casino and Resort,  
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Ignacio, CO 81137

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**8:00 a.m. Registration & Breakfast**

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**8:30 a.m. Welcome and Opening Remarks**

**Steve Wolff** – General Manager – Southwestern Water Conservation District (SWCD)

**Chairman Melvin J. Baker** - Southern Ute Indian Tribe (SUIT), Tribal Blessing and Welcome

**Jenny Russell** – Board President, SWCD

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**9:00 a.m. Moving Forward on Interstate and Tribal Matters**

**Moderator: Steve Wolff** – General Manager, SWCD

**Lorelei Cloud** – Vice Chair, SUIT and CWCB SW Director

**Becky Mitchell** – Upper Colorado River Commissioner, Colorado

**Estevan López** – Upper Colorado River Commissioner, New Mexico

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**10:15 a.m. Networking Break**

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**10:30 a.m. Innovative Solutions for Agriculture**

**Moderator: Kate Greenberg** – Commissioner, CO Department of Ag.

**Greg Vlaming** – Rocking V Soil and Water Conservation

**Dr. Perry Cabot** – Research and Extension Leader, Colorado State University

**Greg Peterson** – Executive Director, CO Agriculture Water Alliance

**Eric Whyte** – Hay Manager, Ute Mountain Ute Farm & Ranch Enterprise



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11:45 a.m.

**Announcements and Lunch**

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1:00 p.m.

**Water Information Program Introduction**

**Elaine Chick** - Program Manager, Water Information Program (WIP)  
and SW Basin Roundtable PEPO Liaison

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1:15 p.m.

**Voices from Around the State**

**Moderator: Steve Wolff** – General Manager, SWCD

**Robert Sakata** - Water Policy Advisor, Colorado Department of  
Agriculture

**Andy Mueller** – General Manager, Colorado River District (CRD)

**Lauren Ris** – Director – Colorado Water Conservation Board

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2:30 PM

**Networking Break**

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2:50 p.m.

**Funding and Local Opportunities**

**Monika Rock** – Programs Coordinator, SWCD

**Cole Bedford** – Chief Operating Officer, CWCB

**Laura Spann** – Regional Grant Coordinator, CWCB

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3:15 p.m.

**Southwest Achievements and Initiatives at the Community Level**

**Moderator: Monika Rock** – Programs Coordinator, SWCD

**Gretchen Rank** – Managing Director, Mancos Conservation District

**Al Pfister** – Project Manager, Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement  
Partnership

**Jude Schuenemeyer** – Co-Director, Montezuma Orchard Project

**Sara Burch** – Rivers Program Manager, San Juan Citizens Alliance

**Dr. Bill Smith** – Forest Program Director, Mountain Studies Institute

**Adrian Bergene** – Executive Director, San Miguel Watershed Coalition

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4:15 p.m.

**Closing Remarks**

**Monika Rock** – Programs Coordinator, SWCD

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