

MONTANA WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION & UPPER MISSOURI WATER ASSOCIATION

Joint Annual Meeting & Conference Program



Double Tree by Hilton
Billings, Montana
October 22-24, 2018



MONDAY, OCTOBER 22 – BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

- 6:00 p.m. Upper Missouri Water Association (UMWA) Board Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA) Board Meeting

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23 – ANNUAL CONFERENCE

- 7:00 a.m. **Registration Opens**
- 9:00 a.m. **Opening Remarks**
Norm Haak, UMWA President
John Crowley, MWRA President and Manager of Bitter Root Irrigation District
Honorable Mike Cooney, Montana Lieutenant Governor
- 9:30 a.m. **Bureau of Reclamation Update**
Tom Sawatzke, Deputy Area Manager, Montana Area Office
Arden Freitag, Area Manager, Dakotas Area Office
Carlie Ronca, Area Manager, Wyoming Area Office
- 10:15 a.m. **Morning Networking Break**
- 10:45 a.m. **Atmospheric Resource Management Programs in the United States**
Keely Torgerson, Legislative Director, North Dakota Water Users Association
- 11:15 a.m. **Pipeline Rehabilitation Technology**
Mike Kotas, Sales Engineer, Quakewrap, Inc
- 11:45 a.m. **Opening Luncheon: BOR Overview**
Key Note Speaker: Mike Black, Regional Director, Bureau of Reclamation
- 1:15 p.m. **State of the States Address: Directors and State Engineers Panel**
John Tubbs, Director, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Pat Fridgen, Director, North Dakota State Water Commission
Patrick Tyrrell, State Engineer, Wyoming State Engineers Office
South Dakota (TBD)
- 2:30 p.m. **Water Rights Adjudication – Protecting Water Rights for Future Generations**
Honorable Russ McElyea, Chief Water Judge, Montana Water Court

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(Continued)**

- 3:00 p.m. Afternoon Networking Break**
- 3:30 p.m. WOTUS Update**
Keely Torgerson, Legislative Director, North Dakota Water Users Association
- 4:00 p.m. Aquatic Invasive Species – Regional Focus on Prevention & Education**
Larry Pennington, Manager, Northside Canal Company, Twin Falls, Idaho
John Curwin, Irrigator, Madison, Wisconsin
Zach Crete, AIS Specialist/Coordinator, Montana Dept. of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks
- 5:30 p.m. Social Hour**
- 6:30 p.m. Evening Banquet**
Key Note Speaker: Ian Lyle, Executive Vice President, National Water Resources Association
UMWA Distinguished Service Awards Presentations
MWRA Raffle

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24 – ANNUAL CONFERENCE RECONVENE

- 7:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast**
- 8:30 a.m. Call to Order**
- 8:35 a.m. Irrigation Water Management in the Yellowstone River Basin: Current Challenges and Project Opportunities**
Sara Meloy, Water Resource Planner, Montana Dept. of Natural Resources & Conservation
David Pratt, ACES Affiliate, Natural Resources Conservation Service
- 9:30 a.m. Effective Water Management Through Automation Solutions**
Tyke Trogdon, General Manager, Water Master
- 10:00 a.m. Networking Break**
- 10:30 a.m. Doing More With Less – Modernization Of A Canal System**
Stan Schweissing, Engineer, HDR Engineering, Inc
- 11:00 a.m. Unmanned Aerial Vehicles – Vegetative and Other Aerial Analysis for Agriculture**
Mark Hardin, Positioning Account Manager, RDO Equipment
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