

MONTANA WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION & UPPER MISSOURI WATER ASSOCIATION

Joint Annual Meeting & Conference Program



DoubleTree 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, Irrigation Project Manager, 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. Prospects for Irrigation Development and the Yellowstone – Current and Future Uses**
Sara Meloy, Water Resource Planner, Montana Dept. of Natural Resources & Conservation
David Pratt, Yellowstone River Conservation Districts Council
- 9:30 a.m. Effective Water Management Thru Automation Solutions**
John Nichols, 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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