



Oregon Water Resources Congress **2022 Annual Conference**

Best Western Plus Hood River Inn, Hood River, Oregon

DRAFT Agenda

Monday, November 28

1:00-4:30 **Funding Workshop – Learn how your district can better access state, federal, and other types of funding programs.** Program features various federal, state, and nonprofit entities with valuable information about current and future funding opportunities, application tips, and opportunities for informal Q&A. *Invited entities include: U.S Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, Oregon Water Resources Department, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Energy Trust of Oregon, and others.*

4:00-6:00 Registration Check-in – *Atrium, Gorge Building*

Tuesday, November 29 – *All Events in Gorge Building unless noted*

7:15 Registration Check-in

8:00 **Welcome – OWRC President Brian Hampson**

8:15 **Cloud Seeding as a Water Management Tool—The Idaho Approach**
Kala Golden, Idaho Water Resources Board

8:55 **Review of Hydroclimatic Conditions and the Outlook for Water Year 2023**
Matt Warbritton, Natural Resources Conservation Service

9:35 *Break – Trillium Room*

10:05 **Perspectives & Updates from Oregon’s Natural Resources Agency Leaders**
Brenda Bateman, Director, Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)
Lisa Charpilloz-Hanson, Executive Director, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB)
Leah Feldon, Interim Director, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
Lauren Henderson, Interim Director, Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)
Curt Melcher, Director, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife (ODFW)
Doug Woodcock, Interim Director, Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD)

11:20 **Legal Update: Recent Cases & Decisions Impacting Irrigated Agriculture**
Kirk Maag, Stoel Rives, LLP

12:00 **General Lunch** – *Gorge Room*
District Directors’ Lunch – *(For District Board Members)*
Water Attorneys’ Lunch – *(Open to Attorneys attending conference)*
Office Staff Lunch – *(Open to all district office staff)*

1:15 **Message from U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley**

1:25 **Regional Update from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation**
Jennifer Carrington, Region Director, Columbia Pacific-Northwest Region,
U.S Bureau of Reclamation

- 2:05 **Geology and Hydrogeology of the Pacific Northwest**
Jim Newton, Cascade Geoengineering
- 2:40 *Break – Trillium Room*
- 3:05 **Reflecting on 2022 & What to Expect in 2023: Historic Federal Infrastructure Investments, Election Impacts, & Other Washington DC Updates**
Moderator: Marc Thalacker, OWRC Federal Committee Chair, Three Sisters Irrigation District
Christine Arbogast, NWRA Federal Committee Chair, Kogovsek & Associates
Peter Carlson, OWRC Federal Lobbyist, Will & Carlson
Dan Keppen, Executive Director, Family Farm Alliance
- 4:10-5:10 **Federal Affairs Committee Meeting**
Join the FAC for an in-depth discussion of federal activities and help inform OWRC's draft federal program priorities for 2023
- 5:00-7:00 **Exhibitor's Reception – Trillium Room**

Wednesday, November 30 – all meetings in Gorge Room unless noted

- 7:15 **OWRC Members Only Breakfast**
- 8:00 **Annual Membership Meeting – OWRC Members Only**
Includes Board Elections
- 9:30 *Break – Trillium Room*
- 10:00 **Message from U.S. Congressman Cliff Bentz**
- 10:15 **Navigating the Legal Pipeline of District Projects: Public Contracting Laws & Regulations**
David Bowser, Jordan Ramis PC
Steve Shropshire, Jordan Ramis PC
- 11:10 **Columbia River Treaty & Other Columbia River/Snake River Updates**
Paul Arrington, Idaho Water Users Association
- Noon **Lunch**
- 1:05 **Message from U.S. Senator Ron Wyden**
- 1:15 **Legislative Perspectives on 2023 Water & Agriculture Policy Issues**
Representative Ken Helm, District 34 (Washington County), Chair of Interim Committee on Agriculture, Land Use & Water
Representative Mark Owens, District 60 (Baker, Grant, Harney, Malheur, & part of Lake Counties), Co-Vice-Chair of Interim Committee on Agriculture, Land Use & Water
- 2:00 **Oregon Agricultural Leaders: Perspectives & Priority Issues for 2023**
Greg Addington, Oregon Farm Bureau
J.R. Cook, Northeast Oregon Water Association
Tami Kerr, Oregon Dairy Farmers Association
Jeff Stone, Oregon Association of Nurseries
- 2:50 *Break – Trillium Room*
- 3:15 **SDAO Best Practices for District Board Members & District Managers**
Understanding Recent Changes to Laws and Rules Affecting Districts, Tips for Reducing District Liability & Other Best Management Practices
Jason Jantzi, Special Districts Association of Oregon
Spencer Rockwell, Special Districts Association of Oregon
Frank Stratton, Special Districts Association of Oregon
- 5:15 **Reception (with no-host bar) – Gorge Room**
- 6:15 **Dinner Banquet and Program – Gorge Room**
Join us for our annual banquet dinner and program including entertainment, raffle prizes, honoring members of the irrigated agricultural community for their service, and more!

OWRC's 2022 Annual Conference is an educational event in partnership with the Special Districts Association of Oregon (SDAO) and the Special Districts Insurance Services (SDIS)