



Oregon Water Resources Congress **2023 Annual Conference**

Best Western Plus Hood River Inn, Hood River, Oregon

Agenda

Monday, November 27

- 1:00-4:30 **Pre-Conference Workshop – Riverview Room (hotel building)**
There's a Policy for That! New or Updated Policies for Your District
David Filippi, Stoel Rives, LLP
Merissa Moeller, Stoel Rives, LLP
- 4:00-6:00 Registration Check-in – Atrium, Gorge Building

Tuesday, November 28 – All Events in Gorge Building unless noted

- 7:15 Registration Check-in
- 8:00 **Welcome – OWRC President Brian Hampson**
- 8:10 **Water Challenges & Opportunities in Arizona**
Chris Udall, Agribusiness Council of Arizona
- 8:55 **Weather Predictions & Water Supply Outlook for 2024**
Andy Bryant, Service Hydrologist, NOAA National Weather Service
- 9:40 Break – Trillium Room
- 10:10 **Perspectives & Updates from Oregon's Natural Resources Agencies**
Shaun Clements, Acting Deputy Director, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife (ODFW)
Dwight French, Water Rights Administrator, Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD)
Jennifer Wigal, Water Quality Administrator, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
- 11:10 **Message from U.S. Congresswoman Andrea Salinas**
- 11:15 **Key Updates from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation**
Jennifer Carrington, Columbia-Cascades Region Director, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- 12:00 **General Lunch – Gorge Room**
District Directors' Lunch – (For District Board Members) – Shoreline Room
Water Attorneys' Lunch – (Open to Attorneys attending conference) – West Trillium
Office Staff Lunch – (Open to all district office staff) – Table in Gorge Room
- 1:05 **Message from U.S. Senator Ron Wyden**
- 1:15 **Idaho & Oregon's Efforts to Stop the Spread of Invasive Quagga Mussels**
Rick Boatner, Invasive Species Coordinator, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)
Lloyd B. Knight, Deputy Director, Idaho State Department of Agriculture
- 2:10 **Oregonians for Food & Shelter: Engaging & Educating Communities on Natural Resource Issues**
Tiffany Monroe, Oregonians for Food and Shelter
- 2:45 Break – Trillium Room

- 3:05 **Key Federal Issues from 2023 & What to Expect in 2024**
Lane Dickson, OWRC Federal Lobbyist, The Ferguson Group
Dan Keppen, Executive Director, Family Farm Alliance
Dale Nellor, Executive Vice-President, National Water Resources Association (NWRA)
- 4:10-5:10 **Federal Affairs Committee Meeting – Riverview Room (in hotel building)**
Join the FAC for an in-depth discussion of federal activities and help inform OWRC’s draft federal program priorities for 2024
- 5:00-7:00 **Exhibitor’s Reception – Trillium Room**
- 8:30-11:00 **OWRC Hospitality Suite – Riverside Suites #1 & #3**

Wednesday, November 29 – all meetings in Gorge Building unless noted

- 7:15 **OWRC Members Only Breakfast**
- 8:15 **Annual Membership Meeting – OWRC Members Only**
Includes Board Elections, Officer Elections
- 9:40 *Break – Trillium Room*
- 10:00 **Message from U.S. Congressman Cliff Bentz**
- 10:15 **Overview of Recent Litigation in the Klamath Basin & Impacts to Other Basins**
David Filippi, Stoel Rives
- 11:05 **Strategic Approaches & Innovative Investments in Watershed Health**
Joe Whitworth, Freshwater Trust
- 12:00 **General Lunch**
- 1:05 **Message from U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley**
- 1:15 **Good Water, Bad Luck: Infrastructure Failures & How Districts Addressed Them**
Clancy Flynn, Owyhee Irrigation District
Les Perkins, Farmers Irrigation District
Other Districts, TBD
- 2:00 **Message from U.S. Congresswoman Lori Chavez-DeRemer**
- 2:05 **Update on East Valley Water District’s Storage Project & Other Recent Cases & Decisions Impacting Irrigated Agriculture**
Kirk Maag, Stoel Rives, LLP
- 2:45 *Break – Trillium Room*
- 3:15 **SDAO Best Practices for District Board Members & District Managers**
Understanding Recent Changes to Laws & Rules Affecting Districts, Tips for Reducing District Liability & Other Best Management Practices
Frank Stratton, Executive Director, Special Districts Association of Oregon (SDAO)
Jason Jantzi, Scott Neufeld, & David Ulbricht, SDAO
- 5:15 **Reception (with no-host bar) – Gorge Room**
- 6:15 **OWRC & Oregon Water Resources Foundation (OWRF) Dinner Banquet – Gorge Room**
Join us for our annual banquet dinner and program. Program will include OWRF 2023 scholarship recipients, OWRC raffle prizes, OWRF silent auction, presentation of the SDAO-OWRC Safety Award, honoring members of the irrigated agricultural community for their service, entertainment, and more!
- 8:30-11:00 **OWRC Hospitality Suite – Riverside Suites #1 & #3**