

Oregon Water Resources Congress

2015 Annual Conference

Best Western Hood River Inn, Hood River, Oregon

Agenda

Tuesday, December 1

1:00-4:30 **Workshop: Public Meetings & Public Records Guidance for Districts** – *Riverview Room*
Presented by Stoel Rives LLP

4:00-6:00 Registration

Wednesday, December 2 – *All meetings in Columbia Room unless otherwise noted*

7:15 Registration Opens

8:00 **Welcome – OWRC President Shawn Gerdes**

8:10 **Message from Congressman Greg Walden**

8:20 **Bureau of Reclamation Regional Update**

Lorri Lee, Director, Pacific Northwest Region, U.S Bureau of Reclamation

8:50 **Weather Patterns in the Pacific Northwest: 2015 Drought & 2016 Forecast**

Tyree Wilde, NOAA National Weather Service

9:25 **Perspectives on Drought**

Statewide Impacts & Initiatives

Lauri Aunan, Governor Brown's Natural Resources Policy Office

Drought Adaptation & Planning

Jay Chamberlin, Owyhee Irrigation District

Bill Hoyt, Hawley Ranch & Oregon Cattlemen's Association

10:15 *Break*

10:45 **Update from the Oregon Department of Agriculture**

Lisa Hanson, Deputy Director, Oregon Department of Agriculture

11:10 **Ice Age Floods and the Columbia River Gorge**

Nick Zentner, Professor of Geology, Central Washington University

Noon **General Lunch** – *Gorge Room*

District Directors' Lunch – *Riverview Room (For District Board Members)*

Water Attorneys' Lunch – *Mountainview Room (Open to all Affiliate Attorneys)*

1:05 **Senator Arnie Roblan, District 5**

1:40 **Federal Legislation, Budget & Regulations**

Moderator: Marc Thalacker, Three Sisters Irrigation District

Peter Carlson, Will & Carlson

Dan Keppen, Family Farm Alliance

2:35 **Key Legal Cases and Issues Impacting Irrigated Agriculture**

Kirk Maag, Stoel Rives

Daniel Timmons, Marten Law

3:10 *Break*

3:30 **Collaborative Conservation Efforts**

Market Incentives for Flow Restoration

Caylin Barter, The Freshwater Trust

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board's Focused Investment Partnership Program

Meta Loftsgaarden, Executive Director, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

Wednesday, December 2, Continued

- 4:15-5:15 **Federal Affairs Committee Meeting** – Riverview Room
5:00-7:00 **Exhibitor's Reception** – Shoreline Room
8:30-11:00 **OWRC Hospitality Suite** – Room 151

Thursday, December 3

- 7:15 **OWRC Members Only Breakfast** – Gorge Room
7:45 **Annual Membership Meeting – OWRC Members Only** – Gorge Room
Includes Board & Officers Elections
9:15 **Message from U.S Senator Jeff Merkley**
9:25 **Opportunities and Challenges with District Hydropower**
Mike Britton, North Unit Irrigation District
Les Perkins, Farmers Irrigation District
Brian Skeahan, Community Renewable Energy Association
10:10 *Break*
10:25 **Resolving Uncertainties about Water Management Impacts on Fisheries Resources**
Ian Courter, Fisheries Scientist, Mount Hood Environmental
Lauren Courter, Toxicologist, Mount Hood Environmental
10:55 **Update on Nonpoint Pollution & Riparian Rulemaking**
Heath Curtiss, Oregon Forest Industries Council
Mary Anne Nash, Oregon Farm Bureau
11:30 **Representative Cliff Bentz, District 60**
Noon **Lunch & Keynote Speaker** – Gorge Room
Jennifer Gimbel, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Water & Science,
U.S. Department of Interior
1:10 **Update from Oregon's Natural Resources Agencies**
Tom Byler, Director, Oregon Water Resources Department
Bruce McIntosh, Deputy Administrator, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife
Dick Pedersen, Director, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
2:15 **Bridging the Rural-Urban Divide with Education**
Geoff Horning, Agribusiness Council of Oregon
2:50 *Break*
3:20 **Water Supply Challenges and Innovative Solutions Roundtable**
Steve Shropshire, Moderator, Jordan Ramis
J.R Cook, Northeast Oregon Water Association
Kevin Crew, Black Rock Consulting
Mark Jockers, Clean Water Services
David Pilz, Ecosystem Economics
Harry Seely, WestWater Research
5:15 **Reception (with no-host bar)** – Gorge Room
6:00 **Dinner Banquet and Program** – Gorge Room
8:30-11:00 **OWRC Hospitality Suite** – Room 151

Friday, December 4

- 9:00-11:00 **SDAO Best Practices Workshop for District Board Members & Managers** – Riverview Rm
Tips for Reducing Risk and Other Best Management Practices
Scott Neufeld, Special Districts Association of Oregon
Frank Stratton, Special Districts Association of Oregon