
GMDA Federal Issues committee so you may know,

Below is the latest weekly report from National Water Resources Association. I missed sending out the prior week's report and am happy to send to any who are interested at this point.

As The Groundwater Caucus for NWRA, the NWRA weekly report is available to all GMDA members. Please let the GMDA Federal Issues committee know if you do not wish to receive this "weekly" email.

The Caucus Breakfast at the NWRA Western Water Seminar in Medora, ND early this month was attended by several from North Dakota, including State Engineer John Paczkowski. Attendees participated in an exchange of pending groundwater conservation legislation and concepts currently employed and proposed for managing groundwater demands by local districts while also assuring the full benefits of resource use. The GMDA federal priorities were discussed and should be continually reviewed by you for any needed updates the NWRA Annual Conference in Texas in November and as we work with others on NWRA monthly federal affairs committee video calls. At the last NWRA board meeting, GMDA President Daniel Shannon and past Pres. Aron Balok represented GMDA with photo linked [HERE](#) and a Kansas board member (TBD) was nominated for the NWRA VP position for consideration in November.

Let us know if you have any questions.

Take care and be safe,

Mark Rude, Federal Issue Committee.

C 620-272-3001



From: National Water Resources Association <water@waterstrategies.ccsend.com> **On Behalf Of** National Water Resources Association

Sent: Friday, August 11, 2023 10:03 AM

To: Mark Rude <mrude@gmd3.org>

Subject: 08/11/2023 NWRA Weekly

NWRA WEEKLY

August 11, 2023

THIS WEEK IN REVIEW

NWRA Holds Western Water Seminar

Last week the NWRA Western Water Seminar was held in Medora, North Dakota. With the Theodore Roosevelt National Park as a backdrop, conference attendees had the opportunity to exchange ideas, learn, network, and enjoy the fellowship of colleagues. In addition to participating in caucus and committee meetings, attendees heard from a great lineup of speakers and had the opportunity to participate in a North Dakota Water Tour hosted by the North Dakota Water Users Association.



Dr. Andrea Travnicsek opened the general session with an overview of the North Dakota Department of Water Resources (DWR). Dr. Travnicsek highlighted the functions and responsibilities of the DWR and how the

NWRA Events

Annual Conference and Leadership Forum

Nov 8–10

San Antonio,
TX

Member Events

Agribusiness and Water Council of Arizona

Annual
Meeting &
Water
Conference

state manages water project development and funding needs. She also touched on some of the regulator issues facing the state and policy issues being discussed in the state legislature.

Sept 15
Phoenix, AZ

The challenges of international water management was the focus of a panel discussion including US Commissioner Lance Yohe of the International Joint Committee; Wanda McFadyen of the Assiniboine River Basin Initiative; and Dr. Andrea Travnicek. The panel discussed how having multiple stakeholders and regulatory entities with different oversight structures can impact the management of water bodies that flow from one country to the next and back again.



32nd Annual
H2O Golf
Tournament

Oct 27
Casa Grande,
AZ

**Association
of California
Water
Agencies**

Fall
Conference

Nov 28–30
Indian Wells,
CA

The morning session concluded with a panel highlighting the Challenges on the Upper Missouri River Basin. Perspectives were provided by Ken Royse of the Missouri River Joint Water Board; Jay Gilbertson of the East Dakota Water Development District in South Dakota; and James Brower of the Lower Yellowstone Irrigation Project in Montana. Each had a unique perspective on the challenges each state faces along the Missouri river.

**Colorado
Water
Congress**

Summer
Conference

August 22–24
Steamboat,
CO



Jeff Zueger of Havestone and Mark Urquhardt started the afternoon by discussing how irrigation and value-added agriculture was benefiting North Dakota. Mr. Zueger highlighted that on average only 3.7% of corn acres are irrigated in North Dakota and that irrigated land

tends to be more predictable, so investing inputs and technology is more common. Mr. Urquhardt talked about the perception of how food goes from the field to your table. He also highlighted the growing demands of customers and food companies serving them. The growing use of data, imagery and technology will drive decisions and sustainability.

**Groundwater
Management
Districts
Association**

The afternoon general session concluded with an overview of litigation issues nationally and specific to North Dakota. Tami Norgard of the Vogel Law Firm in Fargo, ND provided a history of litigation in North Dakota related to the Missouri River and



discussed federal projects under review. NWRA Litigation Review Committee leadership comprised of Patrick Sigl, Norma Semanko, and Larry Martin also provided updates. Norm Semanko discussed the Glaser, Conant case regarding the irrigation return exemptions while Patrick Sigl and Larry Martin covered Endangered Species Act cases related to Maine lobstermen, herring fisherman challenges to onboard federal observers, and Chevron Deference.

No Immediate Events

Idaho Water Users Association

Legislative Water College

Aug 28–30

Burley, ID

Headgate - Idaho's Water Leadership Academy

Session 1

Nov 14–16

Twin Falls, ID

Session 2

Dec 12–14

Twin Falls, ID

Session3

Jan31–Feb 1

Boise, ID

Kansas Water Congress

Kansas Water Office, 2023 Governor's Conference on



The NWRA Western Water Seminar concluded with picturesque views of the Missouri river valley (all be it a rainy view!) as attendees enjoyed an evening of live music and Pitchfork Fondue!

More photos of the NWRA Western Water Seminar can

be found by [CLICKING HERE](#).

Make an NWRA 2023 Award Nomination Today

Do you know a water professional that goes above and beyond the call of duty in the service of our nation's water users and our association? If you have someone in mind, complete this [Nomination Form](#) and send it to NWRA's Awards and Recognition Committee at nwra@nwra.org by August 31, 2023. Nominations will be reviewed and approved by NWRA's Awards Committee in early September and will be presented at the NWRA Annual Conference in San Antonio, TX the week of November 6th.

the Future of
Water in
Kansas

Nov 15–16

Manhattan, KS

USFWS Announces Recovery of Apache Trout

On Thursday, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) [announced](#) that it will be proposing to remove the native Arizona Apache trout from the List of Endangered and Threatened Species. If delisted, it would be the first gamefish to be removed from the list of threatened and endangered species. A 60 day comment period is expected once the proposed delisting is published in the Federal Register.

**Montana
Water
Resources
Association**
No Immediate
Events

White House seeks \$12B to refill the nearly broke disaster fund

By E&E News

President Joe Biden is asking Congress to approve \$12 billion in emergency spending to replenish the nearly broke federal fund that helps communities and individuals recover after major disasters such as hurricanes and wildfires. It is unclear if Congress will approve Biden's request, or if congressional approval will occur before the federal fund runs out of money. Congress is on recess until early September, and the administration has projected the Disaster Relief Fund will run out of money in mid- to late August. The multibillion-dollar funds pay most costs for communities to clean up and rebuild after a major disaster. It also gives individuals emergency aid, typically worth a few thousand dollars, for expenses such as temporary housing and minor home repairs. A report released Wednesday shows that the disaster fund will face a \$4.3 billion deficit in September.

[Read more. . . .](#)

**Nebraska
Water
Resources
Association**

NeWRA &
NSIA Joint
Convention

Nov 21–23

Kearney, NE

**North Dakota
Water Users
Association**

60th Annual
Joint ND
Water
Convention
and Irrigation
Workshop

Dec 5–8

Bismarck, ND

'Forever chemicals' in Miss. drinking water spark concern

By E&E News

Elevated levels of "forever chemicals" in Mississippi's drinking water are sparking alarm, with advocates and experts pushing

regulators to move faster on a crackdown given threats to public health. The nonprofit watchdog group Consumer Reports called on EPA this week to take swift action in finalizing drinking water regulations for a handful of PFAS after testing found "a significant number of samples" exceeding federal health advisory levels in the Magnolia State. Researchers warned the Biden administration that the results are likely an indicator of what testing will yield across the nation. [Read more. . . .](#)

**Oregon
Water
Resources
Congress**

Water Law
Seminar

Oct 4

Sisters, OR

Biden signs order protecting Grand Canyon lands sacred to tribes

By E&E News

President Joe Biden signed a proclamation creating a national monument around the Grand Canyon National Park in Arizona on Tuesday, while vowing to continue to use his authority to protect "America's natural wonders." "Over the years, hundreds of millions of people have traveled to the Grand Canyon, awed by its majesty. But few are aware of its full history," Biden said. "From time immemorial, more than a dozen tribal nations have lived, gathered, prayed on these lands." [Read more. . . .](#)

Annual
Conference

Nov 28–30

Hood River,
OR

**Texas Water
Conservation
Association**

Fall
Conference

Nov 1–3

San Antonio,
TX

NEXT WEEK IN CONGRESS

Week of Monday, August 14, 2023

House of Representatives - In Recess

**Upper
Missouri
Water
Association**

UMWA
Conference

Oct 24–26

Gillette, WY

Senate - In Recess

JOB LISTINGS

Kennewick Irrigation District

Title: District Manager

Salary: \$168,774–\$222,530 annually

Location: Kennewick, WA

Deadline: August 18, 2023

Summary: The District Manager shall be responsible for managing the administrative and operational functions of the District. The District Manager shall also be responsible for the following: acquisition, supervision, and development of staff; development of a Board approved annual operating budget and annual capital improvement program; proper preparation and collection of an accurate irrigation assessment role (**per RCW 87.03.250**); review of all contracts and other agreements entered into by the District, prior to their award; overseeing the administration of the Bureau of Reclamation-Kennewick Irrigation District contract (circa 1956); developing excellent relations with the water users and all interfacing governmental agencies; coordination of legal activities; and maintaining a quality assurance and safety program. See a full description [here](#).

Apply: Contact Water Strategies Executive Search Service c/o Mr. Kris Polly at (703) 517-3962 or email Kris.Polly@waterstrategies.com.

SWCA Environmental Consultants

Title: Numerous opportunities

Salary: Based on position and qualifications

Location: To be determined

Deadline: Until filled

Summary: SWCA employs smart, talented, problem-solvers dedicated to our purpose of preserving natural and cultural resources for tomorrow while enabling projects that benefit people today. Our people work on diverse projects, develop new skills, and collaborate with teams across the country. Our projects take us to exciting places – picturesque outdoor landscapes, bustling cities, and historic small towns. We work best at the intersection of people, progress, and the natural world.

Utah Water
Users

Association

Annual Utah
Water Summit

Sept 26

Layton, UT

Washington
State Water
Resources
Association

No Immediate
Events

Stay
Connected
via:



Apply: [Here](#)

Tarrant Regional Water District

Title: Public Safety Telecommunications Specialist

Salary: \$43,014–\$64,417 annually

Location: Fort Worth, TX

Deadline: Until filled

Summary: Under the general supervision of the Security Operations Supervisor, the Tele-Communicator performs duties including but not limited to receiving, prioritizing, and disseminating multiple 911 and administrative telephone lines and monitoring the District's radio communication system

Apply: [Here](#)

Tarrant Regional Water District

Title: Facility Maintenance Technician

Salary: \$37,440–\$61,713 annually

Location: Waxahachie, TX

Deadline: Until filled

Summary: The Facility Maintenance Technician is responsible for maintaining and upkeep of water district grounds, buildings, and structures

Apply: [Here](#)

Arvin-Edison Water Storage District

Title: Numerous opportunities

Salary: Based on position and qualifications

Location: Arvin, CA

Deadline: Until filled

Summary: The district oversees major infrastructure consisting of 45 miles of concrete canals, 50 pumping plants with 150 pumps/motors, 1500 acres of spreading basins, 82 groundwater extraction wells, and manages approximately 50 employees.

Apply: [Here](#)

Arizona Department of Water Resources

Title: Numerous opportunities

Salary: Based on position and qualifications

Location: Phoenix, AZ

Deadline: Until filled

Summary: Virtually everything Arizona Department of Water Resources employees do affects the quality of life for the state's residents and guests. With multiple career opportunities available through the same employer job mobility and career advancement are highly likely.

Apply: [Here](#)

Conservancy of Southwest Florida

Title: Numerous opportunities

Salary: Based on position and qualifications

Location: Naples, FL

Deadline: Until filled

Summary: The Conservancy of Southwest Florida is a leading environmental conservation organization dedicated to protecting the water, land and wildlife in the region. As the population of this area grows, so do the demands placed on its unique, natural resources. For more than 50 years the Conservancy has worked with community leaders, businesses, partner agencies and individuals to find a sensible balance between the demands of a growing population and the preservation of our natural treasure

Apply: [Here](#)

Texas Water Development Board

Title: Numerous opportunities

Salary: Based on position and qualifications

Location: Austin, TX

Deadline: Until filled

Summary: Employees of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) enjoy excellent benefits along with an incredible opportunity to do important work and make a positive difference for the state of Texas.

Apply: [Here](#)

Have a job posting you would like featured in the NWRA Daily? Send it to nwra@nwra.org.

We're Here For You!

NWRA staff are readily available throughout the day via email or phone:

- Dale Nellor: dnellor@nwra.org
- Kris Polly: kris.polly@waterstrategies.com
- Drake Wood: drake.wood@waterstrategies.com
- Dillon Kuehn: dillon.kuehn@waterstrategies.com
- Tom Wacker: tom.wacker@waterstrategies.com

Call us at 202-698-0693!

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