

# MONTANA WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION & UPPER MISSOURI WATER ASSOCIATION

*Joint Conference Program*



Fairmont Hot Springs Resort  
1500 Fairmont Rd.  
Anaconda, Montana  
October 15-16, 2024



## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15

- 7:00 a.m.** Registration Opens
- 8:00 a.m.** Upper Missouri Water Association (UMWA) Board Meeting
- 8:00 a.m.** Bureau of Reclamation Customer Meetings
- 9:00 a.m.** Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA) Board Meeting
- 10:15 a.m.** Opening Remarks  
*Cole Peebles, MWRA President*  
*Jack Dwyer, UMWA Executive Director*
- 10:30 a.m.** Aging Infrastructure – It's What Keeps Me Up at Night  
*Brent Esplin – Bureau of Reclamation*
- 11:00 a.m.** State of the States Address: Directors and State Engineers Panel  
*Amanda Kaster, Director, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation*  
*Andrea Travnicek, Director, North Dakota Department of Water Resources (presenting virtually)*  
*Jack Morey, Deputy State Engineer, Wyoming State Engineers Office (presenting virtually)*  
*Andy Bruels, Director of Finance & Technical Assistance, South Dakota Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources (presenting virtually)*
- 11:45 a.m.** Opening Luncheon: Water Issues at the National Level  
*Dillon Kuehn, Legislative Director, Water Strategies, LLC*
- 1:15 p.m.** Bureau of Reclamation Update  
*Dani Fettig, Rural Water Division Manager, Dakotas Area Office*  
*Ryan Newman, Area Manager, Montana Area Office*  
*Lyle Myler, Area Manager, Wyoming Area Office*
- 2:15 p.m.** Groundwater and Surface Water/Combining Science, Data and Decision Making  
*Ann Hansen, Hydrologist, Montana Bureau of Mines & Geology*
- 3:00 p.m.** Afternoon Networking Break
- 3:30 p.m.** Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Federal Grant Program  
*Dawn Culley, MBART Regional WaterSMART Coordinator, Bureau of Reclamation*
- 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.** Social Hour & Reception

## **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16**

- 8:30 a.m.**                    **Registration Opens**
- 9:30 a.m.**                    **Educate, Advocate, Engage on the Missouri River**  
*Ken Royse, Missouri River Coordinator, Missouri River Joint Water Board*
- 10:15 a.m.**                    **Addressing Aging Infrastructure and Other Program Developments**  
*Emily Metier, Program Manager, Natural Resources Conservation Service*
- 10:45 a.m.**                    **Lewis & Clark Regional Water System – Today, Tomorrow and Beyond (presenting virtually)**  
*Troy Larson, Lewis & Clark Regional Water System*
- 11:45 a.m.**                    **Lunch**
- 1:15 p.m.**                    **Missouri River Recovery Program**  
*Joe Bonneau, Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*
- 2:30 p.m.**                    **Managed Aquifer Recharge Study (presenting virtually)**  
*Andrew Nygren, Director of Appropriation, North Dakota Department of Water Resources*
- 3:00 p.m.**                    **Afternoon Networking Break**
- 3:15 p.m.**                    **Engineering System Reconstruction for the Highline/A Collaborative Effort**  
*Stan Schweissing, Civil Engineering Manager, HDR*
- 4:00 p.m.**                    **Water Right Adjudication-Knowing Your Rights**  
*Honorable Russell McElyea, Chief Water Judge, Montana Water Court*
- 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.**            **Social Hour**
- 6:00 p.m.**                    **Evening Banquet**  
*Keynote Speaker: Lieutenant Governor Kristen Juras, State of Montana (invited)*  
*Upper Missouri Water Association Distinguished Service Awards Presentations*  
*Montana Water Resources Association Raffle*