

# WATER MATTERS

61st Annual

## Joint North Dakota Water Convention AND Irrigation Workshop

December 10–13, 2024

Bismarck Hotel & Conference Center, Bismarck

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| 11:00 am          | N.D. Water Coalition Meeting, Cannonball Room   |
| 1:30 pm           | N.D. Water Resource Districts Association Board of Directors Meeting, Room 2130                         |
| 2:30 pm           | Upper Sheyenne River Joint Water Resource Board Meeting, Governor's Room                                |
| 3:30 pm           | N.D. Irrigation Association Board Meeting, Room 2130  |
| 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm | All Water Social, Heart Room<br><i>Co-Hosted by HDR and the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District</i> |

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| 7:30 am            | Registration, Coat Room  |
| 8:00 am – 11:00 am | N.D. Water Resource Districts Water Management Seminar, Missouri Ballroom                                    |
| 9:00 am – 12:00 pm | Commercial Exhibit Set-up  |
| 9:00 am            | N.D. Rural Water Systems Association Managers Meeting, Governor's Room<br><i>(Rural Water Managers only)</i> |
| 12:00 pm           | Commercial Exhibits Open, Courtyard  |

### OPENING LUNCHEON Patterson/Lamborn Room

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| 11:30 am | Lunch   |
| 12:00 pm | No Bad Days – <i>Hunter Pinke</i>   |
| 12:00 pm | North Dakota Water Education Foundation Silent Auction Benefit Opens,<br>Patterson/Lamborn Room |

### GENERAL SESSION Patterson/Lamborn Room

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1:00 pm                   | Welcome   |
| 1:05 pm – 1:45 pm         | State of Water in North Dakota – <i>Andrea Travnicek, Department of Water Resources</i>                                       |
| 1:45 pm – 2:15 pm         | Legislative Update: Rural Water & Municipal Water   |
| 2:15 pm – 2:20 pm         | Message from Sen. John Hoeven   |
| 2:20 pm – 2:50 pm         | Harvesting Water Solutions: Update on North Dakota's Wetland Mitigation Bank<br>– <i>Matt Retka, Stantec, Drew Courtney</i>   |
| 2:50 pm – 2:55 pm         | Message from Sen. Kevin Cramer  |
| 2:55 pm – 3:25 pm         | Break   |
| 3:25 pm – 3:30 pm         | Message from Rep. Kelly Armstrong   |
| 3:30 pm – 4:15 pm         | Lessons Learned from Idaho's Fight Against Aquatic Nuisance Species<br>– <i>Lloyd Knight, Idaho Department of Agriculture</i> |
| 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm         | Resolutions Committee, Missouri Ballroom<br><i>Water Users/Water Resource Districts/Irrigation Associations</i>               |
| 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm         | Western Social, Courtyard   |
| <i>Dinner on your own</i> |   |

# THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12

7:00 am Prayer Breakfast – *Rachel Meuchel*, Missouri Ballroom

## GENERAL SESSION Patterson/Lamborn Room

8:00 am Convene

8:00 am Commercial Exhibits, Courtyard

8:00 am – 8:45 am Leadership Priorities for the 2025 Legislative Session  
– *Sen. Ron Sorvaag and Rep. Mike Nathe*

8:45 am – 9:15 am The Future of Irrigation: Update on Statewide Feasibility Study  
– *Zhulu Lin and Rob Proulx, NDSU*

9:15 am – 10:00 am Building for Tomorrow: Infrastructure in the 2025 Legislative Session

- *Rep. Cindy Schreiber-Beck*
- *Sen. Mark Weber*
- *Sean Fredricks, Ohnstad Twichell*
- *Steve Hansen*
- *Kurt Lysne, Moore Engineering, Moderator*

10:00 am – 10:20 am Break

10:20 am – 10:35 am Water Matters: Update on the North Dakota Water Users Association  
– *Mary Massad and Dani Quissell, North Dakota Water Users*

10:35 am – 11:15 am Western Water in the Nation's Capital: Update from the National Water Resources Association – *Greg Morrison, NWRA*

11:15 am – 11:45 am Legislative Update: Northwest Area Water Supply & Southwest Pipeline Project

11:45 am – 12:00 pm Elections, N.D. Water Users Board of Directors

12:00 pm Buffet Luncheon, Courtyard

12:00 pm Concurrent Joint Board and Annual Meetings

- *Devils Lake Basin Joint Water Resource Board*, Sheyenne Room
- *Red River Joint Water Resource District*, Cannonball Room
- *Missouri River Joint Water Board*, Heart Room
- *Souris River Joint Board*, Governor's Room
- *N.D. Irrigation Association Membership Meeting*, Grand Pacific Room

## GENERAL SESSION Patterson/Lamborn Room

1:55 pm – 2:00 pm Reconvene/Announcements

2:00 pm – 2:40 pm Missouri River Basin Water Management Update – *Mike Swenson, USACE*

2:40 pm – 3:10 pm Legislative Update: Western Area Water Supply and Red River Valley Water Supply

3:10 pm – 3:30 pm Introduction to Office of Community Development and Rural Prosperity  
– *Maria Effertz, ND Department of Commerce*

3:30 pm – 3:45 pm Break

3:45 pm – 4:30 pm Water: An Essential Piece of Economic Development – Insights from Industry Leaders

- *Nathan Schneider, Bismarck/Mandan Chamber EDC*
- *Jim Murphy, Traill County EDC*
- *Lindsey Harriman, Williams County EDC*
- *Dana Hager, Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Moderator*

4:30 pm – 5:00 pm Legislative Update: Mouse River Flood Control & FM Diversion

5:10 pm – 5:30 pm Resolutions Committee – *Water Users/ Water Resource Districts/Irrigation Associations*  
– *Final Adoption*, Missouri Ballroom

5:30 pm – 6:30 pm Social Hour, Courtyard

6:30 pm Awards Banquet, Patterson/Lamborn Room – *Entertainment: Strolling Strings of Bismarck*  
North Dakota Water Education Foundation Silent Auction Benefit Ends

# FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

7:00 am N.D. Water Users Association Board Meeting, Governor's Room

9:00 am N.D. State Water Commission Meeting, Grand Pacific Room