

**Preconference Session - Wednesday, November 6, 2019**

**Federal Budget Boot Camp**

Based on member requests, NWRA is hosting a special pre-conference, half-day session on the federal budget. During this session, you will hear from agency and congressional budget experts. You will gain insights into the federal budget process that will give you a competitive edge as you make your funding requests.

**Panel 1 – Overview of the Federal Funding Process**

- Charles Stern, Congressional Research Service, Natural Resources Specialist, former Office of Management and Budget (OMB) staff

**8:00 am – 11:00 am**  
Woodway 1

**Panel 2 – Congressional Budget Process**

- Robert Cogan, Senior Manager, Federal Affairs, Salt River Project, former House Budget Committee staff

**Panel 3 – Agency Actions in Budget Development: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation**

- Steve Stockton, Retired, former Director of Civil Works, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Bob Quint, Retired, former Sr. Advisor at U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

**Panel 4 – Congressional Appropriations Process**

- Taunja Berquam, Principal at Berquam Ventures LLC, former House Energy and Water Appropriations Committee staff

**Wednesday, November 6, 2019**

**8:00 am – 5:30 pm**  
Galleria Foyer

**Registration and Information Desk Open**

**12:00 pm – 5:00 pm**  
Tanglewood

**U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Meetings**

**11:00 am**

**Lunch on your own / State Executives Luncheon**

State Executive Council members will meet in the Sage Room

**12:30 pm – 1:00 pm**  
Galleria Ballroom

**Welcome Keynote Address – Public Policy in the Current Political Climate**

The Honorable R. Kent Hance

Introduction: Christine Arbogast, Kogovosek and Associates, Vice President National Water Resources Association

Mr. Hance's career spans more than 40 years in the public and private sector as an attorney, businessman, Texas State Senator, U.S. Congressman, Chairman of the Texas Railroad Commission, and Chancellor of the Texas Tech University System. While in Congress, Mr. Hance had the honor of carrying President Ronald Reagan's tax cut. During his tenure at Texas Tech, Chancellor Hance raised more than \$1.2 billion for his beloved alma mater, and increased student enrollment by 45%. Mr. Hance continues to practice law as a partner at Hance Scarborough, LLP.

**1:00 pm – 1:30 pm**  
Galleria Ballroom

**Afternoon Keynote**

Brig. Gen. Paul E. Owen, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Brig. Gen. Owen is the Commander and Division Engineer of the Southwestern Division (SWD), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. It encompasses all or part of seven states, and covers some 2.3 million acres of public land and water. As the SWD Commander and Division Engineer, Owen oversees hundreds of water resources development and military design and construction projects that bring value to our communities, our nation and our warfighters. Prior to taking command of the Southwestern Division, Owen served as the Chief of Staff for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in Washington, D.C.

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**1:30 pm – 2:30 pm**  
Galleria Ballroom

**Western Water Roundtable**

Hear from industry leaders about pressing issues facing the water sector and learn about policy priorities for the second session of the 116th Congress.

- Ian Lyle, EVP, National Water Resources Association, Moderator
  - Amy Larson, President, National Waterways Conference
  - Dan Keppen, Executive Director, Family Farm Alliance
  - Melinda Kassen, Senior Counsel, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
  - Gilbert Trejo, Chief Technical Officer, El Paso Water, Vice President, WateReuse Association
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**2:30 pm – 3:30 pm**  
Galleria Ballroom

**Major Water Infrastructure Development in Texas**

From the first major surface water storage project in decades, to innovative flood control and groundwater projects, there are impressive things happening in Texas water development.

- Stacey Steinbach, Assistant General Manager, Texas Water Conservation Association, Moderator
  - Tom Kula, Executive Director/General Manager, North Texas Municipal Water District - Bois d'Arc Reservoir
  - Steve Graham, Assistant General Manager, San Antonio River Authority - San Pedro Creek flood control and beautification project
  - Robert Puente, President/CEO, San Antonio Water System - Vista Ridge groundwater supply project, brackish groundwater and ASR projects
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**3:30 pm – 4:00 pm**  
Galleria Foyer

**Networking Break**

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**State Caucus Meetings**

	<b>Room:</b>	<b>State:</b>
	Sage	Arizona State Caucus Meeting
	Westchester	California State Caucus Meeting
	San Felipe	Texas State Caucus Meeting
	Woodway III A	Colorado State Caucus Meeting
	Woodway II A	Idaho State Caucus Meeting
<b>4:00 pm – 5:00 pm</b>	Plaza I	Kansas State Caucus Meeting
	West Alabama	Nebraska State Caucus Meeting
	River Oaks	Nevada State Caucus Meeting
	Chevy Chase	New Mexico State Caucus Meeting
	Kirby	North Dakota State Caucus Meeting
	Richmond	Oregon State Caucus Meeting
	Woodway III B	Utah State Caucus Meeting
	Woodway II B	Washington State Caucus Meeting

**5:00 pm – 5:30 pm**

Monarch Room on  
24<sup>th</sup> Floor of Hotel

**NWRA New Member Mixer**

New to NWRA? Join members of the NWRA leadership team and staff for an informal mixer prior to our welcome reception.

**5:30 pm – 6:30 pm**

Monarch Room on  
24<sup>th</sup> Floor of Hotel

**NWRA Welcome Reception**

Sponsored by Future Pipe Industries (FPI).

**Thursday, November 7, 2019**

**9:00 am – 5:00 pm**

Tanglewood

**U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Meetings**

**8:00 am – 5:30 pm**

Galleria Foyer

**Registration and Information Desk Open**

**8:00 am – 8:30 am**

Galleria Ballroom

**Commissioner Keynote Address**

The Honorable Brenda Burman, Commissioner, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
Commissioner Burman has led Reclamation with strength and vision through several major efforts, including the signing of the Drought Contingency Plan. The commissioner will provide insights into ongoing efforts at Reclamation to ensure affordable and reliable water supplies for the western United States.

**8:30 am – 9:00 am**  
Galleria Ballroom

**Thursday Keynote** – The Honorable Lyle Larson, Chairman, Texas House Natural Resources Committee  
Introduction: Dean Robbins, Executive Director, Texas Water Conservation Association  
Chairman Larson plays a key leadership role in western water. As Chairman of the Texas House Committee that oversees water policy, Larson is committed to working to secure a strong water future.

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**9:00 am – 10:00 am**  
Galleria Ballroom

**General Session – Responding and Rebuilding After Natural Disasters: Lessons Learned from Hurricane Harvey**

Hurricane Harvey, a category 4 hurricane, was one of the most destructive storms to ever hit the United States. The storm caused nearly \$130 billion in damages, but one thing the storm couldn't damage was the resolve of Texas water managers. Learn how they responded to the storm and how they are rebuilding.

- Dean Robbins, Executive Director TWCA, Moderator
  - Chairman Peter Lake, Texas Water Development Board
  - Jace Houston, San Jacinto River Authority
  - Russ Poppe, Harris County Flood District
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**10:00 am – 10:30 am**  
Galleria Foyer

**Networking Break**

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**10:30 am – 11:30 am**  
Galleria Ballroom

**General Session – Respectful Workplace Professional Development Training**

A respectful workplace is a must for every water manager. Hear from human resources experts, and former senior law enforcement personnel about steps water managers need to take to ensure a respectful workplace.

- Diane Campanile, Director, Human Capital Management, Lyons Companies
  - John Campanella, President of Campanella Consulting Group
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**11:30 am – 12:30 pm**  
Galleria Ballroom

**General Session – Water Supply and Federal Litigation**

A panel of legal experts will discuss major water litigation working through the courts and the implications for western water users.

- Patrick Sigl, Supervising Attorney, Environment, Land & Water Rights Section, Salt River Project, Moderator
  - Andre Monette, Partner, Best Best and Krieger: Maui v. Hawaii Wildlife Fund developments and implications under the Clean Water Act.
  - Stuart L. Somach, Shareholder, Somach, Simmons and Dunn: Multistate groundwater management issues
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**12:30 pm – 2:00 pm**  
Woodway I

### **Awards Luncheon – Leroy Goodson, General Manager Emeritus, Texas Water Conservation Association (TWCA)**

Leroy Goodson is a Texas water icon. His career in water spanned four decades during this time he worked as an educator, a water manager, and led TWCA for more than three decades. Leroy is widely known and respected throughout the western water community. Join NWRA as we hear words of wisdom from Mr. Goodson and recognize the achievements and remarkable work of some of NWRA's most dedicated water leaders.

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**2:15 pm – 3:00 pm**  
Galleria Ballroom

### **General Session – Understanding the Science Behind PFAS**

- Kathy Kitzmann, Water Resources Principal, City of Aurora, Moderator
  - Michael Honeycutt, Ph.D., Director, Toxicology, Risk Assessment, and Research Division, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
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**3:00 pm – 4:00 pm**  
Galleria Ballroom

### **General Session – Army Corps of Engineers Reform**

- Dave Mitamura, President, National Water Supply Alliance
  - Kevin Ward, General Manager, Trinity River Authority
  - Ian Lyle, Executive Vice President, National Water Resources Association, Moderator
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**4:00 pm – 4:30 pm**  
Galleria Foyer

### **Networking Break**

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**4:30 pm – 5:30 pm**  
Galleria Ballroom

### **Inside Washington**

Get one-of-a-kind insight from both the left and the right. Hear from former members of congress, policy experts, and Washington insiders as they discuss both the politics and the policies that will affect water users in the second half of the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress and the 2020 elections.

- Christine Arbogast, Kogovosek and Associates, Vice President, National Water Resources Association, Moderator
  - The Honorable Doc Hastings, former Congressman (R, WA-4, Ret)
  - The Honorable Dennis Cardoza, former Congressman (D, CA-18, Ret)
  - Bob Szabo, Partner, Van Ness Feldman LLP
  - Ryan Serote, Principal, Meguire Whitney
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**5:30 pm – 6:30 pm**  
Monarch Room on  
24th Floor of Hotel

### **President's Reception**

Friday, November 8, 2019

**8:00 am – 11:00 am**  
Galleria Foyer **Registration and Information Desk Open**

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**8:00 am – 9:00 am**  
Tanglewood **U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Meetings**

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**8:00 am – 9:00 am**  
Sage **Irrigation Caucus Meeting**

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**8:00 am – 9:00 am**  
San Felipe **Municipal Caucus Meeting**  
Water supply planning and execution in Dallas. The Dallas-Fort Worth Area saw the fastest growth among all U.S. cities in 2018 according to U.S. Census Bureau data. Find out what it takes to ensure continued water supply to this rapidly growing metropolis.

- Denis W. Qualls, P.E., D. WRE, Senior Program Manager, Dallas Water Utilities, City of Dallas

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**8:00 am – 9:00 am**  
Westchester **Groundwater Caucus Meeting**

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**9:00 am – 10:00 am**  
Galleria Ballroom **Friday Keynote Panel – Bureau of Reclamation Regional Director Roundtable**  
The Bureau of Reclamation is fortunate to have strong leadership throughout the organization including its Regional Directors. The Regional Directors will provide updates on key issues in their respective regions.

- Tom Myrum, Executive Director, Washington State Water Resources Association, Moderator
- Michael S. Black, Great Plains Regional Director
- Ernest A. Conant, Mid-Pacific Region Regional Director
- Brent Esplin, Upper Colorado Regional Director
- Terry Fulp, Lower Colorado Regional Director
- Lorri Gray, Pacific Northwest Regional Director

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**10:00 am**  
Woodway II **NWRA Board Meeting**