



# Association of State Wetland Managers Annual State/Tribal/Federal Coordination Meeting

Virtual Meeting  
April 12-15, 2021

## Adaptation & Resiliency for the Advancement of Wetland Science, Policy and Practice

### AGENDA

**\*ALL TIMES ARE IN EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME\***

#### Monday, April 12th

##### Day 1: Wetland Science, Policy, and Climate Change Resiliency

- 1:00pm – 1:15pm     **Welcome and Opening Remarks:** Marla Stelk, Executive Director, Association of State Wetland Managers
- 1:15pm – 1:30pm     **Wetlands, Adaptation and Resiliency:** Mark Biddle, Chair, Association of State Wetland Managers
- 1:30pm – 2:00pm     **Keynote Speaker:** John Goodin, Director, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds
- 2:00pm – 2:30pm     **New Challenges in Federal Water Regulation:** Denise Keehner, Assistant Secretary, Maryland Department of the Environment
- 2:30pm – 3:00pm     **BREAK**
- 3:00pm – 3:30pm     **Tribal Sovereignty & Policy Input:** Nancy Schuldt, Water Projects Coordinator, Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- 3:30pm – 4:15pm     **Panel – The Science Behind Wetlands and Climate Change:**  
Moderator – Marla Stelk, Association of State Wetland Managers.  
Panelists – Scott Neubauer, Virginia Commonwealth University;  
Lisamarie Windham-Myers, U.S. Geological Survey; Patrick Megonigal, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center.
- 4:15pm – 4:30pm     **Day 1 Wrap Up**

## Tuesday, April 13th

### Day 2: Federal Policy Updates and Significant Court Cases

- 1:00pm – 1:15pm **Welcome:** Donna Downing, Association of State Wetland Managers
- 1:15pm – 1:45pm **Waters of the U.S.:** Damaris Christensen, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- 1:45pm – 2:15pm **Clean Water Act § 401:** Lauren Kasparek, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- 2:15pm – 2:45pm **BREAK**
- 2:45pm – 3:30pm **Panel – Clean Water Act § 404:** Russell Kaiser, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Jennifer Moyer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- 3:30pm – 4:15pm **Panel – Court Cases That Affect Wetland and Aquatic Resource Programs:** Moderator – Donna Downing, Association of State Wetland Managers. Panelists – Mark Ryan, Ryan & Kuehler PLLC and Pat Parenteau, Vermont Law School.
- 4:15pm – 4:30pm **Day 2 Wrap Up**

## Wednesday, April 14th

### Day 3: Wetland Program Capacity: Adapting to New Regs, COVID-19, Technology & More

- 12:00pm – 12:05pm **Welcome:** Marla Stelk, Association of State Wetland Managers
- 12:05pm – 12:45pm **The Society of Wetland Scientists Professional Certification Program: What is it and how can you become certified?** Kimberli Ponzio and Matt Schweisberg, SWSPCP Program.
- 12:45pm – 1:00pm **BREAK**
- 1:00pm – 1:15pm **Welcome:** Brenda Zollitsch, Association of State Wetland Managers
- 1:15pm – 2:00pm **Panel: Program Adaptations in Response to the COVID Pandemic and a Rapidly Changing Federal Regulatory Environment:** Moderator – Brenda Zollitsch, Association of State Wetland Managers. Panelists – Stacia Bax, Missouri Department of Natural Resources; and Rick Mraz, Washington Department of Ecology.
- 2:00pm – 2:30pm **Drones in Environmental Assessment-Getting Michigan's Program off the Ground:** Art Ostaszewski, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy
- 2:30pm – 3:00pm **BREAK**
- 3:00pm – 3:30pm **Wetland Water Quality Standard Development in Utah:** Becka Downard, Utah Division of Water Quality
- 3:30pm – 4:15pm **Panel: Are We There Yet? Improving the Mitigation Bank Establishment Process:** Moderator – Brenda Zollitsch, Association of State Wetland Managers. Panelists – Sara Johnson, Ecological Restoration Business Association; Matthew Stahman, RES; and Michael Hare, RES
- 4:15pm – 4:30pm **Day 3 Wrap Up**
- 4:30pm – 5:00pm **Virtual Bonfire**

## Thursday, April 15<sup>th</sup>

### Day 4: Innovations in Wetland Mapping and Functional Assessment

- 1:00pm – 1:15pm     **Welcome:** William Dooley, Association of State Wetland Managers
- 1:15pm – 1:45pm     **National Wetlands Inventory Update:** Megan Lang and Jeff Ingebriksen, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
- 1:45pm – 2:15pm     **NWIPlus Mapping in Vermont: The Importance of an Integrated Team Approach:** Laura Lapierre, Vermont Agency of Natural Resources; Sean MacFaden, University of Vermont; and Levi Keszey, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.
- 2:15pm – 2:45pm     **BREAK**
- 2:45pm – 3:15pm     **Technological Advances in Resilient Tidal Marsh Restoration Design and Monitoring:** Stewart DesMeules and Sundaran Gillespie, WRA, Inc.
- 3:15pm – 4:15pm     **Panel: State & Tribal Functional Assessment:** Moderator – Andy Robertson, Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota. Panelists – Tanya Sand Driver, Three Affiliated Tribes Community; Emile Sawyer, New Mexico Environment Department; Elizabeth Byers, West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection; and Frank Nelson, Missouri Department of Conservation.
- 4:15pm – 4:30pm     **Wrap Up and Closing Remarks:** Marla Stelk and William Dooley, Association of State Wetland Managers

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