NATIONAL WATER SUPPLY ALLIANCE

Annual Meeting 2023
Speaker Bios

*Arranged in order of the Meeting Agenda

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Dan Buhman, NWSA President
General Manager, Tarrant Regional Water District

Guest Presentation: Reallocations in Colorado
Moderator: Dan Buhman, NWSA President

Lauren Ris
Director
Colorado Water Conservation Board

Lauren Ris is the Director of the Colorado Water Conservation Board. She previously served as CWCB's deputy director. Her major projects include implementing the state water plan. She previously served as assistant director for water for the Colorado Department of Natural Resources, where she coordinated water policy development. She has also served as a legislative liaison for the department's division of forestry and for Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Ris holds a master's degree in environmental science and natural resources policy from the University of Michigan.

USACE Dam Safety Program and the Risk Management Center
Moderator: Glenn Page, NWSA Director

Steven Townsley, P.E.
Dam Safety Program Manager
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, HQ

Steve Townsley is a licensed Professional Engineer currently serving as the US Army Corps of Engineers HQ Dam Safety Program Manager. He has been with USACE for 11 of his 40+ years of professional practice. Prior to this role, he was the Chief of Program Management with the USACE Risk Management Center leading the national dam and levee safety programs. He has 20 years of experience with private industry along with a tour with the US Bureau of Reclamation prior to joining the Corps. His technical background is Hydraulic Structures Engineering for spillways, outlets, hydropower, and water conveyance, and is currently leading the USACE Spillway Review assessing their concrete chute spillways. He also served as the USACE Technical Advisor to the CA Department of Water Resources Incident Command Teams during the Oroville Spillway failure in 2017.

USACE 101
Moderator: James McCarty, NWSA Communications Chair

Meredith LaDart
Technical Director
USACE Water Management and Reallocation Studies Planning Center of Expertise

Meredith LaDart has been with USACE since 2006. Meredith currently serves as the Technical Director for the Water Management and Reallocation Studies Planning Center of Expertise (WMRS PCX) located in the Southwestern Division. She began her career as a co-op student economist in Mobile District. Meredith's career has transitioned from regional economist, senior planner, to project manager over the last 15 years. Meredith has spent her time working on a range of civil works projects including deep draft navigation, ecosystem restoration, coastal storm risk management, and water supply. She has also supported non-traditional work in Latin America. Meredith has spent a concentrated amount of her career working on water control manual updates and reallocation efforts that affect Metro-Atlanta water supply and extended to the Gulf Coast as well as supporting the water supply community outside of the Mobile District. Meredith is a Water Resource Certified Planner and holds a B.S. in Business Administration and Economics from the University of South Alabama and a graduate certificate in Risk Management from Notre Dame College of Maryland.

Managing Flows – Non-Federal Perspectives
Moderator: Drew Dehoff, NWSA Director

- Flow Targets in the Delaware River Basin

Jennifer Garigliano
Director, Water Resources Management
New York City Department of Environmental Protection

Ms. Garigliano began her career with the New York City Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Bureau of Water Supply in 2012 as the Chief of Staff. After serving in that role for more than 10 years, Ms. Garigliano transitioned to the role of Director of Water Resources Management in 2023. In her role, Ms. Garigliano oversees the Bureau's Wholesale Water Programs and policies for reservoir releases from the NYC Water Supply System. She also serves as the Department's technical representative to the Delaware River Basin Commission and Office of the Delaware River Master on all issues related to flow management in the Delaware River Basin. Ms. Garigliano is also responsible for supporting daily reservoir operations and long-term system planning by managing an integrated modeling team who conducts water quality, quantity, and climate change modeling of the NYC Water Supply System. Prior to her employment with New York City, she served on active duty in the U.S. Army as a CBRNE (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive) Officer.

Ms. Garigliano holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Engineering from the United States Military Academy at West Point and a Master of Arts degree in Emergency and Disaster Management from American Military University.

- Environmental Flows in the Caddo Lake Watershed

Laura-Ashley Overdyke
Executive Director
Caddo Lake Institute

Laura-Ashley Overdyke has been the Executive Director of the Caddo Lake Institute for the past 7 years. Caddo Lake Institute is a 30-year-old nonprofit using science to conserve Caddo Lake. Laura-Ashley grew up in Shreveport Louisiana, going to Caddo Lake most weekends of her childhood. She then left that area for 17 years, to go to Washington and Lee University in Virginia, then on to Washington DC where she worked for National Geographic and then the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy. The common thread through her 25-year career has been using factual information to bring together disparate groups to make positive change.

Wayne Owen
General Manager
Northeast Texas Municipal Water District

39 years' experience in water resources and regional supply planning.
Tarrant Regional Water District, Director of Panning & Governmental Affairs (1984 – 2004)
City of Arlington, Texas, Asst. Director of Utilities (2004 – 2006)
Tarrant Regional Water District Director of Planning & Communications (2006 – 2021)
San Jacinto River Authority, Director of Raw Water Operations (2021 – 2022)
Northeast Texas Municipal Water District, Exec. Director / General Manager (2022 – present)
President Elect - Texas Water Conservation Association (TWCA) (2023 – 2025)

Managing Flows – USACE Perspectives
Moderator: Katherine Zitsch, NWSA Vice President

Meredith LaDart
Technical Director
USACE Water Management and Reallocation Studies Planning Center of Expertise
See bio above.

Forecast-Informed Reservoir Operations
Moderator: Brad Brunett, NWSA Treasurer

Dr. Marty Ralph
Director, Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes
Scripps Institute of Oceanography, University of California-San Diego

Dr. F. Martin Ralph is a meteorologist focused on atmospheric rivers, understanding the origins of floods, and on improving predictions for water management and flood control applications. After 21 years at NOAA, he created the "Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes" at UC San Diego. He has published over 150 peer-reviewed scientific articles and has developed programs on new science and technology and their application to solving practical problems. He is a leading expert on atmospheric rivers and provides input to policy makers on western weather and water extremes. He is a

leader in the development of Forecast-Informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO), working closely with federal, state, and local water managers. He is a Fellow of the American Meteorological Society and has received awards from several organizations. He has a B. S. in Meteorology from University of Arizona, and a Ph.D. in Atmospheric Sciences from UCLA.

Dr. Cary Talbot
Chief, Flood and Storm Protection Division
USACE Engineer Research and Development Center

Cary Talbot is the National Lead of the Forecast-Informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO) Program within the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). FIRO, a program he helped create in 2014, uses advanced hydrometeorological forecasts and observations to find a better balance between competing authorized purposes at USACE owned and regulated reservoirs. Since 1994, he has conducted research within the Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory of the US Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC), the R&D arm of the USACE, in the development and application of numerical models of hydrologic, hydraulic, infiltration and groundwater systems for water resources, environmental restoration and water management purposes.

Dr. Talbot holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in Civil & Environmental Engineering from Brigham Young University and a PhD in Environmental Engineering from the University of Connecticut. He is a registered Professional Engineer in the State of Mississippi.

Greg Woodside
Chief of Planning & Watershed Resilience
San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District

Greg Woodside is the Chief of Planning & Watershed Resilience for San Bernardino Valley. He is a Professional Geologist and Certified Hydrogeologist in the State of California with a Masters Degree in Hydrology from New Mexico Tech and a Bachelors Degree in Geology from the California State University Fullerton.

Greg manages San Bernardino Valley's efforts on Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO) at Seven Oaks Dam, salt and nutrient management and evaluation of impacts of emerging constituents in water quality. He also works on collaborative teams for the San Bernardino Basin Optimization Study, development of the District's Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan, and development of a monitoring and adaptive management plan for groundwater recharge near areas of existing groundwater contamination. When previously employed at the Orange County Water District, Greg co-chaired the Steering Committee for FIRO at Prado Dam on the Santa Ana River.

<u>USACE Water Supply Team – Policy and Program Updates</u>

Meredith LaDart
Technical Director
USACE Water Management and Reallocation Studies Planning Center of Expertise

See bio above.