

Eighth Annual

**UPPER COLORADO  
RIVER BASIN  
WATER FORUM:**

**BRIDGING  
SCIENCE,  
POLICY AND  
PRACTICE**

**November 7–8, 2018**  
Grand Junction, Colorado



[coloradomesa.edu/water-center](http://coloradomesa.edu/water-center)



[watercenter@coloradomesa.edu](mailto:watercenter@coloradomesa.edu)

Eighth Annual  
**UPPER COLORADO RIVER BASIN WATER FORUM:**  
**BRIDGING SCIENCE, POLICY  
AND PRACTICE**  
November 7–8, 2018

---

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2018**

---

7:30am

**Registration and Breakfast**

---

8:00am

**Welcome**

Tim Foster, President, Colorado Mesa University

---

8:15am

**Keynote — The Drying of the  
Colorado River Basin: Lessons  
from the Past 25 Years Applied  
to the Next 25 Years**

Brad Udall, Senior Research Scientist,  
Colorado Water Institute



9:20am

**Threats to Food – Energy – Water Security for a  
Colorado River Basin Provisioning Watershed**

Moderator: Dagmar K. Llewellyn,  
US Bureau of Reclamation

- **Katrina E. Bennett**, Los Alamos National Laboratory
  - **Lucas Barrett**, US Bureau of Reclamation
  - **Susan Behery**, US Bureau of Reclamation
  - **Shi-Yu Huang**, Lehigh University
- 

10:20am

**Break**

---

10:40am

**From Forecasting to Decision Making,  
and Steps in Between**

Moderator: Ken Curtis, Dolores Water  
Conservancy District

- **Choosing Your Period of Record when  
Looking Backwards**  
John Fleck, University of New Mexico
  - **Improving Seasonal Forecasting to Support  
Operational Decision Making and Policy within  
Bureau of Reclamation Service Areas in the  
Upper Colorado and Rio Grande Basins**  
Dagmar K. Llewellyn, US Bureau of Reclamation
  - **Communicating Uncertainty and Risk in  
Water Resources: Using Innovative Displays of  
Hydrologic Ensemble Data**  
Richard Koehler, NOAA/ National Weather Service
  - **Multi-Objective Robust Decision Making: IWRM  
Transferability from a Colorado Municipality to  
Colorado River Basin Level Planning**  
Leon Basdekas, Black & Veatch
- 

12:00pm

**Lunch/Poster Session**

Posters will be displayed in the lounge adjacent to the  
lunch area throughout the Forum. See list of posters on  
page 4.

---

1:30pm

**Science + Collaboration for  
Environmental Benefits**

Moderator: Russ Walker, Colorado Mesa University

- **Addressing Algae Problems on Colorado's White River**  
Ken Leib, US Geological Survey
- **Managing Winter Flows on the Fryingpan: Enhancing Minimum Flows to Benefit Aquatic Life**  
Heather Lewin, Roaring Fork Conservancy
- **Managed Rivers and Native Fishes: 30 years of Progress and Challenges for Species Recovery**  
Joel Sholtes, US Bureau of Reclamation

2:35pm

**Turning Problems Into Opportunity: Making Ceramics from Reservoir Sediment, Fueled by Methane Captured from Coal Mines**

Christopher M. Caskey, Delta Brick and Climate

2:55pm

**Break**

3:15pm

**Approaches to Municipal Conservation**

Moderator: John Berggren, Western Resource Advocates

- **Enhancing Conservation through Municipal Code Revisions**  
Marjo Curgus, Del Corazon Consulting for NW CO Council of Governments, Water Quality & Quantity Committee
- **The Cost of Municipal Conservation: Are Municipal Utilities and Environmental Organizations Being Cost-Effective in their Conservation Implementation?**  
Ryan Shepler, WestWater Research
- Respondents: Randi Kim, City of Grand Junction; David Everitt, City of Moab; Linn Brooks, Eagle River Water and Sanitation District

4:15pm

**The Power of Stories to Bridge Science, Policy and Practice**

Moderator: John Fleck, University of New Mexico

- **Source-to-Sea on the Colorado River: The Meaning and Merits of a Popular (and Recurring) Adventure Narrative**  
Adrienne Kroepsch, Colorado School of Mines
- **Rethinking John Wesley Powell: How Do We Bridge Science, Policy and Practice 150 Years After Powell's 1869 Expedition?**  
Sara Porterfield, Tributaries Consulting

5:00pm

**Reception at the Eureka McConnell Math & Science Museum**

1400 North 7th Street, Grand Junction, Colorado (5–10 minute walk from forum venue)

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2018**

7:30am

**Breakfast**

8:15am

**Keynote: Bridging Science, Policy and Practice in Colorado River Delta Restoration**

Jennifer Pitt, Colorado River Program Director, Audubon



9:20am

**Methodologies for Modeling Risk on the Colorado River System**

Moderator: Gigi Richard, Fort Lewis College

- Alan Butler, US Bureau of Reclamation
- John Currier, Colorado River District
- Julia Keedy, Denver Water

10:20am

**Break**



---

10:40am

**Interstate Panel on  
Drought Contingency Planning**

Moderator: Jennifer Gimbel, Colorado Water Institute

- Christopher Harris, Colorado River Board of California
  - Rebecca Mitchell, Colorado Water Conservation Board
  - Chris Brown, Wyoming Attorney General's Office
  - Scott McGettigan, Utah Division of Water Resources
  - Rolf Schmidt, New Mexico Interstate Streams Commission
  - Daryl Vigil, Jicarilla Apache Nation/  
Ten Tribes Partnership
- 

12:30pm

**Lunch/Poster Session**

Posters will be displayed in the lounge adjacent to the lunch area throughout the Forum. See list of posters on page 4.

---

1:30pm

**System Conservation Partnership Program –  
Reports from the Field**

Moderator: Perry Cabot, Colorado State University

- Utah SCPP, Kevin Cotner, Carbon Canal Company
  - Grand Valley Conserved Consumptive Use Program, Troy Waters, Waters Farms
  - Yampa Valley Provider Perspective, Kevin McBride, Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District
  - Wyoming SCPP, Freddie Botur, Cottonwood Capital Corp.
- 

2:55pm

**Scientific Challenges for Demand  
Management Programs**

Moderator: Jordan Nielson, Trout Unlimited

- Perry Cabot, Colorado State University
  - Luke Gingerich, J-U-B Engineers
  - Brenna Mefford, Wilson Water Group
- 

3:55pm

**Closing Remarks**

## POSTERS

Posters will be displayed in the lounge adjacent to the lunch area throughout the Forum.

**Addressing Threats to Water Supply  
Caused by Overgrown Forests and  
Increasing Aridity in the San Juan and  
Rio Chama Watersheds**

Caitlin Barbour, Americorps VISTA, Chama Peak Land Alliance and the US Bureau of Reclamation

---

**Blue Mesa Reservoir:  
Past, Present and Future**

Zachary P. Dutra and Eleanor Skinner,  
Western State Colorado University

---

**Stakeholder Negotiations to  
Manage Flows on the Dolores River**

Rica Fulton, University of Wyoming

---

**An Investigation of the Selenium  
Concentration in Thenardite  
Efflorescences on Mancos Shale,  
Western Colorado**

Rachael C. Lohse and William C. Hood,  
Colorado Mesa University

---

**Using Empirical Mode Decomposition to  
Identify Anomalies in Flow Data  
and Correlations with Other  
Environmental Data**

Saul Ramirez, Brigham Young University

---

**Calculating Return Flow  
and Well Depletion**

Collin Robinson, GuideWater

---

**Monitoring and Forecasting Precipitation  
Patterns and Erosion Potential to  
Enhance Archaeological Preservation  
and Decision Making**

Zachary Sforzo, NASA DEVELOP  
National Program

**Wi-Fi Instructions:**

- 1. Choose **CMU Visitor** Wi-Fi connection
- 2. Choose Visitor login  
**Username: Water1**  
**Password: Forum2018**



**Biographies & Abstracts:**

Speaker biographies and presentation abstracts are available on the Forum website at **[coloradomesa.edu/water-center/forum](http://coloradomesa.edu/water-center/forum)**.



**NOTES**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



**COLORADO MESA**  
UNIVERSITY

RUTH POWELL HUTCHINS  
WATER CENTER

**MANY THANKS TO THESE FORUM SPONSORS:**



**EXHIBITORS**

- Alpine Bank
- RiversEdge West
- Upper Colorado River Basin Endangered Fish Recovery Program
- Western State Colorado University Master in Environmental Management Program

