

Hard Times on the Colorado River: Drought, Growth and the Future of the Compact

Final Agenda

**HARD TIMES ON THE COLORADO RIVER:
DROUGHT, GROWTH AND THE FUTURE OF
THE COMPACT**

Natural Resources Law Center; June, 2005

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8

- 7:30 Registration opens (coffee outside)
8:45 Introductory Remarks (official start of conference)

Session 1: Arriving at the Problem

Moderator: Doug Kenney

- 9:00 *History of Colorado River Law, Development and Use: A Primer and Look Forward.* Justice Greg Hobbs Jr., Colorado Supreme Court
- 9:45 *Drought, Climate Change and Water Supply Vulnerability.* Brad Udall, Western Water Assessment
- 10:30 Break
- 11:00 *Response of the System to Various Hydrological and Operational Assumptions: Modeling Results.* Terry Fulp, US Bureau of Reclamation

12:00 Lunch (provided)

Session 2: Tightening Water Supplies: Some Issues & Potential Impacts

Moderator: Peter Nichols

- 1:00 *Ambiguities and Holes in the Law of the River: Invitations to Litigation or Deals?* Jim Lochhead, Brownstein, Hyatt & Farber
- 1:45 *Colorado River Federal Litigation Update.* Mike Gheleta, US Department of Justice

- 2:30 Break
- 3:00 *How Does the Gila River Settlement Affect the Tribes and Other Colorado River Users?* Rodney Lewis, Gila River Tribal Attorney

- 3:45 *Environmental Impacts of Increased Colorado River Water Stress and Shortages: An Overview.* Michael Cohen, Pacific Institute

4:30 Conference Reception

Evening Program

- 6:00 to 7:00 *CRSS Lite Screening Model Demonstration.* Carly Jerla, US Bureau of Reclamation

THURSDAY, JUNE 9

- 7:45 Coffee available (outside)
8:15 Announcements

Session 2: continued...

Moderator: David Getches

- 8:30 *Key State Issues: Lower Basin*
- Kay Brothers, Southern Nevada Water Authority
 - Jerry Zimmerman, Colorado River Board of California
 - Herb Guenther, Arizona Department of Water Resources

9:45 Break

- 10:15 *Key State Issues: Upper Basin*
- Scott Balcomb, Upper Colorado River Commissioner, Colorado
 - Estevan Lopez, Interstate Stream Commission, New Mexico
 - Pat Tyrrell, Wyoming State Engineer

12:00 Lunch (on your own)

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Session 3: Catching Up on Lower Basin Management Activities

Moderator: Guy Martin

1:15 to 3:15 (exact time allocations among speakers still to be determined)

- *What Does the Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) Mean for Water Users and the Environment in the Lower Basin?* Joe Vanderhorst, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
- *How Does the CAP Water Bank Influence Short-Term and Long-Term Water Supply Vulnerability in the Basin?* Larry Dozier, Central Arizona Project
- *What Ever Happened to the Soft Landing? Coping With and Without Surplus Waters.* Jan Matusak, Metropolitan Water District
- *Trouble With Mexico Brewing on the All-American Canal?* Malissa Hathaway McKeith, Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP
- *Respondent on US-Mexico Issues and Other Lower Basin Matters.* Bob Johnson, US Bureau of Reclamation

3:15 Break

Session 4: Thinking Longer Term

Moderator: Kathryn Mutz

3:45 to 5:15 *Do the Upper Basin States Still Have Room to Grow?*

- Don Ostler, Upper Colorado River Commission
- *The Situation in Colorado.* Rick Brown, Colorado Water Conservation Board

5:15 Adjourn for the day

6:20 to 8:30 Excursion to NCAR (optional)

FRIDAY, JUNE 10

8:00 Coffee (outside)

8:20 Announcements

Session 4: continued ...

Moderator: Lawrence MacDonnell

8:30 to 10:30 *Easing the Water Stress: Some Potential Solutions*

- *Pursue Demand Management.* Bart Miller, Western Resource Advocates

- *Explore Interstate Marketing and Similar Economic Approaches.* Jim Booker, Siena College

- *Establish True Basinwide Management Institutions.* Charles Howe, University of Colorado

- *Manage Conflict Through Intra-State Compacts.* Russell George, Colorado Department of Natural Resources

10:30 Break

11:00 to 12:15 *Final Panel* (audience Q&A; no presentations)

12:15 Lunch (provided if requested)

End of Conference

SPONSORS AND CONTRIBUTORS

Colorado Water Conservation Board
Center for Advanced Decision Support for Water and Environmental Systems
Western Water Assessment, CU-CIRES/
NOAA
Hydrosphere Resource Consultants
Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation
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