

**56<sup>th</sup> Annual Mid-Pacific Water Users' Conference**  
**January 24-26, 2024**  
**Silver Legacy, Reno, NV**  
**PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24**

**7:30am-5:00pm**      **REGISTRATION**

**8:00am**      **CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**

**8:30am-12:00pm**      **CALL TO ORDER/GENERAL SESSION**

Welcome Address  
*Chris Dahlstrom, Santa Ynez River WCD ID #1 (ret.)*

KEYNOTE SPEAKER  
*Camille Calimlim Touton, Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation*

Bureau of Reclamation Regional Director Address  
*Ernest Conant, Director, California–Great Basin Region, Bureau of Reclamation*

Bureau of Reclamation Deputies and Area Managers  
*Panel Presentation*

The View from Three Capitals: Fighting for Water Users in Western State Legislatures  
*Moderated by Jeff Sutton, Tehama Colusa Canal Authority*  
*California-Dennis Albani, California Advocates*  
*Nevada-Chris Mahannah, Mahannah & Associates, LLC*  
*Oregon-April Snell, Oregon Water Resources Congress*

**12:15pm-2:00pm**      **LUNCHEON and PROGRAM**

Let's Talk Politics at Lunch: The 118<sup>th</sup> Congress, the Biden White House and the 2024 Elections  
*Moderated by Dan Keppen, Family Farm Alliance*  
*Dennis Cardoza, Foley & Lardner LLP*  
*Mark Limbaugh, The Ferguson Group*  
*Garrett Durst, Natural Resource Results LLC*

**2:00pm-4:00pm**      **ETHICS TRAINING WORKSHOP FOR DISTRICT DIRECTORS**  
*Presented by Andrea Clark and Rebecca Smith, Downey Brand LLP*  
*This two-hour session will fulfill California state law requirements that all public officials receive ethics training every two years. The training will cover transparency laws, conflicts of interest and fair process. Participants will receive a certificate to be retained by their agency. This workshop is offered at no charge, but please indicate your participation on the registration form.*

**5:30pm-7:30pm**      **EXHIBITOR RECEPTION & SLOTS TOURNAMENT**

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 25**

**7:30am-5:00pm**      **REGISTRATION**

**8:00am-9:10am**      **BREAKFAST and PROGRAM**

Newlands Project Report  
*Ben Shawcroft, Truckee-Carson Irrigation District*

Cachuma Project Report  
*Chris Dahlstrom, Santa Ynez River WCD ID #1 (ret.)*

**9:15am-12:15pm**

**GENERAL SESSION**

ESA: Is Anything Fixed? Fixable?

*Moderated by Paul Simmons, Klamath Water Users Association*

*Paul Souza, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*

*Brittany Johnson, Somach, Simmons, & Dunn*

*Jason Phillips, Friant Water Authority*

Golden Trophies – 40-year History of How Water Agencies have Celebrated Negotiated Agreements made while being Leveraged by Regulators. Are these really worth celebrating? Are the latest Biological Opinions and Voluntary Agreements the final give? When should we push back?

*Moderated by Jason Phillips, Friant Water Authority*

*Deanna Sereno, Contra Costa Water District (invited)*

*Ian Buck-Macleod, Friant Water Authority*

*Allison Febbo, Westlands Water District*

**12:15pm-1:30pm**

**LUNCHEON and PROGRAM**

Regional Director's Water Conservation Award

*Presented by Ernest Conant, Director, California-Great Basin Region, Bureau of Reclamation*

Klamath: Damned and Damless (Simmons to moderate)

Klamath Project Report

*Paul Simmons, Klamath Water Users Association*

Dam Removal: It's On

*Moderated by Paul Simmons, Klamath Water Users Association*

*Mark Bransom, Klamath River Renewal Corp.*

*Elizabeth Nielsen, Siskiyou County, California*

Floodplains & Flyways

*Moderated by Dan Keppen, Family Farm Alliance*

*Jacob Katz, California Trout*

*Mark Petrie, Ducks Unlimited*

*Moss Driscoll, Klamath Water Users Association*

**3:00pm-5:00pm**

**WORKSHOP: Technical Assistance for Modernization Options**

*Stuart Styles, Cal Poly ITRC*

**6:00pm-9:00pm**

**Dinner and Bowling at the National Bowling Stadium**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 26**

**8:30am-11:30am**

**BREAKFAST and PROGRAM**

Bowling and Slot Tournament Awards

Meet the Cal Poly Scholarship Students

Revisiting 2023 Water Year

*Presented by Bureau of Reclamation*

2024 Water Supply Outlook

*Presented by Bureau of Reclamation*