

A one day conference for state legislators, local government officials, water managers, regulators, environmental organizations, agriculture, industry and water utility end users and their scientific, engineering and legal advisors

November 30, 2017

COLORADO GROUNDWATER ISSUES

The American Ground Water Trust's Annual Colorado Groundwater Conference



Thursday
November 30, 2017
8:30 – 4:30

DoubleTree by Hilton-Denver
3203 Quebec Street
Denver, CO 80207

Conference Organizer: American Ground Water Trust (501(c)(3) non-profit education organization)

Continuing Education

Approved – CO Operators Certification Program – WT:0.7/DS: 0.7 – 17-OS-0515

Approved – CO Attorneys – 8 CLE Credits; Approved CO Water Well and Pump Installation Contractors – 6.5 CE Credits

Program Sponsors



7:30 – 8:30

REGISTRATION

Session 1 COLORADO'S AQUIFERS: WATER QUALITY ISSUES

8:30 – 8:45

INTRODUCTION – BACKGROUND TO MAIN TOPICS OF 2017 CONFERENCE

Andrew Stone, Executive Director, American Ground Water Trust, Concord, NH

8:45 – 9:15

GROUNDWATER QUALITY IN COLORADO: ISSUES/PROBLEMS, CURRENT STATUS, WHAT IS THE FUTURE?

Mike Wireman, (Retired) National Groundwater Expert for the US Environmental Protection Agency; President, Granite Ridge Groundwater, Boulder, CO

9:15 – 9:45

GROUNDWATER THREATS IN COLORADO FROM OIL & GAS OPERATIONS

Kyle Ferrar, Western Program Coordinator, FracTracker Alliance, Oakland, CA

9:45 – 10:15

MANAGING RISK AT LNAPL SITES - DOWNSTREAM PETROLEUM PRODUCT CONTAMINATION IN COLORADO: OVERVIEW OF API BULLETIN 18

Dr. Tom Sale, Associate Professor, Civil Engineering Department, CSU, Fort Collins, CO

10:15 – 10:30

BREAK

Session 2 MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES FOR THE HIGH PLAINS AQUIFER

10:30 – 11:00

HOW MUCH WATER IS LEFT IN COLORADO'S PART OF THE OGALLALA AQUIFER AND WHERE IS IT?

Jim Slattery, Owner, Slattery Water Engineering, LLC, Parker, CO

11:00 – 11:30

THE LEGAL LANDSCAPE IN COLORADO AS IT RELATES TO MANAGING THE DECLINING OGALLALA AQUIFER

Leila C. Behnampour, Esq., Vranesh and Raisch, LLP, Boulder, CO

11:30 – 12:00

Ogallalawater.org: CROSS-STATE COLLABORATION TO OPTIMIZE WATER USE, SUSTAINING RURAL COMMUNITIES

Amy Kremen, Project Manager, Ogallala Water CAP, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO

12:00 – 1:00

LUNCH

Session 3 AQUIFER STORAGE RECOVERY IN COLORADO

Session moderator:

Steven O. Sims, Attorney, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP, Denver, CO

1:00 – 1:30

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT MODELING IN COLORADO AQUIFERS: TALE OF TWO RECHARGE PROJECTS

Dr. Michael J. Ronayne, Department of Geosciences, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO

1:30 - 2:20

Panel 1 Designated Basin ASR Rulemaking

Keith VanderHorst, Designated Basins Team Leader, State Engineer's Office, Denver, CO

- Keith is leading the rulemaking process that concerns ASR. Keith will discuss why new ASR rules are needed and the challenges in developing the new rules.

Lisa Thompson, Attorney, Trout Raley, Denver, CO

- Lisa is an attorney for the Upper Black Squirrel District and will describe her District's hopes and fears concerning development of ASR in Upper Black Squirrel and will share her observations about the ASR process.

John Buchanan, Attorney, Buchanan Sperling & Holleman PC, Boulder, CO

- John is an attorney for a client interested in developing ASR in Lost Creek. He will make observations about the ASR rulemaking process from a developer's standpoint.

2:20 - 3:00 Panel 2 ASR Potential

Ralf Topper, (Retired), Senior Hydrogeologist at State of Colorado - Division of Water Resources, Conifer, CO

- Ralf is a geologist/hydrogeologist and was the author of a comprehensive aquifer storage study in Colorado. Ralf will describe his past work and draw conclusions about the utility of developing ASR in Colorado.

Marshall Brown, Aurora Water Director, Aurora, CO

- Marshall has experience using ASR in Arizona and he will reflect on that project, share some lessons learned and describe why Aurora is investigating use of ASR in its water portfolio.

3:00 - 3:30 Panel 3 Lost Creek ASR

Tom Sauter, General Manager, and Todd Denning, Board Member, Lost Creek Ground Water Management District, Bennett, CO

- Tom will describe the Lost Creek District and describe concerns he has heard from well users in the basin over development of ASR in Lost Creek.

Joshua Godwin, Aurora Water, ASR Project Manager, Aurora, CO

- Joshua is involved in a follow-up study on identifying areas with ASR potential in the Lost Creek DB. He will describe the follow-up study and identify what a “good” ASR site would look like.

3:30 – 3:45 BREAK

3:45 – 4:30 Session 4 WATER LEGISLATION EXPECTED OR NEEDED FOR THE 2018 SESSION

Discussion with all participants:

Panel:

Representative Lori Saine, Colorado House District 63

Representative Marc Catlin, Colorado House District 58

Representative Stephen Humphrey, Colorado House District 48

4:30 WRAP-UP and CEU sign-out



AMERICAN GROUND WATER TRUST

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- ~ Promote efficient and effective ground water management
- ~ Communicate the environmental and economic value of ground water
- ~ Showcase ground water science and technology solutions
- ~ Increase citizen, community and decision-maker awareness
- ~ Facilitate stakeholder participation in water resource decisions