

2024 New Mexico Water Well Workshop Presenter Bios

July 12, 2024

Sara Chudnoff, Executive Director, Hydrogeologist, PG, American Ground Water Trust, Pinetop, AZ

Sara is the Program Director for the American Ground Water Trust. She has been working in the water resources and environmental field in New Mexico since the early 2000s. As a consulting scientist, she worked on projects from methane monitoring and reporting to hydrogeologic investigations and well design. In 2009, Sara left her regulatory role with the State and started working with Bernalillo County. In this position, she worked with hundreds of residents monitoring water levels and promoting outreach and education. At the New Mexico Bureau of Geology, she took this model to work on a State-Wide Groundwater Level Monitoring Network. Sara facilitates educational outreach for watershed health with the local school district and provides water resource consulting in New Mexico. She has a B.S. in Geology from New Mexico Tech and a M.S. in Water Resources from the University of New Mexico.

Chance Coats, President/Owner, Coats Pump and Supply, Inc., Dexter, NM

Chance Coats is the President and owner of his company, Coats Pump & Supply, Inc. He is currently serving as the President of the New Mexico Ground Water Association. He holds a Bachelor of Business Administration from New Mexico State University and a Master of Water Resources from University of New Mexico. He is a licensed driller and pump installer with the State of New Mexico. His company is located in Southeastern New Mexico and services the Roswell Artesian Basin and surrounding areas. He has grown up in the industry and has a unique skill set that covers both technical and practical water well applications. Chance is passionate about the ground water industry and enjoys sharing his findings and stories with his peers.

Clayton Thayer, Business Development, KP Ventures Drilling & Pump, Cottonwood, AZ

Clayton Thayer has worked in the drilling industry for 17 years. He currently serves in the role of Business Development for KP Ventures Drilling & Pump, serving the Southwestern US. Clayton holds drilling and pump installers licenses in Utah, Colorado, Arizona, Texas and Kansas. He is a licensed contractor in the State of New Mexico for underground construction. He is also an MSHA (Mine Safety and Health Administration) Safety Instructor. He has served as project manager, driller, or account manager for drilling projects at National Labs, Superfund Sites, Transuranic Waste Facilities, municipal well projects at most of the larger municipalities in the Southwestern US, residential wells and horizontal drilling projects. Clayton has a BS in Agronomy and a BA in French.

Jerri Pohl, Statewide Projects Program Manager, NMOSE, Santa Fe, NM

Jerri Pohl manages the Statewide Projects Program with the NMOSE. Jerri received her B.S. in Environmental Science from the College of Santa Fe. Jerri also has twenty years working with the NMOSE from abstracting historical water rights files and followed by processing water rights transfers and applications in the Tatum Basin and on the Upper Pecos and all tributaries. In her role with the Statewide Projects for nine years, she helps with policy formulation, regulation writing, managing four Aquifer Storage and Recovery Projects, multiple deep well constructions, licensing of water well drillers for NM, education and outreach including creating ten tutorials for the agency YouTube Channel and other video material, and providing the agency with statistics for quarterly and annual reporting.

Thomas Staatz, BSc, PG, Partner, Jet West Geophysical Services, LLC, Farmington, NM

Tom Staatz joined Jet West Geophysical Services, LLC in 2006, and is now a partner. Tom has over 40 years of experience in borehole geophysics, open and cased-hole logging, wireline well completions, work-overs and maintenance applications. He holds a B.S. in Geology from Colorado State University, and is a Registered Professional Geologist in Wyoming and California.

Chris Wolf, PG, Hydrogeologist/Geochemist, Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, Inc., Albuquerque, NM

Mr. Wolf specializes in applying geochemistry and hydrogeology to water resources and environmental projects and designs, installs, and tests water supply wells for tribes, municipalities, and water districts. For managed aquifer recharge (MAR) projects, Mr. Wolf evaluates geology and geochemistry to determine how local hydrogeology will influence water movement and water quality. By applying geochemical methods, he determines water chemistry and compatibility of the recharge source water with groundwater and aquifer sediments, and predicts water quality during MAR operations. Mr. Wolf has a MS in Geochemistry a BS in Geology from the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology.

Ethan Mamer, Hydrogeologist, New Mexico Bureau of Geology

Ethan is a hydrogeologist for the Aquifer Mapping Program. Since starting with the Bureau of Geology, he has worked on a variety of projects covering many parts of the state. These studies have required a broad range of hydrogeologic tools, such as GIS based aquifer and water-level surface interpolation, geochemical analysis of groundwater and surface water, and groundwater modeling. He has experience covering most facets of research projects, ranging from field sampling, report writing, to figure drafting. Ethan has a Master of Science in Hydrogeology from the University at Buffalo and Bachelor of Science in Geology from Beloit College.

Edd T. Schofield, Technical Sales Manager - Well Chemicals, Johnson Screens, Laguan Hills, CA

Edd Scholfield is a graduate of California Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo. He worked in the oilfield on a production rig for Getty Oil while attending college. He graduated with a BS Degree in Business Marketing and a minor in Mechanical Engineering. He was then recruited by Baker Hughes as a Technical Sales Engineer for Oilfield completions. During his tenure, he supervised cement, acid and frac completions both onshore and offshore across the West Coast and Alaska for numerous major oil and gas operators. In 1998 he joined Johnson Screens as a Regional Sales Representative. Since then, he has over 45 years combined in Oil & Gas and Water Well, design, construction, operations, and maintenance. A majority of Edd's experience has been across the Southwest in well drilling and well completions. He was recently promoted to Technical Sales Manager for the Chemical Product line for Johnson Screens.

Kevin McGillicuddy, PG, Chief Hydrogeologist, Roscoe Moss Company, Los Angeles, CA

Kevin McGillicuddy is Vice President and Chief Hydrogeologist for the Roscoe Moss Company. He joined the Roscoe Moss Company in 1996 and has worked as a technical liaison to municipal water agencies, groundwater consultants, and water well contractors. He has managed and participated in several educational workshops on water well design, testing and rehabilitation. Prior to joining Roscoe Moss Company, he worked as Director of Recharge Operations and as a Senior Hydrogeologist for the Orange County Water District in Fountain Valley, CA. Kevin holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Geology from Boston College and Masters' of Science Degree in Geology from the University of Southern California. He is a Registered Geologist in California.

Scott McDonnell, Technical Sales Manager, Goulds Water Technology a Xylem Brand, Yorba Linda, CA

Scott has served as Manager, Technical Sales for Drives/Controls and pump systems for Goulds Water Technology since 2017. His sales territory covers the thirteen Western States. He has over 30 years of experience in the pump business. His career in this industry began when he worked for a large pump distribution company based in Anaheim, CA. For most of his career, he has sized, selected and troubleshooted commercial and residential pump systems plus VFD's. He is very knowledgeable in the VFD controls of the pump system and strives to make systems perform the best way possible. Scott attended Fullerton and Cypress College in California.

Matthew Ryan, Chemist, Cotey Chemical Corp., Lubbock, TX

Matt Ryan, Chemist with Cotey Chemical Corp. for the past eleven years, runs a lab that researches water samples from all over the world. His clients are drillers and water well professionals that run into roadblocks, often when a well suddenly drops in capacity. He determines many water characteristics including mineral content, alkalinity, hardness, pH and bacteria. He also collects samples of scale from the field, and works with company product enhancement and product development. Ryan earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Texas Tech University, then taught high school and college chemistry for 39 years before joining Cotey Chemical three years ago. He still teaches part time at a private school in Lubbock, Texas.

Jeremy Kuhn, Director of North America, Roscoe Moss Company, Phoenix, AZ

Jeremy Kuhn has been involved in the Groundwater Industry for over 20 years. Jeremy started his career as a Drillers Helper and has since held positions as a Driller, Operations Manager, Contracts Manager, and Business Development. He is currently the Director of North America at Roscoe Moss Company. In addition to serving on the Board of Directors for the American Groundwater Trust, he also serves on the boards of the National Groundwater Association, Arizona Water Well Association, and the Mountain States Groundwater Association.