

**Water Education Foundation's Colorado River Symposium
Taking Action on the Colorado River: Are We Up to the Challenge?**

September 27-29, 2017

**Eldorado Hotel
Santa Fe, New Mexico**

DRAFT – DRAFT – DRAFT Agenda – Sept 12

Wednesday, September 27

- 1:00 p.m.** **Check-in Eldorado B**
- 1:30** **Welcome**
Jennifer Bowles, *Executive Director, Water Education Foundation*
Beth Stern, *Development Director, Water Education Foundation*
- 1:45** **The Politics and Policy Behind the Scenes**
Michael Connor, *Partner, WilmerHale, and former Deputy Secretary, Department of the Interior*
Bennett W. Raley, *Shareholder, Trout, Raley, Montañó, Witwer & Freeman, PC, and former Assistant Secretary for Water and Science, Department of the Interior*
Moderator: Jennifer Gimbel, *Senior Water Policy Scholar, Colorado Water Institute*
- 2:30** **BREAK**
- 3:00** **Are We Up to the Challenges?**
Terry Fulp, *Regional Director, Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Region*
Chris Harris, *Executive Director, Colorado River Board of California*
Jennifer Pitt, *Colorado River Project Director, National Audubon Society*
Jim Lochhead, *CEO/General Manager, Denver Water*
Dennis Patch, *Chairman, Colorado River Indian Tribes*
Moderator: John Fleck, *Author, Water is for Fighting Over and Other Myths about Water in the West*
- 4:30** **Minute 323: The Final Steps**
Edward Drusina, *Commissioner, International Boundary and Water Commission, United States Section (invited)*
Roberto Salmón, *Mexican Commissioner, International Boundary and Water Commission, CILAMEX-EUA (invited)*
- 6:00** **Adjourn to reception**
- 6:00-8:00** **Hosted reception, Palace of the Governors, downtown Santa Fe, site of the signing of the 1922 Colorado River Compact**
(Dinner on your own)

Thursday, September 28

- 8:15 a.m. Continental Breakfast Eldorado B**
- 8:45 a.m. Sub-seasonal to Seasonal (S2S) Precipitation Forecasts: Can they be Improved?**
Roger Pierce, *National Weather Service, WestFAST Liaison to Western States Water Council*
Dave Raff, *Science Advisor, Bureau of Reclamation*
Eric Kuhn, *General Manager, Colorado River Water Conservation District*
Moderator: Jeanine Jones, *Interstate Resources Manager, California Department of Water Resources*
- 10:15 Break**
- 10:30 The View from the Upper Basin**
Taylor Hawes, *Colorado River Program Director, The Nature Conservancy*
Brent Rhees, *Regional Director, Bureau of Reclamation, Upper Colorado Region*
Patrick Tyrrell, *State Engineer, Wyoming State Engineer's Office*
Mark Harris, *General Manager, Grand Valley Water Users*
Darryl Vigil, *Water Administrator, Jicarilla Apache Nation*
Moderator: Don Ostler, *Executive Director, Upper Colorado River Commission*
- 12:00 Lunch Eldorado A**
The Colorado River – Success Stories in Water Management in the Last Quarter Century
Senator Ken Salazar, *Partner, WilmerHale, former Secretary of the Interior*
- 1:45 p.m. Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan**
Jeffrey Kightlinger, *General Manager, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California*
John J. Entsminger, *General Manager, Southern Nevada Water Authority*
Thomas Buschatzke, *Director, Arizona Department of Water Resources*
Ted Cooke, *General Manager, Central Arizona Project*
Rodney Lewis, *Gila River Indian Community*
Moderator: Robert Johnson, *Consultant, HDR and former Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation*
- 3:15 BREAK**
- 3:30 Countdown at the Salton Sea**
Kevin Kelley, *General Manager, Imperial Irrigation District*
Michael Cohen, *Senior Research Associate, Pacific Institute*
Bruce Wilcox, *Assistant Secretary, Salton Sea Policy, California Natural Resources Agency*
Dan Denham, *Assistant General Manager, San Diego County Water Authority*
Frank Ruiz, *Salton Sea Director, Audubon California*
Moderator: Jayne Harkins, *Executive Director, Colorado River Commission of Nevada*
- 5:00 Adjourn to Group Photo – Front entrance of Eldorado Hotel**
- 5:30-7:30 Hosted Reception, Eldorado Hotel Presidential Suite/Patio, Fifth Floor**

Friday, September 29

8:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast Eldorado B

9:00 a.m. Top Environmental Concerns: Climate Change, Restoration and More

Katharine Jacobs, Director, Center for Climate Adaptation Science and Solutions, and Professor, Department of Soil, Water and Environmental Science, University of Arizona

Melinda Kassen, Interim Director, Center for Water Resources, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership

Kevin Moran, Senior Program Manager, Environmental Defense Fund

Moderator: Mary Kelly, Founding Partner, Culp & Kelly

10:30 Speaker TBD

11:00 The Big Picture

Anne Castle, Senior Fellow, Getches-Wilkinson Center for Natural Resources, Energy, University of Colorado

Brad Udall, Senior Water and Climate Research Scientist/Scholar, Colorado State University's Colorado Water Institute

Eric L. Millis, Director, Utah Division of Water Resources

Ted Kowalski, Senior Program Officer-Environment, Walton Family Foundation

Carlos A. de la Parra, Professor and Researcher, Colegio de la Frontera Norte

Moderator: Estevan López, Occam Engineers Inc., and former Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation

12:30 Wrap Up

Sue McClurg, Deputy Executive Director, Water Education Foundation