



**One
Water
Summit
2023**

November 14-16
Tucson, AZ



One Water, One Future.



ONE

Welcome

Dear Colleagues,

The Board of Directors and staff of the US Water Alliance thank you for joining us in Tucson, Arizona, for the 2023 One Water Summit. We're honored you chose to spend a few days with us, and we're looking forward to all the fantastic conversations, knowledge sharing, and networking that make our Summit such a unique and valuable experience.

We hope to foster a dynamic yet comfortable environment that creates space for genuine connection and peer exchange—whether you're collaborating and catching up with past and present colleagues or looking to meet new folks in the One Water community. This year's programming will be guided by our most diverse array of cross-sector water leaders to date and includes ample opportunities to learn from and connect with Tucson—an arid city defined by its resilience and innovation in the face of a changing climate.

Each Summit is a key moment in the One Water movement for everyone committed to a sustainable water future to share experiences, insights, and energy. Let's use this time together to center around regenerating our environments and cultural bonds, building our resolve to continue progressing One Water outcomes, reimagining approaches to water advocacy, equity, funding, and management, and reflecting on the collective growth of the One Water movement as well as our personal growth that brought us here. The path we've all paved toward achieving an equitable and sustainable water future has come a long way. For the next three days, and then continuing well beyond our time together in Tucson, we can't wait to continue this journey with you.

One Water, One Future.



Mami Hara
CEO, US Water Alliance



Yvonne Forrest
Director, Houston Water;
Board Chair, US Water
Alliance

Our Sponsors

The US Water Alliance thanks our sponsors for their generous support of One Water Summit 2023—without them this event would not be possible.

Leaders Circle



Local Host Partners



Summit Sponsors



Foundation Partners

Thank you to our key partners for their support of One Water Delegations and their year-round One Water work:

- Anonymous Donors
- Charles Stewart Mott Foundation
- The Cynthia and George Mitchell Foundation
- The Heinz Endowments
- The Kresge Foundation
- Pisces Foundation
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- Spring Point Partners LLC
- Water Foundation
- W.K. Kellogg Foundation

Contents

<u>About the US Water Alliance</u>	6
<u>Our Members</u>	8
<u>Land and Water Acknowledgement</u>	11
<u>Community Guidelines for One Water Summit</u>	13
<u>Agenda at a Glance</u>	15
<u>Tuesday, November 14</u>	21
<u>Wednesday, November 15</u>	31
<u>Thursday, November 16</u>	40
<u>One Water Delegations</u>	44
<u>Our Sponsors</u>	55

About the US Water Alliance



The US Water Alliance is a member-supported national nonprofit organization that aligns diverse stakeholders—including utilities, public agencies, community organizations, engineering and technology firms, environmental groups, agricultural interests, labor unions, researchers, artists and culture bearers, and many others—to develop common-ground and transformational solutions to our nation’s most pressing water challenges. We aim to create and foster powerful relationships with our members rooted in shared vision, purpose, and values.

Our Vision

A sustainable, One Water future for all.

Our Mission

We inspire and sustain a diverse movement to advance transformative solutions to pressing water challenges so communities can thrive.

Our Values

- **Authentic Relationships:** We value connections anchored by honesty, transparency, respect, and vulnerability.
- **Collaboration:** We consistently seek our partners’ and one another’s contributions, incorporating ideas and combining strengths to meet our collective goals.
- **Equity:** We acknowledge histories of injustice, mitigate power imbalances, seek and honor the perspectives of all people with a stake in our work, and hold ourselves accountable for our processes and impacts.
- **Innovative Ideas:** We uncover opportunities and develop, pilot, and spread transformative solutions.
- **Service:** We are humble and rooted in care for people, our planet, and the water we share.

Our Approach: Movement Building and Problem Solving

The US Water Alliance believes the nation needs a robust, cohesive, highly visible movement to build upon One Water innovation and progress in the water sector: a movement of champions who advocate for One Water to become the new normal in water management and thriving communities.

Right now, the One Water movement is expanding and becoming more diverse, which deepens the approach’s practices and impacts. This widening spectrum of participation and thought leadership in the movement supports the development of innovative practices, which can lead over time to the creation and adoption of new standards of practice and policy in the water sector.

As we grow the movement and its impact, we also develop and apply One Water methods to solve water challenges. As an Alliance, we advance our work through four methods, and where our role ends, we actively partner and leverage the talents of our colleagues—inside and outside the water sector—to forge progress. We:

- **Educate** the nation on the true value of water and engage an expanding base of One Water champions through mutual discovery, learning, and communications.
- **Initiate** new approaches and solutions to our most pressing water challenges, leveraging powerful partnerships, authentic engagement, and cultural strategies to advance One Water solutions.
- **Accelerate** the adoption and scaling of the mindset, practices, and policies behind the One Water approach to advance a better quality of life for all.
- **Celebrate** what works to advance the One Water movement and solutions to inspire and spread innovation in water system transformation.

One Water, One Future.

Our Members

As of October 2023



Our members work across the country in every discipline of water management including drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, water reuse, flood and groundwater management, and watersheds. We represent all who have a stake in America's water future—local water agencies, public officials, the private sector, community organizations, environmental groups, labor, research institutions, and more.

We invite you to join our national membership of changemakers. To learn more about the benefits of US Water Alliance membership, please email: membership@uswateralliance.org.

We are proud to have the following organizations as members of the US Water Alliance:

[AECOM](#)
[Alexandria Renew Enterprises \(VA\)](#)
[Alliance for Water Efficiency](#)
[American Rivers](#)
[American Society of Civil Engineers](#)
[Arcadis](#)
[Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies](#)
[Atlantic County Utilities Authority \(NJ\)](#)
[Austin Water \(TX\)](#)
[Autodesk](#)
[Bay Area Council](#)
[Beckley Sanitary Board \(WV\)](#)
[Black & Veatch](#)
[BlueConduit](#)
[Boston Water and Sewer Commission \(MA\)](#)
[Brown and Caldwell](#)
[Buffalo Sewer Authority \(NY\)](#)
[California Water Association](#)
[Cape Fear Public Utility Authority \(NC\)](#)
[Carollo](#)
[CDM Smith](#)
[Cedar Rapids Utilities Department \(IA\)](#)
[Central Arkansas Water \(AR\)](#)
[Charlotte County Utilities \(FL\)](#)
[Charlotte Water \(NC\)](#)
[Chester Water Authority \(PA\)](#)
[City of Ashland Public Works \(OR\)](#)
[City of Atlanta Department of Watershed Management \(GA\)](#)
[City of Baltimore Department of Public Works \(MD\)](#)
[City of Bend \(OR\)](#)
[City of Bloomington \(MN\)](#)
[City of Columbus, Department of Sewerage and Drainage \(OH\)](#)
[City of Des Moines Public Works \(IA\)](#)
[City of Fort Collins/Utilities \(CO\)](#)
[City of Jackson Public Works Department \(MS\)](#)
[City of Minneapolis \(MN\)](#)
[City of Newark Department of Water and Sewer Utilities \(NJ\)](#)
[City of Richfield Public Works \(MN\)](#)
[City of Richmond Department of Public Utilities \(VA\)](#)
[Clayton County Water Authority \(GA\)](#)
[Clean Water Construction Coalition](#)
[Clean Water Services \(OR\)](#)
[Cleveland Neighborhood Progress](#)
[The Conservation Fund](#)
[Corvias/Clean Water Partnership](#)
[Cleveland Water \(OH\)](#)
[DC Water \(DC\)](#)
[DeKalb County Dept of Watershed Management \(GA\)](#)

[Denver Water \(CO\)](#)
[Detroit Water and Sewerage Department \(MI\)](#)
[DigDeep](#)
[Ductile Iron Pipe Research Association](#)
[EJ Water Cooperative](#)
[Evoqua Water Technologies](#)
[Ferguson](#)
[Freshwater](#)
[GHD](#)
[Golf Course Superintendents Association of America](#)
[Greater Cincinnati Water Works \(OH\)](#)
[Greeley & Hansen, A TYLin Company](#)
[Green Infrastructure Leadership Exchange](#)
[Greenprint Partners](#)
[Grundfos](#)
[Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority \(TX\)](#)
[Hampton Roads Sanitation District \(VA\)](#)
[Hazen and Sawyer](#)
[HDR](#)
[Houston Public Works \(TX\)](#)
[Howard County Department of Public Works \(MD\)](#)
[HydroDigital](#)
[The IAPMO Group](#)
[Independence Water Pollution Control Department \(MO\)](#)
[Inland Empire Utilities Agency \(CA\)](#)
[International Union of Painters and Allied Trades](#)
[Iowa Agriculture Water Alliance](#)
[Iowa Soybean Association](#)
[Jacobs](#)
[Johnson County Public Works & Infrastructure \(KS\)](#)
[KC Water \(MO\)](#)
[Kennedy/Jenks Consultants](#)
[Laborers' International Union of North America](#)
[Los Angeles Department of Water and Power \(CA\)](#)
[Louisville/Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District \(KY\)](#)
[Louisville Water Company \(KY\)](#)
[Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District \(WI\)](#)
[Madison Water Utility \(WI\)](#)
[Marana Water \(AZ\)](#)
[Metro Water Recovery \(CO\)](#)
[Metropolitan Council \(MN\)](#)
[Metropolitan Water District of Southern California \(CA\)](#)
[Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago \(IL\)](#)
[Miami Conservancy District \(OH\)](#)
[Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department \(FL\)](#)
[Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District \(WI\)](#)
[Milwaukee Water Works \(WI\)](#)
[Moonshot Missions](#)
[National Association of Clean Water Agencies](#)
[National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association](#)
[National Rural Water Association](#)
[National Wildlife Federation](#)
[Natural Resources Defense Council](#)
[The Nature Conservancy](#)
[New Braunfels Utilities \(TX\)](#)
[New Jersey Future](#)
[NEW Water \(WI\)](#)
[New York City Department of Environmental Protection \(NY\)](#)
[Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District \(OH\)](#)
[Orange Water and Sewer Authority \(NC\)](#)
[Pacific Institute](#)
[Parametrix](#)
[Philadelphia Water Department \(PA\)](#)
[Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority \(PA\)](#)
[PolicyLink](#)
[Prince William County Service Authority \(VA\)](#)
[Promise](#)
[Raftelis](#)
[Raleigh Public Utilities \(NC\)](#)
[River Network](#)
[Rural Community Assistance Partnership](#)
[Saint Paul Regional Water Services \(MN\)](#)
[San Antonio Water System \(TX\)](#)
[San Francisco Public Utilities Commission \(CA\)](#)
[Seattle Public Utilities \(WA\)](#)
[Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans \(LA\)](#)
[Soil and Water Conservation Society](#)
[Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project](#)
[Stantec](#)
[Tetra Tech, Inc.](#)
[Town of Cary \(NC\)](#)
[Town of Maysville \(NC\)](#)
[Tucson Water \(AZ\)](#)
[Vallecitos Water District \(CA\)](#)
[Valley Water \(CA\)](#)
[Virridy](#)
[Wake County \(NC\)](#)
[Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission \(MD\)](#)
[Water Collaborative Delivery Association](#)
[Water Professionals International](#)
[Water Research Foundation](#)
[WaterNow Alliance](#)
[Xylem](#)

Land and Water Acknowledgement



The US Water Alliance respectfully acknowledges that One Water Summit is taking place on the ancestral lands and territories of Indigenous peoples. For generations, Indigenous peoples and their lands have been displaced as a result of genocide, colonization, and forced relocation. Today, Arizona is home to 22 federally recognized tribes, with Tucson being home to the O’odham and the Yaqui peoples.

We also acknowledge the waters of this area and their significance to the past, present, and future of all communities here. The Santa Cruz River, the Avra Valley Aquifer, and all water sources that make up the watersheds of this area are important to our collective future.

This acknowledgement is only a small step in honoring the land, water, and cultures we are surrounded by. The US Water Alliance encourages attendees to carry this acknowledgement throughout their time here at Summit and their ongoing work, as well as to read the list [on our website](#) of suggested local or regional organizations to support.

Community Guidelines for One Water Summit



At One Water Summit, Alliance staff, members, and partners aim to create a space that centers learning, collaboration, and constructive dialogue to advance our shared goal of a One Water future for all. The complex topics presented at Summit can lead to conversations that may be difficult or uncomfortable. These Community Guidelines help identify ways that we can uphold a respectful culture and engage more mindfully.

- **Be open and respectful.** Seek first to understand and give full consideration to new ideas, approaches, and creative processes.
- **Be present.** Listen deeply and give your full attention.
- **Speak from your own experience.** Use “I” statements and resist expressing assumptions about the experience of others or asking others to speak on behalf of a group.
- **Respect all kinds of knowledge.** Value the full spectrum of knowledge in attendance—from personal lived experience to artistic approaches and technical expertise.
- **Be conscious of intent vs. impact.** The things we say or do may have a negative impact on others, despite our intent. Be accountable for the impact of your actions and words.
- **Be aware of power dynamics.** Notice how you might be unconsciously using your power or privilege and hold awareness of histories of injustice.
- **Avoid jargon, acronyms, and industry language.** Use inclusive language that is accessible to people with varying sector knowledge.

Agenda at a Glance



Tuesday, November 14

Time	Event	Location
7:00am – 4:00pm	Registration Open Arizona Registration Desk	between Arizona and Tucson Ballrooms
7:15am – 8:15am	Networking Breakfast	Arizona Foyer and Ania Terrace
8:15am – 8:30am	One Water Delegations: Welcome <i>Open to all Summit attendees.</i>	Arizona Ballroom 6-7
8:30am – 9:45am	One Water Delegations: Peer Exchanges, Round One <i>Open to all Summit attendees.</i>	
	Tapping into Distributed One Water Solutions (hosted by the Tap into Resilience Delegation)	Tucson Salons A-D
	Navigating Urban and Rural Conservation Partnerships (hosted by the Iowa Delegation and the Soil and Water Conservation Delegation)	Tucson Salons G-J
	Learning from Multiple Perspectives on Emerging and Innovative Approaches to Affordability (hosted by the Water Affordability Innovations Delegation)	Tucson Salon E
	Achieving Climate Commitments through Capital Investment (hosted by the One Water Climate Action Delegation)	Tucson Salon F
	From Pipes to People: Investing in Water Leaders (hosted by the Spring Point Partners Delta Program Delegation)	Arizona Salons 1-4
	Social Equity Considerations for Water Reuse Implementation (hosted by the Advancing Social Equity through Water Reuse Delegation)	Arizona Salons 8-11
9:45am – 10:15am	Break	
10:15am – 11:30am	One Water Delegations: Peer Exchanges, Round Two <i>Open to all Summit attendees.</i>	
	Advancing Utility Leadership on Equity and Affordability (hosted by CWSC's Water Utility Leadership Fellows Delegation)	Tucson Salons A-D
	Unlocking the Potential of GSI in Urban Parks (hosted by the Parks and GSI Initiative Delegation)	Tucson Salons G-J
	Engaging at the State Level for One Water Action (hosted by the New Jersey Delegation)	Tucson Salon E

	EPA Office of Water—Water Technical Assistance for Your Community (hosted by the EPA Office of Water Delegation)	Tucson Salon F
	Plumbers Perspective: Replacing Lead Service Lines and Community-Driven Workforce Development (hosted by the SRF Advocates Forum Delegation)	Arizona Salons 1–4
	Shifting Narratives for a One Water Future (hosted by the Water Equity and Climate Resilience (WECR) Caucus Delegation)	Arizona Salons 8–11
11:30am – 12:00pm	Break and Boxed Lunch for Learning Lab and Site Visit Attendees	Arizona Foyer and Ania Terrace
12:00pm – 3:00pm	Learning Labs <i>Space is limited and pre-registration is required.</i>	
	Fundamentals of One Water and Water Equity	Tucson Salons A–D
	Climate Action for All: Uniting Water Equity and Climate Action Strategies (presented in Partnership with the Water Utility Climate Alliance)	Tucson Salons G–J
	Consistent, Transparent, and Creative!: Equitable Community Engagement Strategies	Tucson Salon E
	A Creative Exploration of Power, Purpose, and Joy	Arizona Salons 1–4
	One Water Council Meeting	Arizona Salon 12
12:00pm – 3:30pm	Site Visits <i>Space is limited and pre-registration is required. Transportation will be provided. Attendees should meet at Starr Circle 15 minutes before scheduled departure time.</i>	
	Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum	
	Santa Cruz River Restoration	
	Tumamoc Hill Hike	
	SHARP Recycled Water Recharge Tour	
	Storm to Shade: Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) Around the City	
	Watershed Management Group’s Living Lab and Learning Center	
	Sustainable Living and Wildlife Spotting at KERP	
	San Xavier Cooperative Farm	
	University of Arizona Innovations in Reuse and Agriculture at WEST Center and CEAC	
5:00pm – 8:00pm	US Water Prize Ceremony and Celebratory Reception	Arizona Ballroom, Ania Terrace

Wednesday, November 15

Time	Event	Location
7:15am – 8:00am	Morning Yoga	Ania Lawn
7:30am – 4:00pm	Registration Open Arizona Registration Desk	between Arizona and Tucson Ballrooms
7:30am – 8:30am	Continental Breakfast and Networking	Arizona Foyer and Ania Terrace
8:30am – 9:15am	Welcome	Arizona Grand Ballroom
9:15am – 10:15am	Opening Plenary Tucson's Water Story	Arizona Grand Ballroom
10:15am – 10:30am	Break	
10:30am – 12:00pm	Workshop Series 1 <i>Open to all Summit attendees.</i>	
	Water and Sanitation Access in the United States	Tucson Salons A–B
	Advances in the Art of One Water and the State of the One Water Field	Tucson Salons C–D
	People Power and Water Workforce Innovations	Tucson Salon E
	Advancing Net Zero: The Water Sector's Role in Climate Mitigation	Tucson Salon F
	Realizing Water Affordability and Access through Innovation and a Common Good Agenda	Tucson Salons G–J
12:00pm – 1:15pm	Lunch Plenary A Keynote Address and Fireside Chat with Radhika Fox A Keynote Address from Brenda Mallory	Arizona Grand Ballroom
1:15pm – 1:30pm	Break	

1:30pm – 3:00pm

Workshop Series 2

Open to all Summit attendees.

Futurist Dreams for One Water Transformation	Tucson Salons A–B
One Water Toolbox: Artist Residencies and Cross-Sector Collaboration	Tucson Salons C–D
Ripples to Waves: Regional Workforce Collaboratives	Tucson Salon E
From Message to Movement: Building Impactful Water Campaigns	Tucson Salon F
Financing and Structuring the Delivery of One Water	Tucson Salons G–J

3:00pm – 3:15pm

Break

3:15pm – 4:45pm

Workshop Series 3

Open to all Summit attendees.

Unlocking the Potential of Water and Public Health Partnerships	Tucson Salons A–B
Nourishing Soil, Stewarding Water: Agricultural Practices to Build Resiliency	Tucson Salons C–D
Climate Adaptation, Just Resilience, and Community Participation	Tucson Salon E
Transformative Funding and the Future of TA: Government, Philanthropy, and Innovative Institutions	Tucson Salon F
Water’s Role in Democracy, Civil Cohesion, and Justice	Tucson Salons G–J

5:00pm – 6:30pm

Networking Reception

Ania Terrace and Ania Lawn

Thursday, November 16

Time	Event	Location
7:15am – 8:00am	Morning Yoga	Ania Lawn
7:30am – 9:30am	Registration Open Arizona Registration Desk	between Arizona and Tucson Ballrooms
8:00am – 9:00am	Continental Breakfast and Networking	Arizona Foyer and Ania Terrace
9:00am – 10:15am	Morning Plenary The Colorado River: Pathways to a One Water Future	Arizona Grand Ballroom
10:15am – 10:30am	Break	
10:30am – 12:00pm	Workshop Series 4 <i>Open to all Summit attendees.</i>	
	Deeper Dive: Southwest One Water Management	Tucson Salons A–B
	Multi-Scale Decentralization and the Path to One Water	Tucson Salons C–D
	Unifying Urban and Rural Interests through Water	Tucson Salon E
	Stormwater and Parks: A Deluge of Benefits	Tucson Salon F
	Re-Searching & Re-Membering Indigenous Kinships with Land and Life through Water Relations	Tucson Salons G–J
12:00pm – 1:30pm	Closing Plenary and Luncheon Celebration Bringing it Home: One Water Commitments to Action	Arizona Grand Ballroom
1:30pm	Adjourn	

Tuesday, November 14



7:00am – 4:00pm

Registration Open

Arizona Registration Desk (between the Arizona and Tucson Ballrooms)

7:15am – 8:15am

Networking Breakfast

Arizona Foyer and Ania Terrace

8:15am – 8:30am

One Water Delegations: Welcome

Arizona Ballroom 6-7

Welcome by **Mami Hara**, CEO, US Water Alliance, and **Scott Berry**, Director of Policy and Government Affairs, US Water Alliance. **Open to all Summit attendees.**

8:30am – 11:30am

One Water Delegations Peer Exchanges

The US Water Alliance dedicates the morning of Tuesday, November 14, to a series of strategic peer-to-peer dialogues inspired by our One Water Delegations. These conversations are designed by and for the One Water delegates. **Open to all Summit attendees.**

8:30am – 9:45am

One Water Delegations: Peer Exchanges, Round One

Tapping into Distributed One Water Solutions

Hosted by the Tap into Resilience Delegation

Tucson Salons A-D

The Tap into Resilience Peer Exchange will foster discussion about distributed water infrastructure and water data as a key One Water strategy. The peer exchange will be 75 minutes and structured as a World Café to foster dialogue. The Tap into Resilience Delegation invites participants to engage on ideas and bring their questions about:

- The water management and multiple co-benefits of distributed infrastructure, including how localized strategies build resilience to climate change and offer equitable and affordable solutions;
- Distributed infrastructure as a long-term investment that should be financed alongside centralized systems with capital dollars;
- Making the case for distributed strategies to local leaders and policymakers about how distributed infrastructure strategies implemented via partnerships between water utilities and community groups can help strengthen public trust in local water systems and add capacity;
- Opportunities to expand access to equitable and affordable distributed systems in communities that stand to benefit the most from these investments; and
- Implementing and maintaining findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable (FAIR) water data systems to support equitable and affordable distributed infrastructure.

WaterNow Alliance and the Tap into Resilience Delegates will host the Peer Exchange to accelerate adoption of distributed strategies and FAIR water data systems as core strategies to transform how communities engage with water and advance a One Water future.

Navigating Urban and Rural Conservation Partnerships

Hosted by the Iowa Delegation and the Soil and Water Conservation Delegation

Tucson Salons G-J

With the influx in conservation funding in the past few years, the number of large-scale partnerships has also skyrocketed. These partnerships provide opportunities for urban and rural communities to make a collective effort to improve water quality and soil health. While these projects are crucial to the long-term preservation of our natural resources, they are also incredibly complex. This peer exchange will encourage discussion on what is going well in these partnerships and what could be improved. It will allow water quality stakeholders from across the country and many disciplines to share their experiences in these partnerships and brainstorm solutions to managing and implementing these conservation programs. If you're involved in a partnership project, this exchange is for you. If you're not in a partnership, this is also for you as we'll discuss initiating and leading successful collaboration!

Learning from Multiple Perspectives on Emerging and Innovative Approaches to Affordability

Hosted by the Water Affordability Innovations Delegation

Tucson Salon E

The goal of this peer exchange is to learn from attendees about various approaches to affordability being tested by water and wastewater utilities and assess what is working, what is not working, and why. The four affordability topics that we will focus on include measuring program outcomes, improving communication and outreach efforts, exploring the role of conservation and efficiency in affordability initiatives, and gaining support from key local constituencies. In this peer exchange session, the team leading the Water Affordability Innovations Delegation will seek to initiate discussion on what has been successful, what has not, and other factors influencing utility decision-making and customer experiences within the four key focus areas. The session will be divided between large-group discussion, smaller group conversations, and reflection and feedback time based on provided prompts. Tools will be provided for attendees to offer written responses as well. Attendees can share personal experiences, outcomes, lessons learned, and creative suggestions for new approaches to

solving the affordability challenges. By the end, everyone should gain more insight into an array of innovative approaches being used to tackle affordability challenges across utilities in a variety of geographies through a holistic lens of the utility, community, and customer.

Achieving Climate Commitments through Capital Investment

Hosted by the One Water Climate Action Delegation

Tucson Salon F

The climate crisis threatens water supplies, infrastructure, and vital services—especially impacting historically underserved communities. Water utilities are faced with striking a balance between adapting to these challenges while managing complex financial situations. Many utilities are making commitments and forming climate plans to create resilient and equitable infrastructure while reducing climate pollution. An often overlooked yet crucial aspect of these plans is the capital planning process. Decisions made today about capital investments will determine the carbon intensity of operations and the resilience of our infrastructure for decades to come. It's essential to equip utility decision-makers with the right information, training, and tools, which may require new tools and a departure from past practices. In this peer exchange, we will address leading strategies, both in the US and globally, to evaluate climate readiness. The aim is to ensure capital investments contribute to community resilience and consistent services as climate change accelerates.

From Pipes to People: Investing in Water Leaders

Hosted by Spring Point Partners Delta Delegation

Arizona Salons 1-4

As the water sector faces formidable challenges ranging from local issues like pollution and aging systems to global threats like climate change and environmental injustice, cultivating a new generation of leaders is critical. Behind the infrastructure of our water and wastewater systems is the "human infrastructure"—the people that make the pipes and pumps work. Alongside the recent historic federal investment in water infrastructure, there must be a corresponding investment in the water workforce. To navigate these challenges, we require diverse experiences and fresh perspectives to guide water forward. Join this peer

exchange, hosted by the Spring Point Partners Delta Delegation, to discuss human capital as the essential investment that shapes the sustainability and resilience of the US water sector. Collectively, the Delta partners are dedicated to nurturing emerging leaders within the public sector. Our aim is to ensure that individuals who best represent and understand the communities they serve lead our water, wastewater, and stormwater systems. The Delta partners invest in leaders who bring real-life experience and community voices to the forefront. These leaders are equipped with the tools needed to elevate their utilities to new levels through amplification, skill development, peer learning, and robust support networks. The session will commence with rapid-fire presentations from each Delta partner, shedding light on their efforts to support emerging leaders and how the One Water community can contribute. The majority of our time will be devoted to small table conversations where participants can offer insights on cultivating leaders. This encompasses aspects such as identification, training, support, and recognition. We wholeheartedly invite individuals from all sectors to join this peer discussion and contribute to our collective mission of supporting the next generation of water leaders.

Social Equity Considerations for Water Reuse Implementation

Hosted by the Advancing Social Equity through Water Reuse Delegation

Arizona Salons 8-11

AECOM and the Pacific Institute will be hosting a dialogue focused on the social impacts of water reuse. Implementing water reuse projects provides a myriad of social, environmental, and economic benefits to a community. However, social equity outcomes and impacts vary with each community. Considering community-specific factors and characteristics is crucial in advancing social equity through water reuse. Join us and share from your community's perspective the community-specific factors and aspects that we need to consider for elevating social equity as one of the criteria when considering water reuse implementation.

9:45am – 10:15am

Break

10:15am – 11:30am

One Water Delegations: Peer Exchanges, Round Two

Advancing Utility Leadership on Equity and Affordability

Hosted by CWSC's Water Utility Leadership Fellows Delegation

Tucson Salons A-D

Utilities, communities, and local governments face a challenge: providing safe, reliable, and resilient water and sanitation in the face of aging infrastructure and workforces, climate change, expanding costs, and a growing affordability and financial crisis. Utilities must balance all these factors while ensuring their services are affordable and available to everyone, particularly those who are already struggling to make ends meet. The inaugural cohort of the Center for Water Security and Cooperation's Water Utility Leadership Fellows have spent the year wrestling with these challenges, learning more about the needs and hardships of their communities and developing solutions to help their utility better address water access and affordability. This dialogue creates an opportunity for the Fellows to discuss what they have learned, what advancing water access means to them, and how they are advancing equitable water access in their water access and affordability policies. They will also discuss what they have learned about shifting water affordability and access from a burdensome challenge to a prioritized opportunity.

Unlocking the Potential of GSI in Urban Parks

Hosted by the Parks and GSI Initiative
Delegation

Tucson Salons G-J

This peer exchange will introduce the Parks and Green Stormwater Infrastructure Initiative, a new collaboration between the City Parks Alliance, the US Water Alliance, and the Green Infrastructure Leadership Exchange. Parks and water agency participants from a cohort of cities in this program are looking to share experiences and ideas about successes and overcoming barriers to broader collaboration on developing green stormwater infrastructure in urban parks, harnessing the benefits it can bring for new green spaces, climate resilience, public health, and other policy goals. Join this dialogue to learn about our goals and share your own story, get inspired about what you could do in your own community, and/or offer advice about how the program could be valuable to other communities looking to more systematically approach collaboration between these two public infrastructure sectors.

Engaging at the State Level for One Water Action

Hosted by the New Jersey Delegation

Tucson Salon E

One Water solutions often need support or collaboration from state governments. State-level involvement can take the form of legislation, regulatory changes, agency coordination, public outreach, and other forms of support. Join us for a discussion of how delegations and various types of organizations approach their relationship-building and engagement with state policymakers. The peer exchange will highlight lessons learned and examples of effective engagement across a range of topical priorities relevant to your One Water delegation's work.

EPA Office of Water—Water Technical Assistance for Your Community

Hosted by the EPA Office of Water Delegation

Tucson Salon F

The EPA Office of Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA) program provides a wide range of services to address drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater challenges. WaterTA supports communities to identify water challenges, develop plans, build capacity, and develop application materials to access water infrastructure funding, including the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law's \$50 billion in new funding—the largest federal investment in water in the history of our nation. If your community is facing water infrastructure challenges and could benefit from support, we encourage you to meet the EPA Office of Water delegation to learn more about the programs. This session will be informal, so feel free to drop in based on your schedule to learn more!

Plumbers Perspective: Replacing Lead Service Lines and Community-Driven Workforce Development

Hosted by the SRF Advocates Forum in partnership with the BlueGreen Alliance

Arizona Salons 1-4

Labor leaders from across the US will highlight the importance of workforce development and engagement of communities in the full life cycle of lead service line replacement (LSLR). Federal and state policies to inventory lead service lines and expedite replacement paired with historic federal investment in the State Revolving Fund (SRF) program means states and municipalities have an opportunity to achieve 100 percent lead-free water infrastructure with community-driven programs. A common challenge for expedited LSLR in the Midwest and East Coast has been building a trained, and for some trades certified, workforce to meet this moment. A panel of labor leaders will engage participants in a dialogue about effective practices and policies that have built trust and capacity in communities facing this challenge. Practices that center low-income populations and Communities of Color most impacted by lead are essential. From local policies supporting community hires, to apprenticeship programs, to fair hiring and contractor procurement practices—involving the community has been integral to effective LSLR. This session will also draw corollaries to other areas of water infrastructure where investment in local capacity-building is a common thread.

Shifting Narratives for a One Water Future

Hosted by the Water Equity and Climate Resilience (WECR) Caucus Delegation

Arizona Salons 8-11

The WECR Caucus is cultivating a national water equity ecosystem to advance anti-racist water systems and a resilient future. Facts are not enough to persuade people to take action, and science alone does not lead to equitable outcomes. We must build a culture within the water sector that works from these values. WECR members are working to create, communicate, and advance new ways to interpret our reality while replacing older harmful ones. This narrative change work is often overlooked as a critical innovation within the One Water movement. Narrative change impacts how we make sense of our relationships with ourselves, others, and the broader world, as well as how we view power (who can exercise it, how, and for what purpose). This session will highlight stories such as:

- In Detroit, where water justice leaders and artists are shifting narratives around water affordability to influence state and national policies.
- On Tongva Land (LA) in California, where water protectors are sharing thousands of years of water management expertise, breaking down dominant ideas to move from a regional culture that sees water as a commodity to one that cares for it.
- Along the Texas Gulf Coast, where previously untold stories of resilient peoples and waters are reshaping an intersectional approach to water challenges. Building on these efforts, dialogue participants will activate water and climate narratives that push us toward an equitable and sustainable water future.

11:30am – 12:00pm

Break and Boxed Lunch for Learning Lab and Site Visit Attendees

Arizona Foyer and Ania Terrace

12:00pm – 3:00pm

Learning Labs

One Water Summit 2023 offers a series of skill-building learning labs that are designed to develop practical knowledge and foster dialogue on pressing issues in the water sector. **Space is limited and pre-registration is required.**

Fundamentals of One Water and Water Equity

Tucson Salons A-D

One Water is the guiding beacon of the US Water Alliance and an approach we strive to uphold in the water sector. But what is One Water? Is it an approach? A set of principles? A philosophy? An identity? All of the above? And how are water equity and racial equity essential, core concepts to One Water? Whether you are new to the concept of One Water, learning how to take the idea back home, or a veteran practitioner who knows what One Water is but hasn't had to explain it in a while, this session is for you. Participants will hear from One Water and water equity leaders and practitioners about the ideas and concepts behind each, strategies for effectively explaining One Water and water equity to different audiences, and how to become a One Water and water equity champion.

Speakers:

- **Ghassan Korban**, Executive Director, Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans
- **Clare Lindahl**, CEO, Soil and Water Conservation Society
- **Yvonne McCaskill**, Coordinator, Century City Triangle Neighborhood Association
- **Apera Nwora**, Director of Government Affairs and Public Policy, DC Water

Climate Action for All: Uniting Water Equity and Climate Action Strategies—Presented in Partnership with the Water Utility Climate Alliance

Tucson Salons G-J

Water and wastewater utilities have a critical role as anchor institutions in their communities by centering equity and climate resiliency in all aspects of their water management strategies. The US Water Alliance and the Water Utility Climate Alliance are partnering to bridge the gaps between our immense water challenges, opportunities to advance water equity, and the need for urgent but thoughtful adaptation, resilience, and mitigation strategies. Equity in climate action is especially important, as climate impacts disproportionately affect low-income people and Black, Indigenous, and Communities of Color, affecting their health, well-being, and ability to sustain thriving communities. Participants of this Learning Lab will learn about successful strategies to advance equity in climate action from utilities, community partners, and experts from the sector.

Speakers:

- **Dr. Angela Chalk**, Founder and Executive Director, Healthy Community Services
- **Julia Kumari Drapkin**, CEO and Founder, ISeeChange
- **Nicole Goddard**, Sustainability Analyst, City of Raleigh, NC
- **Bobby Humes**, Lead Consultant/CEO, BH Consultancy
- **George Jones, Jr.**, Executive Director, Partners for Environmental Justice
- **Erich Pacheco**, Equity and Policy Manager, Portland Water Bureau
- **Jazmin Ricks**, Senior Research and Community Program Manager, The Water Center at Penn
- **Julia Rockwell**, Manager, Climate Change Adaptation Program, Philadelphia Water Department

Consistent, Transparent, and Creative!: Equitable Community Engagement Strategies

Tucson Salon E

Meaningful community engagement for water infrastructure and resource planning is a cornerstone of One Water and an integral step toward water equity. To practice community engagement well, we must listen and move at the speed of trust. Participatory processes that engage the voices of those who are most impacted can build trust and empower residents to actively participate in decision-making and community visioning. Communities that see their local institutions as trustworthy, legitimate, and credible are often more willing to work collaboratively with those institutions to achieve collective goals. This Learning Lab will focus on developing practical skills and strategies to facilitate equitable community engagement through cross-sector collaboration. We will also explore how creative interventions and engagement through the arts can create space for healing, connection, and more authentic interactions than some traditional communication channels provide. Learn how to tailor these techniques to unique community contexts from utility and community leaders and other experienced cross-sector practitioners. We invite everyone to join us for this engaging and hands-on session—no matter your skill level, background, or sector!

Speakers:

- **Jose Richard Aviles**, Independent Artist
- **Aron Chang**, Co-Lead, Water Leaders Institute/Civic Studio
- **Maura Jarvis**, Program Manager, US Water Alliance
- **Meishka Mitchell**, President and CEO, Emerald Cities Collaborative
- **Mary Morton**, Senior Program Manager, US Water Alliance
- **Erica Rawles**, Arts and Culture Program Manager, US Water Alliance

A Creative Exploration of Power, Purpose, and Joy

Arizona Salons 1-4

The artistic process is a valuable methodology to help embrace uncertainty and move with intention through moments of transformation and change. A Creative Exploration of Power, Purpose, and Joy is a seven-stage methodology developed by former US Water Alliance Artist-in-Residence Benny Starr during his 2020–2022 residency. Drawing from Benny's artistic process to reconnect, reflect, and (re)discover power, purpose, and joy, each stage of this methodology is explicitly designed to bring us into the critical necessity of artistic and creative practices in building a just and equitable world. The methodology is based on elements of the artistic process that are particularly relevant to a One Water approach through engaging with artistic references and media, considering context and history, participating in guided reflection, and storytelling. This session will guide participants (who may or may not identify as creatives or artists) to recognize the art and transformational capacity in what they do and plan to apply it. This is a collaborative session that taps into and is activated by each participant's creativity. No prior experience with arts and culture is necessary and all creative and artistic thinking is welcomed.

Speaker: Benny Starr, Creative Strategist and 2020–2022 Artist-in-Residence, US Water Alliance

One Water Council Meeting

Arizona Salon 12

Through the One Water Council, the US Water Alliance aims to build, strengthen, and activate a network of innovative leaders who are driving One Water across the country. The One Water Council fosters peer exchange and knowledge building among US Water Alliance members, provides advice and serves as a sounding board on Alliance programming and strategic direction, and produces practical One Water tools and products that are informed by the expertise and innovation of Council members. Through monthly meetings, the Council offers a valuable opportunity to talk candidly with leaders outside the usual sphere of influence and work together to solve today's most difficult water issues. During this annual Council planning and strategy session, we will dive into big trends shaping One Water, the impacts One Water has on individual members' work and joint opportunities for the sector, and guide key work and priorities for the Council and the Alliance over the next year. **This is a closed session for US Water Alliance One Water Council members only.**

12:00pm – 3:30pm

Site Visits

One Water Summit 2023 offers a series of site visits that offer an in-depth view into the challenges, opportunities, progress, and partnerships underway in Tucson, AZ. Site visit transportation leaves from the JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort during designated times. **Space is limited and pre-registration is required. Transportation will be provided. Attendees should meet at Starr Circle 15 minutes before the scheduled departure time.**

Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum

The mission of the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum is to inspire people to live in harmony with the natural world by fostering love, appreciation, and understanding of the Sonoran Desert. Founded in 1952, the Desert Museum is widely recognized throughout the world as a model institution for innovative presentation and interpretation of native plants and animals featured together in ecological exhibits. Regularly listed as one of the top ten zoological parks in the world, the 98-acre Desert Museum is a fusion experience of a zoo, botanical garden, natural history museum, and aquarium. Enjoy a self-guided experience of one of the country's top museums and one of Tucson's must-see attractions. **This site visit requires an additional fee.**

Santa Cruz River Restoration

In partnership with the Sonoran Institute and Tucson Water, this guided tour will highlight a few key places along the Santa Cruz River. The initial stop will be the Sweetwater Wetlands, one of the most important functional, environmental, and educational components of the City of Tucson's reclaimed water system. The facility was originally constructed in 1996 to handle backwash filter water from the reclaimed water plant. Following a walk downstream to the Agua Nueva outfall, the group will travel to the Santa Cruz River Heritage Project outfall, where up to 2.8 million gallons of treated, recycled water is added to the river every day. This added water brings perennial flow to this portion of the river, fostering abundant native vegetation and wildlife along with recreational and economic opportunities.

Tumamoc Hill Hike

Tumamoc Hill, or *Cemamagi Du'ag* (Horned Lizard Mountain), is of prominent cultural and sacred significance to the Tohono O'odham Nation and other Indigenous peoples. A cultural site stretching back over 4,000 years, this National Historic Landmark offers a great hike with spectacular views of the city and surrounding area. Hundreds walk the three-mile hike (with approximately 700 feet rise in elevation) every day and enjoy the self-guided tour of important historical and cultural landmarks along the way.

SHARP Recycled Water Recharge Tour

In partnership with Tucson Water, participants will visit Tucson's newest recycled water recharge facility: the Southeast Houghton Area Recharge Project, or SHARP. Designed with the One Water philosophy in mind, SHARP incorporates the community, art, and equity with the three recharge basins in the area. SHARP was also designed in cooperation with a neighboring homebuilder and the local mountain biking community to create a public amenity. Neighbors contributed to the new tile art mural by painting tiles at their local community center. Informational panels describing the project and the One Water philosophy are presented in both English and Spanish.

Storm to Shade: Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) Around the City

Drawing upon the knowledge and practices of the Indigenous peoples who have inhabited the Tucson region for millennia, present-day Tucsonans have been capturing and reusing stormwater for beneficial use for over two decades, transforming communities and shaping the policies and practices we see in place today. This site visit will see places that illuminate this living history of stormwater management—from ancient irrigation technologies and “pre-legal” grassroots actions to the City of Tucson's latest green stormwater infrastructure projects. We'll visit neighborhoods, parks, schools, and cultural landmarks to see how GSI has shaped Tucson over time and is being embraced as a tool to create climate resilience for the future.

Watershed Management Group's Living Lab and Learning Center

The Living Lab is the headquarters of the Watershed Management Group (WGM), which develops community-based solutions focused on providing people with the knowledge, skills, and resources for sustainable livelihoods. Located in the heart of Tucson, WGM's Living Lab is a community education resource for regenerative desert living. Drink filtered rainwater captured on site and see how the Living Lab is hydro-local, valuing and using local water resources like rainwater, stormwater, and greywater to meet all water needs on campus. Attendees will take a guided tour of water harvesting features, native and edible gardens, and zero-waste systems including composting toilets. Participate in hands-on activities including a mini “Build Your Own Basin (BYOB)” workshop and learning how to create a home water budget based on sustainable and local water supplies.

Sustainable Living and Wildlife Spotting at KERP

Enjoy a guided tour of the Kino Environmental Restoration Project (KERP) in partnership with the Tucson Audubon Society and Pima County Flood Control District. This ecosystem restoration project is an excellent example of a local-federal partnership. In 2001, the US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and Pima County transformed a 1960's-era drainageway detention basin into an aesthetically pleasing stormwater harvesting facility that established and sustains 50 acres of open water and riparian habitat amenities for resident and migratory wildlife. The 121-acre reconfigured basin retains the original flood control benefits and provides an average of 100-acre-feet of excess stormwater annually to offset municipal irrigation use. A 2.2-mile-long perimeter recreational path around the basin offers beautiful vistas and great birding opportunities. According to the Corps, this project “takes an existing mud flat in an arid area and creates aesthetic landscapes, recreation features, flood control, and is a prototype for water harvesting. It is technically sophisticated while appearing natural.”

San Xavier Cooperative Farm

Participants will have the opportunity to explore and discover the San Xavier Co-op Farm and its rich history during this site tour. Accompanied by farm manager Duran Andrews, attendees will tour the farm, delving into its day-to-day operations and historical background. Andrews will also shed light on the farm's future objectives, considering factors such as water availability and climate challenges. This tour aims to show how the farm intends to evolve and persevere, following in the footsteps of the many generations of Tohono O'odham who have thrived in similar conditions before them. Please keep in mind this is a working farm and it will be hot at times during this session. Some parts will take place outside, so please bring a water container (it can be filled or refilled on site and ice is available). Hats and bug spray are also recommended to be as comfortable as possible when on site. A cool-down area will also be available if needed. Safety first!

University of Arizona Innovations in Reuse and Agriculture at WEST Center and CEAC

The Water and Energy Sustainable Technology (WEST) Center is the University of Arizona's leading facility in the development of new technologies that deal with water scarcity/reuse and is the home of the newly-formed Water Resiliency and Self-Sufficiency in the Arid Southwest program led by associate professor Andrea Achilli. The WEST Center brings together microbiologists and engineers and builds partnerships with utilities and private industry to address current and evolving national and global water issues. The Controlled Environment Agriculture Center (CEAC) is a multidisciplinary education, research, outreach, and extension program on controlled environment agriculture such as greenhouses, vertical farms, and growth chambers. At CEAC, participants will see the work of Indigeponics to promote sustainable food production and bridge the gap between controlled environment agriculture and Indigenous communities by supporting both traditional growing methods and hydroponic growing systems.

5:00pm – 8:00pm

US Water Prize Ceremony and Celebratory Reception

Arizona Grand Ballroom, Ania Terrace

Awarded on an annual basis, the US Water Prize celebrates outstanding achievements in the advancement of sustainable, integrated, and inclusive solutions to our nation's water challenges. It is the preeminent national recognition program for exemplary efforts to secure a One Water future for all. **Host: Renée Willette**, Chief Strategy Officer, US Water Alliance

Wednesday, November 15



7:15am – 8:00am

Morning Yoga

Ania Lawn

Join us with instructor-led yoga to greet the morning. There is space for 100 participants, which will be granted on a first come, first served basis. Yoga mats will be provided (but participants may bring their own if they prefer).

7:30am – 4:00pm

Registration Open

Arizona Registration Desk (between the Arizona and Tucson Ballrooms)

7:30am – 8:30am

Continental Breakfast and Networking

Arizona Foyer and Ania Terrace

8:30am – 9:15am

Welcome

Arizona Grand Ballroom

Speakers:

- **Yvonne Forrest**, Director, Houston Water and Chair, US Water Alliance Board of Directors
- **Mami Hara**, CEO, US Water Alliance
- **The Hon. Austin Nunez**, Chairman, San Xavier District of the Tohono O'odham Nation
- **The Hon. Regina Romero**, Mayor, City of Tucson

9:15am – 10:15am

Opening Plenary

Arizona Grand Ballroom

Tucson's Water Story

Like many places, the story of what is now Tucson is a story of its people. From the first Indigenous peoples to settle in the area thousands of years ago to Spanish and Mexican settlers and westward expanding American colonists, Tucson is now a unique and modern metropolis. The city's desert geography coupled with a changing climate are fueling critical water scarcity and urban heat island challenges. Our opening plenary will explore how water, innovation, and equity shape and define our host city. Tucson's water story brings a multitude of different perspectives and stories of water access, environmental justice, climate change, infrastructure, innovation, environmental protection, economic development, resilience, and more. Hear from Tucson leaders on water's crucial role in the region and learn lessons from Tucson's water journey to take back to your community.

Moderator: Dr. Sharon Megdal, Director, Water Resources Research Center at the University of Arizona

Speakers:

- **Dr. Karletta Chief**, Director, Indigenous Resilience Center at the University of Arizona
- **The Hon. Austin Nunez**, Chairman, San Xavier District of the Tohono O'odham Nation
- **Alexandra Jimenez**, Artist, Alexclamations
- **John Kmiec**, Director, Tucson Water
- **The Hon. Regina Romero**, Mayor, City of Tucson

10:15am – 10:30am

Break

Workshop Series 1

Water and Sanitation Access in the United States

Tucson Salons A-B

More than two million people in the US still lack access to running water and indoor plumbing. Race and historic disenfranchisement are primary indicators of who will experience this reality, and the COVID-19 pandemic widened these disparities. People experiencing this lack of access can be in smaller, more remote communities or can be parts of larger urban communities that have uneven water systems. Water equity champions across the country have developed practical, cross-sector solutions to closing this access gap. This session will feature water leaders discussing what we can learn from international and national water and sanitation (WASH) efforts and how we can build a domestic WASH community of practice.

Moderator: Morgan Shimabuku, Senior Researcher, Pacific Institute

Speakers:

- **Sarah Bramley**, Chief Impact Officer, Water for People
- **Eddie George**, Project Coordinator, Appalachia Water Project, DigDeep
- **Sharon Groves**, Director, Yess! Of Charles County
- **Emma Robbins**, Founder, The Chapter House

Advances in the Art of One Water and the State of the One Water Field

Tucson Salons C-D

One Water is not a static concept but a transformative and evolving way of viewing, valuing, and managing water. One Water can change and regenerate the way we live, the opportunities we have, our environment, and our society. Water utilities play an important role, but no one “owns” One Water. We are seeing a new wave of One Water innovation and progress emerging in diverse community contexts, aiming to solve more complex water challenges. To realize a sustainable water future, the Alliance is nurturing the One Water field of practice and eventually making One Water practices the dominant approach for water management in the United States. In this session, you will take away real-world examples of how water leaders are driving progress at all scales and help co-create an audacious vision for what the One Water field can achieve over the next five years.

Moderator: Susan Moiso, Global Water Market Director, Jacobs

Speakers:

- **Mazdak Arabi**, Borland Endowed Professor of Water Resources, Colorado State University
- **Jaimie Galayda**, Project Manager, Tucson Water
- **Erik Meyers**, Vice President, Climate and Water Sustainability, The Conservation Fund
- **Inge Wiersema**, Water Resources Practice Lead, Carollo

People Power and Water Workforce Innovations

Tucson Salon E

The water sector faces an urgent need to address labor supply shortages and enhance workforce representation and belonging. As of 2016, 85 percent of the water sector was male and approximately 66 percent white. Furthermore, many utilities grapple with a growing crisis in maintaining the quantity and quality of their workforces. The imminent wave of retirements is rapidly depleting employee ranks, leaving critical positions unfilled and hindering the transfer of irreplaceable know-how to the next generation of workers. In response, water leaders are reimagining recruitment, hiring, training, and retention practices. These leaders seek to reduce barriers that have historically kept more diverse job-seekers from the field while simultaneously addressing critical staffing shortages. Hear from leaders actively reshaping utility workforces to better mirror the communities they serve by advancing diverse local employment, working to close the racial and gender income and wealth gaps, and ensuring strong staffing for essential roles. Discover strategies working for them and participate in discussions about how you can be part of this transformation.

Moderator: Paul Bishop, CEO and President, Water Professionals International

Speakers:

- **Angela Charles**, Director, Charlotte Water
- **David Gadis**, General Manager, DC Water
- **Thomas Guentner**, Director, Management and Budgeting Practice, Landforce
- **Tony Parrott**, CEO, Louisville MSD
- **Racquel Vaske**, Assistant General Manager, Saint Paul Regional Water Services

Advancing Net Zero: The Water Sector's Role in Climate Mitigation

Tucson Salon F

The impacts of climate change on the water sector are well established. Intensive storms, rising sea levels, and more frequent droughts threaten water supplies, damage infrastructure, and jeopardize essential water and sanitation services. Without urgent, collective action to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, these effects will worsen and require more complex and costly responses. With freshwater sources and water treatment and distribution accounting for up to 10% of global GHG emissions, our sector has an obligation and the opportunity to make meaningful contributions to combat climate change. In this discussion, we will explore how water sector leaders are taking action to address their organization's emissions, as well as deploying One Water approaches to support the ambitious climate goals of our communities and our financial and private sector partners.

Moderator: Sarah Diringer, Program Officer for the Water Program, Pisces Foundation

Speakers:

- **Austin Alexander**, Vice President, Sustainability and Social Impact, Xylem
- **Matt Ries**, Vice President, Strategic Leadership and Sustainability, DC Water
- **Dr. Art Umble**, Senior Vice President and Director of the Stantec Institute for Applied Science, Technology & Policy
- **Karri Ving**, Managing Principal, Business Consulting and ESG, Brown and Caldwell

Realizing Water Affordability and Access through Innovation and a Common Good Agenda

Tucson Salons G-J

With 17 percent of Americans struggling to pay their water bills, a water access gap of over two million people, and increasingly complex and costly water challenges looming, it is time to treat water as the common good that it is. We need to re-envision the balance between local and new funding sources for water. A shift towards water as a common good can expand opportunities to address water stresses, challenges, and inequities in ways that can fundamentally transform our water systems and make safe and reliable water service affordable for all. In this session, you will hear from innovators driving a local, state, and federal agenda toward this vision and gain tangible takeaways for affecting water affordability and access in your work.

Moderator: Emily Simonson, Director of Strategic Initiatives, US Water Alliance

Speakers:

- **Juliet Ellis**, Head of Utilities, Promise Network Inc.
- **Joaquin Esquivel**, Chair, California State Water Resources Board
- **Julian Gonzalez**, Senior Legislative Counsel, Earthjustice
- **The Hon. Billy McKinney**, Mayor, City of Zion, IL
- **Gavino Ramos**, Vice President, Communications and External Affairs, San Antonio Water System

12:00pm – 1:15pm

Lunch Plenary

Arizona Grand Ballroom

A Keynote Address and Fireside Chat with Radhika Fox

Join the US Environmental Protection Agency's Assistant Administrator for the Office of Water, Radhika Fox, for a keynote address, followed by a fireside chat with US Water Alliance CEO Mami Hara.

A Keynote Address from Brenda Mallory

Join the Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality, Brenda Mallory, for a keynote address laying out the Biden Administration's vision for water after the Supreme Court's decision in *Sackett v. EPA* earlier this year.

1:15pm – 1:30pm

Break

Workshop Series 2

Futurist Dreams for One Water Transformation

Tucson Salons A-B

In the spirit of a Haudenosaunee principle that calls for our decisions today to resonate sustainably seven generations into the future, we must face alarming climate, population, and water demand trends and take action to care for those who will come after us. Without bold and equitable One Water visions for the future, we risk dire consequences, including the specter of global conflict and incredible human suffering. This session will explore the profound implications of current trends, unveil the potential for new technologies to revolutionize our relationship with water, and delve into bold dreams to promote a sustainable future beyond our lifetimes.

Moderator: John Take, Executive Vice President and Chief Growth and Innovation Officer, Stantec

Speakers:

- **Marin (Mark) Webster Denning**, Educator, Consultant, and Native American Water Protector
- **Doa Ross**, Deputy General Manager of Engineering, Southern Nevada Water Authority
- **Bev Stinson**, Executive Vice President, Global Water Business Line Leader, AECOM
- **David Totman**, Vice President of Asset Management, Autodesk

One Water Toolbox: Artist Residencies and Cross-Sector Collaboration

Tucson Salons C-D

Artists and culture bearers often employ collaborative and innovative processes that make complex conversations accessible and engaging, uncover unaddressed challenges or overlooked assets, and engage community members in co-creation and visioning. Artists can be invaluable in addressing challenging issues in a creative, innovative, and collaborative way. In this workshop, learn about the potential for cross-sector collaboration through Artist-in-Residence programs that can foster the kind of collaboration and innovation needed to ensure an equitable water future. Artist residencies have been piloted and implemented across sectors for decades—from nonprofits, to governments, to utilities. Hear from artists who have participated in residencies and strategists who have planned and implemented them on the process, projects, practical considerations, and unique value of artist residencies. Session attendees will be invited to participate in a hands-on activity to identify the potential impact of an artist residency program in their own workplace.

Moderator: Regina Smith, Managing Director, Arts and Culture, Kresge Foundation

Speakers:

- **Deniseea Head**, Cultures and Cocktails Storyteller, Chicken and Champagne
- **sTo Len**, Artist
- **Mallory Rukhsana Nezam**, Principal, Justice + Joy and Co-Founder, CAIR Lab
- **Benny Starr**, Creative Strategist and 2020–2022 Artist-in-Residence, US Water Alliance

Ripples to Waves: Regional Workforce Collaboratives

Tucson Salon E

Collaborative workforce strategies have the power to revolutionize, not just sustain, the water sector and its critical mission. By initiating large-scale partnerships designed to cultivate, prepare, and recruit a diverse talent pool and by embracing practices that champion workforce equity, utilities can nurture and grow robust pipelines of dedicated professionals. Workforce collaboratives often encompass an array of stakeholders including case managers, community organizations, pre-training and education partners, certification providers, partnership coordinators, and utilities and other water employers. This session will delve into the intricacies of how regional water workforce collaboratives are conceived, expanded, and dedicated to the needs of job seekers from diverse walks of life.

Moderator: Maggie Rwakazina, Program Officer, Spring Point Partners

Speakers:

- **Lisa Countryman-Quiroz**, Chief Executive Officer, Jewish Vocational Services
- **Shivaji Deshmukh**, General Manager, Inland Empire Utility Agency
- **John Doherty**, Special Assistant to the General President, International Union of Painters and Allied Trades
- **Dan Rhoton**, Chief Executive Officer, Hopeworks

From Message to Movement: Building Impactful Water Campaigns

Tucson Salon F

For years, top leaders in water have led multiple campaigns to elevate water needs in the national discourse, sparking action and investment. Meanwhile, water champions from all corners are harnessing momentum, refining approaches, and deploying resonant and innovative methods and partnerships to move critical masses from awareness to action, from apathy to support, and from customer to active ally. Their strategic efforts have led to swells of action across diverse sectors. In this session, participants will explore the latest in water messaging and campaigning and gain exposure to unique partners who are communicating on critical water challenges and solutions.

Moderator: Christy Harowski, Director of the Value of Water Campaign, US Water Alliance

Speakers:

- **Gary Belan**, Senior Director, Clean Water, American Rivers
- **Maritza Mendoza**, Water Equity and Ocean Program Advocate, GreenLatinos
- **Samantha Villegas**, Chief Communications Officer, EPA Office of Water
- **Janene Yazzie**, Southwest Regional Director, NDN Collective

Financing and Structuring Delivery of One Water

Tucson Salons G-J

The 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) represents a watershed moment in federal investment, marking the largest commitment to water infrastructure in half a century. It is a crucial initial step toward addressing long-overdue investments in water systems and the well-being of our communities. This opportunity invites us to re-envision the immense potential of infrastructure investments as catalysts for water equity, climate action, economic opportunity, and One Water capital projects and programs. In this session, we will consider approaches to financing infrastructure and then delivering capital programs in ways that can maximize benefits for communities. Leaders from multiple perspectives will share the ways the IIJA can transform water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure in pursuit of larger community visions.

Moderator: Dr. Katy Hansen, Senior Technical Assistance Specialist, EPA Office of Water

Speakers:

- **Donna Friedman**, Manager of Community Watershed Coordination, Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District
- **Erin Riggs**, Executive Director, Environmental Finance Center at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- **Sanjiv Sinha**, CEO, Corvias Infrastructure Solutions
- **Tim Thomure**, Deputy City Manager, City of Tucson and Board Member, Arizona Water Infrastructure Finance Authority

3:00pm – 3:15pm

Break

Workshop Series 3

Unlocking the Potential of Water and Public Health Partnerships

Tucson Salons A-B

The historical connection between well-managed water systems and public health is undeniable, with the United States witnessing significant advancements over the past two centuries in response to waterborne diseases and environmental pollution. While we have made great progress since typhoid fever reached epidemic levels and rivers caught fire, many communities still lack adequate water infrastructure. This places public health at risk, especially in the face of worsening climate change impacts, which throws the resilience and reliability of water systems, sources, and quality into question, among other impacts. Strengthening partnerships between the water and health sectors is imperative. With a joint narrative about the value of clean water for community well-being, we can unlock additional funding sources and garner heightened public support for essential water infrastructure enhancements. In this session, delve into the intricate relationship between public health and the water sector and explore how new partnerships can revitalize our nation's water systems.

Moderator: Dr. Jamil Bey, President and CEO, UrbanKind Institute

Speakers:

- **Jamie Ferschinger**, Senior Planner, Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District
- **The Hon. Marcus Muhammad**, Mayor, City of Benton Harbor, MI
- **Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis**, Executive Director, Women for a Healthy Environment
- **Teresa Wong**, Program Manager, Ramboll

Nourishing Soil, Stewarding Water: Agricultural Practices to Build Resiliency

Tucson Salons C-D

Food and water are undeniably intertwined. Water nourishes farms and ranches while these agricultural producers in turn have the power to make substantial contributions to the health of watersheds, soil, and communities. Forward-looking farmers, ranchers, communities, and nonprofits are drawing upon traditional ecological knowledge, innovative practices, and partnerships to bolster local food systems and promote the well-being of watersheds. In this session, dive into transformative practices and partnerships that not only have the potential to rejuvenate natural resources but also enhance our collective resilience. Explore these innovative approaches, dissect the obstacles that may stand in the way, and consider the opportunities to take action toward a One Water future for all.

Moderator: Mindy Bridges, State Policy and Government Affairs Manager, US Water Alliance

Speakers:

- **Dr. Michael Kotutwa Johnson**, Assistant Specialist, Indigenous Resilience Center at the University of Arizona
- **Clare Lindahl**, CEO, Soil and Water Conservation Society
- **David Proctor**, Vice President, BKW Farms

Climate Adaptation, Just Resilience, and Community Participation

Tucson Salon E

Climate stress is often water stress, and historically underserved communities disproportionately face hazards like extreme heat and flooding. Without an understanding of vulnerabilities, oversight of long-term effects, and community knowledge and inclusion, well-intended efforts to counteract these challenges can sometimes lead to unintended consequences, where solutions for one group inadvertently harm another. “Just Resilience” is a principle wherein solutions promote climate adaptation strategies and actively seek equity while intentionally avoiding increasing vulnerabilities. These solutions fundamentally require holistic One Water thinking and action and also relate to the “Just Transition” principle, which seeks to ensure shifts in energy sources don’t increase vulnerabilities of frontline communities. Ultimately, achieving equitable climate resilience is a shared responsibility that demands inclusive, thoughtful practice and funding approaches. This session will feature leaders working at the nexus of water, climate, and ensuring all communities can thrive.

Moderator: Alexis Frasz, Co-Director, Helicon Collaborative

Speakers:

- **Julia Fay Bernal**, Executive Director, Pueblo Action Alliance
- **Stephen Fries**, Physical Scientist, Creating Resilient Water Utilities, EPA Office of Water
- **Yudith Nieto**, Organizing and Cultural Strategies Manager, Bayou City Waterkeeper
- **Jim Schlaman**, Director of Water Resources and Community Planning, Black and Veatch
- **Shalini Vajjhala**, Founder and CEO, Re:Focus Partners

Transformative Funding and the Future of TA: Government, Philanthropy, and Innovative Institutions

Tucson Salon F

While the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and the Inflation Reduction Act mark significant initial investments in water, they only scratch the surface of the nation’s looming water investment shortfall. To complicate matters, the pathway that investment travels from the federal government down to community projects is not paved towards underserved communities that have difficulty accessing State Revolving Funds (SRFs). In this insightful session, we will consider the imperative for innovation and disruption within the funding landscape and discover concepts with the potential to drive transformative investments to reshape the terrain of water financing and technical assistance—especially for those for whom SRFs are an insufficient tool.

Moderator: Paula Conolly, Director of Local Engagement and Senior Advisor for Distributed Infrastructure, US Water Alliance

Speakers:

- **Hank Habicht**, Co-Founder, Water Finance Exchange
- **Tee Thomas**, Vice President, Quantified Ventures
- **Darryl Young**, Principal, The Young Network

Water's Role in Democracy, Civil Cohesion, and Justice

Tucson Salons G-J

Water transcends boundaries, forging connections that span generations and peoples. While it is true that water can be a source of contention, it also can be a pathway for greater social cohesion, a stronger democracy, and justice. From the microcosms of neighborhoods to the expansive landscapes of watersheds and entire nations, leaders make pivotal choices about how to view, value, and manage water. These choices can play powerful roles for good in our social fabric. Leaders grapple with essential questions: Who holds the authority to make decisions? Whose voices are heard and hold sway? Whose interests take precedence? What does justice demand of our decisions? Is the system functioning as should? In this session, you will explore these connections and hear from leaders across the country working to harness water for a more just and democratic civil society.

Moderator: Mami Hara, CEO, US Water Alliance

Speakers:

- **Dimple Chaudhary**, Principal Deputy General Counsel, EPA Office of General Counsel
- **Abre' Conner**, Director, Environmental and Climate Justice, NAACP
- **Jason Morrison**, President, Pacific Institute
- **The Hon. Shawyn Patterson-Howard**, Mayor, City of Mount Vernon, NY

5:00pm – 6:30pm

Networking Reception

Ania Terrace and Ania Lawn

Thursday, November 16



7:15am – 8:00am

Morning Yoga

Ania Lawn

Join us with instructor-led yoga to greet the morning. There is space for 100 participants, which will be granted on a first come, first served basis. Yoga mats will be provided (but participants may bring their own if they prefer).

7:30am – 9:30am

Registration Open

Arizona Registration Desk (between the Arizona and Tucson Ballrooms)

7:45am – 8:45am

Continental Breakfast and Networking

Arizona Foyer and Ania Terrace

9:00am – 10:15am

Morning Plenary

Arizona Grand Ballroom

The Colorado River: Pathways to a One Water Future

The Colorado River is often referred to as the lifeblood of the Southwest, with thirty Indigenous Tribes, seven states, and many communities relying on the watershed. Population growth and climate change, among other stressors, continue to strain the supply of an already overallocated water source. Thinking beyond the multitude of competing water users and economic impacts, pathways to a One Water Future can emerge to foster a healthy ecosystem and resilient communities. These re-envisioned partnerships demonstrate how multiple interests are coming together with shared goals and innovative approaches. Hear from leaders on how they are considering inclusive, integrative, and sustainable approaches to the current and future management of the Colorado River.

Moderator: Ted Kowalski, Senior Program Officer, Walton Family Foundation

Speakers:

- **Dr. Andrea Gerlak**, Director, Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy, the University of Arizona
- **Adel Hagekhalil**, CEO and General Manager, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
- **Felicia Marcus**, William C. Landreth Visiting Fellow, Stanford University Water in the West Program
- **Daryl Vigil**, Co-Director, Water and Tribes Initiative

10:15am – 10:30am

Break

10:30am – 12:00pm

Workshop Series 4

Deeper Dive: Southwest One Water Management

Tucson Salons A-B

The historic drought and declining flows of the Colorado River are an urgent call to action for the US Southwest. This crisis for a river that so many rely on requires One Water thinking and action. Building upon the insights from our plenary discussion on the Colorado River Basin, this session dives deeper into the practical aspects of One Water solutions in the Southwest, offering invaluable lessons for addressing the complex environmental, social, and political dynamics at play. From long-term water supply planning, to leading practices in conservation and reuse, to breaking through entrenched stalemates, join water and community leaders as they discuss the future of water in the region.

Moderator: Wendy Broley, Chief Technical Officer, Brown and Caldwell

Speakers:

- **Duran Andrews**, Farm Manager, San Xavier Co-Op Farm
- **Ron Burke**, CEO, Alliance for Water Efficiency
- **Troy Hayes**, Water Services Director, City of Phoenix Water Services Department
- **Kathryn Sorensen**, Director of Research and Professor of Practice, The Morrison Institute for Public Policy at Arizona State University

Multi-Scale Decentralization and the Path to One Water

Tucson Salons C-D

Decentralized systems and the path to decentralization can mean different things at different scales to various communities. Understanding what decentralized water treatment means in these contexts can help us understand what kinds of experimentation are necessary and how we can move towards new models for sustainable and resilient watersheds. At different scales, this could look like small-scale septic and well systems, single-building water reuse, eco-districts and green stormwater infrastructure, or fully closed-loop water systems and circular economies. Understanding how these different scales operate and interrelate can help bridge the water and sanitation access gap in rural and urban settings, as well as pave the way to the future of water management. This session will focus on where decentralized systems are in place now, what the barriers to change are at different scales, and what we can learn from these to envision the pathway to the next iterations in water treatment systems.

Moderator: Dana Okano, Program Director, Hawaii Community Foundation

Speakers:

- **Casey Begay**, Northwest New Mexico Project Manager, Navajo Water Project, DigDeep
- **Zach Lowenstein**, Program Manager, EPA Office of Water
- **Cari Ishida**, Program Manager, Carollo
- **Carl Thompson**, Vice President, Sales and Delta Advanced, Infiltrator Water Technologies; Chair, the Government Relations Committee for the National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association

Unifying Urban and Rural Interests through Water

Tucson Salon E

Embracing the principles of One Water demands a shift toward watershed-scale thinking and action—a transformative approach that often hinges on forging cross-sector and cross-jurisdictional partnerships. These dynamic collaborations have the potential to advance diverse interests ranging from conservation and restoration, to pollution reduction and capture, to workforce development. In this session, explore the potential of these partnerships to drive regional transformation.

Moderator: Emily Warren Armitano, Director of Water and Land Conservation Programs, The Cynthia and George Mitchell Foundation

Speakers:

- **Dr. Jason Barrett**, Associate Extension Professor, Mississippi State Water Resources Center
- **Alex Johnson**, Chief Strategy Officer, Virridy
- **Sean McMahon**, Executive Director, Iowa Agriculture Water Alliance
- **Bill Murray**, Executive Director, Reading Area Water Authority
- **Diana Toledo**, Senior Director of River Programs, River Network

Stormwater and Parks: A Deluge of Benefits

Tucson Salon F

As the largest natural areas in urban places, park systems can offer ideal potential sites for implementing green stormwater infrastructure. Despite alignment on a number of policy goals between parks and water agencies such as creating more resilient and sustainable green spaces, parks are presently underutilized for this purpose due to structural challenges between these sectors including siloed policies and planning, funding sources, and their distinct agency cultures. Hear from parks and water agencies in cities that are breaking the logjam to collaboration and providing benefits ranging from creating new green spaces, to improving climate resilience, to enhancing public health, to building more equitable communities.

Moderator: Judith Ibarra-Bianchetta, Vice President, US Growth and Strategy, Tetra Tech

Speakers:

- **Shawsheen Baker**, Capital Projects Superintendent, Raleigh Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources
- **Blue Baldwin**, Storm to Shade Program Manager, Tucson Water
- **Greg Jackson**, Deputy Director of Capital Projects, Tucson Parks and Recreation Department
- **Wayne Miles**, Stormwater Program Manager, City of Raleigh

Re-Searching & Re-Membering Indigenous Kinships with Land and Life through Water Relations

Presented in Partnership with Ecotruths for Indigenous Youths

Tucson Salons G-J

Indigenous scholar Dr. Kathleen Absolon provides a framework to critical Indigenous scholars that allows Indigenous praxis to move us from being dismembered to re-membering ourselves and our kinship with land and life through water. Ecotruths for Indigenous Youths is an intertribal and multigenerational internship for young Indigenous researchers to connect to water and earth in order to understand, critique, and generate environmental policies. In this interactive session, participants will learn from EcoTruths youth and elders and will engage in World Café-style dialogues to answer youth concerns for their future. The session will close with public reflections on the session and how to re-establish Indigenous kinships with land and life through water discussions with Indigenous community researchers and re-emerging Indigenous scholars.

Speakers:

- **Sara Chee** (Diné, Acoma Pueblo)
- **Deshawn Davis** (Tohono O'odham)
- **Patrisia Gonzales** (Kickapoo, Comanche, Macehual)
- **Qöyawaysi Serenity Joshevama** (Hopi)
- **Melodie Lopez** (Hopi, Diné, Pueblo, Mexican)
- **Kii'yaa'nii Ross** (Diné, Yaqui, Purapecha)
- **Oliver Santa Cruz** (Tohono O'odham)
- **David Tenario** (Tohono O'odham)
- **Selso Villegas** (Tohono O'odham)
- **Nicholas Wilson** (Diné)

12:00pm – 1:30pm

Closing Plenary and Luncheon Celebration

Arizona Grand Ballroom

Bringing it Home: One Water Commitments to Action

Let's take the next step together by assembling key learnings from the past two days and turning them into action in our own communities. During our closing plenary, we will focus on how to best work with our colleagues, neighbors, and diverse partners to craft America's water future. Our day will close both with celebration and new beginnings as our One Water delegations share past accomplishments and make inspiring commitments to action for the year to come. Come to learn, collaborate, and support each other!

Host: Scott Berry, Director of Policy and Government Affairs, US Water Alliance

1:30pm

Adjourn

One Water Delegations



People. Partnerships. Progress.

Collaboration—it's what drives the One Water movement and everything that we do at the US Water Alliance. The Board and staff of the US Water Alliance recognize Delegations as the heart of the One Water movement. We are thrilled to welcome 31 One Water Delegations to One Water Summit.

These delegates are an impressive group of dedicated leaders representing diverse regions and constituencies from across the country. We thank our many partners who helped form these delegations.

Delegates are champions for an equitable, sustainable, and inclusive water future and are dedicated to sharing knowledge, building relationships, and bringing the learnings from One Water Summit 2023 back to their home regions or communities of practice. We look forward to working with these delegates in the months and years to come.

One Water, One Future.

2023 One Water Delegations

- Advancing Social Equity through Water Reuse Delegation
- American Rivers Delegation
- Arts and Culture Delegation
- The Black Water Professionals Alliance Inc. (BWPA) Delegation
- Center for Water Security and Cooperation (WULF) Delegation
- Climate Resilient and Equitable Water Systems (CREWS) Delegation
- Duke University WILD Delegation
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Water Delegation
- Green Infrastructure Leadership Exchange Delegation
- Hawaii Fresh Water Initiative Delegation
- Indigenous Resilience Center Delegation
- Iowa Delegation
- Mayors Commission on Water Equity Delegation
- Mentoring Connections Delegation
- Minnesota Delegation
- New Jersey Delegation
- North Carolina Delegation
- One Water Climate Action Delegation
- Parks and Green Stormwater Infrastructure (PGSI) Initiative Delegation
- Philadelphia Water Department Delegation
- Pittsburgh Delegation
- SRF State Advocates' Forum Delegation
- Soil and Water Conservation Delegation
- Tap into Resilience Delegation
- Texas One Water Delegation
- Tucson Regional Delegation
- Urban Water Funders Delegation
- Vessel: America's Domestic WASH Collective Delegation
- Water Affordability Innovations Delegation
- Water Equity and Climate Resilience Caucus Delegation
- West Tennessee H2O Delegation

Advancing Social Equity through Water Reuse Delegation

This delegation is hosted by the Pacific Institute and AECOM. Water reuse is a key tool in the One Water approach, applied to maximize the value of water with the goal of providing a safe, reliable, and resilient water supply. In achieving their objective, water reuse projects generate multiple benefits including environmental and social value, with the latter typically downplayed and under-represented during decision-making. This delegation will explore and advance the profile of water reuse and its ability to create social equity at both the federal and municipal levels. The delegation's principal objective is to elevate social equity as a determining factor when considering water reuse implementation. Through a commitment to action, this delegation seeks to cultivate a collective of reuse practitioners at the national level who can contribute to thought leadership in this area and in turn advance it through their communities of practice; codify this national effort through its inclusion in the national Water Reuse Action Plan, a federally integrated effort to elevate water reuse; and champion the importance of considering social equity outcomes among utilities considering integrating water reuse in their water management infrastructure.

American Rivers Delegation

American Rivers' mission is to protect wild rivers, restore damaged rivers, and conserve clean water for people and nature. We couldn't accomplish our mission without acknowledging the massive impact that cities and the built environment have had in changing the hydrology of our rivers and streams. Water withdrawals, stormwater discharges, and wastewater treatment all change the way our rivers function, impacting not only the natural environment but also the very cities that depend on this water. The American Rivers delegation is committed to bringing together different stakeholders with a vested interest in water—from the large utility to the small community group—to identify common goals, overlooked efficiencies, and practical solutions to water challenges. By actively working across a broad spectrum of interests, our hope is that we can work together to make the needed policy changes and solve the funding challenges needed to create both healthy communities and healthy cities.

Arts and Culture Delegation

The Arts and Culture Delegation brings together artists and culture bearers working across the country with a wide range of experience in cross-sector collaboration, community-centered storytelling, cultural organizing, participatory and community-engaged art, and an environmental or water-focused art practice. Convened by the US Water Alliance, this delegation brings their knowledge and expertise in arts and cultural strategies to One Water Summit to contribute to cross-sector conversations and capacity for partnerships between artists and cultural practitioners and water leaders. During Summit, attendees will have the opportunity to engage with two onsite art installations by local Tucson artists, Alex! Jimenez and Kimi Eisele, whose work inspires a deeper reflection and understanding of the relationships between water, place, and culture in Tucson.

The Black Water Professionals Alliance Inc. (BWPA) Delegation

BWPA Inc. is a supportive community of technical and non-technical water industry professionals who share the heritage of the African diaspora working to promote, recruit, retain, and develop leaders in the water industry. Our vision is to be a catalyst for true change in the water sector, creating an environment where race is not a determinant of access to clean water or proximity to water crises. The mission of BWPA is to increase diversity, equity, and inclusion by fostering a community focused on networking, professional development, and leadership opportunities for Black people in the water industry.

Center for Water Security and Cooperation (WULF) Delegation

The Center for Water Security and Cooperation (WULF) delegation brings together emerging leaders from water, wastewater, and stormwater utilities across the United States who are participating in the Water Utility Leadership Fellowship developed by the Center for Water Security and Cooperation as part of their Water Access and Equity Lab. The WULF provides an opportunity for emerging utility leaders to explore and engage with the principles, laws, policies, and institutions of water and sanitation access and equity, affordability, and assistance, and then act on what they have learned and develop a water access and affordability policy for their utility. Through this, WULF Fellows learn more about their utility and community and the unique laws and policies governing access to water and sanitation. They are then challenged to design solutions that meet the needs of both their utility and community. WULF Delegates come from diverse geographies, serve different-sized communities faced with different challenges and needs, and provide both retail and wholesale services. Despite their differences, they are united in their efforts to advance more equitable and reliable access to water and sanitation and to build a network of utility leaders committed to that purpose. The delegation is committed to advancing equitable and resilient water and sanitation access and supporting others as they consider pursuing the development of a water access and affordability policy. The delegation attends Summit with a commitment to share what they have learned, seek out opportunities to learn from others, and broaden their network of colleagues.

Climate Resilient and Equitable Water Systems (CREWS) Delegation

The Climate Resilient and Equitable Water Systems (CREWS) Delegation is convened by the US Water Alliance and The Kresge Foundation's Environment Program. The delegation is composed of environmental nonprofits, academics, and community and environmental justice advocates around the nation advancing equitable solutions to address climate-related water impacts on low-income and Communities of Color. Climate change is placing significant pressure on water management systems and decision-making processes, with a strong emphasis on urban flooding. Low-income, Communities of Color, and other climate-vulnerable populations feel the compounding impacts of climate change first and more frequently—yet they are often left out of the development and implementation of solutions. Local climate resilience planning that supports a One Water approach must include an eye toward water equity and involve communities throughout the decision-making process and resilience project implementation. The CREWS Delegation is seeking to scale efforts and support a national network of learning and practice that amplifies marginalized voices, integrates climate data and lived experience into planning, and strengthens climate-vulnerable communities from a health, wealth, and equity standpoint. We are looking to highlight and share powerful examples of community-government collaboration on strategies and solutions at the nexus of climate, flooding, and equity, and to learn of other successful strategies for equitable resilience planning—particularly in response to climate-related flood and storm impacts.

Duke University WILD Delegation

The Duke University Water Innovation Leadership Development (WILD) Delegation brings together drinking water, clean water, and stormwater utility leaders from across the United States who participated together in a water leadership curriculum developed by Duke University's Nicholas School of the Environment. While the delegates come from diverse geographies across 13 states, they are driven by shared leadership challenges including improving water equity and affordability, building a sustainable and representative water workforce, becoming more resilient to the impacts of climate change, and developing solutions to aging water infrastructure, revenue shortfalls, and evolving regulatory frameworks. The delegates represent small, medium, and large water utilities, serve in a variety of leadership and functional roles, and contribute to an assortment of national, state, and local water committees and professional organizations for the betterment of our shared water resources. The delegation comes to Summit with a desire to connect with other One Water stakeholders and exchange innovative, equitable solutions to all aspects of water stewardship and leadership including community relations and trust-building, workforce development, business and financial planning, customer service, operations and maintenance, engineering, regulatory compliance, and more. As a collective of rising utility leaders, the delegation is committed to engaging the next generation of water professionals and growing a circular economy of water nationwide.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Water Delegation

EPA's Office of Water works to ensure that drinking water is safe and that our nation's waters are protected to support healthy communities, vibrant ecosystems, agriculture activities, and economic opportunities across the nation. The Office of Water plays a key role in implementing the Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act, investing in America's water infrastructure, and conducting research to advance EPA's mission to protect human health and the environment. Under the Biden-Harris Administration, EPA is working with its partners to invest more than \$50 billion—the largest investment in water infrastructure in the nation's history. This One Water Summit delegation represents leadership and dynamic staff that are playing key roles in implementing the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law by removing lead service lines, addressing emerging contaminants, lifting climate solutions, creating good jobs, and ensuring disadvantaged communities have equitable access to federal resources and the technical assistance needed to apply for them.

Green Infrastructure Leadership Exchange Delegation

The Green Infrastructure Leadership Exchange (the Exchange) is a highly connected, member-driven peer learning network whose mission is to activate local governments and water agencies in the US and Canada to equitably implement green stormwater infrastructure. Our network focuses on three areas: creating new tools, resources, and innovations that support equitable implementation of green stormwater infrastructure, building the leadership skills of current and future public water sector leaders, and making the case for green stormwater infrastructure, supportive policies, and funding. Our delegation is attending Summit in the spirit of shared learning and collaboration. We recognize the opportunity for green stormwater infrastructure to advance shared goals, cut across sectors and silos, and center One Water strategies for making positive, systemic change. We are excited to explore the synergies green stormwater infrastructure can foster and support as part of the One Water movement.

Hawaii Fresh Water Initiative Delegation

Hawaii sent its first delegations to One Water Summit in 2017 and 2018. Last year, we came back to Summit with leaders from water utilities, wastewater utilities, stormwater facilities maintenance, the Department of Health, and our Fresh Water Council chair. Many of the delegates were part of the One Water Honolulu Panel, which was one of the first to pass a city ordinance formalizing the commitments of One Water for the City and County of Honolulu (for which Honolulu won the Outstanding Public Sector US Water Prize in 2022). This year, we are embarking on expanding the water sector's access to federal funding with a specific focus on underserved communities. The new Hawaii Environmental Finance Center and its emphasis on bringing in more federal funding to Hawaii will help us to do this. We aim to explore deeper connections with potential partners to expand the reach of federal programming to reach more communities statewide. Our delegation will include participants from the agriculture sector, philanthropy, water utility managers, rural water technical assistance providers, private land managers, and regulators. Our delegation is excited again this year to learn from other municipalities, connect to national programs and water solutions, provide professional development for Hawaii's leaders, and continue building relationships with new and old partners.

Indigenous Resilience Center Delegation

The mission of the Indigenous Resilience Center (IRes) at the University of Arizona is to center Indigenous knowledge into co-designed environmental solutions and to train the next generation of community leaders. We see a world in which Indigenous communities are thriving and adaptable to meet environmental and societal challenges. The work of IRes builds upon the NSF research traineeship program, Indigenous Food, Energy, & Water Security and Sovereignty (Indige-FEWS, NSF #DGE1735173). Since 2017, the University of Arizona has worked with Diné College to train graduate students and tribal college undergraduates in sustainable food, energy, and water systems (FEWS), intercultural awareness, and the development of FEWS technologies. Indige-FEWS also partnered with the Navajo Nation Water Access Coordination Group and joined multi-institutional collaborations to identify, acquire, prioritize, and use available resources to increase access to quality water for Tribal homes, particularly during COVID-19. Through a partnership between the University of Arizona and Sixth World Solutions, a Navajo community organization, the vision is to increase Indigenous community resilience, water security, and sovereignty through off-grid, solar-powered nanofiltration (SNF) water purification systems that are designed, built, and operated by Diné citizens. The IRes delegation is looking to connect with others at One Water Summit working with Indigenous communities on water issues.

Iowa Delegation

Iowa is a state with great urban and rural collaboration. The Iowa Delegation is made up of farmers, public utilities, watershed coordinators, state agencies such as Iowa DNR and the Iowa Department of Agriculture, university researchers, outdoor enthusiasts, business leaders, and other passionate advocates of water quality. We believe in the power of building bridges to accomplish water quality goals *with* our communities, *for* our communities. We are increasing the pace and scale of both rural solutions such as soil health practices and urban solutions such as storm-water management and green infrastructure. We are embracing collaboration between municipalities and agriculture innovators. While we believe we are seeing good directional progress, achieving the state's Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy goals will take more commitment and hard work. We will continue collaborating under the One Water ethos to ignite innovative action with multi-faceted benefits including improved water quality, stronger soils, more habitat, reduced flood risk, stronger upstream and

downstream partnerships, and improved conservation infrastructure. Our hope is this will result in an enduring land and water legacy.

Mayors Commission on Water Equity Delegation

The Mayors Commission on Water Equity was founded by the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative in 2020 to promote access to clean, safe, and affordable water for all residents of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin. The Mayors Commission is comprised of approximately 20 mayors representing communities of all sizes—from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to Rochester, New York. The Mayors Commission engages in regular policy dialogues with federal, state, and local stakeholders and facilitates peer-to-peer learning to address lead service line replacement, water affordability, water workforce development, and urban flooding in Great Lakes communities. The Mayors Commission delegation—which includes recipients of the Richard M. Daley Water Equity Community Award—is proud to be at One Water Summit to elevate water equity issues facing Great Lakes communities and explore collaboration to safeguard the efficient, equitable implementation of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

Mentoring Connections Delegation

Underlying the growth of the One Water movement is a story of change leadership that is shifting the water sector toward more holistic, sustainable, and inclusive water management. While technological advancement is a key variable contributing to change within the sector, the human dimensions and essential capacities that successfully drive culture change are equally important, though often overlooked. To accelerate the change leadership needed to advance One Water, the US Water Alliance created the Mentoring Connections Program that invites the people working on our most pressing water challenges to develop their leadership capacities and drive meaningful progress in their organizations. This year, we matched eight established water leaders, or “Changemakers,” with Rising Professionals early on in their One Water leadership journey to develop strategies to strengthen their capacities to affect change. This Mentoring Connections Delegation will connect with each other to continue building on their leadership capacities and perspectives as emerging One Water leaders.

Minnesota Delegation

Minnesota is the land of 10,000 lakes and the home to many groups that work on water issues. The inaugural Minnesota Delegation includes representatives from state agencies, local government, water utilities, nonprofit organizations, Tribal liaisons, and community organizations. As a statewide delegation, we strive for collaborative practices as we develop and identify focus areas that will allow us to collectively achieve our shared goal of improved water equity outcomes for all Minnesotans.

Specific organizations that will be attending include the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, the City of Richfield, the City of Bloomington, Saint Paul Regional Water Services, Metropolitan Council Environmental Services, Environmental Initiative, Freshwater, Tribal liaisons, and the Environmental Justice Coordinating Council.

New Jersey Delegation

The New Jersey Delegation includes representatives from New Jersey who work in the water sector via nonprofit organizations, utilities, businesses, and governments. Many of the representatives participate in the Jersey Water Works collaborative—a statewide, cross-sector collaborative of more than 600 members working to transform New Jersey’s water infrastructure through investments in sustainable, cost-effective solutions that provide multiple community benefits. The delegation will use its time to explore new ways to advance statewide solutions. This will include highlighting funding opportunities to advance water and green infrastructure goals as well as promoting the need (and prioritization of funding) for water infrastructure projects to remove barriers that under-resourced and underserved communities face. The delegation will also explore enhancing understanding of the importance of clean, affordable access for all New Jerseyans to essential water, wastewater, and stormwater services via enhanced communication campaigns, education, and outreach and collaboration. The delegation also plans to work on pursuing partnerships to advance water workforce development and career pathways and promote best practices and policies for communities replacing lead service lines.

North Carolina Delegation

The North Carolina Delegation is composed of leaders in local, regional, and state governments, water utilities, community organizations, conservation organizations, and academic institutions from both rural and urban areas of North Carolina. Key represented geographies are the Research Triangle area, including Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill, and the Piedmont area, including Greensboro. These regions and the state as a whole are some of the fastest-growing areas in the country, which is outstripping the traditional water management tools upon which these communities have relied. Years of traditional management and single-metric regulatory frameworks have exacerbated conflicts and hindered the ability to solve the region’s most pressing and increasingly demanding water resources problems. Area leaders seek to identify innovative water management alternatives to allow multivariate, multi-benefit approaches and build effective relationships to achieve collective goals. Our delegates are working to integrate One Water principles into a proposed alternative regulatory framework that can be endorsed by state agencies and adopted by diverse partners across the region and possibly the whole state. This framework would allow for a flexible, collaborative approach to water resources management built on the full value of water. Among many other benefits, it will balance human and ecological uses, identify, unlock, and enhance triple bottom line benefits, protect water quality and quantity, and incorporate green infrastructure into redevelopment. This year, the North Carolina One Water Delegation again welcomes several leaders of the Jordan Lake One Water Coalition, a new nonprofit working to achieve these goals in a million-acre watershed stretching from the Piedmont to the Triangle.

One Water Climate Action Delegation

The One Water Climate Action Delegation is a coalition of water sector leaders dedicated to deploying One Water approaches to achieve ambitious climate goals in our communities. We aim to establish resilient infrastructure that emphasizes equity in adaptation efforts, incorporate forward-thinking climate outcomes in capital investments, and hasten the transition to net zero. We are utility staff, engineers, philanthropists, environmental advocates, and community partners with a mission to connect, share best practices, expand our knowledge, and foster strategic relationships. We seek to underscore the urgency for climate action and collaboration by building a community of practice throughout the One Water movement. Only by working together can we meet the scope and scale of the climate crisis.

Parks and Green Stormwater Infrastructure (PGSI) Initiative Delegation

The Parks and Green Stormwater Infrastructure Initiative (PGSI) Delegation is convened by the City Parks Alliance, the US Water Alliance, and the Green Infrastructure Leadership Exchange. The initiative is a two-year program to help parks and water agencies and their partners more intentionally and successfully collaborate on the development and management of green stormwater infrastructure in urban parkland. Goals include creating more green space, enhancing climate resilience through green stormwater management, improving public health and equitable access to parks, and providing related community benefits such as recreation, economic development, and fiscal savings. As the largest publicly-controlled natural areas in urban places, park systems can offer ideal sites for implementing green stormwater infrastructure. Despite alignment on many policy goals and the community benefits described above, parks are presently underutilized for this purpose due to structural challenges between these sectors including siloed policies, planning, and funding sources, as well as their distinct agency cultures. The PGSI initiative includes a cohort of parks and water practitioners from cities coming together to share examples of collaborative visioning, planning, and successful projects, help describe and define the barriers to more extensive cooperation, and provide ideas on how to overcome them. After the delegation participates in One Water Summit, the cohort will convene and participate at the City Parks Alliance's Greater & Greener conference in Seattle in June 2024. Following this, the program partners (CPA, the US Water Alliance, and the Exchange) will create work products and tools to capture their learnings to help other cities make similar strides, which will be disseminated through resources and programming by the program partners over the following year. Support provided by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect the views of the Foundation.

Philadelphia Water Department Delegation

The Philadelphia Water Department (PWD) serves the Greater Philadelphia region by providing integrated water, wastewater, and stormwater services. Members of the PWD Delegation represent staff and supervisors from various divisions within PWD including Public Affairs, Finance, Planning and Environmental Services, and Operations. Like water utilities across the country, PWD is facing a multitude of challenges that include evolving and more stringent regulatory requirements, infrastructure financing, workforce development and retention, increasing climate risks, and equitable service delivery. The PWD Delegation acknowledges that to successfully address these challenges, an integrated One Water management approach is needed. Our delegation is attending Summit with the goal of strengthening internal connections among staff in different PWD divisions while collectively building a greater understanding of One Water strategies that can support PWD in charting a resilient, inclusive, and sustainable path forward.

Pittsburgh Delegation

Since the unveiling of our Water Equity Roadmap in 2021, the Pittsburgh Delegation has been steadfast in our commitment to confront the water challenges that affect our city; yet our work is far from complete. Today, the 2023 Pittsburgh Delegation is a diverse and dedicated group comprising both original members of the Water Equity Taskforce and new advocates and organizations. Our mission remains unaltered: to forge a path toward an equitable water future in every corner of our city. We are united by a shared vision of preparing Pittsburgh to withstand the profound impacts of climate change, revamping our stormwater management systems, nurturing workforce development opportunities that align with shifting demographics, and safeguarding public health while preserving water quality and affordability. A critical aspect of our work remains the ongoing removal of lead service lines from our drinking water system. These monumental endeavors demand the collective efforts of a wide spectrum of individuals and organizations. The Pittsburgh Delegation stands as a testament to our region's resolve to address these pressing water issues. We aspire to attract diverse and skilled individuals, modernize our water infrastructure, and ensure that water services are not only equitable but also financially accessible to all across our region. We are committed to building healthier, safer, and more vibrant communities for all residents. Together, we are forging ahead on a path toward a future where water equity is a reality for everyone in Pittsburgh.

Soil and Water Conservation Delegation

The Soil and Water Conservation Delegation, convened by the Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS), the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD), and the National Association of State Conservation Agencies (NASCA) brings soil and water conservationists advancing the conservation of natural and working lands to One Water Summit. The delegation seeks to broaden the participation of the soil and water community in the One Water movement and connect conservation professionals, conservation districts, and state conservation agencies with their counterparts in the drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater sectors. Participants in the Soil and Water Conservation Delegation work at the local, state, and federal levels and understand how land and water resources are connected. They bring expertise in watershed management and conservation practice implementation—including climate-smart agriculture practices such as soil health and forest land protection—that protect water resources from source to sea. The combined membership of SWCS, NACD, and NASCA includes conservation professionals, academics, and students, as well as public officials and employees of America’s nearly 3,000 conservation districts and their state conservation agency partners. Our members champion voluntary, locally-led conservation and are proven leaders in watershed management—implementing soil and water conservation practices at the watershed scale across the nation.

SRF State Advocates’ Forum Delegation

The State Revolving Fund (SRF) Advocates Forum Delegation is a diverse community of practice for community leaders, researchers, and advocates across the country who work on SRF administration and reform with an equity and climate resilience lens. Considering the historic federal investment in water infrastructure flowing through the SRF program, advocates and experts nationwide are working to meet the moment by pursuing more equitable and climate-resilient infrastructure investments. The Forum creates opportunities to learn, share lessons, and synergize across geographies and levels of government. Participants include state, regional, and national advocates, local leaders, and technical experts motivated to address our nation’s most pressing water infrastructure challenges for which SRF loans, grants, and subsidized funding are essential. Focus areas include drinking water safety, water affordability, lead service line replacement, and building climate-resilient systems—all while centering procedural, distributive, and restorative justice. The Forum is convened by the Alliance for the

Great Lakes, Environmental Policy Innovation Center, River Network, and PolicyLink. Our delegation is excited to meet in person and connect with like-minded One Water leaders.

Tap into Resilience Delegation

Decentralized, onsite, and localized water strategies that include modernized water data systems are a critical path to achieving a One Water vision and strengthening public trust in communities nationwide. From green stormwater infrastructure, to water use efficiency measures, to onsite reuse, to private lead service line replacements, and Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable (FAIR) water data systems that support these practices—localized options distributed widely across communities have tremendous potential to enhance water supply, manage and control stormwater runoff, and ensure public health. What they have in common is that while not owned and controlled by water utilities, they serve the same functions as centralized utility infrastructure and operate in concert with such systems. They can be financed, incentivized, and supported by utilities as a vital part of their service offerings. At the same time, distributed systems present unique financing and implementation challenges compared with conventional infrastructure. Tap into Resilience is WaterNow’s marquee program to elevate these strategies and present clear financial and other pathways for cities, towns, and water resource agencies to adopt them at large scales. The Tap into Resilience Delegation is a group of collaborators working nationwide to create opportunities to expand access to equitable, affordable distributed systems. Together, we hope to make these the new normal—having a central place in planning, budgeting, and financing nationwide—to lead to a transformation of how communities engage with water and an acceleration of the transition to a One Water future.

Texas One Water Delegation

The Texas One Water Delegation represents a broad network of water professionals, advocates, decision-makers, and community leaders who are dedicated to working together toward an equitable, sustainable, and resilient water future for all Texans. Texas is home to one of the fastest-growing populations in the nation and has recently experienced both record-setting droughts and floods. These stressors have significant equity implications on our communities and create stress on both our natural and built environments. Communities in Texas are embracing One Water solutions that will help us meet our future water needs and ensure that all Texans have access to safe, clean, affordable, and sustainable water services. This delegation combines the forces of Texas' One Water movement and Water Equity Network members to collaboratively deepen our understanding of core equity issues, learn about innovative One Water solutions, and accelerate the equitable adoption of these solutions across the state.

Tucson Regional Delegation

The Tucson Regional Delegation is excited to return to One Water Summit for its fifth year. The delegation includes political leaders, utility staff, community members, and other partners. Our strategy is to build active, impactful One Water leadership and momentum to ensure water resiliency and livability for the one million people and unique species of wildlife that make their homes in our desert city. In Tucson, local government is at the forefront of strategically managing all available water resources, including multi-generational water. Recognizing that water resource benefits and availability vary by type and that solutions to climate-related challenges are ever-evolving, the Tucson Regional Delegation seeks holistic solutions for quantifying and utilizing resources for maximum community and environmental benefit, long-term utility-scale planning, and investing in diverse strategic partnerships.

Urban Water Funders Delegation

The Urban Water Funders Delegation includes leading national and regional philanthropy professionals working on urban water issues. Urban Water Funders (UWF) is a working group of The Funders Network, a national membership organization that helps grant-makers across North America advance strategies to create fair, prosperous, and sustainable regions and communities. UWF explores the role of water in urban settings to the benefit of the environment, equity, and economies of communities—with specific interest in climate resilience, natural infrastructure, green stormwater infrastructure, and One Water or integrated water strategies. Urban Water Funders is designed to create a forum for funders to learn together, build relationships, align efforts to scale up sustainable water practices, and collaborate on joint projects and special initiatives. The Funders' Network also manages the Partners for Places grant program, which includes targeted funding for green infrastructure projects in partnership with the Green Infrastructure Leadership Exchange and the Urban Sustainability Directors Network.

Vessel: America's Domestic WASH Collective Delegation

Vessel: America's Domestic WASH Collective was created to expedite WASH access and awareness in the United States. Throughout our nation today, over two million individuals lack access to safe and reliable drinking water, and many more lack access to basic sanitation. Our membership includes leaders from nonprofit organizations, utilities, academic institutions, and private entities. Together, we work to leverage our combined expertise around pressing WASH issues, including improved data collection and targeted policy solutions. Vessel members meet together regularly and in smaller working groups to set strategies, share data and information, and evaluate best practices. The Vessel Delegation is looking forward to using Summit as a space to connect with our colleagues in WASH, learn from one another, and work toward strategic solutions that meet the needs of underserved communities in the US.

Water Affordability Innovations Delegation

Water and wastewater utilities heavily rely on customer bill payments as their primary source of revenue. However, not all customers can afford these services without making difficult choices, such as compromising on necessities like food or medicine. With water and wastewater rates rising faster than inflation in many places, utility customers are struggling more than ever. Innovative new approaches to addressing water and wastewater affordability challenges are being tried, but many utilities still lack comprehensive information regarding the costs, benefits, and feasibility of various approaches. This delegation is led by a team of researchers dedicated to assisting utilities across the nation in enhancing the efficacy, reach, and impact of their affordability programs. To achieve this goal, we are convening water utility staff, customer advocacy groups, community-based organizations, and other experts on this topic. The project itself will focus specifically on four areas in need of further exploration: measuring outcomes in affordability efforts, communications and outreach for affordability, the role of conservation and efficiency for affordability, and how to gain support from key local constituencies for meaningful affordability policies.

Water Equity and Climate Resilience Caucus Delegation

Launched in April 2018, The Water Equity and Climate Resilience (WECR) Caucus is a national network of frontline leaders and allies advancing policies and community solutions at the intersection of water, climate, and justice. Our mission is to honor water, promote generational water security, and build frontline climate resilience. Our collective work leverages community power and expertise—from cultural knowledge and lived experience to policy and scientific expertise—to drive change that addresses systemic inequities. The Caucus achieves this work through four main strategies: strengthening the leadership and capacity of frontline water and climate protectors, advocating for federal policy changes developed by the most impacted communities, lifting local water and climate justice leaders and solutions, and advancing a national narrative shift to de-commodify water. Our work includes national coordination, peer learning in topic and regional-focused workgroups, free training and resources, and more. The WECR Caucus Delegation is seeking to scale community-driven solutions, expand our water and climate knowledge, and share information on successful policies and strategies for authentic community engagement. The delegation also hopes to connect with other frontline water and climate leaders at One Water Summit.

West Tennessee H2O Delegation

The West Tennessee H2O Delegation is a broad group consisting of water authorities, non-governmental organizations, agriculture interests, private industry, utilities, and academia. The delegation will discuss regional water management in light of increased development headlined by the \$5.6-billion Ford Motor Company electric vehicle plant. West Tennessee sits atop one of the largest aquifer systems in the country, which provides all water for municipal, industrial, and agricultural needs. The Aquifer Recharge Zone covers the eastern portion of the region. Overall goals include building cross-jurisdictional relationships and determining strategies for wastewater expansion and flood mitigation while increasing the overall resilience of our aquifers and streams to protect human health. The delegation aims to build on TN H2O—Tennessee’s first-ever state water plan released in 2018—to find sustainable solutions to an area poised for rapid growth.

Our Sponsors

The US Water Alliance thanks our Sponsors for their generous support of One Water Summit 2023—without them this event would not be possible. Our Sponsors are true leaders in the One Water movement.



Addressing the critical need for optimized water distribution systems with InfoWater Pro

Simple modeling interface • Convenient Esri integration
Included premium features



 **AUTODESK**

autodesk.com/water

Recover. Revitalize. Reuse.

We believe access to clean water is a basic human right. We are working hard to ensure that our communities have more resilient water supply today and in the future. We are committed to helping our clients on their journey of water resource recovery and reuse, and environmental stewardship.

bv.com/water

 **BLACK & VEATCH**



Thinking of water in new ways

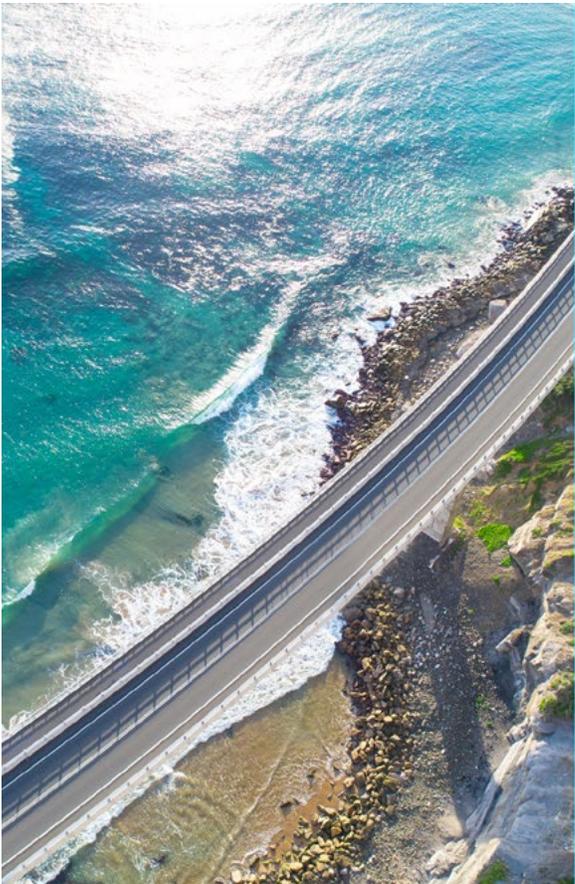
Water Supply and Treatment
Wastewater/Reclamation
Integrated Project Delivery
Smart Utility
One Water
Water Resources/Stormwater
Industrial Water
Remediation

Utility Performance
Infrastructure
Program Management
Construction Management
Compliance and Permitting
Operations and Maintenance
Emerging Contaminants and PFAS



Engineers | Scientists | Consultants | Constructors
100% Environmental | Employee Owned | BrownandCaldwell.com

©2023 Brown and Caldwell



A OneWater future, today.

At Jacobs, we think differently about water. We view all water as a valuable resource and work with clients to tackle the issues that impact communities: climate, safety, reliability, flooding and scarcity.

By looking at water through a OneWater lens we move beyond traditional silos, bringing an inclusive approach to developing a sustainable and equitable water future for all.

We integrate planning, implementation, and operations to develop local solutions that optimize the global water cycle and maximize synergies across markets.

Let us show you how our OneWater approach provides our clients and communities the foundations they need to flourish and grow.

Follow us @JacobsConnects | Jacobs.com



Jacobs

Challenging today.
Reinventing tomorrow.



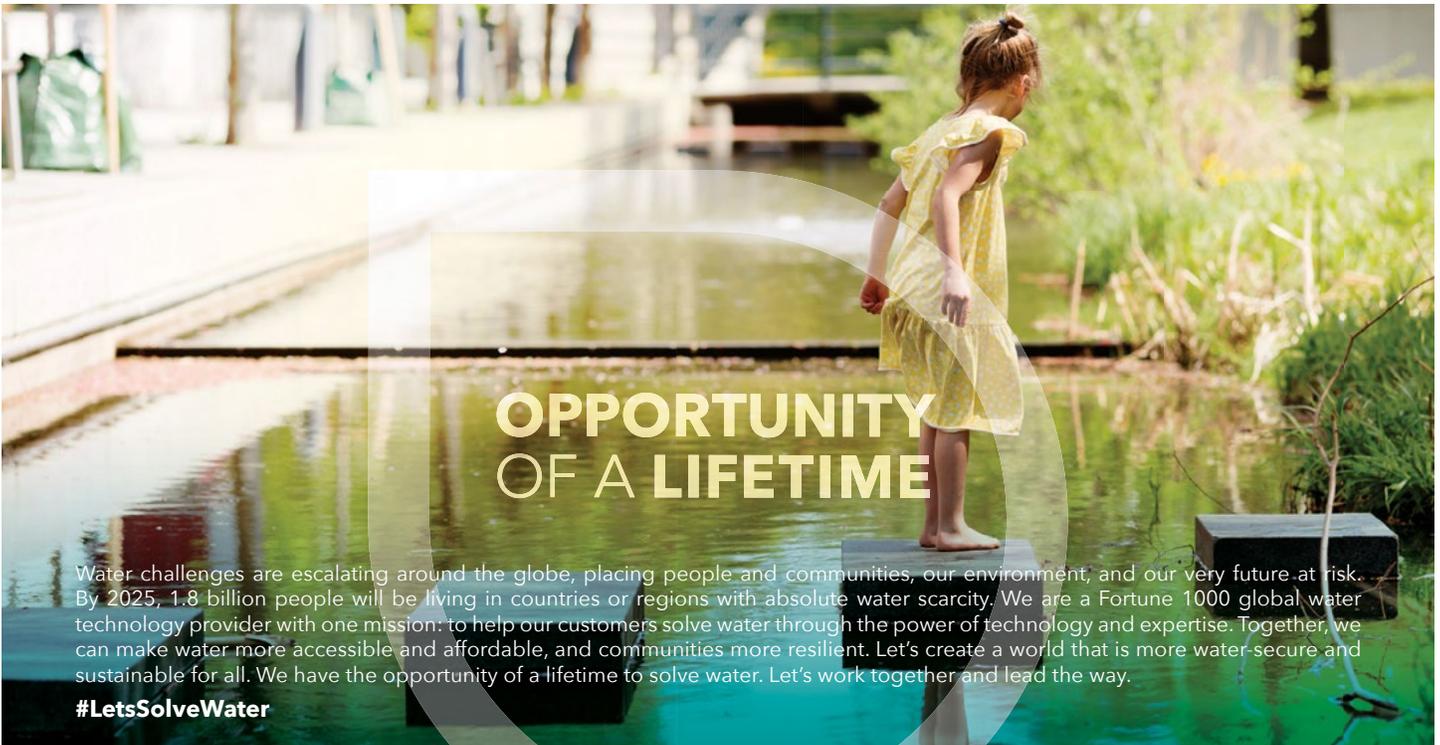
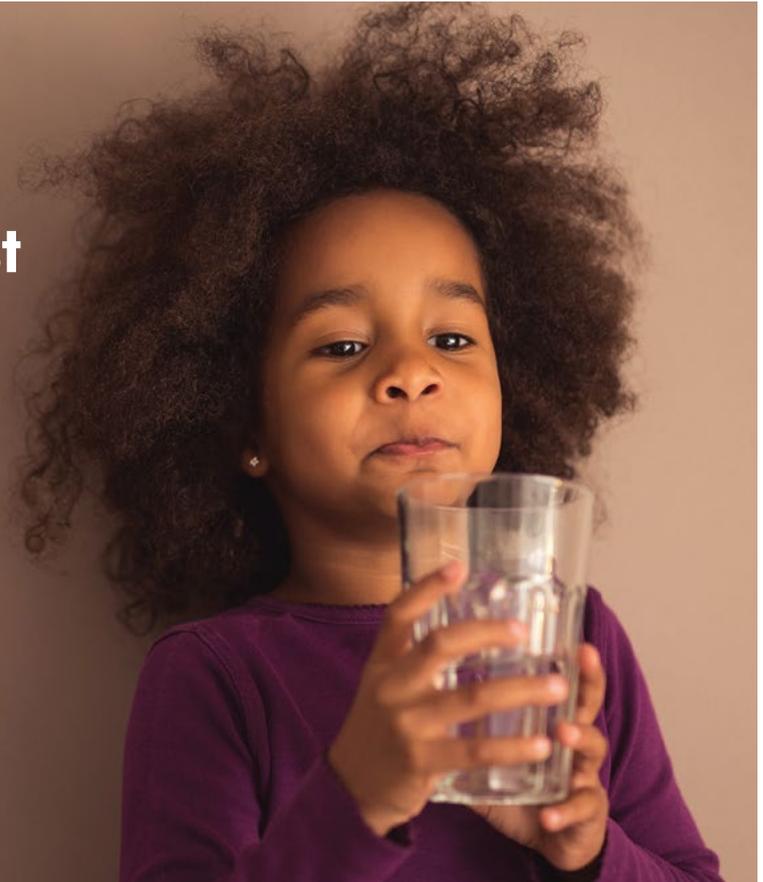
Safe drinking water is one of our greatest global challenges.

Stantec helps communities provide access to clean and affordable water.



Learn more about "A promising water pricing model for equity and financial resilience."

Design with community in mind
stantec.com/water



OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME

Water challenges are escalating around the globe, placing people and communities, our environment, and our very future at risk. By 2025, 1.8 billion people will be living in countries or regions with absolute water scarcity. We are a Fortune 1000 global water technology provider with one mission: to help our customers solve water through the power of technology and expertise. Together, we can make water more accessible and affordable, and communities more resilient. Let's create a world that is more water-secure and sustainable for all. We have the opportunity of a lifetime to solve water. Let's work together and lead the way.

#LetsSolveWater

www.xylem.com



Hotel Amenities

JW Marriott Starr Pass amenities include: scheduled morning guided hikes into the Tucson Mountain Park, morning Native-American prayer (Mitakuye Oyasin), nightly tequila toast in the Salud Lobby Lounge, one hour bike rental for up to two people, complimentary tee times on the nine hole walking "Coyote" golf course (excludes cart and club rentals), unlimited golf driving range access, and enhanced high-speed and wireless internet in the guest rooms. Discounted parking rates for attendees and speakers is available for \$5.00 per day.

Notice of Filming and Photography

By attending One Water Summit 2023, you enter an area where photography, audio, and video recording may occur. By entering the event premises, you consent to photography, audio recording, video recording and its/their release, publication, exhibition, or reproduction to be used by the US Water Alliance. By entering the event premises, you waive all rights for payment or royalties in connection with any use, as well as the right to approve any photo, video, or audio recording.



One Water, One Future.

[@USWaterAlliance](#)

[#OneWater](#)

uswateralliance.org

©2023 US Water Alliance. All rights reserved.