

Co-Chairs:



Rep. Cliff Bentz

Representative

Oregon State Legislature

After acquiring his Bachelors of Science degree (cum laude, 1974) from Eastern Oregon State College in La Grande, Rep. Bentz earned his Juris Doctorate (1977) from the Lewis and Clark Northwestern School of Law in Portland, Oregon. He has been a partner at the law firm of Yturri Rose, LLP, since 1981, where he specializes in water and business law. He is a member of the Oregon and Idaho Bar Associations. He also owns and operates a commercial real estate business and a row crop farm.

Currently, Representative Bentz serves on the following House Committees: Revenue (Vice-Chair); Transportation & Economic Development; Energy & Environment; Joint Department of Energy Oversight; Joint Transportation Preservation & Modernization; Legislative Counsel; and Joint Tax Credits. He also serves on the Legislative Council on River Governance, the Governor's Transportation Vision Panel, the Road User Fee Task Force, the Oregon Hunger Task Force, and the House/Senate Water Working Group. He is Assistant Republican Leader in the House.



Dr. David Hill

Director, Centres and Institutes and Research Advocacy

University of Lethbridge

Mr. Hill was appointed as the Program Director for the Alberta Water Research Institute in October of 2007. David has 35 years of experience in water management in Alberta. He has been involved in many projects related to water management. David has participated in leading-edge research projects, and in the review of provincial and federal policy, legislation and regulation. He has a keen interest in broadening participation and cooperation between diverse interests groups, with a view to achieving and implementing evidence-based pro-active water management solutions. He co-chaired a 5-year research initiative that developed highly advanced decision-support tools [computer models] for water management and on-farm irrigation practices. David has been a member of the Alberta Water Council since its inception. He is the current President of the Canadian Committee of Irrigation and Drainage [CANCID] and sits on the Board of Trustees for Inside Education. He has also served on Alberta's Endangered Species Conservation Committee, the Alberta Environmentally Sustainable Agriculture Council and was a member of the Northwest Irrigation Operators Inc., headquartered in Boise, Idaho. Mr. Hill was a

Canadian delegate to the Rosenberg International Forum on Water Policy held in 2004 in Ankara, Turkey, the Rosenberg Forum in Banff, Alberta in 2006 and the recent forum held in June 2008 in conjunction with Expo 2008 in Zaragoza, Spain. In 2005, David was part of the Alberta Research Mission to Israel, exploring opportunities for collaboration in water management and research between the two regions. He has presented and published technical papers on water management, sustainable development and integrated resource management in many Alberta, Canadian and North American venues.



Jim Honeyford

Senator

Washington State Legislature

Senator Honeyford worked as a Policeman, teacher, coach and librarian in Sunnyside until he became involved in government in 1994. Senator Honeyford has served as a Representative and a Senator for Washington since 1994, serving on many committees including Energy Environment & Telecommunications and Agriculture, Water & Rural Economic Development Committees and Joint Legislative Committee on Water Supply During Drought. Senator Honeyford served as the Republican Deputy Floor Leader from 2009-2015. He holds a B.A in Sociology and Education from Central Washington University and a Masters of Education in Instructional Media. He and his wife Jerri are the parents of four grown children.

Speakers:



Tom Byler

Director

Oregon Water Resources Department

Tom Byler is the Director of the Oregon Water Resources Department. Prior to this role, Tom served nine years as the Executive Director of the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board. Before OWEB, Tom worked as a Natural Resources Policy Advisor for Governor Kulongoski and Governor Kitzhaber. Prior to this work, he acted as the legislative and policy coordinator for the Oregon Water Resources Department.

Tom was born and raised in Pendleton. He received his B.A. from Willamette University and earned his law degree from the University of Oregon School of Law.



George Caan

Executive Director

Washington Public Utility Districts Association

George Caan has served as the executive director of the Washington Public Utility Districts Association since March of 2011.

Prior to joining the association, Mr. Caan served for 15 years as the executive director of the Colorado River Commission of Nevada the state agency responsible for Nevada's allocation of water and hydropower from the Colorado River.

Prior to his Nevada position, Mr. Caan worked as the deputy director of the Washington State Energy Office in Olympia, Washington.

Mr. Caan has a degree in mechanical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a MBA from Northeastern University. Mr. Caan is a registered professional engineer in the states of Washington and Nevada.



Kathie Dello

Associate Director

Oregon Climate Change Research Institute

Kathie Dello is the Associate Director of the Oregon Climate Change Research Institute and the Deputy Director of the Oregon Climate Service, which is the state climate office for Oregon. She is interested in working in the science/policy interface, and frequently visits and consults with local, state, and federal agencies around the region on a variety of climate and water issues. A bit of a weather nut, she is a go-to source on all things Oregon weather and climate. Kathie is a skilled climate communicator. She is featured often in the press and gives multiple talks around the region and country. Kathie received a Bachelors in Atmospheric Science and Masters in Geography from the University at Albany (SUNY). She has completed most of the requirements toward a PhD in Environmental Sciences at Oregon State University.



Senator Lee Heider

Senator

Idaho State Legislature

Senator Heider received his bachelor's degree from Brigham Young University and a master's in public administration from Ball State University. A retired Contractor/Broker, Senator Heider is a member of the Twin Falls City Council, Vice Mayor of Twin Falls, and chairs the River Governance Committee. He has

received Eagle Scout and Silver Beaver awards from the Boy Scouts of America, and is a member of the Pacific Fisheries Commission. Senator Heider has six children and 27 grandchildren with his wife Jan.



David Kennedy

Executive Manager for Environmental Planning and Analysis

Bonneville Power Administration

Dave Kennedy is the Executive Manager for Environmental Planning and Analysis division at the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA). The Environmental Planning and Analysis division conducts all required National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis for the agency and guides and directs the integration of environmental issues into BPA's business decision making. This function provides analysis and documentation of environmental compliance; strategic planning on environmental issues; NEPA decision integration and public involvement; endangered species compliance, cultural resource compliance and management; collaboration and coordination on environmental issues with federal, state, tribal, and other partners and regulatory agencies; and other environmental client services for all parts of the BPA in a cost effective manner. Dave has over 25 of experience of leading teams of planners, biologists, engineers, and archaeologists through complex NEPA planning and compliance for large federally-funded projects. Prior to joining BPA, Dave was in managing roles for environmental and NEPA compliance for the US Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration; US Department of Agriculture, US Forest Service; and private consulting.



Laura Kilcrease

CEO

Alberta Innovates

Laura Kilcrease leads Alberta Innovates as its Chief Executive Officer. Recruited from Austin, Texas, she is recognized as a significant motivator in shaping Austin's economic revitalization. Laura influenced the creation of the Austin Technology Council and co-founded the Austin Technology Incubator, where companies have raised over \$3 billion to date.

With over 25 years' experience in commercializing technology, Ms. Kilcrease is sharing her enthusiasm and entrepreneurial expertise to create innovation coalitions that leverage the talent and spirit of Alberta. Prior to becoming Alberta Innovates' CEO, Laura was a seven-year member of the Alberta Research and Innovation Advisory Committee.



Rhys Roth

Director

Center for Sustainable Infrastructure at The Evergreen State College

Rhys Roth is Director of the Center for Sustainable Infrastructure (CSI) at The Evergreen State College which is helping to bring innovation, new tools, and sustainability excellence to infrastructure planning and investment in the Pacific Northwest. Rhys authored CSI's influential inaugural report, Infrastructure Crisis, Sustainable Solutions and the first two installments in the '5 Big Goals for 2040' CSI report series: Rewiring the Northwest's Energy Infrastructure and A Northwest Vision for 2040 Water Infrastructure. Prior to founding CSI, Rhys co-founded and helped lead for over 15 years the non-profit group Climate Solutions. Rhys earned a Masters in Environmental Studies in 1990 from The Evergreen State College



John Shurts

General Counsel

Northwest Power and Conservation Council

John Shurts is the General Counsel for the Northwest Power and Conservation Council in Portland, Oregon, an interstate compact agency formed by the states of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. Under the Northwest Power Act of 1980, the Council develops a regional electrical power plan for the Pacific Northwest and a fish and wildlife protection and mitigation program for the Columbia River Basin.



Senator Michelle Stennett

Senator

Idaho State Legislature

Senator Stennett has a B.A. in International Relations – Environmental Studies, a B.A. in Latin languages, and a minor in Business from the University of Oregon. She holds a Certificat d'Etudes from the Universite de Poitiers and a Legislative Energy Horizon Institute certificate from the University of Idaho.

Senator Stennett represents District 26 in the Idaho State Senate which encompasses Blaine, Camas, Gooding and Lincoln Counties. She is the Minority Leader in the Idaho Senate and was the Minority Caucus Chair before. She serves on the State Affairs and Resources & Environment committees. She is appointed to several interim committees focusing on natural resources, fisheries, water issues, workforce development, and ethics in politics.



Michael Stuhr

Administrator

Portland Water Bureau

Michael Stuhr has over 30 years of experience leading and managing a wide variety of engineering activities and more than 10 years as a senior executive with state, federal, and international experience managing multimillion-dollar environmental, water resource, and facilities engineering programs. As Administrator of the Portland Water Bureau, he is responsible for the ongoing operation of the bureau, as well as long-range planning, organizational development, facilitation of regional partnerships, and coordination with governments and regulators. Mr. Stuhr joined the Bureau in 2003 and was the Director of Maintenance and Construction during his first two years and Director of Engineering for 10 years. Mr. Stuhr became the Administrator in 2015.

Michael Stuhr is a registered professional Civil Engineer. Mr. Stuhr has a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering from the United States Military Academy at West Point, a Master of Science degree in Geotechnical Engineering from Stanford University, and a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of California, Davis



Emily York

Climate and Health Program Lead

Oregon Public Health Division

Emily York leads the State of Oregon's Climate and Health Program in the Oregon Health Authority's Public Health Division. She currently serves as a co-author of the forthcoming National Climate Assessment and was lead author of the recently published Oregon Climate and Health Resilience Plan. She coordinates the Oregon Climate and Health Collaborative made up of local health jurisdictions and co-chairs the NW Climate and Health Network. She also co-chairs a national community of practice on climate and health communications, serves as an advisor to the International Transformational Resilience Coalition, and is a board member of the Oregon Farmers Market Association. Emily has graduate degrees in public health and sustainability from Portland State University and undergraduate degrees in planning and visual communications from the University of Washington. Before joining the State, Emily led local policy initiatives at the City of Portland and worked with the Coalition for a Livable Future.