

**2022 Governor's Water Conference  
Draft Agenda**

**Tuesday, November 15, 2022**

4:00 – 6:00 p.m. – Early Registration & Vendor Set-up

6:00 – 7:30 p.m. – Welcome Event

**Wednesday, November 16, 2022**

7:30 a.m. – Registration/Tour Exhibits

8:30 a.m. – Opening Session/Welcome

*Connie Owen, Kansas Water Office Director*

8:40 a.m. – Presentation of Colors

8:45 a.m. – Welcome

*Mayor Pro Tem Mark Hatesohl*

9:00 a.m. – Kansas Water Plan Implementation Progress

*Matt Unruh, Kansas Water Office*

9:30 a.m. – Governor's Office

9:50 a.m. – Water Legacy Award Presentation

*10:00 a.m. – Break/Tour Exhibits*

10:15 a.m. – Roger Pulwarty, NOAA

11:00 a.m. – Collin O'Mara, National Wildlife Federation

*11:45 a.m. – Vendor networking and lunch set up*

12:00 p.m. – Lunch

*12:30 p.m. "Success Stories" Presentation*

*1:15 p.m. – Release for dessert bar*

1:30 p.m. – Afternoon Breakout Session:

*Lucas Bessire, Author*

*2:15 p.m. – Break/Tour Exhibits*

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. – Afternoon Breakout Sessions:

**Current Events: Drought**

*Moderator: Doug Kluck, NOAA*

Michael Sheer, Hazen and Sawyer

Ryan Larsen, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Northwestern Division

Jim Butler, Kansas Geological Survey, University of Kansas

**Regenerative Agriculture to Restore Kansas Resources**

*Moderator: Travis Sieve, Kansas Dept. of Health and Environment*

Andy Lyon, Kansas Dept. of Agriculture, Division of Conservation

Eric Fuchs, Understanding Ag

TBD

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3:30 p.m. – Break/Tour Exhibits

3:45 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. – Afternoon Breakout Sessions:

**Kansas Water Challenges from a Utility Perspective**

*Moderator: Tracy Streeeter*

Toby Dougherty, City Manager, City of Hays

Matt Allen, City Manager, Garden City

Steve Shute, Vice-Mayor, City of Gardner

**Groundwater Issues: Nitrate and Water Quality**

*Moderator: Tom Stiles, Kansas Dept. of Health and Environment*

Fred Jones, City of Garden City

Mike Schultz, Upper Republican RAC

Rob Gavin, Kansas Dept. of Health and Environment

4:45 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. – Optional Session:

**A discussion on the Tomorrow's Water program:**

*An open meeting to discuss partnering with local communities to create an actionable plan to ensure a clean and sustainable water supply*

5:30 p.m. – Evening Social - (5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.)

**Thursday, November 17, 2022**

7:15 a.m. - Registration/Student Poster Set Up

8:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. – Concurrent Sessions

**A. Surface Water Issues**

- *Aquatic Nuisance Species - Status, Impacts, and Opportunities in Kansas*; Chris Steffen, Kansas Dept. of Wildlife and Parks
- *Utilizing the SWAT model & machine learning for predicting microcystin & geosmin occurrence in Cheney Reservoir*; Chen Liang, University of Kansas
- *Reconstructing historical water quality patterns in large Kansas reservoirs*; Ted Harris, Kansas Biological Survey, University of Kansas; Jennifer Moody, Kansas Biological Survey, University of Kansas

**B. Education and Outreach**

- *Unifying Water Buckets with Knowledge -- Improving Water Quality & Water Conservation*; Stacie Minson, KCARE; Holly Dickman, City of Hays
- *The Arc of Kansas Water Policy: Oral History Interviews*; Rex Buchanan, Kansas Geological Survey, University of Kansas

**C. Water and Human Health**

- *Lessons learned from a voluntary drinking water testing project with schools and childcare facilities*; Brian Bohnsack, Wichita State University
- *A Movement for Clean Water in Kansas Schools*; Jenna Gorton, Community Action; Tanya Dorf Brunner, Oral Health Kansas
- *Empathy and the Impact of Utility Rates on Customers*; Michelle DeHaven, Wichita State University

**D. Groundwater Conservation Measures**

- *Preferences for Groundwater Management: A Survey of Kansas Irrigators*; Nathan Hendricks, Kansas State University

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- *Are groundwater conservation management areas in the High Plains aquifer truly saving water*; Donald O. Whittemore, Kansas Geological Survey, University of Kansas; Jim Butler, Kansas Geological Survey, University of Kansas
- *GMD 1's Proposed Four County LEMA*, Katie Durham, Groundwater Management District 1; David Barfield, Kansas Water Resources Consulting

### E. Sedimentation in Reservoirs

- *KRRFSS update – What happens if we do nothing*; USACE staff
- *Tuttle Creek Lake Water Injection Dredging (WID) Update*; Josh Olson, Kansas Water Office
- *North Carolina Ports Water Injection Dredging (WID) Results*; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC)

9:15 a.m. – Break/Tour Student Posters

#### Book Signing with Lucas Bessire

9:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. – Concurrent Sessions

### A. Arkansas River Basin Water Quality Issues Panel

*Moderator: Susan Metzger, Kansas Center for Agricultural Resources and the Environment (KCARE) and the Kansas Water Resources Institute (KWRI)*

- Derek White, Colorado farmer
- Jonathan Aguiar, Kansas State University
- Tom Stiles, Kansas Dept. of Health and Environment
- Nicole Rowan, Colorado Dept. of Public Health and Environment
- Steve Frost, Kansas Dept. of Agriculture
- Cindy Lair, Colorado Dept. of Agriculture
- Frank Mercurio, Syracuse Dairy
- Fred Jones, City of Garden City
- Donald O. Whittemore, Kansas Geological Survey, University of Kansas

### B. Groundwater Modeling

- *Recharge enhancement in depleting aquifers: Delay of drainage by low-permeability sediment*; Gaisheng Liu, Kansas Geological Survey, University of Kansas
- *Three-Dimensional Model of the Kansas River Valley from Drillers' Logs*; Geoffrey Bohling, Kansas Geological Survey, University of Kansas
- *Evaluating groundwater conservation using emerging remotely sensed products*; Sam Zipper, Kansas Geological Survey, University of Kansas

### C. Flood Data and Mapping Tools

- *Visualizing Flood, Drought, and Fire from one tool: The Rapid Image Viewer*; Kenneth Ekpeter, University of Kansas; Jude Kastens, Kansas Biological Survey, University of Kansas
- *Lower Missouri River: Flood Risk Data for the Future*; Will Zung, Stantec; Anish Pradhananga, Stantec
- *It's Finally Here: A Live Flood Mapping Tool for Kansas*; Jude Kastens, Kansas Biological Survey, University of Kansas

### D. Emerging Issues

- *Produced Water Reuse and Recovery in Kansas: Assessing our Options*; Edward Peltier, University of Kansas
- *Water Implications of the Energy Transition Away from Emitting Carbon Dioxide*; Franek Hasiuk, Kansas Geological Survey, University of Kansas

### E. Stream Erosion and it's Impacts

- *Using Low-Tech, Process-Based, In-stream Structures to Restore Incised Streams and Riparian Ecosystems*; Huy Le, Juniper Environmental; Gary Koons, Juniper Environmental
- *Marysville Dam Failure*; Michael Mansfield, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District
- *Recreation Impacts from Sedimentation*; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

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11:00 a.m. – Break/Tour Student Posters

11:15 a.m. – 12:10 p.m. – Mini Concurrent Sessions

**A. Playa Lakes in Kansas**

- *Evaluating Playas in Western Kansas: Recharge to the High Plains aquifer and Economics of Cropping*; Tony Layzell, Kansas Geological Survey, University of Kansas; Jude Kastens, Kansas Biological Survey, University of Kansas
- *Kansas Wetlands & The Kansas Water Initiative*; Matthew Hough, Ducks Unlimited, Inc.; Jim Pitman, Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

**B. Crops in a Changing Climate**

- *Impact of Climate Change on Suitability of Major Crops in Eastern Kansas River*; Rintu Sen, Kansas State University
- *DropXL Sorghum: Developing Water Optimized Sorghum for Kansas using drone imagery and data driven approaches*; Md Adbullah Al Bari, Kansas State University; Sarah Sexton-Bowser, Kansas State University

**C. Municipal Water Supply**

- *Current Status and Projects of the Drinking Water Protection (DWP) Program at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment*; Logan M. Smith, Kansas Dept. of Health and Environment
- *Municipal Water Project Planning & Implementation in an Unprecedented Environment*; Jake White, Burns & McDonnell; Brian Meier, Burns & McDonnell

**D. Hydrologic Trends in Kansas**

- *Long-Term Water-Quality Constituent Concentrations, Loads, and Trends in the Little Arkansas River, South-Central Kansas, 1995–2021*; Mandy Stone, U.S. Geological Survey; Brian Klager, U.S. Geological Survey
- *Technical Assistance and Western Kansas: The Wild West of Hydrology*; Lori Schrader, Stantec; Tara Lanzrath, KS Dept. of Agriculture

**E. Management Techniques for Groundwater**

- *Flickner Innovation Farm: Growing for the Future*; Ray Flickner, Flickner Farms
- *Feasibility of Augmenting Streamflow on Rattlesnake Creek from Pumped Groundwater*; Jim Schneider, Olsson

12:10 p.m. – Break

12:30 p.m. – Lunch

1:15 p.m. – Student Poster Awards

1:40 p.m. – Closing Speaker  
TBD

2:20 p.m. – Closing Words  
Connie Owen, Kansas Water Office