



National Association of Wetland Managers

Annual State/Tribal/Federal Coordination Meeting

Protecting and Restoring Wetlands for People and Wildlife

May 2 - 4, 2023

*Optional field trip on May 5th.

Arbor Day Farm's Lied Lodge
Nebraska City, NE



Image by Mariah Lundgren
Platte Basin Timelapse

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DRAFT AGENDA

Protecting & Restoring Wetlands for People and Wildlife

Monday, May 1st (Pre-Meeting)

- 7:00pm – 9:00pm Registration
- 7:30pm – 9:30pm NAWM Board Meeting

Tuesday, May 2nd

Day 1 Morning: Exploring New Ground: Regulatory Changes and Updates for States and Tribes

- 7:30am – 11:30am Registration
- 8:30am – 9:30am Welcome and Opening Remarks
- Bradley Brandt, Arbor Day Foundation, Senior Program Manager
 - Tim McCoy, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, Director
 - Mark Biddle, NAWM Board of Directors, Chair
 - Marla Stelk, NAWM, Executive Director
- 9:30am – 10:00am BREAK
- 10:00am – 10:30am WOTUS or Welcome from EPA and/or Army Corps
- 10:30am – 11:00am Exploring New Ground: CWA Section 404(g) (Kathy Hurd, U.S. EPA)
- 11:00am – 11:30am Other federal regulatory updates
- 11:30am – 1:00pm LUNCH

Day 1 Afternoon: Migrating Toward the Future: Advancing State & Tribal Wetland Programs

- 1:00pm – 1:30pm Tribal Water Quality Standards (TBD)

- 1:30pm – 2:00pm EPA's CWSRF: Below-Market Financing for Wetlands Conservation and Restoration (Alison Souders, U.S. EPA)
- 2:00pm – 2:30pm Nebraska's Clean Water Act 404 Assumption Journey (Dane Pauley, NE Dept. of Environment & Energy)
- 3:00pm – 3:30pm BREAK
- 3:30pm – 4:00pm Advancing the Integration of Clean Water Act Programs with Natural Hazard Mitigation Planning (Ian Grosfelt, National Association of Wetland Managers)
- 4:00pm – 4:45pm CEF Refresh – CC - EJ Discussion (Rebecca Dils, U.S. EPA)

Day 1 Evening Activities

- 7:30pm – 9:00pm Wetland Videos & Popcorn

Wednesday, May 3rd

Day 2 Morning: Finding Common Ground: Wetlands and Agriculture

- 7:30am – 11:30am Registration
- 8:30am – 9:00am Welcome, Overview, Announcements
- 9:00am – 9:30am Nebraska Agricultural Mitigation Banking: An Emerging Option for Farmers to Maintain Wetland Compliance and Support Quality Habitat Restoration Mike Glester, Magnolia Land Partners)
- 9:30am – 10:00am What speeds and slows wetland and stream restoration: Insights from research on mitigation bank approval timelines (Becca Madsen, Environmental Policy Innovation Center)
- 10:00am – 11:00am BREAK AND GROUP PHOTO
- 11:00am – 11:30am Individual presentation
- 11:30am – 1:00pm LUNCH

Day 2 Afternoon: Sharing the Marsh: Wetlands, Wildlife, & People

- 1:00pm – 1:30pm Wetland and Floodplain Restoration in New Mexico – Part 2: Leveraging Stakeholder Engagement, Volunteer Efforts and Sound Science to Restore Multi-Use Habitat in the Valle Vidal (Karen Menetrey, Rio Grande Return; Andy Robertson, Saint Mary's University of Minnesota Geospatial Services)
- 1:30pm – 2:00pm Working together and getting along for better results - Saline Wetlands Conservation Partnership (Tom Malmstrom, City of Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department)
- 2:00pm – 2:30pm The Endangered Species Act at 50: the importance of wetlands to threatened and endangered species (Jonathan Phinney, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory)

- 2:30pm – 3:00pm NAWM Awards
- 3:00pm – 3:30pm BREAK
- 3:30pm – 4:15pm Aquatic Organism Passage Panel
- 4:15pm – 5:00pm Wetlands and Recreation Panel

Day 2 Evening Activities

- 7:00pm – 8:00pm NAWM General Membership Meeting
- 8:00pm – 11:00pm Bonfire

Thursday, May 4th

Day 3 Morning: Learning to Fly: Advances in Geospatial Tools and Technology

- 8:30am – 11:30am Registration
- 9:00am – 9:15am Welcome, Overview, Announcements
- 9:15am – 10:00am Wetland Mapping Consortium Panel: Automation and Compliance with FGDC and NWI Standards
- 10:00am – 10:30am BREAK (Silent Auction Bidding Ends)
- 10:30am – 11:00am Individual presentation
- 11:00am – 11:30am Remote Biologists – Integrating UAS and Spatial Data in Wetland Detection & Modeling (Blake Walter, Felsburg Holt & Ullevig)
- 11:30am – 12:00pm Advance Wetlands Monitoring and Assessment Information Platform: Learning from Drones and Open-accessing Near Real-time Satellites (Zhenghong Tang, University of Nebraska-Lincoln)
- 12:00pm – 1:30pm LUNCH

Day 3 Afternoon: Warbling About Wetlands: Effective Communication and Outreach Strategies

- 1:30pm – 2:00pm Wet and Wild Learning in Nebraska: shaping a statewide wetlands outreach and education project wired for a 21st century audience (Ted LaGrange, Nebraska Game & Parks Commission)
- 2:00pm – 3:00pm Integrating Project WET, Water Quality, Wetlands, GIS and H2Ohio into the 7th Grade Curriculum (Laura Manns, Ohio Wetlands Association)
- 3:00pm – 3:30pm BREAK
- 3:30pm – 4:00pm Promote “integrative planning” for wetland conservation: Learning from multiple types of local plans in Nebraska (Zhenghong Tang, University of Nebraska-Lincoln)
- 4:00pm – 4:30pm Individual presentation
- 4:30pm – 5:00pm Closing Remarks & Raffle Drawing

Friday, May 5th

Field Trip

An Ecological and Historical Outing Along the Missouri River

Sponsored by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

The Missouri River has been highly altered the past century, including impoundment and channelization, eliminating thousands of acres of aquatic and terrestrial habitats, including many fringe and floodplain wetlands. The mainstem upstream impoundments have changed the natural hydrograph, temperature, and turbidity profile, which negatively affected many native species. The field trip will be by boat, with Nebraska Game and Parks Commission fisheries biologists who are very familiar with operating on the Missouri River. The several hour boat tour will begin and end in Nebraska City, and shuttles will be provided to get people to and from the boat ramp. During the tour, we will sightsee the current channelized Missouri River, visit a couple of early fish and wildlife habitat mitigation sites, talk about wetland restoration efforts, and discuss the associated Missouri River fish and wildlife species.

There is no charge for the field trip. Please come prepared for the weather and life jackets will be provided.