

2025 Working DRAFT Agenda (August 11, 2025)

2025 COALITION OF RIO GRANDE WATER USERS 3rd ANNUAL CONFERENCE

“Creating a Rio Grande Coalition”

Sponsored by *New Mexico Irrigation Leader* magazine
El Dorado Hotel & Spa
309 W San Francisco Street
Santa Fe, NM 87501
September 30-October 2

TUESDAY, September 30

Lobby Bar

5:00-7:00 p.m. **Welcome Reception Sponsored by Rubicon Water**

WEDNESDAY, October 1

7:30 a.m. **Networking Continental Breakfast and Coffee**

7:50 a.m. Welcome: Kris Polly
 New Mexico Irrigation Leader magazine

Invocation: Glenn Tenorio (Invited)
 Water Resources Irrigation Program Manager
 Department of Natural Resources
 Pueblo of Santa Ana

Pledge of Allegiance

8:00 a.m. **Keynote: Working Together on the Rio Grande**
 Brian Richter
 President, Sustainable Waters

8:30 a.m. **Six Middle Rio Grande Pueblo Coalition**

Speakers: Eugene Jiron (Invited)
 Governor of Isleta Pueblo

Glenn Tenorio (Invited)
Water Resources Specialist/Irrigation

Pueblo of Santa Ana, Manager,
Six Middle Rio Grande Pueblo Coalition Vice Chairman

9:30 a.m.

New Zealand River Management

Speaker: Elizabeth Soal
Contributing Editor
New Zealand Irrigation Leader magazine

10:00 a.m.

Networking Break

10:30 a.m.

Urban Investment in the Watersheds

Speakers: Mark Kelly, PE
Water Resources Division Manager
Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority

William H. Schneider, P.G. (Invited)
Water Resource and Conservation Manager
City of Santa Fe Water

Mr. Ikani Taumoepeau (Invited)
City Manager
City of Las Cruces

11:30 a.m.

Rio Grande Basin Study

Speakers: Jennifer Faler
Area Office Manager
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

12:00 noon

Lunch

Speaker: John Fleck (Invited)
Director of Water Resources, Department of Economics
University of New Mexico
Colorado River Research Group

1:30 p.m.

Ethics Training

Speaker: Diane Campanile
SHRM – Senior Certified Professional
MJ – Labor and Employment Law
Certified Corporate Trainer
People-Dynamics

2:30 p.m.

Case Study on Canal Lining, MRGCD Pilot Project

Speakers: Jason Casuga
General Manager
MRGCD

Brian Nami
Business Development Manager – Central USA

Concrete Canvas USA

3:00 p.m.

Ice Cream Sundae Break

3:30 p.m.

Updated Stormwater Modeling

Speaker: Sam Colter
Civil Engineering Masters Student
University of New Mexico

4:00 p.m.

Canal Hydropower

Speaker: Steve Johnson
Senior Director of Business Development
Emrgy

Casey Ish
Conservation Program/Special Projects Manager
Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District

4:30 p.m.

Technology and Services Introductions

5:00-6:30 p.m.

Technology and Services Reception

THURSDAY, October 2

7:30 a.m.

Networking Continental Breakfast and Coffee

7:50 a.m.

Welcome: Kris Polly
New Mexico Irrigation Leader magazine

Invocation: Glenn Tenorio (Invited)
Water Resources Irrigation Program Manager
Department of Natural Resources
Pueblo of Santa Ana

Pledge of Allegiance

8:00 a.m.

Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas State Legislature Priorities

Speaker/Moderator: David Robbins (Invited)
President & Co-Founder, Hill & Robbins P.C.

Speakers: Cleave Simpson (Invited)
Senator
Colorado General Assembly

Representative Christina Ortiz (Invited)
Chair of the House Agriculture, Acequias and
Water Resources Committee

New Mexico State Legislature

Texas

- 9:30 a.m. **Supplies Through Water Exchanges**
Speaker: Sandy Fabritz
Director of Water Strategies
Freeport McMoRan
- 10:00 a.m. **Networking Break**
- 10:30 a.m. **Building a Rio Grande Coalition**
Speaker/Moderator: David Robbins
President & Co-Founder, Hill & Robbins P.C
- Speakers: Liz Anderson (Invited)
State Engineer, New Mexico
- Jason Ullmann (Invited)
State Engineer, Colorado Division of Water Resources
- L'Oreal Stepney (Invited)
Chairwoman, Texas Water Development Board
- 12:00 p.m. **Lunch**
Speaker: Paula Garcia (Invited)
Executive Directors
New Mexico Acequia Association
- 1:30 p.m. **Reclamation Update**
Speakers: Acting Commissioner David Palumbo (Invited)
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- 2:00 p.m. **Bureau of Indian Affairs Update**
Speaker: Bryan Bald Eagle (Invited)
Administrative Officer of the Eastern Region Office
Bureau of Indian Affairs
- 2:30 p.m. **International Boundary and Water Commission Update**
Speaker: Jennifer Pena (Invited)
Chief Legal Counsel
El Paso Metropolitan Area
International Boundary and Water Commission, US Section
- 3:00 p.m. **Networking Break**
- 3:30 p.m. **Texas v. New Mexico Settlement**
Speakers: Jeffrey Wechsler (Invited)

Lead counsel and Counsel of Record for the State of New Mexico

5:00-6:00 p.m. **Closing Reception**
Lobby Bar

HOTEL INFORMATION: The conference will take place at the El Dorado Hotel & Spa, 309 W San Francisco Street, Santa Fe, NM 87501. Your reservation includes full buffet breakfast, complimentary airport shuttle service, complimentary Internet service, and free parking. To make or confirm your room reservation, please call (800) 955-4455.