



2023 Washington D.C. Roundtable

April 4th-5th | Doubletree Hotel –Crystal City
300 Army Navy Drive, Arlington, VA

Water Policy Summit – April 5th **Speaker Bios**

Supplemental info provided by the panelists is on the Roundtable's Water Policy Summit page:
<https://icwp.org/news/2023-washington-dc-roundtable-policy-summit/>

Participants:

- **American Water Works Association (AWWA) – Tracy Meehan**
- **Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) – Jason Olive**
- **Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA) – Erica Brown**
- **Consortium of Universities for the Advancement of Hydrologic Science, Inc. (CUAHSI) – Jordan Read**
- **National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies (NAFSMA) – Susan Gilson**
- **National Waterways Conference (NWC) – Julie Ufner**
- **Western States Water Council (WSWC) – Michelle Bushman**

Tracy Meehan, American Water Works Association

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Tracy Meehan is Executive Director for Government Affairs at the American Water Works Association. He served as Assistant Administrator, Office of Water at the US EPA 2001-2003 as well as the EPA's Environmental Financial Advisory Board from 2014-2018. Mr. Meehan also served as director of the Michigan Office of the Great Lakes and a member of then Governor John Engler's Cabinet (1993-2001). Meehan is a graduate of Saint Louis University and its School of Law. He is a member of the Missouri Bar and the recipient of the 2004 Environment Award from the Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies (AMSA) and the 2003 Elizabeth Jester Fellows Environmental Partnership Award from the Association of State & Interstate Water Pollution Control Administrators (ASWIPCA). Meehan is an adjunct Professor in Environmental Law at the Antonin Scalia Law School at George Mason University and the Heinz College, Carnegie Mellon University. Meehan is also a member of the Environmental Law Institute for which he writes regular book reviews in its flagship publication, The Environmental Forum. He also serves on the boards of directors of the Great Lakes Observing System and the U.S. Water Alliance. He is a member of the Advisory Board for the Center for Environmental Policy, School of Public Affairs, at American University.

Jason Olive, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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Jason Olive is the Chair of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' (AFWA) Subcommittee on Water. The Subcommittee works within AFWA's Fisheries and Water Resources Policy Committee. Jason has served in this role since 2019. Jason's full time job is the Chief of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's Fisheries Division. He has served in that role for just under a year, following seven years as the Assistant Chief of Fisheries. Jason has both a BS and MS degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Science from Mississippi State University.

Erica Brown, Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies

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Erica Brown is passionate about water and raising its profile in the minds of people not “in” the water sector. As Chief Policy and Strategy Officer for the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA) in Washington, D.C. Erica provides the provides strategic vision, innovation, and direction for the organization’s utility management and policy programs and related educational content. She develops strategies to support and promote policies and innovations that enable utilities to enhance their resilience and build a strong and sustainable organization amidst environmental, regulatory and community changes. Outside of water sector work, Erica is a Girl Scout troop leader who loves walking in the woods. She and her husband aspire to raise their daughters to be content, compassionate and resilient humans.

Jordan Read, Consortium of Universities for the Advancement of Hydrologic Science, Inc.

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Jordan Read (he/him) is the Executive Director at CUAHSI. In this role, Jordan develops and implements the overall strategy for CUAHSI, maintains and builds partner relationships, and helps to ensure sustainability of the organization. Prior to joining CUAHSI, Jordan established the U.S. Geological Survey Water Data Science Branch to advance capabilities in modeling, data visualization, and reproducible science. Jordan has a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering (Environmental Fluid Mechanics) from the University of Wisconsin - Madison.

Susan Gilson, National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies

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Susan Gilson has worked with NAFSMA since 1989 and has served as the organization’s Executive Director since 1993. She has an extensive background in water resources policy issues and works closely with the congressional staff, and officials of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Federal Emergency Management Agency/Department of Homeland Security and others on legislative and regulatory issues. Prior to becoming NAFSMA's Executive Director on a full-time basis in January 2008, Susan was a managing associate in the Water Resources, Transportation and Environment Practice at Carmen Group, Inc. Ms. Gilson received her B.A. degree in Political Science.

Julie Ufner, National Waterways Conference

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In November 2019, Julie A. Ufner became the President and CEO of the National Waterways Conference, Inc (NWC). As President, Ms. Ufner serves as the chief executive officer of the

corporation and has authority to manage its affairs and direct its activities. Established in 1960, NWC is the only national organization to advocate for the full spectrum of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers water resources programs, including navigation, flood control, water supply, hydroelectric power, and regulatory. NWC advocates for congressional authorizations, funding and common-sense administrative policies that recognize the public benefits of our nation's water resources infrastructure. Prior to coming to NWC, for 17 years Ms. Ufner served as Associate Legislative Director for Environment, Energy and Land Use at the National Association of Counties (NACo), the only national association representing America's 3,069 county governments. She joined NACo in June of 2002 from the office of former Representative Phil English (Pa.), where she had four years of legislative experience working on a number of issues, including environmental policy, human resources, energy, banking and international affairs. Prior to her political experience, Ms. Ufner worked with adolescents, teens and adults with mental health illnesses. She has traveled overseas extensively, including several stints living and studying in Japan. Ms. Ufner originally hails from Butler County in western Pennsylvania. She is a graduate of Slippery Rock University in Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania and currently lives in Alexandria, VA.

Michelle Bushman, Western States Water Council

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Michelle Bushman is the Associate Director and General Counsel for the Western States Water Council. Michelle joined the Council staff in 2015 and enjoys tackling water policy issues such as jurisdiction over waters of the U.S. and waters of the states, federal reserved water rights, interstate compacts, Indian water rights settlements, droughts, floods, wildfires, harmful algal blooms, subseasonal-to-seasonal precipitation forecasting, water data continuity and gaps to narrow for improved water management, cooperative federalism and collaborative state-federal relationships, water infrastructure, water reuse, aquifer storage and recovery, conjunctive use of surface and groundwater, and other topics impacting the quality, quantity, and careful management of water throughout the West. Michelle graduated with BS and MS degrees in geology from Brigham Young University, with a cross-discipline emphasis on geochemistry, hydrology, and geophysics. She managed a stable isotope lab for three years, enjoyed working on several seismic surveys, and loves field trips and spending time outdoors. Her master's thesis studied the contribution of groundwater recharge along regional flow paths to discharge at Ash Meadows, Nevada. She graduated with a JD from the J. Reuben Clark Law School, where she studied water law, natural resources and environmental law. She came to the Council with seven years of civil litigation experience and a passion for water. She grew up in the West, living in six of the Council's member states, and is descended from five generations of western farmers and ranchers who understood the critical role of limited water resources for steady work and quality of life.