



# 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Water Symposium

Tuesday, April 7, 2026, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Embassy Suites, Loveland

Scan to engage in polls and ask questions

8-9 a.m. Check in and Networking

9 a.m. Welcome & Opening Remarks..... **Dennis Yanchunas**  
*Chair, Northern Water Board of Directors*  
**Brad Wind**  
*General Manager, Northern Water*

9:30 a.m. Northern Integrated Supply Project: Moving Forward

Panel
<p><b>Lisa Thompson</b> <i>Attorney, Trout Raley</i></p> <p><b>Brad Wind</b> <i>General Manager, Northern Water</i></p>

9:45 a.m. Three Lakes MOU: Adaptive Management Update ..... **Esther Vincent**  
*Director of Environmental Services, Northern Water*

10 a.m.  A Holistic Strategy for Improving Three Lakes Water Quality (10 minutes)

10:10 a.m. Colorado River: A Changing River ..... **Kyle Whitaker**  
*Moderator, Colorado River Programs Manager, Northern Water*

Panel
<p><b>Becky Mitchell</b> <i>Colorado River Commissioner</i></p> <p><b>Amy Ostdiek</b> <i>Section Chief of Interstate, Federal and Water Information Section, CO Water Conservation Board</i></p>

10:40 a.m. **BREAK, NETWORKING & PROJECT TABLE ENGAGEMENT**

11 a.m. Water Roundup  
Water Efficiency Services for Drought Response ..... **Darren Nowels**  
*Senior Water Efficiency Planner, Northern Water*  
Introducing the Colorado Water Center Team ..... **Karen Schlatter**  
*Director, Colorado Water Center*  
2026 Rate Study ..... **Sander Blackburn**  
*Director of Finance & Administration, Northern Water*

11:20 a.m. Chimney Hollow Reservoir: Our Commitment to You ..... **Chris Manley**  
*Senior Water Quality Policy Specialist, Northern Water*

11:40 a.m. **LUNCH, NETWORKING & PROJECT TABLE ENGAGEMENT**

12:25 p.m. Water Year Outlook  
 Division Engineer Update.....**Michael Hein**  
*Lead Assistant Division Engineer, Division 1, Colorado Division of Water Resources*  
 Water Supply Update: Spring 2026 ..... **Luke Shawcross**  
*Water Resources Department Manager, Northern Water*

1:15 p.m. Colorado-Big Thompson Project Quota Discussion ..... **Brad Wind**  
*General Manager, Northern Water*  
**Luke Shawcross**  
*Water Resources Department Manager, Northern Water*

1:30 p.m. U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Update .....**Jeff Rieker**  
*Eastern Colorado Area Manager, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation*

1:45 p.m. **BREAK, NETWORKING & PROJECT TABLE ENGAGEMENT**

1:55 p.m.  Preparing the Colorado-Big Thompson Project for Water Deliveries (5 minutes)

2 p.m. AI in Our Future: A Conversation on Data Center Development.....**Kyle Whitaker**  
*Moderator, Colorado River Programs Manager, Northern Water*

Panel
<p><b>Sarah Ruen</b>  <i>Vice President Regulatory &amp; Origination, Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association</i></p> <p><b>Karen Burgi</b>  <i>Regional Planning Leader, Infrastructure Planning Department, Black &amp; Veatch</i></p> <p><b>Jim Yahn</b>  <i>Logan County Commissioner</i></p>

2:50 p.m. Thank You..... **Brad Wind**  
*General Manager, Northern Water*

3-3:30 p.m. **NETWORKING & PROJECT TABLE ENGAGEMENT**

**Please stop by the project tables around the room to visit with Northern Water staff.**

- **Chimney Hollow Reservoir Project** – Learn about the latest happenings on the project.
- **Northern Integrated Supply Project** – Learn about the next steps in advancing this project.
- **Environmental Initiatives** – Learn about Northern Water’s environmental commitments that support project operations, such as watershed recovery, Kawuneeche Valley Restoration Collaborative and more.
- **Water Preservation** – Learn about Northern Water’s commitment to safeguard water resources for the current and future benefit of Northeastern Colorado.
- **Efficiency & Conservation** – The Water Efficiency program provides regional services to maximize the use of the water we deliver, while doing so in a cost-effective, collaborative and demonstrative manner.
- **Operations & Water Delivery** – Learn about the latest projects from our Collection and Distribution Systems departments, as well as the start of the water year.

*All presentations and links to videos will be emailed to attendees following the event.  
 Agenda revised March 27, 2026*