



## 3RD ANNUAL WATER LAW CONFERENCE SPEAKER BIOS

### KAILA ANDERSON

Kaila Anderson is a Senior Environmental Engineer and Certified Water Right Examiner in Landau Associate's Water Resources practice group. Her experience and expertise include water right extent and validity analyses, portfolio management, and transfers.

### HAPPY AVERY

Happy Avery has served as Executive Director of the Lake Roosevelt Forum since August 2024. She came to the role with previous nonprofit experience and an extensive background in K12 and higher education. Happy earned her BA in Spanish from Duke University and completed her MA and doctoral work in US History at the University of Montana, where she specialized in native-newcomer relations and the environment of the American West.

### CHUCK BRUSHWOOD

Chuck Brushwood currently serves as a Senior Policy Advisor for the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation's Fish and Wildlife Program. In that role Chuck provides policy support and recommendations to the Colville Business Council, Program Director, and key staff in matters relating to fish and wildlife management, harvest, and jurisdiction with a particular focus on the federal Endangered Species Act and salmon and steelhead recovery. Chuck earned a Juris Doctorate and Certificate in Sustainable Environmental, Energy, and Resources Law from the Willamette University College of Law and a Bachelor of Science degree with an emphasis in Ecology from the Evergreen State College.

### DAVE CHRISTENSEN

Dave Christensen has been with Ecology for almost 15 years, working on budget, operations, policy, rules and legislative issues. Overall, Dave has 30 years of experience at local and state government, non-profits and private consulting. He's engaged in a wide range of roles including environmental public health, natural resource and water resource management.

## BEN CROSSLY

Brian Crossley, Water & Fish Program Manager within the Spokane Tribal Department of Natural Resources

Served in current position for 22 years, which includes water quality monitoring, inland lakes and streams fisheries management, nonpoint and fisheries habitat projects, TMDL's, Transboundary Gas Group, FERC relicensing, fish tissue, Water Quality Standards, Midnite Mine and Dawn Mill Uranium facilities cleanup, Upper Columbia Superfund, Natural Resource Damage Assessment, Watershed Planning, recreation facilities, Climate Adaptation Plan implementation, and wildland firefighter/REEF, WDM1-drinking water operator.

Worked as a Fish Bio for 5 years when first hired with the Tribe, and prior positions were with Idaho Fish and Game, Oregon Dept of Game and Fish, US Forest Service and Graduated University of Idaho.

## AARON DUNHAM

Aaron Dunham is a Partner at WHC Attorneys, a Spokane Valley law firm serving the Inland Northwest. Aaron heads up the firm's utilities and real estate practice sections. WHC represents thirteen water utilities and two electric utilities. The water utilities include water districts, irrigation districts, as well as non-profit and for-profit corporations. Aaron's experience with utilities has been shaped by the different roles in which he has served. In addition to being the utilities' counsel, Aaron has previously served on the board of his local irrigation district, and he also represents real estate developers seeking utility service. These different experiences provide Aaron a unique perspective and guide his commonsense approach to providing legal advice.

## ANDY DUNN

Andy Dunn studied at Western Washington University (BS – Geology) and New Mexico Tech (MS – Hydrogeology). After being schooled in the earth sciences, he picked up water rights on-the-job. He is a Licensed Hydrogeologist and Certified Water Right Examiner. Prior to joining RH2 Engineering, Andy served as a hydrogeologist/permit writer and Section Manager for the Washington State Department of Ecology's Water Resources Program in the Northwest Regional Office. Andy spent 8 years at Ecology and has been with RH2 for 16 years. Andy assists a wide-variety of clients across Washington State with water right documentation, beneficial use analysis, water right processing, water system planning, and hydrologic/hydrogeologic testing and analysis.

## BERYL FREDRICKSON

Beryl Fredrickson is a senior engineer who works within the City of Spokane's Integrated Capital Management department and leads several wet utility capital planning efforts for the City. Beryl has 10 years of experience in water supply engineering and is currently serving as Post Chair of the Washington Water Utility Council (an AWWA PNWS committee).

## CHRIS KOSSIK

Christopher Kossik graduated from the University of Washington with a B.S. in Biology with a minor in marine biology and a minor in Law, Societies, and Justice. Originally from western Washington, after graduating he took multiple fisheries positions around central and western Washington before joining the Department of Ecology's Water Resources program in Union Gap in 2017. Since then, he has moved up within the Water Resources program to his current position as the Permitting Unit Supervisor. He enjoys spending time with his wife and family, and finding time to go fishing on the Yakima River and surrounding tributaries.

## JESSICA KUCHAN

Jessica C. Kuchan assists clients with the acquisition, transfer and adjudication of water rights. Ms. Kuchan assists clients in developing and implementing water right mitigation, water banking, and State Environmental Policy Act compliance. She represents a variety of clients, including non-profits, local government and private entity clients based in Washington State. She holds a B.S. in Biology from Gonzaga University and earned her J.D. from Lewis & Clark Law School.

## BEN LEE

Ben Lee is a Water Resources Engineer and Certified Water Right Examiner and is the Director of Landau Associates' Water Resources practice. Ben's technical areas of expertise include: hydrogeologic and hydrologic evaluations; water right permitting; numerical groundwater flow and contaminant transport modeling; and supply well design, testing, and rehabilitation. He is thrilled to be co-chairing this conference, which he sees as an important venue for sharing and discussing a wide range of perspectives on the on-going issues affecting water supply management in Eastern Washington.

## ROB LINDSAY

Rob Lindsay is a recently retired hydrogeologist from Spokane County Public Works, where he led the Water Resources department from 2004 to 2024. His work focused on the development and implementation of various water resource studies and plans for the greater Spokane River basin. Prior to that, he was an environmental consultant serving primarily industrial and municipal clients.

Born and raised in Spokane, Rob studied Environmental Geology at Western Washington University. He currently consults part time for Landau Associates and is an active supporter of the Spokane River Forum.

## MEGHAN LUNNEY

Meghan Lunney is Avista's Spokane River License Manager, responsible for implementing FERC license requirements for the Spokane River Hydroelectric Project and related off-license settlement agreements. Within Avista's Environmental Affairs Department, she works as part of a team supporting natural resources management across Washington and Idaho, including water quality and aquatic resources, habitat and land stewardship, species and recreation considerations, and field monitoring. Meghan collaborates with agencies, Tribes, and regional partners to deliver science-based solutions that balance regulatory requirements with operational realities. She brings experience in environmental compliance, stakeholder coordination, and natural resource management.

## MARC MARQUIS

Marc A. Marquis, J.D., B.S., R.E.H.S., is the founder and principal of Marquis Law Office, PLLC in East Wenatchee, Washington. He has more than twenty years of experience representing irrigation districts, public water systems, and private water right holders throughout the state. His practice emphasizes water right acquisition, administration, and protection, along with providing general counsel services for public utilities. Marc previously served as Director of Environmental Health for the Chelan Douglas Health District and administered environmental programs for the U.S. EPA in American Samoa. He is a Seattle University School of Law graduate, a Washington State Bar member since 2000, and a Registered Environmental Health Specialist.

## MICHELLE MERCER

Michelle Mercer is the Planning Manager for Grant County and has over 10 years of county planning experience, with a career rooted in the unique challenges and opportunities of rural communities. She previously worked for Benton County, where she developed a keen interest in the intersection of rural land use and energy, agricultural, and water policy, and discovered that her favorite part of the job is helping communities navigate complex regulations in ways that protect their livelihoods while planning for long-term resilience. Michelle's background includes work in water law, renewable energy project siting, and floodplain management, as well as advocating for solutions to rural land use issues. Before working in local government, she served as an aquaculture Peace Corps volunteer in Zambia and as well as working in forestry policy, experiences that deepened her appreciation for how land and water decisions affect people on the ground. She is originally from Prosser, the birthplace of Washington's wine industry, and when she's not at work, you can find her fishing, backpacking in the wilderness, or traveling to the far corners of the world.

## JAMIE MORIN

Jamie Morin is a founding member of Confluence Law, PLLC, where she advises clients on the ownership, management, and use of water resources, with a focus on acquisition, adjudication, protection, and reallocation of water rights. With more than three decades of experience, her practice sits at the intersection of water law, science, and collaborative resource management, helping clients navigate complex legal and regulatory frameworks to achieve durable, practical outcomes. A Spokane native and self-described citizen of the Columbia Basin, Jamie brings deep regional knowledge and a commitment to sustainable water stewardship to her work, including her presentation on water rights fundamentals at this conference.



## JOHN PORCELLO

John Porcello is a principal groundwater hydrologist and water resources consultant with GSI Water Solutions in Portland. John is a Licensed Hydrogeologist in Washington and is the developer of the groundwater flow model that is used by local water purveyors in the Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer. John holds BS and MS degrees in Hydrology from the University of Arizona and has 37 years of consulting experience, with a focus on quantitative hydrogeology and numerical modeling of aquifer systems and surface water/groundwater interactions. John's projects have included historical water use studies, climate-change impact assessments, water rights impact assessments, water demand and supply planning, and wellfield design and operational analyses.

## KRISTINA RIBELLIA

Kristina Ribellia is the Executive Director of the Columbia Basin Conservation District, President of Western Water Market, and a board member of the Columbia Basin Sustainable Water Coalition and the Grant County Economic Development Council. She brings extensive experience advancing water management solutions across the Columbia Basin through partnerships with local, state, and federal stakeholders.

## SUZANNE SCHEIDT

Suzanne began her career in public health protection at the age of 8 as her father's junior research assistant on his master's thesis involving a contaminated landfill on the coast of New Jersey. Shortly after college, she was fortunate to get her foot in the door with the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality's, Coeur d'Alene Regional Office Drinking Water Program. Over her 24-year career with IDEQ, she was honored to partner in public health protection with over 300 public drinking water systems throughout the Idaho Panhandle before retiring in 2020 as a Senior Analyst.

In July 2020, she was honored to accept a position working with North Kootenai Water District's Dream Team as a Senior Compliance Specialist. Her position was reclassified in February 2021 as Chief Operating Officer. Suzanne also serves as the Water District

Representative on Kootenai County’s Aquifer Protection District Advisory Board and President of the Idaho Washington Aquifer Collaborative.

Suzanne also holds a treatment 2 operator license in the state of Idaho.



## KAIT SCHILLING

Kait Schilling is a Staff Attorney at Chelan County Public Utility District No. 1 focusing on water and energy resource matters. Before joining the District, Kait worked in private practice representing municipal clients in central and eastern Washington counseling them on a wide range of topics including utilities and water resources.

## KATELYN SCOTT

Katelyn Scott is Water Protector at Spokane Riverkeeper, where she leads the organization’s Clean Water Defense and River Flow Protection programs, focusing on Clean Water Act enforcement and state water policy. Raised in the Spokane area, Katelyn has a lifelong connection to the Spokane River. Her current work focuses on advancing river flow protections through water conservation, policy, and legal advocacy in the Spokane River Basin. She earned her B.A. in Political Science from the University of Washington and her J.D., with a certificate in Public Interest Law, from Loyola University Chicago School of Law.

## PETER G. SCOTT, LAW OFFICES, PLLC

Peter founded Scott Law in 2015. His civil practice focuses on natural resources, water rights, and land use. Mr. Scott is a member of the bar before the United States Supreme Court as well as federal and state courts in Montana, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. Peter serves as legal counsel for property owners, local governments, utilities, manufacturers, and natural resource companies throughout the Columbia Basin.

Previously, Peter served in the U.S. Navy then worked as a hydrogeologist and wildland firefighter before attending law school in Portland, OR. After passing the bar exam, Peter clerked for the Chief Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court. In 2001, he joined the Seattle law firm of Preston, Gates & Ellis. Peter returned to Montana in 2007 as a partner with Gough, Shanahan, Johnson & Waterman.



## NORMAN SEMANKO

Norm Semanko is the Managing Shareholder in the Boise Office of Parsons Behle & Latimer, and also serves as the firm's Water Law Practice Group leader in the Pacific Northwest Region. Norm represents numerous clients on water-related issues, including the Quincy-Columbia Basin Irrigation District, which is one of the three irrigation districts charged with operating and maintaining portions of the federal Columbia Basin

Project.

Norm currently serves as General Counsel for the Family Farm Alliance, Vice Chair of the Litigation Review Committee for the National Water Resources Association, and Vice Chair of the Mountain States Legal Foundation's Legal Advisory Committee.

Norm previously served as Executive Director & General Counsel for the Idaho Water Users Association and was appointed to the Western States Water Council. He also served as a Legislative Assistant in both the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives. Norm is a graduate of Georgetown University Law Center and received his undergraduate degree in political science from the University of Idaho.

### CONTACT INFO

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## JAIME SHORT

Jaime Short serves as the Eastern Region Section Manager for the Washington State Department of Ecology's Water Resources Program. Before joining the Water Resources team, she worked as a planner with Ecology's Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program. With more than 20 years of experience working on water issues in eastern Washington, she continues to enjoy the challenges and complexities that come with water management in our area.

## BILL SULLIVAN

Bill Sullivan is a Hydrogeologist and Certified Water Right Examiner. For 20 years, he has worked on solving water problems for private parties, government agencies, and NGOs throughout the Columbia River basin with emphasis on tributary basins. He provides hydrogeologic and water right technical support for a range of projects involving groundwater and surface water resources. In 2020, he founded American Land and Water Consulting to focus on meeting the technical water service needs for clients in the region.

## AMY SUMNER

Amy Sumner is the Water Resources Manager for Spokane County in Spokane, WA. She oversees a team that implements monitoring and education programs primarily for the Spokane Valley – Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer and the Little Spokane Watershed. Amy manages the Little Spokane Water Bank and tracks implementation of the Little Spokane (WRIA 55) Watershed Plan Update. Amy is also involved in rural and urban water planning, serving as a technical advisor for the County’s Comprehensive Plan Update and leading the update of the Coordinated Water System Plan.



## KATHERINE TAICLET

**Katherine Taiclet** is a leadership professional and speaker with deep rural Washington roots and decades of experience at the intersection of water, regulation, infrastructure, and industry. Raised in Kahlotus, Washington—a dryland wheat farming community in Franklin County—she developed an early, practical understanding of water’s role in agriculture, economic resilience, and community viability—along with the values of grit, accountability, and stewardship that continue to define her leadership approach.

She holds a Bachelor of Science from Eastern Washington University and has built a career across public service and highly regulated private-sector environments. Katherine spent more than 15 years with the Washington State Department of Ecology working on water policy, regulatory compliance, and complex stakeholder decision making, followed by private-sector leadership, including seven years as Principal and Agricultural Services Leader at **Landau Associates**, as well as additional C-suite and strategic consulting roles.

Today, Katherine serves as Business Development Manager on the Large Power Solutions Team at Grant County PUD, supporting large-load customers connected to water, energy, and infrastructure systems. She is also the founder of Carry Less Lead More Collective, where she focuses—particularly with women—on clarity, resilience, and sustainable leadership. She brings a practical, grounded lens to discussions of water supply, policy, and leadership, shaped by lived rural experience and leadership through change.

## ERIC WEBER

Eric graduated with an M.S in Geology from the University of Alaska – Fairbanks in 1987. He has been practicing at Landau Associates since graduation. He is a Washington licensed hydrogeologist and certified water rights examiner and holds similar registrations in Oregon. Besides water rights and water supply, his areas of expertise include contaminant hydrogeology, groundwater modeling, and environmental permitting.