

2026 North Dakota Water Quality Monitoring Conference: Dakota Waters: Approaches to Water Resource Management

BSC National Center of Excellence, Schafer Street, Bismarck, ND

Session Topic	Session	Time	Name	Organization	Presentation Title
Tuesday, March 17					
Lunch and Learn Students and Young Professionals (Ticket Only)	Pre-Conference	11:30-12:30	Vicky Christianson		Communications and Project Management Discussions
Welcome and Introductions		1:00-1:20	Planning committee members		Welcome
Education Modeling Research	1	1:20-1:50	Anh (Frank) Le	NDSU	Enhancing ADCP Velocity Measurements with AI-Based Diffusion Models and ADV Ground Truth
		1:50-2:10	Mathew Maldonado	UND	Understanding inland recreational fishery resilience through synchrony in waterbody surface area
		2:10-2:30	Javad Souri	NDSU	Investigation of Flow Structure and Discharge of Ice-Covered Rivers by Analytical Modeling of Lateral Momentum Load
		2:30-2:50	Benjamin Donkar	NDSU	Modeling the Spatiotemporal Streamflow Patterns in the Missouri River Basin under Future Climate Scenarios
Break		2:50-3:20	Sponsor		
Education Research	2	3:20-3:40	Paige Arsenault	UND	Working with landowners to improve wetlands in the Prairie Pothole Region
		3:40-4:00	Marinus Otte	NDSU	It does not take much wetland to clean up a watershed
		4:00-4:20	Md Tanbir Khan	NDSU	Chloride Removal from Produced Water Impacted Groundwater using AEM-Facilitated Electrokinetic Treatment
		4:20-4:40	Tate Libunao	NDDEQ	Culling the Pest Community: Copper Sulfate Pentahydrate Efficacy on Zebra Mussel Eradication. A Case Study on Smishek Lake in North Dakota
Wrap Up/End of Day		4:40-4:50	Wrap Up/End of Day		

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Morning Plenary Breakfast		8:00-8:40	Discussion Panel	Multiple	State, Federal, Tribal, Industry , Academic
Water Quality Management	3	8:40-9:00	Pat Fridgen	NDDWR	Water Commission and its Functions
		9:00-9:20	Bill Damschen	USGS	USGS Water Data for the Nation: Different ways to retrieve USGS water quality data
		9:20-9:40	Meridith Miller	NDDEQ	Outreach and Education in the Watershed Management Program
		9:40-10:00	Lucas Roy	NDDWR	From Forests to Faucets: Bringing Hydrologic Research into Grade 6-12 Classrooms
Break		10:00-10:30	Sponsor		
Monitoring and Assessment	4	10:30-10:50	Ernie McCoy	USGS	USGS Continuous Water Quality Monitoring
		10:50-11:10	Bill Eldridge	USGS	Water Quality Underground: U.S. Geological Survey and Tribal Groundwater Sampling in North Dakota.
		11:10-11:30	Lauren Castillo	USGS	Water Quality characteristics of the Red River of the North and tributaries in the Fargo-Moorhead metropolitan area, North Dakota, 2022-2025
		11:30-11:50	TBA		
Luncheon and Keynote		12:00-2:00	Jimmy Emmons	USDA-NRCS	Bridging Science and Stewardship: NRCS Programs and Landscape Solutions for Water Quality in North Dakota
Agricultural Water /Wetlands	5	2:00-2:20	Owen McKenna	USGS	Not All Wetlands are Created Equal: Variability in Nutrient Reduction Potential of North Dakota Agricultural Wetlands
		2:20-2:40	Donna Jacob	Houston Engineering	Protecting Water Quality by Advancing Wetland Knowledge-Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians Wetland Program Plan
		2:40-3:00	Jaime Haueter	USGS	Evaluating the Dynamics of Harmful Algal Bloom Occurrence in Bowman-Haley Reservoir
Break		3:00-3:30	Sponsor		
Citizen Science/Implementation	6	3:30-3:50	Kim Radebaugh	River Keepers	The Role of Volunteers in River Keepers Water Quality Monitoring Program
		3:50-4:50	Discussion Panel	Multiple	Watershed Coordinators
Wrap Up/End of Day		4:50-5:00	Wrap Up/End of Day		
Social Event- Informal gathering at Stadium Sports Bar and Lodge (1247 W Divide Ave, Bismarck, ND)					

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Breakfast		8:00-8:30	Sponsor		
Technology and Water Quality	7	8:30-8:50	Jyoti Gautam	Indian Institute of Technology	A Rapid and Low-Cost Colorimetric Dip-Strip Kit for Real-Time Microbial Water Quality Monitoring
		8:50-9:10	Bryce Klasen	NDDWR	PRESENS in Practice: Field Lessons from Deploying Remote Water Level Sensors in Surface Water Sources
		9:10-9:30	Spencer Wheeling	USGS	Superfly: US Geological Survey Water Mission Area's Digital Water Quality Field Form.
		9:30-9:50	Karen Ryberg	Barr	Creative Water Futures: How North Dakota Water Quality Professionals Can Use AI Wisely
Break		9:50-10:20	Sponsor		
Legacy and Emergent Issues	8	10:20-10:40	David Hammond	Earth Science Laboratories	Plan B for Invasive Mussels
		10:40-11:00	Brian Houle	NDDEQ	North Dakota HABs Monitoring Program
		11:00-11:20	Shannon Suggs	NDDEQ	PFAS Update
		11:20-11:40	Cameron Gilley	NDDEQ	ND Livestock Program Permitting Process
End		11:40-12:00	Conference Wrap up		