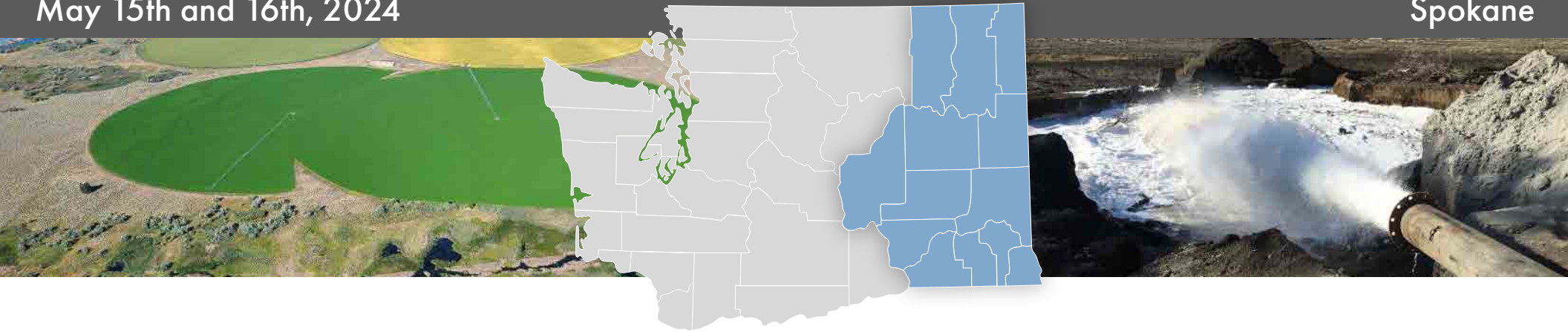


**Save the Date!**

# 1st Annual Water Law in Eastern Washington Conference

May 15th and 16th, 2024

Spokane



## Join us for the 1st Annual Water Law in Eastern Washington Conference!

The conference will include a combination of technical, legal, and water resource management topics presented by some of the region's leading water experts. The legal and regulatory landscape around water management is changing – come learn about it!

### Conference Theme:

Water Right Authorizations and Water Resource Planning

### The conference will provide state of the practice information regarding:

- Laws, rules, policies, and practicalities of managing water rights in Eastern Washington
- Current status of water resource efforts to efficiently manage water in Eastern Washington

### The conference will provide:

- Continuing Legal Education credit
- Certified Water Right Examiner credit
- Water Conservancy Board training credit

### Registration:

Price: \$195 | Students: FREE

<https://www.spokanebar.org/events-calendar/>

### Keynote Speaker:

Tom Tebb, Director of Ecology's Office of Columbia River

### Conference Co-chairs:

Jessica Kuchan, Confluence Law, PLLC  
Ben Lee, PE, CWRE, Landau Associates, Inc.

### Venue:

Gonzaga University School of Law

**REGISTER NOW**

### Sponsored by:



## Day 1: May 15th

All Sessions hosted at Gonzaga University School of Law, Barbieri Courtroom, 721 North Cincinnati Street

Session	Time	Description	Presented By
Introduction	8:00 - 8:15am	Welcome and Opening Remarks	Jessica Kuchan, Confluence Law - Attorney Ben Lee, Landau Associates - Director of Water Resources
Morning Keynote	8:15 - 9:00	Water Management in Eastern Washington	Tom Tebb, Ecology Office of Columbia River - Director
Water Rights 101 - State	9:00 - 9:30	An Overview of the State Water Code	Matt Janz, Washington State - Assistant Attorney General
Water Rights 101 - Federal	9:30 - 10:00	The Federal Government's Role in Washington State Water	Norm Semanko, Parsons Behle & Latimer - Partner
Break	10:00 - 10:15	<i>Coffee and snacks provided</i>	
Water Rights Processing	10:15 - 10:45	Options for Processing Water Right Applications: The Long Form; Standard Queue; Conservancy Boards; Cost Reimbursement	Jaime Short, Ecology Eastern Regional Office - Water Resource Section Manager
Accessing Water Rights Information	10:45 - 11:15	Researching Water Rights Extent and Validity: Public Agency Databases, Public Records Requests; WagNet; Aerial photographs	Nicole Mehr, Landau Associates - Senior Project Geologist
Water Banking 101	11:15 - 12:15pm	Case Study - Stevens County Water Bank	Alyssa Moir, K&L Gates - Partner Eric Johansen, Stevens County - Land Services Director Gene St. Godard, Water and Natural Resources Group - President
Lunch Break	12:15 - 1:15	<i>Coffee and snacks provided, no hosted lunch</i>	
Bringing New Land into Cultivation	1:15 - 2:00	New Permits; Seasonal Permits; Temporary Permits; Mitigated Permits; Short-term Use Permits (POL 1037); Spreading and ACQ; Federal Water; CWREs; PSA Dos and Don'ts	Gene St. Godard, Water and Natural Resources Group - President Andy Dunn, RH2 Engineering - Principal Hydrogeologist

## Day 1: May 15th (continued)

All Sessions hosted at Gonzaga University School of Law, Barbieri Courtroom, 721 North Cincinnati Street

Session	Time	Description	Presented By
Regional Water Planning	2:15 - 3:45	Columbia Basin Sustainable Water Coalition	Kristina Ribellia, Columbia Basin Conservation District - Executive Director
		Palouse Basin Regional Planning	Robin Nimmer, Alta Science & Engineering - Senior Hydrogeologist
		Walla Walla 2050 Water Management Plan	Anton Chino, Confederated Tribes of the Umitilla Indian Reservation - Habitat Conservation Program Leader Chris Kowitz, Oregon Water Resources Department North Central Region - Manager
		Spokane County Regional Planning	Rob Lindsay, Spokane County - Environmental Services Administrator
Break	3:45 - 4:00	Coffee and snacks provided	
Water Rights Roundtable	4:00 - 5:00	<b>Discussion Topics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improving Application Processing</li> <li>Consistency Between Regions</li> <li>Litigation versus mediation</li> <li>How does Ecology see the secondary market</li> <li>Ecology regional planning initiatives</li> <li>Need for more Policy Documents</li> <li>Changing Publication Requirements</li> </ul>	<b>Moderator</b> Dan Haller, Aspect Consulting, Principal Water Resources Engineer  <b>Participants</b> Gene St. Godard, Water and Natural Resources Group - President Tom Tebb, Ecology Office of Columbia River - Director Jaime Short, Ecology Eastern Regional Office - Water Resource Section Manager Andy Dunn, RH2 Engineering - Principal Hydrogeologist Matt Janz, Washington State - Assistant Attorney General

## Day 2: May 16th

All Sessions hosted at Gonzaga University School of Law, Barbieri Courtroom, 721 North Cincinnati Street

Session	Time	Description	Presented By
Introduction	8:00 - 8:15am	Greetings and Overview of Day 1	Jessica Kuchan, Confluence Law - Attorney Ben Lee, Landau Associates - Director of Water Resources
Regional Water Level Trends	8:15 - 8:45	Ecology's Water Level Monitoring Program	Patrick Cabbage, Ecology Eastern Regional Office - Senior Hydrogeologist
Municipal Water - Growth	8:45 - 9:30	Municipal Water Law Update; Transferring Water Between Municipalities: The Burbank Case; The Corneillus Case	Rachael Lipinski, Van Ness Feldman Aaron Dunham, Wolf Hislop Crockett
State GWMA	9:30 - 10:15	How the State uses Groundwater Management Areas to Regulate Water Supply	Eric Weber, Landau Associates - Principal Hydrogeologist Sheryl Howe, WA Department of Health - Hydrogeologist
Break	10:15 - 10:30	Coffee and snacks provided	
Mid Columbia Adjudication	10:30 - 11:30	The Status of the WRIA 58 Adjudication: Lake Roosevelt and Middle Tributaries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Adjudication Process and Current Status</li> <li>The Federal Government View</li> <li>The Irrigation District View</li> </ul>	Rachel Roberts, Beveridge and Diamond - Of Counsel Larry Martin, Halverson Northwest Law Group - Attorney Duane Mecham, Department of Interior - Senior Attorney
Irrigated Agriculture Financing	11:30 - 12:00pm	Irrigated Farm Economics 101; Farm Credit; Farm Insurance; What is the Conservation Reserve Program; Where is the Farm market headed	Charlie McElligott, Sage Rock Advisors - Owner
Lunch Break	12:00 - 1:00	Coffee and snacks provided, no hosted lunch	
Drought Designations	1:00 - 1:30	How is a Drought Declared: Drought Designation Outcomes: 2024 Outlook	Caroline Mellor, Ecology Water Resources - Statewide Drought Lead

## Day 2: May 16th (continued)

All Sessions hosted at Gonzaga University School of Law, Barbieri Courtroom, 721 North Cincinnati Street

Session	Time	Description	Presented By
Legal Topic To Be Determined	1:30 - 2:00	TBD	TBD
Shrub Steppe & Water Rights	2:00 - 2:30	Shrub Steppe as a Critical Area; Regulatory Framework; How is Grant County Managing Shrub Steppe	Chris Young, Grant County Development Services - Director
Transfer Headaches	2:30 - 3:15	Publication; Comment period; Legal Descriptions; SEPA; Same Body of Water; Permits vs Change ROEs; SW to GW; Shrub Steppe/Cultural Resources; Place of Use Descriptions; Recording Interest	Jessica Kuchan, Confluence Law - Attorney Eric Weber, Landau Associates - Principal Hydrogeologist Amy Sumner, Spokane County Water Resources - Program Manager
Case Study - New Water Right	3:15 - 4:00	Benchmark Farms - A New Unmitigated Water Right for 1,600 Acres	Ben Lee, Landau Associates - Director of Water Resources