



**2021 Virtual Annual Conference
“Bridge Over Troubled Water”**

GENERAL SESSION AGENDA

Thursday, February 18, 2021

**Time (Start – End)
(All times Pacific)**

Agenda Item

8:00 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.

Welcome & Introductory Remarks – Pat O’Toole,
President, Family Farm Alliance

8:15 a.m. – 8:25 a.m.

Opening Remarks – The Hon. Michael Bennet, U.S. Senator
from Colorado

8:25 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.

Questions and Answers – Moderated by Dan Keppen,
Executive Director, Family Farm Alliance

8:45 a.m. – 8:50 a.m.

Short Break Between Panels

8:50 a.m. – 10:05 a.m.

Reclamation Roundtable

Introduction – Dan Keppen

Opening Remarks and Introduction of Panelists – Camille
Touton, Exercising the Designated Authority of the
Commissioner

Regional Director Roundtable Discussion – David
Palumbo (Deputy Commissioner of Reclamation), Lorri
Gray (Columbia-Pacific Northwest Region), Ernest Conant
(California Great Basin Region), Karl Stock (Lower Colorado
Basin Region), Wayne Pullan (Upper Colorado Basin
Region), Brent Esplin (Missouri Basin – Arkansas – Rio
Grande – Texas – Gulf Region), David Raff (Chief Engineer).

Question and Answer Session – Moderated by Dan Keppen

10:05 a.m. – 10:10 a.m.	Short Break Between Panels
10:10 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.	The View from the House - The Hon. Jim Costa, U.S. Congressman from California; The Hon. Dan Newhouse, U.S. Congressman from Washington.
10:40a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	Question and Answer Session – Moderated by Dan Keppen
10:45 – 11:30 a.m.	Washington, D.C. Roundtable – moderated by Mark Limbaugh (The Ferguson Group, Washington, D.C.), this time-honored conference tradition will feature Democrat and Republican staff members from key Senate and House water committees. Panelists include: Brian Clifford (Minority Deputy Staff Director, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee); Annick Miller (Minority Professional Staff, House Natural Resources Committee – Water, Oceans and Wildlife Subcommittee); Matt Muirragui – Majority Staff Director, House Natural Resources Committee – Water, Oceans and Wildlife Subcommittee); Melanie Thornton (Professional Staff, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee - Water and Power Subcommittee); Kiel Weaver (Minority Senior Policy Advisor and Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee Staff Director).
11:30 a.m. -11:35 a.m.	Short Break Between Panels
11:35 a.m. – 11:55 a.m.	Keynote Address – The Hon. Brenda Burman, Commissioner of Reclamation 2017-2021.
11:55 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Q&A / Closing Remarks – Dan Keppen

Friday, February 19, 2021

Time (Start – End)
(All times Pacific)

Agenda Item

8:00 a.m. - 8:15 am.

Welcome & Introductory Remarks – Pat O’Toole,
President, Family Farm Alliance

8:15 a.m. – 9:20 a.m.

Food and Agriculture Climate Alliance (FACA) Panel - organized by senior staff with the Environmental Defense Fund, this panel will feature key representatives of an alliance of groups representing farmers, forest owners, the food sector, state governments and environmental advocates. FACA in November 2020 unveiled an unprecedented set of recommendations to guide the development of federal climate policy. Moderated by Mark Rupp (Director, State-Federal Policy & Affairs, Ecosystems at the Environmental Defense Fund), panelists include Kelsey Billings (Director, Government Affairs & Sustainability, National Council of Farmer Cooperatives); Callie Eideberg (Director of Government Relations at the Environmental Defense Fund); Jenny Hopkinson (Senior Government Relations Representative, National Farmers Union); and Andrew Walmsley (Director, Congressional Relations, American Farm Bureau Federation).

9:20 a.m. – 9:25 a.m.

Short Break Between Panels

9:25 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

The 2020 Western Wildfire Season: How did we get here, what have we learned, and how do we prepare for 2021? California State Senator Brian Dahle will provide welcoming remarks and Nadine Bailey (Executive Director, Family Water Alliance) will moderate a panel that includes John Maclean (award-winning journalist and author of *Fire on the Mountain* and four other nonfiction books about wildland fire. He is the son of Norman Maclean, author of *A River Runs Through It*); Dr. Dave Daley (Administrator for the Paul L. Byrne Memorial University Farm, and a rancher who battled the 2020 wildfires in Plumas County, CA); Jim Petersen (author of *First Put Out the Fire*); Phil Saksa (Chief Scientist for Blue Forest, an expert in water supply impacts from forest management) and John Twitchell (Colorado State Forest Service District Forester).

Time (Start – End)
(All times Pacific)

Agenda Item

11:00 a.m. – 11:05 a.m.

Break

11:05 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Keynote Address – The Hon. John Barrasso, U.S. Senator from Wyoming. Introduction by Patrick O’Toole (*recorded address*).

11:15 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

Closing Keynote Address – Tanya Trujillo, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary – Water and Science, U.S. Department of Interior.

11:35 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Question and Answers – Moderated by Dan Keppen

11:45 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.

Closing Remarks – President Patrick O’Toole

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