

2025 NASA Western Water Action Office (WWAO) Annual Meeting

May 13 - May 15, 2025 - University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM

Microsoft Teams ([help](#))

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 299 087 500 438 6
Passcode: CK3hN9eA

Dial in by phone: **+1 323-813-7400,,70234310#** US, Los Angeles
[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 702 343 10#

Meeting contacts: Alphan Altinok (alphan.altinok@jpl.nasa.gov), Pam Hansen (phansen@csumb.edu)

Bridging Science and Solutions
Innovating Water Management for the Western US

2025 WWAO Annual Meeting Goals

Facilitate the exchange of information between NASA research and water management communities on key water challenges in the Western U.S.

Highlight innovative Earth Observation (EO) solutions and showcase ongoing projects addressing Western water management challenges.

Empower the community by providing a platform to review NASA WWAO's past program activities and offer an opportunity for feedback and input into the next phase of the WWAO program.



WWAO Annual Meeting: Day 1 May 13, 2025			
Time (MT)	Title	Speakers	Affiliation
8:00 AM	Registration and Networking		
8:50 AM	Logistics	Alphan Altinok	WWAO/ NASA-JPL
Opening Remarks (Facilitator: Erin Urquhart)			
9:05 AM	Welcome from the NASA Earth Action Program	Emily Sylak-Glassman	NASA-HQ
9:20 AM	Welcome and Overview of the NASA Water Resources Program	Perry Oddo	NASA-HQ
9:40 AM	Overview of the NASA WWAO Program and Purpose and Goals of the Meeting	Stephanie Granger	WWAO/ NASA JPL
10:00 - 10:15 AM	BREAK		
Panel Discussion: NASA Missions and Water Management (Facilitator: Sean Fleming)			
10:15 - 11:00 AM	Topic: Key NASA missions, tools, and data applications for water management. Discussion will touch on OpenET, GRACE, SWOT, OPERA, MODIS-VIIRS, and the emerging question of NISAR SWE retrievals	AJ Purdy Bailing Li Renato Frasson Karl Rittger Shadi Oveisgharan	WWAO/ NASA ARC-CSUMB WWAO/ NASA GSFC-UMD WWAO/ NASA JPL UC Boulder INSTAAR NASA-JPL
Short Talks - WWAO Rio Grande Projects (Facilitator: Alphan Altinok)			
11:00 - 12:00 PM	Lightning talks from WWAO Rio Grande project leads showcasing their results	Laurel Lacher Adrian Marziliano Ivan Santos Barney Austin Max Gersh Jessica Erlingis Vikalp Mishra	Lacher Consulting University of New Mexico RATES Research AquaStrategies New Mexico OSE NASA-GSFC U Alabama/New Mexico SU
12:00 - 1:30 PM	LUNCH		
Panel Discussion: Practitioner Perspectives on Western U.S Water Challenges (Facilitator: Sharon Ray)			
1:30 - 2:30 PM	Topics: Regional water resilience and sustainability, drought management, water supply forecasting, and innovative solutions	Amanda Sheffield Sean Fleming Seth Shanahan	NOAA NIDIS WWAO / NASA ARC-CSUMB Southern NV Water Authority
2:30 - 3:00 PM	BREAK		
Panel Session: AI and Water Resources (Facilitator: Alphan Altinok / Sean Fleming)			
3:00 - 4:00 PM	Delve into the rapidly expanding role of artificial intelligence/machine learning (AI/ML) in Western water quantity and quality estimation, including successes, challenges, and opportunities	Laura Read Alex Cannon Lukas Mandrake Conor Lewellyn	Upstream Tech Environment Canada NASA JPL MITRE
Panel Session: Research to Operations – Challenges and Opportunities for NASA EO (Facilitator: Stephanie Granger)			
4:00 - 5:00 PM	Explore the transition from NASA applications projects to operational use by water managers, decision-makers, and other stakeholders. The session will focus on identifying key challenges in this process and the opportunities to advance the use of NASA EO data and tools in real-world water management scenarios.	Peter Goble Josh Fisher Mariana Dobre	Colorado Climate Center Chapman University University of Idaho
ADJOURN			

WWAO Annual Meeting: Day 2 May 14, 2025			
Time (MT)			
8:30 AM	Registration and Networking		
9:00 AM	Welcome and Host Introduction	Stephanie Granger	WWAO/ NASA-JPL
9:05 AM - 9:30 AM	Host Presentation	Yolanda Lin	University of New Mexico
Panel: Water Challenges in New Mexico (Facilitator: Stephanie Granger)			
9:30 - 10:30 AM	Drought, water scarcity, and regional collaborations addressing water issues in New Mexico.	Tanya Trujillo	NM Office of the State Engineer
		Stacey Timmons	New Mexico Bureau of Geology & Mineral Resources
		Erica Gaddis	SWCA Environmental Consultants
10:30 - 11:00 AM	BREAK		
Panel Discussion: Private Sector Innovation for Water Management in the Western U.S. (Facilitator: Paul Tigan)			
11:00 - 12:00 PM	Focus on how private companies are addressing critical water challenges and how NASA's collaboration with the private sector is accelerating these efforts.	Todd Player	Pacific Institute
12:00 - 1:30 PM	LUNCH		
Panel: Bridging NASA Research and Water Management Communities (Facilitator: Stephanie Granger)			
1:30 - 2:30 PM	Explore how NASA research and data can be integrated with practical water management strategies. Highlight collaborative efforts between NASA, water managers, and decision makers to tackle key water challenges, particularly in the Western U.S.	Mike Anderson Nikki Tully Jordan Beamer Vicky Espinoza Amita Mehta	CA Dept of Water Resources WWAO/ NASA ARC Oregon Water Resource Dept NASA JPL WWAO/ NASA GSFC
2:30 - 3:00 PM	BREAK		
Interactive Workshop: Identifying Key Water Resource Challenges (Facilitator: Paul Tigan / Sharon Ray with WWAO Team):			
3:00 - 4:30 PM	Participants break into small groups to identify pressing water challenges in the Western U. S. and discuss how NASA's research can contribute to solving these issues.		
4:30 PM	Reception and Poster/Tool Session (Facilitator: Alphan Altinok)		
6:30 PM	ADJOURN		

WWAO Annual Meeting: Day 3 May 15, 2025			
Time (MT)			
8:00 - 8:30 AM	Registration and Networking		
Recap of Previous Days & Reflections			
8:30 - 8:45 AM	Overview of key discussions, takeaways, and highlights from the meeting.	Stephanie Granger	
Short Talks: Insights into NASA Missions for Water Management (Facilitator: Stephanie Granger)			
8:45 - 9:45 AM	Overview of Mission activities for four NASA water resources relevant Missions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment (GRACE), • Surface Water and Ocean Topography (SWOT), • NASA ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR), and • Planckton Aerosol, Cloud, ocean Ecosystem (PACE) 	JT Reager (GRACE) Karen An (NISAR) Renato Frasson (SWOT) Morgaine McKibben (PACE)	NASA JPL NASA JPL NASA JPL NASA GSFC
9:45 - 10:00 AM	BREAK		
Facilitated Session: Community Feedback Around Emerging Trends (Facilitator: Paul Tigan)			
10:00 - 10:10 AM	Setting the Stage: Emerging Trends, Presenter: Stephanie Granger		
10:10 - 11:00 AM	Interactive session: Gather feedback on emerging trends in Western Water - both on the demand- and the supply-side		
11:00 AM	ADJOURN		