

**URBAN WATERS WORKSHOP SPEAKER CONTACTS & BIOS 2020**

Name	Title	Email	Bio	Website
<b>UW WORKSHOP SPEAKERS</b>				
<b>Workshop Facilitator</b>	<b>Pauline K. Louie</b>	Senior Management Analyst US Department of Housing and Urban Development	pauline.k.louie@hud.gov	Pauline Louie is a Senior Analyst at HUD, and has led its work in resilience, disaster recovery and community development for over 20 years. She served with the U.S. EPA and other federal agencies as one of the first Urban Waters Federal Partnership Ambassadors for the revitalization of the Los Angeles River. Previously, Pauline worked in redevelopment – notably with military base closures, and as a Contracts & Grants Manager for the University of CA. She holds 2 undergraduate degrees and her M.A. in Urban Planning – all from UCLA. As a lifelong Angeleno, Pauline
<b>US Environmental Protection Agency   EPA   Urban Waters Federal Partnership</b>				
	<b>Brian Frazer</b>	Director - Oceans Wetlands and Communities Division, EPA Office of Wetlands Oceans and Watersheds	frazer.brian@epa.gov	Brian Frazer is the Division Director of the Oceans, Wetlands and Communities Division (OWCD) in the Office of Oceans, Wetlands and Watersheds at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). He has over 35 years of environmental experience and has been employed with the EPA for 23 years. Brian leads key regulatory efforts associated with the Clean Water Act sections 312, 401, and 404 and the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act. Brian also oversees several non-regulatory programs including: the National Estuary Program, Urban Waters, Coral Reefs,
	<b>Chris Orvin</b>	Urban Waters Team Lead - EPA Headquarters	Orvin.chris@epa.gov	Chris Orvin serves as the lead for the Urban Waters team at EPA headquarters, where he focuses on managing the federal partnership and helping to guide the direction of the national program. In addition to serving as the lead for the Urban Waters team, he oversees the branch's budget and contract. Before joining the Urban Waters team, Chris's EPA career included working in the Office of Water's Resource Management Staff on budget and performance issues and later serving as the Special Assistant to OW's Chief of Staff, where he focused primarily on Abu Mouta Ali is an Environmental Scientist at the US Environmental Protection Agency in the Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds - Urban Waters program. Specifically, Mr. Mouta Ali works in collaboration with other federal, state, tribe, NGO, and local partners to support the 20 Designated Urban Waters Locations to restore aquatic resources through collaborative strategies that leverage financial and technical assistance.
	<b>Abu Mouta-Ali</b>	Environmental Scientist, EPA Headquarters	Mouta-Ali.abu@epa.gov	
	<b>Jared Vollmer</b>	EPA Project Officer, Watersheds Office, Region 9 Lead, Urban Waters Program	vollmer.jared@epa.gov	Jared Vollmer is the Urban Waters program lead for EPA Region 9, as well as, the lead for Arizona Watersheds, the Nonpoint Source program, and the Water Quality Management Planning program. He started his career at EPA Region 9 19 years ago as a grant project officer for Native American tribes. He is a US Army veteran and holds a degree in Environmental Studies with minors in Biology and Geography from CSU Sacramento.
	<b>David Smith</b>	EPA Region 9, Water Division Associate Director, Tribal and State Assistance Branch	Smith.DavidW@epa.gov	David Smith is Assistant Water Director for EPA's Pacific Southwest Region. A 30 year EPA veteran, Dave has managed several water programs at EPA including several watershed management initiatives. Dave holds degrees from University of California, Berkeley and Wesleyan University.
<b>River Network &amp; Partners</b>				
	<b>Nicole Silk</b>	River Network - President / CEO	nsilk@rivernet.org	As President of the River Network, Nicole Silk is responsible for steering the Network's mission of empowering communities to protect and restore rivers and other waterways. Prior to joining the River Network, Nicole Silk worked at The Nature Conservancy (TNC) for 19 years. Nicole has written and contributed to several scholarly scientific and legal papers and books and is based in Boulder, CO.
	<b>Diana Toledo</b>	River Network - Leadership Development Director	dtoledo@rivernet.org	Diana Toledo is the Leadership Development Director at River Network. She is responsible for developing and delivering training and consulting services so that leaders, organizations and coalitions working for freshwater protection are strong, effective and results-oriented. Diana has been at River Network for 14 years.
	<b>Felipe Benitez</b>	CEO/President, Corazon Latino	fbenitez@corazonlatino.us	Felipe Benitez is the CEO/President of Corazon Latino, a national non-profit which seeks to generate social, environmental, and conservation initiatives that foster natural resource stewardship. Mr. Benitez has more than 15 years of experience designing and implementing outreach strategies for advocacy campaigns worldwide.
	<b>Steve Burrington</b>	Executive Director, Groundwork USA	steve@groundworkusa.org	Steve Burrington is the Executive Director of Groundwork USA. He brings a lengthy record of accomplishment in the non-profit, government, and private sectors, along with a compelling vision for the organization and a deep commitment to our mission of changing places and changing lives. From 2007 until he assumed the Groundwork USA leadership role in 2014, he was a consultant to state and local leaders and diverse private sector organizations across the nation, planning and helping implement strategies in sustainable land use, transportation, and energy.
	<b>Adi Nochur</b>	Deputy Director of Capacity Building, Groundwork USA	adi@groundworkusa.org	Adi Nochur is Deputy Director of Capacity Building for Groundwork USA. In this role he supports the organization's brownfields technical assistance efforts and co-coordinates the Urban Waters Learning Network, in partnership with River Network. Prior to coming to Groundwork USA, Adi worked as a Project Manager at WalkBoston and as an Eco-Innovation Associate at the Codman Square Neighborhood Development Corporation. He has also spent over a decade in the movement for climate justice.
<b>Urban Waters Ambassadors</b>				
Middle Blue River Ambassador	<b>Jill Erickson</b>	Director - Heartland Conservation Alliance Journalist	heartlandconservationalliance@jillerickson.com	Jill Erickson, a Kansas City native, earned a degree in Journalism and Graphic Design from Northwest Missouri State University and has spent the last 25 years managing nonprofits organizations at various levels whose missions have supported the arts, education, urban agriculture and most recently conservation. As the co-founder and current Executive Director, Jill has co-lead the Middle Blue River Urban Waters Federal Partnership since 2013 and has served as the Ambassador for the since 2016. She is passionate about the importance of nature in cities and thrives on bringing together diverse ideas and voices.
Proctor Creek Ambassador	<b>Darryl Haddock</b>	Director - West Atlanta Watershed Alliance (WAWA)	darryl@wawa-online.org	As the Education Director for WAWA, Darryl has co-facilitated numerous Proctor Creek cleanups— removing over 5 tons of trash from this impaired urban stream. Through Darryl's leadership WAWA has also co-hosted rain barrel construction and distribution workshops in the Proctor and Utay Creek Watersheds, co-hosted the first-ever Proctor Creek Community Day (2010), and participated in the Neighbor Watch Creek Monitoring program. As a part of the monitoring efforts Darryl collects weekly water samples from 3 locations along the 9 mile Proctor Creek. He was awarded the River Partner Award at the Annual Upper
Grand Rapids Co-Lead	<b>Wendy Ogilvie</b>	DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS Grand Valley Metro Council	wendy.ogilvie@gvmc.org	Wendy joined the Grand Valley Metro Council in 2013 as the Director of Environmental Programs, bringing her expertise of over 25 years in watershed and stormwater management. Her work focuses on implementing practices to improve and maintain the health of our watersheds, connecting everyone to their local waterways, and convening and developing partnerships to build capacity in addressing environmental issues. Originally from Maryland, Wendy came to Michigan to earn a B.S. degree in Forestry from The University of Michigan. While employed as an environmental consultant, she attended Michigan
Grand Rapids Ambassador	<b>Matt Chapman</b>	Project Manager Grand Rapids WhiteWater	matt@grandrapidswhitewater.org	Matt Chapman has served as Project Manager for Grand Rapids WhiteWater since 2015. Matt grew up on the Chipewake River in Midland, MI, which fueled his passion for river restoration. Matt coordinates with government and industry partners to coordinate river restoration and also works on grant writing, fundraising, and publicizing the restoration effort.
Middle Rio Grande Ambassador	<b>Sara Hurteau</b>	Urban Conservation Director at The Nature Conservancy - TNC Albuquerque	Sarah.Hurteau@tnc.org	For the past decade Sarah has worked at the intersection of science, policy and management. Trained as a wildlife biologist she is keen to enhance biodiversity, a job she continues to do as the Albuquerque Urban Conservation Program Director for the New Mexico chapter. She previously earned an MS in Environmental Science and Policy from Northern Arizona University.
NW Indiana Ambassador	<b>Jennifer Birchfield</b>	Purdue University - Program Manager Natural Resources and Environmental Science, and Water Resource Specialist	jbirchfield@pnw.edu	As the Urban Waters Ambassador for Northwest Indiana, Jennifer Birchfield applies her natural resources expertise to collaborate with partners to improve Northwest Indiana communities and the natural resources.
<b>US Department of Agriculture   USDA</b>				
<b>US Forest Service</b>				
	<b>Elaine Kohrman</b>	Deputy Regional Forester of the Southwestern Region	elaine.kohrman@usda.gov	Elaine is currently serving as the Deputy Regional Forester for the Southwestern Region (Arizona and New Mexico) since May 2018. She held a previous position as Forest Supervisor of the Cibola National Forest and National Grasslands from 2013 to 2018. She started as a wilderness ranger in 1986 and has held numerous positions over 33 years at the district, forest, regional, and national level. She has extensive experience in large-scale collaboration, sustainability, restoration, recreation, planning, tribal consultation, and socioeconomics.
	<b>Laura Moser</b>	Cooperative Forestry - Asst. Program Manager, SW Region	laura.moser@usda.gov	Laura Moser is currently the program manager(facting) for the Cooperative Forestry Programs of Arizona and New Mexico, having been the assistant program manager for 4 years. Prior to her work in State and Private Forestry she spent 18 years on National Forests in Northern Arizona building invasive species awareness, prevention and treatment programs, and integrating forest understorey health into the FS watershed and riparian restoration programs. She is the Forest Service representative on the Middle Rio Grande Urban Waters Federal Partnership in Albuquerque
	<b>Cori Dolan</b>	Program Manager Urban and Community Forestry, Forest Health, and Invasive Plants for Arizona	cdolan@dfm.az.gov	Cori Dolan is the program manager for three key programs in the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management: Urban and Community Forestry, Forest Health, and Invasive Plants.
<b>National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)</b>	<b>Astor Boozer</b>	NRCS Regional Conservationist, West	Astor.boozer@usda.gov	After serving as the State Conservationist of New York from 2009 to 2012, Astor Boozer returned to D.C. and took on the position of Regional Conservationist for the West Region. Astor oversees the conservation programs and activities of the 13 West region states. Astor has worked to address animal, plant and soil health throughout the region and has worked to leverage partner dollars for additional boots on the ground to deliver conservation and has been with NRCS for over 32 years.
	<b>Keisha L. Tatem</b>	State Conservationist	Keisha.L.Tatem@usda.gov	Keisha L. Tatem, a native of Ivor, VA, began her professional career with NRCS as a soil conservationist student trainee in 1995. She spent over 10 years working directly with producers as a soil conservationist and district conservationist in Virginia and Florida. In 2008, Mrs. Tatem was selected as the Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations for southeastern Pennsylvania and in 2010 she was detailed to South Carolina to serve as the Acting State Conservationist. Before being selected State Conservationist for Arizona, Mrs. Tatem worked as a natural resources
<b>US Department of Interior   DOI</b>				
	<b>Ryan C. Nichols</b>	Senior Advisor, Office of Water and Science, Department of the Interior - Headquarters	ryan_nichols@ios.doi.gov	Ryan Nichols is the Advisor in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Water & Science in the Secretary's office at the Department of the Interior. He is the Department's political lead for the Urban Waters Federal Partnership, and has visited six (and counting) urban waters locations.
<b>USGS</b>	<b>James Leenhouts, Ph.D.</b>	Director, USGS Arizona Water Science Center, Supervisory Hydrologist	leenhout@usgs.gov	Jim Leenhouts is an Arizona native and a hydrologist by training. Currently, Jim is the Director of the USGS Arizona Water Science Center - a group of about 75 water scientists and support personnel who collect, interpret, and publish hydrologic data covering groundwater, surface water, and water quality.
<b>BOR</b>	<b>Alexander Smith</b>	Deputy Area Manager Reclamation, Phoenix Area Office	alexandersmith@usbr.gov	Alex Smith is the Deputy Area Manager for the Phoenix Area of the U.S. Department of Interior's Bureau of Reclamation and has been since 2015. Alex is involved in many key water issues within the state of Arizona including oversight of the Salt River Project and the Central Arizona Project, and tribal water settlements including implementation of the Arizona Water Settlements Act.
<b>Bureau of Land Management</b>	<b>Leon Thomas</b>	Phoenix District Manager	blm_az_pdo@blm.gov	Leon Thomas is the District Manager for the Phoenix District Office where he manages two offices and roughly 2.4 million acres of federal public land, including an additional 725,000 acres of subsurface estate (mineral interests), the 70,900-acre Agua Fria National Monument. Public lands within this field office are near developed and expanding communities with a population base of over 4 million residents.

<b>BIA</b>	<b>Catherine Wilson</b>	Natural Resource Manager		Ms. Wilson has been a Supervisory Water Rights Specialist for over 20 years at the BIA, Western Region in Phoenix, AZ. She manages the Region's water resources and water rights program for Indian reservations in Arizona, Nevada and Utah. These programs fund Tribal and Federal projects for water management, planning and pre-development, and water rights litigation and negotiations.
<b>US Fish + Wildlife Service</b>	<b>Nichole Engelmann-Bartlett</b>	Wildlife Biologist, SW Region, PHX Ecological Services	nichole_engelmann@fws.gov	Nichole Engelmann-Bartlett is a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Biologist who works to protect threatened and endangered species, and their habitat, for the American public. Nichole has worked on the development of the Safe Harbor Agreement Amendments for the City of Tempe and Phoenix, and participates in the lower Gila River Collaborative. (She/Her)
<b>US Fish + Wildlife Service</b>	<b>Nathan Barrett</b>	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Fire Management Officer		Nathan Barrett is the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Fire Management Officer in Arizona who manages fire suppression and fire management for habitat improvement on nine National Wildlife Refuges and the USFWS lands in the Gila River in Arizona. Nate has worked as a Federal Wildlife Firefighter for the past 22 years, predominately in the Southwest. (He/His)
<b>US Fish + Wildlife Service</b>	<b>William Radke</b>	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Project Leader		William (Bill) Radke is the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Project Leader for the Southeast Arizona National Wildlife Refuge Complex and the USFWS lands near Phoenix. Bill has worked for the Service in several western states over the past 30 years on issues ranging from endangered species recovery to connecting people with nature, to landscape scale conservation. (He/His)
<b>US Fish + Wildlife Service</b>	<b>Mary Richardson</b>	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Supervisory Biologist		Mary Richardson is a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Supervisory Biologist in Arizona who focuses on listing, conservation, and recovery of threatened and endangered species, and their habitat. Mary has worked for the Service for 25 years with a focus on native bird and fish populations.
<b>US Department of Housing + Urban Dev.   HUD</b>				
	<b>Stephanie Smelnick</b>	Arizona Field Office Director	Stephanie.L.Smelnick@hud.gov	Stephanie Smelnick is the Phoenix Field Office Director for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Ms. Smelnick is responsible for coordinating outreach activities and program delivery to HUD customers and communities throughout the state of Arizona. She represents the agency to a variety of customers and clients including elected officials, congressional representatives, and other public and industry groups.
	<b>Christopher Patterson</b>	Region 9 Administrator		Christopher Patterson is the Regional Administrator of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in Region IX, which encompasses communities across the States of California, Arizona, Nevada, Hawaii and the U.S. Territories in the Outer Pacific Region. As the Secretary's representative leading HUD's management team in the region and across field offices in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Santa Ana, Las Vegas, Phoenix and Honolulu and with over 540 employees, Mr. Patterson is the highest-ranking HUD official in Region IX.