

Ecological Restoration Business Association

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Policy Conference 2018 – Draft Agenda

Dress Code: Business

Tuesday, January 23rd – Capitol Hill

5:00PM-7:00PM

Congressional Reception on Capitol Hill

Dress Code: Business Casual

Wednesday, January 24th – The National Press Club

8:00AM-9:00AM (East Room Ballroom)

ERBA Membership Meeting

8:30AM-9:30AM (Holeman Lounge and West Room Ballroom)

Networking Breakfast

9:30AM-9:40AM (Ballroom)

Opening Remarks

- Randy Vogel, President, Ecological Restoration Business Association
- Sara Johnson, Executive Director, Ecological Restoration Business Association

9:40AM-10:30AM (Ballroom)

The Latest in Federal Infrastructure Policy, Part I: Perspectives from the Public Sector

To set the framework for our policy discussions, first hear from senior officials at federal resource agencies on how their agency is responding to the Administration's regulatory reform and infrastructure focus. This panel will cover recent feedback from public notice and comment periods, agency regulatory reform goals, and opportunities to address federal natural disaster concerns through environmental markets.

- Moderator: Gary Loew, Senior Advisor, Dawson & Associates
- Dennis Lee Forsgren, Jr., Deputy Assistant Administrator Office of Water, US Environmental Protection Agency
- Jason Larrabee, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Office of the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, US Department of Interior

10:30AM-11:20AM (Ballroom)

The Latest in Federal Infrastructure Policy, Part II: Perspectives from the Private Sector

Adding to the remarks of policymakers, next learn about the policy priorities of the major developers impacted by infrastructure reform and how private sector ecological restoration solutions and policies could better support their development projects. This discussion will include a focus on procurement and mitigation contracting best practices as well as the shared policy goals of ERBA and industry groups.

- Sarah Ball, Senior Manager of Environmental Affairs, Edison Electric Institute
- Jon Wilcox, Principal Mitigation Program, PG&E
- Serge Stanich, Senior Permitting Specialist, California High Speed Rail Authority

11:20AM-11:40PM (Holeman Lounge)

Networking Break

Enjoy light snacks and refreshments while networking with attendees and exploring the exhibit hall.

11:40PM-12:15PM (Ballroom)

The Future of Species Mitigation Policies

Following the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)'s comment period on mitigation policy goals, join longtime species practitioners and consultants for a review of the recent comments, impact on large project developers, and recommendations for clarity in species mitigation policies.

- Steve Quarles, Environmental Attorney, Nossaman
- Alex Horning, Environmental Attorney, Beveridge & Diamond
- Randy Wilgis, Executive Vice President of Solutions Development, Resource Environmental Solutions

12:15PM-12:45PM (Ballroom)

State of Biodiversity Markets Dissemination

Hear the top findings and highlights from Ecosystem Marketplace's recently released State of Biodiversity Mitigation 2017 report.

• Genevieve Bennett, Senior Associate, Forest Trends' Ecosystem Marketplace (confirmed)

12:45PM-1:45PM (Holeman Lounge and West Room Ballroom)

Networking Lunch

Enjoy a hot lunch buffet while networking with attendees and exploring the exhibit hall.

1:45PM-2:15PM (Ballroom)

Keynote Speaker

Congressman Garret Graves (R-LA), Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Water Resources and the Environment (INVITED)

2:15PM-3:15PM (Ballroom)

Ecological Restoration as an Asset Class

What policy environment are investors, customers, and socially-responsible businesses looking for in the ecological restoration marketplace? Join us for a moderated discussion reviewing policy concerns over the past year, opportunities for greater certainty, and considerations to weigh before investing in a new green infrastructure space or project.

- Moderator: Seth Ginther, Executive Vice President, Ecological Restoration Business Association
- Khary Cauthen, Federal Relations Senior Director, American Petroleum Institute

3:15PM-3:30PM (Holeman Lounge)

Networking Break

Enjoy refreshments while networking with attendees and exploring the exhibit hall.

3:30PM-4:15PM (Ballroom)

Meandering to Better Policy: Stream Restoration Across the Country

Hear from an expert practitioner and industry market researcher on the outlook of Clean Water Act Section 404 stream mitigation demand, indicators to watch, and recommendations for the quantification tools, technical advancements, and policy changes needed to develop more consistent and efficacious policies around this still-emerging and expanding ecosystem service.

- Moderator: James Parker, Director, Falling Springs
- Lee W. Forbes, P.E., D.WRE, Senior Ecosystem Restoration Engineer, SWCA Environmental Consultants
- Jason Julian, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Geography, Texas State University

4:15PM-5PM (Ballroom)

Restoration Opportunities: Take-Away's from Leaders in Louisiana

With a delicate but resource rich coast, Louisiana is a national leader in policy and legislative efforts to mobilize government programs and funding for restoration projects. This segment will explore how the private restoration economy can accelerate government spending for natural resources, through lessons learned from Louisiana's own coastal protection efforts and pilot programs.

- Moderator: George Kelly, Chief Markets Officer, Resource Environmental Solutions
- Timothy Male, Senior Policy Director, Environmental Policy Innovation Center
- Richelle Moore, Counsel, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana

5:00PM-6:00PM Networking Reception

Dress Code: Business Casual *Thursday, January 25*th

8:30AM-9:30AM (Holeman Lounge and West Room Ballroom) **Networking Breakfast**

9:30AM-10:30AM (Ballroom)

The Practical Impact of Regulatory Reform on Major Developers

Kick off with a review of the practical business impacts of major species, stream, wetland and environmental permitting federal register notices, EOs, and SOs issued under the new Administration. This panel will include review of a case study on the implementation of new policy in a federal agency and how practitioners can serve as a resource in interpretation of new policy.

- Linda Morrison, Senior Advisor, Dawson & Associates
- Deidre Duncan, Environmental Attorney, Hunton & Williams

• Jack Smith, Environmental Attorney, Nelson Mullins

10:30AM-11:00AM (Holeman Lounge)

Networking Break

Enjoy light snacks and refreshments while networking with attendees and exploring the exhibit hall.

11:00AM-12:15PM (Ballroom)

A View from the Hill

In this closing session, hear insightful remarks from senior policy staff of important committees, including Senate Environment & Public Works, Senate Energy and Natural Resources, House Natural Resources, and House Transportation and Infrastructure Committees.

12:30PM (West Room Ballroom)

Boxed Lunches Available

Grab a boxed lunch on your way up to the Hill!

12:30PM-5:00PM

Individually-Scheduled Hill Visits

ERBA encourages all conference attendees to take advantage of their time in Washington and arrange for meetings with the Offices of their Congressmen. ERBA is happy to help attendees identify the scheduler for your Congressional Office and provide some industry talking points.

*Please note that the agenda is still subject to change, pending policy developments and speakers.

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