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National Water Institute Program: Sound Water Science for the 21st Century

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NATIONAL WATER INSTITUTE PROGRAM: SOUND WATER SCIENCE FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Organizer: Robert Ward

Director, Colorado Water Resources Research Institute

The National Water Institute Program, administered by the U.S. Geological Survey and authorized by section 104 of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984, is a Federal-State partnership which:

- Plans, facilitates, and conducts research to aid in the resolution of State and regional water problems
- Promotes technology transfer and the dissemination and application of research results
- Provides for the training of scientists and engineers through their participation in research
- Provides for competitive grants to be awarded under the Water Resources Research Act

The state water resources research institutes authorized by the Act are organized as the National Institutes for Water Resources (NIWR). NIWR cooperates with the USGS in establishing total programmatic direction, reporting on the activities of the Institutes, coordinating and facilitating regional research and information and technology transfer, and in operating the NIWR-USGS Student Internship Program.

The purpose of this UCOWR session is to describe the general structure and operations of water institute program, review current research thrusts, and examine future possible water research needs and roles that can be met with a network of state-based water research institutes. Following opening remarks by panel members, describing the purpose, operations, and current research thrusts in representative states, the panel will discuss positioning the national water institute program to meet emerging water research and education needs in a scientifically sound manner.

SPEAKERS

John Schefter, Chief, Office of External Research, USGS

Ken Reckhow, Director, North Carolina Water Resources Research Institute

James Moncur, Director, Hawaii Water Resources Research Center

Tamim Younos, Interim Director, Virginia Water Resources Research Center