

NEWS RELEASE | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | December 8, 2021

DWR Director, Andrea Travnicek, Presented the State of Water at the 58th Annual ND Water Convention

Andrea Travnicek, Director of the Department of Water Resources (DWR), delivered the State of Water presentation at the 58th Annual Joint North Dakota Water Convention and Irrigation Workshop on Wednesday, December 8 at the Ramkota Hotel in Bismarck.

Travnicek provided information related to North Dakota's water resources, DWR and State Water Commission responsibilities, water management and permitting, water supply and flood control projects, Cost-Share Program funding, innovative technology initiatives, strategic governance, collaborations with project sponsors, public outreach, and infrastructure funding related to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Travnicek also unveiled a new agency emblem that recognizes the mission, vision, priorities, and branding efforts of the DWR.

The DWR was created in 2021 by Legislative action and is responsible for managing the state's water resources including dam safety, sovereign land management, drainage permitting, water project funding and development, and water appropriation. The agency has the authority to investigate, plan, construct, and develop water-related projects, and serves as a mechanism to financially support those efforts throughout North Dakota. There are six divisions that make up the DWR: Administration, Atmospheric Resources Board, Planning and Education, Regulatory, Water Appropriation, and Water Development.

"It was great to attend the in-person Water Convention and interact with numerous constituents from across the state that share a common interest in North Dakota's water resources," DWR Director Andrea Travnicek said. "The DWR is focusing on priorities including, improving customer service and responsiveness, policy review, implementing innovation such as real-time water data collection (PRESENS) and Map Services, generating community empowerment, strengthening long-term flood resiliency and water supply projects, supporting collaborative partnerships, and continued involvement in the state's on-going water development projects."

Additionally, the North Dakota State Water Commission will hold their next meeting at the Ramkota Hotel in Bismarck on Friday, December 10 at 9AM. The 10-member Water Commission consists of Burgum as chairman, Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring, and eight members appointed by the governor to serve six-year terms. For additional information, please visit the Department of Water Resources' website at www.dwr.nd.gov.

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