

GREAT BASIN WATER FORUM

Carson Nugget
Ballroom A
507 North Carson Street
Carson City, Nevada

Tuesday, November 13, 2012

9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

BACKGROUND: An annual Great Basin Water Forum is called for in a 2009 memorandum of understanding signed by two counties in Utah (Juab and Millard Counties), three counties in California (Inyo, Lassen and Mono Counties) and the Central Nevada Regional Water Authority, an organization comprised of eight counties in Nevada (Churchill, Elko, Esmeralda, Eureka, Lander, Nye, Pershing and White Pine Counties). The purpose of the annual forum is to provide local governments in the Great Basin an opportunity to come together to discuss water and water-related issues common to the Great Basin (e.g., challenges of growth, sustainable water supply, federal programs and regulations, water and land use planning, etc.), and if desired, make recommendations concerning their common interests to the appropriate entities and organizations.

The Central Nevada Regional Water Authority will host the 2012 forum. Go to the Authority's website (www.cnrwa.com) and click on "News" to get information on the previous forums (3)

2012 FORUM THEME: The theme for the 2012 forum is the following question: "How will Nevada, Utah and California address the significant imbalance between identified sustainable water supply and projected population growth?"

FORUM PROGRAM: The morning session will focus on providing background information on the theme. A Bureau of Reclamation representative will give an overview of a study the Bureau will release in September 2012. The study is entitled "Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand Study." The Colorado River is a critical water supply for many urban communities in the southwest. Some of these communities feel the Colorado River cannot provide sufficient water in the future to accommodate planned growth and/or during an extended period of drought. And, they think groundwater from the Great Basin, the driest region in the United States, can provide a guaranteed sustainable water supply.

After the Bureau of Reclamation presentation forum attendees will be asked to participate in facilitated discussion groups (10 people/table) to address the forum theme and make recommendations. Then there will be a buffet lunch hosted by the Authority, and a luncheon speaker who will talk about the status of ocean water desalination in California.

After lunch there will be a panel discussion on the forum theme. The panelists (around 24) will be county commissioners/supervisors, state legislators, state agency directors and federal land managers. The panel discussion will be facilitated, and at the front-end of the panel discussion facilitators from the morning discussion groups will give a short report on their discussion group's thinking/recommendations.

The forum will end with a discussion of 1) issues of interest to forum attendees, and 2) the 2013 forum.

LODGING INFORMATION: A block of rooms for forum attendees have been reserved at the Carson Nugget's City Center Hotel. Call 1-775-882-5535 to make a reservation. Be sure to identify yourself with the Great Basin Water Forum. The room rate is \$46 for November 12.

REGISTRATION AND COSTS: There will not be a cost to attend the forum. Registration will be at the door. To expedite registration and help with forum logistics (i.e., food, seating, etc.), please contact Steve Bradhurst (Executive Director of the Central Nevada Regional Water Authority) via email (sbradhurst@gmail.com) or phone (775.747.2038) to let him know if you plan to attend the forum. Please provide your name, organization and email address.

Note: The Nevada Association of Counties will have its 2012 annual conference November 13 - 15, 2012, at the Carson Nugget in Carson City. Contact www.nvnaco.org for information on the conference.