

2024 PNWA MISSION TO WASHINGTON - SPEAKERS



Craig Aubrey, Chief of Environmental Review Division, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
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Craig Aubrey serves as the Chief of the Environmental Review Division at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Headquarters, where he shapes policy and manages staff engaged in environmental reviews under key statutes like the Endangered Species Act. Before this role, he was the Field Supervisor for Ecological Services in South Florida, focusing on implementing various wildlife conservation acts. With a career at USFWS since 2001, Aubrey has cultivated extensive experience, beginning as an endangered species biologist in Sacramento and then as a Coastal Program Coordinator in Charleston, SC.



Aubrei Barton, Acting Manager of the Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant, U.S. Department of Transportation, aubrei.barton@dot.gov, (202) 366-4000

Aubrei Barton is the Acting Manager of the Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG) programs in the Office of the Secretary of Transportation, including the INFRA and Mega programs. She manages the competitive evaluation of applications and oversight of awards. Previously, she served as an economic consultant, advising other governments and international organizations on infrastructure planning and performance monitoring, focusing on ports, surface transportation, and broadband.



Sonya Baskerville, Manager – National Relations, Bonneville Power Administration
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Sonya Baskerville is the Manager for Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) Office of National Relations. In this role, she is BPA's liaison to the Department of Energy, other executive branch agencies, U.S. Congress, energy trade organizations, and other stakeholders. Prior to this position, Sonya was Assistant General Counsel for Transmission in BPA's Office of General Counsel (OGC) from 2002-to 2005 and a staff attorney in the Corporate Section of OGC for 10 years. Sonya earned a BS in Engineering from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville in 1989 and a JD from Tulane University in 1992.



Libby Callaway, Professional Staff Member, U.S. Senate Committee on Environment & Public Works, libby_callaway@epw.senate.gov, (202) 224-6176

Libby Callaway is a Professional Staff Member at the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works for Ranking Member Shelley Moore Capito. Her portfolio at EPW includes the Army Corps Civil Works program. Prior to joining EPW in 2021, Libby worked in the House as legislative staff for former Rep. Bill Shuster and Rep. John Joyce. She is a graduate of the University of Mississippi.

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Walter Cruickshank, Ph.D. Deputy Director, U.S. Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, walter.cruickshank@boem.gov, (202) 208-6300

Dr. Cruickshank, Deputy Director of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), oversees programs for the environmentally and economically sustainable development of offshore resources, including renewable energy, oil and gas, and marine minerals. His role continues from having served as Deputy Director since BOEM's inception in October 2011 and in similar capacities at its predecessor agencies from 2002. With over 35 years at the Department of the Interior, Dr. Cruickshank holds a BA in Geological Sciences from Cornell and a Doctorate in Mineral Economics from Pennsylvania State University.



Allison Dane Camden, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Multimodal Freight Infrastructure and Policy, U.S. Department of Transportation, allison.dane.camden@dot.gov, (202) 366-4000

Allison Dane Camden is the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Multimodal Freight Infrastructure and Policy. Previously, she has played significant roles at the Washington State Department of Transportation, including Senior Director of External Relations, handling communications and government relations, and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Multimodal Development and Delivery, leading sustainable transportation efforts. Her government experience is deep-rooted, including nearly ten years as a policy advisor on Capitol Hill and as Professional Staff for the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.



Cary Davis, President & CEO, American Association of Port Authorities, cdavis@aapa-ports.org, (202) 792-4033

Cary is President and CEO at AAPA, acting as General Counsel since joining in 2019. Initially leading Government Relations, he advocates for seaports and their workers on Capitol Hill, particularly focusing on infrastructure, transportation, trade, and security policy decisions. Prior to AAPA, Cary was a Presidential and Congressional appointee involved in international trade and security. A recognized voice in media outlets such as the New York Times and BBC, Cary has contributed to legislation addressing infrastructure, climate change, and trade. In 2021, he was recognized for mitigating pandemic-induced supply chain issues. Cary's academic credentials include a J.D. and Master's from the University of Pennsylvania, alongside a B.S. from Pitt, with his roots firmly in Pennsylvania.



Sarah Froman, Transportation Policy Advisor, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, froman.sarah@epa.gov, (202) 242-9652

Sarah has led several voluntary and regulatory initiatives to advance the measurement and mitigation of mobile source emissions since joining the U.S. EPA's Office of Transportation and Air Quality in 2005. She is the team lead for EPA's Ports Initiative, a collaborative effort with port stakeholders to advance next-generation, clean technologies and practices to improve air quality and increase economic prosperity. She has a Bachelor of Arts from Tufts University and a Master of Public Affairs from the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University.

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Stephen Hill, Director of Contingency Operations and Chief of Homeland Security, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, stephen.l.hill@usace.army.mil, (202) 761-0031

Stephen Hill is the Director of Contingency Operations and Chief of Homeland Security at the USACE, leading critical response and security operations. His varied experience spans over three decades, including directing the World Trade Center Construction Program and spearheading recovery efforts post-Hurricane Sandy. A retired U.S. Army Corps of Engineers officer, his expertise encompasses federal contracting and emergency response on an international scale. Hill's accolades include the de Fleury Medal and recognitions from the U.S. Army's Infantry and Armor branches for his service. He is a certified Project Management Professional from West Point and Purdue University.



Deborah Kobrin, CRISI Program Manager, Federal Railroad Administration, deborah.kobrin@dot.gov, (202) 493-0765

Deb Kobrin is the CRISI Program Manager at the Federal Railroad Administration, where she leads the development of key grant programs like CRISI and the Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant. With five years at FRA, focusing on policy and technical assistance, and experience in government affairs, Deb has a background in legislative liaison roles for the Commerce Department and the Senate Small Business Committee. Her academic credentials include a B.A. from the University of Maryland and a Master's in Public Policy from George Washington University. Deb currently resides in Baltimore with her husband.



Catherine Marzin, Deputy Director of Office of Protected Resources, National Oceanic Atmospheric Agency, Marine Fisheries, catherine.marzin@noaa.gov, (301) 427-8400

Catherine Marzin, as Deputy Director of NOAA Fisheries Office of Protected Resources, administers crucial environmental laws, including the Endangered Species Act and Marine Mammal Protection Act. With a strong background in climate-related conservation, she initially joined NOAA in international affairs for Satellites and ascended to Climate Team Lead in the Marine Sanctuaries office. A former Knauss Sea Grant Fellow with tenure at the Navy's Oceanography office, Marzin is part of the Cosmos Club and educated in fisheries science from France's École Nationale Supérieure Agronomique de Rennes, with a Masters from the University of Washington.



Tunis McElwain, Deputy Chief of Regulatory Program, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, tunis.w.mcelwain@usace.army.mil, (202) 761-4591

Tunis McElwain is the Deputy Chief of the Regulatory Program at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Headquarters. He has built his career in various influential roles, including the Regulatory Branch Chief in Honolulu District where he managed regulatory programs across Hawaii, Guam, and American Samoa. Previously, McElwain was Chief of the Fort Myers Section and Mining Coordinator in the Jacksonville District, engaging with stakeholders to navigate complex project approvals. His public service journey commenced with the Forest Service in Idaho, involvement at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. Joining USACE in 1999 as a Regulatory Specialist, he later became Chief of the Coastal Branch in the Mobile District, overseeing regulatory implementation in parts of Mississippi and Alabama.

2024 PNWA MISSION TO WASHINGTON - SPEAKERS



Craig Montesano, Vice President – Legislative Affairs,
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Craig Montesano serves as Vice President of Legislative Affairs for the American Waterways Operators, directing advocacy and political engagement with the U.S. Congress and managing policy issues for the tugboat, towboat, and barge industry. Bringing nearly 30 years of government affairs experience, Montesano's career includes roles in the legislative and executive branches and the private sector, with an initial focus on maritime issues during his time with Congressman Frank A. LoBiondo and NOAA. His background also features positions with prominent organizations such as the National Mining Association and United Technologies Corporation. Montesano resides in Arlington, VA, with his family.



Tim Petty, Senior Professional Staff, House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee,
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Tim Petty is a Senior Professional Staff member on the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee, contributing to water science, engineering, and policy initiatives. Previously, as the Assistant Secretary for Water and Science at the Interior Department, he managed water and science policy. His background includes service with U.S. Senator James Risch, a Deputy Assistant Secretary role under President George W. Bush, and positions with Senators Connie Mack and Rick Santorum. Dr. Petty earned a Ph.D. from the University of Alaska, an M.S. from the University of Maryland University Global, and a B.S. from Purdue University. He has worked as a geologist in California and Indiana and hails from an Indiana farm.



Tim Pickering, Operations Development Manager, U.S. Maritime Administration,
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Tim manages operations development for the U.S. Marine Highway Program at the Maritime Administration, focusing on integrating marine transport into the nation's surface transportation system and managing the program's grant funding. With a 20-year tenure at the Navy's Military Sealift Command and experience as a Navy Supply Corps Officer, he brings substantial military transport expertise. Tim holds a degree from West Virginia University's Institute of Technology and a master's from the Naval War College. He lives in Owings Mills, MD, with his spouse, Dr. Yana Rachinskaya.



Jill Smail, Chief Columbia River Treaty Negotiator, U.S. Department of State,
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Jill Smail serves as the Columbia River Treaty Negotiator in the Office of Canadian Affairs, a position she's held since October 2017. Prior to this, from 2009 to 2017, she was the Senior Advisor at the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, focusing on Middle East water negotiations and environmental programs. Her work entailed facilitating watershed management cooperation, and she has experience with on-the-ground projects in Afghanistan and in arms destruction in various post-conflict regions. Starting her career in the Department in 2001, Ms. Smail hails from Groesbeck, Texas, and holds a B.S. in Sociology and an M.S. in Government and Public Service from Texas A&M University, along with an M.S. in National Resource Strategy from the National Defense University.

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Julie Ufner, President & CEO, National Waterways Conference,
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Julie A. Ufner ascended to President and CEO of the National Waterways Conference, Inc (NWC) in November 2019, following 17 years of environmental policy leadership at the National Association of Counties (NACo). Her legislative career began in the office of former Representative Phil English, focusing on environmental policy, among other issues. Ufner, who has testified before Congress, was influenced by her father's civic role in Butler City, PA. Her professional background includes mental health work, and she has spent significant time living and studying in Japan. A native of Butler County, PA, she holds a degree from Slippery Rock University and resides in Alexandria, VA.