



**Protect  
Our Water**  
Jackson Hole



## **Water Symposium Jackson Hole**

*Catalyzing a Future for Jackson Hole's Water*

September 22, 2023

Generously underwritten by The Stoltz Family Foundation

# Welcome

## To The 2023 Water Symposium Jackson Hole

The concern for water quality extends beyond just Protect Our Water Jackson Hole (POWJH). It resonates throughout our community, echoing the collective call for change. Last year's \$10MM Water Quality Specific Purpose Excise Tax (SPET) Measure marked a historic moment, uniting Jackson Hole residents in a resounding agreement: Our community wants clean water!

You have been invited to this event as a thought leader. I hope you will gain a deeper understanding of our challenges and help us create a vision for our future. As you will hear from our speakers, the time is now. Waiting ten or fifteen years while our water quality deteriorates to the point of heightened expense or even irreversibility is not an option. Our focus must encompass the forthcoming generations, ensuring clean water for our children and beyond.

This Symposium has been meticulously designed to enlighten and engage you. Your insights - whether in finance, infrastructure, conservation, policy, technology, or beyond - have garnered your invitation. Absorb the discussions, acquire knowledge, and pose questions. Your perspectives are invaluable, and we encourage you to actively participate and share your expertise throughout the day.

As you will see, I am passionate about water. Therefore, I appreciate your presence today immensely. My aspiration is that this Symposium sparks an enduring enthusiasm for water-related issues within you. Collectively, we possess the power to steer Jackson Hole toward a future characterized by pristine water resources.



Meghan Quinn  
Executive Director

## POWJH Board Members

- Brad Nielson** \_\_\_\_\_ Chair
- Valerie Brown** \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary, Treasurer
- Les Gibson** \_\_\_\_\_ Director
- Reynolds Pomeroy** \_\_\_\_\_ Director
- Kristin Revill** \_\_\_\_\_ Director
- Perk Perkins** \_\_\_\_\_ Director
- Aaron Pruzan** \_\_\_\_\_ Director
- Kerri Ratcliffe** \_\_\_\_\_ Director
- Anne Ladd** \_\_\_\_\_ Director
- Dan Heilig** \_\_\_\_\_ Director
- Bob Frodeman** \_\_\_\_\_ Director
- Kathryn Steele** \_\_\_\_\_ Director
- Kay Modi** \_\_\_\_\_ Director
- Bill Mulligan** \_\_\_\_\_ Director
- Lisa Franzen** \_\_\_\_\_ Director
- Lisa Nesbitt** \_\_\_\_\_ Director

## Emeritus Board Members

- Ken Taylor**
- Bob Paulson**
- Bob Peters**

# Schedule

<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>Check-in</b>
<b>9:45 AM</b>	<b>Welcome</b> <b>Brad Nielson</b> Board Chair  <b>Meghan Quinn</b> Executive Director
<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>A Toxic Stew: Human Waste and Warming Water</b> <b>Guy Alsentzer</b> Executive Director, Upper Missouri Waterkeeper, Montana  <b>Ashley Fisher</b> Director of Natural Resources, Town of Mashpee, Cape Cod, Massachusetts  <b>Brett Walton</b> Environmental Journalist Circle of Blue: where water speaks
<b>11:15 AM</b>	<b>Climate Change and Its Impact on Our Water Resources</b> <b>Dr. Bryan Shuman</b> Wyoming Excellence Chair in Geology and Geophysics, University of Wyoming
<b>11:45 AM</b>	<b>Break</b>

<b>12:00 PM</b>	<b>Lunch &amp; Keynote Speaker</b> <b>Tapping Financing to Modernize Jackson Hole's Water Resources</b> <b>Jill Jamieson</b> CEO, Illuminati Infrastructure
<b>1:00 PM</b>	<b>Walk &amp; Discussion Break</b>
<b>1:30</b>	<b>Re-thinking Water: Innovative Water Solutions</b> <b>Jill Jamieson</b> CEO, Illuminati Infrastructure  <b>Frank Blaha</b> Regional Liaison, The Water Research Foundation  <b>Guy Alsentzer</b> Executive Director, Upper Missouri Waterkeeper, Montana
<b>2:15 PM</b>	<b>Discussion Groups</b>
<b>2:45 PM</b>	<b>How to Solve This as a Community and Fund It?</b> <b>Senator Mike Gierau</b> <b>Representative Liz Storer</b> <b>Representative Andrew Byron</b> <b>Commissioner Luther Propst, Chair</b> <b>Commissioner Wes Gardner</b> <b>Councilman Jim Rooks</b>
<b>4:00 PM</b>	<b>Call to Action</b> <b>Meghan Quinn</b> Executive Director
<b>4:15 PM</b>	<b>Cocktail Hour &amp; Silent Auction</b>
<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>End of Symposium</b>

## A Toxic Stew: Human Waste and Warming Water

Hear from other communities dealing with septic contamination issues – from the Cape Cod waterways in Massachusetts to the Upper Missouri and Gallatin Rivers in Montana to National septic issues.

### Panel Speakers



#### Ashley Fisher

Director, Department of Natural Resources  
Town of Mashpee, Cape Cod, Massachusetts

Ashley is a marine biologist and Director of the Town of Mashpee Department of Natural Resources. She oversees the protection and restoration of aquatic natural resources, including the Town's shellfish propagation and water quality monitoring programs, which include ongoing water quality monitoring of all Mashpee's estuaries and freshwater systems. Ashley manages the Town's initiatives to address harmful algal blooms, nutrient loading, wetland restoration, stormwater mitigation, and watershed planning.

Her recent work includes: Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Action Grant planning focused on stormwater and other water quality improvement projects, partnerships in wetland restoration planning with the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, the Department of Conservation and Recreation, Cape Cod Commission, The Association to Preserve Cape Cod, Army Corps of Engineers, and the Southeast New England Program under EPA, and Watershed Planning for Mashpee's delineated watersheds in compliance to EPA's regulated Cape Cod 208 plan for Clean Water.



#### Guy Alsentzer

Executive Director & Founder

Guy is a Bozeman, MT based environmental attorney and the Executive Director of Upper Missouri Waterkeeper. He has built campaigns challenging illegal river pollution, fought LNG export terminals and shale gas fracking, worked on the

relicensing and regulation of hydroelectric facilities, tackled battles on behalf of endangered species, and led coalitions working to improve interstate water compacts on behalf of rivers and wildlife. Much of his present work involves the intersection of land use, public health, and water law, developing strategies to build water resource resiliency in the face of climate change, unprecedented population growth, pollution pressures and scarcity.

Guy approaches the work of safeguarding water through the perspectives of an attorney, farmer, father, activist, and outdoorsman. Forever influenced by his upbringing on a rural family farm, Guy has an unquenchable thirst for unique landscapes and environmental justice.

Guy lives in Bozeman with his wife Morgan and their son Gus and daughter Aveline. He enjoys kayaking and climbing in the Gallatin, fishing the Big Hole, exploring Montana's wildlands, tinkering in his shop, and skiing the Cold Smoke. He has served on the Board of Directors for Gallatin Valley Farm to School as well as the City of Bozeman's Planning Board and Wetlands Review Board where he puts to action his belief in civic duty.

Guy holds a B.A. in Political Science from Pepperdine University (2006), an M.S. in Environmental Policy, and a J.D. from Vermont Law School (2009), and is a member in good standing with the State Bar of Montana and the Federal District of Montana.



#### Brett Walton

Environmental Journalist

Brett writes about fresh water and all of its connections for the nonprofit news agency Circle of Blue. He also writes the Federal Water Tap, a weekly digest of U.S. government water news. He is the winner of two Society

of Environmental Journalists reporting awards, one of the top honors in American environmental journalism: first place for explanatory reporting for a series on septic system pollution in the United States (2016) and third place for beat reporting in a small market (2014). He received the Sierra Club's Distinguished Service Award in 2018, and his work has been supported by the Pulitzer Center, National Press Foundation, The Water Desk, and others.



## Climate Change and its Impact on our Water Resources

With a five-year \$20MM grant from the National Science Foundation, the University of Wyoming is researching climate impacts on the nation's key headwater regions. The first focus is the Snake River Headwaters.



### Speaker

#### Dr. Bryan Shuman

Wyoming Excellence Chair in Geology and Geophysics at the University of Wyoming  
Principal Investigator, National Science Foundation  
\$20MM WyACT Grant

Shuman has taught at UW since 2007 and uses geological evidence to examine how past climate changes affected water and ecosystems. He has written over 100 peer-reviewed scientific publications on related topics. Recent projects have examined the histories of wildfire and the Rocky Mountain snowpack since the last ice age as a means to anticipate climate impacts on society and landscapes today. Shuman helped to lead the 2021 Greater Yellowstone Climate Assessment and is one of 4 principle investigators leading the NSF-funded, \$20 million WyACT (Wyoming Anticipating the Climate Transitions) project.

He also heads UW's Roy J. Shlemon Center for Quaternary Studies focused on Earth's most recent geological history, and has served in leadership roles in the the American Quaternary Association, the Ecological Society of America, and DOSECC (Drilling, Observing, and Sampling Earth's Continental Crust). Past awards include the William S. Cooper Award from the Ecological Society of America, the Henry C. Cowles Award from the American Association of Geographers, and an NSF CAREER grant. He was previously a tenured faculty member at the University of Minnesota and a NOAA Climate and Global Change post-doctoral fellow at the University of Oregon. He studied at Brown University and Colorado College. Shuman is also an avid backpacker and trail runner and feels fortunate to have hiked across Wyoming and adjacent states along the Continental Divide among other adventures.

## Tapping Financing to Modernize Jackson Hole's Water Resources

### KEYNOTE SPEAKER



#### Jill Jamieson

CEO, Illuminati Infrastructure Advisors

Jill Jamieson is the President and CEO of Illuminati Infrastructure Advisors, a boutique advisory firm specializing in helping public sector entities fund, finance and delivery complex infrastructure projects in the timeliest and most cost-effective manner. With over 30 years of experience, Ms. Jamieson is a globally recognized leader in infrastructure finance and delivery, having worked extensively throughout the United States, Latin America, Europe and Asia. Ms. Jamieson is also a Distinguished Senior Fellow at Northeastern University's Global Resilience Institute.

Having successfully helped clients deliver over \$40 billion in infrastructure projects across multiple sectors, Ms. Jamieson currently advises a wide range of federal, state, and local public authorities across the U.S. and the globe on infrastructure issues, ranging from policy and legislative issues to project-specific transactions. An author and frequent keynote speaker on issues relating to public infrastructure funding finance and delivery, Ms. Jamieson has also been called to testify as an independent expert before the U.S. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and its Water Resources Subcommittee on policy and legislative issues relating to infrastructure.

Ms. Jamieson has been at the forefront of many precedent-making delivery structures across multiple sectors, including water, transportation, energy, and public buildings. In recognition of her global contributions to innovative project delivery, she was recently named "Person of the Year" by the P3 Bulletin, a global journal focusing on the use of innovative public-private-partnerships in infrastructure.

Ms. Jamieson's background is in finance, law and diplomacy. She has also worked extensively on many international development projects, having lived and worked in over 20 countries. When not tackling infrastructure issues, Jill is an enthusiastic endurance athlete who is constantly pushing her limits.

## Re-thinking Water: Innovative Water Solutions

Learn about innovative technologies from The Water Research Foundation, the leading research group advancing the science of all water.

### Panel Speakers



**Jill Jamieson**  
CEO, Illuminati Infrastructure Advisors



**Frank J. Blaha**  
Regional Liaison,  
The Water Research Foundation

Frank has 27 years of experience at The Water Research Foundation (WRF) and 39 years of experience as an Environmental Engineer. As a Regional Liaison he is a primary point of contact for member utilities in several states, including Wyoming. Before becoming a Regional Liaison, Frank was a Research Manager and Senior Research Manager at WRF with a focus on infrastructure issues, emergency management & security concerns, and distribution system integrity and water quality.

Prior to working at WRF Frank spent ten years working on waste management and environmental cleanup of the Rocky Flats Plant in Golden, Colorado. Rocky Flats was part of the DOE nuclear weapons complex that has now been decommissioned. Master's Degree, Civil & Environmental Engineering from the University of Wisconsin – Madison. Member of the American Water Works Association (AWWA) Asset Management, Condition Assessment, and Water Loss Control Committees. Registered Professional Engineer in Colorado. Member of AWWA and the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). When not working you will likely find Frank riding his horses or otherwise horsing around.

## How to Solve This as a Community and Fund It?

The Infrastructure Bill is the single largest investment in water that the federal government has ever made. Discussion Panel and Q&A with Town Council Members, County Commissioners, and State Legislators.

### Panel Speakers



**Mike Gierau**  
Wyoming State Senator,  
Select Water Committee Member

Since 2019, Senator Mike Gierau has represented District 17. He currently serves as Senate Minority Whip and on the Select Water Committee. Prior to being a Senator, Gierau was a member of the House, representing District 16 from 2017-18. At the Senate level, Gierau sat as Senate Minority Caucus Chairman for 2019-2020, and is currently Senate Minority Whip.

Prior to entering state-level politics, Gierau served on the Town of Jackson Planning Commission. Later he was elected to the town council where he served for four years and the board of county commissioners, where he spent six years as commissioner.

A small business owner, Gierau says he knows the issues affecting not only Teton County but also friends across the state—housing, transportation, healthcare and education. He owns the Jedediah Corporation, which has been in business locally since 1980. It currently operates Jedediah's at the Airport in both Jackson and Missoula, Montana; and previously operated Jedediah's Original House of Sourdough on the town square.

## Panel Speakers (continued)



### Elizabeth Storer

Wyoming State Representative District 23

Elizabeth “Liz” Storer is President and CEO of the George B. Storer Foundation, a 67-year-old private foundation that seeks to ensure a healthy and prosperous

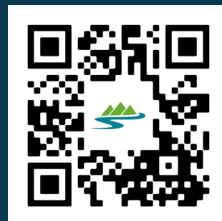
future for Wyoming by advocating for the conservation of the state’s unique landscapes and wildlife, promoting economic diversification, developing sustainable communities, and fostering an engaged citizenry. Liz has led the Foundation since 2008.

Liz also represents Wyoming’s House District 23 from Teton County and served her freshman session with distinction as one of only five democrats in the Wyoming House of Representatives that numbers 62 members. Most notably, she was instrumental in passing a bill to put a constitutional amendment on the 2024 ballot to change Wyoming’s property tax structure with the goal of benefitting owner-occupied primary residents.

A former fly fishing guide, Liz was the first woman to serve on the US Fly Fishing team in 1997, and is pleased to have a story included in *A Different Angle*, a celebrated and rare anthology of fly fishing stories by women. Liz received the Conservation Leadership Award from the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership in 2019.

## Water Fund Jackson Hole

To accelerate future clean water solutions, we would like to activate our community of advisors, water enthusiasts, and water industry leaders to invest in our ecosystem and the infrastructure necessary to protect it.



[powjh.org/donate](https://powjh.org/donate)



### Andrew Byron

Wyoming State Representative District 22

Andrew was born and raised in Teton County and currently resides in Hoback with his wife, son, and daughter. After graduating from Jackson Hole High School, he attended the University of Wyoming, earning a BS in Political Science in 2008.

Professionally, Andrew is a real estate agent in western Wyoming and is a partner in Wyoming Angling Company. Personally, Andrew has devoted much of his free time to public service and has served on several volunteer and appointed boards. Andrew is past chairman and current board member of the Snake River Fund and is a volunteer Lieutenant for Jackson Hole Fire/EMS based out of Hoback Junction. In 2023 he was elected to the Wyoming State Legislature serving House District 22 which includes Wilson, Hoback, Alpine, Star Valley Ranch, and parts of Etna. Andrew serves on the Travel, Recreation, and Wildlife Committee; the Revenue Committee; and the Select Natural Resource Funding Committee.

These personal and professional experiences have helped form so many of Andrew’s beliefs about life here in Wyoming, including a passion for conservation, desire to protect public lands for future generations, and to come up with Wyoming solutions for Wyoming problems.



### Wes Gardner

Teton County Commissioner

Since 2023, Wes Gardner has served Teton County. He is a business owner who has lived in Jackson Hole for over 26 years. He is the founder and owner of Teton Toys, a regional toy store with five locations in Wyoming and Utah. Wes’s key issues during his 2022 campaign included water quality and efforts to confront climate change. Previously Wes served on the Southern Teton Area Rapid Transit Board (START) and Integrated Solid Waste & Recycling Board (ISWR). Wes has a history degree from the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga. He lives with his wife, Meghan Warren, son Wren, and daughter Maeve in Game Creek.

## Panel Speakers (continued)



### Luther Propst

Teton County Commissioner, Chair

Since 2018, Luther Propst has served Teton County. Luther Propst has worked to balance smart growth in rural and mountain communities around the North

American West for more than 35 years.

In 1991, Luther established the Sonoran Institute and served as executive director until 2012. While leading the Sonoran Institute, he advanced effective community-based, collaborative, and innovative solutions for land, water, and energy use, focusing on conservation with a deep understanding of economic values and implications.

From 2012 to 2018, Luther worked as a consultant and volunteer to support and advise conservation, smart-growth, and outdoor education and recreation organizations, and to mentor policy innovators and emerging leaders.

Luther also serves on the board of directors of the Outdoor Alliance, a national coalition of ten conservation groups working to protect America's public lands and waters and the human-powered outdoor experience. He also serves on the board for George B. Storer Foundation, a Jackson-based foundation that deploys grants for conservation, early childhood environmental education, climate change mitigation, protecting America's commitment to democracy, and sustainable community development.

Before founding the Sonoran Institute, Luther worked for World Wildlife Fund in Washington D.C., and practiced law with Robinson & Cole, where he represented local governments, landowners, and organizations nationwide in land-use matters. Luther received his law degree, masters in regional planning, and undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Luther enjoys exploring the wild country of Teton County, Greater Yellowstone, the West, and beyond – on foot, ski, bicycle, with a fly rod, or in a kayak or pack raft.



### Jim Rooks

Town of Jackson Councilman

Since 2021, Councilman Rooks has served the Town of Jackson. He is a fifth-generation native of Jackson Hole, who graduated from Jackson Hole High School in 1990 and the University of Wyoming in 1995. "Jimbo," as most of his friends call him, went on to earn a master's degree in education and serve as a teacher, principal, and athletic coach for 25 years. Jim has been recognized as Citizen of the Month, Everyday Hero, and Teacher of the Year, several times over! He also founded the local chapter of the high school "We the People" program, which regularly earned state championships and national final qualifications. As of June 2020, Jim is the new Director of Community Engagement, who will offer both programming and leadership for the Wonder Institute.



**Protect  
Our Water**  
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**Protect Our Water Jackson Hole is the only nonprofit advocacy organization solely dedicated to improving and protecting water quality in Jackson Hole.**

The Snake River is more than simply a river. This watershed is the life-giving force that sustains our entire ecosystem and community. POWJH is taking action now to ensure this vital resource receives the urgent restoration and protection it requires. If we focus on the future, Jackson Hole, as a headwaters community, could become a shining example of forward-thinking water quality solutions.



**Keep it wild.  
Keep it healthy.  
Keep it pure.  
Keep it.**

Clean water now and  
for future generations.

[powjh.org](http://powjh.org)



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Thank you to The Stoltz Family Foundation.  
Your vision for clean water is truly inspirational.