



**27th Annual Red River Basin
Land & Water International
Summit Conference**

January 19-21, 2010

Alerus Center, Grand Forks, ND

Sponsored by: Red River Basin Commission

Tuesday, January 19

- 2:00** **Welcome & Introductions**
Herm Martens, RRBC Chair
Greetings From Host Community
- 2:30** **Keynote: No Adverse Impact - Floodplain Management:** Edward A. Thomas, Esq. – Michael Baker, Jr., Inc.
- 3:30** **Break and Exhibits**
- 4:00** **Lessons From Two Very Different Spring Floods: 1997 and 2009:** John Wheeler, WDAY, ND
- Long Term Flood Solutions: Recommendations for Action:** Lance Yohe, Executive Director, Red River Basin Commission
- 5:30** **Social and Exhibits**

Wednesday, January 20

- 7:30** **Hot Breakfast Buffet**
- 8:00** **2009 Small Group Scenario Presentation:** Linda Kingery, Northwest Regional Sustainable Development Partnership, MN
- 8:15** **A Look Back at the 2009 Flood: 2009 Flood Fighting and Forecasting Under Adverse Weather in Manitoba:** Steve Topping and Alf Warkentin, MB Water Stewardship
- 2009 Flood: The Challenges of Forecasting a Flood Seven Months in the Making:** Steve Buan, National Weather Service, MN

- 9:00** **Century-Scale Trends in Peak Discharges in the United States, With an Emphasis on the Red River Basin:** Gregg Wiche, U.S. Geological Survey
- 9:15** **Break and Exhibits**
- 9:45** **Jurisdictional Flood Mitigation Process:**
North Dakota: Dale Frink, ND State Water Commission
Minnesota: Kent Lokkesmoe, MN Dept. of Natural Resources
Manitoba: Don Norquay, MB Water Stewardship
- 10:45** **Breakout Sessions**
- 1) 2009 Flood Fight:**
Valley City, ND: Mary Lee Nielson, Mayor
Fargo, ND: Pat Zavoral, City of Fargo
Morris, MB: Dale Hoffman, Mayor
Devils Lake, ND: Jeff Frith, Devils Lake Basin Joint Water Resource Board
Breezy Point, MB: Steve Strang, R.M. of St. Clements
Oslo, MN: Scott Kosmatka, City of Oslo
Moorhead, MN: Bruce Albright, Buffalo Red River Watershed District
- 2) After the Flood:**
The Patchwork Quilt: Ed Thomas
Federal Emergency Management Agency: Norbert Schwartz, FEMA
MB Emergency Measures Organization
- 3) Agency Presentations:**
Army Corps of Engineers: Aaron Snyder
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Environment Canada: Sarah Hall
International Red River Board - How Are We Living With the Red?: Robert Halliday

****Program Subject to Change**

- 12:15 Lunch**
- 1:30 Long Term Flood Solutions: Project Status**
Basin-Wide Goals:
- **Flow Reduction Goals**
 - **MIKE 11 Mainstem Modeling:** **Charlie Anderson**, JOR Engineering, MN
 - **Levels of Protection: “What Are We Willing to Live With and What Can We Afford?”:** **Barr Engineering**, MN
- Basin Principles**
- **Pilot Projects**
- 5:30 Social and Exhibits**
- 6:30 Banquet**
 - Awards
 - Celebrate Successes

Thursday, January 21

- 7:30 Hot Breakfast Buffet**
- 8:00 Annual Meeting**
- 8:30 Stakeholder Speakout**
- 9:15 LIDAR: Red River Basin Mapping Initiative – Current and Future Applications for Land and Water Management:** **Chuck Fritz**, International Water Institute
- 9:35 Lower Pembina River 2-Dimensional Telemac Model: Science Based Solutions to Flooding Within the Lower Pembina:** **Thierry Faure**, Canadian Hydraulics Centre
- 9:55 Break and Exhibits**
- 10:15 Building Capacity for Multi-Purpose Land and Water Investment – Basin Partnership:** **Vivek Voora**, International Institute for Sustainable Development; **Henry Van Offelen**, MN Center for Environmental Advocacy
- 10:35 Impacts of Wetland Loss:** **Tracy Maconachie**, Ducks Unlimited, MB
- 10:55 What’s In the Water and Which Way Did It Go?:** **Lynn Schlueter**, ND Game & Fish Dept.
- 11:15 Red River Valley Tile Drainage:** **Roxanne Johnson**, North Dakota State University
- 12:00 Lunch**

Long Term Flood Solutions

The genesis for the RRBC’s LTFS Project was the Red River basin 2009 spring flood. The record level flood in the Fargo/Moorhead area and the extensive flooding in many other places in the Red River basin, prompted the Minnesota and North Dakota legislatures and Governors to action. They passed legislation charging RRBC with developing a comprehensive flood plan that includes strategies and actions to address Red River flooding in the near term and into the future. The report that RRBC brings back to these legislative bodies will help guide and direct state decisions related to actual projects that move forward.

RRBC will accomplish this legislative directive by:

Gathering Information

- Through a first round of 16 basin-wide public meetings.
- Through surveys for the public; counties, water resource districts, and watershed districts; and cities throughout the basin.
- Inventory of Damages.

Basin Goals (Principles)

- Cost effectiveness of flood mitigation actions.
- Levels of protection for urban, small communities, farmstead, rural resident and others. This includes tributary flow reduction strategies.
- Watershed approach in addressing flooding damages.
- Land development issues that include zoning and other non-structural approaches.
- Basin leadership for coordination and maximizing efforts and finances.

Report Recommendations

- For MN legislature in January 2010.
- Narrowing down of information/feedback related to projects and ideas for a basin wide flood damage reduction approach.
- Recommend actions and projects in each portion of the basin.
- Policy, regulation, and permit issues that need addressing.
- Final report with recommendations, due by 30 June 2011.

Pilot Projects

- Explore pilot projects for retention in upper portions of basin.

Conference Registration

Before Jan. 8: \$185 US/ \$210 CA

After Jan. 8: \$210 US/ \$235 CA

Registration includes attendance to all plenary and special sessions, entry to exhibits, breakfasts, reception, lunches, banquet and refreshment breaks. Extra meals for guests are available for purchase at the registration table.

You may also register on line at:

www.redriverbasincommission.org

Conference Lodging

Canad Inn 701-772-8404

1000 S. 42nd St., Grand Forks ND

The rate is \$75 for standard queen, double/double or king rooms. Ask for **Group Code 132609** to receive this rate. A block of rooms will be held until **December 18, 2009**, or until the block is full.

WORKSHOP - Tuesday, January 19 - 8:00 a.m.

No Adverse Impact Protecting Property Rights for All Total Water Resources Management



- 8:00** **Welcome/Intro:** ND & MN State Floodplain Managers
- 8:30** **Role of Non-Structural Measures in Water Resources Management:** Henry K. Van Offelen, Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy
- 9:00** **No Adverse Impact: Protecting Property Rights for All and Total Water Resources Management:** Ed Thomas
- 2:00** **Red River Basin Commission Conference**

No Adverse Impact (NAI) is defined as “an approach that ensures the action of any property owner, public or private, does not adversely impact the property and rights of others.” This workshop will ask many questions including, “If we continue to encourage at-risk development and ignore the impact to others, can we accept the consequences... and are you willing to pay for it? And, “Are natural disasters-natural?”

The workshop will also include, but is not limited to, the following topics:

- Today’s floodplain is not necessarily tomorrow’s.
- Current approaches dealing primarily with how to build in a floodplain vs. how to minimize future damages
- Impediments to proper floodplain water resources management
- Comprehensive watershed future conditions water resources mapping looking at water supply-water quality-stormwater management and flooding
- LID (low impact development) is an approach to site or subdivision design that mitigates the impacts of development on stormwater flows and water quality (specific design storm)
- Legal implications/aspects of floodplain and stormwater management

This workshop is targeted to:

- County Commissioners, Planning Board Members, and Tribal Leaders
- County Planners, Sanitarians, Floodplain Managers and Emergency Managers
- Conservation Districts and Watershed Councils
- Public and Private Attorneys
- Landowners and Taxpayers
- Builders, Developers, Realtors
- State Legislators, State and Federal Resource Managers
- Conservation Organizations
- Grassroots Citizen Planning Groups
- Engineers and Surveyors
- Flood Insurance Providers

Workshop fee is \$25 (includes lunch) The workshop is included in your full conference registration. Please indicate if you are attending the workshop on your registration form.

**Core Continuing Education Credits are available for Floodplain Managers (4 CEC)
Continuing Legal Education credit for attorneys has been applied for.**

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER
& WORKSHOP
PRESENTER**



Ed Thomas is a floodplain manager, disaster response and recovery specialist, and attorney. Mr. Thomas is a frequent lecturer on Emergency Management Issues, especially the constitutional and legal aspects of floodplain regulations. He retired from the Department of Homeland Security - Federal Emergency Management Agency after nearly 35 years of public service. He currently works for Michael Baker, Jr., Inc.

Registration Form

Name _____

Position/Title _____

Organization/Business _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Prov. _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

Phone _____

Fax _____

Email _____

Workshop Registration:

- \$25 US or CA
- Included with full Conference registration

Conference Registration:

Before Jan. 8, 2010

\$185 US

\$210 CA

Bill Me

After Jan. 8, 2010

\$210 US

\$235 CA

Check Enclosed

* Registrations not canceled by January 12 are required to pay the full conference fee.

** We apologize, but we are unable to accept credit cards.

Mail or Fax to:

RRBC

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Moorhead, MN 56561-0066

Phone: 218-291-0422

Fax: 218-291-0438

RRBC

206-309 Hargrave Street

Winnipeg, MB R3B 2J8

Phone: 204-982-7250

Fax: 204-982-7255

Border Crossing Requirements

As of June 1, 2009, Canadian citizens traveling to the U.S. must present one of the following travel documents as proof of identity and citizenship: Canadian Passport, Enhanced Driver's License/Enhanced Identification Card, or Trusted Traveler Programs - NEXUS, FAST/Expres or SENTRI enrollment card (issued only to preapproved travelers)



Red River Basin Commission

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