





**2011 Family Farm Alliance Annual Conference**  
***Farm Water for the West: The Key Ingredient for Healthy Rural Communities***  
**February 23-24, 2012**  
**GENERAL SESSION – DRAFT AGENDA**

**Thursday, February 23**  
**(Continued)**

1:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.  
Ballrooms 1 & 2

**Inside Washington – A Look at DC from The Hill**

Mark Limbaugh of The Ferguson Group (Washington, D.C.) will moderate this annual conference tradition, which features staff from key congressional water committees.

2:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.  
Ballrooms 1 & 2

**Strange Bedfellows: The Agriculture & Conservation Farm Bill**

**Coalition** - High-level representatives from major agriculture and conservation NGOs will talk about efforts to influence the water conservation provisions of the Farm Bill.

3:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Break**

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Ballrooms 1 & 2

**Low-Head Hydropower Developments.** Representatives from the Department of Interior, congressional water and power committees, and water and power users will discuss administrative and legislative solutions that will simplify efforts of Western water users to implement low-head hydropower projects in canals and other man-made conveyances.

5:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.  
Ballrooms 1 & 2

**Alliance Annual Meeting**

5:30 – 7:00 p.m.  
Ballrooms 4 & 5

**Reception**



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**Friday, February 24**

7:30 a.m.  
Ballrooms 1 & 2

**Registration Desk Open**

8:00 – 9:45 a.m.  
Ballrooms 1 & 2

**The Reclamation Policy Manual** – A workshop co-hosted by the Alliance and the Bureau of Reclamation will allow the audience to interact with Reclamation officials who are currently working on changes to “Directives and Standards” in the Reclamation Policy Manual, which has important implications for all federal water contractors in the West.  
Moderated by

9:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

**Break**

10:00 – 11:45 p.m.

**Reclamation Roundtable - The** Commissioner of Reclamation and all five regional directors of Reclamation will discuss hot Western water issues in this time-honored Alliance conference tradition.

11:45 – 12:00 p.m.

**Award Presentation, Closing Comments and Adjournment**  
Patrick O’Toole, President

1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

**Tour – Lake Mead Intake Project.** The Las Vegas Valley currently depends on two intake pipes to draw roughly 90 percent of its drinking water from Lake Mead. A massive project now under construction will construct a third intake, which will pull from deeper in the reservoir, allowing the flow of water to continue even if the lake shrinks enough to shut down one of the two existing intakes. The project – the largest ever undertaken by the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) – is the focus of the conference tour for the 2012 Family Farm Alliance Annual Conference. Representatives from SNWA and the Bureau of Reclamation will serve as our guides for the tour of this \$700 million project.