

# 10<sup>th</sup> Annual FIRO Workshop – Agenda

## August 1-3, 2023

Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, CA  
**Workshop Theme: What have we learned? How is FIRO being applied? Where are we going?**

| Date/Time   | Agenda Item   |
|---|---|
| <b>Tuesday, August 1st - 8AM-Noon - Day 1</b> Location: Scripps Seaside Forum Complex |   |
| 8:00 - 12:00  | <b>Pre-workshop Side Meetings</b><br><b>Side Sessions as planned</b>  |
| <b>Tuesday, August 1st - 1 PM-5PM</b> Seaside Forum                                   |   |
| 1:00-1:30   | <b>Opening Remarks</b> (Moderator: Arleen O’Donnell)<br>Marty Ralph, Director, Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes and Cary Talbot, USACE ERDC<br>Questions and Discussion  |
| 1:30-2:30   | <b>Water Year 2023: In Review</b> (Moderator: Rob Hartman, RKHartman Consulting) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Response to Precipitation Extremes - Mike Anderson (CA DWR)</li> <li>● AR Activity During WY 2023 - Chad Hecht (CW3E)</li> <li>● Operational Considerations in Adjusting to Changing Forecasts - John James (Yuba Water)</li> </ul>   |
| 2:30-3:00   | <b>Break</b>  |
| 3:00-4:00   | <b>Selected FIRO Project Updates</b> (Moderator: Duncan Axisa, CW3E)<br><i>Dashboard will show timeline and status of FIRO projects to kick off a brief presentation by each FIRO partner focusing on a unique aspect of their project</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Russian River - Don Seymour (Sonoma Water)</li> <li>● Prado Dam - Adam Hutchinson (Orange County Water District)</li> <li>● Yuba-Feather - John Leahigh (CA DWR)</li> <li>● Howard Hanson - Sara Marxen (USACE)</li> <li>● Seven Oaks Dam - Greg Woodside (San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District)</li> </ul> |
| 4:00-5:00   | <b>FIRO: The Next Five Years</b> (Moderator: Arleen O’Donnell, ERG)<br><i>In this session, we will discuss implementing FIRO in different parts of the country; alignment of Water Control Manual updates and FIRO implementation; and the status and challenges of the Nationwide FIRO screening process</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● New Reservoir Configurations and Weather Regimes - Cary Talbot (USACE)</li> <li>● Nationwide FIRO Screening Process - Elissa Yeates (USACE)</li> <li>● Linking FIRO and Water Control Manual Updates - Sean Smith (USACE)</li> </ul>               |
| 5:00-7:00   | <b>Reception and Posters</b> - <i>Seaside Forum and Lawn</i>  |

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| Wednesday, August 2 - Day 2 Seaside Forum |  |
|---|--|
| 8:00-8:30                                 | <b>Coffee and Conversation</b>   |
| 8:30-8:35                                 | <b>Welcome and Keynote Speaker Introduction:</b> Marty Ralph, Director, CW3E   |
| 8:35-8:50                                 | <b>Keynote Speaker:</b> Karla Nemeth, Director, CA Department of Water Resources   |
| 8:50-10:00                                | <b>Moving the FIRO Needle</b> (Moderator: Cary Talbot, USACE ERDC)<br><i>Jay Cordeira (CW3E), Rachel Weihs (CW3E), Brett Whitin (CNRFC), and Beth Faber (USACE HEC). Opportunities for Improving FIRO Outcomes from beginning to end</i>   |
| 10:00-10:30                               | <b>Break</b>   |
| 10:30-12:00                               | <b>Breakout Sessions - Part I</b><br><b>Topic 1: Incorporating FIRO into Water Control Manuals - A New Frontier</b><br><b>Location: Scripps Seaside Forum Auditorium</b><br>(Moderator: Jay Jasperse, Sonoma Water and CW3E) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● WCM Update Process - Joe Forbis (USACE ERDC)</li> <li>● Lake Mendocino WCM Update - Patrick Sing (USACE)</li> <li>● Yuba-Feather WCM Alignment - Jenny Fromm (USACE)</li> </ul> <b>Topic 2: Environmental Considerations for FIRO</b><br><b>Location: Ted Scripps Meeting Room 165</b><br>(Moderator: Janel Mayo, CW3E) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● FIRO Benefits for Russian River Fisheries - Josh Fuller (NOAA NMFS)</li> <li>● Habitat Enhancement at Seven Oaks Dam - Chris Jones (SBVMWD)</li> <li>● Least Bell's Vireos at Prado Dam - Kevin O'Toole (OCWD)</li> </ul> <b>Topic 3: Stakeholder Participation and Outreach</b><br><b>Location: Robert Scripps Meeting Room 160</b><br>(Moderator: Arleen O'Donnell, ERG) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Yuba-Feather Outreach Efforts - Anna Wilson (CW3E)</li> <li>● Tribal Outreach Efforts and Considerations - Jessica Knickerbocker (Tacoma Water) and Sara Marxen (USACE, Seattle District)</li> <li>● Incorporating Environmental Justice into FIRO - Sarah Ogle (CW3E)</li> </ul> |
| 12:00-1:00                                | <b>Lunch</b>   |
| 1:00-2:30                                 | <b>Plenary: FIRO Implementation - Progress and Challenges</b><br>(Moderator: Rob Hartman, RKHartman Consulting) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● FIRO in Action in the Russian River Watershed - Patrick Sing (USACE) and Chris Delaney (CW3E)</li> </ul>  |

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|            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Reservoir Operations at New Don Pedro Dam - Wes Monier (Turlock Irrigation District)</li> <li>● FIRO Potential in the Willamette River Basin - Salina Hart (USACE Portland District)</li> </ul>  |
| 2:30- 3:00 | <b>Break</b>  |
| 3:00-4:30  | <p><b>Breakout Sessions - Part II</b></p> <p><b>Topic 1: FIRO-MAR: An Innovative Approach for Climate Resiliency?</b><br/> <b>Location: Robert Scripps Meeting Room 160</b><br/> (Moderator: Jay Jasperse, Sonoma Water and CW3E)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Flood-Mar Watershed Study - Jim Wieking (CA DWR)</li> <li>● Water Rights and SGMA Considerations - Sam Boland-Brien (SWRCB)</li> <li>● Prado Dam FIROMar - Adam Hutchinson (OCWD)</li> </ul> <p><b>Topic 2: Forecast Skill for FIRO Operations</b><br/> <b>Location: Scripps Seaside Forum Auditorium</b><br/> (Moderator: Duncan Axisa, CW3E)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Forecast Skill Assessment at FIRO Sites and Methodology for National Skill Assessment - Rachel Weihs (CW3E)</li> <li>● The Importance of Hydrologic Ensemble Forecast System - Alan Haynes (CNRFC)</li> <li>● Progress on S2S Forecast Skill - Mike Deflorio (CW3E)</li> </ul> <p><b>Topic 3: Decision Support Tools</b><br/> <b>Location: Ted Scripps Meeting Room 165</b><br/> (Moderator: Chris Delaney, CW3E)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Atmospheric River Decision Support Tools - Chad Hecht (CW3E)</li> <li>● Decision Support with EFO - Chris Delaney (CW3E)</li> <li>● Developments in Ensembles Capabilities for Real-Time and Planning Applications from the Hydrologic Engineering Center (HEC) - Evan Heisman (USACE HEC)</li> </ul> |
| 4:30-5:00  | <b>Regroup in Forum for Closing Comments</b> (Arleen O’Donnell and Rob Hartman)   |
| 5:00-8:00  | <b>CW3E 10th Anniversary Reception – Seaside Forum and Lawn</b>   |

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| Thursday, August 3 - Day 3 Seaside Forum |   |
|--|---|
| 8:30-9:00                                | <b>Coffee and Conversation</b>  |
| 9:00-10:15                               | <b>High Level Recap of Six Breakout Sessions</b> (Moderator: Arleen O’Donnell)  |
| 10:15-10:45                              | <b>Break</b>  |
| 10:45-11:45                              | <b>Plenary Panel</b> (Moderator: Joe Forbis, USACE ERDC)<br><i>Sean Smith (USACE), Marty Ralph (CW3E), and Grant Davis (Sonoma Water).</i><br><i>Panelists discuss FIRO Past, FIRO Present and FIRO Future with audience participation</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● How is FIRO being applied and what have we learned?</li><li>● Where is FIRO going?</li></ul> |
| 11:45-12:00                              | <b>Closing Comments and Adjourn</b> (Marty Ralph and Cary Talbot)   |