

WATER

NORTH DAKOTA

October 2025



TOMORROW'S NOT PROMISED



Dani Quissell
Executive Director
North Dakota Water
Education Foundation

Between the emerging gray in Buddy's muzzle and the fact that we have a high school SENIOR in the house, the quick passage of time hit me hard as we transitioned from summer to fall this year. That awareness has made me more determined to take every opportunity to make memories every chance that comes along.

We took lots of car rides down dirt roads – under 40 mph so the dogs could stick their heads out the window and enjoy the breeze. We also took some time to hit up a South Dakota State University football game (Go Jacks!) and check out the Medora Musical and pitchfork steak fondue. Buddy and Marvin enjoyed some time on Grandpa's pontoon (more time to let the breeze blow through their fur). We shot off fireworks with four generations of family and lots of cousins.

In short, while we didn't take any overseas trips or see any top artists perform, we made the most of the summer making memories. Now, as the seasons change and the school year starts, I have a greater sense of the quick passage of time and a determination to soak it all up. I know spring and graduation and all the changes that come with another year around the sun will be here in a blink of an eye.

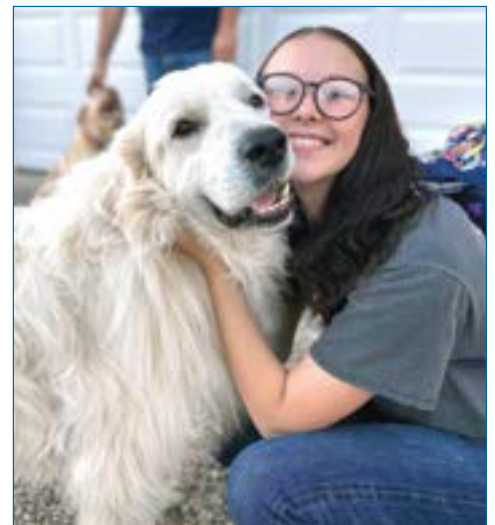
Tomorrow's not promised, and time doesn't ask permission to move forward. But within each day lies the chance to choose presence over pace, connection over convenience. In a world that moves relentlessly forward, it's easy to forget that time is not just something we spend – it's something we shape. The most meaningful moments aren't found in the rush, but in the pause. The moments that shape our lives come in a slow drive down

a dusty road or a shared laugh across generations; these are the moments that shape our lives. We don't need grand adventures to make memories – we just need intention. As the seasons shift and life speeds up, let's remember to slow down, savor the now, and fill our days with meaning. Because time will pass either way. Let's make sure it passes meaningfully.

Dani



Buddy



Marvin and Cheyenne

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The purpose of the North Dakota Water Education Foundation is to develop and implement water information and education programs to increase awareness, understanding and knowledge about water resource issues in North Dakota. The Foundation publishes the North Dakota Water magazine, sponsors summer water tours, and supports the Water Education Today (WET) for teachers and students. North Dakota Water is supported by several private, federal, state and local organizations and agencies.

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"Something Unexpected" by Susanne Kallis,
Carrington. This photo was the rd Runner Up
in the 2025 North Dakota Waterways Photo
Contest, sponsored by the North Dakota
Water Education Foundation.



2025 Patrick Denne Memorial Scholarship WINNERS

Patrick Denne, a beloved figure in North Dakota's rural water community, dedicated 20 years to serving as a Circuit Rider for the North Dakota Rural Water Systems Association (NDRWSA). His travels amounted to about 750,000 miles visiting every corner of the state. His passion and commitment to rural water made a significant impact on countless communities across North Dakota.

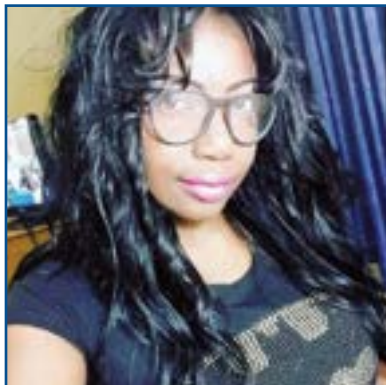
Denne's dedicated service was evident in his willingness to provide assistance anywhere or any time. This often took him away from home on weekends and for many days at a time, if necessary; but it also allowed him to witness the incredible growth of rural water systems as few others in North Dakota did. Patrick Denne passed away peacefully at his home in West Fargo surrounded by family on April 4, 2004, following a short, but courageous, battle with cancer. He was 53 years old. NDRWSA honors his memory through the Patrick Denne Memorial Scholarship. In 2012, the scholarship was established. Since that time, more than \$100,000 has been awarded to deserving applicants.

This scholarship is open to children or grandchildren of current employees or elected officials of a city or rural water system. To be eligible, the water system must be a current member of the North Dakota Rural Water Systems Association. The rural water affiliation for each recipient is listed below.

Additionally, the scholarship is available to students enrolled in Bismarck State College's Water and Wastewater Technology program who have successfully completed at least two courses with a GPA of 2.5 or higher and are carrying a minimum of 12 credit hours. Finally, apprentices currently enrolled in the NDRWSA Apprenticeship Program are also eligible to apply. In 2025, the committee selected 12 recipients to receive the Patrick Denne Memorial Scholarship. This year's recipients of the Patrick Denne Memorial Scholarships are included in this article. Please visit our website at www.ndrw.org/denne_memorial_scholarship to read their essays.

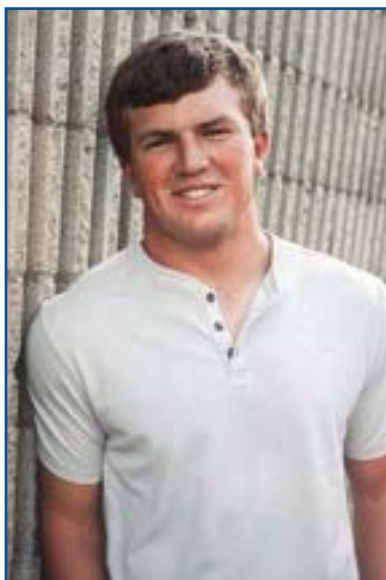
Sparkle Sawyer

is with Southwest Water Authority. Her long-term goal is to advance within the water industry and learn about the water treatment process. She is currently enrolled in the NDRWSA Apprenticeship Program, which is a two-year program that requires 4,000 hours of hands-on training and 288 hours of classroom training. She is logging her work hours through a mentor assigned by Southwest Water Authority as well as taking classes as assigned by NDRWSA Apprenticeship program. The program is under the umbrella of the National Rural Water Association (NRWA) and is registered by the Department of Labor.



Hank Bodine

of Velva is studying construction management at Western Carolina University. He plans to return to North Dakota after graduation to pursue a career in the field. During high school, Hank was highly involved in a variety of activities, including football, baseball, basketball, wrestling, golf, and track, as well as FFA and FBLA. His connection to rural water is his mother, Kerry Wyche, who is the deputy auditor for the city of Velva.



Talli Eaton, from

Reeder, is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice Studies at the University of North Dakota (UND). She plans to continue her education at UND's School of Law to obtain her Juris Doctorate and become a criminal defense attorney. During high school Talli was involved in a wide range of extracurriculars, including volleyball, track and field and FBLA, as well as serving as a basketball statistician. She was also a member of FFA, NHS, Pep Club, Science Olympiad, and participated in volunteer groups. Her relation to the water industry is Jonathon Eaton, Adams County director of Southwest Water Authority.

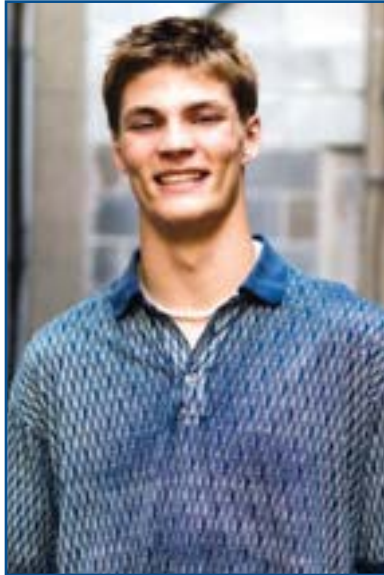


Ethan Gast

of Carrington is pursuing a degree in computer science at the University of Jamestown (UJ). He hopes to find a career where he can promote the benefits technology provides. In high school, he participated in UJ esports and volunteered in the community. Ethan's tie to rural water is his mother, Jennifer Gast, city auditor for the city of Carrington.



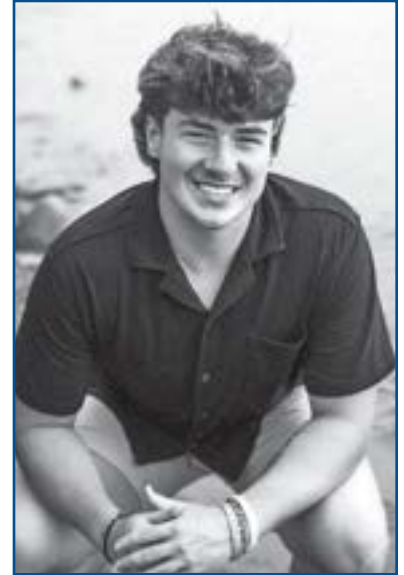
Kaullen Hegney of Mandan is pursuing a degree in environmental science at Concordia College in Moorhead. An avid outdoorsman, Kaullen plans to become a game warden after completing college. During his time at Mandan High School, he was an accomplished wrestler, placing third at this year's state tournament. Kaullen's rural water tie is Jennifer Johns, auditor for the city of Velva.



Connor Klein of Rugby is studying biomedical engineering at the University of Minnesota - Twin Cities. After completing undergrad studies, he plans to go into medical device design. He wants to make affordable medical devices for communities unable to access healthcare. In high school, he participated in basketball, cross country, and track and field. He was also a member of the band and the National Honor Society and was active in volunteer work. His connection to rural water is Dale Klein with North Prairie Rural Water.



Joseph McCormick of Lincoln is pursuing a degree in physical education at North Dakota State University. He hopes to build a successful career where he can make a real impact on his community and in the classroom. In high school, he played multiple sports and was also a mentor in the peer-to-peer program. He also spent many hours volunteering. His affiliation to rural water is James Farrell, water distribution operator for Southwest Water Authority.



Brady Reilly of Hoople is majoring in business at the University of North Dakota. He plans to pursue a career in finance and find a job in North Dakota. He was involved in football, basketball, track and field, trap shooting, golf, and multiple extracurriculars: one act play, band choir, and Riverwatch. He was also in the National Honor Society, refereed and coached youth sports, and did volunteer work. His rural water connection is his father, Brian Reilly, manager of Walsh Rural Water District.



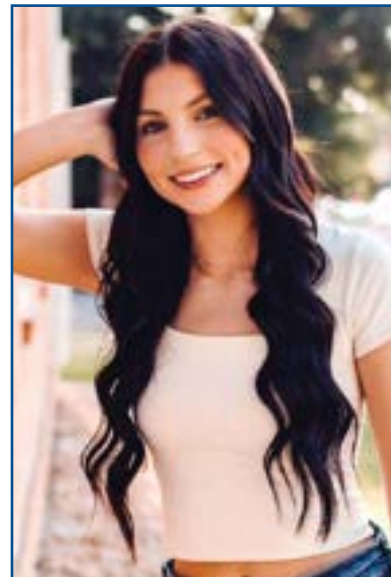
Carter Sonnenberg, a native of Frazee, Minnesota, is studying natural resources at Itasca Community College. After earning his associate degree, he plans to complete a four-year degree. He hopes to then join the Department of Natural Resources and start his own forestry and land management business. He was heavily involved in high school activities, playing football, basketball and baseball, and competing in track and field. He also dedicated time to both FFA and band. His connection to rural water is his grandfather, Patrick Denne.



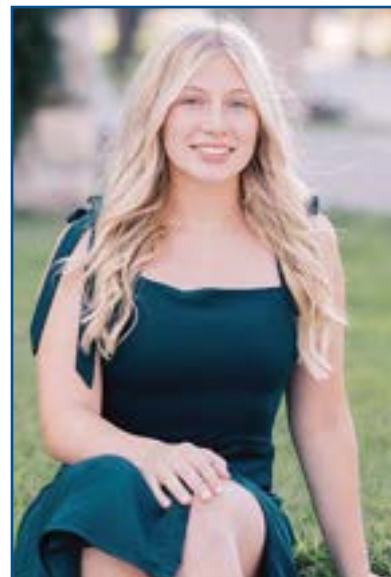
Gracelyn Soper of Argusville is pursuing a degree in nursing at the University of North Dakota. Her goal is to obtain her Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist degree. In addition to her involvement in school and studio dance, she was a member of the National Honor Society and participated in youth philanthropy. She also dedicated time to coaching cheer and dance. Her tie to rural water is Sally Herda with Greater Ramsey Water District.



Mckenzie Suko from Alexander is pursuing a career as a skilled ultrasound technician at Bismarck State College. Her goal is to assist in medical diagnoses by providing imaging for patients. During high school, she was an active student, participating in volleyball, basketball, and track and serving as both class president and a member of the student council. Tyler Fixen, foreman for the city of Williston, is Mckenzie's stepfather and her connection to rural water.



Paityn Ziegelmann of Grafton is working toward a degree in nursing at the University of North Dakota. After receiving her bachelor's degree, she plans to continue her education to become a nurse anesthetist. During high school, Paityn was a well-rounded student-athlete, serving as captain of the basketball team and participating in volleyball, track and field and softball. She was also actively involved in student council, the National Honor Society, and the North Valley Technical Honors Society, along with various other clubs and volunteer activities. Her connection to rural water is Nick Ziegelmann with the city of Grafton.





62nd Annual Joint North Dakota Water Convention AND Irrigation Workshop AND Upper Missouri Water Association Conference

**Bismarck Hotel & Conference Center
December 9–11, 2025**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 2:30–4:30 pm | Upper Sheyenne River Joint Water Resource Board Meeting |
| 3:00–4:00 pm | Upper Missouri Water Association Board Meeting |
| 4:30–6:00 pm | Water Resource Districts Association Board Meeting |
| 6:00–8:00 pm | All Water Social
<i>Co-Hosted by HDR and the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District</i> |

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 7:30 am | Registration |
| 8:00–11:00 am | Water Managers Seminar <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cost Benefit Analysis for Assessment Projects:
<i>WRDA Working Group</i>• HR Best Practices for Water Resource Districts:
<i>Katie Schmidt, Ohnstad Twichell, P.C.</i>• Update to the State's Dam Safety Requirements:
<i>Department of Water Resources</i> |

— UPPER MISSOURI CONFERENCE BEGINS

9:00–11:00 am	Educate, Advocate, Engage on the Missouri River Public Meeting
9:00–11:30 am	ND Rural Water Systems Association Managers Meeting <i>(Rural Water Managers Only)</i>
9:00 am–Noon	Commercial Exhibit Set-up
11:30 am	Opening Lunch and Upper Missouri Awards Presentation
Noon	Keynote: Water is Life — Don't Waste It: <i>Rickey Bolden, Discipleship Works</i>
Noon	Commercial Exhibits Open
Noon	ND Water Education Foundation Silent Auction Benefit Opens
1:00–2:15 pm	Using Missouri River Water in South Dakota • <i>Kristin Conzet, Western Dakota Regional Water System</i> • <i>Troy Larson, Lewis & Clark Regional Water System</i> • <i>Kurt Pfeifle, Dakota Mainstem Regional Water System</i> • <i>Shane Phillips, WINS Project</i>
2:15–3:00 pm	Missouri River Floodwater Project: <i>Representatives from Kansas Irrigation Districts</i>
3:00–3:30 pm	Break
3:30–3:35 pm	Message from Senator John Hoeven
3:35–4:20 pm	The "SAGA" of Western Water – Lessons Learned Over 40+ Years In Water Management: <i>Blaine Dwyer, HDR</i>
4:30–5:30 pm	Resolutions Meeting Water Users/Water Resource Districts/Irrigation Association
5:30–7:00 pm	Social

— UPPER MISSOURI CONFERENCE ENDS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11

8:00–9:00 am	Prayer Breakfast: Tearing Down Walls and Building Bridges: <i>Rickey Bolden, Discipleship Works</i>
9:00–9:45 am	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wetland Litigation in the Prairie Pothole Region: <i>Jeffrey McCoy, Pacific Legal Foundation</i>
9:45–10:30 am	Economics of Irrigation and Drainage: <i>Decision Innovation Solutions</i>

10:30–11:00 am	Break
11:00–11:45 am	State of Water: <i>Reice Haase, Department of Water Resources</i>
11:45 am	ND Water Users Association Elections
Noon	Buffet Luncheon
Noon–2:00 pm	Concurrent Joint Board and Annual Meetings • <i>Devils Lake Basin Joint Water Resource Board</i> • <i>Missouri River Joint Water Board</i> • <i>ND Irrigation Association Membership Meeting</i> • <i>Souris River Joint Board</i> • <i>Red River Joint Water Resource District</i>
2:00–2:20 pm	ND Water Users Association Update: <i>Mary Massad and Dani Quissell</i>
2:20–2:50 pm	Sovereign Lands Regulation: <i>Department of Water Resources</i>
2:50–3:20 pm	Making Fishing Accessible for Everyone: <i>Jeff Gooss, Wheelchairs & Walleyes</i>
3:30–4:00 pm	Resolutions – Final Adoption Water Users/Water Resource Districts/Irrigation Association
4:00–5:30 pm	ND Water Users Association Board Meeting
5:30–6:30 pm	Social
6:30 pm	Awards Banquet – <i>Entertainment: Strolling Strings of Bismarck</i> ND Water Education Foundation Silent Auction Benefit Ends

REGISTRATION

Registration information for the 62nd Annual Joint North Dakota Water Convention and Irrigation Workshop can be found at ndwater.org/events.

Full registration is \$310/person or \$360/person after November 21.
Registration for the Irrigation Workshop is \$100.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Bismarck Hotel & Conference Center for December 9–12. To book your stay, call 701–258–7700 and request the ND Water Users block. Overflow accommodations are also available.

Details can be found at ndwater.org/events.

REGISTER TODAY!

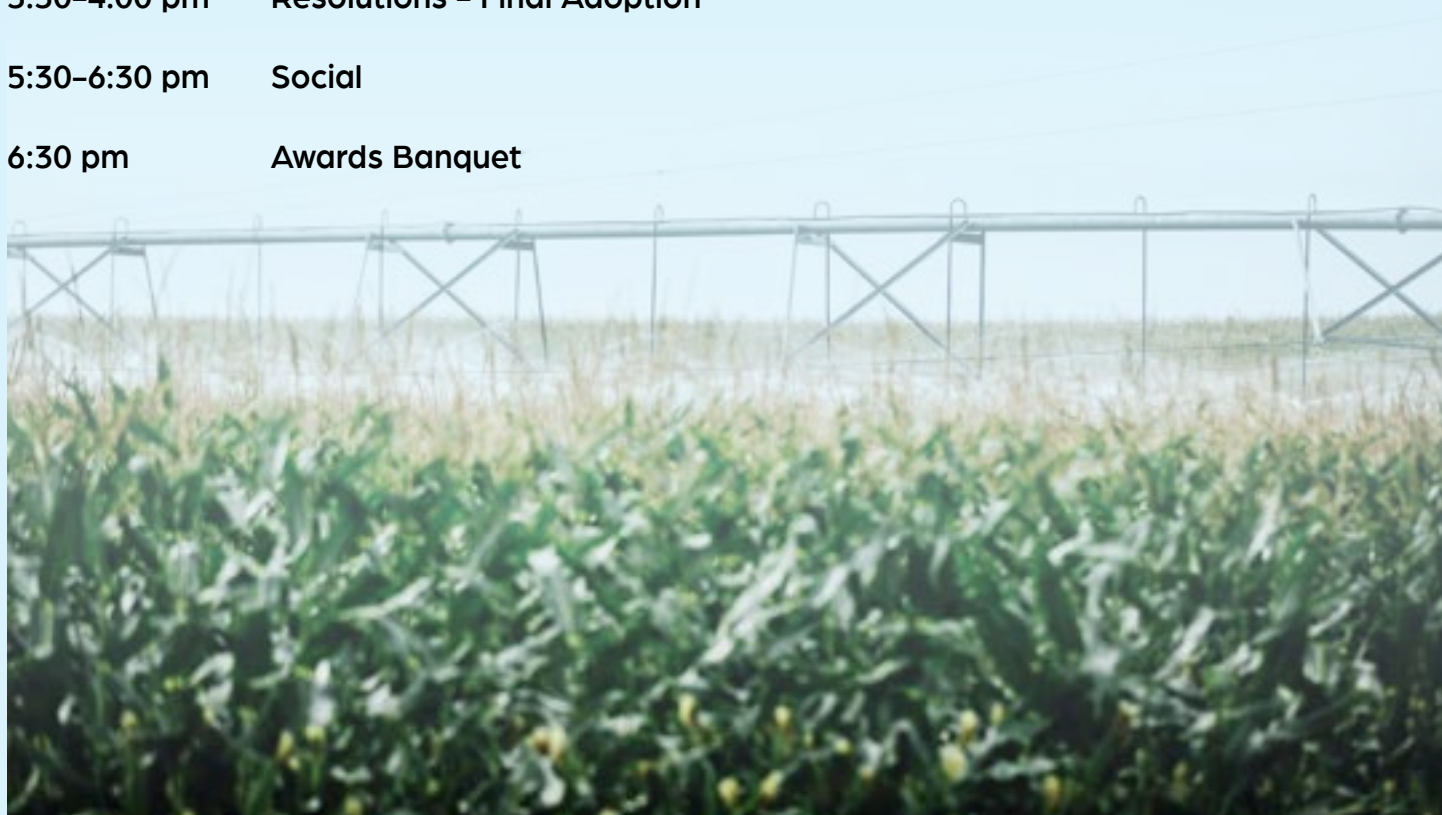
HAVE QUESTIONS? Email staff@ndwater.net or call 701–223–4615.

IRRIGATION WORKSHOP

Thursday, December 11 • 8:00 am–3:30 pm

SPONSORED BY: North Dakota Water Users Association and North Dakota Irrigation Association

- 8:00–9:00 am** **Prayer Breakfast: Tearing Down Walls and Building Bridges:**
Rickey Bolden, Discipleship Works
- 9:00–9:45 am** **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wetland Litigation in the Prairie Pothole Region:**
Jeffrey McCoy, Pacific Legal Foundation
- 9:45–10:30 am** **Economics of Irrigation and Drainage: *Decision Innovation Solutions***
- 10:30–11:00 am** **Break**
- 11:00–11:40 am** **Innovation in Irrigation, *TBD***
- 11:45 am** **Buffet Lunch**
- Noon–1:00 pm** **ND Irrigation Association Membership Meeting**
- 1:00–2:00 pm** **ND Irrigation Association Board Meeting**
- 2:00–3:20 pm** **Irrigation Water Permit Forum with the Department of Water Resources**
- 3:30–4:00 pm** **Resolutions – Final Adoption**
- 5:30–6:30 pm** **Social**
- 6:30 pm** **Awards Banquet**



2025 North Dakota Water Education Foundation WATER TOURS

The North Dakota Water Education Foundation conducts summer tours offering participants a firsthand look at North Dakota's critical water issues and initiatives. These one-day tours highlight presentations by a variety of professionals and local leaders representing diverse viewpoints. A record number of people participated in this year's roster of water tours. These tours are made possible thanks to many generous sponsors from across the state.

Here is a brief wrap-up of this summer's tours:

The Future of Flood Protection – June 18

The first tour of the season was held in Fargo. Forty participants learned about the Fargo-Moorhead Area Diversion Project. The project goals are to create a minimum 100-year flood protection (37-foot river stage through town) and 500-year fightable protection (40-foot river stage through town). The Diversion is designed so when the Red River flooding nears 37 feet and threatens the Fargo-Moorhead region, the Red River and Wild Rice River control structure gates will lower to maintain the 37-foot stage throughout the metro area. In addition, floodwater is stored behind the southern embankment and gates open on the Diversion Inlet Structure, allowing floodwater to move into the stormwater diversion channel and safely pass around the metro area.

The tour route took participants past the I-94 and I-29 channel crossings, diversion channel reaches 1-5

and 9-14, south and north Fargo flood protection sites, and more. Hard hats and high-visibility vests allowed participants to access the Diversion Inlet Structure, Wild Rice River Structure, and Maple River Aqueduct and see the workings of the Diversion up close. The tour also made a stop at "Spirit of the Sandbagger," where they learned that 6.5 million sandbags were used in the 2009 flood. Kris Bakkegard with the Metro Flood Diversion Authority and Nathan Boerboom with the City of Fargo were the hosts and primary tour guides for the day. Major Kyle Volk with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and State Water Commissioner April Walker also added valuable insights about the Diversion.

The Rising Impacts of Water – July 10

The Devils Lake Basin has a long history with troublesome water. The bus was packed with 62 participants on this tour. Jeff Frith, manager of the Devils Lake Basin Joint Water Resource Board, was instrumental in determining tour stops and providing remarks throughout the tour.

This tour started at the Spirit Lake Casino in St. Michael and first took the meandering turns over the Devils Lake dike, a clay core, \$165 million, 12-mile-long project. Motorized vehicles are typically not allowed on the dike, but walkers and bicyclists are welcome and often serve as a means for monitoring dike conditions. The new "Wheelchairs and Walleyes" loading site was featured. This North Dakota-based organization focuses on making outdoor recreation, specifically fishing, accessible for everyone regardless of mobility or adaptive needs. Participants were next given a tour of North Dakota National Guard Camp Grafton and its new water training site. This site will allow for training on various bridge applications in conflict zones and third world countries.

The afternoon took the tour to the east Devils Lake outlet intake structure, Tolna Coulee control structure, and east Devils Lake outlet discharge structure. The five-and-a-half miles of eight-inch diameter pipe from east Devils Lake to the Tolna Coulee is all underground to minimize impacts to landowners. Participants enjoyed the picturesque views from the outlet discharge structure as the waters cascaded toward the Tolna Coulee.



Fargo tour participants saw construction in action at the Maple River Aqueduct.



Innovative Irrigation in Oakes – July 15

Leaden skies and rain didn't dampen the spirits of the 81 participants on the Innovative Irrigation in Oakes tour. The NDSU Oakes Irrigation Research Site south of Oakes served as the hub for this excursion. The tour featured several local farmers and their efforts to maximize profitability by managing their water across many different crops.

Drew Courtney showed participants his pump site and explained how it operated. Participants were able to walk next to it and evaluate it up close. Justin Quandt explained how water is cycled through a hog facility. A highlight was seeing the 360 RAIN® machine in action in Paul Roney's corn field. 360 RAIN® provides adaptive irrigation by autonomously delivering water and nutrients.

Following a lunch provided by Judy Hansen, participants learned about FARMS (Food systems Adapted for Resiliency and Maximized Security) and the NSF AgTech Engine in North Dakota along with aperture space. The tour next learned about the crop moisture sensors utilized by North Dakota Irrigation Association president Steve Hansen. Barry Vculek allowed participants to see the involved process of drip irrigation he uses to grow onions. The Dickey Sargent irrigation pump site was also featured.

"It was a pleasure hosting a tour of this size in the Oakes area," Hansen says. "Our region is dedicated to developing and utilizing technology in irrigation, and it was nice to share what we have learned with others."

Water, Wind and Weather Modification – July 30

Bowman, a town of 1,500 people in southwest North Dakota, hosted 39 participants for the fourth tour of the season. The tour bus headed east of town for the first stop at the Bowman Regional Airport. Mark Schneider, chief meteorologist with the North Dakota Department of Water Resources, shared information regarding the two radar towers dedicated to weather modification. Bowman County has conducted weather modification activities since the 1950s. Wayne Mrnak, chairman of the Bowman County Weather Modification Authority and a local rancher, shared his personal experiences with hail and

severe weather. Four weather modification pilots shared their experiences and allowed participants to see the planes used up close.

Rick Seifert, the Bowman County director on the Southwest Water Authority board, gave a tour of the historic Haley General Store. Participants enjoyed learning the history of the first town in Bowman County. Bowman-Haley Dam served as the next stop on the tour route. The dam was completed in 1970 and its purpose is flood control and recreation.

Apex Clean Energy offered information about the 74-turbine wind facility a few miles west of Bowman. Each turbine requires many gallons of water. Additionally, the facility uses water for dust mitigation. A short presentation on the city of Bowman's well system preceded a tour of the Pioneer Trails Regional Museum. An optional tour of the EDGE Activity Complex rounded out the day.

Up for the Challenge – August 7

The last tour of the season took participants to the northwest corner of the state in the Williston area. There were 29 participants on this tour. Western Area Water Supply Authority (WAWS) sites served as primary feature stops on the morning of the tour, including a tower and construction site. The Williston Water Treatment Plant was also toured; participants always enjoy seeing the process water takes before it reaches their taps at home.

Mountrail-Williams Electric Cooperative (MWEC) hosted a tour of its building. Since 2011, MWEC's monthly peak demand has grown by nearly 16% annually. MWEC demonstrates commitment to reducing risks that could impact the reliability and security of the electric grid and, as such, was found compliant for all 52 standards required by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC).

The Links of North Dakota, an award-winning golf course, accommodated the participants for lunch and a tour. The course offers fantastic views of Lake Sakakawea. The tour stopped at Little Egypt County Park to learn about recreation opportunities on the shores of Lake Sakakawea. Lastly, the tour went to the Nesson Valley Research Irrigation Site to learn about its focus on improving agricultural practices in the region, particularly under irrigation. The site seeks to improve crop production within an irrigated system and develop alternative cropping systems to improve water, nutrient and pest management.

APPRECIATING Our Missouri River

Thank you, Gov. Kelly Armstrong, for your recent designation of July 22, 2025, as “Missouri River Day.”

Those of us living in our great state realize and appreciate the valuable resources and benefits at our disposal, the most important of which is open to debate. Some contend it is our productive agricultural land that provides the greatest and highest value to us. Others insist it is our vast reserves of oil, coal and natural gas and all the financial benefits thereof that make those collectively our greatest resource. Others will contend it is our good stock of hardworking and honest people. They are all right and all can provide solid arguments for their chosen favorite resource.

But for those of us in the water community, we contend that the Missouri River, beyond all other resources, is our greatest resource.

North Dakota has long been a beneficiary of the Missouri River. Those of us who recreate in or depend on the river’s water for domestic and industrial water supplies, irrigation and value-added agriculture, or oil development, we collectively contend that the Missouri River is our greatest resource.

Without the Missouri River, there would be a very limited support system for any meaningful population bases in the central and western portions of our state and very little sustainable reliable water to support economic



KEN ROYSE
*Program Manager, Missouri
River Joint Water Board*

opportunities in those areas. As progress continues to bring Missouri River water to eastern North Dakota, the value of the river becomes even more dramatic, allowing those communities and areas to also have a dependable, safe and abundant source of water.

A recent article in a Missouri newspaper stated, in large and bold print, that “Water is our Most Valuable Resource” in reference to its view of the Missouri River. This is a proclamation from a state that most would consider water rich. It averages between 30 and 40 inches of precipitation per year, compared to North Dakota’s average of 10-20 inches per year.

In our mostly dry and arid state, the river provides a source of water which is proven to be drought-proof, abundant, accessible and treatable. In the record drought of the 1930s when most, perhaps all, of the other rivers and streams of our state ran dry, the Missouri River flowed through the state at near-average flow rates.

There was no interruption to community water intakes, irrigators and other water users because of prolonged dry conditions of that time or in subsequent dry periods since then.

As many of our groundwater resources are being taxed to near full capacity, especially in the central and eastern parts of our state, the Missouri River has the ability to provide replacement water for those diminishing water sources via the Red River Valley Water Supply Project, which will take Missouri River water to all the communities and corners of eastern North Dakota.

The Missouri River contributes to our high standard of living. It is an affordable and treatable source with manageable contaminants, which allows communities and rural and regional water systems along and adjacent to the river to make it the source for their water needs. It is a proven safe water supply for our needs, as well as those in neighboring states.

The Missouri River system provides huge economic benefits to our state through value-added agricultural processing plants, recreational opportunities and irrigation. North Dakota has the potential to irrigate hundreds of thousands of acres through use of the Missouri River. Increased crop yields provide financial benefits to individual irrigators. Numerous studies have shown a 7-to-1 economic benefit through irrigation. For every dollar invested into an irrigation system (private or public funding), there is a return of seven dollars to the irrigator, their communities and the state. Benefits also include higher levels of collected income tax, sales tax and property tax revenue.

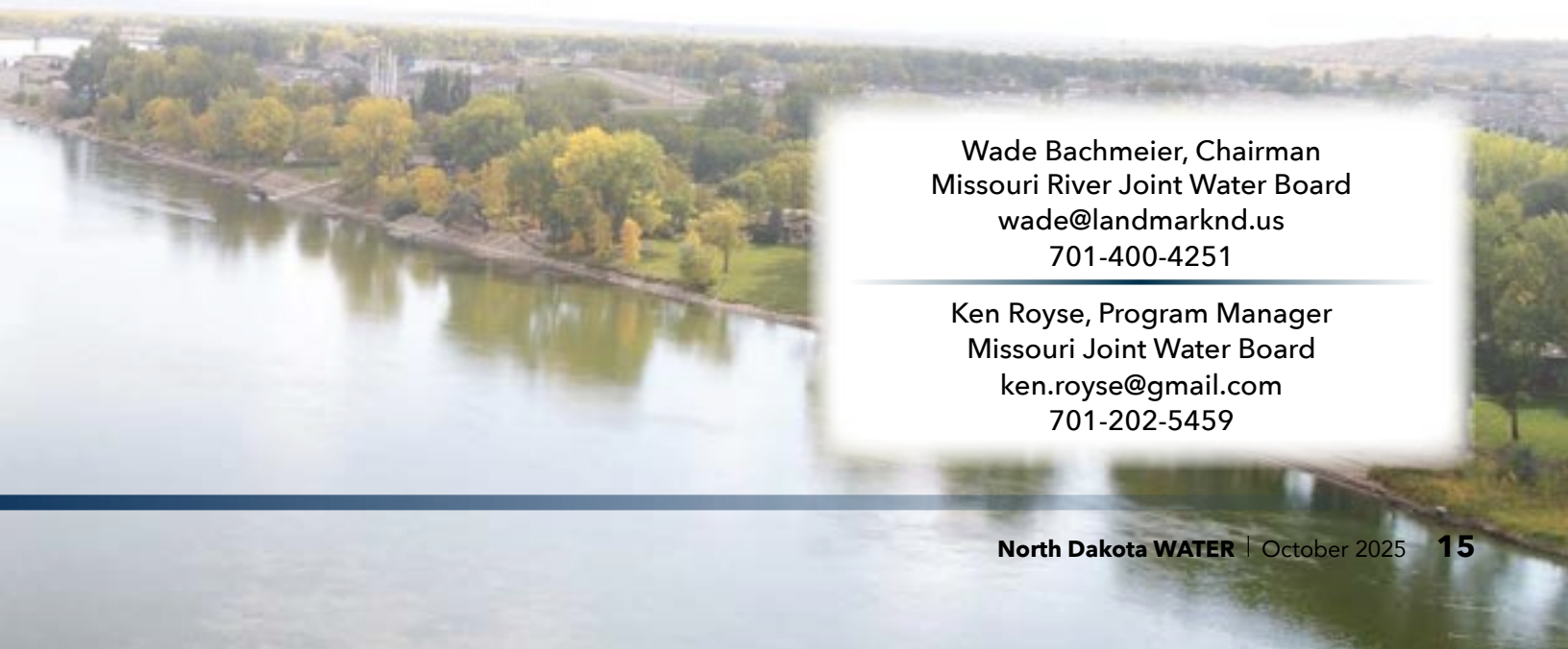
Our problem now is keeping the system healthy, accessible and reliable. We continue to deal with sedimentation, which affects our community intakes and river flows. We must remain vigilant about possible aquatic nuisance species invading our river. We have ongoing issues with the long and often cumbersome process of

obtaining federal access and use permits to the river system, particularly along the shorelines of Lake Sakakawea and Lake Oahe. In times of low basin-wide rain and snow, we have to fully engage with the federal government and downstream states to protect our river interests. We also must be diligent in maintaining adequate water levels in the river and reservoirs so that community and irrigation intakes can be used and recreational landings and boat docks can stay open.

We also must continuously exert our rights to river water when challenged by other states and outside interests seeking to limit our use of the river. And we worry about climate change and how that change may affect the river, just as the Colorado River Basin is now being affected by such change.

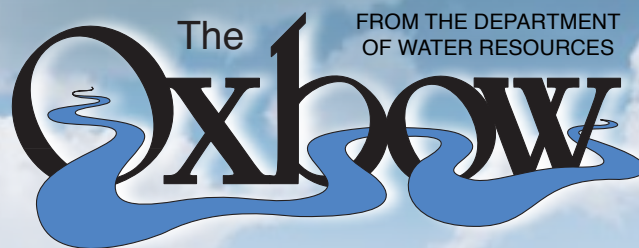
The Missouri River has great and unmatched value as a resource for health, the environment and economic stability. As great as the resource is to us, the potential problems are also great. Our strength is our ability to remain diligent and maintain momentum as we continue to face these ongoing challenges.

To build on this strength, one necessary step is building the public's understanding of the threat to the river. To that end, the Missouri River Joint Water Board (comprised of county water boards along and within the Missouri River Basin in North Dakota) has implemented a public awareness program titled the Educate, Advocate and Engage Program. The program is supported financially and administratively by the North Dakota Department of Water Resource, the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District, the Southwest Water Authority, the North Dakota Water Resources Association, and others of the water community. More information about the river system and further discussion of the issues of this article can be provided by contacting the author of this article, Missouri River Joint Board or the North Dakota Department of Water Resources.



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EYES IN THE SKY

DWR USES DRONES TO MANAGE ND'S WATER



The North Dakota Department of Water Resources (DWR) has taken to the skies – literally – to better manage and protect the state's vital water resources. With a growing Small Unmanned Aircraft System (sUAS) program made up of four aircraft and four licensed pilots, DWR is using drone technology to improve monitoring, data collection and public communication across multiple divisions.

During the 2023-2025 biennium, DWR completed more than 450 drone flights. These flights supported regulatory oversight, project planning, engineering, emergency response, and outreach efforts. While the technology may seem high-tech, the results are very down-to-earth – providing clearer insight, greater efficiency and stronger accountability in how water resources are managed.

REGULATORY OVERSIGHT AND COMPLIANCE

DWR's Dam Safety Program is one of the primary beneficiaries of the drone program. High-resolution aerial imagery captured during inspections is now part of a growing database of dam conditions across the state. These images allow the agency to monitor structural changes over time and improve long-term safety tracking. In select cases, thermal imaging has been used to detect potential seepage or leaks not visible to the naked eye.

Drones are also essential to sovereign lands investigations. When illegal boat docks, shoreline structures, or de-shoring activities are reported or discovered, drones provide a quick, safe and accurate way to assess and document these incidents.

In addition, drones are deployed during water management investigations, such as assessing drainage complaints or verifying compliance in sensitive areas. These tools help staff efficiently respond to concerns while minimizing impacts on landowners.



PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND DATA VERIFICATION

Within the Water Development Division, drones play a key role in pre-project assessments and engineering survey missions. These efforts support large-scale projects like the Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP), the Northwest Area Water Supply Project (NAWS), and others. Drone imagery gives surveyors and engineers the ability to evaluate conditions and terrain without needing extensive ground access – saving time and reducing disruption to landowners.

Drones also assist with model data verification and ground condition monitoring. By comparing drone imagery to snowpack data or modeled stream levels, staff can better understand changing conditions and forecasts.

In certain situations, drones are used to measure lake levels where physical access to gauges is restricted or dangerous. These flights offer a practical solution when safety or environmental conditions limit on-the-ground inspection.



EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND FIELD SUPPORT

Drone technology enhances DWR's ability to respond to water-related emergencies. When flooding occurs, drones are used in partnership with the Department of Emergency Services to survey affected areas and inform response strategies. These flights offer rapid situational awareness to aid emergency managers and reduce response times.



VERIFYING DROUGHT PROJECTS FROM THE AIR

DWR also uses drones to verify projects funded through the Drought Disaster Livestock Water Supply Program. With landowner permission, pilots can fly over rural pastures to confirm the installation of wells, tanks or other infrastructure – often in locations that are difficult to access on foot. This aerial verification method is faster, less invasive, and provides clear evidence of completed work.



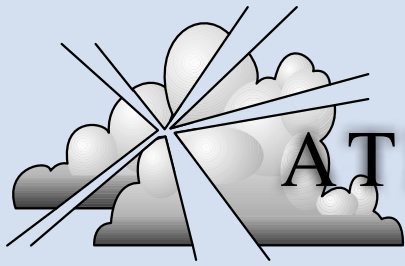
EDUCATION, OUTREACH AND TRANSPARENCY

Beyond fieldwork, drones are a powerful storytelling tool. The Planning and Education Division uses drone imagery to support educational materials, public presentations and legislative briefings. Photos and videos captured from above help showcase North Dakota's water infrastructure projects in a way that's both accessible and engaging. These visuals are often shared on DWR's Facebook, LinkedIn, and YouTube pages to highlight the work being done across the state.



LOOKING AHEAD

Thanks to legislative support through Senate Bill 2018, DWR will be replacing two of its drones to ensure continued compliance with state standards. These upgrades will allow the agency to maintain cutting-edge capabilities and keep its aerial operations safe, efficient and effective.



THE ATMOSPHERIC RESERVOIR

Examining the Atmosphere and Atmospheric Resource Management

NEW RADAR SERVING SOUTHWESTERN ND

By Mark D. Schneider

In July, weather radar services in southwestern North Dakota were interrupted when the 1970s vintage WSR-74C Weather Radar at the Bowman Regional Airport (shorter radar pictured in image) was powered down and the new WRS300 Dual-Polarization Radar was commissioned. The entire region, including southeastern Montana and northwest South Dakota, has benefited from this radar service since year-round operations began on January 1, 2011. Eight North Dakota counties, including Bowman, Billings, Dunn, Golden Valley, Slope, and Stark, in addition to Fallon County, Mont., and Harding County, S.D., have been funding its annual operating and maintenance costs.

Funding to purchase the new radar in Bowman was approved in the 2023 North Dakota Legislative Session. Since the approval of funding, a lengthy and complicated process ensued of procuring the radar and tower and getting everything shipped to Bowman, assembled and operational.

When asked about the new radar, Bowman County Emergency Manager Dean Pearson commented that, “the radar is part of the storm watch and warning system that Bowman County uses for both summer and winter events. We appreciate having it available, as it covers a national radar ‘gap’ for our region. This new radar will give us even more tools that we can use to analyze weather events in our area.”

The new weather radar provides enhancements in service, including increased range, improved resolution and “dual polarization” products. Dual polarization means that the weather radar sends out both horizontal and vertical pulses of energy and then listens for their returns. This technology allows the radar to determine what types of precipitation it is sampling. For example, if the radar samples a volume of air



inside a thunderstorm and the returns are circular in shape, this is indicative that hailstones are present in that part of the storm. The new radar also has a larger dish antenna compared to the older unit, allowing the beam to be more focused and providing better quality wind velocity data.

Currently, images from the Bowman Radar can be viewed on the Department of Water Resources’ website at www.dwr.nd.gov/arb. In the future, the goal is to integrate Bowman radar into the national radar network so that you can view it with whatever radar app you decide to use.

North Dakota Department of Water Resources | Data & Atmospheric Resources | 1200 Memorial Highway, Bismarck, ND 58504
(701) 328-2788 | dwr.nd.gov

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2025 Hawkins Apprenticeship and Patrick Denne Scholarship Recipients

This year, we are celebrating two outstanding apprentices as recipients of the 2025 Hawkins Apprenticeship Scholarship and the Patrick Denne Scholarship. These awards not only help ease the cost of their apprenticeship programs but also recognize the hard work and dedication they have already shown in pursuing careers in the water industry. Their achievements shine a light on the bright future of the next generation of water professionals.



Ian Coenen of New Rockford, North Dakota, joined the North Dakota Rural Water System Association's Apprenticeship Program in November 2024. He has progressed solidly through the program's On the Job Training and Related Technical Instruction, so much so that at times he has been ahead of schedule for his program's timeline.

Ian and the city of New Rockford recently received the 2025 Hawkins Apprenticeship Scholarship valued at \$3,000. These funds will go towards the cost of the Related Technical Instruction courses that Ian has yet to complete and any supplies or equipment he needs along the way.

Programs like the Hawkins Apprenticeship Scholarship allow apprentices to be employed by smaller water systems that may not have the funding or resources to otherwise participate. NDRWSA is grateful for the support Hawkins has provided to our apprentices now and in the past, and we are excited to see where Ian takes his career as an operator after completing his apprenticeship program.



Another scholarship recipient this year was **Sparkle Sawyer** of Southwest Water Authority. Sparkle also began her apprenticeship program in November 2024 and has become a strong member of the team at the treatment plant in Dickinson.

Sparkle was named one of the recipients of the North Dakota Rural Water Systems Association Patrick Denne Scholarship earlier this year. This scholarship was valued at \$3,000 and covers the cost of the related technical instruction courses that all participating Apprentices are required to complete.

The Patrick Denne Scholarship was created in remembrance of a past employee of NDRWSA, Patrick Denne, who passed away on April 4, 2004, after a courageous battle with cancer. Patrick served as a Circuit Rider across the state of North Dakota for 20 years and set an example for what a successful career in water can look like. It is the hope of the Patrick Denne Scholarship Committee that recipients like Sparkle are able to use these awards to advance their careers and to have as vast an impact as Patrick did for the great state of North Dakota.

Congratulations Ian and Sparkle. We look forward to your future in the water industry and wish you the best of luck as you complete the rest of your programs!

Local Students Win ND Rural Water Awards

By Julie Hein, NDRW Water Quality Action Specialist

Each year, the North Dakota Rural Water Systems Association recognizes the most outstanding science fair projects dealing with water or wastewater at the regional science fairs across the state. This year, five students received these cash awards at their regional and state science and engineering fairs.

Brooke Homola, a student at Gackle Streeter High School in Gackle, recently competed in the Northwest Regional Science Fair. Her project, “The Effects of Common Liquids on *Lemna Minor* in the Event of Accidental Contamination in Bodies of Water,” attempted to determine which common liquid would kill duckweed the fastest.

Sonaskhi Singhal, a sophomore from Red River High School in Grand Forks, competed with her project, “On the Fundamental Understanding of Arsenic Minerals Chemistry for Successful Environmental Mitigation,” at the Northeast Regional Science Fair last March. She hypothesized that a solution of zinc, copper and calcium would chemically react with arsenic to form a mineral that could be used to convert arsenic and other elements into a mineralized form that could be used to remove arsenic contamination.

A team of tenth graders from Flasher High School in Flasher, **Piper Schmidt** and **Jocelyn Rossow**, competed at the South-Central Regional Science Fair this spring with their project “The Influence of pH and Temperature on *E. coli* Growth,” which aimed to investigate the impact of pH and temperature on the growth and survival of *E. coli* in

contaminated water and understand the factors contributing to *E. coli* outbreaks. Their results indicated that *E. coli* growth was more pronounced in conditions with a pH of 9 and a temperature of 25 degrees Celsius. These findings provide valuable insight into the conditions that promote *E. coli* proliferation, which may help water treatment strategies and public health measures aimed at preventing *E. coli* outbreaks in contaminated water sources.

Violet Fischer, a student at Kidder County High School in Steele, presented her project entitled “Which Water Tank Would You Drink From: Algae Growth in Water Tanks” at the Southeast Regional Science Fair. She determined that copper sulfate worked better than barley straw to control the growth of algae in water tanks.

At the North Dakota State Science and Engineering Fair, **Karlee Hoyt** of Trenton competed with her project, “Water Daphnia vs. Marine Pollutants”, winning the ND Rural Water Award.

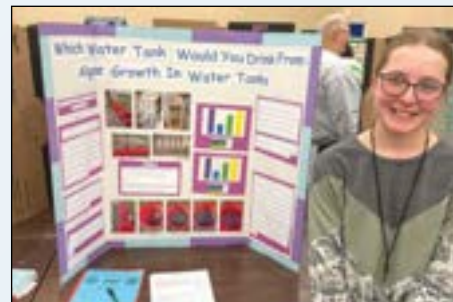
Science fair participation is an exceptional way for students to engage in active learning and develop sufficient science literacy. Students can take their natural curiosity and advance their understanding in a given area through research. The science fair program facilitates skills that are essential in preparation for undergraduate and graduate degrees, including academic writing, verbal, written and public communication, and problem-solving skills. Students gain confidence and crucial presentation skills and are able to network with their peers who, like these winners, share similar interests. Besides giving students opportunities to earn significant prizes or qualify for scholarships and advancement, science fair is fun!



Brooke Homola



Sonaskhi Singhal



Violet Fischer

Our Water

Keeping it Clean

North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality

Staff Highlights:

2025 Summer Interns

*Meridith Miller, Environmental Scientist
North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality*

Each year, the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ) offers internships to assist with various water quality projects. Internships provide valuable hands-on work experience for students and recent graduates. Participants establish important networking connections, gain insight into career paths, and develop a competitive edge in the workforce. Agencies also benefit from the new ideas and fresh perspectives interns bring to their teams. The NDDEQ Watershed Management Program was able to hire three interns for the 2025 field season.

Meet the Interns

Jaxsyn Olson returned for his third summer interning with NDDEQ, his second year with the Watershed Management Program. Olson is a senior at Valley City State University, majoring in Wildlife and Fisheries and Environmental Science. Olson says he decided to return for another summer because he “enjoyed the past couple summers with the DEQ and was ecstatic with the amounts of work as well as the variety of tasks to do. DEQ offers great work experience.” Olson also states that because of his experiences with NDDEQ internships, he is “not exactly sure what I want to do, but I know that it is related

to environmental science and water quality.”

Chay VanDyke graduated from Montana State University this spring with a degree in geology. He chose to apply for an internship with NDDEQ because his “academic training is heavy on Earth processes and interactions, but lacks water science training. Having this training would feed my curiosity and open doors into Environmental Science aspects of Earth Science,” VanDyke says. “Wherever I go in the future, this experience puts water quality at the front of my priorities.”

Matthew Ventouris has one semester left at Ohio State University before graduating with a degree in Environmental Science. Ventouris said, “This internship interested me because throughout my coursework, learning how to conduct chemical and biological samples in lakes and streams has been extremely fun and interesting to me.” His future plans include “working for a state agency doing some environmental work. I really enjoyed the experiences I gained from this internship and my last in field work, office work and lab work, so it’s hard for me to say what exactly my plans are.”

Internship Activities

This season, interns supported a wide variety of projects in the watershed management program. The main focus for the monitoring program was rivers and lakes in the Red River Basin, but as Olson said, “we got to travel all over the state and see all of the different landscapes North Dakota has to offer.”

Some days, they collected biological and chemistry samples for IBI (Index of Biological Integrity) development – a way to assess the water quality of a stream based on the presence or absence of certain aquatic species. They learned to operate boats and use meters to measure dissolved oxygen, pH and temperature for lake water



Interns Chay VanDyke, Jaxsyn Olson and Matthew Ventouris, along with monitoring scientist Mickey Schick, collecting biological samples in the Pembina River.



Left: Matthew Ventouris shows off a perch collected during biological sampling. Middle: Chay VanDyke uses a YSI meter to collect a lake water quality profile. Right: Jaxsyn Olson assisting with IBI sampling on the Tongue River.

quality assessments. Still other days, they collected water samples for the ambient stream monitoring network or to support the development of various water quality reports.

Additionally, they traversed the state to collect Harmful Algal Bloom samples. As VanDyke described, “each day was different, you could be on a river counting fish and measuring transects, on a lake taking water column data, or working with the data you capture to develop information sheets and maps for the public.”

VanDyke says that he learned a lot about how to use equipment to gather water samples and how water quality data is acquired, processed and delivered. Ventouris “learned a bit more about what to expect working in surface water quality. While I’m sure the summers can get exhausting, I believe seeing all the hard work come to fruition when gathering data and making reports would make it all worth it.”

For Olson and Ventouris, the most memorable part of the summer was traveling to the Pembina Gorge for IBI sampling. Olson notes, “I got to see a new part of the state and it was beautiful.” Ventouris said it was his

favorite part because of the quality time with his fellow interns and coworkers after the two-day trip. VanDyke said the most memorable part of the summer was his “first lakes day when we got stuck on the lake during a downpour. Instead of competing with the elements, we work with them.”

Parting Thoughts

Ventouris advised anyone in an internship program to “be sure to ask questions to people you don’t work with on a day-to-day basis. You’ll learn more about how the workplace functions and can gain motivation to work harder, seeing the broader scope and impact of your work.” He also notes that when applying to internships, “it helped to be thorough in my skills and experience. I also prepared for my interviews by reviewing my resume and asking myself potential questions I believed would be asked.”

Olson’s advice includes: “Be open to new opportunities. Always be positive. And get out and find a job in a field that you enjoy.” VanDyke’s advice was, “No matter where you are academically, apply. Not only will you gain valuable knowledge, but you

will also gain a community to lean on.”

The Environmental Quality’s Watershed Management Program thanks Olson, VanDyke and Ventouris for their help and hard work this season. Much of our field work is not possible without their assistance.

Future internship opportunities will be posted on the state career webpage at www.omb.nd.gov/team-nd-careers/career-openings. Interested applicants can create an account and request notifications for positions.

For more information on the Watershed Management Program, contact program manager Josh Wert at 701-328-5014 or jewert@nd.gov or visit https://deq.nd.gov/WQ/3_Watershed_Mgmt/default.aspx

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THE Timmer Chronicles

By Scott Nelson

A long time ago, the fall after I graduated from high school, I was a bit at loose ends. My smarter classmates were off to college. I, after helping my dad get the harvest in, had nothing to do. I was bored.

My older brother was working out near Helena, Montana, building power lines, and got word of a job for an elk hunting outfitter. Don Merrett of Wild Country Outfitters interviewed me by phone. Was I good with horses? I thought I was. Did I own a sidearm? Yes, a .22 caliber pistol. No, no good. .22s are no good against grizzlies; they just make them mad. One of the hunting guides will loan you a .44. Just like that, I was hired, and I left that night for Montana.

I was pretty green. Believe it or not, I had never filled gas at a station pump before. Up to that point, I'd just filled from our supply tank at home. The first place I filled, I had to go inside and ask them how the pump worked. They must have thought I was pretty dumb, a regular country bumpkin.

After many hours of driving, I got to Helena, found the home of my new boss, and went right to work loading pack boxes with groceries. The next day we headed out with several vehicles, trucks and trailers loaded with supplies, hay, horses and mules. We drove up northwest of Helena to the Swan Valley, nestled between the Mission Mountains and the Bob Marshall Wilderness.

We got to the trailhead on the edge of "The Bob," saddled horses, packed mules and started to the east, up the steep and heavily switch-backed trail to Swan Pass that led down into the heart of the Marshalls. When we went over the pass, I noticed a triangle of red painted rocks that was a makeshift helipad to be used in emergencies. One must remember, these were the days before cellphones or reliable radio communication. Once we left the trailhead, we were on our own. If an emergency arose, the only



recourse was to send a rider out to get help.

As we followed the trails deeper into the mountains, we would encounter blowdowns, downed trees that blocked the trail. This was a wilderness area, no chainsaws allowed. We had to clear the trails by hand, using axes, crosscut, and "Swede" saws. By the time we made it to camp 20 miles in, it was dark.

My boss must have been pleased with my horsemanship skills and work ethic cause I got my first raise the moment we made it to camp.

My official title was "Camp Jack," or glorified dishwasher. I had other duties that included bringing stove wood in with "John," a big harness mule. I would find standing dead trees near camp (blowdowns were no good cause they were waterlogged). I'd cut the trees down then snake them into camp with John. Once in, we'd cut them to size with a two-man crosscut saw and stack them in a wood shelter. I'd split and distribute stove wood to all the tents daily. I even served as a guide for a couple of hunts, even though I had no idea what I was doing. I pretty much just took the mounted hunters way up on the mountain and led their horses back. They hunted back to camp on foot.

I slept in the kitchen tent with the cook. One early morning while we were starting breakfast, a guide came in and informed us that a black bear was helping himself to the food boxes. The cook shot the bear but only wounded it. He handed the rifle to me cause his pancakes were burning, and I finished him off. I was given the hide, skull and meat from that bear.

One frosty morning, I found big grizzly bear tracks right through camp. I was told not to inform the hunters about it. A number of years before, a grizzly had killed and eaten a hunter. All they found was his rifle, with a bent barrel and broken stock. I went back and worked several seasons. It was fun and I got quite the education.

See yuh next time, Scott



Top O' the Day Tee-Off Celebrates 21 Years of Supporting Water Education Foundation

For over 20 years, the North Dakota Water Education Foundation (NDWEF), in partnership with the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District, has proudly hosted the annual Top O' the Day Tee-Off at CrossRoads Golf Course in Carrington, N.D.

This exciting event raises funds for the Dushinske & Jamison Water Resources Scholarship Endowment, which honors two of North Dakota's most influential water leaders – Russell Dushinske and Warren Jamison – recognized for their distinguished service, visionary leadership, and lifelong commitment to water development across the state.

Each year, four \$1,500 scholarships are awarded to students attending a North Dakota college or university whose families have played an active role in state water resource management.

This year's scramble featured 145 golfers on a beautiful summer day. Participants competed for top finishes and prizes, while enjoying contests and giveaways provided by 19 generous sponsors who helped make the day memorable.

The event concluded with a dinner and awards ceremony at the CrossRoads clubhouse, where the first-, third-, and 21st-place teams were recognized, along with winners of various hole contests.



With a tournament-best score of 54, the team of Wayne, Jayden and Grady Shipman and Steve Erickson claimed first place and earned well-deserved bragging rights.

The third-place team, comprised of Bob Gustafson, Steve Bietz, Chuck Mischel and Dean Glatt scored a 56, and the 21st-place team of Joe Zauner, Duane DeKrey, Cory Chorne and Representative Don Vigesaa, scored a 66.

Hole contests scattered on the course provided a bit of additional friendly competition for the day. The lucky winners are as follows:

- Men's Shortest Drive – Seth Zink
- Closest to Pin 2nd Shot – Arick Scherr
- Women's Longest Drive – Betsy Seaver
- Chipping Contest (sponsored by Burian & Associates) – Chris Harris
- Men's Longest Drive – Tanner Sperling
- Luck of the Draw (sponsored by Vogel Law) – Tom Erdmann
- Closest to Pin 2nd Shot – Hayden Schmitz
- Women's Shortest Drive – Gail Roberts
- How Many Tees Guess (sponsored by ND Irrigation Association) – Dan Perez
- Longest Putt – Taylen Mehning
- Putting Contest (sponsored by Apex Engineering Group) – Alex Belquist

A genuine thank you goes to the generous sponsors of the 21st Top O' the Day Tee-Off, as their participation is vital to the success of the scramble. Many of these sponsors also provided door prizes or games of chance out on the course.

Thanks to the continued support of sponsors, golfers, and the community, the legacy of Dushinske and Jamison continues to inspire and empower the next generation of water leaders in North Dakota.

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Jay Anderson Elected to the NWRA Board of Directors

Jay Anderson, Chairman of the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District board, has been elected to an individual member seat on the National Water Resources Association (NWRA) board of directors. The election took place during NWRA's Summer Conference in Park City, Utah, last July.

In his new role, Anderson will represent the state of North Dakota and serve in an advisory capacity on water policy issues at both the state and federal levels. His appointment underscores North Dakota's commitment to advancing water resource management and ensuring a strong voice in national discussions.

Anderson brings decades of experience in water and agriculture to the position. He has served on the Garrison Diversion board since 2013 and currently leads as chairman. His leadership has been instrumental in projects such as the Red River Valley Water Supply Project, which aims to secure long-term water solutions for the region.

"It is an honor to be elected to the board and to be involved in the organization supporting and shaping national water policy," Anderson says. "My background in the North Dakota water industry has prepared me to advocate effectively for the interests of state and local water users, and I look forward to helping drive meaningful progress."

The NWRA board of directors comprises representatives from across the country who collaborate to promote responsible water resource policy and infrastructure development. Anderson joins other individual members and state representatives in shaping the future of water management nationwide.

Jay's term runs through the end of December 2025, with the seat up for election for a full two-year term at the NWRA Annual Conference in November.



Jay Anderson

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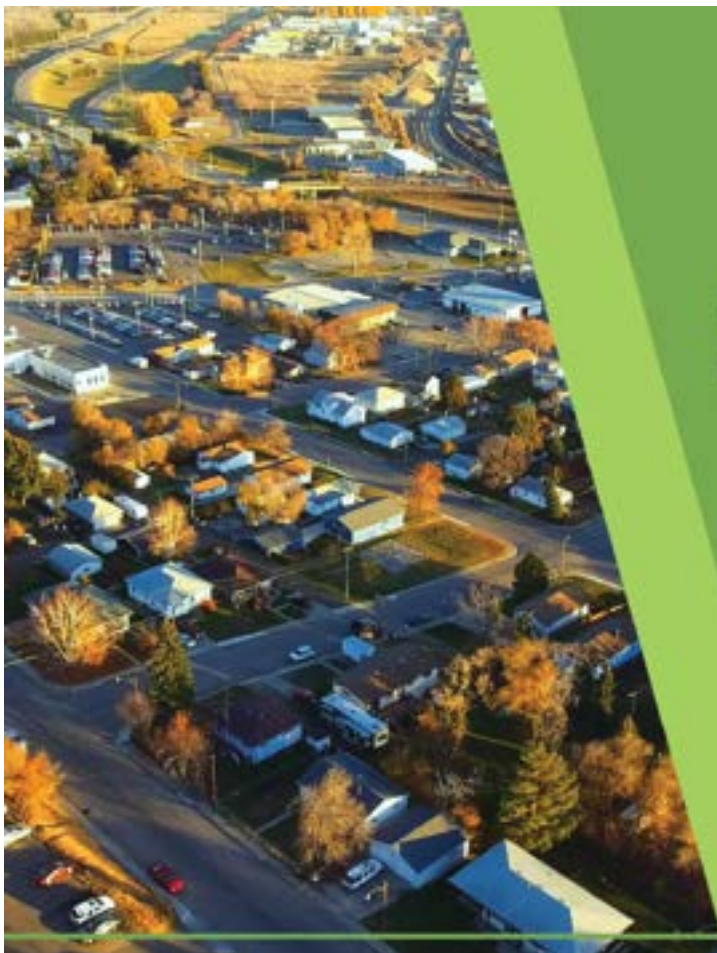
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12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes: ☒ Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months ☐ Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)		

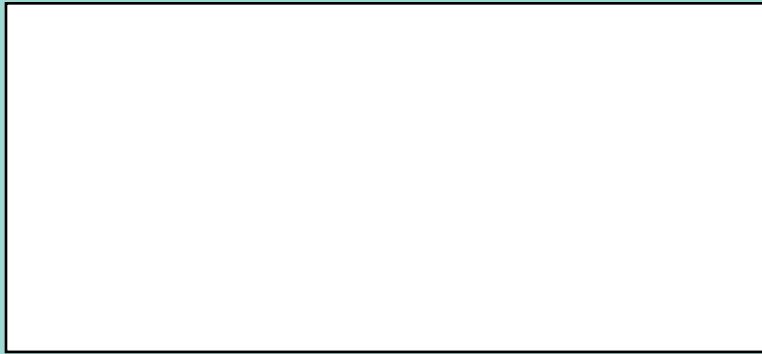
13. Publication Title NORTH DAKOTA WATER EDUCATION FOUNDATION/NORTH DAKOTA WATER		14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below 07/01/2025	
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (For press run)		14400	600
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3841 (Include paid distribution above normal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	10000	340
	(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3841 (Include paid distribution above normal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	1100	12
	(3) Paid Distribution Through the Mail Including Sales Through Carriers and Counters, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS® (e.g., First-Class Mail®)	0	0
	(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)	0	0
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b(1), 15b(2), 15b(3), and 15b(4))		11100	352
d. Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies Included on PS Form 3841		200	210
e. Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3841	(1) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3841	80	30
	(2) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Stated on Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)	80	30
	(3) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	0	0
	(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	0	0
f. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d(1), 15d(2), 15d(3), and 15d(4))		160	60
g. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15f)		11260	412
h. Copies not Distributed		10	18
i. Total (Sum of 15g and 15h)		11470	630
j. Percent Paid (15c / 15i times 100)		97.40 %	98.63 %
16. If total circulation includes electronic copies, report that circulation on lines below:			
a. Paid Electronic Copies		0	0
b. Total Paid Print Copies (15c) + Paid Electronic Copies		0	0
c. Total Free Distribution (15f) + Paid Electronic Copies		0	0
d. Percent Paid/Total Paid and Electronic Copies		0.00 %	0.00 %
☐ I certify that 50% or more of all paid distribution copies (Electronic and Print) are paid above a nominal price.			
17. Publication of Statement of Ownership ☒ If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. PS is printed in the 10/1/2025 issue of this publication. ☐ Publication not required.			
18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner		Date	
Dawn Ouselet Managing Editor		06/30/2025 11:58:24 PM	
I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).			

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"good enough." You hire the very best.

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Sponsored by:



—2025 CALENDAR

- Nov. 3 Southwest Water Authority's Board of Directors Meeting, Dickinson
- Nov. 5-7 National Water Resources Association's Annual Conference and Leadership Forum, Tucson, AZ
- Nov. 12 Devils Lake Basin Joint Water Resource Board Meeting, Ramsey County Courthouse, Devils Lake
- Nov. 20 North Dakota State Water Commission's Pre-Commission Meeting
- Nov. 20 Metro Flood Diversion Authority's Board Meeting
- Nov. 25 NAWS Authority Meeting, virtually or at the Minot Public Works
- Dec. 1 Southwest Water Authority's Board of Directors Meeting, Dickinson
- Dec. 9 Upper Sheyenne River Joint Water Resource Board of Directors Meeting, Bismarck Hotel & Conference Center, Bismarck
- Dec. 9-11 62nd Annual Joint North Dakota Water Convention and Upper Missouri Water Association and Irrigation Workshop, Bismarck Hotel & Conference Center, Bismarck
- Dec. 11 Devils Lake Basin Joint Water Resource Board Meeting, Bismarck Hotel & Conference Center, Bismarck
- Dec. 11 Red River Joint Water Resource District's Board of Directors Meeting, Bismarck Hotel & Conference Center, Bismarck
- Dec. 11 Missouri River Joint Water Board Meeting, Bismarck Hotel & Conference Center, Bismarck
- Dec. 11 Souris River Joint Board Meeting, Bismarck Hotel & Conference Center, Bismarck
- Dec. 16 North Dakota State Water Commission Meeting
- Dec. 18 Garrison Diversion Conservancy District's Executive Committee Meeting, Carrington
- Dec. 18 Metro Flood Diversion Authority's Board Meeting

For more information or if you would like a water event listed here, call 701-223-8332 or email jellingson@ndwater.net.
Submissions are due the first Monday of each month preceding the next issue.

North Dakota Water Education Foundation • P.O. Box 2254 • Bismarck, ND 58502