

# **WATERSHED SUMMIT 2014**

## **New Management Strategies & Targets for Water Quality/Quantity**



### **Speaker Biographies**

**Wayne P. Anderson, PE,  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)**

A graduate of the University of Minnesota with a Bachelor of Agricultural Engineering degree, Wayne has worked for the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for 40 years. Married with 3 sons, he is a registered professional engineer in the state of Minnesota, and a member of numerous professional organizations. He started at the MPCA in its formative years initially in the feedlot program overseeing both regulatory and assistance functions. Wayne has also supervised the development of the state nonpoint source control program and watershed management assistance... During the Carlson Administration Wayne coordinated efforts to assess and lead Governor Carlson's initiative to "Clean up the Minnesota River". Wayne has been the state's coordinating committee member for the National Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia Task Force since its inception in 1997, and has served several commissioners in the role of MPCA Agricultural Liaison. In his current position as Principal Engineer for Watershed Assistance, Wayne is focusing on implementing effective solutions through the state's clean water programs. He is currently the strategy coordinator for Minnesota's Nutrient Reduction Strategy.

**Ray Bohn  
Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD)**

Ray has been the administrator and lobbyist for the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts since 1995. In that role he has been involved in the formation of numerous water management policies and debates. He has been involved in politics, policy development, government, and media relations work for over four decades and owns and operates Media & Government Affairs in St. Paul, MN.

Ray has served in a number of senior staff positions in Governor Perpich's Office, including special assistant to the governor and director of communications & the press secretary. He also served as commissioner of the Department of Labor and Industry and director of the Department of Public Service. Outside of government, Bohn served as executive director of the American Diabetes Association of Minnesota, and published a weekly newspaper in southwestern Minnesota. He is a U. S. Army Viet Nam veteran.

**Jill Bathke**  
**Natural Resource Scientist**  
**Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy (MCEA)**

Jill works on a wide range of environmental issues related to non-ferrous mining, sand mining, wetlands, aquatic invasive species and agricultural drainage. Prior to her employment at MCEA, Jill was a biologist at the St. Paul District Army Corps of Engineers. During her time at the Corps, she managed the environmental review of several iron ore mine expansions and wetland and stream mitigation projects under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Jill has a graduate certificate in Stream Restoration, Science and Engineering from the University of Minnesota, where she also earned her B.S. in Environmental Science.

**Jill Crafton**  
**Officer/Board member**  
**Great Lakes Committee & Minnesota Division Izaak Walton League of America**

Jill Crafton chairs the Great Lakes Committee, serves on the MEP Water and Great Lakes Clusters for the Minnesota Division IWLA. She is a manager on the Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District Board and serves on the Executive Committee of the Minnesota Division Izaak Walton League of America.

**Shannon Fisher, PhD.**  
**Professor and Director of Water Resources Center**  
**Minnesota State University, Mankato**  
**Executive Director, Minnesota River Board**

Dr. Fisher was an Environmental Review Ecologist and Fisheries Biologist for the MN DNR for 5 years before starting with the Water Resources Center at Minnesota State University, Mankato in April 2005. In addition to his WRC duties, he serves as the Executive Director for the Minnesota River Board, Director of the Southern Regional Science and Engineering Fair Program, and Professor of Water Resources teaching Lake Ecology, Fisheries Biology, Research Methods, and Stream Restoration.

In his collective capacity, Dr. Fisher provides academic and administrative leadership to research staff, graduate research assistants, undergraduates, and local officials working to improve water quality in the Minnesota River Basin. Various duties performed by Dr. Fisher include student advising, research proposal development, maintenance of stakeholder relations, instructing courses, coordinating conferences, and advocating for science-based policies. Dr. Fisher finds great motivation in engaging students and the broader regional community.

Dr. Fisher's research interests include water quality impacts on stream and lake biota, riverine and fisheries ecology, impaired waters restoration, agricultural drainage, and shallow lakes management. Dr. Fisher is pleased to be involved with undergraduate and graduate students to prepare them for future positions in watershed, fisheries, and water quality professions, and prepares students in collaboration with the Departments of Biology, Chemistry and Geology, Geography, and Civil Engineering.

**Mark Gernes, Research Scientist  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)**

Mark works as a Wetland Plant Ecologist at the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. Since 1992 his work has focused on wetland policy issues and researching wetland responses to environmental stress from chemical pollution, invasive species and habitat alterations. Mark's statewide wetland responsibilities include monitoring and reporting on trends in wetland quality, methods for prioritizing wetland restoration and watershed technical assistance to several MPCA programs. Mark holds a Master's degree in Biological Science, with emphasis in Plant Ecology from St. Cloud State University and Bachelors in Biological Science from Bemidji State University. He enjoys reading, native landscaping, and is an avid outdoors person.

**Perry Jones, Hydrologist, US Geological Survey (USGS)**

Perry Jones is a hydrologist for the U. S. Geological Survey, Minnesota Water Sciences Center where he has conducted water resources research for seventeen years. He received his B.S. in Geology from State University of New York at Cortland and his M.S. in Geology at the University of Minnesota. He previously worked for seven years at the U.S. Bureau of Mines. Besides his research into groundwater/surface water interactions, Perry is currently conducting hydrologic research in the areas of baseline characterization of potential mining areas in northern MN, and hydrogeologic characterization of the St. Lawrence Formation.

**Steve Kloiber, Wetland Monitoring Coordinator  
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR)**

Steve is the wetland monitoring coordinator for the Minnesota DNR, where he oversees the wetland status and trends monitoring program and the update of the National Wetland Inventory for Minnesota. He has over twenty years of experience in the water resources field with a special focus on geospatial analysis and environmental informatics. He received his master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Minnesota in environmental engineering and water resource science and his bachelor's degree in chemistry and computer science from St. Olaf College. He worked for an environmental consulting firm and the Metropolitan Council prior to joining the DNR in 2008. He also serves on the Board of Managers for the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District.

**Jason Moeckel, Manager Inventory Monitoring and Analysis Section  
Division of Ecological and Water Resources Minnesota DNR (MDNR)**

Jason Moeckel has worked for the DNR since 1998. Jason is currently the Section Manager of the Inventory Monitoring and Analysis Section in the Division of Ecological and Water Resources. He is responsible for providing oversight and direction to the Division's Groundwater and Surface Water monitoring and analysis units, its Lake and Stream Habitat Units, and Biological Survey units. The section staff is responsible for collecting data and providing information to inform decisions that affect the use and enjoyment of Minnesota's natural resources.

**Doug Norris**  
**Wetlands Program Coordinator**  
**Division of Ecological and Water Resources**  
**Minnesota Department Natural Resources (MDNR)**

Doug has been a Minnesota DNR employee for 26 years and in his current position as Wetlands Program Coordinator since 1993. His responsibilities include wetland policy development, providing technical assistance on wetlands, developing wetlands-related data such as updated National Wetland Inventory maps and wetland status and trend data, and administering the DNR's regulatory responsibilities for calcareous fens. Doug has held previous positions with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Indiana and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in St. Paul. Doug is a graduate of Purdue University (B.S. -Wildlife) and the University of Missouri (M.S. - Fisheries and Wildlife).

**Brad Redlin**  
**Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program Manager**  
**Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA)**

As certification program manager, Brad provides leadership and project management for the new Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program. He works in coordination with the Commissioner's office and MDA environmental managers to lead and coordinate an advisory committee and state and federal collaborating agencies in developing and implementing the voluntary program. Brad was previously the national Director of Agricultural Programs for the Izaak Walton League of America, based in St. Paul, Minnesota. In addition to directing the League's federal agricultural policy advocacy, he directed staff and policies for the organization's Missouri River Initiative and Upper Mississippi River Initiative. Brad also served as Chairman of the Washington, DC-based National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition and is a member of such organizations as the Soil and Water Conservation Society, National Farmers Union, National Association of Farm Broadcasters, and served on the Agriculture and Wildlife Working Group for federal conservation policies, the Wilderness Society's biofuels technical review committee, the Mississippi River Collaborative's federal farm policy workgroup, Clean Water Network's Mississippi River basin committee co-chair, and has served on review and advisory committees for national foundations including The McKnight Foundation and the Walton Family Foundation. Brad was raised on the family farm near Sidney, Montana, and has previously been a high school teacher, journalist, and served as federal policy analyst and media director for the Center for Rural Affairs, in Lyons, Nebraska. With his six siblings, Brad continues to maintain ownership of the family farm in Montana, which is approximately 2000 acres of grassland and small grain production. With his wife Erin and daughter Eli, Brad enjoys the outdoors, travel and spending time with family, friends and pets.