

## Local Government

July 14, 2022

**9:00 Welcome**

Keynote Speaker and Moderator: Mr. Vik Iso-Ahola, Vice President, Stantec

**9:10 National Dam Safety: Program Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act**

Mr. Kayed Lakhia, Director, National Dam Safety Program, FEMA

**9:40 Oroville Dam Response**

Mr. Mark Ghilarducci, Director, Cal OES

**10:10 Break**

**10:20 ASDSO's Educational Tools for Dam Owners**

Ms. Lori Spragens, Executive Director, Association of State Dam Safety Officials

Ms. Katelyn Riley, Communications Manager, Association of State Dam Safety Officials

**10:50 Introduction to the Dams Sector**

Ms. Michelle Yeziarski, Section Chief for Dams, CISA, DHS

Mr. Craig Freer, Management & Program Analyst, CISA, DHS

**11:20 Break**

**12:00 Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvements**

Dr. Maryam Bral, Chief Engineer/Chief Dam Safety Engineer, United Water Conservation District

**12:30 Two Decades of Resiliency Upgrades of San Diego Regional Water Infrastructure**

Mr. Andrew Oleksyn, Project Manager, San Diego County Water Authority

**1:00 Break**

**1:10 California Department of Water Resources Inundation Mapping Program**

Dr. Murari Paudel, Supervising Engineer, California Dam Safety

**1:40 Klamath River Dam Removal**

Mr. Mark Bransom, CEO, Klamath River Renewal Corporation

## Local Government Schedule

July 14, 2022

**9:00 Welcome**

*Keynote Speaker and Moderator: Mr. Vik Iso-Ahola*

Introduction to the day's events and housekeeping notes.

**9:10 National Dam Safety: Program Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act**

*Mr. Kayed Lakhia, Director, National Dam Safety Program, FEMA*

An overview of funding available to FEMA for Dam Safety through the IIJA.

**9:40 Oroville Dam Response**

*Mr. Mark Ghilarducci, Director, CalOES*

Oroville Dam Incident from the high-level, broad, perspective of state emergency management (OES's role in coordinating the response and supporting the local IC; how the system operates in such scenarios, and how it operated for that incident, etc.)

**10:10 Break**

**10:20 ASDSO's Educational Tools for Dam Owners**

*Ms. Lori Spragens, Executive Director, ASDSO*

*Ms. Katelyn Riley, Communications Manager, ASDSO*

An overview of the educational tools for dam owners provided by the Association of State Dam Safety Officials (ASDSO).

**10:50 Introduction to the Dams Sector**

*Ms. Michelle Yeziarski, Section Chief for Dams, CISA, DHS*

*Mr. Craig Freer, Management & Program Analyst, CISA, DHS*

Introduction to the Dams Sector will provide an overview of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), highlighting CISA's role as the Sector Risk Management Agency for the Dams Sector, the partnership, and CISA's role in support of critical infrastructure owners and operators. In addition, it will focus on the work of the partnership and CISA to enhance security and resilience, sector-specific and security-focused resources, and how to access them.

**11:20 Break**

*(continued on next page)*

## **12:00 Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvements**

*Dr. Maryam Bral, Chief Engineer/Chief Dam Safety Engineer, United Water Conservation District*

An overview of Santa Felicia Dam safety improvements.

## **12:30 Two Decades of Resiliency Upgrades of San Diego Regional Water Infrastructure**

*Mr. Andrew Oleksyn, Project Manager, San Diego County Water Authority*

The San Diego region depends on imported water to supply 3.3 million people and a \$240 billion economy. Investments in the system of large diameter pipelines, pump stations, dams and reservoirs have improved the reliability to keep the water flowing. Some of those investment will be discussed with a focus on the Emergency Storage Project and improvements to San Vicente Dam.

## **1:00 Break**

## **1:10 California Department of Water Resources Inundation Mapping Program**

*Dr. Murari Paudel, Supervising Engineer, California Dam Safety*

In response to the requirements of Senate Bill 92, California's Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) initiated an Inundation Map Program, developed and released new Inundation Map Regulations, and acquired necessary resources for reviewing and approving inundation maps submitted by dam owners under a fast-tracked timeline set by the law. This presentation provides an overview of the Inundation Map Program, its current status, and DSOD's web inundation map viewer for its potential use by public and emergency managers for planning purposes.

## **1:40 Klamath River Dam Removal Project**

*Mr. Mark Bransom, CEO, Klamath River Renewal Corporation*

The Klamath River Renewal Corporation (KRRRC) is a non-profit corporation formed by the Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement (KHSA) and is the entity formally tasked with removing the four lower Klamath River dams, restoring formerly inundated lands, and implementing required mitigation measures in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations. This presentation provides an overview of the Klamath River Renewal Project, current project status, and anticipated next steps and milestones.

**Mr. Vik Iso-Ahola, PE, PMP, Vice President, Stantec**

*Keynote Speaker and Moderator*



Vik Iso-Ahola is a Vice President and the Regional Sector Lead for Dams at Stantec. He has 23 years of professional engineering experience with a primary focus on dam and spillway rehabilitation projects, utilizing a range of dam engineering skills in structural, geotechnical, civil, hydraulic, and construction engineering and planning. He is an active member of the United States Society on Dams (USSD), serving on Technical Committees on Concrete Dams and Construction and Rehabilitation, and has published over 20 papers on dam rehabilitation, raising, structural and thermal analysis, removal, and liquefaction.

**National Dam Safety: Program Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act**

***Mr. Kayed Lakhia, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP, CFM, Director, National Dam Safety Program, FEMA***



Mr. Kayed Lakhia was recently appointed the National Director of Dam Safety at FEMA. Previously he served as the Director of FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance program and managed a national portfolio of about \$10B in disaster and non-disaster grants. His leadership saw the creation of FEMA's new BRIC-Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities grant program. He has also acted in the position of FEMA's Deputy Assistant Administrator for Recovery.

Prior to his Federal Service, Mr. Lakhia was a principal at a global engineering firm. He holds a Master of Science degree from MIT, and a Masters in Homeland Security from the Naval Postgraduate School. He is a Registered Architect, a Certified Floodplain Manager, and a LEED Accredited Professional. Mr. Lakhia is an OPM certified member of the Senior Executive Service (SES).

## **Oroville Dam Response**

*Mr. Mark Ghilarducci, Director, Cal OES*



Mark Ghilarducci serves as the Director of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) within the Office of Governor Gavin Newsom. Ghilarducci was appointed January 8, 2019 by Governor Newsom to continue his service as Director, following his appointment on July 1, 2013 by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. Ghilarducci also previously served as Secretary of the California Emergency Management Agency, appointed in February 2012 by Governor Brown.

As a member of the Cabinet, Director Ghilarducci serves as the Governor's Homeland Security Advisor and oversees statewide public safety, emergency management, emergency communications, counter-terrorism efforts and the State Threat Assessment System. In addition to his duties serving as Director of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Director Ghilarducci is designated by the Governor as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the California Earthquake Authority (CEA) and as Chairman of the California Catastrophic Response Council. He also serves on the Executive Committee of the National Governor's Association (NGA) Governor's Homeland Security Advisory Council; the Environmental Information Services Working Group of the Advisory Council to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); the State Board of Fire Services; and the Board of the Western States Seismic Policy Council (WSSPC).

## **ASDSO's Educational Tools for Dam Owners**

*Ms. Lori Spragens, Executive Director, Association of State Dam Safety Officials*

*Ms. Katelyn Riley, Communications Manager, Association of State Dam Safety Officials*



Lori is the executive director of the Association of State Dam Safety Officials. During her tenure, ASDSO has gained international recognition as a premier organization advancing the need for safer dams and creating a unified voice for the dam safety community. Programs established within the organization include continuing education for dam engineers, communication and education for dam owners, dam failure investigation programs, peer review programs for state and private dam safety programs, information resources services, to mention a few. ASDSO also has been instrumental in seeing to it that state and federal legislation has been passed to improve dam safety policy and provide assistance to regulators and owners. Lori has contributed to and written several journal and news articles on dam safety and the

development of research reports and guidelines for dam safety. Lori represents ASDSO on the DHS, Dams Sector Coordinating Council and has served on other national advisory groups.



Katelyn Riley is the Communications Manager at the Association of State Dam Safety Officials. She has been with ASDSO for 5 years. Katelyn is a graduate of the University of Kentucky with a B.S. in Integrated Strategic Communication focusing on public relations and marketing. During her time at the university, she was a part of the University of Kentucky HealthCare public relations team and helped to provide content on the university website. Later she took a creative internship with a local advertising agency. Ms. Riley continues to live in Lexington enjoying time with friends and family.

## **Introduction to the Dams Sector**

*Ms. Michelle Yeziarski, PE, Section Chief—Dams, Stakeholder Engagement Division, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency*

*Mr. Craig Freer, Program Analyst, Stakeholder Engagement Division, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency*



Ms. Yeziarski supports the security and resilience posture of the nation's dams, navigation locks, and levees by providing technical expertise and consultation, facilitating the effective ongoing execution of homeland security programs, and ensuring effective public-private partnerships. Prior to joining CISA, Ms. Yeziarski worked for the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Dam Safety and Flood Engineering, where she served as a Principal Civil Engineer responsible for the safety and security of dams across the state of New Jersey. Ms. Yeziarski is a licensed professional engineer and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering from Rutgers University.



Mr. Freer serves as a Management and Program Analyst within the Stakeholder Engagement Division (SED), Dams Section. Prior to joining the Dams Section, he supported the Department of Homeland Security, Office of Infrastructure Protection (IP) beginning in 2007. During his time with the Department, he was directly involved in the development of many of the tools used by DHS in conducting vulnerability and consequence assessments to help critical infrastructure owners and operators and state, local, tribal, and territorial partners understand and address risks to critical infrastructure.

## **Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvements**

*Dr. Maryam Bral, PhD, PE, Chief Engineer/Chief Dam Safety Engineer, United Water Conservation District*



Dr. Maryam Bral serves as the Chief Engineer and Water Resources Leader for the United Water Conservation District (UWCD or District) since 2018. She also serves as the Chief Dam Safety Engineer for Santa Felicia Dam, a critical infrastructure within the District service area. Dr. Bral oversees the work of the Engineering Staff and the District's consultants related to the permitting and design of the Santa Felicia Dam safety improvement project and is the District's administrative contact for all safety related issues for FERC and DSOD. A California licensed Civil Engineer, with over 22 years of experience, Dr. Bral holds a BS degree in Chemical Engineering, a Master's Degree in Chemical/Civil Engineering and a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering, all earned from

the Technical University of Denmark. She also served as a Post-Doctoral Researcher with Queen's University of Belfast, in Belfast, Northern Ireland. Dr. Bral is a member of the American Water Works Association (AWWA), Association of State Dam Safety Officials (ASDSO), and American Public Works Association – Central Coast (APWA) and the Society of American Military Engineers.

## **Two Decades of Resiliency Upgrades of San Diego Regional Water Infrastructure**

*Mr. Andrew Oleksyn, PE, Project Manager, San Diego County Water Authority*



Andrew Oleksyn is a project manager at the San Diego County Water Authority and a licensed Civil Engineer in California. He obtained his Civil Engineering degree from Arizona State University and has 23 years of experience in design and construction management of water infrastructure projects. Andrew is also US Navy veteran. Before joining the Water Authority, he spent 6 years in the Navy Nuclear Power program and served 4 years in the submarine service.



## **California Department of Water Resources Inundation Mapping Program**

***Dr. Murari Paudel, PhD, PE, Supervising Engineer, California Department of Water Resources, Division of Safety of Dams***



Murari Paudel is a Supervising Engineer at the California Department of Water Resource, Division of Safety of Dams. He has been reviewing the inundation maps since 2018 and is leading efforts to publish the approved maps in the division's web viewer. Dr. Paudel is one of the Risk Cadres in the divisions new Risk Informed Decision Making (RIDM) program. Prior to joining the CA state work force, he worked in the consulting industry for over a decade.

Murari holds a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering and Master's and Doctoral degree in Water Resources Engineering.

## **Klamath River Removal Project**

***Dr. Mark Bransom, CEO, Klamath River Renewal Corporation***



Mark Bransom is the Chief Executive Officer of the Klamath River Renewal Corporation (KRRC), a non-profit organization formally tasked with removing the four lower Klamath River dams. Mark has over 25 years of planning, engineering, and construction experience in water resources and environmental management for state and local governments, federal agencies, Tribal Nations, NGOs, and private sector clients throughout the Western United States.

Prior to KRRC, Mark spent 20 years at CH2MHill, a global consultancy, where he oversaw a variety of large water infrastructure and environmental restoration projects. Mark holds a BS in Natural Resources Planning from Humboldt State University and a

PhD in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Oregon State University.

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## UPCOMING WEBINAR SERIES EVENTS

### October 6

Our third virtual webinar will focus on the private sector. We will have speakers from firms including AECOM, HDR, Jacobs, Mead & Hunt, Shannon & Wilson, and Stantec.

**You will need to register for this event if you registered for today's event only!**

### Early 2023

We are working to add an in-person fourth session. Details will be available soon.

## PREVIOUS EVENTS

### Federal Government

Did you miss the May 26 federal government webinar? Watch any time, now available on demand with your paid registration!

### Local Government

Today's local government webinar will be available on demand soon! Your registration for today's event includes access to the online recordings.

## Registration Information



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