PA Aquatic Resource Restoration Conference 2026 Past, Present, and Future March 3 and 4th, 2026 Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center, State College PA

Day 1 March 3rd Agenda

9:00 - 9:05	Welcome and Purpose
9:05 - 10:00	Keynote Speakers: Dorothy Merritts, Franklin and Marshall College and Ellen Wohl, Colorado State University
10:00 - 10:30	Panel A Session: Restoration Frame of Reference - Systems Approach Panelists: Ellen Wohl, Dorothy Merritts, Jeff Hartranft, Art Parola, Drew Altland
10:30 - 10:45	Break
10:45 - 12:00	 Landscape Memory – (Past Episodes) – Ben Hayes, Bucknell Univ. (35 min) Historic Unaltered/Natural Conditions and Processes – Robert Walter, Franklin and Marshall College (35 min) Relevance of Past Conditions: Retentive Condition and Hydrodynamic Drivers – Chris Williams, Franklin and Marshall College (20 min)
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch
1:00 - 2:30	 Technical Session 2: Characterizing the Colonial and Modern Past Historic Watershed Alterations (Regional Patterns) – Ben Hayes, Bucknell Univ. (35 min) Stratigraphic Investigation Techniques – Justin Spangler, LandStudies, Inc. and Robert Walter, Franklin and Marshall College (35 min) Tools for Locating Historic Changes – TWI, Geomorphon, Breached Dam Data – Dave Goerman, DEP DWET (20 min)
2:30 - 2:45	Break
2:45 - 4:15	 Technical Session 3: Design Considerations Evidence-Based Approach – Dave Goerman, DEP (10 min) Principal and Key Restoration Design Considerations – Art Parola, Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc., Drew Altland, Straughan Environmental, Inc., and Ward Oberholtzer, LandStudies, Inc. (80 min)
4:15 – 4:30	Takeaways Summary of the Day and Lingering Questions



Day 2 March 4th Agenda

Design and Evaluation Tools 1. Reliability of Two-Dimensional Hydrodynamic Models in Stream Breakout Session A Ecological Considerations 3. Key Design Considerations for Ecological Benefits – Jeff Har			
1. Reliability of Two-Dimensional 3. Key Design Considerations for			
9:15 - 10:15 Restoration – Jesse Robinson, Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc. (30 min) 2. USACE Stream Design Evaluation Tool – Matt Gilbert, Pittsburgh District USACE (30 min) DWET (40 min) 4. Use of Restoration Commun Predictor Tool – Ephraim Zim Western PA Conservancy (20	rtranft, DEP nity nmerman,		
	Comparing Project Costs 5. NSCD and Floodplain Reconnection Cost Comp – Michael Sachs, RES (30 min) 6. BMP Cost Effectiveness – Invited Patrick Fleming, Franklin and Marshall College		
10:15 - 10:30 Break	Break		
Monitoring and Research 1. Big Spring Run Continuing Research and Other Regional Findings – Julia Carr, Shuyu Chang, and Joe Galella, Franklin and Marshall College (45 min) 2. Robinson Fork Longterm Monitoring – Speakers TBA, Ohio University (45 min) 10:30 – 12:00 10:30 – 12:00 Project Organization 6. Coordinating a Large-Scale Project's Community Engagement and Fundin Conestoga Creek Blue Green Connector Experience – TBA, The Little Cone Foundation (45 min) 7. Building Monitoring Partnerships and Communicating Outcomes the Cone Experience – Invited Monique Dykman, Lancaster Clean Water Partners (4	mic Alluvial ds – Invited ning and ect and RES (30 min) Restored exes – Nick min) g - Little estoga Creek		
12:00 - 1:00 Lunch			

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1:00 - 2:30	Technical Session 4: Demonstration Case Studies
	1. Little Arnot Large Wood Reintroduction (include groundwater discussion) – Ben
	Hayes, Bucknell Univ. and Invited TBA Research Partners (30 min)
	2. Good Spring (aka Devil's Hole) –Dave Goerman, DEP and Ward Oberholtzer
	LandStudies, Inc. (30 min)
	3. Comprehensive Legacy Sediment Removal and Multi-Benefit Outcomes –
	Andrew Donaldson, Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson and Ben Ehrhart,
	LandStudies, Inc. (30 min)
2:30 - 2:45	Break
2:45 – 3:45	Technical Session 5: Watershed Scale Project Case Studies
	1. Robinson Fork Mitigation Bank – Dave Goerman, DEP, Art Parola, Wetland Studies
	and Solutions, Inc. and Ward Oberholtzer, LandStudies, Inc. (40 min)
	2. Cocalico Creek Watershed – Invited, TBA TNC/Partners (20 min)
345-415	Panel B Session: Attendee Closing Discussion and Takeaways

