

**UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER BASIN ASSOCIATION  
MULTI-BENEFIT CONSERVATION PRACTICE WORKSHOP  
AGENDA**



**Objectives**

- Improve understanding and ability to communicate about conservation practices that provide multiple, stacked water quality and quantity, ecological, financial, and sustainability benefits on agricultural and urban landscapes
- Strengthen regional collaboration and coordination among individuals and organizations involved in conservation practice implementation and nutrient reduction strategies
- Increase awareness of successful implementation efforts for multiple benefit conservation practices; highlight leadership and other reasons for achieving success
- Determine strategies to trigger increases in conservation practice adoption on agricultural lands that provide additional multiple benefits beyond nutrient reduction
- Identify priorities and actionable items for states, federal agencies, and partners to pursue collaboratively

## Implementing Multi-Benefit Conservation Practices: The Key Leverage Points

Leverage points are places within a complex system where a small change in one thing can produce big changes in everything.

**Tuesday, October 3**

Time	Topic	Presenter
9:00 am	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>	<b>Katrina Kessler,</b> <i>Commissioner Minnesota PCA</i>
9:10	<b>Workshop People, Products, Process</b>	<b>Brian Stenquist,</b> UMRBA
9:30	<b>Review of Pre-Workshop Webinars</b>	<b>Lauren Salvato,</b> UMRBA
9:40	<b>A Systems Map: Implementing Multi-Benefit Conservation Practices</b>	<b>Brian Stenquist,</b> UMRBA
10:00	<b>Tabletop Exercise: Systems Mapping</b>	<b>Small Groups</b>
10:20	<b>Break</b>	
10:30	<b>Important Leverage Points: A Deep Dive</b>	
	<b>Financial Leverage Points</b> Getting More for Your Money: IL Farm Bureau Examples of Leveraging Financial and In-kind Resources for Multiple Outcomes	<b>Raelynn Parmely,</b> Illinois <i>Farm Bureau</i>
	<b>Policy Leverage Points</b> Identifying Policy Incentives and Disincentives to Water Retention Strategies in Agricultural Settings in the Upper Mississippi River Basin	<b>Kim Lutz,</b> America's <i>Watershed Initiative</i>
	<b>Participation and Leadership Leverage Points</b> Primer for Increasing New Collaborations around Clean Water	<b>Annie Felix-Gerth,</b> <i>Minnesota BWSR</i>
	Fostering Conservation through Farmer Leadership: Wisconsin's Producer-Led Watershed Protection Program	<b>Coreen Fallat,</b> Wisconsin <i>DATCP</i>
11:30	<b>Tabletop Exercise: Improvements in the System</b>	<b>Small Groups</b>
12:00 noon	<b>Lunch</b> Orders were placed through the RSVP link. Boxed lunches are \$15 at cost to the attendee	
1:00	<b>Tabletop Exercise: Discussions of Improvements</b>	<b>Small Groups</b>
1:55	<b>Break</b>	

<b>2:00</b>	<b>Panel: Tribal and BIPOC Perspectives on Multi-Benefit Conservation Practices</b> Sara George, Renewing the Countryside, Conservation Connections Program Coordinator Melissa King, Water Programs Coordinator, MN BWSR Rodrigo Cala, Agricultural Tainer, Latino Economic Development Center	
<b>3:00</b>	<b>Break</b>	
<b>3:10</b>	<b>Tabletop Exercise - Panel Insights</b>	<i>Small Groups</i>
<b>4:10</b>	<b>Tribal and BIPOC Panel Follow-Up Question and Answer</b>	<i>Panel, All</i>
<b>4:30</b>	<b>Wrap Up</b>	<i>Lauren Salvato, UMRBA</i>
<b>6:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Optional Evening Activity</b> Get to know your fellow workshop attendees at a networking event. Drinks and dinner will be available with individual checks, at cost to the attendee.  Bar at Hyatt Place Downtown St. Paul 180 Kellogg Blvd. East St. Paul, MN 55101	

**Wednesday, October 4**

Time	Topic	Presenter
<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>Welcome to Day 2</b>	<i>Lauren Salvato, UMRBA and Matt Lechtenberg, Iowa DALS</i>
<b>8:05</b>	<b>Recap of Day One</b>	<i>Brian Stenquist, UMRBA</i>
<b>8:15</b>	<b>Deepening the Leverage Point Framework: Strategies for Action</b> Finding a "Match Maker" for Conservation Actions	<i>Dr. Adam Reimer, National Wildlife Federation</i>
<b>8:40</b>	<b>Tabletop Exercise: Ideas, Small Changes, Optimism</b>	<i>Small Groups</i>
<b>10:00</b>	<b>Break</b>	
<b>10:20</b>	<b>Summary and Closing Thoughts</b>	<i>All</i>
	<b>Final Thoughts from Participants</b> Key Ideas, Highlights	
	<b>Final Thoughts from Workshop Hosts</b>	<i>Lauren Salvato, UMRBA</i>
<b>12:00</b>	<b>Adjourn</b>	

**Get to know your fellow attendees by filling out a virtual business card.**



**Thank you to the planning committee!**

Dave Wall	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Annie Felix-Gerth	Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources
Suzanne Rhees	Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources
Victoria Bushan	Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Adam Schnieders	Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Matt Lechtenberg	Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
Trevor Sample	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Michael Woods	Illinois Department of Agriculture
Rachel Curry	University of Illinois, Extension
Karl Gesch	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Coreen Fallat	Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection
Steve Schaff	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7
Janette Marsh	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5
Whitney King	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Water
John Bullough	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service

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**UMRBA's definition of Multi-Benefit Conservation Practices:**

A term to describe a singular conservation practice that provides more than one beneficial outcome. The beneficial outcomes may be any combination of agronomic, ecological, social, and financial. For example, a wetland has the potential to provide water quality improvement, flood mitigation, carbon sequestration, wildlife habitat, and more. Utilizing practices with multiple benefits may incentivize individuals, based on their goals for their land, to improve natural resources both locally and in the Upper Mississippi River Basin.

Note the term is synonymous with ancillary and co-benefits and other terms.