



WESTERN STATES WATER COUNCIL

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www.westernstateswater.org

Discussion: State-Federal MOUs

Monday, July 13, 2026 • 1:30-3:00 PM MDT

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

DRAFT

1. Welcome/Opening Remarks (5 min) – Michelle Bushman, Deputy Director & General Counsel

Materials: examples of state-federal MOUs and other agreements ([link](#))

2. State Topics/Issues/Questions for Discussion (40 min)

- a. State experiences negotiating, developing and implementing MOUs (NV, ID)
 - i. Q: What states have MOUs on water rights and other water management agreements?
 - ii. Q: What states have success stories or lessons learned, problems to avoid?
- b. Federal perspectives on MOUs
 - i. Q: Where do federal agencies see value in MOUs?
 - ii. Q: What types of MOUs would federal agencies like to see?
- c. Water Quality MOUs (WY)
 - i. USFS Water Quality MOUs
 - ii. Q: Have any states developed MOUs with BLM for general water quality issues--e.g., watershed management, nonpoint source projects, monitoring?
- d. BLM and USFS rulemaking on grazing (water quality, water rights) - a good opportunity to encourage MOUs?

3. Group Open Discussion (30 min)

4. Next Steps (15 min) – Michelle

- a. FY27 WSWC Task Group (MOU template, webinars, further discussion opportunities)
- b. Staff newsletter topics to track