

10th Annual Airborne Snow Observatories, Inc. Workshop Agenda

September 9-11, 2025



Olympic Village Event Center at Palisades Tahoe
1901 Chamonix Pl, Olympic Valley, CA 96146

All events will be held at Olympic Village Event Center unless otherwise noted.
All times are listed in PDT.

Virtual attendance is available via Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81466940141>

Tuesday, September 9

- 8:30am Breakfast
Served until 10am
- 9:10-9:20am **Welcome & Introductions**
- 9:20-9:35am **Season Recap: Tom Painter**, CEO, Airborne Snow Observatories, Inc.
- 9:40-10:00am **Jeff Deems**, CTO, Airborne Snow Observatories, Inc.
Mark Robertson, COO, M3 Works
Peak SWE and other stories
- 10:00-10:20am Break
- ASO in California Operations, Part I | 10:20-11:35am**
- 10:20-10:35am **Harrison Forrester**, Hetch Hetchy Water and Power
Reggie Walters, Hetch Hetchy Water and Power
ASO data integration into Hetch Hetchy Water & Power forecasting and operations
- 10:40-10:55am **Katie Duncan**, Friant Water Authority
ASO in the San Joaquin 2025
- 11:00-11:15am **Stephen Ho**, Merced Irrigation District
Caleb DeChant, Resource Management Associates
ASO & MIDH2O

11:20-11:35am **Jordan Baxter**, El Dorado Irrigation District
Peak SWE and runoff efficiency in the American Basin

11:35am-1pm Lunch on your own

ASO in California Operations, Part II | 1:00-3:30pm

1:00-1:20pm **Kaitlyn Chow**, Yuba Water Agency
ASO in the Yuba

1:25-1:40pm **Ben Barker**, Placer County Water Agency
Runoff forecasting and operational considerations for the Middle Fork American River Project (MFP) in Placer and El Dorado Counties, CA

1:45-2:00pm **John Weist**, USACE Sacramento District
WY2025 Lake Kaweah operations & ASO

2:00-3:30pm ***Moving into the next decade: ASO experiences, developments, and futures in the California program***

Wes Monier, Moderator

Dave Rizzardo, CA Department of Water Resources

Harrison Forrester, Hetch Hetchy Water and Power

Katie Duncan, Friant Water Authority

Matt Meadows, Kings River Water Association

3:30pm Networking and Open Discussion

Wednesday, September 10

8:30am Breakfast
Served until 10am

9:10-9:20am Introductions

ASO in Colorado and Colorado River Basin Operations | 9:20-11:35am

9:20-9:35am **Erik Skeie**, Colorado Water Conservation Board
Look Ma, we got a program!

9:40-9:55am **Raquel Flinker**, Colorado River Water Conservation District
A case for continued airborne snow measurement in the Gunnison Basin

10:00-10:15am **Taylor Winchell**, Denver Water
Marin MacDonald, Denver Water, Colorado State University
Denver Water - making sense of ASO data across 4 sub-watersheds and 2 sides of the continental divide

10:20-10:40am Break

10:40-10:55am **Emily Carbone**, Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District
Northern water and ASO

- 11:00-11:15am **Lily Bosworth**, Colorado River Authority of Utah
Scott McGettigan, Utah Division of Water Resources
Utah's ASO projects: flakes, flights and forecasts & wings over Weber
- 11:20-11:35am **Leland Dorchester & Tony Powell**, Precision Water Resource Engineering
Incorporating ASO Informed Hydrology into the Strawberry Aqueduct Collection System (SACS) Operations Model
- 11:35-1:00pm Lunch on your own
- 1:05-1:20 **Noah Molotch**, University of Colorado, Boulder, Institute of Arctic & Alpine Research
Process-based controls on snow water equivalent distribution inferred with Airborne Snow Observatories data, machine learning, and physiography
- 1:25-1:40 **Evan Burgess**, Airborne Snow Observatories, Inc.
ASO Visualization and Analysis (AVA) tool demonstration
- 1:45-3:00pm **Modeling Panel and Discussion**
3:00pm Conclusion

Dinner | 5:40-10:00pm

- 5:40pm **Aerial Tram Rides Begin** for High Camp Dinner
The tram runs to and from High Camp every 15 minutes starting at 5:40pm and ending at 10:00pm
- 6:00pm **Cocktail Hour** at High Camp
- 7:00pm **Buffet Dinner** at High Camp

Thursday, September 11

- 9:00am Breakfast
Served until 10am
- 9:30-9:40am Introductions

ASO in Science & Research | 9:30-11:35am

- 9:40-9:55am **Liz van Wagtendonk**, University of Washington
Fire effects at the tree scale, applying ASO data to study the drivers and outcomes of the 2020 Creek Fire, Sierra Nevada, California
- 10:00-10:15am **Ellery McQuilkin**, Williams College
Quantifying the present state of the Dana Glacier, Sierra Nevada
- 10:20-10:35am **Adrian Harpold**, University of Nevada, Reno

New research directions for estimating forest disturbance effects on snowpack and streamflow

10:40-10:55am **Amy Clark**, University of Northumbria

Wildfire, canopy change, and snowpack response

11:00-11:15am **Eli Boardman**, Mountain Hydrology, LLC

Snowsheds: extending the watershed boundary to include blowing snow

11:20-11:35am **Ty Brandt**, Scripps Institution of Oceanography

From snowfall to snowpack: revealing the need for a new strategy to improve precipitation estimates in snow-dominated mountains

11:35am-1pm Lunch on your own

ASO in Modeling & Forecasting | 1:05pm-2:45pm

1:05-1:20pm **Skye Blee**, Airborne Snow Observatories, Inc.

Canopy encroachment over snow monitoring locations

1:20-1:35pm **Devon Eckberg**, California Department of Water Resources

ASO in the Bulletin 120 seasonal water supply forecasts

1:40-1:55pm **Scott Fennema**, U.S. District Court Water Master's Office

The Whole Enchilada – connecting ASO SWE estimates to operations modeling

2:00-2:15pm **John Woodill**, Oregon State University

Leveraging lidar snowpack data in M4: machine learning backcasting for water supply forecasting

2:20-2:35pm **McKenzie Skiles**, Snow HydRO Lab, School of Environment, Society & Sustainability, University of Utah

ASO as a benchmark to improve process-based snow modeling

2:40pm **Closing Remarks**