



WOMEN OF WATER

2026 Leadership Symposium

Voices United for Collective Action

April 14, 2026 | 12:00–5:00 PM
Stueckle Sky Center, Boise State University



Time	Presentation	Speaker
11:30 AM	Registration Opens	
11:30-12:45	Lunch and Networking	
12:45 - 1:00	Welcome Session	Lara Kammereck, Carollo Engineers Kelly Black, City of Nampa
1:00 - 1:30	<i>Water=Women's Progress: How Building a Company to Solve Period Poverty Required a Deep Dive into WASH</i>	Cherie Hoeger, CEO and Co-Founder of Saalt
1:30 - 2:00	<i>Aquifer Micro Talks:</i> -Groundwater Conditions in the Treasure Valley -Natural Resource Update: Eastern Snake River Plain	Amy Steimke, Idaho Department of Water Resources Britt Raybould, Idaho State Representative
2:00 - 2:30	<i>Interactive Polling and Table Discussions</i>	Jordon Trevino, City of Nampa Erika Harmon, City of Boise
2:30 - 2:50	Break	
2:50 - 3:20	<i>Building the Dream Team</i>	Auriane Koster, Micron Kelly Black, City of Nampa Mattie Cupps, Micron Robin Parker, US EPA
3:20 - 3:50	<i>Leadership Panel</i>	Allison Hornak, City of Boise Jennifer Pierce, Boise State University Kresta Davis, Idaho Power Company Laurelei McVey, City of Meridian Moderated by Erin Cox, Jacobs
3:50 - 4:00	Closing Session	Erin Cox, Jacobs
4:00 - 5:00	Wine Reception	

Keynote

Cherie Hoeger, Saalt

I will be sharing my journey of building a business as a mother of five daughters to create reusable period products that were healthier for our bodies and more sustainable for our planet. I'll share about our impact mission to end period poverty globally, and how I discovered that addressing barriers to better period care is inextricably connected to access to clean water and sanitation. I'll share how we recently added WASH as Saalt's 4th impact pillar in 2026 and how we see that access to water is essential for women's progress.

Cherie Hoeger is the Co-founder & CEO of Saalt, a women-owned B Corp that creates reusable and sustainable period care products that replace disposable pads and tampons. An entrepreneur and philanthropist, Cherie champions the intersection of for-profit and nonprofit models through social enterprise and leads Saalt's social impact mission to end period poverty. Since their launch in 2018, Saalt has donated over 160,000 period cups and underwear to underprivileged women and girls in 56 countries and funded over 1.3M days of school for girls as part of their social give-back program. Before starting Saalt, Cherie had been an entrepreneur in multiple ecommerce ventures and worked as a technical writer with fifteen years of publication experience, co-authoring nine editions of collegiate textbooks in the field of fitness and wellness. Cherie is also the mother of five daughters and one son, and considers them her greatest success.

Aquifer Micro Talks

Amy Steimke, Idaho Department of Water Resources

Amy Steimke holds a B.S. in Geoscience from the University of Utah and an M.S. in Hydrologic Sciences from Boise State University. She has spent the past seven years with the Idaho Department of Water Resources, where she currently leads statewide groundwater data collection and monitoring efforts.

Britt Raybould, Idaho House of Representatives

Rep. Britt Raybould, a small business owner and the CFO for Raybould Brothers Farms, is currently serving her third term in the Idaho House representing District 34 in East Idaho. Her committee assignments include Revenue and Taxation, Resources and Conservation, and Environment, Energy & Technology. From 2020-2021, she was the first woman to serve as president of the National Potato Council. A graduate of Sugar-Salem High School, Boise State University, and Westminster College, she returned to BSU in 2021, completing her Ph.D. in Public Policy and Administration in 2026.

Interactive Polling Session

Erika Harmon, City of Boise

Erika has been with the City of Boise since 2014. She has a bachelor's degree in communication with an emphasis in journalism and spent her early career in newspaper. As communication coordinator for Boise Public Works, her focus is primarily on water.

Jordon Trevino, City of Nampa

Jordon Trevino is the laboratory supervisor for the city of Nampa at the Water Renewal Facility. Dedicated to the wastewater field for over 6 years. She oversees the laboratory which is responsible over 40,000 samples a year for plant and permit purposes.

Building the Dream Team

Auriane Koster, Micron

Auriane holds dual BS degrees in Environmental Science and Applied Mathematics from URI and a PhD in Sustainability from ASU. She has taught sustainability at ASU and managed programs for Fusebox, helping school districts integrate sustainable practices. In 2023, she became STMicroelectronics' first Regional Sustainability Stakeholder Lead, bridging sustainability between the company and American clients. In April 2024, Auriane joined Micron as Boise Site Sustainability Senior Manager, overseeing campus-wide sustainability initiatives. Outside of work, she enjoys hiking, yoga, reading, traveling, indoor cycling, and spending time with her cherished bloodhound, Freyja.

Kelly Black, City of Nampa

Kelly Black, M.A. in Journalism, brings over 20 years of experience in government, corporate, and non-profit communication roles. She specializes in strategic storytelling, cross-agency collaboration, and translating complex technical information into compelling public messaging to educate and drive engagement.

Mattie Cupps, Micron

Mattie Cupps is a Water Operations Manager with Micron Technology, Inc., where she leads water and wastewater operations supporting advanced semiconductor manufacturing in Boise, Idaho. With a background in chemical engineering and engineering management, Mattie oversees large-scale utility systems, regulatory compliance, and a multidisciplinary operations team focused on reliability, sustainability, and continuous improvement. Passionate about mentorship and developing future leaders, she is committed to advancing women in engineering and water-related fields while strengthening partnerships between industry and the broader water community.

Robin Parker, US EPA

Robin Parker leads EPA's convening of the Columbia River Basin Restoration Working Group and is based in the Boise, Idaho Operations Office. During her 20-year career at EPA, Robin has supported many water programs at headquarters and the regional office. She especially enjoys working on voluntary programs where EPA can bring partners together. Robin holds Master of Environmental Science and Master of Public Affairs degrees, specializing in Environmental Policy, both from Indiana University and a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science from Florida State University. When Robin's not working, she enjoys being outside as much as possible, playing ultimate frisbee, camping, hiking, biking, skiing, paddling, sailing, and just about anything on or near the water.

Leadership Panel

Allison Hornak, City of Boise

Allison's experience spans process and process control engineering in the oil industry, wastewater design, and her current role with the City of Boise, where she focuses on utility and capital planning, regulatory strategy, and long-term decision making. Her diverse background gives her a systems-level perspective on infrastructure planning and the future of water utilities. She is passionate about advancing thoughtful leadership and strategic planning in the water sector.

Jennifer Pierce, Boise State University

Dr. Jen Pierce is a Professor in the Department of Geosciences at Boise State University, where she has been since 2005. Her research focuses on wildfires, landscape response to climate change, and carbon storage in soils. She is committed

to improving climate science education and outreach and is the director of the Idaho Climate Literacy Education Engagement and Research group (i-CLEER). Dr. Pierce grew up in the mountains of Colorado and Wyoming. She received her undergraduate degree from The Colorado College, her master's degree from the University of Oregon, and her PhD from the University of New Mexico. Dr. Pierce served on the Board of Directors for Friends of the Teton River, the Idaho Conservation League the Idaho Environmental Forum, is the outgoing Chair of the Geological Society of America Quaternary Geology and Geomorphology division, and a Fellow of the Geological Society of America. When she is not working, she enjoys mountain biking, backcountry skiing, playing music, and exploring the outdoors.

Kresta Davis, Idaho Power Company

Kresta Davis has been with Idaho Power for nearly 24 years, building deep expertise across both operational and leadership roles. She spent her first five years in leadership as a front-line supervisor, where she guided the Operations Hydrology team, Realtime Load-Serving Operations, and the Resource Planning group. For the past nine years, Kresta has served as a manager, first leading Idaho Power's Water Resources and Policy Department. This department includes five highly specialized teams responsible for large scale river engineering and sediment studies; cloud seeding and wildfire weather forecasting; streamflow and reservoir data collection; federal, state, and local water policy strategy; and streamflow forecasting and operational support for the company's 17 hydropower facilities. She has recently transitioned to narrowing her focus on further developing the company's cloud seeding and water policy teams. Her leadership has helped shape Idaho Power's ability to manage water resources effectively, support system operations, and advance long term hydropower reliability.

Laurelei McVey, City of Meridian

Laurelei McVey currently serves as the Public Works Director for the City of Meridian. In this role she oversees the City's drinking water, wastewater, environmental, engineering, facilities and streetlight programs. Laurelei has 20 years of municipal utility leadership and operational experience which includes strategic planning, regulatory compliance and permitting, budgeting, and capital planning. She is one of the highest licensed water and wastewater operators in the State of Idaho. Laurelei received her bachelor's degree in biology and chemistry from the College of Idaho and a Master's degree in Public Administration from Boise State University.

Erin Cox, Jacobs

Erin Day Cox is a Water Resources Expert and Environmental Engineer who currently serves as the Northwest Water Resources Strategic Growth Leader and Idaho Client Account Manager at Jacobs. Erin has a B.S. in Biology, a M.S in Water Resources and Environmental Engineering, and she is a PhD candidate in Biological Design. Her areas of expertise include water quality, water resources, reuse, stormwater, and engineering with nature. Erin's professional career started in Newport Beach, CA working on complex water challenges at McGuire Environmental Consultants and then she worked as a Project Manager and in Business Development at CH2M HILL/Jacobs throughout the country for over 13 years. After a 10-year hiatus as an author and professor teaching environmental and water-related courses in Oregon Tech's Civil Engineering program, she rejoined the consulting world in 2021. Her passion is protecting, improving, and sustaining water resources for future generations, and making the world a better place for everyone. She loves spending time reading, traveling, hiking, and exploring with her three kids.