



Western Regional Partnership Leadership Perspective

WRP has been fortunate over the years to include among its leadership many talented and accomplished public servants. These leaders have graciously praised WRP's efforts and noted its significant, positive impact on WRP Partners' missions, as seen in the selected quotes below. For more information please visit WRPinfo.org



The Honorable Gary Herbert, Co-Chair of WRP, Governor of Utah

"The Western Regional Partnership is a great forum for states, the federal government and sovereign tribes to come together as equal partners in helping to resolve issues that impact military readiness and other key issues in the west."

Mr. Addison "Tad" Davis, Acting Co-Chair of WRP, Ninth WRP Principals' Meeting, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations and Environment

"WRP has helped support the warfighter for over ten years by preserving the ability to effectively use land and air resources necessary to meet our testing and training mission. The relationships we have gained promote efficiencies by encouraging partnerships between DoD, other Federal Agencies, States and Tribes. The collaboration that occurs, with so many partners working to protect the irreplaceable military mission in this region, is critical to DoD."



Mr. Brian Steed, Acting Co-Chair of WRP, Ninth WRP Principals' Meeting (for Assistant Secretary for Lands and Minerals Management, U.S. Dept. of Interior (DOI)), Deputy Director, Programs and Policy, Bureau of Land Management, Exercising Authority of the Director



"I was unsure what to expect attending my first WRP Principals' Meeting in 2017, but I was pleasantly surprised by the high attendance of senior-policy members representing states, federal agencies and Tribes in the WRP Region. I found the meeting to be highly productive, especially in providing a forum to exchange information on issues of importance to the West. In particular, at this meeting a BLM Planning Temporary Working Group was formed to address RMP issues with DoD and states. I look forward to their report out on activities."

WRP Principals:

WRP Principals are executive leaders from Federal and State agencies and Tribal governments in the States of Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah. WRP DoD Principals include the Commander from 12th Air Force; Commanding General from White Sands Missile Range; Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Environment, Safety and Occupational Health); Director of Programs, South Pacific Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Commanding General, MCI West-MCB Camp Pendleton; Navy Region Southwest Commander and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations and Environment . Below are quotes from two DoD Principals.

Lieutenant General Mark D. Kelly, Commander, 12th Air Force (Air Forces Southern)

"WRP is an indispensable Forum for Military Readiness. Our Military Range Space is a National Treasure and directly connected to the States, Sovereign Tribes and US Citizens residing in the Western States. We have to aggressively listen, think and work with these valued partners."



Brigadier General Kevin Killea, Commanding General, Marine Corps Installations West, Camp Pendleton

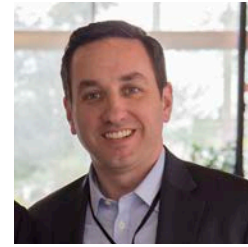
"The Western Regional Partnership has enabled military training, conservation and environmental protection of our natural resources within our state and federal properties. Recent key initiatives such as land use agreements, fire safety, and deconfliction allows military training and maneuver between Regional installations."

WRP Steering Committee (SC)

Each of the Services and OSD are members of the WRP Steering Committee (along with representatives from each of the six Governors' Offices in the WRP Region, Tribal Leadership, Western Governor's Association and 16 other Federal Agencies (FAA, NRCS, BLM, DOE, NPS, USFWS, BIA, FAA, NOAA, FHWA, etc.)) Below are quotes from three SC members.

Mr. Ryan McGinness, Lead Chair of WRP SC (2017 to present), Vice Chair of the WRP SC (2015-2017), Director of Governor Brian Sandoval's Washington D.C. Office

"WRP is an important partnership, in large part because of each partners' dedication to the organization's goal of a robust, equal and meaningful partnership. The region is incredibly important to all of us and WRP greatly assists to breakdown communication silos, identify mission impacts and find the right agencies/people to make positive change. I have appreciated working with all the senior policy makers involved in WRP and value their contributions."



Mr. Mike Mower, Chair of WRP SC (2015 to 2017), Vice Chair of the WRP SC (2014-2015), Deputy Chief of Staff for Governor Herbert

"In a world of instant electronic communication and access to abundant on-line information, personal relationships still matter. As we promote the mission of the Western Regional Partnership and seek to enhance cooperation among key federal agencies, the states, and the tribes, knowing key players and sharing knowledge, concerns, and solutions helps us achieve good, sustainable results for our nation."



Mr. Kevin Moody, WRP SC member, Team Leader, FHWA Administration

"The Federal Highway Administration aims to improve mobility on main streets and on interstates. The relationships we are able to sustain through WRP are a cost effective "soft" risk management strategy. The relationships help us and our customers deliver better transportation projects, faster and with less redundant costs."



Other WRP Leaders:

In addition, WRP has been fortunate to have strong leadership at the Co-Chair, Principal, SC and Committee levels since its inception; below are quotes from some of these leaders.

- **Mr. John Conger**, as Performing the duties of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations and Environment

"We are all connected, whether we like it or not. You make far more progress toward everyone's success once you accept the interconnected nature of our missions and interests. WRP is an incredibly valuable forum, bringing together a critical mass of leadership from DoD, other Federal Agencies, States and Tribes. The synergy that emerges, with so many partners working to protect the critical military mission in this region, is extraordinarily important to DoD. I was always impressed that we could come to WRP and make progress on issues that I had been working in the Pentagon. It makes a difference when you can bring everyone into the same room and make connections, understand each other, and find win-win solutions."

- **Former Assistant Secretaries for Lands and Minerals Management, US. DOI:**

- **Ms. Janice Schneider:** *"WRP is a great forum for coming together and exchanging information and ideas critical to the public lands and military mission in the southwest."*

- **Ms. Marcilynn Burke**, *"WRP provided a great forum to exchange information and ideas. It is important for Tribes, State and Federal entities to work together especially on such items as renewable energy development and habitat conservation."*
- **Mr. Dave Duma**, Principal Deputy Director, Operational Test & Evaluation
"Dedicated individual members of the WRP have established personal working relationships fostering greater understanding of and respect for the collective missions of the participants. These personal working relationships lead to the mutually beneficial policies, programs, and actions of the WRP organizations for the benefit of the region and the nation. WRP—People making a difference!"
- **Major General USMC (Ret) Lehnert**, as Commanding General, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California
"The WRP is a classic case of the whole being greater than the sum of its parts. Only through cooperation can we ensure that the precious resources of this great nation are still available for generations to come."
- **Mr. Kevin Carter**, as Director, Utah School & Institutional Trust Lands
"WRP opened doors that I never knew even existed. I still cherish the friendships that came as a result of participating."
- **Mr. Tony Parisi**, as Head, Sustainability Office, NAVAIR
"WRP provides a unique forum that allows representatives at all levels from Federal and state agencies, and tribes to address issues of common interest. The relationships that are established extend well beyond WRP – people know who to call when they need help."
- **Brig Gen (ret) Hanson Scott**, as Director, Office of Military Base Planning and Support, State of New Mexico
"WRP has made amazing progress in ten years as all the Partners have worked collaboratively on a wide variety of issues. Many thanks to all the Principals and Committee members for their sustained efforts. The next ten years will witness even more success."
- **Mr. Pete Bakersky**, as Regional Integration Branch Chief, FEMA Region VIII
"WRP's success lies directly in its unique collaborative and cohesive approach, with all of the Federal, State, local, Sovereign Tribal members and non-governmental members coming together to develop innovative solutions to issues and help identify future policy and procedural needs."
- **Ms. Luana Kiger**, as Special Assistant to the State Conservationist, NRCS-CA
"WRP has had a number of successes. One of the most meaningful to us in NRCS in CA has been the work together with FAA, the Navy and Marines, and USDA APHIS to reduce the number of bird strikes by identifying the problem and identifying on ground safety measures to help reduce the problem."
- **Dr. Joy Nicholopoulos**, as Deputy Regional Director, Southwest Region, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
"Participating in the WRP is incredibly valuable for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The WRP facilitates our providing information to many critical partners. We appreciate the opportunities we have been offered to share important conservation information via meetings, calls, and webinars. We also receive information from partners that help us better serve the public and our stakeholders."