



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
STATE TRUST LANDS
Helping States Fund Education

2026



SUMMER CONFERENCE

July 12-15, 2026
Medora, ND



WELCOME

to North Dakota and the 2026 NASTL Summer Conference!

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

On behalf of the North Dakota Board of University & School Lands and Department of Trust Lands, it is my pleasure to welcome you to Medora for the 2026 National Association of State Trust Lands Summer Conference.

We are honored to host you in the heart of the North Dakota Badlands, a landscape that reflects both the beauty of the West and the responsibility we share as stewards of trust lands. Across our states, we are entrusted with managing land, minerals, and financial assets in a way that serves today's needs while protecting opportunities for future generations.

This year's theme, "Legacy of the Land: Conserving Trust Lands to Empower Education," speaks directly to that mission. Responsible trust management requires sound land and mineral stewardship, thoughtful conservation, prudent investment, and a clear focus on the beneficiaries we serve. It also requires collaboration—among states, with local communities, and with our federal partners—as we work through shared challenges involving energy, minerals, access, conservation, technology, and long-term land health.

I hope this conference provides each of you with useful ideas, meaningful conversations, and renewed connections with colleagues from across the country. We are also excited to share some of what makes western North Dakota so special, including the Badlands, Medora's historic setting, and a memorable tour and dinner at the new Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library.

Thank you for making the trip to North Dakota and for the important work you do on behalf of trust beneficiaries in your states. I hope your time in Medora is productive, enjoyable, and inspiring.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joseph Heringer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Joseph" and last name "Heringer" clearly legible.

Joseph A. Heringer, J.D.
North Dakota Trust Lands Commissioner



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“TO CREATE VALUE FOR OUR BENEFICIARIES
THROUGH LEADERSHIP, EDUCATION AND
SOUND LAND MANAGEMENT.”

WHO WE ARE, WHAT WE DO, WHY WE DO IT

The National Association of State Trust Lands (NASTL) is a non-profit consortium of Administrators of State-owned Trust Lands totaling hundreds of millions of acres of public and school trust lands in 20 western states. NASTL's services and activities assist states in managing assets that help fund public education.

The combined holdings of the NASTL member states represent the second largest owner of land and minerals in the United States, second only to the federal government. We are proud that the vast resources entrusted to our care continue to provide billions of dollars each year in support of public education in America.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
STATE TRUST LANDS
Helping States Fund Education



ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

LEGACY OF THE LAND: CONSERVING TRUST LANDS TO EMPOWER EDUCATION

We are delighted to have you join us as we host the NASTL Summer Conference. This year's conference brings together professionals and partners from across the nation to share insights, strengthen collaboration, and explore the unique landscape and heritage of the Badlands. We also extend our sincere thanks to our generous sponsors for their continued support.

CONFERENCE AGENDA

SUNDAY, July 12, 2026

Activities
For Early Arrivals
(Self-guided)

Bully Pulpit Golf
Drive/Hike Theodore Roosevelt National Park
Maah Daah Hey Trail Hiking/Biking, Explore Medora

3:00PM – 8:00PM

Check In/Registration

3:30PM – 4:30PM

Executive Committee Meeting – Rough Riders Conference Room

Dinner On Own/
Evening Out

Recommended: Pitchfork Steak Fondue/Medora Musical

9:00PM – 10:00PM

Hospitality – Rough Riders Conference Room

MONDAY, July 13, 2026

7:00AM – 5:00PM

Check In/Registration

7:30AM – 8:30AM

Breakfast – Rough Riders Conference Room

7:30AM – 8:30AM

Sponsor Networking – Rough Riders Conference Room

8:30AM – 8:35AM

Welcome – *Joseph Heringer*, North Dakota Trust Lands Commissioner

8:35AM – 8:50AM

Opening Remarks
Charles Donohue, NASTL President, Nevada Administrator and State Land Registrar

8:50AM – 9:15AM

Washington DC update – *Allen Freemyer*, Freemyer & Associates

9:15AM – 10:30AM

State and Affiliate Roll Call

10:30AM – 10:45AM

Break

10:45AM – 12:00PM

State and Affiliate Roll Call, Continued

12:00PM – 1:00PM

Lunch

1:00PM – 1:30PM

Explore Medora and Connect

1:30PM – 2:30PM

Capital Efficiency & Drilling Technology/Secondary Recovery
David Rains, General Manager of Asset Development, Chevron Shale and Tight Business

2:30PM – 2:45PM

Break

2:45PM – 3:30PM

Macroeconomics of Energy & Minerals
Kate Richard & Dan Drum of Warwick Investment Group

3:30PM – 4:30PM

Collaborative Stewardship: Ducks Unlimited & ND Department of Trust Lands
Ryan Taylor, Director of Public Policy, Ducks Unlimited

5:00PM – 6:00PM

VIP Event – Harold Schafer Heritage Center
With special guest *Joe Wiegand* as Theodore Roosevelt

6:00PM – 7:30PM

Conference Reception – Harold Schafer Heritage Center
Welcome from *ND Attorney General Drew Wrigley*, Board of University & School Lands

8:00PM – 10:00PM

Hospitality – Rough Riders Conference Room



TUESDAY, July 14, 2026

7:30AM – 8:30AM	Breakfast and Sponsor Networking – Rough Riders Conference Room
8:45AM – 9:45AM	Growing the Trusts: Investments Q&A – Josh Kevan , CEO, RVK
9:45AM – 10:00AM	Break
10:00AM – 11:00AM	NASTL Business Meeting
11:00AM – 12:00PM	Data Centers Decoded – Nick Phillips , EVP External Affairs, Applied Digital
12:00PM – 1:00PM	Lunch
1:00PM – 1:30PM	Explore Medora and Connect
1:30PM – 2:00PM	Keynote Address Troy Heithecker , Regional Forester, US Forest Service
2:00PM – 2:45PM	Timber Topics Fireside Chat Moderated by Dustin Miller , Director, Idaho Dept. of Trust Lands Troy Heithecker , Regional Forester, US Dept. of Agriculture Forest Service Jim Elbin , Division Administrator, Trust Lands, Idaho Department of Lands Tera King , Resource Analyst, Idaho Forest Group Joe Holzwarth , Area Manager, Montana Dept. of Natural Resources
2:45PM – 3:00PM	Break
3:00PM – 3:45PM	Critical Minerals and Next Gen Coal David Straley , Vice President – External Affairs, NACCO Natural Resources

THEODORE ROOSEVELT PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY EVENT

5:00PM – 6:30PM	Self Guided Tours
6:30PM – 7:30PM	Social in the Breezeway and Temporary Gallery
7:30PM – 9:00PM	Dinner in the Temporary Gallery with Welcome Address from ND Governor Kelly Armstrong , Board of University and School Lands Keynote Address from Robbie Lauf , Executive Director, Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library
9:00PM – 10:00PM	Continued Networking in the Breezeway

WEDNESDAY, July 15, 2026

6:30AM – 9:00AM	Optional Guided Hiking Tour on Maah Daah Hey Trail crossing ND Trust Lands
9:00AM – 10:00AM	Breakfast
10:00AM – 10:45AM	Battery Technology & the Grid Moderated by Sarah Montone , Project Director, NextEra Energy Resources Tom Sutton , President, Sutton Technical Services Clay Cameron , Executive Director of Development, NextEra Energy Sandy Raines , City Auditor, Columbus ND
10:45AM – 11:30AM	Bakken 2.0 Enhanced Oil Recovery Lynn Helms , North Dakota Petroleum Council (NDPC) Bakken 2.0 Project Manager

ADJOURN

* Please note this schedule is subject to changes *

MAP OF

MEDORA



Important Locations for the Conference

- 📍 The Roughrider Hotel (#26)
- 📍 Harold Schafer Patio (#14)
- 📍 Directions for Theodore Roosevelt Library (near #1 Medora Musical)



Maah Daah Hey Trail Hike

Wednesday, July 15th - 7:00 AM
(meet in Roughrider Lobby)

NOTE: The trailhead parking area only has 15-20 parking spots.
Please consider carpooling so there is enough space for everyone.

This section of the historic Maah Daah Hey Trail passes through State Trust Lands with the rugged badlands landscape of Plumely Draw just south of Medora. The trail winds through rolling prairie before dropping into colorful clay draws, offering classic views of the North Dakota Badlands landscape.

Hikers travel through characteristic badlands terrain of sagebrush, juniper, grasses and eroded hills, with opportunities to see wildlife such as mule deer, elk, and meadowlarks. This easy to moderately challenging stretch features rolling climbs, dramatic scenery and breathe taking views, making it a memorable hike in the North Dakota Badlands.

Difficulty: Moderate **Distance:** 1.3 miles (2.6 round trip) **Elevation Change:** Gain 167 ft., Loss -211 ft.



Bully Pulpit Golf Course

Bully Pulpit is chiseled right out of the North Dakota Badlands in a site unlike any in the world. A round here is one you won't soon forget.

At Bully Pulpit Golf Course, you'll find yourself fully immersed in the Badlands as you meander through meadows and woodlands, skirt along the Little Missouri River, and tee off from one butte to another.

Voted **USA Today's #1 Best Golf Course in 2025**, Bully Pulpit is a must-play for golfers looking for an unforgettable round.

Medora Musical

A little history. A little humor. A whole lot of Western spirit. Experience the ultimate Country Western Music Revue in Medora, ND! This live outdoor spectacle showcases a variety of music favorites – from Dolly to disco.

It's good old-fashioned family fun with thrilling variety acts, live horses on stage, a firework finale, and new twists each summer. All while celebrating the history of Medora, Teddy Roosevelt, and the historic American West.



SPEAKERS



Joseph A Heringer, J.D.
Commissioner of University &
School Lands

North Dakota Department of Trust Lands



Joseph A. Heringer was appointed by the Board of University and School Lands to begin serving the citizens of North Dakota as Land Commissioner effective March 14, 2022. Commissioner Heringer is a Bismarck native and life-long North Dakota resident. He is a licensed attorney and Certified Trust and Financial Advisor (CTFA) with over 20 years combined investment and trusts/estates management experience.

As Commissioner, Mr. Heringer leads the North Dakota Department of Trust Lands, the Department responsible for the management and stewardship of educational trusts, minerals acres, and other assets that are purposed for the benefit of public schools and other institutions in North Dakota. This includes prudently managing the Department's \$9 billion in trust funds and sustainably managing the Department's more than 2.5 million mineral acres and 700,000 surface acres.

Commissioner Heringer also serves as the statutorily appointed Administrator of North Dakota's Unclaimed Property Program, which has been housed in the Department of Trust Lands since inception in 1975.

Commissioner Heringer is responsible for providing direction and oversight to all divisions within the North Dakota Department of Trust Lands, crafting policies to help further secure and diversify the Department's portfolio, increasing the Department's assets, and continually affirming the Department's commitment to conservationism. Furthermore, Commissioner Heringer serves as the chief advocate and spokesperson for the Department, investing significantly in public relations and legislative communications.

Commissioner Heringer is a member of the North Dakota State Investment Board and the North Dakota Lignite Research Council. Commissioner Heringer earned his bachelor's degree from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota and his law degree from the University of North Dakota.



Charles Donahue
NASTL President Administrator
& State Land Registrar

Nevada Division of State Lands



Charles Donohue has served as the Administrator and State Land Registrar since his appointment in 2014. He started his state service in 2001 with the Conservation Districts Program, prior to joining the Nevada Tahoe Resource Team in 2003. Donohue was the Water Quality Program Specialist on the team and later the Tahoe Program Manager, coordinating the implementation of the Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) for Nevada. He has conducted resource inventory and restoration work from southern Vermont and New Hampshire to the Eastern Sierras. Donohue relocated to Nevada in 1999 from Kenya, East Africa, where he worked as a Natural Resource Consultant.



Allen D. Freemyer

NASTL Outreach & Education Consultant

President of Freemyer & Associates PC

ALLEN D. FREEMYER
President | Freemyer & Associates PC

Mr. Freemyer established himself as a nationally recognized expert in legislation, appropriations, natural resources, parks, recreation, water, energy, Native American, and environment matters while serving as senior staff for nine years on the Committee on Resources in the U.S. House of Representatives. Mr. Freemyer constituted Freemyer & Associates in February 2002 after serving as the Chief of Staff of the committee under the direction of Chairman James V. Hansen (UT).

Mr. Freemyer represents a variety of clients who interact and do business with Congress, the Department of Interior, the Department of Agriculture, and the EPA. Over the years Mr. Freemyer has successfully led clients through the maze of administrative and legislative issues to grow businesses, promote projects, and establish relationships which add great value to business objectives.

Mr. Freemyer has brought success to projects across the nation through his 31 years of experience resolving issues and forming relationships in Washington. He is responsible for multiple successful legislative efforts to exchange and transact millions of acres of federal and private lands throughout the west. His success comes from years of establishing long-lasting and effective relationships with Members of Congress, relevant committee staff and various federal agency officials from both major parties.

Mr. Freemyer was born in Vernal, Utah and grew up in Greeley, Colorado and is a graduate of Utah State University (1986) and received his Juris Doctor from the University of Utah (1989). He is a member of the District of Columbia Bar.

Mr. Freemyer resides in Washington, DC with his wife Windsor Freemyer and their family.



Ryan Taylor

Director of Public Policy

Ducks Unlimited



Ryan Taylor is director of public policy for Ducks Unlimited. He works closely with state policymakers in North Dakota, South Dakota, and Montana, consults on federal conservation issues in DC, and has a special interest in grazing lands and agricultural public policy that helps align the goals of farmers, ranchers, sportsmen and women, and conservationists in voluntary, working lands habitat conservation.

Taylor continues to own and manage his family's cattle ranch near Towner, ND, a ranch homesteaded by his family in 1903 that was inducted into the ranches division of the North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame in 2010. He wrote a syndicated column called Cowboy Logic that ran in agricultural newspapers across the western US and Canada for 21 years, and he did after dinner speaking and entertainment in the same region.

Taylor served in the North Dakota State Senate from 2002 to 2012, was a 2013 leadership fellow with the Bush Foundation, and served as the state director for USDA Rural Development. Taylor graduated from North Dakota State University with degrees in Agricultural Economics and Mass Communications. He is a recent past board member for ND Farmers Union, Farmers Union Insurance and Agraria Restaurants, as well as numerous other local and state organizations.

Taylor splits his time between a home in Bismarck and the family ranch near Towner, ND. He enjoys life on the prairie with his wife, Nikki; two college-age sons and a high school daughter.



Kate Richard
Founder, CEO and Co-CIO
Warwick Investment Group



Kate Richard is Founder, Chief Executive Officer and Co-Chief Investment Officer of Warwick Investment Group and has been involved in all phases of Warwick's development since founding the firm in 2010. Kate is a member of the firm's Investment, Valuation and Compliance Committees and the National Petroleum Council (NPC), an advisory body to the Secretary of Energy.

Prior to founding Warwick, Kate worked at MSD Capital, Michael Dell's private investment fund in New York, making public and private investments in the natural resources space globally.

Previously, she invested in public and private debt and equity of mining and energy companies for Serengeti Asset Management, a multi-strategy investment fund based in New York. She began her career at Goldman Sachs, working in real estate private equity and investment banking in New York, London and Paris. Kate previously served on the Boards of Directors of Flotek Industries, Inc. (NYSE: FTK), Imerys, SA (EPA: NK), a Paris-based industrial conglomerate and Abraxas Petroleum Corp (NASDAQ: AXAS). She has also advised the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan's Ministry of Mines on energy development and transparency.

Kate graduated from Harvard College with a Bachelor's degree in history and a focus on post-colonial theory.

Kate is a member of the US Humane Society, World Economic Forum (YGL) and Young Presidents' Organization (YPO). She is a lifetime member of the Harvard College 2004 Executive Committee and the Harvard College Fund Associates Committee. She is a past lecturer at the Stanford Graduate School of Business and Harvard Business School and a frequent market commentator on CNBC and Bloomberg TV.



Dan Drum
Head of New Ventures and Macro Strategy
Warwick Investment Group



Daniel Drum is Head of New Ventures and Macro Strategy at Warwick Investment Group and is responsible for investment sourcing, analysis and execution across Warwick's portfolios. Dan is a member of the firm's Investment Committee.

Prior to joining Warwick, Daniel oversaw the investment and trading platform for a family office with roots in the oil and gas industry, investing in commodities, energy, real estate, private equity and hedge funds. Previously, he worked on the sell-side for both RBC Capital Markets and UBS Securities and was instrumental in the founding and early growth phase of several international investment ventures in the commodities space. Additionally, he spent five years as Vice President of Finance for a series of businesses, building exploration and commodity trading companies with operations in Iraq and throughout the Middle East. Dan began his career in the commodities space as Head of Investor Relations and eventually managing a publicly traded junior exploration and production company with operations in Colombia.

Daniel graduated from Columbia Business School with an MBA and Georgetown University with a Bachelor's degree from the School of Foreign Service.



David Rains

General Manager of Assets

Chevron Shale and Tight Business

David Rains is the general manager of assets for the Shale and Tight Business within Chevron, based in Houston, Texas. Chevron's purpose is to safely develop the affordable, reliable, ever-cleaner energy that enables human progress. The assets include Permian, Rockies, and Argentina.

David joined Chevron in 2001 as an exploration geologist in the Gulf of Mexico Deepwater Business Unit. He played a leading role in Chevron's Jack and St. Malo discoveries, which pushed innovation to new depths and led to Chevron's signature deepwater development project in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico. Eager to advance Chevron's portfolio, David took on positions of increasing responsibility on Chevron's West Africa assets before branching out into unconventional assets as East Texas program manager and Permian Basin asset manager. He was named the GM of Asset Development when Chevron acquired Noble Energy in 2020 and established a new business unit in Colorado. He transitioned to his current role in July of 2025.

David earned his M.S. in Geology in August 2001 from Texas A&M University and earned his B.S. in Geology from Baylor University in December 1998.



Joe Wiegand

President Theodore Roosevelt

<https://teddyrooseveltsnow.com/>

Joe Wiegand is a political science graduate of The University of the South in Seawee, Tennessee. Twice elected to head Seawee's student government, Joe had earlier been elected Governor of the American Legion Illinois Boys State and President of the American Legion Boys Nation program. Joe served as a graduate assistant at the Center for Governmental Studies at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Illinois, before launching his own business as a political campaign consultant and public policy expert.

Joe has been named a Wilkins Scholar, a Harry S. Truman Scholar, and a Thomas J. Watson Fellow. Joe served six years as a member of the DeKalb County, Illinois Board of Commissioners. Joe was working in public policy and running election campaigns when he began performing as Theodore Roosevelt in 2002.

Joe Wiegand's Theodore Roosevelt has been featured as a keynote speaker at national conferences, conventions, and leadership retreats to rave reviews throughout the nation.



Attorney General Drew H. Wrigley

North Dakota



Drew Wrigley is a fourth generation North Dakotan with family roots in Walsh County and Burke County, where the Wrigley Brothers Farm still thrives. Wrigley was born in Bismarck and grew up in Fargo. He attended Fargo South High School, graduated from the University of North Dakota with honors in Economics and Philosophy, and received his law degree from the American University, Washington College of Law.

Wrigley spent five years as an Assistant District Attorney in Philadelphia before returning home to North Dakota in 1998. In 2001, Wrigley was nominated by President George W. Bush and confirmed by the United States Senate as North Dakota's 17th United States Attorney.

After stepping down as United States Attorney in 2009, Wrigley served as vice-president of a national Medicare and Medicaid contractor based in Fargo. He subsequently served as North Dakota's 37th Lieutenant Governor, from December 2010 through December 2016. Wrigley returned to the private sector, serving in a senior advisory role for a regional healthcare, insurance, research, and philanthropic enterprise.

In 2019, Wrigley was nominated by President Donald J. Trump and confirmed by the United States Senate as North Dakota's 19th United States Attorney, becoming the first North Dakotan to hold that office twice. He stepped down in 2021 and returned to the private sector, then becoming general counsel for his family's industrial/mechanical/commercial contracting companies.

In November 2022, Wrigley was elected as North Dakota's 30th Attorney General.

Drew lives in Bismarck and has three young adult children, Quinn, Patrick and Harper.



Josh Kevan, CFA

CEO, Senior Consultant, Principal

RVK



Josh is CEO and a Senior Consultant with RVK, located in our Boise office. Josh joined RVK in 2000 and has over 25 years of experience in investment consulting and capital markets. As a Senior Consultant, he advises a diverse mix of clients that include employee benefit plans, endowments and foundations, insurance companies, and other special purpose funds.

He has extensive experience in a broad range of consulting disciplines including investment policy, asset allocation, performance evaluation and attribution, investment manager searches, and asset class structure studies. Additionally, Josh serves as a member of our firm's Investment Perspectives Committee, which provides a centralized and uniform source for investment counsel and perspective across our firm's client engagements.

Josh earned a BA degree in Business from the University of Washington. He holds the Chartered Financial Analyst designation and is a member of the CFA Institute and the CFA Society of Idaho. Josh is a shareholder of the firm.



Nick Phillips

Executive Vice President of External Affairs

Applied Digital



Applied Digital builds and operates next-generation AI data centers in communities around the U.S., delivering high-performance infrastructure while fostering local economic development. With billions of dollars of projects under construction, Applied Digital is leading the way in large-scale AI Factories in the US.

As Executive Vice President of External Affairs, Nick leads Applied Digital's public affairs strategy, overseeing government relations, real estate acquisition, and community engagement. With a career in the data center industry since 2005 and more than a decade of leadership in government affairs and legislative advocacy, Nick plays a pivotal role in aligning public policy with corporate objectives.

He manages relationships with local, state, and federal officials, regulatory agencies, and industry partners, while driving sustainable site development and ESG initiatives. Known for navigating complex regulatory landscapes and building trust with stakeholders, Nick ensures that Applied Digital is both community-focused and business-ready.



Troy Heithecker

Regional Forester, Northern Region

US Forest Service



Troy Heithecker serves as Regional Forester for the Rocky Mountain Region of the USDA Forest Service and Acting Regional Forester for the Northern Region. In these capacities, he is responsible for the stewardship of 29 National Forests and 11 National Grasslands encompassing more than 47 million acres of public land across Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, Montana, North Dakota, Northern Idaho, South Dakota, and Wyoming. Troy provides strategic leadership to advance resilient landscapes, enhance world class recreation opportunities, and cultivate an organizational environment that consistently values and respects all employees. Troy also serves as the Senior Executive for the National Lands, Mineral, and Geology program.

Prior to joining Region 2, Troy served as Associate Deputy Chief for the National Forest System, overseeing national programs for Forest and Rangeland Management, Vegetation Ecology, Lands, Minerals and Geology, and the National Partnership Office. Throughout a distinguished Forest Service career, Troy held numerous leadership roles, including Forest Supervisor of the Ouachita National Forest in Hot Springs, Arkansas; Deputy Forest Supervisor on the Tongass National Forest; and several temporary assignments such as Deputy Regional Forester in the Rocky Mountain Region and Forest Supervisor on the Tongass National Forest.

Troy Heithecker began a career with the Forest Service in 1997 as a volunteer with the Pacific Northwest Research Station in Juneau, Alaska, serving as a field technician in research silviculture. During college, Troy Heithecker spent summers implementing research silviculture projects on the Tongass and Gifford Pinchot National Forests, gaining foundational experience in the complexities of managing public lands for multiple uses.

A native of Texas, Troy holds a bachelor's degree in computer science from Colorado State University and a master's degree in Forest Ecology from the University of Washington. Troy Heithecker enjoys outdoor recreation, playing music, and spending **15** time with family.



IDL Director Dustin Miller

Idaho Department of Trust Lands

The State Board of Land Commissioners appointed Dustin Miller to the position of Director of the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) in August 2018. As IDL Director, Dustin oversees the operations of the agency, which is constitutionally charged with generating revenue for public schools and other beneficiaries through the management of natural resources on 2.5 million acres of state endowment trust lands. The agency also enforces state environmental protection statutes, such as the Idaho Forest Practices Act and Lake Protection Act and partners with federal land managers to improve the condition of Idaho's forests, rangelands and watersheds. As the state's wildland fire response agency, the Department is also responsible for protecting nearly 9 million acres of state, federal and private lands from wildfire.

Dustin has been a member of the Governor's Natural Resources Cabinet since 2012. Prior to joining IDL, he served as the Administrator of the Governor's Office of Species Conservation, an agency charged with developing and implementing collaborative conservation and recovery strategies for federally protected fish and wildlife species, while maintaining working landscapes that support rural communities in Idaho. Dustin also worked as the Wildlife Program Manager for the agency.

Throughout his career, Dustin has built support for collaborative land use initiatives, sound stewardship of our natural resources, and has established strong working relationships with State and federal agencies, private landowners, and industry leaders. Dustin is a graduate of the University of Idaho and began his career as a seasonal wildland firefighter. As a way of giving back to his alma mater, Dustin serves as a member of the College of Natural Resources Advisory Board at the University of Idaho.



Tera King

Resource Analyst

Idaho Forest Group



Tera King, the Resource Analyst for Idaho Forest Group, works for the resource team monitoring log deliveries, analyzing prices, quality, and purchases, and communicating with landowners to make sure IFG has a short- and long-term timber supply. She also supports the management of fee lands, approximately 70,000 acres that IFG owns and manages in wood basket area. She also works on the annual wood basket analysis which requires evaluating the entire wood basket area and analyzing what species are growing and how many board feet of timber are available and the sustainability of harvest operations into the future.

Tera has been working for IFG since January of 2020 after working 17 years as a consulting forester for Northwest Management in Moscow. She grew up in Grangeville, so she was always surrounded by the industry. She received her degree in Forestry Resources from the University of Idaho and worked to achieve her MBA online in Business Administrations and Corporate Finance in 2013 from Norwich University in Vermont.



Jim Elbin

Division Administrator, Trust Lands
Idaho Department of Lands



Jim is a forester with over twenty-five years of experience in natural resource management and leadership roles. His background includes a degree from the University of Idaho in Forest Resources and an early career focus in silviculture, timber sale development and administration, and forest inventory as well as an operational wildland firefighter. As the Trust Lands Division Administrator for the Department of Lands, he oversees budget and policy issues, along with supervising the Timber Management, Real Estate, and Technical Services Bureaus. He is passionate about natural resource management and the many benefits it brings to our communities and economy.



Joe Holzwarth

Area Manager
Montana Department of Natural Resources



Joe Holzwarth serves as the Area Manager for the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) Southern Land Office, a role he has held for four years. In this capacity, he oversees seven programs spanning a seven-county region, with responsibilities across both Trust Lands and Forestry operations. His Trust Lands portfolio includes management of agriculture and grazing, real estate, recreation, minerals, and forestry programs on behalf of the State's trust beneficiaries. On the forestry side, he oversees Forestry Assistance, Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) projects, and fire protection efforts within the Land Office boundary.

Joe also holds executive board positions with the Montana County Assist Team (CAT) and the Billings Dispatch Center (BDC), contributing to coordinated emergency response and interagency collaboration.

Prior to his current role, Joe served as Area Planner for the DNRC Southern Land Office. Earlier in his career, he worked as a GIS Specialist and Asset Management Coordinator for the City of Billings, where he led enterprise asset management efforts across Public Utilities, Public Works, and Parks and Recreation Departments.

David Straley

Vice President of External Affairs
NACCO Natural Resources/North American Coal



David Straley is an advocate for public policy that encourages sustainable, reliable, and affordable domestic energy production. Straley previously served on the EmPower Commission of North Dakota and has helped develop policy recommendations for over 20 years. He currently serves as Chair of the Energy and Environmental Research Center (EERC) Foundation Board and is a member of the State Bar Association of North Dakota.



Governor Kelly Armstrong

North Dakota

NORTH
Dakota | Office of the Governor
Be Legendary.

Kelly Armstrong took office as the 34th governor of North Dakota on Dec. 15, 2024 and brings a background in business, a love for the outdoors and a passion for volunteering and public service to the Governor's Office.

Kelly is a lifelong, devoted North Dakotan and a tireless advocate for making North Dakota a better place to live, work, and raise a family.

Kelly was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 2018, representing North Dakota's at-large congressional district. During his tenure, Armstrong was an advocate for energy independence, agricultural interests and conservative fiscal policies, reflecting the priorities of his largely rural and resource-rich home state.

A staunch supporter of North Dakota's oil and gas industries, Armstrong worked to advance legislation aimed at reducing regulatory burdens and promoting domestic energy production. He has also championed policies to support farmers and ranchers, advocating for fair trade agreements and federal assistance during economic challenges.

In Congress, Armstrong was an active member of the House Judiciary Committee and the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

Prior to his congressional career, Kelly served in the North Dakota Senate from 2012 to 2019 representing District 36. He spearheaded legislation to reform DUI laws and pass a \$2 billion statewide investment into our infrastructure. Kelly was elected Chairman of the North Dakota Republican Party in 2015 and led the party to landslide victories for President Donald Trump, Gov. Doug Burgum, and ND Legislative Majorities. His legal background as an attorney has influenced his legislative priorities and contributions to legal and regulatory debates.

Kelly grew up in Dickinson; he earned his bachelor's degree from the University of North Dakota and received his law degree in 2003 from UND as well.

Kelly married his wife Kjersti in 2004, and they have two children, Anna and Eli.



Robbie Lauf

Executive Director
Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library

**THEODORE
ROOSEVELT**
PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

Robbie Lauf is the Executive Director of the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library, where he leads efforts to celebrate the life and enduring legacy of one of America's most influential presidents. His career spans leadership roles in both the public and private sectors. He has served as a senior advisor to former North Dakota Governor Doug Burgum, worked in the office of Federal Reserve Board Chairman Jerome Powell, and worked as a management consultant at McKinsey & Company.

A North Dakota native, Robbie graduated with honors from North Dakota State University, where he received the Harry S. Truman Scholarship, and earned his master's in public policy from the Harvard Kennedy School, where he was a research assistant to Professor Arthur Brooks. Robbie serves on the board of the North Dakota Economic Development Foundation, Save the Maah Daah Hey Trail Foundation, and the North Dakota News Cooperative.



Tom Sutton

President

Sutton Technical Services



Thomas Sutton is President of Sutton Technical Services, Inc., and a nationally recognized expert in renewable energy training, safety standards, and workforce development. With more than 20 years of experience in wind energy and battery storage systems, he specializes in developing technical training programs, designing safety-focused equipment, and advising utilities, municipalities, and first responders on the risks and response strategies associated with Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS). He has also played a key role in shaping national and international safety standards, including authoring and chairing multiple ANSI committees.

In addition to his industry leadership, Tom brings over two decades of frontline experience with the Kalamazoo Township Fire Department, where he served as a Lieutenant, incident safety officer, and technical rescue team member. His hands-on emergency response background—combined with deep technical expertise—provides a unique and practical perspective on battery technology hazards, making him a highly sought-after speaker on energy storage safety and emergency preparedness.



Clay Cameron

Executive Director, Development

NextEra Energy



Clay Cameron is executive director of development at NextEra Energy Resources, LLC, the largest energy infrastructure developer in the United States. In this role, he oversees development of the company's utility-scale generation, storage and capacity projects in North and South Dakota.

He joined NextEra Energy Resources in 2008 as a project manager in engineering and construction. He has held several positions of increasing responsibility within the development organization.

Prior to joining the company, Mr. Cameron worked as operations manager at an environmental remediation company, later obtaining a Florida general contractor license and joining Toll Brothers, where he advanced through project management leadership roles to regional vice president.

Mr. Cameron studied Business Management at Louisiana State University.



Sandy Raines

City Auditor, Columbus ND



Sandy Raines is city auditor for the City of Columbus, ND. In this role she is responsible for all financial and administrative records, utility billing, and is the go-to person for any city policies and procedures in this tiny town on North Dakota's northern slope.

Over the past five years Sandy has been an integral part of the team developing zoning ordinances for wind, solar, and battery energy storage facilities for Burke County; currently serving as a member of the Planning and Zoning Board for Burke County.

Prior to public service work, Ms. Raines was an early childhood, elementary, and adult educator for 46 years. She taught in Michigan, South Dakota, Colorado, Okinawa, Misawa Japan, and North Dakota. She earned her BS degree in Education from Martin Luther College of New Ulm, MN and completed graduate work both at the University of North Dakota and Minot State University in North Dakota.

Although recognized as a transplant to the prairie, Sandy has claimed North Dakota as home for the past 32 years and plans to stay right here among the wildlife, sunsets, and quiet of the prairie!



Lynn Helms

NDPC Bakken 2.0 Project Manager



Lynn Helms grew up on a cattle ranch in Harding County South Dakota. He earned a BS in Engineering from SDSM&T, and his MS and PhD in Petroleum Engineering from UND. Lynn served as Director of the North Dakota Industrial Commission (NDIC) Oil & Gas Division for 26 years and the Department of Mineral Resources for 19 years. Before working for the NDIC he was an engineer and asset team leader on industry projects in Abu Dhabi, Alaska, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Texas, and Wyoming. He is an active member of the Bismarck Church of Christ and Dacotah Mandan Lions. Lynn enjoys spending time with family, volunteering, hunting, and riding horses.

Lynn currently works for the North Dakota Petroleum Council (NDPC) as the Bakken 2.0 Project Manager.

EXPLORE MEDORA

Activities and Adventure

CHATEAU DE MORES STATE HISTORIC SITE

Located southwest of Medora, this site memorializes the life and activities in North Dakota of Antoine de Vallombrosa, the Marquis de Mores, who arrived in 1883. Among his enterprises were a beef packing plant, a stagecoach line, a freighting company, refrigerated railway cars, cattle and sheep raising, land ownership, and a new town which he called Medora, in honor of his wife.

POINT TO POINT PARK

Home to mini golf, zipline adventures and a lazy river pool modeled after the Little Missouri, Point to Point Park is a do-it-all destination for family fun.

MEDORA TRAIL RIDES

Experience the Badlands the way Theodore Roosevelt would have in 1883! Our friendly trail guides will take you on a Badlands adventure along buttes and canyons that are sure to create unforgettable memories.

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Medora is full of unique shops and boutiques where you can find everything from Western wear to locally made art, specialty foods, and keepsakes. Whether you're searching for a one-of-a-kind souvenir or the perfect gift, shopping here adds to the charm of your Badlands adventure.

- Medora Boot & Western Wear
- JQ Clothing Co.
- Black Hills Gold & Gift Outlet

Theodore Roosevelt National Park

ESCAPE, EXPLORE & EXPERIENCE THE BADLANDS

When Theodore Roosevelt came to Dakota Territory to hunt bison in 1883, he was a skinny, young, spectacled dude from New York. He could not have imagined how his adventure in this remote and unfamiliar place would forever alter the course of the nation.



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Affiliate Membership Program

NASTL adopted an Affiliate Membership Program to provide public and private entities and individuals who share common interests in the NASTL's objectives with an opportunity to formally communicate and cooperate with NASTL members. The Program offers Affiliate members the opportunity to participate in the Association's annual conference, and scheduled Washington DC fly ins, and to talk directly with Association members and state leaders on issues important to both.

Affiliate Membership is designed to:

- Enhance and extend NASTL, its educational missions, institutional impacts, influence and positive public image.
- Develop or strengthen relationships with organizations that complement our mission.
- Share intellectual & social capital.

Desired Outcomes:

- Expand diversity of NASTL members and audiences.
- Enhance distribution of NASTL outputs to new, relevant markets.
- Augment opportunities to develop, share & evaluate information regarding land, water and other resource management policies and practices.
- Help member states maximize the earnings and preserve the assets of educational trusts.

7-10+ YEARS OF NASTL AFFILIATION



4-6 YEARS OF NASTL AFFILIATION



1-3 YEARS OF NASTL AFFILIATION





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