



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Natural Resource Users Law & Policy Center

A collaboration between the
James E. Rogers College of Law and
the College of Agriculture & Life Sciences

George Ruyle, Director
John C. Lacy, Director
EnR2-Room 353
1064 E. Lowell St.
P.O. Box 210137
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Phone: (520) 621-1384



NRULPC Advisory Board Meeting – May 24, 2022

Agenda

In-person: ENR2 S215 and Courtyard, UArizona, Tucson

Zoom: <https://arizona.zoom.us/j/453244816>

Purpose: Updates on center, clinic & class activities; presentations; financial update; AB Member discussion

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| 8:30am – 8:45am | Welcome/Check-in – Andy Groseta, Advisory Board Co-Chair |
| 8:45am – 9:00am | Advisory Board Members Introductions – George Ruyle, Co-Director |
| 9:00am – 9:05am | Review Agenda – George Ruyle & John Lacy, Co-Directors |
| 9:05am – 9:15am | NRULPC Progress Highlights – George Ruyle & John Lacy (<i>including clinic and fellow</i>) |
| 9:15am – 9:30am | NRULPC Matters – Jeff Eisenburg, Consultant |
| 9:30am – 10:15am | Keynote Speaker – Marc Brinkmeyer, Owner and Chairman of the Board, Idaho Forest Group. <i>“Timber, Talent and Technology” what we refer to as “T Cubed” to “Academics, Analytics and Artificial Intelligence” what we refer to as “A Cubed”.</i>
Introduced by John Lacy, Co-chair |
| 10:15am – 10:30am | Break |
| 10:30am – 11:00am | Featured Speaker – Perri Benemelis, Principal, Benemelis Consulting LLC. <i>The Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program.</i>
Introduced by Bill Plummer, Advisory Board member |
| 11:00am – 11:10am | Update on Agriculture, Environmental and Legal Issues Undergraduate Course
– Anne Gondor, Co-instructor |
| 11:10am – 11:25am | Financial updates – George Ruyle & John Lacy |
| 11:25am – 12:00pm | AB Member Comments and Discussion – George Ruyle & John Lacy |
| 12:00pm – 12:15pm | Thank You’s and Adjourn – Andy Groseta |
| 12:30pm – 1:30pm | Lunch in ENR2 Courtyard |



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Speaker information --



Marc Brinkmeyer – *“Timber, Talent and Technology” what we refer to as “T Cubed” to “Academics, Analytics and Artificial Intelligence” what we refer to as “A Cubed”.*

Owner and CEO, Professor, School of Natural Resources and the Environment, University of Arizona

Marc Brinkmeyer is the owner and chairman of the board of Idaho Forest Group (IFG), one of America’s largest lumber producers. Across Idaho and Mississippi, IFG owns six sawmills and a finger-joint facility, with capacity for over one billion board feet per year. Brinkmeyer is an accomplished business leader, a champion of education and innovation, and a longtime philanthropist.

Born and raised in Iowa, Brinkmeyer graduated from Buena Vista University with a bachelor’s degree in finance in 1968. He began his career in Portland, Oregon, as a certified public accountant with Arthur Anderson and Company, before becoming Chief Financial Officer and a member of the board of directors for the Brand S Corporation forest products company.

In 1981 Brinkmeyer purchased the Laclede sawmill from Brand-S and formed Riley Creek Lumber Co. In 2003, Riley Creek purchased two additional mills from Louisiana-Pacific Corp. in Chilco and Moyie Springs, becoming the largest lumber producer in the Intermountain West. In 2008 Riley Creek Lumber merged with Bennett Forest Industries to form Idaho Forest Group.

Based in Coeur d’Alene, IFG grows, harvests, manufactures, and distributes lumber and other wood by-products to customers in the United States and abroad. The company emphasizes a talented workforce of more than 1,000 employees and 2,000 partner contractors. IFG’s mission is to “enhance the lives and livelihoods of our employees, customers, and partners and the communities in which we operate by providing the earth’s best renewable building products.”



Perri Benemelis – *The Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program*

Principal, Benemelis Consulting LLC

Perri Benemelis is the principal of Benemelis Consulting LLC, a water resources planning and analysis firm. She began her water resources career with the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR). As manager of the Colorado River section, she was directly involved in the development of the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Plan and for a number of years she served as the Steering Committee chair. She worked on the development and negotiation of the first quantified shortage agreement between the



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Colorado River Basin States, the United States, and Mexico (2007 Interim Operating Guidelines and Minute 319). In 2014, she began managing the Water Supply Acquisition Program for the Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District, during which time the District more than doubled its water supply portfolio. Perri is an avid gardener, hiker, and backpacker; in 2015 she hiked from the north rim to the south rim of the Grand Canyon. Perri has an AA from Phoenix College (Go Bears!), a BS from ASU (Go Sun Devils!) and is an enthusiastic basketball fan (Go Suns!).