

# MANAGING THE WEST

Wisconsin Arkansas Washington Nevada  
North Dakota Utah Alaska Arizona  
Wyoming Minnesota the future  
Texas Oregon South Dakota Oklahoma  
Montana Colorado New Mexico Idaho

Winter 2019

Volume 7 - Issue 1



## 2019 WSLCA

### Executive Committee

Harry Birdwell, President  
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harry.birdwell@clo.ok.gov

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South Dakota  
ryan.burnner@state.sd.us

Aaron Vande Linde, Secretary  
Minnesota  
aaron.vande-linde@state.mn.us

Brandon Jones, Treasurer  
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brandon.jones@clo.ok.gov

## 2019 WSLCA Staff

Kathy Opp, Executive Director  
kathyjopp@gmail.com

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## Helping States Fund Education

Learn more at  
[www.wslca.org](http://www.wslca.org)

Welcome to the Winter 2019 issue of *Managing the West*...

Happy New Year WSLCA Members,

What a wonderful year 2018 was for the Western States Land Commissioners Association. We have had two fantastic educational conferences in Denver and Duluth, meaningful discussions with Congressional and Executive Branch officials in Washington, D.C., and great collaboration with affiliate members from across the country. Thank you to all our member states and affiliates from making 2018 a fantastic year.

At the end of January, Kathy Opp will step down as Executive Director of WSLCA. Under her leadership WSLCA has advanced in numerous ways as the voice of State Trust Lands. Over the last 4 ½ years as Executive Director, Kathy has done a great job raising the profile of State Trust Lands nationally. She led the creation of the association's first and second strategic plans. Her efforts have been essential to the integration of affiliate members into the organization. She has helped to lead the states through many changes in leadership. She has increased professionalism within the WSLCA committees, helped to focus the summer and winter meetings on informative and educational content, developed a new website and created stability in the association's finances. Kathy has provided phenomenal guidance in all the policy and strategic initiatives of the past decade. Much thanks to Kathy, together with our best wishes for the continued success of her growing consulting business.

With the recent elections, WSLCA is pleased to welcome two newly elected State Land Commissioners. Tommy Land (R) was elected Commissioner of State Lands in Arkansas, succeeding John Thurston who was elected Arkansas Secretary of State. Commissioner Land worked for Southwestern Bell, now AT&T, for 30 years and upon retirement in 2004 started Heber Springs Communications. Additionally, he previously owned and operated a small cattle farm.

Stephanie Garcia-Richards (D) was chosen by the voters of New Mexico to be Commissioner of the New Mexico State Land Office. Previously she served in the New Mexico House of Representatives where she was the Chair of the House Education Committee. Commissioner Garcia-Richards is a lifelong educator, having been a curriculum coordinator for Pojoaque public schools, and an educator at the Bureau of Indian Affairs school. We welcome both to WSLCA.

A new, exciting opportunity required Bridget Hill to resign as Director of the Wyoming Land Department. The newly elected Governor of Wyoming appointed Bridget to be Attorney General. Bridget has most recently served as the Secretary of WSLCA and a member of the

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Executive Committee. Thanks, Bridget, and congratulations on your new calling to serve the people of your state. Please join me in welcoming Aaron Vande Linde, Minnesota School Trust Lands Director, as the next Secretary of WSLCA. Thank you to Aaron for your willingness to serve on the Executive Committee.

Please mark your calendar to attend the Spring fly-in to Washington D.C. March 12-13, 2019. Plan to meet with your Congressional delegation and officials of key Federal agencies that impact public land management. Several member states will experience significant changes in their state Congressional membership. Given the change in control of the House of Representatives, this will be an important opportunity to touch base with your delegation.

The coming year holds the promise of new opportunities, along with challenges, and we will face them together as an important force on behalf of all the beneficiaries we serve.

Harry Birdwell (OK)  
President, WSLCA

Do you have news? Or questions about the WSLCA organization? Please contact Kathy or Linda.

Kathy J. Opp, Executive Director  
kathyjopp@gmail.com

Linda Fisher, Executive Assistant  
lindalufisher@gmail.com

## WSLCA news...

### WSLCA Launches New Website

Since 1997 the WSLCA has been the grateful beneficiary of web hosting services provided and supported by the administration and staff of the Texas General Land Office. Texas' willingness to host and maintain the site for the Association for the past 20-plus years has been of great benefit in helping to promote the Association mission and keeping member states, affiliates and the public up to date on its activities, initiatives and accomplishments.

We are thrilled to announce that in October 2018, the WSLCA successfully launched its own internally maintained website. The transition was the intentional work of a WSLCA strategic initiative team that was formed at the summer conference in Duluth, MN. The new platform provides an opportunity for the website to be maintained by Association membership and staff. The redesigned site visually depicts WSLCA's mission to help states support education and includes a conference registration portal, and the ability to accept membership payments, sponsorships and other donations via the site. We also encourage state and affiliate members to post job openings and recruitment notices. A big thank you to the members of the Media team for their dedication; a testament to the power of collaboration among people with a passion for a project who are willing to lend their assets.

#### WSLCA Media Team Members:

Nikki Heck (AR)	Trina Ziemann (MN)
Jessica Grogis (OK)	Morris Atta (HI)
Diane French (ID)	Mike Lauritsen (SD)
Erin Mader (ID Forest Gp)	Hillary Franz (WA)
Lisa Schneider (UT)	Linda Fisher (WSLCA)

For questions or suggestions pertaining to the website, or to request assistance in posting to the site, please contact Linda Fisher, WSLCA Executive Assistant at [lindalufisher@gmail.com](mailto:lindalufisher@gmail.com).

The WSLCA media team plans to solicit interest and volunteers for its next project opportunity during the association's virtual meeting on January 30th.

## WSLCA Executive Committee Transitions

As we say a fond farewell to executive director, Kathy Opp, we also want to welcome our new staff and officers. On February 1, Lisa Schneider will take over as WSLCA executive director. Most of you know Lisa as the Director of Finance for the Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration. She has also served the association in a variety of volunteer officer roles over the past many years, including Secretary and Treasurer. We are thankful for the opportunity to secure her expertise and institutional knowledge with a transition to the executive director role. She and executive assistant, Linda Fisher, are sure to be a dynamic team.

We also want to acknowledge the outgoing association secretary Bridget Hill (WY). Bridget has been tapped by newly elected Wyoming governor, Mark Gordon, to be his attorney general. She previously served as attorney for several state agencies, and since 2013 has been the director for the Wyoming Office of State Lands and Investments. Please send Bridget a warm thank you for her service to the WSLCA and best wishes as she embarks on this exciting new role for the state of Wyoming ([bridget.hill@wyo.gov](mailto:bridget.hill@wyo.gov)).

In accordance with association bylaw, President Birdwell appoints Aaron M. Vande Linde, Director of the Minnesota Office of School Trust Lands to become the WSLCA secretary. Vande Linde is an influential leader in his home state and within the WSLCA. He led the collaboration that created the first strategic plan and the long-term vision and mission of the newly formed MN trust lands office. And, he currently serves as the WSLCA Organization team lead that is focused on reviewing association incorporation and bylaws to recommend how best we optimize structure and future operations. Aaron graduated with a BA in History and Political Science from Old Dominion University (VA) and received his Juris Doctorate from William Mitchell College of Law (MN). Please welcome Aaron to the office of WSLCA secretary and thank him for his volunteer service ([aaron.vande-linde@state.mn.us](mailto:aaron.vande-linde@state.mn.us)).

Also transitioning into office is Brandon Jones (OK) who will assume the role of WSLCA treasurer. In September 2018, the association solicited interest from state members for the office of treasurer. As a seasoned Royalty Compliance Auditor for the Oklahoma Commissioners of the Land Office, he is well suited to the task. Jones earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in Energy Management at the University of Oklahoma. As a former landman and now auditor, he has experience researching land ownership, negotiating and preparing leases with

land owners, and analyzing data for compliance with laws, statutes, or government regulations. Brandon currently serves as co-chairman of the WSLCA Subsurface Royalty Working Group. Please welcome Brandon to the office of WSLCA secretary and thank him for his volunteer service ([brandon.jones@clo.ok.gov](mailto:brandon.jones@clo.ok.gov)).

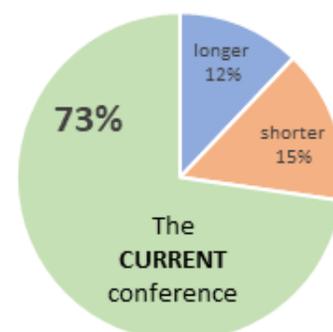
## WSLCA Conference Team Thank You!

One of the strategic initiative teams formed at the Duluth, MN annual summer conference is focused on understanding the value of such events to members. Their work included designing and soliciting member input about areas of interest, conference length, frequency, pricing, etc. Data gathering included conversations with members and an online survey. One hypothesis going into the survey was that holding conferences in fairly consistent, easy to get to locations may be desirable. However, the survey results proved different. Members see value in rotating the location so we can see a variety of operating conditions and challenges during field tours.



Another value proposition test was assessing the length of the summer conference. Typically, the annual summer event begins on a Sunday and concludes on Thursday as a travel day. Of those who responded to the survey, the majority favor this duration. It is recognized the sample size is moderate. Efforts to structure field tours and other special events at the beginning or end of conference will continue.

## Length of Annual Summer Conference



Members value a mix of topics ranging from land management, to leadership and inspiration. National resource policy as well as understanding local natural resource policy and issues is also important. Building in opportunities for professional education courses is a need typically addressed as part of Winter and special events, but members desire these opportunities for the annual summer conference as well.

Finally, please reach out and thank the members of the Conference Team listed below. In keeping with the intention of the short-term strategic initiative teams, their work is complete. The survey feedback and team members are reaching out to the Education Team to help shape the next annual summer conference in Whitefish, MT in a positive way to meet the value proposition you as members desire.

### Thank you Conference Team Members!

Bill Haagenon (ID)

Kris Hess (AK)

Jason Halada (Charles Schwab)

Shawn Thomas (MT)

Jason Lundquist (Charles Schwab)

Heather Fugger (EnergyNet)

Seth Klaskin (PCCT)

Gus Rivero (EnergyNet)

Brandon Savage (EnergyNet)

Mark Waite (MN)



## Washington D.C. update...

by Allen Freemyer

### Government Shutdown:

While there was great hope that Congress would fund the remaining federal agencies, including the Department of Interior, in an omnibus funding measure at the end of last Congress, a deal never came to fruition given the midterm elections with an incoming Democrat majority in the House and with President Trump insisting on border wall funding. The new Congress will be sworn in January 3<sup>rd</sup> and Speaker Pelosi promises quick passage of a funding bill but that measure will simply be a tool to highlight the fact that the President is keeping nine federal departments closed due to his demands for a border wall. What was an election issue two years ago is setting up to be a primary focus for the next two years. Barring an agreement that could come out of a meeting at the White House on January 2<sup>nd</sup> with Congressional leaders, it is likely that a Continuing Resolution will be necessary to get the Department of Interior and eight other Departments up and running again.

### 2018 Midterm Elections:

The Midterm elections of 2018 brought significant changes to Capitol Hill. In the House of Representatives, power will return to the Democrats with a 34 seat majority over the Republicans, creating a 234-200 seat divide. Democrats needed 23 seats to re-gain control, but managed to gain 39 seats nationwide. What does a majority in the House mean when the Senate and the White House are controlled by the Republicans? Likely that gridlock will prevail. House Democrat initiatives will be blocked by the Senate and the White House, requiring the new Majority to rely on oversight authority to pursue their agenda.

Democrats are poised to elect Nancy Pelosi as the Speaker of the House on January 3<sup>rd</sup> but not without dissent in the ranks. Pelosi has been successful thus far in keeping away serious challengers even though a fair number of Democrats swore to voters they would not vote for their former Speaker to take the reins in the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress. The question remains, who will dissenters vote for if Pelosi has no opponent?

This change in power brings new Chairmanships in committees important to our members. Raul Grijalva will be the new Chairman of the House Natural Resource Committee. Congressman Grijalva represents the 3<sup>rd</sup> District of Arizona around the Tucson area. Grijalva has a proven track record with the conservation community and it is likely his agenda will reflect these past positions.

The House Appropriations Committee will likely be chaired by Congresswoman Nita Lowey, from the 17<sup>th</sup> District of New York in the New York City and White Plains areas. The Congresswoman has had little exposure to western issues and it is unclear at this time what her Chairmanship will mean for western states, but it is likely national conservation groups will have significant influence with her office.

In the Senate, the GOP held on to remain in power, gaining a net 2 seats. The current make-up of the US Senate is 47 Democrats to 53 Republicans. The most significant change in the Senate will be the appointment of Senator Manchin of West Virginia as the new Ranking Member on the Senate Energy Committee. Senator Manchin has often sided with western Republicans on issues related to the extractive industries. It is expected that Chairwoman Murkowski and Ranking Member Manchin could reach agreement on many issues impacting our members. Senate races of particular interest to WSLCA members are below.

In North Dakota, Kevin Kramer (R) defeated incumbent Heidi Heitkamp (D). This was a change.

In Nevada, incumbent Dean Heller (R) lost to Congresswoman Jackie Rosen (D). This was a change.

In Arizona, the open Senate seat was awarded to Congresswoman Krysten Sinema (D) over Congresswoman Martha McSally (R). This was a change.

In Missouri, incumbent Senator Claire McCaskill (D) lost to Attorney General Josh Hawley (R). This was a change.

In Utah, Republican candidate Mitt Romney easily won election to fill the seat vacated by retiring Senator Orrin Hatch.

### **Advancing Conservation and Education Act (ACE):**

While the ACE Act (H.R. 4257) passed the House by unanimous vote, we have had less success in the Senate. The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee held a hearing on the Senate bill (S. 2078) in August, but we have been unable to achieve much progress since that time. During that hearing the Department of Interior did express some concerns with the legislation. Part of our challenge has been that the legislation has not been the top priority of our Senate Sponsors, Heinrich and Flake. Moreover, the retirement of Senator Flake, has made it difficult to gain traction in the Senate. Lastly, concerns by tribal interests have also led to concerns by Senate staff and conservation groups. In this new Congress, we

will have the opportunity to work with the new Ranking Member on Senate Energy and Natural Resources, Senator Manchin and hopefully we can make more progress with him. I recommend that we revisit the idea and determine if there is a broader authority that could be helpful to our members to improve our ability to conduct land tenure transactions with the Federal Government. I am of course happy to explore with members new and additional ideas and approaches to provide managers with additional tools for the management of the assets under your control.

### **Department of Interior:**

Secretary Zinke announced his resignation in mid-December under a great deal of pressure as the Inspector General investigates allegations of wrong doing by the Secretary. Moreover, Congressman Grijalva has been building pressure on the Secretary recently, requesting documents, answers to questions, and has called for Zinke's resignation. Grijalva's actions will undoubtedly turn to oversight hearings, requests for documents, and subpoenas when the new Congress begins in January. Facing at least a dozen ethics investigations, Zinke has taken to Twitter to combat Grijalva's onslaught. Although President Trump claimed he would announce a new nomination for Interior Secretary prior to Christmas, no announcements yet from the White House.

The Department continues to operate without a full complement of appointees. We have yet to have a Solicitor, a Bureau of Land Management Director, Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and awaiting the confirmation of the National Park Service Director. According to the Washington Post, President has only filled 47% of the key positions within the Department.

### **Conclusion:**

As Congress wrapped up the 115<sup>th</sup> Session, the House and Senate Committees are attempted to craft a large public lands legislative package that began with a list of 80 bills. Staff and Members have been working through all of these bills to craft a non-controversial package that would have been included in an Omnibus Appropriations measure to fund many federal agencies for next year. Several of these bills will impact state trust lands in several of our member states. Due to the failure of the funding agreement, the large public lands package also failed. However, Congressman Bishop, Chairwoman Murkowski and incoming Chairman Grijalva have all said publicly that they would turn to this package early in the new Congress to complete these legislative efforts.

## State News...

We have two newly elected land commissioners in the WSLCA. Please join me in welcoming them to their respective positions and to the WSLCA.

### Tommy Land (R), Arkansas

Tommy Land is a 46-year resident of Arkansas. He and his wife, Judy, have been married for 41 years and reside in Heber Springs, where they reared their two children.



After retiring from a 30-year career with Southwestern Bell Telephone (now AT&T), he established Heber Springs

Communications in 2006 in response to increasing requests for help with telephone equipment from local business owners. The Lands also previously owned and operated a small cattle farm south of Heber Springs.

“I have been involved in serving people in different ways most of my adult life, and the Commissioner of State Lands Office serves the people of Arkansas,” Commissioner Land said. “I can think of no greater honor than serving the citizens of Arkansas and giving back to a place that has given my family so much.”

### Stephanie Garcia Richard (D), New Mexico

Stephanie Garcia Richard is the first woman and educator to be elected to the position of New Mexico Commissioner of Public Lands to oversee the office responsible for raising revenue to pay for New Mexico’s schools and hospitals.



Born in Tucumcari and raised in Silver City, Stephanie learned at a young age the importance of serving others from her father, a WWII veteran and teacher and her mother, active in their church and community. Stephanie received her undergraduate degree from Barnard College at Columbia University.

During her tenure as a State Representative and Chair of the House Education Committee, Stephanie championed laws to increase transparency, access to a quality education, and investments in renewable energy, job training, and economic development.

As Land Commissioner, Stephanie will ensure we maximize the revenue earned while diversifying our investments, promoting outdoor recreation, and encouraging renewable and commercial development on state trust lands.

### Recommend a Member!

WSLCA is a growing network of professionals, including state and industry leaders in a variety of organizations, who support responsible management of state trust lands on behalf of public and endowed beneficiaries. It is through the support of our valued Affiliate Members that the WSLCA is able to enhance and extend our impact, deliver high quality continuing education content and strengthen relationships that complement our mission. Please take a moment to connect with and thank our current Affiliate Members listed on our web page [Valued-Supporters](#). If you know other public and private entities and individuals who share common interests in the WSLCA’s objectives please contact a WSLCA Executive Committee member to recommend them for membership. The Affiliate Membership program allows the opportunity to participate in the WSLCA’s biannual conferences and other events, to work with us on key initiatives and to talk directly with members on issues of national importance.



# Upcoming WSLCA events...



*Helping States Fund Education*

**VIRTUAL MEETING  
JANUARY 30, 2019  
2:00-3:15 PM CT**

**On the Preliminary Discussion List:**

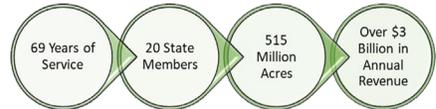
- ❖ March 2019 Washington D.C. Fly-In
- ❖ Strategic Initiative Team Updates
- ❖ Summer Conference
- ❖ Staff and Committee Transitions
- ❖ Identification of Current Issues

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/627085429>

**Phone in to:**

**+1 (872) 240-3212**

**Access Code: 627-085-42**



**CONNECTING THE MANAGEMENT OF TRUST  
LANDS AND ASSETS TO FUNDING EDUCATION**



*Helping States Fund Education*

State and Affiliate members are invited to join the WSLCA Executive & Legislative Committees for a Spring 2019 Washington, D.C. event. Meetings are planned with key Federal agencies including:

- BLM
- U.S. Forest Service
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
- Department of Interior
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

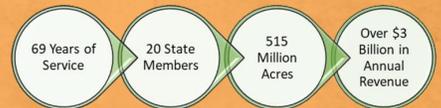
The schedule will accommodate "Hill" visits to individual State Congressional delegations. These visits are strongly encouraged and need to be arranged by fly-in participants.

Attendees are responsible for securing individual hotel accommodations. A list of suggested locations is being prepared and will be available soon.

**March 12-13, 2019**

Washington, D.C. Fly-in Event

*Best time for States to conduct prearranged hill visits is the afternoon of March 13<sup>th</sup>.*



**CONNECTING THE MANAGEMENT OF TRUST  
LANDS AND ASSETS TO FUNDING EDUCATION**

# Western States Land Commissioners Association

Register  
Now!

## *2019 Summer Conference*

July 28 - August 1, 2019 | Whitefish, Montana



At the gateway of Glacier National Park, Whitefish is the premier destination for outdoor recreation and culture in Northwestern Montana.

The 2019 Summer Conference will focus on the dynamics of recreational use of state trust lands. Expect a diverse agenda of presentations and tours, all set at the beautiful Lodge at Whitefish Lake.



### **Registration & Additional Information**

[www.wslca.org](http://www.wslca.org)  
<http://lodgeatwhitefishlake.com>  
[www.explorewhitefish.com](http://www.explorewhitefish.com)  
[www.nps.gov/glac](http://www.nps.gov/glac)



**Western States Land Commissioners Association  
2019 Summer Conference July 28 – August 1, 2019  
Whitefish, Montana**

**DRAFT AGENDA**

*As of 12/18/18*

***Sunday, July 28th***

- 2:00 – 6:00            Registration – Foyer
- 2:30 – 3:30            Executive Committee Meeting – Regatta Room
- 4:00 – 5:30            **Opening Conference Session – all members welcome**
- Resolutions Development
  - Association Organization Decisions
- 6:00 – 8:00            Welcome Reception – Lodge Viking Patio  
New Affiliate Member Introductions  
Student Scholarship Participant Introductions
- 8:00 – 11:00          Hospitality Room – Viking Lobby Room

***Monday, July 29<sup>th</sup>***

- 6:45 – 8:00            Breakfast Buffet – Ramsey Room
- 8:00 – 12:00          General Session – Ramsey Room
- 8:00 – 8:15            Welcome – Shawn Thomas, host state
- 8:15 – 8:30            Welcome – WSLCA President
- 8:30 – 9:30            Roll call of the States
- Break
- 9:45 – 10:45          Roll call continues
- Break
- 11:00 – 12:00          Washington D.C. Report
- 12:00 – 1:30          Lunch with Keynote Speaker (TBD)

## Monday, July 29<sup>th</sup> (continued)

### Concurrent Sessions:

- 1:45 – 3:15 Credit Class with a **Mineral** focus  
Industry Trends in Oil & Gas lease terms
- 1:45 – 3:15 The Discipline of Strategic Doing – Table Guide/Knowledge Keeper training  
[Preparation for 2018/19 association strategic initiative teams]

Break

- 3:30 – 5:00 Credit Class with **Mineral** focus (continued)
- 3:30 – 5:00 Credit class with a **Surface** focus  
Industry Trends Impacting Alternative Energy Leases

Dinner on your own

- 7:00 – 11:00 Hospitality Room – Viking Lobby Room

## Tuesday, July 30<sup>th</sup>

- 6:45 – 8:00 Breakfast Buffet – Ramsey Room

- 8:00 – 10:30 WSLCA 2018/19 Strategy Sprint  
Launch Strategic Initiative Teams – All Members Welcome  
*[initial suggested areas of focus]*
- Winter 2020 – Conference/Education Team Curriculum Development
    - Suggest multiple tables based on discipline to more fully develop educational tracks e.g. finance/accounting, landman, Oil & Gas
  - Association Branding Campaign
  - Communications

Break

- 10:45 – 11:45 Jim Hubbard, USDA Under Secretary (invited)
- Noon – 1:15 Lunch Provided - networking

### Concurrent Sessions:

- 1:30 – 3:00 A panel discussion on the USDA's vision of Shared Stewardship and Good Neighbor Authority – Panelists TBD  
[Session focus is oriented toward enhanced relationships and communications federal partners.]
- 1:30 – 3:00 Outdoor Recreation Use Panel Discussion
- 3:00 – 5:00 Free time – networking and optional activities

- 5:30 – 9:00 BBQ at the Bar W Ranch (
- 5:30 – 6:30 Activities (wagon rides, roping)  
6:30 – Dinner
- 9:00– 11:00 Hospitality Room-Viking Lobby Room

### **Wednesday, July 31<sup>st</sup>**

- 6:45 – 8:00 Breakfast Buffet – Ramsey Room
- 8:00 – 9:15 Leadership and Motivational Speaker  
Sam Kavanagh: Living without Limitation, Looking Beyond the Challenges

Break

- 9:30 – 11:00 Topic: *Raiders of the Lost Trust*  
[Reflections on a changing demographic and societal values]

Break

- 11:15 – 12:00 Final meeting of Resolutions Committee
- 12:30 – 4:00 Box Lunch and Field Tour  
Whitefish Trail & Real Estate Planning & Development in Kalispell
- 4:30 - 6:00 Business meeting
- 6:00 – 9:00 Social Hour and Banquet – Stumptown/Viking Rooms
- 9:00 – 11:00 Hospitality Room – Viking Lobby Room

### **Thursday, August 1<sup>st</sup>**

- 6:45 – 8:30 Continental Breakfast Buffet – Viking Room

Conference Adjourned



**Western States Land Commissioners Association  
2019 Summer Conference  
Whitefish, MT (July 28 – August 1, 2019)**



**The Lodge on Whitefish Lake \* 1380 Wisconsin Ave \* Whitefish MT 59937**

<http://lodgetwhitefishlake.com/groupslogin>

**Group ID: WSLCA19**

**Password: WHITEFISH**

**877-887-4026**

Rates start at \$299/night. A variety of room configurations are available, including larger rooms and suites for families.

**Room block available until June 21, 2019**

[VRBO](#) and [Airbnb](#) may provide alternative off-site lodging options.  
(Ground Transportation Required)



Hotel Booking and Cancellation Policies are different during summer, which is peak tourist season in Montana.

**Important to note:**

- *The first night's room and tax will be collected at time of booking to guarantee the reservation.*
- *14 days prior to arrival the remaining balance due on the entire stay will be deducted from the credit card on file.*
- *Cancellations and reductions in length of stay may be made up to 14 days prior to arrival with full refund of deposit, after that, reservations are considered non-refundable.*

## PLATINUM CHOICE AWARDS

THE BEST OF 2017

# THE LODGE AT WHITEFISH LAKE

Whitefish, Montana

Inspired by the grand lodges of the past, with all the conveniences of the present, The Lodge at Whitefish Lake brings leisure and grace to the Montana travel experience. Surrounded by mountains with the pristine waters of Whitefish Lake at our back door, and all the amenities of a full-service resort hotel, The Lodge provides the perfect location for your next group event.

### Accommodations

The resort offers a variety of accommodations to suit diverse travelers. All are beautifully appointed with fireplace, flat-panel TV, luxury furnishings, refrigerator and microwave. The main Lodge and Viking Lodge provide AAA four-diamond award-winning accommodations, including luxurious suites in the main Lodge and classic hotel accommodations in the Viking Lodge. Lakefront Condominiums provide the comforts of home and

spectacular views of Whitefish Lake. Viking Creek Luxury Homes are fully-equipped, adjacent to the Viking Creek Wetland Preserve, and walking distance to the Lodge.

### Amenities and Dining

The Lodge offers everything from complimentary valet parking, shuttle service and wireless Internet to award-winning dining, relaxing spa services and a full-service marina with watercraft rentals. Heated pools and relaxing hot tubs offer a fun and muscle-soothing experience for all. Guests have their choice of five dining outlets including our lakefront dining room for breakfast and dinner, lounge and deck for lunch and casual dinner, poolside Tiki Bar & Grill for freshly grilled fare, Viking Falls Bar & Grill and the Coffee Dock Cafe.

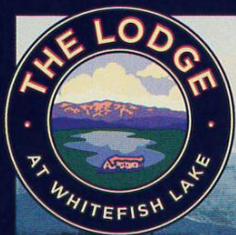
### Activities

Whitefish offers an array of recreational opportunities year-round, and The Lodge at Whitefish Lake's concierge assists with planning anything from dinner reservations to excursions into Glacier. Warm season activities include lake and fly fishing, mountain biking, guided hikes, zip line tours, horseback riding, whitewater and scenic rafting, cruises on the Lake, float plane tours and golf. Winter

adventures include skiing and snowboarding, guided snowshoe and cross-country ski tours, backcountry snowcat skiing, dog sledding, ice skating and horse-drawn sleigh rides. Cultural tours and art-focused activities are available as well.

1380 Wisconsin Avenue  
Whitefish, MT 59937  
406-863-4000  
lodgearwhitefishlake.com

- Montana's only AAA Four-Diamond rated resort
- Situated between pristine Whitefish Lake and Viking Creek Wetland Preserve
- Just 3 minutes from downtown Whitefish, 10 minutes from Whitefish Mountain Resort, 20 minutes from Glacier Park International Airport (FCA) and 30 minutes from Glacier National Park
- Full-service, year-round resort
- 11,000 sq. ft. of meeting and event space, including our 2,100-square-foot Lakefront Pavilion



## THE PLACE TO MEET IN MONTANA

MONTANA'S ONLY  **FOUR DIAMOND RESORT**

photo courtesy, Whitefish Mountain Resort



**BECAUSE THE TIME SPENT OUTSIDE THE MEETING ROOM IS AS IMPORTANT AS THE TIME SPENT INSIDE**

Smart meetings  
**2017** PLATINUM CHOICE  
AWARD WINNER

LUXURY ACCOMMODATIONS | MEETING & EVENT SPACE | CONFERENCE SERVICES TEAM | SPA | BOAT CLUB RESTAURANT & LOUNGE  
TIKI BAR & GRILL | MARINA | INDOOR & OUTDOOR POOLS & HOT TUBS | NATURE PRESERVE | COMPLIMENTARY SHUTTLE SERVICE

 1380 WISCONSIN AVENUE | WHITEFISH, MONTANA | 406.863.4000 | LODGEATWHITEFISHLAKE.COM