

Dear ICRW7 Presenter,

As you are aware, we had to cancel the Seventh Interagency Conference on Research in the Watersheds last March due to the COVID-19 virus. As with others, we have been waiting and hoping that the concerns over the Virus would subside and we would be able to hold an in-person meeting either this fall or next spring. However, given that considerable uncertainty remains scheduling an in-person meeting at this time is impractical. As a result, the ICRW Steering Committee has made the decision to hold a virtual meeting. **The dates for the virtual conference will be November 16-19, 2020.**

While we are disappointed we will not get to experience the unique in-person interaction that the ICRW meetings afford, we are excited about the new opportunities that the virtual meeting will allow. We are hopeful that we can incorporate features into the virtual meeting that would not have been possible at the in-person venue. In addition, since no travel will be necessary, we are optimistic that our attendance will be increased. We intend to offer the same workshops as before, to be held on November 16. The format for the remainder of the meeting will be slightly modified from the original format, extending from November 17-19. We hope to use the latest virtual meeting technology to make the meeting run as smoothly as possible. While we would prefer real-time presentations, some exceptions may be made for pre-taped presentations. We have not set the registration cost yet, but we anticipate that registration for the conference will be substantially reduced. We are hopeful that we will have participation by all presenters that were scheduled for the March event.

To help us to better determine participation please respond to the on-line survey located [here](#). ***Please respond by July 13th so that we can develop the final program. Positive as well as negative responses are needed.***

Additional details concerning the meeting will be forthcoming via email and the web site. Please monitor the [web site](#) for announcements and details concerning the virtual meeting. We would like to move fairly quickly to determine the presenters that may not be able to participate in the November meeting. *In addition, we are aware that various federal agencies must get their FY 2021 travel requests in fairly shortly and wanted to provide you with the conference information so that you could make your requests.*

We look forward to your participation in ICRW7.

David Bosch  
ICRW7 Program Chair  
USDA-ARS, SEWRL  
Tifton, GA 31794  
229-386-3899, [david.bosch@usda.gov](mailto:david.bosch@usda.gov)