



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**For immediate release**

## ***Farm Foundation Forum: Water Challenges for the Future***

**OAK BROOK, IL July 13, 2015:** The multi-year drought in the western United States has forced that region's farmers, ranchers and government officials to take extensive measures to deal with water shortages. Across the rest of the nation, public and private decision makers are watching the experiences of the West as they address their own regional water management challenges.

The Farm Foundation® Forum on Wednesday, July 15, will examine how lessons being learned in the West may help the rest of the nation prepare for water management challenges in the future. The Forum will also examine tools public and private decision makers across the country are already using to address such issues as access to water, regulation of water use, water quality and water quantity.

*Agri-Pulse* Senior Editor Philip Brasher will moderate the discussion with panelists:

- Richard Howitt, Ph.D., professor emeritus of agriculture and resource economics at the Center for Watershed Sciences, University of California, Davis and a specialist in water markets.
- Lynn Broaddus, Ph.D., of Broadview Collaborative, a consultant specializing in water sustainability and resiliency.
- Barry Bogseth, Managing Director of MetLife, will offer a lender's perspective.
- Betsy Hickman of Field to Market: The Alliance for Sustainable Agriculture, will discuss perspectives from across the agriculture and food value chain.

The Forum will be 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. EDT at the National Press Club, Washington, D.C. After discussion by the panelists, the floor will be opened for questions. For those unable to attend in person, a [live audiocast](#) is available free of charge.

There is no charge to participate in the July 15 Forum, but registration is requested. Registration is required to access the live audiocast. [Register online](#) to attend the Forum in person at the National Press Club. To participate via the live audiocast, [register here](#).

Audiocasting is made possible by a grant from Farm Credit. After the event, an audio file is posted to the [Farm Foundation website](#) for those unable to be part of the live event.

***Who should participate in the Forum:*** People with an interest in agricultural, food and rural policy, including members of Congress, congressional staff, executive branch officials, industry representatives, NGO representatives, academics and the media.

***The Forum:*** Farm Foundation, NFP organizes these public forums to engage all stakeholders in informed dialogue on food, agricultural and rural policies. Participants examine current policies, explore and analyze alternative policy proposals, and give voice to new proposals.

***Audio from the session*** will be posted on the Farm Foundation [website](#). Presentations and audio files from past Forum sessions are also available at the website.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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*Farm Foundation, NFP works as a catalyst for sound public policy by providing objective information to foster a deeper understanding of issues shaping the future for agriculture, food systems and rural regions. The Foundation does not advocate or lobby. Since its founding in 1933, Farm Foundation has been committed to objectivity, fostering the constructive debate that is essential to sound public policy development in a democracy.*

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