



**LEADING FLOOD WARNING EXPERTS EXAMINE EXTREME WEATHER,  
CLIMATE CHANGE SKEPTICS IN SAN DIEGO MAY 9-12**

SAN DIEGO, CA –(Marketwire - May 05, 2011.) Flash floods, extreme weather events and climate change are on the agenda for more than 300 leading scientists and engineers coming to San Diego for the National Hydrologic Warning Council ([NHWC](#)) conference May 9-12, 2011. These experts will share their latest forecasting and warning experiences for floods and related natural disasters, including current record-breaking flooding in the Midwest and South, with the goal of reducing loss of life and property damage in future events.

Representatives from the National Weather Service, the US Army Corps of Engineers, the US Bureau of Reclamation and the US Geological Survey will join local and state agency professionals, university researchers, and private consultants at the NHWC biennial conference titled “Hydrologic Warning for a Changing World.”

Special guests Dr. Naomi Oreskes from University of San Diego and author of the book “Merchants of Doubt: How a Handful of Scientists Obscured the Truth on Issues from Tobacco Smoke to Climate Change” will address the conference May 11. On May 12, Dr. Martin Ralph, NOAA Earth System Research Laboratory, will present the ARkStorm Emergency Preparedness Scenario for California - what happens in California when the next “Big One” happens.

Keynote speakers include:

- Mary M. Glackin, Undersecretary for Operations, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, who will address forecasts and warnings in the information age;
- Michael Gabaldon, Director of Technical Services, US Bureau of Reclamation, who will discuss the Bureau's latest activities in flood management; and
- Christopher Dunn, Director, Hydrologic Engineering Center, US Army Corps of Engineers, presents a vision for a nationwide water management system and discusses its importance.

The world around us is changing faster than ever. New science, new communication, and new technologies are rapidly reshaping our understanding of flood and related warnings. Showcasing the latest experience and research, the NHWC presents its ninth biennial conference and exposition in San Diego, CA. The conference is the largest in the United States devoted specifically to real-time hydrologic warning systems and how these technologies assist local officials with storm readiness, decision support, emergency response and disaster recovery.

#### **About National Hydrologic Warning Council:**

The [National Hydrologic Warning Council](#) is a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to help officials keep communities safe and manage water resources effectively. NHWC provides professional development, standards and guidance on the implementation and use of automated data collection systems. NHWC members provide expert advice assisting emergency and environmental management officials on the use of real-time weather and hydrologic information with the goals of protecting lives, property and the environment.

For information on the conference visit: [www.hydrologicwarning.org/conference](http://www.hydrologicwarning.org/conference).

Fast Fact:

Flood damages in the US are commonly in the range of \$2-10 billion each year with higher totals approaching \$50 billion in years with extreme events. Source:

[http://nws.noaa.gov/oh/hic/flood\\_stats/Flood\\_loss\\_time\\_series.shtml](http://nws.noaa.gov/oh/hic/flood_stats/Flood_loss_time_series.shtml)

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National Hydrologic Warning Council Conference

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Note: Interviews can be arranged with conference officials and speakers.

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