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From: [The Stormwater Report](#)
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To: sboynton@pwea.org
Subject: Sizing up the stormwater sector in 2020
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Experts Discuss State of the U.S. Stormwater Sector

During WEFTEC Connect, experts leading national efforts to fill stormwater sector data gaps, improve the sector's financial stability, and identify common needs among different types of stormwater managers discussed the state of the U.S. stormwater sector in a series of webcasts. Speakers provided updates on federal stormwater policy; efforts to provide standardized metrics for evaluating stormwater products and practices; and the first nationwide survey of common stormwater-sector needs. [Recordings of the webcasts, each only about 15-20 minutes in length, are now available to the public.](#)

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Submit Abstracts for 2021 Stormwater Summit

The call for abstracts for WEF's 2021 Stormwater Summit closes December 1 at 11:59 Eastern.

[Learn More](#)

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Offers \$500K for New Streamflow Forecasting Methods

Existing methods to forecast streamflow are largely outdated, relying on historical or conceptual data that must be interpreted manually by trained hydrologists. One weakness of existing approaches is that they cannot accurately quantify uncertainty, which is becoming increasingly important to consider as the effects of climate change on precipitation become more apparent. Attempting to spur much-needed innovation in streamflow forecasting, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation recently launched a year-long competition series called the Streamflow Forecast Rodeo. The rodeo tasks participants with predicting short-term streamflow in the western U.S. more accurately than conventional methods. [Get details on the competition, which involves 12 month-long events held through October 2021.](#)

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USACE Floats \$26 Billion Plan to Flood-Proof Texas Coastline

On October 30, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the Texas General Land Office released new recommendations on how to build multiple lines of flood defense along the Texas coastline. The plan, which involves building large infrastructure as well as restoring and utilizing natural ecosystems, would bolster the entire perimeter of the Texas Gulf against storm surge from hurricanes and severe storms. It is estimated to cost \$26.13 billion, subject to approval from U.S. Congress. [Read more about the early stages of a plan that could revolutionize resilience efforts on the Gulf Coast.](#)

Report: Green Infrastructure Helps Preserve Access to Transportation

Ensuring adequate stormwater control infrastructure is in place to keep roads drivable, sidewalks walkable, and trains and buses moving safely when extreme flooding occurs is a key function of any stormwater management organization. Protecting transit infrastructure is particularly important in low-income city neighborhoods that have historically faced chronic underinvestment in flood control and whose residents are more likely to rely on public transportation. The National Institute for Transportation and Communities (Portland, Oregon) recently released a report proposing a new model to facilitate green infrastructure adoption in low-income communities. [Learn more about the close relationship between transportation access and flood resilience.](#)

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