

ABSTRACT

MEASURING AND MANAGING RESERVOIR GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

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Methane (CH₄) is the second most important anthropogenic greenhouse gas with a heat trapping capacity 34 times greater than that of carbon dioxide on a 100 year time scale. Known anthropogenic CH₄ sources include livestock production, rice agriculture, landfills, and natural gas mining, but the EPA's Greenhouse Gas Inventory underestimates CH₄ emissions in the United States, suggesting that the inventory is missing additional sources. One known source of CH₄ not currently included in the Greenhouse Gas Inventory is emissions from reservoirs. This webinar will present current EPA research in this area, including 1) a case study of a reservoir in Ohio, 2) an analysis of the factors controlling CH₄ emission rates at the global scale, and 3) research designed to identify possible mitigation actions.