



36th
WERC
ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN CONTEST
NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY

2026 Awards and Winners

Over \$36,000 in Prizes Awarded

Flash Pitch Awards

1st - Central Michigan University Task 4
2nd - Louisiana State University Task 7
3rd - Louisiana State University Task 6

Produced Water: Enhanced Evaporation

Overall - Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Task 7
Bench - Brigham Young University Task 5
Judges' Choice - Louisiana State University Task 5

Recovering Water from Cooling Towers

Overall - University of Pennsylvania Task 2
Bench - Michigan Tech University Task 2

Lunar Logistics Containers

Overall 1st - Louisiana State University Task 4
Overall 2nd - University of Idaho
Bench 1st - New Mexico State University Task 4
Bench 2nd - Central Michigan University

Open-Source Environmental Monitors

Overall 1st - Louisiana State University Task 6
Overall 2nd - Cal Poly SLO Task 6
Bench 1st - Louisiana State University Task 6
Bench 2nd - Cal Poly SLO Task 6
Judges' Choice - New Mexico State University Task 7

Peer Awards

Louisiana State University Task 6
Louisiana State University Task 4
Washington University in St. Louis Task 1

Terry McManus Outstanding Students

Kayla Florian (CMU)
Angelica Dadda (UPenn)
Olivia Richards (WashU)

Water Quality: Brine Management

Overall - Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Task 1
Bench - Louisiana State University Task 7

Mineral Recovery from Mining Waters

Overall - Louisiana State University Task 3
Bench - Ohio University

P2 (Pollution Prevention) Award

Washington University in St. Louis Task 1

Freeport-McMoRan Innovative Sustainability Award

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Task 7

NMSCG Extreme Environments Award

New Mexico State University Task 4
