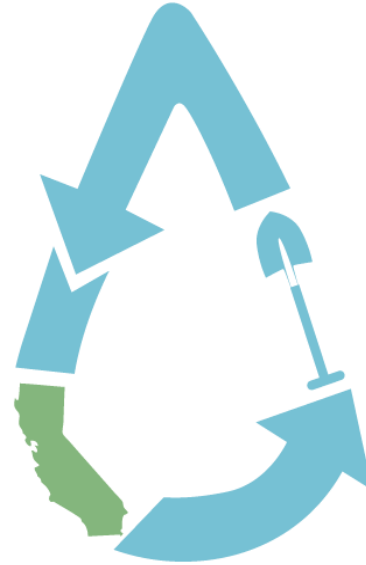


VENTURA to SLO

Regional Water Summit



LOCALIZING CALIFORNIA WATERS

April 29-30, 2019

Ojai Valley Inn, Ojai, CA

Building Community Resiliency
through Collaboration

MADE POSSIBLE WITH A GRANT FROM THE WATER FOUNDATION



LOCALIZING CALIFORNIA WATERS

VENTURA TO SLO REGIONAL WATER SUMMIT



Thank you for joining us for the first Tri-County Regional Water Summit in Ojai, CA.

Localizing California Water: VENTURA TO SLO will explore the many similarities and vulnerabilities of coastal San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties.

LCW highlights innovative, integrated strategies to bridge successful water, land and resource management. Key presentations will include successful collaboration structures and innovative case studies intersecting healthy economies, water security and watershed functions.

Our Poster Session Reception will integrate relevant current case studies, strategic planning efforts, and implementation streamlining and creative funding.

Localizing California Waters facilitates community resiliency through collaboration by:

- Building bridges across silos to foster new partnerships.
- Reframing and connecting water solutions to climate adaptation.
- Incubating innovative approaches across water, land, natural resource and equity sectors.
- Facilitating a shared water vision among grassroots, NGO's and state policy organizations.

This Regional Water Summit originated from recommendations from the statewide Localizing Ca Waters 2018 that committed to putting on two regional meetings to inform local and regional needs. Based on fire, drought and water management pressures, Ventura (April 2019) and Sonoma Counties (September 2019) were selected for 2019 to inform the statewide meeting framework.

Please feel free to join us for the statewide Localizing Ca Waters in Yosemite National Park at Rush Creek and Evergreen Lodges, November 6-9, 2019. Registration will open in August.

Thank you to our Supporters:

CA Governor's Office of Planning and Research
Cachuma Resource Conservation District
City of Ojai
Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District
CreekLands
FiveStar - A/V
Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency
Ojai Chautauqua
Ojai Valley Land Conservancy
Project Water Efficiency Trust (WET)
Quantum Spatial
South Coast Habitat Restoration
The Water Institute
United States Forest Service
Ventura County Resource Conservation District
Ventura River Watershed Council
Ventura River Water District
Watershed Coalitions of Ventura County

Thank you to our Sponsors:



OJAI VALLEY INN & SPA



LOCALIZING CALIFORNIA WATERS

VENTURA TO SLO REGIONAL WATER SUMMIT



MONDAY APRIL 29, 2019 MOVING FORWARD: A SHARED WATER VISION OJAI VALLEY INN FARMHOUSE

- 7:30 Registration: Coffee-Tea Reception
8:00 **Chumash Opening:** Julie Tumamait-Stenslie
- 8:10 **Welcome Address:** Alex Kim, General Manager, Ojai Valley Inn | Johnny Johnston, Mayor, City of Ojai
- 8:20 **KEYNOTE 1: Power of the Shared Water Vision:** Felicia Marcus, SWRCB (Former Chair)
- 8:50 **KEYNOTE 2: Water Availability and Climate in Tight Places:** Jay Famiglietti, Director of the Global Institute for Water Security at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, Canada.
- 9:20 **KEYNOTE 3: What is a Healthy Resilient Community:** Trathen Heckman, Executive Director, Daily Acts
Keynote Panel Discussion Follow Up
- 10:00 **Shared Water Priorities:** Debbie Franco, CA Governor's Office of Planning and Research | Lynn Rodriguez, Ventura IRWM
- 10:30 **BREAK**
- Aligning Our Approaches: Regional Toolkit Showcase**
- 10:45 **Benefits of the Diverse Localizing Water Toolkit:** Brock Dolman, The Water Institute
- 11:15 **Dispelling Water Myths of the Central Coast:** Jamie Whiteford, Senior Scientist, Ventura County RCD
- 11:30 **Discussion Roundtable I:
Tools of the Tri-County Workhorses: New Strategies of the Land Trust Community and RCD**
Moderator: Rachel Couch, Coastal Conservancy
Panel Members: Devin Best, Salinas - Las Tablas RCD | Bruce Reitherman, SB Land Trust | Anna Olsen, Cachuma Resource Conservation District | Jamie Whiteford, Ventura County Resource Conservation District | Brian Stark, Ojai Valley Land Conservancy | Hallie Richard, SLO Coastal Resource Conservation District | Derek Poultney, Executive Director, Ventura Land Trust
- Problem Statement:** Building trust with landowner willingness is critical for implementation of effective tools. However regulatory agency unfunded, lack of direct communication and multiple water based mandates can create misunderstanding, distrust and a philosophy of non-willingness by many landowners, organizations, water districts and public organizations to rise to the level. With voluntary (not regulatory) practices being at the central core of Land Trust and RCD organizations, what can these two little known workhorses do to ease pathways for regulatory and landowner success?
- 12:15 **LUNCH ON SITE**
- 1:00 **Toolkit Showcase Part I
General Planning Session: Relevant Planning Consideration for the Tri-County Region**

MONDAY APRIL 29, 2019 MOVING FORWARD: A SHARED WATER VISION OJAI VALLEY INN FARMHOUSE

- 1:00 **Presentation Panel: Water Budgets and Equitable Water Rate Planning**
Moderator: Martha Davis, Project WET, Mono Lake Committee (retired)
Panel Members: Tom Ash, Inland Empire Utilities Agency, DWR Volunteer Advisor (retired) | Wayne Tate, Eagle Aerial | David Pederson, GM Las Virgenes MWD | Bert Rapp GM, Ventura River WD
- Problem Statement:** Water demand has declined significantly over the past twenty years and the trend will continue even with future population growth. Water budgets are a valuable tool for understanding water needs across many sectors, but especially for developing pro-active water rate structures that are equitable and improve local revenue stability while discouraging water waste.
- 1:45 **Presentation Panel: Relevant Studies/Tools You Can Use for the Tri-County Region
Integrated Water Strategies, SB Blueprint, Ojai City Comparative Analysis; Fire Flood Forum**
Moderator: Dustin Pearce, Conservation Biology Institute
Panel Members: Chet Work, SB Land Trust | Jason White, South Coast Habitat Restoration | Steph Wald, CreekLands | Aja Bulla-Richards, Watershed Progressive
- 2:30 **BREAK**
- 2:45 **Water Break Activity:** Meg West, Meg West Design
- 3:00 **Discussion Roundtable II:
Permitting Sustainability: Building Tools in Partnership**
Moderator: Trathen Heckman, Executive Director, Daily Acts
Panel Members: Art Ludwig, Oasis Design | Bill Kelley, Marin County CBO | Larry Fay, SB County EH Director | Kathy Nolan, Ojai Planning Commissioner | Das Williams, SB County Supervisor
- Problem Statement:** There is not an adequate framework for innovation in California's built environment. Regulatory barriers preclude structures which do not meet *current* codes. Thus, the initial development of much of California's green codes was done in the shadows without permits (greywater, solar, straw bale, etc). This workaround precludes direct collaboration between innovators, policymakers, regulators and researchers. Innovations take decades to make it into code, typically in a form that does not reflect best practice. Now that climatic constants are becoming variables, we need to respond nimbly and effectively with innovative tools and state of the art codes for: stormwater/wastewater reuse, green fire-resistant infrastructure, and neighborhood scale stormwater LID.
- 3:45 **Toolkit Showcase Part II: Creative Real Tools, on the Ground
Alternative Strategies for Stream Flows:** Adam Ballard, Wildlife Conservation Board Instream Flow Program | Steph Wald, Creeklands | Devin Best, USLTRCD
- Agricultural Meets the Backyard: Out of the Box Solutions:** Allegra Roth, Community Environmental Council | Curtis Castle, Santa Monica City | James Wiekling, DWR Flood MAR
- 5:00 **Toolkit Showcase II Panel Discussion and Wrap up**
- 5:30-7:30 **No-host Reception & Poster Session** (Please see Poster Titles on following page)

LOCALIZING CALIFORNIA WATERS

VENTURA TO SLO REGIONAL WATER SUMMIT



TUESDAY APRIL 30, 2019

APPLYING THE TOOLS: VENTURA RIVER WATERSHED WORKSHOP
OJAI VALLEY INN FARMHOUSE

TUESDAY APRIL 30, 2019

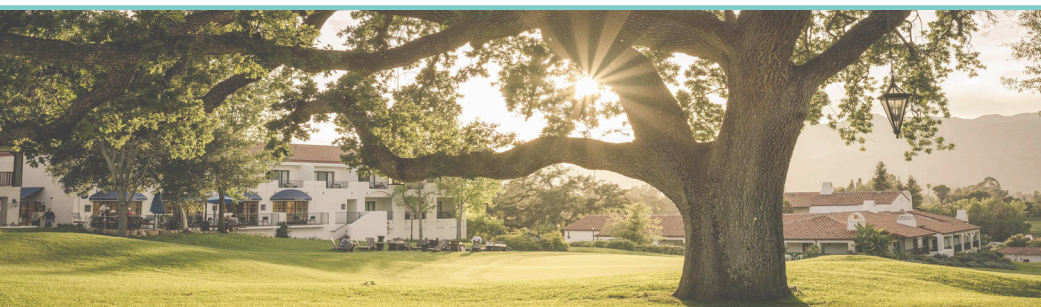
APPLYING THE TOOLS: VENTURA RIVER WATERSHED WORKSHOP
OJAI VALLEY INN FARMHOUSE

- 8:00 **Chumash Opening:** *Julie Tumamait-Stenslie*
- 8:10 **KEYNOTE: Collaboration is Key: Three Forces Shaping California's Water Supply, and Why Creative Collaborations are the Critical Element in Responding:** *Erik Ekdahl, Deputy Director, Division of Water Rights, SWRCB*
- 8:45 **Roundtable Discussion I: Crossing Silos**
Working Together, Stronger to Pick up the Pace for Collaborative & Locally Based Frameworks & Tools
Moderator: Cheryl Dahle, Flip Labs
Members: Debbie Franco, CA Governor's Office of Research & Planning | Martha Davis, Project WET | Eric Wesselman, FOR | Bruce Kuebler, Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency | Erin Ragazzi, SWRCB
- 9:45 **Roundtable Discussion II: Changing the Frame: Building Bridges to WET Water with Multiple Benefits**
Moderator: Bob Wilkinson, UCSB
Panel Members: Jordan Kear, Kear Groundwater | Sean Anderson, CSU Channel Islands | John Krist, VC Farm Bureau | Richard Hajas, Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency | Johnny Johnston, Mayor, Ojai City
- 10:45 **BREAK**
- 11:00 **FACILITATED WORKSHOP I: Applied Approaches to a Healthy Resilient Watershed**
Facilitator: Cheryl Dahle, Flip Labs
- 11:35 *Breakouts and rotation of Stations*
- NOON **LUNCH ON SITE**

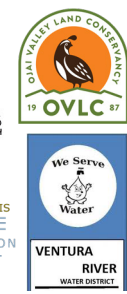
- 1:00 **Roundtable Discussion: Nuts and Bolts of Supporting Collaborative Frameworks & Shared Values**
Moderator: Tom Hicks, Hicks Law
Panel Members: Dan Worth, Senior Environmental Scientist, SWRCB | Kevin Delano, Geologist, SWRCB | Nicole Kuenzi, Attorney, SWRCB | Erinn Wilson, CDFW | Randy Rodriguez, CDFW | Carmel Brown, Financial Assistance Branch Chief, DWR
- 2:00 **FACILITATED WORKSHOP I: Getting to WET Water: The Action Plan for Ventura Watershed**
Facilitator: Cheryl Dahle, Flip Labs
Agency Staff to be on hand to answer questions and clarify tools in breakout sessions.
- 3:30 **BREAK**
- 3:45 **FACILITATED WORKSHOP II: Bringing it all Together: Summary of Combined and Regional Actions**
Panel of Distinguished Guests: CA State Agency staff, technical experts, and participants to give input on Action Planning next steps and barriers to be removed.
- 4:30 **Next Steps: Resolution and Clarification of Action Items for all participants**
Lynn Rodriguez, IRWM | Lexi Ballinger, VCRCO | Ventura River Watershed Council
- 4:45 **Chumash Closing:** *Julie Tumamait-Stenslie*

Monday at 5:30pm - Poster Session & Reception - Poster Titles: *Note: This is not a comprehensive list. Additional Posters will be presented.

- Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Project- Estuarine & Coastal Modeling
- Ventura River Watershed Council Mgmt Plan
- Climate Change, Regenerative Agriculture and Soil Health
- Measuring Landcover for Agencies
- Meeting Efficiency Targets & Revenue Stability
- Lead Detection for Customers
- Agency/System Leak Detection
- The Development of the Stormwater Resource Plans for Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties
- Ventura River Watershed Modeling Groundwater/Surface Water Interactions and Investigating Nutrients Impacts from Septic Systems
- Thacher School Water Resiliency Plan
- Ojai Valley Inn Water Resiliency Plan
- Financial Assistance for Regional Stakeholders and Tribes
- Intergrated Water Strategies for SB and Ventura County
- City of Ojai Reduced Consumptive Use and Recharge Analysis
- Framework for Instream Flow and Water Security in VRW
- Landowner Resiliency Program
- CCC Prop 68
- WCB Instream Flow Program
- CDFW 1600 Water Rights Permitting
- SWRCB Surface Groundwater Model
- Post-fire Monolithic Adobe Stress Testing
- Rehydrating Landscapes with Beaver
- Shaping Watersheds with Augmented Reality Interactive Technology
- Flood MAR: Recharging Groundwater Supplies, Dependent Ecosystems and Agricultural Incentives
- Natural Resources Conservation Services



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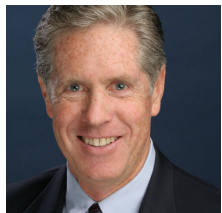
LOCALIZING CALIFORNIA WATERS

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Dr. Sean Anderson

Dr. Sean Anderson is a broadly trained ecologist and conservation biologist who works on a variety of coastal zone management issues across California, Louisiana, the South Pacific, and Middle East often in water-stressed settings. Sean chairs the Environmental Science and Resource Management Program at California State University Channel Islands and is an elected or appointed member of numerous state, federal, and international governmental and scientific advisory boards.



Tom Ash

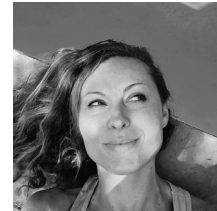
Tom Ash has 30 years of experience in the fields of water use efficiency, sustainable water rates, public education and horticulture. Tom was the UC liaison to water agencies in southern California starting in 1987. Tom was instrumental in the design and implementation of the first water budget rate structure agencies (IRWD, 1991). Tom has advised the American Water Works Association (AWWA), the State of California, regional and local water authorities in California, was a guest lecturer in Australia during the millennial drought (12 years), advised the US Drought Policy Task Force in 2003-04, assisted business, the landscape industry and water agencies and university researchers in North Carolina, Colorado, Hawaii, Oregon, Utah, and Texas during droughts. He has assisted 15 agencies on the design, public outreach and implementation of financially successful, publicly popular and sustainable water budget rates. Tom is newly retired from the Inland Empire Utility Agency as a Senior Environmental Planner.

Adam Ballard

Adam is the Program Manager for the Wildlife Conservation Board's Stream Flow Enhancement Program. This statewide grant program was developed following voter approval of the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1), which allocated \$200,000,000 to the Wildlife Conservation Board to fund projects that result in enhanced stream flows. He has a bachelor's degree in biological sciences from California State University, Sacramento.

Devin Best

Devin has a degree in Ethnobotany from Humboldt State University. He started his career working in the Americorps Watershed Stewards Project in Northern California. Following his time in Northern California, he moved back to San Luis Obispo County and worked for the California Conservation Corps as a GIS Supervisor and then for the California Department of Fish Wildlife as an Environmental Specialist. He continued to build upon his experience in natural resource management and biological population monitoring and modeling in the Pacific Northwest, as well as developing his skills in watershed restoration, permit coordination, and non-profit leadership. Devin is a strong advocate for community stewardship, collaboration, and ecological restoration.



Aja Bulla-Richards

Aja is Associate Creative Director of Watershed Progressive, an experienced architectural and landscape architectural designer, and an educator. She brings her various backgrounds to work at the intersection between vast social, and ecological challenges and everyday experience. Her passion for designing environmentally and culturally sustainable water systems has lead her to work with multiple universities and communities as well as in architecture, landscape and urban design firms in LA, Berkeley, Oakland, and Ojai CA as well as Berlin Germany, and Charlottesville VA. Aja holds a Master of Architecture and a Master of Landscape Architecture from the University of Virginia, and an MSArch in Dry Lands Design from the Arid Lands Institute. She joined Watershed Progressive to work on regenerative site design, and demonstration projects that perform across scales, catalyzing a paradigm shift that re-imagines our relationship with natural & constructed water cycles helping adapt communities and regions to build a more resilient future.



Carmel Brown

Carmel Brown is the Financial Assistance Branch Chief with the Division of Integrated Regional Water Management at the CA Department of Water Resources (DWR). DWR's Financial Assistance Branch provides millions of dollars in grants for integrated regional water management (IRWM), sustainable groundwater, and water-energy projects implemented by regional stakeholders across California to address myriad water challenges and adapt to climate change. Her team recently opened the Round 1 Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation Grant solicitation process which will provide over \$200 million in grants for projects implemented through the 48 established IRWM groups in the state, including the local program managed by the Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County. In addition, Ms. Brown's team is developing the Proposition 68 solicitation process to provide over \$46 million in grants for the development of Groundwater Sustainability Plans and related projects; DWR will begin accepting applications for those grants later this spring. Prior to joining DWR in 2013, Ms. Brown worked for nearly 30 years in the private environmental consulting world, providing watershed and integrated water management services to local government agencies, water purveyors, environmental organizations and watershed groups in California and Oregon. She helped her clients secure State and Federal funding to complete a variety of watershed protection programs built on a strong foundation of public engagement and collaboration.



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Curtis Castle

Curtis Castle is a Principal Civil Engineer for the City of Santa Monica. He currently serves as the City's Watershed Manager and also oversees the Project Development and Land Development Sections within the City's Civil Engineering Division. Over the past eight years, working for Santa Monica has afforded Curtis the opportunity to work on a variety of projects in different capacities ranging from managing the construction of pier and bridge projects to programming and delivering the infrastructure portion of the City's Capital Improvement Program. Prior to Santa Monica, he spent eight years at the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works working in the Design Division (highway design), Programs Development Division (CEQA/NEPA clearance) and the Environmental Programs Division (underground storage tanks). Growing up and attending college in the desert city of El Paso, Texas, the significance of water capture, reuse, and conservation are important to him both professionally and personally.

Rachel Couch

Rachel Couch works with the California Coastal Conservancy's Central Coast Program, where she focuses on coastal climate change adaptation and collaboration, and providing funding and technical assistance for coastal access, watershed and wetland restoration, land acquisitions and other conservation projects. She has worked for the Conservancy for nearly 12 years and is based in Santa Barbara.

Cheryl Dahle

Cheryl Dahle is an entrepreneur and journalist who works at the intersection of business and social change. Along with a team of designers, scientists, researchers and entrepreneurs, she creates and tests new ways to solve large-scale, systemic problems. Dahle is founder and CEO of Flip Labs, a transition design firm. The company's first foray into systems work was tackling the global problem of overfishing through its Future of Fish initiative, which Dahle led for ten years. The project became a non-profit innovation hub that supports the collective impact of entrepreneurs whose ideas help end overfishing. Future of Fish was one of two national finalists in the 2012 Buckminster Fuller Challenge, which recognizes insightful systemic approaches to ending the world's most complex problems. Dahle is also a Distinguished Adjunct of Professional Practice at The School of Design at Carnegie Mellon University.



Ms. Martha Davis

Martha Davis retired in late 2017 from her position as Assistant General Manager/Executive Manager for Policy Development at the Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA). Since 2000, Ms. Davis led many of the Agency's award-winning planning and green programs including initiatives promoting water efficiency, renewable energy, storm water capture, recycled water and climate resiliency. Ms. Davis continues to serve on the board of directors of the California Section of the WaterReuse Association, and on the boards of the Mono Lake Committee, Sierra Institute for Community and Environment, the Community Water Center, the Rose Foundation Northern California Grassroots Fund, and the recently established Water Efficiency Trust. Previously, Ms. Davis served as the Executive Director for Californians and the Land (1998-2000) and for the Mono Lake Committee (1984-1996). Under her leadership, the Mono Lake campaign culminated in a unanimous landmark public trust decision by the State Water Resources Control Board to protect Mono Lake. Ms. Davis graduated from Stanford University cum laude with a degree in human biology and received her master's degree from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. She is the recipient of an honorary PhD in Public Policy from the Kennedy College in Oakland, California.

Kevin DeLano

Kevin DeLano is a geologist in the Instream Flow Unit, Division of Water Rights, State Water Board. Under the California Water Action Plan, the Instream Flow Unit is modeling watersheds and engaging stakeholders to develop instream flow policy while considering the water supply needs of local communities. Kevin is the unit lead for the Ventura River Watershed. He manages the day to day of the State Water Board's Ventura River Watershed groundwater-surface water modeling project. Kevin is committed to sound and transparent science. He leads outreach efforts to the Ventura River Watershed Council and a local Technical Advisory Committee. Kevin has two degrees (in Fahrenheit).

Brock Dolman

Brock Dolman is a wildlife biologist and is nationally recognized as a restoration ecologist and renowned innovator in watershed management and Permaculture design. Brock integrates wildlife biology, native California botany and watershed ecology with education about regenerative human settlement design for societal transformation. Brock co-founded the Sowing Circle, LLC Intentional Community & Occidental Arts and Ecology Center (OAEC) where he continues to reside and act as co-director of OAEC's Permaculture/Resilient Community Design Program, Wildlands Program and WATER Institute. He has taught Permaculture and consulted on regenerative project design and implementation in 15 countries and widely in the U.S. He has been the keynote presenter at numerous conferences and is featured in the award-winning films *The 11th Hour* by Leonardo DiCaprio, *The Call of Life* by Species Alliance, and *Permaculture: A Quiet Revolution* by Vanessa Shultz. Brock graduated with honors from the University of California Santa Cruz in Agro-Ecology and Conservation Biology.



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Erik Ekdahl

Erik Ekdahl is the Deputy Director for the State Water Board's Division of Water Rights. The Division is responsible for establishing and maintaining a stable system of water rights to develop, conserve, and beneficially use the water resources of the State, while protecting vested rights, water quality, and the environment. Erik joined the State Water Board in 2008, where he focused on nitrate and groundwater contamination. He has worked in the Board's Division of Financial Assistance, Division of Water Quality, and as Director for the Board's Office of Research, Planning and Performance, which is responsible for developing and implementing the Board's requirements under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) and implementing water conservation efforts during the drought. Erik is a licensed Engineering Geologist, with a Ph.D in Geology from the University of Michigan.



Jay Famiglietti

Jay Famiglietti is a professor of hydrology and Executive Director of the Global Institute for Water Security at the University of Saskatchewan, where he holds the Canada 150 Research Chair in Hydrology and Remote Sensing. Before moving to USask, Famiglietti served as the Senior Water Scientist at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. His research group uses satellites and develops advanced computer models to track how freshwater availability is changing around the globe. A fellow of the American Geophysical Union and the Geological Society of America, Famiglietti is a regular advisor to state, provincial and federal government officials on water security issues. He was appointed by California Governor Jerry Brown to the Santa Ana and Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Boards.

Lawrence Fay

Larry has more than thirty five years of Environmental Public Health experience including 7 years in Santa Barbara County, 7 years in Park County, Colorado and 22 years in Washington State. Larry has a strong interest in onsite wastewater treatment and reuse as well as rainwater harvest systems. He has worked on a number of innovative projects from a permitting perspective including the Bullitt Center, The Berschi School Science Wing in Seattle and in artisanal food production. In 1997 Larry wrote what may be the first policy for rainwater harvesting for portable purposes in the state of Washington. Larry has been the Environmental Health Services Director for Santa Barbara County Public Health since October, 2012.



Debbie Franco

Debbie Franco is the community and rural affairs advisor in the California Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR). She works on a range of issues related to water and to rural communities. Debbie was a member of the Governor's Drought Task Force, part of the team that developed the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, and co-leads the Wood Utilization/Rural Economic Development Steering Committee. Before joining OPR, Debbie served as the policy director at the Environmental Justice Coalition for Water. She holds a master's degree in social ecology from the University of California, Irvine, and a bachelor's degree from the University of California, Davis



Mauricio Gomez

Moe is the Director of South Coast Habitat Restoration (SCHR). SCHR is based in Carpinteria and has been a fiscally sponsored project of Earth Island Institute, a non-profit organization, for the past 11 years. Moe graduated from UCSB in Aquatic Biology in 1998 and has been working in the natural sciences ever since. He worked at UCSB as a Staff Researcher in a Biological Oceanography lab and with the Habitat Restoration group where he learned about native plants, water quality and species conservation. He started SCHR in 2008 and has been restoring creeks/ivers in Ventura and Santa Barbara counties since. He volunteers on the Board of the Citizens for the Carpinteria Bluffs and for the California Society for Ecological Restoration. He lives in Carpinteria and enjoys spending time with his wife and their 11 year old son hiking Franklin Trail, walking our local beaches and cooking.

Richard H. Hajas

Richard Hajas has been involved in the management of water and wastewater for over 40 years. He has managed the operations and maintenance of two major water districts in Ventura County and has provided management consulting services to other local agencies. His water resource planning experience includes chairing the steering committee for development of the Calleguas Creek Watershed Plan encompassing four major cities, thousands of acres of prime agricultural land and valuable wetlands in Ventura County. Beginning in 2007 he used his experience to assist the Ojai community effort to replace the CPUC regulated water company, Golden State Water. He authored a feasibility analysis of the acquisition, which became the basis for the eventual sale of the water company to Casitas Municipal Water District. He authored the "Cooperative Regional Approach to Improving Ventura County's Water Supply Reliability" (aka, 3 Sisters Plan) as a member of the Ojai Valley Water Advisor Group. He currently serves on the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency Board of Directors. He and his wife Sandy have lived in the Valley for 40 years, raised two sons, and



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Trathen Heckman

Trathen Heckman is the founder and Director of Daily Acts Organization. He serves on the Board of California Water Efficiency Partnership, is on the steering committee of the Community Resilience Collaborative and is engaged in a range of sustainability and resilience-focused networks and alliances. Trathen helps people and groups reclaim the power of their actions to regenerate self, nature and community. He lives in the Petaluma River Watershed where he grows food, medicine and wonder while working to compost apathy and lack.



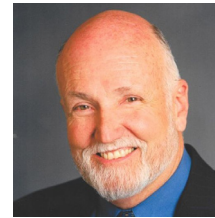
Tom Hicks

Tom Hicks is a California water law, real property, and conservation attorney who represents a variety of public interest organizations, landowners, and others on select public policy, transactional, administrative, regulatory, and litigation matters. Before law school Tom was an energy and water policy analyst at the Natural Heritage Institute and the founder and Executive Director of the Headwaters Institute. He has interned at the San Francisco Office of the City Attorney, California State Water Resources Control Board, and American Rivers. Tom founded and chaired the inaugural California Water Law Symposium sponsored by leading northern California law schools and is a Board member. He is the author of the Water Education Foundation Layperson's Guide to Water Rights Law, recognized as the most thorough explanation of California water rights law available to non-lawyers. Tom is a former whitewater raft guide, kayaker, and Colorado Outward Bound School instructor. He holds a JD from the University of San Francisco School of Law and a BA from the University of Vermont.



Regina Hirsch

Regina Hirsch is dedicated to bringing appropriate best management solutions for healthy, resilient communities, starting with common ground solutions in neighborhoods as well as at a watershed scale. After getting the watershed monitoring bug at the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Board and the Morro Bay National Estuary Program, she moved to the Sierra Nevada for a different approach to reaching people and assessing effectiveness of non-point source pollution treatments. Regina founded Watershed Progressive, a consulting/contracting firm which focuses on onsite water best management practices aimed at rehydrating watersheds for healthy, resilient communities. Since 2009, Watershed Progressive has helped incubate, model, design and install projects throughout California and the arid West, restoring habitat and aiming to increase watershed hydrologic recharge functionality through water conservation, infiltration, and reuse. Living up near Yosemite, Regina is an avid kayaker, backpacker, and in her spare time, an executive board member of various organizations, such as The Telele Foundation, California Onsite Water Association and founder of Localizing California Waters. Knowing that what people can do on their own land is what can make the difference, Regina spends most her time getting the good word on creative, easy to implement, collaborative water solutions.



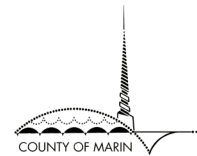
Johnny Johnston

Mayor Johnston is a 48 year resident of the Ojai Valley. He carries an MPA from the University of Southern California. He is a retired CEO from County of Ventura, and is currently serving a second term as the elected Mayor of the City of Ojai. Mayor Johnston's top priorities are Climate Change, Water Security, and Fire Safety.



Jordan Kear

Driven by a passion for all things water and the mystery of geological science, Jordan Kear is about as "dyed-in-the-wool" of a hydrogeologist as they come. From early childhood oilfield explorations and drought-conscious sandbox play to running Kear Groundwater's international projects, Jordan's detailed observations and intuition for water resource geology has been a lifelong pursuit. Armed with a BS in Geological Sciences from UC Santa Barbara, an MS in geology from CSU Northridge, licensure as a Professional Geologist and certification as a hydrogeologist, Jordan seeks to learn from each new well bore, geologic mapping day, stream reconnaissance, aquifer test, or other activity. Despite a quarter century of this work, it never gets old.



Bill Kelley

Bill Kelley has 47 years construction experience as a tradesman, contractor, building designer and code official. He has 16 years experience as an ICC certified building official, serving for 11 years as Chief Building Official for Marin County. Bill is a former President of the County Building Officials Association of California. He is a Chair of the California Building Officials State Licensing Boards Committee, and a California State Association of Counties Institute fellow. He's the principal author of AB 2335 (2008 Nakanishi Owner-Builder Permits 19825 H&S) as well as number local ordinances and codes.



Alex Kim

Alex Kim is a hotel executive with three decades of hospitality industry experience. Kim was born in South Korea and immigrated to Miami, FL in 1982. Kim attended Florida International University with Hotel Management Degree. After graduating from College in 1989, Mr. Kim began his hotel industry career as a Corporate Management Trainee, at Hyatt Regency. He held a variety of management responsibilities during his tenure at the Hyatt. Kim continued his career in hotel business St. Regis Bal Harbour, Florida, La Quinta Resort in La Quinta, California, Atlantis Paradise Island Bahamas, One & Only Ocean Club Bahamas, and most recently Meadowood Napa Valley. Currently he is a Managing Director of Ojai Valley Inn since January 2015. Kim has been married for 23 years and three children.

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John Krist

John Krist is chief executive officer of the Farm Bureau of Ventura County. As CEO, he is responsible for managing the nonprofit organization's staff, daily operations and finances. He recommends policy to the organization's Board of Directors, implements board directives, and represents the interests of the membership at legislative and regulatory hearings. He also serves as the organization's liaison with the news media, as well as with numerous community organizations and groups. Before joining the Farm Bureau in February 2008, Mr. Krist worked as a reporter, editor and Opinion-page columnist at the Ventura County Star for more than 24 years. He is the author of three books about California's parks and wilderness areas.

Bruce Kuebler

Bruce has been an Oak View resident since 1999. He is a retired Civil Engineer with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, where he was involved with water supply planning, water quality, distribution system maintenance, water conservation, environmental analyses, water rights, and organizational management. Bruce was appointed to the Ventura River Water District (VRWD) Board in May 2013. He was elected in November 2013, and re-elected in 2016. He represents VRWD on the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency, which he helped form beginning in 2014, and has been Board Chair since its inception in January 2017.

Nicole Kuenzi

Nicole Kuenzi is senior staff counsel at the Office of Chief Counsel for the State Water Resources Control Board, where she advises the Groundwater Management Unit and the Division of Water Rights. Nicole is a graduate of Yale Law School and clerked on the United States Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals. Nicole practiced water law at a private firm in Denver, Colorado, before returning to her home state of California and joining the staff of the State Water Board in 2012.

Art Ludwig

Art Ludwig is a leading developer of innovative best practices, how-to information, and regulations for water efficiency, alternate water supply, and water reuse. In 2012, Art hosted a landmark sustainability policy colloquium that brought together leading innovators with heads of building and health departments. He was invited to give a keynote at the County Building Officials Association of California conference that year, where he introduced a quantitative analysis of top historic and emerging hazards attributable to the built environment. This data spotlights a key challenge for our era: the hazards that current regulations prevent are dwarfed by newer hazards that regulations do not yet address. Art is currently working on permitting for demonstration sites which unite innovators, policy makers, regulators, and researchers in direct collaboration on innovative solutions to meet this challenge.

Felicia Marcus

Felicia Marcus has most recently served as a Member and Chair of the California State Water Resources Control Board, appointed by Governor Jerry Brown. The Board implements both federal and state laws regarding drinking water and water quality, and it implements the state's water rights laws. Before her appointment to the Board, Marcus served in positions in government, the non-profit world, and the private sector. In government, Felicia served as the Regional Administrator of the U.S. EPA Region IX in the Clinton Administration where she worked extensively on the range of environmental issues under EPA's jurisdiction. Prior to that, Felicia headed Los Angeles Department of Public Works at a time when the department went from garnering lawsuits to garnering national awards for environmental initiatives and performance. In the non-profit world, she was the Western Director for the Natural Resources Defense Council, and was the Executive VP/COO of the Trust for Public Land. She was a private and non-profit sector attorney in Los Angeles. She is also currently an Obama Administration appointee to the Commission on Environmental Cooperation-Joint Public Advisory Council and was a Schwarzenegger Administration appointee to the Delta Stewardship Council. She earned her JD in 1983 from New York University and her AB cum laude from Harvard College in East Asian Studies in 1977.

Kathy Nolan

Kathy Nolan is a landscape architect and principle of Studio Landscape, a design, planning and consulting firm, with an emphasis on resilient landscapes. She has been a planning commissioner for the City of Ojai since 2010 where she has chaired the Complete Streets and Landscape Standards/MWELo committees both of which have assisted in developing policy, a master plan and guidelines to meet state and beyond mandate requirements. As a member of the Ojai Tree Committee she co-wrote the Community Forest Management Plan adopted by city council. Being solution oriented as a planning commissioner and design team member, Kathy asks the pressing question 'How do we get something new into the code' especially if it is a benefit to the community, the environment and a sustainable and resilient future.

Dustin Pearce

Dustin Pearce joined the Conservation Biology Institute in December of 2015. His background in geospatial sciences has focused on the interplay of working agricultural lands, natural lands, and renewable energy development in California. Dustin holds a M.E.S.M. from the Bren School of Environmental Science & Management, and a B.S. in Conservation Biology from Arizona State University. His work with the Conservation Biology Institute uses geospatial modeling, remote sensing, online mapping, stakeholder engagement and outreach to help guide conservation planning. Dustin lives and works remotely in Santa Barbara, California.

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David W. Pederson

Dave Pedersen is the General Manager of Las Virgenes Municipal Water District and Administering Agent for the Las Virgenes-Triunfo Joint Powers Authority. In these roles, he serves as the chief executive responsible providing water and sanitation services to approximately 100,000 people in the Conejo/Las Virgenes Valleys. Dave has a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of California, Irvine and a Master's Degree in Business Administration from the California State University, Long Beach. He serves on the Board of Trustees for both the Southern California Water Committee and WaterReuse California.

Derek Poultney

Derek Poultney, Executive Director, joined the Ventura Land Trust in 2010 after 5 years at the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy and five prior years of environmental consulting and field biology work. Derek earned a Master of Science in Environmental Studies from CSU-Fullerton, manages a variety of wetland restoration projects throughout the Ventura River watershed, and leads the Ventura Land Trust's efforts to preserve and improve wildlife habitat and outdoor recreational opportunities throughout Ventura County.

Bert Rapp

Bert Rapp has lived in Ojai for 39 years. He has a BS in Civil Engineering from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. He has worked for 5 years with the Watershed Protection District on levee design, river hydraulics and hydrology, and for 20 years with the City of Fillmore as City Engineer and Public Works Director. He was involved with potable water systems, sanitary sewer systems, stormwater treatment and management, traffic control and street maintenance, and flood control. Bert spent 8 years with the Ventura River Water District as General Manager. He is married, with four children.

Bruce Reitherman

Bruce Reitherman came to the Land Trust for Santa Barbara County in 2012, and was promoted to Conservation Director in 2015. He discovered his passion for wildlife, wilderness travel, land conservation and reliance on the bare necessities early in life. After his graduation from U.C. Berkeley in 1977, he spent more than two decades traveling on six continents, as he pursued his interest in the natural world by producing and/or shooting nearly twenty prime-time television nature documentaries broadcast by the BBC, PBS, National Geographic and others. The birth of his daughter in 2013 compelled a desire to work closer to home, and to refocus his interests on local biology and conservation. His duties at the Land Trust now include management of acquisition projects, conservation easement negotiation and landowner outreach, as well as supervision of scientific document preparation and review, field surveys, compliance monitoring, habitat restoration, and in-house research.

Hallie Richard

Hallie has been progressing conservation with the Coastal San Luis RCD for over 3 years. Her accomplishments with the RCD include the development of a remediation plan for the Oso Flaco Watershed, research and development for an innovative De-Nitrifying Bioreactor trial, and the implementation of a residential LID program throughout SLO County. Prior to working with the RCD, Hallie's career in conservation included soil health and water quality enhancement projects with the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) in rural Utah, as well as water and sanitation projects in Panama as a Peace Corps volunteer.

Lynn Rodriguez

Lynn Rodriguez has been a water resource professional for 38 years, focusing on water use efficiency, urban water management and Integrated Regional Water Management in Ventura and Santa Barbara counties. For the past 14 years she has managed the Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County (WCVC) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program. In collaboration with stakeholders in the region, she prepares and oversees IRWM plans, assists in oversight of IRWM grants, and manages ongoing stakeholder engagement within WCVC. She serves as co-chair of both the statewide IRWM Roundtable of Regions and the LA-Ventura Area Disadvantaged Community Involvement Task Force. She has served on numerous local, statewide and national committees addressing water management issues and is a graduate of UCSB. She is passionate about water issues and loves the outdoors.

Allegra Roth

Allegra Roth has a background in environmental policy analysis and a passion for developing a more just and regenerative food system. Before joining CEC, she worked for the California State Assembly, both as a District Representative in Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties, and as a Legislative Aide in the State Capitol, specializing in water and agricultural policy development, group facilitation, and multi-stakeholder outreach. At the Community Environmental Council, Allegra works as a Food and Climate Program Associate, promoting soil health as a tool for agricultural and community resiliency, and addressing regulatory barriers to organic waste management and agroecological land management strategies. Allegra graduated from the University of California at Davis with a B.S. in Community and Regional Development, and has a certificate in Environmental Horticulture from Santa Barbara City College. Allegra joined the Board of the Cachuma Resource Conservation District as an Associate Director in December 2018.

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Brian Stark

Brian Stark is the Executive Director of the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy and former Executive Director at the Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County. In 25 years of land conservation work he has developed successful programs for greenbelt conservation, fisheries habitat and oak woodlands restoration, conservation land management, fundraising, and organizational management. Brian's love of the outdoors and nature are an outgrowth of many summers spent hiking, fishing, and riding on the family ranch in Nebraska, backpacking trips with friends, and travel throughout the Americas. Brian has been with the OVLC for 9 years and he appreciates the strong support for local conservation here in the Ojai Valley. Outside of the office, Brian serves as a member of the Conejo Open Space Trails Action Committee and as Board President for the Conejo Open Space Foundation.

Wayne Tate

Wayne Tate is the founder and President of Eagle Aerial Solutions. He has a B.A. Degree in Business from CSUF & a Masters Degree in psychology from USM. Mr. Tate's 25+ years of experience in aerial mapping and geospatial analysis has enabled him to provide creative and practical solutions for a variety of clients, from small engineering firms to the Federal Government. He has experience managing numerous aerial imagery and remote sensing programs, including many land classification analyses projects in support of water district conservation efforts. He is currently overseeing one of the largest remote sensing mapping projects ever undertaken: a state-wide mapping and remote sensing land classification and water conservation project for the California Department of Water Resources, where he has worked with his team and partners to develop new, cutting edge approaches to accurately measure the irrigated landscape for every residential parcel in California.

Julie Tumamait-Stenslie

Commissioner Julie Tumamait-Stenslie is the chairperson of the Barbareno / Ventureño Band of Mission Indians. Commissioner Tumamait-Stenslie is a respected elder, singer, storyteller, and Cultural Resource Consultant/Advisor. She is a member of the Board of Trustees for the Ojai Valley Historical Society and Museum, the Board of Trustees and California Indian Advisory Committee for the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, and the University of California at Santa Barbara's Committee on the "Repatriation" of Native American ceremonial artifacts. Commissioner Tumamait-Stenslie currently serves on the Ojai Valley Museum Board of Trustees as well as the Oakbrook Chumash Interpretative Center Board. She has served as a consultant for Chumash Cultural Services since 1985. Commissioner Tumamait-Stenslie is an artist that uses native materials to create her jewelry, musical instruments, and basketry. She continues to practice and teach her native language.



Steph Wald

Steph has been with Creek Lands since 2003 developing steelhead-centric watershed management plans for coastal watersheds in Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo and Monterey Counties with partner agencies and organizations. She received her education at State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse, NY, and University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Fall, IA. In addition to her experience with Creek Lands, Steph has taught at Cal Poly, Allan Hancock College and Cuesta College, and directed the Santa Maria Valley Discovery Museum. Two of her favorite completed Creek Lands projects include the Carmel River Lagoon Large Wood Debris project which included delivering partially built LWD structures to the water by helicopter, and being the facilitator and plan writer for the Big Sur River Watershed Management Plan. Creek Lands is currently the proud proponent of 4 WCB Stream Flow Enhancement Program grants, and is actively engaged in figuring out how to generate a management plan for the Salinas River that covers both San Luis Obispo and Monterey Counties.

Eric Wesselman, Friends of the River (FOR)

As Executive Director since 2014, Eric works to advance FOR's mission to protect, restore, and sustain California's free flowing rivers through government relations, education, and citizen engagement. This increasingly involves promoting innovative, sustainable, and climate resilient water solutions. Prior to FOR Eric served as the Executive Director of the Tuolumne River Trust (TRT) for eight years, managed western water and energy policy at the Sierra Club in San Francisco, promoted clean energy and climate action at the Union of Concerned Scientists in Washington, D.C., and served as the chair of the California Urban Water Conservation Council in 2005. Eric holds a MS degree from Johns Hopkins University in Environmental Science and a BS degree in Conservation and Natural Resource Studies from the University of California at Berkeley.

Randy Rodriguez

Mr. Rodriguez has over 20 years of experience working in the environmental field in southern California (in both the public and private sectors) and has been with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) for the last 11 years. At CDFW, Mr. Rodriguez currently supervises the California Endangered Species Act, California Environmental Quality Act, and Lake and Streambed Alteration programs for Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties as well as the Cannabis program for the entire south coast region (five counties). Mr. Rodriguez received degrees from UC Santa Barbara and UC Los Angeles, and currently lives with his family in Santa Monica, CA.

Meg West

Meg West is a Landscape Architect and former Vice President of the Goleta Water District. She lives in a cabin in the woods at Trillium (www.trilliumoregon.com). She is working on a screenplay about water and will be leading an interactive water story at the conference.



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Jim Wieking

Jim Wieking is a Supervising Engineer for the Department of Water Resources, Statewide Infrastructure Investigations Branch. Jim is a graduate of University of California, Davis and is a Registered Civil Engineer. He has 30 years of water resources planning experience in California. Jim has led, planned, coordinated, and conducted engineering and planning analyses related to water storage, system reoperation, and flood risk reduction, including multi-benefit projects throughout California. Jim has recently led studies in integrated and cooperative reservoir project planning, reservoir reoperation, water available for replenishment, and climate change vulnerability analysis. He is currently supporting DWR's Flood-MAR Program initiative, promoting the use of floodwater, or high flows, for managed aquifer recharge.

Dr. Robert C. Wilkinson

Dr. Robert C. Wilkinson is Adjunct Professor at the Bren School of Environmental Science and Management, and Senior Lecturer Emeritus in the Environmental Studies Program, at the University of California, Santa Barbara. The focus of Dr. Wilkinson's teaching, research, and consulting is on water, energy, and climate policy. Dr. Wilkinson is also a Senior Fellow with the California Council for Science and Technology. He co-chairs the U.S. Sustainable Water Resources Roundtable, advises government agencies, NGOs, and businesses in the US and abroad, and he serves on a number of advisory boards.

Das Williams

Supervisor Das Williams was elected to represent the First District of Santa Barbara County in June 2016. Williams previously represented the area, along with over half of Santa Barbara County and a quarter of Ventura County in the California State Assembly from 2010-2106. A lifelong advocate for our coast, Williams championed required testing of groundwater before, during, and after hydraulic fracturing, which was included in California's regulations on fracking and authored legislation to expand groundwater monitoring to other types of injection wells to protect underground sources of drinking water from oil and gas wastewater disposal. Williams also took leadership to ensure statewide resources would be spent locally to provide relief from the drought, including securing funds for the Lake Cachuma pump project and supporting funding for water recycling and conservation efforts. Williams holds a Master's degree in Environmental Science & Management, with a focus on water pollution, planning processes, and land-use law at UC Santa Barbara's Bren School of Environmental Science.



Chet Work

Chet has spent the last five years leading The Land Trust for Santa Barbara County with unwavering energy and a keen appreciation for the vast and varied conservation opportunities present in the landscape. Before joining The Land Trust, he spent the better part of ten years working to ensure that family farms and ranches in Wyoming and Idaho continued to thrive in a landscape that has been under significant development pressure. He holds a Masters of Environmental Management from Duke University and conducted post-graduate study in natural history and environmental education at the Teton Science School in Jackson, Wyoming. He is a graduate of the rigorous Executive Leadership Program through the Land Trust Alliance, the umbrella organization for the 1,700 land trusts through-out the country. He is a passionate fly-fisherman and birdwatcher, and is most excited about sharing the local mountains and tide pools with his wife Leigh and three young children. "My passion for conservation is fueled by a desire to see my children enjoy the same wildlife, open space and scenic views I have enjoyed throughout my life," he said.

Daniel Worth

Daniel Worth is a Senior Environmental Scientist at the State Water Board's Division of Water Rights. Daniel supervises the Instream Flow Unit which is working on an effort identified in the California Water Action Plan to enhance instream flows for imperiled anadromous fish species in five priority watersheds. The five watersheds identified for this effort are Mark West Creek (tributary to Russian River), Mill Creek (tributary to Sacramento River), Shasta River (tributary to Klamath River), South Fork Eel River (tributary to Eel River), and Ventura River. Daniel is interested in collaborating with stakeholders to achieve the goals identified in the California Water Action Plan.



ADDITIONAL PANELISTS AND SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

- Anecita Agustinez | DWR
- Lexi Ballinger | Ventura County RCD
- Anna Olsen | Cachuma RCD
- Erin Ragazzi | SWRCB
- Randy Rodriguez | CDFW
- Jamie Whiteford | Ventura County RCD
- Erinn Wilson | CDFW
- Jason White | South Coast Habitat Restoration