



2023

WATER SUSTAINABILITY
SUMMIT

WELCOME

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2023
OXNARD, CA



Welcome to the fourth annual Water Sustainability Summit, where neighboring water agencies, elected officials, legislators and water industry leaders gather together to discuss progressive solutions for managing water supplies in Ventura County.

At this year's summit, we are celebrating a major sustainability milestone: United Water Conservation District (UWCD) has recharged more than 4 million acre-feet of water. This forward-thinking strategy protects Ventura County's water supply through California's weather extremes, shoring up groundwater supplies for reliability during drier years.

Advancing that objective, UWCD's Iron and Manganese Treatment Plant came online in September. A significant achievement for the District and the surrounding region, the plant will improve local water quality and bolster drought resilience.

The plant treats groundwater from the lower aquifer system, combining it with groundwater closer to the surface at the El Rio Water Treatment and Groundwater Recharge Facility. The \$10.32 million plant will process 3,500 gallons of water per minute in its first phase, growing to eventually process up to 8,500 gallons per minute.

Much like this summit, the Iron and Manganese Treatment Plant is a testament to the power of partnerships. The plant's lightning-fast year-and-a-half construction relied on the support of Naval Base Ventura County, U.S. Representative Julia Brownley, State Water Resources Control Board's Division of Drinking Water, Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, as well as a total of \$6.71 million in grant funding from the U.S. Department of Defense Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC) and California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Proposition 1 Integrated Regional Water Management grant program.

Our priority is paving the way to resolve future water scarcity and dependability concerns, and we're grateful to provide a forum for candid, engaging conversations about sustaining Ventura County's residents, farms, environment and economy.

Thank you for attending the 2023 Water Sustainability Summit and fueling the momentum to answer Ventura County's most pressing water needs. Your commitment to our community is invaluable.

Sincerely,

Mauricio Guardado
General Manager, UWCD



AGENDA

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2023

In-person registration still available at RSVP@unitedwater.org; for virtual registration, please go to: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_GoxM6ThGTyyi09GdMRf2lw#/registration

1:00 p.m. WSSIV "IT'S TIME!" – United Water Conservation District (UWCD) General Manager **Mauricio Guardado** will provide an update on achievements since WSSIII including 4 million acre-feet of water recharge since 1927, partner agency agreements for state water purchases, extension of California Department of Water Resources (DWR) flood flow transfers/flood management plan, activation of Ferro Basin (four-year easement from Vulcan), grant funding awards, state and federal legislative efforts, and bringing the Iron and Manganese Treatment Plant online.

1:10 p.m. KEYNOTE ADDRESS
Family Farm Alliance Executive Director **Daniel Keppen**

1:20 p.m. DO WE REALLY NEED AN ADJUDICATION?
Antelope Valley Groundwater Adjudication Case Study with Best Best & Krieger LLP Partner **Eric Garner** and UWCD General Manager **Mauricio Guardado**

2:00 p.m. LIGHTNING ROUND OF BRIEF UPDATES ON SELECTED INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS

Introduction from UWCD Water Resources Supervisor **John Lindquist**

The Best Science Available: Updates, Improvements, and Increased Flexibility of United's Groundwater Flow Models

Presented by UWCD Supervisory Water Resources Engineer **Dr. Jason Sun**

Capturing Every Acre-Foot We Can – Preparing Ferro Basin for Additional Recharge Capacity

Presented by UWCD Assistant General Manager **Anthony Emmert**

Millions in Grant Funding Awarded, Agreements Signed with the Navy, and Drill Rigs Preparing for Mobilization – Does Anyone Still Think the EBB Water Project is "Pie in the Sky?"

Presented by UWCD Chief Engineer and Water Resources Leader **Dr. Maryam Bral** and U.S. Navy Base Ventura County Water Program Manager **Nathan Jacobsen**

2:15 p.m. OPTIMIZING USE OF OUR GROWING WATER PORTFOLIO – Increasing State Water Imports and Transfers, Capturing Record Storm Flows, and Innovations in Recharge
Presented by UWCD Senior Hydrologist **Dr. Bram Sercu**

Continued on page 7.



AGENDA

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2023 *(continued)*

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- 2:25 p.m. IMPROVING REGIONAL RESILIENCY THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS – State Water Project Interconnection Pipeline**
Presented by City of Ventura (Ventura Water) Water Resources Manager **Jennifer Tribo**
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- 2:35 p.m. FREEMAN DIVERSION EXPANSION – Providing Multiple Water Supply and Environmental Benefits in a Changing Climate**
Presented by UWCD Engineering Manager **Craig Morgan**
-
- 2:45 p.m. COLLABORATION PAYS OFF – Recycled Water Use on the Oxnard Plain is Expanding!**
Oxnard's Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) well (part of the GREAT program). Presented by City of Oxnard Engineering Division Manager **Timothy Beaman** and Director of Public Works **Michael Wolfe**; UWCD's Laguna Road Recycled Water Interconnection Pipeline presented by UWCD Principal Engineer **Robert Richardson**
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- 3:05 p.m. SANTA FELICIA DAM PUBLIC SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT – Public Safety and Regulations – Where Do We Draw the Line?**
Presented by UWCD Chief Engineer and Water Resources Leader **Dr. Maryam Bral**
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- 3:15 p.m. WE AREN'T OUT OF THE WOODS YET... The Threat of New Bypass Flow Recommendations to the Region**
Presented by UWCD Hydrologist Supervisor **Murray McEachron**
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- 3:30 p.m. IS RAMPING DOWN THE REGION'S WATER SUPPLY REALLY AN OPTION? The Costs and Benefits of Securing our Water Future**
Presented by UWCD Water Resources Supervisor **John Lindquist**
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- 3:40 p.m. Short Intermission/Stretch Your Legs**
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- 3:45 p.m. LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY**
Moderated by California Strategies and Advocates Partner **Kristin Olsen-Cate**
Panelists: ACWA Legislative Advocate/Attorney **Kris Anderson**
American Water Works Association (AWWA) Vice President - AWWA Water Utility Council **Heather Collins**
Coalition of Labor, Agriculture and Business (CoLAB) Ventura County Executive Director **Louise Lampara**
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- 4:45 p.m. CLOSING REMARKS** UWCD General Manager **Mauricio Guardado**
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- 5:30 – POST SUMMIT RECEPTION AT THE EXCLUSIVE TOWER CLUB**
8:30 p.m. 21st Floor, 300 East Esplanade Drive, Oxnard, 93036
Cocktails, Beer and Wine, Hors d'oeuvres and Spectacular Views
-

MEET THE SPEAKERS



Mauricio Guardado

United Water Conservation District (UWCD),
General Manager

As General Manager of UWCD, Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., leads the District's efforts in protecting, conserving, managing and enhancing the water resources of the Santa Clara River watershed and Oxnard Plain. As the region continues to experience extreme drought conditions, Guardado provides the innovative leadership to spur collaboration with constituents in the agricultural industry and municipalities as well as with neighboring water agencies and private industry in seeking efficient, effective and long-term solutions to ensure the development and execution of reliable "new" water resources. This proactive approach to sustainable water management has led to the creation of the annual Water Sustainability Summit, forged project partnerships with the U.S. Navy, and has resulted in changes to legislative policies on grant eligibility and infrastructure funding from federal agencies.

Guardado joined the District in August 2015 from the Santa Clarita Water division of Castaic Lake Water Agency, where he served for nine years as Retail Manager/CEO. In that position, Guardado was responsible for the management of the division's staff of 60, and its operations as the retail water provider for 120,000 residents in Santa Clarita. Prior to Santa Clarita Water, Guardado served as the Director of Engineering for Cucamonga Valley Water District. He previously held the post of Project Engineer with San Gabriel Valley Water Company.

Guardado, a Registered Civil Engineer in the state of California, earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from California State University, Northridge and a master's degree from University of Southern California's (USC) Executive Master of Leadership Program

MEET THE SPEAKERS



Dan Keppen

Family Farm Alliance, Executive Director

Dan Keppen is Executive Director for the Family Farm Alliance, a non-profit association that advocates for family farmers, ranchers, irrigation districts and allied industries in 17 Western states. He has 34 years of experience in Western water resources engineering and policy matters. Since 1997, he has worked primarily in advocacy positions with the Northern California Water Association, and as executive director of the Klamath Water Users Association. He served one year as special assistant to the Director of the Bureau of Reclamation's Mid-Pacific Region. Prior to that time, Keppen was a water resources engineer for Tehama County, California, and a water resources engineering consultant in Portland, Oregon.

Keppen has testified more than 20 times before congressional committees, primarily on federal environmental, infrastructure and agriculture policy matters. He was invited to represent the Alliance at the 2016 White House Water Summit. Keppen and the Family Farm Alliance played a key leadership role in working with Congress to secure \$8.3 billion for the Bureau of Reclamation in the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and \$4 billion for Western drought relief in the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act. He is a Registered Civil Engineer in California and a past Registered Civil Engineer and water rights examiner in Oregon.

Keppen is a past board member of the Irrigation Association and Clean Water Alliance (now U.S. Water Alliance), a past president of the Klamath County Chamber of Commerce, and a board member of the Klamath County Rotary Club. He is a Rotary Club Paul Harris (+8) Fellow and Senior Fellow of the American Leadership Forum of Oregon. Keppen received his Master of Science in Water Resources Engineering from Oregon State University and his Bachelor of Science in Petroleum Engineering from the University of Wyoming. He lives in Klamath Falls, Oregon.

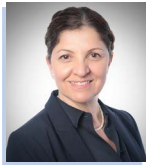
MEET THE PRESENTERS



Tim Beaman, P.E.

City of Oxnard, Engineering Division Manager

Tim Beaman, P.E., is an Engineering Division Manager for the City of Oxnard. He joined the City in May 2020 and oversees the City's water, wastewater, and recycled water capital improvement program. Beaman leads a team of Public Works inspectors, engineers and project managers, currently managing over \$115 million in active water and wastewater capital improvement projects. Beaman started his career in water immediately out of high school, working as a drafter for a consulting firm. A graduate of Northeastern University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering, Beaman continued his career as a design consultant working in Southern California and Queensland, Australia, before joining the public sector in 2013. Over the past three years, Beaman has assumed responsibility for Oxnard's Indirect Potable Reuse (IPR) Program, navigating through past studies, existing conditions, and evolving regulations to implement groundwater recharge and reduce retention time for the City's pilot Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) well, currently in construction.



Dr. Maryam Bral

United Water Conservation District (UWCD),
Chief Engineer/Water Resources Leader

Dr. Maryam Bral is the UWCD Chief Engineer and Chief Dam Safety Engineer. She is a member of the District's executive management and provides direct oversight of the Engineering, Water Resources and Environmental departments. Dr. Bral joined UWCD in 2018 following a distinguished six-year tenure at the Goleta Water District. She gained invaluable experience from working at private engineering consulting firms for more than 12 years in Southern and Northern California. During her time at the District, she has led and overseen several key water supply projects, such as the Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvement project, El Rio Iron and Manganese Treatment Facility project, Extraction Barrier and Brackish Water Treatment project and the Laguna Road Recycled Water Interconnection project. Dr. Bral's academic achievements include bachelor's and master's degrees in chemical engineering from the Technical University of Denmark (DTU), Denmark. Her doctoral research, conducted at the same university, focused on membrane filtration of humic groundwaters and groundwater recharge. She also served as a post-doctoral fellow researcher at the Queen's University of Belfast, Northern Ireland.

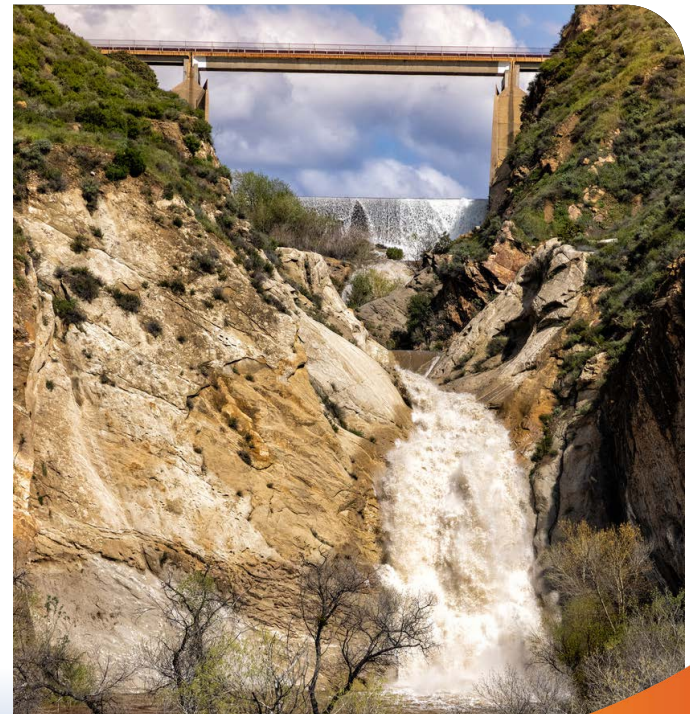
MEET THE PRESENTERS



Anthony Emmert

United Water Conservation District (UWCD),
Assistant General Manager

Anthony Emmert currently serves as UWCD's Assistant General Manager. He has more than 32 years of experience in private- and public-sector water enterprise management, including water, wastewater and stormwater operations; water resources planning, capital projects planning, design and construction; rates and financial planning; water quality; regulatory compliance; and safety/risk management. Before joining the District, Emmert served as the Water Resources Manager for the City of Oxnard, where he managed the City's water and wastewater enterprises, including the development and implementation of the City's Groundwater Recovery Enhancement and Treatment (GREAT) program. Prior to that, he served as the Public Works Utilities Superintendent for the City of Santa Paula. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Policy Analysis and Planning, Water Quality, from the University of California, Davis, focusing on groundwater contamination remediation.



MEET THE PRESENTERS



Eric L. Garner

Best Best & Krieger LLP, Managing Partner

Managing Partner Eric Garner practices water rights and supply law at Best Best & Krieger LLP. He works on surface water and groundwater issues throughout California. For the past two decades, he has worked extensively on groundwater matters. He represented the lead parties in the Santa Maria and Antelope Valley groundwater adjudications, is involved in the Oxnard Pleasant Valley, Cuyama, Indian Wells Valley, Las Posas and Ventura River adjudications and also was involved in the Mojave Groundwater adjudication. He was involved in drafting the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and testified before the state Senate Committee on Natural Resources & Water on adjudication reform legislation.

He has drafted water laws in South Africa, Trinidad and Pakistan and worked with the United Nations Environmental Programme on incorporating environmental issues into water laws, the World Bank on groundwater issues in the Middle East and North Africa and was the first American Chair of the International Bar Association's Water Law Committee.

Garner co-authored "California Water," "California Water II" and "California Water Third Edition," and is an adjunct law professor at the University of Southern California Gould School of Law. He has also been chosen as a California Lawyer of the Year by California Lawyer magazine, twice as one of the Top 100 Lawyers in California by the Daily Journal, twice as the Water Law Lawyer of the Year in Los Angeles by Best Lawyers and was one of five lawyers in the United States named MVP of the Year by Law360. He is licensed to practice law in the state of California.



MEET THE PRESENTERS



Nathan Jacobsen, P.E.

Naval Base Ventura, County Water Program Manager

Nathan Jacobsen became the Water Program Manager (WPM) of Public Works Department (PWD) Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC) in Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command (NAVFAC) Southwest in June 2018. Jacobsen provides oversight and management of 18 NBVC permits associated with drinking water, wastewater operations, and stormwater management. He provides subject matter expertise and leadership on all water-related projects to ensure current and continued permit compliance.

Prior to reporting as the NBVC WPM, he oversaw water planning and services projects across NAVFAC Europe Africa and Central (NAVFAC EURAFCENT) as the Utility and Energy Management (UEM) WPM, Capital Improvement Civil Engineer, and Environmental Manager from 2015 to 2018. He was stationed in Naples, Italy from 2011 to 2018 and returned to California with his family. Jacobsen graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Watershed Hydrology from Colorado State University and a Master of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering from California Polytechnic State University (San Luis Obispo). While obtaining his master's degree, Jacobsen worked for the California State Regional Water Quality Control Board (Region 3) in the land disposal program. Jacobsen worked for consulting firms from 1999 to 2015 on water, wastewater, and stormwater compliance projects. For the City and County of San Diego, he was Deputy Project Manager of the 2003 (Cedar) San Diego wildfire response and Project Manager of the 2007 (Witch Creek and Guejito) San Diego wildfire response. Both fire response projects worked with FEMA to protect life safety and abate possible infrastructure impacts associated with fire-related erosion, flooding and mudflows that were predicted within the hundreds of thousands of acres throughout the City and County of San Diego.

Jacobsen is a registered Professional Civil Engineer in the state of California. His awards include a Meritorious Civilian Service Award, NAVFAC Southwest Employee of the Year 2020, and recipient of two awards of excellence from the American Society of Civil Engineers for the 2003 and 2007 wildfire response projects.

MEET THE PRESENTERS



John Lindquist

United Water Conservation District (UWCD),
Water Resources Supervisor

John Lindquist, UWCD's Water Resources Supervisor, has Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Geology from California State University, Northridge and the University of Arizona, respectively. Lindquist's graduate studies focused on aqueous geochemistry, groundwater modeling, and the effects of timing and magnitude of rainfall on the recharge of aquifers. Since joining UWCD in 2015, Lindquist's work has largely been focused on evaluating the sustainability of the groundwater basins of the Santa Clara River and Oxnard Plain areas and helping to develop water supply projects that can lead us to a resilient future.



Murray McEachron

United Water Conservation District (UWCD),
Supervising Hydrologist

Having joined UWCD as a staff hydrologist in 1998, Murray McEachron has devoted much of his career to the operations of UWCD's groundwater recharge facilities and the conservation releases from Lake Piru to the downstream groundwater basins. In addition, McEachron is involved with the environmental permitting of the Freeman Diversion and the Santa Felicia Dam. He is currently working on the Habitat Conservation Plan for the Freeman Diversion that covers several endangered species, such as the steelhead trout. This permit will include a new fish passage system and a complex set of bypass flows that McEachron is currently evaluating. McEachron also helped UWCD obtain a FERC relicensing permit at the Santa Felicia Dam that also included a complex set of bypass flows.

McEachron also oversees the purchasing of UWCD's state water including the additional Article 21 water that was secured in recent years. He supervises various storage/recharge agreements with neighboring water districts such as the Castaic Lake Downstream Water Users group. McEachron's extensive and unique knowledge and understanding of the River, its hydrology and the relationship between surface flows and underlying groundwater, combined with his thorough understanding of UWCD's facilities and operations, have been extremely beneficial to the District. With this knowledge, he has created several surface water/groundwater models that have been used in regional studies throughout the watershed. McEachron earned his degree in Civil Engineering from Northern Arizona University.

MEET THE PRESENTERS



Craig Morgan

United Water Conservation District (UWCD),
Engineering Manager

Craig Morgan is the Engineering Manager at UWCD. Morgan has been responsible for the design and construction of many of the Engineering Department's projects in his 24-plus years with the District. Morgan is a Registered Civil Engineer in the state of California and holds a Bachelor of Science in Engineering with emphasis in Civil from California State University, Northridge.

Robert Richardson

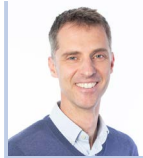


United Water Conservation District (UWCD),
Senior Engineer

Robert Richardson is UWCD's Senior Engineer with 18 years of experience in capital improvement project planning, budgeting, design, permitting and construction of water, wastewater and storm drain projects. Richardson joined UWCD in 2015 after working in the private and public sectors for 11 years. Richardson has been managing several key water supply projects during his tenure with the District, including the Laguna Road Recycled Water Interconnection, El Rio Iron and Manganese Treatment Facility project that is near completion, and the Extraction Barrier and Brackish Water Treatment project. Richardson received his bachelor's degree from the California State University, Northridge. He is a Licensed Civil Engineer in the state of California and maintains a Drinking Water Treatment Operator Grade T2 certificate and a Drinking Water Distribution Grade D2 certificate, both issued by the California State Water Resources Control Board.



MEET THE PRESENTERS



Dr. Bram Sercu

United Water Conservation District (UWCD),
Senior Hydrologist

Dr. Bram Sercu is Senior Hydrologist at UWCD. Dr. Sercu leads the District's surface water hydrology monitoring program and performs modeling, data analyses and reporting to assist with water resources acquisition, planning and regulatory compliance. Dr. Sercu also oversees aspects of diversion operations related to maximizing the beneficial use of water and complying with regulatory requirements. Dr. Sercu joined UWCD in 2015, after having worked at the Ventura County Watershed Protection District, and the University of California, Santa Barbara. He has a Ph.D. in Applied Biological Sciences and a Master of Science in Bio-engineering.



Dr. Jason Sun

United Water Conservation District (UWCD),
Supervisory Water Resources Engineer

Dr. Jason Sun joined UWCD in October 2012 as a Senior Hydrogeologist/Groundwater Modeler in the Groundwater Resources Department. He assumed the lead role in developing a new regional groundwater flow model. Dr. Sun received his Ph.D. in Hydrology and Water Resource Science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and brought 15 years of modeling experience in consulting to his position with the District. His expertise with Inverse Problem Theory, parameter estimation, and calibrating complex models has proven invaluable in building the new 13-layer, multi-basin regional groundwater model and will continue to be in demand as the development of groundwater sustainability plans (GSPs) relies on groundwater modeling in each of the basins. Currently, Dr. Sun holds the position of Supervisory Water Resources Engineer, where he oversees hydrogeologists/modelers and manages projects related to groundwater modeling.

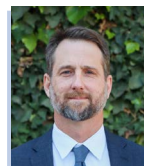
MEET THE PRESENTERS



Jennifer Tribo

City of Ventura (Ventura Water), Water
Resource Manager

Jennifer Tribo has worked for Ventura Water since 2016 and has the primary responsibility of tracking the City's water supplies and demands and the policies and regulations that influence them. Prior to joining the City, Tribo worked as a regional stormwater manager in Virginia. Tribo has a Master of Environmental Management from Duke University.



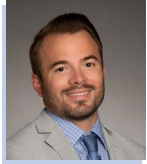
Michael Wolfe

City of Oxnard, Director of Public Works

Michael Wolfe joined the City of Oxnard in October 2021 as Director of Public Works, bringing more than 27 years of engineering and public works experience at the federal, county and city level. He leads the department with an annual budget of \$290 million in addition to a \$700 million five-year capital improvement program and oversees more than 500 employees to serve the community of over 200,000 residents. Wolfe also brings an array of leadership and technical skills from his service in the U.S. Navy where he reached the rank of Lieutenant as part of the Navy's Civil Engineer Corps. He holds a Professional Engineer's license in Civil Engineering from the state of California. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Southern California.



MEET THE PANELISTS



Kristopher Anderson

Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA), State Legislative Advocate/Attorney

Kristopher Anderson is a Senior State Relations Advocate for the Association of California Water Agencies. Anderson primarily advocates in the

California State Legislature on issues involving water rights, state and federal endangered species acts, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Proposition 218 and 26, the Brown Act, and groundwater. Anderson is admitted to practice law in California and is a member of the Sacramento County Bar Association. Anderson earned a Juris Doctor degree from the University of California, Davis, School of Law in May 2018 and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism from the University of Oregon.



Heather Collins, P.E.

American Water Works Association (AWWA)
Vice President - AWWA Water Utility Council

Heather Collins is the Assistant Chief of Operations for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. She assists

with leading a team responsible for the reliable delivery of high-quality imported water to Southern California. This team includes more than 950 employees responsible for operating and maintaining Metropolitan's Colorado River Aqueduct; treatment and distribution facilities; planning and scheduling water deliveries and power operations; and ensuring compliance with water quality, safety, and environmental regulations. Her team also provides in-house manufacturing, construction, emergency response and maintenance engineering services.

Collins is the lead on regulatory and permitting efforts for Metropolitan's Pure Water Southern California, a planned 150-million-gallon-per-day, water purification program to beneficially reuse water for groundwater recharge and potential raw water augmentation, adding resiliency to Metropolitan's water supply portfolio. Collins is a Registered Civil Engineer and licensed Water Treatment Operator, and currently serves as American Water Works Association (AWWA) Association Director, Past Vice-President and a member of the AWWA Water Utility Council.

MEET THE PANELISTS

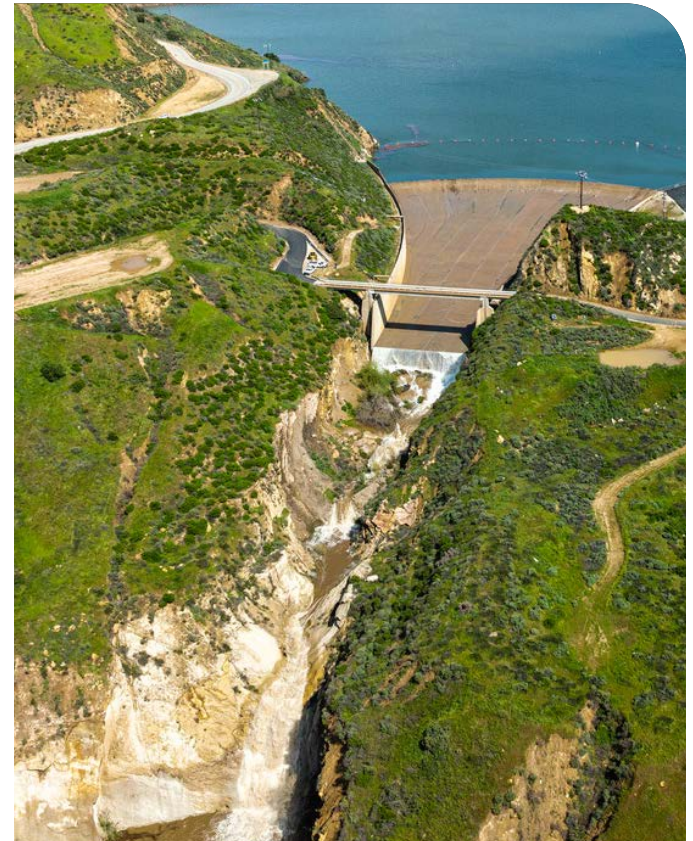


Louise Lampara

Coalition of Labor Agriculture and Business (CoLAB), Ventura County Executive Director

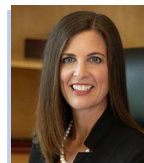
Louise Lampara is Executive Director of non-profit regulatory watchdog and business advocacy organization Ventura County

Coalition of Labor, Ag, and Business. The coalition's mission is to advocate for reasonable solutions for local regulatory issues, promote local economy, and preserve the quality of life for Ventura County residents. Lampara has more than 18 years of experience in environmental permitting, regulatory compliance, and reducing environmental risk. She possesses strong knowledge of federal, state and local environmental regulations, including land use permitting and has extensive expertise in response planning incident management, project management, and consensus building.



MEET THE MODERATOR

Kristin Olsen-Cate,
California Strategies & Advocates,
Partner

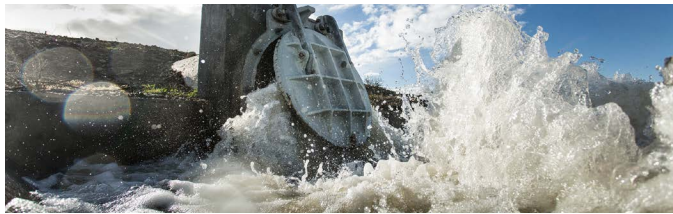


Kristin Olsen-Cate is a former state and local elected official in California and a Partner at California Strategies, LLC, the state's largest public affairs consulting firm, where she helps others effectively advocate within the government sphere and political landscape on a variety of subjects at both the local and state levels. She was a Stanislaus County Supervisor until 2021, serving as Chair of the Board her last year in office. Olsen-Cate termed out of the California State Assembly in 2016, where she represented communities in the San Joaquin Valley and Sierra Foothills while also serving as one of the top four legislative leaders.

While serving as California's Assembly Republican Leader from 2014-2016, Olsen-Cate developed a statewide reputation as a dynamic, forward-thinking leader – "the sort of person the Republicans need" (Los Angeles Daily News) and whom Democratic Governor Jerry Brown described as "pragmatic and effective." In her San Joaquin Valley district, Olsen-Cate earned high marks as a bipartisan consensus builder whose "party affiliation was of less importance than her Valley affiliation" (Modesto Bee).

Olsen-Cate currently serves on the Board of Directors for Legacy Health Endowment, the Problem Solvers Foundation, CA Women Lead, CA Competes, and Women in California Politics. Her prior work experience includes service on the Modesto City Council and executive positions at CSU Stanislaus and the California Restaurant Association. Olsen-Cate is an Aspen-Rodel Fellow, a magna cum laude graduate of Westmont College, and a mom of three.





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2023

WATER SUSTAINABILITY
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CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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