



WATER EDUCATION
FOUNDATION

2014 ANNUAL REPORT





WATER EDUCATION FOUNDATION

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Gary Pitzer, *Writer*

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2014 was a year of change at the Water Education Foundation with three major developments: the selection of Jennifer Bowles as the new executive director, a new office location in midtown Sacramento and a new, comprehensive, more user-friendly website.

Yet even as the Foundation undertook these internal changes it never wavered in its mission to create a better understanding of water resources and foster public understanding and resolution of water resource issues through facilitation, education and outreach.

The drought, groundwater management, Delta habitat and water supplies, watershed management and infrastructure

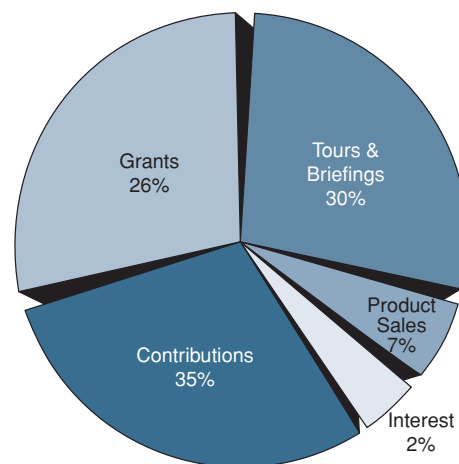
needs were among the issues featured in the Foundation's publications, conferences, tours and other programs in 2014.

The Foundation reaches a broad audience including policymakers and leading agricultural, environmental and urban stakeholders; journalists and the general public; and school children – and their families – in grades K-12. Leading the effort to provide impartial education is a 33-member volunteer Board of Directors. Members come from the business, agricultural, municipal, environmental, education and public interest communities.

The work of the Foundation's 10-member staff is supported by federal, state and private grants; contributions from consultants, water districts, attorneys, farmers, environmentalists and others interested in the dissemination of unbiased, thorough and easy-to-understand information about water; attendance at Foundation-sponsored events; and the sale of our materials.

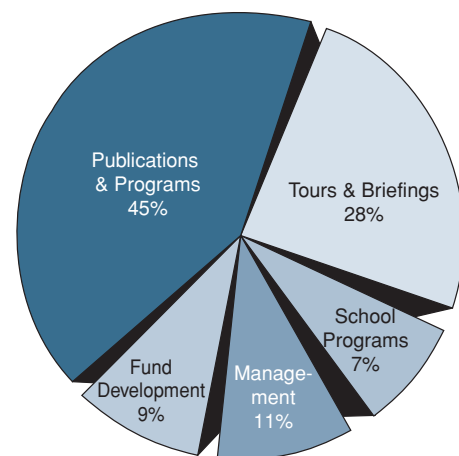
During 2014 the Foundation's six issues of *Western Water* examined topics ranging from groundwater management to Delta salinity. Colorado River issues related to the restoration of flows to the Mexican Delta and efforts to conserve more water in Lake Mead were featured in the *River Report* newsletter. Foundation staff conducted eight tours, held the 31st annual Executive Briefing and made numerous presentations. In addition to our regular programs, many special projects were undertaken in 2014 in which the Foundation:

- Welcomed Jennifer Bowles, a veteran journalist, as the new executive director as we celebrated the retirement of Rita Schmidt Sudman, who served as executive director of the Foundation for more than 33 years
- Graduated 21 young professionals from the William R Gianelli Water Leaders Class
- Served as the California coordinator for the national Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) program, conducting 62 workshops across the state
- Launched a comprehensive new website incorporating the Foundation's news aggregate, Aquaforia.com, and online water encyclopedia, Aquapeda.com into one website: watereducation.org
- Produced an educational DVD on preventing flood water contamination in the Delta
- Coordinated the sixth annual Santa Ana River conference "Keeping Our Cool"
- Presented two sessions of our Water 101: the Basics and Beyond course – one in Northern California and one in Southern California
- Sponsored the third annual Anne J. Schneider Lecture series
- Sponsored free workshops in the Delta in partnership with the Delta Conservancy on potential use of Safe Harbor Agreements and Delta climate change
- Cosponsored a free drought/water project operations briefing in Sacramento in partnership with the Department of Water Resources
- Moved from our longtime office on K Street in downtown Sacramento to a new location in midtown Sacramento



SOURCES OF REVENUE

Jan. 1, 2014 - Dec. 31, 2014



EXPENDITURES

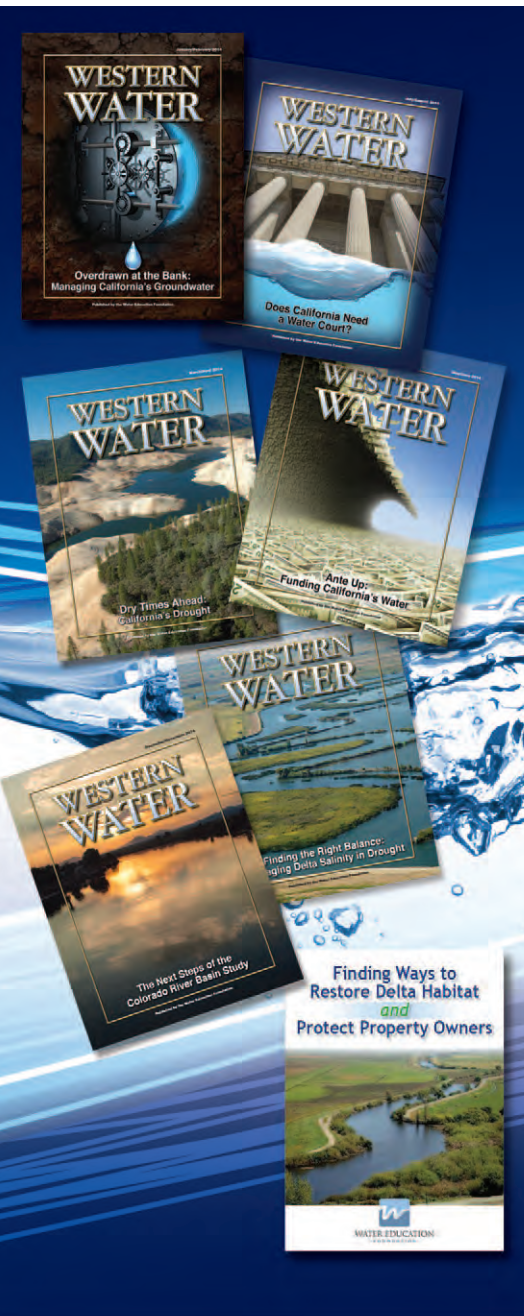
Jan. 1, 2014 - Dec. 31, 2014

Text: Foundation Staff

Photos: California Department of Water Resources and Foundation staff

Design: Graphic Communications

Publications



Top to bottom: In 2014 Western Water covered a host of challenging topics including groundwater overdraft and issues of management, the California drought, and managing the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta salinity; a special 24-page briefing paper that discusses options for Delta landowners who want to participate in habitat conservation work and also receive assurances from private landowner liability was published by the Foundation in 2014.

Western Water Magazine

In 2014 the Foundation's flagship publication explored key topics being discussed by legislators, water purveyors, environmentalists, the media and the general public.

The January/February issue written by Gary Pitzer looked at groundwater overdraft in California and the evolving discussion of whether the state should adopt comprehensive management regulations. The article, "Overdrawn at the Bank: Managing California's Groundwater," explained the existing water rights system and ongoing local and regional efforts to manage groundwater through voluntary or court-mandated rules (adjudications).

Gary took on the most pressing topic of the day: the California drought in March/April. At the time the state had suffered through its warmest and third driest winter on record. The article chronicled reservoir levels, water delivery projections and hydrologic data, and discussed the policy issues linked to those datasets.

In the May/June issue, Gary wrote, "the water people use every day is free. It is the capture, storage, moving, and treatment of the water that incurs substantial costs." How water use is paid for and the push to make public financing more flexible were issues discussed in the article "Ante Up: Funding California's Water."

The July/August issue, "Does California Need a Water Court?" examined the provocative question of whether California needs a "water court" of some variety. It's an issue that periodically emerges, and the drought and State Water Board's actions on water diversions has caused some to question the need for judges with a deep knowledge of water. Gary's article discussed how water rights are currently administered in California and featured interviews with proponents and opponents. As with all things water – answers vary.

Gary returned to a familiar California water feature in the September/October issue: The Delta. In "Finding the Right Balance: Managing Delta Salinity in Drought," Gary discussed how the drought was affecting Delta fish, wildlife and farms and explained how in dry years, there is an extra challenge in the carefully orchestrated manipulation of reservoir releases to maintain the balance between salty and freshwater conditions.

Closing out the year, Gary wrote about "The Next Steps of the Colorado River Basin Study" for the November/December issue, bringing readers up to date on developments since completion of the 2012 landmark Colorado River Basin Study.

Safe Harbor Act Briefing Paper

"Finding Ways to Restore Delta Habitat and Protect Property Owners" was a briefing paper written by Susan Lauer and distributed at two Delta landowner workshops in January 2014. The workshops were sponsored by the Water Education Foundation and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy.

This 24-page publication discusses a number of options for Delta landowners who want to participate in habitat conservation work and also receive assurances from private landowner liability under species protection laws.

Topics included: the Bay Delta Conservation Plan and Fish Restoration Program Agreements; regional Habitat Conservation Plans/Natural Community Conservation Plans in the Delta with good neighbor policies that include incidental take coverage and ways to minimize impacts from conservation on neighboring properties; and Safe Harbor Agreements for restoration on private property. A PDF version is available for free download on the Foundation's website.

Executive Briefing

The 2014 Executive Briefing, "The 2014 Water Playbook: What You Need to Know," was held March 27 at the Red Lion Hotel Woodlake in Sacramento. About 200 people attended. Speaker and panel presentations focused on the BDCP: California groundwater, the Colorado River drought; and watershed management from the Sierra to the Delta. Speakers included Assemblyman Anthony Rendon, State Water Resources Control Board Chair Felicia Marcus and Bureau of Reclamation Regional Director David Murillo.

Water 101 Workshops

On Feb. 18-19 the Foundation conducted *Water 101, the Basics and Beyond*, at the University of California, Davis. Participants learned about the state's natural water environment, water demand and use, current management issues, the legal and institutional framework and the role of alternative water supplies. Participants also were provided with a governance primer.

In October, a SoCal Water 101 was held at the Cucamonga Valley Water District's Frontier Project in Rancho Cucamonga. Topics included management of water in California, the drought, groundwater management and the potential for a 2014 water bond. The workshop also included an optional tour of a water plant at the district.

Santa Ana River Watershed Conference

The Santa Ana River Watershed 2014 conference, "Keeping Our Cool," was held Oct. 14 at the Riverside Convention Center. Convened by the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority and coordinated by the Foundation, it featured presentations about regional accomplishments, working for sustainable solutions, and integrating water supply with land use.

The keynote speaker was UCLA geography professor and researcher Glen MacDonald. Major sponsors were Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District and San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District.

Delta Conservancy Climate Change Workshop

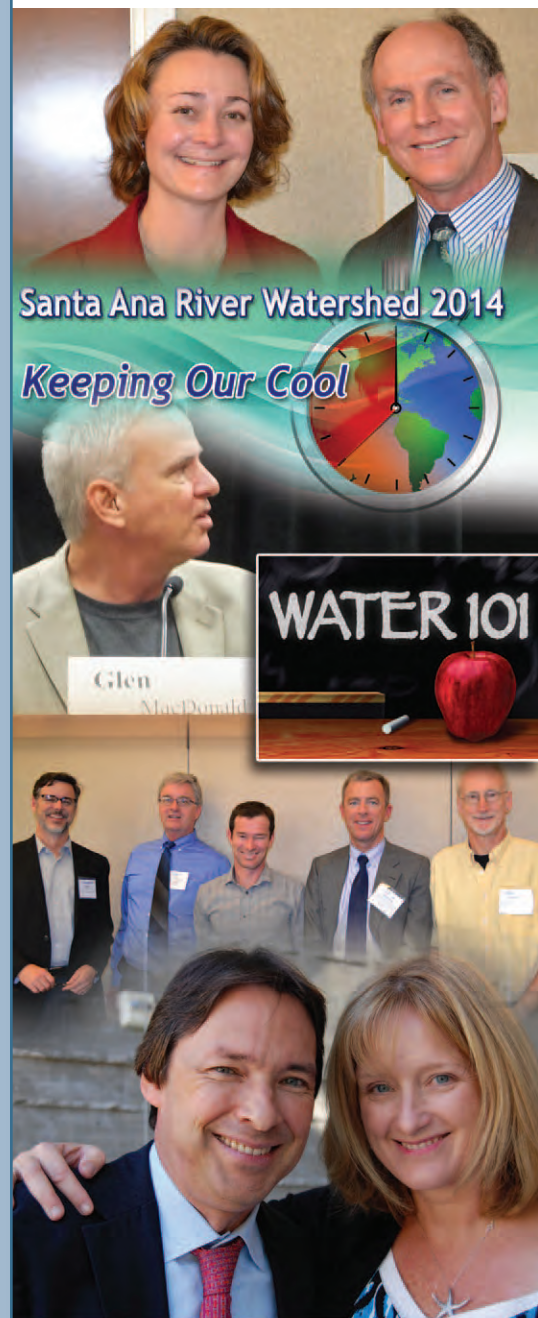
"A Practical Workshop: The Science Behind Delta Climate Change Impacts" was held Feb. 13 at the City of West Sacramento's Civic Center. At this free workshop, scientists from federal, state and local agencies discussed research on climate change and how it will impact the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta including levees and flood risks, Delta infrastructure from highways to water projects, fisheries and agriculture. The event was sponsored by the Foundation and the Delta Conservancy.

Drought Workshop

A free workshop "The Challenges of Drought: Water Project Operations," was held June 4 at the Sacramento Convention Center. It was sponsored by the Department of Water Resources and the Foundation. Topics discussed included a comparison of the present drought to previous droughts, the governor's drought emergency proclamation, and water project hydrologic and operational constraints.

Delta Conservancy Habitat Workshops

Two free workshops were held in the Delta in January to discuss habitat restoration and neighboring landowner's concerns. On Jan. 28, 2014 nearly 150 people came to Mokelumne High School Auditorium in Courtland. On Jan. 29 about 50 people attended a session at Roberts Union Farm Center in Stockton. Speakers described ways private property owners can become involved in Delta habitat conservation/enhancement efforts and get assurances that if protected species appear on their properties they will not face penalties under state and federal laws. The workshops were sponsored by the Foundation and the Delta Conservancy.



Top to bottom: A February workshop about Delta climate change included speakers Cindy Messer, Delta Stewardship Council, and Paul Helliker, DWR; "Keeping Our Cool" was the theme for the 2014 SAWPA conference, featuring keynote speaker and UCLA Professor Glen MacDonald; panelists at the Delta climate change workshop included, L to R, Campbell Ingram, Delta Conservancy, Garth Hopkins, Caltrans, Sean Hayes, NOAA, Chris Scheuring, California Farm Bureau, and Stephen Wheeler, UC Davis; SoCal Water 101 featured attorney Eric Garner at Best and Krieger, shown here with Foundation Executive Director Jennifer Bowles.

School Programs



Top to bottom: California Project WET Coordinator Brian Brown, left, with Anne Stephens, assistant professor at Chico State University; participants at the Chico Floodplain Ecology Institute; an October WET workshop at Sacramento's Effie Yeaw Nature Center included the lesson plan *Macro Invertebrate Mayhem*; participants at the Chico Floodplain Ecology Institute, which was supported by Project WET, DWR, USGS California Water Science Center, California Department of Education, Inland Northern California Science Project, Office of Education and the Environment at Cal Recycle, Sacramento River Preservation Trust, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Project WET

The Water Education Foundation is the designated Host Institution for the California Project WET program in an agreement dating back to 1995. The Foundation has been aided in offering Project WET by grants from the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), Mid-Pacific Region and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), California Water Science Center with added support from the California Department of Water Resources (DWR). This support has been vital to help our program offset budget cuts and priority shifts in some partnering water agencies, even as the interest in Project WET remains high among educators as a resource to engage students in the new Common Core and Next Generation Science standards. The Project WET Guide 2.0 has been listed as a recommended resource by the National Science Teachers Association.

California Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) had a very successful 2014 thanks to the efforts of our network of volunteer workshop facilitators around the state. Our annual goals to offer a minimum of 50 Project WET workshops per year, training an average of 1,000 educators were exceeded with 62 workshops conducted in 2014. The 1,086 educators who participated stated they would be use Project WET activities with more than 110,345 students during the 2014-2015 school year. The California Project WET program was represented at 15 conferences, conducted nine introductory water education events and received one of the first ever Distinguished Program awards by the California Science Teachers' Association at a December National Science Teachers' conference for promoting science education in the state of California.

Project WET helps students understand the science and societal impacts of conserving and protecting water resources. Brian Brown, the California Project WET Coordinator, conducts workshops throughout California to train teachers and workshop facilitators. He also creates the quarterly *California Project WET Gazette* newsletter, which transformed into a digital format on the new Water Education Foundation website in 2014. The new website has made it possible for Brian to begin uploading California supplements teachers can download for use with specific Project WET activities, including USGS hydrograph data and fact sheets. Brian received an Excellence in Environmental Education award from the California Environmental Education Foundation during the California STEM Symposium in September.

Advanced Water Education Workshops

Brian worked in collaboration with USGS California Water Science Center researchers and DWR to provide a number of special focus workshops for teachers on current water issues and research. These events included highlighting floodplain ecology; USGS water research at the California Water Science Center in San Diego; climate change with the DWR climate division; forest and watershed management with the Society of American Foresters and UC Cooperative Extension and an advanced training for Sacramento region after school educators on Project WET water conservation activities that made a local news station's Drought Desk coverage last March.

Related Activities

Brian continues as a member of the California Environmental Education Interagency Network, DWR Water Education Committee, a judge for the 'Caring For Our Watersheds' contest through the Center for Land-Based Learning, Forestry Institute for Teachers Steering Committee and California Project Learning Tree Advisory Committee. He also continues to serve on the Project WET USA Council as the At-Large representative for all Project WET USA Coordinators and serves on a number of Project WET Coordinator driven committees to support and strengthen Project WET nationwide. Brian was also featured in a Project WET Foundation impact video highlighted at an international water education conference in June 2014.

In 2014 the Foundation conducted eight regular tours and one private tour under the direction of Tour Director René Cashmere.

The **Lower Colorado River Tour, February 26-28**, traveled from Lake Mead to the Salton Sea and the Coachella Valley, and included a private tour of Hoover Dam.

The **Sea to Sierra Tour, April 10-11**, rode the Amtrak California Zephyr from the Bay Area to Reno.

The **Central Valley Water Tour, April 23-25**, traveled the length of the San Joaquin Valley starting and ending in Sacramento.

The **Flood Management Tour, May 14-15**, focused on the Lower San Joaquin River and South Delta.

The **Bay Delta-Tour, June 18-20**, traveled through the Delta to San Francisco as participants learned about Delta conveyance, Delta farming and the proposed tunnels.

The **Russian River Tour, October 9-10**, followed the course of the river from Santa Rosa to the mouth of the river in Jenner and visited area vineyards and restoration sites and flood projects.

The **Northern California Tour, October 22-24**, helped participants learn about farming, fishery restoration, and the major water projects.

The **San Joaquin River Restoration Tour, November 6-7**, took participants to Friant Dam, Chowchilla Bifurcation and Mendota Pool.

2014 Tour Sponsors

Major sponsors

Bureau of Reclamation's Lower Colorado Region and Mid-Pacific Region
California Department of Water Resources

Adventurer sponsor

ESA

Traveler sponsors

Brown and Caldwell
CH2M HILL
GEI
HDR
Kleinfelder
Netafim
O'Laughlin & Paris
Turlock Irrigation District

Cosponsors of one or more tours

Bowles Farming Company, Inc.; Coachella Valley Water District; Downey Brand LLP; Imperial Irrigation District; Kjeldsen, Sinnock & Neudeck, Inc.; MBK Engineers; Southern Nevada Water Authority; West Yost Associates; Sonoma County Water Agency; Brown and Caldwell; Ryan Broddrick; SJAFCA; Dante

Nomellini; South Delta Water Agency; and Southern Nevada Water Agency.

Organizations that hosted or co-hosted meals, provided refreshments or offered other support

Clarksburg Community Church; Contra Costa Water District; East Valley Water District; Friant Water Authority; Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District; Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District; Kern County Water Agency; Kern Water Bank Authority; Carl Kovach; Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; Northern California Water Association; Panoche Water District; San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority; San Luis Canal Company; San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority; SAWS – Stockton Area Water Suppliers; City of Stockton, Stockton East Water District; Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority; West Coast Grape Farming; Western Canal Water District; Westlands Water District; Yuba County Water Agency; and River Island Partners.



Top to bottom: Lower Colorado River Tour participants on a boat tour of Lake Mead; Central Valley Tour resource speakers Mario Manzo, Bureau of Reclamation, and Carl Hauge, former chief hydrologist at DWR; Russian River Tour participants visited the Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District's facilities; Chuck Hauge from Helix Water District on the Amtrak train aboard the Sea to Sierra Tour; Don Portz of the Bureau of Reclamation releases a salmon at Camp Pashayan during the San Joaquin River Restoration Tour.

Additional Tours

May 19-21, 2014 the Foundation gave members of Costco's senior staff a private tour of the Central Valley between Sacramento and Coalinga. Jennifer Bowles and Sue McClurg escorted the tour down the east side of the valley, across to Visalia, and up the west side. On the route they visited area farms, dams and Delta islands. Costco, which is based in Washington, wanted to visit and learn about the region, which produces many of its products.

Other Highlights



Top to bottom: Former journalist Jennifer Bowles, right, was selected to take over as executive director in 2014 following the retirement of Rita Schmidt Sudman; David Guy of Northern California Water Association shares a laugh with Barton H. "Buzz" Thompson, Jr., Stanford Law School, at the Anne J. Schneider lecture; graduates of the 2014 Water Leaders Class.

Jennifer Bowles Appointed Executive Director

Jennifer Bowles, a former award-winning journalist who covered Western water issues and became a communications strategist for a major California law firm known for its water law practice, became Executive Director effective March 27. She replaced longtime Executive Director Rita Schmidt Sudman.

After graduating from the University of Southern California, Jenn began her journalism career as a reporter and later became an editor at *The Associated Press* in the Los Angeles bureau during the 1990s. She attended a yearlong Scripps Fellowship at the University of Colorado, Boulder, where she studied water and environmental law and policy. In 1999, she became the environmental reporter at *The Press-Enterprise* in Riverside, garnering awards for her coverage of water issues.

She joined Best Best & Krieger in 2008 where she worked as a writer and communications strategist with some of the state's leading water law attorneys, including Eric Garner, who co-authored the book *California Water*.

Rita Retires in Style

A retirement party for longtime Executive Director Rita Schmidt Sudman was held March 26 in Sacramento at the Vizcaya Inn. Rita retired after 34 years at the helm.

"Rita's dedication, energy and creativity have helped make the organization an internationally recognized force in water education," Bill Mills, president of the Foundation's Board of Directors and former general manager of the Orange County Water District, said at the time.

Under Rita's leadership, the Foundation became a leading organization for water education and highly respected for its dedication to impartial education about key water issues in California and the Southwest. She now serves as the Foundation's Senior Advisor.

Water Leaders

Twenty-one young professionals graduated from the Foundation's 18th Annual William R. Gianelli Water Leaders Class. The 2014 class presentation was on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

The graduates: Chris Alford, *American Rivers*; Eleanor Bartolomeo, *State Water Resources Control Board*; Amanda Bohl, *Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy*; Holly Canada, *California Department of Water Resources*; Laura Carpenter, *Brown and Caldwell*; Omar Carrillo, *Community Water Center*; Lindsay Correa, *Delta Stewardship Council*; Roberto C. Cortez, *East Bay Municipal Utility District*; Rebecca Crebbin-Coates, *Planning and Conservation League*; Kristina Donnelly, *Pacific Institute*; Rebecca K. Guo, *MWH Americas*; Trudi Hughes, *California League of Food Processors*; Elizabeth Leeper, *Kronick Moskovitz Tiedemann & Girard*; Sean Maguire, *Kennedy/Jenks Consultants*; Maureen Martin, *Contra Costa Water District*; Aubrey Mescher, *Aspen Environmental Group*; Christopher Park, *CDM Smith*; Susan Reyes, *State Sen. Ed Hernandez*; Erin Rice, *Bureau of Reclamation*; Elizabeth Sarine, *Remy Moose Manley, LLP*; and Mintia Schaefer, *ESA*

The Water Leaders Class is a one-year program that educates up-and-coming community leaders about water issues and prepares them to take an active, cooperative approach to decision-making about water resource issues.

New Website

In August, the Foundation launched a new website, www.watereducation.org, with the aim to make it easier for visitors to learn about water and conduct research. The website also made it much simpler to sign up for email newsletters, register for tours and events and buy California water maps and other products.

The website linked all Foundation websites, including Aquaforia, our daily news aggregate, and Aquapedia, our online water encyclopedia, into one site, stressing that these two vital resources are run by the Foundation.

The goal was to further our mission to disseminate impartial, unbiased news and information about water and reinforce our branding as the primary, go-to online

Other Highlights

provider of information on California water issues.

In addition, the new website is mobile-friendly and linked to social media channels, which amplified the Foundation's efforts to reach a wider audience.

The Foundation's website address remained the same: www.watereducation.org. People can also follow the Foundation on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#) or [@WaterEdFdn](#) on Twitter.

Anne J. Schneider Lecture Series

The third annual Anne J. Schneider Lecture Series was held on April 29 at the Crocker Museum in Sacramento. The goal of the annual event is to encourage professional and personal commitment to water law and policy, and the conservation of our special landscapes in memory of Attorney Anne Schneider's lifelong devotion to these areas. Schneider, a partner at the firm of Ellison, Schneider & Harris and one of California's foremost water law attorneys, passed away in 2010 at the age of 63.

Professor Barton H. "Buzz" Thompson, Jr., distinguished member of the faculty of Stanford Law School, gave the 2014 lecture, "Thinking Big: Is It Time for Transformative Changes in California Water Policy?" David Guy, President of Northern California Water Association, moderated the discussion with Buzz.

The lectures are free to participants and made possible by contributions to the Anne J. Schneider Fund through the Foundation.

Delta Flood DVD

The Foundation produced a 17.35-minute video "Getting Prepared: Preventing Flood Contamination in the Delta" discussing the threats of flooding in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and how to minimize damage when it occurs.

Farms in the Delta are vulnerable to flooding mostly due levee failures. There's also the threat of a toxic soup formed by accidental mixtures of sewage, manure, fuel and oil, as well as chemical contaminants typically used on farms. Polluted water can compromise drinking and irrigation water and leave behind a contaminated mess in the soil, posing a threat to future crops and livestock.

In the video, local Delta farmers, Ed Zuckerman and Steve Heringer, shared their flood experiences and offered practical flood preparation tips. The DVD also provided information about local and state programs to help farmers prepare, dispose of and/or recycle waste.

The video was produced by the Foundation and 3D Media Solutions in part through a grant from the Bureau of Reclamation and the Delta Conservancy.

The Big Move

In 2014 the Foundation moved from its long-time location at 717 K Street in downtown Sacramento to a new building in midtown Sacramento. The new offices are located at 1401 21st Street, Suite 200, Sacramento, CA 95811. The phone number remained the same: 916-444-6240.

Conference Partnerships

The Foundation served as a co-sponsor or cooperating organization of several conferences in 2014, providing educational materials for participants and publicizing the events. These events included the February California Water Law Symposium, where the *Layperson's Guide to Water Rights* was distributed, and Capitol Weekly's annual water conference in Sacramento.

The Foundation was a co-sponsor of the "Mono Lake at 20: Past, Present and Future Water" symposium held Nov. 17 to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the landmark State Water Resources Control Board's "public trust" decision. The Foundation was a cooperating organization for the 23rd Annual Conference and Meeting "The Year of Groundwater," convened by the Groundwater Resources Association of California on Oct. 15-16 in Sacramento.



Top to bottom: The Foundation launched a new, user-friendly website in 2014; camera crew on location in the Delta filming for the DVD "Getting Prepared: Preventing Flood Contamination in the Delta," L to R, cameraman Rusty Rogers, director Dawn Deason, and Susan Lauer, writer/special projects coordinator at the Foundation; the Foundation served as a co-sponsor of several conferences in 2014 and distributed many of its materials, including the Layperson's Guide to Water Rights Law.

Colorado River Project

In 2014, the Foundation's Colorado River Project marked its 17th year. Primary financial support for the project is provided through a grant from the Bureau of Reclamation's Upper and Lower Colorado Regions.

Serving on the Advisory Committee in 2014 were: Michael Cohen, *Pacific Institute*; Gordon "Jeff" Fassett, *HDR Engineering, Inc.*; Bob Johnson, *Water Strategies*; Jeff Kightlinger, *Metropolitan Water District of Southern California*; James Lochhead, *Denver Water*; Estevan Lopez, *New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission*; David Modeer, *Central Arizona Project*; Don Ostler, *Upper Colorado River Commission*; Jennifer Pitt, *Environmental Defense Fund*; Stanley M. Pollack, *Navajo Nation Department of Justice*; Maureen Stapleton, *San Diego County Water Authority*; Tanya Trujillo, *Colorado River Board of California*; and Gary Weatherford, *California Public Utilities Commission*.

River Report

In the Summer 2014 issue Gary Pitzer wrote about the historic moment on March 23, 2014, when water was released from Mexico's Morelos Dam down the dry Colorado Riverbed. "The water filled the dry stretches of riverbed – many already prepared for restoration of wetlands habitat – and by May 15, the river touched the Gulf of California for the first time in several years. Gary's article continued with profiles of the leaders who forged the agreement leading to these environmental pulse flows. "'Stubborn Personalities and Good Fortune': The Colorado River Pulse Flow" was published in printed and interactive digital formats.

In the Winter 2014-15 issue, Gary wrote about "The Colorado River System Conservation Program: Wringing Even More Savings from the System." Launched in October 2014, the Colorado River System Conservation Program aims to curb water use through pilot projects pitched by municipal, industrial and agricultural users throughout the seven Colorado River Basin states. Such projects include potentially fallowing farm fields to tearing out large patches of turf. The goal is to keep this conserved water in Lake Mead to maintain its level and avoid the need to declare the first-ever Lower Basin shortage.

Colorado River Symposium Proceedings

The Foundation's Deputy Executive Director Sue McClurg edited and supervised the publication of the written proceedings of the 2013 Colorado River Symposium, "An Era of New Partnerships on the Colorado River." The printed book contains the conversations held at the ninth biennial invitation-only symposium held in Santa Fe in September 2013, which brought together top policymakers in the Colorado River Basin.

Symposium discussions focused on the partnerships that have been formed in recent years as stakeholders across the spectrum analyzed the water supply and demand implications in the 2012 Colorado River Basin Study. Attendees heard about the groundbreaking Minute 319 from the top U.S.-Mexico water leaders who helped to negotiate that agreement and then learned how the agreement would be implanted through on-the-ground projects. Other panels discussed the status of California's Quantification Settlement Agreement, the value of recreation in the Colorado River Basin, new developments in water marketing and transfers, and how policymakers can use lessons of drought to address climate change. The closing panel discussed whether changes are needed to the Colorado River's legal, institutional and political framework.

Copies of this 136-page softbound book are \$50. Included is a CD with speaker PowerPoint presentations.

In 2014, the Foundation's Colorado River Project marked its 17th year. Featured projects included two issues of River Report, one issue of Western Water and the release of the written proceedings from the 2013 Colorado River Symposium.

Funding Sources

A variety of grants from governmental agencies, private foundations and other organizations funded the Foundation's special programs, publications and projects in 2014. The Foundation's general activities, in turn, were supported by another primary source of income – contributions.

This diversity of funding helps the Foundation fulfill its mission of providing balance in all written materials, school programs, tours, briefings, videos and documentaries. Reviewers and advisory groups help ensure technical accuracy but the Foundation retains editorial control over all programs and publications – no matter what the funding source.

In 2014, grant funds provided 26 percent of the Foundation's revenues, funding Project WET, special workshops and conferences and new publications.

Major contributions represented 35 percent of 2014 revenues and helped maintain core programs such as *Western Water* and the Water Leaders Programs. In 2015, the Foundation continued its "Giving Back" program for our major contributors in which complimentary maps, publications and attendance at Foundation events were awarded to contributors based on their pledge. This is our way of thanking our contributors – who include cities, farmers, law firms, engineering firms, water districts, businesses and other organizations, and private individuals – for their support. (See page 12 for the list of major contributors.)

Additional Foundation income is derived from attendance at briefings and water tours (30 percent) and the sale of our educational materials, 7 percent. In return for all this support, the Foundation continues to serve as the source of impartial information on water issues in California and the West. We thank all the organizations and individuals for the many ways in which they support our work and help us fulfill our mission.

Major Grants Awarded in 2014

(\$5,000 and over)

100th Anniversary Large History Book
Alameda County Water District, \$59,275

Centennial Photo Book
Alameda County Water District, \$39,000

Aquaforia.com – Water News You Need to Know
Anonymous, \$25,000

Online Presence Program
Anonymous, \$130,000

Colorado River Project – *River Report* newsletter, Colorado River Tour, Colorado River Symposium Proceedings
Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Region, \$50,000

Project WET (Water Education for Teachers)
U.S. Geological Survey, \$51,997
Bureau of Reclamation, \$49,980

Water Tours and Briefings
Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region, \$45,000
California Department of Water Resources, \$10,000

Central Valley Water Tour
Bowles Farming Company, Inc., \$5,000

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Handbook
California Water Foundation, \$25,000

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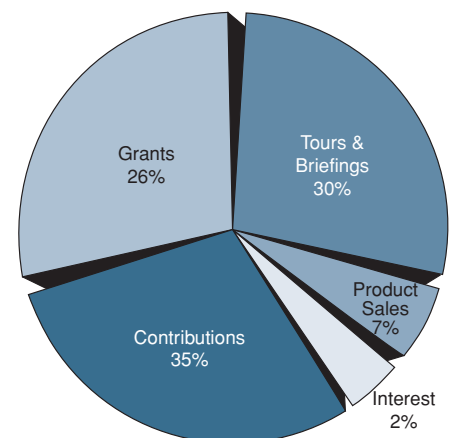
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Participants on the 2014 Northern California Tour pose at the site of the proposed Sites Reservoir in the Sacramento Valley.



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Celebrating Rita Schmidt Sudman's retirement were, L to R, Ellen Cross, Strategy Driver, Jennifer Allen, Contra Costa Water District, and Kelly White, Environmental Science Associates.

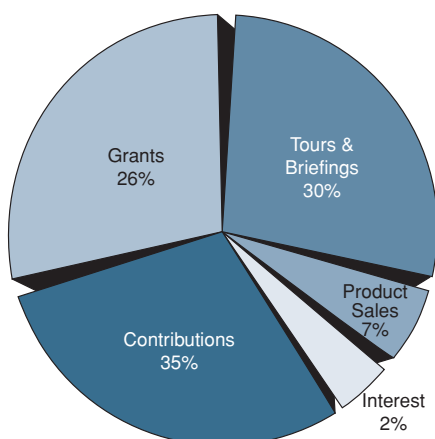


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Guests at the retirement party for Rita Schmidt Sudman included, L to R, Judge Ron Robie, Jan Goldsmith, Kronick Moskovitz Tidemann and Girard and retired UC Davis Law professor Harrison "Hap" Dunning.



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The Russian River Tour included a stop at the Lake Sonoma Outlook where Charles Fenwick of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers addressed the group.



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Former DFG Director Ryan Broddrick and Lester Snow, California Water Foundation, ham it up at the retirement party for Rita Schmidt Sudman.





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Top to bottom: Executive Director Jennifer Bowles and Senior Advisor Rita Schmidt Sudman with Barton H. "Buzz" Thompson, Jr. at the Anne J. Schneider lecture; Foundation Vice President Scott Morris and his firm, Kronick Moskovitz Tidemann and Girard, received special recognition in 2014 from Board President Bill Mills; board member Peter Wijsman, ARCADIS, is a graduate of the 2012 Water Leaders Class; Thad Bettner, general manager at Glenn Colusa Irrigation District, spoke on the 2014 Northern California Tour; Foundation staff, L to R: back row, Patty Wong, Susan Lauer, Jennifer Bowles, Gary Pitzer and Diana Farmer and; front row, L to R: Beth Stern, Renée Cashmere, Brian Brown and Sue McClurg. Not pictured: Jean Nordmann.



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