

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



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Nick Gray

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Brian Brown

California Project WET Coordinator

Gary Pitzer

Writer

Sarah Angulo

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Kayla Sergent

Administrative Coordinator

Brad Parsons

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WATER EDUCATION
FOUNDATION

2151 River Plaza Drive, Suite 205

Sacramento, CA 95833

(916) 444-6240

www.watereducation.org

The mission of the Water Education Foundation is to inspire understanding of water and catalyze critical conversations to build bridges and inform collaborative decision-making.



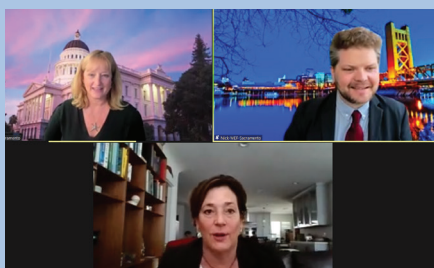
Executive Director Jenn Bowles and John Andrews, California Department of Water Resources Assistant Deputy Director overseeing climate change activities, take a moment to celebrate our national award with DWR for climate education in schools.



Jenn with the rest of the Water Education Foundation team on the Sacramento River.



Jenn with Programs Director Nick Gray, Programs and Communications Manager Sarah Angulo and Brittany Covich, Policy & Outreach Division Chief for the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, during filming for the virtual Headwaters Tour along the American River.



Jenn, Nick and Karla Nemeth, director of the California Department of Water Resources, during the annual Water Summit.

LETTER FROM THE **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

DEAR SUPPORTERS AND FRIENDS OF THE FOUNDATION,

As the global pandemic ebbed and surged in 2021, we continued to carry out our programs in a virtual and engaging format with the hope that we might be able to go back in person at some point.

In February, we virtually welcomed 23 lawyers, engineers, water managers and others to our Water Leaders class and assigned them to find solutions to water equity, an issue highlighted by many things, including unpaid water bills due to layoffs from COVID-19.

Perhaps the biggest project for our team in 2021 was moving our office in the summer. With our lease up at our midtown Sacramento location and our team still working mostly virtually, we set about finding a new spot that could adjust to our new reality of hybrid working. We found the perfect place near the Sacramento River that is surrounded by trees, making our second-floor space feel like a treehouse. A large open space greets visitors where we host Water Leaders classes, Board of Directors meetings and even the start of our water tours and serves as a place where we can collaborate with team members.

In the fall we gained national recognition for our partnership with the California Department of Water Resources that led to a series of workshops that trained K-12 educators in climate change science, allowing them to bring hands-on activities into the classroom. The award was presented by the Center for Climate and Energy Solutions. For more on our Project WET (Water Education Today) program and our amazing coordinator, Brian Brown, turn to page 9.

In September, we would have held our invitation-only Colorado River Symposium in Santa Fe, N.M., but with COVID uncertainties we decided to postpone it until 2022 when we could also mark the 100th anniversary of the Colorado River Compact. Still, with new leadership involved in the management of the Colorado River at the U.S. Department of the Interior, the International Boundary and Water Commission in the U.S. and in Mexico, and major challenges to the basin with the ongoing drought in 2021, we hosted a virtual “afternoon in Santa Fe” so Basin leaders and managers could talk about addressing those challenges and hear from those new political appointees. Read more about our symposium in our Events section, page 7.

As the fall approached and COVID cases ebbed, we hosted our annual Water Summit online with an optional reception during a Sacramento River cruise in late October so we could, in part, test the waters with an in-person event. It went off great despite the fact that a recent atmospheric river put so much debris in the river that we nearly had to stay docked.

I’m so proud that, following 2020, we once again persevered through the challenges in 2021 to carry out our mission to inspire understanding of water and catalyze critical conversations to build bridges and inform collaborative decision-making.

We can’t thank enough the people and organizations that continued to support our activities through donations, and the grant funders such as the Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Geological Survey and the California Department of Water Resources that supported us through the transitions with delivering our programs and projects.

We couldn’t have succeeded without you!

IMPACT

THROUGH OUR WEBSITE **1,094,843** Pageviews

THROUGH OUR EMAIL NEWSLETTERS **11,576** Subscribers

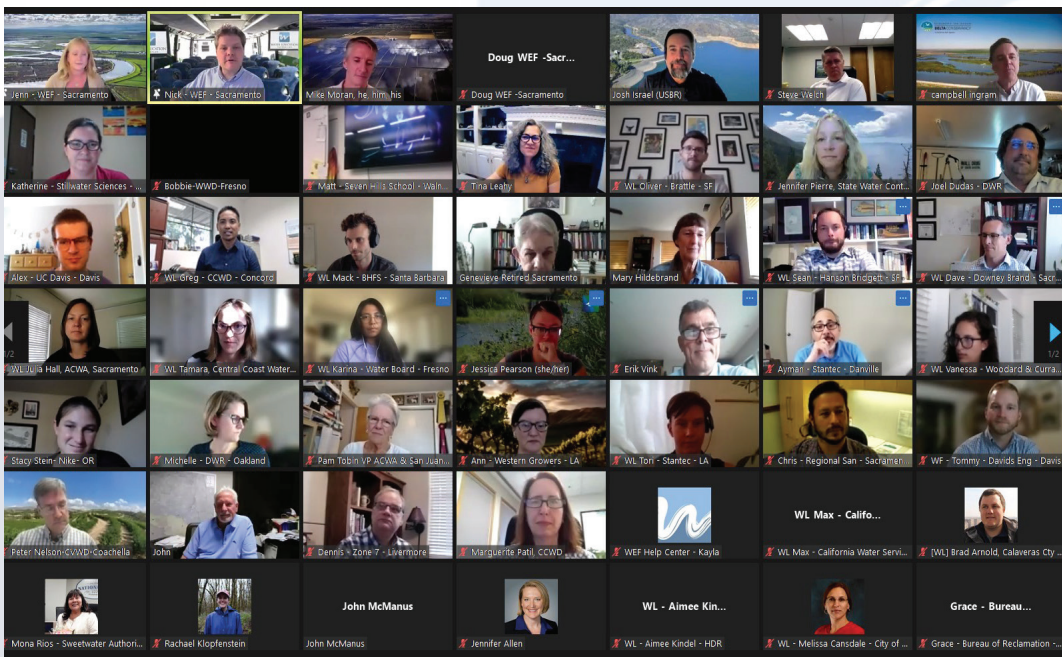
THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA **10,853** Followers

THROUGH CALIFORNIA PROJECT WET TEACHER TRAINING **831** educators at **40** workshops
102,601 CA K-12 students reached

THROUGH OUR WATER LEADERS PROGRAM **23** students
480 graduates since the program began in 1997

THROUGH OUR TOURS **5** tours **188** participants **2,600** virtual miles traveled

THROUGH OUR EVENTS **354** participants at Water 101, Water Summit and Colorado River Symposium



Our virtual Bay-Delta Tour, typically our most popular water tour, drew a large online crowd in 2021.

HIGHLIGHTS



In July, the Foundation moved to new offices near the confluence of the American and Sacramento rivers.

NEW OFFICES

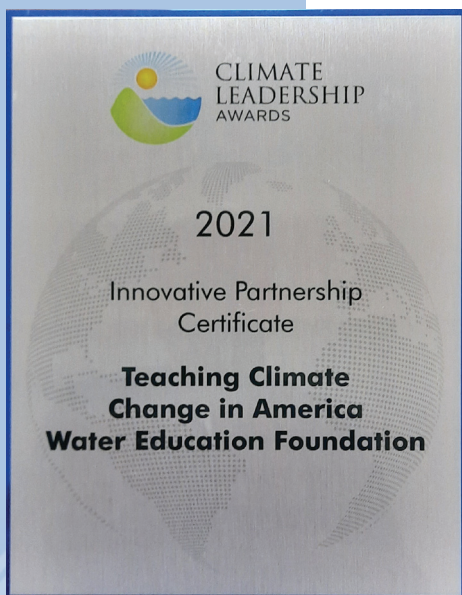
In July, the Foundation moved from its office in midtown Sacramento after seven years to new quarters near the confluence of the American and Sacramento rivers. The new office provides staff with a more efficient and picturesque space, and includes a large meeting area for workshops, tours and board meetings.

BOARD CHANGES

The Foundation welcomed one new board member for 2021: Carl Evers III, with AgIS Capital. Carl was a member of our 2020 Water Leaders class.

STAFF CHANGES

Gary Pitzer left after a 21-year career writing for the Foundation's publications. Kayla Sergent joined the Foundation as Administrative Coordinator, and Sarah Angulo was hired as Programs & Communications Manager.



The Foundation won a national award for its innovative partnership with the Department of Water Resources to train schoolteachers on how they can bring hands-on climate science lessons to their students.

CLIMATE CHANGE AWARD

The Foundation won a national award for its innovative partnership with the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to train schoolteachers across the state on climate science and how they can bring hands-on activities into their classrooms connected to local examples of climate change impacts.

The award was presented Oct. 14 by the Center for Climate and Energy Solutions and The Climate Registry during their virtual Climate Leadership Series and Awards Showcase in October. The Climate Leadership Awards is a national program that recognizes exemplary corporate, organizational and individual leadership in response to climate change.

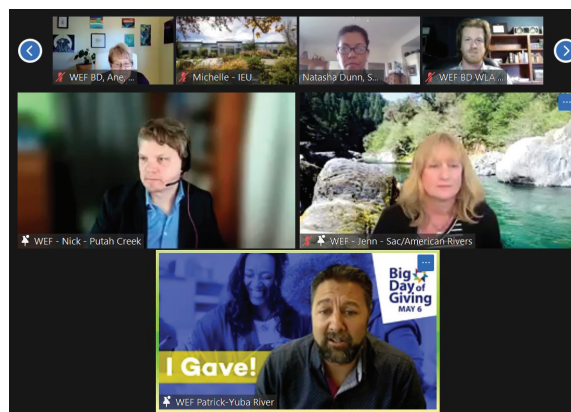
In all, 24 organizations nationwide were honored in 2021. The Water Education Foundation and DWR were awarded with the Innovative Partnership Certificate, which recognizes organizations working collaboratively on leading-edge climate initiatives.

BIG DAY OF GIVING

Big Day of Giving, an annual fundraising event for nonprofits, took place again in May. While we typically use Big Day of Giving to host an open house at our Sacramento office so guests can meet our team and learn about our programs, this year we went virtual. Executive Director Jenn Bowles kicked off the event with a poll asking attendees if they were a WEF Rookie, Enthusiast/Fan or Expert. We also had supporters explain what they valued about the Foundation's programs and publications, and we played water trivia and handed out prizes. In 2021 we raised just over \$11,500, double what we raised in 2020.



Staff writer Gary Pitzer, who left the Foundation after 21 years, poses beside older covers for the print version of Western Water magazine.



In May, staff of the Foundation hosted a virtual open house in conjunction with Big Day of Giving, an annual fundraising effort for nonprofits.

TOURS

Water Education Foundation tours are praised for being balanced, thorough and fun, and we entered 2021 with another full schedule of field trips to offer participants a firsthand look at the water facilities, rivers and regions critical in the debates about the future of water resources. The COVID-19 pandemic continued to affect our ability to offer in-person tours. In the face of this challenge, however, we took what we learned in 2020 to provide high quality virtual opportunities for the public to learn about local, state and federal water issues.

Our virtual format blended an overview presentation on the topics, guided tour videos hosted by staff that brought viewers to locations in the field to hear from experts, and live Q&A sessions where participants could dive deeper into the topics with those same experts in chat rooms.

Through the creative and flexible skill set of the Foundation team, we offered virtual tour experiences that educated participants on pressing water issues and allowed them to interact with each other and a wide range of experts representing different viewpoints.

In 2021, the Foundation conducted five virtual tours:

The **Lower Colorado River Tour**, May 20, brought participants virtually to Lake Mead and Hoover Dam to the Salton Sea and the Coachella Valley to learn about the river's challenges and the vital role it plays in the American Southwest.

The **Bay-Delta Tour**, Sept. 9, explored parts of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and San Francisco Bay as participants learned about the natural history and hydrology of the Bay-Delta system, water project infrastructure, Delta conveyance and farming.

The **Northern California Tour**, Oct. 14, helped participants learn about farming, fishery restoration and California's major water projects in the Sacramento Valley.

The **Central Valley Tour**, Nov. 4, explored the length of the San Joaquin Valley virtually to learn about water supplies, agriculture and habitat.

The **Headwaters Tour**, Nov. 9, was hosted as a virtual journey through the Sierra Nevada foothills and mountains to examine forest management, climate change and impacts on watershed health.

Thank you to our 2021 Tour Sponsors. We could not have made the pivot from in-person to virtual tours without their support.

MAJOR SPONSORS

Bureau of Reclamation – California-Great Basin Region
Bureau of Reclamation – Lower Colorado Basin

TRAILBLAZER SPONSOR

Stantec

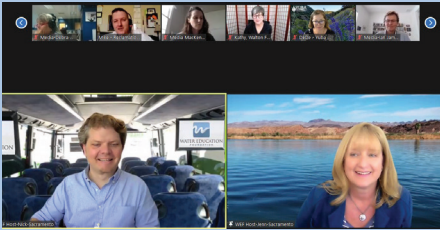
TRAVELER SPONSOR

Turlock Irrigation District

ORGANIZATIONS THAT ALSO OFFERED SUPPORT THROUGH TOUR SPONSORSHIP

Association of California Water Agencies, Contra Costa Water District, East Bay Municipal Utility District, Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, Imperial Irrigation District, Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Southern Nevada Water Authority, Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority, and Yuba Water Agency.

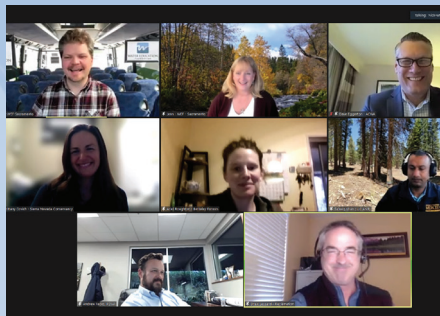
We'd also like to thank editor Nick Janes of J Comm, Inc. for his talent and effort in helping us produce engaging and informative tour videos for our virtual events.



Executive Director Jenn Bowles and Programs Director Nick Gray share a light moment during our virtual Lower Colorado River tour.



Jennifer Pierre, general manager of the State Water Contractors, prepares to give her presentation for the virtual Bay-Delta Tour.



Speakers on the Headwaters Tour prepare to take questions from participants.



Jason Rollo with Metropolitan Water District of Southern California prepares to give his presentation on video for the virtual Lower Colorado River Tour.

EVENTS

WATER SUMMIT

The 37th annual Water Summit, *A Virtual Forum: Pivoting Today's Pain into Tomorrow's Gain*, was held on Oct. 28 via Zoom. Faith Kearns, science communicator at the California Institute for Water Resources and author of "Getting to the Heart of Science Communication," gave the opening keynote address also titled: *Getting to the Heart of Water Communication*.

The Water Summit featured top policymakers and leading stakeholders who provided the latest information and viewpoints on issues affecting water statewide and across the West. Panels highlighted the state's drought and some innovative programs, projects and partnerships aimed at addressing the challenges.

The annual briefing was followed by an optional in-person networking reception (as COVID-19 infections waned) aboard the Capitol Hornblower for a sunset cruise along the Sacramento River.

What participants said:

"Great job Jenn and Nick!"

COLORADO RIVER SYMPOSIUM

In September, the Foundation held a supplement to its biennial Colorado River Symposium, *A Virtual Forum: Navigating Through Crisis*.

The invitation-only Sept. 23 online event featured a lineup of top speakers, including Bureau of Reclamation Deputy Commissioner Camille Calimlim Touton (later sworn in as Reclamation commissioner); and Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Water and Science, Tanya Trujillo. Maria-Elena Giner, the new U.S. Commissioner of the International Boundary and Water Commission, and her counterpart from Mexico, Commissioner Adriana Reséndez, were also introduced.

The opening keynote featured Touton, who discussed the challenges facing the Colorado River. She was followed by a panel discussing on-the-ground impacts of a changing climate on the river's hydrology, hydropower, salinity and the environment, and a second panel examining ways to address the growing depletion of the river's water resources.

The symposium was recorded and the written proceedings will be published in 2022.

What participants said:

"Great Symposium, even in the virtual format. Great job to the Foundation team. Thank You."

"The Symposium is always well-done, thoughtful, and provides opportunities for all views & stakeholders. I appreciate the effort and its value."

WATER 101

Our *Water 101 Workshop: The Basics and Beyond* was held April 22-23 in a virtual format due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This workshop gave participants the opportunity to learn about the history, geography, legal and political facets of water in California as well as hot topics such as the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, the drought, water equity and the new federal administration. The workshop included live Q&A sessions each day allowing participants to meet with speakers in breakout rooms.

What participants said:

"The wide variety of topics - that were all integrated - was so helpful in connecting the dots across the 'water landscape.'"

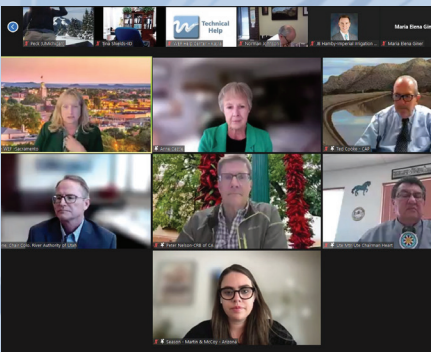
"Really enjoyed the Q&A sessions. Having the opportunity to pose questions to experts was really great. And the excellent presentations were thought provoking for what questions to ask."



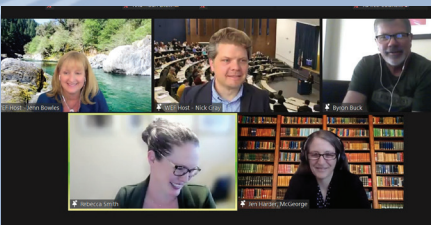
Panelists at the virtual Water Summit answer participant questions during a Q&A session. Panelists (from top left) are Chris Scheuring, California Farm Bureau Federation; Nick Gray, the Foundation's Programs Director; Susana De Anda, Community Water Center; Sandi Matsumoto, The Nature Conservancy; Rick Callender, Valley Water; and Karla Nemeth, California Department of Water Resources.



Tanya Trujillo, Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Water and Science, offers closing remarks during the virtual Colorado River Symposium.



Panelists take questions from participants during our virtual Colorado River Symposium.



Executive Director Jenn Bowles and Programs Director Nick Gray join speakers Byron Buck, Rebecca Smith and Jennifer Harder for a Q&A session during the first day of our virtual Water 101 Workshop.

WATER LEADERS

The Water Leaders class started off virtually, then shifted to a hybrid format in 2021 as the global pandemic began to recede. The class of 23 professionals examined water equity. The class report was "Achieving Water Equity in California: Restructuring Water Management, Governance & Engagement".

Led by Executive Director Jenn Bowles, the class is made up of up-and-coming leaders who deepen their water knowledge and strengthen their leadership skills. They are paired with an expert from the water world as a mentor, and they learn to take an active, cooperative approach to decision-making about water resource issues.

Members of the Foundation's 25th Annual William R. Gianelli Water Leaders Class were:

Tamara Anderson, Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board; **Brad Arnold**, Calaveras County Water District; **Negin Ashoori**, Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency; **Madeline Baker**, Larsen Wurzel & Associates; **Oliver Browne**, The Brattle Group; **Greg Buncab**, Contra Costa Water District; **David Cameron**, Downey Brand LLP; **Melissa Cansdale**, City of Vallejo, Water Department; **Mack Carlson**, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck LLP; **Vanessa De Anda**, Woodard & Curran; **Lynn Groundwater Moeller**, Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group; **Julia Hall**, Association of California Water Agencies; **Cynthia Harris**, Environmental Law Institute; **Sean Herman**, Hanson Bridgett LLP; **Karina Herrerab**, State Water Resources Control Board; **Aimee Kindel**, HDR Engineering, Inc; **Rachael Klopfenstein**, Delta Stewardship Council; **Tori Klug**, Stantec Consulting Services; **Lily Lopez**, Walnut Valley Water District; **Cynthia Meyer**, Bureau of Reclamation; **Tommy Ostrowski**, Davids Engineering, Inc; **Shannon-Patrice Small**, Energy Foundation; **Max Storms**, California Water Service Company

What participants said:

Thank you for an amazing year. From start to finish, I enjoyed every single minute of this year's Water Leaders Class. WEF really pulled it off notwithstanding the challenge of navigating the ongoing pandemic. That said, I shouldn't use "enjoyed" in the past tense because the program will continue to prove its worth for many years to come given what I've learned and the number of remarkable people I've met. It really has been such a privilege to have been selected, and I'd just like to reiterate: Thank you, thank you, thank you.

-Sean Herman, attorney, Hanson Bridgett LLP



Members of the 2021 Water Leaders class gather in person for lunch after months of virtual meetings.



Members of the 2021 Water Leaders class gather virtually for a work group discussion.



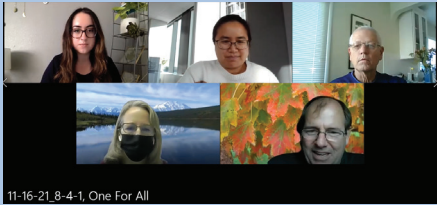
Class member Tori Klug makes a point during an in-person gathering of Water Leaders.

The 2021 Water Leaders class.





A group of educators get on the water to learn about salmon runs on the Feather River.



Project WET coordinator Brian Brown leads a Project WET activity about water users during a November Zoom workshop on climate change.



Brian Brown shows teachers how to measure tree height during a Forestry Institute for Teachers training in Northern California near Lassen Volcanic National Park.



Brian Brown shows educators how to determine a tree's age and identify past droughts with a tree core sample.



CALIFORNIA

project WET

WATER EDUCATION TODAY

PROJECT WET

The Water Education Foundation is the California coordinator of Project WET (Water Education Today), an international teacher training program that educates about immediate water challenges on a local to global scale. During 2021 California Project WET conducted **40 professional development workshops** that trained **831 California K-12 educators**, who planned to use Project WET activities with approximately **102,601 students in the 2021-2022 school year**.

Brian Brown who leads the California Project WET program and his program partners across the state continued to adjust to changing COVID-19 conditions throughout the year. After learning how to conduct trainings online during 2020, the program began 2021 with virtual workshops but was able to transition to a series of in-person and hybrid workshops during the summer and then back to online trainings for fall 2021 as COVID-19 cases ebbed and surged.

Examples of California Project WET training in 2021 include:

- A series of very well received in-person workshops during the summer of 2021, including one Forestry Institute for Teachers, two Water Institutes for Teachers and a summer science institute through Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.
- An online DWR Climate Change for teachers in the Sierra foothills and a California Project WET 'Understanding Climate Change in California' workshop specifically for Project WET facilitators, an advanced training to help our volunteer workshop organizers better understand climate change science and how to engage students in the study of climate science.
- An in-person workshop for teachers that included a boat tour of Lake Berryessa in Napa County. The event featured Bureau of Reclamation and DWR staff, who provided participants with an overview of the role of Reclamation and DWR in managing water resources in California and the nation as well as specific challenges posed by climate change in managing Lake Berryessa into the future. You can view a video at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0nuotdA2-g8>
- Workshops featuring U.S. Geological Survey California Water Science Center staff who provided an overview of USGS research in California focused on climate change.

GRANTS HELPING THE PROGRAM

None of this would have been possible without the financial support of our U.S. Geological Survey - California Water Science Center, Bureau of Reclamation California-Great Basin Region, California Department of Water Resources, Coastal Commission, NOAA B-WET and local funding partners. Their continued support, understanding and flexibility allowed the program to adjust to the fluctuating challenges of 2021 in light of the pandemic and remain in a position to deliver on our mutual water education goals and objectives.

RELATED ACTIVITIES

Throughout 2021, Brian continued to be actively involved with various professional committees and organizations, including the Project WET USA Coordinator Council, the California Environmental Education Interagency Network, DWR Water Education Committee, Forestry Institute for Teachers Steering Committee and California Project Learning Tree Advisory Committee. The California Project WET program also presented at the 2021 California Association of Science Educators virtual conference.

Brian also creates the quarterly California Project WET Gazette newsletter, which is featured in a digital format on the Water Education Foundation website. Used throughout 2020 and early 2021 as a vehicle to share Project WET online activity strategies and resources with K-12 educators throughout the state, the Gazette transitioned into squarely focusing on California water challenges through the lens of climate change through the rest of the year.

What participants said:

"The activities we did are definitely relevant to current issues and a great way to engage students in these issues. I really appreciate how easy it is to localize these activities to your community and setting."

"I found the Project WET activities to provide a gateway to students becoming more aware about how they can take individual and collective action towards stewardship."

WESTERN WATER

The Foundation's online news magazine, *Western Water*, covered a variety of critical water issues facing California and the West in a year that fluctuated between desperate drought and record precipitation.

Our stories looked at topics emerging for policymakers, water purveyors, environmentalists, farmers and the public. Among the in-depth articles in 2021: We highlighted how two San Joaquin Valley agencies were taking different approaches in attempting to meet California's groundwater sustainability goals. We also looked at growing political interest in and new financial support for restoring the Central Valley's floodplains to respond to climate change impacts in ways that benefit ecosystems and groundwater recharge while reducing flood risks.

Money was a theme in other stories, as well. *Western Water* explored how the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown exposed the water affordability issues facing some Californians and the challenges water agencies face in trying to offer help. And a surge of funding offered hope that ecosystem restoration efforts at the Salton Sea would finally pick up speed.

In the Colorado River Basin, we dug into how Las Vegas is taking some extreme measures to stretch a shrinking supply of Colorado River water as climate change is expected to drive up temperatures – and water use. And in the Colorado River Delta in Mexico, we examined a binational project using experimental flows of river water to revive trees and restore habitat for birds and wildlife in a small part of the once-vast estuary.

Potential impacts from climate change were also at the heart of a notebook article exploring how the State Water Resources Control Board is considering tailoring its water rights permitting system to better adapt to the increasingly whipsaw nature of California's climate.

Western Water interviewed newsmakers for a series of question-&-answer columns: Tanya Trujillo, appointed by President Biden as assistant secretary of the Interior for water and science, overseeing the Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Geological Society; and Jeff Kightlinger, the long-time general manager of Metropolitan Water District of Southern California who was about to retire. They each discussed some of the ongoing challenges facing the Colorado River,

a key water supply for farms and cities in Southern California. We also talked with Laurel Larsen, the first woman appointed as Delta lead scientist, who hopes to improve the ability of science to respond to changing conditions in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, the state's vital water and ecological resource.

Western Water | November 19, 2021 | By Alastair Bland

California Spent Decades Trying to Keep Central Valley Floods at Bay. Now It Looks to Welcome Them Back

WESTERN WATER IN-DEPTH: Floodplain restoration gets a policy and funding boost as interest grows in projects that bring multiple benefits to respond to climate change impacts

Land and waterway managers labored hard over the course of a century to control California's unruly rivers by building dams and levees to slow and contain their water. Now, farmers, environmentalists and agencies are undoing some of that work as part of an accelerating campaign to restore the state's major floodplains.



Water floods a restored floodplain at Dos Rios Ranch Preserve near Modesto. (Source: River Partners)

Western Water | January 29, 2021 | By Gary Pitzer and Douglas E. Beeman

In the Heart of the San Joaquin Valley, Two Groundwater Sustainability Agencies Try to Find Their Balance

WESTERN WATER SPECIAL REPORT: Agencies in Fresno, Tulare counties pursue different approaches to address overdraft and meet requirements of California's groundwater law

Across a sprawling corner of southern Tulare County snug against the Sierra Nevada, a bounty of navel oranges, grapes, pistachios, hay and other crops sprout from the loam and clay of the San Joaquin Valley. Groundwater helps keep these orchards, vineyards and fields vibrant and supports a multibillion-dollar agricultural economy across the valley. But that bounty has come at a price. Overpumping of groundwater has depleted aquifers, dried up household wells and degraded ecosystems.



Flooding permanent crops seasonally, such as this vineyard at Terranova Ranch in Fresno County, is one innovative strategy to recharge aquifers. (Source: Paolo Vesica)

Western Water | April 30, 2021 | By Gary Pitzer

Pandemic Lockdown Exposes the Vulnerability Some Californians Face Keeping Up With Water Bills

WESTERN WATER IN-DEPTH: Growing mountain of water bills spotlights affordability and hurdles to implementing a statewide assistance program

As California slowly emerges from the depths of the COVID-19 pandemic, one remnant left behind by the statewide lockdown offers a sobering reminder of the economic challenges still ahead for millions of the state's residents and the water agencies that serve them – a mountain of water debt.

Water affordability concerns, long an issue in a state where millions of people struggle to make ends meet, jumped into overdrive last year as the pandemic wrenched the economy. Jobs were lost and household finances were upended. Even with federal stimulus aid and unemployment checks, bills fell by the wayside.



Single-family residential customers who are behind on their water bills in San Diego County's Helix Water District can get a one-time credit on their bill through a rate assistance program funded with money from surplus land sales. (Source: City of La Mesa)

Western Water | June 25, 2021 | By Gary Pitzer

As Climate Change Turns Up The Heat in Las Vegas, Water Managers Try to Wring New Savings to Stretch Supply

WESTERN WATER IN-DEPTH: Rising temperatures are expected to drive up water demand as historic drought in the Colorado River Basin imperils Southern Nevada's key water source

Las Vegas, known for its searing summertime heat and glitzy casino fountains, is projected to get even hotter in the coming years as climate change intensifies. As temperatures rise, possibly as much as 10 degrees by end of the century, according to some models, water demand for the desert community is expected to spike. That is not good news in a fast-growing region that depends largely on a limited supply of water from an already drought-stressed Colorado River.

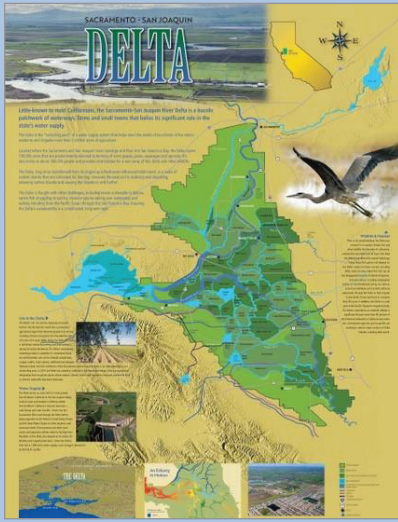


Las Vegas has reduced its water consumption even as its population has increased. (Source: Southern Nevada Water Authority)

PUBLICATIONS

ALL THINGS DROUGHT PAGE

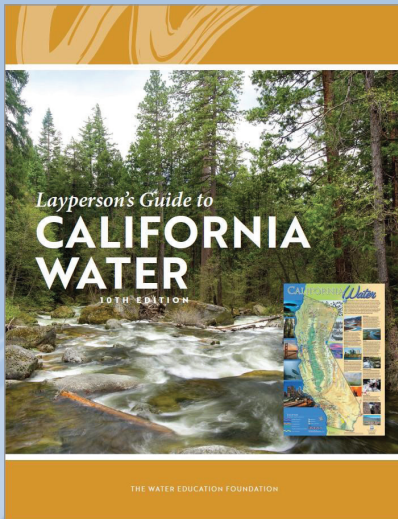
As drought tightened its grip on California and the West, the Water Education Foundation assembled a webpage of information, resources, tips and weblinks to inform the public about drought, help people track its severity and find ways to conserve water in their homes and yards. The page includes a newsfeed for drought developments, a map of drought conditions across the U.S. that updates weekly, weblinks to real-time state and federal reservoir levels, water supply forecasts, a collection of reports, and our own *Western Water* articles and drought FAQ page.



The Foundation produced a new, redesigned map of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

DELTA MAP

The Foundation updated our map of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta with a fresh, new look and updated text and images to better tell the story of one of California's most important ecological and water supply resources. The new map explores the Delta's importance as a haven for birds, fish and other wildlife, its vital role in moving water to farms and cities across California and the array of challenges facing the Delta's present and future. The map also highlights life in the Delta, including its role as a farming region and its attractions for fishermen, boaters and others looking for recreation. The poster-size wall map shows how the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers thread their way through the Delta's maze of islands and tracts; key aqueducts, canals and highways that traverse the region; the Suisun Marsh; and the towns that dot the Delta. Graphics explain subsidence in the Delta and the movement of salt water that makes it an estuary in motion.



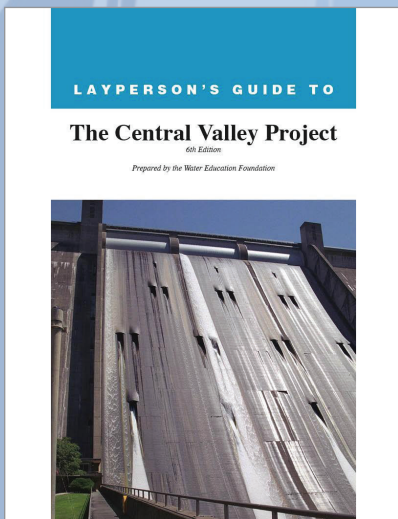
The *Layperson's Guide to California Water*, one of our most popular titles, got a completely new look along with an update of its content.

LAYPERSON'S GUIDE TO CALIFORNIA WATER

The Foundation revised both the content and the look of its 24-page *Layperson's Guide to California Water*, which provides an overview of the history of water development and its use in California today. The 10th Edition of this popular guide includes the latest information on the state's changing hydrology, recent water conservation legislation, and a new section on the human right to and need for water, highlighting issues of water access and affordability that have drawn increasing attention in California. The updated guide includes sections on the state, federal and Colorado River delivery systems; Delta issues; water rights; environmental issues; water quality; and options for stretching the water supply. This latest edition also includes habitat restoration work at the Salton Sea, efforts to address persistent drought on the Colorado River and the emergence of a water futures market.

LAYPERSON'S GUIDE TO THE CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT

The Foundation updated its 24-page *Layperson's Guide to the Central Valley Project* to reflect the latest developments affecting California's largest surface water delivery system. The sixth edition of the guide explores the history of the Central Valley Project, from its roots as a state water project that stalled amid the Great Depression to its development as a federal project that stretches from Shasta Dam in far Northern California to Bakersfield in the southern San Joaquin Valley. The guide includes information on the challenges facing the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta; the San Joaquin River Restoration Program; contract renewals; land retirement; and implementation of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act, including its anadromous fish restoration program.



The *Layperson's Guide to the Central Valley Project* was updated earlier in the year.

FUNDING SOURCES

A variety of grants from governmental agencies and other organizations funded the Foundation's special programs, publications and projects in 2021. The Foundation's general activities, in turn, were supported by another primary source — annual contributions.

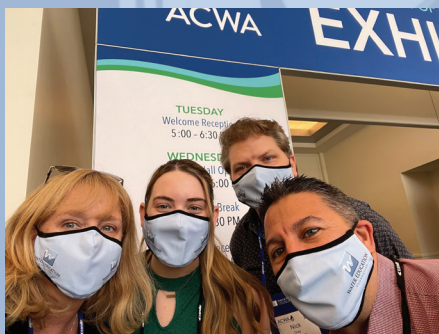
This diversity of funding helps the Foundation fulfill its mission of providing balance in all written materials, school programs, tours, workshops, conferences and publications. Reviewers and advisory groups help ensure technical accuracy, but the Foundation retains editorial control over all programs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

In 2021, grant funds provided 28 percent of the Foundation's revenues, including support for Project WET, tours and publications.

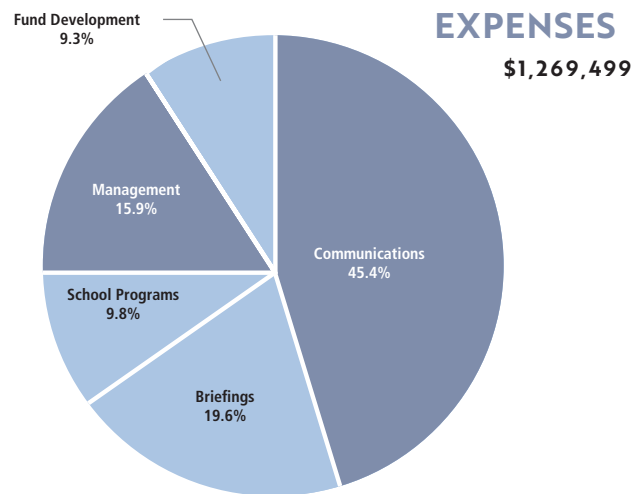
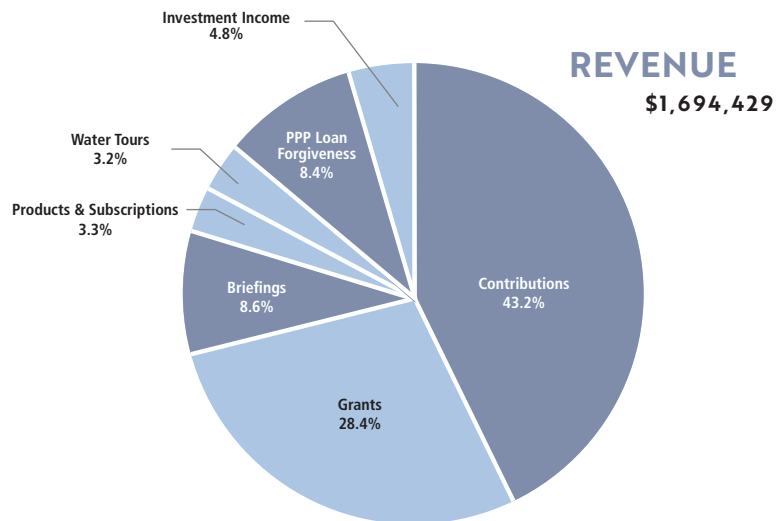
Major contributions (see page 13 for the list) represented 43 percent of 2021 revenues and helped maintain core programs such as *Western Water* online, conferences, tours and the Water Leaders Program.

Additional Foundation income is derived from attendance at briefings and water tours (12 percent) and the sale of our educational materials (3 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 Southwest. We thank all the organizations and individuals for the many ways in which they support our work and help us fulfill our mission.



The Foundation's team at ACWA's Fall Conference in Pasadena.



Foundation staff pose for a sunset photo during a Sacramento River cruise and reception following our Water Summit in October.

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Foundation staff pose for a photo after celebrating the year's accomplishments at the holiday lunch.

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Programs Director Nick Gray and Patrick Dunlap, Deputy Director, Development and Operations, chat while waiting for guests at the Water Summit reception.

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Executive Director Jenn Bowles and Board Member Jennifer Persike during the Water Summit reception on the Sacramento River.

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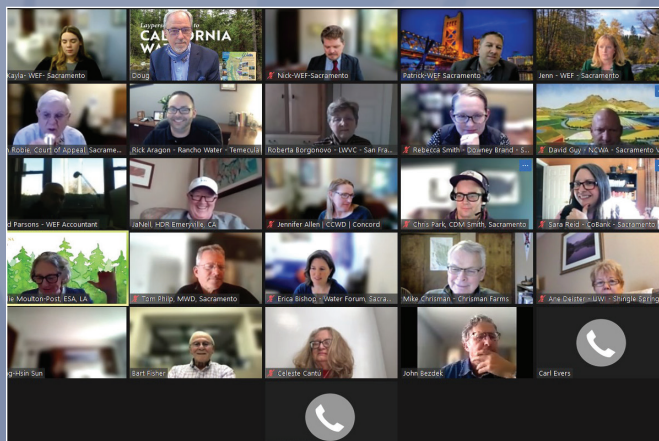
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Jeffrey Turner
 Jenn Bowles
 Jennifer Persike
 Jesse Barton, Gallery & Barton APLC



The Foundation's board met virtually during the year because of the COVID-19 pandemic.



Board member David Guy and Rita Schmidt Sudman, the Foundation's former executive director, at the Water Summit reception in October.

MISSION

To inspire understanding of water and catalyze critical conversations to build bridges and inform collaborative decision-making

VISION

A society that has the ability to resolve its water challenges to benefit all



WATER EDUCATION
FOUNDATION