



**WATER EDUCATION
FOUNDATION**

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**WATER EDUCATION FOUNDATION
LOWER COLORADO RIVER TOUR ITINERARY
MARCH 10 - 12, 2010**

SPONSORED BY: Water Education Foundation

TOUR STAFF: *Rebecca Scott, Events/Tour Director, Water Education Foundation*
Susan Lauer, Writer/Special Projects Coordinator, Water Education Foundation

RESOURCE SPEAKER: *Paul Matuska, Group Manager, Water Accounting and Conservation Group, Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Region*
Ken Nowak, Water Resource Engineer, Center for Advanced Decision Support for Water and Environmental Systems

DAY 1, WEDNESDAY, March 10

The Colorado River System and Hoover Dam, QSA legal activities, Nevada water use, water quality issues, river communities' concerns, Multi-Species Conservation Plan and river wildlife refuges

7:45 a.m. CHECK-IN (Breakfast rolls and coffee in meeting room Caribbean A on second floor – see map enclosed in packet)

Treasure Island Hotel, 3300 Las Vegas Boulevard South, Las Vegas, NV 89109 (800) 288-7206

7:55 a.m. Group introductions

8:00 a.m. Tour introductory briefing:

Overview of Colorado River system; role of the Bureau of Reclamation on the river. Current state of issues on the river, including water supply, Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS), Quantification Settlement Agreement (QSA) legal activities
Lorri Gray-Lee, Regional Director, Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Region

Southern Nevada water needs. Groundwater imports from north of Las Vegas. ICS possibilities; Drop 2 Storage facility, Negotiations with Mexico
Bill Rinne, *Director of Surface Water Resources, Southern Nevada Water Authority*

9:00 a.m. **DEPART** for Hoover Dam.

EN ROUTE:

Current conditions in the Colorado River Basin: Snowpack and Streamflow Forecast
Ken Nowak, *Water Resource Engineer, Center for Advanced Decision Support for Water and Environmental Systems*

Discuss Nevada views on water needs and reservoir operations. Discussions with Mexico on cooperative water issues and discussions related to the extension of contracts for Hoover Dam Power.

SPEAKERS:

Paul Matuska, *Group Manager, Water Accounting and Conservation Group, Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Region*
George Caan, *Executive Director, Colorado River Commission of Nevada*

10:00 a.m. **ARRIVE** Hoover Dam for private tour.

Welcome: **Bob Walsh**, *Director of Public Affairs, Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Region*

TOUR GUIDE: *Hoover Dam, Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Region*

11:30 a.m. **DEPART** for Lake Mead Cruise

Review of recent Lake Mead publications
Ken Nowak, *Water Resource Engineer, Center for Advanced Decision Support for Water and Environmental Systems*

12:00 noon **LUNCH**, Desert Princess, Lake Mead

1:45 p.m. **DEPART** for Needles.

EN ROUTE:

Lake Mead Q&A Opportunity
Ken Nowak, *Water Resource Engineer, Center for Advanced Decision Support for Water and Environmental Systems*

Lower Colorado River Supply Project (Needles); Lower of Colorado River, Administration

Paul Matuska, *Group Manager, Water Accounting and Conservation Group, Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Region*

View video: *“Multi-Species Conservation Program”*

4:00 p.m. ARRIVE Havasu National Wildlife Refuge

(5:00 AZ time)

Riparian habitat restoration projects, endangered species. Multi-Species Conservation Program (MSCP), Razorback Sucker, protected habitats and Beal Lake, Topock Marsh Water Infrastructure Improvement Project

SPEAKERS:

Jack Allen, *Refuge Biologist, Havasu National Wildlife Refuge*

Ashlee Rudolph, *Project Manager/Hydrologist, LCR MSCP*

4:50 p.m. DEPART for Lake Havasu City

(5:50 AZ time)

Cadiz Valley aquifer project

Lesley Thornburg, *Cadiz Inc. Property Manager*

Colorado River Flow Variability: The Paleo Perspective

Ken Nowak, *Water Resource Engineer, Center for Advanced Decision Support for Water and Environmental Systems*

5:30 p.m. ARRIVE Hampton Inn, 245 London Bridge Road, Lake Havasu City, AZ; 928-855-4071

(6:30 AZ time)

6:30 p.m. DEPART for Shugrue’s Restaurant, no-host cocktails and dinner

(7:30 AZ time)

7:00 p.m. DINNER, Shugrue’s Restaurant, 1425 McCulloch Blvd, Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403

(8:00 AZ time)

Recreational uses on the Colorado River. Water quantity and water quality issues for river communities.

SPEAKER: Charlie Cassens, *Interim City Manager, Lake Havasu City*

DAY 2, THURSDAY, March 11

Colorado River Allocations: Arizona water uses; Indian water rights, urban and agricultural water use in California, land following, Yuma Desalting Plant, the Imperial Valley.

6:45 a.m. BREAKFAST.

(7:45 AZ time)

7:00 a.m. Arizona’s view of interstate groundwater banking, AZ recharge, Shortage criteria and

(8:00 AZ time) operations.

SPEAKER: Larry Dozier, Deputy General Manager, Central Arizona Project (CAP)

7:45 a.m. **DEPART** for Central Arizona Project pumping plant
(8:45 AZ time)

Organization of the Metropolitan Water District

SPEAKER: Pat Chandler, Inspection Trip Manager, MWD of Southern California

8:15 a.m. **ARRIVE** Central Arizona Project Mark Wilmer pumping plant aqueduct
(9:15 AZ time) out-take

**SPEAKER: Gerry Tarling, Mark Wilmer Pumping Plant Supervisor,
Central Arizona Project**

8:30 a.m. **DEPART** for Gene Village, MWD of Southern California
(9:30 AZ time)

EN ROUTE: Bill Williams National Wildlife Refuge, Parker Dam - the deepest dam in the world.

SPEAKERS: Pat Chandler, Inspection Trip Manager, MWD of Southern California

9:30 a.m. **ARRIVE** Gene Village for tour of MWD facilities.

11:30 a.m. **LUNCH.**

MWD Colorado River use. MWD's views on the shortage criteria and operations. Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) demonstration program.

SPEAKER: Bill Hasencamp, Colorado River Program Manager, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

12:30 p.m. **DEPART** for Colorado River Indian Tribes reservation, Parker, AZ

EN ROUTE:

Discussion of tribal water concerns

SPEAKER: Gary Hansen, Water Resources Director, Colorado River Indian Tribes

1:00 p.m. **ARRIVE/DEPART** Colorado River Indian Tribes reservation, Parker, AZ.

En Route: View IID Video: "Abundance from the Desert Floor" and "Two Sides of a River – The New River" – Water Education Foundation
"Yuma Desalting Plant Test Run Demo 2007"

Climate modeling 101 and applications to the Colorado River Basin

Ken Nowak, Water Resource Engineer, Center for Advanced Decision Support for Water and Environmental Systems

3:30 p.m. **ARRIVE** Yuma Desalting Plant

(4:30 AZ time)

Overview of area office and pilot run

Jennifer McCloskey, area manager, Yuma area office, Bureau of Reclamation

4:15 p.m. DEPART for the Imperial Valley, Drop 2 Reservoir and All-American Canal

(5:15 AZ time)

En ROUTE:

Drop 2 reservoir site: project purpose and status

SPEAKER: *Paul Matuska, Group Manager, Water Accounting and Conservation Group, Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Region*

Tour of Drop 2 reservoir site. View All-American Canal en route (stop if time), Imperial Valley farms. All-American Canal lining, concerns and importance. On-farm conservation. Following discussion. QSA legal activities. Mexico's issues with AAC lining.

SPEAKERS:

Mike King, Manager, Water Department, Imperial Irrigation District

Todd Shields, Project Manager, AAC lining project

6:15 p.m. ARRIVE Fairfield Inn and Suites by Marriott, 503 E. Danenburg, El Centro, CA 92243 (760) 353-2600

7:15 p.m. DEPART for dinner at **Mariscos Puerto Nuevo Bar & Grill**

7:30 p.m. DINNER at **Mariscos Puerto Nuevo Bar & Grill** 201 N Imperial Avenue, El Centro, CA 92243. (760) 352 - 2757

WELCOME: **Mike King**, Manager, Water Department, Imperial Irrigation District

The IID-San Diego Water Transfer – How the Valley is responding

SPEAKERS:

Brian Brady, General Manager, Imperial Irrigation District

DAY 3, FRIDAY, March 12

Ag and urban water use; land fallowing and the IID/San Diego transfer agreement; water quality; Salton Sea; ecological issues; Coachella Valley water use; aquifer conditions

7:00 a.m. BREAKFAST (Get your breakfast in lobby and bring to meeting room for presentation)

The Future of the Salton Sea

SPEAKER: **Michael Cohen**, Senior Associate, Pacific Institute

County's interest in the QSA

SPEAKERS:

Supervisor Wally Leimgruber, District 5

Brad Poirez, Imperial County Air Pollution Control Officer

8:30 a.m. DEPART for Imperial Irrigation District office

8:45 a.m. ARRIVE Imperial Irrigation District Operations office

Agricultural water use and conservation, land fallowing and the transfer agreement

SPEAKERS:

Tina Shields, Assistant Water Department Manager, Imperial Irrigation District

Vince Brooke, Imperial Irrigation District

9:30 a.m. DEPART for tour of IID farms, view Alamo and New Rivers

Louise Willey Reservoir and Jack Brother Tail Water Recovery System (TRS-25). The

Willey Reservoir is a regulating reservoir and the TRS is an on-farm project both constructed under 1988 IID/MWD conservation program

(Need to be on 111 N when we leave)

Tour IID farms **(Route by IID)**

10:30 a.m. DEPART for the Coachella Canal

View Video: *Lining of the Coachella Canal (CVWD)*

En Route: QSA, water conservation, view video of the lining the Coachella Canal

SPEAKER: Bob Keeran, Public Relations Associate, Coachella Valley Water District

11:15 a.m. ARRIVE Coachella Canal

SPEAKER: Bob Keeran, Public Relations Associate, Coachella Valley Water District

11:30 a.m. DEPART for Salton Sea State Recreation Area, North Shore

En Route: Salton Sea Restoration planning process. Air quality concerns, other environmental concerns.

SPEAKER: Doug Barnum, Biologist, USGS Salton Sea Science office

12:30 p.m. ARRIVE Salton Sea State Recreation Area, North Shore

LUNCH

Greeting: Robert Peek, Park Manager, Salton Sea State Recreation Area, California Department of Parks and Recreation

SPEAKERS:

The Salton Sea – the science behind the challenges
Doug Barnum, Biologist, USGS Salton Sea Science Office

California State Resources Agency - Resources Agency's Salton Sea ecosystem restoration study. Preferred alternatives. What comes next?
Jack Crayon, Environmental Program Biologist, CA Dept. of Fish & Game

2:00 p.m. **DEPART** for farm fields and tour of Coachella Valley

EN ROUTE:

Coachella Valley overview

SPEAKERS:

Bob Keeran, Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD)
Franz De Klotz, CVWD board of directors and with Richard Bagdasarian, Inc.

2:15 p.m. **ARRIVE** farm field for irrigation discussion

SPEAKERS:

Bob Keeran, Coachella Valley Water District
Franz De Klotz, CVWD board of directors and Vice-President of Marketing, Richard Bagdasarian, Inc.

2:45 p.m. **DEPART** for Thomas E. Levy Groundwater Replenishment Facility and Coachella Valley Water District office

3:15 p.m. **ARRIVE** Coachella Valley Water District for tour of control room.

Land subsidence concerns and groundwater pumping

SPEAKER: *Dan Parks, Assistant General Manager, Coachella Valley WD*

4:00 p.m. **DEPART** for airport

EN ROUTE: Complete Water Education Foundation evaluation forms.

Tour recap:

Climate recap and additional resources

Ken Nowak, Water Resource Engineer, Center for Advanced Decision Support for Water and Environmental Systems

Question and Answer Time

View Video: *“High Stakes on the Salton Sea” – Water Education Foundation*

6:00 p.m. **ARRIVE** Ontario International Airport.