

WATER EDUCATION

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

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WaterEducationFoundation

water-education-foundation



@WaterEdFdn



During 2015 the Water Education Foundation met its goals and expanded its role to foster understanding of water resources and related issues through publications, conferences, tours, social media and other programs.

school children – and their families.

The work of the Foundation's nine-member staff is supported by federal, state and private grants; contributions from consultants, water districts, attorneys, farmers 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. The budget for 2015 was \$1.8 million.

Leading the Foundation's effort to provide impartial education is a 33-member voluntary Board of Directors. Members come from the water, business, agricultural, municipal, environmental, education and public interest communities.

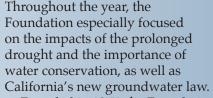
During 2015, the Foundation's six issues of *Western Water* examined topics ranging from remote sensing applications and how satellite information enables analysts to get a better understanding of many water issues to the Salton Sea dilemma and water rights reform.

The two issues of *River Report*, which focuses on Colorado River issues, delved into topics related to reaching a reliable supply based on the *Moving Forward Report* and paying for Colorado River water through private investment and public dollars.

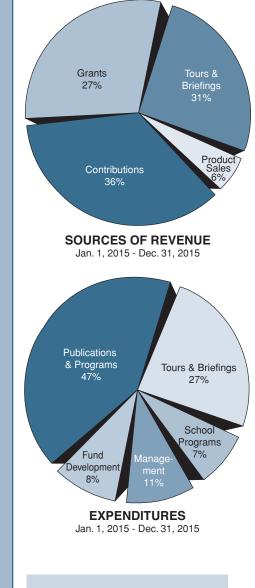
Foundation staff also conducted eight water tours, held the biennial Colorado River symposium in Santa Fe and held the 32nd Annual Executive Briefing.

In addition to these regular programs, many special projects were undertaken in which the Foundation:

- Developed and published the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Handbook, distributed at regional workshops and available for free on our website
- 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 for more than 1,000 educators across the state
- Continued to expand its comprehensive website watereducation.org incorporating products; free-to-the-public water information; the news aggregate, Aquafornia.com, and online water encyclopedia, Aquapedia.com
- Established a greater presence on social media, including on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn
- Presented the Water 101: the Basics and Beyond workshop in West Sacramento
- Co-sponsored a major conference on Integrated Regional Water Management with the California Department of Water Resources in San Diego
- Researched, wrote, edited and published a history book for Inland Empire Utilities Agency and completed a centennial book for the Alameda County Water District
- Sponsored the fourth annual Anne J. Schneider Lecture series featuring Dan Dooley
- Co-sponsored a free drought/water project operations briefing in Fresno in partnership with the California Department of Water Resources

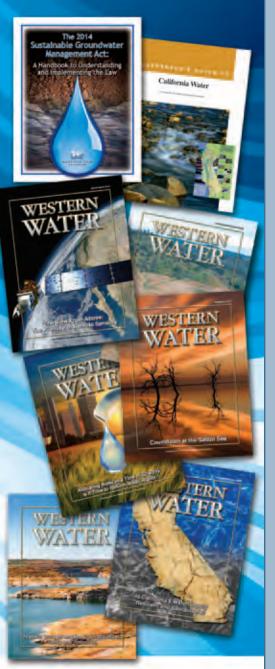


Founded in 1977, the Foundation targets a broad audience, including policymakers and leading agricultural, environmental and urban stakeholders; journalists; and





Publications



Top to bottom: In 2015 the Foundation published the 2014 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act: A Handbook to Understanding and Implementing the Law, a special publication available for free on our website; the popular Layperson's Guide to California Water was updated late in the year; Western Water covered a host of challenging topics including remote sensing, achieving water supply sustainability and profiling the effort to restore the Salton Sea.

Western Water Magazine

In 2015 the Foundation's *Western Water* Magazine explored some in-depth key topics being discussed by legislators, water purveyors, environmentalists, the media and the general public.

Against the backdrop of water districts and agencies touting goals to create a "reliable water supply," writer Gary Pitzer looked behind the scenes to the core question of whether that is even possible in the January/February issue, entitled "Is California's Water Supply Resilient and Sustainable?"

In the March/April issue, Gary looked at remote sensing applications in "The View From Above: The Promise of Remote Sensing 2015," which explored how satellite information enables analysts to get a better understanding of snowpack, how much water a plant actually uses, groundwater levels, levee stability and more.

"Countdown at the Salton Sea," the main article in the May/June 2015 issue, looked at the dilemma of the shrinking Salton Sea, which at the southeastern edge of California, is slowly evaporating and becoming more saline – threatening the habitat for scores of fish and birds and worsening air quality as dust from the drying lakebed is whipped by the constant winds.

With news headlines announcing farmers and other users facing extreme water delivery cutbacks regardless of their water rights, Gary wrote "Allocating Water in a Time of Scarcity: Is it Time to Reform Water Rights?" in the July/August issue. This article discussed how severe drought put the state's water rights system under scrutiny, raising the question of whether a complete overhaul is necessary to better allocate water use.

For the September/October issue, Gary focused on how the severe drought was hitting the San Joaquin Valley in "Rewriting History: California's Epic Drought." His article examined the impacts of California's epic drought, especially related to water supplies for San Joaquin Valley rural communities and farmland.

Sue McClurg wrote the November/December edition, focusing on "Historic Drought and the Colorado River: Today and Tomorrow." Sue discussed ways to close the gap between the supply and demand for water, which could exceed supply by 3.2 million acre-feet in 2060, depending on growth, continued water use and climate change.

Other Publications

Foundation writers pooled their talents and released a free online handbook about the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), signed into law in 2014 by Gov. Jerry Brown. The handbook provided an overview of California groundwater and SGMA, a timeline and a list of frequently asked questions. Chapters explained how a Groundwater Sustainability Agency might be formed, outlined the broad goals of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan, SGMA fees and case studies.

The handbook was developed with funding from the California Water Foundation.

LPG California Water update

The *Layperson's Guide to California Water*, the anchor of the Water Education Foundation's popular series of Layperson's Guides, was updated in late 2015. This guide provides an excellent overview of the history of water development and use in California. It 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 such as seawater desalination, groundwater banking and increased water recycling.

The Foundation has published 15 titles in the Layperson's Guide series, which aims to provide a broad overview and perspective on a variety of important water topics. The guides, which range from 20 to 32 pages, are periodically updated to include the most recent information.

Briefings

Executive Briefing

The 32nd Annual Executive Briefing, *The Value of Water: Building Momentum in 2015*, was held March 25 at the Red Lion Hotel Woodlake in Sacramento. About 150 people attended.

Speaker and panel presentations focused on long-term water management; the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act; water bond allocations; the Salton Sea and the potential future of the Delta. Speakers included DWR Director Mark Cowin, Principal Deputy Assistant Interior Secretary Jennifer Gimbel, Cal-EPA Undersecretary Gordon Burns and Lester Snow, Executive Director of the California Water Foundation.

The annual briefing also included a "silent auction" hosted by the Water Leaders Association, the alumni from the Foundation's popular Water Leaders Class. Proceeds from the "sale" of donated items provide financial support for the William R. Gianelli Water Leaders Program. Coffee service was sponsored by McGeorge School of Law and the hosted reception was sponsored by CV Strategies.

Water 101 Workshop

On Feb. 5-6 the Foundation conducted *Water 101, the Basics and Beyond* in West Sacramento. The workshop gave participants the opportunity to learn about California water topics and issues, and delved into water district board member governance. Hot topics included water demand and use, current management issues, the legal and institutional framework and the role of alternative water supplies.

Featured speakers included Tina Cannon Leahy, Principal Consultant, California Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee, on understanding and how to work with the state Legislature and current legislative proposals, and Kim Delfino, California Water Commission member and California director for Defenders of Wildlife, on the next steps for the water bond and the increasing role of recycled water and other alternative supplies.

2015 Drought Workshop

A free briefing, *The Challenges of the 2015 Drought: Water Project Operations,* focused on how hydrologic conditions affect water project operations and conditions in the Delta, as well as actions being taken in response to balance impacts to cities, farms and the environment.

The briefing, held on March 19 at California State University, Fresno, was co-sponsored by California Department of Water Resources and the Water Education Foundation in cooperation with Center for Irrigation Technology at Fresno State. About 70 people attended the event.

Integrated Regional Water Management Conference

The *Integrated Regional Water Management 2.0: The Next Generation* conference was held May 21-22 2015 in San Diego. This was the third time that Water Education Foundation and California DWR held a major IRWM conference.

Speakers included Fran Spivy-Weber, vice chair of the California State Water Resources Control Board; Gary Bardini, deputy director for Integrated Water Management, California DWR; Col. Mike Farrell, commander, Sacramento District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Gordon Burns, undersecretary, California EPA and Maureen Stapleton, general manager of the San Diego County Water Authority.

A special Expo featured DWR tools designed to support IRWM efforts, including DWR's conference exhibit, Draft Excerpts from Strategies for the Future of IRWM in California.

The conference was co-sponsored by DWR and the Foundation in partnership with the Roundtable of Regions.



Top to bottom: The Executive Briefing included a Delta panel, L to R, Erik Vink, Delta Protection Commission, Cathy Crothers, California DWR, John Durand, UC Davis, Jennifer Persike, ACWA, Sunne McPeak, Delta Vision Foundation, and Taryn Ravazzini, Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee; State Water Board Vice Chair Frances Spivy-Weber was the keynote speaker at the IRWM conference; Water 101's speaker lineup included California Water Foundation Executive Director Lester Snow, shown here with Foundation Executive Director Jennifer Bowles; farmer Mark Watte discusses the amount of water needed to produce a hamburger at the Executive Briefing.

School Programs



Top to bottom: Teacher measuring a water leak as part of the Project WET activity "Money Down the Drain"; Charles Alpers from USGS leads teachers in a discussion of mercury impacts on the Project WET American River Field Tour for the 2015 California Science Teachers' Conference; California Project WET Coordinator Brian Brown leading a workshop; Project WET USA Coordinators during the 2015 Annual Business Meeting and Conference at Quartz Mountain, Okla.

Project WET

The Water Education Foundation is the designated Host Institution for the California Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) 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 had a very successful 2015 thanks to the efforts of our network of volunteer workshop facilitators around the state. Our annual goal 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 2015. The 1,116 educators who participated stated they would use Project WET activities with more than 214,608 students during the 2015-2016 school year. The California Project WET program was represented at 20 conferences, conducted four introductory water education events and a well-received field course during the October California Science Teachers conference in Sacramento that was a rolling Project WET workshop and bus tour of the American River watershed.

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 is featured in a digital format on the new Water Education Foundation website.

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 all after-school program leaders in a Sacramento school district in preparation for a full summer of Project WET water conservation activities to engage students in efforts to combat the drought.

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 has also been contracted as one of three Project WET coordinators in the nation to prepare detailed correlations of Project WET activities to the Next Generation Science Standards that will soon be integrated into schools throughout the country.



Tours

In 2015 the Foundation conducted eight regular tours, with new Tour Director Dan Scott taking the helm in April:

The **Lower Colorado River Tour, March 11-13**, traveled from Lake Mead to the Salton Sea and the Coachella Valley, and included a private tour of Hoover Dam.

The **Central Valley Water Tour, April 22-24**, traveled the length of the San Joaquin Valley starting and ending in Sacramento.

The **Bay Delta-Tour, June 24-26**, traveled through the Delta to San Francisco as participants learned about Delta conveyance, Delta farming and the proposed tunnels.

A special **Drought Tour, September 1-2**, co-sponsored by California DWR, traveled through the San Joaquin Valley to explore the impacts of California's fouryear drought and what steps are being taken to avert disaster.

The **Groundwater Tour, September 24-25**, traveled from the Sacramento region to Napa Valley to view sites that explore groundwater issues.

The **Southern California Tour, October 8-9**, traveled through Inland Southern California to learn about the region's efforts in groundwater management, recycled water and other drought-proofing measures.

The **Northern California Tour, October 21-23**, helped participants learn about farming, fishery restoration, and the major water projects.

The **San Joaquin River Restoration Tour, November 2-3**, took participants to Friant Dam, Chowchilla Bifurcation and Mendota Pool.

Water Education Foundation tours are praised for being balanced, thorough and fun. Participants learn about local, state and federal issues from experts on all sides. Time for socializing and networking is included in the action-packed itineraries.

Thank you to our 2015 Tour Sponsors

Major sponsors

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

Adventurer sponsor ESA

Traveler sponsors

CH2M CV Strategies GEI HDR Turlock Irrigation District

Co-sponsors of one or more tours

Bowles Farming Company; Coachella Valley Water District; Imperial Irrigation District; Las Vegas Valley Water District; Riverside County Flood Control & Water Conservation District; San Luis Canal Company; Southern Nevada Water Authority

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

Bogle Vineyards; Carmichael Water District; CH2M; Clarksburg Community Church & Clarksburg fruit growers; Clif Bar & Company; Contra Costa Water District; Delta Farms; East Bay Municipal Utility District; Eastern Municipal Water District; Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District; Inland Empire Utilities Agency; Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District; Kern Water Bank Authority; Carl Kovach; Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; Newton Brothers; Northern California Water Association; Orange County Water District; Panoche Water District; Rancho California Water District; Regional Water Authority; City of Roseville; San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority; SAWS -Stockton Area Water Suppliers (California Water Service Co., City of Stockton, County of San Joaquin, Stockton East Water District); Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority; West Coast Grape Farming; Western Canal Water District; Yuba County Water Agency.

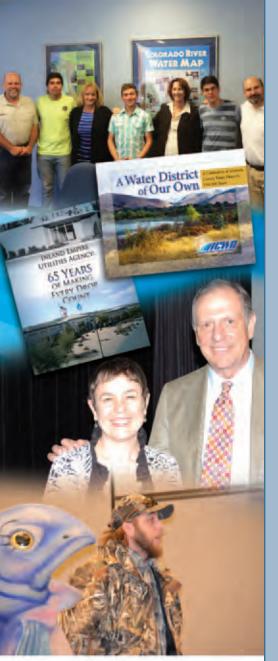
WATER EDUCATION FOUNDATION 2015 ANNUAL REPORT



Top to bottom: Randy McFarland, Friant Water Authority, and Sharon Weaver, San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust, on the Central Valley Tour; Dan Scott took over as the Foundation's tour director in April; at Camp Pashayan on the San Joaquin River Tour participants got a front row seat to learn about the effort to restore salmon; participants on the Lower Colorado River Tour visited a vineyard in the Coachella Valley.

<u>Other Highlig</u>hts

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Top to bottom: Each summer agricultural students from Chile visit the Foundation's offices for a briefing on California water; the Foundation published two history books in 2015 for Alameda County Water District and the Inland Empire Utilities Agency; Ellen Hanak of PPIC with Dan Dooley, a distinguished policy leader and attorney who was the 2015 lecturer for the Anne J. Schneider lecture series; members of the water leaders, including Lucas RossMerz, presented their report on "Managing Drought for the Economy and the Environment" at the December Foundation board meeting.

Social Media

The Foundation continued to expand its presence on social media outlets. For example, staff makes multiple tweets daily on our Twitter account <u>@WaterEdFdn</u> to keep people posted on upcoming events and tours, as well as the top water stories from our week-day news aggregate <u>www.Aquafornia.com</u>. We also tweet and retweet breaking news throughout the day.

The Foundation's Facebook page is the perfect forum to publish follow-up photos and videos from tours and events as well as a connecting point for the thousands of "friends" who "like" the Foundation. LinkedIn is the Foundation's professional forum, linking those in the water industry to the Foundation's events and programs.

Water History

The Foundation was involved in writing, designing and publishing history books for two water districts: Alameda County Water District and the Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA).

As IEUA celebrated its 65th year in operation, Foundation Writer Susan Lauer researched, interviewed past and present employees and wrote 65 Years of *Making Every Drop Count*, which was distributed during the agency's December celebration and was made available afterward.

The Foundation served as editors and designers for Alameda County Water District's history book to help celebrate its 100th year in operation.

Water Leaders

Twenty-one young professionals graduated from the Foundation's 19th Annual William R. Gianelli Water Leaders Class. The 2015 class' presentation was "Managing Drought for the Economy and Environment." The graduates: Ian Achimore, *Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority*; Samantha Adams, *Wildermuth Environmental, Inc.*; Anna Brathwaite, *Modesto Irrigation District*; Jennifer Capitolo, *Nossaman LLP*; Danielle Dolan, *Local Government Commission*; Anna Fedman, *San Francisco Public Utilities Commission*; Katrina Harrison, *US Bureau of Reclamation*; Nashelley Sara Kaplan-Dailey, *WaterNow*; Jeanie Mascia, *State Water Resources Control Board*; Prosenjit Mitra, *MBK Engineers*; Ryan Reeves, *California Department of Water Resources*; Sara Reid, *CoBank*; Sarah Rhodes, *RMC Water and Environment*; Lucas RossMerz, *Sacramento River Preservation Trust*; Calla Schmidt, *University of San Francisco*; Heather Shannon, *California Department of Water Resources*; Herb Smart, *Turlock Irrigation District*; Alexis Stevens, *Somach Simmons & Dunn*; Wendy Wang, *Best Best & Krieger LLP*; Nancy Warfel, *Metropolitan Water District of Southern California* and Steven Wiesner, *Kleinfelder*.

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

Anne J. Schneider Lecture Series

The fourth annual Anne J. Schneider Lecture Series was held on April 29 at the Crocker Museum in Sacramento. The goal of the 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 J. Schneider's lifelong devotion to these areas. Schneider, a partner at the Sacramento firm of Ellison, Schneider & Harris, passed away in 2010 at the age of 63, and this annual lecture series examining water law and policy was created in her memory.

Dan Dooley, a distinguished policy leader and attorney known for successfully bridging environmental and economic considerations, was the 2015 lecturer. He spoke on the "The Future of Agriculture in the Central Valley." Dooley currently serves as Counsel at Bolen Fransen Sawyers LLP and is a Principal in New

Other Highlights

Current Water and Land. Ellen Hanak of the Public Policy Institute of California moderated a Q&A session with Dan.

Watereducation.org Website

After a complete overhaul in the summer of 2014, our new website – watereducation.org – continued to draw more visitors throughout 2015. The revamp included merging three Foundation websites – our main website featuring products and publications, our Aquafornia news aggregate and our Aquapedia online water encyclopedia – into a user-friendly "one-stop" site.

The Foundation's new and improved website continued to build momentum throughout 2015. In total 193,827 people visited the website, and tallied 778,945 page views. On average, visitors read 2.66 pages per session.

More men than women visited the website – 61 versus 39 percent. Some 22.31 percent of the visitors were ages 55-64; 19.53 percent were ages 25-34; 16.14 percent were ages 35-44; 14.87 percent were ages 45-54; 14.55 percent were ages 18-24, and 12.59 percent were older than 65 years.

The most popular web pages were:

- 1 "Where Does My Water Come From?" main page 98,506 12.65%
- 2 Aquafornia main page 89,433 11.48%
- 3 Water Education Foundation homepage 36,115 4.64%
- 4 "Where Does My Water Come From Los Angeles?" 15,282 1.96%
- 5 Aquafornia page 2 11,279 1.45%

Costco Presentation

Executive Director Jennifer Bowles went to Costco headquarters in Issaquah, Washington, near Seattle, to give an overview of California water issues. The presentation was part of a daylong seminar the day after Memorial Day that was given to Costco buyers on drought issues. Other speakers represented the dairy, canning, wine and bottled water industries. Costco officials were seeking an impartial speaker to kick off the seminar. Costco had invited the Foundation to participate because Jennifer and Sue had taken some of their sustainability executives on a three-day private tour of the Delta and San Joaquin Valley.

Chile Student Presentation

Each summer, agricultural students from Chile visit the Foundation office as part of a water tour through California. Jennifer and Sue McClurg usually trade off giving the presentation on California Water 101 and Sue took it this time. The agricultural students are from Liceo Agricola El Carmen de San Fernando near Santiago.

Interview for Canada Film

A film crew associated with the National Film Board of Canada spent time doing interviews in California about the drought. They interviewed Jennifer at our offices because they wanted to have a better understanding of how water flows through the state and what lessons have been learned during the historic drought. The film is expected to be released in 2017.



Top to bottom: Members of the 2015 Water Leaders Class on the Bay-Delta Tour; a Canadian film crew interviewed Foundation Executive Director Jennifer Bowles for a piece about the California drought; the Foundation continued to expand its web presence in 2015; Jennifer Bowles and Sue McClurg visited Costco's headquarters in May where the staff was briefed on the California drought and related impacts.

<u>Colorado River Project</u>



Top to bottom: Foundation staff at the Colorado River Symposium, L to R, Lisa Tran, Beth Stern, Jennifer Bowles and Sue McClurg; attendees included, L to R, Jack Vessey, Imperial Valley Water, Michael Cohen, Pacific Institute, John Carter, Imperial Valley Water, and Donald Brock, Brock Asparagus Company; Western Water and River Report explored issues related to drought, long-term water supplies and paying for water infrastructure; Deputy Interior Secretary Michael Connor was the keynote speaker at the Colorado River Symposium. In 2015, the Foundation's Colorado River Project marked its 18th year. Serving on the Advisory Committee last year were: Michael Cohen, *Pacific Institute*; John Entsminger, *Southern Nevada Water Authority*; Amy Haas, *New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission*; Bob Johnson, *Water Strategies*; Jeff Kightlinger, *Metropolitan Water District of Southern California*; James Lochhead, *Denver Water*; Don Ostler, *Upper Colorado River Commission*; Jennifer Pitt, *National Audubon Society*; 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

The Foundation's 12-page *River Report* Colorado River newsletter is published twice a year. In the Summer issue, Writer Gary Pitzer discussed the pending release of the "Moving Forward" reports and the recommended actions to help close the supply and demand gap identified in the 2012 Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand Study.

In the Winter issue, Gary used the recorded panel discussion about water transfers at the 2015 Colorado River Symposium for his article, "Private Investment and Public Dollars: Paying for Colorado River Water," in which experts discussed the potential use of private-public funding partnerships to help fill the anticipated gap between water demand and supply.

Colorado River Symposium

In September, the Foundation held its 10th Biennial Colorado River Symposium, "Historic Drought 2000 to 2015: A Catalyst for Innovations," in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The invitation-only, Sept. 16-18 event featured a lineup of top speakers including Deputy Interior Secretary Mike Connor, Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Estevan Lopez, and International Boundary and Water Commissioner Ed Drusina.

An opening presentation by Connor on Sept. 16 was followed by a drought/ climate change panel featuring top scientists. Another panel comprised of water purveyors discussed innovative tools to stretch the Colorado River supply.

Day Two featured four panel discussions on key topics: implementation of Minute 319, innovative ways to finance water infrastructure, legal issues that present opportunities and obstacles in water marketing, and issues related to hydropower production. Day Three featured a discussion on the potential for a shortage determination in the Lower Basin with a closing panel that discussed what the future might hold for the Colorado River Basin and the 35 to 40 million people who rely on it for municipal and agricultural supplies. The symposium was recorded from start to finish, and the written proceedings will be published in 2016.

Colorado River Project Sponsors

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Funding Sources

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A variety of grants from governmental agencies, private foundations and other organizations funded the Foundation's special programs, publications and projects in 2015. 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 2015, grant funds provided 27 percent of the Foundation's revenues, funding Project WET, special workshops and conferences and publications.

Major contributions represented 36 percent of 2015 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 page12 for the list of major contributors.)

Additional Foundation income is derived from attendance at briefings and water tours (31 percent) and the sale of our educational materials, 6 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.

Major Grants Awarded in 2015

(\$5,000 and over)

65th Anniversary History Book Inland Empire Utilities Agency, \$77,000

Aquafornia.com – Water News You Need to Know Anonymous - \$15,000

Integrated Regional Water Management Conference California Department of Water Resources - \$60,000

Online Presence Program Anonymous - \$25,000

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

Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) U.S. Geological Survey – \$51,997 Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region – \$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 Phase II California Water Foundation - \$25,000

Floodplains Institutes Workshop Coordination California Department of Water Resources - \$12,000

Drought Awareness Projects – Drought Tour and Colorado River Symposium California Department of Water Resources - \$28,000

Foundation Supporters, Patrons and Stewards

(\$5,000 and above)

Association of California Water Agencies **Bowles Farming Company** California Water Association CH2M Coachella Valley Water District East Bay Municipal Utility District Eastern Municipal Water District Golden State Water Company HDR Engineering, Inc. Imperial Irrigation District Irvine Ranch Water District Kjeldsen, Sinnock & Neudeck, Inc. Los Angeles Department of Water and Power **MBK Engineers** Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Modesto Irrigation District MWH Americas, Inc. **Riverside Public Utilities** S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation

Sacramento, City of San Diego County Water Authority San Francisco Public Utilities Commission San Juan Water District Santa Clara Valley Water District Semitropic Water Storage District Sonoma County Water Agency Southern Nevada Water Authority Turlock Irrigation District Vallecitos Water District West Coast Grape Farming, Inc.

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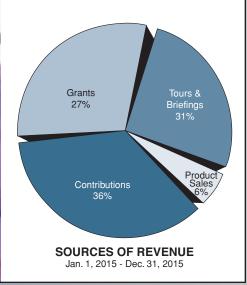
Foundation Pillars

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Albert A. Webb Associates AMEC Geomatrix, Inc. Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc. Arcadia, City of Arvin-Edison Water Storage District

Chase Hurley, general manager of the San Luis Canal Company, discussing eastside bypass subsidence on the Central Valley Tour.





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Foundation Executive Director Jennifer Bowles with Deputy Interior Secretary Michael Connor, the keynote speaker at the Colorado River Symposium.



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The Executive Briefing includes time for networking. Left to right, JaNell Cook, MWH Americas and Foundation board member, Sarah Rhodes, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, and Alyson Watson, RMC Water and Environment.



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In 2015 the Foundation and DWR co-sponsored a conference about Integrated Regional Water Management. Pictured L to R, Chris McCready, DWR, and Sue McClurg and Beth Stern, Foundation staff.



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The Foundation held its 10th Biennial invitation-only Colorado River Symposium in Santa Fe in 2015.



Major Contributors

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Participants on the Bay-Delta Tour snap photos of Delta smelt at the Fish Conservation and Culture Lab of UC Davis.



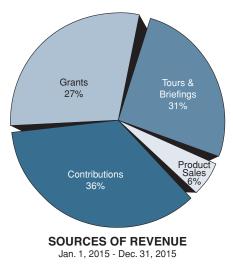
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Attendees at the Anne J. Schneider Lecture included students Cameron Burford and Adam Borchard from McGeorge School of Law and Scott Morris, Kronick Moskovitz Tiedemann & Girard and vice president of the Foundation.







Board and Staff

Top to bottom: Foundation staff, back row, L to R, Patty Wong, Susan Lauer, Jennifer Bowles, Brad Parsons and Gary Pitzer; and front row, L to R, Lisa Tran, Beth Stern, Brian Brown, Sue McClurg and Dan Scott; board member Maurice Hall with the Water Funder Initiative participated at the Foundation's biennial retreat; board member Bob Johnson, former commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation, spoke at the Foundation's Colorado River Symposium; Jennifer Persike from ACWA joined the Board in 2015 and also participated at the retreat; Foundation board member Mark Larsen, general manager of the Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District, spoke at Terminus Dam Spillway/Lake Kaweah on the 2015 Central Valley Tour.



WATER EDUCATION

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