

PARTICIPANTS

Lewis Bair is general manager of Reclamation District No. 108, which is located along the western edge of the Sacramento River and delivers water to nearly 48,000 acres of farmland within southern Colusa County and northern Yolo County. He manages two sister districts, Sacramento River West Side Levee District and the Knights Landing Ridge Drainage District. Collectively the three agencies maintain 90 miles of federal flood control levees along the Sacramento River, Colusa Basin Drain, and the Knights Landing Ridge Cut. He spent three years with Kings River Conservation District as a water resource engineer. He is a registered civil engineer. He graduated from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo in agricultural engineering.

Caitrin Phillips Chappelle is associate director of the PPIC Water Policy Center, where she manages research and operations. Her own research focuses on natural resource management and California water policy. She has co-authored work on the statewide drought, funding gaps in water management, and multiple ecosystem stressors in the Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta. Previously, she worked for the US Geological Survey. She holds an MPP from the Goldman School of Public Policy at the University of California, Berkeley and a BS in ecology from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.

Grant Davis was appointed director of the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) by Governor Jerry Brown in August 2017. Previously, he was general manager of the Sonoma County Water Agency, where he was responsible for maintaining nearly 100 miles of streams and detention basins for flood protection, restoring habitat for three federally listed fish species in the Russian River, delivering drinking water and providing wastewater management for 60,000 customers. In cooperation with the US Army Corps of Engineers, he was also responsible for the operation of Lake Mendocino and Coyote Valley Dam and Lake Sonoma and Warm Springs Dam. Davis was instrumental in implementing a renewable energy portfolio that has resulted in a carbon free water supply and distribution system. Prior to joining the Sonoma County Water Agency, Davis was executive director of The Bay Institute, a science-based non-profit organization dedicated to protecting the San Francisco Bay–Delta watershed and improving water management in California. In addition, he has an extensive legislative and policy background working at the local, state and federal levels of government. He holds a BA in political science from the University of California, Berkeley.

Laurel Firestone co-founded and co-directs the Community Water Center (CWC). She has received a variety of awards and recognitions, including the Gary Bellow Public Service Award by the Harvard Law School in 2013, and was listed as one of nine most influential people in California water policy by Environment & Energy Publishing in 2016. She served on the Tulare County Water Commission from 2007–12, and co-chaired the Governor’s Drinking Water Stakeholder Group from 2012–14. She serves on a variety of state policy advisory committees, and partners with universities to develop research and clinical programs to ensure the human right to water. In 2009, she authored the comprehensive *Guide to Community Drinking Water Advocacy*. She has also authored scholarly and practical publications related to equitable, transparent, and effective water policy topics. She holds a JD from Harvard Law School and a BA in environmental studies from Brown University.

Brian Gray is a senior fellow at the PPIC Water Policy Center and professor emeritus at the University of California, Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco. He has published numerous articles on environmental and water resources law and coauthored a variety of PPIC reports, including the 2011 interdisciplinary book on California water policy, *Managing California’s Water: From Conflict to Reconciliation*. He has argued before the California Supreme Court and the US Court of Appeals in cases involving wild and scenic rivers, water pricing reform, takings, and water rights and environmental quality. He is a recipient of the William Rutter Award for Excellence in Teaching and the UC Hastings Outstanding Professor Award. He holds a JD from the University of California, Berkeley and a BA in economics from Pomona College.

Ellen Hanak is director of the PPIC Water Policy Center and a senior fellow at the Public Policy Institute of California. Under her leadership, the center has become a critical source of information and guidance for natural resource management in California. She has authored dozens of reports, articles, and books on water policy, including *Managing California’s Water*. Her research is frequently profiled in the national media, and she participates in briefings, conferences, and interviews throughout the nation and around the world. Her other areas of expertise include climate change and infrastructure finance. Previously, she served as research director at PPIC. Before joining PPIC, she held positions with the French agricultural research system, the President’s Council of Economic Advisers, and the World Bank. She holds a PhD in economics from the University of Maryland.

Ann Hayden is the senior director of Environmental Defense’s Western Water program and the California Habitat Exchange program. She joined EDF in 2002 to help lead its efforts to restore the San Francisco Bay–Delta estuary while improving urban and agricultural water supply reliability. She currently leads EDF’s work in California to advance incentive-based approaches that ensure adequate water is available for rivers and wetlands, improve agriculture’s resilience in the face of variable water supplies, and address the water needs of disadvantaged communities. She also works with a wide range of partners to encourage the implementation of habitat markets that can restore critical habitat and benefit the agriculture

economy in California. She has a long history of building broad coalitions of state and federal agencies, non-profit partners, landowners, and the private sector to support the implementation of environmental markets that help increase California's healthy freshwater and terrestrial systems and improve delivery of the environmental services these habitats provide. She holds an MA in environmental science and management from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and a BA in marine biology from the University of California, Santa Cruz.

Jeffrey Kightlinger is general manager and chief executive officer for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. The Metropolitan Water District is the largest municipal water provider in the nation, delivering an average of more than 2 billion gallons of water a day to 19 million customers across Southern California. Metropolitan serves one out of every two Californians in the six counties of Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and San Diego. Kightlinger was appointed general manager in 2006. Prior to that, he served as the general counsel for the agency. Prior to joining Metropolitan, he worked in private practice specializing in environmental law. He has represented numerous public agencies such as municipalities, redevelopment agencies and special districts. He spent a year specializing in environmental law at George Washington University in Washington, D.C., while working for the US Environmental Protection Agency. He holds a BA in history from the University of California, Berkeley, and a law degree from the University of Santa Clara.

Jeffrey Mount is a senior fellow at the PPIC Water Policy Center. He is an emeritus professor at the University of California, Davis in the department of earth and planetary sciences and founding director of the Center for Watershed Sciences. A geomorphologist who specializes in the study of rivers, streams, and wetlands, his research focuses on integrated water resource management, flood management, and improving aquatic ecosystem health. He has served on many state and federal boards and commissions that address water resource management issues in the West. He has published more than a hundred articles, books, and other publications, including the seminal book *California Rivers and Streams* (UC Press). He holds a PhD and MS in earth sciences from the University of California, Santa Cruz.

Ric Ortega is the general manager and director of policy and governmental affairs for the Grassland Water District and a member of the San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority Board. He also manages the Grassland Resource Conservation District and a Groundwater Sustainability Agency on behalf of the districts and the state and federal wildlife refuges. He works closely with water agencies and the NGO conservation community on projects to improve water supplies for wetlands, agriculture, and urban areas. He did graduate work at the University of California, Davis on wetland responses to adaptive salinity management, and holds a BS in animal science, ecology and systematic biology from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.

David Puglia is executive vice president at Western Growers. He leads the state government affairs and media communications staff on behalf of the association's 2,500 members in California and Arizona. He and his team manage a range of legislative and regulatory issues affecting the fresh produce industry and agriculture generally. In addition, he manages Western Growers' political action committees. Prior to joining Western Growers in 2005, he was vice president of APCO Worldwide, a global public affairs consulting firm. He previously served for seven years in the California Attorney General's Office, first as press secretary and later as director of public affairs and communications. He has also worked on four statewide political campaigns in California. He brings this experience to the PPIC Water Policy Center Advisory Council. He holds a BA in government and journalism from California State University, Sacramento.

Lester Snow was the founding director of the Water Foundation, where he continues to provide strategic counsel on programs, projects, and initiatives. His career has focused on innovation, collaboration, and results while working on complex natural resource management matters. In 2016 he was appointed to the board of directors for the Klamath River Renewal Corporation, which will oversee various aspects of the dam decommissioning project on the Klamath. Prior to the Water Foundation, he served as secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency and chief advisor on issues related to the state's natural, historic, and cultural resources. He also directed the California Department of Water Resources, including operation of the California State Water Project. He has also served as executive director of CALFED, regional director for the Bureau of Reclamation, and general manager of the San Diego County Water Authority. He spent six years with the Arizona Department of Water Resources implementing Arizona's first comprehensive groundwater management efforts. He brings this expertise to the PPIC Water Policy Center Advisory Council. He holds an MA in water resources administration from the University of Arizona and a BS in earth sciences from Pennsylvania State University.

Cindy Tuck is deputy executive director of government relations at the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA), where she leads the effort to represent the interests of ACWA members before Congress, federal agencies, the California Legislature, and state agencies. Prior to joining ACWA, she served as undersecretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA), where she was the senior policy advisor to the Cal/EPA Secretary and the agency's liaison to the State Water Resources Control Board. She is a licensed Professional Engineer and a member of the State Bar in the State of California. She holds an MS in environmental engineering and a BS in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois.