



Water Matters

News for the
Orange County
Water Community

JUNE, 2016



SGMA and the Challenge of Groundwater Management Sustainability

By BILL BLOMQUIST, *Professor of Political Science, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis*

It isn't just the groundwater that has to be sustainable; it's the management too.

That's why the title of this post shifts from the more familiar "sustainable groundwater management" to "groundwater management sustainability." This perspective doesn't come from the world of hydrologic or climate or environmental science, but from political science and other disciplines focused on human institutions and behavior.

Along with the development and use of information, the greatest challenge in groundwater sustainability is governance and decision making. Over several decades we have learned that governance is at least as important in environmental management and protection as are science and data. That's saying a lot, because science and data are critical. Understanding institutions for governing human interactions with the environment and with other humans is at that critical level or greater.

The challenge of governance and decision-making involves dealing with scales and levels, the legal and regulatory framework, and multiple publics and values; also, supporting and institutionalizing innovation, adaptation, and learning. Plainly this is complicated, and like the challenge of information, it is unlikely to be solved once and for all.

Institutions come up a lot in policy discussions. Policy discussions generally follow this form: "What should we do about X?" Fill in the "X" with the relevant policy topic – groundwater sustainability, mass transit, international terrorism, etc. – and the policy discussion ensues, with varying voices and perspectives advocating one solution or another.

Institutions generally appear in these kinds of policy discussions as prescriptions. They are advocated for their predicted beneficial effects in remedying the illness – the "X" – that's under discussion.

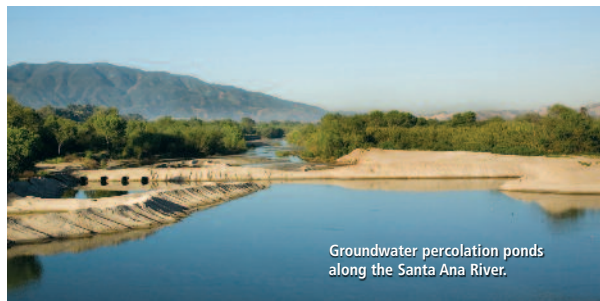
To implement the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), people in 127 groundwater basins across California are

developing groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) that will be required to develop, adopt, and implement groundwater sustainability plans (GSPs). That's a governance challenge of the first order, and it involves creating new institutions or adapting existing ones for new purposes.

An observed fact from the messy world of governance and decision-making is this: no matter how carefully and well we design institutions, we won't get everything right the first time. Also, conditions will change in ways that alter the fit between what we put in place at one time and what confronts us later.

That will surely be true for the GSAs being designed in the basins starting SGMA implementation now. Despite everyone's best efforts in constructing these governance structures, there

will be errors and surprises. It will be essential to build in processes for modification. People engaged in the hard work of groundwater management in overdrafted basins will need to make rules not only for changing groundwater use and managing the basin; they'll need to make rules for how and when the rules themselves



can be changed.

Creating a decision-making body for groundwater management isn't just solving a problem; it's writing a constitution. Writing a constitution is an intricate task, where decisions about one element are often linked to and affect other elements. Long-standing and relatively successful constitutions—the sustainable ones, we might say—are the ones that can be adjusted when needed.

As Californians design GSAs and GSPs, they are designing institutions for governance and decision-making. That's a somewhat different, and I hope useful, way of thinking about the task that lies ahead. Thinking about it that way may help encourage everyone to think about the sustainability of the management as well as of the groundwater.

To read the full article, go to californiawaterblog.com.

The Annual SafetyFest Proves a Success Yet Again



SafetyFest 2016 was a successful event with over 100 attendees, five great speakers and delicious BBQ for lunch. Attendees received up to 7 contact hours for attending sessions on **Confined Spaces for Water & Wastewater**, **Pre-Incident Indicators for Terrorism**, **Disaster Response**, **Emergency Field First Aid**, and **OSHA Top Ten Violations**.

A BIG thank you goes to the City of Santa Ana Water Division for hosting the event, and to **Kelly Hubbard** (WEROC) and **Victor Galvez** (OCWA) for putting the event together.



Surf City Celebrates National Public Works Week



Article and Photos by KELLY HUBBARD

The 3rd week of May is **National Public Works Week** and the City of Huntington Beach Public Works Department decided to educate the community in part by hosting a **Pipe Tapping Contest** among other activities.

On Tuesday, May 17th, the City displayed various pieces of public works equipment at their weekly Surf City Nights street fair in downtown. This event allowed residents to see, ask questions, and even climb onto large pieces of equipment that public works uses on a daily basis. They also invited a couple other water utilities to a friendly Pipe Tapping Contest!

The **City of Santa Ana's** team and **Yorba Linda Water District's So Cal Tappers** both participated with the city's very own **Huntington Beach Tappers**.



Street Fair attendees learned facts about how the City is maintained and cheered the Pipe Tapping teams on!

The City of Santa Ana's team took home the top prize for the night, but the City of Huntington Beach plans on making this an annual display and contest.

Poll: Californians Plan to Use Less Water After Drought Ends

The latest Field Poll shows an overwhelming majority of Californians plan to continue using less water both indoors and outdoors even after the current drought is over.

The poll, conducted March 24 to April 3, in partnership with the Save Our Water program, found that while public perceptions about the seriousness of the state’s water shortage have eased since the last poll in October, the level of concern remains higher than it was in the midst of another major drought in 1977. Even after a winter of near average precipitation, 62% of registered voters continue to see the water shortage as extremely serious.

Fully 74% of voters said it is important for residents to continue reducing water use both inside and outside their homes, while nearly nine in 10 voters (86%) said they plan to continue doing so on a permanent basis even after the drought ends.

“Even though winter storms have eased drought conditions in some parts of the state, water conservation

remains an important priority for Californians,” Field Poll Director Mark DiCamillo said. “This prolonged drought has started to change the way Californians look at their water usage – whether the state is in drought or not.”



ACWA Deputy Executive Director for External Affairs and Member Services Jennifer Persike said the poll findings show the public understands the importance of saving water on an ongoing basis.

“Conserving through four years of drought has changed the way Californians think about water,” Persike said. “They get it, and they are making permanent changes to keep saving water.”

The poll was conducted among a statewide random sample of 800 registered voters.

The complete survey findings are available [here](#).



37th Annual OCWA Golf Tournament

Monday, June 6, 2016 • Corporate Sponsors

The following companies joined with OCWA to sponsor this year’s Golf Tournament.

AES Water Inc.	<i>Darik Walton</i>	Mainline Sales	<i>Jon Christy</i>
American Geotechnical, Inc.	<i>Sherie Haeggstrom</i>	Michael Baker International	<i>John Nagle</i>
Arcadis	<i>Jim Cathcart</i>	MISCO Water	<i>Tom Roberson</i>
Bingham and Taylor	<i>Mark Delancellotti</i>	Mouse Graphics	<i>Tom Lane</i>
Bowie, Arneson, Wiles & Giannone	<i>Jeff Hoskinson</i>	National Meter and Automation	<i>C. Robert Sears</i>
Bush and Associates	<i>David Bush</i>	Neptune Technical Group	<i>Andy Bohn</i>
Cab Engineers, Inc.	<i>Cory Bersch</i>	Pace Advanced Water Engineering	<i>Andrew Komor</i>
Civiltec Engineering, Inc.	<i>W. David Byrum</i>	Paulus Engineering, Inc.	<i>Jason Paulus</i>
Cla-Val Company	<i>Larry Van Der Kolk</i>	Penco Engineering, Inc.	<i>Jeff Cooper</i>
Clow Valve Company	<i>Nolan Foran</i>	Psomas	<i>Mike Swan</i>
DUDEK	<i>Frank Dudek</i>	Richard Brady & Associates	<i>Howard Johnson</i>
DUDEK	<i>Bob Ohlund</i>	Richard Slade & Associates	<i>Richard Slade</i>
Fieldman, Rolapp & Associates	<i>Tom Demars</i>	Skanska	<i>Steve Agor</i>
General Pump	<i>Michael Bodart</i>	Stantec	<i>Robert Reid</i>
Geocon West, Inc.	<i>Jeff Hull</i>	TE Roberts Inc.	<i>Tim Roberts</i>
Gladding McBean	<i>Joe Parker</i>	Tetra Tech	<i>Mark Bush</i>
Guida Surveying, Inc.	<i>Ralph Guida</i>	Trench Shoring Co.	<i>Al Scappaticci</i>
HDR Engineering	<i>Steve Friedman</i>	TRIPAC	<i>Bill Foster Sr.</i>
Interwest Consulting Group	<i>James Ross</i>	United Water Works	<i>Jerry Canada</i>
Kato Landscaping	<i>Randy Kato</i>		
Kennedy Pipeline	<i>Mike Trumbo</i>		

CHECK BACK NEXT MONTH FOR FULL COVERAGE OF THE DAY’S EVENTS.

Board of Directors

President
Jason Dadakis
(714) 378-3364

Vice President
Victor Galvez
(714) 765-4119

Treasurer
John Robinson
(626) 375-9389

Secretary
Neil Harper
(949) 373-8316

Directors
Gregorio Estrada
(714) 730-2391

Michael Sinacori
(949) 644-3342

Roni Young
(949) 234-5410

Ex-Officio
David Youngblood
(949) 342-1152

Unless otherwise noted, all articles in this newsletter reflect the views or opinions of the authors and not the official opinion of OCWA, its membership or Board. All Advertisements contained in the newsletter are subject to the OCWA Advertising Policy. The OCWA Advertising Policy is available on request from the Association.

OCWA's Board of Directors meets on the third Wednesday of each month, unless notified otherwise. The next meeting is scheduled for:

June 15, 2016 ♦ 10:30 am to Noon

Dave & Buster's Restaurant ♦ Irvine Spectrum Entertainment Center

Key Contacts

Membership
Victor Galvez
(626) 643-0367
membership
@oc-water.org

Legal Counsel
Jeff A. Hoskinson
(949) 851-1300, x219
jhoskinson@bawg.com

Luncheon Info
Leticia Villarreal
(714) 378-3203

Webmaster
Tim Hogan
timhogan@socal.rr.com

Newsletter Editor
Michael Sinacori
(949) 644-3342
MSinacori
@newportbeach.ca.gov

Graphic Design
Tim Hogan
(714) 903-3991
timhogan@socal.rr.com

2016 Drought Workshop: Presentations Available

Presentation slides are now available from the **2016 Drought Response Workshop**, which was held on May 16-17, in Irvine, California. Sponsored by **California Department of Water Resources (DWR)**, **Southern California Water Committee (SCWC)**, and the **National Water Research Institute (NWRI)**, the workshop focused on drought planning, response, and mitigation measures. Featured speakers included general managers and hydrogeologists from several California water districts, scientists at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, and water resources professionals working with the California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and DWR.

View and download the presentation slides and the workshop agenda from the event web site at: <http://www.nwri-usa.org/drought2016.htm>.

June Luncheon Topic

Potable Reuse via Reservoir Augmentation in San Diego

Presenters:



Jeff Pesak
*Watershed Manager,
Public Utilities Department
San Diego, California*



R. Shane Trussell
*President, Trussell Technologies, Inc.
Solana Beach, California*

As part of its 2015 Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit approval application, the City of San Diego worked with environmental stakeholders to develop a potable reuse strategy to reduce ocean discharges. This effort resulted in the development of a phased approach for the Pure Water Program that would ultimately produce 83 mgd of purified water by 2035 to augment surface water reservoir(s) in the region. The initial phase of the Program would produce up to 30 mgd of purified water for reservoir augmentation from the North City location by 2021.

Prior to embarking on the Program, the City submitted a "Proposal to Augment San Vicente Reservoir with Purified Recycled Water" for regulatory review in 2012. The 2012 Concept Report proposed supplementing San Vicente Reservoir with up to 13.4 mgd (15,000 AFY) of purified water. That concept was conditionally approved by the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water.

Recently, another opportunity for the initial phase of the Program emerged that reduces the cost and expedites the implementation schedule. This entails augmenting Miramar Reservoir with up to 30 mgd of purified water.

Based on interactions with an independent advisory panel and the DDW, the City of San Diego has developed an enhanced treatment train concept to ensure reliability while providing purified water to Miramar Reservoir.

This presentation will highlight the major projects involved in delivering 30 MGD to Miramar Reservoir along with some of the reservoir modeling and treatment performance results that serve as the basis of design and regulatory approval.

Wednesday, June 15, 2016

Dave & Buster's Restaurant ♦ Irvine Spectrum Entertainment Center

11:30 am: Registration ♦ 12:00 – 1:30: Lunch & Presentation

OCWA Members with Reservations.....	\$30	Non-Members with Reservations.....	\$40
OCWA Members without Reservations ..	\$40	Non-Members without Reservations.....	\$40

Reservations must be made by Noon, Tuesday, April 19, to qualify for the Reservation Rate. Cancellations received AFTER this date CANNOT be refunded.

To make reservations, please go to the OCWA website: www.oc-water.org

For more information, contact Leticia Villarreal at (714) 378-3203

Please identify yourself by name and membership number (number is printed on the newsletter mailing label.)

RSVP IS A FINANCIAL COMMITMENT. NO-SHOWS WILL BE BILLED

Jeff Pesek oversees the management of water and other natural resource on 42,000 acres of land owned by the department around the City's source water reservoirs. He also guides the department's interaction with other governmental entities and private land owners across 946 square miles of land that drain to the reservoirs.

Jeff has been involved with San Diego's potable reuse projects for 20 years. As part of the Pure Water San Diego team, Jeff oversees reservoir studies of San Vicente and Otay Reservoirs, and helps guide the program's regulatory compliance.

Jeff's work with San Diego's water system spans more than 35 years. He was the Senior Biologist in the City's Water Quality Laboratory and has worked as a reservoir biologist, lake ranger and resident reservoir keeper.

Shane Trussell began his career in potable reuse in the late 1990s overseeing the IPR pilot program with the City of San Diego – then called "Repurification."

Shane received his PhD in Environmental Engineering from UC Berkeley studying membrane bioreactors and is a registered civil engineer in California with more than 17 years of experience.

Shane is currently working on more than a half dozen innovative potable reuse projects for clients in California – from Monterey to Los Angeles to San Diego Counties. His firm has been operating and maintaining the 1 MGD demonstration facility in San Diego for the past 3 years and he is currently serving as Principal Investigator on the WasteReuse Research Foundation's Demonstration Project.

Shane continues his involvement as PI or Co-PI on various potable reuse projects with the WasteReuse Research Foundation and Water Research Foundation and he served as an expert panel member on the development of a Framework for Direct Potable Reuse with NWRI.