



WATER EDUCATION FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT 2023

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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 (left) at the Colorado River Water Users Association annual conference with Samantha Arthur, California Natural Resources Assistant Secretary for Salton Sea Policy, and JB Hamby, Chair of the Colorado-River Board of California — both graduates of the Foundation's Water Leaders program.



Rita Schmidt Sudman, former executive director, joins Jenn at the Foundation's annual Water Summit in Sacramento.



California Natural Resources Secretary Wade Crowfoot with Jenn at the Foundation's office where he spoke to the 2023 Water Leaders cohort.



Anecita Agustínez (center), the Summit's keynote speaker, with Jenn and Board Member Jennifer Persike. Anecita is California's tribal advisor on water policy.



Terry Fulp, the new Board President, with Jenn and Board Members Rebecca Smith and Christopher Park.

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DEAR SUPPORTERS AND FRIENDS OF THE FOUNDATION,

We always strive to take a steady pulse of the water world, and 2023 was no different. California's epic series of powerful atmospheric rivers became a major focus of our agenda for the year. Our team of journalists and teachers at the Water Education Foundation incorporated what was happening on the ground into our various programs and publications.

In our *Western Water* news, we wrote about how inadequate infrastructure and rigid state rules on using flood flows prevented some water agencies from taking advantage of them. Our Project WET K-12 program held a series of educator workshops on the flood control benefits of restoring wetlands and reconnecting floodplains to rivers. We tried desperately to take participants on our annual Central Valley Tour to the re-emerged Tulare Lake but, alas, it wasn't safe for the bus to get close.

We had long wanted to organize an Eastern Sierra water tour, and in 2023 we finally had our hook. It was the 40th anniversary of the California Supreme Court's Mono Lake decision, the first in the state to invoke the all-important public trust doctrine.

Our amazing 2023 California Water Leaders cohort took on the emerging issue of green infrastructure to see how California might take more advantage of floodplain and meadow restorations and other nature-based solutions to better manage water supply and quality.

Our Water Summit was particularly timely with its panel discussion on the removal of the defunct Klamath dams. Anecita Agustínez, the tribal policy advisor for the California Department of Water Resources, delivered a powerful and thought-provoking keynote to open the day's discussions.

In 2016, I ventured to Iran to lead a water and climate change workshop for journalists in the region. They asked me again in 2023, but this time it was virtual. If nothing else, I learned through these two interactions that water people are the same everywhere in the world.

I was honored in 2023 to speak at an event in the San Joaquin Valley honoring our late Board President, Mike Chrisman, California's former natural resources secretary. I was thrilled to meet Mike's children and grandchildren as I noted the family's legacy at the Foundation with Mike's father, Jack Chrisman, serving as our first Board President in 1977.

Our Board of Directors elected a new president, Terry Fulp, in March following the passing of Mike in October 2022. Fulp was director of the U.S. Bureau Reclamation's Lower Colorado River region before he retired. The Foundation has been involved in the Colorado River Basin since at least 1977, and in 2022 launched a biennial Colorado River Water Leaders program inspired by our California program.

At a Board and staff retreat, we began thinking about what we want the Foundation to look like on its 50th anniversary in 2027. Stay tuned as we put resources into figuring that out. But it's safe to say we'll be having a lot of celebrations then!

We couldn't do any of this without your support! Thank you!

IMPACT IN 2023

WEBSITE	1 million-plus	PAGEVIEWS
EMAIL NEWSLETTERS	11,811	SUBSCRIBERS
SOCIAL MEDIA	13,414	FOLLOWERS
PROJECT WET	824	EDUCATORS
	49	WORKSHOPS
	152,603	STUDENTS
WATER LEADERS	22	PROFESSIONALS
	513	GRADUATES
TOURS	7	
	361	PARTICIPANTS
	3,448	MILES
EVENTS	308	PARTICIPANTS



Participants in our Headwaters Tour venture through the Sierra foothills east of Sacramento to explore the effect of fires on California's water supply in the American and Yuba watersheds.

CALIFORNIA WATER LEADERS

California's water scarcity requires creative, yet practical solutions to meet ever-growing demands in a warming climate. The 2023 Water Leaders cohort stepped up to the challenge by studying ways the state could leverage green infrastructure, such as restoring floodplains and meadows, to boost water supply.

The group of 22 rising professionals in water-related fields completed the 10-month program with a report outlining their policy recommendations for broadening California's use of green infrastructure, or nature-based solutions. They presented their ideas at the Nov. 27 Board of Directors meeting in an entertaining skit that played off the "Bachelorette" reality dating game show with California water looking for her match.

Led by Executive Director Jenn Bowles, the annual William R. Gianelli Water Leaders program deepens knowledge on water, enhances individual leadership skills and prepares participants to take an active, cooperative approach to decision-making about water resource issues. Leading water experts and policymakers mentor cohort members throughout the year.

What one participant said:

"I thought it was a great program. It's just a really unique thing to be a part of and something I can be proud of completing."



Water Leaders Bryce McAteer and Laura Lawson-Campagna act in a skit related to their cohort's study of nature-based solutions in water management.



Water Leaders played off the "Bachelorette" reality dating fame show with California water looking for her match.



Water Leaders gathered for four work group meetings in 2023.



Top row, from left: **Timothy Chow**, State Water Resources Control Board; **Sean de Guzman**, California Department of Water Resources; **Joel Metzger**, Utica Water and Power Authority; **Avery Livengood**, HDR; **Bryce McAteer**, WestWater Research; **Meghan Thiemann**, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation; **Kalani Durham**, Santa Barbara County Water Agency
Second row: **Lindsay Cederquist**, Maricopa Orchards LLC; **George Nishikawa**, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; **Heidi Williams**, Valley Water; **Daniel Siegel**, The Earth Genome; **Amanda Antonelli**, Rincon Consultants Inc.; **Amelia Clark**, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission; **Meg Nicholas-Harper**, Manulife Investment Management; **Mali Karamigolbaghi**, Stantec Consulting Services Inc.
Third row: **Alondra Espinosa**, Best Best & Krieger LLP; **Kyla Wintter**, California Department of Water Resources; **Linda Vo**, California Water Efficiency Partnership; **Amanda Becker**, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation; **Laura Lawson-Campagna**, CDM Smith; **Stacey Olson**, Resources Legacy Fund; **Clesi Bennett**, California Natural Resources Agency



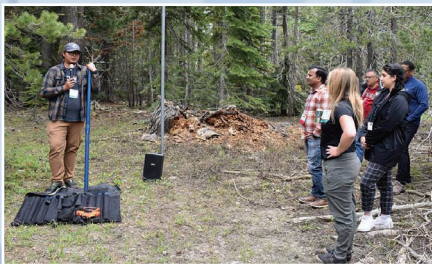
Joe Del Bosque, a prominent San Joaquin Valley farmer, discusses agriculture and water on our Central Valley Tour.



Bay-Delta Tour participants gather at the C.W. "Bill" Jones Pumping Plant, a key component of the federal Central Valley Project.



Mike Moran, a supervising naturalist with the East Bay Regional Park District, gives Bay-Delta Tour participants an overview of the Delta's physical layout on a model of the region.



Water Leader Sean de Guzman of the California Department of Water Resources shows Headwaters Tour participants at Yuba Pass how he conducts snow surveys using an aluminum tube.

TOURS

The aftermath of the year's epic storms gave everyone on board our 2023 water tours more to see and talk about, with rivers gushing, reservoirs brimming and Sierra snow piled high.

This year also marked the 40th anniversary of the landmark Mono Lake court decision, so we turned our Eastern Sierra tour stop at the inland sea into a discussion about the public trust doctrine.

An exciting and timely change to our Central Valley tour was the participation of Board Member and UC Davis professor Thomas Harter as our resource speaker for the three-day excursion. Harter's research formed the basis for California's groundbreaking Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, a key topic in our excursion.

Our entire slate of tours was in high demand, drawing a total of 361 participants, with full buses all around. Some tours were fully booked months in advance.

The two- to three-day trips gave participants a firsthand look at major sources of water supply and the regions, industries, people and wildlife that depend on them. Participants learned from each other and a range of experts with different viewpoints. Many praised the events for being balanced, thorough and fun.

The Foundation conducted seven tours:

Watershed Tour, Feb. 24: A busload of attendees from our annual Water 101 Workshop took advantage of our optional daylong tour along the American and Sacramento rivers downstream to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. They learned about forest health, reservoir operations, groundwater recharge and water quality.

Lower Colorado River, March 8-10: Participants journeyed through the Lower Colorado River Basin from Lake Mead and Hoover Dam to the Salton Sea and the Coachella Valley. They learned how the river's water is distributed and about the challenges of meeting growing demands, especially as the Southwest transitions to a hotter and drier climate.

Central Valley, April 26-28: This tour ran the length of the San Joaquin Valley to explore water supply and groundwater management. Participants learned how the year's shift from drought to deluge is likely to play out with valley farms, wildlife refuges and disadvantaged communities.

Bay-Delta, May 17-19: Once again our fastest-selling trip, this two-bus tour explored the heart of California's water supply – the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and San Francisco Bay – to learn about the epic water export system and the region's importance to farming, wildlife and recreation.

Headwaters, June 21-22: Participants traveled through the Sierra Nevada foothills east of Sacramento and around Lake Tahoe to learn about the latest forest management practices to protect watersheds. We added an optional day of rafting down the South Fork American River for a more immersive educational experience.

Eastern Sierra, Sept. 12-15: This was our first journey through the region in which we explored watersheds of the Truckee, Carson, Walker and Owens rivers. Stops included the Derby Dam on the Truckee River, one of the first Bureau of Reclamation projects, and the headgates of the Los Angeles Aqueduct.

Northern California, Oct. 18-20: We followed the Sacramento River north through rice and duck country. Highlights included access above the gates of Oroville Dam's rebuilt spillway, a group dinner cruise on Lake Shasta and a new stop to see progress on the Big Notch Project, a 30,000-acre floodplain habitat restoration and fish passage just west of Sacramento.

What one participant said:

"I walked away with a much better understanding of the [Sacramento] river, people who use water from the river, and environmental considerations."

TOUR SPONSORS

Major Sponsors

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Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Basin
California Department of Water Resources

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Stantec Inc.

Adventurer Sponsor

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With Mt. Whitney as a backdrop, Larry Freilich of the Inyo County Water Department introduces the Lower Owens River Project to Eastern Sierra Tour participants.



Mono Lake, a stop on the Eastern Sierra Tour, features spectacular tufa towers, limestone spires formed by the mix of freshwater springs and alkaline lake water.



Participants on the Northern California Tour pause at the Clear Creek Gorge Overlook south of Redding, a salmon habitat restoration site.



Northern California Tour participants view the giant turbines inside the Shasta Powerplant, just below Shasta Dam.

EVENTS

Water Summit

Our premier event of the year lived up to California's historic 2023 water year that saw as many as 31 atmospheric river storms, an impressive Sierra snowpack, the reappearance of Tulare Lake and a rare tropical storm in Southern California.

The Water Summit's theme – *Taking on the Improbable in Western Water* – elicited lively panel discussions about changes in Western water management considered unlikely just a decade ago, like the nation's largest-ever dam removal project that had just begun on the Klamath River.

Our Oct. 25 gathering also reflected the growing influence of Native Americans in natural resources management. Anecita Agustinez, California's tribal policy advisor on water and member of the Navajo nation, delivered the keynote speech to an audience of more than 150 in the ballroom of The Sawyer Hotel in downtown Sacramento.

Other top water policymakers and experts discussed the accelerating change on the regulatory landscape, the pursuit of sustainability in California groundwater and the latest challenges in balancing supply and demand on the Colorado River.

What summit participants said:

"As always, the event was extremely well organized, and the venue was top notch. Thank you for building in so much time to network as well."

"Really outstanding programming with useful and relevant topics and diverse and knowledgeable speakers."

Water 101 Workshop

Our annual daylong course on California water went beyond the basics to address the dramatic 2023 water year. The state climatologist Mike Anderson gave his take on the current and projected effects of climate change on California's water supply.

Attendees filled the largest lecture hall at Sacramento's McGeorge School of Law on Feb. 23 to tune up on the history, geography and legal and political facets of water in California. Several of them took our Watershed Tour the next day, engaging with experts as they followed "a drop of water" from the American River to the Sacramento River and on out to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

What participants said of the workshop:

"Lighthearted presenters – digestible amount of information provided by all."

...and the tour

"I loved the personalities of everyone who presented. It seemed real and not like it was read out of a book."



Anecita Agustinez, California's tribal advisor on water policy, delivers the keynote speech at the annual Water Summit.



From left, Alexandra Biering of the California Farm Bureau, California Natural Resources Secretary Wade Crowfoot and Erick Orellana of the Community Water Center listen to fellow panelists at the Water Summit.



Participants at the Foundation's annual Water 101 Workshop at McGeorge School of Law in Sacramento.



Jennifer Harder, a professor at McGeorge law school, gives an overview of California water rights at the Water 101 Workshop.

PROJECT WET

The Water Education Foundation helped turn current water issues and events into classroom lessons as the California coordinator of Project WET (Water Education Today). The international program educates youth and their teachers about water challenges.

Brian Brown, who leads the California Project WET program, conducted with program partners **49 workshops** across the state that trained **824 educators**, from kindergarten through 12th grade. The teachers planned to use Project WET activities to engage a total of **152,603 students** in water topics and phenomena during the 2023-2024 school year.

Teacher training and resources provided in 2023 included:

- A series of workshops on the flood control benefits of **restoring wetlands** and **reconnecting floodplains** to rivers, and the importance of capturing flood water for **groundwater recharge** and sustaining agriculture and wildlife.
- Weeklong Forestry Institute for Teachers sessions on managing forests for **watershed protection**, building **climate resiliency** and providing a **sustainable supply** of natural resources.
- A series of four-day Water Institutes for Teachers sessions on the interdependence between **local water resources** and ecosystems and the **federal and state water projects**.
- Four Climate Change & California Water workshops with the California Department of Water Resources on how citizens of any age can help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and **conserve and protect water resources**.
- Workshops introducing educators to the U.S. Geological Survey's water research in California, **monitoring and data resources**, and water science careers.
- Quarterly California Project WET Gazette e-newsletters updating California educators on (1) tools and data sites for **monitoring streams**, (2) how to engage students in the study of water and flood management, (3) using California's epic **atmospheric river events** in 2023 for classroom lessons, and (4) changes in the Project WET program to support the latest K-12 education standards.

Grants and Partnerships

California Project WET received support from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Geological Survey, the California Department of Water Resources and local funding partners.

As California's Project WET leader, Brian presented at the August 2023 Project WET Coordinator's conference in Cleveland and engaged year-round with professional groups, including the Project WET USA Coordinator Council, the California Environmental Education Interagency Network, the Forestry Institute for Teachers Steering Committee and the California Department of Water Resources' Water Education Community.



Brian Brown, the California Project WET coordinator, leads a training workshop for California Department of Fish and Wildlife interpreters.



Teachers at a Project WET workshop in Kern County.



A teacher at a Project WET workshop in Solano County.

California Water Agencies Hoped A Deluge Would Recharge Their Aquifers. But When It Came, Some Couldn't Use It

WESTERN WATER IN-DEPTH: January storms jump-started recharge projects in badly overdrafted San Joaquin Valley, but hurdles with state permits and infrastructure hindered some efforts

It was exactly the sort of deluge California groundwater agencies have been counting on to replenish their overworked aquifers.

The start of 2023 brought a parade of torrential Pacific storms to bone dry California. Snow piled up across the Sierra Nevada at a near-record pace while runoff from the foothills gushed into the Central Valley, swelling rivers over their banks and filling seasonal creeks for the first time in half a decade.



Farmers and water agencies capitalized on January's storms by intentionally flooding land to spur aquifer recharge, like at this Tulare County almond orchard. (Source: Aaron Fukuda/Tulare Irrigation District)

Tribes Gain Clout as Colorado River Shrinks

WESTERN WATER IN-DEPTH: Tribes hold key state-appointed posts for first time as their water rises in value

The climate-driven shrinking of the Colorado River is expanding the influence of Native American tribes over how the river's flows are divided among cities, farms and reservations across the Southwest.

The tribes are seeing the value of their largely unused river water entitlements rise as the Colorado dwindles, and they are gaining seats they've never had at the water bargaining table as government agencies try to redress a legacy of exclusion.



The Central Arizona Project canal cuts through Phoenix. Arizona has made deals with the Gila River Indian Community to leave some of the tribe's Colorado River water in the canal for urban use. Photo by Ted Wood/Water Desk

'If You Unbuild It, They Will Come' Scientists Chart Transformation of Klamath River and Its Salmon Amid Nation's Largest Dam Removal Project

The Klamath River Basin was once one of the world's most ecologically magnificent regions, a watershed teeming with salmon, migratory birds and wildlife that thrived alongside Native American communities. The river flowed rapidly from its headwaters in southern Oregon's high deserts into Upper Klamath Lake, collected snowmelt along a narrow gorge through the Cascades, then raced downhill to the California coast in a misty, redwood-lined finish.



The Copco No. 1 dam on the Klamath River is slated for demolition in 2024. Photo by Stormy Staats/Klamath Salmon Media Collaborative

WESTERN WATER

The Foundation launched *Western Water* in 1977, first as a printed news magazine, to fill a void in deep reporting on critical water issues facing California and the West. Back then, few newspapers and broadcast stations had reporters dedicated to water coverage, let alone the environment. In 2023, the mission of the now online *Western Water* was no less vital as newsrooms across the country continued to downsize. As always, our journalism team pursued water stories no one else was writing.

Top Stories

Capturing Runoff – While the media showered attention on the parade of storms in January 2023, we focused on how California water managers capitalized on the wealth of runoff and, in some cases, squandered it. Our reporting found that inadequate infrastructure and rigid state rules on the use of flood flows prevented some water agencies from fully taking advantage of the bounty. Shortly after the story was published, the governor relaxed rules to make it easier to divert and store floodwater underground.

Tribal Power Shift – We assembled an in-depth story on the Colorado River Basin tribes that had been told in only bits and pieces: They're seeing the value of their largely unused river water entitlements rise as the Colorado dwindles, and consequently gaining influence over how the river's flows are divided across the Southwest.

Natural Infrastructure – We brought to light a new but little-known change in California law that could unleash millions of state dollars for groundwater recharge projects. The change, buried in a sweeping state budget-related law, designates aquifers as "natural infrastructure." That meant water suppliers and cities looking to replenish groundwater could now compete for state funds on par with projects to restore floodplains and other natural infrastructure.

Klamath River Dams – The removal of four defunct hydroelectric dams on the Klamath River grabbed headlines across the world in 2023. We advanced the story beyond the planned demolition to explore how the river's native fish and overall ecosystem would respond once the dams are gone. Our story took readers on a deep dive into the science and restoration work guiding the nation's largest dam removal project. The research we did for the 2023 Layperson's Guide to the Klamath River Basin was foundational to the in-depth story.

Our 2023 coverage also included:

- How the Upper Colorado River Basin is strengthening its bargaining power over the river's use
- Major advances in recycled water technology that are accelerating in the Lower Colorado Basin
- California's first-of-a-kind effort to test drinking water sources for microplastics
- How climate change is making it harder to predict the timing and amount of Sierra snowmelt runoff that will flow into reservoirs.

RITA SCHMIDT SUDMAN AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN WATER JOURNALISM

Kurtis Alexander, an enterprise reporter for the San Francisco Chronicle, was named the 2023 recipient of the Rita Schmidt Sudman Award, which recognizes outstanding reporting on complex water issues in California and the West.

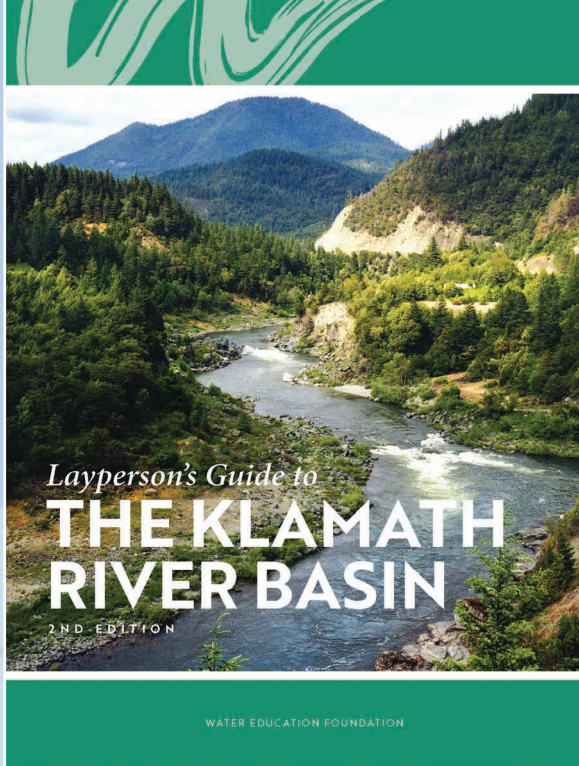
Executive Director Jenn Bowles said she chose Alexander because his water stories consistently provide clarity, depth and context. She cited as examples his coverage of the Klamath River dam removals and the “Big Melt” project he co-produced on the aftermath of the year’s epic snowmelt.

Bowles presented the award to Alexander at the Foundation’s Oct. 25 Water Summit in Sacramento along with her predecessor, Rita Schmidt Sudman, who established the award after leading the Foundation for 35 years. The award includes a \$1,000 check and access to the Foundation’s water tours, Layperson’s Guides and other resources.



Kurtis Alexander of the San Francisco Chronicle displays his water journalism award at the Water Summit with Jenn Bowles and Rita Schmidt Sudman.

MULTIMEDIA



Layperson's Guide to the Klamath River Basin

The Foundation completely overhauled its 12-year-old Klamath River Basin guide knowing the river itself would soon undergo a dramatic makeover. Four hydroelectric dams on the river were scheduled for removal under a landmark agreement to unblock historic habitat for native fish. Our 2023 edition came out just as the first dam was demolished in the nation's largest-ever dam removal project.

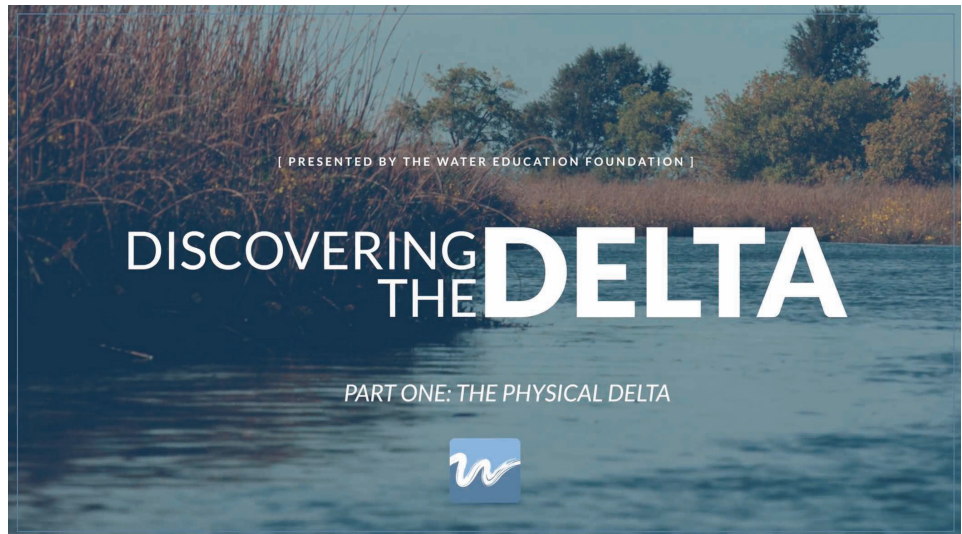
The 20-page guide unfolds the issues and events that led to the river's historic transformation and presents the basin's overall story of conflict and compromise between the agricultural, tribal and wildlife interests that depend on the river system as a lifeline.

Discovering the Delta

The Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta is a hot topic in California water news, yet most Californians are unfamiliar with the place. To offer a quick introduction, the Foundation in 2023 produced three short videos on the region.

Our "Discovering the Delta" series begins with an overview of the Delta's physical layout and its statewide importance. The next video shows how water flows within the vast watershed and drains into the Delta, and where it goes from there. The third video covers life in the Delta as a farming community, a water sports playground, a haven for wildlife and a home to families whose roots run generations deep.

We planned to expand the series in 2024 with a deeper exploration of the Delta, growing our library of educational videos.



HIGHLIGHTS

New Board President

Terry Fulp, who served as the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's regional director for the Lower Colorado River Basin, was elected president of the Foundation's Board of Directors on March 13, 2023. He replaced Mike Chrisman, former California Secretary for Natural Resources, who passed away in October 2022. Terry was a lead negotiator for Reclamation on Colorado River drought contingency plans, rules for operating Lake Powell and Lake Mead, and binational agreements with Mexico. In 2018, he received the Presidential Rank Award for meritorious federal service. Terry retired in 2020 after a 31-year career with the agency. In 2022, he served as a mentor for the Foundation's inaugural Colorado River Water Leaders cohort.

Board Changes

Four water professionals joined the Foundation's Board of Directors: Cheyanne Harris, a civil engineer with Brown and Caldwell and 2019 Water Leaders alum; Ann Hayden, associate vice president of the Environmental Defense Fund's Climate Resilient Water Systems Program; Andrea Abergel, water policy manager for the California Municipal Utilities Association, and a 2023 Water Leader who filled that cohort's board position; and Richard Aragon, finance director for the Coachella Valley Water District and a 2017 Water Leaders alum, who rejoined the board.

Staff Changes

Chris Bowman, a veteran environmental journalist, joined the Foundation as Deputy Director, News & Publications, following the retirement of Doug Beeman.

First ACWA Townhall for Presidential and Vice-Presidential Candidates

The Water Education Foundation, considered the Switzerland of the California water world, was asked to moderate the first-ever town hall put on by the Association of California Water Agencies on July 19. Executive Director Jenn Bowles moderated the event, which featured presidential and vice-presidential candidates for the 2024-2025 term.

National Groundwater Awareness Week

The Foundation joined the California Department of Water Resources and other organizations in marking National Groundwater Awareness Week on March 6. Jenn and Programs Director Nick Gray presented on the importance of groundwater at California Natural Resources Agency headquarters along with other water-related organizations.

Big Day of Giving and Open House

We raised \$11,092 during the annual Big Day of Giving for Sacramento-area nonprofits. The May 4 fundraising event coincided with our annual open house where some of our guests made donations on the spot. They also met newly elected Board President Terry Fulp in his first visit to the Foundation office.



Terry Fulp, president of the Foundation's Board of Directors



Doug Beeman celebrates his retirement as the Foundation's Deputy Director, News & Publications.



Executive Director Jenn Bowles participates in a National Groundwater Awareness Week event at the California Natural Resources Agency.



Nick Cahill, a writer on the Foundation's News & Publications team, discusses the Layperson's Guides on display at the open house in May.

FUNDING SOURCES

A variety of grants from governmental agencies and other organizations funded the Foundation’s special programs, publications and projects in 2023. Annual contributions supported the Foundation’s general activities.

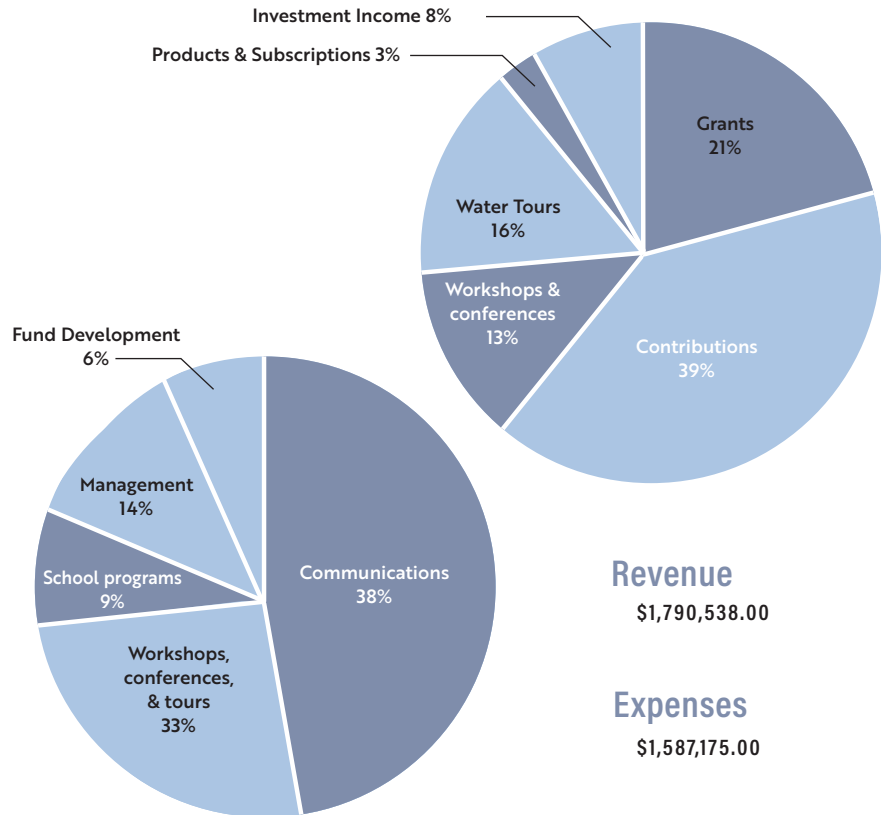
The diversity of funding helps the Foundation maintain its reputation as an impartial source of news, education and information on water in California and the Southwest. Outside reviewers and advisory groups help ensure accuracy, but the Foundation retains editorial control over all programs and publications, no matter the funding source.

In 2023, grant funds provided 21 percent of the Foundation’s revenues, including support for Project WET, tours and publications.

Major contributions (See page 15-17) represented 39 percent of revenues and helped maintain core programs such as *Western Water*, conferences, tours and the Water Leaders Program.

Additional income came from attendance at Foundation briefings and water tours (29 percent) and the sale of our educational materials (3 percent).

We thank all the organizations and individuals for the many ways they support our work and help us fulfill our mission.



Foundation staff takes a holiday break in downtown Sacramento. Front: Jenn Bowles, Linda Christopher, Kayla Sergent and Nick Cahill. Back: Nick Gray, Brian Brown and Chris Bowman.

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 Kjeldsen Sinnock & Neudeck Inc.
 Kronick Moskovitz Tiedemann & Girard
 La Verne, City of
 Martin Hein Ranch Company
 MBK Engineers
 Montpelier Farming Corporation
 National Financial Services LLC
 Nossaman LLP
 Olivenhain Municipal Water District
 Palo Verde Irrigation District
 Sacramento County Water Agency
 Sacramento Suburban Water District
 San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority
 Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority

Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District
 Water Replenishment District of Southern California
 Western Municipal Water District

Pillars (\$1,000 - \$2,4999)

Alf W. Brandt
 Alfred Smith
 Association of California Water Agencies/ JPIA
 Bartkiewicz, Kronick & Shanahan
 Best Best & Krieger LLP
 Buttner Properties Inc.
 Carmichael Water District
 CDM Smith
 Central California Irrigation District
 Central Contra Costa Sanitary District
 Central Valley Project Water Association
 Chad Williams
 City of Palo Alto Utilities
 CoBank
 Colorado River Commission of Nevada
 Corona, City of
 Crestline Village Water District
 Dublin San Ramon Services District
 El Dorado County Water Agency
 Elk Grove Water District
 Environmental Science Association
 Fairfield, City of
 Fallbrook Public Utility District



Board Member Brian Golding Sr. of the Quechan Indian Tribe leads Lower Colorado River Tour participants in a visit to Yuma East Wetlands, a habitat restoration area along the river.

CONTRIBUTORS CON'T.



Board Members Ronald B. Robie, Eric Robinson and Thomas Harter at a reception following the Board meeting in November.

Firebaugh Canal Water District
 Fred Cannon
 Friant Water Authority
 Hanford, City of
 Hi-Desert Water District
 Jurupa Community Services District
 Laguna Beach County Water District
 Leslie Moulton-Post
 Luhdorff & Scalmanini Inc.
 Monterey Peninsula Water Management District
 Napa Sanitation District
 Northern California Water Associations
 Oakdale Irrigation District
 Padre Dam Municipal Water District
 Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency
 Panoche Water District
 Pebble Beach Community Services District
 Placer County Water Agency
 Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District
 San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District
 San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District
 San Gabriel Valley Water Company
 San Luis Canal Company
 Santa Barbara County Water Authority
 Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency
 Somach Simmons & Dunn
 Todd Groundwater
 Tulare Water District

Walnut Valley Water District
 West Yost Associates
 Western Canal Water District
 Westervelt Ecological Services
 Zone 7 Water Agency

Sustainers (\$750 - 999)

Anonymous
 Atascadero Mutual Water Company
 Foothill Municipal Water Authority
 Jasmine Vineyards Inc.
 Mojave Water Agency
 Pakpour Consulting Group

Redwine and Sherill
 Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority
 Valley Water Company
 West Stanislaus Irrigation District
 Wheeler Ridge Maricopa Water Storage District

Founders (\$500 - \$749)

Aaron Giampietro
 Bella Vista Water District
 Buttonwillow Land & Cattle Company
 Carl B. Evers III
 Cawelo Water District
 Central Coast Water Authority
 Columbia Canal Company
 Del Oro Water Company
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 Eric Robinson
 Hammonds Ranch Inc.
 Hanson Bridgett LLP
 Jennifer Harder
 Napa Sanitation District
 Peter Fiske
 Rebecca Smith
 Roberta Borgonovo
 San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority
 Sara Reid
 Shafter-Wasco Irrigation District
 Wonderful Orchards



Foundation staff get a special tour of the California State Library by its communications manager, Alex Vassar (center), after dropping off Foundation maps and publications for the state's archives.

Yuma County Water Users Association
Yung-Hsin Sun

Builders (\$250 - \$499)

Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Bart Fisher
Bob Johnson
Chris Park
Curtis Swanson
D'Arrigo Bros. Co.
Dave Eggerton
Del Puerto Water District
Dennis Albiani
Ducks Unlimited
Eldon Cotton & Associates
Jeff & Gina Moresco, Jeff Moresco Farms
Jennifer Allen
Jennifer Persike & Company
John Burke
Kautz Farms
Kern Delta Water District
Linda Wilshusen
Los Angeles Water and Power Association Inc.
Matan Goldberg
Maygan Cline
McCord Environmental Inc.
Michael Moran
Rick Aragon
Robert Kimberling
Scotts Valley Water District
Tea Pot Dome Water District
Terry Fulp
Waterology Consulting

Associates (\$100 - 249)

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Amazon Smile Donations
Amy Kwong
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Benjamin Bray
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California Society of American Foresters
Campbell Ingram

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Jacob McQuirk
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Jessica Diaz
Kala Clark
Karla Davis
Kat Wuelfing
Marion Jones
Michael Gabaldon

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Rosemary Tchobanoglous
Sandi Matsumoto
Sari Sommar Strom
Sean Herman
Stefanie Morris
Thomas Harter
Tom Biglione
Tom Dodson
Traci Verardo-Torres



Board Member David Guy, of the Northern California Water Association, presents an overview of the Sacramento Valley to Water Leaders.



Foundation staff Nick Gray and Jenn Bowles run a raffle for Foundation water maps during a break at the Water 101 Workshop.



Clockwise from top left: Water Leaders aboard a ferry during the Bay-Delta Tour; The Water Summit panel on dam removals in the West: J. Aman Gonzalez, Meghan Quinn, Nick Cahill (moderator), Brian Johnson and Rob Lusardi; Kurtis Alexander, Jenn Bowles, Rita Schmidt Sudman and Rachel Becker at the Water Summit; The Water Summit panel on water regulation and policy: Wade Crowfoot, Jenn Bowles (moderator), Alexandra Biering, Eric Oppenheimer and Chelsea Haines; Jenn at the Water Summit reception with Board Members Carl B. Evers III (left), Jennifer Persike, Christopher Parks and Andrea Abergel; Jennifer Persike with Board Member Sandi Matsumoto at reception for graduating Water Leaders.





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



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FOUNDATION

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