



WATER EDUCATION
FOUNDATION

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A N N U A L
R E P O R T





WATER EDUCATION FOUNDATION

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Drought, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, Colorado River sustainability and California legislative actions on water were just a few of the issues that comprised the Foundation's publications, conferences, tours and other programs in 2009.

Founded in 1977, the Foundation's mission is to create a better understanding of water resources and foster public understanding and resolution of water resource issues through facilitation, education and outreach. The Foundation reaches a broad audience including policy-makers and leading agricultural, environmental and urban stakeholders; journalists; and school children – and their families – in grades K-14.

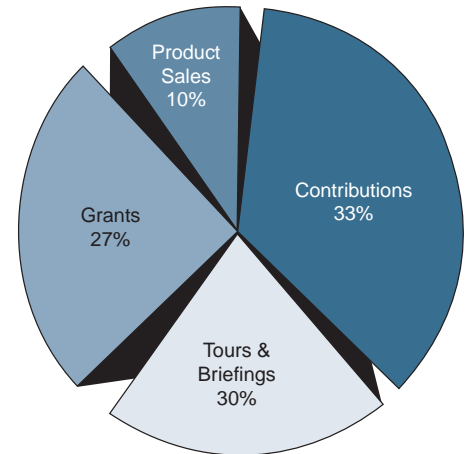
Leading the effort to provide impartial education is a 30-member voluntary Board of Directors. Members come from the business, agricultural, municipal, environmental, education and public interest communities.

The work of the Foundation's 11-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 2009 was \$1.8 million.

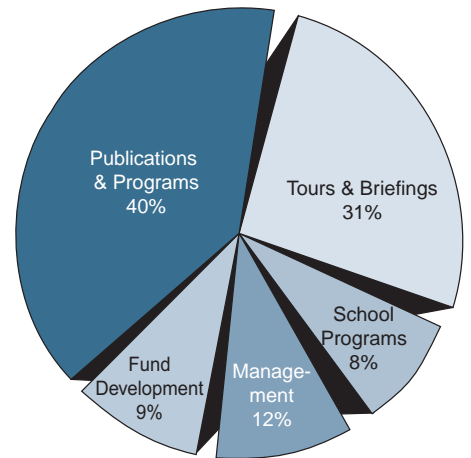
During 2009, the Foundation's six issues of *Western Water* examined topics ranging from Delta conveyance to desalination to how to pay for water. Colorado River issues related to the water-energy nexus and environmental restoration were the focal point of *River Report's* two issues. Foundation staff also conducted eight water tours and held the 26th annual Executive Briefing.

In addition to these regular programs, many special projects were undertaken in 2009 in which the Foundation:

- Cosponsored two **urban drought management workshops** with the Association of California Water Agencies
- Received a regional **Emmy award** for the 2008 public television documentary *Salt of the Earth: Salinity in California's Central Valley*
- Posted an on-line publication about **climate change** on our web site
- Conducted one **brown bag seminar** for California legislators and legislative aides
- Served as the California coordinator for the national **Project WET** (Water Education for Teachers) program
- Created a 10-minute multimedia presentation for use at various **Central Valley Flood Management** outreach meetings
- Continued our partnership with the daily water news blog **Aquaformia.com**
- Published a special publication that examines the elements of the **Lower Yuba River Accord**
- Cosponsored a U.S.-Mexico **Binational Drought Science** conference with the California Department of Water Resources
- Held our seventh biennial, invitation-only **Colorado River Symposium**
- Began work on a video exploring issues related to the **San Joaquin River Restoration Program**
- Worked with **NASA/Jet Propulsion Laboratory** on a special policymaker meeting on climate change
- Graduated 20 young professionals from the **William Gianelli Water Leaders Class**
- Created a **Facebook** page
- Worked with California's Center for the Book to help **public libraries** access educational materials about water for public outreach



SOURCES OF REVENUE
Jan. 1, 2009 - Dec. 31, 2009



EXPENDITURES
Jan. 1, 2009 - Dec. 31, 2009

Text: Robin Richie and Sue McClurg
 Photos: California Department of Water Resources and Foundation staff
 Design: Graphic Communications

Publications



Top to bottom: Writer/Special Projects Coordinator Susan Lauer, far right, moderated a stormwater panel featuring, L to R, Eric Berntsen, State Water Board; Geoff Brosseau, CSQA; Catherine Kuhlman, North Coast RWQCB; and Mark Grey, BIA; Western Water focused on key water issues while revised and new publications discussed flood management and the Yuba River accord; Writer Gary Pitzer.

Western Water Magazine

In the first issue of 2009, writer Gary Pitzer examined California's native salmon and trout crisis to determine the potential impact on water deliveries and the lengths to which combined efforts can help restore these threatened and endangered fish.

"Delta Conveyance: The Debate Continues" was the title of the March/April issue in which Gary provided an overview of a long-held debate in California – whether to build an isolated water conveyance facility around the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

The Russian and Santa Ana rivers were the focus of the May/June issue, "A Tale of Two Rivers." Gary's article looked at these two very different watersheds and explored how each is dealing with issues shared on many other rivers – drought, maintaining agriculture, accommodating growth and working to protect and improve the environment.

Gary analyzed the expected role desalination might play as an alternative water supply strategy in July/August.

Money was the topic of the following *Western Water*. In "Dollars and Sense: How We Pay for Water," Gary examined the financing of water infrastructure, at the local level and from the statewide perspective, and some of the factors that influence how people receive their water, the price they pay for it and how much they might have to pay in the future.

Program Director Sue McClurg wrote the November/December issue on the Colorado River. Drawing on quotes and discussions from the Foundation's Colorado River Symposium, the article explored some of the river's major challenges: preparing for climate change, forging U.S.-Mexico water supply solutions and balancing water deliveries with ecosystem restoration.

Layperson's Guides

In 2009 Susan Lauer completed an update of the *Layperson's Guide to Flood Management* to include information on California's new FloodSAFE effort, ongoing and expected levee repairs, and how climate change could affect precipitation and runoff patterns. Work began in 2009 on updates of two other guides: the Delta and the Central Valley Project. Those updates will be completed in 2010.

The Lower Yuba River Accord: From Controversy to Consensus

The Yuba River has played a vital role in California's history, and how its water should be used has been the focus of controversy for almost two decades. A new 24-page booklet details the conflict between environmentalists, fish organizations and the Yuba County Water Agency and how it was resolved through the Lower Yuba River Accord. The publication includes background information on the river's history and conflicts over dam operations and protecting endangered fish; and discusses the three agreements that comprise the Accord – fisheries, water transfers and conjunctive use.

Other Publications

Also in 2009 the Foundation revised its 12-page *California Water Facts* brochure. Priced to give away – to students, at county fairs, in customer mailings – the booklet includes eye-catching charts and photos that explain California's water sources, delivery systems, environmental issues and alternative sources of water to meet new demands.

And a virtual publication about problems with salinity in the Central Valley was completed and posted on www.Aquaforia.com. Written by Gary Pitzer, the article provides valuable background information about the growing threat of excess salinity – the impact it has had on food production, drinking water quality and public health, and what the implications are for the future. The article includes a list of web resources and tips for helping to reduce salt impacts. Development of the publication was funded by the CV SALTS committee.

Salt of the Earth Wins Emmy

In 2009 the Foundation's public television documentary *Salt of the Earth: Salinity in California's Central Valley* was honored to receive a regional Emmy® award for best writing of a documentary from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

Salt of the Earth, which first aired in 2008 on KVPT, Valley Public Television, in Fresno, explores the problem of salt buildup in the Central Valley and its consequences. The documentary is narrated and hosted by comedian Paul Rodriguez. Major funding for the 60-minute documentary was provided by the Foundation with additional assistance from the California State Water Resources Control Board and the California Water Institute. The Foundation also served as a technical advisor to independent television producers Karen Christian and John C. Davis.

DVD copies, along with a free viewer's guide, are available from the Foundation. A 20-minute version also is available. Visit the Foundation's web site, www.watereducation.org, to learn more.

San Joaquin River Restoration

In 2006, after 18 years of litigation, San Joaquin River water users and environmentalists reached an agreement on re-watering a stretch of the river below Friant Dam in order to restore the river's Chinook salmon population. The first restorative flows were released in 2009 – just as the Foundation began work on a new 25-30 minute video that will explore the history of the river and the current state of the San Joaquin River Restoration Program.

Funded with a grant from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region, the documentary-style video will feature interviews with farmers, environmentalists and government officials as they work to implement a long list of projects to remove physical barriers in the river and restore its channel, habitat and, ultimately, the salmon run.

The video, to be completed in 2010, will help inform the public, landowners, stakeholders in the water community, and other governmental agencies about the history and geography of the San Joaquin River, and the history and progress of the Restoration Program, with its dual goals of river restoration and water management.

A Climate of Change

In February, the Foundation released a new, 25-minute documentary-style DVD called *A Climate of Change: Water Adaptation Strategies*. Developed in partnership with the California Department of Water Resources, the DVD provides background information on climate change and how it is already affecting California. The DVD also explains what scientists anticipate in the future related to sea level rise and precipitation/runoff changes and explores the efforts that are underway to plan and adapt to climate. Copies can be purchased from the Foundation.

Flood Outreach Video

As 2009 drew to a close, the Foundation completed a 10-minute multimedia presentation for use at various Central Valley Flood Management Plan stakeholder meetings in 2010. The Foundation utilized previous audio-taped interviews with longtime flood experts in the Central Valley from Redding to Bakersfield: attorney George Basye, engineers Dick Schafer and Joe Patten, South Delta farmer Alex Hildebrand and water district manager Reggie Hill. These audio recordings were combined with photographic images and video interviews to create a looped presentation.



Top to bottom: Foundation Executive Director Rita Schmidt Sudman with the Emmy awarded to the *Salt of the Earth* documentary; under direction of Foundation staff, independent television producers Karen Christian and John Davis began work in 2009 on a San Joaquin River Restoration video; the Foundation released a climate change DVD; engineer Joe Patten was one of four floor experts included in a special outreach video.

School Programs



Top to bottom: In 2009, California Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) facilitators conducted 46 workshops for over 958 educators who teach water lessons to more than 149,228 students; California Project WET Coordinator Brian Brown with Kristin Coon of the Stockton Area Water Suppliers (SAWS); Brian helped organize two special USGS/Project WET events that focused on wetlands research.

In 2009 California Project WET Coordinator Brian Brown conducted teacher workshops, attended conferences and worked with water districts to assist with teacher professional development workshops through school education outreach programs.

Project WET

In spite of the tough economic times, California Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) had a successful year thanks in part to the efforts of workshop facilitators around the state. Project WET is sponsored in California by the Foundation, aided by grants from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region, and the U.S. Geological Survey's California Water Science Center. The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) also purchases WET books for university teacher education courses throughout the state.

WET helps students understand the importance of conserving and protecting water resources. Brian, the state coordinator, conducts workshops throughout California to train facilitator volunteers. He also creates the quarterly *WET Gazette* newsletter that is emailed to more than 4,000 WET educators and is available on the Foundation's web site.

In 2009, WET facilitators conducted 46 workshops for over 958 educators who teach water lessons to more than 149,228 students. In special Facilitator's Trainings in Chino Hills, Pomona and Folsom, Brian trained more than 50 new facilitators. Workshops were held in many cities around the state including Santa Clara, Santa Ana, Turlock, Chico, Sacramento, Rancho Cucamonga and Watsonville. As usual, the focus remained on getting Project WET into the hands of new educators. Nineteen workshops were given by university professors who work with pre-service teachers to include environmental and water education in their science methods classes. DWR provided free WET Guides to university students who participated in these workshops as part of their course work. Over 350 new classroom teachers met their first students this year with Project WET water lessons. Brian also trained 11 new professors to include WET in their curricula.

Other major WET activities in 2009 included a significant role in evaluating new Project WET activities for an updated Project WET guide, a conference to introduce Professors of Secondary Teacher Education Preparation courses to Project WET at CalPoly Pomona, a two-day Wetlands Institute for Teachers in Los Banos and participation in statewide education conferences where Brian and the California Project WET Facilitator network reached out to over 7,000 educators.

Science Workshops

In addition to regular workshops, Brian helped coordinate two content-specific Project WET workshops with USGS in 2009. In partnership with the Project WILD and the Grasslands Education Center, the first workshop highlighted the role of science in studying and managing California wetlands – including the Delta and the wetlands surrounding San Francisco Bay – and issues impacting these environments.

The second event highlighted USGS subsidence and carbon sequestration studies in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. This presentation was a component of a full day learning tour of the Delta for public information and education outreach staff from water agencies throughout California.

Related Activities

Brian continues to serve on statewide committees including DWR's Education Advisory Committee, the Ag in the Classroom Resource Committee, Forestry Institute for Teachers Steering Committee, and Project Learning Tree & Project WILD Advisory Committees. He also serves on the Project WET USA Publications Committee guiding the second generation Project WET guide process.

Executive Briefing

The 2009 Executive Briefing, "Water 2009: Building on Change," was held March 12-13 at the Doubletree Hotel in Sacramento. About 190 people attended the 1-1/2 day briefing, which featured presentations by California DWR Director Lester Snow, and California State Sens. Fran Pavely, Joe Simitian and Dave Cogdill as well as Assembly Water Chair Jared Huffman. UC Hastings Law School Professor John Leshy, formerly with the Clinton administration, provided an overview of the transition to the Obama administration's Department of the Interior.

Panels at the Briefing included "Decades of Delta Drama," starring Tim Quinn from ACWA, Jason Peltier from Westlands Water District, Leo Winternitz from The Nature Conservancy, Laura King Moon from the State Water Contractors, Jonas Minton from Planning and Conservation League and Mel Lytle from San Joaquin County. Other thought-provoking panel discussions focused on drought and getting by with less water, stormwater regulations, stretching Colorado River supplies, and the water goals/challenges faced by the new Obama administration.

Border Governors Binational Drought Science Conference

Drought in the U.S.-Mexico border area, including climatic drivers, the outlook for improving climate forecasting skills, the possibility of long-term drying trends in the region, and Colorado River Basin/Rio Grande Basin drought management activities, were the focus of a 1-1/2 day conference in San Diego. Held March 26-27 and sponsored by California DWR and the Foundation, the event featured simultaneous Spanish-English translation. It was an opportunity for more than 80 participants to hear representatives of the U.S.-Mexican border states, federal officials and local water agencies discuss drought information for decision-making, climate and drought forecasting, climate change considerations, border-area drought activities and research needs and opportunities.

Urban Drought Workshops

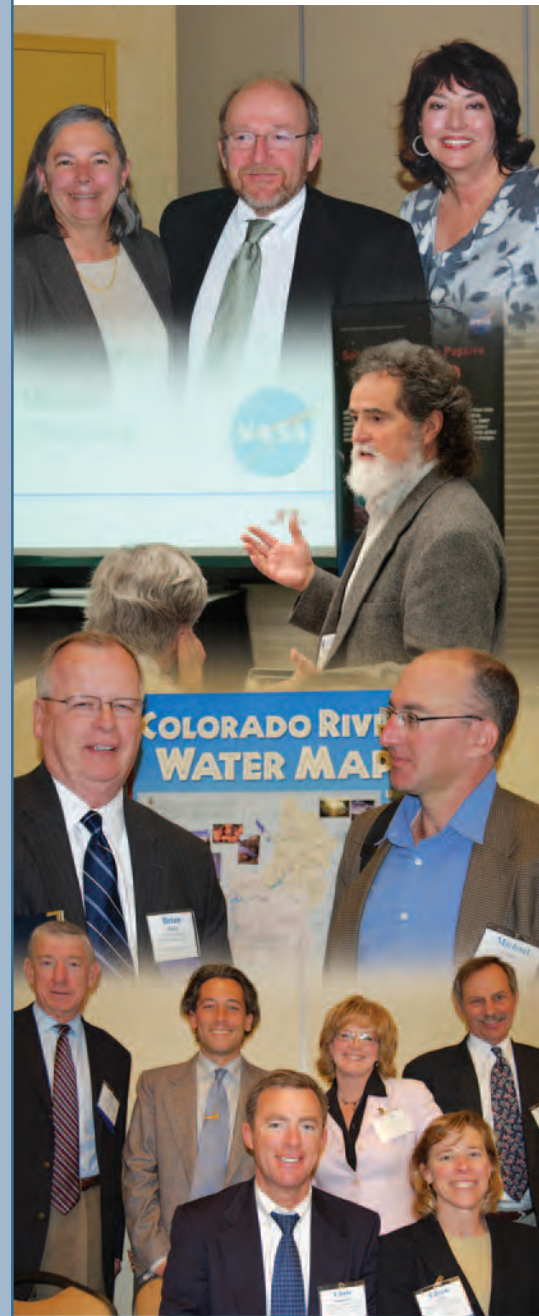
With dry weather, low reservoir levels and restrictions on water deliveries in some areas of California, drought headlines dominated California news stories in 2009. To help urban water providers cope with these challenges, the Foundation sponsored two one-day urban drought workshops with the Association of California Water Agencies. The workshops, "Managing the Crisis: Essential Drought Tools for Urban Water Managers," were held April 16 in Burlingame and April 23 in Irvine. Speakers at the events provided the audience with tips and tools for managing drought-related impacts.

About 50 people attended each workshop and learned about legal issues related to drought declarations and Proposition 218, water rates and equity issues; and implications of the Governor's 20 by 2020 conservation plan.

NASA/JPL Conference

The Foundation was contacted in 2009 by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) to help develop a special workshop related to climate change. The *California Water Resources Workshop* was designed to bring together water resource managers and policymakers with NASA scientists to identify the challenges of and requirements for linking NASA observations and science to California water resource decision making. The primary objective of this workshop was to identify specific requirements for collaborative efforts between water resource stakeholders and NASA.

The invitation-only workshop was held in Pasadena Sept.29-Oct. 1. Breakout groups discussed ways in which NASA technology could aide policymakers and water managers address work related to climate change, habitat restoration, groundwater information and other issues. Foundation staff developed the policy-maker invitation list, attended the event, assisted with note taking and edited a workshop white paper, which will be released in 2010.



Top to bottom: Executive Briefing speakers included State Sen. Fran Pavely and DWR Director Lester Snow, shown here L to R, with Foundation Executive Director Rita Schmidt Sudman; the Foundation helped coordinate a NASA/JPL climate change workshop; Brian Brady, IID, and Michael Cohen, Pacific Institute, discuss Colorado River issues; water conservation panelists L to R, Paul Lanspery, SDCWA; economist David Zetland; Chris Scheuring, California Farm Bureau; Elissa Lynn, California DWR; Eileen White, EBMUD; and Richard Howitt, UC Davis.

Tours



Top to bottom: Participants on the Flood Management Tour view a large map of the Sacramento River flood control system and then visit a levee; a participant looks for birds on the San Joaquin River Restoration Tour; Tour Director Rebecca Scott conducted eight tours in 2009; Mike Marshall, Restore Hetch Hetchy, and Art Jensen, Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency, served as resource speakers on the Hetch Hetchy Tour.

In 2009 the Foundation conducted eight tours under the direction of Events/Tour Director Rebecca Scott.

The **Lower Colorado River Tour**, March 4-6, traveled from Hoover Dam to the Salton Sea and the Coachella Valley, and included a private tour of Hoover Dam, a boat ride on Lake Mead and a visit to Havasu National Wildlife Refuge.

The **Central Valley Tour**, April 15-17, traveled the length of the San Joaquin Valley – starting and ending in Bakersfield. Participants learned about growth, farmland preservation, agricultural drainage and environmental restoration.

A new **Flood Management Tour**, May 7-8, focused on the Sacramento Valley. Stops included Folsom Dam, Plumas Lake, Tisdale Weir and the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area.

The **Bay-Delta Tour**, June 10-12, traveled through the Delta to the San Francisco Bay region. Participants learned about studies and debates on Delta conveyance, Delta farming and the fishery collapse. Stops included the Delta Cross Channel, Clifton Court Forebay, Jones Pumping Plant and Fisherman's Wharf.

Back in 2009 was the **Hetch Hetchy Tour**, July 22-24, which traveled from the urban San Francisco Bay area served by the Hetch Hetchy Project to O'Shaughnessy Dam in the Hetch Hetchy Valley.

For the second year, participants on the **Russian River Tour**, August 6-7, visited Coyote Dam, Lake Sonoma and the Wohler/Mirabel water intake structures, and enjoyed wine tasting at De La Montanya Winery.

The **Northern California Tour**, October 7-9, traveled from Sacramento to Shasta Dam and back. Participants learned about farming, fishery restoration efforts, and State Water Project and Central Valley Project operations.

For the second annual **San Joaquin River Restoration Tour**, November 12-13, participants learned about progress on restoring the river. Stops included Friant Dam, Chowchilla Bifurcation and Mendota Pool.

Cosponsors of one or more tours were: AECOM; Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency; Bahman Sheikh, Ph.D., P.E. – Water Resources and Reuse Specialist; Bowles Farming Company, Inc., in honor of Mr. John H. "Jack" Threlkeld; Brown and Caldwell; California Department of Water Resources; CDM; Coachella Valley Water District; CH2M Hill; Dan Dooley, Vice President, University of California's Division of Agriculture & Natural Resources; Davids Engineering, Inc.; GEI Consultants; GEI Consultants, Inc. – Bookman-Edmonston Division; HDR; ICF Jones & Stokes; Imperial Irrigation District; Kern County Water Agency; MBK Engineers; MWH; Nickel Family LLC; Panta Rhea Foundation; Parsons; Parsons Brinckerhoff; PBS&J; San Francisco Public Utilities Commission; Somach Simmons & Dunn; Sonoma County Water Agency; Southern Nevada Water Authority; the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's Lower Colorado Region and Mid-Pacific Region; West Yost Associates; and Winzler & Kelly.

Organizations that hosted or co-hosted meals, provided refreshments or offered other support were: Blue Diamond Almond Growers; California Farm Bureau Federation; Central Valley Flood Control Association; Clarksburg Community Church; Clarksburg fruit growers; Contra Costa Water District; Delta Sierra Distributors; East Valley Water District; Friant Water Authority; Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District; Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District; Kern Water Bank Authority; Mendocino National Forest; Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; Miller Coors; Modesto Irrigation District; Northern California Water Association; Nossaman LLP; Panoche Water District; Port of Stockton; Philip Williams & Associates Ltd.; Reclamation District 1000; Reclamation District 1500; Red Bluff Recreation Area; Russian Hill Estate Winery; SAFCA; Sacramento River West Side Levee District; Sacramento Valley Landowners Association; San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority; San Luis Canal Company; San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority; SAWS – Stockton Area Water Suppliers (City of Stockton, Stockton East Water District, County of San Joaquin, and California Water Service); Sbragia Family Vineyards; Semitropic Water Storage District; Sutter Butte Flood Control Agency; Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority; Turlock Irrigation District; West Coast Grape Farming; Western Canal Water District; Westlands Water District; and Yuba County Water Agency.

Water Leaders

Twenty young professionals graduated from the Foundation's 13th Annual William R. Gianelli Water Leaders Class. This one-year program educates participants about water and enhances individual leadership skills. The 2009 class studied issues related to water conservation.

The graduates: Kimberly Brown, *Westside Mutual Water Company*; Summer Bundy, *CH2M Hill*; Aracely Campa, *Assemblymember Anna Caballero*; Teresa Chan, *Ellison, Schneider & Harris LLP*; Allison Dvorak, *State Water Contractors*; Kari Fisher, *California Farm Bureau Federation*; Brian Heywood, *CDM*; Kimberly Houlding-Kaufmann, *Congressman George Radanovich*; Derek Larsen, *MBK Engineers*; Tara Lohan, *AlterNet*; Vincent Marchand, *Senator Gloria Negrete McLeod*; Lisa Mash, *ENTRIX, Inc.*; Lisa McPhee, *Metropolitan Water District of Southern California*; Kristen Mignone Crane, *City of Poway*; Meghan Moda, *Resources Legacy Fund*; Matt Notley, *California Department of Water Resources*; Jeffrey Payne, *MWH Americas, Inc.*; Andrea Schmid, *New Fields*; Lisa Skutecki, *Brown and Caldwell*; and Michelle Yeh, *Schlumberger Water Services*.

Class funding was provided by the William R. "Bill" Gianelli, Jean Auer, David Kennedy and Tom Graff scholarship funds. An annual silent auction held at the Foundation's Executive Briefing generated \$10,160.

Brown Bag Lunch

The Foundation sponsored a "brown bag" lunch seminar at California's Capitol in November to educate legislative aides about the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) process. Funding assistance for the seminar was provided by the California-Nevada section of the American Water Works Association. Karla Nemeth, California Natural Resources Agency liaison to the BDCP, provided an overview of the BDCP's purpose, timeline and progress to date.

California Libraries and Water

With major assistance from the Foundation, the reading promotion agency California Center for the Book developed resources in 2009 to help public libraries host programming about water. The project was offered to all 181 library jurisdictions in the state. Approximately 45 libraries in 34 counties have already received materials and have or are planning to host screenings, panel discussions, book groups and community forums. Participating libraries received a package of Foundation materials and other educational brochures.

Facebook and Aquaforia

The Foundation launched a new Facebook page in 2009 and already has 203 fans. Updated regularly, the page features news and photos of Foundation events, including our water tours, and other announcements. It often includes a link to the day's top news story on the California water news blog, www.Aquaforia.com.

The Foundation continued its partnership with Aquaforia in 2009 and the site now receives 1,000 visitors a day who want the latest news on water – including links to mainstream articles, blogs and trade journals. Aquaforia readers can also now learn more about the Foundation's water tours through post-tour articles written by Rebecca Scott. Also in 2009 Rebecca began work on developing Google maps of the tour routes; these maps will be posted on Aquaforia.com in 2010.

Water Conservation Slide Card

In 2009 we began work on a new slide guide offering information about water use and conservation in the Western United States. The card, when completed, will include short definitions of surface water and groundwater, explain per capita water use with average use for several selected cities, and offer tips to conserve water around the house and in the yard. Funding for the slide guide was provided by the Water for the West Foundation.



facebook



AQUAFORNIA

The California Water News Blog
<http://aquaforia.com>



Top to bottom: Members of the 2009 Water Leaders class on the Bay-Delta Tour; the Foundation launched a Facebook page in 2009; Foundation Program Director Sue McClurg with Karla Nemeth, California Natural Resources Agency liaison to the BDCP – Nemeth spoke at a November legislative briefing; the Foundation continued its affiliation with the popular California water news blog, Aquaforia.com, in 2009.

Colorado River Project



Top to bottom: Colorado River Symposium speakers included current Reclamation Commissioner Mike Connor and former Commissioner Bob Johnson; the Foundation published two issues of River Report; Diane Boyer and Robert Webb discussed their book at the Symposium; attendees included Colorado Supreme Court Justice Greg Hobbs Jr., far right, and, L to R, Bobbie Hobbs, Nicole Seltzer, Colorado Foundation for Water Education, and Jennifer Pitt, EDF.

WATER EDUCATION FOUNDATION
2009 ANNUAL REPORT

In 2009, the Foundation's Colorado River Project marked its 12th year. Primary financial support was provided through a grant from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's Upper and Lower Colorado Regions. Serving on the Project's Advisory Committee in 2009 were: Hamlet "Chips" Barry, *Denver Water*; Michael Cohen, *Pacific Institute*; Gordon "Jeff" Fassett, *HDR Engineering*; Herb Guenther, *Arizona Department of Water Resources*; Gary Hansen, *Colorado River Indian Tribes*; Jeff Kightlinger, *MWD of Southern California*; David Lindgren, *Downey Brand*; James Lochhead, *Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck*; Estevan Lopez, *New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission*; Patricia Mulroy, *Southern Nevada Water Authority*; Don Ostler, *Upper Colorado River Commission*; Jennifer Pitt, *Environmental Defense Fund*; Lester Snow, *California Resources Agency*; Maureen Stapleton, *San Diego County Water Authority*; and Gary Weatherford, *California Public Utilities Commission*.

River Report

The Foundation's 12-page *River Report* newsletter is published twice a year. The growing importance of the water-energy link in the West as the demand for each increases was the subject of the Summer 2009 issue. Written by Gary Pitzer, the article looked at how the message is being conveyed to the public that simple everyday activities – running the dishwasher, watering the lawn – have impacts on energy and water supplies.

In the Winter issue, Gary wrote about some of the issues associated with balancing the Colorado River's ecosystem and its water delivery system. Much of the content for the article was based on the comments of a panel assembled at the Foundation's invitation-only 2009 Colorado River Symposium.

Colorado River Symposium

In September, the Foundation held its seventh biennial Colorado River Symposium at The Bishop's Lodge in Santa Fe. The overall theme was: "The Colorado River: Building a Sustainable Future." The invitation-only event featured a lineup of top speakers including Reclamation Commissioner Mike Connor, former Reclamation Commissioner Bob Johnson, and former Interior Assistant Secretary Bennett Raley.

The symposium opened with a presentation by USGS employees and authors Diane Boyer and Robert Webb, who wrote the book *Damming Grand Canyon: The 1923 USGS Colorado River Expedition*. Panel discussions on "Where We Are Today" related to agreements to share the river's water and on U.S.-Mexico issues closed the day.

Day Two featured panel discussions on growth, the link between water and energy, climate change and augmentation of the river's water supplies. Day Three featured a presentation on science related to environmental restoration activities and a panel about balancing water delivery and the ecosystem. The symposium ended with an entertaining Crystal Ball panel in which "oracles" from diverse viewpoints predicted the future of the river. The symposium was taped, and the written proceedings will be published in 2010.

Colorado River Project Sponsors

Leaders (\$10,000)

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Redwine and Sherrill
Salt River Project
San Diego County Water Authority
Somach Simmons & Dunn
URS Corporation

A variety of grants from governmental agencies, private foundations and other organizations funded the Foundation's special programs, publications and projects in 2009. 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 2009, grant funds provided 27 percent of the Foundation's revenues, funding Project WET, special workshops and conferences, television productions, and new publications.

Major contributions represented 33 percent of 2009 revenues and helped maintain core programs such as *Western Water* and *Layperson Guide* updates. In 2009, 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 page 12 for the list of major contributors.)

Additional Foundation income is derived from attendance at briefings and water tours, 30 percent in 2009, and the sale of our educational materials, 10 percent in 2009. In return for all this support, the Foundation continues to serve as the source of impartial information on water issues in California and the West. We thank all the organizations and individuals for the many ways in which they support our work and help us fulfill our mission.

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U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Lower and Upper Colorado Regions \$50,000

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California Department of Water Resources \$10,000

San Joaquin River Restoration Program – Tour and Video

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region \$75,000
(60 for video, 15 for tour)

International Groundwater/Agricultural Sustainability Conference

University of California, Davis-Hagan Endowed Chair in Water Management and Policy \$15,000

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U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region \$49,980
U.S. Geological Survey \$13,000

U.S.-Mexico Border Water Infrastructure Conference
California Department of Water Resources \$50,000

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NASA/JPL \$13,000

The Santa Ana River Watershed 2010 Conference
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority \$24,000

Central Valley Flood Protection Plan Program
California Department of Water Resources (with MWH) \$47,800

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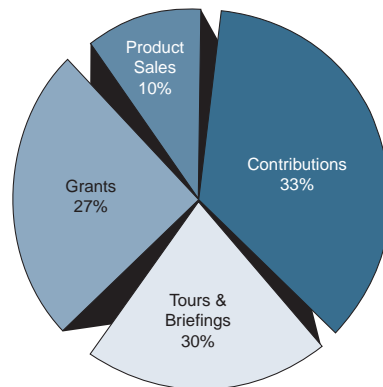
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Ellen Hanak, Public Policy Institute of California, spoke on the 2009 Bay-Delta Tour.

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L to R: MWD General Manager Jeff Kightlinger, former Reclamation commissioner Bob Johnson and former Assistant Interior Secretary Bennett Raley discussed current-day issues at the Colorado River Symposium.

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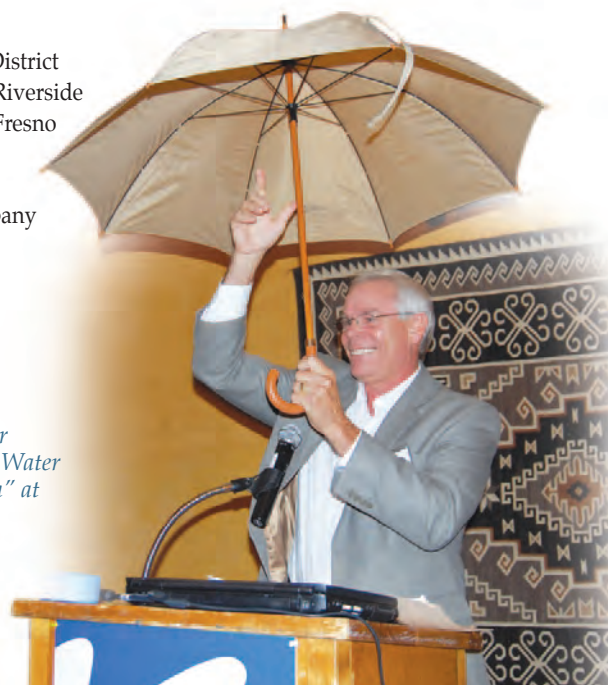
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Bill Rinne, director of surface water resources for the Southern Nevada Water Authority, holds up a "water witch" at the Colorado River Symposium.

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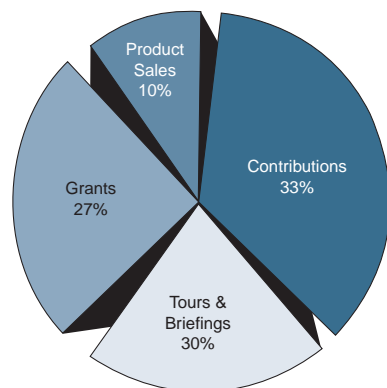
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Rich Albers at the Merced National Wildlife Refuge on the San Joaquin River Restoration Tour.



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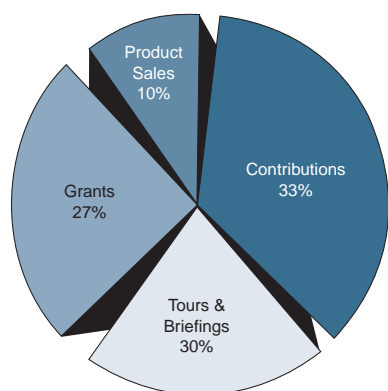
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The Foundation and the Association of California Water Agencies cosponsored two urban drought workshops in 2009. At the San Francisco event, L to R, ACWA Executive Director Tim Quinn and Foundation Executive Director Rita Schmidt Sudman with former Assemblymember John Laird.



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Board and Staff

Top to bottom: Longtime Board Member Don Eenson, MWH, retired in 2009 and received recognition from Executive Director Rita Schmidt Sudman and Board President Bill Mills. Board Member Celeste Cantú, Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, at the 2009 Foundation Board/ Staff retreat. Board Member Randele Kanouse, East Bay Municipal Utility District, served as a mentor to Water Leaders graduate Meghan Moda with the Resources Legacy Fund. Board Members Linda Fiack, Delta Protection Commission, and Thad Bettner, Glenn Colusa Irrigation District, spoke on the Delta and Northern California tours, respectively. Foundation staff, back row, L to R, Patty Wong, Rebecca Scott, Sue McClurg, Brian Brown, Diana Farmer and Gary Pitzer; front row, L to R, Susan Lauer, Robin Richie, Beth Stern, Rita Schmidt Sudman and Jean Nordmann.



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