

Mission

To serve and represent regional water supply interests and assist Regional Water Authority members with protecting and enhancing the reliability, availability, affordability and quality of water resources.

Member Agencies

California American Water
Carmichael Water District
Citrus Heights Water District
Del Paso Manor Water District
El Dorado Irrigation District
Fair Oaks Water District
Folsom, City of
Fruitridge Vista Water Company
Golden State Water Company
Lincoln, City of
Orange Vale Water Company
Placer County Water Agency
Rancho Murieta CSD
Roseville, City of
Rio Linda/Elverta CWD
Sacramento, City of
Sacramento Suburban Water District
San Juan Water District
West Sacramento, City of

RWA Associates

El Dorado County Water Agency
Sacramento Municipal Utility District
Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District

2009 Leadership Elected for RWA, SGA

The RWA Board of Directors has elected a new Executive Committee and officers to lead the organization in 2009. Shauna Lorange, general manager of San Juan Water District, was elected chair of the Authority's Board of Directors. Rob Roscoe, general manager of Sacramento Suburban Water District and a former RWA board chair, was elected vice chair.

In addition to Lorange and Roscoe, the following local water leaders were elected to the 2009 RWA Executive Committee: Andy Soulé, California American Water; Steve Nugent, Carmichael Water District; Joseph Dion, Citrus Heights Water District; Ken Payne, City of Folsom; Bill George, El Dorado Irrigation District; Paul Schubert, Golden State Water Company; and Gray Allen, Placer County Water Agency.

Lorange said key areas of focus for 2009 are the efficient use of surface and groundwater conjunctively throughout the region, and the development of a strong regional voice to make sure the region's positions and concerns are heard in statewide water discussions.

"We have taken important steps as a region

to secure the reliability of our water supplies while protecting key resources such as the American River," Lorange said. "These efforts are increasingly important to meeting the needs of our customers into the future."

Lorange, who has served on the RWA Executive Committee since 2006, has been general manager of San Juan Water District since December 2003. Roscoe has been a member of RWA's Executive Committee since 2002. He has been general manager at Sacramento Suburban Water District since March 2003.

New officers were elected in December for the Sacramento Groundwater Authority. Paul Schubert, district manager for Golden State Water Company, was elected chair after serving as vice chair in 2008. Walt Sadler, assistant utilities director for the City of Folsom, was elected vice chair.

Schubert said he looks forward to guiding continued implementation of SGA's Groundwater Management Plan and applying a recently updated regional groundwater model to inform groundwater banking and exchange activities in the basin.

Executive Director's Message

As I reflect on my first eight months as executive director of the Regional Water Authority and Sacramento Groundwater Authority, I see a number of challenges we face as water agencies; a Delta solution that has potential impacts on our water supplies, increasingly stringent water conservation requirements, and the reality of a third dry year all lie in our future.



Participants at the January 20 RWA Strategic Planning Workshop brainstorm ideas. The comprehensive plan is slated for completion in July 2009.

To meet these challenges, RWA and SGA have embarked on a number of initiatives. We are in the midst of a comprehensive strategic planning process for RWA. Clarifying our mission, vision, and goals will help guide us for the next several years in a world that has changed considerably since the organization's formation just eight years ago.

Through a series of workshops and presentations, RWA and SGA members are increasingly informed and engaged on the Delta and other water issues that extend beyond our borders. We continue to work on developing and disseminating a collective message to our customers on the importance of water conservation. A comprehensive update of our Integrated Regional Water Management Plan, which will address a broad range of water supply, water quality, environmental, and flood control needs, is under way.

It is the commitment of RWA and SGA members to our mutual goals and interests that will continue to make us successful. RWA staff looks forward to continuing to provide the services that help to focus that commitment.

Update Complete for Groundwater Management Plan

SGA has completed the first update of its Groundwater Management Plan (GMP), a formal plan aimed at protecting local groundwater resources and coordinating groundwater management efforts in the region.

Adopted initially in December 2003, the GMP provides a critical framework for managing and sustaining local groundwater resources. Working closely with an implementation committee, SGA has updated the objectives and actions that constitute the heart of the plan.

In addition to updating the plan, SGA recently issued an updated Basin Management Report that highlights progress to date on implementing the GMP. The biennial report documents hydrologic

conditions in 2006 and 2007 – the most recent data available – as well as management activities undertaken by SGA and others through 2008 to help ensure the long-term sustainability of the region's vital groundwater resources. The updated GMP and management report are available at www.sgah2o.org.

Another key element of SGA's groundwater management efforts is development of a water accounting framework that will guide regional conjunctive use efforts. As part of that initiative, SGA is coordinating with the Department of Water Resources and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to refine guidelines for water transfers and exchanges involving groundwater substitution.



Regional Water Authority
BUILDING ALLIANCES IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

5620 Birdcage Street, Suite 180
Citrus Heights, CA 95610
(916) 967-7692
www.rwah2o.org

Raley Field Water Use Audit Conducted

RWA and the City of West Sacramento recently teamed with WaterWise Consulting, Inc. to conduct a water audit of Raley Field. Irrigation for the stadium landscaping and the playing field were evaluated, as well as restrooms, concessions, and other indoor water use. Raley Field requested the audit as a step toward certification as a Sacramento Sustainable Business.

“We’re excited to have such a highly visible business in the region taking water conservation this seriously,” said Linda Higgins, RWA Water Efficiency Program manager. “We hope it will encourage other businesses to do the same.”

WaterWise Consulting, Inc. will provide Raley Field with a detailed report that includes a number of recommendations for saving water.

Awards Presented to Local Water Leaders

RWA in December presented its annual Distinguished Service Award to longtime water attorney Ed Tiedemann and its Water Statesperson of the Year Award to San Juan Water District General Manager Shauna Lorange. The awards were presented at the Authority’s annual holiday social.

Tiedemann, a senior attorney with Kronick, Moskovitz, Tiedemann & Girard, was honored for his numerous accomplishments during more than four decades as general counsel to the Placer County Water Agency. He was cited in particular for his contributions to developing PCWA’s Middle Fork American River Project, including obtaining water right permits and a federal power license, administering construction contracts, and negotiating water and power contracts.

Lorange, who has served as general manager of the San Juan Water District since December 2003, was honored for her role in promoting common conservation messages and water shortage criteria among the San Juan Family of water agencies. She also was recognized for her involvement in statewide efforts to develop



Paul Bartkiewicz (left), RWA legal counsel and David Breninger (right), PCWA General Manager present the Distinguished Service Award to Ed Tiedemann (center).

policy principles on water conservation through the Association of California Water Agencies’ Drought and Conservation Task Force as well as regional efforts to achieve a flow standard to protect the fishery of the lower American River. Her work as chair of ACWA’s Local Government Committee, as a member of the National Water Resources Association and as an advocate for regional water issues in Washington, D.C., also was noted.

New Project Manager Joins RWA

RWA recently welcomed Linda Higgins as a new associate project manager.

A certified landscape irrigation auditor and water conservation practitioner, Higgins is responsible for implementing and managing RWA’s water efficiency programs.

She previously served as water conservation coordinator for Sacramento Suburban Water District and has more than nine years’ experience in water and resource conservation programs.

“Linda’s experience and technical expertise make her well suited to help implement and expand our regional water efficiency program,” RWA Executive Director John Woodling said. “We are pleased to have Linda on board as we face the prospect of a third drought year and the many water supply challenges it may bring to our region. Water efficiency efforts and public education will be more important than ever.”

RWA recently received a \$2 million Urban Drought Assistance Grant from the



Linda Higgins explains the audit of Raley Field to the media.

California Department of Water resources to help implement a variety of water-saving measures, including accelerated installation of water meters, rebates for water-saving washing machines, and public outreach efforts.

