



GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

April 2016

Summary of highlights of major activities and projects.
Issues ready for action by the Commission are agendized separately.

White House Water Summit: March 22 marked the first White House Water Summit, which coincided with World Water Day. SAWPA was invited by the White House and asked to participate, which I did along with 140 others with half being from the water sector and the other half were representing private companies many of whom were there seeking to make connections for investments opportunities. Of the half from the water industry, about half were Californians well known to us all. It felt like "old home week".

The Long-Term Drought Resilience Federal Action Plan of the National Drought Resilience Partnership was released and presented at the Summit. The Plan describes six goals:

1. Data Collection and Integration
2. Communicating Drought Risk to Critical Infrastructure
3. Drought Planning and Capacity Building
4. Market-Based Approaches for Infrastructure and Efficiency
5. Innovative Water use, Efficiency, and Technology.

The action plan outlines the ways in which the Federal departments and agencies can use existing resources to take additional steps to work with State, regional, Tribal and local partners to respond to drought. Interestingly the Plan resembles the PPIC's **Improving the Federal Response to Western Drought: Five Areas for Reform** published last February.

Goal #1 is of particular interest to SAWPA as this is the same issue that the Bechtel Foundation is asking SAWPA to submit a \$500K proposal. Coincidentally, Joya Banerjee Bechtel announced at the Summit the **Project Water Data** as an effort to modernize Data Systems.

California's Congressional members were well represented in the official presentations by Jared Huffman speaking about Ag and the Forest, and Jerry McNerney who called for more investment in water infrastructure. Jo-Ellen Darcy ACOE moderated a session on Building Resilience for the Extremes. Also presenting was Water Education for Latino Leaders (WELL) of which IEUA and Western are members and I serve on the Board.

A product of the Summit is a long list of "Commitments to Action on Building a Sustainable Water Future". Included are SAWPA's OWOW and the SARCCUP Program. My take away message was that most of the innovation is happening in California without the help of the Federal Government, and their message was "we don't have money but we know those who do".

Alice Duecker Retires after 8 years as Senior Accountant Technician at SAWPA. We advertised for her replacement, conducted interviews and have selected Alison Lewis who will begin her career at SAWPA on May 12. We will miss Alice's happy smile and wish Alison well in her new position.

ACWA Headwater Program: ACWA has asked SAWPA to present on our Forest First partnership with the US Forest Service at the Spring Conference.

SAWPA/OCSD Joint Operations Committee met at SAWPA and discussed several technical and policy related issues of mutual concern. Also discussed were preliminary plans for the SAWPA/OCSD Joint Policy Committee meeting this summer. The initial idea is that the Committee will meet at the OCWD field station and after a meeting travel to the SARI Metering Station to tour the area. With Don Galleano's departure from SAWPA, we will need to appoint his replacement on the Joint Committee. Ron Sullivan is also on the Committee.



Bureau of Reclamation names Jacklynn Gould Deputy Regional Director for Reclamation's Lower Colorado Region. "While this Region's issues of lingering drought combined with our charge to deliver water and power will be quite a challenge, I look forward to making a positive contribution to our work, our employees and Regional stakeholders," said Gould. "Throughout my career with the federal government, I've also enjoyed coaching and mentoring the next generation of talented professionals entering Reclamation," said Gould. In the last 10 years, Gould has served in various management positions in Reclamation's Great Plains Region. At the Eastern Colorado Area Office in Loveland, Colorado, she started as the Resources Division Manager and worked up to the position of

Area Manager. As Area Manager, she was responsible for all aspects of the extensive Colorado-Big Thompson and Frying pan-Arkansas projects, including 15 dams and reservoirs, and 7 hydropower plants with a total of 12 generator units. Prior to the Eastern Colorado Area Office, Gould served in Reclamation's Upper Colorado Region Albuquerque Area Office as Water Resources Division Manager. Gould's career in water management began with Reclamation in 1992 after attending the University of Colorado, where she earned Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degrees in both Biology and Civil Engineering, and a Master's degree in Public Administration (MPA). Gould is also licensed as a professional engineer (P.E.).

The annual **Aspen-Nicholas Water Forum** serves as a platform for addressing domestic water challenges in the 21st century. Challenges in the US water sector—from the drought in California to the need for policy solutions that address water trading opportunities—will continue to be addressed at this convening as the Aspen Institute and Nicholas Institute collaborate to develop forward-thinking pathways to address the state of the US water system. Very brief presentations introduce each session of the forum but the majority of time is reserved for informal and off-the-record dialogue among all the participants. The third annual Aspen-Nicholas Water Forum will take place May 18-21, 2016 in Aspen, CO. I have been invited to participate along with 50 others. The theme is **Emerging Approaches to Financing and Investing in Water that lead to more Sustainable Outcomes**. Last year the theme was Data Intelligence for the 21st Century Water Management.