

DWR NEWS | *People*

FALL 2004



*Ventura County
Well Destruction*



Actually, the view from the 11th floor isn't much different than the view from the 10th floor where I first started State service as a Student Assistant over 31 years ago working for the State Water Resources Control Board. Granted, my office back then had no view of anything. However, from time to time they would let us look outside. The "office" was in fact a closet shared by three of us, where the desks touched each other and we had to stand up in order for our roommates to get to and from their desks. It was a bit of a tight squeeze, but fun and exciting nonetheless. Over the years the work continued to be exciting—dealing with many of the same issues the Department is dealing with today—but from a water right and water quality regulatory view point. In that time I had the opportunity to get to know folks from the Department, some of whom have since retired. Characters like Jerry Cox, Larry Mullnix, Bob Potter, and in his own league, Dave Kennedy, all had a big impact on my understanding of the State's water systems and how "things really work." These folks, in slightly altered forms also appear in Dave Anderson's epic tale entitled "Mean Streams-The Trilogy." I recommend it to all those seeking a creative, fictional account of water and water rights in the Central Valley. Call Dave to get a copy of this unpublished literary work. It's worth it.

When I came to the Department three years ago, I knew that I would need to develop a new set of approaches to problem solving since it is lot harder to work with outside parties as partners to accomplish tasks than it is to require them to do things through a Board order or a water right decision. It has been a good change for me and the staff at the Department has been great to work with. Your "can do" approach to our challenges is refreshing.

The Department's work on the Jones Tract levee failure is a great example of the Department getting things done. The Jones Tract experience allowed you to show the public just what the Department, working with other agencies and groups, can do. Your quick response to containing the flood to just Jones Tract, closure of the breach, protection of the interior of the levees from erosion, pump out of the island, and all of the water quality and permit issues that surfaced along the way was pretty amazing and appreciated not only by the administration but by the folks in the field. At the legislative hearing on this issue a few weeks ago, the engineer from the reclamation district affected by the levee break heaped praise on the Department and stated that this was the fastest Delta levee repair of this size that he has ever seen in his 30 plus years working in the Delta. It was high praise for good work. We have many other water resource related challenges ahead and I know the Department is poised to address them in a professional and timely manner and in the best interests of the State.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jerry Johns".

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DWR NEWS/People is published quarterly by the California Department of Water Resources.

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DWR NEWS/People's Web site is <http://www.PublicAffairs.water.ca.gov/information/#newsletters>

FUNDED BY THE STATE WATER PROJECT CONTRACTORS

 Printed on recycled paper



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VENTURA COUNTY *Well Destruction*

Photos by Southern District Staff

by Don Strickland

In May of 2004, one engineer and three engineering geologists from DWR's Southern District closed the loop on three projects that began 39 years ago...when Lyndon Johnson was President, "Bonanza" was the most popular television show, and the Baltimore Orioles were World Series champs.

"We weren't exactly sure what we'd find when we began our search," —Tim Ross

In a search and destroy mission entitled "Ventura County Well Destruction," the DWR team located and sealed 25 test monitoring wells drilled nearly four decades ago as part of three studies: Seawater

Intrusion in the Oxnard Plain; Oxnard Basin Experimental Extraction-Type Barrier; and Aquitards in the Coastal Groundwater Basin of the Oxnard Plain, Ventura County.

The wells were constructed between 1965 and 1968 in three primary locations: Port Hueneme, Oxnard's Pleasant Valley Road area, and Point Mugu.

Left to Right: Engineering Geologist Gary Guacci, Engineering Geologist Tim Ross, Senior Engineering Geologist Bob Pierotti, and Engineer Brian C. Moniz were the DWR team that worked on the Ventura County Well Destruction.

Three and a half years ago, Senior Engineering Geologist **Bob Pierotti** tasked **Brian Moniz**, a Registered Engineer, to lead the destruction project. Bob also brought in Engineering Geologists **Tim Ross** and **Gary Guacci** to add their experience and expertise to the field work.

"We had been trying to do this project for about 10 years," said Bob. "We submitted budget change proposals several times before funding became available."

DWR staff take a depth measurement of an existing well to determine how much neat cement will be required to seal the well.



Getting Started with a Plan

Once the project had the green light, Brian formulated an eight-step plan:

- Collect all related data for the project wells.
- Physically locate the wells.
- Obtain permits.
- Prepare and assess the condition of each well.
- Determine the depth of each well.
- Select an appropriate destruction method.
- Destroy the wells.
- Restore each site to its original condition.

Brian put together a bid package, initiated a bidding process, and selected the winning bidder. It then took another 10 months to collect all the well data, obtain necessary permits and get an approved contract.

Overcoming the Challenges

Each of the plan's eight steps turned out to be time-consuming. Take step number two, for example: locating wells dug the year the first American walked in space proved to be a difficult chore. The Southern District crew soon discovered that, due to the passage of time and widespread development, most of the wells were hidden under some kind of physical barrier – from landscaping to tennis courts.

The background of Tim Ross proved to be very helpful in that area. Tim taught geology at California State University, San Bernardino for seven years before taking a position with DWR. When the well destruction project began, Tim called on his contacts in academia and ended up borrowing a metal detector from a friend at Pomona College.

That device proved to be helpful in sleuthing out some of the old wells, particularly ones at Port Hueneme and in the City of

The existing well casing is being removed by using a hollow stem auger. Wells were typically drilled out down to five feet below ground surface.



Oxnard. Some wells were covered by asphalt parking lots or other obstructions. One was close to a fire hydrant line, which made pinpointing its location all the more difficult.

"We weren't exactly sure what we'd find when we began our search," said Tim. "Some well casings were PVC, which wouldn't show up on the metal detector. Most of them had cast iron access caps, however, and they showed up quite nicely."

The Reason for the Search

With the wells proving to be hard to find and mostly covered over, an obvious question is: "why bother looking...?" For openers, California State health and safety codes specify that permanently inactive wells (those not used for a period of one year) must be destroyed in accordance with standards developed by DWR.

"There are several good reasons why the wells need to be destroyed," said Brian. "The first and most obvious is that

it's the law. Another reason is that these wells act as open contamination conduits into the groundwater basin. Safety is also an important issue, but most of our wells were four inches and smaller and did not pose much of a threat to public safety."

>>> continued on next page



The neat cement sealing material was prepared on site for most of the wells. The contractor is mixing neat cement in a barrel and will place it down a well using a pump.



Above: The Well Destruction team uses a down-hole camera to inspect an obstruction found in one of the project wells. The camera was used to establish location, orientation, and material content of the obstruction. Any obstruction found in a well needed to be removed to allow for neat cement to seal the entire length of the well.

Right: Wells that were perforated using explosives would propel the neat cement sealing material into the air, sometimes in excess of 30 feet.

While the Ventura County wells were small in diameter, some were very deep, making evaluation a challenge. The 25 borings ranged in depth from 59 feet to 1,006 feet, with most reaching down 200 to 300 feet.

That's where Gary Guacci's background complemented the group. As a Registered Geologist and Certified Engineering Geologist with more than 20 years experience working with wells and well drillers, he and his teammates often used a down-hole video camera to check for obstructions before the wells were destroyed.

Once the wells were located, rendering them environmentally safe was not always a simple matter. Permits had to be collected from one or all of the following: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, California Department of Fish and Game, Ventura County Public Works, Ventura County Flood Control, the City of Oxnard, and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB).



Getting the Job Done

Because explosives were frequently used, site preparation often included a radio silence perimeter. One site required police barricades.



Another necessitated

a power line shutdown so the drill rig could raise its mast. At some sites, fluids displaced from the wells had to be collected and disposed of properly. The well holes were filled solid with cement grout, except for the last five feet, which were backfilled with native soil and each site restored to match the surrounding landscape.

The last of the 25 wells on the destruction list proved to be

“There are several good reasons why the wells need to be destroyed,”

—Brian Moniz

the most challenging. It was inconveniently located in a 40-foot wide flood control channel officially known as the “Oxnard Industrial Drain.” Because it flows into a protected seawater marsh, working there required a great deal of extra paperwork and logistical finesse.

A permit issued by the RWQCB stipulated that no fluids, including water from the well or the sealing materials, could be spilled into the waters of the drain. So, one of the primary objectives became protecting the delicate environment from spillage.

That was no easy feat since Ventura County required blast perforation to assure a proper seal and the DWR team knew from experience that blast perforating could propel cement 30 feet into the air and outward about 20 feet.

The California Conservation Corps was called in to construct a sandbag diversion and place plastic sheeting around the well site.

Asphalt patches were used on some of the sites to return the disrupted area back to an original state. The contractor prepares to complete a hot asphalt patch by placing the fresh asphalt on top of the destroyed well.



Above: The California Conservation Corps played a critical role in the successful destruction of the last well site. The crew shown here is placing sandbags to form a levee to divert the channel flows around the well site.

Right: Some of the project sites had multiple wells completed in the same borehole. While other sites, such as the one shown here, had multiple wells built in the same vicinity.

Destruction of the 218-foot deep, 12-inch diameter well proved to be a tall order. Heavy equipment could not be taken into the channel to seal the well with “neat cement,” so a small crane and a concrete pumper were used to get the work done.

Fluids displaced from the well had to be diverted up and out of the channel to an on site storage tank. Samples of the fluids were taken for testing, and then the materials were hauled off to an appropriate waste site. In all, seven different contractors



were involved in prepping, destroying the well, and cleaning up the site.

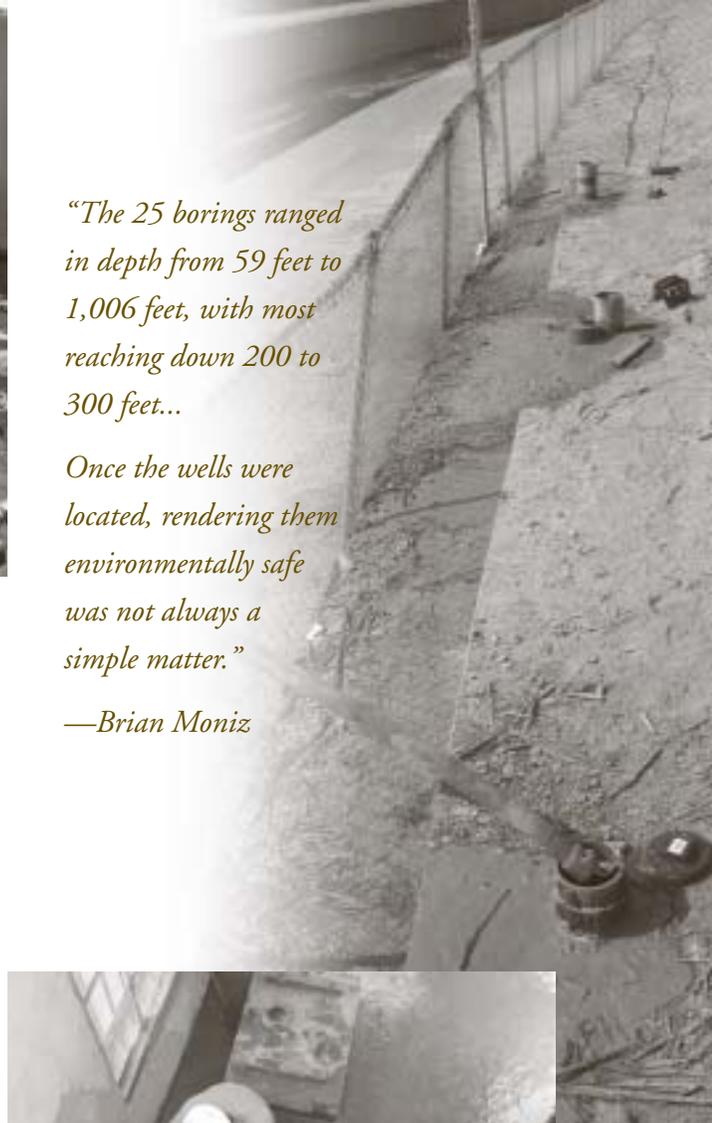
As the first project of its kind in DWR’s Southern District, the Ventura well destruction

campaign was both challenging and educational. “We learned a great deal,” said Brian. “We hope to get more funding to destroy other abandoned wells in our district. Wells are predominantly constructed in the best producing aquifers. Once contamination is introduced into a groundwater basin it becomes very costly and time consuming to clean up. Being proactive and destroying wells before they cause problems can, in the long run, save both time and money.”

“The 25 borings ranged in depth from 59 feet to 1,006 feet, with most reaching down 200 to 300 feet...”

“Once the wells were located, rendering them environmentally safe was not always a simple matter.”

—Brian Moniz



A well site, located inside an old pump house, is being topped off with neat cement. The cement level was brought up to one foot below the ground surface.



Some well sites were located under asphalt. The contractor is chipping away asphalt that eventually revealed a 6-inch well.



Horseshoe Bend. The restored area, which is located on the northern tip of the island, is on a 34-acre area owned by the Department of Fish and Game.

Decker Island is the site of an ongoing effort by State and federal agencies to both re-create the tidal wetlands habitat that existed before the dredging of the Sacramento River, and use the material excavated from the site to strengthen levees in the Delta.

The three-phase project will be a template for future Delta restoration efforts and provide for the fortification of threatened levees.



Above: Environmental Program Manager Kent Nelson stands with Phase One (foreground) and Phase Two (background). **Left:** During Phase Two, 20 feet of material was excavated.

“Decker Island now provides excellent habitat for Delta mammals, reptiles, fish, amphibians, and birds. We have a monitoring program that documents the presence of all those species.”
—Kent Nelson

History of the Island

Decker Island was created in the early 1900’s when the land was separated from the nearby Montezuma Hills by dredging and the material taken from the river was piled on the newly created island, which made it one of the land forms in the Delta that is located above sea level. The island was covered almost entirely with non-native species of plants, and due to its elevation could not support wetland habitats.

“The plant communities on the island were mostly invasive grasses, star thistle, and some giant reed around the edge. We’re getting rid of this non-native vegetation and returning the area to its native wetlands environment,” said Kent.

The First Phase

In late 2000, Phase One of the Decker Island restoration project was completed. A breach was opened between the Sacramento River and the excavated area of the island, thereby allowing tidal water exchange into the area, creating a wetlands habitat. Approximately 13.5 acres of fish and wildlife habitat

DECKER *Island*

by Annie Parker

Photos by DPLA staff

Can the ambitious goal of both habitat restoration and levee protection on the same project in the heart of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta be achieved?

According to **Kent Nelson**, an Environmental Program Manager in the Levees and North Delta Branch, when State and federal agencies work together for a common goal, this visionary project can be completed.

“Decker Island restoration is a great example of a multi-agency coalition working together for successful habitat restoration,” said Kent.

Located on the western side of the Delta, Decker Island is a 648-acre tract of land in the middle of the Sacramento River at

were created. Material moved from the island was shipped to reinforce the levees on Webb Tract and Twitchell Island.

“Decker Island now provides excellent habitat for Delta mammals, reptiles, fish, amphibians, and birds. We have a monitoring program that documents the presence of all those species using Phase One and soon to be using Phase Two. So, yeah, I would say that it’s working very well,” said Kent.

Phase Two Completed

Phase Two was completed in June of 2004. Delta Levee employees along with Department of Fish and Game personnel oversaw the excavation of 20 feet of material from the Phase Two site and the removal of the plug that separated the two sites. Once the plug was removed, water that was already circulating through wetlands created in Phase One then flowed into the newly created Phase Two. After excavation, the wetlands created were at sea level and slightly below. The material taken from the island was moved onto levees on Bradford and Jersey islands.

“Phase Two was contained within the original Fish and Game property and it was our idea from the very beginning to develop tidal wetland habitat on the entire property,” said Kent. “Phase One only had a certain amount of money that existed to do the excavation and move the material to Webb and Twitchell islands. Using subsequent funding, material from Phase Two went to Bradford and Jersey.”



The first tidal wetlands habitat that was created in Phase One



Phase Two excavation shows low-flow channel.

Future Plans

Phase Three is the acquisition of the largest piece of land on Decker Island. Nearly 464 acres is owned by a private company called Mega Sand, a conglomerate of owners who bought the large piece of Decker Island with the intention of mining the sand, gravel and even some gold. An appraisal of the Phase Three parcel has been completed and negotiations are underway.

The area Mega Sand owns is also 20-30 feet above sea level, and contains hundreds of thousands of cubic yards of sand and clay that were dredged from the river bottom. This material could be an important key for future levee maintenance and improvement in the Delta, a need made particularly poignant with the recent flooding of Jones Tract. The ultimate goal is to create a vast complex of wetlands on Decker Island while providing levee stability and water supply protection for the future.

DWR and other agencies are running a monitoring program on the island to track the growth and progress of the habitat. Fisheries monitoring has been going on for two years since the completion of Phase One, and there has been ample evidence to suggest that the island is already being extensively used by many species of native and non-native fish.

“We’ve had a lot of scientists out there from regulatory agencies like the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA Fisheries, and associated with the CALFED Science Program. They’re all quite impressed with how quickly it’s developed,” said Kent.



AQUATIC ADVENTURE CAMPS

for Youngsters

by Joyce Tokita

Photos by DWR Photography Unit

At a meeting in March 2001, the State Water Project Recreation Coordinating Committee (SWPRCC) expressed concern about the number of drownings along the SWP. In an effort to reduce drownings, Aquatic Adventure Camps were conducted at four SWP lakes this past summer—Lake Oroville in Butte County, Lake Del Valle in the East Bay, San Luis Reservoir near Los Banos, and Lake Perris in Riverside County.

Recreation Coordinating Committee members include DWR staff who deal with recreational issues and personnel of the Department of Parks and Recreation responsible for recreational activities at SWP lakes and reservoirs.

“After the committee concurred that education was the key to saving lives of at-risk youth, I was happy to take the lead to investigate ways to best address this problem. I’ve always been

concerned about drowning fatalities at SWP facilities,” said **Dorothy Benjamin**, Chief of the Public Affairs Office’s Water

Education and Administration Branch and DWR’s Community Outreach Manager. “Valuable assistance was provided by SWPRCC members, who include Chief of Central District **Karl Winkler**, DWR’s Recreation Coordinating Committee Chairman **Bud Thrapp**, and Public Affairs Office’s Special Events Coordinator **Ann Marie Alexander**.”

The program began after Dorothy met with a lifeguard working with the Sacramento Metropolitan Aquatic Rescue Training program at Folsom Lake. **Randy Trefrey**, the SMART’s founder, agreed to participate in a DWR pilot program that would introduce his young people to a different water environment.



Top: At Lake Perris, the first 2004 summer camp was held on July 12 to 23 and a second session ran from August 2 to 13. Youngsters from age 10 to 15 learned boating safety skills.

Above: Ann Marie Alexander and Dorothy Benjamin of the Public Affairs Office’s Water Education and Administration Branch (center of boat) stand with kids at Lake Perris Aquatic Camp.

>>> continued on next page

During the one-and-a-half day pilot program at Lake Oroville, the graduating 2001 SMART class received an opportunity to practice their water safety skills at North Forebay. Many of these youths were also exposed to another new experience—camping. The success of this pilot program led to the beginning of the Aquatic Adventure Program when Bud Thrapp met with representatives from the Department of Parks and Recreation, Chico Area Recreation District (CARD) and Feather River Recreation District (FRRD) to discuss concepts that could make not only inroads to reduce drowning fatalities but to introduce youth to SWP recreation lakes. Dorothy served as the lead and liaison for the partnerships that were developed for the four Aquatic Adventure Camps.

The first Aquatic Adventure Camp, a partnership of private, local and State agencies, premiered in 2002. On the local level, the Chico Area Recreation and Park District and the Feather River Recreation and Park District worked with other community organizations and businesses to gather qualified staff and resources for the two-week event. The State Departments of Water Resources and Parks and Recreation provided staff, guidance, and location assistance.

The two-week camp curriculum also included eight days of instruction in swimming, rescue and water safety techniques, water hazards, first aid, and CPR at Chico and Oroville pools. During the last two days, the classes moved to Lake Oroville, where the participants practiced their skills. At the lake, they also gained experience with different water craft, camped out overnight, and toured the lake along with Lake Oroville Visitors Center.

On another level, The California Roundtable on Recreation, Parks, and Tourism—a consortium of government and private industry—joined the effort as a source of guidance and funding.



During the first-ever Aquatic Camp at Lake del Valle, 30 boys and girls from San Joaquin County learned rescue and water safety techniques.



The first Aquatic Adventure camp at San Luis Reservoir provided CPR training to 30 youngsters from the cities of Los Banos and Gustine.

On April 26, 2003, the program was awarded “Best Innovative Programming” by the California Association of Recreation and Park District.

“In July and August of 2004, Chico Area Recreation and Park District and the Feather River Recreation and Park District held their third camp,” said Nik Reikalas, head of CARPD’s program.

“We most definitely feel it’s making a difference, Because of our great instructors, the kids are increasing their swimming skills, and they’re more likely to participate in junior guard programs or lifeguard classes.”

“DWR jump-started the program and now provides coordination, but each community tailors its program to local needs and specific water hazards in their areas,” said Dorothy, who along with other DWR staff is coordinating the preparation of an Aquatic Adventure Camp how-to manual and new camps at other SWP facilities.

The success of these Aquatic Adventure camps depends on partnerships developed among community agencies, private businesses, and local/State government agencies. Community groups such as the Red Cross provide instructors; private businesses donate money and pay for camping equipment; and local government agencies offer pools, while State government assists with facilities, funding, and guidance.

“Our ultimate goal is to have camps in cities located along the SWP and for these communities to eventually take over the camps, as is already happening in the Chico/Oroville area,” said Dorothy. “While it’s too early to evaluate whether the camps have saved lives, we know by the evaluations received that the youths, parents, staff, and partners involved feel the experience and benefits derived will pay off in the future.”

Annual DWR Alumni Summer Picnic

On September 9, more than 130 retired DWR employees attended the 11th Annual DWR Alumni Summer Picnic at Howe Park. "The number of people was down slightly from last year," said **Bob Bailey**, DWR Alumni Club Newsletter Editor. "However, those who attended were greeted with lots of good food and conversation. We basically come to the picnic to catch up on old times and do lots of visiting."

This year's fall picnic was catered for the third time, which has worked out great as it allows all picnic attendees to relax and mingle without worrying about the cooking.

The DWR Alumni Club has been holding its fall picnics annually for almost a decade. It also holds a luncheon in March.

Any DWR Retiree, who would like to join DWR's Alumni Club or to be added to the DWR Alumni mailing list, contact **Bob Bailey** at (916) 961-1897 or email bbbailey@sprynet.com



Left to Right: Don Steinwert, retired Chief of the Civil Design Branch, and Vern Persson, retired Chief of Safety of Dams, were among the 130 members attending the Alumni Picnic at Howe Park.



Left to Right: At the 11th Annual DWR Alumni Club Picnic, members Kathy Noia, Barbara Polson, Betty Hamon (wife of Carroll Hamon), and Carroll Hamon enjoyed the festivities.

DWR Participates in Heart Walk

On September 2nd, 10 DWR employees participated in the American Heart Association's Fourth Annual State Employees' Heart Walk and one employee participated on the September 18th walk.

The 11 participants raised \$604 as of September 21 with donations still being received.

Participants are sponsored to walk one mile around the Capitol to raise funds for the American Heart Association.

Participants were from the following divisions: Division of Planning and Local Assistance, Management Services Division, Office of Water Use and Efficiency, and Fiscal Services.



Left to Right (Back): Kimberly Deane, Dena Hunter, Sushil Arora (Front): Jane Schafer-Kramer, Trish Chavez, Karina Kugel, Barbara Cross, Mary Scruggs (Not in photo: Cheryl Henderson, Ted Frink, Deanna Wilkes)

Oroville's Salmon Festival

The 10th annual Salmon Festival in Oroville was celebrated on Saturday, September 25, coinciding with the fall migration of Feather River Chinook salmon.

The Feather River Fish Hatchery, located on the river across from Historic Downtown Oroville, is the major focal point of this free, annual fish celebration. From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., visitors to the hatchery enjoyed displays, tours, exhibits and food, while learning about the life cycle of Feather River salmon. A special attraction this year was a 1,500-gallon aquarium stocked with live salmon.

Salmon completing their long return journey from the ocean congregate to spawn at a fish barrier dam just above the hatchery, near the hatchery intake ladder. (The ladder opened on September 13.)

"Feather River Fish Hatchery visitors can get an up close view of migrating salmon and see how artificial spawning helps renew the Feather River salmon population for the future," said **John Ford**, Oroville Dam tour guide for the Department of Water Resources.

The hatchery was built by DWR to mitigate the loss of upstream spawning areas when Oroville Dam was built during the 1960s as the key Northern California facility of California's State Water Project.

Operated by the Department of Fish and Game, the hatchery annually nurtures millions of Chinook salmon. Each spring, it returns more than 10 million salmon to nature. They reach adulthood in the Pacific Ocean, with survivors of their life cycle migrating up the Feather River each fall.

Other Salmon Festival events were slated across the river in nearby Historic Downtown Oroville, including a pancake breakfast, farmer's market and craft fair. Directly across the river from the fish hatchery at the Feather River Nature Center, guests could see a modern-day continuation of the Maidu Salmon Ceremony with live dancing, hand games and free fish tasting.

About two miles away, at the Gary Nolan Sports Complex in Oroville, a Native American Pow Wow provided Intertribal dancing, drumming, food and arts and crafts on Saturday and Sunday.

Another salmon related event—a Maidu camp and salmon spear fishing—were held at Riverbend Park on Saturday and Sunday.

DWR is a festival cosponsor, along with such other public agencies as the State Department of Fish and Game and the City of Oroville, and local private sector entities, headed by the Oroville Area Chamber of Commerce.



Left to Right: As part of DWR's exhibit at Oroville's Salmon Festival, Chuck Borelli and Alan Ladwig of DWR's Training Office assist Monte Reyes of Oroville Field Division and his daughter at the fishing simulator.



By looking at the viewing windows in the the Fish Ladder at Feather River Fish Hatchery, Salmon Festival participants go eye to eye with King Salmon.



At DWR's booth, children participated in hands-on activities.

Success Knows No Limitations

By Tina Johnson

The Department of Water Resources joined with agencies, organizations and individuals nationwide in October for the celebration of National Disability Employment Awareness Month, which was themed "You're hired! Success Knows No Limitations!"

DWR's Equal Opportunity and Management Investigations Office and Disability Advisory Committee sponsored presentations to inform employees of resources available to persons with disabilities, illustrate that abilities not disabilities matter, and focus on the contributions that people with disabilities make in the workforce and society.

The organizations scheduled to appear during the presentations included State Personnel Board, Department of Rehabilitation, San Francisco SPCA Hearing Dogs Program, National Association of Guide Dog Users, Guide Dog Users of California, and Traumatic Brain Injury Services of Sacramento.

The EOMI Office and Disability Advisory Committee would like to also remind Department employees of the resources and programs provided by the State of California and DWR.

RESOURCES

- **DWR's EOMI Office** ensures that DWR's policies and procedures meet the requirements of Federal and State laws and regulations regarding equal opportunity. More information may be obtained through the EOMI Office at (916) 653-6952, the EOMI Web site, the Enterprise Process Guide (EOMI 1-2-3), the Department's Administrative Manual, and the Selected Human Resources Policies Binder.



Steve Amezuca of the Employment Development Department, speaks about the Folsom Project for the Visually Impaired. In this worthwhile program, inmates at Folsom Prison prepare braille and books on tapes for schools (K-12) and the community college system.

- **The DWR Disability Advisory Committee (DAC)** works closely with the EOMI Office on such issues as recruitment, upward mobility, and training. It also recommends changes in policies, procedures and programs to ensure a positive work environment and develops activities to promote awareness, understanding and appreciation of persons with disabilities.
- **The State Personnel Board** offers a wide variety of information for persons with disabilities, including statewide employment statistics, legal definitions of disability, and

information regarding the Statewide Disability Advisory Committee. The SPB also oversees and monitors the State's Upward Mobility, Reasonable Accommodation, and Limited Examination and Appointment Programs. Visit the State Personnel Board's Web site at: http://www.spb.ca.gov/civilrights/disability_info.htm.

- **The Department of Rehabilitation** works in partnership with consumers and other stakeholders to

provide services and advocacy resulting in employment, independent living and equality for individuals with disabilities. Their wide range of programs and services include, but are not limited to, hands-on programs regarding assistive technology, vocational skills and accommodations, access to transportation, and more. Visit the Department of Rehabilitation Web site at: <http://www.rehab.cahwnet.gov>

- **The Department of Fair Employment and Housing** protects the people of California from unlawful discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations, and from the perpetration of acts of hate violence. Visit the Department of Fair Employment and Housing Web site at: <http://www.dfeh.ca.gov>



Sandra Estrada of the State Personnel Board speaks about the Limited Examination and Appointment Program (LEAP).

PROGRAMS

- **Reasonable Accommodation.** Both the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act and State Fair Employment and Housing Act provide protections against discrimination due to mental or physical disabilities or medical conditions. In compliance with Federal and State laws, DWR provides reasonable accommodation to applicants and employees who, because of their disability or medical condition, cannot perform the essential functions of the job or may need special assistance completing an exam and/or hiring interview or participating in a training class, or access to a building or location. The Reasonable Accommodation Program is administered and monitored through the EOMI Office. For information on the Reasonable Accommodation process, please contact DWR's Reasonable Accommodation Coordinator **Tina (T.J.) Johnson** at (916) 653-8475. You may also access the Enterprise Process Guide (EOMI 3) or SPB's Web site at <http://www.spb.ca.gov/civilrights/accomodation.htm>
- **Limited Examination Appointment Program (LEAP).** LEAP is a civil service examination process, administered by SPB, to facilitate employment opportunities for people with disabilities. LEAP placement is limited to a series of job classifications under the general title Limited Examination and Appointment Program Candidate (Identified Classification).

For more information please contact DWR's LEAP Coordinator Tina (T.J.) Johnson at (916) 653-8475, or access SPB's Web site at <http://www.spb.ca.gov/EMPLOYMENT/leap.htm>

- **Upward Mobility.** The purpose and ultimate goal of the Department's upward mobility program is to provide opportunities for achievement and promotion to employees in lower-level classifications. To the greatest extent possible, DWR provides upward mobility and career guidance and counseling, appropriate academic counseling and formal training, Training and Development Assignments, on-the job training, job restructuring and job rotation. The EOMI Office oversees the components of the Upward Mobility Program to ensure the advancement into the entry-level technical, professional and administrative classes for lower level employees. For more information on the Upward Mobility Program, please contact DWR's Upward Mobility Coordinator, **Marla Burnett** at (916) 653-6255. For information on career or job counseling, please contact the Department's Training Office at (916) 653-6874.

In addition to the resources and programs listed above, there are numerous organizations and advocacy groups throughout the State of California whose sole purpose is to improve the lives of persons with disabilities. Please contact the EOMI Office at (916) 653-6952 to obtain additional information on these organizations.



Ralph Dennard and Jet of the San Francisco SPCA Hearing Dog Program demonstrate how a hearing dog helps those that are deaf or hard of hearing.

New Chief Deputy Director Brings Broad Water Industry Experience to DWR



P. **Joseph Grindstaff** was appointed Chief Deputy Director of the Department of Water Resources in August.

Before moving to his new DWR position, Joe served as General Manager of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) for six years. SAWPA is a regional water agency based in Riverside covering more than 2,650 square miles, including parts of San Bernardino, Riverside, Los Angeles, and Orange counties and is home to more than 5 million people. At SAWPA, Joe worked diligently on building a regional effort to drought-proof the watershed. From 1994 to 1998, Joe was General Manager of the Monte Vista Water District in Montclair.

Joe's broad water industry experience at both the local and regional levels spans more than 25 years. He is a past member of the Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee and served as President of the Valley Group and the Santa Ana Watershed Coalition. He held board member positions with the Southern California Salinity Coalition, the Cal State San Bernardino Water Resources Institute, the Southern California Land and Agricultural Foundation, and the Inland Empire Coalition.

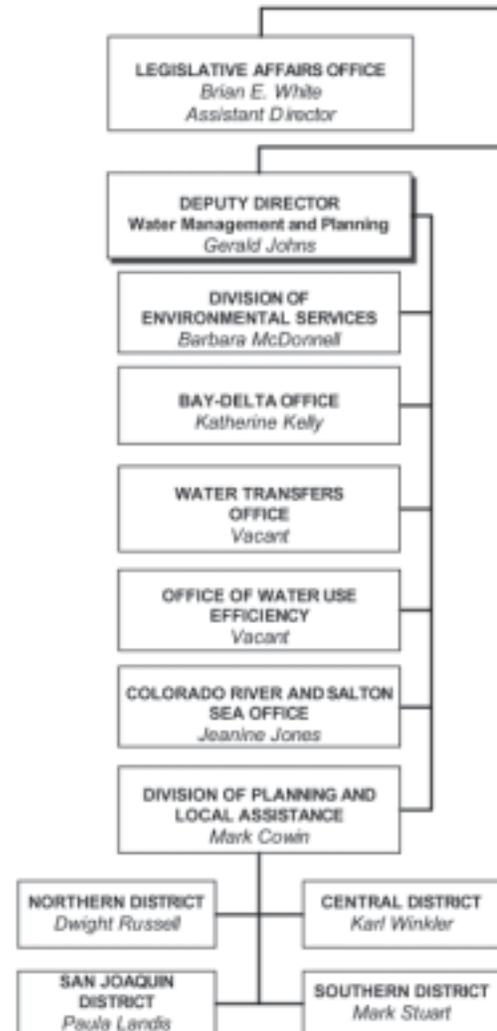
In 2001, Joe was recipient of the Harriett M. Weider Award and was named "Water Leader of the Year" by the Southern California Water Committee (the organization's highest annual acknowledgement of leadership efforts in the water industry for Southern California).

Born in San Antonio, Texas, Joe attended 12 schools in 12 years as he followed his Air Force father from base to base, including tours in France and Germany. After graduation from high school in Austin, Texas, Joe earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Brigham Young University and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Phoenix.

Joe has a full agenda as he makes the transition from Riverside to Sacramento. "It seems like I've been running from meeting to meeting since I've been here," says the new Chief Deputy Director, "but I've been on tours of DWR facilities in the past and intend to make much more detailed visits as time permits. The biggest challenge DWR faces, I believe, is trying to figure out a comprehensive water plan for the State while building a supportive coalition to get necessary funding in place. We have to maintain all our present facilities as we look to the future and determine what else we need to do. What we have now just isn't enough to take care of us for the next 20 or 30 years."

"I think we're at a key point in time for making important water issue decisions as the population in California grows to 50 million people," said Joe. "I believe that's our challenge, and our opportunity."

Joe has been married to his wife, Shirley, for 11 years. They have a daughter in Hemet, California, and a granddaughter in Alaska.

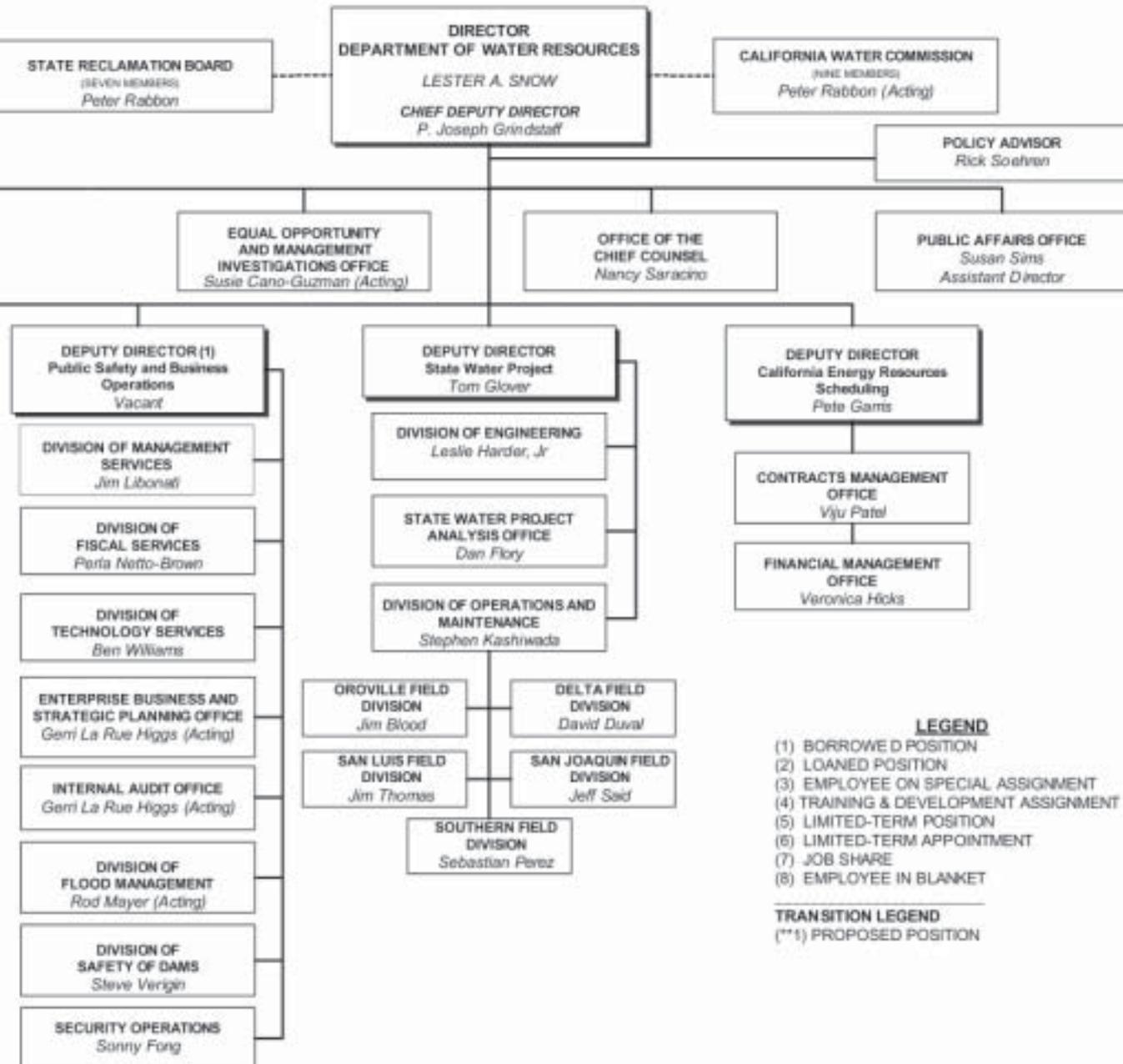


New DWR Assignments and Organization Chart

In August, **Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger** made several Executive level appointments to the Department of Water Resources. In September, a new organization chart was released to reflect the new members of our management team and a few changes in division reporting relationships.

Among the new executive appointments are **Joe Grindstaff** as Chief Deputy Director, **Jerry Johns** as Deputy Director for Water Management and Planning, **Brian White** as the Assistant Director for Legislative Affairs, **Nancy Saracino** as Chief Counsel, and **Sue Sims** as Assistant Director for Public Affairs.

A few organizations were realigned to balance the Deputy Director assignments. The Division of Environmental Services and the Bay-Delta Office will now report to the Deputy Director for Water Management and Planning, as well as the Colorado River and Salton Sea Office. The Divisions of Flood Management and Safety of Dams will now report to the Deputy Director for Public Safety and Business Operations, along with the Internal Audits Office and Security Operations. The former Office of Water Education has been renamed the Public Affairs Office.



Susan Sims Heads Public Affairs Office

Susan Sims was appointed DWR Assistant Director for Public Affairs by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger on August 6.

In directing the Public Affairs Office (formerly the Office of Water Education), Sue draws on extensive experience as a State government manager, much of it working with environmental and local government entities throughout California.

Sue, a native of Pasadena, graduated from the University of California at Los Angeles with a degree in Political Science. During her last year at UCLA, she was a Student Intern at the White House.

Sue's 22 years of State service began in 1983 as a speechwriter for Governor George Deukmejian.

"As speechwriter, I was given my first exposure to California water policy and agricultural issues," said Sue. "I worked closely with the Resources Agency."

After serving as a speechwriter, Sue worked on budget, education and environmental issues as Deputy Cabinet Secretary under Governor Deukmejian.

For the past 14 years, Sue worked at the California Environmental Protection Agency. From 1991 to 1995, she was Advisor to the Board Chairman of the Integrated Waste Management Board.

From 1995 until she joined DWR, Sue worked for the Department of Toxic Substances Control. Her assignments



Continued on page 19

Brian White Named Assistant Director for Legislation Affairs

Brian E. White of Elk Grove on August 6 was appointed by Governor Schwarzenegger as DWR's Assistant Director for Legislative Affairs.

Only the third person to hold the legislative liaison position at DWR, Brian sees the Schwarzenegger Administration as "pushing the envelope to get water conservation and water supply issues addressed."

Brian, 33, was born in North Carolina and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area. He graduated from Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia in 1993 with a degree in Political Science. He attended a graduate program in Public Administration at Golden Gate University.

Brian's 11 years of Legislative experience includes eight years with the California Chamber of Commerce. As a Legislative Analyst for two years, he worked on air quality and hazardous waste issues. Then, he worked as the Chamber's Legislative Advocate for environmental issues and was later named Director of Education and Environmental Issues.

In 2002, Brian became a Legislative Advocate for the California Building Industry Association. His focus on home building led to learning more about California's water and environmental issues. He became involved with DWR's Floodplain

Management Task Force and the California Water Plan Update, Proposition 50, The Colorado River Quantification Settlement Agreement, and Senate Bills 221 and 610, which seek to assure adequate water supplies for new developments.

Brian's assignment now includes assisting the Director and others in monitoring and guiding legislation; representing DWR at meetings with legislators, legislative staff, public officials, and public interest groups; and assisting with relations with Congress, the Governor's Office, federal, State and local governmental agencies and private groups.

"By getting more involved with water issues, I hope to expand my horizon in this area," said Brian.

Brian is married and has two daughters.



included Director of External Affairs and Chief of the Planning and Management Branch.

“A hallmark theme at Department of Toxics is public awareness and involvement,” said Sue. “On every project—whether it was planned or an emergency incident—we worked closely with the public, stakeholders and environmental groups to keep them updated on these important environmental issues in their communities.”

A graduate of the Leadership California program, Sue also has her management certificate from California State University, Sacramento and was a member of the Resources

Conservation and Protection Team of the California Performance Review.

Sue, who has visited State Water Project facilities including Vista del Lago Visitors Center, Castaic Lake and Lake Perris, looks forward to her assignment with DWR.

“I hope that my experience with stakeholders, community groups, and the environmental community will help me to serve the Department well,” said Sue.

Sue, married for 17 years, has one son and two daughters.

New DWR Chief Counsel Named Among California's 100 Most Influential Attorneys

On August 6, **Nancy Saracino** was appointed by Governor Schwarzenegger as Chief Counsel of the Department of Water Resources. From land use and water law to breach of contract and wrongful termination, Nancy has handled a variety of cases in her nine years of practicing law in Sacramento.

As Chief Counsel, Nancy will oversee a staff of more than 20 attorneys handling issues related to the State Water Project, water use and management, flood management, water quality, environmental compliance, and the State's energy purchase program. She will also continue to represent the Governor's Office as lead negotiator for energy contract renegotiations relating to the Department's \$26 billion energy contract portfolio.

“I look forward to working with the Director and the Department on the important legal issues involved in the Department's varied programs and responsibilities,” said Nancy. “I have always been impressed by the quality of work and intrigued by the interesting and complex issues that DWR's Office of Chief Counsel has handled.”

As the daughter of an Air Force Colonel, Nancy traveled extensively throughout her childhood and lived in Europe for several years. She attended a year of college in France, and has also traveled to the Russian Far East, India and Australia.

In 1987, Nancy graduated from the University of California at Davis with a degree in Economics. She then worked for the Department of Conservation as an Assistant Legislative Coordinator from 1988 to 1992. Her assignment included lobbying and testifying on bills affecting recycling, land

conservation, oil and gas development, geohazard and mining issues. She left to attend law school.

After Nancy received her Juris Doctorate degree from the U.C. Davis School of Law in 1995, she joined Kronick, Moskovitz, Tiedemann and Girard as an Associate Attorney.

Three years later, she joined the firm of Mennemeier, Glassman, Stroud LLP, where she represented clients in water law, land use, constitutional claims, governmental organization, and public finance issues. She became a partner in that firm in 2001.

She joined the Attorney General's office in July of 2001, working as a Supervising Deputy Attorney General with the Energy Task Force. She supervised attorneys representing the State of California, Department of Water Resources, and Governor's Office in complex litigation relating to California's energy crisis.

Nancy's hobbies are gardening, travel and photography. She is married and has a stepdaughter.

In the September 27th edition of “The Los Angeles Daily Journal,” Nancy was named by vote of attorneys throughout California as one of the State's 100 most influential attorneys. The LA Daily Journal is a part of the Daily Journal Corporation, which covers legal matters.



A Visit to the Falkirk Wheel

By Pete Weisser

On summer vacation in Scotland, DWR's **Tracie L. Billington** rode the world's first rotating boatlift, an engineering marvel with Rube Goldberg ingenuity, simplicity and charm.

"It's amazing," said Tracie, an engineer who, as Chief of the Division of Planning and Local Assistance's Special Projects Section, recognizes an engineering phenomenon when she sees one. Tracie saw it in June, during a five-week family vacation in Great Britain.

The Falkirk Wheel is a space age boat-mover. It replaces cumbersome, time-consuming conventional locks, with a rotating gondola ride taking mere minutes to gently move boats between canals with a 115-foot vertical separation.

Looming like an enormous gleaming metal sculpture on a slope in central Scotland, the wheel provides an aerial link reconnecting Scotland's two oldest, but newly refurbished, canals.

The Forth & Clyde Canal and the Union Canal are historic waterways traversing Scotland. Dating from the age of sail, these canals for more than two centuries enabled boat traffic to cross Scotland, from Edinburgh and Grangemouth on the Firth of Forth (on the East coast of Scotland) to the River Clyde and Glasgow in the West.

Scotland's oldest canal—57 kilometers from coast to coast—is the Forth & Clyde, from Bowling on the River Clyde in the West to Grangemouth in the East. It was completed in 1790. The 73 kilometer-long Union Canal, from Edinburgh to Falkirk, in central Scotland, was finished in 1822. For many years, the two canals—whose routes lie at different elevations—were connected near Falkirk, via an elaborate system of 11 locks.

With the advent of highway transport, boat traffic and canal use diminished. In the mid-1960s both canals were closed.

Rebuilt and revitalized in recent years as leisure boat travel boomed, the canals—publicized as the Millennium Link—are now a potent tourist attraction in Scotland.

In an age of jet travel, however, it was felt the public would not abide a slow, multi-lock connection of the modernized trans-



Above: The Falkirk Wheel, the world's first and only rotating boatlift, can carry eight or more boats at one time with a single trip taking about 15 minutes.



Right: During her trip to the Falkirk Wheel, Tracie Billington of the Division of Planning and Local Assistance along with her husband (not in photo) and daughter Julia Padilla also visited the Isle May located on the East Coast of Scotland. The Isle May is a bird sanctuary with about 200,000 birds using the island for breeding.

Scotland canals. British water transport and engineering experts brainstormed a modern nexus to quicken the pace of boat traffic.

The Falkirk Wheel was the imaginative solution devised to provide quick and easy movement of boats through the vertical gap between canals. Instead of locks, a boat-lifting and moving machine of enormous size and modest energy-use was developed to move boats between the higher-elevation Union Canal and the lower-level Forth & Clyde waterway.

Rather than move one boat at a time through a series of locks, with rising or falling water levels, the 1,800-ton Falkirk Wheel, like a circus Ferris wheel, rotates several boats at once and the water in which they float, carried in one of its two giant gondolas. The massive wheel can move as many as four boats in each gondola—a total weight of about 600 tons, including boats and water—in less than four minutes.

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Falkirk Wheel Continued from page 20

The wheel is powered by 10 hydraulic motors turning two caissons. Each caisson may accommodate up to four boats (each about 60 feet long) at once.

“The Archimedes principle is used in balancing the boats,” said Tracie. “Regardless of the number or weight of boats in each gondola, the two gondolas remain balanced because the boats displace an equal amount of water. This results in an extremely energy-efficient rotation of the gondolas.”

To bring boats to the wheel, a new length of waterway was added to the higher canal. Boats use that added section to approach the wheel, passing through a 500-foot tunnel and riding out on a 300 foot long concrete aqueduct. The elevated aqueduct opens directly into the upper of the two Falkirk Wheel gondolas, providing boat access.

The shiny metal wheel then rotates. What is now the lower gondola opens out into a 300 foot circular basin. Passing across the basin, boats transit one final lock at the far end of the basin to reach the level of the Forth & Clyde Canal. Boat traffic moves in both directions.

“As a passenger in a boat going down on the wheel, it’s a very smooth ride,” said Tracie. “There is no real feeling of motion. You sense the change in elevation by seeing the horizon change.”

Queen Elizabeth ceremonially dedicated the Falkirk Wheel in ceremonies in May, 2002. The wheel now ranks as one of Great Britain’s most distinctive and visitor-friendly engineering tourist attractions. As its promotional literature claims: There’s nothing else like it anywhere in the world and it ranks as the largest piece of functional sculpture you may ever see.

Tracie has been a DWR employee since 2000. She started in DPLA’s Conjunctive Water Management Branch. As DPLA’s Special Projects Chief, Tracie oversees technical aspects of grant programs, including Proposition 13 Groundwater Storage and Recharge, Local Groundwater Assistance, and Proposition 50 Integrated Regional Water Management.

More information about the Falkirk Wheel is available via the Internet at www.thefalkirkwheel.co.uk

Helping to Protect Others

By Annie Parker

When Jane Randall is not working as a Water Operations and Junior Engineer Technician at Southern Field Division’s Devil Canyon Powerplant, she can be found patrolling Los Angeles County parks and trails on her horse as part of the Los Angeles County Police Reserve Mounted Unit.

Jane, who has worked for DWR since 2001, joined the Mounted

Unit in 1992. Along with eight others in her unit, she helps the Los Angeles County Peace Officers patrol parks and trails.

“The best part is providing a service to the public, law enforcement, safety, and interacting with children,” said Jane.

Jane has been riding horses more than 20 years. For work, she rides her 15-year-old black Arabian gelding named Baron.

“It is challenging to de-sensitize your horse to traffic, fireworks, smoke, and other distractions and training him to be your partner,” said Jane. “Your survival can depend on your horse.”

To keep her reserve status, Jane must put in 20 hours per month. This includes training in CPR, firearms, weapons of mass destruction, narcotics, and other training as required.

“We do everything. Search for lost children, patrol the beaches, remove alcohol or disruptive people, break up confrontations, and arrest lawbreakers. We do everything full-time officers do,” said Jane.

Although her two jobs can make for a long day, Jane has no intention of easing up.

“I plan to continue as long as my horse and I can. I have another horse in training,” said Jane



Jane enjoys working at the Fourth of July event at Castaic Lake. One of Jane’s other usual events is the Love Ride, a yearly event at Castaic Lake in November that typically draws about 10,000 motorcycles.

Meritorious and Unit Citation

Congratulations to the following DWR employees for all their hard work. The following outstanding DWR employees received awards for their dedication, talent, professionalism, enthusiasm, and pride in their work.

Meritorious Service Awards recognize exemplary job performance or outstanding contributions to Department programs. Unit Citations are presented to sections, units, or groups (including task forces), that solve a particularly difficult problem.

Meritorious Service Award

Bay-Delta Office



Alan Olson, an Engineer with the Bay-Delta Office, for his outstanding contributions and dedicated efforts in preparing technical information on State Water Project deliveries used in "State Water Project Reliability Report" released by the Department in early 2003.

Left to Right: Chief of the Bay-Delta Office Kathy Kelly, Alan Olson, and Chief of the Modeling Support Branch Francis Chung.

Unit Citation

Office of Water Use Efficiency, Water Recycling and Desalination Branch



For their exceptional contributions with the Recycled Water Task Force, which was an open, transparent and accessible process, and for the publication of "Water Recycling 2030: Recommendations of California's Recycled Water Task Force."

Left to Right: State Water Resources Control Board's Richard Mills, and DWR's Nancy King, Fethi Benjema, Marsha Prillwitz (now retired OWUE Chief), and Fawzi Karajeh.

Twenty-five Years of Service



Rene Bayardo
Management Services
Staff Services Manager I
August 2004



Craig Burnett
Technology Services
Assistant Information Systems
Analyst
August 2004



Delores Brown
Environmental Services
Chief, Mitigation and
Restoration Branch
August 2004



Elmer Gray
San Joaquin Field Division
Hydroelectric Plant Supervisor
September 2004



Veronica Hicks
California Energy Resources
Scheduling
Chief, Financial Management Office
August 2004



John Knox
Oroville Field Division
Water Resources Engineering
Associate
October 2004



Farhad Nasirian
Engineering
Engineering Geologist
June 2004



David Scruggs
DPLA-San Joaquin District
Senior Land and Water Use
Scientist
October 2004



Deanna Sesso
Management Services
Staff Information Systems
Analyst
September 2004

DWR Inventors

Three DWR employees, who submitted a suggestion through the Employee Suggestion Program to use polypropylene material instead of steel for radiator tank ends for motor coolers on pumping plant units, received certificates and cash awards at a ceremony on September 24 at the San Joaquin Field Division.

Steven Speck, Dana White, and Roger Shonafelt were all Hydroelectric Plant Mechanics at the San Joaquin Field Division when they developed their suggestion.

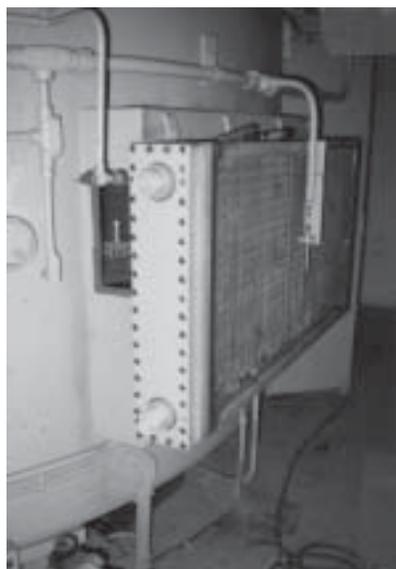
In search of a better way to do his job, Steven, who previously received a Merit Award for another suggestion, decided to investigate better methods and materials for repairing motor air cooler radiators. Since he knew that plastic radiator tanks have been used in the last two decades on automobiles, he drew up a rough idea of what he needed for the motor cooler radiator tank ends and gave it to Dana, who investigated the material application and selected what would be successful. Dana is currently a Water Resources Technician II at the San Joaquin District.

Then, they talked to Roger, now a DWR Retiree, who took the basic ideas and made them work. Roger modified the design to make the radiator tank ends more efficient. The plastic material

was purchased and Roger fabricated the prototype. The prototype was installed on Buena Vista Unit 4 and evaluated for two years.

Due to the successful performance of the trial tank ends, the new

At Buena Vista Pumping Plant, polypropylene tank ends were installed on Unit 4 motor surface air cooler radiator.



Right: Steven Speck stands next to the old radiators with corrosion on tank ends.

Below: During the assembly of radiators at Chrisman Pumping Plant, Steven Speck shows new polypropylene tank end.



polypropylene radiator ends have been installed on 3 of 10 units at Buena Vista, 2 of 9 units at Teerink, and 3 of 9 units at Chrisman pumping plants. New polypropylene tank ends will be installed for the remaining units as the annual refurbishment schedule allows.

Polypropylene was the material selected because it withstands high temperatures, does not corrode or deteriorate, and does not need any repair when disassembled. Since the sealant is not required to assemble the tank ends, the cleaning and application of the sealant is eliminated.

“It was very rewarding to work with the other contributors as a team,” said Steven, who is now a Hydroelectric Plant Mechanic II at San Joaquin Field Division. Steven has worked 20 years for DWR. “We each used our expertise to help make this suggestion work.”

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DWR Inventors Continued from page 24

Where it took 344 hours of labor to refurbish the four radiators on one pumping unit, using polypropylene radiator tank ends takes only 80 hours. The new radiator tank ends will last 10 years or longer, saving the Department approximately \$246,006.

Information about the State's Employee Suggestion Program can be found at www.dpa.ca.gov/benefits/merit/suggestmain.shtm.

You may also contact DWR's Merit Award Coordinator Lorinda Drysdale at lorinda@water.ca.gov.



Left to Right: On September 24 at San Joaquin Field Division, Deputy Director Tom Glover presented the Certificate of Award to Steven Speck.

Governor's Employee Safety Awards

On August 27, two DWR employees and the Department were awarded Governor's Employee Safety Awards during a ceremony at California State University, Sacramento.

The two employees were Hydroelectric Plant Mechanic **David Watson** of Southern Field Division and Associate Landscape Architect **William (Bill) Peach** of Planning and Local Assistance.

David was honored for assisting, retrieving, and administering CPR on victims who were trapped inside a vehicle in the California Aqueduct near Pearblossom.

Bill, who now works for the Bureau of Reclamation, developed a "State Highway Work Safety Plan" to ensure the safety of DWR employees working under hazardous conditions near roadways and highways. This is the first plan of its type for DWR and its employees that work on or near State Highways. It is in compliance with Caltrans Highway workers safety procedures as well. Since this program began in October of 2002, no reportable injuries have occurred.

The Department received an award for making the greatest improvement in reducing vehicle accidents among Departments with between one million and six million miles driven. Chief of the Transportation Office **Jim Pearson** accepted this award on behalf of the Department.



Left to Right: Former DWR Associate Landscape Architect William Peach, Deputy Director of the Department of General Services Jack Barr, Jr., and Chief of the Transportation Office Jim Pearson.

Right: David Watson stands near California Aqueduct where rescue efforts occurred.



DWR's Professional Engineer and Registered Geologist Graduates



Nathanael Wales
Planning and Local Assistance
Engineer
PE Grad, April 2004



Thomas Lutterman
Planning and Local Assistance
Engineering Geologist
RG Grad, March 2004

Retirements

Larry Taber, Chief of the Plant and Aqueduct Control Section with Division of Operations and Maintenance, has been working at DWR for 34 years, and although he has many highlights in a long career, one unique experience in particular comes to mind.

"I'm probably one of the few people that ever rode a motorcycle in the bottom of the California Aqueduct. That was when the Aqueduct was filled with water to a check site somewhere a little south of Lost Hills. The canal was empty from that point on to Buena Vista Pumping Plant," said Larry. "One day, a couple of us ran into some contractors who had a motorcycle. If I remember right, while the contractors were doing some survey work for the construction of one of the turnouts, we borrowed the motorcycle. We took turns running up and down the canal. Sometimes I really kick myself for not carrying a camera. In those days the construction of the canal created a lot of Kodak moments."

Larry started his career at Lost Hills as a Hydroelectric Plant Electrician, and then moved on to the job of factory inspector for the control system that would later be installed at Wind Gap Pumping Plant. The system was installed and Larry became a Control Technician in the San Joaquin Field Division.

After a transfer to Sacramento headquarters on a training assignment, he became an Associate Control System Engineer. He was involved in maintaining the Southern Field Division Area Control Center Control System and upgrading the Oroville/Thermalito Complex Control System.

Larry considers two projects to be his highlights at DWR. The first was when he, a Section Chief in the System Support Branch, was assigned the task of coordinating the Operations and Maintenance Y2K upgrade effort at DWR.

"I didn't really want to do the project at first, it was a job that no one really wanted to do, but I ended up really enjoying myself," said Larry.

Along with accounting for any Y2K non-compliant devices throughout the State Water Project, his team also ran system recovery tests for the operation of the SWP control facilities. This Y2K testing was the first of its kind within the State of California and similar testing later became mandatory for other Departments.



Larry Taber

"I became a strong believer in Executive Sponsorship and was fortunate to work with a lot of interesting management and rank-and-file people throughout the Department. At midnight on January 1, 2000, the SWP continued to deliver water without any hiccups," said Larry.

Taber's second favorite project was playing a key role in the design of the Statewide Replacement Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System and the SCADA Wide Area Network. The SCADA system is a computer based tool used to help operators efficiently control the facilities along the California Aqueduct. He worked with many people in both the Telecommunications and Control System Branches to provide a SCADA system architecture which made use of the newly installed fiber optic system.

Larry's retirement plans include flying gliders and doing some scuba diving, possibly in New Zealand, Caribbean, and Hawaii. He's also going to take a position with a local Sacramento engineering company to complete a project in Monterey. This project should take a year or two to complete and after his wife retires, they plan to do some more traveling.

"We all need to make changes once in a while and I'm excited about doing something different," said Larry.

To Staff Services Analyst **Mary Ceaser**, also known as Southern District's Water Education Coordinator, the most rewarding part of her 31-year State career was being able to provide water education to children and young adults in Southern California.

"Throughout my years at DWR, I enjoyed working on different investigations and projects that allowed me to meet and interact closely with many DWR employees and the public," said Mary, who retired in December from the Water Conservation and Land and Water Use Section of Southern District's Water Management Branch.

Her State career began as a Clerk Typist II for the California State Department of Real Estate. In 1974, she joined the DWR library and record services staff, where she was later promoted to Office Services Supervisor. In 1980, she was promoted to Management Services Technician for the Water Conservation Section where she worked on both water conservation and personnel matters.

In 1981, Mary became Staff Services Analyst, where she concentrated on Water Education and Land Use Programs. Mary was instrumental in coordinating DWR's water conservation mission with community-based organizations, schools and other academic institutions along with State and federal agencies. Mary planned and participated in about 24 educational events, such as the Los Angeles County Environmental Education Fair, the California Envirothon, and the annual events of several colleges and water districts.

To complete her assignments, Mary has worked with the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, representatives from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, various county and city departments, school districts, several universities and colleges, environmental organizations, and museums and hospitals.



Mary Ceaser

Working at the District office provided Mary with some unique experiences that could only happen in Los Angeles.

"To help support various education programs, I contacted and obtained donations from Shaquille O'Neal and others," said Mary. "At the annual Water Education Children's Festival in Irvine, Disney staff volunteered assistance with DWR's education program by helping to provide hands-on activities to over 5,00 children."

Mary's retirement plans include traveling, taking college classes, and volunteer work to help sick children.

Gary Gilbreath, a Water Resources Engineering Associate with the Division of Planning and Local Assistance's Southern District, is retiring after almost 19 years of State service at both DWR and Office of Emergency Services.

"Working on loan to O.E.S. for so many years, I almost felt like I worked for them instead of DWR, but any time I got to work for the public was enjoyable and I will remember that the most," said Gary.

From 1987 to 1996, Gary worked a majority of the time for O.E.S. on loan from DWR as a State Inspector. He worked for O.E.S. and FEMA on such California disasters as the Whittier Narrows earthquake, Upland earthquake, Loma Prieta earthquake, and the Northridge earthquake. He also was involved in four flooding events in the Apple Valley/Victorville area, the Los Angeles riots, the statewide freeze in 1991, and widespread flooding in 1995.

As a State Inspector during the statewide freeze, Gary traveled from Sonoma County to San Bernardino County, processing claims for damages that included frozen irrigation systems, trees, back flow preventors, and basically anything above ground that was frozen or damaged.

"I worked for O.E.S. as the liaison between hazard mitigation and the public assistance branch, trying to insure that each applicant received their fair share of mitigation, which went to prevention of the type of recurring damage," said Gary.

After the Loma Prieta earthquake, Gary inspected damaged utilities in San Francisco and damage to the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir system.

"Because I was formerly in Operations and Maintenance, during most disasters I worked on restoring public utilities and public water systems," said Gary.

Gary worked for Southern California Edison in steam generation for 10 years before leaving for the start-up and construction of the Pine Flat Power House on the Kings River as a Senior Operator. He joined DWR as an Operator at Edmonston Pumping Plant, subsequently moving to Southern District's groundwater section to perform surface water sampling.

"At DWR, I enjoyed most being able to be outside performing water quality sampling on rivers and streams in Southern California," said Gary.

In retirement, Gary, who enjoys the outdoors, hopes to travel throughout the Western states.



Gary Gilbreath

Retirements *continued*

Beverly Smith, an Administrator Officer II at Central District, is retiring after 24 years of State service to concentrate on her greatest passion, which is her award-winning cooking and baking.

"I have won more than 50 ribbons over the years at the California State Fair. Most of them are for desserts, such as Amaretto Cheesecake, Triple Chocolate Cheesecake, and Raspberry Cheesecake Cookies," said Beverly. "I'm big into cheesecakes."

Beverly started with the State in 1980 as an Office Assistant, before she transferred to DWR in 1982 to spend seven years with the Division of Land and Right of Way. This was followed by a move to the Resources Agency for one year where Smith worked as an Office Technician.

Beverly returned to DWR and worked in the Division of Management Services and Management Analysis Office for two years. She then transferred as a Business Service Assistant with the Purchasing Office. She was promoted to Staff Services Analyst with the Division of Planning and Local Assistance for three years, and then Associate Governmental Program Analyst with the Division of Engineering for three years. She transferred to the Personnel Office as Associate Personnel Analyst for more than a year, then her final move was as Administrative Officer II for Central District, where she has worked for three and a half years.

"I have really loved all of the people I have worked with within the Divisions. I am a 'people person', so I guess I really enjoyed working in the Personnel Office. Also, working in the Resources Agency was a real experience! I was able to really learn the workings of State government," said Beverly.

Among her many accomplishments, Beverly sees her rapid rise at DWR as one of her greatest sources of pride.

"Going from an Office Technician to an Administrative Officer position in eight years was a big accomplishment for me. I was also on an Acting assignment with DPLA Headquarters in a Staff Manager I position for a year. That was very interesting," said Beverly.

After retirement, Beverly plans to move to Foresthill with her husband where they are building their dream home, complete with her dream kitchen.

"I hope to possibly open a catering business or even teach cooking lessons in my new home," said Beverly.

She has entered her cooking and baking in the State Fair every year since 1980, and she has won a great deal of cook-offs and baking/cooking contests. Smith has taken a course at the Le Cordon Bleu Cooking School in Paris, and she really enjoys French cooking. As the owner of over 300 cookbooks, she has too many favorite recipes to count.



Beverly Smith

Of all **Ruth Barnett's** DWR assignments during her 28-year DWR career, she enjoyed most being part of the Allied Skills Training Council and Black Advisory Board, working on the advancement of allied skills personnel and other affirmative action groups.

"I really enjoyed being able to assist with creating parity within the Department and State service and helping to identify career ladders for advancement opportunities," said Ruth, retired Administrative Officer II of the Division of Planning and Local Assistance's San Joaquin District.

Ruth's DWR career began in Sacramento as an Assistant Clerk for Management Services' Record Services in 1976.

Ruth transferred to San Joaquin District's Administrative Branch in 1978. In addition to continuing her work with affirmative action groups, her assignment included working on personnel, budget, and program control issues.

She promoted from Management Services Technician to Staff Services Analyst and then later to Associate Governmental Program Analyst. Before promoting to San Joaquin District's

Administrative Officer, Ruth's assignment included contract coordination. Ruth also served as San Joaquin District's SAP Super User.

On special assignments, Ruth worked at Central and Northern districts. At Central District, she helped process contracts and grants to local public entities and private parties for losses incurred during the 1997 floods. In 1999, she spent several weeks assisting Northern District with contracts, entry permits, and other administrative duties.

With her retirement in September, Ruth plans to enjoy more traveling, quilting, and spending time with her grandchildren.



Ruth Barnett

Dave Kessler, Chief of Earthquake Engineering since 1988, retires in October. During his 30-year DWR career he facilitated technical advances in earthquake monitoring and experienced one major temblor.

"I was in the second floor lab in the Resources Building at 1 p.m. when the 1975 Oroville earthquake occurred," said Dave. "The floor seemed to begin floating while the insulation creaked in their frames above."

DWR recruited Dave in 1974 as a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley's Department of Earth and Planetary Science, where he earned a Master of Arts degree in Geophysics. Classified as an Associate Seismologist, he went to work on earthquake monitoring and didn't quit for three decades.

Earthquake engineering provides a database for analyzing motions of DWR structures, especially SWP facilities, to determine if they sustained interior damage not detectable by visual inspection.

Technology swiftly improved. In the 1970s, DWR recorded quakes on a machine that recorded seismic signals on 35 mm film.

But even in the 1980s, with the advent of digital systems, data still were recorded by hand on data sheets and sent to a computer center to be punched onto cards. Software was available to print out data, but it did not identify quake locations. That was done mechanically by hand.

In 1988, Dave became a Senior Seismologist and Chief of Earthquake Engineering. The following year, DWR purchased its first real-time monitoring system.

"It monitored signals from the field, recorded them on disk, performed a preliminary location and alerted seismologists by pager if a quake exceeded a magnitude of 3.7," said Dave. The seismologist could then log onto a computer from home and verify the result. That expensive system was eventually replaced by one developed in-house that is still in use by DWR today.

"A later major accomplishment was to convert all analog strong motion recorders in SWP pumping and power plants to digital and connect them to the fiber optic system," said Dave.

Recorders could now be monitored from Sacramento and data downloaded after recording an earthquake, rather than driving to the field to change film in the analog recorder.

In retirement, Dave plans to travel the United States, visit a brother in Mississippi, catch up on his reading, and actively pursue interests of pottery-making and sculpting.



Dave Kessler

Michiyo Sakamoto's 15 years with DWR were the highlight of her 36 years of State service.'

"I really enjoyed working with DWR's very knowledgeable and friendly employees," said Michiyo, who retired as a Research Program Specialist with the Division of Planning and Local Assistance.

Before joining DWR in 1989, Michiyo worked for the Department of Motor Vehicles, California Public Employees' Retirement System, and Employment Development Department. She also graduated as a History major from California State University, Sacramento.

Most of Michiyo's DWR career was with the Personnel Office. As an Associate Personnel Analyst for the Classifications and Placement Services Section, she researched, analyzed, made recommendations for various classification issues and assisted Department supervisors and management with positive employee discipline issues.

She also worked in the Recruitment and Selection Services Section. "As part of the Selection Services Section of the Personnel Office, I particularly liked the proactive environment. It was a truly shared effort among the many DWR divisions," said Michiyo. "It was also very nice to have the opportunity to meet many DWR employees at various levels in the process of developing exam materials and conducting exam interviews."

In 2000, Michiyo joined the Division of Planning and Local Assistance's Surface Storage Investigation Branch as a Research Program Specialist. Her assignment included working on the

North-of-the-Delta Offstream Storage Investigation. As part of the North-of-the-Delta Offstream Storage study team, Michiyo participated in: meetings with stakeholders, federal, State and local agencies, tribal coordination, and environmental justice planning; developing environmental documents for the NODOS EIR/S, which is the planning document used to determine a preferred NODOS alternative for potential implementation. Michiyo assisted with research, writing, and attending meetings for the NODOS Investigation Scoping Report that was released in October 2002. She also served as DPLA's Representative to the California Bay-Delta Public Advisory Sub-Committee on Environmental Justice.

After Michiyo's retirement in November, she plans to spend more time doing the things that she only had time to squeeze in on weekends in the past. "I hope to do more pleasure reading, gardening, traveling, expanding my workout routine at my health club, cooking, visiting art galleries and museums and volunteering," said Michiyo. "Oh, and don't forget watching more movies!"



Michiyo Sakamoto

Retirements *continued*

In July, Division of Flood Management Administrative Officer **Charlie Stucke** closed the books on a 31-year State career, the last 23 years and 10 months at DWR.

"I learned a lot," said Charlie, looking back on his tenure at DWR.

"I always had good supervisors and great co-workers."

From 1981 to 1987, Charlie was DWR's Accounts Payables Chief, making sure that DWR's obligations were paid according to procedures and on time.

"I enjoyed working with contractors, vendors, and staff in resolving sometimes, difficult situations," said Charlie. As part of Flood Management, he worked with DWR, OES and FEMA staff on various emergencies such as the 1995, 1997, and 1998 floods, along with the 2003 Southern California fires.

Born in San Francisco to German immigrant parents, Charlie went through elementary school in the Bay Area but moved to Sacramento for his high school years. He received his diploma from Foothill High School in 1967 as a member of the new institution's second graduating class. Higher education continued at American River College, San Francisco State University, and Sacramento State, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration in 1976.

Charlie's State service began as a clerk with the Department of Motor Vehicles in 1973. He moved to the Department of Parks and Recreation in 1974, working in accounting. Following a short stint with the Department of Social Services, he took a

position with DWR's Fiscal Services branch from 1979 through 1987.

Then in 1988, he moved on to the Division of Flood Management, eventually becoming the Administrative Officer.

Charlie also spent 26 years in the Air Force Reserve, including serving on active duty during 1991's "Operation Desert Storm."

Retirement doesn't mean inactivity for Charlie. He and his wife, Bonnie, plan a move to southern Oregon before traveling extensively. Destinations include Costa Rica, Europe, and all over the United States.

Charlie and Bonnie will also host two young German citizens in a tour of such Southern California attractions as Disneyland and Universal City before showing them Northern California and Oregon.

As for DWR, Charlie says "I've enjoyed the growth and was fortunate to serve with humble, industrious people who were always eager to help out. I feel privileged to have been a part of this organization."



Charlie Stucke

Even though Associate Programmer Analyst **Helen Galvez** from the Division of Operations and Maintenance admits that she has definitely enjoyed her long and successful career with some good friends, there is something about work that she will not miss.

"I won't miss the commuting," said Helen.

Helen spent a little over an hour getting to work every day on the bus from Elverta, and she has been commuting from the same area since the 70's.

She began her State career at the Franchise Tax Board. Later transferring to General Services as a Key Data Operator and supervisor.

After a few years as a Computer Operator, Helen took the Programmer I and II test and was promoted. One of her programmer duties was to work with dispatchers creating video screens to monitor the aqueduct.

Helen eventually transferred to the Control Systems Group, where she worked on the Y2K project for Operations and Maintenance. Her most recent project was implementation of the ISR system, a Web-based program that will allow all users on the DWR Intranet to access historical and near real-time SCADA data.

"I have had a full and rewarding career with DWR,"

said Helen. "I have had the opportunity to meet many people who I will continue to be in contact with."

Her retirement plans include travel and a little home remodeling with her husband.



Helen Galvez

In almost 40 years with DWR, **Allen Romero** helped build the California Aqueduct in Central California and Pyramid Dam in Southern California. But upon his retirement in July, Romero was best known for his 20 years as a Northern California flood fighter. In 1986, 1995 and 1997, he battled some of California's biggest floods.

"The 1986 flood set a lot of statistical records, but in sheer challenges to levees and infrastructure, the 1995 flood was a tougher battle for us. We had overtopped levees along Cache Creek in the 1995 flood, but saved them and came out okay," said Allen. "Years ago, there was a lot of guesswork about flood-fighting. New technology gives us a great deal more factual information about flood flows. That's our biggest tactical advantage now."

Allen is a member of the generation that built the State Water Project. He began his DWR career in 1965 working in Design and Construction.

"I worked on building the California Aqueduct from Patterson to O'Neill Forebay, before following SWP construction into the Southern Field Division. There I worked on building Castaic Dam, Pyramid Dam, Angeles Tunnel, and Quail Lake," said Allen.

In 1970, Allen moved to Operations and Maintenance, doing maintenance on the West Branch in Southern Field Division. While in SFD, he was promoted to Supervisor. In 1978, he became an Assistant Civil Maintenance Superintendent at Delta Field Division. His duties included supervising maintenance for

portions of the Aqueduct, Skinner Fish Facility, South and North Bay Aqueducts, Suisun Marsh Project and Bottlerock Facilities.

During 1985, he became a Superintendent with the then Division of Flood Control at the Sacramento Maintenance Yard. His area of responsibility covered key flood project areas from Knights Landing to Rio Vista, embracing metropolitan Sacramento.

"In almost 20 years in this assignment," Allen said, "I take special pride in the fact I was involved in supervising 125 repairs of levee or embankment erosion along the Sacramento River. I had great people working in my crews to fight these flood battles."

Among other accomplishment, Allen cited his work in helping develop and implement a process to remove and refurbish radial gates along the Aqueduct, and helping start the Utility Craftworker Apprenticeship Program, which he served as a board member for 17 years.

Retirement plans include travel and catching up on home improvement projects.



Allen Romero

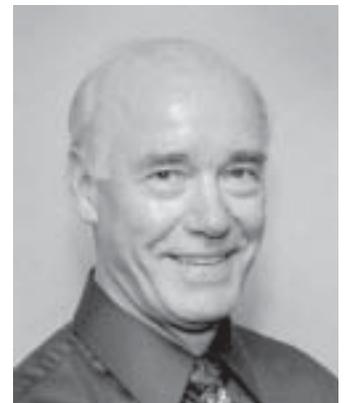
After more than 43 years at DWR, Principal Engineer **Ron Delparte** can look back on a successful career of helping to build dams all over California.

"Metropolitan Water District's Diamond Valley Reservoir was one of my favorite projects because of its size and the opportunity to work with very talented engineers and geologists from all across the United States," said Ron, who retired in September.

Ron graduated from the University of Utah with a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering, then joined the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1960. In 1961, Ron began his DWR career with the Delta Studies Unit in the Planning Branch. A year later, he transferred to the Division of Safety of Dams where, except for a four-year assignment in the Energy Division, he worked for nearly 40 years.

Ron's DSOD assignments included the Yuba-Bear River project, the Middle Fork American River project, Westlake Reservoir, Diamond Valley Reservoir, and Olivenhain Dam.

One of Ron's first retirement vacations included a trip to British Columbia on the Columbia River. He plans to travel around the world and to polish his skills in tennis and golf.



Ron Delparte

Promotions

John Addington
Oroville Field Division
HEP* Electrical Supervisor

Marie Baylon
Management Services
Personnel Supervisor I

Billy Collins
San Luis Field Division
Health and Safety Officer

Kim Cotto
State Water Project Analysis
Office
Executive Secretary I

Eleanor Deanda
Fiscal Services
Senior Accounting Officer

Rene Delacerda
Operations & Maintenance
Senior Water & Power
Dispatcher

Sharon Donner
Division of Engineering
Office Technician (Typing)

Wilson Eashoian
Operations & Maintenance
Senior HEP** Utility Engineer
Supervisor

Russell Eckman
Flood Management
Utility Craftsworker
Superintendent

Dennis Gyles
Delta Field Division
Heavy Equipment Mechanic

Tasha Hernandez
Operations & Maintenance
Office Technician (Typing)

Wayne Jensen
Central District
Water Resources Technician II

Richard Jerue
Operations & Maintenance
Water & Power Dispatcher

Fariba Khoie
Fiscal Services
Associate Accounting Analyst

Gwynne Kimura-Fong
Division of Engineering
Photogrammetrist II

Blaine Laumbach
Southern Field Division
Chief HEP* Operator

Marilyn Lee
Management Services
Personnel Supervisor I

Marion Madden
San Joaquin Field Division
Health and Safety Officer

Ramona Malinowski
Executive
Executive Secretary I

Jose Martinez
San Joaquin Field Division
Associate HEP** Utility
Engineer

Sheryl Moore
Delta Field Division
Health and Safety Officer

Rudi Munoz
San Luis Field Division
Utility Craftsworker

Lien Nhieu
Fiscal Services
Senior Accounting Officer

Ben Nixon
San Joaquin Field Division
Business Service Officer I

Charles Peery
San Joaquin District
Water Resources Technician II

Darryl Pegues
Operations & Maintenance
Program Water & Power
Dispatcher

Troy Phillips
San Joaquin Field Division
Materials & Stores Specialist

Pined Pimshan
Technology Services
Staff Information Systems
Analyst

Raquelana Pina
Oroville Field Division
Health and Safety Officer

Michael Ramsey
Operations & Maintenance
Associate HEP** Utility
Engineer

Ana Rodriguez
Technology Services
Telecommunications Systems
Analyst II

Alesia S. Rogers
Division of Engineering
Associate Land Agent

Anne Roth
Central District
Water Resources Technician II

Ericson Santos
Environmental Services
Chief Engineer Fisheries
Vessel

Nalini Shankar
Fiscal Services
Senior Accounting Officer

Terrence Stanton
Southern Field Division
Senior HEP* Operator

Stephanie Varrelman
Management Services
Executive Secretary I

John Woodling
Planning & Local Assistance
Principal Geologist

Michel Zumot
Safety of Dams
Supervising Engineer

New Hires

Earl Anderson Jr.
Southern Field Division
Mechanical & Technical
Occupational Trainee

Emilio Aviles III
San Joaquin Field Division
Maintenance & Service
Occupational Trainee

Stephen Ballard
Operations & Maintenance
Associate Control Engineer

Jason Bunce
San Joaquin Field Division
Maintenance & Service
Occupational Trainee

Kathryn Coyle
Fiscal Services
Accounting Officer

Eddie Cressy
Southern Field Division
Mechanical & Technical
Occupational Trainee

Gina Goff
Central District
Environmental Scientist

Laurie Hatton
Planning & Local Assistance
Environmental Scientist

Eric Isaacson
Delta Field Division
HEP* Electrician I

Fernando Montalvo
Delta Field Division
HEP* Electrician I

Gary Petersen
Delta Field Division
HEP* Operator

Alisa Rockwell
San Joaquin Field Division
Maintenance & Service
Occupational Trainee

Karla Schmidt
Fiscal Services
Accounting Officer

Eric Tate
San Joaquin Field Division
Maintenance & Service
Occupational Trainee

Alfredo Toy, Jr.
San Joaquin Field Division
Mechanical & Technical
Occupational Trainee

Kenneth Wakelee
Operations & Maintenance
Water & Power Dispatcher

*Hydroelectric Plant

**Hydroelectric Power

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY DWR'S PERSONNEL OFFICE

Retirements

Nicholas Cullincini
Management Services
Office Services Supervisor I

James Davis
Oroville Field Division
Control System Technician II

Daniel Deese
San Luis Field Division
Administrative Officer I

Byron Devilbiss
CERS
Supervising HEP** Utility
Engineer

John Fielden
Executive
Senior Engineering Geologist

Virgilio Granados
Delta Field Division
Electrical-Mechanical Testing
Technician II

Thomas Irwin
Southern Field Division
Utility Craftsworker

Sharda Kalia
Operations & Maintenance
Senior Engineer

Maria Lambert
Fiscal Services
Senior Accounting Officer

Chew Loo
Southern District
Staff Environmental Scientist

Darrel Lundy
San Joaquin Field Division
Utility Craftsworker

James Lynd Jr.
Technology Services
Associate Programmer Analyst

Joyce Perkins
Engineering
Associate Land Agent

Joseph Sanchez
Flood Management
Water Resources Technician II

Stephen Shelton
Oroville Field Division
Utility Craftsworker
Supervisor

Wendy Wheeler
Fiscal Services
Accounting Administrator

Robert Wylie Jr.
Southern Field Division
HEP* Electrician II

*Hydroelectric Plant
**Hydroelectric Power

**INFORMATION PROVIDED BY
DWR'S PERSONNEL OFFICE**

Obituaries

Former Senior Engineering Geologist **Harry Iwanaga** died of cancer on August 19 at the age of 78 years.

He served in the U.S. Army in the 1940s and later received a degree in Geology from the University of Southern California.

He was hired as a Junior Engineering Geologist in the Southern District of the Department in 1964 and subsequently rose to become a Senior Engineering Geologist. Harry worked on numerous geologic, groundwater, and water quality studies until his retirement in 1990. He continued to work as a Retired Annuitant until 2003.

In 1985, Harry received a Meritorious Service Award for his work in geohydrology and water quality.

He enjoyed fishing, clamming, motorcycle riding, and other outdoor activities.

Harry lived in Menifee, which is in Riverside County. He is survived by his wife Yukiko; sons Jerry and John; brother Russell; sisters Akiko Fujii and Fumiko Yamauchi of Japan and Chizuko Hamanaka. He is also survived by grandchildren, great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Harry's cooperative spirit and cheerful attitude will be greatly missed.

Funeral services were held in Santa Ana, California on August 26.



**HIDEO (HARRY)
IWANAGA**

Retired Office Technician **Barbara Tuttle** died on October 4 at the age of 60.

Barbara, who was born in Yuba City, was a lifelong Yuba-Sutter resident. She graduated from Yuba City High School in 1962.

During Barbara's 35 years of State service, she worked for the Department of Transportation and Youth Authority before joining DWR

as an Account Clerk II in 1989. Before her retirement in October of 2002, Barbara worked as the sole Office Technician for Flood Management's Sutter Maintenance Yard. She also worked with FEMA representatives compiling figures for reimbursement for overtime, equipment, and materials used during flood disasters.

She received an Outstanding Office Services Accomplishment Award in 1997 and a unit citation as a member of the Flood Fight Team in 1996.

Barbara is survived by her husband of 32 years, two sons, and a granddaughter.

Donations may be made to the Muscular Dystrophy Association, 650 University Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95825.



BARBARA TUTTLE

Obituaries *continued*

DWR Accounting Technician **Catherine (Cathy) Alexis Goss** of Fiscal Services died peacefully in her sleep at the age of 59 on October 6.

Cathy, who was born in San Rafael, graduated from California State University, Sacramento in 1969. She received her California Teaching Credential in 1970. In 1972, she began her DWR career as an Account Clerk II in the Division of Fiscal Services. In 1990, she received a Meritorious Service Award for her outstanding work in the Accounts Payable and Disbursements Section of the General Accounting Office for her ability to work under intense pressure with tight deadlines. Her above average work production greatly assisted in the Department's goal of paying its financial obligations in a timely manner.

Cathy, who had a lifelong love of sports, never missed a 49er, Giants, or Kings game on TV or radio.

"Cathy was an extremely dedicated employee and was sincerely appreciated by her co-workers in the Division of Fiscal Services. She will be dearly missed," said Supervisor Trish Afarian-Salvador.

She is survived by her twin brother, Joseph Goss and her brother, Frederick Goss.



**CATHERINE (CATHY)
ALEXIS GOSS**

Phyllis Yates, retired Southern District Research Writer, died on October 7 at the age of 82

During Phyllis' 36 years with DWR, she worked as a Research Writer and continued to provide editorial assistance as a Retired Annuitant. Before joining DWR, Phyllis worked for the Department of Education as an Editorial Assistant in 1960.

Phyllis received Letters of Commendation for outstanding work on multiple reports and bulletins during 1970 and 1971, the South Lahontan Basin report draft in 1973, the draft of Regional Water Management Plans for the Colorado West and Colorado East in 1973, the Regional Water Quality Management Plans, the Emergency Water for Santa Barbara report, and her presentation of the Effective Writing Class.

She also received awards for her work on the Interagency Task Force on Mono Lake report, the East Branch Enlargement Environmental Impact Report Preparation Team, and the San Luis Obispo County Master Water Plan Update. In 2000, she received a Meritorious Service Award in recognition of her outstanding work as one of the most productive and valuable members of the Department of Water Resources' Southern District Staff.

Phyllis retired from DWR in July of 2000.



PHYLLIS YATES

Obituaries *continued*

Clayton Magonigal, one of the engineers who designed and built California's State Water Project, died on August 31 in Sacramento. He was 68.

When he retired in 1999 after more than 40 years of DWR service, Magonigal was Chief of the Plant Operations and Maintenance Branch.

Magonigal earned recognition in Bulletin 200 as a member of the original design and construction team for the SWP's power and pumping facilities. He was the last active duty member of that team to retire.

"It was a very exciting time," Clay recalled of his 1950s experience in SWP design and construction. He called it the opportunity of a lifetime for a young engineer to help build one of the world's great water projects.

From 1958-1961, as a Junior Civil Engineer, he worked on land subsidence problems along the route of the California Aqueduct. Magonigal continued working with DWR's aqueduct design group through 1971, drawing on his academic preparation as a member of the first engineering class to graduate from Sacramento State College (now CSU, Sacramento). His assignments included work on many phases of SWP aqueducts, pipelines and tunnels.

Before becoming Chief of Plant Operations, Magonigal for 11 years served as the branch chief responsible for scheduling SWP deliveries based upon water supply and other factors. He also created DWR's compliance and monitoring section (since divided into other offices). The section identified regulatory requirements of federal, State and local agencies impacting DWR operations and their costs.

Throughout his career, Magonigal's excellent professional performance drew plaudits from supervisors and peers.

"Clay was a great help to me and others working on the Governor's Drought Emergency Water Bank in 1991," recalls retired DWR Executive Assistant Art Winslow. "With his expert grasp of SWP operations, we in the Water Bank were better able to contract with farmers and other water users for temporary transfers of water to areas of critical need."

In 1988, former DWR Director David N. Kennedy presented Clay with an Outstanding Professional Accomplishment Award, recognizing his "superior performance as Chief of the Water Operations Branch in O&M". He earned commendations in 1978 from Deputy Director Robert James for his work on the O&M Management Steering Committee and in 1975 from Director John Teerink, for his work in producing Bulletin 200 on the SWP.

Born in Wheatland, Magonigal as a youth studied in a one-room school in Pleasant Valley (near Grass Valley).

Survivors include Susan, his wife of 45 years; children, David Magonigal and Julie Eising; and four grandchildren. Funeral services were held on September 4 at South East Lawn Memorial Park & Mortuary in Elk Grove.



CLAYTON MAGONIGAL

Birth Announcements

Congratulations to DWR Parents:

Paul Mendoza, Senior Engineer with the State Water Project Analysis Office's Water Deliveries and Schedules Section, has a daughter named Nicole Deneen, who was born on February 2 weighing 7 pounds, 4 ounces and measuring 20 inches long.

Dena Uding, Senior Engineer with Flood Management's Forecasting Section, has a daughter named Tiana Reese, who was born on August 22 weighing 8 pounds, 4 ounces and measuring 20 inches long.

Bing Zhang, Associate Programmer Analyst with Flood Management's California Data Exchange Center, has a son named Max, who was born on June 16 weighing 8 pounds, 3 ounces and measuring 22 inches long.

Ana Rodriguez, Telecommunications Systems Analyst II of Technology Services, Network and Communications Support Office, has a son named Andres Guadalupe, who was born on September 7 weighing 5 pounds, 15 ounces and measuring 18 1/2 inches long.

Nancy Snodgrass, Engineer with DPLA's Northern District Office, has a son named Addison Harvey, who was born on September 7 weighing 7 pounds, 12 ounces, and 20 1/2 inches long.

Jamie Dubay, Associate Land & Water Use Analyst with DPLA's Northern District Office, has a son named Carson, who was born September 12 weighing 6 pounds, 15 ounces, and was 21 1/2 inches long.

DWR MISSION

Statement

To manage the water resources
of California in cooperation
with other agencies,
to benefit the State's people,
and to protect, restore,
and enhance the natural
and human environments.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA • DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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Public Affairs Office
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1104-1
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001