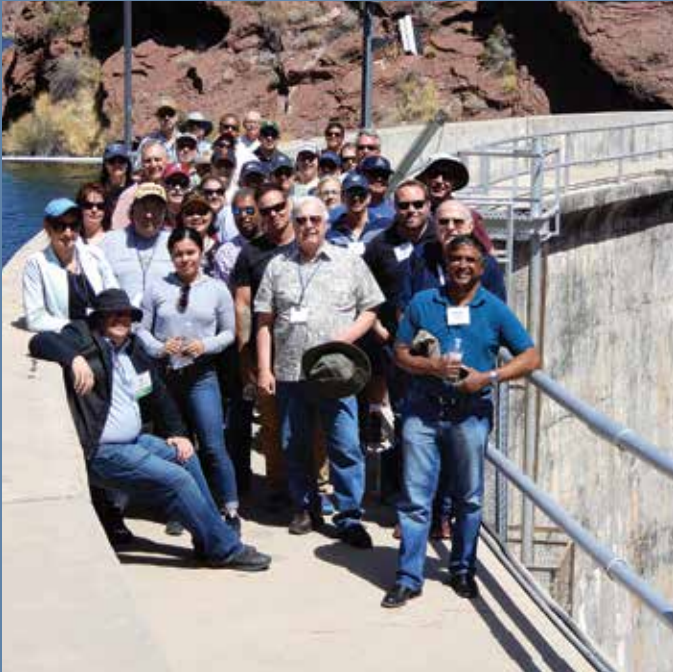


# 2018 ANNUAL REPORT



# WATER EDUCATION FOUNDATION



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**Brian Brown**  
*California Project WET Coordinator*

**Kasey Chong**  
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**Nick Gray**  
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**Brad Parsons**  
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## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### Dear Supporters and Friends of the Foundation,

2018 represented a year of change at the Water Education Foundation on the heels of our 40th anniversary in 2017 and the year of the woman in the larger water world.

In early 2018, we moved *Western Water* magazine completely online for the first time since 1977, giving our readers more variety in the type of articles and expanding our coverage on the Colorado River Basin. We maintained our in-depth articles exploring major water topics, but sprinkled in Q&As with leading water experts and policymakers, and articles that cast a spotlight on interesting pilot projects or efforts to improve a water resource challenge.

We also changed the format of our annual Water 101 Workshop by offering an optional daylong tour so we would have one day in the classroom and one day in the field, a format that was well-received.

Our annual conference, known for years as the Executive Briefing, got a more welcoming name with the Water Summit. We hosted our summit in September along the Sacramento River and featured more women than men as speakers and moderators, something not widely seen in the water world. But it was a change that reflected the growing presence of women in top leadership roles. Our keynote speaker was Brenda Burman, the first woman to lead the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation since it began in 1902.

We went on to explore the growing influence of women in a *Western Water* article that featured Commissioner Burman, Karla Nemeth, who became director of the California Department of Water Resources, and Gloria Gray, the second woman and first African American to become board chair at Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, along with other accomplished women.

In 2018, we toured the headwaters of the American River in the Sierra for the second straight year, highlighting the important role that the upper watershed plays in the quality and quantity of water across much of California. Meanwhile, members of our yearlong Water Leaders class tackled a key issue for improving water management by crafting policy recommendations to adopt a more vigorous approach to leveraging data.

And through Project WET (Water Education for Teachers), we organized workshops attended by nearly 1,000 teachers across California, an effort that resulted in more than 83,000 K-12 students learning about water at school.

And those are just a few things we did in 2018.

Thanks to our supporters for keeping us #41YearsStrong!



Jennifer Bowles,  
Executive Director



Jenn and Bureau of Reclamation  
Commissioner Brenda Burman at the  
Foundation's Water Summit.



Foundation Board Member Yung-Hsin Sun  
and Jenn at dinner during the Foundation's  
Bay-Delta Tour.



Jenn and Foundation Board Member Mike  
Chrisman during the reception following the  
Foundation's Water Summit.

# PUBLICATIONS

## Western Water

The Foundation's flagship publication, *Western Water*, moved fully online this year, offering a more expansive range of articles to a potentially broader audience through the Foundation's website. We also folded into *Western Water* additional coverage of the Colorado River Basin from our printed River Report. Altogether, *Western Water* articles drew more than 39,000 page views to the Foundation's website.

The articles, authored primarily by staff writer Gary Pitzer, explored key topics being discussed by legislators, water purveyors, environmentalists, the media and the public. Among the in-depth articles this year were an examination of the debate over whether California's environment deserves its own right to water (Feb. 23), and California's efforts to control adverse effects on water from the state's legalization of recreational marijuana (April 20).

Western Water | October 8, 2018 | Gary Pitzer

### In Water-Stressed California and the Southwest, An Acre-Foot of Water Goes a Lot Further Than It Used To

**WESTERN WATER NOTEBOOK:** As households get stingier with water, a common guide for describing how much they need gets a refresh

People in California and the Southwest are getting stingier with water, a story that's told by the acre-foot.

For years, water use has generally been described in terms of acre-foot per a certain number of households, laying off the image of an acre-foot as a football field a foot deep in water. The long-time rule of thumb: One acre-foot of water would supply the indoor and outdoor needs of two typical urban households for a year.



The Acton/Daley Regional Shoreline park displays a sign announcing their water conservation efforts at the park in 2014. (Source: California Department of Water Resources)

[READ MORE >](#)

Exploring the Colorado River Basin, *Western Water* articles also examined in-depth the challenges facing Arizona in deciding who should speak for the state in negotiations for a drought contingency plan (June 15); the drive by Indian tribes to firm up their rights to river water (Nov. 2); and how climate change is likely to complicate efforts to manage Colorado River water supplies (Dec. 20).

In a series of shorter Notebook articles, *Western Water* examined a pair of statewide water bonds on the June and November ballots (April 6); Bureau of

Reclamation Commissioner Brenda Burman's assessment of water needs in the Colorado River Basin and California's Central Valley (Sept. 21); how conservation and technology have stretched an acre-foot of water in urban households (Oct. 5); a significant public trust court ruling involving groundwater in Siskiyou County's Scott River basin (Oct. 19); and the rise of women in the water world (Dec. 7).

*Western Water* also introduced a feature called Spotlight, which highlights efforts to address or improve on water resource challenges. Among the Spotlight articles this year were a look at an unusual coalition of interests that put together a plan to address salts and nitrates in the Central Valley (July 13); and pilot projects by a Sacramento Valley farm to aid salmon (Aug. 24).

Throughout the year, *Western Water* interviewed newsmakers on water resources issues in a series of Question and Answer columns. Among those interviewed were climate scientist Daniel Swain, who addressed climate change impacts on California water (Feb. 9); State Water Board member Joaquin Esquivel, who talked about state-federal relations and the need for action at the Salton Sea (March 23); California Water Commission chairman Armando Quintero, on the commission's work to address the state's water storage needs (June 29); Amy Haas, who took over as executive director of the Upper Colorado River Commission amid looming water shortages (Aug. 10); and outgoing ACWA Executive Director Tim Quinn, who has been a key player for decades in California water (Nov. 16).

Western Water | December 7, 2018 | Gary Pitzer

### No Longer a 'Boys Club': In the World of Water, Women Are Increasingly Claiming Center Stage

**WESTERN WATER NOTEBOOK:** Since late 2017, women have taken leading roles at Reclamation, DWR, Metropolitan Water District and other key water agencies



The 1992 election to the United States Senate was famously coined the "Year of the Woman" for the record number of women elected to the upper chamber.



In the water world, 2018 has been a similar banner year, with noteworthy appointments of women to top leadership posts in California — Karla Nemeth at the California Department of Water Resources and Gloria Gray at the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

Women named in the last year to water leadership roles include, from top left: Kyla Nemeth, director, California Department of Water Resources; Gloria Gray, chief, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; Brenda Burman, Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner; Joyce Harkin, commissioner, International Boundary and Water Commission, U.S. and Mexico; Amy Haas, executive director, Upper Colorado River Commission.

[READ MORE >](#)

Western Water | August 24, 2018 | Gary Pitzer

### When Water Worries Often Pit Farms vs. Fish, a Sacramento Valley Farm Is Trying To Address The Needs Of Both

**WESTERN WATER SPOTLIGHT:** River Garden Farms is piloting projects that could add habitat and food to aid Sacramento River salmon



Farmers in the Central Valley are broiling about California's plan to increase flows in the Sacramento and San Joaquin river systems to help struggling salmon runs avoid extinction. But in one corner of the fertile breadbasket, River Garden Farms is taking part in some extraordinary efforts to provide the embattled fish with refuge from predators and enough food to eat.

Roger Cornwell, general manager of River Garden Farms, with an example of a refuge like the ones that were lowered into the Sacramento River as feeding to shelter juvenile salmon. (Source: Water Education Foundation)

And while there is no direct benefit to one farm's voluntary actions, the belief is what's good for the fish is good for the farmers.

[READ MORE >](#)

Western Water | September 7, 2018 | Gary Pitzer

### Can Steadier Releases from Glen Canyon Dam Make Colorado River 'Buggy' Enough for Fish and Wildlife?

**WESTERN WATER Q&A:** Ted Kennedy, U.S. Geological Survey aquatic scientist



Water means life for all the Grand Canyon's inhabitants, including the many varieties of insects that are a foundation of the ecosystem's food web. But hydropower operations upstream on the Colorado River at Glen Canyon Dam, in Northern Arizona near the Utah border, disrupt the natural pace of insect reproduction as the river rises and falls, sometimes dramatically. Eggs deposited at the river's edge are often left high and dry and their loss directly affects available food for endangered fish such as the humpback chub.

U.S. Geological Survey aquatic biologist Ted Kennedy collects aquatic invertebrates in the Colorado River below Glen Canyon Dam. (Source: Freshwaters Illustrated/USGS)

[READ MORE >](#)

## WORKSHOPS

We organized a variety of workshops in 2018 covering a range of topics, from our popular Water 101 Workshop that drew people to Sacramento from around the state, to a groundwater workshop in Fresno and a pair of weather-related workshops in Southern California.

### Water 101 Workshop

Water 101 Workshop: The Basics and Beyond was held Feb. 22 at McGeorge School of Law, followed by an optional one-day Delta tour on Feb. 23. This workshop offered the opportunity to learn about California water basics and hot topics. Topics included the history and management structure of water in California, water rights, how the Legislature handles water issues, climate change and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

The one-day Delta tour wound around the Delta with stops at Twitchell Island, the Delta Cross Channel, Clifton Court Forebay, Harvey O. Banks pumping plant and the Freeport Regional water project intake facility.

### Paleo Drought Workshop

A one-day workshop was held April 19 in San Pedro that focused on helping Southern California water agencies and others to gain information for improving drought preparedness. The workshop was sponsored by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the Water Education Foundation.

California's recent drought of 2012-16 revealed drought vulnerabilities for water users throughout the state. This workshop highlighted new information about paleo droughts in Southern California local watersheds and impacts of climate change that will alter drought vulnerability in the future.

### Groundwater Workshop

A one-day briefing held on Oct. 2 at Fresno State University, Monitoring Land Subsidence in the San Joaquin Valley, highlighted the topics of ongoing land subsidence monitoring, monitoring techniques, assistance from the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) for local agency compliance with the state's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, and featured current results of satellite-based remote sensing monitoring being performed by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) for DWR.

### Irvine Workshop

A one-day workshop, Water Year 2019: Feast or Famine?, was held Dec. 5 in Irvine that focused on the ability to predict winter precipitation. Participants heard about the latest advancements in subseasonal to seasonal forecasting — weather predictions from two weeks to a season ahead — and how these predictions can improve management of water infrastructure including dams, flood storage and reservoirs. Preliminary research for the Colorado River Basin also was covered.



McGeorge Law School Professor Jennifer Harder gave an overview of California's water rights system at the Water 101 Workshop in February.



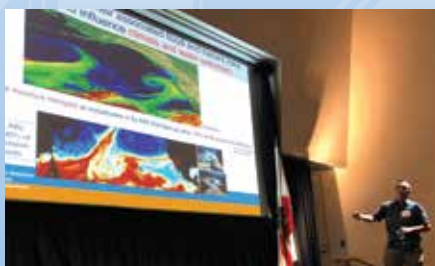
Farmers Tom Slater and Steve Heringer talk about infrastructure and issues in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta with participants of our one-day Delta Tour during a stop at Reclamation District 999's pump house.



Attendees at the Water 101 Workshop listen intently to speaker presentations.



Members of the 2018 Water Leaders class discuss the day's agenda during a break at Water 101 Workshop.



The Water Year 2019: Feast or Famine workshop, held Dec. 5 in Irvine, focused on subseasonal to seasonal forecasting.

# WATER SUMMIT

The 35th annual Water Summit, *Facing Reality from the Headwaters to the Delta*, was held on Sept. 20 at the Westin in Sacramento. **Climate scientist Daniel Swain** provided the opening keynote: *Drought, Flood and Wildfire Amidst Increasing Climate Whiplash: The Challenging Road Ahead for Water Management in the West*.

The Water Summit featured top policymakers and leading stakeholders who provided the latest information and viewpoints on issues affecting water statewide and across the West. **Brenda Burman**, commissioner of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, gave the keynote lunch address.



The Water Summit drew a large crowd to hear speakers on a range of issues affecting California water.

Panels featured top policymakers and experts discussing California's headwaters, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and the state's human right to water law.

The annual briefing also included a "silent auction," with proceeds from the "sale" of donated items providing financial support for the Foundation's Water Leaders professional development program.



Former Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt, Foundation Board Member (and Palo Verde Irrigation District Trustee) Bart Fisher Jr. and Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Brenda Burman greet each other at the Water Summit in September.



State Water Resources Control Board Member Joaquin Esquivel and Department of Water Resources Director Karla Nemeth participated in a panel discussion on the state's human right to water law at the Water Summit.



Water Foundation CEO Wade Crowfoot asks a question at the Water Summit.



State Water Resources Control Board Chair Felicia Marcus and Foundation Executive Director Jennifer Bowles participate in a panel discussion on the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta at the Water Summit.



Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Brenda Burman gives the keynote speech over lunch at the Water Summit.

## SCHOOL PROGRAMS

### Project WET

The Water Education Foundation is the designated host institution for the California Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) program in an agreement with the Montana-based Project WET Foundation dating back to 1995. The Foundation has been aided in offering Project WET by grants from the Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region and the U.S. Geological Survey, California Water Science Center (USGS) with added support from the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy and local water district and education programs. This support has been vital to help our program offset budget cuts and priority shifts in some partnering water agencies. Interest in Project WET continued to soar among educators in 2018 as a resource to engage students in the study of water resources and management in conjunction with Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards.

California Project WET had a good year thanks to the efforts of our network of volunteer workshop facilitators around the state. In 2018, 947 educators participated in workshops and reported they will use Project WET activities with more than 83,055 California K-12 students during the 2018-2019 school year. The California Project WET program was also represented at nine education conferences in 2018, including the California Science Teachers Association conference.

Project WET activities engage students in the study of water through an interdisciplinary lens and from multiple viewpoints to help them better understand the science and societal impacts of conserving and protecting water resources. Brian Brown, the California Project WET coordinator, conducts workshops throughout California to train teachers and workshop facilitators. He also creates the quarterly California Project WET Gazette newsletter, which is featured in a digital format on the Water Education Foundation website.

### Advanced Water Education Workshops

Brian worked in collaboration with California Department of Water Resources researchers to provide several special-focus workshops for teachers on floodplain ecology in the Central Valley and climate change in California. California Project WET workshop facilitators also collaborated with several county offices of education, including Butte, Fresno, Kern, Merced, Plumas, Riverside, San Joaquin, Santa Cruz, Shasta, Tuolumne and Yolo, to offer Project WET workshops aimed directly at the use of Project WET activities to integrate the study of water resources, data from the USGS and the Next Generation Science Standards. Other special-focus collaborations included forest and watershed management workshops with the Society of American Foresters and training new AmeriCorps members, who will be working throughout the Sierra Nevada through 2019 for organizations partnered with the Sierra Nevada Alliance.

### Related Activities

Brian continues as a member of the California Environmental Education Interagency Network, DWR Water Education Committee, a judge for the “Caring For Our Watersheds” contest through the Center for Land-Based Learning, Forestry Institute for Teachers Steering Committee and California Project Learning Tree Advisory Committee. He also is serving as the chair of the Project WET USA Council and Council Representative Southwestern state Project WET USA Coordinators. Brian also serves on a number of Project WET coordinator-driven committees to support and strengthen the Project WET USA network nationwide.



*Educators at the Humboldt Coastal Nature Center talk about long-term changes in snowpack and sea level at the Project WET activity training.*



*A Project WET stormwater workshop at Dunnell Nature Park & Education Center in Fairfield.*



*Brian Brown makes the rounds at Humboldt Coastal Nature Center during the Project WET activity training on understanding climate change.*



*Project WET Coordinator Brian Brown explains invasive nutria and water hyacinth to students during the California State Scientist Day at the State Capitol.*

## TOURS

### In 2018 the Foundation Conducted Six Public Tours

The Central Valley Tour, March 14-16, explored the length of the San Joaquin Valley to learn about water supplies, agriculture and habitat.

The Lower Colorado River Tour, April 11-13, traveled from Lake Mead to the Salton Sea and the Coachella Valley, and included a private tour of Hoover Dam.

The Bay-Delta Tour, May 16-18, traveled through the Delta to San Francisco as participants learned about water project infrastructure, Delta conveyance, farming and how water moves to the San Francisco Bay.

The Headwaters Tour, June 28-29, traveled through the Sierra foothills and around the Lake Tahoe area to examine forest management, climate change and impacts on watershed health.

The Northern California Tour, Oct. 10-12, helped participants learn about farming, fishery restoration and California's major water projects.

The San Joaquin River Restoration Tour, Nov. 7-8, took participants to Friant Dam, restored salmon habitat and Mendota Pool.

Water Education Foundation tours are praised for being balanced, thorough and fun. Participants learn about local, state and federal issues from experts on all sides. Time for socializing and networking is included in the action-packed itineraries.

### Thank You to Our 2018 Tour Sponsors

#### Major Sponsors

Bureau of Reclamation's  
Mid-Pacific Region and  
Lower Colorado Region

California Department of  
Water Resources

#### Trailblazer Sponsors

Stantec

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#### Adventurer Sponsor

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#### Organizations That Hosted or Co-hosted Meals, Provided Refreshments or Offered Other Support

Association of California Water Agencies, Bay Ecotarium, Bowles Farming Company, Bronco Wine Company, California Forest Watershed Alliance, Clarksburg Community Church, Coachella Valley Water District, Contra Costa Water District, Delicato Family Vineyards, Delta Farms, East Bay Municipal Utility District, Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, Henry Miller Reclamation District, Imperial Irrigation District, Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District, Kern Water Bank Authority, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Panoche Water District, Placer County Water Agency, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority, San Luis Canal Company, Southern Nevada Water Authority, Stockton Area Water Suppliers (California Water Service Co., City of Stockton, County of San Joaquin, Stockton East Water District), Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority, Una Bella Giornata at Cardella Winery, Western Canal Water District, Yolo County Farm Bureau, Yuba Water Agency.

### Other Tours

The Foundation conducted a private tour Dec. 4-6 for the Bureau of Reclamation's Leadership Development Program. The tour focused on water resource issues affecting the Lower Colorado River region.



2018 Water Leader Sarah Spano and fellow Bay-Delta Tour attendees explore the Bay Model in Sausalito.



Northern California Water Tour participants pause for a group photo in front of Shasta Dam.



Central Valley Tour attendees learned about habitat during a stop at the San Luis National Wildlife Refuge Complex.



Speaker Theresa Cody tells Headwaters Tour attendees about meadow restoration on the Upper Truckee River.



Lower Colorado River Tour participants learn about drought impacts on local agriculture at a Coachella Valley farm.



# WATER LEADERS

## Water Leaders

Twenty-two young professionals graduated from the Foundation's 22nd Annual William R. Gianelli Water Leaders Class. The 2018 class' presentation was "Catch the Data Wave: Improving Water Management through Data." The program is led by Executive Director Jennifer Bowles and coordinated by Kasey Chong.

Members of the 2018 Water Leaders class are: Kate Anderson, Senior Environmental Planner, Delta Stewardship Council; Julia Barfield, Project Manager, Dynamic Water Management Team, The Nature Conservancy; Michael Bernardo Jr., Special Assistant, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Region; Ashlee Casey, Water Resources Engineer, Grade 4, GEI Consultants; Lisa Cuellar, Sustainable Landscaping Program Manager, California Water Efficiency Partnership; Jessica Diaz, Attorney, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck; Christine Frey, Government & Regional Affairs Representative, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; Chelsea Haines, Regulatory Advocate II, Association of California Water Agencies; Rebecca Harms, Attorney, Kronick Moskowitz Tiedemann & Girard; Wesley Henson, Research Hydrologist, U.S. Geological Survey; Yuan Liu, Associate Water Resource Specialist, Contra Costa Water District; Ryan Ojakian, Senior Consultant, California State Assembly Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife; Evan Perez, Water Resources Engineer, Stantec; Karli Quinn, Associate Director, Ag Association Management Services, Inc.; Adam Robin, Legislative and Regulatory Advocacy Program Manager, Regional Water Authority; Rebecca Smith, Attorney, Downey Brand LLP; Sarah Spano, Senior Associate, Environmental Science Associates; Jenn Swart, Communication and Education Services Representative, Water Replenishment District of Southern California; Emily Thor, Attorney, California Department of Water Resources; Willie Whittlesey Jr., Project Manager, Yuba Water Agency; Chad Williams, Engineering Services Supervisor, Olivenhain Municipal Water District; Kat Wuelfing, Environmental Scientist and Project Manager, EKI Environment & Water, Inc.

The Water Leaders Class is a one-year program that educates up-and-coming community leaders and water professionals about water issues and prepares them to take an active, cooperative approach to decision-making about water resource issues.



Water Leaders discuss their project after dinner during the Bay-Delta Tour.



Water Leaders gather for a group photo during a ferry ride across San Francisco Bay, one of the Bay-Delta Tour's highlights.



Water Leaders gather during a stop on the Northern California Water Tour.



Foundation Executive Director Jennifer Bowles talks to the new members of the class during their orientation.



# HIGHLIGHTS

## Outreach

In August, Foundation Executive Director Jennifer Bowles joined other media representatives on a panel titled “Working with the Media in Changing Times” during the 25th Annual Urban Water Institute’s conference in San Diego. Former Foundation Executive Director Rita Schmidt Sudman, author of “Water More or Less,” moderated the panel.

Jenn also wrapped up work in the fall on a University of California committee to create a strategic plan for the California Institute for Water Resources.

In September, the Foundation hosted two groups of foreign visitors interested in water resource issues in California — a group of Chilean agricultural high school students from Liceo Agrícola El Carmen de San Fernando, and a group of Pakistani water resources specialists participating in a tour through the U.S. State Department.

## Social Media

The Foundation used its Twitter account @WaterEdFdn to post upcoming events and tours, top water stories from its weekday news aggregate, Aquaforia, and breaking news from press releases and newspaper articles. In addition, news items, tour and event information and photos were routinely posted to the Foundation’s Facebook page. And the Foundation grew its presence on LinkedIn and promoted its Water Leaders program and Water 101 Workshop.

## Watereducation.org Website

During 2018, the Foundation’s website — watereducation.org — continued to draw more visitors than ever before. The website features for-sale products and publications, *Western Water* news articles, Aquaforia news aggregate and Aquapedia online water encyclopedia. In total, the website tallied 876,381 page views, a 6 percent increase over 2017.

The most popular web pages for 2018 were:

1. Aquaforia, 46,059
2. Homepage, 35,419
3. Surface water vs. groundwater, 25,639
4. Where Does My Water Come From? 21,750
5. Aquapedia: Point source vs. nonpoint source pollution, 21,315

## Staff Changes

In the summer, Tour Director Dan Scott left and Nick Gray was hired as programs manager, with primary responsibility for tours. Development Director Beth Stern left after 12 years, and Patrick Dunlap was hired to replace her.



*Foundation Executive Director Jennifer Bowles discusses California water resources with a group of visiting Chilean students.*



*A Chilean student examines a pull card with information about water in Spanish.*



*Foundation Executive Director Jennifer Bowles gives an overview of California water to Pakistani visitors.*



*Programs Manager Nick Gray*

# COLORADO RIVER PROJECT



Water Leaders Emily Thor, Chelsea Haines, Evan Perez and Adam Robin pose at Hoover Dam on the Lower Colorado River Tour.



Lower Colorado River Tour participants explore Hoover Dam.



A spectacular view of Hoover Dam on the Lower Colorado River Tour, with the white bathtub ring around the edge of Lake Mead - evidence of the Colorado River's persistent drought - visible in the background.



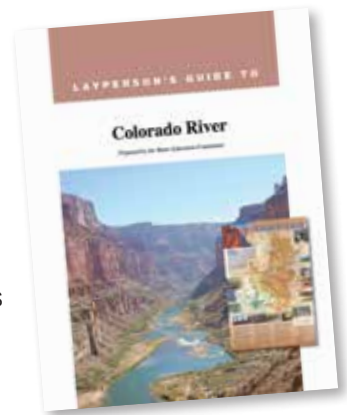
Colorado River Symposium Proceedings.

In 2018, the Foundation's Colorado River Project marked its 22nd year. Primary financial support for the project is provided through a grant from the Bureau of Reclamation's Upper and Lower Colorado Regions, along with annual contributions. The project includes support for *Western Water* news articles related to the Colorado River Basin as well as an annual tour along the lower Colorado River to expose attendees to a range of issues and perspectives.

Serving on the Advisory Committee in 2018 were: Michael Cohen, the Pacific Institute; Michael Connor, WilmerHale; John Entsminger, Southern Nevada Water Authority; Amy Haas, Upper Colorado River Commission; Chris Harris, Colorado River Board of California; Robert W. Johnson, Water Strategies LLC; Jeff Kightlinger, MWD of Southern California; James Lochhead, Denver Water; Jennifer Pitt, National Audubon Society; Stanley M. Pollack, Navajo Nation Department of Justice; Maureen Stapleton, San Diego County Water Authority; Gary Weatherford, California Public Utilities Commission.

## Layperson's Guide to the Colorado River

The Foundation revised its 32-page Layperson's Guide to the Colorado River, last updated in 2013. The guide, updated by staff writer Gary Pitzer, chronicles the history of the Colorado River's development, explains the Law of the River and the negotiations over the division of its waters, and discusses issues related to each of the seven states and Mexico that are a part of the Colorado River Basin. The guide was updated to include the latest on drought, tribal water rights and efforts to reach agreement on a drought contingency plan.



Layperson's Guide to the Colorado River.

The guide is one of a series of 16 Layperson's Guides published by the Foundation that are in-depth, easy-to-understand "mini-textbooks" that provide background and perspective on specific water topics.

## Colorado River Symposium Proceedings

In September, the Foundation published a book of transcripts from its 11th biennial Colorado River Symposium, "Taking Action on the Colorado River: Are We Up to the Challenge?" held in September 2017 in Santa Fe, N.M.

The invitation-only event featured a lineup of top speakers, including former Interior Secretary Sen. Ken Salazar, former Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Estevan López, former Interior Deputy Secretary Michael Connor, former Assistant Interior Secretary for Water and Science Bennett W. Raley, along with Edward Drusina, Commissioner, International Boundary and Water Commission, United States Section, and Roberto Salmón, Mexican Commissioner, International Boundary and Water Commission, CILA MEX-EUA.

The symposium also featured the signing by the United States and Mexico of Minute 323 that put into full force and effect the agreement charting binational water use for the next 20 years. Minute 323 broadens the way management of the river encompasses the needs of both countries with an eye toward keeping Lake Mead from falling to unacceptably low levels.

## FUNDING SOURCES

A variety of grants from governmental agencies, private foundations and other organizations funded the Foundation’s special programs, publications and projects in 2018. The Foundation’s general activities, in turn, were supported by another primary source — contributions.

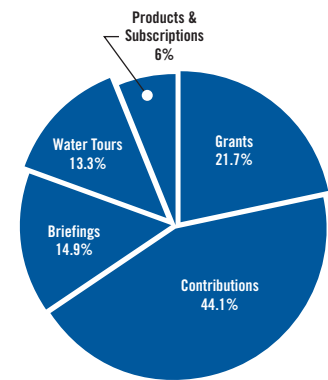
This diversity of funding helps the Foundation fulfill its mission of providing balance in all written materials, school programs, tours, briefings, videos and documentaries. Reviewers and advisory groups help ensure technical accuracy, but the Foundation retains editorial control over all programs and publications — no matter what the funding source.

In 2018, grant funds provided 22 percent of the Foundation’s revenues, funding Project WET, special workshops and conferences and publications.

Major contributions represented 44 percent of 2018 revenues and helped maintain core programs such as *Western Water* online and the Water Leaders Program.

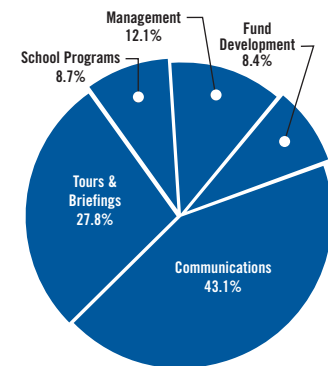
In 2018, the Foundation continued its “Giving Back” program for our major contributors in which complimentary maps, publications and attendance at Foundation events were awarded to contributors based on their pledge amount. This is our way of thanking our contributors — which include cities, farmers, law firms, engineering firms, water districts, businesses and other organizations, and private individuals — for their support (See page 13 for the list of major contributors).

Additional Foundation income is derived from attendance at briefings and water tours (28 percent) and the sale of our educational materials (6 percent). In return for all this support, the Foundation continues to serve as the source of impartial information on water issues in California and the Southwest. We thank all the organizations and individuals for the many ways in which they support our work and help us fulfill our mission.



### SOURCES OF REVENUE

\$1,452,635  
Jan. 1, 2018 – Dec. 31, 2018



### EXPENDITURES

\$1,507,755  
Jan. 1, 2018 – Dec. 31, 2018

## Major Grants Awarded in 2018 (\$5,000 or more)

<b>Colorado River Project – Colorado River Tour, <i>Western Water</i>, Colorado River Symposium Proceedings, Colorado River Layperson’s Guide</b>	
Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Region	<b>\$75,000</b>
<b>Project WET (Water Education for Teachers)</b>	
U.S. Geological Survey	<b>\$25,000</b>
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy	<b>\$30,000</b>
<b>Water Tours</b>	
California Department of Water Resources	<b>\$10,000</b>
Bureau of Reclamation	<b>\$29,990</b>
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy/Bureau of Reclamation	<b>\$46,689</b>
<b>2018 Briefings – Long-Range Weather Forecasting Workshop, Land Subsidence Workshop, Paleo Drought Workshop</b>	
California Department of Water Resources	<b>\$29,000</b>
UC San Diego	<b>\$12,975</b>
Plaza Community Center (Latino Leaders)	<b>\$12,000</b>

# MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS

## SUPPORTERS, PATRONS, AND STEWARDS

(\$5,000 and above)

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Vino Farms, LLC  
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Yuba Water Agency



*Water Leaders Jessica Diaz, Kat Wuelfing and Emily Thor listen intently during their orientation at the Foundation office.*

*Association of California Water Agencies Executive Director Tim Quinn and Foundation Executive Director Jennifer Bowles during a stopover on the Headwaters Tour.*

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## PILLARS

(\$1,000 – \$2,499)

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Monterey Peninsula Water Management District  
Nickel Family LLC



Programs Manager Nick Gray talks with Delta Stewardship Council Senior Engineer Anthony Navasero at Water Summit.



Foundation writer Gary Pitzer asks a question at the Water Summit.

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*Foundation Development Director Beth Stern, Programs Manager Nick Gray and Deputy Director Doug Beeman listen as Jason Rollo with Metropolitan Water District of Southern California tells a story at the Water Summit.*



*Foundation Office Assistant Patty Wong and Programs & Publications Coordinator Vanessa Morganstern at the Water Summit.*



# MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS

## BUILDERS

(\$250 – \$499)

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Michael Kavanaugh and Carol James  
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(\$100 – \$249)

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Ellen Trover  
Eric Wedemeyer  
Frederick Hansen  
Gloria Anderson  
Grace and Bob Winchell



*Foundation Executive Director Jennifer Bowles photographs a horse at Rush Ranch, a stop on the Bay-Delta Tour.*



*Mike Moran, supervising naturalist with East Bay Regional Park District, provides Bay-Delta Tour participants an overview of the Delta during a tour of Big Break Regional Shoreline.*



*Foundation Administrative & Technology Manager Kasey Chong staffs the table at the Association of California Water Agencies Conference.*



## MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS

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 Montpelier Farming Corporation  
 North Marin Water District  
 Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District  
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 Shasta County Water Agency

Sierra City Water Works, Inc.  
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 Stenderup Ag Partners  
 Tershia d'Elgin  
 The Greenberg Foundation  
 Thomas S. and Lynn G. Read  
 Tulare County Farm Bureau  
 Tulare Lake Drainage District  
 Utica Water and Power Authority  
 Virginia Phelps  
 Water Forum  
 WaterSmart Software  
 Young & Sons/Cocopah Nurseries, Inc.



*Patty Wong and Brian Brown look at leaves during a staff outing to Effie Yeaw Nature Center in Carmichael.*



*Deputy Director Doug Beeman and Tour Director Dan Scott stop for a selfie at Hoover Dam while on the Lower Colorado River Tour.*



*Project WET Coordinator Brian Brown at Effie Yeaw Nature Center in Carmichael during staff outing.*



*Foundation Board Member Jennifer Persike, Executive Director Jenn Bowles and State Water Board member Joaquin Esquivel at the Water Leaders Orientation reception.*

## BOARD AND STAFF



Foundation staff pause for a group shot at the Water Summit with climate scientist Daniel Swain (second from right).



Foundation Board President Robert Johnson (center) listens as Board Members Michael Savage and JaNell Cook chat after the March board meeting. In the back, Foundation Executive Director Jenn Bowles and Board Member Sara Reid chat.



Kasey Chong during lunch at the Water Summit in Sacramento.



Foundation Board Members Jennifer Allen and Jennifer Persike at the Water Summit.



Foundation staff writer Gary Pitzer takes notes during a speaker presentation at the Water Summit.



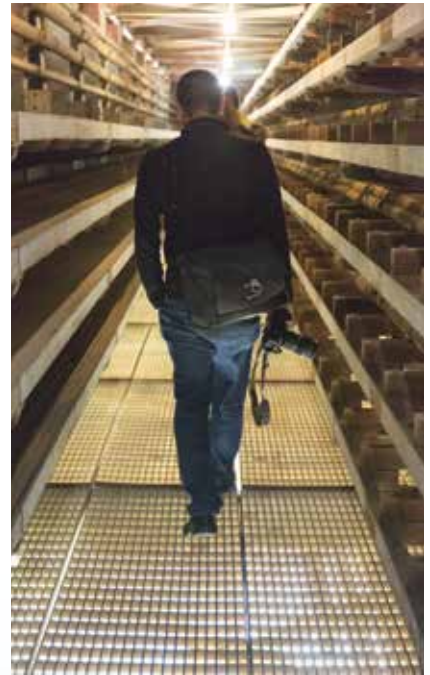
Foundation Board Member Tom Philp (right) and Maury Roos, retired chief hydrologist with the California Department of Water Resources, talk at the Foundation's Open House May 3.



*During a Bay-Delta Tour stop at Twitchell Island, Bryan Brock gives an overview of wetlands restoration efforts in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.*



*State Water Resources Control Board Chair Felicia Marcus talks to the Water Leaders class during a meeting at the Foundation's office.*



*Bay-Delta Tour participants get an inside view of the federal pump facilities at the C. W. "Bill" Jones Pumping Plant.*



*Bay-Delta Tour participants pose for a photo at Rush Ranch by Suisun Marsh, the last stop on the three-day tour.*



*Water Leaders Michael Bernardo Jr., Jenn Swart and Sarah Spano enjoy a ferry ride across San Francisco Bay with the Golden Gate Bridge behind them on the Bay-Delta Tour.*

*Foundation staff members Gary Pitzer, Jenn Bowles and Nick Gray visit River Garden Farms.*



**THE MISSION OF THE  
WATER EDUCATION FOUNDATION,  
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IS TO CREATE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING  
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RESOLUTION OF WATER RESOURCE ISSUES THROUGH  
FACILITATION,  
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