



WESTCAS 2015 Fall Conference October 28-30, 2015 – Tucson, AZ

Speaker Biographies

Don A. Barnett, P. E. Executive Director Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum, Bountiful, UT

Don A. Barnett is a consulting engineer, hydrologist, who has focused his career almost exclusively in water resource development and in water policy and administration matters. Over the past more than 25 years he has worked for a number of water districts, municipalities, industries, special service districts, irrigation companies and individuals in the intermountain states.

Mr. Barnett has served the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum for more than 15 years. This organization was created in 1973 by the governors of the seven Colorado River Basin states to coordinate activities and efforts aimed at reducing the salt load of the Colorado River. The Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program is a partnership between federal, state and local entities and individuals. This \$30 - \$40 million per year program has reduced the annual salt load of the Colorado River by more than 1.3 million tons and the annual downstream damages by more than \$300 million. In 2010, Mr. Barnett became the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum's Executive Director. In his capacity as Executive Director, Mr. Barnett supports and coordinates the implementation of the program and serves as a liaison between the federal and state partners.

Mr. Barnett graduated from Brigham Young University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Engineering Geology and a Master of Science Degree in Civil Engineering. His graduate emphasis was in the area of hydrology. Mr. Barnett is a registered Professional Engineer and a registered Professional Geologist.

John M. Bernal, Deputy County Administrator for Public Works, Pima County, Tucson, AZ

On March 11, 2001, John M. Bernal was selected to serve as the Deputy County Administrator for Public Works for Pima County Government in Tucson, Arizona. In this capacity, he oversees the functions of eight Public Works Departments and the 1,700 employees which comprise the following Departments: Development Services, Environmental Quality, Fleet Services, Graphic Services, Transportation, Regional Flood Control District, Regional Wastewater Reclamation, and Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation. Support organizational units under his area of responsibility are the Real Property Services Office, the Geographic Information Services Office, the Capital Improvement Program Office, and the Cultural Resources and Historical Preservation Office.

John returned to Pima County Government after having been a Presidential Appointee from June 1994 through March 2001, serving as the United States Commissioner for the U. S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC), an international agency responsible for the application of boundary and water treaties between the United States and Mexico and for the amicable resolution of any differences arising in relation to those agreements.

During his tenure as Commissioner, Mr. Bernal achieved numerous noteworthy accomplishments. Among them, the conclusion of 16 major international agreements with Mexico relating to various sanitation projects in the border region; a binational feasibility study for an aqueduct to bring water to San Diego and Tijuana; improvements to the conveyance capacity of the Colorado River; conceptual framework for development of binational studies and recommendations related to the ecology of the Colorado River delta; and enhanced demarcation and monumentation of the boundary at the international bridges and ports of entry.

Mr. Bernal holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering and a Masters Degree in Business Administration from the University of Arizona, Tucson.

Steve Bigley, Director of Environmental Services, Coachella Valley Water District, Coachella, CA

Steve Bigley is the Director of Environmental Services for the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) where he has worked for the past 20 years. CVWD provides domestic water, wastewater, recycled water, irrigation water, drainage, stormwater and groundwater management services to a population of 300,000 throughout the Coachella Valley, California. Mr. Bigley's responsibilities at CVWD have included managing water and environmental monitoring and regulatory compliance programs and filling the water quality manager and laboratory director roles.

Mr. Bigley has a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental and Systematic Biology from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, where he graduated summa cum laude. Mr. Bigley has served on the National Drinking Water Advisory Council's workgroup to evaluate drinking water regulations and has chaired several workgroups for the Association of California Water Agencies, where he is a current member of the Water Quality Committee. Mr. Bigley also serves as a board member representing California for the Western Coalition of Arid States.

Marc Campbell, Manager, Sustainability Policy and Programs, Salt River Project, Phoenix, AZ

Marc Campbell has been at SRP for 17 years and is currently Manager of the Sustainability Policy and Programs group. In that role, he directs SRP's internal and external sustainability efforts, including tracking SRP's Sustainable Portfolio compliance, reporting SRP's sustainability accomplishments, implementing internal conservation and stewardship programs, developing community benefit and technology demonstration projects, and promoting the growth of electric vehicles.

Marc also supports activities of the Arizona-Mexico Commission's Environment and Water Committee, including exploration of binational desalination project opportunities. Marc has served in a variety of diverse functions at SRP over his career, including Historical Analyst, Land Agent, Water Planning Analyst, and Water Rights Analyst. Marc holds a B.A. in History from Rutgers University and an M.A. in History from the University of Oregon.

Steven P. Canton, Vice President, GEI Consultants, Inc., Denver, CO

Steven P. Canton is a Vice President with GEI Consultants, Inc., and has over 30 years of professional experience in the design of aquatic evaluation programs, field sampling of aquatic habitats, water quality/biological data analysis, and statistical analysis of stressor effects. Mr. Canton holds an M.S. in Zoology (specialization in stream ecology/limnology) from Colorado State University (1976) and a B.A. in Biology (with Honors) from St. Olaf College (1975).

He is a recognized expert in water quality impacts on aquatic life, and frequently provides expert support for regulatory water quality hearings, environmental assessments, and ambient water quality standards development. Mr. Canton also oversees GEI's Aquatic Laboratory where analyses are regularly conducted on aquatic macroinvertebrates, whole effluent toxicity (WET) testing, nutrient analysis, and various U.S. EPA approved water quality and nutrient analyses. He has completed project work in over 30 states.

Mr. Canton frequently provides expert witness support and testimony with regard to water quality standards, use-classifications, and stream segmentation for water quality hearings around the United States. He has also participated as an invited expert for a workshop on selenium risk evaluation in aquatic environments for the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry, has provided peer review for selenium effects issues near coal mining sites in British Columbia (on behalf of the BC Ministry of the Environment) and peer reviewed new molybdenum water quality standards (on behalf of the International Molybdenum Association). His experience includes 1) providing expert witness in support of proposed site-specific ambient selenium standards for portions of the Arkansas River basin in Colorado, 2) providing expertise to address proposed stream classification and standards changes on tributaries to the Colorado River near Grand Junction related to ammonia toxicity issues, flow modification, habitat quality, and water quality (e.g., selenium toxicity), and 3) providing a peer review for the draft U.S. EPA selenium criteria document, including review of data usage, analysis techniques, and preparation of written comments.

Guy Carpenter, P. E., Vice President, Carollo Engineers, Phoenix, AZ

Guy Carpenter is a Vice President and shareholder of Carollo Engineers and is the firm's Water Reuse Technical Practice Director. Prior to his work as a consulting engineer, he was the water resources manager for Gilbert, Arizona. He has served on the national WaterReuse Association board of Directors for four years, and will become the Association's President in December.

Mr. Carpenter was one of 40 water leaders appointed to the Arizona Governor's Blue Ribbon Panel on Water Sustainability which completed its work in 2010. He is also an elected board member of the Central Arizona Project (CAP), which delivers 1.6 million acre-feet per year of Colorado River water to three counties in which 80% of the population in Arizona lives.

Aaron Chavez, Acting Executive Director, San Juan Water Commission, Farmington, NM

Aaron Chavez is a life-long resident of New Mexico - growing up in Cuba, New Mexico and settling in Farmington in 2001. After graduating from Cuba High School, Aaron went on to receive his BA in Geography from the University of New Mexico in 2000. Aaron started his career with the San Juan Water Commission in April 2001 as the GIS Coordinator, IT Specialist, and Web Designer. In addition to his formal duties, Aaron became a certified Flood Plain Manager in 2012.

Mr. Chavez is a member of many local, state, and national water related organizations and is a member of the Board on the Colorado River Water Users Association and is the Vice President of the New Mexico Water Dialogue. Aaron was promoted to Acting Executive Director of the San Juan Water Commission in March 2015.

Aaron and his wife, Sabrina, have three children and they enjoy boating and camping in their free time.

Kelly Collins, PG, CHMM, Principal, CDM Smith, Albuquerque, NM

Ms. Collins is a Water Resource Specialist with over 30 years of experience in the environmental field specializing in making controversial projects understandable and acceptable to stakeholders and the public. Ms. Collins' experience in the environmental field has focused on regulatory policy and compliance. She specializes in environmental permitting under Clean Water Act (CWA), Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). She worked extensively with Los Alamos National Laboratory to implement groundwater and surface water protection program.

Ms. Collins' education includes a BS in Geology and a MS in Water Resources. She is a Registered Professional Geologist and is affiliated with the Environmental Quality Association-NM Municipal League and currently serves as the President of the Western Coalition of Arid States (WESTCAS).

David W. Fitzsimmons, Tucson, AZ

Cartoonist, humor columnist and editorial writer for The Arizona Daily Star, Fitz is syndicated to over 800 newspapers around the world-- which is timely since there are only 800 newspapers left in the world today.

A one-time Pulitzer Finalist, his award-winning cartoons have drawn fire, death threats and praise since Geronimo was a paperboy way back in 1986. When David is not at his drawing board slinging ink or editorials, he is entertaining audiences with his "Fastest draw west of the Potomac" shtick. Fitz has performed his chalk talks in every casino, conference, resort meeting room, theatre, school, and clubhouse west of the San Pedro.

With 3 kids, a glorious dame on his arm, 2 cats and a dog with an IQ that rivals the overnight low in Flagstaff, this flaming moderate grandfather at the fringe of America's center is one snappy dresser. When Fitz is not reading hate mail from readers, he enjoys making his kids laugh, and cursing the television like a crazy person.

Fred B. Hicks, Ph. D., Hicks-Ray Associates, Springfield, VA

After receiving his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, Dr. Fred B. Hicks began a career as a Washington based water lobbyist in June, 1979, and has spent the following years representing public and private water and wastewater agencies and municipal governments in the federal sector. In 1982, Dr. Hicks founded Hicks-Richardson Associates which has been in continuous operation ever since with clients located from the Florida Keys, to Texas, and Southern California.

In 2002, Dr. Hicks and Tom Ray joined together to create Hicks-Ray Associates to serve the needs of water resources clients in Texas. Their work includes helping clients secure authorizations and appropriations for their projects, particularly with the Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation, and working on behalf of clients with EPA and the Department of Defense concerning a variety of regulatory issues, such as perchlorate, radon, TCE's, and the Disinfection By-product rule.

Dr. Hicks has worked to create successful long-term local-federal partnerships on behalf of clients in Florida, Texas, and California addressing a wide spectrum of needs and challenges including perchlorate treatment research partnerships and regional cleanups of groundwater supplies.

Marc R. Jensen, P. E., Director of SNWA Engineering, Southern Nevada Water Authority, Las Vegas, NV

Marcus Jensen has served as the Director of Engineering for the Southern Nevada Water Authority since 1999. He earned his civil engineering degree from San Diego State University in 1982 and promptly began working for the Las Vegas Valley Water District. His entire engineering career has focused on public water systems, including a three-year hitch with a private engineering and consulting firm and one year designing small water systems in American Samoa. Starting in 1993, Marc became associated with the planning, design and construction of a multi-billion dollar program of regional water system improvements for Southern Nevada, including submerged water intakes, tunnels, pumping stations, pipelines and water treatment facilities.

Adam Krantz, Esq., CEO, National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA), Washington, D. C.

Adam Krantz became CEO of NACWA on July 20, 2015. Before that Mr. Krantz was Managing Director of Government & Public Affairs at the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA), where he has worked since May 2001. Mr. Krantz manages an unparalleled team in Washington, DC, that advocates on behalf of the nation's public clean water agencies on an array of regulatory, legislative, and legal issues geared toward ensuring sustainable clean water agencies and a move toward the Utility of the Future.

Prior to his position at NACWA, Mr. Krantz was an associate editor/reporter at Inside Washington Publishers where his work focused on covering the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's and Congress's national water quality initiatives. Before entering the environmental arena, Mr. Krantz worked as an attorney in the Washington, D.C. law firm, Dickstein, Shapiro, Morin & Oshinsky on litigation matters.

Mr. Krantz served three years as the President of the Federal Water Quality Association and also served as the first Vice President of the Clean Water America Alliance (now the U.S. Water Alliance). Mr. Krantz is currently a Board Member of the U.S. Water Alliance. Mr. Krantz has degrees from Columbia University in New York City, the American University's Washington College of Law in Washington, D.C., and the University of Chicago. He is a member of both the District of Columbia and Maryland bar.

Jim Kudlinski, Environmental Field Services Supervisor, Salt River Project, Phoenix, AZ

Jim Kudlinski is the Environmental Field Services Supervisor at Salt River Project. In this role he is responsible for corporate-wide implementation of CERLCA, CWA, RCRA and TSCA compliance monitoring programs for SRP's water & power divisions. Prior to joining SRP, Jim developed PCB, storm water and SPCC compliance programs for Arizona Public Service, coordinated property acquisition projects for the City of Phoenix Aviation Department, and led OPA spill response and CERCLA site investigations as an On-Scene Coordinator with U.S.EPA Region VII.

Jim has a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Baker University and a Bachelor's Degree in Atmospheric Science from the University of Kansas.

Scott Miller, Esq., Shareholder, Patrick, Miller & Noto, P. C.

Scott Miller is a partner with Patrick, Miller & Noto, a Colorado law firm with a practice specializing in water rights, water transfers, water and waste water planning and development, ditch & pipeline easement law, and tribal water. His clients include municipalities, special districts, regulated water utilities, ditch and reservoir companies, oil & gas companies, developers, home owners' associations, non-profit organizations, ranchers, individuals and other various water users.

Mr. Miller has written and presented on a variety of legal issues relating to western water law. He served for many years on the Editorial Board and was the Colorado reporter for the Western Water Law Policy & Reporter publication. He is an active member of the ABA Section of Environment, Energy and Resources, and the Section's Water Resources Committee. He also serves as Chair of the Water Bench Bar for the Division 5 Water Court in Colorado; and he is the Colorado State Reporter for WESTCAS.

Scott has argued numerous cases in the State Supreme Court and Court of Appeals and was co-counsel for Tarrant Regional Water District in its case before the US Supreme Court involving interstate water compact and dormant commerce clause issues.

Mr. Miller received his juris doctorate and a masters in environmental law from Vermont Law School in 1995. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Colorado, Boulder.

More information about Mr. Miller and his firm is available at www.waterlaw.com

Austin G. Nunez, Chairman, San Xavier District, Tohono O'odham Nation

Austin is the elected Chairman of the San Xavier District, one of eleven political districts of the Tohono O'odham Nation (formerly The Papago Tribe of AZ). He is currently serving his eighth four-year term, having served continually since 1987.

Prior to becoming District Chairman, Austin worked as the Assistant Director for Save the Children's Arizona Indian Nations Office, serving 19 Native American nations in Arizona. Prior to that, he worked for the Papago Tribe of Arizona's Community Development Program serving the eleven districts of the Tohono O'odham Nation.

Austin is the current President for the Indian Land Working Group, Inc., an organization dedicated to the restoration and recovery of the native land base; and the control, use, and management of this land base by tribal communities.

He also serves as President for the San Xavier Development Authority Board, which manages the Hikdan Business Park, located on the San Xavier District of the Tohono O'odham Nation.

He has a son, two daughters and six grandchildren.

J. Tom Ray, P. E., Hicks-Ray Associates, Waco, TX

After receiving a Bachelors degree in biology and a Masters degree in Civil Engineering from Texas Tech University, J. Tom Ray began his career more than 30 years ago with the predecessor to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. His background includes consulting engineering work as well as over 20 years' service with the Brazos River Authority. In addition to serving as Deputy General Manager of BRA, Tom served as Water Quality Director and then as Planning Director for the Authority.

Tom has been a long time Board member of the Texas Water Conservation Association and the National Water Resources Association. This includes serving as Chairman of the TWCA Water Quality Committee and as the founding and current Chairman of the TWCA Federal Affairs Committee. In this current position, Mr. Ray has overseen and been responsible for the planning and execution of four Texas Water Days in Washington beginning in 2005, during which over 100 TWCA leaders travel to Washington each February to carry a unified message concerning the needs of the State with regard to water resources.

Tom is currently the Water Resources Program Manager for Lockwood, Andrews, & Newnam, Inc. Tom has a wide-ranging acquaintance with water agencies and their issues in Texas and throughout the West.

Matthias L. Sayer, General Counsel, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, Santa Fe, NM

Matthias Sayer has been General Counsel for the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish since early 2015, where he advises the Department on natural resource issues.

Prior to arriving in New Mexico, Matthias worked as an Assistant Attorney General in the Wyoming Attorney General's Office (2011 through 2015), where he represented the Governor's office and various state agencies, including the State Engineer, Board of Control, Department of Environmental Quality, and Game and Fish Department. During his tenure in Wyoming, Matthias was part of the team representing the State of Wyoming in *Montana v. Wyoming*, the on-going original action regarding administration of the Tongue River under the Yellowstone River Compact.

Matthias has appeared in numerous federal courts representing both Wyoming and New Mexico in a variety of natural resource matters, including the Clean Water Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Air Act, and others.

Matthias also serves as Special Counsel to the New Mexico State Engineer in North Dakota, *et al.* v. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, *et al.* before the U.S. District Court for the District of North Dakota and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit.

Originally from Salt Lake City, Utah, Matthias received an undergraduate degree from Brigham Young University and law degree from the Indiana University Maurer School of Law.

Peter B. Williams, Ph.D., Director, U. S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution, Tucson, AZ

Dr. Peter B. Williams is Director of the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution (U.S. Institute), which is part of the Udall Foundation, a small, independent federal agency with offices in Tucson, Arizona, and Washington, D.C. Since 1998, the U.S. Institute has been an impartial entity inside the federal government, independent of other agencies, that provides services related to collaboration and conflict resolution to help public and private interests manage and address environmental disputes and conflicts nationwide to improve environmental management decisions and decision processes.

Prior to joining the U.S. Institute, Peter served as Collaborative Planning and Multiparty Monitoring Specialist for the US Forest Service's Ecosystem Management Staff. He worked throughout the country to help design collaborative planning efforts, develop agency policy related to collaborative efforts, and to bridge theory and practice. He co-led efforts to *Empower Collaborative Stewardship* and served on the Core Team of an effort to establish a *National Inventory, Monitoring, and Assessment Strategy*, both for the Forest Service. He also has been involved in Large Landscape Conservation efforts, including applying ideas associated with communities of practice, organizational learning, and broader use of electronic tools to support collaborative conservation and environmental management.

Peter also has served as Forest Supervisor for the Wayne National Forest in Ohio, as Natural Resource Staff Officer for the Colville National Forest in Washington State, and as a Research Social Scientist, among other positions. He holds a BA from Kenyon College, an MS from Virginia Tech, and a PhD from Utah State University