



**WESTCAS 2016 Annual Conference
October 26-28, 2016
Phoenix, AZ**

Speaker Biographies

Trevor Baggiore, Director, Water Quality Division, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

Trevor Baggiore is the Director of the Water Quality Division for the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. As a native of Arizona and a two-time graduate of Arizona State University, with a Bachelor's in Chemical Engineering and a Master's in Business Administration, he has been advocating for Arizona's environment since 2001. His main focus at ADEQ has been air quality, but has been learning the world of water since 2014.

Trevor is registered in Arizona as a professional engineer and is a champion of ADEQ's efforts to deliver faster, better, cheaper government.

Rebecca F. A. Bernat, Ph.D. Candidate, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, University of Arizona

Rebecca F.A Bernat is a Soil, Water, Environmental Science Ph.D. student in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at the University of Arizona. Her research focuses on managed aquifer recharge in Arizona, Europe, and around the Mediterranean Basin, and particularly on recharge and recovery of effluent.

Before coming to Arizona, Rebecca Bernat worked as a chemist for Ortec Générale de Dépollution, a subsidiary of the ORTEC Group, the French Atomic Commission (CEA) in Paris, the Research and Development Institute (IRD) of New Caledonia, and L'Oreal Paris. She holds a Master's degree in Environmental Science, Scientific Mediation and Communication, from the Université Aix Marseille, France and a Bachelor's degree in Water Chemistry, Analysis and Treatment, from the Université Paris Sud XI, France. She is a 2016 recipient of the P.E.O International Peace Scholarship.

Craig M. Caggiano, Water Utilities Operations Manager, City of Tempe

Mr. Caggiano earned a bachelor's degree in Chemistry from the University of Vermont in 1997. He has over 15 years of experience in the field of environmental chemistry, and process optimization. Currently, he is the Water Utilities Operation Manager for the City of Tempe. His duties include managing Tempe Town Lake and new hydraulically operated steel gate dam. Additionally, he manages the Field Sites Group. This group maintains over 50 pieces of major infrastructure associated with the delivery of drinking water, and collection of waste water.

Kelly Collins, PG, BCES, CDM Smith, Inc., Albuquerque, NM

Kelly Collins is a Senior Water Resources Planner and Permitting Specialist with 36 years of experience managing projects in the environmental field. She has managed state water planning, water resource evaluations and master planning for water and wastewater services for cities and counties in New Mexico. She is currently managing MS4 support projects for the City of Albuquerque, Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority, and the New Mexico Department of Transportation. Ms. Collins also is currently serving as President of WESTCAS.

Jocelyn Gibbon, Esq., Freshwater Consulting, LLC

Jocelyn is the principal of Freshwater Policy Consulting, LLC, advising and supporting organizations interested in natural resource and water policy issues, especially through a sustainability lens. Freshwater provides strategic guidance, policy research and analysis, and project support to community groups, non-profits, foundations, and others navigating the world of water and natural resource policy, education, and advocacy. The company's approach emphasizes the importance of strong relationships, smart institutional structures, and collaborative, proactive solutions to difficult challenges.

Jocelyn previously worked as an environmental and water law attorney in the Phoenix office of Squire Sanders, LLP, and on Arizona and Colorado River water policy issues as a member of Environmental Defense Fund's Colorado River team. Before practicing law, she started and ran a freelance editing business. She also works for Canyon Explorations as a whitewater guide in the Grand Canyon.

Jocelyn received her J.D. from the University of Texas School of Law (with high honors), studied natural resources policy and Colorado River law and development at Northern Arizona University, and earned a B.A. in English from Williams College (*summa cum laude*), where she also taught a university course in non-fiction writing. She is a member of the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Section of the Arizona State Bar and a past board member of Grand Canyon River Guides and the Verde River Institute. In 2012, she and her husband Sam worked with two friends to write and produce *Postcards from the Parks*, a short documentary about Arizona's state parks.

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

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 past 29 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.

Nazlin Kanji, Director of Operations, AeroVironment

Nazlin Kanji is the Director of Operations at AeroVironment. She has more than 20 years of experience developing and deploying big data systems for the DoD and commercial industry, and is now leading AeroVironment's commercial data programs focusing on agriculture, utilities and energy. She was the program manager on the first FAA-approved commercial unmanned aircraft operations over land and water in the North Slope region and had the pleasure of spending her summer in the Arctic supporting the operations. She has a BS in Computer Science from California State University, Northridge and earned an MBA at California Lutheran University.

Adam Krantz, CEO, National Association of Clean Water Agencies

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, Supervisor, Environmental Support Services, Salt River Project

Jim Kudlinski is the Environmental Support Services Supervisor at Salt River Project. In this role he is responsible for corporate-wide implementation of CERCLA, 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.

David McNeil, Environmental Services Manager, City of Tempe

David has served as the City of Tempe Arizona's Environmental Services Manager since 2006. In addition to providing leadership for the City's Industrial Pretreatment, Stormwater, Cross Connection, Environmental Monitoring, and Environmental Regulatory Compliance programs for wastewater, drinking water, stormwater, and air quality, David oversees management and administration of the Tempe Grease Cooperative, of which he is the founder and chief architect.

David served the City as Supervisor of Regulatory Compliance programs between 1999 and 2006. Prior to the City of Tempe, David served the State of Arizona as Recharge Program Coordinator for the Arizona Department of Water Resources and then as Aquifer Protection Permit Program Supervisor for the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. David has a B.S. in Communication from the University of Texas, and an M.S. in Environmental Policy from The Ohio State University.

Leslie A. Meyers, Area Manager, Phoenix Area, U. S. Bureau of Reclamation

Leslie A. Meyers is the Area Manager for the Phoenix Area of the U.S. Department of Interior's Bureau of Reclamation. At Reclamation, Leslie began her career in Operations, writing and negotiating operating agreements for Roosevelt Dam and the Central Arizona Project facilities. Additionally, she has managed Reclamation's outreach programs including planning, accessibility, drought, and water conservation. Now, as the Area Manager, Leslie is very active in the oversight of the Reclamation's projects in Arizona, the Salt River Project and the Central Arizona Project, and in statewide water resource issues with a wide range of constituents ranging from Native American Tribes to Agricultural and Municipal water users.

Leslie has a B.S. in Civil Engineering, with an emphasis in Water Resources and Environmental Engineering, from Texas A&M University and is a registered professional Civil Engineer in the state of Arizona.

Scott Miller, Esquire, Partner, 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.

He 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.

Chip Norton, President, Friends of the Verde River Greenway

Chip, a third generation Arizonan, lives next to the Verde River in Camp Verde. He retired from his project management career in 2008 and currently serves as President of Friends of Verde River Greenway. Chip is an advocate for community-based solutions to conservation challenges, and he is excited about the prospect of working with partners to achieve both conservation and community goals in the Verde watershed.

Nathan Nutter, P. E. Carollo Engineers

Nathan has 15 years of experience in the water resources industry. His focus is in water resource management, specifically through the use of aquifer storage and recovery wells. Nathan has worked on many of the nation's leading ASR wells in terms of technological advances, testing, and research.

Nathan graduated from Stanford University and has Professional Licenses in Civil and Mechanical Engineering. He has worked at Carollo Engineers for over 10 years, during which he has designed and overseen construction for numerous well sites in the Southwest and California.

Michael Ploughe, Sr. Environmental Scientist, Salt River Project

Mike Ploughe, an AZ native and graduate of ASU, is a registered professional geologist with 22 years of experience in the areas of water resources, hydrogeology, and environmental compliance. Mike began his career at the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality before serving 15 years as the Town of Payson's Hydrogeologist/Water Resources Manager. Mr. Ploughe recently joined SRP in 2015 as a Senior Scientist in Water Quality and Waste Management Services.

Sarah Porter, Director, Kyl Center for Water Policy, Morrison Institute Arizona State University

Sarah Porter is the inaugural director of the Kyl Center for Water Policy at Arizona State University's Morrison Institute for Public Policy. Established in 2014, the Kyl Center promotes research, analysis, collaboration and open dialogue to build consensus in support of sound water stewardship solutions for Arizona and the West. Sarah came to the Kyl Center from the National Audubon Society, where she served as the Arizona state director and led Audubon's Western Rivers Project, a multistate initiative to protect and restore important river habitats in the Intermountain West.

Before joining the staff of Audubon in 2006, Sarah spent fourteen years as an attorney in private practice, specializing in complex commercial litigation. She serves on Governor Ducey's Water Augmentation Council, University of Arizona's Water Resources Research Center's External Advisory Council, the Phoenix Parks and Recreation Board, Phoenix's Environmental Quality and Sustainability Commission and several other community boards. A native of Phoenix, Sarah received her bachelor's degree from Harvard College and her J.D. from Arizona State University College of Law. In January, Sarah was named by the *Arizona Republic* as one of "Sixteen Arizonans to Watch in 2016."

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

After receiving a Bachelor's 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.

Kathryn Sorensen, Director, Phoenix Water

Phoenix Water delivers high quality tap water to 1.5 million customers in addition to providing wastewater treatment services for 2.5 million residents in the Valley of the Sun.

Kathryn has a PhD in Resource Economics and a Bachelor of Arts in Economics. Currently, she serves on the Arizona Water Banking Authority Commission, as an Advisory Committee member of Arizona State University's Decision Center for a Desert City, on the Board of Advisors of the Kyl Center for Water Policy at Morrison Institute, as an Advisory Committee member of the Water Resources Research Center, and as a member of the Rates and Charges Subcommittee of the American Water Works Association.

Jolene Walsh, Director of Public and Governmental Affairs, Eastern Municipal Water District

Jolene Walsh is the Director of Public and Governmental Affairs at Eastern Municipal Water District and has worked there for 13 years. She received a B.S. degree in Geology from UC Santa Cruz and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Redlands. In addition, she holds a math/science teaching credential and is a graduate of the Water Education Foundation's Water Leaders Program. Prior to joining EMWD, Jolene lived in the Jamaica for two and a half years serving in the United States Peace Corps on water and sanitation projects. She later travelled to Guatemala with Water For People to inspect water projects, and is a member of the Association of California Water Agency's State and Federal Legislative Committees as well as legislative committees of other associations.

Matthew Ziska, Director of Business Development, Aerovironment

Matt currently serves as the Director of Business Development (BD) for Commercial operations at Aerovironment (AV) for AV's expansion into commercial Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) and Information Management Systems markets. AV is a technology solutions provider that designs, develops, produces, supports, and operates an advanced portfolio of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) for remote sensing and data management and electric transportation solutions.

Prior to joining AV, Matt completed over 23 years of active duty service with the U.S. Navy accumulating over 3700 flight hours primarily in the F-4 Phantom and FA-18 Hornet operating ashore and onboard U.S. Navy aircraft carriers. He next supported Northrop Grumman Electronics and Information Sectors for over 7 years in PM and BD roles before joining AV.

Matt earned a degree in Business Administration from Kansas Newman University and MBA from Regis University.