

2014 **AEP STATE CONFERENCE**

The Waterfront Beach Resort

March 23 - 26, 2014





Conference Program

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AEP 2014 Conference-at-a-Glance

Sunday March 23, 2014

11:00 AM - 6:30 PM - Conference Registration Open - Waterfront Ballroom Lobby

12:00 PM - 6:00 PM - Sponsor Exhibitor Setup - Waterfront Ballroom

1:30 PM - 4:30 PM - Special Workshops

Air Quality for Dummies Workshop \$75 additional fee applies (Pacific Ballroom B)

NEPA Nuts & Bolts Workshop \$75 additional fee applies (Pacific Ballroom A)

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM - Session Block 1

CEQA/NEPA	Natural Resources
CEQA Analyses in Highly Variable	Analyzing Sacred Sites and
Human Environments	Cultural Landscapes under CEQA
(Pacific Ballroom B)	(Dolphin Room)

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM - **Opening Reception** - *Poolside*

Monday March 24, 2014

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM - Continental Breakfast - Waterfront Ballroom

7:00 AM – 6:00 PM – Registration/Exhibits Open – Waterfront Ballroom

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM - Welcome Keynote - Waterfront Ballroom

Keynote Speaker: Aaron Klemm, Energy Project Manager, City of Huntington Beach

8:45 AM – 11:45 AM – **Mobile Workshop #1** – **Bolsa Chica Nature Walk** \$35 additional fee applies

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM - Session Block 2 CEQA/NEPA CEQA Law **Natural Resources** Sustainability Reconsidering Level CEQA Streamlining: HCP Jeopardy Panel City of Newport of Service Outside of Connecting the Dots Beach Maintenance Dredging and Eelgrass Transit Priority Areas between SB 743, SB 226, and SB 375 Management (Pacific Ballroom B) (Pacific Ballroom A) (Tides Ballroom) (Dolphin Room)

10:45 AM – 12:15 PM – Session Block 3			
CEQA/NEPA	CEQA Law	Natural Resources	Sustainability
Burst into Tiers: Getting the Most out of General Plan EIRs	Neighbors for Smart Rail: When Is it Ok to Use a Future Baseline?	Transportation Planning and Environmental Permitting in SoCal (Endangered Species and Wetland Permitting for OCTA's M2 Projects)	Sustainable Water Management: California State Initiatives
(Pacific Ballroom B)	(Pacific Ballroom A)	(Tides Ballroom)	(Dolphin Room)

12:15 PM - 1:30 PM - Awards Luncheon - Waterfront Ballroom

1:45 PM - 3:15 PM - Session Block 4				
CEQA/NEPA	CEQA/NEPA CEQA Law Natural Resources			
Against All Odds: Infill Land Use Compatibility for the Uptown Newport Mixed-Use Project	CEQA Exemptions after <i>Berkeley</i> <i>Hillside</i> : Does the Exception Swallow the Rule?	Coastal Processes: Sediment Management as an Environmental Solution?	Bay-Delta and Water Supply Issues: The Latest	
(Pacific Ballroom B)	(Pacific Ballroom A)	(Tides Ballroom)	(Dolphin Room)	

Students and Emerging Professionals: Environmental Planning Professional....

The Right Choice for Me? West Coast Room

3:15 PM - 3:45 PM - Break - Waterfront Ballroom

3:45 PM - 5:15 PM - Session Block 5			
CEQA/NEPA	Sustainability		
Is There Enough Water? Water Supplies per SB 610 and Beyond	Preparing CEQA Administrative Records: What to Keep and What to Throw Away	Let's Do It Later: Is Deferring Formulation of CEQA Mitigation Ever OK, or Is It Just Asking for Trouble?	California Supplement to the U.S. Community Protocol for Accounting and Reporting Greenhouse Gas Emissions
(Pacific Ballroom B)	(Pacific Ballroom A)	(Tides Ballroom)	(Dolphin Room)

Students and Emerging Professionals: CEQA Basics for Students

West Coast Room

6:00 PM - 9:30 PM - AEP Beach Party/Silent Auction - Driftwood Pavilion

Tuesday March 25, 2014

7:30 PM – 9:00 AM – Continental Breakfast – Waterfront Ballroom

 $7{:}30~\text{AM} - 6{:}00~\text{PM}~-~\textbf{Registration}~-~\textit{Waterfront Ballroom Lobby}$

7:30 AM – 6:30 PM – Exhibits Open – Waterfront Ballroom

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM Session Block 6			
CEQA/NEPA CEQA Law Natural Resources Sustainability			
Health Risk Challenges of Siting Housing near High- Volume Roadways	Consultants and Attorneys: Two Different Perspectives on CEQA?	Mitigating for Species, Water, and Other Natural Resource Impacts: A Holistic Approach	Addressing Wildland Fire Risk in California
(Pacific Ballroom B)	(Pacific Ballroom A)	(Tides Ballroom)	(Dolphin Room)

10:15 AM - 11:45 AM - Session Block 7

CEQA/NEPA	CEQA Law	Natural Resources	Sustainability
Preparing Joint CEQA/NEPA Documents	Privilege and the CEQA Administrative Record: Preparing Environmental Documents in the Real World	Balancing Regional Environmental Issues with Large Scale Renewable Energy Projects	Addressing Climate Change and Sea Level Rise: Adaptation and Mitigation
(Pacific Ballroom B)	(Pacific Ballroom A)	(Tides Ballroom)	(Dolphin Room)

11:45 AM - 1:00 PM - **Keynote Luncheon** - *Waterfront Ballroom*

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Charles Lester, Executive Director of the California Coastal Commission

1:15 PM – 2:45 PM – Session Block 8			
CEQA/NEPA	CEQA Law	Natural Resources	Sustainability
CEQA on the Internet: The Lady or the Tiger?	Preparing EIRs: Litigators' Perspectives on How to Survive a Legal Challenge	Environmental Ethic in Utility Industry Navigation of the Regulatory Waters	Groundwater Evaluation for CEQA Documents
(Pacific Ballroom B)	(Pacific Ballroom A)	(Tides Ballroom)	(Dolphin Room)
2:45 PM – 3:15 PM – Break – Waterfront Ballroom			

3:00 PM – 6:15 PM – **Mobile Workshop #2** – **Newport Landing Whale Watching** \$35 additional fee applies

3:15 PM – 4:45 PM – Session Block 9			
CEQA/NEPA	CEQA Law	Natural Resources	Sustainability
Glare: Lessons Learned and Practical Tips for Solar Energy Projects	CEQA Findings and Statements of Overriding Consideration: The Real Decision Documents	Wind Energy and Eagles: Environmental Impact Assessment	Show Me the Water! Using SB 610, CEQA & SB 221 to Help Ensure Adequate Water Supplies for New Development
(Pacific Ballroom B)	(Pacific Ballroom A)	(Tides Ballroom)	(Dolphin Room)

Students and Emerging Professionals: Resume Building and Networking for Students

West Coast Room

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM - Wine and Cheese Reception - Waterfront Ballroom

9:00 PM - 11:30 PM - AEP Jam Band - Pacific Ballroom

Wednesday March 26, 2014

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM - **Membership Update** - *Waterfront Ballroom*

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM - Exhibits Open/Registration - Waterfront Ballroom

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM - Session Block 10

Closing Breakfast

Part 1: CEQA/Legislative Update

Part 2: CEQA 2014 Guidelines Amendment Roundtable Discussion

Waterfront Ballroom

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM - Exhibitor Teardown

Note: CM | LAW | MCLE Pending

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CEQA/NEPA

The sessions in this track cover some of the most complicated issues and examine new ways of analyzing environmental effects under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQAs) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The sessions include panels examining how to improve CEQA and NEPA practice and presentations on how regulations are being successfully applied. Sessions will provide real world, practical advice on CEQA and NEPA practice.

CEQA LAW

This interdisciplinary track features a variety of knowledgeable speakers who will provide succinct and provocative updates on core state and federal case law and legislation, land use law and planning issues. The sessions will discuss emerging issues in baseline, exemptions, privilege and the CEQA administrative record, to name a few. The track includes the annual CEQA update on Wednesday morning with a review of recent case law, regulatory changes, new guidance, and a look ahead at emerging issues.

NATURAL RESOURCES

This track will address many environmental issues that cross jurisdictional borders and resource disciplines. Presentation topics include climate change and sea level rise, cleanup and mitigation strategies, emerging trends in renewable energy, and developments in natural resources preservation. This track brings fresh ideas and effective tools that produce better outcomes.

SUSTAINABILITY

With sustainability, energy efficiency, and climate change at the forefront of Southern California's planning efforts, and the limited fiscal resources available to local governments to address these emerging issues, many organizations have taken a regional approach to addressing water sustainability and energy efficiency. This track will discuss regional efforts to improve water sustainability, energy efficiency, and address climate change risks in the Southern California region without straining local government fiscal resources.

STUDENTS AND EMERGING PROFESSIONALS

This track covers topics geared towards emerging professionals that are in the early stages of their careers or transitioning to the environmental profession, as well as students that are nearing graduation and about to enter the job market. Sessions in this track cover valuable and informational topics focusing on how to build a resume, the benefits of networking, and a general outlook on the profession and what potential employers seek in a student or emerging professional. Through a diverse panel of speakers that have decades of experience in the private and public sectors, the sessions in this track are intended to provide an open forum for students and emerging professionals to ask questions of practicing professionals.

Fellow AEP Members and AEP Conference Attendees:



Greetings! Welcome to the 2014 Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP) annual Conference in beautiful Huntington Beach. Our venue, the Hilton Waterfront Beach Resort is a destination resort with all the amenities, plus it is right on the beach! It is close to many venues in Orange County and the city of Huntington Beach. Mix all that with the richness of the Southern California beach area and environs and this will be a most rewarding and memorable experience for all attendees. On behalf of your AEP Board – WELCOME!

Please join me in thanking our Conference Co-chairs, Lennie Rae Cooke and Konnie Dobreva for their hard work, organization, and leadership in making this Conference a success. Bill Halligan, Chair of the 2013 Permanent Conference Committee also played a major role in the background keeping things running smooth. Their Conference Committee, members from the Orange County Chapter of AEP, as well as others helped make this event possible. They have planned an outstanding schedule of sessions and events to challenge and inspire our thinking, give us professional enhancement, and have a lot of fun with various social events (including our own AEP Jam Band session on Tuesday night in the hotel!!!). Certainly we cannot forget the tireless efforts of Lynne Bynder – the real 'mover and shaker' that brings the whole Conference together year after year. Thank you all.

The programs for the Conference look great and we will have some top-notch presentations. The Conference opens with special focus preconference workshops and two Conference sessions on Sunday afternoon, March 23, and the opening reception is on Sunday evening. All events and sessions take place in the hotel so you don't need to walk far to find something you enjoy. There are two of Mobile Workshops for you to enjoy. There will be five themed tracks for the professional sessions: Sustainability, CEQA/NEPA, Natural Resources, CEQA Law, and Students and Emerging Professionals. These professional sessions, tours, paper presentations, and panel discussions run Sunday afternoon through Wednesday at noon.

2014 offers an unusual year for the state Legislature. It is the second year of the session and CEQA remains an important discussion point in many pieces of legislation. A matter of great interest to all AEP members is the Governor's declaration of drought. Governor Brown made his drought emergency declaration Friday, January 17th. While there are many positive aspects of the declaration – raising awareness of the drought, added pressure for reduced water usage, release of funds to address the drought, etc. – there are also some significant concerns with the announcement. It includes the suspension of some water quality laws and **CEQA** to allow for more water transfers. Section #5 also raises concerns with consolidating the Federal Central Valley Project with the State Water Project, which presumably would be done without CEQA per order #9.

We have two dynamic keynote speakers to set the stage and tone for our conference. Dr. Charles Lester currently serves as the Executive Director of the California Coastal Commission. He has worked with the Commission in various capacities since 1997. Previously he was an Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of Colorado, Boulder teaching courses in environmental law and policy focusing on public lands governance and coastal zone management. Our second Keynote speaker is Aaron Klemm. Mr. Klemm is a graduate of Prescott College with a Bachelors degree in Sustainable Community Development and an MBA from CSU Long Beach. He currently serves as the Energy Project Manager for the City of Huntington Beach. Aaron is So Cal Gas Company's 2010 Energy Efficiency Champion (the only other winners are Ed Begley Jr. and Art Rosenfeld) and he received the Huntington Beach June 2011 Mayor's award for his efforts. We welcome them both to the conference.

All of this adds up to be a superb Conference. I hope you all have a great time while you are here and I hope to chat with many of you. Please enjoy yourself both at the conference and elsewhere in the greater the Huntington Beach area.

Sincerely,

Gene Talmadge, MUP

no almag

AEP State President





Dear Conference Attendees,

WELCOME TO THE 2014 AEP CONFERENCE! On behalf of the Orange County Chapter of the California Association of Environmental Professionals, we are proud to host this year's conference in the beautiful city of Huntington Beach, also known as "Surf City USA." We sincerely want to thank you for choosing to attend the conference. Our heartfelt





appreciation and thanks also goes to our sponsors and exhibitors who helped make this conference affordable and fun. We ask you to take a moment to visit the sponsors and exhibitors and thank them for providing greatly needed support to AEP. Finally, we would like to thank the conference committee members, students, keynote speaker, panelist, and everyone else who graciously dedicated their time and energy to making this a wonderful Conference.

This year's conference focuses on water and sustainability. The current drought in California is yet another reminder of how important water and energy sustainability are to our economic survival and quality of life. We chose the City of Huntington Beach for the 2014 Conference because the city has a long-standing commitment to protect the environment and to sustainability. One expression of this commitment is its Energy Action Plan (EAP). The EAP outlines the city's history and commitment to eliminating energy waste, preparing for peak oil production, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Huntington Beach is also the latest in California to ban single-use plastic grocery bags. In today's Huntington Beach, fishers fish from the landmark Huntington Beach Pier, surfers catch the waves, kayakers paddle along the city's 10 miles of shoreline, while birdwatchers spot hundreds of species at the restored Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve. In Surf City USA, the old misconception that sustainability is bad for the bottom line has been proven false. Sustainability has evolved into a vision where business, government, and the citizenry work together to protect the environment while encouraging economic growth. Don't miss Tuesday's Keynote Speaker Aaron Klemm, Energy Project Manager for the City of Huntington Beach.

We are extremely proud of the 5 tracks of high quality presentations being offered this year and would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the speakers for their time. Over 4 days, the CEQA/NEPA, Natural Resources, Sustainability and CEQA Law educational tracks highlight the work and best efforts by private- and public-sector professionals in areas of regulations, analysis, resource, and project design. The presentations demonstrate how we can meet the intent of NEPA and CEQA, to lessen the impact of development on the environment, while balancing the economic and quality of life needs of our ever-growing Golden State. This year's educational sessions address emerging legal issues , protection of natural resources, sea level rise, climate change adaptation, and legislative updates, to name a few. In acknowledgement of the importance of students to the future of our profession and AEP, we have developed a unique Students and Emerging Professionals track, offering resume building, professional direction, and a CEQA Basics course for the new and future environmental professional.

Welcome from the Conference Chairs

In addition to providing more than 40 educational sessions, preconference workshops, and keynote presentations, we've also devoted time in the schedule to mingle with old and new friends, learn to surf, and participate in mobile workshops. Don't miss the opportunity to sneak out and enjoy the beautiful weather guilt-free; onsite registration is open for the *Bolsa Chica Nature Walk* and *Newport Landing Whale Watching*.

The social festivities begin with our Poolside Opening Reception on Sunday night, then we'll have a good old-fashioned Beach BBQ Party Monday night with fireside s'mores. After the Wine and Cheese Reception on Tuesday evening, you can explore Huntington Beach on your own before heading to the Pacific Ballroom to hear the AEP Jam Band, an AEP conference tradition established 2005, the last time the Orange County Chapter hosted the state conference.

Again, welcome to Orange County and thank you for your continue support of AEP. On behalf of the Orange County Chapter, we wish you an informative and enjoyable conference experience. Have fun!

Sincerely,

Lennie Rae Cooke

Senior Project Manager VCS Environmental

Co-chairs, 2014 AEP State Conference

Genie Rae Cooke

Konnie Dobreva, JD

K Dobreva

Senior Associate PlaceWorks





CONFERENCE CHAIRS

Konnie Dobreva, JD – PlaceWorks

Lennie Rae Cooke – VCS Environmental

COMMITTEE

Alan Ashimine – RBF Consulting Student Volunteers

Alisha Winterswyk – Best Best & Krieger LLP *Conference Materials*

Bill Chandler
Outreach

Bill Halligan – PlaceWorks Session Selection, Mobile Workshops

Grant Reddy – PlaceWorks Conference Materials, Program Layout

Julie Vandermost – VCS Environmental Session Selection, Outreach

Ricky Caperton – PlaceWorks Students and Emerging Professionals Track

> **Ryan Potter** – PlaceWorks *Conference Materials*

Steve Noack, AICP — PlaceWorks Conference Materials

CONFERENCE PLANNER

Lynne Bynder, CMP – Meetings Xceptional

PlaceWorks - Formerly The Planning Center | DC&E

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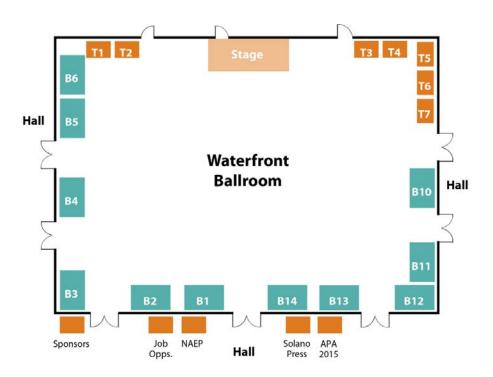
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THANK YOU EXHIBITORS!



Booths

Booth 1 – Helix Environmental Planning

Booth 2 — RBF Consulting

Booth 3 – Bloom Biological, Inc.

Booth 4 – PlaceWorks

Booth 5 – Statistical Research, Inc.

Booth 6 - URS

Booth 10 - SWCA

Booth 11 – Condor Country Consulting, Inc.

Booth 12 – ASM Affiliates. Inc.

Booth 13 - ESA

Booth 14 - WILDLANDS

Tabletop Exhibits

Table 1 – Ascent Environmental, Inc.

Table 2 – RECON Environmental, Inc.

Table 3 – ECORP Consulting

Table 4 – UC San Diego Extension

Table 5 – UC Irvine Extension

Table 6 – Jackson DeMarco Tidus Peckenpaugh

Table 7 – Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP





REGISTRATION

The Registration Desk is located in the Waterfront Ballroom Lobby

Registration Hours

Waterfront Ballroom Lobby

Sunday, March 23, 2014 11:00 am – 6:30 pm

Monday, March 24, 2014

7:00 am - 6:00 pm

Tuesday, March 25, 2014

7:30 am - 6:00 pm

Wednesday, March 26, 2014

8:00 am - 12 pm

AICP CM Approval/ MCLE approval

AICP credits have been approved for the 2014 conference. While all sessions qualify, we do not guarantee that Mobile Workshops and some General Sessions will receive credit. This will be determined at a later date. MCLE credits have been submitted and are pending Approval.

Exhibitor Hours

Exhibitors are located in the *Waterfront Ballroom*

Exhibitor Set Up

Sunday, March 23, 2014 12:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Exhibits Open

Sunday, March 23, 2014 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm – *Pending set-up*

Monday, March 24, 2014 7:00 am – 6:00 pm

Tuesday, March 25, 2014

7:30 am - 6:30 pm

Wednesday, March 26, 2014

7:30 am - 12 pm

Exhibitor Tear Down

Tuesday, March 25, 2014

6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Or

Wednesday, March 26, 2014

12 pm - 1:00 pm

Registration Badges

Please wear your name badge at all times for entry into the events and sessions. Prior to departure, drop your badge holder at the registration desk to be recycled.

Speaker Registration

All speakers and panel members must check in at registration. Please pick up your name badges at the registration desk during registration hours.

Electronic Devices

Please turn off or put in silent mode all cell phones during sessions.

Conference Attire

Business Casual attire is appropriate for all sessions and events.

HILTON WATERFRONT

Green Initiatives

- » Recycle bins throughout hotel public areas, meeting rooms, back of house and guestrooms
- » Motion-sensor lighting throughout hotel, including guestrooms
- » Guestroom heating and air conditioning activated by motion sensors
- » Hotel waste separated prior to removal: Wet, Dry and Recyclable products
- » Kitchens follow Hilton energy saving policies
- » Paper recycling for all offices
- » Programmable thermostats in guest rooms & meeting rooms
- » CFL light bulbs throughout hotel
- » Linen reuse program in guest rooms

Additional Greening at the AEP 2014 Conference

- » Lanyards made of recycled materials
- » Program and name badges printed on recycled paper
- » Signage printed on recycled materials
- Water stations in all meeting rooms
 no plastic water bottle policy at conference
- » Food and beverage will only be served in glass materials when possible.



Green Initiatives

The Hilton Waterfront Beach Resort works to decrease its impact on the environment and improve sustainability.

Energy Improvements

- » Compact fluorescent light bulbs in all vending area & Valet Garage
- » State-of-the-art HVAC cooling tower
- » Hotel operates on a "Closed Loop" cooling system; which recycles ice cooled water
- » Joined EPA's Energy Star Program

"The Green Room" The self serve guest laundry room will be comprised of energy efficient equipment, non-toxic paint, recycled material for the floor and countertops, energy efficient lighting, biodegradable detergent, recycled furniture and recycle bins

Water Conservation

- » Guest bathrooms use low-flow toilets without impacting the guest's experience
- » Linen and towel reuse program for multiple-night guests
- » Drinking water provided upon request only when ordering via "Never Leave Your Room Service"
- » Landscape irrigation done in early morning hours

Recycling & Composting

- » Used shampoo & conditioner bottles donated to a local shelter
- » Recycling receptacles in all back-of-the-house areas
- » Older furnishings, linens, curtains, dishware and bedding donated to local shelter
- » Consumer paper products made from recycled fibers
- » Recycled paper used in all printers
- » Discontinued the use of cut flowers for in room dining delivery and replaced with cut herbs
- » All departments are encouraged to print double sided when possible
- » To Go containers are made of recycled materials
- » All eWaste processed through Global NIS
- » Key Packets made of recycled paper

Waste Minimization

- » Automatic paper-towel dispensers in all back-of-the-house bathrooms
- » Replaced odor control products with a non-toxic & biodegradable alternative
- » Housekeeping uses micro fiber cleaning cloth to cut down the use of chemicals
- » Hilton Waterfront "Pet Beds" created out of damaged bed duvets
- » All coupons and vouchers are re-used and recycled when in good condition
- » Internal memoranda & reports are emailed vs. printed and distributed
- » Damaged linens and terry are donated to local charities

Miscellaneous

- » Preference given to product suppliers who provide and take back reusable packing/shipping pallets
- » Preference given to environmentally responsible service suppliers
- » Laundry vendor is LEED Certified
- » Coffee Purveyor is the first to be designated "Green"
- » In-room bottled water is a carbon neutral product
- » Green Committee [comprised of hotel staff representing all departments] meets regularly to develop eco-friendly operations and implementation of new initiatives
- » Eco Towels added to guest bath amenities
- » All lights and computer workstations are powered down at end of business
- » Biodegradable pet waste bags offered to guests with pets

Green Conferences

- » Left-over food is composted or donated to OC Second Harvest Food Bank
- » Individual temperature control in all meeting rooms
- » Eco-friendly materials & cleaning products
- » Double-sided printing on post-consumer recycled paper
- » Partnered with local waste disposal company to recycle our glad, plastic, aluminum, paper, cardboard & newspaper waste

The Waterfront Beach Resort, A Hilton Hotel

21100 Pacific Coast Highway | Huntington Beach, CA 92648 | Ph 714.845.8000 | Fax 714.845.8425 www.huntingtonbeach.hilton.com

Bolsa Chica Wetlands Tour

Monday, March 24, 2014 - 8:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

» \$35 additional fee applies



Get to know the wetlands on a private tour! AEP Conference attendees will get to experience the wetlands first hand during a guided nature hike and tour of the interpretive center. Coyotes, reptiles, and birds, oh my! There is always something exciting on the trails, and participants will get to see some of the diverse wildlife living at Bolsa Chica while

learning about wetlands and their importance worldwide. Issues specific to Bolsa Chica are covered. Topics include, but are not limited to, wetland ecology, plants and animals, adaptations, watersheds, and importance of wetland habitats for migration and flyways, flood control, pollution control, and endangered species.

- » Bring water for the hike.
- » Wear close-toed shoes, they are absolutely required to ensure safety.
- » Wear layered clothing/jackets. Weather changes quickly at the wetlands and can go from cool and foggy to hot and sunny within an hour.
- » Sunscreen/Hats/Sunglasses protection from the sun and harmful UV rays is important.
- » Bug Repellent- mosquitoes can be found here at the wetlands, so bringing insect repellent is advised.
- » You are welcome to bring cameras, binoculars, or anything else that helps them to get a closer look at nature.

Hunting, collecting, harming, harassing and killing of any animal, bird, reptile, nest, egg, insect, flower, or plant is strictly prohibited anywhere in Bolsa Chica (Harassment includes but is not limited to touching, chasing, feeding, prodding, or any other activity which may alter the animal's health or normal behavior. All collecting is prohibited; this includes egg shells, feathers, rocks, seashells, bones, skins, artifacts, and all other natural, historical, and biological materials.)

Newport Landing Whale Watching

Tuesday, March 25, 2014 - 3:00 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.

» \$35 additional fee applies





The reports are in! This is one of the best whale watching seasons in years! Newport Landing offers whale watching tours year around but we're in the transition period between the Gray and Blue Whale migrations, and we may see

both. Newport Landing is ideally positioned to take advantage of the annual Gray whale migration, which brings hundreds of Gray Whales along the Laguna Beach coastline and within minutes of Newport Harbor. May through November brings warmer waters and the chance to view blue whales to 80 feet, finback whales, huge pods of dolphin that number in the thousands, seals, killer whales, sharks, and many other marine creatures. We will be aboard the Nautilus, which has an indoor snack bar with beverages and munchies available for purchase.

A marine biologist will be on board to speak about the environmental concerns for the South Coast waters and to answer questions during the trip. The Nautilus also has both indoor and outdoor seating. View the whales from the top observation deck for great photo opportunities.

Spectacular views provide for the backdrop to a fun filled event. Don't forget your camera and field glasses, and sunscreen, hats, and sunglasses - protection from the sun and harmful UV rays is important.

The bus leaves the hotel for Newport Beach at 3:00 p.m. and our 2½-hour tour leaves the dock at 3:30 p.m. The bus will pick you up for the return trip at 6:00 p.m.







Welcome Keynote Monday, March 24

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM - Waterfront Ballroom

Aaron Klemm, CEM, LEED AP Energy Project Manager for the City of Huntington Beach

Monday Breakfast Keynote: "Sustainable Surf City – Huntington Beach's Journey"

This session will highlight Huntington Beach's sustainable programs and projects and future plans. Aaron joined the City of Huntington Beach in June of 2008 as the city's first Energy Project Manager. Aaron came to Huntington Beach from the CSU system where he was in the Chancellor's Office as the Energy Program Manager. Aaron has accomplished many goals in the short years he has been at the City. One of the larger projects is the solar panels atop parking lot carports at City Hall. The solar panels are at the City Yard and the Central Library saving the city money as well as being environmentally friendly. He has saved over \$750,000 in utility costs, installed 2.13 Megawatts of solar capacity and led the first Orange County city to reach Gold partner status with Southern California Gas Company's (SCE).

Aaron Klemm has over 15 years' experience in energy management and sustainability. He is a graduate of Prescott College with a Bachelor's degree in Sustainable Community Development and an MBA from CSU Long Beach. Aaron is SCE's 2010 energy efficiency champion (the only other winners are Ed Begley Jr. and Art Rosenfeld) and the Huntington Beach June 2011 Mayor's award.



Keynote Luncheon

Tuesday, March 25

11:45 AM – 1:00 PM – Waterfront Ballroom

Sponsored by **SWCA**

Charles Lester

Executive Director, California Coastal Commission

Tuesday Luncheon Keynote:

"Protecting California's Coast – the Next Forty Years"

Dr. Lester will discuss the first four decades of implementation of the California Coastal Act and challenges in coming decades, including the need to invest in climate change adaptation planning along California's coast.

Charles Lester is the fourth Executive Director to lead the California Coastal Commission since its creation in 1972. Prior to his appointment in September, 2011, Charles served as the Senior Deputy Director of the Commission, holding that position since 2006. He has been working at the Commission since 1997. Previously, Dr. Lester was an Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of Colorado, Boulder, teaching environmental law and policy, and focusing on public lands governance and coastal zone management.

Dr. Lester received his Ph.D. in Jurisprudence and Social Policy from the University of California at Berkeley. In addition, he earned his J.D. at Boalt Hall School of Law and a B.A. in Geochemistry from Columbia University.

Special Events

Sunday, March 23

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM - Poolside

Sponsored by **Bloom Biological, Inc.**

OPENING RECEPTION

Get reacquainted with your fellow AEP collegues for a beautiful poolside Sunset Reception overlooking the ocean. Food will be served.

Monday, March 24

12:15 PM - 1:30 PM - Waterfront Ballroom

Sponsored by **URS Corporation**

AEP AWARDS LUNCHEON

A key strategic goal of the Association of Environmental Professionals is to provide statewide recognition of environmental professionals' best works which contributes to the "enhancement, maintenance and protection of the quality of the natural and human environment." Each year AEP conducts an awards competition culminating in the Awards Luncheon at the annual AEP conference where we celebrate the best-of-the-best environmental documents, professional achievements, and services to environmental profession. Please join Roger Turner and Dev Vrat, AEP Awards Program Co-Chairs, in honoring this year's winners.

The Master of Ceremonies will be Lynda Halligan. Lynda has spent more than 14 years in broadcasting, including time with QVC, Fuse and the ReelzChannel. Most recently she worked as an anchor on the evening and morning news on KBAK TV (29) Bakersfield.

For more information, go to page 26.

Monday, March 24

6:00 PM - 9:30 PM - Driftwood Pavilion & Terrace

Sponsored by GHD, Inc.

AEP BEACH PARTY/SILENT AUCTION

A fun and festive evening under the stars complete with outdoor beach barbeque, entertainment and s'mores by the fire pit. The silent auction will benefit Orange County AEP Student Scholarships.

Tuesday, March 25

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM - Waterfront Ballroom

WINE AND CHEESE RECEPTION

This popular reception hosted by AEP is our way of thanking our sponsors, exhibitors and attendees for their support of the AEP Conference. Don't forget to stop by and visit with the exhibitors throughout the conference for a chance to win a prize.

Tuesday, March 25

9:00 PM - 11:30 PM - Pacific Ballroom



AEP JAM BAND

Environmental professionals by day, musicians by night....our very own AEP Jam Band is back by popular demand! The Jam Band is an AEP conference tradition established around fire pit at the Hyatt Newport Beach in 2005. Don't miss this fun night of dancing and singing to all your favorite tunes with your friends.

Monday Morning Introduction - Waterfront Ballroom

The CEQA Portal

California AEP is exploring the development of a web-based portal to provide access for practitioners and others to a variety of types of information related to CEQA. Using web-based technologies, the CEQA Portal would be designed for the user to easily access statutes, case law, simple explanations of concepts, example documents, agency guidance, and other CEQA-related information. The Portal would be updated regularly so the information would always remain current. The CEQA Portal would also provide a forum for professional discussions on hot topics.

The State AEP Board has authorized the formation of an Oversight Committee to prepare an overall design for the CEQA Portal, continue outreach to identify partner organizations and increase support, and develop an implementation plan. The Governor's Office of Planning and Research is providing staff support to this effort.

Craig Stevens, AEP Superior California Chapter, will present an overview of the CEQA Portal during the Welcome Breakfast on Monday. The purpose of this brief presentation will be to inform AEP members about the CEQA Portal, its potential benefits, the current status of work, and future plans. We also would like to get feedback from members about its design and content, and solicit more people to contribute.

Craig and Kent Norton will be available for further discussion on Monday morning following the presentation at the AEP booth.

Craig Stevens, Stevens Consulting

Craig Stevens founded Stevens Consulting, a firm specializing in environmental planning and compliance, in 2006, after serving for 16 years as a project director and project manager for a large environmental consulting firm. He brings 24 years of project management experience to assist clients in negotiating the often-complex legal and technical aspects of the environmental compliance process for water-related projects. Mr. Stevens has co-taught courses on CEQA compliance for staff of two state agencies, and co-authored the compliance document, "A Guide to Regulatory Compliance for Implementing CALFED Actions". He has served on the Board of Directors of the Superior California Chapter of the Association of Environmental Professionals for three years, and is currently leading the effort to develop the CEQA Portal, and on-line resource for CEQA practitioners and the general public.

12:15 PM - 1:30 PM - Waterfront Ballroom



Monday, March 24

2014 AEP Awards Luncheon Program

Roger Turner and Dev Vrat – AEP Awards Program Co-Chairs Linda Halligan – Master of Ceremonies

Sponsored by **URS** Corporation

A key strategic goal of the Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP) is to provide statewide recognition of environmental professionals' best works which contributes to the "enhancement, maintenance and protection of the quality of the natural and human environment." Each year AEP conducts an awards competition culminating in the Awards Luncheon at the annual AEP conference where we celebrate the best-of-the-best environmental documents, professional achievements, and services to environmental profession.



Award winners continually advance state-of-the-art environmental analysis and the presentation of this analysis to the public and to decisionmakers is attractive and public friendly format to display our professional value. Please join your professional colleagues in congratulating the 2014 AEP Award recipients as we review their achievements and distribute the prestigious Mountain Trophies and Certificates of Appreciation.

AEP wishes to express its sincere thanks to the volunteer AEP Awards Jury and to the URS Corporation, our Gold Sponsor, for their support and for the production of the videos highlighting this year's award winners.

Learn more about these winning projects and programs on AEP's website, www.califaep.org, and in upcoming articles in the Environmental Monitor.

Public Involvement / Education

MERIT AWARD Gaviota Coastal Trail and Access Study

Prepared by the Santa Barbara County Trails Council

Imagine biking or hiking continuously along California's scenic coastline without encountering long stretches of fenced off private property and no trespassing signs forcing you onto busy coastal highways. Today many stretches of the California coast are inaccessible because, in the past, local governments failed to consider the public's interest to protect and provide access to public coastal resources while accommodating for private development. In response, the citizens of California passed the 1972 Coastal Initiative, California Coastal Trail, with a 55% popular vote. The Coastal Initiative states, "A hiking, bicycle, and equestrian trails system shall be established along or near the coast" and that, "Ideally the trails system should be continuous and located near the shoreline." Despite this State law, it remains challenging to coordinate the myriad of government jurisdictions and private landowners to implement the voter approved initiative.

The largely pristine Gaviota Coast stretches 20 miles between the City of Goleta and Gaviota State Park. Like the rest of California, this beautiful public coastline is continually threatened by private development. The *Gaviota Coastal Trail and Access Study* was prepared by the non-profit Santa Barbara County Trails Council to ensure that the public interest in the protection and expansion of coastal trails, access, parks, open space, and recreation receives sufficient attention commensurate with the Gaviota Coast's statewide and national importance. The study provides a single source of information about existing coastal access and identifies opportunities and constraints for the completion of the voter approved California Coastal Trail.

The AEP Awards Jury found the *Gaviota Coastal Trail and Access Study* to provide a thorough inventory of resources for access to the Gaviota Coast in a well laid out report with excellent and informative graphics. The jury gave the study high marks for depth of detail and analysis (both qualitative and quantitative) and for publishing the results in a well-defined trails master plan. The jury was impressed how the study used a variety of media to maximize public outreach. The study is visually pleasing, with beautiful photos and figures and conveys technical analysis and key information in a public friendly format. The study is a good template for grassroots or citizen planners to inventory and describe community resources and establish a plan of action. This approach can be widely-employed by other non-profits, agencies, or advocacy groups throughout California. Well done!

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OUTSTANDING AWARDFossils in Your Backyard Program

Prepared for the Transportation Corridor Agencies
Prepared by the Transportation Corridor Agencies and LSA Associates, Inc.

Imagine you were living in Orange County one million years ago. Looking around, you see giant ground sloths, llamas, and tapirs feeding on plants and saber tooth cats preying on these larger animals. In fact, human beings first moved into Orange County just 10,000 years ago.

When the Transportation Corridors Agencies (TCA) was constructing the Toll Roads, scientists uncovered some 20,000 fossils, representing significant discoveries about Orange County's prehistoric past. These fossils represent moments frozen in time over a span of 90 million years and provide a near complete record of Orange County's prehistoric succession of life forms. These new discoveries include some rare and unusual fossils from both the land and sea.

Both CEQA and NEPA require that these finds be documented and curated at a qualified facility, and ultimately displayed in a museum. But since Orange County does not have a permanent museum, the general public, including local students, must travel out of Orange County if they want to see these artifacts.

The *Fossils in Your Backyard* program is a free public education and community outreach effort developed by the TCA in conjunction with LSA Associates, Inc. (LSA). For almost 15 years, the program has made these fossils accessible to K-12 school children and the community at large, who otherwise would not be able to explore this rich history. The program includes school classroom visits by paleontologists and archaeologists. It provides hands on instruction with actual fossils, encouraging dialog between students and teachers using the authentic local artifacts; and is an adaptive program that reinforces a state curriculum in science and social studies.

The AEP Awards Jury thought it was a great idea to take the *Fossils in your Backyard Program* to local schools. Mixing kids and dinosaurs – or at least the fossils of dinosaurs – has led to a great program which builds children's interest in science. The fact that hundreds of thousands of TCA dollars have been contributed to the program and that LSA has worked with TCA at a lowered billing rate says a lot about their commitment to this program. Linking the program with the state science curriculum was a smart move. The use of interactive exhibits and materials is wonderful and conveys this complex material at an elementary level suitable for a K-12 classroom environment. Based on the number of students that have participated in the program thus far, and the continued high demand for the program, the effectiveness of the program is significant. An outstanding program!

Environmental Resource Documents

MERIT AWARD City of Irvine CEQA Manual

Prepared for the City of Irvine
Prepared by PlaceWorks and Fehr & Peers

Imagine that you are a developer proposing an important new project in the City of Irvine. In a pre-application meeting, City planning staff informs you that City uses a tiered style of project analysis. You will be required to comply with federal, state, and regional regulations, as well as City policies and procedures guiding CEQA compliance. After your headache subsides, where do you begin?

PlaceWorks and Fehr & Peers created the City of Irvine CEQA Manual to be a "one-stop shop" for City of Irvine CEQA information that includes procedures, guidelines, thresholds, and methodology for both City staff and consultants. It was created with input from the developers, business owners, and representatives from almost every City department. The CEQA Guidelines include a step-by-step flow chart for complying with the City's unique CEQA requirements. The information needed for each step is detailed and referenced in each environmental topic chapter of the CEQA Guidelines. The CEQA Guidelines are designed to ensure the quality, accuracy, and completeness of environmental documents; provide a framework for consistent review of applicable projects; and establish a uniform approach for the City's environmental review process. The CEQA Manual is readily available on your office desktop at the City's website, www.cityofirvine.org.

The AEP Awards Jury found the City of Irvine CEQA Manual to be a good resource document for the planners and practitioners, but recommends that you also keep your latest AEP CEQA Handbook at hand to make sure you follow the letter of the law and CEQA Guidelines. The Irvine CEQA Manual is a good resource document for writing environmental settings and documenting existing conditions in the City. The graphics are informative and helpful. Volume I summarizes the CEQA Guidelines. Volumes II and III are also useful resources for references, regulations, examples of mitigation measures and standard conditions. The AEP Awards Jury found the CEQA Manual to be a helpful resource for permitting development projects in the City.

OUTSTANDING AWARD CEQA Deskbook, 3rd Edition

Prepared by Antero Rivasplata, Ronald Bass, and Kenneth Bogdan

As a junior CEQA practitioner you probably attended an AEP CEQA Basics seminar and as you advanced in your career you likely attended the annual AEP Advanced CEQA seminar and the annual AEP Conference. But what do you do when you are alone in your office and you need some professional CEQA guidance (prior to consulting with your land use attorney)?

As its name implies, the CEQA Deskbook is a CEQA reference written for a general professional audience. Since the first edition was published almost 20 years ago, the CEQA Deskbook has helped thousands of environmental professionals gain a better understanding of environmental impact assessment practices in California.

The 2013 edition of the CEQA Deskbook continues this tradition of excellence in environmental education. This third edition of the CEQA Deskbook contains new, improved, and updated materials written to help the reader understand the environmental review process. New sections address climate change and greenhouse gas impacts, CEQA streamlining for infill development, CEQA's effectiveness, and other new topics. Other contemporary topics include the use of thresholds of significance, determining the "baseline" for analysis, the many opportunities for tiering in environmental analyses, requirements for water supply analysis, and developing defensible mitigation measures.

The CEQA Deskbook guides the reader through the entire environmental review process from deciding whether a project is subject to the law, determining which type of document to prepare, and how CEQA is used in decision making. It also addresses environmental document content, preparation, and review. The text offers proven advice for complying with CEQA based on statutes, CEQA Guidelines, current case law, and practical experience.

The authors — Ron Bass, Ken Bogdan, and Antero Rivasplata — are all experienced CEQA practitioners who have devoted much of their careers to environmental education and sharing their expertise with their colleagues. The CEQA Deskbook is their latest contribution to the environmental profession.

The AEP Awards Jury found the CEQA Deskbook to be a very useful tool for experienced CEQA practitioners as well as professionals new to the public disclosure law. The information is presented in a way that minimizes planning jargon and translates a seemingly complex law and guidelines into an easily understood format. The book uses helpful flow charts, tables, and call out boxes that sums up or recaps complex or technical explanations. Side bars with simple explanations next to more detailed text description provide information to practitioners who need answers to process questions quickly and make finding the details easy. In addition to being a "how-to" manual for implementing CEQA, it also provides background, court cases, and explanations on how CEQA got to be what it is today. The NEPA discussion is effective and helpful (especially the comparison with CEQA), as so many projects these days involve joint documents.

The jury believes the CEQA Deskbook format could be adapted to describe a variety of regulatory programs with similar requirements and procedures. A must have reference book for anybody in our profession!

Environmental Analysis Documents

MERIT AWARD

Apple Campus 2 Project Environmental Impact Report

Prepared for the City of Cupertino Prepared by LSA Associates, Inc.

What would you do if you are working in the City of Cupertino Planning Department and a representative of Apple comes in and tells you that Apple proposes to develop a new 3.4 billion square foot Apple Campus corporate center in your backyard?

The Apple Campus 2 Project EIR, prepared by LSA, evaluates the environmental effects of one of the largest private development projects in the Bay Area. The project, currently under construction and still subject to intense scrutiny, is located on a 176-acre site that contains an older generation of technology company buildings, a creek originating in the Santa Cruz Mountains, and a historic barn dating from the early 1900's, when the City was just a farming town.

The EIR, certified in October 2013, is the culmination of a collaborative effort between LSA and City staff that spanned three years and involved innovative public outreach and involvement, including: a scoping session organized as a charrette; project website; an e-link subscription service for customizing one's consumption of project information; and the use of iPads, audio recorders, laptops, and postcards with a Quick Response (QR) code to facilitate comment on the Draft FIR.

The document, which features extensive use of informative graphics, and a detailed analysis of the issues of most interest to the public – including the transfer of a public roadway to the private realm, the tension between corporate security and public access, and the need for Apple employees to use alternative modes of transportation – was used to educate the public and decision makers about the project, and served as the foundation for a community benefits agreement between Apple and the City. Key themes in the analysis were picked up by media outlets and incorporated into reporting about the project, including articles in the Los Angeles Times about the security demands of the campus and urban density in a suburban environment. In addition, this Apple EIR is one of the first to be certified under Assembly Bill 900, the Jobs and Economic Improvement through Environmental Leadership Act of 2011.

The AEP Awards Jury found that in addition to the rigorous environmental analysis, the document provides a good introduction and summary with an easy to understand explanation of the full document. The AEP Awards Jury appreciated the footnoted references, eliminating the need to jump back and forth to reference chapters. The graphics in the document provide the reader with a good visual understanding of the existing setting and the proposed project. Excellent graphics are also provided in the resource chapters (i.e., a figure for tree retention, removal, and replacement). A very good EIR!

MERIT AWARD Palomar Gateway District Specific Plan Final Program Environmental Impact Report

Prepared for the City of Chula Vista, Development Services DepartmentPrepared by Atkins

The San Diego Association of Governments' (SANDAG) 2004 Regional Comprehensive Plan and the City of Chula Vista General Plan envision the southwestern portion of the City of Chula Vista in San Diego County as a smart growth center.

The Palomar Gateway District Specific Plan encompasses an approximately 100-grossacre area surrounding the Palomar Transit Station, at the intersection of Palomar Street and Industrial Boulevard. The vision for the Mixed Use Transit Focus Area includes higher intensity residential uses, as well as mixed use developments that offer a combination of pedestrian-friendly residential, office, and retail uses with strong linkages to the Palomar Transit Station. The Palomar Gateway District Specific Plan would accommodate an additional 1,300 residential units and 150,000 square feet of commercial development, including a Mixed Use Transit Focus Area surrounding the Palomar Transit Station. The Specific Plan included a mobility study outlining numerous opportunities to improve pedestrian, bicycle, and transit travel in the area. Key issues addressed in the EIR included traffic level of service standards and traffic hazards, impacts to sensitive biological resources, pressures on public services and utilities from increased population, and land use compatibility with existing and proposed residential uses related to noise from increased density and transportation noise sources. The Final PEIR, along with the Findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, were adopted by the City of Chula Vista City Council in August 2013.

The AEP Awards Jury found this document to be well supported with detailed studies-mobility, WSA, sewer study, and hazards. The executive summary is easy to follow and includes graphic summary comparison tables for impacts. The introduction provides a table including CEQA Guidelines and references for all topics. An extensive public involvement program for the specific plan was clearly described in the project description. The EIR incorporates the Mobility Plan, a good tool in evaluating all modes of transportation, into the impacts discussion. Impact discussions are rigorous and include good summary and mitigation information at the end of each resource topic. The graphics are clear and contribute to an understanding of discussions. The AEP Awards Jury also liked the side-by-side response to comments and comment letter. A very good Program EIR!

MERIT AWARD Cordes Ranch Specific Plan Environmental Impact Report

Prepared by the City of Tracy and PlaceWorks

Imagine you work for the City of Tracy Development Services Department. You are faced with preparing an EIR for the Cordes Ranch Specific Plan. In addition to paying attention to the scale of the project you must also evaluate implementation of a series of infrastructure master plans prepared by the City within the Specific Plan area.

The Cordes Ranch Specific Plan EIR was prepared in 2013 to assess the potential environmental effects of developing 30.8 million square feet of business park industrial uses on 1,780 acres of underutilized agricultural land in unincorporated San Joaquin County, adjacent to the City of Tracy. The main issues included the conversion of agricultural land, increase in traffic, utilities, hazards from energy transmission lines, air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, noise, and biological resources. The Draft EIR was released for public review in April 2013 and the FEIR was certified six months later in September.

The AEP Awards Jury was impressed by the huge geographic scope of the project. There were an extensive set of issues to analyze and the EIR did a great job of tying everything together. A very good EIR!

OUTSTANDING AWARD California State Parks Road and Trail Change-in-Use Evaluation Process Program Environmental Impact Report

Prepared by California Department of Parks and Recreation With Assistance by Ascent Environmental, Inc.

Assume you are working for the California State Department of Parks and Recreation. You have a dual mission to protect California resources and also to create high-quality outdoor recreation opportunities for residents and visitors. You have been faced with repetitious requests for changes-in-use for existing roads and trails in your parks all over the state. Each of the requests requires the preparation of an EIR to evaluate the request. As efficiency, consistency, sound resource stewardship are all important attributes of effective environmental review at California State Parks, what do you do?

Change-in-use proposals consist of the addition of an authorized recreational use to a road or trail, or the removal of an existing use. Because of its growing popularity, individual proposals frequently seek to add this mountain biking use. Within each park the proposed changes in use became contentious, because of long standing issues among trail user groups (hikers, equestrians and now mountain bike riders) trail use conflicts and perceived environmental impacts grew. Within individual project reviews concerns about the potential for trail use conflicts, a non-CEQA, social issue, were being raised by trail user groups. Because of the contentious nature of the trail use conflict concern, the CEQA processes for individual change-in-use proposals became increasingly scrutinized, and in some cases controversial. While not an environmental impact issue, it was still essential for the Department of Parks and Recreation to discuss it thoroughly in the EIRs, because of its importance to park and trail managers.

Because the same environmental issues were repeatedly emerging during the individual reviews of change-in-use proposals, the Department of Parks and Recreation decided to take an innovative approach to CEQA compliance. The Department of Parks and Recreation saw the opportunity to address the issues in a more comprehensive and effective manner by conducting a statewide programmatic environmental analysis and formulating standard requirements for environmental protection. The common statewide issues included soil erosion, water quality, native habitats, cultural resources, and sensitive wildlife species. In addition, variations in environmental evaluations conducted in different park units were understandably occurring, because the proposals were submitted in a similar time frame in several different districts across California. A programmatic environmental review approach provided the opportunity to ensure consistent, high-quality analysis across the State.

To address the potential for trail use conflicts, the Department of Parks and Recreation prepared a comprehensive analysis as a separate appendix outside of the impact chapters. The Program EIR included an exhaustive, statewide evaluation of this important social issue, and offered information to the Department of Parks and Recreation decision-makers about the best management responses for change-in-use proposals.

Innovative approaches and benefits of the Department of Parks and Recreation's Road and Trail Change-In-Use Evaluation Process Program EIR include the following:

- » Because the State Park System covers all of California, a statewide environmental evaluation was necessary. To organize data, the Program EIR uses ecoregions and geomorphic provinces to ensure thorough analysis of the variations in resources characteristics across California.
- » Based on an evaluation of national scientific research and management procedures, standard environmentally protective requirements were development to prevent and/or mitigate soil erosion, stream sedimentation, biological, cultural resources, and water quality impacts which are the most frequently raised environmental impact issues related to road and trail change-in-use proposals.

- » These project requirements are embedded in the road and trail change-in-use evaluation process, which makes their consideration and implementation (when relevant) mandatory to qualify for use of the Program EIR for streamlined CEQA compliance.
- » By offering the standardized evaluation process, environmentally protective requirements, and Program EIR analysis to the District Superintendents around California, local park personnel can rely on this comprehensive approach, backed by the substantial evidence in the EIR, to efficiently and effectively review and act on the change-in-use proposals wherever they are located in the State Park System.
- » The Program EIR provided a comprehensive and consistent evaluation approach, including cumulative impacts that apply to an entire category of project approvals, while creating the opportunity for substantial CEQA streamlining of qualifying projects that are within the scope of the program and Program EIR.

With the Program EIR now in place, the Department of Parks and Recreation can achieve their goals of consistent environmental review across California and effective stewardship of sensitive resources, while gaining the cost- and time- saving benefits of CEQA streamlining for later activities consistent with the change-in-use evaluation program and its EIR.

The AEP Awards Jury found that the Program EIR uses a unique methodology: effectively implementing action guidelines of the California Recreational Trails Program to provide "a public process, coupled with scientific data and documentation, for determining use groups appropriate for trails within State Parks" and to allow "user groups to help land managers make informed decisions regarding trail designation and design." The AEP Awards Jury was also impressed by the use of USFS EcoRegions to organize the biological impacts analysis. The Project Description clearly identifies existing plans and practices related to trails planning, management, and maintenance. The EIR lists standard project requirements (SPRs) according to resource topic area. SPRs are part of the criteria used to qualify a change-in-use proposal for approval under the process. The Program EIR provides flow charts as aids in understanding the sequence of actions required for changein-use proposals. The impacts discussions are concise with each impact numbered, a short summary statement with conclusion, a more detailed description and reason for conclusion. If mitigation is required, it is also numbered to correspond to impact number - this makes it easy to refer back to impact discussion and match it with the necessary mitigation measure. Congratulations! An outstanding Program EIR!

AEP Chapter Activity

OUTSTANDING AWARD AEP Eastern Slope Conference

AEP Central Chapter Prepared by the AEP Central Chapter Board of Directors

Assume you are on the Board of Directors of the Central Chapter of AEP. Your chapter is fairly remote from the urban centers where AEP typically provides CEQA Basics seminars and Advanced CEQA seminars. It is important for you to provide high quality services to your AEP members and other agency planners and environmental practitioners in your chapter. What do you do?

Because AEP events, workshops, and conferences are hours away from these professionals, AEP's Central Chapter created a mini conference to reach out to AEP members and environmental professionals on the eastern side of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The mini conference was well attended by professionals from the Mammoth Lakes area as well as from other areas of the state. The mini conference was held at the Westin Monache Resort in Mammoth Lakes and included a half-day workshop on CEQA basics, a half day workshop on NEPA, and a half day workshop on Advanced CEQA. An Opening Reception featured Jim Reed from Liebersbach, Mohun, Carney & Reed, a key player in the *Friends of Mammoth v. Board of Supervisors* case. He spoke about "The Genesis of CEQA." Patrick Hayes from Mammoth Community Water District was the Keynote Speaker. He spoke about the Mammoth Community Water District/Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's Settlement Agreement and the Casa Diablo IV Geothermal Expansion Project.

The mini conference included ample time for professionals to network and get to know each other. After the opening reception attendees were invited to the Side Door Restaurant for a relaxing evening of appetizers, drinks, and socializing. The next evening attendees met at Nevados Restaurant for dinner and more socializing. For those that wanted to stay at Mammoth Lakes for a little longer, AEP's President Gene Talmadge led a mobile workshop on Fly Fishing the Owens River.

The AEP Awards Jury says, Kudos! It's a great idea to have a two day mini conference in the remote location to introduce new planners to AEP. It is also a great model for other rural chapters to make CEQA training more accessible to non AEP members in similarly underserved areas in California. The conference program was informative and provided a great background for conference attendees. The conference presentations were both clear and thorough. The opening reception and keynote speakers were well selected to provide context and background on history of CEQA. It was nice to hear that several non-AEP people who attended decided to join AEP after the mini conference. This mini conference model is highly transferable to other remote areas in California. Outstanding!

AEP Certificate Of Appreciation

Bill Halligan, Esq., PlaceWorks

Bill Halligan has been an active member of AEP for many years. Beginning in 1990, Bill joined AEP to meet other people in our industry and to learn. He stayed involved because he feels a sense of duty to give back to the profession. He also enjoys the opportunities AEP provides to educate young professionals.

Bill served as the Orange County Chapter Newsletter Editor to get his feet wet as a volunteer. Throughout the early 2000s, Bill grew in his service with the Orange Chapter as Chapter President, Chapter Director, and Legislative Review Committee Member. He was Chair of the 2006 AEP State Conference in Newport Beach. He has served numerous times as a CEQA Workshop Panelist and Moderator. For the past four years, ending service in 2013, he served as Executive Vice President on the AEP State Board. Bill chaired the Legislative Review Committee and the Permanent Conference Committee providing his leadership in challenging times with legislators constantly tinkering with CEQA. He is also a member of the infamous AEP Jam Band, where he rocks playing guitar. For the time being he is taking a break from the AEP leadership to focus his attention on his twin girls, Paige and Taylor who were born in 2013, and enjoy his wonderful wife Michelle!



Day at the Beach with Paige and Taylor.



Downtime with Scott Morgan.



Rockin' Bill!!

AEP AWARDS PROGRAM CO-CHAIRS

Dev Vrat, AICP
Faculty
Urban Studies and Planning Department
California State University Northridge

Roger TurnerRoger Turner & Associates, Inc.
Riverside, CA

AEP 2014 AWARDS JURY

Dev Vrat, AICP, Jury Chair Faculty, Urban Studies and Planning Department California State University Northridge

Ricky Caperton, Project Planner PlaceWorks, Berkeley, CA

Stephanie S. Oslick, MS, AICP, Orange Office Environmental Manager Parsons Brinckherhoff, Orange, CA

Antoinette Romero, Planner III County of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department

Adam Rush, Director of Planning CASC Engineering and Consulting, Colton, CA

Honey L. Walters, Principal, Senior Air Quality and Climate Change Specialist Ascent Environmental, Inc., Sacramento, CA

AEP appreciates the weeks of document review, completion of rating forms, mid-week conference calls, and consensus evaluation provided by the all volunteer jury.

AEP Awards Program Photographer Melodi McGee, Holy Shoot Photography



AEP Awards Program Gold Sponsor



1:30 PM - 4:30 PM - Special Workshop (Pacific Ballroom B)

» \$75 additional fee applies

Workshop

Air Quality for Dummies

CM | 3

This professional development workshop demystifies air quality and greenhouse gas analyses for the CEQA practitioner. The presentations are designed to provide an understanding of the science of air quality and greenhouse gases and the implications that projects have on climate change. The presenters simplify the technical details by providing a succinct description of potential impacts and how they can be evaluated. While the presentations are intended to help the CEQA practitioner understand the technical aspects of air quality and greenhouse gas analyses, they stay focused on integrating the science with CEQA requirements and center on what the general practitioner needs to know. This training opportunity addresses four elements of air quality and climate change analysis: science; analyses; mitigation; and adaptation. Our speakers will review the concepts of scoping air quality analyses and the decision-making process to determine what level of analysis is required for a particular project. We will discuss how an air quality or climate change analysis can tier from a qualified cumulative mitigation plan such as a climate action plan and what constitutes "qualified." We will also discuss how the project manager interprets the findings provided by air quality specialists, and how these findings apply to the CEQA Checklist and thresholds of significance. Our presenters will also provide insight on and examples of mitigation measures for potential impacts from various project sources (construction operation), as well as on incorporating adaptation into the project design. Specific presentations cover various aspects of CEQA-compliant Climate Action Plans, including defensible GHG reduction targets, the importance of baseline, and if, when, what, and how to model.

Moderator/Panelist:

- » Nicole Vermilion Manager, Air Quality & Greenhouse Gas Services, PlaceWorks (formerly The Planning Center | DC&E)
- » Rich Walters Principal, ICF International
- » Tammy Seale Sustainability and Climate Services Manager, PMC
- » Michael Hendrix Project Director of Air Quality and Climate Change Services, Atkins North America
- » Michael Krause CEQA Program Supervisor, SCAQMD

Speaker Biographies:

Nicole Vermilion, Manager, Air Quality & Greenhouse Gas Services, PlaceWorks

Nicole is an air quality and GHG specialist as it relates to CEQA, AB32, and SB375. She closely follows the changing CEQA thresholds and methodology. Nicole has performed

numerous GHG inventories for individual projects, including the Irvine Business Complex, The Ontario Plan, and Town of Los Gatos Sustainability Plan.

Rich Walters, Principal, ICF International

Rich Walter is the co-leader of ICF's municipal climate change planning practice in California. His practice includes advising municipal and private clients on the development of policies dealing with climate change plans, regional transportation plans, and NEPA/CEQA analysis of climate change impacts.

Tammy Seale, Sustainability and Climate Services Manager, PMC

Tammy manages PMC's Sustainability and Climate Change Services Team and is an expert in sustainability, climate action planning, and conservation planning. She oversees preparation of environmental analyses and GHG inventories, including San Luis Obispo County's EnergyWise Plan; Novato's Climate Change Action Plan; and Palmdale's Energy Action Plan.

Michael Hendrix, Project Director of Air Quality and Climate Change Services, Atkins North America

Michael the director of air quality and climate change at Atkins with over 16 years of experience in air quality modeling, GHG emissions inventories, climate action plans, health risk and air quality analysis. He is the Chair of the AEP Climate Change Committee and is on the GHG Thresholds Technical Review Committee for SCAQMD.

Michael Krause, CEQA Program Supervisor, SCAQMD

Currently a Program Supervisor at the SCAQMD, Mr. Krause oversaw the development of the new California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod), the 2012 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP), GHG Significance Thresholds for residential and commercial sources, SCAQMD's Air Quality Analysis Handbook and Policy Guidance Document, and is looking forward to adopting annual CEQA significance thresholds in the near future.

1:30 PM - 4:30 PM - Special Workshop (Pacific Ballroom A)

» \$75 additional fee applies

Workshop

NEPA Nuts & Bolts

CM I 3

The NEPA Workshop is a "Nuts & Bolts" training presenting two important practicing tips: Alternatives Analyses and Preparing Joint NEPA/CEQA Documents. Our speakers walk you through the process of developing the range of alternatives for a project and the analytical methodology process developed to select the preferred NEPA preferred alternative. If you want to know what is a 'reasonable' alternative, how the alternatives analysis process differs between NEPA and CEQA, or what happens when the NEPA

preferred alternative differs from the CEQA preferred action, we have answers! We will also offer recommendations on the preparation of joint documents, such as a combined EIR/EIS or MND/EA. The workshop covers the differing NEPA/CEQA definitions of baseline that may affect the impacts analyses, and the different requirements utilized to analyze environmental justice issues and growth inducing impacts. Our session will also cover recent data that reveals the range in timeframes and costs for completion of the CEQA and/or NEPA process by different jurisdictions, by different project type, and by project proponent (i.e., private versus public). We are seeking MCLE and AICP continuing education credits for this workshop.

Moderator/Panelist:

- » Roger Turner President, Turner & Associates, Inc.
- » Laurie McClenahan Hietter Principal, Panorama Environmental, Inc.
- » Andrew Bell, Esq.
- » Amanda K. Olekszulin Principal, Ascent Environmental, Inc.

Speaker Biographies:

Roger Turner, President, Turner & Associates, Inc.

Roger is President of Roger Turner & Associates, Inc., a consulting firm specializing in environmental planning, water resource planning and management, storm water permitting, government relations, and regulatory permitting and compliance services. Mr. Turner specializes in water resource planning and management for water supply programs and projects. CEQA and NEPA compliance are included in his practice.

Mr. Turner is the NAEP Liaison on the Executive Board of the Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP). He is the past Executive Vice President of the AEP, AEP Awards Chair, Past President of the Inland Empire Association of Environmental Professionals; Past Chair SARDA; Past Chair of SCAP Water Committee, Associate Member of A.I.C.P.; Charter Board Member of Inland Empire Section American Planning Association; and Guest lecturer at University of California. Riverside.

Laurie McClenahan Hietter, Principal, Panorama Environmental, Inc.

Laurie has over 30 years of experience analyzing the environmental effects and permitting energy and infrastructure projects throughout the west. She began her career at the US Geological Survey and founded MHA Environmental Consulting, Inc. in 1983. MHA was acquired in 2007 by RMT, Inc., and Laurie founded Panorama Environmental, Inc. with Tania Treis in 2011.

In addition to directing National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance, Laurie has focused on assisting developers to identify and address environmental issues early in design to define projects that are easier to permit. She has broad experience in renewable energy permitting (geothermal, wind, solar) and also has extensive experience permitting projects for utilities, the

California Public Utilities Commission, water districts, and private developers for projects including transmission lines; water, gas and oil pipelines; underground gas storage, power plants, and other infrastructure projects. As an invited speaker, Laurie has taught courses on the environmental permitting process and impact analysis for the Association of Environmental Professionals, Geothermal Energy Association, Geothermal Resources Council, the International Geothermal Association, National Geothermal Collaborative, U.S. and Kenya government agency staff, and private developers. Laurie has authored Public Outreach publications for the National Geothermal Collaborative and the California Geothermal Collaborative. Laurie holds a BS in Geology from San Jose State University.

Andrew Bell, Esq.

Andrew has advised developers, investors, and trade organizations in the application of land use and natural resources laws to more than one hundred real estate development and renewable energy projects. He represents clients before local, state and federal regulatory officials on a daily basis.

Andrew's real estate development practice focuses on the environmental impact review and permitting of large-scale retail, commercial and residential development projects throughout California. Much of this work involves designing and implementing creative entitlement strategies that meet the client's objectives in the most legally defensible manner possible. His renewable energy work focuses on utility-scale wind and solar projects on private lands in California and on federal public lands in the western United States. Legal advice regarding land use entitlements, environmental impact reviews and endangered species constitutes the core of his practice. Because of the ever-changing nature of the renewable energy regulatory environment, he also frequently represents developers and renewable energy trade organizations at the policy level.

Amanda K. Olekszulin, Principal, Ascent Environmental, Inc.

Amanda is a principal with Ascent Environmental and has 15 years of professional experience in environmental and community planning. She a diverse background in environmental planning and specializes in the management of complex and controversial projects, including brownfield redevelopments, master planned communities, prisons, water resources development, wastewater treatment plants, waterfront developments, and other public infrastructure projects. She has broad marketplace recognition for CEQA and NEPA document leadership and management accomplishments. Amanda has also provided managed or directed several on-call technical services contracts for clients including the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, California Department of General Services – Real Estate Services Division, and the City of Tracy. In the execution of these contracts, Amanda oversaw and managed staff during the performance of CEQA/NEPA documents, mitigation monitoring, and permit acquisition. Her experience includes:

» Directed EIRs for several State agencies, including the California Department of General Services (DGS), California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, California Highway Patrol, California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), and California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR).

- » Prepared CEQA documentation for important water supply projects including EIRs for the Zone 40 Water Supply Master Plan and Sacramento Area Water Forum Agreement in Sacramento County.
- » Managed open space planning and CEQA compliance on several projects in Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties.
- » Teaches CEQA courses for AEP, UC Davis, California State Parks, and California Local Agency Formation Commission.

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM - Session Block 1 (Pacific Ballroom B)

CEQA/NEPA

CEQA Analyses in Highly Variable Human Environments

CM | 1.5

CEQA analyses are frequently undertaken for projects located in areas where the human environment is highly variable, such as ski resorts, coastal communities, "college towns", and many rural mountain communities. The human population in these areas may double, triple, or more during active periods; as well as having extreme peaks during special-events or holiday weekends. These conditions can raise numerous questions for a CEQA analysis such as:

- » Should there be a separate baseline and analysis for low activity and high activity periods? For example, ambient noise baseline may be substantially quieter during low activity periods.
- » Can analysis of topics such as public services and utilities demand be based on annual averages, or must data be collected on peak demand and analyses focus on this metric? For example, must a law enforcement agency in rural locations meet officer per population targets during short and infrequent peak event periods?
- » Must significance criteria and mitigation be based on conditions during peak periods that may only occur a few days a year, or may infrequent and intermittent exceedances of significance criteria be acceptable? For example, must an intersection be designed to perform at a particular LOS during peak traffic that may only occur a handful of days each year?

In the presentation Mr. Bechta will identify the challenges associated with conducting CEQA analyses in highly variable human environments, providing real world examples from various locations in California, and provide various options for addressing these challenges. Participants will leave having a better understanding of questions to ask when evaluating projects and actions in these variable environments and possible approaches to completing CEQA analyses under these conditions.

Moderator/Panelist:

» Sean Bechta – Senior Project Manager, Ascent Environmental, Inc.

Speaker Biography:

Sean Bechta, Senior Project Manager, Ascent Environmental, Inc.

Sean Bechta prepares and manages environmental studies to satisfy California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Endangered Species Act (ESA), and other environmental permitting requirements. In his 22 years of consulting, he has managed hundreds of compliance documents; permit applications; and technical reports for flood control, telecommunications, energy, military, land use planning, and development projects. Sean integrates knowledge of the impact review process, agency permitting, and the construction process to assist clients in implementing their objectives. He regularly provides training and workshops on CEQA and environmental review topics

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM - Session Block 1 (Dolphin Room)

Natural Resources

Analyzing Sacred Sites and Cultural Landscapes under CEQA

CM | 1.5

This panel will explore how ethnographic studies and archaeological data can be analyzed to determine if projects have the potential to impact sites that may be of cultural importance to Native Americans.

Using extensive field research and knowledge of Native American cultural practices, the panel will discuss the development of criteria that sites can be evaluated and assess their ethnographic significance for their religious value and for their traditional use value.

How should this criteria work within current CEQA processes and meet the needs of SB 18 and can it help to reduce impacts to sites of ethnographic significance to Native Americans?

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Brian Mooney, AICP (Moderator) Owner, Mooney Planning Collaborative and Principal in Charge for the County of Imperial Alternative Energy Element
- » Richard Carrico, M.A.
- » Gena Granger, M.A.
- » Abel Silvas Native American Representative, Juaneño Band of Mission Indians

Brian F. Mooney, AICP

Mr. Mooney has over 35 years of professional experience specializing in planning, public outreach, environmental analysis, research, and development of public policy. His extensive experience includes preparation, coordination, and completion of comprehensive urban and rural master plans for counties, cities, towns, special districts, and tribal governments. Mr. Mooney's experience also includes leading California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents such as environmental impact reports (EIRs) and environmental impact statements (EISs), preparing General Plans, Specific Plans and Master Plans and implementing codes and ordinances for such plans.

Richard Carrico, M.A.

Mr. Carrico currently serves on the Advisory Board for the Ramona Historic Society, has served as the Southern Vice President for the Society for California Archaeology, was an elected member of the Ramona Community Planning Group, and has served as an advisor to several local Indian tribes and environmental advocacy groups. In the last twenty years he has presented more than fifty highly regarded papers at a variety of venues including the meetings of the Society for American Archaeology, the American Anthropological Society, the Society for California Archaeology, and the Instituto Nacional de Antropologia e Historia in Baja California and Mexico City.

Gena Granger, M.A., RPA

During the course of the past 12 years, Ms. Granger has worked as a field archaeologist, grading monitor, pedestrian surveyor, field technician, osteology lab technician, sorting lab technician and manager, artifact curation technician, and photo archivist. She has worked professionally in cultural resource management since 2006. Ms. Granger has experience with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); the Native American Graves Protection Act (NAGPRA); management, treatment, and mitigation plans; National Register nominations; HABS/HAER forms, and National Landmark forms. She has worked for various archeological organizations including: the Jack and Marilyn Sweeney Granite Mountains Research Institute and BLM Mojave Desert, CA; the PaleoCultural Research Group and the Elden Pueblo site (Flagstaff, AZ); the El Baul, Cotzumulguapa site (Guatemala) in association with California State University, Long Beach and the Universidad Francisco Marroquin; and the Sanisera Summer Archaeological Field School (Minorca, Spain) as a field archeologist and lab technician.

Abel Silvas, Juaneño Band of Mission Indians

Active in the Native American community, Mr. Silvas was appointed to the Tribal Council of the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians and serves as their Native American Archaeologist Monitor, as required by the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). He was appointed to the Mayor's American Indian Advisory Committee for the City of San Diego, attending regular meetings and providing consultations. Committed to the historical research and communication.

8:45 AM - 11:45 AM - Mobile Workshop 1 (Bolsa Chica Nature Walk)

- » \$35 additional fee applies
- » Meet in the lobby 15 minutes prior to departure

Mobile Workshop #1

Bolsa Chica Wetlands Tour

Get to know the wetlands on a private tour! AEP Conference attendees will get to experience the wetlands first hand during a guided nature hike and tour of the interpretive center. Coyotes, reptiles, and birds, oh my! There is always something exciting on the trails, and participants will get to see some of the diverse wildlife living at Bolsa Chica while learning about wetlands and their importance worldwide. Issues specific to Bolsa Chica are covered. Topics include, but are not limited to, wetland ecology, plants and animals, adaptations, watersheds, and importance of wetland habitats for migration and flyways, flood control, pollution control, and endangered species.

- » Bring water for the hike.
- » Wear close-toed shoes, they are absolutely required to ensure safety.
- » Wear layered clothing/jackets. Weather changes quickly at the wetlands and can go from cool and foggy to hot and sunny within an hour.
- » Sunscreen/Hats/Sunglasses- protection from the sun and harmful UV rays is important.
- » Bug Repellent- mosquitoes can be found here at the wetlands, so bringing insect repellent is advised.

You are welcome to bring cameras, binoculars, or anything else that helps to get a closer look at nature.

The bus leaves the hotel for Bolsa Chica at 8:45 a.m. and will pick us up at 11:30 a.m. Please meet in the lobby 15 minutes prior to departure.

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM - Session Block 2 (Pacific Ballroom B)

CEQA/NEPA

Reconsidering Level of Service Outside of Transit Priority Areas

CM | 1.5

The panel involves four confirmed transportation professionals to discuss alternative metrics for level of service outside of transit priority areas. As SB 743 does not preclude jurisdictions from developing their own metrics, the discussion will focus on how jurisdictions can proceed ahead of the anticipated guidance from OPR and present approaches for adopting local thresholds of significance to replace traditional level of service.

The panel includes Ron Milam, principal-in-charge of technical development at Fehr & Peers, who has devoted a significant portion of his career to reconsidering LOS. He will provide the overall framework for the panel discussion and will share his innovative transportation planning ideas and concepts related to LOS. Two local government transportation planners (Frederick C. Dock, Director of Transportation, City of Pasadena, and Bryan Jones, Deputy Transportation Director, City of Carlsbad) will provide their observations of how transportation planning has evolved and the need for new metrics as a result of changing attitudes and community values towards traffic. Mr. Dock and Mr. Jones will address how they are implementing alternative metrics for LOS in their communities, the process for change, and key ingredients for success. Lastly, the panel will include Terry Watt, a CEQA attorney who has worked as a consultant with OPR. Her participation on the panel will focus on understanding state versus local objectives and some of the challenges that alternative metrics outside of transit priority areas can have with regard to achieving state goals related to greenhouse gas emissions, multi-modal transportation development, and diversification of land uses.

The session will inform environmental planning professionals interested in transportation beyond SB 743, and how alternatives metrics to LOS can promote quality human environments. Audience participation will involve a Q&A period and participants should gain an understanding of how they can be pioneers in transportation planning.

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Aaron Brownwood (Moderator) Senior Environmental Planner, Project Manager with ICF
- » Ron Milam Principal-in-Charge of Technical Development at Fehr & Peers
- » Frederick C. Dock Director of Transportation, City of Pasadena
- » Bryan Jones Deputy Transportation Director, City of Carlsbad
- » Terry Watt CEQA attorney, consultant with OPR

Speaker Biographies:

Aaron Brownwood, Senior Environmental Planner, Project Manager with ICF

Aaron Brownwood is a Senior Environmental Planner and Project Manager with ICF. Primarily a CEQA generalist, Mr. Brownwood's career at ICF has been in constant evolution. His career began with writing and designing General Plan updates and Specific Plans, then serving as adjunct staff for public agencies before managing CEQA documents and technical study preparation. Aaron is an expert on aesthetics and visual analysis, as well as transportation and traffic analysis, and continues to expand his subject matter expertise by working with technical specialists at ICF. Mr. Brownwood actively follows CEQA legislation and court cases and identifies ways clients can address changes to preparing environmental analysis. Aaron is an avid gardener and musician and holds a bachelor's degree in City and Regional Planning from California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo (2005). He is an AEP Member in San Diego.

Ron Milam, Principal-in-Charge of Technical Development, Fehr & Peers

Ron Milam, AICP, PTP is the principal-in charge of technical development (and challenging the status quo) for Fehr & Peers. His innovative work includes a wide variety of transportation planning, forecasting, and traffic operations projects. LOS is one of his favorite planning topics having presented and written on the subject since 1998.

During his 20+ years of professional work, he has completed a wide variety of projects throughout the western U.S ranging from federal and state guidance to local impact or circulation plans. His work includes consulting, research, and expert panel/witness testimony. Some examples of Ron's work includes:

- » LOS Gets a Failing Grade (iBook), iTunes.
- » Handbook for Estimating Transportation Greenhouse Gases for Integration into the Planning Process, FHWA;
- » Transportation Analysis Report Annotated Outline and Guidelines, Caltrans;
- » FHWA expert panel for the White House Area Transportation Study;
- » Advisory committee for Caltrans' "Assessment of Local Models and Tools for Analyzing Smart-Growth Strategies";
- » California CTC working groups on travel modeling guidelines for Regional Transportation Plans under AB32 and SB 375; and
- » OPR technical committee developing SB 226 performance measures.

In addition to Ron's work experience he has also published over 20 professional papers and is the lead instructor for the U.C. Davis Extension Program's – *The Intersection Between Transportation and Land Use*.

Frederick C. Dock, Director of Transportation, City of Pasadena

Mr. Dock is currently the Director of the Department of Transportation for the City of Pasadena and is responsible for a staff of 45 that plans and operates the City's transportation system and provides direction for both long and short range planning for the city's transit, pedestrian, bicycle, traffic and parking systems. Since 1977, Mr. Dock has focused on advancing the understanding of transportation in community planning and design. His work as Transportation Director for the City of Pasadena, his accomplishments as a long-time consultant and his contributions to the profession through writing, research and committee work have influenced communities across North America working to advance their sustainability goals through action around transportation planning, design and system management. Mr. Dock's multi-disciplinary, collaborative approach to transportation planning has been instrumental in facilitating his ability to unravel complex urban relationships and achieve consensus on projects that range from walkable streets to entire communities. Mr. Dock's expertise is in transportation planning for urbanized areas with an emphasis on community livability and sustainability. His professional practice has evolved over several stages:

- » Transportation Impact Analysis and Mitigation Programs An early emphasis on understanding the regional effects of development patterns on transportation systems, during which he developed sketch planning models to address multimodal transportation analysis needs
- » Transit-oriented Development and Urban Design A large portion of his career focused on the effects of transportation on urban form, particularly at infill and refill mixed-use centers and in suburban transit-oriented development, where he developed analytical tools to address community connectivity and transit readiness
- » Complete Streets- A later emphasis committed to reorienting urban street design to support walkable communities by integrating urban form and street function during which he contributed to award-winning form-based codes and co-authored a national standard on walkable street design
- » Integration of Comprehensive Plans and Implementation Strategies A current focus on the implementation tools necessary to achieve livable and sustainable communities exemplified by his work in Pasadena, CA where he is leading efforts to develop new performance metrics that address the multi-modal role of streets, is implementing a program of Complete Streets and continuing to reinforce a successful park once strategy in support of the goal of being able to move about the city without needing a car.

Mr. Dock earned the degree of Master of Science in Civil Engineering at the University of California, Berkeley (1977), in the Institute of Transportation Studies. He holds the degree of Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley (1976) and is a member of Chi Epsilon. He is a Fellow of the Institute of Transportation Engineers and is currently serving on ITE's Management and Operations Council Executive Committee, the Transportation Research Board's ABE30 Big Cities Committee and ASTM's E60 Committee on Sustainability.

Bryan Jones, TE, PTP, AICP, Deputy Transportation Director, City of Carlsbad

Bryan is the Deputy Transportation Director for the City of Carlsbad, where he is leading a cultural transformation to align transportation decisions, projects, and programs with community values. Mobility is more about connecting people rather than just collecting cars. The Transportation Department team is focusing on implementing complete and livable streets and making ordinary projects "extraordinary" by challenging the status quo. They are doing this by focusing on the "why" and changing the language, conversations, and as a result the culture. Many projects require inter-department collaboration and working with the private sector to build relationships that produce results. In the past couple years, Carlsbad has quickly become a leader in the implementation of livable streets with nearly two dozen projects implemented. Bryan focuses on connecting and moving people on many different levels from transportation to planning to leadership.

The Transportation Department was recognized as Agency of the Year by the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) and their plans and projects have won multiple awards from professional organizations. In 2012, Bryan was appointed by Caltrans as one of first two

voting members to serve on the California Traffic Control Devices Committee to represent bicyclists, pedestrians and transit user issues. Bryan is a registered Traffic Engineer in California and is also a Professional Transportation Planner (PTP) and a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). Bryan received his undergraduate from UC Davis in Civil Engineering and his master's in public administration from Norwich University. While at UCDavis he was an intern working with Dr. Susan Shaheen on her carsharing research pilot program "CarLink".

Bryan Jones fosters a professional environment where innovation and leadership can thrive in a team environment. His leadership approach strives to influences the culture in an authentic way that adds value so that others can rise to their highest potential. He inspires a big picture vision and aligns it with a results oriented, strategic implementation plan. Through his background in planning and engineering, Bryan has led, developed, and mentored countless teams. He believes leadership can and should be developed at all levels.

His passion for public service and leadership are coupled with a commitment to building quality and sustainable organizations aligned with community goals and values. Bryan believes in giving your best, collaboration, strong communication, mid-course corrections when necessary, self-reflection and learning from experience. He creates environments where the focus on results is not outweighed by process.

Terry Watt, AICP, CEQA Attorney, Consultant with OPR

Terrell is the owner of Terrell Watt Planning Consultants. Ms. Watt's firm specializes in planning and implementation efforts focused on regionally-significant projects that promote resource conservation and sustainable development patterns. Prior to forming her own consulting group, she was the staff planning expert with the environmental and land use law firm Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger. She is an expert in general and specific planning, open space and agricultural land conservation and environmental compliance. Her skills also include facilitation, public outreach, negotiation, and facilitation. Terrell works with a wide variety of clients throughout California including non-profit organizations, government agencies, and foundations.

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM - Session Block 2 (Pacific Ballroom A)

CEQA Law

CEQA Streamlining: Connecting the dots between SB 743, SB 226, and SB 375

CM | MCLE | 1.5

Streamlining is the new buzzword surrounding the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) reform. Three substantial bills are being passed, focusing on improving the planning process to encourage sustainable urban-centric projects. However, there has been some controversy surrounding the bills, and whether or not SB 743, 226 and 375 can work with or without one another to streamline anything in practical applications.

SB 743, 226, and 375 all have a form of CEQA streamlining related to exempting projects from CEQA review, completely and/or limiting impact analyses for projects that meet specific geographical, density, and transit proximity thresholds. Although each bill has its intended purpose, the complexities of understanding how they interact with one another regarding transit priority areas, infill opportunity zones, sustainable community strategies, are not easy to implement.

With this panel, FirstCarbon Solutions (FCS) will present:

- » An update and examples on SB 743, 226, and 375 that will allow planners and CEQA practitioners to understand how these bills are interrelated
- » What tools they have available to use some of the CEQA streamlining provisions
- » The "new" CEQA streamlining opportunities that exist within SB 743
- » The vision for OPR's guidance and direction related to SB 743 and 226
- » The currently available SB 226 CEQA streamlining criteria
- » SB 375 and the existing CEQA streamlining currently in place

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Chris Butcher Associate at the Thomas Law Group; formerly an Associate at Remy, Thomas, Moose & Manley, LLP
- » Scott Morgan Director of State Clearinghouse and Deputy Director of Administration for the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR)
- » Trevor Macenski Director with FCS, previously Michael Brandman Associates (MBA)

Speaker Biographies:

Chris Butcher, Associate, Thomas Law Group; formerly an Associate at Remy, Thomas, Moose & Manley, LLP

Chris was intimately involved in drafting some of the legislative language that was recently passed in SB743. He represents clients in all phases of environmental law, land use entitlement, and permitting processes, including administrative approvals and litigation. His practice covers the CEQA, the State Planning and Zoning Law, the Subdivision Map Act, the Williamson Act and other land conservation programs within California, the California Endangered Species Act, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the federal Endangered Species Act, the federal Clean Water Act, and administrative proceedings before the California Public Utilities Commission. Chris is a published author writing on issues concerning land use and environmental law. His article, The Forgotten Intent of the Williamson Act (2005) 12 Hastings West-Northwest J. Environmental L. & Policy 37-69, has been cited by the California First District Court of Appeal.

In this panel, Chris will focus on presenting the "new" CEQA streamlining opportunities that exist within SB 743.

Scott Morgan, Director of State Clearinghouse and Deputy Director of Administration for the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR)

Scott will be responsible for helping OPR develop guidance and direction related to SB743, 226, and 375. He has 15 years of experience working with CEQA, California planning law, land-use and environmental regulations. He is a member of the Association of Environmental Professionals, the American Planning Association, and sits on a variety of state agency working groups and technical advisory committees. Scott works with Federal, State, Tribal, and Local agencies on land use, environmental, renewable energy, and cultural site protection issues. Scott has been a long standing member of AEP and has acted as a conduit from the organization to the state capitol.

In this panel, Scott will focus on presenting the vision for OPR's guidance and direction related to SB 743 and 226, and the currently available SB 226 CEQA streamlining criteria.

Trevor Macenski, Director, with FCS, previously Michael Brandman Associates (MBA)

Trevor is intimately familiar with both, local and regional planning and environmental planning. As an environmental scientist, he specializes in environmental impact assessments and sustainability planning documents for both the public and private sectors. Trevor possesses strong technical understanding of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and has a wide range of project experience developing environmental compliance strategies under both, CEQA and NEPA for infill development, industrial facility expansions; well and drilling operations, residential and commercial projects; educational, correctional, and public facilities; and roadway and regional recreation centers. As an experienced environmental impact assessment practitioner, Trevor is part of FCS' Environmental Education Group, which regularly provides informative presentations to public agencies, private organizations, and educational institutions at all levels. Trevor is adjunct faculty at UC Davis where he teaches environmental impact assessment methodologies and provides annual CEQA classes throughout California for the Association of Environmental Professionals(AEP). Trevor plays a large role in AEP serving as the current Director of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter; as well as recently hosting the 2012 AEP Conference, and acting as the Director of the Superior Chapter of AEP from 2008-2011.

In this panel, Trevor will present on SB 375 and the existing CEQA streamlining currently in place, and proctor a discussion between panel members linking the benefits and/or challenges between all three bills.

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM - Session Block 2 (Tides Ballroom)

Natural Resources

HCP Jeopardy Panel

CM | 1.5

Approach: 90 Minute Panel Presentation with Jeopardy Game

In the regulatory world, "jeopardy" is a serious thing, but for this panel, "jeopardy" will be fun. A game of "jeopardy" on the topic of habitat conservation plans (HCPs) in California The panel will be provided answers and asked to provide the question which will lead to discussion on insights, advice and their collective experiences with their respective HCPs. HCPs represented are for northern and southern California, providing a dynamic comparison of how the different regions of the state approach HCPs. The purpose of the HCP Jeopardy Panel is to provide a dynamic and entertaining discussion on the topic of habitat conservation plans (HCPs). The discussion would be facilitated by a Panel of distinguished professionals with varied backgrounds in the field of Habitat Conservation Planning. In the regulatory world, "jeopardy" means something is in trouble. In response to the ever demanding balance between economic development and conservation efforts in the State of California, and recognizing that economic development often means putting endangered species in jeopardy, HCPs are often used to address endangered species issues head-on, upfront. Typically, local jurisdictions pursue habitat conservation plans in order to provide certainty and streamlining of the Section 7 process under the Endangered Species Act.

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Michelle Ouellette Partner, Best Best & Krieger
- » Stephanie Standerfer Senior Project Manager, Dudek

Speaker Biographies:

Michelle Ouellette, Partner, Best Best & Krieger LLP

Michelle Ouellette is a partner in the Environmental Law & Natural Resources practice group of Best Best & Krieger LLP and a former member of the firm's Executive Committee. Among other things, Ms. Ouellette represents clients in endangered species matters involving listing, Section 7 consultation and habitat conservation planning. She has assisted with consultation and conservation matters involving the Stephens' kangaroo rat, San Bernardino kangaroo rat, Delhi Sands Flower-Loving Fly, Quino Checkerspot Butterfly, and Peninsular Bighorn Sheep. Ms. Ouellette assisted the County of Riverside in the development of the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP), its Implementing Agreement and its Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement. The MSHCP is one of the largest conservation plans in the United States.

Stephanie Standerfer, Senior Project Manager, Dudek

Stephanie Standerfer is a Senior Project Manager for Dudek. Ms. Standerfer has over 14 years' professional experience as an environmental planner. Ms. Standerfer currently serves as extension of staff to the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (RCA), the entity responsible for implementation of the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Conservation Plan (MSHCP). For almost 7 of the 9 years the MSHCP has been implemented, Ms. Standerfer has served as contract staff to the RCA. She provides processing, review and policy consultation on implementation procedures and policies for the RCA and the MSHCP's Permittees. Ms. Standerfer received her Bachelor of Science from UC Riverside in Environmental Science and earned a Master of Science from Washington State University also in Environmental Science. She is an active member of the Inland Empire Chapter of the Association of Environmental Professionals and provides instruction on the MSHCP as well CEQA.

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM - Session Block 2 (Dolphin Room)

Sustainability

City of Newport Beach Maintenance Dredging and Eelgrass Management

CM | 1.5

Since the mid-1970s, the City of Newport Beach (City) has offered an economical and streamlined program for individual property owners to obtain authorization for dredging to maintain safe and effective navigation depths adjacent to their private docks through the use of Regional General Permit (RGP) 54. The City maintains and renews the RGP 54 every 5 years. The current RGP 54 includes specific limitations that have decreased the utility of the permit over time. These limitations include insufficient individual project volume, insufficient depth allowances, the prohibition on dredging in the vicinity of eelgrass, and the lack of provisions that allow for limited improvements to structures such as docks. Individuals are left to engage consultants to assist in obtaining much more expensive individual permits, often with costly sediment testing and eelgrass mitigation, to achieve necessary improvements for navigational safety. Impacts to eelgrass typically require development of a mitigation plan, implementation of the plan, and 5 years of subsequent monitoring and demonstrated success. In addition to the high costs that the typical property owner cannot afford, it has also resulted in eelgrass being perceived as a nuisance or barrier to property owners rather than as a benefit to the harbor. As a result, the City has taken several steps to develop a new RGP that will increase the value to the City and its community, and will implement an ecosystems-based approach to manage eelgrass that will not only benefit the species but eliminate the burden for individuals to provide costly mitigation.

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Adam Gale Anchor QEA
- » Michael Josselyn WRA, Inc.
- » Chris Miller Harbor Resources Manager, City of Newport Beach

Speaker Biographies:

Adam Gale, Anchor QEA

Mr. Gale is a managing environmental planner with more than 8 years of environmental planning and permitting experience, including design and construction work. He has experience on a range of projects, from small-scale private marina development to large-scale state transportation projects. Mr. Gale's success is supported by his knowledge in NEPA, CEQA, California Coastal Act, Clean Water Act, Rivers and Harbors Act, and Essential Fish Habitat and Endangered Species Act regulations. Additionally, Mr. Gale compliments his regulatory understanding as a natural resource specialist with extensive experience conducting jurisdictional delineations (wetlands and streams), marine and terrestrial habitat evaluations, and flora and fauna surveys.

Michael Josselyn, WRA, Inc.

Michael Josselyn founded WRA, Inc. (aka Wetlands Research Associates) in 1982 for the purpose of utilizing the best scientific information to improve wetland management and restoration in the United States. Today, the 65 person firm's professional services include environmental science, wildlife biology, CEQA compliance, and landscape architecture with a focus on environmental planning, permit compliance, and habitat restoration. As a certified Professional Wetland Scientist, Dr. Josselyn was President of the Professional Certification Program in 2004-2005. He was formerly a professor of Biology at San Francisco State University where he conducted research in wetland restoration, seagrass ecology, and estuarine ecology. He is an elected Fellow of the California Academy of Sciences and was a US trained aquanaut for the NOAA Manned Underseas Program.

Chris Miller, Harbor Resources Manager, City of Newport Beach

Chris Miller is the Harbor Resources Manager for the City of Newport Beach. He has 12 years experience managing Newport Harbor, and his Division primarily focuses on long term harbor planning, dredging, marina reconstruction projects, permitting, policy, Municipal Code updates, and environmental compliance. Chris managed the recent Rhine Channel Contaminated Sediment Cleanup Project in 2011, then collaboratively worked with the Corps of Engineers to solve Newport's navigational issues via a major harbor-wide dredging project in 2012-13.

10:45 AM - 12:15 PM - Session Block 3 (Pacific Ballroom B)

CEQA/NEPA

Bursting into Tiers: Getting the Most out of General Plan EIRs CM | 1.5

General plan EIRs provide a powerful tool to implement tiering, which has been available for decades but is widely underutilized. To prepare a program-level, general plan (GP) EIR that works well for tiering, it is critical to think through future development. The panel will discuss:

- » The essential elements in the GP EIR for maximizing its use for future tiering
- » Specific language that is required in a GP EIR to clearly state which subsequent projects are within its scope
- » How mitigation measures should be formulated
- » The difference between setting up a GP EIR for tiering through Guidelines \$15183 or \$15183.3 (SB226/Infill)
- » Whether the GP EIR should identify "uniformly applicable development standards"
- » Demonstrating GP consistency and its effect on the tiering process
- » Related case law

City representative(s) will discuss challenges and opportunities to streamlined review. We will discuss factors that undermine streamlining the CEQA process for development projects, including political climate, public perception, and stakeholder involvement. We will discuss how to overcome these challenges and if following standard practices provides a better result.

The Q & A session to be lively and interactive. The panel will relate case studies and formulate a set of controversial questions that will engage the audience and impel them to understand all sides of the issues. For example, Guidelines Section 15183 "... mandates that projects which are consistent with the development density established by existing zoning, community plan, or general plan polices for which an EIR was certified shall not require additional environmental review...." So can a developer sue if a City requires an EIR when the project qualifies for 15183 tiering?

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Nicole Morse, Esq. Senior Associate, PlaceWorks
- » Scott Reimers Senior Planner, City of Pasadena
- » Joann C. Hadfield Principal, PlaceWorks

Speaker Biographies:

Scott Reimers, Senior Planner, City of Pasadena

Scott has eight years of experience working for the City of Pasadena's long-range planning group. He is currently leading the City's update of its General Plan and the corresponding EIR. He has also worked on large development projects such as a sensitive infill project on the campus of the former Worldwide Church of God and Ambassador College and a 15-year master plan for Las Encinas psychiatric hospital. Scott also has an extensive background in current planning and design, which was established while working for the City of San Gabriel. He has his undergraduate degree in Urban and Regional Planning from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona and his Masters in Leadership and Organizational Studies from Azusa Pacific University.

Nicole Morse, Esq., Senior Associate, PlaceWorks

Nicole has 14 years of environmental planning experience. Her background as an attorney and a planner gives her a wide understanding of planning and zoning law, CEQA, and NEPA. Nicole managed the preparation of over 100 environmental documents that have withstood legal scrutiny. Her projects for public- and private-sector clients include downtown redevelopment programs, large master planned communities, urban infill, small-scale residential, high-rise commercial office, industrial, and mixed-use developments. She serves on the State AEP Legislative Committee and actively participates in the evaluation of proposed senate and assembly bills from the state legislature.

Joann C. Hadfield, Principal, PlaceWorks

Focusing on CEQA compliance services, JoAnn Hadfield has prepared environmental documents for hundreds of projects, including highly technical, controversial, and large-scale EIRs/EISs. Currently managing the preparation of several general plan EIRs, JoAnn contributes her perspective as a former city planner and technical knowledge from a civil engineering education. Her diverse environmental projects have spanned major commercial, residential, industrial, and infrastructure projects. A recognized expert, she regularly conducts CEQA training for clients and planning organizations.

10:45 AM – 12:15 PM – Session Block 3 (Pacific Ballroom A)

CEQA Law

Neighbors for Smart Rail: When is it ok to use a future baseline? CM | MCLE | 1.5

For the last several years, there has been split in authority on whether a lead agency substitute an existing conditions analyses for a future baseline in an EIR. In a 6 to 1 decision, the California Supreme Court ruled that a lead agency has discretion to omit existing conditions analyses by substituting a baseline consisting of environmental conditions projected to exist solely in the future, but to do so the agency must justify its decision by showing an existing conditions analysis would be misleading or without informational

value. This session provides a discussion of the court's ruling in Neighbors for Smart Rail, and when a lead agency should use existing conditions or future baseline as the proper baseline for determining environmental impacts.

Moderator/Panelists:

- » William Halligan, Esq. Principal, Environmental Services, PlaceWorks
- » Robert Thornton Partner, Nossaman, LLP
- » Chris Gray Senior Associate, Fehr & Peers

Speaker Biographies:

William Halligan, Esq., Principal, Environmental Services, PlaceWorks

William Halligan, Esq., Principal, Environmental Services, PlaceWorks, will serve as the moderator for the session and provide a background on the proper environmental baseline in CEQA documents.

Robert Thornton, Partner, Nossaman, LLP

Robert Thornton, Partner, Nossaman, LLP, represented Metro in the *Neighbors for Smart Rail* case and successfully argued the case before the California Supreme Court. Mr. Thornton will discuss the legal arguments presented to the Supreme Court and how the court ruled on each issue.

Chris Gray, Senior Associate, Fehr & Peers

Chris Gray, Senior Associate, Fehr & Peers, will discuss the proper baseline in preparing traffic studies in light of recent court decisions including *Sunnyvale I, Sunnyvale II,* and *Neighbors for Smart Rail.*

10:45 AM – 12:15 PM – Session Block 3 (Tides Ballroom)

Natural Resources

Transportation Planning and Environmental Permitting in SoCal (Endangered Species and Wetland Permitting for OCTA's M2 Projects)

CM | 1.5

Transportation planning in Southern California faces numerous challenges in the coming decades. As traffic volume increases along with demands for improved and more efficient transportation options, the environmental and regulatory constraints limit the transportation infrastructure options and require lengthy environmental permitting processes. Programmatic permitting for endangered species and wetlands/water quality permits can substantially increase the long-term efficiency of regional transportation planning, and project permitting and construction. Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) has been successfully working on programmatic endangered species permitting

through the development of an HCP (USFWS) and NCCP (CDFW); and regional wetland permitting for ACOE, CDFW, and RWQCB permits for their M2 freeway improvement projects. This panel will present the OCTA species and wetland permitting approach as a case study sharing the perspective of key consultants, regulators, environmental groups, and OCTA on the process successes and lessons learned.

Moderator/Panelist:

- » Scott Fleury PhD- Senior Conservation Biologist, ICF International (Moderator)
- » Dan Phu Section Manager for Environmental Programs, OCTA
- » Pat Atchison Conservation Planner/Project Manager, ICF International
- » Michelle Mattson Southern California Biology Team Manager, ICF International
- » Melanie Schlotterbock Outreach Coordinator, Friends of Harbors, Beaches, and Parks
- » Jonathan Snyder U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- » Lesley Hill Project Manager, Environmental Mitigation Program OCTA

Speaker Biographies

Scott Fleury, PhD - Senior Conservation Biologist, ICF International

Development of the OCTA NCCP/HCP

Dr. Scott Fleury has over 23 years of experience as a research biologist and environmental consultant, and leads ICF's habitat conservation planning practice in Southern California. Scott specializes in preparing and implementing conservation plans in California. His background includes conservation planning project management, expertise in preserve design, conservation modeling (species, habitats, population, and preserve selection models), development of adaptive management and monitoring plans, and collection and analysis of large-scale biogeographic data. Scott is currently working on several local conservation project including the OCTA NCCP/HCP, the Upper Santa Ana River Watershed HCP, and an Ecosystem Indicators and Focal Species Management Plan for Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach.

Scott is a graduate of the University of Nevada, Reno with a PhD in Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Biology, has a Master's degree in Biogeography from San Diego State University and a Bachelor's degree from the University of California, San Diego.

Dan Phu - Section Manager for Environmental Programs, OCTA

Vision for Comprehensive Mitigation for Transportation Projects

Dan Phu has over 15 years of experience in the area of transit, environmental, transportation, programming, and project Vision for comprehensive mitigation for transportation projects development. Dan joined OCTA as the Section Manager for the Project Development section to oversee the conceptual engineering/planning studies for the Measure M2 (M2) freeway program in 2007. In 2009, he took over management of

the M2 Environmental Mitigation Program. In mid-2011, he took over management of the M2 Environmental Cleanup Program. As Dan's responsibilities shifted over the years, he has become the Environmental Programs Manager, which includes providing guidance to the agency on the California Environmental Quality Act/National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). His previous accomplishments include co-preparing the environmental document for the SR-22 high-occupancy vehicle lanes project, which is currently under construction for the final phase.

Dan holds a Bachelor's of Art in Environmental Analysis and Design at UC Irvine and a Master's of Science in Environmental Studies at California State University, Fullerton.

Patrick Atchison - Conservation Planner/Project Manager, ICF International

Development of the OCTA NCCP/HCP

Patrick Atchison has over 23 years of experience in environmental consulting and conservation planning. Pat brings a unique combination of experience with GIS and environmental planning studies and an understanding of how to maximize the analytical capabilities of GIS to create innovative solutions for environmental issues. Pat is an experienced user of ESRI GIS software, with extensive experience in the design and development of GIS databases and the integration of GIS with other modeling programs. He has served as project manager/GIS manager for a number of large conservation planning projects including the San Diego MSCP, North County San Diego MSCP, Southern California Gas Company Coast Region Conservation Program, and Rincon Tribe HCP. He is currently leading the development of the OCTA NCCP/HCP.

Pat has a Bachelor of Science degree in Soil and Water Science from University of California, Davis.

Michelle Mattson - Southern California Biology Team Manager, ICF International

Programmatic Wetland Permitting

Michelle is a stream and wetland ecologist with over 14 years of experience as a consultant and government regulator specializing in regulatory compliance, functional and conditional assessments, restoration design and implementation, watershed planning, programmatic permitting and advanced mitigation (mitigation banking, in lieu fee programs, and permittee responsible). Prior to joining ICF, she was a Senior Project Manager with the Corps for nearly 5 years and was the senior reviewer for San Diego and Imperial Counties. Michelle was LA District's expert on restoration and mitigation and has coordinated and presented at several workshops for the Corps, SANDAG, and the Environmental Law Institute (ELI), on the regulatory program, stream bio-engineering techniques, and advanced mitigation.

Michelle is a graduate of the University of California, San Diego and has a Bachelor of Science degree in Ecology, Behavior, and Evolution

Melanie Schlotterbeck, CMP - Outreach Coordinator, Friends of Harbors, Beaches, and Parks

Role of Environmental Organizations

Melanie focuses her work with conservation non-profits throughout the state. In 2005, Melanie became the outreach coordinator for FHBP's Green Vision Project which consists of over 80 supporting organizations. She links the groups to county issues, provides regular updates, and organizes several workshops for the coalition each year. Melanie was also the lead local organizer for the statewide Resource Conservation Conference co-sponsored by FHBP. In 2006, she coordinated the wide-ranging support from conservation and community groups and assisted with negotiations for Renewed Measure M's comprehensive mitigation program. She now sits on the OCTA Environmental Oversight Committee, as its Vice Chair and represents more than 30 supporting organizations. The Committee oversees the M2 mitigation program. In 2009, she sat on the Orange County Report Card Committee for the Parks, Recreation, and the Environment. In 2011, she began collaborating with the Orange County Council of Governments and the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). Through these partnerships she was successful in creating two new conservation policies in the Orange County and SCAG Sustainable Communities Strategy documents.

Melanie has a Bachelor's in Environmental Geography and a Master's in Environmental Science from Cal State Fullerton and recently received a certification in event planning from the Convention Industry Council.

Lesley Hill, Project Manager, Environmental Mitigation Program

Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA)

Lesley Hill was brought on at OCTA in mid-2011 to manage the Measure M2 (M2) Environmental Mitigation Program (EMP). She currently oversees the development of the M2 Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP)/Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) that is being designed to provide biological coverage for the M2 13 freeway projects as well as the programmatic wetlands permitting effort for those projects. Her responsibilities also include coordination and oversight of the EMP's restoration projects, as well as the management of the nearly 1,000 acres of OCTA Preserve lands.

Lesley previously worked in the private sector as an environmental planner (focusing on natural resources) and as a regulatory permit expert on various infrastructure projects. She also worked for the State of California (Caltrans) for many years as an environmental planner with a focus on natural resources. She obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Analysis and Design with a minor in Global Sustainability at the University of California, Irvine.

Lesley was born and raised in Orange County. She and her husband are currently raising three children and spending any extra time on the many soccer fields and swimming pools throughout the County. She prides herself on being able to say that she "loves" her family and her job.

10:45 AM – 12:15 PM – Session Block 3 (Dolphin Room)

Sustainability

Sustainable Water Management: California State Initiatives

CM | 1.5

The State has taken a leadership role in sustainable water planning. This panel will highlight three such initiatives: the California Water Plan Update 2013, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) Climate Change Technical Advisory Group (CCTAG), and a planning tool for assessing local water sustainability developed by DWR and Sonoma State University (SSU). The Water Plan Update is a 50-year strategic plan for all facets of water management, including water supply, water quality, flood management, and climate adaptation; it used to guide state water policy and investments. The CCTAG is a group of climate and policy experts charged with developing a common set of climate change scenarios for use in the state's water planning. The planning tool developed by SWR and SSU provides a template for demonstrating the long-term economic benefits of sustainable development patterns.

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Al Herson Of Counsel, Sohagi Law Group
- » Paul Massera DWR Strategic Water Planning Manager
- » Elizabeth Patterson DWR Consultant and Mayor, City of Benicia
- » Alex Hinds Co-founder, SSU Center for Sustainable Communities
- » Andrew Schwarz Senior Engineer, Climate Adaptation Unit, DWR Division of Statewide Integrated Water Management

Speaker Biographies:

Al Herson, Attorney, Sohagi Law Group

Al Herson, JD, FAICP is an environmental attorney and planner with over 35 years' experience. He is a recognized authority on CEQA, NEPA, and natural resources law. Al serves as the Sacramento presence for Sohagi Law Group, a full service land use and environmental law firm representing public agencies, where he advises public agency clients on complex environmental law issues, often involving major water resources projects. He also maintains an independent consulting practice. Al is co-author of California Environmental Law and Policy: A Practical Guide, the CEQA Deskbook (2nd edition), and The NEPA Book, as well as CEQA chapters in Matthew Bender's California Environmental Law treatise. He is a member of both the Water Plan Update 2014 Advisory Committee and the CCTAG.

Paul Massera, Strategic Water Planning Manager for DWR

Paul leads the 2013 Water Plan Update process. His career emphasis is policy decisionsupport regarding engineering, economic, institutional, operational, and stakeholder collaboration aspects of water management planning. Prior to this assignment, he oversaw wetland water management operations and habitat restoration planning in the Suisun Marsh. He has also conducted a variety of water and flood management alternative evaluations throughout the State, planned groundwater recharge and conjunctive use projects and investigated statewide surface storage and conveyance opportunities. Paul led the development of the resource management strategies in the 2005 Water Plan Update. Other former assignments include: Policy Advisor to DWR Deputy Director of Statewide and Delta Planning, Statewide Water Planning, CALFED Bay Delta Program and State Division of Safety of Dams.

Elizabeth Patterson, DWR Consultant and Mayor, City of Benicia

Elizabeth Patterson, AICP, is a state staff environmental scientist who while with serving in the California State Lands Commission was project lead for the development of the Delta Protection Commission, as well as numerous state task forces on flood plain management and Delta issues. She is retired from the California State Department of Water Resources, and currently works part-time on land use and water supply benefits for the California Water Plan. Elizabeth has been a planning director for two Bay Area towns, and was involved in several regional and local issues using conflict resolution to reach a consensus for planning and managing urban and natural resource assets. She was Executive Director of the Partnership for Regional Livability, a project for the White House Task Force on Livable Communities during the Clinton/Gore administration. She lives in Benicia where she has served on task force committees, boards, and commissions, and was elected to the city council in 2003 and as mayor in 2007 and reelected in 2011.

Alex Hinds, Co-founder, SSU Center for Sustainable Communities

Alex Hinds directed California planning and environmentally-related agencies for Lake, San Luis Obispo, and Marin Counties. Mr. Hinds was the guiding force behind the trend-setting Marin Countywide Plan update and nationally recognized implementation programs focusing on sustainability and climate protection. In 2009, Alex co-founded Sonoma State University's Center for Sustainable Communities which draws upon faculty, staff, students and professionals committed to serving the community. In addition to the California Department of Water Resources, the Center is currently assisting the cities of Benicia and Vallejo as well as Sonoma County's Regional Climate Protection Authority and Department of Health Services.

Andrew Schwarz, Senior Engineer, Climate Adaptation Unit, DWR Division of Statewide Integrated Water Management

Andrew Schwarz holds a Bachelors of Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Wisconsin, a Masters of Environmental Planning and a Graduate Certificate in Water Resource Policy from the University of Arizona. He began working on water resources as a Peace Corps Volunteer in the Dominican Republic where he worked with communities to construct drinking water aqueducts. Since coming to DWR he has worked on a wide array of projects including surface storage, flood control, environmental restoration, and water supply. Andrew has led many of the Departments efforts to analyze and address climate change across the Department's many programs and projects. He

recently managed a project with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to develop a handbook for climate change analysis for regional water management and was also the project manager and lead author of the California Department of Water Resources' Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan.

1:45 PM - 3:15 PM - Session Block 4 (Pacific Ballroom B)

CEQA/NEPA

Against All Odds: Infill Land Use Compatibility for the Uptown Newport Mixed-Use Project

CM | 1.5

The two-phased Uptown Newport project will introduce 600+ high-density units adjacent to an ongoing manufacturing plant for an indefinite period (potentially 10+ years). Moreover, these units will be occupied during site remediation and ultimately demolition of the onsite semiconductor manufacturing operation. The panelists will discuss the unique CEQA, planning, technical, and regulatory issues that evolved during preparation of the EIR for this infill project. We will demonstrate science's prominent role in CEQA, including the sophisticated modeling necessary to evaluate impacts—e.g., health risk, risk of upset (onsite chemical use and storage), and noise (24/7 manufacturing noise) and vibration—and the potential public misunderstanding and mistrust of the highly technical. Unique City policies with respect to "trip neutrality" and residentially adjacency to highly hazardous materials will be reviewed as well as the project opposition of adjacent office owners and tenants. Finally, we will brainstorm with the audience whether, if processed one year later, this project would have been eligible for streamlining under SB 226.

The panel will explore:

- » Evaluating interim conditions—the appropriate CEQA approach for a multiphase, mixed-use infill project.
- » How to address industrial adjacency impacts, including noise, vibration, and health risk.
- » The unanticipated hurdles of both construction-related and interim impacts of the project.
- » Methods to simplify the complex analysis and concepts for the lay person (both in the environmental document and in public hearings).
- » Future processing of similar infill projects—SB 226 eligible?
- » Adequacy of public disclosure if reliance is on regulatory compliance (e.g., hazards).

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Joann C. Hadfield Principal, Environmental Services, PlaceWorks
- » James Campbell Principal Planner, City of Newport Beach
- » Cathy Fitzgerald Senior Engineer, Hazards, PlaceWorks
- » Fernando Sotelo Senior Associate, Noise, Vibration & Acoustics, PlaceWorks

Speaker Biographies:

Joann C. Hadfield, Principal, Environmental Services, PlaceWorks

Focusing on CEQA and NEPA compliance services, JoAnn Hadfield has prepared environmental documents for hundreds of projects, including highly technical, controversial, and large-scale EIRs/EISs. These diverse projects have spanned major commercial, residential, industrial, and infrastructure projects. JoAnn is well versed in managing the entire environmental process, including project scoping, environmental documentation, public noticing and participation, and resource permitting. With a background in both urban planning and civil engineering, JoAnn is ideally suited for complex, technical projects and to assist in formulating creative environmental solutions. She regularly performs CEQA training for clients and planning organizations.

James Campbell, Principal Planner, City of Newport Beach

James has extensive experience working as a public sector planner for over 22 years with the last 12 years at the City of Newport Beach. The City has vast land use diversity experience including a regional mall, an award-winning hospital, and the largest recreational harbor on the west coast. James has overseen the preparation of environmental documents and technical studies for a wide variety of projects from the mundane to highly controversial infill developments both in and out of the coastal zone.

Cathleen Fitzgerald, PE, Senior Engineer, PlaceWorks

Dr. Fitzgerald has nearly 30 years of academic and professional experience in the areas of hydrology studies, health risk assessments, safety hazard assessments, air quality studies, hazardous waste investigations, remedial action plans, and installation of groundwater and soil vapor extraction systems. She has worked with various public- and private sector clients throughout the U.S. and Asia on licensing and environmental assessments for nuclear and fossil fuel power plants, hazards associated with solar thermal power projects, and the development of alternative energy sources. Cathy is a Registered Professional Engineer in the states of California and Nevada, a Qualified SWPPP Developer/Practitioner in the State of California, and a Certified Environmental Manager in the State of Nevada.

Fernando Sotelo, INCE, Senior Associate, Noise & Air Quality, PlaceWorks

Fernando has 11 years of experience in noise, air quality, and traffic analysis. He has prepared hundreds of technical studies and CEQA and NEPA analyses for virtually every conceivable project type. His expertise includes traffic and rail noise; construction noise; noise monitoring and compliance; noise barrier evaluations; and stationary noise impacts from commercial, industrial, and recreational uses.

1:45 PM - 3:15 PM - Session Block 4 (Pacific Ballroom A)

CEQA Law

CEQA Exemptions after Berkeley Hillside: Does the Exception Swallow the Rule?

CM | MCLE | 1.5

Development projects requiring only the issuance of building permits or other minor administrative approvals that are customarily thought of as exempt from the reaches of the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") are under attack. Decisions like the First Appellate District's 2012 determination in *Berkeley Hillside Preservation v. City of Berkeley* (2012) 203 Cal.App.4th 656, which is pending review by the California Supreme Court in 2013, have significantly expanded the definition of what constitutes an "unusual circumstance" that would override an otherwise-applicable Categorical Exemption. Unlike Statutory Exemptions, which are not subject to general exceptions, the use of Categorical Exemptions can be limited by the umbrella exceptions, including the catch-all "unusual circumstances" exception. *Berkeley Hillside*, however, has created significant anxiety regarding the use of any Categorical Exemption.

This panel will explore all aspects of the Categorical Exemption process, from a multitude of perspectives. Panelists will include developer's land use counsel, a lead agency planner, an environmental consultant, and petitioners' litigation counsel in the *Berkeley Hillside Preservation* case. The panel will: (1) discuss what Categorical Exemptions are and when they may be appropriately used for development projects; (2) explore the vulnerabilities of Categorical Exemptions from the perspectives of developer's land use counsel and petitioners' counsel (particular attention will be paid to the *Berkeley Hillside* case and its predecessors including *Friends of Westwood, Inc. v. City of Los Angeles* (1987) 191 Cal. App. 3d 259 and *Banker's Hill, Hillcrest, Park West Community Preservation Group v. City of San Diego* (2006) 139 Cal. App. 4th 249); (3) identify little known but potentially important CEQA provisions related to Categorical Exemptions; and (4) provide guidelines for determining whether your project may be eligible for a Categorical Exemption and recommend best practices to substantiate use of a Categorical Exemption in the administrative record.

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Susan Brandt-Hawley, Esq. Brandt-Hawley Law Group and counsel for Berkeley Hillside Preservation
- » Trevor Macenski Director-Environmental Services, FirstCarbon Solutions
- » Sean Matsler, Esq. Partner at Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP
- » Brady McShane, Esq. Partner at Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP
- » David Reyes City of Pasadena Deputy Director of Planning

Speaker Biographies:

Sean Matsler, Esq., Partner at Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP (Moderator)

Sean Matsler is a partner in the firm's Orange County office and a member of the Real Estate & Land Use Practice Group. His practice focuses on land use, with an emphasis on securing entitlements for controversial residential, commercial, and institutional real estate development projects. Mr. Matsler advises clients on compliance with local planning and zoning regulations, the California Coastal Act, and the California Environmental Quality Act, guiding them through the entitlement process from site selection to project approval. He understands the litigation risk associated with California Environmental Quality Act compliance, having represented clients on both sides of such litigation. Mr. Matsler has also appeared before both state and local administrative bodies to secure approvals on behalf of clients. His clients include residential, commercial, and mixed-use developers, as well as churches, temples, schools, banks, REITs, and individual property owners.

Prior to joining Manatt, Mr. Matsler was an associate in the land use practice group for an international law firm. He has also worked for a number of political campaigns, including service as the Deputy Finance Director for Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez.

Susan Brandt-Hawley, Esq., Brandt-Hawley Law Group and counsel for Berkeley Hillside Preservation

Susan Brandt-Hawley has represented public-interest environmental groups in CEQA cases statewide for 30 years from her offices in Sonoma County. Her current practice focuses on the adaptive reuse of historic resources. Her published cases have contributed to CEQA precedent in all six districts of the California Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court. She received the California Lawyer of the Year award in environmental law from California Lawyer and has been named repeatedly to Daily Journal lists of California's "top women litigators." She and her husband Bill Hawley are committed to sustainable winegrowing at Random Ridge vineyards and winery

Trevor Macenski, Director-Environmental Services, FirstCarbon Solutions

Trevor Macenski is FCS's Director of Environmental Services. As an environmental scientist he specializes in developing environmental compliance strategies and impact assessment documents for complex and controversial projects. Trevor possesses strong technical understanding of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and has a wide range of project experience developing impact assessment documents for infill development, industrial facility expansions; well and drilling operations, residential and commercial projects; educational, correctional, and public facilities. As an experienced environmental impact assessment practitioner, Trevor is part of FCS' Environmental Education Group, which regularly provides informative classes to public agencies, private organizations, and educational institutions at all levels. Trevor is adjunct faculty at the University of California, Davis where he teaches environmental impact assessment methodologies and teaches annual CEQA classes throughout California for the Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP). Trevor holds a masters of science degree from The Johns Hopkins University in Environmental Science; and a bachelors of science degree from University of California, Davis in Environmental Policy Analysis and Planning.

Brady McShane, Esq., Partner at Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP

Brady McShane is a partner in the firm's Los Angeles office and a member of the Real Estate & Land Use Practice Group. He advises clients on the numerous regulatory, environmental, political and technical issues involved in developing property in California, specializing in environmental review in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and securing land use entitlements and regulatory permits. Mr. McShane also works closely with Manatt's litigation group in defending development projects in court against CEQA and other land use-related claims.

Mr. McShane has extensive experience with CEQA, the Subdivision Map Act, the Coastal Act, Mello Act, and other local, state, and federal planning and zoning statutes. He represents developers, corporations, individuals, institutions and nonprofit organizations and regularly appears in public hearings before agencies, boards, commissions and legislative bodies. Mr. McShane has a broad range of land use experience, including with regard to single- and multiple-family residential communities, mixed-use, hotels, regional shopping centers, big box retail stores, specialty retail stores, medical buildings, performing arts theatres, sports stadiums and self-storage facilities. Mr. McShane has also advised institutional lenders on the land use and entitlement issues associated with distressed assets.

Prior to joining Manatt, Mr. McShane was an attorney in the Environment, Land & Resources department at Latham & Watkins LLP.

David Reyes, Deputy Director, City of Pasadena Planning & Community Development Department

David began his career in the Planning Field working for a land use consulting firm performing entitlement work for projects located within the City of Los Angeles. After several years, he left the private sector to begin his planning career on the civil side. David worked as a staff planner for the cities of Malibu, Santa Monica and Beverly Hills, where he was the Principal Planner for the current planning section. David has worked for the City of Pasadena for the last two years and currently oversees the Department's Planning functions as well as zoning code enforcement.

1:45 PM - 3:15 PM - Session Block 4 (Tides Ballroom)

Natural Resources

Coastal Processes: Sediment Management as an Environmental Solution?

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An experienced team of regional (San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG)) and local (City of Encinitas) agency planning staff combined with technical experts from private consulting (Moffatt & Nichol and AECOM) will present. The session will explore the effects

that the success of preventing sedimentation of southern California waterways has had on the erosion behavior of the southern California coastline and the experiences of finding a solution to the consequences at the shore. The panel will provide a foundation in the complex physical processes at play in the watersheds that have affected the sediment availability at the coast, as well as the processes at the coastline/beaches. The challenges sea level rise adds to managing these complex environments will also be discussed. The session will include an exploration of the solutions and strategies that have evolved to address erosion of beaches highlighting the local and regional level efforts and the differences between them. The team will share experiences navigating the permitting and regulatory complexities at the local, regional, federal/congressional levels to implement the solutions at a project and program level. The regulatory layers at the coast are almost as complex as the physical processes and directly include the National Environmental Policy Act, California Environmental Quality Act, Coastal Zone Management Act, California Coastal Act, and Clean Water Act. Finally the panel will discuss a strategic vision of the future for sustaining possible solutions. This will include looking at the success of one of the causes of the erosion issue (prevention of sedimentation from entering waterways), how to integrate that into success for sediment management, and learning from the funding successes of that program. The session will engage attendees with opportunities for questions and comments.

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Chris Webb Supervisory Coastal Scientist, Moffatt & Nichol
- » Katie Levy Regional Environmental Planner, SANDAG
- » Cindy Kinkade Senior Project Manager, AECOM
- » Matt Valerio (Moderator) Senior Project Manager, AECOM
- » Katherine Weldon Program Manager, Coastal Zone Management Program

Speaker Biographies:

Chris Webb, Supervisory Coastal Scientist, Moffatt & Nichol

Chris Webb is a Supervisory Coastal Scientist with Moffatt & Nichol. He has worked in this capacity for 21 years, and plans, designs, and helps clients implement projects. As consultant to SANDAG, he co-authored the SCOUP document in 2006 and the RSM Plan in 2009, and managed the consulting team for the second RBSP in 2012. He also manages the consulting team for San Elijo Lagoon Restoration that may yield a significant amount of sand.

Katie Levy, Regional Environmental Planner, SANDAG

Katie Levy is a Regional Environmental Planner I at SANDAG and focuses on shoreline management, water quality, and grants. Katie received a Master of Liberal Arts in Extension Studies in the field of sustainability and environmental management from Harvard University. She manages the Regional Shoreline Monitoring Program and Environmental Mitigation Program Land Management Grant Program. Katie was an active part of the SANDAG staff that implemented the 2012 RBSP.

Cindy Kinkade, Senior Project Manager, AECOM

Cindy Kinkade is a Senior Project Manager at AECOM and focuses on management of coastal projects in the San Diego region. With over 16 years of professional experience in both the private and public sectors, she has a broad knowledge of environmental compliance requirements for projects, from planning and design review through construction and post-construction monitoring. Cindy received a Master of Environmental Management and a Master of Public Policy from Duke University in 1999. She coordinates environmental compliance for projects and has expertise in CEQA/NEPA document preparation; public involvement; agency and permitting coordination; and mitigation implementation and reporting requirements.

Matt Valerio, Senior Project Manager, AECOM

Matt Valerio is a Senior Project Manager at AECOM and focuses on management of coastal and port projects in Southern California. Matt received a Master of Coastal Zone Management from Bournemouth University in 2001. He has over 14 years of experience and has been both a consultant and local government employee in the USA, UK, and South Africa. Matt has a broad perspective on coastal issues and the balance of environmental processes and pressures on projects. He manages and directs environmental review for projects and has expertise in CEQA/NEPA, CCA, and CZMA document preparation; processing strategy; public involvement; and agency and permitting coordination.

Katherine Weldon, Program Manager, Coastal Zone Management Program

Katherine Weldon has over 18 years of experience in Coastal Zone Management and Water Quality. Her experience began as the Program Manager for the Recreational Ocean Water Quality Coordinator for the County of San Diego and then as the Stormwater/Coastal Zone Program Manager for the City of Encinitas.

As Program Manager for the Coastal Zone Management Program, Katherine has been instrumental in local and regional shoreline projects such as:

- » SANDAG Regional Beach Sand Project I & II
- » US Army Corps of Engineers Encinitas/Solana Beach Coastal Storm Damage Reduction Project
- » San Elijo Lagoon Restoration Project
- » Batiquitos Lagoon Dredging Project
- » Sand Compatibility Opportunistic Use Program (SCOUP)
 - » Pacific Station
 - » Scripps Memorial Hospital
 - » Saxony Detention Basin

1:45 PM - 3:15 PM - Session Block 4 (Dolphin Room)

Sustainability

Bay-Delta and Water Supply Issues: The Latest

CM | 1.5

The California Delta provides about 1/3 of the water used in central and southern California. Yet, myriad environmental and other issues affect the reliability and availability of that supply. This presentation will provide an overview of the status of administrative, litigation and matters related to the Bay Delta and water supply planning. The presentation will provide an update on issues regarding endangered species, water quality, drought, the Bay-Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP), the potential new water diversion tunnels, the Delta Plan, the State Water Resources Control Board Water Quality Plan Update, the State Water Project, litigation, and related topics.

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Steve Anderson Partner, Best Best & Krieger LLP
- » Stefanie Morris General Counsel, State Water
- » Paeter Garcia Partner, Best Best & Krieger LLP

Speaker Biographies:

Steve Anderson, Partner, Best Best & Krieger LLP

Steve Anderson is a partner in the Environmental Law and Natural Resources practice group of Best Best & Krieger LLP. His practice focuses on environmental, water and natural resources law. Steve represents public and private clients in administrative proceedings and civil litigation involving the federal and state Endangered Species Acts (ESA), the Clean Water Act, state water quality laws, surface and groundwater rights, and other environmental requirements. He is one of the lead attorneys for water purveyors in ongoing federal court litigation involving the intersection of water rights and protection of endangered delta smelt and salmon in the San Francisco Bay Delta region. Steve also regularly works on surface and ground water rights issues, as well as urban water management planning and water supply assessment matters, for individuals and entities across California.

Steve also serves as counsel to a court-appointed watermaster, a county water district and several resource conservation districts across California. Steve regularly teaches seminars and conducts presentations on endangered species, land conservation, water rights and other aspects of natural resources law. He serves on the editorial board of the California Water Law and Policy Reporter.

Stefanie Morris, General Counsel, State Water Contractors

Stefanie Morris joined the State Water Contractors in November 2013 to serve as general counsel for the organization. She represents SWC in all legal matters and on legal and policy issues at public meetings, dealing with other public water agencies, and before the Department of Water Resources, State Water Resources Control Board, and other regulatory agencies. She also manages and supervises outside attorneys engaged by SWC and works with the attorneys representing SWC member agencies.

Specializing in California water law, Stefanie has extensive experience in water rights, groundwater adjudications, water quality, and water rights litigation.

Prior to joining SWC in-house, Stefanie spent eight years working in Best Best & Krieger's water law practice, primarily representing SWC and other large public clients all over California and in northern Nevada. She appeared before the State Water Resources Control Board on issues including surface water rights and changes in the location and scope of wastewater discharges, as well as working on complex groundwater adjudications and issues involving surface water rights.

Stefanie is a valued member of the water law community and has been sought out to speak at numerous events. Stefanie's speaking engagements have included presentations at the County Counsels Association of California's Hazardous Materials and Solid Waste semi-annual conference and the Association of California Water Agencies conference, as well as California Water Law, Nevada Water Law and Colorado River continuing legal education seminars, the Special Districts Institute and the annual conference for the American Escrow Association.

Stefanie graduated from Loyola Law School in 2005. She graduated in 2001 from California Polytechnic University, Pomona, with a degree in Business.

Stefanie was admitted to practice in California in 2005 and in Nevada in 2008. She is also admitted to practice in the United States District Court for the Central, Eastern and Northern Districts of California. She is president of the Truckee-Tahoe Bar Association and a member of the Northern Nevada Women Lawyers Association.

Paeter Garcia, Partner, Best Best & Krieger LLP

Paeter E. Garcia's practice areas include water rights, water supply planning, and related fields of environmental and natural resources law. Mr. Garcia represents both public agency and private clients on a broad range of water law and policy matters, such as surface and groundwater right issues, water transactions and conveyance, and groundwater management and storage arrangements. Water supply planning and sufficiency analyses are a significant component of Mr. Garcia's practice. He routinely counsels clients, speaks at conferences, and authors publications regarding the legal requirements of preparing Written Verifications and Water Supply Assessments under SB 221 and SB 610, water supply analyses under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and Urban Water Management Plans.

In representing the public sector, Mr. Garcia serves in a special counsel role to agencies such as Castaic Lake Water Agency, Western Municipal Water District, Lake Hemet Municipal Water District, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District, San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency, and the Hi-Desert Water District on a variety of water rights, water supply planning and resource management issues. Mr. Garcia currently advises the Hi-Desert Water District in its role as the Watermaster of the Warren Valley Basin, as well as the Lake Hemet Municipal Water District as a key participating agency in the development of a stipulated judgment, physical solution and operating rules and regulations for the Hemet/San Jacinto Groundwater Management Area.

Mr. Garcia is vice-chair of the Southern California Water Committee's Urban Water Planning Task Force. He has served as an adjunct professor at California State University, San Bernardino and currently teaches at the University of California, Riverside Extension regarding California water law and policy. Mr. Garcia joined Best Best & Krieger in 2006 from the United States Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection. Prior to that position, Mr. Garcia worked with an environmental law firm in downtown Los Angeles, where he advised public agency and private clients regarding significant water law, environmental and land use matters.

1:45 PM - 3:15 PM - Session Block 4 (West Coast Room)

Students and Emerging Professionals

Environmental Planning Professional....The Right Choice for Me? (A Discussion for Success in the Environmental Profession)

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This session is intended to provide an open forum to students, emerging and mid-career professionals in an exploration of what the future holds for environmental professionals. This session brings together a panel of practicing professionals with a diversity of experience and educational backgrounds that represent the public, private, and legal professions. The moderator will engage audience participants in a lively discussion with the panelists on how to approach their future as an environmental professional and the pros and cons of environmental planning through the eyes of practicing professionals. The discussion will benefit target audience's understanding of what they need to know about entering into a career as an environmental professional and, where the profession is headed.

As many new graduates, emerging and mid-career professionals continually seek gainful employment in the environmental services profession, they can often be overwhelmed with questions such as:

- » So you went to environmental planning school now what?
- » Is a career as an environmental professional right for me?
- » To go public or private sector...that is the question?

- » As environmental law and planning policy are constantly evolving, how do I choose the best career path?
- » B.A., B.S., M.A., J.D., PhD....which degree is right for me?
- » What is the role of specialization for environmental professionals? Are those with multiple specialties "the new generalists?"
- » 300 applications, 1 position. How to get your resume noticed?

Moderator/Panelist:

- » Ricky Caperton (Moderator) Project Planner, PlaceWorks
- » Charlie Knox, AICP Principal, PlaceWorks
- » Nicole Hoeksma Gordon Parnter, The Sohagi Law Group
- » Terri McCracken Senior Associate, PlaceWorks
- » Misti Harris Planning II, County of Sonoma

Speaker Biographies

Ricky Caperton - Project Planner at PlaceWorks

Ricky Caperton is a Project Planner at PlaceWorks where he specializes in drafting CEQA documents at the project-specific and programmatic level. Ricky served as Student Representative for Sonoma State University on the Board of Directors for the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of AEP in 2011 and as Secretary in 2013. He is a recent graduate of Vermont Law School having earned a Masters.

Charlie Knox, AICP – Principal, PlaceWorks

Charlie Knox, AICP, is a Principal at PlaceWorks in Berkeley, California. Charlie has more than 25 years of experience in public and private sector land use planning. He has a thorough understanding of how to manage and coordinate staff and consultant efforts to best serve municipal staff, citizens, City Council, and commissions. Charlie's expertise includes shepherding high-profile projects through the entitlement process. He also specializes in developing sustainability and renewable energy initiatives, and in securing funding for their implementation. Prior to joining PlaceWorks, Charlie led the City of Benicia Public Works and Community Development Departments and used innovative leadership to provide superior customer service to residents despite resource constraints. His experience also includes working as a consultant in both San Luis Obispo and the San Francisco Bay Area, as well as serving as the Planning Director for San Miguel County (Telluride), Colorado. Mr. Knox received a Bachelor of Arts in English from Whitman College and a Master of Communications from the University of Washington.

Nicole Hoeksma Gordon – Parnter, The Sohagi Law Group

Nicole Hoeksma Gordon is a Partner at The Sohagi Law Group in Los Angeles. Ms. Gordon advises public agencies on complex environmental and land use matters at the administrative, trial, and appellate level. She focuses her practice on the CEQA, NEPA, the federal and California Endangered Species Act (ESA), and Planning and Zoning Laws. Representative projects include complex renewable energy projects, transmission lines, General Plan updates, harbor improvements, airport expansions, transportation improvements, and public works projects. She also serves as a frequent lecturer on environmental matters at various public and private workshops, including courses and conferences sponsored by UCLA, the Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP), and the American Planning Association (APA). Ms. Gordon received a Bachelor of Arts, *Cum Laude*, International Studies, Middlebury College and Juris Doctor, University of Southern California

Terri McCracken - Senior Associate, PlaceWorks

Terri McCracken is an Associate at PlaceWorks. With nearly a decade of environmental planning experience in both the public and private sectors, she has a detailed understanding of the environmental review process. Her work at PlaceWorks has focused on the application of CEQA and NEPA as well as other State and federal environmental regulations and guidelines. As a Project Manager, Terri manages, coordinates, reviews, and conducts research for various types of environmental review documents for projects spanning unique settings throughout northern and southern California. Her diverse experience includes projects throughout the San Francisco Bay Area, the Eastern Sierra, Sonoma County, Los Angeles, the Central Valley and Laguna Beach. Terri is the current President of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of AEP and has served on the Board of Directors since 2006. She also serves as a guest lecturer on environmental matters at various public and private workshops, including courses at UCSB and conferences sponsored by AEP. Ms. McCracken has a Bachelors of Science in Environmental Education from the University of Oklahoma and a Bachelors of Arts in Environmental Studies and Planning from Sonoma State University.

Misti Harris - Planning II, County of Sonoma

Misti Harris is a Planner II at the County of Sonoma. With nearly a decade of city and county planning experience, her experience has included duties such as project management, and processing entitlements for coastal, agricultural, commercial, industrial, and residential uses. Misti is a graduate of the Environmental Studies program at Sonoma State University and is also an active member of the Association of Environmental Professionals where she enjoys connecting with peers. In her spare time, she is engaged in volunteering at the local food bank, spending time with her husband, friends, and two dogs, as well as riding her motorcycle and practicing yoga.

3:45 PM - 5:15 PM - Session Block 5 (Pacific Ballroom B)

CEQA/NEPA

Is There Enough Water? CEQA and Water Supplies: SB 610 and Beyond

CM | 1.5

90 Minute Panel Presentation

Senate Bill 610 went into effect in 2004 with the stated intent of improving the link between information on water supply availability and land use decision. The "link" required by SB 610 is the preparation of water supply assessments (WSAs), and the mandate that WSAs be considered and included as part of CEQA review of certain projects. Since then a maze of judicial rulings have helped to create a new landscape for the consideration of water supplies under CEQA, including a reminder from the California Supreme Court that just because a project is not subject to SB 610 does not excuse a lead agency from considering whether the project has sufficient water supplies, will deplete groundwater, or will result in the construction of new water facilities. This presentation will discuss when and how a WSA needs to be prepared (when during the environmental review process must a WSA be finalized? Can a WSA's findings be rejected by a lead agency - if so, how?) but, just as importantly, how to satisfy CEQA's requirements regarding water even when no WSA is required. It will discuss common pitfalls concerning the treatment of water supplies in CEQA documents, such as when can you rely on an Urban Water Management Plan and just how much has to be known about the historic use of an aquifer before you can assume the availability of groundwater supplies? If you are an environmental consultant, public agency representative, developer, or legal counsel to any of these entities, then this presentation is for you

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Sarah E. Owsowitz Of Counsel, Best Best & Krieger LLP
- » James Brezack Principal, Brezack and Associates Planning

Speaker Biographies

Sarah E. Owsowitz – Of Counsel, Best Best & Krieger LLP

Sarah Owsowitz is Of Counsel in the Environmental Law & Natural Resources practice group of Best Best & Krieger LLP. Her practice focuses on California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) advice and litigation, with a particular concentration on urban decay, climate change, water supply, and cultural resource issues. She represents both public and private clients in administrative proceedings and litigation involving CEQA, as well as state and local planning and zoning laws. Of particular note, she worked to successfully defend against an attempt to file a challenge to a water supply assessment in *California Water Impact Network v. Newhall County Water District et al.* (2008) 161 Cal.App.4th 1464. She is a past member of the executive committee of the State Bar of California Real Property Section,

a 2013 Northern California Super Lawyer for Land Use, regularly authors articles on CEQA and other land use topics, and speaks at environmental law and water conferences and symposiums around the state.

James Brezack - Principal, Brezack and Associates Planning

James Brezack has more than 28 years of experience in water supply, management and water conservation planning, including the master planning and design of water, sewer, water supply, and recycled water facilities. He has prepared multiple Water Supply Assessment Studies (WSAs) pursuant to the requirements of SB610 as well as several Written Verifications of Water Supply Availability. His experience includes close coordination with project Applicants and water purveyors. He has conducted analyses of water supply availability including water sources in adjudicated basins, as well as a significant uses of recycled and desalinated water supplies. Mr. Brezack is also is experienced in all phases of CEQA compliance requirements, and in the interpretation of state and federal environmental policies. Through his project experience, he has developed expertise in environmental planning and regulatory compliance for projects involving California utilities. He regularly speaks on water supply and CEQA topics and serves as instructor for University of California, Davis Extension on "Water Supply and Conservation Planning."

3:45 PM - 5:15 PM - Session Block 5 (Pacific Ballroom A)

CEQA Law

Preparing CEQA Administrative Records: What to Keep and What to Throw Away

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90 Minute Panel Presentation

Unlike the TV dramas where live witnesses are "grilled" on the stand, the evidence before the Court in a CEQA lawsuit is called the administrative record. Preparing a complete and accurate administrative record is time consuming, but it is of the utmost importance in defending against a CEQA challenge. This presentation will discuss what goes into a record and what stays out. It will discuss what privileges may apply to shield the release of certain documents. It will discuss common pitfalls during the completion of the CEQA process itself and how those mis-steps may affect the administrative record (i.e., what things may be best left unsaid; what documents consultants should be sure to keep; how agencies' document retention policies affect the record; where in the record documents should be kept and by whom; how consultants and their developer/public agency clients can work together to build a better record; etc.). If you are an environmental consultant, public agency representative, developer, or legal counsel to any of these entities, then this presentation is for you.

Moderator/Panelist:

- » Charity B. Schiller Partner, Best Best & Krieger LLP
- » Fernando Avila Of Counsel, Best Best & Krieger LLP

Speaker Biographies

Charity B. Schiller - Partner, Best Best & Krieger LLP

Charity Schiller is a partner in the Environmental Law & Natural Resources practice group of Best Best & Krieger LLP. Ms. Schiller helps public and private clients navigate through the maze of laws that apply to development projects, so that those projects can be built. Specifically, Ms. Schiller helps clients comply with all aspects of the California Environmental Quality Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, and related environmental laws. She has extensive experience with the preparation and certification or adoption of environmental impact reports, environmental impact statements, negative declarations, addenda, environmental assessments, and other environmental documents. She also assists clients with local agency permitting and land use entitlement issues. Further, Ms. Schiller regularly defends clients before administrative boards, trial courts, and appellate courts around the state.

Beyond her work for clients, Ms. Schiller teaches several courses in environmental law at the University of California, Riverside, and she regularly guest lectures at several other southern California universities. She regularly authors articles on the California Environmental Quality Act and other topics, and speaks at environmental law conferences and symposiums around the state. Ms. Schiller is the current chair of the Riverside Downtown Partnership and enjoys working with a number of civic and philanthropic organizations.

Fernando Avila – Of Counsel, Best Best & Krieger LLP

Fernando Avila is of counsel in the Los Angeles and Riverside offices of Best, Best & Krieger and is a member of its Environmental and Natural Resources Practice Group. Mr. Avila represents public and private clients with regard to land use entitlement and environmental review processes and related litigation. He has significant experience regarding compliance with project-oriented environmental requirements, such as those imposed by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the National Environmental Policy Act, and the water supply statutes, Senate Bills 610 and 221, and in obtaining traditional land use entitlements. His practice also extends over such varied specialized topics as historic resource issues, the California Coastal Act, groundwater issues, air quality planning, biological resources impacts, and mineral rights issues.

Mr. Avila has served as legal counsel on numerous traditional development projects, as well as on surface mining projects, climate action plans, groundwater management plans, multiple species habitat conservation plans, and regional infrastructure projects, including water pipelines, water treatment plants, gas lines, landfills, material recovery facilities, and highways. For example representative clients include the Regents of the University of California, the County of Los Angeles, Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District,

Western Municipal Water District, the Coachella Valley Association of Governments, and Hi-Desert Water District, as well as numerous cities, including Claremont, Ontario, Azusa, Avalon, San Jacinto, Lafayette, Santa Maria, Corona, and Indian Wells.

Mr. Avila has also served as an adjunct professor at the University of La Verne School of Law, teaching environmental law, and has been a guest lecturer on environmental law at other law schools. He has spoken on CEQA, water law, and land use-related topics before various organizations and events throughout California, including state conferences for the Association of Environmental Professionals, the California Association of Water Agencies, and the California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions, and has instructed at continuing education seminars for the American Planning Association.

3:45 PM - 5:15 PM - Session Block 5 (Tides Ballroom)

Natural Resources

Let's Do It Later: Is Deferring Formulation of CEQA Mitigation Ever OK, or Is It Just Asking For Trouble?

CM | 1.5

When is it appropriate to defer formulation of some part of a CEQA mitigation measure to the future, if at all? A number of CEQA appellate court decisions in 2012 and 2013 addressed this question, sometimes leading to arguably inconsistent outcomes. Is there a "safe" way to defer the formulation of a mitigation measure to the future, or does doing so always create a legal risk?

This panel will discuss the current state of the law for analyzing the legal adequacy of a mitigation measure that defers some details to the future, and will provide best practice guidance for practitioners.

Moderator/Panelist:

- » Shawn Shamlou Principal, Dudek
- » Ellison Folk Partner, Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger
- » William Witt Senior Deputy County Counsel, County of San Diego
- » Ryan Waterman Of Counsel, Stoel Rives LLP

Speaker Biographies

Shawn Shamlou, AICP - Principal, Dudek

Shawn Shamlou, AICP, is a Principal with Dudek, with 18 years of experience developing environmental documents under CEQA, including the preparation, coordination, oversight and processing of all types of CEQA documents. Mr. Shamlou's experience implementing mitigation measures provides insight into drafting sound measures.

Ellison Folk - Partner, Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger

Ellison Folk is a partner with Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger, a law firm that specializes in land use and environmental law. Ms. Folk has over 20 years of experience representing community groups and public agencies in administrative proceedings and litigation involving the California Environmental Quality Act and general plan and zoning law.

William Witt - Senior Deputy County Counsel, County of San Diego

William Witt is a Senior Deputy County Counsel for the County of San Diego who works primarily on planning and land use matters, with an emphasis on CEQA compliance issues. Prior to joining the County, Mr. Witt represented both local agencies and private clients in land use matters, real estate transactions, and general local government law.

Ryan Waterman – Attorney, Stoel Rives LLP

Ryan Waterman is an attorney at Stoel Rives LLP who represents clients through all phases of the land use entitlement process and CEQA/NEPA environmental review. He works with a wide range of developers on projects throughout Southern California, and also defends CEQA documents and land use approvals against litigation in the trial and appellate courts.

3:45 PM - 5:15 PM - Session Block 5 (Dolphin Room)

Sustainability

California Supplement to the U.S. Community Protocol for Accounting and Reporting Greenhouse Gas Emissions

CM | 1.5

In October 2012, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability USA, issued the *U.S. Community* Protocol *for Accounting and Reporting of Greenhouse Gas Emissions* Version 1.0. This protocol is recommended as a national standard to inspire and guide U.S. local governments to account for and report on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions) associated with the communities they represent. The protocol provides guidance in terms of scoping community GHG inventories. However, the protocol does not take into account particular requirements found in the CEQA Guidelines. In some cases the protocol contradicted CEQA guideline requirements for analyzing GHG emissions.

To remedy this problem, the AEP Climate Change Committee worked with ICLEI, the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) and the California Air Resources Board in the development of guidance for local jurisdictions in California to be able to have GHG inventories within Climate Action Plans that are consistent with both the ICLEI Protocol and CEQA. The result is the *California Supplement to the U.S. Community Protocol for Accounting and Reporting of Greenhouse Gas Emissions.*

This presentation will provide an overview of the California Supplement reviewing key differences between the ICLEI protocol and CEQA and how to develop a GHG inventory

that complies with both. The presentation will highlight those elements needed in the GHG inventories of Climate Action Plans in order for them to be deemed "qualified" for CEQA streamlining and tiering as well as focus on the issue of jurisdictional control of an emission source as a valid reason for including or excluding particular emissions within the inventories.

Moderator/Panelist:

- » Michael Hendrix Committee Chair and Project Director Air Quality & Climate Change, Atkins
- » Nichole Vermilion Project Manager, PlaceWorks
- » Rich Walters Project Manager, ICF International
- » Cheryl Laskowski, Ph.D. Project Manager of Climate Change Planning, AECOM
- » Chris Gray Senior Associate, Fehr & Peers

Speaker Biographies

Michael Hendrix – Committee Chair and Project Director Air Quality & Climate Change, Atkins

Michael is the Chair of the AEP Climate Change Committee and principal author of the AEP White Papers on Climate Change. In 2008 he assisted OPR in drafting CEQA Guideline Amendments to address climate change. He was the recipient of AEP 2010 Achievement Award for his dedication in advancing climate change science through the educational programs and practitioner workshops he authored and conducted. In addition, this award recognized his contribution and participation with the various California agencies in developing methods of analysis, implementation policies, and advocating local control in developing community climate action plans for local governments in California..

Nichole Vermilion – Project Manager, PlaceWorks

Nicole is an air quality and GHG specialist as it relates to CEQA, AB32, and SB375. She closely follows the changing CEQA thresholds and methodology. Nicole has performed numerous GHG inventories for individual projects, including the Irvine Business Complex, The Ontario Plan, and Town of Los Gatos Sustainability Plan.

Rich Walters – Project Manager, ICF International

Rich Walter is the co-leader of ICF's municipal climate change planning practice in California. His practice includes advising municipal and private clients on the development of policies dealing with climate change plans, regional transportation plans, and NEPA/CEQA analysis of climate change impacts.

Cheryl Laskowski, Ph.D. – Project Manager of Climate Change Planning, AECOM

Cheryl Laskowski is the lead climate change specialist in Atkins's San Diego office. Dr. Laskowski has advanced degrees in climate change ecology and energy and environmental analysis. She has or is managing Climate Action Plans for the County of San Diego, the

City of Monterey Park, and The San Diego Water Authority, which all focus on mitigation strategies and meeting the goals of AB 32; preparing synthesis reports on GHGs in rangelands for BLM; and prepared the climate change section of SANDAG'S RTP EIR.

Chris Gray - Senior Associate, Fehr & Peers

Mr. Gray is a Senior Associate with 15 years experience in transportation planning, CEQA transportation studies, traffic operations analysis, travel demand forecasting, parking studies, transit studies, smart growth, General Plan assessment, and Specific Plan assessment. He has managed over 100 projects while at Fehr & Peers including: the University of California Riverside Pedestrian Safety Study, City of Upland General Plan, Temecula Old Town Parking Study, and Tustin Metrolink transit planning.

3:45 PM - 5:15 PM - Session Block 5 (West Coast Room)

Students and Emerging Professionals

CEQA Basics for Students

CM | 1.5

The "CEQA Basics for Students" session will provide students with a basic understanding of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and how it is implemented by local agencies. The session will provide students with a strong base to develop further CEQA knowledge. This training, which will focus on practical real-world applications, will enhance the resume of each participant to demonstrate their mastery of the preeminent environmental regulation/process in California. The following topics will be briefly covered:

- » Historical and political roots of CEQA;
- » Overview of the CEQA process via a comprehensive flowchart;
- » Summary of CEQA documents such as an Initial Study, Statutory and Categorical Exemptions, Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND), and Environmental Impact Report (EIR).
- » Relationship of CEQA to other state laws and federal environmental laws.

Potential employers in agencies and companies that deal with private development or public works projects often require some knowledge of CEQA from new employees, and the graduate with CEQA knowledge will often win a position over a candidate without this knowledge!

Moderator/Panelist:

» Kent Norton – Senior Environmental Planner, LSA Associates, Inc.

Speaker Biographies

Kent Norton – Senior Environmental Planner, LSA Associates, Inc.

Kent Norton has over 35 years of experience in CEQA and NEPA compliance and is currently a Senior Environmental Planner with LSA Associates, Inc., a full-service environmental consulting firm with offices throughout California. He is the Immediate Past State President of the Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP) and a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) as well as the American Planning Association (APA). Mr. Norton obtained both a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biological Science and a Master of Science degree in Environmental Studies with an emphasis in urban and regional planning from the California State University at Fullerton.

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM - Session Block 6 (Pacific Ballroom B)

CEQA/NEPA

Health Risk Challenges of Siting Housing Near High Volume Roadways

CM | 1.5

Public agencies are responsible for safeguarding public health and welfare. On one hand, "good" land use planning encourages infill development with increased densities in urban areas and near transportation corridors to meet regional air quality goals. On the other hand, placing people near major transportation corridors increases localized exposure to air pollutants. The California Air Resources Board has determined that concentrations of diesel particulate matter and other toxic air contaminants are greater near major sources of air pollution, including freeways, thus exposing people to greater health risks. However, CARB and regional air districts have no jurisdiction over siting land uses, and there is currently no uniform requirement to evaluate health risk when planning for housing near high volume roadways. Nonetheless, because of public health and welfare implications, lead agencies look to the experts to provide guidance and recommendations. Consequently, the avenue typically used to address health risk has been to incorporate the risk assessment within the CEQA analysis, even though recent CEQA case law has identified that environmental impacts on a project do not constitute a CEQA impact. This panel will engage the audience in a roundtable discussion of the challenges associated with housing sited next to freeways and other transportation corridors. Air district representatives will discuss how infill projects are reviewed and tools for evaluating risk next to freeways. Perspectives from CEQA consultants and State and local agencies will highlight some of the legal and planning challenges for housing near high volume roadways. Mitigation strategies to reduce health risk will be identified.

Moderator/Panelist:

- » Nicole Vermilion (Moderator) Associate Principal, Air Quality & GHG Services
- » Ian MacMillan Program Supervisor, CEQA Intergovernmental
- » Leland Villalvazo Supervising Air Quality Specialist, San Joaquin Valley APCD
- » Cathy Fitzgerald Senior Engineer, PlaceWorks
- » Connie Chung Supervising Regional Planner, Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning
- » Linda Wheaton, AICP Assistant Director, Intergovernmental Affairs, State of California Department of Housing & Community Development (HCD)

Speaker Biographies

Nicole Vermilion - Associate Principal, Air Quality & GHG Services

Nicole combines broad perspective and big-picture thinking with a good technical grounding to find workable solutions to environmental constraints. She is an air quality specialist with over 8 years of experience in air quality assessments for CEQA analyses. Nicole closely follows the rapid changes in requirements and the latest information on CEQA thresholds and analysis methodology.

lan MacMillan - Program Supervisor, CEQA Intergovernmental

Ian oversees the review of all CEQA/NEPA documents and federal transportation conformity documents submitted to SCAQMD within its four-county jurisdiction covering approximately half the population of California. SCAQMD receives approximately 1,500 CEQA documents per year for review. In addition to supervising this program, Ian has recently focused on improving methods to evaluate air quality impacts from the goods movement sector, providing technical input into CalEEMod software development, and evaluating ways to mitigate air quality impacts in the near roadway environment. Ian regularly interacts with the hundreds of government agencies within SCAQMD's jurisdiction, the consultant community, and the public.

Leland Villalvazo - Supervising Air Quality Specialist, San Joaquin Valley APCD

Leland Villalvazo is the Supervising Air Quality Specialist at the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District. He has over 20 years of experience in air dispersion modeling and health risk assessments and is one of the country's leading modeling experts. Leland was instrumental in drafting the California Air Pollution Control Officer's Health Risk Assessment for Proposed Land Use Projects document, released in July of 2009 and the Modeling Compliance of The Federal 1-Hour NO₂ National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) document, released in October of 2011. He has also been leading the effort in developing documentation to interpret EPA modeling guidance for the use of the AERMOD model and the creation of streamlining tools used by agencies and consultants

Cathy Fitzgerald - Senior Engineer, PlaceWorks

Cathy has nearly 30 years of academic and professional experience in the preparation of air emission studies, health risk and safety hazard assessments, remedial action plans, design and conduct of hazardous waste site investigations, and installation of groundwater and soil vapor extraction systems. She has worked with commercial, industrial, and government clients, as well as numerous school districts, conducting air toxic analyses, modeling emissions from freeways and roadways, and evaluating release scenarios for pipeline/railroad safety hazard assessments.

Connie Chung - Supervising Regional Planner, Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning

Connie Chung, AICP is a Supervising Regional Planner with the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning. She heads the General Plan Development and Housing Section, which is responsible for the update, maintenance.

Linda Wheaton, AICP - Assistant Director, Intergovernmental Affairs, State of California Department of Housing & Community Development (HCD)

Linda Wheaton is the Assistant Director for Intergovernmental Affairs for the California Department of Housing & Community Development (HCD). Linda has extensive experience at the interface of policy, planning and local assistance related to housing, transportation and air quality. She serves, for example, on advisory committees for the California Transportation Plan 2040, California Freight Mobility Plan, Climate Change Scoping Plan Update, Federal Region IX Partnership for Sustainable Communities, Housing Action Team of the 2013 California Economic Summit, and Enterprise Community Partners. As a member of the State Health in All Policies (HiAP) Task Force, she chairs its Housing Siting and Air Quality Workgroup. Linda has managed or been a lead housing representative on many collaborative and research-based projects, e.g, the 2012 State Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing, TOD Housing Program Guidelines, 2005 Infill Housing report, Regional Blueprint Planning, the 2010 Regional Transportation Plan Guidelines update, 2010 Smart Mobility Framework, SB 375 implementation, and managed the Regional Housing Need Allocation (RHNA) process. She has a Master's Degree in Urban and Regional Planning, University of California, Berkeley, and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners.

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM – Session Block 6 (Pacific Ballroom A)

CEQA Law

Consultants and Attorneys: Two Different Perspectives on CEQA?

CM | MCLE | 1.5

90 Minute Panel Presentation

Environmental consultants spend countless arduous hours drafting complex EIRs and MNDs, and then CEQA attorneys take the documents, point out all sorts of possible flaws, and demand puzzling changes. WHY? This panel discussion will address the different perspectives that planners and lawyers have of CEQA, from the practical to the philosophical. Panelists will include an attorney specializing in CEQA and NEPA, a consultant who has experience dealing with attorneys when preparing environmental documents, and a planner-turned-attorney who will discuss lessons learned after wearing both hats. Topics include litigation strategies and risks, the reasons for the strange revisions attorneys ask planners and consultants to make to CEQA documents, things planners and consultants say that give attorneys heartburn (and vice versa!), and thoughts on timelines and schedules. Panelists will also come ready to answer any questions audience members may have about the different perspectives on CEQA and "working with the other side."

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Melissa R. Cushman Attorney, Best Best & Krieger LLP
- » Jennifer J. Kunz Attorney, Best Best & Krieger LLP
- » Deanna M. Hansen Vice President, ESA

Speaker Biographies:

Melissa R. Cushman, Attorney, Best Best & Krieger LLP

Melissa Cushman is an attorney in Best Best & Krieger's Environmental Law and Natural Resources, and Sustainable Communities practice groups, and has been with the firm since 2006. Melissa advises clients on projects under CEQA and NEPA and reviews environmental documents prepared pursuant to these acts. She also provides civil litigation services for proceedings brought under these acts and other land use and environmental laws. Ms. Cushman has taught college or graduate-level classes at Cal State University, San Bernardino; University of California, Riverside; and La Verne Law School on CEQA, NEPA, Environmental Law, and Administrative Law. She is also on the editorial board of the *Eastern Water Law and Policy Reporter* and sits on the Riverside County Bar Association's Publications Committee, which publishes the *Riverside Lawyer*.

Jennifer J. Kunz, Attorney, Best Best & Krieger LLP

Jennifer Kunz is a CEQA and land use attorney at Best Best & Krieger, where she reviews CEQA documents on behalf of public agencies and represents public agencies in CEQA-related litigation. Prior to her law career, Jennifer worked for several years as a land use and environmental planning consultant, serving both public and private sector clients throughout California. She is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners, a LEED Accredited Professional, and holds a Masters in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of California at Irvine. Jennifer currently serves on the Executive Board of the Inland Empire Section of the American Planning Association.

Deanna M. Hansen, Vice President, ESA

Deanna Hansen is a Vice President and the Director of ESA's Southern California Community Development group. With over 20 years of experience, Ms. Hansen has developed a well balanced expertise in environmental compliance for development projects, specializing in CEQA/NEPA compliance. She has developed a level of understanding required to clearly explain technical concepts and issues for public comprehension, particularly for projects that include complex technical analyses and controversial public policy and planning issues. Her experience ranges from large solar and industrial projects, to various development projects and includes working with many local and federal agencies on projects throughout California.

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM – Session Block 6 (Tides Ballroom)

Natural Resources

Mitigating for Species, Water and Other Natural Resource Impacts: A Holistic Approach

CM | 1.5

Developers, public agencies, and other project proponents often haphazardly identify on a project-by-project basis how they will or where they will go to undertake habitat conservation or other measures to mitigate a project's impacts as required by state and federal regulatory permits.

A variety of strategies exist to potentially streamline and lower the cost of these mitigation requirements by examining them on a larger scale. To the extent not already known, consulting professionals should be made aware of the available mitigation options and opportunities.

The presentation is intended to be strategic in nature and interspersed with key legal principles. The presentation will primarily focus on mitigation for biological and water resources impacts and will provide the audience with a practical guide for proposing and selecting mitigation. The presentation will emphasize the importance of understanding key mitigation terminology and how mitigation concepts are applied differently on the state and federal level. The presentation will also focus on various regulatory agency requirements that affect mitigation projects and the importance of negotiating with regulatory agencies in the early stages of implementing a project. Finally the presentation will offer unique approaches to mitigate for project impacts that may allow public agencies and developers to decrease their mitigation costs.

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Steve Anderson Partner, Best Best & Krieger LLP
- » Shelli Lamb District Manager, Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District

Speaker Biographies:

Steve Anderson, Partner, Best Best & Krieger LLP

Steve Anderson is a BBK partner in the firm's Natural Resources Practice Group. His practice focuses on environmental, water and natural resources law. Steve represents public and private clients in administrative proceedings and civil litigation involving the federal and state Endangered Species Acts (ESA), the Clean Water Act, state water quality laws, surface and groundwater rights, and other environmental requirements.

Steve assists clients in developing and implementing strategies to address regulatory mitigation requirements for projects large and small. His experience includes involvement in numerous ESA Section 7 consultations and in the establishment and implementation of in-lieu fee programs. He routinely negotiates with state and federal regulatory agencies regarding wetlands permitting, streambed alteration agreements, Section 401 water quality certifications and other legal mandates related to resource impacts and project development. He regularly interacts with representatives of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Army Corps of Engineers, Regional Water Quality Control Boards, California Department of Fish and Game, and other state and federal regulatory agencies

Steve also serves as counsel to a court-appointed watermaster, a county water district and resource conservation districts across California. Steve regularly teaches seminars and conducts presentations on endangered species, land conservation, water rights and other

aspects of natural resources law. He serves on the editorial board of the California Water Law and Policy Reporter.

Shelli Lamb, District Manager, Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District

Shelli Lamb is the District Manager of the Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District (RCRCD or the District). RCRCD is a local government agency that helps conserve the natural resources (soil, water, plants, and wildlife) of areas within southern California. The District provides technical advice to land users, educational programs for the community, and conducts on-the-land conservation projects. RCRCD works with private land users, nonprofit organizations, and public entities to sustain natural resources within its boundaries. RCRCD provides information about natural resources and their stewardship and management for each land use: native habitats, urban/suburban areas, and agriculture. RCRCD conducts education and on-the-land conservation projects, such as habitat restoration.

RCRCD is a non-regulatory, not for profit, public agency that is able to assist private landowners with habitat creation, restoration, conservation, and related activities in riparian, upland, and woodland habitats. RCRCD has specialized in performing certain mitigation-related activities for those seeking or holding regulatory permits. RCRCD removes exotic aquatic and plant species, propagates and plants native habitat species, and more

RCRCD operates an in-lieu-fee program, as authorized by the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), a regulatory agency. ACOE issues permits to individuals or public or private entities who are required to mitigate for loss of habitat associated with development or other activities taking place in "waters of the United States." The sponsor, RCRCD, is authorized to sell mitigation "credits" to permittees. RCRCD may use the funds pooled from sales of credits to various permittees to create one or a number of conservation sites to satisfy the required mitigation. Under the program, RCRCD, a non-regulatory agency, receives funds from selling credits to restore habitat areas to make up for important riparian and other "wet" areas that have been lost due to land use changes.

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM - Session Block 6 (Dolphin Room)

Sustainability

Addressing Wildland Fire Risk in California - How will your City/ County respond?

CM | 1.5

With forthcoming requirements to address wildfire risk in General Plan updates, subdivision approvals, and CEQA analysis (SB 1241), this presentation will explore wildfire risk assessment methodologies at the General Plan and project-level scale, approaches for mitigating wildfire risk to communities, and fire protection plans as tools for building

safer communities. The complex environmental, regulatory and public safety issues associated with planning in California necessitate a proactive planning approach that addresses the local fire environment, response and suppression capabilities, structural hardening characteristics, and environmental impacts. Understanding the factors that affect wildland fire risk is the foundation for developing programs and policies intended to minimize environmental damage, structure and infrastructure losses, and strain on fire response agencies. A review of current community wildfire risk evaluation tools and data sets will be included, which can assist planners in Safety Element updates and tentative or parcel map approvals. Additionally, the fire protection plan will be discussed as a tool for documenting and mitigating wildland fire risk at the project and plan level. Fire protection plans, identified in Chapter 47 of the California Building Code, utilize a "systems approach" consisting of the components of fuel modification, structural protection, water supply, fire protection systems, adequate access (ingress/egress) and emergency response. These plans are also mechanisms to address the requirements in California fire and building codes and can likely be used to address forthcoming CEQA Appendix G checklist questions. This presentation will provide a discussion of challenges faced in fire protection planning, alternative approaches (alternative means and methods), and success stories, and will provide planners with a toolbox to understand the factors that affect wildland fire risk and the ability to address wildland fire risk in the land use planning context in California.

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Carey Fernandes, AICP (Moderator) Senior Project Manager, Dudek
- » Scott Eckardt Registered Professional Forester, Dudek
- » Michael Huff Practice Manager, Urban Forestry + Fire Protection Planning, Dudek

Speaker Biographies:

Carey Fernandes, AICP - Senior Project Manager, Dudek

Carey Fernandes is a senior project manager with over 17 years' professional planning experience specializing in the planning, environmental, and development industries. Her diverse background includes permit processing with local jurisdictions, coordination with public agency staff, preparation of CEQA and NEPA documents, project management, due diligence, and feasibility analysis. She has worked on a number of planning documents, such as specific plans, comprehensive plans, and general plan updates. In addition, she has served as on-call planning staff for several public agencies. She also works with several Native American tribes in the preparation of tribal environmental documents. Ms. Fernandes holds an MA in Public Administration from San Diego State University and a BA in English from University of California, Santa Barbara.

Scott Eckardt – Registered Professional Forester, Dudek

Scott Eckardt is a Registered Professional Forester and Certified Wildland Fire Manager with Dudek's Urban Forestry + Fire Protection Planning team. He specializes in fire protection planning, woodland/forest management, fire hazard analysis, fuels mapping, GIS and spatial analysis, fire behavior modeling, and fire department response modeling.

He routinely prepares fire protection plans, wildland fire management plans, forest and resource management plans, oak woodland and forest mitigation plans, and CEQA technical documents. Mr. Eckardt holds an MA in Geography from California State University, Long Beach and a BS in Forestry and Natural Resources Management from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.

Michael Huff - Practice Manager, Urban Forestry + Fire Protection Planning, Dudek

Michael Huff is Manager of Dudek's Urban Forestry + Fire Protection Planning team with 20 years' professional experience as a fire protection planner. He specializes in preparation of Fire Protection Plans, hazard reduction plans, fire management plans, cumulative impact studies, and emergency response plans and has developed a fire protection planning practice throughout California working on marquee development projects on 30,000+ acre sites as well as assisting municipalities, counties, special districts, and homeowners with fire protection planning. His education includes a BS in Forest Management/Fire Ecology and he maintains certifications as a wildland fire ecologist, arborist, and forester.

10:15 AM - 11:45 AM - Session Block 7 (Pacific Ballroom B)

CEQA/NEPA

Preparing Joint CEQA/NEPA Documents

CM | 1.5

In California, many projects that are subject to CEQA also trigger compliance with NEPA. This is because of prevalence of federal land and/or because some projects require permits or other entitlements from federal agencies such as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Fortunately, environmental review requirements of CEQA and NEPA are similar and each encourages the preparation of joint federal/state documents. While joint documents enable agencies (and applicants) to save time and money, preparing them requires specialized knowledge and expertise — particularly the quirky differences in regulatory requirements. In 2013, the Office of Planning and Research (OPR) and the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) jointly released a draft handbook entitled *NEPA and CEQA: Integrating Federal and State Environmental Reviews*, designed to help NEPA and CEQA practitioners prepare joint documents. To further advance the knowledge of joint document preparation, this session with cover the following topics:

- » State and Federal regulations encouraging joint documents
- » Overview of the OPR/CEQ joint document handbook
- » Similarities and differences between CEQA and NEPA
- » Practical advice for preparing joint documents
- » Tailoring documents to meet the unique requirements of CEQA and NEPA
- » Potential pitfalls and how to avoid them
- » Examples of successful joint document preparation

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Ron Bass (Moderator), J.D., AICP Senior Consultant, ICF International
- » Christopher Calfee Senior Counsel, Office of Planning and Research
- » Donna McCormick, AICP Principal, ICF International

Speaker Biographies:

Ron Bass, J.D., AICP, Senior Consultant, ICF International

Ron Bass is an environmental planner and lawyer with extensive experience managing, preparing and reviewing NEPA and CEQA documents and advising clients about compliance. He is also a co-author of *THE NEPA BOOK: a Step-by-Step Guide on How to Comply with the National Environmental Policy Act* and the CEQA DESKBOOK: A Step-by-Step Approach to the California Environmental Quality Act. Mr. Bass has taught hundreds of workshops on NEPA, CEQA and land use planning for various continuing education programs as well as for federal, state and local agencies. Additionally, is a past-president of AEP and worked at the Office of Planning and Research.

Christopher Calfee, Senior Counsel, Office of Planning and Research

Christopher Calfee is Senior Counsel at the Governor's Office of Planning and Research. He previously served as Special Counsel to both the Office of Planning and Research and the California Natural Resources Agency, where he was the lead attorney responsible for development and adoption of amendments to the CEQA Guidelines addressing greenhouse gas emissions. In private practice, Mr. Calfee has represented both local governments and private applicants in matters involving the California Environmental Quality Act and related environmental and planning laws in association with the law firm of Remy Thomas Moose & Manley LLP, and later with Best Best & Krieger LLP.

Donna McCormick, AICP, Principal, ICF International

Donna McCormick manages the preparation of CEQA, NEPA, and joint documents. Her project portfolio includes primarily documents for very large and highly controversial projects that are expected to face litigation challenges, including land development, restoration, transportation, and infrastructure projects. Donna also provides independent quality control for CEQA/NEPA adequacy. She teaches CEQA and NEPA classes for the University of California Extension Programs and planning/environmental organizations, and develops custom workshops for various clients.

10:15 AM - 11:45 AM - Session Block 7 (Pacific Ballroom A)

CEOA Law

Privilege and the CEQA Administrative Record: Preparing Environmental Documents in the Real World

CM | MCLE | 1.5

Even though CEQA has been law for over thirty years, difficult questions still arise in the context of nearly every project regarding how to analyze a particular issue under CEQA. In the event of CEQA litigation, can these communications be kept confidential? What do the rules and cases say about various sources of privilege? What should environmental practitioners operating in the real world of emails, attachments, and FTP sites be thinking about from the beginning of every project? This panel will discuss the current legal landscape regarding privilege in CEQA litigation, the rules for what is and is not part of an administrative record, and discuss best practices for compiling and managing records for busy practitioners.

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Carey Fernandes Principal, Dudek
- » David DeBerry Partner, Woodruff, Spradlin & Smart
- » Linda Klein Associate, Cox, Castle & Nicholson LLP
- » Kristen Castaños Partner, Stoel Rives

Speaker Biographies:

Carey Fernandes, Principal, Dudek

Carey Fernandes is a Principal with Dudek, with over 17 years' professional planning experience specializing in the planning, environmental, and development industries. Her diverse background includes permit processing with local jurisdictions, coordination with public agency staff, preparation of CEQA and NEPA documents, project management, due diligence, and feasibility analysis.

David DeBerry, Partner, Woodruff, Spradlin & Smart

David DeBerry is a partner with Woodruff, Spradlin & Smart, where he practices public agency, land use, environmental, and employment and labor law. Mr. DeBerry was the City Attorney of the City of Orange for fifteen years, where he advised the City on all aspects of municipal law and represented the City in litigation on a variety of matters including land use and CFOA.

Linda Klein, Attorney, Cox, Castle & Nicholson

Linda Klein is an attorney at Cox, Castle & Nicholson, where she practices land use and natural resources law, with a focus on the California Environmental Quality Act. She works with a diverse range of clients to help them obtain or defend land use entitlements. Prior to becoming an attorney, Ms. Klein practiced and taught architecture.

Kristen Castaños, Partner, Stoel Rives

Kristen Castaños is a partner with Stoel Rives, where she practices environmental and land use law. Kristen works with residential, commercial and industrial developers achieve compliance with California's numerous land use and environmental laws, with a particular focus on the California Environmental Quality Act and related litigation.

10:15 AM - 11:45 AM - Session Block 7 (Tides Ballroom)

Natural Resources

Balancing Regional Environmental Issues with Large Scale Renewable Energy Projects

CM | 1.5

This panel will explore efforts in San Diego and Imperial County to balance regional environmental issues focusing on land use, biology, cultural resources, and visual impacts with state-wide demands for increased production of renewable energy through both the planning and CEQA process.

Special focus will be on both the large scale alternative energy projects that include wind, solar and geothermal, and the regional land use alternatives being examined through the development of an Alternative Energy Element for the County of Imperial General Plan and associated Program EIR.

The panel will examine the question of how to adequately analyze environmental impacts for the major renewable energy projects in a regional context.

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Brian Mooney Owner, Mooney Planning Collaborative and Principal in Charge for the County of Imperial Alternative Energy Element
- » Armando Villa Director of Planning County of Imperial
- » Michael Page, AICP Associate Principal AECOM and Project Director on Major Energy EIRs in San Diego County
- » Dr. Stacey Jordan Director of Cultural Resources AECOM
- » Mike McEntee Vice President Biological Resources Chambers Group and Principal in Charge for energy projects

Speaker Biographies:

Brian F. Mooney, AICP

Mr. Mooney has over 35 years of professional experience specializing in planning, public outreach, environmental analysis, research, and development of public policy. His extensive

experience includes preparation, coordination, and completion of comprehensive urban and rural master plans for counties, cities, towns, special districts, and tribal governments. Mr. Mooney's experience also includes leading California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents such as environmental impact reports (EIRs) and environmental impact statements (EISs), preparing General Plans, Specific Plans and Master Plans and implementing codes and ordinances for such plans.

Michael Page, AICP

Michael L. Page, AICP- Michael Page is an Associate Principal Environmental Planner and Project Manager with AECOM. Based in San Diego, Mr. Page has 23 years of experience preparing documents in conformance with NEPA and CEQA. Mr. Page has prepared environmental documents for geothermal, and solar energy generation projects in Riverside, San Diego, and Imperial Counties, as well as for several transmission lines. These projects have been completed on tribal, federal, and private lands and have involved the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, California Public Utilities Commission, Imperial Irrigation District, and the Counties of San Diego and Imperial. These projects have also required extensive coordination with numerous technical specialists with land use, noise, air quality, visual, agricultural, biological, and cultural resources being major issues that were addressed.

Stacey Jordan, PhD.

Dr. Stacey Jordan has been professionally involved in the fields of archaeology and history for more than 15 years. She has served as project director and principal investigator on numerous cultural resources management survey and inventory projects on both public and private land, and regularly works in coordination with project stakeholders; municipal historical resources boards; Native American tribal representatives; and local, state, and federal agencies such as county governments, the California Energy Commission, Bureau of Land Management, US Army Corps of Engineers, State Historic Preservation Office, and US Forest Service. Dr. Jordan has the knowledge of and experience with applicable regulatory frameworks and requirements to facilitate the successful and efficient completion of cultural resources services. Dr. Jordan's experience in utility and renewable energy permitting and compliance projects throughout Southern California has given her an understanding of appropriate ways of approaching resource preservation and impact mitigation within diverse utility project and regulatory contexts, including County of San Diego Cultural Resources Guidelines, CEQA, NEPA, and Section 106. Dr. Jordan was the recipient of the Excellence Fellowship at Rutgers University, as well as multiple research grants from the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research. She is the author of various publications and papers presented at national and international conferences. In addition, Dr. Jordan has served on a variety of prehistoric and historic excavations in the United States and abroad.

Mike McEntee - Vice President Biological Resources Chambers Group and Principal in Charge for Biological Studies for SDG&E

Mike McEntee: Mr. McEntee is a biologist with over 17 years of environmental consulting experience. He works with clients to document compliance of complex permit requirements and conditions, drafts Biological Assessments and negotiates long-term management agreements for mitigation lands.

He specializes in biological surveys and mitigation monitoring for large construction projects and has conducted surveys for least Bell's vireo, coastal California gnatcatcher, southwestern willow flycatcher, western snowy plover, burrowing owl, arroyo toad, gray fox, Yuma clapper rail, black rail, yellow-billed cuckoo, mountain yellow legged frog, coast range newt, California red legged frog, Santa Ana sucker, bats, macroinvertebrates, and plants.

In addition, he has successfully assisted clients in obtaining Federal and State permits from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). He has worked on projects throughout the western United States and has strong relationships with a broad array of state and federal regulators.

10:15 AM - 11:45 AM - Session Block 7 (Dolphin Room)

Sustainability

Addressing Climate Change and Sea Level Rise: Adaptation and Mitigation

CM | 1.5

Coastal communities in Southern California can anticipate sea levels to rise between 4 inches and 2 feet above current levels. In this session we will discuss three topics related to sea level rise (SLR) and responses by public agencies to the threat of SLR.

The Port of Long Beach is the second-busiest container seaport in the U.S. Higher sea levels could result in significant infrastructure damage and the Port is developing a Climate Change Adaptation and Coastal Resiliency Strategic Plan (CRS Plan) to prepare for climate change and associated coastal hazards. The CRS provides a framework to incorporate adaptive measures related to projected climate change into the Port's policymaking and planning processes, environmental documents, infrastructure design, construction practices, and community outreach and education efforts.

We will also discuss the opportunity for sediment reuse to address SLR impacts to coastal, tidal, marsh, and riverine areas. Wetlands, floodplains, and beaches can provide important buffering and flood protection functions from SLR, but sediment sources to supply and replenish such environments are typically found at higher locations in the watershed. This

presentation addresses how the watershed-derived as well as the sediment typically found in higher watershed locations can be used to provide SLR buffering and flood protection functions

The University of Southern California (USC) Sea Grant Program focuses on issues related to managing people and resources in an intensely developed coastline. Urban coastal communities in the Los Angeles region have come together to form a coastal impacts regional coalition to coordinate planning efforts across the region, acquire important scientific information, and provide opportunities for capacity building in the region. The coalition reflects a broad consensus of stakeholders including 12 local jurisdictions and 7 support organizations. This presentation will discuss this new regional planning effort and USC Sea Grant's role in helping lead the project.

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Justin Luedy Environmental Specialist, Port of Long Beach
- » Alyssa Newton Mann Research and Planning Specialist, USC Sea Grant
- » Ken Schwarz, Ph.D. Founding Principal, Horizon Water and Environment

Speaker Biographies:

Justin Luedy – Environmental Specialist, Port of Long Beach

Justin Luedy is an Environmental Specialist for the Port of Long Beach, the second busiest seaport in the United States consisting of nearly 2,700 acres of land and more than 4,500 acres of water in southern California. Mr. Luedy began his career in non-profit as a marine biologist/environmental educator and then later moved on to the Port of Long Beach where he is responsible for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and water quality projects, green technology advancement, wetland mitigation, climate change adaptation, and sustainability. Mr. Luedy is leading the effort at the Port to design and implement a Climate Adaptation and Coastal Resiliency Strategic Plan that will serve as the Port's guidance document for its climate change preparedness efforts and provide a process for incorporating planning for climate change into Port policy-making, environmental documents, infrastructure design, construction practices and community outreach. Mr. Luedy holds a B.S. in Marine Biology and a M.S. in Environmental Science.

Ken Schwarz, Ph.D., Founding Principal, Horizon Water and Environment

Ken Schwarz is a recognized expert in the fields of geomorphology, hydrology, and watershed management. For over 20 years, he has directed complex projects throughout California involving erosion and sediment management, flood and stormwater management, stream maintenance and capital programs, land use planning, water rights, habitat conservation, and ecosystem restoration. Ken conducts hydrologic and geomorphic analyses and produces watershed and stream management plans, hydrologic reports, stream assessments, sediment and erosion control evaluations, water rights petitions, restoration designs, conservation plans, and CEQA documents. Ken specializes in using his technical background to develop successful permit applications for the USACE, SWRCB,

RWQCBs, CDFG, USFWS, and NMFS, as well as local county and municipal approvals. Ken provides expert witness testimony on hydrology, river, and environmental impact issues. Ken's watershed and stream projects typically balance the needs and requirements of local government planners, regulatory agencies, and watershed stakeholders, while maintaining focus to project costs and schedules. Ken has also lectured and taught courses for U.C. Berkeley, UCLA, UC Davis Extension, University of San Francisco, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Lorman Educational Services.

Alyssa Newton Mann, Research and Planning Specialist, USC Sea Grant

Ms. Newton Mann is the Regional Research and Planning Specialist with the University of Southern California (USC) Sea Grant Program, where she focuses on planning for climate change impacts and building disaster resilience. She is a contributing author for the *Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Study for the City of Los Angeles*. Her background is in emergency management and international affairs, having worked at multiple federal and state government agencies. At the Federal Emergency Management Agency, she helped develop joint resilience and preparedness programs with international partners, and studied international lessons learned in disaster preparedness and response for domestic applicability. At the U.S. Department of State, she worked on foreign policy issues and partnerships with international organizations. She also worked for the State of California in emergency management and homeland security. She received her Master of Public Administration from USC and B.A. in International Political Economy from the University of Puget Sound. She also received the Presidential Management Fellowship (2010), USC-CREATE Homeland Security Fellowship (2008), and the California Executive Fellowship (2006).

1:15 PM - 2:45 PM - Session Block 8 (Pacific Ballroom B)

CEQA/NEPA

CEQA on the Internet: The Lady or the Tiger?

CM | 1.5

Do CEQA practitioners have the capability to responsibly keep pace with technological advances? This session will provide an overview and discussion of current and projected practices, potential legal implications, and ideas/suggestions on "where do we go from here?" To set the framework for a lively audience discussion, panelists will discuss:

- » OPR's CEQANet 2.0 features—direct upload of environmental documents by lead agencies, instantaneous receipt by state agencies, and ability of reviewing agencies to post comments to the system, with instant messaging to the lead agency, as well as GIS mapping capability. Instructions on use of the system, its functionality, implementation plans for going live, and long-term goals.
- » Best practices and the potential legal benefits and pitfalls of CEQANet 2.0 and internet use for CEQA. Ensuring that users of the new system continue to comport with CEQA's basic legal requirements regarding disclosure, public participation, and notification.

- » The availability, use, and consistency of information databases and potential for direct links in posted documents.
- » Experiences so far with online document posting, public noticing, receipt of email comments, and public comment forums.

A lively and interactive audience participation is anticipated. The audience will be polled about how they use and plan to use the internet for CEQA implementation. During open brainstorming, audience members will be encouraged to share:

- » What are you doing that is innovative?
- » What suggestion do you have for OPR? Agencies? Lead Agencies?
- » Should the internet be used for public comments? How could this be controlled?
- » What do you think could backfire?
- » How will expanded internet use affect cost, timeline, and defensibility of CEQA?
- » Come see the new prototype of CEQANet 2.0 and participate in the discussion of the new age of CEQA!

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Konnie Dobreva (Moderator) Senior Planner, PlaceWorks
- » Scott Morgan State Clearinghouse Deputy Director of Administration, Governor's Office of Planning and Research
- » Seth Litchney Senior Planner, Governor's Office of Planning and Research
- » Alisha M. Winterswyk Partner, Best, Best & Krieger
- » Joann C. Hadfield Principal, Environmental Services, PlaceWorks

Speaker Biographies:

Scott Morgan, State Clearinghouse Deputy Director of Administration, Governor's Office of Planning and Research

Scott Morgan has 15 years of experience working with CEQA, California planning law, and land-use and environmental regulations. He is a member of the Association of Environmental Professionals, the American Planning Association, and sits on a variety of state agency working groups and technical advisory committees. Scott works with federal, state, tribal, and local agencies on land use, environmental, renewable energy, and cultural site protection issues.

Seth Litchney, Senior Planner, Governor's Office of Planning and Research

In June 2012, Seth Litchney was appointed to the Governor's Office of Planning and Research to oversee the update of the General Plan Guidelines. He is managing a multi-disciplinary team to shift the Guidelines to an online, data-intensive resource for planners.

He previously worked for the California Natural Resources Agency administering its Urban Greening Grant Program, as Senior Planner in the Office of Planning and Research, and as land-use policy advisor to the mayor of San Diego. Mr. Litchney has participated in writing and implementing technical advisories on land use, climate change, and Complete Streets, and has been involved in developing the Strategic Growth Council's Sustainable Communities grant programs. He is also experienced in California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance and provides advice to planners, consultants, and the general public. He has a degree in Urban Studies from the University of San Diego.

Alisha M. Winterswyk, Partner, Best, Best & Krieger

Alisha M. Winterswyk is a Partner in the Environmental and Natural Resources Practice Group of Best Best & Krieger LLP and an Adjunct Professor of Law at Whittier Law School. She advises public and private agency clients on CEQA, NEPA, the state and federal Endangered Species Acts, and other state and federal environmental laws. She assists clients with preparation of all documentation required by CEQA/NEPA, including: resolutions, notices, exemptions, addenda, negative declarations, and environmental impact reports/statements. Alisha advises public agencies and private clients on complex land use matters involving the Planning and Zoning Law, Subdivision Map Act, and the State Mining and Reclamation Act. Alisha formerly served as Deputy City Attorney for the City of Lake Elsinore and Deputy Agency Counsel to the Redevelopment Agency for the City of Lake Elsinore. Alisha is also serving her second term as President of OCAEP.

Joann C. Hadfield, Principal, Environmental Services, PlaceWorks

Focusing on CEQA compliance services, JoAnn Hadfield has prepared environmental documents for hundreds of projects, including highly technical, controversial, and large-scale EIRs/EISs. Currently managing the preparation of several general plan EIRs, JoAnn contributes her perspective as a former city planner and technical knowledge from a civil engineering education. Her diverse environmental projects have spanned major commercial, residential, industrial, and infrastructure projects. A recognized expert, she regularly conducts CEQA training for clients and planning organizations.

Konnie Dobreva, Senior Planner, PlaceWorks

Konnie's more than thirteen years of public sector planning and legal experience have made her a keen analyst and an effective writer of CEQA documents. She has prepared environmental documents for a diverse range of projects: small-scale residential and large planned communities, commercial office, industrial, mixed-use and general plans. Konnie holds a juris doctorate degree from Pepperdine University School of Law, where she specialized in alternative dispute resolution. Konnie has been an assistant planner with the City of Lake Forest and a planning consultant for the cities of Irvine, Anaheim, and Rancho Santa Margarita. This is Konnie's ninth term as Orange County AEP Board Member. She is also Conference Co-Chair for the 2014 AEP Conference in Huntington Beach.

1:15 PM - 2:45 PM - Session Block 8 (Pacific Ballroom A)

CEOA Law

Preparing EIRs: A Litigator's Perspectives on How to Survive a Legal Challenge

CM | MCLE | 1.5

The California Environmental Quality Act is famous for its ability to trip up the unwary public agency official or environmental professional. A panel of CEQA litigators will convey practical tips for avoiding some of these pitfalls. Topics will include choosing a baseline for environmental analysis, analyzing greenhouse gas emissions, and drafting defensible mitigation measures, responses to comments, and findings.

The presentation will make extensive use of the Quizdom system, as the audience will be asked to vote on whether a reviewing court approved various real-life decisions made during the environmental impact report preparation process. Panelists will ask volunteers to explain their reasoning before describing how the court ruled and why.

The panel will address specific topics as follows:

- » A foundational question under CEQA is determining the baseline for analysis against which impacts will be measured. The panel will discuss recent California Supreme Court decisions on this issue.
- » The panel will present a number of recent cases discussing the adequacy of various means of analyzing greenhouse gas impacts.
- » Agencies often face difficulty defining mitigation measures during the early stage of a project's life at which an EIR is prepared. The presentation will focus on one particular challenge—deferral of mitigation—and will present actual mitigation measures for audience review and discussion.
- » The panel also will take on two drafting challenges that can undermine CEQA compliance at the end of the process: preparing responses to comments on a draft EIR and writing CEQA findings.

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Stephen L. Kostka Senior Counsel, Perkins Coie LLP
- » Julie Jones Partner, Perkins Coie LLP
- » Alan Murphy Associate, Perkins Coie LLP

Speaker Biographies

Stephen L. Kostka, Senior Counsel, Perkins Coie LLP

Steve Kostka, senior counsel with the firm's Environment, Energy & Resources practice, has represented clients in a broad range of cases involving the California Environmental Quality Act, the Planning and Zoning Law, and other state and federal environmental and land use statutes. He also has extensive experience counseling public agencies and private clients on land use, CEQA and NEPA compliance issues. Steve is a co-author of Practice under the California Environmental Quality Act. This two-volume treatise is relied on by practitioners, planners, environmental professionals and the courts as the leading authority on the interpretation and application of CEQA.

Julie Jones, Partner, Perkins Coie LLP

Julie focuses on environmental and land use counseling and litigation for complex development projects. She resolves issues that arise under the California Environmental Quality Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, the Clean Water Act, federal and state species protection statutes, and a range of other local, state and federal statutes and common law doctrines that affect land use. An experienced litigator in California and federal courts, Julie defends projects and uses this experience to help clients obtain the approvals they need while minimizing litigation risk. Julie's strategic problem solving has assisted private and public entities in permitting major university, traditional and renewable energy, water supply, maritime, and master planned community projects Litigation successes include overcoming challenges to a university/county agreement for trails, a transportation sales tax ballot measure, a city/county agreement for urban services, a transportation authority's light rail extension, and a university development and roadway project. Julie also represented a port in the successful defense of major expansion and dredging projects against NEPA and Endangered Species Act claims. Julie is the author of the sustainable development chapter of Curtin's California Land Use and Planning Law and has co-authored the treatise's chapters on federal and state wetland regulation and endangered species protections. She is also a regular California contributor to the California Land Use and Development Law Report.

Alan Murphy, Associate, Perkins Coie LLP

Alan Murphy is an associate with the firm's Environment, Energy & Resources practice. Alan focuses his practice on land use and development matters, including associated environmental review. He secures and defends land use entitlements, advises clients in preparing development applications and provides counseling during the due diligence period. Alan has experience in CEQA and NEPA litigation over project approvals. He also has worked on a citizens' initiative to amend a city's general plan, specific plan, zoning and other ordinances to accommodate a major development project.

Alan's clients have included developers, landowners, financial and educational institutions, energy companies and public agencies. His experience includes processing a proposal for a 1,950-acre wildlife preserve and 200-acre rural residential development in Santa Clara County, analyzing reuse rights for a former Hewlett- Packard campus in Mountain View, representing the City of Alameda in litigation related to a redevelopment proposal, and

representing energy companies in litigation over major solar power projects in Southern California.

Active in the firm's pro bono efforts, Alan helped draft a U.S. Supreme Court amicus brief in support of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, on behalf of a group of Catholic nuns. He also has provided legal services to environmental non-profit organizations. Alan is accredited as a LEED Green Associate and can assist clients in complying with U.S. Green Building Council certification requirements.

1:15 PM - 2:45 PM - Session Block 8 (Tides Ballroom)

Natural Resources

Environmental Ethic in Utility Industry Navigation of Regulatory Waters

CM | 1.5

The utility and energy industries are subject to regulatory requirements to monitor, maintain, and upgrade thousands of miles of interconnecting pipelines and infrastructure laid across the landscape of California over the past 60+ years. This extensive linear network of facilities crosses a mosaic of land uses, including urban areas, agricultural land, and national forests, as well as habitats supporting special-status species, natural communities of special concern, wetlands, and riparian habitats. In addition to Department of Transportation and Public Utilities Commission safety regulations, project implementation often requires local, state, and federal permits for impacts to habitat, threatened and endangered species, and waters of the U.S./State. Obtaining resource agency permits comes with a significant cost for mitigation often satisfied by the purchase of credits from established mitigation banks or project specific in-lieu fee mitigation habitat preservation purchases.

The Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) provides natural gas service to over 20 million consumers across 20,000 square miles. SoCalGas has established large regional programmatic Endangered Species Act (ESA) regulatory compliance solutions in the San Joaquin Valley and Southern California Desert Region that contribute substantially to mitigation banking by purchasing credits in advance. In addition to large programmatic efforts, project-specific mitigation purchases are made for individual projects. This session will explore the two large scale programs and one project-specific example to demonstrate how mitigation obligations are met by contributing to large scale habitat preservation, conservation, and restoration efforts.

The Mountains Restoration Trust (MRT) is a recipient of SoCalGas in-lieu fee mitigation dollars. MRT will discuss the development of large-scale habitat preserves and their in-lieu fee mitigation and restoration programs. While the MRT was originally formed to facilitate mitigation agreements through the Coastal Conservancy and Coastal Commission, it has now acquired more than 6,000 acres throughout the Santa Monica Mountains for preservation of lands with significant ecological value.

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Melissa Skyer Senior Environmental Specialist, SoCalGas
- » David Wolff Principal Ecologist, Sage Institute, Inc.
- » Jason Kirschenstein Principal Biologist, Sage Institute Inc.
- » Debbie Sharpton MRT Executive Director

Speaker Biographies:

Melissa Skyer, Senior Environmental Specialist, SoCalGas

Melissa Skyer has served as a Senior Environmental Specialist for the Southern California Gas Company for the past three years; focusing on wildlife, ecology, and environmental permitting including the Federal and California Endangered Species Acts and the Clean Water Act. Ms. Skyer is an expert in vertebrate ecology including large and small mammals as well as freshwater fish and has performed nesting bird surveys, wildlife movement studies, large mammal foraging studies, tree surveys, general and focused plant surveys, and prepared biological technical reports for projects throughout the United States. Ms. Skyer's previous work experience includes ecological and environmental consulting in the Midwest, where she led wetland delineation projects and lake restoration projects throughout several states. She has extensive experience in riparian habitat ecology as well as upland communities, including published research on river otter (Lontra canadensis) reintroduction in the Genesse Valley watershed of upstate New York in collaboration with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.

David Wolff, Principal Ecologist, Sage Institute, Inc.

David Wolff serves as the Principal Ecologist and President for Sage Institute, Inc. with over 30 years of professional experience. Mr. Wolff has special expertise in both flora and fauna, including terrestrial, freshwater aquatic, estuarine, and marine environments. He is knowledgeable in many bioregions of California including Southern California coastal, inland, and desert regions, central coastal & inland areas, Great Valley, and Sierra Nevada foothills. Along with his regional and landscape-scale resources planning experience, he is also an accomplished wetland scientist, botanist, and wildlife biologist well versed in endangered species issues. Throughout his career, David Wolff has conducted and managed studies, prepared reports, obtained regulatory compliance permits, monitored construction projects, and managed projects and staff for a diverse group of public and private sector projects and clients.

Jason Kirschenstein, Principal Biologist, Sage Institute Inc.

Jason Kirschenstein serves is a Principal Biologist and Vice President for Sage Institute, Inc. with over 15 years of professional experience. Mr. Kirschenstein is highly experienced in special-status wildlife and vegetation surveys, mitigation planning, regulatory compliance, Geographic Information System (GIS) applications, and environmental impact analysis. Mr. Kirschenstein is well versed in the planning process, and has successfully performed as an

integral member on planning and design teams. He has provided biological and regulatory compliance services for local agencies, utilities, and private development projects. Mr. Kirschenstein has managed the preparation of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Section 7 and Section 10 documentation for Federal Endangered Species Act and CDFW Section 2081 CESA take authorization approvals. Mr. Kirschenstein has worked closely with local agencies on permitting and environmental compliance projects, and is proficient in CEQA and NEPA analysis.

Debbie Sharpton, MRT Executive Director

Debbie Sharpton, a Los Angeles native, has over 34 years of experience in the real estate industry ranging from acquisition for master planned developments to natural resource protection, financing and appraisal, and construction. Debbie has spent the last 24 years focusing on improving water quality, habitat restoration and acquisitions. She joined MRT January, 2001 and became executive director in 2010. Debbie serves as the conservation chair for the Sierra Pacific Fly Fishers and Southwest Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers, implementing fish recovery projects in her personal time. She enjoys working with the community towards a more sustainable future.

1:15 PM - 2:45 PM - Session Block 8 (Dolphin Room)

Sustainability

Groundwater Evaluation for CEQA Documents

CM | 1.5

The development and protection of groundwater resources is now at the forefront of the water supply debate in California. The purpose of this presentation is to describe current best practices for groundwater evaluation under CEQA and to explain basic groundwater principles critical for review and understanding of groundwater analyses. To many, groundwater is not as familiar a subject as other natural resources -- perhaps because groundwater isn't visible-- but also because this field has its own terminology and methods of analysis. Groundwater analyses often require mathematical modeling and technical studies, and the evaluation of groundwater impacts in CEQA documents often requires specific expertise. When do you need a certified hydrogeologist, hydrologist, or engineer? And how do you reconcile the differences of opinion among these experts?

There is only one CEQA Checklist question that specifically addresses groundwater impacts (i.e., will the project substantially deplete groundwater supplies), but other important questions occur in the Checklist sections of Biology (if pumping affects surface waters), Geology (if pumping causes subsidence), and Water Quality (effects on seawater intrusion, drinking water quality, and existing groundwater contamination).

What level of analysis is needed for a single irrigation well? For drinking water supply? For conjunctive use of a groundwater basin? For use of recycled water in groundwater replenishment? What are the most common methodologies used for evaluation? What are reasonable significance thresholds? How do you determine the "baseline" for groundwater analyses? How do you review modeling and technical reports for CEQA adequacy? What do the terms "safe yield" and "sustainable yield" really mean and are they appropriate evaluation approaches for your project? Is climate change an issue?

The presentation will cover the basics of groundwater (from a CEQA point of view), approaches used by recent CEQA documents, and recent court cases involving groundwater issues.

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Patricia Collins Senior Project Manager, GHD
- » Robin Cort, Ph.D. RMC Water and Environment

Speaker Biographies:

Patricia Collins, Senior Project Manager, GHD

Patricia Collins, GHD: Patricia (Pat) Collins has over 30 years of professional experience in environmental planning and documentation, environmental permitting, water supply and wastewater planning, and project management. Pat has been the Project Manager or Principal-in-Charge for approximately 20 CEQA and/or NEPA documents with important groundwater analyses. Her experience includes extensive work to integrate science-based assessments into meaningful environmental analysis and mitigation. As part of her practice, Pat has been extensively involved in public communications and interaction with elected decision makers. Pat is a member of the Association of Environmental Professionals, the American Planning Association and has served as the North Bay RAC Chair. She has served as a Panelist for AEP's Basic and Advanced CEQA Workshops and as a lecturer at Sonoma State University teaching Introduction to Environmental Impact Reporting.

Pat will present successful approaches for groundwater evaluations and tips for reviewing modelling and technical analyses. She will also summarize recent CEQA court cases regarding groundwater and discuss climate change.

Robin Cort, Ph.D., RMC Water and Environment

Robin is an environmental scientist and ecologist with 31 years of experience in water resources, water recycling, and groundwater. She is an expert in regulatory compliance with NEPA and CEQA, and is experienced in facilities planning, alternatives development and analysis, permitting, implementation, and monitoring of mitigation programs. Robin manages RMC's as-needed environmental services to the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission. Robin has a doctorate in ecology from Stony Brook University in New York, and a bachelor's degree in biology from Stetson University in Florida.

Robin will present basic principles of groundwater and discuss the appropriate use of professional experts. She will also discuss strategies for successful education of decision makers and the public regarding groundwater issues.

3:00 PM - 6:15 PM - Mobile Workshop 2 (Whale Watching)

- » \$35 additional fee applies
- » Meet in lobby 15 minutes prior to departure

Mobile Workshop #2

Newport Landing Whale Watching

The reports are in! This is one of the best whale watching seasons in years! Newport Landing offers whale watching tours year around but we're in the transition period between the Gray and Blue Whale migrations, and we may see both. Newport Landing is ideally positioned to take advantage of the annual Gray whale migration, which brings hundreds of Gray Whales along the Laguna Beach coastline and within minutes of Newport Harbor. May through November brings warmer waters and the chance to view blue whales to 80 feet, finback whales, huge pods of dolphin that number in the thousands, seals, killer whales, sharks, and many other marine creatures. We will be aboard the Nautilus, which has an indoor snack bar with beverages and munchies available for purchase.

A marine biologist will be on board to speak about the environmental concerns for the South Coast waters and to answer questions during the trip. The *Nautilus* also has both indoor and outdoor seating. View the whales from the top observation deck for great photo opportunities.

Spectacular views provide for the backdrop to a fun filled event. Don't forget your camera and field glasses, and sunscreen, hats, and sunglasses - protection from the sun and harmful UV rays is important.

The bus leaves the hotel for Newport Beach at 3:00 p.m. and our 2½-hour tour leaves the dock at 3:30 p.m. The bus will pick you up for the return trip at 6:00 p.m. Please meet in lobby 15 minutes prior to departure.

3:15 PM - 4:45 PM - Session Block 9 (Pacific Ballroom B)

CEQA/NEPA

Glare: Lessons Learned and Practical Tips for Solar Energy Projects

CM | 1.5

Glare is all around us and has long been a part of everyday life as sunlight reflects off roadways, buildings, water bodies, windows, and other features of the human environment. Strong interest in solar projects has led to a corresponding increase in the technical sophistication of the study of glare-related impacts associated with such projects.

The panel will discuss the current state of glare as a CEQA issue, both in the CEQA Guidelines Appendix G checklist and in CEQA Guidelines adopted by local agencies, and will address the rationale behind significance thresholds. The panel will discuss the technical improvements in the study of glare-related impacts and how the solar industry is working to address glare concerns. The panel will also discuss whether the developments in how to address glare in the solar context will soon be used for a wide range of projects that have not traditionally performed glare analysis.

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Joe Monaco Principal, Dudek
- » Jason Pfaff Power Engineers, Business Unit Director of Strategic Communications
- » Patrick Brown Permitting Manager, Soitec Solar Development LLC
- » Ryan Waterman Of Counsel, Stoel Rives LLP

Speaker Biographies

Joe Monaco, Principal, Dudek

Joe Monaco is a Principal with Dudek, with 26 years of experience developing environmental documents under CEQA. His experience with renewable energy projects ranges from due diligence, through entitlements, permitting and construction/compliance monitoring.

Jason Pfaff, Power Engineers, Business Unit Director of Strategic Communications

Jason Pfaff is Business Unit Director of Strategic Communications and Visualization Services Department Manager with Power Engineers, Inc., and has extensive experience in the field of visualization technology, including preparation of glare reports for the solar energy industry.

Patrick Brown, Permitting Manager, Soitec Solar Development LLC

Patrick Brown is Permitting Manager at Soitec Solar Inc. and is responsible for the development of concentrated photovoltaic (CPV) solar project land use and environmental compliance throughout the Western U.S.

Ryan Waterman, Of Counsel, Stoel Rives LLP

Ryan Waterman is an attorney at Stoel Rives LLP who represents clients through all phases of the land use entitlement process and CEQA/NEPA environmental review. He works frequently with both solar energy and commercial developers on projects throughout Southern California.

3:15 PM – 4:45 PM – Session Block 9 (Pacific Ballroom A)

CEQA Law

CEQA Findings and Statements of Overriding Consideration – The Real Decision Documents

CM | MCLE | 1.5

The EIR may have been dubbed "the heart of CEQA," but it is through the CEQA findings and statements of overriding consideration that public agency decision makers inform the public of their rationale for project decisions. It is where they "show their work" and where some suggest they reveal their environmental values. What are the requirements for CEQA findings and why, in practice, do we see some that are a mere few pages and others that rival the length of the EIR itself? What constitutes enough of a factual basis to qualify as "substantial evidence" supporting each finding? What about findings for cumulatively considerable contributions? Under what circumstances can an agency reject as infeasible the mitigation measures or alternatives identified in the EIR? If an agency decides to approve a project with significant and unavoidable environmental effects, how does it conclude that specific economic, legal, social, technological, or other benefits actually outweigh the adverse effects? How can benefits such as job creation be meaningfully compared to drawbacks such as increased air pollutant emissions? Practitioners turn to State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15091 and 15093 for guidance, but still find that considerable judgment is required to adequately draft these decision documents. This session will teach practical approaches to preparing high quality CEQA findings and statements of overriding consideration, with a focus on the types of evidence needed to withstand legal scrutiny.

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Sydney B. Coatsworth, AICP Principal, Ascent Environmental
- » Amanda Olekszulin Principal, Ascent Environmental
- » Andrea K. Leisy Attorney, Remy Moose Manley

Speaker Biographies:

Sydney B. Coatsworth, AICP, Principal, Ascent Environmental

Sydney B. Coatsworth, AICP, Principal, Ascent Environmental, 27 years of experience in CEQA and NEPA Practice, water resources, flood control, public works.

Amanda Olekszulin, Principal, Ascent Environmental

Amanda Olekszulin, Principal, Ascent Environmental, 16 years of experience in CEQA and NEPA Practice, land development projects.

Andrea K. Leisy, Attorney, Remy Moose Manley

Andrea K. Leisy, Attorney, Remy Moose Manley, 15 years of experience in land use and environmental law.

3:15 PM - 4:45 PM - Session Block 9 (Tides Ballroom)

Natural Resources

Wind Energy and Eagles – Environmental Impact Assessment

CM | 1.5

Wind energy projects have a multitude of environmental impacts that occur during both construction and operation, but one set of environmental impacts that is most controversial are impacts to birds, particularly to bald and golden eagles. The USFWS is beginning to issue "take" permits for bald and golden eagles – a federal action triggering the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) – providing there is no net loss in the size and stability of the population. How does one go about evaluating these impacts? Federal guidance developed in 2011 and revised in 2013 provides direction to applicants to prepare Eagle Conservation Plans (ECPs). This presentation will highlight some of the nuances of preparing ECPs and Environmental Assessments (EAs) for wind projects. It will provide:

- » a summary of the federal regulations,
- » an overview of the requirements of eagle conservation plans,
- » a summary of key issues that arise when preparing the NEPA document, including:
 - » integrating and evaluating baseline conditions
 - » developing and choosing alternatives to analyze
 - » evaluating cumulative impacts,
- » an overview of connections to CEQA, and
- » a summary of the first eagle take permit.

This presentation will help environmental professionals understand the challenges and nuances of conducting appropriate environmental impact assessment for wind projects based on one of the first eagle take permits.

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Brad Norton Principal (Conservation Planner and Permitting Manager), Jones & Stokes
- » Scott Birkey, JD Cox, Castle & Nicholson
- » Jessica Rempel U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services

Speaker Biographies:

Brad Norton, Principal, Conservation Planner and Permitting Manager, Jones & Stokes

Brad Norton is multidisciplinary project manager who focuses on habitat conservation planning and environmental permitting. He directs project teams in preparation of environmental documents and permits in support of projects related to energy, water resources development, linear facilities, operation and maintenance (O&M), restoration planning, and land development. He serves as project manager and regulatory specialist on projects with complex and sensitive natural resource issues. He is experienced with the suite of federal and state environmental regulations including: Endangered Species Act (ESA) Sections 7 and 10; Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) and Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA); National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA); Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 and 401; National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106; California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); Sections 1600–1607 of the California Fish and Game Code; and the California ESA. Mr. Norton received a bachelor of science (B.S.) in Environmental Policy Analysis and Planning from the University of California, Davis in 1991.

Scott Birkey, JD - Cox, Castle & Nicholson

Scott Birkey is a partner in the San Francisco office of Cox, Castle & Nicholson LLP and a member of the firm's Land Use and Natural Resources practice group. He specializes in land use and natural resources entitlement, compliance, and litigation matters for residential and commercial developers and public agencies throughout the state of California. Mr. Birkey is experienced in all forms of land use entitlements, including the development of renewable energy projects and has supported the development of several eagle conservation plans. He also has extensive experience preparing and reviewing environmental documents prepared pursuant to CEQA, NEPA, and the Clean Water Act. Scott received his BA from Southwest Texas State University, his Masters in Environmental Science from University of Idaho, and his JD from University of California Berkeley. www.coxcastle.com

Jessica Rempel – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Jessica Rempel is a wildlife biologist in the Ventura Field Office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Her work focuses on consultations with other agencies, project developers, and consultants on impacts of renewable energy development in southern California on listed species, migratory birds, and eagles. She has reviewed numerous eagle conservation plans and assisted in the preparation of an environmental assessment associated with an eagle take permit application. Prior to working for the USFWS, Jessica worked as an environmental regulator for the Cape Cod Commission and the Natural Heritage and

Endangered Species Program in Massachusetts. While working for the MA NHESP, she helped draft the state's down-listing proposal for the Bald Eagle. Before working in the field of environmental regulation, Jessica was the field manager for a bald eagle restoration program on the Channel Islands, California, and received her master's degree in biology from California State University, Northridge. Her master's thesis research investigated the movements and foraging habits of bald eagles reintroduced on the California Channel Islands.

3:15 PM - 4:45 PM - Session Block 9 (Dolphin Room)

Sustainability

Show Me The Water! Using SB 610, CEQA & SB 221 to Help Ensure Adequate Water Supplies for New Development

CM | 1.5

The drought highlights the need for planners to ensure new development is supported by reliable water supplies that pass muster under California's show-me-the-water laws (SB 610, CEQA and SB 221). Learn lessons from show-me-the-water litigation since the Supreme Court's Vineyard Area Citizens case and understand innovative compliance approaches, like water-neutral development.

With real estate economy recovering from the Great Recession, cities and counties are processing more applications for land-use entitlements that must comply with California's show-me-the-water laws—SB 610, CEQA and SB 221. Failure to comply is a leading reason courts invalidate land-use approvals.

Demand for water to accommodate growth clashes with growing uncertainty about long-term availability of existing and planned water supplies. 2014 looks to be the driest year in modern California history. The state's single largest source of water for urban use—the State Water Project—initially projected zero SWP water availability for 25 million people living in a service area ranging from Silicon Valley to San Diego. Droughts, climate change, environmental regulatory restrictions and other factors make it hard to demonstrate long-term water availability to serve new development.

The California Supreme Court's 2007 decision in Vineyard Area Citizens v. City of Rancho Cordova announced "principles of analytical adequacy" for assessing water supply impacts for land-use decisions. Since then, some 15 new court decisions apply Vineyard's principles to water adequacy demonstrations for projects across the state. This panel will draw lessons from those cases and describe innovative compliance approaches based on case examples that planners can use.

Moderator/Panelists:

- » Eric Robinson Kronick, Moskovitz, Tiedemann & Girard
- » Anona Dutton Vice President of Water Resources Practice at Erler & Kalinowski

Speaker Biographies:

Eric Robinson, a Shareholder and Manager of the Water and Natural Resources Practice Group at Kronick, Moskovitz, Tiedemann & Girard

Mr. Robinson specializes in orchestrating water supply solutions for new development in complex institutional settings that range from in-fill projects to green field sites. Solution approaches include water transfers, use of recycled water and conservation design and offset projects (water neutral development).

Anona Dutton, Vice President of Water Resources Practice at Erler & Kalinowski

Ms. Dutton specializes in innovative techniques for satisfying California's show-me-thewater laws through designing water conservation into new development projects, carrying out off-site water conservation to offset new project water demand, and transferring water to augment local supplies.

3:15 PM - 4:45 PM - Session Block 9 (West Coast Room)

Students and Emerging Professionals

Resume Building and Networking for Students, Recent Graduates, and Emerging Environmental and Planning Professionals

CM | 1.5

This session is intended to provide an interactive forum for students, recent graduates, and emerging environmental and planning professionals, on how to draft a clean, concise, and informative resume in order to highlight the strengths and experience as an applicant. Drawing upon expertise, advice, and tips from a diverse panel of speakers that hold upper management level positions, you'll find out what works and what doesn't when it comes to the art of resume building and what it takes to get your resume noticed. The panel will share what they look for when reviewing resumes and highlight common mistakes often seen in resumes. In addition to resume building, this session will also include a discussion on the importance of networking. Recognizing that networking can be a valuable and useful skill when entering the profession, the panel will share tips on how to begin networking and ways to get involved. Overall, this discussion will benefit the audience's understanding on ways to improve their resume and how to begin developing professional relationships through networking.

Moderator/Panelist:

- » Ricky Caperton Project Planner at PlaceWorks
- » Steve Noack Principal, PlaceWorks
- » Henry Pontarelli Vice President, Lisa Wise Consulting, Inc.
- » David Parker Director of Career Development and Alumni Relations, Bren School of Environmental Science & Management

Speaker Biographies:

Ricky Caperton, Project Planner at PlaceWorks

Ricky Caperton is a Project Planner at PlaceWorks where he specializes in drafting CEQA documents at the project-specific and programmatic level. Ricky served as Student Representative for Sonoma State University on the Board of Directors for the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of AEP in 2011 and as Secretary in 2013. He is a recent graduate of Vermont Law School having earned a Masters of Environmental Law and Policy, and holds a Bachelors of Arts in Environmental Studies and Planning from Sonoma State University.

Steve Noack, Principal, PlaceWorks

Steve Noack, Principal, PlaceWorks: Mr. Noack manages the Berkeley office of PlaceWorks as well as the CEQA Practice for Northern California. He specializes in preparing environmental documents on a wide range of projects including general plans, campus planning documents, master development plans and transportation projects. His expertise includes day to day application of the California Environmental Quality Act, the National Environmental Policy Act and other state and federal environmental regulations and guidelines. Mr. Noack assembles a team of technical consultants tailored to each specific project and manages the work effort to produce cohesive planning documents. In addition, Mr. Noack provides planning analysis expertise in land use and socioeconomic studies. He is also a trained facilitator.

Mr. Noack has over 30 years of experience in environmental and land use planning, primarily in the Bay Area. In addition he serves as the Executive Vice President for the California Chapter of AEP.

Henry Pontarelli, Vice President, Lisa Wise Consulting, Inc.

Henry Pontarelli, Vice President, Lisa Wise Consulting, Inc.: Henry Pontarelli established Lisa Wise Consulting, Inc. with his wife and business partner in 2006 and brings over 20 years of business management and economic experience to the firm. Henry's experience includes developing and maintaining distribution networks for American-manufactured products in Latin America as well as establishing a West Coast sales and distribution presence for a Miami-based pharmaceutical distributor. Henry holds a B.S. in Economics and Marketing from DePaul University in Chicago.

At LWC, Henry focuses on coastal community and working waterfront industry analysis, and performance strategies relative to land use policy, market influences, regulation. As an owner and V.P., his role also involves long-term strategic planning and the day-to-day obligations of running a small business. This includes new business development, identifying new talent, managing the hiring process, and compensation and retention strategies. LWC currently has 10 employees in offices in San Luis Obispo, San Francisco and individual desks in L.A., San Diego and Ecuador. Recent engagements on which Henry was directly responsible include Community Sustainability Plans for the Cities of Monterey and Morro Bay, the first two in California, as well as economic impact analysis for working waterfronts in Port San Luis, Morro Bay, Half Moon Bay and Fort Bragg.

David Parker, Director of Career Development and Alumni Relations, Bren School of Environmental Science & Management

David Parker, Director of Career Development and Alumni Relations, Bren School of Environmental Science & Management: David Parker is responsible for job placement, internship and job development, career advisement and training, professional development, and alumni relations. Mr. Parker has more than 25 years of experience in the human resources and career development fields, including experience as an employment manager, corporate trainer, career counselor, college recruiter, and organizational development consultant. David has worked for small, medium, and large organizations, including Fortune 500 companies. Mr. Parker received his BA *magna cum laude* in economics from UC Santa Barbara, his MBA from CSU Long Beach, and his MS in Counseling and Guidance from California Lutheran University. David has been an active member on the Board of the Association of Environmental Professionals (Channel Counties Chapter) since 2002.

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM - Session Block 10 (Waterfront Ballroom)

Closing Breakfast Sponsored by **Remy Moose Manley**

Closing Breakfast - Part 1

Annual CEQA Update

CM | MCLE | 1.5

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) practice is constantly evolving. Changes in the statute, amendments to the State CEQA Guidelines, and new court interpretations of CEQA occur frequently. The challenge for practitioners is to keep up-to-date on the major changes.

Okay, so 2013 was not the "year of CEQA reform" that everyone expected, but that doesn't mean it wasn't an active year. This session will review the new CEQA bills that were enacted in 2013, the key court decisions of the past year, including new holdings by the California Supreme Court, and the prospective revisions to the CEQA Guidelines being drafted by OPR. We'll also take a look at the key CEQA bills that are being considered by the Legislature in 2014.

Join us for an interesting session with CEQA experts who will share their knowledge and offer the perspectives on where we've been and where we're going with California's premiere environmental protection law.

Moderators/Panelists:

- » Ron Bass, J.D., AICP ICF International
- » Christopher Calfee, J.D. Governor's Office of Planning and Research (invited)
- » Margaret Moore Sohagi, J.D. Sohagi Law Group (invited)
- » Antero Rivasplata, AICP ICF International

Speaker Biographies:

Margaret Moore Sohagi, J.D., Sohagi Law Group

Ms. Sohagi and Mr. Bass will review the key court decisions of the past year, focusing on opinions that offer new interpretations of CEQA and the Public Records Act, including the California Supreme Court's *Neighbors for Smart Rail* decision on the use of a future condition as the CEQA "baseline." As long-time practitioners and legal counsel, they will offer practical advice on how these court opinions should be reflected in CEQA documents and processes.

Christopher Calfee, J.D., Governor's Office of Planning and Research

Mr. Calfee will provide a broad overview of the work being done by OPR and the Natural Resources Agency to update the CEQA Guidelines. Comprehensive revisions are being proposed, in addition to new mandates from the Legislature directing them to address traffic impact criteria for infill projects and wildland fire hazard.

Ron Bass, J.D., AICP, Senior Consultant, ICF International

Ron Bass is an environmental planner and lawyer with extensive experience managing, preparing and reviewing NEPA and CEQA documents and advising clients about compliance. He is also a co-author of *THE NEPA BOOK: a Step-by-Step Guide on How to Comply with the National Environmental Policy Act* and the CEQA DESKBOOK: A Step-by-Step Approach to the California Environmental Quality Act. Mr. Bass has taught hundreds of workshops on NEPA, CEQA and land use planning for various continuing education programs as well as for federal, state and local agencies. Additionally, is a past-president of AEP and worked at the Office of Planning and Research.

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM - Session Block 10 (Waterfront Ballroom)

Closing Breakfast - Part 2

CEQA 2014 Guidelines Amendment Roundtable Discussion – A Fine Vintage?

CM | MCLE | 1.5

In 2013 and 2014, the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) and California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) have embarked on an unusually broad array of proposed amendments to update the State CEQA Guidelines. As part of the update process, OPR and CNRA have sought suggestions for improvements to the CEQA Guidelines that accomplish the following goals:

- » Make the environmental review process more efficient and meaningful
- » Reflect California's adopted policy priorities, including, among others, addressing climate change, promoting of infill development, and conserving natural and fiscal resources
- » Reflect statutory changes to CEQA and cases interpreting CEQA

Amendments being considered include legislatively authorized Environmental Checklist revisions to include wildfire hazard impact questions, along with clarification of streamlining provisions, approaches to supplemental reviews (i.e., addendum, supplement to an EIR, subsequent EIR), and several other topics. The roundtable panel will take on specific, timely CEQA compliance issues and proposed amendments in a moderated discussion that will include substantial audience participation. Learn about the potential requirements coming out of the CEQA Guidelines amendment process and provide input that may help shape the final outcome.

Determining the significance of a transportation-related impacts has been one of the hotly debated concepts in the CEQA process during recent years — should significance be based on level of service (LOS), travel time, delay, other congestion measures, roadway or intersection capacity? SB 743 (Steinberg) mandates amendment of the State CEQA Guidelines to provide an alternative approach to determining the significance of

transportation impacts in transit priority areas. According to SB 743, the approach must recognize the multi-modal character of these transit-served locations and a priority for greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction. The specialized issues of transportation-related environmental effects, including GHG, present different challenges, because multiple methods for determining significance have emerged from experience and authoritative sources and the science of travel modeling and GHG reduction continues to evolve. Also, the wording of the bill does not modify related air quality analysis or general plan consistency requirements, which could affect the CEQA Guidelines amendments. The expert panel will discuss the potential alternative means for determining transportation impact significance in the CEQA Guidelines and their pros and cons. The discussion and audience comments will provide input to OPR in the Guidelines amendment process.

Moderators/Panelists:

- » Curtis E. Alling, AICP Principal, Ascent Environmental, Inc.
- » Christopher Calfee, J.D. Governor's Office of Planning and Research
- » Doug Carstens Managing Partner, Chatten-Brown & Carstens
- » Mindy Fogg Planning Manager, County of San Diego
- » Barbara J. Schussman Partner, Perkins Coie

Speaker Biographies:

Curtis E. Alling, AICP, Principal, Ascent Environmental, Inc.

Curtis E. Alling, AICP, a CEQA and NEPA expert with over 35 years of experience, specializes in natural resources management, climate change issues, water supply, transportation, park and recreation projects, and renewable energy. He is a founding principal of Ascent Environmental, Inc., an environmental and natural resources consultancy established in 2010 located in Sacramento, Lake Tahoe, and San Diego. Curtis is a leader in CEQA practice approaches for public agencies' most complex or "first-time" situations, such as innovative use of Program EIRs, CEQA-equivalent documents for regulatory processes, or incorporation of climate-change issues into environmental analysis. Recent projects include: City of Sacramento General Plan Master EIR, Lake Tahoe Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy EIR/EIS, California State Parks Road and Trail Change-in-Use Statewide Program EIR, City of Sacramento Climate Action Plan, and the Air Resources Board's CEQA-equivalent document for the Scoping Plan Update and the Cap-and-Trade Regulations, key features of the AB 32 GHG emissions reduction program. Curtis is also Co-Chair of the Enhanced CEQA Action Team (ECAT), a collaboration of the Association of Environmental Professionals and American Planning Association – California Chapter.

Christopher Calfee, Senior Counsel, Office of Planning and Research

Christopher Calfee is Senior Counsel at the Governor's Office of Planning and Research. He previously served as Special Counsel to both the Office of Planning and Research and the California Natural Resources Agency, where he was the lead attorney responsible for

development and adoption of amendments to the CEQA Guidelines addressing greenhouse gas emissions. In private practice, Mr. Calfee has represented both local governments and private applicants in matters involving the California Environmental Quality Act and related environmental and planning laws in association with the law firm of Remy Thomas Moose & Manley LLP, and later with Best Best & Krieger LLP.

Barbara J. Schussman, Partner, Perkins Coie

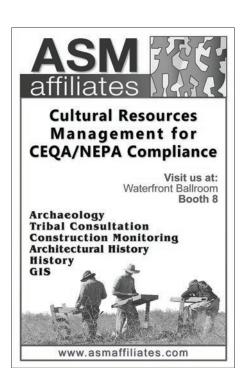
Barbara Schussman, a partner in Perkins Coie's Environment, Energy & Resources practice, focuses on securing federal, state and local agency approvals needed to develop a wide range of private and public projects. Barbara represents private developers and local agencies processing CEQA documents for numerous types of development approvals. Barbara also counsels clients regarding compliance with NEPA, California Planning and Zoning Law, and approvals required by the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, federal and state Endangered Species Acts, California Coastal Act and the Subdivision Map Act. She also is an experienced litigator, and has defended approvals and environmental permits in both the state and federal courts. She is the author of the CEQA chapter of Curtin's *California Land Use and Planning Law*. She also teaches and lectures on CEQA and NEPA compliance and litigation issues for a variety of organizations.

Doug Carstens, Managing Partner, Chatten-Brown & Carstens

Douglas Carstens is the Managing Partner of a five person petitioners' environmental law firm, Chatten-Brown & Carstens LLP, based in Hermosa Beach and San Diego and practicing throughout the state. He graduated from Cornell University and UCLA Law School. Prior to attending law school, he served as an officer in the Navy. Since 1998, he has practiced exclusively in the area of environmental law. His law firm primarily represents environmental and community groups, and much of the practice involves counseling and litigation under the California Environmental Quality Act. He was selected to be a Southern California Super Lawyer for environmental law in 2009 through 2012 and was awarded the Planning and Conservation League's Carla Bard Award for Individual Achievement in 2011.

Mindy Fogg, Planning Manager, County of San Diego

Mindy Fogg is a Planning Manager and Biologist at the County of San Diego where she has worked in the Planning & Development Services Department since 2001. Her work has involved the preparation of CEQA documents for numerous private and public projects. She recently completed work on the County's General Plan Update and its EIR, as well as the County's new Wind Energy Ordinance. Mindy is also the Director of the San Diego Chapter of the Association of Environmental Professionals.







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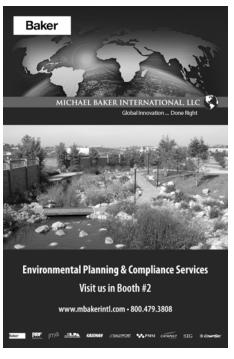
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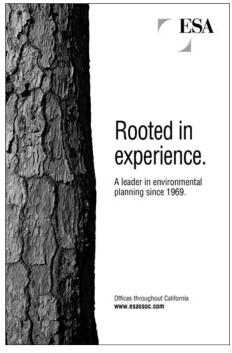
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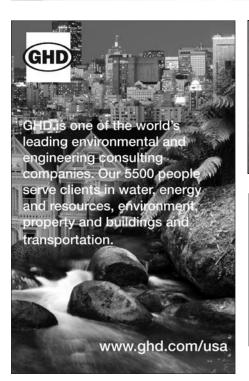




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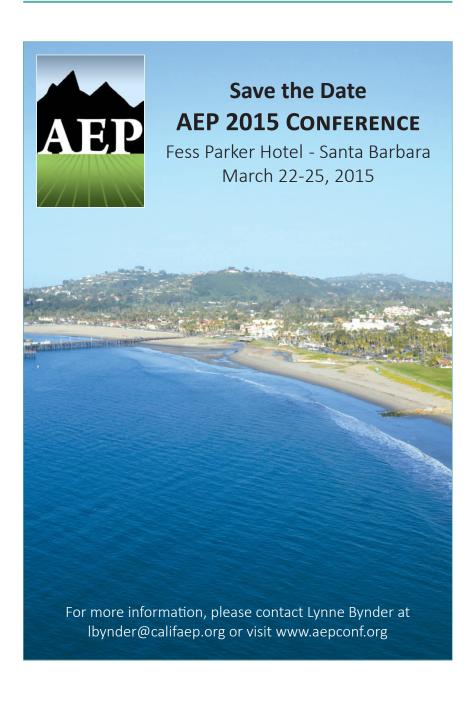
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