

# Sustainable Water Resources Roundtable Call Notes

Thursday, April 11, 2019

## Participants

- o Marianna Grossman Minerva Silicon Valley
- o Dan Sullivan USGS/ACWI Resources
- o Jan Surface USDA/NRCS Resources
- o Doug Curtis DOI, BLM
- o Rich Jurich, Colorado River Bd California Resilience
- o Rhonda Kranz, Kranz Consulting Parsons, ESA Berry SWRR
- o Bob Wilkinson UC Santa Barbara
- o Abdul Khan, Cal. Dept. Water
- o Lewis Moeller, Cal. Dept. Water
- o Ron McCormick DOI, BLM
- o Stan Bronson Global Ctr Climate
- o Jill
- o David

## 1. Check in on current activities

David invited Rich Jurich to describe his new job and duties at the Colorado River Board of California. Rich told us that for the past 75 years as been charged with:

- Maintaining or increasing the quantity of California's Colorado River water resources.
- Representing California in discussions among the Colorado River Basin States, Indian Tribes, the federal government and others in implementing joint cooperative programs to protect California's use of Colorado River water and to address environmental and endangered species issues.
- Addressing issues relating to the 1944 U.S.-Mexico Water Treaty through cooperative efforts with the U.S. International Boundary and Water Commission and other states.

**From <[http://www.crb.ca.gov/about\\_us/mission.html](http://www.crb.ca.gov/about_us/mission.html)**

Lew Moeller, a new SWRR participant from the California Dept. of Water Resources introduced himself and his work. He has had attention on the indicators for the coming update of the California Water Plan.

Abdul Khan told us about the upcoming release of a draft of the Water Budget Handbook and said it would be useful if SWRR participants could review and comment.

## 2. Status of federal budget and funding for SWRR

Doug Curtis reported that the paper work for the resumption of the multiyear agreement to support SWRR by BLM has been submitted after the senior managers approved continuing with the vehicle of a cooperative agreement. As is always the case

we don't know how many weeks it will take to process but the approval is welcome news.

David reported that there is a small amount at ESA that USFS provided at the end last fiscal year which can cover a few SWRR expenses.

Jan Surface from the Natural Resources Conservation Service at USDA said she has been making connections with policy staff for SWRR support. There is interest in both participation and support and while an agreement may not be initiated until FY 2020, they are working on it now in case some year-end funds become available.

Mike Eberle was unable to be on the call but he let David know that major re-org is going on in his division with lots of changes in management. It is not clear on what SWRR support might be available. David said that with new people coming into senior positions this might provide a good opportunity to brief the new managers and alert them to how SWRR participation could forward their objectives for collaboration, input, and outreach. Of course funding is not a requirement to participation.

### **3. Discussion of Holding SWRR Webinars to Supplement Live SWRR meetings.**

How to include larger SWRR audience?

1. Abdul endorses the idea based on DWR experience, He said the release of a draft of the Water Budget Handbook provides an opportunity to hold a webinar as does the update on the California Water Plan
2. Jill endorses based on ESA experience.
3. Janet would like to offer a webinar for sustainability actions in the new farm bill related to water resources.

The group discussed each organization hosting the webinar and having SWRR provide an introduction at the opening. This way SWRR can work through agency webinar accounts. In some cases we could open up webinars to any of our participating organizations list to reach a broad audience.

Marianna reminded us that we can record and post webinars to the SWRR website or YouTube.

### **4. Next Call**

The participants agreed the next SWRR call will be May 8, 2019 at 1 pm EST/ 10 am PST