

# on tap

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## CALIFORNIA WATER ASSOCIATION

Working Together.  
Achieving Results.

[www.calwaterassn.com](http://www.calwaterassn.com)

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### QUESTIONS?

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

California Water Association's (CWA) investor-owned water company (IOWC) members are saddened by the unprecedented damage and the devastating loss of life caused by the Wine Country fires and, at this writing, are coordinating mutual aid efforts with their fellow utilities. The IOWCs serving communities in Sonoma and Lake counties have begun responding to the damage their customers and systems sustained, and there will be a full report on their responses in the next issue of *On Tap*.

Meanwhile, the IOWCs continue to embrace change, while working consistently to provide their customers with safe, reliable and high-quality water. Some of those changes include hiring new personnel, upgrading infrastructure, increasing supplier diversity participation and celebrating the newly designated appreciation week for water professionals. Additionally, CWA worked diligently on several important bills during the last two weeks of the 2017 legislative session – an effort that was rewarded when the CWA co-sponsored bill dealing with preserving safe drinking water was passed and signed into law.

The following articles in this edition of *On Tap* spotlight the continual commitment of IOWCs and CWA as they embrace and respond to change with the goal of improving water service for Californians:

- 2017 Legislative Wrap-Up Includes Enactment of CWA-Sponsored Bill
- CPUC Commissioners Confirmed by State Senate
- Cal Water Celebrates Local Heroes and Customers at Open House
- American Water CEO Flips Solar Power System Switch
- Cal Water Receives Federal and State Supplier Diversity Honors
- East Pasadena Water Hosts Tour for Assembly Member Chris Holden
- CWA Files Amicus Letter in Eminent Domain Takeover Case
- Retirements, New Hires at Liberty Utilities
- Changing of the Guard at San Jose Water
- Steelhead Trout Flourish After California American Water Removes San Clemente Dam
- October Marks Inaugural *Water Professionals Appreciation Week*
- There's Still Time to Register Onsite for CWA's 2017 Annual Conference

To view *On Tap* in PDF format, [click here](#), or access the online version on CWA's website at [www.calwaterassn.com](http://www.calwaterassn.com).

Sincerely,

Lawrence M. Morales  
East Pasadena Water Company  
2017-2018 CWA President



California  
Water  
Association



## LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY UPDATE

### 2017 LEGISLATIVE WRAP-UP INCLUDES ENACTMENT OF CWA-SPONSORED BILL

Governor Brown completed his actions on all bills on October 16, 2017. A total of 859 bills were signed into law and 118 were vetoed. All bills introduced in 2017, that were not passed by the Legislature, remain eligible to be considered during 2018 pursuant to specific, applicable legislative deadlines. The Legislature is scheduled to convene the second year of its 2017-2018 legislative session on January 3, 2018. The following bills were of particular significance to CWA members and their customers:

Topping the list in 2017 was a priority bill for CWA, Assembly Bill (AB) 1671, from Assembly Member Anna Caballero (D-Salinas). Signed into law by Governor Brown on October 6, 2017, and co-sponsored by CWA, the Association of California Water Agencies, the California Municipal Utilities Association and the American Water Works Association, this important public health and safety measure will require each public water system to implement a cross-connection control program that complies with applicable regulations and standards adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). To ensure testing and maintenance of backflow prevention assemblies are performed by qualified persons, local health officers may maintain programs for certification of backflow prevention assembly testers. The certification standards must be consistent with standards for backflow protection and cross-connection control adopted by the SWRCB, which must be promulgated by January 1, 2020 (the existing standards were last updated in 1988 and are woefully out of date).

AB 1671 passed the Legislature on the last night of the session by a vote of 40-0 in the Senate and 74-0 in the Assembly. A competing backflow measure, AB 1529, authored by Assembly Member Tony Thurmond (D-Richmond), which would have grandfathered existing tester certifications granted by the State Department of Public Health prior to 2016 and removed the decision for selecting qualified testers from the local water utility or county health department, was placed on the inactive file during the last weekend of the session after a failed vote of 10-21 in the Senate.

**Governor Brown Signs Lead Testing, Water Bond and CPUC Reform Bills into Law**  
Governor Brown signed two bills into law related to lead in drinking water. First, Senate Bill (SB) 427, authored by Senator Connie Leyva (D-San Bernardino), became law on September 11, 2017. This bill made clarifying changes to Senator Leyva's 2016 bill, SB 1398, which established lead service line identification and replacement requirements. SB 427 requires a community water system to provide a timeline to the SWRCB by July 1, 2020, for the replacement of known lead service lines in its distribution system. The bill also authorizes the SWRCB to enforce provisions of the California Safe Drinking Water Act related to lead in service lines of a public water system and a community water system.

AB 746, by Lorena Gonzalez-Fletcher (D-San Diego), was signed by Governor Brown on October 13, 2017. The bill requires a community water system that serves a school site built before January 1, 2010, to test for lead in the potable water system of the school site on or before July 1, 2019. The bill also requires the community water system to report its findings to the school site within 10 business days after receiving the test results or within two business days if the test results indicate the school site's lead levels exceed 15 parts per billion (ppb). If elevated lead levels are found, the bill requires a local education agency to notify parents and guardians and take immediate steps to make inoperable and shut down from use all fountains and faucets where the excess lead levels may exist. The bill, which sunsets on July 1, 2019, requires each local education agency to work with the school sites within its service area to ensure a potable source of drinking water is provided for students where faucets or fountains have been shut down.

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## LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY UPDATE

### 2017 LEGISLATIVE WRAP-UP INCLUDES ENACTMENT OF CWA-SPONSORED BILL...CONTINUED

Two other bills relevant to CWA members were signed by the governor in October. SB 5, by Senate President pro Tempore Kevin de León (D-Los Angeles), the *California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018*, is a new parks, resources and water bond that will place a \$4 billion measure on the June 2018 primary election ballot. The measure includes the following funding allocations for water-related projects:

- \$250 million for safe drinking water programs, predominantly in disadvantaged communities
- \$80 million for groundwater contamination cleanup projects (disadvantaged community focus)
- \$550 million for flood protection and repair
- \$290 million for groundwater and water recycling projects

Senator Jerry Hill's (D-San Mateo) SB 19 will change the operations of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). Principally, the bill transfers four transportation-related functions from the CPUC to other agencies or jurisdictions on July 1, 2018. Among other things, SB 19 clarifies and, in some cases, codifies the responsibilities and oversight of various positions within the CPUC, including the Chief Administrative Law Judge, the Chief Internal Auditor and the Public Advisor. SB 19 also creates a new ethics officer within the Legal Division and clarifies CPUC-notification requirements for contracting of outside legal services. Finally, SB 19 forbids a utility executive from serving as a CPUC commissioner within two years of leaving the utility.

#### **Legislature Postpones Action on Water-Use Efficiency, Public Goods Charge Bills**

Three high-profile bills directly affecting water utilities and their customers were postponed until the 2018 session. The two legislative proposals on long-term water conservation regulations, AB 1668 by Laura Friedman (D-Glendale) and SB 606 by Nancy Skinner (D-Berkeley) and Bob Hertzberg (D-Van Nuys), were not brought up for votes on the final day of the session and remain as two-year bills. The authors plan to move the bills when the Legislature reconvenes in 2018. The policy areas that remain contentious and unresolved include:

- Legislature's role in establishing targets;
- Recycled water variances and the level of the potable reuse credit;
- Commercial-institutional-industrial sector performance measures;
- Single path to compliance for retail water suppliers; and
- State enforcement authority.

Senator Bill Monning's (D-Santa Cruz) SB 623, the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund, would have established an ongoing source of funding for securing access to safe drinking water, while also ensuring the long-term sustainability of drinking water service and infrastructure. The bill would have required the SWRCB to expend monies from the fund for grants, loans, contracts or services to assist eligible applicants (entities representing households that are within 200 percent of the federal poverty line) with projects relating to the provision of safe and affordable drinking water. Funding for these initiatives would come from a variety of sources, but the principal source would be a surcharge on non-eligible water utility customers ranging from 95 cents a month to \$10 per month depending on the size of the customer's meter (non-metered customers would be subject to the \$0.95/month fee). The Legislature adjourned without taking action on SB 623. The bill's proponents have launched a very active social media campaign to gain support for the bill in the 2018 session. 

## LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY UPDATE

### CPUC COMMISSIONERS CONFIRMED BY STATE SENATE

**O**n September 16, the California Senate confirmed Governor Brown's 2016 appointments of Martha Guzman Aceves and Clifford Rechtschaffen as Commissioners of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) for terms ending on January 1, 2023.

From 2011 through 2016, [Commissioner Guzman Aceves](#) served as deputy legislative affairs secretary in Governor Brown's office focusing on natural resources, environmental protection, water, energy, food and agriculture. She earned a Master of Science degree in agricultural and resource economics from the University of California, Davis.

"During these challenging times, I am grateful for the opportunity to serve with like-minded, visionary Commissioners as we forge a path to prudently transition our economy while keeping all utility services safe, clean, reliable and affordable," said Commissioner Guzman Aceves in a CPUC news release.

From 2011 to 2017, [Commissioner Rechtschaffen](#) was a senior adviser to Governor Brown working on climate, energy and environmental issues. In 2011, he also served as acting director of the California Department of Conservation. He is a graduate of Yale Law School and Princeton University.

Commissioner Rechtschaffen noted in the CPUC news release, "I am honored to serve as a Commissioner. I look forward to working to help achieve California's ambitious climate and clean energy goals and ensure that California consumers enjoy affordable, safe and reliable utility service." 



*Commissioner Martha Guzman Aceves*



*Commissioner Clifford Rechtschaffen*

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

### CAL WATER CELEBRATES LOCAL HEROES AND CUSTOMERS AT TREATMENT PLANT OPEN HOUSE

**C**alifornia Water Service (Cal Water) recently hosted an open house for residents to tour its recently upgraded Oroville District Water Treatment Plant. Local heroes, including first responders, were honored at a special presentation for their response during the Oroville Dam spillway crisis as well as their ongoing efforts to protect the area's water supply. The event featured a pancake breakfast, games, drought-tolerant plan raffles, water education booths and a hero costume parade.

Among the attendees were representatives from Assembly Member James Gallagher's and Senator Jim Nielsen's offices as well as Fire and Police Chief Bill LaGrone, Cal Fire Division Chief Chris Haile and Captain Jerry Jones from the Butte County Sheriff's office.

"Our team appreciated the opportunity to welcome the community to the treatment plant and share how Cal Water ensures that the local water supply continues to meet all state and federal water quality standards," said Local Manager George Barber in a [press release](#). "Cal Water has been a part of the Oroville community for the past 90 years, and we look forward to continuing our commitment to providing our customers with quality, service and value for generations to come."



Oroville Water Awareness Event and Salute to Local Heroes

\$ Quality. Service. Value.<sup>®</sup>

#### A Decade of Improvements for the Oroville District Treatment Plant

**2007**

- REPLACE 2 VALVES
- INSTALL CHLORINE GENERATION CELL
- REFURBISH 2 RESERVOIRS

The baffles are walls within the reservoir, which aid in the constant movement and flow of water. This plays a part in the maintaining good water quality.

**2008**

- REPLACE 2 VALVES
- INSTALL STATION 1 GENERATOR

Having an emergency generator at Station 14 ensures that even if a power outage were to occur, we would still be able to pump water to the treatment plant for our customers.

**2009**

- INSTALL CONCRETE LINING IN RESERVOIR
- REFURBISH 2 RESERVOIRS

Like the baffles, having a concrete lining in the reservoir plays a part in maintaining good water quality.

**2010**

- REPLACE 2 VALVES
- UPGRADE TURBIDIMETERS
- REFURBISH FILTER MATERIAL (ANTHRACITE)

New valves insure filter operations operate smoothly and efficiently. Anthracite is a filtering material aiding in the removal of contaminants.

**2011**

- REPLACE 2 TURBIDIMETERS
- UPGRADE FLOWMETER
- PAINTING OF STORAGE TANK IS

The painting of the storage tank at the plant is critical in extending the life of the tank, which holds water needed for customer demand.

**2012**

- UPGRADE TREATMENT PLANT SCADA SYSTEM
- REPLACE TURBIDIMETER

Updating our monitoring and control equipment is critical, so that we can continue to meet technical, security, and communication needs.

**2013**

- UPGRADE SECURITY FENCING
- UPGRADE LABORATORY
- INSTALL SECURITY ALARMS FOR STORAGE TANK
- UPDATE BACKWASH RECOVERY

Updating our backwash recovery system helps in improving water quality and control of the water we recycle through our system.

**2014**

- REPLACE 1 MOTOR
- REPLACE VALVE
- INSTALL PARTICLE COUNTER
- REPLACE TURBIDIMETER

Energy efficient motors are used throughout the plant, especially on the booster pumps. State regulations are met and recorded by technical devices as in the particle counter and turbidimeters used in the treatment plant.

**2015**

- INSTALL SECURITY FENCING
- INSTALL SECURITY CAMERAS
- REPLACE CHLORINE GENERATION EQUIPMENT

We add chlorine to our water to kill bacteria and microorganisms that could otherwise be harmful to humans. Replacing this aging equipment ensures that we can maintain high water quality and be compliant with new safety standards.

**2016**

- REPLACE 2 MOTORS
- REPLACE ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT
- INSTALL NEW GENERATOR
- INSTALL RAW WATER PIPE
- REFURBISH TREATMENT PLANT

Replacing aging electrical equipment and installing a larger generator capable of running the entire plant was critical. Making these changes gives the treatment plant much more reliability. By repaving the plant, conditions have improved and allows our staff and other utilities to come on site safely.

**2017**

- REPLACE 2 MOTORS
- REPLACE ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT
- INSTALL NEW GENERATOR
- INSTALL RAW WATER PIPE
- REFURBISH TREATMENT PLANT

Replacing aging electrical equipment and installing a larger generator capable of running the entire plant was critical. Making these changes gives the treatment plant much more reliability. By repaving the plant, conditions have improved and allows our staff and other utilities to come on site safely.

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

### AMERICAN WATER CEO FLIPS SOLAR POWER SYSTEM SWITCH AT SACRAMENTO OFFICE

In late September, American Water Chief Executive Officer Susan Story visited California American Water's (CAW) district office in Sacramento to meet with employees and flip the switch to activate the newly installed solar power system. The new system will generate 58,000 kilowatt-hours per year, reducing CAW's energy bills and increasing the sustainability of operations.

During the morning meeting with employees, Story focused her comments on safety and customer service. Employees asked questions about the future of their benefits and American Water's involvement in the federal Healthcare Alliance as well as the company's regulatory outlook and efforts to improve the use of technology. Subsequent to her visit with employees, Story met with senior leaders in the governor's office and at the California Natural Resources Agency. 



*Susan Story activating the solar power system with Director of Operations Audie Foster and solar Project Manager Tim Hasler.*



*Susan Story with CAW's Sacramento team.*



*California American Water President Richard Svindland (left), along with Susan Story and Kevin Tilden (right), congratulate Senior Business Development Manager Thomas Brunet (2nd from left) on 10 years of service.*

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

### CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE RECEIVES FEDERAL AND STATE SUPPLIER DIVERSITY HONORS



President Donald Trump and Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross (right) congratulate the 2017 winners of the National Minority Enterprise Development Award at a ceremony in the White House Oval Office on October 24, 2017. Accepting the award on behalf of California Water Service was Jose Espinoza. (5th from left in bow tie)

**O**n October 24, California Water Service received the 2017 Distinguished Supplier Diversity Award from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Minority Business Development Agency. The award was given to Cal Water by President Donald J. Trump and Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross for the company's efforts to support the diverse business community.

Cal Water's [Supplier Diversity](#) Program Manager Jose Espinoza accepted the award at the White House on the utility's behalf.

"We are pleased to be a recipient of the Distinguished Supplier Diversity Award, as we are firmly committed to building our relationships with diverse suppliers," said Martin A. Kropelnicki, Cal Water President and CEO. "Thanks in large part to Jose's efforts, we have been able to utilize this expanded pool of suppliers to obtain the highest-quality goods and services at the lowest prices. This directly benefits our customers and communities and enables us to continue fulfilling our commitment to providing quality, service, and value."

Earlier in October, Espinoza was selected by [Asian, Inc.](#)'s Board of Directors as the organization's Supplier Diversity Champion of the Year. Espinoza was chosen for his extensive work on behalf of Asian, Inc.'s supplier diversity program through Cal Water and the California Water Association. The award was presented to Espinoza at Asian, Inc.'s [46th Annual Gala](#) at the Park Central Hotel in San Francisco.

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## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

### CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE RECEIVES FEDERAL AND STATE SUPPLIER DIVERSITY HONORS ...CONTINUED

In the letter to Espinoza announcing the award, Asian, Inc.'s Program Development Officer Yi-Hui Chen noted, "With your support this year, our San Jose MBDA business center has hosted three very successful workshops so far and connected many minority-owned businesses with California Water Service. We look forward to continuing this partnership and growing with you."

San Francisco-based Asian, Inc. supports diversity by creating opportunities in business development, housing and financial education for all races within low- to moderate-income communities.

In 2016, Cal Water spent \$48.46 million on goods and services from diverse suppliers certified with the California Public Utilities Commission to support its operations statewide, compared to \$40.88 million in 2015. The utility worked with 216 certified diverse suppliers and expanded its diverse supplier database by 7 percent last year. 



California Water Service's Jose Espinoza (center) accepts the "Supplier Diversity Champion of the Year" award from the Asian, Inc. Board of Directors on October 6, 2017.

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

### EAST PASADENA WATER COMPANY HOSTS TOUR FOR ASSEMBLY MEMBER CHRIS HOLDEN

**E**ast Pasadena Water Company (EPWC) hosted a tour of the company's facilities for Assembly Member Chris Holden (D-Pasadena) on September 20. The tour was arranged by Jennifer M. Capitolo, Senior Policy Advisor with Nossaman, LLP, who was joined by EPWC President Lawrence Morales and Field Operations Manager Wayne Goehring as well as Nossaman LLP Policy Advisor Ashley Walker.

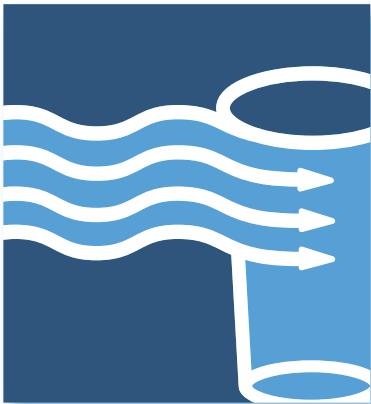
Assembly Member Holden, who represents the 41st Assembly District, including East Pasadena, was appointed Chair of the Assembly Utilities and Energy Committee by Speaker Anthony Rendon (D-Lakewood) earlier this year. Based on Assembly Member Holden's desire to gain further insights into the practices and challenges utilities face, Morales shared the story of EPWC's origins and its status as a prominent member of the community for more than 87 years. 



(L-R) Field Operations Manager Wayne Goehring, President Lawrence Morales and Assembly Member Chris Holden

## POINTS OF INTEREST

### CWA FILES AMICUS LETTER IN EMINENT DOMAIN TAKEOVER CASE



**O**n October 19, 2017, California Water Association (CWA) filed an amicus curiae [letter](#) in a writ proceeding initiated by Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) in the Third Appellate District Court of Appeal. The case involves a potential eminent domain takeover of a portion of PG&E's assets and services by the South San Joaquin Irrigation District (SSJID), a California special district providing irrigation and domestic water service in South San Joaquin County. PG&E's writ asks the court of appeal to step in and correct a ruling by the trial court on the evidentiary burden PG&E faces in its challenge to the eminent domain action, and CWA's amicus letter supports PG&E's efforts.

In its amicus curiae letter, CWA stated that its member companies are regulated public utilities that face eminent domain threats and actions by local public entities under the same body of law at issue in this proceeding. CWA referenced a December 9, 2016, decision whereby the Los Angeles County Superior Court issued a Statement of Final Decision and Order of Dismissal in an eminent domain action brought by the City of Claremont against Golden State Water Company (GSWC).

CWA noted that in the PG&E/SSJD case, the ruling by the San Joaquin County Superior Court is directly at odds with the manner in which the trial court addressed the burden of proof issue in the GSWC decision. CWA's amicus letter highlighted that in less than one year, two trial courts have construed the same statutes in two entirely different and irreconcilable ways.

CWA said that PG&E, as well as all other regulated, investor-owned public electric, gas and water utilities, need the same (and correct) standards applied in all eminent domain proceedings. "Public entities need this, too," CWA said. "Without a consistent and correct application of the burden of proof requirements in eminent domain proceedings, there will be a massive waste of money (public and private) and judicial resources." 

## POINTS OF INTEREST

## RETIREMENTS, NEW HIRES AT LIBERTY UTILITIES



Jeanne-Marie Bruno

**A**fter 36 years in engineering, utility operations and management, Jeanne-Marie Bruno, President of Liberty Utilities California, retired on October 20, 2017. Bruno spent the last half of her career with Liberty Utilities (formerly Park Water Company), and her warmth, positive attitude, honesty and patience made her an ideal leader. In addition to leading Liberty Utilities California, she had leadership roles in the California-Nevada Section of the American Water Works Association, where she served as Section Chair, National Director and Water Utility Council Member. Bruno also served as a Director for the Central Basin Water Association and was a member of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's National Drinking Water Advisory Council. She also served as an officer of the California Water Association and was active in the Association of California Water Agencies.

Bruno and her husband have two children, and she is looking forward to spending more time with her family, giving back to her community and pursuing her hobbies. CWA congratulates Bruno on her long service to the industry and on her retirement. She will be missed

Liberty Utilities recently hired three new employees at various locations in California. Frank Heldman took the helm as Director of Operations in late September, responsible for managing the Liberty Park Water Distribution, Field Services and Production groups. With 30 years of water experience in progressively significant leadership roles, Heldman previously served as Water Utility Manager with the City of Monterey Park. Prior to that time, he worked at Golden State Water Company for more than 12 years as a Water Supply Superintendent and an Assistant and Interim District Manager. Heldman has D5 and T4 certifications, a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and a master's degree in Organizational Leadership..

In late August, Alison Vai assumed the position of Program Manager, Communications and Media Relations at Liberty's Downey location. She will be focusing on public relations and community outreach efforts as well as organizing Liberty Day events and managing Liberty's website and social media platforms. Vai has an extensive background in marketing, communications, community outreach, project management, strategic planning and problem solving. She recently served as Community Engagement Coordinator for the Pasadena Unified School District where she also worked as Marketing Manager and Director of Development. Vai earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and a master's degree in Education.

Sarah Rae accepted the position of Liberty's Water Conservation Coordinator and joined the company's Downey office, also starting in late September. She previously worked at the Municipal Water District of Orange County on water conservation, efficiency programs and public outreach. Rae earned a bachelor's degree in Environmental Science and Policy from California State University, Long Beach, where she gained insights into environmental law, policy, economics, biological statistics and geographic information science. 



Frank Heldman



Alison Vai



Sarah Rae

## POINTS OF INTEREST

### CHANGING OF THE GUARD AT SAN JOSE WATER

**F**ollowing W. Richard Roth's retirement as President and Chief Executive Officer of San Jose Water Group (SJW), Eric W. Thornburg has been appointed as Roth's successor beginning November 6, 2017. To ensure a seamless transition, Roth will serve as Chief Executive Emeritus until December 31 and will continue as Chairman of the Board until the next annual meeting of stockholders.

Roth has held management positions at SJW for more than 25 years, playing an instrumental role in developing two outstanding regional water utilities through successful strategic planning and capital improvements.

"It has been extremely rewarding and a distinct privilege to work with the talented and dedicated employees at every level of the SJW organization," said Roth in a press release. "Their integrity, professionalism and customer-first focus has made SJW the respected and successful company it is today."

During the last 10 years, Thornburg has served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Connecticut Water Service, Inc. He is a well-recognized leader and veteran in the water utility industry, having also served as President of Missouri-American Water and as Central Region Vice President-External Affairs for American Water Works Corporation.

"We believe that Eric's considerable management experience and extensive knowledge of the water business, combined with SJW Group's superb utility platforms and outstanding staff, will be an excellent formula for the continued growth and success of the company," said Robert A. Van Valer, SJW Board's Lead Independent Director. 



*Richard Roth*



*Eric Thornburg*

## POINTS OF INTEREST

### STEELHEAD TROUT FLOURISH AFTER CALIFORNIA AMERICAN WATER REMOVES SAN CLEMENTE DAM

Following California American Water's (CAW) dismantling of the aging [San Clemente Dam](#), the largest dam removal in California history, steelhead trout and other endangered species are returning to the Carmel River. The 106-foot tall concrete structure was 95 percent full of sediment and at risk of failure during an earthquake, which would have resulted in debris hurtling downstream toward 1,500 structures and homes. The dam's removal has restored access to 25 miles of upstream spawning and rearing habitat for steelhead trout and allowed endangered red-legged frogs and lamprey to return to the river for the first time in 95 years.

In a [KQED Science article](#), Lindsey Hoshaw noted, "On the Carmel River, steelhead finally have pools of water to rest in and boulders to hide under. After nearly 100 years, the river is slowly shifting back into a version of its former self."

California American Water led the core project team, partnering with the California Coastal Conservancy and the National Marine Fisheries Service. 



Scientists catching steelhead trout on the Carmel River.  
(Lindsey Hoshaw/KQED)

### OCTOBER MARKS CALIFORNIA'S INAUGURAL WATER PROFESSIONALS APPRECIATION WEEK

October 7-15, 2017, marked California's first *Water Professionals Appreciation Week*, established by Senate Concurrent Resolution 80 (SCR 80), which was authored by Senator Bill Dodd (D-Napa) and sponsored by a coalition led by the California Water Association and the Association of California Water Agencies. The annual designation spotlights the vital role of water industry professionals and public water agencies in providing safe and reliable water, wastewater and recycled water in California. SCR 80 "encourages public water agencies and wastewater agencies to offer tours, open houses and other events during *Water Professionals Appreciation Week* to educate Californians on the important functions of those agencies and encourages residents to learn about the water and wastewater industries in California and consider careers in this important field." 

## POINTS OF INTEREST

### YOU CAN STILL REGISTER ONSITE FOR THE California Water Association's 76th Annual Conference "Aquamens and Water Women: Protecting Our Water Service" Monday, November 6 - Wednesday, November 8, 2017 Monterey Plaza Hotel 400 Cannery Row, Monterey, CA 93940



#### Featuring Keynote Speakers



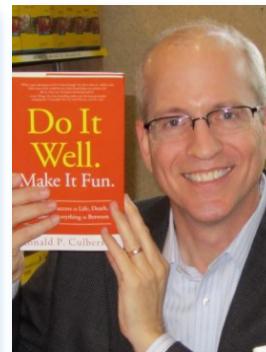
Senator William W. Monning  
(D-Carmel) 7th Senate District



Chief Deputy Director  
Cindy Messer



Deputy Director, State  
Water Project Joel  
Ledesma



Humorist Ron Culberson  
Author of "Do it Well. Make  
it Fun. The Key to Success  
in Life, Death and Almost  
Everything in Between"



Amy Vickers  
Nationally Recognized  
Water Conservation and  
Efficiency Expert, Engineer  
and Author

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