

PRESENTER PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND
California PFAS Solutions Workshop – December 2, 2021
(Listed in presentation order)

Andrew Stone, Executive Director, American Ground Water Trust, Concord, NH



Andrew Stone has an MSc and a Hydrogeology Diploma from University College, London. He has experience in Africa and America as a university professor, groundwater consultant, & educator. Since 1989 he has worked in the US as a private-sector consultant, as adjunct professor and as groundwater educator, advocate and outreach specialist for the non-profit American Ground Water Trust. He has convened over 250 “information-exchange” conferences and workshops focused on groundwater issues. He has organized over 70 “Groundwater Institutes” that have trained 2,000 science teachers and educators on water resources issues and the basics of hydrology. He is a recipient of the National Ground Water Association “Oliver Award” in for his work in promoting groundwater education.

Maria Elena Kennedy, Consultant, Kennedy Communications, Inc., Rancho Cucamonga, CA



Maria Elena Kennedy is a water resources consultant who works with Disadvantaged Communities (DACs). In her work, Maria Elena helps agencies engage with disadvantaged communities, access funding, which is set-aside for DACs. More recently, Maria has been engaged in helping creating partnerships between schools and other agencies to address stormwater issues. Maria has represented DACs in a variety of state-wide efforts including the California Water Plan Update 2013. She earned an ABA Certificate from the University of California, Los Angeles.

AnnieLu DeWitt, Remediation Technologies, Clean Harbors, South Portland, ME



AnnieLu is the National Technical and Sales Lead for the Emerging Contaminant and Water Treatment Program for the Clean Harbors Environmental Services group. She brings her 25 years of experience in the environmental laboratory and remediation fields to assist clients in interpreting their analytical results to evaluate their options for treatment utilizing varied medias and pre-treatment equipment to achieve project objectives. Having worked as a GC/MS and also most recently as a LC-MS/MS chemist for PFAS compounds she believes in the importance of evaluating the project as a whole, from suggesting the most valuable testing methods at the beginning of the project that help determine the best treatment trains and medias for complex waste streams to informing clients on their options for final deposition of their spent media. AnnieLu holds a BS in Chemistry-Geology from Bridgewater State University.

Catherine Swanson, Groundwater Remediation Specialist, Purolite, Fullerton, CA



Catherine is a Chemical Engineer with water treatment background. She has worked in facility engineering, technical service, marketing, sales, and business development. Her current focus is on increasing business in the Environmental Solutions market for groundwater remediation and NPDES discharge. She is a technical resource for granular activated carbon, perchlorate, nitrate, uranium, and chrome VI treatments. Prior to joining Purolite, she was a sales engineer for Evoqua with responsibilities for groundwater remediation of inorganics like perchlorate, nitrate, chrome VI and uranium for the Western Region of the US. Previous employment in the field of chemistry and water treatment has been with Airluquide, GS Polymers and Dow Corning. She has a BS in chemical engineering from Northwestern University.

Rick Zimmer, Senior Account Manager, Eurofins Eaton Analytical, LLC, Monrovia, CA



Rick Zimmer is a Senior Account Manager at Eurofins Eaton Analytical, Inc., the largest potable water testing laboratory in the United States. Mr. Zimmer holds both Bachelor's and Master's degrees and has over 25 years of experience working in the water industry as a Project Manager, Account Manager, Customer Service Manager and Regulatory Specialist. Mr. Zimmer presently manages projects for Eurofins' customers in California, Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, the CNMI and Japan. Mr. Zimmer also serves as Safe Drinking Water Committee Chairman-Elect for the California-Nevada Section of the AWWA, Regulatory Committee Chair for the Sacramento Area Waterworks Association and Water Quality Committee Member for the Association of California Water Agencies.

Meeta Pannu, PhD, Senior Scientist, Orange County Water District, Field Research Laboratory, Anaheim, CA



Meeta is a soil scientist with over ten years of experience working in the field of soil, water, and remediation. Her focus as a Senior Scientist is understanding PFAS issues in Orange County's groundwater and exploring technologies for PFAS treatment. Her primary responsibilities include designing and executing experiments relating to water quality and quantity, conducting applied research to support the water district's objectives, conducting bench and pilot-scale experiments and soil column experiments for PFAS removal from groundwater. Previously, she worked on fate and transport of emerging contaminants as an Environmental Specialist and Statewide Emerging Pollutant Specialist for the Washington Department of Ecology. Meeta earned her MS Degree in Environmental Soil Science from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and her Ph.D. in Soil and Water Science from the University of Florida.

Kelsey Hakes, Business Development Engineer, AqueoUS Vets, Redding, CA



Ms. Hakes is experienced in the water treatment, environmental, and oil and gas industries. Her extensive knowledge base includes municipal and industrial water systems, GAC and ion exchange media, process control engineering and application metallurgy. AqueoUS Vets® designs, manufactures, and delivers Granular Activation Carbon (GAC) Treatment Systems for 1,2,3-TCP removal remediation sites across California. This includes the selection, supply, and installation of the carbon for those 1,2,3-TCP remediation sites. Previous positions included account management, business development, and engineering design at Evoqua Water Technologies and Control Components Inc. Ms. Hakes had direct involvement with specification and solution development, technical trainings, and aftermarket services. Kelsey holds both a BS in Mechanical Engineering and Material Science Engineering from the University of California, Irvine.

Michael Alvord, Director of Operations & Maintenance Treatment, Distribution, Operations & Maintenance Department, Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, Santa Clarita, CA



Michael Alvord has over 25 years' experience working in the water industry. He spent the first part of his career in water quality while learning the various aspects of water system operations and engineering. He is currently the Director of Operations and Maintenance for Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency. Michael holds D5 and T3 Operator Certifications with State Water Resources Control Board – Division of Drinking Water. He earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Environmental Biology, with a minor in Chemistry, and a Master's Degree in Environmental/Occupational Health from California State University-Northridge. Michael also teaches part-time in the Water Systems Technology department for College of the Canyons in Santa Clarita.

Jeff O'Keefe, P.E., Chief-Southern CA Section, State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water, Glendale, CA

Jeff O'Keefe is the Supervising Sanitary Engineer, State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water. He has over 7 years of experience as a Regional Engineer for the Southern California and South Coast Regions. Prior to his employment at the SWRCB, Jeff was employed by the California Department of Public Health as a Senior Engineer for over 10 years. Jeff earned his Bachelor of Science degree and Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering.

Nancy Mortvedt, Director of Client Engagement, SL Environmental Law Group, PC, Denver, CO



Nancy Mortvedt is the Director of Client Engagement for SL Environmental Law, drawing upon decades of experience collaborating with and advising senior leaders in water and other sectors to help them succeed in their established business objectives. SL Environmental Law Group assists water suppliers that face increased costs due to the contamination of their drinking water supplies by chemicals from commercial products. Prior to joining SL Environmental, Nancy spent 13 years leading business development and client relationships with the American Water Works Association. There, she forged strong affiliations with water utilities, manufacturers and partners throughout the United States, Europe and Israel. Prior to that, she led business development and marketing efforts in the manufacturing, technical, business-to-business and fundraising industries. Nancy earned her B.S. Degrees in Marketing and Advertising from Ferris State University, Michigan.