

ACWA Regions 8, 9, & 10***Southern California Water Forum: Shared Challenges, Strategic Action***

Networking Reception: Thursday, Nov. 13, 2025 | 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Water Forum: Friday, Nov. 14, 2025 | 9:30 a.m.-2:45 p.m.

Location: Irvine Marriott 1800 Von Karman Ave, Irvine CA 92612

Preliminary Agenda

8:30 a.m. ***Southern California Water Forum on Friday, November 14***

Check – In & Networking Breakfast

Fuel up and connect with colleagues before the day begins.

Location: Irvine Marriott, Catalina Ballroom

9:30 a.m. ***Welcome Remarks***

Anthony R. Fellow, Chair, ACWA Region 8

Cathy Green, President, ACWA

9:45 a.m. ***Navigating Southern California’s Water Future: Policy Challenges & Collaborative Opportunities***

Speaker: Jeffery Kightlinger, Retired General Manager & CEO, Acequia Consulting, LLC

10:30 a.m. ***Shared Source, Shared Stakes: Colorado River in Southern California***

Introduction: G. Patrick O’ Dowd, Chair, ACWA Region 9

Moderator: Dan Denham, General Manager, San Diego County Water Authority

Panelists: Bill Hasencamp, Manager Colorado River Resources, Metropolitan Water District of Southern CA

Jessica Neuwerth, Executive Director, Colorado River Board of California

Jeff Gonzalez, California State Assemblymember, AD 36

11:30 a.m. ***Flowing Conversations Networking Lunch***

Enjoy lunch while connecting with peers and leaders

12:30 p.m. ***ACWA: Key Organization & Advocacy Priorities***

Marwan Khalifa, Interim Executive Director, ACWA

12:45 p.m. ***Inside Washington: Federal Priorities Shaping Water Policy***

(Speaker details to come)

1:45 p.m. ***Investing in Tomorrow: Projects Driving California's Water Security***

Introduction: Dana Frieauf, Chair, ACWA Region 10

Moderator: Dave Pederson, General Manager, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

Panelists: John Bednarski, Assistant General Manager, Water Resources and Technical Services, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Jennfier Pierre, General Manager, State Water Contractors

Jerry Brown, Executive Director, Sites Project Authority

2:45 p.m. ***Wrapping Up: Leadership Insights and Takeaways***

Carol Lee- Gonzales Brady, Vice Chair, ACWA Region 9

Ernie Avila, Vice President, ACWA

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