

ACWA Region 9***Leading with Influence: Water Policy & Advocacy in a Changing Landscape*****Friday, July 17, 2026 | 10:00 am – 3:30 pm****Wilson Creek Winery, Temecula****Preliminary Program Agenda**

- 9:00 a.m. *Check-in and Networking***
- 10:00 a.m. *Welcome and ACWA Updates***
Michael Cervantes, Senior Regional Affairs Representative, ACWA
Joeseeph Grindstaff, ACWA Region 9 Chair
Ernie Avila, ACWA President
- 10:15 a.m. *Perspectives from the Capitol***
Moderator: Julia Hall, State Relations Director, ACWA
Invited speakers include: Assemblymember Natasha Johnson,
Assemblymember Greg Wallis, Senator Steve Padilla, Senator
Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh
Final speaker lineup will be announced as confirmations are
received.
- 11:15 a.m. *Building Influence Through Effective Water Advocacy***
Ed Manning, Partner, KP Public Affairs
- 11:50 a.m. *Flowing Conversations Networking Lunch & ACWA JPIA Update***
- 12:50 p.m. *What it really takes to win in water: Turning big ideas into reality***
Moderator: Sarah Macdonald, Assistant General Manager, Western
Municipal Water District
Craig Miller, General Manager, Western Municipal Water District
Heather Dyer, General Manager, San Bernardino Valley Municipal
Water District
Dan Denham, General Manager, San Diego County Water Authority

**REGION 9 BOARD
2026-'27****Chair****Joseph Grindstaff**, Eastern
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Salton Sea Authority**Harvey R. Ryan**
Elsinore Valley Municipal
Water District**Questions****Michael Cervantes**
Senior Regional Affairs
Representative
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- 1:50 p.m.** ***Closing Remarks***
Paul Ortega, ACWA Region 9 Vice Chair
Carol Lee Gonzales - Brady, ACWA Vice President
- 2:00 p.m.** ***Dessert Networking Reception***
- 3:30 p.m.** ***Event Concludes***

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Questions

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