

## SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES/CONTACT INFORMATION

*Thank you to our speakers for sharing their time and expertise.*

**SETH M. ADAMS** is Land Conservation Director for Save Mount Diablo. He focuses on advanced policy, land use and advocacy; government relations; acquisition projects; and educational programs. His accomplishments include participation in the preservation of tens of thousands of acres; the creation of Urban Limit Lines; aid in development of hundreds of millions of dollars of conservation funding; the East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan and the Concord Naval Weapons Station Reuse Plan; new recreational trails such as the 30 mile Diablo Trail; and the reintroduction of endangered peregrine falcons to Mt. Diablo. Seth can be reached at [sadams@savemountdiablo.org](mailto:sadams@savemountdiablo.org)

**KOME AJISE** is the Chief Deputy Director at the California Department of Transportation. He is responsible for overseeing the internal operations for approximately 19,000 employees and an annual budget that exceeds \$1.1 billion. Mr. Ajise has served in various high-level assignments throughout the department as a longtime Caltrans employee before becoming the Chief Deputy Director. He has a B.S. degree in Geography and Regional Planning from the University of Benin, Nigeria, and a Master of City and Regional Planning degree from CSU Fresno. Kome can be reached at [kome.ajise@dot.ca.gov](mailto:kome.ajise@dot.ca.gov).

**KRYSTEL BELL** serves as the Mitigation Banking Coordinator for the Sacramento District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Ms. Bell is a Senior Regulatory Project Manager and has been with the Sacramento District since April 2009. Currently, Ms. Bell chairs the Interagency Review Team for 8 mitigation banks and works on several of the District's most complex regulatory actions. Prior to working for the Sacramento District, Ms. Bell worked as an environmental consultant and acted as a local representative for a County-level environmental program. Ms. Bell has extensive knowledge of how Regulatory decisions can affect developers, conservationists, and the general public. Her ability to communicate effectively with applicants, the public, federal, state and local agencies, and peers in the regulatory community has led to productive collaborative approaches in resolution of complex regulatory issues.

**DAVID R. BRUNNER** is Executive Director of the Center for Natural Lands Management. The Center was established two decades ago to provide perpetual stewardship for lands with populations of imperiled species. The Center stewards 34,000 acres across 70 preserves and provides habitat restoration and management on an additional 10,000 acres in both California and Washington. These lands support over 100 special status species of which over 50 are listed as threatened or endangered. The preserves are funded through perpetual endowments with a value of \$70 million. The Center is accredited by the Land Trust Alliance. David is actively involved with efforts to develop standards and best practices for the establishment, management, and evaluation of financial assurance packages within the compensatory mitigation context. Previously, David served as the Chief Operating Officer and Director of Venture Initiatives at the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, an organization created by Congress in 1984 to conserve fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats. Additionally, David directed activities at the University of California Botanical Garden in Berkeley, served as curator at the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis, and helped establish the National Natural History Museum of Paraguay. David can be reached at [dbrunner@cnlm.org](mailto:dbrunner@cnlm.org).

**ALLEGRA BUKOJEMSKY** is a Landscape Architect specializing in ecological restoration with a background that includes biology, animal behavior, sustainable architecture, and industrial design. This broad range of experience comes from her passion to strengthen and repair our connection to and stewardship of nature. At Wildlands, a mitigation banking company, she fills the roles of restoration designer, project manager, and construction manager as she oversees habitat restoration and associated design projects. She works on the design and implementation of all phases of project work, from data collection and conceptual design, vegetation and habitat mapping, through detailed design and construction oversight. Allegra is a registered landscape architect in Alaska, California and Colorado, and holds a B.S. degree in Biology from San Jose State University, and a Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) degree from University of California, Berkeley. Allegra can be reached at [allegrab@wildlandsinc.com](mailto:allegrab@wildlandsinc.com).

**JESSICA DAVENPORT**, a Program Manager for Ecosystem Restoration and Land Use at the Delta Stewardship Council, has over twenty years of experience in environmental policy and planning. She previously worked as a planner at the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission on California water policy, sea level rise adaptation and wetland restoration. She received a Switzer Leadership Grant to work at Pesticide Action Network, where she promoted sustainable agriculture and ecological pest management in California, China and Mexico. She holds a master's degree in watershed management from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. Jessica can be reached at [Jessica.Davenport@deltacouncil.ca.gov](mailto:Jessica.Davenport@deltacouncil.ca.gov).

**KAREN DOUGLAS** was originally appointed to the California Energy Commission by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in February 2008 and re-appointed by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. in December 2012. She served as Chair from February 2009 to February 2011. She fills the Attorney position on the five-member Commission where four of the five members by law are required to have professional training in specific areas - engineering or physical science, environmental protection, economics, and law. Commissioner Douglas is the lead commissioner on power plant siting (including the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan) and federal stimulus programs.

From 2005 to 2008, Ms. Douglas served as Director of the California Climate Initiative at the Environmental Defense Fund. Prior to going to the Environmental Defense Fund, Ms. Douglas spent four years at the Planning and Conservation League as the Natural Resources Director, General Counsel, and most recently, acting Executive Director. Commissioner Douglas is a 2001 graduate of the Stanford Law School and holds a Master's Degree in public policy from the University of Colorado, Boulder. You can e-mail Commissioner Douglas through her executive assistant, Ollie Awolowo at [Ollie.Awolowo@energy.ca.gov](mailto:Ollie.Awolowo@energy.ca.gov).

**KEVIN HUNTING** is the Chief Deputy Director of the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife. In addition to Chief Deputy Director, Hunting has served as Deputy Director of the Ecosystem Conservation Division, Deputy Director of Regional Operations, Chief of the Habitat Conservation Branch and Regional Manager of the South Coast region. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Wildlife Biology from Humboldt State University and has worked in wildlife management, conservation planning and resource assessment for more than 25 years.

He has been a key figure in renewable energy and wildlife policy and represents DFG and the state on the Western Governor's Wildlife Council, the National Fish, Wildlife, and Plant Climate Adaptation

Strategy steering committee, and a number of other state and federal initiatives effecting wildlife and conservation policy in California. For more information visit [www.dfg.ca.gov](http://www.dfg.ca.gov).

Contact Kevin Hunting at [khunting@hq.dfg.ca.gov](mailto:khunting@hq.dfg.ca.gov).

**HANNAH-BETH JACKSON** represents the 19th Senate District in the California State Senate, which includes all of Santa Barbara County and western Ventura County. An educator, former small business owner and former Deputy District Attorney, she represented the 35th Assembly District from 1998 to 2004 in the California State Assembly.

In the Senate, she is chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, and serves on several key committees, including the Environmental Quality Committee, the Natural Resources Committee, the Labor and Industrial Relations Committee, and the Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee. She's also chair of the California Legislative Women's Caucus. Married to retired Superior Court Judge George Eskin, she has a daughter, two stepchildren and five grandchildren.

**KATE KELLY** provides land use, project management, and governmental relations consulting to land trusts, public agencies, and other non-profits. Kate has over 25 years of experience in land use and environmental planning, public policy, conservation transactions, and organizational management. She is particularly well known for her work with government agencies, the development community, landowners and stakeholders in crafting and implementing agricultural mitigation policies, programs and procedures. As a consultant to Defenders of Wildlife, Kate incentivized siting of renewable energy projects in low-conflict areas and on impaired agricultural lands with low habitat value as a key strategy for accelerating renewable energy development and protecting vital natural resources. During her tenure as Yolo Land Trust's Executive Director, Kate implemented an extensive governmental relations program which facilitated the Land Trust's success in public policy, implementation of farmland mitigation, conservation transactions, and community support. Kate can be reached at [kate@kgconsulting.net](mailto:kate@kgconsulting.net).

**FRAN M. LAYTON** began her legal career in Washington, D.C., then returned to the Bay Area in 1982 and joined Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger. Ms. Layton's practice focuses on constitutional issues relating to regulatory action, such as takings and preemption, and on land use and planning, conservation of natural areas and farmland, the California Environmental Quality Act, and eminent domain law. Ms. Layton has extensive litigation experience in both federal and state courts, including authoring merits and amici briefs in both the California and United States Supreme Courts. She was a member of the firm's successful defense teams in the U.S. Supreme Court in *Tahoe-Sierra Preservation Council v. Tahoe Regional Planning Agency*, a takings challenge to TRPA's comprehensive land use plan for the Lake Tahoe Basin, and in *San Remo Hotel v. City and County of San Francisco*. Ms. Layton served as lead counsel to the County of Santa Cruz in *Big Creek Lumber Company v. County of Santa Cruz*, a preemption challenge to County regulations governing timber harvesting.

Ms. Layton's land preservation work includes representing the County of Santa Cruz in longstanding litigation over future mining at a sand quarry. The settlement included acquisition of a portion of the quarry containing an association of plants found nowhere else in the world. She has negotiated and

drafted conservation easements on behalf of public agencies, nonprofit organizations, and individual landowners Ms. Layton is on the Advisory Board of the Center for Law, Energy & the Environment at the University of California Berkeley School of Law and is a member of the Board of Directors of the California Planning and Conservation League. She has been named a Northern California Super Lawyer each year from 2007 to the present. Ms. Layton received her AB degree from UC Berkeley and her JD from UC Berkeley School of Law. Ms. Layton can be reached at [layton@smwlaw.com](mailto:layton@smwlaw.com).

**DENNIS McEWAN** is an Environmental Program Manager and Chief of the Mitigation and Restoration Branch in the Division of Environmental Services, DWR. He has over 25 years' experience in aquatic habitat restoration and species conservation, first with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and more recently with the Department of Water Resources. He has worked on stream restoration and species recovery for endangered salmonids, and more recently, restoration of tidal wetland habitat in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay-Delta Estuary. Dennis can be reached at [Dennis.McEwan@water.ca.gov](mailto:Dennis.McEwan@water.ca.gov).

**MICHAEL MIERZWA** is the Lead Flood Planner for the CA Department of Water Resources. Michael is a registered civil engineer specialized in river basin planning, water policy development, and strategic planning. In his current role at the California Department of Water Resources he is responsible for leading the development of the 2017 Central Valley Flood Protection Plan update and the state's floodplain management policies and programs. In his 16-years at the Department he led the communication and policy development associated with the FloodSAFE California public safety initiative, the state's river forecasting efforts, conducted numerous studies and tools used to manage flows and water quality in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, and designed new approaches around problems including estimating estuarine residence time, source water tracking, water supply reoperation, and stage-frequency adjustments to account for sea level rise over multiple tidal epochs. Michael can be reached at [Michael.Mierzwa@water.ca.gov](mailto:Michael.Mierzwa@water.ca.gov).

**BRIAN MONAGHAN** is Vice President at Wildlands, one of the leading companies establishing mitigation solutions throughout California, Washington and Oregon. Brian has over 17-years' experience in developing, managing and selling wetland mitigation and species conservation banks. His primary responsibilities at Wildlands are new project development and mitigation credit sales. He directs all project development due diligence, underwriting, sales and marketing related activities for Wildlands on over 40 active mitigation projects. Prior working for Wildlands, Brian was an investment advisor and analyst to a major real estate investment fund which focused on environmentally sensitive real estate assets. Brian has degrees in Environmental Policy and Political Science from American University in Washington, D.C. and is a licensed California Real Estate Broker. Brian can be reached at [bmonaghan@wildlandsinc.com](mailto:bmonaghan@wildlandsinc.com).

**MARK NECHODOM** is the Director of California's Department of Conservation (DOC). Dr. Nechodom was appointed at DOC by Governor Brown in January 2012 to lead change in oil and gas regulations, practices in mining and reclamation, evolution of farmland conservation, and advances in earth science, particularly related to earthquakes and tsunamis. Dr. Nechodom has dedicated his professional life to integrating sustainable production and practices while maintaining a sensible balance between

economic opportunities, environmental health, and human well-being. Mark can be reached at [Mark.Nechodom@conservation.ca.gov](mailto:Mark.Nechodom@conservation.ca.gov).

**SALLY NIELSEN** is Vice President of Hausrath Economics Group in Oakland. She is responsible for the firm's work in the area of conservation planning and has directed economic analysis and forecasting for regional habitat conservation planning efforts throughout Northern California. That expertise has informed recent projects evaluating agricultural land mitigation policy. Ms. Nielsen has also analyzed the economics of industrial land preservation and downtown development policies in San Francisco and public finance questions related to greenfield development in Placer County. Before joining HEG in 1981, Ms. Nielsen received her Master's Degree in City and Regional Planning from the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. Sally can be reached at [sn@hausrath.com](mailto:sn@hausrath.com).

**MARGUERITE PATIL** joined the Contra Costa Water District in 2000 and is the Special Assistant to the General Manager for the agency. She is a registered civil engineer with over 25 years of experience in project management, planning, design and construction on a variety of civil, mechanical and environmental engineering projects. She has served as Project Manager of the Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project since the project began in January 2001, including the advisory vote, the EIS/EIR, and the pilot partnerships for the recently completed first phase of expansion. She also manages CCWD's Delta and regional strategic initiatives, water resources, and legal services programs. Marguerite can be reached at [mpatil@ccwater.com](mailto:mpatil@ccwater.com).

**PATRICK J. SHEA** serves as the Executive Director of the Wildlife Heritage Foundation, located in Lincoln, CA. Patrick was a Principal Research Entomologist for 35 years at the USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station before retiring in January 2000. Over the past 40 years Patrick has published more than 100 technical publications and reports in both national and international science journals. After his retirement and before coming to the Foundation, he served as Program Manager for the Pacific Southwest Research Station's Sudden Oak Death Research Program. Patrick earned a B.S. and M.S. from the University of California, Berkeley and a Ph.D. in insect ecology from University of California, Davis. Patrick can be reached at [pshea@wildlifeheritage.org](mailto:pshea@wildlifeheritage.org).

**CINDY TAMBINI** is Corporate Director of Entitlement and Compliance at Wildlands, responsible for overseeing the Wildlands planning team in guiding mitigation projects through the required entitlement and permitting processes. Cindy uses over 18 years of experience of environmental planning and regulatory entitlement of wetland mitigation and species conservation banks to guides Wildlands' large-scale mitigation projects through the complex entitlement and permitting processes. She has directed the entitlement of over 30 large-scale mitigation projects, including 20 mitigation and conservation banks. Cindy holds a B.S. degree in Biology, with an emphasis in Ecology from California State University, Hayward and a B.A. degree in Business Administration from Wichita State University. Cindy can be reached at [ctambini@wildlandsinc.com](mailto:ctambini@wildlandsinc.com).