

**BAY AREA WATER SUPPLY AND CONSERVATION AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

September 19, 2013

Reports and media coverage of interest between July 19, 2013 and September 10, 2013

Correspondence

Date: July 19, 2013
From: Harlan Kelly, Jr., SFPUC General Manager
To: Nicole Sandkulla, BAWSCA CEO/General Manager Appointee
Re: Congratulations for appointment

Media Coverage

Date: September 10, 2013
Publication: Bay City News
Article: Reserve Funding Needed for Rim Fire Repairs at Hetch Hetchy

Date: September 10, 2013
Publication: Fresno Bee
Article: Wet or dry this winter? So far, no clue in the ocean

Date: September 6, 2013
Publication: Eco Business
Article: New report details billion-dollar markets in Climate Change Adaptation

Date: September 3, 2013
Source: Water Environment Federation
Material: Press Release: Distinguished Leaders from World's Iconic Water Cities to Share Insights, Strategies for Progressive Water Management

Date: July 1, 2013
Publication: San Jose Mercury News
Article: Sunnyvale park to be named after former mayor Ron Swegles

To view photos of the event, visit the below website.
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/shondar/sets/72157635015940288/>

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July 19, 2013

Ms. Nicole Sandkulla
 Water Resources Planning Manager
 Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency
 155 Bovet Road, Suite 650
 San Mateo, CA 94402

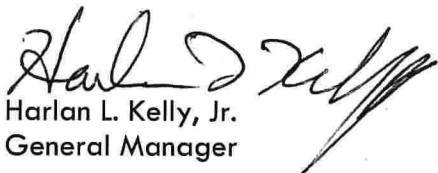
Dear Nicole,

We are pleased by the news of your appointment to Chief Executive Officer and General Manager of BAWSCA. Your agency has a superb leader in Art Jensen, and we are confident that it will remain in good hands with you as his successor.

Over the years, we have had the pleasure of working with you on our regional water system projects, and we are looking forward to working with you when you assume your new duties this fall. Please do not hesitate to let us know if there is anything we can do to support and assist you in your transition.

On behalf of our Commissioners, senior managers, and staff, I am conveying congratulations and best wishes.

Sincerely,


 Harlan L. Kelly, Jr.
 General Manager

c: Arthur R. Jensen, CEO and General Manager, BAWSCA;
 President of the SFPUC Commission Art Torres, Vice President Vince Courtney,
 Commissioner Ann Moller Caen, Commissioner Francesca Vietor,
 Commissioner Anson Moran, Michael Carlin, Emilio Cruz, Juliet Ellis,
 Barbara Hale, Tommy Moala, Steve Ritchie, Todd Rydstrom

Edwin M. Lee
 Mayor

Art Torres
 President

Vince Courtney
 Vice President

Ann Moller Caen
 Commissioner

Francesca Vietor
 Commissioner

Anson Moran
 Commissioner

Harlan L. Kelly, Jr.
 General Manager



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Reserve Funding Needed for Rim Fire Repairs at Hetch Hetchy

By [Bay City News](#)

| Tuesday, Sep 10, 2013 | Updated 11:23 PM PDT

The San Francisco Public Utilities commissioners were updated Tuesday afternoon about the damage and repair efforts at the Hetch Hetchy water and power facilities after the massive "Rim Fire" burned through the Yosemite area.

The fire that started Aug. 17 at the Stanislaus National Forest spread into Yosemite National Park and has charred more than 254,000 acres.

It has been 80 percent contained and full containment is not expected until Sep. 20.

It is the third largest fire in California history.

SFPUC deputy general manager Michael Carlin explained at the commission meeting this afternoon at San Francisco City Hall that only 1 percent of the Hetch Hetchy watershed was affected by the fire.

Since firefighters gained the upper hand, SFPUC crews have been able to access the facilities and assess the damage.

SFPUC general manager Harlan Kelly said Mayor Ed Lee and SFPUC staff took a helicopter ride to see the "devastation" of the fire.

Kelly credited the U.S. Forest Service, local firefighters and other agencies that came together and "helped us through to where we are today."

"We are grateful to all the firefighters on the ground," Carlin said. Some 300 firefighters were based at city-run Camp Mather during the height of the blaze.

The Hetch Hetchy provides water and other services to 2.6 million Bay Area residents.

Two of three hydroelectric powerhouses were initially taken offline during the fire, but the Kirkwood Powerhouse has since been turned back on, while the Holm turbine is still being repaired.

The roof was damaged in the blaze, but no interior equipment was affected, Carlin said. A temporary roof was placed atop the powerhouse.

Power service was not affected, but about \$900,000 was spent to purchase alternative energy.

He said as many as 400 of 1,200 power poles were burned, and local power service remains down.

Camp Mather is being used as a base for restoration work with generators providing power there, according to Carlin.

Carlin said he was proud to report that there was no disruption to water and power service to Bay Area customers at any point.

Water quality was unaffected with the turbidity, or cloudiness, continuing to fall within state-mandated levels.

Carlin said the fast-moving fire prompted fire crews to drop retardant but to protect the water quality none of the retardant was dropped near the O'Shaughnessy Dam at the reservoir.

Ash has not been an issue for water quality at the surface level or when taken from a depth of 160 feet, Carlin said.

Contingency plans were set in place to provide water from other utility companies and local reserves, however water infrastructure was minimally affected by the blaze, Carlin said.

Carlin said the recovery process is in the assessment stage, but crews have been felling trees in hazardous positions on main roads and causing erosion problems.

About 200 trees are being felled in the area near the reservoir every day, he said.

As fire damage continues to be assessed, Carlin said it appears the major issues are destroyed electric distribution lines that provide power to the local system and road damage.

He said property insurance should cover most of the costs, estimated to be up to \$30 million, and that state and federal recovery funding would come through eventually.

However, restoration work needs to get going before winter rains arrive, he said.

"We are going to have to spend money to protect our facilities before winter comes," Carlin said.

The commission will need to approve a short-term funding plan that comes from reserves. He said the commissioners would be asked in the coming weeks to decide on a financial plan to fund repair work.

Carlin said ratepayers are not anticipated to see any cost increases because of the fire, however depending on where money is taken from it may hinder future emergency responses.

Kelly told the commission the spending recommendations would need to be made swiftly once full assessments were made and the fire danger had fully passed.

Wet or dry this winter? So far, no clue in the ocean

Published: September 10, 2013

By Mark Grossi — The Fresno Bee

Betting on a wet or dry winter this year? Don't look for El Niño or La Niña to give you an edge. It's La Nada out there in the Pacific Ocean.

El Niño and La Niña are all about the shallow-water temperature in the Pacific around the equator. Niño means warmer than usual — raising odds of a wet winter in California. Niña means cooler — a hint that it might be dry.

After two arid winters years and a brutal summer of groundwater pumping in the San Joaquin Valley, I hear from a lot farmers who want some clue about the winter to come. They're nervous, and they have good reason. A third dry winter might devastate some farmers who are just getting by this year.

The California Department of Water Resources last week announced that everyone should be prepared for another dry year, just in case. Around the state, reservoirs are dropping, and nobody knows if there will be a wet or dry winter.

The Pacific isn't giving up any secrets on the subject. Scientists say the water is neither warm nor cool. Which means it's just a coin flip, unless things change soon.

If you want more detail, check out Jan Null's website. Null is a private meteorologist in the Bay Area. He has been tracking El Niño and La Niña for many years.

Will the ocean remain stuck in neutral this year? Federal forecasters with NOAA say it looks like neutral conditions will remain for the 2013-14 winter.

Fire season has drama, but not big numbers

Last month, misguided headlines announced 2013 as a sensationally big fire season around the country — some called it the worst season in a decade.

As the Rim fire burns in California, I've heard the statement repeated on national television news. They're just wrong.

The national fire season has been filled with drama, but it's not the biggest in a decade. Check it on the National Interagency Fire Center website.

Total fires and acres burned are both well below the 10-year average. At this rate, the season won't even match last year.

National Public Radio got it right on Aug. 15 with a story titled: "2013 wildfire season proving to be more mild than wild."

That was two days before the sprawling Rim fire started. The Rim is 254,685 acres so far. It's expensive — pushing \$90 million in firefighting costs.

California, indeed, is having a bad fire year, according to Cal Fire. But California hasn't changed the national numbers in a big way.

At the same time, it is still a truly dramatic wildfire year.

The Rim fire is one of the biggest California wildfires on record, and it is burning partially in Yosemite. That's dramatic.

In Arizona, 19 firefighters tragically died in a fierce wildfire. Homeowners have been forced to flee fires in many areas this year.

But, unless there's a lot more burning in the next several weeks, 2013 will not go down nationally as the biggest wildfire season in a decade — far from it.

ACTIVIST McKIBBEN WILL SPEAK AT CITY COLLEGE

Author Bill McKibben, who is an award-winning writer and a climate activist, will speak Saturday at Fresno City College as part of his latest book tour.

The free event starts at 7 p.m. in the Old Administration Building Auditorium, and it is part of the Beth Ann Harnish Memorial Lecture Series. His new book, titled "Oil and Honey," focuses on the personal and global fight for sustainability on the planet.

McKibben is the author of more than a dozen books about the environment. He won the 2013 Sophie Prize in Norway and the 2013 Gandhi Peace Prize.

Read more here: <http://www.fresnobee.com/2013/09/10/3490891/wet-or-dry-this-winter-so-far.html#storylink=cpy>

**New report details billion-dollar markets in Climate Change Adaptation
Eco Business
September 6, 2013**

San Diego, Calif. -- The increase in weather-related disasters worldwide has helped galvanize attention on the need for climate change adaptation and risk mitigation projects in the public and private sector. A comprehensive new study by Environmental Business International, Inc., publisher of Climate Change Business Journal, details a \$700-million U.S. and \$2-billion global climate change adaptation services market and forecasts annual growth in the 12-20% range to 2020. Today's market is led by consulting & engineering and specialty firms working primarily for government agencies in analysis, risk management and planning, but increasingly the market will tilt to project implementation and construction.

There are few assets in the world that will not be profoundly affected by climate change. Governments at the local, state, regional and national levels are in the midst of seriously considering the threat of climate change to public health and epidemiology, agriculture, power production, transportation, town planning, coastal protection, and water resources. Some have gone beyond serious consideration of these threats to detailed scenario analysis, planning, even initial design and construction of preventative measures.

EBI research identified scores of funded projects dedicated to adaptation analysis and experts concur that hundreds of others related to water resources and infrastructure with climate change adaptation as a key element are already tilting the competitive balance toward planning and project management firms with climate adaptation experience, if not a dedicated practice area.

"Companies with expertise in water security are on the front lines of addressing changing climate adaptation," said EBI President Grant Ferrier. "Several leading consultancies have cut their teeth in Australia and other countries where governments have been forced to come to terms with chronic water scarcity. And now they're bringing that expertise to Texas and parts of the United States hit hard by drought and extreme heat."

While academics, think tanks and government research entities may have done the bulk of published and promoted material about climate change adaptation to date, consulting & engineering firms in many cases however, are driving the conversation about climate change adaptation, often in the context of risk management when talking to clients in water and wastewater utilities, energy, land management and various levels of federal, state and local government.

In the private sector, the insurance industry is deeply invested in and engaged in the study of climate change and its fiscal impacts, but heretofore has mostly performed this work internally and most often confidentially, so notable outsourced engagements are not numerous. Industries first to be affected, like power, water and agriculture are producing early adopters investing time, resources and project dollars to assess their risks first, and in some cases prepare for numerous and still largely unpredictable, though many would say inevitable, outcomes.

[EBI Report 4800: Climate Change Adaptation](#) focuses on the emerging U.S. climate change adaptation industry and its prospects for global growth. While still in its early stages - that is the planning and studying stage - climate change adaptation presents large and sustained opportunities for expertise in analysis, risk sciences, planning, design, engineering, construction and other services.

Environmental consulting & engineering firms, specialty boutique firms and some architecture & engineering (A&E) firms and engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) contractors will be in the front lines of mitigating and preparing to cope with the impacts of climate change. However, once capital planning for adaptation turns into capital spending, the design and construction of adaptation measures will begin in earnest, and EBI predicts sustained and even higher growth rates driven by major construction projects including desalination plants, levees, sea walls, port reinforcements, relocations, diversions, and others.

"While there is a certain inevitability about climate change," said Ferrier, "there is also a certain inevitability about the emergence of a climate change adaptation industry.... No measure of planning done to date can completely prepare us for the circumstances we will face in the future. But as an old saying goes: 'Fortune favors the well prepared' and the fortunes of many will be lost or saved by effective adaptation planning."

[Purchase EBI Report 4800: Climate Change Adaptation](#) (163 pages)

For comment and access to research, contact:

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619-295-7685 ext 15

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Lori Harrison, 703-216-8565

lharrison@wef.org

September 3, 2012

Distinguished Leaders from World's Iconic Water Cities to Share Insights, Strategies for Progressive Water Management

Popular Water Leaders Session will follow the Opening General Session of WEFTEC® 2013

ALEXANDRIA, Va. – A distinguished panel of national and international water leaders will examine how communities of all sizes can best prepare for future water demands and related challenges during the second annual Water Leaders Session. As one of the most highly anticipated events of WEFTEC 2013, “The Future of Cities and Water: Insights from Great Water Cities” will be held Monday, October 7 in Chicago, Ill.

In many parts of the world, pressures from population growth, climate change and urbanization are straining existing water systems and resources. In order to sufficiently meet current and future water demands, water managers and civil leaders from communities of all sizes are looking for smarter and more progressive management approaches that will increase resiliency, enhance livability and conserve resources.

Addressing this important topic will be a panel that includes senior executives from iconic and diverse water cities who will share their experiences and discuss innovative approaches to sustainable water management. Facilitated by G. Tracy Mehan III, a former U.S. EPA Assistant Administrator for Water and a Principal in the Environmental Science & Policy Division for The Cadmus Group in Arlington, Va., the distinguished panel will include:

- **Harlan Kelly, Jr.**, General Manager, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
- **Heiner Markhoff**, President and CEO, GE Water & Process Technologies
- **Chew Men Leong**, Chief Executive, PUB Singapore
- **Sue Murphy**, Chief Executive Officer, Water Corporation of Western Australia

“There’s little doubt that we have entered a time where water is becoming a top priority in cities around the world,” said WEF Interim Executive Director Eileen O’Neill. “Although it is a renewable resource, many don’t realize that water is finite and the only way to meet current and future demands is to be smarter and more efficient in our management approaches. This year’s Water Leaders Session is a unique opportunity to hear directly from some of today’s most forward-thinking, innovative water leaders and is something that WEFTEC attendees won’t want to miss.”

Returning for the second year in a row, the hugely popular Water Leaders Session will be held immediately following the Opening General Session from 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. in Room S100,

Grand Ballroom of McCormick Place. For more information, visit www.weftec.org.

Make THE Water Quality Event, YOUR Water Quality Event.

Scheduled for October 5-9 at McCormick Place, WEFTEC 2013 will feature more than 140 technical sessions, 27 workshops, numerous events and the largest exhibition in WEFTEC history! Don't miss your chance to attend the world's largest annual water quality conference and exhibition. Register today at www.weftec.org.

Note to editors: Credentialed media representatives may register in Room 427D of McCormick Place beginning Sunday, October 6 at 8:30 a.m. Please visit the online press room at www.weftec.org or contact Lori Harrison at lharrison@wef.org for details.

About WEF

Founded in 1928, the Water Environment Federation (WEF) is a not-for-profit technical and educational organization of 36,000 individual members and 75 affiliated Member Associations representing water quality professionals around the world. WEF members, Member Associations and staff proudly work to achieve our mission to provide bold leadership, champion innovation, connect water professionals, and leverage knowledge to support clean and safe water worldwide. To learn more, visit www.wef.org.

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Sunnyvale park to be named after former mayor Ron Swegles

By Alia Wilson

awilson@community-newspapers.com

Posted: 07/31/2013 06:01:07 PM PDT | Updated: about a month ago

The Sunnyvale City Council honored one of its own recently in deciding to name a one-acre park after former councilman and mayor Ron Swegles.

The city council discussed ways to name the new city-owned park at 545 Santa Real Ave. and decided to call for suggestions from the public. The city received 174 entries, placing 116 different names under consideration.

Name suggestions ranged from the first Sunnyvale officer killed in the line of duty, Gary L. Larson, to the large canning factory, Libby's, that used to run along Evelyn Avenue.

Swegles, who died of cancer at the age of 67 on July 21, 2011, had the most nominations with 22. Santa Real Park and Sunnyside Park came in second and third, respectively, in entries.

"Ron Swegles has a long history of championing Sunnyvale's parks, and he worked tirelessly for the city in many aspects--whether it's parks, whether it's the disadvantaged, whether it's championing the needs of mobile home occupants--right up until the day he died," Vice Mayor Jim Griffith said at the July 9 meeting when he nominated Swegles for the park's name. "I think this would be a fitting testament for the dedication and sacrifice that he made on behalf of Sunnyvale."

The final vote was five "yes" with two abstentions.

When asked about the naming of the park, Swegles' widow said it is a great honor for her late husband.

"It is such a great tribute to him; it truly is," said Gail Swegles, Ron's wife of 30 years. "I am so proud of him, but I always have been. I just think that it's such a great honor to have something named after him here in Sunnyvale. He did a whole lot here."

The city is planning a special name dedication on Aug. 10 at 11 a.m. at the park.

Before his death, Swegles was serving his second term as a council member and was set to term out that year.

Swegles served as mayor from 2005 to 2006. He was a former member of the city's planning commission, downtown planning committee, parks and recreation commission and senior advisory committee.

He was also a graduate of both Leadership Sunnyvale and the Sunnyvale Public Safety Community Academy, and served as a board member for the Sunnyvale Chamber of Commerce.

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