

## Joint Workshop Agenda

**Tuesday, April 29, 2025 – 9:30 am to 3:00 pm**

Location: Central Contra Costa Sanitary District Multi-Purpose Room  
5019 Imhoff Place, Martinez, CA 94533

Zoom Call: **Meeting ID: 331 704 7040 Passcode: 808698**

### The Nexus Between Nutrient Removal Requirements and Water Recycling

9:30 – 10:00 am	<b>Refreshments and Networking</b>
10:00 – 10:20 am	<b>Welcome/Introductions</b> Melody LaBella, President, WaterReuse Northern California Chapter Roger Bailey, General Manager, Central San/WaterReuse California Association President
10:20 – 10:40 am	<b>Overview of the Bay Area Nutrient Watershed Permit</b> Lorien Fono, Executive Director, Bay Area Clean Water Agencies
10:40 – 11:00 am	<b>Compliance Milestone Reporting for the Bay Area Nutrient Watershed Permit</b> Mike Falk, Wastewater Lead, HDR
11:00 – 11:30 am	<b>How Permitting Can Support or Disincentivize Water Recycling</b> Jan Lee, General Manager, Dublin San Ramon Services District
11:30 – 12:30 pm	<b>Lunch and Networking</b>
12:30 – 1:00 pm	<b>Advanced-Treated Recycled Water: How it Can Help with Nitrogen Reduction</b> Sanjay Reddy, Senior Vice President, Carollo Engineers
1:00 – 1:40 pm	<b>RO Concentrate Management</b> Eric Dunlavey, Deputy Director, City of San José Medi Senaki, Senior Engineer, Valley Water
1:40 – 2:40 pm	<b>Opportunities for Collaboration</b> Eric Rosenblum, CEO, Envirospectives Dave Smith, Water Innovations Services
2:40 – 2:55 pm	<b>Legislative and Regulatory Update</b> Rosario Cortes, Manager of Regulatory Affairs, WaterReuse California Association
2:55 – 3:00 pm	<b>Closing Remarks</b> Melody LaBella, President, WaterReuse Northern California Chapter

## **Speaker Bios:**

### **Lorien Fono**

Lorien Fono has served as Executive Director of the Bay Area Clean Water Agencies (BACWA) since 2020. She has two decades of experience in wastewater and recycled water regulatory compliance, science-based decision-making, and collaborative management within the wastewater sector. Dr. Fono holds a B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Toronto, and an M.S. and Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering and Science, both from the University of California at Berkeley. She is a licensed Professional Civil Engineer in California.

### **Mike Falk**

Mike Falk serves as HDR's West Region Wastewater Lead where he has worked since 2008. Mike specializes in nutrient removal process design and energy optimization at water resource recovery facilities with an emphasis on nutrient management. He has been leading the Bay Area Clean Water Agencies' Nutrient Removal Optimization and Upgrade Study, making him an expert in Bay Area nutrient regulations. He's been leading the efforts with BACWA and its member agencies for the ongoing watershed permits. This presentation is based on the recycled water task completed as part of the 2nd Nutrient Watershed Permit

### **Jan Lee**

Jan Lee was appointed to serve as General Manager of the Dublin San Ramon Services District in 2023. In this role, she oversees water, wastewater, and recycled water services to approximately 200,000 residents and businesses within the cities of Dublin, San Ramon and Pleasanton. Jan has more than 28 years of utility experience implementing complex engineering projects and leading strategic planning, financial management and organizational efforts. She is a strong advocate for workforce development programs and investing in the next generation of industry leaders. Prior to her role as General Manager, Jan was DSRSD's Assistant General Manager and also served as the DSRSD-EBMUD Recycled Water Authority ("DERWA") Authority Manager. Jan holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of California, Davis and is a licensed professional engineer.

### **Sanjay Reddy**

Sanjay is a Senior Client Services Manager at Carollo and has over 30+ years of experience in the planning, design and construction of water, wastewater and reuse projects. Sanjay is currently managing the 140 MGD UV Upgrade project at Central San. When he is not managing projects, Sanjay is out backpacking in the Sierra's or climbing a peak in the Western US.

## **Speaker Bios:**

### **Eric Dunlavey**

Eric Dunlavey has 30 years of experience in environmental and ecological management. His career has focused on water quality science, water utility management, and regulations in the San Francisco Bay area. Eric is currently the Deputy Director for Water Utility Regulatory Affairs and Purified Water for the City of San José, where he supports wastewater, stormwater, recycled water, and drinking water regulatory compliance as well as development of a new purified water program. Eric holds a Bachelors degree in Biology with a specialty in Marine Science from Boston University and a Masters in Biology from the College of William and Mary.

### **Medi Sinaki**

Medi Sinaki is a Senior Engineer in Valley Water's Recycled and Purified Water Unit. He currently leads the Reverse Osmosis Concentrate Management program and manages the research, special studies, and projects pertinent to the expansion of recycled and purified water. Medi has over 24 years of experience in water/wastewater, stormwater, recycled water, chemical manufacturing, and Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S). Medi holds a Master of Science in Engineering with concentration in Water Resources and registration as a Chemical Engineer in California and Environmental Engineer in Nevada. Medi is also a certified T3 Water Treatment Operator and D2 Water Distribution Operator in the state of California.

### **Eric Rosenblum**

Eric Rosenblum is a consulting engineer specializing in sustainable water use. For 25 years he worked at the San Jose/Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant, first as Principal Operations Engineer, then as Director of South Bay Water Recycling, Silicon Valley's first regional nonpotable water reuse program. Since leaving the public sector he has focused on municipal and industrial water use, with a special interest in the social and economic aspects of sustainable water management. Recent publications include Multi-Agency Water Reuse Projects: Lessons for Successful Collaboration (USEPA, 2022) and Sustainable Industrial Water Use: Perspectives, Incentives, and Tools (IWA Publishing, 2021).

### **Dave Smith**

After 31 years with the U.S. EPA, Dave Smith founded Water Innovation Services in 2022 to support agencies and organizations in policy analysis, regulatory and financial planning, and strategic development. At the EPA's Pacific Southwest Region, Dave managed each Clean Water Act core program and specialized in stormwater and wastewater management and development of integrated water planning, permitting, and financing approaches. Dave is a coauthor of the national Water Reuse Action Plan and co-leader of 5 actions under that plan. At Water Innovation Services, Dave conducts research and supports clients with a focus on water reuse, permitting process improvement, organizational collaboration, and innovative infrastructure finance. He holds a MPP from U.C. Berkeley, and a B.A. from Wesleyan University.

### **Rosario Cortes**

Rosario Cortés is the Manager of Regulatory Affairs for WaterReuse California. Rosario represents WRCA in a myriad of regulatory activities involving recycled water including the implementation of the water use efficiency legislation, funding issues, the onsite reuse regulations, and more. Rosario has 25-plus years of experience in California water policy. In addition to working for two members of the California State Legislature, a governor and as a contract legislative advocate, she held several high-level positions for water-related associations including the Association of California Water Agencies, the California Municipal Utilities Association and most recently the California Special Districts Association.