

CalCAN Summit 2019 Presenter Bios



Adam Cline, Ranch Manager, Yocha Dehe Farm and Ranch

Adam has managed cattle grazing on close to a hundred thousand acres throughout Northern California over the course of the last 18 years. He is currently managing the Rangeland and Cattle operation for a Native American Tribe in western Yolo County. Adam has served as President of the Yolo County and Woolgrower's Association

President and as Chairman of the California Cattlemen's Association's Property Rights and Environmental Management Committee.

Alexandra Alvarado, Senior Organizer, Mutual Housing California



Amélie Gaudin, Assistant Professor of Agroecology, UC Davis

Amelie is deeply rooted in agriculture and completed a Ph.D. in Plant Agriculture after working 10 years in smallholder farming systems. Her research focus on developing sustainable management practices that have biodiversity as a basis for improvement and understand impacts on system resili-

ence. She is interested in better understanding root system and rhizosphere ecology and their potential to build and harness soil health.

Andrea Mackenzie, General Manager, Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority (OSA)

OSA works to protect and steward the region's natural capital, open spaces, water resources, natural areas, and working lands to support healthy lands, resilient communities, and strong economies. For more than 25 years, Andrea has worked in the fields of land use planning, conservation planning, public policy, and finance for open space and agricultural land preservation agencies at county, regional, state, and national levels. She successfully passed measures in Sonoma and Santa Clara Counties generating over \$600 million for local land conservation programs. She is a past fellow of the National Conservation Leadership Institute and serves on the Advisory Council of the Bay Area Open Space Council. In 2016, Bay Nature Magazine named Andrea its Local Conservation Hero in the San Francisco Bay Region.

Ann Thrupp, Principal and Founder, Down-to-Earth Innovations

Ann is the principal and founder of Down-to-Earth Innovations, providing con-



sulting services in sustainable and equitable agriculture and food systems. Ann has held leadership positions in non-profit organizations, government, academia, and as a practitioner and educator over 25 years. From 2013 to 2018, she was founding Executive Director of the Berkeley Food Institute at UC Berkeley. Previously, she was Manager of Sustainability and Organic Development at Fetzer/Bonterra Vineyards for 10 years, and Managing Director for CA Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance in 2005-07. Ann was Director of Sustainable Agriculture at World Resources Institute for a decade. Ann has a PhD and MA from Sussex University and a BA from Stanford University. She is fluent in Spanish.



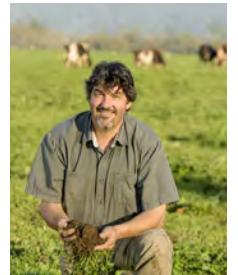
Becca Ryals, Assistant Professor of Agroecology, UC Merced

Rebecca is an Assistant Professor of Agroecology at the University of California, Merced. She studies how nutrients and carbon cycle in agroecosystems, and how the management of these cycles contributes to the climate change mitigation and resiliency. Her research focuses on the capture, transformation, and beneficial reuse of organic wastes as resources to rebuild soil carbon and fertility. She completed her PhD at UC Berkeley and postdoc at Brown University.



Blake Alexandre, Owner, Alexandre Family Farm

Blake grew up on a small dairy in Ferndale, California. As a 4th generation dairy farmer, Blake and his wife Stephanie now operates four grass-based organic dairies in Northern CA with their children. Blake recognizes that knowing how and when to correctly manage soil through grazing and carbon sequestration is ultimately what a regenerative grass-based farmer must know. As soil gains nutrition, so will the grass, the cows, the milk, and the consumer.



Brett Melone, Director of Lending, California FarmLink

California FarmLink is a Community Development Financial Institution. Brett oversees a \$6 million loan portfolio and lending activities to farmers throughout California. Brett served as executive director at Friends of MarViva Foundation (2011-2013) and ALBA (2002-2011). He has a BA in International Relations, Business and Spanish from the University of San Diego, and an MA in International Environmental Policy from the Middlebury Institute of International Studies.

CalCAN Summit 2019 Presenter Bios

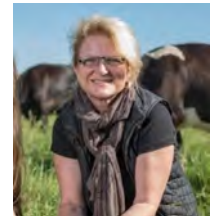
Brian Shobe, Associate Policy Director, California Climate & Agriculture Network (CalCAN)

Brian began his agricultural career on his grandparents' farm in North Dakota. Prior to CalCAN, he served as the Program Coordinator and Government Resources Advisor at the Farmer Veteran Coalition. Brian received a Emerson National Hunger Fellowship, during which time he worked with the Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona and the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition. Brian has a bachelor's degree in Sociology from Beloit College and farming experience in three states.



Cynthia Daley, Director, California State University Chico Regenerative Agriculture Initiative

Cynthia is a Professor within the College of Agriculture, the Director of the Regenerative Agriculture Initiative and the Founder & Supervisor for the Organic Dairy Education & Research Program at Chico State. Her research and educational programs provide support to regenerative farming practices that enhance soil health; build soil carbon; improve crop nutrient density; and provide economic stability for farmers & ranchers.



Caitlin Peterson, PhD candidate, UC Davis

Caitlin is a PhD candidate at UC Davis applying ecological principles to the study of agricultural systems, with the goal of examining sustainability, resilience, and productivity in a changing environment. Caitlin also works on global integrated crop-livestock systems, particularly beef-soybean systems in southern Brazil. She holds a BS in Biology from Stetson University and an MS in International Agricultural

Development from UC Davis. Caitlin's family raises horses in Ocala, Florida.



Daniele Zaccaria, Statewide Agricultural Water Management Specialist, Cooperative Extension, Dept. of Land, Air and Water Resources of UC Davis

Dr. Zaccaria earned a MS in Land and Water Resources Management in 1998 and a Ph.D. in Civil and Environmental Engineering – Irrigation Engineering at Utah State University. Before joining the UC Davis faculty in 2013, he served as Scientific Officer for the International Center for Advanced

Mediterranean Agronomic Studies in Italy. His current work focuses on irrigation water management under and impaired limited water supply. His expertise is on design, performance analysis, and modernization of irrigation systems, across on-farm, district and scheme scales, and on developing viable agricultural water management solutions to improve resource efficiency in irrigated agriculture.

Charlotte Decock, Assistant Professor, Cal Poly SLO

Charlotte is a professor of soil health and fertility at Cal Poly. Her teaching and research focus on sustainable fertilizer and soil management in California's specialty crops. She earned a Ph.D. in Soils and Biogeochemistry from UC Davis and a M.Sc. in Environment Engineering from Ghent University (Belgium). During the last 10 years, her research has focused on nutrient cycles in agroecosystems around the world and how they are affected by management practices and climate change.



Cristina Lazcano, Assistant Professor in Soil Ecology, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

Cristina is a soil biologist interested in understanding the role of plant-microbial interactions in N and C cycling, plant nutrient uptake and greenhouse gas emissions. Her goal is to help farmers design ecologically-based soil management strategies that will reduce environmental impacts while improving crop nutritional quality. Cristina grew up in Spain where she completed her PhD. Since then, she has worked at the Technical University of Denmark, UC Davis and University of Calgary.



Dave Runsten, Policy Director, Community Alliance with Family Farmers

David has created and directed CAFF programs on dry farming wine grapes, agricultural water use efficiency, on-farm food safety, and climate smart farming. He is a co-founder of CalCAN, where he serves on the Executive Committee. He studied Economics at Stanford University and Agricultural and Resource Economics at UC Berkeley. In 2018, he was named a Steward of Sustainable Agriculture by the Ecological Farming Association.



Doug Parker, Director, UC CIWR

Doug is the Director of the California Institute for Water Resources and Strategic Initiative Leader for UC Agriculture and Natural Resources' Water Quality, Quantity, and Security Strategic Initiative. He coordinates water-related research, extension, and education efforts across the 10 UC campuses, the UC ANR system, and other academic institutions within California.



CalCAN Summit 2019 Presenter Bios



Ellee Igoe, Co-owner, Solidarity Farm; Co-Director, SD Carbon Sink Farms

Ellee helped launch Solidarity Farm in 2012 where she grows diversified fruits and vegetables with a rowdy crew of farmers, children, activists and educators. In 2018, in partnership with her landlords, the Pauma Band of Luiseno Indians, Ellee co-created the Carbon Sink Demonstration Farm to ground-truth farming practices that build resilience

to climate change. She co-coordinates a Healthy Soils grant, NRCS Conservation Plan, and Coastal Conservancy Climate Ready project.

Eric Larson Executive Director San Diego County Farm Bureau

Eric has been the Executive Director since January 1997. Eric began working in San Diego County's agricultural industry in 1971. Previous experience includes two terms as a member of the Carlsbad City Council and as a director of the Carlsbad Municipal Water District, the San Diego County Water Authority, and the Encina Wastewater Authority.



Ermias Kebreab, University of California, Davis

Dr. Kebreab is Associate Dean and Sesnon Endowed Chair in Sustainable Agriculture at UC Davis. He conducts research in nutrition modeling and impact of livestock on the environment. He is contributing author to 2019 IPCC update, and chairs feed additive committee of UN FAO. He has authored over 200 peer-reviewed articles and received several awards for his work. Dr. Kebreab received BSc from University of

Asmara, Eritrea, MSc and Ph.D. from University of Reading, UK.



Gail Wadsworth, Executive Director, California Institute for Rural Studies (CIRS)

CIRS conducts public interest research which inspires action for social change to benefit rural communities. Related work: environmental justice in the Eastern Coachella Valley and Salton Sea; socio-cultural perspectives and behaviors relevant to heat-related illness among farm-workers; and perspectives on climate change among farm employers in three regions of California.



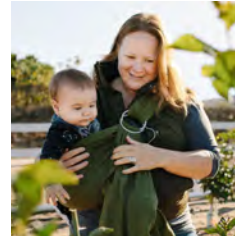
Genevieve Gale, Acting Executive Director, Central Valley Air Quality Coalition

Genevieve has spent the last four years working to strengthen air quality policy for the benefit of public health in the San Joaquin Valley. She also manages a youth group - Young Fresnans for the Environment - an organization intended to connect, mobilize and empower the next generation of environmental activists. Before CVAQ she worked for an environmental policy consulting firm in Sacramento, CA. Genevieve received her BA in Sociology from Vanderbilt University.



Helen McGrath, Farm Coordinator- Ditch Ranch (Somis) & Flying M Ranch (Fillmore)

Helen is a 5th generation farmer from Ventura County, where she supports her family's organic and commercial citrus and avocado farms. Helen has also worked with organizations such as Pacific Coast Farmers' Market Association, Community Alliance with Family Farmers, Ag Innovations, and is a graduate of CA Agricultural Leadership Program. She has been involved in the Fillmore & Piru Pumpers Association, a member of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA), since its inception in 2015.



Jake Magneson, Magneson Dairy

As a fifth-generation farmer, Jake has been working on my family's dairy-farm since 2008. He received a bachelor's of continental philosophy from CSU Stanislaus. In recent years he has taken on more HR and computer work in the business, as well as grant writing.



Jana McClelland, Partner, McClelland's Dairy

McClelland's Dairy in Petaluma is a family farm founded in 1938 by Jana's grandparents, and is now being managed by Jana and her parents George & Dora. They milk 1,000 cows organically in the Two Rock Valley and are members of Organic Valley Cooperative. The milking cows are pastured on 600 acres of grass each season, all young stock are pastured on additional acreage, and the farm grows their own grass silage for the cattle to eat. Jana grew up on the dairy farm, and always realized she wanted to return home to the family business. She attended Santa Rosa Junior College and then got a degree in Agriculture Business from CalPoly. The farm is focusing their future



CalCAN Summit 2019 Presenter Bios

plans on being Climate Smart farmers and increasing public awareness about farming through farm tours and their seasonal pumpkin patch.

Jane Sooby, Senior Outreach and Policy Specialist, CCOF

Jane holds a BS in Biology from New Mexico State and an MS in Agronomy from the University of Wyoming. She has worked in organic/sustainable agriculture advocacy since 1995, most recently with the policy team at CCOF.



Nature. JoAnn is the author and editor of many conservation-based farm publications including the newly released Supporting Beneficial Birds and Managing Pest Birds. Before joining WFA in 2001, she worked for other sustainable agricultural nonprofits, and was an organic farmer for over a decade. She has a keen interest in the conservation of native species for their own sake, and the connections between farms and the larger ecosystem.



Jeff Schahczenski, Agricultural and Natural Resource Economist, National Center for Appropriate Technology (NCAT)

Jeff has been an elected member of the Organizational Council of the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition, Executive Director of the Big Hole River Foundation and the Western Sustainable Agriculture Working Group. Jeff started a CSA farm in New Jersey, has graduate degrees in agricultural economics and political science and served in the Peace Corps.



Judith Redmond, Co-owner, Full Belly Farm

Judith has been a farmer at Full Belly Farm since 1989. Full Belly is a certified organic, multigenerational farm where cooking, eating, growing and selling fruits, nuts, flowers and vegetables takes place year-round. Judith serves as the Treasurer of the national Organic Farmers Association, as a Commissioner on the Capay Valley Fire Protection District and on the Advisory Board of CalCAN. She says,

“At Full Belly, we are constantly made aware of the importance of policy and how it strongly influences the viability and success of farms.”



Jessica Chiartas, PhD Candidate, Soils & Biogeochemistry, UC Davis

Jessica’s research explores the impact of agricultural management on soil C and other soil health related properties. Prior to academia, she spent 5 years in corporate sales for Fortune 500 companies. She strives to bridge the gap between science, policy and the populace—educating and

inspiring as to the connection between soil and life and finding ways to partner with ag and industry to bring soil health management to scale.



Kara Heckert, California State Director, American Farmland Trust

Kara has been in the ag sustainability and natural resource conservation field in for 18 years and now leads strategy & programs for AFT in CA. She has initiated programs to provide greater opportunities for farmers to engage in sustainable environmental stewardship practices. Kara is passionate about fostering the reconnection of consumers to the land and

people who produce their food, seeing the protection of our farmland as critical to the preservation of our natural resources and communities.

Jessica Rudnick, PhD Candidate, UC Davis Center for Environmental Policy and Behavior

Jessica’s research focuses on governance in social-ecological systems and agricultural decision-making. Specifically, she has been studying California growers’ decision-making on nitrogen management and the implementation of the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program. She worked as a research fellow with the California Department of Food and Agriculture contributing to the development of the climate-smart agriculture programs.



Karen Buhr, Executive Director, California Association of Resource Conservation Districts

Karen has been leading CARCD for 8 years and has facilitated countless projects throughout California. She has specifically targeted coordinating RCDs and public/private partners around climate change adaptation and mitigation as well as sustainable land management. Karen holds a MS degree in Natural Resource Science and Management from the University of Minnesota and a BA in Environmental Studies from Macalester College in St Paul, Mn.



Jo Ann Baumgartner, Executive Director, Wild Farm Alliance (WFA)

WFA promotes a healthy viable agriculture that protects and restores wild

CalCAN Summit 2019 Presenter Bios



Kassandra Hishida, Coordinator, Community Alliance for Agroecology

Kassandra grew up in Fresno, CA and is proud of her Central Valley roots. She studied Environmental Science at Fresno State & holds a M.S. in Environmental Studies with a Graduate Specialization in Food Studies from the University of Oregon. Kassandra served as an Environmental Health & Justice Fellow at Toxics Action Center before returning home

to coordinate the Community Alliance for Agroecology, a coalition that works alongside communities impacted by our food & farming systems.

Kate Lundquist, WATER Institute Director, Occidental Arts and Ecology Center

Kate co-directs the Occidental Arts & Ecology Center's WATER Institute and the Bring Back the Beaver Campaign to establish beaver restoration as a legitimate approach to optimize aquatic resource conservation and climate change adaptation in California. Through strategic outreach and education, collaborative restoration planning and co-existence demonstration, Kate helps landowners, communities and resource agencies integrate beaver stewardship into riparian and rangeland restoration.



Kate Munden-Dixon, Doctoral candidate, Geography Graduate Group, UC Davis

Kate's research is focused on assisting communities develop equitable and resilient food systems in a changing climate. Her work has focused on alternative food networks, livestock and climate adaptation, food policy, and food waste. Kate's current research program explores how new ranchers in California develop innovative typologies of climate adaptive practices.



Keith Wallace, P.E., Supervising Engineer, Water Resources, California Department of Water Resources

Keith Wallace is the Chief of the Communication and Engagement Section in the Sustainable Groundwater Management Office (SGMO). SGMO is responsible for carrying out the roles given to DWR by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). Keith has more than 18 years of experience in water resources engineering, planning, and management. He began his career with Montgomery Watson (now Stantec)

after graduating from Cal Poly in 2000 with a B.S. in Environmental Engineering. Keith came to DWR in 2010 and prior to joining SGMO in January 2018, he spent six years as the Project Manager for DWR's Integrated Regional Water Management's Implementation Grant Program.

Kelly Peterson, Water Resources Scientist, Butte County Water and Resource Conservation Department

Kelly Peterson joined Butte County Water and Resource Conservation Department as their Water Resources Scientist in 2018 with a diverse background in water quality/quantity monitoring, natural resource monitoring and restoration projects, environmental permitting and compliance and storm water management and erosion control. For the past several years, she has been working on natural resource projects throughout northern California and is now working with the Butte County Water and Resource Conservation Department to monitor, analyze and report Butte County's groundwater conditions and assist in the local implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and development of related Groundwater Sustainability Plans.



Kristin Sesser, Avian Ecologist, Point Blue Conservation Science

Kristin has spent the last 8 years in the Central Valley focused on enhancing the agricultural landscape for multiple benefits, including wildlife habitat. She works with many different partners to develop and test multi-benefit bird-friendly management practices and she works closely with NRCS to include these practices in their incentive programs. She also worked with social scientists to understand factors that influence landowners to continue using practices after incentive payments end.

Jeanne Merrill, Policy Director, California Climate & Agriculture Network (CalCAN)

Jeanne has served as CalCAN's Policy Director it was founded in 2009. She has over 20 years of experience in state and national agricultural, environmental and energy policy. Prior to CalCAN, she served as Associate Policy Director with the Michael Fields Agricultural Institute (WI). Jeanne has been a board member of the Midwest Organic Services Association, co-chair of the coordinating council of the Sustainable Agriculture Coalition, and on the Organizational Council of the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition. She currently serves on the Agricultural Advisory Group of the Dept. of Water Resources.



CalCAN Summit 2019 Presenter Bios



Lauren Parker, Postdoctoral Fellow, USDA California Climate Hub and John Muir Institute for the Environment, UC Davis

Lauren’s research interests are in applied climatology, specifically focusing on issues surrounding water and perennial agriculture in a changing climate. Her work with the Climate Hub is primarily in almond and wine grape systems, and

climate change outreach and education.

Lynne McBride, Executive Director, CA Dairy Campaign

The California Dairy Campaign is a grassroots organization of dairy farmers who are work on a range of issues including milk pricing, trade, environmental, water and other policies. CDC is a member organization of the California Farmers Union (CFU), a state chapter of National Farmers Union, which represents more than 200,000 farmers nationwide to protect and enhance the economic well-being and quality of life for family farmers and their communities.



Matt Freeman, Assistant General Manager, Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority (OSA)

Matt has over 20 years of experience in the fields of land conservation, open space planning, and resource management. Matt enjoys engaging partners in preparing and implementing strategic conservation plans to preserve critical natural and working lands. Before joining OSA in 2012, Matt worked with the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County, The Nature Conservancy and the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District. Matt serves as a member of the Santa Cruz County Fish and Wildlife Advisory Commission. He has a BA in Environmental Studies from UC Santa Cruz and a Master’s Degree in Community and Regional Planning from the University of Oregon. Matt lives in Santa Cruz with his family and can often be found on nearby trails or in his kayak on Monterey Bay.



Michele M. Clark, Executive Director, Yolo Land Trust
Sine 2010, Michele has been the Executive Director of the Yolo Land Trust, a California nonprofit organization whose mission is to conserve the farmland and rangeland in Yolo County. Michele has lived in Yolo County since 1993 and was on the Yolo Land Trust Board of Directors for two years before becoming the Executive Director.

Prior to joining the Yolo Land Trust, Michele was the transaction director for the California Rangeland Trust in Sacramento, and regional counsel for the Trust for Public Land in San Francisco. Michele has taught numerous classes on conservation easements for the Land Trust Alliance. Michele was a commercial real estate lawyer for private clients before concentrating her work on land conservation. She practiced law in Sacramento, Florida and Pennsylvania. Michele is a graduate of Class 37 of the California Agricultural Leadership Program.

Miguel Garcia, Sustainable Agriculture Project Manager, Napa County Resource Conservation District

As the Sustainable Agriculture Project Manager at Napa County Resource Conservation District (RCD), Miguel provides on-farm technical assistance and planning related to soil health, erosion control, and irrigation management. Previously, Miguel worked for the Coachella Valley and the Inland Empire RCDs developing and implementing diverse sustainable agriculture programs.



Mike FitzGibbon, Branch Chief in the Research Division, California Air Resources Board

Mike is a liaison with the agricultural community on research-related topics and serves as Co-Chair for the Dairy Working Group Subgroup 3 on Research that developed a comprehensive dairy research program to support meeting California’s emission reduction targets from SB 1383 and the Short-Lived Climate Pollutant Plan. Mike is a registered Professional Chemical Engineer, with a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of California at Davis and an M.B.A. from the Claremont Graduate School.



Mike Griffin, California Division Pool Manager, Organic Valley/CROPP Cooperative

Mike is responsible for supporting co-op members in the region, helping them towards the co-op’s goals. Involved in some aspect of the dairy industry since 1970, he has worked for Organic Valley, America’s largest cooperative of organic farmers, since 2011. Mike believes that farmers can work together toward a fair living while being mindful of (and helpful with) environmental issues and can strengthen the family farm, all

while providing consumers with healthy food.

CalCAN Summit 2019 Presenter Bios



Noelle Cremers, Senior Policy Advocate

Noelle works for the California Farm Bureau Federation representing the state's agricultural industry before the state legislature and regulatory agencies. She splits her time between wildlife and natural resources, air quality, and climate change concerns facing California agriculture. Noelle has a B.S. in Animal Science from Cal Poly and a Master of Agriculture from Colorado State University. She is a graduate of the California Agricultural Leadership Program.



Oliver English, Co-Founder & CEO, Common Table Creative

Common Table Creative, an impact-driven production & hospitality company specializing in advancing global food, sustainability and social justice issues. Prior to launching Common Table Creative, Oliver led the Olive Groups development team, opening restaurants throughout the world. His experience in the global hospitality showed Oliver first-hand the effects of climate change on the world's food system, inspiring him to use film to inspire long term change. Oliver is a graduate of Cornell University's School of Hotel Administration.

sities School of Hotel Administration.

Rex Dufour, Western Regional Office Director, NCAT

Rex has been with NCAT since 1994, and opened the CA office in 2001. His work focus is training ag professionals on organic practices, certification, ecological pest, and soil management. Rex is registered with NRCS as a Technical Service Provider in CA and NV. He worked 9 years in Thailand and Laos with Peace Corps, the UN, and the US State Department. He's a former Pest Control Advisor in CA, and been trained as a Certified Organic Crop Inspector by the International Organic Inspectors Association. Rex has a MSc. in IPM from UC Riverside and B.A. Biology from The Colorado College.



Ruth Dahlquist-Willard, Small Farms and Specialty Crops Advisor, University of California Cooperative Extension

Ruth has a Ph.D. in Entomology from the University of Idaho. Her program addresses issues in small-scale, diversified farming such as marketing, regulatory compliance, water and energy savings, and specialty crop production. Her research interests include IPM for small-scale diversified farms, emerging drought-tolerant crops, and processing of value-added products.



Sacha Lozano, Ag Program Manager, RCD of Santa Cruz County

Sacha has worked with the RCD since 2011, coordinating and delivering agriculture and conservation programs in English and Spanish related to water, soil and nutrient management. His professional background includes research in marine biology and climate change, environmental education, ecosystem services valuation, agriculture and natural resources management.

Sara Tiffany, Climate Smart Farming Senior Manager, Community Alliance with Family Farmers (CAFF)

Sara oversees CAFF's Climate Smart Farming program, which works with farmers, researchers and other agencies to investigate and promote climate smart practices throughout California. She has graduate degrees from University of California, Davis, in Soils and Biochemistry and International Agricultural Development. Sara grew up on a small walnut ranch on the central coast of California.



Stacie Ann Silva, Resource Analyst, New Current Water & Land LLC.

Stacie Ann joined New Current Water and Land in June 2018 as a Resource Analyst. She monitors the development of Groundwater Sustainability Plans in over 60 Groundwater Sustainability Agencies across California; she also develops water supply strategies for farming in a post-SGMA implementation world. Stacie Ann is a recent graduate of Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, with a degree in Agriculture Systems Management focusing on Agriculture Business and Water Policy.



Tanya Gemperle-Goncalves, Sustainability Manager, Edelweiss Nut Co.

Tanya manages 1500 acres of Certified Organic, transitional, and conventional almonds in the Turlock area. She received the Healthy Soils Incentives Grant in 2017 to apply cover crop on an orchard. Tanya has a degree in Environmental Studies from UC Santa Cruz, and received her Masters from Oxford University in Environmental Change and Management. Tanya is also on the board of directors for the East Stanislaus Resource Conservation District.

CalCAN Summit 2019 Presenter Bios



Tapan Pathak, UC Merced Cooperative Extension Specialist in Climate Adaptation in Agriculture

Tapan has experience in diverse and interdisciplinary sciences, including crop modeling and social science needs assessments. He is the chair of the UCCE Climate Change Adaptation Workgroup that brings together UC, ANR and external scientists to collaborate on research and extension projects specific to climate change adaptation of California agriculture. He has a

Ph.D. in Agricultural Engineering from the University of Florida, an M.S. in Irrigation Engineering from Utah State University, and a B.S. in Agricultural Engineering from Gujarat Agricultural University.



Taryn Ravazzini, Deputy Director Special Initiatives, California Department of Water Resources

Taryn was appointed deputy director of special initiatives in December 2015. She serves as a policy advisor and subject matter expert to the director and chief deputy director on a broad range of issues impacting statewide water management. Taryn leads the Department's implementation of the landmark 2014 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, and established DWR's Executive Sustainable Groundwater Management Office in January 2018. She also serves as an executive advisor to the California Water Commission, having previously held the position of acting executive officer for the Commission in 2016-2017.

Teresa Andrews, MS, Education and Outreach Specialist, Western Center for Agricultural Health and Safety, UC Davis

Teresa worked as an elementary school teacher prior to immigrating to the United States. She has extensive experience developing educational materials based on the principles of effective participatory adult education methods. She is a skillful trainer, who has conducted sessions in both English and Spanish, on diverse occupational safety and health topics. In her current role as outreach and educational specialist for the Western Center for Agricultural Health and Safety, Teresa has forged collaborative links with growers, farm worker groups, employers, and insurance personnel, among others.



Thea Rittenhouse, Farm Equity Advisor, California Department of Food and Agriculture

Thea recently joined CDFA as the Farm Equity Advisor. Her career has been dedicated to working with farmers, farmworkers and sustainable agriculture in different capacities. Most

recently she was a sustainable agriculture specialist with NCAT/ATTRA where she taught workshops for farmers in English and Spanish and co-developed the Latino Farmer Conference. She was raised on a farm in the Midwest and is the co-owner of an organic farm in Yolo County.

Tim Bowles, Assistant Professor of Agroecology, Dept. of Environmental Science, Policy, & Management, UC Berkeley

A primary question motivating Timothy's research is: How can reliance on ecological processes create productive, resilient, and healthy agricultural systems? He received his PhD in Ecology from UC Davis and was a USDA AFRI Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of New Hampshire.



Valerie Eviner, Associate Professor, UC Davis

Valerie's research focuses on a mechanistic understanding of ecological interactions to increase our understanding and effective management of: ecosystem services, plant invasions, restoration, plant community composition, biogeochemical cycling, global change, grazing systems, and resilience of ecosystem structure and function.



Vicky Dawley, District Manager, Resource Conservation District of Tehama County

Vicky has been involved in resource management and ranching for over 40 years. She was the RCD's first employee when she started in 1999. She has overseen the RCD's growth to its current staff of ten with an annual budget of over \$2 million. Vicky and her family also own a third generation Tehama County "off the grid" ranch where they raise pastured poultry and grass-fed beef. She has a B.A. in business from Simpson University and completed three years of botanical studies at U.C. Davis.

Wendell Gilgert, Director of Working Landscapes Program, Point Blue Conservation

Wendell was born and raised in Northern California on a fourth-generation family farm. He started with USDA Soil Conservation Service (now NRCS) in 1977 as a Soil Scientist. For 34 years, he worked various Field Conservationist positions and as Wildlife Biologist in California, Nevada, Colorado and Oregon. In June 2011, he retired NRCS and began work with Point Blue Conservation Science to direct their Rangeland Watershed Initiative.

