



# WESTERN CHAPTER NEWS

## INTERNATIONAL EROSION CONTROL ASSOCIATION

*Serving Erosion Control Professionals in Arizona, California, Nevada and Hawaii*

Volume 16, Issue 2  
**SUMMER 2012**

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### New Chapter Web Site!

Have you visited the all-new [WCIECA.org](http://WCIECA.org)? Get the latest Chapter news online—Check it out today!

[www.wcieca.org](http://www.wcieca.org)

## Why Walk When You Can Run? (For the Board, that is)

Each year in July three of nine Western Chapter Board full-term (3 year) Director positions are up for election. Serving on the Western Chapter Board could be just what you were looking for if you wish to be more engaged in our industry, increase your leadership and outreach skills, and be part of a good-humored, high-functioning team. I have really enjoyed my three terms on the Board of Directors and highly recommend adding this to your life experience. As you can see in the photo below, Board members implement a forward-looking vision for the Chapter and embrace hard work without taking ourselves too seriously.



*A portion of the Western Chapter IECA Board: Doug, Craig, Jane, Cyndi (Chapter Administrative Assistant), Mike, and Peter.*

### What do Directors do?

Well, Directors manage and administer the Chapter as a not-for-profit corporation, create educational opportunities for the Chapter members, help the Chapter and IECA grow, and respond to member questions and concerns. The time commitment includes quarterly meetings and subcommittee work totaling 5-10 hrs per month. Do not hesitate to contact any current Director if you have any questions about serving on the Board or about your eligibility. Board member's contact information is on the WCIECA website at [www.wcieca.org](http://www.wcieca.org).

### How does one get on the Board?

Running for one of the three Board positions available each year is simple: no campaigning, no spin, and no commitments to special interest groups. How refreshing! Of course, you must be an active member of the IECA and Chapter in good standing for a minimum of one year. Simply submit a nomination for someone you would like to see on the Board or nominate yourself by June 22, 2012. Send the nomination to Cyndi Brinkhurst, Administrative Assistant at [westernchapter@gmail.com](mailto:westernchapter@gmail.com).

If you chose to accept a nomination you will then submit 200-word candidacy statement by July 9, 2012 that tells the membership about who you are and why you want to serve on the Board. Your name and statement will then be on the July 2012 ballot! It's that easy folks. Even if you are not elected your first try, we



*Board members step in at times to facilitate BMP demonstrations. Ahupua'a Conference Hawaii 2006.*

will put you to work on a subcommittee and get you the experience and exposure you need to be more competitive the next time. Go for it!

It has been a pleasure to serve as your Chapter President. Mike Alberson has now aptly taken on that mantle. I will be running for the Region 1 IECA Board and would appreciate your vote in the national election.



**Craig Benson**  
WCIECA Director  
[craig@nrscaa.org](mailto:craig@nrscaa.org)

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# IECA's *Environmental Connection* 2012 Celebrates 40 Years

The International Erosion Control Association's annual conference, *Environmental Connection* 2012, was a great success. Nearly 1,900 attendees from around the world and across the United States came to Las Vegas for a week of education, relationship development and fun!

EC12 kicked off with a packed Welcome Reception held on Sunday, Feb. 26th after the conclusion of the pre-conference, full-day courses. Attendees took advantage of Monday's education session line-up which featured 50 half-day and one-hour sessions. The always-popular HydRodeo made its EC12 appearance during Monday's lunch followed by the Awards Ceremony/General Session and Chapter socials.

After Tuesday morning education sessions, the *Environmental Connection* 2012 expo hall, which held 153 exhibit booths, was opened with a ribbon cutting ceremony and the Grand Opening Celebration. Held during the expo's first day was the SOIL Fund's silent auction; thanks to the generosity of attendees, Save Our International Land raised almost \$1,500 in winning bids.

Attendees ended their EC12 experience on Wednesday by celebrating IECA's 40th birthday at the EC12 Birthday Bash. Over 350 attendees partied with food (including special IECA anniversary cupcakes!), music and \$4,000 in cash prizes.

## Personal Insights

EC12 was well attended by IECA's core exhibitors with a few new-comer corporations testing the waters.

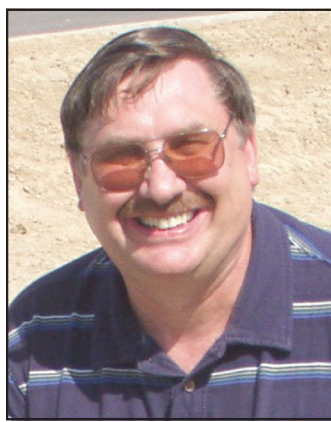
The industry is still watching their purse strings, as evidenced by attendees asking very specific questions related to upcoming projects. Economic recession aside, there was still an international contingent of attendees.

By and large, attendees appreciated the high quality of the educational offerings packaged within a condensed conference format.

## Western Chapter Board Meeting

The Western Chapter continued what was begun at the EC11 Orlando, FL conference with members brainstorming ideas on promoting education, and boosting membership.

This has been a year filled with much discussion regarding the membership structure and a few changes that seem to be accomplishing



**Chris A. Marr, CPESC**  
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**EC12 Expo Hall.** Attendees gained an international perspective on erosion and sediment control issues being addressed around the globe.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total registered: <b>1,881</b>                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Number of Countries Represented: <b>30</b> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IECA Members Represented: <b>35%</b>          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conference Technical Sessions: <b>90</b>   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Number of Exhibitors: <b>454</b>              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Training Courses Offered: <b>17</b>        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Number of Exhibitor Booths: <b>153 booths</b> |  |

the goals we set when proposing them. At EC11, the Membership Team brainstormed some ideas including:

- ☐ Lower student dues to \$25;
- ☐ Implement a free webinar for each member during the year;
- ☐ Simplify the membership structure and eliminate "corporate level" memberships.

Thanks to the Board, the first two items were approved and we've noticed an increase in webinar participation and student membership. Webinars are averaging 45 people per session since September when the "complimentary pass" initiative was activated. Student membership has doubled (granted it's baby steps – we were at 6 before the dues change and we are now at 12).

WCIIECA was awarded "Chapter Management Award of Achievement" at the Partners for Excellence Award Ceremony, while Kent Stevenson was honored with the "Young Professional Award".

## In conclusion, "What did I receive in return for attending EC12"?

**Fresh ideas:** If one creates a large, diverse, open circle of professionals around your business enterprise, you'll never get stale and always be building for the present and future.

See EC12, page 3



### Educational and business opportunities:

We are a passionate group, with common interests and challenges driving opportunities that are always pushing our members to new heights. We learn together.

**Relationship building:** Being away from your business is challenging, but the few days our members spent at the EC12 Conference paid huge dividends by enabling attendees to come away with easy-to-implement ideas, new product information, meetings with suppliers, networking with peers, and the strengthening of existing relationships.

The Chapter Board is very much looking forward to welcoming you next year in sunny San Diego, CA for *Environmental Connection* 2013, scheduled for February 10-13, 2013. ☁

## Professional Listings

**Kelley Erosion Control, Inc.** established in 1983, is recognized throughout Nevada and California as a leader in the industry. KEC has an excellent reputation known for quality, competency, solutions, innovative ideas, cutting edge technology, excellence and client satisfaction. Services include: Hydroseeding, site preparation, dust control applications, BMP's, storm water pollution inspection and monitoring, revegetation and project maintenance, site winterization, wetland mitigation, stream channel stabilization, planting and irrigation, mining reclamation, soil stabilizer applications, biotechnical applications, fire restoration/rehabilitation, water quality, turbidity control & pH sampling for SWPPP requirements. Phone (775) 322-7755, Fax (775) 322-6606, Contact Claudia Chambers CPESC, CISC [claudia@kelleyerosioncontrol.com](mailto:claudia@kelleyerosioncontrol.com). Visit us at [www.kelleyerosioncontrol.com](http://www.kelleyerosioncontrol.com).

**CoirGreen™** is an organization that manufactures and supplies 100% Biodegradable, Environmentally Friendly products for the Erosion Control sector. Geotextiles (coir netting), Erosion control blankets (Coconut blankets), Waterlogs (Coir logs/Biologs), Coir pillows (Coir pallets) are widely used to counter erosion control globally! Visit [www.coirgreen.com](http://www.coirgreen.com) for more details on securing these products or contact us at [marketing@coirgreen.com](mailto:marketing@coirgreen.com). Our customer service department will get in touch with you within 24 hours and help you secure our product range at very economical rates! You can also visit our Facebook page for updated news on the products/industry [www.facebook.com/coirproducts](http://www.facebook.com/coirproducts) and/or follow us on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/CoirGreen](http://www.twitter.com/CoirGreen).

**JL StormWater Consultants, Inc.** is a State Certified SBE/DBE/WBE/UDBE Company. [www.jlstormwater.com](http://www.jlstormwater.com). Jane Ledford, Principal, [jane@jlstormwater.com](mailto:jane@jlstormwater.com) or 619.922.6511. Services include: Environmental Permit Preparation, Processing and Compliance, SWPPP Preparation and Processing, SWPPP Implementation, SWPPP Inspections, SWPPP Training including the newly adopted Construction Storm Water Permit, Trainer of Record for the QSP/QSD classes, Construction Monitoring, Biological Resources Monitoring, Cultural Resources Monitoring, Coordination with Native American Monitors, English-Spanish Translation of Worker Education Materials.

**Marvin E. Davis & Associates, Inc.** focuses on the challenging issues of the Tahoe Basin and Northern Nevada/California terrain. Our professionals provide a diverse and solid background in geotechnical engineering; specialized engineering design; erosion control services; construction and forensic inspection services and materials testing; and, regulatory and compliance issues to enable project approval. Phone 775-853-9100 or visit us at [www.mdageotechnical.com](http://www.mdageotechnical.com).

**Sustane Natural Fertilizer, Inc.**, for over 30 years of continuous operation, has produced the highest quality Natural Based and Organic Fertilizers and Soil Amendments distributed in the U.S. and exported to 50 countries worldwide. Sustane Natural Fertilizer maintains and operates its U.S.E.P.A. permitted compost site, manufacturing facility and corporate offices from Cannon Falls, MN. Sustane Fertilizers and Soil Amendments provide readily available, balanced nutrition with beneficial microbiology to provide the basic soil components for exceptional plant establishment and long term sustainability. Call 800-352-9245 to speak with a Sustane Regional Specialist or with our International Team Leader. [www.sustane.com](http://www.sustane.com)



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### Advertise with WCIECA - Rates Reduced for 2012!

Did you know that a one-year ad insertion in Western Chapter News also includes placement in the [WCIECA.org](http://WCIECA.org) *Products & Services Directory* and rotation of your banner ad throughout the Chapter's [WCIECA.org](http://WCIECA.org) web site?

Rates have been reduced from 2011 levels to just ~~\$200.00~~ **\$100.00/yr** for full color ads and ~~\$100.00~~ **\$50.00/yr** for Professional Listings. Custom ad design starts at just \$50.00. Contact Cyndi Brinkhurst at (530) 272-2407 or [westernchapter@gmail.com](mailto:westernchapter@gmail.com) to reserve your ad space today!

## REGULATOR'S PERSPECTIVE:

# Sediment Retention Fiber Roll (SRFR) Installation Tips

When selecting an appropriate control measure (CM) or best management practice (BMP) for a given site the design professional must first consider the purpose(s) of the BMP - whether it is to prevent erosion, capture suspended sediment particles, reduce storm water velocity, dissipate flow concentration et al. Next, the design professional must account for site variables, such as topography, soil type, local climatic conditions, proximity to a waterway and much more in the plan (stormwater pollution control plan, erosion control plan or water pollution control plan).

Following the design phase is proper installation! Inadequate or improper installation of a given BMP makes a good plan ineffective in protecting water quality and may subject the owner and/or contractor of the project to regulatory action.

BMP's, such as the selection and use of sediment retention fiber rolls (SRFR), must not only be designed effectively, but must be installed per industry acceptable standards to ensure the effectiveness of the device to the maximum extent practical (MEP). Although SRFR's appear to be a simple tube filled with loose debris, they are in fact an engineered product. They are a manufactured three dimensional device of a specified filler matrix encapsulated within a flexible containment material utilized in sediment and flow control applications. SRFRs are also known as wattles, logs, socks, tubes or fiber rolls. SRFRs are available as prefabricated units; constructed into tubular configurations comprised of rice straw, wheat straw, excelsior fiber, wood fiber, coconut fiber, compost, flax or a similar matrix material. The matrix material is encapsulated within biodegradable or photodegradable netting, yielding an approximate functional life of 1 - 3 years, barring being trampled by construction equipment and/or construction activities. These engineered devices must be installed per certain standards in order to be effective. Again, adherence to recommended installation standards can either make or break a good plan!

See **Regulator's Perspective**, page 5



**Doug Dowden**  
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Adherence to recommended installation standards can either make or, in this case, break a good plan.

## Upcoming Events 2012

**July 1** ([WCIECA.org](http://WCIECA.org)) *Western Chapter Scholarship Application Deadline.* Visit [www.wcieca.org](http://www.wcieca.org) for more information.

**July 9** ([WCIECA.org](http://WCIECA.org)) *Board of Directors Election candidacy statements due.* Visit [www.wcieca.org](http://www.wcieca.org) for more information.

**July 13-August 3** ([WCIECA.org](http://WCIECA.org)) *Board of Directors Election.* Visit [www.wcieca.org](http://www.wcieca.org) for more information.

**July 27** ([IECA.org](http://IECA.org)) *IECA Region One Board of Directors Nomination Deadline.*

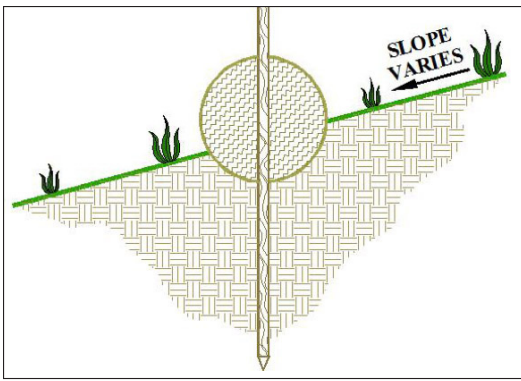
**August 19-23** (Denver, CO) *StormCon 2012* (the largest stormwater prevention conference in North America). Exhibits from August 19-23. Colorado's Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel. Four easy ways to register. To learn more, go to [www.stormcon.com/register.shtm](http://www.stormcon.com/register.shtm).

## 2013

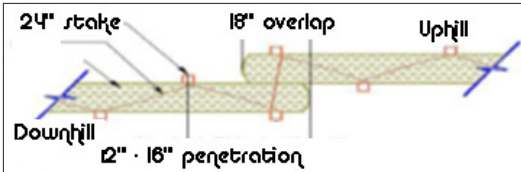
**February 10-13** (San Diego, CA) IECA's *Environmental Connection 2013*. Town and Country Resort & Convention Center. This is the premier educational event for the erosion, sediment control and stormwater industry. *Environmental Connection* combines intense, full and half day training courses with topic-focused technical sessions and the largest expo of its kind. Visit [www.ieca.org](http://www.ieca.org) for more information.

An advertisement for DownUnder LSM Technology. It features the company name in a bold, sans-serif font at the top. Below it, the text reads "New LSM Technology Nurtures and Sustains Plant Growth, Even in Harsh Environments". There is a small graphic of a bee on the right. At the bottom, there is a logo for "CUTTPO ENVIRONMENTAL" and the website "kiwipower.com". The background is a light yellow with some faint floral patterns.An advertisement for Sustane Natural Fertilizer. It features the brand name "SUSTANE" in a large, bold, sans-serif font. Below it, the word "Naturally..." is written in a smaller, cursive font. There is a circular logo with a sun and a plant. At the bottom, it says "Sustane Natural Fertilizer, Inc.", "1-800-352-9245", and "www.sustane.com". The background is a green field with a sun in the sky.





SRFR should be entrenched 2" – 3" to reduce the chance of storm water undercutting.



Individual SRFR segments should overlap (side by side) the next segment at least 18". The uphill segment should be situated above the downhill segment.

## Call for Articles

Do you have a technical article, regulatory update or event announcement you'd like to share with your fellow members? Possibly a profile write-up on a fellow Chapter member who is quietly implementing imaginative erosion control practices out of the mainstream eye? Forward them to Peter McRae, WCIECA Editor-in-Chief at [pmcrae@san.rr.com](mailto:pmcrae@san.rr.com) and we'll publish them in the next issue of *Western Chapter News*!

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## Regulator's Perspective, continued from page 4

The following recommended installation standards are what I look for in the field as a regulator. Please note that recommended installation practices vary based upon the purpose of the device, the topography of the site and a host of other variables.

- ❑ Site preparation should include creating a smooth and even surface prior to the installation of the SRFR device to ensure that no gaps exist between the SRFR & soil to reduce the chance of storm water undercutting.
- ❑ SRFR should be installed perpendicular to water flow, so that the device can uniformly intercept storm water flow. This to avoid the creation of concentrated water flow patterns.
- ❑ SRFR should be installed from lowest level contours to higher levels.
- ❑ SRFR should be entrenched 2" – 3" to reduce the chance of storm water undercutting.
- ❑ Adhere to proper staking practices. Typical staking patterns of at least 12" – 16" deep (24" long stakes) at every six feet. This pattern varies based upon soil type, slope length and gradient, and total exposed surface area behind the SRFR.
- ❑ Be sure to compact soil on both sides of SRFR to reduce the chance of storm water undercutting. Stormwater inherently finds the least path of resistance.
- ❑ Individual SRFR segments should overlap (side by side) the next segment at least 18". The uphill segment should be situated above the downhill segment.
- ❑ It is recommended that at the end of a SRFR run or group of SRFR the end of the last segment of the run should be looped upwards in a "J" like fashion ("J looped") at least 3' to reduce the chance of storm water flow from just passing around the ends of the SRFR creating concentrated flow patterns.
- ❑ Looping the ends of continuous SRFR upwards every 100' at least 3' ("J" looped) is recommended.
- ❑ When fiber rolls are located at the top of a slope they are typically installed at a minimum one foot back from the top of the embankment, entrenched 2" – 3" and staked as indicated herein previously.
- ❑ Install SRFR parallel to upstream overland flow to avoid creating concentrated discharge / flow points.
- ❑ SRFR should be installed & maintained per ASTM, CASQA, Caltrans, Fish & Game &/or applicable industry standards based upon purpose, local climatic condition and site conditions.

Again, installation standards will vary based upon local climatic conditions, purpose of the device, and site conditions. Adhering to installation standards for any BMP or CM is just one of the many variables to consider when managing and protecting water quality on a construction site.

After installation, be sure to routinely maintain, clean and repair or replace the device as necessary. Lastly, document all activities in a log. A detailed storm water log is your best defense on a non-compliance issue. 🐾

# 2009 WCIECA Scholarship Recipients and What They Are Up To Today



## Angie Quintana-Jones

Soil Conservationist, Natural Resources  
Conservation Service, Capitola, CA  
(831) 475-5189

As a junior in college, I began working as an intern for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in San Luis Obispo County.

Since I enjoyed the internship, I stayed in the program, working in the Santa Barbara County NRCS office for the next two summers, and part-time throughout the rest of college.

After graduating in 2009 from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo with a B.S. in Soil Science, I continued into their graduate program. I got my M.S. in Agriculture, with a specialization in Soil Science, in June 2011. One of my best experiences in college was teaching the Supplemental Workshop for the Introductory Soil Science course. I sat in on a different soil science class each quarter, and met with students twice a week after class to help them succeed. I designed lesson plans, mostly involving games and other activities, to reinforce the instructors' lessons. Leading the workshops for over four years cemented the basics of soil science in my mind. This solid foundation of soil science knowledge has proven extremely helpful. In school, it helped me in my higher-level classes. At work, it helps me identify appropriate conservation practices, explain conservation principles to clients, and pass professional exams, like the Certified Crop Advisor exam.

Following graduation, I was hired as a Soil Conservationist with the NRCS in Santa Cruz County. I work with a diversity of small-scale farmers who run operations with berries, vegetables, orchards, vineyards, poultry, and other livestock, many of which are certified organic. I work with them to help improve soil quality, reduce erosion, protect water quality and realize water savings, protect air quality, enhance wildlife habitat, and increase energy efficiency in their operations. I also administer the federal government's financial assistance programs, which partially pay for some conservation practices.

I love working outside with farmers and ranchers, and I'm so glad that I get to use my education every day in my job. Thanks for selecting me for the scholarship – soil and water conservation is a great field to be a part of!



## Dave Rios, CPSWQ

Nichols Consulting Engineers  
Stateline, NV  
(775) 588-2505

I completed a master's degree in environmental and natural resource science in December 2010 from the University of Nevada, Reno.

My research as a graduate student focused on two important natural resource issues in the Lake Tahoe basin. Invasive plants and non-point source pollution.

The arrival and spread of aquatic invasive species in Lake Tahoe including plants, fish, and invertebrates raise concern over the susceptibility of terrestrial systems to invasion.

My research included conducting baseline botanical surveys to document the native and introduced plant species in water quality treatment basins. This research also focused on understanding how vegetation communities change over time with respect to native and introduced species.

My research also investigated non-point source nutrient and sediment pollution for a small urbanized Lake Tahoe watershed. Pollutant loads were estimated using water quality monitoring data and a constant concentration water quality model. These estimates were compared with other primary stream monitoring stations within the Lake Tahoe basin. Regression analysis revealed significant relationships between watershed percent impervious area and non-point source pollutant loads. Our results suggest small urbanized watersheds may contribute relatively large pollutant loads compared with much larger watersheds. We also found that water quality monitoring data and simple water quality models are useful tools for understanding non-point source pollutant loading in urban environments. Furthermore, these data are critical for jurisdictions to meet Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) reduction requirements in the Lake Tahoe basin.

During my time as a graduate student, I was a recipient of the IECA-Western Chapter University Scholarship. This award was not simply a financial boost for my education, but also enabled me to interact with other IECA members. After attending a recent IECA workshop in the Lake Tahoe basin, it was clear to me the IECA is an excellent organization for networking with like minded practitioners in the erosion and sediment control field. For students, participating in IECA workshops and conferences offers a great opportunity for establishing contacts, exploring potential job opportunities, and advancing your knowledge in sediment and erosion control.

Since graduation I have been employed by Nichols Consulting Engineers in Stateline, Nevada. I recently received my Certified Professional in Storm Water Quality (CPSWQ) certification and have been involved with numerous civil, stormwater, and environmental improvement projects in the Lake Tahoe Basin and Bay Area.

## 2011 WCIECA Scholarship Recipients

See the Spring 2012 Newsletter for detailed profiles on both scholars.

### Sarah M. Haggard, CPESC

On track to graduate with a Master's Degree in Geology from California State University-Bakersfield in August 2012. Plans to start her own firm, Deluge Consulting.

### Shavger Rekani

Graduated Master of Science in Civil Engineering with an emphasis in water resources from San Diego State University this past May 2012. Currently "on Walkabout" in Europe for summer prior to returning to U.S. ready to go to work for someone looking for a great hire. ☁