

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



Jason Phillips
Chief Executive Officer

Welcome to the inaugural issue of the eWaterline! As you can see, this is not the Friant Waterline of years past. It is my hope that

you will find this monthly newsletter to be a useful and interactive tool to stay informed about what's happening with our water supply, legislatively in Sacramento and Washington, DC, and on the ground in the Friant service area and beyond. If you find this information useful, feel free to forward it along to your friends, family, and associates. Ask them if they'd like to be added to our distribution list and let us know.

JOINT DC LEGISLATIVE TRIP: In late September, I participated in a very productive week in Washington, DC. FWA partnered with representatives from SLDMWA, Exchange Contractors, and the Tehama Colusa Canal Authority to advance our collective interests on and off the Hill in DC. The FWA team consisted of Director Cliff Loeffler, Maureen Loeffler, Austin Ewell, Johnny Amaral, and me; we were supported by Mark Limbaugh and John Bezdek.

Combined with the other Authorities, the vast majority of the CVP was represented on the same side of the table, joining forces to meet with members of Congress and the Administration to advance the projects and priorities that are critical for the future of the CVP and water reliability. Of course, one of the primary focus points was the Friant-Kern Canal and the role the federal government has in assisting with the funding needed to repair it. We also discussed the pending release of the new Biological Opinions which governs how the projects in the south Delta are operated, and other CVP-related

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IN THE NEWS

SJV Water, "Kern groundwater tally not adding up," by Lois Henry.

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Ag Net West, "SJV Water Blueprint Submitted for Water Resilience Portfolio," by Brian German.

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The Atlantic, "What Happens When Your Town Dries Up?"

[CLICK FOR VIDEO ►](#)

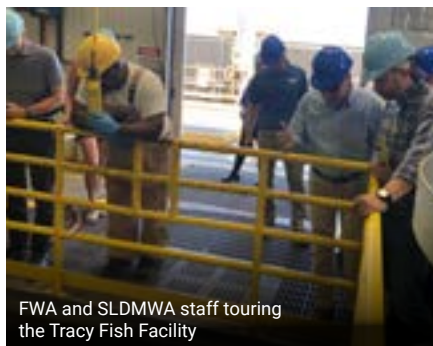
EASTSIDE HAPPENINGS



FWA Board member Eric Borba and David Grannis, Chief of Staff for Senator Feinstein discussing subsidence on the FK



FKC Capacity Correction Project Open House in Porterville



FWA and SLDMWA staff touring the Tracy Fish Facility



House Natural Resources Chairman Raul Grijalva (D-AZ) attending a briefing on subsidence and infrastructure needs

EVENTS AROUND THE VALLEY

OCT. 24 @ 9 AM

Friant Water Authority Board Meeting

[CLICK FOR AGENDA ►](#)

OCT. 24 @ 6 PM

North Kings GSA Board of Directors Meeting

[CLICK FOR AGENDA ►](#)

NOV. 5 @ 9 AM

PPIC Event: Preparing California's Water System for Climate Extremes

[MORE INFO ►](#)

NOV. 7 @ 8 AM

Souther Cal Edison/PG&E ANNUAL WATER CONFERENCE

[MORE INFO ►](#)

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projects and priorities. A senior level meeting will be held in the next several weeks to explore streamlining and expediting the schedule for the FKC subsidence fix.

TEA POT DOME IRRIGATION DISTRICT AND LOWER TULE RIVER ID (LTRID) VOTE TO REJOIN FWA

Director Edwin Camp (Arvin Edison WSD) and I attended the LTRID Board meeting on October 8 in Tipton to brief them on FWA priorities and answer questions. After a robust discussion followed by a Q&A session, their board voted to rejoin FWA. Also, in late September, the Board of Directors of the Tea Pot Dome Irrigation District voted to rejoin FWA. I know this was a difficult decision for the landowners and the board members of these districts, and I truly look forward to having their voices added to the discussions we have at FWA. As we continue to advance policy proposals and water supply initiatives for the Friant Division in Sacramento and in Washington, DC, it is critical that we are able to speak with one voice. The issues we are dealing with affect every district in the service area, including the San Joaquin River Settlement, Friant Kern Canal capacity correction project effort, and the exploration of whether or not to pursue transfer of title of the FKC and Madera canals, and others. Having the input and influence from more districts will result in stronger, more impactful decisions that will ultimately determine the future of the Friant service area.

MID-PACIFIC WATER USERS CONFERENCE: Starting this year, I am on the planning committee for the Mid-Pacific Region Water Users Conference to be held in Reno January 22-24, 2020. I was in Reno last week to finalize the agenda for the conference; below are just a few topics we plan to include:

- CVP Operations under the new Biological Opinion: Including examples of how it would have impacted the quantity and timing of CVP allocations in the past 10 years;
- SGMA update from State leadership: What they received for GSPs and what they see as next steps;
- Voluntary Agreements: We plan to invite Secretary Crowfoot to kick off a panel on the status of the Voluntary Agreements;
- Good speakers from the Dept. of Interior and Bureau Commissioner Ernest Conant

As you can see, there is a lot going on in the water world, and the Friant team is committed to engaging in a proactive manner so that Friant users are represented.

I hope the eWaterline keeps you updated on issues that you find important and interesting. Happy Reading!



ePROFILE

Aaron Fukuda was born and raised in Hanford, California. Mr. Fukuda graduated from Hanford High in 1995 and continued his education at the California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. Mr. Fukuda obtained his Bachelor of Science, cum laude in Civil Engineering from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo in 2000. After college, he began working for Summers Engineering, Inc. in Hanford where he spent six years as an associate engineer specializing in agricultural hydraulic design. During his career at Summers Engineering, Inc. he attended California State University, Fresno where he obtained his Masters in Public Administration, with Honors. Mr. Fukuda is also a registered Professional Engineer with the state of California.

Mr. Fukuda began his career with the Tulare Irrigation District as the District Engineer in May 2006 and transitioned to the General Manager in May 2018. Mr. Fukuda started his career with the District by overseeing the engineering services for the District including design and implementation of District projects. Mr. Fukuda has also been involved in securing grant funds and administering grant projects within the District and with partners throughout the hydrologic basin.

As General Manager, Mr. Fukuda oversees the day-to-day operations of the District, while continuing to promote the conjunctive use operations of the District and its growers. He also coordinates water activities with surrounding jurisdictions, including the development of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency. Lastly, Mr. Fukuda continues to monitor the myriad of regulations to ensure that the functions of the District are following State and Federal regulations.

Mr. Fukuda currently serves as the Board Secretary of the Temperance Flat Reservoir Authority. [Click here](#) to watch Aaron's video on the status of Temperance Flat Reservoir