



FALL 2022 NEWSLETTER

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Timothy Chow
Director

Brandon Roosenboom
VP Rank and File

Khristina Lebya
President

Mo Biswas
VP at Large

John Murphy
President Elect

Lydia Montgomery
Treasurer

Kristi Shelton
VP Supervisory

Jessika Dunn
Secretary



PECG Updates

2022 PECG Section of the Year

The River City Section was awarded the PECG's Section of the Year Award for 2022! Our Section offers five committees that run a wide variety of programs, from scholarships for members' dependents and [website](#) development to providing members preparing for the engineering and geology license exams. We had a very successful Sacramento Kings and Crocker Museum event this past year. Looking ahead, our Section aims to continue to thrive onward and upward to provide more to our members!



PECG Update

On November 17, 2022, the **State issued [Pay Letter 22-36](#)** to implement the **2.5% General Salary Increase (GSI) for all Unit 9 members** – rank and file employees and supervisors and managers.

The State's instructions indicate that the plan is to **include the pay increase in the November pay warrants** that Unit 9 employees are to receive on or before December 1, 2022. As the **GSI is retroactive to July 1, 2022**, the pay letter also indicates that **back pay will be issued for July, August, September, and October** in the month of November.

But, as we have repeated many times, the **State's payroll system is decades old and unreliable**. If history is a guide, **there will be implementation problems**. Please **be patient while the SCO and state departments** take the steps necessary to update your salary and issue your back pay.

PECG members have also **started to receive the back pay for the 2022-25 Memorandum of Understanding's many pay differential increases** that were effective October 1, 2022 – but largely did not make it into October pay warrants.

The State expects the **differential increases will make it into November warrants** and that the associated **back pay for the October pay period will also be issued this month**. PECG will **continue to work with the SCO and state departments** to make sure members receive the pay increases and back pay they are due as soon as possible.



What's Been Happening

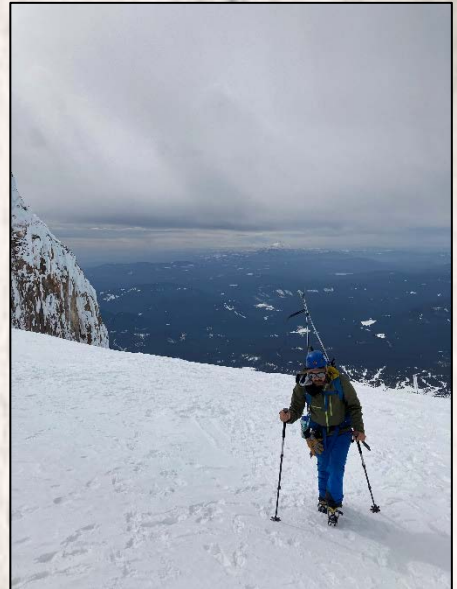
Member Spotlight



John Coburn is an engineering geologist with the Groundwater Management Program at the State Water Resources Control Board. His unit works with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), and some of John's current projects include reviewing Groundwater Sustainability Plans and analyzing groundwater quality, groundwater elevation, and land subsidence data. John

has long been interested in California's groundwater management, and working with SGMA provides boundless opportunities and rewarding challenges.

When not riding or working on one of his bikes, John enjoys pretty much any outdoor activity including fly fishing, backcountry skiing, and rock climbing. This winter John will be spending most of his weekends skiing and volunteering as a ski patroller in the Tahoe area, and hopes to make a ski trip to Montana or Wyoming.



Event Survey

Our Section Officers would like to gauge your interest in attending another Section-sponsored Kings game!

Please [click here](#) to complete the survey to let us know what you think!

Committee Development

We're always looking for like-minded individuals who are looking to be a part of something more. Below is a list of the committees that we want YOU to be a part of.

- Communications – newsletters, social media, outreach
- Members Support – new employee orientation, membership benefits
- Learning Resources – reference material, prep courses, study groups, tutors
- Learning and Cultural Enrichment – museum tours, panels, trainings
- Philanthropy – scholarships, sponsorships, relief programs, volunteering opportunities



If you are interested in joining a committee or simply learning more, please contact Kristina Leyba at KristinaRae.Leyba@Waterboards.ca.gov

New Section Officers

Director



Tim is a Water Resource Control Engineer at the State Water Resources Control Board in the Office of Research, Planning, and Performance. Before starting state service, Tim worked in industry and consulting. He received his B.S. in Environmental Engineering from UC Riverside and his M.S. in Civil Engineering at CSU Sacramento. When not at work, he can be found hiking, traveling, and talking to the monsters under his bed.

President

KhristinaRae Leyba is a Water Resource Control Engineer working for the Cleanup Fund at the State Water Resource Control Board. She received a B.S. in Environmental Engineering from the University of California, San Diego. Prior to starting her state service in Sacramento, she began her career with Dudek as an engineer in San Diego. Khristina enjoys camping, stargazing, mentoring, and exploring the outdoors with her family.



President-Elect



John is a Senior Engineering Geologist (Supervisory) with the State Water Board's Division of Water Rights and a licensed Professional Geologist and Certified Hydrogeologist. He holds a B.S. in Geology from St. Lawrence University (Canton, NY) and an M.S. in Geology from Binghamton University (Binghamton, NY). Before employment at the Water Board, John started his career in the petroleum industry as a Borehole Geologist with Schlumberger in Bakersfield, CA. John joined the Central Valley Water Board in 2016 as an Engineering Geologist and was later promoted to Senior

Engineering Geologist with the Site Cleanup Program in 2020. John is also the current President of the Sacramento Chapter of the Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists (AEG).

VP Supervisory

Kristi is a Senior Water Resources Control Engineer (Supervisory) with the Central Valley Water Board in Rancho Cordova. She is a licensed Civil Engineer and has a B.S. in Environmental Resources Engineering from Humboldt State (now Cal Poly Humboldt). Kristi began her career working for private consulting firms in the Sacramento area before joining the Central Valley Water Board Site Cleanup Program in 2007. She was promoted to a Senior WRCE in the program in July 2021. Kristi has previously held several positions with PECG, including Corporate VP at Large, Bargaining Team member, and River City Section President. She is currently the Chair of the Specialty Engineers and Classifications Committee and a member of the Supervisory Meet & Confer Team. In her spare time, Krisi likes to hang out with her two silly dachshunds, hike in the mountains, go wine tasting, and enjoy time with her family and friends.



Our River City Section



VP Rank and File

Brandon is a Water Resource Control Engineer and lead permit writer for the California State Water Resources Control Board's Construction Stormwater Program. Before joining public service in 2018, Brandon was an environmental consultant in the Bay Area within the biomedical, healthcare, and technology sectors. He earned his B.S. in Biological Systems Engineering at the University of California, Davis, in 2016. In his spare time, Brandon enjoys playing softball, fishing, and cooking for family and friends at get-togethers.

VP at Large

Mohammad Biswas is an Assistant Telecommunications Engineer at the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services – Public Safety Communications. Before starting his career with the State, Mo worked as an Electronics Engineer for the Department of Defense. He earned his B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of California, Davis, in 2018. In his spare time, he enjoys playing pickleball court and watching football on Sundays.



Treasurer

Lydia Montgomery is a Water Resource Control Engineer at the California State Water Resources Control Board in the Division of Financial Assistance, Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Section. She began in 2019 working as a contract Junior Environmental Assistant for the State in the Division of Financial Assistance in the Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Fund. Lydia received a B.S. in environmental resources engineering from Humboldt State University.



Secretary

Jessika is an Engineering Geologist with the Division of Financial Assistance at the State Water Resources Control Boards in Sacramento. She holds a B.S. in Geology from California State University Sacramento and is licensed as a Geologist-in-Training. Before employment at the Water Boards, Jessika worked for Caltrans as an office assistant and then as a Structural Design Technician. Jessika feels that it should incur a fine to call yourself a geologist if you don't enjoy nature. Some of her other hobbies include traveling, D.I.Y. crafts, and devouring anything related to science fiction or fantasy.

