

## Artificial Recharge Gets Focus in CA

More than 100 people gathered in San Jose April 30-May 2 to attend the “Artificial Recharge in California – Technical and Policy Challenges” conference sponsored by the Groundwater Resources Association of California together with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and the California Department of Water Resources.

Five sessions, convened over two days, focused on the physical challenges of getting water to the water table, water quality and microbial considerations of recharge, and legal and regulatory policy issues. About one-third of the speakers were from the USGS; others came from California-based agencies, academia, and the private sector. The meeting concluded with an animated roundtable discussion in which the roles of government and the private sector in artificial recharge were debated.

Following the meeting, about 50 people

attended a field trip to the Santa Clara Valley Water District, where artificial recharge was initiated back in the 1930s. Attendees toured the recharge facility and spreader dam (see photos, page 18), and also viewed the San Jose extensometer and the Coyote Creek Outdoor Classroom where the USGS has a multiple-aquifer monitoring well.

*Additional copies of the proceedings cost \$50 and are available through GRAC's Web site, [www.grac.org](http://www.grac.org)*

## Association of Calif. Water Agencies Hosts Meeting

The Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) hosted its Spring Conference, titled “Financing Our Water Future: An Issue of Dollars and Sense,” May 7-9, 2003, in South Lake Tahoe. The meeting featured sessions on the status of the California state budget crisis and its effect on water agency utilities, the CALFED Bay-Delta Program, the Colorado

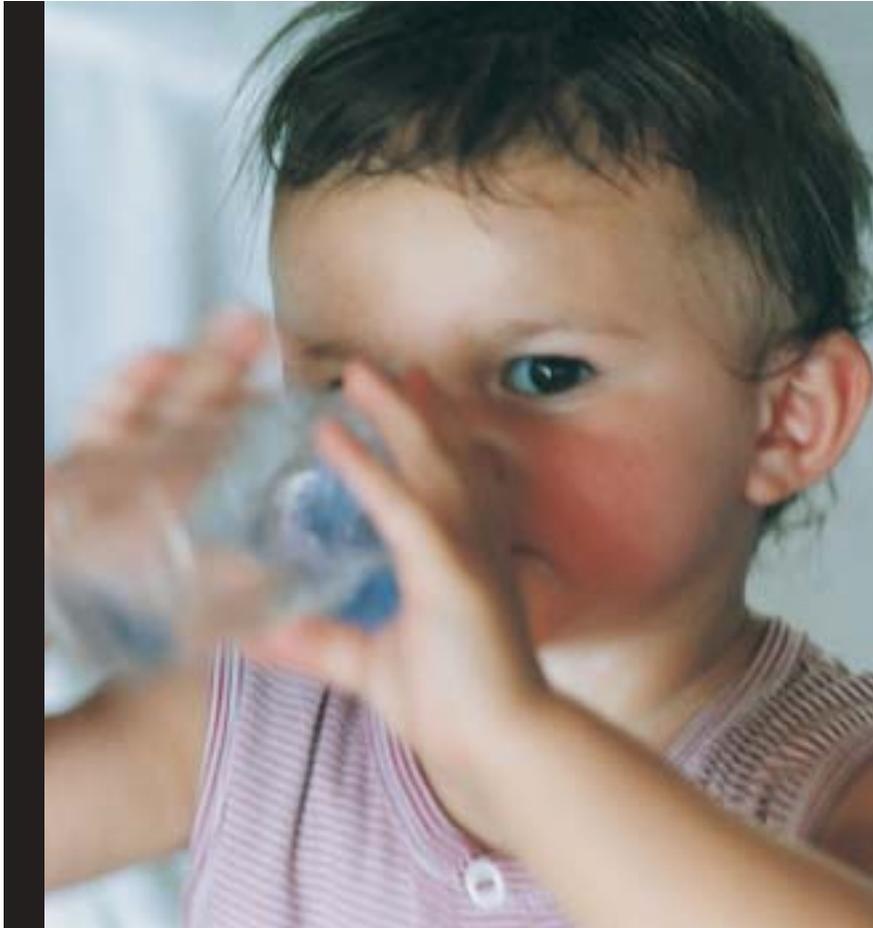
River Quantification Settlement Agreement, desalination, water storage, water rights, agricultural return flows, the future of California agriculture, and more.

In a keynote speech before 800 local water officials, California Farm Bureau Federation President Bill Pauli said it is becoming clear that the water California needs for its cities, industry, recreation, and the environment will come from agriculture. Although additional water storage is needed, he said, that storage does not appear likely to happen in the foreseeable future.

*Visit [www.acwanet.com](http://www.acwanet.com) for more information.*

## GRAC Has White Paper on Groundwater Resources

The Groundwater Resources Association of California (GRAC) has recently published a white paper titled, “Developing, Managing, and Sustaining California’s Groundwater Resources.” The 26-page paper is the outcome of



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information presented by speakers at the 2002 GRAC annual meeting, which focused on the scientific, legal, and social challenges that arise as the need to manage water resources more efficiently increases.

Included in the paper are an overview of the nature, occurrence, movement, and influence of groundwater; the history, economics, legal considerations, and other human aspects of California's groundwater; the role of science in water management, including a discussion of sustainability; and recommendations for coordination, monitoring, education, research, and legislation aimed towards groundwater sustainability.

The paper can be downloaded from GRA's Web site at [www.grac.org/CA\\_GW\\_Resources.pdf](http://www.grac.org/CA_GW_Resources.pdf)

## Recharge Symposium in AZ

Groundwater recharge was the focus of an early-June symposium sponsored by the Arizona Hydrological Society, Salt River Project, the U.S. Conservation Laboratory, and the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR). Unlike California's recharge meeting, which addressed both technical and policy issues within that state, the 11th Biennial Recharge Symposium focused entirely on technical aspects, but included discussion of those issues not just in Arizona and the Southwest, but also in Mexico, Spain, India, Taiwan, and Germany.

Approximately 150 people attended the meeting, which featured eight sessions covering such topics as recharge feasibility assessment and field investigations, recharge well technologies, pharmaceutically active compounds, modeling and tracer studies, soil-aquifer treatment studies, and estimations of natural recharge. A keynote address on endocrine disruptors was presented by Patricia McGovern of Carollo Engineers, and lunch speakers included Herb Guenther, Director of ADWR, and Mario Luria of Salt River Project.

Following the symposium, a half-day field trip toured several recharge projects in the northwest Salt River Valley, including the Agua Fria and Hieroglyphic Mountains recharge projects operated by the Central Arizona Water Conservation District and several other projects under development in

the same area.

Additional copies of the proceedings cost \$20 and can be obtained by contacting Jenny Bush at Clear Creek Associates at (602) 294-9600.

## Send Nominations for NGWA Awards by Aug. 1

The National Ground Water Association (NGWA) is accepting nominations through Aug. 1, 2003 for the following awards: Ross L. Oliver, M. King Hubbert, Technology, Honorary Member, Life Member, Safety Advocate, Equipment

Design, and Outstanding Ground Water Project. Award recipients are recognized for outstanding contributions through service, innovation, research, safety, and outstanding projects of scientific and technological importance affecting the growth and well-being of the groundwater industry.

Awards will be presented at the 55th Annual National Ground Water Expo in Orlando, Florida in December. Nomination forms and additional information are available at [www.ngwa.org](http://www.ngwa.org).



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**Squaw Peak Corporate Center**  
7720 North 16th Street, Suite 100  
Phoenix, Arizona 85020  
Telephone: 602-371-1100  
Fax: 602-371-1615

Contact:  
Elliot Silverston, Ph.D., P.E.,  
Water Resources Manager

**Tucson Office**  
333 East Wetmore, Suite 611  
Tucson, Arizona 85705  
Telephone: 520-887-1800  
Fax: 520-887-8438