

12/13/2023 DATA FOR LUNCH PANEL SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Jay Ziegler (moderator)

Delta Watermaster, State Water Resources Control Board

On April 3, 2023, Jay Ziegler was appointed to a four-year term as Delta Watermaster for the State Water Resources Control Board. Prior to his appointment as Watermaster, Mr. Ziegler was the Director of External Affairs and Policy for The Nature Conservancy (TNC). During his 12 years at TNC, he led policy engagements on water, climate strategies, biodiversity protection and environmental funding initiatives. Prior to joining TNC, he was a partner in the interdisciplinary public affairs firm, Ziegler Associates, where he focused on land use, water policy, renewable energy, and permitting and mitigation matters. Previously, he served in multiple roles at state and federal natural resource agencies, including intergovernmental affairs with Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt, where he focused on endangered species, public lands, water, and natural resource management issues across the West.

Jay Zeigler is a graduate of the University of California, Davis, serves on several non-profit boards, and resides in Davis, California with his wife, Carri.

Brett Baker

Attorney, Central Delta Water Agency

Brett Baker is the sixth generation of his family to live and grow up on Sutter Island (in the California Delta). He was raised on his family's pear orchard and spent much of his youth working in production agriculture.

He received his B.S. degree in Wildlife, Fish & Conservation Biology from UC Davis where he worked at the John Muir Institute of the Environment under his professor, Dr. Peter Moyle, doing field biology on mountain meadow systems throughout the Northern Sierras. From there, he moved onto the Heritage and Wild Trout program with the then California Department of Fish and Game and continued sampling systems throughout the Sierras and balance of the State.

Mr. Baker was introduced to legislative policy making while working as an Agricultural and Water Policy analyst for then Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi. Following passage of the 2009 Delta Reform Act, he started Baker Advocacy & Consulting, Inc. and began assisting family, friends, and neighbors in complying with the newly mandated measuring, monitoring, and reporting regulations for diverters in the legal Delta.

In 2019, Brett became a licensed member of the California State Bar, and currently practices at Nomellini, Grilli & McDaniel Law Office in Stockton representing the Central Delta Water Agency and various other clients. He lives in Lodi, CA with his wife, three children, two horses, ten chickens and a chihuahua named Billy.

Lindsay Kammeier

Senior Engineer, State Water Resources Control Board

Lindsay Kammeier is a Senior Engineer leading the Drought Planning Unit at the State Water Resources Control Board. She works on implementing water diversion measurement regulations state-wide. She also supports the Delta Watermaster's initiatives, including the Delta ACP and Delta Drought Response Pilot Program, which both use OpenET data. Lindsay previously worked in private consulting doing design and construction management of water infrastructure projects.

Maurice Hall, PhD, PE

Interim Executive Director, OpenET Inc. and Senior Advisor Climate Resilient Water Systems at Environmental Defense Fund

Dr. Maurice Hall serves on the Board of Directors and as Interim Executive Director for OpenET, Inc., A non-profit supporting the OpenET Consortium to ensure that satellite-based data on Evapotranspiration (ET) based on best available science is easily accessible to water decision-makers across the Western U.S. For the past eight years, Maurice has served as Vice President, and more recently as Senior Advisor, for Environmental Defense Fund's Climate Resilient Water Systems Program.

Dr. Hall is a water resources engineer and hydrologist with more than 30 years of experience in water management in arid regions, with particular expertise in irrigated agricultural systems, groundwater management, governance, and hydrology, groundwater-surface water interaction, integrated water resources strategies, and water policy advocacy.

Maurice holds a BS in Chemical Engineering from the University of Tennessee Chattanooga and a PhD in Earth Resources, Watershed Sciences from Colorado State University. He is a registered professional civil engineer in California, and has served on various non-profit boards, including current service on the board of OpenET.