

INNOVATIVE WATER MANAGEMENT AWARD

2023

Marc Van Camp

The recipient of the 2023 Innovative Water Management Award is a gentleman who brings a scholarly and steadfast approach to technical aspects of water issues. He has served the water community for nearly 40 years and anyone who knows him would say that water is in his blood.

Through his career, Marc Van Camp has served water users during several challenging times, including the drought of the late 1980s through early 1990s, the Department of Water Resources' Drought Water Banks in 1991, 1992, and 2009, the 1995 Water Quality Control Plan and subsequent updates, State Water Board Decision 1641, Phase 8 Settlement Agreement efforts, Sacramento River Settlement Contract Renewal, Voluntary Agreement discussions, more droughts in 2013-2015 and recently, 2020-2022, as well as water right curtailments during those drier periods. Marc's diligent efforts continue as his strategic vision guides water users through challenging issues by expressing his perspective of risks and opportunities at each step along the way. Marc's dedicated approach to provide robust technical guidance grounded in truth builds the foundation upon which water management decisions are made.

Marc has a deep commitment for Northern California, while maintaining an unmatched level of technical integrity. Marc has an expression, which is to not move beyond controlled speed. In this way, Marc's thoughtful approach to water management reflects that expression, as he methodically pours over data and other information in order to develop options. Those options incorporate multiple objectives and considerations such as technical, practical, legal, political, and policy matters. The options are always in the vein of progress to collaborate and find opportunities for creative solutions to complex issues.

Through Marc's efforts, you may have observed his humble intensity. His passion to resolve water issues, whether in the field, in a conference room, in a courtroom, or by the campfire, is inspiring. Marc lights up at the opportunity talk about water issues, as he enjoys the intellectual debates and critical thinking required. He also enjoys debating – and challenging – the sharpest legal minds in water, in a friendly approach of course!

Marc enjoys telling stories to engage with others and develop relationships. Through those professional interactions, Marc has earned countless friends, whom he regards as much more than peers and clients. In addition, Marc has a passion for leading by example and educating with enthusiasm. Marc has led the team at MBK Engineers for over 30 years, making himself available to mentor those working with him on water right matters and providing awareness for others in different areas of expertise.

Marc embodies responsibility, as he follows through on his commitments and builds trust in his interactions. Marc also believes in respect, integrity, relationships, and engaging with an interdisciplinary team to accomplish the efforts needed. He leads by example and believes it is critically important to treat people as you want them to treat you. Marc is an open communicator and always seems to find a way to bring humor into the conversation. He truly enjoys his efforts, exhibited by the fun that he brings especially during difficult times.

During this period of uncertainty in California water supplies, Marc brings a needed focus on water issues through harnessing the depth of his experience and sharing his ideas and knowledge with others. Marc has an exceptional ability to simplify complicated technical items and perform critical reality checks with practical observations in order to continue assisting water users throughout the State.

Marc's work ethic is coupled with his emphasis and exemplification to others the importance to maintain balance and happiness. You may find Marc on the exercise bike before 6am with a pen in hand and a technical document on the bike stand for his "reading pleasure"! Marc and his wife Lynn have grown their family of three children and three grandchildren, with a fourth grandchild on the way. Marc is lovingly and fiercely devoted to his family. In addition, Marc makes time to visit with friends and peers, whether to attend a soccer game for their children, or for a friendly chat by the campfire, perhaps even on topics other than water!



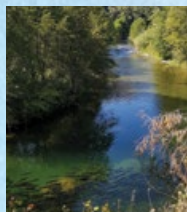
THE INNOVATIVE WATER MANAGEMENT AWARD

is given by the NCWA President to an individual (or organization) who has demonstrated innovation and creativity in advancing water management in the Sacramento Valley.

Previous Recipients



2021
Curt Aikens



2020
Butte Creek
Water Users



2019
River Garden Farms



2018
Grant Davids



2017
Paul Bartkiewicz



2016
Sacramento River
Settlement Contractors



2015
Max Sakato



2014
Walter Cotter



2013
Fran Borcalli



2012
Joe Scalmanini