

## **NOVEMBER 2015 NEWSLETTER**

Volume 5, Issue 11

Since 1964, we have supported the Columbia Basin Project and its future development. We protect its water rights and educate the public on the renewable resource and multiple-purpose benefits of the project.



## **2015 CBDL Conference Recap**

Mike Schwisow, CBDL Director of Government Relations

A stellar line up of speakers contributed to record attendance at the 2015 Columbia Basin Development League (CBDL) Annual Conference. Held in Moses Lake, presentations focused on how drought, a state and national issue, affects the Columbia Basin Project, the largest Reclamation project in the U.S. A common theme throughout the conference was how the increased focus on drought has resulted in an intense and growing interest in water use efficiency which directly affects irrigation issues in the Columbia Basin Project.

Tom Tebb, Director of the Department of Ecology's Office of the Columbia River, recommitted to working closely with the League now

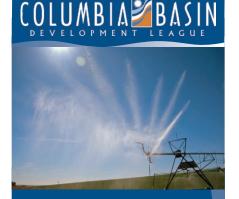
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Tom Tebb, Office of the Columbia River Director, presenting at the 2015 CBDL Conference.

that the Odessa Ground Water Replacement Program is underway. He emphasized the importance of securing long term funding for water supply and conservation projects now that the initial \$200,000,000 bond issue has been exhausted.



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Mike Schwisow
Director of Government Affairs
Kris Polly
Federal Advocate
Sara Cornell
Program Manager
Katie Pott
Program Assistant
Amanda Brack
Communications Coordinator/
Program Assistant



From the Chair

Thank you to everyone who attended the 2015 CBDL Conference and Annual Meeting in October! If you were not able to attend, read on. The following pages provide a summary of presentations and important happenings at this year's event. Speaker presentations are available at www.cbdl.org. Thank you also to our conference sponsors for helping make our event possible!

Throughout the conference,

attendees heard about the work CBDL is accomplishing on behalf of Columbia Basin Project stakeholders. Ensure that support continues by joining or renewing your CBDL membership! Membership is essential to continued progress and ensuring the League can keep disseminating facts and focusing local, state, and national attention on protecting our water. Become a 2016 member today online at www.cbdl.org!

# **CRPAG Hears OGWRP Update**

Mike Schwisow, CBDL Director of Government Relations

The Columbia River Policy Advisory Group (CRPAG) was established by the Department of Ecology's Office of Columbia River (OCR) in 2006 to provide input and advice on the direction of the Columbia River Water Management Program administered by OCR. CRPAG includes stakeholders and represents a broad range of interests. Since the program's beginning the group has met several times a year to review proposed water supply and conservation projects and make funding recommendations to Ecology.

The Odessa Ground Water Replacement Program was one of two major OCR funded projects that was on the agenda for a progress report at the October 15 meeting in Ellensburg. Melissa Downes, with OCR, and Levi Johnson, East Columbia Basin Irrigation District (ECBID) Development Coordinator, shared the duties. Downes provided an overview of Ecology's involvement in the program dating back to the development of a Memo of Understanding between Reclamation, Ecology and the Columbia Basin Project (CBP) irrigation districts which set up the cooperative working relationship between the three levels of governments. She identified finding solutions to the decline in the Odessa subarea aquifer as one of the four primary priorities the Legislature established for OCR. Downes walked the group through the various activities that had been accomplished to get the program to the point where a plan to replace ground water irrigation of 87,000 acres with Reclamation surface water supplies is being implemented.

Johnson then described the work underway to implement the plan. ECBID is currently using a \$26,000,000 grant from OCR to expand the capacity of East Low Canal, the primary water conveyance serving ECBID. He explained that OCR provided the funding necessary to get the project to the point where construction could begin. Johnson discussed the work currently underway on Lind Coulee Siphons 1 and 2 which are the largest single element funded with the current grant. Completion of these siphons and related infrastructure will make the first 13 miles fully operational and allow construction of 4 of the 7 anticipated pump/pipeline distribution systems.

Johnson indicated that ECBID was now directly engaged with landowners and that the design of the initial distribution system was nearly complete. The goal is to issue the first round of tax exempt municipal revenue bonds in 2016 to fund construction of the system. Members of the Advisory Group followed the presentations with a round of questions and comments.

# **2015 CBDL Conference Recap** Continued from page 1

Washington State Climatologist Nick Bond summarized his long-term climate model projections. Bond explained how general trends for the region show a warmer and wetter climate. This might prove problematic for areas reliant on snow pack for summer irrigation water. For more on Bond's presentation read his Pacific Northwest Weather Projections article later in this newsletter.

Representatives of the three irrigation districts within the Project (East, South, and Quincy) shared news on system efficiencies, conservation projects, and water supply security. Roger Sonnichsen, Technical Services Manager at Quincy District, highlighted the high efficiency of Columbia Basin Project (CBP) operations. The CBP actually delivers more water to farm turnouts than it diverts at Grand Coulee Dam. This is done by recapturing and reusing water several times. Nick Andreini, East District Assistant Manager for Technical Services and District Engineer described the Coordinated Conservation Program, funded by Ecology's Office of the Columbia River. This plan saves water that can then be used for the Odessa Ground Water Replacement Program. Enough water has been saved to service an additional 8,000 acres. John O'Callaghan, Field Superintendent at South District gave an update on District and Reclamation staff efforts and expertise needed to keep water flowing.

Tim Culbertson, Manager of Columbia Basin Hydropower, the electricity generating arm of the CBP irrigation districts, discussed new efforts to generate more power on CBP facilities. Getting the most out of water moving through CBP canals is another example of wise resource use. Tim outlined the concept for a major new pump storage project that would connect Lake Roosevelt and Banks Lake. The North Dam Project would provide peaking power and wind power integration on the Bonneville



Dr. Troy Peters, WSU Extension Specialist, presenting at the 2015 CBDL Conference..

regional grid.

This was the first League meeting for new Reclamation Ephrata Field Office Manager Clint Wertz. Clint outlined efforts underway to fill vacant positions and his plan for addressing vacancies. Like many public sector organizations, a number of long time employees are reaching retirement age and the challenge is to find a way to replace that experience. Clint also provided an update on Reclamation's Infrastructure Investment Strategy.

Water use efficiency was also the focus of Dr. Troy Peters presentation, specifically regarding water use on the farm. Dr. Peters, WSU Extension Specialist, informed the group about technologies that make better use of water on the farm. The goal is to maximize use of available water while maintaining or increasing yields.

The League's Washington DC lobbyist, Ian Lyle with Water Strategies, LLC, gave the group an overview of current Congressional action on drought and water legislation. He also provided feedback to the recent CBDL Washington DC trip at the end of September. For more on Lyle's topic see his article, Federal Government's Evolving Role in Infrastructure Funding, later in this newsletter. Ian was followed by Mike Schwisow, the League's Washington State lobbyist, who discussed the efforts in Olympia to address the State's water infrastructure needs.



Levi Johnson, ECBID Development Coordinator, presenting at the 2015 CBDL Conference.

Levi Johnson, the East District Development Coordinator discussed the current status of the Odessa Ground Water Replacement Program. Levi reviewed progress using the \$26,000,000 grant to expand the capacity of East Low Canal. Work is on schedule on the largest single element funded by the grant, the Lind Coulee Siphons 1 and 2. These structures and the associated canal improvements are scheduled to be available for

# **2015 CBDL Conference Recap** Continued from page 3

the 2016 irrigation season. Work continues on development of the seven distribution systems. Design of the initial system, EL 47.5, is nearly complete and work continues with landowners to fine tune the project.

Washington Senate Majority Leader, Senator Mark Schoesler of Ritzville, keynoted the conference following dinner. Schoesler talked about challenges facing the Legislature related to the McCleary school funding Supreme Court decision. He noted successes of the past session including a badly needed transportation package (that will help get ag products over the mountains to the ports) and the first ever higher education tuition reduction that will help those seeking to improve their job prospects. He emphasized that these accomplishments were made without a general tax increase. In conclusion, Senator Schoesler praised the work of the League but called for a renewed sense of urgency in Columbia Basin Project development, lest we forget its value and benefits.



CBDL Executive Director Vicky Scharlau, Senator Mark Schoesler, and CBDL Board Chair Orman Johnson.

# Federal Government's Evolving Role in Infrastructure Funding

Ian Lyle, Water Strategies LLC

The federal government's role in funding water infrastructure projects, and in providing funds for general government operations, has evolved over the last 100 plus years. In the early 1900's, with the establishment of the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), the federal government recognized the value of investing in water infrastructure. In 1901, in his first State of the Union Address, President Theodore Roosevelt noted:

It is as right for the National Government to make the streams and

rivers of the arid region useful by engineering works for water storage as to make useful the rivers and harbors of the humid region by engineering works of another kind...The Government should construct and maintain these reservoirs as it does other public works.

The following year, in 1902, congress passed and President Roosevelt signed the Newlands Act (PL 57-161), which created Reclamation. It is largely thanks to the efforts of individuals like President Theodore Roosevelt that the West as we know it came to be settled. President Roosevelt's vision led to the eventual development of some of the most impressive infrastructure features the world has ever seen, including the Columbia Basin Project. The federal government played a major role in the development of large water supply projects into the 1970's when a series of factors, including a tragic dam failure, a recession, and increased environmental regulations led to a reduced federal role.

Over the last decade or so, actions in congress resulting from factors unrelated to water infrastructure have largely led to additional shifts in the federal approach to budgeting and developing water infrastructure. In recent years a number of issues, including concerns about national debt, the propriety of earmarks, and political dynamics in both the House and Senate have led to changes in how the federal government funds its operations.

In 2005 congress passed eleven of the twelve regular appropriations bills that provided funding for fiscal year 2006, and the one bill it did not pass as stand-alone legislation was included in another appropriations bill.

To date in 2015, none of the standalone fiscal year 2016 appropriations bills have been signed into law. It is highly unlikely that all of these bills will be passed before the end of the year, making it almost certain that congress will consider an omnibus appropriations bill that combines multiple bills into one large package.

2005 was the last time a majority of appropriations bills were passed under regular order indicating that this is an issue not specific to any one political party. In recent years congress and the President have increasingly relied on nontraditional measures to fund the federal government, most commonly through a series of stopgap continuing resolutions or omnibus appropriations bills. Funding government operations in this manner impacts how federal agencies operate and, in some cases, how procurement and the allocation of grant funding are handled.

One other factor that has influenced how congress allocates money to projects is the institution of an earmark ban. In the years leading up to 2010 congress increasingly included earmarks, or specific member requested projects, in federal appropriations bills. The Congressional Research Service reported that the growth in earmarks across federal legislation grew from 4,126 in 1994 to 15,877 in 2005, an increase of 285 percent. Public sentiment and concern about the increase in earmarks led congress to self-impose an earmark ban in 2010.

It is important to mention the earmark ban not to argue in favor or in opposition of earmarks but to highlight the effect it had on how congress

## Federal Government's Evolving Role... Continued from page 4

allocates funding for things like water projects. Prior to 2010 a project proponent could approach their congressional representatives and request funds for a project. Under the earmark ban this ability has been diminished. Project proponents now find themselves trying to get funding allocated for their project in an agency's budget request to congress.

The earmark ban is likely to continue for the foreseeable future, but congress is expressing renewed interest in authorizing funding for water related projects. In June of 2014 the Water Resources Reform and Redevelopment Act was signed into law. This was the first Water Resources Development Act enacted since 2007. This bill authorized funding for a number of Army Corps of Engineers projects including funding for water resource projects.

Congress is currently considering a number of proposals, including H.R. 2898 and S.1894. These proposals are aimed at addressing drought and water supply needs in the Western United States. These bills take somewhat different approaches at how to meet water supply needs. However, both bills would authorize a significant amount of money that could be used to develop water infrastructure. Neither H.R. 2898 nor S. 1894 are perfect bills, but if amended and implemented correctly they could provide benefits. This renewed interest in addressing our nation's water supply need could help CBDL's efforts to complete the Columbia Basin Project.

# Hastings and Gregoire Awarded Honorary Life Membership

Former Congressman Doc Hastings and Former Governor Gregoire were awarded Honorary Life Membership for their support of the Columbia Basin Project and its continued development with tireless and signifi-



Former Washington Governor Christine Gregoire at the Weber Siphon with Columbia Basin Project Stakeholders.

cant dedication.

The awards were presented by League Trustee, Mark Booker during CBDL's annual meeting.

Former Governor Gregoire was unable to attend, but her contributions to the Project were recounted. She recognized the economic and environmental benefits and worked during her entire time in office to include Columbia Basin Project development in state funding opportunities. Following the 2003 lifting of the 10-year moratorium on additional Columbia River withdrawals, she secured the adoption of the Columbia River Water Management Act which was signed into law in 2006 paving the way for multiple projects in the following years.



Former Congressman Doc Hastings receiving his award from CBDL Trustee Mark Booker and CBDL Chair Orman Johnson.

Former Congressman Doc Hastings served as the U.S. Representative for Washington's 4th District and chaired the House Committee on Natural Resources from 2011 to 2015. His support contributed to advancing and broadening understanding among DC policy makers of the value of Reclamation projects like the Columbia Basin Project.



## **Art Prior Receives Perseverance Award**

Art Prior of Warden was selected to receive a Perseverance Award for his lifelong commitment of support for the Columbia Basin Project.



2015 CBDL Perseverance Award Recipient, Art Prior.

Art Prior moved to Warden in 1956 to farm after serving in the Army and marrying his high school sweetheart, Patsy. He had trouble with high sodium in his wells and tried to gain access to an irrigation canal bordering his farm. Elected to a position on the East Columbia Basin Irrigation District Board in 1982 and a member of the Columbia Basin Development League Board of Trustees, he worked to address Columbia Basin Project issues and ultimately helped get a federal bill passed that allowed farmers to pump from the canal. Art served several terms on the East District Board and was involved in the Grant County Cattlemen, Washington Cattle Feeders Association, Warden Community Church, and Warden School Board. Art and Patsy raised three daughters who all live in the area with their families.

## 2016 CBDL Membership

Your CBDL membership makes possible the League's continued support of Columbia Basin Project development. 2015 brought significant progress on the Odessa Ground Water Replacement Program with a strong focus on disseminating facts through extensive public outreach and advocacy. The League facilitated awareness campaigns for stakeholders, landowners, legislators, the media, and the public including:

- Grand Coulee Dam tours for CBP landowners
- OGWRP construction site tours for media and legislators
- Local public events
- Release of OGWRP 'Frequently Asked Questions'
- Monthly newsletters and weekly emails of water related news
- Editorial board meetings with The Spokesman Review and The Wenatchee World
- Upcoming annual conference
- Farm tour for students
- Public policy trips to Olympia and Washington DC

Our messages have been well received as significant progress has been made this year:

- Lind Coulee siphon construction continues with over 100 concrete sections of the siphon placed
- Designs underway for East Low 47.5 pump station that can also be used for other pump stations
- Master water service contract renewal between Bureau and East
   Columbia Basin Irrigation District

State and Federal advocacy has been a priority this year. CBDL strengthens ties through regular contact with the Bureau of Reclamation, irrigation districts, and Ecology's Office of the Columbia River. Through our Washington DC visits and meetings in Olympia with state partners, the League is able to keep interested parties aware of Project progress and demonstrate broad support for the effort.

Join us in this effort by becoming a 2016 CBDL member. Sign up online today at www.cbdl.org.

# **LOOKING BACK**

Columbia Basin Herald, April 18, 1969
Irrigation Meet Slated
Printed as Published

The Board of Directors of the South Columbia Basin Irrigation District have agreed to meet next Thursday with the Board of Directors of the SCBID Water Users Association to discuss mutual differences concerning renegotiation payments, Walter LePage said last night.

LaPage, president of the Water Users' Association, said the meeting would start at 8 p.m. in the Community Hall at Block 15 Community Hall.

The water users' association is opposed to any change in the repayment schedule, a spokesman said.

Bureau of Reclamation officials have stated that unless the repayment schedule is stepped up full development of the project might be delayed.

## **CBDL Elects Keisz and Leavitt to Board**



Michele Keisz, new CBDL Trustee.

Benjamin Leavitt, new CBDL Trustee.

During the Annual Meeting at the 2015 CBDL Conference, Michele Keisz of Ritzville was elected as a new Trustee on the Columbia Basin Development League Board of Trustees effective January. Keisz is Vice President of Keisz Farms and President of Patty Kagele Farms. She farms dryland ground in the Ritzville area and manages irrigated ground in Grant County within the Odessa Ground Water Replacement study area.

During the November CBDL Board Meeting, the Trustees elected as a new Trustee effective January. Leavitt was born and raised in Warden. He is a third generation Columbia Basin farmer. Leavitt has served on the Board of Directors for Cal/West Seeds for four years and is a commissioner for the Port of Warden.

Keisz and Leavitt will serve three year terms.

Board members re-elected to three year terms include:

J.J. Danz, Mesa

J.J. is part owner of Danz Farms and has farmed since he returned from military service in 1969. He is on the board of the South Columbia Basin Irrigation District.

Andy Erickson, Moses Lake

Andy graduated from Washington State University and has been with J.R. Simplot Company for 9 years. For the last 5 years, he has been managing the process water treatment/land application for the Moses Lake and Othello potato processing facilities.

Bernard Erickson, Ritzville

Bernard is a life-long, self-employed farmer. He has a Bachelor of Science in Business and is a Director with the East Columbia Basin Irrigation District. Bernard is a past CBDL Board Chair.

Joe Gross, Marlin

Joe is the Treasurer of the Marlin Hutterian Brethren and has many years of farming experience. He is part of the National Potato Council and the Washington State Hay Growers Association.

#### Roger Hartwig, Ritzville

Roger farms in Adams County with his brother. Before becoming a potato producer, he farmed in sugar beets. Roger and his brother farm both in the irrigation district and with deep well irrigation.

Rick Miller, Pasco

Rick is a Franklin County Commissioner and has farmed for over 40 years in Pasco.

Chet Pedersen, Quincy

Chet graduated from WSU in Agronomy and has a business that generates and interprets data. Chet has worked helping farmers for 48 years.

John Preston, Warden

John has been a farmer for over 50 years plus has worked for over 30 years as Area Director North-Central Area for the Washington Association of Conservation Districts and Grant County Conservation District Supervisor and current Chairman.

Richard Stevens, Soap Lake

Richard is a Grant County Commissioner and has a BA from Eastern Washington University. He has served on the Advisory Committee of the Western Farmers Alliance and has been involved with the Quincy Columbia Basin Irrigation District for over 30 years.

William Wagoner, Quincy

William has worked in the food processing industry for 25 years. He has a BS in Food Science.

Outgoing Trustees Heath Gimmestad of Moses Lake and Steve Connors of Warden were acknowledged for their work and thanked for their years of service.

# **2016 CBDL Officers**

2016 board members were elected in October at the CBDL annual meeting. The following 2016 executive committee members, including officers, were elected at the League's November board meeting.

Orman Johnson, Connell

Chair

Johnson has a degree in Agricultural Economics from Washington State University. He is president of Johnson Agriprises a diversified farming operation in Adams County. The farm has been in operation since 1906. Presently he serves on the ECBID board.

Kevin Lyle, Othello

Vice Chair

Lyle graduated from Ritzville High school and then Washington State University. He then returned to the family farm near Cunningham. The farm includes both irrigated and dry land crops. Lyle and his wife have 6 children and four grandchildren.

Jeff Schibel, Odessa

Secretary

Schibel, a 4th generation farmer, has been farming for over 30 years. In addition to CBDL, he has participated on multiple boards including Odessa

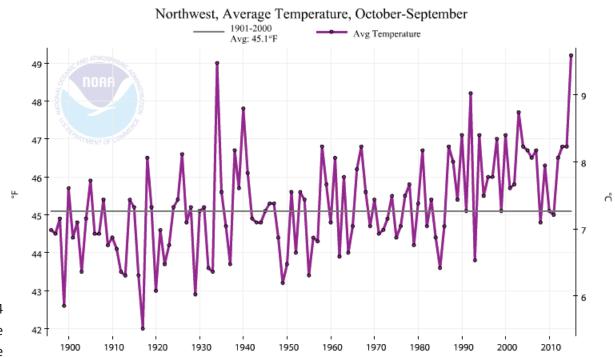
## **Pacific Northwest Weather Projections**

Nick Bond, State Climatologist, Office of Washington State Climatologist



Nick Bond, State Climatologist.

The water year of 2015 (October 2014 through September 2015) was one for the record books. This is evident in the time series of water year temperatures for the Pacific Northwest as a whole, plotted in

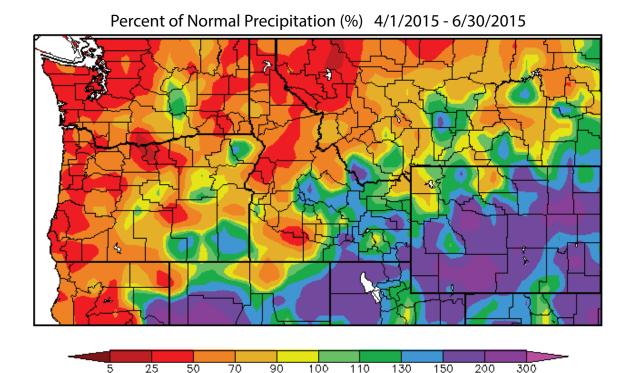


**Figure 1:** Mean temperature in the Pacific Northwest for the water year of October through September from 1895 to 2015. (Downloaded from http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag/time-series)

Figure 1, which indicates region-wide temperatures 4.1 degrees above the 20th century mean. This represents the warmest water year in the region going back to 1895. From a more local perspective, specifically the climate division represented by the Columbia Basin of Washington state, the temperature anomaly for the 2015 water year was also 4.1 degrees F, which beat the previous record in 1934 by 0.5 F.

These are very large anomalies from the standpoint of 12-month means.

The past year featured a much warmer than normal winter. While precipitation in most locations in the Pacific Northwest was near normal, this



Generated 7/11/2015 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers

**Figure 2:** Percent of normal precipitation in the Pacific Northwest during the period of April through June 2015. (Downloaded from http://www.hprcc.unl.edu/maps.php?map=ACISClimateMaps)

precipitation fell more than usual as rain rather than snow in the mountains, except for at the higher elevations. The consequence was a meager snowpack at the end of the 2014-15 winter season, with values of snow water equivalent (SWE) ranging from less than 10% to about 70% of normal. The Olympic Mountains and southwestern portion of the Cascade Mountains had especially dismal snowpacks going into spring 2015; most of the watersheds of the upper Columbia River were in better shape.

The winter of 2014-15 was followed by a warm and dry spring, representing the second of the 1-2 punch that brought serious drought to the Pacific Northwest. A map of the precipitation relative to normal for the period of April through June 2015 (Figure 2) indicates that it was particularly dry in almost all of Washington, western Oregon and north-

# Pacific Northwest Weather Projections Continued from page 8

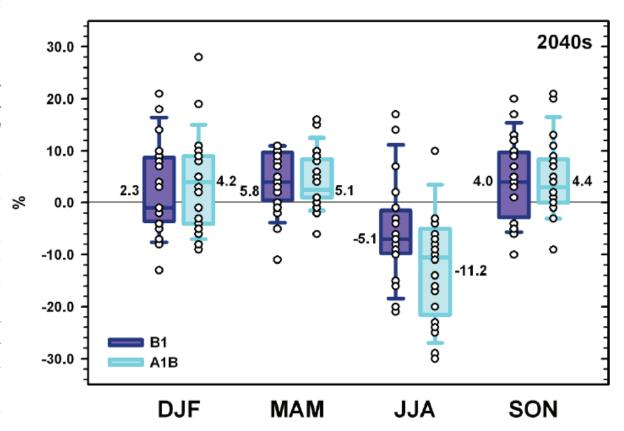
ern Idaho. The lack of rain was accompanied by positive temperature anomalies of 3-6 degrees across most of the Pacific Northwest (not shown). June was especially hot, with an all-time temperature record for June of 113 degrees set in multiple locations in eastern Washington. The lack of snowmelt and the hot and dry weather brought about exceedingly low streamflows and warm temperatures in many streams, with major impacts on freshwater ecosystems. And of course the hot, dry weather set the stage for a severe wildfire season. Some rains returned by August, and September was actually cooler than normal in Washington state, with above normal precipitation in the northwestern part of the state.

A thorough discussion of the causes of the unusually warm and sometimes dry weather in the Pacific Northwest is beyond the scope of the present treatment. The past year or two should be considered a short-term episode of climate variability, and the weird weather can be mostly attributed to large-scale atmospheric circulation patterns that brought about consistently warmer than normal conditions. A secondary influence appears to be the warmer than normal ocean temperatures that have prevailed off the coast of western North America since early 2014; the initial warming of these

waters was due to anomalous atmospheric forcing during the winter of 2013-14, with the weather patterns that followed helping to maintain relatively warm ocean temperatures.

A key point here is that the weather in the Pacific Northwest of the last year or so can be considered a fluke, and does not represent a new normal.

But the weather of the past year, in some ways, may represent a preview of conditions that are liable to occur more frequently in future decades. The global climate models being used for future projections are indicating temperature increases in the Pacific Northwest by the 2040s of roughly 3 to 5 degrees, relative to observed temperatures in the latter part of the 20th century. These magnitudes for the projected temperature changes are comparable to the anomalies that have occurred in the past year or so. Interestingly, the models are providing some indication that the 2040s may also tend to include wetter winters and drier summers (Figure. 3), with net increases in annual total precipitation. If so, the total discharge of the Columbia River would also increase. These results are tentative. Further work is required to both improve the reliability



**Figure 3:** Climate model projections of changes in seasonal precipitation (%) in the Pacific Northwest for the 2040s relative to the 1970-1999 mean. In each pair of box-and-whiskers, the left one is for lower emission greenhouse gas emission scenario B1 and the right is for the moderate A1B scenario; circles are individual model values. Box-and-whiskers plots indicate 10th and 90th percentiles (whiskers), 25th and 75th percentiles (box ends), and median (solid middle bar) for each season and scenario. Printed values are the weighted reliability ensemble average of all climate models for the season and scenario. (Graphic excerpted from Mote and Salathe, 2010).

of climate projections for the Pacific Northwest, and determine how well the recent weather of the region actually represents a reasonable proxy for the typical weather in future decades.

Reference

Mote, P.W., and E.P. Salathe, Jr., 2010: Future climate in the Pacific Northwest. Climatic Change, doi: 10.1007/s1-584-010-9848-z

## **2016 CBDL Officers** Continued from page 7

Grange Supply, Odessa Union Warehouse, Co Grain, Odessa Lions Club, and Heritage Church. Currently, Schibel serves on the boards of the Washington State Oilseeds Commission and the Lincoln County Conservation District.

Milton Johnson, Ellensburg

Past Chair

Johnston operates Johnston Property Management in Ellensburg. Previously, he was a Farm and Real Estate Manager for the Department of Natural Resources. Johnson is a former chair of the Ellensburg Business Development Authority.

Jake Wollman Jr., Warden

Treasurer

Wollman has been a longtime member of the League and has served as Treasurer for a number of years. He is a member and leader of the Warden Hutterian Brethren, an irrigation and dryland farming community in the Warden area growing wheat, potatoes, beans, and mint.

Andy Erickson, Moses Lake

At-large Executive

Erickson graduated from WSU with a BS in Agricultural Technology and Management. He has been with the J.R. Simplot Company for nine years and in the last five has managed the process water treatment and land application for the Moses Lake and Othello potato processing facilities. Erickson is also a member of the Warden Lions Club and a volunteer with the Grant County Fire District #4.

Clark Kagele, Odessa

At-large Executive

Kagele and his wife have 40 years of experience as deep well irrigated farmers, along with dryland operations. His experience with well failures and declining water tables motivates his concern for farm families and the communities that depend on the Odessa Aquifer. He is a member of the Washington Association of Wheat Growers, Lions Club International, and is a board member of the Odessa Public Development Authority, the school district, and his church.

Dale Pomeroy, Warden

At-large Executive

Pomeroy has farmed in Warden and Othello since 1970. He is the past supervisor for the Warden Conservation District and served as a member of the Columbia Basin Alfalfa Seed Growers Association and Western Alfalfa Seed Growers Association. He was president of USDA-ARS for Pollinating Insects Research Laboratory, Washington State Alfalfa Seed Commissioner, and is a Port of Warden Commissioner. Pomeroy is on the board for the Warden Development League and Grant County Economic Development Council.

Matt Hawley, Pasco

At-large Executive

Hawley is a graduate of Washington State University and the University of

Idaho. His background is primarily in dairy production and business management. Hawley works for Lamb Weston/ConAgra Foods' farming enterprises and has responsibilities surrounding different facets of Lamb Weston's corporate water right interests.

## **QUOTE OF THE MONTH**

"Your mind is for having ideas, not holding them"

- David Allen, productivity consultant and author

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Big Bend Electric Cooperative Alligare LLC Franz Ranch Inc

City of Othello **Anderson Perry & Associates** Fresno Valves & Castings Inc

Connell 76 LLC Anderville Farms Inc-Mattawa Friehe Farms

**Evergreen Implement** Arlie & Aurora Updegrave Giselle Wiederhielm Farm

**Grant County Commissioners** Art Prior/Prior Farms LLC Gish Farms

Warden Hutterian Brethren AV Labs Inc Glen Bair Farms **Underwriter** Avista Goober Grain Inc

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McCain Foods USA Inc **Berglund Farms** H Lee Farms Inc

S & C Ranching Inc Big Bend Ag Appraisals Haricot Farms Inc/Central Bean Co **Black Sands Irrigation District** 

**HDR** Engineering Inc

Jack Jones

James Brodie

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Johnson Agriprises/Johnson-Reaugh Bruce & Diana Carlson Inc Hendrix Farms LLC

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