

Nature Climate Solutions Symposium

March 10, 2016

Biographies

Julie Alvis

Julie Alvis has served as deputy assistant secretary for the California Natural Resources Agency since 2008. She provides administrative oversight and coordination for Park- and Water- bond-funded programs within the Agency and its departments. Julie also serves as key staff to the California Strategic Growth Council, a cabinet-level committee that is coordinating state efforts in preparing for climate change, and investing in communities to improve air and water quality, protect natural resources, increase the availability of affordable housing, improve transportation, and promote public health.

Most recently, Julie has lead the development of the Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation program, which seeks to avoid increases in greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the conversion of agricultural land to urban uses. She previously served as Assistant to the California Bay-Delta Authority board and the California Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee. Following graduation from the University of California at Davis in 1994, Julie worked several years as an editor for educational and private publishing firms prior to her career with the State of California.

Kit Batten

Dr. Kit Batten is the Executive Director of the UC Davis Policy Institute for Energy, Environment and the Economy. Prior to her appointment at UC Davis, Dr. Batten served as Global Climate Change Coordinator at the US Agency for International Development where she led climate change mitigation and adaptation programming in 40 countries around the world. Appointed by the White House to coordinate climate change activities across USAID, Dr. Batten led U.S. government engagement with the Tropical Forest Alliance 2020 and supported several other large U.S. government climate change initiatives, including the *Global Resilience Partnership*, *Climate Services for Resilient Development*, *Powering Agriculture: An Energy Grand Challenge for Development*, and *Enhancing Capacity for Low Emissions Development Strategies*.

Dr. Batten has also worked as senior science and policy fellow and program director at the Heinz Center's Institute for Science Communication and Policy Development. In this role, she taught scientists how to communicate about the results of their research with policy makers and the media. Dr. Batten previously served as the science advisor to the Deputy Secretary of the Interior where she focused her efforts on the communication of climate change science, adaptation strategies for cultural and natural resources, and mitigation strategies. She also has served in the offices of Senator Joe Lieberman (I-CT)

and Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA). She received a B.A. in chemistry from Oberlin College and a M.S. and Ph.D. in ecology from the University of California, Davis.

John J. Battles

John J. Battles, Professor of Forest Ecology at UC Berkeley, is a field scientist engaged in long-term research of temperate forest ecosystems. His goal is to understand how and why forests change. Towards this end, his research seeks to understand the dynamic response of forest communities to disturbances and perturbations such as air pollution, invasive species, forest management, extreme drought, and fire. Much of his recent work has emphasized the ecology and management of carbon in North American forests. Since 2004, he has also led a collaborative project to test new ways of confronting the threat posed by future wildfires. Preliminary results from the Sierra Nevada Adaptive Resource Management Project, or SNAMP, have suggested that selectively thinning dense forests in a patchwork-like pattern is a surprisingly effective and tractable strategy to reduce—if not eliminate—the destructiveness of large fires. After seven years of meticulous measurements in two large experimental plots, the project will issue its final report later this year.

Richard Bloom

Richard Bloom was first elected to the 50th District of the California State Assembly in 2012. Shortly after his election, Assemblymember Richard Bloom was appointed to the Chair of the Assembly Budget Subcommittee on Resources and Transportation where he quickly established himself as a leader on one of the biggest issues facing this generation - climate change. As Chair, Assemblymember Bloom has pushed for increasing renewable energy development and reducing our reliance on fossil fuels and promoting smart and sustainable planning that expands affordable housing and reduces traffic congestion and commute times. Through his leadership, Assemblymember Bloom has made reducing our carbon footprint and enhancing the quality of life now and for future generations a core mission of the committee.

Overall, Assemblymember Bloom considers climate change, environmental protection, congestion relief with a focus on public transit, bike, and pedestrian investment, and sub-regional connectivity job creation with a particular focus on the green economy, affordable housing, and homelessness his top priorities.

(more: <http://asmdc.org/members/a50/about/biography>)

Louis Blumberg

Louis Blumberg is Director of the California Climate Change Program of the Nature Conservancy's California Chapter. He leads a multidisciplinary team developing a comprehensive suite of natural climate solutions including strategies to reduce and avoid greenhouse gas emissions from forest and other natural lands, and to enhance resilience of human and natural communities from the escalating impacts of climate change. Mr. Blumberg has been directly involved in developing climate policy in California since 2000, working with a variety of government and non-government partners in the development of forest carbon protocols now in use in California's carbon market and in establishing a public policy platform to promote climate resilience at the local, regional and state scales. He is a

member of the Conservancy's international climate change team and chair of the Nature Conservancy's Carbon Project Review Committee.

Mr. Blumberg joined the Conservancy in 2004 as director of its new Forest Initiative and was appointed director of its California climate change program in 2007. Before that, he served as deputy director of external affairs for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, as assistant regional director of The Wilderness Society, and as a management analyst at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. He holds an M.A. in urban planning and environmental policy from the University of California—Los Angeles and a B.A. from the University of California—Santa Barbara.

Alf W. Brandt

Alf W. Brandt serves as the California State Assembly's expert on water resource law and policy. In his position as the Principal Consultant for the Committee on Water, Parks & Wildlife, he drafts, analyzes, and comments on all legislation relating to water resources, drawing on his long history of experience in California water controversies. His work included the current the critical water issues facing the State Legislature including the ecosystem and management crisis in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and flood management and protection.

Prior to joining the Assembly staff, Mr. Brandt served at the Department of the Interior and on the Board of Directors for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. At Interior, he served as counsel and Federal Agency Coordinator for the CALFED Bay-Delta Program and tried the just compensation phase of *Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage Dist. v. United States*. He also worked on Nevada water law issues in the Newlands Project, and for the Bureau of Land Management.

He earned his J.D. in 1988 from University of California, Berkeley (Boalt Hall School of Law), his B.A. Magna cum laude in 1983 from UCLA, where he was Phi Beta Kappa. He is admitted to the bars of California, the District of Columbia (inactive), and the Court of Federal Claims.

David Bunn

David Bunn was appointed Director of the California Department of Conservation on June 18, 2015. Prior to his appointment, David was Associate Director of the International Programs Office of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at the University of California, Davis.

David served as Deputy Director of Legislation for the Department of Fish and Game (now the Department of Fish and Wildlife) and he was Principal Consultant and Legislative Director in the office of California State Assemblymember Fred Keeley. He also served as Associate Consultant for the California State Senate Natural Resources and Wildlife Committee, and then years later he directed the development of California's Wildlife Action Plan.

David was a Project Director and researcher at the One Health Institute in the School of Veterinary Medicine, where his work included directing international research projects and training programs in West and East Africa and in Nepal.

Working in the private sector, David co-founded American Trash Management and served as its field manager. David was Environmental Program Director at the California Public Interest Research Group, and he worked on California agricultural issues as Executive Director at the California Agrarian Action Project.

David earned a Ph.D. in Conservation Ecology, a Master's of Science in International Agricultural Development, and a Bachelor's of Science in Wildlife Biology from the University of California, Davis.

Eddie Chang

Eddie Chang was appointed as a Deputy Executive Officer at the California Air Resources Board in the spring of 2013. She is responsible for development and implementation of California's plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions including the AB 32 Scoping Plan, the cap-and-trade regulation, and the low carbon fuel standard. She also oversees strategies to reduce emissions from freight transport, the air toxics program, fuels regulations, and stationary source programs. In Eddie's 20 year career with the Air Resources Board, she has worked on a wide variety of projects including implementation of the zero-emission vehicle program, preparation of State Implementation Plans, and diesel incentive programs.

Eddie received a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley, and an M.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of California, Irvine. She is a registered Mechanical Engineer in the State of California.

Ellie Cohen

Ellie Cohen, President and CEO of [Point Blue Conservation Science](#) since 1999, is a leader in catalyzing collaborative, nature-based solutions to climate change. She and Point Blue's 140+ scientists work hand-in-hand with public and private resource managers, on land and at sea, to reduce the impacts of environmental change and promote [climate-smart conservation](#) for wildlife and people.

Ellie is Immediate Past Chair and Steering Committee member of the California Landscape Conservation Cooperative ([californialcc.org](#)), is co-founder of the Bay Area Ecosystems Climate Change Consortium ([baeccc.org](#)), represents Point Blue on the Alliance of Regional Collaboratives for Climate Adaptation ([arccacalifornia.org](#)), and is Past Chair of the Central Valley Joint Venture ([centralvalleyjointventure.org](#)). She is also an invited member of the National Wildlife Federation's Climate-Smart Conservation Team ([nwf.org](#)) and serves on the San Francisco Bay Joint Venture's Executive Committee ([sfbayjv.org](#)).

An honors graduate of Duke University and Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, Ellie was also a recipient of the Bay Nature 2012 Environmental Hero Award for her climate change leadership.

Ellie and her family live in San Anselmo, California with 2 kids, 2 dogs and 2 cats (indoor, of course!). They enjoy birding, hiking, biking, Broadway show tunes, Dr. Who and baseball. For more information about Ellie and Point Blue, visit www.pointblue.org.

Ashley Conrad-Saydah

Ashley Conrad-Saydah, the California Environmental Protection Agency's Deputy Secretary for Climate Policy, was appointed by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. in April 2012. She works with multiple agencies and stakeholders to achieve the State's ambitious climate goals and implement climate mitigation strategies throughout the State's communities, ecosystems and industries. Prior to joining CalEPA, Ms. Conrad-Saydah served as California's Renewable Energy Program Manager for the United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, beginning her tenure as a Presidential Management Fellow. Ms. Conrad-Saydah earned her master's degree from the Donald Bren School of

Environmental Science and Management at UC Santa Barbara, where she was a Doris Duke Conservation Fellow, and undergraduate degree from Princeton University.

William Craven

William Craven is the chief consultant of the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee. Prior to coming to the legislature he was the state director for Sierra Club California and before that he practiced law in the Midwest and focused on environmental and election law issues.

The Natural Resources and Water Committee is chaired by Senator Fran Pavley, D-Agoura Hills. It has jurisdiction over legislation pertaining to coastal and ocean protection, water, flood policy, mining (including oil and gas drilling), forestry, endangered species and wildlife, state lands and conservancies, and state parks. Senator Pavley is also a member of the Budget Committee serving on the Resources Subcommittee.

Wade Crowfoot

Wade Crowfoot serves as Deputy Cabinet Secretary and Senior Advisor to Governor Jerry Brown. He has worked in the Brown administration since 2011. Wade oversees transportation, infrastructure, emergency management, military and veterans issues. He is leading efforts to combat California's historic drought while implementing policies that expand clean transportation options, renewable energy generation and energy efficiency.

Prior to joining Governor Brown's Administration, Wade served as Regional Director for the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF). Wade also served as senior environmental advisor to San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom. Wade holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a master's Degree in Public Policy from the London School of Economics, where he graduated with honors.

Greg Dalton

Greg Dalton is Vice President of The Commonwealth Club of California and Founder of its Climate One initiative. Climate One convenes leaders from business, government and civil society who are leading the transformation to a new low-carbon global economy. Climate One also builds consensus around sustainable energy through intimate and private roundtables with diverse leaders from a broad range of advocacy groups, government agencies, corporations and investment firms. Before becoming a social entrepreneur Greg was a journalist for 12 years. As International Editor at the Industry Standard magazine, he managed news bureaus in Tokyo, Hong Kong and Buenos Aires and helped establish local-language editions in Brazil, China and several other countries. He also worked as an editor on the international desk at the Associated Press headquarters in New York and as a business correspondent for the South China Morning Post in Beijing and Vancouver, Canada.

Conner Everts

Conner Everts has served on the Amigos de los Rios 501c3 Board of Directors in the office of Treasurer since 2012. He is a major proponent of developing multiple objective green infrastructure for the Los

Angeles Basin. He is also the facilitator of the Environmental Water Caucus, executive director of the Southern California Watershed Alliance and co-chair of the Desal Response Group. He is chair of Public

Officials for Water and Environmental Reform (POWER). Conner was elected to the Casitas Municipal Water District and was president of the Ojai Basin Management Ground Water Agency.

Mr. Everts was convener of the California Urban Water Conservation Council and on the state task forces on TMDLs, Desalination, and the SWRCB recycled water stakeholder process and the Direct Potable Reuse Advisory group. But his most important work is as elder advisor to the Environmental Justice Coalition for Water and with the Southern California Steelhead Coalition helping remove dams on the streams where he caught fish as a youth and hopefully others can in the future.

Rich Gordon

Assemblyman Rich Gordon is entering his sixth year representing the San Francisco Peninsula in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties in Assembly District 24. A committed environmental advocate, Gordon has authored recycling, climate adaptation and environmental protection legislation that has been signed into law. He is also a member of the Environmental Legislative Caucus and chairs two Assembly Select Committees including one on Waste Reduction and Recycling in 21st Century California and another on Water Consumption and Alternative Sources.

In addition to his environmental work, Gordon chairs the Assembly's Rules Committee, and is a member of the Committees on Budget, Budget Subcommittee #3 on Resources and Transportation, Elections and Redistricting, Local Government and Privacy and Consumer Protection. Gordon is also a member of the Bay Area and LGBT Caucuses. Prior to his Assembly work, Gordon was a Supervisor for San Mateo County (13 years,) the president of the California State Association of Counties, an executive director of a non-profit youth agency and a minister in the United Methodist Church.

Gordon is a fourth generation Californian - born and raised in San Mateo County. He completed high school in Orange County, and graduated from the University of Southern California. He has a Masters in Divinity from Garrett Theological Seminary at Northwestern University. He resides in an unincorporated neighborhood in Menlo Park with his husband, Dr. Dennis McShane.

Benjamin Houlton

Benjamin Houlton is Associate Director of the UC Davis John Muir Institute of the Environment, where he also holds the distinction of Chancellor's Fellow and Associate Professor of Land, Air and Water Resources. His studies examine regional to global drivers of ecosystem change, particularly those related to humanity's reliance on and alteration of Earth's chemistry. The "Earth Systems Ecology and Biogeochemistry Lab" (houlton.lawr.ucdavis.edu) that he runs at UC Davis combines computational modeling, data informatics and molecular- to global-scale observations to examine the world's biogeochemical cycles and their role in shaping ecosystem services. His field sites span California's diverse biomes – from forest to desert. Ben collaborates with an internationally diverse group of researchers from North, Central and South America, Europe, Australia, China and Japan.

Ben's work is motivated by the pressing need to identify and solve real-world problems facing the planet. Ben's global modeling work has been used by the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change in

setting international climate policy. He co-directs two programs that seek to improve opportunities for underrepresented minorities in STEM fields.

Ben holds degrees in Chemistry (B.S., 1998, University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point), Engineering (M.S., 2000, Syracuse University), and Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (Ph. D., 2005, Princeton University), and he spent time as a postdoctoral scholar at the Carnegie Institution for Science at Stanford before arriving at UC Davis in 2007. Ben has won the prestigious CAREER grant from the National Science Foundation and Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Junior Faculty prize. His work has been covered by NPR (Morning Edition), BBC, MSNBC, Discovery News, the Christian Science Monitor, and Nature and Science Magazines. Ben's interests include fly-fishing, meditation, running and 90s hip-hop. He and his wife Amanda reside in Roseville with their two children, Sydney and Ashton.

Campbell Ingram

The Delta Conservancy's first Executive Officer since its inception in 2010, Campbell Ingram received a bachelor's of science degree in Natural Resource Planning and Interpretation from California State University, Humboldt in 1991.

Ingram worked as an environmental scientist for the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program in 2000-2004 during his time with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. He joined the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 2004, becoming a division/program chief responsible for executing various Central Valley Project Improvement Act restoration programs, in addition to the CALFED Environmental Water Program.

Ingram joined the non-profit Nature Conservancy in 2006, becoming associate director of the California Water Program before moving to the Delta Conservancy. While at the Nature Conservancy, his specific areas of support included the Bay Delta Conservation Plan, exploration of wetland carbon sequestration opportunities and South Sacramento County groundwater management planning.

Louise Jackson

Louise Jackson is a Professor and Cooperative Extension Specialist in the Department of Land, Air, and Water Resources at UC Davis. She has a strong interest the role of biodiversity in agricultural systems and working landscapes. Louise is an ecologist whose expertise is in plant-soil-ecosystem functions. Her research spans gene to landscape levels and includes work on soil microbial carbon and nitrogen cycling, mycorrhizae, soil food webs, and analysis of biodiversity and ecosystem functions across landscapes. Her lab group has conducted research in row crop, grassland and oak woodland ecosystems in California. She has been involved in several projects dealing with climate change issues for California agriculture, related to both greenhouse gas emissions reduction and adaptation to global warming.

Amy Lethbridge

Amy Lethbridge is the Deputy Executive Officer of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority responsible for education, interpretation and community partners. In that role she has developed programs for at-risk youth, manages two residential outdoor education camps and trained hundreds of rangers, docents and naturalists in interpretive skills. She has a B.A. degree in Political Science and an M.A. in Organizational Management. She is currently enrolled in a doctoral program in Leadership and Change, where her focus is community development of sustainable tourism. Amy also serves as the President of the National Association of Interpretation and is an adjunct professor at Antioch University, Los Angeles. She is an interpretative trainer and has taught the Certified Interpretive Guide course in 5 countries and throughout the United States.

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) is a regional open space agency dedicated to the preservation and management of local open space and parkland, watershed lands, trails, and wildlife habitat. The MRCA manages and provides ranger services for almost 73,000 acres of public lands and parks that it owns and that are owned by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy or other agencies and provides comprehensive education and interpretation programs for the public, focusing on underserved urban audiences. The MRCA works in cooperation with the Conservancy and other local government partners to acquire parkland, participate in vital planning processes, and complete major park improvement projects. The MRCA provides natural resources and scientific expertise, critical regional planning services, park construction services, park operations, fire prevention, ranger services, educational and leadership programs for thousands of youth each year, and is one of the lead agencies providing for the revitalization of the Los Angeles River.

Kip Lipper

Kip Lipper is chief policy advisor on energy, natural resources, and the environment to California State Senate President pro Tempore Kevin De Leon (D-Los Angeles).

Lipper has worked in the California Legislature for over 38 years. He began his career in the mid-1970s as a field representative and later administrative assistant for then-Assembly Member Dennis Mangers (D-Huntington Beach) where he worked on the preservation of the Bolsa Chica Wetlands.

From 1980-2004, he was administrative assistant later chief of staff for Assembly Member and Senator Byron Sher (D-Stanford). During that same time period, Lipper also served as senior consultant to the Assembly Criminal Law Committee, chief consultant to the Assembly Natural Resources Committee, and staff director to the Senate Committee on Environmental Quality.

Lipper has drafted and analyzed legislation on a broad array of environmental matters, including the California Clean Air Act, the California Safe Drinking Water Act, the California Beverage Container Recycling Act, and the California Integrated Waste Management Act, CEQA, and the Natural Communities Conservation Act. He drafted and analyzed legislation on energy policy such as the state's landmark 20%, 33%, and now 50% Renewable Portfolio Standard, energy conservation, electric vehicles, public interest energy research, and energy-agency reorganization and reforms. He has worked on budget issues affecting energy, environmental, and resources agencies of CA state government.

Lipper was the lead Senate staffer on the drafting of AB 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, as well as on companion landmark legislation establishing the nation's first greenhouse gas emission performance standard for energy generation (SB 1368--Perata). He has been deeply involved in the implementation of GHG laws passed and enacted by the CA Legislature.

He has published papers on a range of environmental issues, and has been a guest lecturer on environmental and energy legislation at the Stanford Law School, Boalt Hall (UC Berkeley law school), King Hall (UC Davis law school), Loyola Law School (Los Angeles), and at UC Berkeley, UC Davis, and CSU Sacramento.

Jeanne Merrill

Jeanne Merrill is the Policy Director of the California Climate and Agriculture Network (CalCAN), a coalition of sustainable agriculture organizations that advances policy solutions at the nexus of climate change and agriculture. She has 20 years of experience in agricultural, environmental and energy policy advocacy at the state and national levels. Prior to her time with CalCAN, she was the Associate Policy Director with the Michael Fields Agricultural Institute in Wisconsin. She is a member of the Organizational Council of the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition and the California Invasive Species Advisory Committee. She holds a B.A. in political science from UC San Diego and a M.S. in land resources from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She lives with her husband in Alameda, CA.

Michelle Passero

Michelle Passero is the Senior Climate Policy Advisor for The Nature Conservancy, California Chapter. She has over fifteen years of experience working in land conservation and environmental law and policy in the non-profit and for-profit sectors. Currently, Ms. Passero is leading TNC's policy efforts to establish a comprehensive role for forests and natural systems as part of California's landmark global warming law, The Global Warming Solutions Act. She has published several articles regarding legal issues associated with emerging greenhouse gas emissions trading markets and carbon rights. Ms. Passero holds an LL.M. in Sustainable International Development from the University of Washington and a J.D. from the University of San Francisco.

Fran Pavley

Senator Fran Pavley is a native Angeleno and grew up in Sherman Oaks. She has spent her lifetime living and working in Los Angeles and Ventura counties as a parent, educator, and elected official. She lives with her husband, Andy, a veteran and lifelong teacher, in Agoura Hills, where they raised two children and four guide dogs for the blind.

She received her master's degree in environmental planning at California State University, Northridge; taught middle school for 28 years; and completed her teaching career in Moorpark, California. In 1982 Senator Pavley became the first mayor of the City of Agoura Hills, and she served for four terms on the city council. In 2000 she was elected to the California State Assembly, where she served three terms (six years). She was elected to the California State Senate in 2008. Currently, Senator Pavley represents approximately 931,000 people in the 27th district, which includes parts of Los Angeles and Ventura counties.

Senator Pavley serves as the chair of the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee and is a member of the following Senate committees: Energy, Utilities, and Communications; Environmental Quality; Budget and Fiscal Review; Budget Subcommittee #2 (Resources, Environmental Protection, Energy, and Transportation); Governance and Finance; and Legislative Ethics. She also chairs the Select Committee on Climate Change and Assembly Bill 32 Implementation.

Senator Pavley currently is pursuing legislation that sets an overarching climate-pollution reduction target for 2050 that would provide California businesses with regulatory certainty while also strengthening the economy and improving public health, especially in communities disproportionately impacted by pollution. Other legislative proposals this year include bills to enact rigorous safety

standards for natural gas storage facilities such as the Aliso Canyon facility in her district that was the site of a months-long, disastrous leak; revive a teacher recruitment program to address the plummeting enrollment rates in the state's teacher-training programs (enrollment has dropped by 74 percent in the last dozen years); and provide women with more reliable access to birth control.

In 2014 Senator Pavley authored legislation to manage groundwater for the first time in California and helped negotiate a bipartisan water bond that was approved by voters as Proposition 1. And in 2013 she successfully carried legislation to end unregulated hydraulic fracturing (fracking) and other oil-extraction practices in California, and coauthored successful legislation to invest \$2 billion in successful air-quality and clean vehicle and fuel technology programs. In addition, Senator Pavley successfully carried bills to increase the maximum penalty for child pornography possession, ensure proper sexual-assault investigations at centers for people with developmental disabilities, and increase disclosure of financial contributions to ballot proposition campaigns.

Some of Senator Pavley's past legislative victories in the Senate include laws stiffening penalties for mortgage fraud, banning lead and cadmium in children's jewelry, and creating new clean energy jobs. In 2011 Senator Pavley authored a law to improve California's business climate by implementing regulatory reform; this bill requires agencies to more rigorously assess the economic impacts (including the benefits) of major regulations before they are adopted.

In the Assembly she authored Assembly Bill 1493, which became the model for national vehicle emissions standards, and Assembly Bill 32, the nation's first cap on greenhouse gas pollution. Both laws have become models for other states and nations. They have spurred innovation and job growth in clean technology, alternative fuels, renewable energy, energy efficiency, and other sectors. In 2010 President Obama implemented national clean car standards, modeled on Assembly Bill 1493 (Clean Car Regulations), also known as the Pavley Law. During a special ceremony in the White House Rose Garden, the president personally thanked Senator Pavley for her work on creating a clean, safe, secure energy future for California and the United States.

Senator Pavley also has worked hard to address local transportation priorities and other quality-of-life issues. She has helped secure funds for important local transportation projects, including construction of the Orange Line busway and installation of much-needed traffic signals in the San Fernando Valley. She is a member of the Pacific Coast Highway Task Force and has worked with the California Highway Patrol to coordinate funding to reduce the number of people who are driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs on Highway 101. And for more than 30 years Senator Pavley has worked with the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to acquire and protect open space and develop trails and public access to areas throughout Los Angeles and Ventura counties. She also created Valley and Ventura County Advisory councils, which include business and community leaders from the San Fernando Valley and Eastern Ventura County.

Bruce J. Rominger

Bruce Rominger is President and co-owner with his brother Rick of Rominger Brothers Farms, Inc. a diversified family farm in California's Central Valley. The farm currently produces processing tomatoes, wheat, corn, alfalfa, sunflowers, safflower, rice, seed crops, oat hay almonds and wine grapes on over 4,000 acres. Another 3,000 acres of rangeland is grazed with sheep and cattle and is the basis for

research into eliminating invasive annual grasses and restoring native perennial grasses and forbs. Bruce is currently working with USDA Agricultural Research Service, Yolo County Resource Conservation District, and the University of California, Davis in further analysis and development of more sustainable methods for growing California row crops. Rominger Brothers has also been a pioneer in implementing farm friendly wildlife through building tailwater ponds, hill ponds, hedgerows and insectory plantings.

Bruce received his bachelor's degree with High Honors in Agronomy from the UC Davis in 1980. He worked as a Licensed Pest Control Advisor in San Joaquin valley until he joined the family farm in 1982. He served as a Director for the Yolo County Resource Conservation District and is currently a farmer/advisor to the UC Davis Sustainable Farming Systems Project, a director on the board of his local irrigation district and is chairman of the board of the California Tomato Growers Association. In the last 25 years Bruce has given many presentations around California about his experiences with conservation tillage, farm friendly wildlife development and the construction and benefits of farm ponds.

Jay Ziegler

Jay Ziegler is Director of External Affairs and Policy, The Nature Conservancy. Jay oversees the California chapter's policy engagements with governments and other stakeholders at the federal, state, county, and regional levels. He helps develop and direct Conservancy strategies on public policy, legislation, regulatory matters, partnership efforts, and campaigns. Prior to joining the Conservancy, he had an environmental and political consulting practice at Ziegler Associates. He also served in multiple roles at state and federal state natural resource agencies, including serving with Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt in the Clinton Administration. He holds a B.A. in political science-public service from UC Davis.