

Karen Bishop

Karen Bishop has 21 years' experience with the San Antonio River Authority. For over a decade, she has advocated for increased storm- and surface water quality by project managing adoption of the City of San Antonio's first Low Impact Development code in 2015; through oversight of the River Authority's LID training, incentive, inspection, and design assistance services; through participation in non-profits and on advisory committees that have compatible missions; and by linking natural infrastructure to co-benefits sought by local agencies. Karen has held supervisory positions in the River Authority's Intergovernmental & Community Relations Department, Executive Offices, and Environmental Sciences Department, and now she serves as Senior Supervisor of the Ecological Engineering Department's Planning Unit. Under interlocal agreement, Karen project manages the City of San Antonio Edwards Aquifer Protection Program's water quality projects portfolio. She is the River Authority's representative on the City of San Antonio Planning Department's SA Tomorrow comprehensive plan stakeholder committees and the Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's Active Transportation Advisory Committee. She is chair of the US Green Building Council South Texas Region, co-chair of the Environmental & Water Resources Institute San Antonio Chapter, and a board member of San Antonio's land trust, Green Spaces Alliance.

Michael Brain

Michael Brain is the deputy commissioner at the Bureau of Reclamation. In this role, Brain oversees the agency's media relations, internal communications, and congressional relations programs to increase awareness and understanding of Reclamation's mission priorities, policies, and programs. Michael is experienced in legislative and water policy and working on the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to improve the nation's water infrastructure and investment in strategies that bolster resiliency across the West. Prior to joining Reclamation, Brain held a variety of positions supporting the U.S. House of Representatives, including as counsel for the Subcommittee on Water Resources and the Environment, and as a professional staffer for the Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development Appropriations. His work in these roles includes developing funding bills that support national water policy, agriculture, and climate resilience across the West. Michael earned a Doctor of Law in Urban Planning, Land Use, and Environmental Law from Saint Louis University in 2013, and a Bachelor of Science in Political Science and Government from Boston College in 2006.

Todd S. Bridges

Dr. Bridges is the US Army and US Army Corps of Engineers' Senior Research Scientist (ST) for Environmental Science. He became one of approximately 40 Senior Research Scientists within the US Army in 2006, where his responsibilities include leading innovation, research, and development that support goals related to resilience and sustainability. Dr. Bridges is the founder and National Lead for the USACE Engineering with Nature® (EWN®) initiative (www.engineeringwithnature.org), which includes a network of research, field-scale applications, and communication activities to support the development of nature-based solutions. He led a large international collaboration over five years to develop and publish (in 2021) technical guidelines on the use of natural and nature-based features (NNBF) for coastal and fluvial flood risk management. Dr. Bridges is the technical lead and Program Manager for the Dredging Operations Environmental Research (DOER) program, one of USACE's largest and longest-running R&D programs. He has chaired international working groups and guidance development for the United Nations' International Maritime Organization and the World Association for Waterborne Transport

Infrastructure (PIANC). Over the last 30 years, he has published more than 65 peer-reviewed journal articles, several books and book chapters, and numerous technical reports.

Dr. Bridges and his work have been recognized through receipt of several national and international awards, including receiving a Distinguished Presidential Rank Award from President Biden in 2021 for “sustained, extraordinary accomplishments.”

Alyssa Dausman

Dr. Alyssa Dausman serves as the Senior Vice President & Chief Scientist at the Water Institute of the Gulf, a non-advocacy non-profit applied research institution advancing and developing integrated methods to solve complex environmental and societal challenges. The Institute believes in, and strives for, more resilient and equitable communities, sustainable environments, and thriving economies. In addition to overseeing the Institute’s research, Dausman leads groundwater resource development and management for the greater Baton Rouge, Louisiana area in the USA. During her PhD research and career, she has focused on numerical modeling of saltwater intrusion, model independent parameter estimation and uncertainty analysis, and structured decision-making to inform management and policy development.

LaKesha Hart

Hart serves as the State Planning Manager of the Louisiana Office of Planning and Budget within the Division of Administration. The State Planning Office is a renewed effort of the Division of Administration that serves as the centralized planning and resilience program for state government, coordinating federal state and local efforts in identifying and developing strategic and effective planning and risk mitigation approaches. Hart is responsible for administering, directing and coordinating the State’s portfolio of planning and policy initiatives and for coordinating with officials of federal, state and local agencies to promote and manage joint programs and activities. Previously, Hart has served in the public sector as the Deputy Director of Economic Development and Infrastructure Programs for the Louisiana Office of Community Development which manages over \$17 billion of HUD disaster recovery and mitigation funding; as a Recovery Planning Specialist with the Federal Emergency Management Agency; and as an Environmental Chemical Specialist at the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. Prior to her state service, Hart was employed as an engineer in the oil and gas sector for over 11 years. Hart earned a bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

Deborah Loomis

Ms. Loomis received a commission in the Navy upon graduating from the University of Pennsylvania with dual degrees from the Wharton School and the College of Arts and Sciences. She began her career as a surface warfare officer, deploying on USS GONZALEZ (DDG 66) and USS KINKAID (DD 965) before serving as a Navy Liaison to the U.S. Senate. Ms. Loomis then attended Georgetown Law School on a Navy Law Education Program scholarship. After receiving her law degree, she joined the Navy JAG Corps where she advised senior Navy leaders including the Chief of Naval Operations and Judge Advocate General. She returned to Georgetown to earn a Master’s degree focused on energy and environmental law and served tours as an environmental counsel at U.S. Fleet Forces Command, OPNAV N4, and the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy, Installations and

Environment. In those roles, she worked with federal partners across the interagency and in the Department of Defense on projects spanning from the Arctic to Guam.

Ms. Loomis has been working at the nexus between climate change and national security for many years. While stationed in Norfolk, she was an early contributor on a pilot project that brought together representatives from the federal, state and local governments to address sea level rise using a whole of government approach. She has also contributed to several articles and publications on climate and security including the 2020 World Climate Security Report and Climate 21 Project. In her personal capacity, she is a Public Voices Fellow on the Climate Crisis through the Yale Program on Climate Change Communications and a member of the Board of Directors of Washington, DC's Green Bank.

Kari Mavian

With over 20 years of regulatory affairs and advocacy experience in the chemical industry, Kari Mavian currently serves as Senior Director of Government Affairs and Advocacy at Dow. She is responsible for Dow's environmental regulatory advocacy, while also partnering with Dow's safe materials and valuing nature sustainability goal teams. She previously led SI Group's global regulatory affairs and product stewardship team developing and implementing regulatory programs and advocacy strategies. In prior roles, she led the global regulatory and advocacy team at Suterra LLC, a bio-pesticide manufacturer; and headed the North and South American Regulatory Services group at Lonza, Inc. She has been a leader in numerous industry trade associations, and she works closely with a diverse range of stakeholders providing advocacy, policy, regulatory, and strategic guidance, while helping them navigate through the challenging and ever-changing regulatory landscape. Raised in Virginia, Kari graduated from Wake Forest University, and enjoys swimming, biking, and running.

Dale Morris

Dale Morris is Chief Resilience Officer for the City of Charleston, SC. Morris' primary role is the integration of comprehensive water management, planning and adaptation processes into City policy, land-use, and water projects and the addition of broader resilience approaches to City operations. Morris is the City's lead for the USACE Charleston Peninsula Coastal Storm Risk Management Project, the City's Comprehensive, Integrated Water Plan, its Flooding and Sea Level Rise Strategy and other key projects.

Morris previously served as Director of Strategic Partnerships at the Water Institute of the Gulf, an applied, technical research not-for-profit based in Louisiana. He directed the Water Institute's outreach to and engagement with communities, municipalities, states, and organizations outside of Louisiana and guided the Institute's Living with Water and resilience strategy work in post-Harvey Houston, the Dutch Dialogues and related work in Charleston, SC, and Virginia. From 1994-2018, Morris served as Senior Economist at the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Washington, DC, and, beginning in 2005, Director of the Dutch Government's water management and adaptation work across the US. Morris started his career in the U.S. Air Force and was Legislative Director to two Members of Congress. Morris is co-founder of the Dutch Dialogues, a workshop process that integrates stormwater, groundwater, tidal and surge risks with planning and engineering in targeted cities. Morris holds a B.A. from the University of Pittsburgh and an M.A. from the University of Virginia.

Sarah W. Murdock

Ms. Murdock serves as the Senior Director of U.S. Land and Water Policy at the Nature Conservancy. Her 30-year career has spanned work in the public, private and now nonprofit sector on environmental and energy policy. In the past 18 years working at the Conservancy, Ms. Murdock has and currently leads on policy development, advocacy, communications, and execution of projects that inform the Nature Conservancy's climate resilience, land and water policy work. Prior to working at the Nature Conservancy, she served as a consultant working with environmental and energy clients to develop strategic solutions to government, regulatory, and community outreach challenges. Prior to being a consultant, she served on the staff of United States Senator John F. Kerry of Massachusetts concentrating on environmental and energy policy. She holds a B.A. in environmental science from Colby College and a M.A. in urban and environmental policy from Tufts University. She also completed the Sea Education Association semester of independent oceanographic research aboard 100-foot schooner and currently serves on the Executive Board of the Trustees for that program. She is married, a mother to a teenage son, loves all active and inactive outdoor activities, and resides in Scituate, MA.

J. Scott Pippin

Scott is an attorney and community planner who joined the University of Georgia's Carl Vinson Institute of Government in 2014. As part of the Planning and Environmental Services group, he now leads the community resilience and military community engagement initiatives. These programs connect multi-disciplinary programs on campus and across a network of national public and private partnerships to provide technical and planning assistance to promote the development of more resilient and equitable infrastructure systems and enhance long-term community resilience. In addition, Scott directs planning and policy research with the UGA Institute for Resilient Infrastructure Systems (IRIS) and conducts research and writing concerning environmental and natural resource planning, climate resilience, nature-based and green infrastructure practices, land use and zoning, community planning and economic development, wastewater planning, and a wide variety of other resilience-related topics. Prior to joining the Institute of Government, he worked as a local government attorney and an environmental consultant.

Victoria Salinas

Victoria Salinas has worked with communities across the United States and internationally to build resilience and recover after major disasters. Passionate about driving social impact centered in partnership and community resilience, she has a steadfast focus on ensuring equitable outcomes for all.

Ms. Salinas is an appointee in the Biden-Harris Administration, and currently serves at the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as the Acting Deputy Administrator for Resilience. FEMA Resilience aims to help communities across the United States equitably adapt, survive, recover and thrive in the face of natural disasters, climate change, and security threats, through a variety of programs that aim to help communities better understand their risk; transfer risk through insurance; and build the capacity to prepare, protect, respond, and recover from disasters.

Previously serving as the Chief Resilience Officer and Deputy City Administrator for Oakland, California, Ms. Salinas spearheaded planning, policy, and legislative efforts to address climate, disaster, and socio-economic vulnerability. At the World Bank, the United Nations, and in her previous experience

at FEMA, she worked alongside officials at all levels of government to plan recovery efforts following major disasters. She started her career in public service following Hurricane Katrina, as a Presidential Management Fellow at FEMA, where she helped lead federal interagency efforts to develop new policies and programs that now guide disaster recovery in the U.S.

Most recently, Ms. Salinas served as the Vice President for Programs and Communication at the non-profit FUSE Corps, where she focused on strengthening the capacity of local government to address pressing community challenges. She partnered with government leaders from 35 cities and counties, ranging from Los Angeles County to the City of Birmingham, Alabama to embed and support FUSE Executive Fellows tackling projects related to climate change, justice reform, affordable housing, inclusive economic development, and equitable access to government services. Ms. Salinas also led the development of FUSE's racial equity programming, the creation of results measurement systems for all projects, and a solutions-based journalism initiative that lifts up promising practices in local government.

Ms. Salinas has a master's degree in public policy from Harvard Kennedy School and a bachelor's degree from the Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University. She is a Chilean American who grew up in Austin, Texas and considers Oakland, California her second home. She has two sons and is married to a serial entrepreneur.

Zach Schafer

Zach Schafer is Senior Advisor to EPA's Assistant Administrator for the Office of Water, Radhika Fox. The Office of Water works to ensure that drinking water is safe, wastewater is safely returned to the environment, and surface waters are properly managed and protected. Prior to joining EPA, Zach served as the founding Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director at United for Infrastructure and Senior Policy Director for the Council on Competitiveness. Zach also worked on water and climate policy at the White House Council on Environmental Quality during the Obama Administration. He holds a B.A. in economics, international affairs, and history from the University of Delaware and an M.A. in Energy and Environmental Policy from the Biden School of Public Policy at the University of Delaware.

Jennifer Shanahan

As the Senior Watershed Planner for the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department, Jen works on a wide variety of projects related to floodplain habitats, aquatic resources, and water administration. The health of the Cache la Poudre and its floodplain is her focus as she bridges best practices from river science to the decision-making realm, provides diplomatic representation for city assets in the context of new water development, collaborates across disciplines and stakeholders, and guides river restoration planning with the current concepts and techniques. Promoting the integration of traditionally siloed departments and disciplines to achieve multiple objectives on large scale complex projects is a leading priority of her work. Jen has a Master's degree in Rangeland Ecology with a research focus in riparian restoration from Colorado State University. She has participated actively in Colorado's river management communities through the Colorado Riparian Association and the associated annual Sustaining Colorado Watersheds conference.

Richard W. Spinrad

Richard (Rick) W. Spinrad, Ph.D., was sworn in on June 22, 2021 as the Under Secretary of Commerce for National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Dr. Spinrad is responsible for the strategic direction and oversight of the agency and its over 12,000 employees, including developing NOAA's portfolio of products and services to address the climate crisis, enhancing environmental sustainability and fostering economic development, and creating a more just, equitable, diverse, and inclusive workforce.

Most recently, Dr. Spinrad served as a Professor of Oceanography and Senior Adviser to the Vice President of Research at Oregon State University (OSU). He was also Vice President for Research at OSU from 2010–2014. Previously, Dr. Spinrad served as NOAA's Chief Scientist under President Barack Obama. He also led NOAA's Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research and National Ocean Service. While at NOAA, Dr. Spinrad co-led the White House Committee that developed the nation's first set of ocean research priorities and oversaw the revamping of NOAA's research enterprise, including development of the agency's Scientific Integrity policy.

Dr. Spinrad received his B.A. in Earth and Planetary Sciences from the Johns Hopkins University, and his M.S. and Ph.D. in Oceanography from Oregon State University.

Brett Stewart

Brett Stewart is the Manager of the Loss Prevention and Education department for the Design Professional unit of AXA XL. He is responsible for leading the effort to develop risk management and educational materials for AXA XL's design professional insureds to help firms manage their liability and business risks. Brett interfaces directly with architects and engineers, brokers and various industry organizations to promote issues that are relevant to the design community.