



# SOCIETY OF AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEERS SACRAMENTO POST NEWSLETTER

www.samesacramento.org

Volume 4 Issue 4

Summer 2014

## Upcoming Events:

24 July 2014  
July General Meeting  
Folsom Dam JFP Tour

12-13 August 2014  
Training and Business  
Opportunities Symposium

25 September 2014  
September General Mtg  
STARBASE Academy

3-6 November 2014  
NW/SW Joint Engineer  
Training Symposium

To be notified by email of  
upcoming SAME events  
and announcements,  
please send a request to  
[info@  
samesacramento.org](mailto:info@samesacramento.org)

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## A Letter from our new President

**Dear Members and Friends of the Sacramento Post, Society of American Military Engineers:**

The Sacramento Post has a long and proud tradition of excellence, and I am thankful, humbled and excited to serve as your President for 2014-2015. I am looking forward to another great year, and to getting to know as many of you as possible. I especially want to thank Dave Cook, who did a great job as President last year, and all the officers and board members.



Our industry is facing a number of challenges from both sides. Federal and state budget issues impact all of us, as do the continued effects of the recession. Our federal members are constrained by new, more stringent interpretations of the ethics regulation. California is debating a number of large, high-profile infrastructure projects, while maintaining the existing infrastructure to serve our people. In the short-term we face severe drought, while in the longer term we must consider the effects of climate change. In short, we find ourselves in a very difficult environment.

Despite these challenges our Post remains strong, and that is due to the enthusiastic commitment of our members. No matter the task, we never have to wait very long before someone steps forward and says "I'll do it". As with any professional organization, however, most of our active participation comes from 10-20% of the membership. I urge you to make this the year that you step forward and help with at least one event. Take a look at our list of committees on the Post website, and contact the chair of the area that interests you most. I assure you, you will be warmly welcomed.

SAME's national priorities remain STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math), mentoring, and Wounded Warrior support. Our Post has a nationwide reputation for the strength of our scholarship program, and we continue to do well in mentoring. We have several programs planned in the area of STEM support, and are looking for good ideas to increase our support of Wounded Warriors.

We also want to make Post membership fun. Our golf tournament is our best fundraiser, but it is also a great day of fellowship, and I urge you to participate by either playing or volunteering. The same goes for our annual holiday party, and for other events that we will schedule during the year. I look forward to sharing those good times with all of you.

**COL(CA) Michael L Herman, PE**  
**Sacramento Post President**

## 2014 Golf Tournament Raises \$22,900 for Scholarship Fund

by Claudia Paval, ERM, Director

The 2014 SAME Sacramento Post Annual Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament was again a huge success! The event was held at Catta Verdera Country Club for the first time and raised \$22,900 for the Scholarship Fund. Golfing with SAME members and guests was a great way to spend the day having fun and raising money for future engineers.

As always, the success of this event is also attributed to the teamwork and support provided by company sponsors, member attendance, and a great group of enthusiastic volunteers. For the second year in a row the ceremony included the presentation of colors and the National Anthem. This year the presentation of colors was done by the California National Guard (CNG) Veteran Honors Program (VHP) and the National Anthem was beautifully performed by Sabrina Paval. HDR provided lunch and participants refueled at various locations on the course with refreshments provided by ERM, SAGE, Taber Consultants, and Taber Drilling. Eberhart & Company brought a gorgeous 2014 Cadillac CTS for a Hole-In-One prize but no one could pull off that perfect shot. After a full day of golf, the first dinner drink was provided by Magnus Pacific and a BBQ dinner with all the fixings sponsored by Kiewit. Thanks to Katie Gunderman at HDR and Michelle Davey from PhotoFierce each golfer had a 4x6 picture of their team provided and a slide show presentation of the day on the course was running during dinner with photos of everyone having a great time. Finally, the awards and raffle prizes that were generously donated by participating companies were distributed. Like many Sacramento Post events, there were several big winners!

The income generated from the golf tournament allows us to continue encouraging and supporting prospective students to pursue careers in the engineering and technical fields. The proceeds will be used for the Sacramento Post Scholarship Fund and will be awarded to qualified high school and college students from the Sacramento area. Thank you to Claudia Paval of ERM for volunteering to coordinate this event and to our generous sponsors: **Title Sponsor:** GEI; **Dinner Sponsor:** Kiewit; **Refreshment Sponsors:** ERM, SAGE, Taber Consultants, and Taber Drilling; **Lunch Sponsor:** HDR; **1st Drink Sponsor:** Magnus Pacific; **Hole-In-One Sponsor:** Eberhart & Company; **Golf Cart Sponsor:**

(continued on page 3)



Our Sponsors



Honor Guard presenting colors



National Anthem sung by Sabrina Paval



Participants enjoying the golf tournament

## 2014 Golf Tournament (cont)

*(continued from page 2)*

Andregg; **Hot Dog Cart Sponsor:** HDR; and **Hole Sponsors:** Psomas, RORE, Inc., Woodward Drilling, The Dutra Group, Construction Testing Services, Aerotek, CH2M Hill, URS, SapperWest, GSI, ITSI Gilbane, and MWH.



*HDR sponsored Hot Dog Cart - Raising funds for Support Our Troops initiative*

Last but not least, a big thank you to all of the 2014 participants and volunteers. The level of success and participation for this event just keeps getting better every year. If anyone would like to volunteer for next year's event, please contact Claudia Paval at 916-390-9131.



*Tournament winners*

**Save the date! November 3-6, 2014**

SAME 2014

# Exploring New Horizons

## Portland, Oregon

**Hosted by the Portland, San Francisco and Sacramento Posts**

<http://posts.same.org/portland/home.html>

## SAME Sacramento Post Awards Scholarships

*By Guy Graening, Brown and Caldwell, Director*

On May 22, 2014 at a special evening dinner ceremony, the Sacramento Post of the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) awarded 32 scholarships totaling \$35,000 to local high school, community college, and college students from the area or attending schools in the Sacramento region. SAME scholarships are awarded annually to students who are studying engineering or related technical disciplines.

The 20 high school awardees and the schools they are graduating from are: Sarah Bence (Union Mine HS); Sabrina Burri (Del Oro HS); Komal Dani (Laguna Creek HS); Isaac Jorgensen (Del Oro HS); Abrianna Keller (Del Oro HS); Travis Klover (South Lake Tahoe HS); Stephanie Lascola (Elk Grove HS); Blake Morrow (Ripon HS); Richard Paiva III (Sheldon HS); Rachel Peterson (Oak Ridge HS); Kinsey Prestia-Young (Amador HS); Morgan Smith (Laguna Creek HS); Brandon Snow (Del Oro HS); Patrick Soper (Oak Ridge HS); Emily Sutter (Bella Vista HS); Robert Walker (Woodcreek HS); Jantel Wells (Natomas HS); Michael Weston (El Dorado HS); Tanisha Wilson (McClatchy HS); and William Winter (Union Mine HS).

This year's 12 college awardees and the schools they are attending are: Mathew Bertram (Liberty University); Erikson Betts (CSUS); Roger Blum (UCLA); Corinna Jacobs (CA Maritime Academy); Joshua Jetter (Missouri Univ. of Science and Tech.); Edward Lesnick (USC); Julia Lund (UCLA); Katherine Pieri (Folsom Lake College); Michael Signorotti (UC Berkeley); Ellen Tiedemann (UOP);

Emily Trujillo (Cal Poly SLO); and Ashlyn Wanlass (Utah State Univ.).

This outstanding group of applicants represented a rich diversity in backgrounds, geography, accomplishments, contributions to their communities, and educational pursuits. SAME scholarships are competitive and are based on the following criteria: academic performance; references; academic/professional goals; extracurricular and volunteer activities; community service activities; previous or active military service or ROTC membership, if any; a statement of why the applicant should be considered for the award; and other comments or justification to assist in the selection process, such as special challenges the applicant has had to overcome or school or community awards.

The Sacramento Post Scholarship program has grown tremendously in recent years, increasing the total cash value of all scholarships in 8 of the last 11 years. This notable contribution to the development of young engineers and scientists has resulted in widespread recognition for the organization as well as a solid influx of young members. In just the last 7 years alone, the Sacramento Post has awarded \$261,750 in scholarships to 186 deserving area students. Current plans are for a similar robust Post scholarship program in 2015.

The 2014 Post Scholarship Committee consists of the following volunteers: Col Michael Herman (CA State Military Reserve); Sarah McIlroy (Stantec); Guy Graening and Carina Johnston (Brown and Caldwell); Wendy Linck (Antea Group); and Carl Lang (USACE ret.).



*College Awardees*



*High School Awardees*

## 2014 SAME Joint Engineer Training Conference

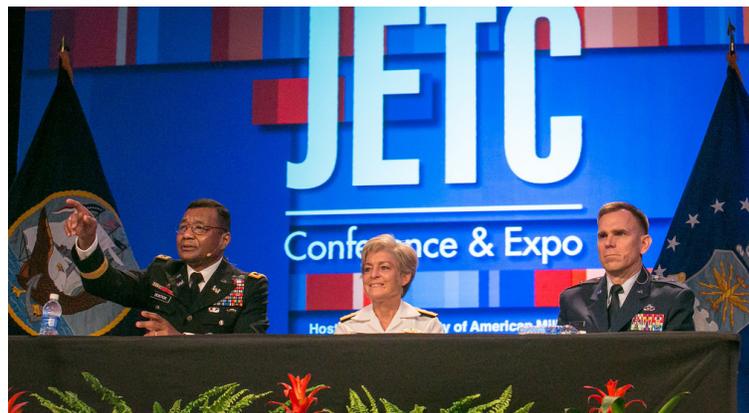
*By Captain Alec Danaher, US Air Force*

The 2014 Joint Engineer Training Conference (JETC) and Expo was held at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Florida from 20-24 May, 2014. There were over 1,600 attendees who had the opportunity to network, share information, and gain valuable insights about future business opportunities in military engineering. There was fairly strong attendance this year from active duty military members and Department of Defense civilian employees. The SAME Sacramento Post sponsored three Company Grade Officers from Travis Air Force Base to attend the 2014 JETC: Captain Alec Danaher, Captain Joshua Martinez, and 1stLt Ryan Hill.

We arrived in Orlando on Tuesday and started our JETC experience with the Mentoring Reception at the conference hotel followed by the Ice Breaker at Universal CityWalk. Both of these events offered outstanding opportunities to network in a relaxed setting with current and former military leaders as well as representatives from several companies who provide important services to the Department of Defense.



*Capt Alec Danaher, representing the Sacramento Post, poses with representatives from the other California Posts and the outgoing SAME President during the Post Awards Breakfast.*



*The Engineering Service Chiefs provide an overview of the engineering challenges and opportunities facing their Service over the coming year.*

The regular conference schedule began the next morning with the Opening Session, which featured remarks by the SAME Executive Director, the SAME President, and a Service Chiefs panel consisting of the Engineering Service Chiefs from the Army, Navy, and Air Force. The outgoing President offered a review of the achievements of the Society from the previous year as well as a look at what is ahead for the Society. Each of the Service Chiefs provided an overview of the engineering challenges and opportunities facing their Service over the coming year.

The educational sessions covered a variety of topics relevant to military engineers and were an extremely valuable portion of the conference. The topics covered included natural disaster response, energy security, radiological contamination, BUILDER Sustainment Management System implementation, and wartime contracting among many others. The moderators and speakers for each section were experts in their field and provided a great deal of important information about the topic, as well as promoting excellent cross-talk between attendees of varying backgrounds.

The Post Awards Breakfast and Annual Business Meeting gave attendees the opportunity to applaud the accomplishments of Posts from across the country and around the world as well as to see the installation of the new Society President, Col John

*(continued on page 6)*

## High Speed Rail Joint Event with SAME and ASCE a Huge Success

*By Bianca Gayton, CSUS Student, CSUS SAME Student Chapter President*

The California State University Sacramento SAME Student Chapter's joint event with ASCE and presenters Jon Tapping and Orville Thomas of the California High Speed Rail Authority turned out to be a big hit with the students. Jon Tapping and Orville Thomas delivered a great presentation on the High Speed Rail Project. Our group of about 35 ASCE and SAME students were very excited to learn about the different aspect of the project, which of course led to a handful of exceptional questions. In addition to the High Speed Rail presentation there were a few smaller presentations from students on topics such as the ASCE Mid Pacific Competition as well as a few other competitions. Overall, the students were very grateful for all the presentations that night, especially from the California High Speed Rail and would like to thank everyone who was involved in making the event a possibility.



*Kyle Cameron (ASCE Sacramento President), Vida Wright (SAME Regional Vice President), Jon Tapping (HSR Authority), Bianca Gayton (CSUS SAME Student Chapter President), Orville Thomas (HSR Authority)*

## 2014 SAME JETC (cont)



*The 2014 JETC Ice Breaker at Universal CityWalk provided great networking opportunities to conference attendees.*

*(continued from page 5)*

Mogge, USAF (Ret.). The Sacramento Post was awarded a streamer for Emergency Preparedness and Infrastructure Resilience as well as streamers with distinction for Education and Training, Leadership and Mentoring, and Relationships and Recognition.

The conference concluded with the Society Ball, which allowed attendees to hear inaugural remarks from the incoming President and to have some fun after a busy week of networking and training. The conference was an extremely valuable professional development opportunity for young Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers to hear from military leaders, gain more exposure to their joint partners, and learn about the important services offered by our government contractors.

## SAME Sacramento Post April General Meeting included AFCEC Presentation

By David O. Cook, PE, PMP, F.SAME; Cook Consulting

The SAME Sacramento Post April 2014 General Meeting feature event was a presentation on Air Force Civil Engineering Center (AFCEC) Environmental Support Centralization. The primary speakers were Kirsten Christopherson, Travis IST Environmental Quality and Mark Smith, Travis IST Restoration Program Team Lead. The briefing was titled “AFCEC Environmental Support Centralization.”



*Kirsten Christopherson briefs the attendees at the Post April General Meeting*

The talks discussed the current organization and workflow for the Installation Support Team located at Travis AFB. Perhaps the most interesting (at least to some) part of this meeting was the very informative briefing content on upcoming business opportunities with this Installation Support Team and AFCEC. For environmental quality, fence to fence contracts are planned for Beale, Travis, Vandenberg, LA, and Edwards. Procurement methods may be through the GSA Schedule or other means. Beale proposals have now been received. For Environmental

Restoration, two performance-based contracts are ending at Beale and new procurement actions are planned for FY14 or FY15. Other procurements are in early stages and are longer range.

Attendees also enjoyed a delicious meal and excellent service at the Delta Breeze Club at Travis Air Force Base. Thanks go to Capt. Luke Johanson for making the initial arrangements for the group to meet at Travis AFB and listen to this presentation.

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## STEM Mentoring Opportunities!

By Sarah McIlroy, Stantec, Director

As you read in COL Herman’s welcoming remarks, SAME National continues to emphasize the importance of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) initiatives. The Sacramento Post has a long history of a strong high school and college scholarship program to provide financial assistance to students pursuing STEM degrees. In recent years we have also provided a high level of support to developing a SAME student chapter at California State University Sacramento. Many of our members have volunteered to participate in one of the “Evening with Professional” events to share their knowledge and experiences with students.

This year we will continue to develop our relationship with Hiram Johnson High School in the Sacramento Unified School District to provide STEM support. Opportunities will consist of one time event participation as well as ongoing mentoring opportunities. If you are interested in participating, please contact Sarah McIlroy ([sarah.mcilroy@stantec.com](mailto:sarah.mcilroy@stantec.com)) or 916-773-8100. Thank you in advance for your support!

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## Northern Nevada Field Chapter Activities

*By Ken Greene, CH2M HILL, Reno Field Chapter President*

Established during Fall 2012, the SAME Northern Nevada Field Chapter is hosted/sponsored by the SAME Sacramento Post. Membership remains a relatively uniform mix of public- and private-sector professionals, including uniformed representatives from the NV ANG/ARNG and NAS Fallon and includes both individual and sustaining company/agency members.

The Chapter holds bi-monthly Board meetings, with General meetings occurring on alternating months. The Chapter's May 2014 general meeting included a presentation by LTC Glen Martel/NVANG 152nd Civil Engineering Squadron Commander/Mission Support Group Director and a tour of key facilities at NVANG's airbase in Reno, Nevada.

Past meetings have included field trips to NAS Fallon and UNR's recently expanded Earthquake Engineering Research Laboratory, and a presentation in November 2013 by Mr. Dale Cox/USGS Regional Hazards Coordinator on "ARkStorm Tahoe – Regional Infrastructure and Environmental Impacts from an Extended Atmospheric River Event". Upcoming meeting topics and venues are planned to include Reno Air Race course engineering/re-design, commercial UAV/UAS presentation/facility tour, U.S.



Ordnance and others and the Chapter is working to advance a Wounded Warrior Project fundraiser during the Fall of 2014.

The Chapter continues to advance student membership through UNR's Engineering Department. Contact Ken Greene/Chapter President ([Ken.Greene@ch2m.com](mailto:Ken.Greene@ch2m.com)) or Curt Chapman/Chapter Vice President ([curt.chapman@stantec.com](mailto:curt.chapman@stantec.com)) with questions, comments or how you can help.

**Don't miss the  
Sacramento Post Symposium  
August 12-13!**

[samesacramento.org/calendar.shtml](http://samesacramento.org/calendar.shtml)

for more info!

## Sacramento Post to Host Training and Business Opportunities Symposium August 12-13, 2014

*By David O. Cook, PE, PMP, F.SAME; Cook Consulting, Conference Chair*

By the time you read this our 2014 Training and Business Opportunities Symposium will be only one month away. If you have not yet 'checked it out' I recommend doing so. This conference is a small, affordable venue; jam packed with key program discussion, technical training, and business opportunities information. Seating is very limited and this event is likely to sell out. We recommend against waiting until the last minute.

The 2014 Training and Business Opportunities Symposium focuses on the innovative solutions to the challenges they face being implemented by our government agencies and departments and the business opportunities for those able to provide technology and resources. Faced with challenges --an aging infrastructure, congressional gridlock, drought-- California is moving forward, and the future looks bright. The symposium is scheduled for August 12th and 13th at Lion's Gate Hotel, 3410 Westover Street, with an evening reception on the 12th at the General's House across the street from the hotel. There is a separate admission charge for each of the three events. Persons interested in the technology/training information should register for Tuesday. Those interested in future contracting possibilities should register for the Wednesday sessions. Anyone interested in the networking and informal discussion (as well as food, music and drinks), should register for the General's House reception on Tuesday evening. For more detailed information including a list of speakers and the schedule please visit our web site at [www.samesacramento.org](http://www.samesacramento.org).

There are a limited number of sponsorship activities for sale that can enhance the visibility of your firm to those attending this symposium. Except for pages in the conference handout binder (we can always print more pages), these sponsorship opportunities will



*The beautiful Lion's Gate Hotel is the venue for the 2014 SAME Symposium*

also most likely sell out. Sponsorships of differing types are available. However there is a limited number. For example tabletops are available for exhibits and they will be located right in the same room as the sessions. However there are only nine for sale. Do not wait until the last minute. Sponsorship details are available on our web site, [www.samesacramento.org](http://www.samesacramento.org) and for discussion and information please contact our sponsorship coordinator, Mr. Nathan Rockwood at 916-993-4624 or [nathan.rockwood@meadhunt.com](mailto:nathan.rockwood@meadhunt.com)

Many of you will remember that our planned three-day conference in 2013 was cancelled due to the unfortunate government shutdown. This symposium includes some of the key presentations from 2013, updated for 2014. With our economy on the mend and projects moving to make up for lost time, the opportunities abound for those equipped with the information needed to take advantage. Don't miss the SAME Sacramento Post 2014 Training and Business Opportunities Symposium. For questions and comments please contact David Cook, Conference Chair at 530-558-5697, [cook931@me.com](mailto:cook931@me.com).



Join the 'SAME Southwest Region Group' on LinkedIn to get the latest updates on SAME as well as connect with other SAME members in your area. The Southwest Region includes eight Posts and associated Field and Student Chapters throughout California and Nevada.

## Sacramento Post Membership Grows, especially the Public Sector

by David Cook, PE, PMP, F.SAME, Past President

Membership in our post is growing in 2014, especially public sector membership. The Sacramento baseline for 2014 is 106 public members. The current database total is 115 public sector members, showing a robust maintenance and gain in our public sector participation.

Membership growth is based in my opinion on the realization that membership provides benefits. Benefits include technical training and the opportunity to give back to the community. Technical training has the advantages of awarded PDHs and knowledge gain from the timely and robust presentations. The opportunities to serve our community include participation in scholarship awards, STEM programs, and support to Wounded Warriors. These benefits are proving equally attractive to public sector and private sector engineers and scientists from our region.

Based on the National Database on June 25, 2014 the membership stands at:

**Individual Members: 209**  
**Company and Agency Representatives: 452**  
**Total Membership: 661**

At the end of 2013 the total membership stood at 669, which is our baseline to measure growth or decrease for 2014. As 2014 started the database was updated which reflected the reality of 2013. Now however the membership is growing again and approaching the peak levels.

If there are any questions about membership, please don't hesitate to contact David Cook at 530-558-5697 or [cook931@me.com](mailto:cook931@me.com).

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## Sacramento Post Sustaining Member Firms

The Sacramento Post is made strong by the continuing support of our Sustaining Member Firms and our Supporting Agencies. These great organizations are listed below (based on the National Database on June 25, 2014.)

347 Group, Inc.	Black & Veatch Special Projects Corp.
AECOM	Blackburn Consulting
AHTNA Engineering Services, LLC	Blaine Tech Services, Inc.
Ahtna Facility Services, Inc.	Brown and Caldwell
Ahtna Government Services Corp.	Burleson Consulting Inc.
Alta Vista Solutions	Burns & McDonnell
AMEC	CA Department of Water Resources
Anvil Builders, Inc.	Cabrera Services Inc.
ARCADIS, U.S., Inc	Cardno, Inc.
Atkins	CB&I
B2 Environmental Inc.	CBC Geospatial Consulting, Inc.
Bay West LLC	CDM Smith
BC Laboratories, Inc.	CH2M HILL

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**The Sacramento Post appreciates the support from all our Individual Members and Sustaining Member Firms!**

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Those individuals or firms interested in becoming SAME members can contact Sacramento Post Membership Chair, Dave Cook at [cook931@me.com](mailto:cook931@me.com). For information on types of available SAME memberships, please visit: <http://www.same.org/>

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## Sacramento Post Sustaining Member Firms (cont)

(continued from page 10)

City Light & Power, Inc.	PIKA International
Collins Engineers Inc.	Psomas
ECC	RFE Engineering
ECORP Consulting, Inc.	Robert Heinen Consulting Engineers
Engineering/Remediation Resources Group (ERRG)	Rolf Jensen & Associates
Environmental Quality Management Inc.	RORE, Inc.
ERM	SAGE - Sanders & Associates Geotechnical Engineering, Inc.
Fugro Consultants Inc.	Shannon & Wilson Inc.
Gannett Fleming Inc.	Site Work Solutions, Inc.
Genterra Consultants, Inc.	Spectrum Services Group, Inc.
Geocon, Inc.	Stanley Consultants Inc.
GHD Inc.	Stantec, Inc.
Gilbane Federal	Sterling Global Operations, Inc.
Granite Construction Company	Suulutaaq, Inc.
Hammel, Green, and Abrahamson, Inc.	Swinerton Builders Government Synectics
Hatch Mott MacDonald	Taber Consultants
HDR	Tepa, LLC
HydroGeoLogic Inc.	TerranearPMC, LLC
Jacobs	Terraphase Engineering, Inc.
Kennedy/Jenks Consultants	Tetra Tech, Inc.
Kiewit	The Dutra Group
Kleinfelder	The Stahl Companies, Inc.
Leidos	Towill, Inc.
Magnus Pacific Corporation	Tri-Technic Inc.
Marsh Creek LLC	Trihydro Corporation
Martin Brothers Construction	Turn-Key Construction Services, Inc.
Mead & Hunt, Inc.	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Sacramento District
MGE Engineering, Inc.	URS Corporation
Michael Baker International, LLC	Versar
MWH	WEST Consultants, Inc.
NCE	Westervelt Ecological Services
Ninyo & Moore	Weston Solutions, Inc.
Nordic Industries, Inc.	Wildlands
Northgate Environmental Management, Inc.	Wood Rodgers, Inc.
Pacific States Environmental Contractors, Inc.	Woodward Drilling Company, Inc.
Parsons	Woolpert, Inc.
Parsons Brinckerhoff	

