



BIOGRAPHY

MICHAEL D. McCOLLUM
McCollum Associates

Michael McCollum is experienced in defining and implementing environmental policy and resolving environmental conflicts. His experience while working in the private sector and State and federal government gives him a unique perspective in balancing the needs of both economic development and environmental conservation and enhancement.

While with State government in the 1980s, Mr. McCollum proposed California's first statewide wetland mitigation banking guidelines and encouraged the establishment of mitigation banks throughout the state. In private practice in the 1990s, he facilitated the adoption of the first state and national policies for the creation of conservation banks, and developed the nation's first conservation bank under the new policies. These conservation and mitigation banking programs conserve more quality multispecies habitat while streamlining permitting procedures for landowner projects.

Prior to the formation of McCollum Associates, Mr. McCollum was Chief Deputy Director of the California Department of Fish and Game, Deputy Secretary for the California Resources Agency, and worked as an environmental scientist with Fluor Engineers and Woodward-Clyde Consultants (now URS).

While at the Department of Fish and Game, Mr. McCollum helped manage the nation's largest state wildlife department, was Governor Deukmejian's chief negotiator for California's landmark oil spill legislation, and was responsible for implementation of the new Office of Oil Spill Prevention and Response, serving as its first Administrator.

In his position as Deputy Secretary for Resources, the state's natural resources superagency containing 7 departments and 20 boards and commissions, Mr. McCollum advised the Secretary and the Governor on environmental policies and programs. He drafted and analyzed legislation, recommended policy positions, managed the State's Wild and Scenic River system, administered the \$30 million Environmental License Plate Fund, and helped to resolve conflicts between state agencies and their constituents.

Mr. McCollum served as Commissioner on the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, and was a Board Member of the California Tahoe Regional Planning Agency. He was also a member of the Board of Governors of the National Coastal Resources Institute, a federal agency which promotes and funds projects to help the economies of coastal regions.

Before his work in government, Michael McCollum was a project manager for Fluor Engineers in Irvine, California where he managed environmental programs for a natural gas pipeline project in Alaska. While with Woodward-Clyde Consultants in San Diego, California he served as a principal field and laboratory researcher, working on environmental impact studies and environmental planning for energy-related construction projects and municipal projects throughout the United States.

Michael McCollum holds a Master of Science degree in marine ecology from San Diego State University, where he did research on Enewetak Atoll in the Marshall Islands, and a Bachelor of Science degree in biology from the University of Arizona. He resides in Sacramento, serves on the board of directors of the National Mitigation Banking Association, and is active in community affairs.



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BARRY L. JONES

Sweetwater Environmental Biologists, Inc.

Barry Jones has over 25 years of experience in the field of conservation biology in California. Over the past 20 years he served as senior biologist and project manager, overseeing a variety of projects. Many projects included implementation of wetland and upland restoration programs, development and permitting of wetland and conservation banks, field investigations, preparation of biological technical reports for a wide range of CEQA and NEPA projects, and processing of permits through various local, state and federal agencies.

Mr. Jones played a key role in the early development of mitigation bank and conservation bank programs in California. His contribution included initial site identification and assessment, processing of banking agreements through local, state and federal agencies, implementation of habitat restoration and monitoring efforts, and marketing of credit sales.

As a recognized field biologist, Mr. Jones is considered one of the leading experts on the coastal California gnatcatcher and the least Bell's vireo. He participated in the Comprehensive Species Management Plan and the Habitat Conservation Plan for the least Bell's vireo, and managed several large-scale regional planning efforts for these species. He also worked on several large-scale conservation planning efforts for the Quino checkerspot butterfly. His combination of extensive field experience and large-scale resource planning experience uniquely qualifies him to provide strategy and implementation assistance for habitat banks.

Mr. Jones has extensive experience in management and preparation of project based environmental documents subject to CEQA and NEPA guidelines. These projects have ranged from small- and large-scale transportation projects, small lot splits to master plans in excess of 25,000 acres, public facilities siting studies and others. His work involved close interaction with local, state, and federal officials at all aspects of the permitting process under Section 4(d), Section 7 and Section 10(a) of the Federal Endangered Species Act, Section 404 permitting requirements for the Clean Water Act, Section 2081 and Section 1600 of the California Fish and Game Code, and others.

As president of Sweetwater Environmental Biologists, Inc., San Diego, California during the 1980's and 1990's, and through his role as a Senior Project Manager for ERC Environmental and Energy Services Company (AMEC Environmental) and HELIX Environmental Planning, Inc. (as an independent contractor), Mr. Jones developed an extensive track record of accomplishments in the field of conservation biology.

Mr. Jones holds a B.A. in biology from Point Loma College, USFWS Endangered/Threatened Species Permits for the least Bell's vireo and coastal California gnatcatcher, and is a charter member of the Least Bell's Vireo Working Group and California Gnatcatcher Working Group. He lives in San Diego with his wife and two children, where he is active in his local church and the San Diego Flyfishers.



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JOSEPH T. FINDARO Jr.
Akerman Senterfitt

Joseph Findaro is Of Counsel and a member of the policy practice group in the Washington, D.C. office of the law firm of Akerman Senterfitt. He has done extensive work on behalf of clients in the areas of natural resources, water, energy, environmental and Native American matters at the federal and state levels. He has more than twenty-five years of experience working with the U.S. Congress, Department of the Interior, Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Management and Budget, and the White House. Mr. Findaro's practice focuses on a number of environment and natural resources matters such as: mitigation banking, National Environmental Policy Act compliance; Central Valley Project water supply; Safe Drinking Water Act; Clean Water Act; tribal water settlements; Colorado River/Endangered Species Act and Bureau of Reclamation water facility title transfers. Mr. Findaro is admitted to the Bar in New York and District of Columbia.

Prior to entering private practice, Mr. Findaro served in the Reagan Administration as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Water and Science at the U.S. Department of the Interior. He also served in the Washington, DC Office of California Governor Deukmejian as Counsel from 1983 - 1985. Mr. Findaro continues to work with many top ranking officials in federal agencies and has developed positive working relationships Members and key staff in the U.S. Congress.

Joseph Findaro graduated in 1981 with a J.D from Fordham University School of Law, and in 1978 with a B.A. in Political Science and Psychology (Summa Cum Laude) from Tufts University. He lives in Virginia with his family where he is active in educational and community affairs.

Published Work and Lectures

- Instructor - Environmental Law & Policy, Catholic University School of Civil Engineering, Washington, DC, 1992 - Present
- Instructor - American Law Seminar, McGeorge School of Law, Sacramento, CA, Foreign Law Program, University of Salzburg, Austria, 1994 - 1996