



Board of Directors & Officers

President, **Shellie Chard-McClary**
Director, Water Quality Division
Oklahoma Department of
Environmental Quality

Vice President, **Michael Fulton**
Director, Water Quality Division
Arizona Department of Environmental
Quality

Treasurer, **Martha Clark Mettler**
Deputy Assistant Commissioner
Office of Water Quality, Indiana
Department of Environmental
Management

Secretary, **Kent Woodmansey**
Engineering Manager, Surface Water
Quality Program, South Dakota
Department of Environment & Natural
Resources

Past President, **Steven H. Gunderson**
Director, Water Quality Control
Division, Colorado Department of
Public Health & Environment

Regional Representatives

Region I - **Pete LaFlamme** (VT)
Region II - **Leslie McGeorge** (NJ)
Region III - **Collin Burrell** (DC)
Region IV - **Drew Bartlett** (FL)
Region V - **William Creal** (MI)
Region VI - **Kim Wilson** (TX)
Region VII - **Pat Rice** (NE)
Region VIII - **Kent Woodmansey** (SD)
Region IX - **David Gaskin** (NV)
Region X - **Greg Aldrich** (OR)
Interstates - **Carlton Haywood** (ICPRB)

April 22, 2014

Myra Price
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, 4502T
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Ms. Price:

We are writing to express Association of Clean Water Administrators' (ACWA) support for the Association of State Wetland Managers' (ASWM) Wetland Program Grant proposal entitled, "Strategies for integration of wetland restoration and management into related state and tribal water, ecosystem, and land management programs." The proposed project recognizes the continued net loss of wetlands across much of the country. ASWM proposes to leverage existing programs and communicate those successful, transferable concepts to states experiencing challenges. ASWM will also identify barriers to integrating wetlands protection into other clean water program areas. Education and outreach materials will be developed that communicate the value of wetlands protection as it relates to other program areas. This project would provide access to technical information regarding ways in which the benefits of wetland ecosystem functions can assist states with meeting diverse program goals and developing robust climate adaptation strategies.

ACWA supports this kind of collaborative approach, as described in ASWM's proposal. We believe ASWM is uniquely positioned to do this work because of its very strong connections with states and tribes, and comprehensive understanding of states' needs, as well as ASWM's relationships with other stakeholders.

For all of the above-described reasons, ACWA strongly supports this proposal and hopes that EPA will designate funding to make this project a reality.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sean Rolland
ACWA Deputy Director