Leading Harvest Independent Review Panel (IRP)

Current Membership

Will Stelle (IRP Chair)
President, Board of Directors and Senior Advisor at Washington Water Trust

Will Stelle is an experienced natural resource and endangered species expert with thirty years of Federal Service as a professional committee staffer in the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives, and in various capacities in the Federal Executive Branch as a political appointee for Presidents Clinton and Obama. Stelle trained as a marine lawyer with law degrees from U of Maine (JD) and U. of Washington (LLM). He served as Regional Administrator for NOAA Fisheries in the Pacific Northwest and West Coast Regions and is deeply experienced in Federal natural resource affairs, legislative affairs, public relations, communications, program and regulatory strategies, and state, Tribal and local governmental relations.

Ann Bartuska
Former Chief Scientist of Department of Agriculture

Ann Bartuska served as the US Department of Agriculture’s (USDA’s) Deputy Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics as well as chief scientist. Prior to USDA, Dr. Bartuska held a host of leadership positions, including Deputy Chief for Research and Development of the US Forest Service. She currently is a member of the National Academy of Sciences’ Standing Committee on Science Communication and a member of the Board on Environmental Science and Toxicology as well as also a senior advisor at RFF. She was elected President of the Ecological Society of America for 2003 and was recently named an AAAS Fellow.
Sally Ericsson
Natural resource conservation and climate policy consultant

Sally Ericsson is the former Associate Director for Natural Resources, Energy and Science at the White House Office of Management and Budget. Previously she was a climate change policy consultant working with The Pacific Forest Trust to promote climate change policy that incorporates private forests as a climate mitigation tool and Director of Outreach at the Pew Center on Global Climate Change, where she worked with the Center’s Business Environmental Leadership Council. During the Clinton administration, Ericsson served as Associate Director for Natural Resources at the White House Council on Environmental Quality. She also was the Deputy Chief of Staff for Management and Associate Undersecretary for Economic Affairs at the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Carl Evers
Director of Sustainability, AgIS Capital

Carl Evers III is director of sustainability for AgIS Capital, where he is responsible for the company’s sustainability and environmental, social and governance (ESG) efforts.

Previously, Evers was vice president of water resources for Hancock Natural Resource Group, where he was responsible for the management of water policy at the state and national level for the company’s agricultural investments in the western United States. Earlier, he led farming operations for the company’s 38,000 acres in California and oversaw farm developments in Australia.

Evers is a 2020 graduate of the Foundation’s Water Leaders program, and joined the Foundation’s Board in 2021 as a representative of that class.

He holds a bachelor’s degree in agribusiness from California Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo, with a minor in sustainable agriculture.
T.C. Richmond
Partner, Van Ness Feldman LLP

Terese (T.C.) Richmond has over 30 years’ experience representing state and local governmental agencies in Washington and Arizona. Her practice focuses on environmental law, land use, water law, and climate change. Most recently, she has served as the Vice Chair for the federal advisory committee that authored the Third U.S. National Climate Assessment, rolled out by the White House on May 6, 2014 as part of President Obama's Climate Action Plan. She was a lead author of the Assessment’s chapter on water resources.

She has broad experience in natural resource policy, laws and regulations, the governance of large organizations, and public-private partnerships. She provides proactive support for organizations so that they are effective and efficient in realizing their missions.