

RESUME OF CHARLES NESMITH

Education

B.S. Geology, 1981
Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, California

Professional Licenses

California Registered Geologist

Professional experience

ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST
SWRCB Division of Water Rights
Complaint Unit

2001-Present - processing, investigating and resolving complaints related to unauthorized diversion, waste and unreasonable use, adverse impacts to public trust resources, and violations of permit/license terms and conditions. These responsibilities include creating and prosecuting enforcement actions including Cease and Desist Orders and Administrative Civil Liability Order, where appropriate.

Typically, this involves reviewing evidence presented by a Complainant and the Respondent, inspecting the site and meeting with all interested parties, and preparing an investigation report with recommendations. My work with the Division has regularly includes evaluation of the State Water Board's authority, including over ground water, an issue contested in several complaints (e.g. Deep Creek in San Bernardino County, Laguna Creek in Santa Cruz County, Hare Creek in Sonoma County, Snow Creek in Lake County, and the Gualala River in Mendocino County. I testified as an expert witness in the Gualala River hearing before the State Water Board. Other noteworthy complaints I have investigated include several cases regarding diversion of water from springs for bottled water operations.

SWRCB Division of Clean Water Programs

1991-2001 - Division of Clean Water Programs, including:
the underground storage tank cleanup fund, the landfill unit, the Department of Defense/Department of Energy Unit, the underground

storage tank program support unit, and the underground storage tank engineering unit. Most of this work included groundwater issues.

1988-1991 - Regional Water Boards

This work included underground storage tank site investigation and remediation, underground storage tank engineering, promulgation of underground storage tank regulations, preparation of technical reports in response to petitions against Regional Water Board actions, and various work relating to landfills.

My groundwater-related professional work began as a graduate student assistant with the California Department of Water Resources in 1987 where my key work projects included evaluating the impacts of evaporation ponds on ground water in the San Joaquin Valley, and studying the extent of Radon in ground water in the Sierra Nevada Foothills.