



Commissioner Marybel Batjer

Marybel Batjer is vice president of public policy and communications for Harrah's Entertainment, Inc., the world's largest gaming-entertainment company. In this role, she oversees all internal and external communications functions for the publicly-traded Fortune 500 corporation and counsels its senior executive team on issues pertaining to reputation-management, public policy and government relations.

Before joining Harrah's in January 2005, Ms. Batjer held senior leadership posts in the executive branches of two state governments, as well as key advisory roles in two U.S. presidential administrations and at the Pentagon.

From 2002 to 2005, she was Cabinet Secretary to the Governor of the State of California, where she served as chief policy advisor to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and directed the activities of the governor's 13 cabinet secretaries. Earlier, Ms. Batjer was Chief of Staff to Gov. Kenny Guinn of Nevada. She has also served as Undersecretary of the California Business, Transportation and Housing Agency and as Chief Deputy Director of the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing.

In the George H.W. Bush administration, Ms. Batjer was Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Navy, a position she attained after a successful tenure in the Reagan White House, where she served as the President's Special Assistant for National Security Affairs, as Deputy Executive Secretary of the National Security Council, and as Assistant to Secretary of Defense Casper Weinberger and Deputy Secretary of Defense Frank Carlucci.

In addition, Ms. Batjer was Director of Political Planning for the National Women's Political Caucus. She is currently a member of the State of Nevada's Colorado River Commission, the National Judicial College's Board of Visitors and Nevada Security Bank's Board of Directors.

Ms. Batjer received her bachelor's degree from Mills College in California and studied international public policy at the graduate level at Johns Hopkins University. She also studied national and international security at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. She currently resides in Las Vegas.



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
Colorado Basin River Forecast Center

Brenda Alcorn, Senior Hydrologist

Brenda Alcorn has worked at the Colorado Basin River Forecast Center for 15 years. During this time, she has been a water supply forecaster in various basins. She began forecasting the upper Colorado River mainstem and Lake Powell inflow last year.

Lisa Holts, Hydrologist Intern

Lisa Holts has been employed as a Hydrologist Intern at the Colorado Basin River Forecast Center for over one year. During this time, she has been involved with verification, becoming more deeply involved in water supply verification since earlier this year. More recently, Lisa has created an interactive water supply verification page as part of the Western Water Assessment Team.



Thomas Piechota, Ph.D., P.E.

Dr. Thomas C. Piechota is the Director of Sustainability and Multidisciplinary Research and Associate Professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV). Dr. Piechota received his B.S. in Civil Engineering in 1989 from Northern Arizona University, his M.S. in Civil and Environmental Engineering in 1993 from UCLA, and his Ph.D. in Civil and Environmental Engineering in 1997 from UCLA. In his current position, Dr. Piechota is helping move forward the Urban Sustainability Initiative which is a campus-wide effort related to sustainability related research, education, and outreach. His teaching and research interests are in the fields of climate change, sustainability, surface water hydrology, hydroclimatology, droughts, water resources planning, and stormwater quality in urban environments. In 2003, Dr. Piechota received a National Science Foundation CAREER Award for the project "Improved Hydrologic Drought Forecasting Using Climate Information." Currently, Dr. Piechota is part of a state-wide team that has received \$15,000,000 in funding from National Science Foundation to study climate change in the State of Nevada. Dr. Piechota is a licensed Professional Engineer in the States of Nevada and California and serves on various committees with the American Society of Civil Engineers.

National Drought Mitigation Center

University of Nebraska–Lincoln



Brian Fuchs, Climatologist

Hello, my name is Brian Fuchs and I'm a Climatologist for the National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC) <http://www.drought.unl.edu> which is housed within the School of Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln. I received a B.S. in Meteorology/Climatology in 1997 from the University of Nebraska and a M.S. in Geosciences, with an emphasis in Climatology, in 2000 from the University of Nebraska. My job functions are quite broad, but I am focused mainly on drought related issues and research projects. The drought related work concentrates on research involving mitigation, risk assessment, monitoring, impacts and reporting of drought. As a Climatologist, I work on the applied research projects for the center as well as authoring the United States Drought Monitor <http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html> and the North American Drought Monitor with several others. The work I do helps to better understand the impacts related to drought across a diverse group of industries from agriculture, energy, tourism, transportation as well as social and environmental concerns.



Edward A. O'Lenic, Chief of the Operations Branch

Edward A. O'Lenic became Chief of the Operations Branch of the National Weather Service's Climate Prediction Center (CPC) in Camp Springs, Maryland in 2000. Prior to that, he was the Head of Forecast Operations beginning in 1986. He is responsible for NWS' operational climate forecasts, for the Joint Agricultural Weather Facility (JAWF), for directed research to innovate and improve forecast products and for outreach to climate services user groups. He has lectured on long range forecasting at many venues around the world.

Mr. O'Lenic has worked on a wide variety of problems during his career, including sea ice movement, atmospheric modeling, tropical disturbances, predictability, statistical prediction methods, forecast performance and developing new forecast methods and products, including NWS' official U.S. Hazards Assessment, 6-10 day, week-2, 1-month, and 3-month forecasts.

Mr. O'Lenic is the recipient of the Department of Commerce Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals. A member of the American Meteorological Society, he is Chair of the Committee on Climate Services, and a member of the Committee on Climate Variability and Change. He received Bachelors (1972) and Masters of Science (1976) degrees in Meteorology from the Pennsylvania State University. He is a native of North Charleroi, Pennsylvania.



Kelly T. Redmond, Deputy Director, Regional Climatologist

Kelly T. Redmond was born in Wausau Wisconsin, raised in southwest Montana, received a B.S. degree in Physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1974), and M.S. (1977) and Ph.D. (1982) degrees in Meteorology from the University of Wisconsin in Madison. He worked in the Atmospheric Sciences Department at Oregon State University from 1982-1989, the last 6 years as State Climatologist for Oregon, and served as President of the American Association of State Climatologists in 1989-90.

Since 1989 he has been the Regional Climatologist at the Western Regional Climate Center located at the Desert Research Institute in Reno, as well as Deputy Director of WRCC since 1992. His research and professional interests span every facet of climate and climate behavior, its physical causes and variability, how climate interacts with other human and natural processes, and how such information is acquired, used, communicated, and perceived.