

Norman W. (Bill) Karr Jr.

State Water Resources Control Board
Hearing Name IID Transfer - Phase 2
Exhibit: ②
For Ident: _____ In Evidence: _____

Born on August 10, 1946, in San Francisco, Bill Karr is married to Marilyn Mathews Karr and has one adult son, Zachary, now 25 years old. He graduated from Palm Springs High School in Southern California in 1964 and entered the Navy, spending the first 1 1/2 years learning sonar and oceanographic research, and the rest of his service in Barbados, West Indies and Treasure Island, San Francisco, with passive sonar detection of long range submarines. He received an honorable discharge as a Vietnam-era veteran with a Unit Commendation Medal in 1968.

Karr was hired immediately by Sea-Land Service, Incorporated, a containerized cargo shipping company, as Assistant Paymaster, was promoted to Paymaster, and left the company in 1977 as Senior Cost Analyst, Pacific.

After a short stint operating his own heavy equipment business, specializing in the development of marshlands, in 1978 he moved to Park City, Utah, at the birth of his son, Zach. There he worked as an accountant for the United States Ski Team for one year when he was hired as the manager of Jordan Fur and Reclamation Company, a 4,000-acre private hunting club alongside the Great Salt Lake, where he conducted marsh improvement projects with heavy equipment and through water control structures. All during this time Karr was writing outdoor stories for various publications, including stories on marsh management and marsh construction.

In 1980 Karr and wife, Marilyn, moved to the Flaming Gorge in Northeastern Utah where they managed a marina and ran traplines in the winter. He also worked as a county correspondent for the Salt Lake *Tribune*, was the outdoor columnist for the *Vernal Gazette*, and sold stories to various magazines and other publications, including a national feature to *Outdoor Life* magazine.

In 1982 Karr returned to California, purchasing a home in Indio near the Salton Sea where he worked as District Office Adjuster for the Automobile Club of Southern California. He became heavily involved in Salton Sea and formed and was Director of the Inland Wetlands Coalition specifically intended to fight geothermal drilling on the Wister Wildlife Area alongside the Salton Sea. He then purchased a home in North Shore, right alongside the Salton Sea.

In 1983 Karr formed, and was executive director, of the Salton Sea Coordinating Council—a group formed to gather support for local, county, state and federal agencies and groups to work together for a long-range plan to save Salton Sea. The group was successful in bringing together enough entities, and in making Salton Sea's plight well-enough known, that a coalition of county, state and federal agencies formed the Salton Sea Task Force with the intent of coming up with a plan for Salton Sea. It was during this time

period that Karr wrote the book Fishing Salton Sea, and was very active in writing stories and bringing attention to Salton Sea and its fishery.

In 1985 the Salton Sea Coordinating Council dissolved when Karr moved to Costa Mesa in the position of Assistant Editor of Western Outdoors magazine.

Karr has worked for Western Outdoors Publications since 1985 to the present, currently as Editor of the Northern California edition of Western Outdoor News and Redwoods Empire Editor of Western Outdoors Magazine. His interest in Salton Sea has never diminished, and he continues to be actively involved in actions concerning the Sea.

Karr has been a member of the Outdoor Writer's Association of California since 1990, and was on the board of directors until he was elected as President, in 2000. He is also a member of the Outdoor Writer's Association of America, and the recipient of two Public Service Recognition Awards from that organization: one for his "Shoot for the Future" youth programs and the other for his YOUTH OUTDOOR SPORTS FAIRS that introduce approximately 45,000 people, mostly youngsters, to various outdoor activities through the International Sportsmen's Expositions.

Karr has served on the Youth Committee of the California Waterfowl Association, and served as a member of the Advisory Committee to the California Department of Fish and Game, Gamebird Heritage Program.