

Discipline/Specialty

- Environmental Impact Statement / Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR)
- Endangered Species Act (ESA)
- Permitting and Compliance
- Water Restoration
- Remedial Investigations/ Feasibility Studies

Education

- M.S., Ecology, University of California at Davis, 1977
- B.S., Zoology, University of California at Davis, 1973

Professional Affiliations

- Association of California Water Agencies
- Colorado River Water Users Association

Summary of Qualifications

Mr. Thomson has 30 years of experience as a senior project manager and aquatic ecologist addressing regional and state-wide issues involving water supply and water use in the Southwest. He has extensive experience directing the preparation of defensible environmental impact analyses, endangered species compliance documents, and environmental restoration planning efforts on large and small projects for water clients, as well as for the Department of Defense (DOD) and the Department of Energy (DOE).

Relevant Experience

Compliance Documentation and Permitting

Program Manager – Lower Colorado River (LCR) Multi-Species Conservation Program (MSCP), Colorado

The LCR MSCP is a partnership comprising federal, state, and local agencies in Arizona, California, and Nevada; Native American tribes; and other non-governmental participants responding to the need to balance the legal use of lower Colorado River water resources with the conservation of threatened and endangered species and their habitats in compliance with the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) and California Endangered Species Act (CESA). On behalf of these entities, Mr. Thomson managed the consultant team that prepared the ESA compliance documentation (i.e., biological assessment/habitat conservation plan) for existing and potential, covered actions (including the potential transfer of up to 1.57 million acre-feet (AF) and directed the EIR/EIS' habitat conservation actions on the LCR from Lake Mead to Mexico. He acted as the primary point of contact for Steering Committee members for all program activities. This complex, controversial plan balances existing and anticipated legal uses of LCR water resources with laws and regulations governing conservation of endangered species and their habitats. It provides conservation measures for nearly 30 species for 50 years, while allowing ongoing and planned river operation actions.

Program Manager – Santa Ana River Water Rights Applications EIR, California

In support of the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District and Western Municipal Water District of Riverside County, Mr. Thomson oversaw the EIR preparation and interactions with the State Water Resources Control Board, California Department of Fish and Game, and other regulatory agency staff to acquire up to 200,000 acre-feet (AF) of Santa Ana River water from below Seven Oaks Dam and a diversion, then convey and distribute that water to users in the Districts. This water augments California State Water Project supplies in the Inland Empire.

Project Manager – Lower Colorado River Water Quantification Settlement Agreement (QSA) Program EIR, Colorado

Mr. Thomson directed the preparation of the Program EIR, evaluating the aggregate effect of water conservation, transfer, exchanges, and other components of the QSA in support of the Coachella Valley Water District, Imperial Irrigation District, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and the San Diego County Water Authority. The QSA settled water supply and management issues among California water agencies and allowed initial implementation of the California Colorado River Water Use Plan.

Program Manager – All-American Canal Lining Environmental Information Report, California

Mr. Thomson led a team evaluating and updating compliance documents (including NEPA, federal ESA, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Clean Water Act, and Clean Air Act) to support the issuance of construction contracts and litigation for Reclamation. These documents were provided by the US Department of Justice to the Court in support of the legal action against Reclamation.

Program Manager – Colorado River Water Delivery Agreement EIS, California

In support of Reclamation, Mr. Thomson directed the environmental analysis and preparation of the EIS on the QSA Secretarial Implementation Agreement, Inadvertent Overrun Policy, and Conservation Measures EIS. The analysis addressed potential impacts of these federal actions of the QSA on the resources of the LCR and Salton Sea.

Project Manager – California State Water Project Restructuring EIR (Monterey Agreement I)

On behalf of the California Department of Water Resources, Mr. Thomson managed the EIR preparation to support restructuring SWP operations and deliveries as described in the Monterey Agreement, including the transfer of up to 130,000 AF from an agricultural contractor to municipal and industrial users. The EIR addressed the transfer of water entitlement among agricultural, ecological, and urban water agencies and the reoperation of SWP terminal reservoirs.

Project Manager – Supplemental Water EIR, Castaic Lake Water Agency (CLWA), California

Mr. Thomson led the preparation of the EIR evaluating the transfer of 41,000 AF of SWP entitlement from member units of the Kern County Water Agency to CLWA. The focus of analysis is on the indirect and cumulative impacts of development within the CLWA service area accommodated by the new water supply entitlement.

Miscellaneous Additional Projects

- Project Manager, Nellis Air Force Range Land Withdrawal Renewal Legislative EIS, US Air Force
- Deputy Project Manager, Nevada Test Site-wide EIS, US Department of Energy
- Deputy Project Manager, Spent Nuclear Fuels EIS, INEL
- Project Manager, Relay Mirror Experiment and BOLT Environmental Assessments, Strategic Defense Initiative Office of DOD
- Program Manager, Santa Ynez Extension EIR, Central Coast Water Authority
- System Safety and Reliability Task Manager, Assistant Project Manager, San Miguel Project EIS/EIR, Santa Barbara County, California

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- EIS Manager at Durango, Shiprock, Glenwood Springs, Gunnison Sites, Uranium Mill Tailing Remedial Action Program, Department of Energy
 - Environmental Compliance Coordinator, Union Oil Point Pedernales Project, Union Oil Corporation
 - Task Manager, Aquatic Ecologist, M-X Missile Basing Mode Selection EIS, Ballistic Missile Siting, US Air Force

Ecosystem Restoration

Facilitator – San Joaquin River Restoration Oversight Team, California

Representing the Friant Water Users Authority in their attempt to reach a technical settlement with a coalition of 15 environmental organizations (led by the NRDC), Mr. Thomson served as a committee member, planning potential San Joaquin River restoration activities downstream of Friant Dam. This committee led the preparation of a restoration plan for salmon and other river-dependent species, as a component of a legal dispute settlement focused on the potential for the restoration of 150 miles of the San Joaquin River located between Friant Dam and the Merced River, and compliance with portions of the ESA and California Fish and Game code.

Aquatic Ecologist – Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program EIR, California

Maintenance and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitats in the Salton Sea was a key area of controversy in the resolution of water management actions described in the California Colorado River Water Use Plan and the QSA. In support of the California Department of Water Resources and the Department of Fish and Game, Mr. Thomson assisted in developing and managing components of the Salton Sea ecosystem restoration plans and programmatic EIR. The primary focus was integrating lower trophic level biological resources with hydrodynamic and water quality modeling and preparing portions of the water quality and biological resources assessments.

Project Manager - Remedial Investigations/Feasibility Studies, Various Locations

- Led preliminary assessments, site inspections and confirmation studies, remedial investigations/feasibility studies (RI/FS), and remedial design planning at Kaala Air Force Station and Palehua Solar Observatory (Hawaii)
- e RI/FS at Lackland Air Force Base (Texas), an in situ demonstration and RI/FS at McChord Air Force Base (Washington), and an RI/FS and closure confirmation study and RFI/CMS at North Island Naval Air Station (California). Other relevant project management experience includes:
- Directed the Remedial Investigations/Feasibility Studies (RI/FS) at Lackland Air Force Base (Texas)
- Managed the *In Situ* Demonstration and RI/FS at McChord Air Force Base (Washington)
- Oversaw the RI/FS and Closure Confirmation Study and RFI/CMS at North Island Naval Air Station (California)