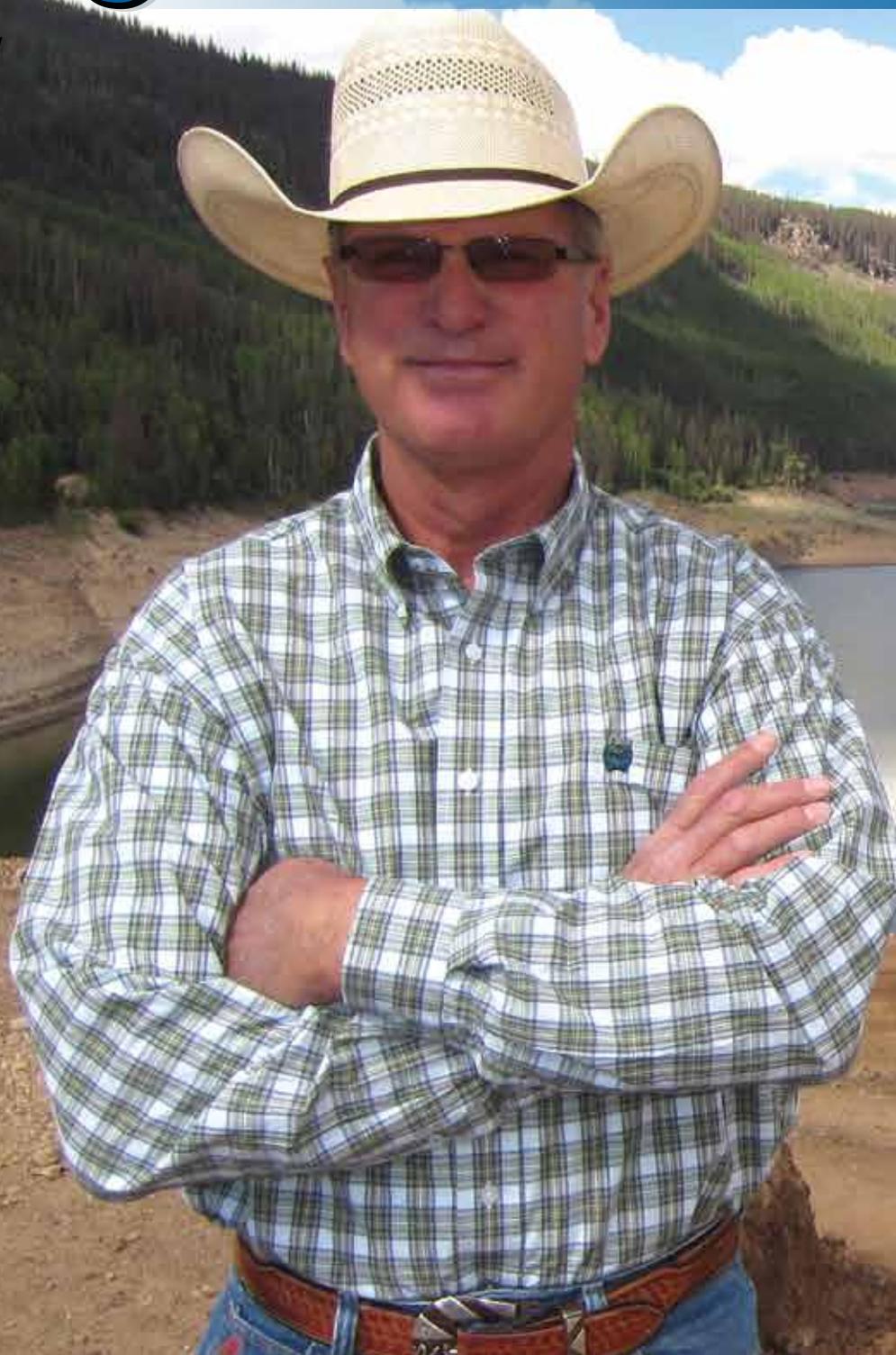


# Irrigation Leader

Volume 4 Issue 7

July/August 2013



***Delivering Water at 8,000 Feet: An Interview with  
Travis Smith of San Luis Valley Irrigation District***

# IWS Traveling Screens

For International Water Screens (IWS), business is booming. IWS has installed more than 100 screens over the last year in the United States and abroad. That business is a testament to the company's dedication to customer service and customizable water screen solutions. For President Rich Gargan, personal relationships and comprehensive service distinguish IWS from other screen manufacturers. Says Mr. Gargan, "My word is stronger than any contract I sign. It is my bond." And sure enough, word is getting out. According to Mr. Gargan, "In the last six months, we've had 10 customers who have referenced *Irrigation Leader* magazine as their introduction to IWS."

IWS's central California shop produces screens to fit a particular location and situation. IWS does everything in-house—manufacturing, sandblasting, epoxy coating, and welding. That kind of control enables IWS to maximize cost savings, schedule reliably, and ensure the production of the highest-quality screen. The IWS shop produces personalized solutions to meet customer needs.

## Solutions for Excess Debris

The accumulation of debris on trash racks in pumping stations creates significant costs for irrigation districts and utilities. In 2008, Berrenda Mesa Water District, located in California's central valley, contacted IWS about designing traveling screens for its main pump station off the California Aqueduct. The district had been experiencing the build up of excessive moss and debris on its trash racks.

Berrenda Mesa's maintenance crew worked around the clock cleaning the trash racks with only partial success. Using long-armed rakes extending 15–20 feet, the crew would have to shove the rake down to reach the trash rack and drag the moss up. It is a backbreaking, ugly job. That level of ongoing maintenance ultimately put workers at risk of injury.

In fact, the worst thing that could have happened in that scenario did happen. On one maintenance shift, just one minute after a worker stopped cleaning a trash rack, the rack collapsed into the pumping structure. If the worker had still been working on the rack, he could have easily been pulled into the rack and



**Moss removed by two screens during the first year of service at Berrenda Mesa Water District.**

been injured or killed.

Over the course of a \$1 million project, IWS installed eight traveling screens over a two-year period. IWS installed 9-foot-wide by 30-foot-long traveling screens. The district waited until delivery season was over and the canal was drained to have IWS to install the screens. Now, the screens pick up the debris, convey it up to the top of the screen, and dump it behind the screen.

Not only do the screens remove moss and debris, but they also brought significant cost savings. The clogged trash racks were effectively working as a dam. After the installation of the traveling water screens, the decreased head loss across the trash racks raised water levels, reducing pumping costs over the course of the year. Berrenda Mesa estimates that its power savings from the increased water level alone saved enough to pay for the project in less than two years. That estimate does not even include the savings in labor costs.

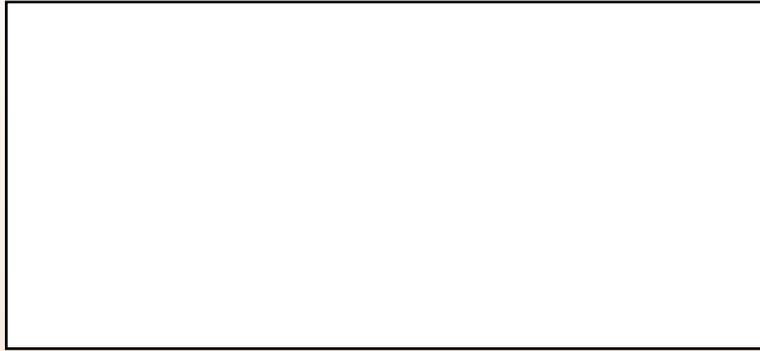
## Long-term Partnerships

IWS and Berrenda Mesa Water District partnered to reach an optimal solution for the debris issue. IWS invests in relationships. IWS goes to customers work sites and gets to know them. For Mr. Gargan, "[IWS] believe[s] in holding our customer's hand for at least a year after an installation. . . . And we provide that kind of service worldwide. We become partners. That's the way we do business."

*For more information on International Water Screens, visit its website: [www.internationalwaterscreens.com](http://www.internationalwaterscreens.com).*



**Pumping station at Berrenda Mesa Water District with IWS traveling screens.**



# Irrigation Leader

## 2013 CALENDAR



- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| July 8–12       | ESRI, International Users Conference, San Diego, CA                                  |
| July 11         | Wyoming Water Assn., Annual Summer Tour, Evanston, WY                                |
| July 29–31      | National Water Resources Assn., Western Water Seminar, Stevenson, WA                 |
| August 14       | Assn. of California Water Agencies, Regulatory Summit, Oxnard, CA                    |
| August 14–16    | Four States Irrigation Council, Summer Tour, Durango, CO                             |
| August 21–23    | Colorado Water Congress, Summer Conference, Steamboat Springs, CO                    |
| August 27–29    | Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts, Texas Groundwater Summit, San Marcos, TX    |
| September 12    | Assn. of California Water Agencies, Energy and Water Nexus Summit, San Francisco, CA |
| September 12–13 | Northwest Hydroelectric Assn., Small Hydro Workshop, Bend, OR                        |
| October 23–25   | Texas Water Conservation Assn., Fall Conference, San Antonio, TX                     |
| November 4–8    | Irrigation Assn., Irrigation Show and Education Conference, Austin, TX               |
| November 5–7    | Nevada Water Resources Assn., River Symposium and Tour, Reno, NV                     |
| November 13–15  | National Water Resources Assn., Annual Convention, San Antonio, TX                   |
| November 13–15  | ESRI, Southwest User Conference, Salt Lake City, UT                                  |
| November 21–22  | Idaho Water Users Assn., Annual Water Law Seminar, Boise, ID                         |

For more information on advertising in *Irrigation Leader* magazine, or if you would like a water event listed here, please phone (703) 517-3962 or e-mail [Irrigation.Leader@waterstrategies.com](mailto:Irrigation.Leader@waterstrategies.com).

Submissions are due the first of each month preceding the next issue.

*Past issues of Irrigation Leader are archived at*

[www.WaterAndPowerReport.com](http://www.WaterAndPowerReport.com)