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**THE  
FORUM**

City of Everett  
City of Seattle  
City of Tacoma  
Cascade Water Alliance  
King County  
Pierce County Regional Water Association  
South King County Regional Water Association  
East King County Regional Water Association  
Everett Water Utility Committee  
North Snohomish County WUCC  
Snohomish River Regional Water Authority



**The Summer  
Water Supply  
Forecast is  
Good**

The Water Supply Forum reports sufficient summer water supplies for King, Snohomish and Pierce counties. Information regarding the announcement came from individual forecasts supplied by the water superintendents and staff from Everett, Seattle and Tacoma. In spite of the “sufficient” forecast, all utilities urge customers to continue their water conservation habits.



*In 1988, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the City of Seattle created the Fork Tolt Settlement Agreement which commits Seattle to protect the fish in the South Fork Tolt Watershed.*

Everett Water reports the Snohomish County water supply can easily handle the summer demand. Everett provides drinking water for 80 percent of Snohomish County. However, the city continues to encourage its customers to conserve and use the water wisely in case there is a drought in the future.

Seattle Public Utilities says much-needed spring snow and rain filled all nearby reservoirs to near capacity. Even with the plentiful supply, Seattle continues to monitor the supply daily and encourage users to use water wisely.

Tacoma Water expects to meet the needs of Tacoma customers with an adequate water supply from the Green River and Tacoma’s well fields. In addition, Tacoma offers customer advice about water usage now and in the future.

For specific information about the water supplies click on the [Everett](#), [Seattle](#) or [Tacoma](#) websites.

## Navigate The Forum's New Website

In March the Water Supply Forum unveiled its new website ([watersupplyforum.org](http://watersupplyforum.org)). The site serves as a hub of information pertaining to current and future water supply for the central Puget Sound region. It was created to exemplify the Forum's mission to provide a venue for policy discussions on critical water-related issues and stewardship. It also allows the Forum to share utility perspectives and insights with the public and key, influential leaders throughout the region. New features include:

- **Click Here for Member Info**

The WSF website now offers numerous features for Forum members and the general public. The site highlights the Water Supply Forum members by listing the websites of the agencies they work for under the [Forum and Its Members](#) tab. This provides members, as well as the general public, the necessary information to get utility-specific water supply information.

- **Keeping Track Of It All**

Members have access to a comprehensive member listing, meeting calendar, committee information and an archive of meeting notes and agendas from previous meetings on the [Member Resources](#) page.

- **Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Water**

One of the most valuable parts of the website is the [Water Information Resource Center](#). The Forum worked diligently to compile a broad range of water-related data into one easy accessible place. The resource center serves as the core for data related to the water supply, water resources, environmental stewardship and conservation activities of the Forum and its partners within the Puget Sound region. Links are also available to municipalities' water department websites for quick, city-specific information. A detailed [map](#) of all the utilities that provide water service to King, Pierce and Snohomish counties can be found on the resource center page.

- **The New Outlook**

The Water Supply Forum website also features a section dedicated to the recently released 2009 [Regional Water Supply Outlook](#). The 2009 Outlook is a comprehensive assessment of municipal water



*The Spada Reservoir in Shohomish County was formed in 1965. It holds 50 billion gallons of water, covers nearly 1,900 acres and has 17 miles of shoreline.*



*The Green River, a water source of Tacoma, Washington is 65 miles long and was once home to many small railroad and logging towns.*

supply and demand in King, Pierce and Snohomish Counties. The Outlook contains current and projected municipal water demands for each county within the three-county region. It also includes an analysis of regional water supplies and details of potential future municipal water supply options including enhanced conservation and wastewater reuse. The [Outlook](#) can be downloaded by section or in its entirety on the Forum website. The 2001 Regional Water Supply Outlook resides in this web section as well.

- **News, Views and Issues**

For the most up-to-date information, click on the site's [Forum News](#) link. Page viewers can access press releases, recent [Current News](#) eblasts and online archived issues of the [Waterlink](#) newsletter.



## Forum Member Spotlight

### Linda McCrea

30-year industry veteran and newly appointed superintendent of [Tacoma Water](#).

*Ed. Note: Forum Member Spotlight is now a regular feature of the newly re-designed Waterlink member newsletter. Recommendations on members who should be profiled are encouraged. Email The Forum at [don@watersupplyforum.org](mailto:don@watersupplyforum.org) with suggestions.*

Linda McCrea has never been one to think much about treading water. She's been swimming in the stream at Tacoma Water for over 30 years. And now, as the newly appointed Tacoma Water Superintendent, McCrea says she's not getting out of the water just yet.

Born and raised in Seattle's Ballard neighborhood, Linda hasn't had much time to think about dipping her toe in the waters around her old digs either. From Ballard High School to the University of Washington for a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering to Tacoma Water, her career course has been pretty direct.

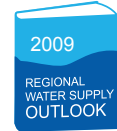
"Being promoted to Superintendent is exciting, rewarding and a little scary because I care so much about this place," McCrea remarks. "It's exhilarating to lead an organization that has been my life for my entire career. Everyone in this organization I care about, and it's an honor to help communicate their voice."

McCrea also notes that it is an unusual challenge when you come from the inside of an organization. "It's both a blessing and a curse," she muses, "You have so much emotionally invested that it is at times difficult to take a step back and see the big picture." She says she is definitely up for the challenge.

"McCrea began her career with Tacoma Water in 1980. She has served as deputy superintendent since 2006 and served as the distribution manager for 13 years before that. Some of McCrea's responsibilities have included water system renewal and replacement strategies, long-term water system planning, labor relations, budget preparation, and financial planning. She has played a key role in reducing costs for Tacoma Public Utilities' ratepayers and City of Tacoma taxpayers by leading efforts to coordinate construction activities with other local utilities and public works departments," so states a recent Tacoma Water press release.

McCrea says she feels that Tacoma Water is different from other municipal water utilities in the Puget Sound region because it communicates directly with the five-member Tacoma Utility Board. The Utility Board is appointed by Tacoma's City Council. "Tacoma Water works with both the Public Utility

## NEW: The Web Link Buttons Are Here!



The Water Supply Forum has created two "easy-link" web buttons for water utilities and others to link from their sites to the WSF site. The web buttons are available to all Forum members, water customers and other partners. The buttons, which can be uploaded to members' sites, are pre-coded for easy implementation.

The Logo button enables visitors who click on it to connect directly to the Water Supply Forum website.

The Report button directs users to the 2009 Regional Municipal Water Supply Outlook page on the Forum's website.

The Water Supply Forum encourages its members to help spread the word about the Forum and its purpose by placing both buttons on all member and partner websites. Posting the buttons on your website is simple. They can be easily uploaded through your Content Management System (CMS) or by uploading a code directly to your website.

To get your web buttons, have your Webmaster send an email to [don@watersupplyforum.org](mailto:don@watersupplyforum.org). Don will send the coded buttons and uploading directions by email.

Thanks for your continued help and support!

Board and the City Council on water rates and budget issues, otherwise policy direction and utility oversight is the responsibility of the Utility Board,” says McCrea. As Superintendent, she provides day-to-day leadership to all six departments of Tacoma Water.

In appointing McCrea to Tacoma Water Superintendent, her boss had nothing but praise for her dedication to the utility these past 30 years. “Linda has proven herself as an outstanding leader at Tacoma Water and in the water industry for many years,” said Tacoma Public Utilities Director Bill Gaines in a recent news release. “She is well prepared to serve as superintendent and has the skills needed to continue the utility’s history of clean and safe water, excellent service, financial strength and low rates.”

McCrea says she will need those skills as the City of Tacoma is experiencing a critical time in history with the implementation of one of the largest capital projects the municipality has ever attempted. Tacoma Water recently received policymaker support for constructing a filtration plant on its Green River source. The driver for that decision was EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Act requirement that water utilities treat their water for Cryptosporidium, an organism of public health concern.

“We have received plenty of public support to filter the Green River. It is the more expensive treatment solution,” she points out, “but it will result in much higher quality of water for Tacoma and surrounding area.” In addition to filtering of the Green River, McCrea and the staff at Tacoma Water will be developing a strategic plan that will span operations over the next decade. “The strategic plan will provide direction to Tacoma Water with respect to where resources are applied, how our customers will be benefited and how to better prioritize,” she states.

In addition to her duties at Tacoma Water, McCrea is the newest member of the Water Supply Forum, officially joining in February 2010. About the appointment she says, “The Forum provides a great opportunity to get to know and learn from key leaders and influencers in the region’s water supply community.” McCrea also serves as the Vice Chair of the American Water Works Associations’ Water Utility Council and is a member of the Partnership for Water Conservation board of directors.



*The Howard A. Hanson Dam originally named the Eagle Gorge Dam is located on the Green River, 21 miles east of Auburn, Washington.*



*The 30-mile Sultan River in Snohomish County is dammed in its upper third by the Culmback Dam to form Spada Lake.*

“It’s great to see organizations and municipalities continue to work together to educate and communicate with water customers to help them appreciate and get the most from our remarkable resource, she says proudly. “It’s a pleasure to work with such a great community of water professionals to consistently bring clean, safe water to Puget Sound water customers.”

**The Water Supply Forum** aggregates representatives of public water systems and local governments in the Central Puget Sound region of Washington State. The Forum addresses current and future water supply issues, including supply planning, environmental stewardship, and other water supply related issues currently facing the region.

We want to hear from you! If you want more information on Forum efforts or provide us with comments, please contact us at [forum@watersupplyforum.org](mailto:forum@watersupplyforum.org) or at our mailing address.

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To sign-up for the Waterlink Newsletter, fill out the online [sign-up form](#).