

Bay Area Geophysical Society Seminar Series



Louise Pellerin

Green Geophysics & SAGE

November 20, 2019

7pm, Elevation 66 Brewing Company

10082 San Pablo Ave, El Cerrito, CA 94530

'Geoscientists Without Borders'

Abstract: The Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG) supports humanitarian applications of geoscience around the world through the Geoscientists Without Borders (GWB) program. In the wake of the 2004 Banda Aceh tsunami, SEG recognized that geoscientists have tools to effect positive change in communities coping with natural hazards, and with a \$1 million donation from Schlumberger GWB was created. The initial committee was challenged with designing a program that served as a catalyst to bring together geoscientists, who have offered their specialized knowledge and technical skills, with those in need to solve community problems.

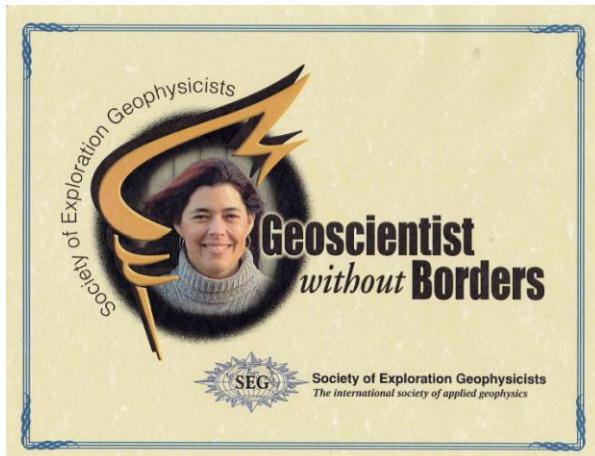
GWB provides funding and assists in collaborating with multidisciplinary and community-based partners. Data are collected, processed, and interpreted to provide resources that result in a sustainable humanitarian benefit to the community. To date 45 projects in 31 countries have been supported. Water investigations lead the list of applications, but earthquake,

landslide, tsunami and volcano preparedness studies are in demand and archaeological and habitat management surveys are embraced.

I will be presenting an overview of the program, with highlights of some of my favorite GWB projects including 'Using near-surface geophysics as a tool to assist with the management of southern hairy-nosed wombats (*Lasiorhinus latifrons*) in South Australia', and 'Hydrogeological investigation for groundwater at the Dayspring Children's Village, South Africa.'

Speaker Bio: Louise Pellerin has been working in electromagnetic geophysics for decades and has been active in the near-surface geophysics community since the early 1990s. A long-time Berkeley resident, Louise received her PhD from the Univ of Utah, and after

some time at the USGS and LBL she joined Green Engineering and started Green Geophysics. Louise is also the co-director of the Summer of Applied Geophysical Experience (SAGE); she has been a faculty member of SAGE since 1993.



Louise was a founding member of the committee that developed the GWB program. Subsequently she was involved in a GWB project with Sue Webb, University of the Witwatersrand, at the DaySpring School outside of Johannesburg, ZA. Louise has also been the guest editor on a GWB The Leading Edge special issue.