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THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA



**WATER RESOURCES
RESEARCH CENTER**

WEEKLY WAVE

January 16, 2026 / Volume 14, Issue 2

IN THIS ISSUE: 104(b) Grant, Welcome Back/Spring Events, Willcox Basin, Colorado River, Ranegras Plain AMA

The **WRRC** is a research unit of the **College of Agriculture, Life and Environmental Sciences** and an Extension unit in **Cooperative Extension**.

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News



WRRC Now Accepting 104(b) Water Research Grant Proposals

Please help spread the news—the WRRC is now accepting proposals for this year's federal WRRRA 104(b) grants. The Water Resources Research Act (WRRRA) Section 104(b) program provides small grants for university-based research projects on water-related issues in Arizona. Proposals featuring student work are encouraged. The deadline to submit a 104(b) proposal this year is 5:00 pm MST on Monday, March 16, 2026.

[READ MORE](#)



Welcome Back, Wildcats! Stay Tuned for WRRC Spring Events

The University of Arizona students returned to campus this week, and the WRRC wishes all a happy and enriching Spring 2026! This semester, the WRRC will host several events, including webinars, partner events, Chocolate Fest, and the Annual WRRC Conference.

[Read More](#)



AG Announces Groundbreaking Willcox Basin Settlement; WRRC Named

On January 8, 2026, Arizona Attorney General Kris Mayes announced a settlement agreement between Arizona and Riverview, LLP, a Minnesota-based company that owns and operates two large dairies in the Willcox Basin in southeastern Arizona.

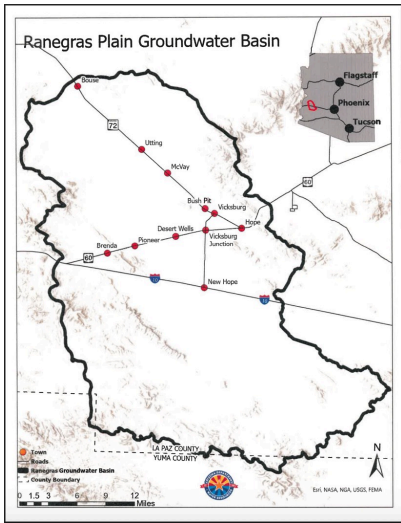
[Read More](#)



Reclamation Releases Draft EIS with Colorado River Options

The Bureau of Reclamation has released a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) examining five options for operating Colorado River reservoirs after 2026, when current operating agreements expire.

[Read More](#)



Ranegras Plain Becomes Arizona's 8th AMA

The Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) has designated the Ranegras Plain Groundwater Basin Arizona's eighth Active Management Area (AMA). This designation follows the determination by ADWR Director Tom Buschatzke that the basin is experiencing severe groundwater declines.

[Read More](#)

Annual Conference

WRRC 2026 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**WATER FOR TECH,
MINING & ENERGY**
PATHWAYS TO ARIZONA'S FUTURE

APRIL 14-15
University of Arizona
Student Union
Tucson, Arizona

More Info Here!

wrrc.arizona.edu/conference

Events



WRRC 22nd Annual Chocolate Fest

Get ready for a mouthwatering celebration, where chocolate lovers unite, and the WRRC announces its 2025 photo contest winners!

Date: February 12, 2026

Time: 4:00–5:00 pm MST/Arizona Time

Location: WRRC/Zoom

[More Info](#)

WRRC Upcoming and Co-sponsored Events

Mar
16

[ENVS Colloquium/Seminar on PFAS Featuring Sharon Udasin \(3:00 MST\) – Save the Date!](#)

Feb
19

[Issues and Opportunities at Bartlett Dam: Exploring Impacts \(Featuring Haley Paul, Senior Director for Policy, Audubon Southwest\) – WRRC Co-sponsored Event](#)

Apr
14–15

[WRRC 2026 Annual Conference: Water for Tech, Mining & Energy: Pathways to Arizona's Future – Save the Date!](#)

Other Events

Feb
10

[Running on Empty: Facing Water Scarcity Across the Southwest – Session 2: Featuring Michael Crimmins, Climate Scientist, University of AZ](#)

Mar
10

[Running on Empty: Facing Water Scarcity Across the Southwest – Session 3: Featuring Chairman Austin Nunez, San Xavier District, Tohono O'odham Nation](#)

Water News

From the WRRC

- [Recording Posted \(Passcode Hh!jJ&&0\) for Running on Empty: Facing Water Scarcity Across the Southwest – Session 1: The](#)

Future of Water in Southern Arizona – Issues, Innovation, and Impact (Featuring WRRC Director Sharon B. Megdal)

Other News

- [New Podcast – Arizona's Climate Change Adaptation Playbook: Heat, Water, Wildfire \(America Adapts\)](#)
- [2026 AHS Symposium Call for Volunteers: Email info@azhydrosoc.org for more info!](#)
- [AG Mayes Announces Precedent-Setting Settlement with Riverview Dairy to Reduce Groundwater Usage, Securing \\$11M for Well Drilling, Water-Hauling and Groundwater Access](#)
- [Abstract Deadline Approaching for 2026 UCOWR/NIWR Annual Conference – University of Arizona Affiliated Presenters Can Register at the Member Rate!](#)
- [Free Access to Journal of the American Water Resources Association \(JAWRA\): Volume 61, Issue 6](#)

Water Jobs & Other Opportunities

- [Bureau of Reclamation: Small Surface Water and Groundwater Storage Projects \(Small Storage Program\)](#)
- [Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership: Arizona Field Representative](#)

Please visit the [WRRC's website](#) for a complete listing of water jobs and opportunities.

Calendar Announcements

- Jan 16: [UCOWR/NIWR 2026 Annual Water Resources Conference](#) (U of A Affiliated Presenters Can Register at the Member Rate) – *Abstract Submission Deadline*
- Jan 19: [MLK Day of Service 2026/River Stewardship Volunteer Day](#)
- Jan 21: [One Water Webinar – Tapping Potential: Water, Economics, and People](#)
- Jan 21: [IWRA Webinar – Water Cooperation: Why Does it Matter?](#)
- Jan 25: [U of A Campus Sustainability Fund Annual Grant](#) – *Application Deadline*

- Jan 26: [Water Education Foundation's 2026 Colorado River Water Leaders Program – Application Deadline](#)
- Jan 29: [The Water Below: A Community Dialogue](#)
- Jan 30: ["Water" Journal Special Issue: Working Across Borders to Address Water Scarcity – Submission Deadline](#)
- Feb 4: [Darcy Lecture Hosted by AHS Phoenix: Groundwater Recharge Regimes Are in Flux \(Steven Loheide\)](#)
- Feb 5: [ADEQ Virtual Stakeholder Meeting – Yuma PM10 Draft AgBMP Rule Amendments](#)
- Feb 6: [AWRA 2026 Geospatial Water Technology Conference: Artificial Intelligence & Emerging Technologies – Abstract Submission Deadline](#)
- Feb 10: [Running on Empty: Facing Water Scarcity Across the Southwest – Session 2: Featuring Michael Crimmins, Climate Scientist, University of AZ](#)
- Feb 10: [Public Hearing and Arizona Water Protection Fund Grant Application Guidelines Request for Comments](#)
- Feb 12: [WRRRC 22nd Annual Chocolate Fest](#)

MORE CALENDAR ANNOUNCEMENTS

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