

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA



**WATER RESOURCES
RESEARCH CENTER**

WEEKLY WAVE

IN THIS ISSUE: Research Highlight,
Colorado River, Air Fall Fest, Where Are
They Now?

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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

**“Rather than running our
physically based model at
every time step, the AI model
will be learning how our
model behaves...”**

— *Laura Condon*



U of A-Affiliated Hydrologic Modeling Project Selected for DOE Genesis Mission

University of Arizona researchers are helping design a new large-scale hydrologic model driven by AI. Hydrologic models help describe and predict how water moves through the environment by simulating the physical interactions of plants, land, water, and people. Communities and industries use these models to prepare for droughts and floods, and to understand their changing water availability. Laura Condon, a professor of hydrology and atmospheric sciences and interim director of Biosphere 2, uses “physically based equations” to create models that can answer questions about how a certain stream or groundwater system might behave under various conditions.

[READ MORE](#)



Q&A on Colorado River Water Cuts Features WRRC Director

WRRC Director Sharon B. Megdal recently sat down with Mikayla Kelley from U of A University Marketing and Communications to answer questions about the US Bureau of Reclamation's recently released 10-year framework for Colorado River water allocations and what it means for Arizona and Tucson. The September 8 Q&A, titled *Water Wisdom Following the New Colorado River Framework*, covered the new framework's reductions to Arizona's Colorado River water deliveries, Tucson Water's use of stored Central Arizona Project (CAP) water, and the importance of continued water conservation.

[Read More](#)



WRRC Participates in AIR 2026 Fall Fest

Fall Fest 2026, hosted by U of A's Arizona Institute for Resilience (AIR) on September 9 at the ENR2 building, attracted participants from across campus and beyond, including several WRRC staff and graduate students. Two sections, Water & Weather and Indigenous Resilience, shared the program.

[Read More](#)



Where Are They Now?

WRRC Alum Pursues Hydrology Career with USFS

Kelly Mott Lacroix first joined the WRRC as a graduate research associate in 2011. She received her PhD in Arid Lands Resource Sciences from the U of A in 2015 and continued her work at the WRRC as a research analyst until 2016, when she joined the US Forest Service (USFS) as a hydrologist in Washington, DC.

[Read More](#)

Events



Women in Water Diplomacy Network Global Water Dialogue Series: Water Diplomacy in the Era of Critical Minerals: Gender, Mining and Shared Water Futures

Date: September 23, 2026

Time: 6:00–7:30 am MST/Arizona Time

Location: [Zoom](#)

[More Info](#)



CLE's 14th Annual Tribal Water Law Conference – Beyond the Settlement Table: Rights in a Post-Cooperation Era

Date: September 28–29, 2026

Location: La Fonda on the Plaza, Santa Fe, NM

[Register Here](#)

[More Info](#)



WRRC Special Event: Free Screening of The River Documentary, followed by Filmmaker Q&A

Date: October 14, 2026

Time: 6:30 pm Arizona Time (Limited Seating)

Location: Screen 1 at the Loft Cinema, Tucson, AZ

[More Info](#)

Upcoming WRRC/Co-sponsored Events

Oct
14

Native Voices in STEM Fall 2026: Kaij T-so:son (Emerging Seed): The Stewardship of O'odham Food, Land and Water
– *WRRC Co-sponsored Event*

Oct
27

WRRC Water Webinar: Tribal Sovereignty in the Colorado River Basin & Beyond

Nov
18

Native Voices in STEM Fall 2026: Cultivating Community & Land Restoration Using Traditional Foods – *WRRC Co-sponsored Event*

SAVE the DATE

WRRC 2027
ANNUAL CONFERENCE

APRIL
26–27

Water News

WRRC Water News

- **WRRC Research Associated Article in Frontiers in Water: Applying Maslow's Hierarchy to the Sociology of Water: A Study of Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene in the Indian Context**
- **UA News Q&A with WRRC Director Megdal: Water Wisdom Following the New Colorado River Framework**

- [The Morning Voice Radio Show: WRRRC Director Megdal Interviewed about Colorado River Plan](#)

Other Water News

- [Arizona Tri-University Recharge and Water Reliability Project \(ATUR\) Fall Webinar Series – Mondays at 12 pm through October 5](#)
- [Mexico to Share Colorado River Cuts \(Arizona Republic\)](#)
- [US Water Alliance Releases New Communications Toolkit to Help Utility and Community Leaders Explain the Value and Cost of Water Services](#)
- [Colorado River Cuts Won't Be as Big as They Seem — Here's Why \(Arizona Daily Star\)](#)

Water Jobs & Other Opportunities



WRRC Postings:

The U of A Water Resources Research Center is seeking an [AmeriCorps Member](#) with interest and experience related to water and/or environmental topics to assist with the Center's outreach programs. We are particularly interested in applicants with strong writing skills. Applicants are encouraged to visit the WRRC website for more information on WRRC programs and activities. [More Info](#)

External Postings:

- [EPA Innovative Water Infrastructure Workforce Development Grant](#)
- [Michigan State University Institute of Water Research: Postdoctoral Scholar in Integrated Water Quality Modeling](#)
- [Michigan State University Institute of Water Research: Postdoctoral Scholar in WASP Water Quality Modeling](#)
- [Michigan State University Institute of Water Research: Postdoctoral Scholar in Environmental Field Monitoring](#)

- [Pima County: Regional Wastewater Reclamation \(Multiple Positions\)](#)

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

Calendar Announcements

- Sep 21: [ATUR Project Fall 2026 Webinar Series — Where Does Arizona's Water Go?: Water Balances, Recharge, and Regional Differences Across the Stat](#)
- Sep 21: [AZ Water Association's 100th Annual Conference & Exhibition – A Century of Water: Connecting Our Past to Arizona's Future – Learning Exchange & Workshop Abstract Submission Deadline](#)
- Sep 23: [Udall Center Event: The Past, Present, and Future of PFAS in Arizona](#)
- Sep 23: [Arizona Irrigation Association Event: Water Utility Conservation Programs – In Person at Maricopa County Cooperative Extension Office](#)
- Sep 23: [Women in Water Diplomacy Network Global Water Dialogue Series: Water Diplomacy in the Era of Critical Minerals: Gender, Mining and Shared Water Futures](#)
- Sep 25: [WaterWhys SciComm Seminar: Jacques Balolage – When Water Becomes a Story About Climate, Disability, and Life in Goma](#)
- Sep 25: [Santa Cruz River Refuge Community Design Workshop](#)
- Sep 28: [ATUR Project Fall 2026 Webinar Series — How Landscapes Shape Water: Evapotranspiration, Land Cover Change, and Riparian Management](#)
- Sep 28: [2027 UCOWR/NIWR Annual Water Resources Conference – Special Session Proposal Deadline](#)
- Sep 28–29: [CLE's 14th Annual Tribal Water Law Conference – Beyond the Settlement Table: Rights in a Post-Cooperation Era](#)
- Oct 4: [U of A Campus Sustainability Fund 2026–2027 Mini Grants and Indigenous Mini Grants – Application Deadline](#)
- Oct 5: [ATUR Project Fall 2026 Webinar Series — New Opportunities for Arizona's Water Future: Opportunistic Recharge, Urban Runoff, and Extreme Events](#)
- Oct 8: [AZ Water Association 2026 Stormwater Workshop](#)
- Oct 14: [Native Voices in STEM Fall 2026: Kaij T-so:son \(Emerging Seed\): The Stewardship of O'odham Food, Land and Water – WRRC Co-sponsored Event](#)

- Oct 14: **WRRC Special Event: Free Screening of The River, followed by Q&A, at The Loft Cinema in Tucson (6:30 pm with limited seating).**
- Oct 15: **Imagine a Day Without Water**

[MORE CALENDAR ANNOUNCEMENTS](#)

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Land Acknowledgment