

WEEKLY WAVE



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH CENTER



February 9, 2024 / Volume 12, Issue 6

The Water Resources Research Center - a research unit of the [College of Agriculture, Life and Environmental Sciences](#) and an Extension unit in [UA Cooperative Extension](#) within the Division of Agriculture, Life & Veterinary Sciences & Cooperative Extension.
[Land Acknowledgement.](#)

[WRRC Office Update](#)

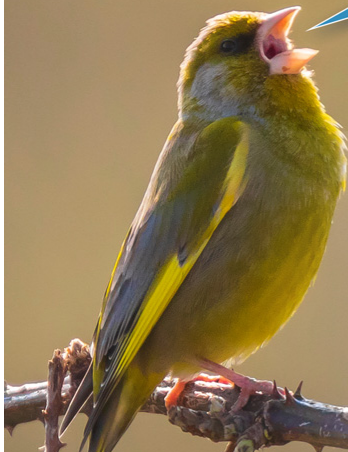
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IN THIS ISSUE: WRRC Conference, Chocolate Fest, NVIS Recap, Factsheet

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Early Bird Registration
Ending Soon for
WRRC Conference!



WRRC 2024
ANNUAL
CONFERENCE

IMPLEMENTING
WATER
SOLUTIONS
THROUGH
PARTNERSHIPS

MARCH 12-13

University of Arizona
Student Union Grand Ballroom

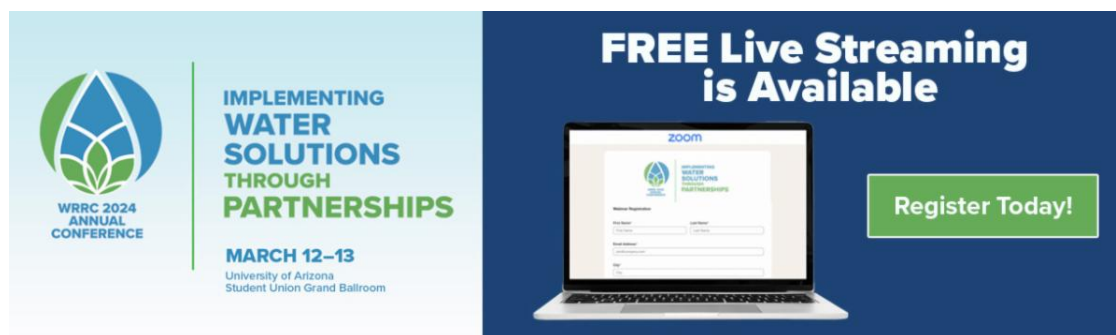
**Ending Soon—Early Bird Registration for WRRC
Conference**

Don't wait to register! Discounted registration for the WRRC 2024 Annual Conference, *Implementing Water Solutions Through Partnerships*, closes on Monday, February 12.

Thanks to the generosity of our [conference sponsors](#), Early Bird registration for this year's multi-day conference is only \$160 for both days (\$100 for a single day). Beginning on February 13, the rate will increase to \$175 for both days (\$115 for a single day). We are pleased to offer a low student registration fee of just \$60. Our in-person conference will be held March 12–13 at the UArizona Student Union Grand Ballroom. For those unable to make it to Tucson, we are offering free, non-interactive livestreaming of the event. This year's conference program will focus on how we are working together to help solve Arizona's critical water resources challenges. Come join the conversation with researchers, innovators, leaders, and others partnering to bring about solutions. There will be plenty of opportunities to network and connect with old colleagues and new friends. We hope to see many of you in Tucson at this important event.

- [In-Person Registration](#)
- [Livestream Registration](#)
- [More Info](#)

CONFERENCE UPDATES



IMPLEMENTING WATER SOLUTIONS THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

MARCH 12–13
University of Arizona
Student Union Grand Ballroom

FREE Live Streaming is Available

Register Today!

EVENTS

Udall Center Symposium – Navigating the Rapids: Colorado River Governance in the 21st Century – *Co-sponsored by the WRRC*

Date: Thursday, February 15, 2024

Time: 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm MST

Location: [ENR2 Building, Room S107](#)



More than 40 million people rely on the Colorado River. Its water is shared by seven US states and Mexico as a vital source of water for cities, agriculture, recreation, and the environment. However, it is under severe strain due to over-allocation, drought, and climate change. Alarming low reservoir levels have raised concerns about the river's ability to sustain the people who depend on it. How did we get where we are today? What can we do to protect the river and ensure that it will continue to flow? Join UC Director Andrea Gerlak and 12 other water policy experts from across the Colorado River Basin for a public symposium addressing the governance of the Colorado River. Over the course of two moderated roundtable discussions, panelists will offer diverse perspectives on the river's stakeholders, decision-making processes, and its most complex challenges. The discussions will offer insights on the future of the Colorado River

and its viability to support agriculture, ecosystems, and human life. The event will include two brief talks and two roundtable sessions. Please join us for a networking reception in the ENR2 courtyard immediately following the symposium, where refreshments and light appetizers will be served.

[Register Here](#)
[More Info](#)

WRRC Water Webinar: Water for All: Global Solutions for a Changing Climate

Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2024

Time: 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm Arizona Time (2–3 pm PT)

Location: [Webinar Only](#)

Speaker: David Sedlak, *Plato Malozemoff Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of California, Berkeley, and Director, Berkeley Water Center*



The current approach to providing water is failing to meet the demands of the growing population and the challenges brought on by climate change. In *Water for All: Global Solutions for a Changing Climate* (Yale Univ Press: November 7, 2023), David Sedlak argues there are solutions to address global water shortages. He identifies the challenges, including ineffective policies and outdated infrastructure. The book also outlines the myriad of tools at our disposal to address the problem, from emerging technologies in desalination to innovations for recycling wastewater and capturing more of the water that falls on fields and cities. Join this WRRC Water Webinar featuring David Sedlak to hear more about his new book and learn about his research and proposed solutions to address global water challenges.

[Register Here](#)
[More Info](#)

Upcoming WRRC Events

- Feb 16: [WRRC 20th Annual Chocolate Fest; 4–5 pm MST](#)
- March 12–13: [WRRC 2024 Annual Conference: Implementing Water Solutions Through Partnerships](#)

Upcoming WRRC Co-sponsored Events

- Mar 12: [NVIS Spring 2024 Seminar: Place Based Learning and Cultural Fire Practice in California; 12–1 pm MST](#)
- Apr 2: [NVIS Spring 2024 Seminar: Unraveling Ecosystem Challenges: Investigating Pinyon Decline and Big Sagebrush Resiliency; 12–1 pm MST](#)
- May 7: [NVIS Spring 2024 Seminar: ?Eiletek Waali? \(I'm Reading Country\); 12–1 pm MST](#)

External Events

- Apr 11–12: [Law of the Rio Grande Annual Conference](#)
- May 6–7: [Law of the Colorado River Annual Conference](#)

Photo Contest Winners to be Announced at Chocolate Fest 2024



Join us at the WRRC ([350 N Campbell Ave](#)) on Friday, February 16, from 4:00–5:00 pm for our 20th Annual Chocolate Fest. At this event, we will showcase our 2023 Photo Contest, with many photos evoking this year's theme, *Water Scarcity and Extreme Weather*. Following a short, informal program, the winning images will be announced. WRRC Director Sharon B. Megdal will welcome our guests and introduce three former WRRC students who have been invited to talk about their time at the WRRC and what they are doing now. These WRRC alums include Elia Tapia, professor at Universidad De Sonora, Bailey Winston, Southern Arizona Water Projects Manager at The Nature Conservancy, and Nate Delano, a physical scientist for US Environmental Protection Agency Region 9. At around 4:30 pm, we will announce the winners of the photo contest and feature the winning images in a slideshow, along with the many other outstanding photo contest submissions. There will be lots of chocolate goodies and we encourage everyone who would like to bring treats, homemade or store-bought, to contribute to the chocolate potluck. If you cannot attend in person, a Zoom option will be available. (Sorry, Zoom attendees will have to supply their own chocolate!)

- [Register Here](#)
- [More Info](#)
- [Photo Contest Submissions from Previous Years](#)

NVIS Seminar Presents Climate Adaptation Benefits of Hopi Farming

Tuesday, February 6, kicked off the first of the Spring 2024 Native Voices in Stem (NVIS) Seminars, which the WRRC co-sponsors. Michael Kotutwa Johnson, Assistant Specialist at the Indigenous Resiliency Center at UArizona, spoke about his ongoing work and core principles, sharing his thoughts on how tradition-based climate adaptations can promote agricultural success. Johnson utilizes his formal education, including a UArizona PhD in Natural Resources, MS in Public Policy, and BS in Agriculture, to conduct his research, and also practices Hopi dryland farming based on the traditional practice of his Tribe. According to Johnson, much can be learned from traditional practice regarding climate change adaptation. Genetic seed biodiversity is the key to combating climate change effects in the agricultural sector and reducing food insecurity. Genetic diversity increases the sector's resilience against crop diseases. Traditional Hopi practices promote genetic diversity and have produced seeds that are drought resistant and grow well in the region. The Fred Aptvi Foundation, named for Johnson's father, was established to increase Hopi seed storage, engage youth in agriculture, and provide agricultural training. Johnson's other research areas include increasing the scale of Indigenous seed production, analyzing the nutritional values of traditional Indigenous foods, and gaining intellectual property rights for seeds, all to establish greater recognition of Indigenous contributions to climate resilience and food



security. Throughout the seminar, Johnson communicated his fundamental ethic that community well-being rises above all else in research and development.

Image: Michael Kotutwa Johnson

[Indige-FEWS Native Voices in STEM](#) [NVIS Spring 2024 Flyer](#)



Did You Know?

Salinity management is an important issue for Colorado River water users in Yuma County, as salt concentrations are found to be 16 times higher there than at the river's source. Salts dissolved from natural and industry-related sources are concentrated as water is used and reused along the river's course, with environmental and economic consequences. The river's high salinity affects the agricultural industry, increasing the need for water. Though crops need some salt, excess salt can dehydrate plants — inhibiting crop yields — and damage soil health. To remove excess salts, farmers may flood their fields, “leaching” salts from the root zone. Leaching practices depend on several factors, including the irrigation water’s salinity, the crop’s tolerance of salinity, soil type, water management, and climatic conditions.



[Yuma County Factsheet](#)
[USDA](#)

WATER JOBS/OPPORTUNITIES

WRRC Invites Research Proposals for 104(b) & 104(g) Programs

Faculty and research personnel at any of Arizona's three public universities are invited to submit research proposals to the WRRC for federal 104(b) grants of up to \$10,000 or competitive 104(g) grants of up to \$310,000. Grant funds are provided by the Water Resources Research Act through the US Geological Survey (USGS). For more information, visit the web pages below or email Jessie Hampton (jessiehampton@arizona.edu).



[104\(b\) Grant Info](#) Proposal Deadline: **March 1, 2024**
[104\(g\) Grant Info](#) Proposal Deadline: **March 27, 2024**

- RiversEdge West [Restoration Coordinator](#)

- RiversEdge West [Grand Valley River Corridor Initiative Consultants](#)
- MSU Dept of Fisheries and Wildlife & Institute for Water Research [Outreach Specialist \(Fixed Term\)](#)
- Watershed Management Group [WaterWRLD 2024 Summer Internships](#)

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

NOTICES, PUBLICATIONS & MEDIA

The Call for Applications for 2024 Haury Native Pathways Graduate Research Awards Is Now Open!

The Agnese Nelms Haury Program in Environment & Social Justice is pleased to announce an open call for Native Pathways Graduate Research Award proposals to **support the research of graduate students** who bring knowledge and experience on matters relevant to Native American and Indigenous resilience. Graduate students from disciplines that specifically address Indigenous resilience are invited to apply. [More Info](#)

New Rules Proposed to Protect Communities from PFAS

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing two new actions to prevent the spread of PFAS in the environment. The EPA would 1) require cleanup of PFAS at facilities that treat, store, or dispose of hazardous waste and 2) designate nine PFAS as “hazardous constituents.” [More Info](#)

New Podcast: "From Flooding to Drought, Geospatial Technology Tracks Water Resources"

Featured on the weekly segment of Total Information A.M., the podcast features KMOX's Megan Lynch and Siddharth Saksena, Assistant Professor, The Charles E. Via, Jr. Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, Virginia Tech, and member of the AWRA 2024 GWTC Planning Committee. [Listen to the Podcast](#)

CALENDAR ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Feb 11–13:** [AWWA/WEF Young Professionals Summit](#)
- **Feb 12:** [WRRC 2024 Annual Conference – Early Bird Registration Deadline!](#)
- **Feb 12:** [ENVS Colloquium — Dr. Sheldwin Yazzie \(Albuquerque Area Indian Health Board\)](#)
- **Feb 15:** [Udall Center Symposium – Navigating the Rapids: Colorado River Governance in the 21st Century; 4–6 pm MST – Co-sponsored by the WRRC](#)
- **Feb 16:** [WRRC 20th Annual Chocolate Fest; 4–5 pm MST](#)
- **Feb 16:** [AHS 2024 Bouwer Intern Scholarship – Application Deadline – Extended!](#)
- **Feb 19:** [ENVS Colloquium — TBD](#)
- **Feb 20:** [Info Session for the 2024 Haury Native Pathways Graduate Research Awards](#)
- **Feb 20:** [Advanced Irrigation Training for Conservation Professionals](#)
- **Feb 20:** [Stakeholder Meeting: Financing ADEQ's Monitoring Assistance Program \(MAP\)](#)
- **Feb 20:** [Santa Cruz River Research Days – Abstract Submission Deadline](#)
- **Feb 22:** [Spring 2024 Tumamoc Talk: What Goes on Inside the Clouds? – Dr. Sylvia Sullivan](#)
- **Feb 22–23:** [2024 Family Farm Alliance Annual Conference – Resilience in Every Drop: Safeguarding America's Food Security](#)
- **Feb 23:** [The Taste of Water: ASU Assistant Professor Christy Spackman Lecture](#)
- **Feb 25:** [AWRA/UCOWR/NIWR 60th Anniversary Joint Water Resources Conference – Topical Session Deadline](#)
- **Feb 26–27:** [Environmental Professionals of Arizona \(EPAZ\) Conference](#)

- **Feb 26–28:** [Water Resources Management & Sustainability: Solutions for Arid Regions 2nd International Conference](#)
- **Feb 27:** [WRRRC Water Webinar: Water for All: Global Solutions for a Changing Climate; 3–4 pm MST – Co-sponsored by the WRRRC](#)
- **Feb 27–29:** [2024 Southwest Adaptation Forum](#)
- **Feb 28–Mar 1:** [10th Natural History of the Gila Symposium](#)
- **Feb 28–Mar 1:** [MSSC 2024 Annual Salinity Summit](#)
- **Mar 1:** [Water Resources Research Institute Program 104\(b\) Student Grant – Proposal Deadline](#)
- **Mar 3:** [Regreening the Desert: Free Soil Health Film Screening](#)
- **Mar 4:** [WRRRC 2024 Annual Conference – Standard Registration Deadline!](#)
- **Mar 5–7:** [RiversEdge West 2024 Conference – Restoration for the Future: Promoting Resilience in Our Rivers and Communities](#)
- **Mar 6–8:** [Land & Water Summit](#)
- **Mar 7–8:** [Sustainable Water Investment Summit](#)
- **Mar 10–16:** [National Groundwater Awareness Week](#)
- **Mar 11:** [ENVS Colloquium — Dr. Thomas Lavanchy \(Oklahoma State University\)](#)
- **Mar 11–14:** [AWWA WaterReuse 2024 Symposium](#)
- **Mar 12:** [NVIS Spring 2024 Seminar: Place Based Learning and Cultural Fire Practice in California; 12–1 pm MST – Co-sponsored by the WRRRC](#)
- **March 12–13:** [WRRRC 2024 Annual Conference: Implementing Water Solutions Through Partnerships](#)
- **March 12–13:** [A Meeting of Sacred Waters: A Global Gathering of Indigenous Voices](#)
- **Mar 14:** [Spring 2024 Tumamoc Talk: The Influence of a Variable and Changing Climate on Upper Gila River Streamflow – Dr. Connie Woodhouse](#)
- **Mar 18:** [ENVS Colloquium — SEES Earthweek Keynote Speaker](#)
- **Mar 21:** [ENViSion Research Symposium](#)
- **Mar 25:** [ENVS Colloquium — Dr. Katerina Dontsova \(UArizona\)](#)
- **Mar 25–27:** [AWRA 2024 Geospatial Water Technology Conference: Data to Decisions: Managing & Modeling Water Challenges](#)
- **Mar 27:** [USGS 104\(g\) National Competitive Grant – Proposal Deadline](#)
- **Mar 31:** [AHS 2024 Halpenny Intern Scholarship – Application Deadline](#)
- **Mar 31:** [AHS 2024 Avery Intern Scholarship – Application Deadline](#)
- **Apr 1:** [ENVS Colloquium — TBD](#)
- **Apr 2:** [NVIS Spring 2024 Seminar: Unraveling Ecosystem Challenges: Investigating Pinyon Decline and Big Sagebrush Resiliency; 12–1 pm MST – Co-sponsored by the WRRRC](#)
- **Apr 3–6:** [BSMAR18](#)
- **Apr 6:** [2024 Water Awareness Month Festival](#)
- **Apr 8:** [ENVS Colloquium — Dr. Luisa Ikner \(UArizona\)](#)
- **Apr 8–10:** [AWRA 2024 Spring Conference: Water Risk & Resilience: Research and Sustainable Solutions](#)
- **Apr 11–12:** [Law of the Rio Grande Annual Conference](#)
- **Apr 15:** [AHS Annual Academic Scholarships – Application Deadline](#)
- **Apr 15:** [ENVS Colloquium — ENVS Undergraduate Presentations](#)
- **Apr 16–17:** [NGWA Conference: Groundwater in the PFAS Era: Stressors, Protection, & Compliance](#)
- **Apr 18:** [Spring 2024 Tumamoc Talk: The Science and Wonder of Arizona Lighting – Ron Holle](#)
- **Apr 22:** [ENVS Colloquium — Dr. Beth Marlowe \(Quest Diagnostic Labs\)](#)
- **Apr 23–25:** [97th Annual AZ Water Conference & Exhibition Annual AZ Water Conference & Exhibition](#)
- **Apr 24–26:** [Santa Cruz River Research Days](#)
- **Apr 29:** [ENVS Colloquium — Dr. Jen McIntosh \(UArizona\)](#)
- **May 6–7:** [Law of the Colorado River Annual Conference](#)
- **May 7:** [NVIS Spring 2024 Seminar: ?Eileltek Waali? \(I'm Reading Country\); 12–1 pm MST – Co-sponsored by the WRRRC](#)
- **Jun 1:** [2024 Central Arizona Project Award for Water Research — Abstract Deadline](#)
- **Jun 10–13:** [AWWA 2024 Annual Conference & Expo \(ACE24\): Transforming Our Water Future](#)
- **Jun 17–20:** [3rd International Groundwater-Agriculture Conference: Toward Sustainable Groundwater in Agriculture - Linking Science and Policy](#)

- **Jul 28–30:** [2024 Arizona Water Reuse Symposium](#)
- **Sep 30–Oct 2:** [AWRA/UCOWR/NIWR 60th Anniversary Joint Water Resources Conference](#)

Do you have a story idea, water job announcement, or event to share?

[Contact us here](#)