

WEEKLY WAVE



COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

**WATER RESOURCES
RESEARCH CENTER**



April 8, 2022 / Volume 10, Issue 13

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

[WRRRC Office Update](#)

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AZ Agriculture, ADWR, New Water Task Force, Gray Water, Riparian Photopoint Project



AZ Agriculture: In the National Spotlight and Focus of 2022 WRRRC Annual Conference

Under the Tier 1 shortage declared for the Colorado River this year, about 30% of the Central Arizona Project's (CAP) supply is curtailed, with cuts primarily affecting agriculture users. Off the river and outside of the CAP service area, groundwater sources are strained, resulting in declining water tables and wells drying up. These issues have received broad news coverage, including articles that examine the impacts of water shortages on agriculture, measures to mitigate water shortages (e.g., changing to less water-intensive crops, fallowing), and impacts of continued water shortages on Arizona communities and the agricultural sector. The WRRRC 2022 Annual Conference, *Arizona's Agricultural Outlook: Water, Climate, and Sustainability*, will provide a forum for a diverse discussion of the issues through a broad and inclusive lens. By asking the question "What is the outlook for agriculture in Arizona?" the conference will cover the diversity of agriculture throughout the state, including regional and global demand, small-scale farms, Tribal perspectives, ranching, and emerging crops. Bookmark our [conference page](#) for updates on the program – coming soon!

Image: Sulphur Springs Valley, AZ, David Quanrud, WRRRC Photo Contest

- [CNBC](#)
- [Circle of Blue](#)
- [Argus Media](#)
- [Fronteras Desk](#)

EVENTS

Native Voices in STEM Spring 2022 Seminar Series: Environmental Justice

Date: April 11, 2022

Time: 3:00 pm-4:00 pm Arizona Time

Location: [Webinar Only](#)

Speaker:

Tommy Rock, *PhD in Earth Science and Environmental Sustainability, Northern Arizona University*



Dr. Tommy Rock is a member of the Navajo Nation from Monument Valley, Utah. He currently is the first in his family to have received a doctoral degree. In 2002, Dr. Rock received his Bachelor's degree in Environmental Geography and Recreational Management from Arizona State University. He received his Master's degree in 2008 from Northern Arizona University (NAU) and was funded under the National Institute of Environmental Health Supplement Grant, later working at the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency - Public Water Systems Supervision Program. He returned to NAU and was awarded his PhD in Earth Science and Environmental Sustainability in December 2017.

[Zoom Link](#)

WRRC Brown Bag Webinar: Civil Society in the Binational Agreements of the Colorado River: Advocacy Meets Shuttle Diplomacy



Date: April 19, 2022

Time: 12:00 pm-1:15 pm Arizona Time

Location: [Webinar Only](#)

Speaker: Carlos A. de la Parra, *Chair of the Board, Restaremos el Colorado, AC*

Non-Governmental Organizations or NGOs is the name that was given to civil society in several of the Minutes from the 1944 Treaty on International Waters between the United States and Mexico. The NGOs appear as parties to a three-way contribution of water for the environment in Minutes 316, 319, and 323. But the contribution of the NGOs to the accomplishments of these Minutes in the Colorado River extends beyond the traditional place of environmental advocates, contributing as shuttle diplomats to facilitate cross-border understanding. The role of civil society groups continues to grow, spilling over into the realm of brokers of water conservation agreements. In this presentation we examine the history and the anatomy of an outstanding partnership between federal and state governments and civil society from both countries, and how the water shortage crises has influenced the management of the Colorado River.

[Register Here](#)

Upcoming Events

May 2: [WRRC Special Event: Counter Mapping Articulates What is Between](#)
Jim Enote, *CEO, Colorado Plateau Foundation*

May 16: [WRRC Special Panel Discussion - INHABITANTS: Indigenous Perspectives on Restoring Our World](#)

May 17: WRRC Brown Bag Webinar: Sharon Nappier, *National Program Leader for Water Reuse, US Environmental Protection Agency - Office of Water*

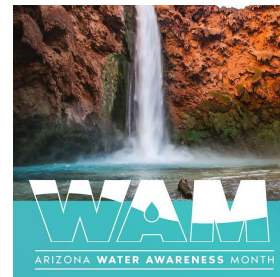
Jul 12-15: [WRRC 2022 Annual Conference: Arizona's Agricultural Outlook: Water, Climate, and Sustainability](#)

A promotional banner for the WRRC 2022 Annual Conference. The banner is split into two main sections. The left section has a teal background and contains the text 'WRRC 2022 ANNUAL CONFERENCE' above a small graphic of a landscape with a sun, clouds, and green hills. Below this is the title 'Arizona's Agricultural Outlook: Water, Climate, and Sustainability' in large white font. At the bottom left is the WRRC logo and the text 'COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH CENTER'. The right section has a background image of agricultural fields and contains a large white checkmark icon followed by the text 'MARK YOUR CALENDAR!' in bold white font. Below this are two green boxes: the first says 'July 12 | In-person Event with Livestreaming' and the second says 'July 13-15 | Additional Virtual Programming'.

NEWS

Celebrate Water Awareness Month

April is Water Awareness Month (WAM) in Arizona! This month, the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) will be raising awareness about the importance of water conservation. As drought continues and Arizona experiences cuts in its Colorado River allocation, conservation of water resources is more imperative than ever. WAM began in 2008 following an Executive Order by Arizona's Governor to recognize the importance of water during the month of April. Every April, ADWR partners with organizations, businesses, and agencies throughout the state to bring water awareness materials and events to the public. The ADWR is hosting several events this month, which will include discussions, forecasts, and reports on water conservation technologies, hydrologic science, Colorado River streamflow, the Salt River Project, water in Arizona's state parks, and more. A list of upcoming activities and events can be found on the WAM website. The website was launched in 2011 and is host to a plethora of activities and information on water conservation and water use throughout the state.



[More Info ADWR Article](#)

AZ Corporation Commission Creates Water Task Force

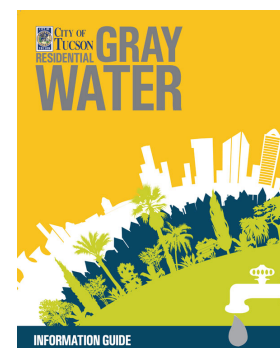
In its March monthly meeting, the Arizona Corporation Commission approved the creation of a new Water Task Force, the formation of which will be coordinated by the Commission's Utilities Division Staff. The Task Force will be composed of "interested parties" including primarily state utility companies, as well as state government agencies such as the Arizona Department of Water Resources and possibly non-governmental water conservation groups. The Task Force will consist of several subcommittees, each focusing on a different water issue. These will be: Water Use, addressing issues of water loss and supply, including conservation and long-term planning; Infrastructure, concentrating on resilience and reliability; Water-Energy Nexus; and Water Policies, responsible for specific updates to Corporation Commission water policies. Each interested party will have no more than two representatives per subcommittee. The Commission will appoint a Water Task Force chairperson, and all meetings of the Task Force will be open to the public.



[ACC "Findings of Fact" Decision](#)

Survey Shows Tucson's Gray Water Policy Has Been Ineffective

A recent survey of Tucsonans indicated that the gray water ordinance implemented in 2010 has not been effective. "Gray" water is water that has been used for household purposes but is not contaminated with fecal matter, so it can be reused for landscaping. The ordinance stipulates that new homes built in Tucson must be equipped with a "stub-out" to facilitate the installation of a gray water system. It also offers a \$1,000 rebate for purchasing the necessary equipment to install such a system. City staff believe the policy's failure is simply due to a lack of homeowner awareness. Even some residents

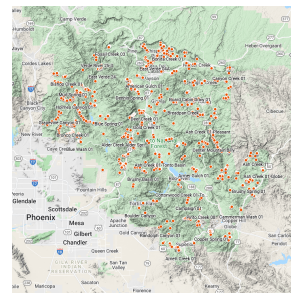


who have installed gray water systems since 2010 did not know about the rebate. Another issue is plumbing access; the ordinance does not require homebuilders to put the stub-out in a location easily accessible for landscaping use, which may deter even interested homeowners. City officials are developing a plan to address these problems, which will include reaching out to over 6,000 homeowners to educate them about their home's potential for a gray water system and the \$1,000 rebate. According to City estimates, if 1/3 of the homes built after 2010 started using gray water for landscaping, Tucson could save over 60 million gallons of water per year. Those homeowners would also save on their water bills each month. The City is reviewing the ordinance and will give an update in the next year. Depending on their findings, they may either revise the existing policy or propose new strategies.

[Residential Gray Water Info Guide](#) [Rebate Program](#)

Volunteers Needed for Riparian Photopoint Program

The Friends of the Tonto National Forest is seeking volunteers for the [Riparian Photopoint program](#), which runs from April to June. The program documents riparian areas by taking photographs of vegetation and streambanks at exact spots to show wildlife impacts, results of flooding, fire, and drought, impacts by livestock, and improvement in conditions from management strategies. There are locations needing volunteers throughout the Tonto National Forest in central Arizona and northern Arizona, some easily accessible by car and some requiring hiking. To attend the virtual training session on April 11th at 7 pm, fill out the [registration form](#). If you would like to volunteer and cannot attend the training, please email Helene@friendsofthetonto.org.



[Riparian Photopoint Program](#) [Registration Form](#)

WATER JOBS

UArizona Director, Cooperative Extension [Job Listing](#)

The University of Arizona seeks a strategic and innovative leader to be the next Director of the [UArizona Cooperative Extension System \(CES\)](#).

- WRRRC [Statewide Water Information Manager](#)
- CUAHSI [Executive Director](#)
- Arizona Land and Water Trust [Executive Director](#)

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Apr 8:** [2022 AHS Annual Symposium – Abstract Deadline Extended](#)
- **Apr 11:** [Native Voices in STEM Spring 2022 Seminar Series: *Environmental Justice*](#)
- **Apr 11:** [4th Annual Arizona Water Professionals Appreciation Week Kick-Off Event](#)

- **Apr 11:** [Friends of the Tonto National Forest Riparian Photopoint Program – Volunteer Training Session](#)
- **Apr 11-15:** [11th International Symposium on Managed Aquifer Recharge](#)
- **Apr 11-17:** [Arizona Water Professionals Appreciation Week](#)
- **Apr 12:** [Sustainable Water Network River Series: *A Living River: The Santa Cruz River from Mexico to Marana*](#)
- **Apr 12-14:** [AZ Water 95th Annual Conference & Exhibition](#)
- **Apr 15:** [Fall 2022 Agents of Change in Environmental Justice Fellowship – Application Deadline](#)
- **Apr 19:** [ADWR Recharge & Recovery Workgroup Meeting](#)
- **Apr 19:** [WRRC Brown Bag Webinar: *Civil Society in the Binational Agreements of the Colorado River: Advocacy Meets Shuttle Diplomacy*; Carlos A. de la Parra, Chair of the Board, Restauremos el Colorado, AC](#)
- **Apr 20:** [Spring 2022 UCOWR Roundtable Series: *Coastal Water Issues II*](#)
- **Apr 22:** [Earth Day 2022: *Invest in Our Planet*](#)
- **Apr 22:** [Earth Day 2022 Lower Salt River Cleanup](#)
- **Apr 25-27:** [AWRA 2022 Spring Conference: *Water Risk Under a Rapidly Changing World - Evaluation & Adaptation*](#)
- **Apr 29:** [UCOWR/NIWR 2022 Annual Water Resources Conference – Early Bird Deadline](#)
- **Apr 30:** [OU International WaTER Conference – Abstract Deadline](#)
- **May 2:** [AWRA 2022 DEI Scholarship – Application Deadline](#)
- **May 2:** [WRRC Special Event: *Counter Mapping Articulates What is Between*](#)
- **May 11-12:** [The Third International Congress on Desert Economy: *Energy Economics between Deserts and Oceans*](#)
- **May 13:** [31st Desert Horticulture Conference](#)
- **May 16:** [WRRC Special Panel Discussion - *INHABITANTS: Indigenous Perspectives on Restoring Our World*](#)
- **May 16:** [AWRA 2022 Annual Water Resources Conference – Abstract Deadline](#)
- **May 17:** [WRRC Brown Bag Webinar: Sharon Nappier – Save the Date](#)
- **May 19-20:** [23rd Annual Law of the Colorado River Conference](#)
- **Jun 14-16:** [UCOWR/NIWR 2022 Annual Water Resources Conference](#)
- **Jun 19-24:** [Frontiers in Hydrology 2022: *Future of Water*](#)
- **Jun 21-24:** [Global Council for Science and the Environment \(GCSE\) 2022 Virtual Conference: *Biodiversity, Conservation Science, and Climate Change*](#)
- **Jul 12-15:** [WRRC 2022 Annual Conference: *Arizona's Agricultural Outlook: Water, Climate, and Sustainability*](#)
- **Aug 11-12:** [Arizona Water Law Conference](#)
- **Sep 11-14:** [AWWA 2022 Water Infrastructure Conference & Exposition](#)
- **Sep 11-15:** [IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition - *Water for Smart Liveable Cities*](#)
- **Sep 14-16:** [2022 AHS Annual Symposium](#)
- **Sep 26-27:** [OU International WaTER Conference](#)
- **Oct 6-8:** [SustainValencia2022; *Achieving Sustainable Groundwater Management: Promising Directions and Unresolved Challenges*](#)
- **Nov 7-9:** [AWRA 2022](#)

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

[Contact us here](#)