









## August 18, 2023 / Volume 11, Issue 20

The Water Resources Research Center - a research unit of the <u>College of Agriculture and Life Sciences</u> and an Extension unit in <u>UA Cooperative Extension</u> within the Division of Agriculture, Life & Veterinary Sciences & Cooperative Extension. <u>Land Acknowledgement</u>.

**WRRC Office Update** 

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**IN THIS ISSUE:** Video Interview, Associate Director, Ashley Hullinger, APW, AZ Water Law Conference, Statewide Needs Assessment



WRRC Director Sharon B. Megdal was recently interviewed by UArizona President Robert C. Robbins about Arizona's water future. Robbins asked about the role of the

WRRC, how and where we use water in Arizona, and what our future prospects may be. In her responses, Megdal highlighted the WRRC's emphasis on helping educate about water, including Indigenous water issues and values, and "bridging the university with the communities of Arizona and beyond." In response to Robbins' question about where and how we use water, she explained that while the amount of water used in AZ has not changed much over the last few decades, the ways we use that water have shifted, with increases in municipal use and decreases of agricultural use, although agriculture still accounts for about 70% of AZ water usage.

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## **EVENTS**

# World Water Week 2023: Seeds of Change: Innovative Solutions for a Water-Wise World

World Water Week

**Dates:** Aug 20–24, 2023

**Location: Stockholm Waterfront Congress Centre** 

World Water Week 2023 is focused on innovation at a time of unprecedented challenges. This year's theme, *Seeds of Change: Innovative Solutions for a Water-Wise World*, invites us to rethink how we manage water. Which ideas, innovations, and governance systems will we need in a more unstable and water-scarce world? Whether attending in Stockholm or online, World Water Week 2023 will plant seeds of change with its program full of sessions on topics such as innovation, behavioral change, technology, and governance. Programming will include significant coverage of Indigenous water perspectives, including a session on "Indigenous Voices in Water Governance," moderated by WRRC Director Sharon B. Megdal. Drawing on the latest scientific knowledge and experiences from around the world, World Water Week 2023 attendees will explore how innovation can be a powerful tool to address the water crisis, global heating, biodiversity loss, poverty, and many other water-related challenges.

- Explore the Program
- Register for the Free Online Access
- More Info

## **Upcoming WRRC Events**

**Sep 7:** WRRC Seminar Series: Flood-MAR – Helen Dahlke – Save the Date!

Sep 11: WRRC Seminar Series: SRP Projects: Forest Restoration / Bartlett Dam – Elvy Ratton/Pon Klawitter - Save the Date!

Barton/Ron Klawitter – Save the Date!

Oct 12: WRRC Seminar Series: "Solar River, Covering and Powering Canals with

Photovoltaic Energy" - Benjamin Lepley - Save the Date!

#### Other Events

Nov 6–7: <u>Tribal Water Law Conference</u>

## WRRC Seeks Associate Director/Specialist

The University of Arizona Water Resources Research Center (WRRC) is actively seeking candidates for its Associate Director / Extension Specialist position to work closely with the Director, providing center administration, program direction, and leadership for the WRRC.



#### More Info

# Ashley Hullinger Takes New Position in Pennsylvania

Longtime WRRC staff member Ashley Hullinger has recently accepted the position of Water Program Specialist with the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Protection Division at the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. As first a Research Analyst and then Program Director for the Water RAPIDS Program (Water Research and Planning Innovations for Dryland Systems), Ashley has worked with



communities and watershed partnerships since 2014 to develop strategies for balancing human water demands alongside the water demand of the natural environment. During her time at the WRRC, Ashley led and contributed to various stakeholder-driven projects to develop accessible tools and approaches to understand local water resources situations and build capacity for sustainable water management throughout Arizona, especially in rural watersheds. In a parting message, she said, "After nearly ten years at the WRRC, I feel fortunate and deeply grateful for all the opportunities to learn about and work with communities and stakeholders throughout Arizona. The relationships, experiences, and approaches to developing equitable solutions for unique water resources challenges will continue to inspire and inform my work for many, many years to come."

### **Read More**



## Water Festival Fun Coming Your Way!

Arizona Project WET (APW) is so excited to be getting back into the swing of things with numerous Water Festivals taking place in the next couple of months. Arizona Water Festivals instill a deeper understanding of water in the Earth System and Arizona's water resources to 4<sup>th</sup>-grade students across the state. These are thrilling times, as APW delivers water



festival events within eight counties and in 11 different communities across the state of Arizona from September to November. APW is particularly pleased to be introducing its first Prescott Water Festival this year and happy to be bringing back its Payson and Buckeye Water festivals for the first time since the COVID pandemic. APW truly appreciates its sponsors and partners, who work to make sure these fun-filled educational

field days are possible. The start of the water festival season also means there are lots of opportunities for you to get involved. Come celebrate science and water stewardship, leading hands-on activities while contributing to your community, by volunteering at these events. Please check out APW's <a href="webpage calendar">webpage calendar</a> for all of the upcoming festivals and sign up to volunteer <a href="here">here</a>! APW looks forward to seeing you at a festival in your area. Together, we can create positive impacts for water conservation in Arizona.

## Hot Topics Featured in Arizona Water Law Conference

At the August 3–4 conference on Arizona Water Law, presentations featured the latest information on a range of vital issues, including the Colorado River, Tribal water rights, the General Stream Adjudications, and groundwater management, among others. In Arizona, as elsewhere, the law aims to provide stability, but many factors, including statutory changes and evolving legal interpretations, make

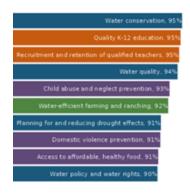


room for large uncertainties. After 40-plus years, there are signs that the stream adjudication process is accelerating, although it is a long way from achieving its goal of certainty.

#### **Read More**

## **UArizona Cooperative Extension Launches Statewide Needs Assessment Dashboard**

In late 2022, UArizona Cooperative Extension conducted a statewide needs assessment survey, collecting information on needs and priorities throughout Arizona. After analyzing the results, Extension has created an interactive dashboard based on the survey data. Users can customize the dashboard output using filters including topic, county, urban or rural, educational level, income status, age, gender, ethnicity, and topical experience or knowledge. This will



allow government officials, non-profit staff, educators, and journalists to identify the priorities that emerged for different groups of people. Among the many topics covered in the survey, respondents indicated that water was a high priority throughout the state; in the Top Priorities summary, "water conservation" ranked first, with "water quality" coming in fourth, and "planning for and reducing drought effects" seventh. In addition to the interactive dashboard, Extension has produced a comprehensive report and individual county reports based on the results of the Statewide Needs Assessment.

- Interactive Dashboard
- Dashboard Tutorial Video
- Additional Info & Reports

## **WATER JOBS**

The University of Arizona Water Resources Research Center (WRRC) is actively seeking candidates for its Associate Director / Extension Specialist position to work closely with the Director, providing center administration, program direction, and leadership for WRRC. In this position, the successful candidate will also conduct applied research and engagement, pursue scholarly activities, and establish and maintain extramural funding. The minimum qualifications include a Doctorate or equivalent terminal degree, a minimum of five years of work experience related to Arizona's and regional water management, a strong record of scholarly accomplishments, and a record of collaborative projects and programs. The WRRC is administratively located within the University of Arizona's Division of Agriculture, Life and Veterinary Sciences, and Cooperative Extension and is also part of the National Institutes for Water Resources, a national network of federally authorized institutes/centers that address unique water-related concerns of the individual states and the nation. The academic home of the position will depend on the candidate's specialization and the rank will depend on the candidate's record and experience.

Please visit <u>UA Talent req14913</u> for additional information on the position and to apply.

## WRRC Seeks AmeriCorps Members for Outreach Communication

The WRRC is seeking AmeriCorps service members with interest and experience in writing about water and/or environmental topics to assist with our varying outreach programs. <u>Apply Here</u>

- ADWR <u>Hydrology Intern</u>
- AZGFD Water Resources Manager Senior
- AZ Water Banking Authority Water Resources Specialist 2
- City of Peoria Water Services Director
- City of Prescott Water Resource and Environmental Director
- City of Yuma Water Conservation Program Coordinator
- Global Water Resources, Inc. <u>Manager of Water Resources</u>
- State of New Mexico Hydrology Bureau <u>Senior Hydrologist/Water Resources</u> <u>Professional IV (OSE/ISC #5999)</u>
- The Nature Conservancy <u>Water Program Policy Specialist</u>
- Town of Queen Creek Water Conservation Specialist

Please visit WRRC's website for a complete listing of water jobs & opportunities.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Aug 20–24: World Water Week 2023: Seeds of Change: Innovative Solutions for a Water-Wise World
- Aug 21: SCN Climate & Resilience Workgroup Meeting
- Aug 23: ADEQ Triennial Review Kickoff Webinar
- Aug 23: CAP Annual Water Users Briefing Save the Date!
- Aug 25: Arizona Water Protection Fund for Fiscal Year 2024 Grant Cycle Application Deadline
- Sep 5: Hassayampa River Mineral Withdrawal: Comments and Public Meeting Request Deadline
- Sep 6: CAGRD 2025 Plan of Operation Water Supplies Roundtable
- Sep 7: WRRC Seminar Series: Flood-MAR Helen Dahlke Save the Date!
- Sep 10-15: Southwest Tribal Climate Action Summit

- Sep 11: WRRC Seminar Series: SRP Projects: Forest Restoration / Bartlett Dam Elvy Barton/Ron Klawitter – Save the Date!
- Sep 11: <u>Virtual Public Hearing: Notice of Proposed Expedited Rulemaking Drinking Water Regulations Lead and Copper Rule Revisions</u>
- Sep 12: AWRA 2023 Annual Water Resources Conference Student Poster Deadline
- Sep 13: AHS Symposium Fieldtrip: Oak Creek Watershed Restoration
- Sep 13–16: Arizona Hydrological Society 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium
- Sep 15: ABWC Annual Meeting & Water Conference: Watery Going to Do?
- Sep 16: ¡Agua es Vida! Celebration of Water in the Desert and Short Film Showcase
- Sep 16: AHS Symposium Fieldtrip: Hoxworth Springs, Lake Mary, and Montezuma Well
- Sep 20: <u>CAP University Virtual Learning</u>
- Sep 27–28: Southwest Drought Learning Network 2023 Annual Meeting
- Sep 28: CNRS International Emerging Actions Proposal Submission Deadline
- Sep 29: AWRA 2024 Geospatial Water Technology Conference Abstract Deadline
- Oct 1: RiversEdge West 2024 Conference Restoration for the Future: Promoting Resilience in Our Rivers and Communities –Oral Presentation Abstract Deadline
- Oct 7: Urban Wildlife Conservation Day: Rio Reimagined Salt River Clean-Up
- Oct 12: WRRC Seminar Series: "Solar River, Covering and Powering Canals with Photovoltaic Energy" Benjamin Lepley Save the Date!
- Oct 19-20: Upper Gila Watershed Forum
- Oct 21: 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Insights in Semiarid Ecosystems (RISE) Symposium
- Nov 6-7: Tribal Water Law Conference
- Nov 6-8: AWRA 2023 Annual Water Resources Conference
- Nov 6-9: Amsterdam International Water Week 2023
- Nov 14–16: US Water Alliance One Water Summit 2023
- Dec 11-15: AGU23: Wide. Open. Science
- Jan 1, 2024: <u>RiversEdge West 2024 Conference Restoration for the Future:</u>
   <u>Promoting Resilience in Our Rivers and Communities Poster Presentation Abstract Deadline</u>
- Jan 22–24, 2024: Growing Water Smart: Integrated Water and Land Use Planning Workshop
- Mar 5–7, 2024: RiversEdge West 2024 Conference Restoration for the Future: Promoting Resilience in Our Rivers and Communities
- Mar 25–27, 2024: <u>AWRA 2024 Geospatial Water Technology Conference</u>
- Apr 8–10, 2024: <u>AWRA 2024 Spring Conference</u>

## **PUBLICATIONS & MEDIA**

#### **Get to Know Your Monsoon**

Monsoon dashboard from UArizona Cooperative Extension More Info

60 Minutes Segment on the Colorado River Watch the Video

### **Essay Collection on the World's Water Crises**

Gerlak, Andrea K. *The Conversation on Water*. Johns Hopkins University Press, 2023. <a href="https://doi.org/10.56021/9781421446219">https://doi.org/10.56021/9781421446219</a>

#### **Understanding the Global Supply of Water**

This graphic from Visual Capitalist uses insights from Our World in Data to break down water supply and withdrawals per capita, measuring the quantity of water taken from both groundwater and freshwater sources for agricultural, industrial, or domestic use.

#### **More Info**

#### **New Western Water Article**

A new article in *Western Water* covers the nation's largest dam removal project, currently underway on the Klamath River of California and Oregon. Their journalism team looks beyond the demolitions to the restoration and monitoring of changes in salmon populations, water quality, and watershed health. Success on the Klamath River could serve as a blueprint for restoring other watersheds and energize a growing worldwide trend of removing obsolete or seismically unsafe dams. **Read the Article** 

## OTHER NOTICES

**ITEP Water and Land Resources Academic Year Internship Host Site Recruitment** The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) is beginning the recruitment process for the 2023–2024 Water and Land Resources Academic Year Internship Host sites. They hope to recruit 15 host sites for this year for both in-person and virtual internships. The deadline to **apply** is August 31, 2023. **More Info** 

#### **Irrigation Efficiency Workshop**

Learn how university researchers and commercial agriculture have responded to the challenge of growing more crops for the drop. The free workshop will be held at the Maricopa Agricultural Center (MAC) on August 21, 2023. Both <u>in-person registration</u> and **Zoom registration** are available.

Call for Public Comment: 2023 Triennial Review Report — Colorado River System The Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum (the Forum) is conducting a Triennial Review, as required by the Clean Water Act, for the water quality criteria benchmarks for salinity in the Colorado River, and requests your comments. The recommendation is to maintain the current standard. Currently, the Colorado River is meeting the criteria. You can view the report <a href="here">here</a>. Please send your comments to Forum Executive Director Don Barnett via <a href="here">email</a> by September 15, 2023.

#### **Western SARE Grant Writing Workshop**

A free grant writing workshop will be held by Western Sustainable Agriculture and Research Education (WSARE) for farmers, ranchers, educators, grad students, etc. to learn more about sustainable agriculture grants available through SARE. This workshop will be hosted at MAC (Maricopa Ag Center) on Thursday, September 14, 2023, and will be provided at no cost to the participants. <a href="Per-registration">Pre-registration</a> is required. <a href="More Info">More Info</a>

#### **ADEQ Update on AWP Program**

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) has provided an update about progress in developing an Advanced Water Purification (AWP) Program (formerly referred to as Direct Potable Reuse). To gauge public perceptions and inform proposed rulemaking, ADEQ commissioned stakeholder research and an accompanying survey. You may download and view a copy of the final research and survey reports here: <a href="AWP">AWP</a> Research & Survey Reports.

WaterSMART Applied Science Grants for Fiscal Year 2023 More Info

Water Conservation Field Services Program: Financial Assistance for Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024 More Info

Call for Public Comment: Draft Prospectus of the First National National Assessment

In coordination with the US Department of Interior, the US Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) welcomes public comment on the draft prospectus of the First National Nature Assessment (NNA1). The scope of NNA1 is to assess the status, observed trends, and future projections of America's lands, waters, wildlife, biodiversity, and ecosystems and the benefits they provide. All comments must be submitted via the USGCRP Public Contribution System by September 18, 2023. More Info

## Reclamation Announces 2024 Operating Conditions for Lake Powell and Lake Mead News Release

## Notice of Withdrawal Application and Opportunity for a Public Meeting for the Prescott National Forest/Hassayampa River

The Bureau of Land Management is accepting public comment on a request from the U.S. Forest Service to withdraw 3,739 acres of land in the Prescott National Forest for 20 years. The requested mineral withdrawal would protect federal land along the Hassayampa River from potential impacts from new mining, oil and gas, and geothermal development, subject to valid existing rights. The public may submit comments and requests for a public meeting on the withdrawal application until Sept. 5, 2023.

More Info

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

Contact us here