

WEEKLY WAVE



Oct. 9, 2020 / Volume 8, Issue 31

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

[WRRRC Office Update](#)

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IN THIS ISSUE: Reflections, Climate Panel Recap, Stewart L. Udall, APW-Water Scene Investigations, Extension Conference, Jake Golden



Reflections: Varying Views on My Water Buffalo Symbol Question

In July I released a [Reflections essay](#) asking for feedback on whether it is time to retire the water buffalo symbol. I received 39 communications from 38 individuals. Some chided me for writing an essay that was a distraction from the more important water matters we face, while others thanked me for raising what they see as issues of elitism and exclusivity in water debates. Because I found the feedback so interesting and divergent, I shared commentary in batches with those who submitted remarks, making sure I blind copied the

recipients and removed any identifying information. One person shared some additional perspective after seeing the earlier commentary that I shared.

[Read More](#)

WRRC EVENTS

Brown Bag Webinar: Water for Nature

Date: Thursday, October 22, 2020

Time: 12:00 - 1:15 p.m.

Location: [Webinar Only](#)

Speaker: Kristen Wolfe, *Coordinator, Sustainable Water Network*



Kristen Wolfe will be presenting Water for Nature, a talk focusing on environmental water, the forgotten/ignored stakeholder in water policy, management, and law. Leaving water for nature out of water laws and management has had dire consequences for our rivers, streams, and springs. Climate change and unsustainable growth are accelerating river depletion. It is time to find ways to allow for water for nature. Human uses depend on healthy, flowing rivers.

[Register for the Webinar](#)

Upcoming Webinars

Nov. 13 – Coronavirus Response at the Central Arizona Project

Ted Cooke, *General Manager, Central Arizona Project*

Nov. 18 – Bureau of Reclamation Programs Supporting Arizona Tribes

Kevin Black, *Program Manager, US Bureau of Reclamation*

Dec. 2 – Balancing Water for People and Nature: The Upper San Pedro River

Scott Deeny, *Arizona Water Program Lead, The Nature Conservancy*

Holly Richter, *Arizona Water Projects Director, The Nature Conservancy*

Jan. 14, 2021 – Transferring Water in Arizona

Patrick J. Cunningham, *Public Affairs Consultant and General Counsel, HighGround*

Michael J. Pearce, *Partner, Gammage & Burnham*



NEWS

Adaptation and Innovation Highlighted at Panel Discussion on Climate

On October 1st, the WRRC, Southern Arizona Leadership Council, and UArizona Biosphere 2 co-sponsored a panel discussion entitled *Climate and Arizona's Future: A Conversation About the Nexus Between Environment, Economy, and Innovation*.

Tucson Mayor Regina Romero provided opening remarks to the 275 attendees, describing the importance of climate resilience and adaptation.

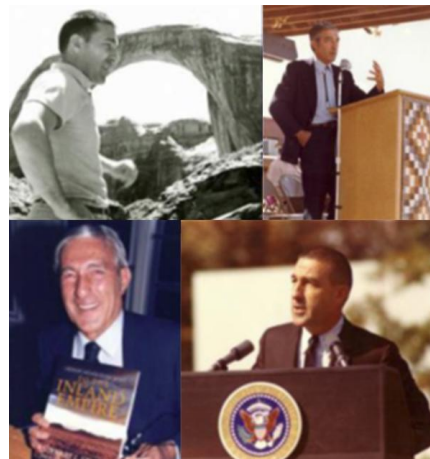
WRRC Director Dr. Sharon Megdal, Southern Arizona Leadership Council President and CEO Ted Maxwell, and UArizona Global Environmental Futures Vice President and Biosphere 2 Director Dr. Joaquin Ruiz provided an engaging discussion on how, in the face of record-breaking heat and drought conditions, addressing Arizona's climate challenges is critical not only for our environment but the state's economy. The panelists agreed that through building strong partnerships we can identify and adopt solutions for our future. According to Ruiz, the State of Arizona could become an investment hub by marketing itself and "announc[ing] to the world that we are the best at the solutions for semi-arid environments." Megdal added nuance to the conversation noting that innovations are not necessarily big money-making ideas but can be policies that can help our and other semi-arid regions.



[View the Recording](#)

Stewart L. Udall's Environmental Diplomacy Legacy

To honor the legacy of Stewart L. Udall, a special program has been organized by the Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy and University of Arizona Libraries, Special Collections, in cooperation with the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation. As noted in the program flyer, Stewart L. Udall is best known for his tenure as Secretary of the Interior during the Kennedy and Johnson administrations. In those years, he had an enormous impact on the Nation's public lands and helped enact legislation on water and air quality, endangered species, and sanitation. He was an advocate for solar energy and Indigenous rights and wrote prolifically about the environment. After comments from U.S. Senator Tom Udall, biographer Scott Einberger, and the Honorable Judge Diane Humetewa, the program will turn to a moderated roundtable discussion reflecting on Secretary Udall's legacy of environmental diplomacy. The event will be held November 19, at 1:00 pm (MST).



[Registration and More Information](#)

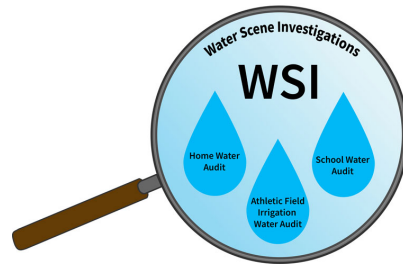


Let's Get into Water Savings!

Living in the desert requires an environmentally conscious approach to managing our water. Over the past 20 years, Arizona has experienced prolonged drought and increasing consecutive days of extreme heat, both of which deplete our water resources. That is why

there is no better time than now to engage with APW's new Water Scene Investigations website!

The WSI School Programs challenge students to inspect water use in their homes and schools and take action to save water. Students can audit the bathroom faucets they use and install water efficient aerators that produce a water savings in gallons per day, month and year. By laying out 16 catch cans around each sprinkler head and measuring the water caught after 10 minutes, students can determine how evenly irrigation water is distributed on their school's athletic field. This measurement is called Distribution Uniformity. Finally, the website's *Make Every Drop Count* video series teaches students to calculate how much water a leak could waste in a year. The WSI Community Action tab offers a citizen science project that can lower the water usage in people's homes. It's a quick and easy project that can make a big difference in their water footprint. Participants follow the steps and let APW's new mascot Drippy be their guide. The WSI has Arizonans taking action in their own lives, adopting water efficient devices and appliances. That's good news for Arizona!

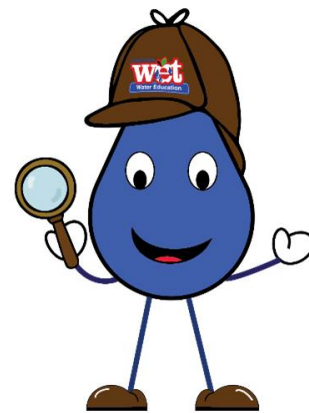


Graphic: Miriam Aleman

[Water Scene Investigations](#) [Arizona Project WET](#)

Water Costarred in Arizona Cooperative Extension Conference

The Arizona Cooperative Extension Virtual Conference, October 6-8, 2020, was the setting for learning about water, our "most vital natural resource." WRRRC Director Sharon B. Megdal led a session titled "Water Updates, Collaboration Opportunities and Q&A with the Water Resource Research Center," which invited participants to come hear about water conditions and management around Arizona, along with an update on WRRRC programs that encourage collaboration and engage stakeholders. A team of WRRRC staff were present to answer questions. Seven posters created by WRRRC and Arizona Project WET (APW), a closely affiliated program, introduced conference attendees to their activities. One poster included information on efforts to bring locally relevant water information to audiences across Arizona through collaboration with county Cooperative Extension (CE) personnel. Another, by WRRRC Research Analyst Ashley Hullinger, highlighted a project with Pinal County Cooperative Extension and the Babbitt Center for Land and Water Policy. The project pulled together data on factors affecting water management in the Pinal Active Management Area and produced a report making them accessible to the public. An APW team (Pam Justice, Holly Thomas-Hillburn, Sandra Hurlbut, and Julie Hasty) presented four posters on major components of their program: Water Scene Investigations, APW Teacher Academies, AquaSTEM, which uses systems thinking to deepen STEM learning in classrooms, and the Arizona Water Festival Program, a learning experience for 4th graders. In addition, a poster by Mary Ann Capehart, Cochise County CE Water Wise program, featured two new fact sheets, co-written with WRRRC Assistant Director Susanna Eden and retired UArizona Research Scientist Janick Artiola, that encourage rural homeowners to consider rain harvesting for their potable water supply. Related to the water discussion, an instructive poster by Andrew Brischke, Interim Mohave County Extension Director, piqued interest in hydroponics for home gardeners.



**Meet Drippy, Arizona Project WET's
new water scene investigator.**

On the 3rd day of the conference, APW's Pam Justice, WSI Program Manager, was presented a Heart of Extension award for her tireless efforts at building the positive relationships necessary to achieve water education goals and produce significant impacts. A 20-year veteran with APW, her consistently high-quality work and pursuit of excellence made this special award a well-earned tribute.

[WRRC Session Video](#)

[Posters](#)

WRRC Alum Joins Phoenix Water Management Team

Recognizing the achievement of one of our own, the WRRC asked former Graduate Research Assistant Jake Golden to write about the pathway to his new position as a Water Resource Specialist with the City of Phoenix Water Services Department.



I have found my way back to the desert in the Valley of the Sun. When I first moved to Arizona in 2016 to begin my master's degree, I never imagined returning after I graduated. At UArizona, I worked as a graduate assistant at the WRRC, which allowed me to explore the world of Arizona water. Under the guidance of Dr. Sharon Megdal in the Water, Society, and Policy program, I learned not only about the complexities of Arizona water policy, but also the possibilities of sustainably managing this precious resource for future generations. Dr. Megdal helped me take advantage of a tremendous opportunity to work with the City of Phoenix on my master's project, which focused on tribal water rights settlements in Central Arizona. In my free time, I traveled to different corners of the state – connecting what was happening in these regions with my studies – and came to know an unexpected Arizona. After graduation, I went back home to Oklahoma to work in the private sector and later with AmeriCorps, serving the Quapaw Nation of Oklahoma on agricultural and water-related projects. This work was challenging and fulfilling, but the desert called. In August 2020, I accepted my current position in Phoenix. I am looking forward to helping the City continue to explore the approaches that have made it a model for overcoming water management challenges. To all those along the way who helped me get here, thank you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- [ADWR Statewide Planning Section Manager](#)
- [ADWR Water Resources Specialist III](#)
- [AZ State Land Dept Water Resources Specialist 3](#)
- [Oct 13: AHS Flagstaff Chapter Meeting](#)
- [Oct 14-28: WaterSmart Innovations - 2020 Webinar Series](#)
- [Oct 14-15: 2020 US Mexico Transboundary Groundwater Conference - Registration Open](#)
- [Oct 15: Guayule Virtual Field Day](#)
- [Oct 15: AHS Phoenix Chapter Meeting - Reaching Safe-Yield in the Phoenix AMA](#)
- [Oct 15-29: 2020 Carson Scholars Webinar Series: *Intersections of Environment and Justice: From Our Bodies to the Earth*](#)
- [Oct 16: RiversEdge West 19th Annual Research and Management Conference - Abstract Deadline](#)
- [Oct 20: US Bureau of Reclamation *Guardians of the Reservoir Challenge* - Submission Deadline](#)

- **Oct 20-21:** SCWC Semi-Annual Virtual Fall Forum *Connecting Restoration Opportunities Across the Watershed*
- **Oct 23:** Tucson Great Decisions *Wicked Water Problems: Scarcity, Sharing, and Sustainability*
- **Oct 26:** AWWA Virtual Summit - On-Demand Availability Ends
- **Oct 28-30:** IWRA 2020 Online Conference *Addressing Groundwater Resilience under Climate Change* - Registration Open
- **Nov 2:** AWRA 2021 Summer Conference *Connecting Land and Water for Healthy Communities* (July 19 – 21) Denver, CO - Special Session Submission Deadline
- **Nov 7:** Research Insights in Semiarid Ecosystems (RISE) Symposium - Registration Open
- **Nov 9:** AWRA 2020 - Water Resource Trivia night
- **Nov 9-11:** AWRA 2020 Annual Water Resources Conference
- **Nov 19:** Stewart L. Udall's Environmental Diplomacy Legacy *A Virtual Centennial Birthday Celebration*
- **Nov 30:** Hydrology 2021 Travel Awards - Application Deadline
- **Dec 10:** 2021 Ford Foundation Fellowship Programs - **Dissertation** and **Postdoctoral** - Application Deadlines
- **Dec 17:** 2021 Ford Foundation Fellowship Programs - **Predoctoral** Application Deadline
- **Jan 5-9, 2021:** NCSE Drawdown 2021 Conference *Research to Action: Science and Solutions for a Planet Under Pressure* - Save the Date
- **Jan 15, 2021:** Resources 2021 Travel Award - Application Deadline
- **Apr 1, 2021:** Special Issue of the Journal *Water* (ISSN 2073-4441, IF 2.544) - *Advances in Transboundary Aquifer Assessment* - Manuscript Submission Deadline
- **Apr 1-Jul 1, 2021:** Women in Water Scholarship - Application Deadline
- **May 9-14, 2021:** IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition - *Water for Smart Liveable Cities (Copenhagen)*
- **Jun 8-10, 2021:** UCOWR/NIWR Annual Water Resources Conference
- **Jun 13-16, 2021:** ACE21 - Save the Date

PUBLICATIONS

[A Living River: Charting Santa Cruz River Conditions Northwest Tucson to Marana \(2019 Water Year\)](#)

Visit our Website