

# WEEKLY WAVE



COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES  
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

**WATER RESOURCES  
RESEARCH CENTER**

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The [Water Resources Research Center](#) - a research and [Extension](#) unit of the [College of Agriculture and Life Sciences](#)



## WRRC Discusses Agua Dulce Project on KVOI Radio

On December 15, WRRC Associate Director Jean McLain joined Tucson Water Director Tim Thomure on KVOI Radio 1030 AM. Host Ray Alan (filling in for the vacationing Bill Buckmaster) spent 30 minutes on air with McLain and Thomure, discussing the proposed Agua Dulce project, which would use recycled water to restore the flow of the Santa Cruz River in downtown Tucson. During the show, McLain and Thomure fielded questions ranging from the safety and smell of the recycled water, to the project cost and timeline. Several facts emerged during the discussion, including Thomure's assertion that despite an increase in population, Tucson's overall water use has decreased sharply. As a result, current water use in Tucson is at levels last seen nearly 30 years ago, illustrating Tucsonans' enthusiasm for water conservation.

To hear this conversation, click [here](#)

## WRRC EVENTS

### WRRC Brown Bag Seminar - "Agua Dulce"

January 19, 2017

**Time/Location:** 12:00 - 1:15 p.m. / WRRC Sol Resnick Conference Room (350 N. Campbell Ave.)

**Speaker:** Tim Thomure, Director, Tucson Water

In early November, Tucson Water unveiled a plan that could restore a vibrant ecosystem to the long-dry stretch of the Santa Cruz River through downtown Tucson. Tucson Water has developed an innovative plan for the "Agua Dulce" project, that would route recycled water, currently being used to restore the Santa Cruz River in far Northwest Tucson, to the Santa Cruz riverbed in Central Tucson. Join us to learn more about plans for this innovative project.



If you can't make it to the live seminar on Jan. 19th, join us online [here](#)

## NEWS

### Water is Life: Your Gift Can Nurture the Community!

During 2017, the Water Resources Research Center will work tirelessly to bring trusted water information to Arizona stakeholders and to share Arizona's water story with others. We will connect water consumers with natural restoration actions through Conserve2Enhance. We will bring the world of water to K-12 students through Arizona Project WET. We will train students and instill a passion for Arizona's water sustainability. And through our Water RAPIDS program, we will engage and help Arizona communities as they face extremely difficult water resource decisions.



As you consider your end-of-year giving, please remember the Water Resources Research Center. With your financial contributions, **we will fund students, supply schools with water learning materials, and develop outreach materials** to promote understanding of critical water issues and cutting-edge science. Help us to work to ensure a secure water future for you and your Arizona neighbors.

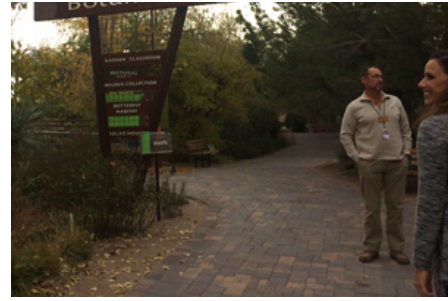
We thank you in advance for your support! You can donate online using the button below, or call us at 520-621-9591 for instructions on mailing a check.

 **Donate Today!**

### CRWUA Conference Provides Chance to Tour Springs Preserve



In connection with Colorado River Water Users Association Annual (CRWUA) Conference, December 14-16, in Las Vegas, NV, which WRRC Director Sharon B. Megdal is attending, she also toured the Springs Preserve. This 80-acre cultural institution features an interpretive trail system through a scenic wetland habitat, as well as museums, galleries, and a prize winning botanical garden. The botanical garden houses the largest collection of Mojave Desert cacti and succulent plants in the world. Designed to create a visitor experience that builds community, inspires environmental stewardship, and celebrates Las Vegas Valley history, the Springs Preserve has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1978.



Preserve Manager Bruno Bowles

An annual event, the CRWUA conference attracts participants from the entire Colorado River Basin. Attendees represent water utilities, and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation as well as those connected to recreation, environment, and agriculture. In addition to information sessions and tours, the conference provides opportunities for exploring shared concerns for management and building resiliency in the basin water supply.

To learn more about Springs Preserve, click [here](#).

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## Statewide Participation in the Second Annual Agribusiness Roundtable



On December 12, WRRC Director Sharon B. Megdal and Associate Director Jean McLain joined more than 350 attendees at the 2nd Annual Agribusiness Roundtable at the PERA Club in Tempe. This annual event, coordinated by the Arizona Department of Agriculture and the Agribusiness and Water Council of Arizona, is intended to develop efforts to increase the production and marketing of Arizona agricultural products. Panel discussions at the December 12 meeting included Arizona Water Issues, Water Delivery Technology, and more, while attendees represented multiple sectors of the Arizona agricultural economy, including bankers, suppliers, research scientists, water providers, farmers, and ranchers.

More details on this event can be found [here](#)

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## Reclamation Offers Prizes for Innovative Ideas to Expand Water Supplies



The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, in conjunction with federal and private co-sponsoring organizations, has developed two prize challenges intended to stimulate innovations that expand usable water supplies. The first challenge is for improvements in the means to measure arsenic in water. There is an identified need for rapid, low-cost arsenic monitoring beyond methods that now are used to ensure regulatory compliance. The second challenge is "More Water, Less Concentrate", which aims to help inland communities use desalination to provide new sources of water. The winning concepts will minimize the volume of concentrate while maximizing fresh water production. The arsenic sensor challenge prize amount is \$50,000 and the desalination challenge has a prize amount of \$150,000. Both competitions end March 13, 2017. This is the first stage of the challenge process, to be followed with stages for testing and demonstrating the most promising ideas. Prize money increases in subsequent stages.

For more information on the challenges and to register, click [here](#).

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## APW Bids Farewell to Graduating



## Water Educators



Arizona Project WET (APW) is proud of our three graduating Water Educators. Beth Kleiman, (M.S. Water, Society and Policy) and Patrick Wilkening (B.S. Computer

Science) will graduate this week from the University of Arizona. They have worked with APW for over two years facilitating lessons, water audits, and field trips for K-12 students and assisting in professional development for teachers. Faith Schwenning fulfilled her internship requirements this semester with APW for her B.S. degree from The Ohio State University in Early and Middle Childhood Education with an English minor. Faith plans to continue working with APW. Beth and Patrick, who are seeking positions in their fields of study, reflected on their experience. Beth commented, "It is my opinion that a lot of opportunities presented themselves to me because of working for AZ Project WET. I learned so many things in so many different areas while working for APW. It was never dull; always fun and exciting. I will miss it!" Patrick expressed similar sentiment, "I very much enjoyed my time at APW and enjoyed working with all the kids. I am happy to have worked with such amazing people at my job." We will miss them and are excited to see what the future holds for them.



Learn about the programs Water Educators are involved in at the [APW website](#).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALL FOR APPLICATIONS



#### U.S. Borlaug Summer Institute on Global Food Security

**Application Deadline: Wednesday, February 15, 2017**

The U.S. Borlaug Fellows in Global Food Security Program will hold its sixth annual Summer Institute on Global Food Security **Sunday, June 4 - Saturday, June 17, 2017** on the campus of Purdue University in West Lafayette, IN. This two-week learning program is for graduate students who are interested in developing a holistic understanding of the conceptual challenges around global food security with a focus on cross-disciplinary problem solving of real-world development challenges. Applicants must have completed at least one semester of graduate study and be enrolled in a U.S. institution at the time of application. **U.S. citizenship is not required.**

Additional information and applications are available on the [program website](#).

### Freelance Science Writers and Editors Needed

F5irehose Editorial, a content-development company, needs writers and editors for a high school biology textbook being developed for a major educational publisher. They are seeking students with a B.S. in Biology, Ecology, or a Related Field with interest in science editing; [F5irehose website](#).

This is a freelance, contract position. There will be more projects if this one works out. Pay varies per project. For more information, and to submit a resume and cover letter, contact Senior Project Manager Caterina D'Agrosa at 480-324-6952.

### Lecture in Patagonia, AZ on Patagonia's Watershed - What the

## Research Tells Us

Friends of Sonoita Creek will host Dr. Laura Norman, Research Physical Scientist with the U.S. Geological Survey, on Saturday, December 17, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. in Cady Hall, Patagonia Library. Dr. Norman has spent 18 years modeling watersheds in the U.S.-Mexico border region. This is a free presentation, all are welcome.

For more information about this presentation, click [here](#).

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## Water Conservation Field Services Program Grant

Recently grants.gov posted the funding opportunity announcement for the Phoenix Area Office Water Conservation Field Services Program Grant BOR-LC-17-001. Closing date for applications is January 23, 2017.

For more information about this grant, click [here](#).

Additional funding and job opportunities can be found on the UA Water Network, [here](#).

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