

WRRC Water Webinar: Prioritizing Transboundary Aquifers in the Arizona-Sonora Region

Date: Friday, March 28, 2025

Time: 12:00 pm – 1:15 pm Arizona Time

Speaker: Elia Tapia, Professor, Universidad de Sonora

Groundwater is essential for millions living along the arid US-Mexico border, yet persistent droughts, increasing demand, and population growth continue to strain these critical resources. This WRRC Water Webinar will

explore a multicriteria approach to prioritize transboundary aquifers in the Arizona–Sonora border region, leveraging publicly available data to assess which shared aquifers would benefit most from binational studies. The findings highlight key regional disparities in groundwater needs and provide a replicable framework for improving cross-border aquifer assessments.



Elia M. Tapia (Mexico) is a faculty professor at Universidad de Sonora in Hermosillo, Mexico. She holds a PhD in Arid Lands Resource Sciences and a Minor in Hydrology from the University of Arizona. Her expertise includes applied hydrology, hydrogeology, climate change, and disaster risk assessment. She has contributed to the US-Mexico Transboundary Aquifer Assessment Program (TAAP) and projects for private and public institutions across the US, Latin America, and the Caribbean. Tapia has also worked with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) on transboundary water initiatives, focusing on governance, stakeholder engagement, and climate resilience in water resources.

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