



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

**WATER RESOURCES
RESEARCH CENTER**

**Author Talk and
Book Signing!**

DAMMING THE GILA

The Gila River Indian Community and
the San Carlos Irrigation Project,
1900-1942



David H. DeJong

WRRC SPECIAL EVENT:

DAMMING THE GILA

The Gila River Indian Community and the San Carlos Irrigation Project, 1900-1942

Friday, February 7, 2025

12:15 pm to 1:15 pm MST

(Note: Doors open at 12:00 pm and books will be available for purchase. Tickets are limited for in-person attendance; however, if tickets sell out, please consider joining virtually.)

Location: WRRC Sol Resnick Conference Rm.
350 N. Campbell Ave, Tucson AZ

In-person Registration

Virtual Registration

Speaker: David H. DeJong, *Director, Pima-Maricopa
Irrigation Project*

Author David DeJong will give a WRRC Water Webinar presentation about his 2024 released book, *Damming the Gila*, the third in a five-volume series that focuses on the Gila River Indian Community's water history. The book examines the failure of the San Carlos Irrigation Project (SCIP) and Gila Decree to restore an agricultural economy on-reservation, even though the SCIP was first and foremost to "benefit ... the Pima Indians of the Gila River Indian Reservation."



David H. DeJong grew up in Mesa, Arizona, earning an MA and PhD in American Indian Law and Policy from the U of A. He joined the Pima-Maricopa Irrigation Project in 2001 and in 2006 became the director, overseeing all planning, design, and construction of the Community's irrigation system under the Arizona Water Settlements Act and Master Repayment Contract. When completed, the project will irrigate 90,000 acres and includes a holistic approach to water management, including managed aquifer recharge and solar over canal. DeJong's academic work focuses on Indian water rights and agricultural history. He has published ten books, four of which focus on the Community.



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