

SUMMER WAVE



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH CENTER



July 19, 2024 / Volume 12, Issue 5

The Water Resources Research Center - a research unit of the [College of Agriculture, Life and Environmental Sciences](#) and an Extension unit in [UA Cooperative Extension](#) within the Division of Agriculture, Life & Veterinary Sciences & Cooperative Extension. [Land Acknowledgement.](#)

[WRRC Office Update](#)

[Subscribe to the Summer Wave](#)

[View as Webpage](#)



2024 marks the 60th anniversary of the Water Resources Research Center at the University of Arizona. Find out [more](#).

IN THIS ISSUE: Reflections, Town of Superior, PCAST, Arizona Farm Bureau

[GIVE NOW](#)



**Reflections: 60 Years of the WRRC
and 20 Years as WRRC Director**

This summer marks a key milestone for the University of Arizona Water Resources Research Center. On July 17, 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Water Resources Research Act, which established the WRRC as the federally authorized Water Resources Research Institute for Arizona. This summer therefore marks the WRRC's 60th Birthday!

Ten years ago, when the WRRC turned 50, we published a [50-year overview](#) as an insert to our Spring 2014 newsletter. Along with much else, the insert included information on the backgrounds and priorities of the six individuals who led the WRRC during its first 50 years.

[Continue Reading](#)

2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Save the Date: May 20–21, 2025

WRRC 2025 Annual Conference: Shared Borders, Shared Waters: Working Together in Times of Scarcity

EVENTS

Arizona Water Law Conference: In the Eye of the Storm

Date: Aug 8–9, 2024

Location: [Hilton Scottsdale Resort & Villas](#)
6333 North Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85250

For over thirty years, CLE International's Arizona Water Law Conference has brought its attendees varying points of view on the critical issues facing Arizona and the West. With fresh conflicts brewing and new information continually surfacing, attendees will engage with speakers and colleagues, participate in discussions, and broaden their knowledge. Don't miss hearing from experts on important topics such as federal reserved rights, groundwater, development concerns and solutions, water quality, and much more.

Participants can earn up to 13 hours of MCLE credit, including one hour of Ethics, or up to 13 hours of Engineering credit.

[Register Here](#)
[More Info](#)



12th Annual Tribal Water Law Conference

Date: Sep 9–10, 2024

Location: [La Fonda on the Plaza](#)
100 East San Francisco Street, Santa Fe, NM 87501



Get the most important updates on critical water issues facing Native American communities today. Hear from Tribes, government leaders, academia, attorneys, and environmental specialists. Network with colleagues, earn professional credit, and stay up to date! **Participants can earn up to 13 hours of MCLE credit, including one hour of Ethics, or up to 13 hours of Engineering credit.**



[Register Here](#)
[More Info](#)

Upcoming WRRRC Events

- **Aug 21:** Water Study Session for the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors Meeting (10 am–12 pm); Organized by the WRRRC – **Save the Date!**
- **May 20–21, 2025:** WRRRC 2025 Annual Conference: Shared Borders, Shared Waters: Working Together in Times of Scarcity – **Save the Date!**

NEWS

Town of Superior Selected for Watershed Planning Grant

The Town of Superior was recently selected for a \$245,000 grant from the Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program (CWMP) to fund the development of the Queen Creek Working Group (Working Group) and an integrated watershed restoration plan. Since 2020, WRRRC staff have provided independent, transparent, and unbiased technical support and facilitation to the Town of Superior for their restoration activities in the Upper Queen Creek Watershed. As part of this work, WRRRC staff have facilitated and provided research support for the Working Group, a broad stakeholder group representing local interests. The Working Group fosters engagement among diverse stakeholders, integrating efforts to understand, plan, and implement a range of water resource management strategies in the vicinity of Superior. Building on past successes like funding of restoration projects to support seasonal flow in Queen Creek and the Green Stormwater Infrastructure pilot project at Coleman Alley, the Working Group decided to apply for a CWMP grant. Through a series of WRRRC-facilitated workshops and meetings over the course of 2023, the Working Group developed a successful application, proposing to help perform outreach, engagement, monitoring, and planning activities to address regional watershed concerns. The Town of Superior was the only application for a new watershed group within Arizona to be selected by Reclamation. For more information on the CWMP program or this award, please see Reclamation's [press release](#).



Watershed group development and integrated watershed planning are important steps toward addressing water quantity and quality issues in the state. Previously, WRRRC staff provided similar assistance for the Aravaipa Watershed Conservation Alliance's successful CWMP proposal. The WRRRC is currently assisting a coalition of partners seeking to apply for funding to form a watershed group and perform integrated watershed planning in the Sonoita Creek Watershed. You can help inform group development and

scope for this proposal by filling out this [survey](#).

Image: Ashley Hullinger leads Queen Creek Working Group workshop (March 2023).

[Press Release](#)
[Survey Link](#)

WRRC Director Submits Groundwater Comments to PCAST

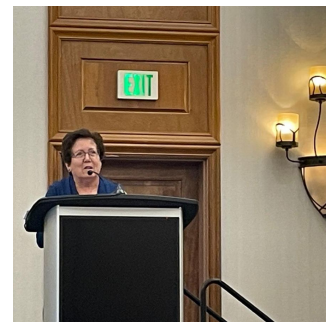
The [President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology](#) (PCAST) has formed a working group to consider opportunities and challenges related to our understanding and stewardship of America's groundwater. PCAST recently solicited input from the public to help guide government decision-making, asking six questions about how best to approach different aspects of groundwater management nationwide. This input will support the development of a report to advance action on groundwater protection. WRRC Director Sharon B. Megdal submitted comments in response to the PCAST call for input. Her suggestions included reminders that "groundwater is local" so solutions will need to be localized according to the unique needs of the community and achieving "sustainable use of groundwater may be difficult in many settings because groundwater is finite." Megdal also recommended an inclusive approach, noting that "If a goal of the working group on America's groundwater is to advance timely, whole-of-country collection of data on groundwater, which is a very big task, I suggest that a broad working group representing states and Native Nations, along with other water experts be formed." A theme throughout her remarks was the importance of relationships and meaningful, ongoing community engagement. The full text of Director Megdal's comments is linked below.



[Megdal's PCAST Comments](#)
[More Info](#)

WRRC Director Megdal Speaks at Arizona Farm Bureau Leadership Conference

WRRC Director Sharon B. Megdal shared insights from her professional journey with attendees of the [Arizona Farm Bureau's](#) (AFB) Summer Leadership Conference, *Navigating Agricultural Innovations*, held July 11–12 in Tucson. The event was hosted by the AFB Women's Leadership Committee, which recognizes the growing number of women serving as principal operators of farms and ranches and the need to develop women's leadership skills as they become more involved in agricultural organizations and promoting Arizona Agriculture. Conference topics included communication and negotiation skills, managing media relations, networking, coaching and mentoring, and agricultural technology innovations. In a session titled "Change Makers – The Relentless Pursuit," Director Megdal's comments highlighted some of the challenges and opportunities she has faced throughout her career and lessons learned in the pursuit of solutions for Arizona water, such as the need for confidence, competence, and collaboration to move from setbacks to opportunities. She discussed WRRC efforts to inform policy discussions through information sharing, including the WRRC Annual



Conferences and two *Arroyo* publications focused on agriculture in Arizona.

- [WRRC 2022 Conference: Arizona's Agricultural Outlook: Water, Climate, and Sustainability](#)
- [Arroyo on 2022 Conference Theme](#)
- [Arroyo on Water and Irrigated Ag in AZ](#)
- [WRRC's Programs on Agriculture](#)

WATER JOBS & OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

- ADWR [Hydrogeologist 3 / Hydrogeologist Associate \(Water Planning Division/ Recharge & Recovery Section\)](#)
- ADWR [Water Resources Manager \(Water Planning Division/Recharge & Recovery Section\)](#)
- AMWUA [Legal Consultant](#)
- Audubon Southwest [Water Policy Fellow](#)
- Bureau of Reclamation [Civil Engineer \(Hydrologic\)](#)
- Clemson University [Executive Director of the South Carolina Water Resources Center](#)
- National Wildlife Federation [Senior Specialist, Riparian Connectivity](#)
- National Wildlife Federation [Western Water Senior Specialist](#)
- OpenET [Chief Executive Officer](#)
- Watershed Management Group [Paid Apprenticeships \(Multiple Positions\)](#)

Please visit [WRRC's website](#) for a complete listing of water jobs and opportunities.

NOTICES, PUBLICATIONS & MEDIA

AMWUA Seeks Legal Services

Arizona Municipal Water Users Association (AMWUA) invites proposals from qualified attorneys and law firms to provide legal consulting services for AMWUA. Please submit your letter or any questions to Warren Tenney at wtenney@amwua.org. The first review of letters of interest will be on August 15, 2024. [More Info](#)

Rural Groundwater Resilience Workshops Call for Interest

The [Arizona Water Innovation Initiative Impact Water – Arizona](#) program, in partnership with the [Arizona Institute for Resilience](#) at the University of Arizona and the [Lincoln Institute's Babbitt Center for Land and Water Policy](#), will collaborate with local leaders to host a series of Rural Groundwater Resilience Workshops. These workshops will address local groundwater issues and empower communities to collaboratively develop and implement strategies for managing groundwater depletion. Interested communities are encouraged to fill out an [Application of Interest](#). Initial application review will begin August 16th. Early applications are encouraged. Submissions are due by 5:00 pm MST on September 16, 2024. [More Info](#)

Awards for Women Scientists Investigating Climate and Extreme Weather

[The Story Exchange](#), an award-winning nonprofit media platform on a mission to elevate women's voices, is accepting submissions for the 4th Annual Women-in-Science Incentive Prize. The cash prize will support five US-based women scientists studying the impact of climate change on hurricanes, droughts, heat waves, and other extreme events.

Recipients will be awarded \$5,000 and potential media coverage via The Story Exchange, which produces videos, articles, and podcasts for entrepreneurial women. Finalists will be selected by a panel of judges following a rigorous scientific review and based on an assessment by The Story Exchange editors. The deadline for submissions is July 31, 2024. [More Info](#)

Arizona Water Protection Fund Accepting Applications for FY2025 Grant Cycle

The Arizona Water Protection Fund (AWPF) supports projects that develop or implement on-the-ground measures that directly maintain, enhance, and restore Arizona's river and riparian resources. The AWPF Commission will accept applications for the Fiscal Year 2025 grant cycle and award grants under three categories: capital projects, research, and water conservation. The application deadline is **August 30, 2024, at 11:59 pm Arizona time**. The eCivis grant application portal link, grant cycle schedule, grant application manual, and electronic forms are available on the [AWPF website](#)

BBC Podcast: Saving Water at a Time of Scarcity

The latest BBC podcast episode features discussions on saving water during times of scarcity. This episode highlights Desert Control's innovative work in Yuma, Arizona, at Marta's Garden, where dates are produced. It's a must-listen for anyone looking to enhance their water-saving strategies. [Listen to the Podcast](#)

Watershed Arizona Survey

The "Watershed Arizona" project, led by Arizona State University's Knowledge Exchange for Resilience (KER), aims to create educational materials—a curriculum and a board game—to raise awareness about water-related issues in Arizona communities. These materials focus on water resources, watersheds, population impacts, and actionable steps for ensuring clean water. The project plans to launch these materials publicly, making them accessible to schools at little to no cost. Additionally, there's potential to market the board game beyond schools if they are proven successful. This survey helps the KER fellows gather input from diverse students and communities to refine the materials. [Take the survey!](#)

CALENDAR ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Jul 24:** [AWRA Webinar: In the Front Door and Out the Back: Getting to Know the North American Great Lakes](#)
- **Jul 28–30:** [2024 Arizona Water Reuse Symposium](#)
- **Aug 8–9:** [Arizona Water Law Conference: In the Eye of the Storm](#)
- **Aug 15:** [Agricultural Water Management Journal Special Issue: Water Scarcity Solutions for Irrigated Agriculture in the Warming Western US – Manuscript Submission Deadline](#)
- **Aug 21:** Water Study Session for the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors Meeting (10 am–12 pm); Organized by the WRRC – **Save the Date!**
- **Aug 23:** [ABWC 2024 Annual Meeting & Water Conference: Murky Water in Arizona](#)
- **Aug 30:** [Arizona Water Protection Fund FY2025 Grant Cycle – Application Deadline](#)
- **Sep 9–10:** [12th Annual Tribal Water Law Conference](#)
- **Sep 9–11:** [NSS National Conference: Innovation, Implementation, and Workforce Development for Sustainability](#)
- **Sep 16:** [Rural Groundwater Resilience Workshops – Submission Deadline](#)
- **Sep 30–Oct 2:** [AWRA/UCOWR/NIWR 60th Anniversary Joint Water Resources Conference](#)
- **Apr 28–30, 2025:** [AWRA 2025 Spring Conference](#)
- **May 20–21, 2025:** WRRC 2025 Annual Conference: Shared Borders, Shared

- Waters: Working Together in Times of Scarcity – Save the Date!
- **Jul 8–11, 2025:** [One Water Summit 2025](#)

Do you have a story idea, water job announcement, or event to share?
[Contact us here](#)

Visit our Website



Share This Email



Share This Email



Share This Email

University of Arizona Water Resources Research Center | 350 N Campbell Ave | Tucson, AZ
85719 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!