

UCOWR, NIWR Meet in Santa Fe

About 220 people attended the joint Universities Council on Water Resources (UCOWR) and National Institutes for Water Research (NIWR) conference in Santa Fe last July. Karl Wood, director of the New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute, chaired the three-day conference, which focused on the theme of "Increasing Freshwater Supplies."

Keynote speakers included Pat Mulroy of the Southern Nevada Water Authority, Ed Archuleta of El Paso Water Utilities (EPWU), and representatives of Sandia National Laboratories, NIWR, EPA's Office of Research and Development, Bureau of Reclamation, and USDA Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service. U.S. Senators Bingaman and Domenici (New Mexico) also delivered messages via their representatives. Technical sessions covered a variety of aspects regarding desalination, as well as water harvesting, water marketing and transfers, recycling and reuse, groundwater recharge, integrated modeling, water treatment systems, agricultural conservation, and much more.

Robert C. Ward, recently retired director of the Colorado Water Resources Research Institute, was awarded the Warren A. Hall Medal for distinguished achievement in the field of water resources. The Friends of UCOWR award was presented to the New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute and to Mark Limbaugh, Assistant Secretary for Water and Science at the U.S. Department of the Interior. Education and Public Service awards were given to EPWU and Texas A&M University's new water management and hydrologic sciences graduate degree program.

Visit www.ucowr.siu.edu and www.niwr.montana.edu.

Arizona Riparian Council Holds 20th Annual Meeting

About 60 people attended the 20th annual meeting of the Arizona Riparian Council

(ARC), held in Flagstaff last April at the Museum of Northern Arizona. The meeting included an optional two-day workshop on southwest streams led by Tom Moody of Natural Channel Design in Flagstaff. The second day of the workshop was conducted as a field trip, where participants learned field survey techniques and how to identify various stream features. A field trip to the Flagstaff Arboretum also was offered.

The one-day technical program began with a plenary session led by ARC founders Duncan Patten and Chuck Hunter of Montana State University and U.S. Fish and Wildlife, respectively. They addressed the meeting's theme, "Riparian Issues: Reflections of Our Past and Challenges for Our Future." Various perspectives on the theme were provided by representatives of the Flood Control District of Maricopa County, the Sonoran Institute, and the College of Law at Arizona State University. Technical sessions focused on regulatory protection, restoration parameters, and case studies of riparian restoration.

ARC promotes the exchange of information on the status, protection, and management of riparian systems in Arizona. "Riparian" is defined as including vegetation, habitats, or ecosystems associated with water bodies or dependent on perennial or ephemeral surface or subsurface water drainage.

Abstracts from the technical presentations are available at azriparian.asu.edu/2006/Program20.pdf. For more information, contact Cindy Zisner at Cindy.Zisner@asu.edu or visit azriparian@asu.edu.

CWA to Strengthen Presence

The Colorado Watershed Assembly (CWA) is an "organization of organizations" whose collective mission is to support collaborative approaches to protecting and improving the natural resources of Colorado's watersheds. Jeff Crane was recently named executive director of the group. Also president of Crane Associates in Hotchkiss, Colorado,

Crane is a hydrologist specializing in stream restoration, irrigation diversion, and habitat enhancement projects.

According to Crane, CWA's primary function is "to provide support services to local grassroots organizations throughout the state and help develop new groups." He recently outlined the following goals designed to strengthen the organization:

- CWA will co-host its annual conference this year (Oct. 4-6) with the Colorado Riparian Association and the Society for Ecological Restoration. Fundraising and capacity-building training workshops will be offered as a part of the National Watershed Health Program.
- The organization's *State of the Watershed Report* will be improved to include the work of all CWA member organizations and will be distributed statewide and to all state agencies.
- A website and listserv will be developed containing publications, fundraising opportunities, water-related news, contacts for consultants and agencies, an events calendar, and links to other watershed groups.
- The National Watershed Health Project will identify individual group needs and provide specific training based on those needs.
- CWA will work with the Colorado Water Conservation Board to create a fund specifically for environmental and recreational needs for local watershed groups. CWA will also research and pursue other funding sources.

Visit www.coloradowater.org.

Fall Meeting Season is Here

It's that time of year: meetings and short courses abound in the Southwest in September and October. For details, check out the Calendar (page 42), and visit our website for the rest of the fall schedule: www.swhydro.arizona.edu/calendar.html.