

AHS Looks Back, Ahead

The Arizona Hydrological Society focused its 19th annual symposium on the past, present, and future of water and water science in the Southwest. The Sept. 13-16 meeting, held in Glendale, was attended by nearly 200 participants. Prior to the meeting, optional workshops were offered on decision support for drought and climate change, technical writing, and stream restoration. A post-meeting field trip toured the Agua Fria National Monument. Speakers addressed a wide variety of topics, ranging from technical to policy and planning issues, groundwater to surface water, ecology to geology, and water quality to water supply. The Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Gail Cordy, who retired earlier this year from the U.S. Geological Survey and has been an active member and officer of both AHS and the AHS Foundation.

Visit www.azhydrosoc.org.

GRAC Addresses Limited Groundwater Supplies

The Groundwater Resources Association of California (GRAC) held its 15th

annual meeting in San Diego Sept. 21-22, with a theme of "Assessment, Use, and Management of Groundwater in Areas of Limited Supply." Approximately 160 people attended the meeting, with 10 percent coming from outside of California. Many of the talks addressed the theme topic specifically in San Diego County, where conditions range from an urban coastal metropolis to rural desert communities. Prior to the meeting, some participants visited the Sweetwater River Basin to learn about attempts to integrate the management of hydrology and endangered species over these varied areas.

GRAC presented the Lifetime Achievement Award to Glenn Brown, an expert on the geology, hydrology, and water resources management of Southern California basins. He spent part of his career with the California Department of Water Resources and was a consultant for many years as well. The Kevin J. Neese Award for "character, integrity, and dedication to the groundwater profession" was presented to Sheila Kuehl, Chair of the California Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee for her efforts to bring about water legislation that

would strengthen water conservation policy, increase and centralize water use data, and enhance the accuracy of water resources planning in the state.

Visit www.grac.org.

NMWRRRI Meetings Focus on Research, Water Quality

The New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute (NMWRRRI) recently held two meetings. In August, the group hosted the 2006 New Mexico Technical Water Research Symposium. This popular one-day symposium was attended by about 160 people on the campus of New Mexico Tech in Socorro. The annual event is designed to showcase all types of research being performed in the state, thus a diversity of topics prevails. Sessions included pollution prevention and water treatment; issues impacting wildlife; resource planning and conservation; land/atmosphere interactions; surface water modeling, measurement, and forecasting; and groundwater-surface water interactions.

NMWRRRI also hosted the 51st Annual New Mexico Water Conference in Albuquerque Oct. 3-4. About 120 people attended the meeting, which focused on "Water Quality for the 21st Century." Perspectives on New Mexico's water quality issues were offered by federal, state, and local agencies, as well as rural, agricultural, tribal, and oil and gas communities. Groundwater contamination by septic tanks was a pervasive topic, along with compliance with the more stringent arsenic standard implemented earlier this year. New Mexico is seeking primacy from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permitting; it is one of few states that have not yet taken control of such permits. The meeting was preceded by a tour of the Albuquerque Water Treatment Plant.

Proceedings from both meetings are available from wrrri.nmsu.edu.

2007 Regional Hydrology Symposium

Southwest Hydrology & AHS 20th Annual Symposium
present

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www.swhydro.arizona.edu

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