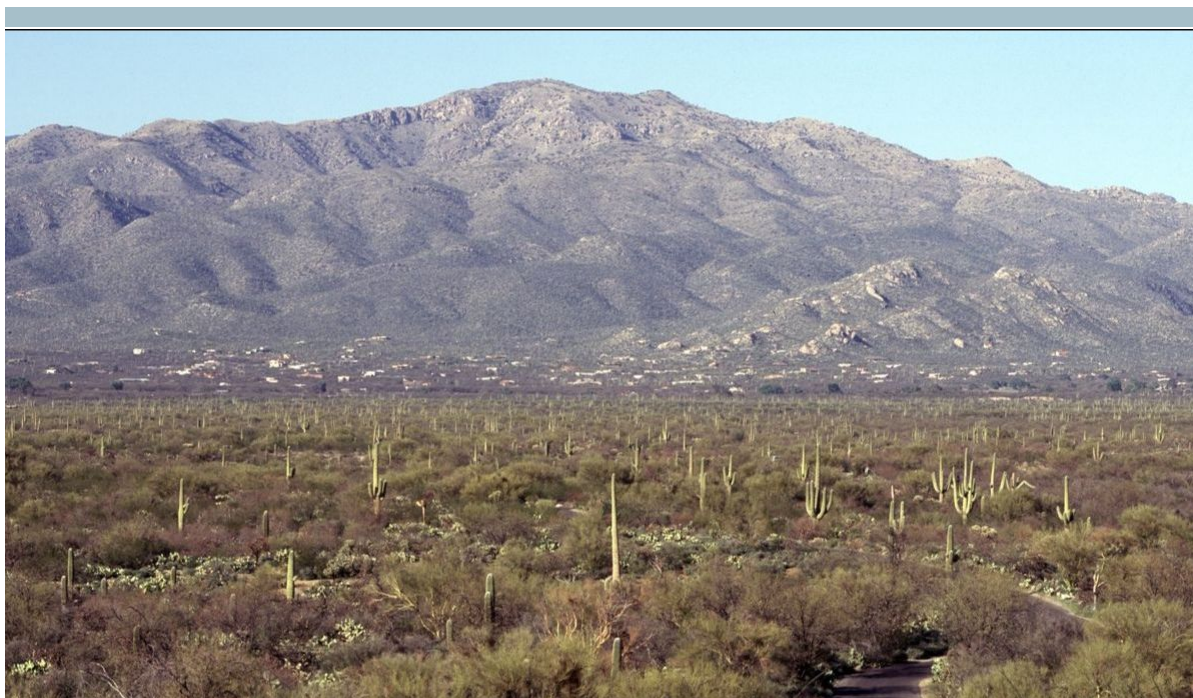
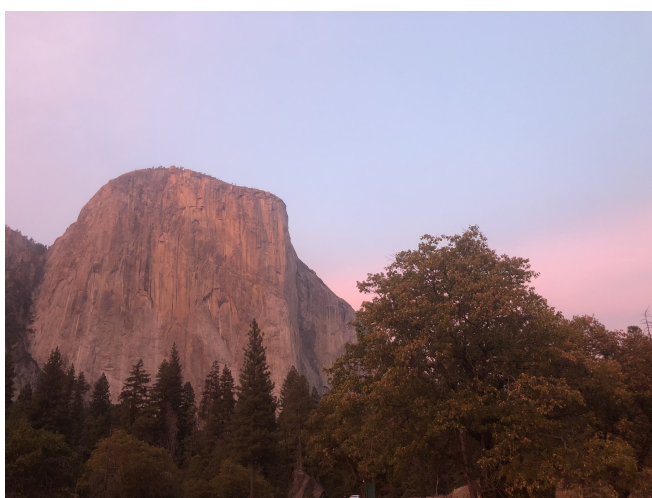


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EcoClimate News Southwest

November 2020

**Reflections from SW CASC USGS Deputy Director,
Dr. Carolyn Enquist**



With the sudden drop in temperatures this past weekend in southern Arizona, I'm

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(masked-up and socially distanced, of course). From Tucson, AZ to Taos, NM, then University of California-Davis, to Lake Tahoe and Yosemite National Park, and finally to the Desert Research Institute in Reno, NV, I continue to be stimulated and inspired by the people and places within our region. This extends to our collective resilience in the face of heat waves and wildfires, much less the challenges the global pandemic continues to present.

Of course, the past week's and weekend's biggest news event was the Presidential election. No matter what the outcome, we should all be gratified about the historic turnout to vote. That, in and of itself, is representative of our Nation's willingness to be engaged in the process that has and will continue to shape our country's future. Although many uncertainties remain, hope seems more tenable, particularly when I think about making connections with others. Collaboration is more important than ever (even if over Zoom or another online video platform), particularly as we face our era's greatest challenges. Partnerships are critical, widening the solution space with added strength, endurance, and innovation opportunities.

The Southwest Climate Adaptation Science Center remains committed to its mission of providing scientific information, tools, and techniques that land, water, wildlife, and cultural resource managers and others can apply to anticipate, monitor, and adapt to climate change impacts in the southwestern U.S. In the spirit of collaboration and partnership, we recently have released a special call for Statements of Interest for Tribal Climate Adaptation Research projects with the Northwest Climate Adaptation Science Center. We are requesting statements of interest that draw upon the application of traditional methods of ecosystem restoration and resource management in the context of climate adaptation, with special emphasis on applications of cultural fire. Click [here](#) for more information and instructions on how to apply (Statements of interest are due December 17, 2020). We will be offering an informational webinar for interested applicants on November 30, 2020 (register below in this newsletter).

As the year 2020 draws to a close, and families and friends come together to celebrate the season, I wish you moments of calmness, curiosity, contemplation, and kindness. These can be amplified with an abundance of escapes into the outdoors, whether in a nearby neighborhood or regional park, or one of the many National Forests or National Parks across the Southwest. Whatever the case, our resilience will only grow stronger by continuing to make essential connections, critical collaborations, and key partnerships that will support our collective hope as we move into the New Year. Best wishes for health and hope in 2021 and beyond!

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Adaptation Research Projects



The Northwest and Southwest Climate Adaptation Science Centers (NW CASC, SW CASC) invite statements of interest for tribal climate adaptation research projects to be initiated in Federal Fiscal Year (FY) 2021. The SW CASC is requesting statements of interest that specifically draw upon the application of traditional methods of ecosystem restoration and natural resource management, with special emphasis on fire in the context of climate change and adaptation. These projects can be used as seed funding in preparation for subsequent calls for proposals or focus on developing a process for implementing traditional practices and/or building bridges between western (conventional) and indigenous practices. Statements of interest are due December 17, 2020. Click [here](#) for more information and instructions on how to apply.

Have questions? Join us for an informational webinar and get your questions answered.

Date: November 30, 2020

Time: 3:00 MST

Register Today

Recording Now Available!

Webinar: Arizona & New Mexico Monsoon Recap and Winter Drought Outlook



Following a poor monsoon, much of the Southwest U.S. is going into winter with a rainfall deficit. This collaborative webinar looked at some of the impacts of the

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Dave DuBois from the New Mexico State Climate Center, Mike Crimmins from the Department of Environmental Science at the University of Arizona, and Mike Halpert, the Deputy Director of the Climate Prediction Center (CPC).

Watch Here



Come Rain or Shine Podcast

Episode 6: Santa Cruz River Lives Again

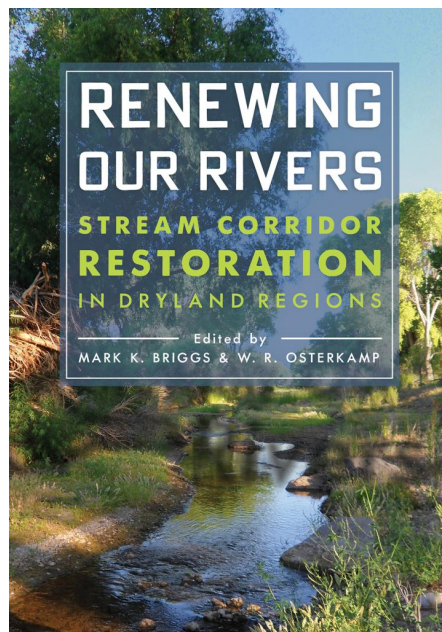


Urban expansion and mismanagement of the Santa Cruz River in southern Arizona had led to a dry river bed for much of the year. Using effluent (treated wastewater), the City of Tucson Water Department brought perennial flow back to a portion of the river, just South of downtown Tucson. The returned water recharges groundwater to the local aquifer, while restoring vegetation and wildlife to this stretch of the river. James McAdam from Tucson Water, and Michael Bogan and Drew Eppheimer from the University of Arizona, describe the Santa Cruz River Project (<https://tucsonaz.gov/water/Heritage>), including its benefits to the ecosystem and local community, as well as challenges they experienced along the way. More info on the project can also be found at <https://sonoraninstitute.org/resource/living-river-report-2019/> and <https://peerj.com/articles/9856/>. Also check out a related webinar

[reach](#). Photo by Michael Bogan.

[Listen Here](#)

Forthcoming Guidebook on Stream Corridor Restoration in Dryland Regions



Our rivers are in crisis and the need for river restoration has never been more urgent. Water security and biodiversity indices for all of the world's major rivers have declined due to pollution, diversions, impoundments, fragmented flows, introduced and invasive species, climate change, and many other abuses. A forthcoming guidebook, being published this December, aims to offer guidance for restoring damaged stream corridors. *Renewing Our Rivers: Stream Corridor Restoration in Dryland Regions* provides practitioners with the steps to “develop successful and viable stream restoration projects that last.”

SW CASC's own Sarah LeRoy and Gregg Garfin are authors on the chapter focused on climate adaptation, exploring ways to integrate climate change into riparian restoration planning. Reserve your copy [here](#)!

Boundary SPANning: Developing the Southwest Practitioners Adaptation Network



Written by Amanda Leinberger (Center for Climate Adaptation Science and Solutions)

In late October 2018, the Southwest Climate Adaptation Science Center (SW CASC) and the [Center for Climate Adaptation Science and Solutions \(CCASS\)](#), co-convened the inaugural Southwest Adaptation Forum (SWAF) at the University of Arizona in Tucson. Around 100 adaptation and assessment practitioners from across the Southwest U.S. gathered at SWAF to discuss lessons learned and best practices around five main adaptation theme areas: tribal adaptation and resilience, working and public lands, the wildland urban interface, built environments, and public health. The organizers of SWAF 2018 defined its goals as: 1) to strengthen existing and build new relationships among climate adaptation and assessment practitioners in the region; 2) to identify gaps in our existing stakeholder and practitioner networks; 3) to generate synergy and momentum for future engagement among partners and stakeholder groups; and 4) to position this emergent network to take tangible action on adaptation and assessment issues.

One of the main outcomes from conversations at SWAF was a decision to move forward with building a network of networks in the Southwest dedicated to bringing together adaptation and assessment practitioners and facilitating the exchange of experiences and best practices in the region on an ongoing basis. A cooperative agreement between CCASS and the U.S. Geological Survey through the SW CASC, created and funded the Southwest Practitioners Adaptation Network (SPAN) to achieve this goal and work toward supporting partnerships and collaborations through network building. Read more about SPAN [here](#).

Recently Published Paper Calls for Transforming Science Training to Build Capacity for Actionable Climate Adaptation Science

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Photo Caption: Former NW CASC Fellow Hamid Dashti conducting field work during his NW CASC Fellowship. The NW CASC's Research Fellowship Program provides support for climate adaptation research as well as instruction in the principles and practices of developing decision-relevant, or actionable science.

How can we mobilize science to support the transformational global action required by climate change? By creating a new type of scientist. SW CASC PI, Alison Meadow, is a co-author of a new open-access paper in the journal *Environmental Research Letters* that emphasizes the need for science training, and that builds collaborative science skills at different career stages to develop a strong community of practice around actionable climate science. The paper, *Building capacity for societally engaged climate science by transforming science training* (Rozance et al. 2020), draws from the experiences at the University of Washington Climate Impacts Group, Northwest Climate Adaptation Science Center and the University of Arizona Climate Assessment for the Southwest, to offer a perspective on a path for the academy to better develop, train and support scientists to conduct societally-relevant research. Read the paper [here](#).

Partner Events

Webinar Series

Past, Present, and Future of the Santa Cruz River Heritage Reach



The Santa Cruz River was the life blood of the earliest human settlements in Tucson (*Chukshon*, O'odham, Black Base) but today has been downcut, drained, channelized, cemented, and ignored. Yet, innovative thinking and actions are working to reverse this trend and revitalize the Santa Cruz River where it once flowed perennially at the base of Tumamoc Hill, reinvigorating a lush ecosystem, the local watershed, and

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people in this region and how it can continue to do so into the future. **All presentations are free**, begin at 6 pm MST, and will be hosted via Zoom. **Registration is required for each lecture.**

Dates: Nov. 11, Dec. 2 & 3, 2020

Time: 6:00pm MT

Register Today

Webinar

California-Nevada Drought & Climate Outlook

The California-Nevada Drought Early Warning System (CA-NV DEWS) November 2020 Drought & Climate Outlook Webinar is part of a series of regular drought and climate outlook webinars designed to provide stakeholders and other interested parties in the region with timely information on current drought status and impacts, as well as a preview of current and developing climatic events (i.e. El Niño and La Niña).

Date: November 23, 2020

Time: 11:00am PT

Register Today

Webinar

Improving Ethical Practice in Transdisciplinary Research Projects

Transdisciplinary research, or research conducted by people from different disciplines and organizations working together to solve a common problem, holds promise for communities and scientists seeking to address complex socio-ecological problems like climate change. However, this collaborative research approach requires thoughtful consideration of ethical concepts to better account for working with individuals, communities and organizations as partners in, rather than subjects of, transdisciplinary research. This webinar will explore principles for improving ethical practice in transdisciplinary research in socio-ecological settings, such as appropriate representation, deference, self-determination and reciprocity. We will discuss opportunities to deepen ethical skills for researchers in all career stages to improve our transdisciplinary research in response to new challenges, contexts and

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Date: November 16, 2020

Time: 10:00am PT

[Register Today](#)

Annual On-Ranch Demonstration at Clayton Livestock Research Center



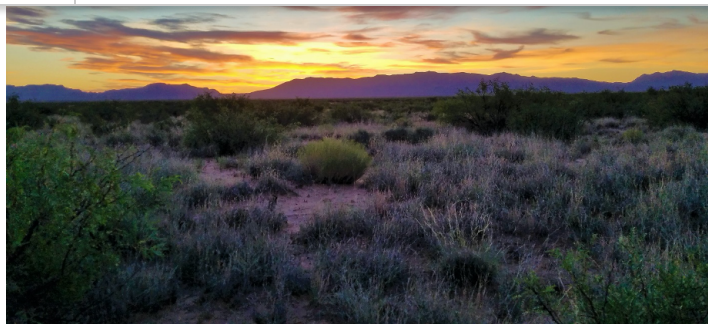
The USDA Southwest Climate Hub and Sustainable Southwest Beef Project are pleased to announce their Annual On-Ranch Demonstration will be on December 1st, from 9:00-11:00 am Mountain Time (UTC-07:00). All are invited to attend the **virtual** On-Ranch demonstration highlighting the **Clayton Livestock and Research Center**. Presentations on soil health, local aquifers, and 204 wheat and winter pasture requirements in the Southwest and Southern Plains will be followed by an opportunity to ask questions about the project. Don't miss the photo and video footage of the calves in the breed comparison study. Photo credit: Ruth Sedillo.

Date: December 1, 2020

Time: 9:00-11:00am MT

[Register Today](#)

2020 Jornada Virtual Symposium

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The 2020 Jornada Virtual Symposium includes recorded presentations, a live, interactive discussion session, and an Art of Ecology virtual art show and happy hour. Please join the Jornada Experimental Range and USDA Southwest Climate Hub to learn about recent research on ecological change, climate adaptation strategies, sustainable beef supply chains, and landscape monitoring and decision tools. We hope discussions infuse new ideas and highlight priorities for future programs.

Live interactive session:

Date: November 12, 2020

Time: 1:00-2:45pm MT

Art of Ecology Virtual Art Show

Date: November 12, 2020

Time: 4:00-5:30pm MT

Register Today

Drought Learning Network Southwest Conditions Monthly Report

As drought conditions persist, the Drought Learning Network is coordinating monthly 30-minute updates, outlook and resource webinars. Updates will be the third Friday of each month at 11:00am MT.

Register Today

Summit**Fire Science and Management in an Uncertain Future: Tools and Approaches for Managing Fire in Future Climates in the Southwest**

This four-hour, virtual Summit is an abbreviated, rescheduled version of 'Building

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an interagency effort to identify fire science and management needs and to discuss decision-making tools and approaches that address resource assessments and adaptation strategies for fire dynamics in future climates in the Southwest (Department of Interior [DOI] Regions 8 and 10 [CA, NV, AZ]). This overriding goal threads together the Summit's talks, Q&A, and break-out sessions. Speakers from various DOI agencies, institutions, and academia will focus on fire management and planning in future non-analog landscapes and climate-fire-ecosystem impact relationships in western forest (e.g., mixed-conifer, subalpine), desert (hot and cold, grassland, pinyon-juniper, sage-steppe), and Mediterranean/chaparral bioregions. Syntheses from talks, polling, and break-out groups on management and actionable-science needs will be summarized in a white paper and posted on the Southwest, Great Basin, and California Fire Science Exchange websites. Registration ends November 13th.

Date: December 1, 2020

Time: 9:00am-1:00pm PT

Register Today

Job and Funding Opportunities

Job Opportunities

Pending Job Openings in Climate Variability, Change, Impacts, and Adaptation

The host universities for all Climate Adaptation Science Centers **may** have several positions available during the next 6-12 months. Positions include several Post-Doc positions, a Research Coordinator position, and a Graduate student opportunity, all focusing on the impacts of climate variability and change on ecosystems, natural resources, cultural resources, infrastructure, tribal lands and waters, urban and rural settlements, and economic development. If you wish to be contacted about official job postings if grants are awarded, please send contact information (name, address, email, and phone) to info@southcentralclimate.org.

Private Lands Biologist/Technician

Natural Resources Conservation Service and RiversEdge West have partnered to create the Private Lands Biologist/Technician position. The Private Lands Biologist/Technician will be responsible for delivering conservation programs and riparian restoration practices on private lands in Western Colorado with a focus in Mesa and Delta Counties.

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[NOAA Climate & Global Change Postdoctoral Fellowship](#)

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Climate and Global Change Postdoctoral Fellows focus on observing, understanding, modeling, and predicting climate variability and change on seasonal and longer time scales. Each appointed fellow is hosted by a mentoring scientist at a U.S. university or research institution to work in an area of mutual interest.

DEADLINE - January 8, 2021

Student Opportunities

[Post-doc and PhD Positions Available for Northeast CASC Project](#)

Researchers at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, are seeking applications for a postdoctoral researcher and a PhD-level graduate student to work on a new project through the Northeast CASC investigating sensitivity of lake ecosystems to winter water level drawdowns and implications for lake management under future climate.

DEADLINE - November 30, 2020

[American Institute of Physics \(AIP\) Science Policy Fellowship](#)

The AIP is accepting applications for fellowship programs that will place scientists with the State Department and Congress for a one-year term starting in fall 2021. This is a unique opportunity for a scientist to contribute technical expertise and scientific advice to either the State Department or congressional staff.

DEADLINE - December 15, 2020

[Mendenhall Research Fellowship Program](#)

The USGS Wetland and Aquatic Research Center seeks a Mendenhall Fellow to collaborate with USGS scientists researching invasive species and other conservation and restoration issues. The Fellow's research would focus on the valuation of natural resources and ecosystem services impacted by invasive species and the cost and benefits of management actions.

DEADLINE - January 4, 2021

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[Early Career Faculty Innovator Program](#)

The Early Career Faculty Innovator Program is inviting a second cohort of early career faculty in the social and behavioral sciences to co-develop interdisciplinary and actionable research projects in partnership with scientists and engineers at the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) in Boulder, Colorado. The Innovator Program will award two-year grants for up to six faculty from the social and behavioral sciences. Awards will be up to \$400K over two years, starting in fall 2021

[NOAA Climate Program Office \(CPO\) FY2021 Grants](#)

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) CPO is awarding approximately \$8 million to approximately 90 new awards as part of their FY2021 Notice of Funding Opportunity. There are six competitions, including one related to new climate monitoring approaches and one related to advancing climate adaptation and coastal community resilience.

DEADLINE - November 30, 2020

[SW CASC Call for Statements of Interest for Tribal Climate Adaptation Research Projects](#)

The Northwest and Southwest Climate Adaptation Science Centers invite statements of interest for tribal climate adaptation research projects to be initiated in Federal Fiscal Year (FY) 2021. The SW CASC is requesting statements of interest that specifically draw upon the application of traditional methods of ecosystem restoration and natural resource management, with special emphasis on fire in the context of climate change and adaptation.

DEADLINE - December 17, 2020

[WaterSMART Drought Response Program: Drought Contingency Planning Grants](#)

The Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Drought Response Program is inviting states, tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, and other organizations with water or power delivery authority to apply for their Drought Contingency Planning Grant to either develop a new Drought Contingency Plan or update an existing plan.

DEADLINE - January 6, 2021

Learning Opportunities

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The TESS initiative at the University of Arizona has developed a set of online professional development short-courses, to equip future generations of researchers, practitioners, political leaders, and educators with the knowledge to actively confront society's most complex environmental challenges and bridge the gap between science and the needs of society. TESS is built for both working professionals and graduate students, with three 4-week online courses that allow participants to work at their own pace. Once each course is completed, participants will receive a digital badge and will be eligible to receive two continuing education units per course.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE - January 25, 2021 for Part 2

We at the Southwest Climate Adaptation Science Center stand in solidarity with Black communities in the fight for freedom, liberation, and justice. We acknowledge that Black and Indigenous communities, and all people of color continue to experience systemic and institutional racism. We commit to challenging these entrenched systems through our work on climate change adaptation, and through our personal behavior. We acknowledge that communities of color are disproportionately affected by climate change due to the legacy and continuing burdens of environmental racism and injustice. The SW CASC is hosted by The University of Arizona, which sits on the ancestral homelands of the Tohono O'odham Nation and the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. The University of Arizona is recognized for being a Hispanic Serving Institution and has long-standing programs and institutions focused on underrepresented communities, including a strong commitment to Indigenous community governance and resilience. Collaboration with tribal communities is a key tenet of the SW CASC mission. We commit to using our expertise and experience, in collaboration with our colleagues, to work in partnership with Black, Indigenous, and other communities of color to anticipate, monitor, and adapt to climate change impacts and collaborate on adaptation efforts that support each community's effort in building sustainable, healthy, and resilient communities.

Contact us at:

University of Arizona, ENR2 Building, 1064 E. Lowell St., Suite N441, Tucson, AZ 85721

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