

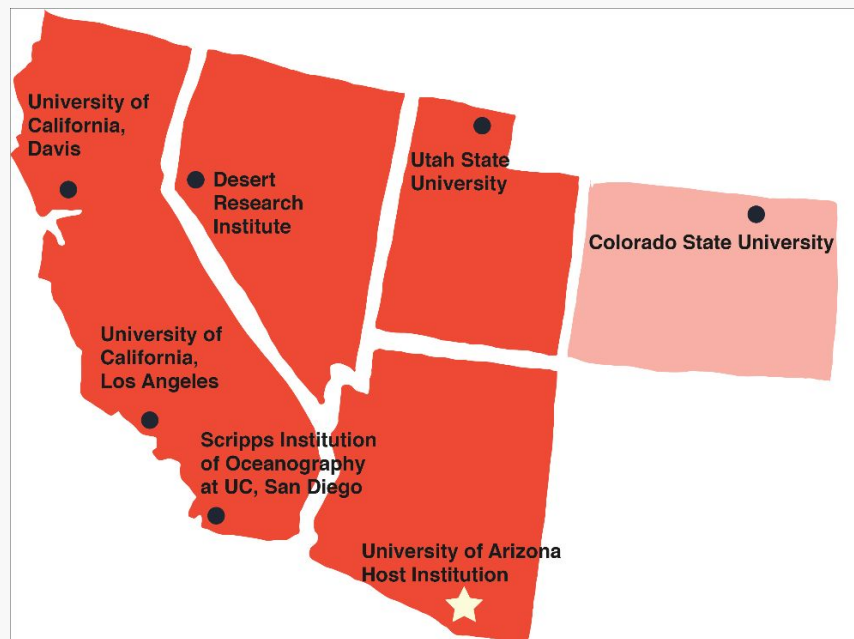
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## EcoClimate News Southwest

March 2020

**Applications are now open for the SW  
CASC Natural Resources Workforce  
Development Fellowship**



The Southwest Climate Adaptation Science Center (SW CASC) Natural Resources Workforce Development (NRWD) Fellowship was developed to provide graduate students with opportunities for training and practice in developing use-inspired and actionable science to inform natural resource management decisions. Those selected will make up a team of 8 scientists, working together over the course of twelve months.

One applicant from each of the seven SW CASC consortium institutions (see map) will be selected to take part in the 2020-2021 fellowship cohort. We encourage broad participation from students who identify with groups that have been traditionally underrepresented in the government and academic workforce.

Funding for successful applicants includes a stipend of \$5,000, with an additional travel allowance of \$1,000 for each cohort meeting that occurs away from their home campus.

Please find the application [here](#) and distribution materials [here](#).

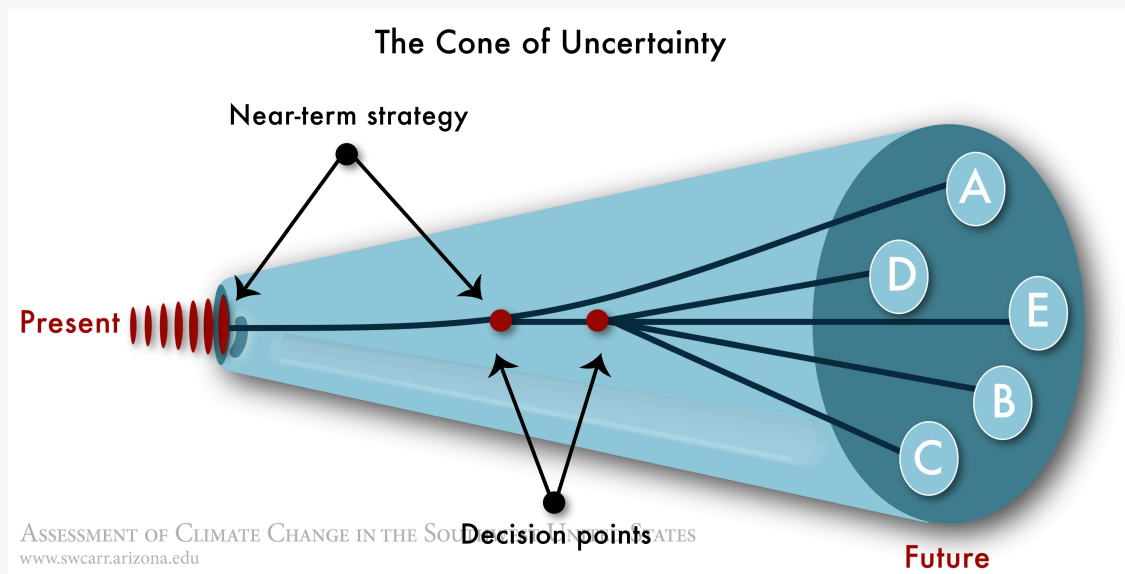
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## Reflections from SW CASC University Director

Preparations for and responses to the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic have much in common with planning for adaptation to the inevitable impacts of climate variations and changes. Whereas the contagion factor is unique to episodes of disease outbreaks, the need for advance planning to avert worst impacts is common to public

health and natural resource management sectors. Advance planning may sometimes seem like a low priority, especially when considering events that may take place at some unknowable future time, if at all; however, economic and environmental impacts are likely to be far less severe if plans are in place.

Strategic scenario planning (SSP) and structured decision making (SDM) are two methods used by natural resource managers, to plan for combinations of stressors that may include climate changes, population growth, land-use changes, shifts in the availability of economic resources, and variations in policy and public support for management initiatives. Regional CASC consortia, including the SW CASC, use these methods, in collaboration with natural resource managers, to explore plausible futures, develop anticipatory and response strategies, evaluate and prioritize strategies, and connect strategy options with workflows. The methods also aid managers in identifying indicators and thresholds for decisions. *Read the full Reflection from the Director, Gregg Garfin [here](#).*



Cone of uncertainty used in Denver Water Scenario Planning Initiative. Uncertainties, due to knowledge or communication gaps or imperfect information increase as time progresses from present to future. The increase in uncertainties related to scientific understanding of the distant future (around 100 years hence), has prompted many resource managers and planners to consider multiple scenarios of the future, which can be evaluated at key decision points in the near or medium term (roughly 10-50 years into the future). Adapted from Waage and Kaatz (2011). Source: Figure 19.3 in Assessment of Climate Change in the Southwest United States <https://www.swcarr.arizona.edu/> (Garfin et al., 2013).

## SW CASC Podcast

The SW CASC will be relaunching our podcast, EcoCast Southwest, this spring! Are you a researcher or resource management practitioner who would like to be considered for a guest spot? What topics would you like for us to discuss? Let us know [here](#)!

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## Cultural Burning Workshop



One of thirteen burns being tended at the Feb 2020 Cultural Burn led by Ron Goode, North Fork Mono Tribe. Photo credit: Anita Govert

Disturbance events such as flooding, drought, and fire are important parts of an ecosystem. For example, the seeds of some plants, like members of the Buckthorn family, only germinate when exposed to fire. However, due to fire suppression, wildfires in the American West have rapidly increased in intensity and frequency. Through traditional ecological knowledge, Indigenous peoples were successful in managing landscapes using fire. In February 2020, Ron Goode of the North Fork Mono Tribe and his family invited members of the community and members of the SW CASC to participate in a Resource Restoration Cultural Burn in Mariposa, CA. In the coming weeks, the SW CASC will publish a blog reflecting on the relevance of this event and the experiences of participants. Stay tuned.

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## Recently Published Research

### Actionable Knowledge and the Art of Engagement

Dr. Stephen Jackson, SW CASC USGS Federal Director, contributed to a National CASC supported publication. In February of 2020, The IPBES Global Assessment: Pathways to Action was published in Trends in Ecology & Evolution. This paper details how scientists and decision makers can work together to tackle issues regarding nature's decreasing ability to support humanity's well being. The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) was established in 2014 by 94 Governments to strengthen the science-policy interface to promote conservation and sustainability.

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## Fellows' Highlight

### A Gateway into an Inclusive Community



*Ann Willis is a senior staff researcher at the Center for Watershed Sciences and a PhD candidate at the UC Davis John Muir Institute for the Environment. Below are her experiences and insights as a SW CASC Natural Resources Workforce Development (NRWD) Fellow.*

For better or worse, people who create lasting institutions are as influential as their legacies. Try to imagine water management in the western US without thinking of John Wesley Powell or Floyd Dominy, Los Angeles without William Mulholland, or conservation without John Muir or David Brower. These men achieved incredible feats of policy and engineering, and institutionalized their legacies with the USGS, Metropolitan Water District, and the Sierra Club.

It's unlikely that their accomplishments would have endured without the force of their personal myths – as these men dominated history, they became role models for

multiple generations of engineers, scientists, and conservationists. The generations who were inspired and devoted to these leaders' visions are the stewards who maintain those legacies. Such devotion is powerful.

But it's hard to be devoted to a person or vision that doesn't speak to some fundamental part of your identity. That's why, when I think of formative individuals who are celebrated in the history of Western US water, I think more of the costs, rather than the accomplishments, of a class of leaders who are all white and all men. *Read the full blog post by SW CASC NRWD Fellow Ann Willis [here](#).*

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## Partner Highlights

### USDA Southwest Climate Hub and the Southwest Drought Learning Network



More than 30 resource managers and drought service providers convened in Las Cruces, New Mexico in February to envision a regional drought learning network. A

pre-workshop survey administered by the National Drought Mitigation Center to resource managers indicated 95% of the 60 respondents are interested in accessing information about best practices and lessons learned by other resource managers during recent drought. About half of the respondents have drought management lessons learned that they would be willing to share with others.

Throughout 2020 drought adaptation teams will work together to build a prototype drought learning network on three focal areas; Pueblos in New Mexico, young and small farmers and drought management in Utah. Project teams are open to anyone interested in supporting drought management and decision-making in the Southwest. Please contact Helena Deswood ([Helena.Deswood@usda.gov](mailto:Helena.Deswood@usda.gov)) or Caiti Steele ([caiti@nmsu.edu](mailto:caiti@nmsu.edu)) for more information or to join a drought adaptation team.

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## Partner Events



*Sierra Nevada Forums*

[sierranevadaforums.com](http://sierranevadaforums.com)

Join speakers Dr. Katherine Hayhoe, an atmospheric scientist and professor of political science at Texas Tech University, Lynne Barker, City of Reno's Sustainability Manager, Brad Crowell, Director of the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and Chas Macquarie, P.E., a civil engineer, and member of the Carson City Chapter of Citizens Climate Lobby for a discussion on the actions local cities, the state of Nevada, and the federal government are taking to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The discussion will be moderated by Dr. Michael Dettinger, a nationally renowned hydrologist and a climatologist who specializes in the climate of the Sierra Nevada.

Date: March 10th, 2020

Time: 5:30 PM PDT

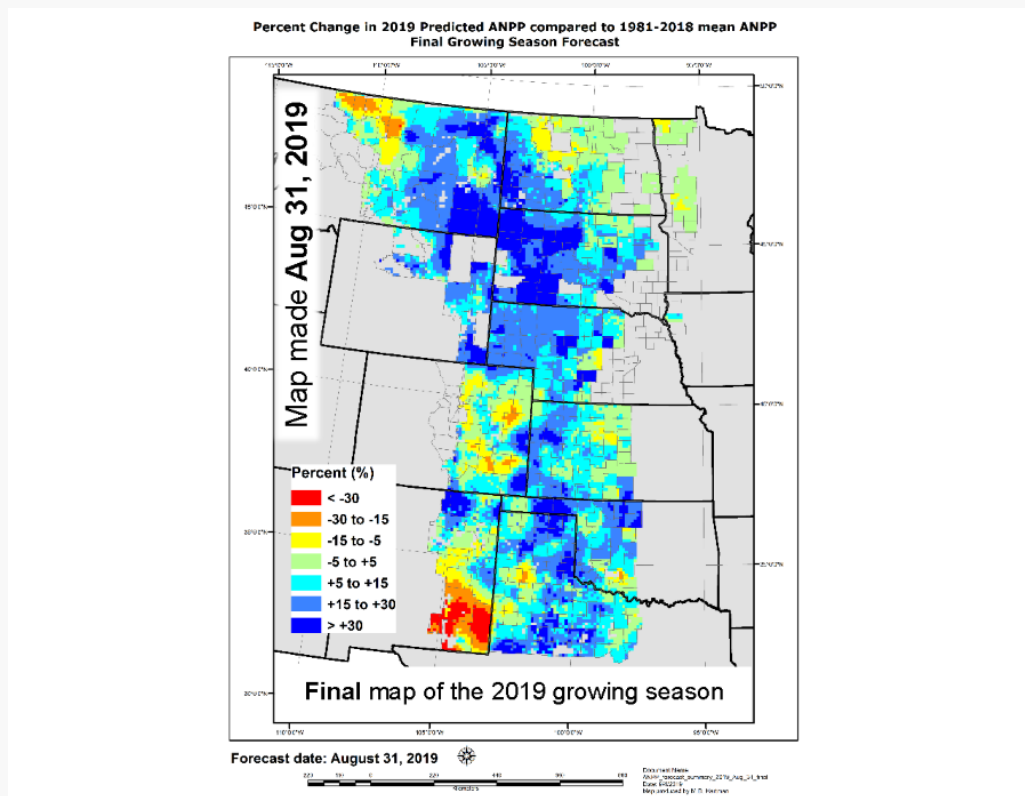
Location: Brewery Arts Center Performance Hall

511 West King Street

Carson City, Nevada 89703

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## Grass-Cast Stakeholders Workshop



Please join us for a stakeholder workshop designed to better understand the region's livestock grazing systems and drought management strategies, introduce Grass-Cast to resource managers, debut the 2020 maps and seek feedback to improve production and delivery of the maps. Please contact Lauren Kramer ([LRKramer@fortlewis.edu](mailto:LRKramer@fortlewis.edu)) to register.

Date: May 14, 2020

Time: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm MST

Location: University of Arizona, ENR2 Building, Rm S210

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**Webinar: Tribal SCAN Network: Web Portal for Climate Station Data and Decision Tools**

Tribal members in the Southwestern United States interested in joining the Tribal SCAN monitoring network are encouraged to contact the USDA Southwest Climate Hub ([Helena.deswood@usda.gov](mailto:Helena.deswood@usda.gov)). Please join this upcoming webinar for more information. Participants will learn about a new website (<https://scantools.rcc-acis.org/>) for SCAN and TSCAN climate station data and a demonstration of the website that includes decision support tools for agriculture and STEM education. This webinar will be presented by Mike Wilson, Senior Scientist with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Brian Belcher, Climate Applications Developer with the Northeast Regional Climate Center (NRCC) at Cornell University.

Date: May 17, 2020



Time: 1:00 pm EDT

Join the webinar: <https://usdanrcs.adobeconnect.com/r3u4u54yzbr4/>

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## California-Nevada Drought Early Warning System (CA-NV DEWS) March 2020 Drought & Climate Outlook Webinar

NATIONAL  
INTEGRATED  
DROUGHT  
INFORMATION  
SYSTEM



**Drought.gov**  
U.S. Drought Portal

This webinar is a part of a regular series on drought and climate outlook. Stakeholders and other interested parties in the region can expect 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) in California and Nevada.

Date: March 23, 2020

Time: 11 AM PDT

**Register Now**

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## Societal Impacts Case Study Workshop



Dr. Alison Meadow from Climate Assessment for the Southwest (CLIMAS) and a SW CASC principal investigator, and Dr. Gigi Owen from CLIMAS will be leading a workshop that will provide strategies and tools to identify, document, and track the broader societal impacts of your work.

Date: March 26, 2020

Time: 1-3 PM MST

Location: University of Arizona, ENR2 Building, Rm N595

## Register Now

### Job and Funding Opportunities

#### Funding Opportunities

##### [The Wildlife Conservation Society Climate Adaptation Fund](#)

This grant program supports U.S. Based 501(c)(3) non-profits focused on achieving wildlife and ecosystem conservation outcomes in the face of a changing climate.

*DEADLINE - April 4th, 2020*

##### [Climate Resilience Fellowship](#)

This fellowship is supported by the Climate Science Alliance and the International Community Foundation. This is a six month long position. The successful applicant will work along the USA-Mexico border on cutting edge climate adaptation and environmental conservation strategies.

*DEADLINE - Position open until filled*

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#### Job Opportunities

##### [Urban to Wild Intern, Tucson](#)

The Wilderness Society Tucson is hiring an Outreach and Engagement Intern. The successful applicant will focus on exploring options to increase urban park and community/streetscape amenities and access to nearby public lands. This position is open to experienced undergrads, graduates, and grad students.

*DEADLINE - March 20th, 2020*

##### [Science Translator](#)

The South Central CASC is searching for a science translator to implement science communications strategy, engage with stakeholders, and develop content for and update the website.

*DEADLINE - Position open until filled*

##### [Program Manager](#)

The North Central Climate Adaptation Science Center (NC CASC) is seeking applications for a program manager. This position will oversee the day-to-day university operations for the NC CASC.

*DEADLINE - Position open until filled*

### Water Resource Manager

The Arizona Department of Water Resources is seeking a water resources manager. The successful applicant responsibilities include supervising and training staff, representing ADWR at public meetings and conferences, developing, organizing, and the dissemination of policies, procedures, and training materials.

*DEADLINE - Position open until filled*

### Post Doctoral Position

The USGS North Central Climate Adaptation Science Center (NC CASC) is hiring a Postdoctoral Scholar in Understanding and Managing Changing Wildfire Risk to lead an effort on generating the fire science needed for resource management decisions in the ecosystems of the North Central region.

*DEADLINE - Position open until filled*

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## **Student Funding Opportunities**

### Indigenous Food, Energy, and Water Security and Sovereignty Traineeship

This traineeship combines classwork, internships, teaching, and community interactions to enable trainees to tackle real world problems facing indigenous communities. This opportunity is open to Master's and PhD students and comes with a \$34,000 stipend + tuition remission.

*DEADLINE - March 15th, 2020*

### University of Arizona/NASA Space Grant

The University of Arizona (UA) Space Grant committee is currently accepting applications for their AY20/21 cohort. All graduate students at the University of Arizona are eligible to apply. The fellowship, co-sponsored by UA/NASA Space Grant, the UA Graduate College, and the applicant's nominating Department/College, includes a stipend of \$16,000 for one or two years, both in- and out-of-state fee/tuition waivers, student health insurance (if needed), and \$750/year for travel to professional meetings.

*DEADLINE - March 23rd, 2020*

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#### **Contact us at:**

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

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