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Friday, September 19th, 2025

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AGRIBUSINESS & WATER COUNCIL OF ARIZONA

From Ditchbank to Dinner Plate

Our Purpose

To maintain the integrity of Arizona's water supplies and the industries that rely on these essentials for the benefit of Arizona's economy.

Officers of the Agribusiness & Water Council of Arizona

President, Tom Davis YCWUA
Yuma County Water Users' Association

Vice-President, Donovan Neese RID
Roosevelt Irrigation District

Treasurer, Glen Vortherms MWD
Maricopa Water District



AGRIBUSINESS & WATER COUNCIL OF ARIZONA

The Agribusiness & Water Council of Arizona (ABWC) is a not for profit trade association, whose membership represents the agricultural community from Ditchbank to Dinner Plate in Arizona. ABWC was established in 1978 to respond to proposed water legislation and to later serve as the State Affiliate to the National Water Resources Association. Its members are comprised of growers, ranchers, suppliers of equipment, cities, attorney groups, agricultural processors, financiers of agribusiness enterprises, trade associations, electrical, irrigation and drainage districts, and major state universities.

Our Mission

To represent irrigated agriculture and agribusiness by working to promote and protect water resources in the state of Arizona and to actively educate, support and promote all aspects of water, agriculture and agribusiness.

Agribusiness & Water Council of Arizona Executive Officer

Executive Director
Stephanie Knight-Dubien

Our Goals

Alert, educate and link its members on current issues important to water, agriculture and agribusiness including, but not limited to federal and state legislation that impacts Arizona's water, agriculture and agribusiness; federal and state water, power and land policies and regulations; groundwater management; changes in taxation proposals and policies; rural, state and regional economic development. Achieve a working consensus among its members on the best and most prudent course for agriculture to pursue in conjunction with its position in Arizona's economy. Speak with one voice to generate further support within the industry and to effectively communicate that support to state and federal entities, major state universities as well as to the general public and to gain their understanding and favorable action on an issue under consideration.

Board of Director Members

The Agribusiness & Water Council of Arizona has a very talented and diverse Board of Directors, that meets regularly to develop and promote the best water policy possible for its members and water users throughout Arizona. Our door is always open!





AGRIBUSINESS & WATER COUNCIL OF ARIZONA

A Message from the Agribusiness & Water Council of Arizona President, Tom Davis



Good Morning and welcome to the 2025 Agribusiness & Water Council's Water Annual Conference. Your in person and virtual attendance demonstrates your interest in learning about Arizona's water supply and economy.

Water and electrical power are intertwined in food production, processing, transportation, marketing, industrial uses and health and safety. Today's agenda explores the complexities in managing these critical and often competing needs. I hope you find this conference enlightening and useful. I trust you will leave here with new understandings, new contacts and strengthened relationships.

This event would not be possible without the involvement and contributions of many of our supporters. There are so many to recognize for their involvement but in particular our event sponsors, SRP for this venue, Dave Bogner, Communications & Cyber Technology Program Director, and I thank all of our speakers for taking time from their busy schedules to present today. I want to thank the ABWC Board members and especially

recognize our Executive Director, Stephanie Dubien and Board member Mathew Beyer, with AgWest, for doing most of the heavy lifting to make this conference possible.

Notice we have a 30 minute break scheduled mid agenda. Please take this time to visit with our sponsors and each other. I invite you to visit the ABWC website for links about our mission, our outreach programs and these fantastic sponsor organizations. We have several interesting speakers and topics but I promise to get you out by 1:30 for an early start on the weekend.

President Tom Davis
Agribusiness & Water Council of Arizona

Welcome to the ABWC 2025 Annual Meeting & Water Conference

**The Agribusiness & Water Council of Arizona
Annual Meeting & Water Conference Committee Chairman,
Mathew Beyer**

Serving as your Master of Ceremonies for Today's Program.



Good morning! Thank you for being here and spending your Friday morning at the Agribusiness & Water Council of Arizona Annual Meeting & Water Conference. We have a tremendous information packed meeting and we feel you will walk away feeling more informed, more prepared, and have a better understanding of what Arizona has done and continues to do, to protect one of our most precious resources—**WATER.**



Friday, September 19th, 2025

ROLLING THE DICE ARIZONA WATER

SRP Pera (1 E Continental Dr, Tempe, AZ 85281)

REGISTRATION CHECK-IN WILL BEGIN AT 7:30 AM

8:10 AM WELCOME & INTRODUCTION
Tom Davis, President of Agribusiness & Water Council of Arizona

Trade

8:15 AM ARIZONA'S ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND TARIFFS
George W. Hammond, University of Arizona Eller College of Management, Economic & Business Research Center Director, Research Director

8:40 AM ARIZONA AG WATER: CONSUMPTION, PRODUCTION, & EXPORT
Dr. Jeff Silvertooth, University of Arizona, Professor and Extension Specialist, Agronomy & Soil Science

Power

9:05 AM ARIZONA DATA CENTERS, WATER & ELECTRICITY DEMAND
Jeff Johnston, Lead Economist, Digital Infrastructure, CoBank

9:30 AM POWER NEEDS FOR THE WEST
Kris Raper VP, Strategic Engagement & External Affairs WECC

25 Minute Networking Break

Agribusiness

10:15 AM ARIZONA LAND AFFECTING AGRIBUSINESS USE & POTENTIAL IMPLICATION OF AG TO URBAN
Bobby Wuertz, Land Advisors Group, Agricultural Land Advisor

10:40 AM AVIAN INFLUENZA IMPACT TO THE ARIZONA EGG PRODUCERS
Glenn Hickman, Hickman Family Farms President & CEO

11:00 AM THE GREATER PHOENIX ECONOMIC COUNCIL OUTLOOK FOR GROWTH IN ARIZONA
Thomas Maynard, Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC), Interim CEO

Water

11:20 AM ARIZONA GROUNDWATER
Sarah Porter, Director of ASU Kyl Center for Water Policy

11:40 AM PANEL: AG TO URBAN
Dave Roberts - Moderator and Water Consultant
Alexandra Arboleda - Water and Natural Resources Attorney with Gammage & Burnham PLC.
Nick Vanderwey - Grand View Dairyman
Bobby Anastasov - City of Buckeye Water Resource Manager

12:10 PM PANEL: COLORADO RIVER UPDATE
Moderator: Dr. Jeffrey Silvertooth University of Arizona, Professor and Extension Specialist, Agronomy & Soil Science
Clint Chandler - Deputy Director, Arizona Department of Water Resources

Uncertainty

12:50 PM CONCLUDING KEYNOTE SPEAKER: ROLLING THE DICE
Rhett Larson, Richard Morrison Professor of Water Law at ASU's Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law

Lunch is Served

1:15 PM AWARDS PRESENTED BY THE AGRIBUSINESS & WATER COUNCIL OF ARIZONA



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TRADE



ARIZONA'S ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND TARIFFS
UArizona Eller College of Management, Economic & Business Research Center Director, Research Director
Dr. George W. Hammond

George W. Hammond is director of the Economic and Business Research Center in the Eller College of Management at the University of Arizona. He has decades of experience analyzing and forecasting state and local economics. His analyzing has significant influence, reaching thousands of decision makers each year through conferences, publications and press contacts. These have included NBC Nightly News, the Wall Street Journal, the Washington Post, the Financial Times, and local media.



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ARIZONA AG WATER: CONSUMPTION, PRODUCTION, & EXPORT

University of Arizona, Professor and Extension Specialist, Agronomy & Soil Science

Dr. Jeffrey Silvertooth

Dr. Silvertooth's program is directed towards the development of crop production management strategies that optimize the soil-plant system agronomically and economically, with full consideration of the short- and long-term impact of inputs environmentally. Primary areas of focus include nutrient and water management.



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Lead Economist, Digital Infrastructure

Jeff Johnston



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Jeff Johnston is lead digital infrastructure economist at CoBank, where he analyzes emerging technologies, business models, and risks for internal and external stakeholders. He joined CoBank in 2018 after working as an equity analyst in tech, media, and telecom, and holding senior management roles in the telecommunications industry. He holds a business administration degree in accounting and finance from York University and is a CFA charter holder.





Follow and Join!

www.agribusinessarizona.org/az-women-in-water-%26-ag



POWER NEEDS FOR THE WEST
Vice President, Strategic Engagement & External Affairs WECC
Kris Raper

Kris Raper is the Vice President of Strategic Engagement & External Affairs at WECC, leads the coordination and oversight of engagement with industry partners and stakeholders. She works regionally and nationally to facilitate conversations and educate on critical reliability and security matters in the Western Interconnection. Kris collaborates internally and externally to provide strategic direction necessary to deliver and expand WECC's outreach and engagement on important reliability risks.



Before joining WECC, Kris served for seven years as a commissioner for the Idaho Public Utilities Commission (PUC), chaired the Western Interconnection Regional Advisory Body (WIRAB), and represented the West on the FERC and NARUC Joint Task Force on electric transmission. Kris is a former Deputy Attorney General who represented PUC staff in commission dockets and represented the PUC at the Idaho Supreme Court.

Kris holds a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Boise State University and Juris Doctor from the University of Idaho College of Law.



WECC

**30 MINUTE
NETWORKING BREAK**

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AGRIBUSINESS

ARIZONA LAND AFFECTING AGRIBUSINESS USE & POTENTIAL IMPLICATION OF AG TO URBAN

**Land Advisors Group, Agricultural Land Advisors
Bobby Wuertz**

Bobby Wuertz is head of the Agriculture Land Services Team for CA and AZ and is in the Phoenix office of the Land Advisors Organization. Bobby comes from a multi-generation farm family in Coolidge, Arizona. He pairs his life-long involvement with agricultural production and his real estate background to close successful land transactions for agricultural investment funds, farm families, and real estate investors. He is a licensed real estate agent in Arizona and California. Prior to Land Advisors, Bobby was a principal in a 4,000-acre farm operation, worked for Arizona Drip Systems and was involved in a cotton marketing cooperative that represented farmers in California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas. Bobby is the President of the Pinal 40 Organization, which supports local youth and promotes agriculture education. He is a member of the Ag100 council, the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers, a graduate from the University of Arizona with a degree in agriculture economics.



AVIAN INFLUENZA IMPACT TO THE ARIZONA EGG PRODUCERS

**Hickman's Family Farms
President & CEO, Glenn Hickman**



Since the age of 19, Glenn Hickman has been running the family business alongside his brothers Billy and Clint and his sister Sharman. Growing up in what used to be a rural Glendale, Arizona, Glenn spent time working in all facets of the farm's operation. After years of experience and hands-on expertise in every job from egg-packer to account manager, Glenn's knowledge of the business spearheads the company's expansion and adaption to the ever changing market—including unprecedented industry projects such as Hickman's Cage Free expansion, PET carton conversion and more. Glenn and his wife, Audrey, are the parents of two sons, Michael and Grant and became grandparents for the first time in 2015.



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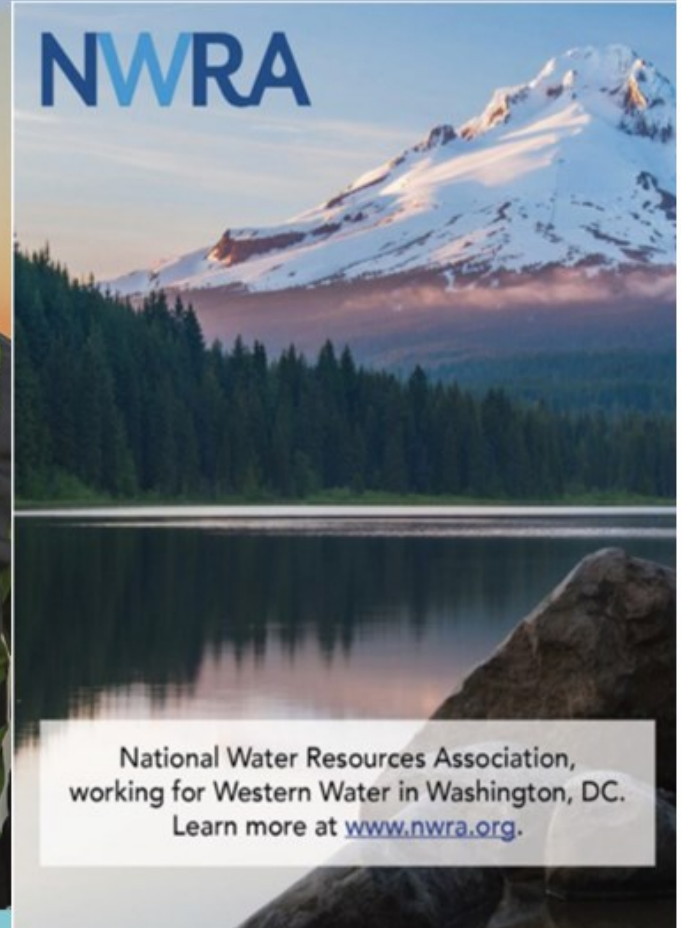


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srp.net/sustainability

National Water Resources Association,
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Learn more at www.nwra.org.



Greater Phoenix Economic Council

THE GREATER PHEONIX ECONOMIC COUNCIL OUTLOOK FOR GROWTH IN ARIZONA

Greater Pheonix Economic Council

Thomas Maynard, the GPEC Senior Vice President of Business Development, has been with the Greater Phoenix Economic Council since August 2013. Thomas co-manages the Business Development team and oversees GPEC's international business attraction efforts. Over the years, Thomas has worked with hundreds of companies evaluating Greater Phoenix, ranging from Fortune 500 companies to startups. Thomas is currently serving as an Honorary Commander, a unique program that pairs community mem-

bers with leaders from Luke AFB. He also serves on NAIOP's Developing Leader Steering Committee. Thomas was named to the 2020 list of North America's Top 50 Economic Developers and was recognized a 40 under 40 Economic Developers Class of 2021. Thomas is an Arizona native, grew up in Tucson and graduated from Arizona State University with a degree in journalism with a focus in public relations. He lives in Phoenix with his wife Mo and French Bulldog, Hugo.

WATER

ARIZONA GROUNDWATER

Arizona State University Kyl Center For Water Policy

Director, Sarah Porter



ASU Kyl Center for Water Policy
at Morrison Institute
Arizona State University

Porter also is an attorney, having graduated from Harvard University with a bachelor's degree and obtaining her juris doctor from Arizona State University (ranking third in her class). She clerked for federal appellate Judge William Canby and was a litigator for Brown & Bain; Coppersmith Gordon Schermer Owens & Nelson, PLC; and Osborn Maledon PA. She left her law career in 2006 for Audubon because she wanted to contribute to a collaborative effort to address Arizona's natural resource challenges. She will now ded-

icate that focus to the Kyl Center.

AG TO URBAN

AG TO URBAN

Moderator and Water Consultant
Dave Roberts



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HOME BUILDER & DEVELOPER PERSPECTIVE
Water & Natural Resources Attorney with
Gammage & Burnham PLC
Alexandra Arboleda

Alexandra is a seasoned attorney who specializes in water and natural resources law, focusing on finding creative, practical solutions for clients navigating the complexities of water supply issues. She represents a broad range of clients, including municipalities, utilities, water providers, real estate developers, industrial users, farmers, and ranchers, with a particular emphasis on general stream adjudications, groundwater management, and Colorado River issues. Alexandra is a Member with Gammage & Burnham PLC, where she brings extensive experience in water and natural resources law to assist clients in securing reliable and sustainable water supplies. Alexandra's in-depth understanding of water law and policy enables her to deliver innovative strategies for her clients, ensuring long-term solutions to complex water challenges. In addition to her legal practice, Alexandra has played a prominent role in water policy as an elected member of the Central Arizona Water Conservation District Board of Directors where she currently serves as Vice President of the Board and Chair of the Finance, Audit, and Power Committee. She has developed a strong network of community leaders and decision makers to forge collaborative solutions with, and she is a recognized voice on water issues, regularly speaking and writing about western water law and policy. Alexandra was born in Iowa and raised in New York, Germany, and Arizona. She graduated with a B.A. in Political Science from Stanford University in 1991 and

G&B

earned her J.D. from the University of Arizona College of Law in 1995. Before law school, Alexandra spent time teaching second grade in Honduras and studying abroad in Santiago, Chile. She enjoys spending time with her family and exploring the outdoors. She recently began competing in sprint triathlons.

**WHITEWATER
IRRIGATION**

Greg Sweatt
Cell: 520-508-1049
greg@whitewaterirrigation.com

1078 N Highway 191 Cochise, AZ 85606
Office: 520-828-0033
ROC:290654 ROC:223185



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34TH ANNUAL

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TOMMY CAYWOOD MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

SAVE THE
DATE



FRIDAY OCTOBER 24, 2025
SHOTGUN START AT 8:00AM



AGRICULTURAL PERSPECTIVE
Grand View Dairyman
Nick Vanderwey

GRAND VIEW
Dairy Farm, Inc.



MUNICIPAL PERSPECTIVE

City of Buckeye Water Resource Manager Bobby Anastasov

Serving as the City of Buckeye's Water Resources Manager since 2022, Bobby



Anastasov oversees the city's water portfolio, conservation, and environmental compliance programs. This complex role includes, but is not limited to, developing long-term planning and investment strategies to grow the city's water portfolio (water supply), and ensuring all city facilities, contractors and business owners operating in the city, maintain constant compliance with city, state, and federal regulations. Prior to joining the city, Bobby

worked for 13 years at the City of Aurora, Colorado where he was responsible for implementing policies and managing the permitting of the city's water treatment and reclamation facilities, while also coordinating and implementing Aurora's MS4 permit, Pretreatment, Reuse, and Wastewater programs. Earlier in his career, he worked as a sanitarian in the State of Michigan, specializing in groundwater permitting and modeling, along with the design of conventional decentralized wastewater treatment systems. Bobby has a Master's in Business Administration from Baker College, and Bachelor of Science in Natural Resources from Central Michigan University.

COLORADO RIVER UPDATE

ARIZONA AG WATER: CONSUMPTION, PRODUCTION, & EXPORT

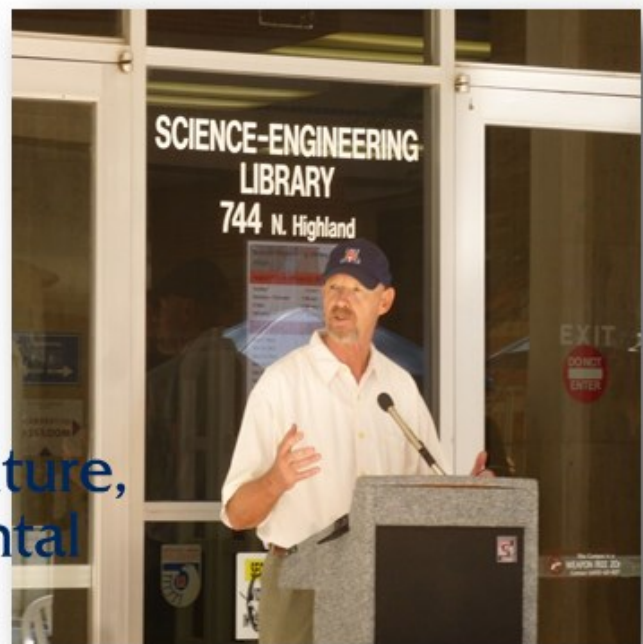
**University of Arizona, Professor and Extension Specialist, Agronomy & Soil Science
Dr. Jeffrey Silvertooth**

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The program's objective is to help individuals become more effective resource managers, whether they are in public or private institutions.

THIS IS NOT A POLICY OR THEORY ORIENTED PROGRAM!

The instructors are seasoned practitioners who have experience finding solutions to the problems they discuss when teaching. Their insights are not found in textbooks or academic theories. Their goal is to prepare the next generation of leaders who will require knowledge and skills beyond just moving water from point to point.

For more information and to enroll, visit: www.agribusinessarizona.org/wmcp

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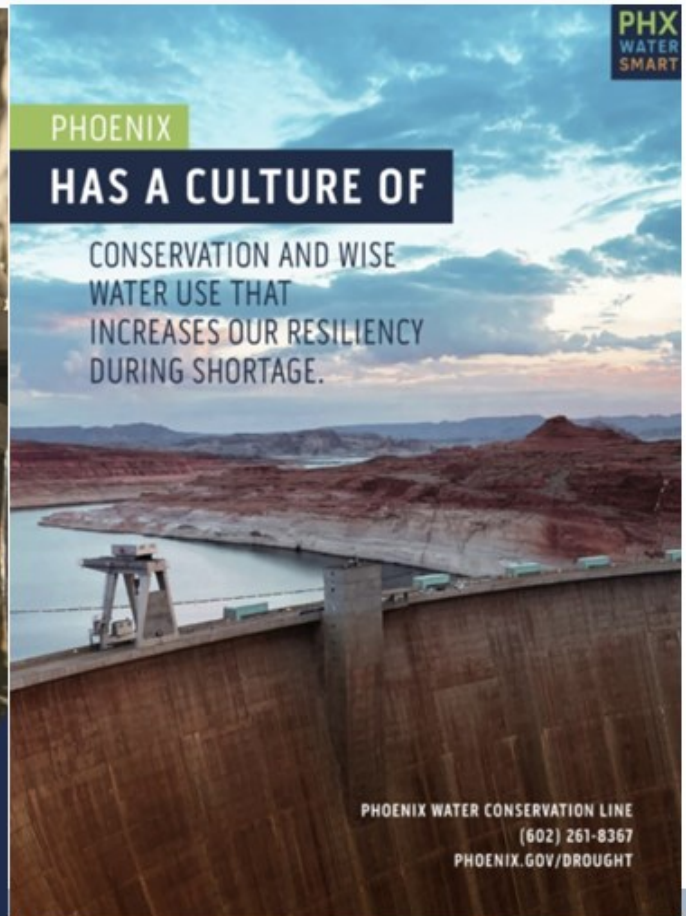
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PANEL: COLORADO RIVER UPDATE

Deputy Director, Water Planning & Permitting Division of Arizona Department of Water Resources
Clint Chandler



Clint Chandler is the Deputy Director for the Water Planning & Permitting Division of the Arizona Department of Water Resources. The Division is comprised of seven sections; Colorado River Management; Groundwater Permitting and Wells; Surface Water Permitting; Active Management Areas; Active Management Area Planning and Data Management; Assured and Adequate Water Supply and Recharge Permitting; and Statewide Planning. These are the Department's primary planning and policy functions for the management of the State's water supplies. Clint was U.S. Senator Jeff Flake's Metro Phoenix and Greater Arizona Regional Director. The role includes outreach and issue-specific responsibilities for an area the encompasses the entirety of Arizona, except for Cochise, Pima and Santa Cruz Counties. Among other things, he performs the supervisory function for a team of regional representatives and arranges the senator's itinerary for trips within the region. The issue-related tasks include resource and energy policy, transportation topics, border matters, Tribal issues, and, occasionally, banking, labor, and other economic subjects.



He was employed as the field director in the Office of U.S. Senator Hon Kyl, the Republican Whip, for the final four years of the Senator's third, and last, term. Prior to his tenure in Senator Kyl's office, Clint's senate experience consisted of three stints with the Office of U.S. Senator Pete V. Domenici of New Mexico. He initially served on Senator Domenici's Capitol Hill staff, attending to budget and tax matters. He

subsequently was twice employed on the senator's State staff. Clint has also acted as the Vice-President of Business Advocacy and Government Relations for the Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce, and was employed as the principal budget analyst for the New Mexico House Republican Caucus. Clint is an honors graduate of the University of New Mexico with a triple major in economics, history, and political science. He was an academic scholarship recipient. Clint was an inside linebacker for the UNM football team. While a university student, he lived and studied in Mexico

CHARGING AHEAD

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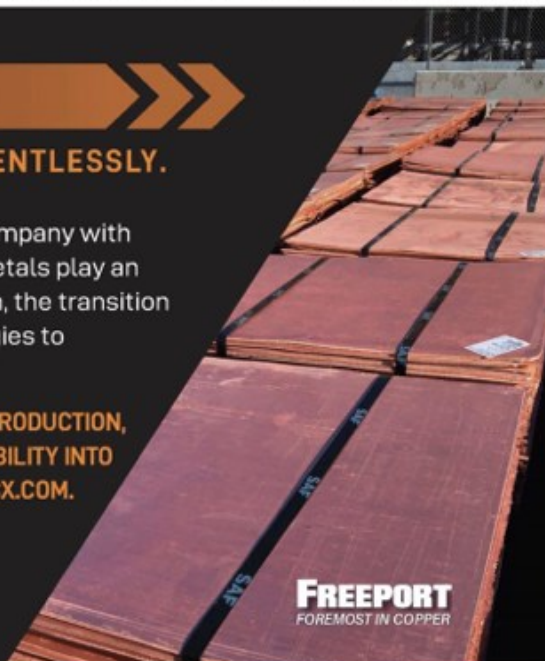
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Upcoming ABWC Events:

- ♦ September 26-27, 2025 Water Management Certificate Program begins Cohort XIII 2025-2026
- ♦ October 24, 2025 34th Annual Tommy Caywood Memorial H2Open Golf Tournament, Francisco Grande in Casa Grande
- ♦ December 3, 2025 Arizona Association of Women in Water & Agriculture Annual Meeting, TBD

4455 East Broadway Road, Suite 102 Mesa, AZ 85206



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Please Contact by Phone or Email at: (480) 558-5301 or stephanie@agribusinessarizona.org



CONCLUDING KEYNOTE SPEAKER: ROLLING THE DICE

**Richard Morrison Professor of Water Law at ASU's Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law
Rhett Larson**

Rhett Larson is the Richard Morrison Professor of Water Law at Arizona State University's Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law. He is also a senior research fellow with the Kyl Center for Water Policy at ASU's Morrison Institute for Public Policy. Professor Larson's research and teaching focus on domestic and internal water law and policy. He works on dispute resolution and improved processes in water rights adjudications in Arizona and the Colorado River Basin with the Kyl Center for Water Policy. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Arizona Mexico Commission and on Arizona's Water Infrastructure Finance Authority's Water Conservation Grant Committee. He is also Chief Legal Counsel to the Arizona Municipal Water Users Association. Prior to becoming a professor, he practices water law in with law firms in Arizona. He is originally from Yuma, Arizona, and is a sixth Arizonan. He and his wife have four children and live in Gilbert.

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Professor Larson was a visiting professor and Fulbright Scholar at the Pontifical Catholic University of Ecuador, a plus Alliance visiting fellow with the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia, a Lady Davis Fellow and visiting professor at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He is the Principal Investigator on a USAID-funded applied research project improving water supplies for refugee host communities in Lebanon and Jordan. He is the author of *Just Add Water: Solving the World's Problems Using its Most Precious Resource* (Oxford University Press, 2020) and his forthcoming book from Cambridge University Press is *Day Zero: How Cities Run Out of Water*.



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Water Buffalo Award

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CONCLUSION AND ADJOURNMENT
Yuma County Water Users' Association
General Manager, Tom Davis



Thank you for joining us for the 2025 ABWC Annual Meeting & Water Conference. We're grateful for our members, friends, colleagues, speakers, sponsors, exhibitors and others for your participation in our Rolling the Dice, ABWC Annual Meeting & Water Conference.



Our door is always open.
Come by or give us a call.
Thank you!