

Report for 2001NM2041B: Information Transfer Program

- Water Resources Research Institute Reports:
 - Proceedings of the 45th Annual New Mexico Water Conference, "Water, Growth and Sustainability: Planning for the 21st Century. 2001. C.T. Ortega Klett, Ed. NM Water Resources Research Institute, Report #319. New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM 145 pp.
 - Norman, David I. and Lorie M. Dilley. 2002. Arsenic and Arsenic Species in the Rio Grande, and the Effect on Irrigated Lands. New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute, Technical Completion Report #320. New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM. 55pp.
 - Wood, M. Karl and Nasim Javed. 2001. Hydrologic and Vegetal Responses to Fuelwood Harvest and Slash Disposal in a Pinyon Pine and Juniper Dominated Grassland. New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute, Miscellaneous Report #M27. New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM. 29pp.
 - Harris, L.G., L. Blair and C.T. Ortega Klett. 2002. New Mexico Water Rights. New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute, Miscellaneous Report #M15. New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM. 49pp.

Report Follows:

Statement of Critical Water Problem:

The New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute's Information Transfer Program is designed to bring the results of its research projects to the public, and to educate New Mexicans on the critical water issues of the state, region and nation. Different sectors of the public are targeted for each of its activities.

Statement of Results and Benefits:

The program goal is to provide people with water information appropriate to their level of training and interest. Information transfer activities are funded primarily from non-federal sources. Responsibilities for different segments of the program have been assigned to various professional and support staff at the institute.

Nature, Scope and Objectives:

The primary methods for information transfer are conferences, publications, audio/visual presentations, and available information on the institute's website. For the past 46 years, the NMWRRI has sponsored the Annual New Mexico Water Conference focusing on a topic of importance to the New Mexico water community. The annual conference is held in different locations around the state, usually in the late fall. Most of the conference participants are water resources practitioners working for state, federal or local agencies, although some members of the general public and of academia also attend. Average attendance ranges between 200 and 350, depending on the location and topic of the conference.

Publications include technical completion reports resulting from NMWRRI sponsored projects, special in-house publications, and conference proceedings. More than 300 technical and miscellaneous reports have been published by the institute. The peer reviewed technical completion reports are directed toward water professionals working in disciplines related to the research projects.

A quarterly newsletter, *The Divining Rod* focuses on research and current water issues. It is distributed to approximately 2,000 readers.

The institute averages about 125 requests for general information and more than 60 requests for specific publications each month. A reference room, housed at the institute, contains almost 10,000 documents and is used frequently by faculty, students, and others. A complete catalog of holdings can be searched through the NMWRRI home page on the Internet, along with an extensive water resources and information system database and other information about the institute. Several hundred inquires per month are recorded on the web page.

The institute director and associate director are frequently invited to speak at local, regional and national conferences and workshops in addition to serving on a number of committees that focus on water resources. The NMWRRI staff also regularly provide expertise for solving specific problems and general concerns. They play a central role in planning for the water future of the region by cooperating with a host of water resources entities throughout the state and region.

Accomplishments:

The 46th Annual New Mexico Water Conference was held in early November 2001 in Santa Fe. The conference theme, "New Mexico Watershed Management: Restoration, Utilization and Protection" drew over 200 participants. Tours included a visit to the Bernalillo Watershed study site and the Cerro Grande Fire site near Los Alamos. Internationally renowned water law expert, Professor Dan Tarlock, gave the Albert E. Utton Memorial Water Lecture.

The institute maintains a vigorous program to transfer technical information from the producer to the user and the public. Technical publications, newsletters, conferences, press announcements and presentations keep practitioners aware of new technology and research advances. The NMWRRI's homepage (<http://wrri.nmsu.edu>) provides on-line information about the institute's newsletters, technical report series, requests for proposals, upcoming conferences, and the research reference library. Starting with the 44th Annual New Mexico Water Conference Proceedings, all conference papers have full-text viewing on the institute's homepage. Other federal and state servers, such as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, USGS, and National Weather Service are linked to the NMWRRI homepage.

The institute's publications for the period included 7 technical reports, the 45th Annual New Mexico Water Conference proceedings and an update to the popular report "New Mexico Water Rights." NMWRRI technical completion reports are available at no charge while supplies last. A copy charge is assessed if the report is out of print or has been reprinted. Water conference proceedings and miscellaneous reports can be purchased for a small charge. All technical report abstracts can be viewed via the NMWRRI homepage and publications may be ordered at <http://wrrri.nmsu.edu>.

The Institute's quarterly newsletter, *The Divining Rod* is an eight- to sixteen-page newsletter that focuses on research projects administered by the NMWRRI and on current water issues in New Mexico. It provides information on upcoming conferences, seminars and workshops, describes new grants and newly released publications, and provides general information on new developments in water resources research and management.

The Information Transfer Program is an ongoing program with no particular timelines.