
Carapace

NEWSLETTER FOR THE

Upper Gila Watershed Alliance

FALL 2023

Upper Gila
Watershed
Alliance



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MANY FACES OF THE GILA



Inside This Issue

Meet the New Staff

New Earth Project

New Earth Education

Kids in the Gila

Miyawaki Reforestation

Adair Springs

Donna's Farewell

Upper Gila Watershed Alliance

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Mission Statement

The Upper Gila Watershed Alliance is a non-profit watershed protection and conservation organization working to promote the long-term health of the Upper Gila Watershed and its communities of life. Through advocacy, education, research and restoration projects, we are striving to build communities of stewards in more locally based economies.

UGWA Staff

Carol Ann Fugagli
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UGWA is a 501(c)(3) organization incorporated in New Mexico. All contributions are tax-deductible.



We'd LOVE
to stay
in touch

And we have a couple of great ways to do that!

If email is best for you, sign up for our monthly e-newsletter. We promise it's just once-a-month and an important bulletin every so often. Sign up on our website at ugwa.org and click on the Read Watch & Listen Tab.

If social media is more your flavor, we're on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/ugwa) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/ugwa). Give us a follow!

Or better yet, do both!

Mark Your Calendar!

Natural History
of the Gila Symposium X
February 28 - March 1, 2024

Sharing the natural beauty, research, and resources of the Gila Region in Arizona and New Mexico since 2006

Site URL - <http://wnmu.edu/gilasymposium/>

Message from the Executive Director



Photo by Mike Fugagli

First, I would like to express what a true privilege it is to be writing to you as the Executive Director of the Upper Gila Watershed Alliance. When my husband Mike and I first moved to the beautiful Gila Valley in 2000, we were wide-eyed and idealistic. Living in Gila was my first real taste of what it means to 'be in community.' It's a place where people take care of one another and a place of sharing. Sharing of countless potluck dinners, sharing childcare responsibilities, sharing healthy food

from our gardens, sharing lots of laughter and sometimes grief. It was a place where I fell in love with the Gila River along with the plants and animals that are a part of this diverse desert region.

The wildness of the Gila fills the energy of my soul and motivates me to strive for a future where wild things can thrive. There is one question that used to trouble me, keeping me up at night. What is the role of a small nonprofit organization during intersecting crises? The climate and biological crises (among others) continue to worsen every day. What difference are we able to make? The answer ties back to community. We need to strive for a resilient community focusing on climate refugia by protecting our springs, protecting special locations in our forest, and empowering our young people. Working within our range of effectiveness is all we can do, but these actions are still impactful to both present and future lives.

The theme of our newsletter is *Many Faces of the Gila*. Faces that belong to both the two-legged and four-legged creatures that make up this place we call home. This past year has seen many additional people working for UGWA as our projects expand. The *New Earth Project* has employed

numerous young people as has the work of our environmental education programs. We are fortunate to be working with so many dedicated and talented people. Each individual is passionate about our wildlands and is eager to work for UGWA to make a difference.

However, there are some faces missing and that face is YOU! You are an integral face of the Gila, and we need the support of our committed members and board members. Without all of you, we would not be here!

"We need to strive for a resilient community focusing on climate refugia..."

I enthusiastically look forward to the coming years of working together building resilience in our community. Please feel free to reach out to me at director@ugwa.org to say hello – I'd love to hear from you!

Sincerely,
Carol Ann

100
GILA WILDERNESS
1924 - 2024

The Gila Wilderness, the first national dedicated wilderness, was created on June 3, 1924, as a result of a proposal by the renowned conservation pioneer Aldo Leopold. Special events to celebrate the Gila Wilderness' 100th birthday will be going on throughout 2024 including group hikes, virtual/in person speaker series, art shows, and volunteer trail work/clean up days. UGWA is excited to be a part of the celebration activities commemorating this historic event. [Visit the Gila Wilderness 100th Anniversary website](https://www.fs.usda.gov/gilawilderness100) (located in [fs.usda.gov](https://www.fs.usda.gov)) to share events and happenings throughout 2024 and how you can get involved.



Do you love **HIKING** and want to help **KEEP** our valued public lands **UNTRAMMELED** by volunteering your **OBSERVATIONS**? If the answer is **YES**, then please consider signing up for UGWA's **Citizen Science** program. Our goal is to support the Gila National Forest staff by providing information to help them protect healthy forests, streams, and wildlife habitat. This new program is off to a running start with over 25 people signed up! We make it easy for you to **RECORD OBSERVATIONS** while you are hiking using your smartphone, one of UGWA's tablets, or good 'ole paper and pen. Your observations will be uploaded to the Forest Service's database and *we will follow through* with them.

In case you have questions about the process or would like to meet others who are in the program, we are offering **periodic social gatherings** for our all-star volunteers. A short presentation will be given, and we will have staff on hand to answer questions. **Snacks and beverages** are included! Our first gathering will be on **December 7th**, at 4:30pm at the Forest Supervisor's offices located at 3005 Camino del Bosque, Silver City, NM. We hope to see you there!

What: Citizen Scientist Gathering

When: December 7, 2023, 4:30 PM

Where: Forest Supervisor's Office
3005 Camino del Bosque
Silver City NM



Sign damaged by a firearm and the same sign after a report was made.

A New Face in the Office

In May of this year, Rebecca Martin joined the UGWA team as Administrative Assistant. Recently retired from over five years as manager of the Silver City Visitor Center, Rebecca was eager to return to work but did not want to totally give up her retirement. She found the best of both worlds in her part-time position with UGWA. Not only does it suit her desire for a flexible schedule, but by working for UGWA she can apply her experience and talents to support an organization that is doing the vital work of protection, conservation, and restoration of our local watershed, thus supporting our community in a very direct and long-term way...all issues she holds near and dear to her heart.

Before coming to New Mexico, she worked in corporate training and development, business consulting, management, and has been a small business owner. Her experience includes working for a wide-range of types of

businesses including retail, wholesale, distribution, and manufacturing, as well as nonprofit organizations. She is as at home with an Excel spreadsheet as she is creating a design in Photoshop.

When she's not working, she enjoys walking her best buddy, Teddy Bear, a poodle-mix with a modest social media following, baking tasty treats (yes, she shares these at the office), and dabbling in graphic design projects.

Rebecca is very happy to be a member of our staff and looks forward to getting to know the extended UGWA family!



Photo by Julie Enos

New Earth Project: Plans for Permanency, Replicability and Research

By Mike Fugagli

UGWA's New Earth Project (NEP) is, literally, on the move. Funded as a two-year pilot project in the inaugural year of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation's EJ4 program (Environmental Justice for Climate), NEP is moving from Gila Woodnet in Santa Clara, NM where the climate solutions pilot project was incubated, to San Vicente Farms (Old Chinese Gardens, LLC), about a mile downstream from downtown Silver City, where NEP will now have its permanent home.

As a proof-of-concept pilot project, NEP has succeeded so far in demonstrating that:

1

A non-profit organization like UGWA can work productively with school administrators, teachers, and other school staff to incorporate a healthy soils program into the elementary school curriculum.

2

Elementary school food waste can be efficiently collected in cafeterias, with students rapidly learning to separate their food waste without costly supervision.

3

Food waste from elementary schools can be collected daily and brought to a dedicated site to be weighed, ground, and safely stored.

4

A food waste slurry can be mixed with shredded woody biomass (and biochar) to create a Johnson-Su bioreactor with a homogeneous input that is easily replicable.

5

Food waste, biochar, and shredded woody biomass can be used as inputs in a Johnson-Su bioreactor to achieve a thermophilic temperature profile that meets all regulatory standards for the removal of weed seeds and pathogenic organisms.

6

A Johnson-Su bioreactor, with food waste as a primary input can stay aerobic, odor/pest free, and be maintained at a 70% moisture content without any leaching or groundwater contamination.

7

With the addition of a woody biomass jacket innovated on-site, Johnson-Su bioreactors can over-winter in climates like Silver City's without freezing in subzero, overnight temperatures that are otherwise harmful to microorganisms and worms.

8

With a small part-time work force composed mostly of young adults and high school interns at least 1,200 lbs. of food waste can be processed, and two bioreactors constructed per week.

9

From three elementary schools, over 12 tons of food waste can be diverted from the county landfill in a single school year.

10

After a twelve-month maturation process resulting in approximately 700 lbs. of finished compost per bioreactor, enough Johnson-Su compost will have been generated through the construction of 37 bioreactors to date to inoculate over 13,000 acres of degraded land with living microbes.

continued on page 6

New Earth Project: Plans
continued from page 5

Because of NEP's initial success, and the increasing desire for "shovel ready" climate solutions in New Mexico, the State legislature appropriated funding to NEP during the 2023 spring legislative session (Thank you Senator Hemphill!). These monies will help purchase many of the tools and other equipment/supplies needed to transition into a self-sustaining enterprise at a new, dedicated site. The Lineberry Foundation, a long-time supporter of UGWA's climate justice and youth empowerment program, Thinking ON a Mountain (TOM), has also generously contributed funds to NEP this year in support of high school internships and other youth employment and empowerment associated with the project.

Since its conception, a primary focus of NEP has been its replicability. The project vision is not to grow large in one place, but to spread like a mycelial network. Every community has food waste. Every community has liability biomass either in the form of backyard waste or slash from forest thinning projects. Every community has elementary school-aged children that desperately need to learn about healthy soils. And thanks to its initial success, NEP is already starting to spread with collaborators now planning to replicate our work in both Las Cruces and Santa Fe.

Back here in Silver City, we still plan to produce two to three bioreactors weekly. Such a large number of reactors is unusual for this relatively new composting technology, and it puts NEP in a position to contribute significantly to the emerging science of soil microbiology by making NEP compost available to the research community. To that end, NEP is now pleased to be a partnering organization in the Global Soil Restoration Network.

Spreading the information we've learned is an important component of the process and we are pleased to have shared our learned techniques with the New Mexico Compost Coalition, with a podcast called Resilient New Mexico, and have articles in the National Center for Appropriate Technology, Life is Good in Silver City, Garbanzo Gazette, Silver City Daily Press and Deming Headlight.

Thank you to the Commission for Environmental Cooperation, Lineberry Foundation, and the State legislature for funding this program.



Johnson-Su bioreactors on an automated watering system installed by Abel Duffy

Photo by Carol Ann Fugagli

New Earth Project: Perspectives in the Classrooms

By Nan Franzblau

What kids don't like worms?

Turns out, none.

That's what the New Earth Project has discovered since we began working with 4th and 5th graders at four elementary schools in Grant County. Studying worms is a significant part of our education program, which is one of the cornerstones of the New Earth Project.

As the climate crisis worsens, we are developing a curriculum that challenges our current perspective of nature. There are over 8 billion people on the planet, but there are at least that many microbes in just two teaspoons of healthy soil! We show kids how to not just befriend



Fourth-graders from José Barrios examine composting worms.

Photo by Carol Ann Fugagli

those bugs, but sustain and nurture them, because the future of our soil and our climate depend on it.

Beginning with a series of Climathons in October 2022, our program focuses on soil regeneration and climate mitigation through composting. During the half day Climathons, students built cedar boxes for vermicomposting (composting with worms) in their classrooms. They also made posters advocating composting, which were hung in their school halls and cafeterias. Others made short movies demonstrating the process and importance of turning food surplus back into soil.

Over the last year, we have also visited the 4th (and some 5th) grade classrooms at Jose Barrios, Harrison Schmitt, Cliff, and San Lorenzo Elementary Schools every month. In

addition to tending to the worms in their classrooms, students study worm anatomy, behavior, and their crucial role as decomposers. As they tend to the worms, students make observations and draw pictures in a classroom notebook. In the spring, they will harvest the worm castings to spread on school landscapes and gardens.

To impress upon students that soil is a living entity, we introduce them to the FBI: fungi, bacteria and insects, decomposers and soil residents that help make nutrients available for plants. We also play a running game that shows how, by breaking down plant matter, decomposers create soil and new plants emerge, bolstering oxygen and food for animals. The decomposer game demonstrates that without decomposers, the food chain would quickly be broken.

Living microbes in the soil need water but can't survive if their home is waterlogged, so we facilitate an activity analyzing water retention

continued on page 10



Chris Lemme instructs students from Cliff Elementary how to grind corn using a mano and metate.

Photo by Carol Ann Fugagli

By Carol Ann Fugagli

“I wish school could always be at the river!” was the joyful statement from one 5th grade student who attended the Children’s Water Festival in May 2023. Watching kids experience nature, hearing their screams of delight, and observing how they open their senses never gets tiring. I continue to be inspired by the natural transformation that takes place once kids are removed from their phone or computer screen and distractions.

Since 2016, UGWA has taken thousands of kids outdoors; either for 5th grade students to visit the Gila River as a part of the Children’s Water Festival or for a five-day camp for teenagers. Our program’s philosophy focuses on awe, respect, and stewardship no matter the age of the student. During eco-camp, we introduce campers to bird watching, fishing, ecology, Indigenous skills, sensory awareness, and incorporate age-appropriate facts and discussions about our changing climate and positive actions that can be taken.

Sometimes it is preferred to let photos tell the story and I know you will enjoy this one. Spoiler alert: it has a very good ending!

We are grateful to our funders for our environmental education programs: The Nature Conservancy, Conservation Lands Foundation, Outdoor Equity Fund, Lineberry Foundation, and The Wilderness Society.



Molly Pendleton teaches students from Ruben S. Torres Elementary how to make leaf rubbings. Photo by Beth Jeffers



Fifth-grade students from Harrison Schmitt Elementary examine macro invertebrates found in the Gila River. Photo by Emily Cox



Emily Cox identifies aquatic macro invertebrates to students at the Children’s Water Festival. Photo by Beth Jeffers



Laioni Landreth and Heather Hiller practice hair care during Eco Camp. Photo by Molly Pendleton



Ruben S. Torres Elementary School fifth graders enjoy being outdoors during the Children’s Water Festival. Photo by school staff



Students from Columbus Elementary being silly at the Gila River. Photo by Dylan Duvergé



Nan Franzblau explains skull anatomy at Children’s Water Festival. Photo by Beth Jeffers



Happy girls from Columbus cool off in the Gila River. Photo by Carol Ann Fugagli



Dinnertime at Eco Camp. Photo by Molly Pendleton



José Barrios students looking for macro invertebrates. Photo by Carol Ann Fugagli



Orien MacDonald teaches Zoe Amaro cordage making during Eco Camp. Photo by Carol Ann Fugagli



All ready for another day. Photo by Emily Cox



Homeschool group during the Children’s Water Festival. Photo by Nan Franzblau



Boys from Ruben Elementary examine sycamore leaves. Photo by Emily Cox



Dylan Duvergé teaching about skulls. Photo by Beth Jeffers



Swimming during Eco-Camp. Photo by Carol Ann Fugagli



Charlie Finley enjoying the sand at Eco Camp. Photo by Mike Fugagli

New Earth Project: Perspectives
continued from page 7

in soil components using the scientific method. We ask students: Which soil components retain the most water: sand, clay or compost? Using state of the art laboratory equipment (Buchner funnels, graduated cylinders and flasks), they test their hypotheses. Their methods clearly demonstrate that compost (decayed organic matter) is a crucial part of productive soil and holds enough water for the microbes.

As we strive to promote food security in our community, we also have a series of activities based on corn, traditionally an important staple crop for native people in this region. Students dress up as corn, beans, squash, and sunflowers and act out a skit to show how the four sisters grow as companion plants. The kids also grind corn on a real stone metate and make (and eat!) corn tortillas.

Our curriculum is evolving, and we are creating a template to share with other communities and educators so these activities can be taught anywhere. This year, we are adding experiments with biochar, a demonstration of the carbon cycle to show how healthy soil sequesters carbon, and the creation of pocket parks, which each student makes by planting seeds in a mixture of organic materials to see which promotes the healthiest plants. The school year will culminate in a field trip to our compost processing facility, where students get to see how their cafeteria food surplus is ground to a slurry, mixed with shredded woody biomass and decomposes in Johnson Su bioreactors.

Centuries ago, Greek philosopher Plato said: “The direction in which education starts a man will determine his future life.” With the climate crisis and an uncertain future looming,

Springs: A Focus for the Future

By Carol Ann Fugagli

Springs are among the most biologically and culturally important ecosystems on earth. Sadly, they are poorly studied and inadequately protected. Though relatively small in comparison to lakes and oceans, springs support more than 10% of the endangered species in the United States according to the Springs Stewardship Institute (SSI) based in Flagstaff, Arizona.

Several years ago, UGWA began a spring protection effort for Adair Spring in Luna County. This project is now complete, and this precious resource is protected from grazing cattle and elk by a strong pipe and cable fence.

Adair Spring is a perennial spring in Adair Canyon, an intermittent tributary of the San Francisco River



Adair Springs
Photo by Carol Ann Fugagli

a few miles south of Luna in Catron County. The treatment area is more than five acres in size and includes about half a mile of intermittent stream. This spring is a component of the Escudilla Landscape Watershed Restoration Action Plan (WRAP). This plan is a landscape scale collaborative effort to address non-point source water pollution in the San Francisco and Little Colorado basins.



Fifth grade students from Cliff Elementary conduct a water retention experiment.
Photo by Carol Ann Fugagli

teaching kids to not just care for the planet but to be proactive in climate mitigation is not only one of the New Earth Project’s primary goals, but very well may determine the future for all of us.

According to a 2018 report from the Springs Stewardship Institute, most springs in the Gila National Forest are considered “Impaired” or “Functioning at Risk”. Prior to livestock grazing and unauthorized vehicular crossings, many springs were wet meadows teeming with life and are now trampled causing severe head cuts and bank erosion putting unwanted sediment and fecal matter into the fresh water. The good news is that the fix is relatively easy; remove the stressors and nature will take her course to repair the system.

There are now historic funding opportunities available for wetland protection and restoration. UGWA will take advantage of this moment to protect these important climate refugia areas.

A Light on Miyawaki Reforestation

By Coakee William Wildcat

“The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second-best time is now.”

Chinese Proverb



The Miyawaki method of reforestation uses native mature forest tree and shrub species and some basic ecology principles to trigger forest events that don’t need maintenance after the first three years. The ecology wisdom it employs allows us to skip entire stages of ecological succession and move straight to a forest of tree species that one would find in a mature forest in that same climate and region. Its simplicity and high success rate have made it the most well-known method for reforestation in the world. The method sheds light on some areas where our culture misunderstands how ecosystems function. While Miyawaki reforestation is best suited for small forests in cities, on college campuses, or in strategic wildland restoration locations, this system teaches us some important lessons that inform our global reforestation planting strategies.

The Miyawaki method of reforestation was created by the renowned Japanese ecologist Dr. Akira Miyawaki, after he studied the canopy structures, species profiles, and other patterns within the ancient mature forests that still exist around the world. The method is a small-scale system that quickly creates a vigorous, “mature” native species forest by mimicking the environment and structure of a mature forest.

The recipe is simple; we plant a biodiversity of native mature forest tree, shrub, and woody vine species very close together, accounting for all canopy layers, after mixing organic matter into the top few feet of Earth (if necessary) and adding beneficial soil organisms. We mulch a lot and for the first three years we chop down early successional plant volunteers and irrigate when needed. After that, there is no more irrigation or other maintenance required.

Two remarkable observations of this method stand out; 1) that we can skip all the intermediary stages of ecological succession, and 2) that a small water cycle is created so quickly that we can stop irrigating after only three years, and that the forest will continue to thrive. Both notable qualities require a high planting density, which contradicts the competition lens that we are taught to see ecology through. Many great minds in the last 65+ years in biology and ecology, from Lynn Margulis to Elaine Ingham, from Ernst Gotsch and Vandana Shiva to Suzanne Simard, have spent Lifetimes showing us that Nature is composed of complex symphonies of symbioses and mutualisms (cooperation). Yet our old mythology of plants competing for light, nutrients, and water persists to this day in the U.S. and inhibits our ability to restore the ecosystems we live in and grow our food in. The most advanced forms of agroecology

and ecosystem restoration in the world, such as syntropic agroforestry, the ancient form of milpa, and the Miyawaki method, further dispel the mythology of competition at the root of ecosystem interactions.

Another important takeaway from these powerful agroecology and ecosystem restoration practices is that there is a wide variety of ecosystems which can exist in any given climate. The climate, behaviors of animals, the plant species present, and their spacing determine a wide variety of possible ecosystem types. This is an important piece of the ecology picture that is missing from our collective understanding in this country but is illuminated for us by the Miyawaki method.

As modern breakthroughs in global ecology and climate physics such as the Biotic Pump theory tell a clearer story of what is happening on Earth and why we need to reforest our planet to stabilize global climate and mitigate the extinction event, profound ancient and modern land management systems teach us how to most effectively do so. The Miyawaki method is an important teaching model for how we will create vigorous, functional native species forests over whole continents in the coming decades.

Coakee received Miyawaki training from Afforestt in India and is the Executive Director of Mother Tree Food & Forest.

“Bats can hear shapes. Plants can eat light. Bees can dance maps. We can hold all these ideas at once and feel both heavy and weightless with the absurd beauty of it all.” — Jarod K. Anderson



Farewell, UGWA!

by Donna Stevens

In the 1300s, Chaucer said that, “All good things must come to an end.” That’s just as true today. Although my stint with UGWA has been largely a good thing, it’s now at an end.

In March 2003, I began working for UGWA as the Adopt-A-Spring coordinator, a program designed to protect springs in the Big Burro Mountains of the Gila National Forest. In late 2009, I became the Executive Director, in the midst of a national financial crisis when grant funding all but dried up. With your help, UGWA survived those lean years.

Twenty years with a small conservation nonprofit is a long tenure, and the time has arrived for me to pass the torch. At the risk of seeming immodest, I’m taking this opportunity to reflect on some of the work I’ve done for the last two decades.

One of my long-term projects was engaging with the Gila National Forest’s Travel Management program, the process by which they worked to right-size the road system. For a few years, I attended contentious meetings where some forest users claimed they were being “locked out” of the forest by proposed road closures. UGWA’s position was that the Forest Service’s *raison d’être* is to protect the forest’s land, streams, plants, and wildlife. In the end, the Forest Service implemented a road system with 3,300 miles of roads. Sounding like a broken record at meetings and in op-eds, I continually pointed out that 3,300 miles represents the distance from San Diego to Maine – no shortage of roads, in other words.

Under my leadership, UGWA has completed Gila National Forest restoration projects to:

- keep vehicles from driving through Brushy Canyon down to the Gila River
- strategically place boulders to prevent motorized vehicle use in the Gila River at Mogollon Box Day Use Area and at Forks Campground
- restore Bar 6 Canyon, a tributary of the Gila River
- fence Adair Spring, a tributary of the San Francisco River, from livestock damage
- remove man made debris (wood, refrigerators, tires, mattresses, etc.) washed into the Gila River in the Gila Wilderness Area during the historic 2013 flood
- eradicate invasive tamarisk trees from the Gila River in the Gila Wilderness Area, including the East, Middle, and West Forks, and downstream in the Gila River Bird Area, from 2016 through 2023 (this work will continue in 2024)

Restoration work is complicated, expensive, and sometimes frustratingly slow. But it’s ultimately gratifying to know that UGWA’s work is making a difference to the river, the national forest, native plants, and wildlife.

More satisfying than restoration work, however, is preventing degradation in the first place. My proudest accomplishment is my work on the campaign to prevent a diversion on the Gila River.

This misguided, infeasible, and prohibitively expensive proposed diversion would have caused irreparable harm to the river and the plants and animals that depend on it. It’s hard to convey how demoralizing this work often was, as it involved attending meetings for years with no guarantee that we would ultimately prevail. Supporters lost interest and I grew disheartened, but I kept on anyway. Fortunately, my pre-UGWA years of waiting tables had taught me a valuable skill that I employed at meetings: not taking things personally if they aren’t about me. Still, it was challenging to be called a liar and even “a cancer” by diversion proponents and not respond in kind, but to always take the moral high ground.

Of course, I did not achieve any of this work on my own. I was accompanied every step of the way by smart, stalwart colleagues who just refused to give up. After fifteen years, the diversion project finally died. Sometimes the good guys win.

Using “guys” as a gender-neutral word, UGWA is full of good guys. Including you, kind reader. I thank you for your encouraging words, your vote of confidence, and your moral and financial support through the years. I am so honored to have had the privilege of accomplishing some good work as I walk my path on this beautiful planet.



Photo by Scott Zager

We are so grateful to the many faces whose dedicated work make our projects successful!



Bodhi Baker
New Earth Project



Colin Casler
New Earth Project



Emily Cox
New Earth Project,
Children’s Water
Festival



Zack Crockett
Salt Cedar Removal



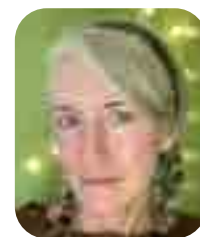
Kate Dixon
New Earth Project,
Children’s Water
Festival



Dylan Duvergé
Children’s Water
Festival, Springs
Protection



Aiden Finley
New Earth Project,
Eco-Camp



Nan Franzblau
New Earth Project,
Children’s Water
Festival, New Earth
Kids Radio Show



Hawk Fugagli
New Earth Project,
Salt Cedar Removal



Mike Fugagli
New Earth Project,
Eco-Camp, Salt
Cedar Removal



Savannah Gonzales
New Earth Project,
Children’s Water
Festival



Rachel Gulick
New Earth Project



Dena Hillyer
New Earth Project



Heather Hillyer
New Earth Project,
Children’s Water
Festival, Eco-Camp



Beth Jeffers
New Earth Project,
Children’s Water
Festival



Krista Joslin-Gay
New Earth Project,
Children’s Water
Festival



Chris Lemme
New Earth Project



Susan Mittelstadt
New Earth Project,



Molly Pendleton
New Earth Project,
Children’s Water
Festival, Eco-Camp



Zoe Pitts
New Earth Project



Dara Werber-Raiter
New Earth Project



Coakee William Wildcat
New Earth Project



Scott Zager
GIS Specialist,
Salt Cedar
Removal, Citizen
Science

Not Pictured:
Andrew Ashford
Brie Gottschalk
Bart Hiatt
Tylan Hurley
Evan King

UGWA Membership Application

Your membership and additional financial support sustain UGWA and are critical to the organization's ongoing health. Share in the protection and conservation of our watershed and become an UGWA member today.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

E-Mail _____

Membership Categories—Annual Dues:

Chiricahua Leopard Frog	\$ 20
Gila Trout	30
Mexican Gray Wolf	50
Beaver	100
River Otter	250
Other Amount	_____



**Make your check payable to
UGWA
and send to**

PO Box 1536, Silver City NM 88062

I don't wish to join at this time but please notify me of upcoming events.

Name _____

E-Mail _____

UGWA's Statement of Philosophy

The members of the UGWA recognize a vital and necessary connection between our individual and collective rights and responsibilities as landowners and community members and the long-term stewardship of the Upper Gila River Valley and Watershed.

The members of the UGWA share a love and concern for our community which is an integral part of our lives and, therefore, seek to harmonize our presence and activities within the watershed for the health and integrity of the entire "community," which includes the soil, the air, the water, the people, the plants, and animals.

The members of the UGWA share the conviction that men and women work best together in a spirit of cooperation, conflict resolution, and consensual agreement that builds upon a common ground that benefits from the views and concerns of each individual acting as uncoerced free agents.

To realize our vision for the common benefit of the entire community served by the Upper Gila Watershed, and for the sake of future generations, the UGWA seeks ways and means to bring people and organizations together in constructive dialogue and activities aimed at clear communication, education, land restoration, research, and local economic health

So Many Ways to Donate

ONLINE: Do you prefer online payment instead of paper checks? We've got you covered! Simply go to our website at ugwa.org and click the Donate Button.

RECURRING: We'd love to see you again. And again. To become a Recurring Member, go to our website at ugwa.org, click the Donate Button and choose "Make this a monthly donation."

PROGRAM SPECIFIC: Do you have a favorite program you want to support? Include a note with your donation and we'll apply your donation to that program! Donating online? Let us know by an email to admin@ugwa.org.

Thank You!

(April 1 --October 25th, 2023)

New Members

Angela Brightwell • Paula Lynch & Richard Smith
L Jane Ryan • Mike Ferris • Anita Williams

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Special Thanks

Richard and Carol Martin for the use of their truck for the New Earth Project



NEW EARTH KIDS RADIO SHOW

As part of the Kindred Continuum series, UGWA hosts a monthly radio show on Gila Mimbres Community Radio KURU 89.1FM called *New Earth Kids*. *New Earth Kids*, features students of all ages who talk about the challenges facing our planet today and how they are creating and implementing solutions.

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