

## **Maintaining Water-Based Ecosystem Services In an Era of Reallocation**

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### **ABSTRACT**

As the dominant human use of the Southwest's water supply continues its transition from agricultural to urban purposes, what consideration is being given to opportunities to maintain or enhance desired physical and ecological values of the associated hydrologic systems? This presentation explores approaches being taken around the West to address the ecological values of hydrologic systems in an era of ever increasing human water demands and uncertain physical supplies. It suggests we are moving in the direction of maintaining and sometimes enhancing ecological function in settings in which water management for human uses allows, or can be modified to enable, such outcomes.