



May 2022

John Tracy, nationally known water leader and collaborator, named next director of the Colorado Water Center



Colorado State University President Joyce McConnell today announced the appointment of John Tracy as the next director of the Colorado Water Center (Center). Tracy joins the Center on July 15 from Texas A&M where he serves as director of the Texas Water Resources Institute.

continue our deep commitment to engagement,” said President Joyce McConnell. “We welcome John back to CSU and look forward to introducing him to our water-researchers, faculty, students, stakeholders and communities across the state.”

[\[text from the original SOURCE article published on April 25th, 2022\]](#)

Student Staff Highlight and Goodbyes!



As a freshman, Emma began working for the Colorado Water Institute (now CoWC). She was drawn to our work with the Poudre Runs Through It Study/Action Workgroup and the Poudre River Forum. Environmental issues are also social issues that require collaboration and creativity to solve. So, it was interesting to her to see an organization working to bring together people from diverse backgrounds in water to talk about the tough issues. Through her work, she has enjoyed learning about how complex collaboration is and the different values that drive water issues in the West. She knows that "We cannot solve our environmental problems without engaging with the stakeholders who are impacted." It can be difficult to stay positive when most of my classes revolve around the immense environmental issues we are facing but working at the CoWC showed Emma there are



Brannon Hughes has been working at the Colorado Water Center as a student program assistant since June of 2021 and has been a vital contributor to the Center's success and overall purpose. During his time at the CoWC, Brannon worked on numerous projects with Water Literate Leaders, Poudre Runs Through It Study/Action Work Group, and the Faculty Executive Committee. This May, Brannon completed his graduate degree program with the College of Liberal Arts at CSU and is looking to continue an occupation in conservation. Brannon is still uncertain about his future career but hopes to secure a Western Lands Policy Fellowship with the Western Resource Advocates, which focuses on improving community wildfire resilience across Colorado. Outside of work and school, Brannon has a 3rd-degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do and is also passionate about continuing his ballet talents.

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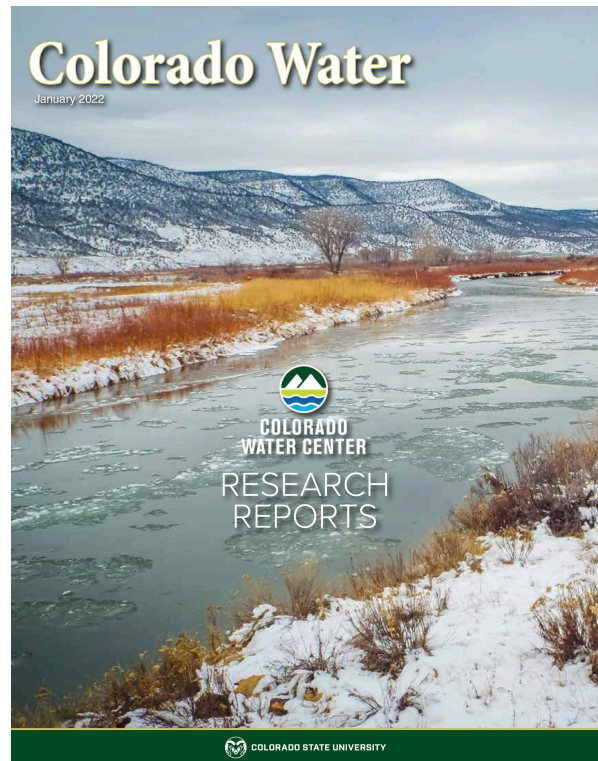
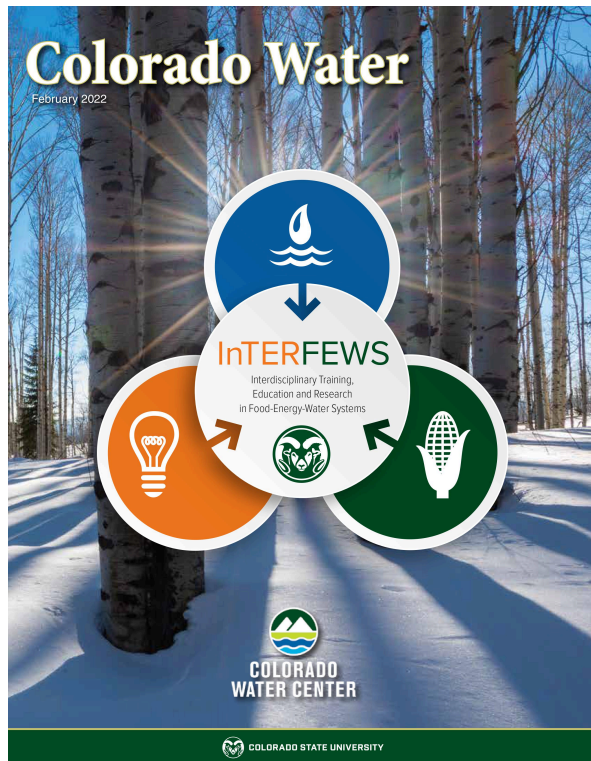
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Emma will be dearly missed as an essential member of our team. We are extremely grateful to have worked with her.

Emma is graduating in May with a double major in Ecosystem Science & Sustainability and Rangeland & Forest Management. Following graduation, she will be working for the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests out of Granby, CO as a forester. She is passionate about using public land management to promote sustainability and is excited about this next chapter. The CoWC wishes you fulfillment and success!

Colorado Water Center staff and student employees will sincerely miss Brannon's hard work and genuine personality. From everyone at the Colorado Water Center, we thank you for your continuous dedication and wish you the best of luck with your new journey!

Colorado Water Center Publications



Read the Special Issue here.

John Fetcher Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District Scholarship



The Colorado Water Center partners in supporting the John Fetcher [Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District](#) Scholarship each academic year.

The Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District announces the availability of up to two \$5,000 John Fetcher Scholarships for students at a public university within the state of Colorado. The Colorado Water Center administers the scholarship. The scholarship provides financial assistance for one year to a committed and talented student who is pursuing a water-related career in any major at a public university within the state of Colorado. Preference will be given to juniors, seniors, or master's candidates (with at least one year of studies remaining) in a water-related major and to residents or former residents of Northwest Colorado or students working on water research in Northwest Colorado.

The Scholarship Committee will evaluate and select the 2022-2023 award recipients for the Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District. The scholarship winner will be required to send a thank you letter to the Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District Board of Directors and offer to attend one board meeting during the scholarship year.

For questions related to eligibility, please contact Nancy Grice at (970) 491-6308 or Nancy.Grice@colostate.edu.

DOWNLOAD THE CALL FOR APPLICATION

YOU'RE INVITED TO THE TERRA GRAND OPENING!

June 8th to 11th



Experience the science behind food. Join us as CSU Spur opens its second building, Terra — focused on food and agriculture.

What is CSU Spur?

CSU Spur is a public educational facility that focuses on engaging multigenerational students, families, and visitors around the subjects of animal and human health, food and agriculture, and water. The new facilities will allow visitors to participate and learn in several diverse ways. Spur will provide the public with labs/workshops, opportunities to watch ongoing research, converse with various career experts, and so much more!

What is Terra?

Terra at CSU Spur is the newest building on the campus focused on food and agriculture. Upon completion, Terra will guarantee visitors multiple opportunities to participate in food and agriculture labs, engage with greenhouses and gardens, and offer summer camps for K-12 students. Terra intends to help visitors think more about where their food comes from, and how all individuals can significantly shape the future of food to mitigate global crises and insecurities.

Click [HERE](#) to view the Terra grand opening itinerary and schedule of events!

[RSVP is encouraged!](#)

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[volunteering](#) and fill out an application to get started today!

Colorado River is America's most endangered river; ranchers work to combat climate change

Want to learn more about the current situation along the Colorado River Basin? Brad Udall, Senior Water & Climate Scientist/Scholar at the Colorado Water Center, shares his insight in an interview with ABC News. Click [HERE](#) to watch the interview.



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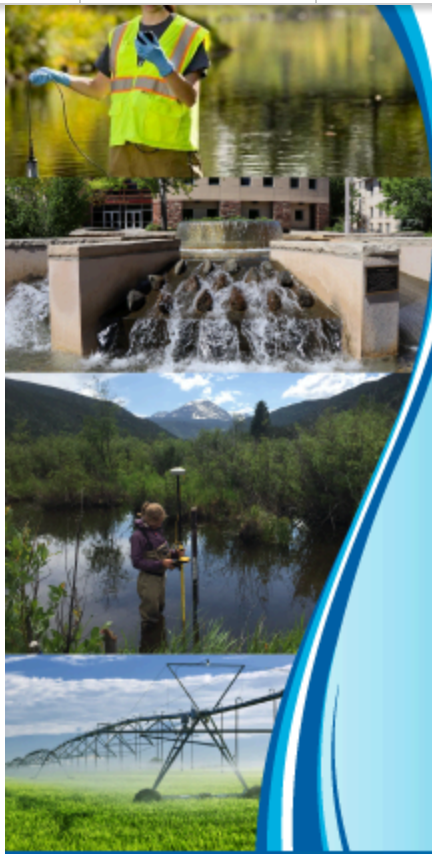
Western river compacts were innovative in the 1920s but couldn't foresee today's water challenges. Article by Patricia Rettig [head archivist](#) for Colorado State University's [Water Resources Archive](#). via [@ConversationUS](#)

CELEBRATE OUR SWIM GRADUATES!

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Colorado State University



The Colorado Water Center and SOGES are excited to present to you our latest SWIM graduates! Click on the image to find out more details on how to register for SWIM minor for Fall 2022!



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Science in Ecosystem Science and Sustainability, and minors in Geographic Information Systems and Sustainable Water. I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to pursue the SWIM minor because learning about the importance of water sustainability across a variety of disciplines has been such a valuable supplement to my academic experience at CSU.

I especially enjoyed taking the “Land Use Hydrology” course because our weekly field trips were always so memorable. We traveled to several water infrastructure sites on campus or within the Fort Collins community and listened to a variety of stakeholders speak from organizations who prioritized water sustainability.

This course inspired me to get more involved with some of these local organizations. After graduation, I aspire to combine my passions for GIS and water sustainability and hope to pursue a full-time position as a GIS technician or analyst. I also plan on spending a majority of my free time outdoors, enjoying some of my favorite hobbies such as hiking, playing volleyball, and attending live music events!

Southern California where water management is a big issue. Living so close to the California aqueduct sparked my interest in how water is managed in the arid west. This led me to earn scholarships and internships in the water industry where I have worked with non-profits, water agencies, and federal partners within the United States Geological Survey and the Bureau of Land Management.

While at CSU I studied Natural Resources Management with a minor in SWIM, which has given me a better understanding of how to manage our most valuable resource. I have found great interest in water law and policy which is why two of the classes that stood out to me were NR320 and AREC 342.

By the time I graduate, I will have worked for the USGS for about 2 years and I will continue to pursue a career in the water industry. In my free time, I enjoy spending time outdoors and fishing our beautiful local water.

[Upper Colorado Basin 2022 Drought Response Operations Plan – Protecting the Water Supply](#)

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As the Colorado River Basin continues to deal with ongoing droughts and water shortages, strategies are now being introduced to prevent the Colorado River from running dry and reaching levels that would minimize day-to-day operations on the major reservoirs within the basin system. Due to the alarming forecasts this year, [the Upper Colorado River Commission recently approved the 2022 Drought Response Operations Plan](#). This proposal would divert an estimated 500,000 acre-feet of water from the Flaming Gorge Reservoir, located along the borders of Utah and Wyoming, and relocate it to support Lake Powell's insufficient supply. Additionally, a second measure in the proposal would withhold an estimated 480,000 acre-feet of water from being released downstream to Lake Mead. This phase is still awaiting approval from the commission, but the two solutions would grant Lake Powell nearly 1 million acre-feet of extra water from May 2022 through April 2023. Before any further actions occur, the plan must also undergo a final approval by the Secretary of the Interior. Various reports predict that decisions and actions will be finalized by the end of the month.

KEEP READING

Upcoming Event & Job Highlights

[Night at the museum](#)

You're invited to a night at the museum with Colorado Water Trust!

Join us from 5-7:30 on May 25th for a fun evening gathering and a great opportunity to learn more about the history of water in our state.

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encouraged to join!

For sponsorship inquiries please reach out to Emma Fredricks at efredricks@coloradowatertrust.org.

Click [HERE](#) to RSVP.

[Associate Director for the Colorado Water Center](#)

The Associate Director serves in a leadership position with the Colorado Water Center (CoWC), which fulfills an important role in higher education throughout Colorado and beyond. In this capacity, the Associate Director assists in leading and ensuring execution of CoWC's research and education programs, outreach activities, communications, and operations to advance the Center's mission and goals. The Associate Director defines and implements water-related initiatives in concert with CoWC's Director. The Associate Director works with the Center's senior research scientists, CSU Extension water specialists, and water experts to advance knowledge and solutions to priority water challenges. They are responsible for bringing together interdisciplinary teams to successfully compete for external grant funding. The Associate Director has supervisory responsibility for the unit's research and outreach program coordinators. **Application deadline is May 23rd, 2022.**

Featured Resources

WORK IN WATER

Employment and Internships

Explore opportunities for a water-related career in diverse sectors from entry-level to expert.

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CoWC

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