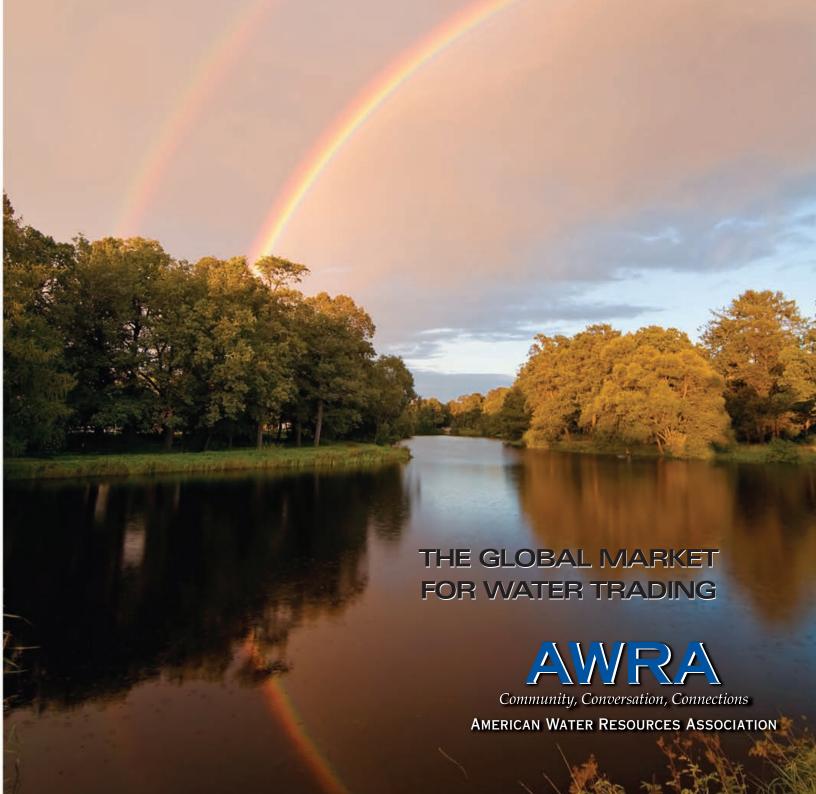
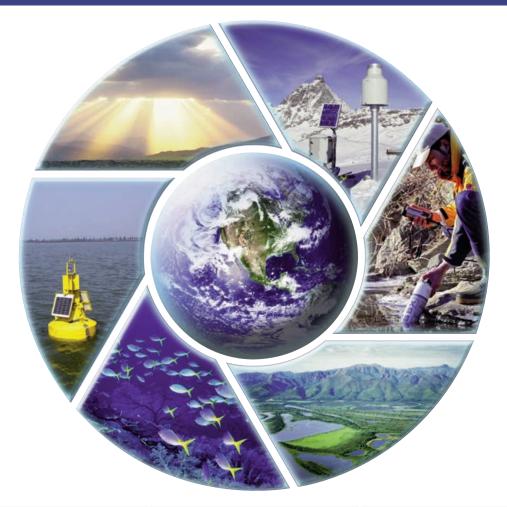
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THE GLOBAL MARKET FOR WATER TRADING

SKYE ROOT ~ Guest Associate Editor root@waterexchange.com

Water markets arise in various forms throughout the world. Formal markets that allow water to be transferred freely between willing buyers and sellers are thriving in certain places, notably Australia and select locations in North and South America. Informal water trading has occurred for centuries and continues today in the Middle East and North Africa. An efficient and equitable water market requires – at a minimum – some level of water scarcity, well-defined property rights, and a regulatory or legal framework to facilitate water management. This *IMPACT* issue highlights specific water markets across the globe to illustrate trading mechanisms and barriers.

FEATURE ARTICLES

3 Australian Water Markets: An Overview

... R. Quentin Grafton

Since the mid-1990s Australia has led the world in its active encouragement of water markets in rural areas. This article provides an overview of the history of water rights in Australia and evaluates trading activity in the Murray-Darling Basin.

6 Water Markets in the USA

... Matthew T. Payne and Skye Root

The prior appropriations legal framework, coupled with explosive growth, has led to several emerging water markets throughout the Western United States. Using comparable sales data from select water markets, the authors provide an overview into water market activity and specific barriers pertinent to the American West.

9 A New Well at Ruma: Water Management in Islam ... Naser Faruqui

As an expert on Islamic water policy and management, the author provides a unique perspective on water trading throughout the Middle East and North Africa in the context of religion, culture, and the lack of regulation and formal legal frameworks.

12 Chile's Water Markets Continue to Evolve ... Robert R. Hearne

While Chile's water management system has been innovative compared to much of the world, their water markets remain informal and under reported. This article addresses the current Chilean water market and provides input on what might be staying its progress.

15 Water Markets in Europe ... David Zetland

The author demonstrates that water markets for quality or quantity are not well developed in Europe. Barriers such as regulatory culture and the Water Framework Directive are outlined, and future water market developments are hypothesized.



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(Opinions expressed by our columnists are their own and do not represent the opinion or position of AWRA.) $\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)$

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AMERICAN WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION
4 West Federal Street • P.O. Box 1626
Middleburg, VA 20118-1626
(540) 687-8390 / Fax: (540) 687-8395
E-Mail: info@awra.org • Homepage: www.awra.org

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF N. EARL SPANGENBERG

College of Natural Resources
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
Stevens Point, WI 54481
(715) 346-2372 • Fax: (715) 346-3624
E-Mail: espangen@uwsp.edu
(Support for Dr. Spangenberg is provided by the
College of Natural Resources
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point)

To Place An Ad In This Publication Contact Charlene E. Young

Phone/Fax: (256) 650-0701 E-Mail: charlene@awra.org

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ASSOCIATE EDITORS

JOE BERG

(www.biohabitats.com) Biohabitats, Inc. Baltimore, Maryland

ERIC J. FITCH

(fitche@marietta.edu) Marietta College Marietta, Ohio

MICHELLE HENRIE

(michelle@mhenrie.com) MHenrie | Land Water Law Santa Fe. New Mexico

JONATHAN E. JONES

(jonjones@wrightwater.com) Wright Water Engineers Denver, Colorado

CLAY J. LANDRY

(landry@waterexchange.com) WestWater Research Boise, Idaho

RICHARD H. McCUEN

(rhmccuen@eng.umd.edu) University of Maryland College Park, Maryland

LAUREL E. PHOENIX

(phoenixl@uwgb.edu) University of Wisconsin Green Bay, Wisconsin

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

RICHARD A. ENGBERG

(dick@awra.org)
American Water Resources Association
Middleburg, Virginia

BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT

SKYE ROOT

(root@waterexchange.com) WestWater Research Boise, Idaho

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