



2024

ANNUAL REPORT

Sustaining our Shared Future

Sonoran Institute celebrates 35 years of
community-based conservation

Message from the CEO and Board Chair



Mike Zellner | Chief Executive Officer

When the Sonoran Institute was founded 35 years ago, Luther Propst was driven by a vision: to apply the community-based conservation strategies he had used globally at the World Wildlife Fund to local communities across the United States. His mission was to demonstrate that these approaches could help communities plan for sustainable growth while also protecting wildlife.

This community-centered approach has proven remarkably effective. Over the years, the Sonoran Institute has secured over \$320 million in funding, enabling the conservation of more than 500,000 acres across the western United States and northern Mexico. Thanks to our Growing Water Smart program, more than 100 communities are now reestablishing their connections with natural resources, understanding that a healthy environment is integral to their long-term prosperity.

Our recent achievements exemplify the success of our mission. This past year, we expanded our programs into new areas such as Ambos Nogales and neighborhoods in Mexicali along the U.S.-Mexico border. We've also deepened our understanding of water transfer impacts from the West Slope to the Front Range in Colorado, as well as the water capacity needs of Tribal Nations across the Colorado River community. Additionally, we are safeguarding our restoration successes through the establishment of urban wildlife refuges and parks along the Santa Cruz River and in the Delta region of Mexico.

These milestones are made possible by the unwavering support of our dedicated staff, board members, advisory council, partners, and donors. We deeply appreciate your contribution and look forward to celebrating the Sonoran Institute's 35th anniversary with you in Tucson, Denver, and Mexicali in 2025. Thank you!



Dan and Kit Kimball | Board Chair

Twenty years ago, the modest recovery of the Colorado River Delta in Mexico stood as a testament to the power of conservation. Today, as we celebrate 35 years of community-based efforts, we are reminded that our shared future depends on preserving and restoring the natural beauty that sustains us all.

Board of Directors

- David Baumgarten | Gunnison, Colorado
- Alan Dennis Gracia | Mexicali, Baja California
- Allison Green | Avondale Estates, Georgia
- Barbara J.B. Green | Denver, Colorado
- Anna Hill Price | Stanfordville, New York
- Joe Kalt | Vice Chair | Tucson, Arizona; Bridger, Montana
- Dan B. Kimball | Chair of the Board | Tucson, Arizona; Grand Haven, Michigan
- Lee Leachman | Cheyenne, Wyoming
- Gabriela Luken Marce | Mexicali, Baja California
- Anna Murveit | Tucson, Arizona
- Laurinda Oswald | Secretary | Amado, Arizona
- Loretta Piñeda | Denver, Colorado
- Timothy Quinn | El Dorado Hills, California
- Roberto F. Salmon Castelo | Hermosillo, Sonora
- Richard Schaefer | Tucson, Arizona
- Matt Teeters | Treasurer | Denver, Colorado
- David Wegner | Tucson, Arizona; Durango, Colorado

Board Advisory Council

- Rowene Aguirre-Medina | Mesa, Arizona
- Mary Alexander | Scottsdale, Arizona
- Louise "Lollie" Benz Plank | Tucson, Arizona
- Louise Glasser | Tucson, Arizona; Lake Forest, Illinois
- Andy Gordon | Phoenix, Arizona
- Ann Hunter-Welborn | Encinitas, California
- Nyda Jones-Church | Rancho Santa Fe, California
- Kara Leppert Teising | Nashville, Tennessee
- Gaston Luken Aguilar | La Jolla, California
- Dennis Minano | Longboat Key, Florida
- Chris Perez | Scottsdale, Arizona
- Buzz Thompson | Stanford, California

Colorado River Delta

Sustainability through Steadfast Commitment

For Enrique Villegas, our long-term dedication to the Delta and its communities sets Sonoran Institute apart. He became director of the Colorado River Delta Program just a year ago, but his admiration for our work in the region spans decades.

"Sonoran Institute is rooted in the Delta," he says. "I have seen other organizations come and go, but Sonoran Institute has remained true to its mission to make a lasting impact here. I am proud to be part of the Institute's 35-year legacy."

In 2024, the water in a 30-mile stretch of the Colorado River was a tangible symbol of this legacy and our vision for the region. For six months between March and October, water flowed through the Delta, thanks to Minute 323, the binational agreement between the U.S. and Mexico that Sonoran Institute and our Raise the River partners helped make possible in 2017. The water releases reconnected the river to the sea, nourished our restoration areas, and renewed the bond between the community and its river.

"There was so much excitement," Villegas says. "For as long as the water was there, people swam and picnicked and made the river part of their lives."

Inspiring this kind of enthusiasm is key to the success of what has become our biggest initiative in the Delta. Our Mexicali Fluye project aims to restore three miles of urban drains that flow into the New River, which runs north from Mexico to the Salton Sea in California. Contaminated with agricultural, municipal, and industrial waste, the New River is considered one of the most polluted rivers in North America and threatens



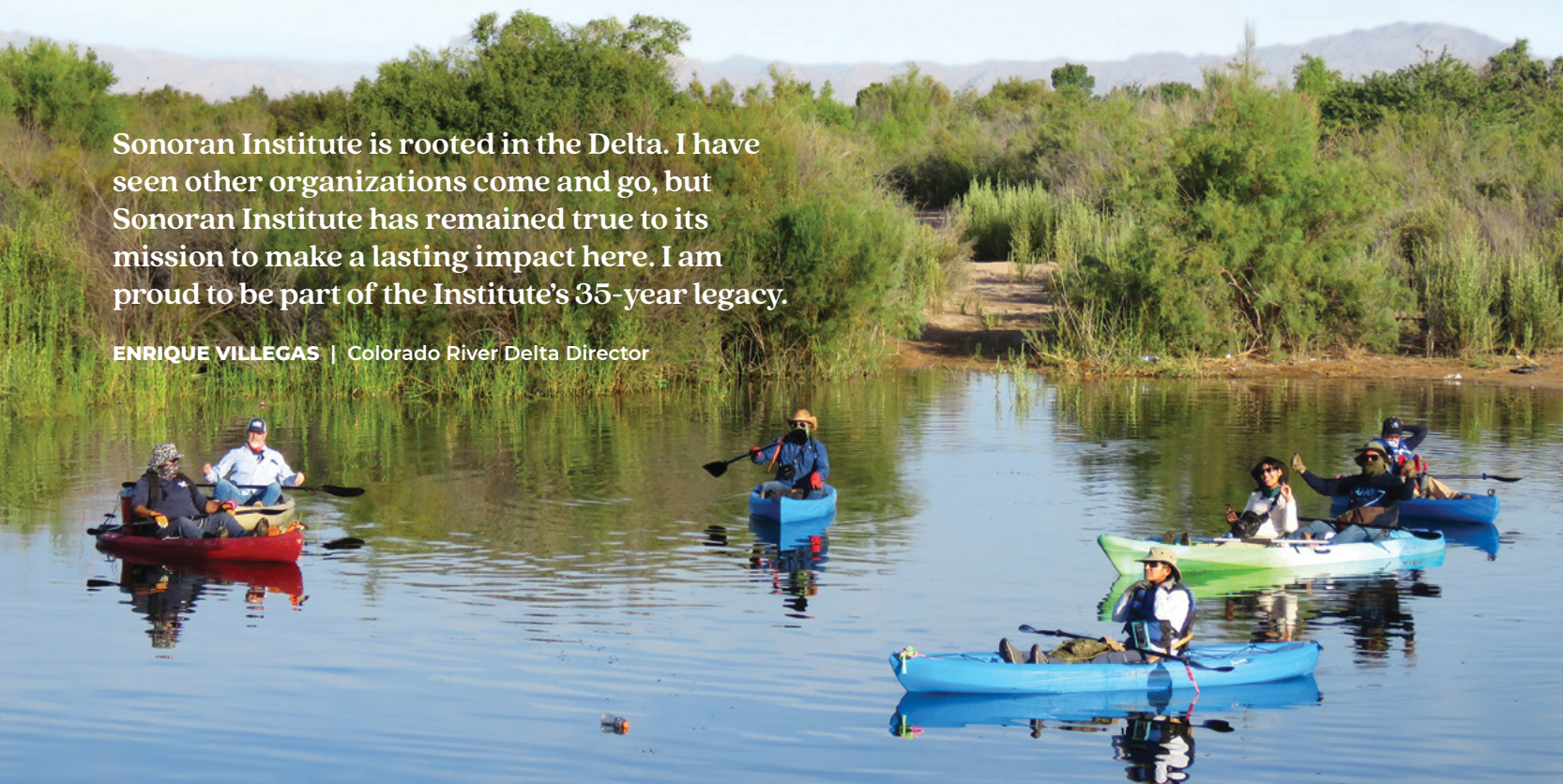
Sonoran Institute is collaborating with local communities to revitalize three miles of the New River in Mexicali.

the health and quality of life of communities on both sides of the border. With major grants from California Water Boards, Sempra Foundation, and Gonzalo Rio Arronte Foundation, we are collaborating with local communities to clean the drains and plan public parks, playing fields, and other green spaces for residents to enjoy.

"To make any improvements sustainable, we know the community must feel part of the effort. They have to make it their own," Villegas says. "By involving them in planning meetings, workshops, cleanup efforts, and celebrations, we are building a feeling of stewardship and pride in the project areas. It's working."

Sonoran Institute is rooted in the Delta. I have seen other organizations come and go, but Sonoran Institute has remained true to its mission to make a lasting impact here. I am proud to be part of the Institute's 35-year legacy.

ENRIQUE VILLEGAS | Colorado River Delta Director



As communities in the West face unprecedented water supply challenges, Growing Water Smart cultivates a water-smart culture.

Integration of land use planning and water conservation leads to resilient communities and a thriving environment.

Our workshops bring together teams of community leaders to collaboratively develop a 12- to 18-month action plan tailored for tangible results in their communities. To foster enduring impact, we provide strategies to better incorporate water resource management into their long-range land planning processes.

"When communities develop their master plans, they are creating parameters for their growth, development, and quality of life for the next 20 years or so," says Francisco Zamora, Senior Director of Programs. "Our goal is to train leaders to also consider their long-range water supply and water efficiency plans, and to ensure they are aligned with this future vision."

Our program and its influence continue to expand. In addition to reaching new communities in Colorado, Arizona, and California this year, Growing Water Smart held its inaugural binational workshop.

"It was the first of its kind for us," Zamora says, "but it builds on the fact that Sonoran Institute is a binational organization. Nogales, Arizona and Nogales, Sonora are divided by the U.S./Mexico border, but the cities share an aquifer as well as mutual challenges around balancing water supply and demand and managing stormwater. This workshop was a valuable first step toward continued engagement in the region."

Since the sister cities also have a common interest in the Santa Cruz River, the workshop also leveraged the deep experience of the Sonoran Institute's Santa Cruz River program staff. "There is a direct connection between our programs around land use and water planning, such as preventing overflowing wastewater," Zamora says. "Those planning conversations can set us up for success sustaining both the Santa Cruz River and the border communities."

Growing Water Smart

Planning for the Region's Sustainability

Helping communities plan for long-term water resiliency, jump-started by immediate action, is how our Growing Water Smart program is spreading sustainability throughout the Colorado River Basin.

Growing Water Smart is a Sonoran Institute partnership with the Babbitt Center for Land and Water Policy, a center for the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy. As communities in the West face unprecedented challenges to their water supply, our program cultivates a water-smart culture, where the

Growing Water Smart workshop participants in Estes Park, Colorado.



Sustaining Our Shared Future

Sonoran Institute celebrates 35 years of community-based conservation

Back in the 1980s and early 1990s, the North American West, from the Canadian Rockies to the Upper Gulf of California, was undergoing a profound change. The historic bedrock of the local economies—from agriculture to mining—were in decline, due in part to industry changes, globalization, and stronger environmental policies. In their place, a new economy was emerging.

Some communities were experiencing an increase in tourism and recreation. Other communities saw their populations grow and economies diversify due to cheap land and labor and their proximity to major consumer markets. In some instances, these communities also drew retirees seeking a lower cost of living and a high quality of life.

While these changes presented new economic opportunities, they also had profound impacts on communities. Farmlands and wildlife habitat were being converted to new homes. New industries and residents were placing additional demands on scarce water resources. Parks and other protected areas were struggling to deal with the impact of increased recreation and visitation.

New Partners, New Priorities

These realizations required a new level of collaboration to achieve lasting conservation outcomes, including new partnerships that involved groups that were viewed with suspicion by conservationists or at odds with the conservation community. These included park and protected area managers, developers, farmers and ranchers, and local elected officials.

It also meant that sometimes conservation might take a back seat to other priorities defined by communities and their partners. Communities might decide that economic development or social issues needed to be addressed before creating a new park.

Las Cienegas National Conservation Area is a national award-winning, community-based collaboration between the Bureau of Land Management, Sonoita Valley Planning Partnership, Cienega Corridor Conservation Council, and many other institutions.

When the Sonoran Institute was founded 35 years ago, Luther Propst's mission was to demonstrate that community-based conservation could help communities plan for sustainable growth while also protecting wildlife.



The Morelos Dam at the peak "Pulse Flow" water release in 2014 that brought hope for recovery back to the Colorado River Delta.

A New Approach to Conservation

The Sonoran Institute came onto the scene in 1990. Drawing from conservation lessons globally, particularly in Latin America, it sought a new approach to conservation defined by three hallmarks.

One was that communities needed to be at the center of conservation. Traditionally, conservation work was done through lobbying, litigation, and federal and state administrative actions. Communities were, at best, an afterthought. Sonoran Institute looked to make communities the beneficiaries and custodians of conservation, which might lead to more enduring results.

Second was an acceptance that change was inevitable. Embracing change meant engaging a broader cross-section

of stakeholders in civil conversation, defining shared values, and agreeing on action where there was common ground. Sonoran Institute believed that investing in these community-building activities was central to achieving successful and sustainable conservation outcomes.

Third was the realization that conservation threats respected no boundaries. The traditional approach to conservation focused on creating new parks and protected areas and stopping harmful activities on these lands. Increasingly, scientists were telling us that wasn't enough—that conservation needed to address threats outside of parks and protected areas, which land managers were ill-equipped to handle. Sonoran Institute was keen to explore new approaches to conservation that cut across protected areas to private landowners, neighboring communities, and in some instances across the U.S. and Mexico.

Three Key Ideas

Communities need to be at the center of conservation.

Change is inevitable.

Conservation threats respect no boundaries.



Cucapah tribal members blessed attendees at the opening of our Laguna Grande Interpretive Center in 2018.



Sonoran Institute Board members and staff visit Wa:k Hikdan, a wetland at the San Xavier District of the Tohono O'odham Nation that was restored through a collaboration between the Tribal Nation and the Central Arizona Project.

Enduring Outcomes

While initially met with skepticism, Sonoran Institute's approach to conservation created results.

Consider that over 35 years, Sonoran Institute and its community partners have:

Helped protect more than 500,000 acres of public and private land in the U.S. and Mexico;

Raised more than \$320 million in public and private funds for conservation;

Established more than 20 organizations dedicated to carrying out local conservation and community priorities.

Secured and delivered more than 40,000 acre-feet of water for restoration purposes.

And with these successes, community-based, collaborative conservation was accepted and adopted by other conservation groups. From the proliferation of community land and water trusts and local organizations dedicated to promoting sustainability to national environmental groups and government agencies embracing this approach, much of the credit for this acceptance lies with the Sonoran Institute.

One Basin

Sustainability through Enduring Partnerships

Our youngest program, One Basin, builds on some of our oldest relationships to address the challenges facing the Colorado River and the 40 million people who rely on it.

More than 20 years ago, Sonoran Institute and five other NGOs from the U.S. and Mexico collaborated to assess the potential for restoring parts of the Colorado River Delta by securing a small amount of water for the river. What began as an experiment ultimately led to restoring more than 1,000 acres of the Delta. The group eventually formed the Raise the River Coalition and has been a key player in securing two binational agreements between the U.S. and Mexico that provided water and funding for Delta restoration.

“This evolution shows how enduring and impactful the partnership has been for decades,” says John Shepard, Sonoran Institute’s senior advisor and co-chair of the Raise the River Coalition.

With the goal of ensuring that all restoration investments made to date are both permanently protected and funded, the coalition is seeking to designate the restoration area as a state park and is also in talks with U.S. officials to create an endowment for restoration.

Another key partnership, the Water & Tribes Initiative (WTI), recognizes the enduring presence of the 30 sovereign tribes in the basin and their rights to Colorado River water. In addition to helping them manage their water resources, WTI facilitates conversations among the Tribes as well as between the Tribes, states, and the federal government to enable collaboration and cooperative decision making.

Our WTI partners are assisting Tribes with the environmental review process for the “Post 2026” Colorado River operating



Before and after the “pulse flow” water release to the Colorado River Delta in 2014—an experiment that led to restoration of more than 1,000 acres in the Delta.



guidelines being developed to replace those expiring in 2026. “Given that Tribes have some of the most senior water rights in the basin, ensuring Tribal engagement in the environmental review process is critical to actively protecting their water rights,” Shepard says.

“The gap between water supply and demand will be the West’s greatest challenge,” he adds. “Our 35-year history of community-based conservation, capacity building, and assisting communities in understanding the policies needed to address their challenges make Sonoran Institute a valuable partner in the basin and beyond.”

Mexicali residents enjoy “pulse flow” water release in the Colorado River.



“Our 35-year history of community-based conservation, capacity building, and assisting communities in understanding the policies needed to address their challenges make Sonoran Institute a valuable partner in the basin and beyond.”

JOHN SHEPARD | Senior Advisor



Volunteers mix seeds and dirt into seed balls to spread seeds along the Santa Cruz River.

Santa Cruz River

Sustaining an Ecological and Cultural Gem

For 12,000 years, the Santa Cruz River has made life possible for humans and wildlife in southern Arizona. Today, the roles are reversed. With the river’s survival relying entirely on human intervention, our Santa Cruz River program’s vocation is to build appreciation for this community treasure.

“Familiarizing people with the river so they can see why it is so special and why it deserves to be protected is the common

thread running through all our activities,” says Luke Cole, Santa Cruz River program director.

This year, our initiatives have beamed a national spotlight on the Santa Cruz, inspiring action to permanently protect it.

American Rivers included the Santa Cruz River on its annual list of America’s Most Endangered Rivers®. This list highlights rivers at a crossroads, where key decisions will determine their fates. For the Santa Cruz, which depends on inputs of effluent sourced from imported Colorado River water, maintaining its water supply amid growing regional water scarcity is the river’s greatest challenge.

From the very beginning of the Sonoran Institute in 1990, we have been working to conserve the Santa Cruz River. “The Santa Cruz came back to life over the last 15 years because good policy decisions and investments at the binational, federal, state, and local scales put clean water back into the river,” Cole says. “Endangered native fish, vegetation, birds, wildlife, and local people have all returned, but the river’s recovery is still very fragile. Now, more than ever, we need to protect its flows.”

To further justify keeping water in the river, we have helped unite the community in calling for permanent preservation of its greenspace. In partnership with The Wilderness Society, we have created a coalition including some 50 other entities to establish an Urban National Wildlife Refuge managed through the U.S Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS). Santa Cruz and Pima counties and the San Xavier District of the Tohono O’odham Nation have all endorsed the effort.

“We envision these parcels forming a ‘string of pearls’ of open space reflecting the ecology, Indigenous history, and culture of the communities in which they exist,” Cole says. “This would represent the platinum level of landscape protection.”

Community members participate in beautification efforts and re-connect to the Santa Cruz River.



Thank You to Our Donors

We are grateful to all our donors, partners, and volunteers. With your support the Sonoran Institute continues to make a positive impact throughout the Colorado River Basin.

Melissa Acuna
Rowene Aguirre-Medina and Roy Medina
Alpine Bank
Cheryl Alver
Andrew Gale Donor Advised Fund
Arizona Community Foundation
Arizona Jet-Mail Services
Arizona Land Advisors, LLC
Seth Ausubel
Kerry Baldwin
Bank of America Charitable Gift Fund
Joey Barbee
William Barbour
Barbara Barton
David Baumgarten
Julienne Bautista
B. Duffy Creative Photography
Louise "Lollie" Benz Plank
Alex Binford-Walsh
Gail Bliss
Russell and Tracy Bodnar
Michelle Bonito
Borgen Family Foundation
Katherine and B.K. Borgen
Diane Bowden
Lisa Bowers
Sallie Bray
Bucher Family Trust
Bureau of Reclamation
Emily Butler
McKenna Byrne
California State Water Board
Adelaide Campbell
John and Patricia Case
Caterpillar Global Mining LLC
Bianca Chavez
Mika Chious
CICADA
Ronald Cipriani
City of Tucson
Abigail Clarke
Linda Colburn
BG Colby
Arlene and Richard Cole
Luke Cole and Cat Wolner
Colorado Gives Foundation
Colorado Water Conservation Board
Colorado River Water Conservation District
Arlan Colton
Community Foundation for Southern Arizona

Constellation Brands
Melissa Cordero
Steve Cornelius
Nicholas Coventry
Cox Communications
David Crown
Kevin Dahl
Mary Dahl
Karen Davidson
Todd DeFrank
Denison Family Foundation
Janet Derck
Desert Diamond Casinos & Entertainment
Sarah Dorsey
Eric Dudley
Patrocinia G. Duffy
Tim Dunne
Kim Egita
Julie Ellison-Speight
Chris English
Enterprise Holdings Foundation
Epsilon Eta Pre-Professional Fraternity
Evim Foundation
Vance Falbaum
Amy Faulk
Nancy Felker
Adam Fernandez
Kara Festa
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
Patricia Figueroa
Les Frank
Friends of the Santa Cruz River
Fundación Gonzalo Río Arronte
Cynthia Garcia
Toni Garcia-Bullington
Gregg Garfin
Gates Family Foundation
Lydia Garvey
Michelle Gates
GeoSystems Analysis, Inc.
Susan Gerard
Aaron Gerow
Kathy Gerst
Ann and Gordon Getty Foundation
Gilman Ordway 2019 Charitable Lead Unitrust
Louise Glasser
Jonathon Goldman
Andrew Gordon
Thomas Gougeon
Charles & Mary Graf
Bruce Granger

Edna Gray
Barbara Green and Tim Fink
Wendy and Paul Greeney
Pam Grissom
Barbara Griswold
Sarah Grossman
Gisela Gutman
Brian Hale
Jae Hall
Helios Foundation
Adam Helman
Ed Henry
Andrew Henschen
Jennifer Hill
Anna Hill Price
Kate Hiller
Hitchcock Bowart Datterra Foundation
Horst Engineering
Hughes Federal Credit Union
Gordon Hunt
Martha Hunter-Henderson and Charlie Henderson
Ann Hunter-Welborn and David Welborn
Andrea Huxhold
Kashja Iler
International Community Foundation
Tanya Ishikawa
Island Press
Bill Jackson
Donald Jackson
Peter Jeffries
Jim Click Automotive Team
Barbara Jones
Trent and Cecile Jones
Nyda Jones-Church
Shanta Jordan
JPOP Photon
Joseph Kalt and Judith Gans
Michael and Beth Kasser
Frances Kaster
Kathleen and David Kennedy
Tika Kelley and Scott Johnson
Jonathan Kempff
Dan and Kit Kimball
Kenneth Kingsley
Jo Anne Kiser
Steven Kuhn
Cori Kwasny
Erin Lansey
Sandra Laursen

Lee and Lisa Leachman
David and Jean Lehman
Pam Lemke
Amy Lester
Julia Levario-Welsh
Leza Carter and Brian Powell
Lincoln Institute of Land Policy
Robert Linehan
Jesse Lipson
Mary Littlehorn
Diego Lopez
Alvaro Luken
Gaston Luken-Aguilar
Ana Gabriela Luken-Marce
Pamela Maher and David Schubert
Lisa Mainz
Anne Maley-Schaffner and Tim Schaffner
Rudy Malusa
Marisla Foundation
Peggy Marlatt
Joanna Marroquin
Philip Marsh
Loraine and Patrick Martin
Stephen and Kathleen Martinek
Maurynne Maxwell
John and Laurie McBride
Andrew McCain
Kevin McDonald
Juliet McKenna and Peter Reiners
Carrie McKirchy
Justina McLean
Gary McNeil
Lauren Menser
Tye Merlo
Mighty Arrow Family Foundation
Molly Miller
Norma Miller
Kerry Milligan and Craig LeCroy
Dennis Minano
Mindstrong Fitness
Vera Minot
Anne Mize
Cheryl Mollohan
Paul and Tomi Moreno
Jeannine Mortimer
Catherine Morton
Maureen Moses
Haley Mount
Deborah & Michael Moynihan
Jan Mulder and Greg Bedinger
Kim Murphy
Terry Murphy

Anna Murveit
Caroline Nelson
New Venture Fund
NextGen America
Jeffrey Niwa
North American Development Bank
Susan North
Northern Water
Austin Nunez
Margaret Ordway
Damien Ossi
Laurinda Oswald
Nick Paretti
Ellen Patterson
Steve Pearl
Peer Pedersen
Pima County Regional Flood Control & Wastewater
Preston Plaxco
Joan Powell
Carrie Presnall
Andrew Quarles
Alex Rath
Tracy Rhodes
Chris Rife
Nancy Robertson
Susan Robertson
Carol Rose
David Rosen
Deborah Roth
Jennette Rude
Dereka Rushbrook
Roberto Salmon
San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
Lane Santa Cruz
Santa Cruz Valley National Heritage Area
Santa Lucia Conservancy
Richard and Stella Schaefer
Katherine Schmidt
Stephanie Schmidt
Schmueser Gordon Meyer, Inc.
Schwab Charitable Trust
Jeff Scott
Sempra Foundation
Shapiro Gordon Family Fund
Sheila Navarre Enos Charitable Foundation Trust
John Shepard and Carol Evans
Gale Sherman
Suzanne Shields
Dean Sipe
Marissa Sites
Alisa Slaughter
Lowell Smoger
Susan Snedaker
Southwestern Water Conservation District
Edward St Pierre
Stantec

State Farm
Michelle Ruth Stearns
Stella Flora Films
Steven C. Leuthold Family Foundation
Daniel Stolte
Amy Sullivan
Penelope Suter
Robert Tait
Ted Ventures LLC
Matt and Sarah Teeters
The Fanwood Foundation
The James Huntington Foundation
The Meyer Family Charitable Fund
The Nature Conservancy
The Wilderness Society
Luke Thom
Barton & Holly Thompson
TisBest Philanthropy
James Tolbert
Allison Troy
Anne Trumble
Tucson Electric Power
Tucson Hop Shop
Tucson Water
Jamen Tyler
Karin Uhlich
Leslie Uhr
University of Arizona
Vanguard Charitable Endowment Program
Vargas Property Services Inc
Verdad Foundation
Bridget Wade Radcliff
Lisa Warneke
Roger Warren
Luann S. Waters
David Wegner and Nancy Jacques
Carol Weiss
Welborn Family Trust
John Welch
Pamela Wessel
Why I Love Where I Live
Wildlife Corridors Fund
Jeffrey Wilkinson
Brook Williams
John Wise and Evelyn Wachtel
Gerry and Vicki Wolfe
Virginia Zaccheo
Loraine Zagula
Francisco and Rocio Zamora
Zavatsky B Foundation
Agnes Zellner
Michael Zellner
John Zevalkink
Claire Zugmeyer and Sky Jacobs
Tessa Zugmeyer
Vasyl Zuk and Gloria Capik

Hummingbird Circle Donor
 Board Member
 Advisory Board Member

Gifts in Honor of
Luke Cole
Nyda Jones-Church
C. Ruby Rose
Mike Zellner

Gifts in Memory of
Pedro Joab Aguirre
Fred Bowden
Kathleen and Mike Zavatsky

In-kind Gifts
81 Barbers
Bloom Mavens
Coffee Times
El Be Boutique
Farhang & Medcoff Attorneys Mast
MotoSonora Brewing Co.
Pima Community College
Rialto Theatre
SideCar
Tucson Appliance Company
Tucson Botanical Gardens
Wooden Tooth Records

Financial Summary

Revenue and Support

Contributions	\$812,433
Foundation Grants	\$1,242,975
Government Grants	\$1,672,094
Contract Income	\$133,505
Other Income	\$266,463
Total Revenue and Support	\$4,127,470

Expenses

Programs US	\$1,423,379
Programs MEX	\$2,197,904
Administration	\$397,015
Fundraising & Marketing	\$306,216
Total Expense	\$4,324,514

Reporting based on audited FY24 results. A copy of the audit will be posted on our website as soon as it becomes available.

Sonoran Institute uses heavy machinery to facilitate the reconnection of the Colorado River to the sea.

Pay It Forward Please

Here are a few ways you can make a difference for future generations:

Donate

For easy access, we have included a remittance envelope. Or, give online at sonoraninstitute.org.

Attend Our Events

You'll have fun, meet great people, and learn more about our important work.

Follow Us on Social Media

We're on: Facebook, Instagram, X, TikTok, LinkedIn, and YouTube.

Spread Our News With Your Friends and Family

The more who hear about us the greater our impact.

Our Mission

The Sonoran Institute's mission is to connect people and communities with the natural resources that nourish and sustain them.

Our Vision

A Colorado River Basin where rivers flow, landscapes are healthy, and all communities thrive.

Photo Credits

Cover Photo: Water testing by **Melissa Cordero**
2: Colorado River Delta overview by **Jesus Garcia**
3: Mike Zellner and Dan Kimball by **Sonoran Institute**
4: Aerial cleanup by **Angela Melendez**; Laguna Grande kayakers by **Mateo Sanchez** **5:** Median by **Jesse Amado**; CWS group photo by **Sonoran Institute** **6:** Morelos Dam ©**Bill Hatcher/Sonoran Institute**; Luther Propst by **Sonoran Institute**; Rincon Cienega ©**Bill Hatcher/Sonoran Institute** **7:** Cucapah ceremony ©**Bill Hatcher/Sonoran Institute**; Walk Hikdan ©**Julius Schlosberg/Sonoran Institute**; Revive El Río by **Jesus Salazar** **8:** Pulse Flow Now Then by **Dale Turner**; Delta celebration by **Francisco Zamora** **9:** Seed balls and cleanup by ©**Julius Schlosberg/Sonoran Institute**; **11:** Heavy machinery by **Francisco Zamora** **Back Cover:** Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna*) by **Patrick Jennings**



SONORAN
INSTITUTE

5049 E. Broadway Blvd., Suite 127, Tucson, Arizona 85711
Tel 520.290.0828 | sonoraninstitute.org

