



Please Join us in Welcoming
our New Board Members!



President: Molly McCormick!

Molly McCormick has been a restoration practitioner in Arizona for nearly a decade. She has worked and volunteered for Grand Canyon National Park, Grand Canyon Trust, Friends of the Verde River Greenway, Oak Creek Watershed Council, Borderlands Restoration, and the U.S. Geological Survey. She has a bachelor degree in Southwest Studies from Colorado College, a Permaculture Design Certificate from Sonoran Permaculture Guild, is a native plant medicinal herbalist, and holds a Masters of Science degree in restoration ecology from Northern Arizona University. She grew up in a rural farming and ranching community in southwest Kansas, and values working landscapes and a sense of stewardship to the land. She is currently a Program Coordinator for the [Restoration Assessment and Monitoring Program for the Southwest \(RAMPS\)](#), a program of the U.S. Geological Survey's Southwest Biological Science Center in Flagstaff, AZ. The RAMPS program is working to increase understanding of effective and efficient restoration practices in the Southwest's desert ecosystems.



Vice President: Elise Gornish

Dr. Elise Gornish is a Cooperative Extension Specialist in Ecological Restoration at the [University of Arizona](#). Her work largely focuses on identifying strategies for successful restoration in arid land systems and integration of restoration approaches into weed management. Originally from New York, Dr. Gornish received her MS and PhD from Florida State University in 2013. She then completed two years of a post doc at the University of California, Davis before becoming a Cooperative Extension Specialist in Ecological restoration at UC Davis. In addition to vegetation management, Dr. Gornish is passionate about STEM inclusion and has recently become the Director of UA GALS (Girls on outdoor Adventure for Leadership and Science). This new program focuses on providing science learning and leadership opportunities to traditionally under-served female high school students through backcountry programming.



Secretary: Ondrea Hummel

Ms. Ondrea Hummel has been active in the field of riverine, riparian and wetland ecosystem restoration efforts in the southwest for the past 23 years. She is a [Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioner \(CERP\)](#) through the Society of Ecological Restoration.

Her PhD research included an analysis of managed versus constructed wetland habitat, difference in surface water-ground water interaction, vegetation and arthropod communities. Ms. Hummel is certified to perform wetland delineations and has experience in permit requirements for CWA Section 404/401 and NPDES. She has also been an instructor at USACE courses such as

'Stream Bank Stabilization and Riparian Restoration' and 'Environmental Considerations in Planning.'



Arizona Representative: Steve Plath

Steve Plath began his career in arid land restoration in 1994 as the nursery and restoration technician for Castle Mountain Mine in the East Mojave Desert of Southern California. Since then he's worked on revegetation sites from coastal California to the Rio Grande River in Texas; the Colorado Plateau to the Mexican border with a particular emphasis on the Colorado River watershed. He has organized habitat restoration in the field, managed nurseries and led GPS teams for

companies like RECON Environmental, Bitterroot Restoration and Native Resources International. Steve was formerly co-owner, along with his wife Julie, of Signature Botanica LLC for the past 14 years. He is currently the Manager of the Native Plant Nursery for the [Gila Watershed Partnership](#) in Safford, Arizona. One of his on-going collaborations is with Southwest Monarch Study in a grant to provide Arizona State Parks and other agencies milkweeds for monarch butterfly habitat restoration.



Utah Representative: Rebecca Mann

Rebecca Mann is a Biologist for the [USGS Southwest Biological Science Center](#), in Moab, Utah. Her work is focused on comparing traditional large-scale restoration practices to site-appropriate low-impact techniques, with the goal of restoring ecosystem function to severely degraded areas across the Colorado Plateau. She has an M. S. in Ecology from Utah State University, where she worked on a collaborative,

shrub-focused research project to inform adaptive management efforts on Utah rangelands, and studied the adaptation potential of native plant populations to cheatgrass. She also has extensive field work experience throughout the country, having worked on habitat assessments for rare plants, invasive species

management, vegetation monitoring, and facilitation of a regional citizen scientist program. Her broad career interests are to explore creative solutions to persistent land management challenges and facilitate the connections between land management practitioners and science-based tools and information. Rebecca's other passions include mountain climbing and organic gardening; she currently manages Moab's community garden in her free time.

And a hearty thanks to our out-going board members!

Carianne Campbell (President)

Jeff Conn (Vice President)

Julia Rowe (Secretary)

Seth Munson (Arizona Representative)

Steve Warren (Utah Representative)

Employment & Academic Opportunities

Hungry for more?

See our Facebook page for oodles of additional postings!



Graduate Student Fellowship Ft. Collins, Colorado

A graduate student fellowship is available at Colorado State University for the Masters in Greenhouse Gas Management and Accounting (MGMA) Program. The fellowship provides funding for one year that can be used for base tuition, fees, and other expenses during the first two semesters of the degree program.

[More Information](#)



Environmental Specialist Las Vegas, Nevada

The Clark County Department of Air Quality in Las Vegas, Nevada, is seeking qualified candidates for Environmental Specialist to work in the Desert Conservation Program Division. The position is a specialist level class in the classification series. The Environmental Specialist directs professional-level biological and environmental projects and contracts that benefit species covered by the Clark County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan and performs project management responsibilities to include but not limited to project development, contractor procurement, project coordination, budgetary and related analyses for division, department, County Manager, Board of Commissioners, and/or other governmental agencies. This Environmental Specialist position will also focus on management of spatial data to include map production, geodatabase management, and analysis using GIS applications. The successful applicant should be experienced with using ArcGIS suite of products, including ArcGIS Desktop, Collector and Online.

DEADLINE TO APPLY: December 11, 2018 at 5:01 PM (PST)

[More Information](#)

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