



Meet Ginger Paige

Ginger Paige, PhD

Professor of Watershed Hydrology
Water Resource Extension Specialist

University of Wyoming

307-766-2200

gpaige@uwyo.edu

Ginger Paige is a Professor of Watershed Hydrology and Water Resource Extension Specialist at the University of Wyoming. She has degrees in Political Science (B.A. Colorado College), Soil Physics (M.S. University of Massachusetts) and Watershed Management with a minor in Ag and Biosystems Engineering (Ph.D. University of Arizona). She joined UW in 2014 after working for USDA-ARS in Tucson, AZ as a research hydrologist for 12 years. Ginger has extensive experience in measurement and modeling of rangeland hydrologic processes and working with diverse stakeholder groups in both water quality and quantity to address complex water resource management issues. Ginger's experience includes quantifying returns flow, assessing the ecosystem benefits of return flow, using observational hydrologic methods coupled with geophysics techniques to partition surface and subsurface hydrologic processes, assessment of soil moisture measurement methods, and the development of multi-objective decision support tools and models. She has led or co-led numerous projects funded by agencies including USDA, NSF, NASA Space Grant, as well as State and Tribal Agencies. As State Water Quality Coordinator for Wyoming for the USDA CSREES National Water Quality Program from 2005- 2012, she expanded the scope and impacts of Wyoming's water extension program to regional and national levels. Her programs have focused on establishing long-term hydrologic instrumentation and datasets, development of water quality training programs to collect credible data, and direct collaboration with stakeholders and decision makers. She has completed 16 graduate students as chair and served on over 26 graduate committees. As UW representative to CUASHI and active member the WERA Watershed Processes and Human Water Systems, she supports the collection and analysis of credible data and the promotion of interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches to address water resource issues.

"How do you plan on advancing UCOWR's mission of leading in education, research and public service in water resources?"

The University of Wyoming is a new member of UCOWR, officially joining in 2019. However, for the past several years I have periodically been involved with the annual meeting planning committee. Annual meetings, along with the Journal of Contemporary Water Research and Education (JCWRE), is one of the best avenues to connect with UCOWR's membership and promote leadership in addressing complex water resource issues and strengthening ties among all three foci of UCOWR's mission - education, research and public service.

As a Board member, I would focus on two areas, strengthening ties between UCOWR and water resource extension programs and expanding platforms for graduate student networking. I will promote and lead special sessions at UCOWR Annual meetings that explore and promote the roles UCOWR members can take to effectively improve and strengthen links between cutting edge water resource research and extension; collection of hydrologic data and approaches and tools to make it useful to decision makers and stakeholders. I will also focus on expanding mechanisms and platforms for graduate students to network across subdisciplines and increase their exposure to water resource extension programs.