Water is Arizona’s most precious resource, yet few people know where their water comes from, who provides it, how its quality is assured, or how secure future water supplies are for the state’s 6 million residents. Growth and the control of water to support it have never been simple uncontested endeavors. Federal, tribal, state, and local governments are all involved in developing and distributing water to serve diverse constituents with often competing interests. And what about nature? Who is looking out for Arizona’s native fish and amphibians, and the birds and insects that thrive in the cottonwood and willow forests along our most rare and valuable streamside ecosystems? We face very serious water supply sustainability challenges in the coming decades as the state continues to grow and the climate shifts warmer and drier. Who gets cut when there is a shortage? Who has priority? Who makes these decisions about our water future?

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