

Presented By: Enrique R. Vivoni, Ph.D. Professor - Arizona State University School of Earth & Space Exploration School of Sustainable Engineering & The Built Environment



Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

Environmental Engineering Seminar Series

Friday, January 8th 2016 MDEA 1:30PM - 2:30PM

Terrestrial Sources Of Evapotranspiration In The Southwestern U.S. & Northwest Mexico

Despite its importance in the hydrological cycle, the fluxes of water vapor derived from the terrestrial land surface are difficult to estimate. In this talk, I will present recent estimates of evapotranspiration and its abiotic and biotic components obtained from a macroscale hydrologic model that has been modified to properly account for natural ecosystem structure and agricultural areas in the region. Daily, seasonal and annual evapotranspiration estimates over 2000-2012 are compared to a network of eddy covariance towers, to water balance estimates and to remotelysensed and model-derived gridded products. The confidence built on the macroscale model estimates provides a means to assess the major sources of evapotranspiration during winter and summer seasons. In addition, an assessment of the impact of two types of land cover change - agricultural extensification and deforestation for pasture establishment - on regional evapotranspiration is discussed.





Dr. Enrique R. Vivoni received his B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Civil and Environmental Engineering. He holds a joint appointment as a Professor in the School of Earth and Space Exploration and the School of Sustainable Engineering and the Built Environment at Arizona State University. His research focuses on water, climate and ecosystem processes and interactions with sustainability and management in the North American deserts. He has won a number of national awards, including the Leopold Leadership Fellowship, ASCE Hubert Prize for Civil Engineering Research and the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers.