Multimedia Library Collection: Environmental Film Profiles (videos)

Watershed: Exploring a New Water Ethic for the New West

Redford, Robert. *Watershed: Exploring a New Water Ethic for the New West.* San Francisco: Redford Center, 2012. HD, 56 min. https://youtu.be/3mcHrzOImoY.

> *Watershed* tells the story of the threats to the once-mighty Colorado River and offers solutions for the future of the American West. As the most dammed, dibbed, and diverted river in the world struggles to support thirty million people and the peace-keeping agreement known as the Colorado River Pact reaches its limits, *Watershed* introduces hope. Can we meet the needs of a growing population in the face of rising temperatures and lower rainfall in an already arid land? Can we find harmony amongst the competing interests of cities, agriculture, industry, recreation, wildlife, and indigenous communities with rights to the water? Sweeping through seven US and two Mexican states, the Colorado River is a lifeline to expanding populations and booming urban centers that demand water for drinking, sanitation and energy generation. And with 70 percent of the river's water supporting agriculture, the river already runs dry before it reaches its natural end at the Gulf of California. Unless action is taken, the river will continue its retreat – a potentially catastrophic scenario for the millions who depend on it. *Watershed* is produced and narrated by Robert Redford and directed by award-winning filmmaker Mark Decena. (Source: Official Film Website)

© 2012 Redford Center. Trailer used with permission.

This film is available at the Rachel Carson Center Library (RCC, 4th floor, Leopoldstrasse 11a, 80802 Munich) for on-site viewing only. For more information, please contact library@rcc.lmu.de.

About the Environmental Film Profiles collection

Further readings:

- Cohn, Jeffrey J. "Resurrecting the Dammed: A Look at Colorado River Restoration." *BioScience* 51.12 (2001): 998-1003.
- Mauch, Christof and Thomas Zeller. *Rivers in History: Perspectives on Waterways in Europe and North America.* Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2008.

- Myers, Charles J. "The Colorado River." *Stanford Law Review* 19.1 (1966): 1-75.
- Roberts, Stacy N., and Foster, Lauren. "'Citizens of a Watershed': The Colorado River Compact and the Exigencies of Drought." Environment & Society Portal, *Arcadia* Spring 2016, no. 1. Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society.
- Sturgeon, Stephen C. *The Politics of Western Water: The Congressional Career of Wayne Aspinall.* Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 2002.
- Summitt, April R. *Contested Waters: An Environmental History of the Colorado River*. Boulder, CO: University of Colorado Press, 2013.
- Ward, Evan R. "Geo-Environmental Disconnection and the Colorado River Delta: Technology, Culture, and the Political Ecology of Paradise." Special issue, *Environment and History* 7, no. 2 (2001): 219–46. doi:10.3197/096734001129342478.

Related links:

- Interactive Map of the Colorado River (National Geographic)
  http://environment.nationalgeographic.com/environment/freshwater/change-the-course/colorado-river-map/
- Change the Course (Pledge to Conserve)
  http://changethecourse.us/
- “Environment and Ecology of the Colorado River Basin” by Natalie Triedman (Colorado College)
  https://www.coloradocollege.edu/dotAsset/cbb78858-d078-4a7c-ba80-2040569abbdd.pdf
- Melinda Laituri on “Integrated Environmental History of Watersheds” (Carson Fellow Portrait)
  http://www.environmentandsociety.org/node/3407

Websites linked in this text:

- http://watershedmovie.com/about/film/
- http://www.carsoncenter.uni-muenchen.de/index.html
- https://www.environmentandsociety.org/multimedia/collection/environmental-films-project