

Sierra Nevada Research Institute

SNRI Seminar

Date: 6/14/2013

Friday 2:30-3:30 PM

SE-200



Speaker: Mac McKee
Director, Utah Water Research Laboratory
Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering

Title: Applications in Remote Sensing at the Utah Water Research Laboratory

Abstract:

The Utah Water Research Laboratory (UWRL) at Utah State University (USU) is the oldest, and among the largest, of the 54 university-based water research centers created by the 1964 Water Resources Research Act. In recent years, researchers at the UWRL have developed a family of small, autonomous, aerial systems that are specifically designed to acquire scientific-grade remotely sensed data for use in research and natural resources management. These systems have now been used in a wide range of applications, including precision agriculture, invasive species management in wetlands, civil construction monitoring, stream rehabilitation, aquatic habitat management, and many others. This presentation will provide a brief introduction of the research done at the UWRL and details of the program in small unmanned aerial systems.

Biography:

Dr. McKee directs the Utah Water Research Laboratory and has been active in domestic and international water resources planning and management projects for the past 35 years. On many assignments, Dr. McKee has had the chief responsibility for providing decision-relevant information on contentious water development issues at local, interstate, and international levels. Examples include the design of plans for managing interstate rivers in India and the formulation and implementation of a planning framework for development of Palestinian water resources in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. His diverse experience has included assignments ranging from flood control planning and design in the Philippines, to water quality management in Samoa, to integrated river basin planning and management in India, to development of a comprehensive water resources plans for the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Dr. McKee teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Utah State University in water resources systems analysis, water resources engineering, and water resources planning and management.