



Photos by Jean Dixon



The wonder of Walker

Walker River (above) feeds Walker Lake (left), one of only three desert, terminal lakes – meaning no water flows out – with a freshwater fishery in the world. The environmental health of the river and the Mineral County, Nevada lake is interdependent. It is linked to the economic health of the entire Walker Basin, which depends on these waters for agriculture and recreation. But the health of the lake is fragile, as rapidly declining water levels result in increased salinity. Through the Walker Basin Project, environmental and economic researchers with the Desert Research Institute and the University of Nevada, Reno are exploring the best means to get additional water to the lake while maintaining the basin's economy and ecosystem. The comprehensive, federally funded project also involves the acquisition of water and water rights from willing sellers.

LOOK ONLINE

Learn more about the Walker Basin Project and the researchers and projects shown here at <http://www.nevada.edu/walker>

