



Rebecca Bernat is the AWBA Technical Administrator. Rebecca received her Ph.D. in Environmental Science with a minor in Water, Society and Policy from the University of Arizona in 2022. Her dissertation research focused on three aspects of managed aquifer recharge: the Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District, the reuse of effluent, and market-based transactions of long-term storage credits. She published two articles on the topic in peer-reviewed journals and one paper in a UNESCO publication. In 2016 and 2017, she was the recipient of the Philanthropic Educational Organization International Peace Scholarship.

At the University of Arizona, Rebecca worked for two years as a Graduate Research Associate for the Water Resources Research Center. She conducted research on aquifer recharge and water federalism, and wrote stories for the Weekly Wave. For five semesters, Rebecca assisted professors in teaching the “Introduction to Environmental Science” undergraduate class. She also worked as a senior judge for the Graduate and Professional Student Council to evaluate travel and research grants.

Rebecca participated in the NASA DEVELOP National Program to assist ranchers and land managers in Coconino and Yavapai Counties in monitoring stock ponds. She presented the work of her NASA DEVELOP team in September 2021 at the Arizona Hydrological Society Symposium.

Rebecca grew up in Provence, Southern France. She has a master’s degree in Environmental Science with an Emphasis in Scientific Mediation and Communication from the Université Aix-Marseille and a bachelor’s degree in Chemistry from the Université Paris Sud XI. She worked as a chemist for Ortec Générale de Dépollution in Aix-en-Provence, the French Atomic Commission in Paris, the Research and Development Institute of New Caledonia, and L’Oreal Paris.