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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Cassandra Rose (crose@americangeosciences.org)

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ALEXANDRIA, Va. — The High Plains/Ogallala Aquifer (HPA), which offers a compelling yet complex illustration of how geoscience vitally intersects society, is the subject of a new report from the American Geosciences Institute. This report outlines the findings of the 2016 Critical Issues Forum, which examined state approaches to the HPA's regional groundwater challenges.

Held October 27-28, 2016, at the Payne Institute for Earth Resources at the Colorado School of Mines in Golden, Colorado, the one-and-a-half-day Forum brought together a wide range of scientists and decision-makers from across the U.S. to identify lessons and best practices for groundwater management. Forum participants addressed the scientific and social issues inherent in groundwater management efforts throughout the eight HPA states through engaging presentations, panels and breakout sessions. Videos of Forum presentations are available at <https://www.americangeosciences.org/policy/ci-forum-2016/presentations>.

The summary report of the Forum, written by EARTH Magazine News Editor Timothy Oleson with contributions from additional AGI staff, is now available for purchase at <https://store.americangeosciences.org/reports.html>. A free PDF version of the report is also available at <https://www.americangeosciences.org/policy/ci-forum-2016/final-report>.

Also of interest — In May 2017, EARTH interviewed Merri Lisa Trigilio, one of the Forum's invited keynote speakers. Trigilio is the producer and director of "Written on Water," a documentary film that showcases High Plains communities and their intimate relationship with the land and the groundwater beneath it. Read her interview at <https://www.earthmagazine.org/article/geomedia-film-written-water-modern....>

About AGI

The American Geosciences Institute (AGI) is a nonprofit federation of 52 scientific and professional associations that represents more than 260,000 geoscientists. Founded in 1948, AGI provides information services to geoscientists, serves as a voice of shared interests in the profession, plays a major role in strengthening geoscience education, and strives to increase public awareness of the vital role the geosciences play in society's use of resources, resiliency to natural hazards, and interaction with the environment.

AGI is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to serving the geoscience community and addressing the needs of society. AGI headquarters are in Alexandria, Virginia.

The American Geosciences Institute represents and serves the geoscience community by providing collaborative leadership and information to connect Earth, science, and people.

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