

## Curriculum Vitae



Name: S. Contreras López PhD.  
 First Name: Sergio  
 Date of Birth: 11 January 1979  
 Nationality: Spanish  
 Main Disciplines: Dryland Ecohydrology, Remote Sensing, Drought Monitoring and Management, Drought innovations, Water-related Ecosystem Services  
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## Key Qualifications

BSc in Environmental Sciences (2001), M.A.St in Surface Geodynamics (2004), and PhD (2006) at the University of Almeria. Dryland ecohydrologist, and water and drought expert with more than 15 years of career as researcher and consultant, and acting as: a) expert on the assessment and management of water resources by combining numerical simulation and geomatic and satellite-based technologies, and b) senior advisor on drought and water scarcity innovative solutions, and drought preparedness and mitigation strategies. Dr. Contreras studies and quantifies the links and feedbacks between the Hydrosphere (hydrological processes at the land surface), and the Biosphere (structure and functioning of native and agro- and native ecosystems), and their relationship with climate-forcing drivers and human activities at different spatial scales (landscape, basin and regional). He has done research stays at different national and international institutions including Spanish National Research Council (CSIC), University of Western Australia, Institute of Applied Mathematics of San Luis (UNSL-CONICET), and Bureau of Economic Geology. Since its joining in FW at 2013 as consulting researcher, Sergio is contributing to a better understanding of drought impacts on the environment and the economy. He leads the development and testing of the InfoSequia solution, i.e. the FutureWater's in-house fully-integrated toolbox for the Monitoring and Impact Risk Assessment of Droughts. He is member of the Executive Board of the BRIGRID EU-H2020 BRIGRID project (2018-2021) leading the Work Package on "Drought and Innovations", and has participated in many international and Spanish research projects and contracts. He is authorship of more than 100 scientific and technical contributions. Member of the International Association of Hydrogeologists (2000-present).

## Educational Background

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| 2003 – 2005 | PhD Universidad de Almería, Facultad de Ciencias Experimentales, Universidad de Almería<br>Thesis: Estimation of the water balance in semiarid mountainous regions. Application to Sierra de Gador (Almería, SE Spain) |
| 2002 - 2003 | MASt Earth Surface Dynamics, Faculty of Experimental Sciences, Universidad de Almeria<br>Subjects: groundwater and environment, recharge in semiarid regions.  |
| 1997 - 2001 | BSc Environmental Sciences, Universidad de Almeria, España.  |

## Professional Experience

- 2013 - present Consulting-researcher, Expert in Remote Sensing and Drought Management. FutureWater, Cartagena, España.
- 2010 - 2013 Postdoctoral Researcher (Juan de la Cierva Fellow), Centro de Edafología y Biología Aplicada del Segura – Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas. Murcia, España.
- 2009 - 2010 Postdoctoral Fellow – Visiting Scientist, Bureau of Economic Geology – The University of Texas at Austin. Texas, EEUU.
- 2007 - 2008 Postdoctoral Fellow, Instituto de Matemática Aplicada de San Luis - Universidad Nacional de San Luis & CONICET. San Luis, Argentina.
- 2006 - 2007 Hired Researcher, Estación Experimental de Zonas Áridas (Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas). Almería, España.
- 2002 - 2006 Predoctoral Fellow, Estación Experimental de Zonas Áridas (Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas). Almería, España.

## Overseas Professional Experience

As non-resident: Australia, Argentina, United States, Colombia

## Selection of Assignments and Projects

- 2018 – 2022 Transforming Weather Water data into value-added Information services for sustainable Growth in Africa (TWIGA). Role: Researcher. Type of project – Funding source: Research and Innovation Action (H2020 Programme) – European Commission.
- 2017 – 2019 HERramienta para el MANejo integral del Agua (HERMANA). Role: Consultant researcher. Type of project – Funding source: WWSD-PvW - Netherland Enterprise Agency (RVO) & Corporación Autónoma Regional del Valle del Cauca (CVC, Colombia).
- 2017 Hydrogeological modelling of groundwater discharge to the Mar Menor lagoon. Role: Consultant (project leader). Type of project – Funding source: Private consulting contract - CCRR Arco Sur–Mar Menor
- 2016 - 2020 BRIdging the GAp for Innovations in Disaster Resilience (BRIGRID). Role: WP leader. Type of project – Funding source: Innovation Action (H2020 Programme) – European Commission.
- 2015 - 2019 IMproving PRedictions and management of hydrological Extremes (IMPREX). Role: Researcher. Type of project – Funding source: Research and Innovation Action (H2020 Programme) – European Commission.
- 2014 - 2015 Accounting System for the Segura river and Transfer (ASSET). Role: Research consultant (participant). Type of project – Funding source: Directorate-General for the Environment - European Commission.
- 2013 - 2016 The GEISEQ project: a toolbox for the surveillance and the efficient management of droughts. Role: Coordinator. Type of project – Funding source: Torres-Quevedo Project, co-funded by FutureWater and the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Innovation.
- 2010-2014 Sustainable use of irrigation water in the Mediterranean Region (SIRRIMED). Role: Researcher (WP5, Watershed Information Systems). Type of project – Funding source: Collaborative Project (7th Framework Programme) – European Commission.

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| 2009-2011   | Mediterranean Intermittent River Management (MIRAGE). Role: Collaborative researcher. Type of project – Funding institution: Specific Targeted Research Project (7th Framework Programme) – European Commission.   |
| 2008-2009   | Ecological restoration and landscape integration project of the limestone quarries of Sierra Gador (HOLCIM-Spain). Experimental phase. Role: Researcher. Type of project – Funding institution: Research contract - HOLCIM-España Ltd.   |
| 2007 - 2011 | Land use change in the Rio de la Plata Basin: linking biophysical and human factors to predicts trends, assess impacts, and support viable land-use strategies for the future. Role: Researcher. Type of project – Funding institution: Cooperative Research Network - Interamerican Institute for Global Change Research. |
| 2007 - 2008 | Groundwater-fed woodlands in the deserts of Argentina: Understanding their vulnerability to agricultural development. Role: Collaborative researcher. Type of project – Funding institution: Research Grant – National Geographic Society.   |
| 2006        | Characterization and modelling of hydrological processes and regimes in gauged basins for the prediction in ungauged basins (CANOA). Role: Hired researcher. Type of project – Funding institution: National Research Project – Spanish Ministry of Science and Education.   |
| 2003 – 2005 | Artificial recharge in semiarid regions. Tracking down of potential sites for intervention (IRASEM). Role: Researcher. Type of Project – Funding institution: Contract project – Water Institute of Andalucia (Regional Agency of Environment, Regional Government of Andalucia).  |
| 2002 – 2005 | Spatial distribution of the drainage and recharge in semiarid montane regions (RECLISE). Role: Researcher. Type of project – Funding institution: National Research Project – Spanish Ministry of Science and Education.   |

## Selection of Technical Reports and Other Publications

ResearchID (Thomson Reuters): E-6139-2010; Google Scholar Profile

SCOPUS Author ID: 18036692400; ORCID link

SCOPUS h-factor: 15 (total of cites: 473)

Google Scholar h-factor: 16 (total of cites: 765)

| Item  | Total of documents |
|---|--------------------|
| Book and book chapters                        | 11                 |
| Scientific articles in peer-reviewed journals | 24                 |
| Contribution to congresses and conferences    | 46                 |
| Technical, consultancy and academic documents | 12                 |

### *Book and book chapters*

- [11] García-Aróstegui, Jiménez-Martínez, J., Baudron, P., Hunink, J.E., **Contreras, S.**, Candela, L., 2016. Las aguas subterráneas en el Campo de Cartagena-Mar Menor. En V.M. León y J.M. Bellido (Eds.) *Mar Menor: una laguna singular y sensible. Evaluación científica de su estado.* Instituto Español de Oceanografía, Madrid. ISBN: 978-84-95877-55-0.
- [10] Alcón, F., Martínez-Paz, J.M., **Contreras, S.**, Navarro-Pay, N., 2015. *Caracterización y evaluación de preferencias de desarrollo de los principales espacios naturales del Grupo de Acción Local Campoder.* Asociación para el desarrollo Rural CAMPODER, Murcia. ISBN: 978-84-96396-74-6.
- [9] **Contreras, S.**, Hunink, J., 2015. Drought effects on rainfed agriculture using standardized indices: A case study in SE Spain. In Andreu et al. (eds) *Droughts: Research and Science-Policy Interfacing*, 65-70. CRC Press (Taylor and Francis Group), London. ISBN: 978-1-138-02779-4.

- [8] **Contreras, S.**, Alcaraz-Segura, D., Scanlon, B., Jobbagy, E.G., 2013. Detecting ecosystem reliance on groundwater based on satellite-derived greenness anomaly and temporal dynamics. In D. Alcaraz-Segura, C.M. Di Bella, J.V. Straschnoy (eds.) *Earth observation of ecosystem services*. Chapter 13, 283-302. CRC Press – Francis & Taylor. Boca Raton. ISBN: 978-14-665058-8-9.
- [7] Alcalá, F.J., Solé-Benet, A., Cantón, Y., Ribeiro, L., **Contreras, S.**, Were, A., Serrano-Ortiz, P., Puigdefábregas, J., Domingo, F., 2011. Evaluación de la recarga difusa y concentrada en macizos carbonatados mediante técnicas físicas y de trazadores: Resultados obtenidos en Sierra de Gádor (Sureste de España). En M.C. Cabrera, L.J. Lambán, M. Manzano, M. Valverde (eds.) *Cuatro décadas de investigación y formación en aguas subterráneas. Libro homenaje al profesor Emilio Custodio*, 307-317. Asociación Internacional de Hidrogeólogos - Grupo Español, Zaragoza (Spain). ISBN: 978-84-938046-1-9.
- [6] García, M., Domingo, F., **Contreras, S.**, Puigdefábregas, J., 2009. Mapping land degradation risk: potential of non-evaporative fraction using Aster and MODIS data. En A. Röder, J. Hill (eds.) *Recent advances in remote sensing and geoinformation processing for land degradation assessment*, Cap. 17: 261-279. ISPRS Book Series, CRC Press (Taylor and Francis Group), London. ISBN: 978-0-415-39769-8.
- [5] **Contreras, S.**, 2006. *Distribución espacial del balance hídrico anual en regiones montañosas semiáridas. Aplicación en Sierra de Gádor (Almería)*. Tesis Doctoral (edición electrónica). Servicio de Publicaciones de la Universidad de Almería, Almería. ISBN: 978-84-8240-822-4.
- [4] **Contreras, S.**, 2002. Los regadíos intensivos del Campo de Dalías (Almería). En J. Martínez Fernández, M.A. Esteve Selma (coords.) *Agua, regadío y sostenibilidad en el Sudeste ibérico*, 151-191., Ed. Bakeaz, Bilbao. ISBN: 978-84-88949-50-9.
- [3] Martínez Fernández, J., Esteve Selma, M.A., **Contreras, S.**, Bru Ronda, C., 2002. Hacia una mayor sostenibilidad de los regadíos intensivos del Sudeste ibérico. En J. Martínez Fernández, M.A. Esteve Selma (coords.) *Agua, regadío y sostenibilidad en el Sudeste ibérico*, 219-226. Ed. Bakeaz, Bilbao. ISBN: 978-84-88949-50-9.
- [2] **Contreras, S.**, 2002. Apuntes sobre el modelo agrícola almeriense y nuevos enfoques al problema del agua. En S. Contreras, M. Piquer, J. Cabello (coords.) *Agricultura, Agua y Sostenibilidad en la provincia de Almería*, 11-28. Asoc. Posidonia y Junta de Andalucía, Almería. ISBN: 978-84-607-4163-3.
- [1] **Contreras, S.**, Piquer, M., Cabello, J. (coords.), 2002. *Agricultura, Agua y Sostenibilidad en la provincia de Almería*, Asoc. Posidonia y Junta de Andalucía. ISBN: 978-84-607-4163-3. 285 pp.

#### *Scientific articles in peer-reviewed journals*

- [24] Hunink, J.E., Simons, G., Suárez-Almiñana, S., Solera, A., Andreu, J., Giuliani, M., Zamberletti, P., Grillakis, M., Koutroulis, A., Tsanis, I., Shasfoort, F., **Contreras, S.**, Ercin, E., Bastiaanssen, W., 2019. A simplified water accounting procedure to assess climate change impact on water resources for agriculture across different European river basins. *Water* 11, 1976. <https://doi.org/10.3390/w11101976>
- [23] Alcolea, A., **Contreras, S.**, Hunink, J.E., García-Aróstegui, J.L., Jiménez-Martínez, J., 2019. Hydrogeological modelling for the watershed management of the Mar Menor coastal lagoon (Spain). *Science of the Total Environment* 663, 901-914. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2019.01.375>
- [22] García-León, D., **Contreras, S.**, Hunink, J.E., 2019. Comparison of meteorological and satellite-based drought indices as yield predictors of Spanish cereals. *Agricultural Water Management* 213, 388-396. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.agwat.2018.10.030>.
- [21] Luna, L., Miralles, I., Lázaro, R., **Contreras, S.**, Solé-Benet, A., 2017. Effect of soil properties and hydrologic characteristics on plants in a restored calcareous quarry under a transitional arid to semiarid climate. *Ecohydrology* 11, e1896. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/eco.1896>.
- [20] Hunink, J.E., Eekhout, J.P.C., de Vente, J., **Contreras, S.**, Droogers, P., Baille, A., 2017. Hydrological modelling using satellite-based crop coefficients: A comparison of methods at the basin scale. *Remote Sensing* 9, 174; <http://dx.doi.org/10.3390/rs9020174>.
- [19] Romero-Trigueros, C., Nortes, P.A., Alarcón, J.J., Hunink, J.E., Parra, M., **Contreras, S.**, Droogers, P., Nicolás, E., 2016. The effects of saline reclaimed water combined with a deficit irrigation strategy on

- Citrus physiology as assessed by UAV remote sensing. *Agricultural Water Management* 183, 60-69; <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.agwat.2016.09.014>.
- [18] Jiménez-Martínez, J., García-Aróstegui, J.L., Hunink, J.E., **Contreras, S.**, Baudron, P., Candela, L., 2016. The role of groundwater in highly human-modified hydrosystems: A review of impacts and mitigation options in the Campo de Cartagena-Mar Menor coastal plain (SE Spain). *Environmental Reviews* 24, 377-392; <http://dx.doi.org/10.1139/er-2015-0089>.
- [17] Cantón, Y., Rodríguez-Caballero, E., **Contreras, S.**, Villagarcía, L., Li, X.Y., Solé-Benet, A., Domingo, F., 2016. Vertical and lateral soil moisture patterns on a mediterranean karst hillslope. *Journal of Hydrology and Hydromechanics* 64, 209-2019; <http://dx.doi.org/10.1515/johh-2016-0030>.
- [16] Hunink, J.E., **Contreras, S.**, Soto-García, M., Martín-Gorrioz, B., Martínez-Alvarez, V., Baille, A., 2015. Estimating groundwater use patterns of perennial and seasonal crops in a Mediterranean irrigation scheme, using remote sensing. *Agricultural Water Management* 162, 47-56; <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.agwat.2015.08.003>.
- [15] Timmermans, W., et al., 2015. An overview of the Regional Experiments For Land-atmosphere Exchanges (REFLEX) 2012 Campaign. *Acta Geophysica* 63, 1465-1484; <http://dx.doi.org/10.2478/s11600-014-0254-1>.
- [14] **Contreras, S.**, Cutillas, P., Santoni, C.S., Romero-Trigueros, C., Pedrero, F., Alarcón, J.J. Effects of reclaimed waters on spectral properties and leaf traits of Citrus orchards. *Water Environment Research* 86, 2242-2250; <http://dx.doi.org/10.2175/106143014X14062131178637>.
- [13] **Contreras, S.**, Santoni, C.S., Jobbagy, E.G., 2013. Abrupt watercourse formation in a semiarid sedimentary landscape of central Argentina: The roles of forest clearing, rainfall variability, and seismic activity. *Ecohydrology* 6, 794-805; <http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/eco.1302>.
- [12] Moreno-Gutierrez, C., Battipaglia, G., Cherebuni, P., Saurer, M., Nicolás, E., **Contreras, S.**, Querejeta, J.I., 2012. Stand structure modulates the long-term vulnerability of *Pinus halepensis* to climatic drought in a semiarid Mediterranean ecosystem. *Plant, Cell and Environment* 35, 1026-1039; <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-3040.2011.02469.x>.
- [11] Li, X-Y., **Contreras, S.**, Solé-Benet, A., Cantón, Y., Domingo, F., Lázaro, R., Lin, H., Van Wesemael, B., Puigdefábregas, J., 2011. Controls of infiltration-runoff processes in Mediterranean karst rangelands in SE Spain. *Catena* 86, 98-109; <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.catena.2011.03.003>.
- [10] **Contreras, S.**, Jobbagy, E.G., Villagra, P.E., Noretto, M.D., Puigdefábregas, J., 2011. Remote sensing estimates of supplementary water consumption by arid ecosystems of central Argentina. *Journal of Hydrology* 397, 10-22; <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jhydrol.2010.11.014>.
- [9] Alcalá, F.J., Cantón, Y., **Contreras, S.**, Were, A., Serrano-Ortiz, P., Puigdefábregas, J., Solé-Benet, A., Custodio, E., Domingo, F., 2011. Diffuse and concentrated recharge evaluation using physical and tracer techniques: Results from a semiarid carbonate massif aquifer in southeastern Spain. *Environmental Earth Sciences* 62, 541-557; <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s12665-010-0546-y>.
- [8] Santoni, C.S., Jobbagy, E.G., **Contreras, S.**, 2010. Vadose zone transport in dry forests of central Argentina: The role of land use. *Water Resources Research* 46, W10541. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1029/2009WR008784>.
- [7] García, M., Oyonarte, C., Villagarcía, L., **Contreras, S.**, Domingo, F., Puigdefábregas, J., 2008. Monitoring land degradation using ASTER data: the non-evaporative fraction as an indicator of ecosystem function. *Remote Sensing of Environment* 112, 3469-3738; <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.rse.2008.05.011>.
- [6] **Contreras, S.**, Cantón, Y., Solé-Benet, A., 2008. Sieving crusts and macrofaunal activity control soil water repellency in semiarid environments: evidences from SE Spain. *Geoderma* 145, 252-258; <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.geoderma.2008.03.019>.
- [5] Li, X.Y., **Contreras, S.**, Solé-Benet, A., 2008. Unsaturated hydraulic conductivity in limestone dolines: influence of vegetation and rock fragments. *Geoderma* 145, 288-294; <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.geoderma.2008.03.018>.
- [4] **Contreras, S.**, Boer, M.M., Alcalá, F.J., Domingo, F., García, M., Pulido-Bosch, A., Puigdefábregas, J., 2008. An ecohydrological modelling approach for assessing long-term recharge rates in semiarid karstic landscapes. *Journal of Hydrology* 351, 42-57; <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jhydrol.2007.11.039>.

- [3] Li, X.Y., **Contreras, S.**, Solé-Benet, A., 2007. Spatial distribution of rock fragments in dolines: a case study in a semiarid Mediterranean mountain-range (Sierra de Gádor, SE Spain). *Catena* 70, 366-374; <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.catena.2006.11.003>.
- [2] García, M., Villagarcía, L., **Contreras, S.**, Domingo, F., Puigdefábregas, J., 2007. Comparison of three models estimating water deficit using reflective and thermal data from ASTER. *Sensors* 7, 860-883; <http://dx.doi.org/10.3390/s7060860>.
- [1] **Contreras, S.**, Solé-Benet, A., 2003. Hidrofobia en suelos mediterráneos semiáridos: implicaciones hidrológicas para una pequeña cuenca experimental en el SE ibérico. *Revista Cuaternario y Geomorfología*, 17: 29-45.

#### *Technical Reports and Teaching documents*

- [12] Taner, M.Ü., Hunink, J.E., **Contreras, S.**, Hijar, A., Hamed, R., Morales, D., Wasti, A., Ray, P., 2019. El Marco del Árbol de Decisión: Aplicación a la Cuenca de Chancay-Lambayeque, Perú. Informe Final. Deltares, FutureWater, INSIDEO and University of Cincinnati for the World Bank. 177 pp.
- [11] **Contreras, S.**, Faneca, M., Hunink, J.E., Werner, M., 2019. Uso conjunto de aguas superficiales y subterráneas en el Valle del Cauca. Examen preliminar. Deltares y FutureWater for the Corporación Autónoma Regional del Valle del Cauca, 48 pp.
- [10] **Contreras, S.**, Alcolea, A., Jiménez-Martínez, J., Hunink, J.E., 2017. Cuantificación de la descarga subterránea al Mar Menor mediante modelización hidrogeológica del acuífero superficial Cuaternario. FutureWater Report 176, 91 pp.
- [9] **Contreras, S.**, Hunink, J.E., Baille, A., 2017. Water and carbon fluxes in irrigated citrus orchards assessed from satellite data. FutureWater Report 174, 58 pp.
- [8] Hunink, J.E., **Contreras, S.**, Simons, G., Droogers, P., 2017. Hydrological evaluation and ecosystem valuation of the Lukanga swamps. FutureWater Report 167, 76 pp.
- [7] Hunink, J.E., **Contreras, S.**, Droogers, P., 2015. *Hydrological pre-feasibility assessment for the Romuku hydropower plant Central Sulawesi, Indonesia*. FutureWater Report 141, 38 pp.
- [6] **Contreras, S.**, Hunink, J., 2015. *Water accounting at the basin scale: water use and supply (2000-2010) in the Segura River Basin using the SEEA framework*. FutureWater Report 138, 49 pp + 4 annexes.
- [5] **Contreras, S.**, Hunink, J.E., Baille, A., 2014. *Building a Watershed Information System for the Campo de Cartagena basin (Spain) integrating hydrological modeling and remote sensing*. FutureWater Report 125, 59 pp.
- [4] Santoni, C.S., **Contreras, S.**, 2013. Impactos extremos en la hidrogeomorfología de cuencas semiáridas: Efectos de la deforestación y el cambio climático en el centro de Argentina. En García-Galiano, S.G. (Ed.) *Cambio climático e hidrología: desde la ciencia a la práctica en gestión hídrica y manejo del suelo*, 31-46. Universidad Politécnica de Cartagena, Cartagena (España). ISBN: 978-84-616-5700-1.
- [3] **Contreras, S.**, Hunink, J., Lutz, A., Droogers, P., Immerzeel, W., 2013. Impactos del cambio climático en grandes cuencas montañosas: simulación hidrológica y estrategias de adaptación en la cuenca del Mar de Aral (Asia Central). En García-Galiano, S.G. (Ed.) *Cambio climático e hidrología: desde la ciencia a la práctica en gestión hídrica y manejo del suelo*, 97-112. Universidad Politécnica de Cartagena, Cartagena (España). ISBN: 978-84-616-5700-1.
- [2] Puigdefábregas, J., del Barrio, G., Boer, M., Cánton, Y., **Contreras, S.**, Domingo, F., Gónima, L., Lázaro, R., Moro, M.J., Solé-Benet, A., Villagarcía, L., 2004. *Inducción de la Recarga de Acuíferos en Zonas Semiáridas. Localización de áreas susceptibles de actuación. Último avance. Parte II*. Instituto del Agua de Andalucía - Junta de Andalucía.
- [1] **Contreras, S.**, 2003. *Evaluación de la distribución espacial del drenaje en la Sierra de Gádor (Almería)*. Tesis de Tercer Ciclo. Departamento de Hidrogeología y Química Analítica, Universidad de Almería. 85 pp.

## Language Skills

Spanish: Mother tongue  
English: Fluent in writing and speech

## Computer Skills

GIS/Remote Sensing: ArcGIS, QGIS, PcRaster, Idrisi, Erdas Imagine  
Simulation & System Analysis: WEAP, AQUATOOL  
Programming: Python, R, Matlab