

One of the team's most impactful outreach efforts was participation in the annual "Jeep Hack" event hosted by the in partnership with Magical Motors. During this initiative, Desert WAVE members worked alongside engineers, students, and community volunteers to modify ride-on electric toy Jeeps for children with mobility impairments. The team helped redesign and adapt the vehicles with custom hand controls and accessibility modifications, allowing children with physical disabilities to independently experience mobility and play. Through this event, the team demonstrated how engineering can directly improve quality of life and create meaningful social impact.

Desert WAVE also participated in Arizona State University's "Change the World" and engineering outreach activities, where team members showcased their autonomous underwater vehicles and shared their experiences as women in advanced robotics and engineering. These events allowed the team to engage with K–12 students, university students, educators, industry representatives, and members of the public about careers in STEM, underwater robotics, and autonomous systems. Team members emphasized perseverance, innovation, and the importance of diversity and inclusion in engineering fields. The outreach efforts inspired many young students—especially young women and first-generation college students—to consider careers in engineering and technology.

In addition to direct outreach, Desert WAVE also served as mentors and role models for younger robotics students through camps, demonstrations, and competitions. Team members helped mentor high school students during underwater robotics camps and National Underwater Robotics Challenge activities, helping students gain hands-on experience in engineering design, programming, electronics, and autonomous systems.

Through these combined efforts, Desert WAVE demonstrated that engineering and robotics are not only about technical achievement, but also about service, mentorship, inclusion, and community impact. Their outreach activities throughout the year helped inspire future engineers, expand access to STEM opportunities, and strengthen Arizona's growing robotics and technology community.