Arizona Water Initiative
Northwest Basins Planning Area
Afternoon Meeting Summary

Date: February 28, 2017
Time: 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM
Location: Building 200, Multipurpose Room (240)
Mohave Community College Neal Campus
1971 Jagerson Ave.
Kingman, Arizona 86409

1. Welcome and Introductions
   a. Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) Northwest Basins Planning Area Coordinator John Riggins opened the meeting by welcoming stakeholders and describing the structure of the meeting.
   b. Mr. Riggins provided an update for both tracks of the Arizona Water Initiative to include committees formed by the Governor’s Water Augmentation Council.
   c. Mr. Andrew Brischke from the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension made an announcement for an upcoming Domestic Well Owner’s Workshop that will be held in the Kingman area at a date yet to be determined.
   d. Mr. Riggins made an announcement for the Arizona Corporation Commission Small Water Ombudsman Office that included information on assistance for small water systems in Arizona (Class D & E Water Systems).

2. Presentation: Response to Stakeholder Requests
   a. ADWR Deputy Legal Counsel, Jennifer Heim, gave a presentation that specifically responded to requests for information from stakeholders regarding two areas:
      o Ways in which groundwater regulations are developed
      o The components of an Active Management Area (AMA)
   b. A stakeholder asked whether a petition to hold an election on the initiation of a subsequent AMA must be circulated by a county’s board of supervisors. Ms. Heim clarified that citizens can apply for issuance of a petition from a county’s board of supervisor (or election official) and circulate the petition.
   c. A stakeholder requested that the ADWR Director examine groundwater conditions in the Planning Area annually.
   d. Several stakeholders asked about the specific considerations and variables used to determine whether a subsequent Irrigation Non-Expansion Area (INA) could be designated. Ms. Heim stated that before an INA can be designated, the Director must determine that there is insufficient groundwater to provide a reasonably safe supply for irrigation of the cultivated lands in the area at the current rates of withdrawal. Ms. Heim referred stakeholders to ADWR’s decision in 2016.
declining to designate the San Simon Valley Sub-basin as an INA (available on ADWR’s website) for examples of the types of facts ADWR considered in analyzing that criterion.

3. **Presentation: Agricultural Water Demand Overview**
   a. Mr. Riggins provided the presentation on updated agricultural water demand estimates for the Northwest Basins Planning Area.
   b. A stakeholder asked about the date of the Red Lake aerial image (Slide #7). Mr. Riggins responded that the image was from 2014 and the small photo in the lower left-hand corner was from 2016.
   c. A stakeholder commented that the Planning Area Process was causing frustration because of the available solution sets and proposed legislation.
   d. A stakeholder asked for clarification on the intended goals of the Arizona Water Initiative and Northwest Basins Planning Area Process. Ms. Gerry Walker explained the goals and objectives of the Planning Area as well as the cooperation between the two tracks of the Arizona Water Initiative (the Planning Area Process and the Governor’s Water Augmentation Council).

4. **General Comment:**
   a. Ms. Gerry Walker continued to answer questions from stakeholders during the General Comment portion of the meeting.
   b. The General Comment portion of the meeting was extended and took the place of the small group discussion featured on the meeting agenda.
   c. Multiple stakeholders expressed concern regarding the increased number of farming operations in the Hualapai Basin.
   d. Stakeholders expressed concern for the possibility of new agricultural operations in areas recently cleared of natural vegetation.

5. **Closing Remarks**
   a. Staff thanked the group for their participation and feedback. Stakeholder contributions will be organized and individuals will be notified by email when the next meeting is scheduled.
   b. Mr. Riggins stated that if anyone had any additional information, suggestions, or questions that they can be directed to John Riggins at irriggins@azwater.gov or (602)771-4782.

*Meeting Attendance: 26*