

Big Sandy
Natural Resource Conservation District
P.O. Box 3506
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Arizona Department of Water Resources
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RE: Mohave County INA

Comments below are the Big Sandy Natural Resource Conservation Districts (Big Sandy NRCD) recommendations regarding an Irrigation Non-advancement Area (INA) in the Hualapai Valley, Kingman.

The Big Sandy NRCD is a subdivision of Arizona State Government under the State Statues A.R.S. § 37.

As a local & state agency within the Hualapai Basin, the Big Sandy NRCD Recently approved resolutions opposing both an INA and various RMA proposals. Resolutions where also approved at the Arizona Association of Conservation Districts board. There is no crisis in the Hualapai basin. The general results of the 3-year United States Geologic Survey (USGS) study of the Basin shows more than 100-year water supply.

We are doing a systematic review of the farms in the area. We don't have the data on all the land at this time but will continue our review. Following is the stats we have found so far.

Acres we have reviewed, owned Acres by farmers are 51,303, of those acres 12,697 can be farmed. Most of the acres that are being farmed are in trees.

Registered well are 96 only 31 are in use and only a portion of the time. Many of the farmers in the Hualapai Area are using new technology that saves 66% of water used for crops.

We have not included Bureau of Land Management and Arizona State Land, washes, land that can't be farmed because of terrain, bad soil, land owned by small family-owned acreage. Land needs to be adjusted to the actual acres that can be farmed.

Other solutions are not being addressed or pursued to help the basin. What the Arizona Game & Fish are doing, removing 50,000 acres of over growth of cedars, helping to eliminate water used by the overgrowth with more water recharging the Aquifer. The Big Sandy NRCDC has engaged with a hydrologist to identify where the best spots to place check dams and retention dams. The conservation technology the farmers are using and any other solutions to capture our rain water are needed. At this time less than 1-2% of our rain fall is being used to recharge our aquifers.

Thank you for considering the data we have so far accumulated.



Anita Waite Chairman

Big Sandy NRCDC

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