

ARIZONA MUNICIPAL WATER USERS ASSOCIATION
Proposed Aquifer Management Goals and Concepts
Draft
July 3, 2013

GOALS

1. Protect groundwater that is relied upon by existing users and stored water from interference by others.
2. Address localized groundwater level declines.
3. Protect existing investments in water supply, treatment and distribution facilities.
4. Strive for aquifer management policies that are based on sound science.
5. Ensure that all water users share in the responsibility to achieve safe-yield and that AMWUA members and other municipal water providers do not assume a greater burden of making groundwater supplies available for other users.
6. Establish a program that can be administered by the Department of Water Resources and will allow the Department to provide timely annual reporting of long-term storage account balances.

CONCEPTS FOR THE PHOENIX AMA¹

1. Applicability to Existing Long-Term Storage Credits, Including Credits in CAGRD's Replenishment Reserve Account

Long-term storage credits accrued prior to the effective date of these concepts are exempt from these concepts.
2. Except as otherwise provided in these concepts:
 - a. The person to whom long-term storage credits are assigned or distributed will be governed by the same recovery concepts applicable to the person who earned the long-term storage credits.
 - b. CAGRD's use of long-term storage credits in the replenishment reserve account to meet replenishment obligations will be treated as

¹ There may be different concepts for different AMAs.

if CAGRDR had replenished the water if the credits were accrued after the effective date of these concepts.

3. Special Enhancement Areas

- a. The Director of Water Resources (Director) may designate Special Enhancement Areas within the Phoenix AMA. A Special Enhancement Area (SEA) is a hydrogeological area, as described on the land surface, where the Director determines that underground storage or replenishment of water should be encouraged. The criteria for designating an area a SEA would include, but not be limited to, declining groundwater levels, limited groundwater supplies, or water quality considerations that would be improved by underground storage or replenishment of water.
- b. A person who wishes to store water underground at a constructed underground storage facility in an area that has not been designated a SEA, or CAGRDR if it wishes to replenish water in such an area, may apply to the Director to designate the area a SEA. The Director may designate the area a SEA if the applicant demonstrates to the Director's satisfaction that the criteria for designation have been satisfied.
- c. The Director will re-evaluate a SEA at least once every ten years and shall terminate the SEA if the Director determines that the SEA no longer meets the criteria for designating a SEA. The termination of a SEA will be effective not earlier than two year(s) after the Director's decision.

4. Storage and Recovery of Effluent Outside of a Special Enhancement Area

- a. A person who stores effluent at a constructed underground storage facility or a groundwater savings facility for long-term storage and recovery or annual storage and recovery may recover:
 - 100 percent of the recoverable amount of effluent if recovery occurs within the same sub-basin in which the effluent was stored.
 - 80 percent of the recoverable amount of effluent if recovery occurs in a different sub-basin than the sub-basin in which the water was stored.

- b. A person who stores effluent at a managed underground storage facility for long-term storage and recovery or annual storage and recovery may recover 50% of the recoverable amount of stored water.
5. Long-Term Storage and Recovery of Water Other than Effluent Outside of a Special Enhancement Area
 - a. A person who stores water that is not effluent at a constructed underground storage facility or a groundwater savings facility may recover:
 - 95 percent of the recoverable amount of stored water if recovery occurs within the same sub-basin in which the water was stored.
 - 80 percent of the recoverable amount of stored water if recovery occurs in a different sub-basin than the sub-basin in which the water was stored.
 - b. For purposes of this concept, because the Agua Fria Underground Storage Facility stores water in both the Lake Pleasant and West Salt River Valley sub-basins, these sub-basins will be deemed to be one sub-basin for recovery of water stored at the Agua Fria Underground Storage Facility.
6. Annual Storage and Recovery of Water Other Than Effluent Outside of a Special Enhancement Area
 - a. A person who stores water that is not effluent at a constructed or managed underground storage facility or a groundwater savings facility may recover in the same calendar year:
 - 100 percent of the recoverable amount of stored water if recovery occurs in the same sub-basin in which the water was stored.
 - 80 percent of the recoverable amount of stored water if recovery occurs in a different sub-basin than the sub-basin in which the water was stored.
 - b. For purposes of this concept, because the Agua Fria Underground Storage Facility stores water in both the Lake Pleasant and West Salt River Valley sub-basins, these sub-basins will be deemed to be one sub-basin for recovery of water stored at the Agua Fria Underground Storage Facility.

7. Replenishment by CAGR D Outside of a Special Enhancement Area

To the extent CAGR D replenishes water at a constructed underground storage facility or a groundwater savings facility, CAGR D shall replenish:

- a. 100 percent of the amount of excess groundwater pumped within the same sub-basin in which the water is replenished.
- b. 120 percent of the amount of excess groundwater pumped outside the sub-basin in which the water is replenished.
- c. 120 percent of the amount of excess groundwater pumped within a Special Enhancement Area.

8. Storage and Recovery and Replenishment in a Special Enhancement Area

- a. A person who stores water, including effluent, for long-term recovery at a constructed underground storage facility² that is located in a SEA may recover:
 - 115 percent of the recoverable amount of stored water if recovery occurs within the same sub-basin in which the water was stored, but outside of the SEA.
 - 95 percent of the recoverable amount of stored water if recovery occurs within the SEA.
 - 80 percent of the recoverable amount of stored water if recovery occurs in a different sub-basin than the sub-basin in which the water was stored.
- b. A person who stores water, including effluent, for annual storage and recovery at a constructed underground storage facility that is located in a SEA may recover:
 - 115 percent of the recoverable amount of stored water if recovery occurs within the same sub-basin in which the water was stored, but outside of the SEA.
 - 100 percent of the recoverable amount of stored water if recovery occurs within the SEA.

² It is assumed that there will be no managed underground storage facilities or groundwater savings facilities in a SEA.

- 80 percent of the recoverable amount of stored water if recovery occurs in a different sub-basin than the sub-basin in which the water was stored.
- c. A person who stores water outside of a SEA, but recovers the water within a SEA, may recover 80 percent of the recoverable amount of stored water.
- d. To the extent CAGRDR replenishes water at a constructed underground storage facility that is located in a SEA, CAGRDR shall replenish:
 - 85 percent of the amount of excess groundwater pumped within the same sub-basin in which the water was stored, but outside of the SEA.
 - 100 percent of the amount of excess groundwater pumped within the SEA.
 - 120 percent of the amount of excess groundwater pumped in a different sub-basin than the sub-basin in which the SEA is located.

9. Protection of Stored Water

- a. For purposes of determining whether groundwater is physically available to a person applying for an analysis, certificate or designation of assured water supply, ADWR will exclude water that has been stored underground within the AMA by a person other than the applicant.
- b. Within the service area of a city, town or private water company, the holder or lessee of a Type 2 Right may drill a new well or a replacement well at a new location or transfer the right to an existing well only with the consent of the city, town or private water company.