Dear Chairman Snider and members of the Pinal Active Management Area Groundwater Users Advisory Council,

We appreciate the time you have taken to review the initial draft of the Pinal AMA Fourth Management Plan (4MP) and the detailed comments that you provided. We received a broad range of comments from Pinal AMA GUAC members and stakeholders. Where comments pointed to errors or data inconsistencies, we worked to verify the information provided to make corrections. Additional style and data recommendations were incorporated in some cases.

The comments received were diverse in nature, but some recurring topics included the Pinal AMA management goal, the Historic Cropping Program, concerns regarding Assured Water Supply, and recommendations for the Fifth Management Plans (5MPs).

- The Pinal AMA Management Goal is defined in A.R.S § 45-562(B), and ADWR has not recommended any changes to this goal at this time. One erroneous mention of safe-yield in the initial draft has been corrected.
- The Historic Cropping Program is required to be included in the 4MP, pursuant to A.R.S § 45-567.02.
- Basic background information regarding the Assured Water Supply Program is provided in the 4MP. Given the complex and dynamic nature of ongoing conversations regarding the Assured Water Supply challenges in the Pinal AMA, the best source of information will continue to be the “Pinal Groundwater Supply Updates” page on ADWR’s website.
- Comments regarding the 5MPs and additional recommendations that were not incorporated at this time have been noted and may be considered as a part of ADWR’s ongoing 5th Management Plans Work Group process.

An updated draft of the Pinal AMA 4MP is now available on ADWR’s website. A hearing on the proposed plan will be held on August 20, 2020. The updated draft and details on the hearing can be found at https://new.azwater.gov/ama/management-plans.

We appreciate the ongoing involvement and interest in these issues from the GUAC and the Pinal AMA community.

Sincerely,

Clint Chandler
Deputy Director