

Exhibit _____

**Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District
Extraordinary Water Conservation Project – Land Fallowing**

Category: Extraordinary Conservation Intentionally Created Surplus

Subcategory: Extraordinary conservation programs that existed on
January 1, 2006

Term: 2019 through 2026

Background:

Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District is an Arizona municipal corporation established by a resolution and order dated July 23, 1951, as adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Yuma County, Arizona in conformity with the provisions of Article 2, Chapter 75, of the Arizona Code of 1939, now codified as Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) Chapter 19, Title 48, Sections 2901-2923. The resolution and order are filed in Docket 40, Pages 513-521, records of the County Recorder, Yuma County, Arizona.

Article 13, Section 7 of the Arizona Constitution states “Irrigation, power, electrical, agricultural improvement, drainage and flood control districts, and tax levying public improvement districts, now or hereafter organized pursuant to law, shall be political subdivisions of the State, and vested with all the rights, privileges and benefits, and entitled to all the immunities and exemptions granted municipalities and political subdivisions under this Constitution or any law of the state.”

A.R.S 48-2901 specifically states “All irrigation districts organized under the laws of this state are declared to be municipal corporations for all purposes.”

As a political subdivision of the State of Arizona, the Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District does not have organizational bylaws. The District’s governing statutes are prescribed by the State and can be found at Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.), Title 48, Chapter 19.

Project Description:

Prior to January 1, 2006, Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District (the "District") purchased 3,192.40 acres of historically and actively farmed agricultural lands within the boundaries of the District, which are therefore eligible to receive Colorado River water. The purpose of this project was to provide the District an additional a tool to manage the District's Colorado River entitlement and provide a pool of water for municipal and industrial (M&I) use. Following acquisition of these lands, the District's Section 5 contract for Colorado River water was amended to allow the delivery of up to 12,000 acre-feet per year of the District's Colorado River entitlement for M&I use. However, anticipated M&I uses have not materialized. The District is therefore considering leasing out most of these lands for agricultural use. Alternatively, the District may consider leaving these lands fallow as Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) participation in the Arizona Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) Conservation Program.

Under this Exhibit, the District would continue to fallow up to 3,192.40 acres of District-owned agricultural land within the boundaries of the District.

Quantification Methodology:

The Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District holds a consumptive use entitlement (diversions less return flows) of 278,000 acre-feet per year of Colorado River water to irrigate up to 62,744 acres of agricultural land within the boundaries of the District, including the 3,192.40 acres of District-owned fallowed agricultural land. Depending on cropping patterns, actual acreage farmed and weather, the District diverts between 360,000 and 415,000 acre-feet of Colorado River Water per year and returns between 100,000 and 140,000 acre-feet per year as pumped drainage water.

The District would continue to fallow up to 3,192.40 acres of District-owned agricultural land within the boundaries of the District. Since this land does not have a recent (post-2005) water use history, the conserved water yield will be based on the District's five-year average per-acre water use adjusted for return flow as follows:

Five-Year Average Per-Acre Water Use, (calculated as Total District Agricultural Water Delivery volume/Total Acreage Irrigated) less Five-Year average Return Flow per Acre (calculated as Total District Return Flow Volume/Total District Acreage Irrigated).

Annual ICS Creation Amount:

Since this program of District land purchases is intended to provide water for M&I use within the District, the conserved water volume would be the above calculated volume less the District's actual Reclamation reportable annual M&I use, with an annual conserved water yield not to exceed 5,000 acre-feet. The District's current average M&I use is approximately 2,000 acre-feet per year.

Verification Methodology:

- a. Fallowed field locations will be provided to the Arizona Department of Water Resources and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation upon approval of this Exhibit.
- b. These fields are as coded as non-irrigable in the District's water accounting software, thereby prohibiting water orders from being entered.
- c. The District owns and controls these parcels, ensuring compliance. All delivery gates in the District are Reclamation-designed Constant Head Orifice (CHO) gates. The gate wheels have been removed to secure the delivery gate and avoid inadvertent irrigation.
- d. Reclamation will conduct an independent annual inspection and verification.
- e. Diversion reduction accounting will be at the District's diversion point at Imperial Dam (the Gila Gravity Weir) by adding an average loss of 6% between the diversion and the field.

Limitations on the ICS Creation Amount:

The maximum amount of ICS that the District may create in any year pursuant to Exhibits _____ and _____ is limited to the amount of Colorado River water, that if added to its consumptive use, would not result in an Inadvertent Overrun pursuant to the October 10, 2003 Inadvertent Overrun and Payback Policy.

The total amount of ICS created pursuant to Exhibits _____ and _____ shall not exceed 10,000 acre-feet per year for storage in Lake Mead, and shall not exceed 20,000 acre-feet in aggregate.

Certification:

Pursuant to Section XI.F, XI.G, and Section 3.D.1 of the *Record of Decision, Colorado River Interim Guidelines for Lower Basin Shortages and the Coordinated Operations of Lake Powell and Lake Mead*, dated December 2007, Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District acknowledges the requirement to submit a Certification Report for the Secretary's review and verification containing appropriate information to demonstrate the amount of ICS created and that the method of creation was consistent with the above ICS Plan and a Delivery Agreement.

Delivery:

ICS created under this Exhibit shall be delivered in accordance with a Delivery Agreement between the United States of America and the Wellton Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District, subject to a maximum annual delivery volume of 10,000 acre-feet or the total ICS volume created under this Exhibit and remaining undelivered, whichever is less.