5th Management Plans
Agricultural Subgroup Meeting
May 19, 2021
• Additional opportunity to provide input and feedback on items discussed in the meeting
• Questions are optional so you can choose what you’d like to provide input on
• Responses will be posted anonymously on our 5MP Concepts Webpage
• Please respond by 06/02/2021

Link to Google Form Questionnaire: https://forms.gle/STYpKbDQTKyYmRc5A
I. Welcome
II. Status & Timeline for the 5th Management Plans
III. Best Management Practices Program (BMP) Proposal
   a) Agricultural BMP Advisory Committee Consensus Recommendation
IV. Integrated Farm Program Proposal
V. Closing Remarks
5MP Agricultural Subgroup

**Previous Meetings**

* Reviewed 4MP Conservation Program
* Reviewed Agricultural Data
* Reviewed Statutory Requirements and potential for modifications
* Discussion of modifications to the BMP Program
* Initial framework of Integrated Farm Program

**Next Steps for Future Meetings:**

* Finalize Integrated Farm Program
* Review of draft regulatory language, as available

**Next Meeting:**

TBD
Status and Timeline of 5th Management Plans
Estimated 5MP Timeline

new.azwater.gov/5MP

2020: Development
- Work Group, Subgroups, & Stakeholder Outreach
- Data Analysis
- Develop Concepts to Increase Conservation
  - Update Existing Programs
  - Design New Programs

2021: Drafting
- Build out Concepts developed in previous phase
  - Regulatory Language
  - Feedback from GUACs/AMAs re: Customization & Implementation
- Draft Narrative & Background
- Develop Data Tools

2022: Adoption
- Publication of initial drafts
- Presentation to GUACs for recommendations
- Promulgation processes
  - Hearing & Public Comment
  - Findings & Adoption
  - Noticing of Conservation Requirements
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic (5MP Ag Subgroup)</th>
<th>Meetings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussion of Integrated Farm Program</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Geographic Limitations</td>
<td>January 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Cut to the Aquifer</td>
<td>March 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Flex Credits</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion of BMP Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Recommendations from the Ag BMP Advisory Committee</td>
<td>May 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion of Reduction of Top 25% of Water Duties</td>
<td>Will discuss with draft regulatory language</td>
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Drafting Logistics

* All 5 Fifth Management Plans will be drafted simultaneously
  * Structure will largely match across AMAs
  * Time for AMA Customization
  * Subgroups will reconvene as needed to review draft regulatory language

➢ Goal: Publication of Initial Drafts in early 2022
Best Management Practices Program Proposal
Agricultural Best Management Practices Advisory Committee

Meetings

* 12/9/2020: Purpose, scope, history of committee
* 1/13/2021: Review of individual BMPs, Timeline Discussion
* 2/18/2021: Review of individual BMPs
* 3/11/2021: Review of individual BMPs
* 3/25/2021: Review of individual BMPs and points targets
* 4/8/2021: Final recommendations

Recommendations

* Updates to the list of Approved Best Management Practices (Appendix 4B in the 4MP)
* Updates to category points targets
### BMP Committee: Updates to the Approved BMPs (Appendix 4B)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BMP Category</th>
<th>New BMPs</th>
<th>Updated BMPs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Section I: 1. Water Conveyance System Improvements</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section I: 2. Farm Irrigation Systems</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section I: 3. Irrigation Water Management Practices</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section I: 4. Agronomic Management Practices</td>
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<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section II: Procedure for New BMP</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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</table>

*Updated Appendix 4B Best Management Practices Program*
## BMP Committee: Category Points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Minimum Points Required</th>
<th>Maximum Points Allowed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category 1: Water Conveyance System Improvements</td>
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<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 2: Farm Irrigation Systems</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 3: Irrigation Water Management</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 4: Agronomic Management</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Points Requirement = 12
Questions & Comments:
Best Management Practices Program
Proposal for Alternative Conservation Program:
Integrated Farm Program
A.R.S. § 45-568.02(F)

“The director **may** include in the adoption of, or a modification to, the management plan for the fifth management period additional **alternative agricultural conservation programs** that the director determines achieve conservation that is **at least equivalent** to that required under [the Base Program]...”
Integrated Farm Program

Concept

* Allotment based program
* Allows multiple IGFRs under the same owner/operator to combine reporting/allotments
* Will include a "cut to the aquifer" percentage reduction of the total combined allotment.

Components of Proposal

* Geographic limitations
  * Contiguous
  * Irrigation District
  * Sub-Basin
* "Cut to the Aquifer" Percentage
* Process for joining/leaving
* Management of flex credits
Alternative Conservation Program: Integrated Farm Program

Legend
- Irrigation Right, same owner/operator

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Base Program</th>
<th>Proposed Integrated Farm Program</th>
<th>BMP Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single Right Allotment</td>
<td>Combined Allotments</td>
<td>Completed BMPs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Right Reporting</td>
<td>Combined Reporting</td>
<td>Combined Reporting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Integrated Farm Program Proposal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Proposal</th>
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</table>
| Geographic Limitation | • Irrigation District: IGRs are in an irrigation district  
• Sub-Basin: IGRs are not in an irrigation district |
| Cut to the Aquifer | • 7.5%                                                                                                                                  |
| Flex Credits       | • Existing flexibility accounts are frozen  
• A new flexibility account created for integrated farm unit  
  • Debit/credit account according to new total allotment (minus cut to aquifer)  
  • Limited to debits/credits totaling +/-50% of total allotment |
| Joining/Leaving    | • Similar to BMP Program:  
  • If lessee, permission from owner  
  • Completed application Compliance with individual IGR flexibility accounts  
  • Withdrawal from program under certain conditions |

* Full Text of the Integrated Farm Program Proposal
Integrated Farm Program Proposal*: Initial Feedback

<table>
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<th>Feedback</th>
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| Geographic Limitation   | • Should be at the sub-basin level for all farms, similar to how flex credits can be transferred  
                           • *Could pose technical/administrative challenges* |
| Cut to the Aquifer      | • Proposed percentage of 7.5% is too high  
                           • Percentage should be in the 3-5% range for the farmer to see benefit |
| Flex Credits            |                                                                           |
| Joining/Leaving         | • The exiting process should be less prohibitive                          |

* Full Text of the Integrated Farm Program Proposal
Closing Remarks
5MP Agricultural Subgroup

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Next Steps for Future Meetings:

- Finalize Integrated Farm Program
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Next Meeting:

TBD
Questions?

managementplans@azwater.gov

Management Plans Work Group:
new.azwater.gov/5MP

Full Text of Management Plans:
new.azwater.gov/ama/management-plans