

## Mark Lewis, CAWCD Director since 1998 Economic Development Group of Eloy - November 16, 2017

- The canal is 336 miles and includes 15 pumping plants lifting 1.6 million acre feet of CO River water uphill approximately 3,000' to central and southern Arizona serving more than 5.5 million residents.
- CAP was authorized in 1968 as part of the Colorado River Basin Act. Construction began in 1973 and it took 20 years. CAP will be celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of authorization in 2018.
- CAP has been delivering water since 1985 and in that time CAP water delivery accounts for more than \$1 trillion of AZ gross state product.
- Arizona is part of Lower Colorado River basin and we share CO River water with CA, NV and MX.
- There is zero chance for shortage in 2018. This is due to improved hydrology and the continuation of contributions to Lake Mead by all Lower Basin States. The improved hydrology has also reduced the risks of shortage in 2019 and 2020.
- Inflow to Lake Powell for 2017 was 113% of the 30 year average due to above average snow pack conditions this winter. The runoff increased Lake Powell's elevation by 20'.
- Due to the operating rules in the Colorado River Shortage Sharing Guidelines, the improvement in Lake Powell allows for additional, above normal deliveries from Lake Powell to Lake Mead for the next several years.
- These larger releases from Powell help avoid shortage in the Lower Basin because the additional releases help address the structural deficit. When combined with modest basin-wide conservation, Lake Mead has stabilized above the shortage trigger since 2015.
- CAP's analyses shows that continuing the modest, targeted contributions to Lake Mead among all Lower Basin users will help avoid shortage through 2020.
- Although the Shortage Sharing Guidelines create a disincentive to building a large buffer in Lake Mead, Lake Mead is in a "sweet spot" where proactive contributions can protect the system from shortages for a sustained period of time.
- This provides time and space for water managers and users to cooperatively build new tools to address the structural deficit and protect Lake Mead and Arizona water users.
- Working together, we can continue to avoid shortages while preparing to address the long-term risks to the Colorado River system.

# CAP

2016

## AGRICULTURAL DELIVERIES

Harquahala Valley IDD

34,282 AF

Tonopah ID

16,900 AF

Roosevelt WCD

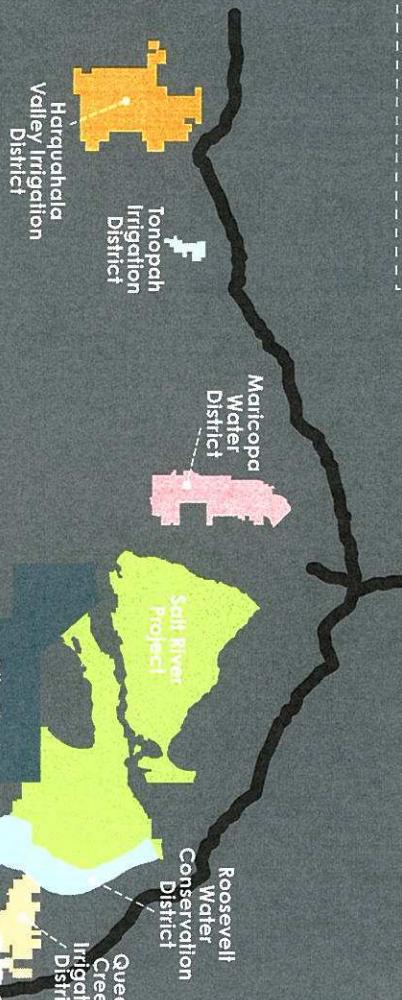
44,888 AF

Queen Creek ID

27,771 AF

New Magma ID

79,870 AF



Maricopa-Stanfield IDD

148,097 AF

San Carlos IDD

7,035 AF

Gila River Indian Community

52,828 AF

Ak-Chin Indian Community

73,908 AF

Central Arizona IDD

62,342 AF

Kai Farms

6,897 AF

Cortaro-Marana ID

8,899 AF

Tohono O'odham Nation

17,612 AF

BKW Farms

12,448 AF

**Total Tribal Agricultural Deliveries: 144,348 AF**

Tribal Agriculture includes CAP deliveries for on-reservation irrigation use. Non-Tribal Agriculture deliveries includes CAP Agricultural Settlement Pool water and Groundwater Savings Facility deliveries.

## Eloy and Maricopa-Stanfield Basin Study

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**Background:** The Eloy and Maricopa-Stanfield (EMS) Basin Study is located in Central Arizona within the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) Pinal Active Management Area (Pinal AMA). Water demand in the Pinal AMA has historically been dominated by the agricultural sector. Pinal AMA management goals include: continue to develop non-irrigation water uses, support the agricultural economy as long as feasible, and preserve water supplies for future non-irrigation uses. In 1987, the Central Arizona Project began delivering Colorado River supplies to the Pinal AMA and surface water supplies replaced groundwater mining. If a water shortage is declared, surface water supplies may be reduced, leading to increased groundwater pumping. To address water supply uncertainties, the EMS Basin Study will assess current and future water demands and supplies and develop strategies to help ensure future water supply sustainability. The EMS Basin Study will be a technical assessment and will not make statements of policy or future commitments by Reclamation or its cost-share partners.

**Cost-share Partners:** Pinal Partnership Water Resources Committee; Central Arizona Project; Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR); Pinal County; Pinal County Water Augmentation Authority; Global Water Resources, Inc.; Arizona Water Company; Cities of Casa Grande and Eloy; and Maricopa Stanfield Irrigation and Drainage District.

**Study Area:** The EMS Basin Study area encompasses sub-basins identified by ADWR as the Eloy and Maricopa-Stanfield sub-basins of the Pinal AMA in Pinal County, Arizona.

### Study Objectives:

- Compile water demand and supply data and develop future demand projections.
- Select relevant climate change scenarios.
- Update the ADWR Pinal AMA Groundwater Model to evaluate groundwater conditions.
- Compile information and analyze infrastructure needs and vulnerabilities.
- Formulate and assess adaptation and mitigation strategies to address water supply vulnerabilities.
- Complete an Economic Analysis and prepare a Final Report.

**Stakeholder/Public Involvement:** The Pinal Partnership is the lead for stakeholder involvement. A Stakeholder Advisory Team will be coordinated through the Water Resources Committee.

**Cost:** The total cost of the 3 year study is \$1,200,000. Cost-share partners will contribute \$600,000 of in-kind services. Reclamation will contribute \$600,000 for work completed by Reclamation or its contractors.

