



# Arizona Department of Water Resources

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**December 23, 2015**

## **Governor Ducey Appoints Members to Water Augmentation Council**

PHOENIX (December 23, 2015)- The Arizona Department of Water Resources is pleased to announce that members to the newly formed Governor's Water Augmentation Council (Council) have been selected, and will begin meeting after the new year. The Council was identified as part of Governor Ducey's Water Initiative to ensure the certainty and vitality of Arizona's future water supplies. The Council includes water resources experts, watershed groups, local government and industry leaders in Arizona agriculture, mining, and homebuilding.

The Council is tasked with investigating long-term water augmentation strategies, additional water conservation opportunities, and funding and infrastructure needs to help secure water supplies for Arizona's future. The Council will provide on an annual basis, a report to the Governor that describes the activities and the recommendations of the Council. The Council will also consider a communication plan for the State to accurately convey the status of Arizona's water supply resiliency and its efforts to maintain that status moving forward. Arizona Department of Water Resources Director Thomas Buschatzke will serve as chairman of the Water Augmentation Council and ADWR will provide staffing and technical support.

"As Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources, I am honored to lead the Governor's Water Initiative for the state. Arizona has been a visionary of innovative long range water planning and Governor Ducey's Water Initiative builds upon our past successes of planning and developing today, water supplies needed for tomorrow," said Director Thomas Buschatzke.

Arizona's Water Initiative is based on and advances the activities identified in the 2014 Strategic Vision for Water Supply Sustainability Report, which identified key priorities, timelines and action items needed to maintain sustainable water supplies for Arizona's future. In addition to the creation of the Governor's Water Augmentation Council, the Water Initiative includes a process to prioritize the 22 planning areas identified in the Strategic Vision Report, beginning with rural areas. Through this public effort, the Arizona Department of Water Resources will work closely with rural areas and local stakeholders to define their water resource issues and identify strategies that will be successful in assisting with meeting their future water demands.

### **Members of the Governor's Water Augmentation Council:**

- Thomas Buschatzke, Arizona Department of Water Resources (*Chairman*)
- Bas Aja Arizona, Cattlemen's Association
- Lisa Atkins, Arizona State Land Department
- David Brown, Brown & Brown Law Offices
- Misael Cabrera, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
- Chris Camacho, Greater Phoenix Economic Council
- Ted Cooke, Central Arizona Project
- Ron Doba, Northern Arizona Municipal Water Users Association
- Sandy Fabritz-Whitney, Freeport-McMoRan

- Kathy Ferris, Arizona Municipal Water Users Association
- Grady Gammage, Jr., Gammage and Burnham
- Maureen George, Mohave County Water Authority
- Patrick Graham, The Nature Conservancy
- Glenn Hamer, Arizona Chamber of Commerce
- Spencer Kamps, Home Builders Association of Central Arizona
- Rod Keeling, Arizona Wine Growers Association
- Rick Lavis, Arizona Cotton Growers
- Cheryl Lombard, Valley Partnership
- Robert Lotts , Arizona Public Service
- Hunter Moore, Office of Governor Doug Ducey
- Wade Noble, Noble Law Offices
- Virginia O'Connell, Arizona Water Banking Authority
- Sarah Porter, Kyl Center for Water Sustainability
- Dave Roberts, Salt River Project
- Mark Smith, Yuma Irrigation District
- Craig Sullivan, County Boards of Supervisors
- Warren Tenney, Southern Arizona Municipal Water Users Association
- Phil Townsend, Sunlund Chemicals Co
- Chris Udall, Agribusiness Council

A copy of Governor Ducey's Executive Order Relating to the Implementation of the Arizona Water Initiative is available at: <http://azgovernor.gov/file/3808/download?token=hA9cXZ4i>

For more information, call Michelle Moreno, Public Information Officer at (602) 771-8530.

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