

Arizona Department of Water Resources

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NEWS RELEASE



Janet Napolitano,
Governor

Herb Guenther,
Director

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ADWR issues Arizona Water Atlas volumes

The Arizona Department of Water Resources has issued draft versions of the first two volumes of the Arizona Water Atlas. The atlas eventually will fill nine volumes, said Arizona Department of Water Resources Director Herb Guenther. Additional volumes will be released for comment in the coming months, he added.

"We view the atlas project as central to our mission of securing Arizona's water supply," Guenther said. "It will become a dynamic project, with constant updates as more information is gathered and analyzed."

The Arizona Water Atlas is a compilation of currently available water-related information for the State of Arizona. In addition to the introductory volume, there are individual planning area volumes (Volumes 2-7) for each of the six planning areas outside of the five Active Management Areas. The AMAs are considered a separate planning area and are described in Volume 8 of the Atlas. Volume 9 is a summary volume for the entire state.

Volumes 1 and 2 are available on the ADWR website – www.azwater.gov. Since the volumes are extremely large, ADWR recommends visitors download each item they wish to examine. Some of the volumes are too large to attempt downloading without broadband Internet access.

In addition to providing a comprehensive overview of the regional water supply and demand conditions, the atlas staff is seeking to compile existing information and identify areas requiring further study, provide water supply and demand information to assist rural Arizona planning efforts, identify water resource issues facing rural Arizona communities and help to identify solutions, and initiate a renewed and more systematic effort by the Department to maintain a rural Arizona database.

The atlas staff is seeking substantive public and professional comment on the work in progress. Staff plans to revise the atlas, based on comments received. An electronic comment form is available on the website.

ADWR plans to finalize the atlas in early 2007. Printed copies and CD-ROMs will be available when staff has completed the atlas.

For additional information, contact:

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