

UPPER SAN PEDRO WATER DISTRICT

Our Plans for the Future

Plans That Would Guide The District Board

A set of draft plans for the District have been prepared by the Organizing Board, based on existing information. The plans recognize that many entities have already taken steps to conserve, reuse and recharge water in the area, but more needs to be done.

Altogether there are four plans: a water resources plan, a financial plan, an organizational plan and an election plan.

The public will review these plans during a series of outreach meetings during 2010. The projects within the plans are intended to support the goal of the District, as it was defined by the Arizona Legislature:

The District's goal is to maintain the aquifer and base flow of the Upper San Pedro River at current levels (or better) while meeting the water supply needs of the District's communities and Fort Huachuca.

The Water Resources Plan

The Water Resources Plan focuses on "water conservation, reuse activities, water recharge programs and water augmentation concepts that can be implemented or enhanced" within the 10-year timeframe. The draft plan demonstrates how the District might assist communities located within its boundaries in "recharging, reusing and obtaining water supplies to protect the aquifer and base flow of the river."

No action option

The plan looks at the consequences of "no action" or maintaining current policies as well as possible actions to meet current and future water management challenges.

Projects the District would focus on first

Over the first 10 years, the four priorities for the District would include:

- Water conservation practices that reduce domestic, commercial and industrial uses.
- Vegetation management: reducing invasive mesquite that uses more groundwater than other species.
- Enhancing stormwater recharge: construction of detention basins to increase recharge.
- Rainwater harvesting: incentives to use rainwater for irrigation instead of pumping groundwater.



District projects over the long term

Over the long term, in addition to the projects listed above, District plans also include:

- Reuse programs that encourage the use of gray water, rain harvesting and other reuse activities in cities, towns and the county.

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- Recharge: to encourage and expand the ability of cities, Fort Huachuca, and other entities to treat and recharge effluent.
- Augmentation: to investigate additional capture of urban runoff and stormwater runoff and to offset impacts from new development near the River.
- Creation of an Augmentation Fund that would require all new subdivisions within the District to contribute to the formation of an investment fund for long-term planning, design and construction of projects.
- Groundwater and surface water monitoring programs and to monitor the effectiveness and water savings of conservation activities.



Questions:

- What other projects should the District prioritize?
- What projects don't make sense? Why?