

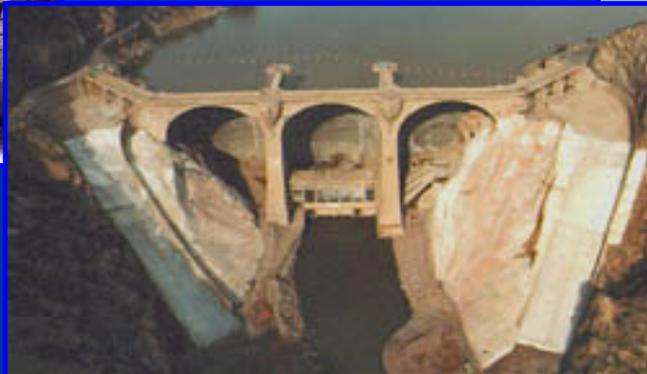
Pinal County

Water Augmentation Authority

“...Serving as a Resource and a Partner for the Development and Augmentation of Water Resources for the Benefit of the Pinal AMA”

David Snider

Chairman, PCWAA
Supervisor, Pinal County District No. 3



Pinal AMA...at a glance

- **Portions of Three Counties**

- Pinal
- Maricopa
- Pima

- **Five Incorporated Municipalities**

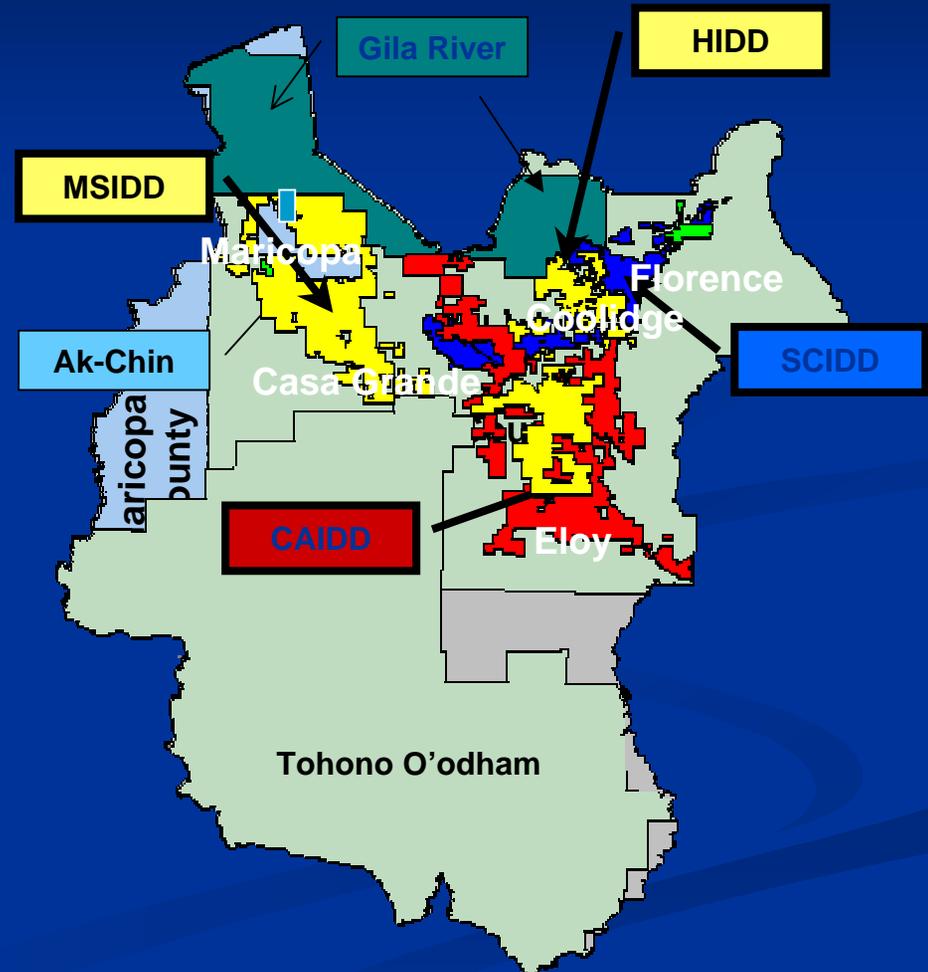
- Casa Grande
- Coolidge
- Eloy
- Florence
- Maricopa

- **Four Irrigation Districts**

- Maricopa-Stanfield (MSIDD)
- Central Arizona (CAIDD)
- San Carlos (SCIDD)
- Hohokam (HIDD)

- **Three Indian Reservations**

- Ak-Chin - all
- Gila River - portion
- Tohono O'odham - portion



Historical Background

- Pinal County Governmental Alliance saw need for a Pinal augmentation authority after bills authorizing creation of a Tucson augmentation authority and Phoenix GRD were enacted in 1990
- Problems with establishing SCVWD in the Tucson AMA and the Phoenix GRD in its AMA, convinced Alliance that a different kind of authority was needed in Pinal County
- Alliance decided to model Pinal authority on failed 1992 legislation that would have authorized creation of an augmentation authority in Mohave County
- In February 1993, legislation was introduced to authorize creation of a “county water augmentation authority” for the Pinal AMA and signed into law on 4-19-93 (A.R.S. § 45-1901 et seq.)

Key Statutory Provisions

- Boundary of CWAA coterminous with the Pinal AMA
- CWAA created by petition to Pinal County BOS containing approval of each incorporated city and town and IDD within the AMA
- Membership open to all water users, providers, and Indian tribes within the AMA who voluntarily contract with CWAA
- CWAA administered by board appointed by member cities, towns, and IDDs; Pinal County BOS appoints members to board to represent county, PWCs with CAP, and PWCs without CAP

Statutory Provisions Cont.

- CWAA may develop and finance augmentation projects, acquire and assign storage credits, provide technical/financial assistance to members for developing water supplies, and coordinate conservation efforts of members
- CWAA may collect water supply fees from members, issue revenue bonds and shall receive up to \$200,000 annually from ADWR from withdrawal fees collected within the Pinal AMA
- Within one year of formation, CWAA must develop an augmentation plan with ADWR and must submit copies of administrative and operation budgets for each fiscal year to ADWR
- By December 1 of each year, CWAA must publish an annual report for the preceding fiscal year.

Formation

- Resolutions supporting formation of the "Pinal Augmentation Authority" and appointments to its board were obtained from Casa Grande, Coolidge, Eloy, Florence, CAIDD, and MSIDD
- HIDD and SCIDD saw no benefit to joining the authority and elected to be excluded
- On 9/8/94, Pinal County BOS voted 3-0 to approve formation of the authority and made 3 appointments to its board as required by statute
- The 9-member board met for first time on 10/26/94, elected officers and officially changed the authority's name to the Pinal County Water Augmentation Authority (PCWAA)

Accomplishments

- As required by statute, PCWAA published its augmentation plan for the Pinal AMA in October 1995
- Since 1999, PCWAA has incented recharge of Eloy and Florence's CAP allocations in GSFs, resulting in about 24,000 AF of storage credits for the two providers to date & their designation as AWS providers.
- PCWAA developed pilot USF project in 2003-04 with HIDD to recharge excess CAP water, resulting in about 1,400 AF of storage credits for PCWAA
- In 2003, PCWA developed and adopted strategic plan and its initiatives
- Starting in 2004, PCWAA developed "Advanced In-lieu Recharge" (AIR) Program to recharge excess CAP water, resulting in about 2,000 AF of storage credits for PCWAA to date

What Is Still Needed

- Hire an Executive Director to execute strategic plan and initiatives
- Encourage HIDD, SCIDD, Maricopa, and Indian tribes to become members, with seats on the board
- Have ADWR notice PCWAA of all applications for recharge projects within the Pinal AMA in order to form opportunities for other entities to join or for partnerships with them
- Need to obtain additional secure sources of funding which would require statutory change

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Questions & Discussion

