

VIII. VALUE IDENTIFICATION -- NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY OF POTENTIAL RECHARGE PARTICIPANTS

A. Purpose and Design of Needs Assessment Survey

IPAG supported conducting a needs assessment in order to focus planning efforts on meeting the objectives of potential participants. Information for the needs assessment came primarily from survey interviews conducted from November 1996 through January 1997. The needs assessment survey was designed to elicit information about goals, concerns, operating constraints, recharge project involvement and interest, and assessments of the relevant issues associated with recharge. A copy of the survey is included as Appendix E. The survey was not intended to produce data for statistical analysis nor to establish a factually accurate picture of physical or legal/institutional conditions. An attempt was made to interview representatives from all entities likely to participate in recharge in the Tucson AMA, and all but three of the entities initially identified as likely participants provided some information in response to the survey. Table 6 presents a list of entities identified before and during the interview process.

Table 6. Entities Contacted for Needs Assessment

<p>Entities Interviewed</p> <p><u>State, Federal, Regional Agencies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arizona Water Banking Authority State Land Department Bureau of Reclamation CAWCD/CAGR <p><u>Local Jurisdictions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pima County <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Flood Control District - Wastewater Management - Parks & Recreation Sahuarita Tucson - Ward 6 <p><u>Municipal Water Providers</u></p> <p><u>Public</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flowing Wells ID Marana Metropolitan DWID Oro Valley Tucson <p><u>Private</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avra Valley Coop Community WC of Green Valley Green Valley WC Interchange WC (Rancho Sahuarita) Spanish Trail WC (Rocking K) 	<p><u>Agricultural and Industrial Water Users</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASARCO BKW Farms Cortaro-Marana ID and WUA Farmers WC and Investment Company Kai Farms <p><u>Indian Tribes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> San Xavier District - Tohono O’odham Nation Pascua Yaqui Tribe <p>Entities Contacted But Not Interviewed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cyprus-Sierrita Mine* Vail Water Company (formerly Del Lago Water Company) <p>Entities Briefed But Not Interviewed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tohono O’odham Nation - Water Resources Committee Tucson - Mayor and Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - City Manager Pima County <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Board of Supervisors - County Manager <p>*Representative of Cyprus Sierrita provided written information during the review stage</p> <p>WC - Water Company, ID - Irrigation District, DWID - Domestic Water Improvement District, CAWCD - Central</p>
---	---

Through the survey, the goals of potential project participants and their concerns about risks of recharge were elicited and compiled. Lists of the goals and concerns, as well as tables showing which goals and concerns were held by which entity, are included as Appendix F. A table showing potential contributions to recharge projects identified by potential recharge participants is also included in Appendix F.

B. Objectives of Potential Recharge Participants

The list of goals identified by potential recharge participants was condensed into a set of objectives for the development of recharge projects. Goals with multiple subparts were collapsed into a single objective. Risk concerns were reformulated to turn avoidance of identified risks into objectives. These risk-related objectives were then combined with logically compatible objectives or added as new objectives.

Once a set of combined goals plus risk-related objectives was defined, objectives were ranked according to how many respondents shared the objective and the approximate importance of the objective to individual respondents (primary, secondary or tertiary). If multiple subobjectives were mentioned by the same entity, the highest level response was recorded. A simple ranking and weighting method was used to order objectives. Responses were summed for each objective as follows: primary =3, secondary =2, and tertiary =1 point. Ties were broken on the basis of the number of entities marking that objective. Under this system, for example, three tertiary responses would counterbalance one primary response. When raw scores were equal, objectives marked more often by the entities with strong region-wide interests were ranked above objectives marked more often by the entities with weaker region-wide interests. Entities with stronger region-wide interests were those most likely to be actively involved in the greatest number and variety of projects.

Several objectives stood out as among the most relevant to survey respondents and several others had slightly less support. Table 7 shows the ten top ranking recharge objectives for potential participants.

Table 7. Survey Result Summary - Primary Objectives of Interested Parties

Rank	Objective
1	Stored water available for future use - at the desired location - in the needed quantity - at the needed time
2	Most economical way to meet objectives - at least cost - at cost consistent with benefits
3	Storage credit to meet entity-specific needs - with certainty - with equal access to all entities willing to pay reasonable costs
4	Water quality protection - from mobilization of contaminants - from degradation due to long-term recharge of lower-quality water - by phase-in of water chemistry changes in water delivered to consumers
5	Riparian and/or nature-based recreational amenities. - along natural stream channels - as part of planned system of parks and/or trails
6	Groundwater level stabilization/restoration and subsidence prevention/mitigation.
7	Local influence on decisions that affect - land use and development - recovery of storage credits
8	Increased use of CAP water within the Tucson AMA
9	Reduced groundwater mining
10	Increased use of effluent

These objectives were developed into the criteria used for recharge project assessment. The assessment process is discussed in the next chapter.