

**JANICE K. BREWER**  
Governor



**SANDRA A. FABRITZ-  
WHITNEY**  
Director

## **ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**

---

### **Water Resources Development Commission (HB 2661) Environmental Workgroup– Notes: March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Meeting**

---

#### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Brenda Burman (TNC, Workgroup Co-chair)  
Warren Tenney (Metro Water, Workgroup Co-chair; by phone)  
Jean Calhoun (USFWS)  
Val Danos (AMWUA)  
Rebecca Davidson (SRP)  
Christine Dawe (USFS)  
Santiago Garcia (USBR)  
Amelia Homewytewa (GRIC)  
Doug Kupel (City of Phoenix)  
Joanna Nadeau (WRRC, by phone)  
Karen Nally (for HIDD and CAIDD)  
Jim Renthall (BLM)  
Ron Solomon (Taylor)  
Linda Stitzer (ADWR)  
Summer Waters (Coop. Ext.)  
Dave Weedman (AZGFD)

#### **INTRODUCTIONS AND UPDATES:**

Attendees introduced themselves and Warren reported on his presentation to the Commission on February 11<sup>th</sup> including maps, tables, and status. The products were well received. The amount of work completed to date is impressive. There was a question about whether the workgroup report would identify hot spots. Warren reported that the report would focus on current needs and that there is hesitation about doing more than recommend that future needs need to be evaluated. He also mentioned that the workgroup will need to work with the Water Supply and Demand Workgroup in the next step of the study. Brenda noted that the work tasks have been modified based on feedback from other committee chairs and due to time constraints. Workgroup members commented that the report should discuss where protection is needed and identify information and data gaps. In addition, some thought the report should mention an overall need for restoration. Rebecca reported that all the geospatial data will go to the water supply and demand workgroup for their analysis of hot spots.

#### **STATUS OF BASIN TABLES:**

- Final draft tables of the Upper San Pedro, Aravaipa Canyon and Butler Valley basins were distributed, incorporating prior comments
- There was a comment that the perennial flow reach in the Upper San Pedro Basin looked long. The mapping subcommittee decided to use the ADEQ 2007 perennial flow dataset, which may differ from previous estimates. Methodologies and datasources will be explained and may include how data vary from other estimates.
- Vegetation type will be included in the summary sheets (aka headnotes)

- Rebecca will make sure that all data queries will be moved to DocuShare.
- The number of basins with baseflow and riparian ET data has been reduced to 12 (11 watercourses) based on the decision to show data at the lowest part of the basin. Linda will send Rebecca the new list of gages.
- Rob has offered to host another conference call to discuss the baseflow and ET methodology and will send a doodle.
- A revised version of the definitions was distributed prior to the meeting. New definitions include "federal reserved rights", "wildlife catchments" and "SWAP". It was suggested that "groundwater discharge" be defined.
- Comments on the definitions should be submitted to Linda by March 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Joanna and Rebecca are working on a floodflow discussion that may include sources of additional information for those basins where it exists.

#### **STATUS OF MAPS**

- Rebecca distributed a complete set of basin-scale and county-scale maps. Only minor edits will be taken at this time.
- The workgroup preferred the "less masked" set of maps that shows place names in adjacent basins
- Multiple basins are included in a number of maps
- The large Little Colorado River Basin has been divided into north, central and south maps
- It was noted that these maps and datasets have extreme value for other purposes
- A review day will need to be scheduled to compare the maps and tables for consistency and errors.

#### **STATUS OF BASIN SUMMARIES**

- 26 basin summaries have been completed. 12 basins remain unclaimed. Some of these can be assigned to the Master Watershed Steward volunteers and several workgroup members also volunteered.
- Rebecca is editing the summaries for consistency but they will need to be reviewed by AZGF and others.
- The economics section will include angler use days which have dollar values as well as information from the WRRC study.

#### **DISCUSSION OF SUMMARY OF FINDINGS OUTLINE:**

- The draft outline has been revised to incorporate comments. However some issues need to be discussed before a decision can be made about incorporating some of the comments received.
- In general the report will include a general interpretation of the information that has been collected.
- It was recommended that a report subcommittee be formed. In addition to Jim and Christine, Doug, Karen, Val, Joanna, Jean, and Amelia volunteered. Brenda commented that the subgroup membership is a good representation of the composition of the workgroup composition.
- Joanna mentioned that the WRRC report contains a short summary of environmental resource needs (section IV.B) and could be useful for the report.
- It may be possible to start drafting parts of the report even if the outline is not final
- Comments due to Jim by March 16<sup>th</sup>

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL WORKGROUP SCHEDULE AND NEXT MEETING:**

- Map and table review day; March 14<sup>th</sup>, 9-3, Salt River Conference Room
- Report Subcommittee meeting; March 21<sup>st</sup>, 1-3, Salt River Conference Room
- Full Workgroup meeting; March 29<sup>th</sup>, 10-12, Salt River Conference Room