

Arizona Department of Water Resources

Overview of AMAs and INAs



Willcox, Arizona
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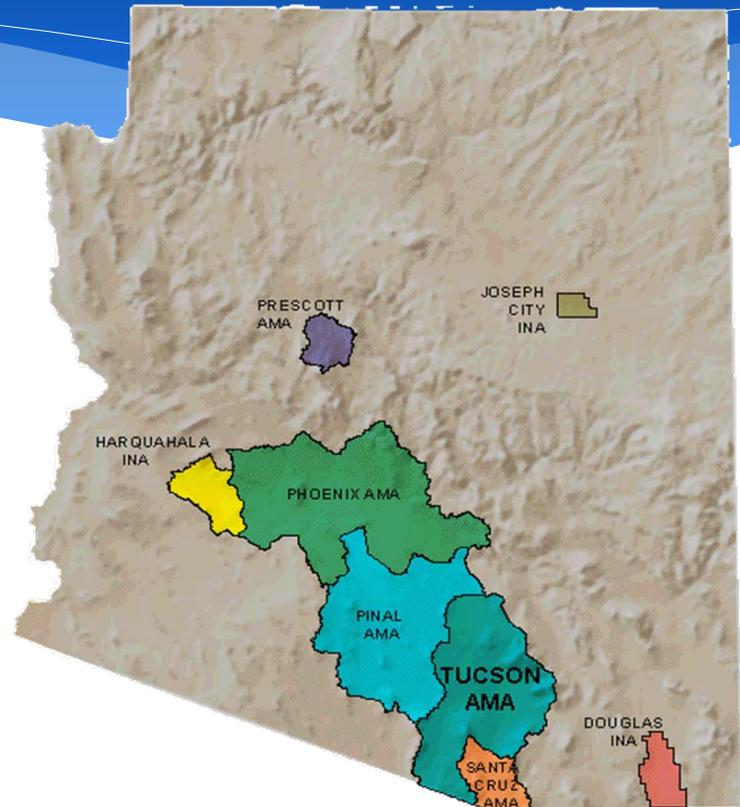
Groundwater Management

Active Management Areas (AMAs)

- Phoenix
- Pinal
- Prescott
- Tucson
- Santa Cruz

Irrigation Non-Expansion Areas (INAs)

- Harquahala
- Douglas
- Joseph City



Active Management Areas

Five Active Management Areas

- *Phoenix, Pinal, Prescott, Tucson and Santa Cruz*
- Highest degree of regulation in State
- Management Goals & Planning - Mandatory conservation requirements for most users (municipal, agricultural and industrial)
- Need withdrawal authority to pump >35 gallons per minute
- Measuring and reporting requirements
- Groundwater Withdrawal Fees
- New **Non-Exempt** wells may require hydrologic impact analysis



Active Management Area Goals

Phoenix AMA:

- *To achieve safe-yield by the year 2025*

Pinal AMA:

- *To preserve agricultural economy for as long as feasible, while considering the need to preserve groundwater for future non-irrigation uses*

Prescott AMA:

- *To achieve safe-yield by the year 2025*

Tucson AMA:

- *To achieve safe-yield by the year 2025*

Santa Cruz AMA:

- *To maintain a safe-yield condition in the AMA and to prevent local water tables from experiencing long term declines*



Grandfathered Groundwater Rights

Based on historic pumping (1975-1979)

- **Irrigation grandfathered rights**
- **Type 1 non-irrigation grandfathered rights**
 - Converted from an Irrigation GFR
- **Type 2 non-irrigation grandfathered rights**
 - Based on historic pumping for a non-irrigation purpose
 - Portable within AMA of Origin



Other Withdrawal Authorities

- **Service Area Right**
 - City / Town / Private Water Company / Irrigation District
 - Pumping and Delivery to Non-Irrigation Customers
- **Groundwater Withdrawal Permit**
 - Dewatering/Drainage, Mineral Extraction, Poor Quality Groundwater Withdrawal, Hydrologic Testing



Management Plans

- *Each AMA subject to series of five plans up to year 2025*
- *Conservation requirements for Agricultural, Municipal, Industrial Sectors*
 - *Ag – base program, BMP program*
 - *Muni – GPCD program, Non Per Capita program*
 - *Industrial – requirements for each type of use*
- *Management plans are a tool toward achieving AMA Management Goal*



Mandatory Regulations – Subsequent AMA

- Groundwater Right or Permit Required to Withdraw Groundwater from a Non-Exempt Well
- Restrictions on Exempt Wells
- Well Spacing Requirements (*non-exempt wells*)
- Metering Requirements (*non-exempt wells*)
- Annual Reporting Requirements (*non-exempt wells*)
- Assured Water Supply Requirements for new subdivisions
- Restrictions on Filling and Refilling Bodies of Water
- Groundwater Transportation Laws
- Management Plans / Conservation Requirements
- Irrigation of New Agricultural Lands Prohibited



Irrigation Non-Expansion Areas

- Areas where groundwater depletion is not as severe as AMAs but require further regulation were designated as Irrigation Non-Expansion Areas (INAs)
- Within these areas there can be no new irrigated land (limited to historic irrigation, 5 years prior to INA designation)
- Non-Exempt Wells – measure and report annual water use
- Otherwise, groundwater management in INAs not highly structured (no allotment, no conservation requirements, no well impact studies, no withdrawal fees)

