

From: [Dennis Moore](#)
To: [Sharon Scantlebury](#)
Subject: San Simon Sub-basin, NO INA!
Date: Friday, May 22, 2015 4:56:28 PM

*Arizona Department of Water Resources
3550 North Central Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85012
Attn: Sharon Scantlebury, Docket Supervisor*

Dear Supervisor,

I'm with Mr. Ray at Ray Ranches when I say I oppose the Irrigation Non-Expansion Area (INA) for the San Simon Basin. When he says, "This ain't business, it's personal." My business is that of a landscape gardener. And yes, I do incorporate food plants into my gardens. The size of the food plants in my gardens will probably not reach 2 acres...probably! I would like to see the community spirit fill in this valley, and irrigation expansion is economic expansion, it's a chance for smart-growth that is meaningful.

The reason I oppose enacting an INA is multi-faceted. For one reason I got a chance to listen to the hydrologists presentations regarding the status of groundwater usage in the valley. In my opinion, it looks like we have thousands of years to address this issue, as it pertains to the purpose of an INA, which is protecting the public good. Since people living in the valley and property on farms, ranches and in municipalities are not in any danger, there is no reason to enact an INA. Should irrigation expansion double and thus merit the future need of protecting against a falling water table, the tool will remain there for you at AZWR to employ.

One pro-active reason I suggest rejecting an INA for the San-Simon Basin is to give time to utilize regulation of the resource to try something fruitful. Now obviously I suspect AZWR is going to be on-guard for a couple years, until much desired irrigation expansion is reached the point of petition again. Some progressive regions manage their resources wisely, allowing different tiers of users to enjoy it responsibly. I personally would like to become involved should a reasonable, representative team of people come together to *design-our-future*. I don't think it's AZWR's job to oversee such an association, but you might want to help facilitate unfolding one within the window of "expansion time" we have. A vertical tiered system can be proactive in the sense that it would establish productivity goals based on the opportunity we have for expansion. Examples of such goals could be environmentally conscious, such as, providing a certain percentage to each "tier" for a fair amount of expansion by industrial farmers, small farmers, and ranchers, and other users. Selling goods to Tucson markets is one example. The goals can be human, irrigation expansion that *gives* a better quality of life to the scenery and people in the valley.

Obviously, an association will be most active should support for it in the valley reach consensus.

In design school I've participated in, first we look to inspire each other with goals that are open minded and go beyond one single corporation's triple bottom line. I think it's the triple bottom line motivation of two of the INA petitioners that hits everyone in the gut. They want to capitalize on a resource, like the wolf in sheep's clothing, the wolf follows his triple bottom line at the expense of the sheep. The sheep are all the farmers and ranchers who may one day have a chance to share in groundwater resources. The sheep are the people of Tucson who may be driven to shop for these products, and enjoy more Arizona grown produce. And the sheep are the people in the world who benefit from energy conservation, people in regions where environmental injustice is taking place.

So as a citizen of Bowie, Arizona formally since January 2010, I support the director of AZWR to make his own decision for the benefit of all the people in Arizona. Not just those people who are currently capitalizing on the San Simon Valley groundwater. Yes, not just current orchards, ranchers, and farmers! As a graduate of the State University of New York's Landscape Architecture Program, I am willing to collaborate with academics' and professionals in the state to form a pro-active regional water-use plan that strives for consensus by the valley's water users, and benefits the public good at the highest. Please use this window of opportunity to serve the people of Arizona at their finest.

Sincerely,

Dennis Moore

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