

Colorado River Shortage Preparedness Workshop

Arizona's Plans in Action



*Thomas Buschatzke, Director
Arizona Department of Water Resources*

*Virginia O'Connell, Manager
Arizona Water Banking Authority*

April 22, 2015

Arizona's Plans in Action

- Arizona is prepared to address the challenges of Colorado River shortage
- Arizona Water Banking Authority
- Statewide Drought Plan
- Mandatory municipal provider drought response plans



Arizona's Plans in Action

- Over the last two decades the Arizona Water Banking Authority has stored 3.2 MAF, more than two years' worth of Colorado River deliveries to Central Arizona in order to provide back-up supplies in times of shortage over the long term.
- Arizona water users have also stored water supplies as a component of their water planning efforts.



Arizona Water Banking Authority

- Provides shortage protection for P4 municipal and industrial users of Colorado River water
 - On-River
 - CAP M&I subcontracts
- Assists the State in the settlement of Tribal water rights claims by firming Colorado River supplies
- Assists in fulfilling water management objectives
- Provides a mechanism for interstate water banking

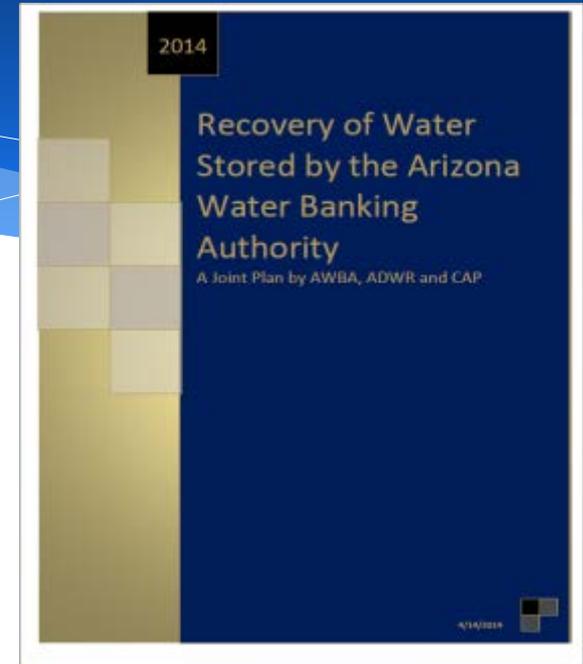


Recovery of AWBA Credits

- A firming requirement is triggered when reductions in Colorado River supplies impact deliveries to CAP and On-River water users for which the AWBA has a firming obligation.
- Based on current demand, it is unlikely that a Tier 1 shortage would require the AWBA to distribute credits
- As demands increase over time that could change



Preparing for Recovery of AWBA Credits



Preparing for Recovery of AWBA Credits

Central Arizona Water Conservation District

- Evaluating the development of recovery infrastructure at key sites
- Developing recovery agreements with partners in each active management area (AMA)
- Objective is to ensure there is sufficient capacity available in each AMA to meet future recovery needs



Preparing for Recovery of AWBA Credits

Arizona Water Banking Authority

- Developing firming arrangements with Gila River Indian Community separate from recovery
- Purchasing credits at optimal locations
- Meeting the AWBA's firming responsibilities will require effective planning and continued coordination among everyone involved

