



Docket Supervisor - ADWR <docketsupervisor@azwater.gov>

Strengthening ADWR Douglas Basin AMA Goal

1 message

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To: docketsupervisor@azwater.gov

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Ms Sharon Scantlebury, Docket Supervisor

STRENGTHENING THE ADWR STATEMENT OF GROUNDWATER GOAL

First, it is critical to note that a goal is not “attempted.” A goal is **SET**.

For example, you don’t say my goal is to “attempt” to paint the bathroom; you say I’m going to paint the bathroom tomorrow. You may or may not succeed in this goal exactly as planned, but your goal is **set**; you are going to paint the bathroom.

Following the Santa Cruz AMA goal, “...preventing long term declines of local water tables,” thus helping stabilize groundwater, would be a wholly appropriate and economically sound goal for the Douglas Basin as well. Or better yet, simply setting the goal as preventing the decline, short and long term, of local water tables.

Also essential is to **STOP** the unsustainable withdrawal of groundwater by the endless proliferation of nut orchards and the huge Industrial Agricultural interests that have moved into both Douglas and Willcox Basins because there was no regulation on groundwater withdrawal. (How did the State revoke well-drilling permits for Saudi alfalfa growers? Why can this not be applied to other large corporate agriculture ventures guzzling groundwater in both the Douglas and Willcox Basins?)

The ADWR needs to work **with**, not encumber with paperwork and out of the park fees, the small to medium size agriculture and commercial ventures that add significantly to the economic and general well-being of our communities.

ADWR’s overall goal is to promote economically viable communities through safeguarding the scarce water resources in a desert climate. Without water above ground or subterranean, there is no economy. PERIOD. Therefore, it is the responsibility of ADWR to preserve and encourage commercial and agricultural endeavors that do not threaten the utter depletion of the groundwater of the Douglas Basin (or the Willcox Basin, or anywhere else in AZ), to protect residential wells from going dry, and focus on two goals: 1) preventing overall groundwater decline; and 2) specifically ensuring that giant corporate agriculture, nut orchards, and any other large commercial venture (e.g., housing developments) are **strictly** limited in the amount of groundwater pumping allowed.

Sincerely,

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