



Docket Supervisor - ADWR &lt;docketsupervisor@azwater.gov&gt;

**Douglas AWA**

1 message

**Allyson Armstrong** Personal Identifying Information  
To: docketsupervisor@azwater.gov

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June 27, 2023

Re: Douglas AMA

To whom it may concern:

My husband and I have owned 100 acres 12 miles north of Douglas since 1994. Currently we also have an art gallery and apartment at Personal Identifying Information. Throughout the years I have been concerned that many residents are not aware of the limits of their desert ecosystem. Generations in Bisbee and Douglas have grown up with landscapes designed by the Phelps Dodge Corporation starting in the early 1900s. Bucolic yards and parks adorned with midwestern, European, and tropical plants gave arriving employees of the mining/smelting venture a sense of home and bounty. Pine, mulberry and palm trees, bermuda grass, roses, apple, and peach trees were planted-just turn on the hose.

Times have changed. Phelps Dodge is gone. The thirsty trees and grass struggle, even with residents pouring on all the water they can afford. Now, big ag is in the county, buying up abandoned "fields" with water rights. Foreign and out-of-state corporations grow alfalfa and raise cattle for markets far way. Industrial-sized, out-of-state, federally subsidized dairies have moved in.

This exporting of water, and money, outside of the watershed must be balanced with the needs of Douglas, Bisbee, Agua Prieta, and all the border ecosystem inhabitants.

Yes, everyone wants what they think they paid for, grew up with, and wish for. But clarity is needed. Monitoring is required. Education of users and sharing the shortage will be necessary to keep the ecosystem and economy in some sort of balance. Ten years out, with diligent data collection, there could be enough information to determine a way forward. Twenty-five years out, there might be a reasonable expectation on how to live in the Douglas Watershed.

The PUBLIC has a right to a stable water supply (A.R.S 45-141).

Thank you for your consideration,

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