

Statewide Vision: An Arizona for everyone.

Agency Vision : Reliable water supplies to meet the needs of current and future Arizonans.

Agency Mission: To promote the health, safety and economic welfare of the public by protecting, conserving and enhancing Arizona's water supplies in a bold, equitable, and innovative manner.

Agency Description: ADWR administers the State's water laws and develops policies that promote conservation and protect water availability in the face of climate change. ADWR uses its technical, legal, administrative, and policy expertise to defend the integrity of Arizona water supplies.

The Department compiles and analyzes water supply data, engages with stakeholders, and issues permits and licenses. ADWR collaborates and negotiates with national and international partners on behalf of the State and supports the general stream adjudication proceedings.

ADWR protects Arizona against the loss of life and property through the implementation of the dam safety, flood warning, and floodplain management programs.

Resource Assumptions: Enter Full-Time Employees (FTEs) and funding data by type (General fund (GF), other appropriated funds (AF), non-appropriated funds (NAF), and federal funds (FED)). *Includes three years with actuals reflected for first year, approved for second and third year.*

<u>FY</u>	<u>FTEs</u>	<u>Funding Types:</u>	<u>GF</u>	<u>AF</u>	<u>NAF</u>	<u>FED</u>	<u>Total</u>
23	215		\$23,087,100	\$1,521,900	\$33,929,900	\$14,025,700	\$58,538,900
24	228		\$66,059,400	\$2,019,000	\$23,076,700	\$14,591,400	\$91,515,100
25	228		\$25,259,400	\$2,019,000	\$16,927,300	\$469,100	\$44,205,700

*Total reflects GF + AF + NAF. FED funding shown is broken out from NAF.

Executive Summary: ADWR has identified five 5-year strategic priorities for the FY 2025 Strategic Plan.

ADWR will **develop and implement a collaborative plan to maintain the largest possible volume of Arizona's apportionment from the Colorado River by 2029**. ADWR will provide crucial public comment on a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), advocate Arizona's position to key Federal leaders and engage tribal communities to invite their participation.

ADWR will **provide additional groundwater protections to new, qualifying groundwater basins by 2026** after identifying areas that could benefit from additional protections through a data-driven stakeholder process

ADWR will **promote and support the settlement of water rights for 6 Arizona tribes by 2029** by providing key Congressional testimony and advocating to Arizona's Congressional delegation in support of proposed settlements. Additionally, ADWR will initiate settlements for an additional tribe in FY 2025.

ADWR will **provide funding and oversight to complete 3 engineering studies of unsafe high-hazard dams** by identifying and collaborating with dam owners to explain the benefits of participation in this effort. ADWR will seek to have agreements created and signed for 2 dams by the end of FY 2025.

ADWR will **facilitate the Governor's priorities for sustainable economic growth, addressing Arizona's housing shortage, ensuring water security** through stakeholder collaboration on an intra-Arizona plan for Colorado River reductions and development of a strategy for allocating water resources between competing priorities.

Arizona Department of Water Resources

2025 -2029 Strategic Plan

#	Agency Five-Year Outcomes	Start Year	Linked to Gov. Priority Outcome?	Progress / Status
1	Develop and implement by 2027 a collaborative plan to maintain the largest possible volume of Arizona's 2.8 million acre-foot apportionment from the Colorado River	2023	Resilience, Water, and the Environment Water Security & Sustainability	ADWR and the other Lower Basin states submitted an alternative to Reclamation for consideration in its post-2026 NEPA process. Lower Basin States continue to have discussions with upper Basin States regarding potential Seven State Alternative.
2	Provide groundwater protections to new qualifying areas by 2026	2024	Resilience, Water, and the Environment Water Security & Sustainability	Conducted an informal public meeting to take comments on the creation of an AMA in Gila Bend. Governor's Water Policy Council made a recommendation; negotiating legislation for a rural groundwater management framework.
3	Promote, negotiate, and support settlement of water rights for 6 tribes within Arizona by 2029	2023	Resilience, Water, and the Environment Water Security & Sustainability	Negotiated the Northeastern Arizona Indian Water Rights Settlement Agreement, to be introduced to Congress. Supported a successful request by the Pascua-Yaqui Tribe for the appointment of a federal negotiation team. Yavapai Apache Nation settlement agreement is close to final draft. Tonto Apache Tribe talks are ongoing.
4	By 2029, provide funding and oversight to complete 3 engineering studies of unsafe high-hazard dams	2020	Resilience, Water, and the Environment Water Security & Sustainability	Updated the prioritization of dams to reflect current data. Approached owners of 3 high-hazard unsafe dams to gauge interest in engaging in an engineering study to assess the existing safety issues.
5	Execute a plan which identifies policy mechanisms and water supplies from Arizona's finite resources to support sustainable economic growth, mitigation of Colorado River reductions, and Assured and Adequate Water Supply purposes by 2029	2024	Resilience, Water, and the Environment Water Security & Sustainability	Briefed Governor's Senior Staff regarding the need to make a policy decision on balancing these three considerations.

Outcome #	FY25 Annual Objectives	Objective Metrics	Annual Initiatives
1.1	By June 2025, build support with stakeholders for Arizona's preferred alternative to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.	# of comments submitted to the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that support Arizona's preferred alternative	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Review and analyze draft of the EIS 2) Strategize with stakeholders for response to draft EIS 3) Collaborate on drafting a public comment
1.2	By June 2025, communicate that all users in the Colorado River Basin have the risk of water supply reductions.	# of meetings held with the Reclamation Commissioner to advocate Arizona's position	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Hold bi-weekly meeting with the Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner to advocate Arizona's position
1.3	By June 2025, increase the number of in-person visits between ADWR and tribal leaders regarding Colorado River and other Arizona water resources. (Breakthrough)	# of in-person visits between ADWR and tribal leaders	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Develop and implement an ADWR interaction plan to gather feedback regarding tribal issues
2.1	By June 2025, identify a minimum of 3 potential areas that would benefit from additional groundwater protection.	# of potential areas identified that could benefit from additional groundwater protections	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Collect and evaluate hydrologic data to determine areas that could benefit from groundwater protections 2) Seek stakeholder input regarding the need for additional groundwater protections
3.1	By June 2025, support completion and passage of 3 tribal settlement packages.	<p># of times ADWR provided testimony in support of tribal water rights settlements</p> <p># of communications provided by ADWR to Arizona's delegation and key Congressional members and staffers</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Provide Congressional testimony in support of the settlement act for Northern Arizona Settlement 2) Advocate to Arizona's delegation and key Congressional members and staffers 3) Initiate settlement discussions for Pascua Yaqui tribe

Outcome #	FY25 Annual Objectives	Objective Metrics	Annual Initiatives
4.1	By June 2025, sign agreements with 2 owners of unsafe high-hazard dams to fund engineering studies to assess existing safety issues.	# of agreements signed with owners of unsafe high hazard dams to fund engineering studies to assess existing conditions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Identify participating unsafe high-hazard dams 2) Collaborate with dam owners to explain the benefits of participation 3) Create and sign agreements
5.1	By June 2025, facilitate the Governor's priorities for sustainable economic growth, addressing the housing shortage, and ensuring water security.	<p># of stakeholder meetings conducted regarding a mitigation plan for Colorado River reductions</p> <p># of policy recommendations submitted to Governor's Office for balancing water resources between demands</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Collaborate with stakeholders on an implementation plan for Colorado River reductions 2) Recommend a strategy for allocating water resources between economic growth, Assured Water Supply, and Colorado River supplies 3) Complete rulemaking for Alternative Designation of Assured Water Supply (ADAWS) by December 2024

Stakeholder Engagement Plan (Summary):

Internal: ADWR engaged the counsel of its Senior Staff to provide input on the FY 2025 Strategic Plan based on their expertise, stakeholder interactions, and direction from the Executive Branch.

External: ADWR is constantly engaged with external stakeholders and has incorporated their input, policy perspectives, and concerns into the FY 2025 Strategic Plan.

Communication Plan (Summary):

Internal: The FY 2025 Strategic Plan is posted on ADWR's internal resources site and identified as a point of priority in carrying out the mission of the Department. Staff will be reminded that this document guides ADWR's decision making and strategy.

External: ADWR has posted the FY 2025 Strategic Plan on its website and references it while advocating for the policy outcomes contained herein. This document guides ADWR's decision making and strategy. Additionally, ADWR Communications regularly provides updates on Strategic Planning issues to stakeholders through newsletters and press releases.