



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES APPLICATION GUIDELINES

APPLICATION TO RELINQUISH AN IRRIGATION GRANDFATHERED RIGHT FOR GROUNDWATER SAVINGS CREDITS PURSUANT TO A.R.S § 45-465.05

In accordance with A.R.S. §§ 41-1008 and 1079, the Department of Water Resources provides the following information to assist applicants in submitting an Application to Relinquish an Irrigation Grandfathered Right for Groundwater Savings Credits.

Acronyms Used in these Guidelines

- **ADWR** Arizona Department of Water Resources
- **AMA** Active Management Area
- **AWS** Assured Water Supply
- **CAWS** Certificate of Assured Water Supply
- **DAWS** Designation of Assured Water Supply
- **GSCs** Groundwater Savings Credits
- **IGFR** Irrigation Grandfathered Right

Who May Apply to Relinquish an IGFR for GSCs?

A person who owns land within the Phoenix or Pinal AMAs that may be legally irrigated with groundwater pursuant to an IGFR may apply to the ADWR Director to permanently relinquish all of the IGFR in exchange for GSCs.

What do GSCs Do?

GSCs exempt the holder from the requirement to prove physical availability of groundwater or stored water recovered outside the area of impact of storage as part of an application for a CAWS or DAWS. GSCs **ARE NOT** an authorization to withdraw groundwater or recover stored water outside the area of impact of storage. If you have questions about CAWS/DAWS requirements, please visit:

azwater.gov/aaws/frequently-asked-questions



ADWR Contact

Please direct any questions, comments or requests for further assistance to the AMA at 602-771-8585 or email ag2urban@azwater.gov.

How to Submit Your Application

Applicants may submit their application in one of the following ways. If applying via email, send the original IGFR certificate via mail or deliver in person.

- Email: ag2urban@azwater.gov
- In Person:
Arizona Department of Water Resources
1110 W Washington St, Suite 310
Phoenix, AZ 85007
- Mail:
Arizona Department of Water Resources
1802 W Jackson St, Box 79
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Required Documents

- Copy of the deed(s)
- Original IGFR Certificate

Important Links

Imaged Records:

infoshare.azwater.gov/docushare/dsweb/HomePage.

Flex Balance:

app.azwater.gov/querycenter/query.aspx?rptsessionid=B6FB7185F2BB8B6BE040000A16006832

IGFR Mapping website:

azwatermaps.azwater.gov/gfr/

Conveyances Page:

azwater.gov/ama/conveyance

Pinal County Assessor:

experience.arcgis.com/experience/f19af3d40ed54a979ecb678ee4980a3c

Maricopa County Assessor:

maps.mcassessor.maricopa.gov/

AMA Contact Page:

azwater.gov/ama-contact-us

AWS FAQ:

azwater.gov/aaws/frequently-asked-questions

Ag-to-Urban Page:

azwater.gov/ama/ag-to-urban



Completing an Application to Relinquish an IGFR for GSCs

The following section explains each question contained in an Application to Relinquish an IGFR for GSCs. Before submitting your application, ADWR encourages you to contact the ADWR Contact indicated above to discuss your application. If you wish, a meeting may be scheduled to help you understand the application process and requirements.

Question 1 and 2

Please provide your IGFR certificate number. The certificate number should follow this example: 58-123456.0000. If you don't know your certificate number, you can find it by inputting your parcel number(s) on this website azwatermaps.azwater.gov/gfr/. Please attach the original certificate. If you don't have the original certificate, contact ADWR for confirmation. An example certificate is shown in Appendix A.

Question 3 and 4

Please provide all parcel numbers for the land to which the IGFR is appurtenant. Please also attach a copy of your deed. To access a copy of your deed, go to the applicable county assessor's website.

Maricopa: maps.mcassessor.maricopa.gov/

Pinal: experience.arcgis.com/experience/f19af3d40ed54a979ecb678ee4980a3c

If the application form does not provide sufficient space to include all this information, please see Appendix B to the application for additional space.

Question 5

If a conveyance(s) of the IGFR has happened in the past 5 years, please list all the former IGFR certificate numbers for that time period. If you don't know this information, it can be researched on our Imaged Records website: infoshare.azwater.gov/docushare/dsweb/HomePage. If the application form does not provide sufficient space to include all this information, please see Appendix B for additional space.

Question 6

Please identify the applicable AMA. The AMA will be identified on your IGFR certificate. Please note, only IGFRs in the Phoenix and Pinal AMAs are eligible to participate in the program.

Question 7

Please list the name and contact information for the current IGFR rightholder(s). The name on the IGFR certificate must match the owner of the parcel(s), and the name on the IGFR certificate shall be the entity or person(s) to receive the GSCs. If the name on the parcel(s) does not match the IGFR certificate, then a 58-500 Notification of Change of Ownership of an Irrigation Grandfathered Right form must be submitted. This form can be found on our website: azwater.gov/ama/conveyance.

Question 8

Please include the number of certificated acres on the IGFR certificate. Remember, the number of certificated acres must match the number shown on the IGFR certificate. If the number of acres listed on the application is less than the number listed on the certificate, a 58-500 Notification of Change of Ownership of an Irrigation Grandfathered Right form must be submitted to separate the acres to be relinquished from those remaining in irrigation. This step is required because an IGFR must be relinquished in its entirety and therefore requires the acres to be formally separated first.

If the application lists more acres than the certificate, the acreage shown on the certificate will be used to calculate the GSCs that ADWR may issue under the application. ADWR will verify the acreage and number of GSCs for which an applicant may be eligible with the applicant and require the applicant's written approval before processing the application.



Question 9

Please indicate whether your flex account has a negative account balance. To check your current flex account balance, please use this link:

app.azwater.gov/querycenter/query.aspx?rptsessionid=B6FB7185F2BB8B6BE040000A16006832.

Remember, an IGFR with a negative flex account balance is ineligible to be relinquished for GSCs and will remain ineligible until the flex account balance is no longer negative. If your flex account balance is negative, you must contact the AMA's Agricultural Lead or Agricultural Specialist to get back into compliance before your application can be considered. Their contact information can be found here: azwater.gov/ama-contact-us.

Question 10

Please indicate whether the lands to which the IGFR is appurtenant have an overlying CAWS. Remember, IGFRs with an overlying CAWS are ineligible to receive GSC.

Question 11

To fill out the chart, use the information written in the annual reports that were submitted to the Department. To find previously submitted reports go to our Imaged Records site: infoshare.azwater.gov/docushare/dsweb/HomePage.

Please include the total IGFR acres of the IGFR certificate in each year, even if a previous IGFR certificate included more acres than the current IGFR certificate.

If accurate and complete reports have not been submitted, then the delinquent reports must be submitted and all fees/late fees must be paid to ADWR before the application can be considered. azwater.gov/ama/online-annual-reporting. ADWR will not update reports that are more than three years old.

At least 3 out of the previous 5 years must have been legally irrigated with groundwater or in-lieu water on the land appurtenant to the Irrigation Groundwater Right. If this condition is not met, then the application cannot be considered.

Question 12

Do not include irrigation district wells in your application. If you received water from an irrigation district and do not know if one of your wells is an irrigation district well, ADWR will contact the irrigation district directly for necessary information.

Question 13

Please list the wells that served the land to which the IGFR is appurtenant but do not include irrigation district wells. Wells that served the IGFR can be found on previous annual reports or the IGFR's facility report. Facility reports are found in our imaged records, or an updated facility report can be requested from ADWR at earp@azwater.gov or by calling 602-771-8585. If the application form does not provide sufficient space to include all this information, please see Appendix C of this Application Guidelines Document for extra sheets.

Question 14

To find your AWS application number, please contact the Assured Water Supply team at assuredadequate@azwater.gov or by calling 602-771-8599.



APPENDIX A:

Certificate of Grandfathered Groundwater Right

STATE OF ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

*This is to certify that pursuant to the provisions of
Title 45, Chapter 2, Arizona Revised Statutes*

XXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXXX

Rightholder's Name

Irrigation Acres

is granted an
IRRIGATION GRANDFATHERED RIGHT
in the
PHOENIX ACTIVE MANAGEMENT AREA

AMA

for **144.73** irrigation acres of land. The rights are appurtenant to and groundwater may be used only on the irrigation acres of land described as follows:

Assessor's Parcel Number(s) XXX-XX-XXX, XXX-XX-XXX in XXX Sec XX TXX RXX GSRB&M, as more fully described in the map attached hereto as Exhibit A and made a part hereof by reference.

The use of groundwater on the above described land shall be for irrigation purposes in accordance with the laws of the State of Arizona and restrictions placed on use by the Director of the Department of Water Resources pursuant to Title 45, Chapter 2, Arizona Revised Statutes.

Certificate Number

CERTIFICATE NO. 58-XXXXXX.XXXX

is granted this 15th day of July, 2025

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES



Clinton Chandler, Assistant Director
Water Planning and Permitting Division

The Department of Water Resources must be notified if the above named person(s) makes an address change or conveys ownership of the right to another person(s) or wishes to convert the right to a non-irrigation grandfathered right associated with retired irrigated land.



APPENDIX B:

3. Please provide all parcel numbers for the land to which the IGFR is appurtenant.

Assessor's Parcel Number (APN): _____
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5. For the land identified by parcel number, above, please provide any additional IGFR certificate numbers (58-) which were appurtenant to the land in the previous 5 years.

(58-): _____
(58-): _____
(58-): _____
(58-): _____
(58-): _____
(58-): _____
(58-): _____
(58-): _____
(58-): _____
(58-): _____



APPENDIX C:

13. Please list the wells that served the land to which the IGFR is appurtenant that are not located within an irrigation district.

Provide the registration numbers, locations, and associated uses for all wells that served the land to which the IGFR is appurtenant. If additional space is needed, continue on a labeled supplemental sheet. Each entry must include the section, township, range, well registration number (Reg. No. 55-), and latitude/longitude.

Reg. No. 55- _____

Latitude (decimal degrees): _____ ° N Longitude (decimal degrees): _____ ° W

Provide the datum (if known) or describe the method used to obtain the latitude and longitude (e.g., GPS, survey, mapping software) _____

Reg. No. 55- _____

Latitude (decimal degrees): _____ ° N Longitude (decimal degrees): _____ ° W

Provide the datum (if known) or describe the method used to obtain the latitude and longitude (e.g., GPS, survey, mapping software) _____

Reg. No. 55- _____

Latitude (decimal degrees): _____ ° N Longitude (decimal degrees): _____ ° W

Provide the datum (if known) or describe the method used to obtain the latitude and longitude (e.g., GPS, survey, mapping software) _____

