

To: DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES - ADWR  
From: GAIL GEIFFER - [REDACTED]

Personal Identifying Information

Comments for the Douglas Active Management Area Goals

The Douglas Basin is a bi-national water basin that is shared with Mexico which complicates the management goals for the area, and this fact should be taken into consideration.

Historically, this area has been engaged in natural resource uses, primarily in farming and ranching. These agricultural uses should be addressed in the goal for this area, as was done in the Pinal County AMA.

There are areas such as Bisbee in the Basin that do not get their water from the Basin but rather from the adjoining basin, the San Pedro River. This should also be taken into account when setting the management goal.

Suggested Draft Goal:

The Douglas AMA is a transnational aquifer that has recharge and use in both Arizona and Sonora, Mexico. Therefore, any replenishment calculations must include the recharge coming from lands in Sonora in addition to those in Arizona. The area's economy is greatly supported by agricultural production and the presence of agriculture in the area. The management goal and plan for the Douglas AMA is to allow development of non-agriculture uses and economies and to preserve and protect existing agricultural uses and economies for as long as feasible, consistent with the necessity to preserve future water resources for non-agriculture uses.

To honor the historic customs and cultures of the area, the goal of the Douglas AMA is to maintain a viable aquifer for continued agricultural production and domestic uses while maximizing efforts to enhance recharge and replenishment.

*I have met with hundreds of my constituents in the Douglas Basin and they want the Agriculture Industry addressed in the proposed goal for their area. They are concerned that Bisbee does not get their water from the Douglas Basin, yet can force restrictions on them. Please listen to this historic agriculture community. Thank you, Respectfully, Gail Geiffer*