

1 Karen J. Nielsen (Bar No. 034648)
2 Arizona Department of Water Resources
3 Legal Division
4 1110 W. Washington St., Suite 310
5 Phoenix, Arizona 85007
6 Telephone: 602-771-8472
7 Fax: 602-771-8687
8 knielsen@azwater.gov

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10 **IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA**
11 **IN AND FOR THE COUNTIES OF MARICOPA AND APACHE**

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IN RE THE GENERAL ADJUDICATION OF ALL RIGHTS TO USE WATER IN THE GILA RIVER SYSTEM AND SOURCE
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W1-00-001234

**ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES' NOTICE OF
FILING PUBLIC MEETING
SUMMARY**

Special Master Sherri Zendri

CONTESTED CASE NAME: None.

HSR INVOLVED: Sycamore Canyon Subwatershed HSR.

DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY: The Arizona Department of Water Resources (“ADWR”) provides notice of filing a summary of the Public Meeting held on Wednesday, November 5, 2025.

NUMBER OF PAGES: Two and twenty-five page attachment

DATE OF FILING: November 13, 2025


Pursuant to the Notice of Public Meeting filed in the Gila River Adjudication, W1-00-001234 (formerly W-1, W-2, W-3, and W-4 (Consolidated)), a public meeting was held at the Arizona Department of Water Resources building on November 5, 2025 to discuss “the

1 development of a program for public education...regarding the General Stream
2 Adjudication and the impending Verde River Watershed Hydrographic Survey Report.”¹ A
3 summary of that meeting is included herein as Attachment A, and a copy of the slides
4 presented by ADWR are included herein as Attachment B.

5 The original of this Notice, along with the attachments, is being filed with the Clerk of
6 Maricopa County Superior Court and is being posted to ADWR’s website at:
7 <https://www.azwater.gov/adjudications>.

8 **DATED** this 13th day of November, 2025.

9 ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF WATER
10 RESOURCES


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12 _____
13 Karen J. Nielsen, Deputy Counsel

14 **ORIGINAL** of the foregoing and attachment
15 sent by first-class mail on November 13, 2025, to:

16 Clerk of the Maricopa Superior Court
17 Attn: Water Case
18 601 W. Jackson Street
19 Phoenix, Arizona 85003

20 **COPIES** of the foregoing and attachments
21 sent by electronic mail on November 13, 2025, to:
22 Special Master Sherri Zendri
23 water@jbazmc.maricopa.gov

24 **COPIES** of the foregoing Notice and attachments
25 sent by first-class mail on November 13, 2025, to all
26 parties on the court-approved mailing list for
Contested Case No. W1-00-001234.



¹ [Notice of Public Meeting](#) at 1.

ATTACHMENT A

PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT
HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY REPORT - SYCAMORE VALLEY SUBBASIN

Wednesday, November 5, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Arizona Department of Water Resources
1110 West Washington Street, Room 3175
Phoenix, AZ 85007

10:00 meeting opens

Attendees:

Karen Nielsen – Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR)
Joy Hernbrode – ADWR
Sherri Zendri – Superior Court
Emily Natale – Superior Court
Michael Foy – Salmon, Lewis, Weldon
Katrina Wilkinson – Salmon, Lewis, Weldon
Lucas Shaw – Salt River Project
Luke Dale Emerson – Superior Court
Dustin Rector – ADWR
Susan Montgomery – Yavapai- Apache Nation (YAN)
Millie Hffner – ADWR
Jennifer Wendel – University of Arizona
Emily Klienfeld – University of Arizona
Jack Drumm – University of Arizona
John Muscarella – ADWR
Vincent Sulton – ADWR
Sarah Comyns – ADWR

The meeting was an informal discussion to develop a public education program in preparation for the March 2026 release of the Sycamore Subwatershed Preliminary Hydrographic Survey Report (HSR). Specific goals for the meeting included:

- Potential locations
- What topics should be discussed
- Timing with respect to publication of preliminary and final HSRs

ADWR provided a brief presentation on the timing and content of the HSR. Hard copies of the slides are attached to these minutes. Key points from ADWR:

- Preliminary HSR
- Final HSR
- ADWR including abstracts for recommended potential water rights in each Watershed File Report (WFR); each abstract includes a map

- ADWR is creating an online Geographic Information System (GIS) application to review WFRs that will include the following features
 - Pop-ups with relevant info
 - Search widget for finding specific WFRs by various fields
 - Filter and query tools
 - Exporting of tabular data
- The application will have search and tabulation functionality
- Because of the enormous volume of pages, this HSR will be distributed digitally only wherever possible
- The Sycamore Subwatershed is largely public land, so this will be a great opportunity to test the new processes with a fairly small number of private land claimants

For Claimants with limited online capabilities, the group recommends providing training to local librarians on how to access information from the HSR using the online application.

- Online, virtual workshop that can be recorded for future reference
- Will schedule the workshop(s) AFTER the HSR application goes live

As noted, most of the land in Sycamore is public, so only a few “communities” where a public meeting might make sense:

- Bellemont
- Parks
- Camp Verde
- Williams (outside the Subwatershed, but a hub nearby)

A post-meeting review of the surrounding communities found no libraries within the Sycamore Subwatershed boundaries; however, the following nearby communities could be considered

- Flagstaff
- Williams
- Paulden
- Sedona

Different subject matter will be pertinent at different stages. In ALL cases, at least some general information will need to be provided so that participants understand the terms:

- Prior to March 2026, preliminary HSR publication
 - General information about the adjudication process
 - “Preliminary HSR is coming”
 - Information about filing SOCs and the basis of right
- After March 2026
 - Specific training for librarians (see above)
 - How to read the HSR report
 - The difference between a comment on the preliminary HSR and an objection for the final
 - “Final HSR is coming”
- After March 2027 final HSR publication
 - Specific training for librarians if any changes were made based upon comments

- How to read the HSR report
- How to file an objection
- The contested case process

The ADWR will include in the public notice as much information as possible about the preliminary and the final HSRs, as well as public education opportunities.

- This means we need to get things lined up as soon as possible so the information is available for the notice
- Letting people know there are multiple opportunities may relieve some tensions

ACTION ITEMS

- Counsel for the YAN will provide ADWR a list of newspapers that the communities read
- The Office of the Special Master will review a series of videos made by UT Adjudication to see if something similar could be developed for Arizona.
 - Counsel for SRP provided the following two links:
 - [Utah Water Rights Adjudication Process – What is it? What should I do? \(https://www.waterrights.utah.gov/adjdinfo/\)](https://www.waterrights.utah.gov/adjdinfo/)
 - [Cover Letter and Summons \(https://www.utah.gov/pmn/files/926199.pdf\)](https://www.utah.gov/pmn/files/926199.pdf)
- ADWR will look into creating an online “clearinghouse” of historical information provided by parties
- ADWR and the Special Master will confer about an objection process that would permit ADWR to upload objections into the HSR online application and associate the objections with the appropriate WFR
- Special Master will work with Superior Court Communications regarding video-taping public meetings, and social media notices (LinkedIn)
- Special Master will confer with the Clerk of Court and Judge Blaney regarding the need for hard copies of the HSRs
- Special Master will confer with Judge Blaney regarding a steering committee or periodic “bench/bar” meetings
- ADWR and the Special Master will confer about locations for the aforementioned public meetings so that attendance information may be included in the Notice

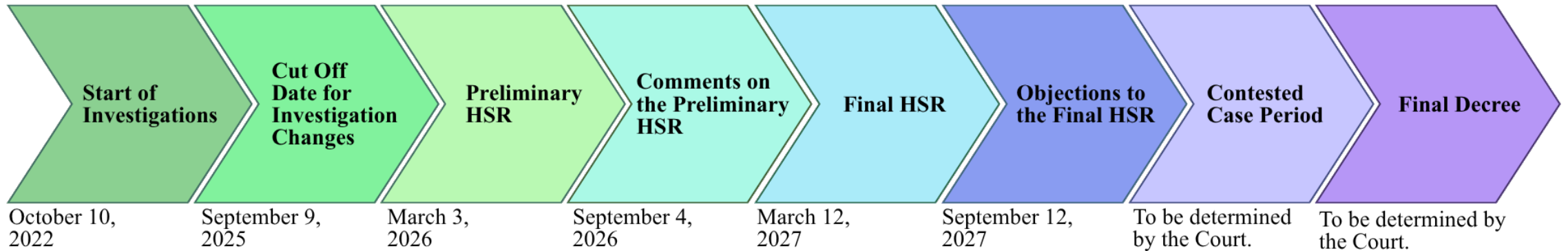
ATTACHMENT B

Meeting Regarding HSR Publication

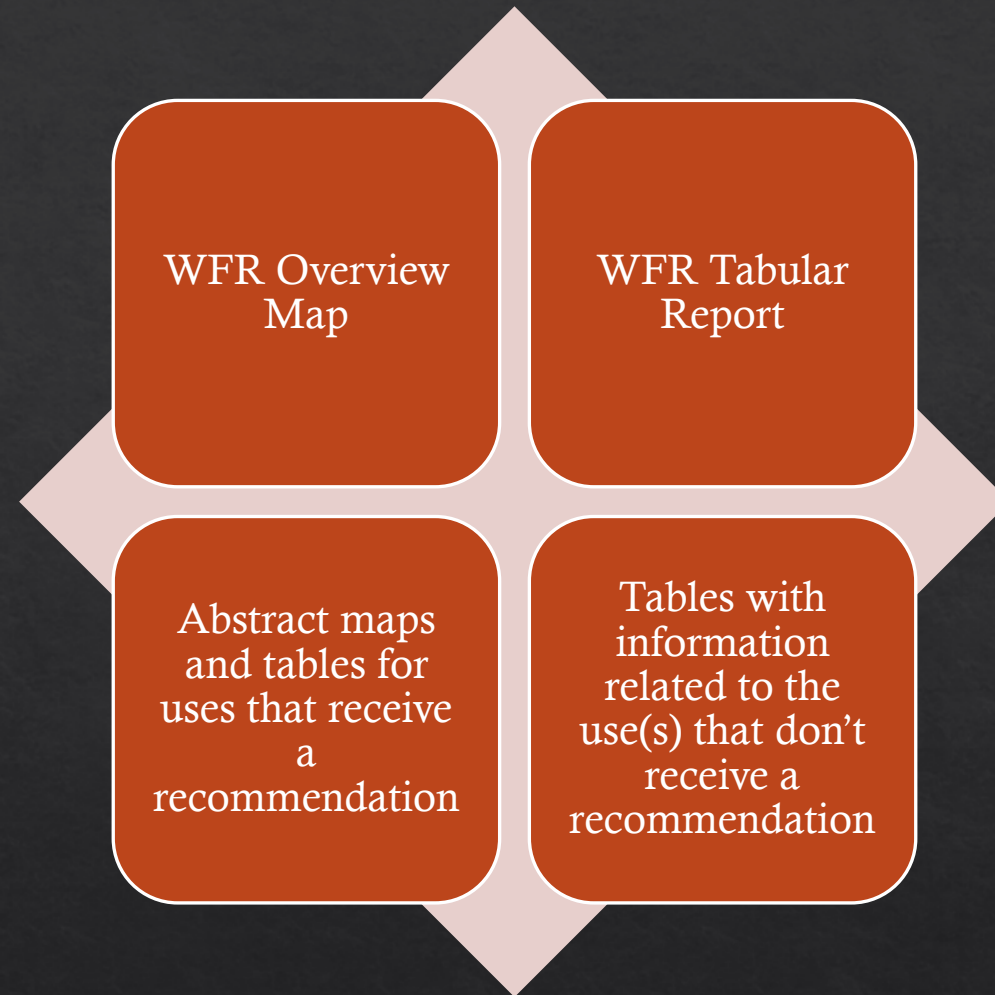




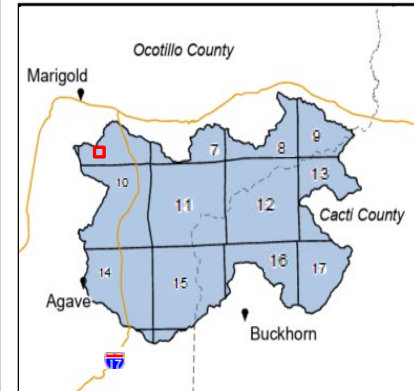
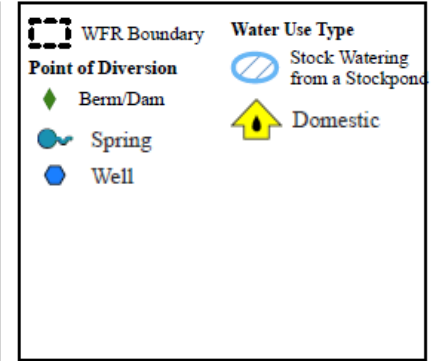
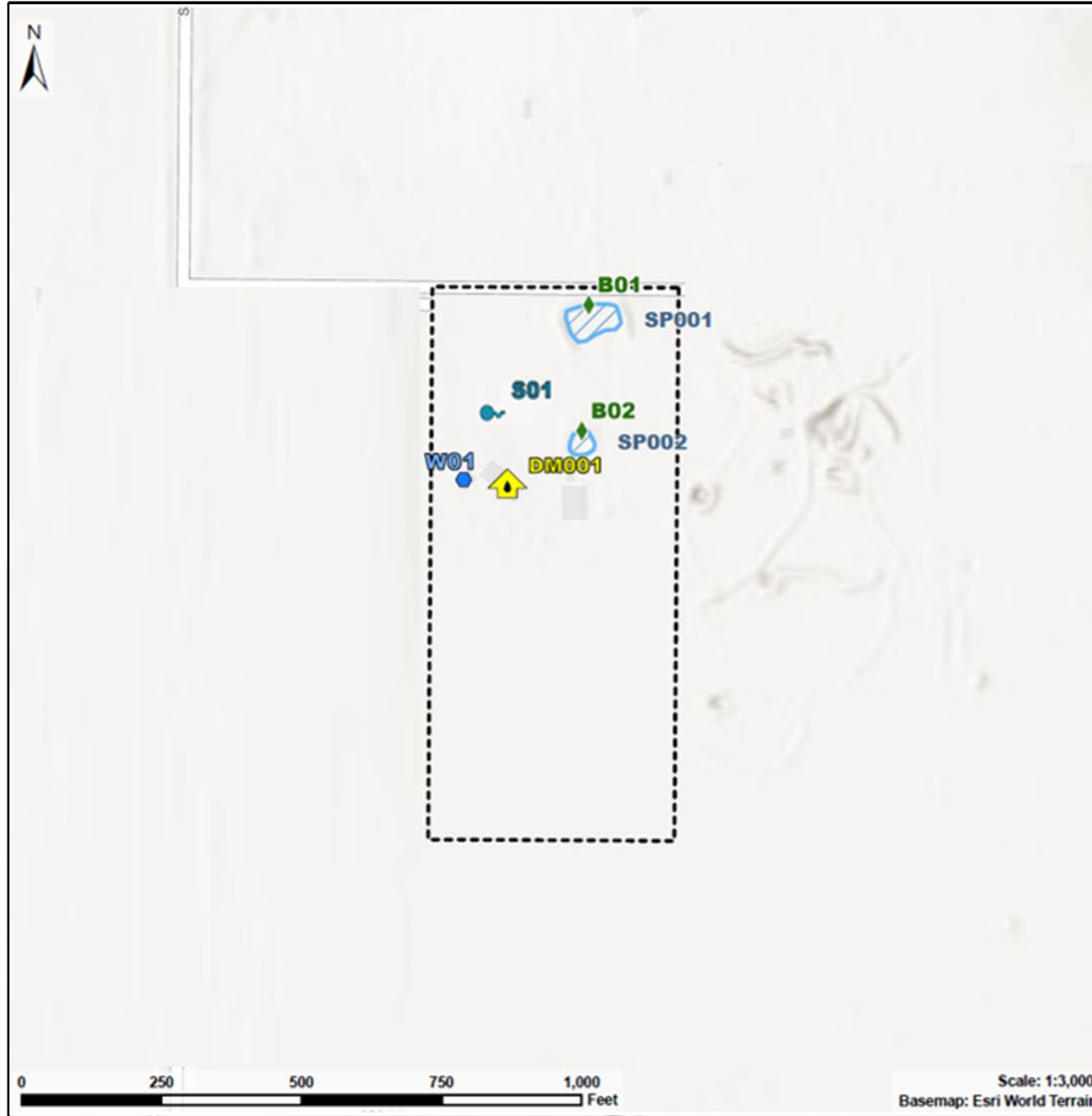
Publication Schedule and Delivery Method of the Sycamore Hydrographic Survey Report



Watershed File Report




WFR Overview Map



Watershed File Report
053-71-AABD-001
 APN: 12345678
 Ocotillo County
 WFR Owner
 Sonoran Sky Ranches LLC
 HSR Region 12

Saguaro Watershed
 Creosote Subwatershed



ADWR March 2026

All WFR/HSR-related content is for illustrative purposes only, and does not depict actual water uses.

SUMMARY OF THE ANALYSIS OF CLAIMS AND USES RELATED TO THIS PROPERTY

USE ID	RECOMMENDED WATER RIGHT	ALL ADWR FILINGS	USES DETERMINED BY ADWR	WATER SOURCE DETERMINED BY ADWR	POU LOCATION DETERMINED BY ADWR (LEGAL DESCRIPTION)	POD LOCATION DETERMINED BY ADWR (LEGAL DESCRIPTION)	FACILITY OR RESERVOIR NAME	APPARENT FIRST USE DATE DETERMINED BY ADWR (WITH SOURCE)
SP001	NO		STOCK WATERING FROM A STOCKPOND	OAK CREEK	SWNE21 27N 01E NENWNE21 24N 01E	B01-SWNWSE21 21N 01E	EAST TANK	04/01/1921 HOMESTEAD PATENT NO. 12345
SP002	YES	39-12345 36-12345.0	STOCK WATERING FROM A STOCKPOND	OAK CREEK	NESWNW21 21N 01E	B02-SENE21 21N 01E	WEST TANK	04/01/1921 HOMESTEAD PATENT NO.12345
DM001	YES	39-12345 36-12345.0	DOMESTIC	UNKNOWN	NESWNE 27N 01E	B03-SESWNE21 21N 01E		03/15/1921 HOMESTEAD PATENT NO. 12345

Tabular Report

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USES WITH RECOMMENDED RIGHTS

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Abstract Map


PROPOSED ABSTRACT OF POTENTIAL WATER RIGHT


1. Proposed Water Right	053-71-AABD-001-SP002
2. Owner of Right	
3. Landowner	Sonoran Sky Ranches LLC
4. Statement of Claimant	39-12345
5. Lessee or Permittee	N/A
6. Basis of Right	36-12345
7. Beneficial Use	Stock and Wildlife Watering From a Stockpond
8. Priority Date	04/01/1921
9. Quantity	Not to exceed (\leq) 4 Acre-Feet in Capacity with Continuous Fill.
10. Flow Rate	N/A
11. Place of Use	NESWNW Section 21 Township 21 North, Range 01 East; of the Gila and Salt River Baseline and Meridian, Ocotillo County, Arizona
12. Point of Diversion	B02-(-112.28937, 35.19132 WGS84) SENENE Section 21 Township 21 North, Range 01 East of the Gila and Salt River Baseline and Meridian, Ocotillo County, Arizona
13. Source of Water	Stream Creek
14. Facility Name	West Tank

Additional Information:

Blah blah blah
Continued on next page




Beneficial Use
 Stock Watering from a Stockpond

Point of Diversion
 Berm/Dam

053-71-AABD-001-SP002

Saguaro Watershed
Creosote Subwatershed



ADWR March 2026

All WFR/HSR-related content is for illustrative purposes only, and does not depict actual water uses.

Overflow
Page

Proposed Abstract of Potential Water Right: Continuation Page

Proposed Water Right: 053-71-AABD-001-SP002

SAGUARO Watershed
Creosote Subwatershed

More blah blah blah

Additional Information:

- 1) The claimant name listed in SOC No. 39-12345 and SWR No. 36-12345 is not consistent with the owner name on record with the Ocotillo County Assessor's Office for this property. Therefore, the Department does not recommend a water right owner.
- 2) The Department's review of historical documentation indicates that the water was first used by April 1, 1921. However, since the SOC claims a date after that time, the department recommends the priority date claimed in the SOC.

All
WFR/HSR-
related
content is for
illustrative
purposes only,
and does not
depict actual
water uses.



WFR NUMBER:053-71-AABD-001

WFR OWNER: Sonoran Sky Ranches LLC

SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF FILING(S) FOR: STOCK WATERING FROM A STOCKPOND USE NO. 2 (SP002)

	FILED/USE 1	FILED/USE 2	FILED/USE 3	FILED/USE 4
FILING NUMBER(S)	39-12345	36-12345.0	36-12345.0	36-12345.0
PERSON OR ENTITY	SONORAN SKY LLC	SONORAN SKY LLC	SONORAN SKY LLC	SONORAN SKY LLC
CLAIMED BASIS OF RIGHT	36-12345			
CLAIMED BENEFICIAL USE(S)	STOCKPOND	ANNUAL USE	STOCK	WILDLIFE
CLAIMED QUANTITY		.7 ACRE-FEET PER ANNUM		
CLAIMED PLACE(S) OF USE	NESWNW21 21N 01E			
CLAIMED POINT(S) OF DIVERSION		SENE 21N 01E	SENE 21N 01E	SENE 21N 01E
CLAIMED WATER SOURCE(S)	OAK CREEK	OAK CREEK	OAK CREEK	OAK CREEK
CLAIMED PRIORITY DATE		04/01/1921	04/01/1921	04/01/1921
NAME OF FACILITY				
RESERVOIR CAPACITY (ACRE-FEET)	3.86			

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Place of Use and Point of Diversion locations are derived from the Gila and Salt River Baseline and Meridian



WFR NUMBER:053-71-AABD-001

WFR OWNER: Sonoran Sky Ranches LLC

SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF FILING(S) FOR: STOCK WATERING FROM A STOCKPOND USE NO. 2 (SP002)

Code	Explanation
BASIS OF RIGHT	THE CLAIMANT NAME LISTED IN SOC NO. 39-12345 AND SWR NO. 36-12345 IS NOT CONSISTENT WITH THE OWNER NAME ON RECORD WITH THE OCOTILLO COUNTY ASSESSOR'S OFFICE FOR THIS PROPERTY. THEREFORE, THE DEPARTMENT DOES NOT RECOMMEND A WATER RIGHT OWNER.
PRIORITY DATE	THE DEPARTMENT'S REVIEW OF HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION INDICATES THAT THE WATER WAS FIRST USED BY APRIL 1, 1907. HOWEVER, SINCE THE SOC CLAIMS A DATE AFTER THAT TIME, THE DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDS THE PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED IN THE SOC.
QUANTITY	DRONE CALCULATED STOCKPOND CAPACITY IS 1.74 AFA

Stock Statement Table

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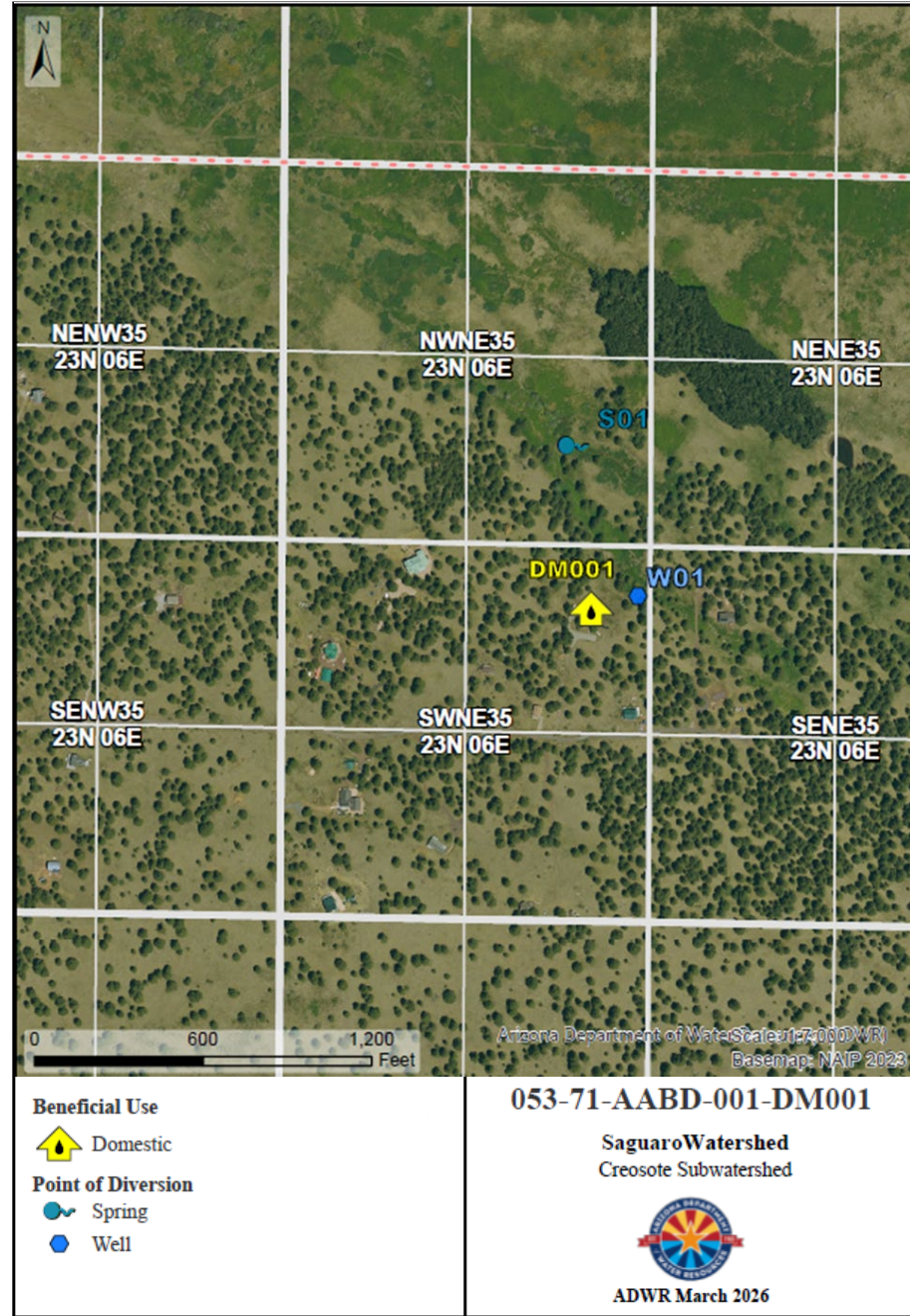
Abstract Map

PROPOSED ABSTRACT OF POTENTIAL WATER RIGHT

1. Proposed Water Right	053-71-AABD-001-DM001
2. Owner of Right	
3. Landowner	Sonoran Sky Ranches LLC
4. Statement of Claimant	39-12345
5. Lessee or Permittee	
6. Basis of Right	4A-1234
7. Beneficial Use	Domestic
8. Priority Date	03/15/1921
9. Quantity	The claimed quantity of use, not to exceed 1 AFA.
10. Flow Rate	
11. Place of Use	NWSWSE Section 22 Township 26 North, Range 04 West of the Gila and Salt River Baseline and Meridian, Ocotillo County, Arizona
12. Point of Diversion	S01-(-150.91561, 48.27432 WGS84) SESWNE21 Section 27 Township 22 North, Range 04 West S02-(-150.91323, 56.26767 WGS84) SENESE Section 28 Township ...continued on next page
13. Source of Water	Unknown

Additional Information:

Blah blah blah



Beneficial Use

Domestic

Point of Diversion

Spring

Well

053-71-AABD-001-DM001

Saguaro Watershed
Creosote Subwatershed



ADWR March 2026

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Proposed Abstract of Potential Water Right: Continuation Page

Proposed Water Right: 053-71-AABD-001-DM001

SAGUARO Watershed
CreosoteSubwatershed

Blah blah blah

Additional Information:

1) The certificate holder name listed in CWR No. 4A-1234 is not consistent with the landowner name on record with the Ocotillo County Assessor's Office for this property. Therefore, the Department does not recommend a water right owner.

12. Point of Diversion:

S01-(-150.91561, 48.27432 WGS84) NESWNE Section 27 Township 22 North, Range 04 West; S02-(-150.91323, 56.26767 WGS84) SENESE Section 28 Township 22 North, Range 04 West; S03-(-167.91187, 35.26943 WGS84) NESWNW Section 19 Township 29 North, Range 04 East; W01-(-287.95123, 68.2565 WGS84) NESWSE Section 22 Township 25 North, Range 04 East of the Gila and Salt River Baseline and Meridian, Ocotillo County, Arizona

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related content
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illustrative
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Abstract Tabular Report

WFR NUMBER:053-71-AABD-001

WFR OWNER: Sonoran Sky Ranches LLC

SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF FILING(S) FOR: DOMESTIC USE NO. 1 (DM001)

	FILING/USE 1	FILING/USE 2	FILING/USE 3	FILING/USE 4
FILING NUMBER(S)	39-12345	4A-1234.0	4A-1234.0	55-123456
PERSON OR ENTITY	SONORAN SKY LLC	SONORAN SKY LLC	SONORAN SKY LLC	SONORAN SKY LLC
CLAIMED BASIS OF RIGHT	4A-1234			
CLAIMED BENEFICIAL USE(S)	DOMESTIC	STOCK	DOMESTIC	DOMESTIC
CLAIMED QUANTITY	.65 AFA	1564000 GALLONS PER ANNUM	156400 GALLONS PER ANNUM	
CLAIMED PLACE(S) OF USE		NESWNE 27N 01E	NESWNE 27N 01E	
CLAIMED POINT(S) OF DIVERSION	SESWNE21 21N 01E	SESWNE21 21N 01E	SESWNE21 21N 01E	SESWNE21 21N 01E
CLAIMED WATER SOURCE(S)	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	
CLAIMED PRIORITY DATE	03/15/1921	03/15/1921	03/15/1921	

All WFR/HSR-related content is for illustrative purposes only, and does not depict actual water uses.

Stock Statement Table



WFR NUMBER:053-71-AABD-001

WFR OWNER: Sonoran Sky Ranches LLC

SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF FILING(S) FOR: DOMESTIC USE NO. 1 (DM001)

Code	Explanation
CLAIMANT / LANDOWNER	THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER NAME LISTED IN CWR NO. 4A-1234 IS NOT CONSISTENT WITH THE LANDOWNER NAME ON RECORD WITH THE OCOTILLO COUNTY ASSESSOR'S OFFICE FOR THIS PROPERTY. THEREFORE, THE DEPARTMENT DOES NOT RECOMMEND A WATER RIGHT OWNER.

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USES WITHOUT RECOMMENDED RIGHTS

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WFR NUMBER:053-71-AABD-001

WFR OWNER: Sonorna Sky Ranches LLC

SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF FILING(S) FOR: STOCK WATERING FROM A STOCKPOND USE NO. 1 (SP001)

FILING NUMBER(S)				
PERSON OR ENTITY				
CLAIMED BASIS OF RIGHT				
CLAIMED BENEFICIAL USE (S)				
CLAIMED QUANTITY		NO FILINGS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS USE		
CLAIMED PLACE(S) OF USE				
CLAIMED POINT(S) OF DIVERSION				
CLAIMED WATER SOURCE(S)				
NAME OF FACILITY, IF ANY				
CLAIMED PRIORITY DATE				

Tabular Report
for Use without
Recommended
Right

All WFR/HSR-related content is for illustrative purposes only, and does not depict actual water uses.

Place of Use and Point of Diversion locations are derived from the Gila and Salt River Baseline and Meridian



WFR NUMBER:053-71-AABD-001

WFR OWNER: Sonoran Sky Ranches LLC

SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF FILING(S) FOR: STOCK WATERING FROM A STOCKPOND USE NO. 1 (SP001)

Code	Explanation
BASIS OF RIGHT	THERE IS NO SURFACE WATER FILING ASSOCIATED WITH THIS USE, THEREFORE THE DEPARTMENT DOES NOT RECOMMEND A WATER RIGHT.
OTHER	THERE IS NO SOC ASSOCIATED WITH THIS USE, THEREFORE THE DEPARTMENT DOES NOT RECOMMEND A WATER RIGHT.
QUANTITY	USING AERIAL IMAGERY, THE DEPARTMENT ESTIMATES THE SURFACE AREA OF WATER AT THE SPILLWAY LEVEL IS .46 ACRES

Stock Statement Table

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Place of Use and Point of Diversion locations are derived from the Gila and Salt River Baseline and Meridian

PHSR Application

An application that claimants, the court, and the public can use to easily access data related to WFRs within the Sycamore PHSR.

Features that will be included:

- ◆ **Pop-ups** filled with relevant information when any feature is selected
- ◆ **Search widget** for finding WFRs by various fields
- ◆ **Downloadable table** for exporting tabular data
- ◆ **Filter and query tools** to refine visible records by specific attributes
- ◆ A **'Help Tab'** will also be available to assist users with navigation and functionality.

PHSR Application Capabilities

- ◆ Popup information will include the same fields that are provided in the abstract map tables.
- ◆ Users will be able to search by the following fields in these layers:
 - ◆ WFR: WFR number, Owner, Lessee, Assessor Parcel Number
 - ◆ Point of Diversion: Facility Name, WFR number, Well
 - ◆ Each of the Use layers:
 - ◆ Domestic, stockpond, stockwatering, irrigation, commercial/industrial, and municipal
- ◆ Will be able to export a table with the following layers:
 - ◆ WFR, POD, and by use type