

Ag-to-Urban: Informal Stakeholder Meeting

January 16, 2025



Meeting Logistics

- Please note that this meeting is being broadcast via webinar and is being recorded.
- The meeting recording and materials will be posted to the ADWR Ag-to-Urban webpage <https://www.azwater.gov/how-doi/find-info-on/ag-to-urban>
- In discussion portions, please speak clearly into the microphone, and identify yourself when speaking.
- *Technical issues? Please call the ADWR Help Desk at 602-771-8444 or email tickets@azwater.gov.*



Meeting Agenda

- I. Ag-to-Urban Concept and Informal Stakeholder Process
- II. Governor's Water Policy Council Assured Water Supply Principles
- III. Guardrails: Land Eligibility and Conversion Rates
- IV. Getting into the Data: The Dashboard
- V. Next Steps

Invited Stakeholder Input:



- The Land Eligibility Requirements
- Conversion Rates
- The Dashboard

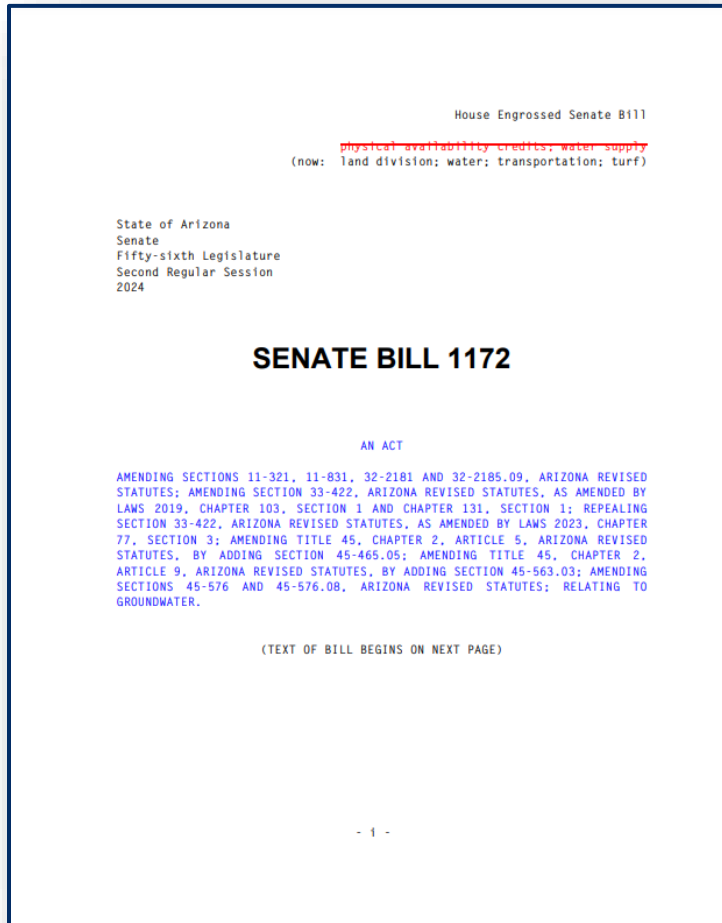
I. Ag-to-Urban Concept & Informal Stakeholder Process



The Goal of the Ag-to-Urban Concept:

Allow voluntary conversion of unreplenished, high-water use Irrigation Grandfathered Rights (IGFRs) to low-water urban uses under the consumer protections of the Assured Water Supply (AWS) Program, including consistency with Management Goal requirements within the Pinal and Phoenix AMAs.

History of the Ag-to-Urban Concept



Last session:

- “Physical Availability Exemption Credit”
- Ultimately was not enacted into law
- The issues:
 - Water savings
 - Consumer protections
 - More stakeholder discussions needed

Kicking off the Informal Stakeholder Process

- Announced 12/2/24 at the Governor's Water Policy Council.
- The intent:
 - To investigate an Ag-to-Urban concept through rule under the AWS program.
 - Foster full stakeholder engagement to develop an implementable program.
- Today is the first public meeting of that informal process.



Kicking off the Informal Stakeholder Process

- **NEW** ADWR webpage:
<https://www.azwater.gov/how-doi/find-info-on/ag-to-urban>
- **NEW** program email:
ag2urban@azwater.gov
- ADWR expects to hold regular, informal meetings over the next few months.

II. GWPC Assured Water Supply Committee Principles



Assured Water Supply Principles

Address challenges revealed by Assured Water Supply modeling projections, while continuing to:

- Strengthen the integrity of the Assured Water Supply program
- Protect consumers and aquifers
- Ensure future growth is not reliant on mined groundwater.

III. Program Guardrails



Ag-to-Urban Program Guardrails



Land Eligibility



Development
Conservation
Measures



Program
Timeframes



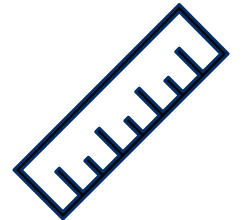
Consumer
Protections



Applicability
Limited to
Designations



Portability of
Credits away
from Ag Lands



Conversion
Rates

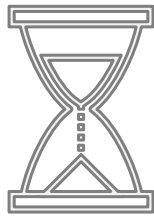
Ag-to-Urban Program Guardrails



Land Eligibility



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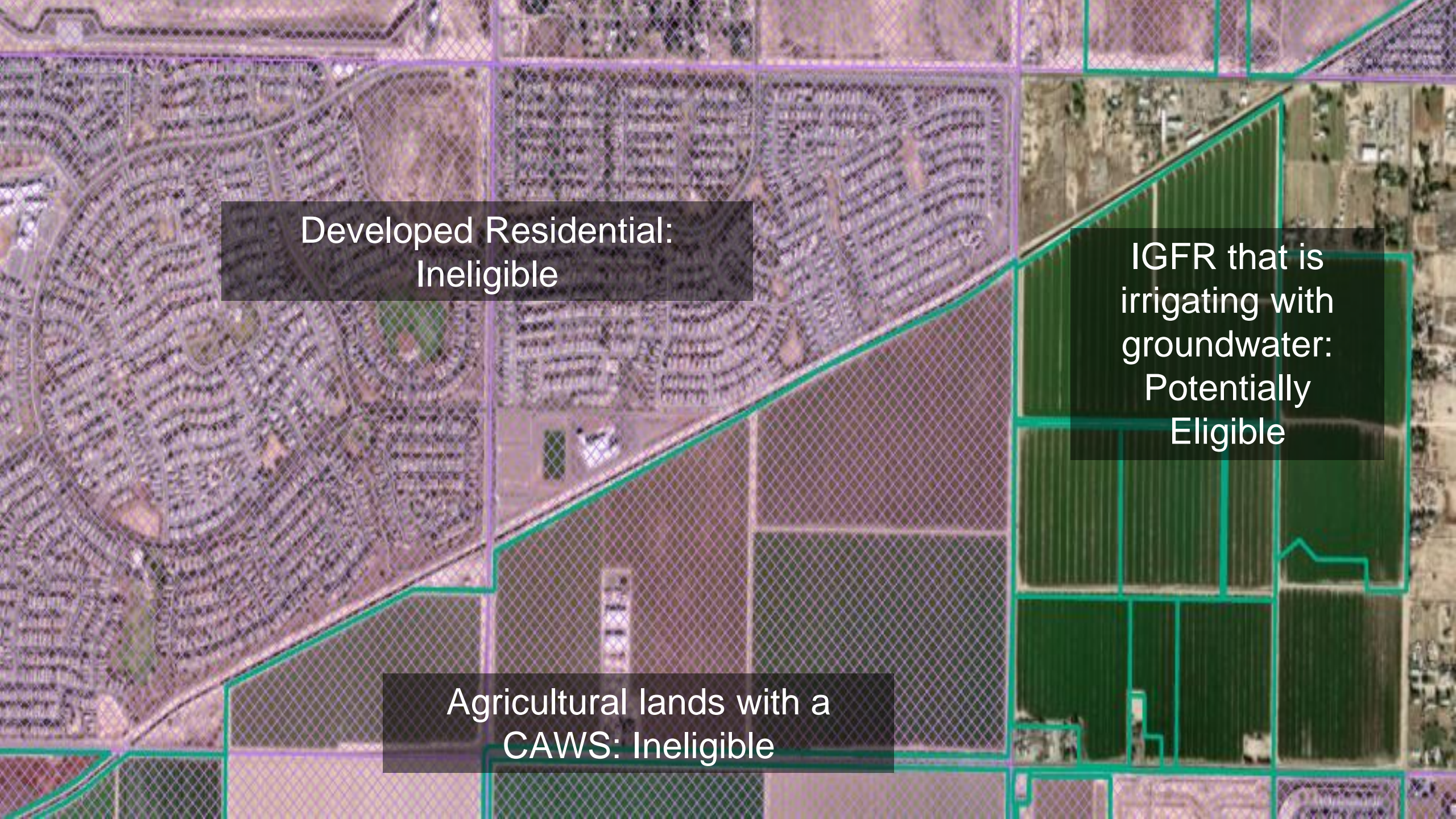
Conversion
Rates

Land Eligibility

Eligible Lands:



- Have an Irrigation Grandfathered Right.
- Must have been irrigated with groundwater in 3 of the 5 years prior to relinquishment.
- Must have no existing Certificate of Assured Water Supply on those lands.



Developed Residential:
Ineligible

IGFR that is irrigating with groundwater:
Potentially Eligible

Agricultural lands with a CAWS: Ineligible

Land Eligibility Discussion



Conversion Rates

Conversion Rates: the volume of water (AF/ac) assigned per qualifying IGFR acre relinquished to create credits toward AWS physical availability criteria

Key Considerations

- Will require review of AMA-specific data and conditions
- Must generate groundwater use reductions
- Will have an impact on CAGRDR replenishment – i.e., meeting Consistency with the Management Goal

Joining the Technical Working Group



Technical experts willing to participate in a data-heavy technical working group can join the technical working group email list at <https://adwr.info/Ag>.

All information regarding these meetings will also be available on ADWR's Public Meetings calendar and the Ag-to-Urban webpage.

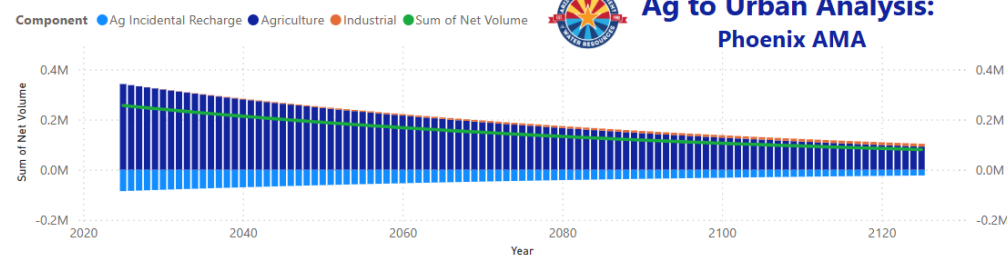
IV. Getting into the Data: The Dashboard



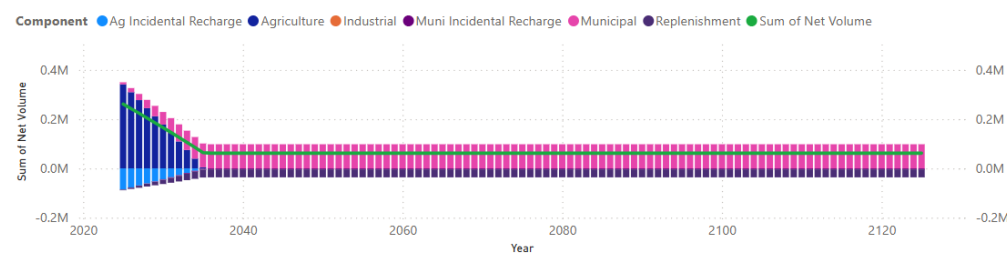
Data Analysis – Dashboard

- Displays a sample of projections developed by ADWR to better understand a potential Ag-to-Urban program.
- Interactive
- Available on ADWR's Ag-to-Urban webpage, along with a downloadable dataset.

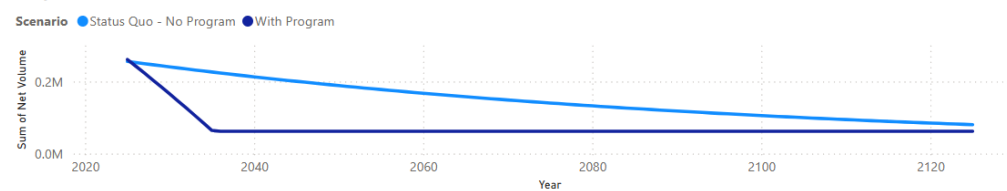
Status Quo - Projected Water Use Over Time



With Program - Projected Water Use Over Time



Projected Net Water Use Over Time



Ag to Urban Analysis:
Phoenix AMA

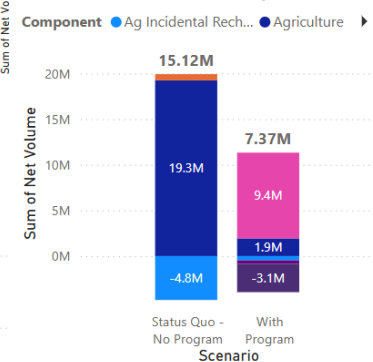
Assumptions

Program Rate (AF/Ac)	
0.5	1.5
1	2

Replenishment Rate

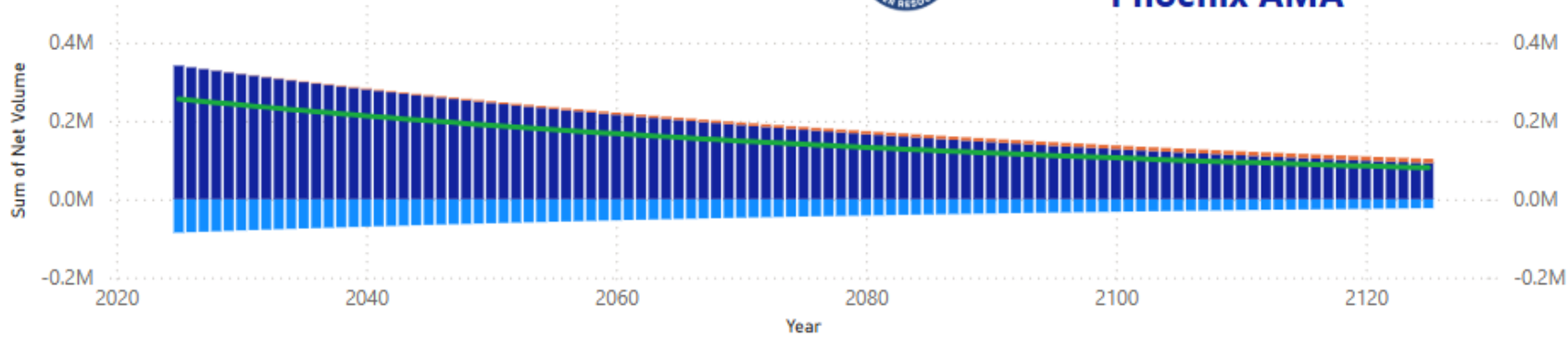
0	0.67	CAGR 2015
0.33	1	

Total Water Use (100 Year Projection)



Status Quo - Projected Water Use Over Time

Component ● Ag Incidental Recharge ● Agriculture ● Industrial ● Sum of Net Volume



Ag to Urban Analysis: Phoenix AMA

Assumptions

Program Rate (AF/Ac)

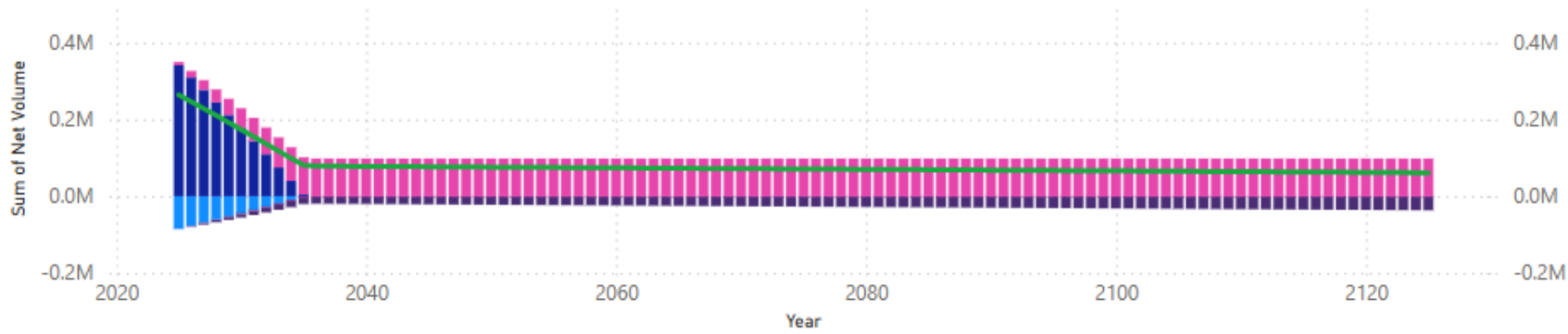
0.5	1.5
1	2

Replenishment Rate

0	0.67	CAGR 2015
0.33	1	

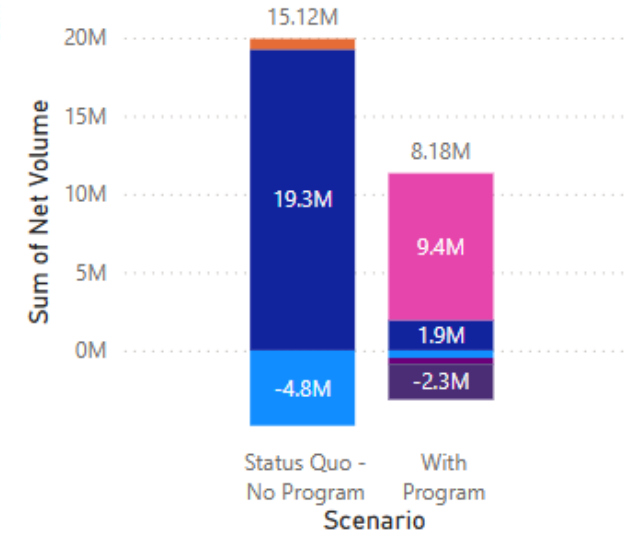
With Program - Projected Water Use Over Time

Component ● Ag Incidental Recharge ● Agriculture ● Industrial ● Muni Incidental Recharge ● Municipal ● Replenishment ● Sum of Net Volume



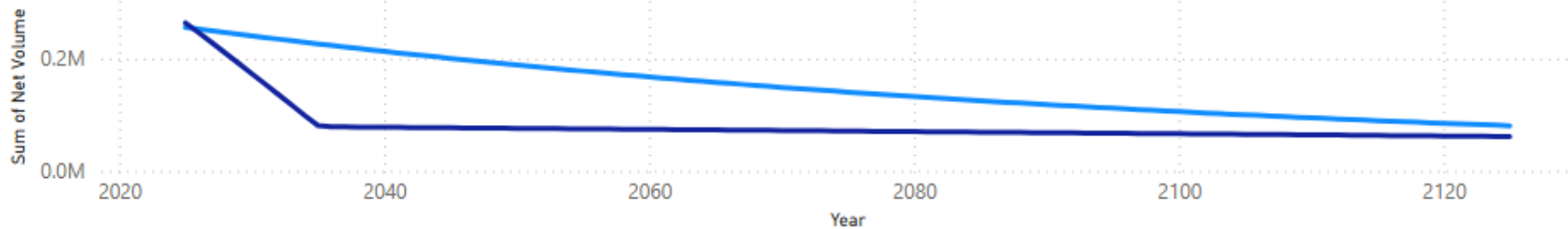
Total Water Use (100 Year Projection)

Component ● Ag Incidental Rech... ● Agriculture



Projected Net Water Use Over Time

Scenario ● Status Quo - No Program ● With Program



Dashboard Inputs

Conversion Rate (AF/ac)

Program Rate

0.5	1.5
1	2

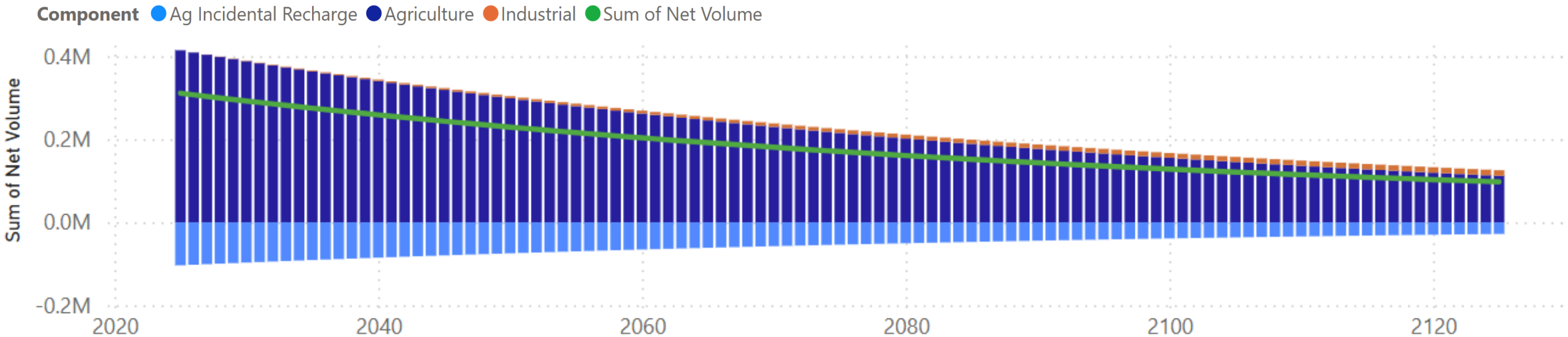
Replenishment

0	0.67	CAGR 2015
0.33	1	

- The situation in the Phoenix and Pinal AMAs are distinct and require separate analysis.
- Modeling results in the dashboard vary based on the AF/ac conversion rate and replenishment rate.

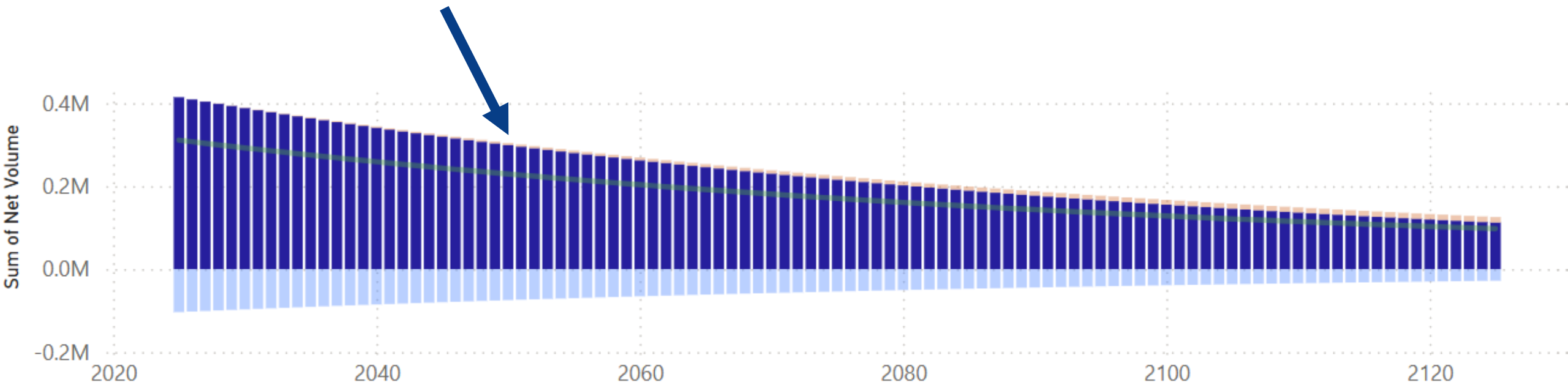
Dashboard: Status Quo

Forecasting Status Quo Water Use Over Time



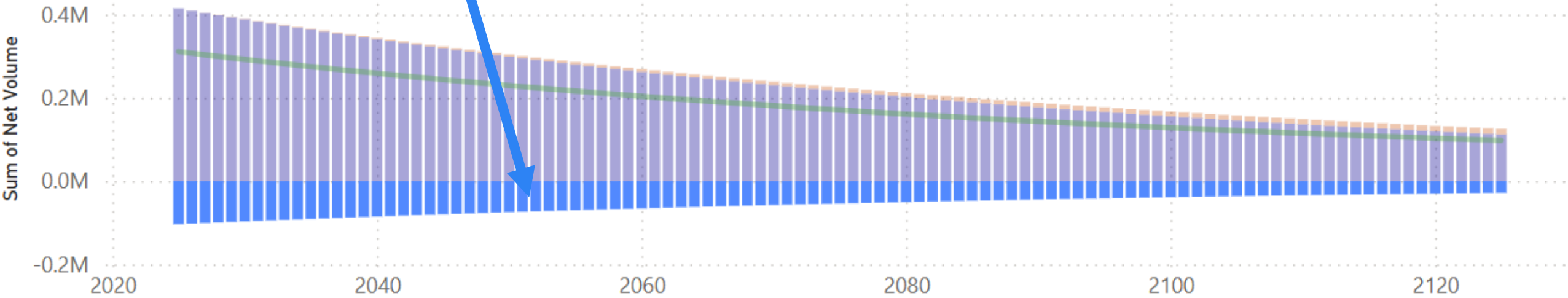
Dashboard: Status Quo

Agriculture Water Use



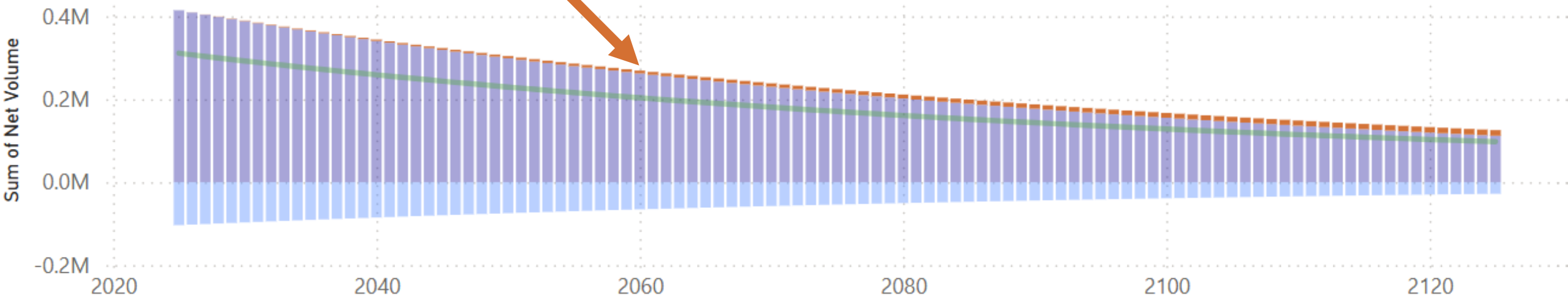
Dashboard: Status Quo

Agricultural Recharge



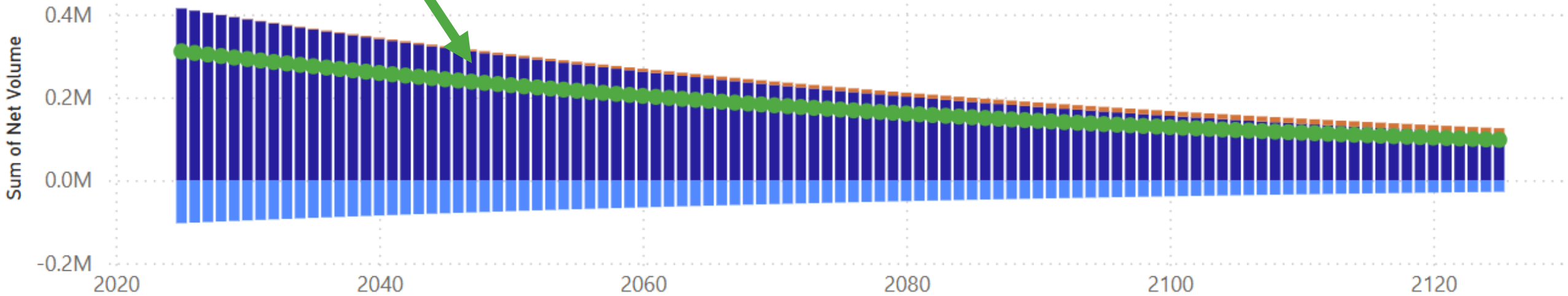
Dashboard: Status Quo

Industrial Water Use



Dashboard: Status Quo

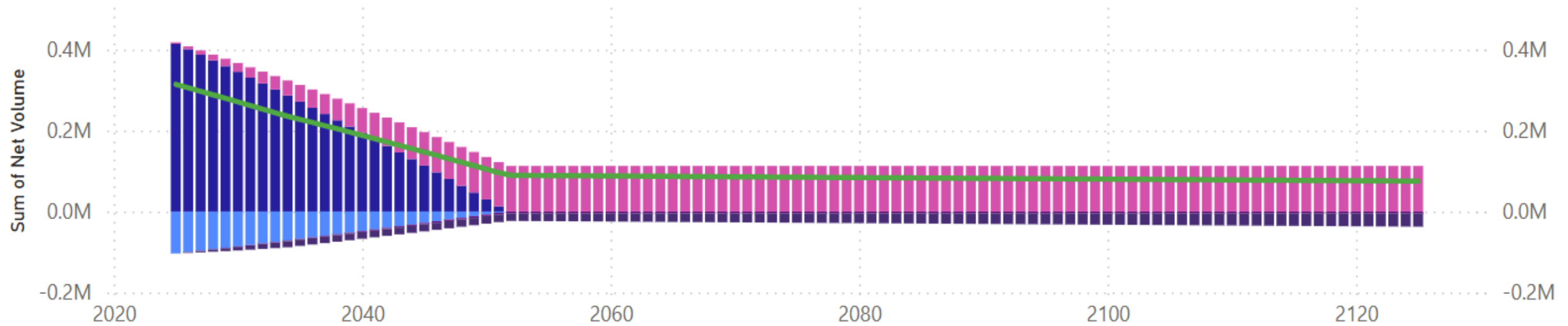
Net Water Use



Dashboard: Program Projections

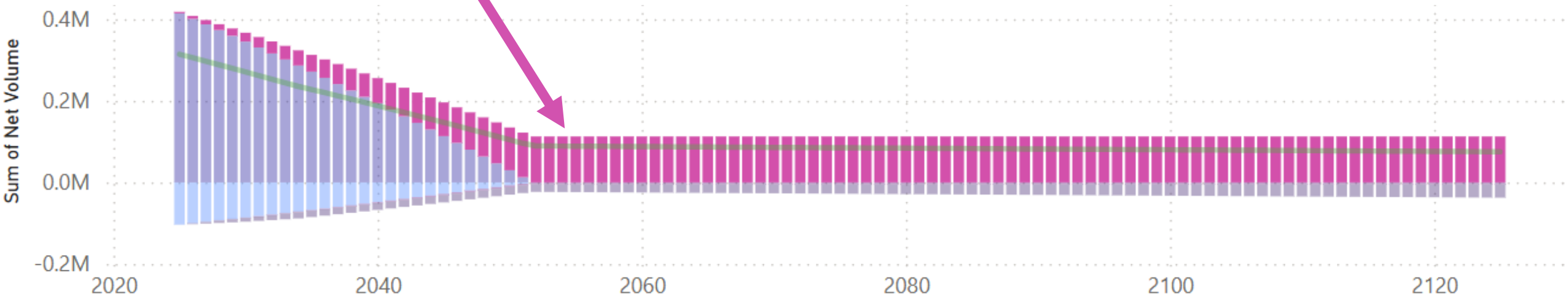
With Program - Water Use Over Time

Component Ag Incidental Recharge Agriculture Industrial Muni Incidental Recharge Municipal Replenishment Sum of Net Volume



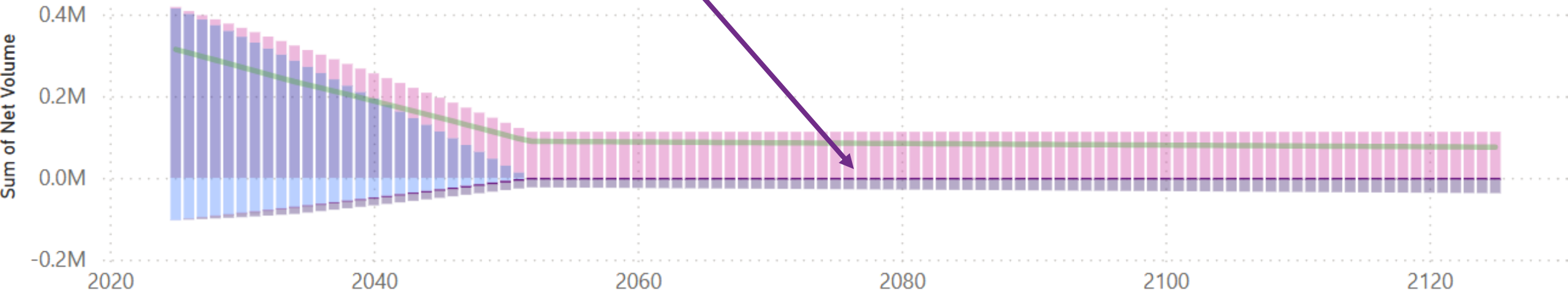
Dashboard: Program Projections

Municipal Water Use



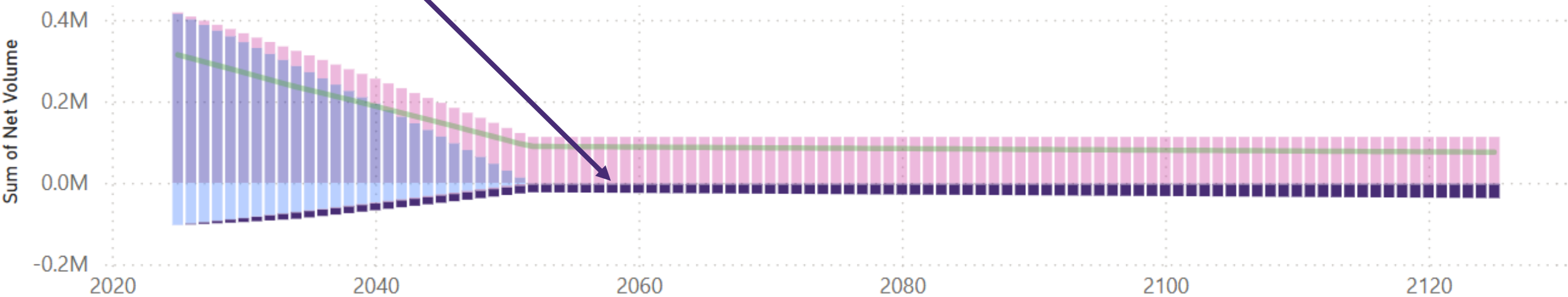
Dashboard: Program Projections

Municipal Incidental Recharge

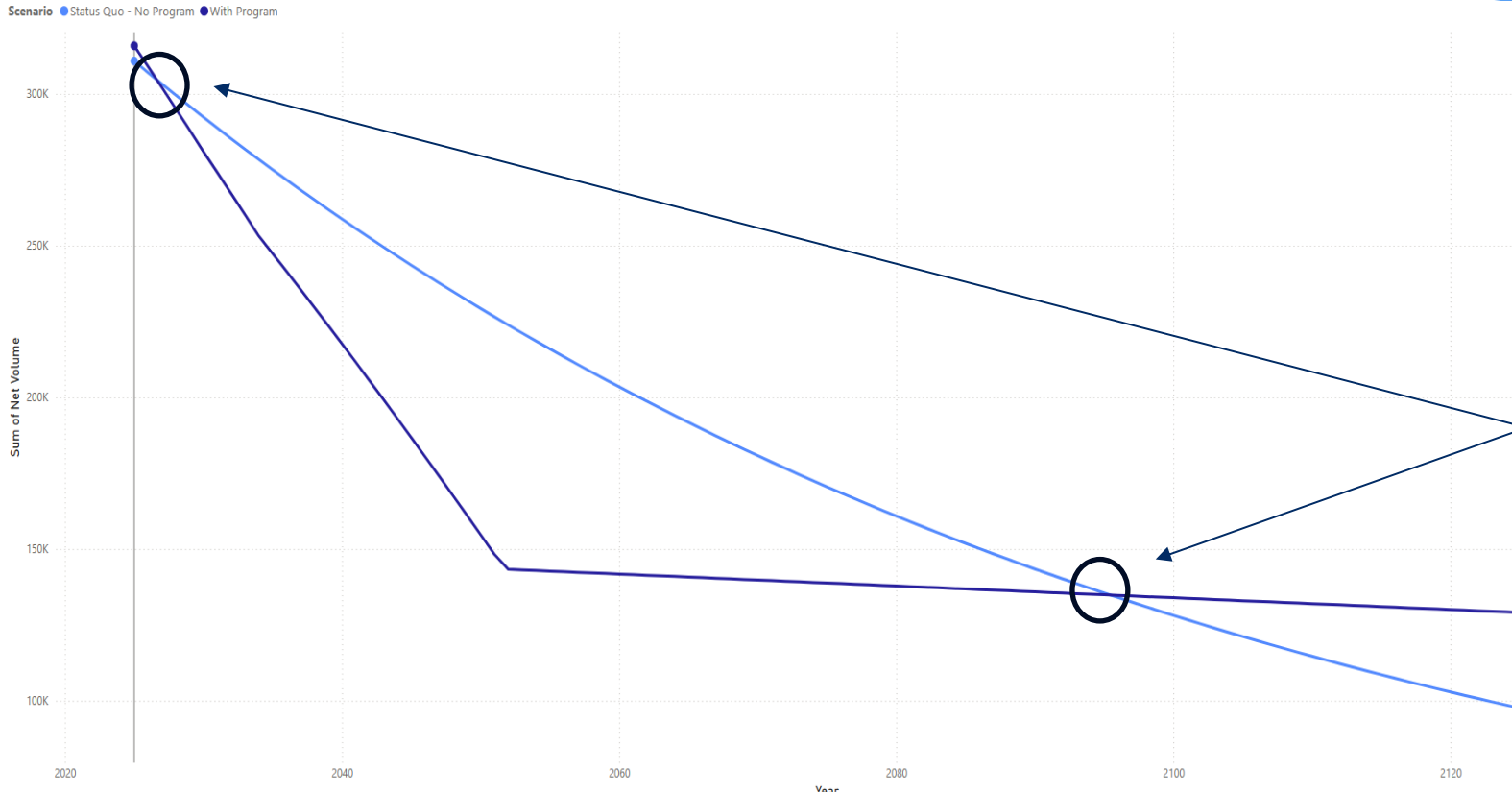


Dashboard: Program Projections

Replenishment



Dashboard: Projected Annual Savings



- Dashboard models water use over time:
 - **STATUS QUO**
 - **PROGRAM**
- Notice how the status quo and program lines show that annual water savings (if any) are time-dependent.

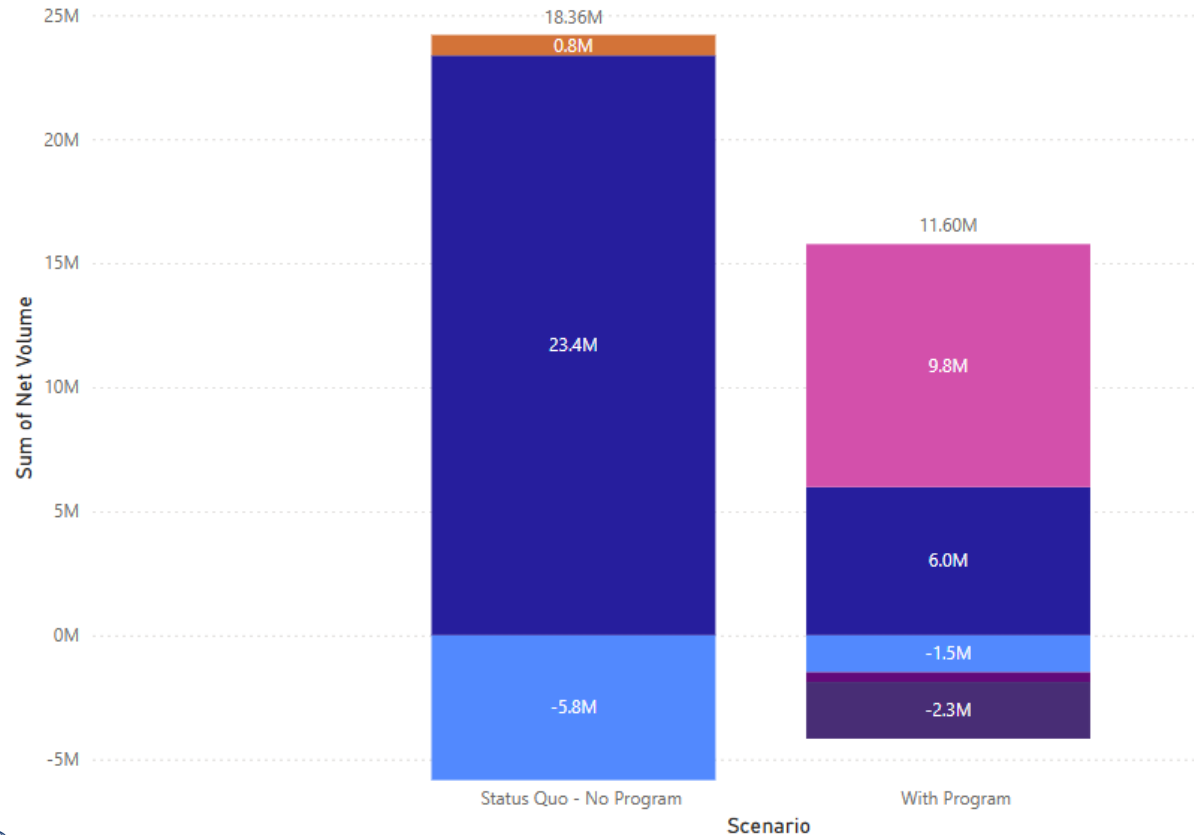


Dashboard: 100 Year Program Projections

< Back to report

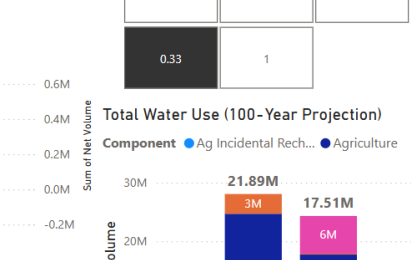
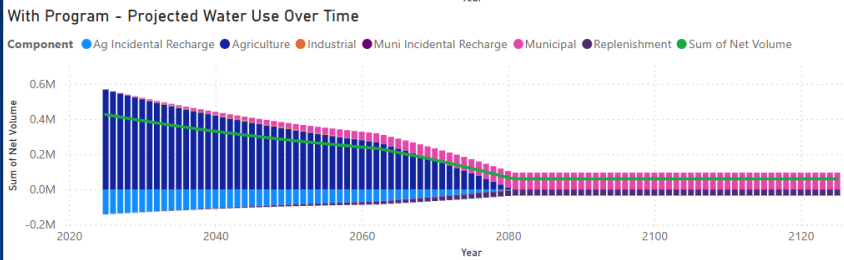
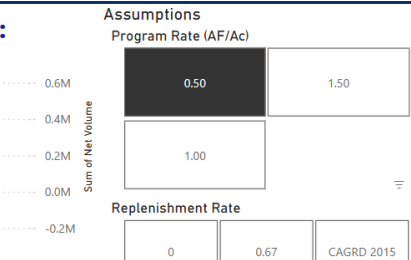
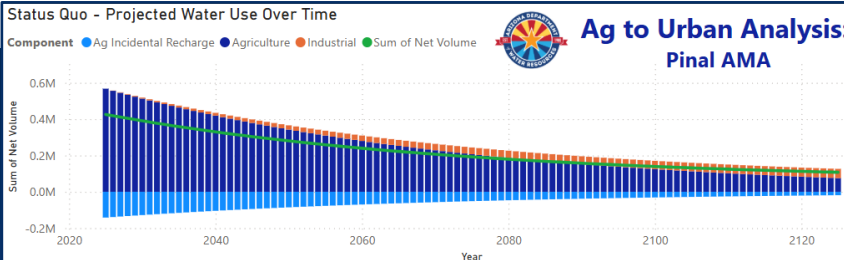
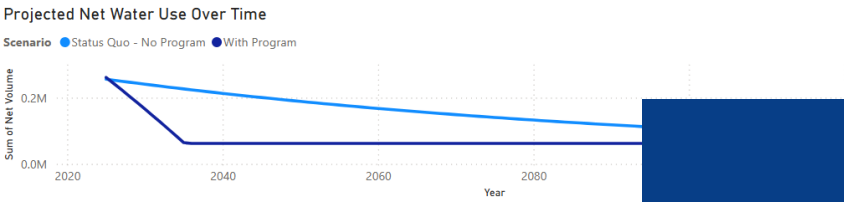
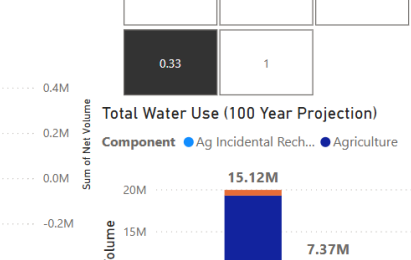
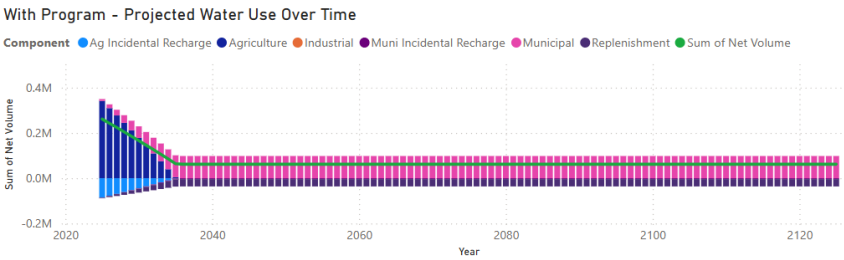
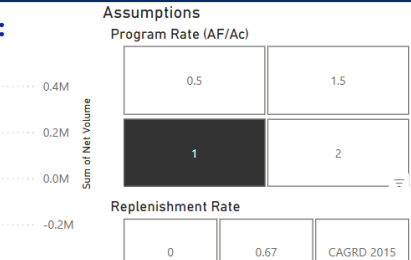
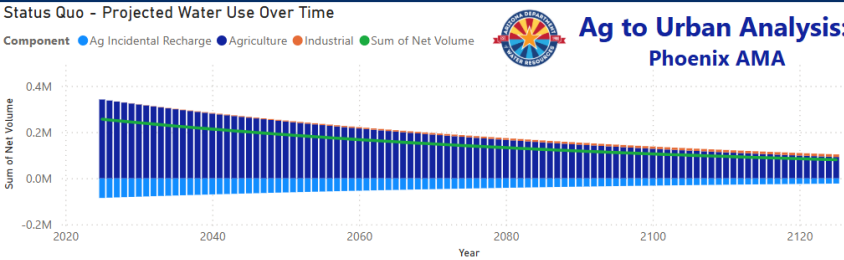
NET WATER USE OVER 100-YEAR PERIOD

Component Industrial Muni Incidental Recharge Municipal Replenishment

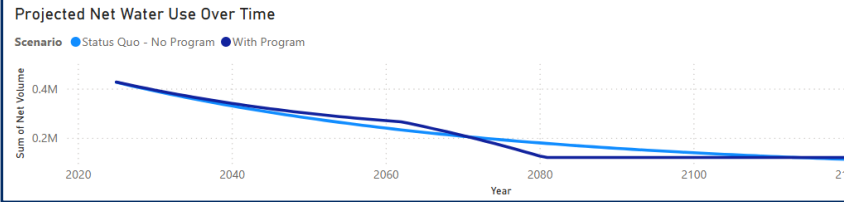
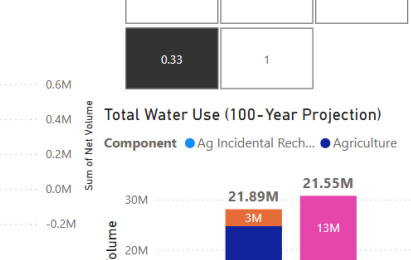
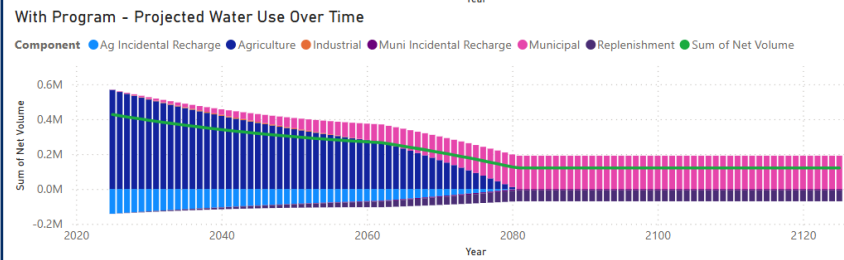
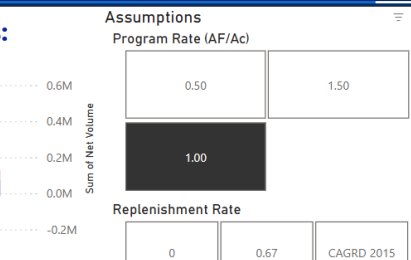
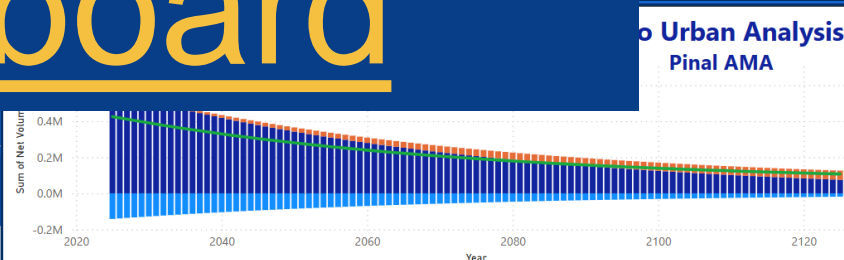
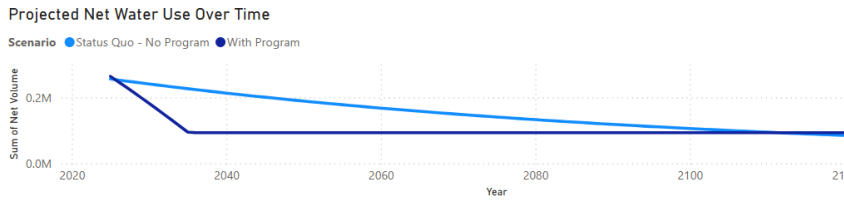
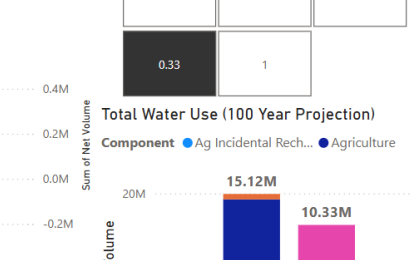
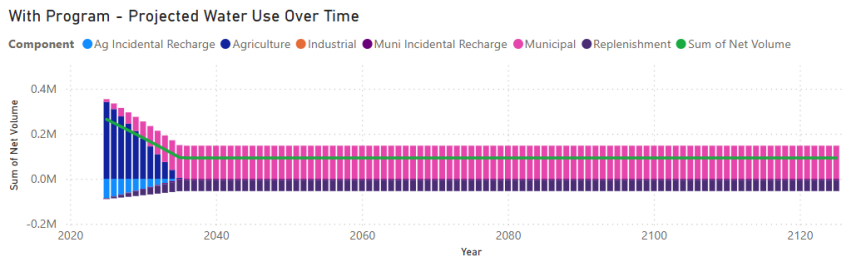
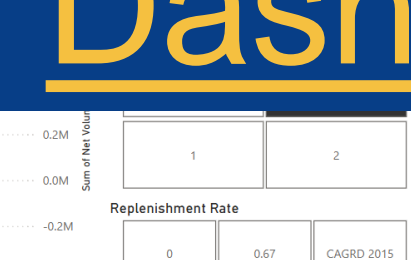
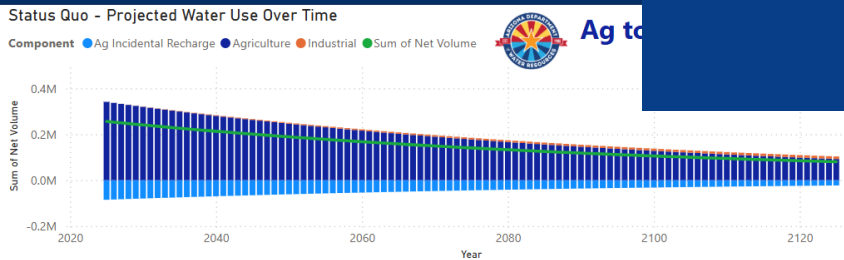


- Water savings by sector are provided using a 100-year timeline.
- **Remember:** this does not reflect annual savings.
- Comparisons of annual water savings over the status quo raise timing issues...





Dashboard



Discussion



VI. Next Steps



Next Meeting

First Ag-to-Urban Technical Working Group Meeting

Date and Time: January 30, 10:00 AM

Next Informal Stakeholder Meeting

~~Date and Time: February 6, 10:00 AM~~

Date and Time: February 5, 10:00 AM

The above date and time has been corrected in accordance with rescheduling updates made on January 21, 2025.

Details for these meetings will be posted on the Ag-to-Urban webpage.

If you are not already on the email list and would like to be, please sign the sign-in sheet.



Contact Information

Ag-to-Urban email

ag2urban@azwater.gov

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