



Management Plans - ADWR <managementplans@azwater.gov>

Comment on ADWR draft management goal for the Douglas Basin AMA

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Mon, Apr 17, 2023 at 7:11 AM

To: "managementplans@azwater.gov" <managementplans@azwater.gov>

Dear Mr. Buschatzke and members of ADWR:

I'm a long-time resident of the Douglas Basin. I attended the meeting on Tuesday, April 11, at Douglas High School in which the draft management goal for the Douglas Basin AMA was presented by ADWR.

I wish to state that "attempting to reduce the rate of aquifer depletion" is NOT an acceptable goal. The goal must be to ACHIEVE SAFE YIELD. This must be accomplished in a reasonable timeframe (25 years) WHILE PROTECTING THE WELFARE AND LIVELIHOODS OF FAMILY FARMERS AND RANCHERS RESIDING IN THE DOUGLAS BASIN. SAFE YIELD IS THE ONLY OPTION FOR ACHIEVING AND MAINTAINING GROUNDWATER STABILIZATION.

The management goal for the Douglas Basin AMA must PRIORITIZE WATER RIGHTS FOR LOCALLY RESIDING WATER USERS, impose WATER-USE FEES FOR INVESTOR-OWNED WATER USERS from out of the area, and limit non-exempt water rights for nonagricultural commercial developments.

We in the Douglas Basin are fighting for our lives against the investor-owned agricultural mega corporations that are pumping billions of gallons of water a day from our rapidly declining reserves. It's because of these entities that our aquifer is being depleted at an unsustainable rate, and this is the reason we sought relief by establishing an AMA in the Douglas Basin.

Finally, we're relying on the ADWR to take guidance from the people who live in the Douglas Basin in the process of establishing groundwater regulations, goals, and plans.

Respectfully, Lynn Gray