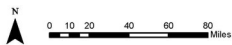


Active Management Areas



Active Management Areas
and
Irrigation Non-Expansion Areas



83% of the state's population is within the AMAs

- **Municipal Use - 86% of Statewide water use is under mandatory conservation program requirements**
- **Industrial Use - 61% of Statewide water use is under mandatory conservation program requirements**
- **Agricultural Use- 39% of Statewide water use is under mandatory conservation program requirements**

The 1980 Arizona Groundwater Code recognized the need to aggressively manage the state's finite groundwater resources to support the growing population and economy. Areas with heavy reliance on groundwater were identified and designated as Active Management Areas (AMAs).

The AMAs were established to provide long-term management and conservation of their limited groundwater supplies.

AMAs administer state laws, develop and implement groundwater management plans, explore ways of augmenting water supplies to meet future needs, and work to develop public policy in order to promote efficient use and an equitable allocation of available water supplies. Statutory management goals for each AMA guide the policies for managing water in these areas.

| AMA | STATUTORY MANAGEMENT GOALS |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Phoenix Prescott Tucson | Attain safe-yield (the long-term balancing of groundwater withdrawals with the amount of water naturally and artificially recharged to AMA aquifers) by the year 2025 |
| Pinal | Preserve existing agricultural economies for as long as feasible, while preserving future water supplies for non-irrigation uses |
| Santa Cruz | Maintain a safe-yield condition and prevent long-term local water table declines |



**PROTECTING
ARIZONA'S WATER SUPPLIES
for ITS NEXT CENTURY**

MANAGEMENT TOOLS AND PROGRAMS

ALL AMAS

Assured Water Supply Program

Regulations under this program limit the use of groundwater by new subdivisions in an AMA. Before land can be subdivided, either the developer must demonstrate a 100-year assured water supply for the subdivision or show that the subdivision will be served water by a municipal water provider who has demonstrated a 100-year assured water supply for its service area.

Conservation Requirements for Large Municipal Water Providers

Large municipal providers (cities, towns, private water companies and irrigation districts) are assigned an annual total Gallons Per Capita Per Day requirement or are regulated under alternative programs that require the implementation of conservation measures. System losses are not to exceed 10% annually.

Conservation Requirements for Agriculture

Irrigated agriculture cannot be expanded beyond acreage irrigated during the late 1970s. Each farm (Irrigation Grandfathered Right) is assigned a maximum annual groundwater allotment or is enrolled in a best management practices program. Irrigation distribution system losses are not to exceed 10%.

Conservation Requirements for Industries

In AMAs, certain industries that have their own groundwater rights are defined as industrial water users. Examples include golf courses, dairies, mines and power plants. Regulations for these water users include annual conservation allotments, design limitations and the implementation of best management practices.

Underground Storage and Recovery Program

Established in 1986, this program allows surplus supplies of water to be stored underground and recovered later. (Storing excess water underground is referred to as *artificial recharge*.) This program was further refined in 1994 by the Underground Water Storage, Savings, and Replenishment Act.

Water Rights and Permits

Within an AMA, an authority (legal right or permit) is required in order to pump groundwater from non-exempt wells (pump more than 35 gallons per minute). The rights and permits required include grandfathered rights, service area rights, and withdrawal permits. Each type of permit or right is subject to certain conditions, particularly as to the quantity and purpose of the groundwater use.

Well Requirements and Reporting

In addition to standards for construction and spacing, all non-exempt wells must use approved measuring devices and report annual groundwater withdrawals to the ADWR. In general, exempt wells (pump 35 gallons per minute or less) may not be drilled within 100 feet of the distribution system of a municipal water provider that has a Designation of Assured Water Supply for its water service area.



PHOENIX, PINAL, AND TUCSON AMAS

Arizona Water Banking Authority (AWBA)

The AWBA was established in 1996 to increase utilization of the state's Colorado River entitlement and develop long-term storage credits for the state. The purpose of the AWBA is to store or "bank" unused Colorado River water to be used in times of shortage to firm (or secure) water supplies for Arizona.

Central Arizona Project (CAP)

The CAP delivers an average of 1.5 million acre-feet of Colorado River water per year to Maricopa, Pima and Pinal counties. Stretching from Lake Havasu to the San Xavier Indian Reservation southwest of the City of Tucson, this 336 mile-long system is the largest single resource of renewable water supplies in the state. Construction began in 1973 and was completed in 1993. The Central Arizona Water Conservation District (CAWCD) manages and operates the CAP.

Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District (CAGRDR)

The CAGRDR was established in 1993 to provide a method of meeting Assured Water Supply requirements for its members in Maricopa, Pima and Pinal Counties. The CAGRDR stores water underground, thus replenishing groundwater pumped by property owners and water providers enrolled as CAGRDR members. The CAGRDR is governed by the Central Arizona Water Conservation District (CAWCD).

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