Governor’s Water Augmentation, Innovation and Conservation Council
NGA Water-Energy Nexus Learning Lab

Carol M. Ward, Deputy Assistant Director
Arizona Department of Water Resources
September 1, 2020
“We aren’t going to wait 40 years to begin the process for Arizona’s next big step to secure our water future. We’re going to continue building upon the great work we have done this year, so Arizona remains a leader in water management and conservation.”

-- Governor Doug Ducey
• 43 individuals from across the state, appointed by the Governor
• Chaired by the Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources
• May form committees – open to public
• Committees work to identify and discuss issues and develop, evaluate, and prioritize recommendations for the Council to consider
• Staffing and technical support provided by ADWR
• Meets quarterly
### Governor’s Water Augmentation, Innovation & Conservation Council Current Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thomas Buschatzke (Chair)</th>
<th>Glenn Hamer</th>
<th>Maria Dadgar</th>
<th>Spencer Kamps</th>
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<tr>
<td>Basilio Aja</td>
<td>Grady Gammage</td>
<td>Mark Smith</td>
<td>Stefanie Smallhouse</td>
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<td>Chris Camacho</td>
<td>Doug Dunham</td>
<td>Misael Cabrera</td>
<td>Stephen Q. Miller</td>
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<td>Christopher Udall</td>
<td>Jamie Kelley</td>
<td>Patrick Graham</td>
<td>Stephen Roe Lewis</td>
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<td>Cheryl Lombard</td>
<td>Jay Whetten</td>
<td>Philip Townsend</td>
<td>Timothy Thomure</td>
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<td>Craig Sullivan</td>
<td>John Kmiec</td>
<td>Philip Richards</td>
<td>Ted Cooke</td>
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<td>Dave Roberts</td>
<td>Kathleen Ferris</td>
<td>Ronald Doba</td>
<td>Virginia O’Connell</td>
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<td>David Brown</td>
<td>Kevin Rogers</td>
<td>Sandra Fabritz</td>
<td>Wade Noble</td>
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<td>Edward P. Maxwell</td>
<td>Lisa Atkins</td>
<td>Sarah Porter</td>
<td>Warren Tenney</td>
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<td>Chuck Podolak</td>
<td>William Garfield</td>
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### Legislators Participating

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<th>Council Members Appointed by Executive Order</th>
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<tr>
<td>Representative Rusty Bowers, Speaker of the House</td>
<td>Representative Gail Griffin</td>
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<td>Karen Fann, President of the Senate</td>
<td>Senator Sine Kerr</td>
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<td>Senator David Bradley, Senate Minority Leader</td>
<td>Senator Lisa Otondo</td>
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<td>Representative Charlene Fernandez, House Minority Leader</td>
<td>Senator Victoria Steele</td>
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The Council is a forum for discussion of water issues

- Convenes diverse stakeholders from across the state to discuss what are often difficult, complex issues
- Encourages stakeholders to confront issues and work collaboratively to identify and develop solutions to challenges
- Builds greater understanding among stakeholders
Recommendations regarding how the Council should proceed:

- Provide direction to the Director of ADWR, upon the Director’s request, on any issues that the Director determines may impact water management.
- Advocate for continued implementation of water conservation measures and make additional recommendations regarding actions to be taken by ADWR with respect to conservation.
- Identify augmentation opportunities, as a means to improve water supply availability to ensure legal certainty for water users and investors.
Outcomes

• In 2019, the Council released the report, *Long-Term Augmentation Options for Arizona*, which identifies the augmentation opportunities appropriate to each of the state’s 22 planning areas, providing communities a prepared toolbox of solutions tailored to their area.

• Council recommended incremental increases to conservation requirements in the remaining Fourth Management Plans over what would have been essentially the status quo, in response to request from ADWR requesting their input. The Director implemented this recommendation.
Outcomes

• Council recommended statute be amended to allow the underground storage of effluent to qualify for the accrual of long-term storage credits beyond 2025. This was achieved as part of the legislative package that enabled Arizona to enter into the Drought Contingency Plan.

• Council recommended ADWR assist providers outside of AMAs address distribution system water loss control. ADWR partnered with WIFA to implement a two-phased water loss control technical assistance program (TAP) pilot for small and mid-sized utilities. ADWR is currently funding a third phase for large utilities through the Arizona Municipal Water Users Association.
Post-2025 Active Management Areas Committee

Purpose

identify challenges within Arizona’s Active Management Areas (AMAs) and generate strategies and solutions beyond 2025

Activities

- Groundwater Demands, Incidental Recharge & Artificial Replenishment Dashboard
- First three Issue Briefs:
  - Unreplenished Groundwater Withdrawals
  - Exempt Wells
  - Hydrologic Disconnect

Currently under discussion:

- Role of groundwater in the Assured Water Supply program and the Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District
Non-AMA Groundwater Committee

Purpose

address groundwater issues outside of Active Management Areas (AMAs)

Topics for Discussion

Groundwater Management Strategies

- “Rural management areas” - alternative to the AMA or Irrigation Non-Expansion Area structures
- Water adequacy requirements
- Well spacing / well impact requirements
- Groundwater transportation basins

Data Needs, Understanding Impacts, Enabling Planning, Identifying Areas of Concern

Best Management Practices and Education

Well Monitoring or Measurement and Reporting

credit: cc0
Questions

Credit: ADWR
The Council and committees’ agendas, materials, presentations, recordings, summaries, and reports are available on the Council’s page on the ADWR website at azwater.gov/gwaicc.

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azwater.gov/gwaicc