



CWAG Safe Yield with River Flow Policy

1. Whereas, the State of Arizona in January of 1999 declared the Prescott Active Management Area (PAMA) aquifer to be out of safe yield;
2. Whereas, the State of Arizona established the goal of safe yield for the PAMA to be achieved by 2025;
3. Whereas, the State of Arizona defines safe yield as a balance between withdrawals of groundwater and both natural and artificial recharges on a long-term basis;
4. Whereas, achievement of such balance would eventually result in the elimination of natural outflows from the aquifer;
5. Whereas, the Arizona Department of Water Resources determined that the natural outflow from the PAMA to the Big Chino and Verde River for the year 2003 was 2,850 acre feet;
6. Whereas, it is the mission of the Citizens Water Advocacy Group to promote a sustainable water future in the Upper Verde River Basin;
7. Whereas, it is the Citizens Water Advocacy Group's goal to maintain current flow in the Upper Verde River;
8. Whereas, the major water users in the PAMA have stated their intention to protect the Upper Verde River.
9. Given the aforementioned, it is the policy of the Citizens Water Advocacy Group that the PAMA achieve safe yield plus maintain a natural outflow of about 3,000 acre-feet per year to the Big Chino and Verde River.
10. As a consequence, on a long-term basis, withdrawals of groundwater in the PAMA must be sufficiently less than the combined natural and artificial recharges in order to maintain natural outflow of 3,000 acre-feet per year to the Big Chino and Verde River.

(Approved by Board of Directors 10/23/07; revised 2/25/08)