1 2 3 4 5 IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA 6 7 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA 8 IN RE THE GENERAL 9 W-1, W-2, W-3, W-4 (Consolidated) ADJUDICATION OF ALL RIGHTS TO USE WATER IN THE GILA 10 RIVER SYSTEM AND SOURCE 11 ORDER SETTING STATUS CONFERENCE 12 13 14 CONTESTED CASE NAME: In re General Adjudication of All Rights to Use Water in the Gila 15 River System and Source 16 HSR INVOLVED: San Pedro River Watershed Hydrographic Survey Report 17 DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY: Solicitation of comments concerning future planning for the 18 adjudication of a watershed in the Gila River System and Source. Status Conference set for January 18, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. 19 20 NUMBER OF PAGES: 5 21 DATE OF FILING: January 3, 2023 22 23 On December 6, 2022, at a properly noticed meeting, members of Arizona Department 24 of Water Resources working on the General Adjudication and the Special Master discussed the 25 need to establish dates for the technical reports that will be needed to initiate work on the next 26 watershed in the Gila River System and Source. 27

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As shown in figure 1, Arizona Department of Water Resources has divided the Gila River System and Source into the following watersheds: Verde, Upper Agua Fria, Upper Salt, Upper Gila, Lower Gila, San Pedro, Upper Santa Cruz.

The general adjudication is currently proceeding in the San Pedro River Watershed and the Verde River Watershed. Arizona Department of Water Resources prepared a preliminary hydrographic survey report for the Upper Salt River Watershed in 1992. It neither recommends that general adjudication of the Upper Salt River Watershed be scheduled for the next watershed nor that the 1992 preliminary hydrographic survey report be used for that watershed. Figure 1



ributary Watershed Boundar River System Boundary

When the Upper Salt River Watershed is to begin, ADWR advised that a new preliminary hydrographic survey report should be prepared.

Based on past experience, the current view is that prior to the development of a hydrographic survey report for a watershed, ADWR should prepare technical reports for the subflow zone and an analysis of potential de minimis uses of water for domestic, stockponds, and stock watering purposes in that watershed. Although ADWR has projects associated with the general adjudication scheduled through 2029, long-range planning should include deadlines for the technical reports and the hydrographic survey report for the watershed that will adjudicated following the Verde River Watershed. Thus, comments are solicited at this preliminary planning stage about the next watershed to be adjudicated.

IT IS ORDERED that setting a status conference on **January 18, 2023**, at 1:30 p.m. to both address the next watershed to be adjudicated and any procedures the parties propose to be adopted as part of that decision-making process.

The Status Conference will be held using the Court Connect program. Instructions for Court Connect are attached as Attachment A. If you receive this Order by email, click on the red box "Join Court Connect Hearing" on the attached instructions to make an appearance. If you do not receive this Order by email, log into the Court Connect program on the internet by typing <a href="https://tinyurl.com/specialwatermaster">https://tinyurl.com/specialwatermaster</a>. If you do not have access to the internet, you may attend telephonically using the telephone number and access code included in the instructions for Court Connect. Alternatively, you may attend telephonically using the following instructions:

Instructions for telephonic appearance:

Dial: 602-506-9695 (local)

1-855-506-9695 (toll free long distance)

Dial Participant Pass Code 357264#

SUSAN WARD HARRIS

Special Master

On January 3, 2023, the original of the foregoing was delivered to the Clerk of the Maricopa County for filing and distributing a copy to all persons listed on the Court-approved mailing list

for Case No. W-1, W-2, W-3, W-4

Emily Natale

## **ATTACHMENT A**



## Court Connect Hearing Notice for In re General Adjudication of All Rights to Use Water in the Gila River System and Source

This hearing will be conducted through the new Court Connect program offered by the Superior Court of Arizona in Maricopa County. This new and innovative program allows Court participants to appear online, rather than in a physical courtroom. Hearings are preferably conducted by videoconference but can also be conducted by phone. Lawyers (and self-representing litigants) are responsible for distributing this notice to anyone who will be appearing on their behalf.

All participants must use the JOIN COURT CONNECT HEARING button or the dial in information below to participate.

**Participants:** Please follow the steps below to participate in the remote proceeding.

- 1. Click the JOIN COURT CONNECT HEARING button below.
- 2. Enter your full name and role in name field.
- 3. Wait for the facilitator to admit you to the proceeding.

Remember to keep this email handy so you can use it to participate in the following proceeding.

Case Name: In re General Adjudication of All Rights to Use Water in the Gila River System and Source,

Case No. W-1, W-2, W-3, W-4

Start Date/Time: January 18, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.

## JOIN COURT CONNECT HEARING

**Dial-in Information:** +1 917-781-4590

Private Dial-in Information: for privacy purposes, you can block your phone number by dialing \*67 +1 917-

781-4590

Dial-in Access Code: 688 970 203#

Tiny URL: https://tinyurl.com/specialwatermaster

To ensure an optimal experience, please review the brief Court Connect training prior to the hearing: Here

