## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA

IN RE THE GENERAL ADJUDICATION )
OF ALL RIGHTS TO USE WATER IN )
THE GILA RIVER SYSTEM AND )
SOURCE )

W-1 (Salt)
W-2 (Verde)
W-3 (Upper Gila)
W-4 (San Pedro)

PRE-TRIAL ORDER NO. 1
RE: CONDUCT OF ADJUDICATION

(Judge Goodfarb, Div. 11)

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 Pursuant to the authority vested in this Court by A.R.S. § 45-259 and Rule 16(b) of the Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure, the Court hereby enters the following Order providing guidelines for the further conduct of this litigation.

In entering this Order the Court is guided by concerns of judicial economy, efficiency, and resolution of this adjudication in as short a time as the complexities of this case and its scope allow.

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THIS ORDER

The purpose of this Order is to set a general framework within which the adjudication of water rights in the Gila River System and Source may be determined. The Court anticipates that further and additional Pre-Trial Orders will be required in order to efficiently manage a case so large and complex. Accordingly, this Order may be amended or clarified in later Orders entered by the Court.

## 2. NATURE OF PROCEEDINGS

This proceeding is a general stream adjudication authorized pursuant to A.R.S. § 45-251 through A.R.S. § 45-260 and any other applicable provisions of Arizona law.

The purpose of this adjudication is to determine all rights to the use of water obtained from the Gila River Basin System in the State of Arizona.

Parties desiring further information concerning the background and nature of these proceedings are referred to decisions rendered by the Supreme Court of the United States and the

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Arizona Supreme Court. These decisions are, respectively,

Arizona, et al. v. San Carlos Apache Tribe of Arizona, et al.,

463 U.S. 545, 103 S.Ct. 3201, 77 L.Ed.2d 837 (1983) and United

States of America v. Superior Court of the State of Arizona,

144 Ariz. 265, 697 P.2d 658 (1985).

Additional information concerning these proceedings is available from the Arizona Department of Water Resources, the state agency mandated by A.R.S. § 45-256 to provide technical and administrative assistance in this general adjudication. The address and telephone number of this agency is as follows:

Arizona Department of Water Resources 99 East Virginia Avenue Phoenix, Arizona 85004 Tele. No. (in Arizona): 1-800-352-8488 (Outside Arizona): 1-800-255-1520

A non-legal but comprehensive discussion of this adjudication process may also be found in the booklet prepared by the Arizona Water Information Center, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona 85721, entitled "Protect Your Water Rights". While intended for lay potential claimants it provides worthwhile information in a clear and concise manner.

## 3. OVERVIEW OF PROCEEDINGS

The general procedure established by the State of Arizona concerning this adjudication is set forth in A.R.S.  $\S$  45-256 and  $\S$  45-257.

By Order of the Arizona Supreme Court on November 25, 1981, several sub-basins of the Gila River System were consolidated into a single proceeding. The basins included in this proceeding are:

Sub-Basin	Case No.
Salt Verde River Upper Gila San Pedro	W-1 W-2 W-3 W-4

Other sub-basins have since been added and include the Lower Gila and the Upper Santa Cruz.

Other portions of this Order provide greater detail on the procedures to be followed in these adjudications. These procedures provide a method for determining and quantifying existing rights based on state law; determining and quantifying existing rights to use and reserved rights to use of water arising under federal law, including all federally held real property including but not limited to Indian reservations, and a method for integrating all such rights, including rights determined under prior Court decrees, in a single integrated decree for the Gila River System and Source, in the State of Arizona.

Given the size of these proceedings, the complexity of the issues to be determined and the importance of the adjudication, these proceedings will probably last many years before a final decree can be entered.

#### 4. MAINTENANCE OF COURT RECORDS

The Clerk of the Maricopa County Superior Court is hereby directed to review the current procedure for receiving, filing and storing the record in these proceedings. Given the anticipated large number of pleadings and other materials which will be filed in these proceedings through the years, the Clerk is directed to:

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- A. Make suitable arrangements for adequate storage space for hard copy of all pleadings and all other papers filed;
- B. Develop a procedure for separate off-site storage of a duplicate microfichm record of all material filed in these proceedings, and means by which copies of microfichm may be reasonably and promptly acquired;
- C. Conduct a feasibility study on the extent to which all pleadings or other papers once filed with the Court may be transferred onto magnetic media storage or other suitable storage such as laser disc through the use of Optical Character Readers or other appropriate technology, and report to the Court in writing no later than the 1st day of November, 1986;
- D. Coordinate with the Department of Water Resources concerning all aspects of record maintenance.

## 5. FILINGS WITH CLERK OF COURT

#### A. Definitions

- (1) "Descriptive summary" means a one-sentence statement in a document filed in this action that states the nature of the document, its relationship to any other document: (e.g., Response to X's Motion for Summary Judgment) the action or relief requested, the Statement of Claimant number of the party filing the document, the number of pages and date of filing.
- (2) "Party" means a person or entity who files a Statement of Claimant or for whom a Statement of Claimant is filed, whether or not the Statement of Claimant complies with the requirements prescribed in A.R.S. § 45-254 or with the orders of this Court, and successors in interest to these individuals,

who shall automatically be substituted as parties pursuant to Rule 25(d), Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure, except that party does not include a person or entity whom the Court has determined is not a party to this action.

(3) "Statement of Claimant Number" means a number and/or letters assigned by DWR identifying each claimant's claim in these proceedings.

## B. Special Procedure for Filing

The Court notes that Strict Compliance with the provision of Rule 5(a) of the Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure, requiring that nearly all papers filed with the Court subsequent to the original complaint be served upon each of the parties, would work a severe financial hardship on many parties, and might discourage, or even prevent them from actively participating in this action. In light of the mandate of Rule 1 of the Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure that the Rules be construed "to secure the just, speedy, and inexpensive determination of "every action," for the purpose of this action compliance with the procedures set forth below shall constitute full compliance with Rule 5(a). Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, the following procedures shall apply to all documents filed in this action, except Statements of Claimant.

- (1) Clerk of the Superior Court for Maricopa County

  The Clerk of the Superior Court for Maricopa

  County shall:
- a. Assign a number to each document, other than Statements of Claimant, filed in this action prior to and subsequent to the consolidation.

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b. Maintain a docket sheet for all documents identified in paragraph 5.B.1.(a) above. The docket sheet shall be updated bi-weekly and shall include the number or letter assigned to the party and document, the complete title of the document and any descriptive summary contained in the document.

- date of this Order, provide to the DWR and the Clerk of the Superior Court of Arizona in each county, except Mohave County, a copy of the docket sheet for this action identifying all documents filed in this action prior to the effective date of this Order.
- d. On the first day of each month that falls after the date the Clerk of the Superior Court for Maricopa County provides the docket sheet required by paragraph 5.B.1.(c) above, provide to the DWR and the Clerk of the Superior Court of Arizona in each county, except Mohave County, a copy of the docket sheet for this action identifying all documents filed in this action during the preceding month.
- e. Any document presented for filing, other than a Statement of Claimant, shall not be accepted by the Clerk unless it is accompanied by a Certificate of Mailing which states that copies of the document presented have, in fact, been mailed or delivered to all those designated in paragraph 5.B.(4) hereafter listed and all those designated on the Court's approved mailing list. The Clerk shall have available copies of the mailing list and shall provide a copy to any party upon request and payment of a fee set by the Clerk to defray the cost of providing such copies.

# (2) Clerk of the Superior Court for Each County Except Mohave County

The Clerk of the Superior Court for each county, except Mohave County, shall post in a conspicuous location in the Clerk's office the complete docket sheet for this action or a notice indicating where in the Clerk's office the complete docket sheet is available for inspection.

# (3) Department of Water Resources (DWR)

The DWR shall:

- a. Post in a conspicuous location in the Phoenix office of the DWR and in the Pinal, Prescott and Tucson Active Management Area offices the complete docket sheet for this action or a notice indicating where in the office the complete docket sheet is available for inspection.
- b. Within forty-five (45) days after the effective date of this Order, send by first class mail a notice to each party to this action. The notice shall also be mailed together with Statement of Claimant forms to each person who requests such forms from the DWR after the date of this Order. The notice shall state:
- (1) Where the complete docket sheet for this action is available for inspection.
- (2) That copies of documents filed in this action are available from the DWR for the DWR's normal copying charge plus any applicable mailing fee.
- (3) That the Court has entered a Pre-Trial Order regarding procedures to be followed in this adjudication.

(4) That the DWR will mail a copy of each

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month's docket sheet and the Pre-Trial Order(s) to a party upon payment of a fee to be established by the DWR to cover actual expenses.

- c. Within forty-five (45) days after the effective date of this Order, publish or cause to be published in newspapers of general circulation serving all areas covered by this adjudication a copy of the notice described in paragraph 5.B.3.b above.
- d. Upon receipt of a Statement of Claimant filed by a person who was not previously a party to this action, send to each such additional party by first class mail a notice containing information required by paragraph 5.B.(3).b above.
- e. Provide to any person a copy of a document filed in this action upon the payment of DWR's normal copying charge plus any applicable mailing fee.
- f. Mail a copy of each month's docket sheet to a party who pays a fee established by the DWR to cover actual expenses.
- g. Mail a copy of any document or paper filed by it in these proceedings to all addressees on the Court mailing list.
- h. File with the Clerk of the Court in each county, except Mohave County, on behalf of all parties in a form to be approved by the Court a Notice of Lis Pendens which shall describe the property encompassed, the nature of these proceedings, and the effect thereof as to any water rights the property may have or may claim to have. The DWR shall also cause the Notice of Lis Pendens to be recorded in the office of the

County Recorder of each county in which any part of any "River System and Source" included in these proceedings is located.

## (4) Parties

#### a. A party to this action shall:

(1) File the original of a document permitted or required to be filed in this action with the Clerk of the Superior Court for Maricopa County, provide one copy of the document to the Court, two (2) copies to the DWR and one copy to each party against whom the matter is addressed or from whom relief is sought.

(2) Mail a copy to each party on the Court's approved mailing list of each document other than the Statement of Claimant Form.

- (3) For each document filed in this action, set forth immediately after the caption a descriptive summary of the document.
- (4) For each document filed set forth, immediately below the descriptive summary, the parties identifying Statement of Claimant number.

#### 6. SERVICE OF PLEADINGS AND OTHER PAPERS FILED

Each party shall mail a copy of any document other than
a Statement of Claimant Form to all parties listed on the Court's
approved mailing list. Each party who is currently on the Court's
mailing list in this action shall serve a copy of any pleading
or paper filed with the Clerk or the Court upon all other parties
currently on the mailing list.

All parties desiring to remain on or be placed on the

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Court's approved mailing list may do so by filing a written request with the Court, within 30 days of the effective date of this Order. Copies of the request shall be mailed to all persons then on the mailing list, stating the intention to take an active part in the litigation, its need to be on the approved mailing list and to receive all copies, and an agreement to serve on such steering committees as shall hereafter be formed. Any person making such a request shall thereafter be obligated to provide copies of any document or pleading it files in this action to all other persons on the mailing list.

## 7. APPROVAL BY SUPREME COURT

Because A.R.S. § 45-259 mandates the application of the Rules of Civil Procedure to this proceeding, and literal compliance with those rules is virtually impossible especially as to the rules on service of documents, this Pre-Trial Order shall be submitted to the Arizona Supreme Court under Rule 83 of the Rules of Civil Procedure for waiver of the service of documents rule and for ratification and approval of such parts thereof as the Arizona Supreme Court deems appropriate.

## 8. MOTIONS

## A. Certain Motions Precluded

The Court is confronted with the need to resolve a myriad number of substantive and procedural issues in order to complete this adjudication as quickly as possible. A prioritized list of issues and a briefing schedule will be established in the near future. No Motion raising an issue already scheduled

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on the Court's agenda of issues will be considered until after the scheduled issue has been decided. Until such time as the prioritized list of issues and briefing schedule is determined, the Court will defer consideration on any Motion raising a substantive issue of law.

After completion of issue identification, publication of an agenda of issues and establishment of a briefing schedule, any party filing a Motion with the Court must file a certification which attests that either:

- The issue or issues raised in the motion are not issues already identified as scheduled for briefing, or
- 2. That if the motion raises such issues, that such issues have already been resolved by prior determination of the Court, giving the date of the determination, and a quotation of the Court Order or Opinion resolving such issue.

Any Motion unaccompanied by such a certification will be deferred by the Court pending outcome of issues relevant to the Motion as already identified and scheduled for briefing by the Court.

#### B. Discovery Motions

Any party filing a Motion for Sanctions or a Motion to Compel Discovery pursuant to Rule 37 of the Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure shall file an additional certification as part of the Motion. This certification shall include:

- A statement of the efforts made by the party or their counsel to resolve the discovery problem;
- That the discovery sought is in compliance with the Court's limitations on discovery such as form, timing, scope, etc.

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All parties are advised that any Motions not complying with these prerequisites will be summarily denied.

#### C. Time Periods

Any party filing a response to a Motion in this proceeding shall do so within thirty-five (35) days of the date of service of the Motion. Any party filing a Reply to any Response shall do so within twenty (20) days of the date of service. The time periods set forth herein are in addition to the five (5) day period for service by mail specified pursuant to Rule 6(e) of the Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure. The time period set forth herein shall not apply to any issue scheduled for determination by the Court to which an established briefing schedule applies.

## D. Consideration of Motions

Except for good cause shown a Motion filed in this action shall be heard by the Court no earlier than ninety (90) days after the Motion has been filed, which period of time shall begin when the docket sheet on which the Motion appears shall be available from the DWR.

#### E. Oral Argument

Only those parties having filed a written Motion or Response will be heard at oral argument on that particular Motion. No later than thirty (30) days prior to the date set for oral argument, the parties having filed or joined in the Motion and parties having filed any Responses shall determine the amount of time to be sought for oral argument and shall obtain prior permission for any oral argument extending more than five (5) minutes per party, as specified in Local Rule

3.2.d of the Local Rules of Maricopa County Superior Court.

Depending upon the schedule of the Court, telephone argument in compliance with Local Rule 3.2.e of the Maricopa County Superior Court may be available if requested. The foregoing requirements concerning oral argument of Motions shall not be applicable to argument upon issues specified in the Court's Briefing Schedule.

## F. Length of Motions and Memoranda

The Court will follow the page limitations set forth in Maricopa County Superior Court Local Rule 3.2.f. This requirement shall not apply to Memoranda filed on issues specified in the Court Briefing Schedule. Page limitations as to such matters will be set specifically.

## G. Monthly Motion Hearing Schedule

Except as specifically ordered to the contrary, the Court will attempt to hear all pending Motions and matters requiring oral argument on the last Friday of each month at 1:30 P.M. in its courtroom.

9. STEERING COMMITTEES

Due to the large number of parties in this litigation and their diversity, the Court considers the establishment of steering committees as a necessity in this litigation all as set forth in the Federal Courts' Manual for Complex Litigation.

The Court therefore encourages the parties to meet among themselves or through counsel with the view towards establishing consensus on such committees, the interests to be represented and the claimants representative of such interests.

## A. Membership

Each committee shall include a representative of Salt River Project, the mining industry, the municipalities, intervening Indian Tribes, the State of Arizona, the United States of America and private non-Indian claimants. Such committee shall make recommendations to the Court in matters concerning procedures for simplifying the adjudications process to be accomplished here.

## B. DWR Participation

The DWR shall act as moderator of each steering committee, provide meeting space if requested, provide technical and administrative support to the committee, act as reporter for the committee for the purpose of preparing reports and other documents produced by the committee. The DWR shall have no voting power in the committee, nor shall the DWR assert any position regarding the recommended resolution of any issue raised within the committee, except as to how any proposed committee recommendation would affect its responsibilities and duties in this case.

All committee meetings shall be open to the parties and to the public. Participation in the meetings by persons other than committee members shall be at the discretion of the committee.

The DWR shall file a notice of each steering committee meeting with the Court and shall mail a copy of the notice to each member of the committee. Notice of the committee meetings shall be given to all parties in the same manner as notice must

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be given of other documents filed in this action pursuant to section 5, above.

## C. Establishment of Committees

For the reasons set forth herein the Court therefore directs the parties to consider the utilization of steering committees in this litigation and any party having an interest in establishing such committees submit its proposal for the formation of such committees by July 15, 1986. If no acceptable proposal is submitted to the Court, the Court then will designate counsel and outline their duties. At a minimum the Court envisions a committee on issue resolution and a committee on discovery. A hearing on the establishment of such committees is set for Friday, July 25, 1986 at 1:30 P.M. in the courtroom of this division.

## 10. ISSUE IDENTIFICATION AND RESOLUTION

#### A. Introduction

This general adjudication encompasses a myriad of procedural, technical and legal issues. The prompt, orderly and consistent resolution of these issues is critical to achieving a meaningful, comprehensive decree. In light of the possible need for the use of many masters in the various sub-basins it is necessary to achieve consistency so that all major issues to be determined by the Court and the masters follow those determinations. The following mechanism is established to identify the issues in this action and to provide a method for their resolution.

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#### B. Issues

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The procedural, technical and legal issues in this action shall be identified and considered in categories, or "Segments," and the Segments shall be considered sequentially. The steering committee on issue resolution shall be requested, and all other interested parties shall be given an opportunity, pursuant to order of this Court, to 1) file lists of prioritized issues within each Segment; and 2) suggest the priority in which the Court should consider the Segments. After considering the lists and suggestions, the Court shall issue a Final Segment Order. Issues properly contained in one Segment shall be considered only in that Segment, except upon order of the Court. The Court hereby designates the following Segments as examples of some of the issues which the Court believes need to be considered in each Segment. It is permissible to begin consideration of a Segment prior to termination of the consideration of a previous Segment or Segments.

#### (1) Procedures

- a. Amendments to Statements of Claimant.
- b. Disposition of Statements of Claimant filed after the filing deadline.
- c. Base years for determination of water uses and rights.

#### (2) HSR Investigations of Rights Based Upon State Law

- a. Required scope of DWR investigations.
- b. Standards to be used by DWR for field measurements, matching water rights filings with existing uses and making conclusions regarding water uses.

tion by the Court.

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g. Primary purposes and secondary uses for which federal reservation were reserved.

h. Application of reserved rights doctrine to purchased Indian lands.

## C. Issue Resolution

After all parties to the adjudication have been joined, the Court shall set a briefing schedule for the issues in each Segment. The briefing schedule will order briefs from all interested parties and allow responses to initial briefs.

## 11. DISCOVERY

#### A. Introduction

The vast number of claimants implies the possibility for endless and costly discovery. Further, because of the number of claimants, duplicative discovery is certain if a preventative procedure is not developed. The Court is concerned about the cost of obtaining technical evidence. If each party attempts to acquire the same technical evidence, there will be a great waste of resources and the likelihood of discovery abuse increases, without benefit to the process. The Court therefore sets the following goals.

- (1) Within reasonable limits relating to the amount and nature of the claimed use, to allow each claimant to obtain such information as necessary to permit evaluation and possible objection to any other claim;
- (2) To provide uniform methods of obtaining information from claimants and to prefer such uniform methods over individual discovery requests;

- (3) To integrate the timing of discovery procedures, with the sequence of adjudications as determined by the Court;
- (4) To minimize the time and expense of discovery upon claimants having claims of an amount or of a priority date which may warrant less comprehensive discovery procedures;
- (5) To avoid duplication of effort and needless expense to parties by encouraging the use of shared expertise by multiple claimants;
- (6) To simplify discovery by the establishment of realistic time periods given the complexity of the adjudication, its scope and the resources of the parties;
- (7) To utilize, wherever possible, the technical expertise, administrative resources and public records of the DWR in order to reduce the expense, time, and complexity of traditional discovery procedures.

#### B. Steering Committee Recommendations

The steering committee on discovery will be charged with the responsibility of developing a discovery plan which will ultimately result in a Court ordered discovery procedure. The committee's plan will address the process and timing of discovery. The plan shall incorporate all methods of making discovery more efficient and cost-effective, and in particular address the issue of whether or not there are certain classes of claimants, the size of those individual claims and the numbers of the total of such claims which make it impractical and unnecessary for discovery to be requested of such claimants.

All parties shall be given an opportunity to comment on any draft discovery plan before the Court finalizes the plan.

## C. Prerequisites to Formal Discovery

The Court mandates that the informal exchange of properly discoverable information is a prerequisite to any formal discovery. Before any formal discovery is taken, a party must certify that it has reviewed the DWR's records and the information sought is not available from the DWR.

## D. Discovery of Small Claimants of 50 Acre-Feet or Less

No formal discovery, without leave of Court, shall be allowed of claimants with a claim for less than fifty (50) acre-feet of water per year, where the sole use claimed is for stockwatering purposes or for domestic use. Parties interested in these claims will be allowed to make informal inquiry of the claimant and his counsel and the DWR shall make available all of its records upon request to secure the needed information. If deemed necessary, a formal request to the Court for further discovery can be made, but the request must specify in detail the need for such discovery. If, however, any of such designated small claimants makes discovery of other claimants, then they shall be subject to discovery consistent with the Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure and the procedures for discovery designated by this Court. Claimants in this category are designated Group 1 claimants.

#### E. Discovery of Other Small Claimants

Claimants of more than 50 acre-feet but less than 100 acre-feet or claimants of less than 50 acre-feet used for other than stock watering purposes or domestic use could be required to answer and verify its answers to a short question-naire submitted to them through the DWR and to support their

responses with such corraborative documentary evidence as available. The questionnaire should be designed by the steering committee with the aid and assistance of DWR, providing input to avoid duplication of information already available or to become available through DWR. These claimants shall be designated Group 2 claimants.

This questionnaire shall seek information to support the claim and would cover additional areas such as issues of abandonment, change of use, crops, types of water delivery and application systems as well as questions related to water conservation. By completing, verifying, and returning the questionnaire, all Group 2 claimants would be considered to have discharged their obligation to respond to discovery. No further discovery on a Group 2 claimant would be permitted except upon good cause shown through application to the Court. Any Group 2 claimant who wished to actively participate in the adjudication through the filing of objections to claims, would be required to meet all discovery, pretrial, and trial procedures the same as a Group 3 claimant.

#### F. Discovery for Larger Claimants

Group 3 would be comprised of those claimants having the largest claims and as to which extensive discovery would be most appropriate and beneficial. These claimants, e.g., utilities, irrigation districts, cities, the United States and Indian tribes, would be subject to more comprehensive discovery procedures, but care shall be taken that the same shall not be duplications, onerous or burdensome. It is as to this group

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of claimants that the steering committee on discovery's recommended plan should have the greatest emphasis.

## G. DWR as a Central Respository of Information

DWR, in its capacity as a collector and respository of data and information can do much to relieve the burden of discovery. The DWR shall collect and make basic, basin-wide or state-wide data available to the parties. Further, the parties will be ordered to make documents of general interest which they discover available to DWR. DWR will, in turn, make these documents generally available. DWR should create an index of the documents available to interested parties. The index should contain an abstract of each document, listing sufficient detail to allow the efficient search for relevant and helpful documents and records.

DWR shall also make its field work data available to all parties at a central location. Claimants' files should be maintained and made available to interested parties. In addition to being consistent with the DWR's statutory role, DWR's efficient record-keeping and practice of making common records available will greatly ease the discovery burden.

## H. Exchange of Expert Reports

Expert discovery is likely to be an expensive and time-consuming element of the discovery required to prepare the adjudication for hearing. In order to ease this burden, each expert that will testify at trial will be required to prepare a report containing final opinions and all information supporting those opinions. These reports will be available to

all interested parties and must be prepared at least 60 days before each expert's deposition.

## I. Depositions

Deposition discovery can be coordinated so that only one deposition per witness is necessary. At the one deposition of each witness, each party will have an opportunity to examine the witness. In order to make expert witness depositions meaningful under this system, it will be necessary for the steering committee and the Court to set a date when the final opinions of experts must be ready. Depositions of experts taken before the preparation of final opinions and reports would be wasteful, and therefore will not be allowed except with prior Court order.

## J. Uniform Location for Depositions

To the extent possible, a uniform location either at the Maricopa County Superior Court Complex, or the offices of the DWR shall be established for the taking of depositions. The discovery steering committee shall investigate a standard-ized procedure for video taping of depositions with the tapes to be available for viewing by the parties at a document depository or for use at the hearings.

Any deposition of an expert shall be continued with the final part of a deposition to be postponed for a period of not less than sixty (60) days from the date of delivery of the transcript to the parties. This will enable any party not in attendance at the original earlier portion of the deposition to make an assessment of the testimony obtained from the deponent and determine whether or not additional questions are required at

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the continued deposition. This delay procedure is specifically recommended in the Manual for Complex Litigation.

## K. <u>Stipulations on Basic Matters and Technical</u> Considerations

The discovery steering committee shall attempt to work with the parties and their experts to encourage and achieve stipulations on basic definitions and facts. For instance, stipulations should be achieved regarding a common map scale, the consumptive use of crops, water duties for irrigation systems, Indian Reservation boundaries, points of diversion and basin wide hydrologic or geologic data. Reducing disagreement about basic facts will focus the discovery and the Court's or Master's inquiry. A failure to stipulate where there are no meaningful differences will lead the Court to consider sanctions and the award of attorneys fees against the offending party and/or its attorney.

#### 12. DWR REPORTS AND THE HEARING PROCESS

#### A. Introduction

The Court recognizes that it is appropriate for the DWR to exercise its discretion, subject to any applicable statutory requirements and orders of this Court, in determining the format of and to some extent the schedule for preparing the report required by A.R.S. § 45-256.B. The Court also recognizes that at this time the schedule for preparing the report or any component of the report cannot be predicted with any degree of certainty. Nonetheless, a summary of the DWR's current plans is necessary to provide a context for this section and

other sections of this Order. In light of these considerations, the Court offers subsections A and B, below, as a summary of the DWR's plans for producing and required report. The DWR set forth its plans in a Memorandum to the Court dated April 11, 1984, and at the Adjudication Conference held June 12, 1985. The DWR's schedule for the production of the required report is attached hereto as Exhibit A. Subject to any applicable statutory requirements, any provisions of this Order other than subsections A and B, below, and any subsequent Orders of this Court, may only be modified by Court Order for good cause shown. DWR shall produce the required reports in accordance with the attached Exhibit A.

The hearing process outlined below is a two-stage process, consisting of hearings on both the Hydrographic Survey Reports and the Comprehensive Report prepared by the DWR. This process is meant to proceed on a parallel track with the issue identification and resolution procedure described at Section 9, above. The need to begin addressing all the issues, both legal and factual, makes it imperative that these two processes begin as soon as possible and proceed simultaneously. However, the unique nature of the Indian reservations and the claims filed by and on behalf of the various Tribes requires that hearings on the Hydrographic Survey Reports for the reservations not be held until the issue identification and resulution process is completed. Therefore the Court proposes to proceed with Masters' hearings on the completion of the final HSR in each sub-basin, even though it may occur before the reservation HSR's are completed. Also at that time the Court may not have completed

the issue resolution process. To allow a two-track approach, the Masters will hold the hearing on the finalized sub-basin HSR to the extent possible with a final hearing to be held thereafter after the hearings on all reservations claiming in that basin and after the resolution of all issues by the Court which could affect that basin. This hearing will be the hearing on the comprehensive report. All of this is as shown in Exhibit B attached. It must be clearly understood, however, that issues determined at the hearing on the HSR will not be reheard or relitigated at the sub-basin comprehensive hearing. At that hearing only the issues raised by the reservation HSR and the issue resolution process, not previously heard, will then be heard and decided, all thereafter to be made a part of the basin determination by the Court.

## B. Hydrographic Survey Reports

(1) The DWR plans to produce a Hydrographic Survey
Report ("HSR") for each major tributary watershed in the Gila
River system. The HSRs will be produced on a staggered schedule.
See Exhibit A, attached. These HSR's will address rights based
upon state law and will include the following subjects:

#### I. Introduction

- A. Location Relative to sub-basin and streams.
- B. General history Sub-basin-wide or reservation-wide land and water use patterns.
- II. Water Resources -- This portion of the HSR should include information concerning the items listed below. This information should be derived from data and reports that are available in the public domain. For instance, such information may be available from the United States Geological Survey, Forest Service and/or the University of Arizona, among others.

- Amount Amount diverted and used, including transportation losses and return flows to the extent known or capable of being documented.
- VI. Claims -- This section of the HSR should be compiled in a form that will allow comparison of claims with historic and existing water uses. The claims should be related to existing Decrees, adjudications and historic right registrations. this comparison will allow parties to evaluate which claims, if any, are suspect or properly a matter for contest.

- A. Type Means of diversion; type of use (agricultural, mining, etc.), date of use.
- B. Location Location of diversion and use.
- C. Amount Amount diverted and used to the extent known or capable of being documented.

These HSRs will also address all rights claimed by, through, or on behalf of the United States, whether based on state or federal law, other than those rights claimed by or on behalf of any Indian or Indian tribe.

- reservation within the geographic scope of the adjudication.

  These HSRs will address rights based upon federal law and will include the following subjects: legal history; land resources; water resources; history; economy; maps of water uses and will specifically include in its discussion of present usage a general description of reservation; compilation of legal record applicable to: establishment of federal water rights, federal water projects, federal decrees, and contracts; available water resources; history of water uses; current location, type and quantity of water use; maps of current water uses.
- (3) The report shall also discuss the feasibile use of unexercised rights, including but not limited to, hydrologic assessment of the availability of land and water resources to

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satisfy the extent of claimed unexercised federal rights; engineering assessment of the feasibility, safety, and cost of constructing the facilities associated with the plan for exercising the total extent of claimed federal rights; and an economic assessment of the financial return and overall contribution to the total tribal economy from implementation of the plan for exercising the total extent of claimed federal rights; maps of contemplated water uses.

(4) The proposed timing for completion of HSRs is not capable of specific definition. With the goal of completing the HSR process by 1993, the Court proposes the following time schedule for HSR completion.

13		HSR	Date
14	1.	San Pedro Sub-Watershed	January, 1987
15	2.	Upper Salt Sub-Watershed	July, 1987
16	3.	White Mountain Apache Reservation	January, 1991
17	4.	Verde Sub-Watershed	July, 1989
18	5.	Tonto Apache Reservation	1990 - 1991
19	6.	Camp Verde Reservation	1990 - 1991
20	7.	Prescott Yavapai-Apache Reservation	1990 - 1991
21	8.	Ft. McDowell Indian Reservation	1990 - 1991
22	9.	Upper Gila Sub-Watershed	July, 1990
23	10.	San Carlos Apache Indian Reservation	January, 1990
24	11.	Agua Fria Sub-Watershed	January, 1991
<b>2</b> 5	12.	Lower Gila Sub-Watershed	July, 1991
26	13.	Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Reservation	Inler 1001
27	1,		July, 1991
28	14.	Salt River Project; Buckeye Irrigation District; Roosevelt Water Conservation District	July, 1991

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15.	Salt River Valley Municipalities	July, 1991
16.	Gila River Indian Reservation	January, 1989
17.	Gila Bend Papago Indian Reservation	1990 - 1991
18.	Santa Cruz Sub-Watershed and Tucson Metropolitan Area	July, 1991
19	Other Panago Reservation	1990 - 1991

1990 - 1991

## C. Comprehensive Reports

Yaqui Reservation

After each sub-basin hearing, DWR will prepare and file a Comprehensive Report with the Court and the Master pursuant to A.R.S. § 45-256.B. The Comprehensive Report will contain each of the HSRs and such other information learned thereafter as may be necessary or desirable for a proper determination of the relative rights of the parties.

## D. HSRs: Notice and Comment

- (1) Pursuant to A.R.S. § 45-256.C, the DWR shall adopt such rules as may be necessary to ensure that adequate notice is given to each party that a preliminary HSR is available for inspection and comment and that the parties have a reasonable opportunity to inspect and comment on the preliminary HSR.
- (2) After expiration of the period for filing comments on the preliminary HSR, the DWR shall revise the preliminary HSR as may be appropriate and shall file the HSR with the Court and the master.
- (3) An HSR filed with the Court and the master shall be made available for inspection by any party.

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- a. A party may file a written objection to an HSR or any part of an HSR within 180 days after the date the HSR is filed with the Court and the master. A written objection shall be filed with the Court and the master.
- b. An objection can be made to the legal or factual basis of the determination made in the HSR regarding the individual claim.
- c. An objection must be timely filed and state in clear and concise language the particular factual and/or legal reasons for the objection and describe the evidence to support those reasons.

## E. HSRs: Evidentiary Hearing

- (1) After expiration of the period for filing written objections to an HSR, the master shall hold an evidentiary hearing or hearings on the HSR. No evidentiary hearing shall be held on an HSR for an Indian reservation until the issue identification and resolution process described at section IV, below, has been completed, or until such other time as the Court directs.
- (2) The master shall ensure that adequate notice is given to each party of the date, time and place for the evidentiary hearing.
- (3) The purpose of the evidentiary hearing shall be to receive evidence on issues on which written objections were filed.
- (4) The parties who may present evidence at the evidentiary hearing and the scope of the evidence that may be presented by a party shall be limited to the following:

a. A party who filed a written objection in a timely manner shall have a fair and reasonable opportunity to contest the validity or admissibility of those parts of the HSR to which that party's objection was directed, to present evidence in support of or in opposition to those parts of the HSR to which the party's objection was directed, to present evidence in support of the party's claim and to make objections to any other claim.

b. If written objection to a party's claim has been filed by another party, the party against whom the objection has been filed shall have a fair and reasonable opportunity to present evidence in support of the party's claim.

- (5) No later than ninety (90) days prior to the date set for the evidentiary hearing, a party against whose claim an objection has been filed shall file with the Court and the master a list of witnesses and exhibits intended to be used at the hearing in support of the claim, other than those to be used solely for impeachment. The list of witnesses and exhibits shall identify with particularity the claim or claims to which each witness and exhibit relates. No exhibits or witnesses shall be used at the hearing in support of the claim other than those listed in accordance with this paragraph or the paragraph below, except for good cause shown.
- (6) No later than forty-five (45) days prior to the date set for the evidentiary hearing, a party who filed a written objection in a timely manner shall file with the Court and the master a list of witnesses and exhibits intended to be used

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at the hearing other than those to be used solely for impeachment. The list of witnesses and exhibits shall identify with particularity the claim or claims to which each witness and exhibit relates. No exhibits or witnesses shall be used at the hearing other than those listed in accordance with this paragraph or paragraph 5 above, except for good cause shown.

- (7) Those parts of the HSR to which objections may be made pursuant to subparagraph III.C.3.b, above, and to which no written objections have been timely filed shall be summarily admitted into evidence and deemed conclusive.
- (8) After the master has held an evidentiary hearing or hearings on an HSR, the master shall prepare and file with the Court a report on the HSR in accordance with Rule 53(g) of the Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure. The report shall contain the following:
- a. Findings of fact on all factual determinations made in the HSR regarding individual claims.
- b. Findings of fact on all other factual issues which are the subject of written objections made in accordance with paragraph III.C.3, above, which pertain solely to the watershed or reservation which is the subject of the HSR, which may be determined solely on the basis of evidence pertaining to that watershed and the claims filed therein.
- c. Conclusions of law which are supported by the findings of fact made in accordance with this paragraph.
- d. A list of those factual issues which are the subject of written objections made in accordance with

paragraph 12.C.3, above, and for which findings cannot be made in accordance with this paragraph.

e. A list of those legal issues which in order to be resolved require factual determinations other than those made in accordance with this paragraph or which require completion of the issue resolution process.

## F. Re-Opening HSRs

- (1) If, after the master has held an evidentiary hearing or hearings on an HSR and filed a report on the HSR with the Court in accordance with paragraph 12.D.8, above, a decision or order of the Court makes it necessary to include information in an HSR that was not included in the HSR as filed with the Court and the master or changes the criteria used by the DWR to determine one or more facts contained in an HSR, the Court or master hearing the matter may require DWR to prepare a supplemental HSR containing any necessary additional information.
- (2) The Court may determine that additional evidentiary hearings are necessary on a supplemental HSR. The hearing if ordered shall be held at such a time as to promote the just, speedy and inexpensive determination of the facts contained in the supplemental HSR. The procedures set forth in subsections C and D, above, shall apply to supplemental HSRs.

# G. Comprehensive Report: Incorporation of Factual Determinations

The DWR shall incorporate into its Comprehensive Report all factual and legal determinations made by the Court or the master as of the date the final Comprehensive Report is filed.

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- (1) Pursuant to A.R.S. § 45-256.C, the DWR shall adopt such rules as may be necessary to ensure that adequate notice is given to each party that the preliminary Comprehensive Report is available for inspection and comment and that the parties have a reasonable opportunity to inspect and comment on the preliminary Comprehensive Report.
- After expiration of the period for filing comments on the preliminary Comprehensive Report, the DWR shall revise the preliminary Comprehensive Report as may be appropriate and shall file the Comprehensive Report with the Court and the master.
- (3) The Comprehensive Report filed with the Court and the master shall be made available for inspection by any party.
- Within 180 days after the date the Comprea. hensive Report is filed with the Court and the master, any party may file a written objection to the Comprehensive Report or any part of the Comprehensive Report, except for those parts of the Comprehensive Report for which a factual finding was made by the Court or the master. A written objection shall be filed with the Court and the master.
- b. An objection must be timely filed and state in clear and concise language the particular factual reasons for the objection and set forth credible evidence to support those reasons.

#### I. Comprehensive Report: Hearing

After expiration of the period for filing written

objections to the Comprehensive Report, the master shall hold a hearing or hearings on the Comprehensive Report.

- (2) The master shall ensure that adequate notice is given to each party of the date, time and place for the hearing.
- (3) The purpose of the hearing shall be to receive such evidence and take such testimony as shall be necessary to determine the relative water rights of each party.
- (4) The parties who may present evidence at the hearing, and the scope of the evidence that may be presented by a party, shall be limited to the following:
- a. A party who filed a written objection in a timely manner shall have a fair and reasonable opportunity to contest the validity or admissibility of those parts of the Comprehensive Report to which that party's objection was directed, to present evidence in support of or in opposition to those parts of the report to which the party's objection was directed, to present evidence in support of the party's claim and to make objections to any other claim.
- b. If a written objection to a party's claim has been filed by another party, the party against whom the objection has been filed shall have a fair and reasonable opportunity to present evidence in support of the party's claim.
- (5) No later than ninety (90) days prior to the date set for the evidentiary hearing, a party against whose claim an objection has been filed shall file with the Court and the master a list of witnesses and exhibits intended to be used at the hearing in support of the claim, other than those to

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be used solely for impeachment. The list of witnesses and exhibits shall identify with particularity the claim or claims to which each witness and exhibit relates. No exhibits or witnesses shall be used at the hearing other than those listed in accordance with this paragraph or paragraph III.H.5, above, except for good cause shown.

- (6) Those parts of the Comprehensive Report for which no written objection have been timely filed shall be summarily admitted into evidence and deemed conclusive.
- After the master has held the hearings required by this Order and A.R.S. 6 45-257.A.1, the master shall prepare and file with the Court a final Final Report in accordance with Rule 53(g) of the Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure and A.R.S. § 45-257.A.2.

#### J. Court's Acceptance of Master's Final Reports

- Once the Master's Reports have been filed with the Court pursuant to Rule 53, Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure, the DWR shall compile the individual Final HSR reports, the individual Final Comprehensive Reports and any objections to the report and these shall be submitted to the Court in addition to the Master's Reports.
- (2) The Court shall hold such hearings as it deems necessary and may adopt, modify or reject the Master's Reports in whole or in part, all in accordance with Rule 53, Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure, compiling all the reports into a single Comprehensive Judgment as to the whole basin.
  - (3) Pursuant to A.R.S. § 45-257.B, and Rule 53(h),

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 Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure, the Court shall accept the Master's findings of fact unless clearly erroneous.

# K. Appointment of Master or Masters

The Court may request comments and suggestions from the parties concerning the number and identity of possible masters. After receiving such comments, the Court may make recommendations to the Supreme Court concerning the appointment of a master or masters pursuant to A.R.S. § 45-255.A, and Rule 53, Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure.

### 13. TECHNICAL MEETINGS

- A. The DWR may call meetings to be attended by any or all of the parties at their discretion for the purpose of discussing technical issues relating to the DWR's technical assistance to the Court.
- B. The DWR shall file a notice of each technical meeting with the Court. Notice of the technical meetings shall be given to all parties in the same manner as notice must be given of other documents filed in this action. See section II, above. When such notice is insufficient to give the parties advance notice of a meeting, notice of the meeting shall also be given pursuant to Arizona's Open Meeting Law, A.R.S. §§ 38-431 to -431.09.
- C. All technical meetings shall be open to the parties and to the public. Participation in the meetings by persons other than the parties specifically invited by the DWR to attend the meeting shall be at the discretion of those parties specifically invited by the DWR.

## 14. RELATIONSHIP TO LITTLE COLORADO ADJUDICATION

To the extent possible all proceedings herein, discovery, meetings, shall be carried out in a manner consistent with the proceedings conducted as part of <u>In Re the General Adjudication of All Rights to Use Water in the Little Colorado River System</u> and Source, No. 6417 (Apache County).

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# 15. MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR EXPEDITED PROCESSING

In a matter of this magnitude and complexity, the

Court believes that a limitation of the conflicts to only
those matters of substantial nature may be warranted. This way
the Court and parties need not become bogged down in matters
of insignificance or insubstantiality. that they do not have

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the time or strength necessary to put in on those matters of
substance whose complexity warrants it.

For example, the State of Arizona through the Attorney General has filed a proposal for the acceptance of all stockpond applications based upon the DWR's HSR determinations because of the small amount of water usage per claim and the vast number of such individual claims. It is the position of the State that the time and effort to litigate each stockpond application is not worth the total effort it will take. It reasons that the total of the water used for stockponds is less than 2% of the water available in each watershed whereas nearly 50% of all claims filed are stockpond applications. The percentage of claims is substantially higher in some areas. Another factor is that while total water usage for stockponds is 2% of available water at most, the percentage of error and variation for

most watershed water production is between 6% to 10%, plus or minus. All this would seem to indicate that a substantial effort to accurately plot, investigate and determine all stockpond claims may not be worth the effort, and the time better spent on other issues of significance. The same may be equally true of claims which relate only to domestic well usage.

The Court will therefore request its steering committee to investigate those areas of this adjudication where all parties would be better to just accept DWR determinations, subject to the objection of the claimant itself, and spend the available time on other, more worthwhile matters. After a steering committee report, the Court, if requested, will hold an evidentiary hearing on the matters and determine what if any order is appropriate.

# 16. PROJECTION OF SCHEDULES

Attached hereto are Exhibits A and B which are graphic projections of the schedule and process of this adjudication as this Court envisions the same. Exhibit A is an update of a schedule previously shown for the HSR, hearing and reporting process. Exhibit B is a projection of the interrelationship of the parallel tracks to be followed by DWR, the Courts and the Master's hearings in carrying out the adjudication.

DATED this 29 day of Moy, 1986.

Judge

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