

6417-033-03383

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF APACHE

COPY

CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

FILED

No. 6417

DOCKETED

MAY 29 1991

O'CONNOR 1:45P
RICHARD D. LUPKE, CLERK
SR

IN RE THE GENERAL ADJUDICATION OF ALL RIGHTS TO USE
WATER IN THE LITTLE COLORADO RIVER SYSTEM AND SOURCE

RECOMMENDED FORM
FOR OBJECTIONS TO THE
Hydrographic Survey Report for the
Silver Creek Watershed

Please file a separate objection for each watershed file report. Objections to information contained in Volumes 1 & 2 can be stated on one objection form. Objections must be written. Use of this form is suggested. Objections must be received on or before May 29, 1991.

This Objection is directed to Watershed File Report No. 033- 56 - ACAD - 007
(please insert no.)

OBJECTOR INFORMATION

Objector's Name: Arizona State Land Department
Objector's Address: 1616 West Adams
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
Objector's Telephone No.: (602) 542-3500

Objector's Watershed File Report No. (if the Objector's claimed water rights are located within the Silver Creek Watershed):
033- _____ - _____ - _____

Or Objector's Statement of Claimant No. (if the Objector's claimed water rights are located outside the Silver Creek Watershed):
39- _____

STATEMENT OF THE OBJECTION

The following are the main categories of the typical watershed file report (not all watershed file reports have all these categories). Please check the category(ies) of the watershed file report to which you object, and state the reason for the objection on the following page.

Please check appropriate box(es)

- 1. I object to the description of Land Ownership
- 2. I object to the description of Applicable Filings and Decrees
- 3. I object to the description of DWR's Analysis of Filings and Decrees
- 4. I object to the description of the Diversions for the claimed water right(s)
- 5. I object to the description of the Uses for the claimed water right(s)
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- 7. I object to the description of Shared Uses & Diversions for the claimed water right(s)
- 8. I object to the PWR (Potential Water Right) Summary of the claimed water right(s)
- 9. I object to the description of Quantities of Use for the claimed water right(s)
- 10. I object to the Explanation provided for the claimed water right(s)
- 11. Other Objections (please state volume number, page number and line number for each objection)

The reason for my objection is as follows (please number your objections to correspond to the boxes checked above, please attach supporting information and additional pages as necessary):

CATEGORY NUMBER

2 The amount of water claimed is excessive.

I hereby make this Objection on this 24th day of May, 1991.

M. Brocato
STATE LAND COMMISSIONER

Signature of Objector

FOR: STATE OF ARIZONA (State Land Department)
(If in a representative capacity)

STATE OF ARIZONA
COUNTY OF MARICOPA

VERIFICATION
(Must be completed by Objector)

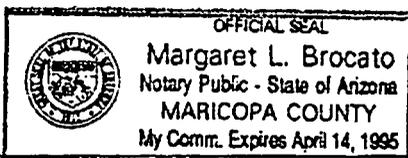
I declare under penalty of perjury that I am a claimant in this proceeding; that I have read the contents of the foregoing Objection and know the contents thereof; and that the information contained in the foregoing Objection is true based on my own personal knowledge, except for those portions of the Objection which are indicated as being known to me on information and belief and, as to those portions, I believe them to be true.

M. Brocato
STATE LAND COMMISSIONER

Signature of Objector

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 24th day of May, 1991.

(SEAL)



Margaret L. Brocato
Notary Public for the State of ARIZONA
Residing at 1616 W. Adams, Phoenix, Arizona 85007
My commission expires _____

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

(Must be completed if you object to another Claimant's watershed file report. Does not need to be completed if you file an Objection to your own watershed file report or to information contained in Volumes 1 or 2 of the Hydrographic Survey Report.)

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Objection was served upon the following Claimant(s) by mailing true and correct copies thereof on the 24th day of May, 1991, postage prepaid and addressed as follows:

Name: Virginia P. Stradling
Address: 108 E. 9th Ave.
Mesa, Arizona 85201

Carl B. Lavin

(Signature of Objector or person mailing in Objector's behalf)

Objections must be filed with the Clerk of the Superior Court in and for Apache County, Apache, County Courthouse, P. O. Box 365, St. Johns, AZ 85936, on or before May 29, 1991. This means that the Objection must be received at the Clerk's office no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 29, 1991.

6417-033-03276

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF APACHE

APACHE CO. SUPERIOR COURT
FILED
NO. _____ DOCKETED

IN RE THE GENERAL ADJUDICATION OF ALL RIGHTS TO USE
WATER IN THE LITTLE COLORADO RIVER SYSTEM AND SOURCE

MAY 29 1991
No. 6417 AT _____ O'CLOCK 9a. M
RICHARD D. LUPKE, CLERK
SP DEPUTY

RECOMMENDED FORM
FOR OBJECTIONS TO THE
Hydrographic Survey Report for the
Silver Creek Watershed

Please file a separate objection for each watershed file report. Objections to information contained in Volumes 1 & 2 can be stated on one objection form. Objections must be written. Use of this form is suggested. Objections must be received on or before May 29, 1991.

This Objection is directed to Watershed File Report No. 033- 56 - ACAD - 007
(please insert no.)

OBJECTOR INFORMATION

Objector's Name: Jack G. & V. Scott Peterson (Karen + Blanche)
Objector's Address: P.O. Box 13
Lakeside, Arizona 85929
Objector's Telephone No.: (602) 368-5501
Objector's Watershed File Report No. (if the Objector's claimed water rights are located within the Silver Creek Watershed):
033- 56 - ACAD - 007

Or Objector's Statement of Claimant No. (if the Objector's claimed water rights are located outside the Silver Creek Watershed):
39- _____

STATEMENT OF THE OBJECTION

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Please check appropriate box(es)

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The reason for my objection is as follows (please number your objections to correspond to the boxes checked above; please attach supporting information and additional pages as necessary):

CATEGORY NUMBER

- 5 I do not feel that there is enough acreage described in your report.
- 7 ownership has changed on and also be are the principle water users of this water.
- 8 I think your estimates are extremely low. ^{principle}
- 9

I hereby make this Objection on this 28 day of May, 199 91.

[Signature]
Signature of Objector

FOR: _____
(If in a representative capacity)

STATE OF Arizona
COUNTY OF Navajo

VERIFICATION
(Must be completed by Objector)

I declare under penalty of perjury that I am a claimant in this proceeding; that I have read the contents of the foregoing Objection and know the contents thereof; and that the information contained in the foregoing Objection is true based on my own personal knowledge, except for those portions of the Objection which are indicated as being known to me on information and belief and, as to those portions, I believe them to be true.

[Signature]
Signature of Objector

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 28 day of _____, 199 91.

{SEAL}

Notary Public for the State of _____
Residing at _____
My commission expires _____

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

(Must be completed if you object to another Claimant's watershed file report. Does not need to be completed if you file an Objection to your own watershed file report or to information contained in Volumes 1 or 2 of the Hydrographic Survey Report.)

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Objection was served upon the following Claimant(s) by mailing true and correct copies thereof on the _____ day of _____, 199 _____, postage prepaid and addressed as follows:

Name: _____
Address: _____

(Signature of Objector or person mailing in Objector's behalf)

Objections must be filed with the Clerk of the Superior Court in and for Apache County, Apache, County Courthouse, P. O. Box 365, St. Johns, AZ 85936, on or before May 29, 1991. This means that the Objection must be received at the Clerk's office no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 29, 1991.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF APACHE**

**IN RE THE GENERAL ADJUDICATION OF ALL RIGHTS TO USE
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No. 6417

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Please file a separate objection for each watershed file report. Objections to information contained in Volumes 1 & 2 can be stated on one objection form. Objections must be written. Use of this form is suggested. Objections must be received on or before May 29, 1991.

This Objection is directed to Watershed File Report No.

033- 56 - ACAD - 007
(please insert no.)

OBJECTOR INFORMATION

Objector's Name: United States of America
Objector's Address: P.O. Box 607, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103
Objector's Telephone No.: (505) 766 - 1060
Objector's Watershed File Report No. (if the Objector's claimed water rights are located within the Silver Creek Watershed):
033- 42 - 088 -

Or Objector's Statement of Claimant No. (if the Objector's claimed water rights are located outside the Silver Creek Watershed):

39-

STATEMENT OF THE OBJECTION

The following are the main categories of the typical watershed file report (not all watershed file reports have all these categories). Please check the category(ies) of the watershed file report to which you object, and state the reason for the objection on the following page.

Please check appropriate box(es)

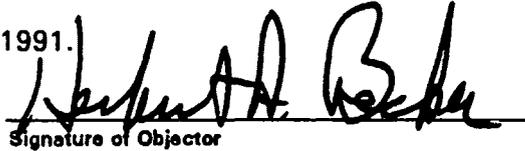
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The reason for my objection is as follows (please number your objections to correspond to the boxes checked and please attach supporting information and additional pages as necessary):

CATEGORY
NUMBER

SEE ATTACHED SHEET(S)

I hereby make this Objection on this 28TH day of May, 1991.


Signature of Objector

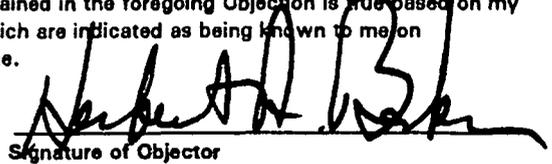
FOR: UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

(If in a representative capacity)

STATE OF New Mexico } VERIFICATION

COUNTY OF Bernalillo } (Must be completed by Objector)

I declare under penalty of perjury that I am a claimant in this proceeding; that I have read the contents of the foregoing Objection and know the contents thereof; and that the information contained in the foregoing Objection is not based on my own personal knowledge, except for those portions of the Objection which are indicated as being known to me on information and belief and, as to those portions, I believe them to be true.


Signature of Objector

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 28th day of May, 1991.


Notary Public for the State of New Mexico
Residing at New Mexico
My commission expires 06-16-91

{SEAL}

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

(Must be completed if you object to another Claimant's watershed file report. Does not need to be completed if you file an Objection to your own watershed file report or to information contained in Volumes 1 or 2 of the Hydrographic Survey Report.)

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Objection was served upon the following Claimant(s) by mailing true and correct copies thereof on the 28th day of May, 1991, postage prepaid and addressed as follows:

03356ACAD007

STRADLING, VIRGINIA P.
108 E. 9TH AVE.
MESA AZ 85201


(Signature of Objector or person mailing in Objector's behalf)

Objections must be filed with the Clerk of the Superior Court in and for Apache County, Apache County Courthouse, P.O. Box 365, St. Johns, AZ 85936, on or before May 29, 1991. This means that the Objection must be received at the Clerk's office no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 29, 1991.

WFR #:

033- 56 - ACAD - 007

2. The use of water from this well or wells is challenged because the water withdrawn is sub-flow under state law and therefore must be administratively authorized or recognized in a judicial decree. Alternatively, the use is challenged because it interferes with downstream federal Indian rights and is contrary to state and federal law.

The amount of water identified by the claimant exceeds the normal quantity of water for a domestic claim established by the Arizona Department of Water Resources.

3. The use of water from this well or wells is challenged because the water withdrawn is sub-flow under state law and therefore must be administratively authorized or recognized in a judicial decree. Alternatively, the use is challenged because it interferes with downstream federal Indian rights and is contrary to state and federal law.
8. The use of water from this well or wells is challenged because the water withdrawn is sub-flow under state law and therefore must be administratively authorized or recognized in a judicial decree. Alternatively, the use is challenged because it interferes with downstream federal Indian rights and is contrary to state and federal law.
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No. 6417

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This Objection is directed to Watershed File Report No.

033- 56 - ACAD - 007

(please insert no.)

OBJECTOR INFORMATION

Objector's Name: United States of America
Objector's Address: P.O. Box 607, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103
Objector's Telephone No.: (505) 766 - 1060
Objector's Watershed File Report No. (if the Objector's claimed water rights are located within the Silver Creek Watershed):

033- 42 - 088 -

Or Objector's Statement of Claimant No. (if the Objector's claimed water rights are located outside the Silver Creek Watershed):

39-

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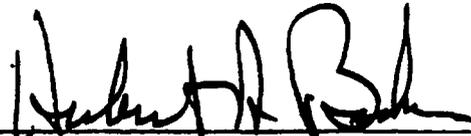
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NUMBER

SEE ATTACHED SHEET(S)

I hereby make this Objection on this 28 day of May, 1991

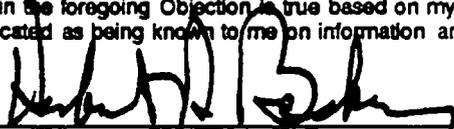


Signature of Objector

FOR: United States of America
(If in a representative capacity)

STATE OF New Mexico } VERIFICATION
COUNTY OF Bernalillo } (Must be completed by Objector)

I declare under penalty of perjury that I am a claimant in this proceeding; that I have read the contents of the foregoing Objection and know the contents thereof; and that the information contained in the foregoing Objection is true based on my own personal knowledge, except for those portions of the Objection which are indicated as being known to me on information and belief and, as to those portions, I believe them to be true.



Signature of Objector

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 28 day of May, 1991.



Notary Public for the State of New Mexico
Residing at New Mex Albuquerque
My commission expires 10/3/93

{SEAL}

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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03356ACAD007

STRADLING, VIRGINIA P.
100 E. 9TH AVE.
MESA AZ 85201



(Signature of Objector or person mailing in Objector's behalf)

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WFR #: 033-56-ACAD-007

- 1. The claimant is not the landowner. There is no documentation presented that the claimant has the legal right to provide water to this property.**
- 2. There is no legal basis for current water use since the landowner did not file her own Statement of Claimant.**

The adjudication and pre-adjudication filings (made by others) do not claim Peterson Tank as a point of diversion. Therefore, water cannot legally enter the irrigation conveyance system to serve this property.

Domestic water use through the adjudication filing 39-86830 (made by others) is for 130 AF. There is no basis presented for this claim. Further, this use is for multiple properties.

There is no distinct breakout between storage rights and direct flow rights relative to priority date and quantity of use.

- 3. The pre-adjudication and adjudication filings made by others for this property do not provide a basis for delivering water directly to IR1. Further, these landowners did not submit their own Statement of Claimant, and current uses are invalid.**

Storage rights must be separated out from direct flow rights.

- 4. Source of water supply is not defined in sufficient detail to accommodate water administration. The claimed water source below the noted springs is not supported by historic use.**

The use of domestic water from this well is challenged because it interferes with downstream federal Indian rights and is contrary to state and federal law.

- 5. There is no detailed legal description of the actual irrigated use areas associated with this property compared to the overall service area identified in filing 39-86831. The owner did not submit her own Statement of Claimant specifically for this property, and current uses have no legal foundation.**

There is no distinction made as to what lands are served from direct flow or storage.

- 6. This landowner made no adjudication filing for water out of the springs or Peterson Tank, so no water right can be awarded. Peterson Tank's priority date is not before 1970.**

Claimed storage rights are not clear as to multiple fillings of Peterson Tank.

WFR #:

033-56-ACAD-007

- 8. The landowner is not part of any official irrigation company and did not make her own adjudication filing. Current uses are, therefore, invalid. Applicable pre-adjudication filings (made by others) do not support a water right or point of diversion for Peterson Tank.**

There is no distinction between storage rights and direct flow rights for this property.

The use of water from this domestic well is challenged because it interferes with downstream federal Indian rights and is contrary to state and federal law.

- 9. The average efficient water duty of 5.5 acre-ft/acre estimated by ADWR is unreasonable. The maximum annual water duty estimated for individual landowner by ADWR is too high. Water duty should be 2.8 acre-ft/acre.**

No allocation of storage may be assigned to this owner from Peterson Tank.

6417-033 0516

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF APACHE

IN RE THE GENERAL ADJUDICATION OF ALL RIGHT TO USE
WATER IN THE LITTLE COLORADO RIVER SYSTEM AND SOURCE

No. 6417

APACHE CO. SUPERIOR COURT
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NO. _____ DOCKETED

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Silver Creek Watershed

MAY 28 1991

AT 9 O'CLOCK A.M.
RICHARD D. LUPKE, CLERK
DEPUTY

Please file a separate objection for each watershed file report. Objections to information contained in Volumes 1 & 2 can be stated on one objection form. Objections must be written. Use of this form is suggested. Objections must be received on or before May 29, 1991.

=====
This objection is directed to Watershed File Report No. 033-56-ACAD-007
(Please insert no.)
=====

OBJECTOR INFORMATION

Objector's Name: Salt River Project
Objector's Address: Post Office Box 52025
Phoenix, Arizona 85072-2025
Objector's Telephone No: (602) 236-2210
Objector's Watershed File Report No. (If the Objector's claimed water rights are located within the Silver Creek Watershed):
033 - -

Or Objector's Statement of Claimant No. (if the Objector's claimed water rights are located outside the Silver Creek Watershed):
39- 82193 - 82206
39- 87343

=====
STATEMENT OF THE OBJECTION
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2. I object to the description of APPLICABLE FILINGS AND DECREES
3. I object to the description of DWR's ANALYSIS OF FILINGS AND DECREES
4. I object to the description of the DIVERSIONS for the claimed water right(s)
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6. I object to the description of RESERVOIRS used for the claimed water right(s)
7. I object to the description of SHARED USES & DIVERSIONS for the claimed water right(s)
8. I object to the PWR (POTENTIAL WATER RIGHT) SUMMARY of the claimed water right(s)
- X 9. I object to the description of the QUANTITIES OF USE for the claimed water right(s)
10. I object to the EXPLANATION provided for the claimed water right(s)
11. Other Objections (please state volume number, page number and line number for each objection)

My reason for my objection is as follows (please number your objections to correspond to the lines listed above; please attach supporting information and additional pages as necessary).

SEE ATTACHMENT 1

I hereby make this objection on this 14th day of May, 1991.

David C. Ricketts

Signature of Objector

FOR: Salt River Project

(if in a representative capacity)

STATE OF Arizona
COUNTY OF Maricopa

VERIFICATION

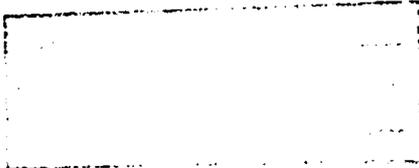
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David C. Ricketts

Signature of Objector

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 14th day of May, 1991.



Margaret A. Sullivan

Notary Public for the State of Arizona

Residing at Maricopa County

My commission expires _____

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Objection was served upon the following Claimant(s) by mailing true and correct copies thereof on the 28th day of May, 1991 postage prepaid and addressed as follows:

Name: STRADLING, VIRGINIA P.

Address: 108 E. 9TH AVE.

MESA, AZ 85201

David C. Ricketts

(Signature of Objector or person mailing in Objector's behalf)

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ATTACHMENT 1

WFR CATEGORY 9 - QUANTITIES OF USE

The Salt River Project objects to the quantities of use assigned to this Potential Water Right (PWR). The methods used by DWR for determining quantities of use for agricultural, recreational and other irrigation PWRs are inconsistent with the Arizona doctrine of prior appropriation; these methods are also technically inaccurate. For an additional discussion of the problems associated with DWR's methods of quantification for these types of PWRs, see the Salt River Project's Volume 1 objections to these methods, a copy of which is attached to this objection and incorporated herein by reference. (This objection applies to: IR001.)

* * * *

The Salt River Project objects to the failure of DWR to calculate a diversion rate for this Potential Water Right (PWR). All PWRs assigned a point or points of diversion should be assigned a separate diversion rate for each point of diversion. Diversion rates should be calculated at the point of diversion and should include transportation losses from the point of diversion to the place of use. (This objection applies to: IR001.)

**EXCERPT FROM
SALT RIVER PROJECT OBJECTIONS TO
VOLUME 1 OF THE SILVER CREEK HSR**

IRRIGATION QUANTITY ESTIMATES

(page numbers refer to Volume 1)

Introduction

The Salt River Project objects to DWR's estimation methods and results for irrigation water quantities for the following reasons:

First, there are several technical errors in DWR's calculation of crop consumptive use including estimates of relative humidity, wind, evapotranspiration (ET) for pine trees, pasture peak use and effective precipitation. Although these problems are relatively small, the effect of these errors is magnified since consumptive use is divided by irrigation efficiency to calculate the water duty for irrigated land.

Second, the efficiency estimates used by DWR are inappropriate for the reasons set forth below in that section of the objections. Again, the effect of even a small error in efficiency estimates can result in a larger error in the resulting water duty.

Third, the irrigation water duties computed by DWR are inaccurate as a result of the technical errors in consumptive use and efficiency estimates discussed above and, further, are inconsistent with Arizona water law. The "maximum annual" and "average efficient" quantification methods employed by DWR do not properly estimate actual historic beneficial use as required by statute.

These objections are more fully set forth in the following sections.

Relative Humidity

p. A-4, lines 23-25

The Salt River Project objects to DWR's failure to specify whether it used minimum relative humidity as specified in Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) Paper 24. The Salt River Project also objects to DWR's use of relative humidity from Winslow when data for the Show Low, Snowflake and Snowflake 15W weather stations can be converted to mean minimum relative humidity through the use of the 6AM and 6PM estimates adjusted with the assistance of "Useful Arizona Climatic Graphs and Data, Series #7."

Wind

p. A-4, lines 26-32

The Salt River Project object's to DWR's use of wind travel data at a height of 2 feet (Snowflake #15) and windspeed data at a height of 10 meters (Winslow) without converting to a 2 meter height as required by FAO Paper 24.¹

¹The wind travel data for Snowflake can be adjusted by use of the formula:

$$WT_2 = WR_{.61}(2/0.61)^2 = 1.27 WT_{.61}$$

The windspeed data for Winslow can be adjusted by use of the formula:

$$W_2 = W_{10}(2/10)^2 = 0.72 W_{10}$$

Evapotranspiration for Pine Trees

p. A-6, Table A-2; p. A-10, Table A-4

The Salt River Project objects to DWR's reporting of inexplicably high evapotranspiration (consumptive use) values for pine trees as compared to all other crops. DWR has reported Christmas tree or pine tree consumptive use in its various management plans for Active Management Areas at about one-half of the value shown in Table A-2.

Pasture Peak Use

p. A-5, lines 30-31; p. A-7, Fig. A-1; p. A-8, Fig. A-2

The Salt River Project objects to DWR's reporting of pasture peak use that exceeds corn peak use. Corn peak use should be higher than pasture since it is taller and has a crop coefficient (kc) that is higher than that of pasture at peak use.

Effective Precipitation

p. A-9, lines 1-31

The Salt River Project objects to DWR's failure to report how it estimates effective precipitation during the non-growing season. The Salt River Project also objects to the use of a 3-inch rather than 4-inch depth of irrigation water application in its estimation of growing season effective precipitation for alfalfa. Furthermore, the Salt River Project objects to DWR's use of a 50 percent probability of precipitation, which results in an inadequate supply in one-half of the years. A 50 percent probability indicates that average effective precipitation is subtracted from crop consumptive use when DWR calculates the irrigation requirement. This means that in years of below-average precipitation, irrigation users would be unable to replace the lack of precipitation with additional irrigation water. The amount of precipitation that is available 80 percent of the time for field crops and 90 percent of the time for orchards and vegetables is appropriate.

Efficiency Estimates

pp. A-10 through A-13; pp. A-31 through A-65

The Salt River Project objects to DWR's estimates of efficiencies for water uses served by irrigation districts and major surface water diverters where average rates of diversion from a few measurements are used to calculate total deliveries and no consideration is given to supplemental supplies obtained by individual users. The Salt River Project also objects to the failure of DWR to include conveyance losses where appropriate in efficiency estimates in the "second procedure," which employs categories of systems.

Irrigation Water Duties

pp. 101 through 125; pp. A-3 through A-65

The Salt River Project objects to DWR's estimation of water duty under both the "maximum annual" and "average efficient" methods. In the absence of decreed rights, which must be accepted by the court in the absence of abandonment, Arizona law requires that the extent of an appropriative right be measured according to the quantity of water that the appropriator diverted for beneficial use since the time of the appropriation. A.R.S. § 45-141.(B) ("Beneficial use shall be the basis, measure and limit to the use of water"). Neither the "maximum annual" or "average efficient" quantification methods employed by DWR properly estimate actual historic beneficial use as required by law.

Maximum Annual Quantification

The Salt River Project objects to DWR's estimates of maximum annual water duty since inaccurate crop irrigation requirements, low consumptive use crops or overly high efficiency estimates are used to calculate maximum annual water duty. An accurate estimate of maximum annual water duty is essential since that value will closely approximate the quantity of actual historic beneficial use. This objection applies to all irrigation (IR) and most recreation (RC) PWRs.

In addition, the Salt River Project objects to DWR's failure to report maximum annual water duties at all for other (OT) and some recreation-related (RC) irrigation uses. The maximum annual water duties for these uses must be reported by DWR for consideration by the Master in determining entitlements.

Average Efficient Quantification

The Salt River Project objects to DWR's reporting of average efficient water duties in WFRs for irrigation uses since the methodology and results are inconsistent with Arizona law. In determining average efficient water duties, DWR uses the Arizona Groundwater Code Method of "areas of similar farming conditions" (ASFC). The ASFC method assigns a weighted average consumptive use requirement to the water duty equation based upon the types of crops recently grown by appropriators in a designated area. Historic information or records evincing an individual claimant's actual cropping patterns and the quantities of water actually used to cultivate such crops since the time of appropriation are not considered. The use of the ASFC method to calculate water entitlements is objectionable for the following reasons.

First, the ASFC concept is entirely inconsistent with Arizona's doctrine of prior appropriation, which requires that the extent of an appropriator's water right be measured according to actual, rather than average, water use. Under the prior appropriation doctrine, an appropriator who has grown alfalfa on his property historically is entitled to a water duty that will support alfalfa, regardless of the crops that he or his neighbors are currently growing. Under DWR's "averaging" approach, an appropriator in this situation would be assigned an apparent entitlement inadequate to meet his needs.

Additionally, under the ASFC concept, the efficiency of various irrigation methods is averaged between appropriators, thus further exacerbating the inadequate water duty for the appropriator who does not have a system with above-average efficiency.