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ARIZONA GENERAL STREAM ADJUDICATION
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

W1-00-001234
Contested Case **W1-11-001538**
**ORDER TO FILE FINAL
CLAIMS**

CONTESTED CASE NAME: *In re F.J. Muhlfeld III*
HSR INVOLVED: San Pedro Hydrographic Survey.
DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY: Mr. Rabb must file any final statements of claimant and basis of right documents with the Arizona Department of Water Resources no later than **May 4, 2026**.
NUMBER OF PAGES: 5

During the September 18, 2025, status conference for this contested case, David Rabb of R Family Ranch, property owner of Cochise County tax parcel 124-02-039A indicated there are two small stockponds that are currently in use on that property. The watershed file report (“WFR”) #112-16-006 for this case references Statement of Claim #36-66720 as the basis of right for the potential water rights claimed. Statement of Claim #36-66720 appears to refer to a pond that straddles properties located south and west of Mr. Rabb’s property and therefore cannot be used to support any claims Mr. Rabb may wish to file.

Also during the September 18, 2025, status conference for this contested case, Mr. Rabb was encouraged to meet with the Arizona Department of Water

1 Resources (“ADWR”) to discuss the filing required for potential water right claims
2 to his stockponds. In a January 27, 2026, status report filed by ADWR, it does not
3 appear that meeting happened, but rather the agency attempted to provide
4 information to Mr. Rabb regarding the appropriate registration of the stockponds on
5 his property. However as of the time of this order, there is no Statement of Claimant
6 (“SOC”) filed by Mr. Rabb, nor has an appropriate basis of right to Mr. Rabb’s
7 stockponds been identified.

8 **IT IS ORDERED** that if Mr. Rabb intends to pursue any potential water
9 rights he may have with respect to his property/stockponds, he must file with
10 ADWR stockpond statements of claimant and the appropriate basis of right
11 application no later than **March 16, 2026. Notice of filing with ADWR must also**
12 **be filed with the Court within 5 business days of being filed with ADWR.**

13 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that because the appropriate basis of right
14 will differ based upon the specifics of Mr. Rabb’s stockpond, Mr. Rabb shall contact
15 Lizette Fuentes of ADWR at lfuentes@azwater.gov for assistance with scheduling
16 meetings with both ADWR’s Adjudications team and the Surface Water group to
17 ensure the appropriate documentation is filed.

18 If Mr. Rabb has questions regarding filing Court documents, he may contact
19 the Office of the Special Master at 602.372.4115. Please note that staff cannot
20 provide legal advice, but they can help with administrative questions and
21 procedures.

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23 Signed this 4th day of February 2026.

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26 _____
27 Sherri L. Zerdri
28 Special Water Master

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On February 4th, 2026, the original of the foregoing was delivered to the Clerk of the Maricopa County Superior Court for filing and distributing a copy to all persons listed on the Court Approved Mailing List for W1-11-1538, a copy of which is attached.


Emily Natale

Court Approved Mailing List
In re F.J. Muhlfeld III
W1-11-001538 (16 Names)
Prepared by the Special Master
2/4/2026

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