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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 (Consolidated)

Contested Case Nos. **W1-11-001546**
W1-11-001621

**ORDER INITIATING CONTESTED
CASES AND SETTING DEADLINES**

CONTESTED CASE NAME: *In re FS – Armer I* (W1-11-001546) and *In re FS – Armer II* (W1-11-001621)

HSR INVOLVED: San Pedro Hydrographic Survey.

DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY: The Clerk of the Maricopa County Superior Court is directed to initiate case W1-11-001546 and case W1-11-001621. The United States shall file with the Special Master a statement declaring the claims that it intends to pursue no later than **July 10, 2026**, and file draft abstracts no later than **August 10, 2026**. Comments to the abstracts must be filed no later than **August 24, 2026**.

NUMBER OF PAGES: 11

General Explanation

This order opens two cases to determine rights to use water on land owned by the United States. In these cases, the United States Forest Service (“USFS”) filed statements of claimant (“SOCs”) 39-8068–69, 39-8246–47, 39-12381–82 for contested case W1-11-1546, and (“SOCs”) 39-8066–67, 39-8070, 39-8238, 39-8248, 39-8251, 39-12380 for contested case W1-11-1621. The Arizona Department of Water Resources (“ADWR”) investigated the claims and prepared watershed file reports (“WFR”) 112-16-014 (W1-

1 11-001546) and WFR 112-17-010 (W1-11-001621), both published in the San Pedro
2 River Hydrographic Survey Report (“HSR”). A copy of the WFRs are attached as
3 Attachment A. A map depicting places of use identified in the WFRs is attached as
4 Attachment B. The two WFRs describe a total of six stock watering uses in the Middle
5 Canyon Forest Service allotment.

6 After ADWR issued the WFRs, objections were filed to the findings made in the
7 WFRs by Salt River Project, Rail A Cattle Co., the USFS, the Gila River Indian
8 Community, the San Carlos Apache Tribe, the Tonto Apache Tribe, and the Yavapai-
9 Apache Nation.

10
11 **Claimant and Landowners**

12 WFRs 112-16-014 and 112-17-010 both list USFS as the owner of the lands
13 investigated. The public records of ADWR do not contain any assignments of the SOCs
14 listed in the WFRs. Further, neither USFS nor lessees appear to have filed any additional
15 SOCs since the issuance of the HSR.

16
17 **IT IS ORDERED:**

- 18 **1. Case Initiation.** This order initiates contested case W1-11-001546 and
19 W1-11-001621.
- 20 **2. Declaration.** USFS shall review all SOCs relevant to this contested case and
21 declare to the Court no later than **July 10, 2026**, the claims that it intends to
22 pursue in this contested case.
- 23 **3. Draft Abstracts.** USFS shall file draft abstracts for claims eligible for summary
24 adjudication no later than **August 10, 2026**. The parties shall file any
25 comments to the draft abstracts by **August 24, 2026**.
- 26 **4. Parties.** The litigants in this contested case are the current landowner, lessees,
27 and all parties who filed objections to the watershed file report.
- 28 **5. Objections.** Copies of objections filed to these cases can be found under the

1 respective case names and numbers on the following website:
2 [http://www.superiorcourt.maricopa.gov/SuperiorCourt/GeneralStreamAdjudic](http://www.superiorcourt.maricopa.gov/SuperiorCourt/GeneralStreamAdjudication/whatsNew.asp)
3 [ation/whatsNew.asp](http://www.superiorcourt.maricopa.gov/SuperiorCourt/GeneralStreamAdjudication/whatsNew.asp).

4 **6. Court Approved Mailing List.**

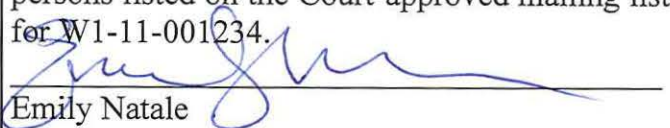
- 5 A. The initial Court Approved Mailing List for these cases shall include all
6 persons listed on Attachment C to this order. The list may be modified only
7 by filing a motion with the Special Master. Litigants are responsible for
8 using the current Court Approved Mailing List.
- 9 B. A copy of any pleading filed with the Clerk of the Maricopa County
10 Superior Court in these cases shall be served upon each person listed on the
11 Court Approved Mailing List.
- 12 C. Claimants wishing to be added or removed from the mailing list shall file a
13 motion with the Special Master. Parties allowed to intervene will be
14 automatically added to the Court Approved Mailing List.
- 15 D. The Clerk of the Court will send copies of all minute entries and orders
16 issued in these cases to the parties listed on the Court Approved Mailing
17 List.
- 18 E. Claimants who would like to receive courtesy copies of minute entries and
19 orders may request inclusion on an email list by sending a request to
20 emily.natale@jbazmc.maricopa.gov.

21
22 Signed this 9th day of June 2026.

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25 _____
26 Sherri L. Zendri
27 Special Water Master
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On June 9, 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 this contested case, a copy of which is attached, and to all persons listed on the Court-approved mailing list for W1-11-001234.


Emily Natale

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ATTACHMENT A
Watershed File Report

LAND OWNER	WATERSHED FILE	LESSEE/ALLOTTEE	LEASE-PERMIT ID
-----	REPORT NUMBER	-----	-----
FS - CORONADO	112-16-014	ARMER, WALTER D. & VIRGINIA	MIDDLE CANYON

A P P L I C A B L E F I L I N G S A N D D E C R E E S

CLEARLY STATED INFORMATION FROM FILINGS AND DECREES

FILING NUMBER	FILING STATUS	USES	QUANTITY IN AFA	USE LOCATION SECTION	TWNP	RNGE	CLAIM DATE	DIVERSION LOCATION SECTION	TWNP	RNGE
36-0018519		STOCK REC/FISH/WLDF	.30	NWSE16	18OS	190E	1890	NWSE16	18OS	190E
36-0018521		STOCK REC/FISH/WLDF	.30	SENE21	18OS	190E	1890	SENE21	18OS	190E
36-0062091		STOCK	.92	NWSE16	18OS	190E	1900	NWSE16	18OS	190E
36-0062093		STOCK	.61	NESE21	18OS	190E	1900	NESE21	18OS	190E
38-0062089		STOCK MINING	1.60	NENW35	18OS	190E	1972	NENW35	18OS	190E
39-0008068		STOCK REC/FISH/WLDF	.21 .09	SENE21	18OS	190E	1890	SENE21	18OS	190E
39-0008069		STOCK REC/FISH/WLDF	.21 .09	NWSE16	18OS	190E	1890	NWSE16	18OS	190E
39-0008246		STOCK REC/FISH/WLDF	.15 .06	SWSE04	18OS	190E	1967	SWSE04	18OS	190E
39-0008247		STOCK REC/FISH/WLDF	.15 .06	NWNE04	18OS	190E		NWNE04	18OS	190E
39-0012381		STOCK REC/FISH/WLDF	.16 .07	SWNE33	18OS	190E		SWNE33	18OS	190E
39-0012382		STOCK REC/FISH/WLDF	.16 .07	SESW04	18OS	190E		SESW04	18OS	190E

D W R A N A L Y S I S O F F I L I N G S A N D D E C R E E S

FILING NUMBER	USES CLAIMED OR REFERENCED	USES FOUND BY DWR	APPLIES TO DIVERSIONS	APPLIES TO PWR NUMBERS
36-0018519	STOCK WILDLIFE	SPRING SPRING		SW001
36-0018521	STOCK WILDLIFE	SPRING SPRING		SW002
36-0062091	STOCK	SPRING		SW001
36-0062093	STOCK	SPRING		
38-0062089	STOCK MINING	NONE NONE		
39-0008068	STOCK WILDLIFE	SPRING SPRING		SW002
39-0008069	STOCK WILDLIFE	SPRING SPRING		SW001
39-0008246	STOCK WILDLIFE	CATALOGUED WELL CATALOGUED WELL		
39-0008247	STOCK WILDLIFE	CATALOGUED WELL CATALOGUED WELL		
39-0012381	STOCK WILDLIFE	CATALOGUED WELL CATALOGUED WELL		
39-0012382	STOCK WILDLIFE	CATALOGUED WELL CATALOGUED WELL		

U S E S

PWR #	LOCATION SECTION	TWNP	RNGE	SUPPLIED BY DIVERSIONS	WATER SOURCES	PHOTO DATE	SOURCE CHANGE	FACILITY NAME
SW001	SENESE16	18OS	190E		SURFACE WATER		NO	BATHTUB SPRING
SW002	SESENE21	18OS	190E		SURFACE WATER		NO	HIDDEN SPRING

PWR #	APPLICABLE ADJ FILINGS	APPLICABLE PRE FILINGS	*APPARENT FIRST USE DATE* DATE BASIS FOR DATE	WATER SOURCES AND CLASSIFICATIONS
SW001	39-0008069	36-0018519 36-0062091	1890 FILING 36-18519	SURFACE WATER: SAN PEDRO RIVER
SW002	39-0008068	36-0018521	1890 FILING 36-18521	SURFACE WATER: SAN PEDRO RIVER
NONE	39-0008246 39-0008247 39-0012381 39-0012382	36-0062093 38-0062089		

Q U A N T I T I E S O F U S E

PWR #	QUANTIFICATION TYPE	ACRES	CROP TYPE	EFF	WATER DUTY	ESTIMATED VOLUME	REMARKS
SW001							SEE VOLUME 1 - GENERAL ASSESSMENT
SW002							SEE VOLUME 1 - GENERAL ASSESSMENT

E X P L A N A T I O N

FILINGS AND DECREES

FILING 38-62089 - CLAIMS STOCKWATERING AND MINING WATER USES. NO STOCKWATERING OR MINING USES WERE FOUND AT THE CLAIMED LOCATION.

USES AND RESERVOIRS

SW1 - STOCKWATERING AND WILDLIFE USES FROM BATHTUB SPRING.
SW2 - STOCKWATERING AND WILDLIFE USES FROM HIDDEN SPRING.

DISPOSITION OF LAND OWNER/CLAIMANT COMMENTS

A COMMENT WAS RECEIVED FROM THE LAND OWNER WHICH VERIFIED LAND OWNERSHIP.

LAND OWNER	WATERSHED FILE REPORT NUMBER	LESSEE/ALLOTTEE	LEASE-PERMIT ID
-----	-----	-----	-----
FS - CORONADO	112-17-010	ARMER, WALTER D. & VIRGINIA	MIDDLE CANYON

A P P L I C A B L E F I L I N G S A N D D E C R E E S

CLEARLY STATED INFORMATION FROM FILINGS AND DECREES

FILING NUMBER	FILING STATUS	USES	QUANTITY IN AFA	USE LOCATION SECTION	TWNP	RNGE	CLAIM DATE	DIVERSION SECTION	TWNP	LOCATION RNGE
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
10-0224201.1100		IRRIGATION	18100.00	NESENE26	180S	190E	1915	29	180S	200E
		DOMESTIC						30	180S	200E
		STOCK								
		OTHER								
36-0018502		STOCK	.21	NWNW15	180S	190E	1890	NWNW15	180S	190E
		REC/FISH/WLDF	.09							
36-0018503		STOCK	.21	SENE33	180S	190E	1890	SENE33	180S	190E
		REC/FISH/WLDF	.09							
36-0018518		STOCK	.30	NENE27	180S	190E	1890	NENE27	180S	190E
		REC/FISH/WLDF								
36-0018520		STOCK	.30	NWNW22	180S	190E	1890	NWNW22	180S	190E
		REC/FISH/WLDF								
36-0062090		STOCK	1.61	NWNW15	180S	190E	1900	NWNW15	180S	190E
36-0062092		STOCK	.92	NWNW22	180S	190E	1900	NWNW22	180S	190E
36-0062094		STOCK	1.61	SENE33	180S	190E	1900	SENE33	180S	190E
36-0062095		STOCK	.92	NENE27	180S	190E	1900	NENE27	180S	190E
38-0014950		STOCK	.30	NWSW25	180S	190E	1934	NWSW25	180S	190E
		REC/FISH/WLDF								
38-0062089		STOCK	1.60	NENW35	180S	190E	1972	NENW35	180S	190E
		OTHER								
39-0008066		STOCK	.21	NWNW22	180S	190E	1890	NWNW22	180S	190E
		REC/FISH/WLDF	.09							
39-0008067		STOCK	.21	SENE33	180S	190E	1890	SENE33	180S	190E
		REC/FISH/WLDF	.09							
39-0008070		STOCK	.21	NWNW15	180S	190E	1890	NWNW15	180S	190E
		REC/FISH/WLDF	.09							
39-0008238		STOCK	.21	SESE22	180S	190E	1890	NENE27	180S	190E
		REC/FISH/WLDF	.09							
39-0008248		STOCK	.15	NESW24	180S	190E	1979	NESW24	180S	190E
		REC/FISH/WLDF	.06							
39-0008251		STOCK	.27	SESW25	180S	190E		SESW25	180S	190E
		REC/FISH/WLDF	.11							
39-0012380		STOCK	.16	SENE26	180S	190E		SENE26	180S	190E
		REC/FISH/WLDF	.07							

D W R A N A L Y S I S O F F I L I N G S A N D D E C R E E S

FILING NUMBER	USES CLAIMED OR REFERENCED	USES FOUND BY DWR	APPLIES TO DIVERSIONS	APPLIES TO PWR NUMBERS
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
10-0224201.1100	IRRIGATION	NONE		SW004
	DOMESTIC	NONE		
	STOCK	SPRING		
	OTHER	NONE		
36-0018502	STOCK	SPRING		SW001
	WILDLIFE	SPRING		
36-0018503	STOCK	SPRING		SW003
	WILDLIFE	SPRING		
36-0018518	STOCK	SPRING		SW004
	WILDLIFE	SPRING		
36-0018520	STOCK	SPRING		SW002
	WILDLIFE	SPRING		
36-0062090	STOCK	SPRING		SW001
36-0062092	STOCK	SPRING		SW002
36-0062094	STOCK	SPRING		SW003
36-0062095	STOCK	SPRING		SW004
38-0014950	STOCK	NONE		
	WILDLIFE	NONE		
38-0062089	STOCK	NONE		
	OTHER	NONE		
39-0008066	STOCK	SPRING		SW002
	WILDLIFE	SPRING		
39-0008067	STOCK	SPRING		SW003
	WILDLIFE	SPRING		

FILING NUMBER	USES CLAIMED OR REFERENCED	USES FOUND BY DWR	APPLIES TO DIVERSIONS	APPLIES TO PWR NUMBERS
39-0008070	STOCK WILDLIFE	SPRING		SW001
39-0008238	STOCK WILDLIFE	SPRING		SW004
39-0008248	STOCK WILDLIFE	CATALOGUED WELL		
39-0008251	STOCK WILDLIFE	CATALOGUED WELL		
39-0012380	STOCK WILDLIFE	CATALOGUED WELL		

U S E S

PWR #	SECTION	TWNP	RNGE	SUPPLIED BY DIVERSIONS	WATER SOURCES	PHOTO DATE	SOURCE CHANGE	FACILITY NAME
SW001	NWNWNW15	180S	190E		SURFACE WATER		NO	COTTONWOOD SPRING
SW002	SENWNW22	180S	190E		SURFACE WATER		NO	CEMENT TROUGH SPRING
SW003	NWSWNW34	180S	190E		SURFACE WATER		NO	GLENN SPRING
SW004	NENENE27	180S	190E		SURFACE WATER		NO	GUINDANI BASIN SPRNG

P W R S U M M A R Y

PWR #	APPLICABLE ADJ FILINGS	APPLICABLE PRE FILINGS	*APPARENT FIRST USE DATE* DATE BASIS FOR DATE	WATER SOURCES AND CLASSIFICATIONS
SW001	39-0008070	36-0018502 36-0062090	1890 FILING 36-18502	SURFACE WATER: SAN PEDRO RIVER
SW002	39-0008066	36-0018520 36-0062092	1890 FILING 36-18520	SURFACE WATER: SAN PEDRO RIVER
SW003	39-0008067	36-0018503 36-0062094	1890 FILING 36-18503	SURFACE WATER: SAN PEDRO RIVER
SW004	39-0008238	10-0224201.1100 36-0018518 36-0062095	1890 FILING 36-18518	SURFACE WATER: SAN PEDRO RIVER
NONE	39-0008248 39-0008251 39-0012380	38-0014950 38-0062089		

Q U A N T I T I E S O F U S E

PWR #	QUANTIFICATION TYPE	ACRES	CROP TYPE	EFF WATER DUTY	ESTIMATED VOLUME	REMARKS
SW001						SEE VOLUME 1 - GENERAL ASSESSMENT
SW002						SEE VOLUME 1 - GENERAL ASSESSMENT
SW003						SEE VOLUME 1 - GENERAL ASSESSMENT
SW004						SEE VOLUME 1 - GENERAL ASSESSMENT

E X P L A N A T I O N

FILINGS AND DECREES

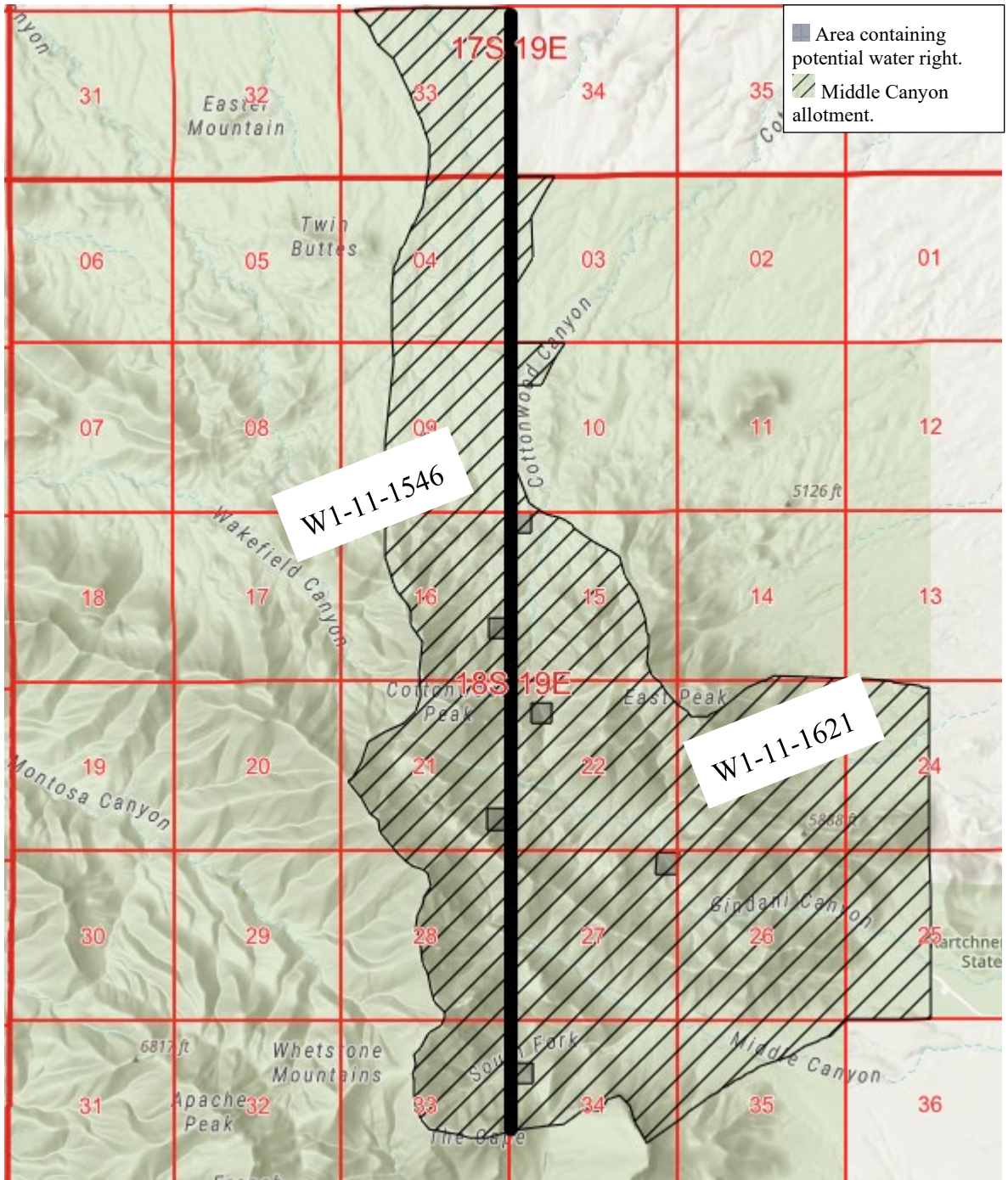
FILING 10-0224201-11 - CLAIMS IRRIGATION, DOMESTIC, STOCKWATERING, AND OTHER WATER USES FROM GUINDANI CANYON. NO IRRIGATION, DOMESTIC, OR OTHER WATER USES WERE FOUND AT THE CLAIMED LOCATION.
 FILING 38-14950 - CLAIMS STOCKWATERING AND WILDLIFE WATER USES. NO STOCKWATERING OR WILDLIFE USES WERE FOUND AT THE CLAIMED LOCATION.
 FILING 38-62089 - CLAIMS STOCKWATERING AND OTHER WATER USES. THE "OTHER" WATER USE IS FOR MINING EXPLORATION. NO STOCKWATERING OR OTHER USES WERE FOUND AT THE CLAIMED LOCATION.

USES AND RESERVOIRS

SW1 - STOCKWATERING AND WILDLIFE USES FROM COTTONWOOD SPRING.
 SW2 - STOCKWATERING AND WILDLIFE USES FROM CEMENT TROUGH SPRING.
 SW3 - STOCKWATERING AND WILDLIFE USES FROM GLENN SPRING.
 SW4 - STOCKWATERING AND WILDLIFE USES FROM GUINDANI BASIN SPRING.

ATTACHMENT B

Map Illustrating Places of Use Identified in WFR



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ATTACHMENT D

Initial Court-Approved Mailing List

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