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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 (Consolidated)

Contested Case Nos.
**W1-11-002661, W1-11-002683,
W1-11-002748, W1-11-002755.**

**ORDER GRANTING ARIZONA
CHAPTER OF THE NATURE
CONSERVANCY’S REQUEST TO
AMEND WFRs 113-13-015 AND 113-13-
022 AND CREATE A NEW WFR**

CONTESTED CASE NAMES: *In re Arizona Chapter of the Nature Conservancy – Cherry Springs* (W1-11-0002661); *In re Arizona Chapter of the Nature Conservancy – Cascabel* (W1-11-002683); *In re Arizona Chapter of the Nature Conservancy – Hooker Hot Springs* (W1-11-002748); *In re Arizona Chapter of the Nature Conservancy – Double R Canyon* (W1-11-002755).
HSR INVOLVED: San Pedro Hydrographic Survey.
DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY: The Arizona Department of Water Resources is ordered to amend WFRs 113-13-015 and 113-13-022, and create a new WFR no later than **April 17, 2026**. Parties may file objections to the WFRs no later than **May 1, 2026**.
NUMBER OF PAGES: 5

On January 28, 2026, the Arizona Chapter of the Nature Conservancy (“Nature Conservancy”) filed draft abstracts for these contested cases, along with a request that the Arizona Department of Water Resources (“ADWR”) be directed to provide the Nature

1 Conservancy with amended watershed file reports (“WFRs”) for 113-13-015(W1-11-2748)
2 and 113-13-022(W1-11-2755), and develop a new WFR for statement of claimant (“SOC”)
3 #39-180917. ADWR joins the Nature Conservancy in this request, because “the uses
4 reflected in Certificated Water Right Nos. 96278 and 96279 were in place at the time of the
5 issuance of the San Pedro HSR, but were excluded from the HSR due to a gap between the
6 close of the investigation period and the filing of the underlying Applications for Permit to
7 Appropriate Public Water of the State of Arizona.”¹

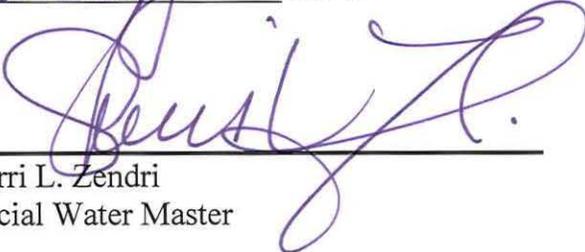
8 Additionally, comments submitted to the Special Master regarding the draft abstracts
9 noted deficiencies that may be cured by the WFRs requested by the Nature Conservancy.

10 **IT IS ORDERED** ADWR shall amend the WFRs 113-13-015 and 113-13-022 to
11 include the Nature Conservancy SOC #39-180916 and Certificate of Water Right # 96278.

12 **IT IS FUTHER ORDERED** ADWR shall create a new WFR that researches the
13 land associated with the Nature Conservancy SOC #39-180917 and Certificate of Water
14 Right # 96279. ADWR shall also make a recommendation as to the contested case number
15 the new WFR should be adjudicated under or if the Court should create a new contested
16 case for the new WFR. The new WFRs shall be filed no later than **April 17, 2026**.

17 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** the parties shall have until **May 1, 2026**, to submit
18 objections to the Special Master regarding the WFRs.

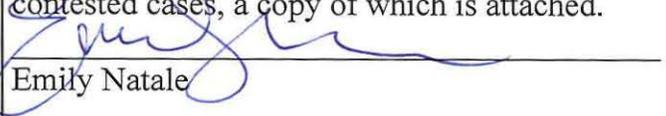
19
20 Signed this 19th day of February 2026.

21
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23
24 
25 _____
26 Sherri L. Zendri
27 Special Water Master

28 ¹ (W1-11-002661 et al) Arizona Department of Water Resources’ Joinder to The Arizona
Nature Conservancy’s Request to Amend Watershed File Reports, January 28, 2026, at 2.

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On February 19, 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 set of contested cases, a copy of which is attached.



Emily Natale

Court Approved Mailing List
In re AZ Nature Conserv.set of cases
W1-11-002661, W1-11-002683, W1-11-002748, W1-11-002755
Prepared by the Special Master
2/19/2026

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