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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 No. **W1-11-003411**

**ORDER INITIATING CONTESTED
CASE AND SETTING DEADLINES**

CONTESTED CASE NAME: *In re Forest Service – Stansberry*

HSR INVOLVED: San Pedro Hydrographic Survey.

DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY: The Clerk of the Maricopa County Superior Court is directed to initiate W1-11-003411. The United States Forest Service shall file with the Special Master a statement declaring the claims that it intends to pursue later than **June 22, 2026**, and file draft abstracts no later than **July 24, 2026**. Comments to the abstracts must be filed no later than **August 7, 2026**.

NUMBER OF PAGES: 8

General Explanation

This order opens a case to determine rights to use water on land owned by the United States.

In this case, the United States Forest Service (“USFS”) filed statement of claimant (“SOC”) 39-8173, and Alfred L. Stansberry filed SOCs 39-5964, 39-5966, 39-5968. The Arizona Department of Water Resources (“ADWR”) investigated the claims and prepared watershed file report (“WFR”) 115-06-009, published in the San Pedro River Hydrographic Survey Report (“HSR”). A copy of the WFR is attached as Attachment A.

1 After ADWR issued the WFR, objections were filed to the findings made in the
2 WFR by the USFS, the Gila River Indian Community, the San Carlos Apache Tribe, the
3 Tonto Apache Tribe, and the Yavapai-Apache Nation.

4
5 **Claimant and Landowners**

6 WFR 115-06-009 lists the USFS as the owner of the land investigated. USFS
7 records indicate that the area investigated primarily consists of the “Seventy Six”
8 allotment in the Coronado National Forest. A map depicting the allotment is attached as
9 Attachment B. The public records of ADWR do not contain any assignments of the SOC
10 listed in the WFR. Further, neither USFS nor lessees appear to have filed any additional
11 SOCs since the issuance of the HSR.

12
13 **IT IS ORDERED:**

- 14 **1. Case Initiation.** This order initiates contested case W1-11-003411.
- 15 **2. Declaration.** USFS shall review all SOCs relevant to this contested case and
16 declare to the Court no later than **June 22, 2026**, the claims that it intends to
17 pursue in this contested case.
- 18 **3. Draft Abstracts.** USFS shall file draft abstracts for claims eligible for summary
19 adjudication no later than **July 24, 2026**. The parties shall file any comments
20 to the draft abstracts by **August 7, 2026**.
- 21 **4. Parties.** The litigants in this contested case are the current landowner, lessees,
22 and all parties who filed objections to the watershed file report.
- 23 **5. Objections.** Copies of objections filed to this case can be found under the
24 respective case names and numbers on the following website:
25 <http://www.superiorcourt.maricopa.gov/SuperiorCourt/GeneralStreamAdjudi>
26 [cation/whatsNew.asp](http://www.superiorcourt.maricopa.gov/SuperiorCourt/GeneralStreamAdjudication/whatsNew.asp).
- 27 **6. Court Approved Mailing List.**
- 28 **A.** The initial Court Approved Mailing List for this case shall include all

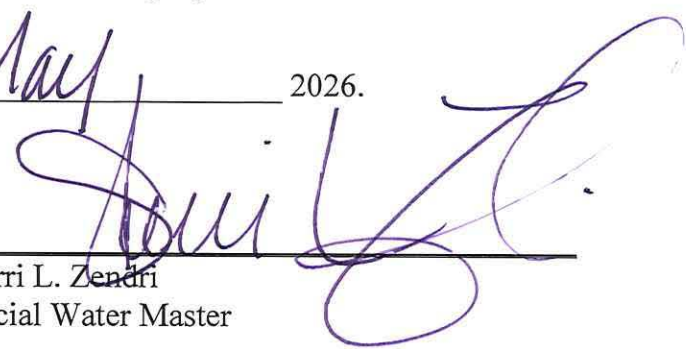
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persons listed on Attachment C to this order. The list may be modified only by filing a motion with the Special Master. Litigants are responsible for using the current Court-approved mailing list.

B. A copy of any pleading filed with the Clerk of the Maricopa County Superior Court in this case shall be served upon each person listed on the Court Approved Mailing List.

D. The Clerk of the Court will send copies of all minute entries and orders issued in this case to the parties listed on the Court Approved Mailing List.

E. Claimants who would like to receive courtesy copies of minute entries and orders may request inclusion on an email list by sending a request to emily.natale@jbazmc.maricopa.gov.

Signed this 15th day of May 2026.


Sherri L. Zandri
Special Water Master

On May 15, 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 W1-00-001254.



Emily Natale

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ATTACHMENT A
Watershed File Report

LAND OWNER	WATERSHED FILE REPORT NUMBER	LESSEE/ALLOTTEE	LEASE-PERMIT ID
FS - CORONADO	115-06-009	STANSBERRY, A.L. & MARY	SEVENTY-SIX

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
36-0011072		STOCK REC/FISH/WLDLF	.80	SESW15	08OS	22OE	1880	SESW15	08OS	22OE
36-0044772		STOCK	.19	SWNW31	08OS	23OE	1919	SWNW31	08OS	23OE
36-0044774		STOCK	1.41	NWNW22	08OS	22OE	1919	NWNW22	08OS	22OE
39-0005964		STOCK	.45	NWNW22	08OS	22OE	1919	NWNW22	08OS	22OE
39-0005966		STOCK	.45	NESW23	08OS	22OE	1919	NESW23	08OS	22OE
39-0005968		STOCK	.19	SWNW31	08OS	23OE	1919	SWNW31	08OS	23OE
39-0008173		STOCK REC/FISH/WLDLF	.56 .24	SESW15	08OS	22OE	1880	SESW15	08OS	22OE
4A-0004221	CERTIF.	STOCK	.45	NESW23	08OS	22OE	1957	NESW23	08OS	22OE

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
36-0011072	STOCK WILDLIFE	SPRING SPRING		SW001
36-0044772	STOCK	STOCK		SW004
36-0044774	STOCK	SPRING		SW002
39-0005964	STOCK	SPRING		SW002
39-0005966	STOCK	SPRING		SW003
39-0005968	STOCK	STOCK		SW004
39-0008173	STOCK WILDLIFE	SPRING SPRING		SW001
4A-0004221	STOCK	SPRING		SW003

U S E S

PWR #	LOCATION SECTION TWNP RNGE	SUPPLIED BY DIVERSIONS	WATER SOURCES	PHOTO SOURCE DATE CHANGE	FACILITY NAME
SW001	SESW15 08OS 22OE		SURFACE WATER	NO	MINESHAFT SPRING
SW002	NWNW22 08OS 22OE		SURFACE WATER	NO	PRESIDENTS MINE SPR.
SW003	NESW23 08OS 22OE		SURFACE WATER	NO	KH SPRING
SW004	SWSENE24 08OS 22OE		SURFACE WATER	NO	INSTREAM USE

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	39-0008173	36-0011072	1880 FILING 36-11072	SURFACE WATER: ARAVAIPA CREEK
SW002	39-0005964	36-0044774	1919 FILING 36-44774	SURFACE WATER: ARAVAIPA CREEK
SW003	39-0005966	4A-0004221	1957 FILING 4A-4221	SURFACE WATER: ARAVAIPA CREEK
SW004	39-0005968	36-0044772	1919 FILING 36-44772	SURFACE WATER: ARAVAIPA CREEK

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

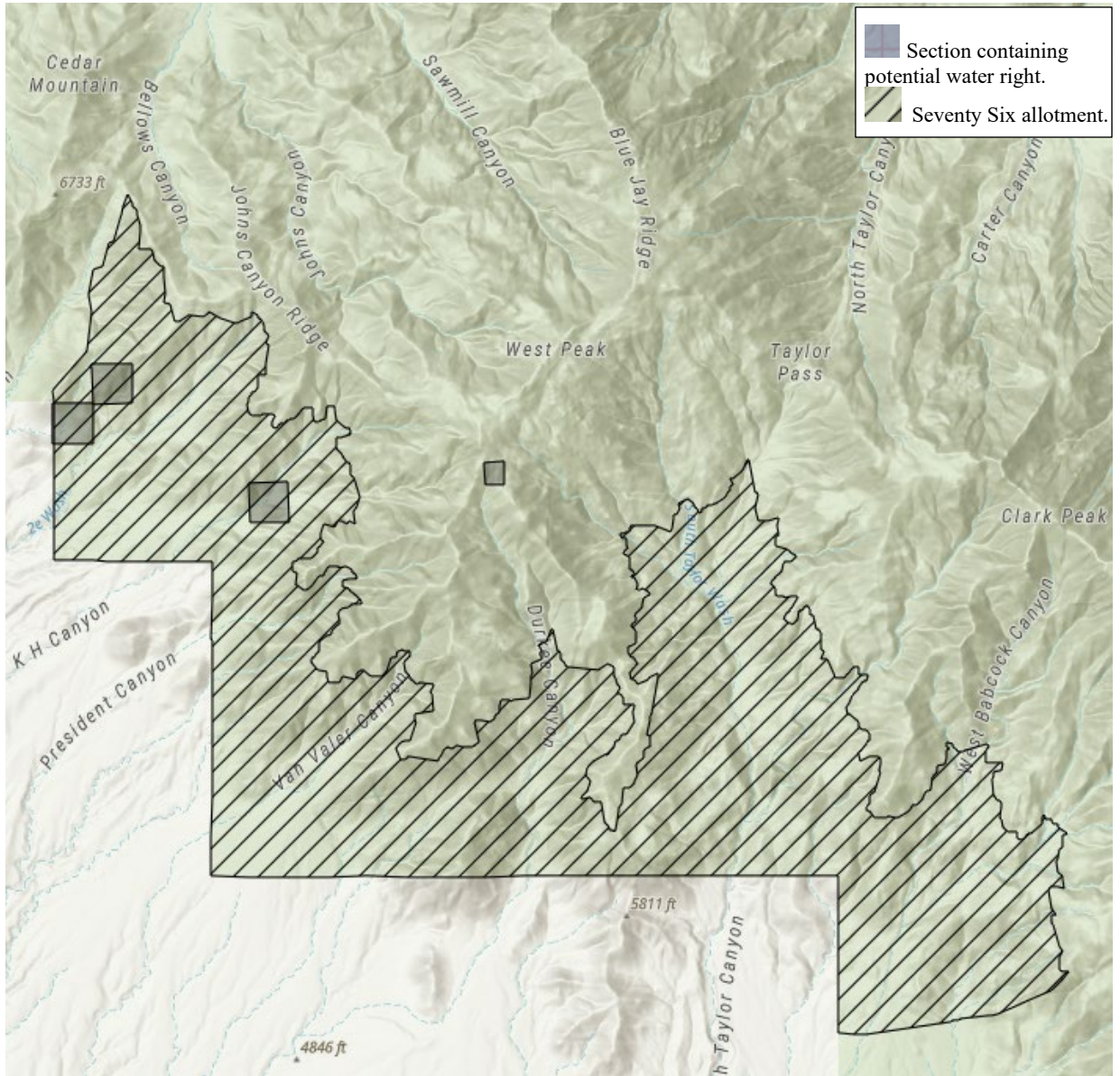
PWR #	QUANTIFICATION TYPE	ACRES	CROP TYPE	EFF	WATER DUTY	ESTIMATED VOLUME	REMARKS
SW001							SEE VOLUME 1 - GENERAL ASSESSMENT
SW002							SEE VOLUME 1 - GENERAL ASSESSMENT
SW003							SEE VOLUME 1 - GENERAL ASSESSMENT
SW004							SEE VOLUME 1 - GENERAL ASSESSMENT

USES AND RESERVOIRS

- SW1 - STOCKWATERING AND WILDLIFE USES FROM MINESHAFT SPRING.
- SW2 - STOCKWATERING USE FROM PRESIDENTS MINE SPRING.
- SW3 - STOCKWATERING USE FROM KH SPRING.
- SW4 - INSTREAM USE FROM BURKEE CANYON.

ATTACHMENT B

Map Illustrating Area Investigated in WFR



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ATTACHMENT C

Initial Court-Approved Mailing List

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