

SUPERIOR COURT OF ARIZONA
MARICOPA COUNTY

June 24, 2025

CLERK OF THE COURT
A. Parmar
Deputy

SPECIAL WATER MASTER
SHERRI ZENDRI

In Re The General Adjudication of
All Rights to Use Water in the Gila
River System and Source
W-1, W-2, W-3, W-4 (Consolidated)

FILED: July 2, 2025

In re: Bingham Sacaton Ranch
Contested Case No. W1-11-2586

MINUTE ENTRY

Courtroom 301 – Central Court Building

10:00 a.m. This is the time set for a Status Conference to obtain an update from the property owners regarding their progress before the Special Water Master Sherri Zendri.

The following parties/attorneys appear virtually through Court Connect:

- Property Owner, Larry Wilson, is present on his own behalf
- Property Owner, Mark Toenies, is present on his own behalf
- Brette A. Pena on behalf of the Gila River Indian Community (“GRIC”)
- Joe Sparks and Jana Sutton on behalf of the San Carlos Apache Tribe
- Robyn Interpreter on behalf of the Yavapai Apache Nation and observing for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe
- Candace French on behalf of the Navajo Nation
- Kathryn Ust observing on behalf of Salt River Project (“SRP”)
- Kaitlyn Smith observing on behalf of American Smelting and Refining Company (“ASARCO”)
- J. Brown on behalf of C-Spear LLC

A record of the proceedings is made digitally in lieu of a court reporter.

The Special Master requests an update from the parties.

Mr. Wilson informs the Special Master that he called ADWR at the end of April for an update at which time they had just begun processing his paperwork. He called yesterday and ADWR informed him of issues with the chain of title records with his paperwork. He discovered that they were contacting the Bingham instead of him and was unaware of these issues with his claim. He states that he has provided that documentation to ADWR this morning. They are also requesting an assignment for his water feature from Danny Carrasco, and he is working obtaining that that now.

10:08 a.m. Property Owners, William and Marjorie LaPedus, appear on their own behalf. They inform the Special Master that they are private property owners and are interested in pursuing potential water rights but had not received any of the Special Master's Notices.

Mr. Toenies informs the Special Master and parties that Mr. Carrasco is experiencing some significant health issues and that is likely the reason for the Carrascos' nonappearance.

Mr. Toenies indicates that he has not reviewed the objections or original filings yet. He further informs the Special Master that he will be selling the ranch and should be closing on July 3rd. He has disclosed that these proceedings are ongoing and provided the documentation to the new owners.

The Special Master explains the purpose of these proceedings to Mr. and Mrs. LaPedus.

Mr. LaPedus informs the Special Master that there is not any surface water use or wells being used on their property. The Special Master informs the parties that if that is the case they will not need to participate in this matter.

Discussion is held regarding how to proceed. The Special Master will review the matter with regards to Mr. Toenies and include guidance for the transfer to the new owners as a "LATER" in today's minute. It will also include additional information for the other property owners who did not attend today's hearing.

10:27 a.m. Matter concludes.

A copy of this order is mailed to all persons listed on the Court-approved mailing list.

LATER:

Property owners who are interested in pursuing whatever potential property rights they may have on their property must maintain participation in these proceedings. Should life events occur such that a party cannot attend a hearing, they should request the Special Master reschedule the proceeding. If that is not possible due to time constraints, at a

minimum parties should contact the Office of the Special Master directly at (602) 372-4115. Parties who fail to participate will be removed from the cases and their potential water rights may be forfeit.

Potential water rights are attached to the land where diversion and/or use occurs. Claimants who sell their property should assign any water rights documents to the new property owners. Once Mr. Toenies has assigned any potential water rights to the new property owners, he should petition the Court to be removed from the Court-approved mailing list. The new property owners should contact the Office of the Special Master and request to be added.

IT IS ORDERED setting a Status Conference for **Thursday, October 2, 2025, at 10:30 a.m.** to obtain an update from the property owners regarding their filings and whether new property owners are interested in pursuing any potential water rights that may exist. If property owners Danny Q. and Maricella Carrasco and/or Michelle Brobeck fail to attend this next status conference without permission from the Special Master, they risk being dismissed from the case and their potential water rights may be forfeit.

The status conference will be held using the Court Connect program. Instructions for Court Connect are attached as Attachment A. If you receive this Order by email, click on the red box "Join Court Connect Hearing" on the attached instructions to make an appearance. If you do not receive this Order by email, log into the Court Connect program on the internet by typing <https://tinyurl.com/specialwatermaster>. If you do not have access to the internet, you may attend telephonically using the telephone number and access code included in the instructions for Court Connect.

Attachment A



Court Connect Hearing Notice for In re Bingham Sacaton Ranch

This hearing will be conducted through the new Court Connect program offered by the Superior Court of Arizona in Maricopa County. This new and innovative program allows Court participants to appear online, rather than in a physical courtroom. Hearings are preferably conducted by video conference but can also be conducted by phone. Lawyers (and self-representing litigants) are responsible for distributing this notice to anyone who will be appearing on their behalf.

All participants must use the JOIN COURT CONNECT HEARING button or the dial in information below to participate.

Participants: Please follow the steps below to participate in the remote proceeding.

1. Click the JOIN COURT CONNECT HEARING button below.
2. Enter your full name and role in name field.
3. Wait for the facilitator to admit you to the proceeding.

Remember to keep this email handy so you can use it to participate in the following proceeding.

Case Name: In re Bingham Sacaton Ranch

Contested Case No. W1-11-2586

Start Date/Time: Thursday, October 2, 2025, at 10:30 a.m.

JOIN COURT CONNECT HEARING

Dial-in Information: +1 917-781-4590

Private Dial-in Information: for privacy purposes, you can block your phone number by dialing *67 +1 917-781-4590

Dial-in Access Code: 688 970 203#

Tiny URL: <https://tinyurl.com/specialwatermaster>