

SUPERIOR COURT OF ARIZONA
MARICOPA COUNTY

August 20, 2026

CLERK OF THE COURT
N. Johnson
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 (W1-00-001234 - Consolidated)

FILED: September 4, 2026

Contested Case Nos:

- W1-11-000023 - *In re ASLD-Jane Collie Woods*
- W1-11-000219 - *In re ASLD-Stewart Title and Trust*
- W1-11-000224 - *In re ASLD-Hayhurst*
- W1-11-000474 - *In re ASLD-Hull*
- W1-11-003375 - *In re ASLD-D.B. Sanford*

MINUTE ENTRY

East Court Building – Courtroom 613

9:59 a.m. This is the time set for a Status Conference to discuss the Arizona State Land Department's Notice of Filing Draft Abstract and Map for Stock Watering Claim, filed June 22, 2026 before Special Water Master Sherri Zendri.

The following parties/attorneys are present:

- Kevin Crestin on behalf of the Arizona State Land Department ("ASLD")
- Karen Nielsen on behalf of Arizona Department of Water Resources ("ADWR")
- Laurel Herrmann and Alexander Ritchie on behalf of the San Carlos Apache Tribe
- Merrill Godfrey on behalf of the Gila River Indian Community
- Andrew "Guss" Guarino for the U.S. Department of Justice, Environment and Natural Resources Division
- Katrina Wilkinson on behalf of the Salt River Project ("SRP")

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

The Special Master addresses the parties regarding the various draft abstracts it has received. The Special Master informs the parties that its request directly to the Arizona State Land Department and from the United States was to relieve some of the burden from the Arizona Department of Water Resources. The Special Master states that there have been considerable errors which has caused the Arizona Department of Water Resources more work. The Special Master inquires on how to make improvements.

Procedural and logistical matters are discussed regarding adding case numbers on the abstracts and references to the attached maps, as well as GPS coordinates. The Special Master states its concerns regarding the same. With respect to the GPS coordinates, Ms. Herrmann states that there has been a lot of use of GPS coordinates on these abstracts, and it would make sense to continue with that. Discussion is held regarding the standard that is on the website that ADWR has provided and the lack of comment with respect to case numbers.

The Special Master states that moving forward, to the extent that something new is being created, case numbers and references to attached maps be added, as well as GPS coordinates where they make sense.

The Special Master addresses the parties regarding priority dates. Priority dates should be listed on draft abstracts in accordance with Special Master Thorson's "Memorandum Decision, Findings of Fact, and Conclusions of Law For Group 1 Cases Involving Stockwatering, Stockponds, and Domestic Uses", *In re Sands Group of Cases*, Case No. WI-11-000019, at 42 (Nov. 14, 1994). Mr. Crestin states he does not oppose changing the abstract dates.

Mr. Crestin addresses the Special Master with respect to the blanket amendment regarding Claim No. 3621799 that was a blanket filing that was added to every stock watering that the Arizona State Land Department had in the watershed. Discussion is held regarding the same.

Ms. Herrmann addresses the Special Master with respect to the blanket statement that there were cattle everywhere in the whole basin.

With respect to ADWR providing draft abstracts, Ms. Nielsen states that she will check with her technical staff before making any commitments for them. Procedural and logistical matters are discussed regarding draft abstracts.

The Special Master advises the parties to request more time, if needed. Ms. Herrmann advises the Special Master regarding the time needed for review. The Special Master states that moving forward parties may have at least 10 business days to provide comments to draft abstracts.

Discussion is held regarding how specific the parties should name the source of the wash and whether or not the parties should name the wash. The parties agree that there should be a publicly available name and not just any random name. Ms. Wilkinson advises

the Special Master that a lot of the applications and certificates on ADWR's image records also reference a facility name or a wash name. Ms. Wilkinson further advises the Special Master that in SRP's review, the facility name or the wash name is relevant and helpful.

IT IS ORDERED that information included in a draft abstract for the “Source of the Water” or “Name of Facility” shall include a reference to the source material used to provide that information. Where a water source is a tributary to a larger stream course, the tributary should be designated as a “tributary.”

With respect to the GPS coordinates, Ms. Herrmann addresses the Special Master as to what has been requested and what has not.

IT IS ORDERED that future draft abstracts shall include GPS coordinates, however current abstracts already approved for inclusion in the catalog of proposed water rights will not be revised if the ONLY issue is missing GPS coordinates.

Mr. Crestin advises the Special Master that in the Hayhurst contested case (W1-11-000224), there is a new SOC filing that does not have an assigned number. Mr. Crestin further advises the Special Master that ASLD will revise that abstract with the number once provided by ADWR. The Special Master agrees that it is best to postpone those until the final SOC is received.

Mr. Crestin inquires if there will be a specific standard moving forward with respect to naming tributaries. The Special Master encourages Mr. Crestin to confer with ADWR regarding the same. Ms. Herrmann comments that the certificate gives an identifier. The Special Master states that everything should match. Procedural and logistical matters are discussed. The Special Master informs the parties that it will provide further guidance on these five cases.

10:42 a.m. Matter concludes.

A copy of this minute entry will be sent to all people on the court-approved mailing list for this matter.

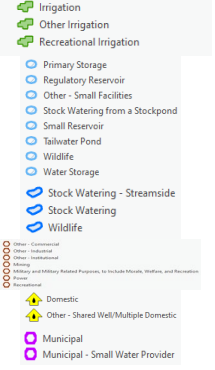
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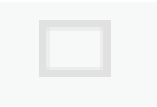
The attached “Adjudication GIS Abstract Map Template and Guidelines” were previously developed by ADWR to standardize scales and symbology. The Office of the Special Master will work with ADWR to update this template as quickly as possible and find it a proper home on both ADWR’s website, the General Stream Adjudication website. Notice will be posted on both websites once the template is available.

IT IS ORDERED that ASLD shall coordinate with ADWR regarding point of use and point of diversion for potential water right (“PWR”) #111-21-033-SW001. If an amended watershed file report is needed, ADWR shall file the amended report no later than **October 5, 2026**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that ASLD shall file revised abstracts for all PWRs in these contested cases, consistent with this minute entry, no later **November 2, 2026**. If a PWR is still missing a final statement of claimant number, ASLD shall file a revised abstract within 5 business days of receiving the number from ADWR.

Adjudication GIS Abstract Map Template & Guidelines

Layer	Symbology	Labeled	Scale Labeled	Scale Visibility	Notes
Point of Diversion		Yes	Always	Always	For GIS users: all Use and Diversion Symbology is available in provided .stylx file
Place of Use		Yes	Always	Always	For GIS users: all Use and Diversion Symbology is available in provided .stylx file
County Assessor Parcels		Yes	Always	Always	Only relevant parcels are displayed in the map.
Public Land Survey System Township / Range		Yes	Do not show when zoomed in beyond 1:10,000	Always	10N 05E 07 NENENE
Public Land Survey System Sections		Yes	Do not show when zoomed in beyond 1:20,000, out beyond 1:100,000	Always	10N 05E 07 NENENE

Layer	Symbology	Labeled	Scale Labeled	Scale Visibility	Notes
Public Land Survey System 160-Acre Subdivision		Yes	8,000, 20,000	Turn off zoomed out past 100,000	10N 05E 07 NENENE
Public Land Survey System 40-Acre Subdivision		Yes	6,000, 8,000	Out beyond 20,000	10N 05E 07 NENENE
Public Land Survey System 10-Acre Subdivision		Yes	Out beyond 6,000	Out beyond 8,000	10N 05E 07 NENENE
Imagery	N/A				ADWR uses the most up-to-date High Resolution NAIP Imagery as possible.

Other Guidelines:

- The maximum scale of the map is 1:4000.¹
- Ensure that at least one entire 40 acre subdivision (QQ) is visible in the map.

¹ In the cartographic context a “small scale map” shows a large geographic area, while a “large scale map” shows a small geographic area. This means that as a map’s scale decreases (1:4,000 to 1:10,000) the map’s extent increases.