1 2 3 4 5 IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA 6 7 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA 8 IN RE THE GENERAL 9 W-1, W-2, W-3, W-4 (Consolidated) ADJUDICATION OF ALL RIGHTS TO USE WATER IN THE GILA Contested Case No. W1-11-3112 10 RIVER SYSTEM AND SOURCE 11 12 ORDER INITIATING CONTESTED 13 CASE AND SETTING INITIAL **CONFERENCE** 14 15 CONTESTED CASE NAME: In re Floyd D. and Flossie M. Bostick 16 17 HSR INVOLVED: San Pedro Hydrographic Survey. 18 DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY: The Clerk of Maricopa County Superior Court is directed to initiate W1-11-3112. Initial conference set for April 25, 2024, at 10:15 a.m. 19 NUMBER OF PAGES: 14 20 21 **General Explanation** 22 This order opens a case to determine rights to use water on land owned by Robert 23 R. Floyd. The first step in this case is an initial conference with the Court, scheduled for 24 April 25, 2024, at 10:15 a.m. to determine if landowners are interested in pursuing 25 potential water rights. Interested Parties MUST attend the scheduled initial conference if they plan to pursue potential water rights. Failure to appear at the initial conference could 26

result in the dismissal of the case and the loss of water rights associated with the

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properties.

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In this case, Floyd D. Bostick filed Statement of Claimant ("SOC") 39-10924 on August 8, 1984, to assert claims to use water on land in Section 8 Township 6 South, Range 16 East.

The first step in this case will be an initial conference, where landowners will state whether they intend to pursue water rights.

Additional background information on the process for determining water rights in Arizona can be found on Attachment A.

#### **Details of the Case**

On August 8, 1984, Floyd D. Bostick ("Claimant") filed Statement of Claimant ("SOC") 39-10924, which claimed rights to use groundwater for domestic and irrigation purposes.

The Arizona Department of Water Resources ("ADWR") investigated the claims made by the Claimant and prepared Watershed File Report No. 114-04-BAB-105 ("WFR"), published in the Final San Pedro Watershed Hydrographic Survey Report (1991) ("San Pedro HSR"). The WFR recorded that a well in SENENW Section 8 Township 6 South, Range 16 East was being used for domestic and irrigation purposes. ADWR also published a map of the area investigated, denoted by "(105)." A copy of the WFR is attached as Attachment B, and a copy of the map is attached as Attachment C.

After ADWR issued the WFR, objections were filed to the findings made in the WFR by the United States, ASARCO, the Gila River Indian Community, San Carlos Apache Tribe, Tonto Apache Tribe, the Yavapai-Apache Tribe, the Camp Verde Reservation, and the Salt River Project.

### **Claimant and Landowners**

The WFR lists Floyd D. and Flossie M. Bostick as the owners of the property investigated. According to maps provided by ADWR and the Navajo County Assessor

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IT IS ORDERED:

1. <u>Case Initiation.</u> This contested case shall be known as *In re Floyd D. and Flossie M. Bostick*, and it will resolve claims to appropriable water asserted in Statement of Claimant 39-10924 and objections that were filed to Watershed File Report No. 114-04-BAB-105.

("Assessor"), the land investigated appears to comprise Pinal County tax parcel 300-46-002, which according to the Assessor is currently owned by Robert R. Floyd.

A copy of a parcel map of the investigation area provided by ADWR is attached as attachment D. A map showing the relevant tax parcels, the San Pedro River subflow zone, and the approximate location of the well supplying the domestic and irrigation uses detailed in the WFR is attached as Attachment E.

The public records of the Arizona Department of Water Resources do not contain any assignments of the SOC listed in the WFR, and the current landowners do not appear to have filed any additional SOCs.

To pursue water rights, a property owner must file a Statement of Claimant and present to the Court evidence of the existence of a water right on their property. This evidence may include the WFR. If either the property owner proves to the Court the existence of water rights on their property or enters into a valid settlement approved by the Court, the Court will recognize enforceable water rights in a "Final Decree." Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 45-257(B).

This is an Order from the Court. All parties must comply with the following instructions. The failure to obey this, or any, court order may result in the dismissal of this case and the loss of any potential water rights associated with the properties mentioned in this Order. If you have questions regarding this order or any of the attachments, please contact the General Stream Adjudication, Office of the Special Water Master, at (602) 372-4115. Please note that staff can only answer administrative questions and cannot provide legal advice.

- 2. <u>Initial Conference</u>. An initial conference shall be held on **April 25, 2024, at 10:15 a.m.** to determine whether current landowners intend to pursue claims for water rights. The conference will be held using the Court Connect program. Instructions for Court Connect are attached as Attachment G. 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 <a href="https://tinyurl.com/specialwatermaster">https://tinyurl.com/specialwatermaster</a>. 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.
- 3. <u>Parties</u>. The litigants in this contested case are the Claimant, the current landowners, and any party who filed an objection to the Watershed File Report. The objectors in this case are the United States, ASARCO, the Gila River Indian Community, San Carlos Apache Tribe, Tonto Apache Tribe, the Yavapai-Apache Tribe, the Camp Verde Reservation, and the Salt River Project.
- Objections. Copies of the objection filed to WFR No. 114-04-BAB-105 can be found under the case number W1-11-3112 on the following website: <a href="http://www.superiorcourt.maricopa.gov/SuperiorCourt/GeneralStreamAdjudication/whatsNew.asp.">http://www.superiorcourt.maricopa.gov/SuperiorCourt/GeneralStreamAdjudication/whatsNew.asp.</a>

### 5. <u>Court-Approved Mailing List.</u>

- A. The initial Court-approved mailing list for this case shall include all persons listed on Attachment F to this order. The list may be modified only by filing a motion with the Special Master to amend the Court-approved mailing list. 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

1		on the Court-approved mailing list.
2	C.	Claimants wishing to be added or removed from the mailing list shall
3		file a motion with the Special Master. Parties allowed to intervene
4		will be automatically added to the Court-approved mailing list.
5	D.	The Clerk of the Court will send copies of all minute entries and
6		orders issued in this case to the parties listed on the Court-approved
7		mailing list.
8	E.	Claimants who would like to receive courtesy copies of minute
9		entries and orders may request inclusion on an email list by sending
10		a request to emily.natale@jbazmc.maricopa.gov.
11	194	1
12	Signed this d	lay of
13		
14	Ann /	
15	Jan	
16	Sherri L. Zendri Special Water Master	
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19		
20	On April 1 2024, the original of	
21	the foregoing was delivered to the Clerk of the Maricopa County Superior Court for filing and	
22	distributing a copy to all persons listed on the Court-approved mailing list for this contested	
23	case, a copy of which is attached, and to all	
24	persons listed on the Court-approved mailing list for W1, W2, W3, and W4.	
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26	Emily Natale	
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#### **ATTACHMENT A**

### General Background on the Water Rights Determination Process in Arizona

A general stream adjudication is a judicial proceeding to determine the quantity and priority of all water rights in a river system. Arizona is undertaking general stream adjudications of both the Gila River and the Little Colorado River systems. A river system includes surface water flowing "in streams or other natural channels," groundwater sufficiently connected to that surface water, and water subject to claims by the federal government. Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 45-251(7). Recognizing and respecting water rights and the priority of such rights is important in Arizona where times of drought or water scarcity can occur.

All cases begin with the filing of a "Statement of Claimant," ("SOC") in which a property owner makes a claim for a right to use surface water on their property. Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 45-254(A). This person is the "claimant." The SOCs contain, among other characteristics, a description of the source and quantity of the water used, the location of use, the location from which the water was diverted, and the date when the water was first put to use. *Id.* § 45-254(C).

After the property owner files the SOCs, the Arizona Department of Water Resources ("ADWR") prepares a "Watershed File Report," ("WFR") in which ADWR investigates the claims in the SOCs and recommends water rights associated with the property. *Id.* § 45-256(B). ADWR compiles all WFRs for a watershed into a comprehensive Hydrographic Survey Report ("HSR") and publishes the report for public review and comment. In response, other claimants in the Adjudication may file "objections" disputing the information or recommendations in the WFR. The individuals who file objections are called "objectors."

This "contested case", one of thousands in the Gila River System, will evaluate claims asserted in specific Statements of Claimant while considering objections to the WFR that reported ADWR's initial inspection of those claims.

## ATTACHMENT B

Watershed File Report

PAGE: 28

LAND OWNER

WATERSHED FILE REPORT NUMBER

BOSTICK, FLOYD D.

114-04-BAB-105

& FLOSSIE M.

APPLICABLE FILINGS AND DECREES

CLEARLY STATED INFORMATION FROM FILINGS AND DECREES

FILING QUANTITY USE LOCATION CLAIM DIVERSION LOCATION FILING NUMBER STATUS USES IN AFA SECTION TWNP RNGE DATE SECTION TWNP RNGE QUE.RECD IRRIGATION 3.00 08 060S 160E 1971 39-0010924 DOMESTIC 1.00

STOCK . 50

DWR ANALYSIS OF FILINGS AND DECREES

USES CLAIMED OR USES FOUND FILING NUMBER

REFERENCED BY DWR

APPLIES TO DIVERSIONS

APPLIES TO PWR NUMBERS

39-0010924

IRRIGATION DOMESTIC

STOCK

IRRIGATION DOMESTIC INCIDENTAL

WO1 DMO01,0T001

DIVERSIONS

LOCATION

WATER SOURCE AND CLASSIFICATION DIV # SECTION TWNP RNGE DIVERSION NAME

WO1 SENENWO8 OGOS 160E UNNAMED

GROUNDWATER : ZONE 1 OF THE SAN PEDRO RIVER

USES

LOCATION SUPPLIED BY PHOTO SOURCE

PWR # SECTION TWNP RNGE DIVERSIONS WATER SOURCES DATE CHANGE FACILITY NAME GROUNDWATER : ZONE 1 NO

DMOO1 SENENWO8 OGOS 160E WO1 NENWO8 060S 160E W01 0T001

GROUNDWATER : ZONE 1

1983 NO

PWR SUMMARY

\*APPARENT FIRST USE DATE\* APPLICABLE APPLICABLE

PWR # ADJ FILINGS PRE FILINGS DATE BASIS FOR DATE WATER SOURCES AND CLASSIFICATIONS

DMOO1 39-0010924 NONE

GROUNDWATER : ZONE 1 OF THE

SAN PEDRO RIVER

0T001 39-0010924 NONE

1983 1983 AERIAL PHOTO

GROUNDWATER : ZONE 1 OF THE SAN PEDRO RIVER

QUANTITIES OF USE

QUANTIFICATION ESTIMATED CROP TYPE EFF WATER DUTY PWR # ACRES VOLUME REMARKS SEE VOLUME 1 -DMOO1 GENERAL ASSESSMENT

4.3 AFA 50% 5.4 AF/AC OTOO1 REGIONAL .8 AVE. CROP

EXPLANATION

FILINGS AND DECREES

FILING 39-10924 - A UNIFORM QUESTIONNAIRE WAS RECEIVED WHICH REFLECTS INFORMATION PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED IN THE ORIGINAL STATEMENT OF CLAIMANT.

**DIVERSIONS** 

W1 - WELL PROVIDES WATER FOR IRRIGATION AND DOMESTIC USES.

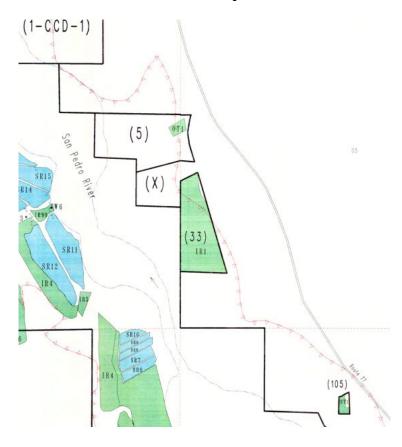
USES AND RESERVOIRS DM1 - DOMESTIC USE.

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OT1 - IRRIGATION TOTALING LESS THAN TWO ACRES ASSOCIATED WITH A DOMESTIC USE.

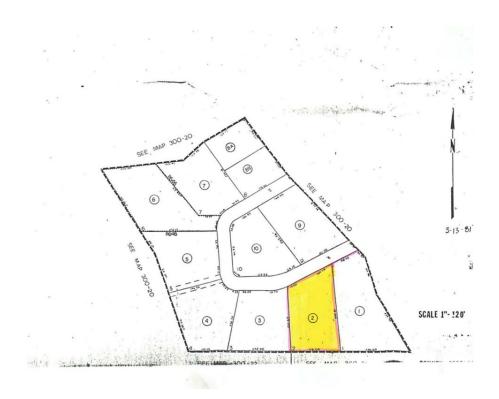
### ATTACHMENT C

### WFR Map

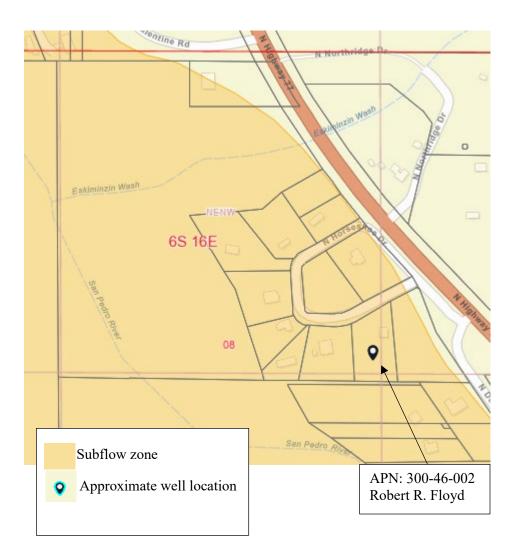


## ATTACHMENT D

## ADWR Parcel Map



# Attachment E Assessor Map



#### ATTACHMENT F

1 2 **Initial Court-Approved Mailing List** 3 Arizona Department of Water Resources Lauren Caster & Bradley Pew Kimberly R. Parks and Karen J. Nielsen Fennemore Craig, P.C. 4 1110 West Washington, Suite 310 2394 E. Camelback Road Ste. 600 5 Phoenix, AZ 85007 Phoenix, AZ 85016-3429 6 Clerk of the Superior Court Joe P. Sparks and Laurel A. Hermann Maricopa County The Sparks Law Firm, P.C. Attn: Water Case 7503 First Street 601 West Jackson St. Scottsdale, AZ 85251-4573 8 Phoenix, AZ 85003 9 Jeremiah Weiner, Kent Millward, Brett J. Special Master Sherri Zendri Stavin, and Lauren Mulhern 10 Superior Court of Arizona Rosette, LLP. 201 W. Jefferson Street 120 S. Ash Avenue, Suite 201 11 Courtroom 301 Tempe, AZ 85281 Phoenix, AZ 85003 12 Susan B. Montgomery, Robyn 13 Salt River Project Interpreter, Montgomery & Interpreter J.B. Weldon, M.A. McGinnis, M.K. Foy **PLC** 14 Salmon, Lewis, and Weldon 3301 E Thunderbird Road 2850 E. Camelback Rd. Suite 200 Phoenix, AZ 85032 15 Phoenix, AZ 85016 16 Gila River Indian Community Javier Ramos and Sunshine Manuel Vanessa Boyd Willard 17 U. S. Department of Justice - ENRD Office of the General Counsel 999 18th Street, Suite 370 P.O. Box 97 18 Denver, CO 80202 Sacaton, AZ 85147 19 Alexander B. Ritchie Robert R. Floyd 20 San Carlos Apache Tribe 11816 N Crescendo Dr Office of the Attorney General Oro Valley, AZ 85737 21 PO Box 40 San Carlos, AZ 85550 Floyd and Flossie Bostick 22 Box 3470 23 Winkelman, AZ 85292 24

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#### **ATTACHMENT G**



## Court Connect Hearing Notice for In re Floyd D. and Flossie M. Bostick

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 videoconference 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 Floyd D. and Flossie M. Bostick

Contested Case No. W1-11-3112

20 | Start Date/Time: April 25, 2024 at 10:15 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

24 | +1 917-781-4590

| | **Dial-in Access Code:** 688 970 203#

26 Tiny URL: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/specialwatermaster">https://tinyurl.com/specialwatermaster</a>

To ensure an optimal experience, please review the brief Court Connect training prior to the hearing:

<u>Here</u>

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