



# United States Department of the Interior


BUREAU OF RECLAMATION  
Lower Colorado Region  
Phoenix Area Office  
6150 West Thunderbird Road  
Glendale, AZ 85306-4001

**AUG 31 2012**

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
**PXAO-1500**  
**ENV-6.00**

## MEMORANDUM

**To: All Interested Persons, Organizations, and Agencies**

**From: Randy N. Chandler**  
*Acting for* **Area Manager** 

**Subject: Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment (EA) on Implementation of Groundwater Savings Facility Storage Agreement (Agreement) (Action by September 14, 2012)**

The Bureau of Reclamation has issued the attached EA and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) to disclose the potential environmental impacts that will result from implementation of the subject Agreement with the Roosevelt Water Conservation District (RWCD). The Agreement was executed on December 20, 2010, for a term of approximately 10 years.

The Agreement will provide Reclamation with a mechanism to earn long-term groundwater storage credits to firm 36,924 acre-feet of Non-Indian Agricultural water supplies reallocated to Arizona Indian tribes, pursuant to Section 105 of Arizona Water Settlements Act of 2004. Excess Central Arizona Project water provided under the Agreement would be applied within the RWCD Groundwater Saving Facility only on a gallon-for-gallon substitute basis directly in lieu of groundwater that RWCD otherwise would have pumped from the Phoenix Active Management Area. Existing infrastructure would be used to distribute water from the Central Arizona Project to the RWCD Groundwater Saving Facility.

We have made a preliminary determination that a FONSI is appropriate for the action and that preparation of an environmental impact statement is not warranted. However, we will consider all comments on the EA prior to making a final decision regarding the applicability of a FONSI. The final decision will be available at [www.usbr.gov/lc/phoenix](http://www.usbr.gov/lc/phoenix).

Please submit your comments to Mr. John McGlothlen, at the above address, no later than September 14, 2012. Comments may also be emailed to [jmcglothlen@usbr.gov](mailto:jmcglothlen@usbr.gov). Before

including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal

2

identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

For additional information regarding this matter, please contact Mr. McGlothlen by email at [jmcglothlen@usbr.gov](mailto:jmcglothlen@usbr.gov), or by calling 623-773-6256.

Attachment