



Department of Defense Legacy Resource Management Program

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Linking Science and Policy Through an Adaptive Management Approach: The San Pedro River

HOLLY RICHTER
UPPER SAN PEDRO PROGRAM DIRECTOR
Bisbee, Arizona

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(PAC)
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Long-Range Five Year Planning Document 2007 - 2011

Mission:

To meet the long-term water needs of the Sierra Vista Sub-watershed by achieving sustainable yield* of the regional aquifer by 2011 and beyond to: 1) preserve the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area (SPRNCA), and 2) ensure the long-term viability of Fort Huachuca.

** Sustainable yield is defined as the management of groundwater in a way that it can be maintained for an indefinite period of time, without causing unacceptable environmental, economic, or social consequences.*

Plan Purpose:

Identify and prioritize projects, policies and programs to meet the Partnership's mission.

STRATEGIC GOALS

1. Verify, monitor and report on conditions within the Sierra Vista Sub-watershed using the best available science and adaptive management techniques.
2. Pursue Partnership Advisory Commission (PAC) approved water augmentation, recharge and reuse projects to restore and maintain adequate groundwater elevations at key locations by 2011.
3. Minimize groundwater use throughout the sub-watershed to restore and maintain adequate groundwater elevations at key locations by 2011.
4. Establish a conservation culture in the Sierra Vista Sub-watershed by providing tools; funding and outreach support to the engage the communities in conserving water.

OBJECTIVES

Strategic Goal #1 - *Verify*, monitor and report on conditions within the SV Sub-watershed using the best available science and adaptive management techniques.

Objective 1.1 - Secure funding at the necessary levels for the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), U.S.D.A. Agricultural Research Service (ARS), and U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

Objective 1.2 - Support collaboration among science-based member agencies as they use the best available hydrologic modeling techniques, science and adaptive management techniques.

Objective 1.3 - Report annually to Congress (Section 321 Report), local and state leadership and residents.

Objective 1.4 - Seek opportunities to educate residents and leadership state-wide on key and emerging issues.

Strategic Goal #2 - Pursue PAC approved water augmentation, recharge and reuse projects to restore and maintain adequate groundwater elevations at key locations by 2011.

Objective 2.1 - Secure congressional authorization for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) to proceed to Feasibility on the PAC approved alternatives.

Objective 2.2 - Secure first year funding for the feasibility Study: FY08 federal funding of \$300,000 and state hard match of \$300,000 from the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR).

Objective 2.3 - Establish local authority to develop, own, operate and finance this infrastructure.

Objective 2.4 - Ensure that the Ground Water Model and Decision Support System are available to inform and support project development.

Objective 2.5 - Support and help member agencies secure funding for recharge and reuse projects, giving priority to projects in those locations that will yield the highest hydrological benefits based on best available science.

Objective 2.6 - Support member agency efforts to implement post development storm water capture projects.

Strategic Goal #3 - Minimize groundwater use throughout the Sub-watershed to restore and maintain adequate groundwater elevations at key locations by 2011.

Objective 3.1 - Identify high priority (key) locations on which to conserve groundwater resources. Finalize key locations maps.

Objective 3.2 - Identify funding sources to establish conservation easements to reduce groundwater pumping by lowering development density and/or retiring irrigated agriculture.

Objective 3.3 - Identify legal impediments that interfere with this goal.

Objective 3.4 - Develop legislative strategies to deal with legal impediments that can be addressed collaboratively by Partnership members.

Objective 3.5 - Develop seminar for local developers to address the issue of key locations. (Transfer of Development Rights Work Group)

Objective 3.6 - Analyze water conservation ordinances to determine opportunities for more aggressive policies that PAC can champion for implementation.

Objective 3.7 - Develop informational tools and materials (including the website) that engage residents in a positive and active manner to improve local understanding of water issues and the need to conserve.

Strategic Goal #4 - Establish a conservation culture in the Sierra Vista Sub-watershed by providing tools, funding and outreach support to the engage the communities in conserving water.

Objective 4.1 - Determine the PAC approved messages for the coming period.

Objective 4.2 - Conduct an assessment of strengths and weaknesses to identify institutional and individual partners, and to prioritize focus areas for the coming year.

Objective 4.3 - Identify sources of funds and prioritize communications collaterals including website, brochures, PSA's, industry specific FAQs.

Objective 4.4 - Focus outreach efforts on highest priority areas and seek funding to accomplish this goal.

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