

## **ISSUE RESPONSE SUMMARY OCTOBER 15, 2008**

### **OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING**

#### **1. What is the Butler / McMullen / Harquehala land ownership mix (e.g. private and public)?**

**RESPONSE:** *ADWR Water Atlas Volume 7 provides the following descriptions of land ownership in the three basins referenced above. For more information visit [http://www.azwater.gov/dwr/Content/Find by Program/Rural Programs/content/water atlas/v7/HAR.pdf](http://www.azwater.gov/dwr/Content/Find%20by%20Program/Rural%20Programs/content/water%20atlas/v7/HAR.pdf)*

#### **7.3.2 Land Ownership in the Harquahala Basin**

Land ownership, including the percentage of ownership by category, for the Harquahala Basin is shown in Figure 7.3-2. The principal feature of land ownership in this basin is the large amount of U.S. Bureau of Land Management Land. A description of land ownership data sources and methods is found in Volume 1, Section 1.3.8. Land ownership categories are discussed below in the order of largest to smallest percentage in the basin.

##### **U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM)**

- 62.2% of the land is federally owned and managed by the Lower Sonoran Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management.
- This basin contains 52,800 acres of wilderness. This includes 24,000 acres of the 100,000 acre Eagletail Mountains Wilderness, 18,000 acres of the 21,000 acre Big Horn Mountains Wilderness, 5,500 acres of the 31,000 acre Hummingbird Springs Wilderness and 5,300 acres of the 23,000 acre Harquahala Mountains Wilderness. (See Figure 7.0-9)
- Land uses include resource conservation, recreation and grazing.

##### **Private**

- 25.1% of the land is private.
- Land uses include domestic, commercial and grazing.

##### **State Trust Land**

- 12.6% of the land is held in trust for the public schools, state charitable penal reform and county bonds under the State Trust Land system.
- Primary land use is grazing.

##### **Other**

- 0.1% of the land is federally owned by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBOR)
- USBOR lands are located in the western portion of the basin in the vicinity of Interstate 10 where they surround the Central Arizona Project aqueduct.

## **7.5.2 Land Ownership in the McMullen Valley Basin**

Land ownership, including the percentage of ownership by category, for the McMullen Valley Basin is shown in Figure 7.5-2. The principal feature of land ownership in this basin is the limited number of land ownership types. A description of land ownership data sources and methods is found in Volume 1, Section 1.3.8. Land ownership categories are discussed below in the order of largest to smallest percentage in the basin.

### **U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM)**

- 51.8% of the land is federally owned and managed by the Yuma Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management.
- This basin contains 9,000 acres of the 23,000 acre Harquahala Mountains Wilderness and 14,000 acres of the 25,000 acre Harcuvar Mountains Wilderness. (See Figure 7.0-9)
- Land uses include grazing, resource conservation and recreation.

### **State Trust Land**

- 33.4% of the land is held in trust for the public schools under the State Trust Land system.
- Land uses include agriculture and grazing.

### **Private**

- 14.8% of the land is private.
- Land uses include agriculture, domestic and commercial.

## 7.1.2 Land Ownership in the Butler Valley Basin

Land ownership, including the percentage of ownership by category, for the Butler is shown in Figure 7.1-2. Principal features of land ownership in this basin are the of U.S. Bureau of Land Management and State Trust lands. A description of land ownership sources and methods is found in Volume 1, Section 1.3.8. Land ownership categories below in the order of largest to smallest percentage in the basin.

### U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

- 55.5% of the land is federally owned and managed by the Yuma Field Office of Land Management.
- BLM land in this basin includes 4,900 acres of the 38,000 acre Rawhid Wilderness and 11,000 acres of the 25,000 acre Harcuvar Mountains Wild (Figure 7.0-9)
- Land uses include grazing, resource conservation and recreation.

### State Trust Land

- 43.9% of the land is held in trust for the public schools, state charitable pen: county bonds under the State Trust Land system.
- Primary land use is grazing.

### Private

- 0.6% of the land is private.
- Small parcels of private land are found surrounded by BLM land in the southern portions of the basin.
- Land uses include domestic and ranching.

## 2. Did Rob Marshall provide a statewide map that shows groundwater dependent ecosystems – and if so were there any in the three basins (Harquehala, Butler and McMullen)?

RESPONSE: *Rob Marshall provided a high level statewide map showing groundwater dependent rivers. There are no groundwater dependent rivers in these sub-basins, however, there are some Springs.*

## 3. How much water is delivered annually (in acre feet) within the incorporated city and how much outside?

RESPONSE: *Total water delivered for the last twelve months, including potable and reclaimed, inside the City of Tucson is about 76,500 acre-feet (64%), outside the City of Tucson it is about 43,500 acre-feet (36%)*

4. **Clearly one of our community's greatest concerns is the aging infrastructure of Tucson Water and Pima County Wastewater Departments. Many of the pipes, pumps, wells, and treatment plants are outdated and due to be replaced. This places a huge burden on the employees who are responsible for the Operation and Maintenance of these vital public systems.**

**To improve our understanding of the big picture, we ask this committee to acquire some basic human resource information.**

RESPONSE: *Assuming the committee chair agrees that the committee and the public need this type of information at this point in the study, it is provided below.*

5. **Overall how many people are currently employed at Tucson Water and Pima County Wastewater Departments? How do these numbers compare with people employed there 5 years ago back in 2003?**

TUCSON WATER RESPONSE:

*2008 - 580 positions*

*2003 - 590 positions*

PCRWRD RESPONSE: *As of October 23, 2008, PCRWRD had 525 employees on its payroll. At this time, the Department has 599 full-time positions authorized and budgeted (for FY 2008-2009). In October of 2003, PCRWRD had approximately 555 full-time equivalent positions authorized and budgeted, representing growth of about 8% in 5 years. Applying the current vacancy rate (~12%), the Department would have had about 488 people employed 5 years ago. Applying a 20% vacancy rate, which more closely represents the actual situation in 2003 (according to the PCRWRD Employee Services Manager), the Department would have had about 444 people employed 5 years ago. Using a blended vacancy rate of 16%, the average payroll in FY 03-04 would have consisted of about 466 employees.*

6. **How many people work in Operations and Maintenance for both departments?**

TUCSON WATER RESPONSE: *In Tucson Water Maintenance division there are 198 positions. These are maintenance positions only and not the operators. If we include the Water System Operators and Treatment Plant operators, add another 21.5 positions for a total Tucson Water Operations and Maintenance staff of 219.5 positions.*

PCRWRD RESPONSE: *The PCRWRD Treatment Division has 220 employees (239 authorized), and the PCRWRD Conveyance Division has 93 employees (110 authorized), for a total O&M staff of 313 (349 authorized, with 10% vacancy rate).*

## 7. What are their responsibilities? (job descriptions)

PCRWRD RESPONSE: *The Department's position descriptions are available (alphabetically) at <http://www.pima.gov/hr/salary.html>. There are approximately 63 O&M position descriptions currently in effect at PCRWRD. The best sampling of positions includes the 27 listed under "Wastewater".*

TUCSON WATER RESPONSE: *The Water Maintenance Divisions core functions reflected below:*

*Potable and Reclaimed System Maintenance  
Maintain transmission mains and distribution system  
Repair and replace distribution and transmission mains  
Flush mains  
Corrosion monitoring, valve exercising, PRV maintenance and air release valves.  
Planned Maintenance (MMP), pipeline protection, hydrant and fire service maintenance  
Equipment, well and basin maintenance  
Maintain electrical system/SCADA control devices  
Blue Stake - location of underground water facilities in response to construction projects or repairs  
Maintenance of all Tucson Water properties*

*Specific job descriptions can be found at <http://www.tucsonaz.gov/sigma/InfoListings.aspx>*

## 8. Are any of these Operation and Maintenance jobs being out-sourced to private contractors, consultants, companies or individuals? What are the timelines related to those contracts? How much is paid to those contracts? Are reports detailing the progress of those contracts required to account for their time and responsibilities? Provide those reports to the committee for public review.

TUCSON WATER RESPONSE: *Current annual contracts that is support of or performs Tucson Water Operations and Maintenance activities:*

*Tucson Asphalt, K&B Asphalt (supports) - Asphalt patch repair. The new contract also has the ability to also contract to the City's Transportation Department by request of City Manager. Total annual cost = \$900,000.*

*Groundskeeper (supporting and performs) - Maintain grounds for noxious weeds for over 220 facilities. In addition Tucson Water has two full time grounds keepers. They manage the contractor along with performing work at assigned sites. Total annual cost = \$500,000.*

*Gilbert pump (supporting and performs) - Pulls and installs pumps, equipment and rehabilitates wells. They are used only when Tucson Water's two crews can not get to work due to other well maintenance activities. Total annual cost = \$25,000.*

*ECC-CORP (supporting and performs) - Maintains natural Gas engines on the wells and boosters out at the Clearwater's CAVSARP facility. Total annual cost = \$400,000.*

*Pure Technology (supports) - Acoustic monitoring of 96 inch main line. Total annual cost = \$240,000.*

*There are no Tucson Water reports on these private contractors. Each contract has a manager who works from a defined scope of work coupled with routine invoicing and payments within the context of the overall City of Tucson procurement procedures.*

**PCRWRD RESPONSE:** *None of the PCRWRD Treatment Division's jobs is typically outsourced, unless there is an emergency or other very unusual situation. In the Conveyance Division, there are three O&M services that are contracted for from time to time – vector (roach) control, odor control and CCTV (closed circuit television) inspection. Since these services are procured on an as-needed basis, contract terms and performance reports are variable.*