

SALT RIVER PROJECT AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENT AND POWER DISTRICT MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA

WATER COMMITTEE
Tuesday, November 15, 2022, 9:30 AM
SRP Administration Building
1500 N. Mill Avenue, Tempe, AZ 85288

This SRP District Committee meeting will be held in the Board Committee Room with an option to attend in-person or observe via Zoom. The public may receive the teleconference meeting access information by contacting the Corporate Secretary's Office at (602) 236-4398. Supplemental materials will be posted on the SRP website.

Committee Members: Paul Rovey, Chairman; Leslie C. Williams, Vice Chairman; and Anda McAfee, Mark Pace, and Jack White Jr.

Call to Order
Roll Call

1. **CONSENT AGENDA:** The following agenda item(s) will be considered as a group by the Committee and will be enacted with one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these item(s) unless a Committee Member requests, in which event the agenda item(s) will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered as a separate item CHAIRMAN PAUL ROVEY
 - Request for approval of the minutes for the meeting of October 18, 2022
2. Roosevelt Reservoir Habitat Conservation Plan MARC WICKE and BRUCE HALLIN

Informational presentation regarding an update on the status of implementation of the Incidental Take Permit (ITP) and associated Roosevelt Habitat Conservation Plan (RHCP) for Roosevelt Dam and Reservoir, including progress on amending the ITP and RHCP to add additional coverage. The Committee may vote to go into Executive Session, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3) and (A)(4), to have discussion or consultation with attorneys for legal advice regarding legal issues that may arise during the update.
3. Report on Current Events by the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer or Designees..... MIKE HUMMEL
4. Future Agenda Topics..... CHAIRMAN PAUL ROVEY

The Committee may vote during the meeting to go into Executive Session, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A)(3), for the purpose of discussion or consultation for legal advice with legal counsel to the Committee on any of the matters listed on the agenda.

The Committee may go into Closed Session, pursuant to A.R.S. §30-805(B), for records and proceedings relating to competitive activity, including trade secrets or privileged or confidential commercial or financial information.

Visitors: All property in your possession, including purses, briefcases, packages or containers, will be subject to inspection.



**THE NEXT WATER COMMITTEE MEETING
IS SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2022**

11/08/2022

MINUTES
WATER COMMITTEE
SALT RIVER PROJECT AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENT AND
POWER DISTRICT

DRAFT

October 18, 2022

A meeting of the Water Committee of the Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement and Power District (the District) convened at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 18, 2022, from the Board Conference Room at the SRP Administration Building, 1500 North Mill Avenue, Tempe, Arizona. This meeting was conducted in-person and via teleconference in compliance with open meeting law guidelines. The District and Salt River Valley Water Users' Association (the Association) are collectively known as SRP.

Committee Members present at roll call were P.E. Rovey, Chairman; L.C. Williams, Vice Chairman; and A.G. McAfee, M.V. Pace, and J.M. White Jr.

Also present were President D. Rousseau; District Vice President C.J. Dobson; Association Vice President J.R. Hoopes; Board Members R.C. Arnett, N.R. Brown, M.J. Herrera, R.J. Miller, and K.H. O'Brien; Board Member L.D. Rovey of the Association; Council Vice Chairman J.R. Shelton; Council Liaisons M.L. Farmer and M.A. Freeman; Council Members R.S. Kolb, J.W. Lines, and B.E. Paceley; Mmes. K.J. Barr, M.J. Burger, L.F. Hobaica, C.M. McJunkin, L.A. Meyers, and C.M. Sifuentes; Messrs. A.M. Beckham, J.D. Coggins, B.L. Hallin, M. Hummel, R.T. Judd, K.J. Lee, S.B. Lutz, A.J. McSheffrey, M.S. Mendonca, M.J. O'Connor, C.J. Podolak, D.C. Roberts, G. Saint Paul, L.M. Shaw, P.B. Sigl, and R.R. Taylor; and Maddie Weicht of University of Washington.

In compliance with A.R.S. §38-431.02, Andrew Davis of the Corporate Secretary's Office had posted a notice and agenda of the Water Committee meeting at the SRP Administration Building, 1500 North Mill Avenue, Tempe, Arizona, at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, October 14, 2022.

Chairman P.E. Rovey called the meeting to order.

Consent Agenda

Chairman P.E. Rovey requested a motion for Committee approval of the Consent Agenda, in its entirety.

On a motion duly made by Board Member J.M. White Jr. and seconded by Board Member A.G. McAfee, the Committee unanimously approved and adopted the following item on the Consent Agenda:

- Minutes of the Water Committee meeting on September 20, 2022, as presented

Corporate Secretary J.M. Felty polled the Committee Members on Board Member J.M. White Jr.'s motion to approve the Consent Agenda, in its entirety. The vote was recorded as follows:

YES:	Board Members P.E. Rovey, Chairman; L.C. Williams, Vice Chairman; and A.G. McAfee, M.V. Pace, and J.M. White Jr.	(5)
NO:	None	(0)
ABSTAINED:	None	(0)
ABSENT:	None	(0)

Desert Botanical Garden

Using a PowerPoint presentation, Anthony M. Beckham, SRP Senior Analyst of Water Planning, stated that the purpose of the presentation was to request approval of the terms of an agreement for the lease of capacity in SRP wells and water delivery to assist the Desert Botanical Garden.

Mr. A.M. Beckham provided the following background on the Desert Botanical Garden: it is a non-profit desert plant museum showcasing and protecting desert plant species; uses about 42 acre-feet of water annually for cultivating 55 acres of desert plants; and is served by the City of Phoenix through the Cross Cut Canal using untreated Central Arizona Project (CAP) water. He said that if the proposed agreement is approved, the Desert Botanical Garden will acquire a Type 2 Groundwater Right and attach its right to Association Non-Member Wells; the Desert Botanical Garden will lease capacity in SRP wells, and SRP will pump Type 2 water into the Arizona Canal; and the Desert Botanical Garden will divert its Type 2 water from SRP's Cross Cut Canal.

Mr. A.M. Beckham reviewed the following proposed terms of the agreement: the agreement will remain in effect so long as the use of water is provided pursuant to the agreement and is limited to the use of Desert Botanical Garden; and there will be a well capacity lease and water delivery of 64 acre-foot (AF)/year, up to 120 AF/year with a 60-day notice, subject to conveyance losses. He summarized the following terms for the proposed fees: well capacity lease – \$174.10/AF; canal transportation fee – \$39.60/AF; annual administration fee – \$1,120; fees will be adjusted upwards annually by the greater of 3% or the Customer Price Index (CPI) rate; and fees are subject to revision in 2023.

Mr. A.M. Beckham concluded by requesting approval to authorize the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer or his designee to enter into a well capacity lease and water transportation agreement with Desert Botanical Garden in accordance with the agreement principles and conditions discussed herein; and to enter into any subsequent amendments to such agreements that do not materially modify the economic terms described herein.

Mr. A.M. Beckham responded to questions from the Committee.

On a motion duly made by Board Member A.G. McAfee, seconded by Board Member M.V. Pace and carried, the Committee agreed to recommend Board approval as presented.

Corporate Secretary J.M. Felty polled the Committee Members on Board Member A.G. McAfee's motion to recommend Board approval. The vote was recorded as follows:

YES:	Board Members P.E. Rovey, Chairman; L.C. Williams, Vice Chairman; and A.G. McAfee, M.V. Pace and J.M. White Jr.	(5)
NO:	None	(0)
ABSTAINED:	None	(0)
ABSENT:	None	(0)

Copies of the PowerPoint slides used in this presentation are on file in the Corporate Secretary's Office and, by reference, made a part of these minutes.

Verde Valley Water Rights Program

Using a PowerPoint presentation, Lucas M. Shaw, SRP Manager of Water Rights, stated that the purpose of the presentation was to provide information regarding the status and implementation of the Verde Valley Water Rights Program, including the management of the properties acquired by SRP to resolve water rights conflicts in the Verde Valley.

Mr. L.M. Shaw stated that the farm properties purchased by SRP in the Camp Verde area provide 177 acres of historic water rights and were purchased to resolve the local water right issues. He discussed the community's acceptance, status of short-term agriculture leases, conceptual long-term use and development plans, and determination of pricing of water rights. Mr. L.M. Shaw concluded with an overview of the next steps.

Mr. L.M. Shaw responded to questions from the Committee.

Copies of the PowerPoint slides used in this presentation are on file in the Corporate Secretary's Office and, by reference, made a part of these minutes.

Mr. A.M. Beckham left the meeting during the presentation. Board Members S.H. Williams and K.B. Woods; and Council Member A.A. Freeman entered the meeting during the presentation.

Report on Current Events by the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer or Designees

Mike Hummel, SRP General Manager and Chief Executive Officer, reported on a variety of federal, state, and local topics of interest to the Committee.

Maddie Weicht of the University of Washington left the meeting during the report.

Future Agenda Topics

Chairman P.E. Rovey asked the Committee if there were any future agenda topics. None were requested.

There being no further business to come before the Water Committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:21 a.m.

John M. Felty
Corporate Secretary

Update on the Roosevelt Reservoir Habitat Conservation Plan Amendment Process

Water Committee Meeting

November 15, 2022

Marc Wicke and Bruce Hallin

Amendment to Roosevelt Habitat Conservation Plan

Agenda:

- Background/SRP Historical Compliance with Endangered Species Act (“ESA”)
- Purpose of Amendments to Incidental Take Permit (“ITP”) and Roosevelt Habitat Conservation Plan (“RHCP”)
- Research and Recovery Permit and Studies
- Conservation/Mitigation Program
- Timeline and Next Steps

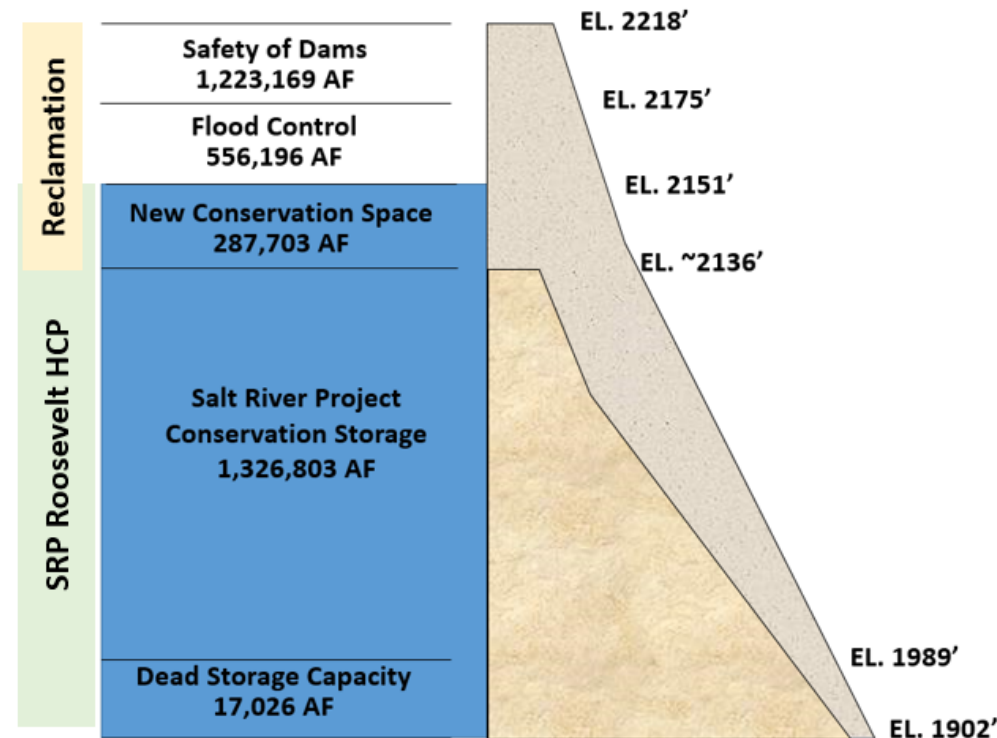


Amendment to Roosevelt Habitat Conservation Plan

Background:

- In 1995, the SW Willow Flycatcher was listed as endangered under the ESA; flycatchers were found nesting within conservation space in Roosevelt Reservoir
- Reclamation obtained ESA compliance in 1996 for construction of Modified Roosevelt Dam, including the New Conservation Space
- SRP obtained an ITP for Roosevelt operations in 2003; RHCP; 50-year permit; Includes 4 species
- U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (“USACE”) Water Control Manual for operation in Flood Control Space

Roosevelt Dam Profile and ESA Compliance



Purpose of the Roosevelt HCP Amendment

- Northern Mexican gartersnake (“NMGS”) was not considered during original HCP development
- Discovered in Roosevelt conservation space in Tonto Creek in 2010
- Species listing as threatened under the ESA in 2014
- SRP formed the Roosevelt NMGS working group
- Contracted with NAU to conduct a 3-year study to inform the amendment process



Purpose of the Roosevelt HCP Amendment (Cont.)



ESA coverage for:

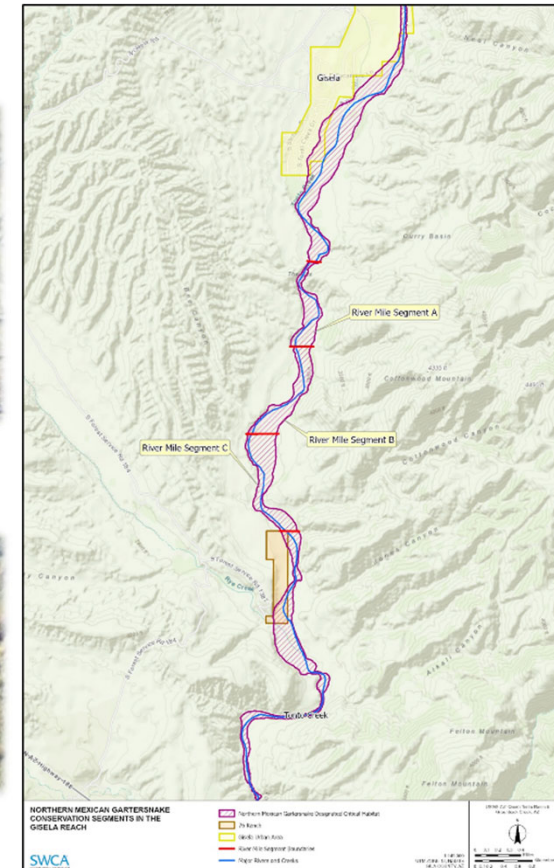
1. NMGS for continued operation of Modified Roosevelt Dam including New Conservation Space (below elevation 2151')
2. All listed species for potential take under 'normal' Flood Control Space operations (elevation 2151' to 2175')
3. All listed species for potential take under the temporary deviation from the USACE flood control manual ("Temporary Deviation").

Research and Recovery Permit

- Perform studies to further inform the amendment process
- Provides ESA coverage for potential 'take' during those studies
- Provides ESA coverage for continued reservoir/dam operations until the amended HCP/ITP is complete
- Permit will expire June 30, 2023

Proposed Mitigation/Conservation Measures

- Non-native species removal from residual pools on Tonto Creek
- Stocking native fish species (long-fin dace, native suckers, etc.) in treated residual pools on Tonto Creek
- Rearing and stocking lowland leopard frogs in Tonto Creek
- Total estimated cost over 30-year permit term is approximately \$9 million.

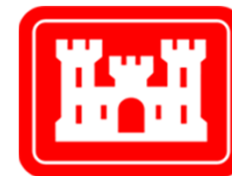


Next Steps: Amendment Timeline/Status

- Final draft of the ITP/HCP amendment document to U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (“FWS”) August 2022, response to FWS comments will be submitted in November 2022
- Parallel NEPA process (EA) is underway (scoping letter issued May 31, 2022)
- Final ITP/HCP/Environmental Assessment submitted to FWS and USACE in February 2023
- Anticipate FWS to issue decision on HCP amendment/ITP and by the end of May, 2023 (Biological Opinion, EA/FONSI, ITP/HCP)
- Anticipate USACE issue formal decision letter on Temporary Deviation by end of July, 2023

HCP Amendment Partners and Coordinating Agencies

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- Arizona Game and Fish Department
- Arizona Department of Water Resources
- NCS Cities (Cost share for the Amendment)
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



thank you!

