



Report on Preparation for the 2025 Plan of Operation

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CAGRD Manager

August CAGRD and Underground Storage Committee Meeting
August 18, 2022

YOUR WATER. YOUR FUTURE.

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Background and Statutory Requirements for the Plan of Operation

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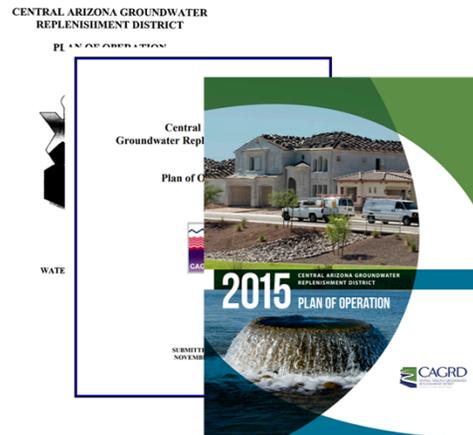
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Background and Scope

Every ten years CAGRD is required to submit: “a plan describing the activities for each active management area that the conservation district proposes to undertake during the one hundred calendar years following submitting the plan.”

Demonstrates consistency with the management goal for each AMA.

Three plans have been developed and approved to date.



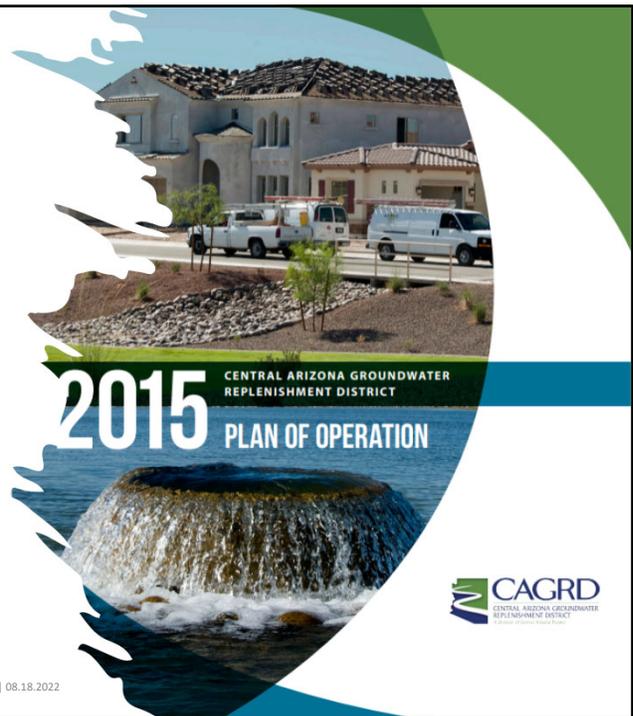
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2015 Plan of Operation

- Developed April 2013 – December 2014
- Approved by CAWCD Board December 2014
- Submitted to ADWR December 2014
- Public comment and public hearing in early 2015.
- Approval in August 2015.



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Required Elements (ARS §45-576.02.C.2)

CAGRDR Recent and Near-Term Activities

- **Replenishment obligations and the extent to which those obligations have been met in the ten years preceding...[2(a)]**
- **...the district's current replenishment reserve activities...for the ten years preceding...and planned replenishment reserve activities for the ensuing ten years...[2(d)]**

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GROUNDWATER CODE 45-576.03

6. A description of the water district's current capability to meet the current and projected water district groundwater replenishment obligation for the five calendar years following the calendar year in which the water district submits the plan.

7. Any other information that the director may require.

F. For each plan submitted by the water district, the water district may incorporate applicable portions of the conservation district's plan.

NOTES:
Last legislative year 2004.
Revised legislative history Laws 2003, Ch. 150, § 2; Laws 2004, Ch. 158, § 1.

45-576.03. Director's review of plans

A. Within sixty days after receiving a groundwater replenishment district's preliminary and long-range plans pursuant to sections 45-576.02, the director shall determine if the district has submitted sufficient information to determine whether the district's plan for operation is consistent with the management goal of the active management area. If the director determines that the information is insufficient for such a determination, the director shall notify the district of the insufficiency in writing and shall specify what additional information is required. The district shall provide the information to the director within thirty days after receiving the notice.

B. On determining that the district's preliminary or long-range plan is complete, the director shall publish notice in a newspaper of general statewide circulation once each week for two consecutive weeks.

1. Requesting public comment concerning information supplied by the district to meet the requirements of section 45-576.02.

2. Setting a date and location of a public hearing to be held pursuant to subsection C of this section.

C. The director shall hold a public hearing within sixty days after the last day of notice under subsection B of this section. The hearing shall be conducted in an informal manner without adhering to the rules of evidence required in judicial proceedings. Any person, including the department, shall have an opportunity to comment on or to present evidence concerning the submitted plan.

D. The district shall respond in writing to all public comments whether received at the hearing or otherwise received by a date announced by the director.

E. Within one hundred twenty days after the hearing on the preliminary plan, the director shall issue a preliminary decision, determining whether or not the plan for district operation shall be designated as being consistent with achieving the management goal. If the director determines that the preliminary plan for district operation is consistent with achieving the management goal, the designation expires on January 1 of the year in which the district is established. Within one hundred twenty days after the hearing on the long-range plan, the director shall issue a final decision determining whether or not the plan for district operation shall be designated as being consistent with achieving the management goal.

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Required Elements (ARS §45-576.02.C.2)

Mid-Term Activities for the Next 20 Years

- **...current and projected groundwater replenishment obligations...for current members... [2(b)]**
- **...water resources...plans to use for replenishment... [2(c)]**
- **...facilities and projects to be used for replenishment and the replenishment capacity...[2(e)]**
- **...capability to meet the current and projected groundwater replenishment obligations...[2(g)]**

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Required Elements (ARS §45-576.02.C.2)

Long Term Activities for 100 Years

- ...projected groundwater replenishment obligations for the one hundred calendar years following the submission of the plan for current members and potential members based on reasonable projections of real property and service areas that could qualify for membership in the ten years following the submission of the plan...[2(b)]
- ...water resources potentially available...during the subsequent eighty calendar years...[2(c)]

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Required Elements (ARS §45-576.02.C.2)

Irrespective of Time Frame

- *An analysis of potential storage facilities that may be used...*[2(f)]
- *Any other information that the director may require.* [2(h)]

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Consistency With Management Goal

If the Plan of Operation identifies:

- Sufficient water supplies to meet replenishment obligations for 20 years
- Additional water supplies potentially available to cover 100 years for current and potential members
- Replenishment Reserve target correctly set
- Sufficient capacity at storage facilities
- Reasonable estimate of projected replenishment obligations



“The director shall make a determination that the conservation district’s plan is consistent with achieving the management goal for each active management area...”

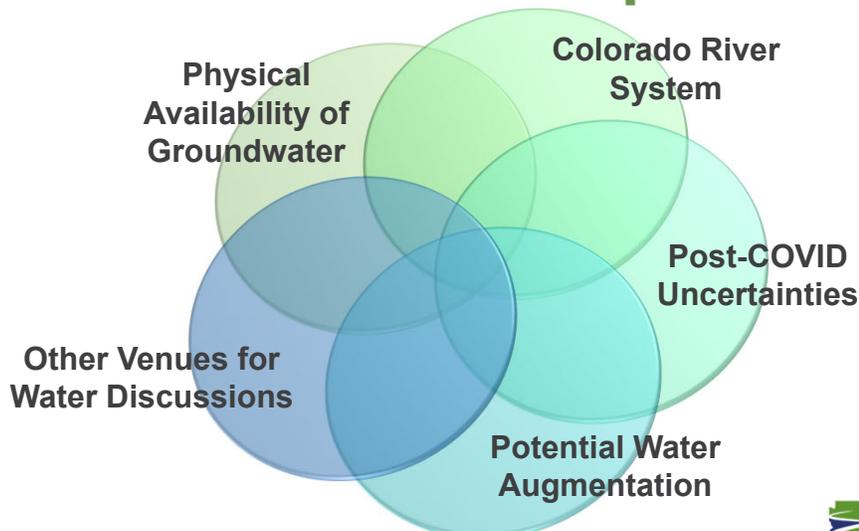
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Context for 2025 Plan of Operation



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Guiding Principles from Post-2025 AMA

Actively participate in dialogues regarding the resilience and long-term role of the CAGRD.

Acquire a diversified, well-balanced portfolio...including permanent wet water resources...

Improve or strengthen consultation with ADWR on water supplies and projected demand.

Support efforts to better quantify existing water supplies, assess water augmentation efforts and to develop new water supplies.

December 2, 2021

Guiding Principles for Post-2025 AMA Interaction

- CAWCD will actively participate in dialogues regarding the resilience and long-term role of the CAGRD.
- CAGRD will, to the extent feasible, complete groundwater replenishment activities in the groundwater sub-basin where the replenishment obligation is incurred.
- CAGRD will, to the extent feasible, acquire a diversified, well-balanced portfolio of short and long-term water assets, including permanent wet water resources (or rights), that will ensure water supply availability under a range of hydrological and operational conditions.
- CAWCD will support efforts to better quantify existing water supplies, assess water augmentation efforts and to develop new water supplies.
- CAWCD will support policies and may develop criteria to improve or strengthen consultation with ADWR regarding sufficiency of future water supplies to meet current and projected demand for the CAGRD.
- CAWCD will support policies that incentivize customers to pledge their own renewable water supplies or LTSCs to CAGRD's portfolio.



Building the Plan of Operation



Plan of Operation Development

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Overall Goals & Objectives: Plan Process

1. Submit a 2025 Plan of Operation to ADWR Director no later than December 31, 2024
2. Provide quarterly updates to the CAGRD Committee on progress of the plan development.
3. Solicit input and feedback from stakeholders prior to obtaining CAWCD Board approval of 1) projections regarding replenishment obligation and potential water supplies and 2) the remainder of the Plan of Operation.
4. Engage with stakeholders through multiple mechanisms including stakeholder Briefings and Roundtables later this year and in 2023 and 2024.

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Process Timeline

2022

- Q3: Kickoff presentation to the CAGRD Committee.
- Q4: Presentation to CAGRD Committee on tools and methodologies used in projections.
- Q4: Stakeholder briefing on tools and methodologies used in projections.

2023

- Q2: Presentation to CAGRD Committee on preliminary projections.
- Q2/Q3: Stakeholder roundtable and Board action on projections.
- Q3/Q4: Presentation to CAGRD Committee on future water supplies followed by Stakeholder roundtable and Board action.

2024

- Q1: Presentation to CAGRD Committee on remaining sections.
- Q2: Draft sections finalized.
- Q2: Stakeholder briefing on draft plan.
- Q3: Board approval of draft plan of operation.
- Q4: Draft plan delivered to ADWR.

2025

- Q1: Determination by ADWR on completeness of plan.
- Q2: Public hearing and comment period regarding plan.
- Q3: ADWR approval of plan.

Process Timeline

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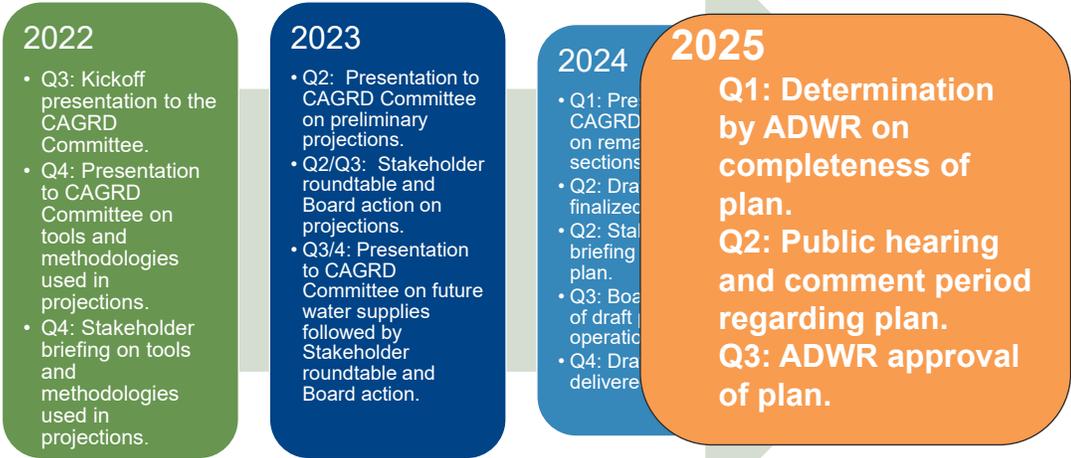
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Process Timeline



Project Plan



Summary

- The 2025 Plan of Operation is a two and a half year, multi-department project amid unprecedented times in addition to day-to-day efforts.
- Projections of future development and replenishment obligation are central to developing the plan. Potential future water supplies are compared against the “reasonable projections” of future membership.
- Reports to the Committee and stakeholders on these projections will begin later this year.
- Stakeholders and Board will have multiple touch points during the process to provide feedback and input.

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 **CAGRDR**
CENTRAL ARIZONA GROUNDWATER
REPLENISHMENT DISTRICT
A Division of Central Arizona Project

Questions?

Laura Grignano
CAGRDR Manager

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