

Excess Water Agenda Number 3b

Excess Water Accounting Concept October 11, 2017

Background: The AMWUA municipalities desire to more fully understand how CAWCD manages excess water, including excess water that becomes available during the year. The CAWCD Excess Water Task Force has asked stakeholders to present proposals relating to the use of excess water. Any proposal that deals with excess water should be considered in the context of the Drought Contingency Plan, particularly Arizona's intra-state mitigation plan. As part of the CAP Project Water supply, excess water could play an important role in implementing the Drought Contingency Plan within Arizona. To that end, the purpose of this concept is to provide the CAWCD Excess Water Task Force and stakeholders more information about excess water.

AMWUA's Water Resources Advisory Group has discussed the following concept relating to the presentation and publication of information about the storage, use and disposition of excess water. The general sentiment of AMWUA's Water Resources Advisory Group is that in order for stakeholders to engage in a meaningful dialogue about excess and turnback water, more detailed information is needed. The concept outlined in this paper is consistent with that principle.

AMWUA staff acknowledges that this proposed concept is preliminary only. It is possible that there are better methods of describing, accounting and presenting information about excess and turnback water. In this regard, this concept may benefit from modifications after consultation with the CAWCD Task Force, CAWCD staff, and other stakeholders. However, the concept does need to be consistent with the following: (1) Provide detailed numbers and information about excess and turnback water, consistent with the intent and spirit of this paper, and (2) Ensure that all information is posted publically and presented to the CAWCD Board on a regular basis.

Concept: CAWCD staff will conduct a biannual review of CAP excess water for the CAWCD Board and stakeholders. This biannual review would occur at two different CAWCD Board meetings, an Annual Review and a Mid-year Update.

Annual Review: At this Board meeting, CAWCD staff will review two parts:

- Part I – Looking Back: An accounting of the disposition of all excess water from the prior year and the four preceding years. This information shall be included in a report that is posted annually on CAWCD's website.
- Part II – Looking Forward: A projected or pro-forma accounting of all excess water (i.e. scheduled in the current annual operating plan and estimates and plans for projected intra-year excess water).

Mid-year Update: At a different board meeting later in the year, CAWCD staff will give the CAWCD Board and stakeholders an update on the current-year use of all excess water, including projections for the remainder of the year.

AMWUA recognizes that Reclamation does not provide CAWCD with reconciled water use numbers until several months after the water year. CAWCD staff should schedule the Annual Review and Mid-year Update at times of year when sufficient information is available, or at a minimum when CAWCD staff can provide accurate estimates.

Details for Annual Review

Part I – Looking Back: An accounting of the disposition of all excess and turnback water for the prior year and the four preceding years, as follows:

- A spreadsheet that includes the categorized quantities of all excess and turnback water:
 - (1) Ag Pool water;
 - (2) Scheduled “Other Excess;”
 - (3) Intra-year Excess, including:
 - (a) Unplanned on-River excess;
 - (b) Remarketed turnback water;
 - (c) Turnback water returned to the excess pool.
- An accounting of the quantities of excess and turnback water that have gone to different categories of users or uses, such as: (1) M&I, (2) Tribes, (3) Ag, (4) CAGR, (5) AWBA, (6) Reclamation, (7) Lake Mead, and (8) Lake Pleasant storage.
- An accounting of the water stored in Lake Pleasant, including monthly storage balances and monthly inflows or outflows from Lake Pleasant.
- An accounting of all Project Water not diverted from Lake Mead, its impact on the excess pool, its relationship to CAWCD’s system conservation targets, and the source of the water.

Part II – Looking Forward: A projected or pro-forma accounting of excess water scheduled in the current annual operating plan, as well as an update on actual use in the current year.

- CAWCD staff will review the planned use of excess water under the current-year annual operating plan, as well as an accounting of any actual excess or turnback water use to date.
- Staff will utilize best estimates to provide, to the greatest extent possible, projections for the availability and disposition of excess water for the remainder of the current water year.
- The format and level of detail for this section will be substantially similar to the information listed under Part I.

Detail on Mid-year Update

- Mid-year Update: At the Mid-year Update, CAWCD staff will give the CAWCD Board updated information and projections for the use of all excess water in the current year. The primary purpose of this presentation is to give the CAWCD Board updated information regarding current-year excess water use and updated projections. The format, updated information, and projections for this review will be essentially a mid-year update on the projections and plans staff presents under Part II of the Annual Review.