



— BUREAU OF —  
RECLAMATION

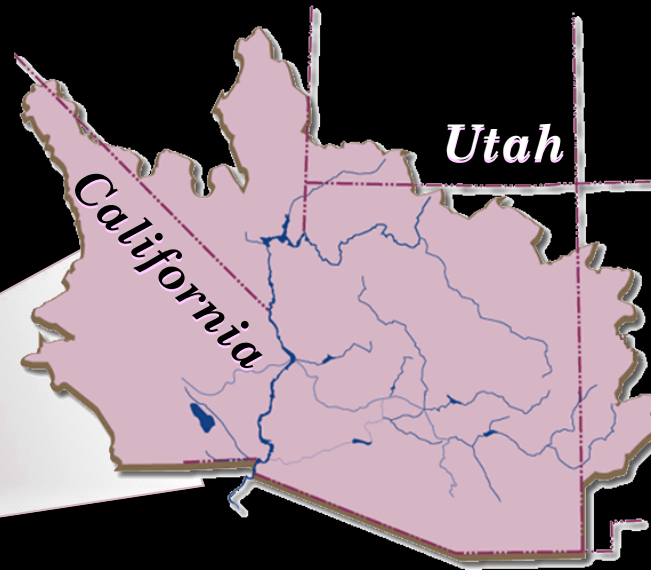
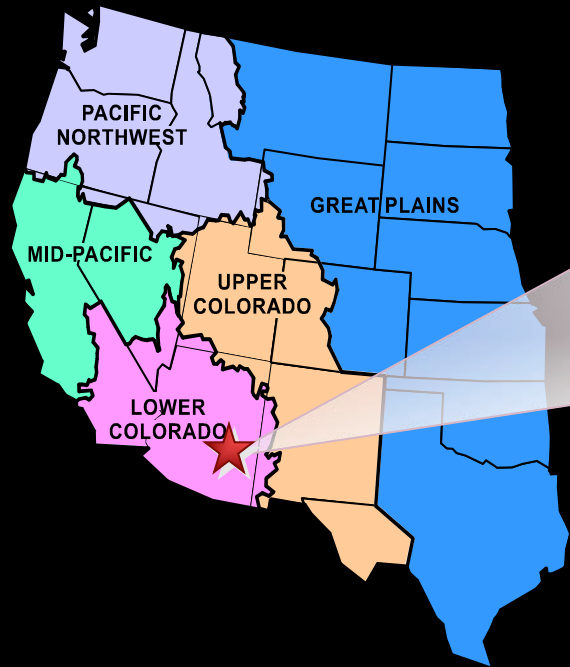
# Southwestern Navajo Rural Water Appraisal Study

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Planning Program Manager  
Program Development Division  
Phoenix Area Office

# Reclamation Mission Statement

*The mission of the Bureau of Reclamation is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.*



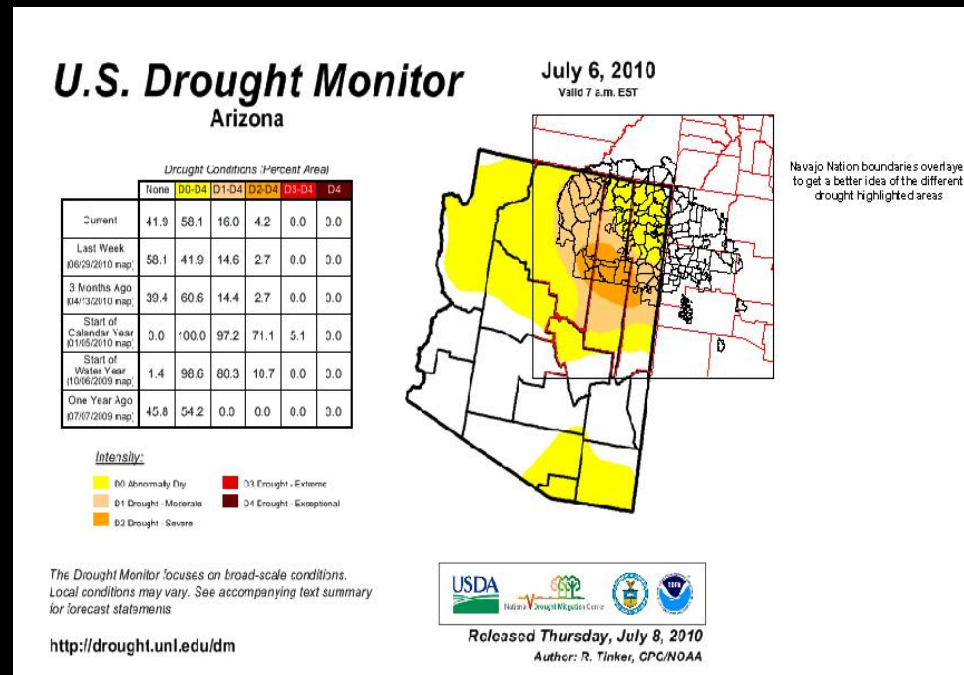


## Lower Colorado Basin



# Rural Water Supply Act of 2006

- Federal Assistance for Planning Rural Water Projects



The image is a composite of two photographs. The left side shows an aerial view of a desert camp with several pickup trucks and people. The right side shows a close-up of a man working on a roof. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

# PURPOSE AND SCOPE

**Appraisal Investigation**

**Study Area**

**Needs Assessment**

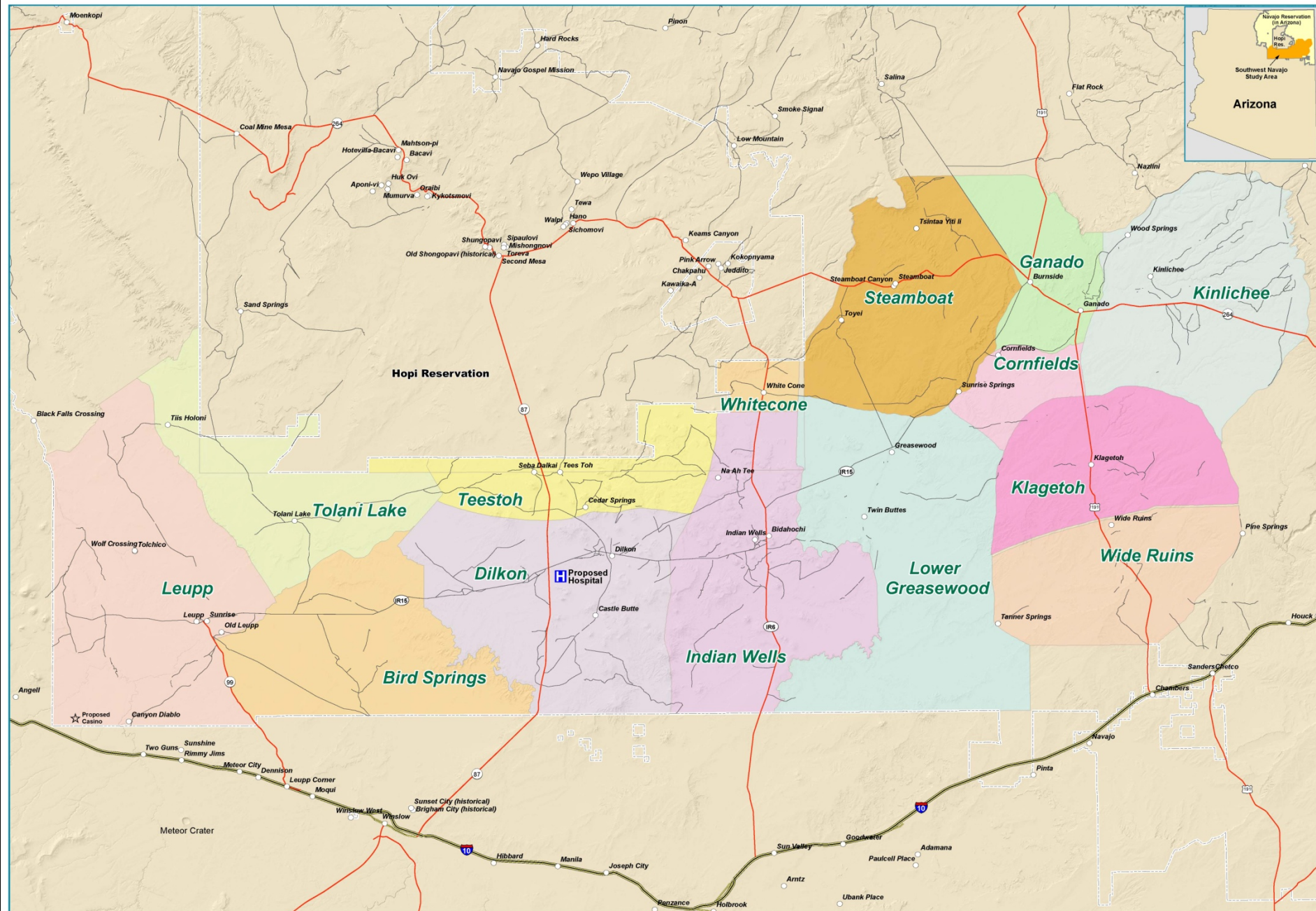
**Stakeholders**



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RECLAMATION

# Appraisal Investigation

- An analysis of domestic, municipal, and industrial water supply problems, needs, and opportunities in the planning area primarily using existing data.
- Includes a preliminary assessment of alternatives to address the identified water supply problems, needs, and opportunities.
- Determine if there is at least one viable alternative that warrants a more detailed investigation through a feasibility study.



## Southwest Navajo Rural Water Appraisal Study Area



# Needs Assessment

- To replace, extend and interconnect existing water systems with new water supplies and additional infrastructure to meet current and future demands, and;
- to integrate various tribal and federal water development programs to plan, design, and construct water systems in an efficient and sustainable manner, and;
- to determine an appropriate water budget for system design that would include average/peak demand, emergency supply and "fire-flow."

# Technical Advisory Group Stakeholders

- Reclamation – Chair
- Navajo Nation
- Navajo Tribal Utility Authority
- Local Navajo Chapters (Government and Water Users)
- Indian Health Service
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- USDA NRCS
- USDA Rural Development
- Private Engineering Firms

# TAG Objectives

- Short-term
  - Assess and mitigate District 7 Public Water System problems
  - Develop livestock water supplies to mitigate drought impacts
  - Develop partnership among members and secure funding contributions
  - Complete proposal for rural water funding through USDA
- Mid-term
  - Establish assured water supply for proposed Dilkon Health Care Facility
  - Complete Reclamation Rural Water Appraisal Study and seek feasibility authority/funding
- Long-term
  - Develop planning products that were compatible with proposed LCR Settlement to expedite implementation



# RESEARCH METHOD

Case Study

Quantitative Data

Qualitative Data

Stakeholder Input



# Rural Water

- Groundwater dependent
- Economics
- Supply/Demand imbalances
- Priority for resources
- Changes



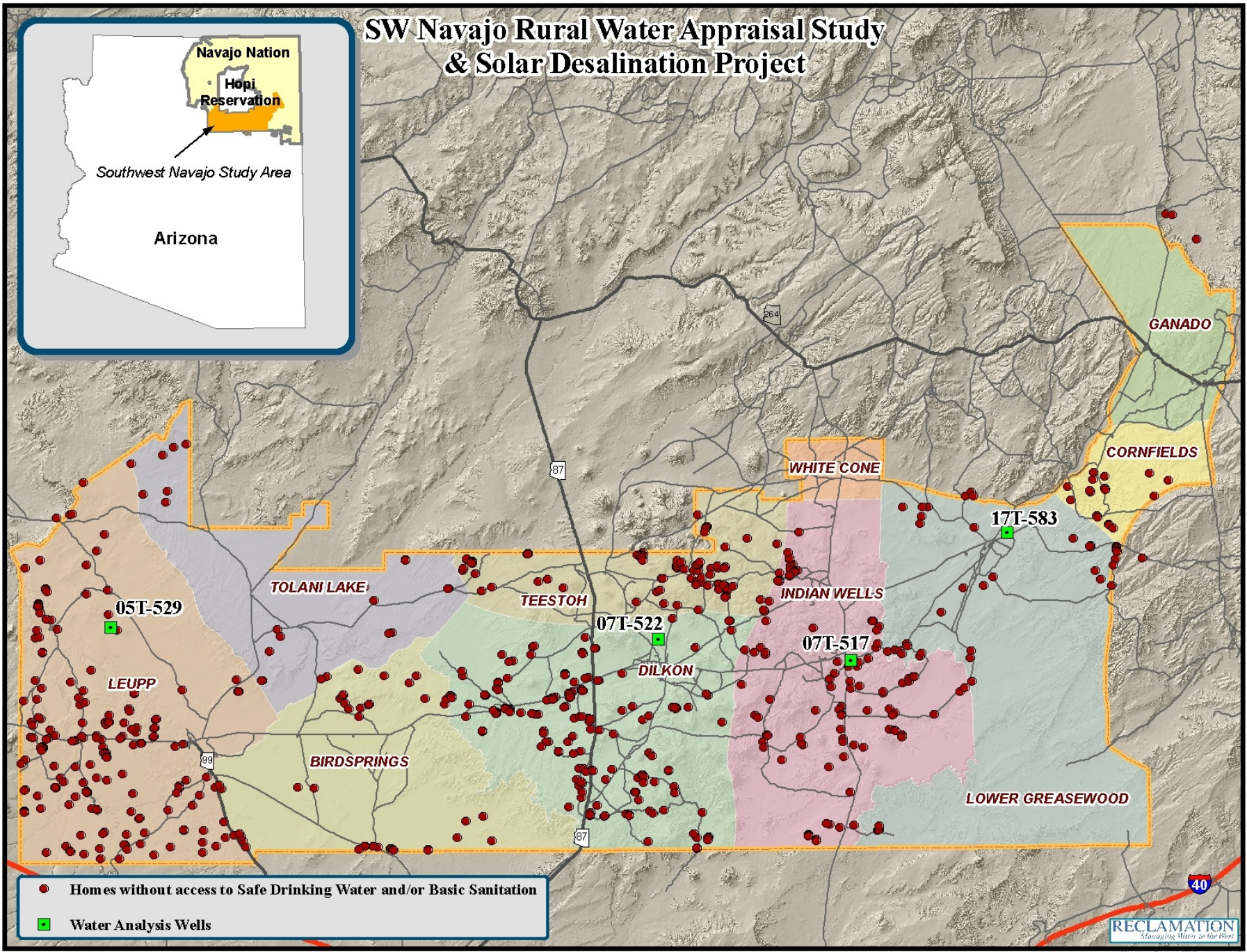


# NE Arizona – Rural Water Planning

- Regional Water Resource Investigations
- Drought Planning and Mitigation
- Impaired and brackish Groundwater
- Wastewater
- Dispersed Population
- Limited Resources
- Federal, State and Tribal – Water Programs



# SW Navajo Rural Water Appraisal Study & Solar Desalination Project



- Homes without access to Safe Drinking Water and/or Basic Sanitation
- Water Analysis Wells



# Resources

- Inventory of present and future resource conditions that have a bearing on plan formulation to meet identified problems.
- Land Resources
  - Approximately 2,625 square miles
  - Trust land with small parcels of allotted land.



# Land Resources (cont.)

- Grazing land with minor amount of agricultural subsistence farming
- Some “in-holding” private parcels used for aggregate mining, private hospital
- Minimal industrial development
- Each Chapter has at least one commercial operation
- Public facilities – schools, government offices, college extensions, judicial campus

# Opportunities

- New water supplies could be developed in existing groundwater aquifers and from impaired/brackish groundwater to meet current and future water demands.
- Renewable energy and advanced water treatment could be economically applied for portions of the population.
- Integration with Indian Health Service Sanitary Deficiency Listing, USDA Rural Development and proposed NE Arizona Water Rights Settlement could produce a preferred alternative that is acceptable, efficient, effective and complete.

# Cultural Resources

- At the appraisal level, it is not possible to provide specific information on the number and kinds of cultural resources that will be affected by the project.
- The preliminary assessment of pertinent literature indicates the study area is rich in prehistoric and historic cultural resources going back perhaps as far as 10,000 years in age. Likewise, TCP are also present and, like prehistoric sites, a certain number will be affected by construction of the proposed Navajo Nation Rural Water Project's well field, pipelines, and related facilities.

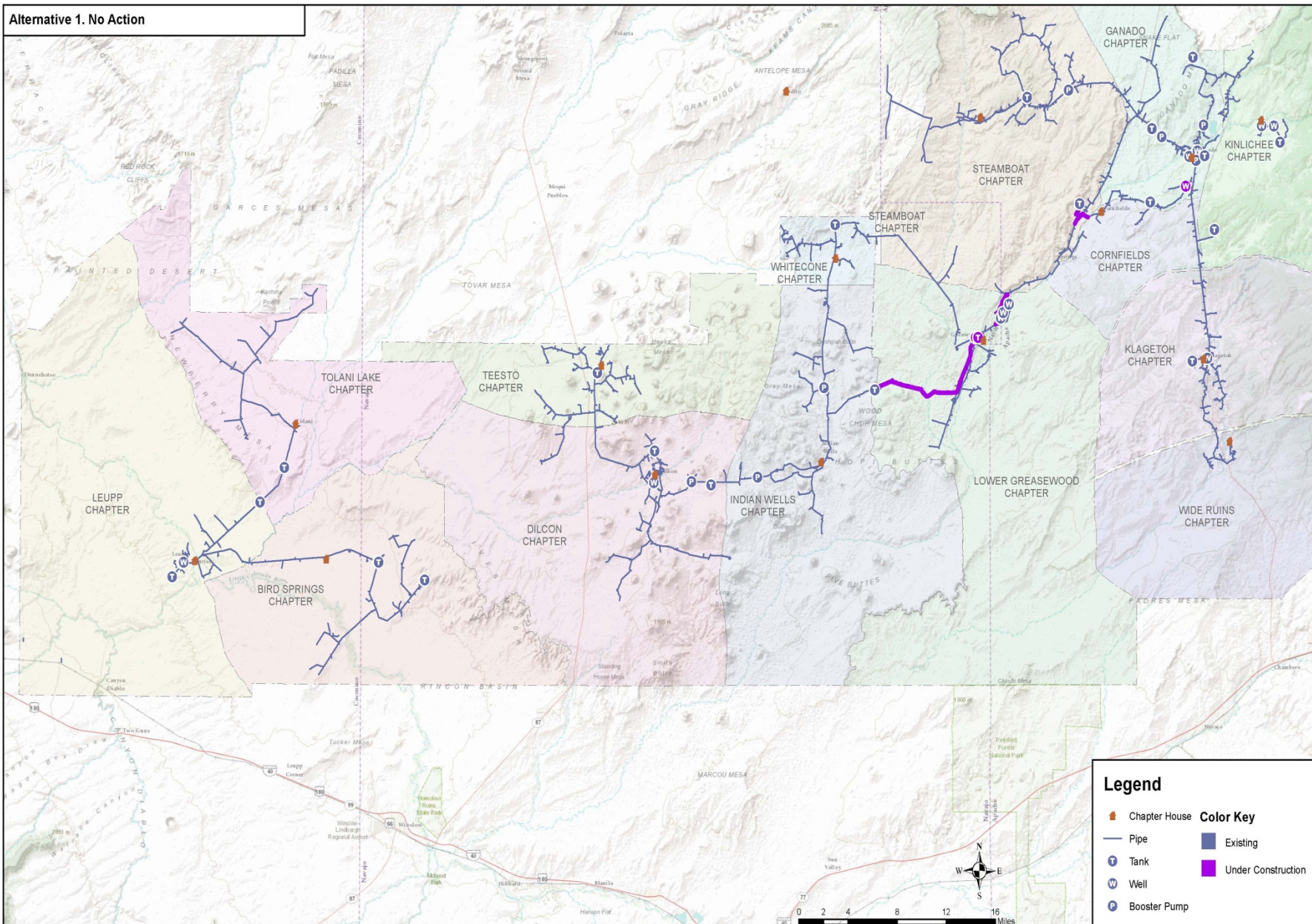


# Economics

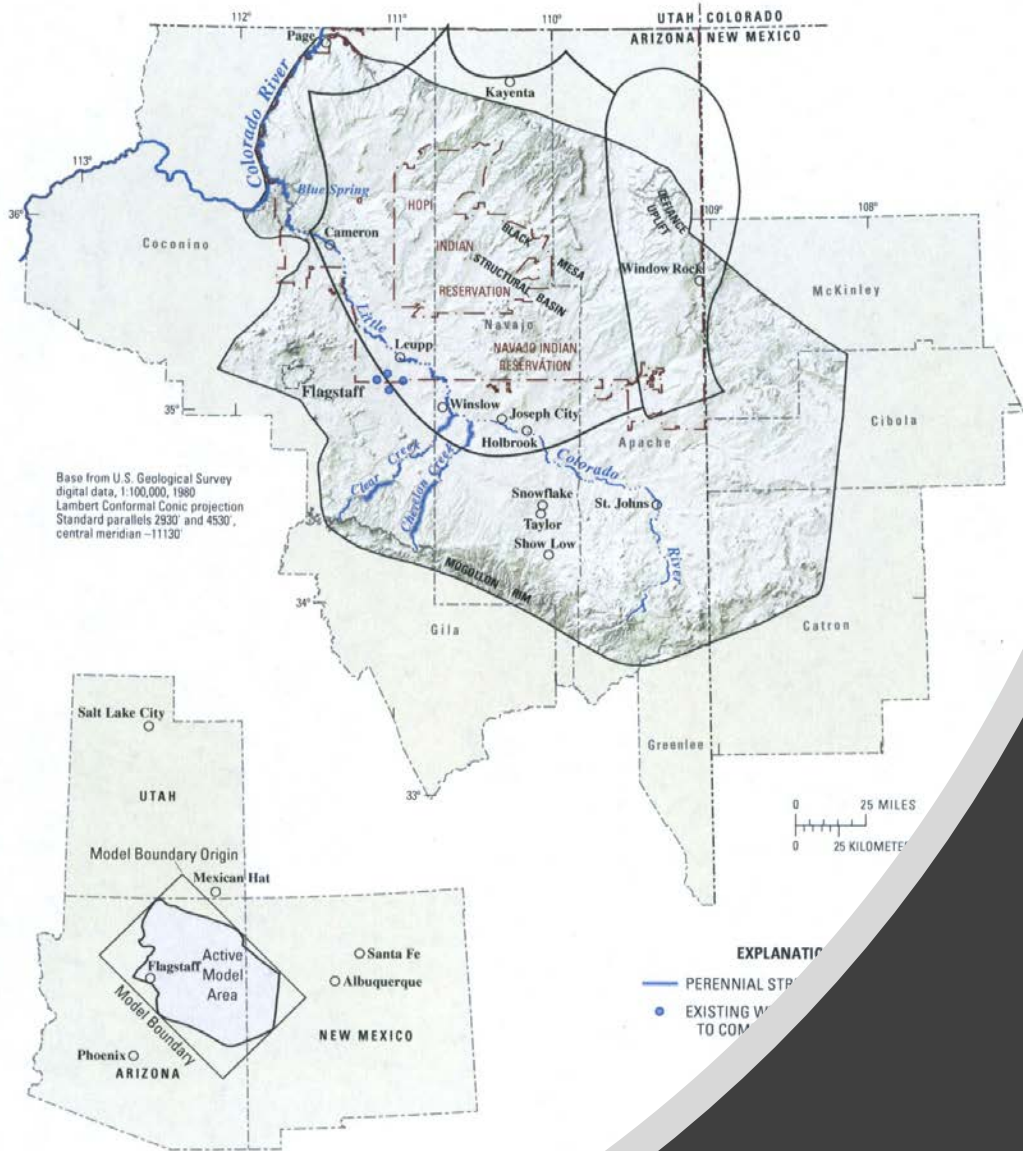
- Unemployment > 45%
- Median household income range \$20K - \$30K per year
- Per-capita \$7K - \$10K among Ranchers and Rural population
- 1/3 the level of per-capita incomes in Arizona
- Good paying and permanent jobs are very scarce.
- Large portion of population below poverty level



Alternative 1. No Action





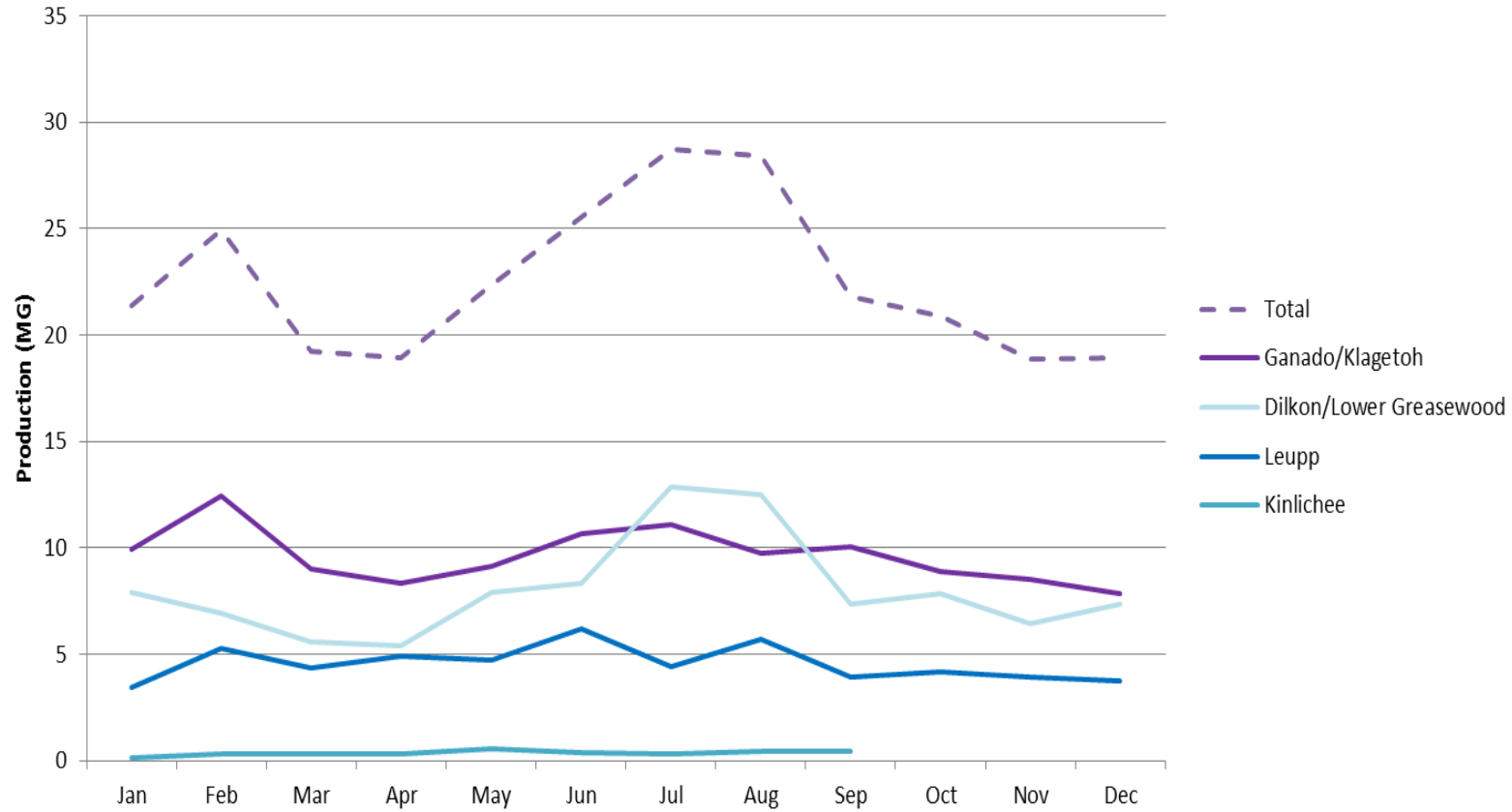


# Coconino Aquifer

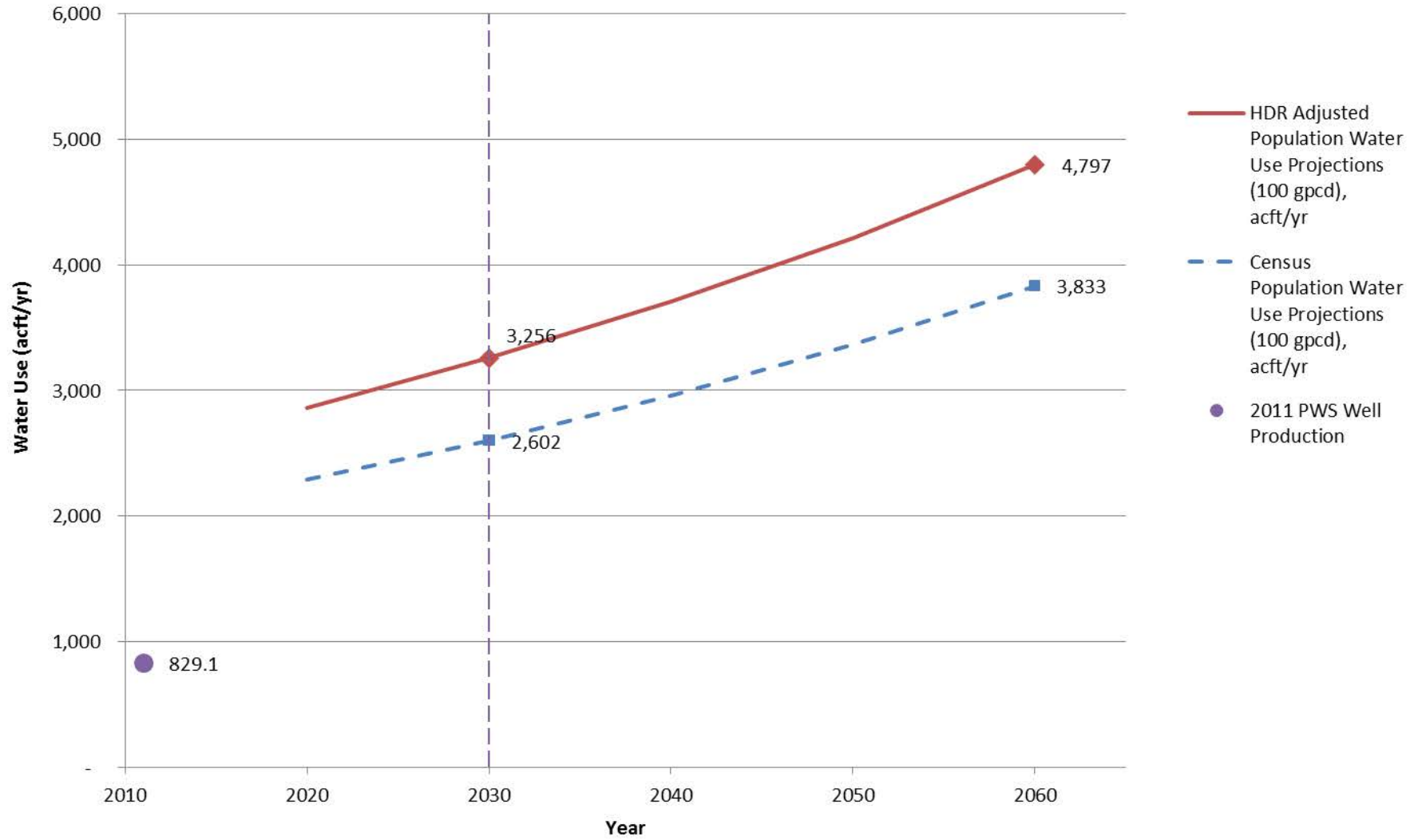
Figure 1. Location of modeled area of the Coconino Aquifer, northeastern Arizona.

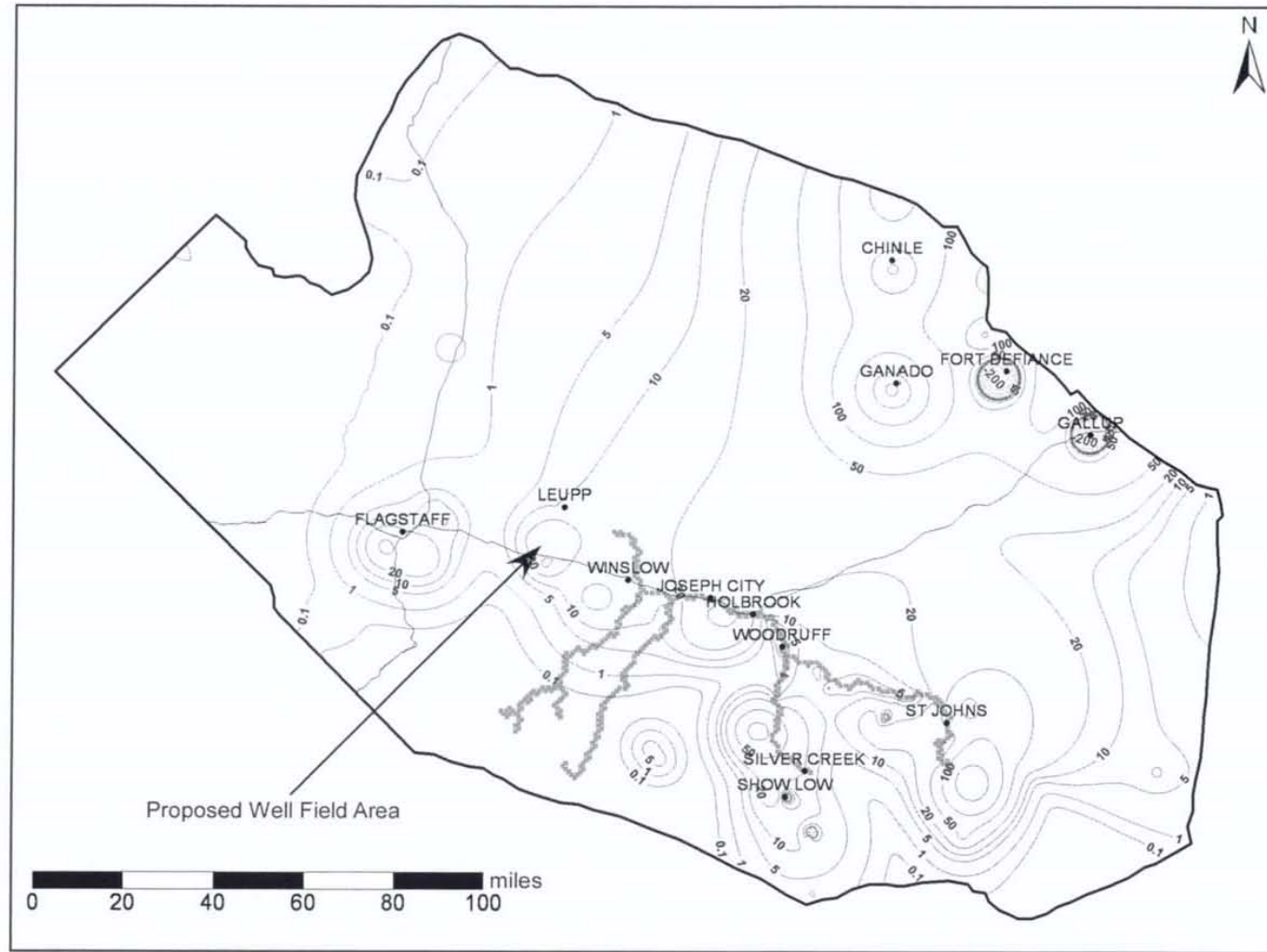


### 2011 PWS Well Production (by system and month)



# Projected Water Use





B-3 Drawdown Map, Water Level Decline, 2000 to 2060 (in feet): NEPA + 6,500 AFY (Scenario 1c)

# U.S. Drought Monitor

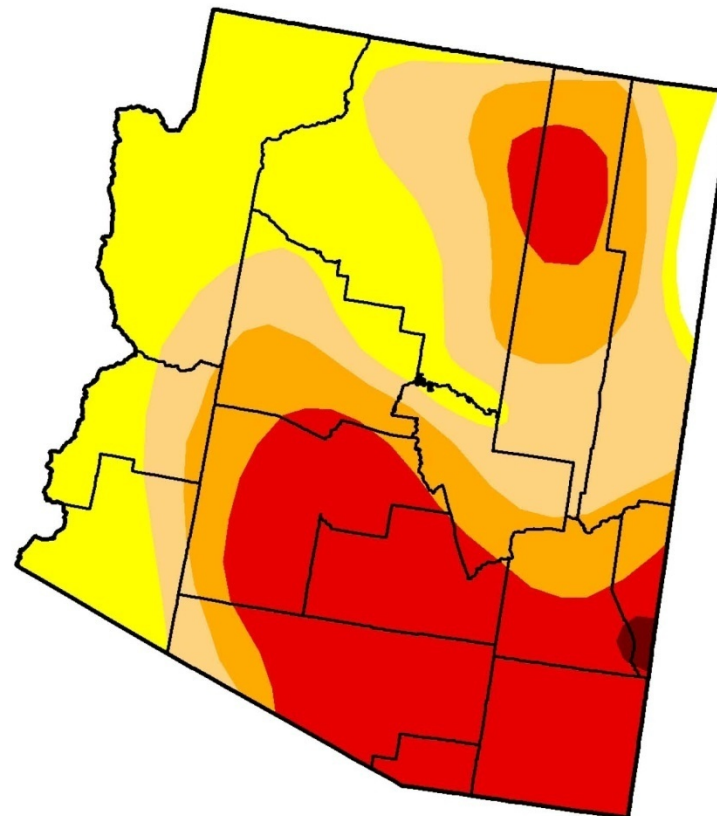
December 6, 2011

Valid 7 a.m. EST

## Arizona

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	1.53	98.47	71.18	48.80	29.99	0.38
Last Week (11/29/2011 map)	1.53	98.47	72.24	48.80	29.99	0.38
3 Months Ago (09/06/2011 map)	0.01	99.99	70.40	39.34	19.15	1.67
Start of Calendar Year (12/28/2010 map)	31.40	68.60	32.45	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year (09/27/2011 map)	0.02	99.98	69.76	42.81	15.34	1.67
One Year Ago (11/30/2010 map)	50.48	49.52	6.76	0.00	0.00	0.00



Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.



Released Thursday, December 8, 2011

David Miskus, NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>

# U.S. Drought Monitor

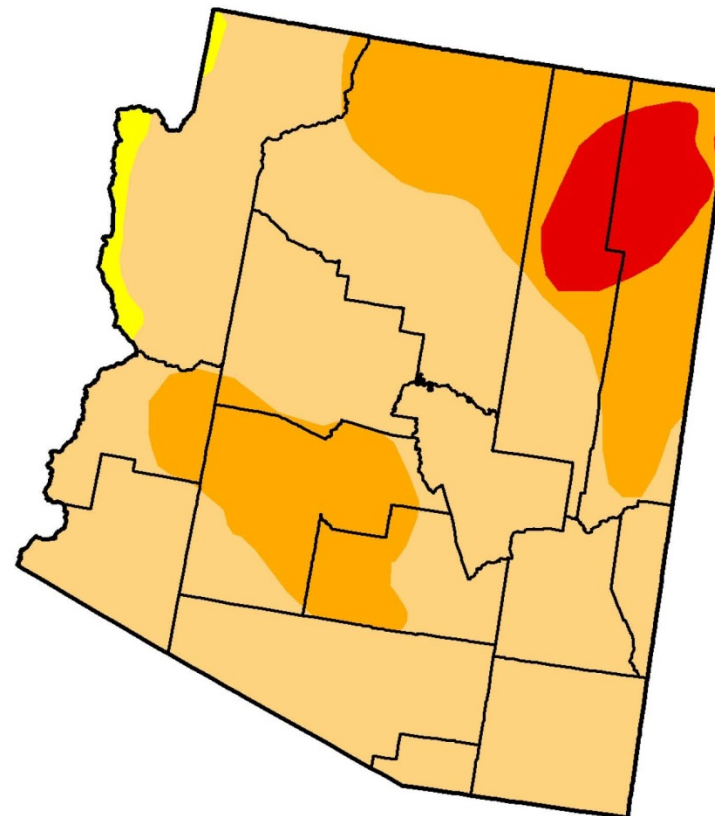
October 23, 2012

Valid 7 a.m. EST

## Arizona

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	98.66	31.28	5.67	0.00
Last Week (10/16/2012 map)	0.00	100.00	98.66	31.28	5.67	0.00
3 Months Ago (07/24/2012 map)	0.00	100.00	100.00	94.07	25.07	0.00
Start of Calendar Year (12/27/2011 map)	16.70	83.30	60.34	36.56	2.78	0.00
Start of Water Year (09/25/2012 map)	0.00	100.00	100.00	31.93	5.67	0.00
One Year Ago (10/18/2011 map)	1.43	98.57	68.57	42.81	15.12	1.24



Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

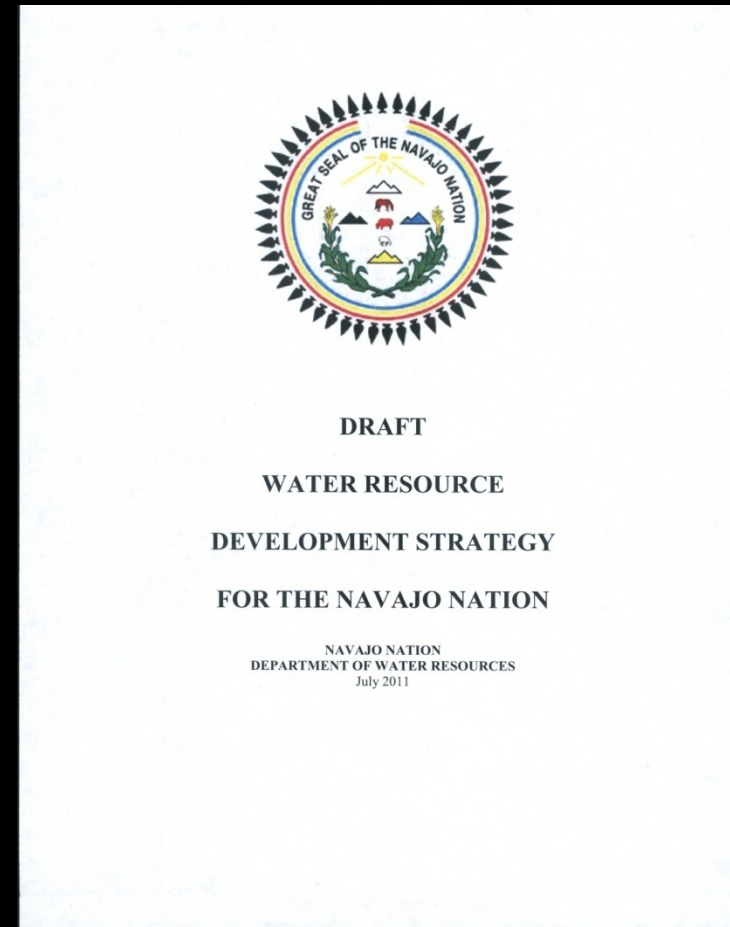
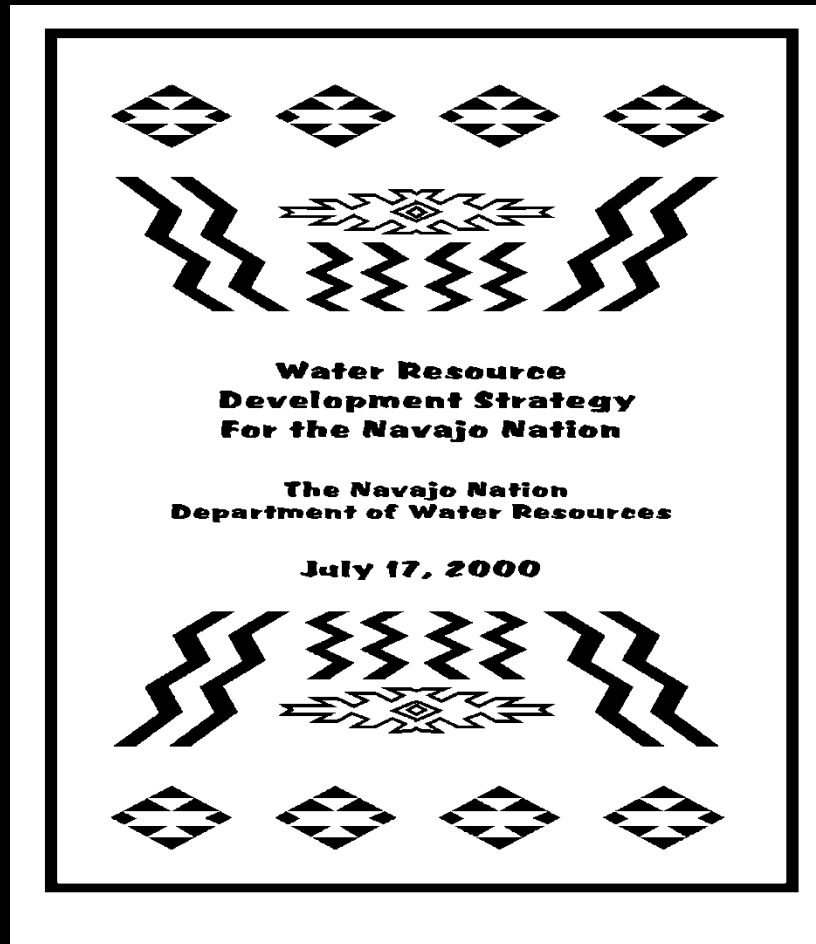


Released Thursday, October 25, 2012

Brad Rippey, U.S. Department of Agriculture

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>

# Water Development Strategy



# Alternatives

- Assumptions
  - 100 gallons per capita
  - 1.3% annual population growth
  - Make full use of existing infrastructure and supply components
  - Improved access to rural and remote water users will be substantially improved with “regulated watering points”
  - Proposed alternatives will enable integration with Federal rural water development programs
  - Emphasis on Indian Health Service Sanitary Deficiency Listing Priority Criteria



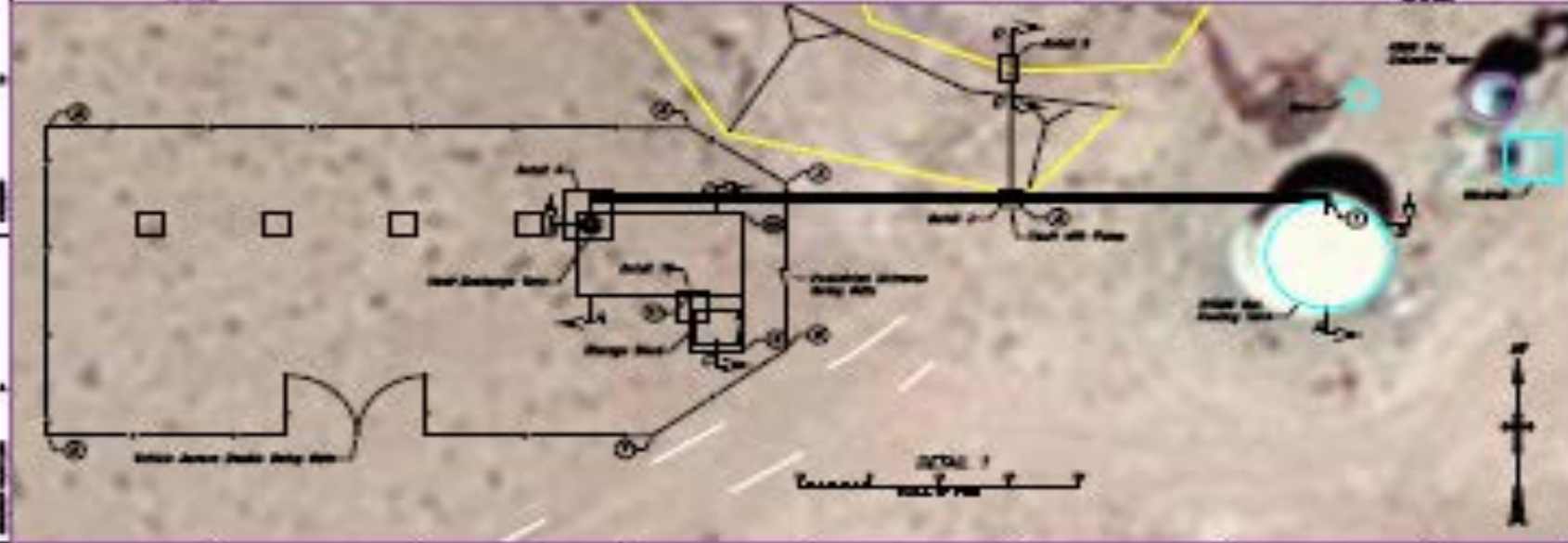
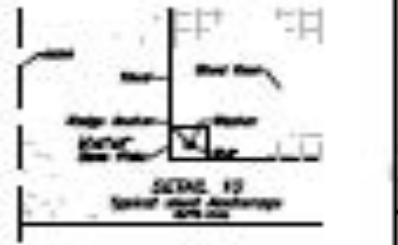
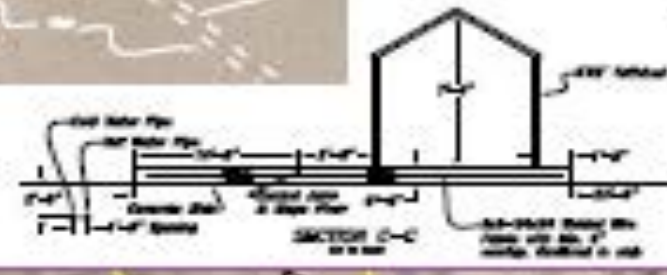
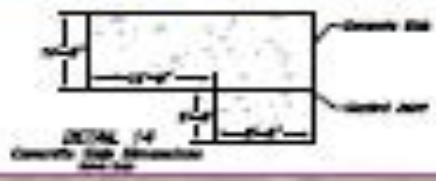
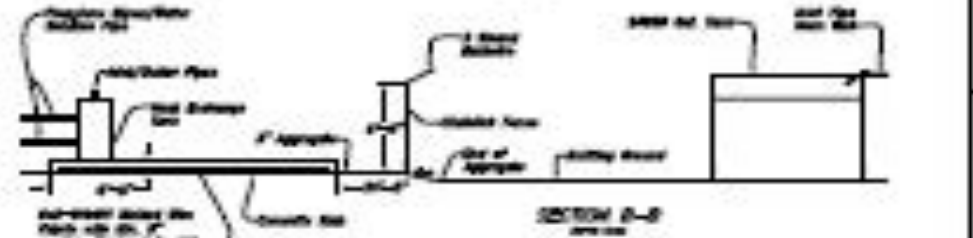
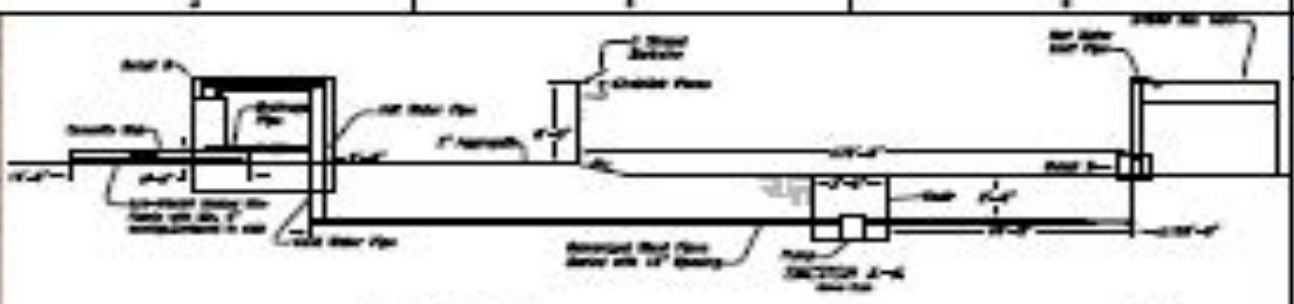
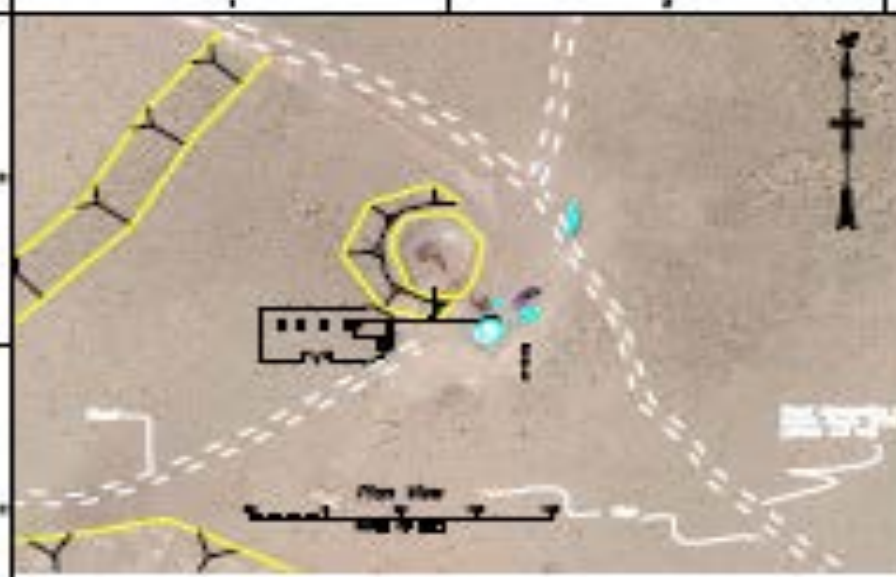
# (No Action) Alternative #1

- Out-migration may continue
- Economic Development limitations
- Hospital water supply limited to IHS Dilkon Health Care Facility Budget
- Limited supply for rural water users
- Continued impacts on alluvial water supply in Lower Greasewood – Pueblo Colorado Wash
- Limited to programmatic budget allocations among federal water development programs
- High and variable operation, maintenance and replacement costs









- NOTES**
1. CONCRETE FLOORING FOR INTERIOR SURFACES SHALL BE REINFORCED WITH #4 BARS AT 12" ON CENTER.
  2. CONCRETE FLOORING SHALL BE 4" THICK UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
  3. IN CASE THE SLOPE OF ROOFING SHALL BE OTHER THAN THE 2% SLOPE, THE SLOPE SHALL BE 2% UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
  4. ALL ROOFING SHALL BE 2" THICK UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
  5. ALL ROOFING SHALL BE REINFORCED WITH #4 BARS AT 12" ON CENTER UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
  6. CONCRETE SHALL BE REINFORCED WITH #4 BARS AT 12" ON CENTER UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
- LEGEND**
- |    |              |
|----|--------------|
| 1  | CONCRETE     |
| 2  | INSULATION   |
| 3  | ROOFING      |
| 4  | WOOD FRAMING |
| 5  | GLASS        |
| 6  | STEEL        |
| 7  | ASBESTOS     |
| 8  | LEAD         |
| 9  | SOIL         |
| 10 | GRAVEL       |
| 11 | CONCRETE     |
| 12 | INSULATION   |
| 13 | ROOFING      |
| 14 | WOOD FRAMING |
| 15 | GLASS        |
| 16 | STEEL        |
| 17 | ASBESTOS     |
| 18 | LEAD         |
| 19 | SOIL         |
| 20 | GRAVEL       |
- UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ALL MATERIALS SHALL BE AS SPECIFIED IN THE NOTES.

REGISTRATION

ALWAYS THINK SAFETY

SCALE: CALCULATION, ACCURACY, PRECISION, AND SAFETY ARE THE KEY TO SUCCESS.

1745-221-0





## SOLAR DESALINATION USING DISTILLATION on the NAVAJO NATION

### INTRODUCTION

The Navajo Nation's low population density coupled with water scarcity and water impaired water access to adequate water supply a daunting challenge. A large portion of the population relies primarily on groundwater which is often in deep aquifers and of variable quality. Consequently, a large fraction of the population draws water from remote wells at high costs. In addition, lack of grid delivered electricity in many areas further complicates delivery of basic water and power services. This project will utilize solar power and heat coupled with a membrane distillation technology to supply both treated and gradually potable water to small remote population clusters on the Southern Navajo Nation.

### OBJECTIVE

The Bureau of Reclamation in collaboration with The University of Arizona, Grand Canyon Trust, and The Navajo Nation have been researching and deploying an advanced (off-grid) system to pump and treat degraded groundwater using solar energy and advanced water treatment. A demonstration of concept was produced at The University of Arizona and is now being deployed to The Navajo Nation as an applied research pilot project.

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION



Figure 1. The Navajo Nation covers 27,000 square miles, mostly in southeastern AZ, but also in New Mexico and Utah. [www.navajonation.net](http://www.navajonation.net)



Figure 2. View of the well tower near Shipahog. (Courtesy of Adam Bennett)



Figure 3. Sampling Station Well. (Courtesy of Adam Bennett)

Parameter (mg/L)	Minimum	1999 Assessment	Other Wells	1999 Best Use
pH	6.5	7.0	6.5	6.5
Ca	100	90	20	100
TDS	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07
Hardness (mg/L)	100	100	100	100
Cl	300	30	30	300
Mg	100	30	27	100
Mn	27	0.02	10	1
Na	100	17	10	100
NO <sub>3</sub>	10	10	10	10
NO <sub>2</sub>	10	10	10	10
SO <sub>4</sub>	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
U	1	1	1	1
Fe	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04
Zn	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02

Table 1. Groundwater Quality Survey. Much of the groundwater in the Navajo Nation is treated water with TDS levels above the secondary drinking standard of 500 mg/L. Other constituents found above primary and secondary drinking water standards in 2014 wells include nitrate, arsenic, uranium and radon.

Andrew F. Carroll, Nicholas Bernhardt, Wendell Bejers, TTU, Vamo, TTU, Bill Seeman, Dan Martin, Julian Cheng, Todd Coffel, Navajo, Vishal Bhat, Zhenyuan Cao  
 Department of Chemical and Environmental Engineering, Institute of Environment, University of Arizona, Bureau of Reclamation

### PROGRESS

Navajo well 27-228 near Shipahog, Arizona was determined to be the best candidate. The ground well was abandoned and a design was developed for a test facility. The test facility was constructed and the water pumped pumping system was installed into the well 228 Test Station ground surface. The Concentrating Photovoltaic Thermal Hybrid System (CPVTHS) was installed, tested, and is now operational at the site. The Membrane Distillation (MD) system has been installed and data collection and deployment is now underway (Winter 2015).



Figure 4. Membrane Distillation system with. (Courtesy of Utah West)



Figure 5. Concentrating Photovoltaic Thermal Hybrid System (CPVTHS). (Courtesy of Utah West)



Figure 6. Solar Desalination test facility. (Courtesy of Utah West)



Figure 7. Well Site CPVTHS system operation schematic. (Courtesy of Utah West)

### PROJECT PARTNERS





## Alternatives

Chapter		Leupp	Tolani Lake	Birdsprings	Teesto	Dilkon	Indian Wells	White Cone	Lower Greasewood	Cornfields	Ganado	Steamboat	Klagetoh	Wide Ruins	Kinlichee	
Supply Source	Alt 1A (3)	C aquifer-Leupp							C aquifer-Ganado and Lower Greasewood alluvium							
	Alt 1B (2)	C aquifer-Leupp					C aquifer-Ganado and Lower Greasewood alluvium									
	Alt 2A (4)	C aquifer-Leupp blended with brackish water							C aquifer-Ganado and Lower Greasewood alluvium							
	Alt 2B	C aquifer-Leupp blended with brackish water					C aquifer-Ganado and Lower Greasewood alluvium									

EVALUATION CRITERIA

ALTERNATIVES	Identifies viable water supplies and water rights	Positive effect on public and health and safety	Will meet water demand including future demand	Provides environmental benefits including source water protection	Applies regional or watershed perspective	Implements an integrated water resources management approach	Enhances water management flexibility, including providing local control of water supplies	Promotes long-term protection of water supplies	Complete Meets stated planning objectives and goals, takes advantage of opportunities within identified constraints	Efficient Capital Cost Lowest Capital Cost = highest score	Efficient Operation, Maintenance and Replacement Cost More rate payers higher score Capacity to pay higher score	Effective Meets identified criteria, enhances economic and environmental benefits and is implementable	Acceptable Meets terms and conditions established by TAG
Metrics	10pts	10pts	10pts	10pts	4pts	10pts	No score	10pts	10pts	4pts	6pts	10pts	10pts
<b>1. No Action</b>	Continues to rely disproportionately on alluvial source supply for majority of service area. Water rights exist	Water quality drafted from alluvial source high in manganese and iron.  Over 30% of current population haul water and do not have sanitary facilities	Current infrastructure only meets 70% of the current population water demands.  No capacity available or sufficient infrastructure to meet future demand	Continues to rely disproportionately on alluvial supply in effect mining the groundwater stored in the system.  Source water is not protected from non-Navajo development south of Leupp Chapter	Water management limited to the Indian Health Service and Navajo Tribal Utility limits of funding and authority.  Ad hoc participation of other federal programs (i.e. USDA, EPA, BIA)	Continues the non-integrated practice of Indian Health Service Sanitary Deficiency Program with limited contributions from other federal agencies.	Water management continues to be manual with limited flexibility and continued shortages during peak demand. Local control continues with impacts to water haulers	Does not protect alluvial source nor are there protections of the Coconino Aquifer south of Leupp Chapter	YES 10pts NO 0pts	\$	\$	YES 10pts NO 0pts	YES 10pts NO 0pts
Score Alternative #1	5	3	3	3	2	3	No score	3	NO 0pts	4	2	NO 0pts	NO 0pts
<b>2. Coconino Aquifer + Alluvial Aquifer</b> <u>Ganado Well Field</u> Ganado Kinlichee Wide Ruins Klagetoh Steamboat Comfields Lower Greasewood White Cone Indian Wells Dilkon Teestoh  <u>Leupp Well Field</u> Leupp Tolani Lake Bird Springs	Alternative identifies viable water supplies and water rights exist	Conjunctive use of the C Aquifer in Ganado with the alluvial supply (interconnection of Ganado PWS and Lower Greasewood PWS) with the development of the C Aquifer in Leupp will provide additional reliability and supply for proposed water supply extensions reported in the Indian Health Service Sanitary Deficiency Listing that would allow more access to public water supplies	Alternative will increase supply for current and future demand to 2060  Questions regarding long-term viability of alluvial supply water quality may present limitations	Alternative will provide source water protection by reducing demand on alluvial aquifer and provide protection of source waters.  Impacts to groundwater at Ganado Well Field and Leupp Well Field not fully quantified.	Alternative is the product of 10+ years of investigations associated with water rights negotiations and public water development.  Local Chapters, water managers, federal water development entities have collaborated with the Navajo Nation Government to develop the proposed alternative	Alternative implements an integration of Indian Health Service, Navajo Tribal Utility Authority, EPA, USDA Rural Development and USDA NRCS EQIP water development programs.	Alternative substantially enhances water management flexibility by interconnecting the three existing public water systems and incorporates watering points for local water users access	Alternative promotes long-term protection of water supplies in the alluvial aquifer and the C Aquifer south of Leupp.		\$216M	\$		
Score Alternative #2	8	8	6	6	4	8	No score	8	YES 10	1 - 4	1 - 6	YES 10	YES 10

<b>3. Coconino Aquifer + Alluvial Aquifer</b> <u>Ganado Well Field</u> Ganado Kinlichee Wide Ruins Klagetoh Steamboat Cornfields Lower Greasewood  <u>Leupp Well Field</u> Leupp Tolani Lake Bird Springs Dilkon Teestoh White Cone Indian Wells	Alternative identifies viable water supplies and water rights exist	Conjunctive use of the C Aquifer in Ganado with the alluvial supply (interconnection of Ganado PWS and Lower Greasewood PWS) with the development of the C Aquifer in Leupp will provide additional reliability and supply for proposed water supply extensions reported in the Indian Health Service Sanitary Deficiency Listing that would allow more access to public water supplies	Alternative will increase supply for current and future demand to 2060  Water quality will be improved in the alluvial aquifer by substantially reducing the supply to Chapters east of Lower Greasewood Chapter	Alternative will provide source water protection by reducing demand on alluvial aquifer and provide protection of source waters.  Impacts to groundwater at Ganado Well Field and Leupp Well Field not fully quantified.	Alternative is the product of 10+ years of investigations associated with water rights negotiations and public water development.  Local Chapters, water managers, federal water development entities have collaborated with the Navajo Nation Government to develop the proposed alternative	Alternative implements an integration of Indian Health Service, Navajo Tribal Utility Authority, EPA, USDA Rural Development and USDA NRCS EQIP water development programs	Alternative substantially enhances water management flexibility by interconnecting the three existing public water systems and incorporates watering points for local water users access	Alternative promotes long-term protection of water supplies in the alluvial aquifer and the C Aquifer south of Leupp.		\$188M	\$		
	Score Alternative #3	8	8	9	6	4	8	No score	8	YES 10	1 - 4	1 - 6	YES 10

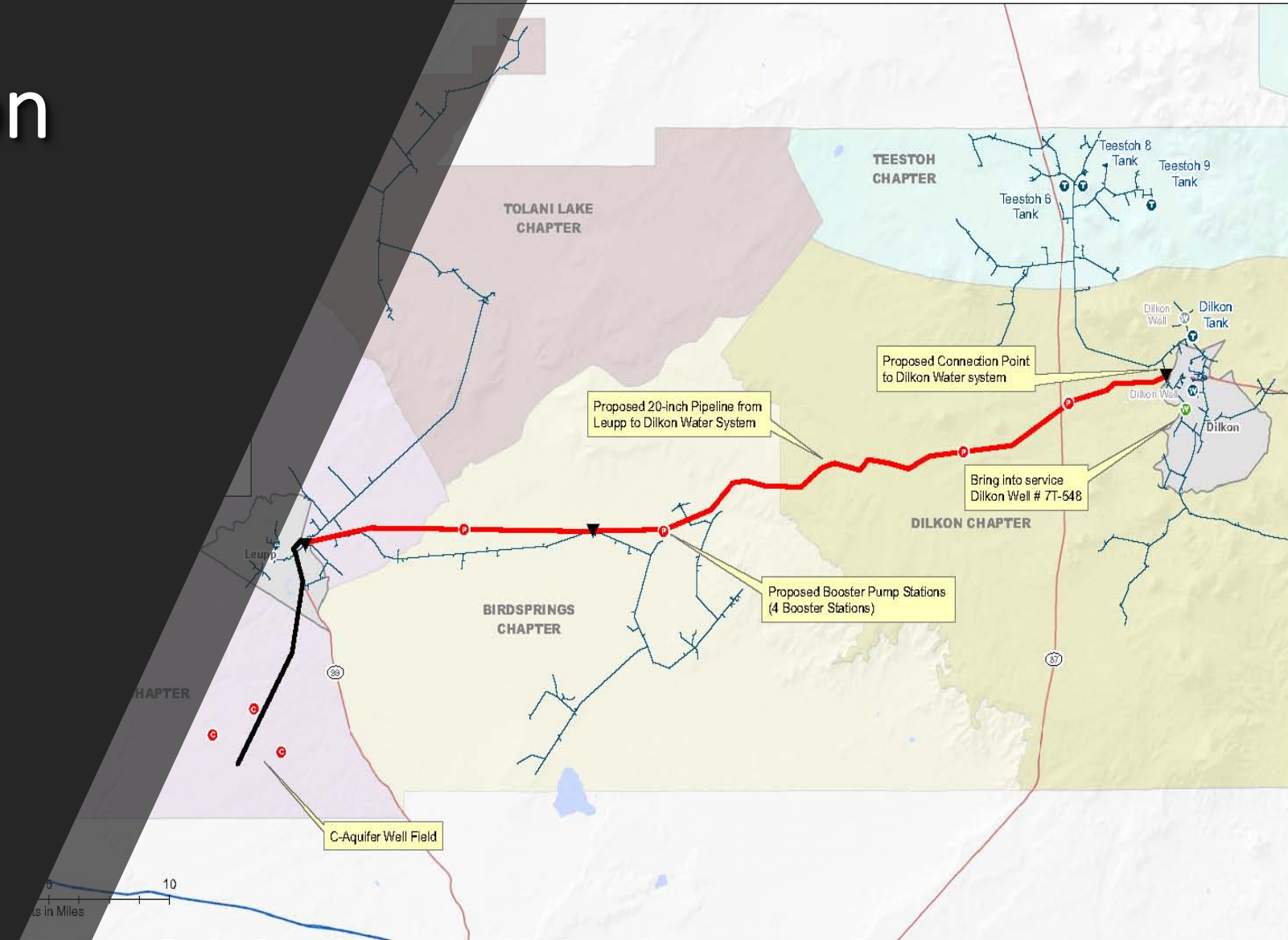
<b>4. Coconino Aquifer + Alluvial Aquifer + Brackish Groundwater</b> <u>Ganado Well Field</u> Ganado Kinlichee Wide Ruins Klagetoh Steamboat Cornfields Lower Greasewood  <u>Leupp Well Field</u> Leupp Tolani Lake Birds Springs Dilkon Teestoh Indian Wells White Cone	Alternative incorporates brackish groundwater in conjunction with C Aquifer proximate to Leupp as a blend to meet identified service area demand  Questions regarding the impacts to the aquifer, viability of the brackish aquifer to produce sufficient water, and whether blend would be within secondary standard.	Conjunctive use of the C Aquifer in Ganado with the alluvial supply (interconnection of Ganado PWS and Lower Greasewood PWS) with the development of the C Aquifer in Leupp will provide additional reliability and supply for proposed water supply extensions reported in the Indian Health Service Sanitary Deficiency Listing that would allow more access to public water supplies	Alternative will increase supply for current and future demand to 2060	Alternative will provide source water protection by reducing demand on alluvial aquifer and provide protection of source waters of the C Aquifer southwest of Leupp by helping limit brackish groundwater movement in the C Aquifer.  Impacts to groundwater at Ganado Well Field and Leupp Well Field not fully quantified.	Alternative is the product of recent investigations associated with research and has not been proven to be viable for public water supply.  Investigations of brackish water in the study area are limited to research activities.	Questions remain with regard to the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority's acceptance of the brackish water supply and the compatibility with the Indian Health Service Sanitary Deficiency	Alternative substantially enhances water management flexibility by interconnecting the three existing public water systems and incorporates watering points for local water users access	Alternative promotes long-term protection of water supplies in the alluvial aquifer and the C Aquifer south of Leupp.	YES NO	\$193M	\$	YES NO	YES NO
	Score Alternative #4	5	8	8	6	1	3	No score	8	NO Opts	1 - 4	1 - 6	NO Opts

Summary of Scores	Rank														Total
1. No Action	4	5	3	3	3	2	3	0	3	0	4	2	0	0	28
2. Coconino Aquifer + Alluvial Aquifer - Service Area East	2	8	8	6	6	4	8	0	8	10	2		10	10	80
3. <b>Coconino Aquifer + Alluvial Aquifer - Service Area West</b>	<b>1</b>	8	8	9	6	4	8	0	8	10	3		10	10	84
4. Coconino Aquifer + Alluvial Aquifer + Brackish Water	3	5	8	8	6	1	3	0	8	0	1		0	10	50



# Recommendation

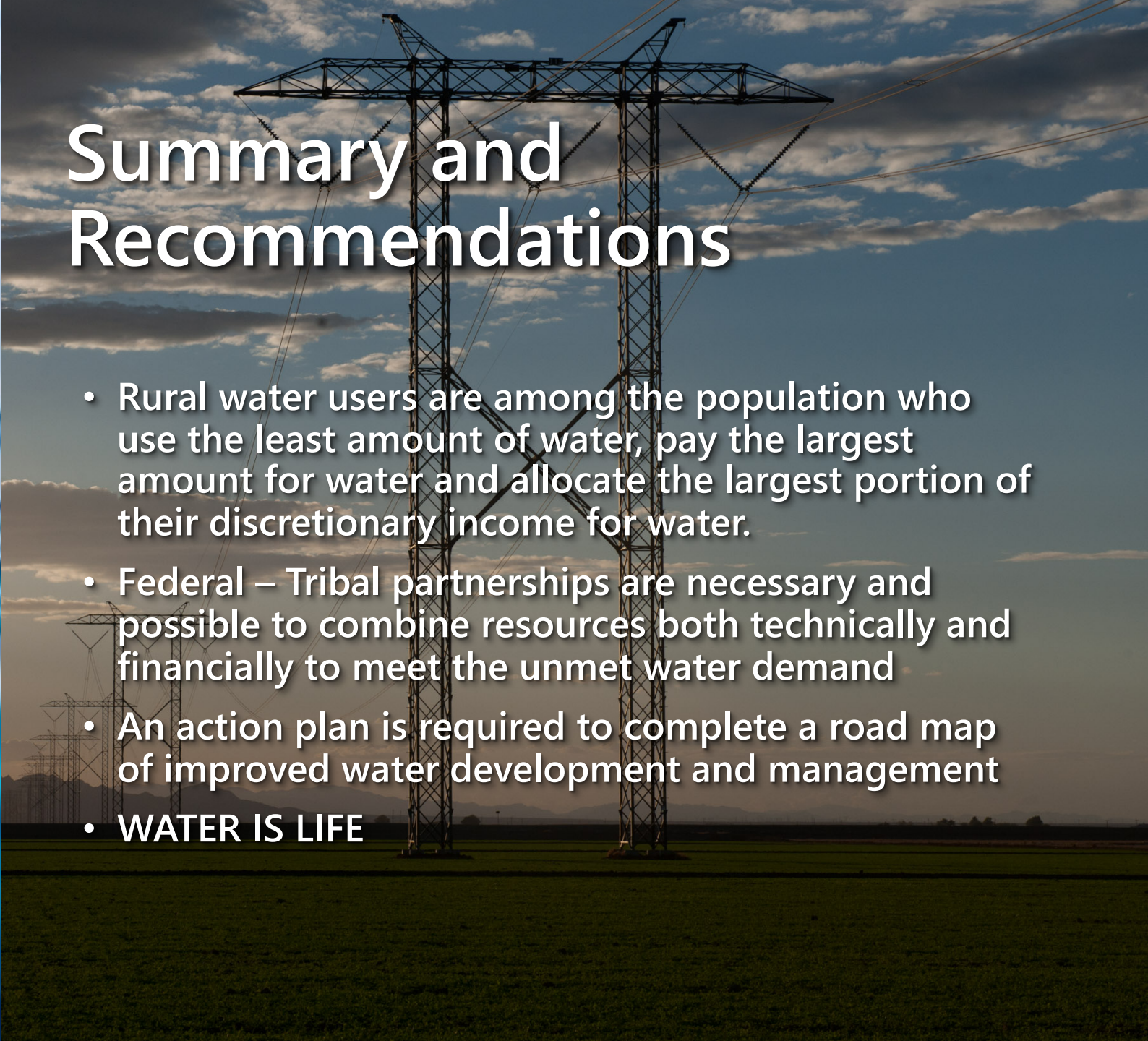
- Feasibility Study
  - Alt #3
  - Limited to serve
    - Leupp
    - Tolani Lake
    - Bird Springs
    - Dilkon
    - Teestoh
    - White Cone
    - Indian Wells





# Summary and Recommendations

- Rural water users are among the population who use the least amount of water, pay the largest amount for water and allocate the largest portion of their discretionary income for water.
- Federal – Tribal partnerships are necessary and possible to combine resources both technically and financially to meet the unmet water demand
- An action plan is required to complete a road map of improved water development and management
- **WATER IS LIFE**



**“Water is a necessary but not sufficient condition for economic development”**



Dilkon Health Care Facility

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