



Water Advisory Committee DRAFT 3-8-07



Water Advisory Committee Members:

The WAC is composed of 15 members made up of representatives of the participating entities (Table 1). These include one representative from each of the nine incorporated cities and towns in Yavapai County, one representative from each of the two tribes, one member from each of the three County Districts, and one representative from the Arizona Department of Water Resources. Each member has a designated alternate (some alternate positions are not filled at this time). A Technical/Administrative Committee consisting of seven members serves to support WAC activities (Table 2). The WAC has a coordinator seated in the County, John Rasmussen.

Table 1: Water Advisory Committee Membership (March 2007)

Member Organization	Representative	Alternate
Yavapai Prescott Tribe	Chris Moss	
Yavapai Apache Nation	Billie Garner	Yolanda Trujillo
AZ. Dept. Water Resources	Tom Whitmer	Leslie Graser
Camp Verde	Brenda Hauser	Tony Gioia
Chino Valley	Virginia Reid	
Clarkdale	Doug Von Gausig	
Cottonwood	Diane Joens	Bob Rothrock
Dewey-Humboldt	Roger Swenson	Len Marrinaccio
Jerome	Jane Moore	Doree Christensen
Prescott	Bob Roeker	
Prescott Valley	Mike Flannery	Harold Wise
Sedona	Pud Colquitt	
Yavapai County District 1	Art Coates	
Yavapai County District 2	Jim Williams	Mary Hoadly
Yavapai County District 3	Steven Estes	Dorothy O'Brien



Water Advisory Committee DRAFT 3-8-07

Table 2: Technical Administrative Committee Members

TAC Members	
Abe Springer	NAU
Jim Holt	Prescott
John Munderloh	Prescott Valley
Leslie Graser	ADWR
Loyd Barnett	Big Park
Mark Holmes	Chino Valley
Robert Hardy	Cottonwood

WAC Budget

The WAC is funded by the participating entities. Each entity contributes to the WAC based on population (Table 3) one fiscal year at a time. In-kind contributions help support WAC activities. Such in-kind services include staff time (such as the time of Technical Committee members) and assistant time such as Chris Moran of the County. Also, monthly meetings are hosted by the various member communities.

Table 3: Annual Contributions to the WAC:

<u>Member Community</u>	<u>Fiscal Year Contribution¹</u>
Camp Verde	\$10,000
Chino Valley	\$10,000
Clarkdale	\$2,500
Cottonwood	\$10,000
Dewey Humboldt	\$2,500
Jerome	\$500
Prescott	\$45,000
Prescott Valley	\$30,000
Sedona	\$10,000
Yavapai County	\$104,500
Yavapai-Apache Tribe	\$500
Yavapai-Prescott Tribe	\$500
Total	\$226,000

¹ In-kind contributions are not quantified



Water Advisory Committee DRAFT 3-8-07

A more detailed budget of projected expenses follows in Table 4.

Table 4: WAC Budget

March 2007 WAC Budget Brief				
Fund Balance	12/06 Account Balance 421,245	FY 2006		
		<u>Jan 1-June 30 '06</u>	<u>FY 2007</u>	<u>FY 2008</u>
Income				
Communities		0	226,000	226,000
Interest		5,000	5,000	5,000
Operating Expenses				
Coordinator Salary & ERE		39,000	78,000	80,000
Supplies, etc		1,500	2,500	3,000
Committed Project Funds				
USGS N AZ Flow Model		97,500	32,500	
Water Festival		2,000	2,000	
Persistent Chemicals Proposal		5,000	15,000	
USGS Model Scenario Development -Johnson		45,000	15,000	
Proposed Project Funding				
Project WET County wide		13,200	25,000	
Verde Valley Surface Flow Model		15,000	75,000	
Emergent Chemicals USGS Carruth		15,000	45,000	
Workshop attendance funding		500	1,500	
Metering of volunteer domestic wells		5,000	5,000	
Geophysical Well Logging of new wells		6,000	20,000	
TOTALS	<u>Projected Expenses</u>	<u>244,700</u>	<u>316,500</u>	
	<u>Projected Carry Over</u>	<u>181,545</u>	<u>96,045</u>	



Water Advisory Committee DRAFT 3-8-07

Summary Water Advisory Committee Accomplishments:

Since forming in 1999, the Water Advisory Committee has made significant and measurable progress toward its over-arching goal of developing and enacting a “total water management strategy that preserves sustainable water resources for future generations while enhancing the economic vitality of the County”. To date, some of the accomplishments have been tangible deliverables, such as data sets and reports; others have been less tangible such as situational awareness. Information has been gathered and shared, relationships forged and maintained, and stakeholder communication links opened.

- Developed funding program to carry out WAC goals with significant outside contributions providing results on a “pennies on the dollar” basis.
- Provide leadership in water issues
- Provided support for educational programs
- Educational programs at WAC meetings such as presentations from experts on water law, water banking, AMA programs/differences, history of SRP/CAP, etc.
- Community outreach, coordinator presentations
- Technical analysis on a variety of issues
- GIS database development and creation of water resource library
- Technical support and Water Rights support for residents county wide and technical assistance provided to specific WAC member communities
- Completion of various interim scientific studies
 - Reconnaissance Watershed Analysis (2003)
 - Verde Valley Water Budgets (2003/2006)
 - USGS Data Summary (2002)
 - USGS Investigations of Sources of Springs (2000)
 - DWR Verde Watershed Study (2000)
 - Big Chino Historic, Current, and Projected Uses (2004)
 - USGS Verde River Headwaters Study (2005)
 - USGS Hydrogeology Upper and Middle Verde (2006)
- Participation in Northern Arizona Regional Groundwater Model Development (w/USGS and ADWR)
- Presentations to WAC on technical reports by investigators
- Participation in and technical assistance with County/Community General Plans regarding water resources
- Initiation of Plan to address County-wide water resource issues
 - Coordination with County Board of Supervisors
 - Water Conservation and Water Management Plan Documents (Draft)
 - Various interim reports on plans and progress presented to WAC



Water Advisory Committee DRAFT 3-8-07

- Presentations to WAC on current strategies and policies of incorporated communities
- Involvement with plans to import water from the Big Chino to the Prescott AMA
 - Review various hydrologic interpretations of possible impact to the Verde River
- Award of assistance grants for public education and outreach
- Support of Project WET educational water festival
- Continued refinements of committee operational criteria
 - TAC bylaws
 - WAC participation with technical materials
 - Defined commitment to assist other watersheds in county (in addition to the Verde River watershed)
- Help promote water awareness
- Provided support for the Rural Watershed Initiative Program at the Legislature
- Established information website for Committee and Public
- Provide input to State Rural Water Legislative Study Committee

2006 accomplishments include:

- Receive USGS Blasch et al Report (WAC, ADWR, USGS funded investigation)
- Receive USGS Wirt et al Report (WAC, ADWR, USGS funded data collection for the report)
- Support to USGS N AZ Regional Groundwater Flow Model (WAC, ADWR, USGS funded)
- Presentations to WAC (add speakers list)
- Support to VRBPartnership start up (Feb and March forums)
- Coordinator presentations (add list)
- Establish Outreach and Education sub-committee
- Re-establish Conservation sub-committee
- Committee retreat
- TAC white paper
- Project WET water festival in Prescott area (funded by many, including WAC)
- Follow and discuss state legislative process and bills
- Liaison with other water groups and committees
- Monthly Committee meetings (communicate and discuss water related information)
- Scoping of potential projects (data gap and planning needs) (list – leads to priorities)



Water Advisory Committee DRAFT 3-8-07

Water Advisory Committee in 2007

The following measures and programs are priorities identified by the TAC and the WAC. The WAC intends to.

- Conservation: A report of recommended conservation programs and measures will be submitted to the WAC by March or April. After WAC review, this will be given to the Board of Supervisors. While the original report (2004) included programs applicable to municipal systems, this document is intended to focus on programs and measures the County can enact. Recommendations are for measurable, positive “on-the-ground” action. The WAC anticipates collaboration with other entities to implement regionally consistent conservation programs and measures.
- Education and Outreach: As a result of the October retreat and ensuing meetings, a sub-committee has been established to disseminate information about the WAC and water resource issues. As a first step, we are planning to support and provide leadership for:
 - Verde Valley water festival
 - Recommending that the WAC support Project WET in the entire County (education program for schools).
 - Produce news letter regarding WAC activities and value
 - Support establishment of database/clearing house for water related information, and
 - Update/streamline WAC website (we have received several suggestions for improvement)
 - Promote conservation/efficient water use

Future education and outreach efforts will relate to promoting conservation, disseminating information (facilitating information exchange so we understand what studies report and infer about our water resources), and providing educational/seminar opportunities for WAC members. Additionally, in order to discuss water issues and the WAC, the coordinator will interface with town councils at meetings over the next year.

- Management Report: The WAC has heard from most of the communities regarding water resource management plans. A report to the Board that compares the community water resource strategies is a high priority of the committee. This report will form a basis for creating a “seamless” regional water resource management plan that represents and has buy-in from the County and the communities (this is a corner stone of the “total water management strategy” identified as a WAC goal.). Following the conservation report this will be the top coordinator reporting priority.



Water Advisory Committee DRAFT 3-8-07

- Consolidate Knowledge Base: The WAC has identified a need to assess the state of knowledge of our water resource system. While such an assessment is an ongoing process, there is a recognized need to synthesize the available scientific information we have gathered up to this point. This has two general aspects. One aspect is simply making the science available for review by interested people (e.g. a “water library” of reports and data). The second general aspect of understanding our water resources is awareness of what we know and how well we know it. This is an ongoing process that requires discourse among scientists and others. A summary of the facts revealed by the studies will be critical to any incorporation of the science into management. Uncertainty needs to be assessed in order to develop confidence in our understanding. For example, consensus will be reached on the validity of many “facts”. However, other scientific conclusions will be recognized as “not universally accepted” and we must examine other alternative hypotheses that may be equally well explained by the observed data. This is a continuous and major part of “science” that the WAC can be instrumental in facilitating.
- Elucidate the management questions: What do we want the studies to tell us? This question must be answered to form an effective information gathering program. The answer necessarily includes asking overarching questions such as, how much is there; what are the effects of increased demand and pumping, and etc. However, more detailed questions whose answers will lead to answers for the overarching-questions must also be framed, asked and answered. While this is ongoing in the WAC, the WAC affirms the need to explicitly recognize “asking the right questions” as a fundamental role of the WAC. This helps maintain rigor and transparency for the Board and the general public. The questions will be hierarchical and published in a written document.
- Communication: In order to fulfill the desire of local control, cohesive planning, and long-term viability of our shared resource, communication lines between the stakeholders must remain open and functioning. This will continue to be a basic function of the WAC. Direct regular communication is a necessary step to achieving understanding, objectivity, awareness, reduced conflict, and unified wise choices. The WAC supports a regional perspective and recognizes communication is necessary to gain the perspective.



Water Advisory Committee DRAFT 3-8-07

- Other watersheds: Identify needs and potential data gathering opportunities in areas out side of the Verde River watershed. Identify “hot spots” or potential “hot spots” and advise Board of Supervisors on potential steps to be taken (or not to be taken) in order to achieve WAC vision of wise water resource management throughout County. Work with people and groups with knowledge and understanding of such issues.
- Participate in State Local Drought Impact Group: Drought planning is underway in Yavapai County. Coordination and cooperation will be required to successfully manage this effort. The WAC will provide local leadership and help foster confidence in the measures that may be required in times of drought. A subcommittee of the WAC will serve to incorporate the necessary stakeholders and expertise required to work with the State and make drought planning successful.
- Near Term WAC Project Involvement:
 - Regional Groundwater Flow Model (USGS): Provide model scenarios for water use projections (work with USGS, NAU and Hoyt Johnson GIS-contractor). This scenario development aspect of modeling will utilize local plans and necessarily meet the projections and requirements of the local jurisdictions. Draft model is anticipated to be running by fall of 2007. A big picture will be generated and tools will be developed. This model will be used and refined well beyond 2007.
 - Verde Valley Surface water-budget study: First scoping meeting occurred February 8, 2007. Opportunity exists to utilize expertise and partner with other organizations. This represents filling of a significant data gap in our understanding of the water budget of the Verde River. A work and funding plan are in preparation.
 - Persistent Chemicals in treated waste water: WAC has identified knowledge of potential hazards of treatment-persistent chemicals in our waste water as a priority. The WAC will work with the communities and USGS to refine previous grant applications into a fundable project. As a first priority of the study, the WAC intends this work to simply determine if we have an issue or not. If an issue is present, this work will provide some details and may lead to mitigation alternatives before more costly consequences may become apparent.
 - Pilot Management Project: Scope and begin (Clarkdale has volunteered) – value is in identifying issues and potential existing tools to deal with the issues. This project is not well defined at this time.



Water Advisory Committee DRAFT 3-8-07

- Private Domestic Wells: Fund and lead project to get more information on water use by private domestic wells throughout County. Partnering with U of A is being discussed as a way to preserve anonymity of volunteer participants and thereby increase number of willing participants. (Meters are being donated by Cottonwood and Prescott Valley.) Initial scoping has indicated the difficulty of getting a representative statistically valid sample (not many people want to volunteer).
- Logging of new wells in critical areas: This can provide useful information regarding subsurface geology and aquifer properties. Exploring contracting this work out to consultant. TAC has identified potential areas. Coordinate with loggers, drillers, owners, and ADWR.
- Support data collection – Information gathering and data gaps: The WAC will consider involvement in any projects that will fill existing data gaps. Also, basic data in other areas may be pursued. These types of projects have not been defined in detail but could involve funding gaps, supporting work of other organizations, partnering on proposals, etc.
 - Data needs for refining water budgets and models
 - Basic data in other watersheds (coordinate with USGS and ADWR)



Water Advisory Committee DRAFT 3-8-07

Monetary Value to County and Others

- Scientific information, Programs and Planning

The entities that have contributed to the WAC have gained significant information on the nature of their water resource by pooling their resources and “leveraging” those funds. By having the ability to contribute significantly in cost shares, the community has had the ability to help formulate the studies towards the questions that they need to have answered. Also, the studies would be difficult for any single entity to fund alone. The WAC believes that pooling resources is good value also because it shows the public that its leaders are serious about addressing the important regional issues in a coherent, cohesive, and consistent manner. Additionally, a unified approach helps lend legitimacy to our efforts and that in turn helps convince potential funding partners to use their resources on our efforts.

In addition to leveraging and legitimacy value, the work of the WAC has practical value. For instance, long-term property values can be protected through the knowledge gained and the confidence instilled by the WAC process. Uncertainty can be costly if not well understood. The WAC can help understand and address uncertainty associated with our water resources. Also, the County will benefit from the recently begun scenario planning by gaining a tool that can be integrated into other planning aspects (infrastructure, etc) and related to changes in demand for water. Other relevant information regarding the nature of the aquifers (such as size, shape, location, recharge, discharge), and the nature of the demand can inform decisions about land conservation, well development, and general planning.

The information gained by WAC leadership in pursuing studies will be used to assess the long-term future of the region. In addition to potential policy measures, the WAC lends itself to building public confidence. That is, people expect that their leaders are “doing the right thing”, asking the right questions, and are informed. Water resources issues are at the top of the list throughout the world and especially in the American west. The WAC believes the citizens expect the community leaders will be well informed and work together to manage this shared water resource. The consequences of an unfunded, inconsistent approach to water management can be detrimental because of affects on economic factors and investment decisions.

Working together to preserve the ecological needs of the upper Verde River presents an opportunity to maintain viable recreation, tourism, and “area appeal” economic values. Because these economies are linked to water, the WAC recognizes ecology as a common value and intends to lend its effort to making informed decisions in this regard. Due consideration should be given to the contribution of water-dependent agriculture and ranching to the regions economy as well. The monies of the WAC help us make



Water Advisory Committee DRAFT 3-8-07

informed decisions – whether or not every individual agrees with the decisions, informed decisions are usually less costly and embarrassing than uninformed decisions.

The work of the WAC can help avoid potentially costly litigation, and threatened and endangered species issues by providing information that leads to practical measures. A unified County is better able to work with (or against) organizations and “forces” outside of the local area. For instance, the work and unity of the WAC may be very helpful in determining how, where, and when interests in alternative water sources should be pursued. While individual members of the WAC are doing this, and NAMWUA is doing this, it is a potential value of the **WAC...**

Shared resources and effort prevents waste and reduces the cost of planning for each entity. WAC entities have gained valuable knowledge of their resources by combining the financial resources and focusing studies. Value is in understanding the water resource system such as where is the water? Where does it come from? Where does it go? What is my neighbor doing?

While difficult to quantify, the WAC believes the value of open communication, transparency and good will is not trivial.

Policy Value to County and others

- Situational Awareness, Communication, and Planning

The communities represented in the Water Advisory Committee have common ground and common values. The Charter and Mission Statement¹ indicate the desire to plan for and meet long term water resource needs of our region. The desire for smart management and the accomplishments towards fulfilling the mission form the core of the policy value.

¹ **Charter:** The Yavapai County Water Advisory Committee is a committed coalition of communities and selected stakeholders that are dedicated to developing a management plan for the sustainable use of our regional water supply.

Mission Statement: The Yavapai County Water Advisory Committee is committed to preserving sustainable water resources for future generations while enhancing the economic viability of our County. We are dedicated to meeting the long-term water resource needs of our customers - the citizens of the Yavapai County region. We will accomplish our goals by developing and enacting a total water management strategy through a consensus of our coalition members.



Water Advisory Committee DRAFT 3-8-07

The process and results of WAC activities helps policy makers understand and face conditions with confidence. Additional policy value is gained through communication, planning, and information gathering and sharing. By virtue of the composition of the Committee, the WAC is in a unique position to bring forth the key questions of the citizens and planners (through legitimately elected spokes-people) and discuss the available scientific information as it relates to, and informs answers to those key questions. It is a way to unify our communities thinking on water through a consensus based deliberative process. The WAC process allows ideas that are well supported by objective data to be accepted, and it allows ideas that are not as well supported by data to be recognized and possibly tested. The Board of Supervisors and other policy makers can gain realistic, defensible knowledge of the current answers to their key questions and thereby achieve a level of confidence commensurate with the logical basis of the answers. The WAC represents responsible, well informed, local control that will withstand the scrutiny of anybody.

In addition to confidence, the WAC process is good policy because of the contribution made towards regional planning. While the WAC does not make decisions for each member entity, it provides value through its goal to plan regionally around a shared natural resource that crosses jurisdictional lines. Integrated planning of a shared resource that crosses jurisdictional lines helps communities clarify their own objectives and plans, and thus maximize the potential to avoid negative consequences of not knowing or communicating with neighbors. Regional planning is an adaptive, ongoing process that requires the best information available. The WAC is a way to inform the planning process and integrate water resource issues into comprehensive planning.

The WAC has helped develop knowledge and tools to evaluate the resource and effects of its use. Studies and products such as data reports and models help officials address public concern with objective data and rational explanations. By virtue of its diversity, the WAC is arguably one of the most objective sources of information available to the Board and others.

The work of the WAC and its partners gives management the ability to objectively and transparently evaluate the status-quo (e.g. data may show changes and trends, data may help us predict where and how to react (and where not to “react”)). It will help tailor management to a mutually-agreed-upon “best” objective assessment of reality.

Furthermore, a WAC that keeps “on track” demonstrates to everybody that the leaders of this region are attempting to deal with water issues in a deliberative logical manner. That includes providing existing, and potential land owners, and businesses with confidence to be in our region. Moreover, a functioning WAC demonstrates to State and Federal entities that the local leaders are capable of managing the resource, and reduces the likelihood of policy impositions from the “outside”. This logical, united approach also



Water Advisory Committee DRAFT 3-8-07

lends support to requests that may go to the legislature. Demonstrating unity and ability to work also increases the possibility of favorable receptions to grant and cost share proposals, and use of resources (such as the ADWR and USGS staff).

The WAC works by consensus; it doesn't vote on anything. Each member needs to be convinced of the merit of a particular scientific results or course of action before it is accepted or embarked upon. Consensus is reached through data, convincing arguments and good ideas. While it is not always easy or possible to reach, consensus of the WAC carries significant weight and should not be underestimated.

Good will and mutual understanding through the WAC process is a way to bring the "sides" together to formulate wise decisions. The WAC recognizes the individuals don't need to change everybody's minds or values to agree on wise solutions. In fact diversity is an asset of the WAC. They want to get alternative viewpoints and understand the reasoning and issues that support each others viewpoint. Additionally, the WAC process is a way of testing if proposed solutions will work, and agreeing on how to move forward as a community that extends beyond jurisdictional boundaries. While recognizing and defending the independence of each jurisdiction, the WAC recognizes we are also interdependent; linked by a shared resource.

The concept represented by the WAC has spread across the nation. Similar groups have formed throughout the nation because they have policy value. That has happened because they work, especially the ones that are objective, representative, and sanctioned by the political entities that make policy. There may be cumbersome times, uncertainty and set backs, but as long as the vision is clear, the goals and objectives will be pursued and solutions will be effective.

Future Direction:

The Water Advisory Committee intends to continue policy programs and technical programs. Factual information will be acquired and incorporated into the strategies that will achieve the goals identified in the WAC's mission. The WAC will continue its dedication to informed management in order to ensure water resources for current and future generations.

- **Coordinate Regional Planning**

The Water Advisory Committee is in the unique position to coordinate and lead regional planning. The goal is to make the most efficient use of the resources to ensure a long-term water supply and protect our societal values.



Water Advisory Committee DRAFT 3-8-07

The WAC is the only County-wide group that will produce a comprehensive water-management plan which will have “buy-in” from all of the municipalities and County Districts. As such the plan(s) will have a high likelihood of success.

Future WAC management plan efforts will involve implementation strategies, plan evaluation, and adaptive ability commensurate with new information or laws.

- **Communication Forum:**

The value of relationships and communication often “goes without saying” but still it deserves mention. The WAC will continue to be a forum where members can communicate the needs of their constituents (data, values, plans, etc), and the efforts they are currently involved in or considering.

Through communication, the WAC communities will maintain a regional perspective, and define, discuss, and defend their positions on current and future issues and management alternatives. Understanding the communities’ questions and needs will help design the needed studies and solutions.

The WAC members understand the value of good will and trust between the communities in our region. The WAC organizational structure lends itself to incorporation of many perspectives into wise water resource management. The Committee does not underestimate the weight that consensus carries.

- **Subcommittees**

While a regional plan and communication are arguably the primary goals and services provided by the WAC, the Committee will be involved in several other aspects of water resource management including conservation, education, and drought planning.

- **Data needs**

Credible, confident and defensible positions are built on good information. To confidently fulfill the big picture management needs, many pieces must be created and assembled. On going efforts to fill data and planning gaps will continue.

- **Beyond the Verde**

The WAC will fulfill the broad responsibility of being a County-wide group. The WAC member communities and County will benefit by



Water Advisory Committee DRAFT 3-8-07

appropriate water resource planning in other areas in the County besides the Verde River watershed. The WAC will provide resource descriptions and plan options related to the emerging issues in the “other” three watersheds of the County.

- Incorporate new information
 - Track issues and information
 - Identify new threats and opportunities
 - Discuss, understand, implement, react to, promote, or change legislation
- Communicate
 - The Board of Supervisors, the city and town councils, and the citizens will know what the WAC is doing. The WAC intends to transfer the gathered information to the appropriate decision makers. Along with the information, options and recommendations will be provided. Feedback and communication between the information gatherers and the information users will help guide the process.

Also, the WAC will liaison with other groups in order to understand and coordinate the many efforts regarding water resources in our region. Utilize our collective strength to reach the over arching long-term goals and serve the citizens.

Through its elected and appointed officials, the Water Advisory Committee intends to provide leadership in water resource management. The WAC will acquire and share information for wise decisions and collaborate on a regional water management plan. The WAC is determined to promote a local basis for water resource management that meets our long-term water resource needs. Success will involve communicating stakeholder values, supporting “common sense” alternatives, crafting plans informed by science, and implementing solutions locally. The Water Advisory Committee represents a regional context, factual information, confident decisions, and viable outcomes.



Water Advisory Committee DRAFT 3-8-07

WAC continuing and new activities for the five to ten year time slot

- Relate to WAC vision and overall goals.
- Reduce conflict between stakeholders through transparency, factual information, and consensus based planning
- Regional water management plan
- Integrate plans and implementation tactics
- Integrate water resources into overall planning (not just water in a vacuum).
- Understand problems and apply solutions. Provide answers to the relevant management questions (see “questions document”)
- Provide the data (and analysis thereof) that will lead to confident, defensible informed decisions.
- Make and support management recommendations. Provide practical knowledge.
- Follow up with USGS groundwater model
- Continue information gathering (Obtain best available science)
- Refine (improve) water budgets. Fill important data gaps.
- Refine water-use scenarios
- Track and communicate regional issues
- Understand effects of water management on environmental and habitat issues
- Avoid water related litigation
- Explore purchase of development rights program
- Provide forum for speakers, educational opportunities
- Partner (for fund leveraging) with other agencies in information gathering (including areas outside of Verde)
- Collaborate with ADWR, USGS and Universities (and perhaps others ADEQ, Reclamation)
- Collaborate and liaison with other water groups
- Build confidence in BOS decisions. Position County to take opportunities as they arise.
- Continue with a conservation/water efficiency programs.
- Begin WAC work towards “on-the-ground” projects. Take advantage of partnering opportunities. Maintain long-term vision of water resources
- Help communities locate and develop recharge facilities
- Help locate, understand and secure critical areas in Verde Basin
- Focus on other watersheds – information gathering and support projects (such as Agua Fria planned work (COE)).
- Provide information to community planners and leaders through regular updates
- Adapt new information to existing plans
- Evaluate costs and benefits of projects and management options
- Make us “Prop 207-safe”
- Wisely relate water management to economic issues to ensure a healthy economy
- Identify and make opportunities to secure water for future needs