

Agenda Item 5 – Background: NAU Verde Valley Surface Water Study

The desired outcome of this agenda item is to make a funding recommendation on subject work proposal. The funding amount requested is \$34,342. The final scope of work dated July 12, 2007, is attached.

Summary and TAC Recommendation:

The proposed work, “Verde Valley GeoSpatial Database”, will assemble a complete set of existing relevant hydrologic data on the middle Verde River and tributaries, and build a conceptual surface water model.

The TAC has reviewed this proposal and recommends that this work be carried out in order to help with several things the TAC and WAC have identified as priorities. Such as providing boundary constraints for the USGS groundwater model, develop a better understanding of the impacts on flow due to diversion operations, identify data gaps, and supply basic data needs for general understanding and surface-water modeling.

Background:

The TAC has identified this area as a priority for several years.

The WAC has adequate funding available to support the project.

The work will compliment the existing USGS Verde work that was recently funded by the WAC (synoptic stream flow measurements) and the USGS groundwater model currently under development. This work will not duplicate any other work the WAC is involved with, and it is intended to be coordinated with and not duplicate any other related work proposed for the Verde Valley.

This work was discussed by the WAC at the April WAC meeting during the USGS Verde surface water work agenda item. The USGS agenda item was funded with knowledge that this piece would be coming to the WAC in the future.

NAU is providing some “cost share” through a reduction in the indirect costs from the normal university rate of over 40% to 17.5%.