



2011 GENERAL PLAN COMMITTEE

Community Development Department

Agenda

2011 General Plan Committee
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, September 14, 2011
4:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Downstairs Conference Room, City Hall
201 S. Cortez Street
Prescott, Arizona
928-777-1207

The following agenda will be considered by the PRESCOTT GENERAL PLAN COMMITTEE at its REGULAR MEETING on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2011, in the DOWNSTAIRS CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL, 201 S. CORTEZ STREET, PRESCOTT, ARIZONA. Notice of this meeting is given pursuant to *Arizona Revised Statutes*, Section 38-431.02.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Attendance

MEMBERS

Miriam Haubrich, Co-Chair	Elisabeth Ruffner
Terry Marshall, Co-Chair	George Sheats
Brad Devries	Gary Worob
Dave Fisher	
Glenn Gooding	<i>EX OFFICIO</i>
Zena Mitchell	Steve Blair, Councilman
Roxane Nielsen	John Hanna, Councilman
David Quinn	

- III. Announcements
- IV. Regular Items
 1. Consider approval of the minutes of the August 24, 2011 meeting.
 2. Discussion and edits to the Water Resource element.
 4. Call to the Public
- V. Adjournment

THE CITY OF PRESCOTT ENDEAVORS TO MAKE ALL PUBLIC MEETINGS ACCESSIBLE TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES. WITH 48 HOURS ADVANCE NOTICE, SPECIAL ASSISTANCE CAN BE PROVIDED FOR SIGHT AND/OR HEARING IMPAIRED PERSONS AT PUBLIC MEETINGS. PLEASE CALL 777-1272 OR 777-1100 (TDD) TO REQUEST AN ACCOMMODATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING.

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING OF NOTICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing notice was duly posted at Prescott City Hall and on the City's website on September 2, 2011 at 4:00 PM in accordance with the statement filed with the City Clerk's Office.

Kathy Dudek, Administrative Assistant
Community Development Department



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2011 GENERAL PLAN COMMITTEE
 REGULAR MEETING
 AUGUST 24, 2011
 PRESCOTT, ARIZONA

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE 2011 GENERAL PLAN COMMITTEE HELD ON AUGUST 24, 2011 AT 4:00 PM IN THE DOWNSTAIRS CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL, 201 S. CORTEZ STREET, PRESCOTT ARIZONA. *Notice of this meeting was given pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes, Section 38-431.02.*

I. Call to Order

Co-chairman Haubrich called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

II. Attendance

MEMBERS PRESENT	EX OFFICIO MEMBERS
Miriam Haubrich, Co-Chair	Steve Blair, Councilman
Terry Marshall, Co-Chair	
Brad Devries	EX OFFICIO MEMBERS ABSENT
Glenn Gooding	John Hanna, Councilman
Zena Mitchell	
Roxane Nielsen	STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT
David Quinn	George Worley, Planning Manager
Elisabeth Ruffner	Ryan Smith, Community Planner & Committee Liaison
George Sheats	
Gary Worob	
MEMBERS ABSENT	
Dave Fisher	

III. Announcements

Prescott Valley's approach to their General Plan is to update data by refreshing statistical information by staff, then form a committee and possibly go to the public for approval. Growing Smarter provides for some guidelines as to when a public process is needed depending on the extent of changes to plan content.

The General Plan web spotlight will be updated to include a survey. Public Participation will include radio shows and contacting local groups. The survey will be mentioned or left out when possible.

Committee member Gary Worob proffered that sampling of Prescott lake bed sediment cores will be completed in the near future.

IV. Regular Items

1. Consider approval of the minutes of the August 10, 2011 meeting.

Mr. Gooding, **MOTION: to approve the minutes** of the July 27, 2011 meeting.
Mr. Worob, 2nd. **Vote: 8-0 (unanimous)** to approve the minutes.

2. Discussion: Vision Statement update.

Mr. Smith noted that in the last meeting it was not decided if the 2003 General Plan Vision Statement should be updated or rewritten. Mr. Quinn provided a sample vision statement as a reference for a rewrite. The 2003 Vision Statement is generally considered to be a well written statement and has been honored by the Sonoran Institute. The 2003 statement is written in a "what should Prescott look like" format. Mr. Quinn's sample statement is written in a "what we want" format. Also discussed was whether or not the statement should be updated early or later in the process and if public survey information should be included.

The discussion concluded with Mr. Gooding making a **MOTION: to table the Vision Statement to a date not certain.** Mr. Worob, 2nd the motion. **Vote: 8-0 (unanimous)** in favor of tabling the Vision Statement.

3. Discussion: Consider topic(s) for the next meeting.

The Committee would like to begin updating in earnest of the various elements of the General Plan. It was asked if watershed should be considered separately from the Water Element. While watershed is important to the Water Element, it may be required by State law to be considered separately and considerations for watershed will appear in several elements. As reference material, the Committee asked for the water element from the 2050 Plan.

A discussion ensued on whether the Land Use Element or the Water Resources Element is the most important to begin the process. The Committee decided that the Water Resources Element would be first, then Land Use and Economic Development. The Committee retained the flexibility to make changes in the order that the committee discusses each element and also the order that each element will appear in the finished Plan.

It was asked what is the life of the General Plan. Staff informed the Committee that the General Plan life is considered to cover a 10 year period. Growing Smarter requires that the Plan be updated every 10 years, however, the Council may choose to either re-adopt the Plan after 10 years or to update the Plan prior to the 10 year expiration date.

Economic Development should be addressed since few documents exist covering this subject. This is a subject that may be addressed within several elements.

4. Call to the Public

Mr. Daniel Mattson, 148 E. Merritt Avenue, noted that the Vision Statement should be a few paragraphs only.

IV. Adjournment

Co-chairman Haubrich adjourned the meeting at 5:40 PM.

Terry Marshall, Co-Chairman

Miriam Haubrich, Co-Chairman

**Kathy Dudek, Administrative Assistant
& Recording/Transcribing Secretary to
the Committee**

DRAFT



2011 General Plan Committee Community Development

Date: Wednesday, September 14, 2011

To: Councilman Steve Blair, Brad Devries, Dave Fisher, Glenn Gooding,
Councilman John Hanna, Miriam Haubrich, Terry Marshall, Zena Mitchell,
Roxanne Nielsen, David Quinn, Elisabeth Ruffner, George Sheats and
Gary Worob

From: Tom Guice, Community Development Director *TG*
George Worley, Planning Manager *GW*
Ryan Smith, Community Planner *RS*

Staff Memo Water Element Update

PURPOSE:

The Committee is tasked with updating the General Plan Water Element. The element should describe the preferred future of water management in Prescott during the 10 year life of the Plan. Numerical data, tables and charts will be updated as needed by staff. The Committee should concentrate on the text of the element and the need to provide tables and other content, which is intended to reinforce proposed goals and strategies.

BACKGROUND:

The 2003 water element embodies the principals of Growing Smarter legislation by expressing Prescott's preferred water management policy. It has been suggested that watershed management should be included in the General Plan update. Surface water as it pertains to aquifer recharge is traditionally addressed in the Water Element while runoff may be addressed in the Open Space Element. The 2003 Water Element is provided for your review and for notes. Please read the Water Element and be prepared to describe what portions you like, dislike and what is desirable to update.

10.0 WATER RESOURCES ELEMENT

10.1 EXISTING CONDITIONS

In Arizona's arid climate, water availability is crucial to maintaining a strong economy and good quality of life. Natural precipitation supplies 100% of the water in the aquifer which serves as the primary source of water for the City of Prescott.

Under the Arizona Groundwater Code of 1980, the State of Arizona established five Active Water Management Areas to ensure that groundwater would not be depleted beyond the level being recharged, a condition known as "safe yield." The City of Prescott water service area is located within the Prescott Active Management Area (AMA) along with Prescott Valley, Chino Valley, the Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe as well as some surrounding county areas.

Communities within the AMA draw groundwater based on rights, goals and policies established by the groundwater law and are further obligated to demonstrate a 100-year assured water supply. Through a series of management plans administered by the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR), the 1980 code establishes a water management strategy emphasizing conservation, replacement of existing groundwater used with renewable supplies, recharge, and water quality management by all users within the AMA to help achieve the safe yield goal by 2025.

The Groundwater Code also established the Assured Water Supply (AWS) Program under which new development within active management areas must demonstrate that water supplies of adequate quantity are available to meet proposed uses for 100 years. Private domestic use wells are exempted from the 1980 Groundwater Code.

In 1998 the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) determined that the Prescott AMA was no longer in a state of safe yield. This determination capped the amount of groundwater which could be used by the respective jurisdictions within the AMA as a source of assured water for new development.

The City of Prescott water service area accounts for about **10%** of the land within the Prescott AMA. The city's water service area has increased over the years. If this statistic is still needed, GIS would likely be able to do a quick update using existing GIS system information. Whereas some of the statistics presented in this element may suggest a more adequate water supply for the Prescott water service area than for the Prescott AMA as a whole, it must be acknowledged that the groundwater basin aquifer is interconnected. Because water moves throughout the entire aquifer, the Prescott water service area cannot be considered in isolation. Draw down in other parts of the Prescott AMA can and does lower water tables in the Prescott water service area.

A.R.S. 9-461.05.

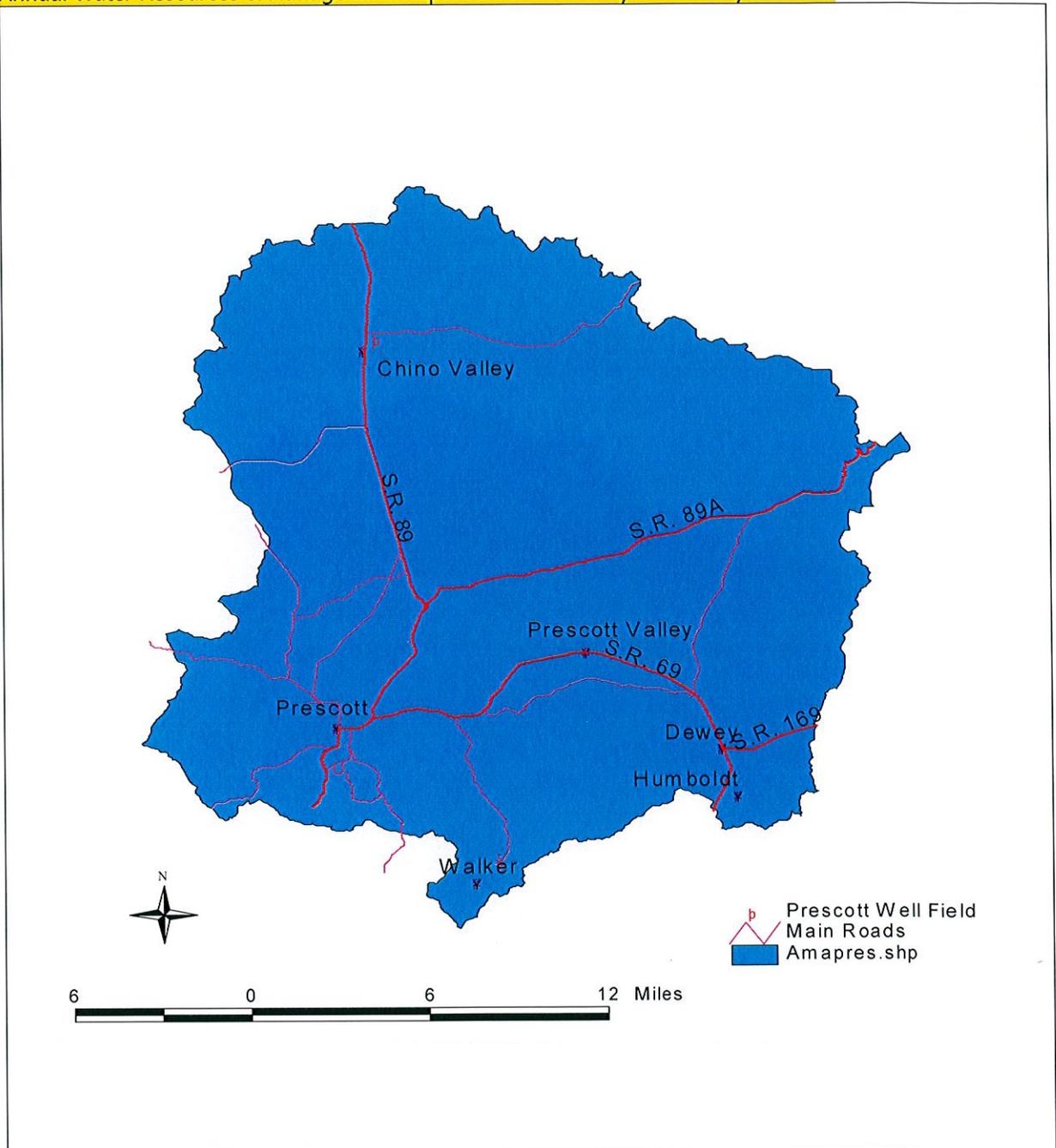
5. A water resources element that addresses:

(a) The known legally and physically available surface water, groundwater and effluent supplies.

(b) The demand for water that will result from future growth projected in the general plan, added to existing uses.

(c) An analysis of how the demand for water that will result from future growth projected in the general plan will be served by the water supplies identified in subdivision (a) of this paragraph or a plan to obtain additional necessary water supplies.

Figure 10-1 Prescott Active Management Area An updated map is available as part of the Annual Water Resources & Management Report that is currently on the City website.



It is also important to remain cognizant that Prescott and surrounding communities are in an Upland Desert region. If drought conditions continue, efforts to provide a safe and secure supply of water to the Prescott AMA could be impeded. Figure 10-2 indicates that the AMA has experienced a net loss of water from the aquifer for the last decade. Since 1998.

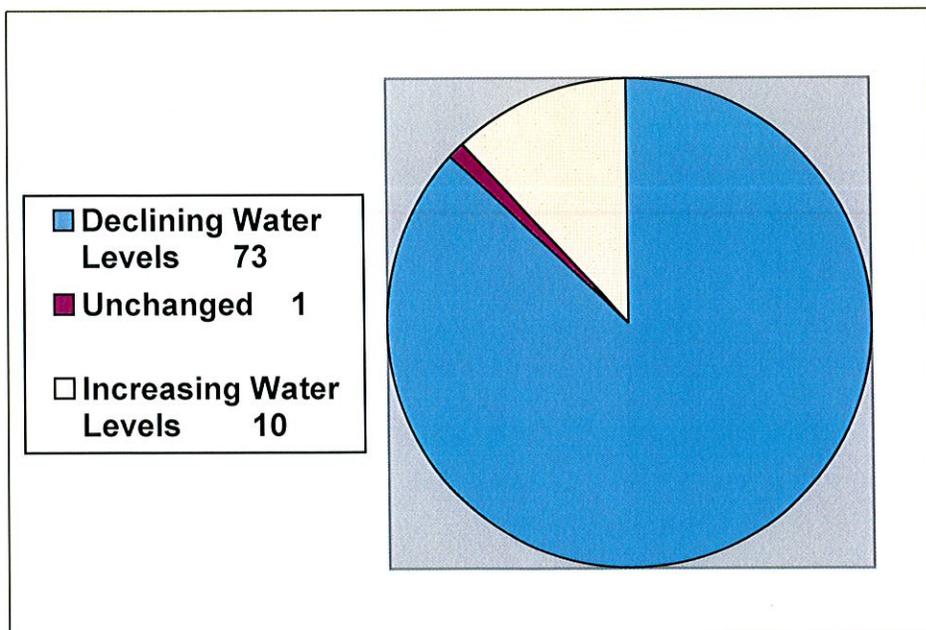
FIGURE 10-2 Predicted Change in Aquifer Storage With Imported Supplies (assumes importation begins by 2010) This would need to be updated. We have not imported water.

	<u>Base</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2025</u>
Overdraft	-9,331	-9,137	-7,314	-5,844	-7,099	-7,899	-8,819
Imported Water	0	0	0	5,844	7,099	7,899	8,819
Groundwater Overdraft	-9,331	-9,137	-7,314	0	0	0	0

Values are in Acre Feet/Year

The State's AMA Safe-Yield is defined as a groundwater management goal, which attempts to achieve and thereafter maintain a *long-term balance* between the amount of groundwater withdrawn in an active management area and the annual amount of natural and artificial recharge in the active management area. A.R.S. §45-561(12). As of 2003 the Prescott AMA has not achieved safe-yield. Safe yield has not been achieved in 2011. This means that current rates of draw down are not sustainable over the long term. Thus, a net deficit of consumption over natural recharge exists. This condition is further borne out by the data (illustrated in Figure 10-3) from the 84 monitoring wells established throughout the AMA. While several of the monitoring wells located in the Prescott water service area are among the wells with increasing water levels, the net for the entire AMA is declining.

Figure 10-3 Change in Water Levels In Monitoring Wells Prescott AMA 2001-2002 ADWR may have updated information based on their Water Atlas (available online).



10.2 LEGALLY AND PHYSICALLY AVAILABLE WATER

10.2.1 Legal Availability

Due to the restrictions imposed by the 1980 Groundwater Code and the 1998 declaration of water mining, communities within the AMA must develop additional water supplies in order to demonstrate a 100 year assured water supply for any new development approved within their jurisdictions. The additional water rights acquired must meet each of two standards recognized by the state water code: that the water supply is legally available (i.e. the legal right to use the water is documented), and that the water is physically available, or shown to actually exist in sufficient quantities to cover the amount legally available.

10.2.2 Physical Availability

The physical availability of water resources is dependent upon both natural conditions (amount of precipitation, evaporation, natural recharge, geology, etc.) as well as the demand placed on the resource by all water users. Since the water policies pursued by an individual jurisdiction affect all jurisdictions in the AMA, water policies are a topic of major regional interest. Regional cooperation and coordination will be necessary to maintain an assured water supply for the City's and the region's anticipated population growth. A regional coordinating body, the Yavapai County Water Advisory Committee has been established with members representing the AMA and local jurisdictions.

The City of Prescott has pursued an aggressive water management policy for more than 10 years (should be 18 years now) and has invested in numerous strategies to secure both the legal and physical availability of water for existing and projected water users within the City of Prescott water service area. These resources include groundwater (including "type II" rights)*, surface water, Irrigation Grandfathered Rights (IGFR) credits, and effluent recharge. Also among the items in the City's water portfolio is the legal right to import up to 14,000-acre feet (could be zero to 8068 acre-feet according to the Big Chino pending litigation) per year from the Big Chino sub basin (ARS §45-555). Now includes 45-555E and F.

The water resources legally and physically available to the City are presented in figure 10-4.

Figure 10-4 Current water Supplies Available for Residential Development - City of Prescott Water Service Area. These numbers will require updating.

Groundwater designated by ADWR as legally and physically available:	11,200 af/yr
Estimated effluent recharge (as of 08-28-2003)	2,000 af/yr
Surface Water currently available is estimated to be:	
Granite & Willow Creeks (net)	1,500 af/yr
Banning Creek (Goldwater Lake)	500 af/yr
Total legally and physically available water supply	15,200 af/yr
<i>* Note: Prescott has type II Water Rights for 3169 acre feet, but these are limited to commercial or industrial development and are not available for residential development. The City's water portfolio includes IGFR credits but these are committed to other uses. The City also has Hassayampa River and Del Rio Spring surface water claims of approximately 2769 acre feet but has no plans (as of 2003) to assert and tap those water claims.</i>	

Without tapping importation rights, the city's current legal and physical availability of groundwater and alternative water sources can cover existing uses and projected allocations to all platted parcels in the water service area with approximately 3000 (update) acre feet left over to allocate for new development. The committed demand for preliminary subdivision plats approved prior to August 1998 was 10,800 acre feet.)

Since declaration, the City has taken a very conservative approach to the allocation of water to new development and has set up an annual "water budget" of 150-acre feet (now 200 acre-feet) which can be allocated to new development. This budget and the policies underpinning it are reviewed and updated by the City Council each year.

10.3 FUTURE GROWTH AND WATER DEMAND

Population growth and development anywhere within the AMA affect the aquifers and the AMA goal of reaching Safe-Yield. There are a number of specific threats to Safe-Yield:

- population growth and resulting increases in aquifer draw-down
- commitment of groundwater to non-residential uses
- drilling of new exempt wells within the AMA

In addition, the aquifer has multiple jurisdictions superimposed upon it (City of Prescott, the Town of Chino Valley, the Town of Prescott Valley and the Yavapai-Prescott Indian Reservation and Dewey-Humboldt), which increases the difficulty of achieving coordinated water management policies and practices which can collectively contribute to safe yield for the entire AMA. As mentioned previously, the City of Prescott accounts for approximately 10% (update) of the land area of the Prescott AMA. Development patterns and policies in other jurisdictions within the AMA differ from those of the City of Prescott.

Future growth within the City of Prescott has been considered in the Land Use Element and in the Growth Management/ Cost of Development Element. Prescott's projected population of about between 49, 000 to 55,000 residents within 25 years assumes a moderate average annual growth rate of between 2% and 3% and in a manner true to the community's vision and values. If large areas of land are annexed into the city, these figures will require re-evaluation. Census numbers were lower than expected in 2010 indicating a slowed growth rate. Large scale annexations seem unlikely in the next 10 years. Meeting the water needs of these residents will require that the City optimize existing groundwater supplies through conservation and maximize alternative water supplies such as reuse or recharge of treated effluent. Additionally, to meet the demands of the growing population and satisfy the safe yield mandate for the AMA, the City of Prescott anticipates the need to develop additional water sources including some importation. Acquisition of water rights and infrastructure to facilitate importation of water from the Big Chino Basin aquifer, located just north of the Prescott AMA (see figure 10-6) are currently being explored. Big Chino is currently under litigation. The City is currently conducting a feasibility study to acquire additional wells and associated water rights.

Among concerns relating to the importation of water are the monetary, social and environmental costs. Economic impacts could be the costs of infrastructure, methods of

financing and securing of water rights. Social impacts could include the effects on quality of life and public services caused by population growth fed by imported water. Environmental impacts may include the direct effect of pipeline construction or the affects of increased urbanization on the land, habitats and air quality.

10.3.1 Effluent Supplies

Effluent has become an important water resource for the communities in the AMA, including the City of Prescott. Effluent, when properly treated, can be used for certain applications, such as irrigation of public parks or other large turf areas which reduces demand on groundwater supplies. Currently, the City supplies effluent to all of the golf courses within the municipal service area, and has converted a number of City parks to effluent irrigation. **Park irrigation did not occur.** Effluent can also be used to recharge the aquifer through the use of recharge basins, where the treated effluent water goes through the same natural polishing process that naturally recharged water is subject to. The City of Prescott has operated an effluent recharge facility near the airport since 1988, and is currently recharging an average of **2,200** acre feet per year of effluent. **An updated average can be calculated with existing records.**

Additional methods to optimize this resource include increasing the amount of effluent available for recharge by limiting the amount of new turf that must be irrigated; converting additional City parks to effluent use; periodic review of effluent sale rates and possible penalties to customers who exceed their allotment; and improved collection of wastewater in areas that are currently on septic systems. **New golf courses are phrohibited in Prescott.**

10.3.2 Water Conservation **Complete update needed since the hiring of the Water Conservation Coordinator**

The City's existing water conservation program addresses the need for individuals to conserve water through wise water use practices. This program is currently posted on the City's website (www.cityofprescott.net). As mentioned earlier, the City has adopted a water budget policy which requires that new allocations of water be within the available resources. Other conservation measures that could yield significant water savings include limiting the additional sale of effluent (instead using the effluent to increase recharge); reducing the amount of lost and unaccounted water, adoption of an incentive billing structure, and further expansion of public education. The existing policies can be reviewed and updated as necessary while proposed new policies will require development (including public debate) and subsequent adoption.

10.3.3 Additional Water Supplies **An ADWR 4th management plan has not been written, but the ADWR Water Atlas may have this or similar information available.**

Serving the anticipated population growth with water has been considered and incorporated in the City's Alternative Water Budget and in the ADWR Third Management Plan for the Prescott AMA. The chart in Figure 10-5 details the predicted change in aquifer storage, projected growth and water balance.

Figure 10-5 Conservation And Augmentation Scenario Prescott Active Management Area **These numbers will require an update.**

PRESCOTT AMA WATER BUDGET	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025
MUNICIPAL DEMAND	11,100	12,900	14,700	16,600	18,400	20,100
MUNICIPAL EFFLUENT DEMAND	2100	2350	2715	2997	3296	3616
AGRICULTURAL DEMAND	4400	3500	4100	4100	4100	4100
AGRICULTURAL EFFLUENT DEMAND	1500	1500	0	0	0	0
INDUSTRIAL DEMAND	300	300	200	300	300	300
EXEMPT WELL DEMAND	1700	1870	2057	2263	2489	2738
TOTAL DEMAND	21,100	22,420	23,772	26,259	28,585	30,854
NATURAL RECHARGE	7891	7891	7891	7891	7891	7891
INCIDENTAL RECHARGE	1490	1265	1035	1040	1040	1040
CITY OF PRESCOTT EFFLUENT	1500	1650	1815	1997	2196	2416
TOWN OF PRESCOTT VALLEY EFFLUENT	600	700	900	1000	1100	1200
RECOVERED EFFLUENT CREDITS	1532	4580	6980	7920	8920	9800
RECOVERED SURFACE CREDITS	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500
AGRICULTURAL SURFACE WATER	900	900	900	900	900	900
RENEWABLE SUPPLIES	15413	18486	21021	22248	23547	24747
FINAL WATER BALANCE	-5687	-3934	-2751	-4012	-5038	-6107

Values in Acre-Feet

Importation could balance the overdraft and assist the goal of safe yield. If and when importation of water from outside the AMA is initiated, the above figures will need to be adjusted to account for the changes in the final water balance. Current projections suggest that imported water could be available as soon as the year 2010 with increasing amounts available in subsequent years. **This has not happened yet.**

However, even with importation, a degree of unpredictability exists. The current drought and its potential duration is a relevant consideration in ongoing water resources management. A study by the U.S. Geological Survey released in February 2003 stated that "in the context of shifting ocean climate, the current drought should give water and other resource managers in the Rockies and the Southwest little cause for optimism

about the drought ending anytime soon". This climate condition, in combination with long distance water importation, creates a potential pitfall in that such additional water could be used to support increased urbanization beyond what available water resources could support.

The drought could cause those distant sources to literally or legally "dry up", placing the community and its larger population in even greater jeopardy of water supply shortfalls. Thus, existing and potential residents should be advised that our water supply is at some risk owing to possible continuation of drought and continued commitment of water resources by other users beyond the control of the City of Prescott.

Thus, imported water, by policy, should be treated as a reserve to maintain a safe yield position. As such, it should be used in place of local water and not to support still further urbanization.

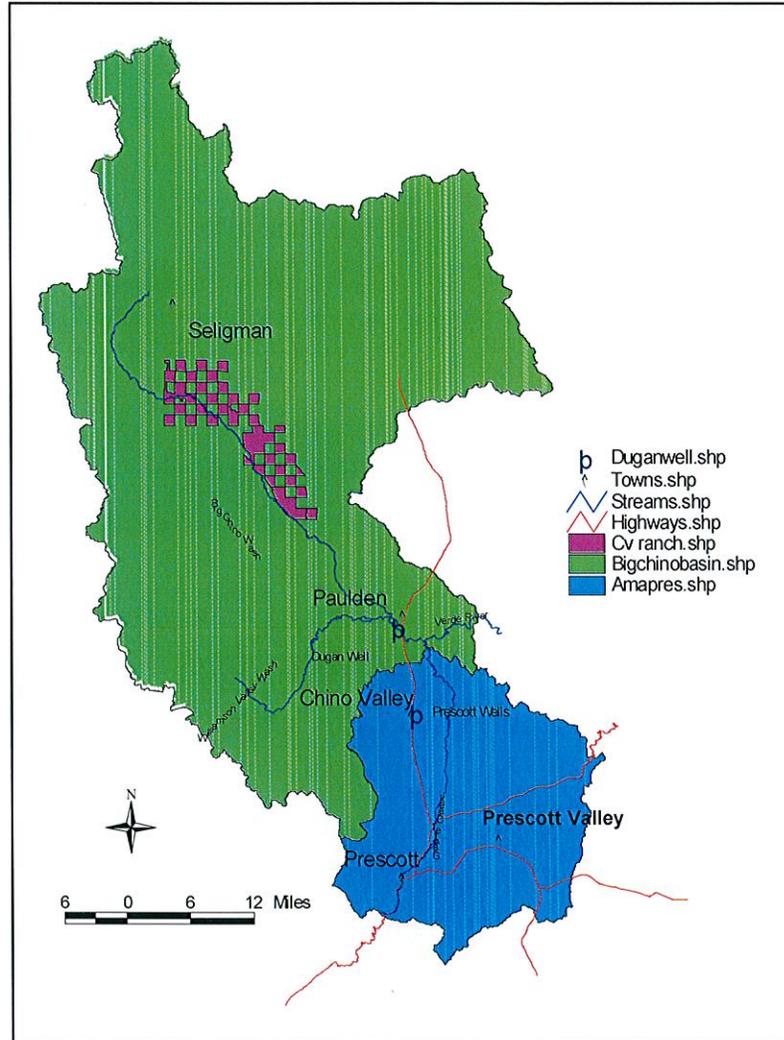
Concerns exist as to whether or not legal and financial limitations to water importation can be overcome. The resolution of this controversy ultimately should lie in the hands of the citizens. Public information as to the nature of the water situation should be provided to all. Public financing measures such as revenue bonding are expected to be voted on by the citizens of Prescott. **An informed and participating citizenry will be the best guide to future actions.** A citizen's report was requested and the first edition was produced and posted on the web, Annual Water Resources & Management Report. These efforts will continue with annual ADWR reporting, and City Council reports.

10.4 PUBLIC EDUCATION AND REGIONAL COORDINATION

An important component of the goals and implementation strategies mentioned below is the need to have an involved and educated public. The public is the ultimate supporter and benefactor of these policies and is therefore the focus of the need.

Also stated throughout this chapter is the concept that water resources extend beyond man-made boundaries and are themselves a regional reserve. The proper protection, and management of this important resource (including imported supplies) will require cooperation and planning of all of the entities and individuals who impact it. The City anticipates the need to continue to work with regional water forums and implement a regional coordination strategy.

Figure 10-6 Prescott AMA and Big Chino Sub basin An updated map is in order. A starting point may be found with GIS associated with the Annual Water Resources & Management Report.



10.4 WATER RESOURCES GOALS AND STRATEGIES

Goal 1. Provide a reliable water supply for the city by employing water conservation measures. **Add rainwater harvesting?**

- Strategy 1.1** Annually review the city water budget and limit new allocations to match available resources according to the City's water budget policy. **This is in effect, with the extension of the Water Management Policy.**
- Strategy 1.2** Reduce lost and unaccounted for water through monitoring and appropriate action. **This is tracked by Operation and reported on an annual basis to ADWR. The City has never exceeded 10% losses (as set by ADWR).**
- Strategy 1.3** Review additional conservation measures for possible addition to the City's existing Water Conservation Program. **This could be explored further.**
- Strategy 1.4** Adopt an incentive billing structure tied to consumption to encourage conservation. **A tier rate structure was adopted, see PCC 2-1-18**
- Strategy 1.5** Expand Water Conservation Program Public Education Component.

Goal 2. Improve water supply reliability by optimizing effluent supplies.

- Strategy 2.1** Provide no potable water or effluent for irrigation use by future golf courses. **Future golf courses are now prohibited in Prescott.**
- Strategy 2.2** Periodically re-evaluate effluent rates to contract customers and impose penalties for use over allotments. **Most rates are set in contracts and increase on a yearly based on Consumer Price Index.**
- Strategy 2.3** Continue to maximize effluent recharge programs and pursue efficient water management practices.
- Strategy 2.4** Extend sewers wherever feasible to recover effluent from water customers presently on septic systems based upon a case-by-case cost-benefit analysis.
- Strategy 2.5** Continue to convert City parks to use effluent for irrigation where feasible. **This has not occurred for a several reasons, cost to put in reuse infrastructure, during the summer most to all of the current effluent supplies are currently being used, and effluent supplies are used for recharge to support the city's water portfolio.**

- Goal 3.** Develop Additional Water Supplies for the city.
- Strategy 3.1** Pursue the importation of water resources in sufficient quantities to reduce depletion of local water reserves and achieve "safe yield". The Big Chino Water Ranch is an attempt at this.
 - Strategy 3.2** Utilize imported water in a manner recognizing it as a benefit of limited reliability due to potential drought impacts and legal claims by other jurisdictions.
 - Strategy 3.3** Develop funding strategies to finance new water sources and technologies.
 - Strategy 3.4** Investigate creating a water impact fee for new homes and/or commercial buildings to finance new water sources and technology. Water impact and water resource development fees are in place, but in jeopardy based on possible future State legislation.
 - Strategy 3.5** Investigate creating a differential water buy-in fee for new multifamily homes set at a lower rate than for Single-family homes as an incentive for lower cost housing. Water fees are currently based on meter size. Also, water rates are less for multi-family.
- Goal 4.** Include the citizens in decision making on water policies.
- Strategy 4.1** Provide continuing public information regarding water policy questions. See current and future Annual Water Resources & Management Reports.
 - Strategy 4.2** Promote public involvement in major capital improvement decisions for water acquisition projects.
- Goal 5.** Continue to participate in regional coordination Programs regarding water resources.
- Strategy 5.1** Continue to take an active role in regional water forums. City staff continues to be active in regional water groups
 - Strategy 5.2** Partner with other jurisdictions and fund studies to identify conservation measures and additional water resources. Upper Verde River Watershed Protection Coalition is a multi-jurisdictional group that strives to meet the intent of this strategy.