

PIMA COUNTY LOCAL DROUGHT IMPACT GROUP
(LDIG)

Tuesday, November 10, 2015
Pima County Public Works Building

RECAP

Attendance: Kathy Chavez, Colby Bowser and Lilian Von Rago (RWRD), Erin Boyle (NWS), Melanie Alvarez (PAG), Candice Rupprecht (Tucson Water), Chris Magrirl, USGS

1. Welcome and Introductions -Welcome and Introductions were made
2. Updates
 - a. Recap September – Kathy Chavez, RWRD
 - i. Summary of Summer Monsoon Season from NWS
 - ii. Status of Colorado River from CAP
 - b. Drought Status Maps– Kathy Chavez, RWRD
 - i. Short Term Map continues to show improvement. Abnormally dry in the central portion of Pima County and no drought in the rest of the county.
 - ii. Long Term Map (July, August, September) indicates improvement throughout the State. The Verde watershed continues to be in moderate drought. The central and eastern portions are abnormally dry and the western and northern portions have no drought.
 - c. PAG update-Melanie Alvarez, PAG
 - i. Resolution on *Regional Resilience to Climate and Weather Variability* to be considered by EPAC
 - ii. Task force recommendations on shallow groundwater heritage to sustain riparian areas to be considered by PAG committees
 - d. USGS update-Chris Magrirl
 - i. Ready for ENSO. Coordinating with others on a USGS proposal to fund additional data collection sites. Will be collecting data to evaluate the impacts of ENSO on groundwater levels
 - e. RWRD update-Lilian Von Rago
 - i. Numerous community events including homeowner association meeting. Sharing drought information at other forums
3. ADWR Activity
 - a. Report on MTC Meeting October 30
 - i. Long Term map discussed.
 - ii. Review and discussion of ADWR Drought Preparedness Annual Report. Pima County LDIG report submitted to ADWR. ADWR Annual report will be sent to the Governor in late November, after the Interagency Coordinating Group has reviewed and commented
 - iii. Much anticipation for El Niño conditions this winter. Receiving inquiries as to whether drought has ended. One rainy season not indicative of drought ending.

El Niño Fact Sheet discussed. El Niño website update included in Pima County Drought webpage under Climate section. NWS to provide link to NWS winter outlook and El Niño information

- iv. Roosevelt reservoir 50% full due to adaptive management, not because of easing drought conditions

 - b. Report on Interagency Coordinating Group Meeting November 10
 - i. Will recommend to the Governor that the current drought status be maintained
 - ii. El Niño conditions should be favorable for Southern Arizona; the outlook for central and northern Arizona is less certain

 - c. Draft Annual Report to the Governor forwarded to IGC. Pima County LDIG portion is included as appendix. Report also forwarded to the County Administrator
4. Summary of *Living with Less Water* Conference – deferred to future meeting
5. Adjournment and next meeting
- a. Next meeting January 13, 2016
 - b. Presentation on Shallow Groundwater and *Living with Less Water* Conference summary