

Pima County Regional Flood Control District Monthly Brown Bag Series

Ranch and Farm Transition Process

A process to select or maintain qualified ranchers and farmers to manage Pima County Ranch and Farm Properties

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Pima County owns and manages 15 working ranch and farm properties resulting from SDCP implementation. Private sector ranchers and farmers manage twelve of these properties under formal agreements with the County. The Range Program within the Natural Resources Division of the NRPR department administers these Ranch Management Agreements. Vanessa Prileson, Range Program Manager, recently developed a Ranch Transition Process to facilitate Ranch Management Agreements transitioning to new managers. Vanessa outlined possible ranch transition situations and developed a “decision key” to provide guidance for the Range Program and Natural Resources Division when current ranchers or farmers approach their final year of a term or final extension of existing agreements. In addition, Vanessa also developed an outreach process to seek new ranch or farm managers for cases when current managers wish to retire or otherwise exit their Agreements with the County. Finally, Vanessa, Range Program staff and Natural Resources Division Manager Karen Simms created an application process, complete with evaluation and selection criteria, to select new ranch and farm managers.