WATER SECURITY FROM THE GROUND UP

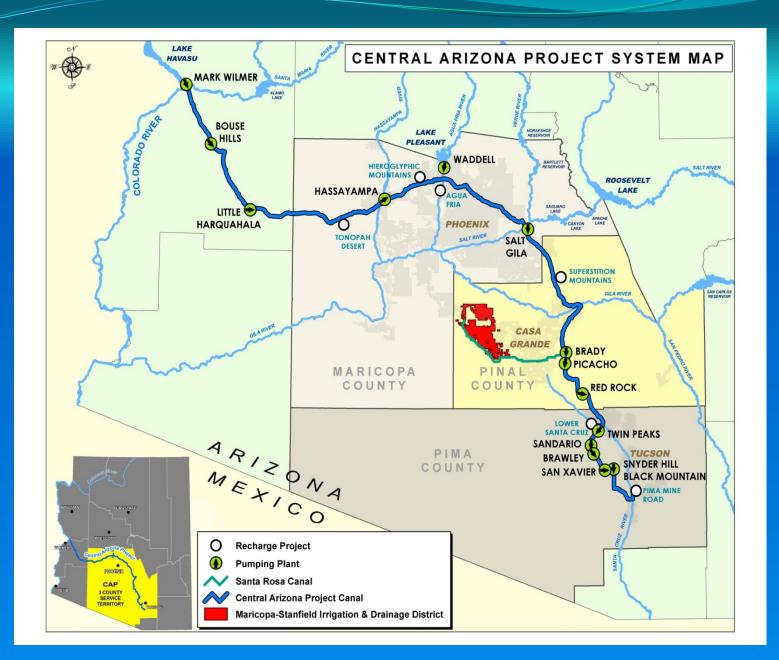
WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH CENTER
2013 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
TUESDAY, MARCH 5

What Keeps You Up at Night Theme from Jaws

Brian M. Betcher

General Manager

Maricopa-Stanfield Irrigation & Drainage District



Background / District Project

480 Square Miles - West of Casa Grande

Between Gila River and Tohono O'Odham Nations

87,000 Gross Acres (80,000 Farmable)
Canal System Completed in 1989
District Acquired Over 400 Operable Irrigation Wells in 1989

40-year Lease Agreements with Landowners

Canal System:

- Santa Rosa Canal: 56 Miles
 - Serves Ak-Chin Community & CAIDD
- East Main Canal: 17 Miles
- Lateral Canals: 130 Miles
- 193 Delivery Turnouts
- Entire Service Area Has Equal Access to CAP Water
- SCADA/ No Regulatory Storage

Groundwater System:

- Current Capacity: Over 400 cfs (140 Wells)
 - Capacity Lost to Development: 70 cfs (60 Wells)
- Current Production Capability: 150,000 AFA*
 - 80 Wells Connected to Canal System
- Uneven Distribution Some Areas "GW Poor/Dry"

*Depends on Annual Demand and Well Location

Water Security

- Availability
 - Supply vs. Drought
 - Infrastructure Source to User
- Affordability
- Certainty
 - Rights, Contracts, Settlements, Quality

"It ain't what you don't know that gets you into trouble. It's what you know for sure that just ain't so."

~Mark Twain~



What Keeps You Up At Night

- Aging Well Infrastructure ~Think Rusty~
- Government Regulation
 ~Think Layers~
- Competition for Water ~Think Boxing~
- Getting Ag's Message Out

~Think Infomercial~

Aging Well Infrastructure

140 Active » Base Production 150,000 AF 200 Inactive » Need 30,000 AF by 2017 Many Not Usable Due to Location/Condition Most Wells are 40-50 Years Old

Maintain Active Wells & Rehabilitate Standby Wells

- Casing Deterioration = Big \$
- New Well \$600,000
 - Rehab Old Well \$70k \$100k

- Production Capacity
- Energy Efficiency
- \$/AF for Added Water

Government Regulation

- Energy Policy
 - NGS, EPA & the War on Coal
 - Cost of Additional Energy for Increased Pumping
 - Hoover Reallocation & Natural Gas
 - What Happened to Hydropower & Nuclear Power

Environmental Policy

- Clean Air & Clean Water Acts/ ESA
 - NGS/ Waters of the United States/ PM₁₀
 - Is the Standard Clean or Pristine?

Cost to the Economy

Benefits vs. Cost – What are the Benefits?

Competition for Water

- Ag = Default Supply for Urban Growth
 - Population Movement from Water Rich to Water Scarce Areas
- Augment Supplies
 - Promise to Arizona Remains Unmet
- Public Policy
 - Preserve Water for What is Valued
 - Political Reality
 - Votes: East of Mississippi River
 - Bulk of Irrigated Ag, Public & Indian Lands: West of Mississippi River
- States Need to Reclaim Control
 - Who Controls Policy? Local is Usually Better

Getting Ag's Message Out

- Water Security = Food Security
 - Food/Fiber for Global Population 9 Billion by 2050
 - 3 Million Acres of U.S. Farmland Lost in 2012

Economic Impact/Benefits

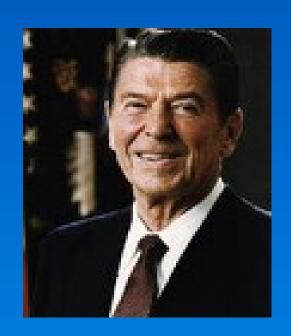
- Reduction in Household Income Needed for Food
 25% in 1945 to 7% in 2011
- \$128 Billion to Household Income in 17 Western States
 \$3-4 Billion Contributed by Arizona

Societal Benefits

- Open Space/ Greenbelts/ Buffer to Public Lands
 - Value Not Recognized in Income or Land Value

Control of Water = Control of Output

- Irrigated Ag 25% More Productive
- Efficient Systems



"Trust, but Verify." ~Ronald Reagan~