

## GLOSSARY

**Aquifer:** A body of rock or sediments sufficiently permeable to conduct groundwater and to yield economically significant quantities of water to wells and springs.

**Aquifer Storage Index:** Groundwater levels in the aquifer as measured at selected wells and compared to groundwater levels in a particular (index) year.

**Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR):** A department of state government responsible for water management and administration of water-related programs within the State.

**Arizona Drought Monitoring Technical Committee (ADMTC):** This committee was formed by the Governor's Drought Task Force. It monitors data like climate, weather forecasts, and physical drought conditions. The committee determines drought conditions based on these data.

**Arizona Water Banking Authority:** An institution established in 1996 by the legislature to help secure the state's full entitlement of Colorado River water through the Central Arizona Project.

**Assured Water Supply:** An ADWR requirement that all new developments in "active management areas" (geographical regions of the state subject to regulation by ADWR) must demonstrate a 100-year water supply that is of adequate quality, continuously available, consistent with the management plan and management goal of the AMA, and that there is financial capability to construct the water facilities available for the proposed use.

**Central Arizona Project:** A federal water project designed to bring water from the Colorado River to central and southern Arizona. The Central Arizona Project includes 336 miles of canal and pipeline and 14 pump stations.

**Conservation:** Techniques for saving water that reduce demand.

**Climate Change:** Any trend or persistent change in the statistical distribution of climate variables (temperature, humidity, wind speed, etc.).

**Cycles of Concentration:** A principal measure of water use efficiency in a cooling tower, which are commonly used for cooling in large-scale commercial and industrial facilities. Cycles of concentration refers to the ratio of chemical constituents in cooling

tower bleed-off water to constituents on the make-up (fresh) water that is added to the tower to perform its cooling.

**Demand:** The amount of water being used.

**Demand Offset:** A program whereby a water user agrees to reduce water use in one area in order to consume water in another. (Example: A developer agrees to pay to retrofit older housing with water-efficient plumbing fixtures in order to construct new homes.)

**Demand Reductions:** Measures taken by a water utility to reduce the use of potable water in response to drought or supply insufficiency conditions.

**Drought:** A sustained natural reduction in precipitation that results in negative impacts to the environment and human activities.

**Drought Impact:** The effects of a drought.

**Drought Preparedness:** The act of planning to decrease the impacts of drought by implementing measures and or developing other water supplies to reduce water demand as drought conditions worsen.

**Drought Response Stage:** A level of severity of drought response required, as measured by Tucson Water's indicators. There are four stages of drought response in Tucson Water's drought response plan.

**Economic Hardship:** A threat to an individual's or business' primary source of income.

**Effluent:** Treated municipal wastewater.

**Essential Uses:** Water uses related to maintaining the health, welfare, safety, and public sanitation needs of the community.

**Firm or Firming:** The act of securing Colorado River water supplies by recharging and storing available excess supply in underground recharge basins in order to meet anticipated future declared shortages on the Colorado River.

**Fountain:** An ornamental water-using fixture for purely aesthetic purposes.

**Gallons per Capita per Day (GPCD):** As used in the Plan, GPCD is calculated by taking all potable water produced divided by the population the water system serves, and dividing the result by 365.

**Groundwater:** That portion of water beneath the surface of the earth that can be recovered with wells or that flows naturally to the earth's surface via seeps or springs.

**Indicator:** A variable that changes as drought conditions change (example--Colorado River water availability).

**Long-term Drought:** When sustained precipitation deficits over time periods of one to several years affect surface and subsurface water supplies.

**Mitigation:** Actions or programs that reduce drought risk and impacts and enhance recovery.

**Ordinance:** A municipal regulation.

**Potable Water:** Water that meets the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and/or the State's drinking water (water-quality) standards.

**Potable Water Production Capacity:** The amount of potable water that can be delivered reliably by the potable system for a 30-day (peak) time period.

**Public Notification:** Notice of drought response stage provided to Tucson Water customers and the general public through local media sources as a result of news releases and/or Tucson Water bill inserts.

**Reclaimed Water:** Wastewater treated to a quality suitable for non-potable applications such as landscape irrigation, decorative water features, non-food crops, and certain industrial uses.

**Reclaimed Water Production Capacity:** The sustainable amount of water that can be extracted from the Sweetwater Recharge and Recovery Facility.

**Recharge:** Water that replenishes an aquifer by surface infiltration or by other natural or induced means.

**Recovery or Recover:** The practice of pumping water that has been artificially recharged to an aquifer.

**Secondary effluent:** Wastewater that has been treated to a higher quality.

**Short-term Drought:** Measured by the departure of precipitation or another drought indicator from average conditions on a time-scale from one to several seasons, an example being a dry winter with little rain for a year.

**Supply Insufficiency:** Supply insufficiency occurs when water available in an area is not sufficient to meet immediate unrestricted demand.

**Surface Water:** Water that is on the earth's surface, such as in a stream, river, or lake.

**Total Demand:** The volume of water a water provider is required to produce to meet the needs of all potable and nonpotable customers.

**Tucson Active Management Area (Tucson AMA):** The Tucson AMA is one of five AMAs in the state that were established pursuant to the 1980 Groundwater Management Act. The State's Active Management Areas were established to provide long-term management and conservation of their limited groundwater supplies.

**Triggers:** The value or combined value of one or more indicators that cause a change from one drought response stage to another.

**Vulnerability:** For purposes of this Plan, vulnerability is defined as the probable susceptibility to drought impacts (damage) related to economic, social, and environmental conditions in the community, as mitigated by system characteristics such as reliability and redundancy.

**Water Resources:** A source of water supply or supplies.

**Watershed:** The area drained by a river system.

**Water Year:** A timeframe often used by surface water providers to delineate one year's operation, usually October 1 to September 30, to coincide with the federal budget fiscal year timeframe.