

Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection

738 N. 5th Ave., Suite 205 Tucson, Arizona 85705
520.388.9925 | sonorandesert.org

AGENDA MATERIAL

DATE 3-18-25 ITEM NO. 2149

Arizona Center for Law in
the Public Interest

Arizona Master Naturalist
Association

Arizona Native Plant Society

Bat Conservation

Cascabel Conservation
Association

Center for Biological
Diversity

Center for Environmental
Ethics

DarkSky Southern Arizona

Defenders of Wildlife

Desert Watch

Environmental Law Society

Friends of Ironwood Forest

Friends of Madera Canyon

Friends of Saguaro National
Park

Friends of Tortolita

Gates Pass Area
Neighborhood Association

Genius Loci Foundation

Great Old Broads for
Wilderness - Tucson

Living Desert Alliance

Native Seeds / SEARCH

Protect Land and
Neighborhoods

Save the Scenic Santa Ritas

Sierra Club - Grand Canyon
Chapter

Sierra Club - Nopales Group

Sky Island Alliance

Tortolita Alliance

Tortolita Homeowners
Association

Tucson Audubon Society

Tucson Herpetological
Society

Tucson Mountains
Association

Wildlands Network

March 13, 2025

Rex Scott, Chairman and District 1 Supervisor
Pima County Board of Supervisors
33 North Stone Avenue, 11th Floor
Tucson, AZ 85701-1207

RE: Adoption of RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - FC1 on the 2025 Floodplain Management Plan

Dear Chair Scott and Members of the Board,

The Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection supports the adoption of RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - FC1 by the Flood Control District Board of Directors.

We were actively involved in the Pima County Regional Flood Control District's (PCRCD) stakeholder Planning Committee for the 2025 Floodplain Management Plan (Plan), where we represented environmental interests. **We commend PCRCD for the success of this Planning Committee, which facilitated valuable collaboration with diverse stakeholders** and allowed us to provide input on projects. We also gained a deeper understanding of the Floodplain Management Plan and its Watershed Master Plan.

We are especially pleased by the Plan's inclusion of a project we recommended, which will build on the momentum of the Santa Cruz River Wildlife Ramp — currently under construction, and the first of its kind in southern Arizona. Under this Plan, a working group will be formed to explore future ramp options and further connect our region's open spaces.

This is just one of many examples of cooperation in the Plan and its projects, which we feel is one of the Plan's strengths. We also commend the Plan's watershed-based approach, a proven best practice in landscape and water conservation, as well as invasive species management.

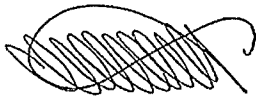
Finally, **this Plan's ongoing commitment to the region's important riparian areas — through acquisition and management — remains central to our mission of protecting the Sonoran Desert in southern Arizona for generations to come.** Beyond the numerous benefits we all receive from healthy riparian ecosystems, this investment in naturally functioning

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floodplains enables Pima County to maximize flood insurance discounts and federal funding benefits through FEMA's Community Rating System or CRS.

We thank you for your adoption of this resolution approving the Plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kate Hotten', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Kate Hotten

Co-Executive Director

CC: Jan Lesher, Pima County Administrator
Carmine DeBonis, Deputy County Administrator
Eric Shepp, P.E., Pima County Flood Control District Director
Dr. Greg Saxe, Pima County Flood Control District CRS Coordinator