

AGENDA MATERIAL
DATE 1/20/26 ITEM NO. RA 22



Pima County Board of Supervisors

Karen Cesare and Mark Taylor

CAWCD Board Members

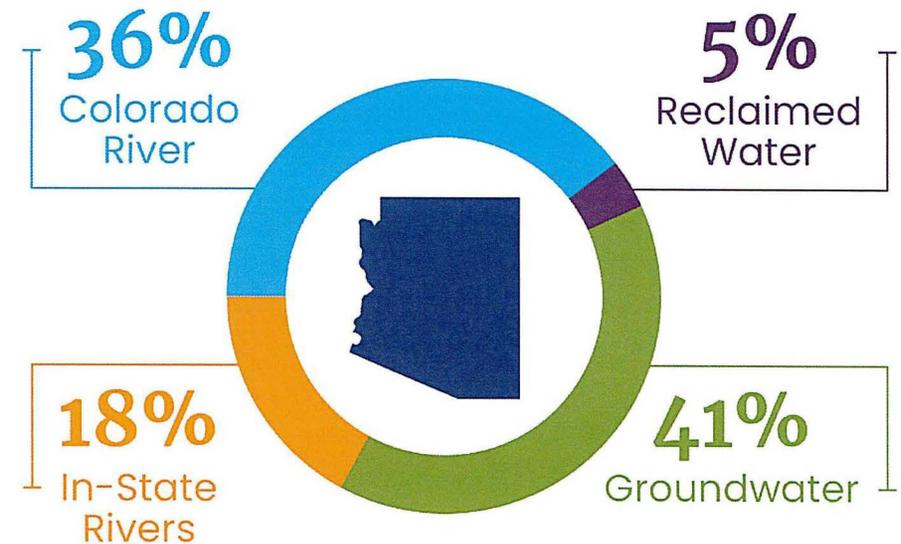
Jan. 20, 2026

YOUR WATER. YOUR FUTURE.

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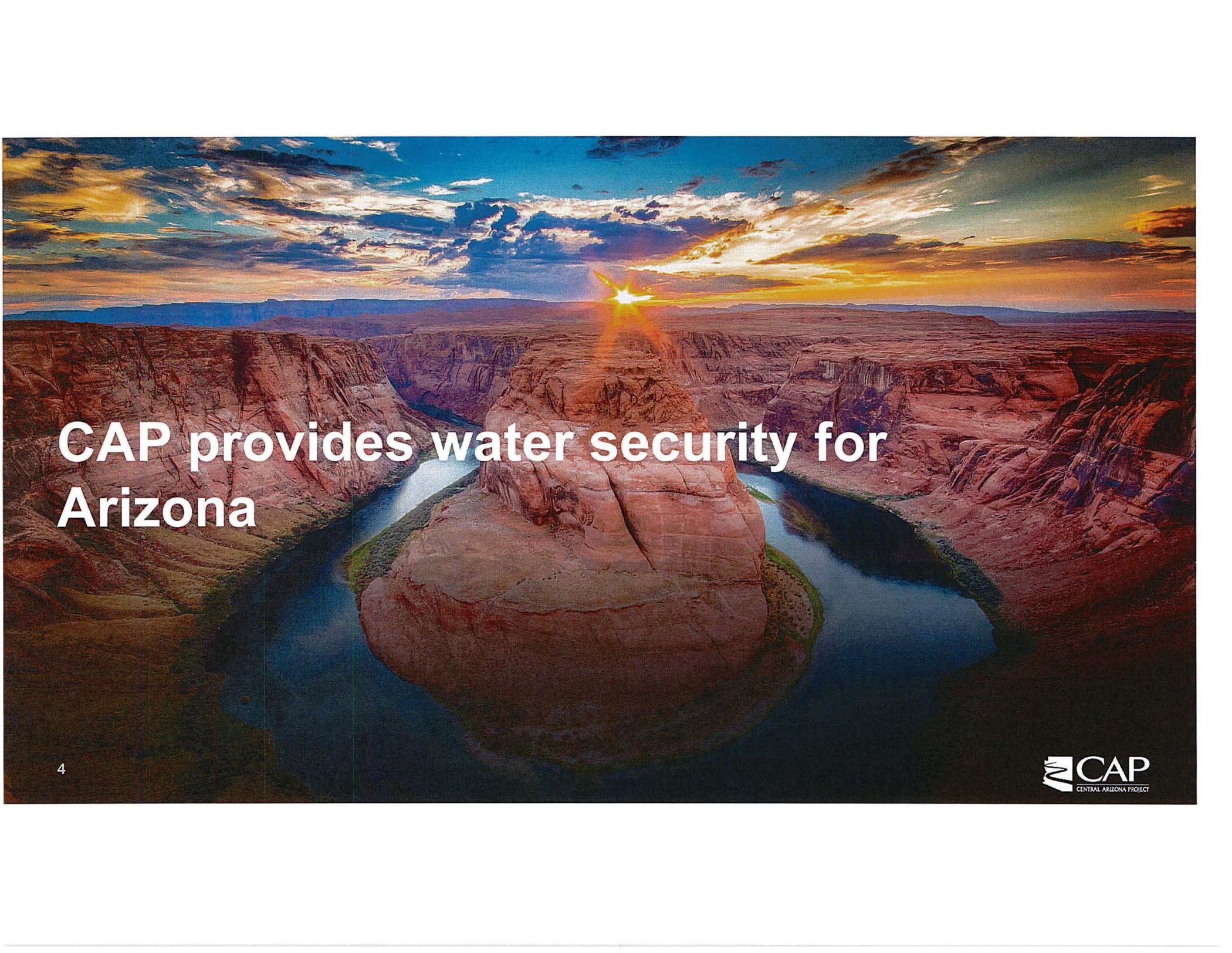
Arizona Water Sources



Colorado River Basin

- Supplies water to 40 million people
- Provides water to Denver, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Salt Lake City, San Diego and Tucson
- Includes 30 Tribes (22 in Arizona)
- Irrigates ~5 million acres of farmland
- Includes large reservoirs that can store up to 60 million acre-feet of water
- Generates clean hydropower for the Western power grid
- Supports National Parks, wildlife refuges, recreation areas and monuments



An aerial photograph of a river winding through a desert canyon. The sun is setting in the distance, creating a bright orange and yellow glow across the sky and reflecting on the water. The canyon walls are made of reddish-brown rock. The text "CAP provides water security for Arizona" is overlaid in white on the left side of the image.

CAP provides water security for Arizona

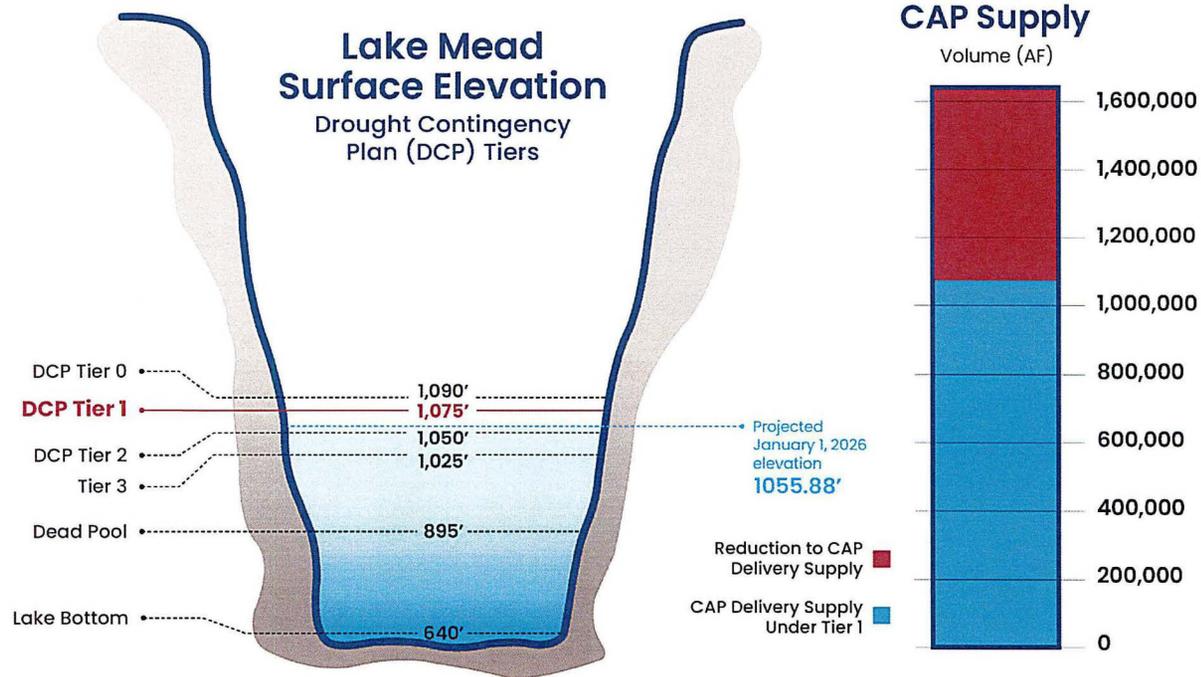
25 years of Colorado River drought



Snowpack vs. Runoff (% of average)		
	Snowpack	Runoff
2020	111%	61%
2021	91%	37%
2022	90%	63%
2023	161%	140%
2024	114%	83%
2025	92%	49%

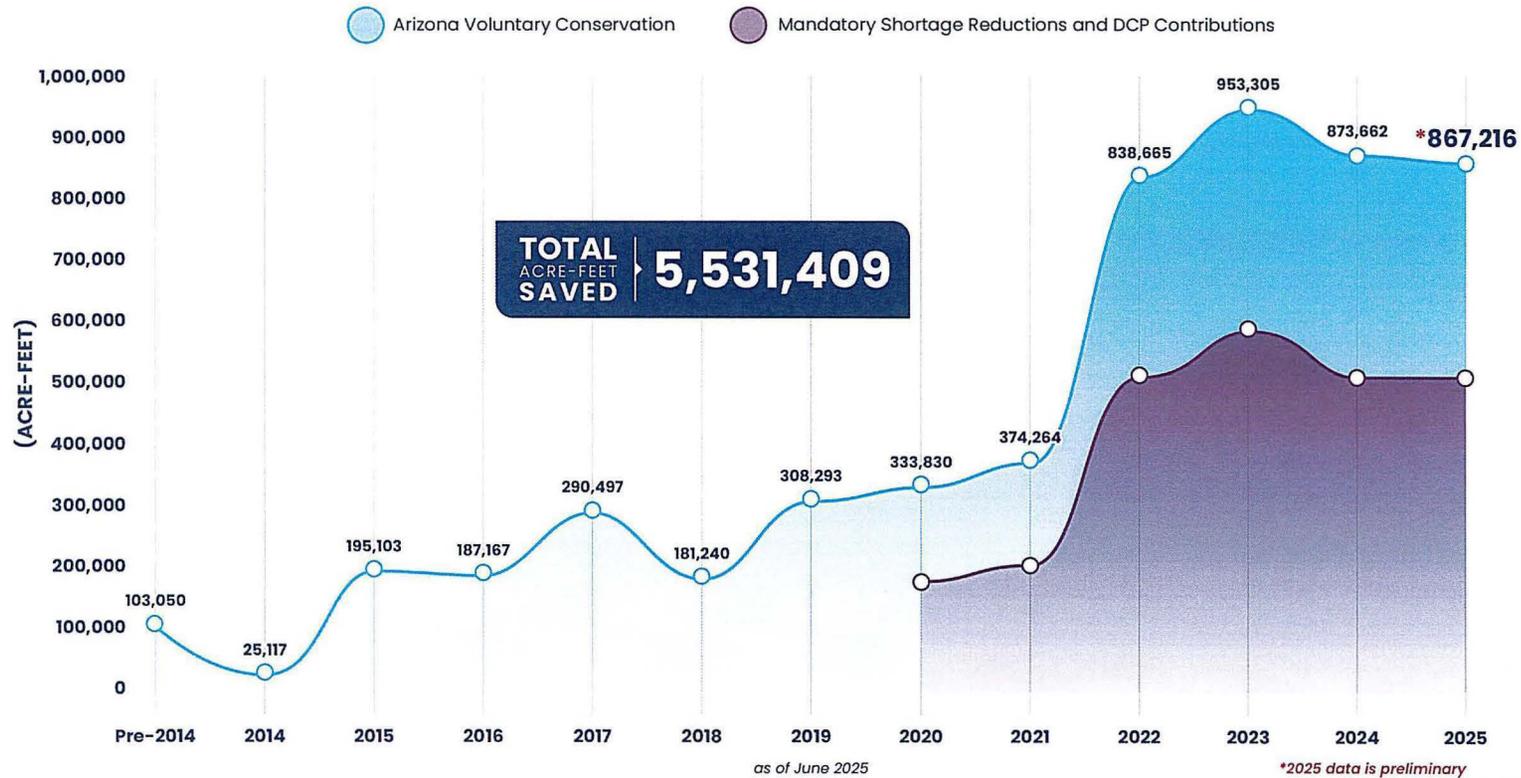
2026 Tier 1 Shortage

CAP Delivery System under Tier 1



*Graphics are not to scale and serve only as a representation.

Large-scale conservation



Colorado River Operations through 2026

2007 Interim Guidelines

- Established a shortage framework for the Lower Basin based on elevations in Lake Mead
- Incentivized storage of water in Lake Mead
- Coordinated operations of Lake Powell and Lake Mead
- 20-year term – 2007-2026 (**2019 Drought Contingency Plan** was an overlay due to declining reservoirs)



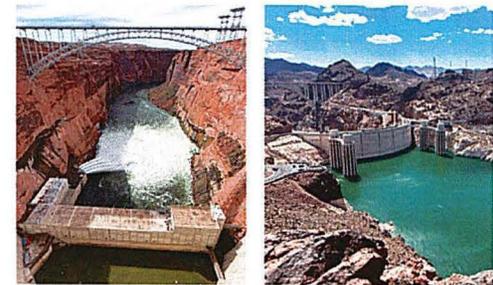
Post-2026 Colorado River Operations

- Bureau of Reclamation initiated a National Environmental Policy Act process in June 2023
- The Lower Basin states agree that future operations should:
 - Improve Colorado River reliability over a broad range of future conditions
 - Share the risks and benefits of the system within and between the basins
 - Improve predictability of reductions to stabilize Lake Mead
- Additional work with stakeholders, water users, and Upper Basin interests is needed to reach consensus



Scoping Report for Post-2026 Colorado River Reservoir Operations

Upper and Lower Colorado Basin Regions



U.S. Department of the Interior

October 2023

— COALITION FOR —
PROTECTING
ARIZONA'S
LIFELINE

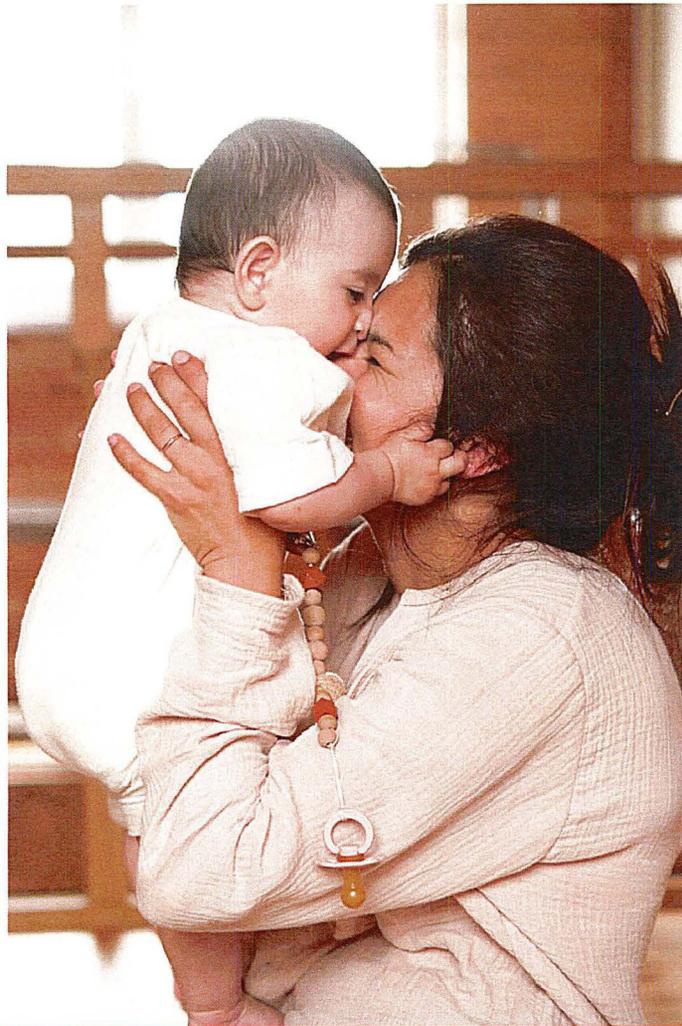




Coalition for Protecting Arizona's Lifeline

Mayors from across Arizona have come together to form the **Coalition for Protecting Arizona's Lifeline -- advocating and uniting Arizona** in support of the Colorado River and Central Arizona Project's role in water delivery.

- Every Mayor in CAP's three-county service area is participating
- Nine business coalitions have signed on thus far
- Several tribes have also joined



Join Our Efforts

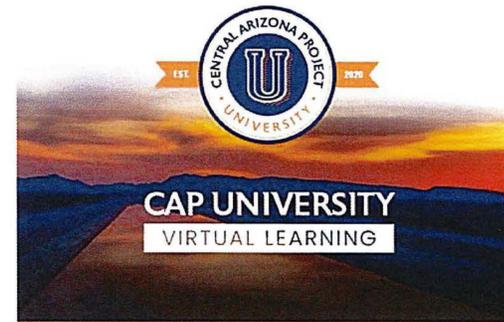
Your voice matters.

- By joining the coalition, you're helping protect Arizona's future, national defense efforts, environment, and strong business climate.
- We invite you to sign our pledge of support to be part of this effort to protect our water supplies.
- Visit www.ProtectingArizonasLifeline.org.



Stay Informed!

- Visit and subscribe to CAP's news site – [KnowYourWaterNews.com](https://www.knowyourwaternews.com)
- Enroll in CAP University (visit [CentralArizonaProject.com](https://www.centralarizonaproject.com) and search for upcoming dates)





Thank You!

YOUR WATER. YOUR FUTURE.