

Friday, July 15, 2016

Bureau of Reclamation
Phoenix Area Office
Attn: Leslie Meyers
6150 W. Thunderbird Rd.
Glendale, AZ 85306

Re: NM CAP Entity Proposed Action

Dear Ms. Meyers;

In December 2004, the Arizona Water Settlements Act (AWSA) allocated to New Mexico an annual average of up to 14,000 acre-feet (AF) of additional water from the Gila basin.

The New Mexico CAP Entity ("Entity"), on July 11, 2016, chose in an open, public meeting its proposed action as the diversion, conveyance, and storage alternatives identified in the attached System Alternative 4 (Figure 1), and System Alternative 1 (Figure 2).

Alternative 4 is envisioned in two phases.

Initial Phase:

- Diversion of up to 150 cfs near the Gila near Gila gage site.
- Flood Infiltration and aquifer storage near the Gila Gage or alternative downstream sites.
- Three Ranney Wells near the Upper Gila ditch heading.
- Phase 1 would recover infiltrated AWSA water into the Upper Gila and Ft. West ditches and from the Ft. West ditch to the Gila Farms ditch.

Additional Phase:

- Construct Winn reservoir to 3,845 AF storage for carryover storage of water not conveyed in the ditches.
- Pipeline from Gage site diversion to Winn canyon.
- Additional infiltration basins in the Cliff-Gila Valley.
- Up to three additional Ranney collector wells in the Cliff-Gila Valley and pipelines to Winn reservoir.
- Recapture of infiltration from Winn reservoir by Ranney well down gradient of Winn reservoir.
- Pump (up to 75 cfs) and 54 inch pipeline from Winn Reservoir to Upper Gila ditch.

Alternative 1 — Potential Spar reservoir phase

- Utilized if demand not met in initial phases or if initial phases prove not feasible.
- Where possible, utilizes infrastructure and elements (diversions, pumps, Ranney collector wells, piping) of Phase 1 and/or Phase 2.
- Spar pump station with surface or Ranney well supply if required.
- Construct Upper Spar reservoir up to 9,000 AF.
- Return Line to Upper Gila Diversion

For all alternatives, direct capture of AWSA water and/or recovery of infiltrated AWSA water in:

- Existing Redrock and Virden Diversions (Figure 3)
- Existing San Francisco Basin Diversions (Figure 4)

This proposed action is further described in the draft report *Prepared for the New Mexico Unit of the Central Arizona Project*, dated July 8th 2016, a feasibility level screening engineering evaluation of alternatives prepared for the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission by AECOM and Bohannon Huston, Inc. (BHI), and in collaboration with the Entity and has been posted at <http://nmawsa.org/ongoing-work/aecom/draft-phase-i-report>

The Entity requests that the proposed action be carried forward in the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission's/Bureau of Reclamation's Joint NEPA analysis.

The Entity will continue to refine and develop more information on the proposed action and will provide such information to the Bureau as it is developed.

If you have questions or require additional information please contact me.

Sincerely,



Anthony Gutierrez

Executive Director New Mexico CAP Entity

Figure 1 - System Alternative 4

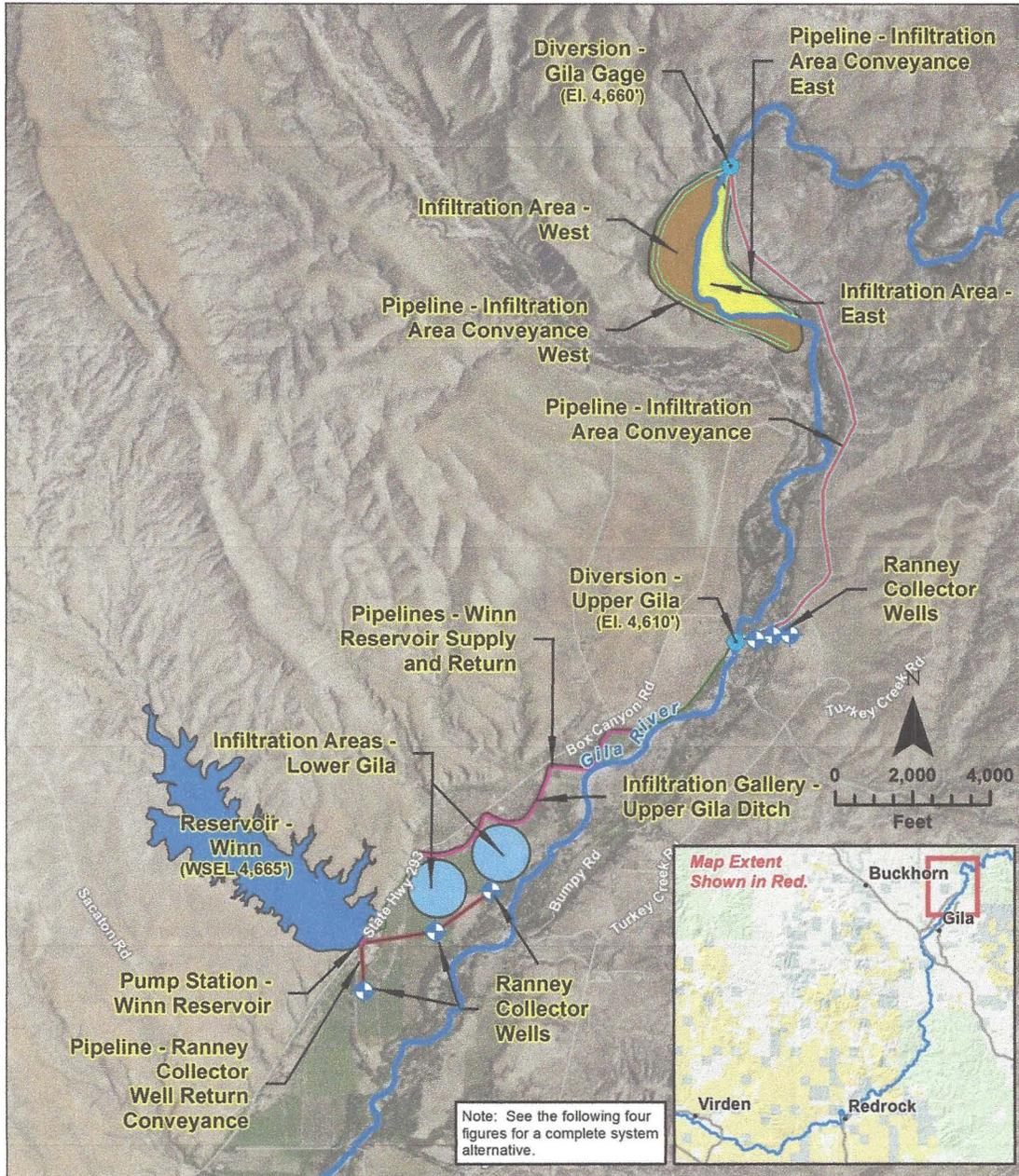


Figure 2 - System Alternative 1

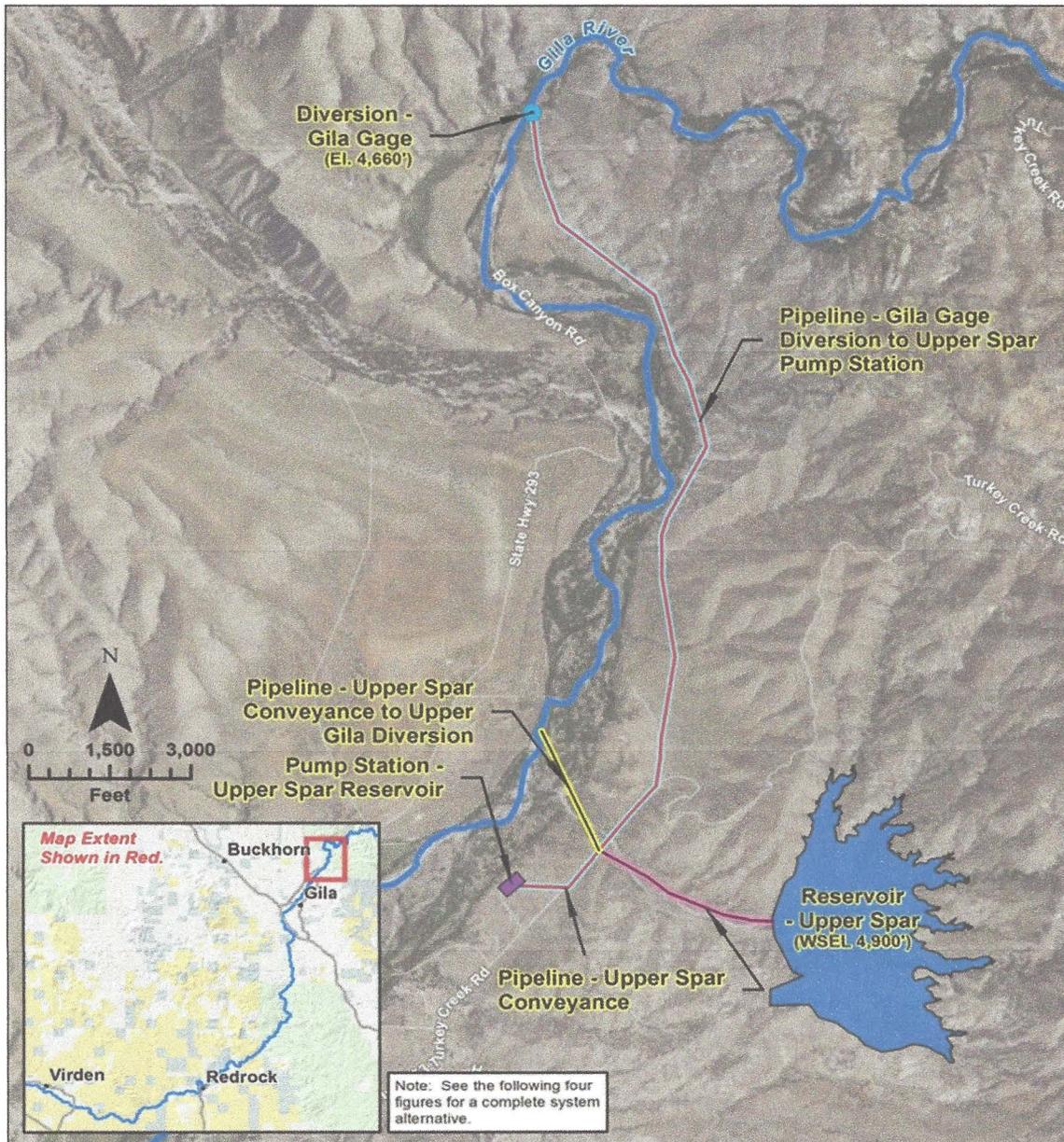


Figure 3. Virden and Redrock diversions.



Figure 4. San Francisco Basin diversions

