MEMORANDUM

To: All Interested Persons, Organizations, and Agencies

From: Randy N. Chandler
Area Manager

Subject: Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) for the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation (FMYN) Exchange Agreement with Salt River Project (SRP) for Central Arizona Project (CAP) Water, Maricopa County, Arizona (Action by December 14, 2012)

The Bureau of Reclamation has issued a DEA on its proposed approval of an Exchange Agreement described below between FMYN and the SRP Agricultural Improvement and Power District/Salt River Valley Water Users’ Association (collectively SRP). The DEA is available for public review and comment on Reclamation’s Phoenix Area Office website, www.usbr.gov/lc/phoenix. A hard copy or compact disk version of the DEA may be obtained by calling the Environmental Resource Management Division at 623-773-6251, or by emailing jharagara@usbr.gov.

We will consider all comments on the DEA prior to making a final decision regarding the proposed approval of the Exchange Agreement. To be most helpful, comments should be as specific as possible. Please mail your comments to Ms. Sandra Eto, Environmental Resource Management Division, at the above address, Attention: PXAO-1500, via electronic mail (email) to seto@usbr.gov, or send to faxogram 623-773-6486, no later than December 14, 2012. Before including your name, address, telephone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Also please note the information contained in the DEA regarding FMYN water use and related resources are presented for background and descriptive purposes only. The terms of the FMYN's water entitlement and use are established under federal law through the Fort McDowell Indian Community Water Settlement Agreement (Settlement Agreement), which became effective on
February 7, 1994, and was entered into among FMYN; the United States of America; the state of Arizona; SRP; the Roosevelt Water Conservation District; the Central Arizona Water Conservation District; the Arizona cities of Phoenix, Scottsdale, Glendale, Mesa, Tempe, and Chandler; and the town of Gilbert. The Settlement Agreement became effective on February 7, 1994. Nothing in the DEA is intended to suggest that any of those provisions are subject to reconsideration, limitation, or alteration through the EA or review of the proposed Exchange Agreement.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Eto at 623-773-6254. Thank you for your interest in this project.