

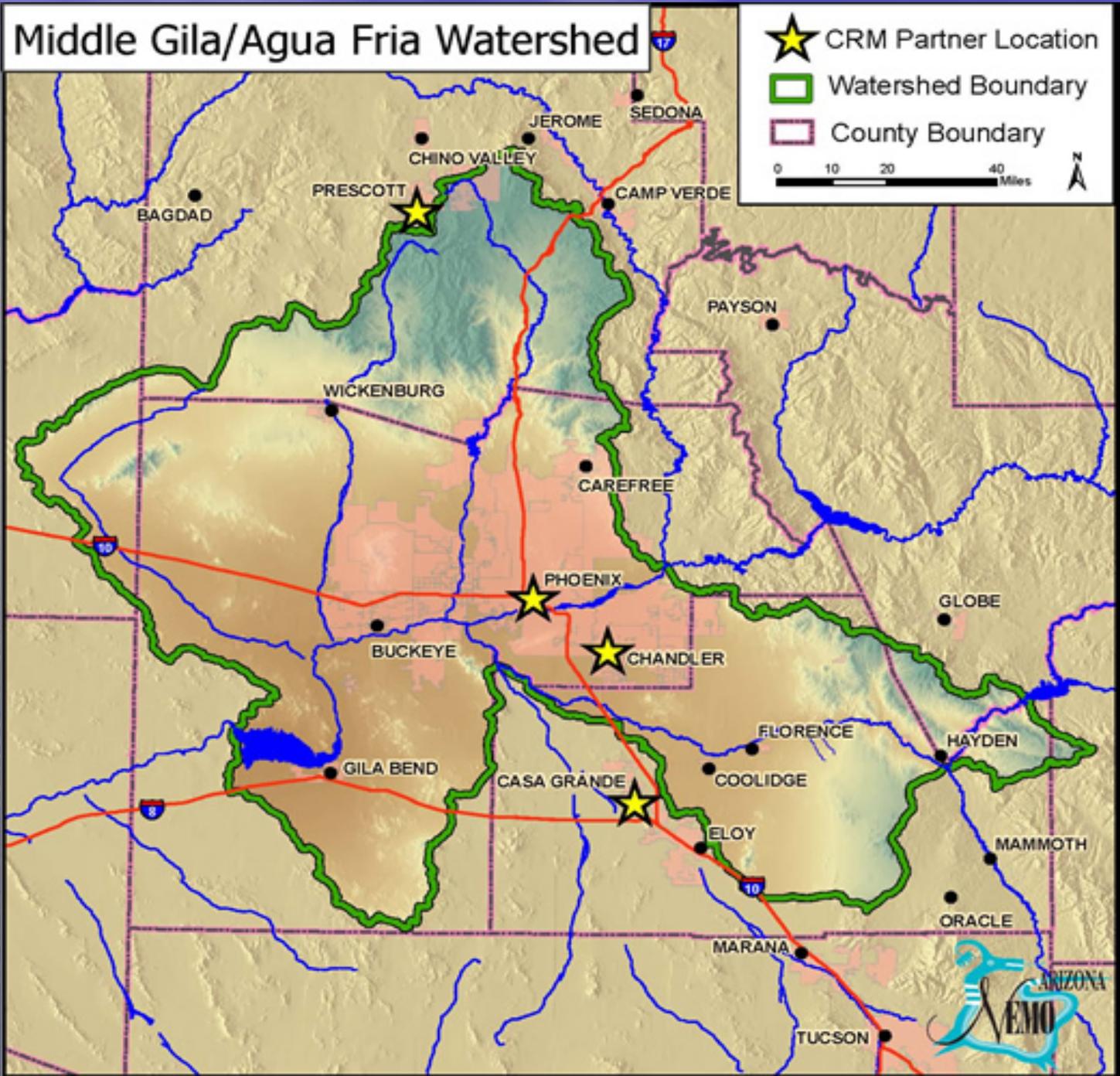
# Maricopa County Program

Extension Water Summit

May 1, 2008

Monica Kilcullen Pastor, County Extension Director

# Middle Gila/Agua Fria Watershed



# Governor's Proclamation to Designate April as Water Awareness Month

- Water is one of Arizona's most vital and precious resources.
- Water is scarce and population growth continues to increase our demand for water.
  - Demographics:
    - 3.8 million people
    - 4<sup>th</sup> largest county in the US – Largest numerical gain in 2006 (3141 counties)
    - 9226 square miles – 29% privately owned, 84% unincorporated
    - 24 cities/towns – Phoenix is 7<sup>th</sup> largest city in the nation

- All citizens and visitors should use water more efficiently practicing a low water-use lifestyle to help ensure a long-term, sufficient water supply.
- Create a culture of conservation to reduce the impact of drought on our natural resources, economy and quality of life.
- Water education is a cornerstone to any comprehensive water conservation program and greater awareness of water issues can be gained through community education.
  - City of Phoenix Contract:
    - Workshops for formal and non-formal educators
    - Custom designed workshops for clientele
    - Assembly Programs for students including H<sub>2</sub>O Magic and Child's Play
    - Integration of Project WET into FOSS kits (Full Option Science System) for 3 school districts

- Water education is a cornerstone to any comprehensive water conservation program and greater awareness of water issues can be gained through community education. (continued)
  - U of A Water Sustainability Program:
    - School Water Audit
    - Urban Lakes Grant
    - Phoenix Activity Centers
    - Chandler Water Festival
    - Phoenix Metro Water Festival
    - Expanded Website to make it interactive for students and teachers

- AZ Dept. of Water Resources – Work with cities and towns to provide them with the tools and resources necessary to give communities the ability to implement strong, effective water conservation programs.

– AZ Department of Water Resources:

- Workshops in the School Districts within the Phoenix AMA
- Partnering with Home School Programs
- Partnering with AZ Cactus-Pine Girl Scout Council on a Project WET Badge

- Develop a water conservation toolkit, including resources to reduce exterior water use in landscaped areas, for communities to assist them in building strong, effective conservation programs.
  - Smartscape:
    - Potential Partnership with AZ Municipal Water Users Association
- Create a water wise community certification program in an effort to promote greater awareness of water issues through education, action and celebration.

- Citizens and businesses throughout Arizona to become more aware of their water-use habits and determine where they can reasonably reduce their water use.
- Encourage all towns and cities to put into place programs that promote education, action and celebration of water as an essential resource in our lives and economy.
- Call upon local and state governments and federal agencies to increase water conservation public awareness programs.
  - Assistant/Associate Water Resources Agent:
    - Funded from Water Sustainability Program Recruitment and Research Initiative

A background image of a blue sky with light, wispy clouds over a blue ocean. A bright reflection of the sun is visible on the left side of the water.

Questions?