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TO: Kenneth D. Ackerman
Administrator

FROM: William Murphy /s/ *William Murphy*
Director

SUBJECT: Regional Irrigation Assessment for Pinal County, Arizona

The Loss Adjustment Manual (FCIC-25010) directs the Regional Office to provide a regional assessment in order to identify areas and water districts where inadequate irrigation water supply is suspected. The San Carlos Irrigation & Drainage District (SCIDD) which is located in **Pinal County**, Arizona, is suspected of having an inadequate irrigation water supply for the 2000 crop year. The insured crops grown in the SCIDD are barley, corn, cotton, els cotton, grain sorghum and wheat with cotton having the greatest amount of acreage grown. Alfalfa is also grown in the SCIDD but there is not a forage production program in Pinal County, Arizona.

The SCIDD has approximately 50,000 acres of decreed land. The amount of irrigated lands in the SCIDD varies from year to year depending on the water supplies. Last year there were approximately 34,000 acres of irrigated lands. The SCIDD obtains its water from the Coolidge dam, known as the San Carlos Reservoir, located on the Gila river 26 miles southeast of Globe, Arizona. Over the past 20 years, the SCIDD has received, on average, 2.5 acre ft/acre from the San Carlos Reservoir. However, due to a lack of water in the reservoir this year, which is due to an extended drought that has resulted in a lack of water and snowfall, estimates are that the SCIDD will only allocate up to 0.5 acre ft/acre. However, some producers located at the end of the SCIDD, may not be able to receive any water at all. A limited number of SCIDD producers may be able to receive water from the Central Arizona Project (CAP), however, distribution problems will limit the amount of CAP water that SCIDD producers will be able to obtain and use.