

Adaptive Management of Groundwater Resources Toward Sustainable Yield Along the San Pedro River

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ABSTRACT

The Upper San Pedro Partnership is a consortium of 21 local, state and federal agencies and organizations working together to attain sustainable yield of groundwater resources within the Sierra Vista Subwatershed of the San Pedro River. Over the past eight years, they have applied an adaptive management approach toward regional groundwater management through the use of strategic monitoring programs, decision-support tools and predictive models, and consensus-based planning and conflict resolution processes. Water and land managers, elected officials, and other stakeholders within the Partnership have relied upon a wide array of technical tools to inform and enhance their decision-making processes, resolve conflict, and reduce uncertainty.

The evolution and application of these tools over the years will be discussed. An overview of the key lessons learned, accomplishments, and remaining challenges of this regional groundwater management effort will be also be presented.