

## **THOMAS BUSCHATZKE**



### **EXPERIENCE**

#### **Arizona Department of Water Resources, Phoenix, AZ: 01/23/15 – Present**

As Director of the Department I am responsible for managing over 145 employees and a \$16 million budget. I manage the water supplies of the State of Arizona, administer the statutory requirements for water resources, and ensure that sufficient water supplies will be available for economic growth and for the citizens of the State. I am the statutorily designated representative of the State to confer and negotiate with the US Secretary of the Interior, Colorado, Utah, New Mexico, Wyoming, Nevada and California for the management and use of the Colorado River. The Republic of Mexico and the US State Department are also part of the Colorado River discussions. I am the Director of the Arizona Water Banking Authority and sit on a variety of boards and commissions as Director of ADWR. I am a member of Governor Ducey's cabinet.

#### **Arizona Department of Water Resources, Phoenix, AZ: 07/2011 – 01/23/2015**

As Assistant Director for the Water Planning Division of ADWR I oversaw Colorado River Management, Active Management Areas, Active Management Area Planning and Data Management, Assured and Adequate Water Supply and Recharge Permitting, and Statewide Planning and Tribal Liaison functions. Those duties included the Department's primary planning and policy programs for the management of the State's water supplies. I also managed multiple regulatory and permitting programs and ADWR's water conservation and drought management efforts.

I represented the Director in discussions and negotiations with the Colorado River Basin States, the United States and Mexico regarding the management of the Colorado River. I represented the State on the Glen Canyon Adaptive Management Work Group, the Colorado River Salinity Control Forum and Advisory Council and the Coordination Team for the Colorado River Basin Study. I was the Co-Chair of the Basin States Augmentation Work Group. I have appeared on live radio and television and in print media representing the Department. I regularly appear before the Central Arizona Water Conservation District (CAP) Board Meetings to advocate on behalf of the Department. I was the lead ADWR staff person participating in the negotiation of Indian water rights settlements and I have testified in the US House of Representatives on behalf of the State of Arizona in support of the Bill Williams Water Rights Settlement Act of 2014. I analyze proposed federal and state water legislation and provide feedback to the Director as to the impacts on the State's water management policies and goals.

### **City of Phoenix, City Manager's Office, Phoenix, Arizona: 12/2002 – 07/2011**

As Water Resources Management Advisor, I was responsible for policy development for the management of the City's water supplies. I was promoted into this position after performing similar duties as the Assistant Water Resources Management Advisor from 3/2002-12/2002. I advised the Deputy City Manager, City Manager and Mayor/City Council on water issues at the local, state, regional and federal level. I was the City's public face for water management and policy and represented the City with print, radio and television media. I used my knowledge, expertise and judgment in the fields of water rights, water resources management, hydrology, and environmental law to work on projects that include Colorado River management, groundwater management, surface water supplies, endangered species issues, water rights settlements, water resources planning, water conservation, drought management, water infrastructure development, underground storage and recovery and water-related legislation. I served as the City's liaison with local, state, regional and federal organizations including the Salt River Project, the Central Arizona Project, the Arizona Department of Water Resources, the Arizona Municipal Water Users Association and the Western Urban Water Coalition

### **City of Phoenix Law Department, Phoenix, Arizona: 03/1988 – 03/2002**

As a Hydrologist in the Civil Division of the Law Department I provided hydrologic, technical and administrative expertise to the Law Department and to the City's Water Resources Management Advisor regarding the City's water rights, water supplies and water use. I developed expertise in Endangered Species Act compliance and other federal environmental law. I participated in negotiations of water use contracts, Indian water rights settlements and water leases. I also provided technical support to the City's attorneys in the Gila River adjudication and have knowledge of water law and experience in legal and administrative processes regarding water rights.

### **State of Arizona Department of Water Resources: 02/1982 – 03/1988**

I progressed from a State Service Intern processing grandfathered groundwater right applications in the Phoenix Active Management Area Office, to a Water Resources Program Supervisor responsible for the management of over twenty professional staff in the Adjudications Division. I was ultimately responsible for the production of Hydrographic Survey reports submitted by the Department in its role as technical advisor to the Superior Court for the Little Colorado River and Gila River adjudications.

## **EDUCATION**

Bachelor of Science, Geology, State University of New York, Cortland, 1977

## **BOARDS/COMMISSIONS**

### **2019 - Present**

- *Chairman:* Governor's Water Augmentation, Innovation and Conservation Council

### **2017 – Present**

- *U.S. Co-Chair:* Bi-national Desalination Workgroup – Minute 323

### **2015 - Present**

- *Chairman:* Arizona Water Bank Authority

### **2018 - 2019**

- *Co-Chairman:* Drought Contingency Plan Steering Committee

### **2010 - 2011**

- *Co-Chairman:* State Water Resources Development Commission
- *Commissioner:* Arizona Water Protection Fund

### **2009 - 2010**

- *Member:* Governor's Blue Ribbon Panel on Water Sustainability

### **2006 - 2011**

- *Commissioner:* Arizona Water Banking Authority Commission

### **2006 - 2009**

- *Member:* Statewide Water Advisory Group

### **2005 - 2006**

- *Member:* Indian Farming Task Force

### **2004 - 2011**

- *Chairman:* Endangered Species Committee, Western Urban Water Coalition
- *Member:* Governor's Colorado River Advisory Council

### **2002 - 2011**

- *Member, Board of Directors:* Western Urban Water Coalition

## **AFFILIATIONS**

- University of Arizona's Water Resources Research Center External Advisory Committee
- Water Sustainability Program External Advisory Committee
- American Water Resources Association
- American Water Works Association
- Colorado River Water Users Association
- External Advisory Committee Decision Center for a Desert City
- ASU School of Sustainability