

SUMMARY OF U.S. ARMY INTELLIGENCE OPERATIVES' SUCCESSFUL MANIPULATION OF USFWS OFFICIALS TO SECURE FABRICATED WATER CREDITS FOR FORT HUACHUCA

In 2013, Army officials recognized that, "[Ft Huachuca will not be able to meet the Biological Opinion compliance](#) in future years." This failure would result in the downsizing of Fort Huachuca.

In response, in 2014, Army intelligence operatives successfully carried out an influence operation [manipulating gullible U.S. Fish and Wildlife \("USFWS"\) officials](#) to secure an instant, fabricated paper water budget "surplus" for Fort Huachuca.

The orchestration and the granting to Fort Huachuca a fake, [instant water credit of 2,588 acre-feet in 2014](#) was the direct result of Army intelligence officials' successful, self-described, "***water deal...[posturing the post water credits](#)***," and their admission that they "***[leveraged creative solutions to achieve 'net-zero' in water usage](#)***."

USFWS granted Fort Huachuca instant credit for the retirement of agricultural groundwater pumping in spite of the facts that (1) the Upper San Pedro Partnership, which includes USFWS, Fort Huachuca, Cochise County and the City, had already acknowledged in their regional water budget that the [property's pumping whose cessation was the excuse for the retirement credit had been terminated a decade earlier by 2005](#); (2) that the property [was already being subdivided for residential homes](#); (3) that USFWS staff recognized that "one of the reasons we do not consider the effects to flow of the proposed easement(s) is because [they are not reasonably certain to occur](#)..."; (4) that USFWS acknowledged that "[t]o adequately address the overdraft of groundwater in the Upper San Pedro Basin and insure the health of the San Pedro River and the species that depend on it, some [current uses of water must cease](#),"; and (5) that USFWS acknowledged "[that conservation easements do not result in an increase in flows in adjoining streams unless an active water use is retired](#)."

The Army's successful securing of the instant, fabricated paper water credit was immediately promoted by the Fort Huachuca Garrison Commander:

["Water surplus brightens fort's future ...](#)

He [Fort Huachuca Garrison Commander Col. Thomas A. Boone] told the Herald/Review during a Friday interview that there are a number of good news events involving the post, including the area having a surplus of water which could lead to the possibility of more missions on the fort...”