



June 1, 2023

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE COLORADO RIVER BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to the call of the Chairman, J.B. Hamby, by the undersigned Executive Director of the Colorado River Board of California that a regular meeting of the members of the board is to be held as follows:

Date:	Thursday, June 15, 2023
Time:	9:00 AM
Place:	Burbank City Council Chambers 275 E Olive Avenue Burbank, CA 91502

The Colorado River Board of California welcomes any comments from members of the public pertaining to items included on this agenda and related topics. Members of the public may provide comments in the following ways: (1) Oral comments can be provided at the beginning of each board meeting; and (2) Public comments may be submitted by electronic mail, addressed to the board's Chairman, J.B. Hamby, at crb@crb.ca.gov and will be accepted up until 9:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting. Please note, written submissions will be read aloud at the public comment period to the extent they fit within the five-minute time limit.

If accommodations for individuals with disabilities are required, such persons should provide a request at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting by electronic mail to board staff at crb@crb.ca.gov.

Requests for additional information may be directed to: Mr. Christopher S. Harris, Executive Director, Colorado River Board of California, 770 Fairmont Avenue, Suite 100, Glendale, CA 91203-1068. A copy of this Notice and Agenda may be found on the Colorado River Board's web page at www.crb.ca.gov.

A copy of the meeting agenda, showing the matters to be considered and transacted, is attached.



REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, June 15, 2023 — 9:00 AM

At the discretion of the board, all items appearing on this agenda, whether or not expressly listed for action, may be deliberated upon and may be subject to action by the board. Items may not necessarily be taken up in the order shown.

CALL TO ORDER

PUBLIC COMMENTS (Limited to 5 minutes.)

ADMINISTRATION

1. Consideration and approval of meeting minutes of the April 12th, 2023 board meeting **(Action)**
2. Presentation of Draft Colorado River Board of California FY-2023/2024 Budget **(Action)**
3. FY-2022/2023 Accomplishments Report and FY-2023/2024 Planned Activities Report **(Information)**

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

4. Salinity Control Program Overview and Update

REPORTS

5. Local and State Water Supply and Operations Reports
6. Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Operations Reports
7. Colorado River Basin Programs Staff Reports
8. Member Agency and Public Member Reports
9. Executive Director's Report
10. Chairman's Report

EXECUTIVE SESSION¹

OTHER BUSINESS

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Next Scheduled Board Meeting

Date:	Wednesday, July 12, 2023
Time:	Canceled
Place:	

¹ An Executive Session may be held by the Board pursuant to provisions of Article 9 (commencing with Section 11120) of Chapter 1 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code and Sections 12516 and 12519 of the Water Code to discuss matters concerning interstate claims to the use of Colorado River System waters in judicial proceedings, administrative proceedings, and/or negotiations with representatives from the other Basin states or federal government.

Minutes of Meeting
COLORADO RIVER BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
Wednesday, April 12, 2023

A meeting of the Colorado River Board of California (Board) was held on Wednesday, April 12, 2023, at the Hotel Maya, Luna Solstice Room, 700 Queensway Drive, Long Beach, CA. 90802.

Board Members and Alternates Present:

David De Jesus (MWD Alternate)	Jeanine Jones (DWR Designee)
Gloria Cordero (MWD)	Delon Kwan (LADWP Alternate)
Gina Dockstader (IID Alternate)	Jim Madaffer, Vice Chairman (SDCWA)
John B. Hamby, Chairman (IID)	Peter Nelson (CVWD)
Eric Heidemann (SDCWA Alternate)	David R. Pettijohn (LADWP)
Jordan Joaquin (Public Member)	Frank Ruiz (Public Member)
	Jack Seiler (PVID Alternate)

Board Members and Alternates Absent:

Castulo Estrada (CVWD Alternate)	Christopher Hayes (DFW Designee)
Dana B. Fisher, Jr. (PVID)	David Vigil (DFW Alternate)

Others Present:

Steve Abbott	Angela Rashid
Robert Cheng	David Rheinheimer
Gloria Cordero	Shanti Rossett
Dennis Davis	Tom Ryan
JR Echard	Alexi Schnell
Chris Harris	Tina Shields
Geoff Holbrook	Gary Tavetian
Lauren Howland	Dean Wang
Ned Hyduke	Caroline White-Nockleby
Rich Juricich	Delise Wyrick
Laura Lamdin	Daniel Yap
Tom Levy	Jerry Zimmerman
Aaron Mead	
Jessica Neuwerth	

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Hamby announced the presence of a quorum and called the meeting to order at 10:34 a.m.

Ms. Gloria Cordero with The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) welcomed the Colorado River Board to Long Beach, California. She stated that the city has a population of 500,000 and pointed out some of the city's key features such as the port and Aquarium. She acknowledged that the city is on the land of the Tongva/Gabrielino people who lived in the area many years ago and continue to live and thrive in the area. She concluded her remarks by thanking the staff of MWD and Long Beach Utilities.

NEW BOARD MEMBER INDUCTION

Chairman Hamby stated that the CRB has a historic occasion to induct three of the newest Board members. He stated that the first induction would be Ms. Gloria Cordero. He stated that he will also induct two public members, noting that these positions have been vacant for several years. He stated that public members include, Mr. Frank Ruiz with the Audubon Society and Mr. Jordan Joaquin, President of the Fort Yuma Quechan Indian Tribe. Chairman Hamby instructed the inductees to recite a pledge. Following the recitation of the pledge, Chairman Hamby congratulated the new board members.

Board member Ruiz stated that he was the Salton Sea program director and the California District program director for the Audubon Society. He stated that he is honored by the opportunity to be a part of the Colorado River Board. He stated that he hopes to provide a different voice and angle to all of the complexities of the Colorado River. He stated that he is eager to learn the rich history of the Board and work alongside the other Board members.

Board member Joaquin stated that he was humbled to be selected to serve on the Board by the Governor and stated that he hopes to bring a tribal perspective. He stated that he comes with solutions and is also here to learn.

Vice Chairman Madaffer remarked that he is happy that the two public Board positions have been filled after years of vacancy. He stated that the CRB has needed tribal representation for some time and stated that having environmental representation is also important. He added that Board member Cordero will also be a wonderful addition to the Board. Mr. Madaffer also took the opportunity to introduce Mr. Eric Heideman as the Colorado River Board alternate, representing the San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA) from the City of Poway. Mr.

Heideman will be replacing Board member Gary Croucher.

Board member Cordero stated she would be remiss if she did not honor former Board member Glen Peterson, stating that she is standing on his shoulders, as well as Board alternate David De Jesus.

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Chairman Hamby invited members of the audience to address the Board on items on the agenda or matters related to the Board. Hearing none, he moved on to the next item on the agenda.

ADMINISTRATION

Chairman Hamby asked for a motion to approve the February 15, 2023, Board meeting minutes. Mr. Pettijohn moved that the minutes be approved, seconded by Mr. Madaffer. By roll-call vote, the minutes were approved with abstentions from Board members Seiler and Vigil.

Consideration of Application for Water Subcontract from the Lower Colorado Water Supply Project (Action)

Mr. Harris summarized a proposed Board Resolution 2023-1 that recommends a subcontract for the Lower Colorado Water Supply Project (Project) water in San Bernadino County, California be offered to the applicant and directs the executive director to forward the application to Reclamation. Mr. Jeff Sievers is requesting a new contract for 1.0 acre-feet of current use. If the Board recommends approval, a new subcontract would be developed by Reclamation for the owner at a future point in time.

Chairman Hamby asked for a motion to approve the resolution on the application for the Lower Colorado River Water Supply Project. Vice Chairman Madaffer moved that the resolution be approved, seconded by Mr. Pettijohn. By roll-call vote, the resolution was unanimously approved.

Upcoming Board meeting schedule

Executive Director Harris presented the upcoming Board meeting schedule. He stated that he and Chairman Hamby have continued to refine the proposed meeting schedule for the

remainder of the year, noting that July meeting may be cancelled. He stated that the next Board meeting in May will occur in conjunction with the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) conference in Monterey, California and the June meeting will be in the Los Angeles County region and will be hosted by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. He stated that in August the meeting will be located in Manhattan Beach and in September it will be located in Quechan/Bard area. The Board meetings in October and November will take place at the Imperial Irrigation District (IID) and Palo Verde Irrigation District (PVID), respectively. He stated that the December Board meeting will occur in conjunction with the Colorado River Water Users Association (CRWUA) meeting.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION FROM LONG BEACH UTILITIES

Board member Cordero introduced Mr. Anatole Falagan, Assistant General Manager of Long Beach Utilities. Ms. Cordero explained that Long Beach Utilities was created through the recent consolidation of the city's water and gas department.

Mr. Falagan reported that as a southern California utility, Long Beach Utilities, can play a vital role in the discussions and deliberations that lie ahead on the Colorado River. He added that Long Beach Utilities is the only municipal provider of natural gas, with exception to the City of Palo Alto and a couple of smaller community districts.

Mr. Falagan stated that Long Beach Utilities is focused on sustainability and growing its local groundwater supply, as well as using water conservation and lessening its dependence on imported water. He stated that Long Beach Utilities hopes to grow its groundwater supplies to 75% of its overall supplies, and currently makes up 34% of the region's water supply. Mr. Falagan explained that Long Beach Utilities will grow its groundwater supply by injecting water from the Pure Water facility into its groundwater system and pump it later for use. He added that Long Beach Utilities is also increasing its development of recycled water supplies. Mr. Falagan stated that water conservation efforts have reduced water demands, noting that in the early 2000s it was 77,000 AF and will decline to 58,000 AF soon. He stated that to accomplish this Long Beach Utilities have invested in infrastructure, such as groundwater well development, its water distribution system, and water storage tanks. Mr. Falagan provided more details about Long Beach Utilities' water conservation efforts, stating that it is offering rebates for appliance replacements and turf removal.

Mr. Falagan stated that Long Beach Utilities is making efforts to address equity and affordability, noting that the utility has innovative programs that focus on water conservation in disadvantaged communities and neighborhoods. He explained that these programs include retrofitting multifamily buildings, direct installation of gardens in place of turf, and development of native plant parkways. Mr. Falagan reported that the utility has partnered with the California Native

Plant Society to assist with funding to install native plants along the parkways. Mr. Falagan stated that Long Beach Utilities' efforts show how an urban Southern California utility can play an important role during difficult times on the Colorado River.

A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE: The Road to the 2007 Guidelines, Draft SEIS, and Post-2026

Mr. Harris reported that the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) published the Draft, Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for near term Colorado River operations with the goal of evaluating the potential of modifying the existing 2007 Interim Shortage Guidelines (2007 Guidelines). He stated that the goal of his presentation is to take a trip down memory lane to understand the policy and legal landscape of the Colorado River.

Mr. Harris stated that Law of the River guides management of the Colorado River. He stated that the Colorado River Basin includes portions of seven states, provides water for forty million people, thirty recognized tribes, and has nearly six million acres of irrigated agriculture, and hydropower generation, and has some of the most beautiful southwestern landscape scenery out there. He stated it is an amazing basin and has a long and rich history.

Mr. Harris explained that Sections 601(b) and 602(a) of the 1968 Colorado River Basin Project Act resulted in the 1970 Long Range Operating Criteria (LROC). He stated that there are several key elements of the 1968 Basin Project Act. The first element was the requirement for five-year consumptive uses and losses reports, including stream flow contributions across the basin. He noted that the report has not been issued since 2005, and is supposed to be issued every five years. He added that another important element was Reclamation's development of the Annual Operating Plan (AOP) for the reservoir system. He explained that Section 602(a) and the coordinated operation of the Colorado River reservoir system were developed to ensure that the Upper Basin is able to meet its obligations and commitments under the 1922 compact. In addition, to ensure operations between Lakes Powell and Mead were done in a coordinated fashion, and that there would be periodic equalization. He stated that the act also considered critical hydrologic periods of record in determining releases and operational flexibility between particularly the two large reservoirs to maximize the use of power plant releases at Glen Canyon Dam and to avoid anticipated spills.

Mr. Harris stated that during operations from 1970 into the early 1980s the reservoir system filled and spilled. He explained that between 1983 through 1985 there was a lot of water moving down through Lakes Powell and Mead, causing Hoover Dam to spill significantly and caused damaging floods below Hoover Dam all the way to the Parker Strip. He added that the Colorado River flowed for many years all the way to the Gulf of California, sometimes with very

large volumes. He stated that the Central Arizona Project (CAP) was ruled substantially complete in 1993, and Arizona could take its full 2.8 MAF apportionment, with nearly 1.2 MAF of mainstream water use in the Yuma area, and the rest of it went to the central Metropolitan regions in Phoenix and down to Tucson. Mr. Harris stated that in the early 1990s, the Colorado River Board began working with its Lower Basin colleagues in Arizona and Nevada to develop a regional solution to Lower Basin water use, noting that it morphed into the California Colorado River Water Use Plan. He explained that the birth of Arizona's Water Banking authority in 1996 arose to allow for Arizona to bank its unused portion of Colorado River water after taking its full apportionment once CAP came online. He stated that the Arizona Water Banking Authority was developed under state statute with some rulemaking by Reclamation in 1999. He added that the Water Banking Authority also banks water for the benefit of MWD and the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA).

Mr. Harris outlined the Lower Basin and Mexico's water uses in 1999. He stated that in 1999, the Lower Basin and Mexico's water use was 8.21 MAF and 2.89 MAF, respectively, resulting in a total of 11.10 MAF. He stated that during this time the capacity of Lakes Powell and Mead was 92%. He stated that California understood that it would have to reduce its use of Colorado River and Section 2B(6) water would no longer be available now that Arizona was using its full apportionment because CAP was in use. He explained that in consultation with colleagues across the Colorado River Basin, Secretary Babbitt of the Department of the Interior, signed a Record of Decision for the 2001 Interim Surplus Guidelines that would run through 2015. During this period the 1970 LROC would be implemented and govern the operations of the reservoir system. He stated that this decision supported California's Colorado River Water Use Plan which developed a phased approach to step down California's water use from about 5.2 MAF to its basic mainstream proportion of 4.4 MAF. He explained that the plan included a series of surplus tiers based upon Lake Mead elevations, and the flood control spill avoidance strategy in Lake Mead. He stated that at the end of the 20th Century, California was working on its Water Use Plan, the Surplus Guidelines were complete, and the reservoirs were essentially full, he rhetorically asked what could go wrong.

Mr. Harris stated that the Millennium Drought is what went wrong, noting that sustained drought conditions began in 2000. He stated that the long-term average annual inflow at Lee Ferry was 14.8 MAF from 1906 to 2022. He added that if you remove the early wet years, known as the pluvial years (1906 to 1931) in the historical record, the long term average annual inflow at Lee Ferry from 1931 to 2022 is 13.9 MAF. He stated that the long-term average of the Millennium Drought from 2000 to 2022, the average inflow at Lee Ferry is 12.4 MAF. He stated that California's agriculture agencies completed the Quantification Settlement Agreement (QSA) in 2003. He stated that by 2004, Lakes Powell and Mead had a combined capacity of 50%, or

about 25 MAF. He stated that Reclamation was beginning to develop modeling that indicated that water shortages were looming over the horizon.

Mr. Harris stated that in 2004, Arizona's water use was close to 2.8 MAF, California's water use dropped to slightly under 4.4 MAF and Nevada's water use was about 300,000 AF and the total Lower Basin water use is 7.38 MAF. He added that Mexico's Colorado water use was 1.5 MAF. The total Lower Basin and Mexico water use was 8.88 MAF but the capacity of Lakes Powell and Mead had declined greatly. He stated that the Colorado River Basin had to make a pivot to address the declining reservoir system. He reported that if the Colorado River system did not have enough mainstream water supply to meet all of its the demands, the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) would allocate water through the priority system without regard to state line. He stated that Seven Basin States understood the ramifications of this action and collaborated with Reclamation over four years to develop the Interim Shortage Guidelines. The Draft EIS for the Interim Shortage Guidelines was released in February 2007. The Record of Decision (ROD) was published in April 2008 and expires in 2026. He explained that the EIS evaluated a range of alternatives that were developed by the basin states, an NGO alternative, the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) and the National Park Service, and Reclamation. He stated that the EIS process that Reclamation undertook required broad stakeholder coordination and provided technical expertise to States that did not have the ability process the modeling results. He stated that the Preferred Alternative was a mashup of these first two alternatives, the Basin States alternative, and the alternative developed by the NGO consortium.

Mr. Harris explained that the 2007 Guidelines included defined coordinated operations for Lakes Powell and Mead, established Normal, Surplus, and Shortage Conditions in Lake Mead, identified quantitative Shortage reductions for Lower Basin water users tied to Lake Mead elevation and incentivized water conservation and storage in Lake Mead. He stated that to complement the efforts of the 2007 Guidelines, subsequent Minutes with Mexico in 2010, 2012 and 2017 established activities for Mexico to conserve and store water supplies in Lake Mead. He explained that some of the Minutes addressed infrastructure damage from an earthquake in 2010 in the Mexicali Valley, while other Minutes directly tied to specific things that could benefit operations between the two countries, such as Mexico storing water in Lake Mead.

Mr. Harris reported that more still needed to be done as drought conditions persisted. He stated that Reclamation was again looking at modeling that indicated increasing risk of Lake Mead reaching critical elevations as well as risks of declining pool elevation in Lake Powell. He stated that when the 2007 Guidelines were developed, the risk of Lake Mead declining to critical elevation was 8%. He reported that by 2012, when the Colorado River Basin Study Demand report was completed, risk of Lake Mead reaching elevation 1,025 feet, increased to 25% to 30%. He

added that the 2007 Guidelines provided no guidance beyond this elevation. He stated that in 2014, Reclamation and the Seven States began to develop the Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) to bolster the 2007 Guidelines. In addition, in 2017, the United States and Mexico finalized Minute 323 which includes the Binational Water Scarcity Contingency Plan. He explained that the U.S. domestic DCPs were completed and executed in 2019. The Upper Basin DCP included demand management and Drought Response Operations, while the Lower Basin DCP included additional water user reductions and contributions tied to Lake Mead elevations.

Mr. Harris reported that in 2019, water uses in the Lower Basin had begun to decline due to reductions required under both the 2007 Guidelines and the DCP, as well as a few system conservation agreements. He stated that water use for Arizona was about 2.5 MAF, 3.8 MAF for California and 230,000 AF for Nevada, with a total Lower Basin use of 6.56 MAF. He stated that Mexico's water use was 1.46 MAF, and the total use by the Lower Basin and Mexico was 8.02 MAF, noting that total water use 1999 was 11.01 MAF. He added that in 2019, total system storage was 31.3 MAF, or 53% of capacity. He stated that the reservoir system storage remained at about 50% of capacity for a number of years and it has only been recently that the reservoir capacity has declined sharply. He noted that by 2019, there was 3.2 MAF of Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) conserved in Lake Mead, buffering Lake Mead's elevation from falling further.

Mr. Harris reported that in 2020, Reclamation published a report regarding the effectiveness of the 2007 Guidelines. The report determined the 2007 Guidelines provided the following: storage in the reservoir system that remained near 50% despite sustained drought conditions, improved management of Reclamation's reservoir system, coordinated operation at Lakes Powell and Mead, greater certainty and reliability for water users, the ability to protect the System as persistent drought became more uncertain and required the addition of the DCPs and Minutes. He stated that the 2007 Guidelines also incentivized conservation and storage resulting in creation of 3.2 MAF of ICS. In addition, Reclamation and Basin water users gained operating experience that will provide a foundation upon which additional agreements can be developed and provided a foundation to facilitate development of additional consensus-based agreements with users in the U.S. and Mexico.

Mr. Harris displayed a chart showing the impact of various conservation programs such as ICS, System Conservation and Mexico's Water Reserve to Lake Mead's storage. The chart also shows Lake Powell's Water Year releases from 2007 to 2022. He noted that without the conservation programs it is very likely that Lake Mead would have had its first shortage declaration in 2015 and the reservoir's elevation would have continued to decline. He stated that the Colorado River Basin's hydrology has declined over the past few years and the combined capacity of Lakes Powell and Mead is close to 25%. He stated that Reclamation is concerned that Lake Powell will fall below 3,490 feet and Lake Mead will fall below 1,025 feet. He stated that

there was a call to protect critical infrastructure across the Basin, so Reclamation implemented Upper Basin Emergency Drought Operation releases in WY-2021. He stated that the Lower Basin states also worked on an agreement to reduce releases out of Glen Canyon Dam by 480,000 AF. He explained that instead of the Lower Basin receiving a 7.48 MAF release, it was dropped to 7.0 MAF release from Glen Canyon Dam, and it had devastating impacts on storage in Lake Mead. He reported that the Upper Basin States worked with Reclamation to develop an additional drought response release of 500,000 AF for WY-2022.

Mr. Harris reported that in June 2022, Reclamation called for 2 to 4 MAF of annual water use reductions, mostly in the Lower Basin in order to get the system back into balance and hopefully stave off taking one of the reservoirs to or below critical elevations. He stated that in November 2022, Reclamation announced its intention to prepare the Draft SEIS. He stated that Reclamation's intention is to modify Section 6 of the Record of Decision of the 2007 Guidelines, which relates to Lake Powell's operations. He explained that Section 2 of the Guidelines is related to Lake Mead's operation and demands met by releases out of Hoover Dam. He stated that Reclamation invited stakeholders to provide guidance, suggestions, recommendations for the Draft SEIS analysis. He stated that Reclamation will evaluate a combination of both technical and administrative actions and may issue a ROD as early as August 2023.

Mr. Harris reported that the Department of the Interior continues to work the Seven Basin States, particularly the Lower Basin States, to see if the Lower Basin States can reach consensus-based agreement identifying activities and potential operations that can help inform Reclamation's finalization of the SEIS and its issuance of its ROD. He stated that the Bipartisan infrastructure Law (BIL) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) fund conservation programs and it is likely that these laws will be part of the effort to develop a voluntary consensus-based program that will include voluntary compensated conservation in conjunction with our existing obligations under the 2007 Shortage Interim Guidelines, the DCPs, and Minute 323.

Mr. Harris reported that the Basin has experienced greatly improved water supply conditions that will impact WY-2023 Colorado River Basin Operations. He stated that Reclamation is currently projecting balancing operations and a probable release out of Glen Canyon Dam of 9.0 to 9.5 MAF, adding that the projected unregulated inflow for Lake Powell will be close to 15 MAF. He stated that due to the great hydrology that the Basin is experiencing, it may be possible for Reclamation to recover the volumes of water that were released in the prior DROA releases, which were done in 2021 and 2022, totaling about 620,000 AF.

Responding to a question about the DROA releases, Mr. Harris stated that there is no longer a recovery obligation once the Upper Basin reservoirs are filled to their target elevations.

He stated that the operational neutrality of the 480,000 AF withheld in Lake Powell is no longer active because the amount is included water released for balancing. He stated that actual elevations will be used in Lakes Powell and Mead for planning and determining operations.

Mr. Harris stated comments for the Draft SEIS are expected by the end of May. He noted that California and Arizona will need to come together in May to provide guidance to Reclamation and direction regarding elements that should be included in the preferred alternative. He stated that if additional reductions are needed, the Lower Basin States will need to discuss the implications for each state. He remarked that the Draft SEIS process will give the Basin the ability to manage Basin operations during the next three plus years of the interim period and allow the Basin to pivot to developing the next broader set of operating guidelines, which must be in place by January 1, 2027. He stated that United States must initiate a similar effort with Mexico to ensure that a new Minute will be complementary to the next set of operating guidelines. He stated that the Basin States do not have a lot time to develop the next set of operating guidelines, so the Basin States need to work on a collaborative consensus-based decision-making process.

Vice Chairman Madaffer thanked Mr. Harris for his outstanding presentation and inquired about the timeline for negotiations between Mexico and the US as it relates to the development of the new operating guidelines. Mr. Harris remarked that negotiations could take longer than one year. He explained that the development of the Minute may be challenging and take longer than previous Minutes. He explained that the Binational Water Scarcity Contingency Plan (BWSCP) became active after the U.S. DCP was implemented. He stated that the U.S. had to wait for about 1.5 years before the BWSCP was ready. He noted that the development of previous Minutes (Minutes 310, 318, 319 and 323) went smoothly, noting that the U.S. has a good relationship with Mexico, but there some rebuilding of trust may be needed. He stated that Mexico will not be able to execute a Minute with a time horizon of 30 years, noting that a series of Minutes may be needed during the duration of the next set of Guidelines. He reported that the next set of Guidelines needs to use adaptive management based on water supply conditions of the Colorado River Basin and that the Minute may also need the same, which will require a more robust negotiation process. He stated that he believed it is doable, but needs to be started soon.

Vice Chairman Madaffer asked how much is required of California on this issue if it is within the federal's government purview. Mr. Harris stated the federal government has a very good collaborative process between the two sections of the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC), the federal agencies in Mexico and the Seven Basin States. He added that the Seven Basin States are represented by one representative from the Upper basin and one each

from California, Arizona, and Nevada, and are all part of the Minute Oversight Group, noting that this model has worked well for Minutes 318, 319, and 323.

Board member Pettijohn asked whether it was a waste of time modifying the 2007 Guidelines and should the Basin focus on a new set of Guidelines for 2027. Mr. Harris responded that the Basin States have considered that during the Draft SEIS review and Reclamation is desirous of developing additional flexibility to manage the reservoir system, especially if the Basin's hydrology worsens again. He remarked that more modeling needs to be done to understand the implications to Lake Mead if Lake Powell's annual release is reduced to below 7.0 MAF.

Board member Nelson commented that the Six State Alternative was an embarrassment to Mexico, and it is important for California to be a leader in future negotiations with Reclamation and Mexico as it relates to the Minute Oversight Group. Vice Chairman Madaffer stated that building a relationship with Tribes will also be important during the development of the next set of Guidelines. Mr. Harris concurred and stated that he believes that all of the stakeholders across the Colorado River Basin should take part in a more transparent and inclusive process, and it must consider Salton Sea impacts. He added that it will be challenging for Reclamation and the Department of the Interior to build trust with the 30 federally recognized tribes in the Basin and every moment of the remaining interim period will be needed to address these challenges. He stated this is an opportunity for California to lead, because the State has the actual operating experience over decades of addressing these challenges. He stated that the State had a banner year in the Sierra Nevada mountains and there will be impacts and consequences to managing California's portfolio. He added that it will be important for California to be more vocal in suggesting solutions to the other Basin States.

STATE AND LOCAL REPORTS

Board Member Jones representing the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), reported that coastal and central portions of the Eastern Sierras had above average WY-2023 precipitation conditions, noting that these areas also experienced flooding. She explained that outside of the southeastern corner of California, the areas near Imperial and Blythe, are the only areas that received above average precipitation. She noted that most of the storm activity was centered in that middle part of the state. She reported that Statewide precipitation was 149% of average and snowpack was 239% of the historical April 1st average. She noted that the statewide reservoir storage was 105% of average.

Ms. Jones showed a graph entitled “Full Natural Flow at DWR forecast points on Selected California Rivers”. She stated that the graph shows the current water year, and the two of the driest years from the prior drought. She stated that there is a large contrast between the driest year and the current water year. She stated that among large reservoirs in California, Lake Shasta and Trinity had the lowest inflows.

Ms. Jones described the snowpack of this winter season as “Snowmagedon”, with Mammoth Mountain receiving 700 inches of snow. She noted that the large amount of snow caused damage to buildings, as the roofs of buildings collapsed under the weight of snow. She displayed California’s snow course data, dating back to the early 1950s, noting that the current water year’s snowpack set an all-time record. She reported on regional snowpack as of April 7th. She stated that the Northern, Central and Southern Sierra snowpack was 201%, 238% and 296% of the April 1st average, respectively. She added that the runoff forecasts for these regions are greatly above average. She noted that the runoff forecast for the Tulare Lake Basin is 447% of average, noting that that there has been flooding in this area.

Mr. Tom Ryan, representing The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD), reported that as of April 1st, reservoir storage was 67% of capacity and the Colorado River aqueduct will be on a four-pump flow through March. He stated that the 2023 diversion target is 851,000 AF, and as of April 10th, that MWD has diverted 158,165 AF. Water deliveries through February were 64% percent of average, and the 2023 diversion target for Desert Water Agency and Coachella is 211,000 AF.

Board Member Pettijohn, representing the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) reported that Eastern Sierra snowpack was 304% of normal as of April 1st and hit its peak on April 4 at 307% of normal. He stated that this is the biggest year LADWP has had for the L.A. Aqueduct system. He stated that LADWP is still planning how to manage all of its additional water supplies this runoff season. He displayed a photo of the Long Valley Dam. He stated that the dam was built in 1940 and has never spilled because LADWP moves water down through an underground tunnel that takes the water down to the penstock to generate electricity. He stated that LADWP does not use the dam’s spillway because it is within the endangered habitat for the Owen Tui Chub, which is one of the last habitats in the State.

COLORADO RIVER BASIN WATER REPORT

Mr. Juricich reported that as of April 10th, the water level at Lake Powell was 3,520.41 feet with 5.28 million-acre feet (MAF) of storage, or 23% of capacity. The water level at Lake Mead

was 1,046.15 feet with 7.41 MAF of storage, or 28% of capacity. The total system storage was 18.96 MAF, or 32% of capacity, which is 1.83 MAF less than system storage at this time last year.

Mr. Juricich reported that as of April 5th, for Water Year-2023 (WY-2023) the forecasted unregulated inflow into Lake Powell is 14.47 MAF, or 151% of normal. He reported that the forecasted April to July inflow into Lake Powell is 11.3 MAF, or 177% of normal. He stated that observed inflow into Lake Powell for March was 96% of normal and the April inflow forecast was 144% of normal.

Mr. Juricich reported that SWE conditions throughout the Colorado River Basin are normal to above normal throughout most of the Basin, noting that conditions in the Lower Basin were greater than 150% of the 1991 to 2020 median. He noted that SWE conditions in southern Arizona were 930% of median. He noted that Painted Rock reservoir in Arizona has been making flood control releases. Mr. Harris added that flood control releases are also being made from Alamo Dam on the Bill Williams River to the tune of 300,000 AF. He explained that tributaries below Hoover Dam will end up benefiting Lake Mead because that water does not have to be released. Looking at a map of Arizona's Colorado River tributaries, he reported that San Carlos reservoir by Coolidge, will likely fill and also start making flood control releases. He stated that the the Salt and Verde River system have already been making flood control releases for space building, through the remainder of the runoff season and into the summer. He stated that the water will travel down the lower Gila then to Painted Rock reservoir which is just above the Wellton-Mohawk irrigation and drainage district. He reiterated that the releases from these reservoirs offsets releases from Lake Mead.

Mr. Juricich reported that normally, Lake Mead receives about 800,000 AF of side inflows and it is expected to exceed this value during the runoff season. Mr. Harris reported that Reclamation is anticipating 1 MAF of inflow from the Virgin River into Lake Mead. He added that the side flows into Lake Mead could increase the elevation by 10 to 12 feet.

Mr. Juricich reported on the March 24-Month Study, stating that it was outdated and that the April 24-Month Study would be released early next week. He stated that the median elevation for the end of December 2023, given the most probable inflow into Lake Powell, is 3,550 feet. He noted that elevation would likely be higher than this value, given the above average runoff projections. He stated that the most probable release from Glen Canyon Dam is 7.82 MAF in WY-2023 and 7.48 MAF in WY-2024. He stated that the April 24-Month study would project a release of 9.5 MAF given the improved water supply conditions. He stated that the March 24-Month Study for Lake Mead shows the most probable elevation of 1,030 feet for the end of December 2023, stating that the projected runoff could increase the elevation to 1,050 feet.

Mr. Harris reported that through the end of March, the Brock and Senator Wash regulating reservoirs captured 22,292 AF and 22,449 AF, respectively. He also reported that the excess deliveries to Mexico were 14,426 AF, compared to 770 AF this time last year. Finally, the total amount of saline drainage water bypassed to the Cienega de Santa Clara in Mexico was 36,146 AF through April 4th.

COLORADO RIVER BASIN STATES ACTIVITIES

Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program Implementation

Mr. Juricich reported that the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum Work Group meeting is scheduled for April 25 -27, in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. He stated that California agencies and other states have been providing budget testimony letters to the congressional committees for future funding for the Salinity Control program.

Mr. Juricich displayed a graph showing the 2022- 2023 salt gain and Dolores River flow at the Paradox Valley. He stated that the Paradox Valley unit is one of the most important salinity control projects on the Colorado River and when it is operated at maximum, it controls about 100,000 tons of salt per year. He stated that the unit has been operating at a reduced level, 66% of capacity, recently and the unit has been restarted. He reported that there have been a few salinity spikes in early April due to a malfunction at one of its pumping wells. He stated that the malfunction has been corrected and the salinity levels will decline.

MEMBER AGENCY REPORTS

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP)

Board member Pettijohn reported that LADWP completed a renovation of the Tujunga spreading grounds, deepening, and widening the area, increasing the capacity by 50%. He stated that the spreading ground is one of five in the San Fernando Valley. He stated that LADWP infiltrated 108,570 AF of water in the San Fernando Basin this year through storm water capture programs and projects, noting that some of the capture programs are in residential areas. He stated that LADWP is renovating a series of parks to build underground infiltration galleries. He added that LADWP is trying to make the San Fernando valley more capable of groundwater infiltration, noting that the area used to be orange groves but has been paved over and now the water runs off into the L.A River.

Mr. Pettijohn reported that LADWP has faced criticism about the L.A. River flowing directly to the ocean. He noted that the LA River captures about 100,000 AF of stormwater and LADWP is planning on doubling or tripling the amount of stormwater capture through its stormwater capture master plan between now and 2035. He reported that the county of Los Angeles has recently passed Measure W, which imposes a tax on people's hardscape on their property, and that money is used to invest in stormwater capture.

Mr. Pettijohn reported that LADWP's water conservation efforts have reduced water use to 105 gallons per person per day in the city of Los Angeles. He explained that this value accounts for every drop of water that comes into the city of Los Angeles for commercial, residential, and institutional use, including evaporative losses and firefighting. He stated that residential water use is 70 gallons per person per day which is low for a city as large as Los Angeles. He credited LADWP's conservation efforts and strict ordinances for the city's low water use. He stated that LADWP spends about \$30,000,000 dollars a year on water conservation in the city, and that supports its direct-install programs. He added that LADWP also offers rebates on every single device you can imagine, both inside a residential home and outside the residential home, adding that there is also a very robust conservation program for commercial and industrial users. He reported that LADWP increased the funding of its incentive program to allow for up to \$2,000,000 to retrofit a business's water system. He reported that LADWP likes to offer incentives rather than restrict use through ordinances. He stated that LADWP has also increased its turf removal rebates from up to \$5 per square foot for residential properties, and if you're a commercial customer, you get \$6 per square foot.

California Department of Water Resources

Board member Jones reported on DWR's flood operations, noting that operations will be a long slog as DWR responds to flooding due to large snowpack in the San Joaquin River Basin and Tulare Lake basin. She added that DWR provided large amounts of flood preparation materials.

Ms. Jones explained that the dry Tulare Lake is rapidly becoming a lake once again. She stated that since the construction of rim dams on the major rivers beginning in the 1950s, there have been three major lake filling events of Tulare Lake in 1969, 1983, and 1979. She stated that in 1983 DWR pumped out 750,000 AF of basin flood water into the aqueduct and sent it over the hill to southern California as a way to get rid of it.

Ms. Jones reported that from a water management standpoint it would have been helpful to have a forecast that gave DWR advance notice of this winter's water supply. She provided the

Board with a handout that shows the state's worst forecasting busts, noting that these statistics are being used to lobby for more funding for National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to improve sub-seasonal to seasonal precipitation forecasting. She remarked that better forecasting would have allowed DWR to make a big push for temporary groundwater recharge permits and similar activities to deal with the large volume of runoff.

San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA)

Vice Chairman Madaffer reported that SDCWA investments have ensured water reliability but have come at a cost. He stated that SDCWA is continuously working to find innovative solutions to mitigate rising costs. He noted that SDCWA would like to explore options to bank water and work with agencies like LADWP to find ways to store extra water during above average water supply years. He added that SDCWA could also use its desalination water to offer to Arizona and Nevada.

Vice Chairman Madaffer stated that SDCWA recently secured Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) financing for an environment upgrade at Carlsbad Desalination Plant saving ratepayers \$54 million and improves the plant's efficiency and environmental practices.

Vice Chairman Madaffer reported that SDCWA launched its budgeting process two months earlier than normal. He explained that this provided more time to develop rate reduction strategies. He added that this action also got the public involved sooner as well. He stated that there is a projected rate increase of 12% across our member agencies, which has not been welcome news.

Imperial Irrigation District (IID)

Ms. Shields reported that IID had visits from a myriad of federal officials who were there to tour the facilities and outline different options for supporting the region in the drought areas. She added that the official also visited the Imperial Dam. She added that the Reclamation Commissioner visited IID along with some California Congressmen and Mr. Mitch Landrieu, a special advisor to President Biden on infrastructure issues. She stated that Mr. Landrieu is looking for funding opportunities and ways to assist local communities. She stated that at the Imperial Dam visit, Reclamation announced that there was \$8.3 million in federal funding under the BIL for the Imperial Dam. She stated that IID is continuing to work with its partners on funding agreements so that these monies can be put in place to help them handle some of the high costs and upgrading a sixty-plus year-old facility that's well past its life.

Ms. Shields reported that Reclamation also announced that IID had been awarded \$9.5 million in small surface water storage grant for a 2,100 AF reservoir. She explained that IID applied for the grant last year and IID would like to construct the reservoir coming into its system to provide additional flexibility for our growers, handle the increasing demand for larger heads, smaller duration flows, and an increasing interest by our growers in twelve hour runs as they implement their own on-farm efficiency conservation measures. She noted that IID has been frustrated in prior grant application processes due to a lack of understanding of IID's system by grant reviewers.

Ms. Shield reported that the next big project at the Imperial Dam is replacing the underground conveyance structures that have become leaky. She stated that IID is working on replacing these structures in the near future along with the scraper arms on the slide basins above that turn the soil and push it into the underground facilities.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD)

Board member Cordero reported that the banner winter storms have allowed MWD to increase its water supply to the northern Sierra. She stated that MWD has been able to begin refilling its largest southern California reservoir, Diamond Valley Lake for the first time in three years. She stated that MWD has been able to reduce its diversions from the Colorado River aqueduct by about 850,000 AF, and perhaps even more. She stated that MWD is expecting to store about 750,000 AF in reservoirs and groundwater basins across the state.

Ms. Cordero stated that MWD rescinded its emergency declaration and MWD will continue to encourage its customers to continue to conserve. She added that MWD launched its largest conservation effort with a 40,000 square foot digital billboard in Los Angeles. She explained that the digital billboard will play in several different languages that will talk to our consumers about sustainable water saving habits.

Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD)

Board member Nelson reported that Reclamation celebrated its 120th anniversary at CVWD. He added that Reclamation also recognized a \$60 million BIL loan to replace CVWD's underground distribution system.

Mr. Nelson reported that CVWD has negotiated with Reclamation for a Lower Colorado Conservation, Component 1A proposal for a three-year agreement to save up 105,000 AF with Replenishment Facilities, curtailment and up to 30,000 AF in Colorado River Water Conservation. He stated once those negotiations get wrapped up, CVWD has some forbearance agreements to execute with IID and MWD. He also stated that CVWD is one of the only water districts removing

canal lining in some areas. He explained that the canal lining was done on a stretch of the canal under the QSA and has been a maintenance nightmare because panels popped out and floated. He stated that in conjunction with SDCWA, San Luis Rey Indians, and Reclamation, CVWD, will be building a regulatory reservoir within the old canal, on the side.

Mr. Nelson reported that the CVWD has discontinued penalties associated with drought actions. He added that the CVWD Board will consider returning to Level 1 of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan. He stated that the Board's ban on watering nonfunctional turf remains in place.

Mr. Nelson reported that to date, CVWD has invested \$14.35 million in conservation rebates in Fiscal Year 2023. He stated that part of the funding comes from the general budget. He stated that CVWD converted 4.7 million square feet of turf to other landscape, saving water.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)

Mr. Vigil reported on the Palo Verde Ecological Reserve Restoration and Water Efficiency Improvement Project. He explained that CDFW manages 500 acres of upland and seasonal wetland habitat. He stated that CDFW will be working to level out the fields, renew the swales and islands, and pull out about 9,000 feet of dilapidated concrete ditches that are failing. He stated that they will also install underground piping and irrigation with valves to efficiently manage water supplies. He added that water use will be cut back with the new setup and work on these projects will start in the fall.

BASIN STATES ACTIVITIES

Mr. Harris reported that the Basin States met in late March to discuss WY-2023 releases from Glen Canyon Dam. He stated that DROA recovery has been initiated with the potential to fully recover 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 DROA releases. He reported that operational neutrality has been eliminated and the 480,000 AF that was withheld from the Lower Basin will be returned. He stated that it is projected that significant balancing releases between Lakes Powell and Mead, will occur with a potential release of 9.5 MAF from Glen Canyon Dam.

Mr. Harris reported that the draft SEIS is expected on April 11th and will be available for download on Reclamation's website.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES

Salton Sea Management Program

Mr. Harris reported that Ms. Samantha Arthur was appointed to serve as Assistant Secretary for Salton Sea Policy, noting that the position had been vacant for almost a year. He stated that the Salton Sea Management Plan 2022 annual report has been submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board and there will be a Salton Sea workshop in Imperial Valley on May 16-17.

California's Snowpack

Mr. Harris reported that the statewide April 1st snowpack's SWE is 61.1 inches or 237% of average, this is the largest snowpack ever. He stated that on March 24th, DWR increased forecasted State Water Project (SWP) deliveries to 75% of requested water supplies.

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding

Mr. Harris reported that many of the Board's agencies have given reports about on-going BIL projects that are underway.

Inflation Reduction Act Funding

Mr. Harris reported that there is an extensive write-up in the monthly report on IRA funding. He stated that the Gila River Indian community and CVWD will be participating in buckets 1A projects. He stated that participation in bucket 1B is starting to pick up momentum. He stated that the Basin States have been pressing Reclamation to work on this issue. He noted that the Board packet included a joint three-state letter to Reclamation on this issue. He thanked Ms. Shanti Rosset from MWD for developing a draft letter that was circulated among the agencies. He stated that it was a good effort that California was able to get Arizona and Nevada's support. The three-state letter provided suggestions and recommendations to Reclamation on category 2, bucket 2, and was submitted on April 6th.

Chairman Hamby reported on various number of activities that he participated in as Chairman and Colorado River Commissioner. He stated that he met with Congressman Dr. Ruiz and Ranking Member Huffman to provide a general update on Colorado River issues. He explained that both Congressmen are part of a House committee that participates in Colorado River issues. He stated that Congressman Huffman is a Californian and is very interested in protecting California's interests on the Colorado River. He stated that Dr. Ruiz represents the

entire length of the Colorado River in California in his district and all of the non-Metropolitan member agency water uses, including Quechan Tribe, CVWD, PVID, IID, and Bard Water District.

Chairman Hamby reported that he and IID staff met with White House Infrastructure Advisor, Mr. Mitch Landrieu. He stated that he also participated in the senate Colorado River Caucus, which was on a three-day trip touring the Colorado River, starting in Colorado and ending at the Imperial Dam. He stated that poor weather conditions made it difficult to tour all of the facilities on the river and the trip was eventually cancelled. He stated that Ms. Becky Mitchell, the Colorado River commissioner for Colorado, and he were in Las Vegas for the second day of the trip and were able to greet part of the Senate delegation that did not make it on the tour. He stated that he spent time with Senator Cortez Masto of Nevada, as well as Deputy Secretary Tommy Beaudreau of Interior touring the Hoover Dam. He stated that Senator Masto expressed the Caucus's interests in supporting interstate efforts, without getting in the way. He added that it was good to hear the Senate's perspective and that it was consistent with where the general direction of the Senate has been. He added that he is unsure where the House stands on these issues and hopes it does not become political or troublesome.

Chairman Hamby reported on the submittal of the three-state letter and also gave thanks to Ms. Shanti Rosset for putting the draft together and to all the agencies, Arizona and Nevada. He stated it was small victory to be able to agree to support conservation that will be generated through those projects.

Chairman Hamby reported that he met with Mr. Mitch Landrieu, Tribal president Mr. Jordan Joaquin, Congressman Reese, and Deputy Secretary Beaudreau to discuss projects in the Imperial Valley.

Chairman Hamby reported that he also participated in a press release about the Draft SEIS release given by Commissioner Touton. He stated that representatives for Arizona, New Mexico and Mr. Tommy Beaudreau were also present. He noted that during the event he and Mr. Buschatzke from Arizona, were asked if California and Arizona were looking at litigation. He stated that both responded that they would take advantage of the Inflation Reduction Act funding, recent improved hydrology, and good conservations that Arizona and California had been having since January. He stated that California and Arizona would try to and propel forward using this forty-five day review period of the Draft SEIS to develop some level of consensus on the next steps until the end of the current guidelines, and then pivoting as quickly to actually developing the next set of guidelines, which is where everyone's time should be spent.

Chairman Hamby stated that he and Mr. Harris would be participating later in the week

in a high-level, small group Lower Basin meeting to coordinate the May 30th deadline for comments as part of the SEIS process.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further items to be brought before the Board, Chairman Hamby adjourned the meeting at 12:27 p.m.

FY 2023/2024 Colorado River Board Budget

The Governor's Proposed Budget for the Colorado River Board of California for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024 is \$2,615,000. Below is the proposed FY 2023-2024 Budget, compared to the budget authorized in FY 2022-2023 and anticipated FY 2022-2023 expenditures.

	Authorized Budget FY 2022-23	Anticipated Expenditures FY 2022-23	Proposed Budget FY 2023-24
<i>Personal Services</i>	\$ 2,147,000		\$ 2,248,000
<i>Operating Expenses and Equipment</i>	\$ 367,000		\$ 367,000
Colorado River Board Total Budget	\$ 2,514,000	\$ 2,250,000	\$ 2,615,000

3460 Colorado River Board of California

The Colorado River Board protects California's rights and interests in the water and power resources of the Colorado River system. The Board works with: other Colorado River Basin states (Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming), federal agencies, other state agencies, six local agencies (Palo Verde Irrigation District, Imperial Irrigation District, Coachella Valley Water District, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, San Diego County Water Authority, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power), Congress, the courts, and Mexico. Its activities include analyses of engineering, legal and economic matters concerning the Colorado River resources of the seven basin states and the 1944 United States-Mexico Water Treaty obligation to deliver Colorado River water to Mexico.

3-YEAR EXPENDITURES AND POSITIONS

	Positions			Expenditures		
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2021-22*	2022-23*	2023-24*
2410 Protection of California's Colorado River Rights and Interests	13.2	13.2	13.2	\$2,513	\$2,612	\$2,615
TOTALS, POSITIONS AND EXPENDITURES (All Programs)	13.2	13.2	13.2	\$2,513	\$2,612	\$2,615
FUNDING		2021-22*	2022-23*	2023-24*		
0995 Reimbursements		\$2,513	\$2,612	\$2,615		
TOTALS, EXPENDITURES, ALL FUNDS		\$2,513	\$2,612	\$2,615		

LEGAL CITATIONS AND AUTHORITY

DEPARTMENT AUTHORITY

California Water Code, Division 6, Part 5, Sections 12500-12553.

DETAILED BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

	2022-23*			2023-24*		
	General Fund	Other Funds	Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Positions
Workload Budget Adjustments						
Other Workload Budget Adjustments						
• Salary Adjustments	\$-	\$44	-	\$-	\$45	-
• Retirement Rate Adjustments	-	37	-	-	37	-
• Benefit Adjustments	-	17	-	-	19	-
Totals, Other Workload Budget Adjustments	\$-	\$98	-	\$-	\$101	-
Totals, Workload Budget Adjustments	\$-	\$98	-	\$-	\$101	-
Totals, Budget Adjustments	\$-	\$98	-	\$-	\$101	-

DETAILED EXPENDITURES BY PROGRAM

		2021-22*	2022-23*	2023-24*
PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS				
2410	PROTECTION OF CALIFORNIA'S COLORADO RIVER RIGHTS AND INTERESTS			
State Operations:				
0995	Reimbursements	2,513	2,612	2,615
	Totals, State Operations	\$2,513	\$2,612	\$2,615
TOTALS, EXPENDITURES				
	State Operations	2,513	2,612	2,615
	Totals, Expenditures	\$2,513	\$2,612	\$2,615

EXPENDITURES BY CATEGORY

* Dollars in thousands, except in Salary Range. Numbers may not add or match to other statements due to rounding of budget details.

3460 Colorado River Board of California - Continued

1 State Operations	Positions			Expenditures		
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2021-22*	2022-23*	2023-24*
PERSONAL SERVICES						
Baseline Positions	13.2	13.2	13.2	\$1,466	\$1,493	\$1,493
Other Adjustments	-	-	-	-	44	45
Net Totals, Salaries and Wages	13.2	13.2	13.2	\$1,466	\$1,537	\$1,538
Staff Benefits	-	-	-	650	708	710
Totals, Personal Services	13.2	13.2	13.2	\$2,116	\$2,245	\$2,248
OPERATING EXPENSES AND EQUIPMENT				\$397	\$367	\$367
TOTALS, POSITIONS AND EXPENDITURES, ALL FUNDS (State Operations)				\$2,513	\$2,612	\$2,615

DETAIL OF APPROPRIATIONS AND ADJUSTMENTS

1 STATE OPERATIONS	2021-22*	2022-23*	2023-24*
0995 Reimbursements			
APPROPRIATIONS			
Reimbursements	\$2,513	\$2,612	\$2,615
TOTALS, EXPENDITURES	\$2,513	\$2,612	\$2,615
Total Expenditures, All Funds, (State Operations)	\$2,513	\$2,612	\$2,615

CHANGES IN AUTHORIZED POSITIONS

	Positions			Expenditures		
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2021-22*	2022-23*	2023-24*
Baseline Positions	13.2	13.2	13.2	\$1,466	\$1,493	\$1,493
Salary and Other Adjustments	-	-	-	-	44	45
Totals, Adjustments	-	-	-	\$-	\$44	\$45
TOTALS, SALARIES AND WAGES	13.2	13.2	13.2	\$1,466	\$1,537	\$1,538

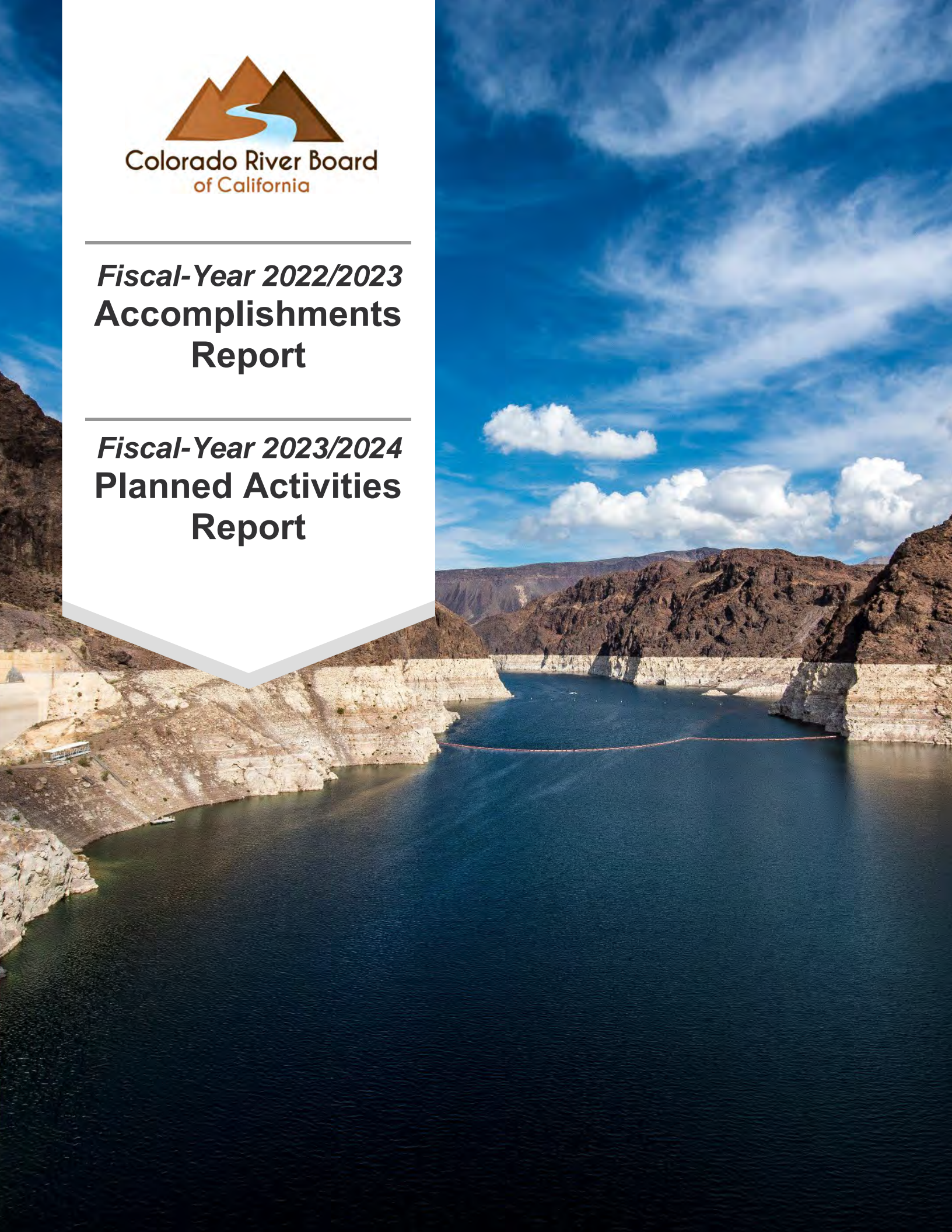
* Dollars in thousands, except in Salary Range. Numbers may not add or match to other statements due to rounding of budget details.



Colorado River Board
of California

Fiscal-Year 2022/2023
Accomplishments
Report

Fiscal-Year 2023/2024
Planned Activities
Report



Fiscal-Year 2022/2023 Budget

The budget for the Colorado River Board of California for Fiscal Year 2022/2023 (FY-22/23) was \$2,514,000, and was adopted by the Board at its June 15, 2022, regularly scheduled meeting.

Fiscal-Year 2022/2023 Accomplishments

COVID-19 Operations

During FY-22/23, the staff of the Colorado River Board of California (CRB), operated under the public health guidance and restrictions associated with responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. This included a hybrid work environment with staff working both in the office and remotely in a telework environment. Staff continue to return to the office more regularly. CRB meetings were all conducted in-person and travel has resumed. CRB staff continue to comply with all state, county, and local public health agency guidance and public safety protocols.

Fiscal-Year 2022/2023 Accomplishments

In FY-22/23 (July 2022 through June 2023), Colorado River Board of California staff participated in the following major programs and activities:

- The Board elected Mr. JB Hamby with the Imperial Irrigation District as Chair and Mr. James Madaffer of the San Diego County Water Authority as Vice-Chair of the Colorado River Board at its January 11, 2023 meeting.
- On April 12, 2023, four new Board Members were sworn in at the Colorado River Board of California meeting. Gina Dockstader is representing Imperial Irrigation District and Gloria Cordero represents The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. The two public member seats on the Board are now filled by: Jordan D. Joaquin (President, Fort Yuma Quechan Indian Tribe) and Frank Ruiz (Salton Sea Program Director, Audubon).
- Organized California's agencies to respond to historically dry conditions on the Colorado River System including extensive work to review and comment on the Notice of Intent and Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) to modify the 2007 Interim Guidelines for the Operations of Lakes Powell and Mead; these activities included intensive discussion among the Basin States in an attempt to develop a consensus alternative modeling framework; Developed a California modeling framework proposal to protect California's interests that was supported by significant technical analysis by Board staff.

- Continued to provide California representation and coordination associated with the binational implementation of Minute No. 323 with Mexico, including participation in the Minute No. 323 Oversight Group, Salinity Work Group, Hydrology Work Group, Environmental Work Group, and Desalination Work Group;
- Represented California's interests in the ongoing implementation of the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program (LCR MSCP), including ongoing discussions with Reclamation and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife regarding the implementation of habitat restoration activities pursuant to the terms and conditions of the California Endangered Species Act Section 2081 permit for California LCR MSCP participants. In FY-22/23, Board staff worked closely with Reclamation to implement necessary changes to the federal LCR MSCP permit in order to allow for greater reductions in flow below Hoover Dam as water conservation activities by the Lower Basin States increase. The CRB contributed approximately \$17,000 in FY-22/23 for LCR MSCP implementation;
- Represented California's interests in the ongoing implementation of the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program (GCDAMP), including annual decision-making regarding Glen Canyon Dam operational activities pursuant to implementation of the Long-Term Experimental Management Plan. Represented California through the Planning/Implementation Team of the GCDAMP in making recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior regarding the implementation of flow experiments to benefit the ecosystem below Glen Canyon Dam. Contributed to the development of a Non-Native Fish Strategic Plan to facilitate collaboration and coordination between agencies working to prevent establishment of non-native fish in the Grand Canyon. In July 2022, represented California on a river trip where representatives from federal agencies, Basin States, Native American tribes, and NGOs discussed current environmental and policy issues;
- Represented California's interests in the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program where California has three appointed Forum members, including Ms. Jessica Neuwerth representing the Colorado River Board of California, Mr. Joaquin Esquivel representing the California State Water Resources Control Board, and Mr. William Hasencamp representing the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Mr. Rich Juricich continues to serve as Work Group Chair; Board staff are working closely with the Basin states to identify a pathway with Reclamation for continued long-term salinity control in Paradox Valley, including a June 1, 2022 restart of brine injection at a limited capacity from the existing Paradox Valley Unit facilities; working with Reclamation to develop a Statement of Objectives for a longer term replacement of the existing PVU deep-injection well. Board staff have continued to work collaboratively with Reclamation and the Salinity Control Forum to develop the 2023 Triennial Review of Water Quality Standards for Salinity, Colorado River Basin; continued participation in and contributed annual cost-share funding of approximately \$45,000 for the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program and the

monitoring of other important water quality programs and initiatives including the Topock Hexavalent Chromium, Las Vegas Wash Perchlorate, and Moab Uranium Mill-Tailings remediation efforts;

- Participated in the planning and implementation of ongoing weather modification activities in Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming during the 2022/2023 winter season under the Basin States programmatic funding agreement. California's cost share in FY-22/23 was approximately \$395,000 provided through the Six Agency Committee;
- Continued ongoing annual cost-sharing support for maintenance and operation of Lower Colorado River Basin stream gaging station network with the U.S. Geological Survey;
- Provided California representation on the Colorado River Climate and Hydrology Workgroup to consider climate and hydrology research & modeling projects to benefit decision making in the basin;
- Continued development of the Board's strategy for updating the guidelines for lower basin shortages and coordinated operations for Lake Powell and Lake Mead including development of several technical papers on Colorado River management issues, and continuing focused technical meetings with California agency technical staff;
- Participated in numerous technical- and policy-level Basin states meetings addressing activities and measures to protect critical elevations in the reservoir system and development of additional drought mitigation projects, and provided support to California's Colorado River Commissioner;
- Provided regular updates, briefings, and presentations to staff from the California Natural Resources Agency, Department of Water Resources, and Governor's Office regarding Colorado River Basin issues and activities;
- Regularly hosted virtual meetings with technical staff from the California agencies to share agency perspectives and activities associated with ongoing Colorado River issues and activities;
- Continued to review and track activities associated with the Upper Basin development of the 2022 and 2023 drought response operations plan, and the State of Utah's proposed Lake Powell Pipeline Project; and
- Reviewed applications for use of Lower Colorado River Supply Project water supplies and provided recommendations to Reclamation as to whether subcontracts should be approved.

Fiscal-Year 2023/2024 Planned Activities

COVID-19 Operations

Board staff operations have largely moved beyond restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Board meetings have resumed in-person without restrictions. Staff will continue to adhere to and implement all applicable public health and safety guidance provided by state, county, and local public health agencies. CRB is continuing to develop long-term post-pandemic teleworking policies and guidance for agency implementation. It is expected that CRB staff will maintain some level of teleworking going forward.

CRB Planned Activities for FY-2023/2024

With the Governor's proposed FY-23/24 budget of \$2,615,000 for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, Colorado River Board of California staff anticipates participating in the following major programs and activities:

- The Board will continue to organize California's agencies to respond to historically dry conditions on the Colorado River System including extensive work and seven state coordination associated with responding to the Draft SEIS to modify the 2007 Interim Guidelines; reviewing and commenting on future Basinwide Drought Contingency Plans; as well as monitoring and evaluating annual water use accounting of mainstream Colorado River water supplies in the Lower Basin;
- Continue providing effective direction, participation and technical support related to the development of the next set of interim operating guidelines for the Colorado River System, including outreach to California agencies and stakeholders, leading and organizing technical and policy webinars for the California agencies;
- Continue to participate in ongoing binational U.S./Mexico activities associated the implementation of Minute No. 323 and associated workgroups;
- Continue participation in the ongoing implementation of the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program;
- Continue participation in the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program, including a projected annual contribution of approximately \$17,000 for FY-23/24;
- Continue participation in and cost-share funding of the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program including continuing support of the existing limited capacity brine injection operations, and organizing Basin States participation in the development by Reclamation

of a Statement of Objectives for a long-term replacement for PVU; and the monitoring of other ongoing water quality programs and activities;

- Continue participation in the Basin States cost-sharing of winter season weather modification efforts in Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming;
- Continue providing annual financial support to the U.S. Geological Survey to provide effective stream gaging stations in the Lower Colorado Basin;
- Continue participation in the Colorado River Climate and Hydrology Workgroup, which includes planning of the next Climate and Hydrology Symposium, and ongoing development of proposed climate and hydrology research projects;
- Continue to develop and provide effective technical support and modeling expertise to the Board member agencies;
- Continue participation in Basin states principal and technical meetings and continue to provide support to California's Colorado River Commissioner;
- Continue participation by Board staff in advocating and representation of California's positions at conferences and symposia; and
- Review of applications for use of Lower Colorado River Supply Project water supplies.

6/5/2023

LOWER COLORADO WATER SUPPLY REPORT

River Operations
Bureau of Reclamation


Questions: BCOOWaterops@usbr.gov

(702)293-8373

<http://www.usbr.gov/lc/region/g4000/weekly.pdf>

	PERCENT	Content 1000 ac-ft (kaf)	Elev. (Feet above mean sea level)	7-Day Release (CFS)
CURRENT STORAGE	FULL			
LAKE POWELL	35%	8,206	3,565.81	17,700
* LAKE MEAD	31%	8,010	1,054.48	14,500
LAKE MOHAVE	92%	1,665	641.78	14,300
LAKE HAVASU	91%	564	447.15	10,900
TOTAL SYSTEM CONTENTS **	41%	23,764		
As of 6/4/2023				
SYSTEM CONTENT LAST YEAR	35%	20,557		
*Percent based on capacity of 26,120 kaf or elevation 1,219.6 feet.				
**Total System Contents includes Upper & Lower Colorado River Reservoirs, less Lake Mead exclusive flood control space.				
Salt/Verde System	98%	2,252		
Painted Rock Dam	1%	12	555.37	952
Alamo Dam	16%	161	1,130.66	297
Forecasted Water Use for Calendar Year 2023 (as of 6/5/2023) (values in kaf)				
NEVADA			212	
SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER SYSTEM				201
OTHERS				10
CALIFORNIA			4,174	
METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA				847
IRRIGATION DISTRICTS				3,311
OTHERS				16
ARIZONA			2,030	
CENTRAL ARIZONA PROJECT				857
OTHERS				1,174
TOTAL LOWER BASIN USE				6,416
DELIVERY TO MEXICO - 2023 (Mexico Scheduled Delivery + Preliminary Yearly Excess ¹)				1,420
OTHER SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION				
UNREGULATED INFLOW INTO LAKE POWELL - MAY MID-MONTH FORECAST DATED 5/16/2023				
		MILLION ACRE-FEET	% of Normal	
FORECASTED WATER YEAR 2023		14.170	148%	
FORECASTED APRIL-JULY 2023		10.999	172%	
APRIL OBSERVED INFLOW		1.399	155%	
MAY INFLOW FORECAST		4.400	212%	
		Upper Colorado Basin	Salt/Verde Basin	
WATER YEAR 2023 PRECIP TO DATE		120% (27.0")	156% (27.7")	
CURRENT BASIN SNOWPACK		192% (3.3")	NA% (NA)	

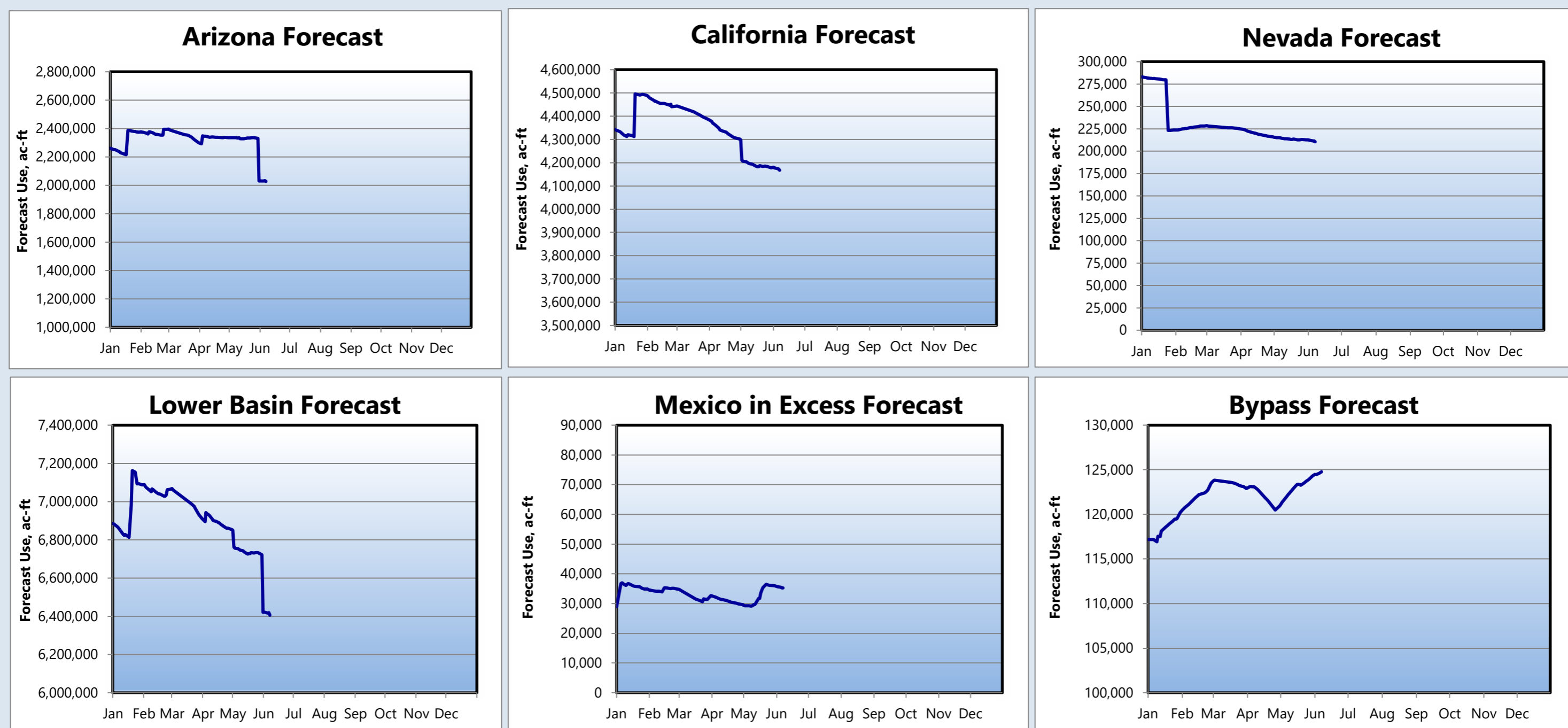
¹Delivery to Mexico forecasted yearly excess calculated using year-to-date observed and projected excess.


BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
LOWER COLORADO BASIN REGION
CY 2023

ARIZONA, CALIFORNIA, NEVADA, MEXICO
 FORECAST OF END OF YEAR CONSUMPTIVE USE
 FORECAST BASED ON USE TO DATE AND APPROVED ANNUAL WATER ORDERS ¹
 (ACRE-FEET)

WATER USE SUMMARY	Use To Date CY 2023	Forecast Use CY 2023	Approved Use² CY 2023	Excess to Approval CY 2023
Arizona	991,394	2,027,894	2,130,088	(102,194)
California	1,602,338	4,167,437	4,341,455	(174,018)
Nevada	66,931	210,473	210,473	0
States Total³	2,660,663	6,405,804	6,682,016	(276,212)
Total Deliveries to Mexico ⁴	714,180	1,382,699	1,382,699	
Creation of Mexico's Recoverable Water Savings ⁵	0	30,000	30,000	
Creation of Mexico's Water Reserve ⁶	11,208	17,302	17,302	
Total to Mexico in Satisfaction of Treaty Requirements ⁷	725,388	1,430,001	1,430,001	
To Mexico in Excess of Treaty ⁸	21,599	35,313	28,963	
Water Bypassed Pursuant to IBWC Minute 242 ⁹	58,549	124,772	117,192	
Total Lower Basin & Mexico ¹⁰	3,454,991	7,948,588	8,210,870	

¹ Incorporates 80 daily reporting stations which may be revised after provisional data reports are distributed by the USGS. Use to date has been updated through March for users reporting monthly and estimated for users reporting annually.
² These values reflect adjusted apportionments. See Adjusted Apportionment calculation on each state page.
³ Includes unmeasured returns based on estimated consumptive use/diversion ratios by user from studies provided by Arizona Department of Water Resources, Colorado River Board of California, and Reclamation.
⁴ Includes scheduled deliveries to Mexico at the Northerly International Boundary, Southerly International Boundary, Limitrophe, and Diversion Channel Discharge; and diversions at Parker Dam for Emergency Delivery to Tijuana. Volume shown does not include Creation of Mexico's Water Reserve or Creation of Mexico's Recoverable Water Savings.
⁵ Water deferred by Mexico pursuant to Section IV of IBWC Minute 323 and the *Joint Report of the Principal Engineers with the Implementing Details of the Binational Water Scarcity Contingency Plan in the Colorado River Basin* dated July 11, 2019. (Mexico's required Binational Water Scarcity Contingency Plan Contribution).
⁶ Water deferred by Mexico pursuant to Section V of IBWC Minute 323.
⁷ In accordance with Section XI.G.2.D.1.b of the 2007 Interim Guidelines, a Tier 2 Shortage Condition will govern the operation of Lake Mead and the lower Colorado River in 2023. In accordance with Section III.A of Minute 323, Mexico's scheduled deliveries incorporate the required reduction of 70,000 AF from its 1.5 million AF Colorado River water allotment. "Total to Mexico in Satisfaction of Treaty Requirements" adds in creation of Mexico's Recoverable Water Savings and Mexico's Water Reserve.
⁸ "To Mexico in Excess of Treaty" forecast is based on the 5-year average for the period 2017-2021.
⁹ "Water Bypassed Pursuant to IBWC Minute 242" forecast is based on the average for the period 1990-2021.
¹⁰ Includes States Total, Total Deliveries to Mexico, To Mexico in Excess of Treaty, and Water Bypassed Pursuant IBWC Minute 242.



Graph notes: January 1 forecast use is scheduled use in accordance with the Annual Operating Plan's state entitlements, available unused entitlements, and over-run paybacks. A downward sloping line indicates use at a lower rate than scheduled, upward sloping is above schedule, and a flat line indicates a use rate equal to schedule. Lower priority users such as CAP, MWD, and Robt.B.Griffith may adjust use rates to meet state entitlements as higher priority use deviates from schedule. **Abrupt changes in the forecast use line may be due to a schedule change or monthly updating of provisional realtime diversions.**



**LOWER COLORADO BASIN REGION
CY 2023**

ARIZONA WATER USERS

Forecast end of year diversion/consumptive use
Forecast based on use to date and approved annual water orders
[Arizona Schedules and Approvals](#)

NOTE:
 • Diversions and uses that are pending approval are noted in *red italics*.
 • Water users with a consumptive use entitlement - **Excess to Estimated Use** column indicates overrun/underrun of entitlement. Dash in this column indicates water user has a diversion entitlement.
 • Water user with a diversion entitlement - **Excess to Approved Diversion** column indicates overrun/underrun of entitlement. Dash in this column indicates water user has a consumptive use entitlement.

WATER USER	Use To Date CY 2023	Forecast Use CY 2023	Estimated Use CY 2023	Excess to Estimated Use CY 2023	Diversion To Date CY 2023	Forecast Diversion CY 2023	Approved Diversion CY 2023	Excess to Approved Diversion CY 2023
TV Marble Canyon, AZ LLC	5	10	10	---	7	15	15	0
Lake Mead NRA, AZ - Diversions from Lake Mead	20	69	68	---	20	69	68	1
Lake Mead NRA, AZ - Diversions from Lake Mohave	82	219	218	---	82	219	218	1
McAlister Family Trust	3	7	7	---	5	10	10	0
Bureau of Reclamation - Davis Dam Project	1	2	2	---	5	10	10	0
Bullhead City	2,708	8,246	8,699	---	4,229	12,921	13,730	-809
Mohave Water Conservation District	304	765	749	---	454	1,141	1,115	26
Mohave Valley I.D.D. ¹	5,467	17,279	21,209	---	10,125	32,000	39,276	-7,276
Fort Mojave Indian Reservation, AZ	14,575	38,929	44,280	---	26,990	72,090	82,000	-9,910
Golden Shores Water Conservation District	133	287	287	---	200	432	432	0
Havasu National Wildlife Refuge	1,062	2,908	3,564	---	8,848	30,498	41,835	-11,337
EPCOR Water Arizona, Inc. - CSA No. 1	225	551	527	---	346	846	810	36
Crystal Beach Water Conservation District	34	73	73	---	52	112	112	0
Lake Havasu City	3,282	8,850	9,052	---	5,294	14,274	14,600	-326
Arizona State Parks (Windsor Beach)	5	11	11	---	8	17	17	0
Central Arizona Water Conservation District ²	524,468	861,159		---	524,468	861,159		--
Hillcrest Water Company	10	21	21	---	15	32	32	0
Springs Del Sol Domestic Water Improvement District	1	2	2	---	1	3	3	0
Frontier Communications West Coast	0	1	1	---	0	1	1	0
EPCOR Water Arizona, Inc. - CSA No. 2 (formerly Brooke Water, LLC)	122	318	327	---	183	477	489	-12
Town of Parker	119	386	418	---	304	865	912	-47
Colorado River Indian Reservation, AZ	137,634	348,855	360,641	---	208,295	591,612	662,402	-70,790
GM Gabrych Family	1,355	2,925	2,925	---	2,084	4,500	4,500	0
Ehrenberg Improvement District	108	263	260	---	160	378	365	13
B&F Investment	3	7	8	---	4	10	11	-1
North Baja Pipeline	93	200	200	---	143	308	308	0
Arizona State Land Department - Domestic	16	40	40	---	26	62	61	1
Cibola Valley I.D.D.	2,048	5,119	5,322	---	2,866	7,160	7,443	-283
Red River Land Co.	84	236	214	---	118	331	300	31
Hopi Tribe	632	2,712	3,061	---	883	3,791	4,278	-487
GSC Farms, LLC	322	1,976	2,083	---	450	2,763	2,913	-150
Arizona Game & Fish	913	2,371	2,031	---	1,276	3,314	2,838	476
Cibola Island	327	705	705	---	457	986	986	0
Cibola National Wildlife Refuge	4,274	14,329	14,264	65	6,892	23,108	23,005	103
Western Water, LLC	82	345	379	---	116	483	530	-47
Cibola Sportsmans Club	58	163	154	---	79	227	216	11
Bishop Family Trust	92	298	300	---	131	419	420	-1
Cathcarts	29	90	90	---	41	127	126	1
Imperial National Wildlife Refuge	1,396	3,567	3,799	-232	1,943	5,446	6,128	-682
BLM - Leased by L. Pratt	27	58	58	---	41	89	89	0
BLM Permittees (Parker Dam to Imperial Dam)	589	1,271	1,271	0	906	1,956	1,956	--
Fisher's Landing Water and Sewer, LLC	3	7	7	---	5	11	11	0
Shepard Water Company	8	18	18	---	13	28	28	0
U.S. Army Yuma Proving Grounds	133	457	486	---	133	457	486	-29
JRJ Partners, LLC	279	678	666	---	429	1,045	1,025	20
Cha Cha, LLC	511	1,375	1,365	---	786	2,115	2,100	15
Beattie Farms Southwest	366	704	722	---	564	1,082	1,110	-28
Gila Monster Farms	1,950	4,160	4,833	---	3,355	7,275	8,500	-1,225
Wellton-Mohawk I.D.D.	104,412	252,078	278,000	-25,922	152,126	379,826	424,350	-44,524
BLM Permittees (Below Imperial Dam)	51	110	110	0	78	169	169	--
City of Yuma	6,105	14,836	15,151	-315	9,943	25,981	27,500	-1,519
U.S. Marine Corps Air Station Yuma	395	1,160	1,265	---	395	1,160	1,265	-105
Union Pacific Railroad	12	29	29	---	21	48	48	0
University of Arizona	289	832	897	---	289	832	897	-65
Yuma Union High School District	44	138	150	---	57	184	200	-16
Desert Lawn Memorial	13	27	27	---	18	38	38	0

	Use To Date CY 2023	Forecast Use CY 2023	Estimated Use CY 2023	Excess to Estimated Use CY 2023	Diversion To Date CY 2023	Forecast Diversion CY 2023	Approved Diversion CY 2023	Excess to Approved Diversion CY 2023
WATER USER								
North Gila Valley Irrigation District	3,606	8,409	9,486	---	15,200	38,940	43,500	-4,560
Yuma Irrigation District	15,141	35,521	38,958	---	27,175	66,155	73,100	-6,945
Yuma Mesa I.D.D.	31,744	95,923	104,430	---	61,643	199,595	230,252	-30,657
Unit "B" I.D.D.	5,327	13,854	13,421	---	8,806	25,746	28,300	-2,554
Arizona State Land Department - Agriculture	1,760	4,234	4,295	---	2,730	6,535	6,607	-72
Ott Family	125	269	269	---	192	414	414	0
Ogram Boys' Enterprises	276	595	595	---	424	916	916	0
Fort Yuma Indian Reservation	1,447	3,123	3,123	---	2,225	4,804	4,804	0
BLM - Leased by M. Lee	67	145	145	---	103	223	223	0
Armon Curtis	59	127	127	---	90	195	195	0
Yuma County Water Users' Association	113,753	260,827	277,259	---	158,610	354,810	367,400	-12,590
R. Griffin	14	30	30	---	21	46	46	0
Power	34	74	74	---	53	114	114	0
Cocopah Indian Tribe (PPR No. 7)	85	184	184	---	131	283	283	0
Griffin Ranches (PPR No. 7)	34	74	74	---	53	114	114	0
Milton Phillips (PPR No. 7)	20	44	44	---	31	67	67	0
Griffin Family Ltd. Partnership (PPR No. 7)	8	17	17	---	12	26	26	0
Cocopah Indian Reservation	411	1,794	1,820	---	448	2,590	2,812	-222
Bureau of Reclamation - Yuma Area Office	95	206	206	---	95	206	206	0
Arizona Public Service Company	0	0	0	---	0	0	0	0
Gary Pasquinelli	109	212	209	---	168	326	321	5
Total Arizona	991,394	2,027,894	2,102,010		1,254,969	2,796,617	2,998,175	
Central Arizona Project (CAP)	524,468	861,159				861,159		
All Others	466,926	1,166,735	1,245,812			1,935,458	2,141,987	
Yuma Mesa Division, Gila Project	50,491	139,853	152,874			304,690	346,852	
Total 242 Well Field Pumping ³	15,382	39,608	48,129					

ARIZONA ADJUSTED APPORTIONMENT CALCULATION

Arizona Basic Apportionment	2,800,000
Reduction for Tier 2a Shortage ⁴	(400,000)
Reduction for Arizona DCP Contributions ⁵	(192,000)
System Conservation Water - Pilot System Conservation Program ⁶	(500)
System Conservation Water - Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation (FMYN) ^{7,8}	(13,933)
System Conservation Water - Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) ^{7,9}	(125,000)
System Conservation Water - Reclamation (Estimated) ¹⁰	(8,479)
Delivery of ICS (CAWCD) up to	70,000
Total State Adjusted Apportionment	2,130,088
Excess to Total State Adjusted Apportionment	(102,194)

Estimated Allowable Use for CAP

968,093

¹ Approved/forecasted values include up to 1,250 AF of diversion for domestic use pursuant to MVIDD's Subcontract No. 09-101 with the Mohave County Water Authority.

² Forecast Use incorporates CAWCD's operational schedule dated January 17, 2023.

³ In accordance with the Colorado River Water Conservation Letter Agreement 16-XX-30-W0603, Revision No. 1 (Revised Letter Agreement) between Reclamation and the Central Arizona Water Conservation District (CAWCD), pumping above the Historical Average Baseline (31,129 AF), up to 32,000 AF per year, will remain in Lake Mead as Colorado River System water.

⁴ In accordance with Section XI.G.2.D.1.b of the 2007 Interim Guidelines, a Tier 2 Shortage Condition will govern the operation of Lake Mead and the lower Colorado River in 2023, resulting in a 400,000 AF reduction to the state of Arizona's Colorado River basic apportionment.

⁵ In accordance with Section III.B.1.a of *Lower Basin Drought Contingency Operations* (LBOs), the state of Arizona is required to make DCP Contributions of 192,000 AF in 2023. CAWCD agrees to fulfill Arizona's DCP Contributions in accordance with Section II.3.b of the *Agreement Regarding Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan Obligations*. In accordance with LBOs, CAWCD anticipates making its required DCP Contributions through the simultaneous creation and conversion of Extraordinary Conservation (EC) ICS to DCP ICS and the creation of Non-ICS Water (reductions in consumptive use). CAWCD has an approved ICS Plan for the creation of up to 100,000 AF of EC ICS in 2023. The actual amount of EC ICS created by CAWCD and converted to DCP ICS and credited toward the DCP Contribution will be based on final accounting and verification. In accordance with Section XI.G.3.B.4 of the 2007 Interim Guidelines and Section IV.B of LBOs, the total amount of EC ICS that may be created by the states of Arizona, California, and Nevada in 2023 will be limited to 625,000 AF. Additionally, the total amount of EC ICS, Binational ICS and DCP ICS accumulated in Arizona, California and Nevada's ICS Accounts will be limited in accordance with Section IV.C. of LBOs.

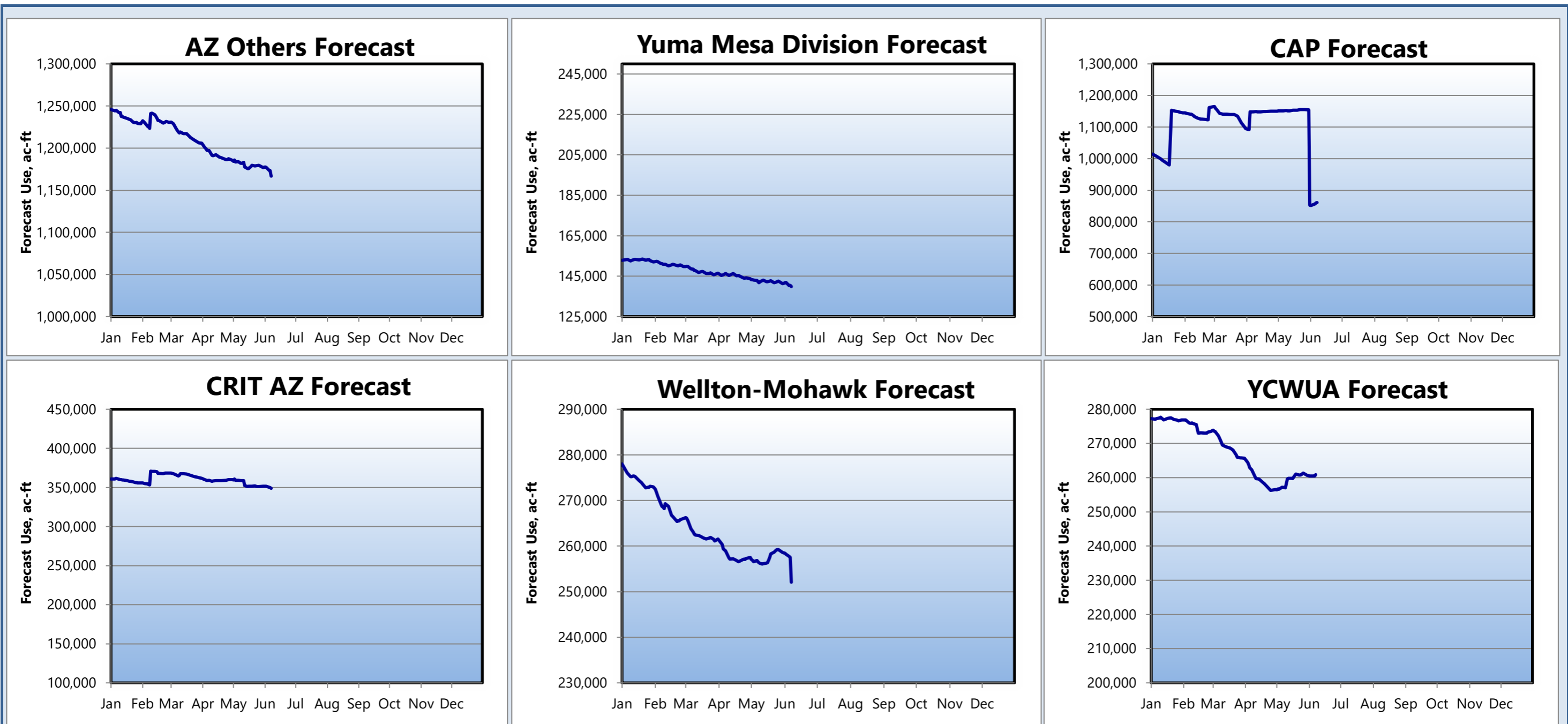
⁶ The estimated amount of System Conservation Water that will be created by the City of Bullhead City pursuant to System Conservation Implementation Agreement (SCIA) No. 15-XX-30-W0587, as amended. This System Conservation Water will remain in Lake Mead to benefit system storage.

⁷ In accordance with the applicable system conservation agreements and Section 3.b of the *Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan Agreement*, the Bureau of Reclamation intends to apply all or a portion of this water towards the Secretary of the Interior's commitment to create or conserve 100,000 AF per annum or more of Colorado River System water to contribute to conservation of water supplies in Lake Mead and other Colorado River reservoirs in the Lower Basin.

⁸ CAP water being created by FMYN pursuant to SCIA No. 23-XX-30-W0750, which will remain in Lake Mead to benefit system storage.

⁹ CAP water being created by GRIC pursuant to SCIA No. 23-XX-30-W0760, which will remain in Lake Mead to benefit system storage.

¹⁰ The estimated amount of System Conservation Water that will be created by additional pumping from the 242 Well Field Expansion pursuant to Letter Agreement No. 16-XX-30-W0603, Revision No. 1, which will remain in Lake Mead to benefit system storage.



NOTES: Click on Arizona Schedules and Approvals above for incoming diversion schedules and approvals.



**LOWER COLORADO BASIN REGION
CY 2023**

NOTE:
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 • Water users with a consumptive use entitlement - **Excess to Estimated Use** column indicates overrun/underrun of entitlement. Dash in this column indicates water user has a diversion entitlement.
 • Water user with a diversion entitlement - **Excess to Approved Diversion** column indicates overrun/underrun of entitlement. Dash in this column indicates water user has a consumptive use

CALIFORNIA WATER USERS

Forecast end of year diversion/consumptive use
 Forecast based on use to date and approved annual water orders
[California Schedules and Approvals](#)

WATER USER	Use	Forecast	Estimated	Excess to	Diversion	Forecast	Approved	Excess to
	To Date	Use	Use	Use	To Date	Diversion	Diversion	Approved
	CY 2023	CY 2023	CY 2023	CY 2023	CY 2023	CY 2023	CY 2023	CY 2023
Fort Mojave Indian Reservation, CA	2,360	7,534	8,994	---	4,386	14,006	16,720	-2,714
City of Needles (includes LCWSP use)	461	1,437	1,605	-168	756	2,130	2,261	-131
PPR No. 30 (Stephenson)	9	19	19	---	16	34	34	0
PPR No. 38 (Andrade)	12	25	25	---	21	45	45	---
PPR No. 40 (Cooper)	3	6	6	---	5	10	10	---
Chemehuevi Indian Reservation	85	183	183	---	5,252	11,340	11,340	0
The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California ¹	272,562	841,733		---	273,819	844,380		---
Colorado River Indian Reservation, CA	2029	4,380	4,380	---	3,362	7,258	7,258	0
Palo Verde Irrigation District	128,090	373,538	423,836	---	289,551	795,551	862,000	-66,449
PPR No. 31 (Mendivil)	1	3	3	---	3	6	6	0
Yuma Project Reservation Division	16,668	39,777	48,668	---	34,050	84,766	98,898	-14,132
Yuma Project Reservation Division - Bard Unit	---	---	---	---	16,520	44,620	51,500	-6,880
Yuma Project Reservation Division - Indian Unit	---	---	---	---	17,530	40,146	47,398	-7,252
Fort Yuma Indian Reservation - Ranch 5 (Surface Delivery)	409	1,053	1,194	---	739	1,906	2,160	-254
Fort Yuma Indian Reservation - Other Ranches (Pumpers)	527	1,137	1,137	---	953	2,058	2,058	0
Yuma Island Pumpers	678	1,463	1,463	---	1,226	2,647	2,647	0
Imperial Irrigation District	1,068,683	2,544,075	2,617,800	-73,725	1,091,260	2,670,730	2,767,270	---
Coachella Valley Water District	109,490	350,490	389,000	-38,510	114,730	373,533	413,155	---
Other LCWSP Contractors	244	526	526	---	379	819	819	0
City of Winterhaven	27	58	58	---	38	81	81	0
Total California	1,602,338	4,167,437	4,350,109		1,820,546	4,811,300	5,040,587	

CALIFORNIA ADJUSTED APPORTIONMENT CALCULATION

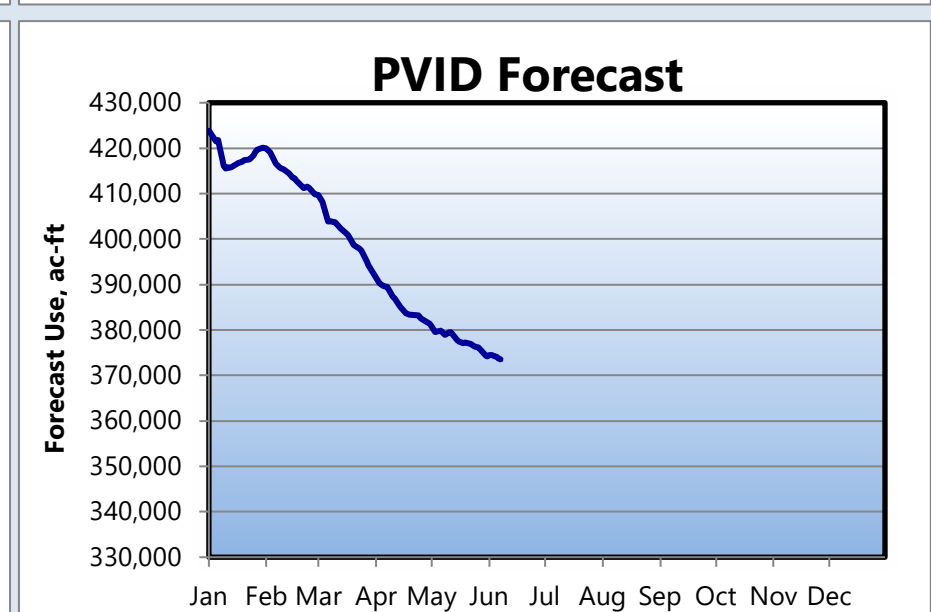
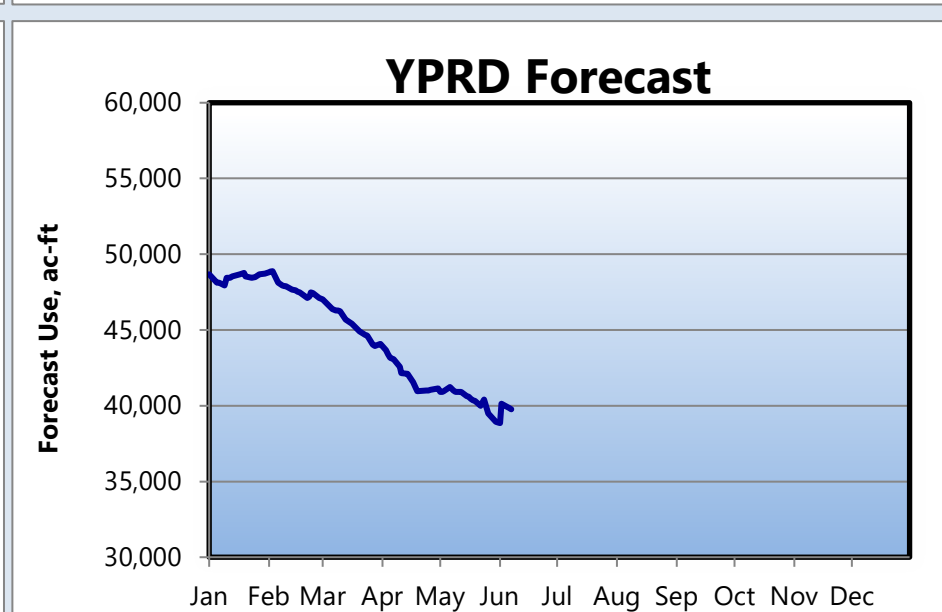
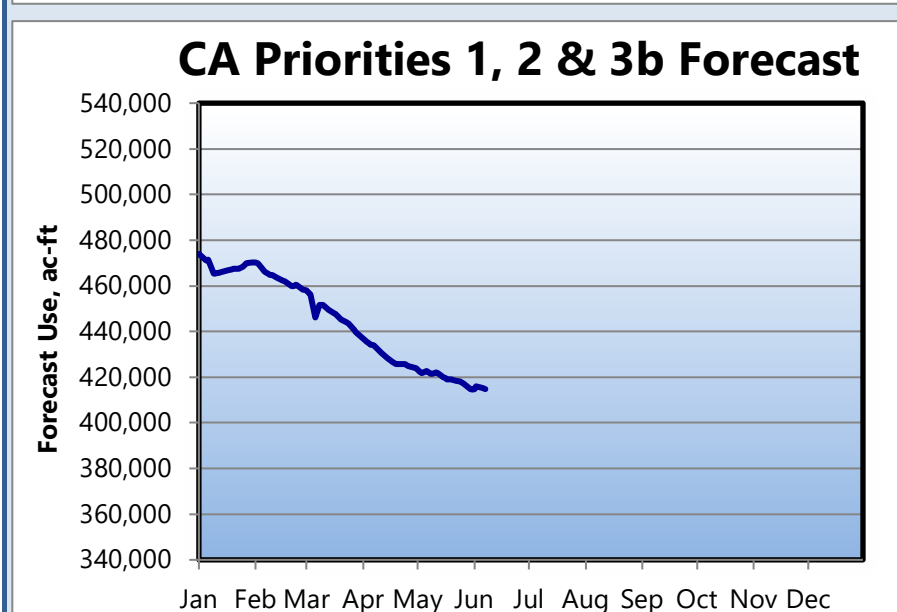
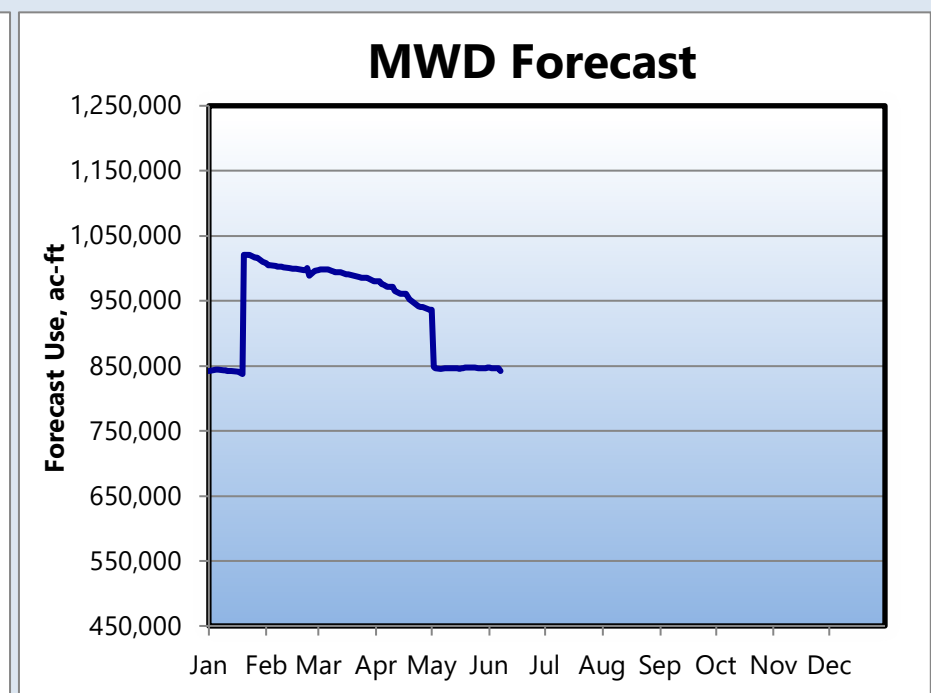
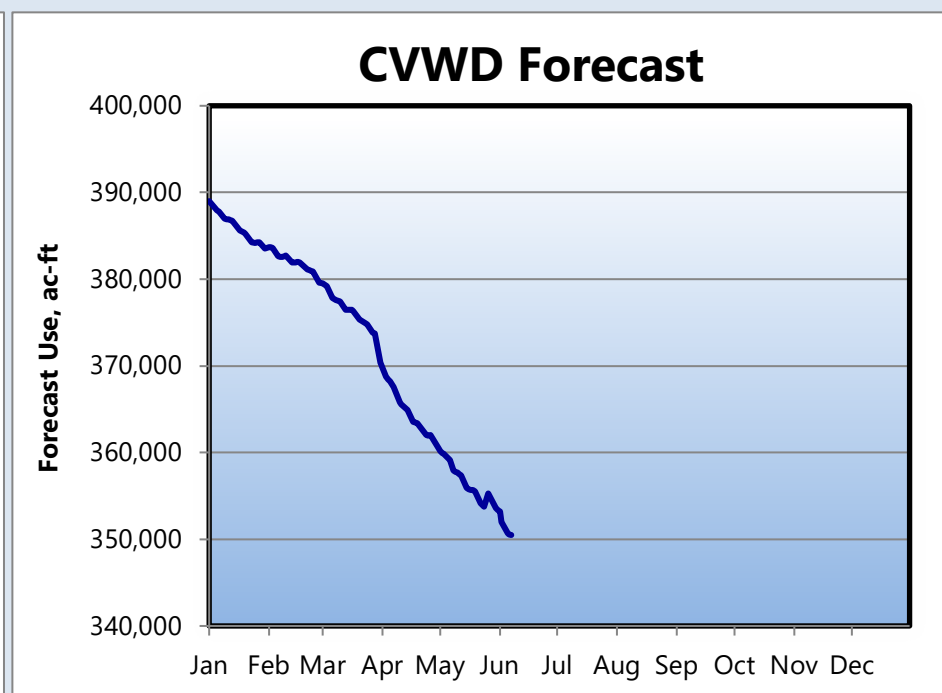
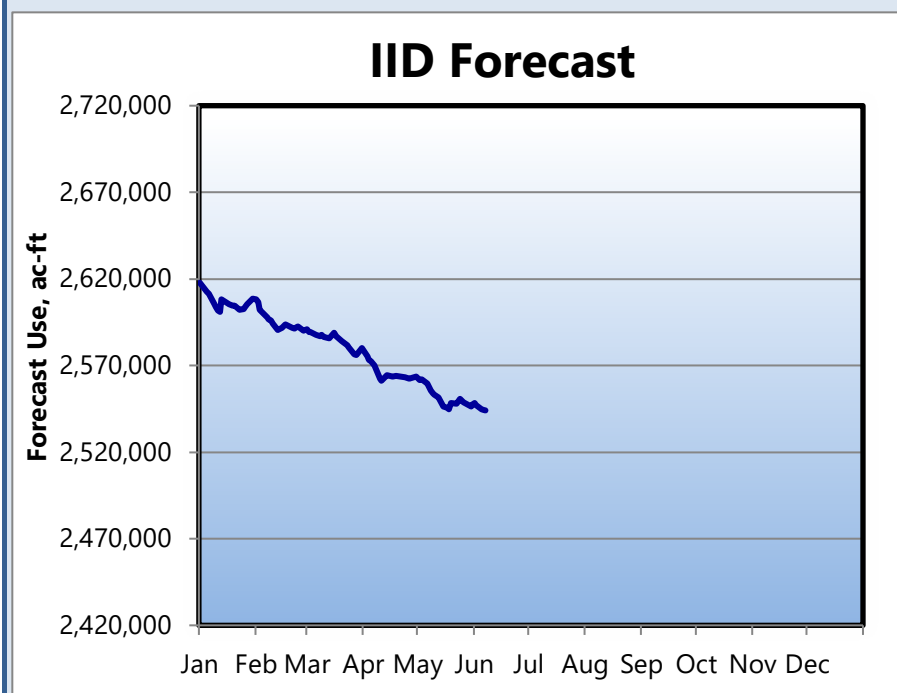
California Basic Apportionment	4,400,000
System Conservation Water - Pilot System Conservation Program ²	(145)
System Conservation Water - PVID Following Program ³	(58,400)
Total State Adjusted Apportionment	4,341,455
Excess to Total State Adjusted Apportionment	(174,018)

Estimated Allowable Use for MWD 1,015,751

¹ Forecast Use is based on MWD's operational projected diversion of 1.023 maf.

² System Conservation Water to be conserved by the City of Needles pursuant to System Conservation Implementation Agreement No. 15-XX-30-W0596, executed under the Pilot System Conservation Program. This water will remain in Lake Mead to benefit system storage.

³ The estimated amount of System Conservation Water that will be created pursuant to Funding Agreement No. 21-XX-30-W0714 (Funding Agreement). This System Conservation Water will remain in Lake Mead to benefit system storage. In accordance with the Funding Agreement, the Bureau of Reclamation intends to apply 50 percent this water towards the Secretary of the Interior's commitment to create or conserve 100,000 AF or more per annum of System Conservation Water pursuant to Section 3.b of the *Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan Agreement*.



NOTES: Click on California Schedules and Approvals above for incoming diversion schedules and approvals.



**LOWER COLORADO BASIN REGION
CY 2023**

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 • Diversions and uses that are pending approval are noted in *red italics*.
 • Water users with a consumptive use entitlement - **Excess to Estimated Use** column indicates overrun/underrun of entitlement. Dash in this column indicates water user has a diversion entitlement.
 • Water user with a diversion entitlement - **Excess to Approved Diversion** column indicates overrun/underrun of entitlement. Dash in this column indicates water user has a consumptive use entitlement.

NEVADA WATER USERS

Forecast end of year diversion/consumptive use

Forecast based on use to date and approved annual water orders

[Nevada Schedules and Approvals](#)

WATER USER	Use To Date CY 2023	Forecast Use CY 2023	Estimated Use CY 2023	Excess to Estimated Use CY 2023	Diversion To Date CY 2023	Forecast Diversion CY 2023	Approved Diversion CY 2023	Excess to Approved Diversion CY 2023
Robert B. Griffith Water Project (SNWS)	167,126	435,013		---	167,126	435,013		---
Lake Mead NRA, NV - Diversions from Lake Mead	318	1,241	1,500	---	318	1,241	1,500	-259
Lake Mead NRA, NV - Diversions from Lake Mohave	130	394	500	---	130	394	500	-106
Basic Management, Inc.	0	0	0	---	0	0	0	0
City of Henderson (BMI Delivery)	0	0	0	---	0	0	0	0
Nevada Department of Wildlife	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	---
Pacific Coast Building Products, Inc.	371	889	928	---	371	889	928	-39
Boulder Canyon Project	82	177	177	---	139	300	300	0
Big Bend Water District	1,154	4,080	4,688	---	2,557	8,510	10,000	-1,490
Fort Mojave Indian Tribe	957	3,624	4,624	---	1,428	5,408	6,900	-1,492
Las Vegas Wash Return Flows	-103,207	-234,945	-231,289	---				
Total Nevada¹	66,931	210,473	223,000	0	172,069	451,755	462,000	-3,386
Southern Nevada Water System (SNWS)	63,919	200,068				435,013		
All Others	3,012	10,405				16,742		
Nevada Uses Above Hoover	64,820	202,769				437,837		
Nevada Uses Below Hoover	2,111	7,704				13,918		

Tributary Conservation (TC) Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS)

Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) Creation of TC ICS (Approved)² 44,000

NEVADA ADJUSTED APPORTIONMENT CALCULATION

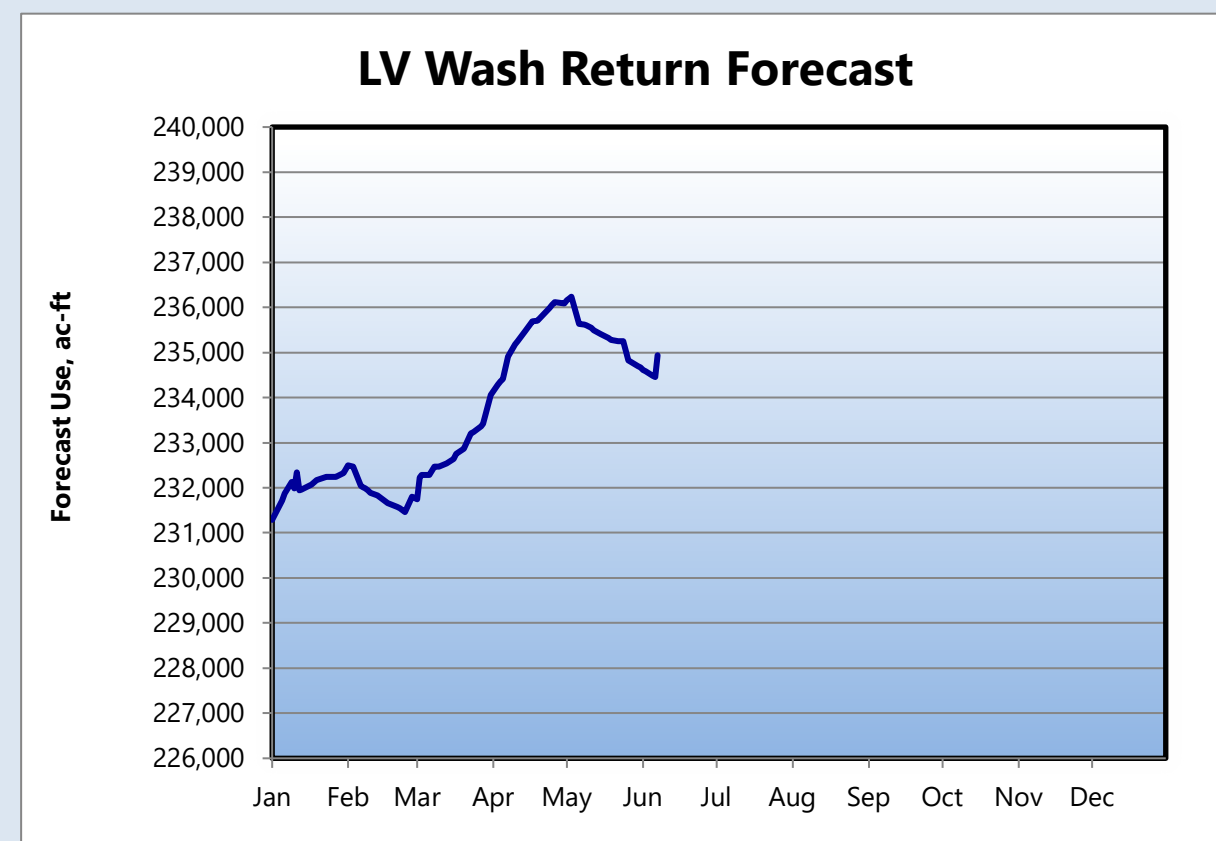
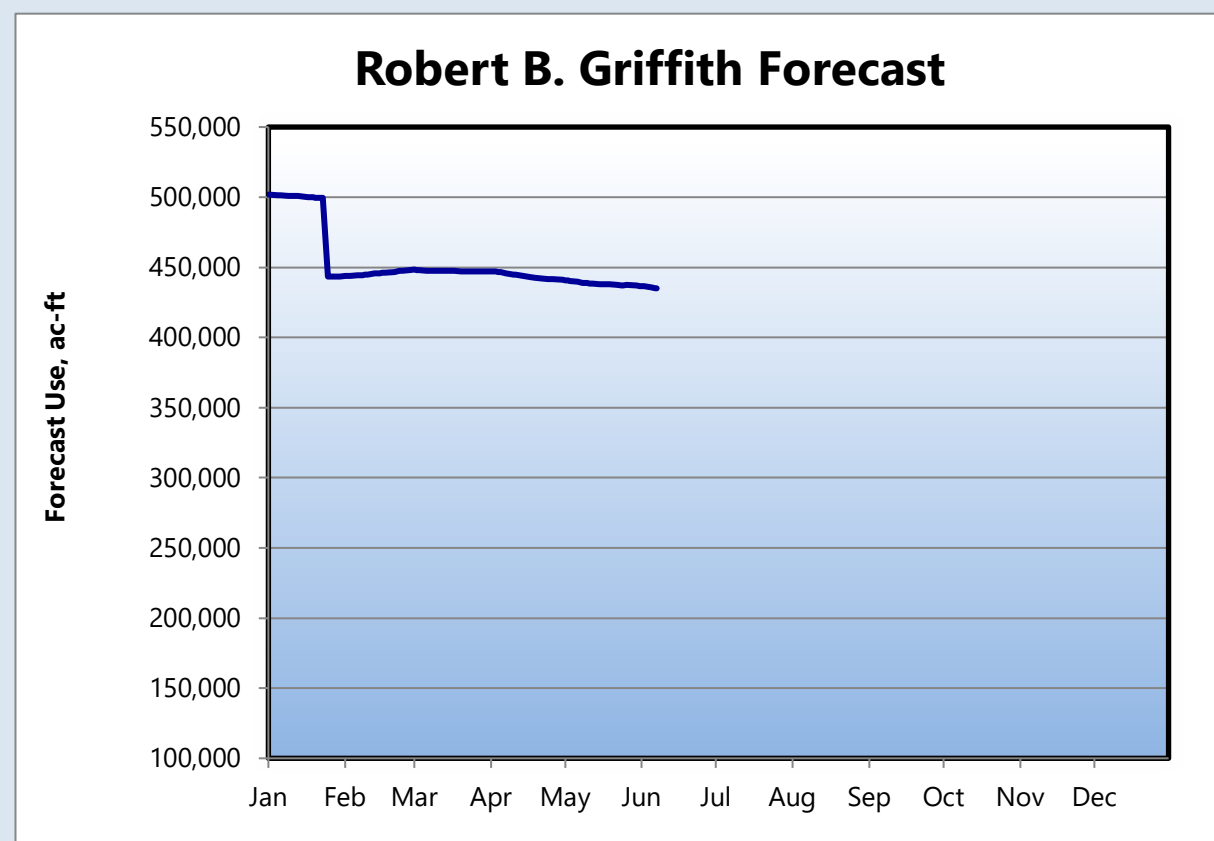
Nevada Basic Apportionment	300,000
Reduction for Tier 2 Shortage ³	(17,000)
Creation of Extraordinary Conservation ICS - SNWA (Estimated) ⁴	(72,527)
Total State Adjusted Apportionment	210,473
Excess to Total State Adjusted Apportionment	0

¹ The State of Nevada has been approved to consumptively use up to 283,000 AF in CY 2023. Forecast Use shown here is based on Nevada's operational projected consumptive use of 223,000 AF.

² SNWA has an approved ICS Plan for the creation of up to 44,000 AF of TC ICS in 2023. The actual amount of TC ICS created by SNWA in 2023 will be based on final accounting and verification.

³ In accordance with Section XI.G.2.D.1.B of the 2007 Interim Guidelines, a Tier 2 Shortage Condition will govern the operation of Lake Mead and the lower Colorado River in 2023, resulting in a 17,000 AF reduction to the state of Nevada's Colorado River basic apportionment.

⁴ SNWA has an approved ICS Plan for the creation of up to 100,000 AF of Extraordinary Conservation (EC) ICS in 2023. The actual amount of EC ICS created by SNWA in 2023 will be based on final accounting and verification. In accordance with Section XI.G.3.B.4 of the 2007 Interim Guidelines and Section IV.B of *Lower Basin Drought Contingency Operations (LBOps)*, the total amount of EC ICS that may be created by the states of Arizona, California, and Nevada in 2023 will be limited to 625,000 AF. Additionally, the total amount of EC ICS, Binational ICS and DCP ICS accumulated in Arizona, California and Nevada's ICS Accounts will be limited in accordance with Section IV.C. of LBOps.



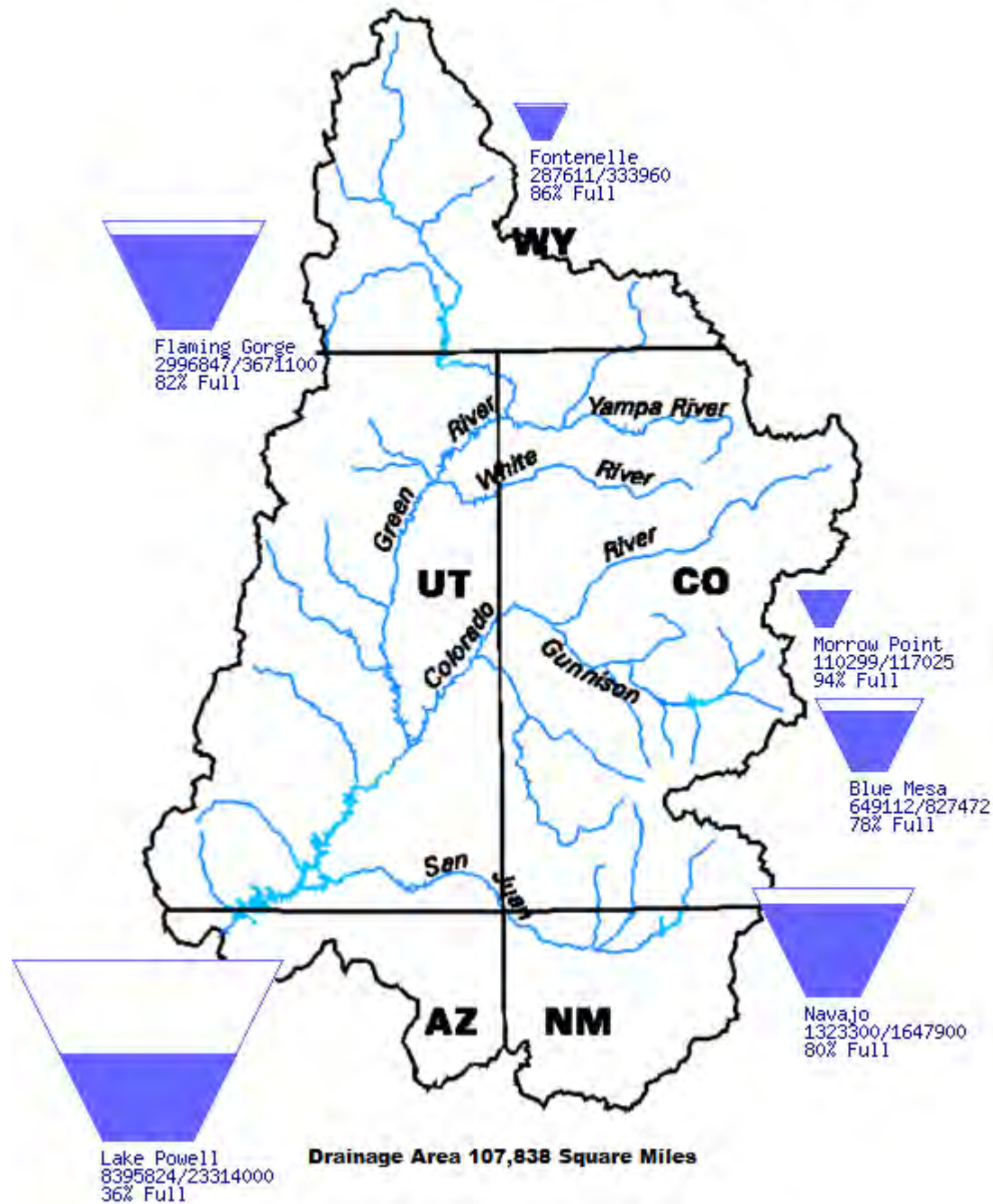
NOTES: Click on Nevada Schedules and Approvals above for incoming diversion schedules and approvals.

Upper Colorado Region Water Resources Group

River Basin Tea-Cup Diagrams

Data Current as of:
06/07/2023

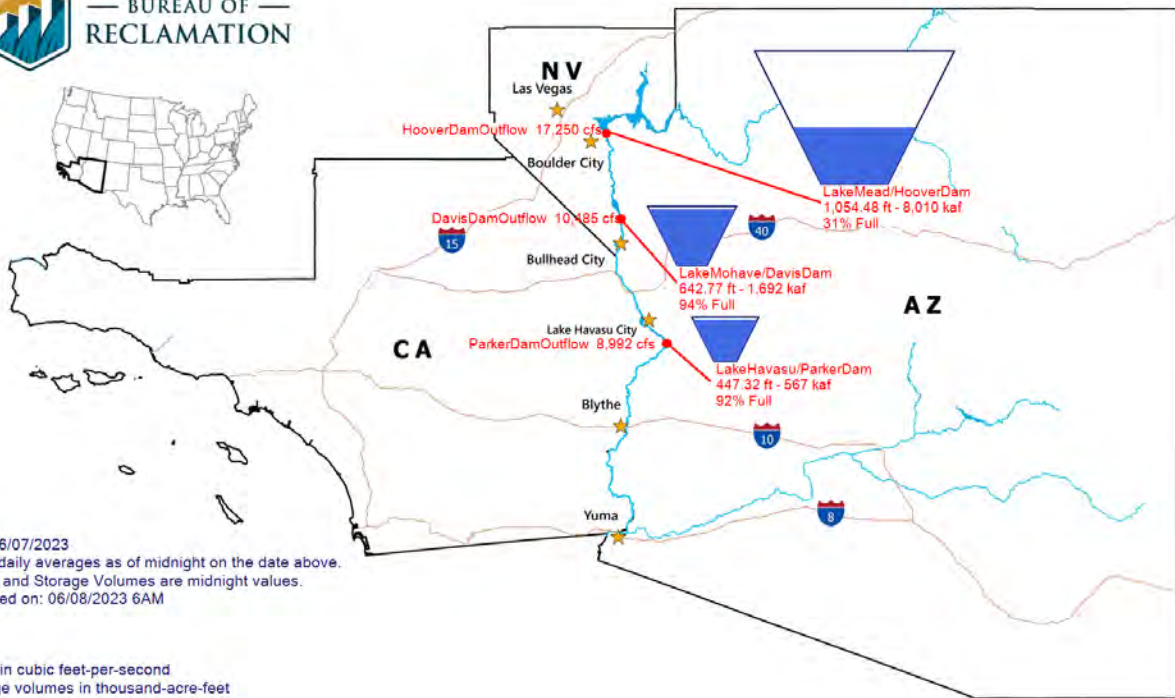
Upper Colorado River Drainage Basin



Lower Colorado River Teacup Diagram



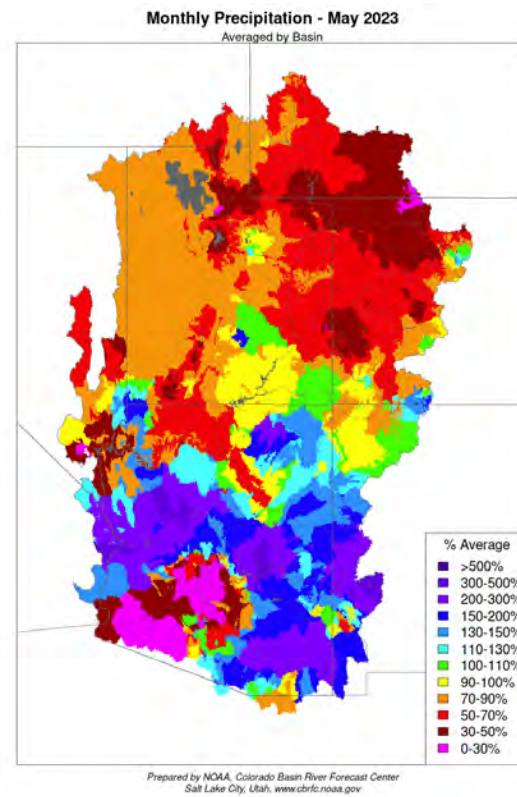
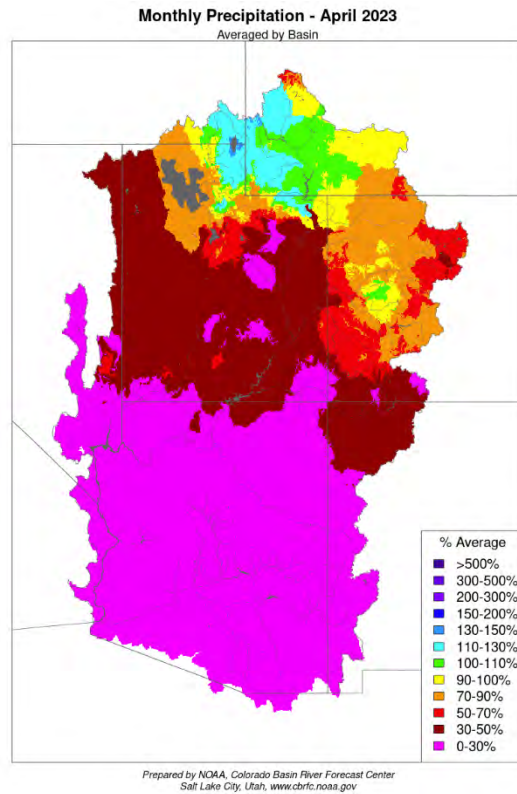
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION



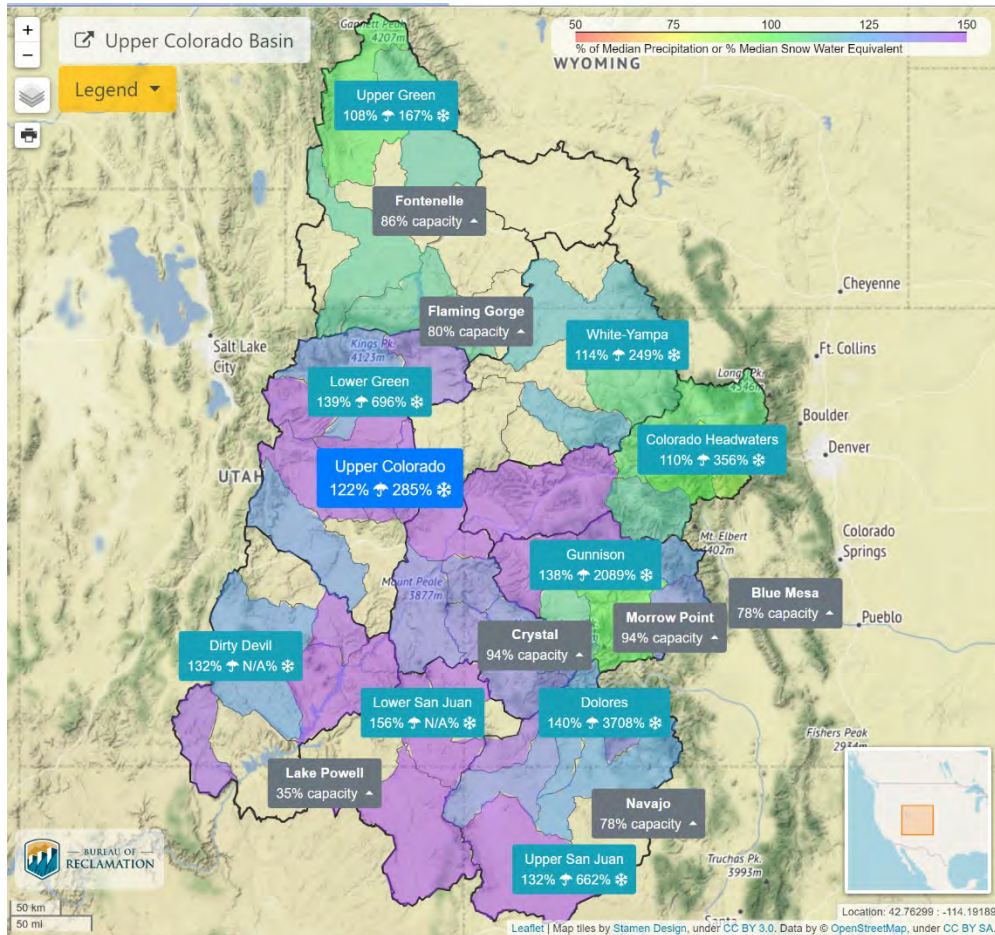
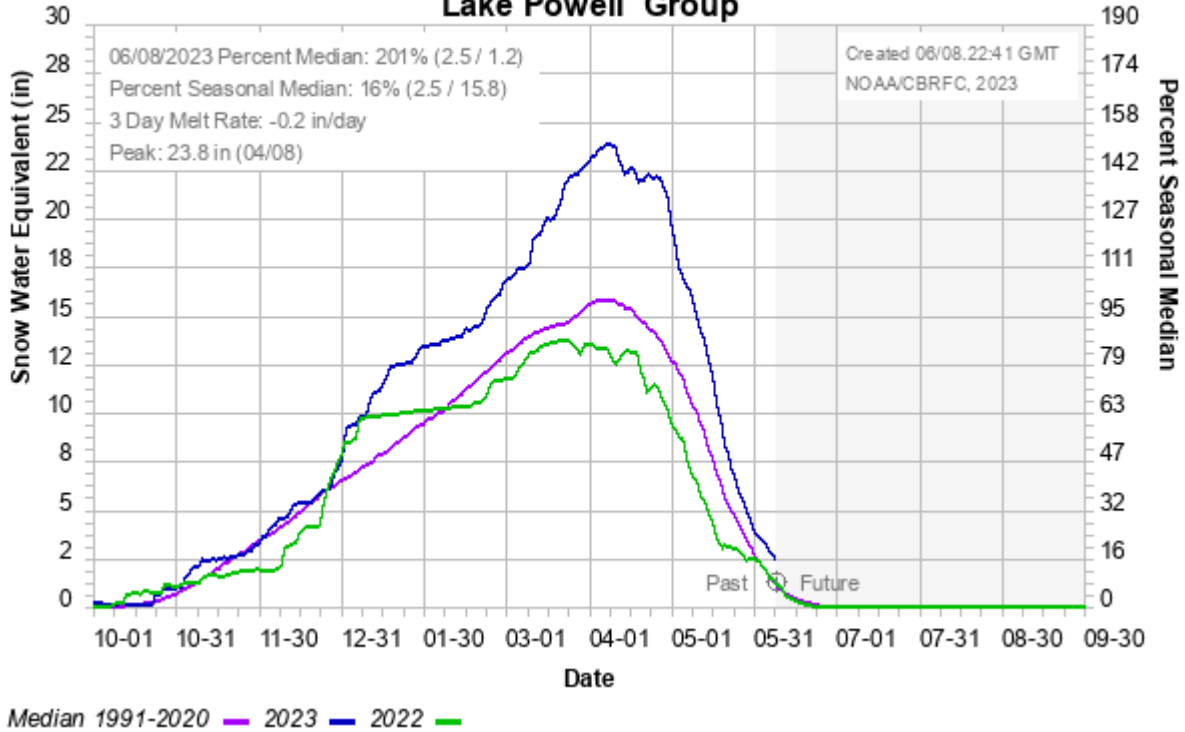
Data for: 06/07/2023
Flows are daily averages as of midnight on the date above.
Elevations and Storage Volumes are midnight values.
Last updated on: 06/08/2023 6AM

LEGEND:
cfs: Flows in cubic feet-per-second
kaf: Storage volumes in thousand-acre-feet
ft: Elevations in feet above mean-sea-level

NOAA National Weather Service Monthly Precipitation Map April and May 2023



Colorado Basin River Forecast Center Lake Powell Group

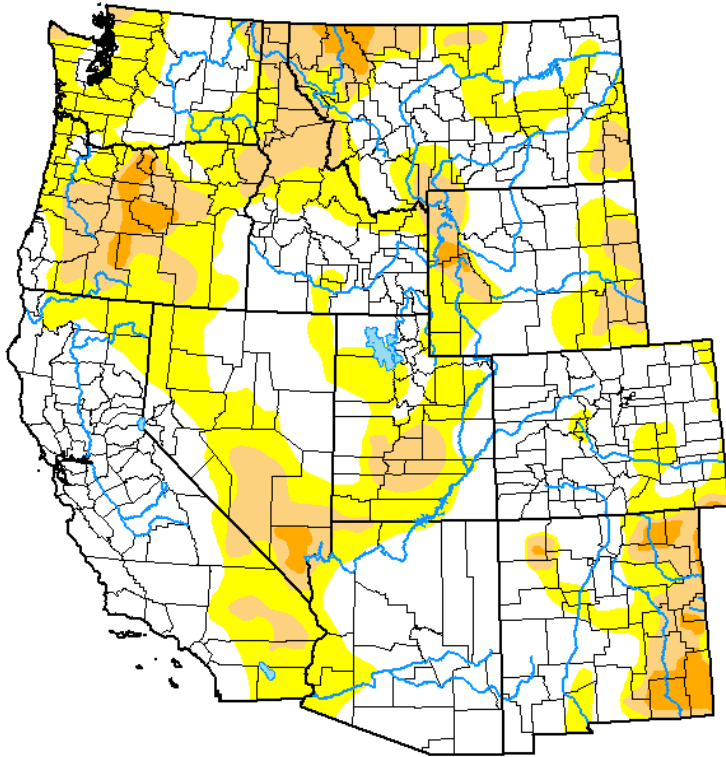


U.S. Drought Monitor West

June 6, 2023

(Released Thursday, Jun. 8, 2023)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	54.88	45.12	15.92	2.72	0.00	0.00
Last Week <i>05-30-2023</i>	52.52	47.48	17.01	3.58	0.08	0.00
3 Months Ago <i>03-07-2023</i>	25.66	74.34	51.08	20.32	2.38	0.15
Start of Calendar Year <i>01-03-2023</i>	12.08	87.92	62.42	38.84	12.41	0.27
Start of Water Year <i>09-27-2022</i>	3.89	96.11	73.90	47.71	19.37	2.63
One Year Ago <i>06-07-2022</i>	6.65	93.35	83.72	63.78	38.15	10.07

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

Lindsay Johnson
National Drought Mitigation Center

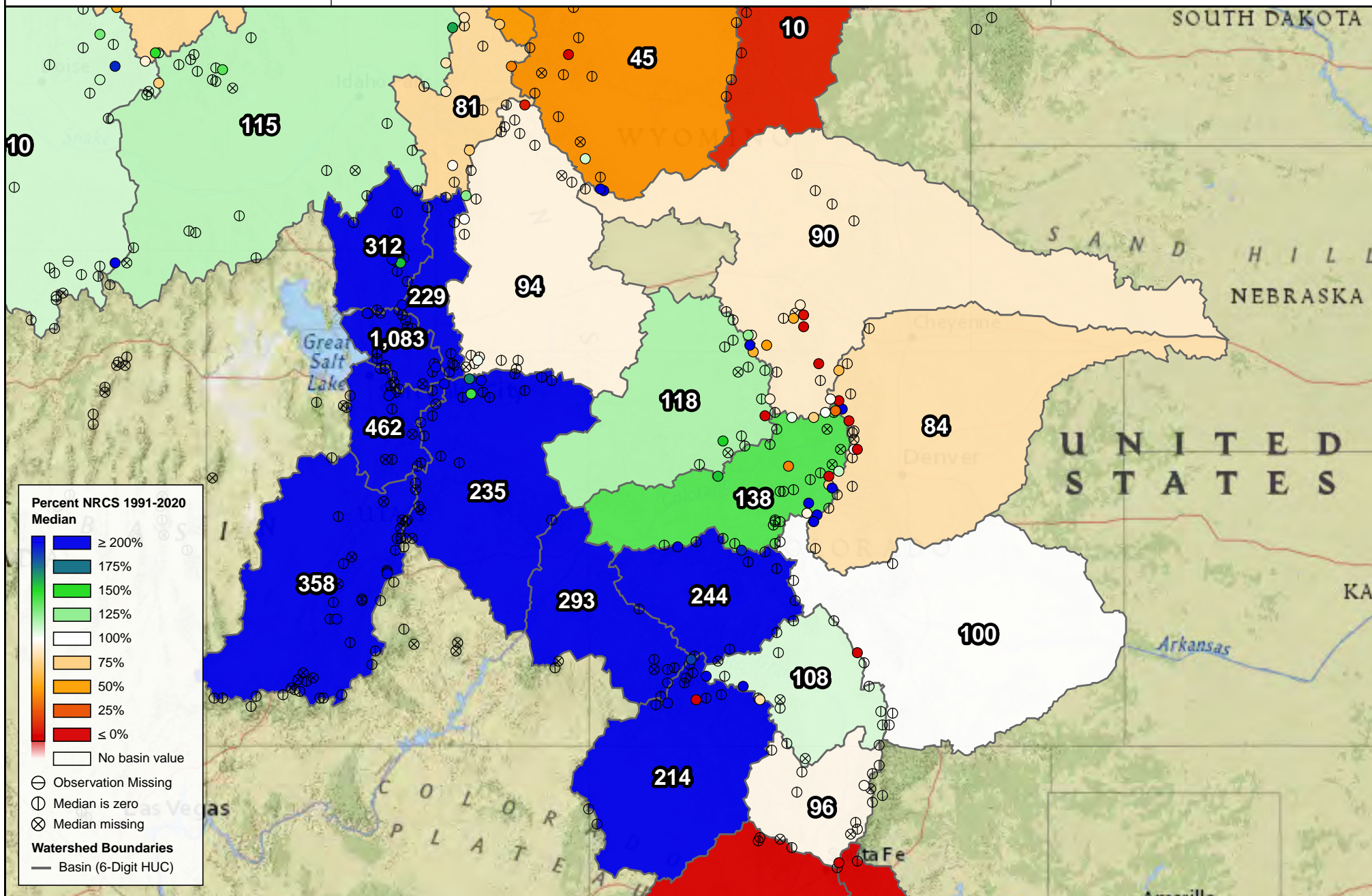


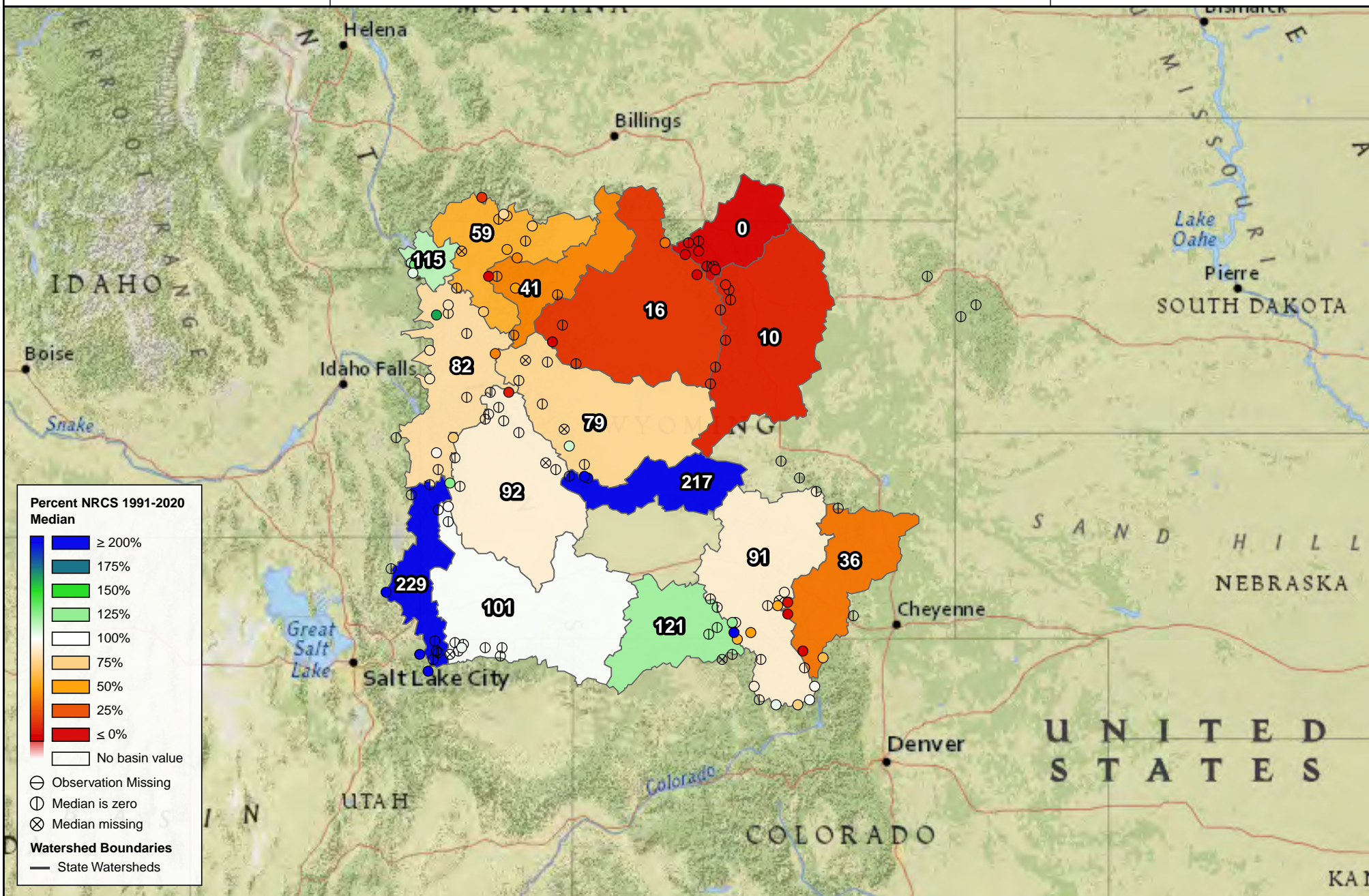
droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Snow Water Equivalent

Percent NRCS 1991-2020 Median

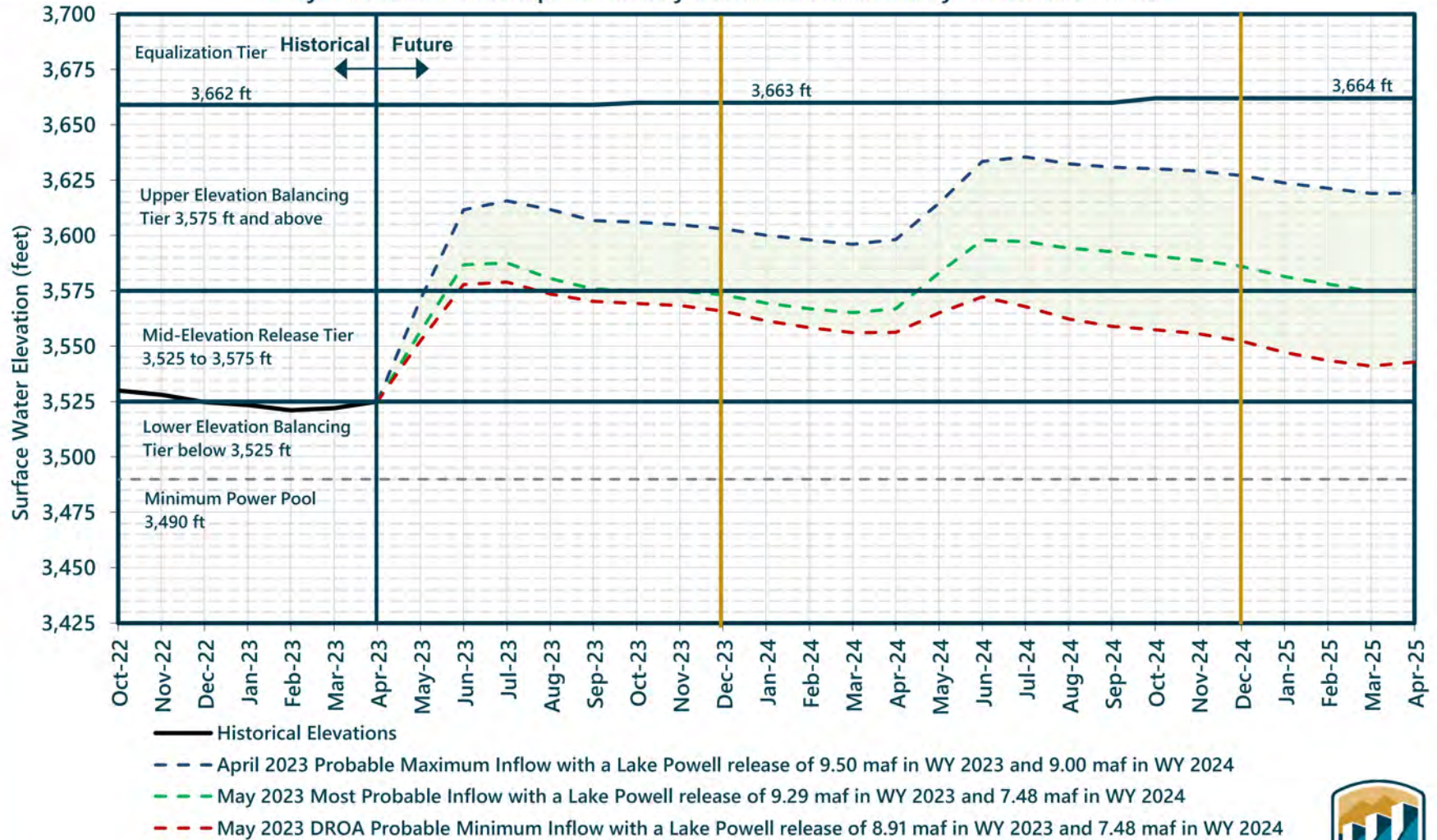
June 1st, 2023





Lake Powell End of Month Elevations¹

Projections from the April and May 2023 24-Month Study Inflow Scenarios



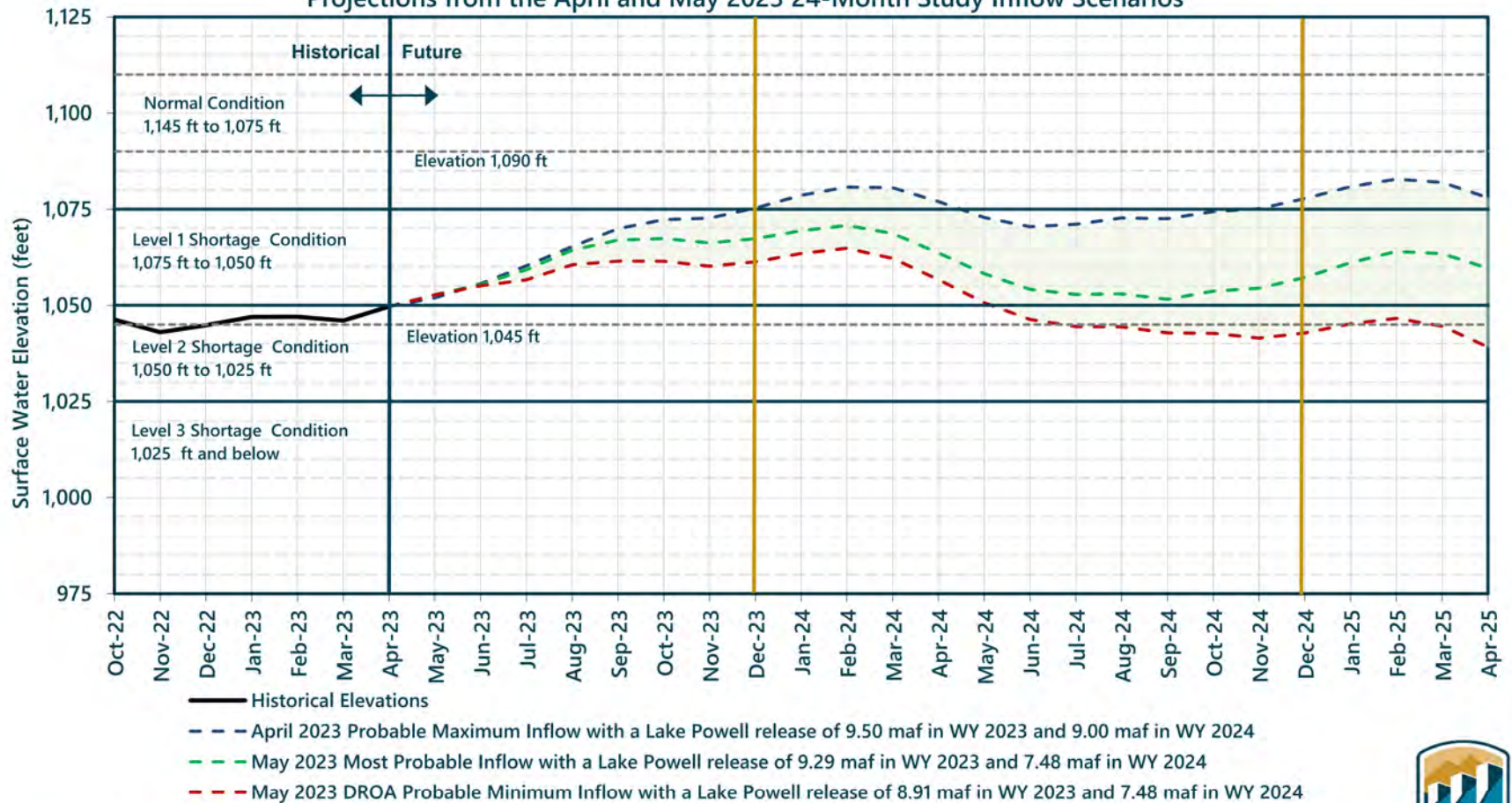
¹ Projected Lake Powell end of month physical elevations from the latest 24-Month Study inflow scenarios.

The Drought Response Operations Agreement (DROA) is available online at: <https://www.usbr.gov/dcp/finaldocs.html>.



Lake Mead End of Month Elevations¹

Projections from the April and May 2023 24-Month Study Inflow Scenarios



¹ Projected Lake Mead end of month physical elevations from the latest 24-Month Study inflow scenarios.
The Drought Response Operations Agreement (DROA) is available online at: <https://www.usbr.gov/dcp/finaldocs.html>.

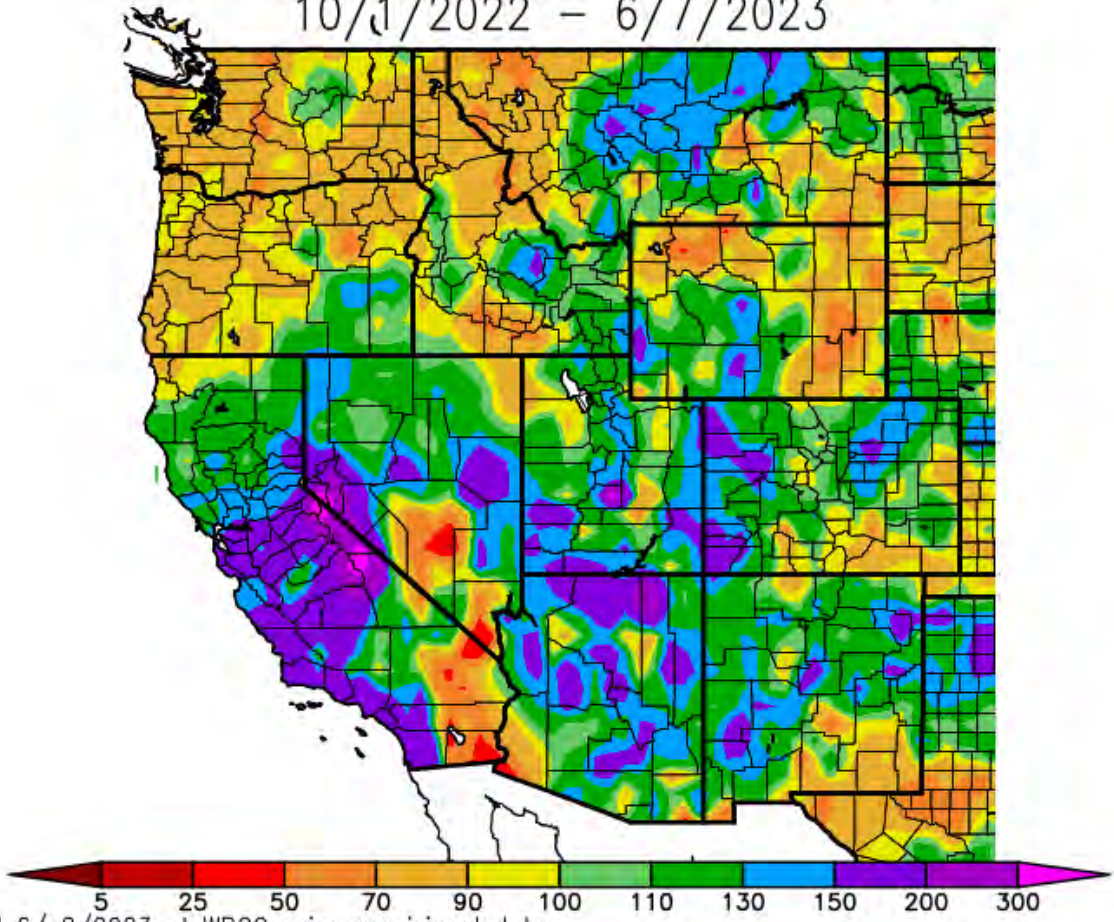


CA Current Conditions

- Statewide precipitation: 138% of average for this date
- Statewide snowpack: 60% of historical April 1st average
- Statewide reservoir storage: 111% of average for this date

As of 6/8/2023

Percent of Average Precipitation (%)
10/1/2022 - 6/7/2023



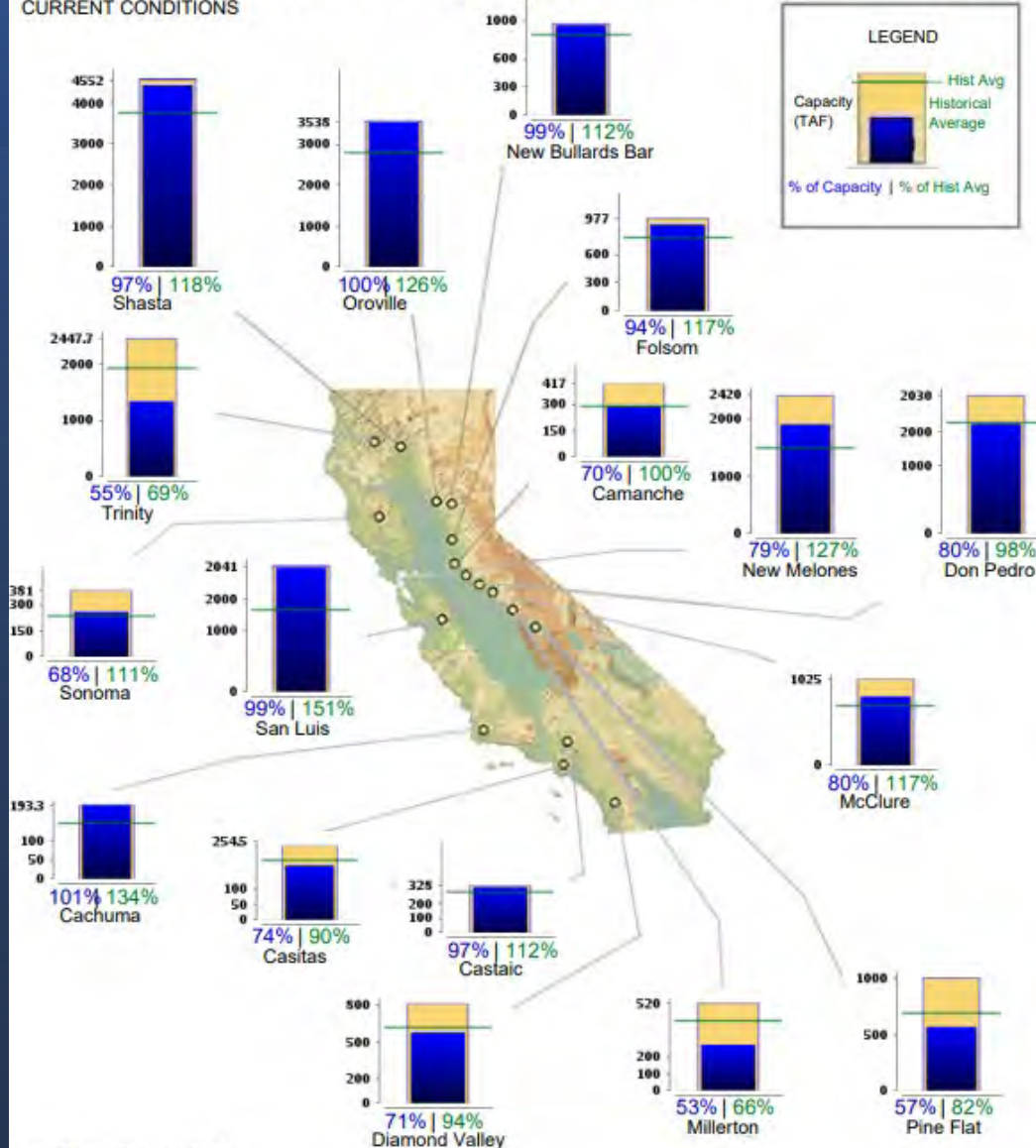
Generated 6/ 8/2023 at WRCC using provisional data.
NOAA Regional Climate Centers



CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS

CALIFORNIA MAJOR WATER SUPPLY RESERVOIRS CURRENT CONDITIONS

Midnight - June 7, 2023





STATEWIDE SNOW WATER CONTENT

CURRENT REGIONAL SNOWPACK FROM AUTOMATED SNOW SENSORS

% of April 1 Average / % of Normal for This Date



NORTH	
Data as of June 8, 2023	
Number of Stations Reporting	24
Average snow water equivalent (Inches)	10.8
Percent of April 1 Average (%)	36
Percent of normal for this date (%)	225

CENTRAL	
Data as of June 8, 2023	
Number of Stations Reporting	41
Average snow water equivalent (Inches)	17.2
Percent of April 1 Average (%)	70
Percent of normal for this date (%)	335

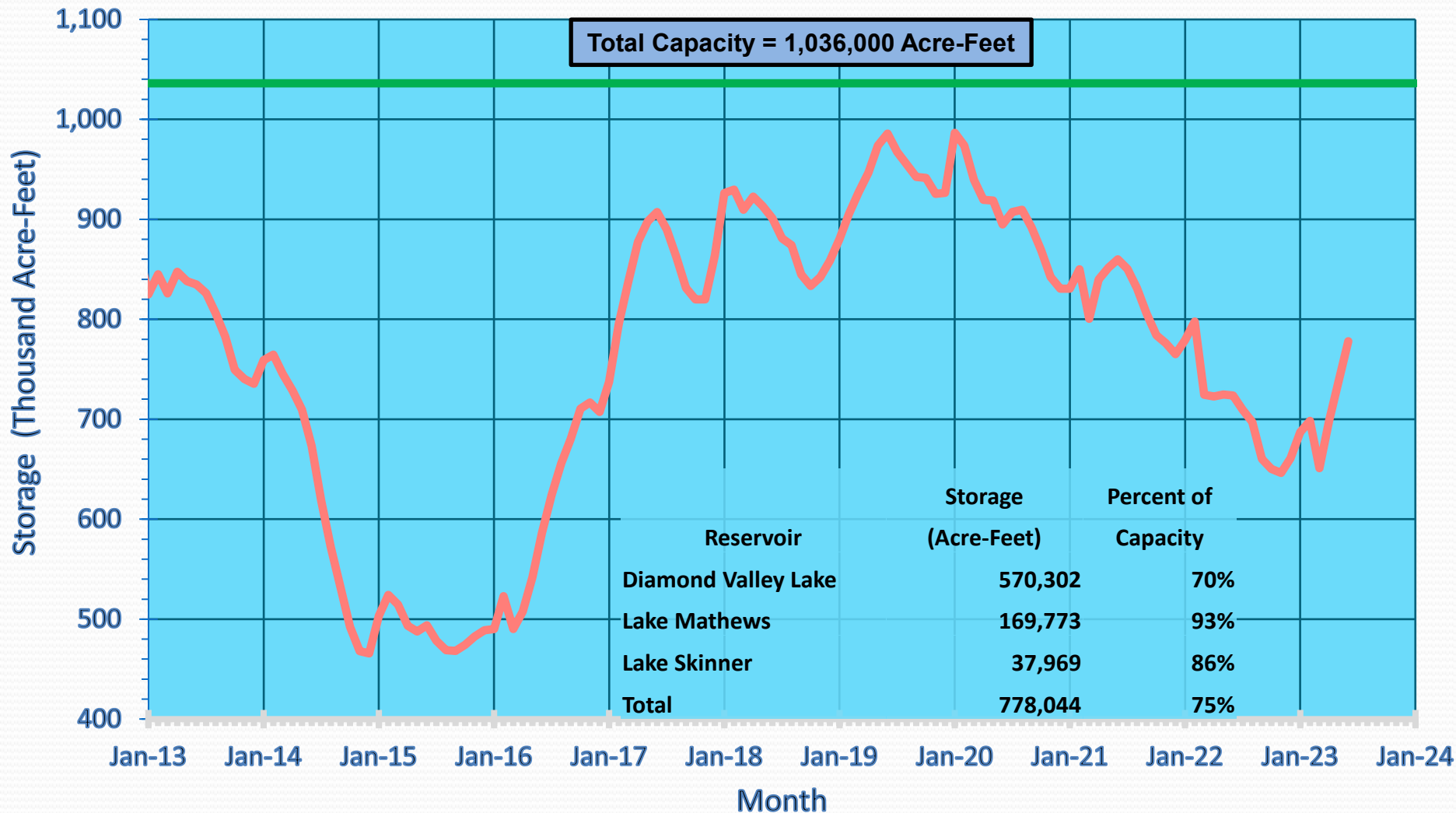
SOUTH	
Data as of June 8, 2023	
Number of Stations Reporting	22
Average snow water equivalent (Inches)	14.3
Percent of April 1 Average (%)	77
Percent of normal for this date (%)	435

STATE	
Data as of June 8, 2023	
Number of Stations Reporting	87
Average snow water equivalent (Inches)	14.7
Percent of April 1 Average (%)	60
Percent of normal for this date (%)	305

Statewide Average: 60% / 305%

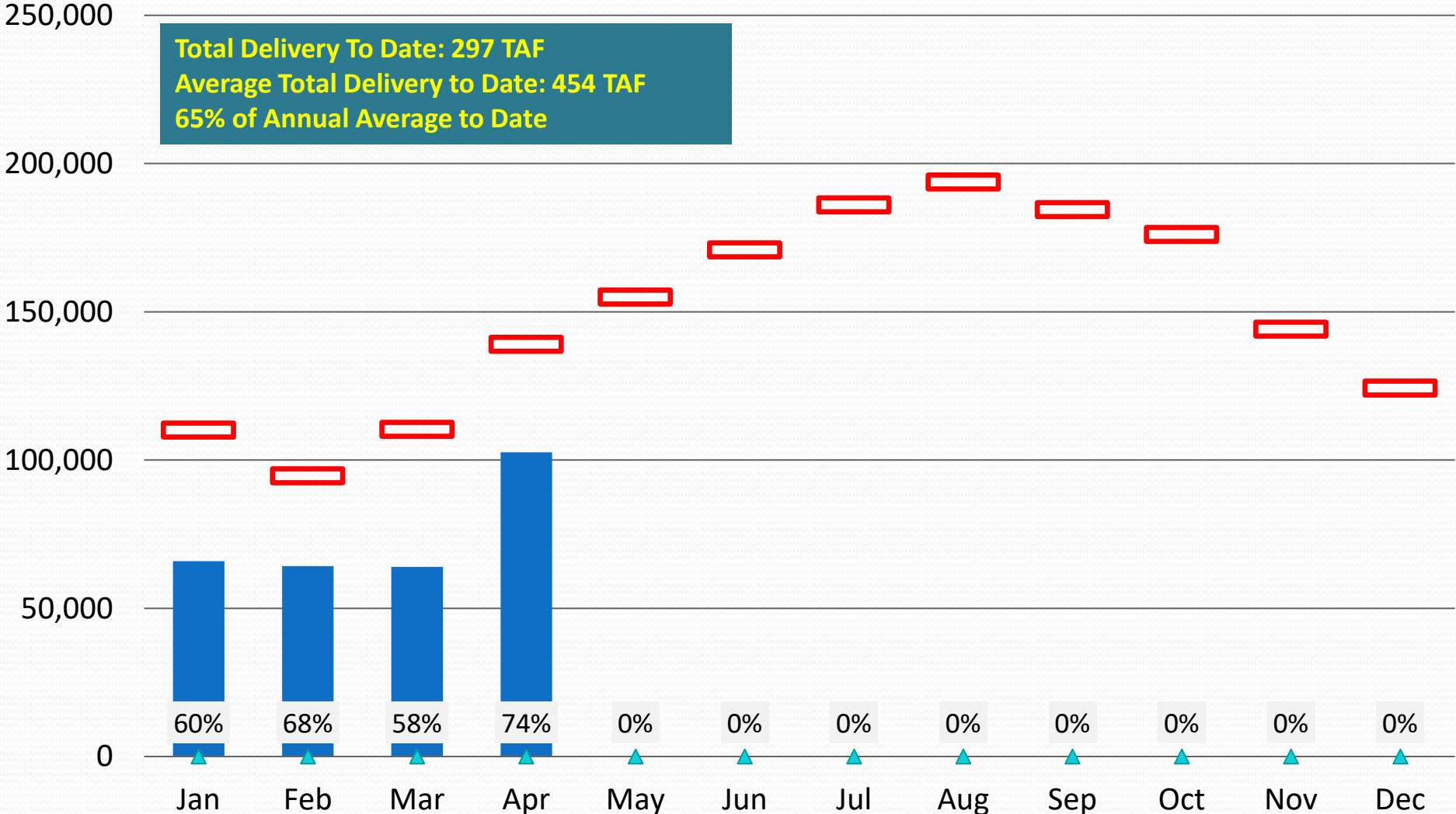
MWD's Combined Reservoir Storage as of June 1, 2023

Lake Skinner, Lake Mathews, and Diamond Valley Lake



2023 Water Deliveries to Agencies (AF)

Total Delivery To Date: 297 TAF
Average Total Delivery to Date: 454 TAF
65% of Annual Average to Date



■ Delivery (AF)

— 10-Year Avg.

▲ % of Monthly Avg.



Colorado River Basin SALINITY CONTROL FORUM

MEMORANDUM 2023-31

GOVERNORS

Katie Hobbs, AZ
Gavin Newsom, CA
Jared Polis, CO
Joe Lombardo, NV
Michelle Lujan Grisham, NM
Spencer Cox, UT
Mark Gordon, WY

TO: Forum Members

FROM: Don A. Barnett, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Draft Legislative Language to Change Cost Share Requirements

FORUM MEMBERS

DATE: May 31, 2023

Arizona

Clint Chandler
Patrick Dent
Erin Jordan

California

Joaquin Esquivel
Bill Hasencamp, Chair
Jessica Neuwerth

Colorado

Rebecca Mitchell, Vice Chair
Nicole Rowan
David W. Robbins

Nevada

Andrew Burns
Sara Price

New Mexico

Mike Hamman
Rolf Schmidt-Petersen

Utah

Candice Hasenyager
John Mackey
Gawain Snow

Wyoming

Jeff Cowley
Chad Espenscheid
David Waterstreet

Attached hereto please find the draft legislative language to change the cost share requirements in the Program. Meaningful efforts have been made by legislative staff to rewrite the language in a clearer, more straightforward format. The effects of the changes are to change the O&M and the wildlife replacement cost share amounts, as follows:

Paradox –	from 25% to 10%
Grand Valley –	from 25% to 0%
McElmo –	from 30% to 0%
EQIP –	from 30% to 15%

Also, the EQIP piece will be effective in 2024 and the other changes effective in 2026. This matter will be discussed in detail at the upcoming meeting. Also, Bennet's and Feinstein's staff, who have been extremely helpful on this matter, are anxious that we develop a strategy to get legislative support for these changes including letters from the Forum, Governors' offices and/or water agencies and support from our Congressional delegations to the Ag Committee's leadership. Please come to the Forum meeting prepared to discuss your state's or agency's ability to provide support for this legislation.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Don A. Barnett

Attachment

226 South 200 West
Farmington, UT 84025
(801) 292-4663

dbarnett@barnettwater.com
www.coloradoriversalinity.org

cc: Work Group



May 22, 2023

Contact: Lisa Lien-Mager — 916-407-6279 Lisa.Lien-Mager@resources.ca.gov

Jessica Neuwerth — 818-254-3200 jneuwerth@crb.ca.gov

California Backs Consensus Plan to Bolster the Colorado River

GLENDALE, CA — Colorado River Board of California Chairman JB Hamby issued the following statement regarding the [Lower Basin Plan](#) submitted by the representatives of California, Arizona and Nevada to the Bureau of Reclamation that will conserve three million acre-feet of Colorado River water through 2026.

“California worked hard with our Basin States partners to achieve consensus among all seven states to protect the Colorado River system for the duration of the current guidelines,” said Hamby, who also serves as California’s Colorado River Commissioner.

A [letter from all seven Colorado River Basin states](#) requested that Reclamation analyze the Lower Basin Plan as an action alternative under the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (Draft SEIS), provide sufficient time to fully analyze the plan consistent with applicable law, and allow for an appropriate public comment period. The Draft SEIS evaluates potential near-term modifications to the 2007 Interim Shortage Guidelines that govern the operation of the Colorado River’s major dams and reservoirs through 2026.

Hamby added, “California and our partners in Arizona and Nevada have developed a plan that results in better protection for the Colorado River system than other action alternatives identified in the current Draft SEIS released last month by Reclamation. The Lower Basin Plan will generate unprecedented volumes of conservation that will build elevation in Lake Mead, make strategic use of the improved hydrology, and build upon partnerships within and among states, urban water agencies, agricultural irrigation districts, and Basin Tribes who rely upon and share the Colorado River.”

In recent months, California’s Colorado River contractors and entitlement holders have closely collaborated with the Bureau of Reclamation to develop agreements that will conserve up to 1.6 million acre-feet of water through 2026 for the benefit of the Colorado River System as part of Reclamation’s Lower Colorado River Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program, funded through the Inflation Reduction Act, and through an existing Intentionally Created Surplus extraordinary conservation water storage program. Each of California’s Colorado River contractors and entitlement holders, including The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Imperial Irrigation District, Palo Verde Irrigation District, Coachella Valley Water District, Bard Water District, and the Fort Yuma

Quechan Indian Tribe, will conserve water to remain in the Colorado River system as part of the plan.

“California’s water users will work quickly to implement conservation that will protect the system in the near term. At the same time, California will work to address the systemic challenges facing the Colorado River and will begin collaborating with the Basin States, Basin Tribes, and the Bureau of Reclamation to develop sustainable guidelines for the long-term management of the river,” said Hamby.

#

For the past 85 years the Colorado River Board of California's mission has been to protect the interests and rights of the State of California, its agencies and citizens, in the water and power resources of the Colorado River System.

The Colorado River Board represents the State of California and its Members in discussions and negotiations with the Colorado River Basin States, federal, state and local governmental agencies and Mexico regarding the management of the Colorado River.



The Colorado River Basin States Representatives of Arizona, California, and Nevada

May 22, 2023

Sent via Electronic Mail

Camille Calimlim Touton, Commissioner
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
1849 C Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Commissioner Touton:

The Colorado River Basin States Representatives of Arizona, California, and Nevada (Lower Division States) have reached an agreement to conserve at least an additional 3 million acre-feet (MAF) of Colorado River Water in the Lower Basin by the end of calendar year 2026, with at least 1.5 MAF of that total being conserved by the end of calendar year 2024 (Lower Basin Plan). We request the Lower Basin Plan be fully analyzed as an action alternative in the Bureau of Reclamation's (Reclamation) Near-Term Colorado River Operations Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (Draft SEIS), published last month.

Throughout this process, and as affirmed at the time the Draft SEIS was announced last month, the Lower Division States Representatives remained committed to working together and with Reclamation to develop agreement(s) that meet the purpose and need of the Draft SEIS to "modify guidelines for operation of Glen Canyon and Hoover Dams to address historic drought, historically low reservoirs, and low-runoff conditions in the Basin" (Draft SEIS, Section 1.3). We believe this proposed action alternative both meets the purpose and need of the Draft SEIS and, when analyzed, will be shown to perform equally or better than the action alternatives originally proposed by Reclamation. The Lower Basin Plan does not require any unilateral exercise of federal authority to achieve these levels of conservation.

The terms of the Lower Basin Plan are as follows:

1. This Lower Basin Plan does not require the Secretary to unilaterally exercise her authorities to implement reductions and it does not contemplate any waiver of these authorities to protect the Colorado River system in the future if hydrological conditions require such action.

2. Tier-based reductions and contributions in the remaining interim period (2023 through 2026, inclusive) under this alternative shall be limited to the existing 2007 Interim Guidelines, the Lower Basin DCP, and Minute 323.
3. At minimum, System Conservation (in lieu of additional reductions) achieved in the remaining interim period (2023 through 2026, inclusive) shall be at least 3 million acre-feet (MAF) of which at minimum 1.5 MAF shall be physically conserved by the end of calendar year 2024.
4. In aggregate (understanding that each contract is different and will have user-level limitations), compensated System Conservation shall be mandatory, enforceable, measurable, verifiable, and non-retrievable.
5. System Conservation up to 2.3 MAF will be federally compensated under Pub. L. 117-169 Inflation Reduction Act Title V, Subtitle B, Part 3 “Drought Response and Preparedness” Section 50233 “Drought Mitigation in the Reclamation States” (IRA Funding).
6. The remaining required System Conservation may be in whole or in part compensated by state and/or local entities or be uncompensated. To the extent that System Conservation is federally funded with non-“Bucket 1” IRA Funding, such as under “Bucket 2” IRA Funding, or under Pub. L. 117-58 “The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law” Title IX “Western Water Infrastructure”, that System Conservation may offset up to 0.2 MAF of the remaining required System Conservation.
7. All or a portion of the remaining required System Conservation may be offset with ICS created in 2023-2026 and for any such ICS the creator cannot order delivery of, transfer, or assign the ICS at any time before December 31, 2026. Because of the limitation on ICS storage space, some DCP ICS will become system water, which is an uncompensated addition of system water.
8. If the April 24-month Study “Minimum Probable” model in 2024, 2025, and 2026 indicates that the respective end of year elevation in Lake Mead will fall below 1,025 feet, the Lower Division States will have 45 calendar days from the publication of the respective 24-month Study to propose, after consultation with the Upper Basin States, an implementable plan to Reclamation to protect Lake Mead from reaching an elevation of 1,000 feet. If such an acceptable plan, as determined by Reclamation, is not developed, Reclamation may independently take action(s) to protect 1,000 feet.
9. Glen Canyon Dam operations in the remaining interim period (2023 through 2026, inclusive) under this alternative shall be consistent with the existing 2007 Interim Guidelines and the DCPs except as modified in this term 9.

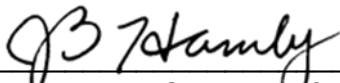
Subject to the Secretary's authorities described in term 1, Lake Powell releases will occur as specified under the 2007 Interim Guidelines except that when Lake Powell is in either the Middle Elevation Release Tier or Lower Elevation Balancing Tier, a mid-year adjustment can be made to reduce the release to an annual volume not less than 6.0 MAF if there is a possibility of the Minimum Probable scenario in any 24-month study of Lake Powell dropping below 3,500 feet in any of the upcoming 12 months that cannot be avoided by modifying monthly release volumes without changing the annual release volume.

This letter is being submitted concurrent with a letter from all Seven Basin States requesting a suspension of the current Draft SEIS comment period to fully analyze this proposed action alternative, the continuation of our productive relationships with Mexico, an expedient start to the development of the post-2026 operating guidelines, and a firm recognition that recent hydrology does not override the longer term challenges the basin is facing. The Lower Division States stand ready to support these efforts and look forward to our continued cooperation with Reclamation and the Upper Division States on these critical actions.

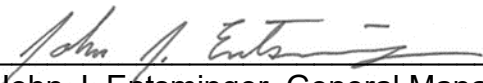
Respectfully,



Thomas Buschatzke, Director
Arizona Department of Water Resources



J.B. Hamby, Chairman & Commissioner
Colorado River Board of California



John J. Entsminger, General Manager
Southern Nevada Water Authority



**Colorado River Basin States Representatives of
Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming**

May 22, 2023

Sent via Electronic Mail

The Honorable Camille Calimlim Touton, Commissioner
Bureau of Reclamation
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Commissioner Touton:

The seven Colorado River Basin States Representatives write to inform you that Arizona, California and Nevada (Lower Division States) have notified Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming (Upper Division States)(collectively the Seven States) that the Lower Division States have reached agreement on a plan to conserve at least an additional 3 million acre-feet (MAF) of Colorado River water in the Lower Basin by the end of calendar year 2026 with at least 1.5 MAF of that total being conserved by the end of calendar year 2024 (Lower Basin Plan).

The comment period for the Bureau of Reclamation's (Reclamation) Near-Term Colorado River Operations Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (Draft SEIS) expires soon, and all Seven States acknowledge that there is insufficient time before that expiration for the Upper Division States to thoroughly review the Lower Basin Plan. Accordingly, nothing in this letter should be construed as an Upper Basin endorsement of the Lower Basin Plan. However, building on the historical success of the Seven States working together to solve the challenges confronting the Colorado River, the Seven States support the submission by the Lower Division States of the Lower Basin Plan to Reclamation concurrent with the submission of this correspondence. Further, all Seven States request that Reclamation analyze the Lower Basin Plan as an action alternative under the Draft SEIS. Therefore, we request that Reclamation provide sufficient time to fully analyze the Lower Basin Plan, consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and applicable law, and to provide the public with the opportunity to comment on that analysis. We recommend a suspension of the current Draft SEIS comment period, which is scheduled to close on May 30, 2023, and that Reclamation recirculate the Draft SEIS with the Lower Basin Plan as an action alternative as soon as possible with the goal of reaching a Record of Decision by this fall.

Finally, the Seven States recognize that having one good winter does not solve the systemic challenges facing the Colorado River. We strongly encourage

Reclamation to advance the process for the development of new operating guidelines replacing the 2007 Colorado River Interim Guidelines for Lower Basin Shortages and the Coordinated Operations for Lake Powell and Lake Mead at the end of 2026. We request that Reclamation publish the Notice of Intent (NOI) for the Environmental Impact Statement related to the post-2026 guidelines no later than June 30, 2023, so that all parties can focus their resources on the development of the post-2026 guidelines while Reclamation concurrently takes all necessary actions to complete the current Draft SEIS process provided for above.

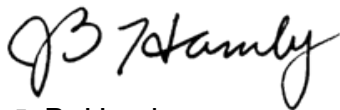
Respectfully,



Thomas Buschatzke
Governor's Representative
State of Arizona



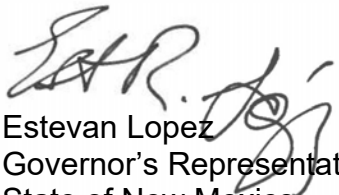
Rebecca Mitchell
Governor's Representative
State of Colorado



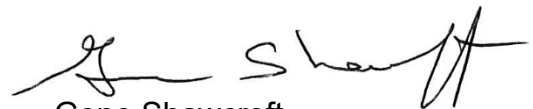
J. B. Hamby
Governor's Representative
State of California



John J. Entsminger
Governor's Representative
State of Nevada



Estevan Lopez
Governor's Representative
State of New Mexico



Gene Shawcroft
Governor's Representative
State of Utah



Brandon Gebhart
Governor's Representative
State of Wyoming



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
P.O. Box 61470
Boulder City, NV 89006-1470



IN REPLY REFER TO:

LCB-4000
2.2.4.23

VIA ELECTRONIC & OVERNIGHT MAIL

May 24, 2023

To: Interested Parties

Subject: Funding Opportunity for Voluntary Participation in the Lower Colorado River Basin Conservation and Efficiency Program

Greetings:

The purpose of this letter is to follow-up on the announcement by the Secretary of the Interior on September 22, 2022, of the Lower Colorado River Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program (LC Conservation Program). The Department of the Interior (Department) previously established a first phase of LC Conservation Program for short-term system conservation contributions to Lake Mead, via letter dated October 12, 2022. The purpose of this letter is to request long-term durable system efficiency improvement project proposals that result in water conservation benefiting the lower Colorado River System and its water users.

The LC Conservation Program reflects the commitment made by the Department on August 16, 2022, to address the drought crisis with prompt and responsive actions and investments to ensure the entire Colorado River System (System) can function properly and support all who rely on it. Prolonged drought and low runoff conditions accelerated by climate change have led to historically low water levels in Lakes Powell and Mead. Over the last two decades, Department leaders have engaged with Basin partners on various drought response operations. Given that water levels may continue to decline, additional action is needed to protect the Colorado River System and prevent the reservoirs from falling to critically low elevations, threatening water deliveries and power production. The historic funding committed by the Biden-Harris Administration in the Inflation Reduction Act of August 16, 2022. Public Law 117-169, 136 Stat. 2053. Part 3- Drought Response and Preparedness, Sec 50233 Drought Mitigation In the Reclamation States provides \$4 billion specifically for water management and conservation efforts in the Colorado River Basin and other basins experiencing comparable levels of long-term drought.

The LC Conservation Program is intended to provide new opportunities to fund system conservation and efficiencies in the Lower Colorado River Basin that lead to durable long-term solutions for the Colorado River System. These opportunities shall result in additional volumes of water remaining in Lake Mead. To meet eligibility requirements, the proposal must:

- result in quantifiable, verifiable water savings in Lake Mead that is based on a consumptive use reduction and recent history of use, and/or
- add new water to the applicant’s water supply enabling a consumptive use reduction of Colorado River water.
- be submitted by Colorado River water delivery contract or entitlement holders or Central Arizona Project water delivery contract or subcontract holders, including partnerships with such entities (in such cases the entitlement holder will still be the applicant).
- demonstrate viability for full implementation, including by demonstrating financial and technical capability of the entity for initial implementation and long-term Operations, Maintenance and Replacement (OM&R).
- provide for monitoring to ensure the proposed benefits to the system are realized.

Additionally, the Department will consider other factors in the proposal to create a complementary program of projects throughout the Lower Colorado River Basin, including but not limited to the following:

- Amount and duration of water savings for Lake Mead.
- Amount and duration of any other anticipated water savings.
- Cost effectiveness.
- Environmental benefits.
- Innovation in technology or program approach.
- Reducing dependency on Colorado River water.
- Benefits to disadvantaged communities, economic or otherwise.
- Previous participation in existing conservation programs and/or “Bucket 1” of the LC Conservation Program.
- Partnerships.
- Leveraging other sources of funding.
- Addressing the Bureau of Reclamation’s legal and contractual obligations or supporting other government initiatives.
- Readiness to proceed and timeliness of benefits achieved.

If you are interested in participating in the LC Conservation Program Efficiency projects, submit your proposal electronically by July 19, 2023, to:

LC Conservation Program Team
 Email: LCBEfficiency@usbr.gov

To the extent permissible by applicable law all proposals will remain confidential until the plan agreements are executed, thus preserving the competitive nature of the selection process.

Should you have questions regarding the LC Conservation Program, or wish to discuss plan concepts, please contact LCBEfficiency@usbr.gov. Individuals in the United States, who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or Tele-Braille) to access telecommunication relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

Sincerely,

David Palumbo
Deputy Commissioner for Operations
Bureau of Reclamation

Enclosures (2)
cc: On next page.

cc: Christopher S. Harris
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Anne Castle
Federal Appointee to the Commission,
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Melvin Baker
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Chairman
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Continued on next page.

cc: Continued from previous page.

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Gregory Anderson Sr. Chairperson
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Sacramento, CA 95825-1898

(w/ encl to each)



— BUREAU OF — RECLAMATION

ENCLOSURE 1

Requirements for Lower Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Project Proposals

A. Program Objectives

The Lower Colorado River Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program (LC Conservation Program) is intended to provide new opportunities for long-term durable system efficiency improvements that result in water conservation benefitting the Lower Colorado River System, and its water users. The Bureau of Reclamation is requesting proposals describing Lower Colorado River Basin long-term durable system efficiency projects that meet the following objectives:

- Results in quantifiable and verifiable reductions in consumptive use of Colorado River water having a recent history of use, resulting in additional volumes of water remaining in Lake Mead.
- Demonstrates viability for full implementation of the funded projects, including by demonstrating financial and technical capability of the entity for initial implementation and long-term Operations, Maintenance and Replacement (OM&R).
- Monitors implementation to ensure the proposed benefits to the system are realized.

B. Eligible Projects

Colorado River water delivery contract or entitlement holders and Central Arizona Project (CAP) water delivery contract or sub-contract holders, including partnerships with such entities, are eligible to apply. In the case of partnership proposals, the entitlement holder must be the applicant. The conserved Colorado River System water will not accrue to the benefit or use of any individual Colorado River water user.

Funding will be for project implementation, not OM&R. Project implementation can include planning and environmental compliance costs.

Projects must comply with all relevant laws, regulations and policies.

Types of projects that might be eligible include, *but are not limited to*:

- Projects that line canals, including projects that rehabilitate aging or functionally compromised water conveyance systems.
- Agricultural upgrades and innovations, whether in technology or management.
- Urban water efficiency projects.
- Non-functional turf replacement.
- Water storage projects that allow for operational flexibilities or capturing new sources of water i.e., re-regulating reservoirs or basins.
- New technology, or existing technology used in new ways.
- Creative approaches to water markets, auctions, and/or crop switching with verifiable water savings.

In addition to traditional projects, innovation is encouraged.

C. Proposal Requirements

The LC Conservation Program proposals must include the following information:

- Project description.
- Location within the Colorado River Basin.
- The estimated amount of Colorado River System water to be conserved per year and over the life of the proposed plan.
 - Please describe how System water conserved is based on a recent history of use (not entitlement).
- Methodology for estimated consumptive use reduction and supporting information that documents the estimate.
- Description of how the proponent will verify and document the consumptive use reduction on an annual or more frequent basis, as appropriate.
- Amount of time required before system conservation begins to be stored in Lake Mead, and the duration of that benefit.
- Total amount of project cost.
- Project Budget.
- Estimated cost per acre-foot of conserved water (on either an annual basis or other proposed period of plan operation) and economic explanation of the proposed cost.
- Complete description of how the proposed plan will ensure that the amount of conserved water to remain in Lake Mead will not be ordered by other entitlement holder(s), for example, through third party consents or forbearance agreements.
- Any additional information deemed helpful to explain and aid understanding of the proposal.

- Please flag any trade secrets and financial information that should be kept private, should proposals be made available to the public.
- Please note whether you have previously participated in existing conservation programs and/or “Bucket 1” of the Lower Colorado Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program.

Proposals should be submitted electronically to LCBEfficiency@usbr.gov no later than July 19, 2023.

D. Technical Proposal Considerations

Address each of the applicable considerations and sub-considerations in the order presented to assist in the complete and accurate evaluation of the proposal. Proposals should clearly demonstrate how the project will accomplish the Program Objectives listed in Section A.

Consideration A – Quantifiable Water Savings

1) Describe the anticipated consumptive use reduction.

For projects that will conserve Colorado River water, please state the estimated amount of water expected to be conserved in Lake Mead as a direct result of this project, and the quantification methodology.

- Please include a specific quantifiable water savings estimate.
- Please specify the anticipated savings in acre-feet per year to remain in Lake Mead as a result of this conservation. Include annual (acre-feet per year) as well as total savings. (Note: if cost-shared, also include the total amount of Colorado River water conserved in acre-feet.)
- Please specify the period of years for which the proposal will create annual system conservation in Lake Mead.

If savings are expressed as a range, please explain the basis for the variability.

2) Describe whether this activity would impact any downstream users.

3) Describe how the reduction in consumptive use will be verified.

Explain what documentation will be provided to Reclamation to verify the reduction in consumptive use on an annual or more frequent basis.

4) Innovation in technology or project approach.

If the project includes an innovation in technology or project approach, please explain the extent to which it is innovative and will advance knowledge to support other water conservation and system efficiency projects. Consider the following:

- Describe the impact of the proposed work on other water conservation and system efficiency projects and/or currently used technologies. The impact can be

measured by the promise of a solution, the problem being addressed, the likelihood for improving the efficiency of water use, and replicability within the Basin.

- b. Clearly state the problem being solved, how the proposed approach differs from current solutions, potential challenges that will be faced throughout the project, and mitigation strategies for these challenges.
- c. Describe prior research on the proposed technology or process and how this prior work supports the need for the proposed project.

5) Reduces dependency on Colorado River water.

If the project will increase the resilience of the Colorado River System through reduced dependence on the River as a source of supply, please explain how this will occur.

Consideration B – Economic and Environmental Benefits

Sub-consideration B1- Cost Effectiveness

The cost per acre-foot of water expected to be conserved in Lake Mead. Please use costs related to the entire Project, not just an individual phase to be constructed. Costs should be provided for the entire Project described in the proposal.

Reclamation will calculate the cost per acre-foot of water produced by the Project using information provided by the Project sponsor(s).

Please provide the following information for this calculation:

- (a) The total estimated construction costs, by year, for the Project (include all previous and planned work) as shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Estimated Construction Costs by Year

Calendar Year	Construction Cost
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

Calendar Year	Construction Cost
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	

- (b) The total estimated or actual costs to plan and design the Project.

- (c) The year the Project will begin to conserve water.
- (d) The projected life (in years) that the project is expected to last.
- (e) The projected time (in years) that the project is expected to conserve water in Lake Mead. Note: The time the project is expected to conserve water should be measured from the time the Project starts conserving water until water is no longer committed to being conserved in Lake Mead.
- (f) Please specify the anticipated savings in acre-feet per year to remain in Lake Mead upon completion of the Project. Include annual (acre-feet per year) as well as total savings. This volume of water must correspond to the costs provided above. If costs are only provided for a portion of the project, then only the water produced by that same portion or phase of the project will be considered.

Sub-consideration No. B2—Environmental Benefits

Does the project provide environmental benefits (for example, ecosystem benefits or benefits to habitat or species), or is it a single purpose activity?

- If the project provides one or both benefits, please describe.
- Provide a qualitative discussion of the economic impact of these benefits.
- Will the project provide water or habitat for Federally listed threatened or endangered species? If so, how?

Consideration C – Disadvantaged Communities

EO 14008 and EO 13985 affirm the advancement of environmental justice and equity for all through the development and funding of programs to invest in disadvantaged or underserved communities. Does the project provide benefits to at least one disadvantaged community? If so, explain and discuss to what extent the project serves disadvantaged communities, and would advance the goal set in EO 14008 for the President’s historic Justice40 Initiative that 40% of the overall benefits of certain federal investments flow to such communities. Geographically defined disadvantaged communities should be identified using the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST) available at <https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/>.¹

The CEJST, established pursuant to EO 14008, is a geospatial mapping tool that identifies areas across the nation where communities are faced with significant burdens. These burdens are organized into eight categories: climate change, energy, health, housing, legacy pollution, transportation, water and wastewater, and workforce development.

¹ See M-23-09 for additional information on identifying disadvantaged communities (which may also be geographically dispersed not just geographically defined, and which include Federally Recognized Tribal entities, whether or not they have land).

Each burden is ranked using percentage thresholds or yes/no indicators and based on this methodology, communities are considered disadvantaged: if it is in a census tract that is (1) at or above the threshold for one or more environmental, climate, or other burdens, and (2) at or above the threshold for an associated socioeconomic burden. In addition, a census tract that is completely surrounded by disadvantaged communities and is at or above the 50% percentile for low income is also considered disadvantaged. Federally Recognized Tribes, including Alaska Native Villages, are also considered disadvantaged communities.

If the project benefits disadvantaged communities as identified by the CEJST or geographically dispersed disadvantaged communities, please describe in detail how this project benefits those communities. Benefits can include, but are not limited to, economic growth opportunities and public health and safety.

Consideration D – Cost-sharing/Partnerships/Obligations

The extent to which the proposed project demonstrates collaborative partnerships and leverages other funding sources. Reclamation will evaluate the benefits of projects based on the cost per acre-foot of system water generated and on the non-federal share of the cost (after excluding the federal funds provided from all sources), while seeking economic parity in investments as appropriate.

- Projects are encouraged to leverage multiple sources of funding through self-funding or in partnership with others (stakeholders, Federal agencies, and/or state agencies).
- Projects are encouraged to be developed in partnership with other community members, such as Tribes, water users, power contractors, non-governmental organizations, industry, and other stakeholders.

- 1. Please describe the partnerships involved in the proposal.** Does the project promote collaborative partnerships to address system conservation? Explain.
- 2. If the project includes cost-sharing, please indicate the federal vs. non-federal portion of the costs.**
- 3. Does the project help address Bureau of Reclamation’s legal and contractual obligations, or support other governmental initiatives?**
 - a. Beyond the water conserved in Lake Mead, does the project help fulfill any of Reclamation’s legal or contractual obligations such as providing water for Tribes, water rights settlements, river restoration, minimum flows, court orders, or other obligations? Explain.
 - b. Does the project implement a regional or state water plan or an integrated resource management plan? Explain.

Consideration E – Readiness to Proceed

The extent to which the proposed project is capable of proceeding upon entering into an agreement. Applications that include a detailed project implementation plan (e.g., estimated

project schedule that shows the stages and duration of the proposed work, including major tasks, milestones, and dates) will receive the greatest consideration under this element.

1. Identify and provide a summary description of the tasks necessary to complete the project. This section should focus on a summary of the major tasks to be accomplished as part of the project.
2. Describe any permits or other administrative approvals that will be required, along with the process for obtaining such.
3. Identify and describe any engineering or design work performed specifically in support of the proposed project.
4. Please also include an estimated project schedule that shows the stages and duration of the proposed work, including major tasks, milestones, and dates. Milestones may include, but are not limited to, the following: complete environmental and cultural compliance; mobilization; begin construction/installation; construction/installation (50% complete); and construction/installation (100% complete).
5. Timing for implementation.
6. Indicate whether your project can be phased, replicated elsewhere, or scaled depending on available funding.

E. Federal Award Information

E.1 Water Contracts Information: Participants will be required to execute a System Conservation Implementation Agreement (SCIA) with Reclamation containing terms and conditions for the design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation of the LC Conservation Program plan, and compensation to the entitlement holder proposing the plan, and setting forth the obligations of the parties. By entering into a SCIA, the participant grants access to Reclamation to perform periodic on-site inspections of the system conservation project. Participants must be in compliance with all applicable Federal, State, and local environmental, cultural, and paleontological resource protection laws and regulations throughout the term of the SCIA. Reclamation's annual *Colorado River Accounting and Water Use Report: Arizona, California, and Nevada* will serve as the basis for documenting the amount of system conservation achieved under the LC Conservation Program.

E.2 Financial Assistance Agreement Information:

E.2.1. Register with the System for Award Management (SAM)

Register on the www.SAM.gov website. The "Help" tab on the website contains User Guides and other information to assist you with registration. Grants.gov also provides detailed instructions. You can also contact the supporting Federal Service Desk for help registering in SAM. Once registered in SAM, entities must renew and revalidate their SAM registration at least once every 12 months from the date previously registered. Entities are strongly encouraged to revalidate their registration as often as needed to ensure their information is up to date and reflects changes that may have been made to the entity's IRS information.

There is no cost to register with SAM.gov. There are third-party vendors who will charge a fee in exchange for registering entities with SAM.gov; **please be aware you can register and request help for free.**

E.2.2. Obtain a UEI Number

You are required to register in SAM.gov prior to submitting a Federal award application and obtain a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). A UEI will be assigned to entities upon registering with SAM.

Note: Reclamation will not make a Federal award to an applicant until the applicant has complied with all applicable UEI and SAM requirements and, if an applicant has not fully complied with the requirements by the time the Reclamation is ready to make an award, Reclamation may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive a Federal award and use that determination as a basis for making a Federal award to another applicant.

E.2.3. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

See the “DOI Standard Terms and Conditions” at <https://www.doi.gov/grants/doi-standard-terms-and-conditions> for the administrative and national policy requirements applicable to Department of the Interior awards.

E.2.4. Automated Standard Application for Payments Registration

All applicants must also be registered with and willing to process all payments through the Department of Treasury Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) system. All recipients with active financial assistance agreements with Reclamation must be enrolled in ASAP under the appropriate Agency Location Code(s) and the DUNS Number prior to the award of funds. If a recipient has multiple DUNS numbers, they must separately enroll within ASAP for each unique DUNS Number and/or Agency. All of the information on the enrollment process for recipients, including the enrollment initiation form, will be sent to you by ASAP staff if selected for award.

Note that if your entity is currently enrolled in the ASAP system with an agency other than Reclamation, you must enroll specifically with Reclamation in order to process payments.

F. Environmental Compliance Information

F.1 Environmental and Cultural Resources Compliance

All Projects being considered for award funding will require compliance with NEPA before any ground-disturbing activity may begin. Compliance with all applicable Federal, state, and local environmental, cultural, and paleontological resource protection laws and regulations is also required. These may include, but are not limited to, the CWA, ESA, NHPA; consultation with potentially affected Tribes; and consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office.

All projects must meet Reclamation requirements for NEPA compliance and will be

responsible for evaluating technical information and ensuring that natural resources, cultural, and socioeconomic concerns are appropriately addressed. Reclamation is solely responsible for determining the appropriate level of NEPA compliance. Further, Reclamation is responsible to ensure that findings under NEPA, and consultations, as appropriate, will support Reclamation's decision on whether to fund a project.

Where environmental or cultural resources compliance requires significant participation by Reclamation, some costs anticipated to be incurred by Reclamation may be added as a line item to the budget during development of the financial assistance agreement and cost shared accordingly. Any costs to the recipient associated with compliance will be identified during the process of developing a final project budget for inclusion in the financial assistance agreement. A portion of Reclamation's estimated cost to complete environmental and cultural compliance activities may be withheld from the initial obligation of Federal funding. After compliance activities are completed, any remaining Federal funding will be obligated to the Agreement.

Note, if mitigation is required to lessen environmental impacts, the applicant may, at Reclamation's discretion, be required to report on progress and completion of these commitments. Reclamation will coordinate with the applicant to establish reporting requirements and intervals accordingly.

Under no circumstances may an applicant begin any ground-disturbing activities (e.g., grading, clearing, and other preliminary activities) on a Project before environmental and cultural resources compliance is complete, and Reclamation explicitly authorizes work to proceed. This pertains to all components of the proposed Project, including those that are part of the applicant's non-Federal cost share. Reclamation will provide a successful applicant with information once such compliance is complete. An applicant that proceeds before environmental and cultural resources compliance is complete may risk forfeiting Reclamation funding under this solicitation.

F.2 Environmental and Cultural Resources Considerations

To allow Reclamation to assess the probable environmental and cultural resources impacts and costs associated with each application, all applicants must respond to the following list of questions focusing on NEPA, ESA, and NHPA requirements. Applicants are to answer the following questions to the best of their knowledge. If any question is not applicable to the project, please explain why. The application should include the answers to the following questions.

- Will the proposed project impact the surrounding environment (e.g., soil [dust], air, water [quality and quantity], animal habitat)? Please briefly describe all earth-disturbing work and any work that will affect the air, water, or animal habitat in the project area. Please also explain the impacts of such work on the surrounding environment and any steps that could be taken to minimize the impacts.
- Is the applicant aware of any species listed or proposed to be listed as a Federal threatened or endangered species, or designated critical habitat in the project area? If so, would they be affected by any activities associated with the proposed project?

- Are there wetlands or other surface waters inside the project boundaries that potentially fall under CWA jurisdiction as “Waters of the United States?” If so, please describe and estimate any impacts the proposed project may have, and any proposed mitigation.
- If the project involves work on an existing asset, when was that asset constructed?
- Will the proposed project result in any modification of or effects to, individual features of an irrigation system (e.g., headgates, canals, or flumes)? If so, state when those features were constructed and describe the nature and timing of any extensive alterations or modifications to those features completed previously.
- Are any buildings, structures, or features in the irrigation district listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places? A cultural resources specialist at the applicant’s local Reclamation office or the State Historic Preservation Office can assist in answering this question.
- Are there any known archeological sites in the proposed project area?
- Will the proposed project have a disproportionate and adverse effect on communities with environmental justice concerns?
- Will the proposed project limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites or result in other impacts on tribal lands?
- Will the proposed project contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area?
- Will the proposed project contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area?

G. Project Proposal Template

This template is suggested for the project proposal. If the application is done in a different format, all the requested information must still be provided.

Application Format and Length

The total template (defined below) shall be limited to a maximum of 25 consecutively numbered pages. If the submission requires information that will exceed 25 pages, please contact the LCB Conservation Team at LCBEfficiency@usbr.gov to request an exemption to this requirement. The font shall be at least 12 points in size and easily readable. Page size shall be 8½ by 11 inches, including charts, maps, and drawings. Margins should be standard 1-inch margins. Oversized pages will not be accepted.

You may submit supplementary materials if needed.

Note: Please flag any trade secrets and financial information that should be kept private, should proposals be made available to the public.

Application Template

Title of Proposed Activity:

Submitting Entity:

- Please note whether the Submitting Entity has previously participated in existing conservation programs and/or “Bucket 1” of the Lower Colorado Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program.

Proposed Project Location:

Background: Provide a general description of the proposed activity as it relates to long-term system conservation and efficiency and the anticipated benefits to be realized by the Colorado River System.

- a. **Technical Project Description:** Describe the project in its entirety. This section shall have sufficient detail to permit a comprehensive evaluation of the proposal. Clearly indicate how the proposal will reduce demand on the Colorado River System.
- b. **Conservation Description:** Describe the amount of Colorado River System water to be conserved per year and over the life of the proposed project. Please describe how the system water conserved is based on a history of use (not entitlement). Provide an estimated cost per acre-foot of the conserved water (either on an annual basis or other proposed period of plan operation). Please include the following:
 1. The methodology for the estimated consumptive use reduction and an economic explanation of the proposed cost. Provide supporting information.
 2. Description of how the proponent will verify and document the consumptive use reduction on an annual or more frequent basis, as appropriate.
 3. The amount of time required before system conservation begins to be stored in Lake Mead, and the duration of that benefit.
 4. Complete description of how the proposed plan will ensure that the amount of conserved water to remain in Lake Mead will not be ordered by other entitlement holder(s), for example, through third party consents or forbearance agreements.
 5. Any additional information deemed helpful to explain and aid understanding of the proposal.
- c. **Technical Proposal Considerations:** Address each of the applicable considerations and sub-considerations in the order presented. See Section D. Technical Proposal Considerations for the information requested in response to the considerations and sub-considerations.

1. Consideration A – Quantifiable Water Savings
 2. Consideration B – Economic and Environmental Benefits
 - i. Sub-consideration B1 – Cost Effectiveness
 - ii. Sub-consideration B2 – Environmental Benefits
 3. Consideration C – Disadvantaged Communities
 4. Consideration D – Cost-sharing/Partnerships/Obligations
 5. Consideration E – Readiness to Proceed
- d. Environmental and Cultural Resources Considerations: Response to questions in Section F.2
- e. Financial Capability: Reclamation will execute a financial assistance agreement once Reclamation determines that there is sufficient evidence and likelihood that non-Federal funds will be available for initial implementation and long-term Operations, Maintenance and Replacement (OM&R). Please provide the following information:
1. The average annual operation and maintenance costs for the life of the Project. Please do not include periodic replacement costs in the operation and maintenance costs. Periodic replacement costs should be provided separately in response to Request (f) below. Note: This is an annual cost—not total cost.
 2. All estimated replacement costs by year as shown in Table 2. If there are multiple replacement costs in one year, or at the same interval, please total them and put them on one line with the estimated year or interval of the replacement.

Table 2. Replacement Costs by Year

Description of Replacement Requirement	Year	Cost
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		

- f. Project Budget Description: Describe the proposed budget for the total project cost, and provide a budget table similar to the example below.
1. Please include a summary of the sources of all financial contributions and “in-kind” services to be applied toward the proposed activity. The budget proposal should include detailed information on the categories listed below, as seen in the example in Table 3. It is also strongly advised that applicants use the budget proposal format shown in Table 4 or a similar format that provides this information. If selected for award, successful applicants must submit detailed supporting documentation for all budgeted costs.

Table 3. Budget Table Example

Budget Item Description	Computation \$/UNIT	QUANTITY	Recipient FUNDING (if cost share)	Reclamation FUNDING	Total COST
SALARIES AND WAGES					
Supervisor	\$50/hr.	50	\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500
Labor	\$25/hr.	100	\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500
FRINGE BENEFITS	20%		\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000
TRAVEL				\$0	\$0
EQUIPMENT USE					
Pickups	\$.50/mi.	1000	\$500		\$500
SUPPLIES/MATERIALS					
Meters	\$1,500/ea	5		\$7,500	\$7,500
12" Open propeller flow meter	\$1,400/ea	2		\$2,800	\$2,800
CONTRACTUAL					
Engineering Consultant	\$5,000/LS	1	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000
Environmental Mitigation	\$2,000/LS	1	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000
OTHER					
Environment/Regulatory Compliance	\$2,000/LS	1	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000
TOTAL DIRECT COSTS			\$8,500	\$17,300	\$25,800
INDIRECT COST (See attached rate approval)	35%		\$2,100	\$0	\$2,100
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS			\$10,600	\$17,300	\$27,900

Table 4. Sample Budget Proposal Format

Budget Item Description	Computation		Quantity Type	Recipient Funding (if cost shared)	Reclamation Funding	Total Cost
	\$/Unit	Quantity				
Salaries and Wages						
Employee 1						\$
Employee 2						\$
Employee 3						\$
Fringe Benefits						
Full-Time Employees						\$
Part-Time Employees						\$
Travel						
Trip 1						\$
Trip 2						\$
Equipment						
Item A						\$
Item B						\$
Supplies and Materials						
Item A						\$
Item B						\$
Contractual/Construction						
Contractor A						\$
Contractor B						\$
Other						
Other						\$
Total Direct Costs						\$
Indirect Costs						
Type of rate	percentage	\$base				\$
Total Estimated Project Costs						\$

Enclosure 2

Eligible Lower Colorado Basin Entitlement Holders

Glenn H. Lodge
Chairman
Chemehuevi Indian Tribe
P.O. Box 1976
Havasu Lake, CA 92363

Timothy Williams
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Fort Mojave Indian Tribe
500 Merriman Avenue
Needles, CA 92363

Amelia Flores
Chairwoman
Colorado River Indian Tribes
26600 Mohave Road
Parker, AZ 85344

Robyn Sahid
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Arizona State Land Department
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Phoenix, AZ 85007

Ty E. Gray
Director
Arizona Game and Fish Department
5000 West Carefree Highway
Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000

Mary Youmans & Russell Youmans
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3025 Northwest Firwood Place
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City of Bullhead City
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Michael Mullion
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Cibola Valley Irrigation and Drainage
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GSC Farm, LLC
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Enclosure 2

Eligible Lower Colorado Basin Entitlement Holders

Chip Sherill
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North Gila Valley Irrigation and Drainage
District
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GM Gabrych Family Limited Partnership
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Town of Parker
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Manager
Unit B Irrigation and Drainage District
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Elston K. Grubaugh
General Manager
Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage
District
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Yuma County Water Users' Association
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Manager
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Ronald Turner
Acting Manager
Yuma Mesa Irrigation and Drainage District
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City of Needles
817 Third Street
Needles, CA 92363

Jim Barrett
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Coachella Valley Water District
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Palm Desert, CA 92211

Enrique Martinez
General Manager
Imperial Irrigation District
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Imperial, CA 92251

Jess Knudson
City Manager
Lake Havasu City
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Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403

Ned Hyduke II
General Manager
Palo Verde Irrigation District
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Enclosure 2

Eligible Lower Colorado Basin Entitlement Holders

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President/CEO
Basic Water Company
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Farm Manager
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Manager
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Mohave Water Conservation District
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Enclosure 2

Eligible Lower Colorado Basin Entitlement Holders

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