



March 30, 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:	Wednesday, April 12, 2023
Time:	10:30 AM
Place:	Hotel Maya Luna Solstice Room 700 Queensway Drive Long Beach, CA 90802

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 10:30 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.



Colorado River Board of California

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA **Wednesday, April 12, 2023 — 10:30 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

NEW BOARD MEMBER INDUCTION

PUBLIC COMMENTS (Limited to 5 minutes.)

ADMINISTRATION

1. Consideration and approval of meeting minutes of the February 15th, 2023 board meeting **(Action)**
2. Consideration and approval of resolution on application for Lower Colorado River Water Supply Project **(Action)**
3. Upcoming Board meeting schedule **(Discussion)**

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

4. Overview and Implementation of the 2007 Interim Guidelines

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 Reports
9. Executive Director's Report
10. Chairman's Report

EXECUTIVE SESSION¹

OTHER BUSINESS

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Next Scheduled Board Meeting

Date:	Tuesday, May 9, 2023
Time:	10:00 AM
Place:	Monterey TBD

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, February 15, 2023

A meeting of the Colorado River Board of California (Board) was held on Wednesday, February 15, 2023, at the Steve Robbins administration Building, 75515 Hovley Lane East, Palm Desert, CA 92211

Board Members and Alternates Present:

Castulo Estrada (CVWD Alternate)	Peter Nelson (CVWD)
Dana B. Fisher, Jr. (PVID)	David R. Pettijohn (LADWP)
John B. Hamby, Chairman (IID)	Jack Seiler (PVID Alternate)
Jeanine Jones (DWR Designee)	David Vigil (DFW Alternate)
Jim Madaffer, Vice Chairman (SDCWA)	

Board Members and Alternates Absent:

Gary Croucher (SDCWA Alternate)	Delon Kwan (LADWP Alternate)
David De Jesus (MWD Alternate)	Glen D. Peterson (MWD)
James Hanks (IID Alternate)	Christopher Hayes (DFW Designee)

Others Present:

Steve Abbott	Henry Martinez
Jim Barrett	Jessica Neuwerth
Scott Burritt	Ben Olson
Grant Chaffin	John Powell, Jr.
Gloria Cordero	Shana Rapoport
Dennis Davis	David Rheinheimer
Gina Dockstader	Brad Robinson
JR Echard	Shanti Rosset
Chris Harris	Jim Russell
Bill Hasencamp	Tina Shields
Rich Juricich	Gary Tavetian
Kit San Lai	Petya Vasileva
Tom Levy	Meena Wesford
Victoria Llort	Jerry Zimmerman

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Hamby announced the presence of a quorum and called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m.

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.

Ms. Cordero, representing The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, remarked that she is looking forward to joining the Colorado River Board of California (CRB) soon and thanked everyone for a warm welcome.

ADMINISTRATION

Chairman Hamby asked for a motion to approve the December 14, 2022, Board meeting minutes. Mr. Fisher moved that the minutes be approved, seconded by Mr. Madaffer. By roll-call vote, the minutes were unanimously approved.

Chairman Hamby asked for a motion to approve a Resolution Honoring Mr. Peter Nelson. Mr. Nelson commented that he valued his last four years as Chairman and appreciated the guidance of Board member Fisher in his role as former Chairman. Mr. Harris added that it is unique that the Board will have two emeritus chairs that are still sitting on the Board. Mr. Harris stated that the Board staff enjoyed working with Mr. Nelson, especially during tough times on the Colorado River. He stated that Mr. Nelson did a good job for the Board and the State of California.

Chairman Hamby asked for a motion to approve the Resolution Honoring Mr. Peter Nelson. Mr. Pettijohn moved that the Resolution be approved, seconded by Mr. Fisher. By roll-call vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

Chairman Hamby stated that he and Vice Chairman Madaffer developed a schedule for upcoming board meetings which includes traveling meetings. He explained that during the cooler months of January, February, October, and November meetings will be held in the desert region. During the months of April, May, July and August, meetings will be held in the coastal region. He explained further that on a quarterly basis, in March, June, and September meetings will consist of two-day meetings that include tours that meet the day before for a half-day and the meeting

will commence the following day at 10 a.m. Vice Chairman Madaffer added that the schedule will allow member agencies to share their projects and activities with each other. He stated that the March meeting would be held in San Diego and include a tour of the Carlsbad Desalination Plant and the Pure Water San Diego Project. He stated that a dinner is scheduled on Tuesday evening that will include a discussion of how San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA) and the Otay Water District worked together to deliver water to Mexico during an emergency.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION FROM COACHELLA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

Mr. Nelson thanked the Board for visiting Coachella and stated that he would be providing an overview of the history of the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD), the district's imported water supplies, and how CVWD is dealing with drought. Mr. Nelson reported that CVWD stretches from Desert Hot Springs in the northwest to the Salton Sea in the southeast, with a total area of over 1,000 square miles. CVWD is the largest domestic water supplier in the area and, along with the Desert Water Agency, provides the area's imported water supplies.

Mr. Nelson reported that CVWD has a five-member board, 570 employees, and a nearly \$500 million annual budget. CVWD provides service to over 100,000 domestic accounts, 98,000 wastewater accounts, and 1,300 canal connections. CVWD undertakes significant groundwater replenishment through four facilities, including the Tom E. Levy facility in the east valley and the Whitewater Spreading Basin in the northwest valley. He also reported that Coachella recycles approximately 85% of its wastewater.

Mr. Nelson reported that tourism in the Coachella Valley provides approximately \$6.9 billion to the economy, with hundreds of thousands of annual visitors for tennis and golf tournaments, festivals, and other events. He reported that agriculture provides about \$600 million of economic value annually, with dates, grapes, turf, bell peppers, citrus, lettuce, and carrots among the major crops.

Mr. Nelson described CVWD's non-groundwater supplies, which include a 330,000 AF entitlement to Colorado River water; 88,000 AF from the Quantification Settlement Agreement (QSA) transfers; 20,000 AF through the 1988 MWD/IID conservation program, 35,000 AF through a transfer with MWD; 147,850 AF from the State Water Project; and 19,000 AF of local and recycled water.

Mr. Nelson reported that State Water Project (SWP) supplies have been diminishing in reliability over the past fifteen years. Prior to a 2007 ruling, CVWD averaged 89% of their SWP entitlement; after the ruling, the average SWP allocation has been 40%, with two years of only 5%. Mr. Nelson reported that CVWD doesn't have a physical connection to the SWP but instead

implements an exchange with MWD, with MWD taking CVWD's supply of SWP supplies and providing CVWD a like amount through the Colorado River Aqueduct. A component of this exchange is that MWD can store or withdraw water from CVWD's groundwater basin.

Mr. Nelson reported that CVWD has been recharging its groundwater basin, which serves many of its domestic customers, since 1918, when the district was formed. The Coachella Canal was completed in 1949, and in 1973, SWP deliveries began. Groundwater recharge capacity was expanded in a series of projects in the 1980s, 1990s, and 2000s. Mr. Nelson reported that in CVWD's highest year of groundwater recharge at the Whitewater facility, it recharged nearly 400,000 AF. However, he also noted that there are other years when little to no groundwater recharge occurs at the site. Mr. Nelson reported that the Mission Creek facility, completed in 2002, and the Tom E. Levy facility, completed in 2009, provide steady annual groundwater recharge. CVWD created another recharge station in 2019 in the Palm Desert area to address a groundwater depression zone.

Mr. Nelson reported that CVWD is moving forward with two projects in 2023 to improve its water management. In partnership with San Diego County Water Authority, Reclamation, and the San Luis Rey Band of Indians, CVWD will be removing 5 miles of damage-prone concrete lining on the Coachella Canal to create 728 AF of in-line storage. CVWD is also moving forward with the Oasis In-Lieu Recharge Project, which will replace groundwater pumping in the Oasis area with Colorado River surface supplies.

Mr. Nelson reported on CVWD's drought response activities, which include turf removal rebates as high as \$6 per square foot and tiered water rates and drought penalties to discourage overuse. He noted that the overall effect of these programs is water savings of nearly 120,000 AF per year. Additionally, agricultural best practices and canal lining save approximately 132,000 AF per year.

Mr. Nelson also noted that in 2022, CVWD curtailed its groundwater replenishment program by 9,000 AF, leaving the water in Lake Mead. CVWD is also pursuing approval for a plan to create up to 35,000 AF/yr in the interim period through the Colorado River Water Conservation Program. This will be in addition to CVWD's commitments under the 2019 Drought Contingency Plan (DCP), which range from 14,000-24,500 AF/yr.

Mr. Nelson reported that CVWD is involved in the Sites Reservoir project, north of the Delta, for a yield of 10,000 AF/yr. CVWD is also funding the Delta Conveyance Project, hoping to get an additional 19,000 AF/yr.

STATE AND LOCAL REPORTS

Ms. Jones, representing the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), reported that precipitation conditions were above average for most of the State. She stated that this year's winter weather has been coined "weather whiplash" because there have been a series of very wet storms up until mid-January and now it has been very dry since then. She stated that precipitation conditions in February will be below average and there is no precipitation forecast until the end of the month.

Ms. Jones reported that natural flow is a good indicator of snowpack and precipitation conditions. She displayed a figure showing the two driest years from the last drought and the driest year in the current drought. She stated that dry conditions persisted in the Shasta reservoir because it was not in the path of the winter storms, adding that the storms did not travel far north. Ms. Jones reported that it will be challenging to refill Shasta reservoir this year and will cause operational implications for the State and Federal Water projects.

Ms. Jones stated that DWR released the first round of the run-off forecast based on the February 1st snow survey and for most water sheds in the middle of the state precipitation is above average, while the Shasta watershed is only 94% of average. She added that it is likely that the run-off forecasts will decline due to the recent lack of precipitation, explaining that some of the forecasts support the determination of the water-year hydrologic classification types for Bay Delta regulatory purposes, which could ultimately impact water project operations. She stated that the Central Valley Project (CVP) filed a temporary urgency change petition with the State Water Board to preserve water in upstream reservoirs. She stated that the CVP will announce its initial allocations noting that they will be impacted by Shasta reservoirs current storage.

Ms. Jones reported that the State's reservoir storage and snowpack is doing well, especially in the middle region of the Sierra Nevada mountains. She noted that Shasta reservoir storage was down.

Vice Chairman Pettijohn, representing the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP), reported that the Los Angeles aqueduct system is doing well. He stated that the snowpack was 173% of the April 1st normal and 234% of normal for this time of year. He noted that LADWP is anticipating the impact of the runoff, adding that for the past two years, runoff conditions have been dry.

Mr. Bill Hasencamp, representing The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD), reported that MWD has begun adding water back into local storage after drawing it down over the last few years. He added that water deliveries to agencies have declined due to the wet conditions.

COLORADO RIVER BASIN WATER REPORT

Mr. Juricich reported that as of February 13th, the water level at Lake Powell was 3,522.33 feet with 5.39 million-acre feet (MAF) of storage, or 23% of capacity. The water level at Lake Mead was 1,047.49 feet with 7.50 MAF of storage, or 29% of capacity. He added that Lake Mead's elevation is about two feet above where it was last month. The total system storage was 19.04 MAF, or 33% of capacity, which is 2.67 MAF less than system storage at this time last year.

Mr. Juricich reported that as of February 3rd, for Water Year-2023 (WY-2023) the forecasted unregulated inflow into Lake Powell is 10.44 MAF, or 109% of normal. He reported that the forecasted April to July inflow into Lake Powell is 7.50 MAF, or 117% of normal. He stated that observed inflow into Lake Powell for January was 107% of normal and the February inflow forecast was 82% of normal.

Mr. Juricich reported on snow water equivalent (SWE) conditions throughout the Colorado River Basin. He noted that the Gila River and Verde River systems received over 150% of normal SWE. Mr. Harris added that the forecast shows that over the next seven to ten days there will be additional snow from southwestern Wyoming, Eastern Utah, and Western Colorado.

Board member Nelson inquired about the status of Arizona's water system, given the above average snowpack it has received. Mr. Harris explained that Arizona's Verde River system has a few smaller reservoirs that can receive the runoff but will spill and the runoff will travel to the mainstream Gila River and then travel down to a series of dams on the lower Salt River, culminating at the larger Roosevelt dam. He added that the dam is beneficial to the Phoenix Metropolitan area and there is connection to the Central Arizona Project (CAP) system. He reported that CAP does exchanges with this system to move water between CAP and the Salt River Project (SRP) system. Mr. Harris reported that the SRP has been releasing water from its reservoir as a flood control measure. He added that a portion of the runoff will be used to recharge the local aquifer in the Phoenix area which has been under active management since 1980. He explained further that if there is a good runoff year, some of the water may make it down to Painted Rock Reservoir, which is a U.S. Army Corps facility. He added that the runoff will

travel to meet with the mainstream Gila, and eventually the mainstream of the Colorado River. He stated that Reclamation tends to use this water to meet the Mexican Treaty delivery obligation, explaining that it helps “sweeten” up the saline water in the region. Mr. Harris stated that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ Alamo Dam is also being monitored for potential spills, noting that the spilled water would also reach the Colorado mainstream at Lake Havasu, right above Parker Dam. Mr. Harris added that in Arizona, extra water is stored in its aquifer, but they will continue to use as much CAP water as allowed. He stated there was only one year, 2005, when Arizona had so much extra water that they reduced their demand on CAP.

Mr. Juricich reported on projections from the January and February 24-Month Studies. He stated that the impact of the January storms are starting to reflect in the projections. He stated that Lake Powell’s elevation was 3,550 feet at the end of December. He stated that in 2024, Lake Powell’s elevation is projected to be 3,568 feet, noting this improvement in elevation is likely due to recent storm activity. He stated that the most probable release for Lake Powell is 7.77 MAF in WY-2023 and 7.48 MAF in WY-2024. He stated an adjustment in April would codify the WY-2023 balancing release. Mr. Juricich reported that Lake Mead’s elevation will fall below the critical elevation of 1,025 feet in 2024. He added that the impact of the most probable inflow scenario is reflected at elevation 1,033 feet in Lake Mead.

Mr. Harris stated that the most probable inflow scenario considers the 2022 and 2023 drought response releases. He stated that it does not anticipate another drought release next year or California’s contribution of 400,000 AF. He added that it only includes actions from signed agreements that have been modeled by Reclamation. He added the most probable inflow scenario also considers soil moisture. He stated that going into this winter season there were dry soil conditions across the Basin. However, due to recent storm activity, it is anticipated that runoff might be more efficient. He noted that the Colorado Basin River Forecast Center (CBRFC) updates is modeling data of streamflow and soil moisture conditions periodically and this data is fed into the Colorado River Mid-Term Modeling System (CRMMS) model.

Mr. Juricich reported that at the end of January, Reclamation released the CRMMS-ESP 5-Year projection for Lakes Powell and Mead. He reported that in 2024, 53% of the traces project that Lake Powell’s elevation will be in the Mid-Elevation Release Tier and 37% of traces project Lake Powell’s elevation will be in the Lower Elevation Balancing Tier, below the critical elevation of 3,525 ft. He explained that in the out years of 2025 and 2026, the percentage of traces in the Lower Elevation Balancing tier declines.

Mr. Juricich reported that 5-Year projections for Lake Mead show that in 2024 about 80% of the traces show Lake Mead’s elevation range between 1,050 ft and 1,025 ft. In the out years,

2025 and 2026 the number of traces within the same elevation range declines, but still accounts for about half (53%) of the traces. He stated that in 2024 to 2026, 7% of the traces are with the Normal or ICS Surplus conditions with an elevation at or above 1,075 feet.

Mr. Juricich reported that through the end of January the Brock and Senator Wash regulating reservoirs captured 1,712 AF and 5,405 AF, respectively. He also reported that the excess deliveries to Mexico were 7,987 AF, compared to 272 AF this time last year. Finally, the total amount of saline drainage water bypassed to the Cienega de Santa Clara in Mexico was 16,407 AF.

COLORADO RIVER BASIN STATES ACTIVITIES

Mr. Harris reported that California has been working with colleagues in the other Basin States in an effort to develop a consensus-based modeling framework to be used in the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) currently under development by the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation). The SEIS would potentially modify operations at Lakes Powell and Mead for the remaining term of the 2007 Interim Guidelines. Mr. Harris reported that the states met numerous times in the previous month to discuss components of a proposal, including potential operational and administrative actions. Mr. Harris noted that, unfortunately, the Basin States were not able to reach agreement before the January 31st deadline to submit comments to Reclamation.

Mr. Harris reported that six of the Basin States submitted a proposal and California submitted a separate proposal. He noted that the plans share many commonalities, including maximum Lower Basin and Mexico reductions of approximately 3.3 MAF and protection of elevation 1,000' in Lake Mead and elevation 3,500' in Lake Powell. However, the methods used to implement the reductions were significantly different. The six-state submittal proposed fairly static Lake Powell operations, limited actions in the Upper Basin, and the utilization of a so-called "evaporation and system loss" assessment to water users in the Lower Basin and Mexico. The California submittal proposed use of voluntary and compensated reductions, water transfers, and adherence to the priority system, as well as more rigorous contributions from the Upper Basin.

Mr. Harris reported that California's delegation brought a reasonable proposal to the final Basin States meeting before the January submittal deadline, but the proposal was roundly rejected by the other states. He noted that California's delegation then tried extremely hard to reach a compromise position with the other states at that meeting but weren't met with much flexibility in the six-state proposal.

Mr. Harris reported that Reclamation has since reached out to both the six-state group and California to clarify the details of the proposals and the modeling assumptions included within them. He stated that both proposals, as well as a likely Reclamation proposal, would be analyzed in the draft SEIS expected in March or April. The SEIS would then be available for public comment, with a final SEIS and Record of Decision expected by the end of July, to be utilized in the August 24-Month Study and operational determinations for WY-2024.

Mr. Harris reported that the Basin States have resumed discussions since the submittal of the two proposals in an attempt to find areas of commonality that could inform the final SEIS. Chairman Hamby reported that there seems to be a recommitment on the part of the other Lower Basin states to reengage on a consensus Lower Basin plan.

Mr. Fisher stated that he believed California had done a good job of conveying the state's position and that the position had been well received.

Chairman Hamby noted that it was disappointing that the six-state proposal was released a day early and only hours after California first saw the proposal in writing. He noted that although it is easy to target California because of its comparably large water allocation, other states need to demonstrate their commitment to the sort of massive, long-term transfers that California has been implementing for more than twenty years.

In response to a question from Mr. Fisher, Mr. Harris noted that Senator Hickenlooper (D-CO) had suggested establishment of a Senate Colorado River Caucus. He noted that both of California's senators attended the kickoff meeting of the caucus and that the senators are attempting to serve as facilitators in finding a collaborative, consensus-based solution. It was unclear whether the Colorado River Caucus would be formal or informal. Mr. Harris reported that the group isn't currently discussing legislation but is focused on bringing federal resources to bear on Basin issues.

Mr. Nelson noted that, in the past, there has been pushback from the Upper Basin on the idea of compensating short-term conservation in the Lower Basin. He noted that, given the emergency need for a large increase in conservation, compensation was necessary. Mr. Harris reported that Reclamation recently finalized granting approximately \$150 million for the Upper Basin System Conservation Program, to incentivize Upper Basin conservation activities. Mr. Harris noted that this was a step in the right direction.

Mr. Nelson asked whether there has been news of a similar caucus in the House. Mr. Harris reported that there has not yet been, but that with the recent change in leadership in the House, the House was currently focused on committee leadership and other activities.

Ms. Jones noted that the Western States Water Council formed its own Colorado River Caucus in 2021. The Council plans to hold its annual meeting in California in August 2023, and

Ms. Jones stated that this might be a good opportunity to engage with that group. Ms. Meena Westford stated that the group would be in the Los Angeles area and touring the Pure Water Southern California facility.

Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program Implementation

Mr. Juricich provided a summary of the activities of the Salinity Control Forum Work Group meeting held February 7-9 in Palm Desert at the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD). The focus of the meeting was to review the draft results to be included in the 2023 Triennial Review of water quality standards for salinity in the Colorado River System. The Federal Water Pollution Control Act requires that at least once every three years the Basin States review water quality standards relating to the salinity of the Colorado River. The work group also received updates from federal agencies funding program implementation or conducting research on salinity control activities. During the meeting, an update was provided on the status of the Paradox Valley Unit Salinity Control Project. The Work Group also toured CVWD facilities and Salton Sea dust control sites. The Work Group was really appreciative of CVWD's offer to host the meeting and provide meeting support.

Mr. Juricich thanked CVWD for making their facility available for the Work Group meeting, and he stated that Robert Cheng did a great job getting the Work Group set up to use the room and helping with the tour. Mr. Juricich explained that the Paradox Valley Project has been operational for six months. Reclamation shut the project down for a month, but it's back up and running again. It is expected that moving forward the project will operate at six-month intervals. There might be a few weeks shutdown in between the 6-month operations while Reclamation checks data and does any maintenance they need to do. Mr. Juricich stated that there is less encouraging news about progress from Reclamation on a long-term alternative to the brine injection well at Paradox. Reclamation discussed the concept of applying a Statement of Objective approach over a year ago, but little progress has been made. Mr. Juricich also thanked key staff involved with putting on a tour for the Work Group including Robert Cheng, Don Charlton, and Chad Austin with CVWD, and Jessica Hume with Imperial Irrigation District.

Status of the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program

Ms. Neuwerth reported that Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management (GCDAMP) held a three-day meeting in January to discuss research and science that has happened over the past year.

Ms. Neuwerth reported that warmer water and more fish are moving through the dam. Smallmouth bass, a voracious predator in the Upper Basin, have spawned below the dam. Ms. Neuwerth noted that the stretch of Colorado River below the dam has been a stronghold of native fish in the basin and may be impacted by smallmouth bass. Monitoring in previous years has detected four or five smallmouth bass compared to 300 caught in the previous year. Intensive removal was conducted, and the effectiveness of these efforts is being evaluated.

Ms. Neuwerth reported that other efforts include looking at installing a net in Lake Powell to prevent fish passage through the turbines and that Reclamation is working on an Environmental Assessment to potentially modify the release patterns from Glen Canyon Dam. Ms. Neuwerth reminded the Board that '07 Guidelines and new SEIS set annual releases for Glen Canyon Dam and the Long-Term Experimental Management Plan (LTEMP) governs shorter releases. The flows being considered would produce high flows and/or pass water through the bypass tubes. Ms. Neuwerth explained that passing water through the bypass tubes brings cooler water through the dam without generating hydropower. Reducing hydropower generation is a concern. There is a potentially small window to stop the smallmouth bass population from taking off.

A question was asked regarding if efforts at Flaming Gorge led to being able to manage the smallmouth population below Flaming Gorge Dam. Ms. Neuwerth replied that the flow efforts are disadvantaging the smallmouth bass but that the population is still there. Ms. Neuwerth added that Flaming Gorge was built with a selective intake to control water temperature which is not a tool available at Glen Canyon Dam.

Ms. Neuwerth explained that the impacts from nonnative fish will take time to show up in the native fish population. Humpback chub, the main species of nonnative fish, are doing well near Western Grand Canyon and near the Little Colorado River.

Ms. Neuwerth reported that a high flow experiment has not been conducted recently due to nonnative fish concerns.

Status of the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program

Ms. Neuwerth reported that the program manager and deputy program manager both left the program last year. There is a new program manager who was the longtime restoration group manager.

Ms. Neuwerth reported that work is underway to obtain coverage for reductions in flow that may result from the SEIS. The LCR MSCP provides Endangered Species Act coverage for reduced flows in the Lower Colorado River.

MEMBER AGENCY REPORTS

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP)

Board member Pettijohn reported that the Donald C. Tillman water reclamation plant will provide about 17,000 af/year of water to recharge the San Fernando groundwater basin, providing enough water for 200,000 residents. He added that the plant will cost half a billion dollars.

Board member Pettijohn reported that LADWP will build underground storm water capture projects at nine parks in San Fernando Valley using Measure W funds. He explained that Measure W passed in Los Angeles and is essentially a property tax. He reported that the project will create about 3,000 af of capacity to capture stormwater, noting that it doesn't translate directly into infiltration because it depends on how many rain events occur. He stated that the project will cost about \$504 million and will help LADWP reach a goal to triple the amount of stormwater capture within Los Angeles between now and 2035. He stated that LADWP started out at 6,000 af of stormwater capture capacity and will try to increase it to 18,000 af of capacity.

Board member Pettijohn reported that LADWPS's water conservation unit has been enforcing the emergency water conservation program. He stated that from July 2022 through the end of January 2023 LADWP has received 13,000 reports of water waste. He stated that the enforcement team writes citations and informs people about how to comply with the ordinance which limits outdoor watering to two days a week, eight minutes a station. He noted that water use in Los Angeles is 108 gpcd and they would like to reduce it to 100 gpcd. He added that LADWP is continuing to support residents converting their lawns to California friendly landscape. He stated that LADWP offers \$5 per square foot for residential customers and \$6 per square foot for commercial customers, noting that the program rivals Coachella Valley Water District landscape conversion program. He reported that LADWP has done over 100,000 af of hardware-based conservation such as replacements of toilets, washing machines and cooling towers. He stated that LADWP has spent about \$30 million a year on conservation and MWD also offers subsidies for the devices that LADWP replaces.

Board member Pettijohn reported that LADWP is conducting a pilot study on a 1-million gallon a day (MGD) Membrane Bioreactor Pilot Facility at Hyperion Wastewater Treatment Plant in collaboration with West Basin District, MWD, and Los Angeles County Sanitation District. He also reported on the proposed 1.5 MGD Advanced Water Purification Facility project that will produce recycled water for the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant and the Los Angeles World Airports for non-potable water use. He noted that there is also a Pure Water Facility in San Diego.

He stated that the project is a multi-billion-dollar effort to advance treat all the water that goes to the largest wastewater facility in Los Angeles. He stated that the project is a similar size to the Pure Water SoCal project at the Los Angeles County Sanitation Plant, which MWD is partnering on.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD)

Ms. Cordero reported that MWD held a two-day retreat for MWD Board members and agency members. She stated that the retreat gave them the opportunity to understand the differences between smaller and larger agencies and how they have been dealing with uncertainty. She reported that the retreat started with a land acknowledgment of the Pechanga Tribe, and then it was followed by an introduction of Chairman Mark Macarro, who provided a historical analysis of what happened in the area and the implications.

Ms. Cordero reported that MWD is receiving \$80 million from the State to accelerate the Pure Water pilot project.

Ms. Cordero stated that MWD will move out of the emergency conservation program for six million customers. MWD will continue to be aggressive in its conservation efforts. There is still high demand for turf replacement and rebates. She concluded that MWD has also started work on several capital improvement projects that will support their efforts towards resiliency.

San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA)

Vice Chairman Madaffer reported that seven new directors joined the SDCWA Board from their member agencies. He stated that Ms. Lois Fong Sakai, SDCWA director, was elected secretary of the MWD Board.

Vice Chairman Madaffer reported that SDCWA had an opportunity to spend time with the MWD Chairman, Adan Ortega. He noted that MWD and SDCWA have experienced acrimony in the past but hopes to resolve these issues going forward.

Vice Chairman Madaffer concluded by stating that SDCWA will provide a special presentation during the next traveling Board meeting which about SDCWA's efforts to deliver emergency water to Mexico.

Palo Verde Irrigation District (PVID)

Mr. Echard displayed a photo of the upstream location of the PVID diversion dam in Palo Verde. He stated that the river at this location was very low in January, adding that is usually when they do maintenance on the system. He explained that there is a “rock” weir just above the dam where PVID used to divert its water supply for valley and the photo shows remnants of the “rock” weir. Board member Fisher explained further that when the Bureau of Indian Affairs built the Headgate Rock Dam for the CRIT Indian Tribe, suddenly Palo Verde’s diversion and the Valley were without water for weeks. He stated that there were threats of lawsuit against the Department of the Interior (DOI). He stated that DOI decided to add truckload after truckload of rock that spanned the entire river that caused the water to elevate and flow once again through PVID’s diversion. He stated that there were acres of vegetables in the Valley that went without water for about three weeks. He added that when the Laguna Dam was put into service, the water backed up behind the dam and flooded the many acres of land on the south end of the Valley. He stated that once again crops died, and Reclamation had to dredge the river to lower the water to allow the resumption of water flow to agriculture on the south end of the valley. Mr. Harris added that Reclamation did a massive channelization effort and levy configuration in the Palo Verde Valley to restore drainage.

Mr. Echard stated that PVID coordinates with CRIT when they are performing their canal maintenance. He added that decades ago, the rock weir failed and PVID received funding to construct the Palo Verde diversion dam. Board member Fisher stated the diversion dam is on the only structure in the Lower Basin that spans the river and is not owned by Reclamation, adding that PVID has the deed for it.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Mr. Vigil with the CDFW provided an update to the Board of the new Motus wildlife tracking system. Motus is an international collection of radio towers for tracking wildlife movement. CDFW bought about fifteen of them through the Canvas Program, to look at impacts on the Canvas, and the movements of animals. One of the systems was installed at the Palo Verde Ecological Reserve on February 2, 2023. Mr. Vigil displayed a map showing the distribution of towers across North and South America. The program is relatively cheap, and each tower has a six-mile detection range. Mr. Vigil reported that a researcher from the Lower Colorado Multi-Species Program is looking into a three-year project using Motus for southwestern willow flycatchers.

California Department of Water Resources

Ms. Jones provided an update to the Board on the recent drought executive order from the Governor. The new order extends the ability to do a temporary urgency change permit to conserve water. The major new feature in the order is for expediting water recharge. Back in the last drought, the State Water Board began a program to allow for temporary urgent recharge projects, generally six months in duration, intended for wet winters, like the one we've just had. DWR will do the water availability analysis part, and the State Water Board will do the regulatory part. The first six-month permit under the program was recently executed. DWR is focusing on the northern end of the San Joaquin Valley where there's a lot of snowpack that's going to cause flood control problems when it melts and is also an area critical for the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act areas.

Imperial Irrigation District

Ms. Shields referenced the Species Conservation Habitat (SCH) New River Diversion project. Ms. Shields participated in a project tour by the Department of Water Resources as they rediverted water at the Salton Sea SCH Management Project location. The DWR project is creating nearly 4,000 acres of wetlands. Last year, DWR bypassed the New River to build the turnout to the wetlands and a new weir structure. Ms. Shields stated it is expected that the State will double the size of this project and push it farther to the northeast, expanding the site to closer to 8,000 acres. The project includes a peninsula built to run a pipeline out and a pump station four miles out from the seashore in anticipation of future shoreline recession. The project will pump in saltwater from the Sea and blend it with the New River water to achieve the desired salinity levels and dilute the salt water down sufficiently to allow the fish to reproduce again. IID is talking to DWR about relocating its elevation sensor because it's getting silted out as the shoreline is receding. Ms. Shields expects DWR will be doing more public tours as they work to put the water into the wetlands complex. She was not sure when that would happen, but it should be sometime this year. It is expected that a public viewing area will be developed for the location.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES

Chairman Hamby stated that the Monthly Report includes a detailed summary of the Washington D.C. report.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further items to be brought before the Board, Chairman Hamby adjourned the meeting at 12:15 p.m.

RESOLUTION
of the
COLORADO RIVER BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
Regarding
Potential Applicant to Receive
Lower Colorado Water Supply Project Water
2023-1

WHEREAS, the United States Congress, on November 14, 1986, enacted the Lower Colorado Water Supply Act (P.L. 99-655) (amended through P.L. 109-103), to authorize the construction and operation of the Lower Colorado Water Supply Project (Project) to provide a limited amount of Colorado River water to be made available on an exchange basis to entities in California, whose lands are located adjacent to the Colorado River, and who either do not have any, or do not have a sufficient, contractual entitlement to use Colorado River water; and

WHEREAS, the City of Needles has agreed to assume the administrative responsibility for Project beneficiaries in San Bernardino, Riverside, and Imperial Counties; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado River Board provides recommendations to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) regarding the eligibility of non-federal applicants to receive Project water; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado River Board on September 14, 2001, notified owners of property within the Colorado River flood plain and/or the accounting surface as delineated by the U.S. Geological Survey in California of the availability of Project water;

WHEREAS, the staff of the Colorado River Board on April 12, 2023, submitted the eligible applicant to the Board for its recommendation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Colorado River Board hereby recommends a subcontract for Project water be offered to the applicant listed on the attachment and directs the Executive Director to forward the application to Reclamation with its recommendation with the following provisos:

- (1) The applicant appears to be eligible to receive Project water, as shown in the attached table and summarized below:

County	Numbers of Parcels	Current Use (AF/YR)	Future Use (AF/YR)	Total Use (AF/YR)
San Bernardino	1	1	0	1

- (2) At the time a subcontract is prepared, the annual quantity of water to be diverted, consumptively used, and returned will be refined to specify quantities of water to be reported

in accordance with Article V in the Consolidated Decree in *Arizona v. California, et al.* entered March 27, 2006, (547 U.S. 150 (2006));

- (3) Reclamation should include provisions in the subcontract that the water to be put to reasonable beneficial use within a ten-year period of time, subject to renewal for another ten-year period.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION is approved and adopted by the Colorado River Board, this 12th day of April 2023.

J.B Hamby, Chairman

DRAFT

**COLORADO RIVER BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
APPLICATION FOR LOWER COLORADO WATER SUPPLY PROJECT WATER**

Applicant Information:

Name: Jeff S Sievers
First Middle Last

Mailing Address: _____
Number Street City State Zip Code

Telephone Number: _____ Fax Number: () _____

E-mail Address: _____

1. Place of Use:

Property County Assessor Parcel Number (APN): 0660-151-380000, County: San Bernardino

Parcel Legal Description: S 100ft. N 1/2 S 1/2 NW 1/4 SE 1/4 SEC 13 TP 9N R 22E

Property Address, if available: 3010 Riverview Terrace

Property Owner(s): Jeff Sievers, Raechelle Sievers

2. Location of Point of Diversion: (Surface or well location) (A map, illustration, and/or drawing may be included) Existing well/pump Proposed new well/pump

3. Purpose of Use:
Domestic (Residential Commercial), Municipal, Industrial, Recreational
Please describe: _____

4. Quantity of Water Requested:
(a) current use (within the next calendar year): 1 acre-feet annually
(b) future use (not including current use): 1 acre-feet annually

5. Additional Comments:
S 100 ft W 100 F N 1/2 S 1/2 NW 1/4 SE 1/4 SEC 13 TP 9N R 22E
Together with govt lot 11 SEC 13 TP 9N R 22E

Submitted by (all the individuals on legal title):

Print Name: Raechelle Sievers

Signature: Rae S, Date: 11/10/23

Print Name: Jeff Sievers

Signature: Jeff Sievers, Date: 11/10/23

Mail to: Colorado River Board of California, 770 Fairmont Avenue, Suite 100, Glendale, CA 91203-1068

FOR COLORADO RIVER BOARD USE ONLY

Date Received: _____ Recommendation: Yes No

3610 Riverview terrace needles



3610 Riverview Terrace
Building

- Directions
- Save
- Nearby
- Send to phone
- Share

- 3610 Riverview Terrace, Needles, CA 92363
- Suggest an edit on 3610 Riverview Terrace
- Add a missing place
- Add your business



At this place

Road to Riverview
 5.0 ★★★★★ (8)
 Vacation home rental agency · Floor 1
 Open 24 hours

Restaurants Hotels Things to do Transit Parking Pharmacies ATMs

Colorado River
ARIZONA CALIFORNIA

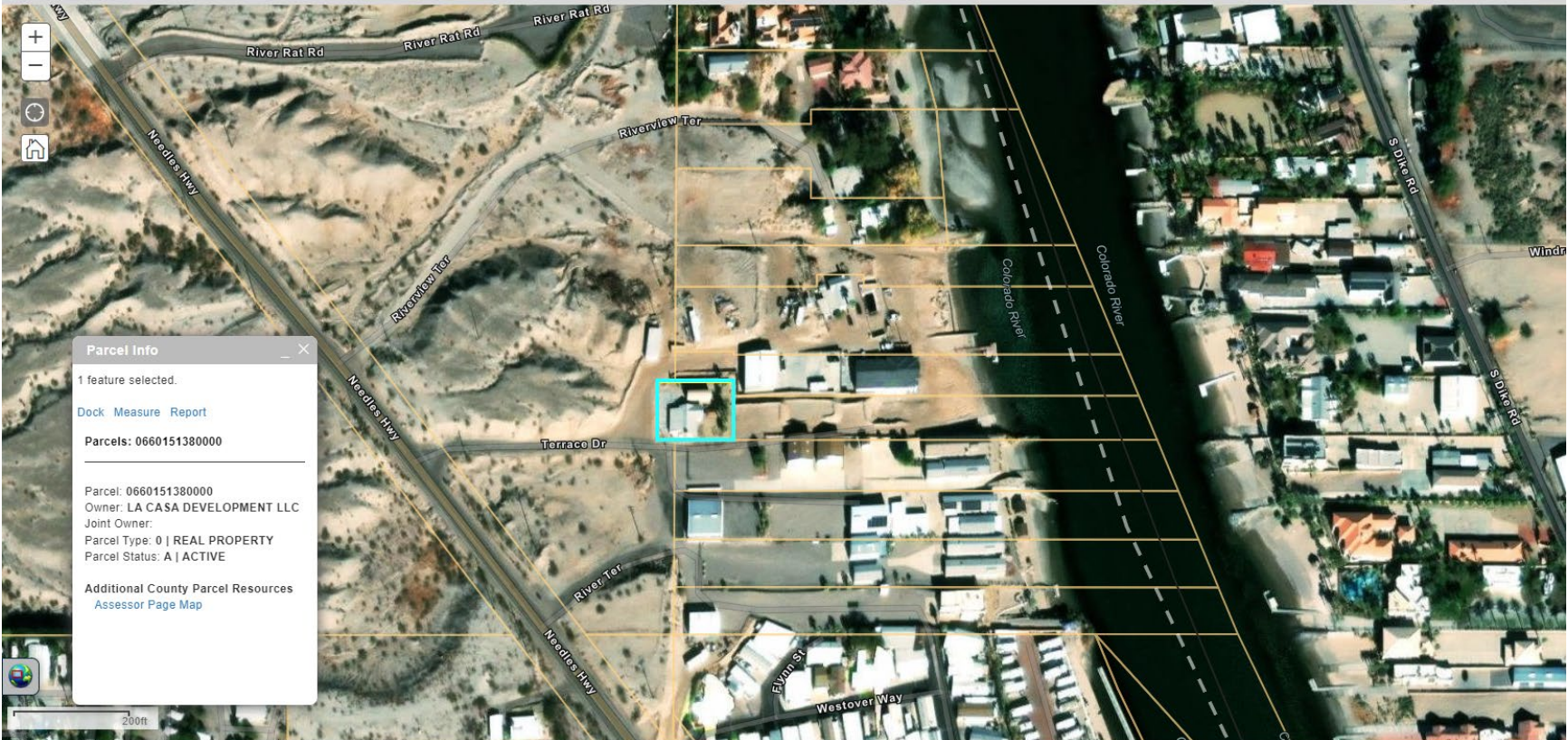
Needles Hwy
Riverview Terrace
Terrace Dr

Google

Map data ©2023 United States Terms Privacy Send feedback 100 ft



Basic Search Advanced Search View Search Results



Parcel Info

1 feature selected.

[Dock](#) [Measure](#) [Report](#)

Parcels: 0660151380000

Parcel: 0660151380000
Owner: LA CASA DEVELOPMENT LLC
Joint Owner:
Parcel Type: 0 | REAL PROPERTY
Parcel Status: A | ACTIVE

Additional County Parcel Resources
[Assessor Page Map](#)

4/3/2023

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	23%	5,365	3,521.85	8,400
* LAKE MEAD	28%	7,400	1,046.04	12,800
LAKE MOHAVE	95%	1,714	643.57	12,300
LAKE HAVASU	95%	586	448.31	9,300
TOTAL SYSTEM CONTENTS **	32%	19,000		
As of 4/2/2023				
SYSTEM CONTENT LAST YEAR	35%	20,893		
*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	101%	2,306		
Painted Rock Dam	6%	138	581.39	633
Alamo Dam	23%	233	1,146.90	924
Forecasted Water Use for Calendar Year 2023 (as of 4/3/2023) (values in kaf)				
NEVADA			224	
SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER SYSTEM				213
OTHERS				12
CALIFORNIA			4,378	
METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA				981
IRRIGATION DISTRICTS				3,380
OTHERS				17
ARIZONA			2,293	
CENTRAL ARIZONA PROJECT				1,092
OTHERS				1,201
TOTAL LOWER BASIN USE				6,895
DELIVERY TO MEXICO - 2023 (Mexico Scheduled Delivery + Preliminary Yearly Excess ¹)				1,417
OTHER SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION				
UNREGULATED INFLOW INTO LAKE POWELL - MARCH MID-MONTH FORECAST DATED 3/20/2023				
		MILLION ACRE-FEET	% of Normal	
FORECASTED WATER YEAR 2023		12.919	135%	
FORECASTED APRIL-JULY 2023		10.000	156%	
FEBRUARY OBSERVED INFLOW		0.270	74%	
MARCH INFLOW FORECAST		0.500	84%	
		Upper Colorado Basin	Salt/Verde Basin	
WATER YEAR 2023 PRECIP TO DATE		129% (21.5")	167% (25.7")	
CURRENT BASIN SNOWPACK		154% (23.2")	518% (12.2")	

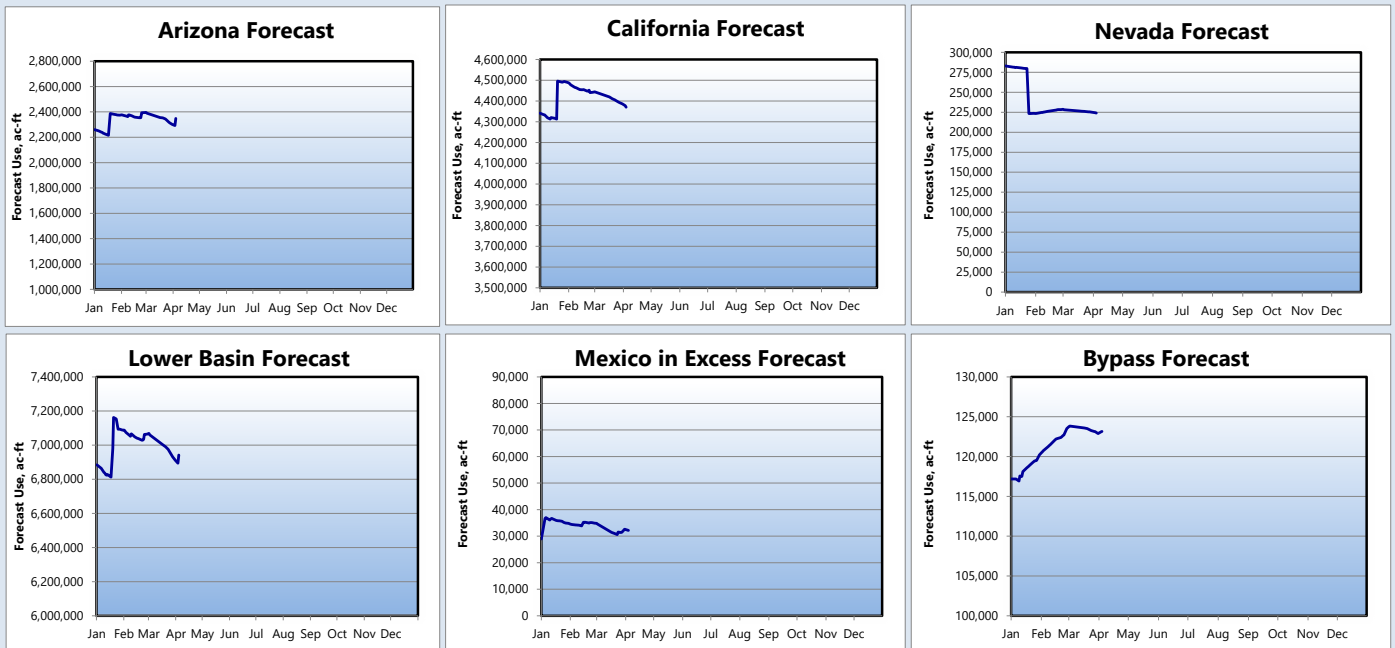
¹Delivery to Mexico forecasted yearly excess calculated using year-to-date observed and projected excess.


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	365,156	2,348,094	2,255,011	93,083
California	703,327	4,370,008	4,341,455	28,553
Nevada	27,846	224,081	224,081	0
States Total³	1,096,329	6,942,183	6,820,547	121,636
Total Deliveries to Mexico ⁴	424,347	1,384,792	1,384,792	
Creation of Mexico's Recoverable Water Savings ⁵	0	34,000	34,000	
Creation of Mexico's Water Reserve ⁶	11,208	11,208	11,208	
Total to Mexico in Satisfaction of Treaty Requirements ⁷	435,555	1,430,000	1,430,000	
To Mexico in Excess of Treaty ⁸	14,512	32,201	28,963	
Water Bypassed Pursuant to IBWC Minute 242 ⁹	36,146	123,146	117,192	
Total Lower Basin & Mexico ¹⁰	1,571,334	8,482,322	8,351,494	

¹ Incorporates 80 daily reporting stations which may be revised after provisional data reports are distributed by the USGS. Use to date is estimated for users reporting monthly and 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	Forecast	Estimated	Excess to	Diversion	Forecast	Approved	Excess to
	To Date CY 2023	Use CY 2023	Use CY 2023	Estimated Use CY 2023	Estimated Use CY 2023	To Date CY 2023	Diversion CY 2023	Diversion CY 2023
TV Marble Canyon, AZ LLC	2	10	10	---	4	15	15	0
Lake Mead NRA, AZ - Diversions from Lake Mead	7	68	68	---	7	68	68	0
Lake Mead NRA, AZ - Diversions from Lake Mohave	44	216	218	---	44	216	218	-2
McAlister Family Trust	2	7	7	---	2	10	10	0
Bureau of Reclamation - Davis Dam Project	0	2	2	---	2	10	10	0
Bullhead City	1,556	8,593	8,699	---	2,462	13,521	13,730	-209
Mohave Water Conservation District	164	753	749	---	244	1,122	1,115	7
Mohave Valley I.D.D. ¹	3,868	19,811	21,209	---	7,162	36,688	39,276	-2,588
Fort Mojave Indian Reservation, AZ	5,498	40,112	44,280	---	10,181	74,281	82,000	-7,719
Golden Shores Water Conservation District	67	287	287	---	101	432	432	0
Havasu National Wildlife Refuge	192	3,047	3,564	---	1,593	35,104	41,835	-6,731
EPCOR Water Arizona, Inc. - CSA No. 1	122	535	527	---	187	821	810	11
Crystal Beach Water Conservation District	17	73	73	---	26	112	112	0
Lake Havasu City	1,849	9,004	9,052	---	2,983	14,523	14,600	-77
Arizona State Parks (Windsor Beach)	3	11	11	---	4	17	17	0
Central Arizona Water Conservation District ²	188,387	1,148,643		---	188,387	1,148,643		--
Hillcrest Water Company	5	21	21	---	7	32	32	0
Springs Del Sol Domestic Water Improvement District	0	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)	70	324	327	---	104	485	489	-4
Town of Parker	58	413	418	---	162	903	912	-9
Colorado River Indian Reservation, AZ	48,631	359,441	360,641	---	81,095	622,648	662,402	-39,754
GM Gabrych Family	683	2,925	2,925	---	1,051	4,500	4,500	0
Ehrenberg Improvement District	61	260	260	---	85	365	365	0
B&F Investment	2	8	8	---	3	11	11	0
North Baja Pipeline	47	200	200	---	72	308	308	0
Arizona State Land Department - Domestic	9	40	40	---	15	61	61	0
Cibola Valley I.D.D.	1,017	5,489	5,322	---	1,422	7,676	7,443	233
Red River Land Co.	19	214	214	---	27	300	300	0
Hopi Tribe	425	3,070	3,061	---	593	4,291	4,278	13
GSC Farms, LLC	118	2,083	2,083	---	165	2,913	2,913	0
Arizona Game & Fish	141	2,031	2,031	---	198	2,838	2,838	0
Cibola Island	165	705	705	---	230	986	986	0
Cibola National Wildlife Refuge	1,477	14,253	14,264	-11	2,383	22,988	23,005	-17
Western Water, LLC	46	378	379	---	65	529	530	-1
Cibola Sportsmans Club	17	154	154	---	26	217	216	1
Bishop Family Trust	34	299	300	---	48	419	420	-1
Cathcarts	11	89	90	---	15	125	126	-1
Imperial National Wildlife Refuge	967	3,799	3,799	0	1,559	6,128	6,128	0
BLM - Leased by L. Pratt	14	58	58	---	21	89	89	0
BLM Permittees (Parker Dam to Imperial Dam)	297	1,271	1,271	0	457	1,956	1,956	--
Fisher's Landing Water and Sewer, LLC	2	7	7	---	3	11	11	0
Shepard Water Company	4	18	18	---	7	28	28	0
U.S. Army Yuma Proving Grounds	58	474	486	---	58	474	486	-12
JRJ Partners, LLC	156	666	666	---	239	1,025	1,025	0
Cha Cha, LLC	270	1,393	1,365	---	416	2,144	2,100	44
Beattie Farms Southwest	182	741	722	---	281	1,140	1,110	30
Gila Monster Farms	770	4,358	4,833	---	1,308	7,613	8,500	-887
Wellton-Mohawk I.D.D.	36,628	260,334	278,000	-17,666	66,286	394,692	424,350	-29,658
BLM Permittees (Below Imperial Dam)	26	110	110	0	39	169	169	--
City of Yuma	2,702	14,184	15,151	-967	4,959	25,639	27,500	-1,861
U.S. Marine Corps Air Station Yuma	186	1,218	1,265	---	186	1,218	1,265	-47
Union Pacific Railroad	6	29	29	---	12	48	48	0
University of Arizona	150	894	897	---	150	894	897	-3
Yuma Union High School District	16	147	150	---	19	194	200	-6
Desert Lawn Memorial	6	27	27	---	9	38	38	0
North Gila Valley Irrigation District	1,036	8,926	9,486	---	6,841	40,811	43,500	-2,689
Yuma Irrigation District	6,509	37,039	38,958	---	12,074	69,194	73,100	-3,906

WATER USER	Use	Forecast	Estimated	Excess to	Diversion	Forecast	Approved	Excess to
	To Date	Use	Use	Use	To Date	Diversion	Diversion	Diversion
	CY 2023	CY 2023	CY 2023	CY 2023	CY 2023	CY 2023	CY 2023	CY 2023
Yuma Mesa I.D.D.	9,944	99,493	104,430	---	28,160	214,172	230,252	-16,080
Unit "B" I.D.D.	1,868	14,316	13,421	---	4,284	27,924	28,300	-376
Arizona State Land Department - Agriculture	935	4,296	4,295	---	1,445	6,614	6,607	7
Ott Family	63	269	269	---	97	414	414	0
Ogram Boys' Enterprises	139	595	595	---	214	916	916	0
Fort Yuma Indian Reservation	729	3,123	3,123	---	1,122	4,804	4,804	0
BLM - Leased by M. Lee	34	145	145	---	52	223	223	0
Armon Curtis	30	127	127	---	46	195	195	0
Yuma County Water Users' Association	46,197	263,805	277,259	---	72,976	355,366	367,400	-12,034
R. Griffin	7	30	30	---	11	46	46	0
Power	17	74	74	---	27	114	114	0
Cocopah Indian Tribe (PPR No. 7)	43	184	184	---	66	283	283	0
Griffin Ranches (PPR No. 7)	17	74	74	---	27	114	114	0
Milton Phillips (PPR No. 7)	10	44	44	---	16	67	67	0
Griffin Family Ltd. Partnership (PPR No. 7)	4	17	17	---	6	26	26	0
Cocopah Indian Reservation	223	1,823	1,820	---	244	2,719	2,812	-93
Bureau of Reclamation - Yuma Area Office	48	206	206	---	48	206	206	0
Arizona Public Service Company	0	0	0	---	0	0	0	0
Gary Pasquinelli	49	209	209	---	75	321	321	0
Total Arizona	365,156	2,348,094	2,411,032		504,996	3,166,211	3,307,197	
Central Arizona Project (CAP)	188,387	1,148,643				1,148,643		
All Others	176,769	1,199,451	1,245,812			2,017,553	2,141,972	
Yuma Mesa Division, Gila Project	17,489	145,458	152,874	-7,416		324,177		
Total 242 Well Field Pumping ³	6,157	39,685	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 - Reclamation (Estimated) ⁹	(8,556)
Delivery of ICS (CAWCD)	up to 70,000
Total State Adjusted Apportionment	2,255,011
Excess to Total State Adjusted Apportionment	93,083
Estimated Allowable Use for CAP	1,060,310

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.

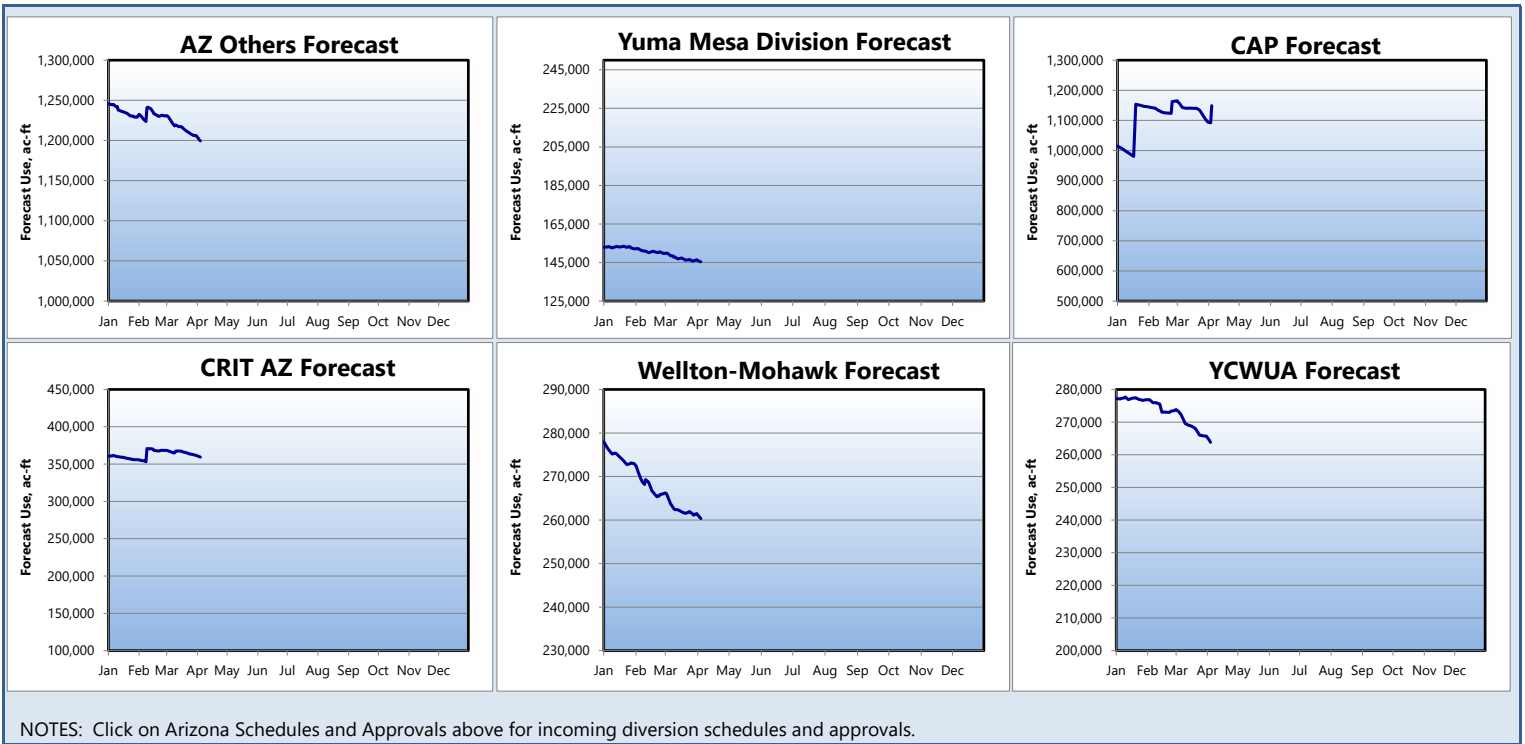
⁵ In accordance with Section III.B.1.a of *Lower Basin Drought Contingency Operations* (LBOs), the state of Arizona is required to make DCP Contributions of 192,000 AF in 2023. CAWCD agrees to fulfill Arizona's DCP Contributions in accordance with Section II.3.b of the *Agreement Regarding Lower Basin 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 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.





**LOWER COLORADO BASIN REGION
CY 2023**

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.

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	Estimated	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	887	8,175	8,994	---	1,648	15,198	16,720	-1,522
City of Needles (includes LCWSP use)	260	1,540	1,605	-65	427	2,230	2,261	-31
PPR No. 30 (Stephenson)	4	19	19	---	8	34	34	0
PPR No. 38 (Andrade)	6	25	25	---	11	45	45	---
PPR No. 40 (Cooper)	1	6	6	---	2	10	10	---
Chemehuevi Indian Reservation	43	183	183	---	2,649	11,340	11,340	0
The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California ¹	143,488	976,058	---	---	144,253	978,691	---	---
Colorado River Indian Reservation, CA	1023	4,380	4,380	---	1,695	7,258	7,258	0
Palo Verde Irrigation District	40,251	389,993	423,836	---	128,227	822,227	862,000	-39,773
PPR No. 31 (Mendivil)	1	3	3	---	1	6	6	0
Yuma Project Reservation Division	5,708	43,383	48,668	---	14,239	90,132	98,898	-8,766
Yuma Project Reservation Division - Bard Unit	---	---	---	---	7,244	47,034	51,500	-4,466
Yuma Project Reservation Division - Indian Unit	---	---	---	---	6,995	43,098	47,398	-4,300
Fort Yuma Indian Reservation - Ranch 5 (Surface Delivery)	316	1,194	1,194	---	569	2,160	2,160	0
Fort Yuma Indian Reservation - Other Ranches (Pumpers)	266	1,137	1,137	---	481	2,058	2,058	0
Yuma Island Pumpers	342	1,463	1,463	---	618	2,647	2,647	0
Imperial Irrigation District	459,826	2,573,397	2,617,800	-44,403	469,646	2,707,246	2,767,270	---
Coachella Valley Water District	50,768	368,468	389,000	-20,532	53,060	391,013	413,155	---
Other LCWSP Contractors	123	526	526	---	191	819	819	0
City of Winterhaven	14	58	58	---	19	81	81	0
Total California	703,327	4,370,008	4,492,614		817,744	5,033,195	5,183,062	

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	28,553

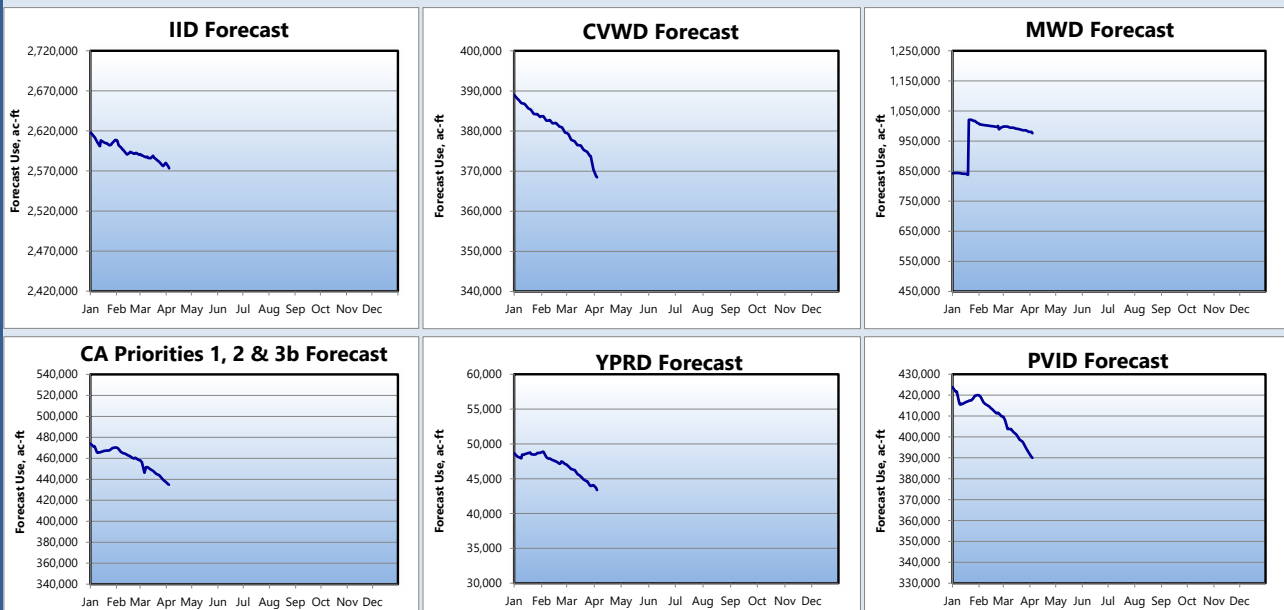
Estimated Allowable Use for MWD

947,505

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**

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.

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	Forecast	Estimated	Excess to	Diversion	Forecast	Excess to	Excess to
	To Date	Use	Use	Estimated	To Date	Diversion	Approved	Approved
	CY 2023	CY 2023	CY 2023	CY 2023	CY 2023	CY 2023	Diversion	Diversion
Robert B. Griffith Water Project (SNWS)	89,745	446,747		---	89,745	446,747		---
Lake Mead NRA, NV - Diversions from Lake Mead	241	1,409	1,500	---	241	1,409	1,500	-91
Lake Mead NRA, NV - Diversions from Lake Mohave	108	466	500	---	108	466	500	-34
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.	215	906	928	---	215	906	928	-22
Boulder Canyon Project	41	177	177	---	70	300	300	0
Big Bend Water District	716	4,528	4,688	---	1,745	9,568	10,000	-432
Fort Mojave Indian Tribe	285	4,198	4,624	---	426	6,265	6,900	-635
Las Vegas Wash Return Flows	-63,505	-234,350	-231,289	---				
Total Nevada¹	27,846	224,081	223,000	0	92,550	465,661	462,000	-1,214
Southern Nevada Water System (SNWS)	26,240	212,397				446,747		
All Others	1,606	11,684				18,914		
Nevada Uses Above Hoover	26,845	215,355				449,828		
Nevada Uses Below Hoover	1,001	8,726				15,833		

Tributary Conservation (TC) Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS)

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

NEVADA ADJUSTED APPORTIONMENT CALCULATION

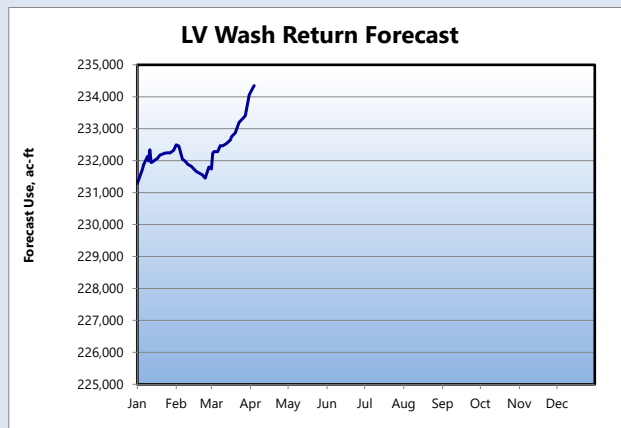
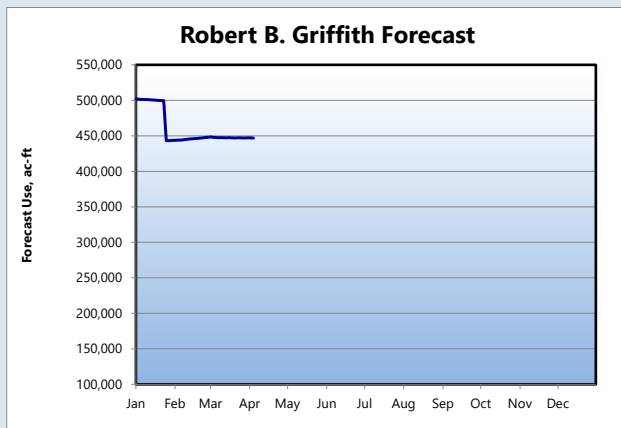
Nevada Basic Apportionment	300,000
Reduction for Tier 2 Shortage ³	(17,000)
Creation of Extraordinary Conservation ICS - SNWA (Estimated) ⁴	(58,919)
Total State Adjusted Apportionment	224,081
Excess to Total State Adjusted Apportionment	0

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.



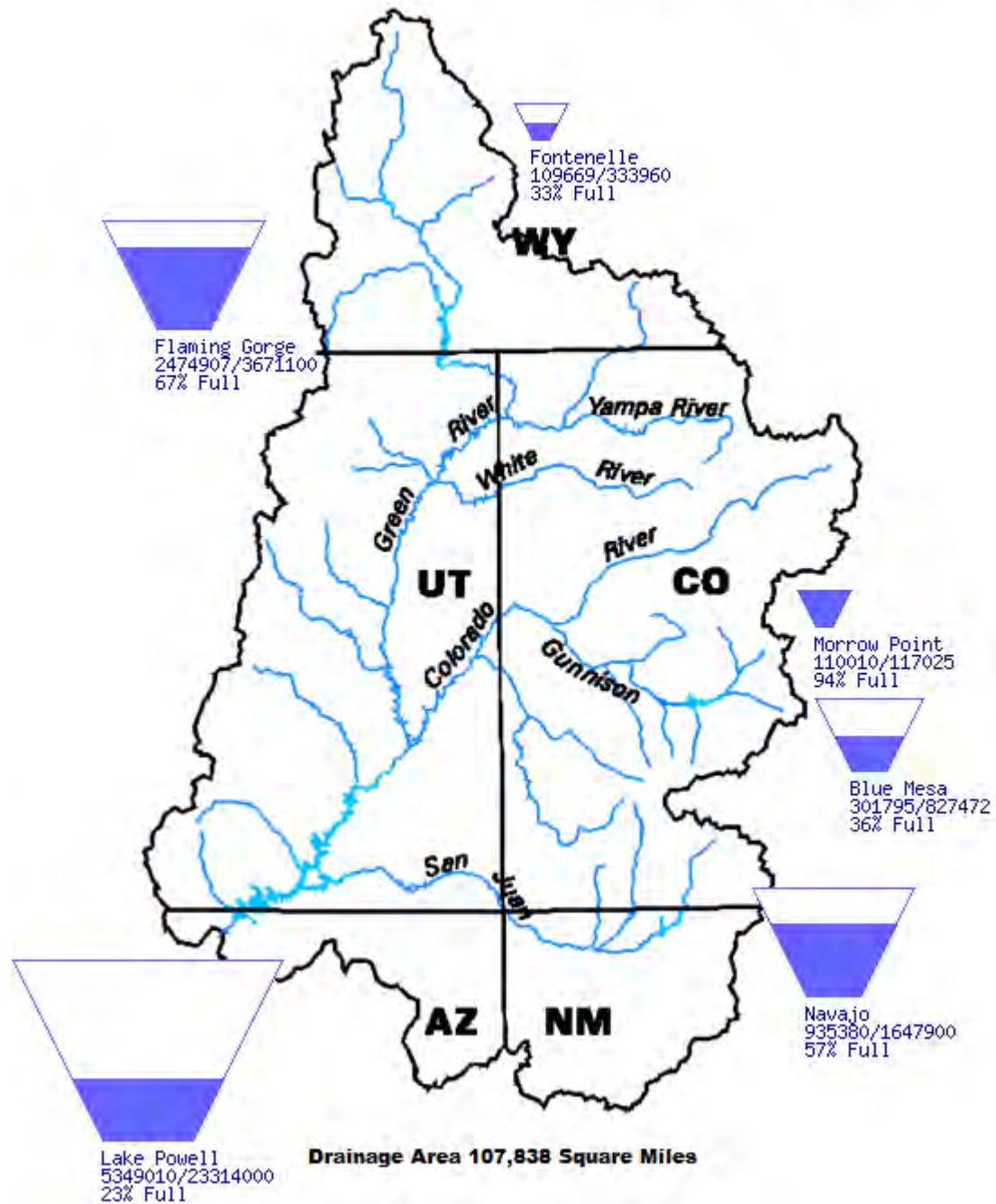
NOTES: Click on Nevada Schedules and Approvals above for incoming diversion schedules and approvals.

Upper Colorado Region Water Resources Group

River Basin Tea-Cup Diagrams

Data Current as of:
04/04/2023

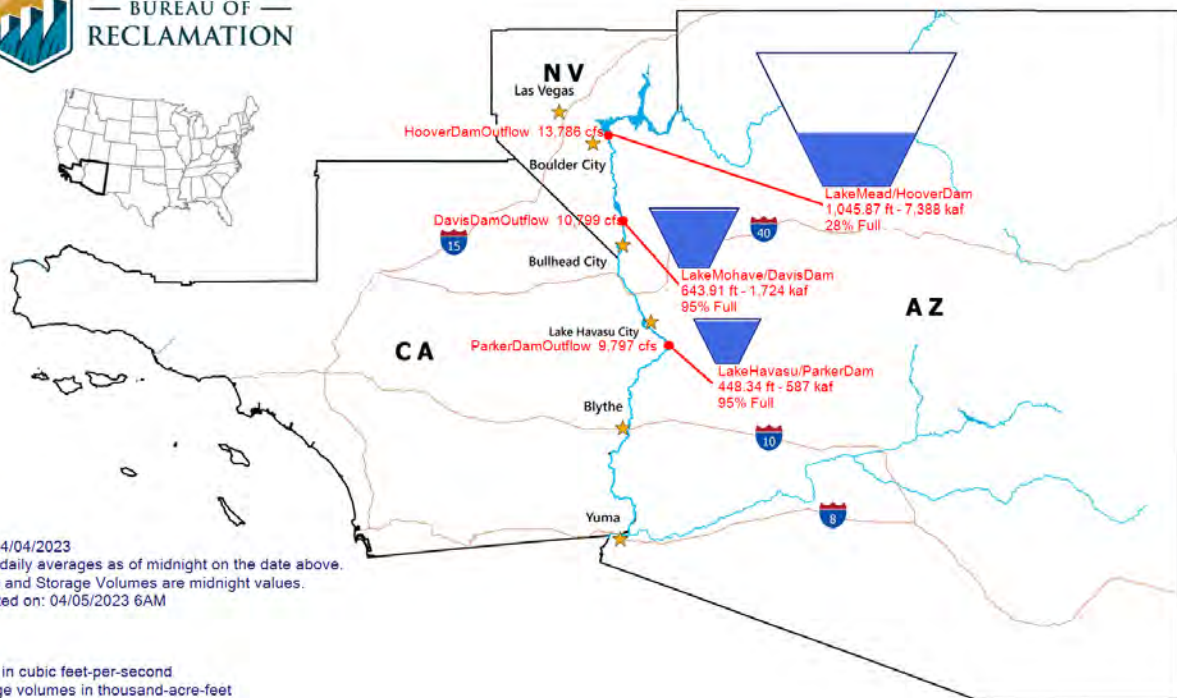
Upper Colorado River Drainage Basin



Lower Colorado River Teacup Diagram



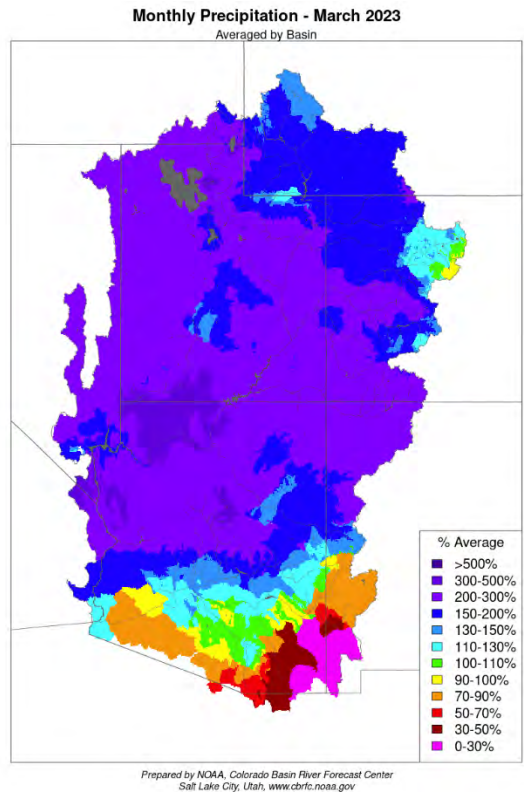
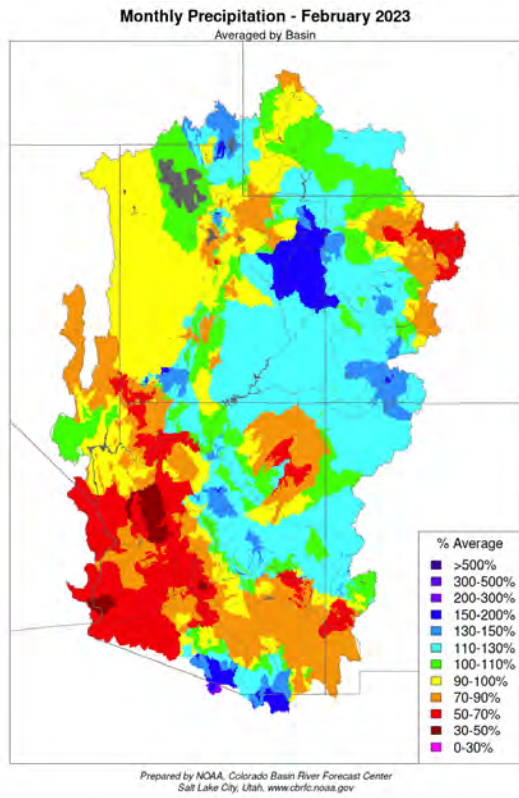
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION



Data for: 04/04/2023
Flows are daily averages as of midnight on the date above.
Elevations and Storage Volumes are midnight values.
Last updated on: 04/05/2023 6AM

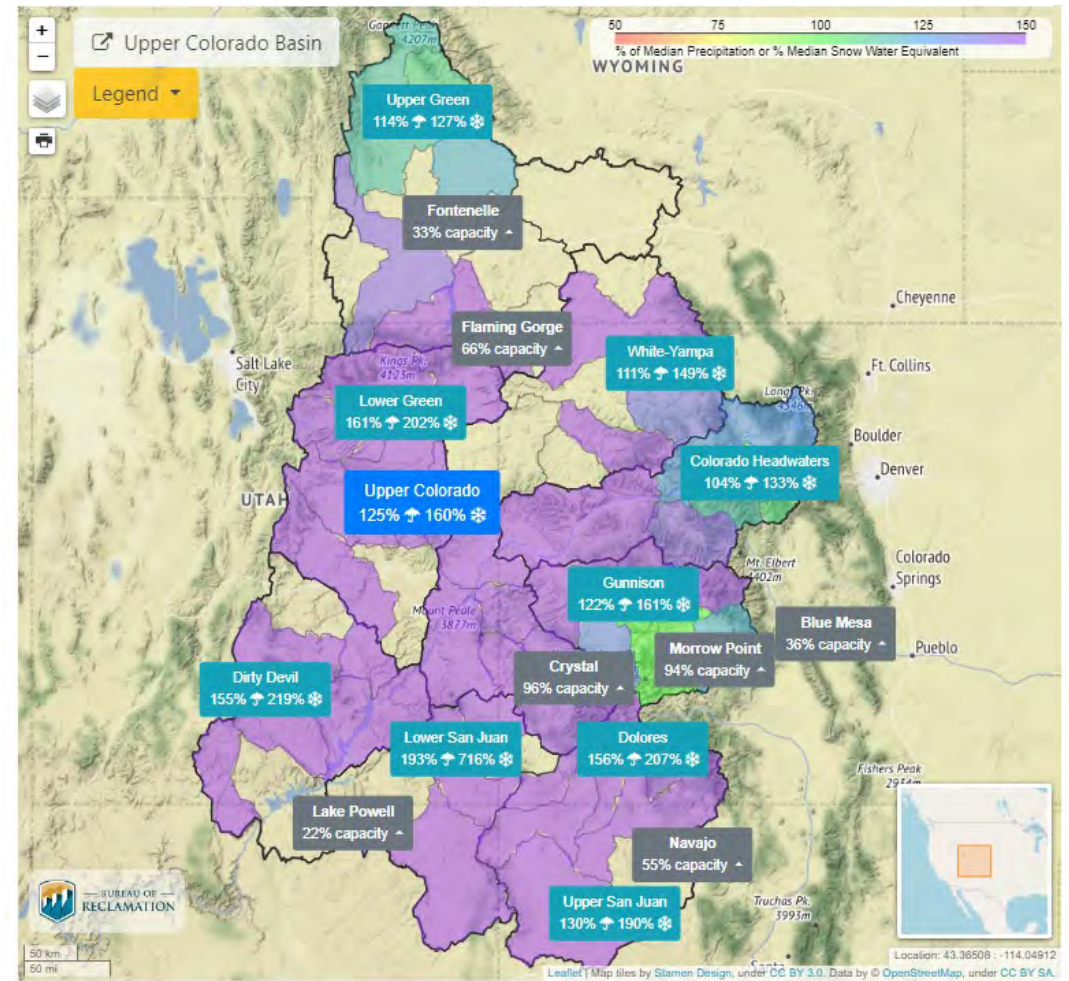
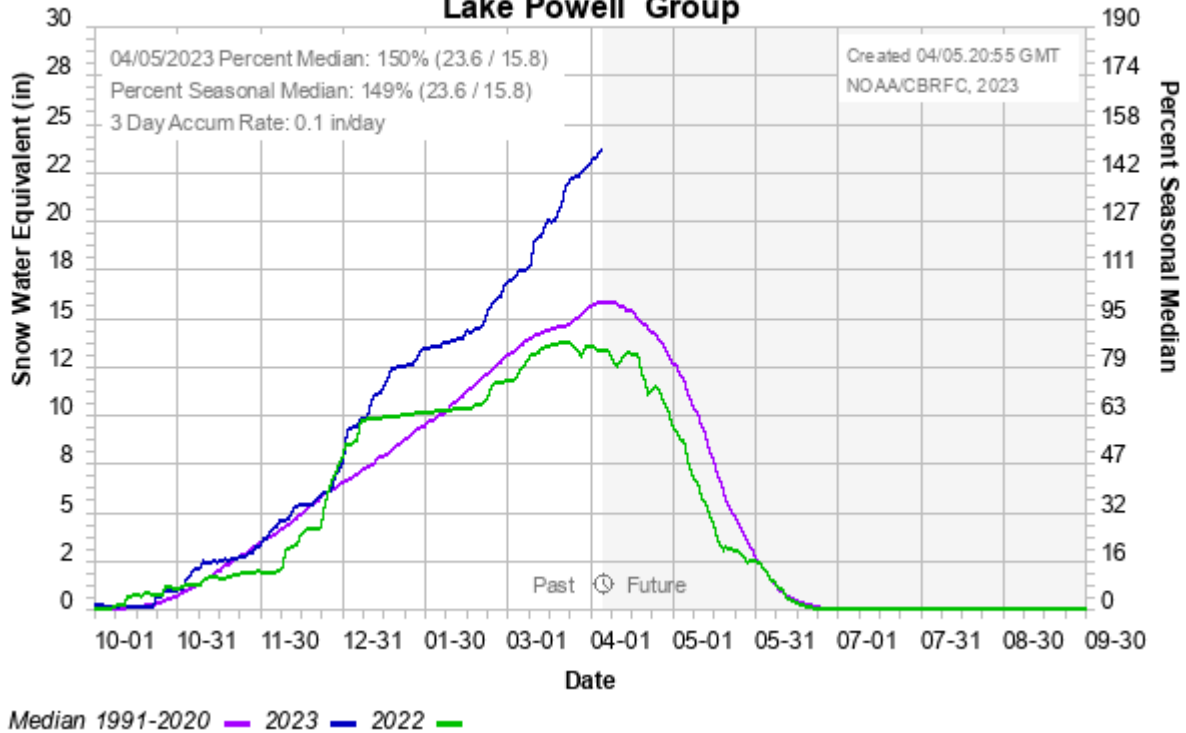
LEGEND:
cfs: Flows in cubic feet-per-second
kaf: Storage volumes in thousand-acre-feet
ft: Elevations in feet above mean-sea-level

NOAA National Weather Service Monthly Precipitation Map February and March 2023



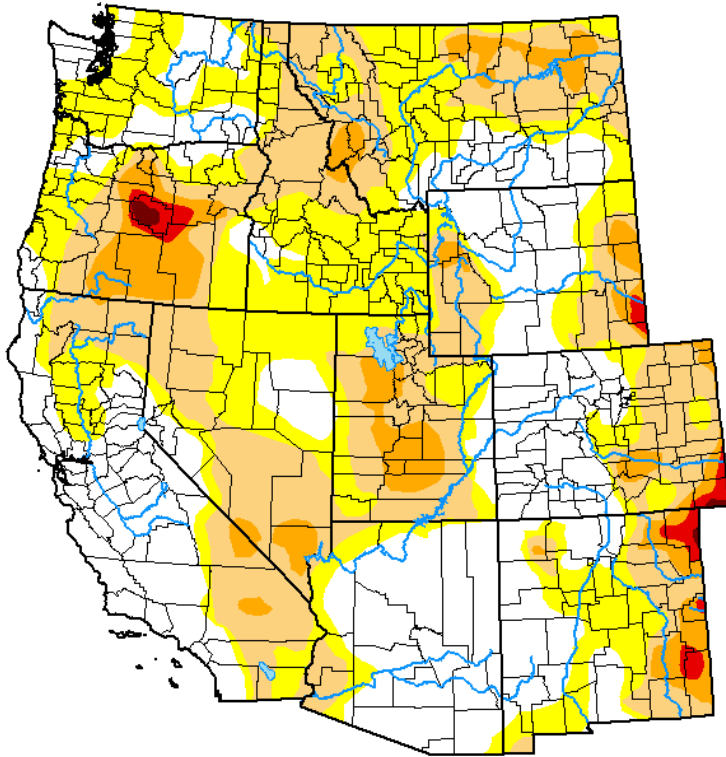
Colorado Basin River Forecast Center

Lake Powell Group



**U.S. Drought Monitor
West**

March 28, 2023
(Released Thursday, Mar. 30, 2023)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	35.56	64.44	35.62	9.20	1.24	0.17
Last Week <i>03-21-2023</i>	31.23	68.77	45.77	12.89	1.33	0.15
3 Months Ago <i>12-27-2022</i>	8.44	91.56	64.25	43.80	14.08	1.27
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>03-29-2022</i>	5.57	94.43	88.93	69.91	29.67	2.50

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:

Curtis Riganti
National Drought Mitigation Center

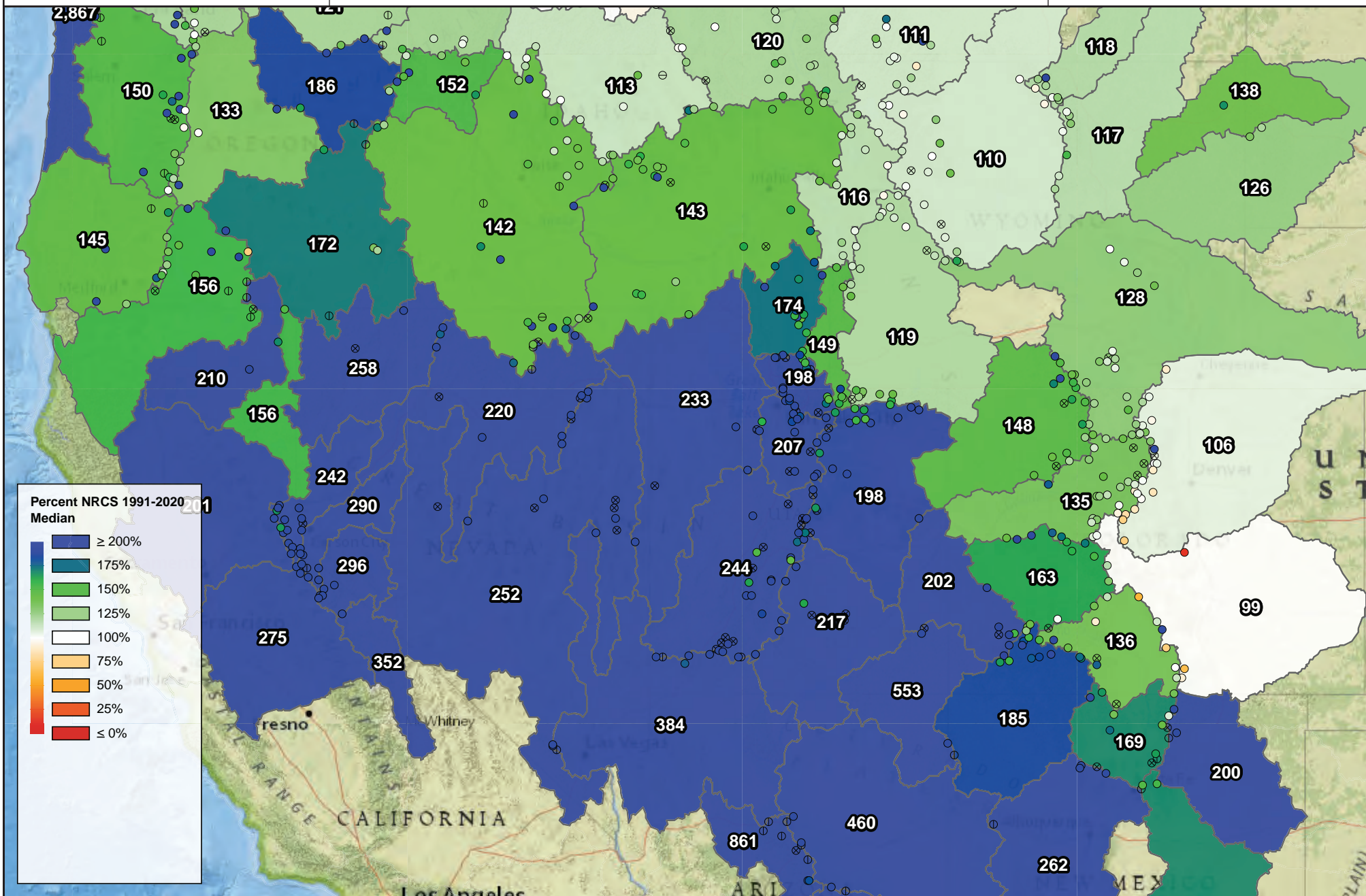


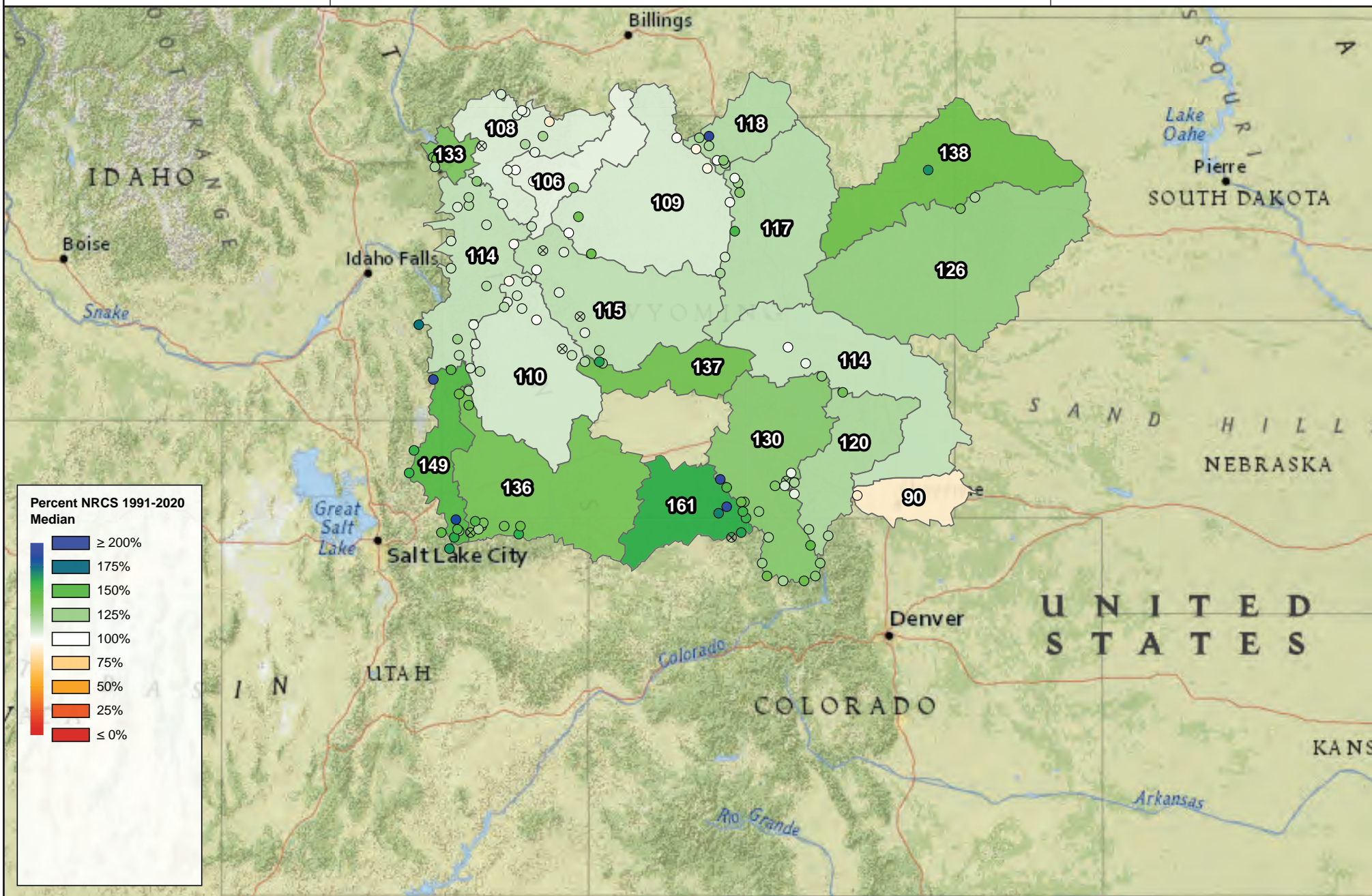
droughtmonitor.unl.edu

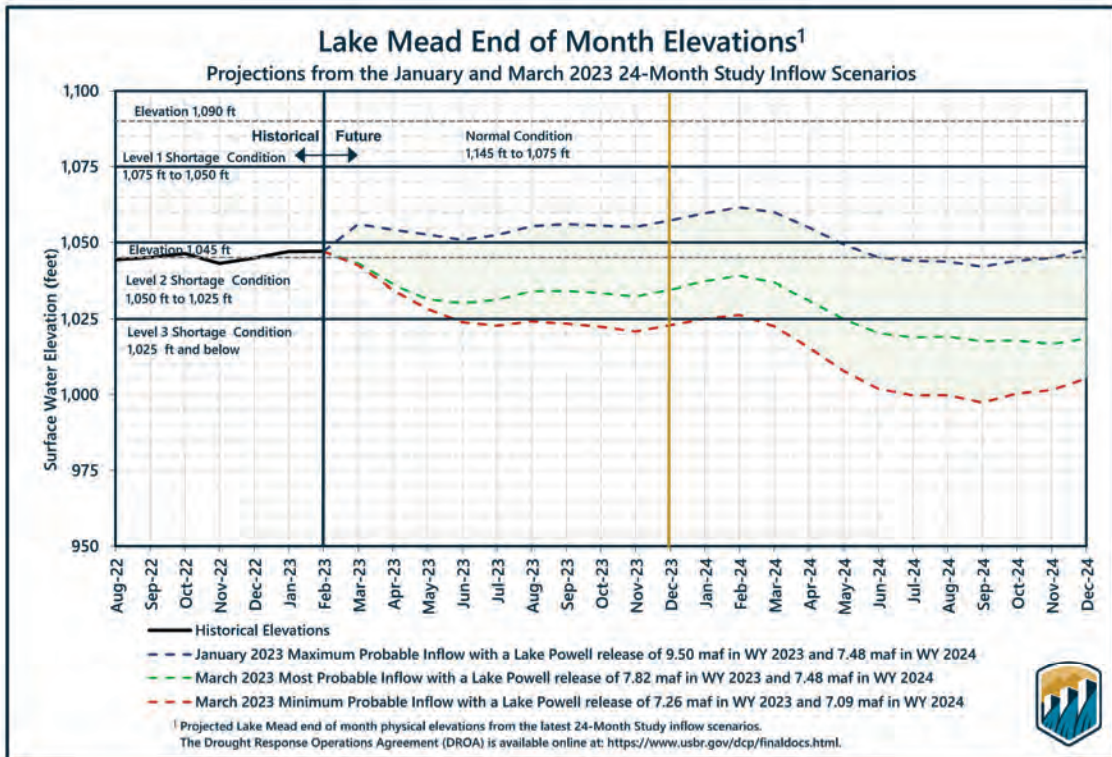
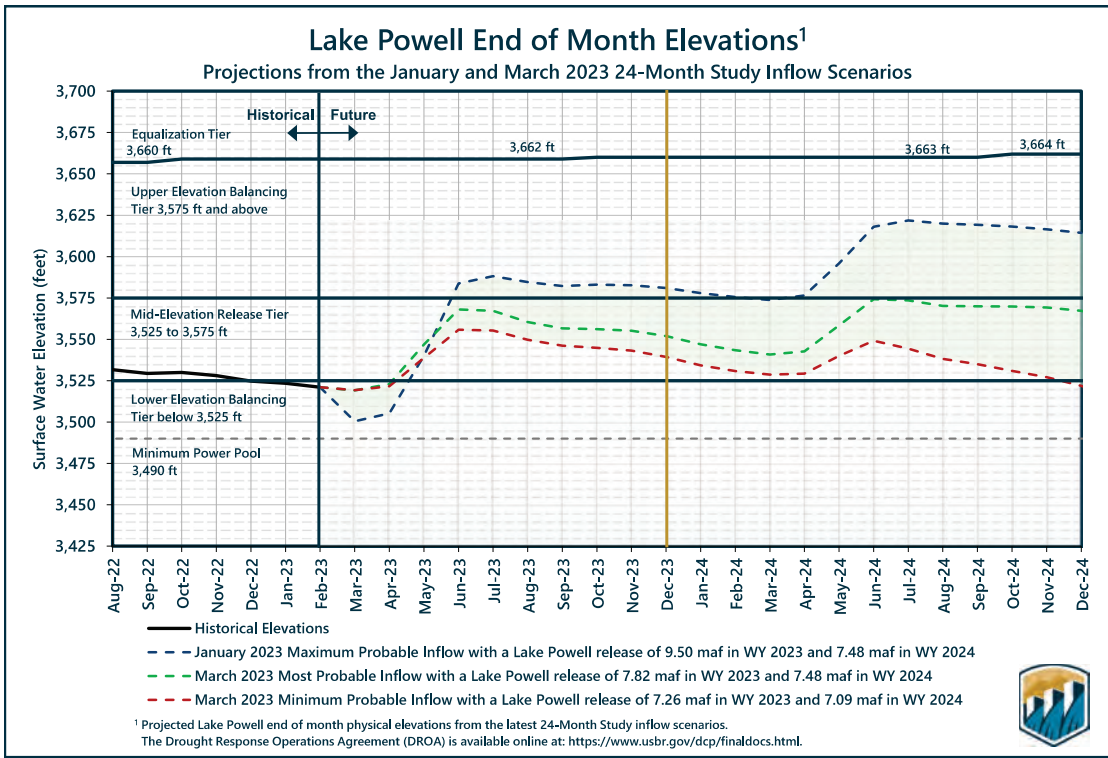
Snow Water Equivalent

Percent NRCS 1991-2020 Median

April 1st, 2023

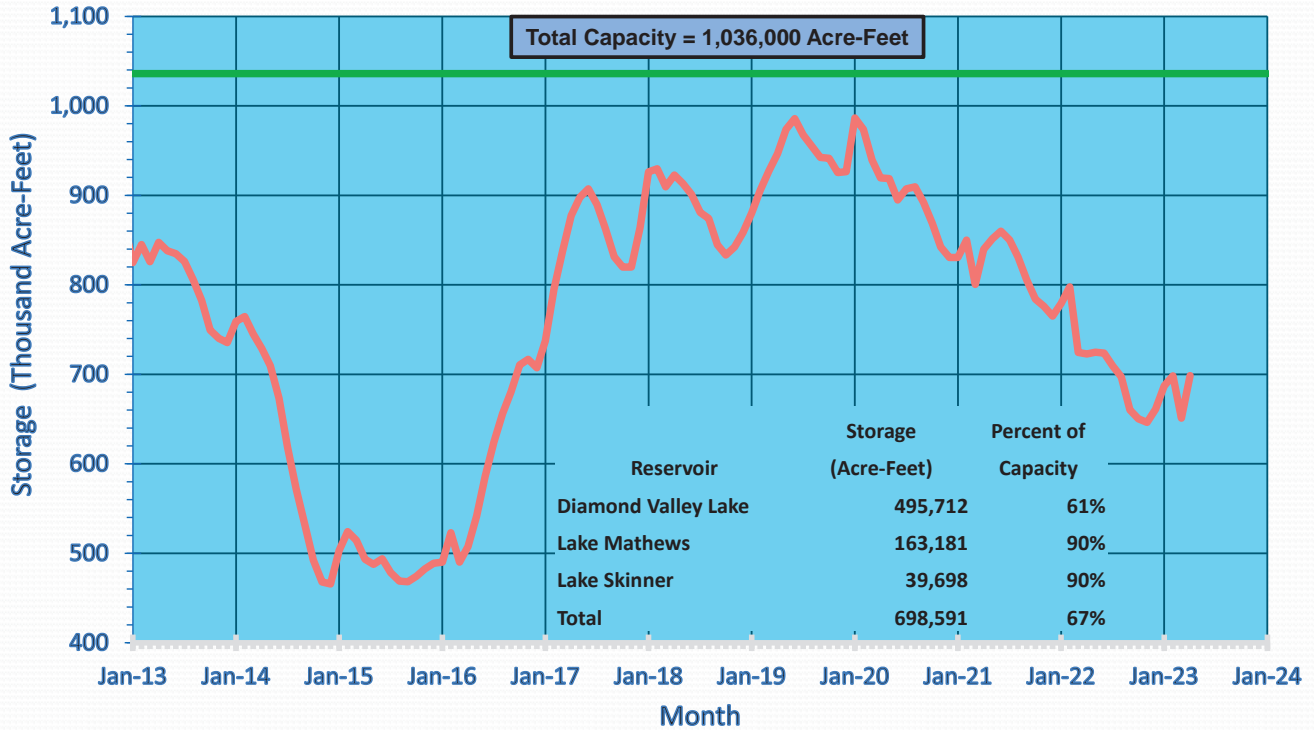




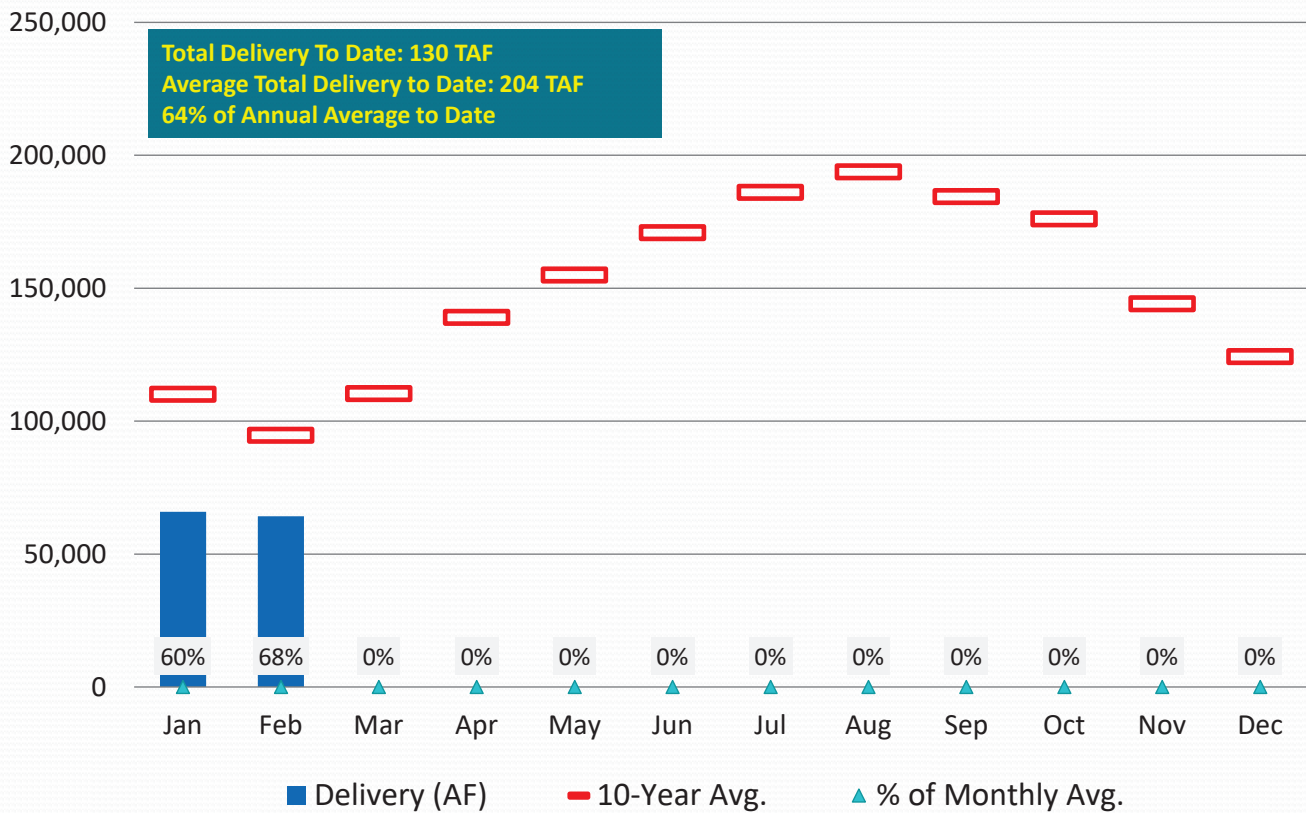


MWD's Combined Reservoir Storage as of April 1, 2023

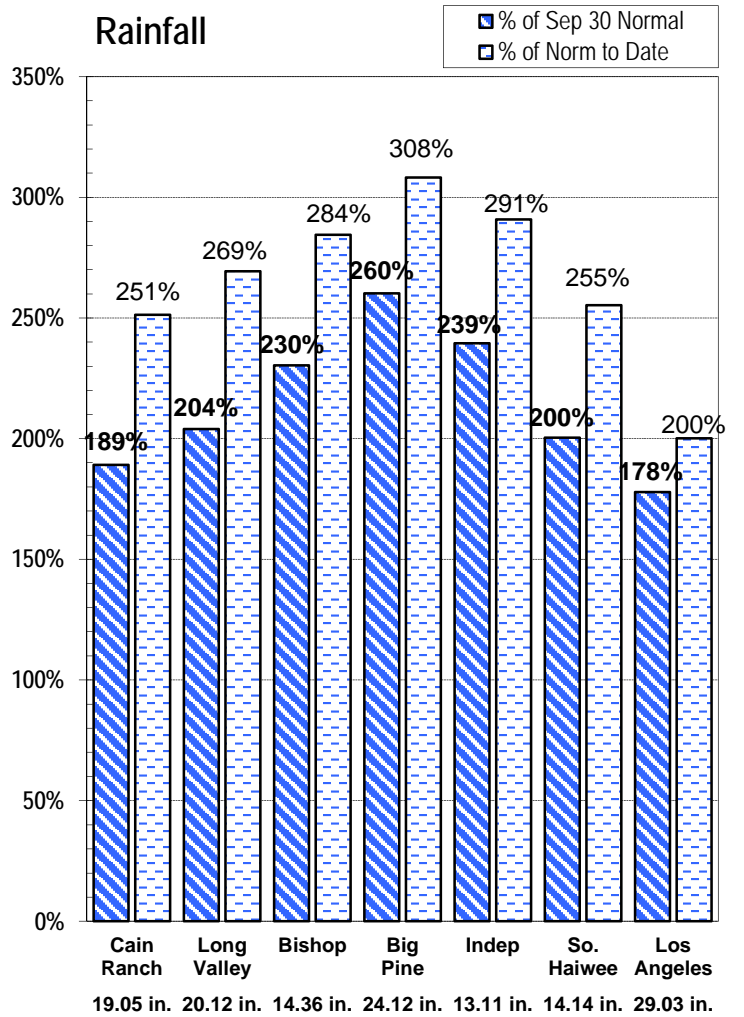
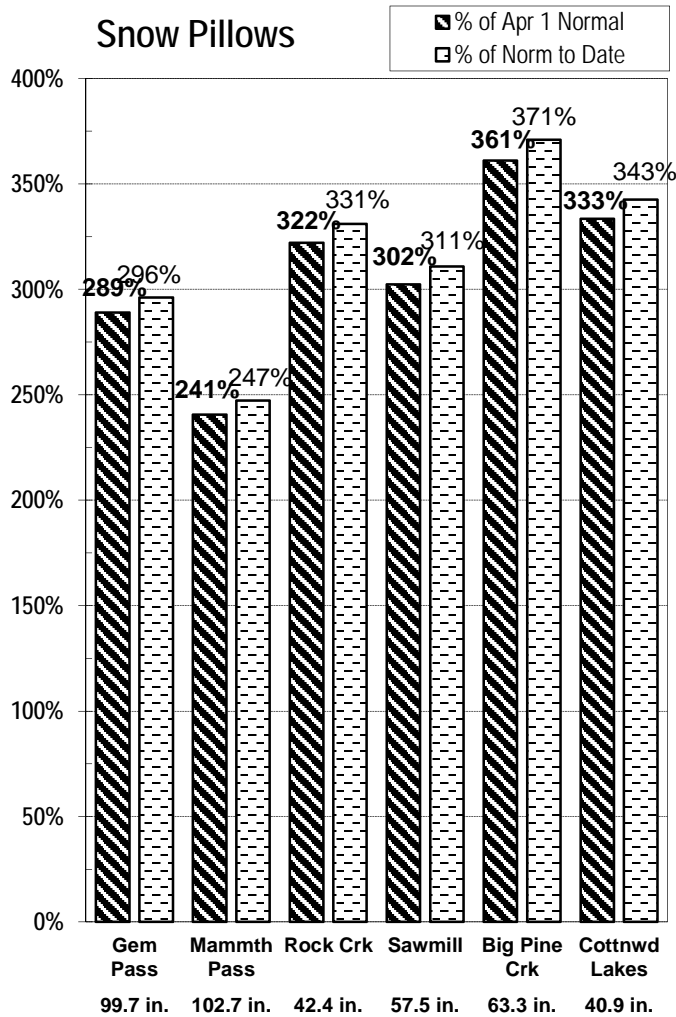
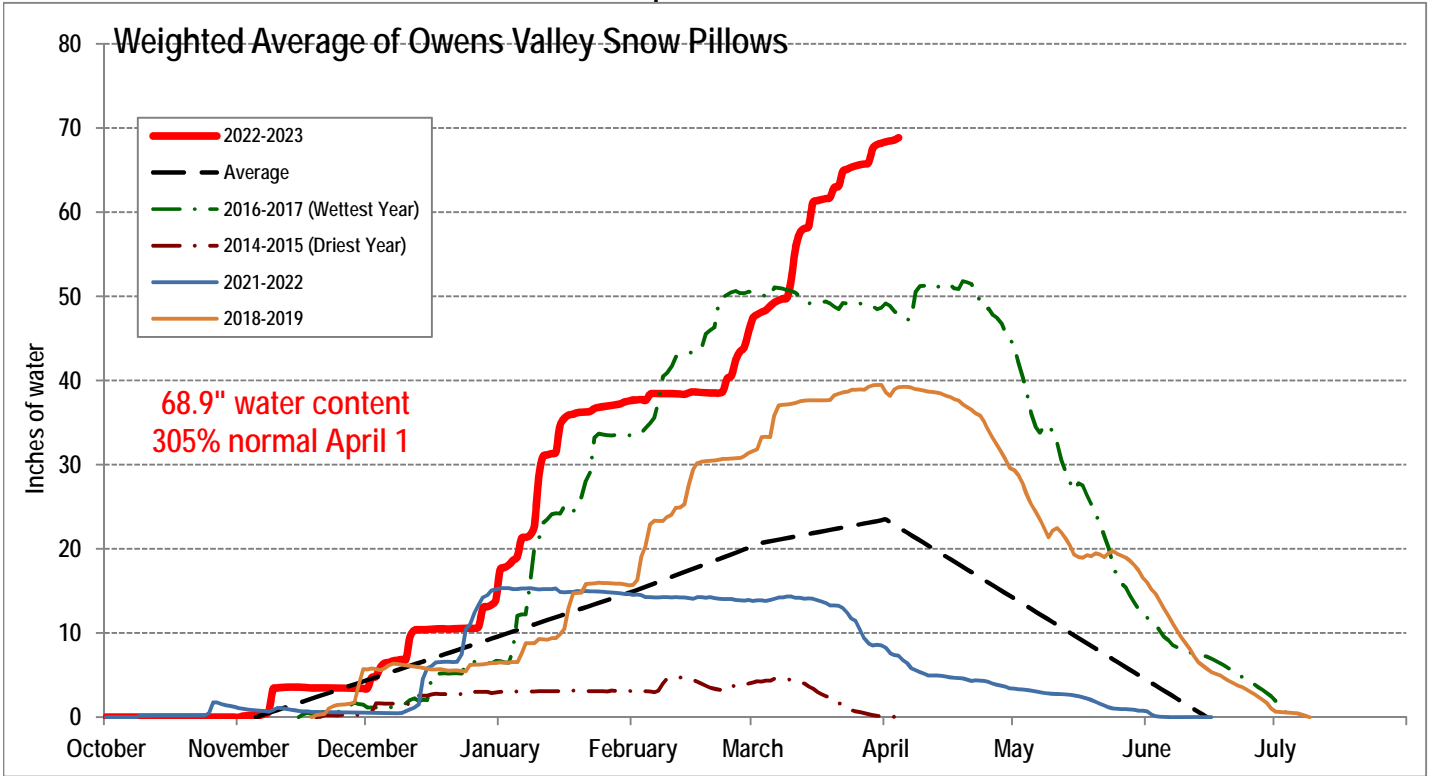
Lake Skinner, Lake Mathews, and Diamond Valley Lake



2023 Water Deliveries to Agencies (AF)



EASTERN SIERRA CURRENT PRECIPITATION CONDITIONS April 4, 2023



Measurement as Inches Water Content; Precipitation totals are cumulative for water year beginning Oct 1



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 MAIL ONLY

Interested Parties

Subject: Request for Input for the Lower Colorado River Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program

Greetings:

The purpose of this letter is to follow-up on the Secretary's September 23, 2022, announcement 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 the program for short-term conservation contributions, via letter dated October 12, 2022, and the purpose of this letter is to request input on the next phase of our program to establish longer-term durable system efficiency improvements that result in water conservation benefitting the lower Colorado River System and its water users.

The LC Conservation Program is a part of 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 Basin can function 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 Colorado River Basin partners on various drought response operations. Given that water levels 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 levels committed by the Biden Harris Administration in the Inflation Reduction Act 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 Bureau of Reclamation is requesting input from Colorado River stakeholders to inform the development of the next phase of the program. The LC Conservation Program is intended to provide alternate paths to system efficiency that lead to additional conservation and longer-term durable solutions for the Colorado River System.

When the next phase is launched in the Lower Colorado River Basin, Reclamation will accept proposals from Colorado River water delivery contract or entitlement holders and Central Arizona Project water delivery contract or entitlement holders, including partnerships with such entities. Reclamation is specifically requesting input on the

INTERIOR REGION 8 • LOWER COLORADO BASIN

ARIZONA, CALIFORNIA*, NEVADA*

* PARTIAL

types and nature of projects that should be eligible and evaluation criteria for suggested projects.

Reclamation is working to release the solicitation of LC Conservation Program projects in early spring of 2023 and appreciates your suggestions in order to help make the program a success. Comments will be accepted until Thursday, April 06, 2023 and can be sent via email to: LCBEfficiency@usbr.gov

Additional information from Reclamation will be forthcoming on Inflation Reduction Act programs in the Upper Colorado River Basin as well as other basins experiencing comparable levels of long-term drought. For more information on the Inflation Reduction Act as well as the Bi-partisan Infrastructure Law, please visit <https://www.usbr.gov/inflation-reduction-act/> and www.usbr.gov/bil, respectively.

**JACKLYNN
GOULD** Digitally signed by
JACKLYNN GOULD
Date: 2023.03.23
10:01:09 -04'00'

Jacklynn L. Gould, P.E.
Regional Director
Lower Colorado Basin Region

APRIL 06, 2023

FACT SHEET: Biden-Harris Administration Announces New Investments to Protect the Colorado River System

President Biden's Investing in America Agenda is Enhancing Drought Resilience and Strengthening Water Security in the West

The Biden-Harris Administration is leading a whole-of-government effort to make Western communities more resilient to climate change and the ongoing megadrought by harnessing the full resources of the President's historic Investing in America agenda. The Inflation Reduction Act and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law together include \$15.4 billion to enhance the West's resilience to drought, the largest investment in climate resilience in our nation's history.

This week, senior officials from the White House and the Department of the Interior traveled to Arizona, California, Colorado, and Nevada to highlight the Administration's unprecedented investments in drought resilience and close collaboration with Colorado River Basin states, Tribes, water managers, farmers, irrigators, and other stakeholders.

The Administration is announcing new investments for water-saving projects and other conservation efforts in the Colorado River Basin that will immediately yield hundreds of thousands of acre-feet of water savings. These water savings will grow rapidly in the years ahead as additional, longer-term water efficiency infrastructure and resilience strategies come online:

- **Up to \$233 million in water conservation funding for the Gila River Indian Community**, including \$83 million for a water pipeline project that will reuse approximately 20,000 acre-feet of water per year and help shore up elevations at Lake Mead. An additional \$50 million from the Inflation Reduction Act through Bureau of Reclamation's Lower Colorado River Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program will also save 125,000 acre-feet of water this year and provide similar investment and water saving opportunities in 2024 and 2025 for the benefit of the Colorado River System.
- **Up to \$36 million for water conservation in the Coachella Valley.** The Bureau of Reclamation's Lower Colorado River Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program, funded through the Inflation Reduction Act, will be entering into an \$12 million agreement

in the coming weeks with the Coachella Valley Water District to conserve 30,000 acre-feet of water in Lake Mead this year and will provide similar investment and water saving opportunities in 2024 and 2025.

- **\$20 million for four small surface water storage and groundwater storage projects in California and Utah, including one near the Salton Sea.** Funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, these projects are essential tools for stretching limited water supplies and increasing conservation in the Colorado River Basin. This includes \$9.5 million to maximize the Imperial Irrigation District's water management efficiency within California's Imperial Valley and \$4.7 million to Washington County, Utah.
- **Over \$54 million for repairs to aging infrastructure to improve water delivery, including \$8.3 million for the Imperial Dam.** Funding announced this week from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will go to 14 projects in the Colorado River System in fiscal year 2023 to improve water conveyance and storage, increase safety, improve hydropower generation, and provide water treatment through the Bureau of Reclamation.
- **Expanded drought-focused outreach and technical assistance to communities in the Colorado River Basin.** In the coming weeks, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) leadership will convene the environmental and infrastructure Secretaries from all seven Colorado River Basin states to discuss strategies to maximize long-term water savings. EPA will also leverage its network of regional Environmental Finance Centers, the Creating Resilient Water Utilities initiative, and other technical assistance efforts to expand targeted outreach and enhance federal-state collaboration.

The Colorado River Basin provides water for more than 40 million Americans, fuels hydropower resources in eight states, supports agriculture and agricultural communities across the West, and is a crucial resource for 30 Tribal Nations. Despite recent heavy rain and snow, the historic 23-year drought has led to record low water levels at Lake Powell and Lake Mead.

The Administration is deploying these resources and more to protect the stability and sustainability of the Colorado River System now and into the future by:

- **Immediately reducing water demand** throughout the Colorado River System through incentives for voluntary water conservation;
- **Maximizing water resources** by investing in infrastructure upgrades and long-term strategies to improve water efficiency, desalination, reuse, storage, and recycling; and,

- **Protecting the Colorado River Basin’s communities for the long term**, including farmers, ranchers, Tribal Nations, rural communities, and cities that will continue to face the impacts of drought and climate change.

Support to Immediately Reduce Water Demand in the Colorado River Basin

President Biden’s Inflation Reduction Act is supporting voluntary water conservation measures to immediately reduce water demand throughout the Colorado River System. Ongoing investments from the Inflation Reduction Act’s \$4.6 billion for drought resilience and other efforts to support short-term conservation include:

- **Lower Colorado River Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program Funding to Immediately Reduce Water Use:** In addition to the Coachella Valley and Gila River Indian Community agreements announced today, the Bureau of Reclamation this spring will announce additional agreements for short-term water reduction by Colorado River water delivery contract or entitlement holders in the Lower Basin that mitigate drought, protect important natural resources, and ensure a reliable source of water and power.
- **Up to 1 Million Acre-feet of Water Conservation in the Imperial Valley:** The Bureau of Reclamation’s Lower Colorado River Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program, funded through the Inflation Reduction Act, is working with the Imperial Irrigation District on an agreement to conserve 250,000 acre-feet of water per year in 2023 through 2026 for the benefit of the Colorado River System.
- **Upper Basin System Conservation Pilot Program:** The Bureau of Reclamation is making available up to \$125 million to support the relaunch of a System Conservation Pilot Program, a voluntary conservation program in the Upper Colorado River Basin. The Upper Colorado River Commission is currently reviewing 2023 applications.

Infrastructure Upgrades and Strategies for Mid- and Long-Term Conservation

President Biden’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law includes \$8.3 billion for the Bureau of Reclamation’s water infrastructure programs. These investments and other resources, including from the Inflation Reduction Act, are supporting infrastructure upgrades and other long-term strategies to improve water efficiency, reuse, storage, and recycling. Initiatives to make scarce water supplies go further include:

- **WaterSMART Program:** Interior’s WaterSMART Initiative is investing over \$427 million for 127 projects across all seven Colorado River Basin states in fiscal year 2022 to help farmers and ranchers conserve water and build drought resilience in their communities. WaterSMART partners with the Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources

Conservation Service to coordinate investments in [priority areas](#) and help accelerate water conservation in individual communities to make a bigger impact where it is needed most.

- **Lower Colorado River Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program Funding for Long-term Water Conservation:** The Bureau of Reclamation will announce this spring that it is accepting proposals for long-term system efficiency improvements that will result in multi-year water conservation in the Lower Basin.
- **Salton Sea Restoration:** The Inflation Reduction Act is providing [\\$250 million](#) to restore California's largest lake, the Salton Sea, and help maintain water levels at Lake Mead. Exposed lakebed is contributing to harmful dust emissions in the surrounding communities and reducing important environmental habitat for wildlife.
- **Upgrades to Aging Infrastructure:** In addition to the \$54 million for repairs to aging infrastructure announced this week, Interior has already invested \$19.3 million in critically-needed upgrades to aging water infrastructure in the Colorado River Basin. This includes repairs to improve water supplies and delivery systems, including over \$5 million for canal lining in western Colorado.
- **Water Recycling:** Interior has invested \$281 million in 21 water recycling projects in Colorado River Basin states through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. These projects will advance drought resilience and are expected to increase annual capacity by about 172,000 acre-feet of water.
- **Drought Resiliency Projects:** Interior has invested \$71 million in 32 drought resiliency projects in Colorado River Basin states. These projects will help bring clean, reliable drinking water to communities across the West through investments in innovative drought resilience efforts, such as groundwater storage, rainwater harvesting, aquifer recharge, water reuse, ion exchange treatment, and other methods to stretch existing water supplies.
- **Drinking Water and Clean Water State Revolving Funds:** Since 2021, EPA has provided nearly \$2 billion to Colorado River Basin states through EPA's Drinking Water and Clean Water State Revolving Funds (SRFs), including funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Water systems and communities can leverage these resources to support projects such as aquifer storage and recovery, water reuse, green infrastructure, flood diversion and storage, water loss audits, meter replacement, groundwater replenishment, and nature-based solutions. EPA has released resources to help states and communities understand important drought-related eligibilities for the SRFs, including EPA's [Drinking Water SRF](#), [Clean Water SRF](#), and [Water Reuse](#).

- **Leveraging EPA Financing for Drought Resilience:** EPA's [Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation \(WIFIA\)](#) program has helped finance 17 projects leveraging over \$5 billion for water infrastructure improvements that address drought resilience and water supply in Colorado River Basin states. These projects include efforts to recycle wastewater, increase water storage, install water meters, and prevent saltwater intrusion in aquifers. The program is currently reviewing applications to support another seven drought-related initiatives totaling an additional \$1.3 billion and will open additional funding opportunities this summer.
- **Initiatives to Enhance Water Efficiency:** EPA's WaterSense partnership, a voluntary program to help households save water, is carrying out targeted efforts within Colorado River Basin states to advance its Labeled Homes program and reduce household water consumption. Based on some studies, WaterSense labeled homes can reduce household water use by up to 45 percent.
- **Climate-Smart Agriculture:** The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is accepting applications for [\\$850 million](#) in fiscal year 2023 funding opportunities for producers in Western states and across the nation who want to participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service conservation programs and adopt climate-smart agriculture practices. This is part of a \$19.5 billion investment through the Inflation Reduction Act for climate-smart agriculture. These investments provide resources for farmers, ranchers and forest owners to implement conservation practices for their land.

Collaborative Planning to Protect Communities Now and into the Future

As the Biden-Harris Administration deploys unprecedented investments to increase water security and resilience throughout the Colorado River Basin, the Administration is also working collaboratively with all stakeholders to ensure the Colorado River Basin's farmers, ranchers, Tribal Nations, rural communities, and cities have the tools and resources they need to manage the impacts of drought and changing climate conditions today and into the future. These efforts include:

- **Updated Operating Guidelines for Glen Canyon and Hoover Dams:** Interior is working to update the operating guidelines for the Colorado River System to address ongoing water scarcity and to ensure continued water deliveries and hydropower production. Interior will soon be inviting public input on options for operating the Colorado River System beginning in August 2023. This plan will incorporate the ideas and input of states, Tribes, and stakeholders; the latest science and hydrological forecasting; and the expected water savings and efficiency improvements that will come from the Biden-Harris Administration's unprecedented investments in water security.

- **Support for Farmers and Ranchers:** Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack [convened the leaders of the seven basin states Departments of Agriculture last month to discuss the challenges faced by farmers and ranchers in the Colorado River Basin and USDA resources and programs available to mitigate the impact of historic megadrought](#). In 2022, producers in the seven basin states have received [over \\$1.8 billion in federal crop insurance indemnity payments due to drought and drought-related impacts](#). USDA has also provided [nearly \\$680 million in Emergency Relief Program funding for producers impacted by natural disasters in the seven Colorado River Basin states, including drought, in 2020 and 2021](#). Through the Emergency Livestock Relief Program, USDA has provided nearly \$180.9 million in payments for livestock producers impacted by drought in 2020 and 2021. USDA's Farm Service Agency and Risk Management Agency are also working to implement an additional \$3.7 billion in disaster relief for 2022 disasters, which includes drought impacts.
- **Resilient Water Utilities:** EPA is working with water utilities across the Colorado River Basin to ensure continued water supplies into the future. EPA has provided technical assistance and held workshops to support water systems working to build drought resilience into their operations and capital planning efforts. EPA also offers [community level training, case studies, and resources to help state and utility partners such as an incident action checklist and a guide for water utilities](#).
- **Western Water and Working Lands Framework:** In February, Secretary Vilsack and the USDA announced the [Western Water and Working Lands Framework for Conservation Action](#), a comprehensive, multi-state strategy under USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to address key water and land management challenges across 17 Western states. The framework includes guidelines for identifying vulnerable agricultural landscapes and 13 strategies to help NRCS state leaders, water resource managers, and producers respond to priority challenges.
- **Indian Water Rights Settlement Completion Fund:** The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law includes [\\$2.5 billion for Tribal water rights settlement projects to help deliver long-promised water resources to Tribes and build a foundation for future economic development for communities that depend on common water resources](#).
- **Drought Early Warning Systems:** The National Integrated Drought Information System is working with the climatologists in the Colorado River Basin states to provide timely drought conditions and forecasting information, including the impacts of high precipitation. Additionally, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is working on a Next Generation Water Resources Modeling framework to accelerate research, increase community engagement, and transform its water resources predictions.



Governor Newsom Announces Appointments 3.22.23

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SACRAMENTO – Governor Gavin Newsom today announced the following appointments:

Samantha Arthur, of Sacramento, has been appointed Assistant Secretary for Salton Sea Policy at the California Natural Resources Agency. Arthur has been Working Lands Program Director for Audubon California since 2019. She was Conservation Project Director at Audubon California from 2016 to 2019 and Conservation Project Manager there from 2014 to 2016. Arthur was a Land Protection Specialist with Big Sur Land Trust from 2010 to 2012. She is a member of the California Water Commission. Arthur earned a Master of Science degree in Environmental Science and Management from the University of California, Santa Barbara. This position does not require Senate confirmation and the compensation is \$163,008. Arthur is a Democrat.

Gloria Cordero, of Long Beach, has been appointed to the Colorado River Board. Cordero has been President of Long Beach Utilities since 2015 and represents the City of Long Beach on the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Board of Directors. She is also a member of the board of the DigDEEP Navajo Water Project. Cordero was a Partner at ABC Advocacy from 2007 to 2011 and served as Director of Community Outreach in the City of Long Beach Mayor's Office from 2007 to 2011. She was Director of Government Affairs at Long Beach City College from 2000 to 2001 and the Region Manager of Public Affairs at Southern California Edison from 1983 to 2000. She earned a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Southern California. This position does not require Senate confirmation and the compensation is \$100 per diem. Cordero is a Democrat.

Jordan D. Joaquin, of Fort Yuma, Quechan Indian Reservation, has been appointed to the Colorado River Board. Joaquin has served as President of the Quechan Tribe since 2019, having been re-elected for a second four-year term in December 2022. He was a Council Member with the Quechan Indian Tribe from 2008 to 2010. Joaquin retired as a Sergeant from the Imperial County Sheriff's Office in 2017 after 28 years of service. This position does not require Senate confirmation and the compensation is \$100 per diem. Joaquin is a Democrat.

Frank Ruiz, of Riverside, has been appointed to the Colorado River Board. Ruiz is Salton Sea Program Director for Audubon California. He earned a Master of Education degree in Religion from La Sierra University. This position does not require Senate confirmation and the compensation is \$100 per diem. Ruiz is a Democrat.