

**COLORADO RIVER BOARD OF CALIFORNIA**

770 FAIRMONT AVENUE, SUITE 100  
GLENDALE, CA 91203-1068  
(818) 500-1625  
(818) 543-4685 FAX



February 27, 2014

**NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
COLORADO RIVER BOARD**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** pursuant to the call of the Chairperson, Dana B. Fisher, Jr., by the undersigned Executive Director of the Colorado River Board of California that a regular meeting of the Board Members is to be held as follows:

Date: Wednesday, March 12, 2014
Time: 1:30 p.m.
Place: The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California MWD Headquarters Building, Board Room 700 N. Alameda Street Los Angeles, CA 90012 213-217-6000

The Colorado River Board of California welcomes any comments from members of the public pertaining to items included on this agenda and related topics. Oral comments can be provided at the beginning of each Board meeting; while written comments may be sent to Mr. Dana B. Fisher, Jr., Chairperson, Colorado River Board of California, 770 Fairmont Avenue, Suite 100, Glendale, California, 91203-1068.

An Executive Session may be held in accordance with 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 in accordance with 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 other states or the federal government.

Requests for additional information may be directed to: Ms. Tanya M. Trujillo, Executive Director, Colorado River Board of California, 770 Fairmont Avenue, Suite 100, Glendale, CA 91203-1068, or 818-500-1625. A copy of this Notice and Agenda may be found on the Colorado River Board's web page at [www.crb.ca.gov](http://www.crb.ca.gov).

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

Tanya M. Trujillo  
Executive Director

attachment: Agenda

Regular Meeting  
COLORADO RIVER BOARD OF CALIFORNIA  
March 12, 2014, Wednesday  
1:30 p.m.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
MWD Headquarters Building, Board Room  
700 N. Alameda Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

**AGENDA**

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.

1. Call to Order
2. Opportunity for the Public to Address the Board (Limited to 5 minutes) as required by Government Code, Section 54954.3(a)
3. Welcome by The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
4. Administration
  - a. Consideration and Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held February 12, 2014 (**Action**)
5. Colorado River Basin Water Reports
  - a. Reports on current reservoir storage, reservoir releases, projected water use, and forecasted river flows
  - b. State and Local Water Reports
6. Update regarding the 2014 California Drought
7. Staff Reports regarding Colorado River Basin Programs
  - a. Review status of the Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand Study
  - b. Review status of the implementation of Minute 319
  - c. Review status of the Salinity Control Forum Workgroup and Advisory Council meetings
  - d. Review status of the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Work Group and Long Term Experimental Management Plan EIS
  - e. Review status of the Lower Colorado River Basin Multi-Species Conservation Plan
8. Announcements/Notices

9. Executive Session

An Executive Session may be held by the Board pursuant to provisions of Article (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 other states or the federal government.

10. Other Business

a. Next Board Meeting: April 9, 2014

Time and location details to be provided  
Imperial Irrigation District  
1285 Broadway Street  
El Centro, California 92243



Minutes of Meeting  
COLORADO RIVER BOARD OF CALIFORNIA  
Wednesday, February 12, 2014

A Meeting of the Colorado River Board of California was held in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 235 N. Broadway, Blythe, CA 92225, Wednesday, February 12, 2014.

Board Members and Alternates Present

Dana Bart Fisher, Jr., Chairman  
Franz W. De Klotz  
Stephen Benson  
Henry Kuiper  
Glen D. Peterson  
David Pettijohn

Doug Wilson  
Jeanine Jones, Designee  
Department of Water Resources  
Christopher G. Hayes, Designee  
Department of Fish & Wildlife

Board Members and Alternates Absent

John V. Foley  
Terese M. Ghio  
James Hanks  
James B. McDaniel

Bud Pocklington  
John Powell, Jr.

Others Present

Steve Abbott  
Duane E. Berger  
Grant Chaffin  
Larry Chaffin  
Robert Cheng  
Cheryl Cloud  
Tom Crook  
Dan Denham  
Ron Derma  
Matt Dessert  
Andrew Fisher  
Norma Sierra Galindo  
Ismael Gomez  
Christopher S. Harris  
Bill Hasencamp  
Michael Hughes  
Lori Jones  
Jan Matusak

Evan Olivas  
Autumn Plourd  
Angela Rashid  
Dan Robinson  
Eric Ruckdaschel  
Bill Scott  
Jack Seiler  
Tina Shields  
Ed W. Smith  
Joanna Smith  
Mark Stuart  
Ron Swan  
Ann Tom  
Tanya Trujillo  
David Vigil  
Michael Yu

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Fisher announced the presence of a quorum and called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

## **OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

Jack Seiler, from the Palo Verde Irrigation District, welcomed the Colorado River Board to Blythe.

Chairman Fisher asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to address the Board on items on the agenda or matters related to the Board. Mr. Ron Derma from the Bard Water District (Bard) announced that Bard is looking for support from the Colorado River Board (Board) or any of the other member agencies to include Bard and the Haughtelin Lakes project as potential habitat restoration projects for the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

### Approval of Minutes

Chairman Fisher asked if there was a motion to approve the December 11, 2013 minutes. Chairman Fisher acknowledged Mr. Wilson's comment that he was at the December 11, 2013 Board meeting, but he was not identified in the current draft of the minutes. Mr. Pettijohn moved that the minutes be approved, seconded by Mr. De Klotz, and unanimously carried, the December 11, 2013, meeting minutes were approved.

### Statement of Economic Interest Deadline

Ms. Trujillo reminded the Board members that they need to fill out the Form 700 statements by the deadline of April 1, 2014.

### Update of the Colorado River Board Website

Ms. Trujillo reported that the Colorado River Board is in the process of updating its website and remodeling the office in Glendale. The website will be more user friendly and its format updated similar to the Department of Water Resources website. The meeting notices, agendas, and other meeting materials will continue to be posted on the website.

## COLORADO RIVER BASIN WATER REPORT

Ms. Trujillo reported that as of February 4, 2014 the forecasted unregulated inflow into Lake Powell for Water Year 2014 is 96% of average and that the current Basin snowpack is 102 percent of average. However, monthly precipitation maps for December 2013 and January 2014 indicate that a vast majority of the Basin is still in a drought situation. Currently, reservoir storage in Lake Powell is 40 percent of capacity and Lake Mead is 48 percent of capacity. Total system storage is 49 percent of capacity, as compared to 55 percent last year. In addition, Ms. Trujillo noted that she provided the Board with satellite images from the Colorado River Basin Forecast Center which show the dramatic contrast between snowpack conditions in the Sierras from the current year and last year.

# Mr. Mark Stuart of the California Department of Water Resources' Southern District Office provided an overview of the current statewide precipitation and hydrological conditions. Mr. Stuart reported that conditions remain exceptionally dry in the Los Angeles Basin with just over an inch of rainfall recorded so far. Mr. Stuart also reported that the Sacramento region went the entire month of January without any measurable precipitation; and that the precipitation conditions across the entire state of California is currently between 10% and 25% of normal as of mid-February.

Mr. Stuart reported that the storage in the State Water Project reservoir system is currently at 40% of capacity. Consequently, the Department of Water Resources is currently projecting that the State Water Project allocations will be zero. This is the first time in the history of the project that water allocations will not be made. He also reported that it is expected to be a similar forecast of little or no allocations being made available from the federal Central Valley Project system.

### Presentation by Ms. Jeanine Jones regarding the California Drought

Ms. Jeanine Jones reported that 2014 is shaping up to be the third dry year in a row in California, and that the Governor has begun to implement a number of actions in response to this extreme hydrology. She reported that the Governor has issued an Executive Order directing DWR and the State Water Resources Control Board to facilitate water transfers; the Governor has created an Inter-Agency Drought Task Force; and followed that up in mid-January with his Drought Emergency Proclamation. In the Proclamation, the Governor has asked local agencies to achieve a goal of a 20% water use reduction through conservation and other measures. Ms. Jones commended MWD for following that lead at their recent Board meeting. Ms. Jones described the details of the elements contained in the drought declaration. She noted that the recent storms have not made too much of a difference in the overall snowpack levels and that there is still a long ways to go to move California out of its drought. Ms. Jones noted that the Governor's office is taking the drought relief efforts very seriously and has devoted a lot

of high-level resources into it. The Governor's Drought Task Force meets weekly and includes over 50 people from various State agencies. Ms. Trujillo indicated that a copy of the Governor's Drought Emergency Proclamation was included within the Board folder.

*Presentation by Mr. Chris Hayes, of Department of Fish and Wildlife*

# Board member, Mr. Chris Hayes, representing the California Department of Fish and Wildlife provided an overview of the Department's Colorado River Program that he manages from the Blythe Field Office. Mr. Hayes indicated that the program area encompasses significant portions of San Bernardino, Riverside and Imperial Counties from Needles, California to the Northerly International Boundary with Mexico near Yuma, Arizona. He reported that the Blythe Field Office is currently staffed with ten employees.

Mr. Hayes provided a brief description of the Palo Verde Ecological Reserve located in the Palo Verde Valley. This property, at just over 1,300 acres, was acquired with Proposition 50 funds and has been restored with native riparian and marsh habitats and has been included as part of the LCR MSCP. While much of the PVER habitat is managed for LCR MSCP purposes, portions of PVER are also managed for upland game bird and waterfowl hunting opportunities and other recreational activities. He reported that some of the work at PVER has been facilitated and funded through grant opportunities from North American Wetlands Conservation Council and Ducks Unlimited.

Mr. Hayes reported that his staff are also heavily involved in habitat and species monitoring activities along the Lower Colorado River, and that much of this work is in conjunction with implementation of the LCR MSCP. Mr. Hayes indicated that the Department's Inland Deserts-Eastern Sierra Region was expanding the installation of "big-game drinkers and guzzlers" for wildlife in the desert regions. These facilities can capture precipitation from limited rainfall events in the desert regions and store this water and make it available for wildlife during dry periods.

Mr. Hayes reported that because of the recent influx of new solar energy projects in the desert that there has been a significant expansion of desert Kit fox monitoring. He also stated that Department continues to conduct native fish and sport-fish monitoring in the riverine, lake, and backwater aquatic habitats along the Lower Colorado River. Finally, Mr. Hayes indicated that he and his staff continue to be heavily involved in the repatriation and monitoring of native endangered fishes like the Razorback Sucker and Bonytail in mainstream aquatic habitats of the Lower Colorado River in California.

**Colorado River Basin Programs**

*Status of the Colorado River Basin Water Supply & Demand Study*

Ms. Trujillo reported that the Next Steps phase of the program will have its first year anniversary in May 2014. Three workgroups (Municipal Conservation, Agricultural Conservation, and Environmental Flows Analysis) are in the process of formulating study reports. The purpose of the reports is to gather municipal and agricultural data relating to existing conservation programs. The data will be compiled to highlight potential “best practices” that exist throughout the Basin States. The Environmental Flows workgroup is analyzing whether the existing models utilized by Reclamation for stream regulation purposes can be expanded to accommodate the environmental flows concerns and needs in the Upper Basin, and possibly in the Lower Basin river reaches, which may include the Bill Williams River in Arizona.

Ms. Trujillo reported that Imperial Irrigation District (IID) is helping to lead the Agricultural Conservation group, and Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) is one of the co-chairs on the Municipal Conservation sub-workgroups. Additional workgroup meetings are scheduled for February and March. Phase one reports will be due in April 2014.

#### Report on Minute 319 Implementation

Ms. Trujillo reported that on January 16, 2014 the Minute 319 partners received a “Partners in Conservation Award” from the Secretary of the Interior in Washington, D.C.

The Environmental Flows Delivery Plan was compiled by a bi-national technical group who volunteer their efforts on the U.S. side from non-governmental organizations, universities, the Basin States, and Federal agencies. The plan was submitted to the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) on January 14, 2014 for review by the IBWC and the Mexican Delegation/CILA. Ms. Trujillo explained that the pulse flow will utilize about 105,000 acre-feet of Mexican water that is stored in Lake Mead and is proposed to be released in late-March and early-April of 2014. The next step would be to monitor the effects of the pulse flow and analyze how the habitat has been affected in the Mexican reach below the Yuma area.

Ms. Trujillo reported that a ceremony hosted by the Mexican delegation/CILA is planned for March 27, 2014 at Morelos Dam to commemorate the pulse flow. Additionally, Reclamation is contemplating a ceremony to commemorate the pulse flow on the U.S. side in Yuma, Arizona on March 28.

Minute 319 implementation workgroups are scheduled to meet in Tijuana, Mexico on February 13-14, 2014 to discuss a potential bi-lateral connection on the All-American Canal between Mexico and IID and additional pilot projects that would involve United States investments in infrastructure improvements in Mexico to create water conserved within Mexico that could be stored in the U.S. and converted for use by U.S. funding entities.

Chairman Fisher commented that the pulse flow event was negotiated as part of

Minute 319. Mexico takes virtually all the water delivered into Mexico and diverts it for agriculture and municipal uses. The old river channel is basically dry and barren except for a copious amount of salt cedar and other plants. The idea with the pulse flow is that they'll open their gates and fill the old limitrophe and push water down in the direction of the Delta. This will allow Mexico to evaluate the environmental effects of returning water flows to their original area.

Mr. Harris reported that releasing 105,000 acre-feet over a week to ten days will not impact agricultural or recreational activities along the Lower Colorado River. One area of initial concern was flooding in the Yuma Region with the Yuma East Wetlands, which is inside the levee and will probably be inundated with water. Mr. Harris reported that the pulse flow will probably also benefit the Laguna Conservation Area that's being worked on between Imperial and Laguna Dams, Yuma East Wetlands, and the Hunter's Hole Conservation Area in the Limitrophe Division. Overall, there should be relatively little impact to the United States.

Ms. Trujillo reported that Reclamation is working closely with the irrigation districts in Arizona and that they will coordinate with IID with respect to operations of the All-American Canal and the diversion facilities so that the pulse flow does not adversely impact any deliveries on the U.S. side.

#### Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program

Mr. Harris, of the Board's staff, provided a brief update associated with the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program. He reported that the Advisory Council conducted a very brief meeting in December 2013 in conjunction with the Colorado River Water User's Association annual meeting. At the meeting the Advisory Council confirmed approval of federal funding recommendations for continued implementation of the Salinity Control Program.

Mr. Harris also reported that a small group of Forum members continues to work on identifying some options for ensuring the continued fiscal integrity of the Lower Basin Fund and maintaining an adequate revenue stream for implementation of the Salinity Control Program annually. The small group is looking at Program funding for short-term and long-term fixes. A long-term structural fix would require consensus among the seven Basin States, Reclamation, and USDA, but could also require federal legislation.

Mr. Harris updated the Board regarding funding for implementation of the Salinity Control Program in 2014. Reclamation anticipates expending approximately \$10 million through the Basinwide Program in 2014. BLM believes that it will be allocated about \$750,000 for the Program through its Soil, Water and Air Program. Finally, Mr. Harris reported that the NRCS believes that its 2014 allocation is likely to be just over \$12 million through the EQIP appropriation.

Mr. Harris reported that on February 7<sup>th</sup>, the Farm Bill was signed into law by the President. The Farm Bill is now known as the "Agricultural Act of 2014". He stated that

the new Farm Bill lays out the appropriations schedule and amounts for the EQIP program over the period 2014 through 2018, and that the majority of the funding utilized by NRCS for on-farm salinity control in the Basin continues to be through the EQIP program.

Mr. Harris provided an update on the USGS efforts to reschedule the Pah Tempe Springs pump test for February 10-14<sup>th</sup>. He reminded the Board that the first pump test had been initiated in November 2013, but was stopped because of a high-flow rainfall event that caused damage to equipment and inhibited the ability to effectively draw-down the spring outfall. He reported that the USGS and the Washington County Water Conservancy District have replaced the measuring equipment, and added additional pumps and hope to be better able to dewater the highly saline spring flow during the test.

Finally, Mr. Harris reported that the Salinity Control Work Group was scheduled to meet in Phoenix, Arizona, on February 26-27<sup>th</sup>. At this meeting, Work Group members will continue to work on preparation of the 2014 Triennial Review; discuss Reclamation's preparation of the Paradox Alternatives Studies and EIS process; and review planning studies recently completed for the Lower Gunnison and Uinta Basins; as well as receive reports associated with 2014/2015 budgets and activities from each of the federal agencies.

#### *Glen Canyon Dam—Long-Term Experimental Management Plan EIS Process*

Mr. Harris provided the Board with an update regarding the activities associated with the continued preparation of the draft EIS associated with the Long-Term Experimental and Management Plan (LTEMP) by the co-lead agencies, Reclamation and the National Park Service. He reported that the co-lead agencies and Argonne National Laboratories continue to refine the models being used to evaluate the alternatives being considered for inclusion in the draft EIS. Mr. Harris reported that the Department of the Interior Management Team has been working closely with all stakeholders regarding the next round of "Structured Decision Analysis" (SDA) that is being proposed as part of the alternatives analysis process. After significant discussion with Basin States representatives, DOI has developed a proposed schedule for completion of the SDA process. It is hoped that the SDA process will help the DOI Management Team and interested stakeholders better understand the various natural, physical, and cultural resources of the Glen and Grand Canyon reaches of the Colorado River below Glen Canyon Dam.

Mr. Harris reported that the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program's Technical Work Group met on January 28-30 for its annual Science Activities reporting meeting to receive presentations on the status and trends of native and non-native fish; results of a food web analysis study; and reviewed the very preliminary results of the November 2013 High Flow Experimental (HFE) Release. He stated that the Adaptive Management Work Group was scheduled to meet on February 19-20, 2014, in Tempe Arizona, to discuss the LTEMP EIS, results of the November 2013 HFE, current basin

hydrology and operations, impacts to the Fiscal Year 2014 budget as a result of the sequestration, and a preliminary Fiscal Year 2015-16 budget and work plan.

Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program

Mr. Harris updated the Board about the current status of the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program (LCR MSCP). He reported that the Winter 2014 edition of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's *Endangered Species News Bulletin* included an article entitled "The Yuma Clapper Rail—A Marsh Bird in the Desert". He indicated that the article provided an excellent overview of current Yuma clapper rail conservation efforts along the Colorado River and at the Salton Sea. In the article the USFWS singled out the efforts of the LCR MSCP, work of the IID at the Salton Sea, and the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan, as well as the continued activities of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife at the Wister Unit. Mr. Harris indicated that a copy of the article could be found on-line and had been included in the Board folder.

Mr. Harris reported that a meeting of the LCR MSCP Technical Work Group was scheduled for March 12<sup>th</sup>, and will be held at the Hilton Garden Pivot Point Inn in Yuma, Arizona. The Work Group meeting will be followed by a tour of the continuing restoration and revegetation work at the Laguna Habitat Conservation Area on March 13<sup>th</sup>. He also reported that the LCR MSCP Steering Committee will be holding its next meeting on April 23<sup>rd</sup> in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Update Regarding the Lower Colorado Water Supply Act, P.L. 99-655/P.L. 109-103

Ms. Trujillo reported that information available to the public associated with the Board's website regarding the Lower Colorado Water Supply Project has been updated. The Board serves as a clearinghouse for Reclamation's consideration of applications for additional water rights on the Colorado River. The City of Needles serves as the master contractor and municipal or industrial water users that don't have Colorado River water rights can apply for a subcontract through the City of Needles to legitimize their water uses.

Ms. Trujillo reported that the program was originally authorized by Congress in 1986 and the legislation was updated in 2005. The Board's procedures and background information dated back to that original authorization of 1986, so they have been updated. To date, the total amount of water rights allocated under the project is approximately 5,800 acre-feet. The project capacity will reach its maximum of 10,000 acre-feet after the completion of Stage Two. Under the project, MWD is able to utilize unused project water as one of the additional components of its water supply. The contract for drilling the Stage Two well was finalized between the City of Needles and Reclamation on December 31, 2013 and drilling will progress for the remainder of this year.

**Additional Announcements and Notices**

Resolution Honoring Ms. Pat Mulroy of the Southern Nevada Water Authority

Ms. Trujillo presented a draft resolution honoring Pat Mulroy, General Manager of the Southern Nevada Water Authority for the State of Nevada. Ms. Mulroy began working with SNWA in 1993 and remained General Manager until she retired on February 7, 2014. Mr. John Entsminger, will take over as General Manager. The resolution recognizes Pat Mulroy's public service as a tenacious and tireless representative of the State of Nevada, and her significant leadership working closely with her colleagues on Colorado River Basin projects such as the LCR MSCP and the 2007 Coordinated Operations Guidelines. She was involved in finalizing Minute 319 with the Republic of Mexico and has been an advocate for working collaboratively and cooperatively, as opposed to engaging in litigation to resolve conflicts on the Colorado River. Her legacy will be long lasting. Mr. Fisher commented that Ms. Mulroy is one of the most powerful leaders on the Colorado River and is an outstanding person and leader.

MOTION: Upon the motion of Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Kuiper, and unanimously carried, the Board adopted the resolution to honor Ms. Pat Mulroy.

Resolution Honoring Ms. Sandy Fabritz-Whitney, of the Arizona Department of Water Resources

Ms. Trujillo presented a draft resolution honoring Ms. Sandy Fabritz-Whitney, Director of the State of Arizona Department of Water Resources. The resolution recognizes Ms. Fabritz-Whitney's public service and professional achievements. Ms. Trujillo stated that Ms. Fabritz-Whitney emphasized the importance of collaboration for activities on the Colorado River and vigorously represented the State of Arizona. Mr. Fisher commented that during Ms. Fabritz-Whitney's term, California and Arizona has had a very positive working relationship.

MOTION: Upon the motion of Mr. Kuiper, seconded by Mr. Peterson, and unanimously carried, the Board adopted the resolution to honor Ms. Sandy Fabritz-Whitney.

Next Board Meeting

Chairman Fisher announced that there is no executive session today and that the next meeting of the Colorado River Board will be held on Wednesday, March 12, 2014, at MWD in Los Angeles, California.

There being no further items to be brought before the Board, Chairman Fisher asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Upon the motion of Mr. Peterson, seconded by Mr. Wilson, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 3:04 p.m. on February 12, 2014.



Mar 03, 2014

## LOWER COLORADO WATER SUPPLY REPORT

River Operations  
Bureau of Reclamation

Questions: [BCOOWaterops@usbr.gov](mailto: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	39%	9,563	3575.55	10,200
* LAKE MEAD	48%	12,439	1107.76	14,400
LAKE MOHAVE	93%	1,679	642.29	12,700
LAKE HAVASU	95%	589	448.48	8,000
TOTAL SYSTEM CONTENTS **	48%	28,768		
As of 03/02/2014				
SYSTEM CONTENT LAST YEAR	54%	32,411		
* Percent based on capacity of 26,120 kaf or elevation 1219.6 feet.				
** TOTAL SYSTEM CONTENTS includes Upper & Lower Colorado River Reservoirs, less Lake Mead exclusive flood control space.				
Salt/Verde System	56%	1,295		
Painted Rock Dam	0%	0	530.00	0
Alamo Dam (as of 2/28/14)	6%	59	1090.90	25
Forecasted Water Use for Calendar Year 2014 (as of 03/03/2014) (values in kaf)				
NEVADA			289	
SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER SYSTEM				258
OTHERS				32
CALIFORNIA			4,108	
METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA				606
IRRIGATION DISTRICTS				3,395
OTHERS				107
ARIZONA			2,766	
CENTRAL ARIZONA PROJECT				1,506
OTHERS				1,260
TOTAL LOWER BASIN USE				7,163
DELIVERY TO MEXICO - 2014 (1.50 MAF Scheduled + Preliminary Yearly Excess) <sup>1</sup>				1,527
OTHER SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION				
UNREGULATED INFLOW INTO LAKE POWELL - FEBRUARY MID-MONTH FORECAST DATED 02/18/2014				
		MILLION ACRE-FEET	% of Normal	
FORECASTED WATER YEAR 2014		10.918	101%	
FORECASTED APRIL-JULY 2014		7.700	108%	
JANUARY OBSERVED INFLOW		0.270	75%	
FEBRUARY INFLOW FORECAST		0.320	81%	
		Upper Colorado Basin	Salt/Verde Basin	
WATER YEAR 2014 PRECIP TO DATE		106% (15.4")	60% (8.3")	
CURRENT BASIN SNOWPACK		115% (15.0")	16% (0.9")	

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



# COLORADO BASIN RIVER FORECAST CENTER

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE / NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

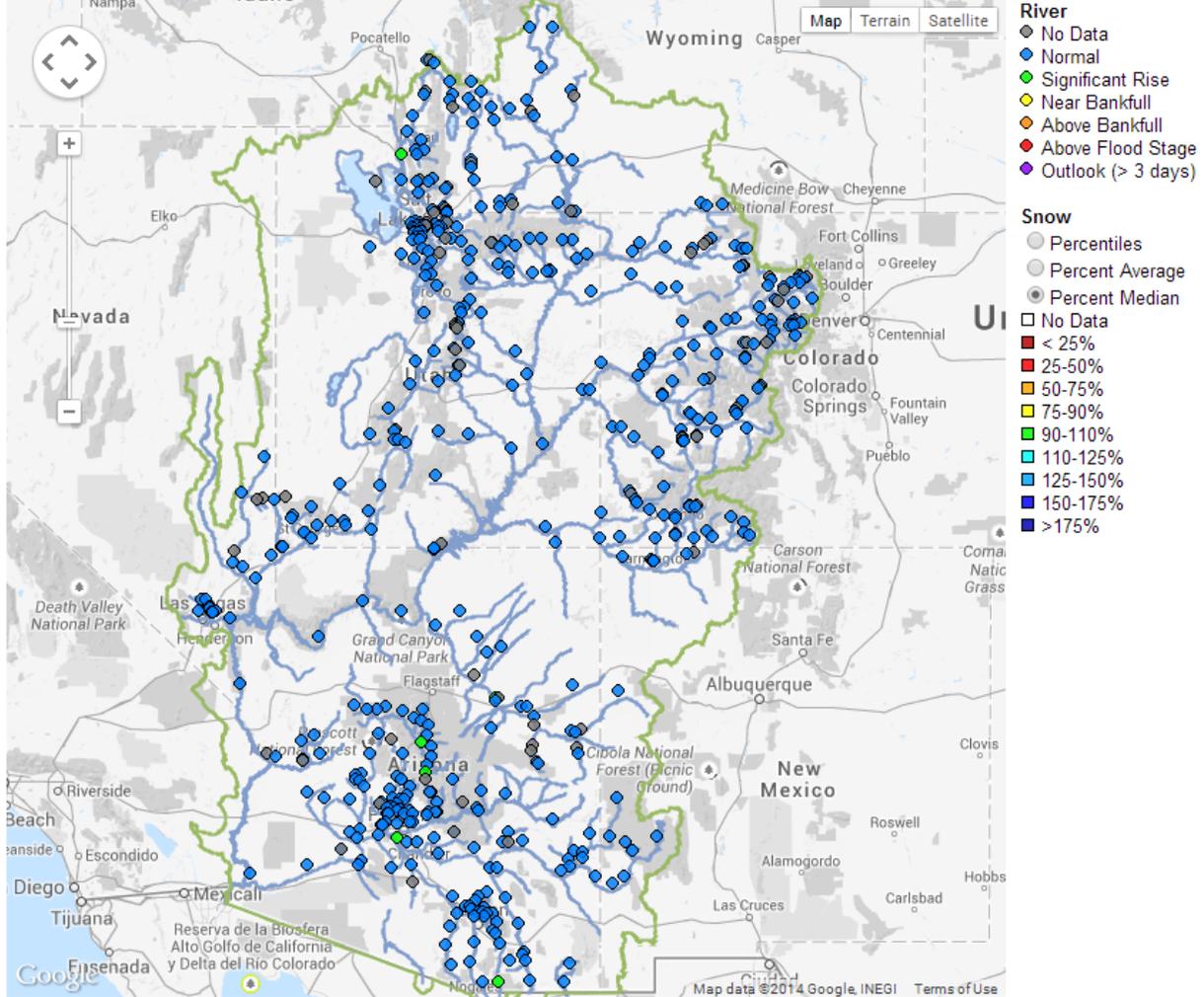
[RIVERS](#) [SNOW](#) [WATER SUPPLY](#) [RESERVOIRS](#) [WEATHER](#) [HELP](#)

[Conditions Map](#) [Conditions List](#) [Snow Groups](#)

Areas: [CBRFC](#) [Upper Colorado](#) [Green](#) [San Juan](#) [Great Sevier](#) [Virgin](#) [Lower Colorado](#)

## Snow Conditions

Help Double Click Map to Zoom Data Queried: Mon, 03 Mar 2014 10:00:01 -0700, Lat: 37.6 Lng: -110.5, Zoom: 6

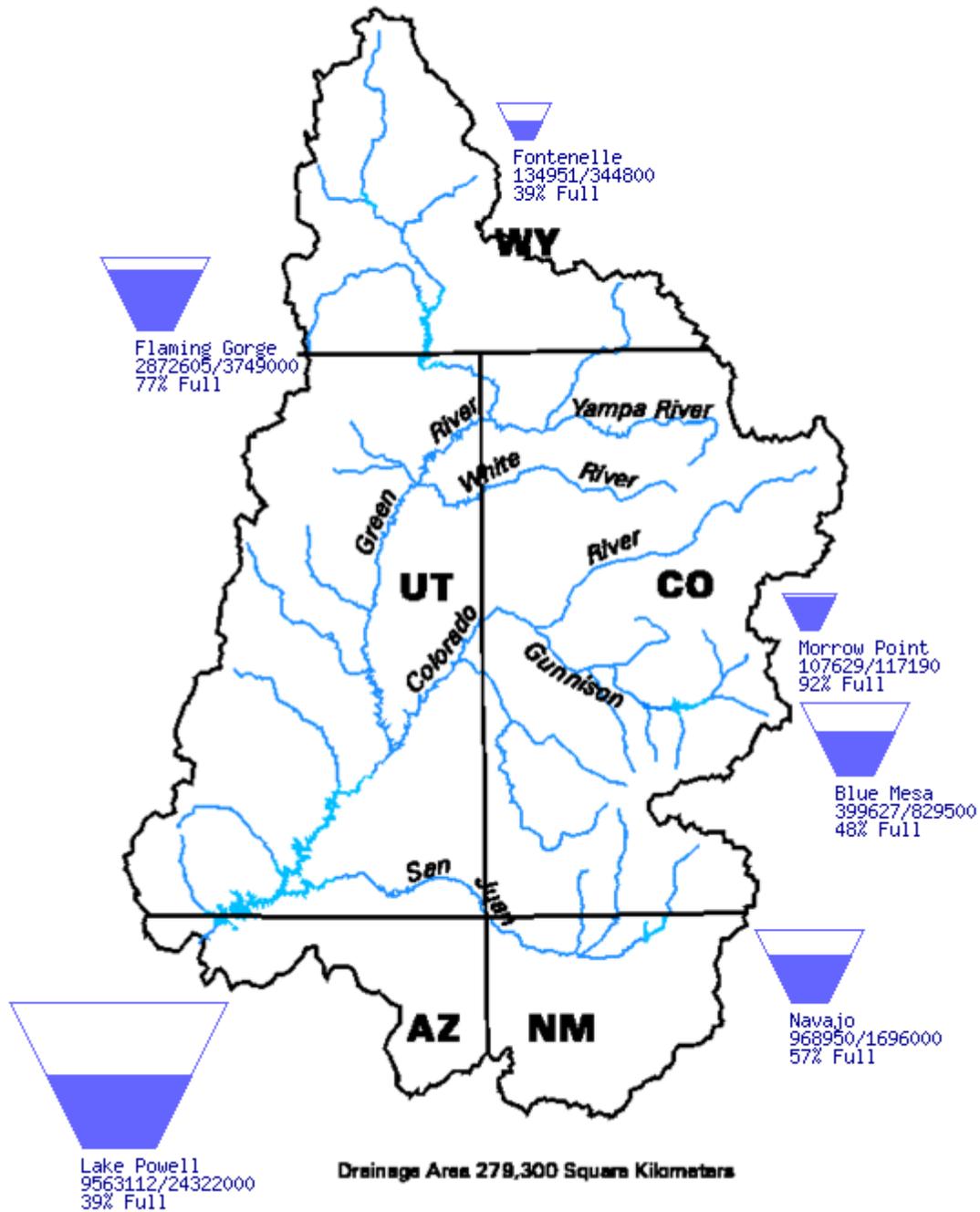


# Upper Colorado Region Water Resources Group

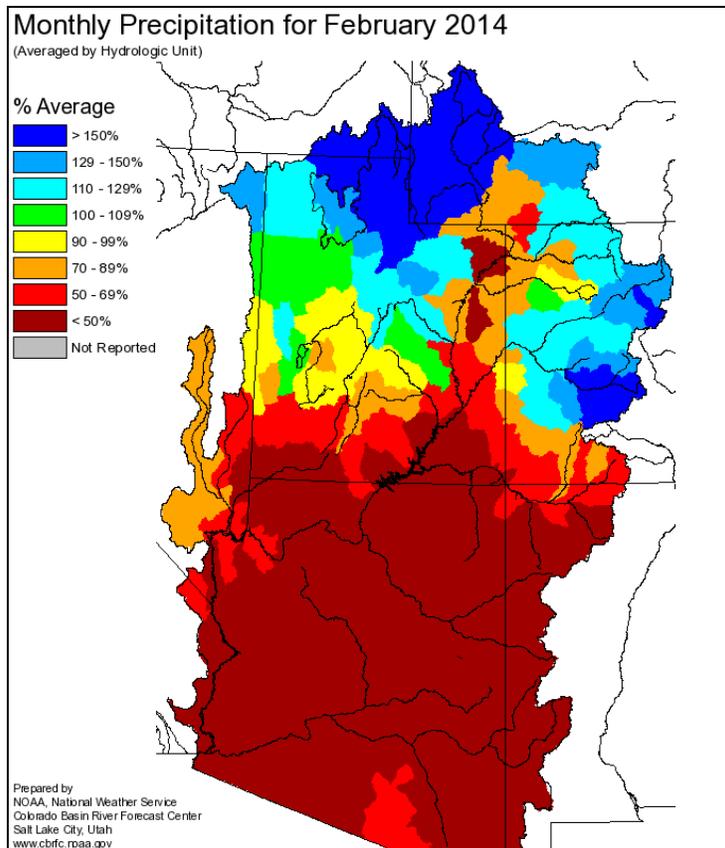
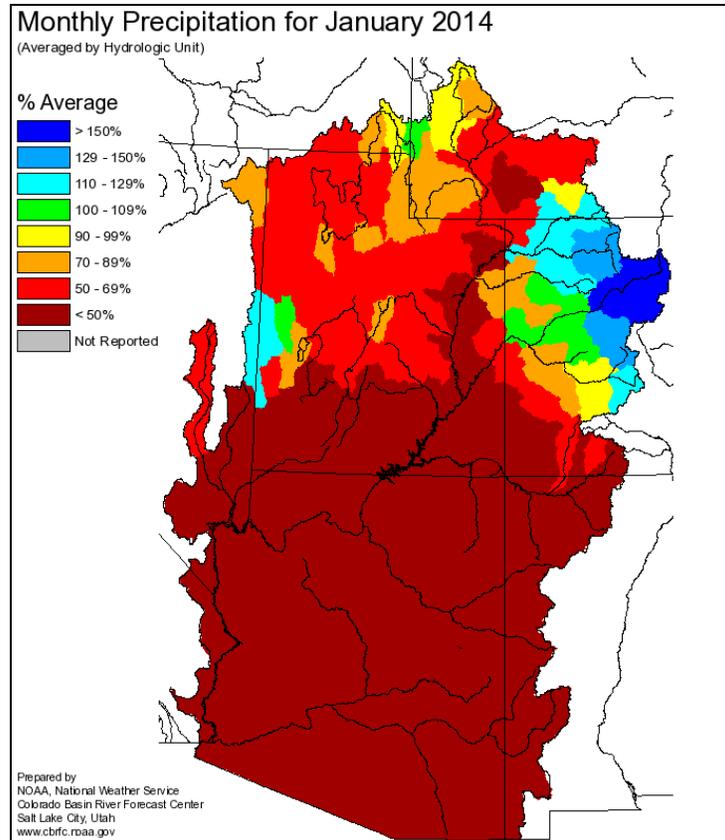
## River Basin Tea-Cup Diagrams

Data Current as of:  
03/03/2014

### Upper Colorado River Drainage Basin



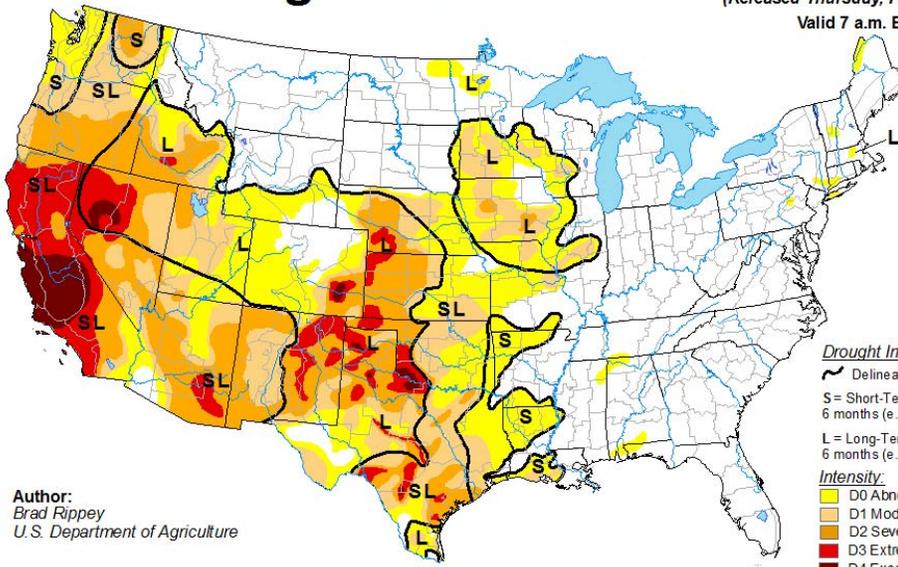
NOAA National Weather Service Monthly Precipitation Maps for January and February 2014



USDA United States Drought Monitor Map

# U.S. Drought Monitor

**February 25, 2014**  
 (Released Thursday, Feb. 27, 2014)  
 Valid 7 a.m. EST

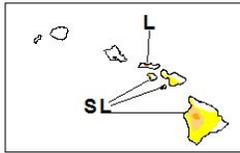
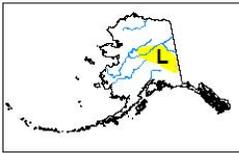


Author:  
 Brad Rippey  
 U.S. Department of Agriculture

**Drought Impact Types:**  
 ~ Delineates dominant impacts  
 S = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)  
 L = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

**Intensity:**  
 D0 Abnormally Dry  
 D1 Moderate Drought  
 D2 Severe Drought  
 D3 Extreme Drought  
 D4 Exceptional Drought

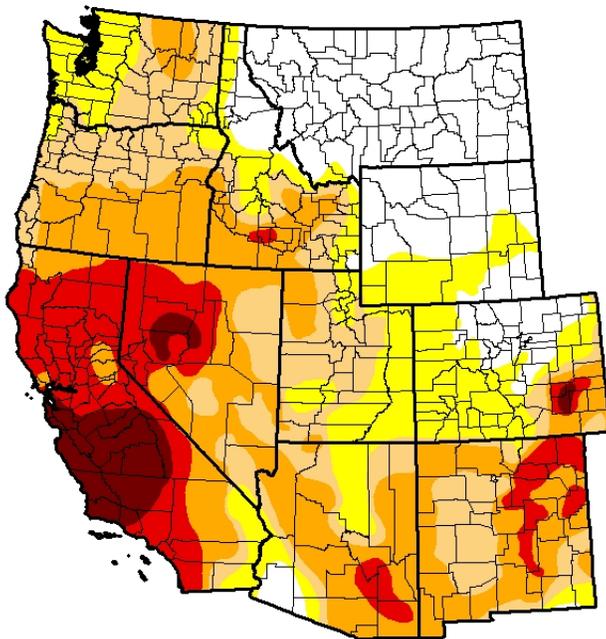
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

## U.S. Drought Monitor West

**February 25, 2014**  
 (Released Thursday, Feb. 27, 2014)  
 Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	22.41	77.59	59.61	40.34	15.67	4.12
Last Week 2/18/2014	21.76	78.24	59.88	40.17	14.89	2.58
3 Months Ago 11/26/2013	29.00	71.00	49.99	30.86	7.56	0.63
Start of Calendar Year 12/1/2013	22.20	77.80	51.44	31.11	7.75	0.63
Start of Water Year 10/1/2013	25.25	74.75	58.96	34.18	5.57	0.63
One Year Ago 2/26/2013	21.53	78.47	64.32	42.23	15.92	3.47

**Intensity:**  
 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. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

Author:  
 Brad Rippey  
 U.S. Department of Agriculture

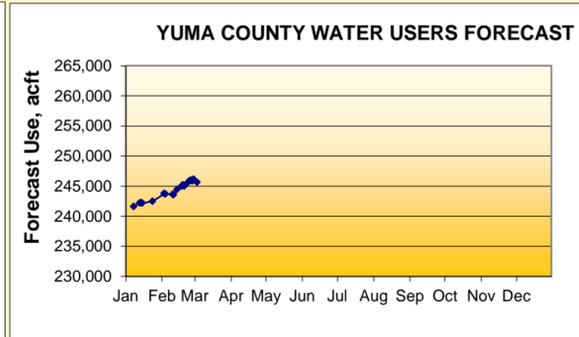
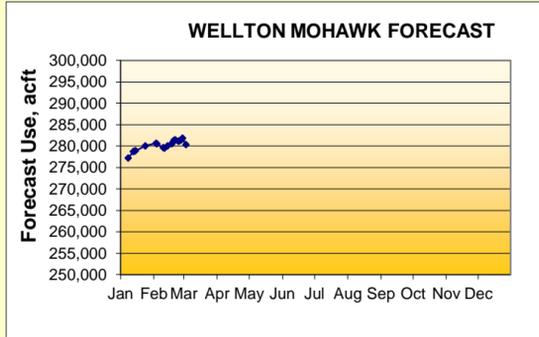
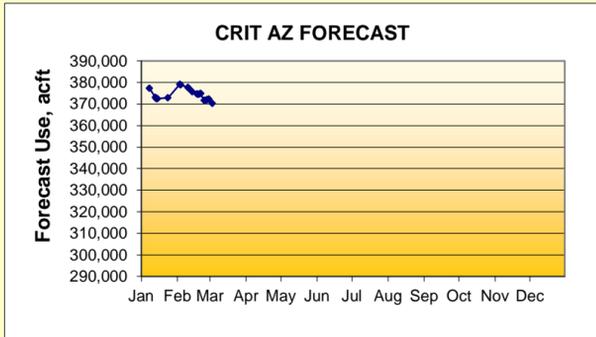
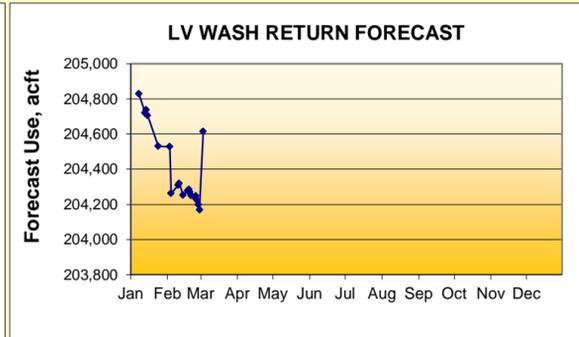
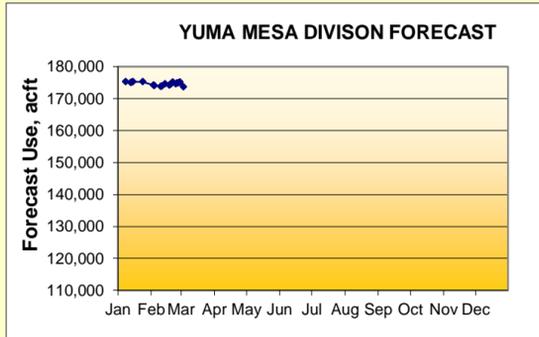
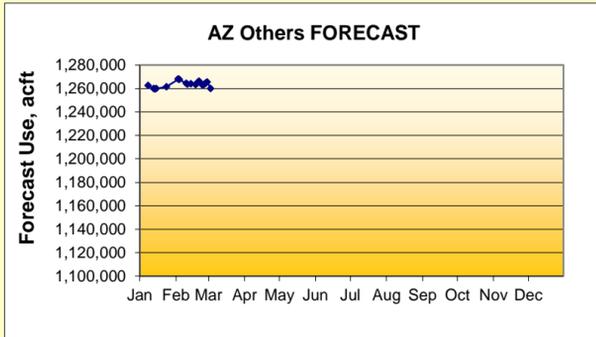
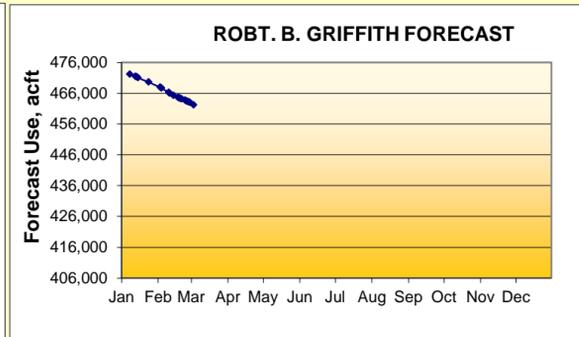
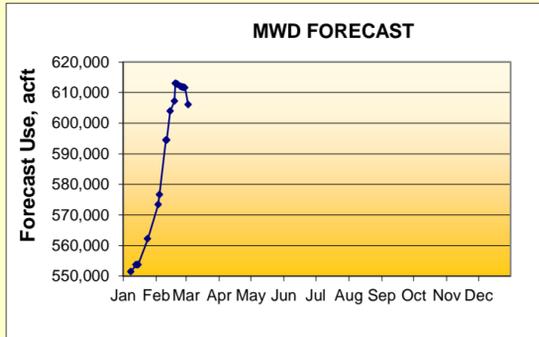
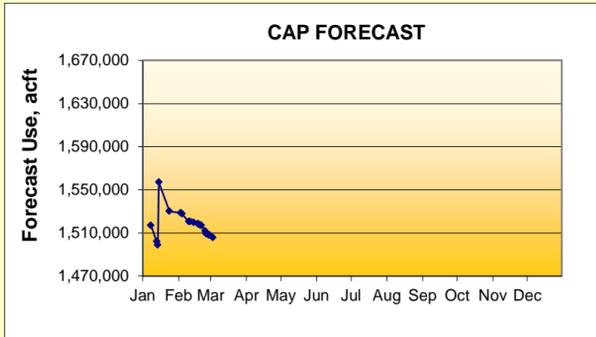
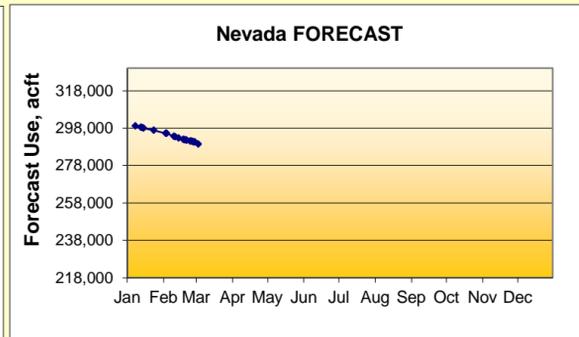
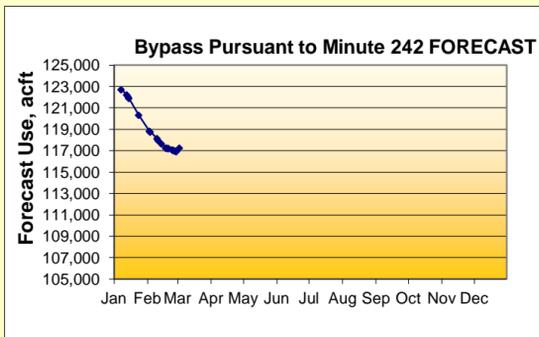
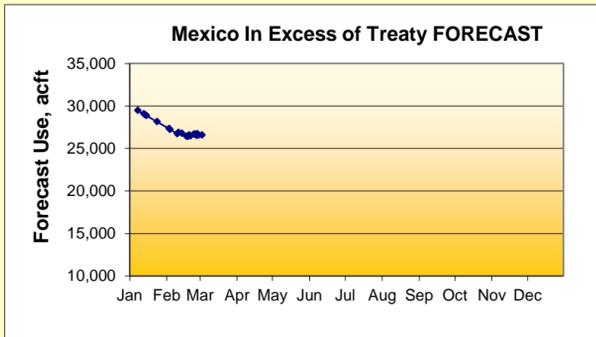
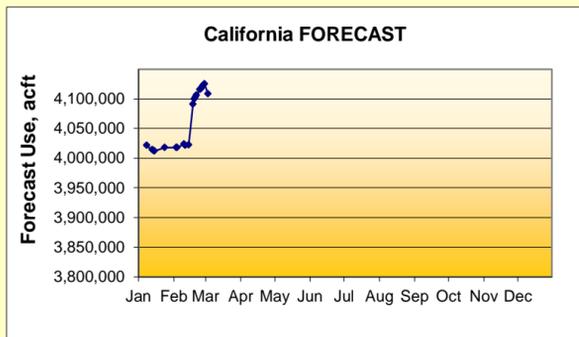
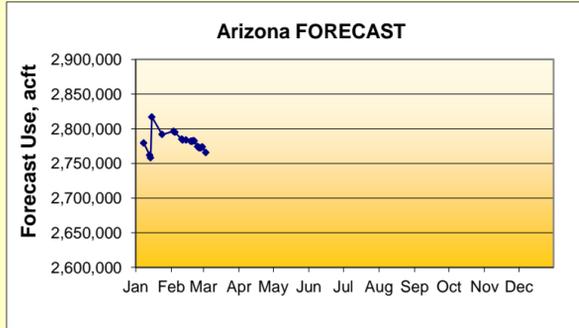
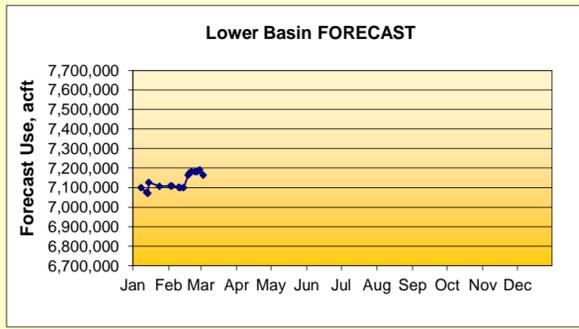


<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

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 CY2014	Forecast Use CY2014	Approved Use /2 CY2014	Excess to Approval CY2014
ARIZONA	339,717	2,765,608	2,799,672	-34,064
CALIFORNIA	527,773	4,108,095	4,020,262	87,833
NEVADA	16,616	289,270	300,000	-10,730
STATES TOTAL /3	884,106	7,162,973	7,119,934	43,039
MEXICO IN SATISFACTION OF TREATY (Including downward t TO MEXICO AS SCHEDULED	287,981 286,270	1,526,550 1,500,000	1,500,000	26,550
MEXICO IN EXCESS OF TREATY	1,711	26,550		
BYPASS PURSUANT TO MINUTE 242	16,608	117,252		
TOTAL LOWER BASIN & MEXICO	1,188,695	8,806,775		

- 1/ Incorporates Jan-Jan USGS monthly data and 77 daily reporting stations which may be revised after provisional data reports are distributed by the USGS. Use to date 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 Dept. of Water Resources, Colorado River Board of California, and Reclamation.



Graph notes: Jan 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 diversion schedule change or monthly updating of provisional realtime diversions.

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 OF END OF YEAR CONSUMPTIVE USE  
FORECAST BASED ON USE TO DATE AND APPROVED ANNUAL WATER ORDERS

[California Schedules and Approvals](#)  
[Historic Use Records \(Water Accounting Reports\)](#)

WATER USER	Use	Forecast	Estimated	Excess to	Diversion	Forecast	Approved	Excess To
	To Date CY2014	Use CY2014	Use CY2014	Use CY2014		To Date CY2014	Diversion CY2014	Diversion CY2014
CALIFORNIA PUMPERS	255	1,936	1,936	---	461	3,500	3,500	0
FORT MOJAVE INDIAN RESERVATION, CA	863	8,606	8,996	---	1,604	15,996	16,720	-724
CITY OF NEEDLES (includes LCWSP use)	254	1,931	1,931	0	358	2,720	2,720	0
METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT	148,920	605,998	546,660	---	149,420	609,482	549,763	---
COLORADO RIVER INDIAN RESERVATION, CA	453	3,444	3,444	---	778	5,909	5,909	0
PALO VERDE IRRIGATION DISTRICT	26,528	449,548	454,108	---	104,715	997,796	994,500	<b>3,296</b>
YUMA PROJECT RESERVATION DIVISION	5,507	48,522	47,886	---	10,810	101,216	102,700	-1,484
YUMA PROJECT RESERVATION DIVISION - INDIAN UNIT	---	---	---	---	5,398	48,621	49,100	-479
YUMA PROJECT RESERVATION DIVISION - BARD UNIT	---	---	---	---	5,412	52,596	53,600	-1,004
YUMA ISLAND PUMPERS	655	4,974	4,974	---	1,185	9,001	9,001	0
FORT YUMA INDIAN RESERVATION - RANCH 5	89	674	675	---	0	972	1,221	-249
IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT	288,421	2,540,204	2,506,803	<b>33,401</b>	298,367	2,641,468	2,607,017	---
SALTON SEA SALINITY MANAGEMENT	11,500	90,000	90,000	0	11,873	93,383	93,451	---
COACHELLA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT	44,216	351,410	352,000	-590	45,800	365,831	366,370	---
OTHER LCWSP CONTRACTORS	86	650	650	---	134	1,016	1,016	0
CITY OF WINTERHAVEN	9	69	69	---	14	104	104	0
CHEMEHUEVI INDIAN RESERVATION	17	128	6,101	---	1,492	11,340	11,340	0
<b>TOTAL CALIFORNIA</b>	<b>527,773</b>	<b>4,108,095</b>			<b>627,011</b>	<b>4,859,733</b>	<b>4,765,332</b>	
FORT YUMA INDIAN RESERVATION /1	---	---	---	---	5,854	53,093	53,821	-728

**CALIFORNIA ADJUSTED APPORTIONMENT CALCULATION**

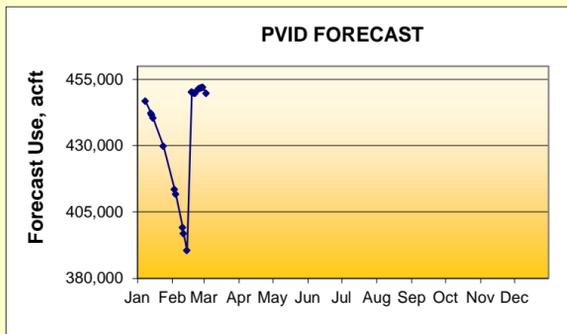
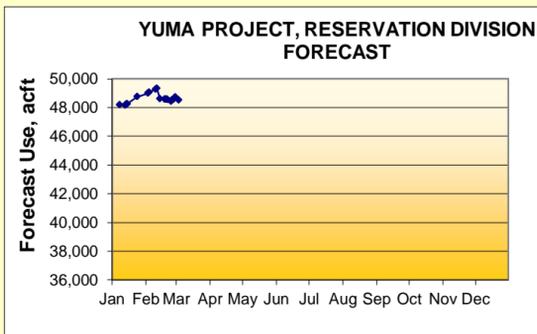
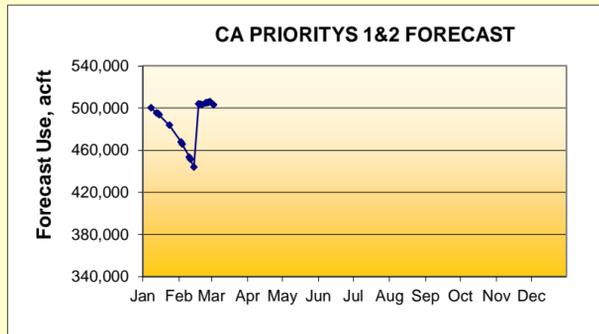
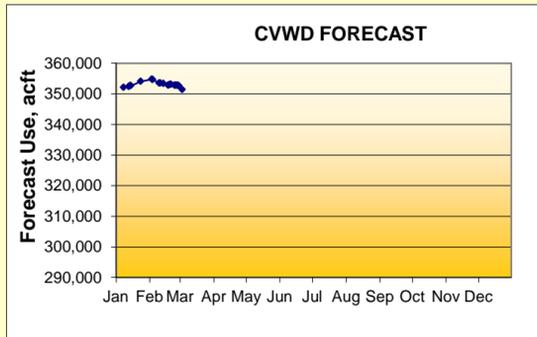
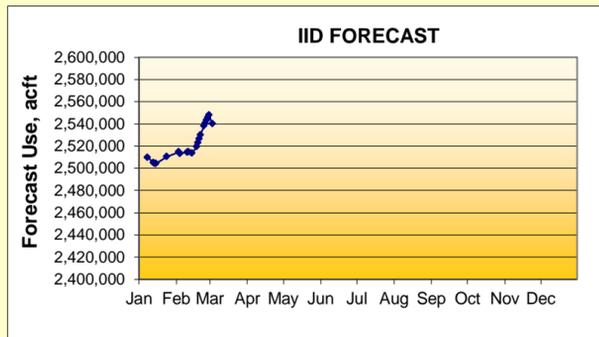
California Basic Apportionment	4,400,000
Payback of IOPP Overrun (IID)	-154,738
Intentionally Created Surplus Water (IID)	-25,000
Creation of Extraordinary Conservation ICS (MWD)	-200,000
<b>Total State Adjusted Apportionment</b>	<b>4,020,262</b>
Excess to Total State Adjusted Apportionment	87,833

**ISG ANNUAL TARGET COMPARISON CALCULATION**

Priorities 1, 2, 3b Use (PVID+YPRD+Island+PVID Mesa)	503,044
MWD Adjustment	-83,044
Total California Agricultural Use (PVID+YPRD+Island+IID+CVWD)	3,394,658
California Agricultural Paybacks	-154,738
Misc. PPRs Covered by IID and CVWD	14,500
California ICS Creation (IID ICS)	25,000
<b>Total Use for Target Comparison<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>3,196,376</b>
ISG Annual Target (Exhibit B)	3,462,000
Amount over/(under) ISG Annual Target	(265,624)

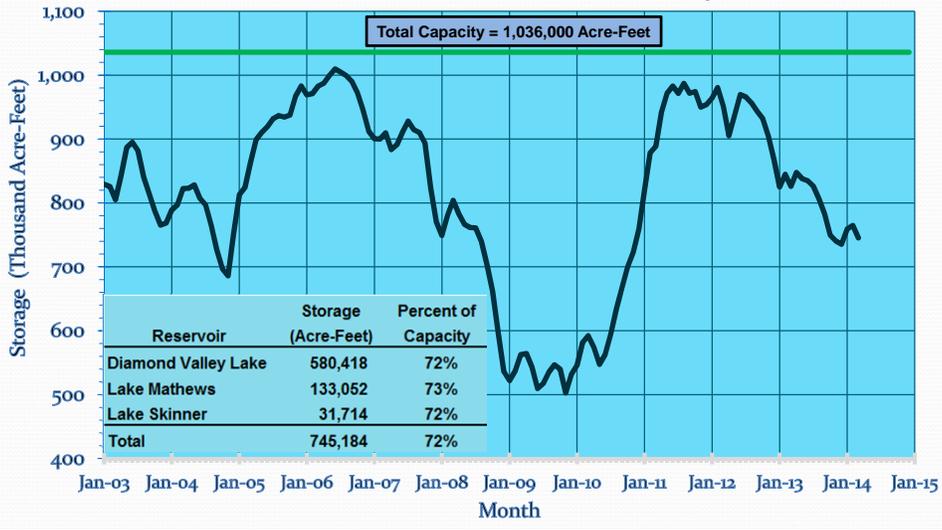
NOTES:

- Ranch 5  
Yuma Island assumed to be included in Priority 2.  
Click on California Schedules and Approvals above for incoming diversion schedules and approvals.  
1/ Fort Yuma Indian Reservation includes Yuma Project Reservation Division Indian Unit, Ranch 5, an estimate of domestic use and pumpers.  
2/ Includes MWD Adjustment, California Agricultural Use and Paybacks, IID-CVWD covered PPRs, and taking out the MWD-CVWD Exchange

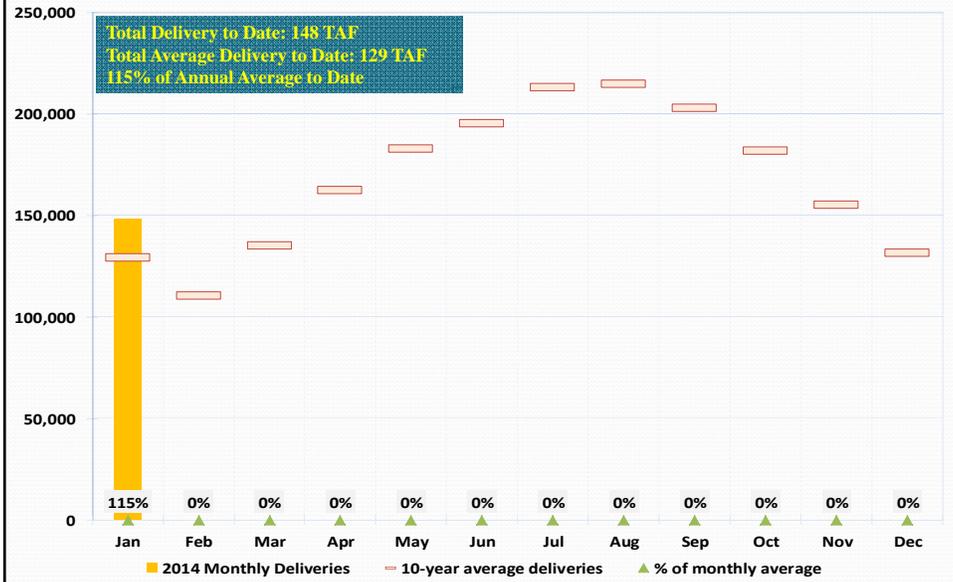




## MWD's Combined Reservoir Storage as of March 1, 2014 Lake Skinner, Lake Mathews, and Diamond Valley Lake

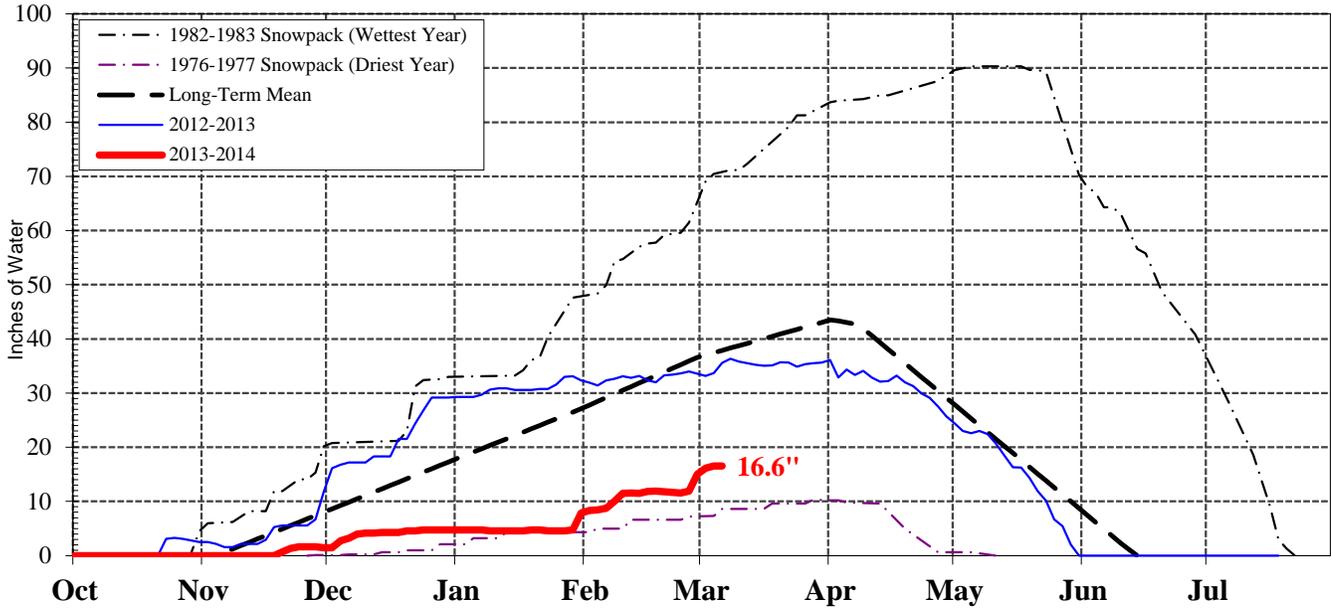


## 2014 Water Deliveries to Member Agencies (AF)

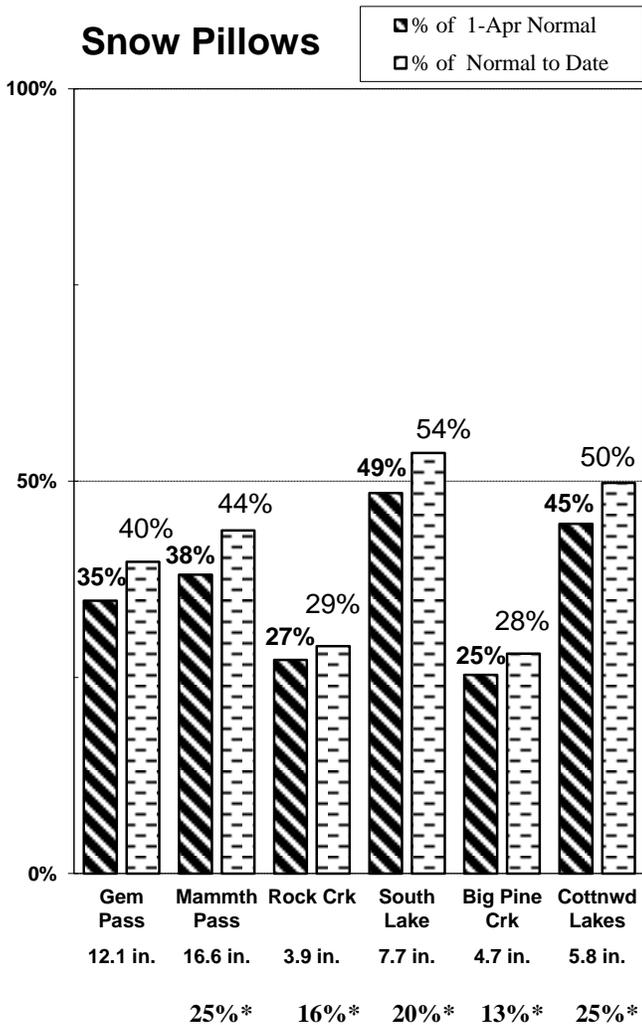


# EASTERN SIERRA CURRENT PRECIPITATION CONDITIONS March 6, 2014

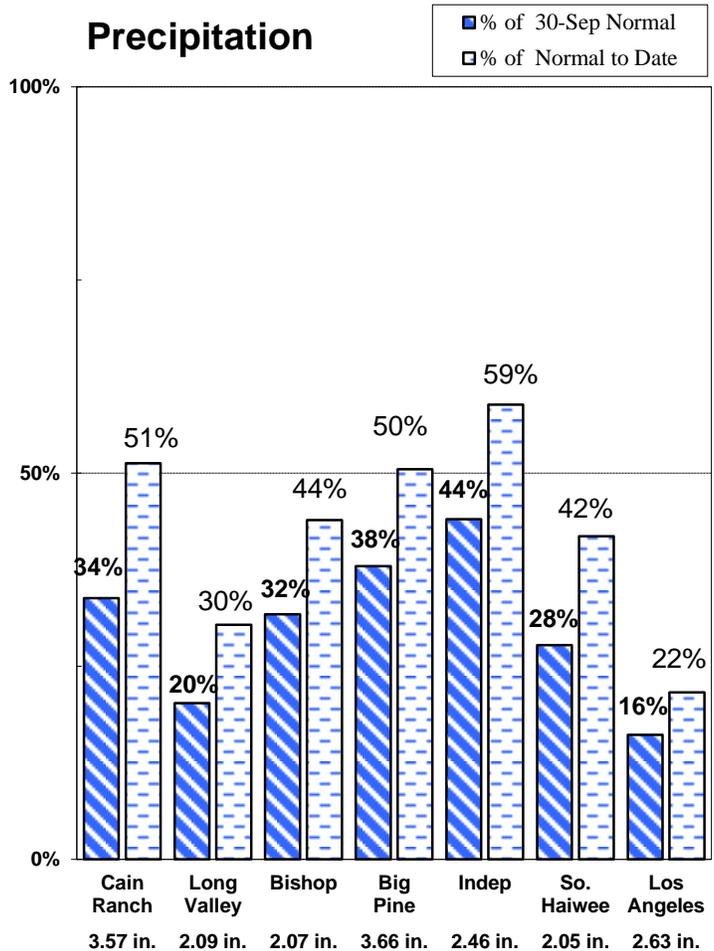
## Mammoth Pass Snowpack



## Snow Pillows



## Precipitation



\* Individual snow pillow represents an area that contributes this percent of the total Owens River Basin runoff.

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



# Governor Brown Signs Drought Legislation

3-1-2014

SACRAMENTO – As California grapples with the driest period in its history, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. today signed legislation to assist drought-affected communities and provide funding to better use local water supplies.

“Legislators across the aisle have now voted to help hard-pressed communities that face water shortages,” said Governor Brown. “This legislation marks a crucial step – but Californians must continue to take every action possible to conserve water.”

The legislation had broad, bipartisan support. SB 103 passed 34-2 in the Senate and 64-3 in the Assembly. SB 104 passed 33-3 in the Senate and 68-1 in the Assembly. The bills provide \$687.4 million to support drought relief, including money for housing and food for workers directly impacted by the drought, bond funds for projects to help local communities more efficiently capture and manage water and funding for securing emergency drinking water supplies for drought-impacted communities.

In addition, the legislation increases funding for state and local conservation corps to assist communities with efficiency upgrades and reduce fire fuels in fire risk areas, and includes \$1 million for the Save Our Water public awareness campaign – which will enhance its mission to inform Californians how they can do their part to conserve water.

“Like the rain this weekend, this package is badly needed to help mitigate the effects of the historic drought California is facing. But also like the rain, we need to see more,” said Assembly Speaker John A. Pérez. “That’s why every Californian needs to continue to conserve water, and there’s more work to do on storage, water quality improvement and environmental protections. If we don’t act now, the problems we face will only get worse.”

“Swift action is what’s needed to make sure we get the most out of every drop of water, to help our hardest-hit communities and to give emergency help to those who have lost their jobs from this severe drought. That swift action is exactly what we’ve taken with these measures,” said Senate President pro Tem Darrell Steinberg. “Neither the rain storms we’re having now, nor this legislation will eliminate the drought and its impacts. But just like any amount of rain and snow will help, saving a year or even a few months in getting money out the door and getting water projects on-line can benefit California enormously.”

In addition to the funding provided by the legislation, the bill calls for the California Department of Public Health (DPH) to adopt new groundwater

replenishment regulations by July 1, 2014, and for the State Water Resources Control Board and the DPH to work on additional measures to allow for the use of recycled water and storm water capture for increasing water supply availability.

The bill also makes statutory changes to ensure existing water rights laws are followed, including streamlined authority to enforce water rights laws and increased penalties for illegally diverting water during drought conditions. The bill also provides the California Department of Housing and Community Development with the greatest flexibility to maximize migrant housing units.

The Governor signed the following bills:

- SB 103 by the Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review – Budget Act of 2013.
- SB 104 by the Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review – Drought Relief.

For full text of the bills, visit: <http://leginfo.ca.gov/bilinfo.html>

Highlights of the legislation include:

### **Enhancing Water Conservation and Improving Water Supplies**

- \$549 million from the accelerated expenditure of voter-approved bonds, Proposition 84 and Proposition 1E, in the form of infrastructure grants for local and regional projects that are already planned or partially completed to increase local reliability, including recapturing of storm water, expanding the use and distribution of recycled water, enhancing the management and recharging of groundwater storage and strengthening water conservation.
- \$30 million from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) for direct expenditures and grants to state and local agencies to improve water use efficiency, save energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from state and local water transportation and management systems.
- \$14 million for groundwater management across the state, including assistance to disadvantaged communities with groundwater contamination exacerbated by the drought.
- \$10 million from the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Fund for the California Department of Food and Agriculture to invest in irrigation and water pumping systems that reduce water use, energy use and greenhouse gas emissions.
- \$15 million from the General Fund for Emergency Drinking Water Fund to address emergency water shortages due to drought.
- \$13 million from the General Fund to augment the California Conservation

Corps and local community conservation corps to expand water use efficiency and conservation activities and to reduce fuel loads to prevent catastrophic fires.

### **Assisting Californians Disproportionately Impacted by the Drought**

- \$25.3 million from the General Fund for food assistance, which will be structured to maximize the potential federal drought assistance that can be provided to provide food assistance to those impacted by the drought.
- \$21 million from the General Fund and federal funds for housing related assistance for individuals impacted by the drought.

With California facing one of the most severe droughts on record, Governor Brown declared a [drought State of Emergency](#) in January and directed state officials to take all necessary actions to prepare for water shortages, and the Governor, joined by legislative leaders, [announced legislation](#) to immediately help communities deal with the devastating dry conditions affecting our state and to provide funding to increase local water supplies.

Governor Brown met with [President Obama](#) about crucial federal support during the ongoing drought last month, and the state [continues](#) to work with [federal partners](#) to ensure [coordinated](#) drought [monitoring](#) and response. Governor Brown and the administration have also [expressed support](#) for [federal legislation](#) introduced by Senators Feinstein and Boxer and Representatives Jim Costa, Tony Cárdenas and Sam Farr.

Across state government, action is being taken. The Department of General Services is leading water [conservation efforts](#) at state facilities, and the California State Architect has asked California [school districts and Community Colleges](#) to act on the Governor's call to reduce water usage. The Department of Transportation is cutting water use along California's roadways by 50 percent. Caltrans has also launched a public awareness campaign, putting a water [conservation message](#) on their more than 700 electronic highway signs.

In January, the state took [action to conserve](#) water in numerous Northern California [reservoirs](#) to meet minimum needs for operations impacting the environment and the economy, and recently the Department of Water Resources and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation announced they would seek the authority to make [water exchanges](#) to deliver water to those who need it most. The State Water Resources Control Board announced it would work with hydropower generators and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to [preserve water](#) in California reservoirs. Recently, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the California Fish and Game Commission [restricted fishing](#) on [some waterways](#) due to low water flows worsened by the drought.

The state is working to protect local communities from the dangers of extreme drought. The California Department of Public Health [identified](#) and offered [assistance](#) to communities at risk of severe drinking water shortages and is working with other state and local agencies to develop solutions for vulnerable communities. CAL FIRE hired [additional firefighters](#) and is continuously [adjusting staffing](#) throughout the state to help address the [increased fire threat](#) due to drought conditions. The California Department of Food and Agriculture launched a [drought website](#) to help farmers, ranchers and farmworkers find resources and assistance programs that may be available to them during the drought.

Even as the state deals with the immediate impacts of the drought, it's also planning for the future. Recently, the California Natural Resources Agency, the California Environmental Protection Agency and CDFA released the [California Water Action Plan](#), which will guide state efforts to enhance water supply reliability, restore damaged and destroyed ecosystems and improve the resilience of our infrastructure.

Governor Brown has called on all Californians to voluntarily reduce their water usage by 20 percent, and the [Save Our Water](#) campaign launched four [public service announcements](#) encouraging residents to conserve and has resources available in [Spanish](#). Last December, the Governor formed a [Drought Task Force](#) to review expected water allocations and California's preparedness for water scarcity. In May 2013, Governor Brown issued an [Executive Order](#) to direct state water officials to expedite the review and processing of voluntary transfers of water.

###

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## The White House

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

February 14, 2014

# Remarks by the President on the California Drought

## Joe Del Bosque's Field Los Banos, California

4:55 P.M. PST

THE PRESIDENT: Well, first of all, I want to thank Joe and Maria Del Bosque and their beautiful daughters for showing Governor Brown and me around their farm.

Joe has got an incredible story. The son of a migrant farmworker, farm work is how he put himself through college. He's been a farmer for most of his life. He started by going around to other folks' land and saying, I'll grow some cantaloupes for you as long as you pay me for what we produce, and over the years was able to develop this amazing business and not only start growing cantaloupes, but almonds and cherries and all kinds of other good stuff.

"There are three things that make farming work in California," according to Joe, "soil, water, and people." And in the little free time they have, Joe and Maria work to improve the health and safety of farm workers. There are a lot of people who are dependent on him year-round, and a lot of people who work seasonally with Joe and Maria, and their livelihoods depend on the functioning of these farms.

But today, we're here to talk about the resource that's keeping more and more California's farmers and families up at night, and that is water -- or the lack of it.

As anybody in this state could tell you, California's living through some of its driest years in a century. Right now, almost 99 percent of California is drier than normal -- and the winter snowpack that provides much of your water far into the summer is much smaller than normal. And we could see that as we were flying in -- Jim and Barbara and Dianne and I were flying over the mountain ranges and could see, even though there was a little bit of snow that just came in the last couple of days, that it's nothing like it is normally.

While drought in regions outside the West is expected to be less severe than in other years, California is our biggest economy, California is our biggest agricultural producer, so what happens here matters to every working American, right down to the cost of food that you put on your table.

And that's why, last month, Governor Brown declared a state of emergency, directing state officials to prepare for drought conditions. And together, our administrations launched a coordinated response. Secretary Vilsack, who is here today, declared 27 counties as primary natural disaster areas, making farmers and ranchers eligible for emergency loans. And over the past two weeks, his team at USDA and Mike Connor's team at the Interior Department have released new funds for conservation and irrigation; announced investments to upgrade water infrastructure; and partnered with California to stretch the water supply as much as possible.

Today, I want to announce new actions that we can take together to help these hardworking folks.

First, we're accelerating \$100 million of funds from the farm bill that I signed last week to help ranchers. For example, if their fields have dried up, this is going to help them feed their livestock.

Second, last week, we announced \$20 million to help hard-hit communities, and today, we're announcing up to \$15 million more for California and other states that are in extreme drought.

Third, I'm directing the Interior Department to use its existing authorities, where appropriate, to give water contractors flexibility to meet their obligations.

And fourth, I'm directing all federal facilities in California to take immediate steps to curb their water use, including a moratorium on water usage for new, non-essential landscaping projects.

## WATCH THE VIDEO



February 14, 2014 6:00 PM

### President Obama Speaks on Response to the California Drought

**WHITE HOUSE SHAREABLES**

VIEW OUR MOST SHAREABLE CONTENT IN ONE EASY-TO-NAVIGATE PAGE.

START SHARING

## LATEST BLOG POSTS

March 04, 2014 6:18 PM EST

### The First Lady Honors International Women of Courage

First Lady Michelle Obama joins Deputy Secretary of State Heather Higginbottom at the Department of State to honor recipients of the International Women of Courage Award.

March 04, 2014 2:02 PM EST

### President Obama Announces His 2015 Budget

President Obama's 2015 budget provides a "roadmap" for the agenda he laid out in his State of the Union address to restore opportunity for all Americans.

March 03, 2014 2:19 PM EST

### President Obama to Participate in a Townhall on Latinos and the Affordable Care Act

The townhall with President Obama will provide an opportunity for Latinos across the country to learn more about how to enroll in affordable, quality health care via the Health Insurance Marketplace.

[VIEW ALL RELATED BLOG POSTS](#)

A bipartisan bill written by your outstanding Senators, Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, as well as your own outstanding Representative and almond farmer, Jim Costa, includes similar ideas. And I hope that Congress considers the legislation that they have crafted soon, work through some of the concerns that have been expressed -- let's make sure that we're getting some short-term relief to folks, but also long-term certainty for people who are going to be harmed by this drought.

These actions will help, but they're just the first step. We have to be clear: A changing climate means that weather-related disasters like droughts, wildfires, storms, floods are potentially going to be costlier and they're going to be harsher. Droughts have obviously been a part of life out here in the West since before any of us were around and water politics in California have always been complicated, but scientific evidence shows that a changing climate is going to make them more intense.

Scientists will debate whether a particular storm or drought reflects patterns of climate change. But one thing that is undeniable is that changing temperatures influence drought in at least three ways: Number one, more rain falls in extreme downpours -- so more water is lost to runoff than captured for use. Number two, more precipitation in the mountains falls as rain rather than snow -- so rivers run dry earlier in the year. Number three, soil and reservoirs lose more water to evaporation year-round.

What does all this mean? Unless and until we do more to combat carbon pollution that causes climate change, this trend is going to get worse. And the hard truth is even if we do take action on climate change, carbon pollution has built up in our atmosphere for decades. The planet is slowly going to keep warming for a long time to come. So we're going to have to stop looking at these disasters as something to wait for; we've got to start looking at these disasters as something to prepare for, to anticipate, to start building new infrastructure, to start having new plans, to recalibrate the baseline that we're working off of.

And everybody, from farmers to industry to residential areas, to the north of California and the south of California and everyplace in between, as well as the entire Western region are going to have to start rethinking how we approach water for decades to come.

And as I said when I was meeting with the town hall group, we can't think of this simply as a zero-sum game. It can't just be a matter of there's going to be less and less water so I'm going to grab more and more of a shrinking share of water. Instead what we have to do is all come together and figure out how we all are going to make sure that agricultural needs, urban needs, industrial needs, environmental and conservation concerns are all addressed. And that's going to be a big project, but it's one that I'm confident we can do.

Part of the Climate Action Plan that I put forward last summer is designed to protect critical sectors of our economy and prepare the United States for the effects of climate change that we're just not going to be able to avoid. So, last week, for example, the USDA announced seven new "climate hubs" to help farmers and ranchers adapt their operations to a changing climate -- one of which will be at UC Davis, focused on resilience for California's specialty crops.

The budget that I sent to Congress -- the budget that I send to Congress next month will include \$1 billion in new funding for new technologies to help communities prepare for a changing climate, set up incentives to build smarter, more resilient infrastructure. And finally, my administration will work with tech innovators and launch new challenges under our Climate Data Initiative, focused initially on rising sea levels and their impact on the coasts, but ultimately focused on how all these changes in weather patterns are going to have an impact up and down the United States -- not just on the coast but inland as well -- and how do we start preparing for that. And that has to be work that we do together. This cannot be a partisan endeavor.

One of the great things about that town hall that I just came out of -- not everybody agreed on anything -- (laughter) -- except people did agree that we can't keep on doing business as usual. That's what people did understand -- that there has to be a sense of urgency about this.

And issues like the federal government helping states to build infrastructure to adapt and ensure economic development and that families and workers are able to prosper -- there's nothing new about that. We just saw a photograph of President Kennedy and current Governor Brown's dad building some of the aquifers that have been so important to the economy of this state for decades. If we were able to do that then, we should be able to do it now. It's just a matter of us making sure that we're not putting politics ahead of trying to get things working.

Our work with Governor Brown and his administration is going to continue. Californians have all had to come together and already make sacrifices, big and small, to help your neighbors and your state get through this. The good news is California is always on the cutting-edge. Already you use water far more efficiently than you did decades ago. You do it smarter. Joe was explaining just how this drip irrigation that you see in this region has made many of these farms much more efficient when it comes to water utilization. And so we know that we can innovate and meet this challenge, but we've got to start now. We can't wait.

So I want to make sure that every Californian knows -- whether you're NorCals, SoCal, here in the Central Valley - your country is going to be there for you when you need it this year. But we're going to have to all work together in the years to come to make sure that we address the challenge and leave this incredible land embodied to our children and our grandchildren in at least as good shape as we found it.

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So, thank you very much, everybody, for the great work that you guys do. And I've already told the Governor as well as all your outstanding representatives here that our administration is going to stay on this and we are prepared to cooperate with local, state officials throughout. And that's not just in California, because we're going to see some similar problems in places like Colorado, Nevada, some of the neighboring Western states, and so part of the conversation is also going to have to be a regional conversation.

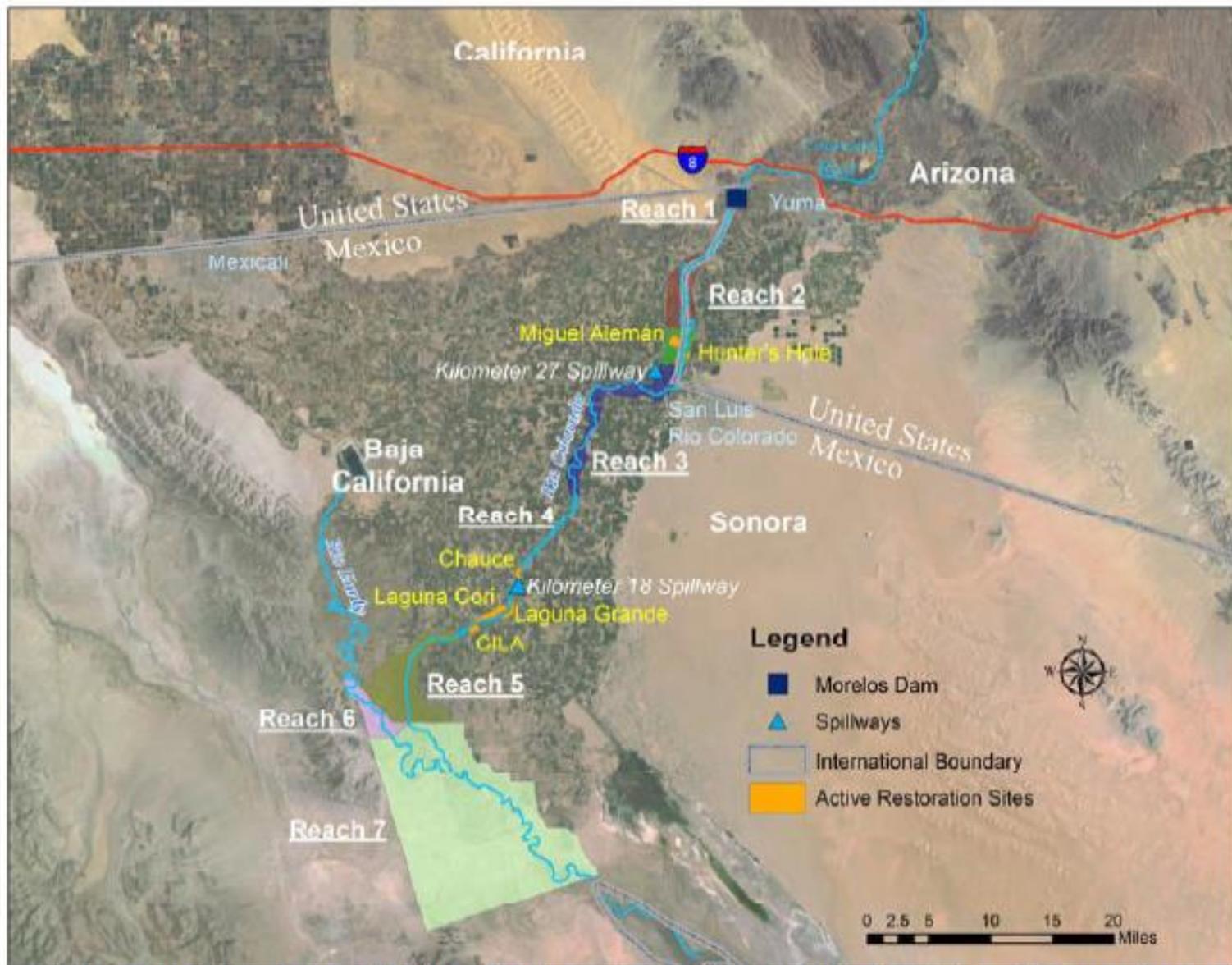
But this is something that I'm very committed to. We're going to make sure to get it done, working together. Thank you so much, everybody. (Applause.)

END 5:08 P.M. PST

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**Figure 1: Reach Delineation and Water Delivery Infrastructure for the Colorado River Delta from Morelos Dam to the Sea of Cortez**



# Ensuring Healthy Watersheds and Sustainable, Secure Water Supplies



*The Department is tackling America's water challenges by providing leadership and assistance to States, Tribes, and local communities to address competing demands for water by helping improve conservation and increase water availability, restore watersheds, and resolve long standing water conflicts.*

*Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior  
June 6, 2013*

The health, security, economic, and ecological well being of the American people depend on adequate supplies of clean water. Water availability and quality are a constant and increasing challenge across the Country as intensifying droughts, increasing climate variability, and changing hydrology exacerbate water shortages, deplete groundwater resources, and contribute to impaired water quality. At the same time, population growth and new needs, including energy development, are increasing demand and competition for supplies.

Parts of the West are experiencing extreme and exceptional drought. Numerous basins are affected, particularly in Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, and Texas. Reservoir supplies providing some protection in previous dry years are averaging almost half of their historic levels. Snowpack, which acts like reservoir storage for many western basins, is diminishing. The Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Geological Survey, and their many partners, including the National Drought Resilience Partnership, provide the necessary information to analyze the effects of drought and sometimes provide infrastructure and tools to assist State and local entities in planning for and mitigating some of the effects of drought.

The aquifers on which millions of Americans rely for freshwater are being depleted at an accelerating rate. In many cases, these aquifers accumulated over the course of millions of years. According to a USGS study, aquifer depletion in the years between 2004 and 2008 was nearly triple the historical average. Population growth and increasing demand intensified by drought are straining these underground freshwater sources.

Maintaining the key features of the water infrastructure is becoming more costly over time due to the condition of some of the components, cost increases in the broader economy, and the need for additional facilities rehabilitation, replacement, and extraordinary maintenance. New approaches are needed to ensure resiliency in the face of climate change as well as more volatile natural events and to provide prudent maintenance necessary to reliably deliver water supplies.

State governments and a complex array of laws and ownership regimes govern water allocation and use, but the Federal government has a role to play by providing leadership and support for sustainable water stewardship. Recognizing the primary role States and Tribes play in managing water resources and the critical need to address these challenges, Interior made water conservation a priority goal and provides leadership and support for sustainable water stewardship through partnerships with other Federal agencies, State and local governments, Tribes, industry, the agricultural sector, and other non-governmental partners. Interior works as a partner to increase reliability of water supplies for the benefit of people, the economy, and the environment by providing better tools for water management, promoting water conservation and efficiency, and wisely maintaining and improving infrastructure.

In collaboration with its partners, Interior develops comprehensive basin-wide assessments and adaptation strategies, which are critical to forecasting water needs, evaluating the availability of and risks to water supplies, and planning for the impacts of reduced or altered availability and increasing demands. Through basin studies and other assessment

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programs, Interior has helped to proactively resolve water shortage issues, promote water conservation and improved water management, and mitigate adverse environmental impacts of projects.

## **WATERSMART SUSTAIN AND MANAGE AMERICA'S RESOURCES FOR TOMORROW**

Interior continues to implement the WaterSMART Program. The program works to secure and stretch water supplies to benefit people, the economy, and the environment, and identify adaptive measures needed to address climate change and future demands. The Department's 2015 budget request includes \$52.1 million for water sustainability efforts through Reclamation, an increase of \$3.1 million from 2014 enacted levels. The budget request also includes \$14.5 million for the USGS WaterSMART Availability and Use Assessment program, which is known as the National Water Census. This is a \$6.4 million increase from 2014 enacted levels.

In 2013 and 2014, Interior continued to focus efforts on promoting sustainable water strategies, and improving water management through science, collaboration, and cooperation. These approaches were demonstrated through the Water Census, Reclamation Basin Studies and Cooperative Watershed Management programs, and through joint activities, like the Urban Waters Federal Partnership. Comprehensive basin-wide approaches such as these will be critical to assessing water needs, evaluating the availability of and risks to water supplies, and planning for the impacts of reduced availability and increasing demands in collaboration with Interior's partners.

For example, in the face of the current 14-year drought cycle—the worst in recorded history stretching back over 100 years of recordkeeping—Interior launched the Next Steps process with the Colorado River Basin States, Tribes, Federal agencies, water providers, and other stakeholders. Under the Next Steps process, three multi-stakeholder workgroups are addressing water management challenges in municipal and industrial conservation, agricultural conservation and transfers, and environmental and recreational river flows necessary to sustain a healthy watershed.

*National Water Census* – An important component of Interior's water sustainability strategy is to inform the public and decision makers about the status

and changes over time of the Nation's freshwater resources. Through the WaterSMART program, USGS has developed and begun implementation of the WaterSMART Availability and Use Assessment program, known as the Water Census. The Water Census will provide a more accurate picture of the quantity and quality of the Nation's water resources for beneficial uses and provide a basis for improved forecasting of water availability for future economic, energy production, and environmental uses.

### **NATIONAL WATER CENSUS WILL GUIDE AND IMPROVE WATER SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS**

On April 3, 2013, Interior released a report to Congress on the progress of the National Water Census. The update to the Water Census, the first since 1978, will give the Nation critical new information about the availability and use of America's fresh water resources.

The USGS is initially focusing the Water Census on areas with significant competition for water availability and existing or emerging conflicts over water supply, such as the Delaware, Colorado, and Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River Basins.

The latest report on the Water Census, *Progress toward Establishing a National Assessment of Water Availability and Use*, is available at: <http://pubs.usgs.gov/circular/1384>.

*Basin Studies* – The basin study component of the WaterSMART program is a valuable tool to help States, local governments, and Tribes to address the potential for decreased and more volatile water supplies. Basin studies leverage Reclamation funding and technical expertise in a collaborative effort with knowledgeable State and local water practitioners to identify practical, implementable solutions to existing or anticipated shortages. The basin studies conducted to date have advanced the state of knowledge about the dynamics of each particular watershed and brought to bear a collective expertise to formulate constructive actions to address imbalances.

In 2015, Reclamation is continuing the strong partnerships with local water and conservation managers working together on comprehensive water

studies of river basins in Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Nevada, and Oregon. In 2013, the San Diego Basin in California and West Salt River Valley Basin in Arizona were selected for basin studies. The Carson River in California and Nevada, Willamette River Basin in Oregon, and Arkansas River Basin in Colorado and Kansas were chosen for plans of study. A plan of study helps a cost-share partner, such as a local water district, define the outcomes and set the scope and focus for a potential future basin study. In 2015, Reclamation will continue to build strong partnerships with local water and conservation managers by working together on comprehensive water studies of river basins in the West. In 2015, the budget supports one or two basin studies in the western U.S. and one new West-wide climate risk impact assessment, which fulfills requirements of Section 9503 of the Secure Water Act.

*Cooperative Watershed Management* – In 2012, Interior established the Cooperative Watershed Management program in Reclamation, which has been very successful in building locally based support. In August 2013, five entities in Colorado, Idaho, and Oregon were selected to receive a total of \$485,423 over two years to establish or expand watershed groups. These grants build capacity for diverse watershed groups that in 2014 will address water

quality, ecosystem, and endangered species issues at the local level in their basins. In 2015, Reclamation will establish or expand four to six watershed groups.

*Other Partnerships* – Interior, along with other partners, is working with the Environmental Protection Agency in the Urban Waters Federal Partnership to restore urban waterways and reconnect city populations with the flowing rivers and streams in their immediate neighborhood. Cleaning up and restoring local water resources is essential to human health, economic vibrancy of communities, and an overall improved quality of life. Another collaborative endeavor between Interior and the Department of Agriculture, announced in July 2013, is the Western Watershed Enhancement Partnership to build resilience for critical water resource infrastructure. Flows of sediment, debris, and ash into streams and rivers after wildfires can damage water quality, reduce water storage capacity, and often require millions of dollars to repair damage to habitat, reservoirs, and facilities. This Federal, local, and private partnership will reduce the risks of wildfire to America’s water supply in western States by removing extra brush and other flammable vegetation around critical areas and help protect facilities and water quality through erosion control after wildfires.

<b>WATERSMART</b> (dollars in millions)			
	2014 Enacted	2015 Request	Change
<b>BUREAU OF RECLAMATION</b>			
WaterSMART Grants .....	19.0	19.0	0
Basin Studies .....	4.7	3.9	-0.9
Cooperative Watershed Management .....	0.3	0.3	0
Resilient Infrastructure .....	0	1.5	+1.5
Drought Response .....	0	1.5	+1.5
Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program .....	21.5	21.5	0
Water Conservation Field Services .....	3.4	4.5	+1.0
<b>Subtotal, Bureau of Reclamation .....</b>	<b>48.9</b>	<b>52.1</b>	<b>+3.1</b>
<b>U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY</b>			
Fisheries .....	0.5	0.5	0
Land Change Science .....	0.5	0.5	0
Groundwater Resources .....	2.6	5.0	+2.4
Hydrologic Networks and Analysis .....	4.4	6.4	+2.0
Cooperative Water Program .....	0	2.0	+2.0
<b>Subtotal, U.S. Geological Survey .....</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>+6.4</b>
<b>TOTAL, WATERSMART PROGRAM .....</b>	<b>57.0</b>	<b>66.5</b>	<b>+9.5</b>

## RESOLVING LAND AND WATER CLAIMS

### PRIORITY GOAL WATER CONSERVATION

**GOAL:** Enable capability to increase the available water supply in the western States through conservation-related programs to ensure adequate and safe water supplies.

**METRIC:** By September 30, 2015, the Department of the Interior will further enable the capability to increase the available water supply for agricultural, municipal, industrial, and environmental uses in the western United States through Reclamation water conservation programs to 840,000 acre-feet, cumulatively since the end of 2009.

The 2015 budget request for Indian water settlements continues to demonstrate the Administration's strong commitment to resolving tribal water rights claims and ensuring Tribes have access to use and manage water to meet domestic, economic, cultural, and ecological needs. The projects supported in these agreements will bring clean and potable water to tribal communities. These investments will not only improve the health and well being of tribal members, but will bring the opportunity for jobs and economic development enabled by the availability of stable water supplies. The 2015 budget request for technical and legal support and for authorized settlements involving tribal waters totals \$171.9 million, an increase of \$13.8 million over 2014. This includes \$24.2 million for Interior-wide technical and legal support and \$147.6 million for settlement implementation, of which \$112.0 million is funded by Reclamation and \$35.7 million by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

### INDIAN LAND AND WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENTS (dollars in millions)

	2014 Enacted	2015 Request	Change
<b>BUREAU OF RECLAMATION</b>			
Ak Chin Settlement .....	12.4	14.1	+1.7
Aamodt Settlement .....	4.7	3.0	-1.7
Crow Settlement .....	7.5	2.0	-5.5
Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project .....	60.5	81.0	+20.5
Taos Pueblos Settlement .....	4.0	4.0	0
White Mountain Apache Settlement .....	2.0	0	-2.0
Other Ongoing Settlement Operation and Maint.....	8.7	7.9	-0.8
<b>Subtotal, Reclamation .....</b>	<b>99.7</b>	<b>112.0</b>	<b>+12.3</b>
<b>BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS</b>			
Duck Valley Reservation Settlement .....	12.0	0	-12.0
Aamodt Settlement .....	0	6.2	+6.2
Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project .....	7.8	9.0	+1.2
Taos Pueblos Settlement .....	8.8	15.4	+6.6
Navajo Nation Water Resources Trust Fund .....	6.0	4.0	-2.0
Other Ongoing Settlement Operation and Maint.....	1.0	1.0	0
<b>Subtotal, Indian Affairs .....</b>	<b>35.7</b>	<b>35.7</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL, INDIAN SETTLEMENTS <sup>1/</sup>.....</b>	<b>135.3</b>	<b>147.6</b>	<b>+12.3</b>

<sup>1/</sup> This table includes current funding only. The last year for the \$60.0 million annual permanent appropriation provided to the Reclamation Water Settlement Fund in the Claims Resolution Act of 2010 is 2014.

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## DROUGHT RESPONSE

With the Colorado River Basin in a 14-year drought cycle that is the worst in 100 years, California in one of the driest periods on record, and other States experiencing continued drought, Interior is focusing efforts on working with partners to increase flexibility for water managers and users. Recognizing the severity of the situation in the West, President Obama went to California in February to affirm his commitment that the Administration will do everything it can to help the farmers, ranchers, small businesses, and communities impacted by the drought.

In California, the Departments of the Interior, Agriculture, and Commerce are working with the State to accelerate water transfers and exchanges, provide operational flexibility to store and convey water, expedite environmental review and compliance actions, and pursue new or fast-track existing projects that might help stretch California's water supplies. Reclamation finalized its *2014 Plan for the Central Valley Project* which outlines actions that can be taken in the near-term to manage ongoing water supply challenges such as expanding operational flexibility and streamlining the water transfer process. Federal and State officials are also discussing a collaborative response to the drought to minimize its social, economic, and environmental impacts. Other agencies joining the effort include the National Marine Fisheries Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Reclamation and NRCS are working to leverage Federal funds for water delivery agencies and agricultural producers. In 2014, they will jointly provide up to \$14.0 million in funding, \$7.0 million from Reclamation and \$7.0 million from NRCS, for water districts and associated growers to promote conservation of water and improve water management. The projects funded through this partnership will help communities build resilience to drought by modernizing their water infrastructure and efficiently using scarce water resources while continuing to support the agricultural economy. Water conservation and efficiency improvement projects implemented since the Reclamation-NRCS partnership was established in 2011 have helped water purveyors and producers prepare for and respond

to the current drought conditions. The \$20.8 million invested through that program has already saved 38,000 acre-feet of water each year and helped increase water efficiencies on-farm by an average of 25 percent. The Southern San Joaquin Irrigation District, an early member of this partnership, announced in 2013 that farmers served by the project increased their crop yields by 30 percent while using 30 percent less water.

In the Colorado River Basin, Reclamation is working with the seven Basin States to craft new strategies to ensure critical infrastructure, such as the Hoover and Glen Canyon Dams, continue to operate as intended and assist agricultural and municipal users to address current and future water challenges. In addition, Reclamation and the International Boundary and Water Commission are implementing a new agreement with the Republic of Mexico to allow storage of Mexican water in U.S. reservoirs, reducing and delaying the need for extraordinary shortage measures in the U.S.

In the Klamath River Basin, Interior is working with other Federal agencies, California and Oregon, Tribes, and non-governmental organizations to restore the Basin while also sustaining the communities that rely on the resources of the Basin. In December 2013, Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber, Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley, and Reclamation Commissioner Mike Connor joined with members of the Klamath Basin Task Force and Upper Basin Water Group to announce an Agreement in Principle on upper basin water and economic issues. The agreement lays out solutions to outstanding water and resource management issues and addresses ways to improve the economic condition of the Klamath Tribes. Following input from community members, it is anticipated that the agreement will be finalized in 2014.

The USGS is re-calibrating streamflow monitors in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta to ensure accurate measurements of water availability during these extraordinarily low water levels. The USGS is briefing resource agencies on the latest scientific and technical information regarding water management options. They are monitoring groundwater availability and quality and studying the impacts of subsidence due to groundwater withdrawal. The USGS continues to monitor hazards that could affect water availability and the effect of drought on plant and animal populations.



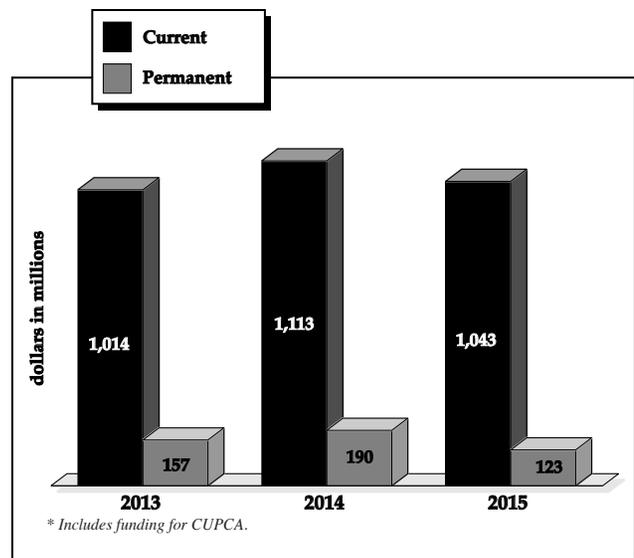
# BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

**Mission** – The Bureau of Reclamation’s mission is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.

**Budget Overview** – Reclamation’s 2015 budget, including the Central Utah Project Completion Act, is \$1.0 billion. These expenditures are offset by current receipts in the Central Valley Project Restoration Fund, estimated to be \$57.0 million. The budget proposal for permanent appropriations in 2015 totals \$122.8 million. The budget also proposes to establish a new Indian Water Rights Settlement account and a current appropriation within the San Joaquin Restoration Fund. Further, the budget proposes to shift funding for CUPCA within Reclamation, while maintaining a separate account. This consolidation is part of broader Administration efforts to implement good government solutions, to consolidate activities when possible, and reduce duplication and overlap.

As the largest supplier and manager of water in the 17 western States and the Nation’s second largest producer of hydroelectric power, Reclamation’s projects and programs are critical to driving and maintaining economic growth in the western States. Reclamation manages water for agricultural, municipal and industrial use, and provides flood risk reduction and recreation for millions of people. According to *The Department of the Interior’s Economic Report Fiscal Year 2012*, Reclamation’s activities, including recreation, contribute \$52.3 billion to the economy and support nearly 366,300 jobs. Reclamation owns 76 power plants and operates and maintains 53 of those plants. The 53 hydroelectric power plants account for 15 percent of the hydroelectric generating capacity in the United States. Annually, Reclamation generates more than 40 billion kilowatt hours of electricity, enough to supply over 3.5 million U.S. households and collects nearly \$1 billion in gross power revenues for the Federal government. It would take more than 23.5 million barrels of crude oil or about 6.8 million tons of coal to produce an equal amount of energy with fossil fuels. As a result, Reclamation’s facilities eliminate the production of over 27 million tons of carbon dioxide that would have been produced by fossil fuel power plants.

## Reclamation Funding\*



The 2015 budget allocates funds to projects and programs using objective, performance-based criteria to most effectively implement Reclamation’s programs and its management responsibilities for water and power infrastructure in the West. The 2015 budget emphasizes the following principles:

- *Shared Responsibility* – Securing non-Federal cost-share partners to meet project or program funding needs, and leveraging funding through these collaborative partnerships.
- *Merit-Based Funding* – Utilizing competitive processes for awarding of grants, contracts, or other services based on criteria that reflect Interior priorities.
- *Regional Equity* – Conducting the management of Reclamation’s water infrastructure and programs by setting priorities on a West-wide basis.

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## BUREAU OF RECLAMATION FACTS

- Established in 1902.
- Manages, develops, and protects water resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner.
- Largest supplier and manager of water in the 17 western States.
- Manages 476 dams and 337 reservoirs with the capacity to store 245 million acre-feet of water.
- Delivers water to one in every five western farmers for about 10 million acres of irrigated land, and provides water to over 31 million people for municipal, rural, and industrial uses.
- Is the Nation's second largest producer of hydroelectric power, generating 40 billion kilowatt hours of energy per year.
- Addresses water resource challenges posed by drought, climate change, depleted aquifers, environmental needs, energy demands, and population increases in the West.
- Provides substantial benefits to recreation and fish and wildlife habitats.

**Water and Related Resources** – The 2015 budget for Water and Related Resources, Reclamation's principal operating account, is \$760.7 million, a decrease of \$193.4 million from 2014 enacted levels. This decrease is due, in part, to shift of \$90.0 million to establish a separate Indian Water Rights Settlement Account, a shift of \$32.0 million to establish a separate current appropriation within the San Joaquin Restoration Fund, and a program decrease in the Central Valley Project reflecting a six month suspension of court ordered drainage requirements.

The 2015 budget includes a total of \$343.5 million at the project and program level for water, energy, land, and fish and wildlife resource management and development activities. Funding in these activities provides for planning, construction, water sustainability activities, management of Reclamation lands, including recreation areas, and actions to address the impacts of Reclamation projects on fish and wildlife.

The budget also provides a total of \$417.2 million at the project level for water and power facility operations, maintenance, and rehabilitation activities. Reclamation emphasizes safe, efficient, economic, and reliable operation of facilities, ensuring systems and safety measures are in place to protect the facilities and the public. Providing adequate funding for these activities continues to be one of Reclamation's highest priorities.

**Ensuring Healthy Watersheds and Sustainable, Secure Water Supplies** – The health, security, economic, and ecological well-being of the American people depend on adequate supplies of clean water. Water availability and quality are a constant and increasing challenge across the Country as intensifying droughts, climate and changing hydrology exacerbate water shortages, deplete groundwater resources, and contribute to impaired water quality. At the same time, population growth and

new domestic needs, including energy development, increase demand and competition for supplies. Further, maintaining the key features of the Nation's water infrastructure is becoming more costly over time due to the condition of the components, cost increases in the broader economy, and the need for additional facilities rehabilitation, replacement, and extraordinary maintenance. New approaches are needed to ensure resiliency in the face of climate change and increasing numbers of natural hazard events.

**Interior's WaterSMART Program** – Sustain and Manage America's Resources for Tomorrow, WaterSMART, is one method Reclamation employs to stretch water supplies in the West and prepare for these ongoing challenges. The programs included in WaterSMART are collaborative in nature and work across jurisdictional boundaries to effectively achieve sustainable water management. WaterSMART Grants, Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse, and the Water Conservation Field Services program, along with other Reclamation activities, support the Department's Priority Goal for Water Conservation.

In the 2015 budget request, Reclamation proposes to fund WaterSMART at \$52.1 million. The WaterSMART components include: WaterSMART Grants funded at \$19.0 million; the Basin Study program funded at \$3.9 million; the Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program funded at \$21.5 million; the Water Conservation Field Services program funded at \$4.5 million; the Cooperative Watershed Management program funded at \$250,000; a new Drought Response program funded at \$1.5 million; and a new Resilient Infrastructure program funded at \$1.5 million.

*Climate Change Adaptation* – Consistent with the direction in the President's 2013 Climate Action Plan, in 2015 Reclamation is developing and implementing approaches

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to understand, and effectively adapt to, the risks and impacts of a changing environment on western water management. Some examples include:

- The Basin Study program takes a coordinated approach to assess risks and impacts; develops landscape level science; communicates information and science to other entities and agencies; and works with stakeholders to develop adaptation strategies to cope with water supply and demand imbalances on a collaborative basis.
- The Drought Response program will implement, under existing authorities, a comprehensive new approach to drought planning and will implement actions to help communities manage drought and develop long-term resilience strategies.
- Through the Resilient Infrastructure program, Reclamation will proactively maintain and improve existing infrastructure for system reliability, safety, and efficiency for water conservation to prepare for extremes and support healthy and resilient watersheds. Reclamation will develop and implement an enhanced decisionmaking criteria framework for selecting infrastructure investments and will identify opportunities to integrate operational efficiencies more compatible with climate change adaptation goals, as part of the Bureau's ongoing infrastructure investments.
- Within Reclamation's Science and Technology program is water resources research to improve capability for managing water resources under multiple drivers, including a changing climate. This research agenda will be collaborated and leveraged with capabilities of the Interior Climate Science Centers.
- Additionally, Reclamation's WaterSMART Grants, Water Conservation Field Services, and Title XVI programs are enabling the West to better adapt to the impacts of a changing environment by helping to conserve tens of thousands of acre-feet of water each year in urban and rural settings, on both large and small scales.

**Powering Our Future** – To support the Powering Our Future initiative, the 2015 Reclamation budget includes \$1.2 million to optimize its hydropower projects to produce more energy with the same amount of water; investigate Reclamation's capability to integrate large amounts of renewable resources such as wind and solar into the electric grid; and work with Tribes to assist them in developing renewable energy sources. These important projects will assist in the production of cleaner, more efficient renewable energy.

**Strengthening Tribal Nations** – The 2015 Reclamation budget supports the Strengthening Tribal Nations initiative through a number of activities and projects. For example, the budget includes \$8.1 million in support of Reclamation's activities with Tribes, including technical assistance, Indian Water Rights Settlement negotiations, implementation of enacted settlements, and outreach to Tribes; and \$14.1 million to continue the operation and maintenance associated with delivery of up to 85,000 acre-feet of water to the Ak-Chin Indian Community. Ongoing authorized rural water projects also benefit both tribal and non-tribal communities. The projects benefiting Tribes include the rural water component of the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program, Garrison Diversion Unit; Fort Peck Reservation/Dry Prairie; Mni Wiconi Project; and Rocky Boy's/North Central Montana. Numerous other projects and programs, such as the Columbia/Snake River Salmon Recovery Program, Klamath Project, and the Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project also benefit Tribes. In 2015, \$90.0 million for planning and construction of five recent Indian Water Rights Settlements is proposed as a new separate account.

*Rural Water Projects* – Congress has specifically authorized Reclamation to undertake the design and construction of six projects intended to deliver potable water supplies to specific rural communities and Tribes located in the 17 western States — primarily in Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, and South Dakota. The 2015 Reclamation budget includes \$34.1 million for rural water projects, \$17.8 million of that total is for operation and maintenance of completed tribal systems and the remaining \$16.3 million is for continued construction of authorized projects.

*Ecosystem Restoration* – To meet Reclamation's mission goals of securing America's energy resources and managing water in a sustainable manner for the 21st century, one focus of its programs must be the protection and restoration of the aquatic and riparian environments influenced by its operations. Ecosystem restoration involves a large number of activities, including Reclamation's Endangered Species Act recovery programs, directly addressing the environmental aspects of the Reclamation mission. In 2015, a total of \$116.0 million in Reclamation's 2015 budget directly supports the goals of the America's Great Outdoors Program, through local and basin-wide collaboration in watershed partnerships.

The 2015 budget provides \$150.6 million to operate, manage, and improve California's Central Valley Project, including a \$32.0 million current appropriation within the San Joaquin Restoration Fund. Overall, funding decreases \$28.0 million below 2014 levels. The primary factor for the decrease is a six month delay in the schedule for drainage services for the San Luis Unit as approved

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by the U.S. District Court. Within the CVP total, \$16.7 million and an additional \$2.0 million in the Central Valley Project Restoration Fund is for the Trinity River Restoration program.

Many other projects and programs also contribute to ecosystem restoration including the Lower Colorado River Multi-species Conservation Program, Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Act Collaborative Program, the Endangered Species Act Recovery Implementation programs, the Columbia/Snake River Salmon Recovery Program, Klamath Project, and the Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project.

*Dam Safety Program* - A total of \$82.9 million is provided for Reclamation's Safety of Dams program, which includes \$62.0 million to correct identified safety issues. Of that amount, \$21.4 million is for work at Folsom Dam. Funding also includes \$19.8 million for safety evaluations of existing dams and \$1.1 million to oversee the Interior Department's Safety of Dams program.

*Site Security* - A total of \$26.2 million is provided for Site Security to ensure the safety and security of the public, Reclamation's employees, and key facilities. This funding includes \$4.1 million for physical security upgrades at high risk critical assets and \$22.1 million to continue all aspects of Bureau-wide security efforts including law enforcement, risk and threat analysis, personnel security, information security, risk assessments and security-related studies, and guards and patrols.

**Central Utah Project Completion Act** – Interior's 2015 budget proposes to consolidate the CUPCA project within Reclamation while maintaining a separate account for CUPCA. This consolidation is part of broader Administration efforts to implement good government solutions, to consolidate activities when possible, and reduce duplication and overlap. The 2015 CUPCA budget is \$7.3 million of which \$1.0 million will be transferred to the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Account for use by the Mitigation Commission. The 2015 funding will be used to provide for limited construction, program oversight, the Ute Tribal settlement, fish and wildlife development, and Endangered Species Act recovery.

**Central Valley Project Restoration Fund** – The 2015 budget includes a total of \$57.0 million for the CVPRF. This amount is determined on the basis of a three-year rolling average not to exceed \$50.0 million per year and indexed to 1992 price levels. These expenditures are offset by collections estimated at \$57.0 million from mitigation and restoration charges authorized by the Central Valley Project Improvement Act. The San Joaquin Restoration Fund section below describes the impact the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act has on the CVPRF.

**California Bay-Delta Restoration** – The 2015 budget provides \$37.0 million for California Bay-Delta Restoration, equal to the 2014 budget. The account focuses on the health of the Bay-Delta ecosystem and improved water management and supplies. The budget will support the equal goals of environmental restoration and improved water supply reliability, under the following program activities: \$1.7 million for a Renewed Federal State Partnership, \$8.0 million for Smarter Water Supply and Use, and \$27.4 million for Habitat Restoration. These program activities are based on the Interim Federal Action Plan for the California Bay-Delta issued December 22, 2009.

**San Joaquin River Restoration Fund** – The 2015 budget funds activities consistent with the settlement of *Natural Resources Defense Council v. Rodgers* as authorized by the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act. The Act includes a provision to establish the San Joaquin Restoration Fund to implement the provisions of the Settlement. The Settlement's two primary goals are to restore and maintain fish populations, and restore and avoid adverse water impacts. Under the Settlement, the legislation provides for nearly \$2.0 million in permanent annual appropriations from the Central Valley Project Restoration Fund for this purpose. Reclamation proposes \$32.0 million of current funds for the San Joaquin Restoration Fund account in 2015.

**Indian Water Rights Settlements** – The total budget for Reclamation's implementation of Indian Water Rights Settlements in 2015 is \$112.0 million in current funding. Reclamation is proposing to establish an Indian Water Rights Settlements account to assure continuity in the construction of the authorized projects and to highlight and enhance transparency in handling these funds.

The budget includes \$9.0 million to continue implementation of three settlements authorized in the Claims Resolution Act of 2010. These settlements will deliver clean water to the Taos Pueblo of New Mexico, the Pueblos of New Mexico named in the Aamodt case, and the Crow Tribe of Montana. The budget also includes \$81.0 million for the ongoing Navajo-Gallup Water Supply project. The \$90.0 million for these settlements is proposed in a separate account in order to have major current funding for constructing Reclamation's Indian Water Rights Settlements in a single account.

The 2015 budget also contains \$22.0 million in the Water and Related Resources Account for on-going settlement operation and maintenance functions including the Ak Chin Indian Water Rights Settlement Act, San Carlos Apache Tribe Water Settlement Act, Colorado Ute Settlement Act Animas-La Plata Project, and Nez Perce/Snake River Water Rights Act which is part of the Columbia/Snake River Salmon Recovery Program.

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**Policy and Administration** – The 2015 budget for the account that finances Reclamation’s central and regional management functions is \$59.5 million.

**Recreation Fee Program** – The 2015 budget proposes legislation to permanently authorize the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, which will expire in December 2015. Reclamation currently collects \$545,000 in recreation fees annually under this authority and uses them to enhance the visitor experience at Interior facilities. In addition, the Department will propose a general provision in the 2015 budget request to amend appropriations language to extend the authority through FY 2016.

**Working Capital Fund** – This fund is operated to manage financial activities such as the acquisition and replace-

ment of capital equipment; recovery of the cost of services provided to others; indirect cost recovery for the Technical Service Center; management services and human resources in regional and area offices; and information technology related costs and services. The fund operates on a self-supporting basis through user charges.

**Permanent Appropriations** - The 2015 total permanent appropriation of \$122.8 million primarily includes \$110.7 million for the Colorado River Dam Fund. The \$51.7 million decrease for permanent funding reflects 2014 as the last year of the \$60.0 million permanent appropriation to the Reclamation Water Settlements Fund provided in the Claims Resolution Act of 2010, and in 2015 the Central Utah Project Completion Act accounts are consolidated within Reclamation.

## SUMMARY OF BUREAU APPROPRIATIONS

(all dollar amounts in thousands)

### Comparison of 2015 Request with 2014 Enacted

	2014 Enacted		2015 Request		Change	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE <sup>1/</sup>	Amount
<b>Current</b>						
Water and Related Resources .....	2,831	954,085	2,881	760,700	+50	-193,385
San Joaquin Restoration Fund <sup>2/</sup> .....	0	[26,000]	0	32,000	0	+32,000
Indian Water Rights Settlements <sup>2/</sup> .....	0	[78,661]	0	90,000	0	+90,000
Subtotal .....	2,831	954,085	2,881	882,700	+50	-71,385
Policy and Administration.....	296	60,000	296	59,500	0	-500
Reclamation Loan Program Account (cancellation)...	0	0	0	-500	0	-500
Central Valley Project Restoration Fund.....	18	53,288	18	56,995	0	+3,707
California Bay-Delta Restoration.....	31	37,000	31	37,000	0	0
Central Utah Project Completion Account <sup>2/</sup> .....	[4]	[7,725]	4	6,300	+4	+6,300
Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Account <sup>2/</sup> .....	[10]	[1,000]	[10]	1,000	0	+1,000
Working Capital Fund .....	1,848	0	1,848	0	0	0
Subtotal, Current (w/o offset) .....	5,024	1,104,373	5,078	1,042,995	+54	-61,378
Central Valley Project Restoration Fund Offset.....	0	-53,288	0	-56,995	0	-3,707
Subtotal, Current (w/ offset) .....	5,024	1,051,085	5,078	986,000	+54	-65,085
<b>Permanent</b>						
Colorado River Dam Fund,						
Boulder Canyon Project .....	218	110,189	218	110,740	0	+551
Basin Funds.....	119	0	119	0	0	0
Loan Program Subsidy Reestimate .....	0	100	0	0	0	-100
Loan Program Liquidating Account.....	0	-855	0	-865	0	-10
Miscellaneous Permanents .....	0	478	0	515	0	+37
Reclamation Trust Funds .....	1	2,928	1	3,000	0	+72
Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act .....	0	496	0	545	0	+49
San Joaquin River Restoration Fund .....	22	0	22	0	0	0
Water and Related Resources <sup>3/</sup> .....	0	1,194	0	0	0	-1,194
Reclamation Water Settlements Fund .....	0	60,000	0	0	0	-60,000
Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Account <sup>2/</sup> .....	0	[14,957]	0	8,880	0	+8,880
Subtotal, Permanent and Other .....	360	174,530	360	122,815	0	-51,715
<b>TOTAL, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION .....</b>	<b>5,384</b>	<b>1,225,615</b>	<b>5,438</b>	<b>1,108,815</b>	<b>+54</b>	<b>-116,800</b>

<sup>1/</sup> The net change in FTE for the Bureau of Reclamation is +54, which is primarily a result of increasing workload within the Water and Related Resources Account at powerplants for capital projects such as powerplant overhaul, ring seal gate refurbishment, drum gate recoating, and pump-generating plant discharge tube recoating. Power customers fund this increased workload.

<sup>2/</sup> The amounts displayed in brackets are provided for comparative purposes only as these amounts were appropriated in different accounts for 2014.

<sup>3/</sup> Indexed funds provided for the Crow Settlement in accordance with Section 414 of the Claims Resolution Act of 2010, which states that funds should be adjusted to reflect changes since May 1, 2008, in construction cost indices applicable to the types of construction involved in the rehabilitation and improvement of the Crow Irrigation Project and the design and construction of the municipal, rural, and industrial water system. Indexed amounts for 2015 will not be known until late in fiscal year 2014.

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## HIGHLIGHTS OF BUDGET CHANGES

### By Appropriation Activity/Subactivity

#### APPROPRIATION: Water and Related Resources

	2013 Actual	2014 Enacted	2015 Request	Change
Central Arizona Project .....	7,479	9,038	7,634	-1,404
Central Valley Project .....	141,387	178,545	118,586	-59,959
Colorado-Big Thompson Project.....	12,933	13,134	13,157	+23
Colorado River Basin Salinity				
Control Project.....	22,085	22,938	23,748	+810
Colorado River Storage Project.....	12,886	12,566	12,783	+217
Columbia Basin Project .....	8,558	9,516	11,071	+1,555
Columbia/Snake River				
Salmon Recovery.....	17,058	18,000	17,000	-1,000
Dam Safety Program.....	82,876	88,084	82,884	-5,200
Endangered Species Act				
Recovery Implementation.....	20,674	21,207	22,677	+1,470
Indian Water Rights Settlements <sup>1/</sup>				
(including Navajo-Gallup).....	47,243	78,661	0	-78,661
Klamath Project .....	24,388	18,000	18,000	0
Lower Colorado River				
Operations Program .....	27,885	27,839	28,345	+506
Middle Rio Grande Project .....	21,358	25,934	22,735	-3,199
Native American Affairs Program.....	6,128	7,412	8,088	+676
Pick-Sloan Missouri .....				
Basin Program (excluding Garrison)....	42,039	40,967	45,390	+4,423
Garrison Diversion Unit				
(Non-Rural Water) .....	9,116	9,623	9,623	0
Subtotal, Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin.....	51,155	50,590	55,013	+4,423
Rural Water Supply Projects				
Eastern NM Rural Water System .....	1,874	2,349	47	-2,302
Fort Peck Reservation/Dry Prairie				
Rural Water System.....	7,108	9,200	3,249	-5,951
Jicarilla Apache Rural Water System....	474	0	0	0
Lewis and Clark Rural Water System ..	4,265	8,350	2,432	-5,918
Mni Wiconi Project.....	33,757	12,000	12,000	0
P-SMBP, Garrison Diversion Unit.....	15,068	23,840	12,296	-11,544
Rocky Boy's/North Central Montana				
Rural Water System.....	3,791	11,400	4,059	-7,341
Subtotal, Rural Water Projects.....	66,337	67,139	34,083	-33,056
Research and Development.....	12,365	16,566	12,668	-3,898
Site Security.....	25,493	27,800	26,220	-1,580
WaterSMART Program				
Basin Study Program.....	5,686	4,734	3,850	-884
Cooperative Watershed Management..	236	250	250	0
Resilient Infrastructure (Climate) .....	0	0	1,500	+1,500
Drought Response (Climate) .....	0	0	1,500	+1,500
Title XVI Water Reclamation				
and Reuse Projects .....	18,927	21,500	21,500	0
WaterSMART Grants .....	21,443	19,000	19,000	0
Water Conservation Field				
Services Program.....	5,881	3,437	4,457	+1,020
Subtotal, WaterSMART Program .....	52,173	48,921	52,057	+3,136

<sup>1/</sup> The Indian Water Rights Settlements Appropriation Account is requested to be established in 2015.

**APPROPRIATION: Water and Related Resources** (continued)

	2013 Actual	2014 Enacted	2015 Request	Change
Yakima Project and Yakima River Basin				
Water Enhancement Project.....	17,004	15,436	18,642	+3,206
Yuma Area Projects .....	21,269	23,842	23,987	+145
Other Project / Programs.....	149,452	172,917	151,322	-21,595
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....</b>	<b>848,186</b>	<b>954,085</b>	<b>760,700</b>	<b>-193,385</b>

***Program Highlights***

The 2015 budget includes funds for the following projects and programs.

**Central Arizona Project**

Funds are for continued work activities to include fulfilling native fish protection requirements through fish barrier projects; construction design; cost estimates; National Environmental Policy Act environmental analysis; construction of recharge and recovery facilities; and monitoring, liaison, and maintenance responsibilities to the Tohono O'odham Nation's San Xavier and Schuk Toak Districts.

**Central Valley Project**

Funds are provided for continued facility operations, maintenance, and rehabilitation, numerous management and development efforts, and water conservation. In response to a Federal Court Order, funding continues to support a reduced implementation of the San Luis Drainage Management Plan that addresses groundwater pumping, drainage reuse, drainage treatment, and salt disposal. Funding also provides for the Trinity River restoration program and related activities that will be funded by the CVP Restoration Fund and California Bay-Delta appropriation. The decrease in funding is due to a temporary suspension of drainage activities, consistent with the Court Order, and a shift to a current appropriation within the San Joaquin Restoration Fund.

**Colorado-Big Thompson Project**

The Colorado-Big Thompson project diverts approximately 260,000 acre-feet of water annually from the Colorado River headwaters on the western slope of the Rocky Mountains for distribution to eastern slope project lands. Funding is provided for project operations and continued coordination of activities associated with conservation, enhancement, development, and restoration of fish and wildlife populations and their habitats.

**Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program**

Funds are provided for operation, maintenance, and rehabilitation of completed projects in the Upper Colorado River Basin and for a basin-wide program to identify and implement cost-effective salinity control options based on proposals from non-Federal interests. The funds are also used to meet United States obligations under the 1944 Water Treaty with Mexico and subsequent Minutes to the Treaty, which clarify and resolve Treaty issues. To help meet the Treaty requirements, Reclamation continues maintenance of the U.S. and Mexico bypass drains, wellfields, and conveyance systems; operations and delivery of Colorado River water to Mexico; and the management of water quality. Reclamation works to identify and evaluate the options for replacing or recovering bypass flows to Mexico, as they relate to the Yuma Desalting Plant. The increase reflects more frequent and extensive repairs necessary for aging groundwater wells and conveyances.

**Colorado River Storage Project**

Funds are included for the Federal share of the costs of facility operations, maintenance, and rehabilitation, including the rehabilitation of recreation facilities at Reclamation constructed reservoirs. Implementation of mitigation measures continues.

**Columbia Basin Project**

The Bonneville Power Administration, through a memorandum of agreement, directly funds power operation and maintenance costs. In addition, BPA directly funds through subagreements, major power replacements, additions, and improvements. Funds are provided for the day-to-day operation of two storage dams and reservoirs, three Grand Coulee power plants, one pump and generating plant, associated switchyards and transmission lines, the feeder canal at Grand Coulee, and the distribution canal systems for the irrigation reserved works.

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*Program Highlights*  
*Water and Related Resources (continued)*

Columbia/Snake River Salmon Recovery Program

This program implements actions required by the Endangered Species Act's 2014 Supplemental Biological Opinion issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. A separate 2000 Biological Opinion issued by the Fish and Wildlife Service is still in effect as well. These biological opinions include a vast suite of actions to protect listed species and require extensive collaboration with States and Tribes in the Columbia River Basin to ensure that operation of the Federal Columbia River Power System by the agencies is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of endangered or threatened species, or to adversely modify or destroy their designated critical habitat. Reclamation actions include modifications to hydrosystem operations and specific actions to improve tributary habitat and hatcheries for salmon and steelhead.

Dam Safety Program

This program provides funding for the Safety of Dams Evaluation and Modification program, which identifies and evaluates safety issues at Reclamation dams, and implements modifications to reduce associated risks to the public. The budget continues dam safety risk management and risk reduction activities throughout Reclamation's inventory of high and significant hazard dams. The program continues planned ongoing dam safety modification activities at Folsom and Stampede Dams, California; Nelson Dikes, Montana; and Glendo/Guernsey Dams and Bull Lake Dam, Wyoming. Pre-construction and project formulation activities are planned for several other dams. Funds are also provided to oversee the broader Dam Safety Program managed by the Department of the Interior.

Endangered Species Act Recovery Implementation

This program provides for the development and implementation of measures for the preservation, conservation, and recovery of native and endangered, threatened, proposed, and candidate species resident in, or migratory to, habitats affected by the operation of Reclamation projects. Ongoing efforts funded by this program involve the Colorado, San Juan, and Platte River Basins, as well as watersheds in the Pacific Northwest and areas impacted by the Central Valley Project.

Indian Water Rights Settlements (including Navajo-Gallup Water Supply)

In 2015, Reclamation proposes to establish an Indian Water Rights Settlements account to assure continuity in the construction of the authorized projects and highlight and enhance transparency in handling the new water settlements identified in the Claims Resolution Act of 2010. In establishing this account, Reclamation also proposes to include the ongoing Navajo-Gallup Water Supply project (Title X of the Omnibus Public Lands Management Act of 2009) to have all major current construction funding for Reclamation's Indian Water Rights Settlement projects in a single account. Funding will provide for ongoing pre-construction and construction activities of the Crow, Aamodt, and Navajo-Gallup Settlements and the planning and design of the mutual benefit projects for the Taos Settlement.

Klamath Project

The budget includes funds for projects and initiatives to improve water supplies to meet the competing demands of agricultural, tribal, wildlife refuge, and environmental needs in the Klamath River Basin along with facilities operation and maintenance. Key areas of focus will continue a water user mitigation program, make improvements in fish passage and habitat, take actions to improve water quality, develop a basin-wide recovery plan, and increase surface and groundwater supplies.

Lower Colorado River Operations Program

This program funds work necessary to carry out the Secretary's responsibilities as Water Master of the lower Colorado River, including administration of the Colorado River interim guidelines and reservoir management strategies during low reservoir conditions. This program funds activities under the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program to provide long-term Endangered Species Act compliance for lower Colorado River operations for both Federal and non-Federal purposes. The MSCP provides a cost-share benefit in which non-Federal partners match Federal funding on a 50:50 basis. It also continues Reclamation's 5-year commitment to fund cooperative measures outlined in Minute 319, signed in November 2012. The historic bi-national agreement to guide management of the Colorado River through 2017, addresses water management issues in the Colorado River Basin and continues to provide for a series of cooperative actions between the U.S. and Mexico to enhance water infrastructure and promote water conservation, management and development.

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*Program Highlights*  
*Water and Related Resources (continued)*

**Middle Rio Grande Project**

Funds are included for operations, maintenance, and rehabilitation of project facilities, river maintenance, and for efforts focused on the protection and recovery of the Rio Grande silvery minnow and southwestern willow flycatcher. Project partnerships, through the Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Act Collaborative Program, provide an alternative to litigation and preserve, protect, and improve the status of endangered species. River maintenance directly benefits water salvage and effective water delivery to Elephant Butte Reservoir, nine Tribes and Pueblos along the river, and a national wildlife refuge. It also reduces flood risks and protects life, critical riverside facilities and property. The project provides for collection of mission essential lifecycle hydrologic data in the Middle Rio Grande system, and maintenance of the surface water hydrologic computer model required for efficient and effective water delivery. The decrease reflects less work on construction projects related to the new biological opinion such as, silvery minnow propagation and population management, habitat restoration, species and habitat monitoring, and water quality studies supportive of the listed species recovery plans in furtherance of implementing a recovery implementation program.

**Native American Affairs Program**

This program provides funding to support Department-wide Indian water rights initiatives, studies and analysis for Indian water rights negotiations, and to improve the quality of cost estimates, data gathering, studies, analyses and reviews of settlement options. Resources support Federal negotiations by developing the most cost effective options for reaching settlement and meeting tribal trust responsibilities. Involvement on Indian water rights settlement negotiation and implementation includes 20 Federal water rights settlement implementation teams and 18 Federal water rights negotiation teams, with two extremely active new teams involving the Hualapai and Havasupai Tribes and the Navajo Nation - Utah. Funding also provides for technical assistance to Tribes in a variety of areas related to water and related resources including: tribal water needs assessments, smaller-scale upgrades and repairs to water supply systems, water quality studies, efficiency improvements, habitat restoration, and groundwater quality and contamination studies. Funding provides continued support of the recent White Mountain Apache, Crow, and Aamodt water rights settlements where the Acts did not provide full funding for Reclamation involvement.

**Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program**

Funds are provided for the Federal share of the cost of operations, maintenance, and rehabilitation of facilities on 32 units of the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin program. The rural water portion of the P-SMBP, Garrison Diversion Unit, is described under Rural Water Supply projects.

**Rural Water Supply Projects**

Congress has specifically authorized Reclamation to undertake the design and construction of six projects to deliver potable water supplies to specific rural communities and Tribes located primarily in Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, and South Dakota. In addition to funding for rural water project construction, the budget funds the operation and maintenance of tribal features of the Mni Wiconi project and the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program, Garrison Diversion Unit.

*Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System*

Funds are provided to extend the main transmission line to the north to Canon Air Force Base toward the Ute reservoir.

*Fort Peck Reservation/Dry Prairie Rural Water System*

Funds are provided for completion of a waterline and continued planning, design, and construction of pipeline branch lines.

*Jicarilla Apache Reservation Rural Water System*

No funds are proposed in 2015 as the Jicarilla Apache Nation has not obligated funds already appropriated for the project.

*Lewis and Clark Rural Water System*

Funds are provided to construct all or a portion of the 13 mile Minnesota Segment (MN-2) pipeline.

*Mni Wiconi Project*

Funds are provided for operation and maintenance of new and existing facilities on the Indian reservations. Construction of the Federal portion of the Mni Wiconi Project is projected to be completed in 2014.

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*Program Highlights*  
*Water and Related Resources (continued)*

*Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program, Garrison Diversion Unit*

Funds are provided for continued oversight of pre-construction and construction activities on approved State, municipal, rural, and industrial systems, including the continued construction of the Northwest Area Water Supply System. Funding also provides for operation and maintenance of completed project facilities.

*Rocky Boy's/North Central Montana Rural Water System*

Funds are provided for the Tribes and the non-Federal sponsor, North Central Authority, to perform construction of the core system pipeline, as well as design of the water treatment plant, and build-out of non-core pipeline distribution systems.

Research and Technology – Science and Technology Program

Funds are included to develop new solutions and technologies to meet the Bureau of Reclamation's mission-related needs, which provides for innovative management, development, and protection of water and related resources. Additionally, this program supports Interior's integrated strategy in response to changing climate impacts on the resources managed by the Department.

Site Security

Funds are provided to continue Reclamation's ongoing site security efforts including physical security upgrades at high risk critical assets, law enforcement, risk and threat analysis, personnel security, information security, security risk assessments, security related studies, and guards and patrol of facilities.

WaterSMART Program

Funds support the Department's WaterSMART program, which implements sustainable water management strategies to expand and stretch limited water supplies in the West to address current and future water shortages. The program also addresses increased demands for water and energy from growing populations, amplified recognition of environmental water requirements, and the potential for decreased water supply availability due to drought and climate change.

In 2015, the WaterSMART program continues funding for Reclamation's Basin Study program, Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse program, Water Conservation Fields Services program, WaterSMART Grants, and participation in the Cooperative Watershed Management program. Through WaterSMART Grants, Reclamation will continue to provide competitive cost-shared financial assistance for water and energy efficiency improvements, as well as other activities to enhance water management. The WaterSMART program also includes basin-wide climate assessments under the Basin Study program to implement the SECURE Water Act. These assessments support Landscape Conservation Cooperatives and Interior's integrated strategy to respond to new weather patterns in a changing environment. Funding continues support for water reclamation and reuse projects through the Title XVI program; continues funding of smaller scale water conservation improvements and planning efforts through the Water Conservation Field Services program; and assists the Department in implementing collaborative conservation efforts in the management of local watersheds through the Cooperative Watershed Management program. The WaterSMART program also supports the Department's priority goal for water conservation. In addition, funding will support two new activities: a Resilient Infrastructure Program to develop and implement an enhanced decisionmaking criteria framework for selecting infrastructure investments and operational changes that are more climate resilient; and the Drought Response Program, a comprehensive new approach to drought planning and implementation actions that address water shortages.

Yakima Project/Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project

Funds are provided for operation and maintenance of existing facilities and address water supply shortages for fish, wildlife, dry-year irrigation and municipal water supplies to include hydraulic modeling, cultural surveys, and designs. In 2015, construction begins for the Cle Elum Dam Fish Passage which will provide fish habitat upstream. Additionally, funding will enable continued implementation of specific environmental compliance activities related to inactive storage in the reservoir on the Kachess Drought Relief Pumping Plant.

Yuma Area Projects

The budget funds infrastructure maintenance along the lower Colorado River to ensure uninterrupted water delivery to both urban and agricultural users in Arizona, California, Nevada, and Mexico. Funding also supports river management, well inventory, drainage control, protection of endangered species and their habitats, and land use management activities. The increase is primarily for necessary maintenance and upgrades on aging well fields, drainage, and conveyance systems.

**Program Highlights**  
**Water and Related Resources (continued)**

Other Projects and Programs

The 2015 budget also includes funds for numerous smaller projects and programs that further the mission of Reclamation throughout the 17 western States. Though each of these projects may constitute a relatively small portion of Reclamation's budget, together they amount to \$151.3 million and provide critical services to thousands of individuals, farmers, municipalities, and industries throughout the arid West.

**APPROPRIATION: San Joaquin Restoration Fund <sup>1/</sup>**

	2013 Actual	2014 Enacted	2015 Request	Change
TOTAL APPROPRIATION <sup>1/</sup> .....	[15,530]	[26,000]	32,000	+32,000

**Program Highlights**

San Joaquin Restoration Fund

Reclamation proposes \$32.0 million of current funds, a \$6.0 million increase over the 2014 enacted level, for the San Joaquin Restoration Fund in 2015. Funding in 2014 and prior years has been in the Water and Related Resources account under the Central Valley Project, Friant Division. Providing the funds in the San Joaquin Restoration Fund will highlight and enhance transparency in handling these funds. The increase will primarily be used for the Mendota Pool Bypass and Reach 2B Channel and Structural Improvements Project which implements two of the highest priority projects identified in the Settlement. This project is also a key component of the San Joaquin River Restoration Program's America's Great Outdoors activities.

**APPROPRIATION: Indian Water Rights Settlements <sup>1/</sup>**

	2013 Actual	2014 Enacted	2015 Request	Change
Aamodt Litigation Settlement Act .....	[4,738]	[4,664]	3,000	+3,000
Crow Tribe Rights Settlement Act .....	[9,477]	[7,500]	2,000	+2,000
Navajo Gallup Water Supply .....	[26,868]	[60,497]	81,000	+81,000
Taos Indian Water Rights Settlement Act	[3,791]	[4,000]	4,000	+4,000
White Mountain Apache Tribe				
Water Rights Quantification Act .....	[2,369]	[2,000]	0	0
TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....	[47,243]	[78,661]	90,000	+90,000

**Program Highlights**

Indian Water Rights Settlements

In 2015, Reclamation proposes to establish an Indian Water Rights Settlements account to assure continuity in the construction of the authorized projects and to highlight and enhance transparency in handling the construction funds.

Aamodt Litigation Settlement Act

Funds are provided to plan, design, and construct a regional water system, in accordance with the Settlement Agreement. The system will divert and distribute water to the Pueblos of Nambe, Pojoaque, Tesuque, and San Ildefonso, and the Santa Fe County water utility; and include treatment, transmission, storage and distribution facilities, and well fields to meet water delivery requirements.

<sup>1/</sup> The amounts displayed in brackets are provided for comparative purposes only, as these amounts were appropriated in different accounts for 2013 and 2014.

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*Program Highlights*  
*Indian Water Rights Settlements (continued)*

Crow Tribe Rights Settlement Act

Reclamation will serve as the lead agency to implement the two major components of the Crow Tribe Water Rights Settlement Act. Reclamation will rehabilitate and improve the Crow Irrigation Project under which Reclamation will carry out activities needed to rehabilitate and improve the water diversion and delivery features of the CIP. Reclamation will also design and construct a municipal, rural, and industrial system under which Reclamation will plan, design, and construct the water diversion and delivery features of the municipal, industrial, and rural water system, in accordance with one or more agreements between the Secretary and the Tribe.

Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project

Funds will be used to continue oversight, management, coordination, and construction on several reaches on both the San Juan Lateral and the Cutter Lateral. Funding will also provide for design data collection, design, rights-of-way acquisition, and environmental and cultural resources compliance activities for remaining project features.

Taos Pueblo Indian Water Rights Settlement Act

Funds are provided to begin the planning and design of potential mutual benefit projects and to provide grants to non-tribal entities to minimize adverse impacts on the Pueblo's water resources by pumping future non-Indian groundwater away from the Pueblo's Buffalo Pasture; and implement resolution of a dispute over the allocation of certain surface water flows between the Pueblo and non-Indian irrigation water rights owners in the community of Arroyo Seco Arriba.

White Mountain Apache Tribe Water Rights Quantification Act

For the construction of the Rural Water System, the White Mountain Apache (Arizona) settlement is authorized to use only the permanent funds made available under the Act, therefore, no current funding is requested in 2015. Construction is expected to begin in the next few years.

**APPROPRIATION: Policy and Administration**

	2013 Actual	2014 Enacted	2015 Request	Change
TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....	56,862	60,000	59,500	-500

**APPROPRIATION: Reclamation Loan Program Account**

	2013 Actual	2014 Enacted	2015 Request	Change
TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....	0	0	-500	-500

*Program Highlights*

Reclamation Loan Program

This is a current authority account which receives appropriations from both general and Reclamation (administrative costs only) funds for direct loans. Under the Small Reclamation Projects Act (43 U.S.C. 422a-422l), loans and grants were made to non-Federal organizations for construction or rehabilitation and betterment of small water resource projects. However, 2002 marked the last year of appropriated requests for the grandfathered loans. Credit Reform calls for a re-estimate of subsidy on a yearly basis and any increase in budget authority as a result of re-estimates is provided as permanent authority. Of the unobligated balances available in this account, \$500,000 will be permanently cancelled.

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**APPROPRIATION: Central Valley Project Restoration Fund**

	2013 Actual	2014 Enacted	2015 Request	Change
Fish and Wildlife Resources Habitat .....	36,576	43,113	46,834	+3,721
Fish and Wildlife Resources Mgmt.....	13,795	10,175	10,161	-14
TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....	50,371	53,288	56,995	+3,707

***Program Highlights*****Central Valley Project Restoration Fund**

The 2015 budget includes \$46.8 million for Fish and Wildlife Resources Habitat and \$10.2 million for Fish and Wildlife Resources Management. Funds are provided for wildlife restoration, water management, and conservation activities. Funds will be used on high priority projects including completion of a state-of-the-art fish screen at an existing unscreened 400 cfs diversion from the Sacramento River, fish passage projects in Sacramento River Basin tributaries, floodplain restoration in the Central Valley, the creation of spawning and rearing habitat, refuge water acquisition and conveyance, and juvenile salmon survival assessments. This project provides funding for restoration actions on the Trinity and San Joaquin Rivers which are two key components of the America's Great Outdoors initiative.

**APPROPRIATION: California Bay-Delta Restoration**

	2013 Actual	2014 Enacted	2015 Request	Change
TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....	37,577	37,000	37,000	0

***Program Highlights*****California Bay-Delta Restoration**

Funds are provided for the following program activities: \$1.7 million for Renewed Federal-State Partnership; \$8.0 million for Smarter Water Supply and Use; and \$27.4 million for Habitat Restoration. These program activities are based on the Interim Federal Action Plan for the California Bay-Delta issued December 22, 2009.

**APPROPRIATION: Central Utah Project Completion Account <sup>1/</sup>**

	2013 Actual	2014 Enacted	2015 Request	Change
Central Utah Project Construction.....	[17,265]	[5,225]	3,800	+3,800
Fish and Wildlife Conservation .....	[1,198]	[1,200]	1,200	+1,200
Program Administration .....	[1,297]	[1,300]	1,300	+1,300
TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....	[19,760]	[7,725]	6,300	+6,300

***Program Highlights*****Central Utah Project Completion Act**

Interior's 2015 budget proposes to consolidate the Central Utah Project Completion Act Project within Reclamation. In 2015, funding provides for limited construction, program oversight, Ute Tribal Settlement, fish and wildlife development, and Endangered Species Act recovery.

<sup>1/</sup> The amounts displayed in brackets are provided for comparative purposes only, as these amounts were appropriated in different accounts for 2013 and 2014.

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**APPROPRIATION: Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Account <sup>1/</sup>**

	2013 Actual	2014 Enacted	2015 Request	Change
TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....	[1,198]	[1,000]	1,000	+1,000

*Program Highlights*

Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Account

Interior’s 2015 budget proposes to consolidate the Central Utah Project Completion Act Project within Reclamation. The budget funds the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission for implementation of the fish, wildlife, and recreation mitigation and conservation projects authorized in Title III of the Central Utah Project Completion Act and continues mitigation measures committed to in pre-1992 Reclamation planning documents.

<sup>1/</sup> The amounts displayed in brackets are provided for comparative purposes only, as these amounts were appropriated in different accounts for 2013 and 2014.