

The Colorado River Commission of Nevada (Commission) meeting was held at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at the Grant Sawyer office building, 555 E. Washington Ave, Room 1100, Las Vegas, Nevada, 89101.

COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE

Chairwoman	Puoy K. Premsrirut
Vice Chairwoman	Kara J. Kelley
Commissioner	Dan H. Stewart
Commissioner	Justin Jones

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE

Commissioner	Cody Winterton
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COMMISSIONERS NOT PRESENT

Commissioner	Marilyn Kirkpatrick
Commissioner	Allen J. Puliz

DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

Special Counsel, Attorney General	Christine Guerci
Senior Deputy Attorney General	David W. Newton

COMMISSION STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Executive Director	Eric Witkoski
Senior Assistant Director	Sara Price
Chief of Finance and Administration	Douglas N. Beatty
Assistant Director, Hydropower	Gail Bates
Assistant Director, Engineering and Operations	Robert Reese
Assistant Director, Energy Information Systems	Kaleb Hall
Hydropower Program Manager	Craig Pyper
Natural Resource Analyst	Warren Turkett, Ph.D.
Senior Energy Accountant	Gail L. Benton
System Coordinator	Chris Smith
Natural Resource Specialist	Stevie Espinosa
Office Manager	Gina L. Goodman
Administrative Assistant IV	Kathryn Aguilar
Administrative Assistant IV	Kira Bakke

OTHERS PRESENT; REPRESENTING

Clark County Water Reclamation District	Scott Hansen
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**COLORADO RIVER COMMISSION
OF NEVADA
MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2021**

INDEX

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
A.	Conformance to Open Meeting Law	1
B.	Comments from the public. (No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken)	1
C.	<i>For Possible Action:</i> Approval of minutes of the June 8, 2021 meeting.	1
D.	<i>For Possible Action:</i> Consideration of and possible action to approve a four-year enabling contract in the amount of \$275,000 for a Communications Network between LightRiver Technologies, Inc. and the Colorado River Commission of Nevada (Commission).....	1
E.	<i>For Information Only:</i> Consideration of and possible action to approve the First Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement between the Clark County Water Reclamation District (CCWRD) and the Colorado River Commission of Nevada (Commission) to extend the contract term and provide for an expansion of CCWRD's wastewater treatment facilities in a not-to-exceed amount of \$600,000 to be paid by CCWRD.....	3
F.	<i>For Information Only:</i> Update on Finance and Audit Subcommittee meeting held on August 5, 2021.....	4
G.	<i>For Information Only:</i> Update on pending legal matters, including Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or Public Utilities Commission of Nevada filings.....	4
H.	<i>For Information Only:</i> Status update from Staff on the hydrological conditions, drought, and climate of the Colorado River Basin, Nevada's consumptive use of Colorado River water, the drought contingency plan, impacts on hydropower generation, electrical construction activities and other developments on the Colorado River.	5

COLORADO RIVER COMMISSION
OF NEVADA
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INDEX (continued)

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
I.	<i>For Information Only:</i> Comments from the public. (No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken.)	5
J.	Comments and questions from the Commission members.	6
K.	Selection of the next possible meeting date.	6
L.	Adjournment	6

The Colorado River Commission of Nevada (Commission) meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Premsrirut at 1:31 pm.

A. Conformance to Open Meeting Law.

Executive Director Eric Witkoski confirmed that the meeting was posted in compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

B. Comments from the public. (No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action will be taken.)

Chairwoman Premsrirut asked if there were any comments from the public. There were none.

C. For Possible Action: Approval of minutes of the June 8, 2021 meeting.

Commissioner Stewart moved for approval of the minutes. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairwoman Kelley and approved by unanimous vote.

D. For Possible Action: Consideration of and possible action to approve a four-year enabling contract in the amount of \$275,000 for a Communications Network between LightRiver Technologies, Inc. and the Colorado River Commission of Nevada (Commission).

Assistant Director, Engineering and Operations, Robert Reese, explained the proposed contract.

The Colorado River Commission of Nevada (Commission) owns, operates and maintains seventeen high voltage substations staffed by seven Commission employees in the Commission's Power Delivery Project Group (PDP). In addition, the Commission is responsible for the operation and maintenance of ten substations that are owned by the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) and three owned by the Clark County Water Reclamation District.

The Commission currently uses a blended network communication platform with SNWA. This network platform is utilized for Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) and Revenue Metering and is used to provide emergency callouts as well. SNWA has begun upgrading their network system to this blended network. Due to this upgrading and the requirement to implement modernized network security to comply with industry standards, Commission staff is requesting the ability to modernize its blended network platform with SNWA. This modernization effort is required to maintain our networks continuity between the two agencies.

The proposed contract provides for services to design, engineer, assemble, test, stage, train and implement a next generation communications platform for the Commission's PDP.

Commission staff submitted a request to State purchasing to use SNWA's solicitation request for proposals. The request was submitted on March 30, 2021 and the request was approved by the Department of Purchasing on July 6, 2021

The request for proposal relies on a Request for Proposals (RFP) issued by SNWA for similar services that the Commission seeks in this contract. The use of SNWA's RFP provides several synergies for this contract. First, it saves time and process by using the SNWA request for proposal. Second, given that the Commission and SNWA need to interface with its respective communication platforms on the blended network, having the same contractor as SNWA on this project will allow for coordinated system design and implementation of the communication platform.

The agreement for the Commission's consideration today is with LightRiver Technologies, Inc. (the same contractor as SNWA). The agreement proposes to retain the services of LightRiver Technologies, Inc. for an initial contract term of four years, anticipated to begin subject to Board of Examiners approval. Work under the agreement will be authorized by Commission Staff, as needed through the development and execution of written task authorizations. The total combined value of task authorizations under this agreement shall not exceed \$275,000 over the term of the contract.

Chairwoman Premsrirut asked if the RFP issued by SNWA was duplicated by the Commission.

Mr. Reese responded that a request to use another governmental solicitation was utilized, and to duplicate the infrastructure with a different contractor would entail a complete rebuild of the system that would need to interface with the infrastructure of SNWA.

Chairwoman Premsrirut asked if the four-year contract was building on SNWA's infrastructure with LightRiver to maintain continuity.

Mr. Reese answered that yes, the existing infrastructure, in addition to the existing relationship between SNWA and the Commission, allows for an easier process.

Chairwoman Premsrirut asked whether SNWA was therefore in favor of the contract in question, and if SNWA has been satisfied with LightRiver's service.

Mr. Reese answered that yes, SNWA has implemented their own contract with LightRiver and has been satisfied with the service received.

Vice Chairwoman Kelley moved for approval of a four-year enabling contract in the amount of \$275,000 for a Communications Network between LightRiver Technologies, Inc. and the Colorado River Commission of Nevada. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones and approved by unanimous vote.

E. *For Possible Action:* Consideration of and possible action to approve the First Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement between the Clark County Water Reclamation District (CCWRD) and the Colorado River Commission of Nevada (Commission) to extend the contract term and provide for an expansion of CCWRD's wastewater treatment facilities in a not-to-exceed amount of \$600,000 to be paid by CCWRD.

Assistant Director, Engineering and Operations, Robert Reese, explained the contract extension.

The Colorado River Commission of Nevada (Commission) owns, operates and maintains seventeen high voltage substations staffed by seven Commission employees in the Commission's Power Delivery Project Group (PDP). In addition, the Commission is responsible for the operation and maintenance of ten substations that are owned by the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) and three owned by the Clark County Water Reclamation District (CCWRD).

CCWRD has requested that the Commission purchase materials, and design, construct, operate and maintain three CCWRD-owned substations and medium voltage distribution facilities to be located at the CCWRD Central Plant and Advanced Water Treatment facilities.

NRS 538.166 authorizes the Commission to construct, operate and maintain utilities for the generation and transmission of electricity; and, NRS 704.787 authorizes the Commission to sell electricity and provide transmission and distribution services to the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) and its member agencies for their water and wastewater operations. The Clark County Water Reclamation District (CCWRD) is a member of the SNWA.

The CCWRD is currently planning the construction of additional facilities at its Central Plant and Advanced Water Treatment (AWT) facilities that will increase electrical load and will necessitate the construction of additional substation capacity and distribution feeders within the Central Plant and AWT site.

The existing Central Plant and AWT are currently served from several substations and distribution feeders owned and operated by NV Energy. The CCWRD desires to replace these existing NV Energy owned and operated substations with new, customer-owned substations that are dedicated to serving only CCWRD facilities and loads. Three new substations are planned to serve the existing and planned increase in load.

The amendment for Commission's consideration today is the first for the Interlocal Agreement Contract No. CRCPDP-200. The amendment extends the term renewal for up to a total of six (6) five (5) year terms and to provide a not-to-exceed amount of six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000).

Commissioner Stewart moved for approval of the First Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement between the Clark County Water Reclamation District and the Colorado River Commission of Nevada to extend the contract term and provide for an expansion of CCWRD's wastewater treatment facilities in a not-to-exceed amount of \$600,000 to be paid by CCWRD. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairwoman Kelley and approved by unanimous vote.

F. For Information Only: Update on Finance and Audit Subcommittee meeting held on August 5, 2021

Chief of Finance and Administration Douglas N. Beatty presented an update on the most recent Finance and Audit Subcommittee meeting, during which the newly contracted auditors of Moss Adams and accountant Martha Ford, of Lato & Patrova, were introduced.

Vice Chairwoman Kelley, the Chair of the Finance and Audit Subcommittee, spoke on the presentation by the staff of Moss Adams, highlighting the emphasis Moss Adams made on the part of cooperation and communication.

Chairwoman Premsrirut thanked the members of the Commission who serve on the Finance and Audit Subcommittee.

G. For Information Only: Update on pending legal matters, including Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or Public Utilities Commission of Nevada filings.

Special Counsel Christine Guerci presented an update on pending legal matters involving the Commission.

In *Navajo Nation v. United States Department of the Interior*, the Federal defendants and the Intervener states filed separate Motions for Rehearing En Banc on July 29, 2021. The underlying appeal from the Arizona District Court had been heard by a 3-judge panel which reversed the dismissal of the lawsuit by the Arizona court.

The Federal defendants and the Intervener states are asking for the appeal to re-heard by the larger en-banc panel which is currently 11 judges.

The Ninth Circuit has asked the Navajo to respond to the motions. The Navajo response is due at the end of September 2021.

Ms. Guerci also introduced Senior Deputy Attorney General David W. Newton, who spoke briefly about his professional history and qualifications.

Chairwoman Premsrirut welcomed Senior Deputy Attorney General Newton to Commission Staff.

H. For Information Only: Status update from Staff on the hydrological conditions, drought, and climate of the Colorado River Basin, Nevada's consumptive use of Colorado River water, the drought contingency plan, impacts on hydropower generation, electrical construction activities and other developments on the Colorado River.

Dr. Warren Turkett, Natural Resource Analyst, gave a status update on the hydrological conditions, drought, and climate of the Colorado River Basin, Nevada's consumptive use of Colorado River water, and other developments on the Colorado River.

- Summary of Lake Powell, Lake Mead, and Nevada Water Supply
- Precipitation and Temperature
- Upper Basin Snowpack Accumulation
- Water Use in Southern Nevada
- Unregulated Inflow, Current and Projected Reservoir Status
- Overview of Cloud Seeding in the Colorado River Basin

A copy of the report is attached and made a part of the minutes. (See Attachment A.)

Chairwoman Premsrirut asked for an explanation of "recoverables".

Dr. Turkett explained that Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) contributions can be made by several methods including converting existing water stored as Intentionally Created Surplus. DCP contributions are recoverable without penalty when Reclamation's August 24 Month Study is projecting Lake Mead's elevation to be above 1,110 feet. The DCP has flexibility to allow DCP delivery at lower elevations, but there is a payback obligation and penalty for early delivery.

Chairwoman Premsrirut thanked Dr. Turkett for his presentation and technical answers, as well as the consolidation of information for the Commission's website and Twitter feed.

Commissioner Stewart asked why the water use numbers for past month were much more positive compared to the previous months of the 2021 calendar year.

Dr. Turkett answered that he believed it may be due to a larger population of Southern Nevadans returning to workplaces, which typically utilize infrastructure that conserves more water, rather than working from home.

I. Comments from the public. (No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken.)

Chairwoman Premsrirut took the opportunity to award Robert Reese the 2020 Safety Award of Excellence from the American Public Power Association and thanked Mr. Reese for his hard work.

Chairwoman Premsrirut asked if there were any other comments or questions from the from the public. There were none.

J. Comments and questions from the Commission members.


Chairwoman Premsrirut asked if there were any other comments or questions from the from Commission members. There were none.

K. Selection of the next possible meeting date.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at the Clark County Government Center, Commission Chambers, 500 South Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada.

L. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:19 pm.




Eric Witkoski, Executive Director

APPROVED:


Puoy Premsrirut (Dec 16, 2021 09:22 PST)

Puoy K. Premsrirut, Chairwoman




Colorado River Commission of Nevada

Hydrology and Water Use Update

Warren Turkett

September 14, 2021



1

Summary

Lake Powell

- Water Year 2021¹ is one of the driest in recorded history.
- Unregulated inflow for water year 2021 is forecasted at 33% of average.
- Upper Basin cumulative precipitation is 82% of the seasonal average.

Lake Mead

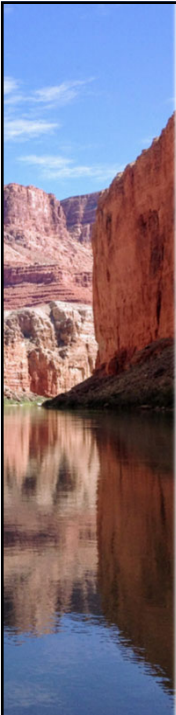
- Lake Mead is forecasted to decrease about 2 feet in elevation by the end of calendar year 2021.
- Reclamation released the August 24 Month Study, which is used to determine the upcoming years operations. In calendar year 2022, there will be a federally declared shortage under the 2007 Guidelines for the Lower Basin.

Nevada Water Supply

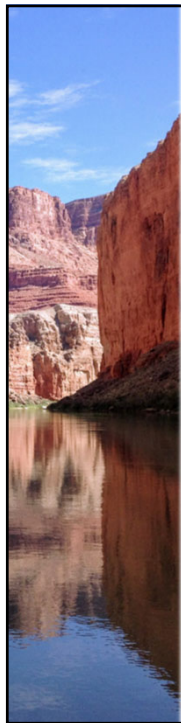
- Southern Nevada has about 9 years of water supply banked. ²
- **In 2020, Southern Nevada used 44,432 af less than our annual allocation.**

Storage	Elevation (f)	% Capacity	Change since last year
Lake Mead	1,067.9	35%	-16.2 ft
Lake Powell	3,549.0	31%	-49.8 ft

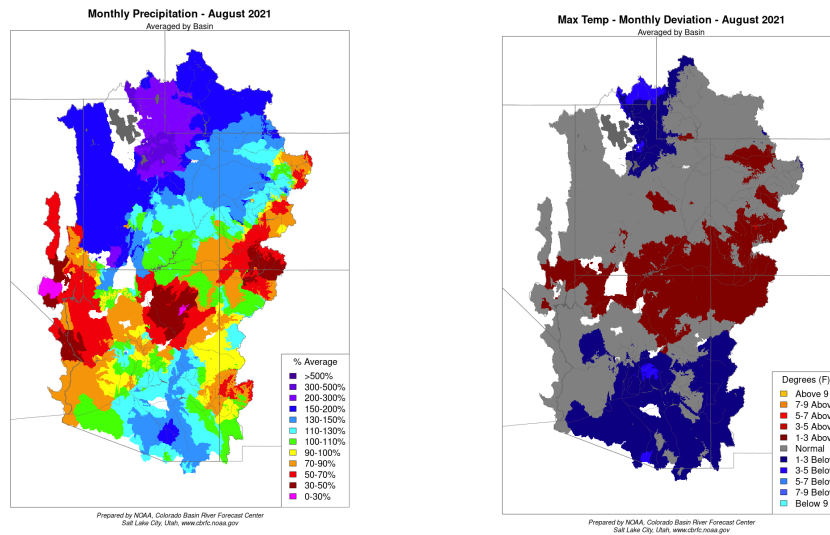
Data retrieved September 7, 2021.
¹ Water year is defined as October through September.
² Based on 2020 consumptive use and storage volumes through 2020.



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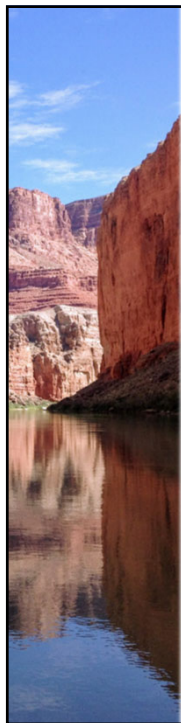
Precipitation and Temperature



Above Lake Powell August precipitation: 113%
 Above Lake Powell water year 2021 cumulative precipitation: 82%

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Unregulated Inflow, Current and Projected Reservoir Status

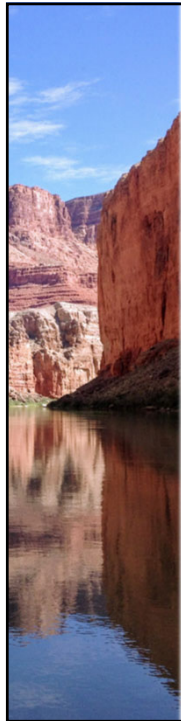
Projected unregulated inflow to Lake Powell	Acre-Feet	% Average
Water Year 2021	3,560,000	33%
April thru July 2021	1,850,000	26%

Reservoir	Current Elevation	Current Storage Acre-Feet	Current % Capacity	Projected Elevation on 1/1/2022 ¹
Lake Mead	1,067.9	9,030,000	35%	1,065.9
Lake Powell	3,549.0	7,517,000	31%	3,535.4

Data retrieved September 7, 2021
¹ Based on Reclamation's August 2020 24 Month Study Most Probable Inflow.

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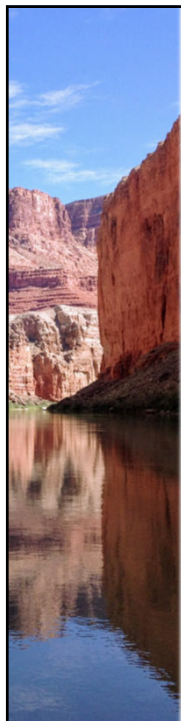


August 24 Month Study

- Operations for the upcoming year are determined every year in August.
- Reclamation uses the August 24 Month Study to project the January 1 elevations in both reservoirs.
- The projected elevations set the operating tiers for each reservoir according to the 2007 Interim Guidelines.

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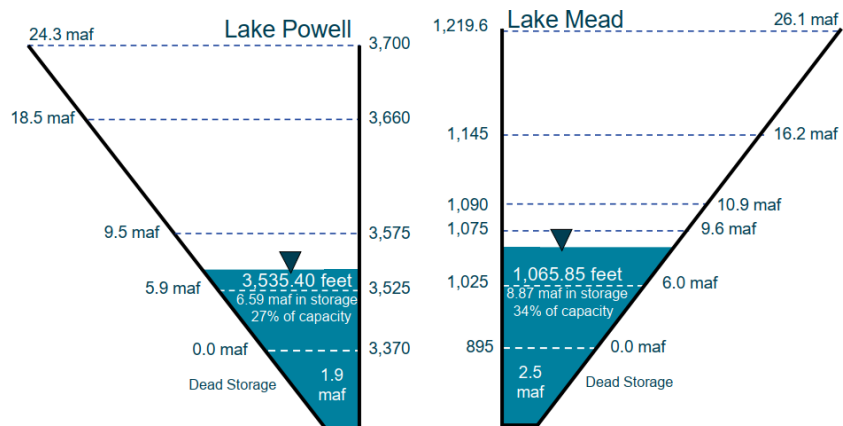
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End of Calendar Year 2021 Projections

August 2021 24-Month Study Most Probable Inflow Scenario¹

Based on a Lake Powell release of 8.23 maf in WY 2021 and 7.48 maf in WY 2022



Not to Scale

¹ WY 2021 unregulated inflow into Lake Powell is based on the CBRFC forecast dated 8/2/21.



6

6

Lake Powell & Lake Mead Operational Table

Lake Mead Operating Condition Determination for CY 2022¹

Lake Powell			Lake Mead		
Elevation (feet)	Operation According to the Interim Guidelines	Live Storage (maf) ¹	Elevation (feet)	Operation According to the Interim Guidelines	Live Storage (maf) ¹
3,700	Equalization Tier Equalize, avoid spills or release 8.23 maf	24.3	1,220	Flood Control Surplus or Quantified Surplus Condition Deliver > 7.5 maf	25.9
3,636 - 3,666 (2008-2026)	Upper Elevation Balancing Tier² Release 8.23 maf; if Lake Mead < 1,075 feet, balance contents with a min/max release of 7.0 and 9.0 maf	15.5 - 19.3 (2008-2026)	1,200 (approx.) ²	Domestic Surplus or ICS Surplus Condition Deliver > 7.5 maf	22.9 (approx.) ²
3,575		9.5	1,145	Normal or ICS Surplus Condition Deliver ≥ 7.5 maf	15.9
	Mid-Elevation Release Tier Release 7.48 maf; if Lake Mead < 1,025 feet, release 8.23 maf		1,105		11.9
				1,075	9.4
	3,535.40 ft		Shortage Condition Deliver 7.167 ³ maf 1,065.85 ft Jan 1, 2022 Projection		
3,525	Jan 1, 2022 Projection	5.9	1,050	Shortage Condition Deliver 7.083 ³ maf	7.5
	Lower Elevation Balancing Tier Balance contents with a min/max release of 7.0 and 9.5 maf		1,025	Shortage Condition Deliver 7.0 ³ maf Further measures may be undertaken ⁴	5.8
3,490		4.0	1,000		4.3
3,370		0	895		0

7

2007 Interim Guidelines, Minute 323, Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan, and Binational Water Scarcity Contingency Plan

Total Volumes (kaf)

Lake Mead Elevation (feet msl)	2007 Interim Guidelines Shortages		Minute 323 Delivery Reductions	Total Combined Reductions	DCP Water Savings Contributions			Binational Water Scarcity Contingency Plan Savings	Combined Volumes by Country US: (2007 Interim Guidelines Shortages + DCP Contributions) Mexico: (Minute 323 Delivery Reductions + Binational Water Scarcity Contingency Plan Savings)					Total Combined Volumes
	AZ	NV	Mexico	Lower Basin States + Mexico	AZ	NV	CA	Mexico	AZ Total	NV Total	CA Total	Lower Basin States Total	Mexico Total	Lower Basin States + Mexico
1,090 - 1,075	0	0	0	0	192	8	0	41	192	8	0	200	41	241
1,075 - 1050	320	13	50	383	192	8	0	30	512	21	0	533	80	613
1,050 - 1,045	400	17	70	487	192	8	0	34	592	25	0	617	104	721
1,045 - 1,040	400	17	70	487	240	10	200	76	640	27	200	867	146	1,013
1,040 - 1,035	400	17	70	487	240	10	250	84	640	27	250	917	154	1,071
1,035 - 1,030	400	17	70	487	240	10	300	92	640	27	300	967	162	1,129
1,030 - 1,025	400	17	70	487	240	10	350	101	640	27	350	1,017	171	1,188
<1,025	480	20	125	625	240	10	350	150	720	30	350	1,100	275	1,375

➔ 2022 Reductions + Contributions

The Secretary of the Interior will take affirmative actions to implement programs designed to create or conserve 100,000 acre-ft per annum or more of Colorado River System water to contribute to conservation of water supplies in Lake Mead and other Colorado River reservoirs in the lower basin. All actions taken by the United States shall be subject to applicable law, including availability of appropriations.

8



Water Use In Southern Nevada

Southern Nevada Water Use	2020 Actual Use in Acre-Feet
Nevada Annual Allocation	300,000
Diversion	478,969
Return Flows	223,401
Consumptive Use	255,568
Unused Allocation Available for Banking	44,432 (15%)

Southern Nevada Water Use	Diversions	Return Flows	Consumptive Use
January - July 2021	283,635	135,298	148,337

Banked Water (through end of 2020)	Acre-Feet
Ground Water Recharge in So. Nevada	357,643
Banked in Lake Mead	865,741
Banked in California and Arizona	944,071
Total	2,167,455

9