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METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MAY 10 1994

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*Loren E. Duff*  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

April 21, 1994

To: Board of Directors (Water Problems Committee--Action)  
From: General Manager  
Subject: Request for Authorization to Execute a Memorandum of Understanding to Implement the Lake Havasu Fisheries Improvement Program

Report

Metropolitan has been requested to become a partner in the Lake Havasu Fisheries Improvement Program (Program) by the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, Fish and Wildlife Service, Arizona Game and Fish Department, California Department of Fish and Game, and Anglers United. Additional participants may be sought in the future. The purpose of the Program is to enhance both the warm water recreational fishery and the native endangered fish populations at Lake Havasu, the reservoir from which Metropolitan's Colorado River water supplies are diverted. Metropolitan has participated to a limited extent in the Program having previously executed a limited partnership agreement whereby Metropolitan provided brush materials as they became available during normal maintenance activities, labor to collect the brush and to construct brush bundles for placement in or adjacent to Lake Havasu as habitat for fish and to store and safeguard project materials at Gene Camp. Additionally, Metropolitan assisted in the construction of improved access to the lake and, in particular, participated in the construction of certain facilities to enhance handicap access.

Authority is now requested to become a partner in the Program by the execution of an MOU which is intended to foster cooperation and coordination of implementing the Program among the partners who are signatory to the MOU. Pursuant to the terms of the MOU, the partners will coordinate, implement, and administer the Program. No partner is required to commit funds to any part of the Program, rather, it is anticipated that donations of monies, equipment, and labor will be sought. Supplemental contracts will be executed for each individual project and Metropolitan's participation if any, in such a

project, can be determined at that time. As a full partner, Metropolitan would have a representative on the "Partner Head" Committee, which would include representatives from all the partners, who would meet as necessary to approve projects. Additionally, Metropolitan would have a representative on the steering committee who would participate in the planning and implementation of specific projects.

Recognizing the importance of Lake Havasu to Metropolitan's Colorado River supplies, Metropolitan's participation in this Program would be beneficial. Additionally, specific projects under this Program may assist in addressing various endangered species issues associated with the recent designation of critical habitat for four endangered fish residing in the river, including Lake Havasu for the bonytail chub.

#### Board Committee Assignment

This letter is referred for action to the Water Problems Committee because of its authority to study, advise, and make recommendations with regard to policies, sources, and means of importing water required by Metropolitan, pursuant to Administrative Code section 2481, subdivision (a).

#### Recommendation

#### **WATER PROBLEMS COMMITTEE FOR ACTION.**

It is recommended that the General Manager be authorized to execute the MOU to implement the Lake Havasu Fisheries Improvement Program in a form approved by the General Counsel.

  
John R. Wodraska

KLT:gld  
havasu.bd