



Proposal to enter into agreements related to implementation of interim international cooperative measures in the Colorado River Basin

Water Planning and Stewardship Committee
Item 9-1

April 9, 2012

Background

- 2007 Interim Shortage Guidelines
 - Shortage criteria
 - Extension of Surplus Guidelines
 - Storage of ICS in Lake Mead
 - Facilitate development of conservation projects
- Did not address Mexico issues



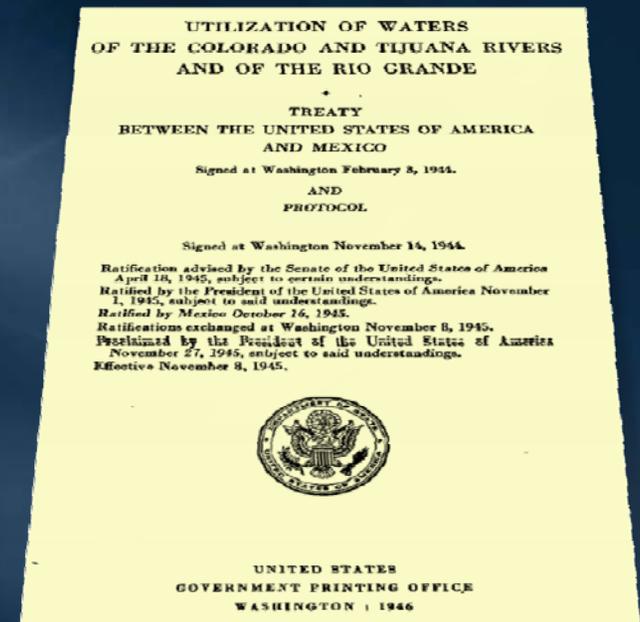
Background

- Water management negotiations began with Mexico in 2009
- April 2010 Mexicali Valley earthquake hastened interest in binational cooperation
- Two related minutes adopted



Recent U.S. - Mexico Treaty Minutes

- International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) oversees development of minutes
- Minute 317
 - Shortage discussions
 - New water sources
 - Water conservation
 - Storage by Mexico
- Minute 318
 - Mexico permitted to store water in U.S. reservoirs for 3 years



Background



Proposed Minute 319

- Cooperative measures through 2016
- Storage of water in Lake Mead
- Shortage and surplus operations
- Pilot exchange program
 - Mexico storage to ICS
 - Water for the environment
- Potential for future international projects



Implementing Agreements

- Interim operation agreement
- Forbearance agreement
- Delivery agreement
- California forbearance agreement
- Funding agreement

Proposed Funding Agreement

- Parties: Eligible Colorado River Contractors and the United States
- Fund land fallowing in Mexicali Valley
- Conserved water stored in Lake Mead
 - A portion of water made available to environment in Mexico
 - Remaining water available to funders based on funding level



Next Steps

- Complete negotiation on agreements
- Seek Board authorization as appropriate
- Implementation of agreements