



● Colorado River Management Report

Summary

This report provides a summary of the activities related to management of Metropolitan's Colorado River resources during June 2013.

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

Reclamation Approves Metropolitan's 2013 ICS Creation Plan

On June 12, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) sent Metropolitan a letter approving Metropolitan's 2013 plan to create 200,000 acre-feet of Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) supplies for storage in Lake Mead generated through extra-ordinary conservation activities. Those activities are: funding land fallowing activities in Palo Verde Valley, funding conservation programs in Imperial Irrigation District (IID), funding water produced by the Lower Colorado Water Supply Project, and providing funding for brackish water desalination activities in Metropolitan's service area. While Reclamation's letter allows the storage of ICS in Lake Mead, Metropolitan's current plans are to withdraw ICS credits from Lake Mead to meet increased demands in Southern California. Metropolitan's current ICS balance in Lake Mead is 580,000 acre-feet. It is anticipated that Metropolitan will withdraw between 100,000 and 150,000 acre-feet of that amount this year.

Metropolitan Staff View Construction Activities in Mexico

On June 18 and 19, staff from Metropolitan and the Central Arizona Project (CAP) visited construction sites in the Mexicali Valley area of Baja California. Mexico continues to rebuild from the 2010 earthquake, and there are still thousands of acres of farmland that cannot receive water from the Colorado River because of collapsed levees. Mexico is nearing completion of building replacement canals that will restore access of those lands to Colorado River water. In the meantime, Mexico continues to store water in Lake Mead resulting from reduced agricultural demands. Metropolitan and CAP staff also visited a stretch of the unlined Reforma Canal that will be lined to conserve water through funds received under the Pilot Project in Minute 319 to the United States-Mexico Water Treaty. The current funders of the project are Southern Nevada Water Authority, CAP, and Metropolitan, which will receive ICS storage credits in Lake Mead in exchange for funding the conservation action in Mexico.

Moab Uranium Cleanup Reaches Six Million Ton Milestone

On June 18, the Department of Energy announced that the cleanup of the uranium pile has reached the six million ton mark, leaving another ten million tons to be moved. The uranium removal began in 2009, and is being sent by rail car to a location 30 miles to the north and away from the Colorado River. The completion date for moving all of the uranium is dependent upon the future level of funding for the project, but is likely to be in the next 10 to 15 years.

Metropolitan Credits SDCWA for Additional Exchange Water in 2012

On June 10, Metropolitan sent San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA) a letter indicating that it would adjust the 2012 delivery of Exchange Water to SDCWA to account for additional conservation by IID. In 2011, IID did not conserve the full amount of water that was scheduled under the Colorado River Water Delivery Agreement, and Metropolitan retroactively adjusted the 2011 deliveries to SDCWA to account for the

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17,000 acre-foot shortfall. An agreement between Metropolitan and SDCWA was reached so that if IID made up the shortfall in 2012 by conserving additional water, Metropolitan would accept it and provide additional Exchange Water to SDCWA. Following verification of sufficient conservation activities by IID, Metropolitan notified SDCWA that it would adjust the June water delivery invoices to SDCWA to account for the additional conserved water received by Metropolitan in 2012.