



Colorado River Report

Water Planning and Stewardship Committee
September 9, 2013
Item 7b

Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand Study



Colorado River Basin Study

- Assess future water supply and demand imbalances over next 50 years
- Conducted by USBR and Basin States, in collaboration with stakeholders
- Jan. 2010 – Dec. 2012

Cost-Share Partners

Arizona Department of Water Resources

(California) Six Agency Committee

Colorado Water Conservation Board

New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission

Southern Nevada Water Authority

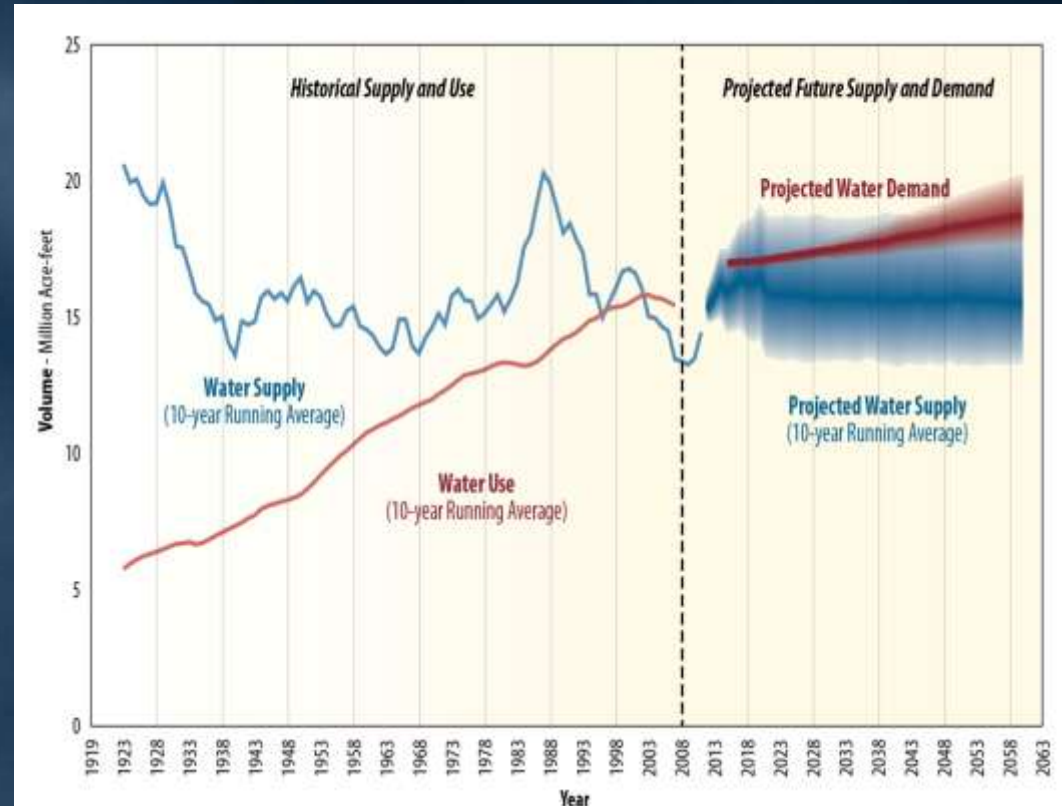
Utah Division of Water Resources

Wyoming State Engineer's Office

Reclamation's Upper and Lower Colorado Regions

Projected Future Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand

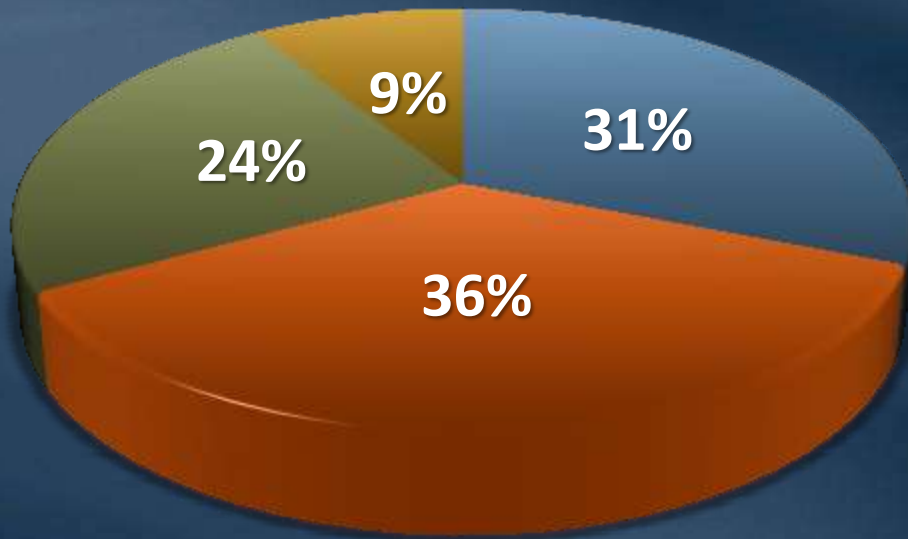
- Without action, average supply-demand imbalance could reach 3.2 MAF by 2060



Summary of Options Submitted

- Over 150 options submitted to the Study

Distribution of Options Received



- Increased Supply – reuse, importation, desalination
- Reduced Demand – M&I and agricultural conservation
- Modify Operations – transfers & exchanges, water banking
- Governance & Implementation – stakeholder committees, population control, re-allocation

Study Conclusions

- System is vulnerable
- Conservation, transfers, and reuse are cost-effective ways to reduce vulnerability
- Trade-offs emerge to achieve an acceptable level of risk in terms of options, cost, resources, and other implications

Phase I Activities

M&I Conservation and Reuse Workgroup

- Quantify conservation and reuse savings to date
 - Report on successful programs
 - Assess impact of historical and future water savings on Colorado River demands
- Estimated completion by June 2014
- Currently working on data collection using existing reports, plans, and studies

Agricultural Conservation and Transfers Workgroup

- Document agricultural efficiency projects, conservation, and transfers of water to date
- Identify potential opportunities for future conservation programs
- Categorize third-party impacts of conservation and transfers

Environmental & Recreational Flows Workgroup

- Assess environmental and recreational flows
- Identify modeling uncertainties
 - Not focus on new regulatory requirements

Next Steps

- Workgroups finalize reports by next summer
 - MWD staff participating in workgroups
- Basin States to use report findings for Phase II activities
- Potential water supply opportunities for Metropolitan

