



## ● Colorado River Management Report

### Summary

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This report provides a summary of activities related to management of Metropolitan's Colorado River Resources for the month of April 2018.

### Purpose

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Informational

### Detailed Report

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#### **U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) issues April 24-Month Study**

Reclamation uses the April 24-Month Study to predict inflows in Lake Powell, model possible reservoir elevations, and pursuant to the 2007 Interim Guidelines, determine, operations of Lake Powell. Water Year 2018 will be governed by the Upper Elevation Balancing Tier. A nine million acre-foot release from Lake Powell is expected, however actual releases may vary due to hydrology through the remainder of the year. If the minimum release of 8.23 million acre-feet occurs under the most probable scenario, end of water year elevation in Lake Mead is predicted to be just over 1,075 feet, which is just above the elevation triggering shortage in the Lower Basin. Runoff projections of unregulated inflow into Lake Powell from April to July 2018 are 43 percent of the 30-year average. Consistent with Section 2.B.5 of the 2007 Interim Guidelines, in 2018 the Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) Condition applies, which gives Metropolitan and other ICS contractors the option to order delivery of ICS.

#### **Bard Water District's (Bard) Pilot System Conservation Program Agreement**

Following the successful conclusion of the Metropolitan-Bard two-year fallowing pilot program in 2017, Bard has committed to establish a seasonal land fallowing program for landowners and lessees to fallow during 2018 and 2019, not to exceed 2,000 acres each year, for a four-month period from April to August to conserve up to an estimated 3,600 acre-feet of water per year through an agreement in the Pilot System Conservation Program. In order to facilitate this pilot program, Metropolitan has agreed not to request delivery of any water created by the program.

#### **Letters from the Upper Colorado River Commission (UCRC) and Denver Water**

On April 13, the UCRC sent a letter to the director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources and on April 16, Denver Water sent a letter to the chairman of the Central Arizona Water Conservation District regarding positions taken in Arizona that may negatively impact development of water operations and implementation of the Drought Contingency Plan. As of the date of this report, neither agency in Arizona has provided a written response to the two letters.