



## ● 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 July 2020.

### Purpose

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Informational

### Detailed Report

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#### **Palo Verde Irrigation District Program Fallowing Call 2021/22**

Metropolitan provided notice to participating landowners that the fallowing call for August 1, 2021 through July 31, 2022 is reduced to the program minimum call of 25%. Metropolitan lowered the fallowing call based on the record amount of water in storage and relatively low demands in the Metropolitan service area. Thanks to the flexible nature of the PVID Land Management program versus a fixed "take or pay" contract, Metropolitan is able to ensure access to water supply when needed while realizing cost savings and ensuring productive agricultural use of land when water supplies are adequate.

#### **Bard Water District Seasonal Fallowing Program Update**

Metropolitan and the Bard Water District (Bard) successfully completed the first year of the Bard Land Management and Seasonal Fallowing Program on July 31. Approximately 2,750 irrigable acres were fallowed from April 1 to July 31, 2020. During this time, Metropolitan performed two inspection trips of the fallowed land and verified that the land had been fallowed. By providing an annual incentive of \$452 per irrigable acre fallowed, Metropolitan issued a total payment of \$1.26 million for the 2020 fallowing season. Metropolitan staff estimates this year's fallowing season will provide Metropolitan approximately 5,500 acre-feet of Colorado River supply.

#### **Metropolitan Submits 2021 Intentionally Created Surplus Plan**

Pursuant to the Bureau of Reclamation's request, in early July, Metropolitan submitted its 2021 plan to develop Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) supplies and store that water in Lake Mead. The plan requests that Metropolitan store up to 450,000 acre-feet of ICS in Lake Mead in 2021, depending upon Metropolitan's water supply needs and the available capacity to store ICS. Last year, Metropolitan stored 409,000 acre-feet of ICS in Lake Mead, a record amount. If 2021 is similar in California, Metropolitan may maximize ICS storage again. Water eligible for storage in Lake Mead is generated by Metropolitan's Colorado River water management programs and its conservation and local resource program. Currently Metropolitan has 979,000 acre-feet of ICS water in Lake Mead available to meet service area demands when needed.