



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Board Report

Water Resource Management Group

• Water Resource Management May Activities Report

Summary

The Water Resource Management (WRM) Group, April 2026 Activities as of May 13, 2026

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

Provide Organizational Stability and Deliver Operational Excellence

In late April, staff participated in the Water Utility Climate Alliance (WUCA)'s annual spring meeting held in Denver, Colorado. New WUCA member staff from El Paso Water and Massachusetts Water Resources Authority presented on their organizations. Members continued working on the 2027-2031 strategic plan, provided updates on current projects, and began discussions on potential 2027 work-plan projects. Additionally, WUCA staff discussed the planning for the fall GM meeting in Seattle, Washington. Metropolitan serves as the fiscal agent for WUCA.

On May 5, 2026, staff provided a water supply update at the West Basin Water Association's quarterly meeting.

On May 12, 2026, Metropolitan's Board of Directors adopted its 2025 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) and 2025 Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP) by unanimous vote. The 2025 UWMP provides a representation of Metropolitan's planning elements reported under the conditions required by the Urban Water Management Planning Act and complies with the California Water Code (requiring urban water suppliers to prepare and update urban water management plans every five years). The WSCP outlines Metropolitan's efficient management and planned actions to respond to water shortage conditions. The finalized 2025 UWMP and WSCP must be submitted to the State within 30 days of adoption and no later than July 1, 2026.

Metropolitan staff reviewed the second and third drafts of the United States Bureau of Reclamation's (USBR) 2025 Water Accounting Report and provided comments to USBR. When finalized, on May 15, 2025, this annual report documents the consumptive use of Colorado River mainstem water, including all transfers, exchanges, system water creation, storage, and basin-wide progress towards meeting the Reservoir Protection Conservation goals set forth in the 2024 Record of Decision. By reviewing this document, Metropolitan ensures an accurate accounting of its Colorado River water supplies.

In conjunction with the finalization of USBR's 2025 Water Accounting Report, Metropolitan staff finalized a letter to the Imperial Irrigation District (IID) providing a full accounting of the water IID has delivered to Metropolitan's system. This letter documented contracted losses and evaporation charges. The total 2025 year-end balance for water Metropolitan has stored for IID is 2421,468 acre-feet.

Date of Report: June 08, 2026

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Under a March 19, 2026, agreement between San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA) and Western, Western agreed to purchase 10,000 acre-feet per year of exchange deliveries. Under the terms of the Second Amended and Restated Exchange Agreement, Metropolitan and SDCWA staff worked collaboratively to begin making exchange deliveries to Western. Those deliveries began in April, though not in time for this update to be included in the April General Managers Report.

Several WRM staff participated in a tour of Desert Water Agency facilities and the Whitewater spreading basins in conjunction with an in-person coordination meeting with staff from the Coachella Valley Water District and Desert Water Agency. This tour facilitated a better understanding and appreciation for our partner's operations and infrastructure. It also provided opportunities to build networks across agencies and coordinate on a variety of projects and issues faced by our three agencies.



WRM staff: Aaron Mead, Travis Moore, Raha Shirkhani, Larry Lai, Laura Lamdin, Sarah Bartlett, Milo Yukimoto, and Tony Liudzius

Staff attended a Technical Work Group meeting of the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program (MSCP), which provides California Endangered Species Act and Endangered Species Act coverage for water supply and power generation activities on the Lower Colorado River. The meeting focused on reviewing a draft report on the MSCP's accomplishments in 2025 and the proposed work plan and budget for 2027. The MSCP provides critical environmental coverage for Metropolitan's activities on the Colorado River.

Staff participated in a two-day meeting of the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum (Forum) held at the Southern Nevada Water Authority in Las Vegas, NV. The meeting agenda included (1) approval of the draft 2026 "Triennial Review" document, in which the Forum communicates to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency an assessment of the sufficiency of existing water quality criteria for salinity on the Lower Colorado River; (2) a report that ongoing operation of the Paradox Valley Unit at 2/3-capacity has yielded no unusual seismic or well pressure results; (3) U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) proposals for scientific work in support of the Forum; (4) planning for a Notice of Funding

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Opportunity in 2027 to provide USBR funding for salinity control projects in the Colorado River Basin; and (5) updates from key federal agencies involved in the salinity control program, including the USBR, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the USGS. The work of the Forum reduces the salinity of Metropolitan's Colorado River water supply.

On May 29, 2026, the 2026 Local Supply survey was due. Staff looks forward to reviewing member agency responses. The production and inventory survey data form the basis of local supply projections used for long-term planning. The production survey updates historical production and supports regional demand calculations, reporting, and demand forecast calibration. The inventory survey updates existing and planned projects for Metropolitan's member agencies.