



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Board Report

Water Resources Management Group

- **Water Surplus and Drought Management Update**
Conditions as of 12/10/2025

Summary

This report provides a preliminary accounting for water supply, demand, and storage conditions for calendar year (CY) 2026 as of December 10, 2025. This report also tracks the hydrologic conditions for water year (WY) 2025/26. Updated supply and hydrologic information will be provided during the oral report in January.

Northern Sierra snowpack levels measure below normal at 6 percent, and precipitation levels measure normal at 93 percent. The Upper Colorado River Basin snowpack measured below normal at 74 percent, and precipitation levels measured above normal at 110 percent.

Currently, the estimated amount of imported supply available from the State Water Project (SWP) and Colorado River, prior to withdrawing water from storage, is 1.17 million acre-feet (MAF) for CY 2026. The SWP portion is 191 thousand acre-feet (TAF) based on the initial SWP Table A allocation of 10 percent. In setting the initial 2026 allocation, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) considered above-average precipitation as of the end of water year 2025, healthy reservoir conditions at Lake Oroville and the SWP share of San Luis Reservoir, and the November 1 runoff forecast assuming dry conditions for the remainder of the water year. Further increases to the SWP allocation are possible and will depend on future hydrologic conditions. The final allocation is typically declared in May or June. With high storage levels in the SWP share of San Luis Reservoir, Metropolitan is closely monitoring its SWP carryover supplies and will identify any water at risk of spill and take appropriate actions to evacuate those supplies and minimize or avoid potential losses. For Metropolitan's Colorado River supply, the Lower Basin is at a Level 1 shortage in CY 2026, which does not impact Metropolitan's operations and water supply. Metropolitan's Colorado River supply is currently estimated at 976 TAF. This supply may change based on higher priority water use in California and future water management actions taken by Metropolitan.

The CY 2026 demands on Metropolitan, including other obligations, are currently estimated to be 1.49 MAF. With the estimated Colorado River supplies and the initial SWP Table A allocation of 10 percent, there is a supply gap of approximately 0.32 MAF which could be met utilizing water stored in Metropolitan's regional storage portfolio. Holding the currently estimated demand on Metropolitan and Colorado River supplies constant, a SWP Table A allocation of approximately 30 percent would balance supplies and demands and eliminate the need to utilize stored supplies. It is early in the water year, and a wide range of supply and demand outcomes remain possible.

Purpose

Informational

Attachments

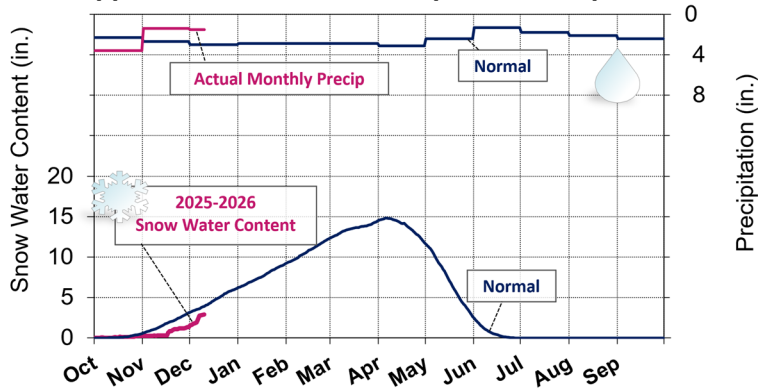
Attachment 1: Projected 2026 WSDM Storage Detail (10 percent SWP Table A allocation)

Attachment 2: Future Contributions and Obligations and Cyclic Program

Detailed Report

This Water Surplus and Drought Management (WSDM) report provides the preliminary water supply and demand estimates for CY 2026 and developing hydrologic conditions for water year (WY) 2025/26.

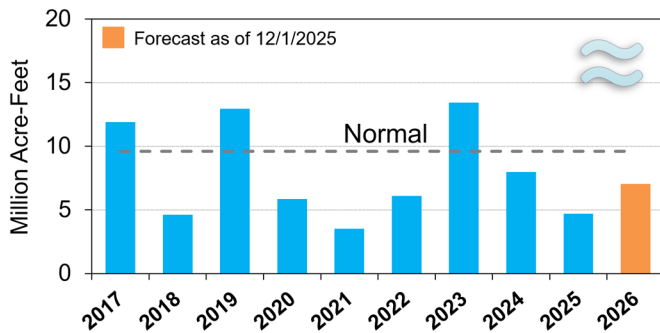
Upper Colorado Basin Snowpack & Precipitation



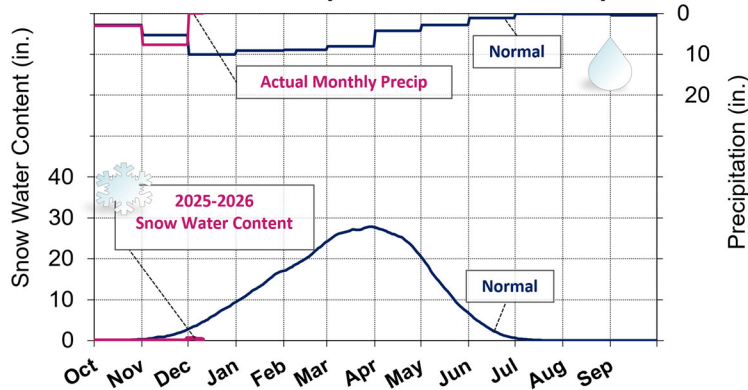
Upper Colorado River Basin

- ❄ Below normal snowpack water content for this date:
2.91 inches or 74% of normal.
Snow data early in the season may not provide a valid measure of conditions.
- 💧 Above normal precipitation to date:
6.50 inches or 110% of normal.
- ≈ Below normal runoff forecast:
73% of normal.

Powell Unregulated Water Year Runoff



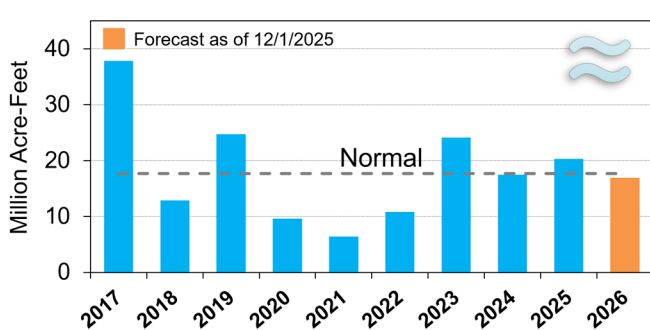
Northern Sierra Snowpack & 8-Station Precipitation



Sacramento River Basin

- ❄ Below normal snowpack water content for this date:
0.30 inches or 6% of normal.
Snow data early in the season may not provide a valid measure of conditions.
- 💧 Normal precipitation to date:
10.7 inches or 93% of normal.
- ≈ Normal runoff forecast:
96% of normal.

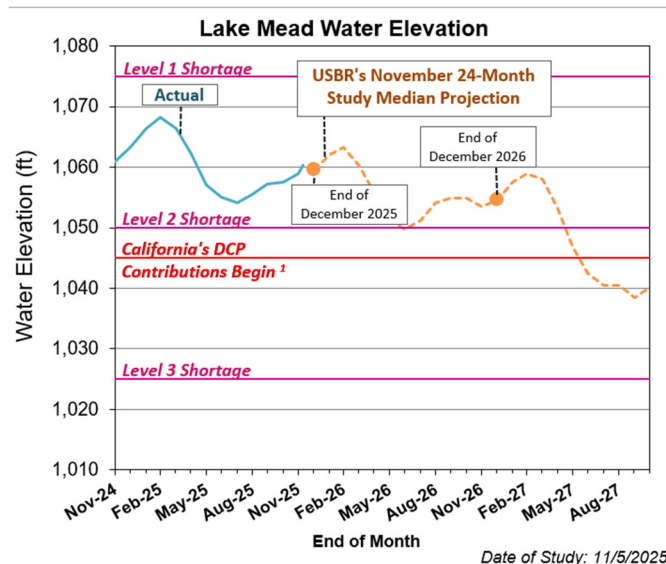
Sacramento River Water Year Runoff



CRA Supplies	Acre-Feet
Basic Apportionment	550,000
IID/MWD Conservation Program	105,000
CVWD - 2nd Amendment, Exchange of Additional Water	0
PVID Following Program ¹	18,000
Exchange w/ SDCWA (IID/Canal Lining)	278,000
Exchange w/ USBR (San Luis Rey Tribe)	16,000
Lower Colorado Water Supply Project	9,000
Bard Seasonal Following Program ¹	0
Quechan Diversion Forbearance ¹	0
Quechan Seasonal Following Program	0
Higher Priority Water Use Adjustment	0
Total CRA Supplies²	976,000

¹ Not a supply for Metropolitan in 2026. Water generated from these programs becomes system water as part of USBR's Lower Colorado Conservation Program to help protect Lake Mead.

² Per Metropolitan's Initial Estimate of the Colorado River Diversion. Total may not sum due to rounding. CRA Supply is limited by an operational constraint of 1.25 MAF.



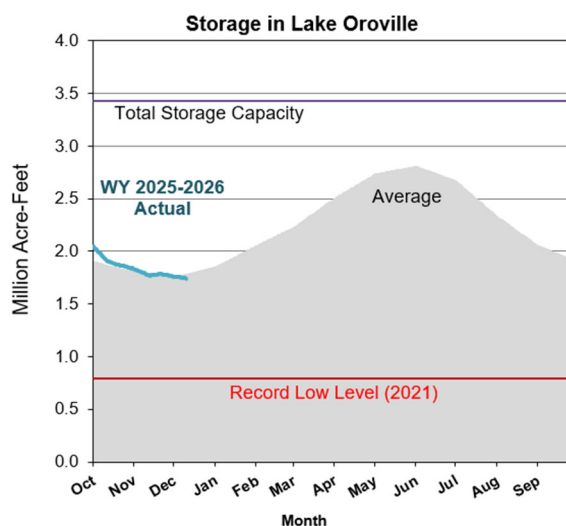
¹ Metropolitan is required to make Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) contributions in the following year if the August 24-month Study projects Lake Mead's elevation to be at or below 1,045 feet on January 1. Since the August 2025 24-month Study projected Lake Mead's elevation to be above 1,045 feet on January 1, 2026, Metropolitan is not required to make DCP contributions in 2026. This figure reflects the latest 24-month study (November 2025) available at the time of this report.

- Lake Mead storage is currently 8.4 MAF or elevation 1060.28 feet (32 percent of total capacity).
- The Lower Basin is at a Level 1 shortage in CY 2026. Under this level, Metropolitan's operations and water supply are not impacted.

SWP Supplies	Acre-Feet
Table A (10% SWP allocation)	191,000
Port Hueneme ¹	0
Total SWP Supplies²	191,000
Total Supplies (CRA + SWP) (Prior to storage actions)²	1,167,000

¹ Rounded to the nearest thousand. Supply is 185 AF.

² Total may not sum due to rounding.



- The initial SWP Table A allocation for CY 2026 is 10 percent. Further increases to the SWP allocation are possible and will depend on future hydrologic conditions. The final allocation is typically determined in May or June.
- Lake Oroville is currently at 1.74 MAF (51 percent of total capacity) or 98 percent of the historical average, as of the date of this report.

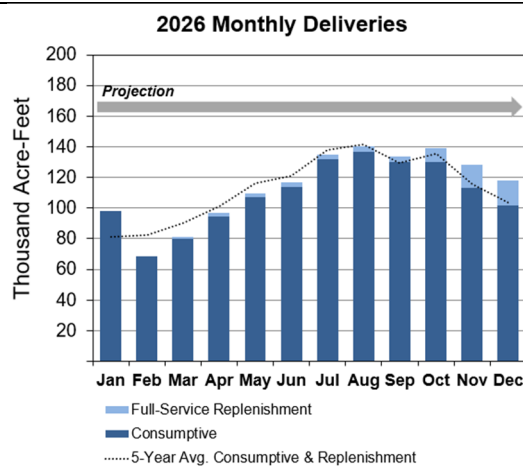
Current Demand	Acre-Feet
Member Agency Consumptive ¹	1,339,000
Member Agency Replenishment	60,000
Coachella Valley Water District Agreement	
2nd Agreement	0
3rd Agreement	0
Imperial Irrigation District Return ²	0
Exchange w/ San Luis Rey Tribe	16,000
System and Storage Losses	58,000
Cyclic Deliveries	0
2022 Reverse Cyclic Deliveries	0
Bucket 2 Obligations ³	14,000
SWP Water Sales Outside Service Area	0
Total Demands ⁴	1,486,000

¹ Includes exchange w/SDCWA (IID/Canal Lining) and CUP sales.

² Per USBR Forecast (11/03/2025).

³ The Bucket 2 obligations demands are estimated as of Dec 2025. The final value will be reported in the USBR Water Accounting Report, expected in May 2026.

⁴ Total may not sum due to rounding.

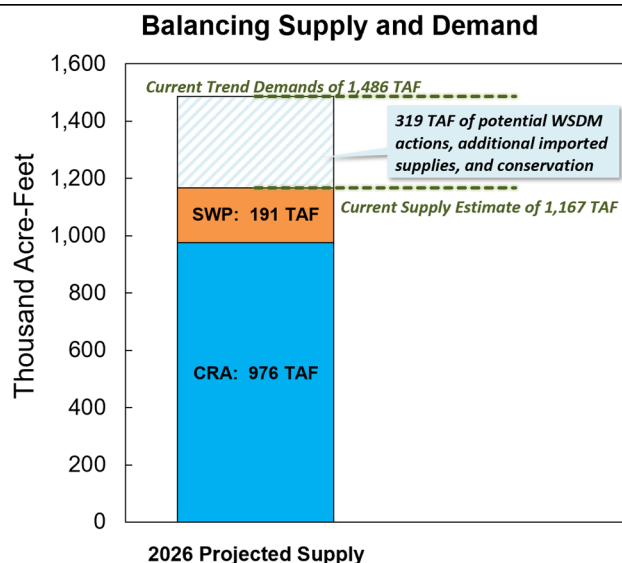


CY 2026 deliveries are forecasted to be generally consistent with the 5-year average.

MANAGING REGIONAL SUPPLY AND DEMAND

Supply/Demand Balance	Acre-Feet
Total Supplies	1,167,000
Total Demands	1,486,000
Current Balance Estimate ¹	-319,000

¹ Total may not sum due to rounding.



WSDM Strategies/Actions

Metropolitan is monitoring supply development and updated demand projections. Appropriate WSDM actions will be taken to satisfy any supply/demand gap. Should supplies remain low, Metropolitan has sufficient dry-year storage available to satisfy the potential supply gap for CY 2026, including for the SWP Dependent Area. With high storage levels in the SWP share of San Luis Reservoir, Metropolitan is closely monitoring its carryover supplies and will identify any water at risk of spill and take appropriate actions to evacuate those supplies and minimize or avoid potential losses.

2026 WSDM Storage Detail

	1/1/2026 Estimated Storage Levels ¹	CY 2026 Take Capacity ²	2026 Total Storage Capacity
WSDM Storage			
Colorado River Aqueduct Delivery System	1,544,000	187,000	1,622,000
Lake Mead ICS	1,544,000 ³	187,000 ⁴	1,622,000 ³
State Water Project System	1,265,000	771,000	2,403,000
MWD and DWCV SWP Carryover	475,000 ⁵	475,000	594,000 ⁶
MWD Articles 14(b) and 12(e)	0	0	0
Castaic and Perris DWR Flex Storage	219,000	219,000	219,000
Arvin-Edison Storage Program	100,000	0	350,000
Semitropic Storage Program	235,000	45,000	350,000
Kern Delta Storage Program	142,000	32,000	250,000
Mojave Storage Program	19,000	0	330,000
AVEK Storage Program	30,000	0	30,000
AVEK High Desert Water Bank Program	45,000	0	280,000
In-Region Supplies and WSDM Actions	1,033,000	625,000	1,151,000
Diamond Valley Lake	756,000	499,000	810,000
Lake Mathews and Lake Skinner	200,000	88,000	226,000
Conjunctive Use Programs (CUP)	77,000	38,000	115,000
Other Programs	702,000	54,000	1,181,000
Other Emergency Storage	381,000	0	381,000
DWCV Advanced Delivery Account	321,000	54,000	800,000
Total	4,544,000	1,637,000	6,357,000
Emergency	750,000	0	750,000
Total WSDM Storage (AF) ⁷	3,794,000	1,637,000	5,607,000

¹ Preliminary start of year balances, subject to DWR adjustments and USBR final accounting in May 2026.

² Take capacity assumed under a 10 percent SWP Table A Allocation. Storage program losses included where applicable.

³ This amount is net of the water Metropolitan stored for IID in Lake Mead in an ICS sub-account.

⁴ Take capacity is based on planned maintenance activities and current CRA supply estimate.

⁵ The carryover beginning balance is subject to change based on actual December 2025 conditions.

⁶ Total storage capacity varies year-to-year as the contractual annual storage limit, based on the current SWP Table A allocation of 10 percent, is combined with the remaining balance from the previous year. There is a potential risk that Metropolitan's stored water may be converted to SWP contractor water if the San Luis Reservoir approaches full capacity. Metropolitan is actively monitoring the storage in San Luis Reservoir and has plans to manage carryover supply should the reservoir fill.

⁷ Total WSDM Storage level subject to change based on accounting adjustments. Total may not sum due to rounding.

Future Contributions and Obligations and Cyclic Programs

Table 1: Future Obligations ¹

Description	Beginning of Year 2026 Balance
Water Stored for IID under the California ICS Agreement and its Amendment or the 2021 Settlement Agreement with IID ²	207,000
Storage and Interstate Release Agreement with Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) ³	330,000
Coachella Valley Water District Agreement ⁴	35,000
USBR Phase 2 of the Lower Colorado River Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program (Bucket 2 Obligations) ⁵	14,000
Total (AF) ⁶	586,000

¹ Rounded to the nearest thousand AF. Subject to change based on accounting adjustments.

² Reflects final accounting under USBR's 2025 Water Accounting Report released May 15, 2025. IID can request a return in any year, conditional on agreement terms. The Beginning of Year Balance excludes the IID ICS sub-account water and includes evaporation and system losses charges to IID.

³ SNWA is not expected to call upon Metropolitan to return water until after 2026. SNWA may request up to 30,000 AF per year.

⁴ Obligation must be met by the end of 2026. Metropolitan is projecting to decrease the CVWD agreement obligation by 35,000 AF by the end of this year.

⁵ USBR will provide federal funding to Metropolitan for the AVEK HDWB System Conservation Project, Turf Replacement System Conservation Project, and Disadvantaged Communities Leak Detection and Repair Program through three System Conservation Implementation Agreements. In exchange, Metropolitan will implement the projects and create conserved water to benefit Lake Mead as system water. 265,000 AF of the obligation must be met by 2033 and 4,000 AF must be met by 2034. The projected BOY Balance is an estimate and subject to revision once the final accounting under USBR's 2025 Water Accounting Report is released in May 2026.

⁶ Total may not sum due to rounding.

Table 2: Cyclic Program Activity ¹

CY	Starting Balance (AF)	CY Actions (AF)				Ending Balance (AF)
		Cyclic Pre-Delivery	Cyclic Cost-Offset Pre-Delivery	Total Pre-Delivery	Sale Out of Cyclic to Date	
2025	74,000	90,000	0	90,000	1,000 ²	164,000
2026	164,000	0	0	0	0	164,000

¹ This table is updated with actual Cyclic Program activity reflecting certifications through December 2025. Total may not sum due to rounding.

² Rounded to the nearest thousand. Sale out of Cyclic to Data is 600 AF.