



One Water & Adaptation Committee

Update on Basin States Discussions Regarding Post-2026 Operational Guidelines

Item 6d

April 7, 2025

Item 6-d Update on Basin States Discussions Regarding Post-2026 Operational Guidelines

Subject

Development of the Post-2026 Operational Guidelines for Lake Powell and Lake Mead

Purpose

Update on the Bureau of Reclamation's Post-2026 Operational Guidelines environmental impact statement (EIS) and related Basin States discussions

Next Steps

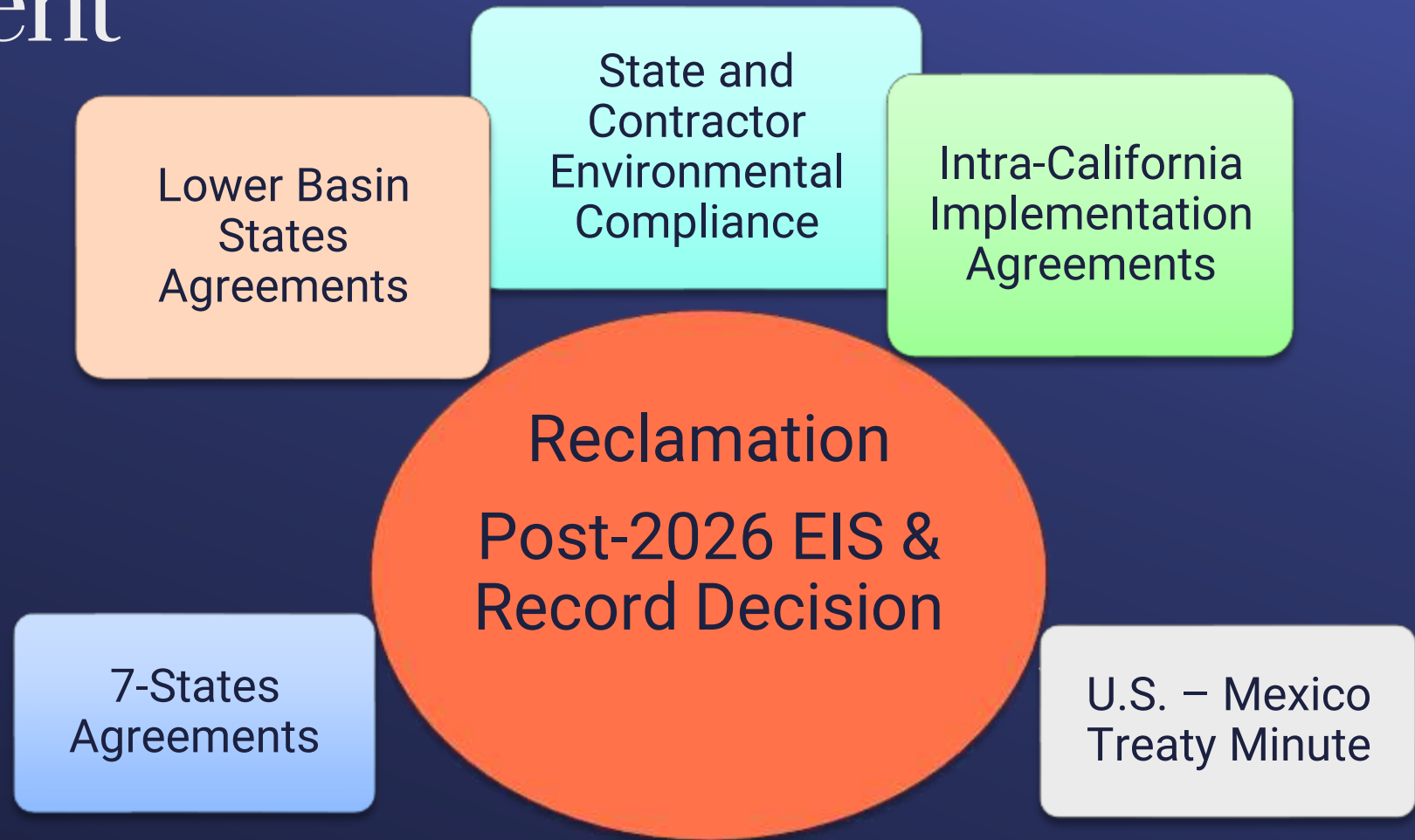
Give regular updates to Board and receive Board direction on Post-2026 Basin States discussions

Bureau of Reclamation Process Milestones



Post-2026 Development Processes

In addition to Reclamation's EIS process, implementation of the Post-2026 Guidelines will require agreements among the Lower Basin States and within California. Lower Basin operations also require ESA compliance and California's actions must comply with CEQA and CESA.



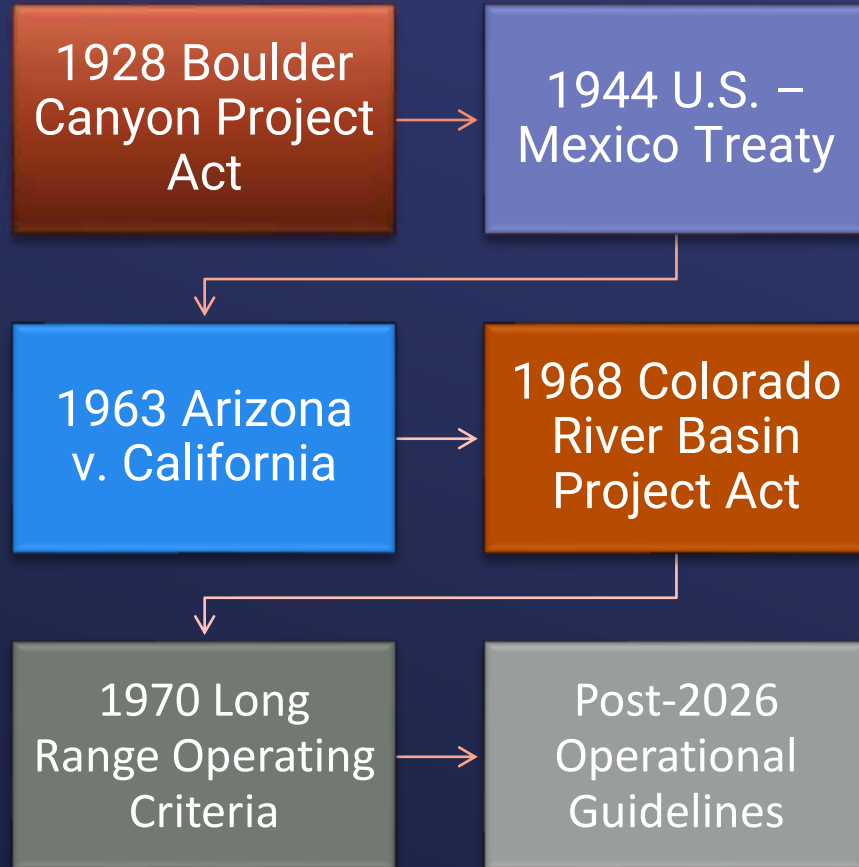
Lake Powell

- 1956 Colorado River Storage Project Act authorized construction of Glen Canyon Dam
- Glen Canyon Dam makes releases to:
 - Meet the Upper Division States' Colorado River Compact Obligations to the Lower Division States
 - Generate hydropower
- ~12.4 af/yr Annual inflows (30 yr avg)
- Upper Basin depletions ~4.5 maf/yr



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Lake Mead Release – Legal Authorities



Treaty Deliveries to Mexico

- 1944 U.S. – Mexico Treaty governs delivery obligations for Colorado River and Rio Grande River
- Colorado River flows south and U.S. makes deliveries to Mexico
- Rio Grande River flows north and Mexico makes deliveries to U.S. to Texas
- International Boundary & Water Commission manages treaty obligations
- On March 20, 2025, the IBWC canceled delivery of Colorado River water because of Mexico's shortfalls in deliveries of Rio Grande water to Texas – breaking with tradition of managing Rio Grande and Colorado separately



