

# The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

# Agenda

The mission of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is to provide its service area with adequate and reliable supplies of high-quality water to meet present and future needs in an environmentally and economically responsible way.

## Special JT OWA & IW - Final

September 23, 2025

2:30 PM

### Tuesday, September 23, 2025 Meeting Schedule

08:30 a.m. BOD WKSP EOT  
10:00 a.m. AUDIT  
11:30 a.m. EXEC  
12:30 p.m. Break  
01:00 p.m. BOD WKSP FAAME  
02:30 p.m. SP JT OWA & IW

Written public comments received by 3:00 p.m. the business day before the meeting is scheduled will be posted under the Submitted Items and Responses tab available here: <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Legislation.aspx>.

The listen-only phone line is available at 1-877-853-5257; enter meeting ID: 862 4397 5848.

Members of the public may present their comments to the Board on matters within their jurisdiction as listed on the agenda via teleconference and in-person. To provide public comment by teleconference dial 1-833-548-0276 and enter meeting ID: 815 2066 4276 or to join by computer [click here](#).

**Disclaimer:** Written and oral public comments are received in compliance with the Ralph M. Brown Act. Please note that Metropolitan does not endorse or ensure the accuracy or reliability of the information provided as public comment or by third parties.

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MWD Headquarters Building • 700 N. Alameda Street • Los Angeles, CA 90012

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\* The Metropolitan Water District's meeting of this Committee is noticed as a joint committee meeting with the Board of Directors for the purpose of compliance with the Brown Act. Members of the Board who are not assigned to this Committee may participate as members of the Board, whether or not a quorum of the Board is present. In order to preserve the function of the committee as advisory to the Board, members of the Board who are not assigned to this Committee will not vote on matters before this Committee.

- 1. Opportunity for members of the public to address the committee on matters within the committee's jurisdiction (As required by Gov. Code Section 54954.3(a))**
- 2. COMMITTEE ITEMS (INFORMATIONAL)**

- a. Update on Stormwater Benefits on Turf Replacement [21-4997](#)

### **3. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS**

- a. Bay-Delta Resources activities [21-4999](#)  
Colorado River Resources activities  
Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation activities  
Water Resources Management activities

**Attachments:** [09082025 JT OWA IT 2a Bay-Delta Resources Activities](#)  
[09082025 JT OWA IT 2a Colorado River Resources Activities](#)

### **4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION**

- a. Report from Subcommittee on Imported Water [21-5000](#)
- b. Discuss and provide direction to Subcommittee on Imported Water [21-5001](#)

### **5. SUBCOMMITTEE ITEMS**

- a. Bay-Delta Watershed Projects Update [21-5017](#)
- b. Report on the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority Meeting [21-5030](#)
- c. PLACEHOLDER Report on Post-2026 Colorado River Guidelines Status [CLOSED SESSION] [21-5020](#)

### **6. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS**

NONE

### **7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

### **8. ADJOURNMENT**

**NOTE:** This committee reviews items and makes a recommendation for final action to the full Board of Directors. Final action will be taken by the Board of Directors. Committee agendas may be obtained on Metropolitan's Web site <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. This committee will not take any final action that is binding on the Board, even when a quorum of the Board is present.

Writings relating to open session agenda items distributed to Directors less than 72 hours prior to a regular meeting are available for public inspection at Metropolitan's Headquarters Building and on Metropolitan's Web site <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>.

Requests for a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to attend or participate in a meeting should be made to the Board Executive Secretary in advance of the meeting to ensure availability of the requested service or accommodation.



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT  
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

# Board Report

## Bay-Delta Resources

- **Bay-Delta Management Report**

### Summary

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This report provides a summary of activities related to the Bay-Delta for July 15 – August 15, 2025.

### Purpose

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Informational

### Detailed Report

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#### **Decide on Sites Reservoir and Protect our Bay-Delta Interests**

Bring Sites Reservoir analyses and options to the Board for consideration

At the Joint Reservoir Committee and Sites Project Authority (Authority) Board meeting on July 18, 2025, the Reservoir Committee and the Authority Board approved the 2024 Financial Auditor's Report which includes a Federal Single Audit. The 2024 Financial Audit of the Authority's financial statement found that all information was presented in a manner that fairly, in all material respects, represents the Authority's financial position as of December 31, 2024.

#### Maintain and Advocate for Metropolitan's Interests in Delta Conveyance Project Planning and Associated Funding

On August 6, 2025, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) released an [Accountability Action Plan](#). The goal of the plan is to avoid, minimize, or offset any potential impacts of construction to the residents, businesses, Tribes and visitors to the Delta. The plan consists of five components: an ombudsman office, regulatory mitigation, a \$200 million community benefits program, community advisory groups, and project communications.

#### Advance Science and Multi-Benefit Solutions That Improve the Sustainability of the Delta and Inform Regulation

Metropolitan staff presented at the Contaminant Project Workteam on integrating contaminants into water project management using decision science.

Metropolitan staff presented on the Annual Bay-Delta Initiatives Science Report to the One Water and Adaptation Committee. Milestones included the report on Reorientating to Recovery, successes in impoundment culture for Delta smelt, education of future water managers through the COEQWAL program at the University of California system, successes in decision science for water and ecosystem management, and the Webb Tract Wetland Restoration and Rice Conversion Projects on Webb Tract.

#### Upper Watershed

Building on the success of the Upper Feather River Watershed site visits in early June, staff began planning for another site visit to the watershed in early October 2025. In January 2026, leaders from the Upper Feather River Watershed will travel to Southern California for a tour of Metropolitan's facilities as well as the broader service area.

Date of Report: 9/9/2025



## Colorado River Resources

### • Colorado River Management Report

#### Summary

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This report provides a summary of activities related to the management of Metropolitan's Colorado River resources for July 28 – August 18, 2025.

#### Purpose

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Informational

#### Detailed Report

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**Develop Post-2026 Guidelines and Negotiate Implementation Agreements: Provide input that shapes U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's (Reclamation) selected alternative**

##### *Colorado River Basin States (Basin States) Meetings*

The Basin States are meeting frequently in an effort to reach consensus on an alternative for Post-2026 operations of Lake Powell and Lake Mead. Recent discussions have focused on how Lake Powell releases will be determined in the Post-2026 Guidelines. Lake Powell releases supply both the Lower Basin and Mexico Treaty deliveries. The Interior Department and Reclamation support the Basin States' effort to reach a consensus alternative that may be incorporated into the Post-2026 Guidelines. Metropolitan staff participates in these meetings as advisors to California's principal representative in the Basin States negotiations, JB Hamby, in his role as Chair of the Colorado River Board of California.

**Develop Post-2026 Guidelines and Negotiate Implementation Agreements: Negotiate implementation agreements that protect and benefit Metropolitan's interests**

##### *Lower Basin Meetings*

California, Arizona, and Nevada are working together to reach a Lower Basin consensus regarding operational elements of Lake Mead for the Post-2026 Guidelines including Lower Basin water use reductions; storage of conserved water (like Intentionally Created Surplus [ICS]), including augmentation water that may be exchanged with interstate partners; and how any surpluses would be allocated. Metropolitan staff participates in these meetings along with representatives of other Lower Basin contractors and States.

##### *California 440 Meetings*

California, Arizona, and Nevada have tentatively agreed to reduce Lower Basin water use by 1.5 million acre-feet (maf) under most system conditions to address evaporation and other system losses - often referred to as the structural deficit. The 1.5 maf of reductions includes 250,000 acre-feet (af) that is contingent on Mexico's participation at past levels. California's share of the 1.5 maf would be 440,000 af (440). The California contractors have started meeting to develop commitments to meet California's 440. Metropolitan is working with the other contractors to develop principles for sharing California's Colorado River reductions in the Post-2026 Guidelines. The agencies have agreed to develop a proposal for sharing reduction by this November. Staff will provide updates and receive board direction on the process as it moves forward.

## Board Report Colorado River Management Report

### ***Colorado River Basin August 24-Month Study***

Reclamation issued the August 24-Month Study for the Colorado River Basin for Water Year 2026. The August 24-Month Study projections of January 1 reservoir elevations sets the operating tiers for Lake Powell and Lake Mead and is used to project annual release volumes from Lake Powell to Lake Mead. In the most probable scenario, Lake Powell is projected to be in the Mid-Elevation Release Tier triggering an annual release of 7.48 maf, which is less than the normal annual release of 8.23 maf. If dry conditions return to the Colorado River Basin, release volumes may be adjusted downward based on the April 24-Month Study. Lake Mead will operate in a Tier 1 Shortage Condition with Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan contributions and Minute 323 water savings contributions. Metropolitan's water supplies are not impacted during a Tier 1 shortage. ICS and system conservation water are also projected to be created, and Metropolitan may take delivery of ICS in 2026, if needed, to meet demands in our service area.