



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Board Report

Colorado River Resources

- **Colorado River Management Report**

Summary

This report provides a summary of activities related to management of Metropolitan's Colorado River resources for January 11, 2026 – February 18, 2026.

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

Develop Post-2026 Guidelines and Negotiate Implementation Agreements: Provide Input that Shapes Reclamation's Selected Alternative

Basin States Meetings

Despite sustained and intensive negotiations over the past several months, the seven Basin States did not reach a consensus agreement on the post-2026 operations of Lake Powell and Lake Mead by the federal deadline of February 14. Discussions continued up to the deadline and narrowed areas of disagreement, but ultimately did not result in a package of operational elements that all states were prepared to support. The federal team has not established any additional deadlines for the states to reach agreement, and both states and major water contractors are now assessing next steps in light of this outcome.

In this context, Metropolitan staff will proceed with submitting comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement under conditions of continued uncertainty. Because there is no Basin State consensus alternative at this time, Metropolitan's comments will focus on identifying operational elements necessary to ensure dry-year reliability, protecting existing investments, and preserving long-term system flexibility, rather than recommending selection of a specific preferred alternative. Staff will continue to monitor developments closely and evaluate options as the federal government considers how to proceed in the absence of a negotiated agreement.