



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Board Report

Office of the General Manager

• Colorado River Management Report

Summary

This report provides a summary of activities related to management of Metropolitan's Colorado River resources for the month of April 2024.

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

United States and Mexico Sign Treaty Minute 330

The International Boundary and Water Commission signed Minute 330 on April 18. In this Minute, Mexico agrees to conserve 400,000 acre-feet of additional water for the Colorado River system and for Mexico's water reserve through 2026. This conservation will be in addition to the 3.0 million acre-feet of additional conservation that the Lower Division States have agreed to undertake in 2023-26 as part of the Lower Basin Plan, which was identified as the Preferred Alternative in the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Near-Term Operations of the Colorado River System Reservoirs issued in March 2024. To support the conservation efforts in Minute 330, the United States Government will provide \$65 million for projects in Mexico.

Colorado River Indian Tribes Water Resiliency Act of 2022 Implementation Agreement Signing

Metropolitan Board Chair Ortega and General Manager Hagekahlil attended the signing ceremony of the Colorado River Indian Tribes (CRIT)'s agreements with the Interior Department and state of Arizona to implement the Colorado River Indian Tribes Water Resiliency Act of 2022. This Act, passed by Congress and signed by the President in 2023, authorizes the CRIT in Arizona to exchange or lease a portion of their water rights within Arizona, and to participate in conservation and storage programs like Intentionally Created Surplus. The water that is exchanged or leased must have a history of use and cannot be provided to another state.

Metropolitan Staff Participate in Glen Canyon Technical Analysis Meeting

In early April, the Bureau of Reclamation identified risks to critical infrastructure and Glen Canyon Dam (which forms Lake Powell) when using the bypass tubes to release water into the Grand Canyon. Historically, those tubes have been used to release high flows through the Grand Canyon, but also are the only way to release water out of Lake Powell if the reservoir falls below critical levels. As a result, for the near-term, Reclamation is keeping additional water in Lake Powell to avoid using the bypass tubes, which could result in increased risks of Lower Basin shortages in future years. The Lower Basin States have urged Reclamation to remedy the situation and make any necessary repairs to the facility. In late April, Reclamation held a technical meeting with stakeholders to review the risks to the dam infrastructure, and Metropolitan engineering staff participated in the meeting. The results of that meeting are not available at the time of this report but will be provided to the Board at a later date.