



Seek authorization to enter into Memorandum of Understanding and agreements to facilitate near-term actions to maintain the elevation of water in Lake Mead above elevation 1,020 feet

Water Planning and Stewardship Committee

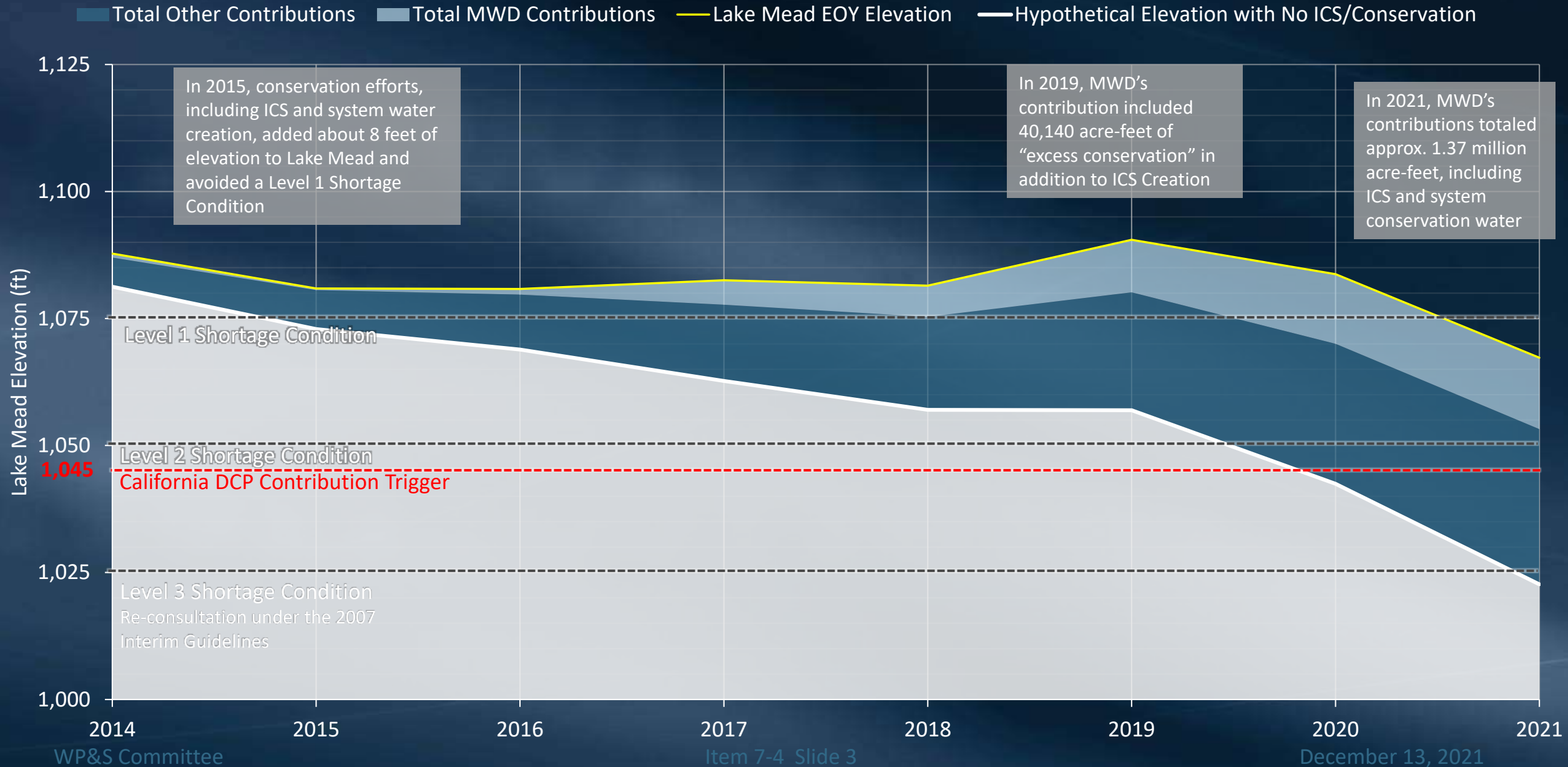
Item 7-4

December 13, 2021

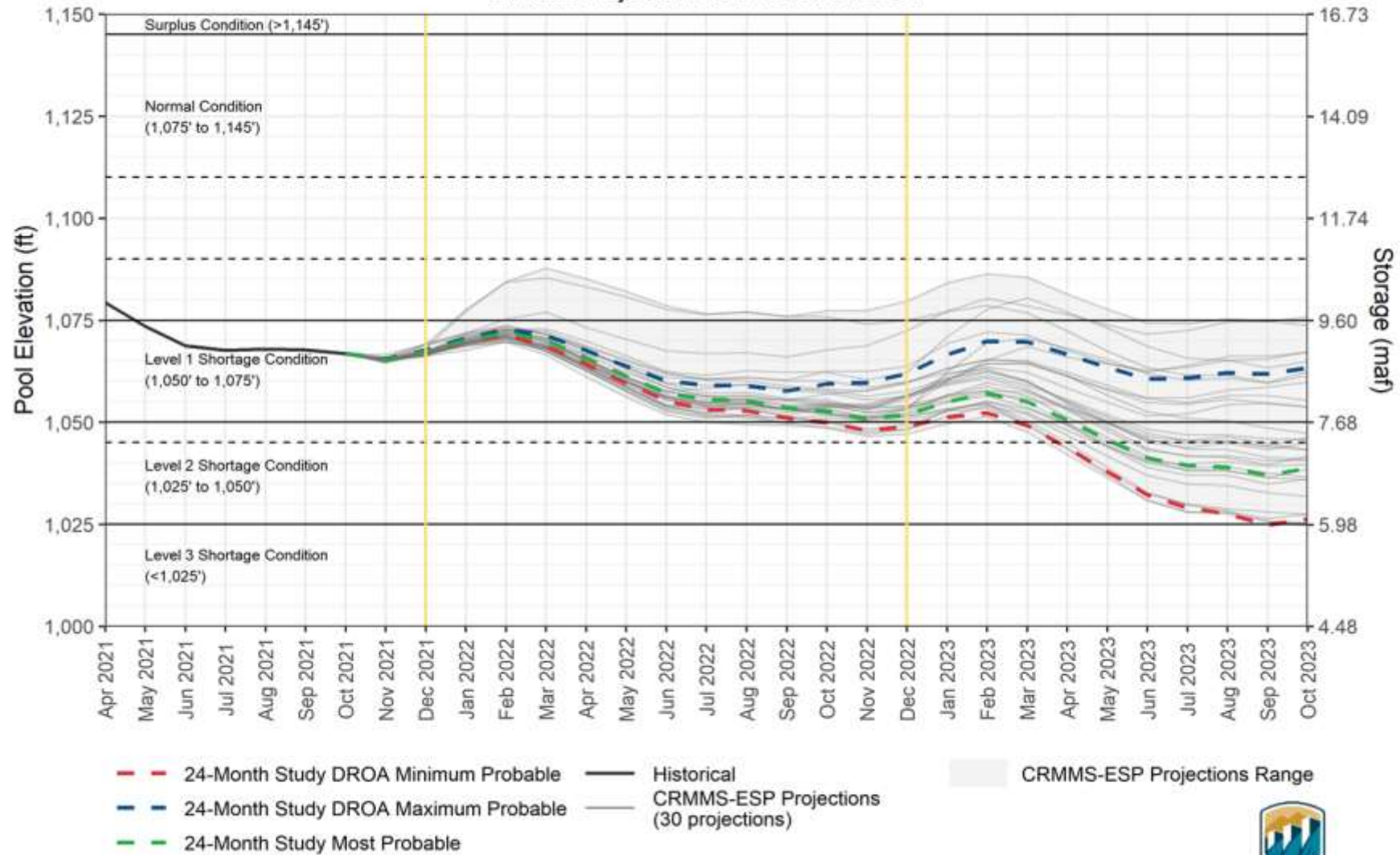
500+ Plan

- Interstate and federal effort to keep Lake Mead above the critical elevation of 1,020 feet
 - Target 500,000 AF to add to Lake Mead in 2022 and 2023
 - Contribute to funding additional water
- Actions in response to Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan requirement to consult when the 24-Month Study shows that Lake Mead would fall to elevation 1,030 feet in the minimum probable scenario any time in the next two years

Metropolitan's Contribution Lake Mead Elevation



Lake Mead End-of-Month Elevations CRMMS Projections from November 2021



End of Year 2022 - Lake Mead Elevation Projection

Elevation (ft)

Not to Scale

Lake Mead

1,219.6

Maximum Storage

1,075

Level 1 Shortage Condition

1,058 ft

1,052 ft

Proposed 500 TAF Plan Contribution

1,050

Level 2 Shortage Condition

1,045

California DCP Contribution Trigger

1,025

Level 3 Shortage Condition

Re-consultation under the 2007
Interim Guidelines

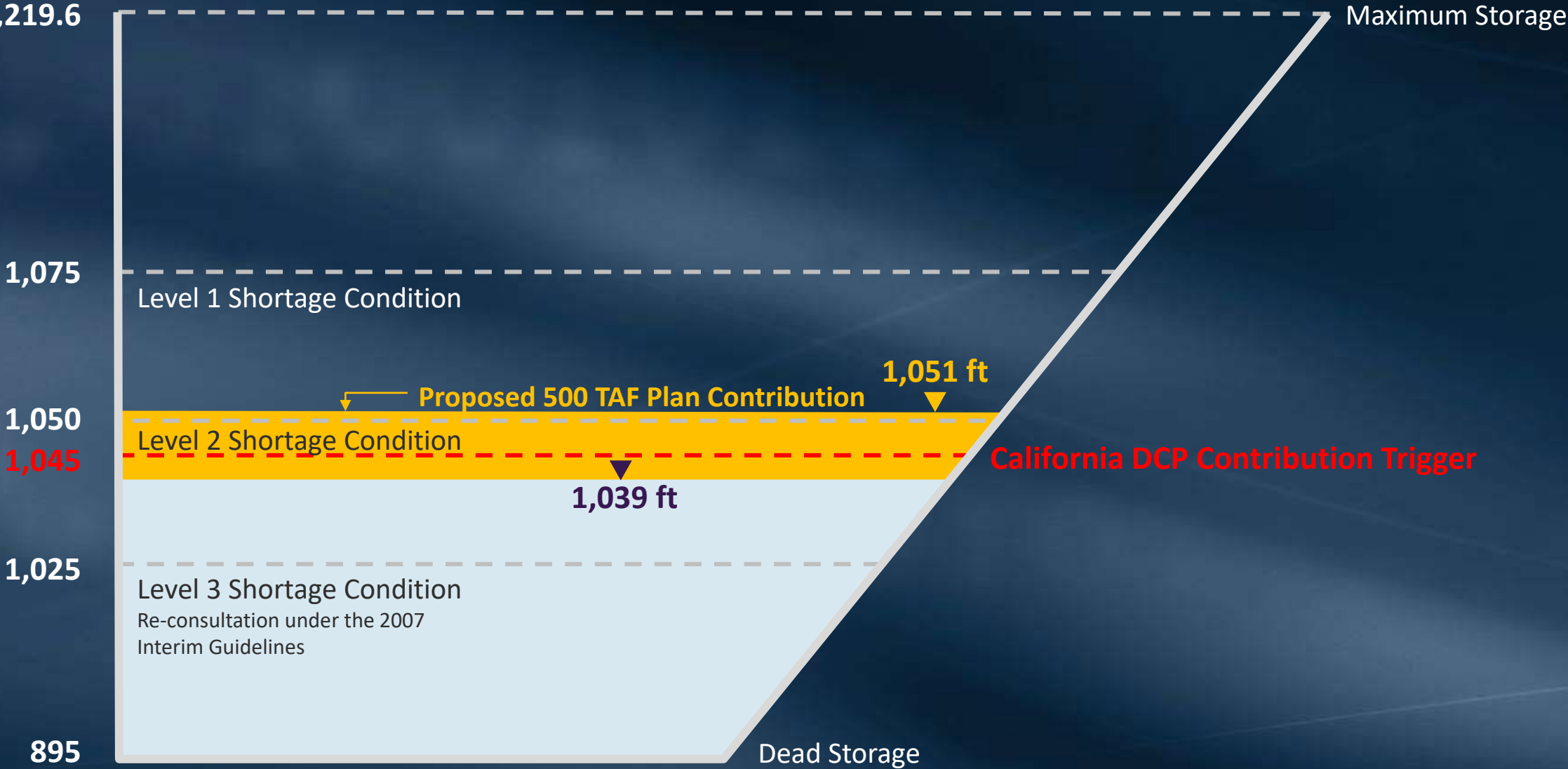
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Dead Storage

End of Year 2023 - Lake Mead Elevation Projection

Elevation (ft)
Not to Scale

Lake Mead



500+ Plan Partners

- Parties to 500+ Plan MOU
 - US – Secretary of Dept of Interior and Bureau of Reclamation
 - AZ – Arizona Department of Water Resources and Central Arizona Project
 - NV – Southern Nevada Water Authority and Colorado River Commission of Nevada
 - CA - Metropolitan
- Other parties/partners may join later

Potential for Partnership with Mexico

- The Commissioners for the US and Mexico sections of the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) exchanged letters in November 2021 affirming the agreement to establish a small work group to address unprecedented reservoir conditions
- On December 2, 2021, the Minute 323 Binational Work Group on Proactive Measures held its first meeting at the U.S. Section San Diego Field Office. The IBWC Commissioners will provide a report on this group's activities at the Colorado River Water Users Association.

Water To Be Added To Lake Mead

- Additional Water means water remaining in Lake Mead
 - Not due to shortage volumes under the 2007 Guidelines or any DCP Contributions; or
 - A net positive change in Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) behavior assumed in Reclamation's June 2021, 24-month study Most Probable projection.
- Sources of Additional Water include
 - Additional ICS
 - System conservation
 - System efficiency

Funding Commitments

Subject to availability of funds and board approvals:

- Non-federal Funding Parties agree to fund participation in Additional Water projects up to:
 - ADWR: \$40,000,000
 - CAWCD: \$20,000,000
 - MWD: \$20,000,000
 - SNWA: \$20,000,000
- Total: \$100,000,000
- The United States will work to match the non-federal funding commitment, with a goal of a total federal funding commitment of up to \$100,000,000, such that the total commitment by the Funding Parties, is an aggregate of \$200,000,000 for 2022-2023

2014 System Conservation Agreement

- The Parties to the 500+ Plan MOU partnered together to add system water to Lake Mead in the 2014 System Conservation Agreement
- In the System Conservation Agreement, water users could apply to the program and if selected would be compensated to conserve specific amounts of water
- Each Party to the System Conservation Agreement could decide whether to fund any specific conservation project

Board Approvals & Next Steps

- If the Metropolitan Board approves this proposed action, Parties will develop implementation agreements regarding funding of system conservation projects
- The Southern Nevada Water Authority and Central Arizona Water Conservation District boards approved participation in the 500+Plan MOU
- Additional parties may join this effort including Mexico, Tribes and NGOs

Board Options

Option #1

- Authorize the General Manager to enter into the 500+ Plan MOU to facilitate near-term actions necessary to maintain the elevation of water in Lake Mead above elevation 1,020 feet and to provide up to 20 percent of the non-federal cost share of any such actions, not to exceed \$10 million per year in 2022 and 2023, and delegate authority to the General Manager to enter into additional agreements as needed to implement the MOU.

Board Options

Option #2

- Do not authorize the General Manager to enter into the 500+ Plan MOU.

Staff Recommendations

- Option #1

