



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION  
125 South State Street, Room 8100  
Salt Lake City, UT 84138-1102



IN REPLY REFER TO:

UC-POM  
2.2.4.23

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

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Subject: Completion of 2023 Drought Response Operations Agreement (DROA) Plan

Dear Commissioners:

As Reclamation has been discussing with the DROA Parties and the Upper Basin Tribes, we are pleased to confirm that full recovery of previous Drought Response Operations Agreement (DROA) releases at both Flaming Gorge and the Aspinall Unit has occurred as provided for in the 2023 DROA Plan. On December 29, 2023, the 35,810 acre-feet (acft) of previous DROA releases from the Aspinall Unit was fully recovered. Additionally, the icing target of elevation 7,490 ft was met with an elevation of 7,490.05 ft on December 31, 2023. On February 28, 2024, the 588,267 acft of previous DROA releases from Flaming Gorge was fully recovered. Reclamation continues to anticipate reaching the Flaming Gorge May 1 drawdown target

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elevation. Reclamation appreciates the continual collaboration and partnership with Upper Colorado River Commission and Upper Division States in this effort.

Based on the information in the preceding paragraph, Reclamation's view is that recovery of storage has been completed pursuant to DROA Section II(A)(3)(e). Reclamation recommends that this letter, and potentially any response from the other DROA parties, if desired, be attached to the 2023 DROA Plan to memorialize completion of recovery. Reclamation further recommends that the DROA Parties inform the Lower Division States that recovery has been completed consistent with the 2019 Companion Agreement.

The February 24 Month Study modeling does not project Lake Powell's elevation to fall below the 3,525 foot target elevation outlined in DROA in either the most or minimum probable scenarios. Reclamation acknowledges that while snowpack conditions have improved, the water supply forecasts throughout much of the basin still remain below normal. As such, Reclamation will continue enhanced monitoring with the Upper Division States and Upper Colorado River Commission and is prepared to formulate a DROA Plan for 2024 should hydrology necessitate.

Sincerely,

WAYNE  
PULLAN

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Regional Director

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