

An aerial photograph of a river valley. A large dam is visible in the center, with a reservoir behind it. The river flows through the valley, surrounded by agricultural fields and some residential areas. The landscape is a mix of brown and green, indicating a semi-arid environment.

**RECLAMATION**  
*Managing Water in the West*

# Recommendations Implementation

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Operating Criteria Review Recommendations

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# Presentation Outline

- Recommendation handout
- Previously initiated work (4 Recommendations)
- Priority recommendations (8 Recommendations)
- Dependent recommendations (2 Recommendations)
- Technical working group involvement

# Previously Initiated Work

- **Avoid hedging with uniform release factor (ROMS model)**
  - Acknowledged
- **Yellowtail daily timestep model (RiverWare)**
  - 2019 parallel testing
  - Targeting January 2020 adoption
- **Statistical forecast improvements (PyForecast)**
  - 2019 beta testing
  - 2020 parallel testing
  - 2021 adoption
- **Enhanced resolution snowmelt runoff modeling**
  - Reclamation Science and Technology Project (2020 Finish)

# Priority Recommendations

- **Model and evaluate low flow rules**
  - **Step 1 - October 2019 start, targeting March 2020 review completion (GPRO)**
- **Examine frequency of elevation targeting**
  - **Summer 2019 start, December 2019 finish (MTAO)**
- **Rule curve updates**
  - **Remove encroachment into flood pool; Summer 2020 start, December 2020 finish (MTAO)**
  - **Higher inflow volume rule curve; Summer 2020 start, December 2020 finish (MTAO)**
  - **Define relationship between flood pool and releases; Summer 2020 Start, December 2020 finish (MTAO or GPRO)**

# Priority Recommendations (cont)

- **Examine skill of forecast components**
  - Summer 2020 start, December 2020 finish (GPRO, WYAO & MTAO)
- **Implement basin wide operations model (RiverWare)**
  - Ongoing work on individual models, WY2022 target for adoption
- **Evaluate skill of NWS and other ensemble forecasts**
  - TBD

# Dependent Recommendations

- **Incorporate ensemble forecasts**
  - TBD – Dependent on evaluation of ensembles and basin wide model
- **Examine variable drawdown timing**
  - TBD – Dependent on evaluation of ensembles and basin wide model

# Technical Working Group Involvement

- **Commitment**

- **Maintain engagement of the Technical Working Group**
- **Review results of parallel/beta testing**
- **Coordinate plan for full adoption**
- **Present at semi-annual Issues Group/Operations meetings**

# Questions?