



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lower Colorado Regional Office
P.O. Box 61470
Boulder City, NV 89006-1470

IN REPLY REFER TO:
LC-4212
WTR-4.03

DEC 31 2014

CERTIFIED - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Roger K. Patterson
Assistant General Manager
Metropolitan Water District
of Southern California
P.O. Box 54153
Los Angeles, CA 90054-0153

Subject: Approval of Calendar Year 2015 Colorado River Diversion for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD)

Dear Mr. Patterson:

In accordance with Title 43, Code of Federal Regulations Part 417 (Part 417), this letter provides MWD with notice of my determination regarding MWD's proposed diversion and beneficial use of Colorado River water for calendar year 2015.

By letter dated September 30, 2014, MWD submitted a request to consumptively use up to 921,761 acre-feet (AF) of Colorado River water during calendar year 2015. MWD's Colorado River water entitlement is based on the California Seven-Party Agreement of 1931, MWD's 1930 Colorado River Water Delivery Contract with the Bureau of Reclamation, as supplemented, and the 2003 Colorado River Water Delivery Agreement (CRWDA), which quantifies certain Colorado River water entitlements within the state of California.

Of California's basic Colorado River apportionment of 4.4 million acre-feet, it is anticipated that 768,208 AF will be available for consumptive use by MWD in calendar year 2015. Based upon this estimate, a review of the calendar year 2015 diversion estimate provided by MWD, the information gathered during the Reclamation's annual Part 417 consultation process, and the terms of the CRWDA, I approve the diversion of up to 771,299 AF of Colorado River water by MWD during calendar year 2015. As in recent years, I also approve the diversion by MWD in calendar year 2015 of the unused California adjusted apportionment of Colorado River water as reflected on Reclamation's website to the extent such water becomes available.

In a letter dated September 25, 2014, Reclamation approved MWD to create up to 200,000 AF of Extraordinary Conservation Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) in calendar year 2015. Because MWD may find it necessary to divert some or all of the water made available by the extraordinary conservation described in its ICS plan as well as preexisting ICS credits, MWD's approved diversion does not include the creation or delivery of ICS in 2015. Should MWD anticipate creating or taking delivery of ICS during calendar year 2015, MWD is required to submit to Reclamation a revised diversion estimate reflecting such changes.

The table on the following page provides the details of the data used to develop MWD's approved diversion for calendar year 2015.

Water Budget Item	Amount¹
Priority 4 Water	550,000
1988 Imperial Irrigation District (IID)-MWD Water Conservation Program	85,000
Coachella Canal Lining Project (CCLP) Conserved Water (MWD exchange with San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA))	21,500
CCLP Conservation (Supplemental Water)	4,500
CCLP Conservation Mitigation Water ²	--
All-American Canal Lining Project Conserved Water (MWD exchange with SDCWA)	56,200
All-American Canal Lining Project Conserved Water (Supplemental Water)	11,500
IID Transfer to SDCWA (MWD Exchange with SDCWA)	100,000
Priorities 1, 2, and 3b Consumptive Use Above 420,000 acre-feet	(65,033)
Unused Priority 3a	--
Miscellaneous and Indian Present Perfected Right Consumptive Use	(1,490)
Lower Colorado Water Supply Project	6,031
MWD-Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) Exchange of State Water Project Water	--
Creation of Extraordinary Conservation ICS Water	--
Delivery of Extraordinary Conservation ICS Water	--
Delivery of System Efficiency ICS Water	--
Total Approved Consumptive Use	768,208
Emergency Delivery to Tijuana, Mexico	--
Estimated Returns	3,091
Total Approved Diversion	771,299

¹All values in AF.

²The approved diversion does not include the 4,850 acre-feet of CCLP-conserved water that has been assigned to CVWD for mitigation requirements associated with the CCLP. Following receipt of CVWD's mitigation water use report in December 2015, MWD's approved 2015 diversion will be amended to include any unused mitigation water.

The approval is subject to the following conditions:

- (1) The data on Reclamation's website are provisional until final records are issued. MWD diversions occurring as a result of the values on the website are at MWD's own risk.
- (2) All available Colorado River water within the state of California has been approved for beneficial use within the state. In cases where approvals to senior entitlement holders are less than their Colorado River entitlements, the approvals may be increased to their full entitlements.
- (3) Final accounting records published by Reclamation may differ from the provisional data on Reclamation's website. Adjustments to the final records may result in an inadvertent overrun by MWD.
- (4) MWD will be required to pay back any overrun according to the Inadvertent Overrun and Payback Policy.
- (5) Reclamation may at any time rescind this approval to divert unused California adjusted apportionment of Colorado River water.

Reclamation will monitor and project diversions and consumptive use of Colorado River water during calendar year 2015 in an effort to ensure each entitlement holder's annual approval amount is not exceeded. Beginning in January 2015, these projections will be available to water users on a daily basis on Reclamation's website: www.usbr.gov/lc/region/g4000/hourly/forecast15.pdf. It is expected that entitlement holders within the state of California will use this information to adjust diversions to remain within approved annual quantities or, as appropriate, seek modification of the approval.

Thank you for submitting MWD's diversion estimate for 2015. If you have questions, please contact Mr. Paul Matuska, Water Accounting and Verification Group Manager, at 702-293-8164 or pmatuska@usbr.gov.

Sincerely,



Terrance J. Fulp, Ph.D.
Regional Director

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