

STATE OF NEVADA

STEVE SISOLAK, *Governor*  
PUOY K. PREMSRIRUT, *Chairwoman*  
KARA J. KELLEY, *Vice Chairwoman*  
ERIC WITKOSKI, *Executive Director*



JUSTIN JONES, *Commissioner*  
MARILYN KIRKPATRICK, *Commissioner*  
ALLEN PULIZ, *Commissioner*  
DAN H. STEWART, *Commissioner*  
CODY T. WINTERTON, *Commissioner*

**COLORADO RIVER COMMISSION  
OF NEVADA**

October 1, 2021

Jacklynn Gould, Regional Director  
Attention: LC-4200  
United States Department of the Interior  
Interior Region 8: Lower Colorado Basin  
Bureau of Reclamation,  
P.O. Box 61470  
Boulder City, NV 89006-1470  
Email: [jgould@usbr.gov](mailto:jgould@usbr.gov)

RE: Estimate of the State of Nevada's Colorado River Diversions – Calendar Year 2022

Dear Ms. Gould:

In accordance with 43 Code of Federal Regulations Part 417 (37 *Federal Register* 18076, Sept. 7, 1972) and in response to letter dated September 17, 2021, the State of Nevada submits this estimate of Colorado River diversions for calendar year 2022. The enclosed estimate of diversions recognizes the Tier 1 Shortage Condition during 2022 resulting in a 13,000 acre-foot (AF) reduction in Nevada's available Colorado River water supply and an 8,000 AF Drought Contingency Plan contribution during 2022.

Colorado River Apportionment

During 2022 Nevada anticipates a consumptive use of 287,000 AF, Nevada's basic apportionment reduced by a Tier 1 shortage of 13,000 AF. Table 1 attached contains the 2022 diversion schedule and estimated Nevada diversion of 524,000 AF reflecting Nevada return flow credits of 237,000 AF, based on the range of historical values.

The Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) diversions may increase above the anticipated volumes, pursuant to SNWA's right to take delivery of unused Nevada Colorado River basic apportionment under contract 2-07-30-W0266 dated March 2, 1992, as amended, between the United States and SNWA, provided that the total Nevada Colorado River consumptive use does not exceed 287,000 AF during calendar year 2022.

Intentionally Created Surplus

On July 15, 2021, the SNWA transmitted to the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) its calendar year 2022 Plans of Creation (Plans) for Extraordinary Conservation and Tributary Conservation Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) for the Muddy and Virgin Rivers in Nevada in accordance with the 2007 *Colorado River Interim Guidelines for Lower Basin Shortages and the Coordinated Operations for Lake Powell and Lake Mead* (2007 Interim Guidelines). The SNWA anticipates creating up to 43,000 AF of Tributary Conservation ICS and up to 100,000 AF of Extraordinary Conservation ICS in calendar year 2022. Pending approval of those Plans by Reclamation and appropriately accounting



for the applicable 10 percent system assessment, Nevada currently anticipates storing up to 128,700 AF of ICS credits during calendar year 2022. The above volumes may be modified during the year in accordance with Sections XI.G.3.B.1, XI.G.3.B.9, and XI.G.3.C.9 of the 2007 Interim Guidelines.

While SNWA and Colorado River Commission of Nevada (CRCNV) do not anticipate a need for additional resources during 2022, SNWA and CRCNV will consult with Reclamation regarding the delivery of ICS if necessary, to meet demands during 2022.

Drought Contingency Plan Contribution

Nevada recognizes the 2019 *Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan Agreement* (LB DCP Agreement) will be applied in governing Colorado River operations during calendar year 2022, including the provisions incorporated in Exhibit 1 to the LB DCP Agreement, *Lower Basin Drought Contingency Operations* (LBOPs), which requires DCP Contributions from Nevada, Arizona, and California based on Lake Mead elevation.

The most probable August 2021 24-Month Study projected Lake Mead's elevation to be 1,065.85 feet on January 1, 2022. In accordance with Section III.B.2.a of LBOPs, this condition requires Nevada to make a DCP Contribution of 8,000 AF during calendar year 2022. In the event Lake Mead's actual elevation on January 1, 2022, is higher than 1,090 feet, Section III.E.3 of LBOPs will apply.

The CRCNV and SNWA have discussed Nevada's required calendar year 2022 DCP Contribution. SNWA agrees to make Nevada's calendar year 2022 DCP Contribution using one or more of the methods defined in Section II of LBOPs ("DCP Contributions"). In accordance with Section III.D.1 of LBOPs, CRCNV and SNWA will meet and confer at least quarterly with Reclamation regarding the status of Nevada's DCP Contribution and the source of the calendar year 2022 DCP Contribution.

Unforeseen conditions make it difficult to estimate monthly water use needs a year in advance. With this in mind, please note that this request may be amended during calendar year 2022 as additional information becomes available, and that Nevada may submit a revised water order to reflect such modifications.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Warren Turkett at (702) 486-2679.

Sincerely,



Eric Witkoski  
Executive Director

WT

Enclosure

Cc: National Park Service  
Comprehensive Planning, City of Las Vegas  
Utility Services Division, City of Henderson  
Southern Nevada Water Authority  
Water Operations, Big Bend Water District  
Dept. of Public Works, City of North Las Vegas

Nevada Department of Wildlife  
Nellis Air Force Base  
City of Boulder City  
Basic Water Company  
PABCO  
Fort Mojave Indian Tribe

2022 Diversion Request (Table 1)													
State of Nevada													
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
Above Hoover													
Southern Nevada Water System	29,854	28,837	31,226	34,640	48,995	48,826	55,828	55,967	47,182	40,731	29,986	26,714	478,786
Basic Water Company City of Henderson	1,487	1,340	1,413	1,325	1,584	1,648	1,685	1,562	1,283	1,252	860	439	15,878
Basic Water Company	730	601	582	650	667	613	694	838	707	757	709	660	8,208
Pabco	74	70	77	77	87	80	85	89	86	76	59	68	928
Nevada Division of Wildlife	59	56	61	70	80	137	101	107	96	93	64	76	1,000
National Recreation Area (Lake Mead)	78	74	103	86	127	148	177	177	164	152	115	99	1,500
Boulder City	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Boulder Canyon Project	34	26	26	17	17	17	26	34	26	17	34	26	300
<b>Total Above Hoover</b>	<b>32,316</b>	<b>31,004</b>	<b>33,488</b>	<b>36,865</b>	<b>51,557</b>	<b>51,469</b>	<b>58,596</b>	<b>58,774</b>	<b>49,544</b>	<b>43,078</b>	<b>31,827</b>	<b>28,082</b>	<b>506,600</b>
Below Hoover													
Big Bend Water District	707	678	644	644	835	1,030	1,117	1,106	1,009	901	676	653	10,000
National Recreation Area (Lake Mohave - Cottonwood)	34	29	34	43	49	39	42	46	55	40	40	49	500
Fort Mojave Indian Reservation	200	500	600	700	900	900	800	800	700	400	200	200	6,900
<b>Total Below Hoover</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>1,207</b>	<b>1,278</b>	<b>1,387</b>	<b>1,784</b>	<b>1,969</b>	<b>1,959</b>	<b>1,952</b>	<b>1,764</b>	<b>1,341</b>	<b>916</b>	<b>902</b>	<b>17,400</b>
<b>Total Nevada Diversions</b>	<b>33,257</b>	<b>32,211</b>	<b>34,766</b>	<b>38,252</b>	<b>53,341</b>	<b>53,438</b>	<b>60,555</b>	<b>60,726</b>	<b>51,308</b>	<b>44,419</b>	<b>32,743</b>	<b>28,984</b>	<b>524,000</b>