



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Office of the General Manager

September 26, 2023

Mr. Jeremy Dodds
Group Manager, Water Accounting and Verification
Lower Colorado Regional Office
U. S. Bureau of Reclamation
jdodds@usbr.gov

Dear Mr. Dodds:

Estimates of Metropolitan Monthly Diversions for Calendar Year 2024

This letter provides information on The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's (Metropolitan): (1) best estimates of monthly diversion requirements for calendar year 2024, and (2) completion of a questionnaire as part of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's (Reclamation) consultations under Title 43, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 417. This letter also addresses Metropolitan's proposed Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) plan for 2024.

Estimate of Metropolitan Diversions for Calendar Year 2024

Metropolitan's initial estimate of its diversions for calendar year 2024 totals 960,100 acre-feet (AF). Metropolitan's estimate of its available supply during the year and a projected monthly diversion schedule is tabulated in Enclosure 1, which also contains the details behind a number of components of Metropolitan's estimate of available supply.

Estimated available supply is based on a Shortage Condition determination and projected use of water by holders of present perfected rights and priorities 1 through 3 in California. In addition, Metropolitan anticipates that conserved water under the Palo Verde Irrigation District / Metropolitan Forbearance and Fallowing Program and Bard Seasonal Fallowing Program will be contracted for system water under Inflation Reduction Act funding in 2024. Such contracted water would be left in Lake Mead as system water. The conserved water from these programs was not a part of Metropolitan's 2024 diversion estimate in Enclosure 1. However, should the inclusion of these programs in the System Conservation Agreements fail to finalize, Metropolitan would submit a revised estimate of 2024 diversions to include the conserved water from these programs.

Metropolitan has the capability to divert and beneficially use more than 1.25 million acre-feet in calendar year 2024 and may alter its current operational plans to augment its initial supply estimate. Metropolitan also plans to divert any unused California apportionment not incorporated in the tabulation of Enclosure 1 that becomes available during the year. Metropolitan may also

Mr. Jeremy Dodds
Page 2
September 26, 2022

develop additional water conservation programs or make interstate storage and release arrangements with Nevada or Arizona agencies which could affect the amount of water available for diversion in 2024. Any such new arrangements would be followed with a revised estimate of 2024 diversions.

Metropolitan submitted a plan to create up to 450,000 AF of Extraordinary Conservation ICS in calendar year 2024. As the calendar year progresses, Metropolitan may decide to create this ICS, or find it necessary to divert additional Colorado River water, including some of the water stored in Metropolitan's Lake Mead ICS account.

Part 417 Consultation Questionnaire

Metropolitan's responses to the Part 417 Consultation Questionnaire are contained in Enclosure 2.

If you have any questions regarding Metropolitan's estimate of diversions or the Part 417 Consultation Questionnaire responses, please contact Tom Ryan at tryan@mwdh2o.com.

Very truly yours,



Brad Coffey
Manager, Water Resource Management

LYL:rh

Enclosures (2)

cc: Ms. Kelly Rodgers
Director of the Colorado River Program
San Diego County Water Authority
krodgers@sdewa.org

**Metropolitan's Initial Estimate of Diversions from the Colorado River for
Calendar Year 2024**

Water Budget Item	Amount (acre-feet)
Priority 4	550,000
Imperial Irrigation District (IID) - Metropolitan Water Conservation Program	105,000
Coachella Canal Lining Project (Metropolitan Exchange with San Diego County Water Authority [SDCWA])	21,500
Coachella Canal Lining Project (Metropolitan Exchange with USBR)	4,500
All-American Canal Lining Project (Metropolitan Exchange with SDCWA)	56,200
All-American Canal Lining Project (Metropolitan Exchange with USBR)	11,500
IID Transfer to SDCWA (Metropolitan Exchange with SDCWA)	200,000
Priority 1, 2, and 3b Use Below 420,000 Acre-feet	0
Unused Priority 3a	0
Miscellaneous and Indian Present Perfected Rights Use	0
Lower Colorado Water Supply Project	9,000
Total Consumptive Use	957,700
Return Flow Credit	2,400
Total Diversion	960,100

<u>Month</u>	<u>Gross Diversion</u>	<u>Return Flow</u>
January	70,694	224
February	66,133	165
March	6,841	215
April	89,394	190
May	85,772	184
June	94,897	183
July	99,003	200
August	99,003	200
September	95,809	216
October	85,772	223
November	82,122	216
December	84,660	184
Total (acre-feet)	960,100	2,400