



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
P.O. Box 61470
Boulder City, NV 89006-1470

IN REPLY REFER TO:

LCB-4220
2.2.4.23

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Nicholas Bahr
General Manager
Bard Water District
1473 Ross Road
Winterhaven, CA 92283

Subject: Approval of Revised Calendar Year (CY) 2026 Colorado River Water Order –
Bard Water District (BWD)

Dear Mr. Bahr:

The Bureau of Reclamation received BWD's letter dated April 4, 2026, revising BWD's Colorado River water diversion estimate for CY 2026. In accordance with Title 43, Code of Federal Regulations Part 417, this letter provides BWD with notice of my determination regarding BWD's revised diversion and beneficial use of Colorado River water for CY 2026.

BWD's revised diversion request incorporates a reduction of 9,862 acre-feet (AF) for purposes of implementing a Seasonal Land Fallowing Program (Fallowing Program), in which BWD has enrolled a total of 5,190.6 acres for the period April 1, 2026, through July 31, 2026. Pursuant to System Conservation Implementation Agreement No. 23-XX-30-W0773 dated September 23, 2024, as amended, water conserved by the Fallowing Program will remain in Lake Mead as System Conservation Water to benefit system storage.

Water rights for lands within BWD are based on water right certificates that provide for delivery of the quantity of water which can be beneficially used for irrigation of individual lands covered by the separate water right certificates.

Based upon a review of the revised CY 2026 diversion estimate provided by BWD, I approve the diversion of up to 36,938 AF of Colorado River water during CY 2026 for use in BWD's service area. This approved diversion results in an estimated consumptive use of 17,301 AF.

Reclamation would like to highlight that, in accordance with the *Inadvertent Overrun and Payback Policy*,¹ **accumulations of inadvertent overruns are not permitted in CY 2026 and are suspended as long as a Shortage Condition is in effect.** To assist entitlement holders in monitoring their Colorado River water use to ensure they remain within available quantities,

¹ Available at: <https://www.usbr.gov/lc/region/g4000/IOPP.pdf>.

Reclamation will continue to project CY 2026 diversions and consumptive use of Colorado River water during CY 2026 and will make these projections available daily on Reclamation's website.² Reclamation encourages Colorado River water entitlement holders to use the projections to adjust diversions to remain within their Reclamation-approved annual Colorado River water order.

Thank you for submitting BWD's revised diversion estimate for CY 2026. Should you have questions, please contact Kerim Dickson, Team Lead, Water Accounting and Verification Group, at (725) 232-6443 or kdickson@usbr.gov. Individuals who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunication relay services.

Sincerely,

Genevieve R. Johnson
Acting Regional Director

cc: Jessica Neuwerth
Executive Director
Colorado River Board of California
770 Fairmont Avenue, Suite 100
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² Available at: <https://www.usbr.gov/lc/region/g4000/hourly/forecast.pdf>.