



COACHELLA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

Established in 1918 as a public agency

GENERAL MANAGER

Jim Barrett

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER

Robert Cheng

CLERK OF THE BOARD

Sylvia Bermudez

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER

Dan Charlton

September 30, 2025

VIA EMAIL AT jdodds@usbr.gov AND U.S. MAIL

Jeremy Dodds
Water Accounting and Verification Group Manager
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Boulder Canyon Operations Office
Interior Region 8: Lower Colorado Basin
PO Box 61470
Boulder City, NV 89006

Dear Mr. Dodds:

Subject: Coachella Valley Water District 2026 Colorado River Water Order

This letter provides the Coachella Valley Water District's (CVWD's) calendar year 2026 Colorado River water order, which equates to a total consumptive use of 377,489 acre-feet (af). CVWD is requesting that: 1) 362,489 af be delivered at Imperial Dam, and 2) 15,000 af of Colorado River water available to CVWD pursuant to the 1989 Approval Agreement, as amended, be delivered to CVWD via the Colorado River Aqueduct by The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan). The requested delivery is made in accordance with Letter Agreement No. 21-XX-30-W0710 between the Bureau of Reclamation and CVWD dated May 7, 2021 (Letter Agreement) and the *Second Amendment to Delivery and Exchange Agreement between Metropolitan and Coachella for 35,000 Acre-Feet* dated December 11, 2019. As stated in the Letter Agreement, Metropolitan will be responsible for the delivery to CVWD once water is diverted from the Colorado River at Lake Havasu, including the delivery schedule.

The components of the 377,489 af water budget is shown in the table below.

Jeremy Dodds
 Water Accounting and Verification Group Manager
 U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
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Requested Delivery at Imperial Dam	Volume
Base Consumptive Use	330,000
Creation of System Conservation Water	
Agreement No. 23-XX-30-W0764	(35,000)
Agreement No. 23-XX-30-W0821	(6,511)
Coachella Canal Lining Project (CCLP) Conserved Water	(30,850)
Present Perfected Right Holders and Others	(3,000)
CCLP Conserved Water for Mitigation ¹	4,850
1989 Approval Agreement	0
IID-CVWD Acquisition Agreement (2003 QSA) ²	103,000
MWD/CVWD State Water Project Exchange Water (35 taf)	0
Subtotal (Delivery at Imperial Dam)	362,489
Requested Delivery at Lake Havasu	
1989 Approval Agreement	15,000
Total Consumptive Use	377,489

⁽¹⁾Adjusted at end of year for actual mitigation water used

⁽²⁾Includes 50 taf from first 50 taf Acquisition & 53 taf from second 53 taf Acquisition, in accordance with Agreement for Acquisition of Conserved Water between CVWD and IID (2003)

The following are also included as part of CVWD's 2026 water order submittal:

- Exhibit A, which shows CVWD's estimates of monthly consumptive use for Colorado River water. These estimates include direct and in-lieu groundwater recharge for the benefit of Improvement District No. 1.
- CVWD's Part 417 Consultation Questionnaire for 2026.

Please contact Robert Cheng, Assistant General Manager, at (760) 398-2651, extension 2263 or rcheng@cvwd.org if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



J. M. Barrett
 General Manager

cc: Michael Norris, Area Manager (with enclosures)
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Yuma Area Office
7301 Calle Agua Salada
Yuma, AZ 85364

Tina Shields, Manager
Colorado River Sources (with enclosures)
Water Department
Imperial Irrigation District
333 East Barioni Boulevard
Imperial, CA 92251

Bill Hasencamp, Manager
Colorado River Program (with enclosures)
The Metropolitan Water District
of Southern California
PO Box 54153
Los Angeles, CA 90054

cc: Dickson, Kerim E kdickson@usbr.gov

Exhibit A

**Coachella Valley Water District
2026 Colorado River Water Order
Estimated Monthly Consumptive Use at Imperial Dam**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
20,902	22,348	25,469	30,762	36,126	38,133	39,765	38,334	32,878	29,669	25,832	22,271	362,489

Estimated Consumptive Use at Lake Havasu

Delivery Schedules to be provided by The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Part 417 Consultation Questionnaire for Calendar Year 2026 Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD)

Purpose and Instructions: Your questionnaire responses will assist the Lower Colorado Regional Director in making a determination regarding CVWD’s estimated water requirements during the upcoming year; one of the obligations required by “Part 417 - Procedural Methods of Implementing Colorado River Water Conservation Measures With Lower Basin Contractors and Others” of the *Code of Federal Regulations* ([43 CFR 417 \(2025\)](#)), established by Federal law. Please respond to each question and return the completed document along with an annual diversion estimate (including a monthly diversion schedule) no later than **September 30, 2025**.

Please ensure the information you provide is thorough and accurate and please avoid answering with “No Change.” Any additional documentation to support your diversion request for calendar year 2026 is appreciated. Your responses may be submitted in an alternative format provided all questions are addressed. As used herein, the term “upcoming year” refers to calendar year 2026; and the term “current year” refers to calendar year 2025. For assistance, contact John Shields at 725-314-6285, or via email at jshields@usbr.gov.

Historical Use: Figure 1 provides an historical record of CVWD’s diversions and consumptive use of Colorado River water for calendar years 2015-2024 and CVWD’s calendar year 2025 forecasted diversion and consumptive use as of August 1, 2025. Historical use is a factor taken into consideration during the Part 417 process.

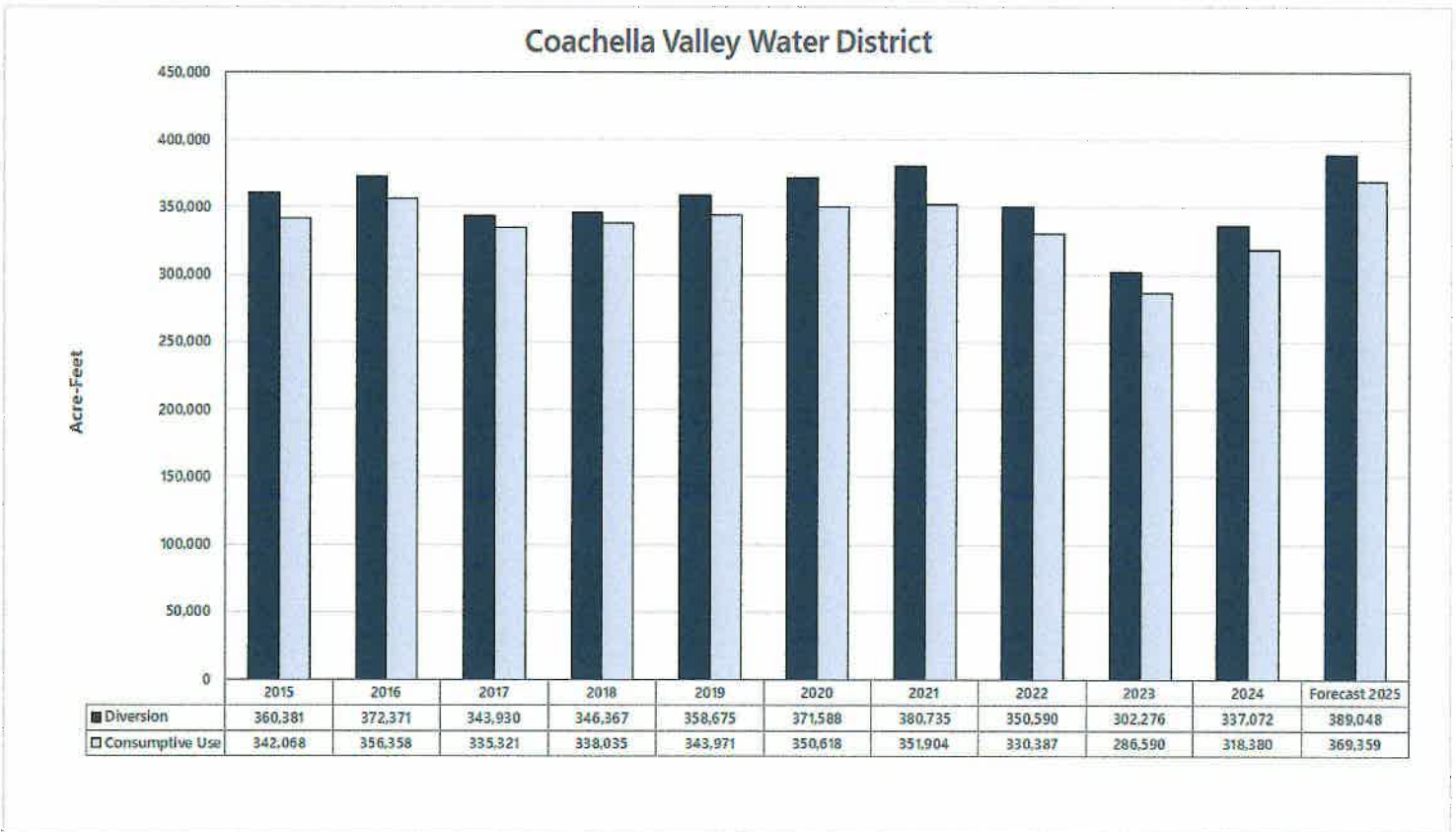


Figure 1. Historical diversions and consumptive use, 2015-2024. Forecasted 2025 diversion and consumptive use as of August 1, 2025.

Calendar Year 2026 Part 417 Consultation Questionnaire for CVWD

1. Area of Irrigated Lands: Please provide an estimate of the number of acres that CVWD intends to irrigate within its contract service area during the upcoming year: 78,249.0 acres.

Is the above acreage an: increase decrease, or about the same compared to the current year?

If so, please explain:

There was an increase in raw land acres, as well as fallowed land that became active

2. Location of Irrigated Lands: Are you anticipating changes in the location of lands (e.g. bringing inactive lands back into production, implementing inclusions or exclusions) to be irrigated in the upcoming year? If so, please explain:

No.

3. Types of Irrigation Systems in Use: Please describe the types of irrigation systems (e.g. drip irrigation, level basin, etc.) currently in use, the relative percent of each type of system in use in 2025, and the relative percent of each type of system anticipated to be in use in 2026.

Type of Irrigation System	Portion (%) of use in 2025	% of use anticipated in 2026
Flood & furrow irrigation	15.0	15.0
Gated irrigation pipe		
Solid set sprinklers (entire season)		
Solid set sprinklers (temporary) (germination & establishment of transplants)	30.0	30.0
Level basin flood irrigation		
Large-volume turnouts		
Drip irrigation	55.0	55.0
Center pivot or linear move sprinkler systems		
Other: _____ (specify)		
Other: _____ (specify)		

4. Employment of Irrigation Water Management Techniques by Water Users: Please describe irrigation water management practices used within CVWD's contract service area: (e.g. means of irrigation scheduling, frequency and means of measuring soil moisture content, use of sprinkler vs. flood irrigation, etc.) to reduce water consumption:

Growers in over 90% of Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD's) service area utilize various irrigation methods such as drip and sprinkler. Permanent crops (dates, grapes & citrus trees) use drip or level basin irrigation methods. Vegetables and row crops are primarily with sprinklers for leaching and germination, then furrow irrigation for the remainder of the growing season.

5. Water Use Efficiency: Please divide the total deliveries into the total diversions to compute the water use efficiency achieved in 2024:

① The total amount of water delivered to customers in 2024 was 301,881.2 acre-feet (AF).

② The total amount of water diverted/pumped into our distribution network was 318,380.0 AF in 2024.

Our 2024 water use efficiency was ① 301,881.2 / ② 318,380.0 = 94.82%.

Compared to 2024, we anticipate our 2025 water use efficiency will: increase decrease remain the same.

Calendar Year 2026 Part 417 Consultation Questionnaire for CVWD

6. Location of Water Carriage & Drainage Facilities: Please describe any changes in CVWD's water carriage and/or drainage facilities (e.g. points of diversion, canals, drains, etc.) that were made in the current year. If any changes are planned for the upcoming year, please describe what changes are anticipated:

No major changes are projected during the upcoming year other than routine existing pipeline repairs/replacements.

7. Condition of Water Carriage & Drainage Facilities: Please describe the general condition of CVWD's water carriage and drainage facilities:

CVWD's Capital Improvement Program includes needed pipeline, pump station, and related appurtenance replacements for the 70+ year old canal, irrigation, and drainage systems.

8. Repairs and Improvements: Please describe any extraordinary repairs or improvements which CVWD made to carriage and drainage facilities in the current year or plans to make in the upcoming year:

CVWD intends to replace approximately 10,500 LF of Irrigation Lateral 119.64-7.5, 5,300 LF of Irrigation Lateral 123.45-1.3-2.2, and the 123.45-1.3-2.2 Division Box. Additionally, in conjunction with the Oasis Expansion Project, CVWD intends to complete the Lateral 97.1 Replacement Project.

9. Crops: Please provide or attach a list of the top ten crops grown in the current year and expected acreage of these crops be grown in the upcoming year (e.g. more/less alfalfa than the current year, etc.):

No.	Crops Grown in 2025	Acres grown in 2025	Acres expected in 2026
1	Dates	11,030.0	11,030.0
2	Golf Course	5,980.0	5,980.0
3	Lemon-Lime	5,935.0	5,935.0
4	Carrots	3,977.0	3,977.0
5	Bell Peppers	3,425.0	3,425.0
6	Grapes	3,264.0	3,264.0
7	Lettuce	2,847.00	2,847.0
8	Oriental Vegetables	1,735.0	1,735.0
9	Sweet Corn	1,659.0	1,659.0
10	Cauliflower	1,626.0	1,626.0

10. Water Ordered but not Diverted: Has CVWD rejected more than 10 percent of its daily water order with Reclamation more than 3 times per month in the current year? Yes No Not applicable (NA)

If "Yes", please provide a general explanation of the circumstances for such rejections and identify steps CVWD may take to reduce future occurrences:

CVWD rejected more than 10 percent of its daily water order in January due to Rain events on January 21 & 23. This caused additional WOND on January 24, 25 & 26 due to lower demand. In February there was WOND due to rain events on February 2, 6, 7, 8 & 9. In March, there were rain events on March 15, 16 & 19. This caused additional WOND on March 14, 17, 18, 20, 21 & 22 due to lower demand.

11. General Operating Practices/Policies: Please describe any planned changes in CVWD's operating practices or policies that may impact its water use in the upcoming year (i.e.: ordering process, length of water runs, remote data access to hydrologic data, canal or gate automation):

No changes anticipated

Calendar Year 2026 Part 417 Consultation Questionnaire for CVWD

12. Municipal Water Requirements: Please quantify the amount of water delivered for non-agricultural uses (municipal, industrial, etc.): 56,400.0 acre-feet. Please feel free to add any comments or notes concerning non-agricultural water uses:

Non-Agricultural water uses are authorized for large turf irrigation users (such as golf courses) to reduce groundwater pumping from aquifer as part of CVWD's in-lieu recharge efforts.

13. Provisions of User's Water Delivery Contract: Does CVWD anticipate proposing any changes to its water delivery contract that will impact its water use in the upcoming year? Yes No. If "Yes", please explain:

14. Water Rates: Please describe or attach a copy of CVWD's current rate structure, if applicable:

Class 1 Rate (Agricultural Customers) =\$40.14/AF Commodity Charge

Class 2 Rate (All other canal water customers)=\$87.57/AF

Construction/Industrial Rate=\$65.81

Does CVWD anticipate changing its water rates in the upcoming year? Yes No If "Yes", please explain:

CVWD adopted a Cost of Service Study which adjusted the rate structure to recover increases in the costs of operating the canal water system, including operations and maintenance, capital infrastructure improvements, drain and lateral replacements (e.g., gate and pumping infrastructure), energy costs, personnel costs, supplies and services, equipment, and quagga mussel mitigation and regulation, costs to comply with State and Federal regulatory requirements, all while avoiding operational deficits and depletion of reserves and continuing to operate the utility in a financially prudent manner.

15. Water Conservation: Please describe water conservation measures CVWD implemented in the current year and intends to implement in the upcoming year (e.g. expenditures, project(s) components, and estimated water savings):

CVWD continues to comply with the latest Coachella Valley Water Management Plan.

Current projects include:

1. Metering every user - volume-based water pricing is structured by rate class.
2. Replacing old concrete irrigation distribution pipelines with pressurized pipe.
3. Promoting water conservation through grower education programs and encouraging scientific irrigation scheduling.

16. Other Relevant Information. Please identify any other relevant factor(s) (e.g., land classification, operating budget and personnel, etc.) and describe associated impacts to CVWD's water order:

CVWD continues to implement strategic planning objectives to improve management, operation, and efficiency of the irrigation system.

These objectives are as follows:

1. Implementing an Asset Management and Preventative Maintenance Programs
2. Activation of new reservoirs, pump stations, and approximately 17 miles of pipeline to service the Oasis area customers as part of CVWD's in-lieu recharge efforts. Customers continue to connect to this new system.

Thank you for your time and effort in filling out this questionnaire. The information you provide in this questionnaire is important to the annual [43 CFR 417](#) process, required by Federal law. Please return the completed document **along with your 2026 annual diversion estimate** (including a monthly diversion schedule) and any additional supporting information to: Kerim Dickson, Team Lead, Water Accounting and Verification Group, Boulder Canyon Operations Office, Bureau of Reclamation, preferably by email to kdickson@usbr.gov, no later than **September 30, 2025**. Thank you.

Completed
by: _____

Operations

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Date: Sep 29, 2025