



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-4220
WTR-4.03

DEC 30 2011

CERTIFIED- RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Richard Holmes
Deputy General Manager
Engineering and Operations
Southern Nevada Water Authority
P.O. Box 99956
Las Vegas, NV 89193-9956

Subject: Approval of the Southern Nevada Water Authority's (SNWA) 2012 Plans for the Creation of Muddy River and Virgin River Tributary Conservation Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) and Coyote Spring Valley Imported ICS

Dear Mr. Holmes:

SNWA submitted its 2012 Plans for the Creation of Tributary Conservation ICS and Imported ICS (ICS Plans) by letter dated June 30, 2011. SNWA's ICS Plans describe three separate projects from which SNWA intends to create ICS, including the Muddy River and Virgin River Tributary Conservation ICS projects and the Coyote Spring Valley Imported ICS project. From the yields of these projects, SNWA plans to create up to 44,000 acre-feet (af) of ICS during calendar year 2012.

The Bureau of Reclamation has reviewed SNWA's ICS Plans and confirmed that they contain all necessary information required by Section 3.B of the Colorado River Interim Guidelines for Lower Basin Shortages and the Coordinated Operations for Lake Powell and Lake Mead (Interim Guidelines). Pursuant to Section 7.B.5 of the Interim Guidelines, Reclamation has consulted with the Basin States regarding SNWA's ICS Plans.

Based upon Reclamation's review of SNWA's ICS Plans and the completion of the consultation process, I approve SNWA's 2012 ICS Plans for the creation of up to 44,000 af of ICS as provided in the table below.

Muddy River Tributary Conservation ICS	up to 20,000 af
Virgin River Tributary Conservation ICS	up to 17,000 af
Coyote Spring Valley Imported ICS	up to 7,000 af
Total ICS for Calendar Year 2012	Not to exceed 44,000 af

Section 3.B.1 of the Interim Guidelines provides that, subject to approval by Reclamation, a contractor may modify its approved ICS plan during the year of creation. Section 3.D.1 of the Interim Guidelines requires a contractor to submit a Certification Report to the Regional Director demonstrating the amount of ICS created and that the method of creation was consistent with the approved ICS plan, a Forbearance Agreement and a Delivery Agreement.

If you have questions, please contact Mr. Paul Matuska, Water Accounting and Verification Group Manager, at 702-293-8164.

Sincerely,

ACTING FOR 
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Regional Director

cc: Mr. Christopher Harris
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