

ATTACHMENT H

Draft Interim Surplus Guidelines

This attachment to the Colorado River Interim Surplus Criteria DEIS contains draft guidelines to provide reviewers with a better understanding of the format and content of the proposed interim surplus criteria.

It should be noted that the surplus depletion schedules shown in these guidelines (in Section 4.3 of each guideline) are intended to provide a close approximation to the amounts that would be provided under the proposed interim surplus criteria. They are not necessarily the precise numbers used in the modeling for this DEIS.

Flood Control Alternative

Draft Colorado River Interim Surplus Guidelines

1.1 Introduction

The Secretary of the Interior, acting through the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, is implementing these specific interim guidelines under which surplus water conditions would be determined in the Colorado River Basin.

The long-term management objectives of the system require the Secretary to:

- Minimize flood damages from river flows,
- Release water only in accordance with the Decree in *Arizona v. California* (Decree),
- Protect and enhance the environmental resources of the basin,
- Provide reliable delivery of water for beneficial consumptive use,
- Increase flexibility of water deliveries under a complex allocation system,
- Encourage more efficient use of renewable water supplies,
- Minimize curtailment to users who depend on such water supplies, and
- Consider power generation needs.

On an annual basis, the Secretary has applied factors, including but not limited to those found in Article III(3) (b) (i-iv) of the LROC, in annual determinations of the availability of surplus quantities for pumping or release from Lake Mead. As a result of actual operating experience through preparation of annual plans of operation, the Secretary has determined that there is a need for more specific surplus criteria, consistent with the Decree, and applicable Federal law to assist in the Secretary's annual decision making.

Additionally, through adoption of specific surplus criteria, the Secretary will be able to afford mainstream users of Colorado River water, particularly users in California who currently utilize surplus flows, a greater degree of predictability with respect to the likely existence, or lack thereof, of surplus conditions on the river in a given year. The surplus criteria may identify the specific amounts of surplus water to be made available in a given year, based on the water surface elevation of Lake Mead and other factors. The increased level of predictability, both with respect to the prospective existence of surplus conditions and the potential quantity of water available on an annual basis, will assist planning and operations of the entities that receive surplus Colorado River water pursuant to contracts with the Secretary.

1.2 Background

Pursuant to Article II(B) 2 of the Decree, if the Secretary determines sufficient water is available in a single year for release from Lake Mead to satisfy annual consumptive use in the states of California, Nevada, and Arizona in excess of 7.5 million acre-feet (MAF), the Secretary is authorized to determine the conditions upon which such water will be made available. The Colorado River Basin Project Act of 1968 directed the Secretary to adopt criteria for coordinated long-range operation of reservoirs on the Colorado River in order to comply with and carry out the provisions of the Colorado River Compact, the Boulder Canyon Project Act, the Colorado River Storage Project Act and the U.S.-Mexico Water Treaty.

The LROC provides that the Secretary will determine the extent to which the reasonable beneficial consumptive use requirements of mainstream users in the Lower Division can be met.

The guidelines do not apply to determinations of surplus to the United Mexican States (Mexico) pursuant to the 1944 U.S.-Mexico Treaty.

1.3 Allocation of Surplus Water

The interim surplus criteria set forth in Section 4 identify the circumstances for the Secretary's annual determination of the availability of surplus water. These criteria do not address the allocation of surplus water. Surplus water will continue to be allocated for use among the Lower Division States as specified in the Decree. While these criteria will not specifically address the allocation of surplus within a State or among the Lower Basin States, the Secretary recognizes that the States are considering arrangements that may affect the utilization of surplus water during the period identified in section 2.2. Water will only be delivered to entities with contracts for surplus water.

1.4 Environmental Consultation and Documentation

Environmental analyses have been conducted for this proposal pursuant to the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) and the Endangered Species Act (ESA) involving the following consultation and documentation:

- Public Scoping process conducted in June 1999
- DEIS published in July 2000
- Consultation with FWS and NMFS on ESA [in progress]
- Consultation with tribes on Indian Trust Assets [in progress]
- Consultation with Mexico on transboundary effects [in progress]
- Final EIS [scheduled for November 2000]

2.1 Implementation

These guidelines for interim surplus criteria serve to implement Article III(3) of the LROC and will be reviewed concurrently with the LROC 5-year review. The Secretary will base annual determination of surplus conditions on these criteria, unless extraordinary circumstances arise.

Such circumstances could include operations necessary for safety of dams or other emergency situations, or other activities arising from actual operating experience, including the determinations made pursuant to Section 3.2 of these guidelines.

2.2 Effective Dates

These guidelines will be in effect 30 days from publication in the Federal Register. The guidelines will, unless subsequently modified, remain effective through December 31, 2015.

3.1 Annual Operating Plan

Annually, Reclamation prepares a draft Annual Operating Plan (AOP) for the upcoming water year for submission to the Department for approval and signature by the Secretary of the Interior. This AOP is prepared in consultation with the seven Basin States Governors' representatives; the Upper Colorado River Commission; appropriate Federal agencies; representatives of the academic and scientific communities, environmental organizations, and the recreation industry; water delivery contractors; contractors for the purchase of Federal power; others interested in Colorado River operations; and the general public, through the Colorado River Management Work Group.

3.2 California Colorado River Water Use Plan Progress

To ensure satisfactory progress, the Secretary will annually review the status of implementation of the California Colorado River Water Use Plan during the development of the AOP.

4.1 Interim Surplus Criteria

The following guidelines will be used, along with other appropriate considerations as required in the Colorado River Basin Project Act, the LROC and the Decree to guide the determination of the availability of surplus water to the Lower Division States.

4.2 Modeling and Data

In preparation of the AOP, Reclamation will utilize the 24-Month Study and/or other modeling methodologies appropriate for the determinations and findings necessary in the AOP. Reclamation will utilize the best available data, and information and the National Weather Service forecasting to make these determinations.

4.3 Applying the Guidelines

The August 24-Month Study projections for the January 1 system storage and lake levels will be used for determination of the availability of surplus guidelines.

If the projected January 1 systems contents projects Hoover Dam flood control releases based on the 1984 Hoover Dam, Lake Mead, Water Control Manual:

The annual pumping and release from Lake Mead will be sufficient to satisfy all reasonable and beneficial consumptive uses in the Lower Basin with valid surplus contracts with the Secretary of the Interior.

4.4 Unused Apportionments

Nothing in these guidelines precludes the Secretary from making unused normal or surplus apportionments of Colorado River water available to another State pursuant to Article II(B)6 in the Decree.

Six States Alternative

Draft Colorado River Interim Surplus Guidelines

1.1 Introduction

The Secretary of the Interior, acting through the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, is implementing these specific interim guidelines under which surplus water conditions would be determined in the Colorado River Basin.

The long-term management objectives of the system require the Secretary to:

- Minimize flood damages from river flows,
- Release water only in accordance with the Decree in *Arizona v. California* (Decree),
- Protect and enhance the environmental resources of the basin,
- Provide reliable delivery of water for beneficial consumptive use,
- Increase flexibility of water deliveries under a complex allocation system,
- Encourage more efficient use of renewable water supplies,
- Minimize curtailment to users who depend on such water supplies, and
- Consider power generation needs.

On an annual basis, the Secretary has applied factors, including but not limited to those found in Article III(3) (b) (i-iv) of the LROC, in annual determinations of the availability of surplus quantities for pumping or release from Lake Mead. As a result of actual operating experience through preparation of annual plans of operation, the Secretary has determined that there is a need for more specific surplus criteria, consistent with the Decree, and applicable Federal law to assist in the Secretary's annual decision making.

Additionally, through adoption of specific surplus criteria, the Secretary will be able to afford mainstream users of Colorado River water, particularly users in California who currently utilize surplus flows, a greater degree of predictability with respect to the likely existence, or lack thereof, of surplus conditions on the river in a given year. The surplus criteria may identify the specific amounts of surplus water to be made available in a given year, based on the water surface elevation of Lake Mead and other factors. The increased level of predictability, both with respect to the prospective existence of surplus conditions and the potential quantity of water available on an annual basis, will assist planning and operations of the entities that receive surplus Colorado River water pursuant to contracts with the Secretary.

1.2 Background

Pursuant to Article II(B) 2 of the Decree, if the Secretary determines sufficient water is available in a single year for release from Lake Mead to satisfy annual consumptive use in the states of California, Nevada, and Arizona in excess of 7.5 million acre-feet (MAF), the Secretary is authorized to determine the conditions upon which such water will be made available. The Colorado River Basin Project Act of 1968 directed the Secretary to adopt criteria for coordinated long-range operation of reservoirs on the Colorado River in order to comply with and carry out the provisions of the Colorado River Compact, the Boulder Canyon Project Act, the Colorado River Storage Project Act and the U.S.-Mexico Water Treaty.

The LROC provides that the Secretary will determine the extent to which the reasonable beneficial consumptive use requirements of mainstream users in the Lower Division can be met.

The guidelines do not apply to determinations of surplus to the United Mexican States (Mexico) pursuant to the 1944 U.S.-Mexico Treaty.

1.3 Allocation of Surplus Water

The interim surplus criteria set forth in Section 4 identify the circumstances for the Secretary's annual determination of the availability of surplus water. These criteria do not address the allocation of surplus water. Surplus water will continue to be allocated for use among the Lower Division States as specified in the Decree. While these criteria will not specifically address the allocation of surplus within a State or among the Lower Basin States, the Secretary recognizes that the States are considering arrangements that may affect the utilization of surplus water during the period identified in section 2.2. Water will only be delivered to entities with contracts for surplus water.

1.4 Environmental Consultation and Documentation

Environmental analyses have been conducted for this proposal pursuant to the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) and the Endangered Species Act (ESA) involving the following consultation and documentation:

- Public Scoping process conducted in June 1999
- DEIS published in July 2000
- Consultation with FWS and NMFS on ESA [in progress]
- Consultation with tribes on Indian Trust Assets [in progress]
- Consultation with Mexico on transboundary effects [in progress]
- Final EIS [scheduled for November 2000]

2.1 Implementation

These guidelines for interim surplus criteria serve to implement Article III(3) of the LROC and will be reviewed concurrently with the LROC 5-year review. The Secretary will base annual determination of surplus conditions on these criteria, unless extraordinary circumstances arise.

Such circumstances could include operations necessary for safety of dams or other emergency situations, or other activities arising from actual operating experience, including the determinations made pursuant to Section 3.2 of these guidelines.

2.2 Effective Dates

These guidelines will be in effect 30 days from publication in the Federal Register. The guidelines will, unless subsequently modified, remain effective through December 31, 2015.

3.1 Annual Operating Plan

Annually, Reclamation prepares a draft Annual Operating Plan (AOP) for the upcoming water year for submission to the Department for approval and signature by the Secretary of the Interior. This AOP is prepared in consultation with the seven Basin States Governors' representatives; the Upper Colorado River Commission; appropriate Federal agencies; representatives of the academic and scientific communities, environmental organizations, and the recreation industry; water delivery contractors; contractors for the purchase of Federal power; others interested in Colorado River operations; and the general public, through the Colorado River Management Work Group.

3.2 California Colorado River Water Use Plan Progress

To ensure satisfactory progress, the Secretary will annually review the status of implementation of the California Colorado River Water Use Plan during the development of the AOP.

4.1 Interim Surplus Criteria

The following guidelines will be used, along with other appropriate considerations as required in the Colorado River Basin Project Act, the LROC and the Decree to guide the determination of the availability of surplus water to the Lower Division States.

4.2 Modeling and Data

In preparation of the AOP, Reclamation will utilize the 24-Month Study and/or other modeling methodologies appropriate for the determinations and findings necessary in the AOP. Reclamation will utilize the best available data, and information and the National Weather Service forecasting to make these determinations.

4.3 Applying the Guidelines

The August 24-Month Study projections for the January 1 system storage and lake levels will be used for determination of the availability of surplus guidelines.

If the projected January 1 Lake Mead elevation is below 1125 feet msl:

The annual pumping and release from Lake Mead will be sufficient to satisfy up to 7.5 MAF of annual consumptive use in accordance with the decree in Arizona v. California.

If the projected January 1 Lake Mead elevation is at or above 1125 feet msl and below 1145 feet msl:

The annual pumping and release from Lake Mead will be sufficient to satisfy up to the amounts listed in the following schedule:

Year	Amount available (kaf)
2001	195
2002	213
2003	210
2004	197
2005	131
2006	115
2007	98
2008	81
2009	64
2010	47
2011	30
2012	13
2013	0
2014	0
2015	0
2016	0

If the projected January 1 Lake Mead elevation is at or above 1145 ft. msl but below the spill avoidance strategy assuming the runoff value of the 70th percentile of exceedance based on the historic record of runoff above Lake Powell:

The annual pumping and release from Lake Mead will be sufficient to satisfy up to the amounts listed in the following schedule:

Year	Amount available (kaf)
2001	549
2002	569
2003	567
2004	555
2005	489

Year	Amount available (kaf)
2006	475
2007	461
2008	446
2009	431
2010	416
2011	401
2012	385
2013	370
2014	375
2015	380
2016	365

If the projected January 1 Lake Mead elevation is above the spill avoidance strategy assuming the runoff value of the 70th percentile of exceedance based on the historic record of runoff above Lake Powell and below the flood control release criteria listed below:

The annual pumping and release from Lake Mead will be sufficient to satisfy up to the amounts listed in the following schedule:

Year	Amount available (kaf)
2001	783
2002	803
2003	801
2004	802
2005	760
2006	770
2007	780
2008	789
2009	798
2010	807
2011	812
2012	820
2013	815
2014	825
2015	835
2016	825

If the projected January 1 system contents projects Hoover Dam flood control releases based on the 1984 Hoover Dam, Lake Mead, Water Control Manual:

The annual pumping and release from Lake Mead will be sufficient to satisfy all reasonable and beneficial consumptive uses in the Lower Basin with valid surplus contracts with the Secretary of the Interior.

4.4 Unused Apportionments

Nothing in these guidelines precludes the Secretary from making unused normal or surplus apportionments of Colorado River water available to another State pursuant to Article II(B)6 in the Decree.

California Alternative

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1.1 Introduction

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- Consider power generation needs.

On an annual basis, the Secretary has applied factors, including but not limited to those found in Article III(3) (b) (i-iv) of the LROC, in annual determinations of the availability of surplus quantities for pumping or release from Lake Mead. As a result of actual operating experience through preparation of annual plans of operation, the Secretary has determined that there is a need for more specific surplus criteria, consistent with the Decree, and applicable Federal law to assist in the Secretary's annual decision making.

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1.2 Background

Pursuant to Article II(B) 2 of the Decree, if the Secretary determines sufficient water is available in a single year for release from Lake Mead to satisfy annual consumptive use in the states of California, Nevada, and Arizona in excess of 7.5 million acre-feet (MAF), the Secretary is authorized to determine the conditions upon which such water will be made available. The Colorado River Basin Project Act of 1968 directed the Secretary to adopt criteria for coordinated long-range operation of reservoirs on the Colorado River in order to comply with and carry out the provisions of the Colorado River Compact, the Boulder Canyon Project Act, the Colorado River Storage Project Act and the U.S.-Mexico Water Treaty.

The LROC provides that the Secretary will determine the extent to which the reasonable beneficial consumptive use requirements of mainstream users in the Lower Division can be met.

The guidelines do not apply to determinations of surplus to the United Mexican States (Mexico) pursuant to the 1944 U.S.-Mexico Treaty.

1.3 Allocation of Surplus Water

The interim surplus criteria set forth in Section 4 identify the circumstances for the Secretary's annual determination of the availability of surplus water. These criteria do not address the allocation of surplus water. Surplus water will continue to be allocated for use among the Lower Division States as specified in the Decree. While these criteria will not specifically address the allocation of surplus within a State or among the Lower Basin States, the Secretary recognizes that the States are considering arrangements that may affect the utilization of surplus water during the period identified in section 2.2. Water will only be delivered to entities with contracts for surplus water.

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3.2 California Colorado River Water Use Plan Progress

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The following guidelines will be used, along with other appropriate considerations as required in the Colorado River Basin Project Act, the LROC and the Decree to guide the determination of the availability of surplus water to the Lower Division States.

4.2 Modeling and Data

In preparation of the AOP, Reclamation will utilize the 24-Month Study and/or other modeling methodologies appropriate for the determinations and findings necessary in the AOP. Reclamation will utilize the best available data, and information and the National Weather Service forecasting to make these determinations.

4.3 Applying the Guidelines

The August 24-Month Study projections for the January 1 system storage and lake levels will be used for determination of the availability of surplus guidelines.

If the projected January 1 Lake Mead elevation is below 1098 ft. msl to 1102 feet msl:

The annual pumping and release from Lake Mead will be sufficient to satisfy up to 7.5 MAF of annual consumptive use in accordance with the decree in Arizona v. California.

If the projected January 1 Lake Mead elevation is at or above 1098 ft. msl (Year 2001) to 1102 feet msl (Year 2015) and below 1116 feet msl (Year 2001) to 1125 ft. msl (Year 2015):

The annual pumping and release from Lake Mead will be sufficient to satisfy up to the amounts listed in the following schedule:

Year	Amount available (kaf)
2001	487
2002	507
2003	505
2004	506
2005	464
2006	474
2007	484
2008	493
2009	502
2010	511
2011	516
2012	520
2013	510
2014	515
2015	520
2016	505

If the projected January 1 Lake Mead elevation is at or above 1116 ft. msl (year 2001) to 1125 ft. msl (year 2015) up to 1160 ft. msl (year 2001) to 1166 ft. msl (year 2015):

The annual pumping and release from Lake Mead will be sufficient to satisfy up to the amounts listed in the following schedule:

Year	Amount available (kaf)
2001	587
2002	607
2003	605
2004	606
2005	564
2006	574

Year	Amount available (kaf)
2007	584
2008	593
2009	602
2010	611
2011	616
2012	620
2013	610
2014	615
2015	620
2016	605

If the projected January 1 Lake Mead elevation is at or above 1160 ft. msl (year 2001) to 1166 feet msl (year 2015) and below the flood control release criteria listed below:

The annual pumping and release from Lake Mead will be sufficient to satisfy up to the amounts listed in the following schedule:

Year	Amount available (kaf)
2001	783
2002	803
2003	801
2004	802
2005	760
2006	770
2007	780
2008	789
2009	798
2010	807
2011	812
2012	820
2013	815
2014	825
2015	835
2016	825

If the projected January 1 system contents projects Hoover Dam flood control releases based on the 1984 Hoover Dam, Lake Mead, Water Control Manual:

The annual pumping and release from Lake Mead will be sufficient to satisfy all reasonable and beneficial consumptive uses in the Lower Basin with valid surplus contracts with the Secretary of the Interior.

4.4 Unused Apportionments

Nothing in these guidelines precludes the Secretary from making unused normal or surplus apportionments of Colorado River water available to another State pursuant to Article II(B)6 in the Decree.

Shortage Protection Alternative

Draft Colorado River Interim Surplus Guidelines

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4.3 Applying the Guidelines

The August 24-Month Study projections for the January 1 system storage and lake levels will be used for determination of the availability of surplus guidelines.

If the projected January 1 Lake Mead elevation is below shortage protection alternative rule curve:

The annual pumping and release from Lake Mead will be sufficient to satisfy up to 7.5 MAF of annual consumptive use in accordance with the decree in Arizona v. California.

If the projected January 1 Lake Mead elevation is at or above the shortage protection rule curve and below the flood control release listed below:

The annual pumping and release from Lake Mead will be sufficient to satisfy up to the amounts listed in the following schedule:

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2003	801
2004	802
2005	760
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