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Colorado River water demand for areas served by the Colorado River is presented in figures C3-4 and C3-5. These figures show two geographic levels: Study Area in New Mexico, and individual planning areas. Demands at each geographic level are shown across the scenarios. The columns to the right show the Colorado River demand at a point in time (2015, 2035, or 2060) by relative contribution of the categories.

Colorado River demand<sup>2</sup> in New Mexico is primarily in the San Juan and Adjacent Areas planning areas. The San Juan planning area has the greatest magnitude of Colorado River demand, with tribal demands making up the majority of those demands, along with some energy and agricultural demands. The primary demand category in the Adjacent Areas planning is M&I, with a small amount of agricultural demand.

Figure C3-6 shows the change in Colorado River demand by category from 2015 across the scenarios. Change in Colorado River demand is roughly similar in magnitude on both the San Juan and Adjacent Areas planning areas, with tribal demand making up the vast majority of change in San Juan, and M&I making up all of the change in Adjacent Areas.

### 3.3 Colorado River Demand by Category

#### 3.3.1 Agricultural

Agricultural water demand is driven by irrigated acreage and water delivery per acre. Water delivery per acre is the amount of water diverted per irrigated acre. Components of this use include transmission and delivery losses (surface evaporation, riparian demand, and seepage) and on-farm losses that are made up of evaporation, crop irrigation requirements, and tail water (return). Each of these factors will vary by location (precipitation, growing season, etc.), irrigation method, and crop type.

Figure C3-7 presents the following by scenario in 2015, 2035, and 2060:

- Change in agricultural demand for Colorado River water
- Change in agricultural demand for Colorado River water by planning area
- Agricultural demand as a portion of Colorado River water demand (right hand side of graph)

As can be seen from figure C3-7, agricultural water demand<sup>3</sup> makes up 19 percent of Colorado River demand in New Mexico in 2015, and drops to between 11 and 16 percent of demand in 2060. This drop results from both a decrease in agricultural water demand and an increase in other categories of demand. The majority of Colorado River demand for agriculture is located in the San Juan planning area.

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<sup>2</sup> Potential Colorado River demand is based on changes in parameters such as population and for the purpose of the Study is not limited by apportionment.

<sup>3</sup> Tribal demand currently includes a significant quantity of agriculture demand that is included in the tribal category and not represented here. Agricultural use in the tribal category continues to grow as settlements are implemented.













































