



## Disclaimer

The Colorado River Basin Ten Tribes Partnership Water Study (Tribal Water Study) was funded jointly by the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the ten federally recognized Indian tribes of the Ten Tribes Partnership (Partnership). The purpose of the Tribal Water Study was to conduct a comprehensive assessment of tribal water supplies for the Partnership Tribes. The Tribal Water Study includes documentation of the Partnership Tribes' current water use, projections of future water development, and the Basin-wide effects of full development of tribal water rights. The Tribal Water Study also identifies opportunities and challenges associated with the development of tribal water considering the future water supply and demand imbalances documented in the Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand Study. Although the Tribal Water Study identified potential legal and policy issues related to tribal water development and potential solutions to water imbalances, the Study was intended to view tribal water in the context of the federal Indian reserved water rights and current legal framework commonly and collectively referred to as the "Law of the River."

Reclamation and the Partnership expect the Tribal Water Study to encourage communication throughout the Basin and with the Partnership Tribes regarding system reliability challenges, the needs of all water users, and strategies that may be considered to meet demand equitably over time. Reclamation and the Partnership recognize the Tribal Water Study was constrained by funding, timing, technological and other limitations, which presented some policy questions and issues, particularly related to modeling, the treatment of federal Indian reserved water rights, and the provisions of the Law of the River. In such cases, Reclamation and the Partnership developed and incorporated assumptions to further complete the Tribal Water Study. Where possible, a range of assumptions were used to identify the sensitivity of the results to those assumptions.

Nothing in the Tribal Water Study, however, is intended for use against any of the tribes in the Colorado River Basin, including the Partnership Tribes; any Basin State; the federal government; or the Upper Colorado River Commission in any administrative, judicial or other proceeding for any purpose whatsoever, including, but not limited to evincing or supporting any legal interpretation of federal Indian reserved water rights or the Law of the River. As such, the assumptions contained in the Tribal Water Study or in any reports generated during the Study do not, and shall not, represent a legal position or interpretation of any of the water rights of the Partnership Tribes, by any Basin State, the federal government, or the Upper Colorado River Commission as it relates to the Law of the River. Furthermore, nothing in the Tribal Water Study is intended to, nor shall the Study be construed so as to, interpret, diminish or modify the water rights of any of the Partnership Tribes, any other tribe, any Basin State, the federal government, or the Upper Colorado River Commission under federal or state law or administrative rule, regulation or guideline. Reclamation and the Partnership continue to recognize the right of each of the Partnership Tribes and of each of the Basin States under existing law to use and develop the water of the Colorado River System.