

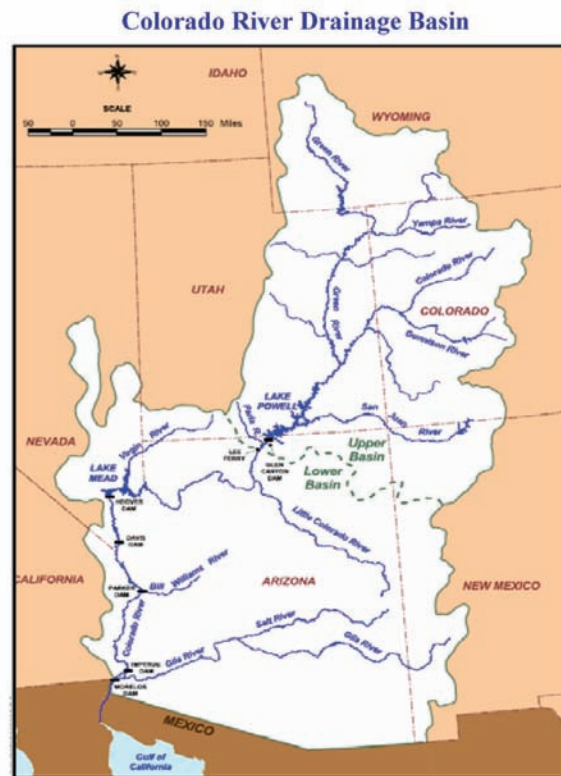
Colorado River Interim Guidelines for Lower Basin Shortages and Coordinated Operations for Lake Powell and Lake Mead

Final EIS Available For Public Review

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) acting on behalf of the Secretary of Interior is announcing availability of the Final environmental impact statement (Final EIS) on the proposed adoption of specific Colorado River interim guidelines for Lower Basin shortages and operations for Lake Powell and Lake Mead, particularly under drought and low reservoir conditions. The Final EIS incorporates and responds to all comments received on the Draft EIS and presents a thorough analysis of the Preferred Alternative.

The Final EIS is available at Reclamation's project

web site at: <http://www.usbr.gov/lc/region/programs/strategies.html>. Printed versions are also available at various local public facilities (see list of facilities on reverse). Parties interested in receiving a compact disc or paper copy can send a written request to the address below.



Inquiries or comments on the Final EIS should be directed to:
Regional Director, Lower Colorado Region, Bureau of Reclamation, Attention: BCOO-1000, P.O. Box 61470, Boulder City, Nevada 89006-1470; fax at (702) 293-8156; or e-mail at strategies@lc.usbr.gov.

A Record of Decision implementing the interim operational guidelines is anticipated to be completed before the end of 2007.

Project Schedule

Publish Scoping Report

Publish Draft Alternatives

Publish Draft EIS for public review and comment

Publish Final EIS

Sign Record of Decision

FEBRUARY MARCH APRIL MAY JUNE JULY AUGUST SEPTEMBER OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH APRIL MAY JUNE JULY AUGUST SEPTEMBER OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER JANUARY FEBRUARY

2006

2007

2008

Project Need & Purpose

During the period from 2000-2007, the Colorado River has experienced the worst drought conditions in approximately one hundred years of recorded history. During this period, storage in Colorado River reservoirs has dropped from nearly full to less than 54 percent of capacity at the end of September 2007. Currently, the Department of Interior (Department) does not have specific operational guidelines in place to address the operation of Lake Mead and Lake Powell during drought and low reservoir conditions. Accordingly, the Department proposes the adoption of specific interim guidelines for Lower Basin shortages and coordinated operations of Lake Powell and Lake Mead.

The purpose of the proposed federal action is to: 1) improve Reclamation's management of the Colorado River by considering the tradeoffs between the frequency and magnitude of reductions of water deliveries, and considering the effects on water storage in Lake Powell and Lake Mead, water supply, power production, recreation, and other environmental resources; 2) provide mainstream users of Colorado River water, particularly those in the Lower Division states, a greater degree of predictability with respect to the amount of annual water deliveries in future years, particularly under drought and low reservoir conditions; and, 3) provide additional mechanisms for the storage and delivery of water supplies in Lake Mead to increase flexibility to meet water needs, particularly under low reservoir conditions.

For Further Information

Please contact Terrance J. Fulp, Ph.D., at (702) 293-8500 or e-mail at strategies@lc.usbr.gov; and/or Randall Peterson at (801) 524-3633 or e-mail at strategies@lc.usbr.gov. You can also visit the project web site at: <http://www.usbr.gov/lc/region/programs/strategies.html>.

Hard copies of the Final EIS are available at the following locations:

Department of the Interior

Natural Resources Library
1849 C St NW, Washington, D.C.

Yuma County Library

185 South Main St, Yuma, AZ

Palo Verde Valley Library

125 West Chanslor Wy, Blythe, CA

Mohave County Library

1170 Hancock Rd, Bullhead City, AZ

Laughlin Library

2840 So Needles Highway, Laughlin, NV

Las Vegas Clark County Library

833 Las Vegas Blvd N, Las Vegas, NV

James I. Gibson Library

280 Water St, Henderson, NV

Bureau of Reclamation offices:

Lower Colorado Regional Office

400 Railroad Ave, Boulder City, NV

Upper Colorado Regional Office

125 South State St, Rm 7220
Salt Lake City, UT

Phoenix Area Office

6150 West Thunderbird Rd, Glendale, AZ

Yuma Area Office

7301 Calle Agua Salada, Yuma, AZ

Denver Federal Center Library

6th Avenue and Kipling, Building 67,
Rm 167, Denver, CO