

The Colorado River: A Commitment to Progress



Water from the Colorado River helped to transform Southern California into today's trillion-dollar economy since the first deliveries in 1941. As the importer of water supplies for six counties and 19 million residents, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California continues to build on years of innovation on the Colorado River to keep supplies and demands in balance. Advancing progress in the Colorado River Basin and within California is essential to help create a sustainable water future.



ADVANCING CONSERVATION

Metropolitan has invested hundreds of millions of dollars building reservoirs, lining canals and installing pipelines in the Imperial Valley along with other efforts to create new supplies for urban communities



INVESTING IN COMMUNITIES, LAND

In the Palo Verde Valley, Metropolitan has provided \$6 million for community improvements as part of a long-term program to fallow land in dry years. Metropolitan's land ownership in the valley seeks to promote new ways to incentivize water-efficient agriculture



RESTORING RIVER HABITAT

Metropolitan funds are contributing to the creation and preservation of 8,100 acres of riparian, marsh and backwater habitats as part of the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program



PILOTING SEASONAL LAND FALLOWING

A pilot project with Bard Water District in the southeastern corner of California is testing the concept of paying farmers to forgo planting a water-intensive crop for a portion of the spring and summer that is lower in value than winter crops

Recognizing the Colorado's Limits: Actions at Home

For Metropolitan, the Colorado River is an important baseline supply, not the end-all solution. The imported supplies from the Colorado and Northern California are foundations of an increasingly diversified water portfolio. More conservation and more local supplies will meet additional Southern California needs as our population grows. Setting realistic and achievable goals for all elements of the Southland's water strategy, and adapting to changing circumstances, are keys to maintaining reliability for decades to come.



PROTECTING SIERRA NEVADA SUPPLIES

Modernizing the Bay-Delta water system is vital to protecting the Southland's largest imported supply



INCREASING CONSERVATION

More conservation and more local supplies will meet additional Southern California needs as our population grows. More than \$1 billion in urban conservation helps protect the water level in Lake Mead for all river users

STORING FOR DROUGHTS

Capturing imported water in wet years is key to surviving dry cycles



INVESTING IN LOCAL SUPPLIES

Increasing targets for more local water helps maintain adequate drought reserves



WHO IS METROPOLITAN

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is a state-established cooperative of 26 member agencies – cities and public water agencies – that serve nearly 19 million people in six counties. Metropolitan imports water from the Colorado River and Northern California to supplement local supplies and helps its members develop increased water conservation, recycling, storage and other resource-management programs.

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is to provide its service area with adequate and reliable supplies of high-quality water to meet present and future needs in an environmentally and economically responsible way.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

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