



COLORADO RIVER JOINT COOPERATIVE PROCESS

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Colorado River Citizens Forum Meeting
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1944 WATER TREATY— COLORADO RIVER

- U.S. to deliver to Mexico a volume of 1.5 maf/year
- When there are surplus waters, U.S. to deliver up to 1.7 maf/year
- In extraordinary drought, Mexico reduced in proportion to U.S.
- U.S. has always met its delivery obligation
- Due to a decade of drought, reductions to Mexico possible in the foreseeable future



SALINITY

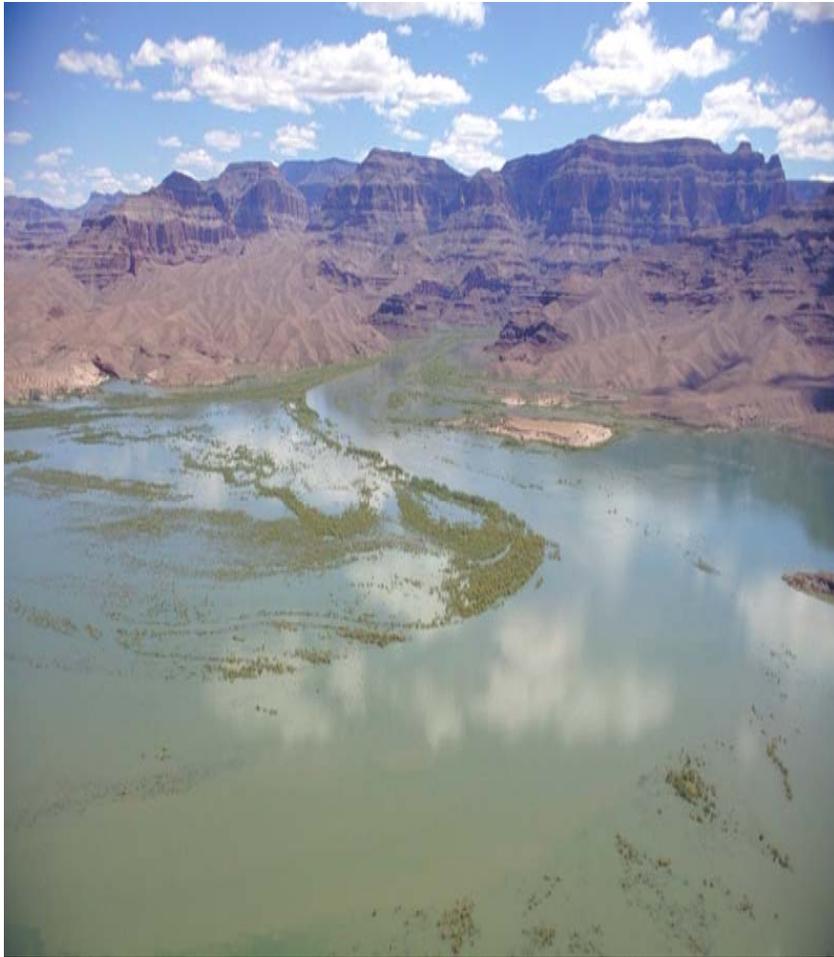


SIB Salinity Improvements (2002)

- Minute 242 regulates salinity of water delivered to Mexico
- Requires water delivered to Mexico to be similar in quality to that delivered to U.S. users
- U.S. has undertaken various projects to control salinity



LAKE MEAD



1999



2006

SHORTAGE MANAGEMENT

- 2007 ROD for Lower Basin shortage operations
- Covers period through 2026
- Provides for stepped shortages in the Lower Basin based on Lake Mead elevation
 - 1075 – 333 kaf shortage
 - 1050 – 417 kaf shortage
 - 1025 – 500 kaf shortage
 - Below 1025 requires a new consultation
- ROD does not address shortage to Mexico
- Provides for Intentionally Created Surplus



COLORADO RIVER JOINT STATEMENT

- 2007 statement issued by DOI and Mexico's Ambassador
- IBWC should be utilized to expedite discussions on Colorado River cooperation on the following issues:
 - continued needs of both nations for water, the study of the hydrological system and potential impacts of climate change, including effects of the ongoing historic Colorado River drought
 - environmental priorities
 - opportunities for water conservation, storage, and supply augmentation
 - potential opportunities for more efficient Colorado River water deliveries to Mexico



COLORADO RIVER JOINT COOPERATIVE PROCESS



Lake Mead at Hoover Dam (2007)

- IBWC established a Binational Core Group to consider cooperative efforts (03/08)
- Core Group includes federal, state, and NGO representation
- Core Group established Work Groups with broader stakeholder participation; Work Groups meet more frequently



COLORADO RIVER JOINT COOPERATIVE PROCESS

- **Four Work Groups:**
 - **New Water Sources** – particular interest in binational desalination
 - **Conservation** – especially irrigation conservation projects
 - **System Operations** – seeking efficiencies in how the system operates
 - **Environment** – preserve and restore the ecosystem of the limitrophe and Delta



Removing non-native vegetation is a challenge for the Environment Work Group.



MINUTE 314

- Signed November 2008
- 5-year extension to a previous agreement
- Allows Mexico to use U.S. infrastructure to convey water to Tijuana during emergencies
- International connection at Otay Mesa
- Mexico covers all costs



Emergency connection in Tijuana



U.S.-MEXICO JOINT DECLARATION 2009

- Joint Declaration of DOI Secretary and Mexican Ambassador Sarukhan (Jan. 15, 2009)
- Notes that recent periods of historic drought in the Colorado River Basin and growing recognition of the potential adverse impacts of climate change have stimulated efforts to identify cooperative and innovative approaches to ensure that the Colorado River allotment of each nation will continue to meet the needs of both nations
- Applauds the efforts of IBWC to help identify cooperative and innovative measures that both countries could implement
- Both governments support efforts to identify opportunities for water conservation, storage, supply augmentation, and environmental protection



MINUTE 316

- Signed April 2010
- Water for the Santa Clara Wetland during Yuma Desalting Plant Pilot Run



Santa Clara Wetland



Yuma Desalting Plant

MINUTE 317

- Signed June 2010
- Framework for U.S.-Mexico cooperation on Colorado River
- Codified the 4 Work Groups listed in Terms of Reference.
- Provides for a Consultative Council with state representation to consider policy and legal issues
- Identify projects to minimize shortage conditions, generate additional volumes, conserve water, permit Mexico to use U.S. infrastructure to store water



Morelos Dam on the Colorado River

MINUTE 318

- Signed December 2010
- Allows Mexico to adjust the delivery schedule until it repairs earthquake damage



Damaged canal in Mexicali Valley



ISSUES AND PROJECTS

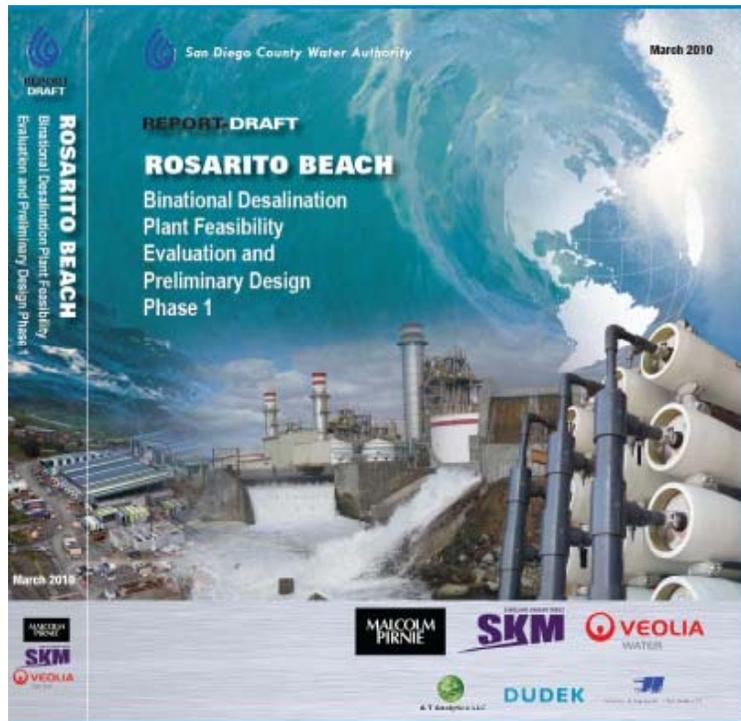


Colorado River at SIB

- Leadership Team identified issues and projects to consider in 2011:
 - Shortage management
 - Surplus sharing
 - Intentionally Created Mexican Allocation (ICMA)
 - Exchange of water
 - Water for the environment
 - Salinity



ISSUES AND PROJECTS



Desal plant Phase I feasibility study

- Projects to be considered:
 - Pilot water conservation project/canal lining
 - Fallowing
 - Miguel Aleman environmental restoration project
 - Use of the All-American Canal by Mexico
 - Rosarito Desalination Plant



NEXT STEPS

- Work Groups have been developing Work Plans for 2011 related to the issues and projects
- Stakeholder Outreach – various meetings are being held in Mexico and U.S.
- Research, analysis, development of detailed project proposals
- Conclusion of a Minute or Minutes related to the issues and projects



Commissioners of Reclamation and IBWC



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