



International Boundary and Water Commission United States and Mexico

For immediate release
March 27, 2014

COMMISSION MARKS HISTORIC ENVIRONMENTAL FLOW IN THE COLORADO RIVER

The International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico, on March 27, 2014 marked the successful implementation of an international agreement to provide environmental water for the Colorado River Delta. This water, known as the pulse flow, is a component of Minute 319, a Commission agreement signed in November 2012 to help ensure that the Colorado River system is able to continue to meet the needs of both nations. The pulse flow marks the first time the two countries have delivered water to the Colorado River Delta to promote ecosystem restoration.

Delivery of the pulse flow began March 23 and will continue through May 18. United States Commissioner Edward Drusina and Mexican Commissioner Roberto Salmon joined with Deputy U.S. Secretary of the Interior Michael Connor, Assistant U.S. Secretary of the Interior for Water and Science Anne Castle, Director General for North America Ana Luisa Fajer of Mexico's Ministry of Foreign Relations, Director General David Korenfeld of Mexico's National Water Commission (Conagua), Baja California Governor Francisco Vega, and other officials from the United States and Mexico to celebrate the pulse flow during an event at Morelos Dam, in Los Algodones, Baja California. A portion of the water arriving at the dam is being released downstream into the Colorado River channel to benefit the environment.

"This historic water release is a significant achievement to benefit the Colorado River ecosystem. It is the culmination of years of hard work by U.S. and Mexican engineers, scientists, diplomats, and water managers," said Commissioner Drusina.

Mexican Commissioner Roberto Salmon highlighted the importance of this undertaking and emphasized the efforts of both countries to seek to preserve the environment in a framework of cooperation while also addressing the needs of other users both in Mexico and the United States.

The pulse flow is just one aspect of Minute 319, which is a broad package of cooperative measures for Colorado River water management by the United States and Mexico that protects both countries' interests in this essential natural resource. This package includes joint efforts and investment in conservation projects that allow for the generation of water for the environment while protecting the interests of water users. Mexico and other Lower Basin users will receive their full allotments of Colorado River water in 2014.

The International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico, is responsible for applying the boundary and water treaties between the two countries. In accordance with the 1944 Water Treaty, Mexico receives an annual allotment of 1.5 million acre-feet (1850 million cubic meters) of Colorado River water.

For more information: [Sally Spener](#) | 915-832-4175