

**Further responses to questions brought up at CV Water Counts Academy presentation
Tuesday, February 11, 2020**

1. Is water entering the Colorado River that contains agricultural return flows from Palo Verde Irrigation District and Bard Valley affecting the Colorado River's salinity making it less desirable as a replenishment source?

In short, the answer to that questions is no. The Colorado River is regularly checked and monitored for salinity. Specific salinity criteria have been established for sections between dams on the river. For instance the salinity below Hoover Dam is set at 723 mg/L (equates to 723 parts per million), Parker Dam is 747 mg/L and at Imperial Dam the level is set at 879 mg/L. Overall, salinity levels for the river have experienced a downward trend and fall below the levels established for each section. For the last decade salinity at Imperial Dam has been below 723 mg/L which is well below the established 879 mg/L. The salinity level for water coming off at Lake Havasu that goes into the Colorado River Aqueduct is also below the 747 mg/L set below Parker Dam.

This information was acquired from the *2017 Review – Water Quality Standards for Salinity – Colorado River System, October 2017.*

2. Where is the Colorado River Aqueduct in relation to Desert Hot Springs? Where is the turnout, off the CRA that provides water to the Mission Creek Replenishment Ponds?

The Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) run through Desert Hot Springs. The turnout for the Mission Creek Replenishment Points is approximately 400 feet west of the ponds. It is a vault and the pipes run underground to the ponds. The CRA is not visible because much of it is underground in this area.

3. Who, in California, will taking voluntary cuts of Colorado River Water due to low water levels at Lake Mead, Metropolitan Water District (MET) and CVWD have signed on to take cuts to their allocations. How much will they decrease deliveries by?

Please review the table on the following page to see specified levels for Lake Mead and how by much each of the lower basin states will be required to take a reduction in their deliveries. As evidenced in the table, both Arizona and Nevada will take reductions/cuts before California. Within California, CVWD is responsible for 7% of the California's total reduction. For example, if Lake Mead is at or below 1,045 acre-feet and above 1,040 the total cut for California would be 200,000 acre-feet of water, which translates to 14,000 acre-feet for CVWD.



Table 1 – DCP Contributions and 2007 Interim Guidelines Shortages by State

Projected January 1 Lake Mead Elevation (feet msl)	2007 Interim Guidelines Shortages		DCP Contributions			Combined Volumes (2007 Interim Guidelines Shortages & DCP Contributions)			
	Arizona	Nevada	Arizona	Nevada	California	Arizona	Nevada	California	Lower Division States Total
	<i>(thousand acre-feet)</i>								
At or below 1,090 and above 1,075	0	0	192	8	0	192	8	0	200
At or below 1,075 and at or above 1,050	320	13	192	8	0	512	21	0	533
Below 1,050 and above 1,045	400	17	192	8	0	592	25	0	617
At or below 1,045 and above 1,040	400	17	240	10	200	640	27	200	867
At or below 1,040 and above 1,035	400	17	240	10	250	640	27	250	917
At or below 1,035 and above 1,030	400	17	240	10	300	640	27	300	967
At or below 1,030 and at or above 1,025	400	17	240	10	350	640	27	350	1,017
Below 1,025	480	20	240	10	350	720	30	350	1,100

