# Lower Basin Projected Water Use: 2025 - 2027

## April 2025: Most Probable 24-Month Study

### 2025

Total projected water use (7.512 maf) – Based on Lake Mead Operating Condition of Level 1 Shortage and water savings contributions under the LB DCP Agreement and IBWC Minute 323

#### U.S. contractors: **6.271 maf**

##### California: **4.101 maf**

* + - * MWD annual diversion of 870 kaf
        + Projected diversion includes the delivery of 132.1 kaf of ICS
      * Total California System Conservation of 430.7 kaf
        + CVWD system conservation of 45 kaf
        + IID system conservation of 250 kaf
        + Bard system conservation of 5.7 kaf
        + PVID system conservation of 117.0 kaf
        + Quechan system conservation of 13.0 kaf
      * Needles PSCP volume of 145 af

##### Arizona: **1.965 maf**

* + - * CAP annual diversion of 774 kaf
        + Projected diversion includes a Shortage volume of 320 kaf, a DCP contribution of 192 kaf by CAWCD, and ICS delivery of 37 kaf
      * DCP contribution will be made by creating 50 kaf of ICS and 142 kaf of non-ICS water
      * Total non-CAWCD System Conservation of 206.8 kaf
        + FMYN: 13.9 kaf
        + GRIC: 125 kaf
        + Gabrych: 3.2 kaf
        + MVIDD: 13.7 kaf
        + YMIDD: 22.0 kaf
        + CVIDD: 2.3 kaf
        + Hopi: 3.1 kaf
        + SCAT: 23.5 kaf
        + Cathcart: 61 af
      * Total CAWCD System Conservation of 128.4 kaf
        + ASARCO: 21 kaf
        + Gilbert: 0.8 kaf
        + Glendale: 7.0 kaf
        + Metro Water District: 5.0 kaf
        + Peoria: 7.2 kaf
        + Phoenix: 50.0 kaf
        + Scottsdale: 5.0 kaf
        + Tucson: 30.0 kaf
        + Spanish Trail Water Co.: 2.4 kaf
      * Bullhead City PSCP volume of 50 af
      * System water created by the 242 Well Field Expansion Project of 25 kaf

##### Nevada: **0.205 maf**

* + - * SNWA annual use of 196 kaf. Projected diversion includes:
        + Shortage volume of 13 kaf
      * DCP contribution of 8 kaf through EC ICS conversion
      * Total System Conservation of 117 kaf
        + Tributary conservation of 35 kaf
        + Other system conservation of 82 kaf

#### Mexico’s scheduled water delivery: **1.240 maf**

* Projected delivery includes:
  + Shortage volume of 50 kaf
  + Recoverable Water Savings Contribution of 30 kaf
  + Minute 330 System Conservation of 120.6 kaf
* Water Reserve delivery of 21.6 kaf
* Water Reserve creation of 80.6 kaf

### 2026

Total projected water use (7.662 maf) – Based on Lake Mead Operating Condition of Level 1 Shortage and water savings contributions under the LB DCP Agreement and IBWC Minute 323

#### U.S. contractors: **6.309 maf**

##### California: **4.080 maf**

* + - * MWD annual diversion of 950 kaf
        + Projected diversion includes the delivery of 29.2 kaf of ICS
      * Total California System Conservation of 348.5 kaf
        + CVWD system conservation of 45 kaf
        + IID system conservation of 205 kaf
        + Bard system conservation of 5.7 kaf
        + PVID system conservation of 79.8 kaf
        + Quechan system conservation of 13.0 kaf
      * Needles PSCP volume of 145 af
      * Binational ICS creation of 18.2 kaf to MWD and IID

##### Arizona: **2.027 maf**

* + - * CAP annual diversion of 838 kaf
        + Projected diversion includes a Shortage volume of 320 kaf and a DCP contribution of 192 kaf by CAWCD
      * DCP contribution will be made by creating 50 kaf of ICS and 142 kaf of non-ICS water
      * Total non-CAWCD System Conservation of 134.2 kaf
        + FMYN: 13.9 kaf
        + GRIC: 51.7 kaf
        + SCAT: 23.5 kaf
        + Gabrych: 3.2 kaf
        + MVIDD: 14.5 kaf
        + Cathcart: 61 af
        + YMIDD: 22.0 kaf
        + CVIDD: 2.3 kaf
        + Hopi: 3.1 kaf
      * Total CAWCD System Conservation of 101.0 kaf
        + ASARCO: 21 kaf
        + Gilbert: 1.6 kaf
        + Glendale: 7 kaf
        + Metro Water District: 5.0 kaf
        + Peoria: 7.2 kaf
        + Scottsdale: 4.0 kaf
        + Tucson: 52.8 kaf
        + Spanish Trail Water Co.: 2.4 kaf
      * Bullhead City PSCP volume of 400 af
      * System water created by the 242 Well Field Expansion Project of 25 kaf
      * Binational ICS creation of 18.2 kaf to CAWCD

##### Nevada: **0.201 maf**

* + - * SNWA annual use of 192 kaf. Projected diversion includes:
        + Shortage volume of 13 kaf
      * DCP contribution of 8 kaf through EC ICS conversion
      * Total System Conservation of 121 kaf
        + Tributary conservation: 35 kaf
        + Other System Conservation: 86 kaf
      * Binational ICS creation of 18.2 kaf to SNWA

#### Mexico’s scheduled water delivery: **1.353 maf**

* Projected delivery includes:
  + Shortage volume of 50 kaf
  + Recoverable Water Savings Contribution of 30 kaf
  + Minute 330 System Conservation of 67 kaf

### 2027

Total projected water use (8.255 maf) – Based on Lake Mead Operating Condition of Level 2 Shortage and water savings contributions under the LB DCP Agreement and IBWC Minute 323. For modeling purposes, simulated years beyond 2026 assume a continuation of the 2007 Interim Guidelines, the 2019 Colorado River Basin Drought Contingency Plans, and Minute 323, including the Binational Water Scarcity Contingency Plan. Except for certain provisions related to ICS recovery and Upper Basin demand management, operations under these agreements are in effect through 2026. Reclamation initiated the process to develop operations for post-2026 in June 2023, and the modeling assumptions described here are subject to change.

#### U.S. contractors: 6.859 maf

##### California: **4.405 maf**

* + - * MWD annual diversion of 950 kaf
        + Projected diversion includes the delivery of 4.9 kaf of ICS
      * Needles PSCP volume of 145 af

##### Arizona: **2.259 maf**

* + - * CAP annual diversion of 980 kaf
        + Projected diversion includes a Shortage volume of 400 kaf, a DCP contribution of 192 kaf by CAWCD, and ICS delivery of 79.5 kaf (54.5 kaf post-2026 delivery plus 25.0 kaf GRIC firming)
      * DCP contribution will be made by creating 50 kaf of ICS and 142 kaf of non-ICS water
      * Total non-CAWCD System Conservation of 20.6 kaf
        + GRIC: 20.6 kaf
      * Total CAWCD System Conservation of 7.2 kaf
        + Gilbert: 767 af
        + Scottsdale: 2.8 kaf
        + Tucson: 3.7 kaf
      * Bullhead City PSCP volume of 400 af

##### Nevada: **0.195 maf**

* + - * SNWA annual use of 186 kaf. Projected diversion includes:
        + Shortage volume of 17 kaf
        + EC ICS creation of 88 kaf
      * DCP contribution of 8 kaf through EC ICS conversion
      * Total System Conservation of 35 kaf
        + Tributary conservation: 35 kaf

#### Mexico’s scheduled water delivery: 1.396 maf

* Projected delivery includes:
  + Shortage volume of 70 kaf
  + Recoverable Water Savings Contribution of 34 kaf

### ICS Totals

* Projected ICS Total Storage at the end of CY 2027:  **2.687 maf**
  + - * Projected ICS Storage Balances at the end of each calendar year in the study are as follows:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **State (volumes in AF)** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** |
| AZ | 616,332 | 683,215 | 648,710 |
| CA | 1,440,291 | 1,447,504 | 1,442,626 |
| NV | 498,522 | 516,704 | 595,904 |
| **Total** | **2,555,145** | **2,647,423** | **2,687,240** |

### Modeled Lower Basin Conservation Actions

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **State** | **Conservation Activity (acre-feet)** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **Total** |
| **AZ** | CAP System Conservation Agreements | 128,400 | 101,000 | 7,224 | 236,624 |
| Cathcart Farms System Conservation | 61 | 61 | 0 | 122 |
| Cibola Valley IDD System Conservation | 2,328 | 2,329 | 0 | 4,657 |
| Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation System Conservation | 13,933 | 13,933 | 0 | 27,866 |
| GM Gabrych System Conservation | 3,240 | 3,240 | 0 | 6,480 |
| GRIC System Conservation | 125,000 | 51,650 | 20,618 | 197,268 |
| Hopi Tribe System Conservation | 3,059 | 3,059 | 0 | 6,118 |
| MVIDD System Conservation | 13,694 | 14,475 | 0 | 28,169 |
| San Carlos Apache Tribe System Conservation | 23,451 | 23,451 | 0 | 46,902 |
| YMIDD System Conservation | 22,010 | 22,010 | 0 | 44,020 |
| **CA** | Coachella Groundwater System Conservation | 35,000 | 35,000 | 0 | 70,000 |
| Coachella Ag System Conservation | 10,000 | 10,000 | 0 | 20,000 |
| IID System Conservation | 250,000 | 205,000 | 0 | 455,000 |
| MWD ICS Creation | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Conserved Water | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| PVID-MWD System Conservation | 117,021 | 79,830 | 0 | 196,851 |
| Bard-MWD System Conservation | 5,700 | 5,700 | 0 | 11,400 |
| Quechan Indian Tribe-MWD System Conservation | 13,000 | 13,000 | 0 | 26,000 |
| **NV** | SNWA Other Conserved Water | 82,000 | 86,000 | 0 | 168,000 |
| SNWA Tributary ICS/System Water | 35,000 | 35,000 | 35,000 | 105,000 |
| **Other** | 242 Wellfield Additional Pumping Agreement | 25,000 | 25,000 | 0 | 50,000 |
| PSCP | 195 | 545 | 545 | 1,285 |
|  | **Annual Total** | **908,092** | **730,283** | **63,387** | **1,701,762** |
| **Cumulative Total** | **908,092** | **1,638,375** | **1,701,762** |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **State** | **2025** | **2026** | **Total** |
| **AZ** | 335,176 | 235,208 | 27,842 |
| **CA** | 430,721 | 348,530 | 0 |
| **NV** | 117,000 | 121,000 | 35,000 |
| **Annual Total** | **908,092** | **730,283** | **63,387** |
| **Cumulative Total** | **908,092** | **1,638,375** | **1,701,762** |

* Modeled Conservation volumes reflect executed agreements and/or current operational projections/assumptions and are subject to change. Additional conservation activities are being considered. After new agreements are finalized and executed, these additional activities will be included in Reclamation’s operational modeling.
* Projected SEIS ROD Reservoir Protection Volume is 3.631 from 2023 through 2026.