

Colorado River Update



FOR TRIBAL MEMBERS

JULY 8TH - 9TH 2026

PARKER, AZ

JOHN BEZDEK
LEAD WATER COUNSEL
COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBES

THANK YOU TO THE CRIT MUSEUM AND CRIT MEDIA FOR PROVIDING THE PHOTOS FEATURED IN THIS SLIDESHOW. THE PRESENTATION WAS COMPILED BY JOHN BEZDEK IN COLLABORATION WITH CRIT MEDIA.



Breaking News. Troubled Waters.

Arizona Daily Star



COLORADO RIVER STATES INCH CLOSER TO COURT BATTLE AS WATER EXPERTS TESTIFY IN D.C.
ARIZONA DAILY STAR- MAY 3, 2026

The Salt Lake Tribune



MIKE LEE SAYS THERE SHOULD BE CONSEQUENCES FOR STATES THAT SUE OVER THE COLORADO RIVER.
SALT LAKE TRIBUNE- JUNE 12, 2026

AZMIRROR



ARIZONA HIRES HIGH-POWERED LAW FIRM, SETTING THE STAGE FOR A LEGAL BATTLE OVER
COLORADO RIVER WATER.
ARIZONA MIRROR- MARCH 23, 2026



Reuters



US CONSIDERS PROPOSAL TO CUT COLORADO RIVER WATER USE, ARIZONA SAYS.
REUTERS- JULY 2, 2026



ARIZONA LAWMAKERS ADD \$6 MILLION TO COLORADO RIVER LEGAL FUND AHEAD OF POTENTIAL
COURT BATTLE.
KJZZ- JUNE 12, 2026

COLORADO NEWSLINE



NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES CAME TOGETHER TO SECURE WATER RIGHTS. FOUR STATES ARE STALLING THE DEAL.
COLORADO NEWSLINE-JULY 3, 2026



“The River is Alive!”

“There is no greater expression of sovereignty than protecting, stewarding, and securing for future generations what our ancestors handed down to us.”



Personhood IN THE NEWS



TRIBES GRANT THE COLORADO RIVER LEGAL PERSONHOOD -
CAN THIS HELP SAVE IT?
BBC- FEBRUARY 14, 2026



COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBES DESIGNATE THEIR NAMESAKE WATERWAY A
'LIVING BEING' LEGAL RIGHTS
KUNC RADIO-NOVEMBER 25, 2025



COLORADO RIVER WINS PERSONHOOD STATUS FROM ARIZONA TRIBAL COUNCIL
ARIZONA REPUBLIC-NOVEMBER 25, 2025



WHY ONE TRIBE HAS DECLARED THE COLORADO RIVER A LEGAL PERSON
LOS ANGELES TIMES- DECEMBER 4, 2025



COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBES GIVES PERSONHOOD TO NAMESAKE WATERWAY
KJZZ-NOVEMBER 12, 2025



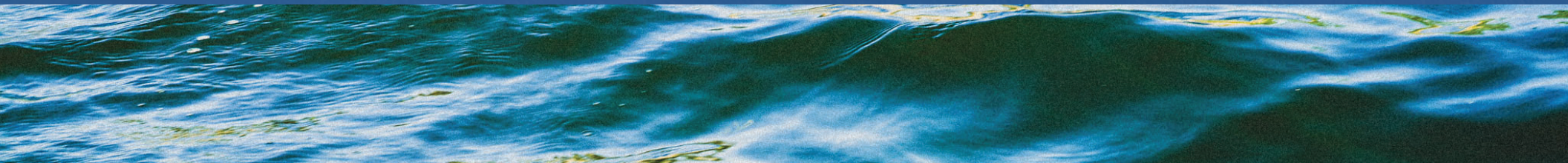
THE COLORADO SUN



COLORADO RIVER ADVOCATES' TOOLBOX CHIPS AWAY AT THREATS WITH MANY
APPROACHES — INCLUDING PERSONHOOD
COLORADO SUN-APRIL 6, 2026



INDIAN TRIBES DESIGNATE COLORADO RIVER A 'LIVING BEING' WITH LEGAL RIGHTS
TIMES OF SAN DIEGO-NOVEMBER 25, 2025



Tribal Sovereignty

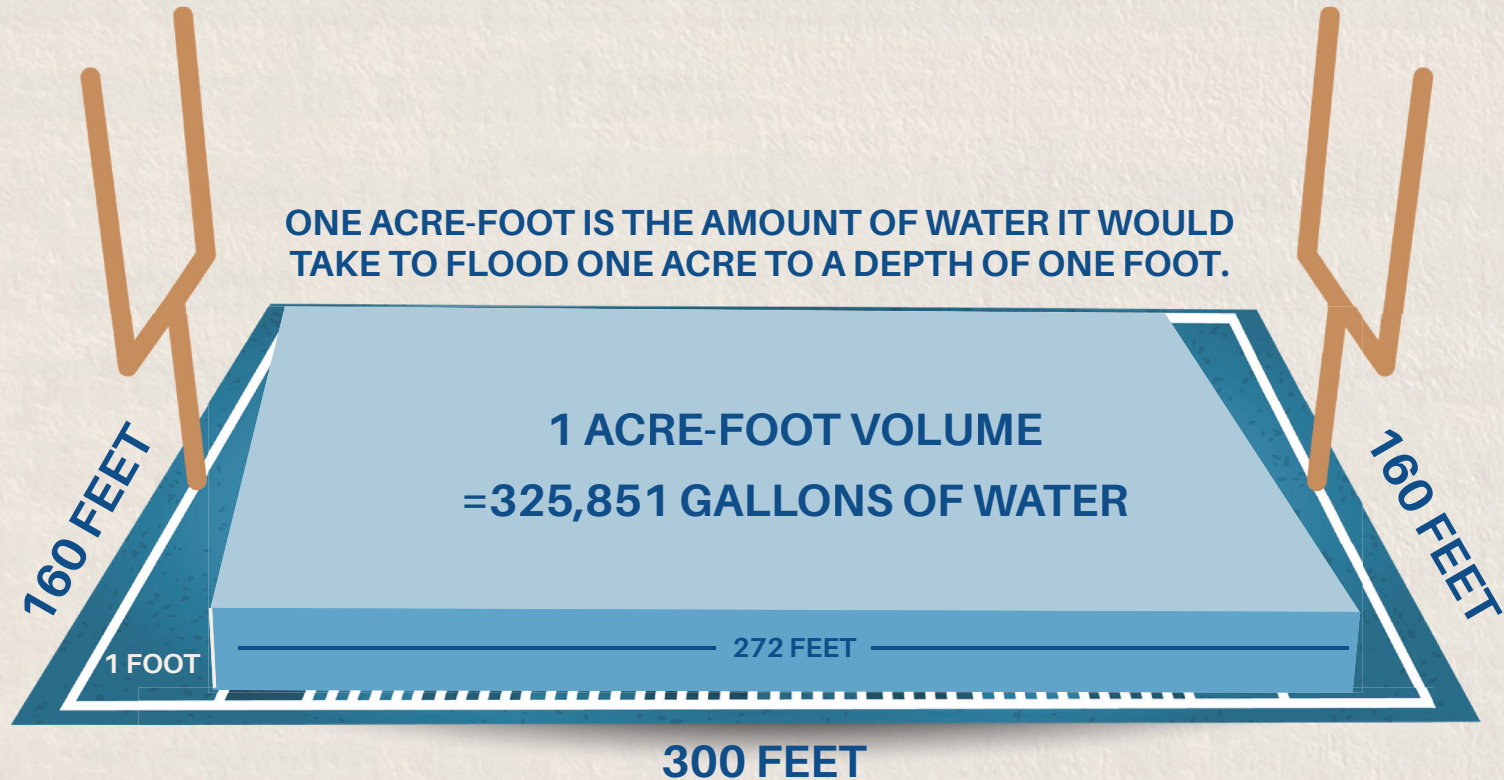
THE RIGHT OF TRIBAL NATIONS TO MAKE THEIR OWN DECISIONS ABOUT THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF ITS PEOPLE AND ITS GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING DECISIONS REGARDING THE MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF WATER RESOURCES.

TRIBAL SOVEREIGNTY IS INHERENT IN EVERY TRIBAL NATION. IT DOES NOT COME FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT- IT COMES FROM EACH OF YOU!



1 Acre-Foot Volume of Water

ONE ACRE-FOOT IS THE AMOUNT OF WATER IT WOULD TAKE TO FLOOD ONE ACRE TO A DEPTH OF ONE FOOT.

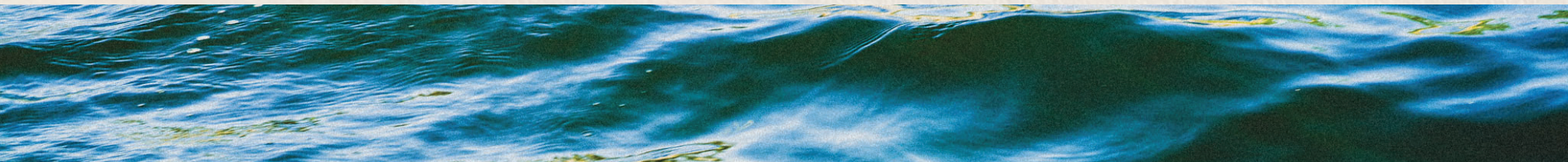


MEET THE Water TEAM

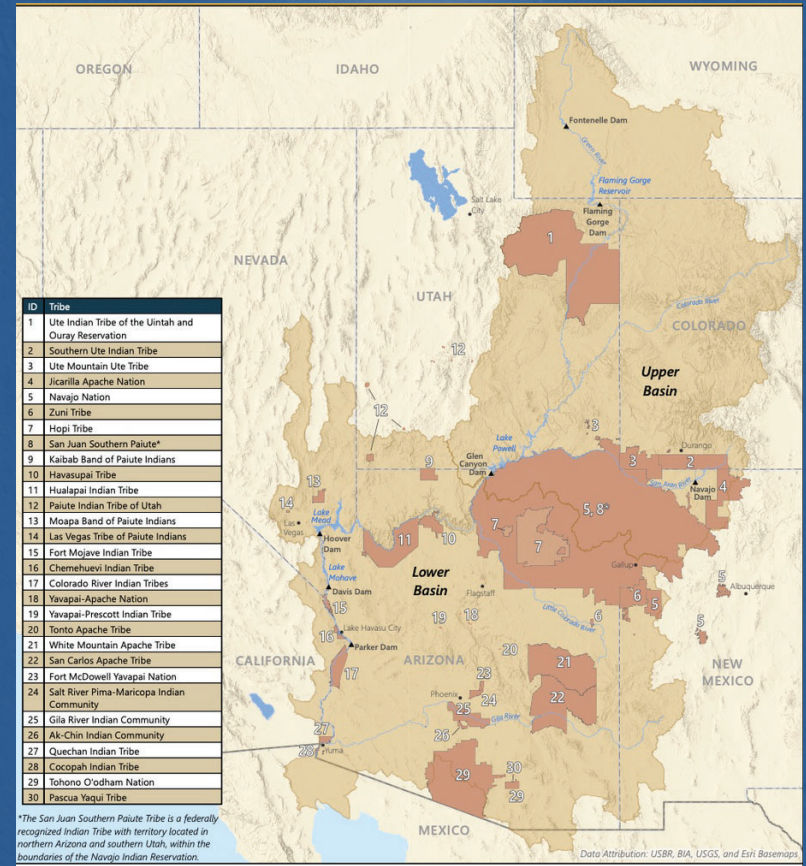
EXPERIENCED AND SEASONED LEGAL, TECHNICAL,
AND POLICY PROFESSIONALS IN WATER RESOURCES,
AND TRIBAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT.

REPRESENTATION AND ENGAGEMENT WITH THE CONGRESS AND
ADMINISTRATION IN DC, THE GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE IN
PHOENIX, AND WITH STATE OFFICIALS IN SACRAMENTO.

THE CRIT WATER TEAM TAKES DIRECTION FROM TRIBAL COUNCIL WORKING THROUGH THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.
THE WATER TEAM INCLUDES: LEAD WATER COUNSEL, SUPPORTING WATER AND LITIGATION COUNSEL, WATER ENGINEERS, WATER
ECONOMISTS, AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS SPECIALISTS.



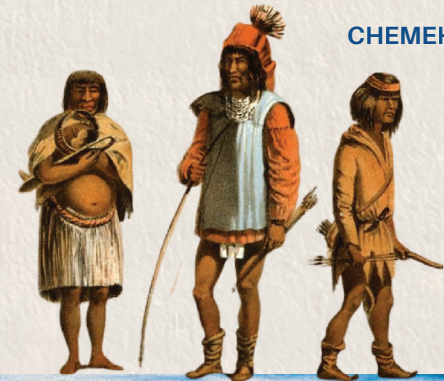
Tribal Nations in the Colorado River Basin.



Mohave & Chemehuevi



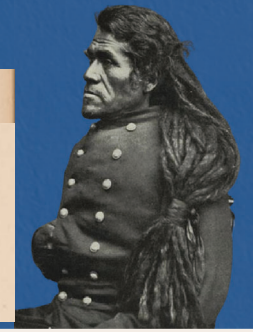
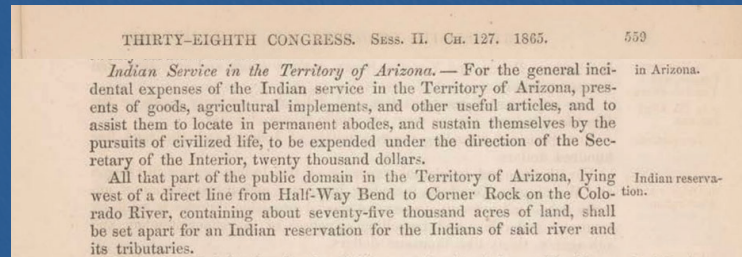
MOHAVE



CHEMEHUEVI

BEGINNING OF TIME - MOHAVE AND CHEMEHUEVI ANCESTORS LIVE ALONG THE MAIN STEM COLORADO RIVER AND ITS FLOODPLAIN, GROWING FOOD, HUNTING, AND GATHERING.

1500s

SPANISH EXPLORERS ARRIVE
IN THE SOUTHWEST

1865

PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN APPROVES AN ACT
OF CONGRESS ESTABLISHING A RESERVATION FOR
THE, "Indians of the Colorado River and its tributaries,"

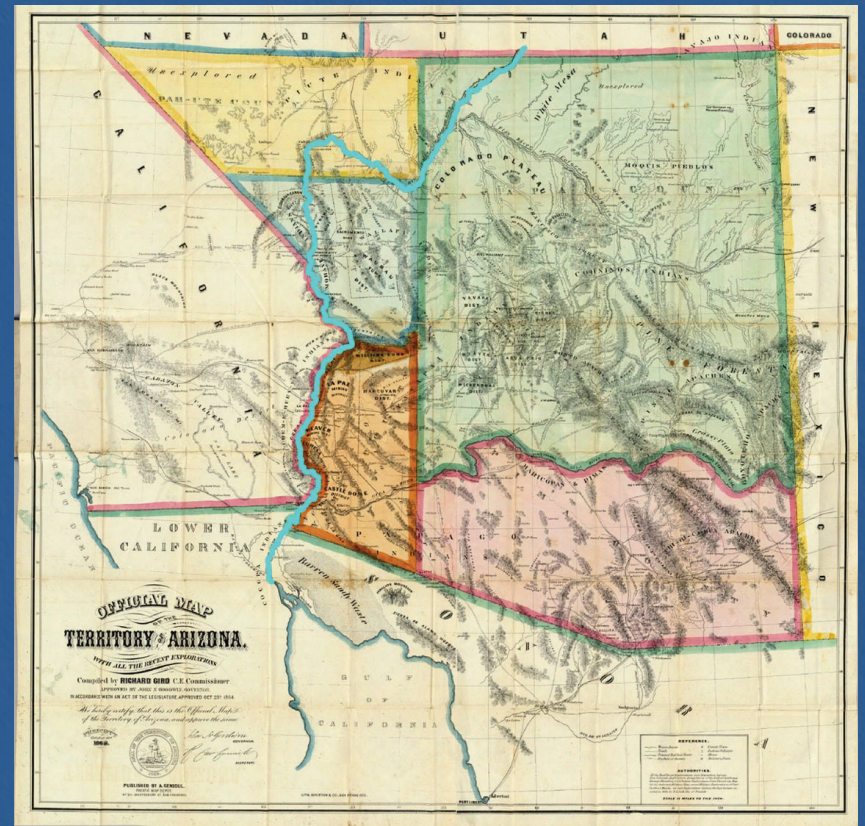


Map of the Colorado River before major Federal Infrastructure

1864 MAP



ARIZONA
TERRITORY
INCLUDES
TRIBAL
COMMUNITIES
AND LOCAL
TOWNSHIPS.

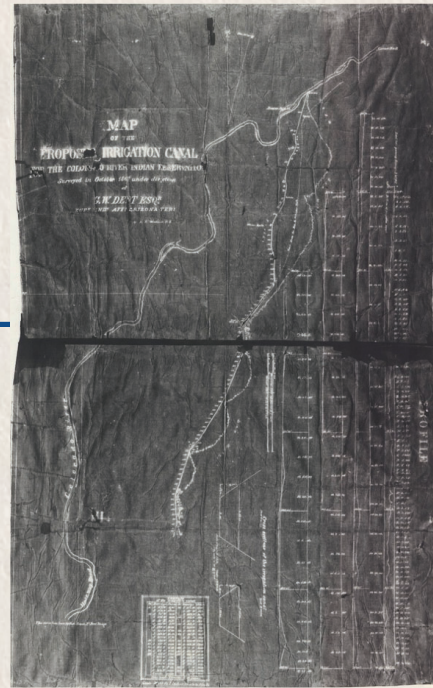


1867 Grant-Dent Canal

CONGRESS APPROPRIATED \$50,000 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE GRANT-DENT CANAL ON CRIT RESERVATION.



This was the first time congress authorized money to be spent on water resources on tribal lands.



Water Use Outside of the Basin Begins

1867



COLORADO RIVER WATER DELIVERED ACROSS CONTINENTAL DIVIDE INTO EASTERN COLORADO THROUGH THE GRAND DITCH - THE RIVER'S FIRST TRANS BASIN DIVERSION PROJECT.

1901



CALIFORNIA DEVELOPMENT CO. DIVERTS COLORADO RIVER WATER INTO IMPERIAL VALLEY.

1902

RECLAMATION SERVICE
(BUREAU OF RECLAMATION) ESTABLISHED.



1905-07

COLORADO RIVER BREAKS THROUGH IMPERIAL VALLEY CANAL,
FLOWING INTO ANCIENT LAKE CAHUILLA TO FORM WHAT IS
NOW CALLED THE SALTON SEA.





Winters v. United States

SCAN TO READ THE FULL COURT CASE



564

OCTOBER TERM, 1907.

Syllabus.

207 U. S.

phases of it—are ably dealt with in the opinion of the Court of Claims, and it would be unnecessary repetition to go over the argument or to review the cases.

Judgment affirmed.

WINTERS v. THE UNITED STATES.

APPEAL FROM THE CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT.

No. 158. Argued October 24, 1907.—Decided January 6, 1908.

The rule that all the parties must join in an appeal or writ of error unless properly detached from the right so to do applies only to joint judgments and decrees. This court has jurisdiction of an appeal taken or writ of error sued out by one of several defendants if his interest is separate from that of the other defendants.

In a suit against several defendants as trespassers in which some of them defaulted and others answered, *held*, that each defendant was a separate trespasser and that while those who defaulted were precluded from questioning the correctness of the decree entered against them, the answering defendants had nothing in common with the others and could maintain an appeal without them.

In a conflict of implications, the instruments must be construed according to the implication having the greater force; and, in the interpretation of agreements and treaties with Indians, ambiguities should be resolved from the standpoint of the Indians.

In view of all the circumstances of the transaction this court holds that there was an implied reservation in the agreement of May 1, 1888, 25 Stat. 124, with the Gros Ventre and other Indians establishing the Fort Belknap Reservation, of a sufficient amount of water from the Milk River for irrigation purposes, which was not affected by the subsequent act of February 22, 1889, 25 Stat. 676, admitting Montana to the Union, and that the water of that river cannot be diverted, so as to prejudice this right of the Indians, by settlers on the public lands or those claiming riparian rights on that river.

The Government of the United States has the power to reserve waters of a river flowing through a Territory and exempt them from appropriation under the laws of the State which that Territory afterwards becomes. 148 Fed. Rep. 684, affirmed.

1908

IN THE WINTERS V. U.S. DECISION, SUPREME COURT RULES THAT THE TREATIES CREATING RESERVATIONS FOR NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES CONVEY A RIGHT NOT ONLY TO LAND, BUT TO WATER AS WELL.

1922 Interstate Compact



IN 1922, 7 COLORADO RIVER BASIN STATES AGREED ON HOW TO SHARE THE COLORADO RIVER.

NO TRIBAL NATIONS WERE INVOLVED. THEY AGREED ON TWO BASINS- AN UPPER BASIN AND A LOWER BASIN.

7.5 MILLION ACRE-FEET TO EACH BASIN.

1944 TREATY WITH MEXICO FOR ADDITIONAL 1.5 MILLION ACRE-FEET.

1922

The Upper and Lower Basins Established.

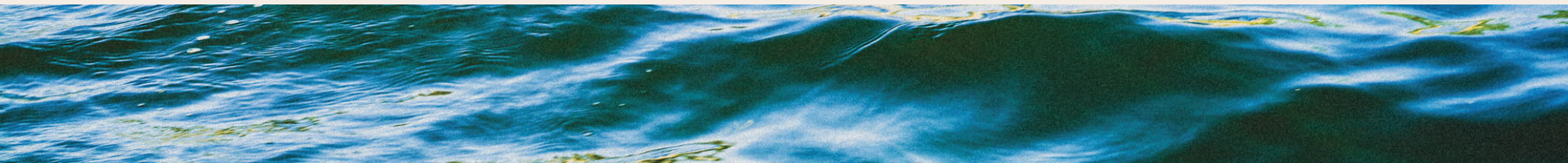


The Beginning of a Math Problem.



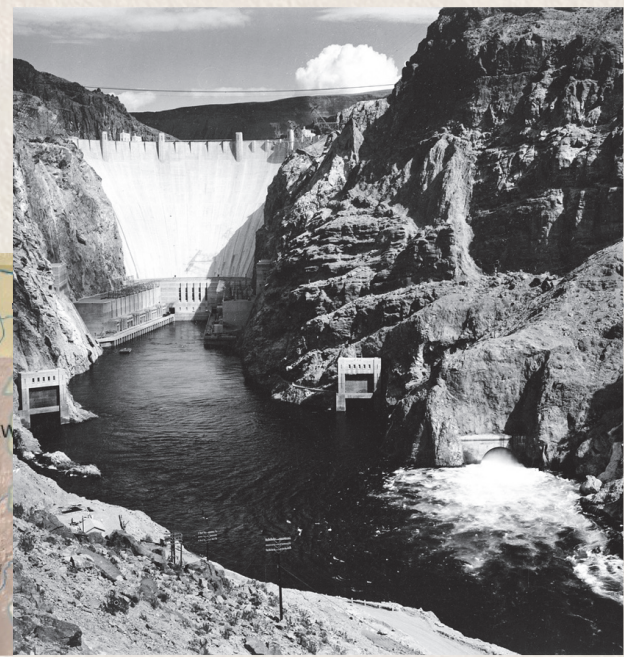
1922 THE GLASS IS THOUGHT
TO BE FULL AT 16.4 MILLION
ACRE-FEET OF WATER PER YEAR

UNDER THE COMPACT, IF EACH BASIN USES ITS FULL ENTITLEMENT, THAT
MEANS 15 MILLION ACRE-FEET OF WATER IS USED.
IN 1944, THE U.S. SIGNED A TREATY WITH MEXICO FOR 1.5 MILLION ACRE-FEET.
THIS MEANS THE RIVER WAS THOUGHT TO PROVIDE 16.5 MILLION ACRE-FEET.



Hoover Dam & the Metropolitan Colorado River Aqueduct 1928

IN 1928, CONGRESS AUTHORIZED THE CONSTRUCTION OF HOOVER DAM, WHILE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COMMUNITIES FORMED THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT TO DEVELOP THE COLORADO RIVER AQUEDUCT.



All American Canal

1940

AUTHORIZED FOR CONSTRUCTION IN 1928,
AND COMPLETED IN 1940.



Headgate Rock Dam on CRIT Reservation Completed

1941



POSTON INTERNMENT CAMP ESTABLISHED ON CRIT RESERVATION

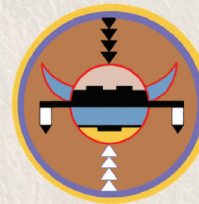
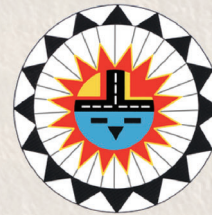


1942



1945

HOPI & NAVAJO FAMILIES
RELOCATE TO CRIT
RESERVATION



1944

U.S. AND MEXICO SIGN TREATY TO ANNUALLY ALLOCATE 1.5 MILLION ACRE-FeET OF COLORADO RIVER WATER TO MEXICO.



SIGNING OF THE 1944 WATER TREATY at Washington, D. C. on February 3, 1944. At end of table, seated, is United States Secretary of State Cordell Hull signing the document, and to his right, also seated, is Mexican Foreign Relations Secretary F. Castillo Najera. Seated to Secretary Hull's left are United States Ambassador George S. Messersmith (nearest Hull) and United States Commissioner, IBWC, Lawrence M. Lawson. To Secretary Najera's right is Rafael Fernandez McGregor, Mexican Commissioner, IBWC. Standing to the left of the door is the U. S. Section Legal Counsel Frank B. Clayton.

1948

COLORADO, WYOMING, UTAH AND NEW MEXICO SIGN UPPER COLORADO RIVER COMPACT APPORTIONING WATER AMONG THEMSELVES AND PAVING THE WAY FOR NEW WATER PROJECTS.

1956

COLORADO RIVER STORAGE PROJECT ACT APPROVES MULTIPLE PROJECTS IN THE UPPER BASIN, INCLUDING FLAMING GORGE DAM AND GLEN CANYON DAM.





Arizona v. California Consolidated Decree

1964



READ THE FULL COURT CASE HERE



READ THE FULL DECREE HERE



2006

AFFIRMS CRIT AS THE SENIOR TRIBAL RIGHT IN THE BASIN WITH RIGHTS TO 719,248 ACRE-FEET OF WATER TO IRRIGATE 107,903 ACRES OF LAND.

The United States reserved the water rights for the Indians, effective as of the time the Indian reservations were created, and these water rights, having vested before the Act became effective in 1929, are "present perfected rights," and, as such, are entitled to priority under the Act. Pp. 373 U. S. 598-600.



PRIORITY DATE IS MARCH 3RD 1865

The Colorado River Indian Reservation in annual quantities not to exceed (i) 719,248 acre-feet of diversions from the mainstream or (ii) the quantity of mainstream water necessary to supply the consumptive use required for irrigation of 107,903 acres...

THE TIMELINE



CRIT HISTORY

Central Arizona Project (CAP)

1968



CONGRESS AUTHORIZES COLORADO RIVER WATER TO BE DELIVERED FOR USE IN CENTRAL ARIZONA.

IT IS ONE OF THE BIGGEST REASONS CENTRAL ARIZONA'S CITIES, AGRICULTURE, AND ECONOMY IS ABLE TO GROW. IT ALSO MEANS MANY COMMUNITIES THAT ARE FAR FROM THE RIVER, AND HAVE JUNIOR WATER RIGHTS TO CRIT, DEPEND HEAVILY ON COLORADO RIVER WATER.

A THREE COUNTY SERVICE AREA





Ten Tribes Partnership



1992

TEN TRIBES PARTNERSHIP IS FORMED PROVIDING TRIBES A COLLECTIVE VOICE IN PROTECTION AND USE OF TRIBAL WATER RESOURCES.



1999

Interior Secretary Approves...

INTERIOR SECRETARY APPROVES RULES ALLOWING LOWER BASIN STATES TO "BANK" WATER IN ARIZONA AQUIFERS. SCIENTISTS DETERMINE YIELD OF THE COLORADO RIVER IS ONLY AN AVERAGE OF 15.2 MILLION ACRE-FEET BETWEEN 1906 AND 1999.

2000 Millennium Drought

THE "MILLENNIUM DROUGHT" BEGINS ON THE COLORADO RIVER, WHICH WILL PROVE TO BE THE WORST DROUGHT ON THE RIVER IN AT LEAST 1,200 YEARS.



The Math Problem Begins to Worsen.



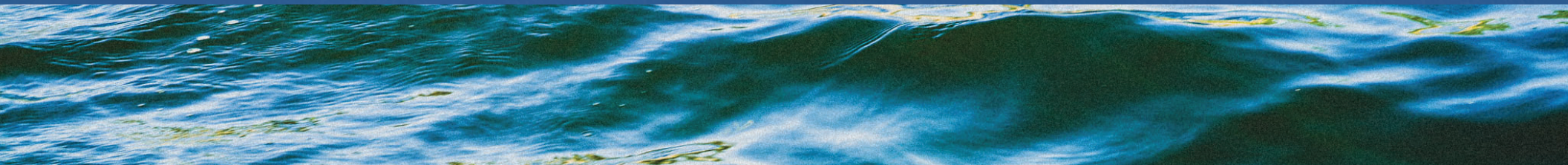
20TH CENTURY ONLY YIELDED 15.2 MILLION ACRE-FEET.

16.4 MILLION ACRE-FOOT ORIGINALLY BELIEVED IN 1922 IS NOW 15.2 MILLON ACRE-FOOT.

$16.4 - 15.2 = .1.2$ MILLION ACRE-FEET OF WATER IS MISSING

...WAS IT EVER THERE?

SCIENTISTS START TO UNDERSTAND THE RIVER WILL NOT YIELD AS MUCH AS THOUGHT.





2007

SEVEN COLORADO RIVER STATES REACH AGREEMENT ON THE "INTERIM SURPLUS GUIDELINES," A PACKAGE OF MEASURES TO HELP THEM WEATHER THE DEEPENING DROUGHT.

No Tribal Involvement.

2010

FOLLOWING A 7.2 MAGNITUDE EARTHQUAKE, MEXICO AND U.S. SIGN MINUTE 318, AN INTERIM AGREEMENT THAT ALLOWS MEXICO TO STORE PART OF ITS ALLOCATION IN LAKE MEAD WHILE IT REPAIRS DAMAGED INFRASTRUCTURE.

2012

MINUTE 319, ANOTHER SUPPLEMENT TO THE U.S.-MEXICO WATER TREATY, ALLOWS MEXICO TO STORE WATER IN LAKE MEAD AND PROVIDES FOR "PULSE FLOWS" TO HELP RESTORE THE COLORADO RIVER DELTA.

2014

A PULSE FLOW IS RELEASED FROM MEXICO'S MORELOS DAM DOWNSTREAM INTO THE COLORADO RIVER DELTA, WHERE CONSERVATION GROUPS ARE WORKING TO RESTORE SOME OF WHAT WAS ONCE MORE THAN 2 MILLION ACRES OF RIPARIAN HABITAT AND WETLANDS VITAL TO BIRDS AND WILDLIFE.

THE TIMELINE



CRIT HISTORY

2018

TEN TRIBES PARTNERSHIP WATER STUDY IDENTIFIES CONDITION OF CRIIP AS A LIMITING FACTOR FOR CRIT WATER USE.

2021

CRIT PARTICIPATES IN THE DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN TO PROVIDE 150,000 ACRE-FEET FOR LAKE MEAD TO PROTECT THE SYSTEM. THERE IS 10,000 ADDITIONAL ACRE-FEET THAT IS CONVERTED INTO A SAVINGS ACCOUNT FOR FUTURE CRIT USE. BUT THIS WATER IS ALSO SUBJECT TO SPECIAL RULES INCLUDING BEING SUBJECT TO EVAPORATION LOSSES.

2023

CONGRESS PASSES CRIT WATER RESILIENCY ACT OF 2022. RECLAMATION, INTRODUCES THE CONCEPT OF PRO-RATA SHORTAGES.

PUBLIC LAW 117-343—JAN. 5, 2023
COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBES WATER
RESILIENCY ACT OF 2022

[READ THE RESILIENCY ACT](#)



2024

CRIT SIGNS THREE PARTY AGREEMENT WITH DOI AND ARIZONA FOR OFF-RESERVATION LEASING.

2025

**Colorado River Indian Tribes
Tribal Water Code**

CRIT TRIBAL COUNCIL, AFTER EXTENSIVE COORDINATION AND CONSULTATION WITH MEMBERSHIP DECLARE THAT THE COLORADO RIVER ALIVE UNDER CRIT LAW AND ENTITLED TO PROTECTION.

[READ THE WATER CODE](#)



Tribal Council passes a comprehensive Water Code.

The Drought and the Math Gets Worse.



SCIENTISTS NOW DETERMINE AS OF 2026,
ONLY 12 MILLION ACRE-FEET.

THEREFORE, $16.4 - 12 = 4.4$ MILLION ACRE-
FEET LESS!

SCIENTISTS DETERMINE THAT FROM 2000-2026, THE YIELD OF THE RIVER IS ONLY 12 MILLION ACRE-FEET.

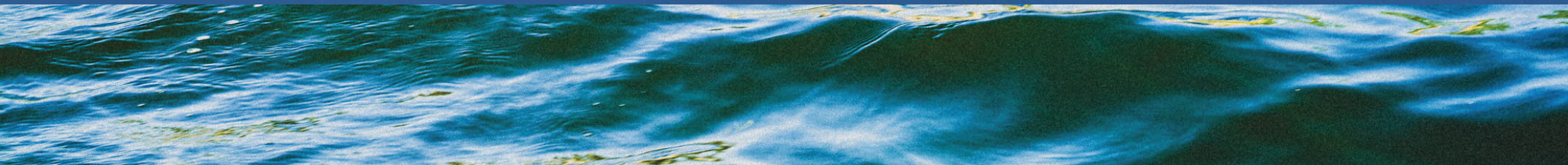
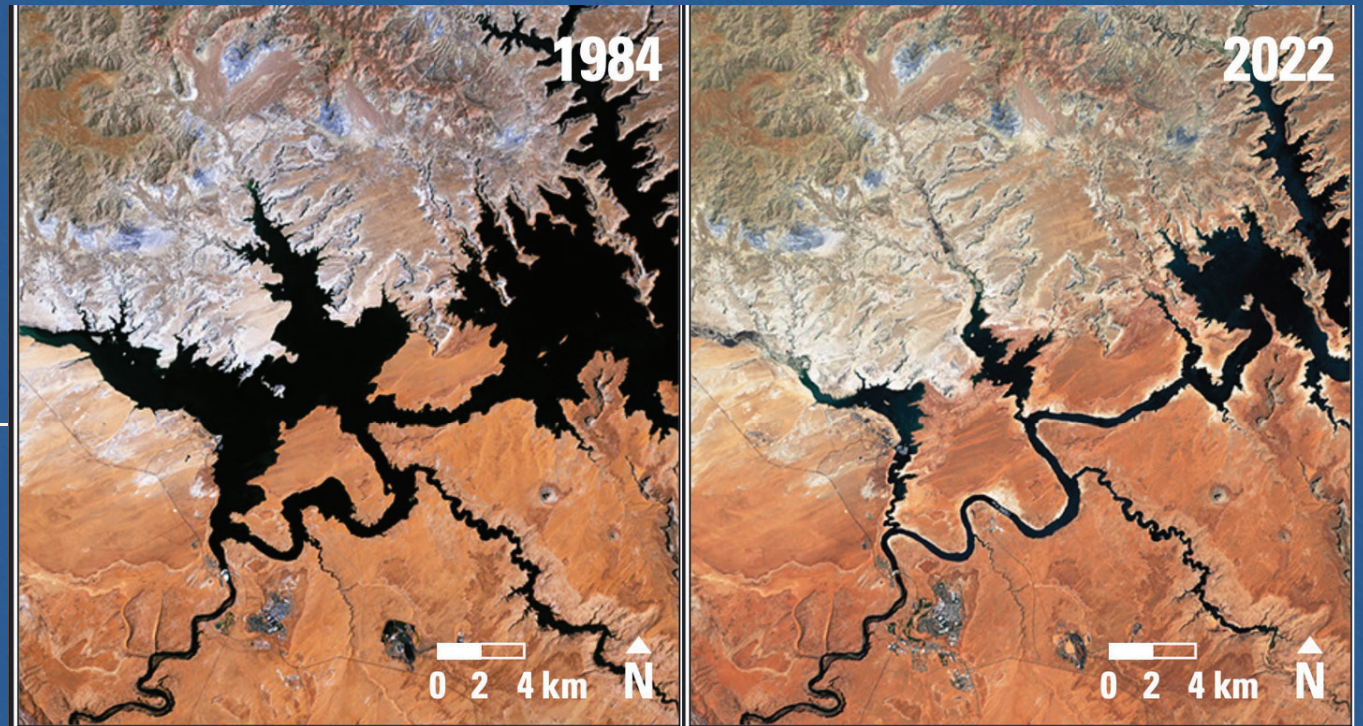


Where Colorado River Water Flows Today



Lake Powell

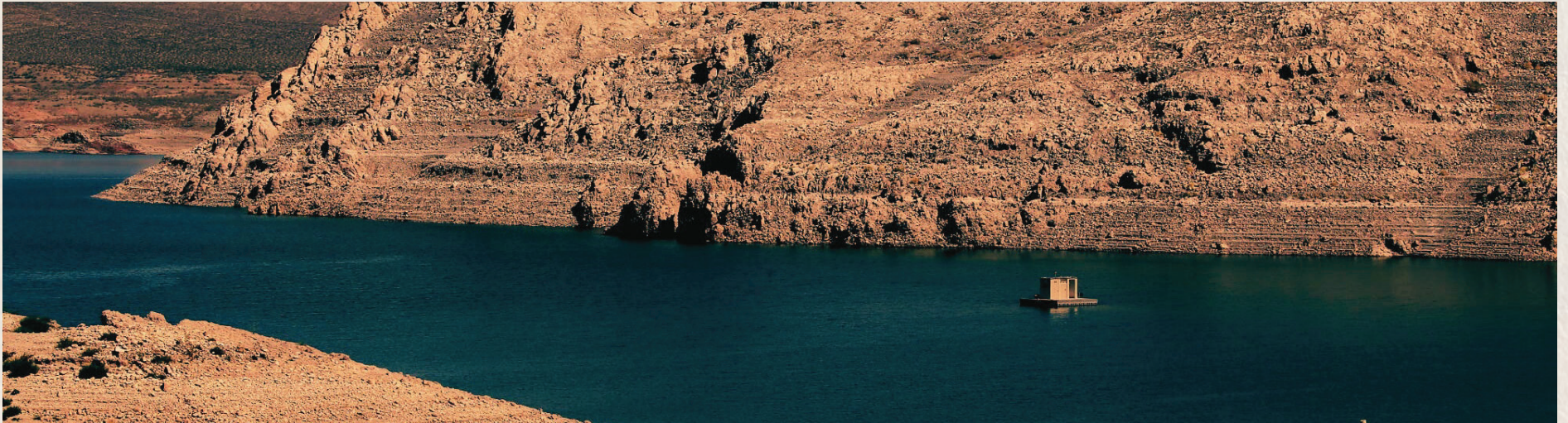
THEN AND NOW



The Rules for Lake Powell & Lake Mead.

THE RULES FOR HOW BUREAU OF RECLAMATION OPERATE LAKES MEAD AND POWELL EXPIRE ON OCTOBER 1ST OF THIS YEAR.

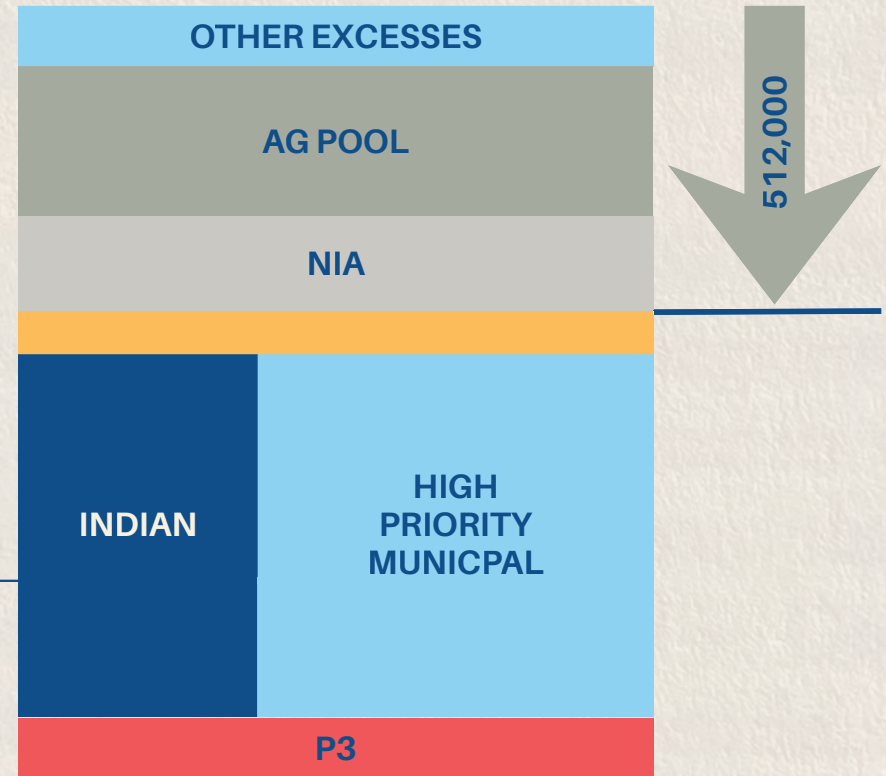
UNDER THE CURRENT PLAN, ARIZONA WILL BE REDUCED BY 512,000 ACRE-FEET. UNDER THE NEW PLAN, ARIZONA SHORTAGES ARE ANTICIPATED TO BE A MINIMUM OF 760,000 ACRE-FEET, AND COULD GO DEEPER DEPENDING ON THE HYDROLOGY.



Current Shortages

DUE TO AGREEMENTS MADE MANY YEARS AGO, THE CAP TAKES THE MAJORITY OF SHORTAGES IN THE LOWER BASIN.

CURRENTLY, CAP IS ALLOCATED A 512,000 ACRE-FOOT SHORTAGE. MOST EXPERTS AGREE THAT REDUCTIONS MUST GO DEEPER AND THAT ARIZONA MUST TAKE A MINIMUM OF 760,000 ACRE-FOOT REDUCTION!



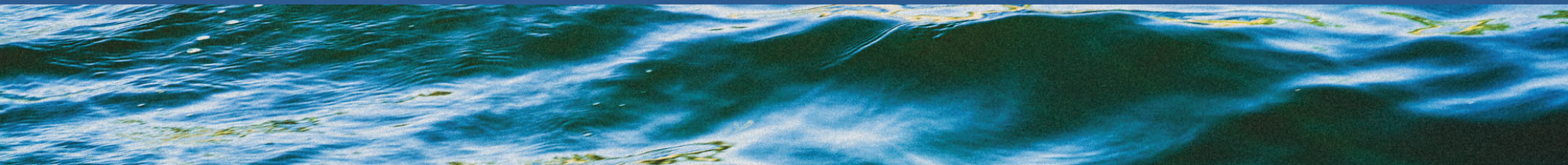
What does this mean for CRIT?



CRIT HAS THE SENIOR MOST TRIBAL RIGHTS IN THE BASIN.
UNDER THE LAW, THIS MEANS THAT CRIT IS THE LAST TO BE SHORTED.

CRIT SHOULD BE SAFE.

but are we....?





NO Pro-Rata!

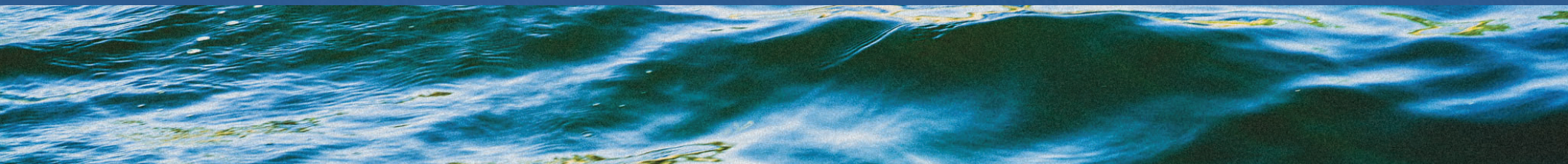
PRO-RATA IS WHEN SHORTAGES ARE ALLOCATED EQUALLY AMONG ALL WATER USERS WITHOUT REGARD TO PRIORITY DATE.

IT IS ILLEGAL AND WRONG!

RECLAMATION HAS INCLUDED PRO-RATA AS A POTENTIAL ALTERNATIVE IN ITS ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS. TRIBAL COUNCIL HAS BEEN IN STRONG OPPOSITION TO ITS INCLUSION.

AFTER INTENSE LOBBYING BY COUNCIL AND THE CRIT WATER TEAM, RECLAMATION HAS AGREED TO REMOVE PRO-RATA FROM ITS PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE IN THE FINAL EIS.

This is a major victory for CRIT! **BUT WE MUST REMAIN VIGILANT!**



CRIT Water Use



IN ARIZONA, CRIT IS ENTITLED TO DIVERT 662,402 ACRE-FEET FROM THE COLORADO RIVER, BUT IN 2025 ONLY DIVERTED 528,695 ACRE FEET.

IN CALIFORNIA, CRIT IS ENTITLED TO DIVERT 56,846 ACRE-FEET, BUT IN 2025, WE ONLY DIVERTED 3,130 ACRE-FEET.

Water that is unused is water at risk!



What is Reclamation Proposing?



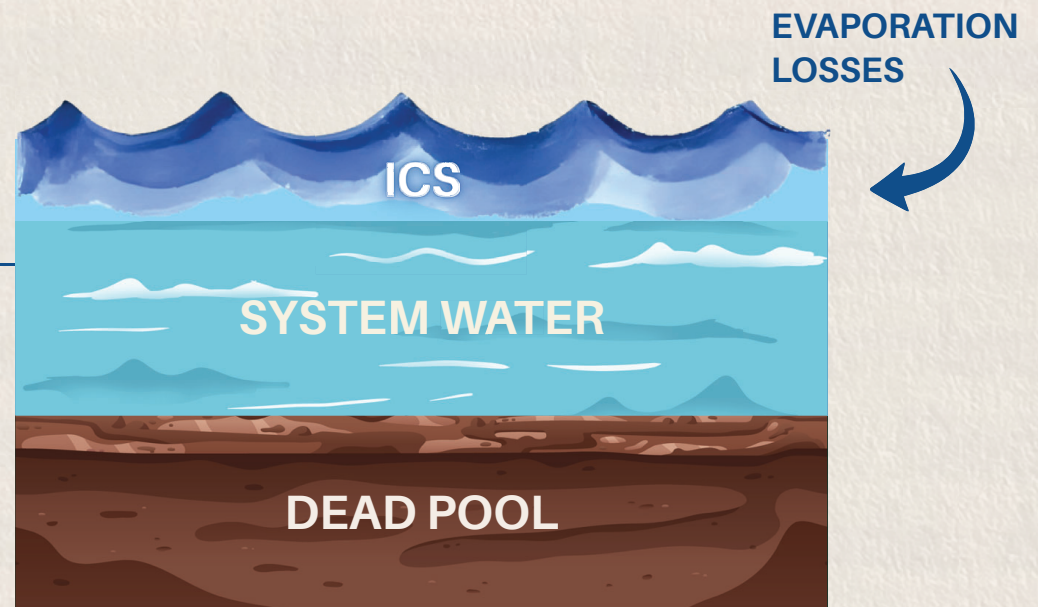
**RECLAMATION IS PROPOSING A 10-YEAR PLAN BUT BREAKING IT DOWN INTO 2- YEAR INCREMENTS TO ALLOW FOR FLEXIBILITY BASED ON HYDROLOGY.
SHORTAGE SHARING IS BASED ON VOLUNTARY AGREEMENTS- NO PRO-RATA.
RECLAMATION'S ENVIORNMENTAL ANALYSIS STATES UP TO 3 MILLION ACRE-FEET OF SHORTAGES MAY BE REQUIRED.**



Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS)

ICS IS LIKE A SAVINGS ACCOUNT FOR WATER USERS TO KEEP THEIR WATER IN LAKE MEAD FOR LATER INSTEAD OF USING IT NOW.

BUT BECAUSE THE WATER IS STORED IN LAKE MEAD, RECLAMATION ACCOUNTS FOR EVAPORATION LOSSES.





ICS Continued...

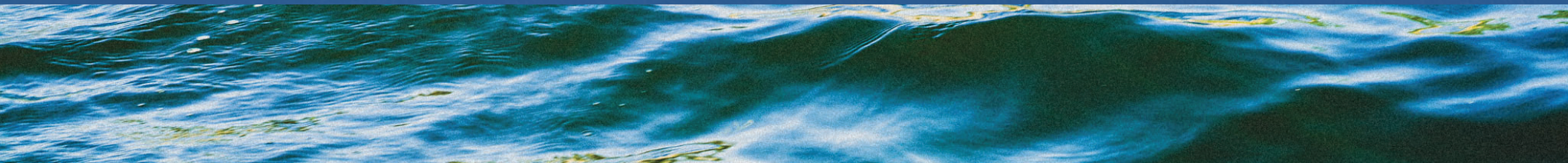
FROM 2020 TO 2022 IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST FROM THE GOVERNMENT TO PROTECT LAKE MEAD, CRIT CONSERVED 150,000 ACRE-FEET. CRIT WAS COMPENSATED FOR THIS WATER.

IN UNDERTAKING THIS CONSERVATION, CRIT CONSERVED AN ADDITIONAL 10,000 ACRE-FEET THAT WAS UNCOMPENSATED.

THIS ADDITIONAL 10,000 ACRE-FEET WAS PLACED IN AN ICS ACCOUNT.

BUT BECAUSE ICS IS SUBJECT TO EVAPORATION LOSS, THAT 10,000 ACRE-FEET IS NOW 9,000 ACRE-FEET.

TRIBAL COUNCIL IS CURRENTLY EXPLOREING WAYS TO BE COMPENSATED FOR THIS 9,000 ACRE FEET BEFORE IT SHRINKS EVEN MORE.





WHAT YOU CAN DO

Help protect CRIT's Water Resources.

Participate in the environmental review process, let your voice be heard/no pro-rata reductions!

DEVELOP MORE RESTORATION PROJECTS THAT BENEFIT FISH AND WILDLIFE, OUR LANDS, OUR WATERS, OUR PLANTS, AND OUR TREES.

CONTINUE TO EVALUATE NEW CROPS AND USES OF CRIT WATER.

CONTINUE TO COORDINATE WITH OTHER ON-RIVER TRIBES AND OTHER SENIOR WATER RIGHTS HOLDERS.

Protect your connection to the river!

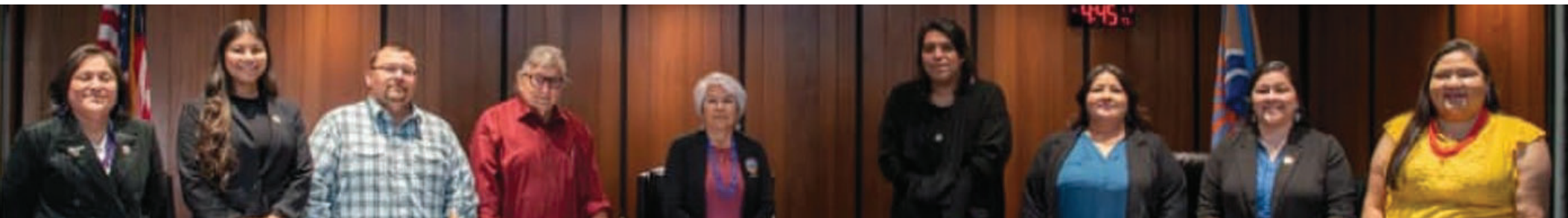
USING AS MUCH OF CRIT'S SUPREME COURT WATER ALLOCATION AS WE CAN WITHOUT WASTE, IN WAYS THAT ARE GOOD FOR CRIT'S PEOPLE, OUR LANDS, OUR ECONOMY, AND OUR CULTURE.

WORK WITH COUNCIL TO PLACE ADDITIONAL LANDS INTO PRODUCTION.

BE VIGILANT IN COLORADO RIVER MATTERS AND PROTECTING OUR WATER FROM ANYONE WHO TRIES TO TAKE IT.

Educate our young tribal members about the river, and the need to protect what we have for the future.





Actions by Tribal Council to address Water Issues

Adopted a Personhood Declaration that the River is alive and must be protected.

WE ARE REQUIRING RECLAMATION TO CONSULT WITH US ON HOW TO PROTECT THE RIVER, AND ENHANCE OUR WATER RESOURCES FOR THE BENEFIT OF FUTURE GENERATIONS, INCLUDING AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THERE ARE IMPACTS TO CRIT CULTURE WHEN COLORADO RIVER WATER IS DELIVERED TO CENTRAL ARIZONA AND THE CALIFORNIA COAST.

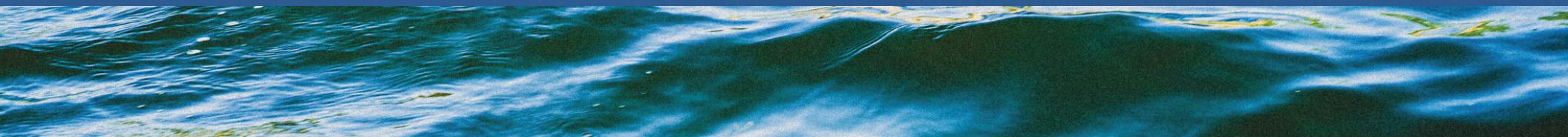
Enacted a comprehensive water code that will track water use on the reservation and provide the framework for the protection, development, and enhancement of CRIT's water resources.

AT QUAIL MESA IN ARIZONA, BRINGING 854 ACRES OF LAND INTO PRODUCTION, AND TAKING STEPS TO PROVIDE OVER 2,000 ADDITIONAL ACRES THIS YEAR.

TAKING STEPS TO ADDRESS INEFFICIENCY OF THE IRRIGATION PROJECT THROUGH DEVELOPMENT OF A RE-REGULATION RESERVOIR TO CAPTURE SPILLS.

Engaging at the highest levels with the federal and state government. Including three separate government to government consultation visits to CRIT in the last year alone!

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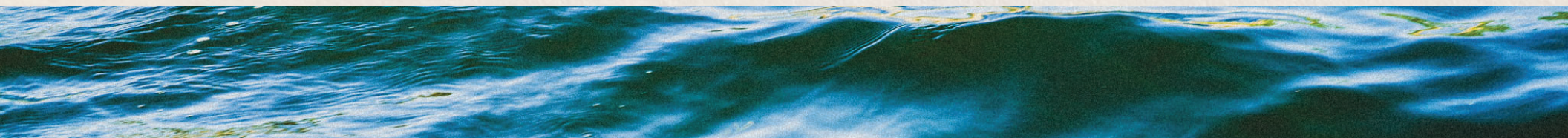
IN THE PLANNING AND DESIGN STAGES FOR A PROPOSED RIVER RESTORATION PROJECT IN CALIFORNIA.

TAKING STEPS TO ADDRESS INEFFICIENCY OF THE IRRIGATION PROJECT THROUGH DEVELOPMENT OF A RE-REGULATION RESERVOIR TO CAPTURE SPILLS THAT WILL ALSO HAVE FISH AND WILDLIFE BENEFITS.

LISTENED TO THE PEOPLE, THROUGH WATER RIGHTS DAY, SURVEYS, AND HEARING YOUR INPUT AT SATURDAY MEETINGS TO MAKE SURE THAT WE ARE DOING EVERYTHING WE CAN TO PROTECT OUR RIVER AND OUR WAY OF LIFE.

AT RAINER RANCH, CLEARING 1,178 ACRES FOR MODERN FARMING WITH MORE EFFECIENT WATER DELIVERY.

COMPLETING AN ENVIORNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS 1,500 ACRES OF ADDITIONAL AGRICULTURE IN CALIFORNIA.



Thank You

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME, ATTENTION, AND COMMITMENT TO CRIT'S FUTURE. THE COLORADO RIVER HAS ALWAYS SUSTAINED OUR PEOPLE. TOGETHER, WE CARRY THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT IT, UNDERSTAND OUR RIGHTS, AND SECURE THEM FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.

