



To: All Members of the Arizona Legislature

Re: Conservation Strengths of the Drought Contingency Plan

Dear Members:

The top priority of the Water for Arizona Coalition is passage of measures to approve the Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) by the Arizona Legislature.

We are pleased to highlight the conservation strengths of the package of proposals that make up the Arizona DCP Implementation Plan:

- The Implementation Plan maintains 400,000 acre-feet (KAF) of Offset water in Lake Mead over seven years, while only 345 KAF in CAP ICS in mitigation water will come out of Lake Mead so that Lake Mead will enjoy a net benefit. See slide 15: <http://www.cap-az.com/documents/departments/planning/colorado-river-programs/11-29-18-Steering-Committee-AZDCP-8.pdf>
- This 400KAF of water in the Offset Program comes from these sources: 150KAF contributed by the Colorado River Indian Tribes over three years, 200KAF of new Tribal ICS partially created with assistance from the Arizona Water Bank and the United States to meet future firming obligations, and a commitment to hold at least 50 KAF of ICS in Lake Mead through the period of the DCP for the purposes of a repaying SRP's contribution of mitigation water.
- In addition to AZ's contributions to the Lake in the Offset program, the multi-state DCP **adds water** to the Lake from Mexico, BOR, Nevada and California: **149 KAF** immediately upon signing (**Mexico 41 KAF, BOR 100KAF, NV 8KAF**), **138 KAF** in Tier 1 Shortage, **142 KAF** in Tier 2a, **386 KAF** in Tier 2b, and **610 KAF** in Tier 3. DCP also protects **1.5 to 2.0 MAF** of water stored as Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) in Lake Mead today and incentivizes storage of additional water in Lake Mead through the ICS program.
- The plan is balanced because CAP will order water it legally controls from Lake Mead to provide to Pinal Ag, while the System Conservation Offset Program adds more water to the lake than the CAP orders remove. In short, Arizona's DCP Implementation Plan will have a net positive benefit to the system.

The plan would establish an ongoing and collaborative process to ensure Lake Mead elevations are always protected. The plan would estimate conservation volumes needed on a yearly basis to ensure Lake Mead elevations do not fall to the point at which Arizona will experience harmful shortages.

The Water for Arizona Coalition asks for your support to pass this package.

Kevin Moran



Kim Mitchell



Sonia Perillo



Nicole Gonzalez Patterson



Jeff Odefey



The Water for Arizona Coalition is comprised of Arizonans who support policies and innovative practices to ensure a reliable water supply to meet the state's needs. Collectively, we have over 60,000 Arizona members, as well as hundreds of hunter, angler, business, and outdoor recreation partners around the state.