



Water for Arizona Coalition Applauds the Arizona House and Senate Water Committees for Approving Arizona's Drought Contingency Plan

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Contact: Barrett Coughlin, bcoughlin@azhighground.com

The Water for Arizona Coalition thanks the many members of the House Natural Resources, Energy and Water Committee, and the Senate Water and Agriculture Committee for advancing the Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) unanimously in the House, and by a vote of six to one in the Senate. We also commend the many cities, towns, Tribes, farmers, businesses and individuals who have tirelessly advocated to get the DCP across the finish line. The Coalition applauds the collaborative efforts made by Governor Doug Ducey, House Speaker Rusty Bowers, President of the Senate Karen Fann, Arizona Department of Water Resources, Central Arizona Project, and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) to move Arizona toward a more secure water future.

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 Intentionally Created Surplus (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-SteeringCommittee-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 repaying Salt River Project's contribution of mitigation water.
- In addition to Arizona's contributions to Lake Mead in the Offset program, the multi-state DCP adds water to the Lake from Mexico, USBR, 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 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 County Agriculture, 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 Water for Arizona Coalition looks forward to swift passage in the full House of Representatives and Arizona State Senate.

About the Water for Arizona Coalition

The Water for Arizona Coalition comprises Arizonans who support policies and innovative practices to ensure a reliable water supply to meet the state's needs. Organizational support is provided by solution-oriented groups like Business for Water Stewardship, American Rivers, Audubon Arizona, Environmental Defense Action Fund, and Western Resource Advocates, which collectively have over 60,000 Arizona members, as well as hundreds of hunters, anglers, and outdoor recreators across the state. Kevin Moran, a long-time Arizonan and former government relations consultant, is the Chairman of the Coalition.

www.waterforarizona.com