

The Colorado River... A Balanced Approach for Reducing Water Use

The proposal supported by Metropolitan Water District and its California agricultural partners provides practical and achievable reductions to stabilize reservoir levels.

California's Proposal: The Best Path Forward

- Provides near-term water reductions
- Maximizes agricultural conservation partnerships
- Provides environmental and habitat benefits along the River
 - Incentivizes even more conservation
 - Advances new voluntary conservation commitments
 - Preserves clean energy for Western states
 - Helps to avoid litigation by working within existing laws and previous agreements
 - Respects the Republic of Mexico's 1944 Treaty and encourages working with Tribal Nations.

Key Facts: How the Colorado River Benefits Southern California

Supplies water to more than 20 million people and supports a nearly \$2 trillion economy

Provides water and hydroelectric power for seven counties

Irrigates 600,000 acres of farmland, supporting a \$6.2 billion farm economy in Riverside and Imperial Counties

Supports the Lower Colorado multi-species conservation plan, the Salton Sea and other programs to restore critical habitat and protect species.

Prevents devastating water shortages in Southern CA when snowpack in Northern CA is sparse

California and its partners in the Colorado River Basin must continue to adapt so that the river can keep providing essential economic, social, and environmental benefits to the region.

Beneficiaries of the Colorado River Water Supply



ENVIRONMENT



CITIES



AGRICULTURE



INDUSTRY



TRIBES

Colorado River Aqueduct

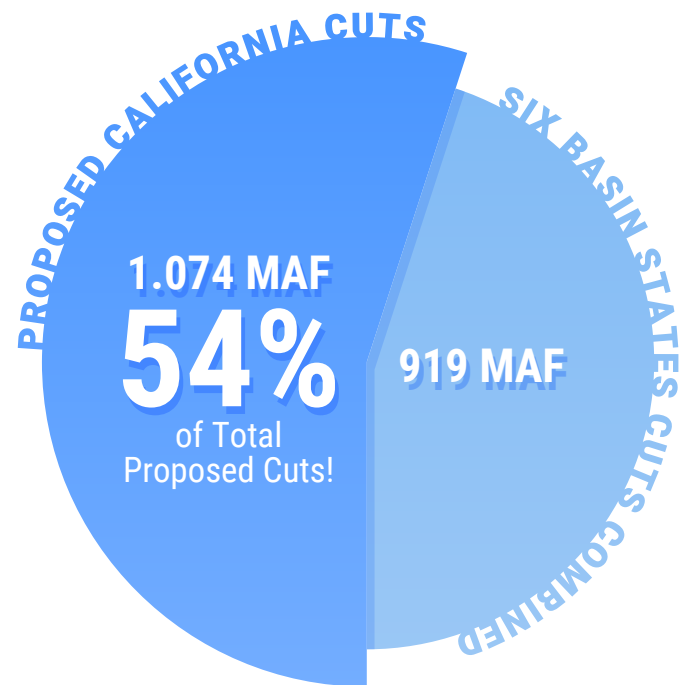
The Six-State Agreement: A Flawed Proposal

Nearly half of the people who rely on Colorado River water live in Southern California. But rather than fairly sharing the necessary reductions, the six-state proposal would make the **biggest, and disproportionately large cuts to farms and California cities.**

Gutting these water supplies to California in this way would disincentivize additional conservation to benefit river users, create a new shortage plan, guarantee litigation by deviating from federal law and be **devastating to the state's economy, the natural environment and residents.** This harms disadvantaged communities both in the cities and rural communities that depend on the Colorado River.

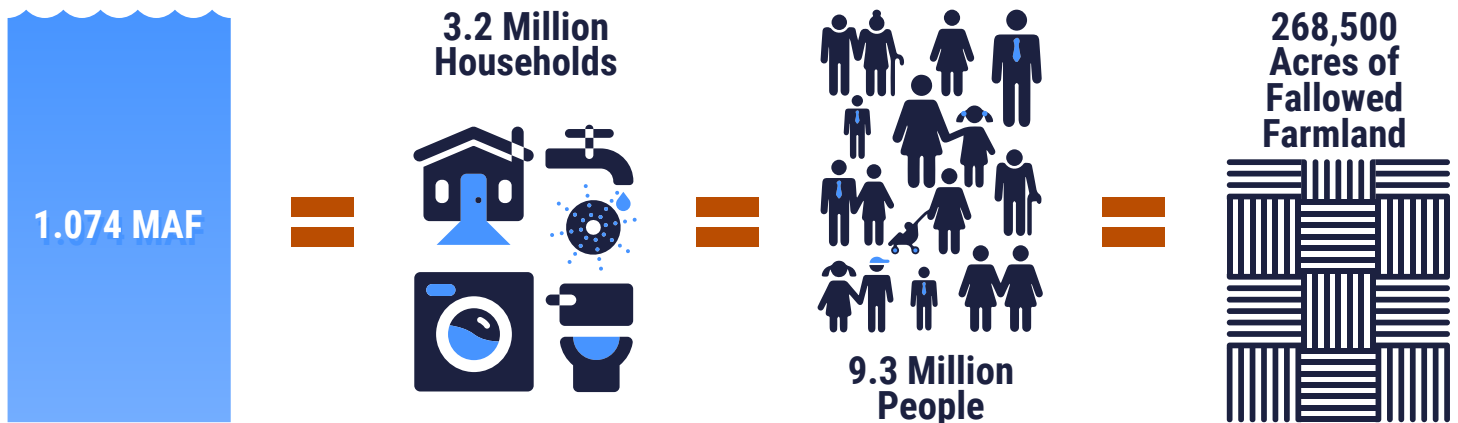
Impacts to California from Proposed Cuts in Six-State Proposal

On top of existing shortages and Drought Contingency Plan cuts, the total amount proposed for new cuts is 1.993 million acre-feet, with **California absorbing 54%** with 1.074 MAF of cuts.



"Rather than simply agreeing to cuts, we want to develop sustainable solutions, like our Pure Water Southern California recycling program."

- Adel Hagekhalil, Metropolitan General Manager



Conservation as a California Way of Life

California knows how to permanently reduce use of the River through billions of dollars in investments and hard-earned partnerships. This commitment to sustainability and conservation has added more than 488 trillion gallons and 19 feet of elevation to the water level at Lake Mead since 2007.