



# **Provisional Accounting MOU**

**Upper Division States &  
Bureau of Reclamation**

**Colorado River Authority of Utah  
Marc K. Stilson, P.E., Principal Engineer**

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# Upper Division States

- 2025 / 2026
- Implement Conservation & Demonstration Projects (Qualifying Activities)
- Verify & Account for Volumes of Conserved Water
- Seek Credit for Conserved Water that Flows to and is Stored in Upper Colorado River Basin Reservoirs







## Qualifying Activities

- Result in Reductions in Use or Demand of Water Supplies
- Inform Accounting Procedures
- Yields Other Helpful Information
- Initiated on or before December 31, 2026



# Criteria for Qualifying Activities

- **Regulatory Considerations**
  - Easy or Difficulty of Implementation
  - Required Permits / Approvals
- **Volume & Timing Considerations**
  - Quantity of Water
  - Yield Helpful Information
- **Quantifiable Reductions**
  - Water Use or Demand
  - Inform Accounting Procedures
  - Provide Multiple Benefits







# Selection Process

- **States Identify Qualifying Activities**  
– **Coordination or Input from DWRi / DWRe / UDAF / Others**
- **Notify other Upper Division States (UDS) through UCRC**
- **UDS, through UCRC, Select Qualifying Activities (QA) for inclusion in Provisional Accounting**
- **UDS/UCRC propose to Reclamation selected QA**







# Accounting Protocol & Process

- **Conservation Projects**
  - **Conserved Consumptive Use (CCU) – Irrigated Agricultural Projects**
    - OpenET – eeMetric v. 2.3
    - Processes used in 2023/24 SCPP
    - Other Methods
- **Demonstration Projects**
  - **State-derived Estimate of Volume of Water to Consider for PA including CCU if applicable**
    - Other Methods







## Calculation of Losses

- **Proximity to Upper Colorado River Basin Reservoir**
- **Intervening Points of Diversion**
- **Conveyance Losses**
- **Timing of Activity**
- **Other Considerations**





# **Calculation of Evaporation & Spills at UCRB Reservoirs**

- **State-derived Estimate Consistent with Reclamation's Methods, or**
- **Justification for Using other Data / Methods**







## Timeline

- **UCRC convene Mid-Year “Check-in”**
- **60-Days After Completion of QA, State Provides UCRC draft Provisional Accounting**
- **UDS Review**
- **Within 90-Days of UDS Review, Parties will Jointly Review**
- **Reclamation w/ UDS Prepare Report**







# **Conversion of Provisional Accounting into Credit**

**Will be Negotiated with Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), may include:**

- **Agreements executed by UDS and BOR in conjunction with Post-2026 operations of Lakes Powell and Mead**
- **Agreements executed in accordance with DMSA**
- **Consultation with Lower Division States**







*Defending Every Drop*



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