

## **Colorado River Facts**

- From its source on the western slopes of the Rocky Mountains, the Colorado River flows 1,450 miles before it empties into the Gulf of California.
- The river and its tributaries drain parts of Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming, and part of Mexico.
- The Colorado River Basin contains 242,000 square-miles in the United States (about 8% of the continental U.S) and 2,000 square-miles in Mexico.



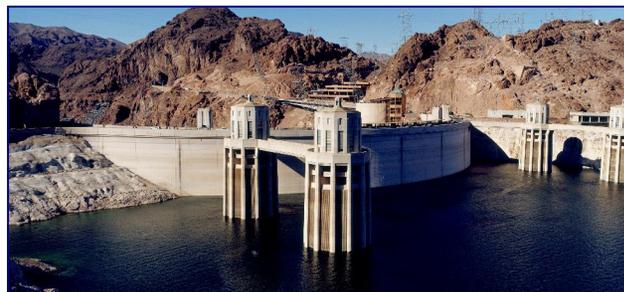
- The Colorado River supplies water to nearly 30 million people.
- The average yearly flow of the Colorado River is approximately 15 million acre-feet. Historically, the river has fluctuated from nearly 24 million acre-feet to as little as 5 million acre-feet.
- The name Colorado means “red-colored” in Spanish, a name given to the river because of the large amount of red silt it carried.
- The major tributaries of the Colorado River include the San Juan, Green, Gunnison, Virgin and Gila among others.



### **COLORADO RIVER COMMISSION OF NEVADA**

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# COLORADO RIVER COMMISSION OF NEVADA



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The **Colorado River Commission of Nevada (CRCN)** has broad statutory authority to establish policy for the management of Nevada's allocation of hydroelectric power and water resources from the Colorado River. The CRCN, a state agency, is supported entirely by the payments of its customers.

Objectives of the CRCN include:

- Optimize, through prudent management practices, the benefits and uses of the Colorado River water resources as a cooperative effort with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the other six Colorado River Basin states.
- Work cooperatively with the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) and others to acquire additional water supplies for Nevada.
- Design, construct, operate and manage the power delivery system to provide the power supply to water pumping and treatment facilities constructed by the SNWA.
- Provide efficient and reliable electric power services to Colorado River Commission customers.
- Protect the interests of Nevada by managing electric power supplies for the CRCN's customers and participating in a variety of forums dealing with power, renewable energy, water and environmental issues.
- Be a leading participant in the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program in order to develop and implement projects for the conservation and recovery of endangered species within the Lower Colorado River Basin while optimizing power generation and water resource development.



**The mission of the Colorado River Commission of Nevada is to serve the communities of the State by responsibly managing and protecting our Colorado River water and power resources.**

## Water

The CRCN holds and protects the rights of the State of Nevada to its share of Colorado River water under federal law.

The Commission represents the State of Nevada before federal, interstate and international discussions regarding the management and operations of the Colorado River, including discussions regarding the development of Lower Colorado River Basin Shortage Guidelines and Coordinated Management Strategies for the Operation of Lakes Powell and Mead under certain reservoir conditions.

In addition, the CRCN actively participates in programs such as the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Program, the Glen Canyon Adaptive Management Program, and the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum. It provides information and addresses environmental and economic issues related to Nevada's water and power allocations of the Colorado River.



## Power

The CRCN is responsible for managing Nevada's allocation of hydroelectric power generated and marketed by the federal government. Nevada's allocation of hydroelectric power from Hoover, Parker and Davis Dams, and the Salt Lake City Area Integrated Project is purchased by the CRCN and delivered to industrial and wholesale customers in southern Nevada. CRCN's power customers include the City of Boulder City, Lincoln County Power District No. 1, NV Energy, Overton Power District No. 5, Valley Electric Association, the Southern Nevada Water Authority, and the industries comprising the Basic Management Industrial Complex near Henderson, Nevada.

On behalf of the State of Nevada, the CRCN owns, operates and maintains:

- 17 high-voltage substations
- 32 miles of 230-kV overhead transmission lines
- 4 miles of 69-kV overhead transmission lines
- 11 miles of 69-kV underground transmission lines

In addition, CRCN operates and maintains 7 substations owned by the SNWA and 3 owned by the Clark County Water Reclamation District.

