

Basin Wide Study: Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand Study

Bureau of Reclamation

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The Upper and Lower Colorado Regions of the Bureau of Reclamation along with representatives from the seven Colorado River Basin States have been involved in the “Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand Study” (Study), which began in January 2010. The purpose of the Study is to define current and future imbalances in water supply and demand in the Colorado River Basin and adjacent areas that receive Colorado River water through the year 2060, and to develop and analyze adaptation and mitigation strategies to resolve those imbalances.

The Study approach used to characterize the uncertainties in future water supply and demand imbalances in the Colorado River Basin is based on scenario planning. The overall framework employed for this planning approach will be presented along with an overview of the next steps which include system reliability analysis and development and evaluation of opportunities to balance supply and demand.