

# RECLAMATION

*Managing Water in the West*

## Colorado River Management Work Group (CRMWG)

### Consultation

**“Addressing Processes and Mechanisms to  
Address Management Challenges on the  
Colorado River”**

**May 26, 2005**



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Reclamation

# CRMWG

## Process Consultation Meeting

- Welcome and Introductions – Bob Johnson and Rick Gold
- Purpose of Meeting
- Discussion Regarding Issues/Processes
- Conclusion and Wrap-up

# Purpose of Meeting

- Reclamation charged to convene meeting in Secretarial letter of May 2, 2005
- Consultation on appropriate processes and mechanisms to address drought and other management challenges
- Examples of management challenges:
  - Drought
  - Decreasing system storage
  - Increasing demands

# Timing

- Potential for continued drought addressed in May 2, 2005 Secretarial letter
- Reclamation directed to issue Federal Register notice by June 15, 2005
- Goal: complete process by December 2007

# Matters to be Addressed

- Lower Basin shortage guidelines
- Lake Mead/Lake Powell operations at low reservoir conditions
- Other?

# Approach

- Develop additional operational tools for Reclamation to apply in its annual operations
- Address potentially resolvable issues
- Avoid “unnecessary, protracted or destabilizing litigation”

# Process Options

- Implement through AOP
- Modify LROC
- Formal rulemaking
- Interim guidelines
- Other?

# Process Considerations

- Public process
- Consideration of alternatives
- Interim vs. permanent
- Recognize on-going States discussions
- Other?

Goal: complete process by December 2007

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An aerial photograph of a large concrete dam and its reservoir. The dam is a curved structure in the foreground, with several spillways. The reservoir is a deep blue-green color, surrounded by rugged, brown mountains. The sky is clear and blue. The text is overlaid on the upper part of the image.

**2005 Colorado River Annual  
Operating Plan  
Colorado River Management Work  
Group (CRMWG)  
Process Consultation  
May 26, 2005**

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