

**SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 21, 2013
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER 9:01 a.m., SNWA Board Chambers, Southern Nevada Water Authority
100 City Parkway, Seventh Floor, Las Vegas, Nevada

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT Shari Buck, Chair
Mary Beth Scow, Vice Chair
Sam Bateman
Susan Brager
Bob Coffin
Duncan McCoy
Steve Sisolak

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT None

STAFF PRESENT Pat Mulroy, Greg Walch, John Entsminger, Ron Zegers, Phil Speight, Marc Jensen

OTHERS PRESENT

Unless otherwise indicated, all members present voted in the affirmative.

COMMENTS BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Gary Perea, Baker, Nevada, noted his concerns about board meetings being held every other month and offered suggestions to receive additional information and public comment regarding the Authority's Clark, Lincoln and White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project.

1. Approval of Agenda & Minutes

FINAL ACTION: A motion was made by Director Brager to approve the agenda for this meeting and the minutes of the regular meeting of February 21, 2013. The motion was approved.

2. Approve an intergovernmental agreement between the Regional Municipality of Halton and the Authority for a joint study on bromate formation within a water treatment system, and accept funds in the amount of \$49,900 for this research work.

FINAL ACTION: A motion was made by Director Brager to follow staff's recommendation. The motion was approved.

3. Approve an agreement between Clarkson University and the Authority for a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency-awarded project on a drinking-water treatment technology for small systems, and accept funds in the amount of \$88,000 for this research work.

Director Coffin asked what is required of small systems for water treatment, beyond standard drinking water treatment practices. Ron Zegers, Director of Engineering and Operations, explained that the approach is to develop a simpler system. Director Coffin asked if this type of treatment would be any benefit to Southern Nevada's local purveyors. Mr. Zegers explained that additional treatment would still be required due to organic content after wastewater treatments. Director Coffin asked what additional steps are needed. Ms. Mulroy noted that declining lake elevations in Lake Mead will require additional treatment techniques, paired with stricter Safe Drinking Water Act regulations, which will also impact drinking water treatment systems.

FINAL ACTION: A motion was made by Director Brager to follow staff's recommendation. The motion was approved.

4. Make appointments to the Advisory Committee for Groundwater Management in the Las Vegas Valley Groundwater Basin.

Ms. Mulroy noted that the individuals recommended for appointment included John Hiatt, Richard Avila, Trent Scarlett, Stacey Lindburg, Kumiko-Katie Moore, Kelli Ross and Kirk Medina

Director Sisolak asked if the process for appointment was made public. Ms. Mulroy noted that it was a public application process, advertised to all well owners through a direct mailing. Director Brager asked that in the future, the application be available on the city and county websites. She also wanted to confirm that all well owners – not just the community well user who received the power bill – received notification of the committee appointments. John Entsminger, Senior Deputy General Manager, confirmed all well owners received notification.

FINAL ACTION: A motion was made by Director Brager to follow staff's recommendation. The motion was approved.

5. Receive an update from staff on water resources including, but not limited to, drought conditions in the Colorado River Basin, the results of the implementation of the Authority's Water Resource and Conservation Plans, activities on the Colorado River, the development of in-state water resources, and the status of the third intake project.

Director Coffin asked about potential legislation regarding oversight of the Authority. Pat Mulroy noted that a hearing is set for April 1, 2013, to discuss the issue. Ms. Mulroy noted the challenges of additional oversight, and noted that the Integrated Resource Planning Advisory Committee is working to address many of the concerns that came from the last water rate increase. Director Sisolak noted that legislators should be made aware of how Public Utility Commission oversight could jeopardize the Authority's bond covenants.

John Entsminger, Senior Deputy General Manager, provided the Board with an update of drought conditions and local water use information. A copy of his presentation is included with these minutes.

Director Sisolak asked how many acre-feet are attributed to one foot of elevation in Lake Mead. Mr. Entsminger noted that in the upper elevations of Lake Mead (1,075 feet and above), one foot is approximately 100,000 acre-feet. In lower elevations (1,075 feet and below), it's approximately 80,000 acre-feet. Director Sisolak asked about the water quality in different elevations. Mr. Zegers noted that higher lake elevations produce better water quality. When Lake Mead elevations hit 1,075 feet, Mr. Zegers stated that the Authority's approach to water treatment will change.

Director Bateman asked what other states are doing in regards to infrastructure and planning for water shortages. Ms. Mulroy outlined the strategies of other Colorado River basin states including desalination in San Diego, California, groundwater banking in Arizona and watering restrictions in Denver, Colorado.

Marc Jensen provided the Board with an update on Intake No. 3. The connector tunnel project between the new intake and the existing intakes is progressing – the contractor has less than 40 feet before making the connection. The contractor for Intake No. 3 is still performing maintenance activities on the tunnel boring machine.

NO ACTION REQUIRED

Public Comment

Gary Perea, Baker, Nevada, noted his concerns about declining lake levels and groundwater tables. He discussed his involvement with the Central Nevada Regional Water Authority, its mission and its annual meeting, the Great Basin Water Forum. He extended an invitation to Board members to attend the meeting and participate in a tour of Owens Valley, hosted by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

APPROVED:

Shari Buck, Chair

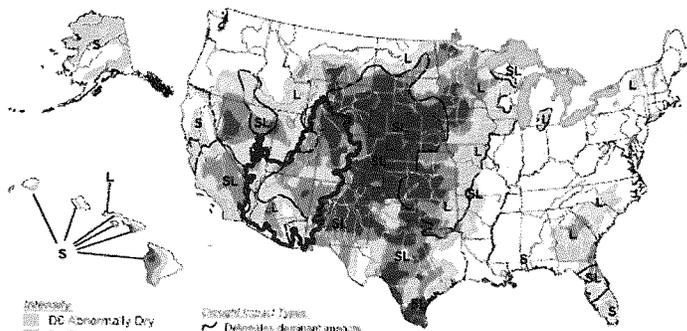
Patricia Mulroy, General Manager

Update on Drought Conditions and Water Use

March 21, 2013



Drought Monitor



- Intensity:**
- D0 Abnormally Dry
 - D1 Drought - Moderate
 - D2 Drought - Severe
 - D3 Drought - Extreme
 - D4 Drought - Exceptional

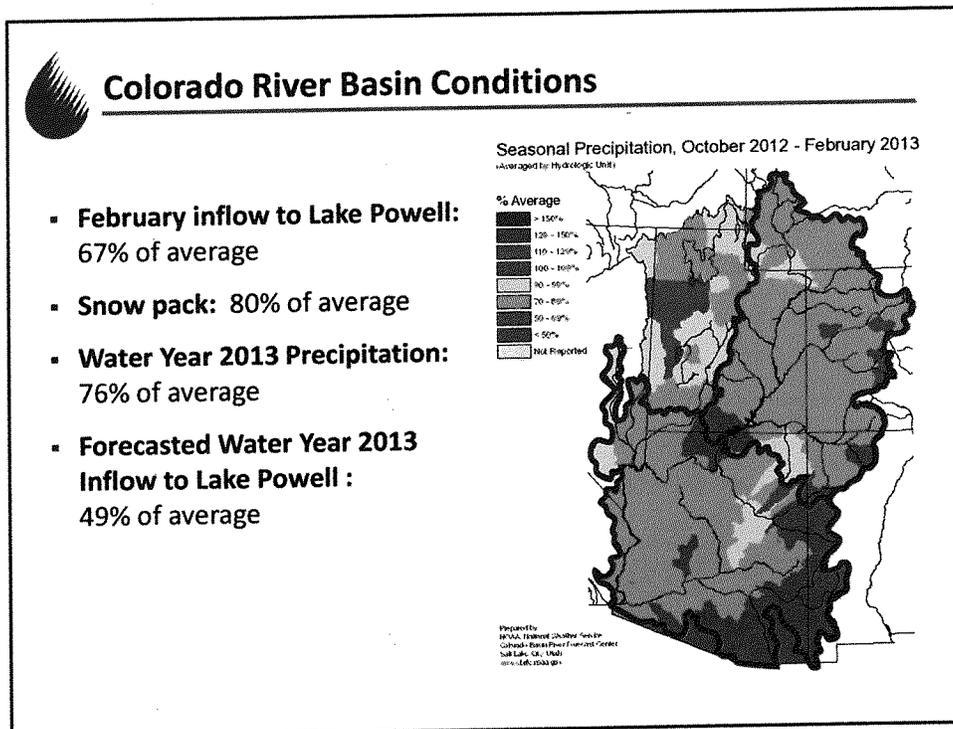
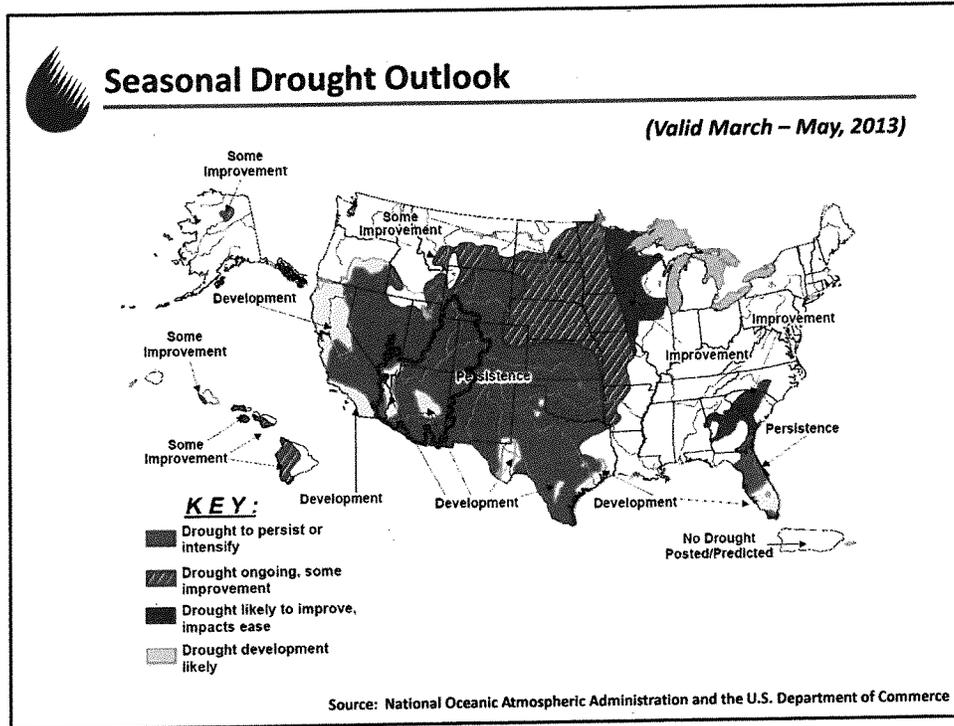
- Classified Crop Types:**
- Delineates dominant cropland
 - S = Short-Term, typically <6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
 - L = Long-Term, typically >6 months (e.g. hydrologic ecology)

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>



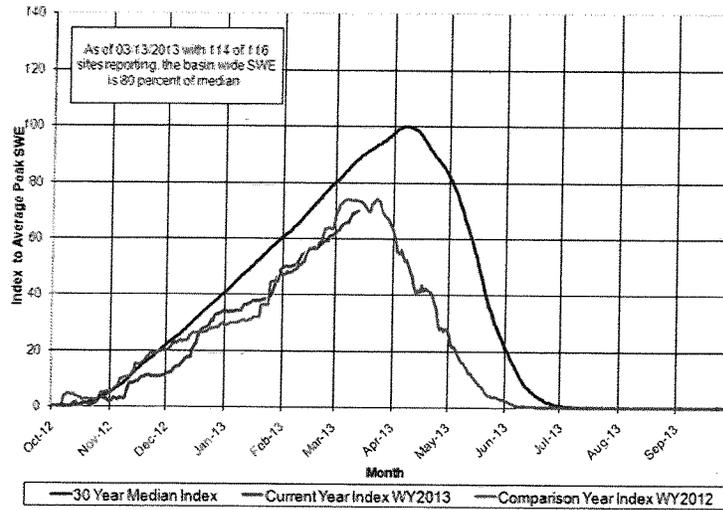
Released Thursday, March 14, 2013
Author: Matthew Rosencrans, NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC





Upper Colorado River Basin Snow Accumulation

Upper Colorado River Basin Snotel Tracking
Aggregate of 116 Snotel Sites above Lake Powell



Precipitation and Inflow Forecast – Lake Powell

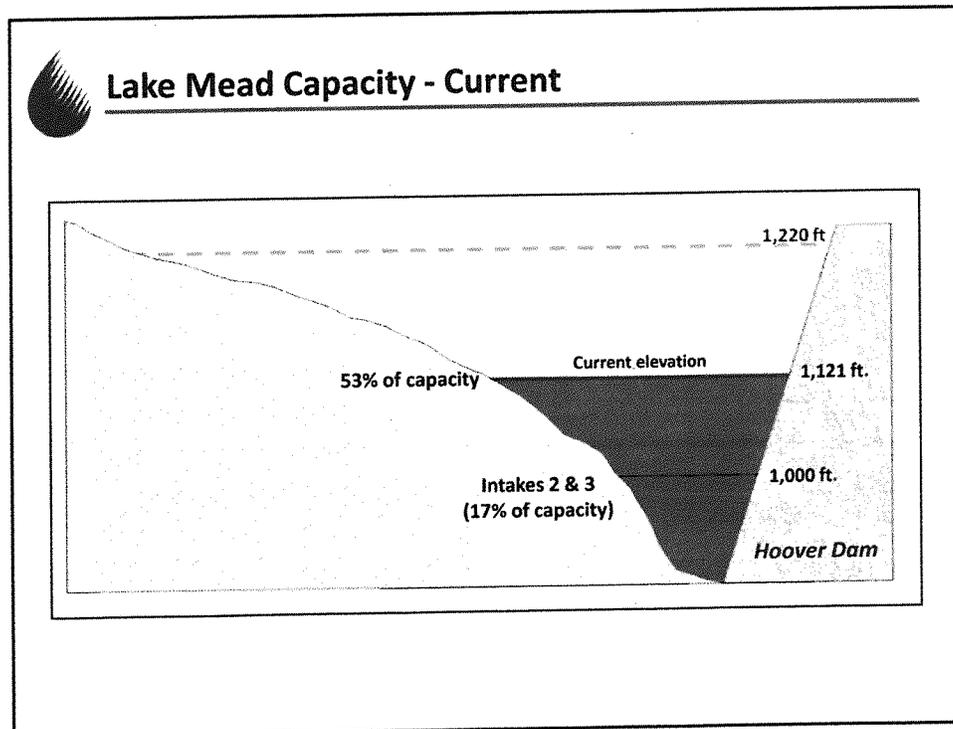
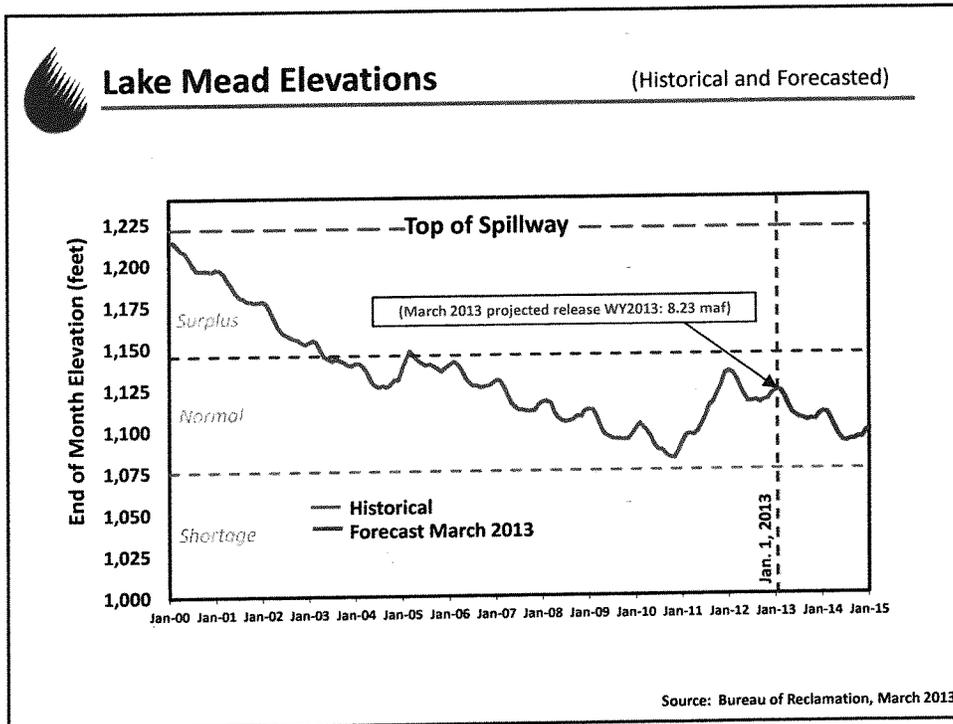
2012 Water Year

Month	Actual Precipitation	Inflows Forecast
Jan	75%	79%
Feb	84%	78%
Mar	86%	80%
Apr	78%	63%
May	74%	51%
Jun	71%	47%
Jul	71%	46%
Aug	74%	48%
Sept	74%	46%
Actual	74%	45%

2013 Water Year

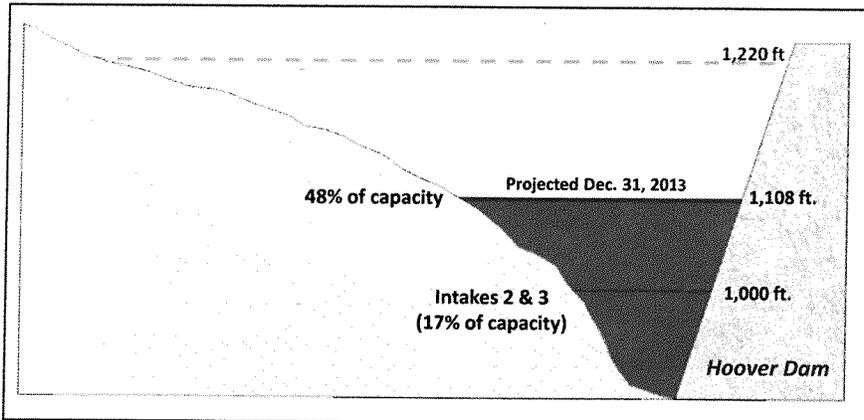
Month	Actual Precipitation	Inflows Forecast
Jan	72%	61%
Feb	78%	54%
Mar	76%	49%
Apr		
May		
Jun		
Jul		
Aug		
Sept		
Actual		

Source: Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Water Supply Reports

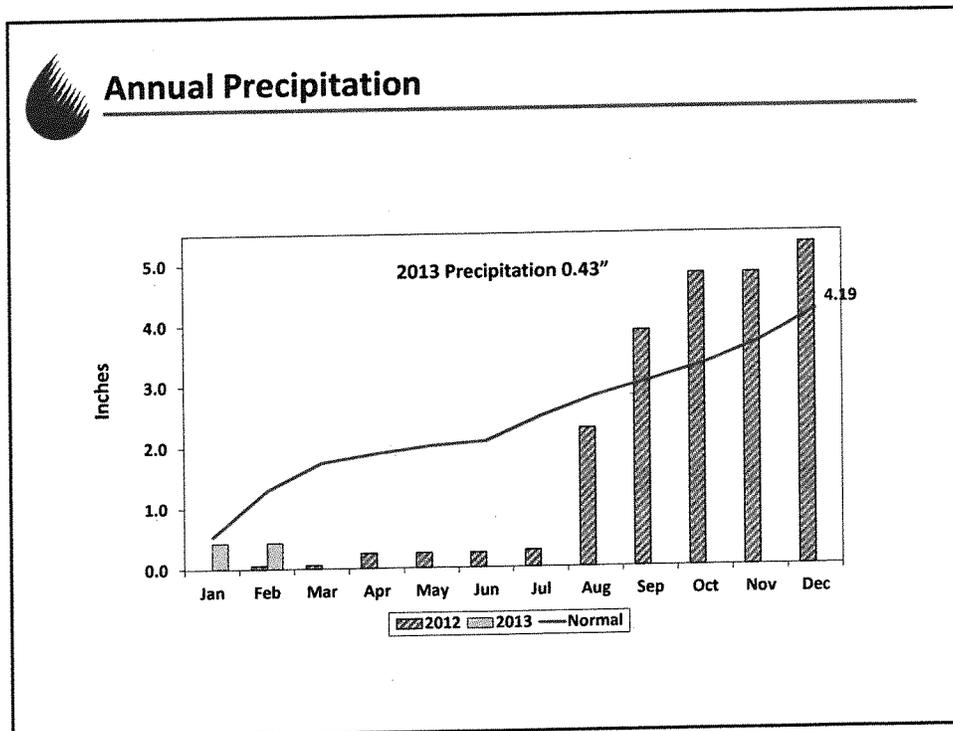
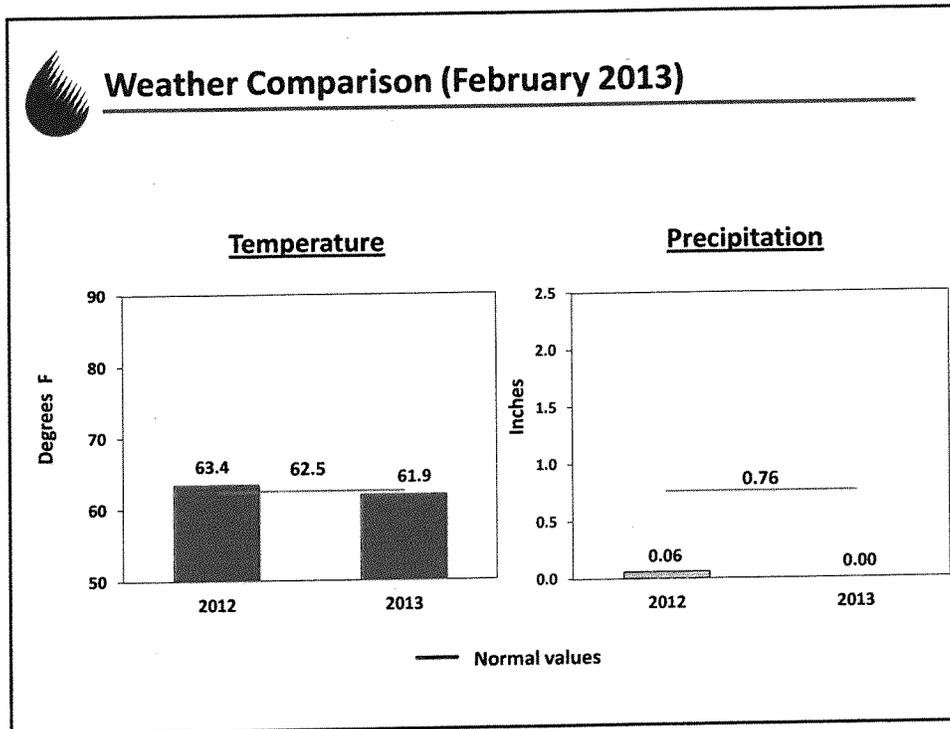




Lake Mead Capacity - Projected (12/31/13)



SNWA Water Use





SNWA Total Water Use

