

APPENDIX II – “Law of the River”

- **Colorado River Compact (1922)**
 - Divided River Between Upper Basin and Lower Basin States
 - Upper Basin States of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming and portion of Arizona
 - Lower Basin States of Arizona, California, and Nevada
 - Allocated 7.5 MAF to Upper Basin and 7.5MAF to Lower Basin
- **Boulder Canyon Project Act (1928)**
 - Authorized Federal Construction of:
 - Boulder (Hoover) Dam
 - Imperial Dam & Desilting Works
 - All-American Canal
 - Established Lower Basin Allocations
 - Arizona 2.8 MAF
 - Nevada 300 KAF
 - California 4.4 MAF
- **California Limitation Act (1929)**
 - Unlawful for California entities to use more than the Entitlement (4.4MAF)
- **California Seven Party Agreement (1931)**
 - Divided & Prioritized Colorado River Water Between Ag Users (3.85MAF) and Urban Users (500KAF)
- **Mexican Water Treaty (1944)**
 - Guaranteed 1.5 MAF to Mexico
 - During “Surplus” on the River provided an additional 200KAF to Mexico
 - Mexico to share proportionately any “shortages”
- **Upper Colorado River Basin Compact (1948)**
 - Divided Water Between Upper Basin States
 - Colorado 51.75%
 - New Mexico 11.25%
 - Utah 23%
 - Wyoming 14%
 - Arizona 50,000AF
 - Creation of the Upper Colorado River Commission
- **Colorado River Project Storage Act (1956)**
 - Authorized Construction of Glen Canyon Dam
 - Provides 1000 MW of hydroelectric generating capacity
 - 24 million AF Storage Reservoir
 - Provides the means for the Upper Basin States to meet their Compact obligation to the Lower Basin States
 - Also Authorized Construction of Flaming Gorge Dam, Navajo Dam, & the Aspinall Unit
- **AZ. v. CA. Decree (1964)**
 - Provided Arizona (and Nevada) with “rights” to in-State Streams & Rivers (Tributary Flow)
 - Confirmed the Lower Basin Entitlements

- Gave Secretary the responsibility of “Water Master” in the Lower Basin
- Allowed CA to continue to use “unused apportionment” – but gave no permanent “rights”
- Directed the Secretary to prepare an annual accounting of water use in Lower Basin
- Charged the Secretary with determining “surplus” and “shortage” conditions/operations
- Established “reserved rights” to approximately 900,000 AF to five Tribes located along River (included within the 7.5MAF allocation)

- **Colorado River Basin Project Act (1968)**
 - Authorized Construction of Central Arizona Project

- **Minute 242 - Mexican Treaty (1973)**
 - Requires U.S. to adopt measures to ensure that 1.36 million acre-feet of water delivered annually to Mexico upstream of Morelos Dam shall have an average salinity of no more than 115 (+/-30) parts per million over the annual average salinity of Colorado River water arriving at Imperial Dam.
 - Requires U.S. to deliver to Mexico, across the land boundary at San Luis, Arizona, and in the Limitrophe Section of the Colorado River downstream from Morelos Dam, approximately 140,000 acre-feet of water annually, with salinity substantially the same as that of water customarily delivered there.
 - Requires that the concrete-lined Main Outlet Drain Extension (MODE) be extended from Morelos Dam to the Cienega de Santa Clara in Mexico at United States expense.

- **Salinity Control Act (1974)**
 - Provided the means to comply with the obligations made by the U.S. to Mexico in Minute No. 242
 - Authorized Construction of the Yuma Desalinization Plant in Arizona
 - Authorized Construction of the Protective and Regulatory Pumping Unit – the 242 Well Field in Arizona

- **Arizona Water Banking Authority (1996)**
 - Established as a mechanism for Arizona to fully utilize its CAP allotment.
 - Storage of unused CAP water underground for times of shortage.

- **Off-stream Storage of Colorado River Water and Development and Release of Intentionally Created Unused Apportionment in the Lower Division States (1999)**
 - Enables interstate water banking in the Lower Colorado River Basin

- **Colorado River Interim Surplus Guidelines (2001)**
 - Defines conditions for declaration and implementation of surplus operations in the Lower Basin of the Colorado River.

- **Agreement for Interstate Water Banking (2001)**
 - The Arizona Water Banking Authority, the Southern Nevada Water Authority and the Colorado River Commission of Nevada reach an agreement allowing the storage of Colorado River water in Arizona for future uses in Nevada.

- **Record of Decision on Colorado River Interim Guidelines for Lower Basin Shortages and the Coordinated Operations for Lake Powell and Lake Mead (2007)**
 - Provide for coordinated management of Lake Mead and Lake Powell.
 - Define shortage conditions in the Lower Basin
 - Allow for the creation of Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) in the Lower Basin through conservation and augmentation projects
 - Provide for delivery of ICS subject to forbearance by the Lower Basin Contractors.
 - ** The Interim Guidelines are only effect until 2026.**

- **Minute 318 - Mexican Treaty (2010)**
 - In response to Earthquake Damage in Mexicali Valley – allows Mexico to store water that cannot be delivered in Lake Mead until repairs are complete

- **Minute 319 - Mexican Treaty (2012)**
 - Allows Mexico to create Intentionally Created Mexican Allocation (similar to ICS in 2007 Guidelines)
 - Mexico agrees to take shortages at the same Lake Mead elevations as Lower Basin states
 - Provides for a base flow and pulse flow to study restoration of the Mexican Delta
 - ****Only effective until 2017****