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Arizona, California and Nevada Announce New Plan to Bolster Lake Mead

The new agreement is a significant milestone to help bolster critical reservoirs and conserve water for people and nature.

(PHOENIX, ARIZONA – November 10, 2021) The states of Arizona, California and Nevada have [announced new plans to conserve](#) 500,000 acre-feet of water in Lake Mead annually until 2026 as a result of the dire hydrologic conditions facing the Colorado River Basin. The federal government has declared the first-ever Tier One water shortage at Lake Mead, and a recent projection of declining Lake Mead elevations has triggered a consultation to consider emergency measures to protect the reservoir. These new actions from state governments are intended to help prevent the lake from falling further, to dangerously low elevations.

In response to these critical commitments, **Kevin Moran**, chairman of the [Water for Arizona Coalition](#) and senior director, Colorado River Program at the Environmental Defense Fund, issued the following statement:

“The actions announced by Arizona, California and Nevada, along with the Bureau of Reclamation to engage in protecting Lake Mead are commendable. They reflect the urgency of the crisis facing the Colorado River Basin, and the type of strong collaborative action needed to address it. Conservation organizations stand ready to work, in collaboration with the Lower Basin states, the Bureau of Reclamation, Tribes and other partners to help effectuate these plans while ensuring that the health of the river is considered as these plans are implemented.”

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About the Water for Arizona Coalition

[The Water for Arizona Coalition](#) is a community of Arizonans who support innovative practices and smart policies to ensure a reliable water supply to meet the state’s needs. The Coalition was recently recognized as an Arizona Capitol Times “2020 Leader of the Year” for their efforts in protecting Arizona’s most valuable resource. Organizational support is provided by solution-oriented groups like American Rivers,

Audubon Arizona, Business for Water Stewardship, Environmental Defense Action Fund, and Western Resource Advocates that collectively have over 60,000 Arizona members, as well as hundreds of hunters, anglers, and outdoor recreation enthusiasts across the state.

