

THE COLORADO RIVER



Strategies

- reduce leakage + evaporation losses that loses 25% of moved water
- reduce recycling water in recycling industry
- recycling municipal sewage for grass
- introducing more efficient toilet system
- charging more realistic prices for irrigation
- more efficient irrigation systems
- use more water efficient crops in dry places
- requiring places to identify source before development

Future Options

- new groundwater resources, but politically incorrect
- weather modification, also environ. + poli. incorrect
- desalination plants for urban areas
- wrap iceberg in plastic + transport to California (WTF)
- Offshore aqueducts from ocean → columbian river → California
- * Keep options sensible bc it's a vital resource!

CAP = Central Arizona Project

MEXICO

Hoover Dam & Lead Mead marked the beginning of the area of artificial control of the Colorado

Since the CAP was completed in 1922, 1.85 tril L of water a year has been distributed to farms, Indian reservations, industries & fast-growing towns & cities, leaving less for California. 1997

1922

1944

1992

Colorado River Compact divided the 7 states of the basin into 2 groups: Upper Basin and Lower Basin

1936

Each group was allocated 9.25 tril L of water annually, while the 1944 treaty guaranteed a further 1.85 tril L to Mexico

The federal govern. told Cal. that the state would have to learn to live with the 5427 mil m³ of water from the