

Approve Actions Related to the Colorado River Water Conservation Program

Board of Directors Meeting

February 27, 2024



Our Mission

To meet the water-related needs of the people through dedicated employees, providing high quality water at a reasonable cost.

Requested actions

Approve following actions related to System Conservation Implementation Agreement (Program)

- Adopt Resolution No. 2024-XXX
- Authorize General Manager to execute Funding Agreement No. 23-XX-30-W0821 between CVWD and Bureau of Reclamation
- Approve Participant Program Package
- Make determination that the actions are exempt from CEQA



Background

- ❑ Declining elevations in Lake Powell & Lake Mead pose risk for water delivery & power production
- ❑ 500+ Plan
 - ✓ *\$200 M of available funding for short-term conservation*
- ❑ Lower Colorado River Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program (LC Conservation Program)
 - ✓ *\$4 B of available funding for short and long-term conservation*

Voluntary

Temporary

Compensated



CVWD conservation (Federal programs)

❑ 2022 (500+ Plan)

- ✓ *9,083 af conserved*

❑ 2023 (LC Conservation Program)

- ✓ *short-term actions*
 - Replenishment Facilities Curtailment (*active 2023-25*)
 - up to 35 taf/yr for 3 years (up to 105 taf total)
- ✓ *longer-term actions (proposal submitted 7/18)*
 - WRP 4 Expansion Project
 - Golf Course Conservation Program

❑ 2024 (LC Conservation Program)

- ✓ *short-term actions*
 - Colorado River Ag Fallowing (*seeking Board's approval for 2024-26*)
 - up to 10 taf/yr for 3 years (up to 30 taf total)

Voluntary
Temporary
Compensated



Program elements



- CVWD entered into 3-year program (2024-26) w/Reclamation
- Participant selects a term of 1, 2, or 3 years during this period
- Permanent crops only
- \$340/af (net) paid to participant in 2 installments for verified conserved water (mid-term & end of program)
- IWAA waived during participation period
- Landowner/lessee responsible for
 - ✓ *providing dust & weed control*
 - ✓ *paying all charges on land (assessments, taxes & other charge)*
- Lessee needs landowner(s) consent to fallow their land(s)
- No groundwater substitution allowed



Program agreements



Reclamation/CVWD Funding Agreement

- Verification
- Payments

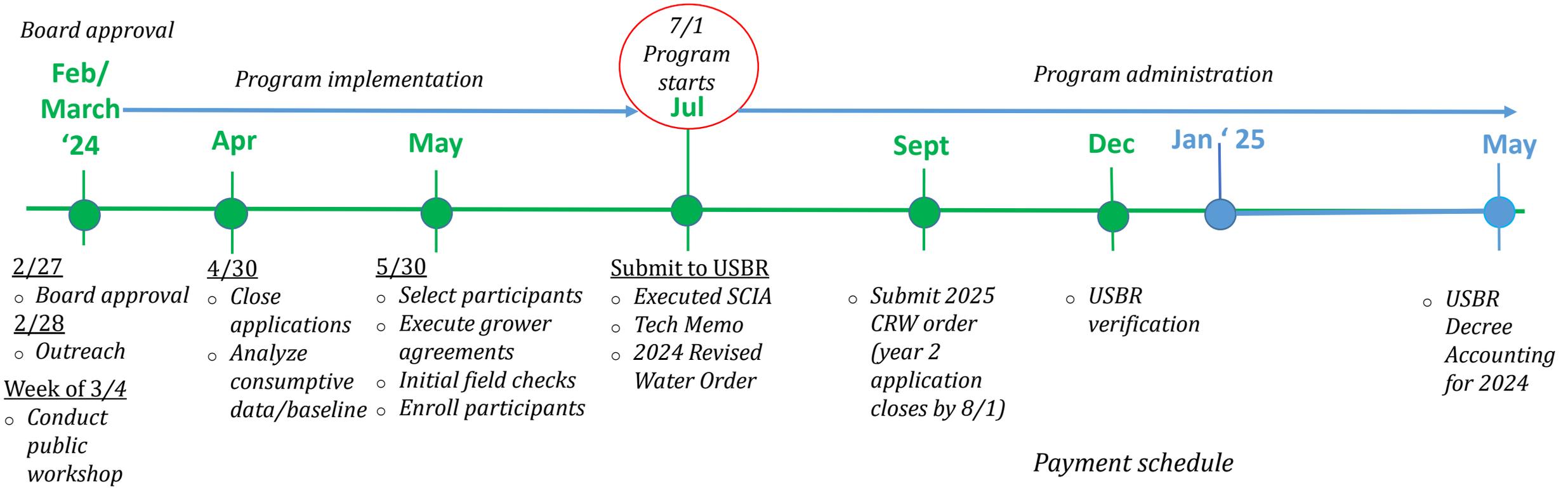


CVWD/Participant Program Package

- Rules & Regulations
- Grower Application
- Landowner Consent Form
- Grower Agreement



Program Schedule, year 1 *(subject to change)*



To CVWD
 (\$400/af, 60 days after invoicing)

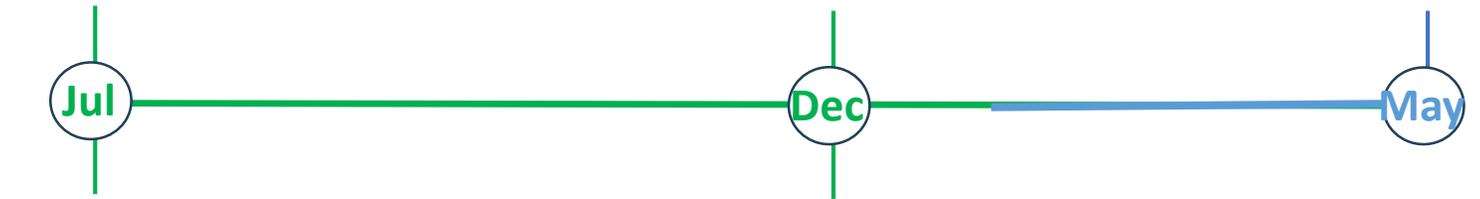
To Grower
 (\$340/af, 60 days after invoicing)

Payment schedule

Payment 1
 1/2 of total

Payment 2
 1/3 of total

Payment 3
 1/6 of total



Payment 1
 1/2 of total

Payment 2
 1/2 of total



Participation steps



Application

- Participant completes application (online or hard copy)
 - ✓ *lessee needs consent form from landowner*
- CVWD staff
 - ✓ *review applications*
 - ✓ *determine baseline historical use*
 - ✓ *select qualified applicants*
- CVWD/Participant execute program agreement



Verification (CVWD staff)

- Conduct initial field check & lock gates (if applicable)
- Conducts periodic field verification
 - ✓ *meet w/participant for field visits at mid-term & end*
- Audit participant progress
 - ✓ *canal bill review*
 - ✓ *groundwater bill review (if applicable)*



Reimbursement

- CVWD staff calculate conserved water volume
- CVWD pays participants \$340/af twice during participation period (mid-term & end)



Next steps

Participant

- Completes application & landowner consent form (if applicable)
 - ✓ *online at www.cvwd.org/ConserveCRW OR*
 - ✓ *scan and e-mail to ConserveCRW@cvwd.org*

CVWD

- Reviews application & landowner consent form
- Determines eligibility
- Work with participant on agreement

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Questions?

ConserveCRW@cvwd.org



Courtesy of gcdamp.com



Lake Powell

Lake Mead

Courtesy of Central Arizona Project



Your water is our promise