



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Irrigation  
4224-48-(013)

AIR MAIL

APR -7 1953

Mr. Ralph M. Gelvin  
Area Director  
Phoenix Area Office

Dear Mr. Gelvin:

We are in receipt of your letters of March 20 and March 23 which transmitted respectively "Revised Phoenix Office Draft March 20, 1953", of tabulated "Summary - Surface Water Right Claims for Indian Irrigation Projects, Lower Colorado River - Great Basin" and bound sets of data sheets relating to such Indian irrigation projects. Subsequently by letter of April 2, from Consulting Engineer Southworth we received his draft of "Summary of Surface Water Right Claims for Indian Irrigation Projects for Colorado River - Great Basin" together with copy of letter of March 20, 1953 from Superintendent Stewart and Engineer Parnell to Area Director Gelvin. The work has been well prepared and we thank both the Area Staff and Mr. Southworth for the time and patience devoted to the assignment.

We have again discussed the matter with members of the Legal Branch and we request that your office now collaborate with Mr. Southworth in the preparation of a final draft of "Summary - Surface Water Right Claims for Indian Irrigation Projects, Lower Colorado River - Great Basin" and submit it as soon as it can be compiled. The draft should be revised in the following manner.

(1) Areas now being irrigated and ultimate areas proposed for irrigation solely from ground water developments to be excluded from the tabulation with a footnote explaining that fact. This will have the effect of eliminating item 5-A, 9-A, 11-A, 14-A and 21-A from the Phoenix Office draft. After this assignment has been completed, however, we should like to have a tabulation by project, of acreages presently irrigated and acreages proposed for ultimate development from ground water to supplement data for the suit and also for use in connection with the present underground water controversy.

Present  
Annual Dirs  
Acres for

(2) Items such as 5 and 12, (Phoenix Office draft) and 13 (Southworth draft) designated as "temporarily supplied in whole or in part with ground water" should be included in the tabulation.

(3) Despite my letter of March 16, 1953 to Mr. Southworth it has been decided that the tabulation of figures under the heading "Present" should reflect acreages that can be served with existing facilities, or that have a past irrigation history. It appears that it may serve to weaken the claim to indicate only acreages that have been irrigated during a particular season which may be affected by drought or other unusual conditions. Upon receipt of your final tabulation we will correct sheet (1) of form A-1 relating to item No. 6 reading "Present" to correspond with the figures indicated in your tabulation. It is suggested that you also correct figures in the bound copies that you have retained in your office.

We have decided to submit figures for the Colorado River Project as indicated on both tabulations, namely an ultimate area of 100,000 acres of river bottom lands and 19,000 acres of Mesa lands. In connection with item 10, San Carlos Project we question the figure of ultimate annual diversions of 603,300 acre feet annually. The project was designed on a basis of 80,000 acres to be supplied from surface water and 20,000 acres to be supplied by pumping. It appears, therefore, that the annual diversion should be based on service to 80,000 acres and the annual stream depletion would be correspondingly affected. I assume, moreover, that historically it has not been possible to divert 603,000 acre feet from the Gila River in any one year since the inception of the project. We believe that appropriate footnotes should be included for Fort Yuma, item 22 and Cochella Valley, item 23 in California; and Fort Yuma, item 26 in Nevada indicating that the water claimed and used for Indian lands are actually or will be supplied through Bureau of Reclamation facilities so that there will be no duplication by the two Bureaus on these items. The Legal Branch has recommended that footnote (1) "Perfected right apportionment" and (2) "Storage apportionment" appearing on the Southworth draft be eliminated.

We have decided to retain item 25 "Chemehuevis" for 1,000 acres ultimate as appearing under the Area Office draft.

If there are any questions regarding the preparation of the final draft please phone me or submit them by air mail as soon as possible. I am forwarding a copy of this letter to Consulting Engineer Southworth at his home address.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) W. L. Miller

W. L. Miller, Chief  
Branch, Irrigation

Copy to: C. H. Southworth ✓

Present  
Acre Feet  
Annual Divert  
195,600

WATER RIGHT CLAIMS

SUMMARY OF THE WATER RIGHT CLAIMS FOR THE INDIAN AND INDIAN TRIBES IN THE LOWER COLORADO RIVER BASIN IN THE STATES OF ARIZONA AND CALIFORNIA

ITEM	Project or Reservation	Sources of Water Supply	Project Area Acres		Annual Diversion, Acre Feet	
			Present-Ultimate	Ultimate	Present	Ultimate
1	Main Stream, Colorado River, Arizona Colorado River Reservation	Colorado River	52,600	100,000	195,600	600,000
	Bottom Lands, New Lands,	"	0	12,000	0	72,000
2	Accequish Reservation	"	100	520	600	3,100
3	Fort Mohave Reservation	"	0	11,000	0	55,000
4	Tura Homesteads	"	350	480	2,450	3,350
	Sub-Total, Main Stream, Arizona		53,050	114,000	198,650	733,450
	<u>Gila River Basin, Arizona</u>					
5	Ak Chin Reservation	Santa Cruz River	200	600	1,000	3,000
6	Chuy Verde	Verde River	425	425	2,100	2,100
7	Fort McDowell Reservation	"	600	1,400	3,600	8,400
8	Fort Apache	White, Black, & Cibiquis R.	2,300	6,000	11,500	30,000
9	Salt River Reservation	Salt & Verde R.	9,800	10,000	39,200	40,000
10	San Carlos Project	Gila River	90,450	100,545	370,000	603,300
11	Gila River Reservation (Non-Project)	Gila & Salt R.	4,250	4,432	23,370	27,000
12	San Carlos Reservation	Gila & San Carlos R.	1,000	1,500	6,000	9,000
13	San Xavier Reservation	Santa Cruz R.	1,640	3,330	8,200	17,000
	Sub-Total, Gila River Basin, Arizona		110,255	128,533	467,170	799,200
	<u>Little Colorado River Basin, Arizona</u>					
14	Navajo Reservation (Small Units)	Streams and Washes	3,880	10,390	29,400	51,950
15	Navajo Project (Navajo Res.)	Little Colorado	660	730	3,500	25,000
16	Fort Huachuca	"	6,840	16,150	32,700	80,550
	Sub-Total, Little Colorado River, Arizona		11,380	27,270	65,600	157,500

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ITEM	Basin	Project or Reservation	Source of Water Supply	Project Area, Acres		Annual Diversion, Acre Feet	
				Present	Ultimate	Present	Ultimate
<u>Minor Other Tributaries</u>							
17	Hualapai Reservation		Big Sandy River	90	170	310	850
18	Havasupai Reservation		Cataract Creek	175	200	1,000	1,200
19	Paipah Reservation		Spring	71	98	310	400
	Sub-Total Minor Other Tributaries			316	493	1,650	2,450
<u>California</u>							
20	Colorado River Reservation		Colorado River	0	7,000	0	42,000
21	Fort Yuma Reservation		"	7,850	7,850	47,000	47,000
22	Marichella Valley Reservations		"	0	11,932	0	72,000
23	Frit Mohave Reservation		"	0	4,000	0	24,000
24	Chumehuevi Reservation		"	0	1,000	0	6,000
	Total, Main Stream, California			7,850	31,782	47,000	191,000
	TOTAL, ARIZONA AND CALIFORNIA			158,441	300,703	747,170	1,747,850
<u>Navaho</u>							
25 **	Fort Mohave Reservation		Colorado River	0	2,160	0	15,120
26 **	Koopa Reservation		Muddy River	600	600	3,600	3,600
	Total Navaho			600	2,760	3,600	16,720
<u>New Mexico</u>							
27 **	Navajo Units		Little Colorado River	241	650	1,200	3,250
28 **	Tuni Units		Tuni River	6,200	10,000	18,600	30,000
	Total New Mexico			6,441	10,650	19,800	33,250
<u>Utah</u>							
29 **	Shivwits		Santa Clara River	90	95	550	600
	Total, Utah			90	95	550	600
	TOTAL, LOWER BASIN (Including Nevada, New Mexico and Utah)			165,572	314,208	771,120	1,799,820

\*\* These items not as yet involved in Arizona v California Suit.