

GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

Drought Interagency
Coordinating Group

May 21, 2024



COMMUNITY CAP WATER

- * The Community has a 311.8 KAF entitlement to CAP water under its Water Settlement.
- * Community CAP water is an in-lieu supply provided to settle the Community's claims to the Gila River and Salt River.
- * Unlike other CAP tribal settlements, Community CAP water is not fully firmed in times of shortage.
- * 120.6 KAF of Community CAP Water is NIA Priority – supply most at risk as under post-2026 Colorado River operating guidelines.
- * 191.2 KAF of Community CAP Water is Indian/M&I Priority – 73.4 KAF not currently under contract for lease or exchange.

UNCERTAINTY REGARDING CAP SUPPLIES

Post-2026 Guidelines will almost certainly reduce Community CAP water supplies.

Post-2026 Guidelines will likely address supply/demand imbalance but do this through regulatory cuts.

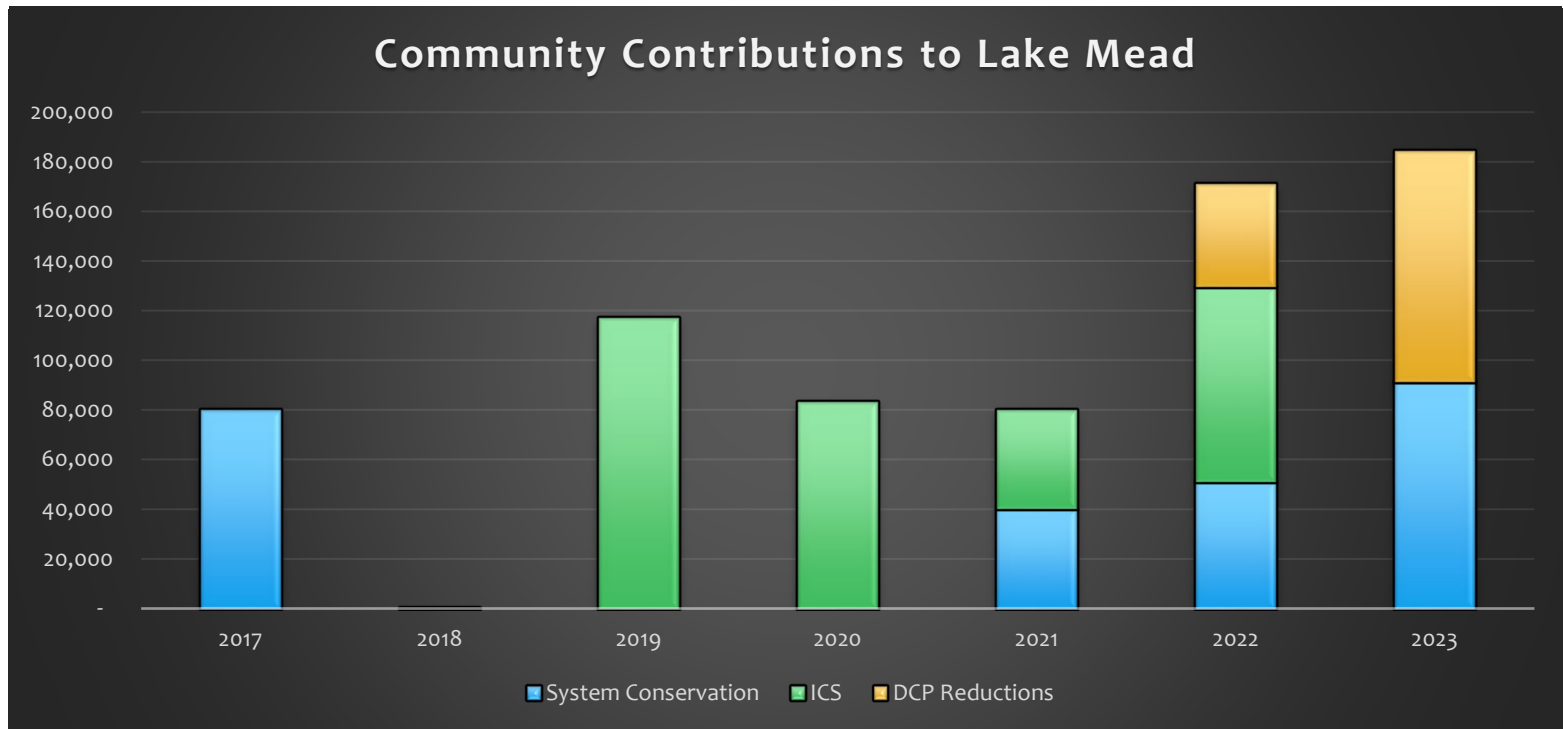
Because CAP water will almost certainly shrink, most additional voluntary conservation will need to come from other water users/sources.

Community's Gila River and underground water supplies need to be protected and efficiently used.

COMMUNITY'S CONSERVATION ACTIVITY

- * Through 2023, the Community has, through system conservation, the creation of ICS and cuts under the LBDGP, the Community has contributed 725,000 AF to Lake Mead.
- * This year, the Community will likely conserve nearly 125,000 AF under the LC Conservation Program.
- * By the end of this year the Community will have contributed approximately 895,000 AF of its Community CAP Water to Lake Mead –
 - ≈ 400,000 AF for compensated system conservation;
 - ≈ 320,000 AF for ICS; and
 - ≈ 175,000 AF of DCP cuts.

2017 – 2023 CONTRIBUTIONS TO LAKE MEAD



COMMUNITY'S RESPONSE TO DROUGHT

- * Since 2019 the Community has curtailed its off-reservation storage activities as it has shifted more water to Lake Mead.
- * Community is very engaged in post-2026 EIS process.
- * The Community's plan is to reduce its reliance on CAP water as much as possible given its cost of delivery and exposure to drought, but long-term the Community plans increase ag activities on its lands and much of its NIA Priority CAP water will need to be replaced.
- * The Community is also investing in water efficiency projects and was recently award Inflation Reduction Act