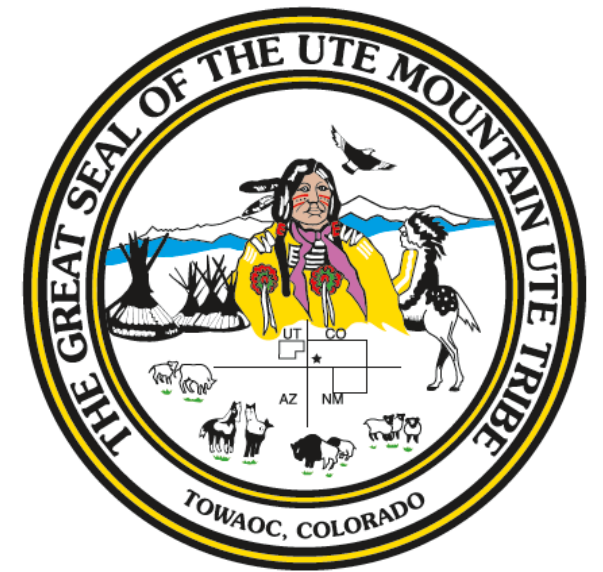


Seeking Common Ground along the Colorado River

UMUT Chairman – Manual Heart

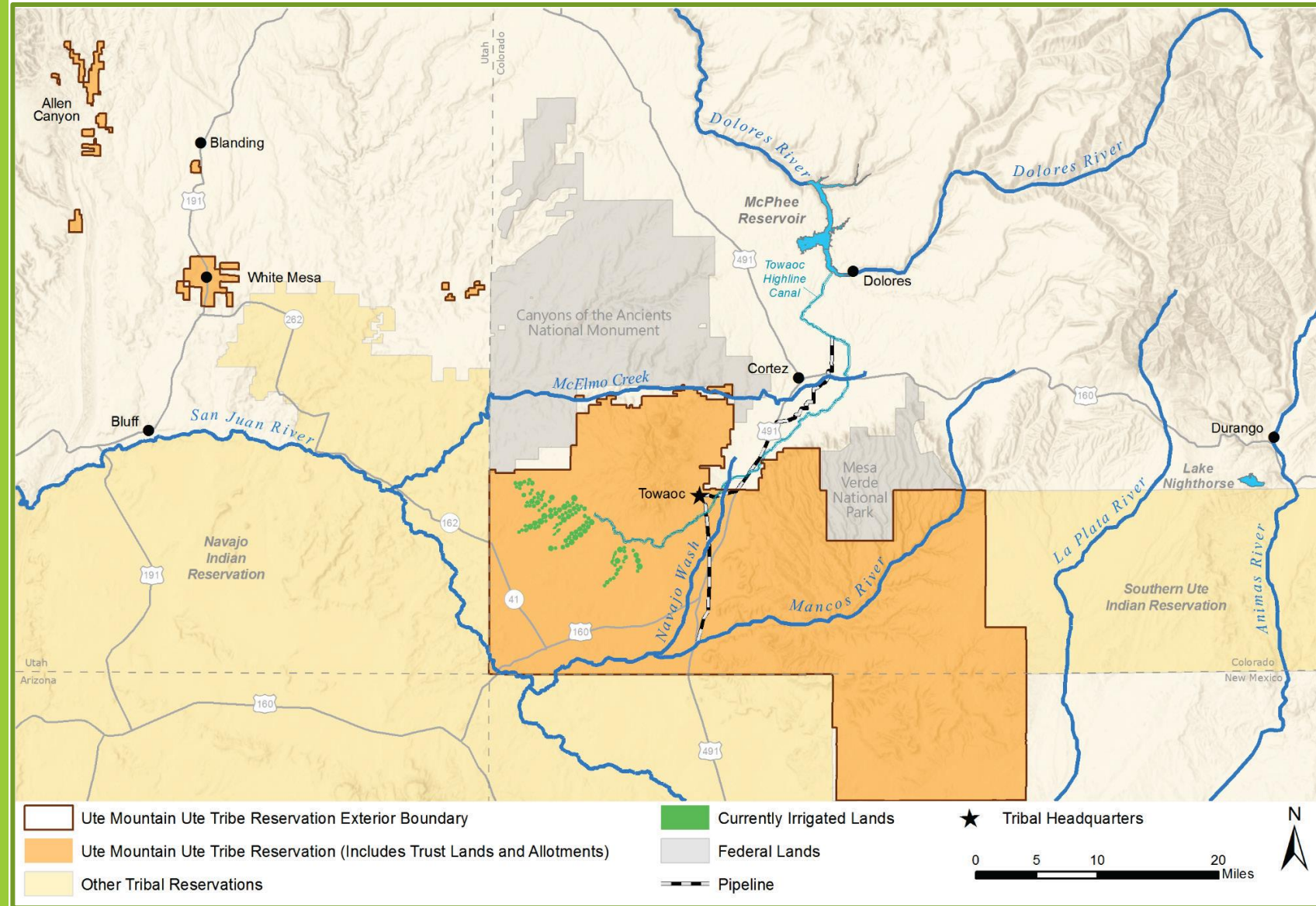
SOUTHWEST WATER CONSERVATION
DISTRICT 39TH ANNUAL SEMINAR

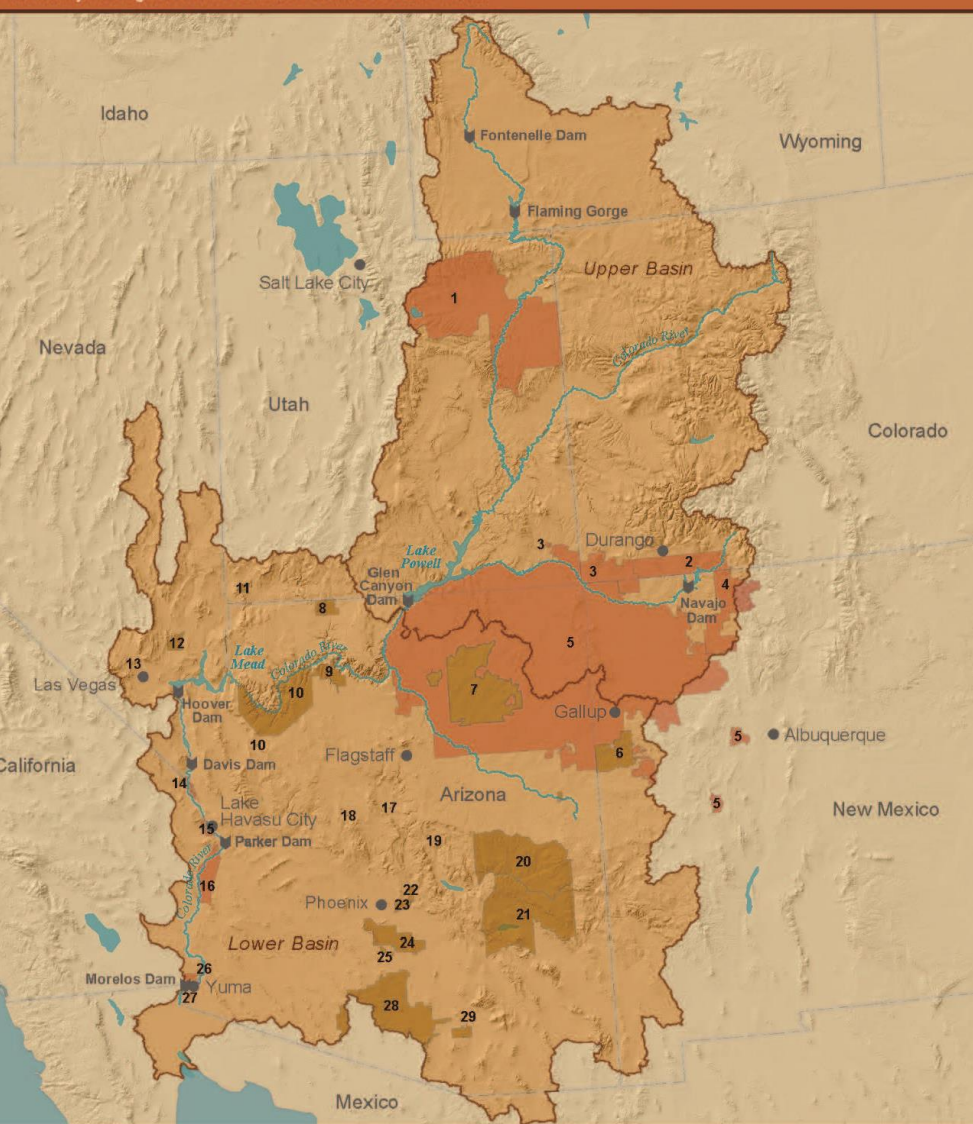
MARCH 31, 2023



Overview of Talking Points

- Tribes have a Critical Role in Colorado Water Issues
- UMUT is adapting to diminishing Colorado River Supplies
- UMUT is adapting to Climate Change
- UMUT Water Right Settlements provide certainty
- UMUT is working to achieve long-term food security





Tribes have a Critical Role in Colorado River Issues

Colorado River Basin Tribes hold 25% of the water rights in the basin

- Many Tribal rights have not been quantified and some quantified Tribal rights are constrained by lack of infrastructure and drought related shortages
- Tribes need to work together with other water right holders in the basin to adapt to both Tribal and non-Tribal water rights challenges

Tribes have been adapting to arid climate cycles for millennia and can lead by example in helping “more recent” Colorado River users manage with limited supplies and share shortages fairly

ID	Tribe Name	ID	Tribe Name	ID	Tribe Name
9	Havasupai Tribe	15	Chemehuevi Indian Tribe	23	Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
10	Hualapai Indian Tribe	16	Colorado River Indian Tribes	24	Gila River Indian Community
11	Shivwits Band of Paiute Indian Tribe	17	Yavapai-Apache Nation	25	Ak-Chin Indian Community
12	Moapa Band of Paiute Indians	18	Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe	26	Quechan Indian Tribe
13	Las Vegas Tribe of Paiute Indians	19	Tonto Apache Tribe	27	Cocopah Indian Tribe
14	Fort Mojave Indian Tribe	20	White Mountain Apache Tribe	28	Tohono O'odham Nation
		21	San Carlos Apache Tribe	29	Pascua Yaqui Tribe
		22	Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation		

UMUT is Adapting to Diminishing Supplies

The Tribe is completing a Water Resources Strategic Plan

- Includes creation of a Water Resources Department
- Includes continuing infrastructure and improved efficiency projects
- Includes testing water efficient crops, monitoring and improving soil health, and grid sampling to improve water application rates
- A key focus of the Plan is the 7,700 acre Farm and Ranch Enterprise and Bow and Arrow Brand Corn Mill

The Tribe is committed to managing diminishing Colorado River water supplies now to assure agricultural viability for the future



**Farm and Ranch
“Before”**



**Farm and Ranch
Now**

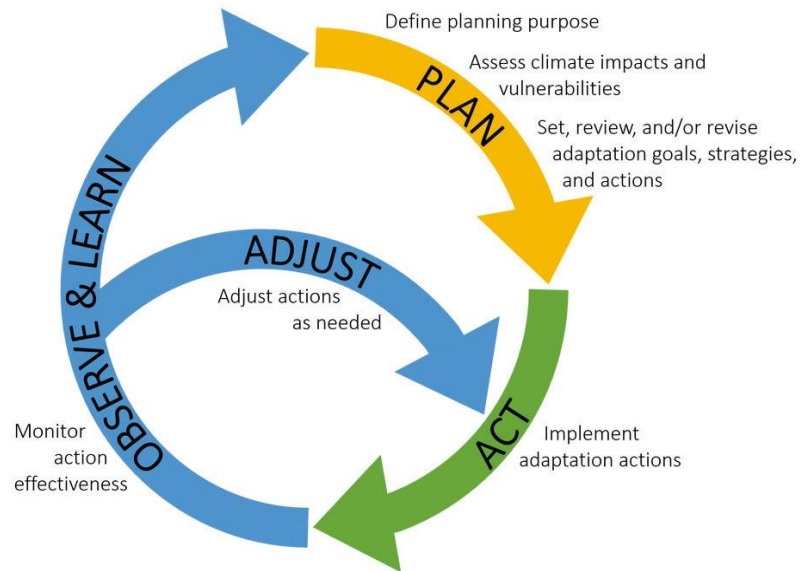


NÚCHÍÚ

UTE MOUNTAIN UTE TRIBE
CLIMATE ACTION PLAN



Climate Change Adaptation Cycle



UMUT is Adapting to Changing Climate

The Tribe's 2020 Climate Action Plan provides a roadmap for the next 20 years as part of the Tribe's contribution to address climate change

- The Plan calls for improved water efficiency and the development of renewable energy
- The Tribe is working to develop nearly a gigawatt of solar power and a large pump-back storage "hydro-battery"
- The Tribe is forming a renewable energy company to manage opportunities

The Tribe's renewable energy projects are in proximity to an extensive power grid could help supplement power needs in the Colorado River Basin.

UMUT Water Right Settlements Provide Certainty

The Tribe's water right settlements provide certainty for the Tribe's future and certainty for other water users in the region

- Colorado water rights are settled - the Tribe continues to work on access to Animas-La Plata Project water and drought viability for the Dolores Project Farm and Ranch Enterprise
- New Mexico water right negotiations are focused on addressing needs related to renewable energy
- Utah water right negotiations are addressing agricultural security and water quality issues

The UMUT range of water settlement strategies can be useful for other Tribes to provide clarity for all Colorado River water users.



Animas-La Plata Project Lake Nighthorse



Dolores Project McPhee Reservoir

UMUT is working to achieve long-term food security

Water is key to providing employment and economic opportunity for the Tribal community

- The Tribe plans to grow food for the Tribal store to increase food security and overcome “food desert” conditions
- The Farm and Ranch, Bow and Arrow Corn Mill, and the Bow and Arrow cattle herd are important for food security success

The Tribe is leading the way by continuing to meet the needs of their members with declining water supplies – all Colorado River water users need to consider food security as a management component



The Key to Management is Working Together

“ The old people went by the weather. The climate has really changed. You expect heat in summer; winter is cold. That’s how I grew up. Winter was long back then. The snow no longer comes in October. Sometimes, we don’t have snow in December. It used to snow into April. A long time ago it used to rain a lot and we played in the mud. The frogs would come out of nowhere. We don’t see that rain anymore.”

~UMU Elder



The Tribe’s ability to adapt to changing realities through their past experiences will be valuable as we all move towards new Colorado River operations. Our challenges over the next 20 years must be faced together, as our common goal is a sustainable future.