

RESOURCE A Common Vision for the Colorado River System: Toward a Framework for Sustainability

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Description / Abstract

The purpose of this policy brief is to inspire and inform a robust conversation about the future of the Colorado River system. This process of seeking consensus on a vision should be instructive in defining the purpose and scope of the framework that replaces the 2007 Interim Guidelines. It might also be useful in guiding other activities in the Basin related to water development, use, and conservation.

The brief starts by presenting several tribal visions for the River system's future. It then draws on visions presented in Toward a Sense of the Basin, a report prepared by the Water & Tribes Initiative (WTI) in 2020 based on interviews and workshops with more than 100 tribal and other leaders in and around the Basin. The intent is to learn from these visions, synthesize prevailing values, and integrate themes into an overarching common vision. The brief concludes with offering several observations on challenges and opportunities associated with implementing and realizing this common vision.

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