



SENATOR HARRY REID, MAJORITY LEADER FIGHTING FOR WATER SECURITY



Senator Reid has fought for Nevada's fair share of resources for water infrastructure and flood control, while leading Nevada and the nation in supporting water efficiency. He understands the needs of Nevada's communities, both rural and urban, and over the past decade has secured over \$700 million to help them pay for water infrastructure, flood protection, settle water disputes, and to extend the life of our water resources. Senator Reid is a champion of water efficiency and conservation to ensure future generations may also enjoy Nevada's limited water resources. Finally, Senator Reid is acting now to address the devastating impacts that climate change could have on Nevada's water supplies, especially in the south, where a long, intense drought is draining Lake Mead.

Senator Reid Secured Funding for Clean Water and Flood Protection Projects. Senator Reid has worked hard over the years to ensure adequate funding for clean water and flood protection projects across Nevada.

- **Rural Nevada** Senator Reid created the Rural Nevada Program in Section 595 of the *Water Resources Development Act of 1999* to provide funding for wastewater treatment, environmental restoration, and water resource protection and development projects in rural Nevada. The Rural Nevada Program has supported nearly \$150 million for 32 water infrastructure projects in 11 counties across Nevada, 19 of which are currently under construction. [P.L. 106-53; P.L. 110-114]
- **Northern Nevada** Since 2000, Senator Reid has secured \$260 million for water infrastructure projects that protect water and natural resources, the environment, and water quality throughout northern Nevada. Combined with the Rural Nevada Program, Senator Reid has secured over \$410 million to improve rural and northern Nevada's water resources and infrastructure. [P.L. 106-60; P.L. 106-377; P.L. 107-66; P.L. 108-7; P.L. 108-137; P.L. 108-447; P.L. 109-103; P.L. 110-5; P.L. 110-161; P.L. 111-8; P.L. 111-85]
- **Southern Nevada** Senator Reid has worked to ensure that southern Nevadans have access to clean water and are safe from flooding. Since 2000, Senator Reid has provided over \$285 million for projects to improve water infrastructure, protect water resources and water quality, and keep communities safe from flooding. Such projects include the Las Vegas Wash, the Lake Mead flood control and environmental restoration project, flood control work on the Tropicana and Flamingo washes, water recycling in southern Nevada, and Arsenic treatment in Mesquite and Searchlight. [P.L. 106-60; P.L. 106-377; P.L. 107-66; P.L. 108-7; P.L. 108-137; P.L. 108-447; P.L. 109-103; P.L. 110-5; P.L. 110-161; P.L. 111-8; P.L. 111-85]

HIGHLIGHTS OF SENATOR REID'S RECORD ON WATER SECURITY

- ★ Senator Reid Secured Funding for Clean Water and Flood Protection Projects
- ★ Senator Reid Continues to Support Legislation to Protect Communities from Aging Water Infrastructure
- ★ Senator Reid is Working to Help Nevada's Water Utilities Adapt to Severe Droughts and Rising Temperatures
- ★ Senator Reid's Active Engagement Has Made Agreements for Sharing Nevada's Limited Water Resources Successful
- ★ Senator Reid is a Champion of Water Conservation and Efficiency
- ★ Senator Reid Strengthened Nevada's Water Security

Senator Reid Continues to Support Legislation to Protect Communities from Aging Water Infrastructure.

Senator Reid led the passage of the *Aging Water Infrastructure and Maintenance Act*, which is helping the Bureau of Reclamation better manage aging water facilities owned by the federal government, such as the Truckee Canal. In January 2008, the Truckee Canal failed, causing severe damage to hundreds of homes and businesses in Fernley and displacing entire neighborhoods. This legislation gives the Bureau of Reclamation the necessary resources to conduct inspections on Reclamation-owned water works operated by third parties, and it gives Reclamation the authority to provide technical assistance to better maintain facilities and public safety. It also allows Reclamation to perform operations and maintenance urgently needed to preserve structural safety of facilities, and extends the pay-back on such maintenance from 1 to 50 years to limit financial constraints to performing desperately needed maintenance. [Subtitle G, P.L. 111-11]

Senator Reid is Working to Help Nevada's Water Utilities Adapt to Severe Droughts and Rising Temperatures.

Senator Reid has introduced legislation to better prepare communities for the impacts of climate change on water supplies and water systems, including longer, more intense droughts in the southwest and changing precipitation patterns. Senator Reid's legislation – the *Drinking WATER Act* and the *Water Efficiency, Conservation, and Adaptation Act* – will help state and local governments and water utilities invest in better plans, water facilities, and efficiency measures to prepare for the effects of global warming. Both bills were included in the *Clean Energy Jobs and American Power Act* introduced by Senators Kerry and Boxer. [S. 1035; S. 1712; S. 1733]

Senator Reid's Active Engagement Has Made Agreements for Sharing Nevada's Limited Water Resources Successful.

Senator Reid led the way to the resolution of major interstate and intrastate water disputes by helping to negotiate the Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA), passing legislation to implement the agreement and a related water rights settlement with the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe. After 18 years of negotiations between federal, state, tribal, local agencies, and organizations about how to share water from the Lake Tahoe, Truckee River, and Carson River basins, TROA was signed in September 2008. Senator Reid also led the passage of a settlement agreement with the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of Duck Valley to settle the Tribes' claims against the United States for failing to protect their water rights and natural resources. In fiscal year 2010, Senator Reid secured \$12 million to implement this agreement. [http://reid.senate.gov/newsroom/pr_090608_truckeeriver.cfm; P.L. 101-618; P.L. 111-85]

Senator Reid is a Champion of Water Conservation and Efficiency.

Senator Reid has secured over \$26 million since 2000 for water reuse and recycling facilities and research in Nevada. He has also introduced legislation, the *Water Efficiency and Conservation Investment Act* of 2009, that would create tax incentives for installing water efficient appliances, fixtures, and landscaping in homes. [P.L. 106-60; P.L. 106-377; P.L. 107-66; P.L. 108-7; P.L. 108-137; P.L. 108-447; P.L. 109-103; P.L. 110-5; P.L. 110-161; P.L. 111-8; P.L. 111-85; S. 1711]

Senator Reid Strengthened Nevada's Water Security.

Senator Reid helped pass legislation to expedite the \$300 million lining of 23 miles of the leaky All-American Canal, a critical component of the lower Colorado River Basin infrastructure. Lining the canal prevents the loss of substantial quantities of Colorado River water to groundwater seepage. Additionally, Senator Reid passed legislation allowing for the construction of the Drop 2 water storage reservoir east of San Diego, giving Nevada access to an additional 280,000 acre-feet of water and permanent access to another 75,000 acre-feet. This is enough water to supply over 350,000 households. These two projects paved the way for a crucial agreement among lower Colorado River Basin states on implementing procedures for addressing water shortages in the river basin and securing limited water supplies for Nevada during drought years. [P.L. 109-432; P.L. 109-432; http://www.reviewjournal.com/lvrj_home/2007/Jan-19-Fri-2007/news/12063696.html]

Carson City

600 East William St., Ste. 302
Carson City, NV 89701
Phone: 775-882-7343

Las Vegas

333 Las Vegas Blvd. S., Ste. 8016
Las Vegas, NV 89101
Phone: 702-388-5020

Reno

400 S. Virginia St., Ste. 902
Reno, NV 89501
Phone: 775-686-5750

Washington DC

522 Hart Senate Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: 1-866-SEN-REID