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Guide to the UNLV University Libraries Collection of Lake Mead Government Documents

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Libraries
Title:	UNLV University Libraries Collection of Lake Mead Government Documents
ID:	MS-00947
Date [inclusive]:	1971-1994
Physical Description:	0.69 Cubic Feet (2 boxes)
Physical Description:	0.63 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The UNLV University Libraries Collection of Lake Mead Government Documents contains reports and studies pertaining to Lake Mead's water quality, microbe ecology, wildlife, fish, plant life, pollution, soil, and sediment dating between 1971 and 1994. Reports include studies on microbe population growth, water composition, chemical treatment, salinity, temperature monitoring, and hand-written field notes on water and soil conditions. Lake Mead is located in Clark County, Nevada and Mohave County, Arizona.

Preferred Citation

UNLV University Libraries Collection of Lake Mead Government Documents, 1971-1994. MS-00947. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Historical Note

Lake Mead, located in Clark County, Nevada and Mohave County, Arizona on the Colorado River, is the sixteenth largest man-made lake in the world. Its surface area is 164,000 acres with a storage volume of 26,134,000 acre-feet.

The National Park Service originally named Lake Mead the "Boulder Dam Recreation Area" in 1936 preceding Hoover Dam's (Boulder Dam) construction, existing as the United State's largest reservoir at the time. In 1947, the National Park Service then renamed the reservoir Lake Mead after Dr. Elwood Mead, who was the Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation from 1924 to 1936. In 1964, Public Law 88-639 established Lake Mead National Recreation Area under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service.

Over time, Lake Mead's water level fluctuated from its highest point in July 1983 at 1,225 feet, down to its current height at 1,083 feet in 2019. However, Lake Mead still exists as one of the largest reservoirs in the United States with depths surpassing 300 feet. Lake Mead National Recreation Area is also the sixth most visited park in the National Park System and the premier inland water recreation area in the Western United States.

Sources:

"Lake Mead." Vegas.com. 2019. Accessed July 18, 2019. https://www.vegas.com/attractions/near-las-vegas/lake-mead/

"Historic Timeline." National Park Service. February 18, 2016. Accessed July 18, 2019. https://www.nps.gov/lake/learn/news/timeline.htm

"Lake Mead Water Level." Lakes Online. July 18, 2019. Accessed July 18, 2019. http://mead.uslakes.info/level.asp

"Lake Mead Statistics." Lakes Online. July 18, 2019. Accessed July 18, 2019. http://www.mead.uslakes.info/Statistics.asp

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Scope and Contents Note

The UNLV University Libraries Collection of Lake Mead Government Documents contains reports and studies pertaining to Lake Mead's water quality, microbe ecology, wildlife, fish, plant life, pollution, soil, and sediment dating between 1971 and 1994. Reports include studies on microbe population growth, water composition, chemical treatment, salinity, temperature monitoring, and hand-written field notes on water and soil conditions. Lake Mead is located in Clark County, Nevada and Mohave County, Arizona.

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Arrangement

Materials are arranged chronologically.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were periodically collected by the University of Nevada, Las Vegas Special Collections and Archives; accession number 2001-32.

Appraisal Note

Some of the documents that were collected about Lake Mead are now freely available through government websites. Print copies of government documents that are publicly available online have been removed from the collection. See the following websites for access to additional documents: https://pubs.er.usgs.gov; https://nepis.epa.gov; https://www.usbr.gov; https://home.nps.gov.

Processing Note

In 2019, as part of an archival backlog elimination project, Jimmy Chang rehoused and arranged the materials, wrote the finding aid, and entered the data into ArchivesSpace.

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Names and Subjects

- Lake Mead National Recreation Area (Ariz. and Nev.)
- Mead, Lake (Ariz. and Nev.)
- Desert ecology
- Wildlife conservation
- Plant conservation

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Lake Mead, USA, presentation report prepared for the Symposium on Manmade Lakes by Dale A. Hoffman and Al R. Jonez, 1971 May	box 01
Methods for Biological, Chemical, and Physical Analyses in Reservoirs, Technical Report #6 by Penelope E. Kellar, Sherrell A. Paulson, and Larry J. Paulson, 1981 June	box 01
Lake Mead Benthos Study: Bench Sheets, 1986-1987 Physical Description: 2 Files	box 01
Lake Mead Benthos Study: Field Sheets, 1986-1987 Physical Description: 2 Files	box 01
Lake Mead Benthos Study: Crawfish Field Data Form, 1986 October 07-13	box 01
Lake Mead Benthos Study Part II, 1987 March 17-1988 March 16	box 01
Physical Data by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, 1987 June	box 01
Lake Mead Benthos Study: Field Data Form, 1988 March 15-November 21	box 02
The Lake Mead Cover Enhancement Project by Jennifer S. Haley, 1989	box 02
Baseline Water Quality Data Inventory and Analysis, Lake Mead National Recreation Area Volume I of II by the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1994 December Physical Description: 8 Floppy Disks	box 02
Baseline Water Quality Data Inventory and Analysis, Lake Mead National Recreation Area Volume II of II by the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1994 December Physical Description: 8 Floppy Disks	box 02