

Feds aim to reduce U.S. water footprint

By Ian James, Desert Sun

The Obama administration has begun an initiative aimed at making the United States more water-efficient, saying the country has the potential to reduce its total water use by a third.

Deputy Interior Secretary Mike Connor said some of the White House's objectives include encouraging more recycling of wastewater and promoting investment in water treatment and desalination technologies.

The White House announced its new "water innovation strategy" last month and plans a summit on March 22, which is World Water Day, focusing on potential solutions to the country's water challenges. The White House said in a fact sheet about the initiative that with improvements in efficiency, better management practices and more widespread adoption of water reuse technology, "we have potential to considerably reduce water usage by 33 percent."

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