



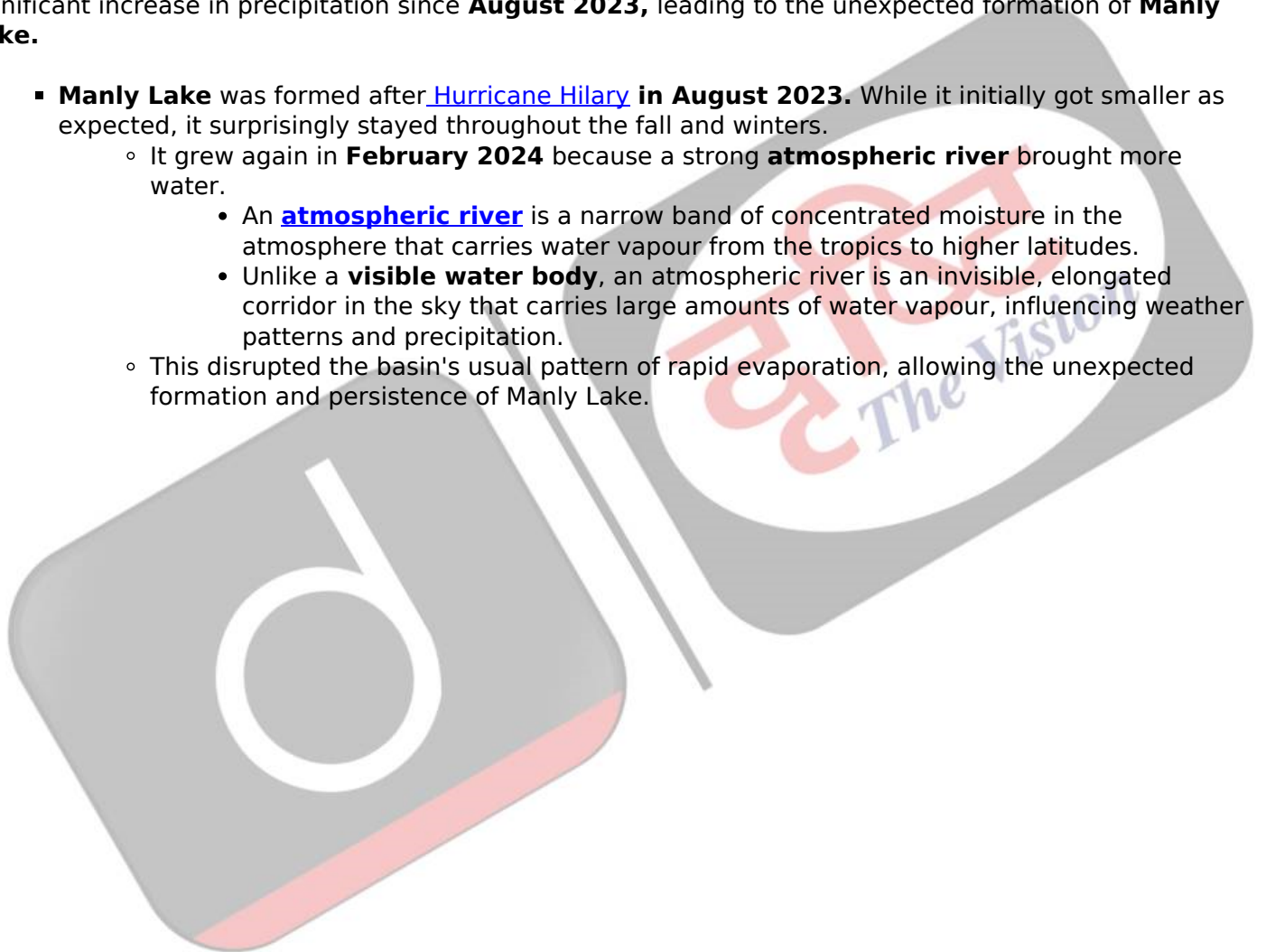
Unexpected Lake Formation in Death Valley

[Source: DTE](#)

North America's driest region, **Badwater Basin**, nestled within [Death Valley](#) has experienced a significant increase in precipitation since **August 2023**, leading to the unexpected formation of **Manly Lake**.

- **Manly Lake** was formed after [Hurricane Hilary in August 2023](#). While it initially got smaller as expected, it surprisingly stayed throughout the fall and winters.
 - It grew again in **February 2024** because a strong **atmospheric river** brought more water.
 - An [atmospheric river](#) is a narrow band of concentrated moisture in the atmosphere that carries water vapour from the tropics to higher latitudes.
 - Unlike a **visible water body**, an atmospheric river is an invisible, elongated corridor in the sky that carries large amounts of water vapour, influencing weather patterns and precipitation.
 - This disrupted the basin's usual pattern of rapid evaporation, allowing the unexpected formation and persistence of Manly Lake.

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Read more: [Death Valley](#)

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/unexpected-lake-formation-in-death-valley>