



Colorado River Update

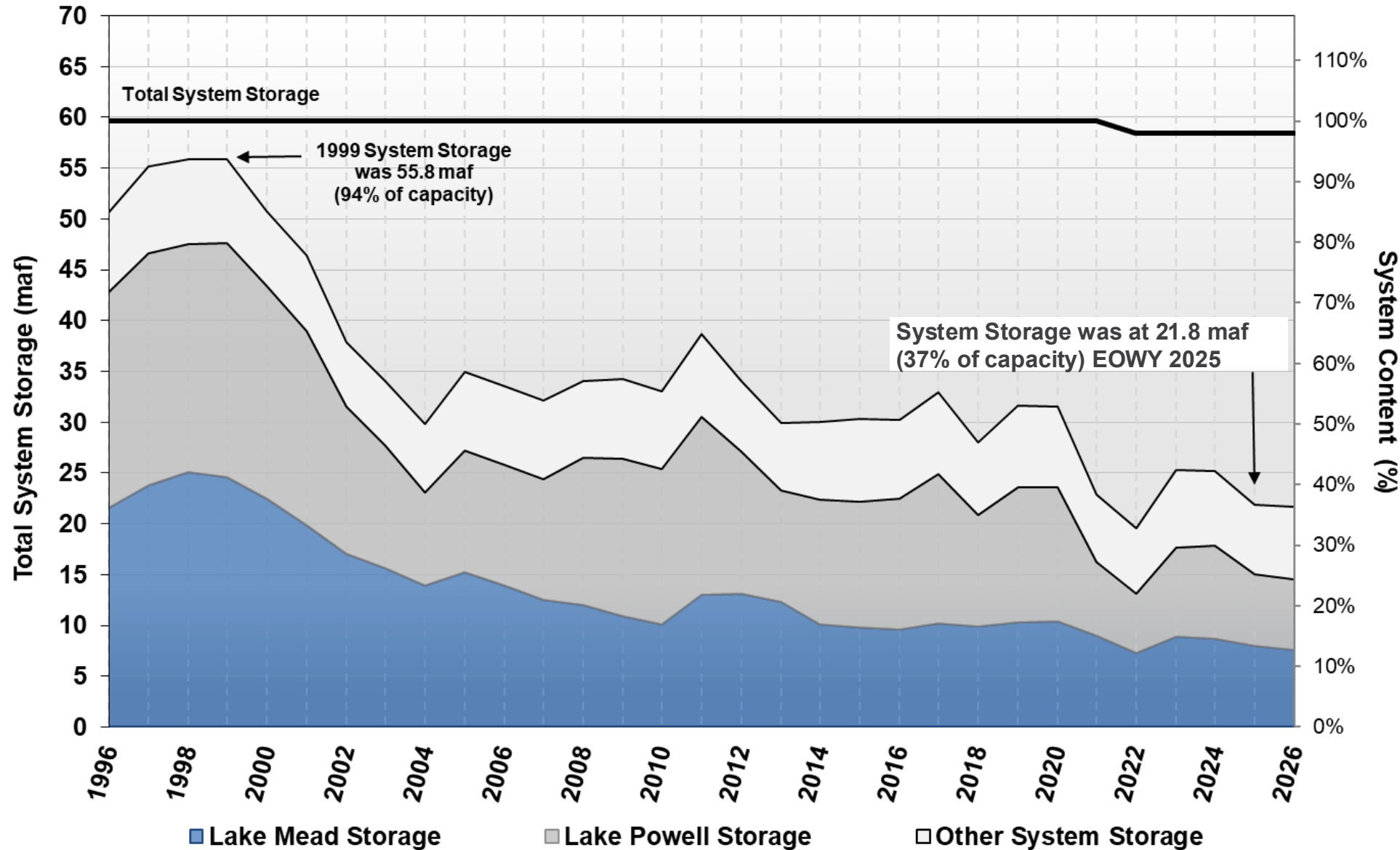
SAWUA

Vineetha Kartha
Colorado River Programs Manager

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End of Water Year Colorado River Basin Total System Storage

Water Years 1996 - 2026*



Snowpack vs. Runoff (% of average)		
	Snowpack	Runoff
2020	105%	61%
2021	86%	37%
2022	90%	63%
2023	161%	140%
2024	114%	83%
2025	92%	49%*

*2025 runoff volumes are provisional



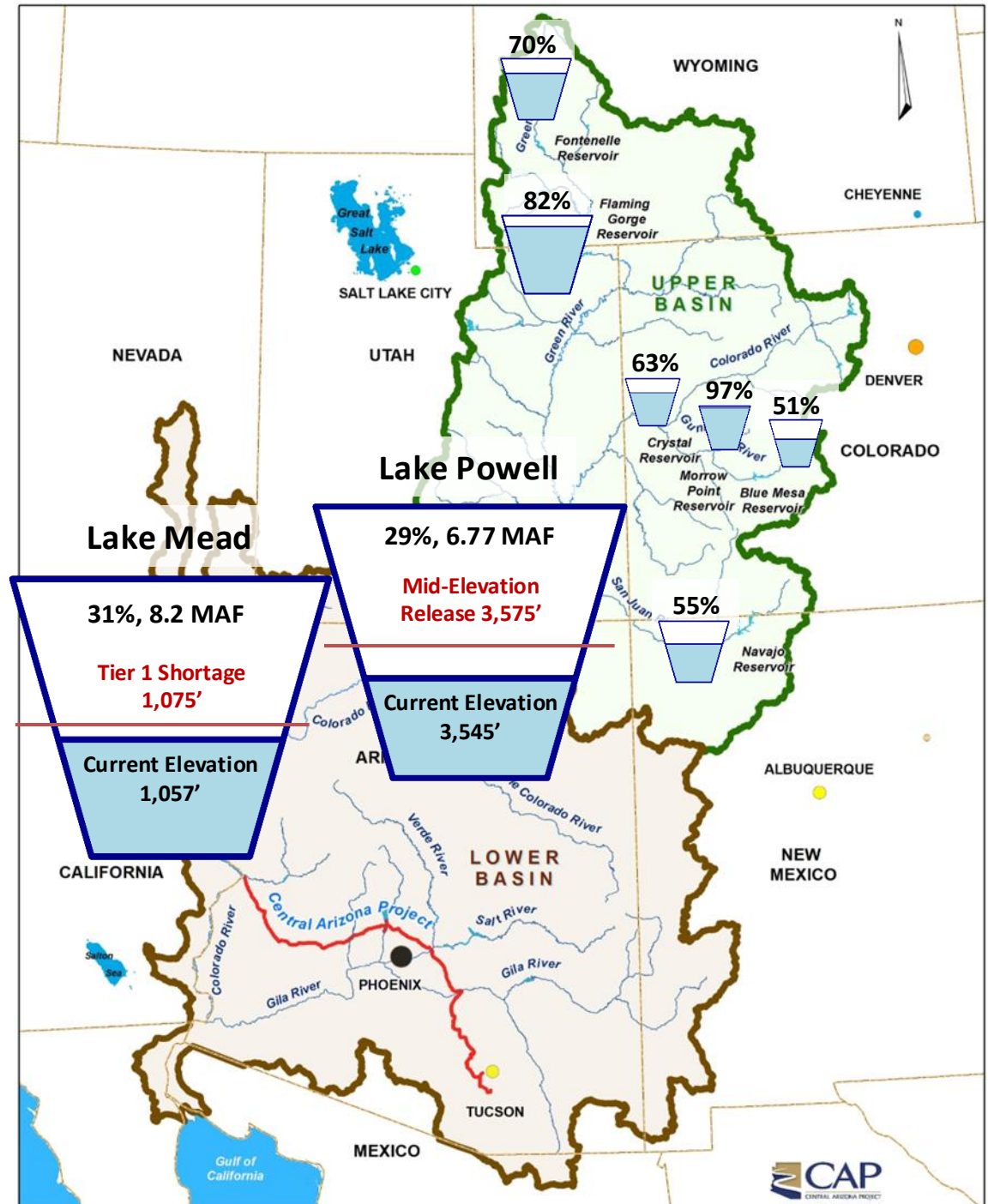
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Colorado River Water Supply Report

System Contents: 22.83 MAF

As of September 28, 2025

Last Year System Contents: 25.2 MAF



Reservoir Capacities (MAF)

Reservoir	Current	Change*	Maximum
Lake Mead	8.20	+ 0.11	26.12
Lake Powell	6.77	- 0.22	23.31
Flaming Gorge Reservoir	3.00	- 0.06	3.67
Fontenelle Reservoir	0.24	- 0.03	0.33
Navajo Reservoir	0.88	- 0.02	1.65
Blue Mesa Reservoir	0.42	- 0.04	0.82
Morrow Point Reservoir	0.11	0.00	0.12
Crystal Reservoir	0.01	- 0.01	0.02

*With respect to previous month's report



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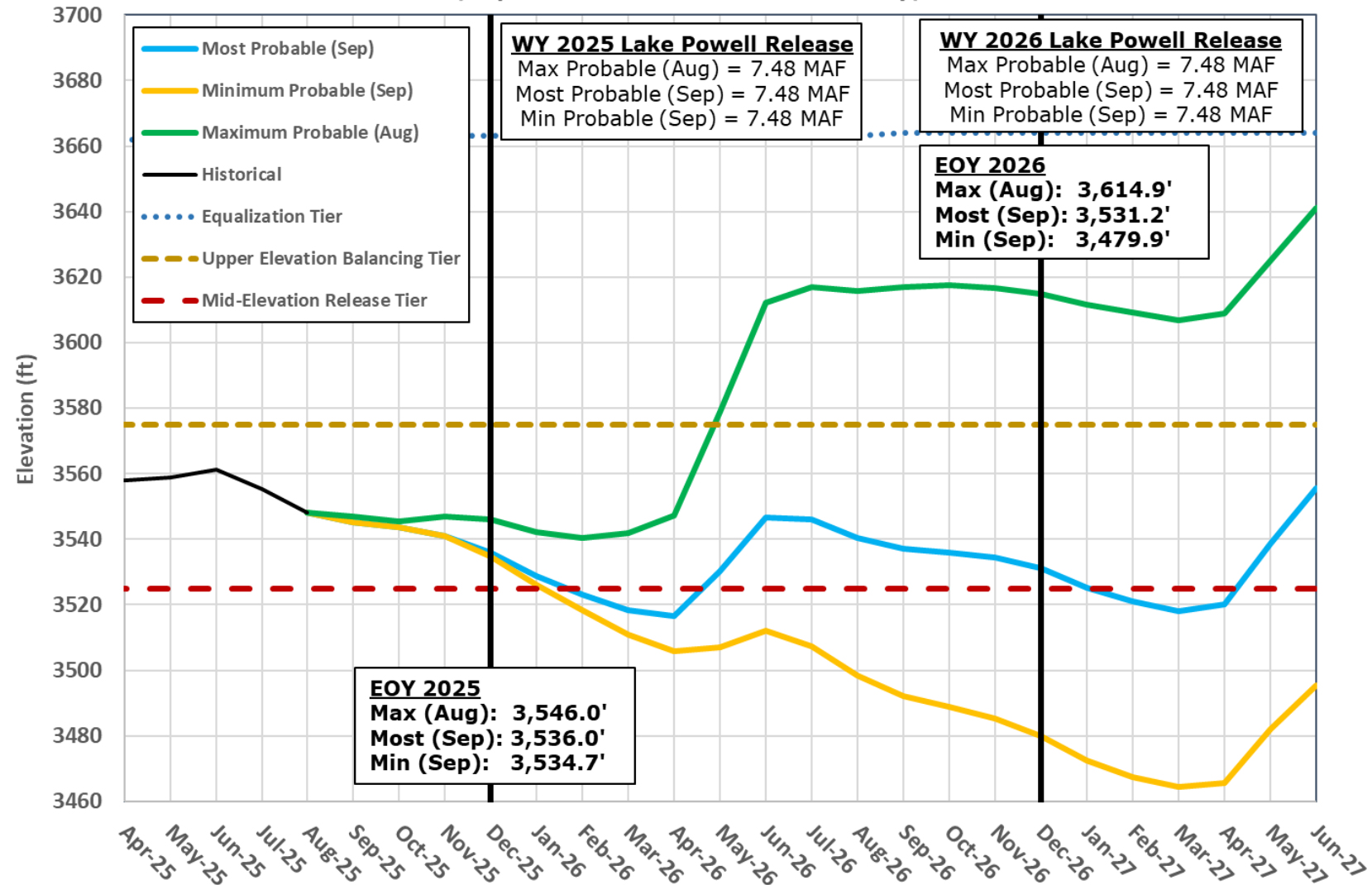
Lake Powell

September 2025

24-Month Study

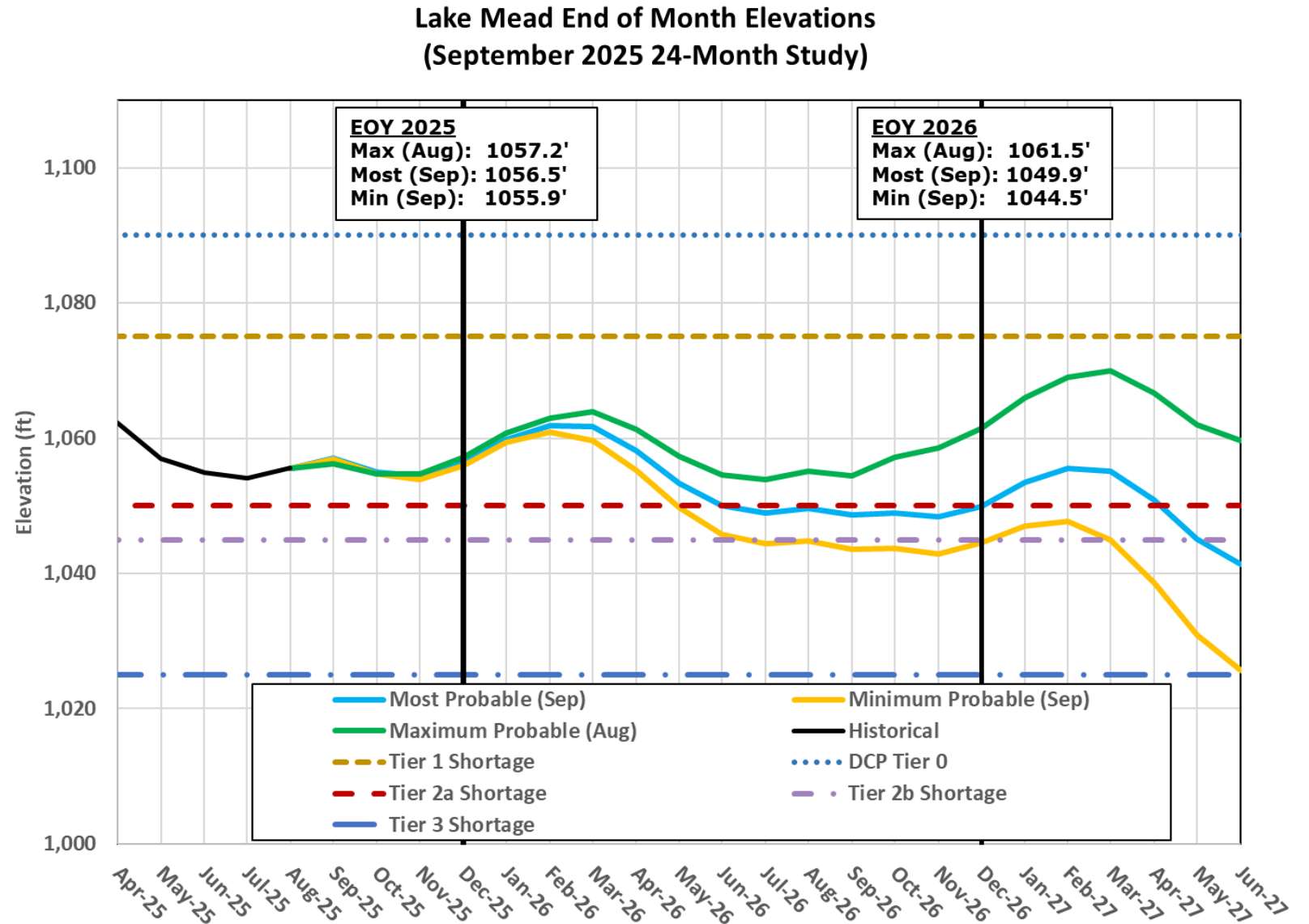
- WY2025 is in Mid-Elevation Release Tier with a projected release of 7.48 MAF
- WY2026 will operate in Mid-Elevation Release Tier with projected release of 7.48 MAF

Lake Powell End of Month Elevations
(September 2025 24-Month Study)



Lake Mead September 2025 24-Month Study

- Lake Mead will be operating in Tier 1 shortage condition in 2026
- Projection for EOY 2026 is below 1050'



SEIS Section 6(E) Notification

Under the September 24 Month Study Minimum Probable scenario, Lake Powell elevations are projected to go below elevation 3,500' by August 2026

Section 6(E) conditions have been met, and Reclamation has begun the planning process

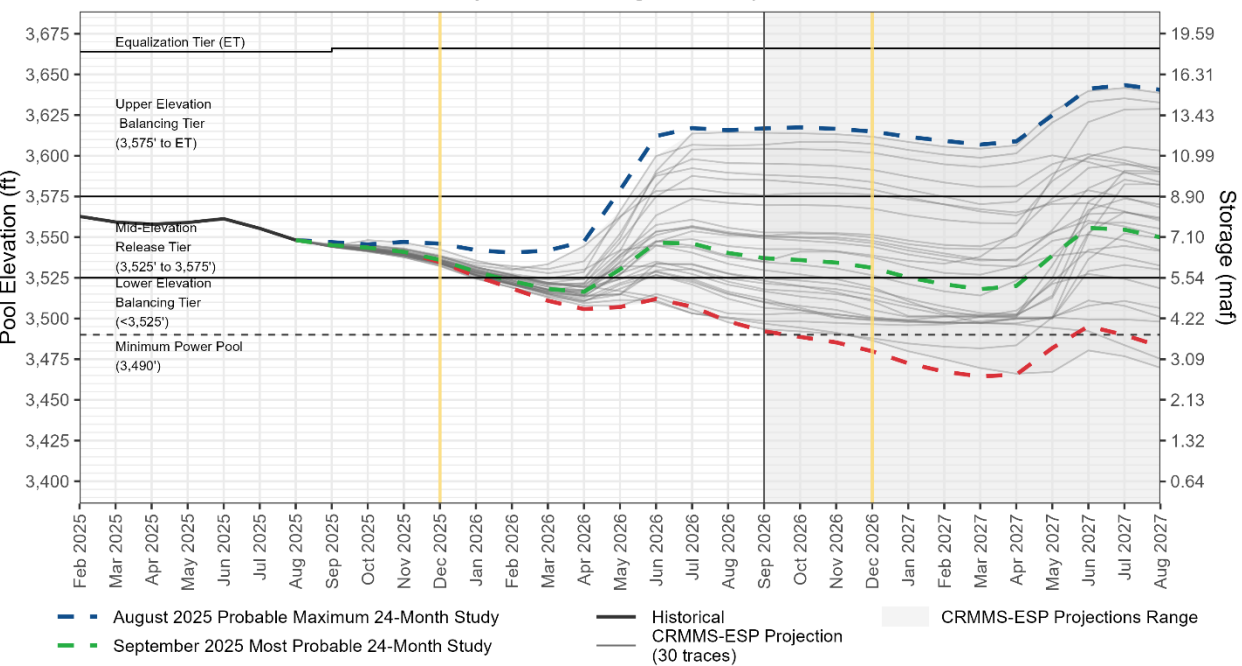
- Monthly coordination calls to monitor hydrologic conditions and projected elevations
- Operational planning actions are not anticipated to occur until early CY 2026 when more reliable forecasts are available

Section 6(E) also specifies that Reclamation will consider all tools that are available before reducing releases

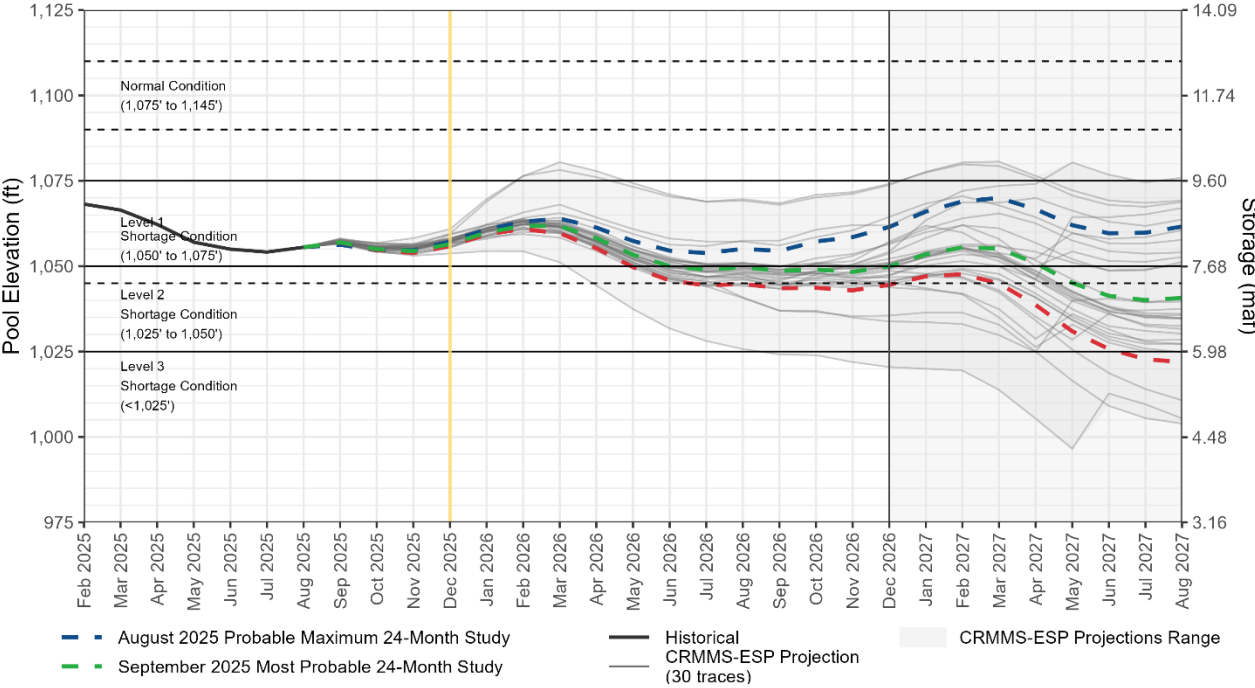
- July 2025 24 Month Study triggered Drought Response Operating Agreement (DROA)
- DROA planning activities are ongoing

Lake Powell and Lake Mead CRMMS Projections Constrained Lake Powell Releases

Lake Powell End-of-Month Elevations^{1,2}
CRMMS Projections from August and September 2025

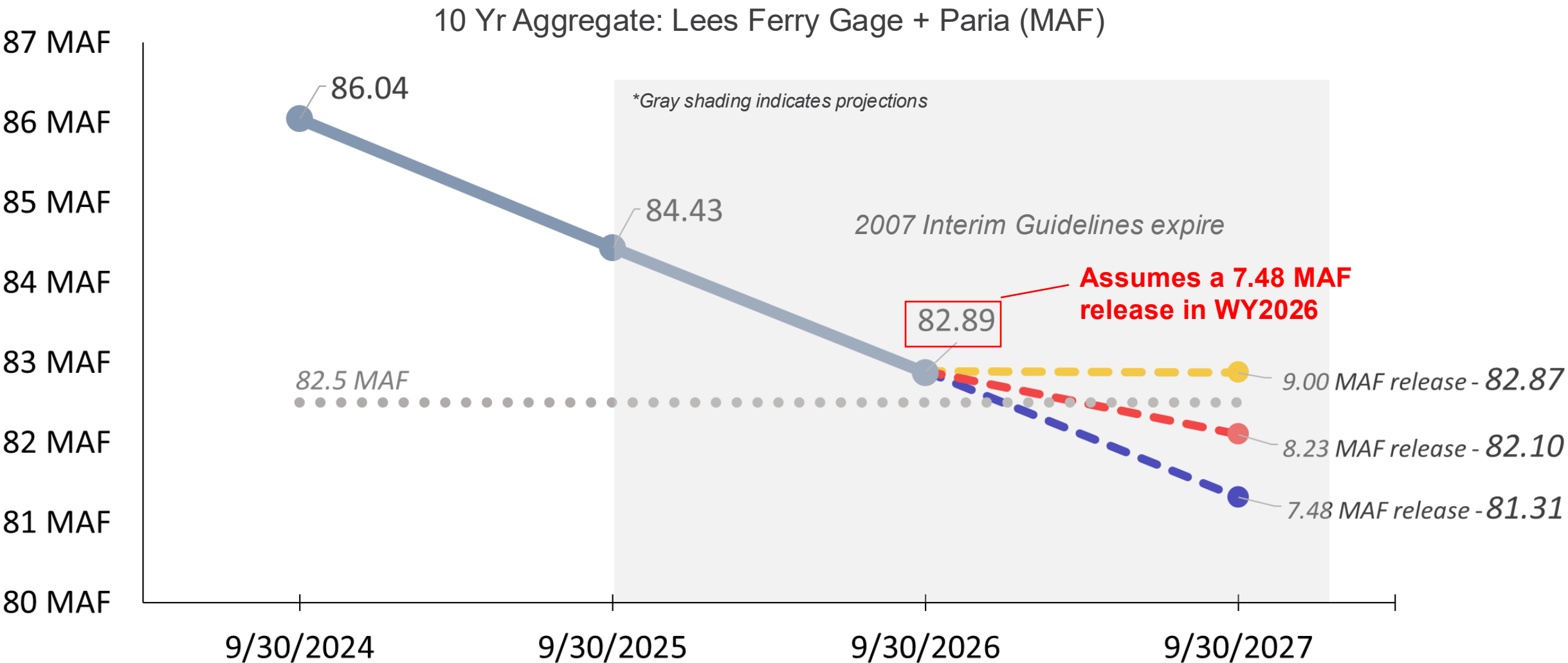


Lake Mead End-of-Month Elevations^{1,2}
CRMMS Projections from August and September 2025



'Constrained' graphic includes existing operational assumptions built into CRMMS that constrain Glen Canyon Dam releases to prevent Lake Powell from falling below elevation 3,500 feet. As described in Sections 6.E and 7.B of the Supplement to the 2007 Interim Guidelines, any actual constraining of Lake Powell releases is subject to appropriate consultation between Reclamation and other Basin partners with respect to the implementation of potential releases.

Projected Water Year of Flows Below Compact Requirements



Post-2026 Guidelines

Post-2026 Timeline

- June 2023: Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) formally initiated the Post-2026 Process
- October 2023: Scoping Summary Report and Federal Register Notice identified the Proposed Federal Action and Purpose & Need
- January 2025: Alternatives Report identified preliminary range of alternatives
- **Current: Overall process currently refining alternatives for Draft EIS**
- Fall-Winter 2025: Publication of Draft EIS
- Spring-Summer 2026: Publication of Final EIS
- Summer-Fall 2026: Adopt Record of Decision



Status of Negotiations

- Interstate conversations are ongoing
- Lower Division States working on plans to implement 1.25 MAF reductions between AZ/CA/NV
- Conversations with Mexico still needed
- Arizona continues to seek a collaborative path forward that avoids litigation

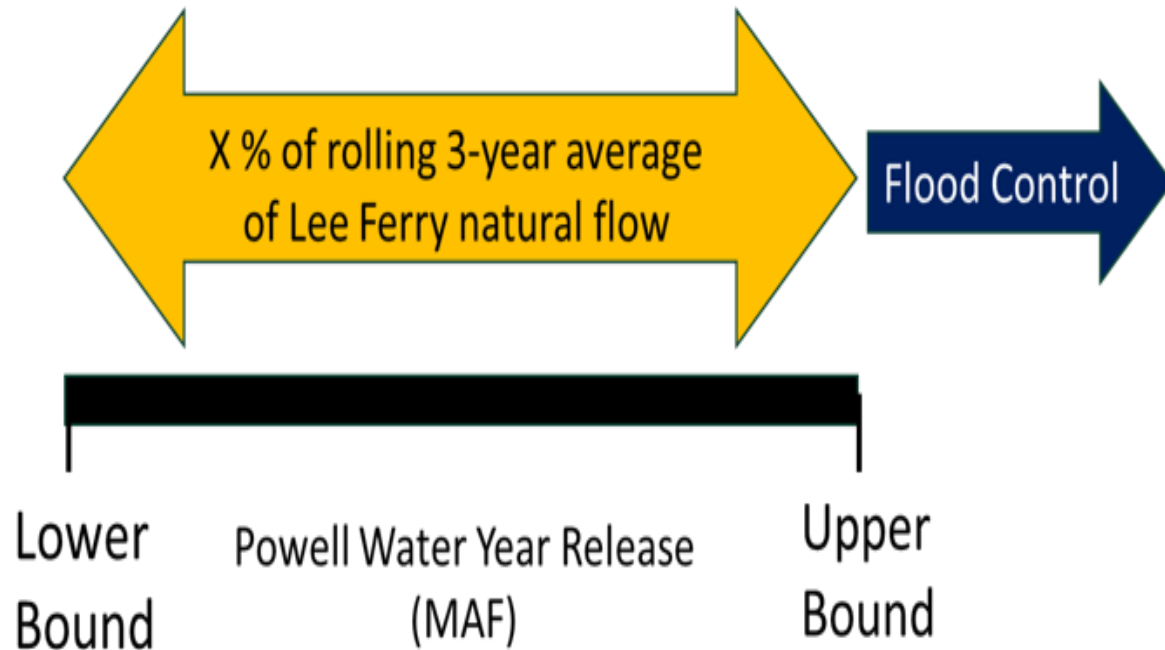
A Point of Contention – Basinwide Reductions

	Total Reduction Volumes	Upper Basin	Arizona	California	Nevada	Mexico*
Initial Reduction Zone	Up to 300 KAF	?	80%	0%	3.33%	16.67%
	300 KAF-1.5 MAF	?	43.33%	36.67%	3.33%	16.67%
Static Reduction Zone	1.5 MAF	?	760,000	440,000	50,000	250,000
Higher Reduction Zone	Above 1.5 MAF	To be negotiated				

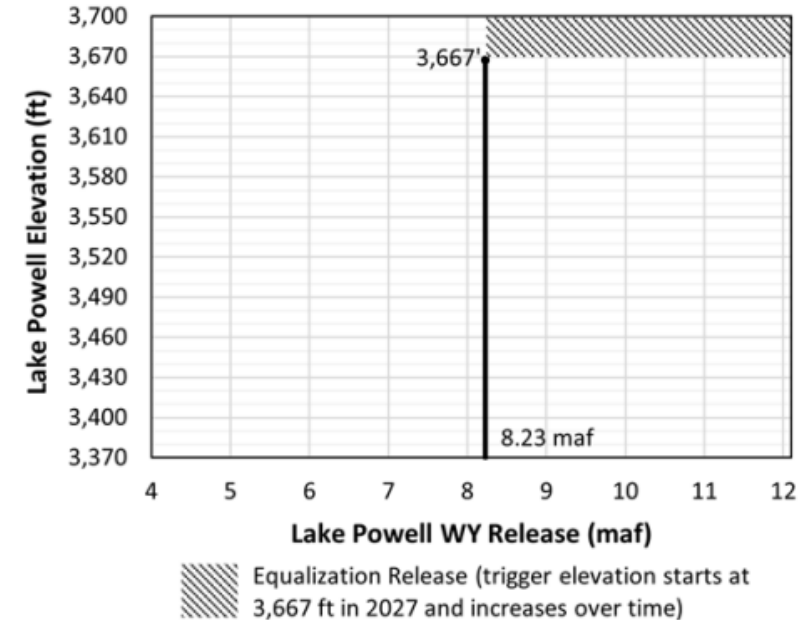
Lower Basin has offered 1.25 MAF of reductions

Upper Basin has not offered up reductions

A Point of Contention - Powell Releases



Natural flow at Lee Ferry is the basis for releases from Lake Powell to Lake Mead

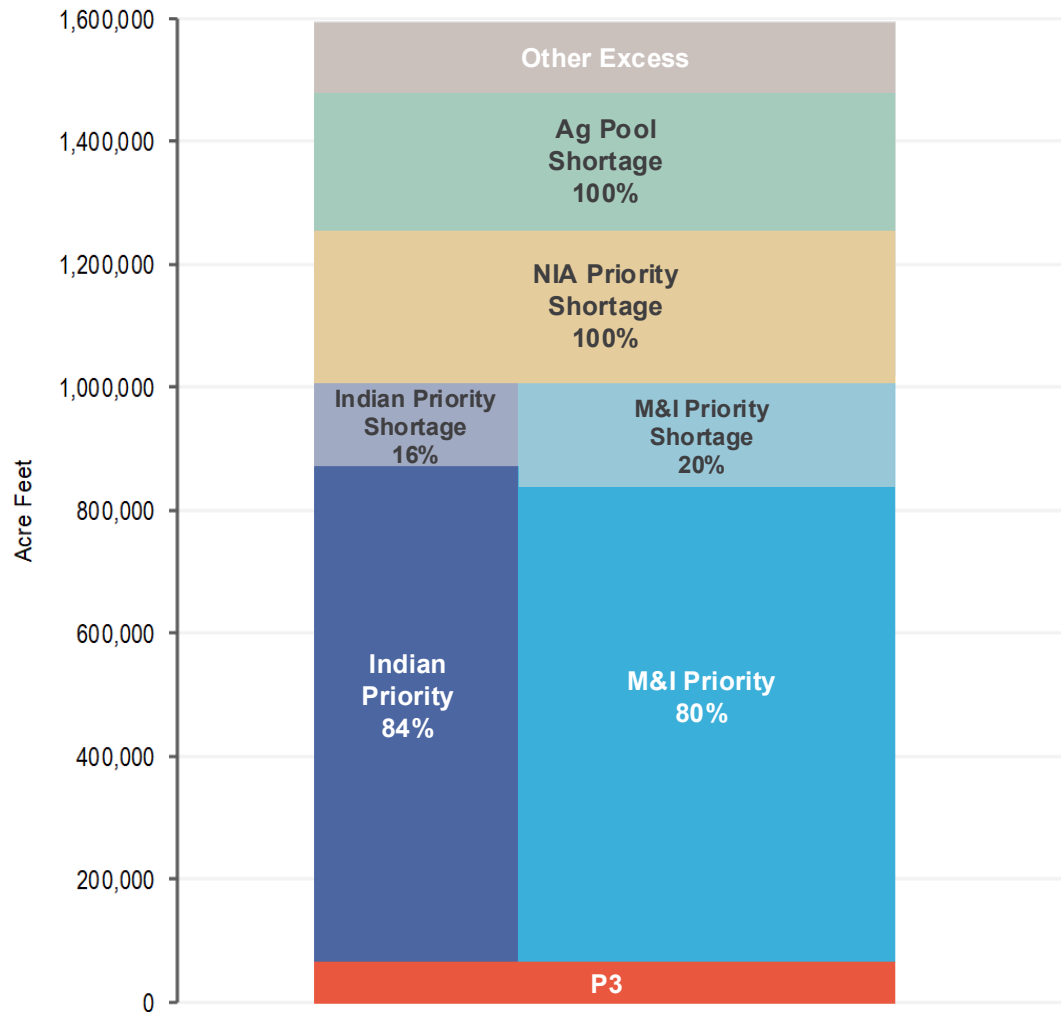


No Action – LROC is the basis for Powell releases

Lower Basin Proposed Reduction Sharing

	Total Reduction Volumes	Upper Basin	Arizona	California	Nevada	Mexico*
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	300 KAF-1.5 MAF	?	43.33%	36.67%	3.33%	16.67%
Static Reduction Zone	1.5 MAF	?	760,000	440,000	50,000	250,000
Higher Reduction Zone	Above 1.5 MAF	To be negotiated				

Potential Impact of “Static Reduction Zone”



Preliminary data and analysis; for illustrative purposes only

Key Assumptions:

- A 760 KAF reduction to Arizona based on Colorado River and CAP Priority assumptions and absent other activities that may be implemented to help offset reductions
- Current levels of CAP Long-Term Contract orders
- Priority 4 Shortage sharing based on the 2006 ADWR Director's Shortage Sharing Recommendation
- Reductions to the Indian and M&I priority pools based on the formula contained in the AWRSA and CAP subcontracts
- Reductions to the M&I priority pool based on orders



Coalition for Protecting Arizona's Lifeline

Mayors from across Arizona have come together to form the **Coalition for Protecting Arizona's Lifeline -- advocating and uniting Arizona** in support of the Colorado River and Central Arizona Project's role in water delivery.

Apache Junction Avondale Buckeye Carefree
Casa Grande Cave Creek Chandler Coolidge El Mirage
Eloy Florence Fountain Gilbert Glendale Goodyear
Litchfield Park Marana Mesa Oro Phoenix
Queen Creek Sahuarita Scottsdale Surprise Tempe
Tucson Youngtown



Questions

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