

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Intermountain West DEWS Drought & Climate Outlook

September 20, 2016

Oracle, AZ



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

Colorado River Basin Overview

- 16.5 million acre-feet (maf) allocated annually
 - 7.5 maf each to Upper and Lower Basins
 - 1.5 maf to Mexico
- 14.8 maf average annual “natural” inflow into Lake Powell over past 110 years
- Inflow is highly variable year-to-year
 - Snowmelt dominated system
- 60 maf of storage
 - 4 times the annual inflow
- Operations and water deliveries governed by the “Law of the River”



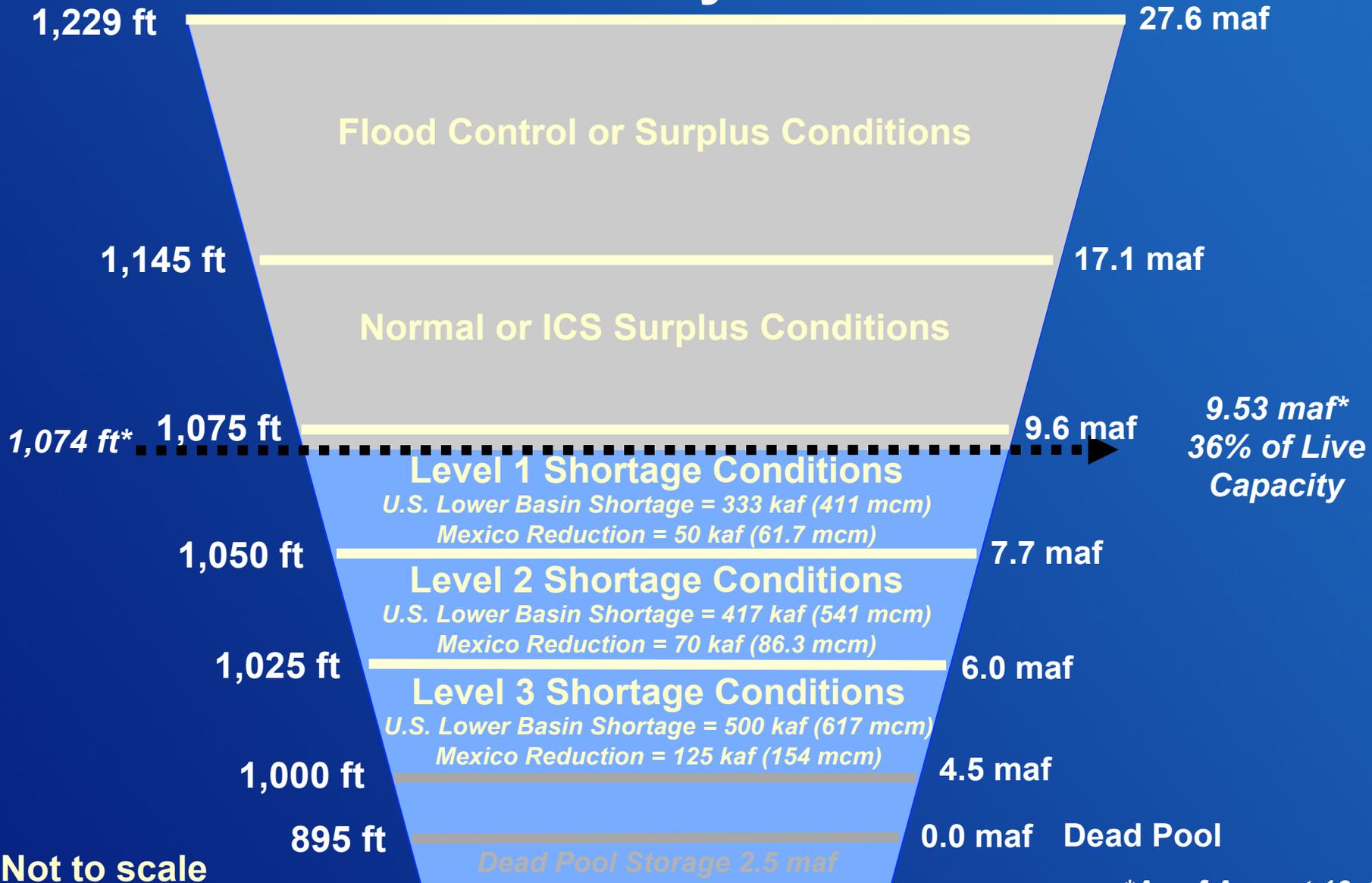
RECLAMATION

Colorado River Basin Storage (as of August 16, 2016)

Reservoir	Percent Full	Elevation (Feet)
Lake Powell	53%	3,616
Lake Mead	37%	1,074
Total System Storage*	50%	NA

*Total system storage was 31.19 maf or 52% this time last year

Lake Mead – Key Elevations¹

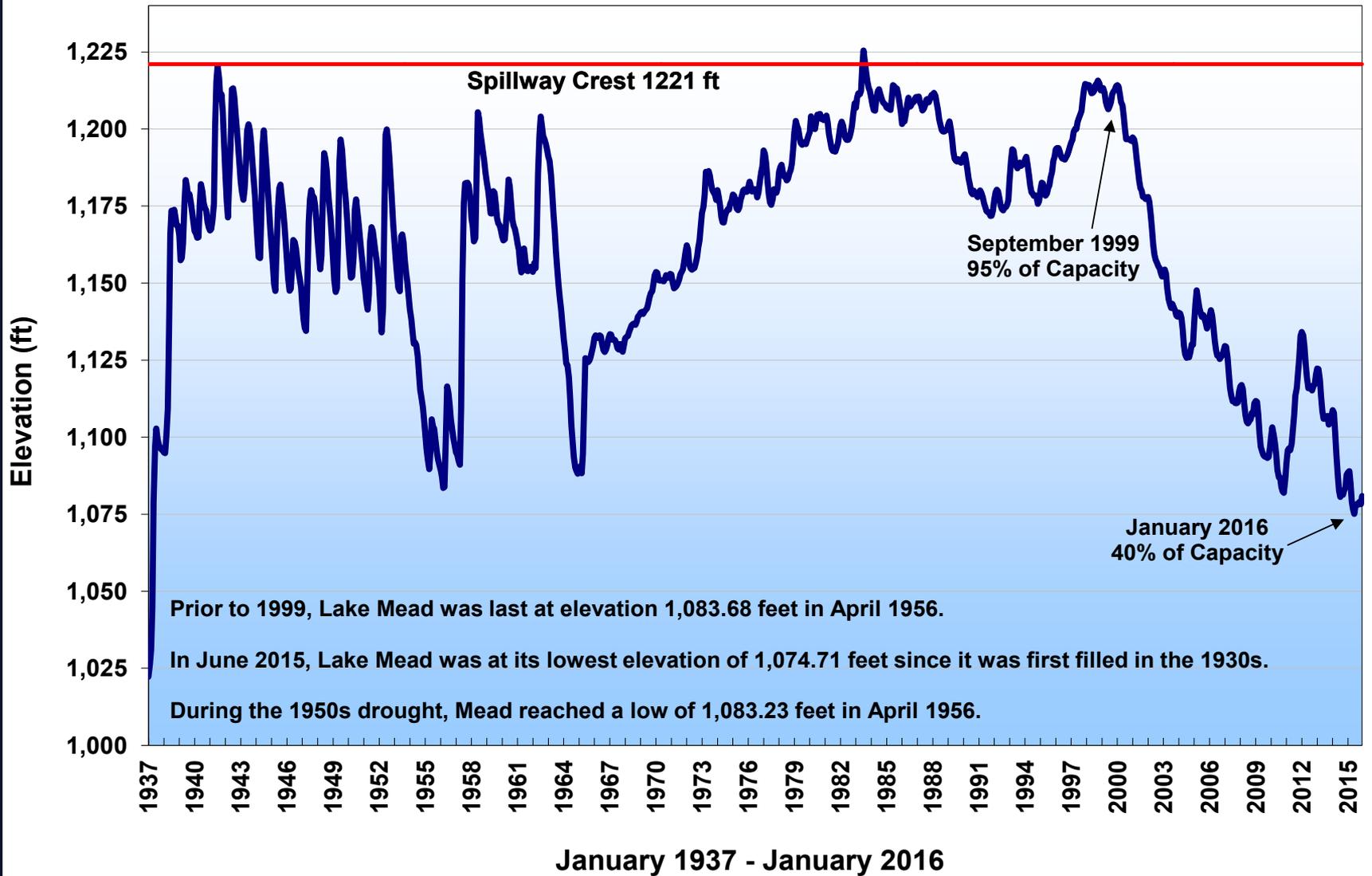


**As of August 16, 2016*

RECLAMATION

¹ Lake Mead operational condition and U.S. Lower Basin shortage volumes based on the 2007 Interim Guidelines; Mexico reductions based on Minute 319.

Lake Mead End of Month Elevation

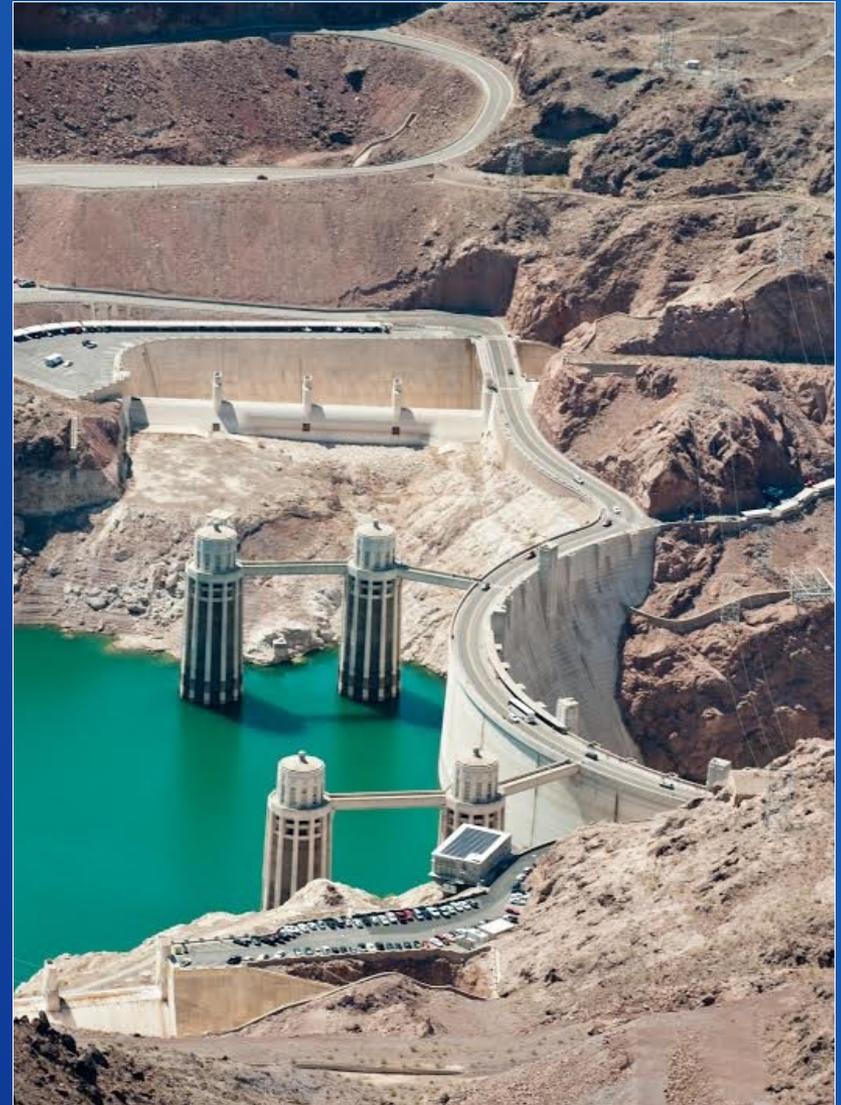




Lower Basin Drought Contingency

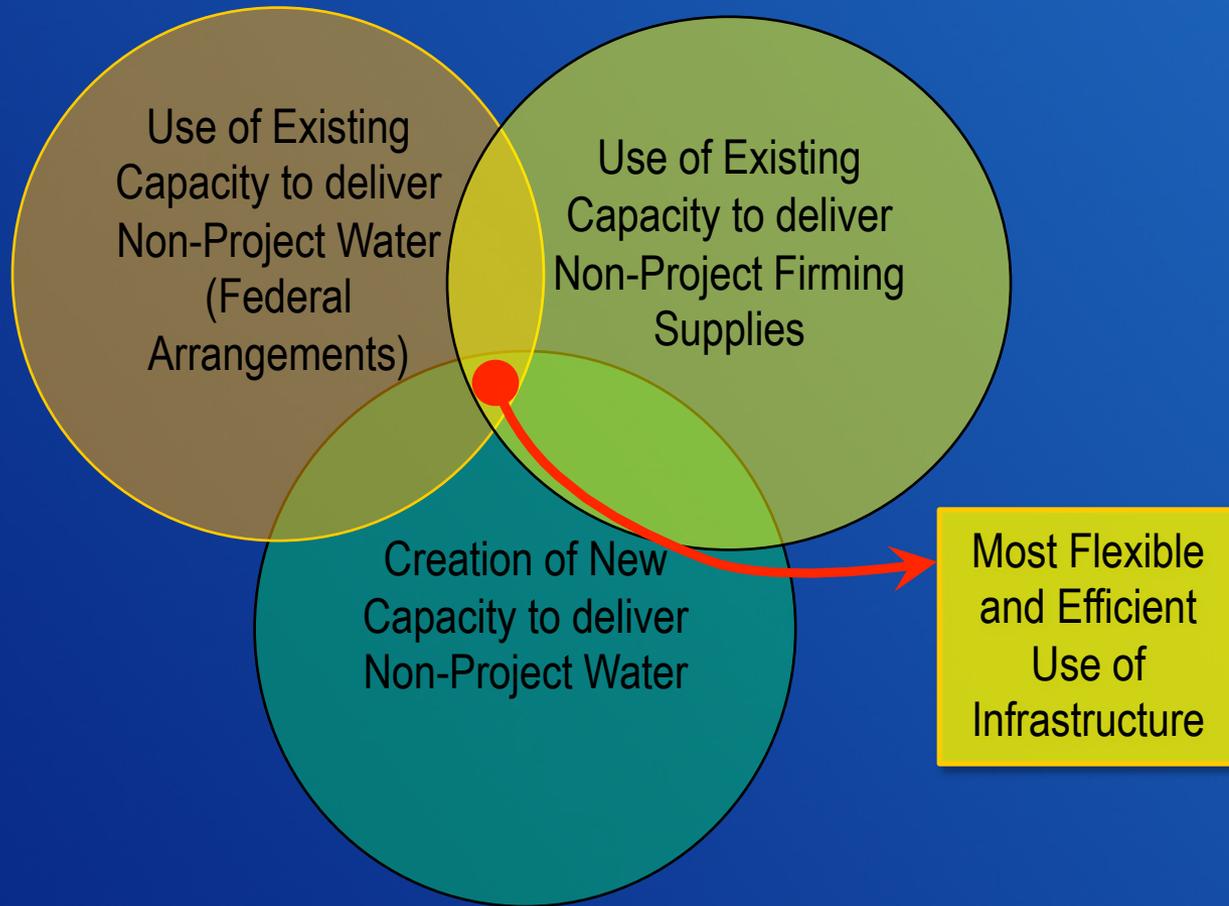
Planning

- Goal is to reduce the risk of reaching critical elevations in Lake Mead
 - Imbalance in water supply and water demand at Lake Mead
 - MOU in December 2014 to use “best efforts” to leave water in Lake Mead
 - What additional reductions in water deliveries can be achieved?
- Reclamation is committed to working closely with stakeholders as discussions unfold



RECLAMATION

Central Arizona Project System Use Agreement



Reclamation WaterSMART Program (Sustain and Manage America's Resources for Tomorrow)

- Landscape Conservation Cooperatives
- West-Wide Climate Risk Assessments (WWRAs)
- Basin Study Program
- Title XVI
- Cooperative Watershed Management Program
- Drought Program (3 elements)
- Watershed Conservation Field Services Program
- WaterSMART Grants
 - Water and Energy Efficiency
 - System Optimization Review
 - Advanced Water Treatment
 - Climate Analysis Tools

RECLAMATION

Examples of WaterSMART Activities

SRP Reservoir Operations Pilot Study

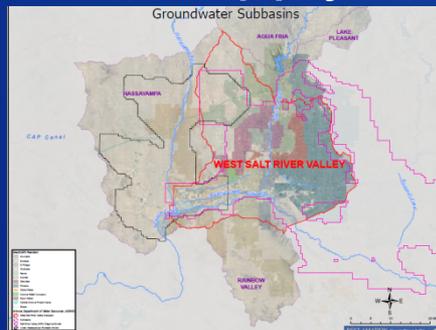
- To Identify and evaluate year-to-year changes to surface water availability



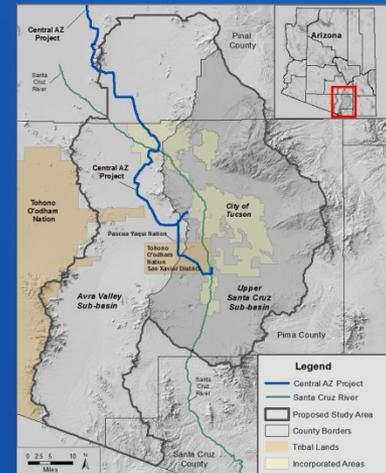
Roosevelt Dam

Basin Studies

- To analyze impacts of climate change & develop adaptation strategies to meet future water supply & demand imbalances



WestCAPS



Lower Santa Cruz River

Arizona Water Settlements Act – New Mexico CAP Unit

- New Mexico notified the Secretary of their intent to develop a New Mexico Unit in December 2014
- Interior signed the New Mexico Unit Agreement with the NM CAP Entity in November 2015
- Next steps
 - NM CAP Entity propose their project
 - Reclamation conduct environmental compliance
 - Expect public comment periods starting in early 2017
 - Secretary sign Record of Decision by 2019 unless extended as allowed

Interior's Natural Resource Investment Center

- **Announced in December, 2015**
- **Create private sector partnerships to create financing opportunities that support economic development goals while advancing Interior's resource stewardship mission**
 - **Increase water conservation investment, water exchanges or transfers**
 - **Increase investment in critical water infrastructure**
 - **Foster private investment and support well-structured markets to advance efficient permitting and effective landscape-level conservation**

Water Rights Settlement Program

Negotiation Teams

- Navajo/Hopi
- Yavapai-Apache
- San Carlos Apache
– Upper Gila
- Hualapai
- Tohono O'odham –
Sif Oidak District
- Tonto Apache



Implementation Teams

- Gila River Indian
Community
- Southern Arizona Water
Rights Settlement
- White Mountain Apache
- San Carlos Apache Water
Rights Settlement
- Ft. McDowell
- SRPMIC*
- Yavapai-Prescott*

*No Teams

RECLAMATION

Questions?



For more information

- Lower Colorado River Operations:
<http://www.usbr.gov/lc/riverops.html>
- Phoenix Area Office:
<http://www.usbr.gov/lc/phoenix/>

Marcia Nesby
Water Resources Planner
Phoenix Area Office
623-773-6226
mnesby@usbr.gov

RECLAMATION