2026 AOP Webinar: Webinar Housekeeping

Thank you for joining us today!

- The meeting will start at 9:00 am PDT/ 10:00 am MDT
- Please mute additional speakers next to your computer to avoid echoes or other audio issues
- A pdf copy of the slides was sent out to participants on the distribution list prior to the start of today's consultation
- Please identify if you have other attendees with you via the Chat Box
- For webinar technical support, please call:
 - o 702-523-8705





2026 Colorado River Annual Operating Plan

Colorado River Management Work Group Third Consultation September 9, 2025

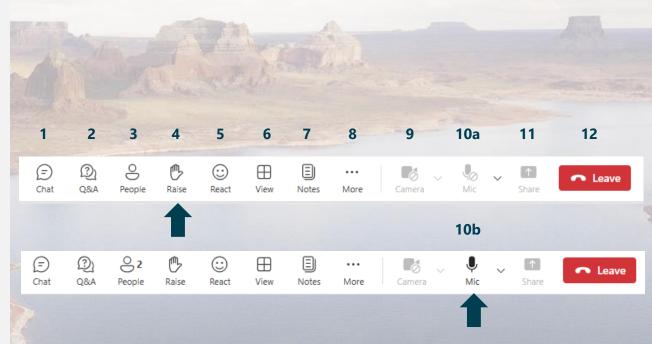
2026 Colorado River Annual Operating Plan Third Consultation

- Welcome and Introductions
 - Dan Bunk & Val Deppe
- Opening Remarks
 - Genevieve Johnson & Katrina Grantz
- Upper Basin Hydrology and Operations
 - Nathaniel Todea
- Lower Basin Hydrology and Operations
 - Ian Yasui
- 2026 AOP Review Process
 - Dan Bunk
- Review of Draft 2026 AOP
 - Alex Pivarnik & Noe Santos with CRMWG
- Wrap-up and Next Steps
 - Dan Bunk & Val Deppe



Teams Webinar Settings

- Group Chat Use this function to chat with the CRMWG and to send questions during AOP consultation.
- 2. Q&A If enabled, will allow you to send questions directly to the presenters/organizers.
- 3. Attendees Select this option to view who is participating on the webinar.
- Raise your Hand Select this to raise your hand and notify the meeting organizers to unmute you to ask an audible question or to provide comments.
- 5. React Select this to react using pre-selected emojis (optional).
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Upper Colorado Basin

Water Year 2025 Conditions & Operations

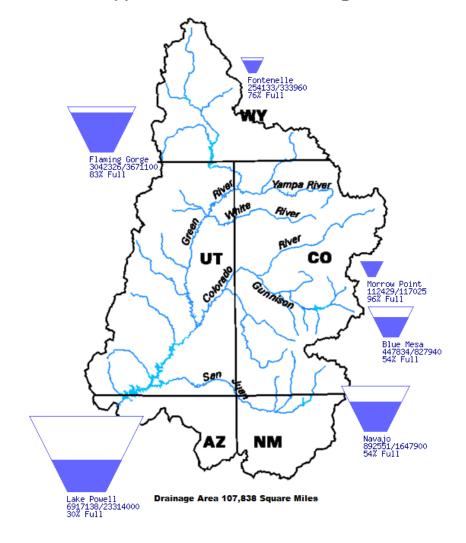


Upper Basin Storage (as of September 7, 2025)

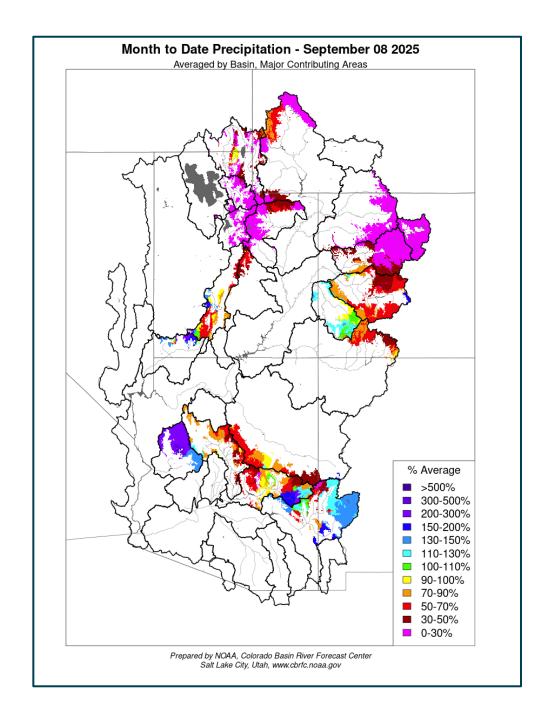
Data Current as of: 09/07/2025

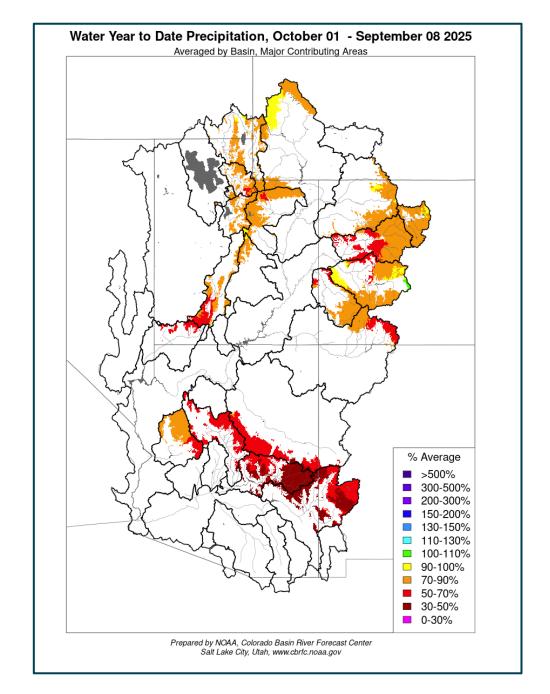
Upper Colorado River Drainage Basin

Reservoir	Percent Current Live Storage	Current Live Storage (maf)	Live Storage Capacity (maf)	Elevation (feet)
Fontenelle	76	0.25	0.33	6,495.27
Flaming Gorge	83	3.04	3.67	6,023.84
Blue Mesa	54	0.45	0.83	7,472.39
Navajo	54	0.89	1.65	6,022.91
Lake Powell	30	6.92	23.31	3,547.27
UC System Storage	39	11.68	29.93	



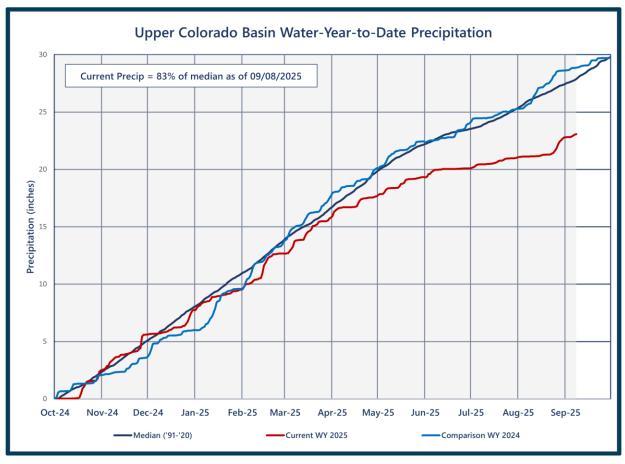


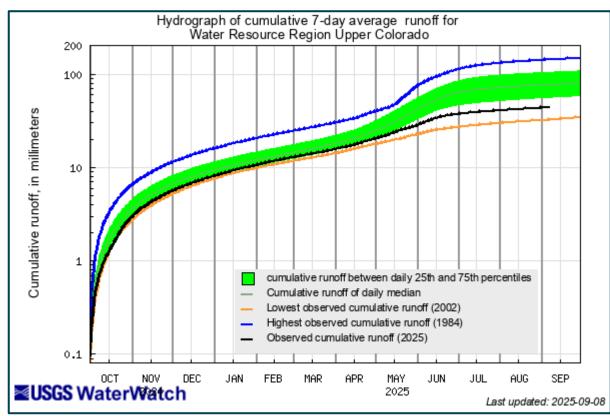






Upper Colorado Precipitation and Observed Inflows





https://waterwatch.usgs.gov/index.php



Most Probable September Forecast Water Year 2025

2025 April – July Observed Unregulated Inflow

Reservoir	Inflow (kaf)	Change from -	Percent of Avg ¹
Fontenelle	464	-	63
Flaming Gorge	517	-	54
Blue Mesa	409	-	64
Navajo	230	-	37
Powell	2,635	-	41

Water Year 2025 Unregulated Inflow Forecast

as of September 2, 2025

Reservoir	Inflow (kaf)	Change from August	Percent of Avg ¹
Fontenelle	712	-4	66
Flaming Gorge	836	-10	59
Blue Mesa	650	-8	72
Navajo	347	-8	38
Powell	4,696	-144	49



Most Probable September Forecast Water Year 2026

April – July 2026 Forecasted Unregulated Inflow

as of September 2, 2025

Reservoir	Inflow (kaf)	Change from August	Percent of Avg ¹
Fontenelle	610	-10	83
Flaming Gorge	750	-10	78
Blue Mesa	580	0	91
Navajo	525	-30	84
Powell	5,200	-100	81

Water Year 2026 Unregulated Inflow Forecast

as of September 2, 2025

Reservoir	Inflow (kaf)	Change from August	Percent of Avg ¹
Fontenelle	874	-16	81
Flaming Gorge	1,090	-20	77
Blue Mesa	800	-5	88
Navajo	710	-50	78
Powell	7,600	-250	79





Timing of Operational Decisions

 August 24-Month Study projections of January 1 elevations sets the operating tiers for Lake Powell and Lake Mead



Most Probable August Forecast Water Year 2025

April – July 2025 Preliminary Observed Unregulated Inflow as of August 1, 2025

Reservoir	Inflow (kaf)	Change from July	Percent of Avg ¹
Fontenelle	464	+19	63
Flaming Gorge	517	+12	52
Blue Mesa	410	-5	64
Navajo	230	-11	37
Powell	2,634	-65	41

Water Year 2025 Unregulated Inflow Forecast

as of August 1, 2025

Reservoir	Inflow (kaf)	Change from July	Percent of Avg ¹
Fontenelle	716	+22	67
Flaming Gorge	846	+14	60
Blue Mesa	658	-16	73
Navajo	355	-38	39
Powell	4,840	-125	50



Most Probable August Forecast Water Year 2026

April – July 2026 Forecasted Unregulated Inflow

as of August 1, 2025

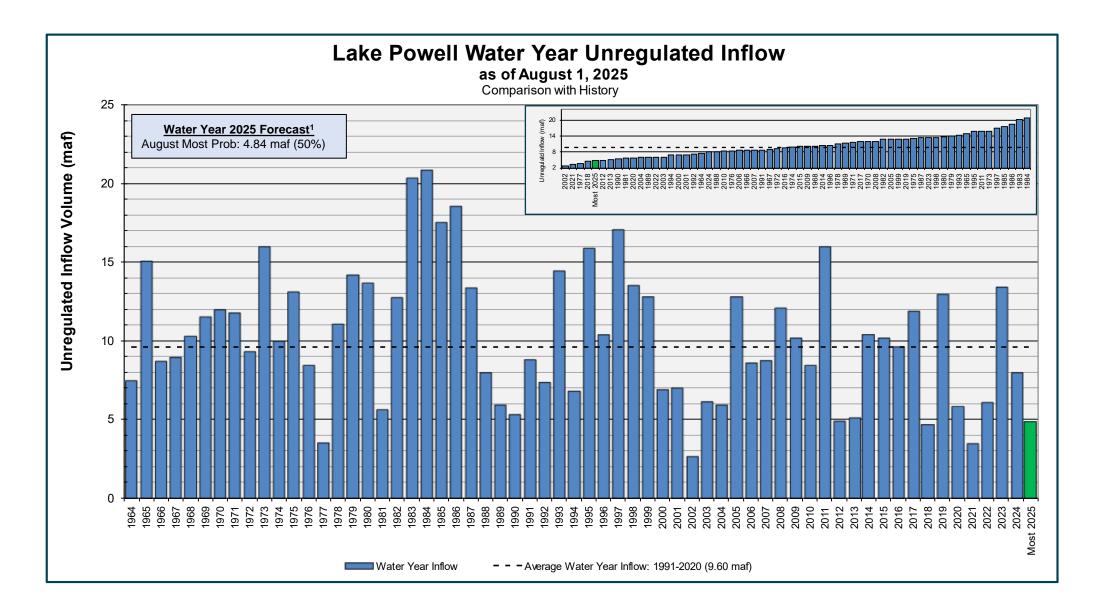
Reservoir	Inflow (kaf)	Change from July	Percent of Avg ¹
Fontenelle	620	-5	84
Flaming Gorge	760	-15	79
Blue Mesa	580	-5	91
Navajo	555	+5	88
Powell	5,300	-100	83

Water Year 2026 Unregulated Inflow Forecast

as of August 1, 2025

Reservoir	Inflow (kaf)	Change from July	Percent of Avg ¹
Fontenelle	890	-5	83
Flaming Gorge	1,110	-15	79
Blue Mesa	805	-10	89
Navajo	760	-5	83
Powell	7,850	-150	82







Lake Powell & Lake Mead Operational Table
Lake Powell Operational Tier Determination Run (aka "Exhibit Run")
with an 8.23 maf Release¹

	Elevation (feet)	Live Storage (maf) ¹	
	3,700	Equalization Tier Equalize, avoid spills, or release 8.23 maf	24.3
3,636-3,66 6 (2008-2026		Upper Elevation Balancing Tier³ Release 8.23 maf; if Lake Mead < 1,075 feet,	15.5-19.3 (2008-2026)
	3,575	balance contents with a min/max release of 7.0 and 9.0 maf	9.5
	3,373		9.5
Jan	32.15 ft 1, 2026 Djection	Mid-Elevation Release Tier Release 7.48 maf; if Lake Mead < 1,025 feet, release 8.23 maf	
	3,525		5.9
	3,490	Lower Elevation Balancing Tier Balance contents with a min/max release of 7.0 and 9.5 maf	4.0
	3,370		0

	Lake Mead					
Elevation (feet)	Operation According to the Interim Guidelines	Live Storage (maf) ¹				
1,220	Flood Control Surplus or Quantified Surplus Condition Deliver > 7.5 maf	25.9				
1,200 (approx.) ²	Domestic Surplus or ICS Surplus Condition Deliver > 7.5 maf	22.9 (approx.) ²				
1,145		15.9				
	Normal or ICS Surplus Condition Deliver ≥ 7.5 maf					
1,075	Shortage Condition Deliver 7.167 ¹ maf	9.4				
1,050		7.5				
	Shortage Condition Deliver 7.083 ⁵ maf					
1,025		5.8				
1,000	Shortage Condition Deliver 7.0 ⁶ maf	4.3				
	Further measures may be undertaken ⁷					
895		0				

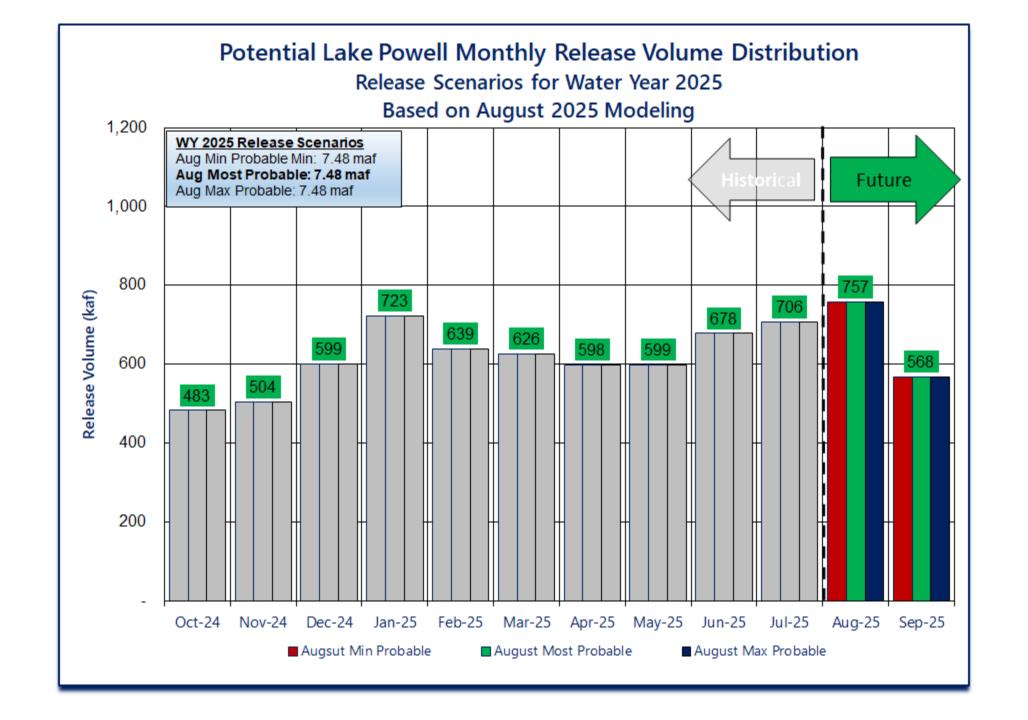




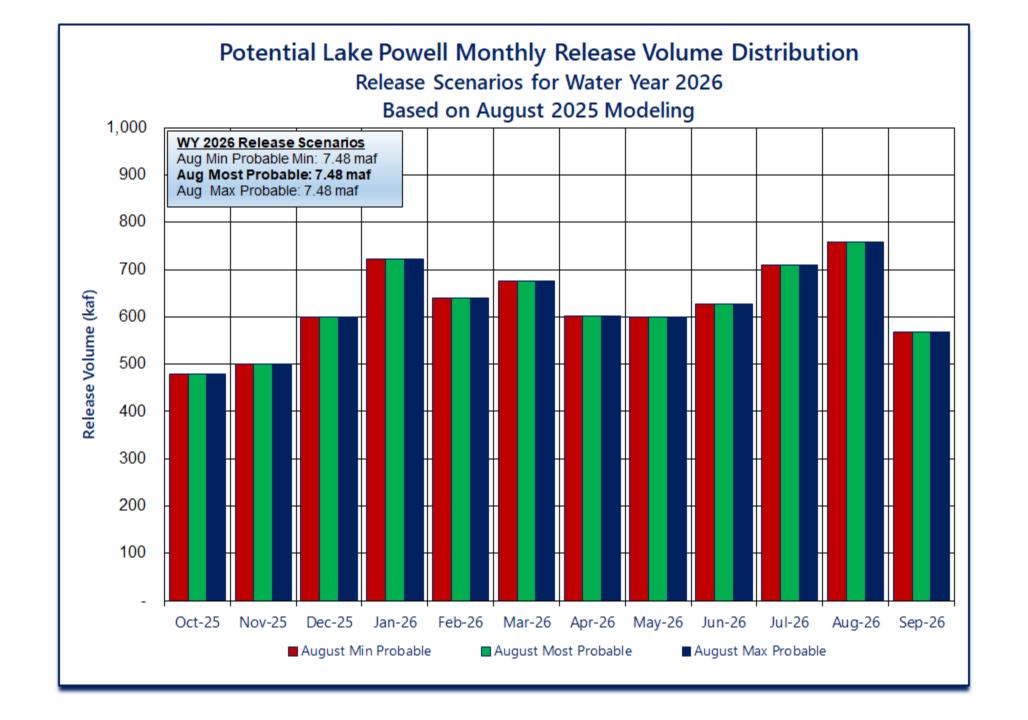
Upper Basin Reservoir Operations Water Years 2025 and 2026

- Lake Powell will be operated consistent with the 2007 Interim Guidelines, the Upper Basin Drought Response Operations Agreement and Upper Basin Records of Decision
- Lake Powell WY 2026 will operate in the Mid-Elevation Release Tier with a planned release of 7.48 maf
- Includes the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Near-term Colorado River Operations Record of Decision (2024 Near-term SEIS, signed May 6, 2024)
- Includes the Glen Canyon Dam Long-Term Experimental and Management Plan Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (2024 LTEMP SEIS ROD, signed July 3, 2024)
- Reclamation will also ensure all appropriate consultation with Basin Tribes, the Republic of Mexico, other federal agencies, water users and non-governmental organizations with respect to implementation of these monthly and annual operations

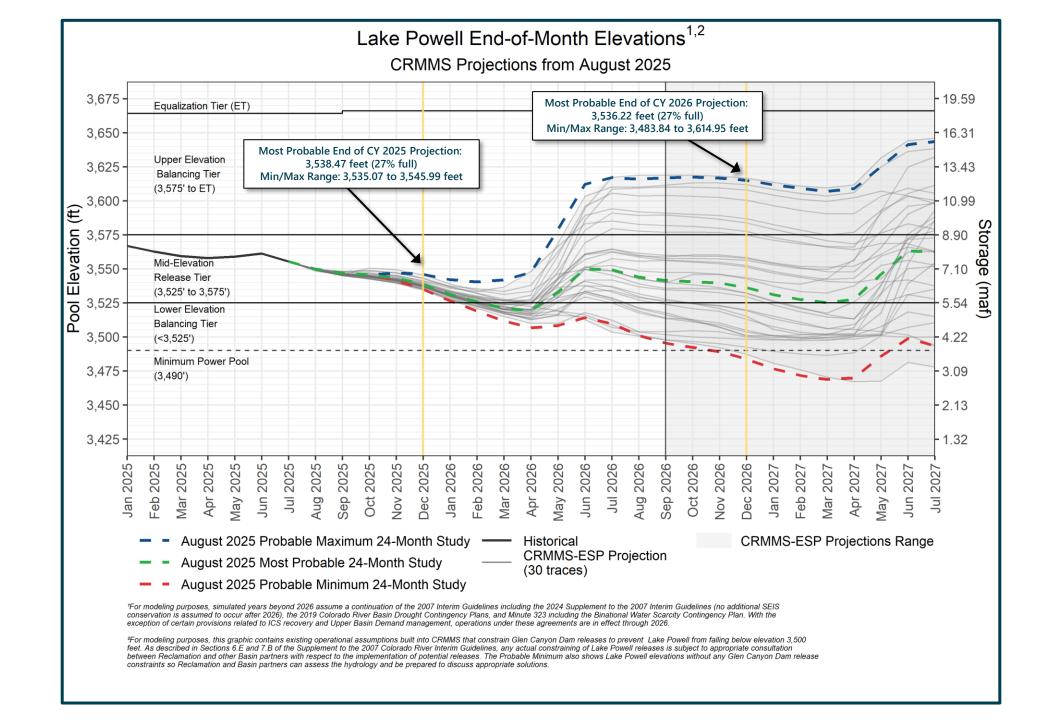














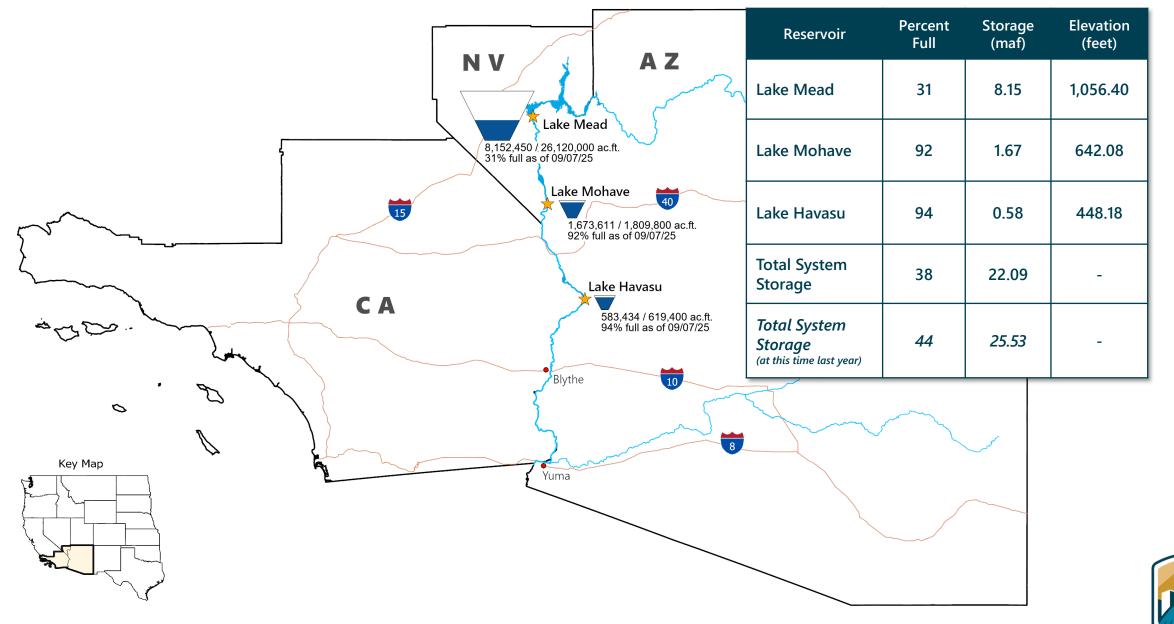


Lower Colorado Basin

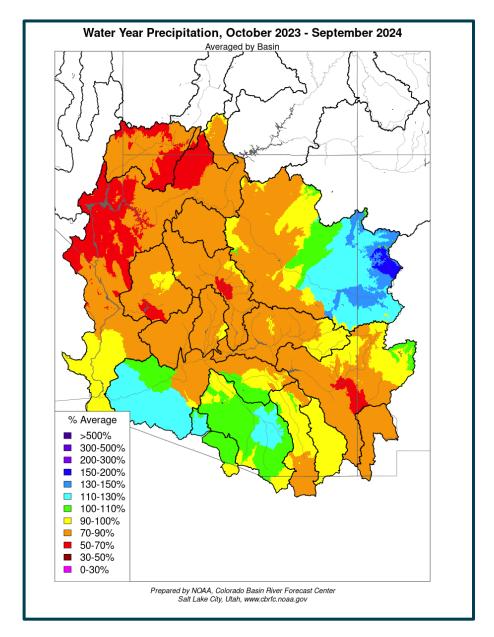
2025 Conditions & Operations and Projections for 2026

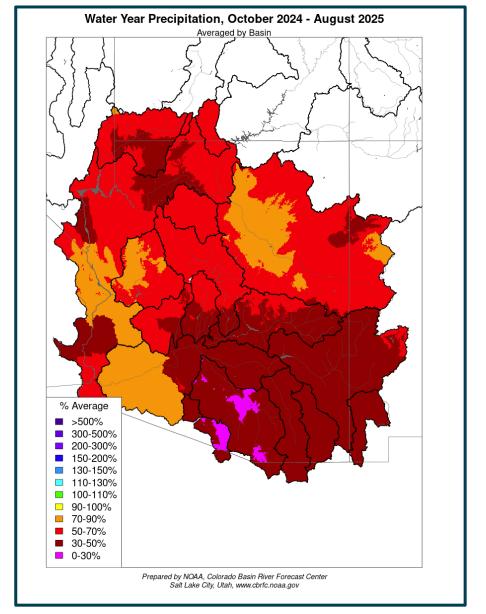


Lower Colorado Basin System Conditions (as of September 7, 2025)



Lower Colorado Basin: WY24 to WY25 Precipitation







Lower Basin Side Inflows – WY/CY 2025^{1,2} Intervening Flow from Glen Canyon to Hoover Dam

N	Month in WY/CY 2025	5-Year Average Intervening Flow (kaf)	Observed Intervening Flow (kaf)	Observed Intervening Flow (% of Average)	Difference From 5-Year Average (kaf)
	October 2024	62	47	76%	-15
	November 2024	42	42	101%	1
	December 2024	65	64	98%	-1
	January 2025	74	37	50%	-37
pa	February 2025	61	57	92%	-5
Observed	March 2025	102	43	43%	-58
o	April 2025	93	28	30%	-65
	May 2025	52	24	46%	-28
	June 2025	18	31	170%	13
	July 2025	53	23	43%	-30
	August 2025	102	57	56%	-45
7	September 2025	83			
ctec	October 2025	62			
Projected	November 2025	42			
	December 2025	65			
	WY 2025 Totals	807	536	66%	-272
	CY 2025 Totals	807	551	68%	-256

¹ Values were computed with the LC's gain-loss model for the most recent 24-month study.



² Percents of average are based on the 5-year mean from 2020-2024.

Lake Powell & Lake Mead Operational Table

Lake Mead Operating Condition Determination for CY 2026¹

Lake Powell						
Elevation (feet)	Operation According to the Interim Guidelines	Live Storage (maf) ¹				
3,700	Equalization Tier Equalize, avoid spills, or release 8.23 maf	24.3				
3,636-3,666 (2008-2026)	Upper Elevation Balancing Tier ³ Release 8.23 maf; if Lake Mead < 1,075 feet, balance contents with a min/max release of 7.0 and 9.0 maf	15.5-19.3 (2008-2026)				
3,575	Mid-Elevation Release Tier Release 7.48 maf; if Lake Mead < 1,025 feet, release 8.23 maf	9.5				
3,525		5.9				
3,490	Lower Elevation Balancing Tier Balance contents with a min/max release of 7.0 and 9.5 maf	4.0				
3,370		0				

Lake Mead					
Elevation (feet)	Operation According to the Interim Guidelines	Live Storage (maf) ¹			
1,220	Flood Control Surplus or Quantified Surplus Condition Deliver > 7.5 maf	25.9			
1,200 (approx.) ²	Domestic Surplus or ICS Surplus Condition Deliver > 7.5 maf	22.9 (approx.)²			
1,145		15.9			
	Normal or ICS Surplus Condition Deliver ≥ 7.5 maf				
1,075	Shortage Condition Deliver 7.167 ⁴ maf	1,055.88 Jan 1, 20 Projectio			
1,050	Shortage Condition Deliver 7.083 ⁵ maf				
1,025		5.8			
1,000	Shortage Condition Deliver 7.0 ⁶ maf	4.3			
	Further measures may be undertaken ⁷				
895		0			





2007 Interim Guidelines, Minute 323, Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan, and Binational Water Scarcity Contingency Plan Total Volumes (kaf)

Lake Mead Elevation (feet msl)	2007 I Guide Short	elines	Minute 323 Delivery Reductions	Total Combined Reductions	DCP Water Savings Contributions		Savings		Binational Water Scarcity Contingency Plan Savings	Combined Volumes by Country US: (2007 Interim Guidelines Shortages + DCP Contributions) Mexico: (Minute 323 Delivery Reductions + Binational Water Scarcity Contingency Plan Savings)				Total Combined Volumes
(leet msi)	AZ	NV	Mexico	Lower Basin States + Mexico	AZ	NV	CA	Mexico	AZ Total	NV Total	CA Total	Lower Basin States Total	Mexico Total	Lower Basin States + Mexico
1,090 - 1,075	0	0	0	0	192	8	0	41	192	8	0	200	41	241
1,075 - 1050	320	13	50	383	192	8	0	30	512	21	0	533	80	613
1,050 - 1,045	400	17	70	487	192	8	0	34	592	25	0	617	104	721
1,045 - 1,040	400	17	70	487	240	10	200	76	640	27	200	867	146	1,013
1,040 - 1,035	400	17	70	487	240	10	250	84	640	27	250	917	154	1,071
1,035 - 1,030	400	17	70	487	240	10	300	92	640	27	300	967	162	1,129
1,030 - 1,025	400	17	70	487	240	10	350	101	640	27	350	1,017	171	1,188
<1,025	480	20	125	625	240	10	350	150	720	30	350	1,100	275	1,375

2026 Reductions + Contributions



The Secretary of the Interior will take affirmative actions to implement programs designed to create or conserve 100,000 acre-ft per annum or more of Colorado River System water to contribute to conservation of water supplies in Lake Mead and other Colorado River reservoirs in the lower basin. All actions taken by the United States shall be subject to applicable law, including availability of appropriations.

2026 Reductions +

Contributions

Additional Conservation by the U.S. Lower Basin and Mexico as of August 2025

U.S. Lower Basin¹

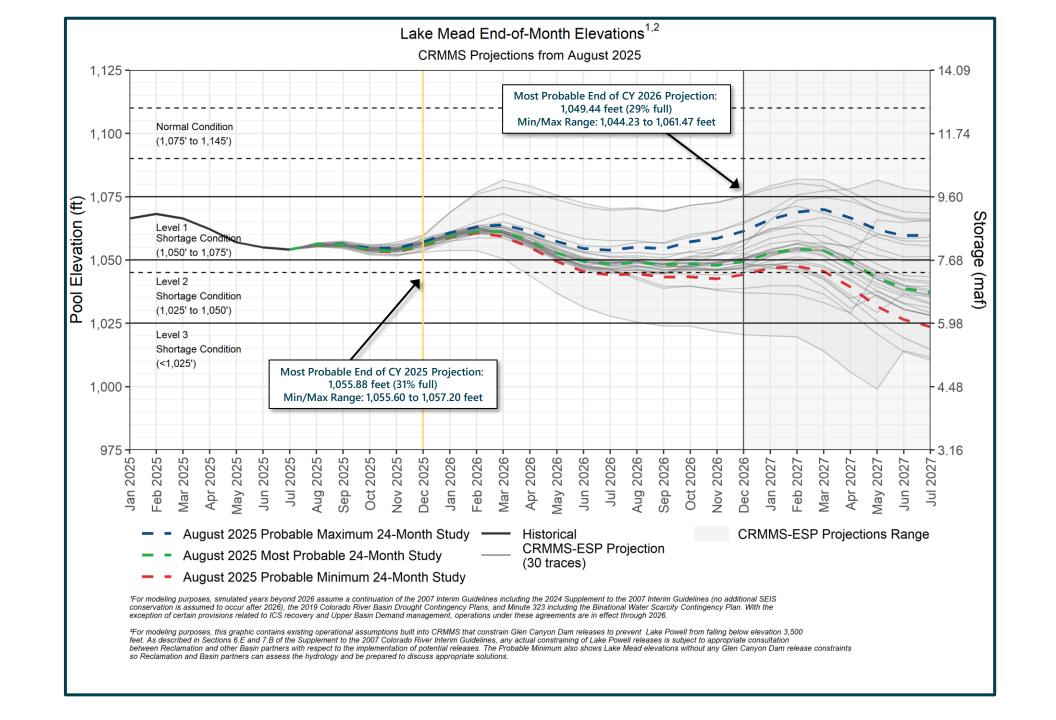
Calendar Year	Annual Volume Conserved (in acre-feet and mcm)	Cumulative Volume Conserved (in acre-feet and mcm)
2023	1,160,697 AF <i>(1,432 mcm)</i>	1,160,697 AF <i>(1,432 mcm)</i>
2024	903,767 AF <i>(1,115 mcm)</i>	2,064,464 AF <i>(2,546 mcm)</i>
2025	874,372 AF <i>(1,079 mcm)</i>	2,938,835 AF <i>(3,625 mcm)</i>
2026	771,148 AF <i>(951 mcm)</i>	3,709,983 AF <i>(4,576 mcm)</i>

Mexico²

Date	Minimum Cumulative Volume Conserved (acre-feet)	Minimum Cumulative Volume Conserved (cubic meters)
By December 31, 2024	133,000	164,054,000
By December 31, 2025	333,000	410,752,000
By December 31, 2026	400,000	493,396,000

¹ U.S. Lower Basin additional conservation reflects final accounting in the 2023 and 2024 Water Accounting Reports and executed system conservation agreements based on current projections. All projected or provisional volumes are subject to change. Additional conservation activities are being considered including system conservation, ICS, and other conserved water in 2025 and 2026. These additional activities are included in Reclamation's operational modeling. Conserved volumes are credited toward Protection Volume Conservation under the 2024 Supplemental EIS or system conservation efforts under the 2019 Drought Contingency Plan. The 2023 and 2024 Water Accounting Reports, respectively, and can be found online at: https://www.usbr.gov/lc/region/g4000/wtracct.html.







YAO Operations Update

- Pumped drainage return flows from the Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District
 - Flow at station 0+00 on the Main Outlet
 Drain from January through August 2025 was 66,407 af at 2,601 ppm
- Provisional drainage flows to the Colorado River
 - From the South Gila Drainage Wells
 January through August 2025 was
 8,427 af at 1,596 ppm
 - From the Yuma Mesa Conduit
 January through August 2025 was
 23,411 af at 1,129 ppm



Additional Operational Data

Provisional 2025 Year-to-Date Totals

- Mexico Excess Flows
 ▶6,249 af (through 9/7)
- Brock Reservoir Total Storage
 ▶81,318 af (through 9/4)
- Senator Wash Total Storage ≽47,851 af (through 9/4)















