

# SALT RIVER PROJECT AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENT AND POWER DISTRICT MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA

**WATER COMMITTEE**  
Thursday, December 7, 2023, 9:30 AM

**SRP Administration Building**  
**1500 N. Mill Avenue, Tempe, AZ 85288**

Committee Members: Kevin Johnson, Chairman; Robert Arnett, Vice Chairman; and Mario Herrera, Anda McAfee, Kathy Mohr-Almeida, Mark Pace, and Paul Rovey

Call to Order

Roll Call

1. **CONSENT AGENDA:** The following agenda item(s) will be considered as a group by the Committee and will be enacted with one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these item(s) unless a Committee Member requests, in which event the agenda item(s) will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered as a separate item ..... CHAIRMAN KEVIN JOHNSON

- Request for approval of the minutes for the meeting of November 14, 2023.

2. SRP's Water Emergency Reservoir Operations Center (WEROC) ..... CHARLIE ESTER and KISSHELL WILSON

Informational presentation regarding SRP's WEROC, which is activated when reservoirs are full and significant releases are necessary.

3. Colorado River Hydrology and Operations ..... MEGAN MARTIN

Informational presentation regarding Colorado River hydrology and efforts by the United States, the seven basin states, Tribes, water users, and other related interests in the basin to address drought conditions.

4. Report on Current Events by the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer or Designees ..... JIM PRATT

5. Future Agenda Topics..... CHAIRMAN KEVIN JOHNSON

The Committee may vote during the meeting to go into Executive Session, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A)(3), for the purpose of discussion or consultation for legal advice with legal counsel to the Committee on any of the matters listed on the agenda.

The Committee may go into Closed Session, pursuant to A.R.S. §30-805(B), for records and proceedings relating to competitive activity, including trade secrets or privileged or confidential commercial or financial information.

Visitors: The public has the option to attend in-person or observe via Zoom and may receive teleconference information by contacting the Corporate Secretary's Office at (602) 236-4398. If attending in-person, all property in your possession, including purses, briefcases, packages, or containers, will be subject to inspection.



**THE NEXT WATER COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**IS SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024**



MINUTES  
WATER COMMITTEE  
SALT RIVER PROJECT AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENT AND  
POWER DISTRICT

**DRAFT**

November 14, 2023

A meeting of the Water Committee of the Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement and Power District (the District) convened at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, November 14, 2023, from the Hoopes Board Conference Room at the SRP Administration Building, 1500 North Mill Avenue, Tempe, Arizona. This meeting was conducted in-person and via teleconference in compliance with open meeting law guidelines. The District and Salt River Valley Water Users' Association (the Association) are collectively known as SRP.

Committee Members present at roll call were K.J. Johnson, Chairman; R.C. Arnett, Vice Chairman; M.J. Herrera, A.G. McAfee, K.L. Mohr-Almeida, and M.V. Pace; and L.D. Rovey of the Association.

Committee Member absent at roll call was P.E. Rovey.

Also present were Vice President C.J. Dobson; Board Members J.M. White Jr., S.H. Williams, and K.B. Woods; Council Vice Chairman J.R. Shelton; Council Liaison G.E. Geiger; Mmes. I.R. Avalos, M.J. Burger, A.P. Chabrier, L.F. Hobaica, C.M. McJunkin, L.A. Meyers, G.A. Mingura, and C.M. Sifuentes; Messrs. J.D. Coggins, J.M. Felty, B.J. Koch, K.J. Lee, A.J. McSheffrey, M.S. Mendonca, R. Navarro, M.J. O'Connor, B.A. Olsen, J.M. Pratt, J.P. Schonhoff, P.B. Sigl, R.R. Taylor, K.J. Tilghman, and F. Tune; and Brad Moore of Arizona Municipal Water Users Association (AMWUA).

In compliance with A.R.S. §38-431.02, Andrew Davis of the Corporate Secretary's Office had posted a notice and agenda of the Water Committee meeting at the SRP Administration Building, 1500 North Mill Avenue, Tempe, Arizona, at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, November 10, 2023.

Chairman K.J. Johnson called the meeting to order.

Consent Agenda

Chairman K.J. Johnson requested a motion for Committee approval of the Consent Agenda, in its entirety.

On a motion duly made by Board Member M.V. Pace and seconded by Vice Chairman R.C. Arnett, the Committee unanimously approved and adopted the following item on the Consent Agenda:

- Minutes of the Water Committee meeting on October 24, 2023, as presented

Corporate Secretary J.M. Felty polled the Committee Members on Board Member M.V. Pace’s motion to approve the Consent Agenda, in its entirety. The vote was recorded as follows:

YES:	Board Members K.J. Johnson, Chairman; R.C. Arnett, Vice Chairman; and M.J. Herrera, A.G. McAfee, K.L. Mohr-Almeida, and M.V. Pace	(6)
NO:	None	(0)
ABSTAINED:	None	(0)
ABSENT:	Board Member P.E. Rovey	(1)

Roosevelt Flood Control Space Operational Flexibility Update

Using a PowerPoint presentation, Patrick B. Sigl, SRP Principal Managing Attorney of Water, Land, and Environmental, stated that the purpose of the presentation was to provide an update on the proposal for a planned deviation from the Modified Roosevelt Dam Water Control Manual to create operational flexibility during flood operations to improve ability to utilize flood waters.

Mr. P.B. Sigl stated that extending the Roosevelt Dam release period from 20 days to 120 days will allow the flood control space to be lowered by five feet and provide a capacity of 109,000 acre-feet (AF) of water. He outlined the proposed planned deviation, depicting an extension of the evacuation period for waters contained in the flood control space.

Mr. P.B. Sigl presented a modeled spill and flood control space diagram based on historic hydrology from 1914 through 2019, representing wet and dry fluctuations. He discussed the expected volume of water production in a five-year period.

Mr. P.B. Sigl discussed the timeline of the proposed deviation approval, as well as opportunities sought to reduce the time between environmental and deviation decisions. He concluded with a discussion of the 2024 forecast and the importance of the temporary deviation.

Mr. P.B. Sigl responded to questions from the Committee.

Copies of the PowerPoint slides used in this presentation are on file in the Corporate Secretary’s Office and, by reference, made a part of these minutes.

Board Members N.R. Brown, R.J. Miller, and P.E. Rovey; Council Member M.L. Farmer; and Mr. R.T. Judd entered the meeting during the presentation.

Report on Current Events by the General Manager  
and Chief Executive Officer or Designees

There was no report on current events by Jim M. Pratt, SRP General Manager and Chief Executive Officer.

Future Agenda Topics

Chairman K.J. Johnson asked the Committee if there were any future agenda topics. None were requested.

There being no further business to come before the Water Committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

John M. Felty  
Corporate Secretary



An aerial photograph of a large dam and reservoir situated in a deep canyon. The canyon walls are rugged and layered with reddish-brown rock. The reservoir is a deep blue color, and the dam is a long, curved structure across the middle of the canyon. The sky is clear and blue.

# The Salt River Project Water Emergency Reservoir Operations Center (WEROC)

**Charlie Ester, Director of Water Supply**

**Water Committee**

**December 7, 2023**

# What an SRP Hydrologist Dreams About at Night!!



Horseshoe Dam January 2010



# Mostly, It's About Managing for Times of Scarcity

**Roosevelt Lake**



**Horseshoe Dam and Reservoir**



# Project Reservoir Operations Planning (PROP) Committee

The PROP Committee responsibilities:

- **Normal:** Preparation of annual operating plan (PROP)
- **Emergency:** Directs daily operational guidelines for the Water Emergency Reservoir Operations Center (WEROC)

***Plan for drought, prepare for flood!***



Barlett Dam water release

## PROP Committee Members (as of 8/17/2023)

ROLE	TITLE/OPERATING GROUP	NAME
Executive Sponsor	Associate General Manager, Water Stewardship	Leslie Meyers
Chair	Director Water Supply	Charlie Ester
Vice Chair	Manager Watershed Management	Tim Skarupa
Member	Director Water Engineering & Transmission	Bob Pane
Member	Director Supply and Trading & Fuels	Pam Syrjala
Member	Director Transmission & Generation Operations	Chris Hofmann
Member	Director Hydro Generation	Ivan Insua
Member-at-Large	Senior Director Water Supply & System	Christa McJunkin
Member-at-Large	Director Risk Management	Sara McCoy

# Watch v. Warning

**Watch:** ingredients are there for phenomenon to be **POSSIBLE/LIKELY** in the watch area but could still not occur or is not yet occurring.

**Warning:** phenomenon is **OCCURRING** or **IMMINENT**

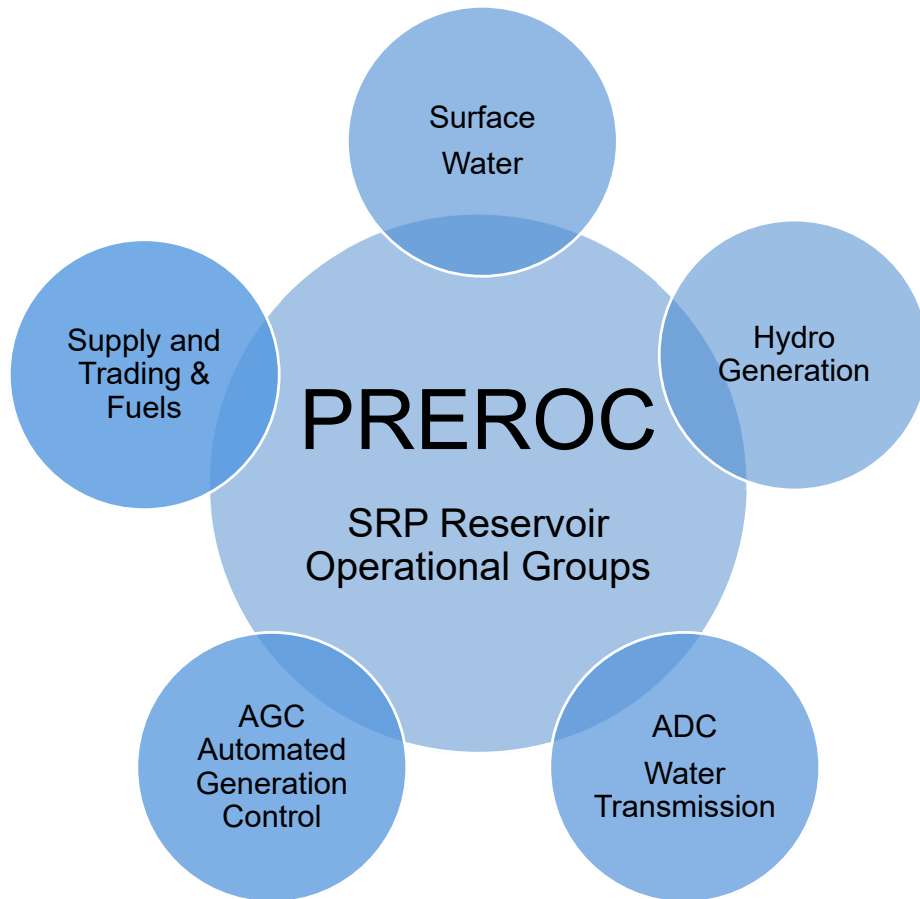
**Salsa Watch**



**Salsa Warning**



# What is PREROC?



## Precipitation Extremes Reservoir Operations Center (PREROC)

- Started in 2019
- Sudden events with releases from Verde/Salt less than 20,000 cfs.
- Enhanced internal coordination initiated by Surface Water, Water Transmission, or Hydro Generation
- PREROC 1: Normal Operations with enhanced communication
- PREROC 2 (Activation): Enhanced 24/7 Operations and daily communication

# Flood Release Activation Levels

## Flood Release Advisory

- Potential Flood Release of LESS than 20,000 cubic feet per second (CFS)
- Monitor changing conditions
- Issue advisories of reservoir, watershed and weather status
- Initiate necessary action (**PREROC**)

## Flood Release Warning

- Release up to 20,000 CFS expected
- Potential Risk of Flood Releases GREATER than 20,000 CFS
- Initiate preliminary WEROC coordination and set-up
- Tentatively schedule a PROP Committee Meeting & Agency Briefing
- Initiate necessary action (**PREROC/WEROC**)

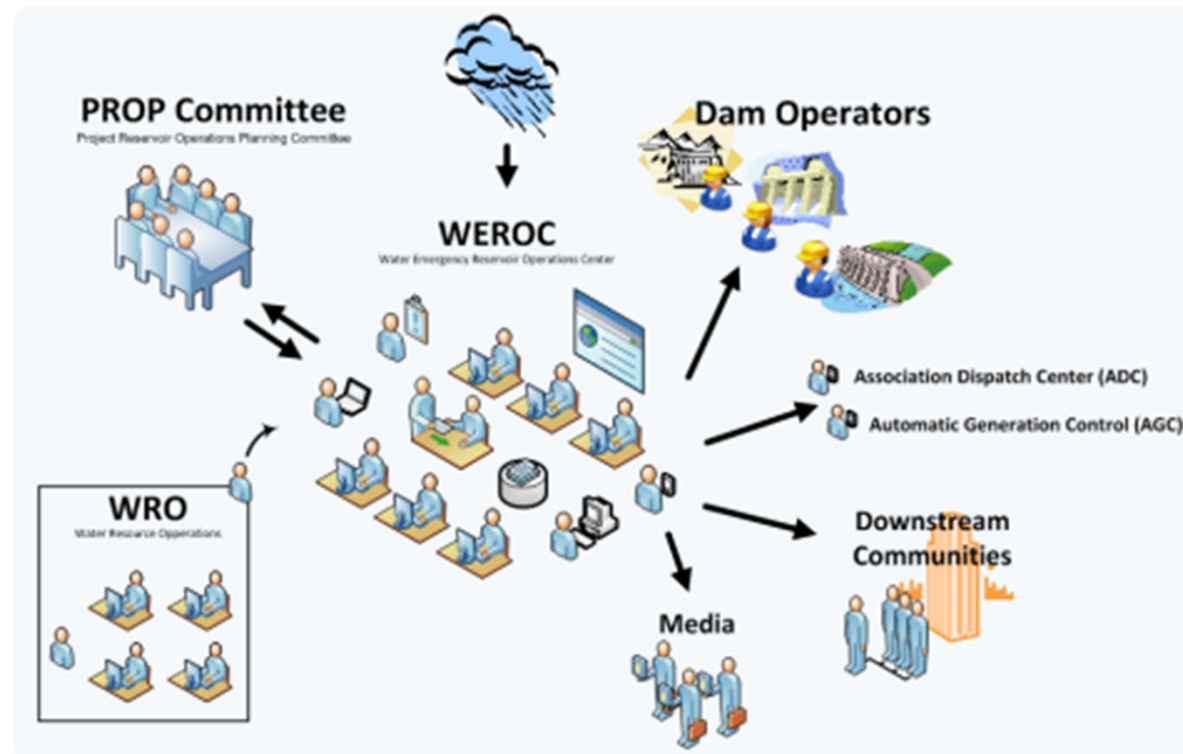
## Flood Release Emergency

- Flood releases expected to be GREATER than 20,000 CFS
- **Activation of the WEROC** initiated by the PROP Committee Chair



# What is WEROC?

- Water Emergency Reservoir Operations Center
- Activated when releases are expected to exceed 20,000 CFS
- Centralized monitoring, communication and operational decision-making
- Staff from across SRP are enlisted to staff WEROC 24-hours a day during an activation



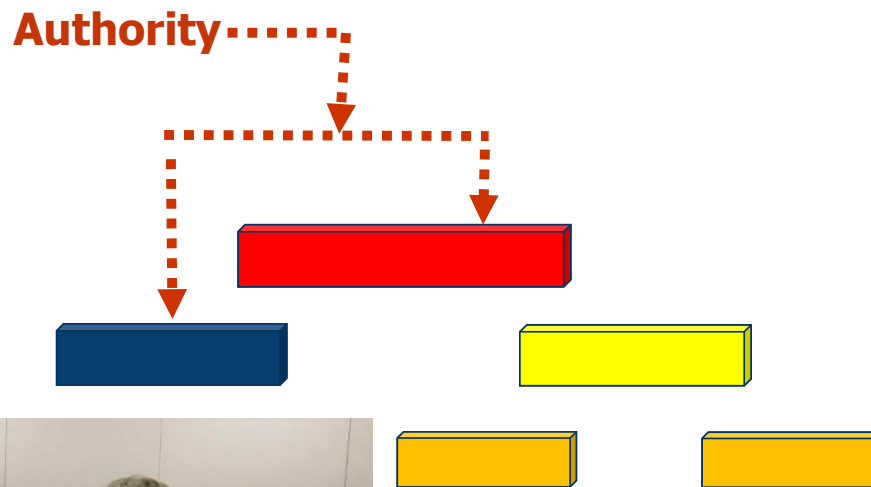
# WEROC when Activated

- **Assumes** full operational responsibility
- **Operates** in accordance with the Emergency Reservoir Operating Plan (Incident Action Plan – IAP) under the Incident Command System (ICS) structure
- **Monitors** weather, watershed and reservoirs
- **Initiates** changes to reservoir releases as needed
- **Documents** all operations and decision made during activation
- **Communicates** to affected parties





# WEROC Using Incident Command System

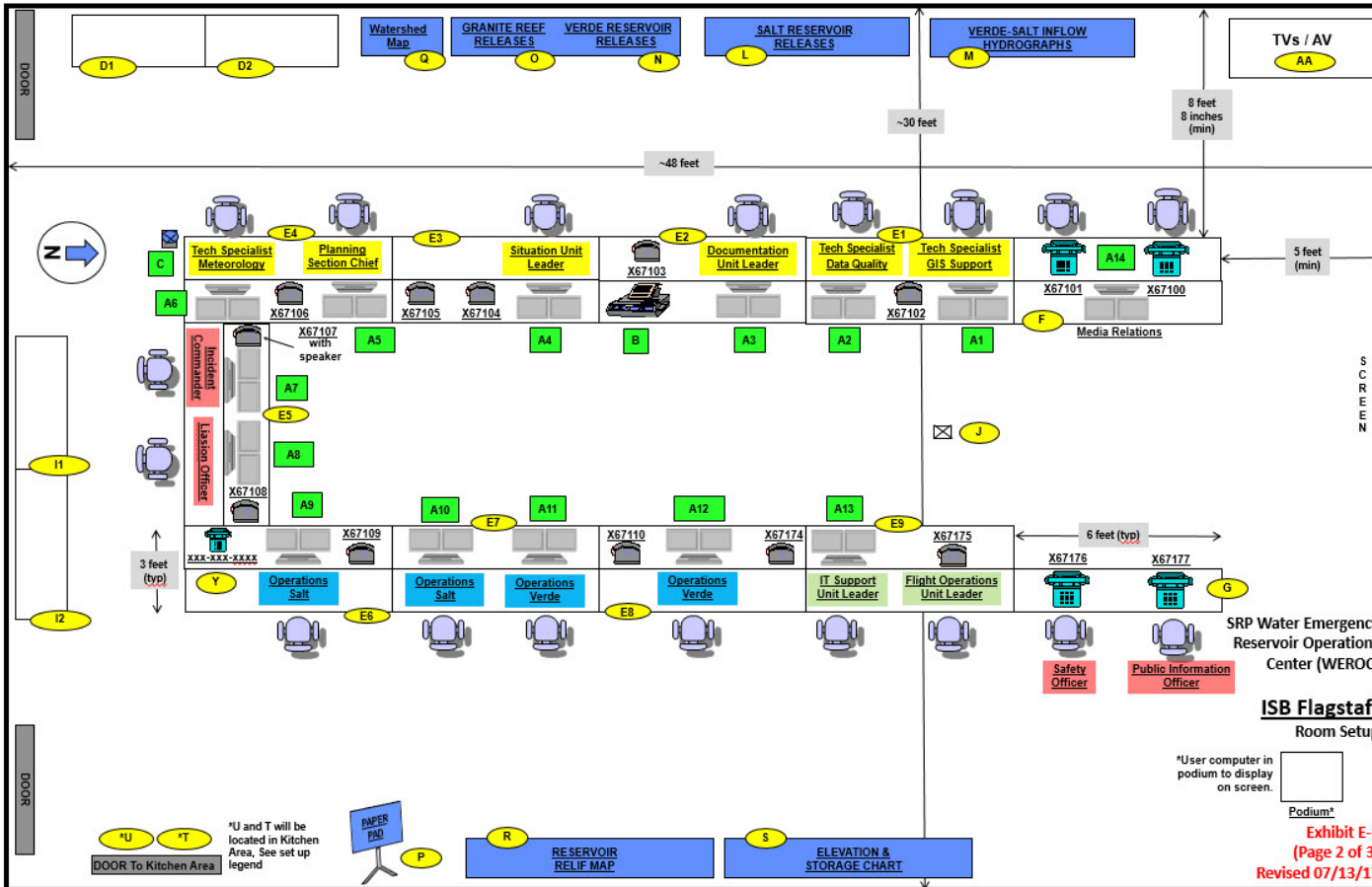


Delegation of Authority is given to the Incident Commander to make decisions on reservoir operations

Chain of command is an orderly line of authority within the ranks of the incident management organization

ICS Forms are used to document activities during the event

# Organization with ICS



## Command Staff

Incident Commander  
 Safety Officer  
 Liaison Officer  
 Public Information Officer

## Planning Section

Planning Section Chief (SW Hydrologist)  
 Documentation Unit Leader  
 Situation Unit Leader  
 Technical Specialist (SW Meteorologist)  
 Technical Specialist (Data Quality Support)  
 Technical Specialist (GIS Support)

## Operations Section

Operations Section Chief  
 Operations Branch Salt  
 Operations Branch Verde

## Logistics Section

Food Unit Leader  
 Facilities Unit Leader  
 IT Support Unit Leader  
 Flight Service Unit Leader

## Finance & Administration

Finance & Administration Section Chief

# WEROC Support from Water IT Services

Kisshell Wilson – Director of Water IT Services (WITS)

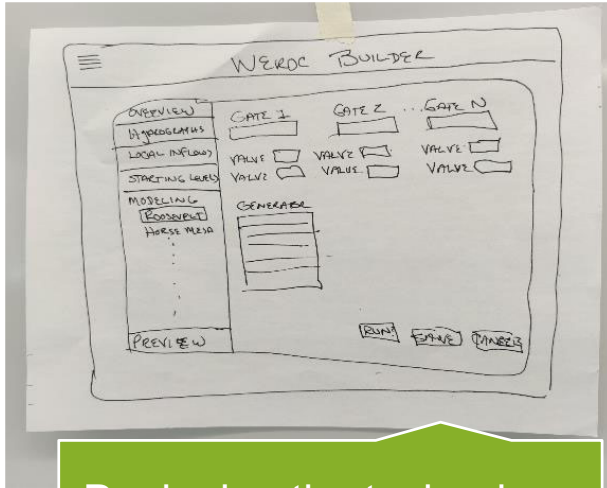
Water Committee

December 7, 2023

# Building the WEROC Simulator



Partner with Water Supply throughout the entire process

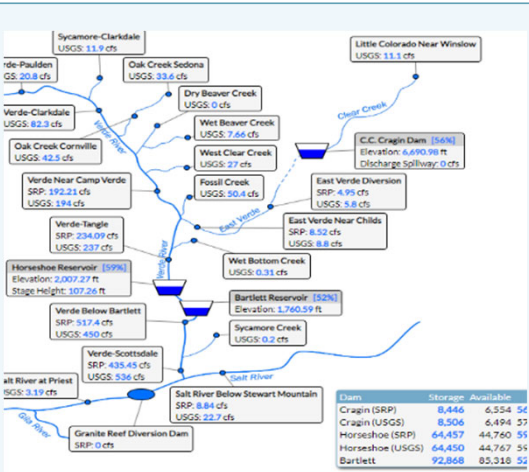


Designing the technology as a team

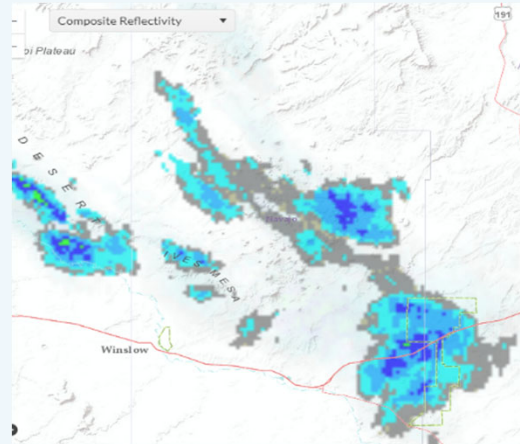


Collaborative testing of the solution

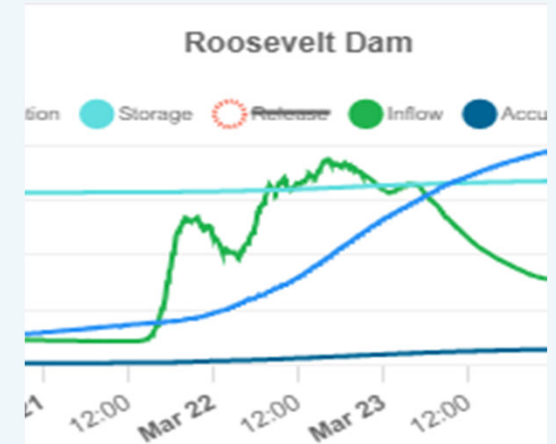
# WEROC Simulator



Integration with Operational Dashboard



Storm scenarios



Real-time Automated Updates

# WEROC Objectives and Communication

Charlie Ester, Director of Water Supply

Water Committee

December 7, 2023

# WEROC Operational Priorities

- **Safety of Dams**
- **Population/Public at Risk**

## Lesser priorities include:

- ❖ **Constraints such as downstream impacts on roads, projects in the river, etc.**
- ❖ **Creating available storage space**
- ❖ **Filling the reservoirs (water conservation)**

# Agency Briefings and Communication



- **Agency Briefings held for anticipated high release events to inform public agencies.**
- **SRP initiates calls to outside agencies' emergency contact personnel**
- **Emergency Coordination and Downstream Constraints (i.e. Roads/ Bridges, construction project)**



# Agency Briefings and Communication

## Agency Briefings

Initial Planned Reservoir Releases and >20,000 cfs (WEROC) and occurs from SRP Surface Water (Meeting/Notifications)

- **MCDEM (MOU with SRP)**
- **USFS, Marinas, Projects in River**
- **MCDOT, SRPMIC, FMYN (at grade crossings)**
- **AZ DPS, MCSO, ADOT, FCDFMC, ADEM (Safety)**
- **Cities bordering Salt River**
- **Other Municipalities, State and Federal Agencies (USBR, USACE)**

## Automated Notifications

Any releases from Dams or Canal Drains <20,000 cfs and occurs from SRP Water Transmission

- **MCDEM (MOU with SRP)**
- **SendWord Now automated email, phone, text**
- **Specific lists of recipients for particular location of release**

# WEROC Summary

- **The WEROC is unique to SRP to manage emergency reservoir releases above 20,000 cfs.**
- **Long time between activations makes it critical to maintain a high level of readiness.**
- **Preparation and training is key.**



**thank you!**



A photograph of a large concrete dam with a curved spillway. The dam is made of light-colored concrete and has several vertical buttresses. At the base of the dam, there is a powerhouse with several large turbines. The dam is set against a clear blue sky and a rocky hillside.

# Colorado River Update

Water Committee

Megan Martin | December 7, 2023

# Agenda

- Colorado River Basin Background
- Federal Process Update
- Lower Basin States Activities
- SRP Interests
- Expectations for Colorado River Water Users Association Annual Conference



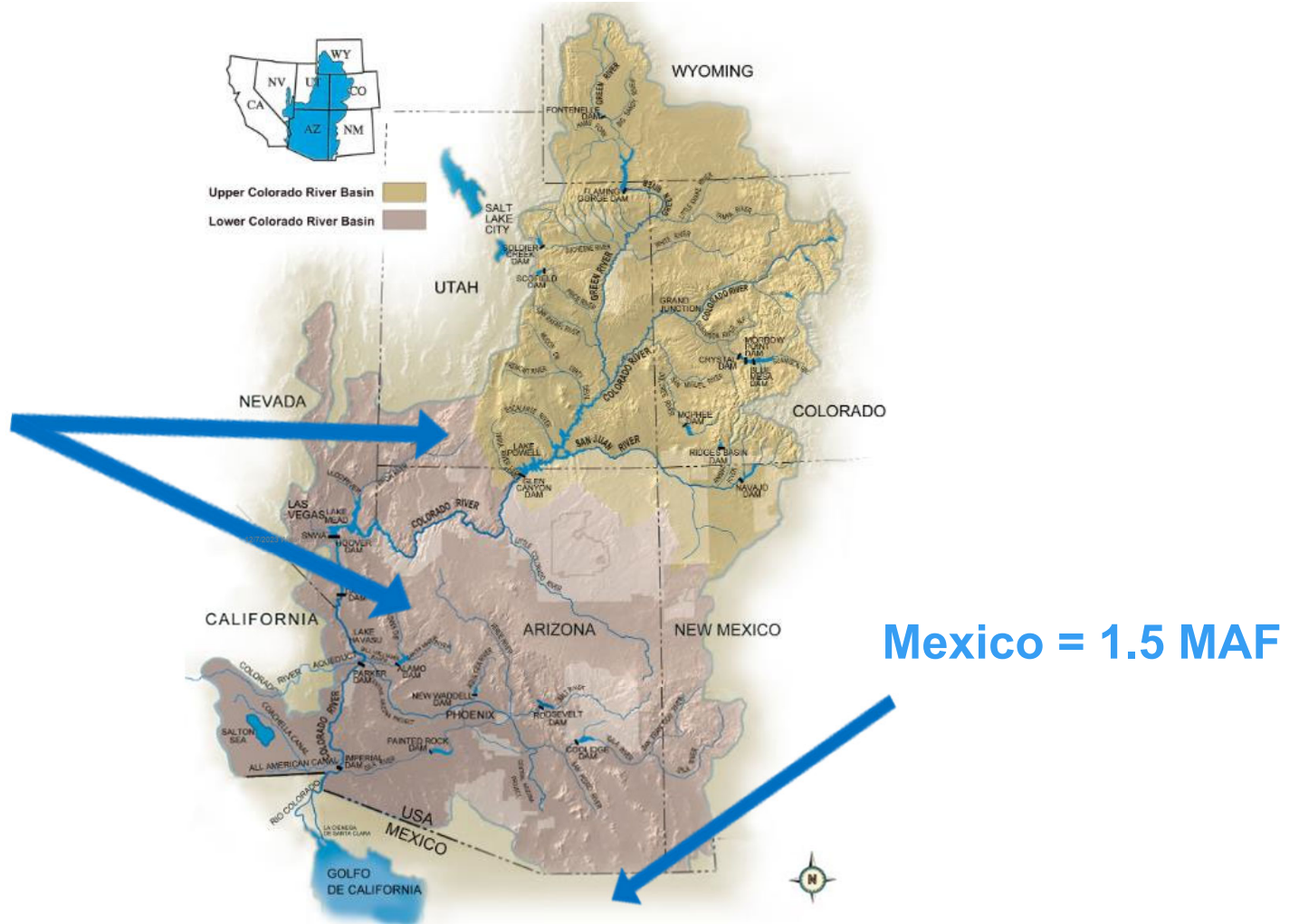
# Background

7.5 MAF each to

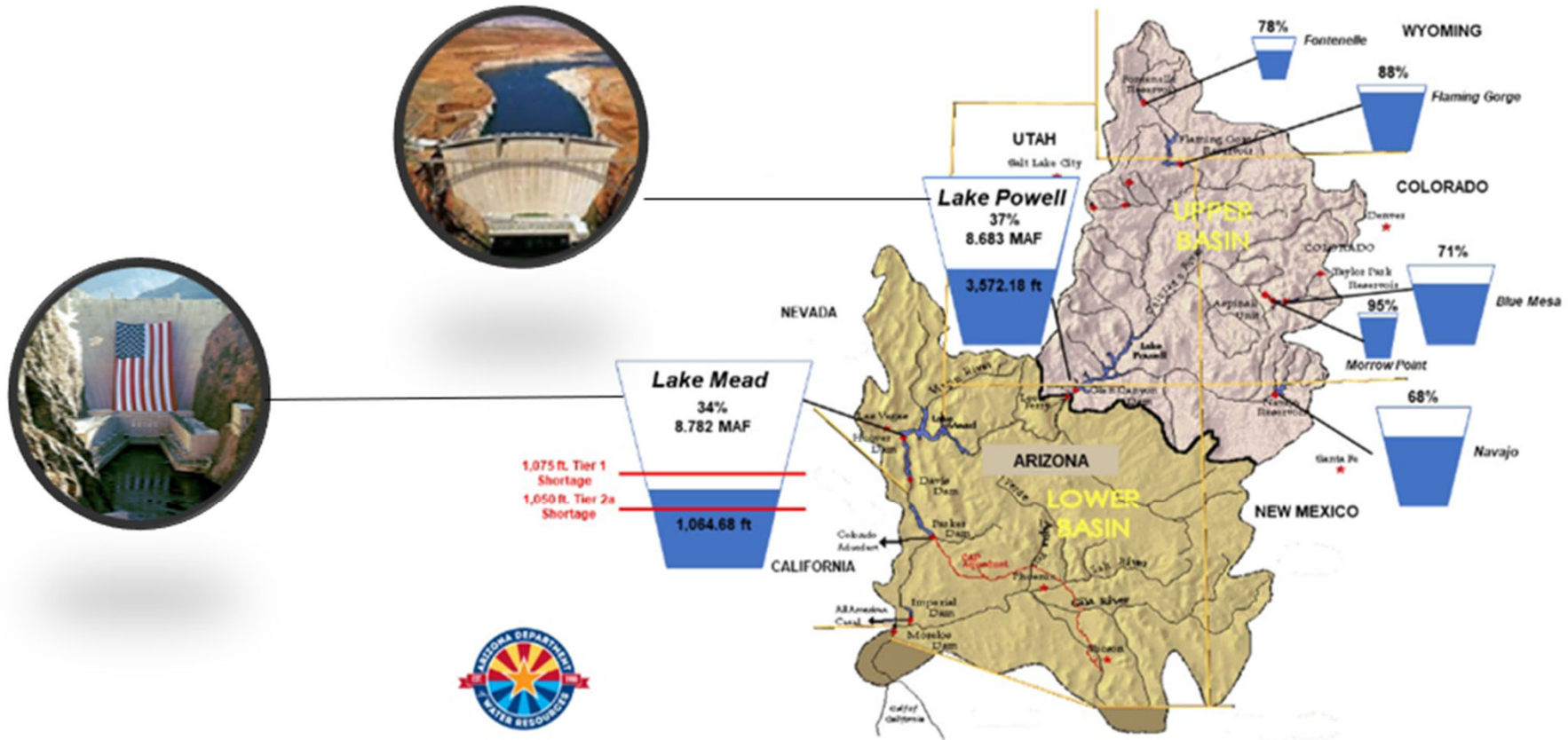
Upper Basin  
(CO, UT, WY, NM)

&

Lower Basin  
(AZ, CA, NV)

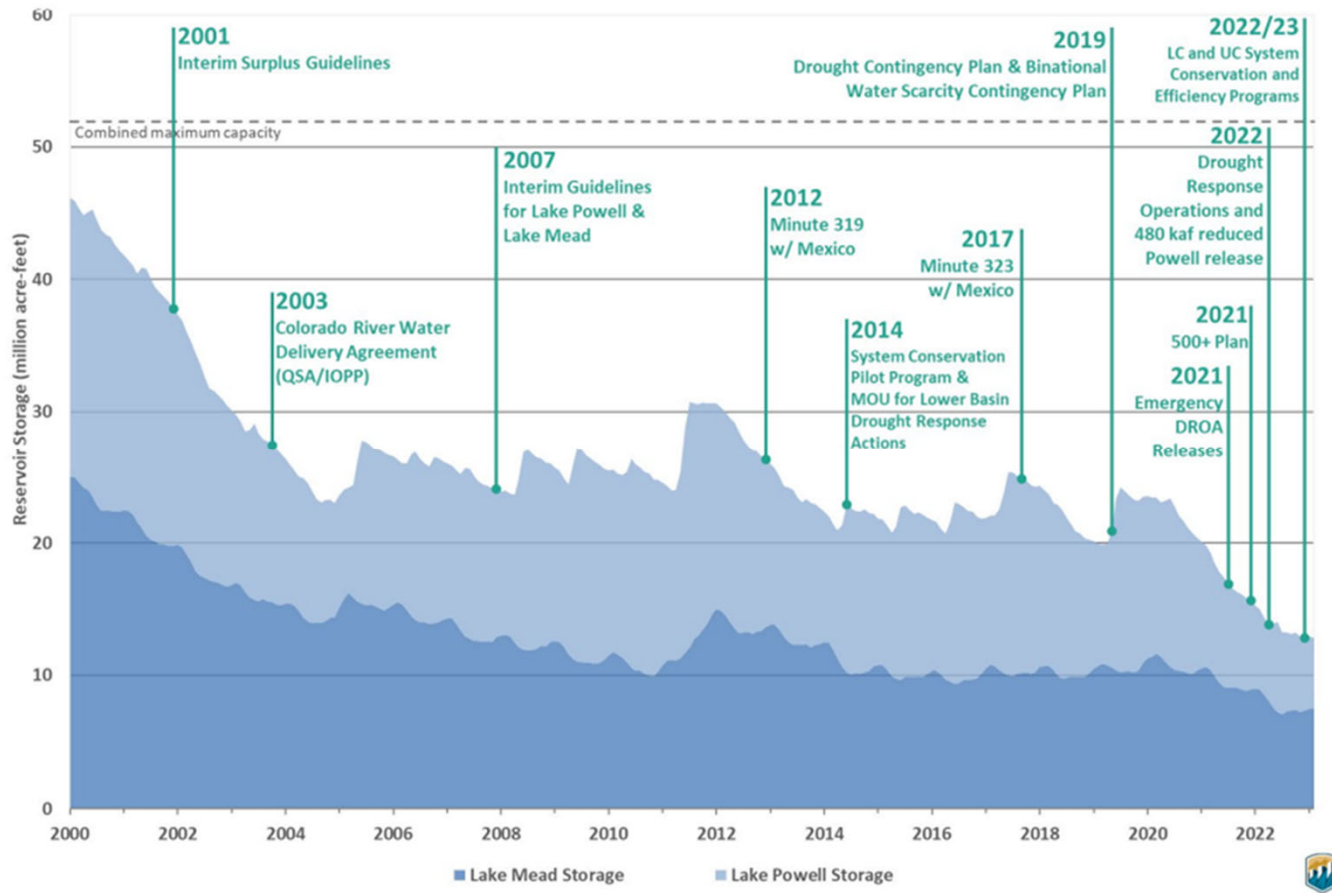


# Colorado System Storage





# History of Operational Guidelines



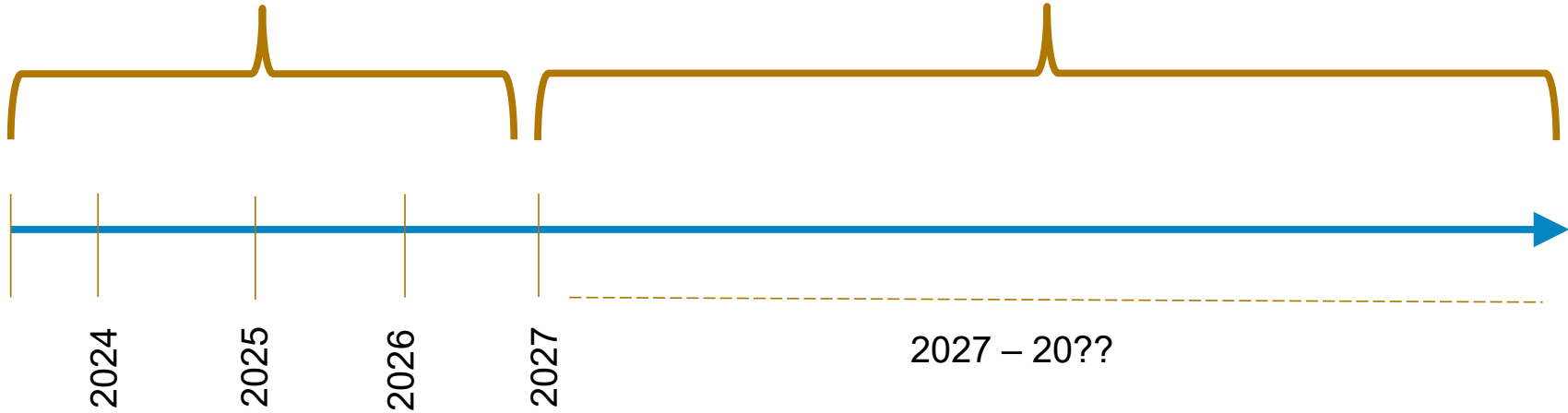
# Federal Process Update

## Near-Term Operations (2024-2026)

- 2007 Interim Guidelines
- DCP
- Revised Draft SEIS

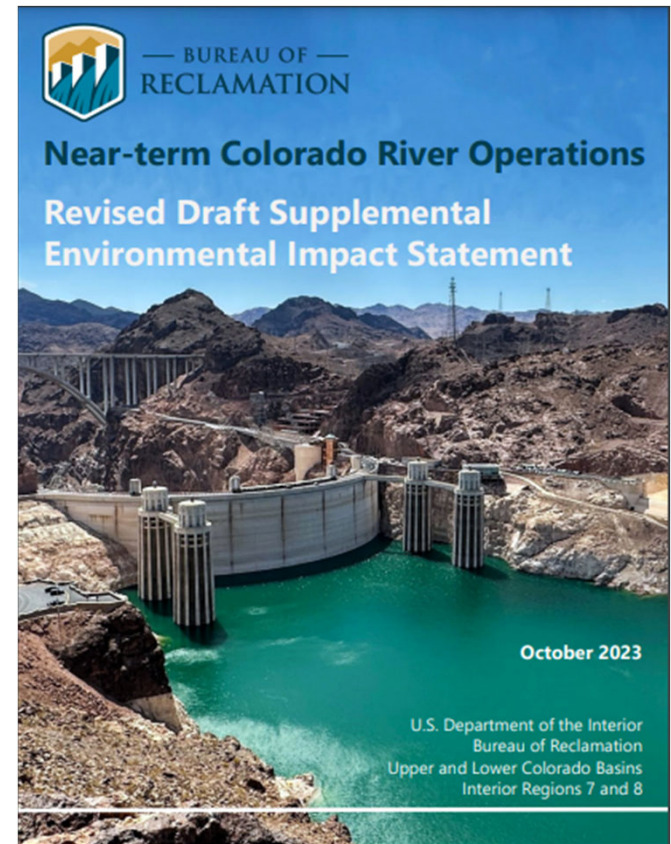
## Long-Term Operations (Post-2026)

- Scoping Process
- DEIS

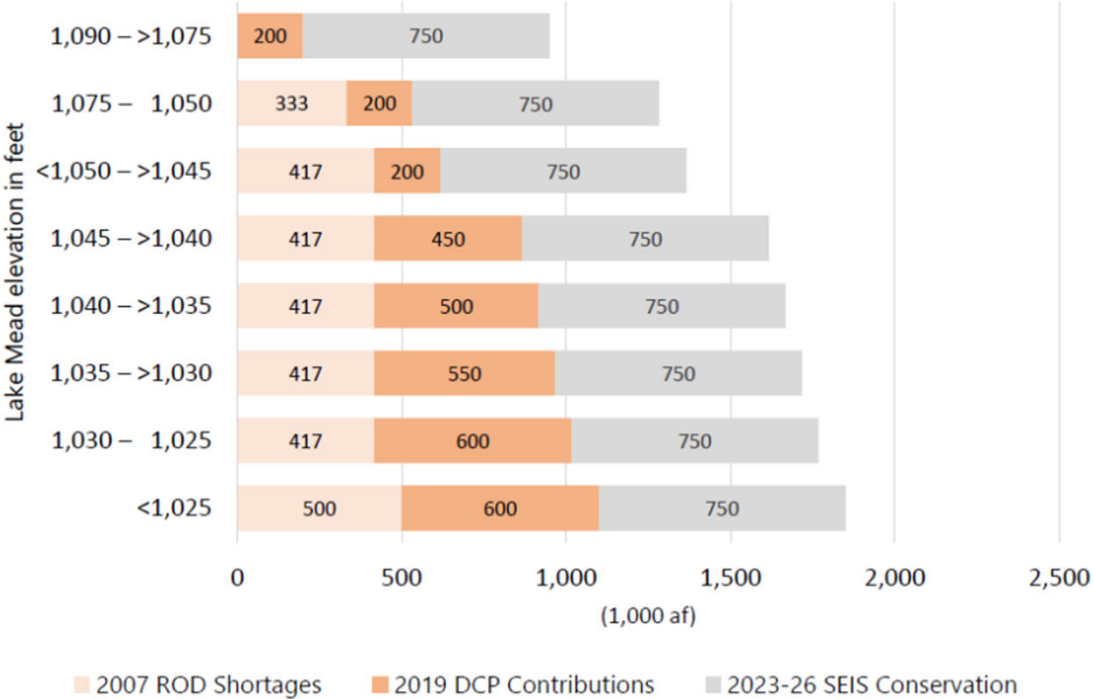


# Near-Term Operations – (Through 2026)

- No Action Alternative
  - 2007 Guidelines, DCP etc.
- Preferred Alternative is Lower Division Plan
  - All existing agreements and guidelines
  - Lake Powell releases could be as low as **6.0 maf**
  - **3.0 maf** of additional compensated conservation through 2026
  - Triggers to protect critical elevations



# Near-Term Operations – (through 2026)



# Long-Term Operations – (Post-2026)

- Develop successor agreements
- Enhanced stakeholder process
- Timeline
  - NEPA Scoping Process - June, 2023
  - Scoping Report - October, 2023
  - Develop alternatives – Spring 2024
  - Draft EIS – December 2024
  - Record of Decision – 2026



## Scoping Report for Post-2026 Colorado River Reservoir Operations

Upper and Lower Colorado Basin Regions



U.S. Department of the Interior

October 2023

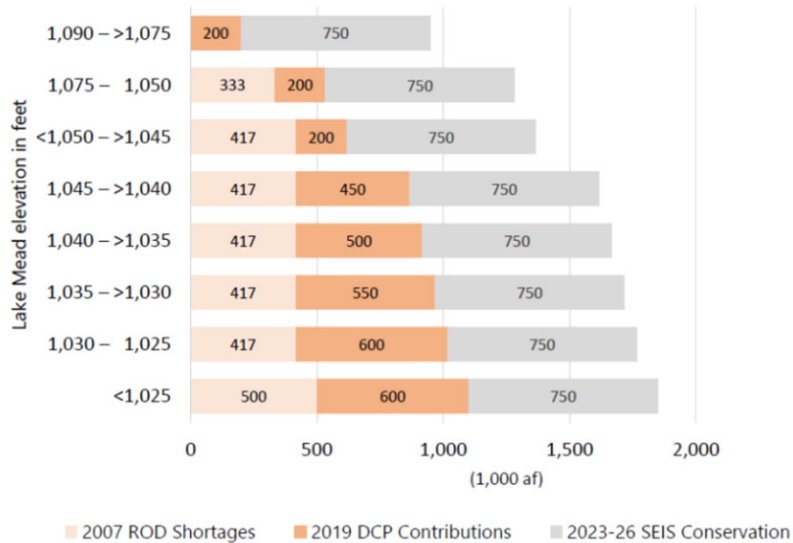
# Basin States Activities

- **Lower Basin Objectives**
  - Improve the sustainability
  - Increase predictability of reductions
  - Address the structural deficit
  - Share the risks and benefits

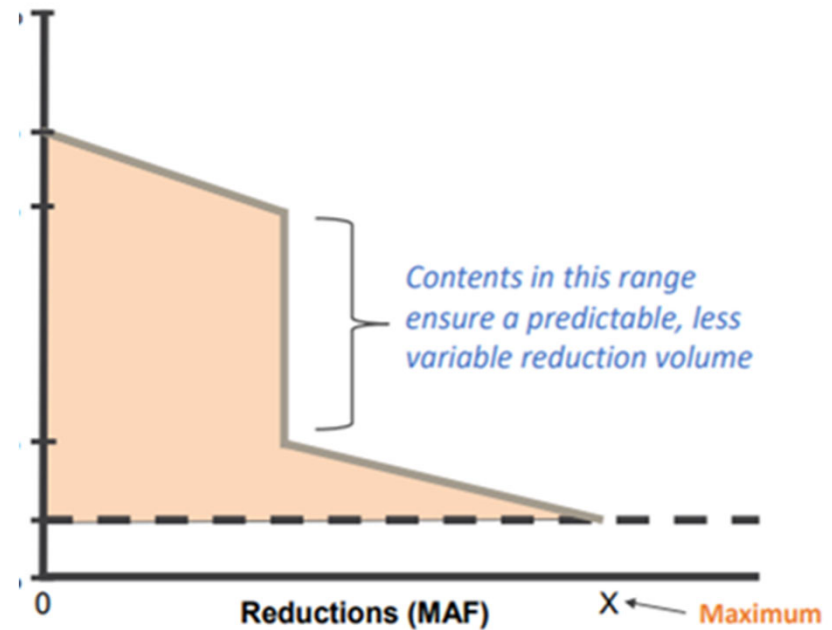


# Current Reduction model vs. System Contents model

Existing Guidelines + Revised SEIS

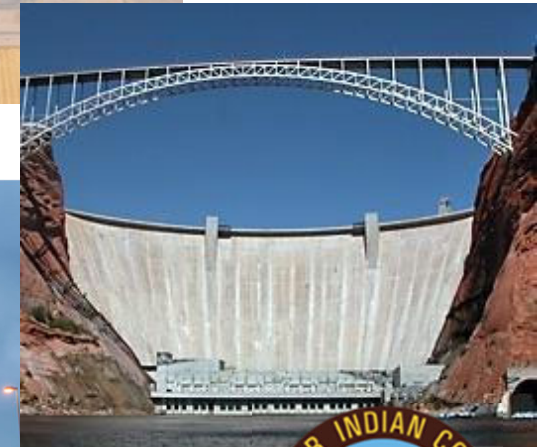


Initial System Contents approach



# What does it mean for SRP?

- Power generation and hydropower
- Exchanges and Partnerships
- Common customers
- Regional reputation



Gila River  
Water Storage





**thank you!**