



# Colorado River Update



October 19, 2022 – Greeley Water & Sewer Board

# The Challenge???

## The Colorado River

"A NATURAL MENACE BECOMES A NATIONAL RESOURCE"

*"Yesterday the Colorado River was a natural menace. . . .*

*"Today this mighty river is recognized as a national resource. . . .*

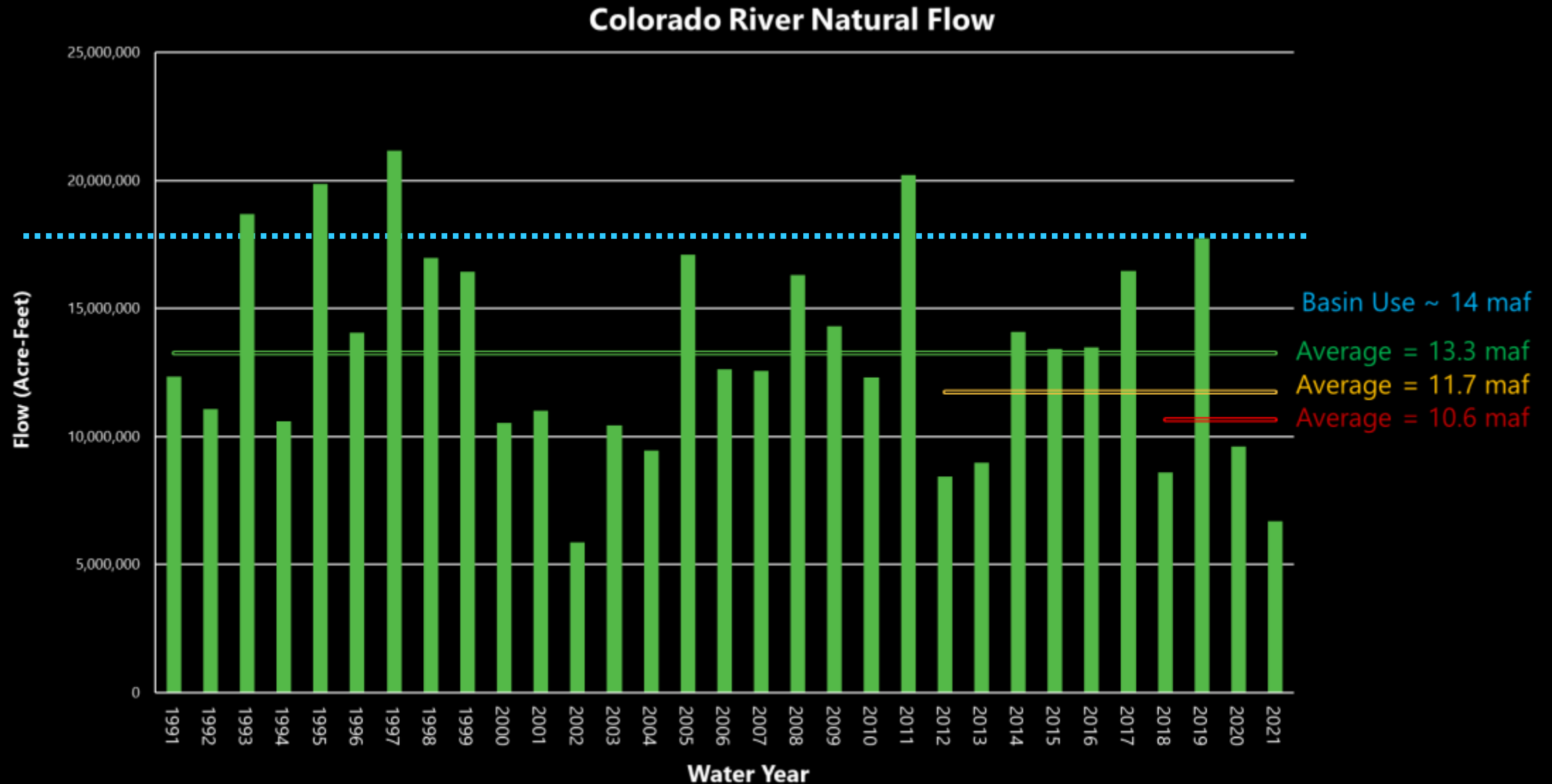
*"Tomorrow the Colorado River will be utilized to the very drop. Its water will convert thousands of additional acres of sagebrush desert to flourishing farms and beautiful homes for servicemen, industrial workers, and native farmers who seek to build permanently in the West."*

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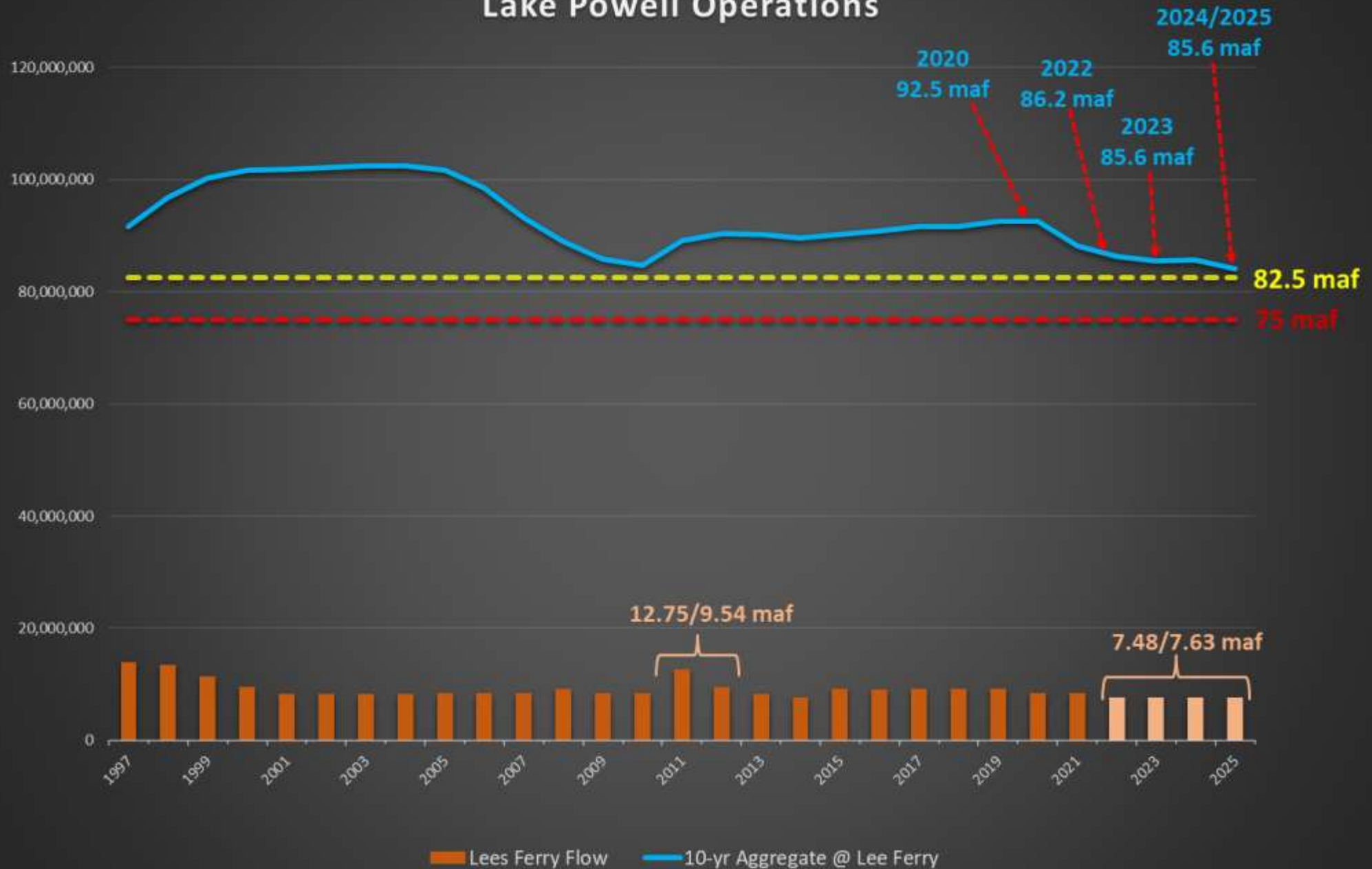
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# The Problem Statement



# Lake Powell Operations



Lake Mead  
Jan 1, 2022

Lake Mead  
Jan 1, 2023

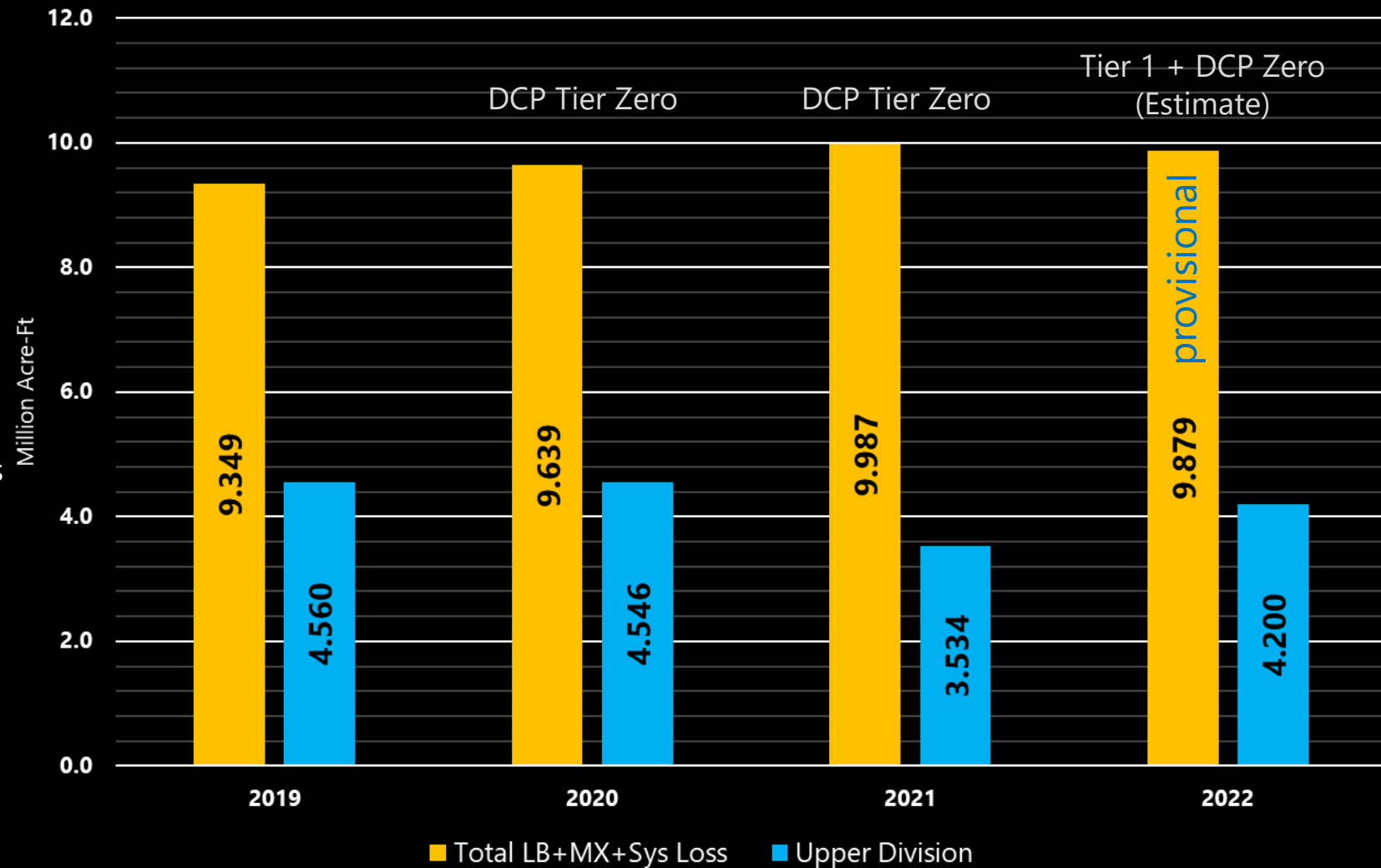
Lake Mead Elevation (feet msl)	2007 Interim Guidelines Shortages		Minute 323 Delivery Reductions	Total Combined Reductions	DCP Water Savings Contributions			Binational Water Scarcity Contingency Plan Savings	Combined Volumes by Country <i>US: (2007 Interim Guidelines Shortages + DCP Contributions)</i> <i>Mexico: (Minute 323 Delivery Reductions + Binational Water Scarcity Contingency Plan Savings)</i>					Total Combined Volumes
	AZ	NV	Mexico	<i>Lower Basin States + Mexico</i>	AZ	NV	CA	Mexico	AZ Total	NV Total	CA Total	<i>Lower Basin States Total</i>	<i>Mexico Total</i>	<i>Lower Basin States + Mexico</i>
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

# Basin Depletion Trends 2019 - 2022

Colorado River Basin Use

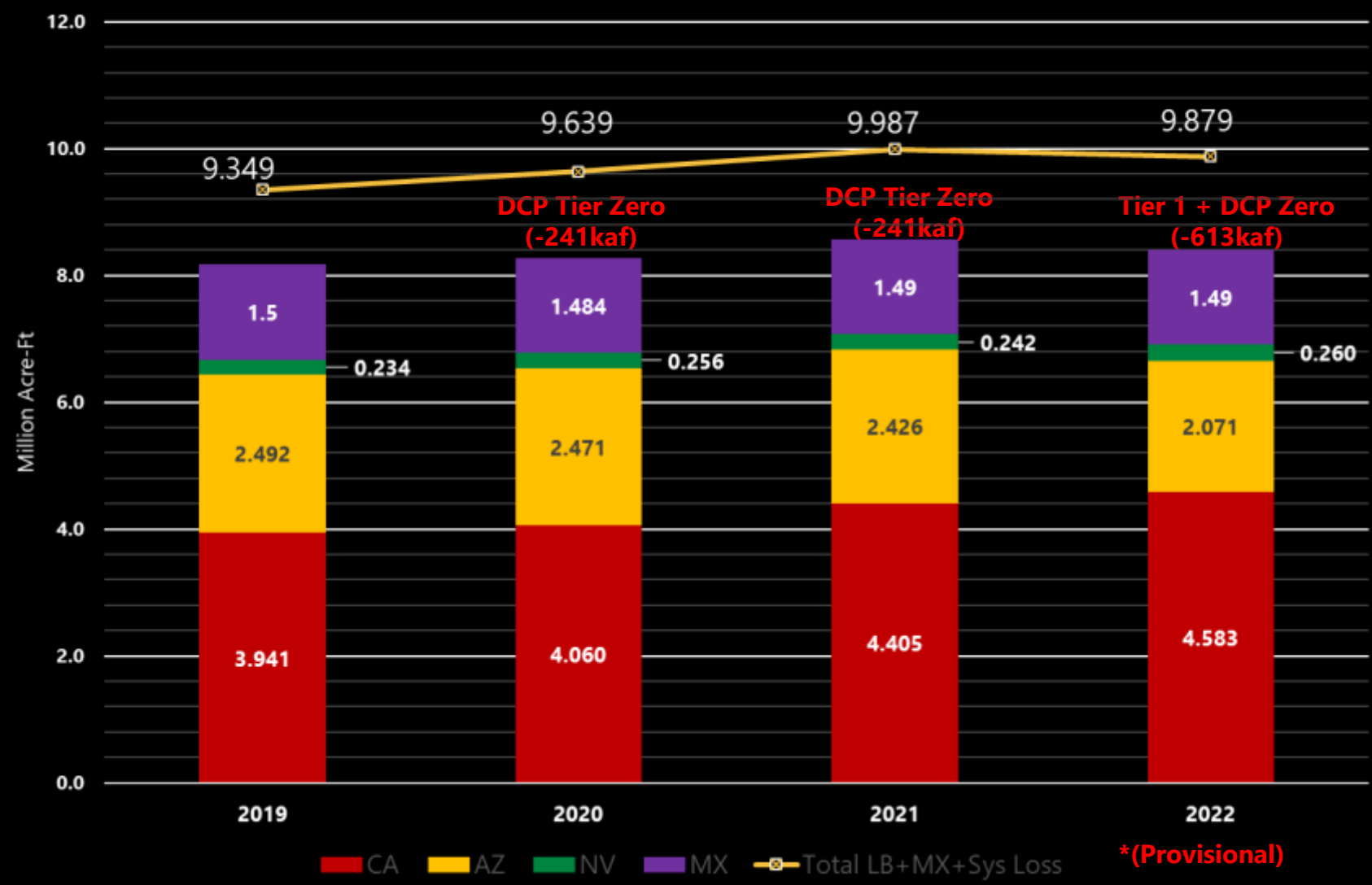
- Trends:

- Increasing Lower Basin uses 2019 – 2021, despite significant conservation and contributions
- Lower Basin uses out of synch with hydrology, relying on storage and Lake Powell releases
- Reductions in Upper Basin reflects impacts of drought





# Lower Basin Depletion Trends 2019 - 2022



## 2022 Allocation with Reductions:

CA 4.4 maf – 0 = 4.4 maf

AZ 2.8 maf – 512 kaf = 2.288 maf

NV 300 kaf - 21 kaf = 0.279 maf

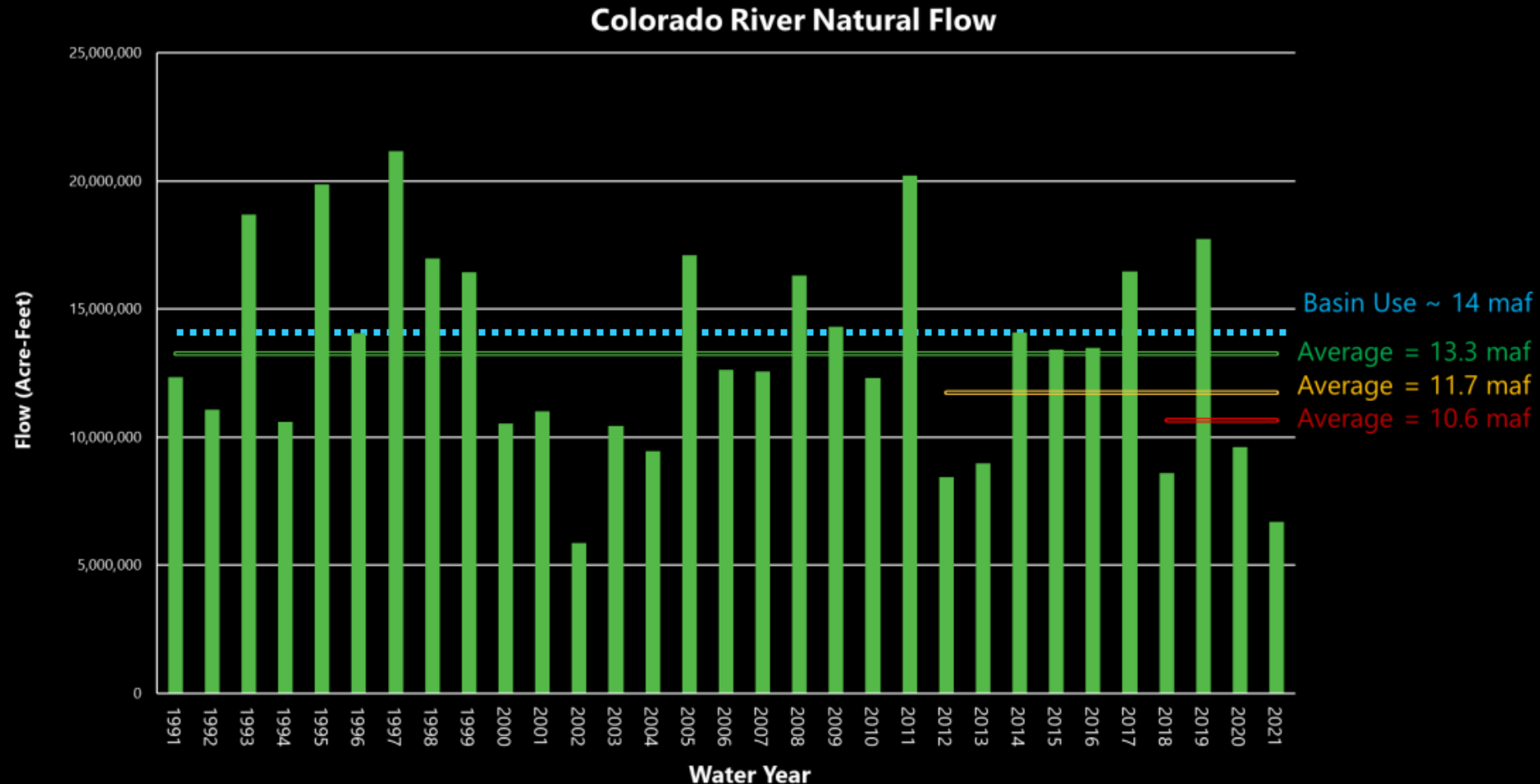
MX 1.5 maf – 80 kaf = 1.42 maf

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Total 8,387 maf

# UCRC 5-Point Plan

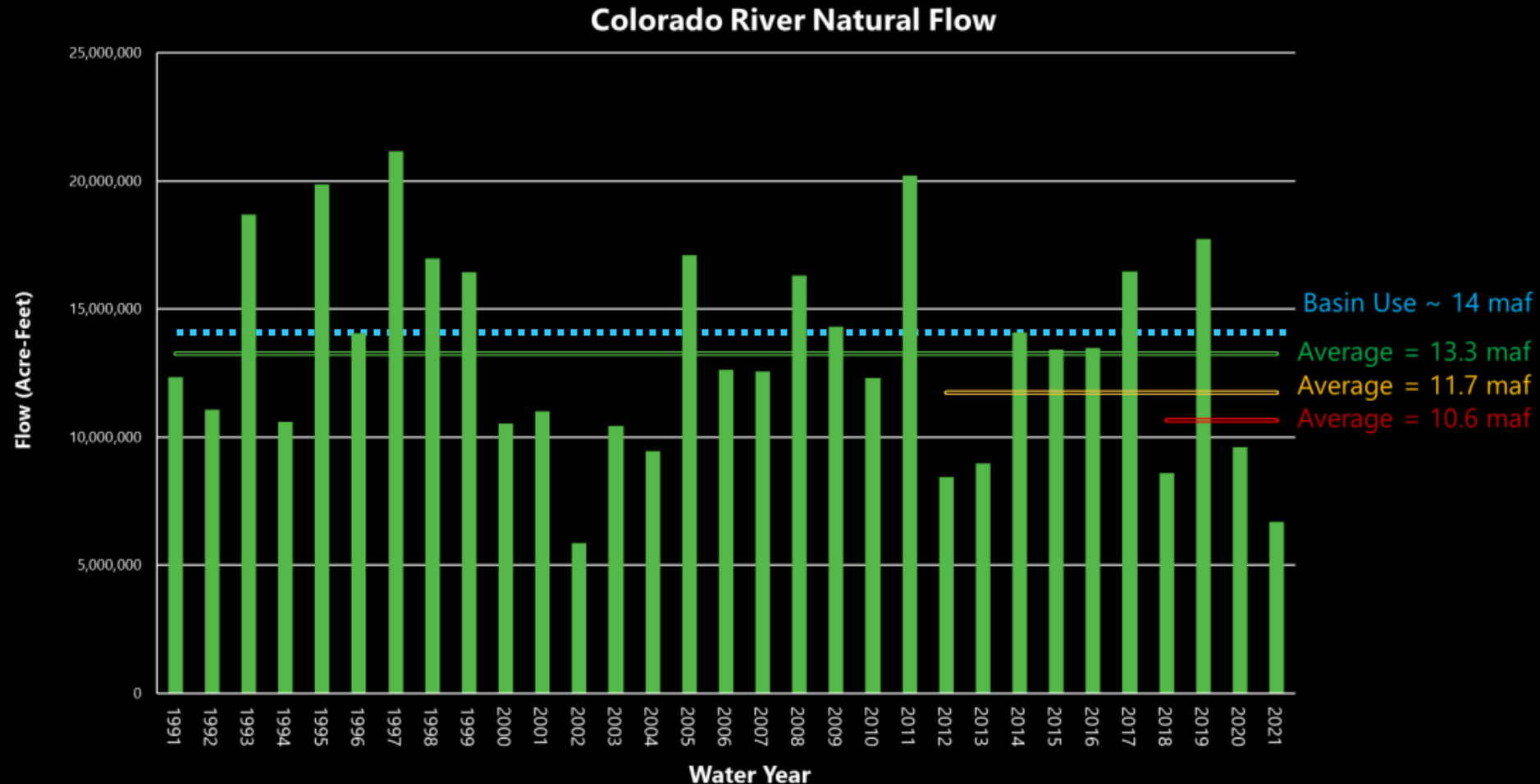
- SCPP Reauthorization
- 2023 DROA
- Consider “Demand Management”
- Fund Measurement & Reporting Improvements
- Continue Priority Administration





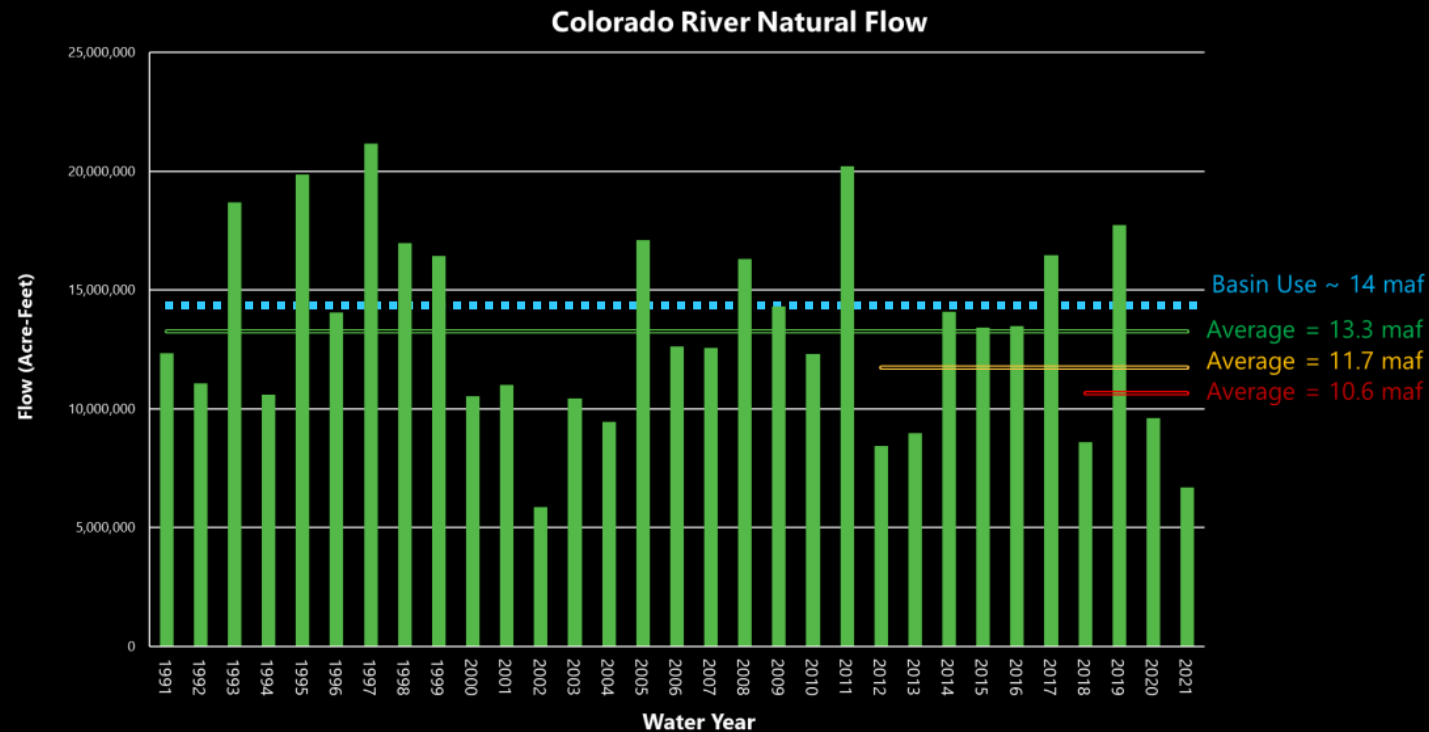
# Colorado River Basin Collaboration/Committments

- Municipal Water Providers MOU
- SEWCD Letter
- CRWCD Press Release
- NGO Resiliency Strategies Letter
- SNWA/California Letters
- NW Letter(s)

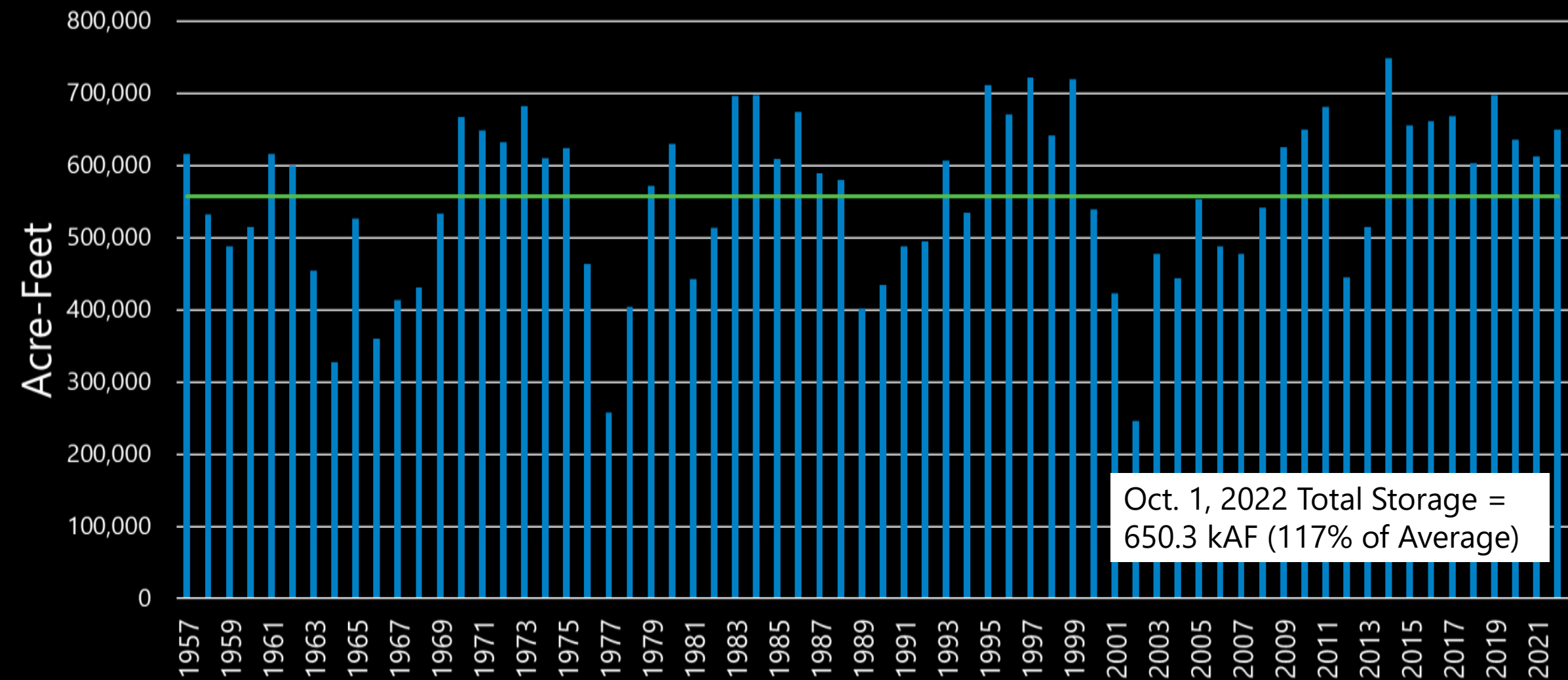


# Lower Colorado Conservation & Efficiency Program

- System Conservation
  - USBR Contractor
  - Contract w/USBR
  - \$330 - \$400/acre-ft or ????
  - System Conservation
  - Conserved CU
  - Long-Term Efficiency Improvements

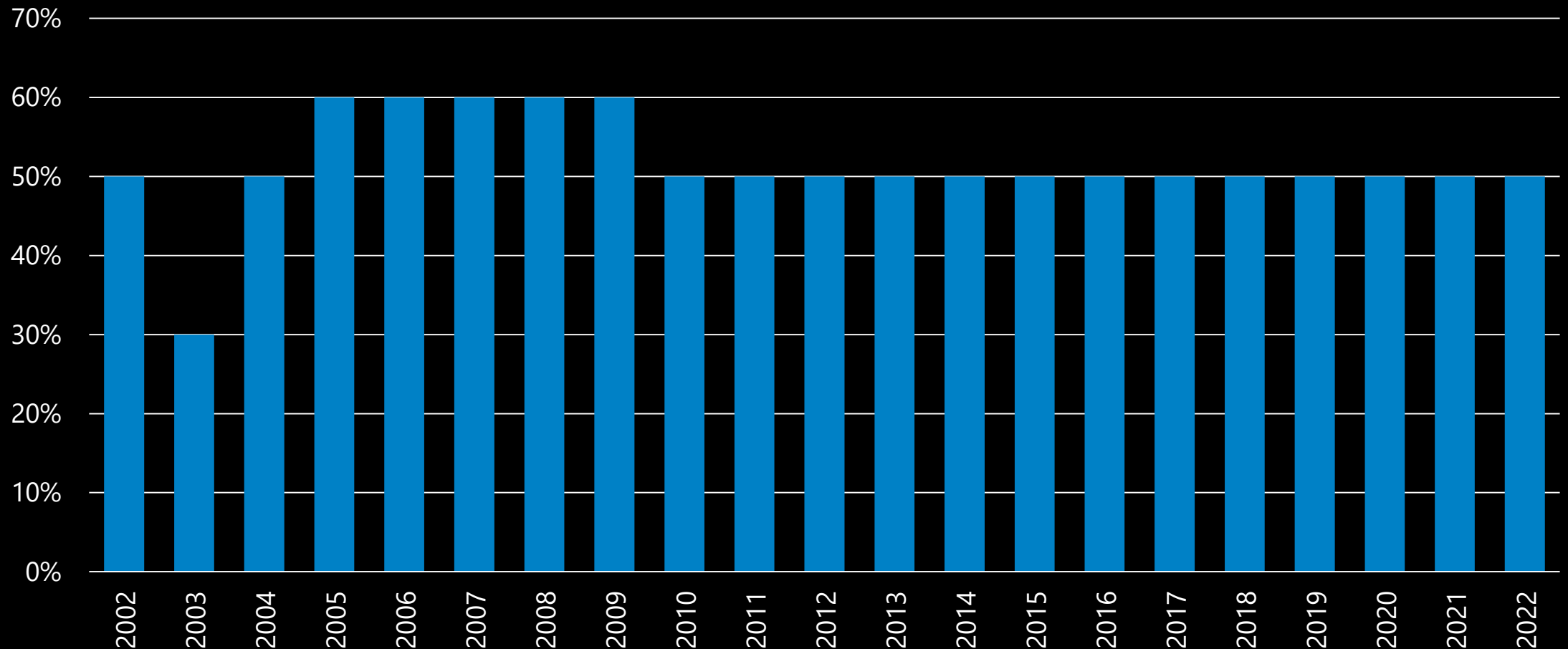


# October 1 CBT Storage

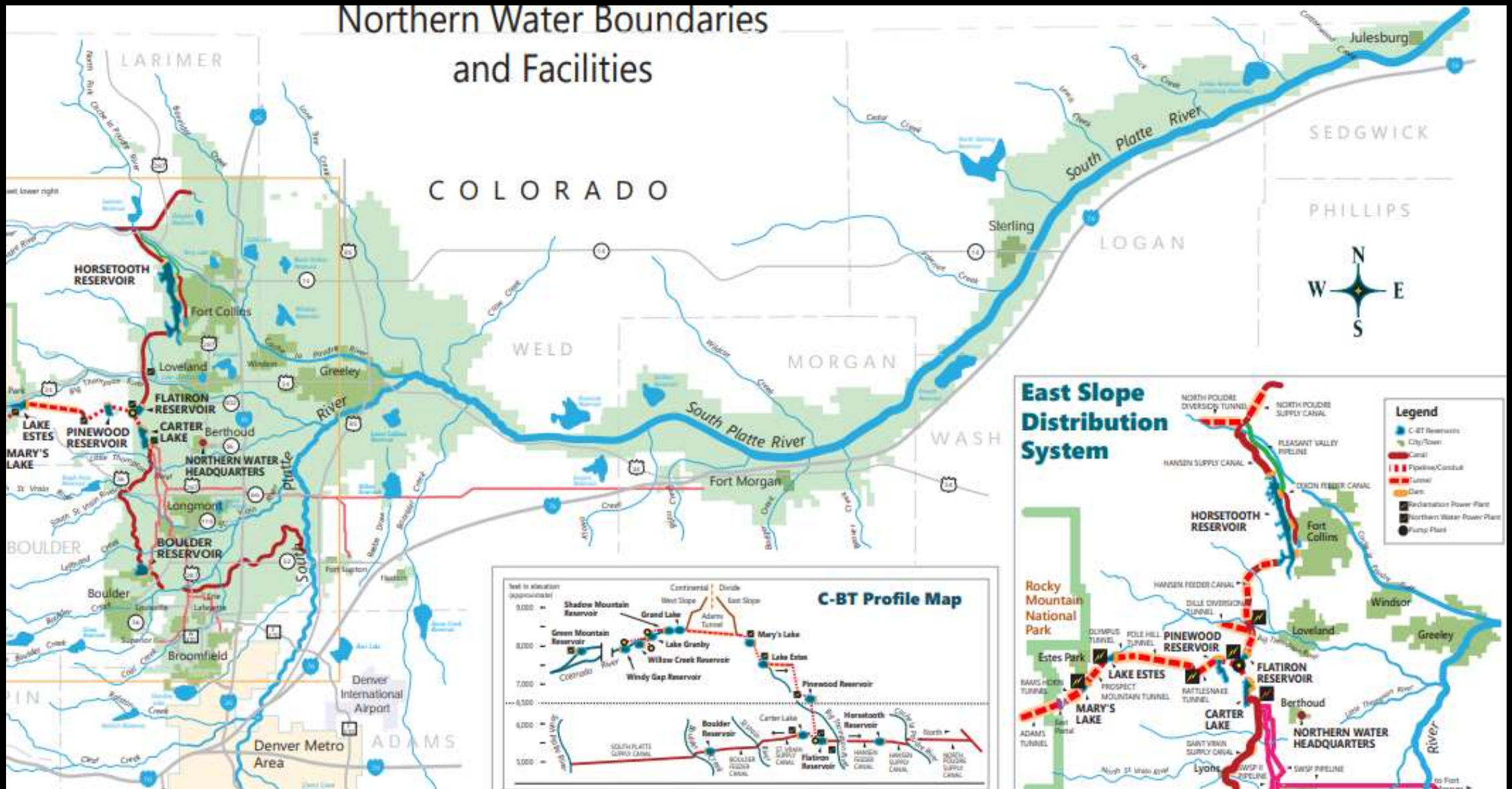


# Initial Quota History

Initial Quota (November)



# CBT Project & Return Flows





# Benefits of Imports

- 25+ Counties Receive Colorado River Supplies
  - ~ 20% South Platte Basin Supplies
  - ~ 15% Arkansas Basin Supplies
- Irrigated Agriculture
  - ~ 640,000 acres South Platte Basin
  - ~ 265,000 acres Arkansas Basin
- Municipal/Domestic
  - ~3 million South Platte River Basin
  - ~ 900,000 Arkansas River Basin
- Recreation
  - In River/Flowing Water
  - Flat Water
- Environmental/Ecological
  - Riparian
  - Fish & Wildlife





# Questions?