



City of Needles

817 Third Street, Needles, California 92363
(760) 326-2113 • FAX (760) 326-6765
www.cityofneedles.com

*Mayor, Janet Jernigan
Vice Mayor Ellen Campbell
Councilmember Tona Belt
Councilmember Jamie McCorkle
Councilmember JoAnne Pogue
Councilmember Henry Longbrake
Councilmember Larry Ford*

City Manager Patrick J. Martinez

MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: PATRICK J. MARTINEZ, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: WEEKLY MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 7, 2025

1. **Third Annual Veterans Day Ceremony and Pancake Breakfast**

The community is invited to the Third Annual Veterans Day Ceremony and Honor Guard Pancake Breakfast this Saturday, November 8, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at El Garces, located at 950 Front Street. This annual tradition honors the brave men and women who have served in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Space Force, and Coast Guard. Veterans will be treated to a complimentary pancake breakfast, with a \$5 charge for all others. The event continues to advance Council goals for community engagement and civic pride while recognizing the service and sacrifice of our local heroes. Special thanks to the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, VFW Post 404, Needles Military Moms, Hampton Inn, and Wagon Wheel Restaurant for their continued partnership and support. Refer to the attached flyer for event details.

2. **Inaugural Needles Sunday Market – Supporting Local Vendors**

The community turned out this past weekend to support the inaugural Needles Sunday Market at Santa Fe Park, with a steady flow of visitors and a strong vendor showing. The market runs every Sunday, 8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m., through March 31, 2026. This community-led effort advances Council goals to foster a business-friendly environment, strengthen community engagement, and enhance quality of life. Come out each week, shop local, and help this become a staple of our downtown weekend scene. Vendors are welcome—boost your business and connect with residents. Contact Market Manager Patrick Lauterio at **(760) 848-8289** or needlesfarmers@gmail.com to participate.

3. **Bureau of Reclamation Confirms Tier 2 Shortage for 2026**

City officials recently met with the Bureau of Reclamation for the annual 2026 Colorado River Basin Conditions Update. The City was commended for diverting 233 acre-feet less than ordered during the 2025 water year, reflecting strong conservation practices. BOR reported total system storage between Lake Powell and Lake Mead has declined from 43% to 37%, with Powell now 29% full and Mead projected near elevation 1,053 feet. Despite a solid snowpack, only half of the runoff reached reservoirs due to early heat, evaporation, and dry

soils. A Tier 2 Shortage is forecast for 2026 as existing shortage and conservation contracts expire, with no new agreement yet reached among basin states. BOR anticipates releasing a draft post-2026 operations plan later this year. All WaterSMART funding is currently frozen pending federal updates. These developments reinforce Needles' proactive approach to responsible water management and long-term drought resilience. Refer to the attached BOR report for detailed data and projections.

4. **Discover Inland Empire: Showcasing Needles on the Global Stage**

The City of Needles continues to expand its international tourism presence through the City's partnership with Discover Inland Empire (IE). From November 5–10, 2025, Needles is proudly featured at Discover IE's booth during the Asia Sales Mission and Taipei International Travel Fair in Taipei and Hong Kong. This global showcase introduces thousands of travel professionals and media representatives to Needles' unique Route 66 heritage, riverfront recreation, and authentic small-town charm. Over the past several years, under the leadership of Mayor Jernigan and the City Council, Needles has worked closely with Freddy Bi and Discover IE to attract and strengthen tourism opportunities. These ongoing efforts follow last year's successful familiarization tours that welcomed international delegates from Taiwan and Japan to experience Needles firsthand. Featuring Needles in this international platform supports the Council's strategic priorities to expand tourism, foster economic development, and promote the City as a vibrant gateway to California's Route 66 corridor and the Colorado River region. Refer to the attached image of booth image. Refer to the attached booth image.

5. **Parks and Recreation: Celebrating Community and Holiday Spirit**

The City of Needles Parks and Recreation Department continues to strengthen our community through programs that promote youth development, recreation, and family engagement. Registration is now open for two upcoming holiday events—the **Route 66 Pee Wee Derby** on **December 6th** during the Downtown Holiday Fun Fair on Broadway, and **Santa's Workshop** on **December 13th** at the Needles Recreation Center, 1705 J Street. These events bring families together to celebrate the season while fostering creativity and community pride. Parks and Recreation is also launching its annual **Youth Basketball League** for **3rd–8th graders**, with registration open until **November 16th** and skills and drills beginning **November 17th**. Scholarships and sibling discounts are available to ensure participation is accessible to all families. The City extends its gratitude to the Parks and Recreation team for their continued dedication to creating opportunities that strengthen our community and enrich the lives of our youth. For registration or more information, call the Needles Recreation Center at **(760) 326-2814**.

6. **Second Annual Community Fall Festival – Strengthening Partnerships**

The community came out strong for the Second Annual Community Fall Festival at Santa Fe Park, a great success in partnership with Vista Elementary and the Needles Unified School District. The event featured games, bounce houses, food vendors, crafts, and live music by DJ Knoxx, with over 30 local vendors

helping offset City costs. The festival advanced Council goals for community engagement, school partnerships, and a vibrant downtown. Special thanks to the Needles Unified School District, Public Works, and Parks & Recreation teams for their outstanding efforts in making this family event a success. Refer to the attached images for a glimpse of the day.

7. Needles Little League Shade Fundraiser – Supporting Recreation

The City of Needles commends the Needles Little League for its continued efforts to improve local recreational facilities through a community-driven fundraising campaign. Through a 3:1 matching grant from the Legacy Foundation, this project will bring three new shade structures to the fields, providing essential relief and comfort for players, families, and fans during the hot desert months. These improvements will enhance safety, encourage greater community participation, and create a more enjoyable environment for all who come out to support our youth. The Needles Little League is calling on the community to help reach the fundraising goal—every donation, big or small, makes a difference. Contributions are tax-deductible and will directly benefit the young athletes and families of Needles. Donations can be mailed to Needles Little League, P.O. Box 762, Needles, CA 92363. For more information, contact Josh Raley at (760) 220-7886. Together, we can continue to build a stronger, more vibrant youth sports community.

8. Festival of Trees – Celebrating the Season of Giving

The City of Needles is proud to partner with Palo Verde College Needles Center and community organizations to present the annual Festival of Trees on Saturday, December 6, 2025. This cherished holiday event invites local businesses, non-profits, and individuals to decorate artificial trees with creative themes, transforming the campus into a festive showcase of community spirit. Visitors will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite tree, with the top entry receiving special recognition. The event will also feature Santa Claus, photo opportunities, and a silent auction, with proceeds benefitting Palo Verde College Needles students and local youth organizations. Participants can drop off and decorate their trees between December 1–5, with judging beginning at 11 a.m. on event day and winners announced during the Holiday Parade. Registration forms are available at Palo Verde College Needles Center, 725 W. Broadway, or by contacting Talana Wade at (760) 326-5033 or talana.wade@paloverde.edu.

9. Colorado River Station / Needles Police Department – Facility Reopens

The Colorado River Station / Needles Police Department has officially moved back into its newly renovated facility, marking a significant milestone for public safety services in our community. The upgraded station, located at 1111 Bailey Avenue adjacent to the Needles Court, features enhanced space and modernized infrastructure designed to better support law enforcement operations and strengthen community engagement. The department's phone number remains 760-326-9200. This relocation reflects San Bernardino County's continued investment in public safety and its commitment to enhancing accessibility and service delivery for residents. The City extends its sincere

appreciation to the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department for their partnership and steadfast dedication to the Needles community.

10. Needles High School Football Playoffs and Alumni Partnership

The Needles High School Mustangs open their playoff run this Friday at 7:00 p.m. at home against White Pine High School. Led by Head Coach Thomas DeLeon, the team continues to showcase the determination and pride that define our community. In support of local education and school spirit, the Needles Unified School District—alongside the Needles Alumni Association—recently installed a new “Education 1st – All Students Learn” sign along Broadway Street. The display highlights the district’s strong commitment to academic excellence and community pride. The City values its continued partnership with the District and Alumni Association, recognizing their efforts to inspire the next generation of Mustangs. Let’s come together this Friday night and cheer on the Mustangs as they compete in the first round of the playoffs.

11. Team California – 2025 Meet the Consultants Conference

City Manager Patrick Martinez attended the 2025 Meet the Consultants event hosted by Team California in Concord, California. The City’s participation was made possible through a one-year membership scholarship funded by the AHEAD Grant from FHLBank San Francisco. The three-day conference gathered site selectors, economic development professionals, and industry leaders to discuss business attraction strategies, workforce innovation, and economic trends shaping California’s growth. The event focused on positioning communities like Needles to attract advanced manufacturing, logistics, and clean industry investment, directly supporting City Council goals to diversify the local economy, create quality jobs, and promote sustainable development. Participation in this statewide network strengthens the City’s visibility among key decision-makers influencing business expansion and investment across the state.

12. Needles Pride Program & Infrastructure Improvements

The City of Needles remains steadfast in its commitment to community pride—enhancing cleanliness, safety, and the city’s overall appeal. The City Council continues to prioritize beautification projects that make Needles a welcoming destination for residents and visitors alike. As part of this ongoing effort, the \$3.96 million Duke Watkins Park Improvement Project now features a new Expression Wall showcasing local art and community spirit. Over the weekend, local artist Cycle George, assisted by former Councilmember Zachery Longacre, completed a vibrant desert-themed mural that celebrates Needles’ unique character and supports Council goals for beautification, recreation, and public engagement. Residents can report concerns by calling 760-326-5700 (press 9) or using the Needles Connect app on [Google Play Store](#) (Android) and [Apple Store](#) (iOS). Together, we continue to make Needles a brighter and more vibrant place to live.

13. Duke Watkins Park Splash Pad –System Upkeep

This week, Public Works crews performed maintenance on the Duke Watkins Park Splash Pad as part of the City’s seasonal upkeep program. Regular maintenance during the winter closure is essential to conserve water, protect equipment from weather-related wear, and ensure all systems are functioning properly before reopening in spring. These preventive measures extend the life of the facility and help avoid costly repairs, keeping the splash pad safe, efficient, and ready for families to enjoy when temperatures rise again. Refer to the attached image for a glimpse of our team completing the maintenance work.

14. Veteran Special Recognition Award – George DeLeon

The City of Needles is proud to announce that George DeLeon was honored with the Veteran Special Recognition Award at the 28th Annual Community Achievement Awards, hosted by the Laughlin Chamber of Commerce. This regional event celebrates individuals and organizations whose service strengthens the Colorado River community. Mr. DeLeon’s recognition highlights his outstanding dedication to both his country and the City of Needles, reflecting the values of commitment, leadership, and civic pride. The City also extends its appreciation to Dr. Mary McNeil, who served as head judge on the awards committee representing Needles. Her continued commitment to regional collaboration and community excellence is deeply valued. Congratulations to both for their outstanding contributions—and a reminder to residents and organizations to prepare nominations for next year’s awards to help highlight the many people making a difference in Needles.

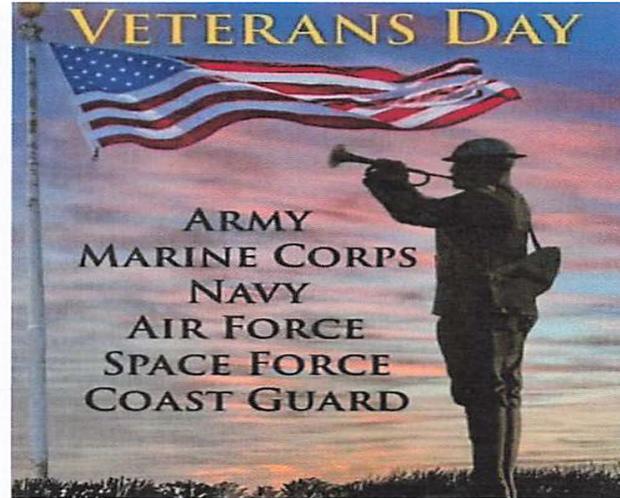
15. City Hall will be closed on **Tuesday, November 11, 2025**, in observance of **Veterans Day**. Regular operations will resume on **Wednesday, November 12, 2025**, starting at **8:30 a.m.** For emergencies, please contact City Staff directly at **(760) 326-5700**. Our after-hours answering service will promptly direct your call to the appropriate staff member. Please refer to the attached flyer posted on the front doors of City Hall for public awareness.

16. Community Events Calendar Now Live

The City’s new website now features a [Community Events Calendar](#)—a single source for community events, civic meetings, and community programs. Local organizations are invited to submit or update events through the City Clerk’s Office to keep the calendar current and inclusive. Contact **Candace Clark at cclark@cityofneedles.com** to participate. Residents can subscribe and sync the calendar to mobile devices for real-time updates, making it easier to stay informed and engaged.

1. VETERANS EVENT

“NEEDLES HONORING VETERANS”



November 8, 2025
Needles El Garces on Route 66
950 Front Street in Needles
8-11 AM

VETERANS DAY CEREMONY HONOR GUARD
PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Complimentary to local veterans
All others are \$5

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Colorado River Plumbing Colorado River Medical Center Deco Foodservice
Friends of the El Garces Hardware Express Needles Aerie #2599
Needles Elks Lodge #1608 Needles Military Moms
Needles Rodeo Association Set Free Church of Needles VFW Post 404
Billett Health Wagon Wheel Restaurant City of Needles

2. NEEDLES SUNDAY MARKET



2. NEEDLES SUNDAY MARKET



Needles Sunday Market



**Fresh Produce
from DD Farms
November 2nd!**

Santa Fe Park

8AM - 12PM

EVERY SUNDAY THROUGH MARCH 31ST, 2026

2. NEEDLES SUNDAY MARKET





— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION

2026 Part 417 Consultation: Colorado River Basin Conditions Update

Water Accounting & Verification Group
Boulder Canyon Operations Office
Jeremy Dodds, Deputy Area Manager

October 2025



Colorado River Basin Storage

(as of October 15, 2025)

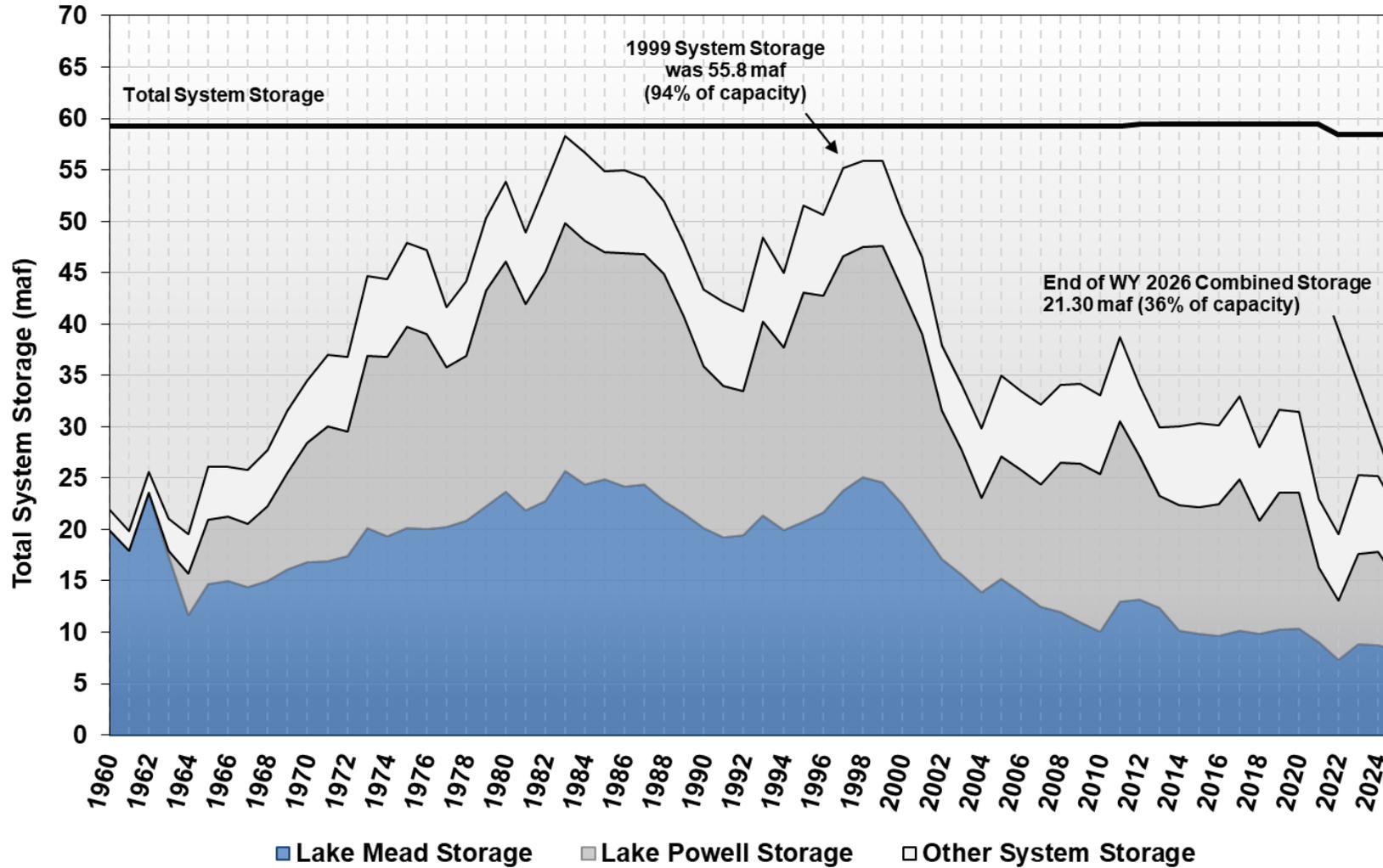
Reservoir	Percent Full	Storage (maf)	Elevation (feet)
Lake Powell	29%	6.78	3,545.10
Lake Mead	32%	8.25	1,057.71
Total System Storage	37%	21.86	- - -

Total system storage was 43% of capacity, with 24.91 maf in storage, this date in 2024. System storage was 43% of capacity on this date in 2023 as well.



End of Water Year Colorado River Basin Total System Storage

Water Years 1960 - 2026

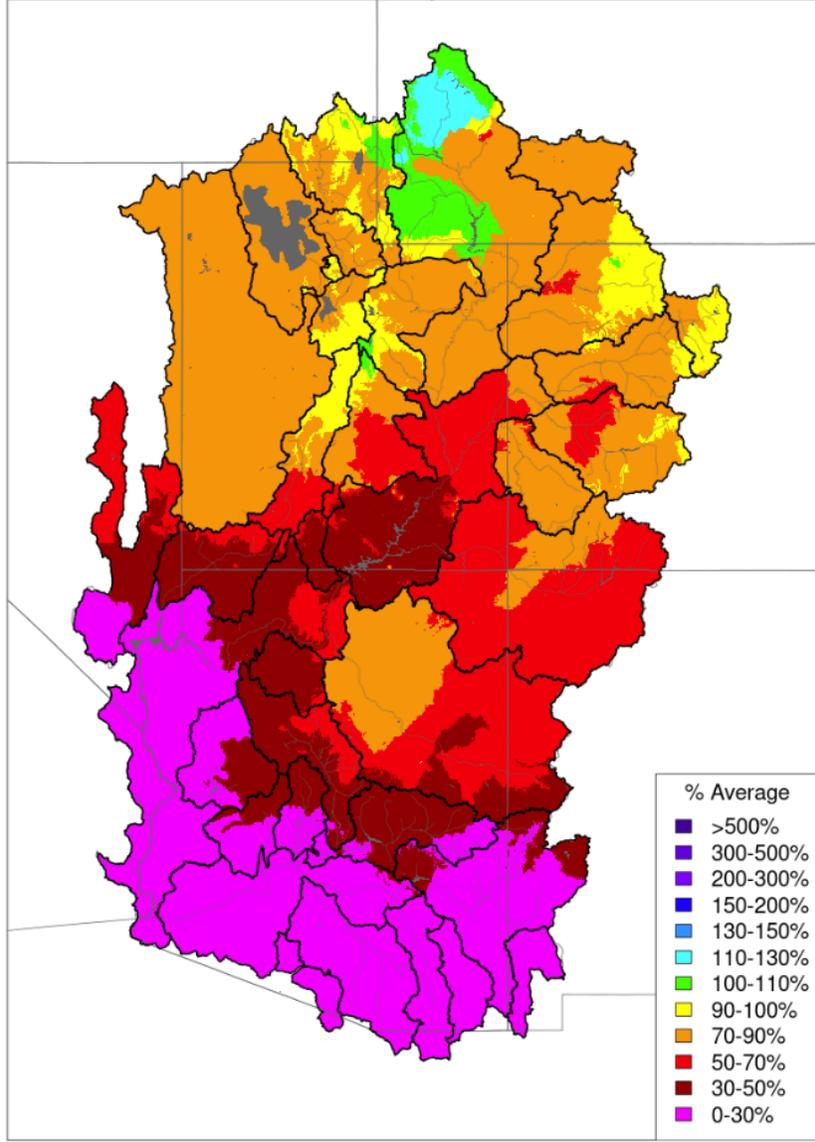


*Storage value for the end of WY 2026 is based on the October 2025 24-Month Study.



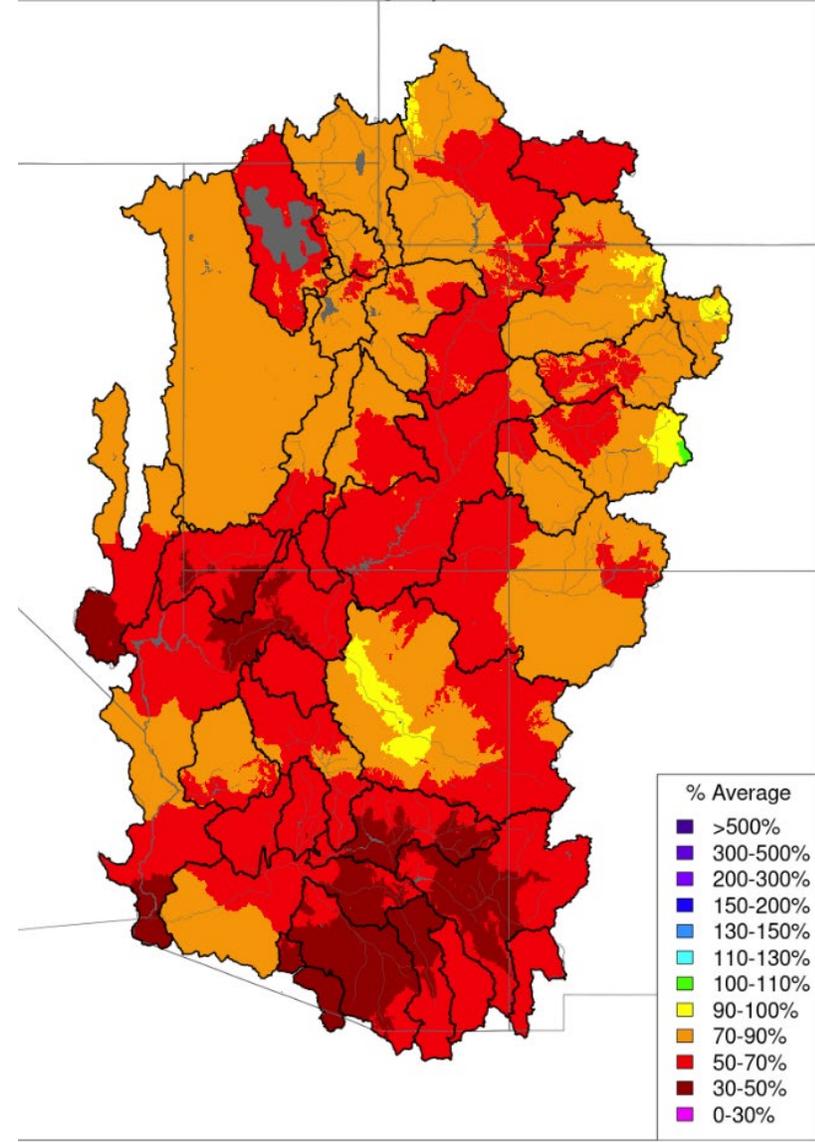
2025 Water Year Snowpack and Precipitation¹

Water Year Precipitation, October 2024 - April 2025
Averaged by Basin



Prepared by NOAA, Colorado Basin River Forecast Center
Salt Lake City, Utah, www.cbrfc.noaa.gov

Water Year Precipitation, October 2024 - September 2025
Averaged by Basin



Prepared by NOAA, Colorado Basin River Forecast Center
Salt Lake City, Utah, www.cbrfc.noaa.gov

Colorado River Basin above Lake Powell

Water Year 2025 Precipitation
(observed)

Water Year 2025 Precipitation
(observed)
86% of average

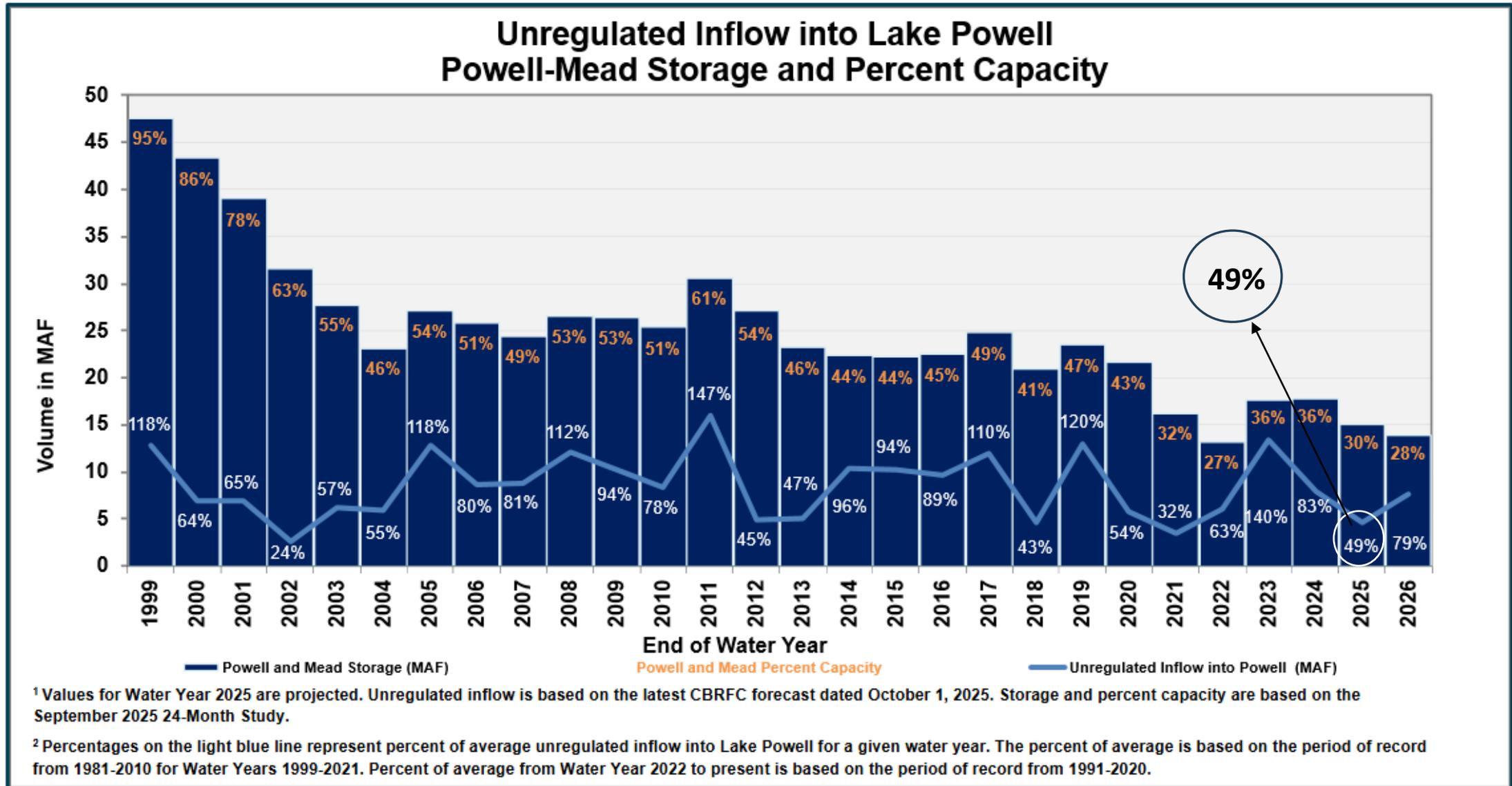
Water Year 2025 Runoff
April – July Efficiency
(estimated)
45% of average

Water Year 2025
Preliminary Lake Powell
Inflow (observed)
4.69 MAF
49% of average

¹Statistics are based on the 30-year period
of record from 1991-2020.



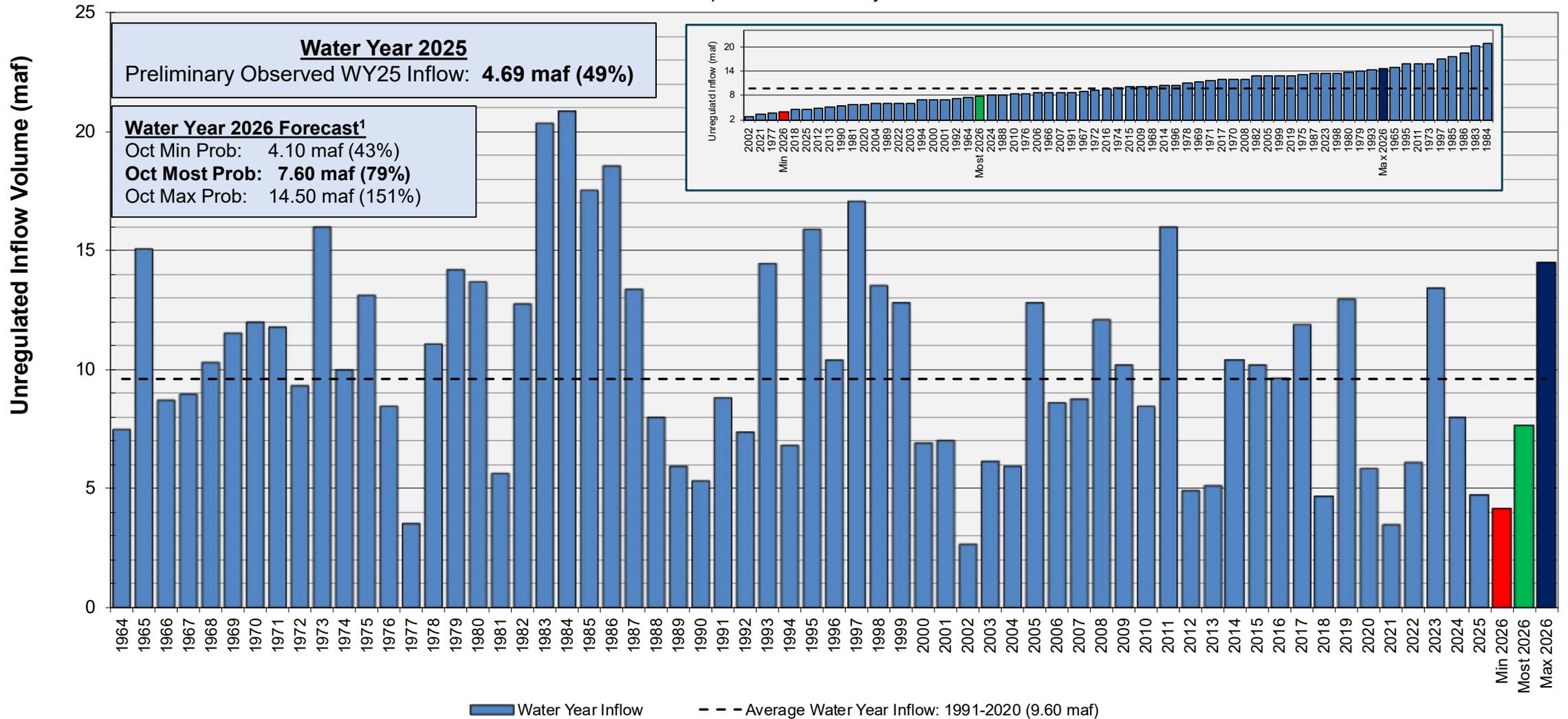
State of the System (Water Years 1999-2026)^{1,2}



Lake Powell Water Year Unregulated Inflow

as of October 1, 2025

Comparison with History

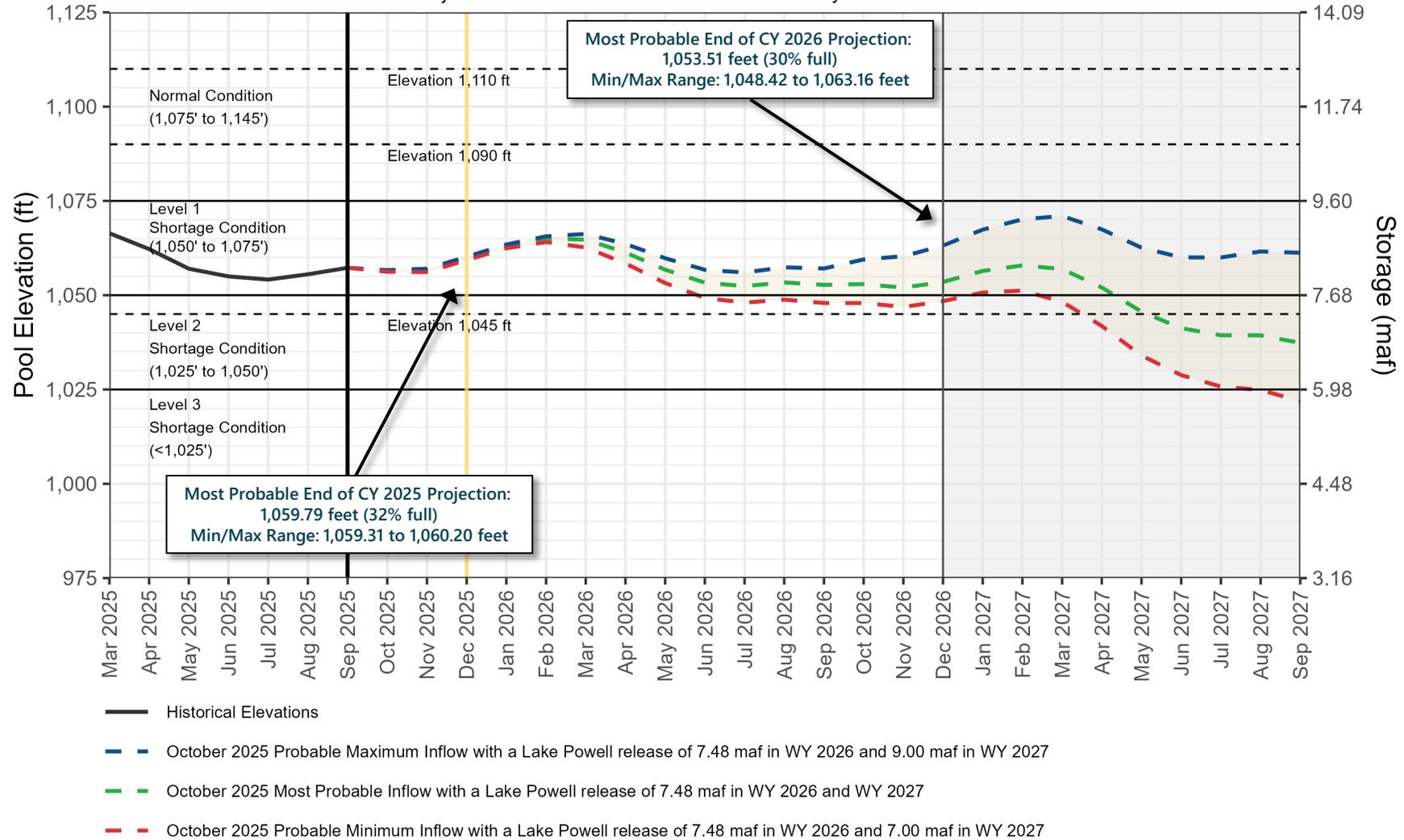


¹Water Year statistics are based on the 30-year period of record from 1991-2020.



Lake Mead End-of-Month Elevations¹

Projections from October 2025 24-Month Study Inflow Scenarios



The Drought Response Operations Agreement (DROA) is available online at <https://www.usbr.gov/dcp/finaldocs.html>.

¹For modeling purposes, simulated years beyond 2026 assume a continuation of the 2007 Interim Guidelines including the 2024 Supplement to the 2007 Interim Guidelines (no additional SEIS conservation is assumed to occur after 2026), the 2019 Colorado River Basin Drought Contingency Plans, and Minute 323 including the Binational Water Scarcity Contingency Plan. With the exception of certain provisions related to ICS recovery and Upper Basin Demand management, operations under these agreements are in effect through 2026.



Shortage Reductions and Water Savings Contributions

Under the 2007 Interim Guidelines, Minute 323, Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan (DCP)*,
and Binational Water Scarcity Contingency Plan
(Volumes in thousand acre-feet)

**Level 1
Shortage
Condition**

Lake Mead Elevations (in feet)	2007 Interim Guidelines Shortage Reductions (U.S.)		Minute 323 Delivery Reductions (Mexico)	Total Combined Shortage Reductions (U.S. and Mexico)	DCP Water Savings Contributions (U.S.)			Binational Water Scarcity Contingency Plan Water Savings (Mexico)	Combined Volumes of Shortage Reductions and Water Savings Contributions by Lower Basin State and by Country (U.S. and Mexico)					Total Combined Volumes (U.S. and Mexico)
	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

**Lake Mead
Calendar Year
2026 Operating
Condition**

*Under the Lower Basin DCP, the United States is taking affirmative actions to create or conserve 100,000 acre-feet or more of Colorado River system water on an annual basis 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 federal law, including availability of appropriations.





Lower Basin – Lake Mead - Results from August 2025 CRMMS-ESP (values in percent)

Percent of Traces with Event or System Condition^{1,2,4,5}

Event or System Condition	2026	2027 ³	2028 ³	2029 ³	2030 ³
Surplus Condition – any amount (Mead ≥ 1,145 ft)	0	0	0	0	0
Surplus – Flood Control	0	0	0	0	0
Normal or ICS Surplus Condition (Mead < 1,145 and > 1,075 ft)	0	7	3	10	13
Recovery of DCP ICS / Mexico’s Water Savings (Mead >/≥ 1,110 ft)	0	0	0	0	3
DCP Contribution / Mexico’s Water Savings (Mead ≤ 1,090 and > 1,075 ft)	0	7	3	7	0
Shortage Condition – any amount (Mead ≤ 1,075 ft)	100	93	97	90	87
<i>Shortage / Reduction – 1st level (Mead ≤ 1,075 and ≥ 1,050)</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>27</i>
DCP Contribution / Mexico’s Water Savings (Mead ≤ 1,075 and > 1,050 ft)	100	50	30	20	27
<i>Shortage / Reduction – 2nd level (Mead < 1,050 and ≥ 1,025)</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>53</i>	<i>43</i>	<i>40</i>
DCP Contribution / Mexico’s Water Savings (Mead ≤ 1,050 and > 1,045 ft)	0	33	0	10	3
DCP Contribution / Mexico’s Water Savings (Mead ≤ 1,045 and > 1,040 ft)	0	0	13	10	10
DCP Contribution / Mexico’s Water Savings (Mead ≤ 1,040 and > 1,035 ft)	0	7	17	10	13
DCP Contribution / Mexico’s Water Savings (Mead ≤ 1,035 and > 1,030 ft)	0	0	13	7	3
DCP Contribution / Mexico’s Water Savings (Mead ≤ 1,030 and ≥/> 1,025 ft)	0	0	10	7	10
<i>Shortage / Reduction – 3rd level (Mead < 1,025)</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>20</i>
DCP Contribution / Mexico’s Water Savings (Mead </≤ 1,025 ft)	0	3	13	27	20

Notes:

¹ Modeled operations include the 2007 Interim Guidelines, 2024 Supplement to the 2007 Interim Guidelines, Upper Basin Drought Response Operations, Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan, Minutes 323, including the Binational Water Scarcity Contingency Plan, and Minute 330.

² Reservoir conditions were simulated using the August 2025 CRMMS in ensemble mode using the CBRFC unregulated inflow forecast ensemble (CRMMS-ESP) dated August 1, 2025.

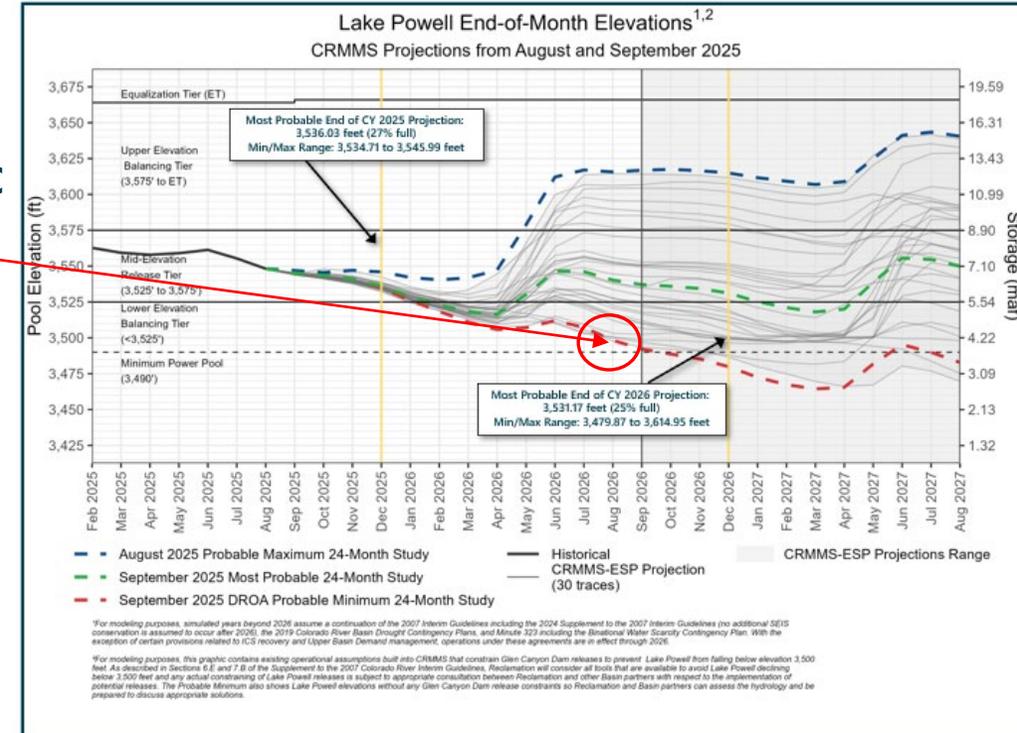
³ For modeling purposes, simulated years beyond 2026 assume a continuation of the 2007 Interim Guidelines including the 2024 Supplement to the 2007 Interim Guidelines (no additional SEIS conservation is assumed to occur after 2026), the 2019 Colorado River Basin Drought Contingency Plans, and Minute 323, including the Binational Water Scarcity Contingency Plan. Except for certain provisions related to ICS recovery and Upper Basin demand management, operations under these agreements are in effect through 2026. Reclamation initiated the process to develop operations for post-2026 in June 2023, and the modeling assumptions described here are subject to change.

⁴ Percentages shown in this table may not be representative of the full range of future possibilities that could occur with different modeling assumptions.

⁵ Percentages shown may not sum to 100% due to rounding to the nearest percent.

Purpose of recently initiated monthly 2024 SEIS ROD Section 6(E) meetings:

- The September 2025 24-Month Study shows the potential for Lake Powell elevations to go below elevation 3,500 feet by August 2026 under the “minimum probable” hydrologic scenario.
- Meets conditions of Section 6(E) of the 2024 SEIS ROD where “the Secretary shall begin planning to reduce releases, as needed, to not less than 6.0 maf from Lake Powell in the Water Year to maintain an elevation of 3,500 feet.”
- Section 6(E) of the 2024 SEIS ROD also specifies that “Reclamation will consider all tools that are available” to keep Lake Powell elevations above 3,500 feet before considering reduced releases.
- SEIS requires Reclamation to coordinate any additional operating decisions made under the 2024 SEIS ROD with stakeholders, which includes representatives from Basin States, Basin Tribes, Mexico, and other partners.





Colorado River Arizona Shortage Implementation General Principles :

- Shortage reductions follow the Arizona priority system.
- Shortage implementation procedures are reviewed annually and adjusted, if needed, with stakeholder input.
- Available water supplies under shortage are calculated annually.
- Standard water order approval process is administered.
- Under the Inadvertent Overrun & Payback Policy (IOPP), no overruns may be incurred during shortage.



Arizona Shortage Sharing Recommendation: Calculation of P4 Available Supply for 2026

Application of 2009 Arizona Shortage Sharing Recommendation	Determination of Shortage Sharing Ratio (AF): Four Highest of Last Five Years (through 2024)	Water Supply Determination (AF): Shortage Year (2026)
Arizona Colorado River Water Apportionment	2,800,000 CU	2,800,000 CU
Minus Priorities 1-3 Used or Conserved On-River	(1,065,646) CU	(1,065,646) CU
Minus Priorities 1-3 Delivered via CAP to Fulfill Settlements	(72,000) CU	(72,000) CU
Minus Arizona Shortage/DCP Contributions Volume	None CU	(512,000) CU
Equals 4th Priority Supply	= 1,662,354 CU	= 1,150,354 CU
4th Priority Mainstream Entitlement (pool)	164,652 Div	↓
Divided by 4th Priority Supply	÷ 1,662,354 CU	
Equals 4th Priority Mainstream Water Allocation Percentage	= 9.90% →	x 9.90%
4th Priority Mainstream Available Supply		= 113,940 Div
4th Priority Supply		1,150,354 CU
Minus 4th Priority Water Allocated to Mainstream (CU equiv.)		(70,643) CU
Minus other use in Arizona*		(1,646) CU
Equals 4th Priority Water Available to CAP		= 1,078,065 CU

* Three-year average of consumptive use on Cibola Island, lands outside PPR No. 7, by Martinez Lake cabin sites, and by Yuma-area users outside of district boundaries.





2024 Near-term Colo. River Ops Record of Decision

- [Signed on May 6, 2024](#)
- Modifies the 2007 Interim Guidelines through end of 2026
- Targets a cumulative volume of 3 million AF or more of additional conserved water (Reservoir Protection Conservation) by end of 2026
 - Minimum of 1.5 million AF by the end of 2024
 - In addition to required shortage reductions and DCP Contributions
 - May consist of:
 - Compensated System Conservation water agreements executed for implementation in years 2023-2026
 - ICS created in years 2023-2026
 - Other compensated and non-compensated conserved water left in Lake Mead





Ongoing Efforts to Maintain System Storage in the Continuing Colorado River Drought

LCB Conservation and Efficiency Program¹

- Phase 1 implemented in October 2022
 - Short-term system conservation plans
 - 1a: Fixed prices
 - 1b: Propose price with economic justification
 - Both 1a & 1b must meet requirements
 - Twenty-six (26) agreements completed which are projected to conserve 2.46 MAF through 2026²
- Phase 2³ implemented in May 2023
 - Projects with long-term water savings benefits
 - Eleven (11) agreements signed to conserve a total estimated amount of ~636,000 AF which may cost as much as ~ \$496 million



Compensated reductions in consumptive use via fallowing of farmland has been a primary tool to date to create system conservation water.

¹ See www.usbr.gov/lc/LCBConservation.html

² See www.usbr.gov/lc/region/programs/LCBConservation&EfficiencyProgram/Phase1_SCIA.pdf

³ See www.usbr.gov/lc/region/programs/LCBConservation&EfficiencyProgram/Jan%202025%20-%20SCIAs%20announced%20table.pdf

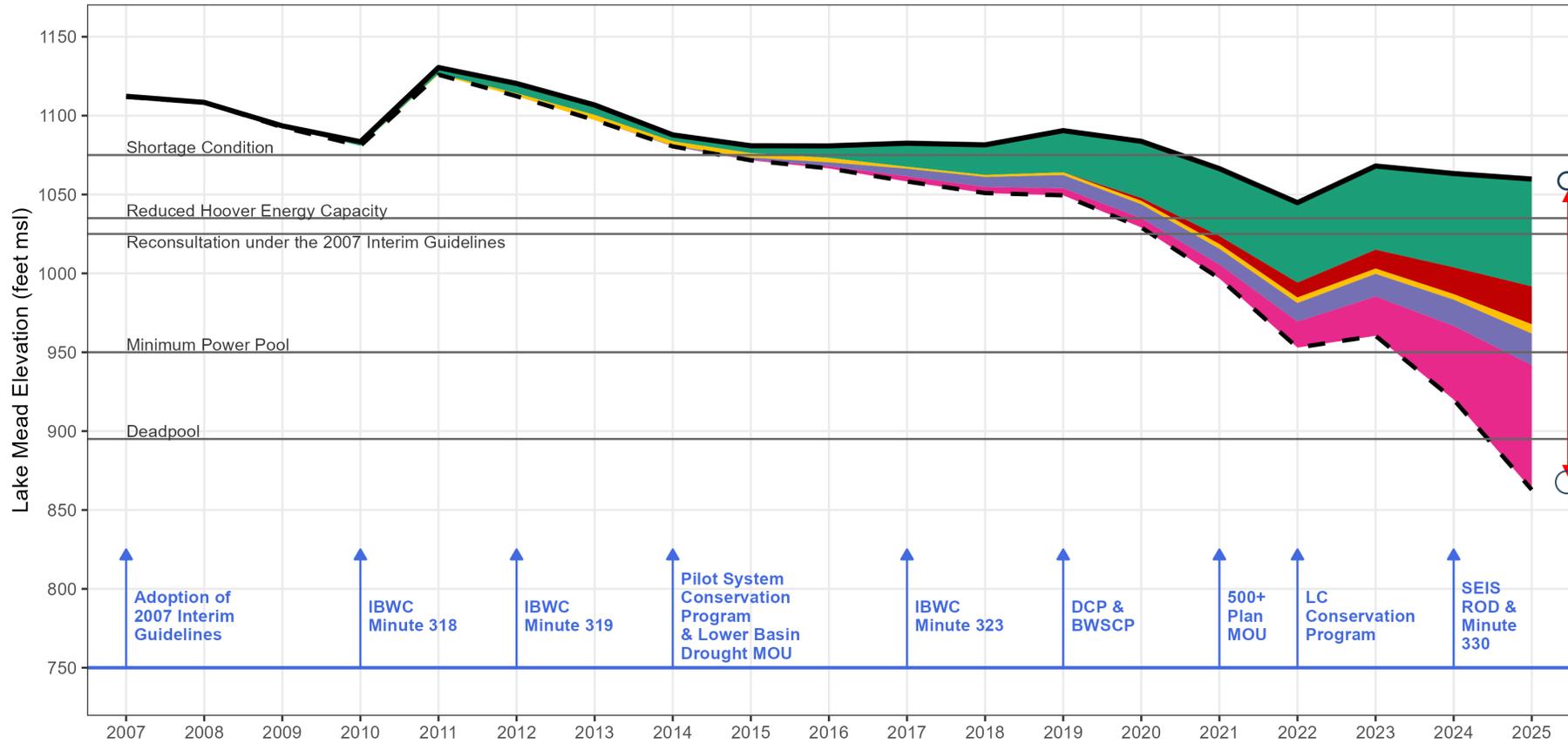




Lake Mead Storage and Conservation*

Lake Powell WY Release (maf)

8.23	8.98	8.24	8.23	12.50	9.47	8.23	7.48	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	8.23	8.23	7.00	8.58	7.48	7.48
------	------	------	------	-------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------



- U.S. ICS (2007 Guidelines)
- DCP Contributions
- Mexico's Water Reserve and Recoverable Water Savings
- Other Conservation Activities
- System Conservation Water
- Actual Elevation
- Hypothetical Elevation without Storage/Conservation Programs

*End of calendar year 2025 balances of U.S. ICS and Mexico's Water Reserve, system conservation water, and other voluntary contributions to Lake Mead are provisional numbers and are subject to change.



Lower Basin Modeled Conservation¹

As of October 2025 (all volumes in acre-feet)

State	Conservation Activity	2025	2026	2027	Total
AZ	CAP System Conservation Agreements	125,503	98,800	7,224	231,527
	Cathcart Farms System Conservation	61	61	0	122
	Cibola Valley IDD System Conservation	2,328	2,329	0	4,657
	Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation System Conservation	13,933	13,933	0	27,866
	GM Gabrych System Conservation	3,240	3,240	0	6,480
	GRIC System Conservation	115,000	125,000	22,505	262,505
	Hopi Tribe System Conservation	3,059	3,059	0	6,118
	MVIDD System Conservation	13,694	14,184	0	27,878
	San Carlos Apache Tribe System Conservation	23451	23451	0	46,902
YMIDD System Conservation	22,010	24,242	0	46,252	
CA	Coachella Groundwater System Conservation	35,000	35,000	0	70,000
	Coachella Ag System Conservation	3,889	6,511	0	10,400
	IID System Conservation	250,000	192,360	0	442,360
	MWD ICS Creation	0	0	0	0
	MWD System Conservation	179,700	9,552	0	189,252
	PVID-MWD System Conservation	117,021	83,272	0	200,293
	Bard-MWD System Conservation	9,286	11,400	0	20,686
	Quechan Indian Tribe-MWD System Conservation	13,000	13,000	0	26,000
NV	SNWA System Conservation Water	83,000	86,000	0	169,000
	SNWA Tributary Conservation	35,000	35,000	35,000	105,000
Other	242 Wellfield Additional Pumping Agreement	32,000	32,000	0	64,000
	PSCP	3,346	3,197	145	6,688
	Annual Total	1,083,521	815,591	64,874	1,963,986
	Cumulative Total	1,083,521	1,899,112	1,963,986	

¹ All projected volumes are subject to change. Additional conservation activities are being considered including system conservation, ICS, and other conserved water in 2025 through 2027. These additional activities will be included in Reclamation's operational modeling.

² Reclamation has funded a total of 2.03 maf of conservation between 2023-2024 in accordance with the Reservoir Protection Conservation requirements under the 2007 Interim Guidelines SEIS ROD. Information on accounted system conservation can be found online at: <https://www.usbr.gov/lc/region/g4000/wtracct.html>.



Phase 2 - Lower Colorado Basin System Conservation & Efficiency Program (Bucket 2) Announced System Conservation Implementation Agreements as of January 2025

Participant	State	Project Title	Total Estimated Water Conservation*	Project Type	Project Description	Total Cost
Gila River Indian Community	AZ	West Side Regulating Reservoir	13,100	Storage	Construction of a regulating reservoir that captures spilled flows from the Santan Canal	\$17,132,743
Gila River Indian Community	AZ	Lining Blackwater Canals	13,180	Agricultural Efficiency	Lining 7.61 miles of irrigation canals in the Blackwater area	\$26,233,533
Gila River Indian Community	AZ	Gila River Farms Efficiency Improvements	47,020	Agricultural Efficiency	Installation of on-farm efficiency improvements for Gila River Farms	\$63,808,473
Southern Nevada Water Authority	NV	Water Smart Landscapes Rebate Program	189,635	Water Efficient Landscape Conversion	Convert 23,166,023 square-feet of water intensive lawns to water efficient landscaping	\$60,000,000
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California	CA	Non-functional Turf Replacement for Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional Properties	97,296	Water Efficient Landscape Conversion	Convert 30 million square-feet of water efficient lawns to water efficient landscaping	\$95,810,737
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California	CA	Antelope-Valley East Kern High Desert Water Bank	168,000	Storage	Construct the high desert water bank to capture surplus State Water Project supplies	\$82,000,000
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California	CA	Disadvantaged Communities Leak Detection and Repair	4,000	Municipal Efficiency	Provide leak detection and repair services that benefit disadvantaged communities	\$8,000,000
Coachella Valley Water District	CA	Water Reclamation Plant 4 Recycled Water Expansion Project	33,600	Recycled Water	Construct 1 million gallon/day tertiary facility to deliver recycled water and canal water	\$39,000,000
City of Tucson	AZ	City of Tucson Advanced Water Purification (AWP) Facility	56,000	Recycled Water	Construct AWP direct potable reuse demonstration facility to treat effluent from Tres Rios water reclamation facility	\$86,674,023
Town of Gilbert	AZ	Town of Gilbert Advanced Metering Infrastructure Conversion	2,500	Municipal Efficiency	Convert 27,943 water meters to Advanced Metering Infrastructure	\$3,078,802
Town of Gilbert	AZ	Town of Gilbert Riparian Preserve Water Distribution Improvements	6,000	Distribution Improvements	Improve water distribution structures in the Riparian Preserve to increase flows and fully utilize reclaimed water for aquifer recharge	\$13,866,100
Total			630,331			\$495,760,441



Post 2026 Operations and NEPA Timeline¹

- June 2022: “Pre-Scoping” notice
- June 2023: Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS initiating Post-2026 process & public scoping period
- October 2023: Scoping Summary Report and Federal Register Notice identified the Proposed Federal Action and Purpose & Need
- January 2025: Alternatives Report published Process currently in the alternative evaluation phase
- November 11th: DOI A/S W&S-established deadline for the seven Basin States to provide DOI w/ major elements of a unified states’ agreement
- Fall 2025-Spring 2026: Release of Draft EIS
- Summer-Fall 2026: Sign Record of Decision



Lees Ferry streamgauge & cableway below Glen Canyon Dam

Post-2026 Project Website:

Recordings & presentations from all public webinars

Recordings & presentations from Integrated Tech. Education Workgroup sessions

Pre-Scoping & Scoping Summary Reports

All Pre-Scoping & Scoping comments received by Reclamation

Link to the Operations Exploration Web Tool

¹See: <https://www.usbr.gov/ColoradoRiverBasin/post2026/>



WaterSMART Program



Provides the framework for the Interior Department to support water supply reliability for multiple users.





WaterSMART Program Basics

➔ **Most WaterSMART activities are grant programs with varying program objectives**

➔ **Generally, a 50% non-Federal cost share is required for grants under WaterSMART. However, depending on the program, funding may be as low as 0% depending on entity**

➔ **States, tribes, cities, water districts, irrigation districts, watershed groups, non-profits (including watershed groups), and flood control districts located within the 17 Western United States, territories, AK, HI, and American Territories**

➔ **Funding is allocated through annual competitive processes**



Water Conservation Programs Schedule

Funding Opportunity	Opening Date	Closing Date
Planning and Project Design Grants	TBD	TBD
Drought Resiliency Projects	TBD	TBD
Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Program FY 2026	TBD	TBD
Coop. Watershed Management Program	TBD	TBD
Large-Scale Water Recycling Projects	TBD	TBD
Water and Energy Efficiency Grants FY 2026	TBD	TBD
Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects FY 2026	TBD	TBD
FY 26 Lower Colorado Basin's Water Conservation Field Services Program	TBD	TBD



Boulder Canyon Operations Office

Interior Region 8: Lower Colorado Basin

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

<https://www.usbr.gov/lc/riverops.html>

<https://www.usbr.gov/lc/region/g4000/wtracct.html>



— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION



4. DISCOVER INLAND EMPIRE



5. PARKS AND RECREATION SPORTS



CITY OF NEEDLES YOUTH BASKETBALL

Registration: October 20th ~ November 17th

Who May Play: Boys & Girls Grades 3rd ~ 8th

Game Nights: Monday ~ Thursday

Season: December ~ March

Cost: Resident- \$45 Non-Resident- \$50
(sibling discounts given)

Please call Needles Recreation Center
@ 760-326-2814 with any questions

City Of Needles Youth Basketball

SKILLS & DRILLS will be Monday, November 17th

C Division Girls (3rd & 4th grades) 6:00pm-6:30pm

C Division Boys (3rd & 4th grades) 6:30pm-7:00pm

*Players who were born in 2015 or 2016 and players born in 2014 not in
a grade higher than 4th are eligible*

B Division: Girls (5th & 6th grades) 7:00pm-7:30pm

B Division Boys (5th & 6th grades) 7:30pm-8:00pm

*Players who were born in 2013 or 2014 and players born in 2012 not in
a grade higher than 6th are eligible*

*A Division Combo Boys & Girls (6th if playing for a school team) 7th & 8th grades)
8:00pm-8:30pm*

*Players who were born in 2011 or 2012 and players born in 2010 not in
a grade higher than 8th are eligible*

Please come 15 minutes early to register & receive player number, will except late registrations up to drill times.
Any questions, please inquire at the Recreation Center. Questions call 760-326-2814

5. HOLIDAY EVENTS



"It's A Spike's Christmas, On Rt. 66, Charlie Brown"

The Needles Youth Development and Education Foundation,
Needles Community Partners, Needles Chamber of Commerce and The City of Needles

Needles Holiday Fun Fair and Lighted Parade

On Broadway between D and F Street

With Activities Inside - Palo Verde College Needles Center

Saturday ~ December 6, 2025

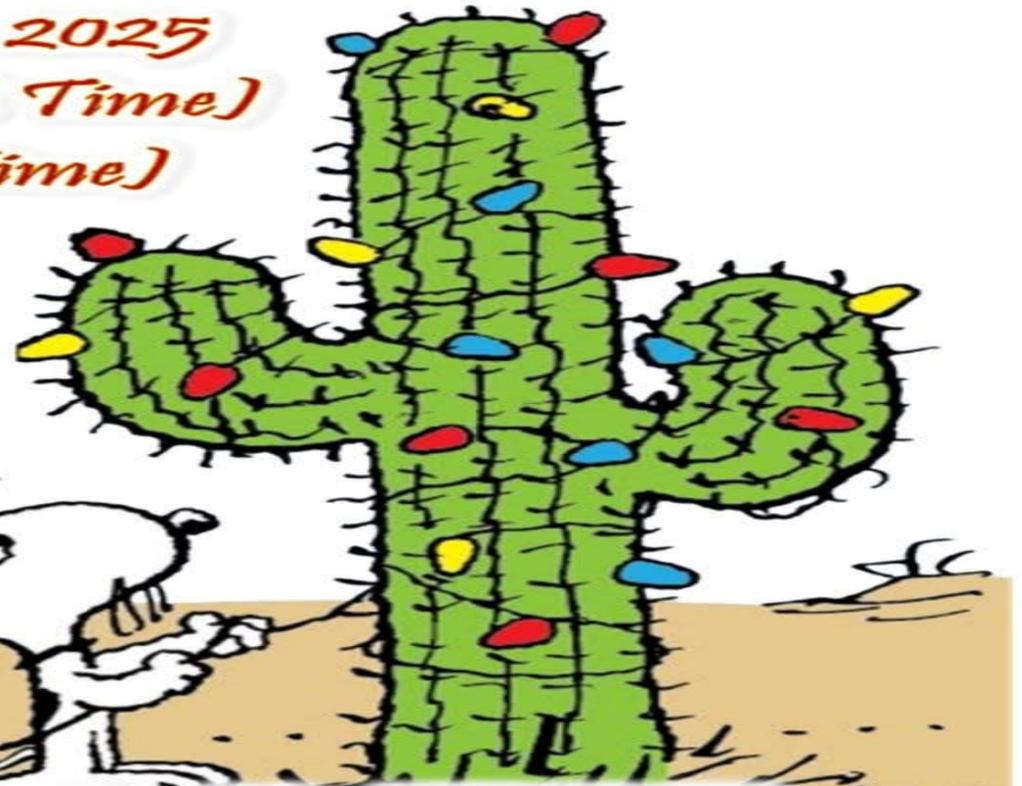
10:00am - 4:00pm ~ (CA Time)

Parade 5:00pm ~ (CA time)

**Pee Wee
Races**

**Dance Trax 51
Performance**

**Vendors
Crafts
Music
Games**



For More Information Contact Tena McGee @ 760.985.4050

6. FALL FESTIVAL



6. FALL FESTIVAL



8. PALO VERDE



Palo Verde College Needles Center Presents

Festival of TREES

'Holidays with Spike & the Peanuts'

PVC Needles Center and Community Partners invite Businesses and Organizations to bring and decorate an Artificial Tree with the theme. Visitors VOTE for their favorite tree! Tree with the 'Most Votes' receives accolades and GOODIES!

Scan the QR Code to Register:

Or use the attached Registration Form

Silent auction

Displays

Santa Claus & Pictures

SATURDAY, DEC 6, 2025

RSVP: Wednesday, Nov. 26, 2025

Decorate: Mon., Dec. 1 - Sat. (morning), Dec. 6, 2025



Trees will be part of a silent auction with proceeds benefitting PVC Needles students & local youth organizations!



Drop off or Mail Forms to: 725 W. Broadway, Needles, CA 92363
Contact: Talana Wade at 760-326-5033 or talana.wade@paloverde.edu

10. NUSD SIGN



NEEDLES
Serving Since 2023



NEEDLES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Education 1st
All Students Learn
Grades TK-12
Home to 41 Total State Athletic Championships
Supported by Needles Alumni • NeedlesUSD.org

Broadway ST

NO
FREEWAY
ACCESS

11. TEAM CALIFORNIA



12. EXPRESSION WALL



13. DUKE WATKINS SPLASH PAD



15. VETERANS DAY OFFICE CLOSED



**THIS OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
NOVEMBER 11, 2025,
FOR VETERANS DAY.**

**WE WILL REOPEN
ON WEDNESDAY**

NOVEMBER 12, 2025, AT 9:00 AM