

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

“Managing the Colorado River – A Balancing Act”

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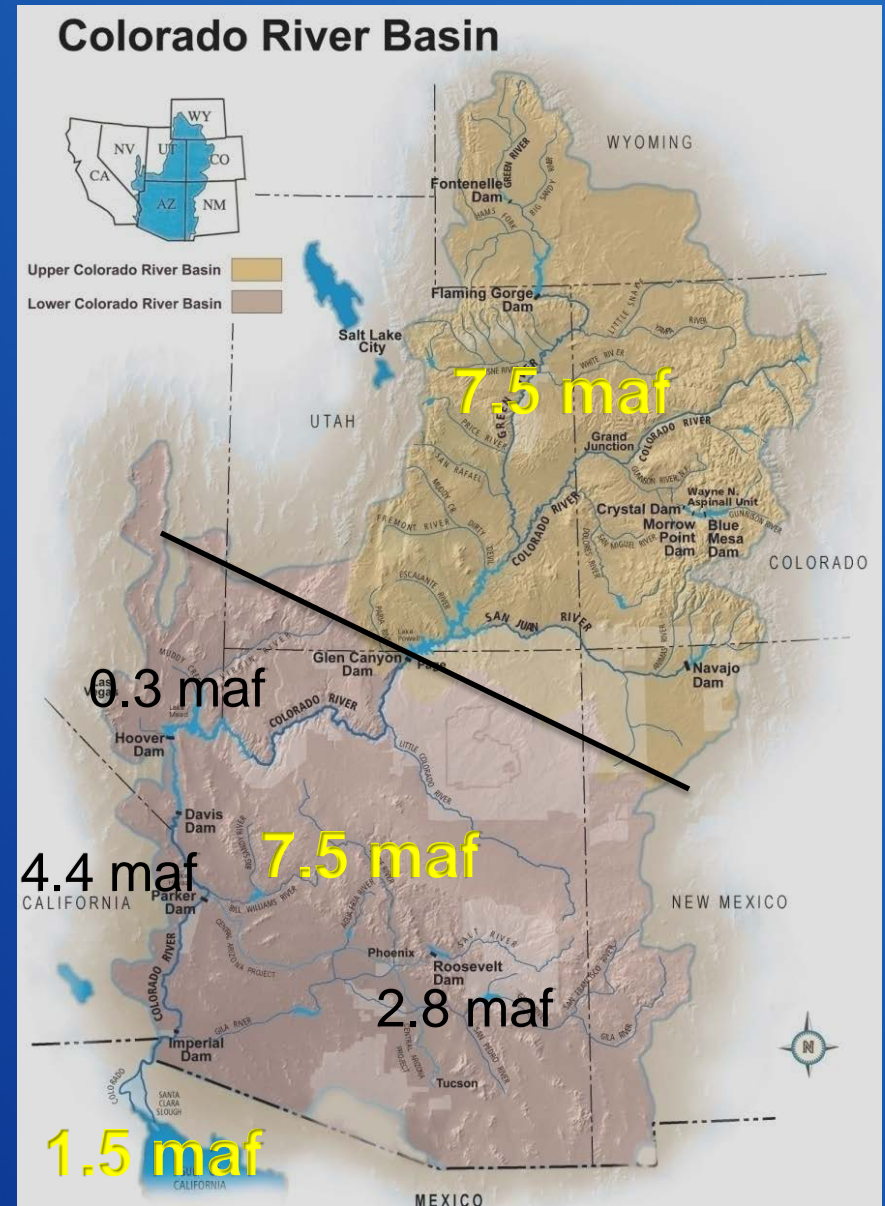
Water Resources Research Center
Tucson, AZ
September 5, 2012



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

Basin Overview

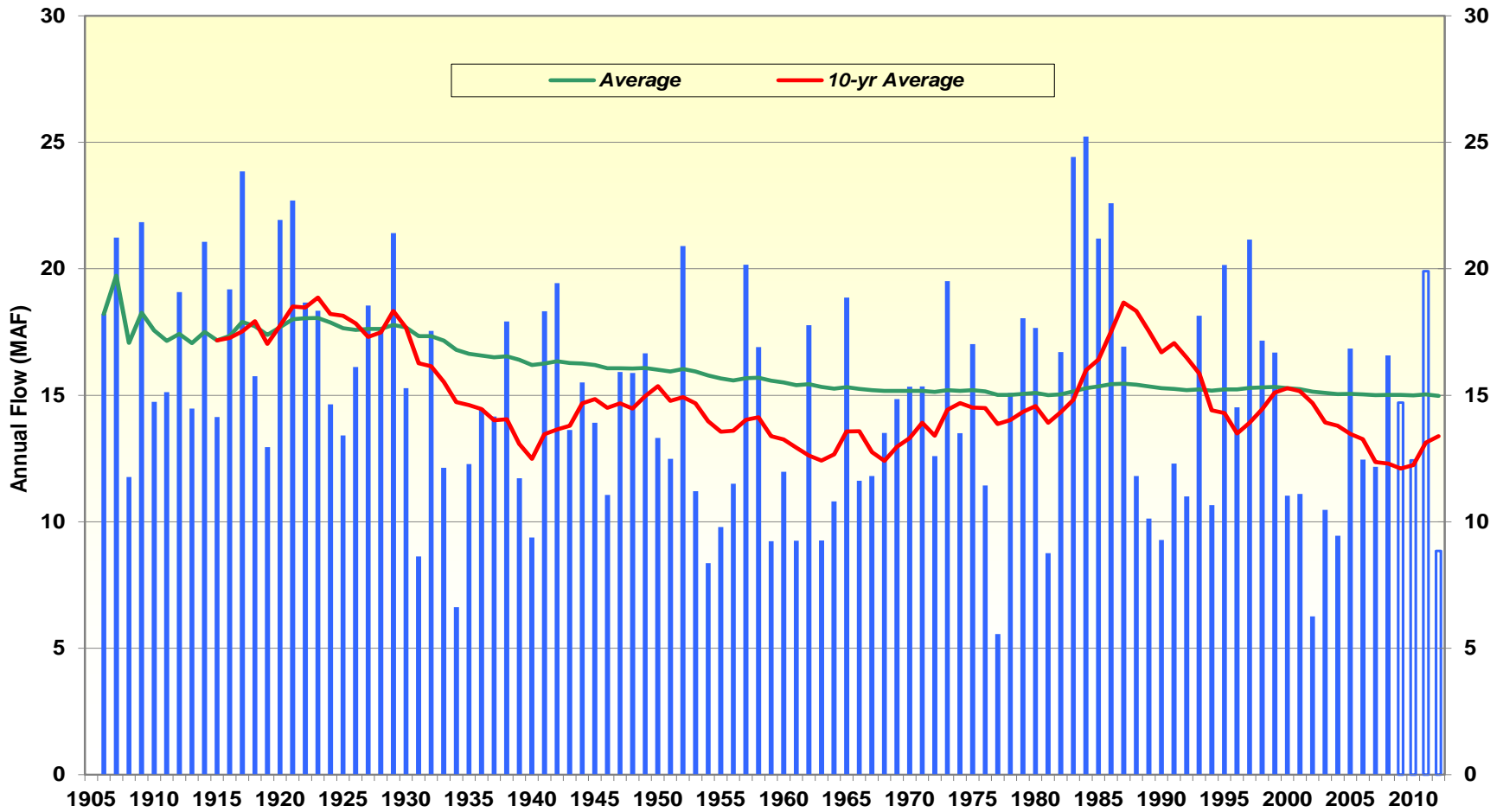
- Early Users – Water Rights
- 1922 Colorado River Compact
- Secretary of the Interior’s role as “Water Master”
- Law of the River



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Historic Colorado River Flows Water Year 1906 to 2012

Colorado River at Lees Ferry, AZ - Natural Flow



Provisional data, subject to change

Water Year

Estimated values for 2009-2012

Water Balancing

- Water contract deliveries
- Generate hydropower
- Enhance and maintain ecosystem habitat
- Recover and protect endangered species
- Provide recreation
- Reservoir balancing
- Flood control

Lake Powell



Lake Mead



Glen Canyon Dam

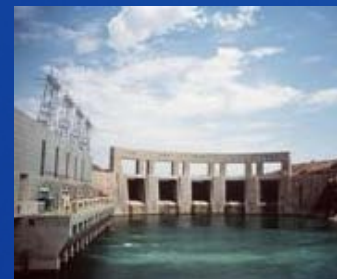
Hoover Dam

Lake Mohave



Davis Dam

Lake Havasu



Parker Dam

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Colorado River Basin Storage

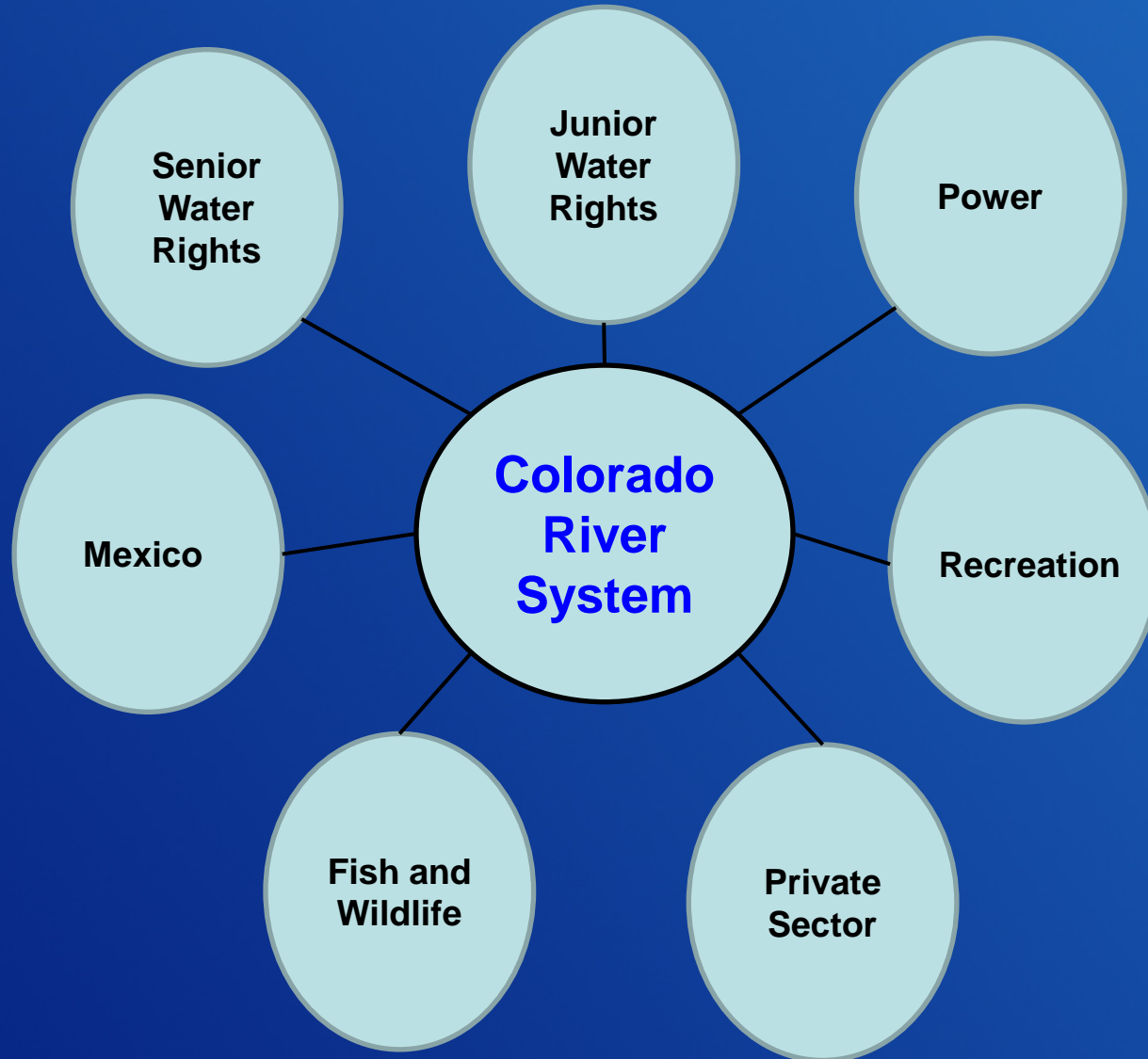
(as of August 27, 2012)

Current Storage	Percent Full	MAF	Elevation (Feet)
Lake Powell	58%	14.21	3,624
Lake Mead	51%	13.27	1,116
Total System Storage	58%	34.78	NA

Reference: www.usbr.gov/lc/region/g4000/weekly.pdf

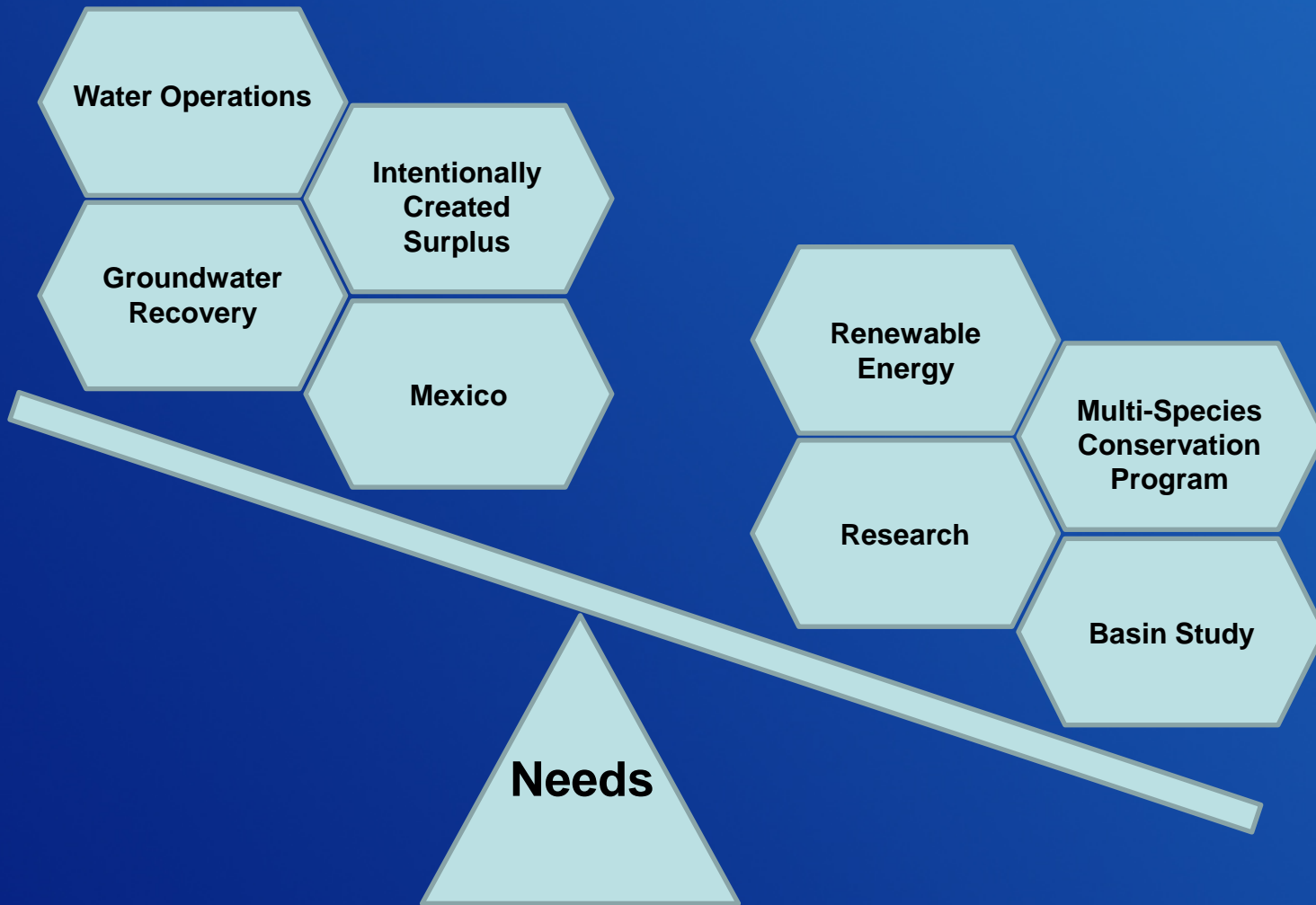
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Competing Interests



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Balancing Act



Water is a precious resource...



it's in good hands.

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