



**YOUR WATER. YOUR FUTURE.**

APRIL PINGER-TORNQUIST

**Apache Junction Water Utilities  
Community Facilities District**

Oct. 19, 2021

# Here's what we'll cover today:

CAP Facts, Figures and Economic Impact

Colorado River Basin System:

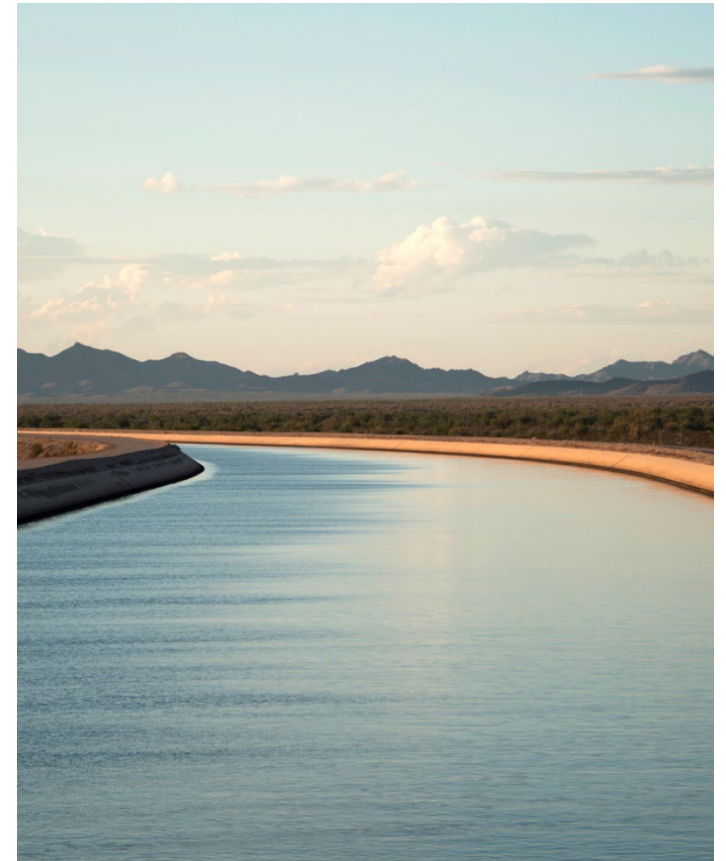
- Reservoirs
- Snowpack/runoff
- Projections

Colorado River Shortage:

- The U.S. Secretary of the Interior has declared the first-ever shortage on the Colorado River for 2022

What's next?

- Beyond shortage
- Arizona Reconsultation Committee





# CAP Facts and Figures and Economic Impact

# Central Arizona Project

- 336-mile aqueduct stretches from Lake Havasu to Tucson
- 14 pumping plants lift water nearly 3,000 feet
- 10 siphons, 3 tunnels
- Lake Pleasant/New Waddell Dam & Pump Generating Station





# CAP Service Area

3 counties

23,790 square miles

< 8" annual rainfall

5 million people (approx. 80% of Arizona's population)

350,000 acres of irrigated agriculture

11 tribes



# CAP Water Usage



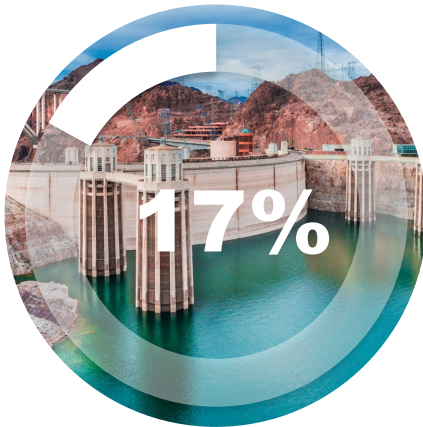
Municipal &  
Industrial  
(subcontracts)



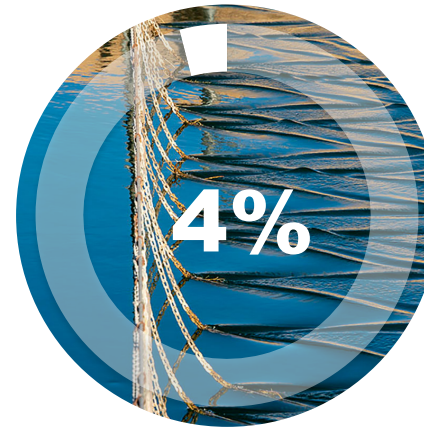
Tribal  
(contracts)



Agricultural



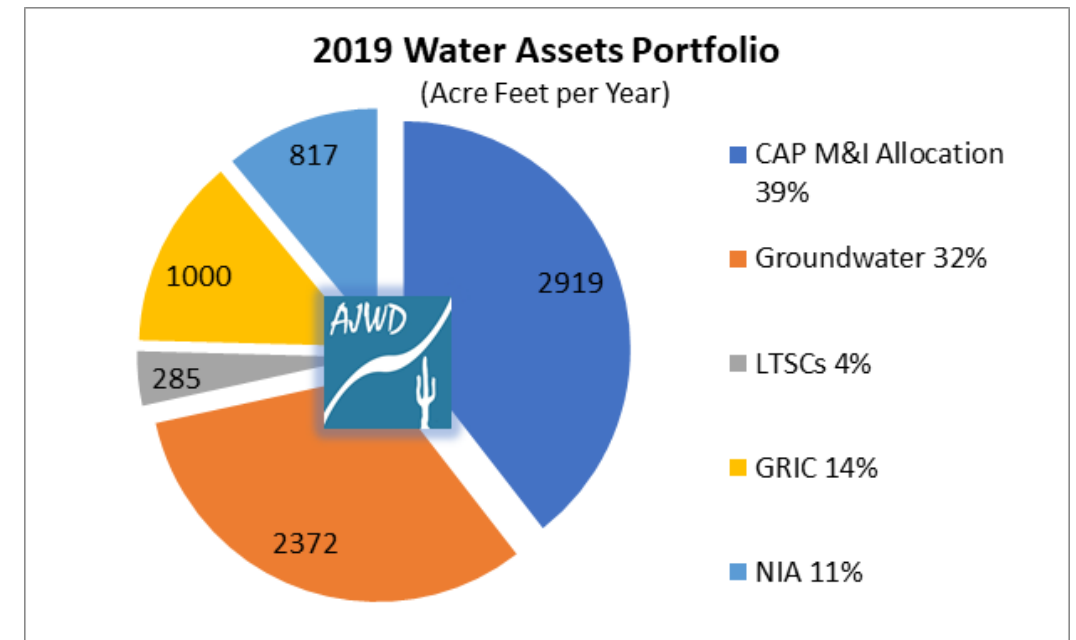
Contributions  
To Lake Mead  
(Drought  
Contingency Plan)



Other Excess

# CAP Water: Apache Junction Water District

- The Apache Junction Water District supplies surface water from CAP for the Superstition Area Water Plant – this supply covers 90% of the system
- Groundwater is treated and blended with Colorado River water
- AJWD has CAP deliver raw water to the City of Mesa to be treated at the Brown Road Treatment Plant and delivered as a backup supply if necessary







# ECONOMIC IMPACT OF COLORADO RIVER WATER DELIVERED BY CAP TO ARIZONA FACT SHEET



**\$2  
TRILLION**

The Colorado River water **CENTRAL ARIZONA PROJECT (CAP)** delivers has supported Arizona's gross state product (GSP) with \$2 trillion in economic benefits since water deliveries began. The GSP represents the dollar value of all goods and services produced in the region and is a measurement of the economic output of a state. This economic impact supports 22 sectors of the Arizona economy related to gross state product and job-years of employment.

## IN RECENT YEARS

Colorado River water delivered by CAP has supported an economic benefit exceeding

**\$100 BILLION PER YEAR**



**40%**

**ARIZONA'S GROSS  
STATE PRODUCT**



**1.6  
MILLION  
JOBS**

CAP's supply of water to its customers in **2017** is estimated at annual employment of nearly **1.6 MILLION JOBS.**

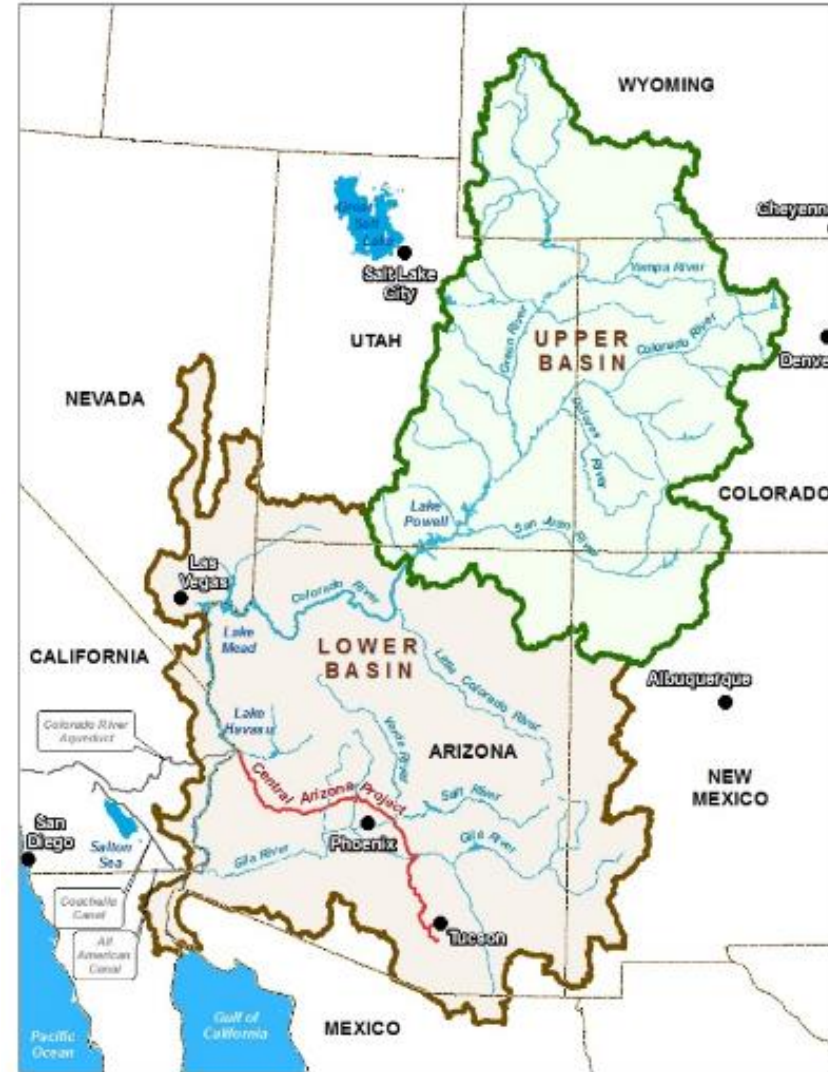


# Colorado River Basin



# Colorado River Basin

- Upper Basin States: Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming
- Lower Basin States: Arizona, California, and Nevada
- 7.5 million acre-feet (MAF) annual allocation of Colorado River water for the Upper Basin, 7.5 MAF for the Lower Basin and 1.5 MAF for Mexico
- Lower Basin allocations:
  - AZ (2.8 MAF)
  - CA (4.4 MAF)
  - NV (0.3 MAF)

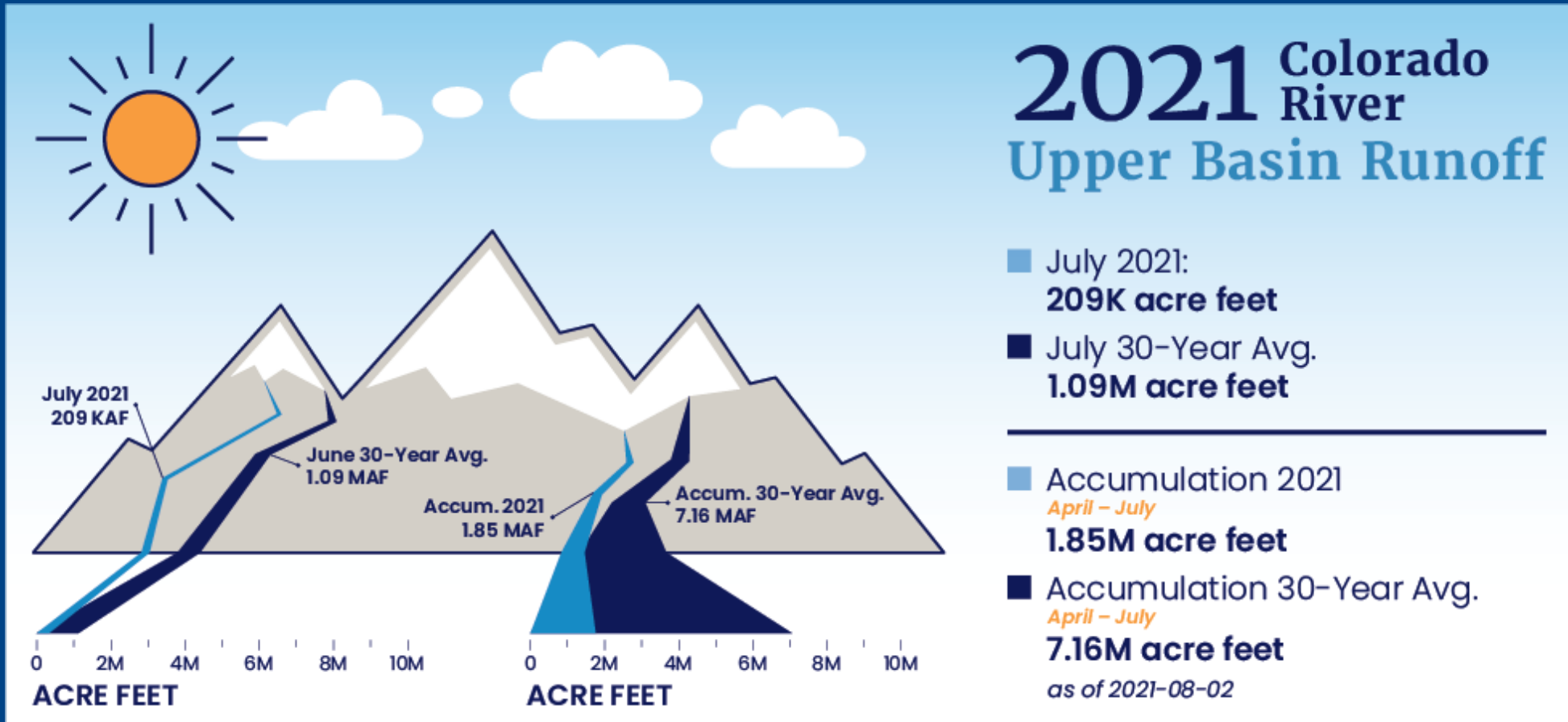




# Colorado River Basin and Major Reservoirs



# 2021 Snowpack Runoff

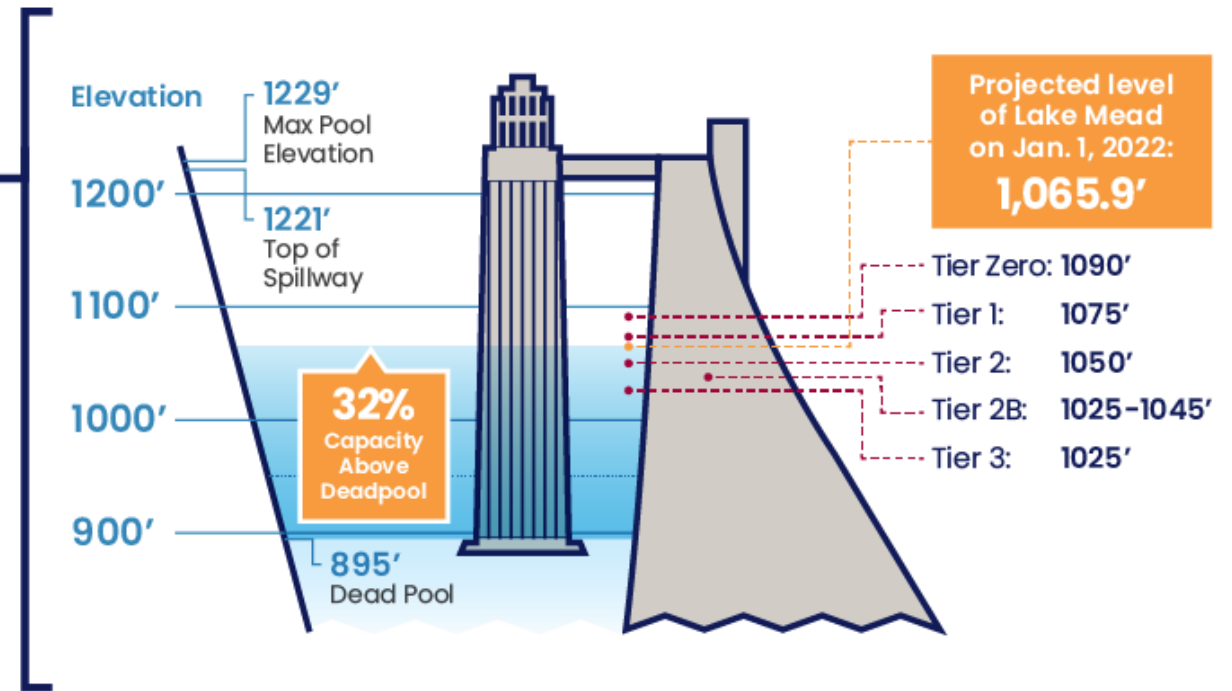






## 24-Month Study – Lake Mead

August 2021



**NOT TO SCALE**

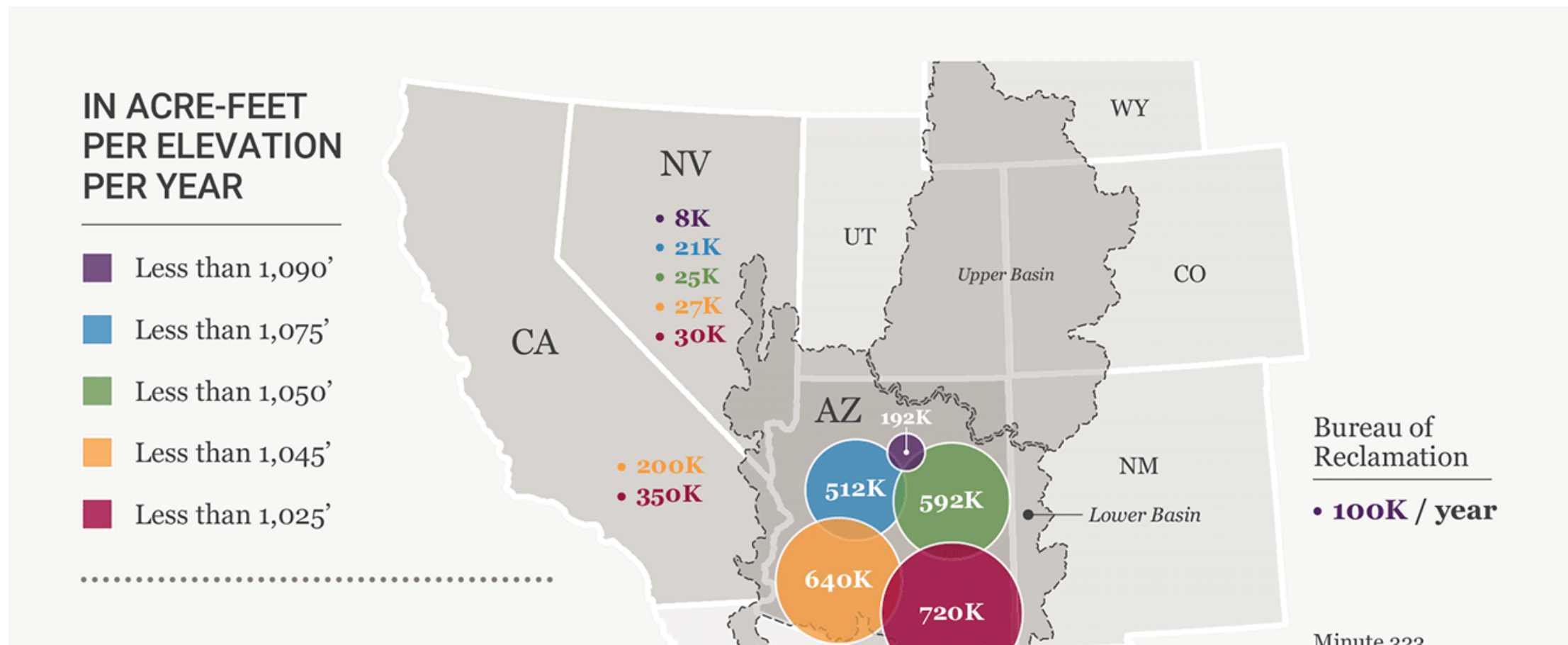
Shortage levels based on the Drought Contingency Plan & 2007 Shortage Sharing Guidelines



# Colorado River shortage and future of the Colorado River system

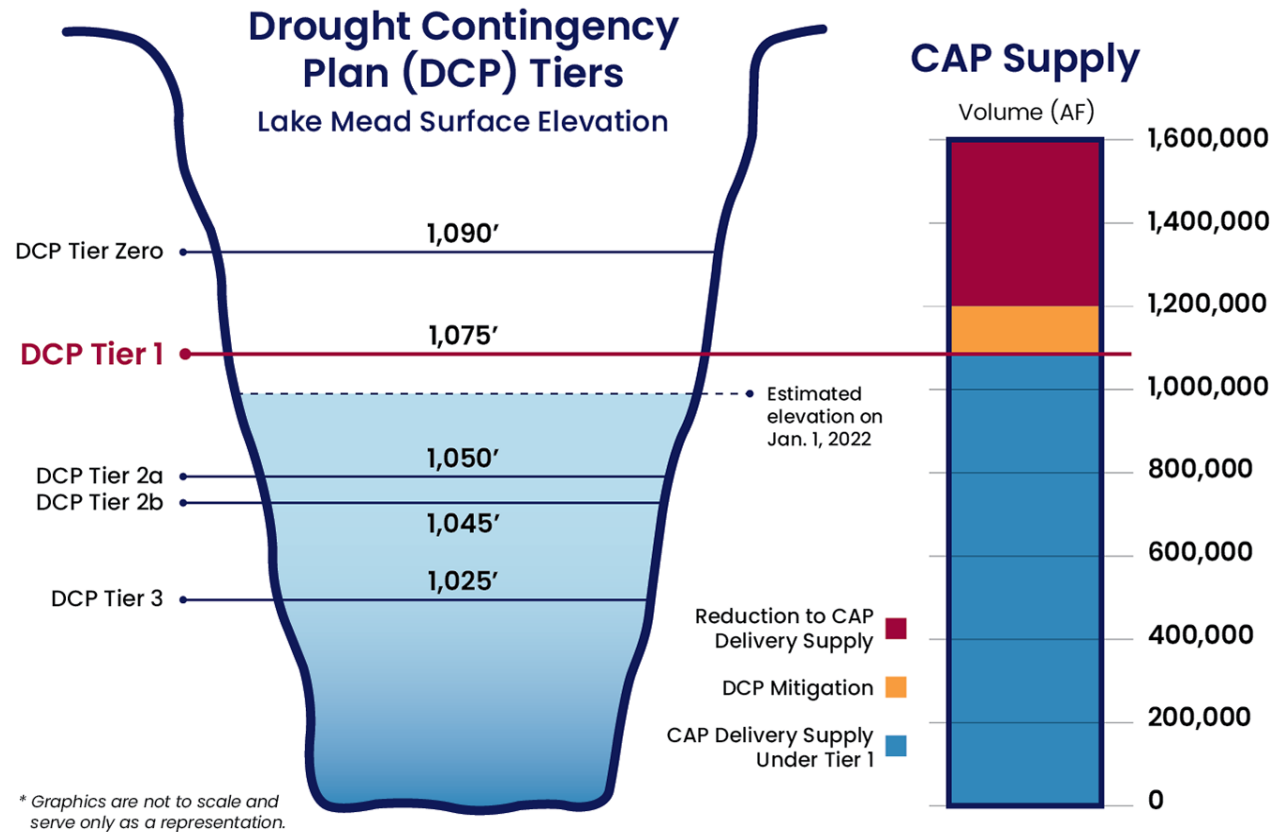


# Lower Basin DCP Contributions to Lake Mead



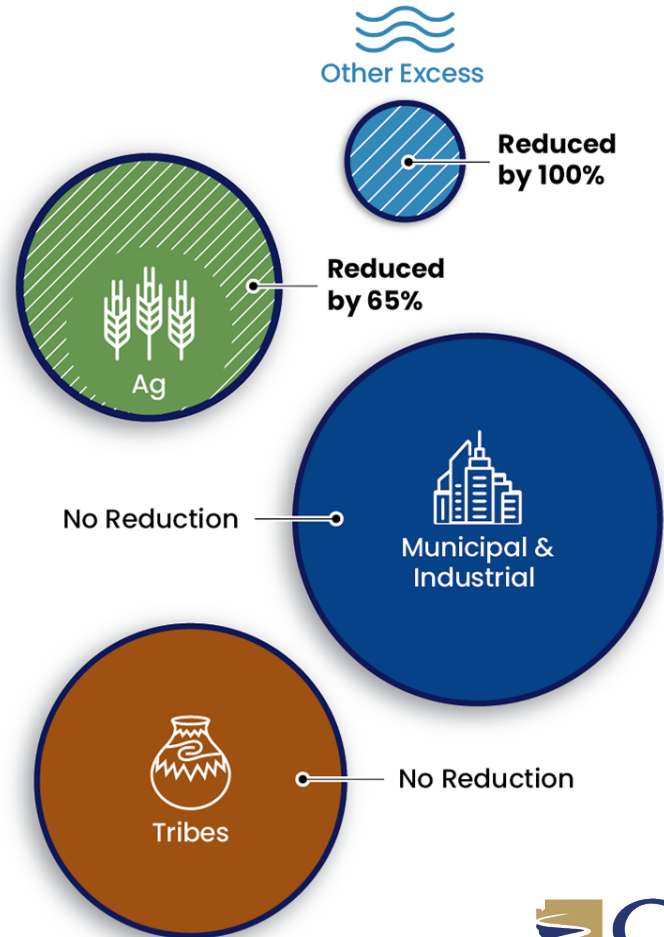
# Arizona (CAP) Contributions in Shortage

## Tier 1 Shortage: CAP Reductions



To learn more, please visit: [www.cap-az.com/colorado-river-shortage](http://www.cap-az.com/colorado-river-shortage)

## 2022 Reduction to CAP Users After DCP Mitigation





An aerial photograph showing a multi-lane highway interchange. A river flows alongside the road, bordered by concrete walls. To the left of the river is a residential neighborhood with houses and trees. The foreground is dominated by a large, dense area of green trees. The text "What's next?" is overlaid in white on the left side of the image.

**What's next?**

# What's next?

- We knew this day was coming and actively prepared by investing in infrastructure and technology, and storing water underground. We are:
  - Increasing water conservation to benefit Lake Mead through local and interstate partnerships
  - Preparing to move non-Colorado River water through the system when necessary
  - Looking into augmentation efforts including desalination and exchanges
- The collaboration demonstrated by the DCP has kept us out of shortage until this point and gave us additional time to prepare.
- We recognize more actions are needed by all who share the Colorado River and stakeholders are already at work on the next set of guidelines to extend beyond 2026.



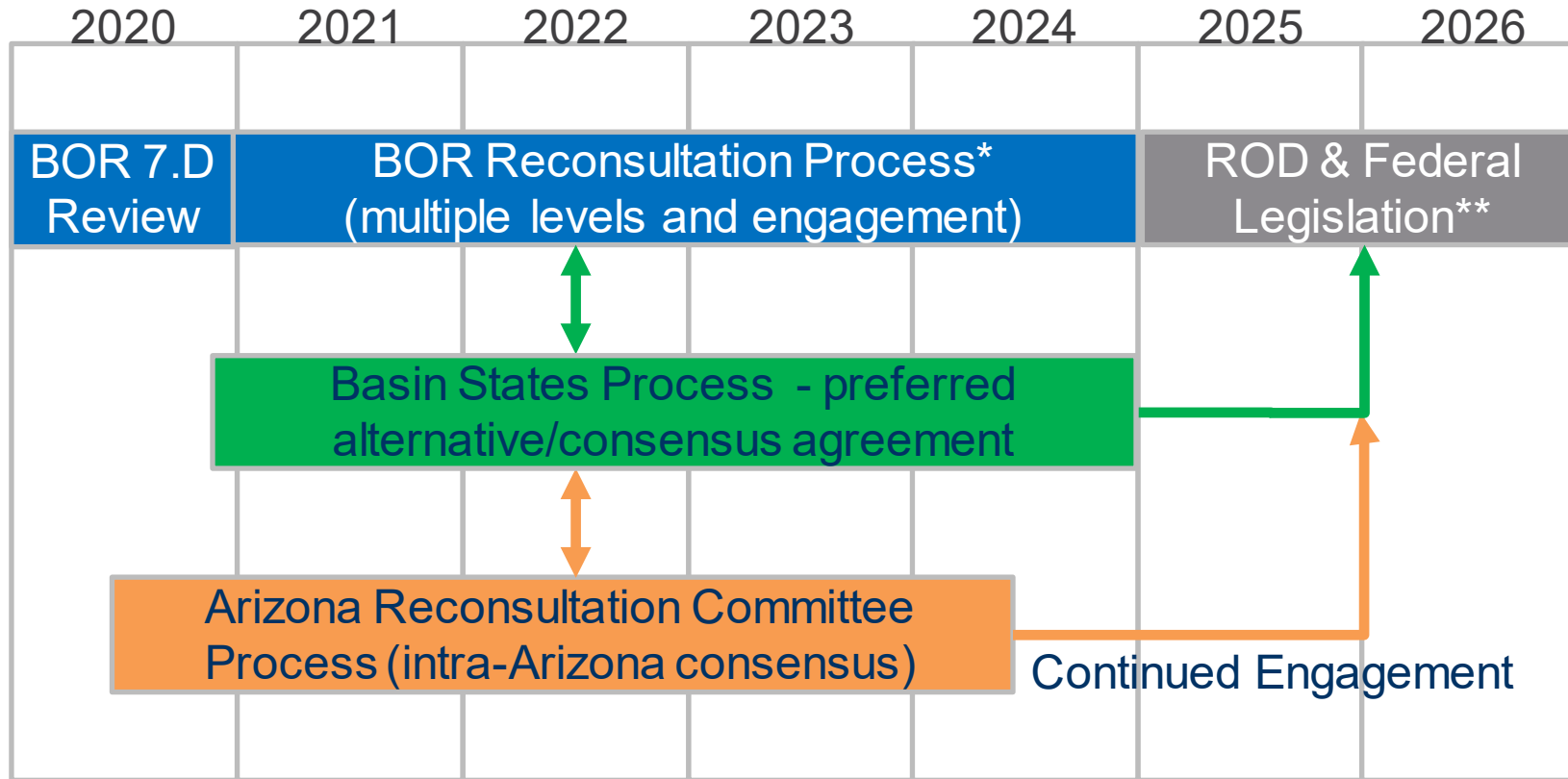
# AZ Reconsultation Committee (ARC)



ARIZONA  
RECONSULTATION  
COMMITTEE

- Establish a process for continued engagement within Arizona throughout the Reconsultation process
- Provide a venue for developing and sharing stakeholder perspectives and values to guide Arizona's guiding principles in the Reconsultation process
- Conduct fact-based technical work to understand the impacts to Arizona
- Continue the transparency established during the successful DCP Steering Committee effort
  - Open to the public and/or livestreamed
  - Presentations available on website

# Arizona's Estimate of Reconsultation Processes and Timeline



\*Exact timing of BOR Reconsultation Process yet to be determined

\*\* Federal legislation if necessary



# For more information:

- CAP's news site – [knowyourwaternews.com](http://knowyourwaternews.com)
- CAP's main website (with information on the Drought Contingency Plan and Arizona Reconsultation Committee – [CentralArizonaProject.com](http://CentralArizonaProject.com)

## Other resources:

- Arizona Department of Water Resources -- [new.azwater.gov](http://new.azwater.gov)
- US Bureau of Reclamation – [usbr.gov](http://usbr.gov)



### ARIZONA – STRONGER TOGETHER

We anticipate the first new "Tier I" shortage declaration on the Colorado River (beginning in 2020). The shortage will result in a substantial cut to Arizona's share of the river, with reductions falling largely to central Arizona agricultural users; water supplies for cities will not be affected and tribal supplies remain secure.

These reductions are painful, but are (as prepared). We have long understood the risks to Arizona's Colorado River supplies and have been planning for decades, including the successful efforts to help craft the Drought Contingency Plan for the Colorado River system in 2019.

As we face the prospect of a harder and drier future, we are confident that with our long history of successful collaboration among our diverse stakeholders – agriculture, cities, tribes, environment and industry – we will continue to find innovative and effective solutions to sustain Arizona's Colorado River supply.

### YOU SHOULD KNOW

- Arizona is prepared for a Colorado River shortage
- Water interests from throughout the state worked collectively to share the risks and benefits of the Drought Contingency Plan (DCP)
- Together, these efforts reduce the pain of the near-term reductions while addressing risks of future shortages
- We are taking steps and participating in partnerships to make the river more sustainable during drought and the reality of a hotter and drier future

While we rely on water flowing to Arizona from the Colorado River in 2021, Arizona's water managers and suppliers have been taking measures to prepare and will continue to work to ensure the river remains viable for generations to come.

### WHAT IS A COLORADO RIVER SHORTAGE?

A shortage means a reduction in the Colorado River supply available to Arizona.

In 2000 and 2001, the river has been operating in a "Tier Two" status, requiring the State to forgo 600,000 acre-feet of Arizona's 2.8-million-acre-foot annual entitlement to Lake Mead. This reduction is coming entirely from the Central Arizona Project (CAP) system. Based on the current hydrology, it is likely that the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation will announce a "Tier I" shortage level for 2020. This will require Arizona to further reduce users to a total of 10,000 acre-feet, again borne almost entirely by the CAP system.

The "Tier I" reductions would constitute about 30% of CAP's normal supply, about 60% of Arizona's Colorado River supply, and less than 6% of Arizona's total water use.



**KNOW YOUR WATER**

**Thank you!**

[KnowYourWaterNews.com](http://KnowYourWaterNews.com)