



— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION

Glen Canyon Monthly Operations Call

Basin Hydrology and Operations

August 27, 2026

Background

This briefing is being provided consistent with the provision in Attachment B - Section 1.1 of the LTEMP ROD which states:

“Annually, Reclamation will develop a hydrograph based on the characteristics above. Reclamation will seek consensus on the annual hydrograph through monthly operational coordination calls with governmental entities, and regular meetings of the GCDAMP Technical Working Group (TWG) and AMWG.

Reclamation will conduct monthly Glen Canyon Dam operational coordination meetings or calls with the DOI bureaus (USGS, NPS, FWS, and BIA), WAPA, and representatives from the Basin States and UCRC. The purpose of these meetings or calls is for the participants to share and seek information on Glen Canyon Dam operations. One liaison from each Basin State and from the UCRC may participate in the monthly operational coordination meetings or calls.”



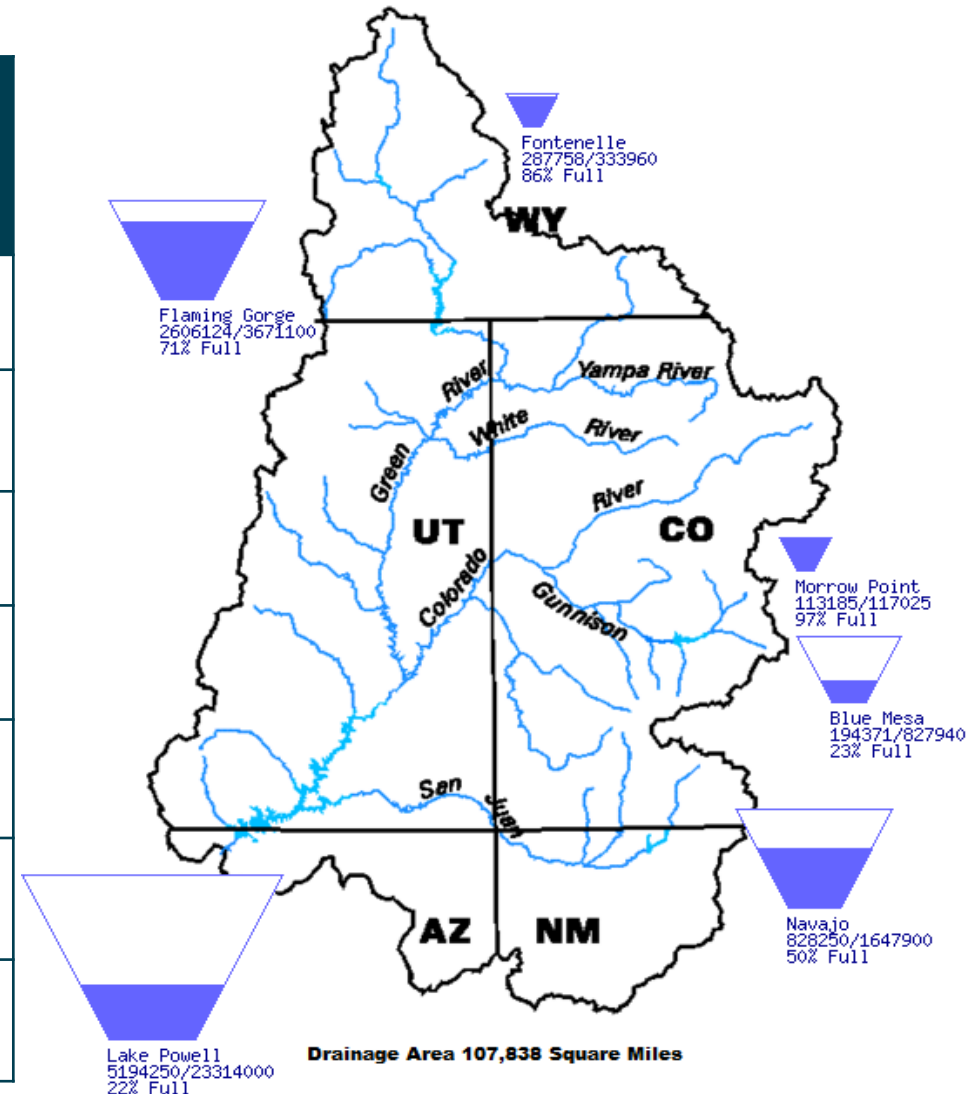
Upper Basin Storage

(as of Aug. 23, 2026)

Reservoir	Percent Current Live Storage	Current Live Storage (maf)	Live Storage Capacity (maf)	Elevation (feet)
Fontenelle	86	0.29	0.33	6,499.93
Flaming Gorge	71	2.61	3.67	6,010.70
Blue Mesa	23	0.19	0.83	7,426.15
Navajo	50	0.83	1.65	6,015.67
Lake Powell	22	5.19	23.31	3,518.79
UC System Storage	31	9.24	29.93	
Total System Storage	32	18.45	58.48	

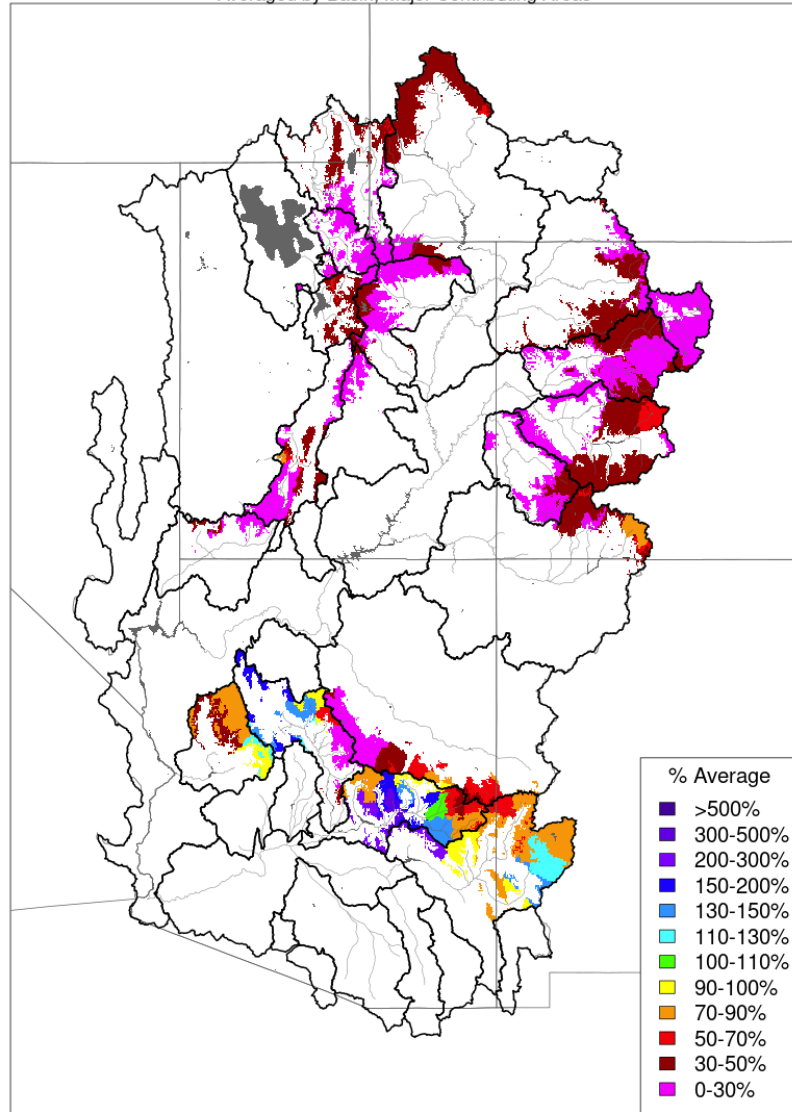
Data Current as of:
08/23/2026

Upper Colorado River Drainage Basin



Monthly Precipitation - June 2026

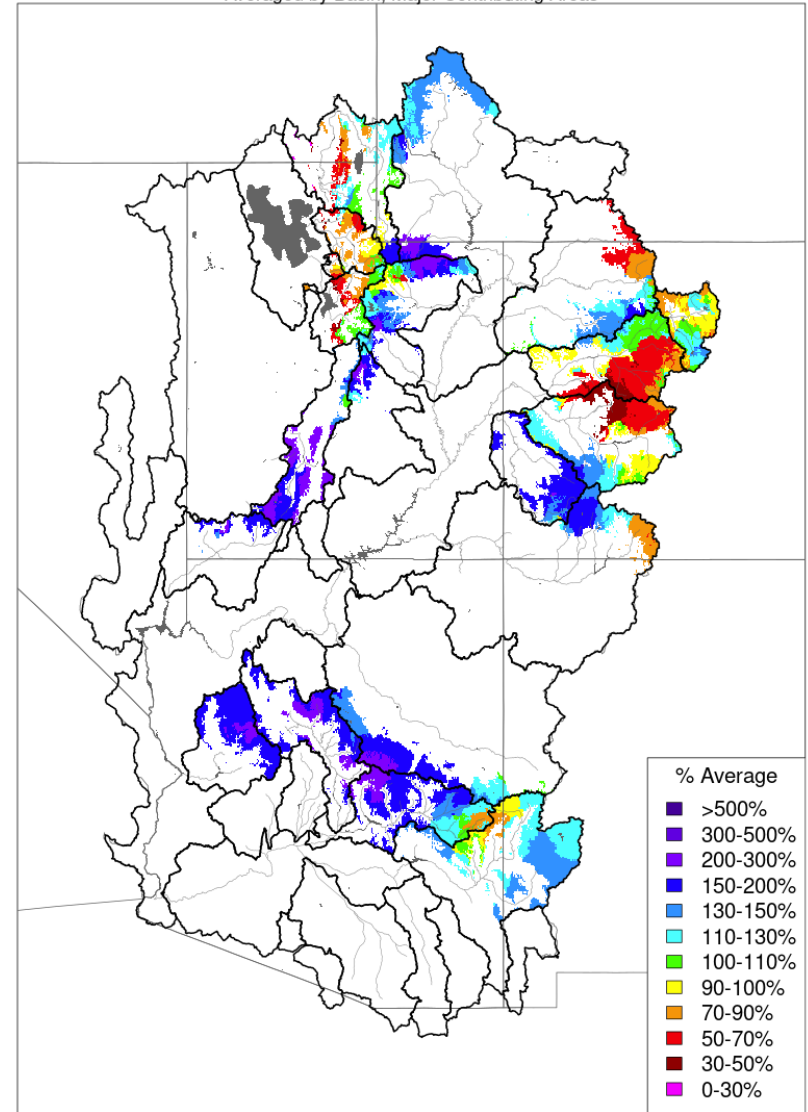
Averaged by Basin, Major Contributing Areas



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

Monthly Precipitation - July 2026

Averaged by Basin, Major Contributing Areas

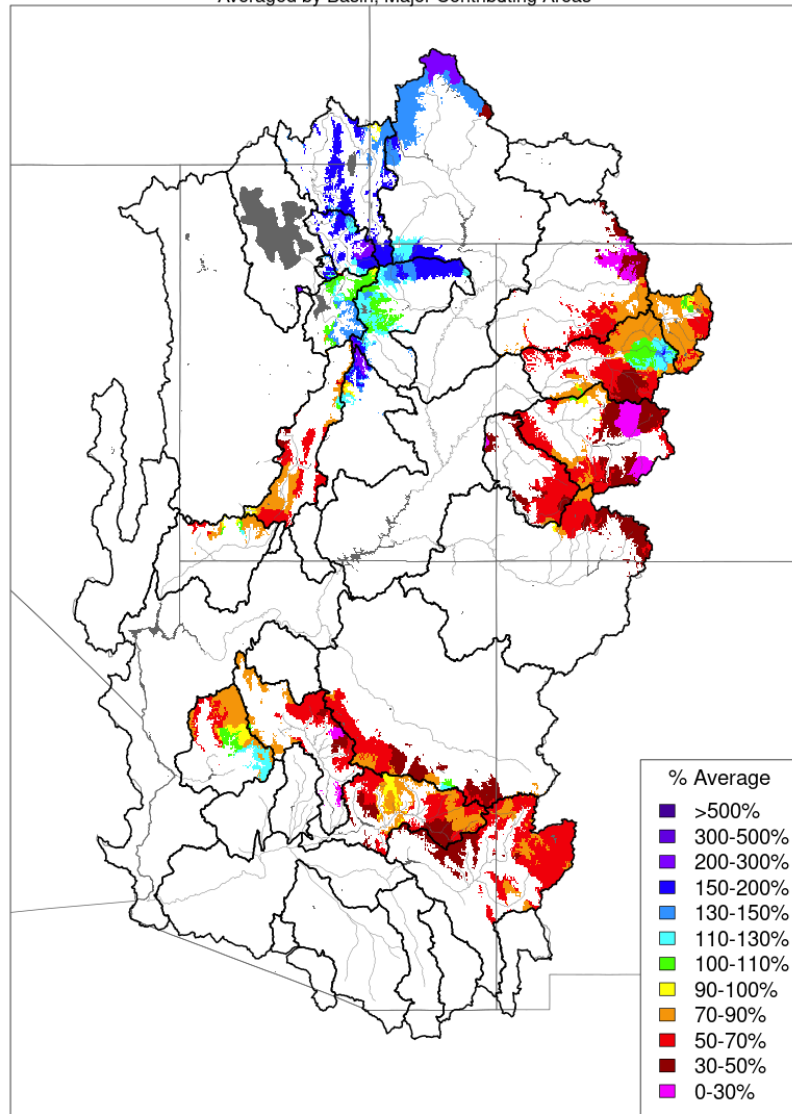


Prepared by NOAA, Colorado Basin River Forecast Center
Salt Lake City, Utah, www.cbrfc.noaa.gov



Month to Date Precipitation - August 24 2026

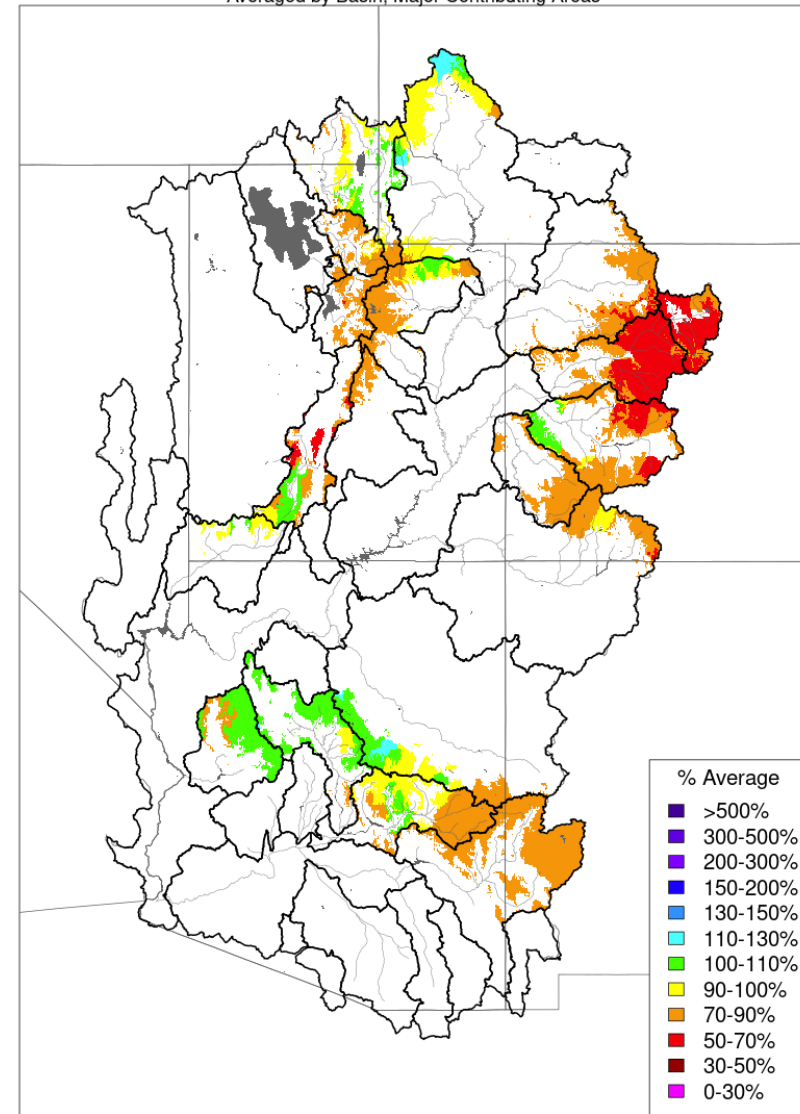
Averaged by Basin, Major Contributing Areas



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

Water Year to Date Precipitation, October 01 - August 24 2026

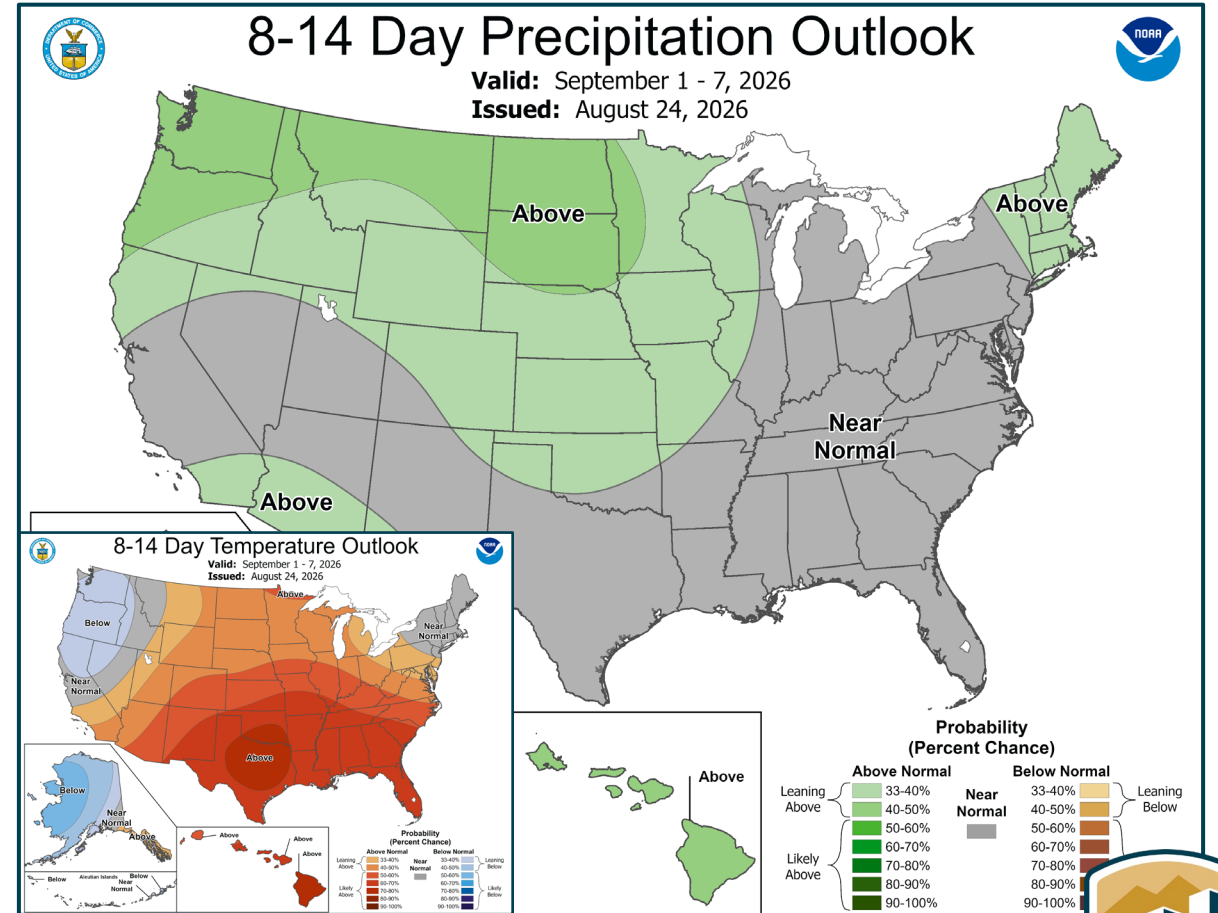
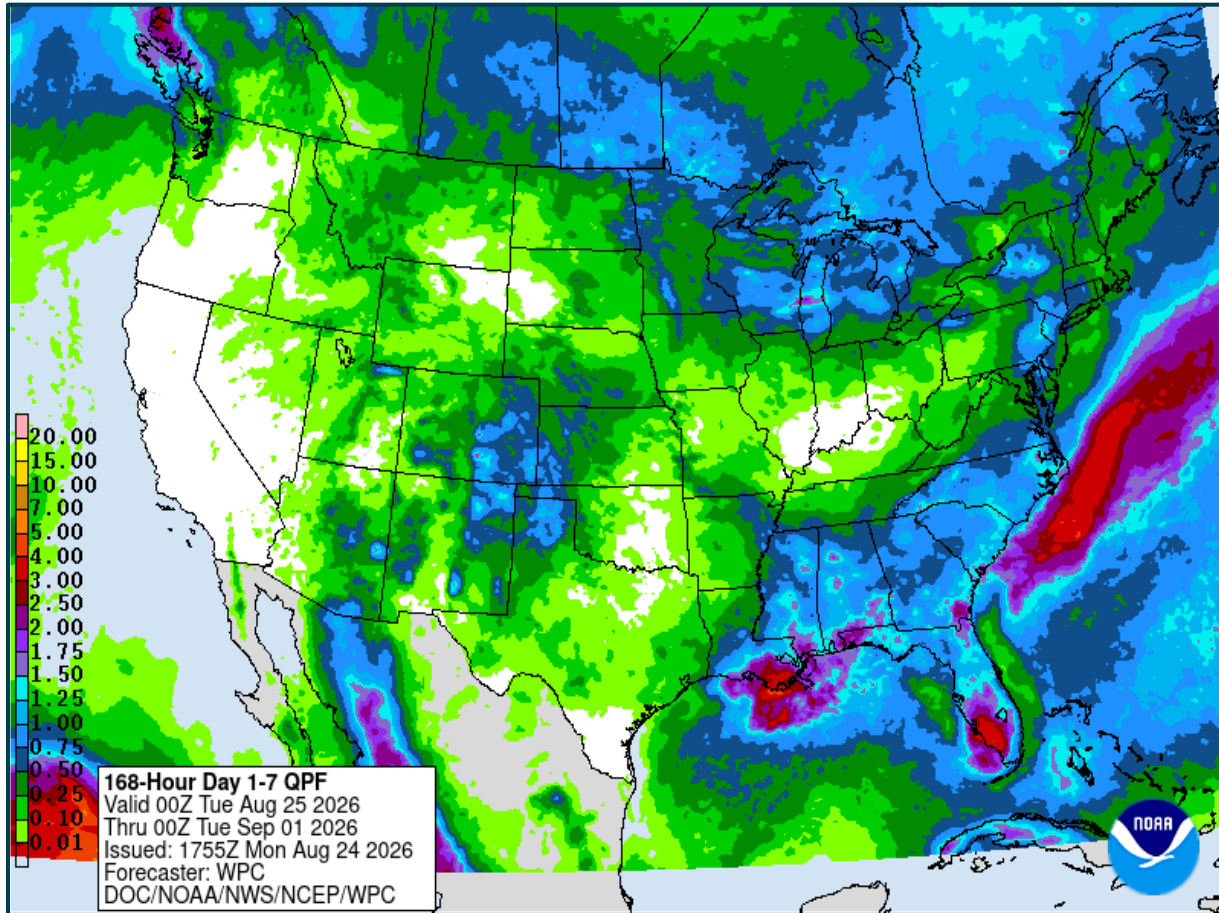
Averaged by Basin, Major Contributing Areas



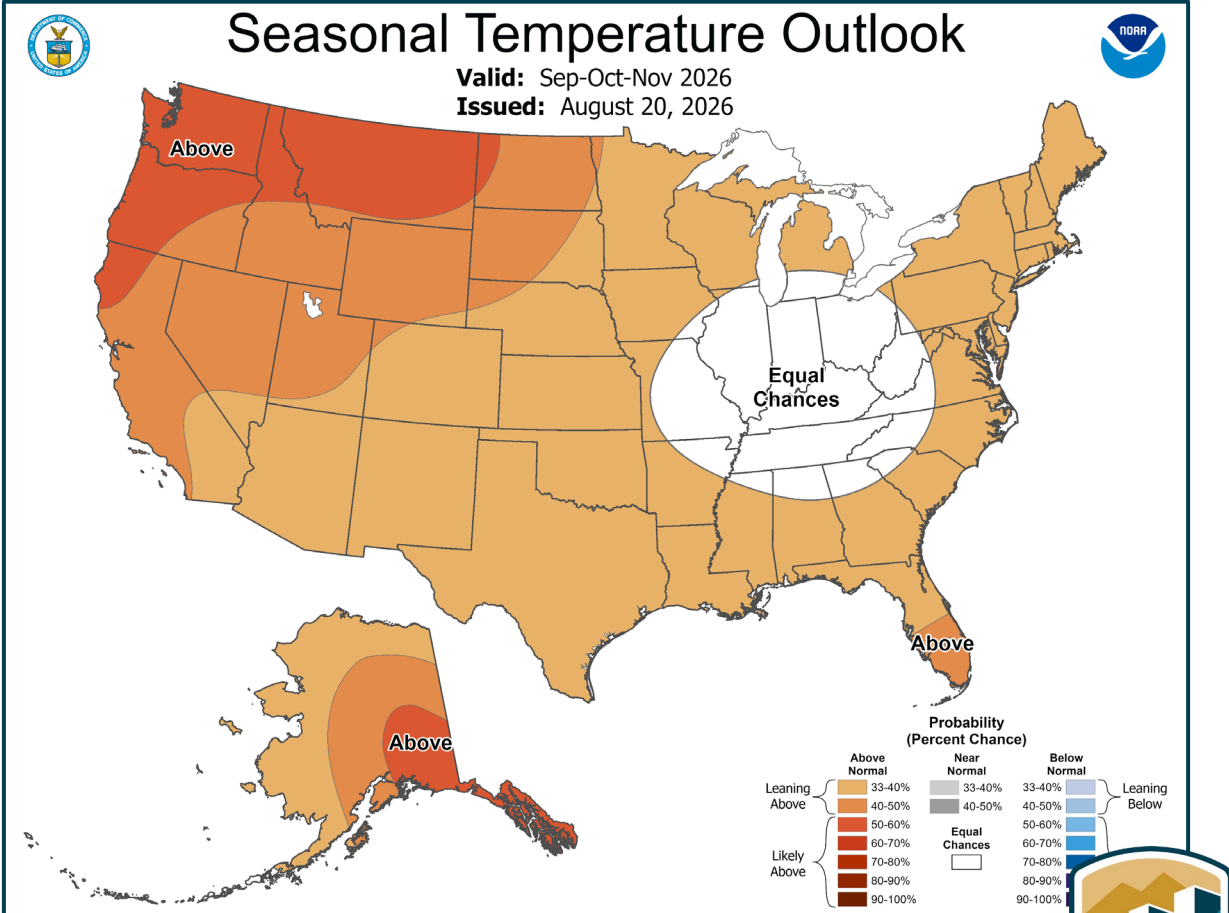
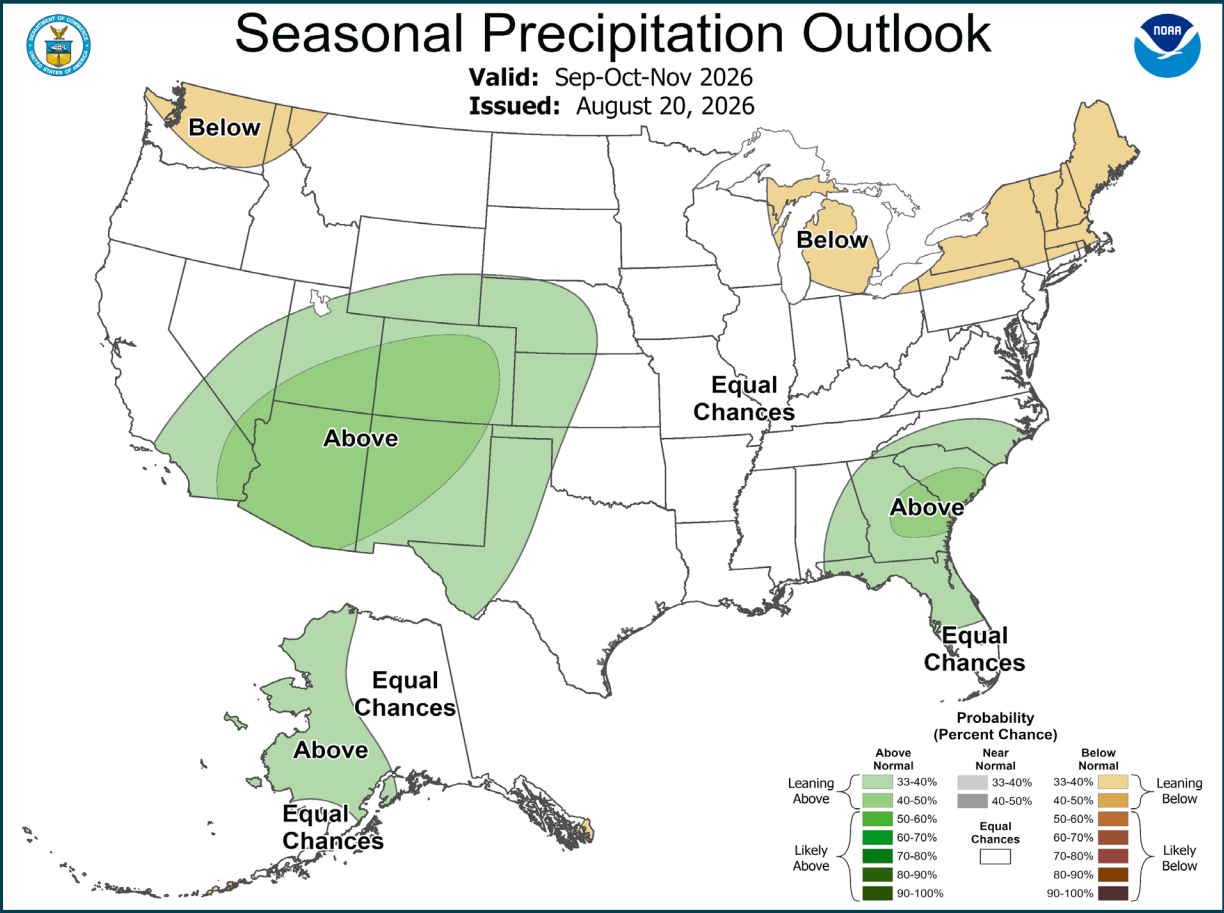
Prepared by NOAA, Colorado Basin River Forecast Center
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Weather Prediction Center and Climate Prediction Center Precipitation Forecasts

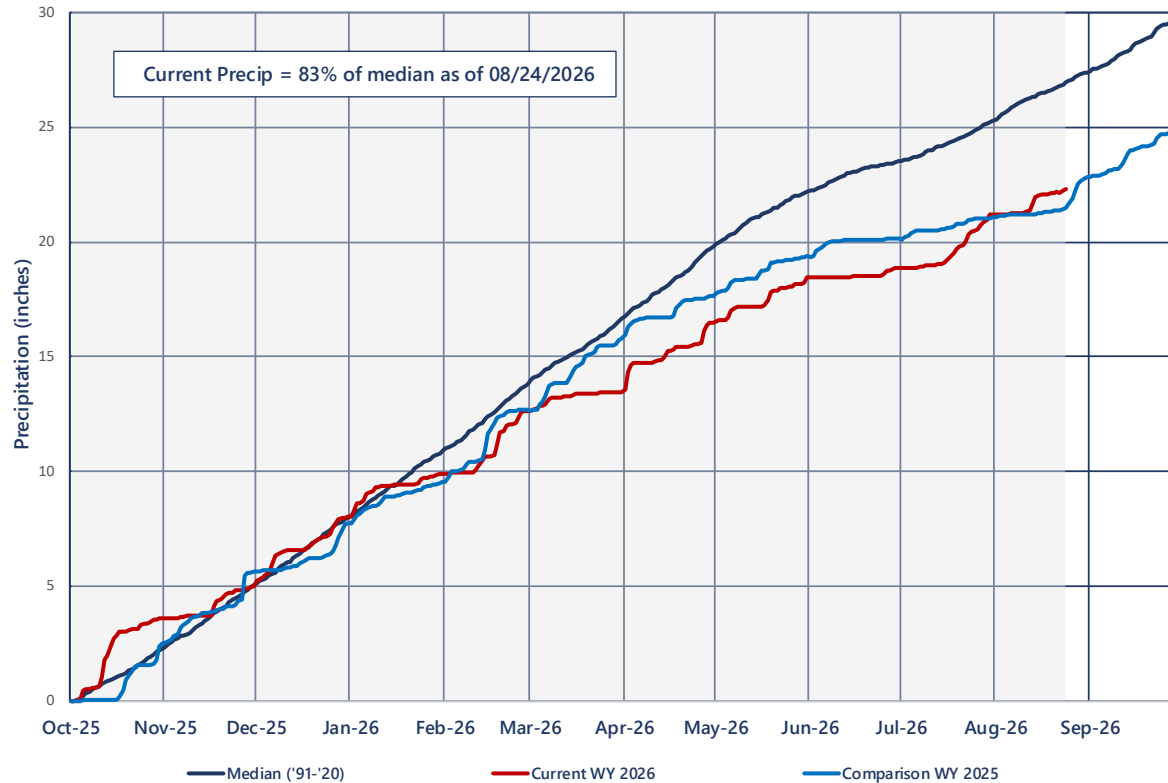


Seasonal Outlook

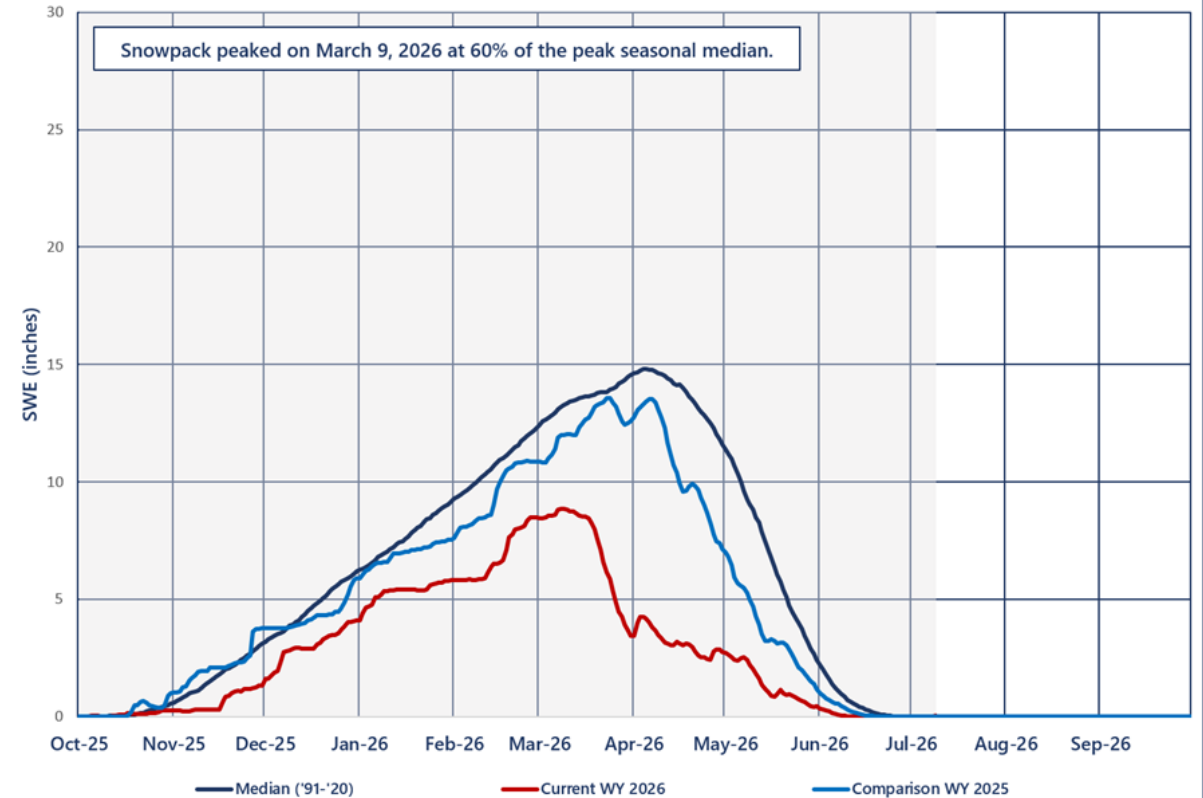


Upper Colorado Precipitation and SWE¹

Upper Colorado Basin Water -Year-to-Date Precipitation



Colorado River Basin Above Lake Powell Snow Water Equivalent



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



Most Probable August Forecast Water Year 2026

April – July 2026
Preliminary Observed
Unregulated Inflow
as of August 3, 2026

Reservoir	Inflow (kaf)	Change from July	Percent of Avg ¹
Fontenelle	318	38	43
Flaming Gorge	328	41	34
Blue Mesa	155	4	24
Navajo	142	5	23
Powell	1,144	64	18

Water Year 2026
Unregulated Inflow Forecast
as of August 3, 2026

Reservoir	Inflow (kaf)	Change from July	Percent of Avg ¹
Fontenelle	607	47	57
Flaming Gorge	645	54	46
Blue Mesa	385	4	43
Navajo	554	9	61
Powell	3,585	84	37

¹Water year statistics are based on the 30-year period from 1991-2020



Most Probable August Forecast Water Year 2027

April – July 2027
Forecasted Unregulated Inflow
as of August 3, 2026

Reservoir	Inflow (kaf)	Change from July	Percent of Avg ¹
Fontenelle	625	10	85
Flaming Gorge	775	15	80
Blue Mesa	545	0	86
Navajo	540	-5	86
Powell	5,050	50	79

Water Year 2027
Unregulated Inflow Forecast
as of August 3, 2026

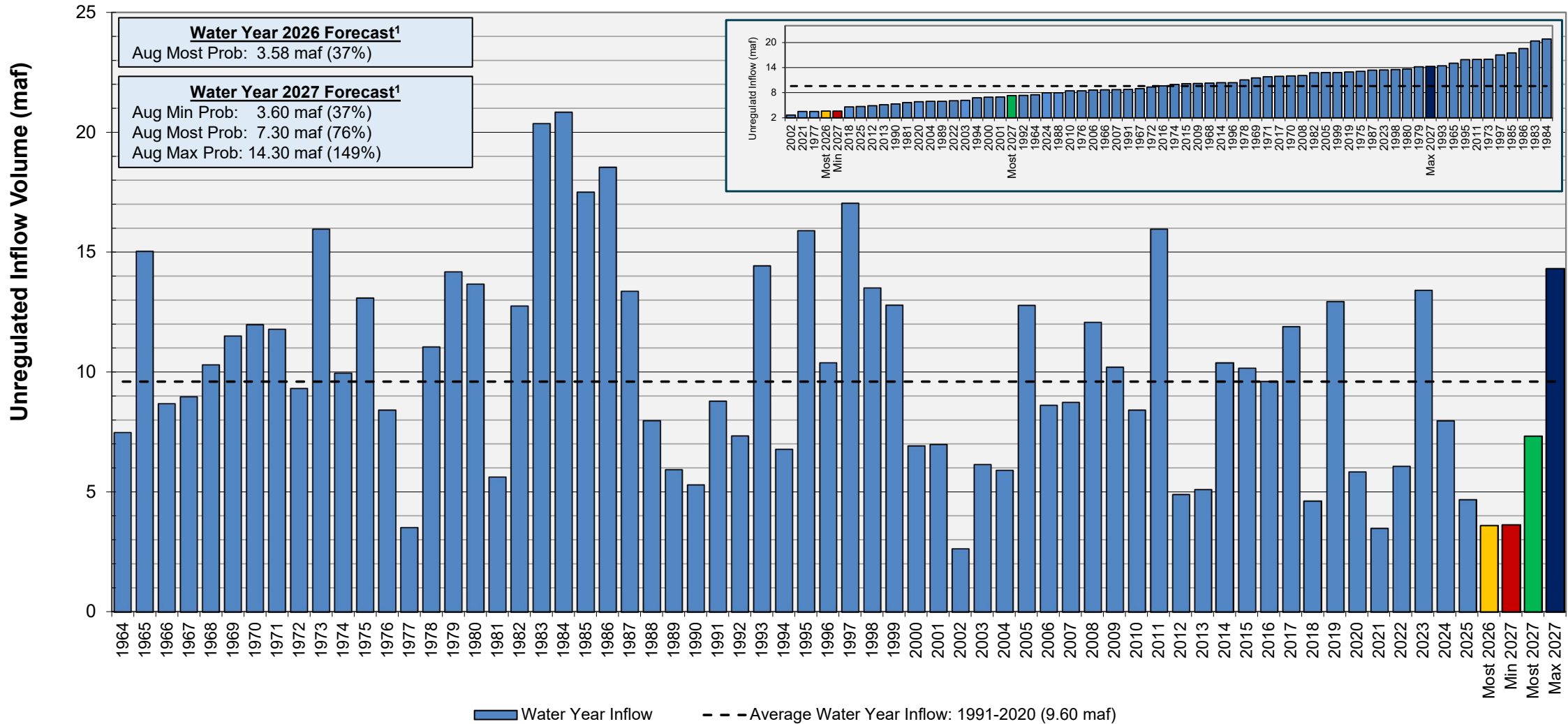
Reservoir	Inflow (kaf)	Change from July	Percent of Avg ¹
Fontenelle	875	10	81
Flaming Gorge	1105	15	78
Blue Mesa	735	0	81
Navajo	750	-10	82
Powell	7,300	50	76

¹Water year statistics are based on the 30-year period from 1991-2020



Lake Powell Water Year Unregulated Inflow

as of August 3, 2026
Comparison with History



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





Upper Colorado Basin

Hydrology and Operations
Projections Based on
August 2026
24-Month Studies



Upper Basin Reservoir Operations

Water Year 2027-2028 Modeling Assumptions

August 2026 24-Month Study

- Lake Powell and the Upper Initial Units operated consistent with the 2027-2028 Operating Guidelines, Upper Initial Units' Records of Decision, and the Upper Basin Drought Response Operations Agreement.
- **Lake Powell operating in Low Elevation Infrastructure Protection Range in WY 2027** - the August 2026 24-Month Study most probable inflow scenario projects the October 1, 2026 Lake Powell reservoir elevation to be 3,515.89 ft. This results in Lake Powell operating in the Low Elevation Infrastructure Protection Range (Section 5.1.C) of the 2027-2028 Operating Guidelines for WY 2027.
- **Lake Powell WY 2027 release between 6.0 maf and 7.0 maf; to be determined in April** - with an annual release volume of 7.0 maf from Lake Powell in WY 2027, Lake Powell is projected to below elevation 3,510 ft, therefore operating in Section 5.1.C.2 of the 2027-2028 Operating Guidelines.
 - The WY 2027 release may be outside of the identified range, subject to appropriate consultation, in accordance with Section 5.1.C.2 of the 2027-2028 Operating Guidelines.



Lake Powell & Lake Mead Operational Diagram from the 2027-2028 Operating Guidelines

WY 2027 Lake Powell Operational Determination Run (aka “Exhibit Run”) with an LTEMP 7.00 maf Release¹

Lake Powell			Lake Mead		
Elevation (feet)	Operation According to the 2027-2028 Operating Guidelines	Live Storage (maf)	Elevation (feet)	Operation According to the 2027-2028 Operating Guidelines	Live Storage (maf)
3,700	Consult on releases consistent with Section 602(a) storage requirement contained in the Colorado River Basin Project Act.	23.31	1,220	Consult regarding the potential to increase apportionment above 6.25 maf.	26.18
3,665		18.20			
	Upper Elevation Range Release between 7.50 maf and 8.23 maf.		1,125		14.14
3,565		8.15		Shortage Condition Determination and Lower Basin Reductions Apportion 6.25 maf to the Lower Division States.	
	Mid-Elevation Range Release between 7.00 maf to 8.00 maf.				
3,540		6.45	1,010		5.05
	Low Elevation Infrastructure Protection Range Release between 6.00 maf and 7.00 maf to maintain elevation 3,510 ft.	4.70		Consult to consider potential actions throughout the Basin to respond to and address hydrologic and operational conditions.	
3,510		4.22			
3,500		3.74	950		2.01
3,490	Extraordinary Circumstances Consult regarding potential actions to further protect critical Glen Canyon Dam infrastructure.	0	895		0
3,370					

3,515.89 ft
Oct 1, 2026
Projection

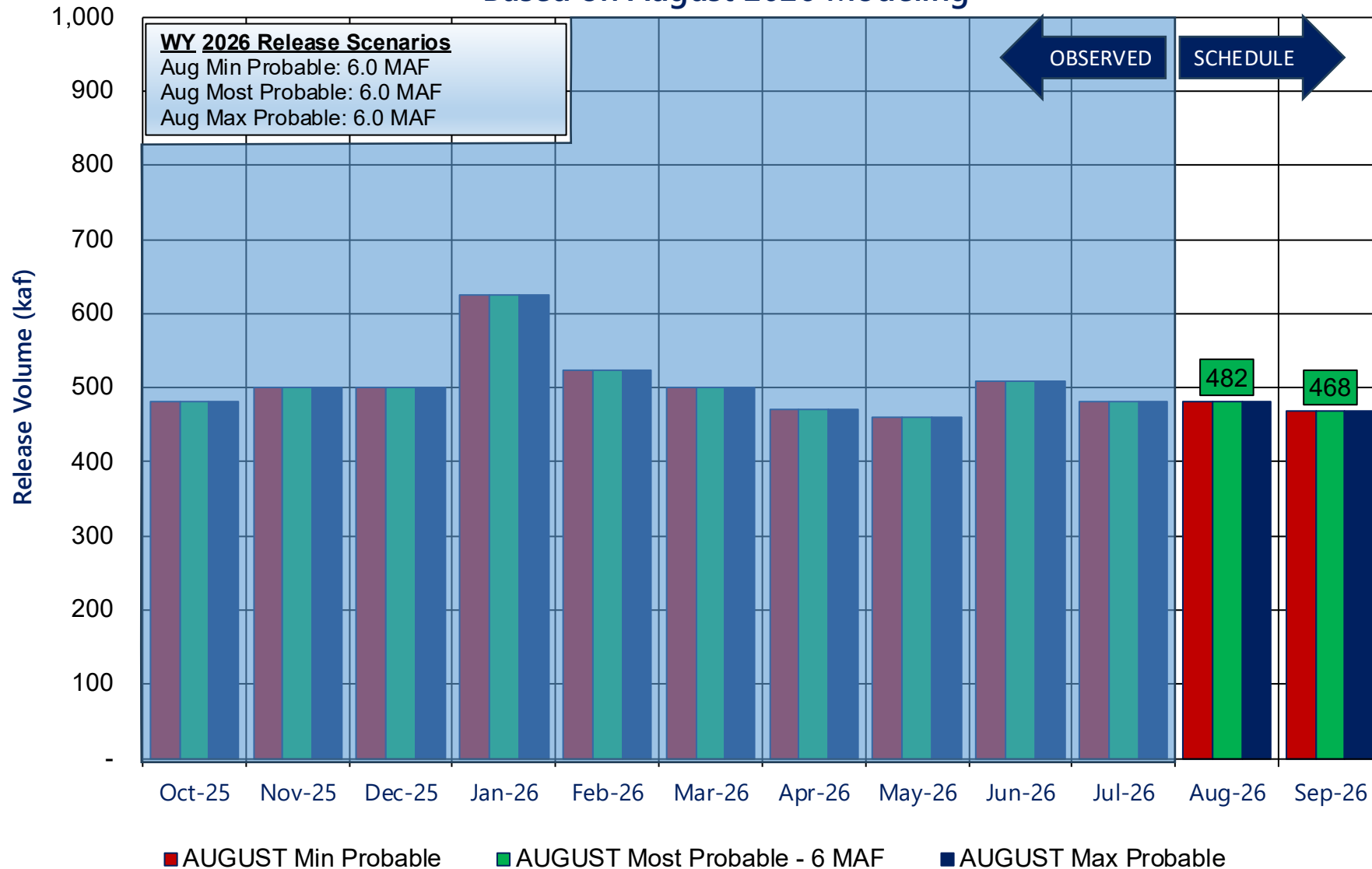


¹ Lake Powell and Lake Mead operational determinations will be documented in the draft 2027 AOP.

Potential Lake Powell Monthly Release Volume Distribution

Release Scenarios for Water Year 2026

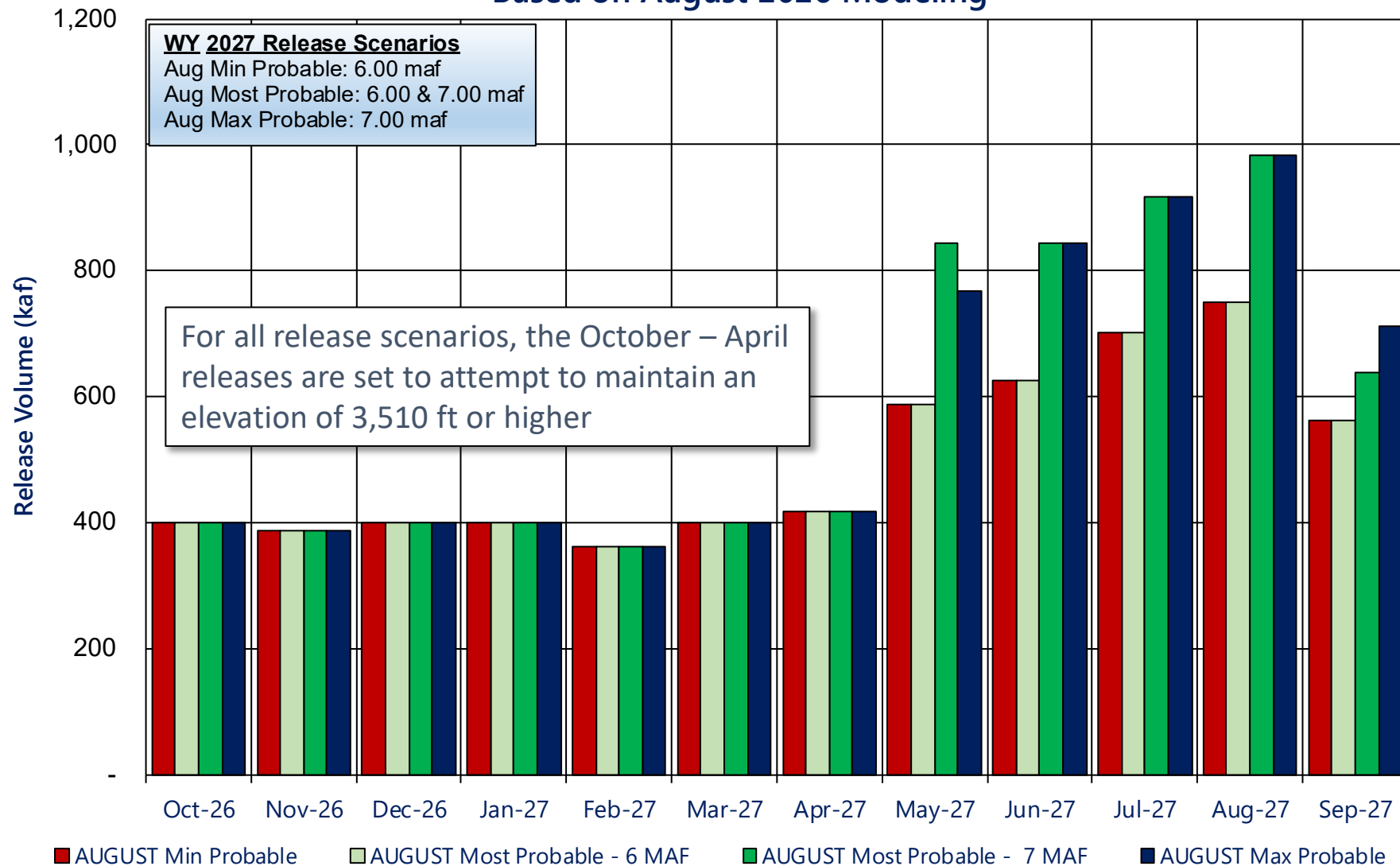
Based on August 2026 Modeling

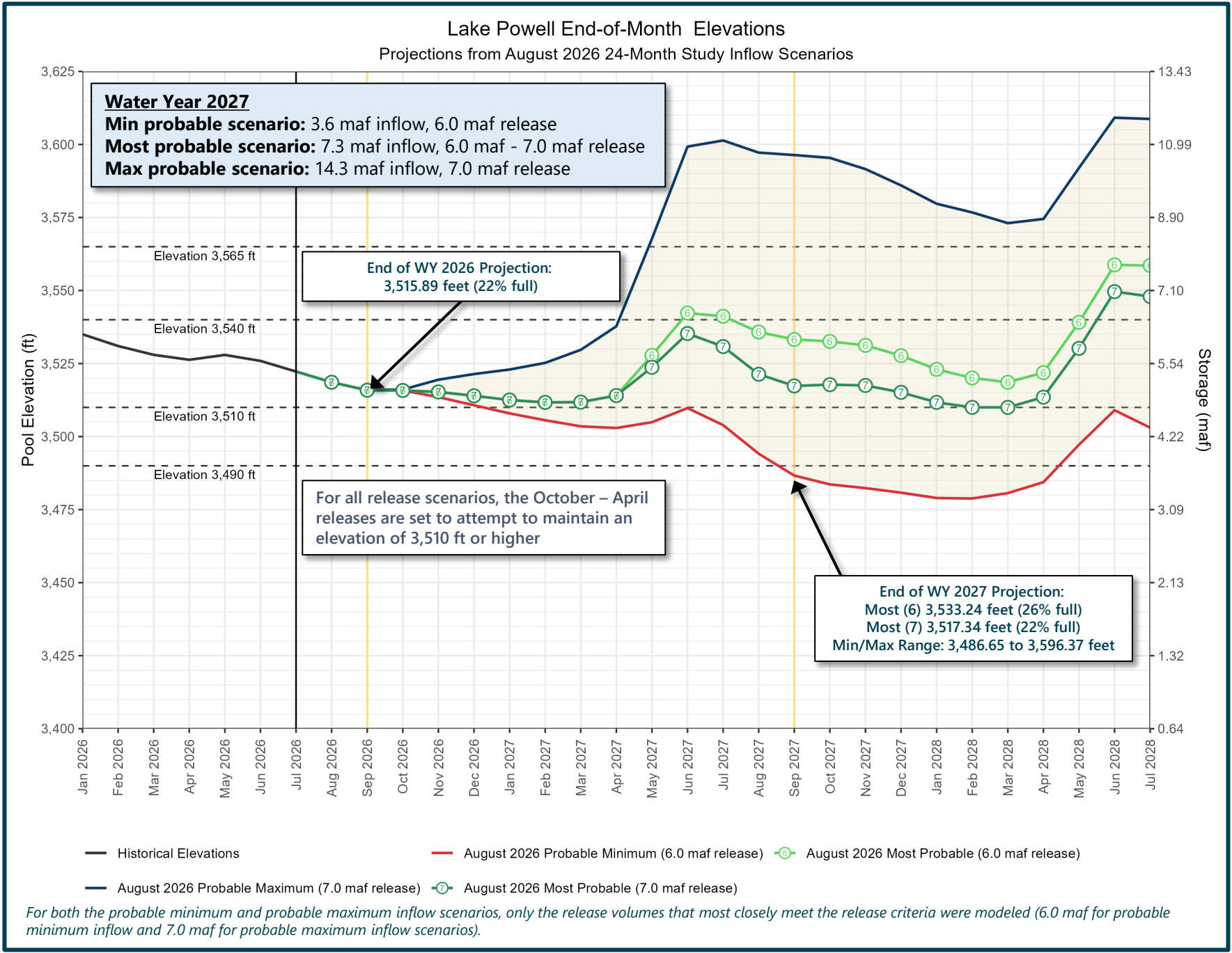


Potential Lake Powell Monthly Release Volume Distribution

Release Scenarios for Water Year 2027

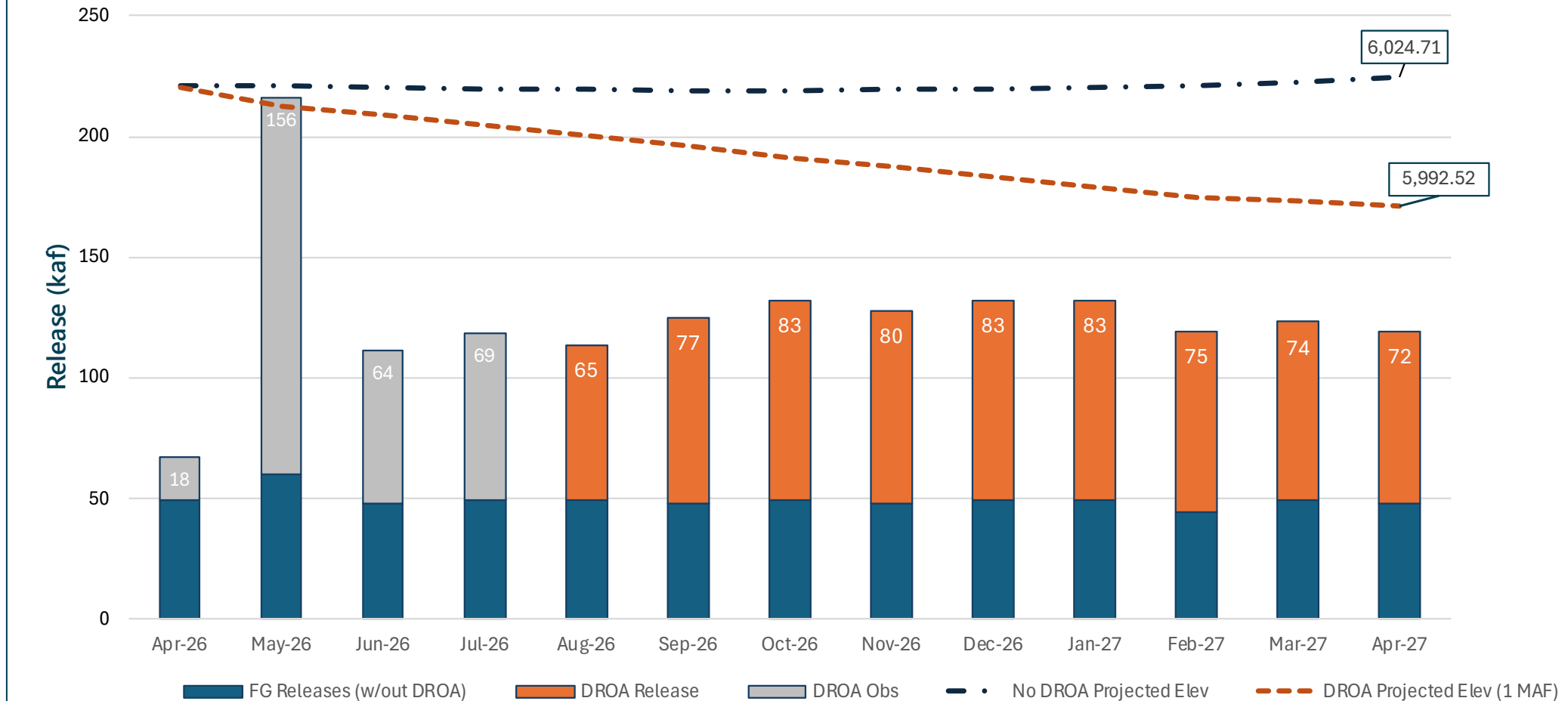
Based on August 2026 Modeling





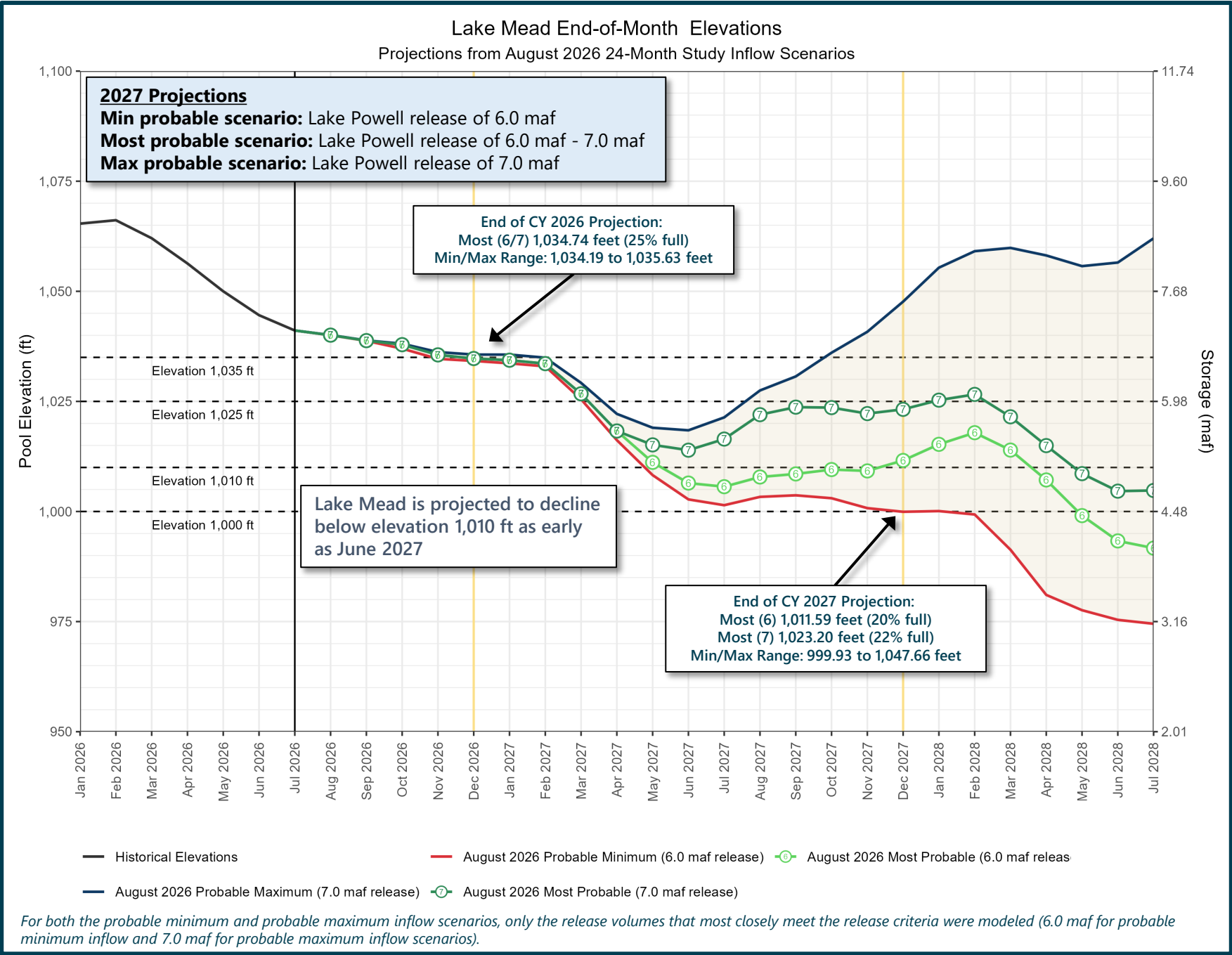
Flaming Gorge DROA Releases^{1,2}

Based on the August 2026 Most Probable Scenario



at: <https://www.usbr.gov/ColoradoRiverBasin/documents/dcp/DROA/DROSummarySheet.pdf>.





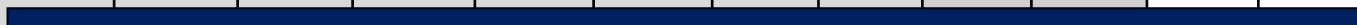
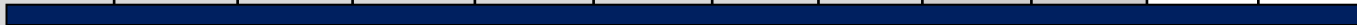


Upper Colorado Basin

Hydropower Maintenance



Glen Canyon Power Plant Planned Unit Outage Schedule for Water Year 2026

Unit Number	Oct 2025	Nov 2025	Dec 2025	Jan 2026	Feb 2026	Mar 2026	Apr 2026	May 2026	Jun 2026	Jul 2026	Aug 2026	Sep 2026	
1													
2													
3													
4													
5													
6													
7													
8													
Units Available	6	6	6	6	5	5	5	5	6	6	6	4	
Penstock Capacity (cfs)											17,300	10,800	AUG MOST ²
Penstock Capacity (kaf/month)											1,060	640	AUG MOST
Max (kaf) ¹	480	500	501	625	525	500	471	459	509	482	482	466	6.00 maf
Most (kaf) ¹	480	500	501	625	525	500	471	459	509	482	482	469	6.00 maf
Min (kaf) ¹	480	500	501	625	525	500	471	459	509	482	482	469	6.00 maf
											(updated 8/25/2026)		

1 Projected release based on AUG 2026 24-Month Study for the minimum, most, and maximum probable scenarios.

2 Dependent upon availability to shift contingency regulation, which will increase capacity by 30-40MW at current efficiency.

Glen Canyon Power Plant Planned Unit Outage Schedule for Water Year 2027

Unit Number	Oct 2026	Nov 2026	Dec 2026	Jan 2027	Feb 2027	Mar 2027	Apr 2027	May 2027	Jun 2027	Jul 2027	Aug 2027	Sep 2027
1												
2												
3												
4												
5												
6												
7												
8												
Units Available	4	6	6	6	4	6	5	6	6	6	6	4
Penstock Capacity (cfs)	11,400	16,200	17,100	15,400	11,000	16,500	14,500	15,700	17,700	17,700	17,100	10,800
Penstock Capacity (kaf/month)	700	1,030	1,050	950	610	1,010	860	970	1,050	1,090	1,050	650
Max (kaf) ¹	401	388	401	401	362	401	417	769	845	918	984	713
Most 7.0 (kaf) ¹	401	388	401	401	362	401	417	844	845	918	984	638
Most 6.0 (kaf) ¹	401	388	401	401	362	401	417	588	626	701	751	563
Min (kaf) ¹	401	388	401	401	362	401	417	588	626	701	751	563

AUG MOST²

AUG MOST

7.00 maf

7.00 maf

6.00 maf

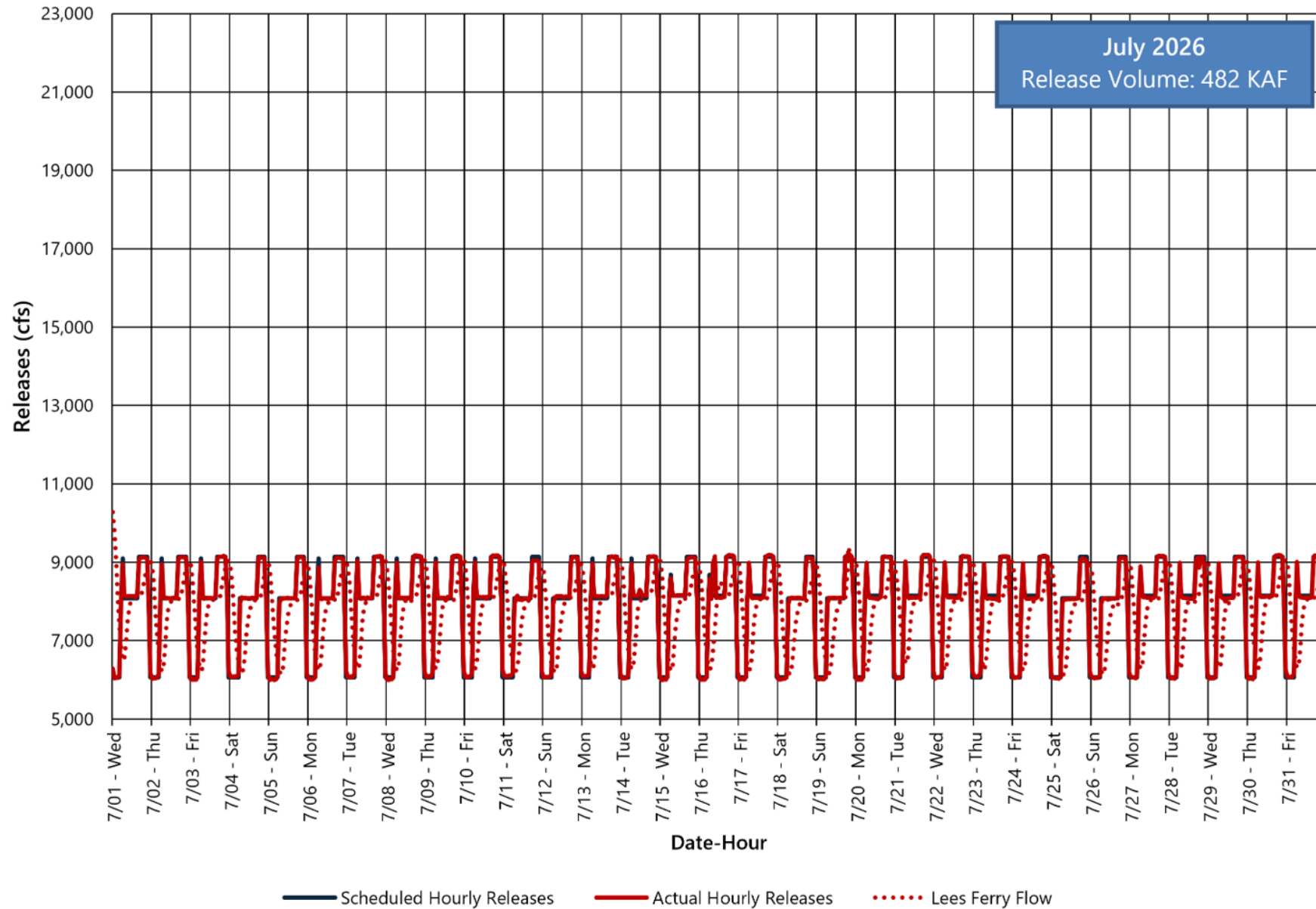
6.00 maf

(updated 8/25/2026)

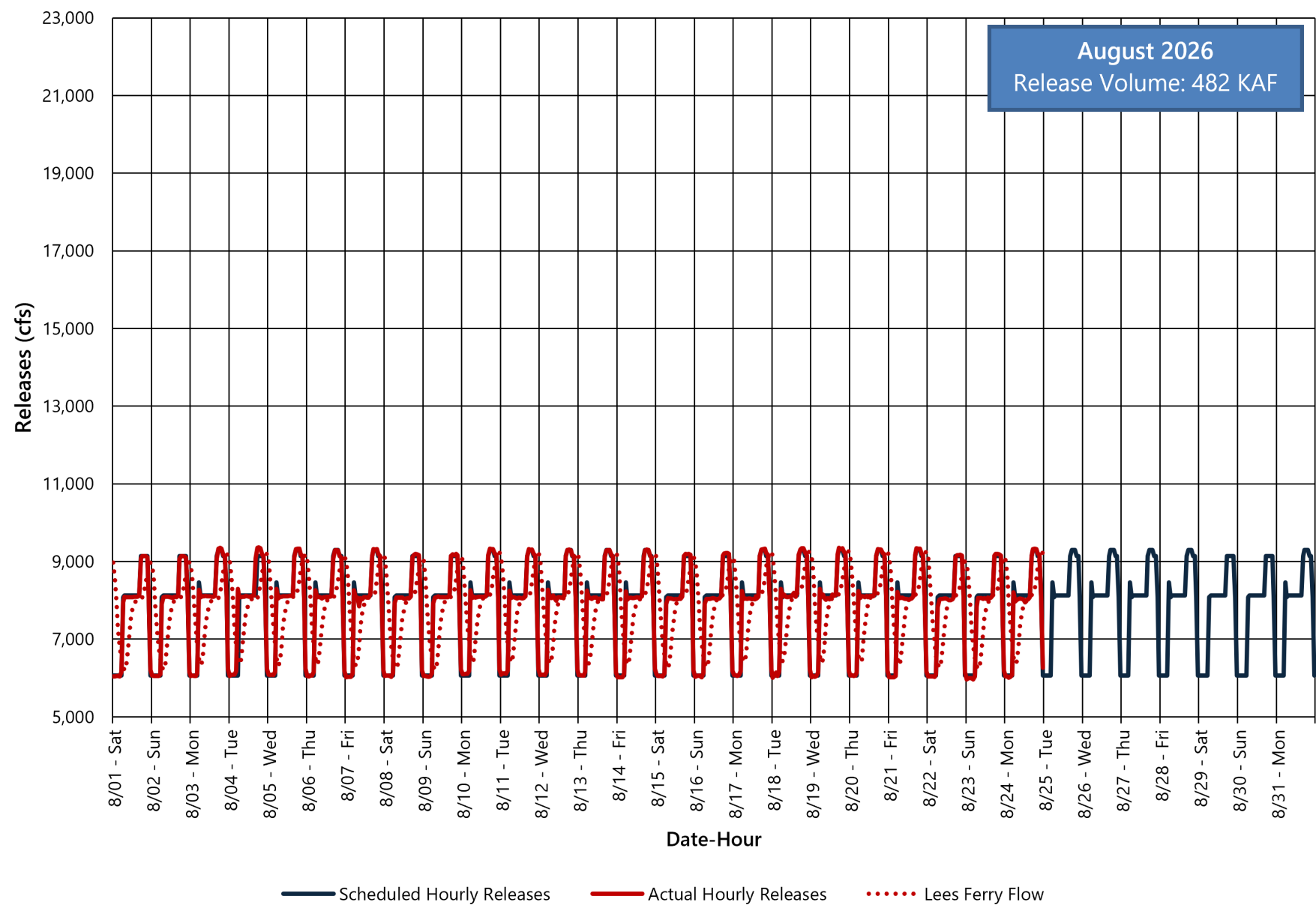
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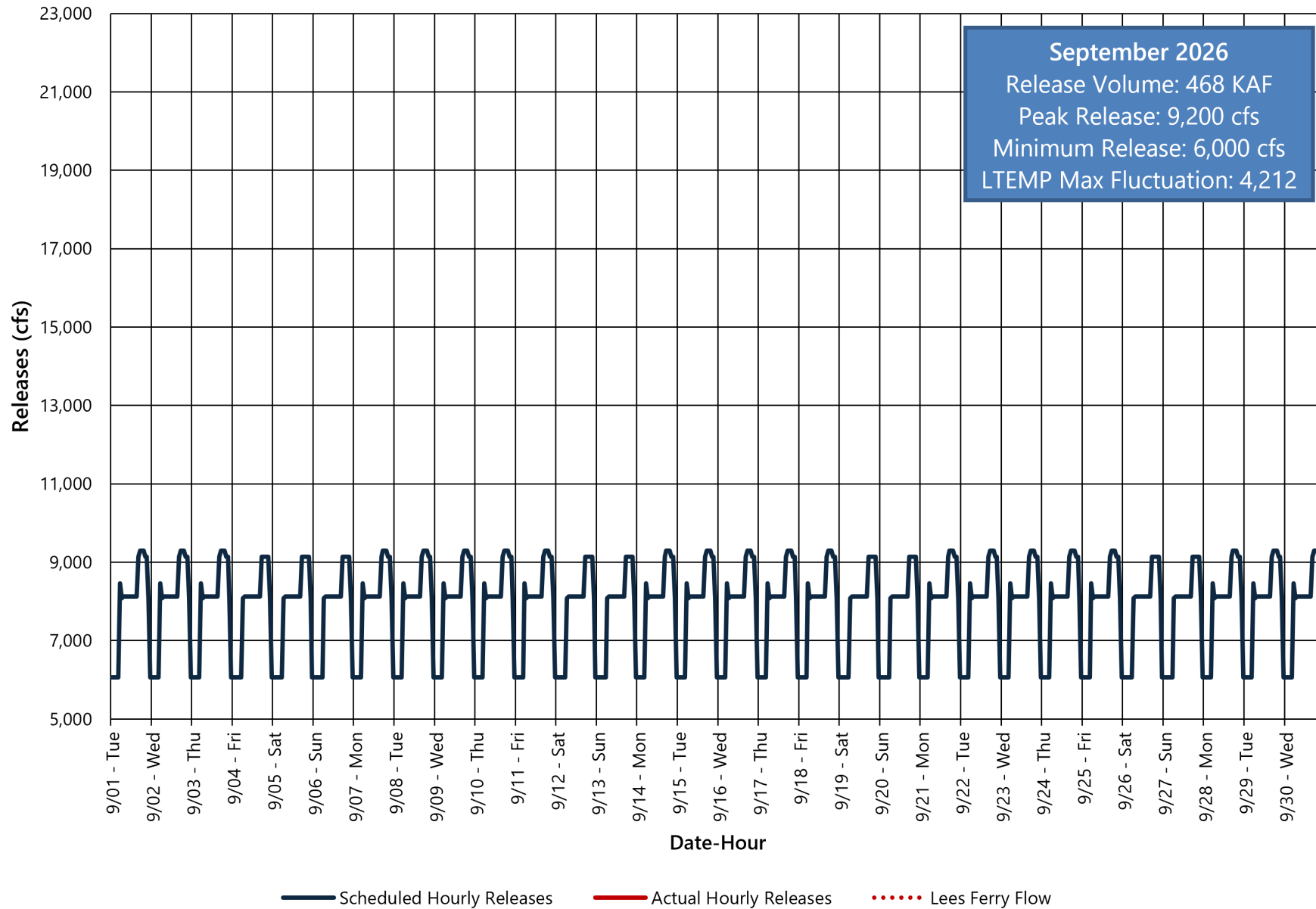
Glen Canyon Dam Hourly Release Pattern - July 2026



Glen Canyon Dam Hourly Release Pattern - August 2026



Glen Canyon Dam Hourly Release Pattern - September 2026



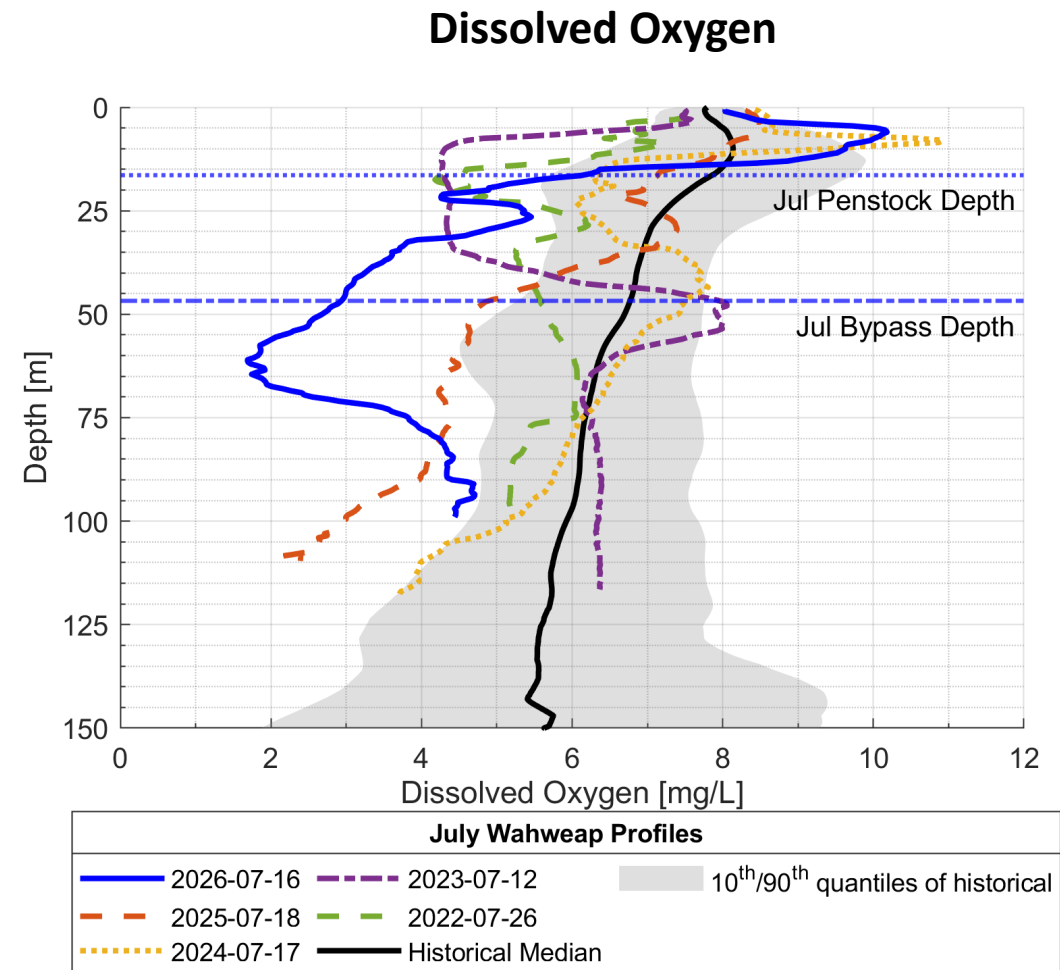
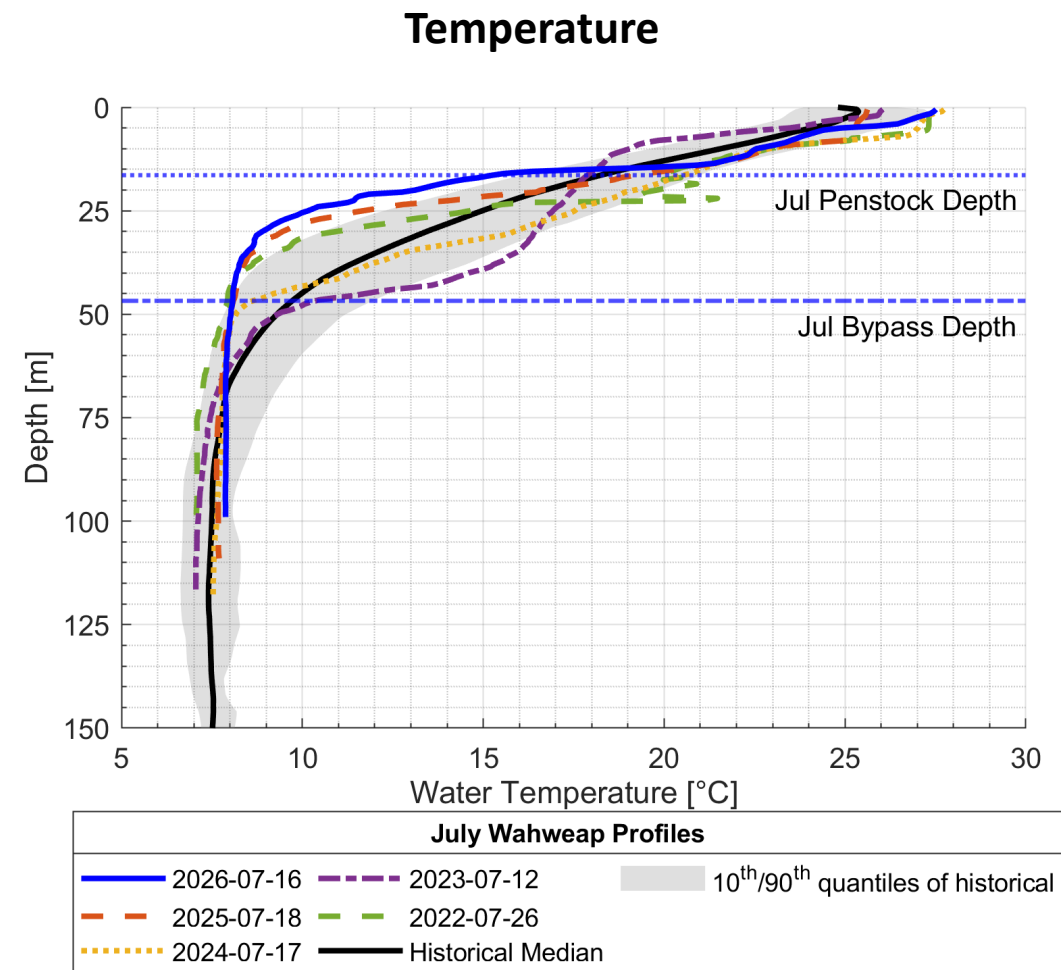


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Water Quality Update

08/27/2026

Lake Powell - Wahweap July Profiles

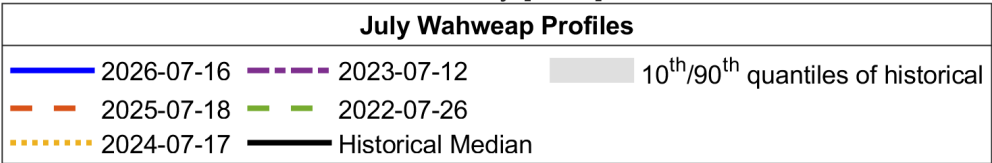
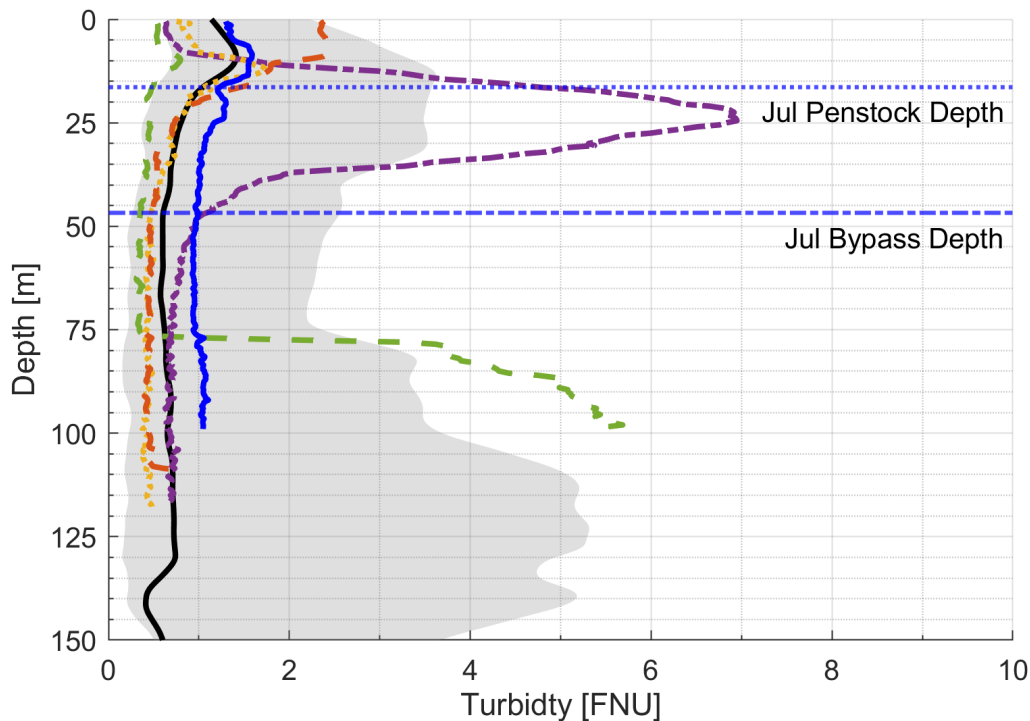


Wahweap is approximately 2.5 km above Glen Canyon Dam. Preliminary, not for citation.

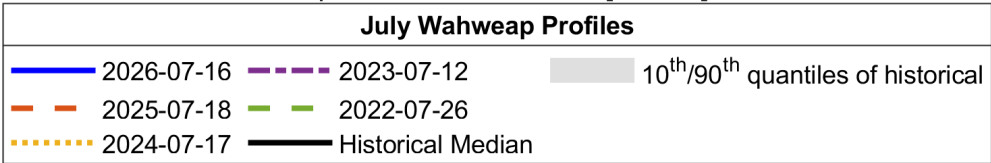
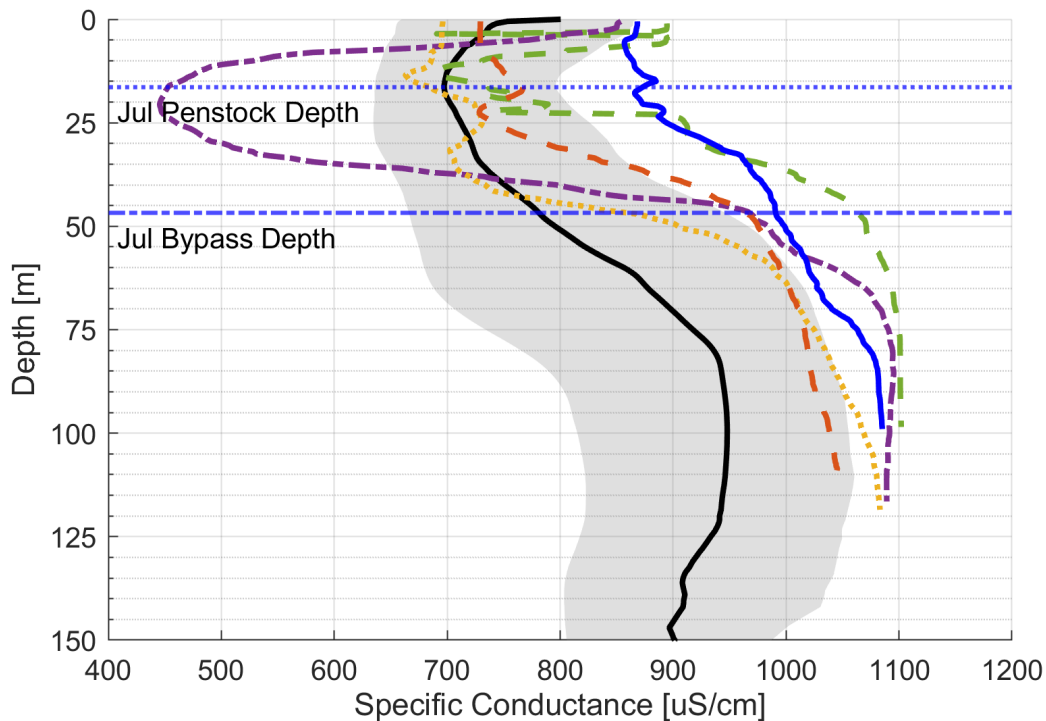


Lake Powell - Wahweap July Profiles

Turbidity



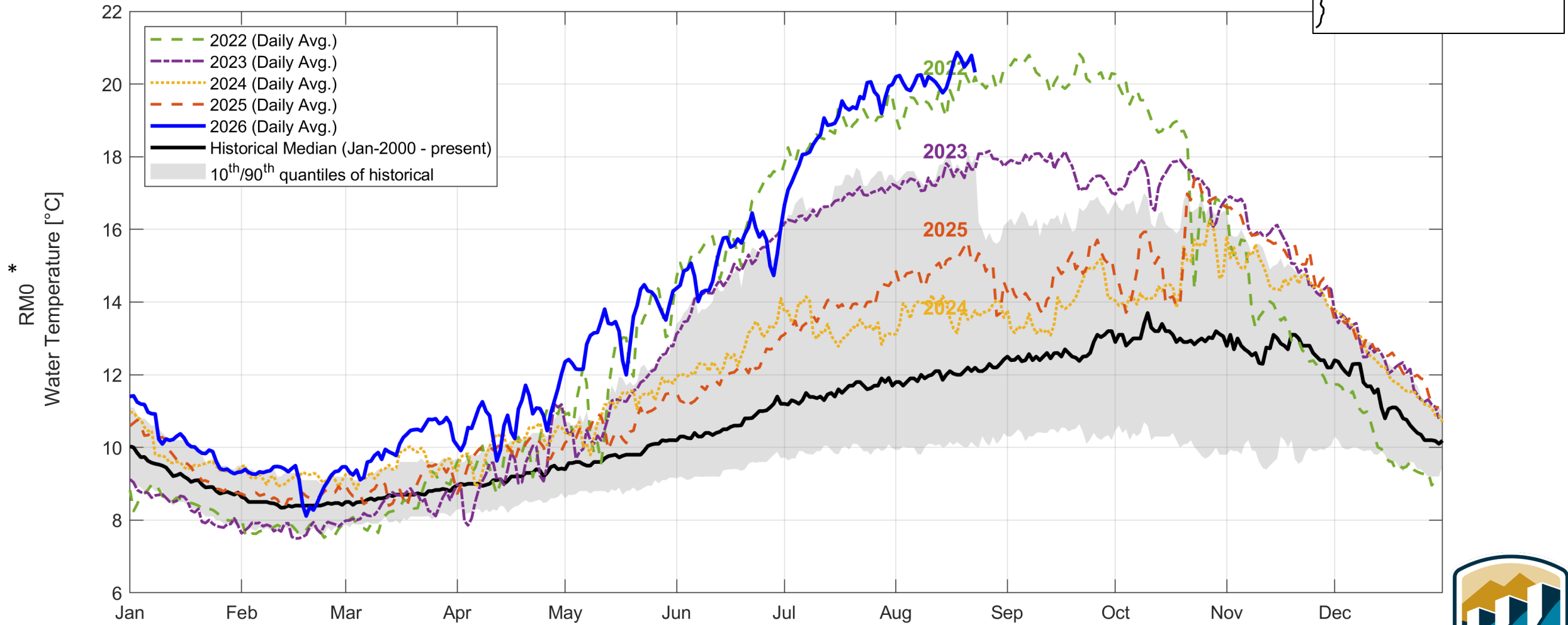
Specific Conductivity



Wahweap is approximately 2.5 km above Glen Canyon Dam. Preliminary, not for citation.



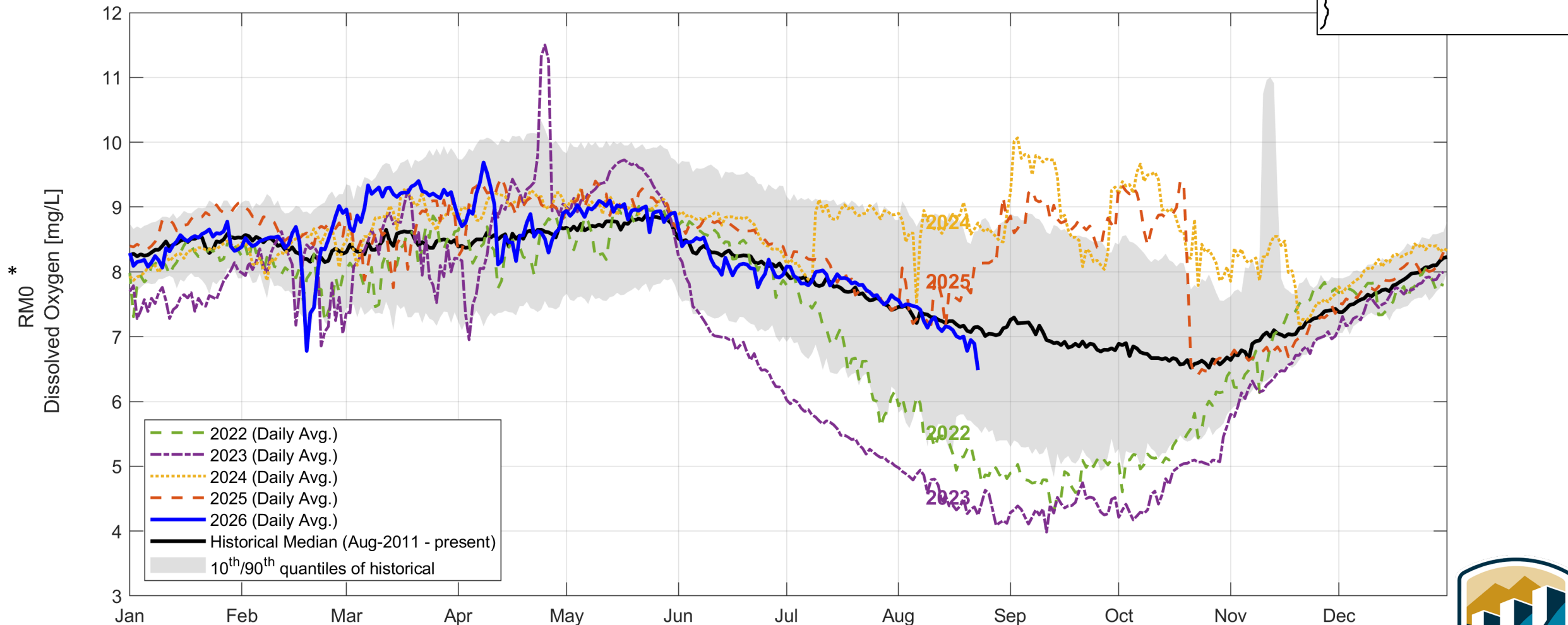
Lees Ferry - Temperature



* Credit to USGS for data. Preliminary, not for citation.



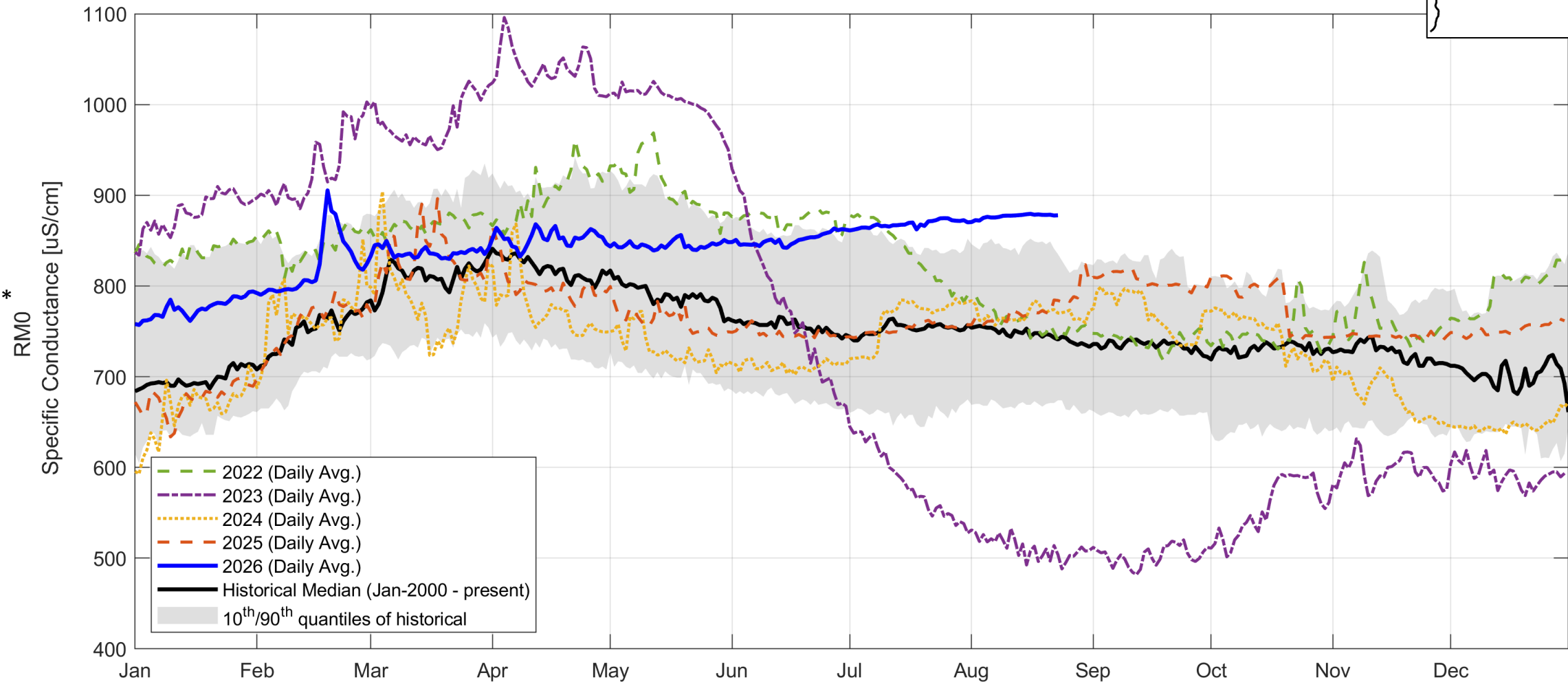
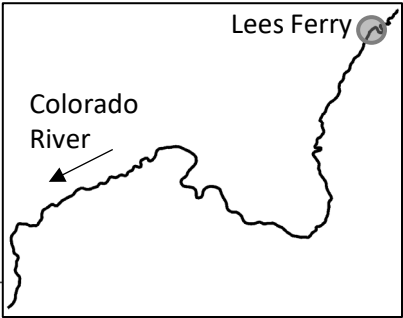
Lees Ferry – Dissolved Oxygen



* Credit to USGS for data. Preliminary, not for citation.

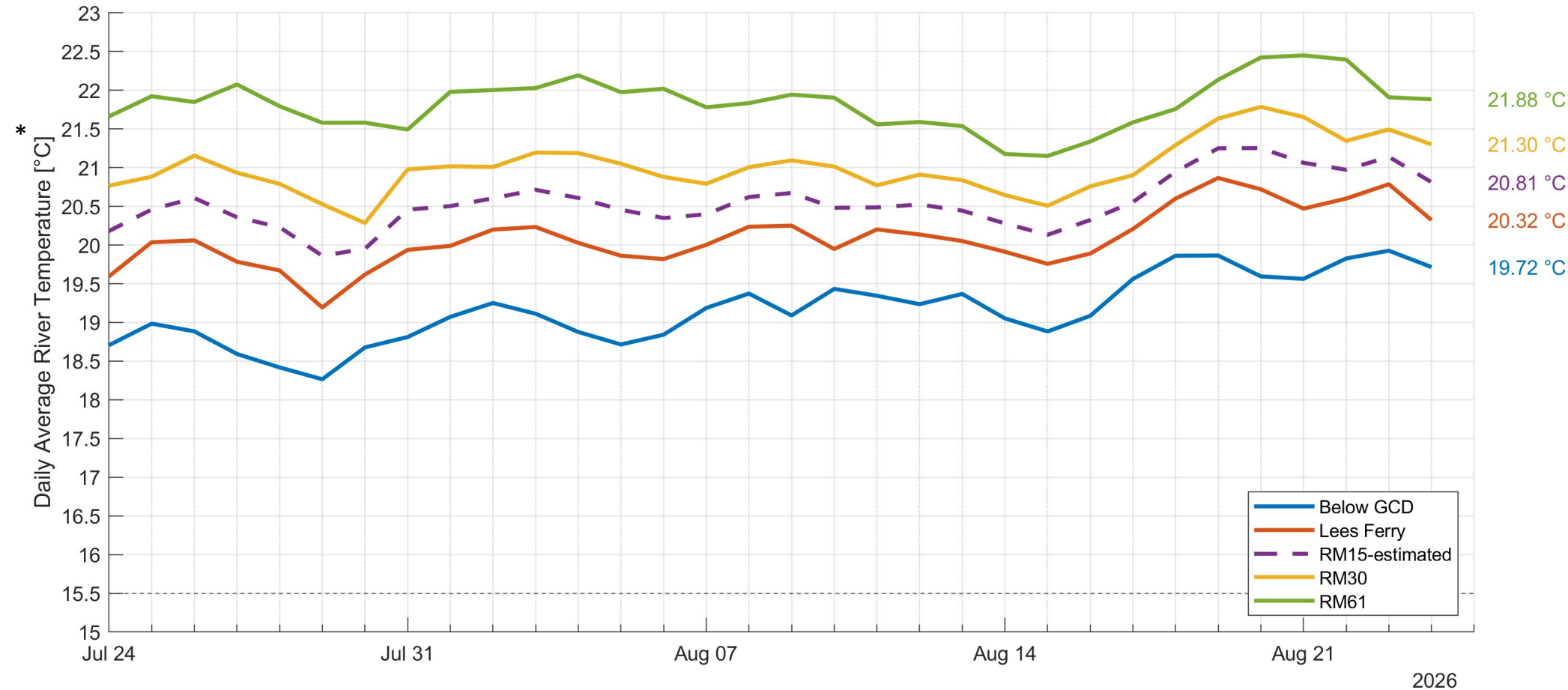
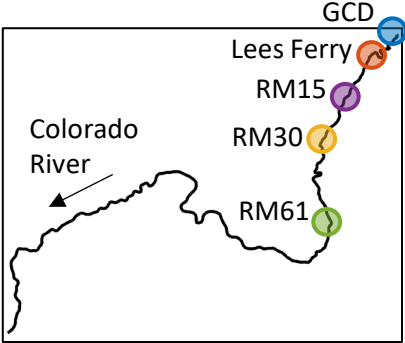


Lees Ferry – Specific Conductivity



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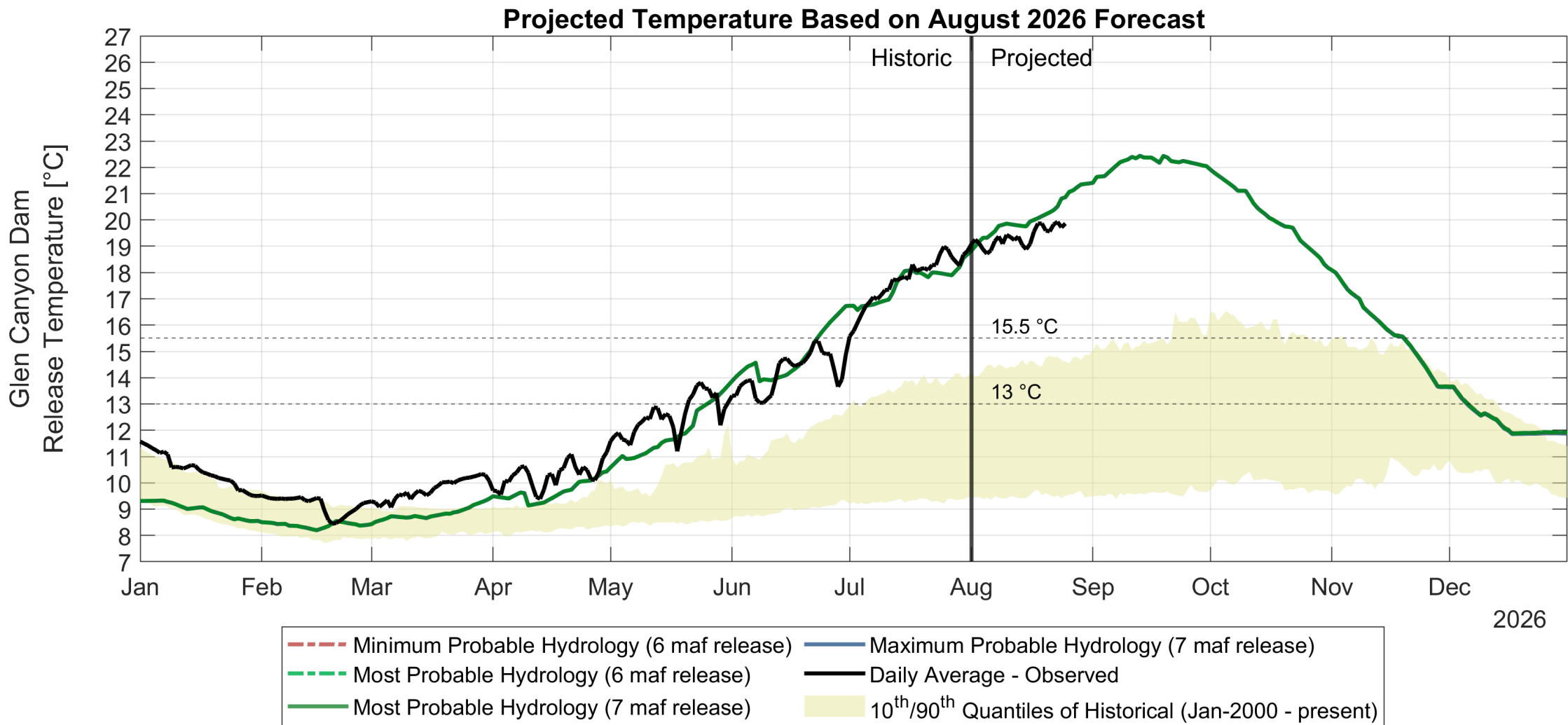
River Sites Combined



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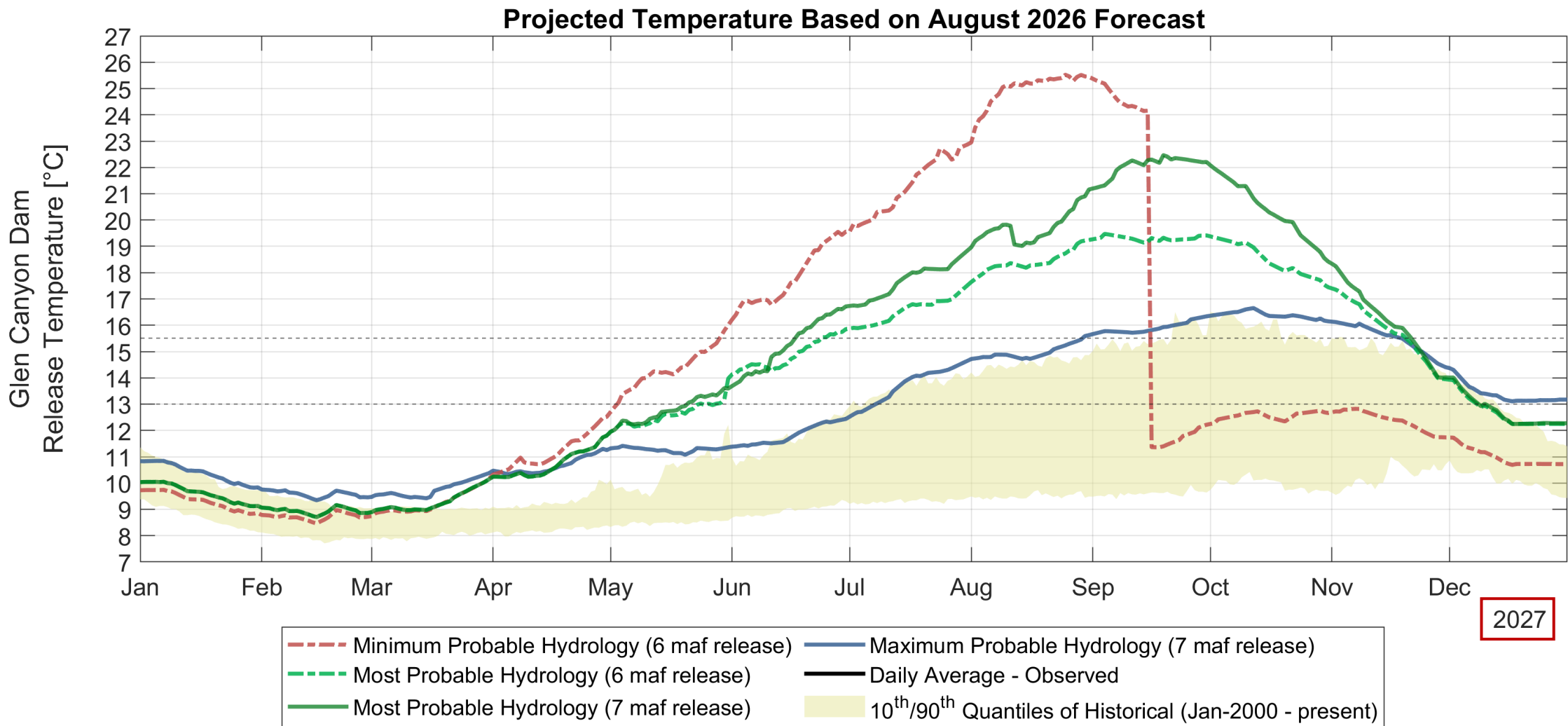
Glen Canyon Dam Release - Projected Temperature (*Eppehimer et al, 2024 model)



* <https://doi.org/10.1101/2024.01.23.576966>



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