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Glen Canyon Monthly Operations Call

Basin Hydrology and Operations

April 22, 2021

Background

This briefing is being provided consistent with the provision in 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.”

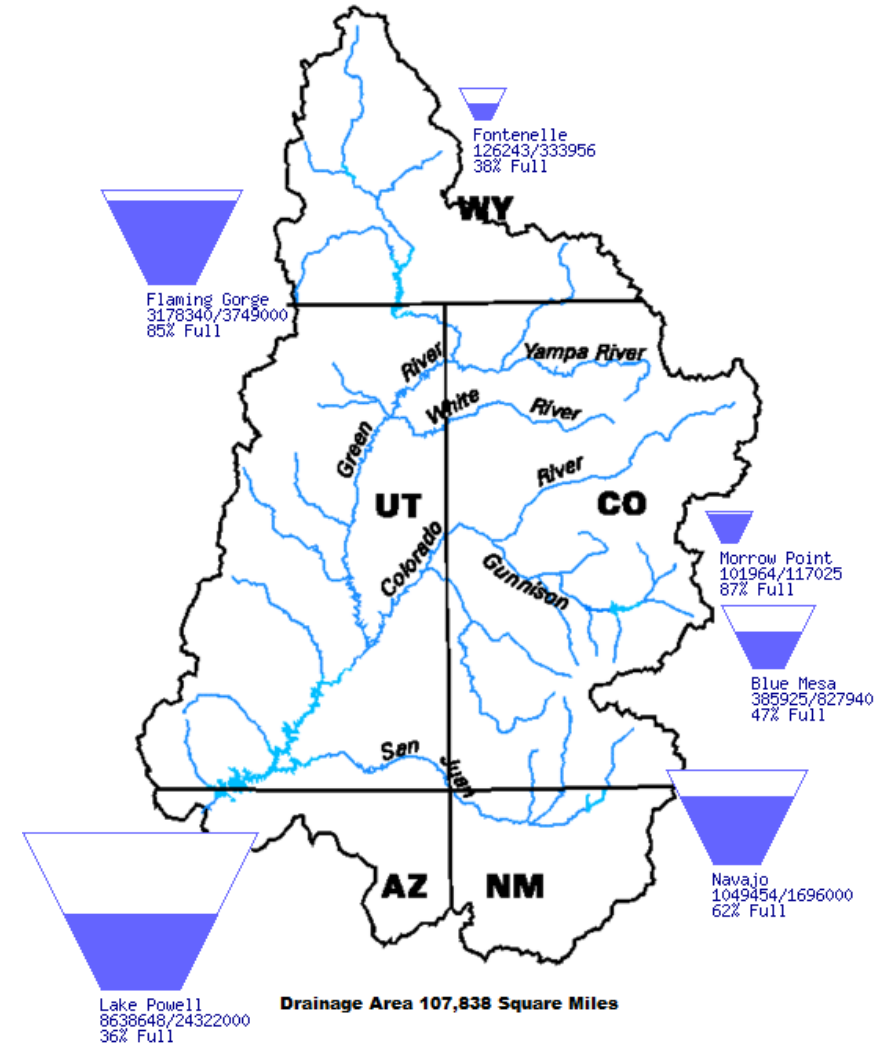


Upper Basin Storage (as of April 19, 2021)

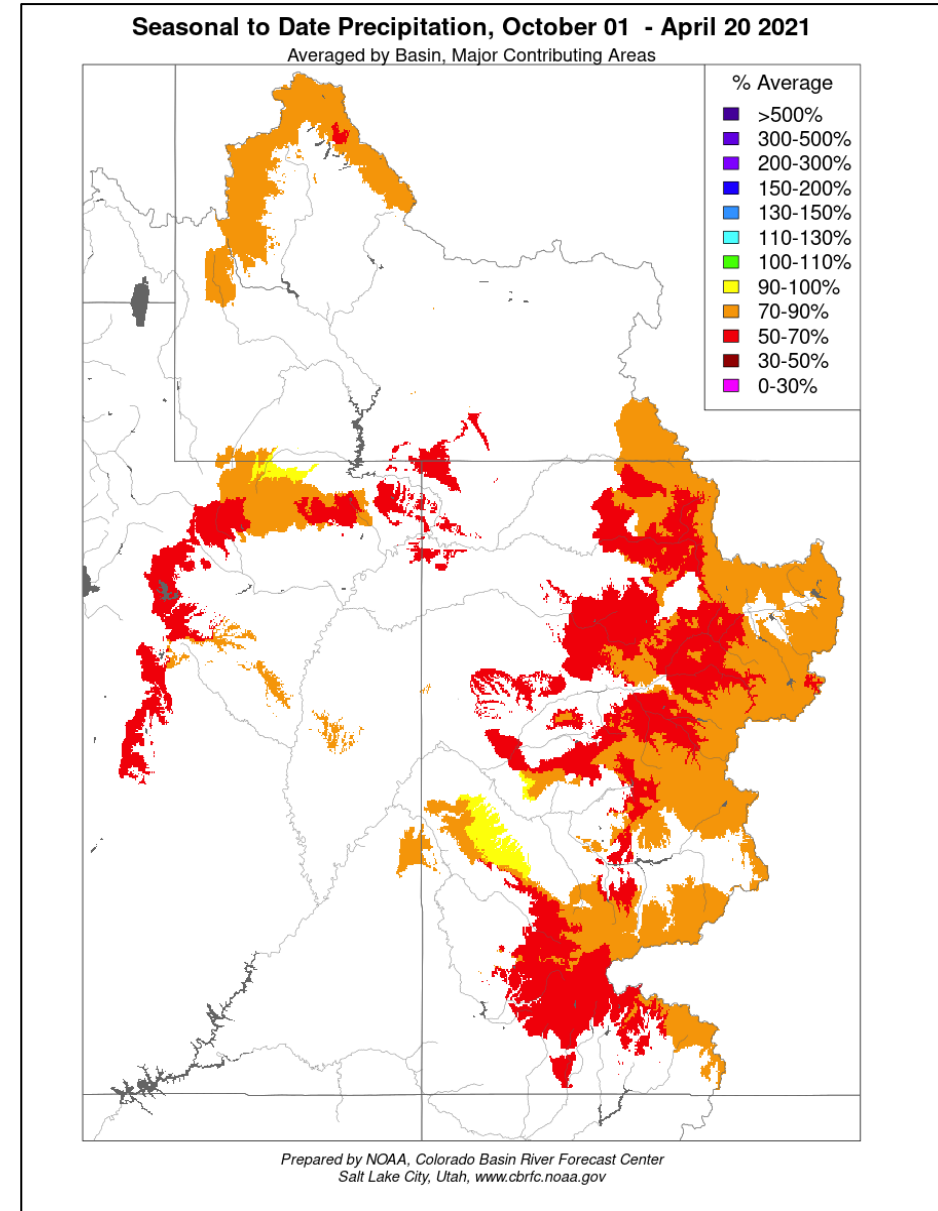
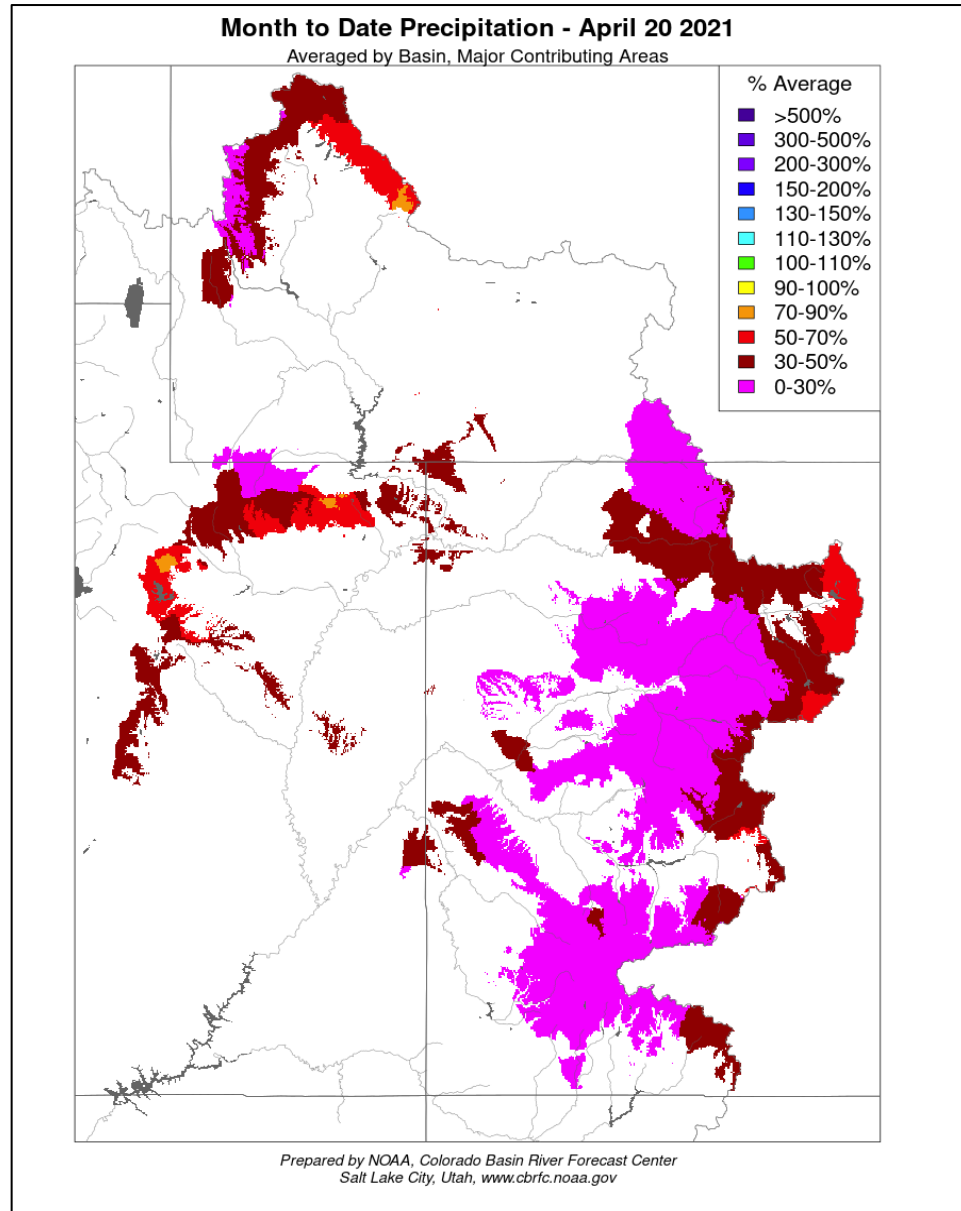
Data Current as of:
04/19/2021

Upper Colorado River Drainage Basin

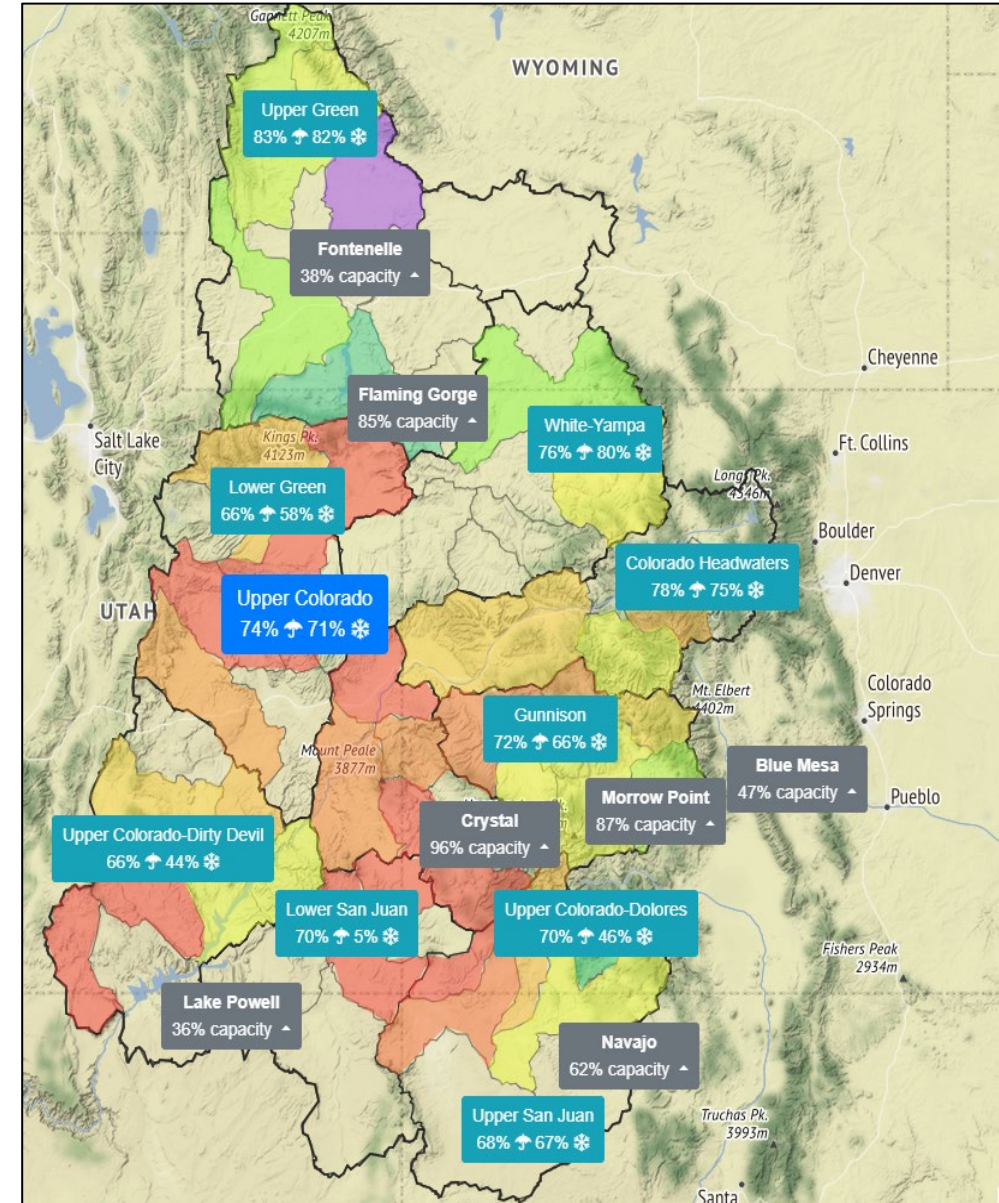
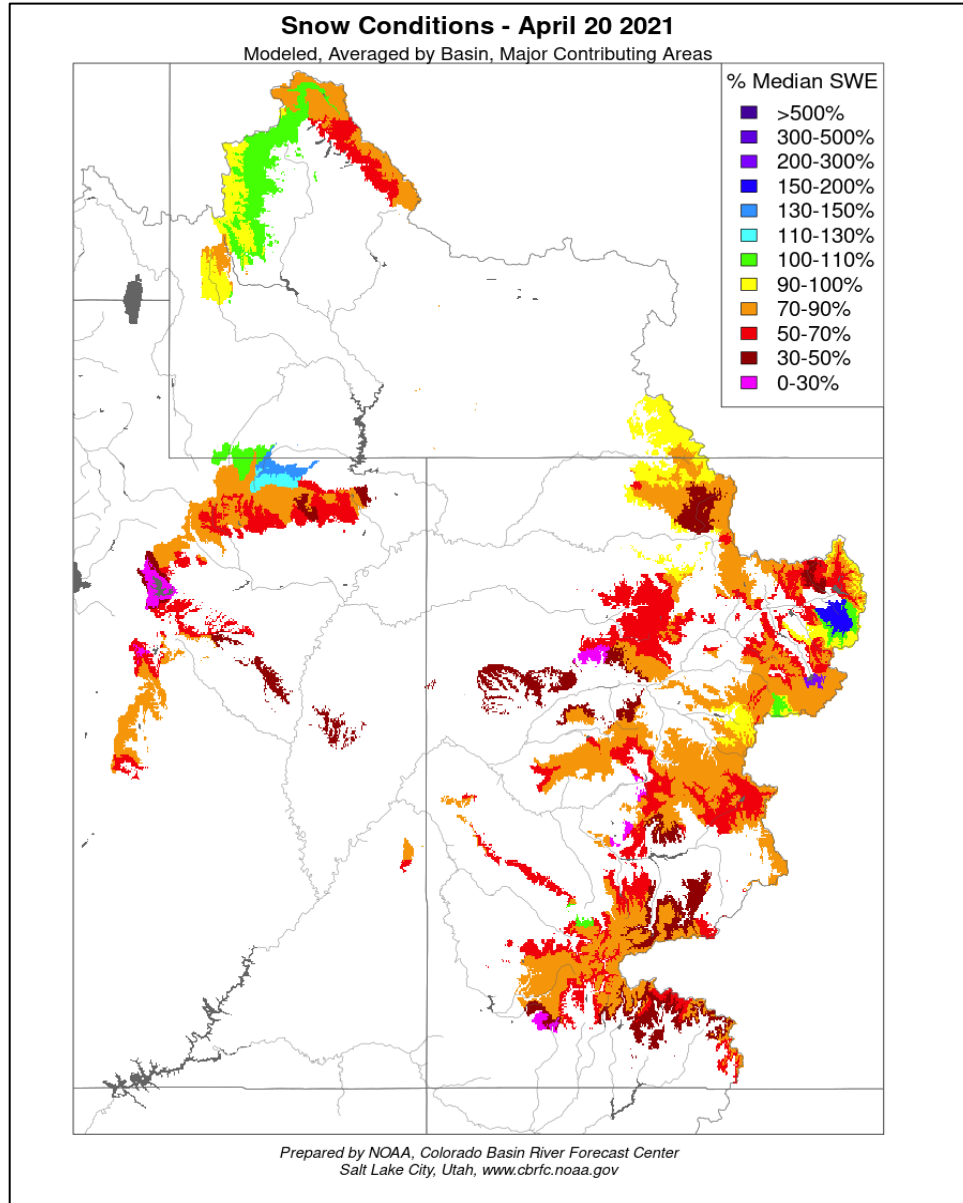
Reservoir	Percent Current Live Storage	Current Live Storage (maf)	Live Storage Capacity (maf)	Elevation (feet)
Fontenelle	38	0.13	.333	6473.27
Flaming Gorge	85	3.18	3.75	6,025.45
Blue Mesa	47	0.39	0.83	7,463.02
Navajo	62	1.05	1.70	6,034.01
Lake Powell	36	8.64	24.32	3,564.10
UC System Storage	43	13.50	31.09	



Seasonal and Monthly Precipitation

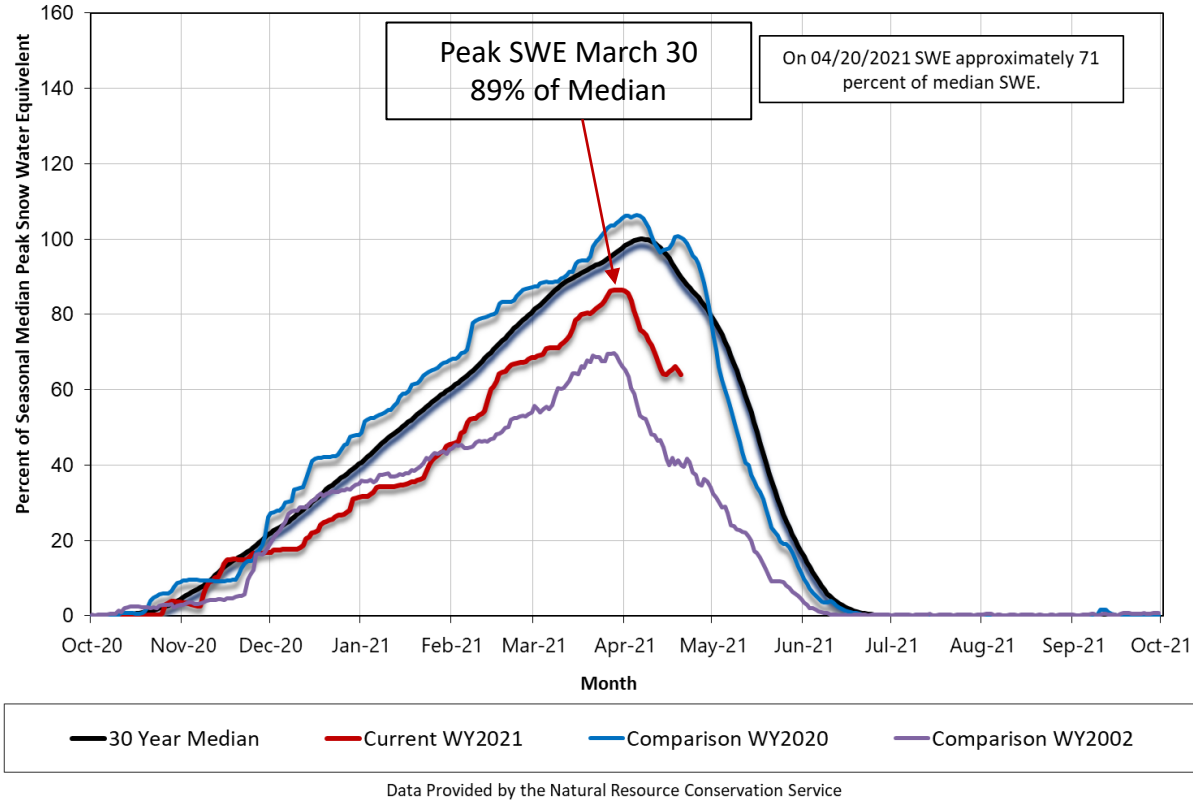


Seasonal Snow Conditions and Basin SWE

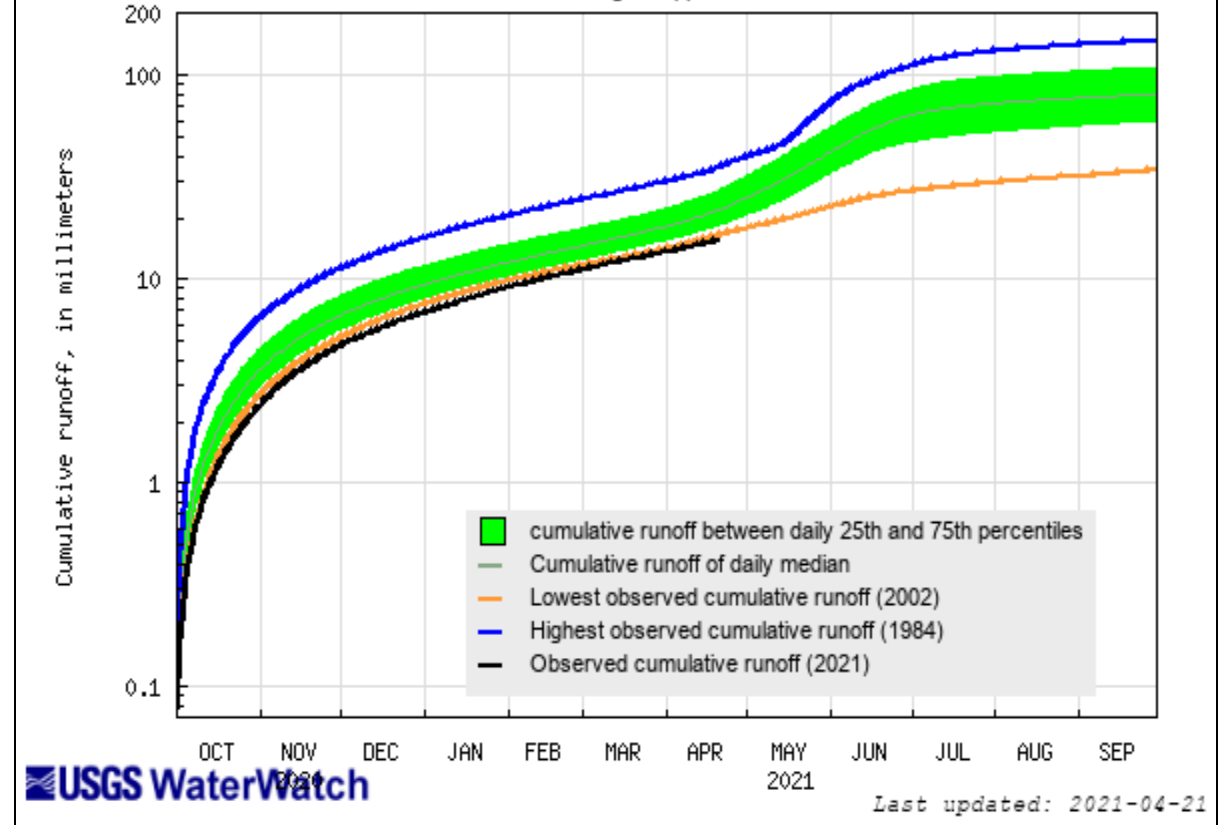


Current Snow Water Equivalent (as of April 19, 2021)

Upper Colorado River above Lake Powell Snotel Tracking



Hydrograph of cumulative 7-day average runoff for Water Resource Region Upper Colorado



Upper Colorado Basin

Projected Operations for Water Year 2021 Based on April 2021 Modeling



Most Probable Spring and WY 2021 Forecast

April – July 2021
Forecasted Unregulated Inflow
as of April 2, 2021

Reservoir	Unregulated Inflow (kaf)	Percent of Average ¹
Fontenelle	430	59
Flaming Gorge	430	54
Blue Mesa	440	65
Navajo	395	54
Powell	3,200	45

Water Year 2021
Forecasted Unregulated Inflow
as of April 5, 2021

Reservoir	Unregulated Inflow (kaf)	Percent of Average ¹
Fontenelle	691	64
Flaming Gorge	833	57
Blue Mesa	645	68
Navajo	538	50
Powell	4,897	45



Midmonth Most Probable Spring and WY 2021 Forecast

April – July 2021
Forecasted Unregulated Inflow
as of April 16, 2021

Reservoir	Unregulated Inflow (kaf)	Percent of Average ¹
Fontenelle	400	55
Flaming Gorge	470	48
Blue Mesa	420	62
Navajo	370	50
Powell	2,700	38

Water Year 2021
Forecasted Unregulated Inflow
as of April 16, 2021

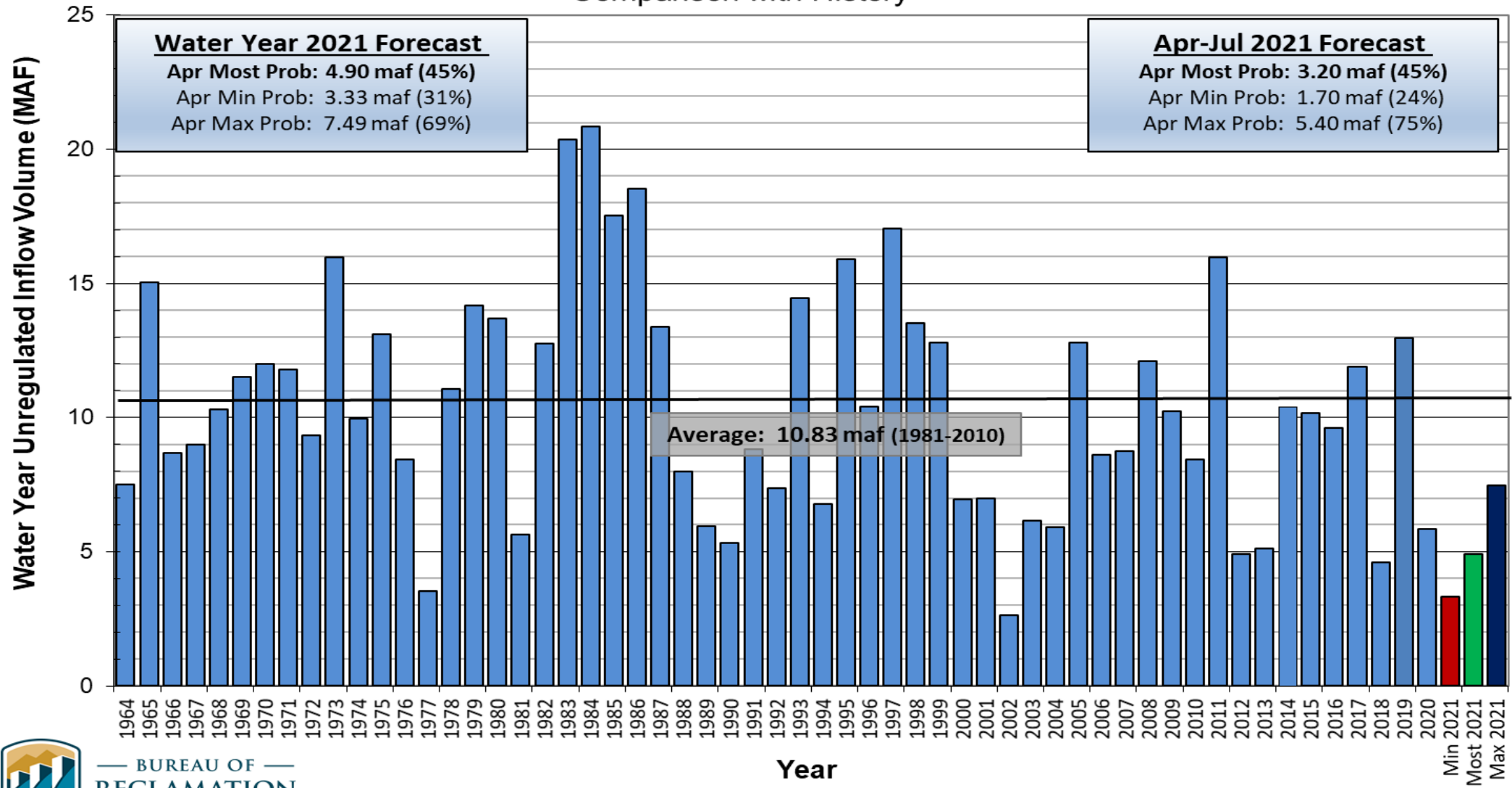
Reservoir	Unregulated Inflow (kaf)	Percent of Average ¹
Fontenelle	661	61
Flaming Gorge	783	54
Blue Mesa	625	65
Navajo	518	48
Powell	4,400	41



Lake Powell Unregulated Inflow

Water Year 2021 Forecast (issued April 2)

Comparison with History



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Drought Response Operations Agreement (DROA)

- Formal notification that the January 2021 Minimum Probable 24 Month Study (24-MS) run projected Powell to fall below 3,525 feet in 2022 was provided pursuant to the DROA.
 - February through April Minimum Probable 24-MS continued to indicate elevations below 3,525 feet in 2022.
- These minimum projections *do not* initiate immediate operational changes to Reclamation facilities.
- These minimum projections *do* initiate enhanced monitoring and coordination under the DROA.
- These minimum projections *do* initiate monthly analysis of min/most/max with the parties specified in the DROA.
- The DROA enhanced monitoring and coordination will continue until either:
 - (i) The minimum probable projected elevation remains above 3,525 feet for 24 months; or
 - (ii) the process moves to the next step when the Most Probable 24-MS projects Powell elevations below 3,525 feet and a specific Drought Response Operations Plan is developed.



Lake Powell & Lake Mead Operational Table

Operational Tiers for Water/Calendar Year 2021¹

Lake Powell			Lake Mead		
Elevation (feet)	Operation According to the Interim Guidelines	Live Storage (maf) ¹	Elevation (feet)	Operation According to the Interim Guidelines	Live Storage (maf) ¹
3,700	Equalization Tier Equalize, avoid spills or release 8.23 maf	24.3	1,220	Flood Control Surplus or Quantified Surplus Condition Deliver > 7.5 maf	25.9
3,636 - 3,666 (2008-2026)	Upper Elevation Balancing Tier ³ Release 8.23 maf; <i>Jan 1, 2021 projection</i> if Lake Mead < 1,075 feet, balance contents with a min/max release of 7.0 and 9.0 maf	15.5 - 19.3 (2008-2026)	1,200 (approx.) ²	Domestic Surplus or ICS Surplus Condition Deliver > 7.5 maf	22.9 (approx.) ²
			1,145	Normal or ICS Surplus Condition Deliver ≥ 7.5 maf	15.9
3,575	Mid-Elevation Release Tier Release 7.48 maf; if Lake Mead < 1,025 feet, release 8.23 maf	9.5	1,105	Normal or ICS Surplus Condition Deliver ≥ 7.5 maf	11.9
3,525	Lower Elevation Balancing Tier Balance contents with a min/max release of 7.0 and 9.5 maf	5.9	1,075	Shortage Condition Deliver 7.167 ⁴ maf	9.4
3,490			1,050	Shortage Condition Deliver 7.083 ⁵ maf	7.5
3,370		0	1,025	Shortage Condition Deliver 7.0 ⁶ maf	5.8
			1,000	Shortage Condition Deliver 7.0 ⁶ maf Further measures may be undertaken ⁷	4.3
			895		0

Diagram not to scale

¹ Acronym for million acre-feet

² This elevation is shown as approximate as it is determined each year by considering several factors including Lake Powell and Lake Mead storage, projected Upper Basin and Lower Basin demands, and an assumed inflow.

³ Subject to April adjustments which may result in a release according to the Equalization Tier

⁴ Of which 2.48 maf is apportioned to Arizona, 4.4 maf to California, and 0.287 maf to Nevada

⁵ Of which 2.40 maf is apportioned to Arizona, 4.4 maf to California, and 0.283 maf to Nevada

⁶ Of which 2.32 maf is apportioned to Arizona, 4.4 maf to California, and 0.280 maf to Nevada

⁷ Whenever Lake Mead is below elevation 1,025 feet, the Secretary shall consider whether hydrologic conditions together with anticipated deliveries to the Lower Division States and Mexico is likely to cause the elevation at Lake Mead to fall below 1,000 feet. Such consideration, in consultation with the Basin States, may result in the undertaking of further measures, consistent with applicable Federal law.



Timing of Operational Decisions

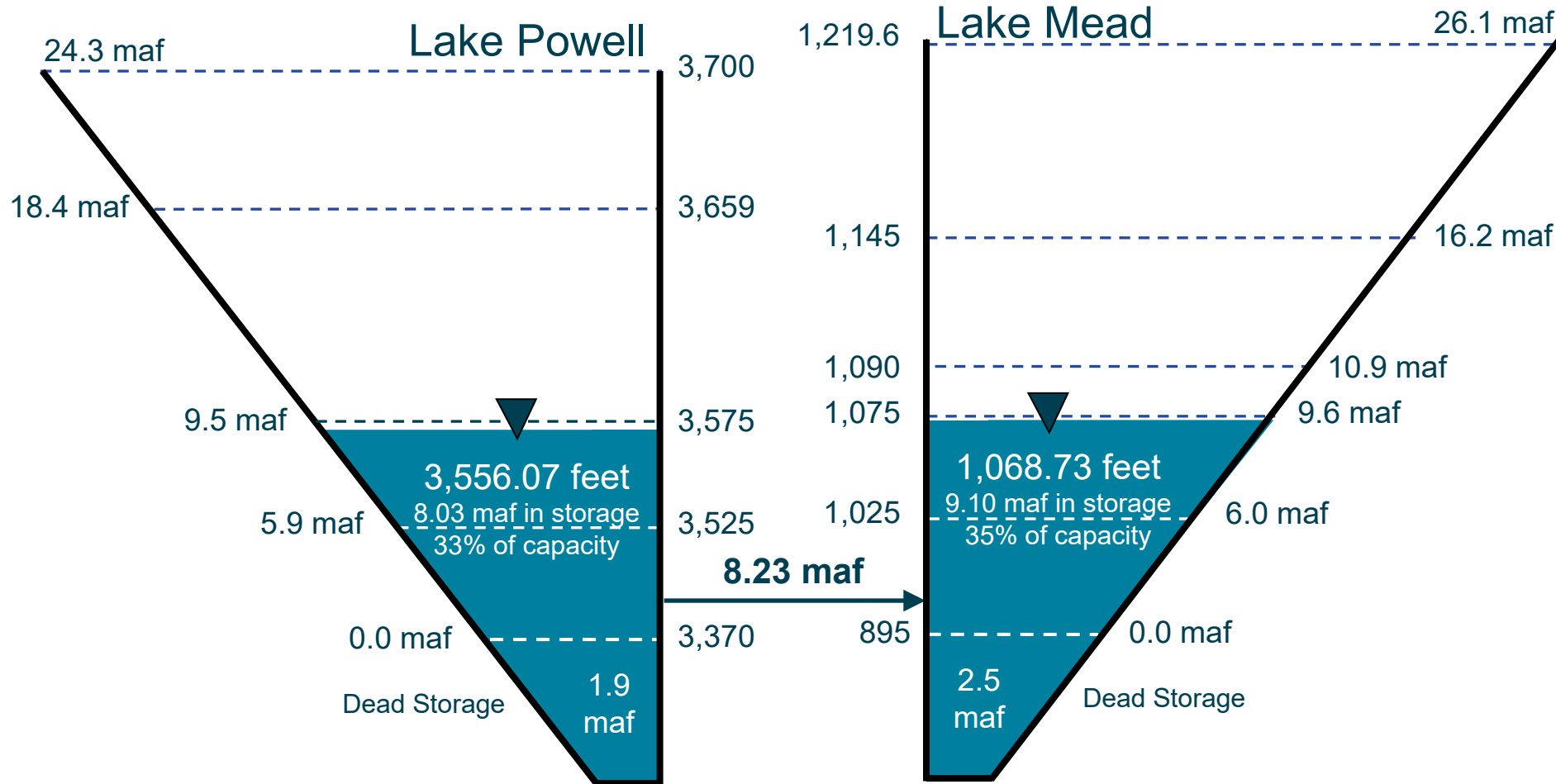
- August 24-Month Study projections of January 1 elevations sets the operating tiers for Lake Powell and Lake Mead
- When Lake Powell is in Upper Elevation Balancing Tier, April 24-Month Study projections of September 30 elevations may result in an adjustment to Powell's operations



End of Water Year 2021 Projections

April 2021 24-Month Study Most Probable Inflow Scenario¹

Based on a Lake Powell Unregulated Inflow Forecast of 4.90 maf (45% of average)



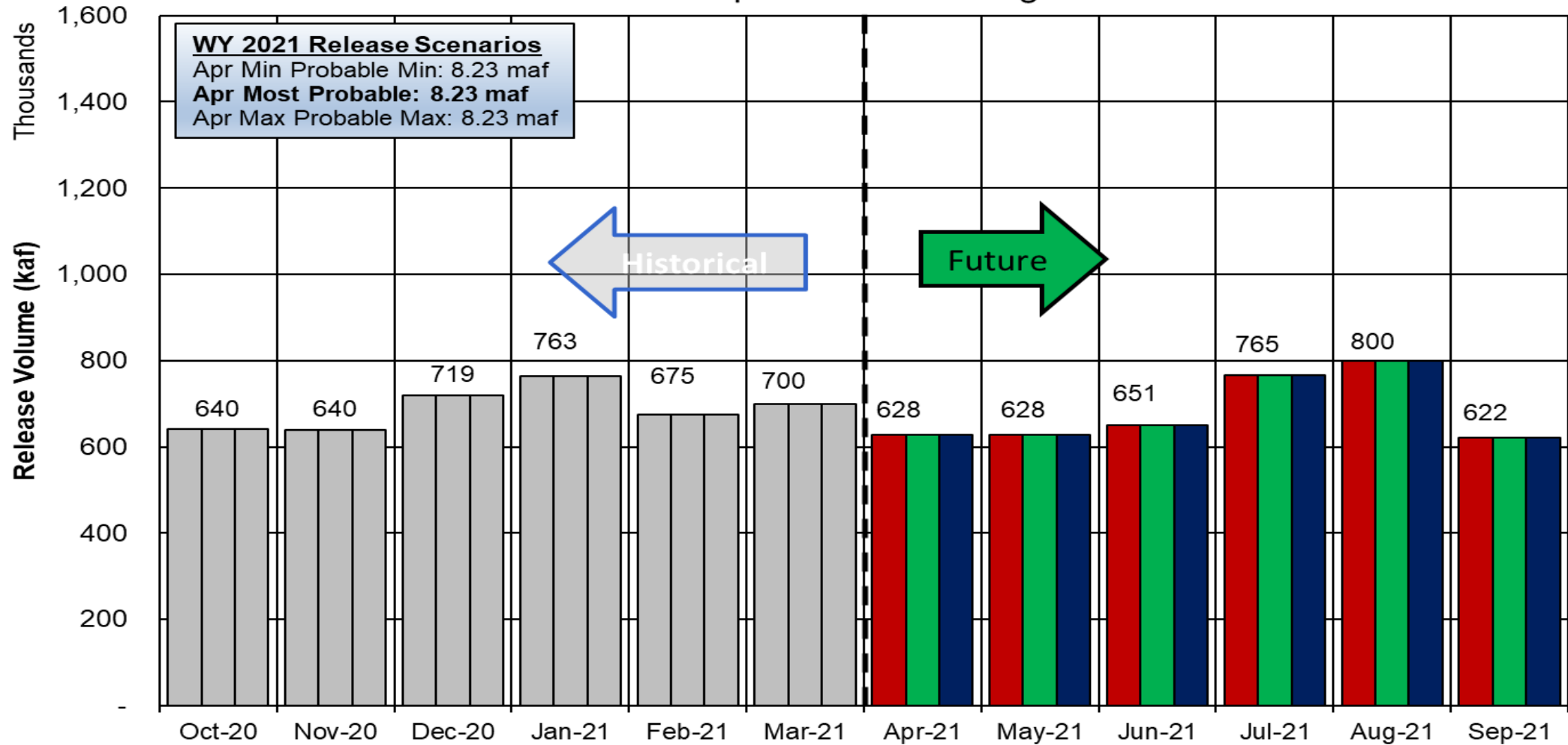
Not to Scale



Potential Lake Powell Monthly Release Volume Distribution

Release Scenarios for Water Year 2021

Based on April 2021 Modeling



Monthly Release Volumes



■ April Min Probable

■ April Most Probable

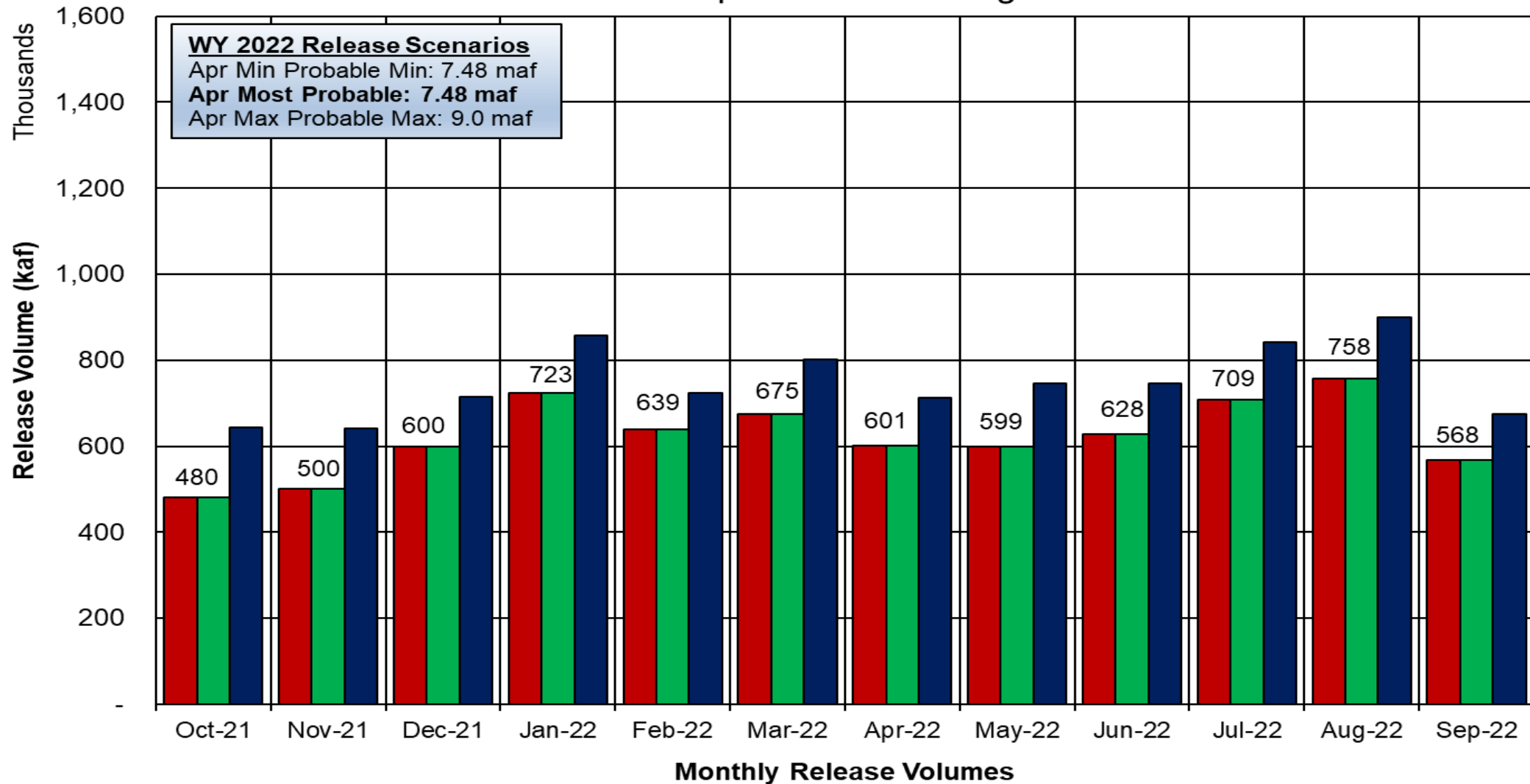
■ April Max Probable



Potential Lake Powell Monthly Release Volume Distribution

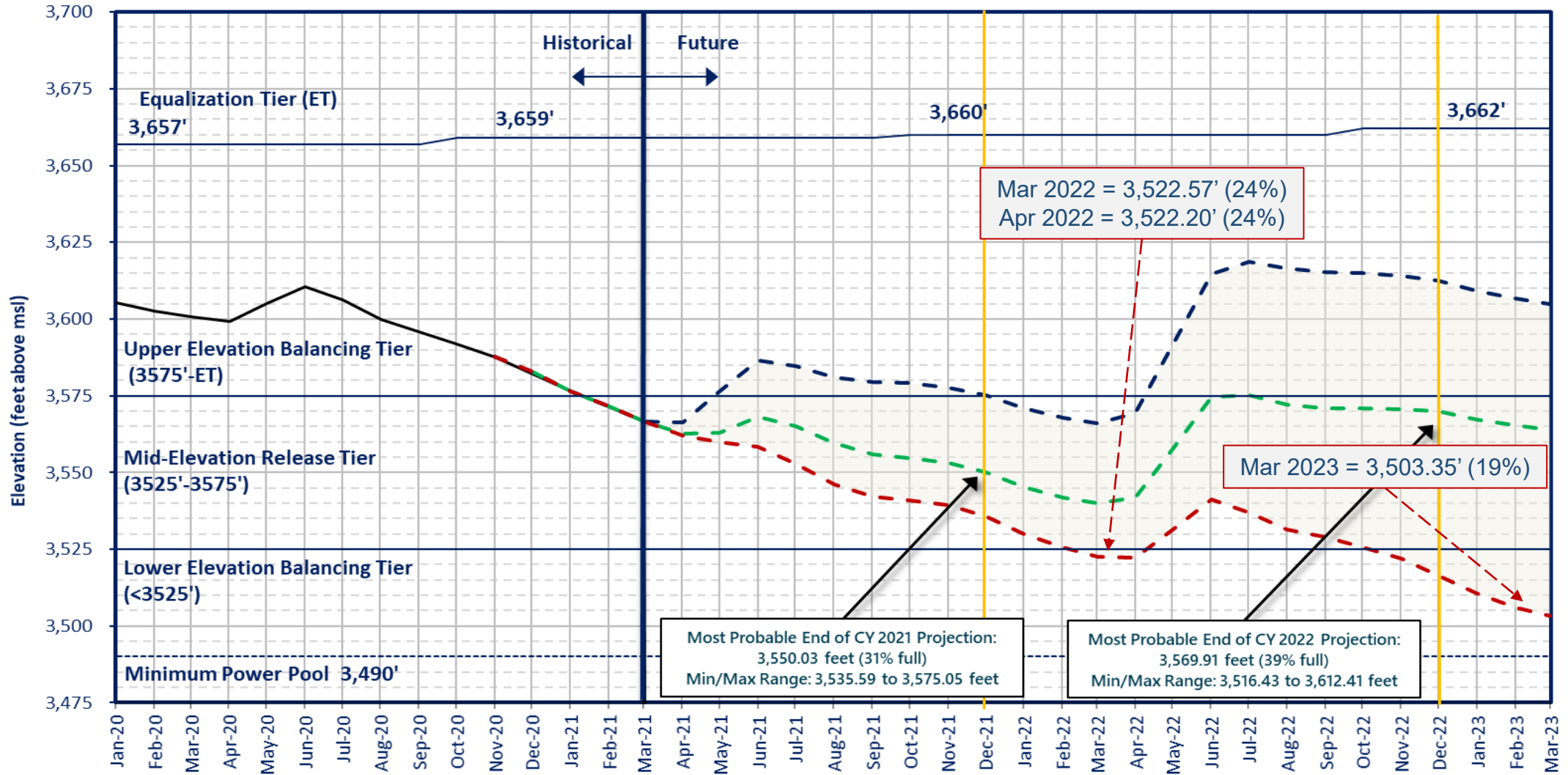
Release Scenarios for Water Year 2022

Based on April 2021 Modeling



Lake Powell End of Month Elevations

Historical and Projected based on April 2021 24-Month Study Inflow Scenarios



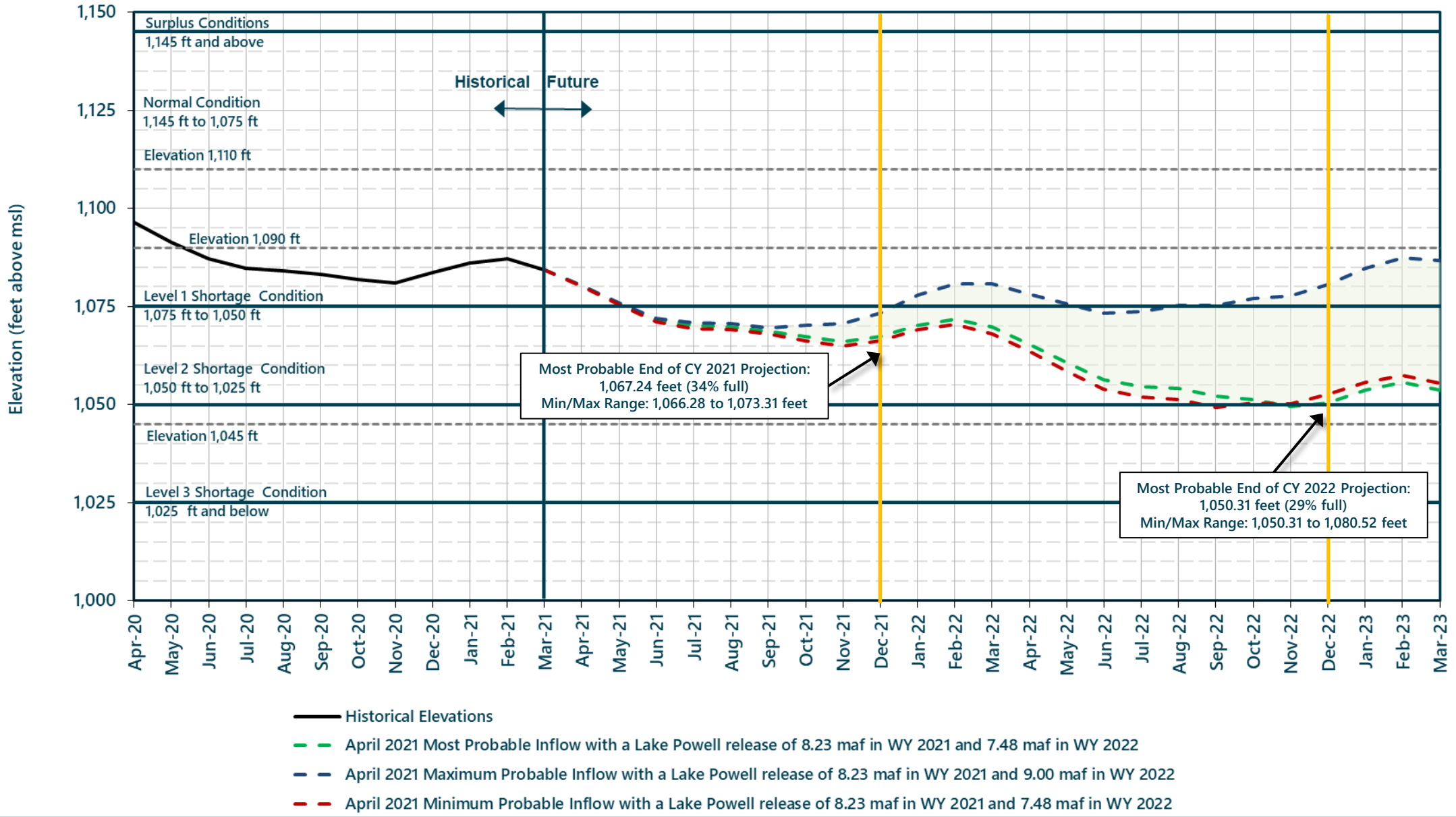
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- Historical Elevations
- Apr 2021 Most Probable - Lake Powell release of 8.23 maf in WY2021 and 7.48 maf in WY2022
- Apr 2021 Max Probable - Lake Powell release of 8.23 maf in WY2021 and 9.0 maf in WY2022
- Apr 2021 Min Probable - Lake Powell release of 8.23 maf in WY2021 and 7.48 maf in WY2022



Lake Mead End of Month Elevations

Projections from the April 2021 24-Month Study Inflow Scenarios



Glen Canyon Power Plant Planned Unit Outage Schedule for Water Year 2021

Unit Number	Oct 2020	Nov 2020	Dec 2020	Jan 2021	Feb 2021	Mar 2021	Apr 2021	May 2021	Jun 2021	Jul 2021	Aug 2021	Sep 2021	
1	[Outage]												[Outage]
2	[Outage]												[Outage]
3	[Outage]											[Outage]	
4	[Outage]											[Outage]	
5		[Outage]						[Outage]					
6		[Outage]											
7	[Outage]						[Outage]						
8							[Outage]						
Units Available	5	5/4	6	6	6	6/4	4	5	6	6	6	4	
Capacity (cfs)	16,400	16,400/ 12,200	19,800	19,600	19,500	19,400 (20,150) ⁴	19,200	15,700	19,400	19,300	19,100	12,000	APR MOST ³
Capacity (kaf/month)	1,040	1,140	1,250	1,220	1,080	1,540	1,140	1,050	1,150	1,190	1,180	1,010	APR MOST
Max (kaf) ²	640	640	720	763	675	700	628	628	651	765	800	620	8.23
Most (kaf) ¹	640	640	720	763	675	700	628	628	651	765	800	620	8.23
Min (kaf) ²	640	640	720	760	680	700	628	628	651	765	800	620	8.23
										(updated 04-22-2021)			

- 1 Projected release, based on April 2021 Most Probable Inflow Projections and 24-Month Study model runs.
- 2 Projected release, based on April 2021 Min and Max Probable Inflow Projections and 24-Month Study model runs.
- 3 Dependent upon availability to shift contingency reserves, which will increase capacity by 30-40MW (3%) at current efficiency.
- 4 Increased capacity available from shifting contingency reserves for Spring Disturbance Flow.

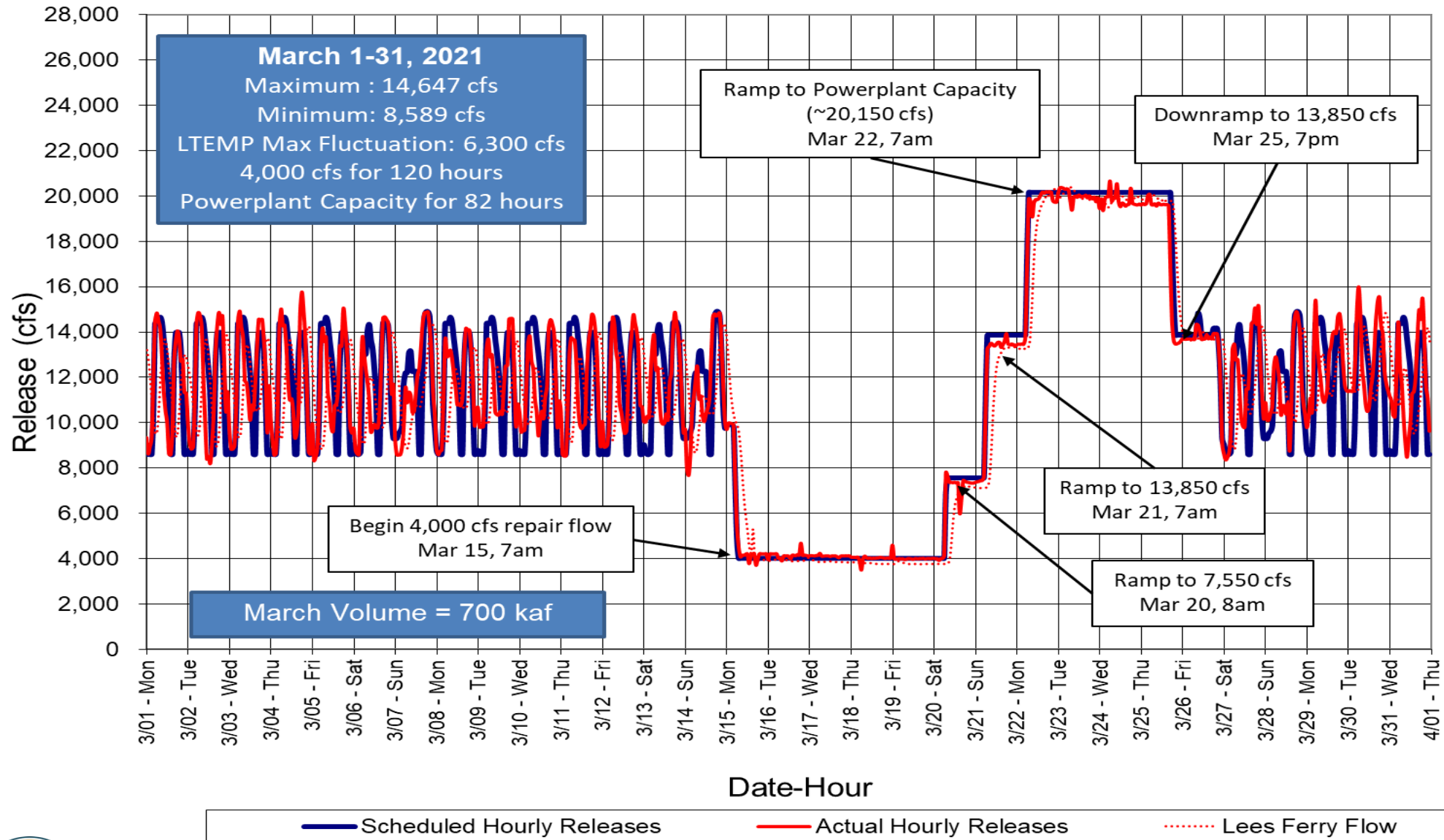


Glen Canyon Power Plant Planned Unit Outage Schedule for Water Year 2022

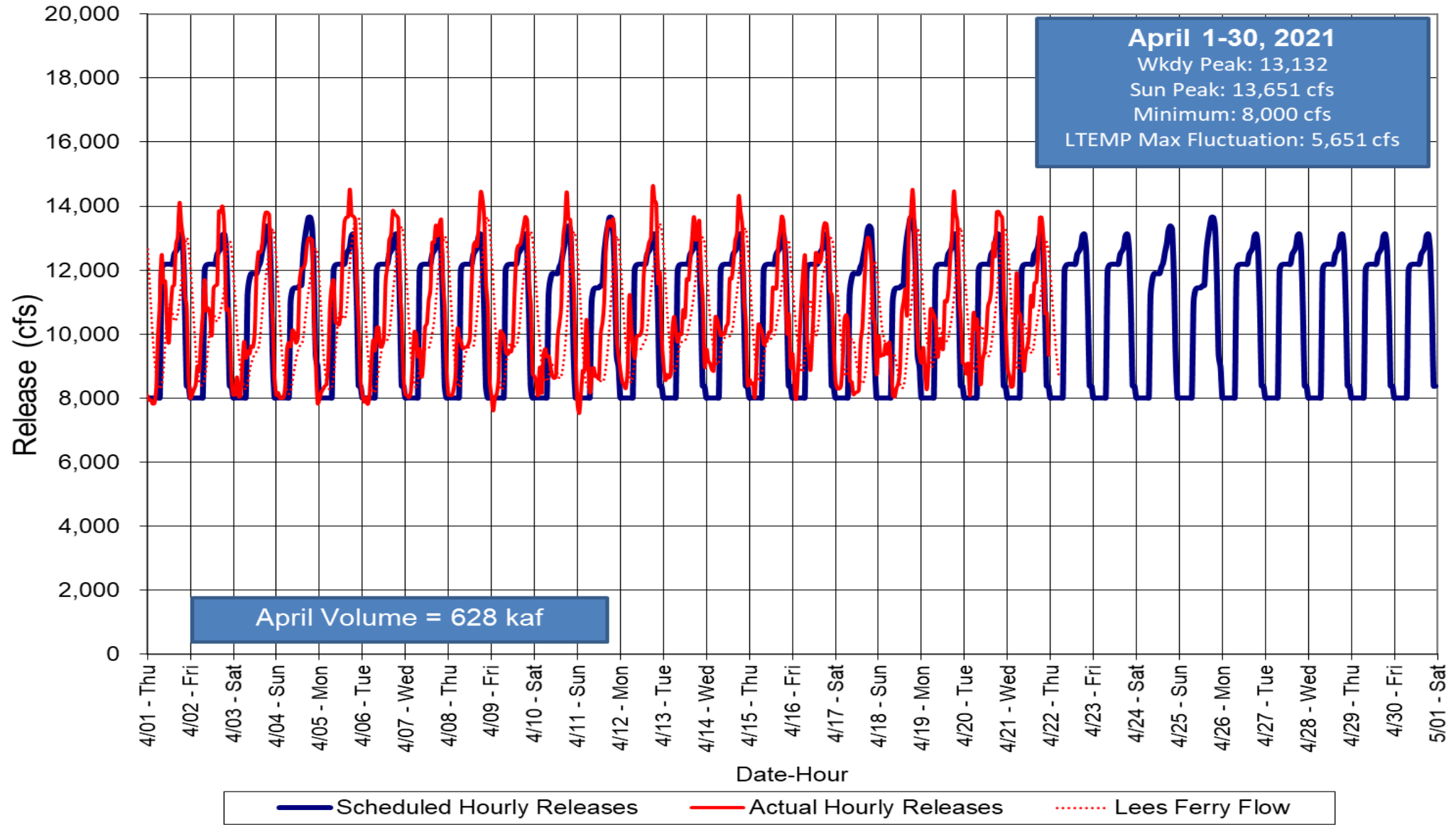
Unit Number	Oct 2021	Nov 2021	Dec 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	May 2022	Jun 2022	Jul 2022	Aug 2022	Sep 2022	
1	■											■	
2	■											■	
3	■				■								
4	■				■			■					
5					■			■					
6					■			■					
7			■		■								
8					■								
Units Available	4/6	6/5	5/6	6/4	4	6	6	5	6	6	8	6	
Capacity (cfs)	12,000	15,500	15,400	11,800	11,800	18,600	18,600	15,600	19,600	19,600	26,700	19,500	APR MOST ³
Capacity (kaf/month)	960	1,020	1,090	1,140	720	1,140	1,110	990	1,160	1,230	1,640	1,210	APR MOST
Max (kaf) ²	643	642	715	857	724	801	713	710	745	842	900	708	9.0
Most (kaf) ¹	480	500	600	723	639	675	601	599	628	709	758	568	7.48
Min (kaf) ²	480	500	600	723	639	675	601	599	628	709	758	548	7.48
											(updated 03-17-2021)		

- 1 Projected release, based on April 2021 Most Probable Inflow Projections and 24-Month Study model runs.
- 2 Projected release, based on April 2021 Min and Max Probable Inflow Projections and 24-Month Study model runs.
- 3 Dependent upon availability to shift contingency reserves, which will increase capacity by 30-40MW (3%) at current efficiency.

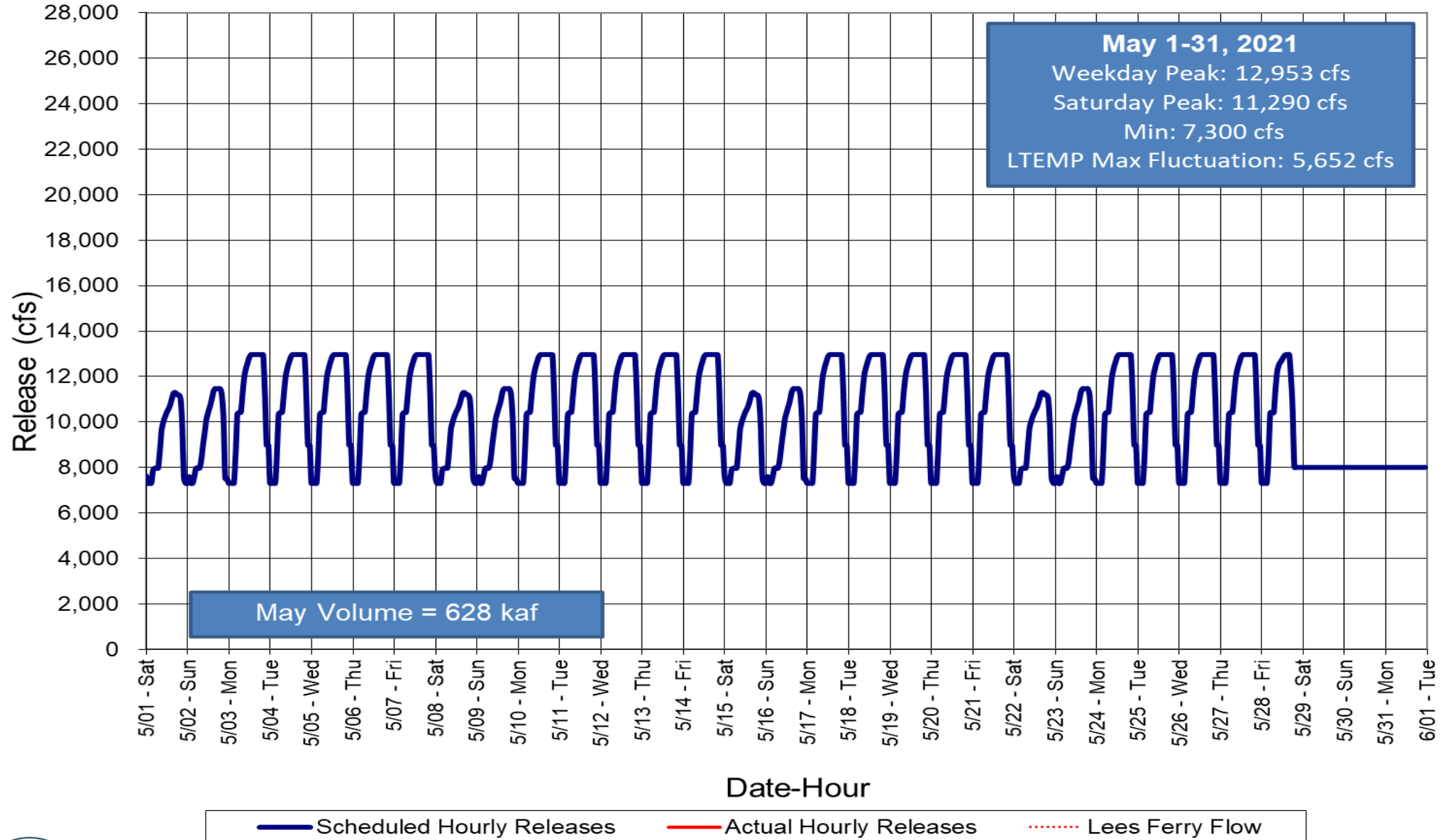
Glen Canyon Dam Hourly Release Pattern March 2021



Glen Canyon Dam Hourly Release Pattern April 2021



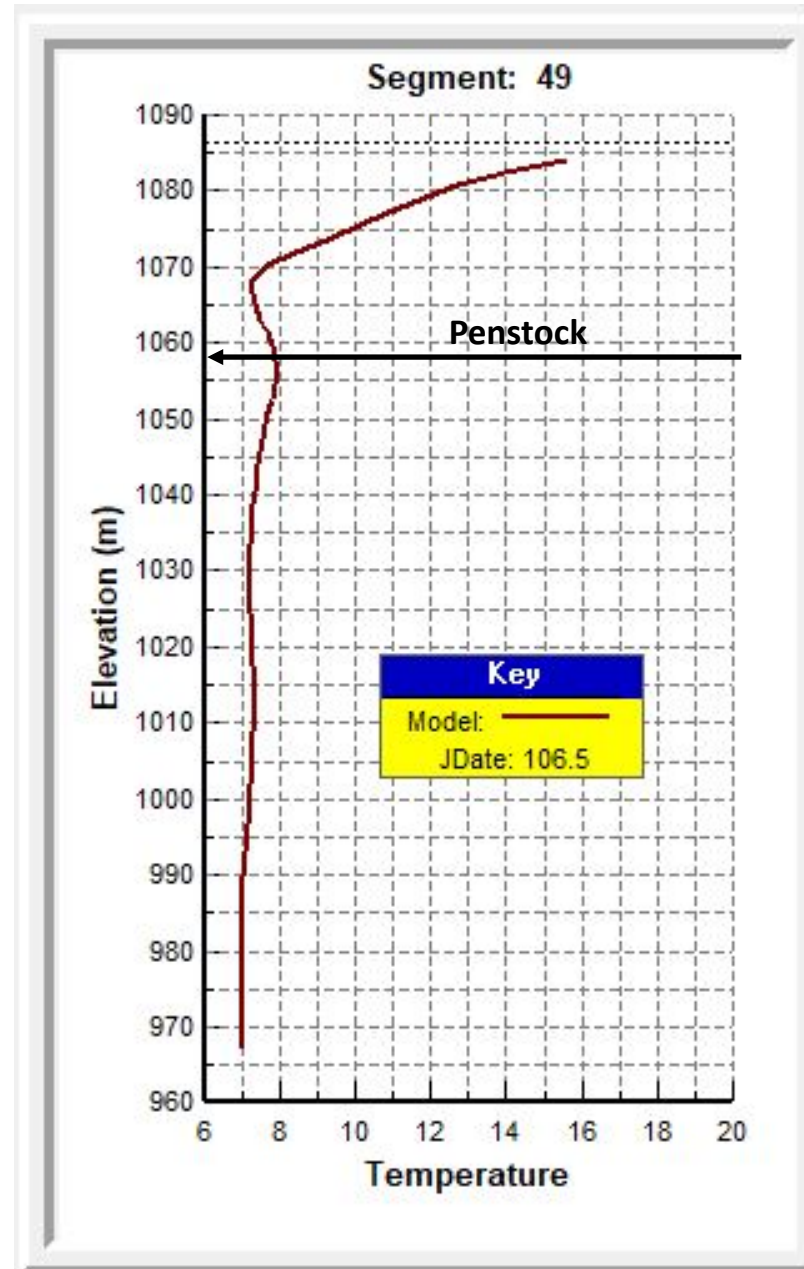
Glen Canyon Dam Hourly Release Pattern May 2021



Water Quality

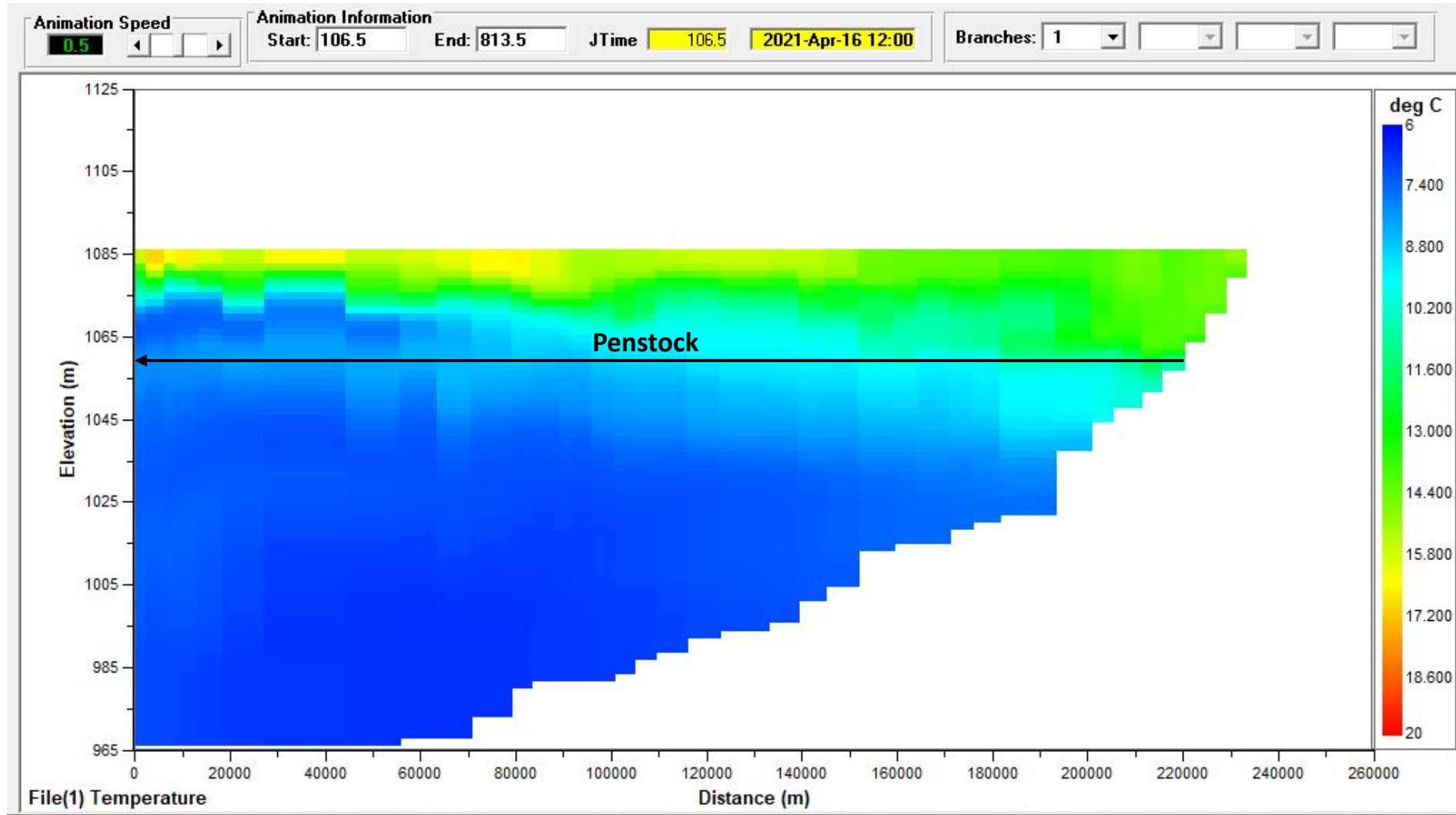


Temperature Profile of Lake Powell near Glen Canyon Dam
4/16/2021

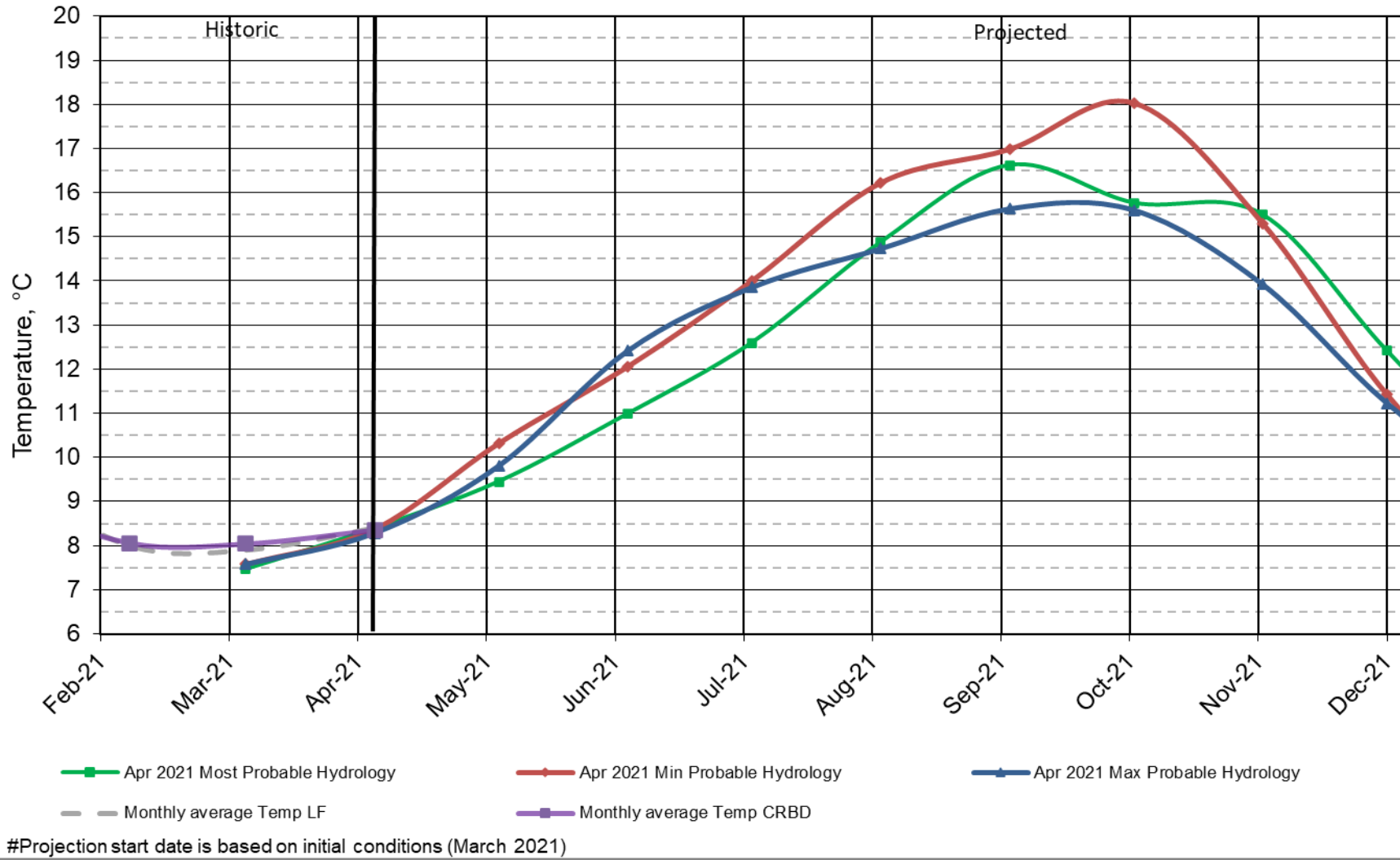


Cross Sectional Temperature Profile of Lake Powell

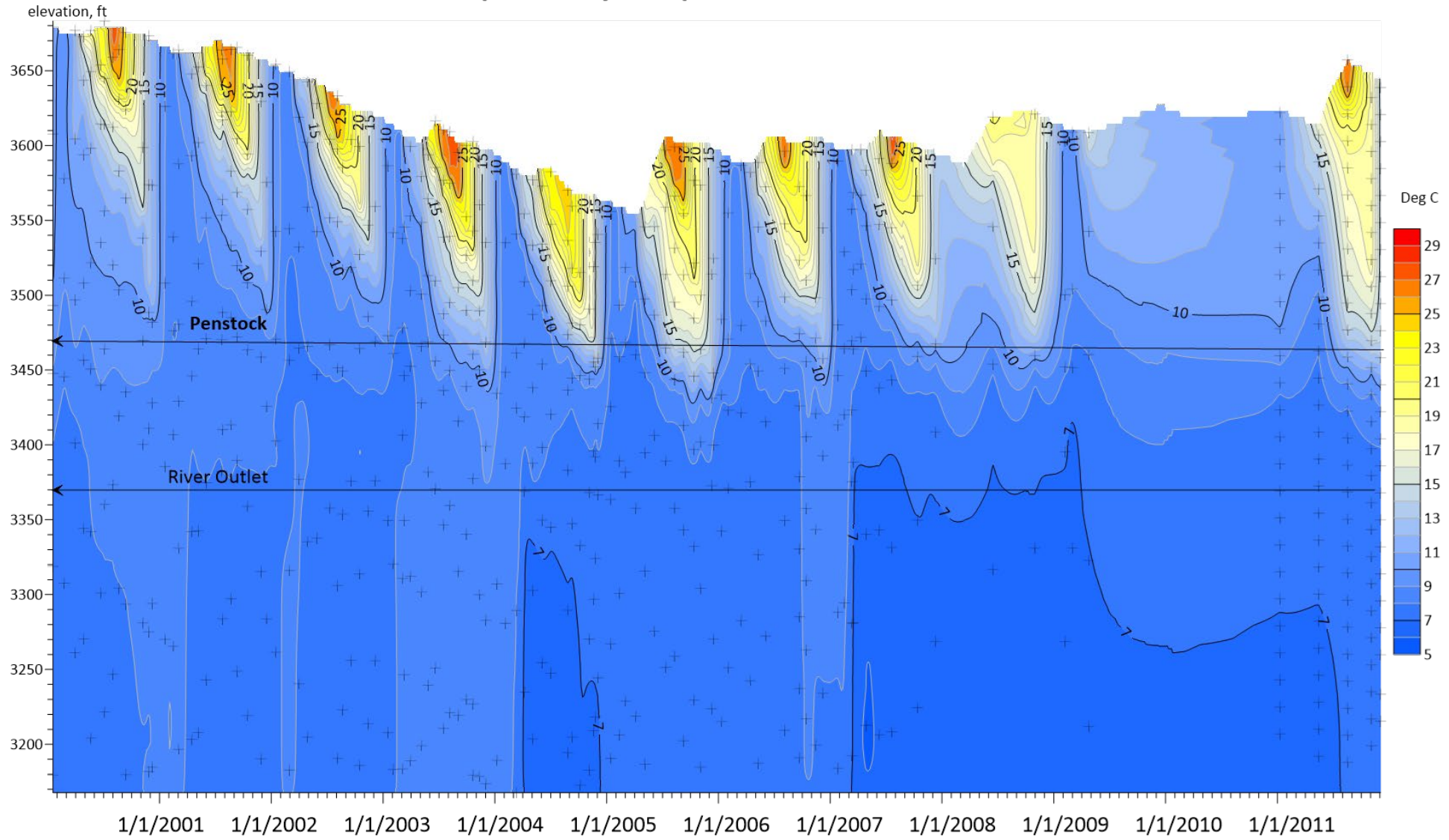
4/16/2021



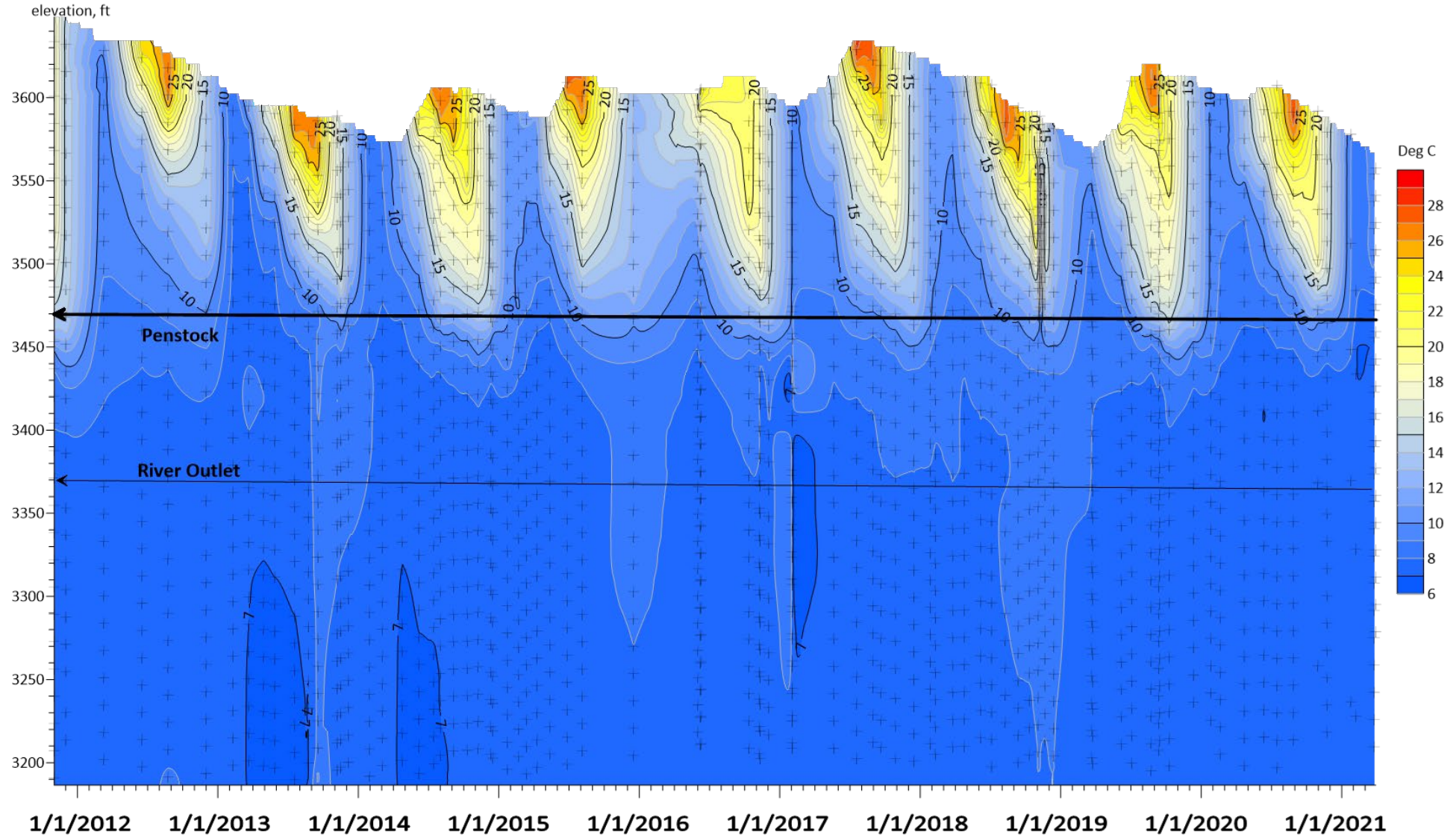
Lake Powell Release Temperature Projected Temperature based on April 2021 Forecast



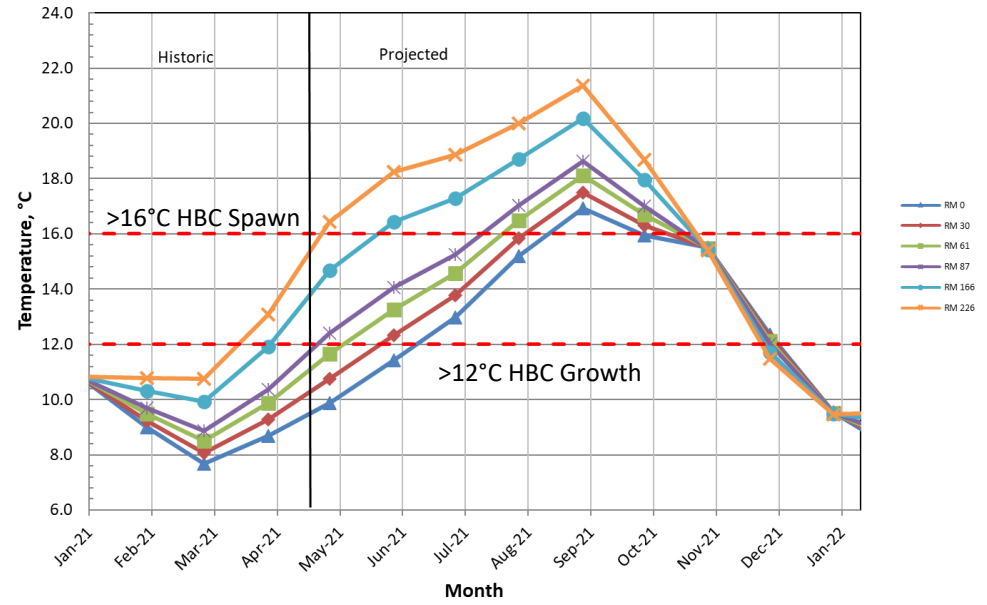
Wahweap Forebay Temperature Jan 2000 - Dec 2011



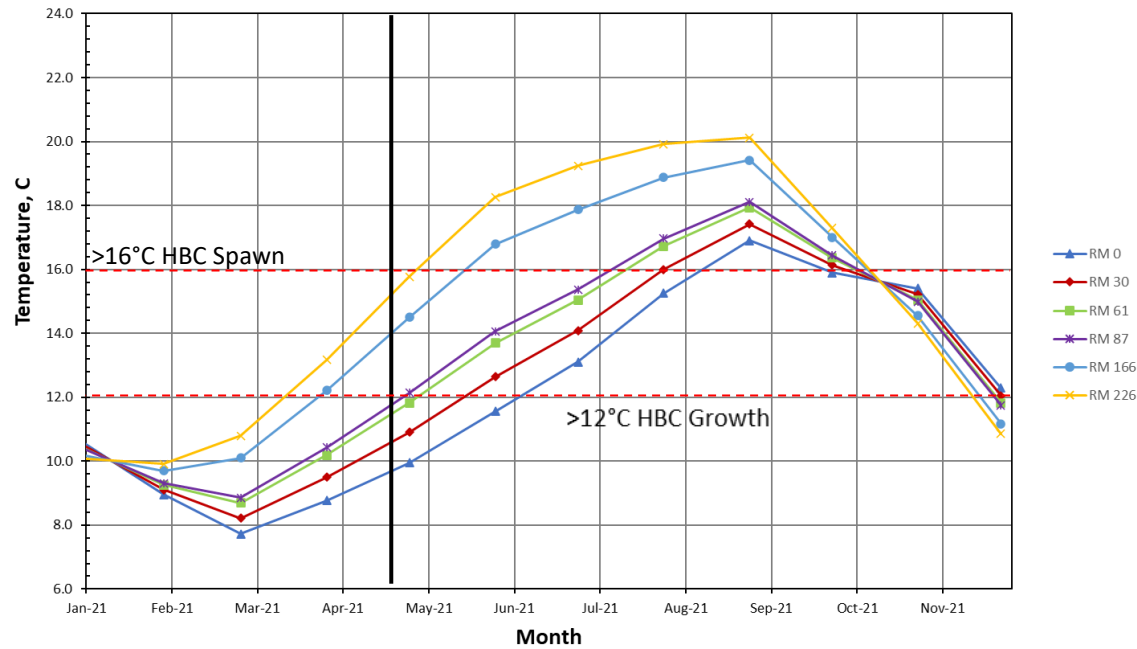
Lake Powell Wahweap Nov 2011 - March 2021

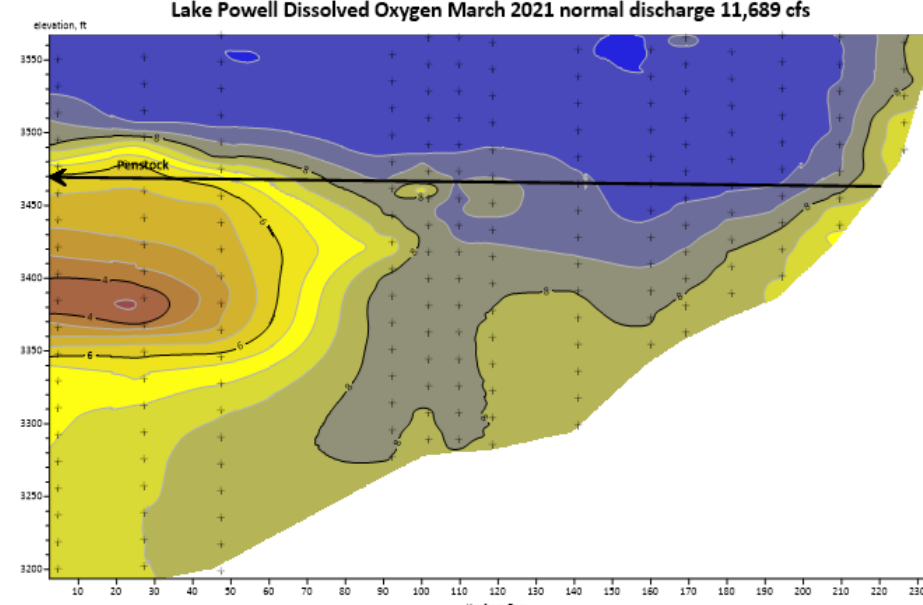
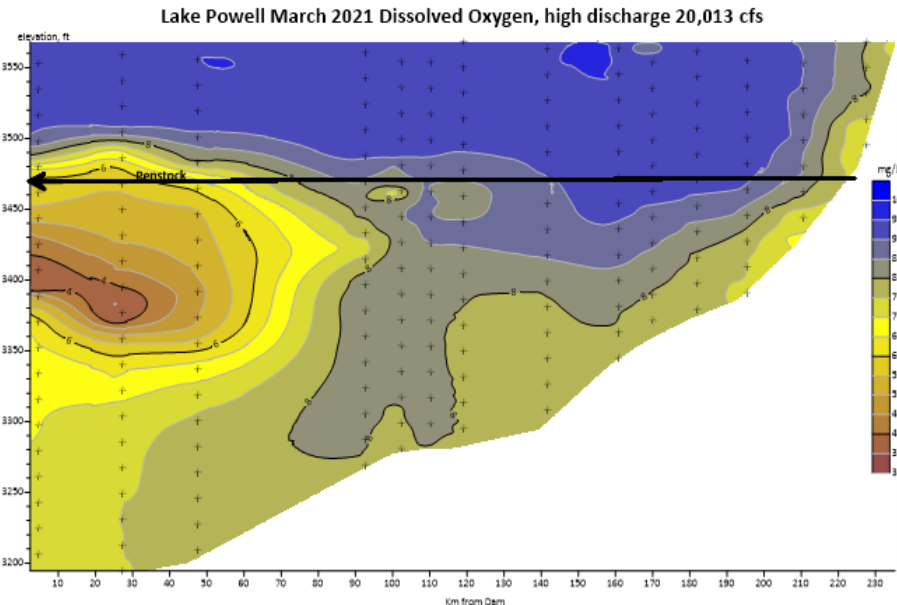
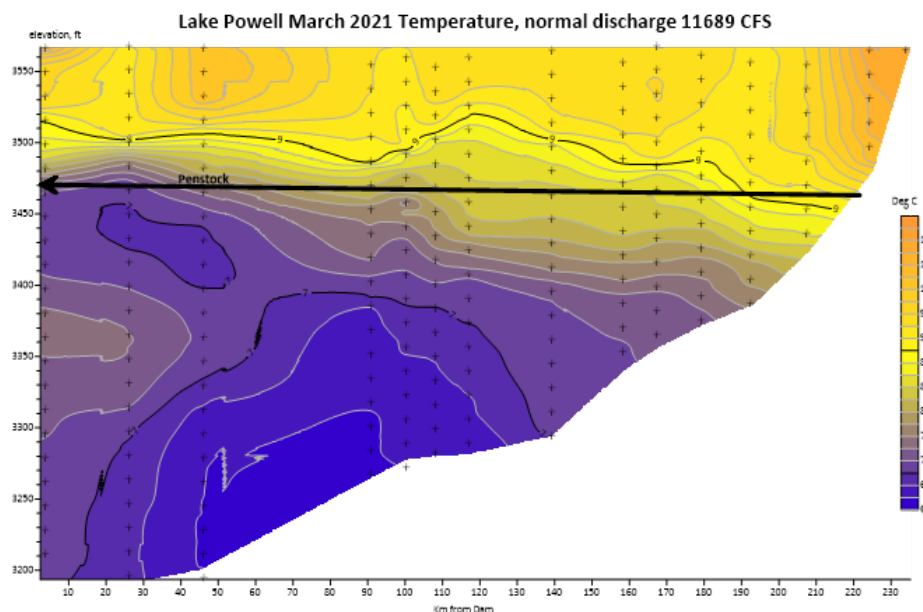
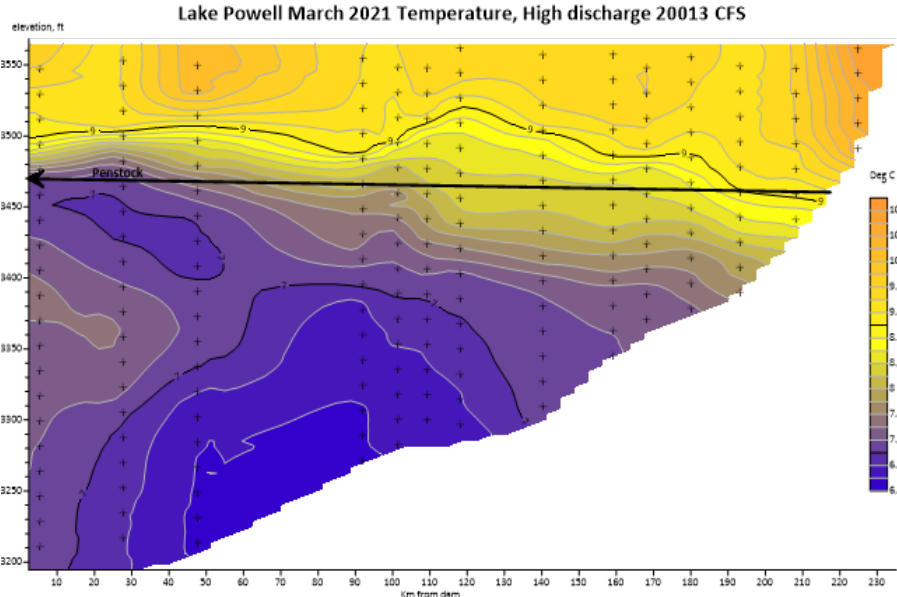


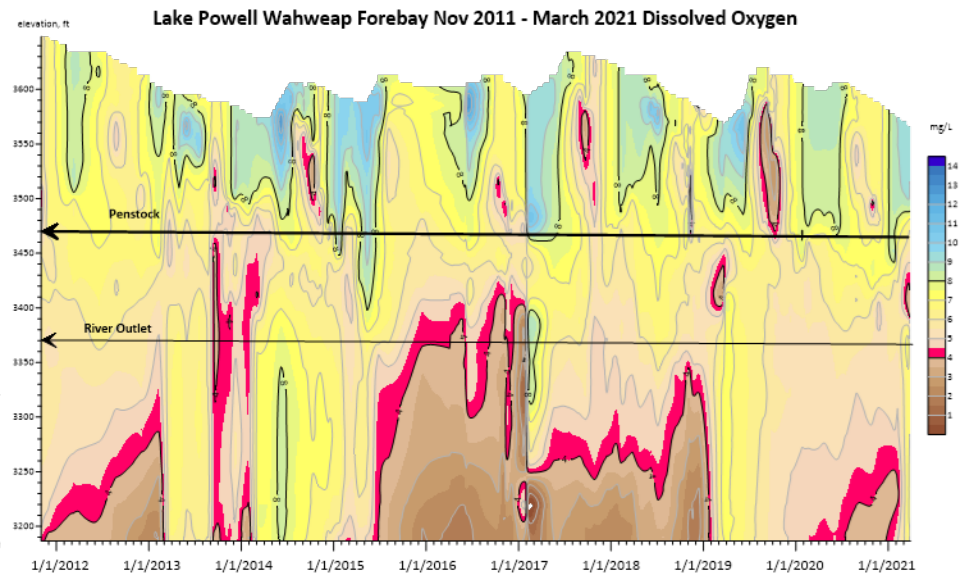
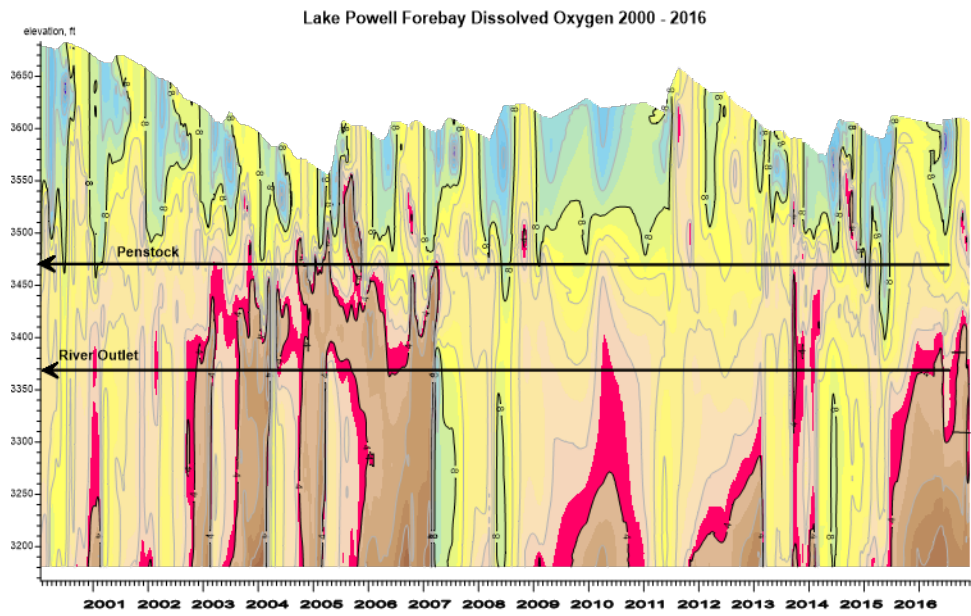
Colorado River, Grand Canyon Water Temperatures
Projections based on Apr. 2021, Most Probable Hydrology (Wright 2010)



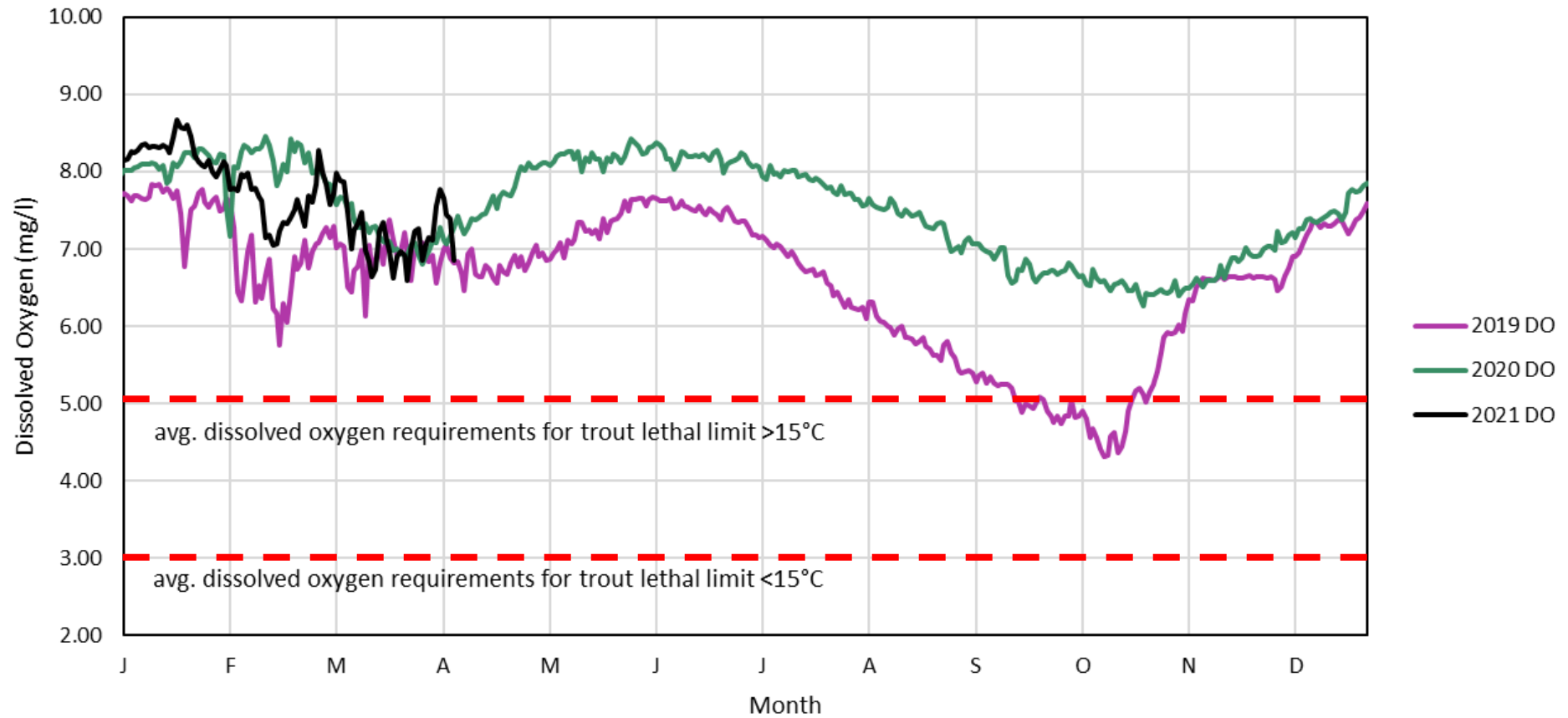
Colorado River, Grand Canyon Water Temperatures
Projections based on Apr. 2021, Most Probable Hydrology (Dibble 2020)







DO Concentration at Glen Canyon Dam years 2019, 2020, and 2021



Questions/Discussion



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