

THE EAGLE RIVER IN CONTEXT

You are



Chris Treese

 **Colorado River District**

Protecting Western Colorado Water Since 1937

Minding the Source for More Than 80 Years

- Created by the General Assembly in 1937
- Represents water interests of 15 western Colorado counties
- Area encompassing 28% of Colorado
- 80% of the water but only 10% of the population
- Board representation from each county
- Funded exclusively through a .252 mill levy & water activity enterprise



Protecting Eagle County's Water and Fighting for its Water Interests



**Eagle Park Reservoir; Eagle
River MOU**



CRCA Implementation



**Eagle River Community Water Plan
& Deep Creek W&S Investigation**



**Protecting the West Slope from New
and Expanded Transmountain
Diversions**

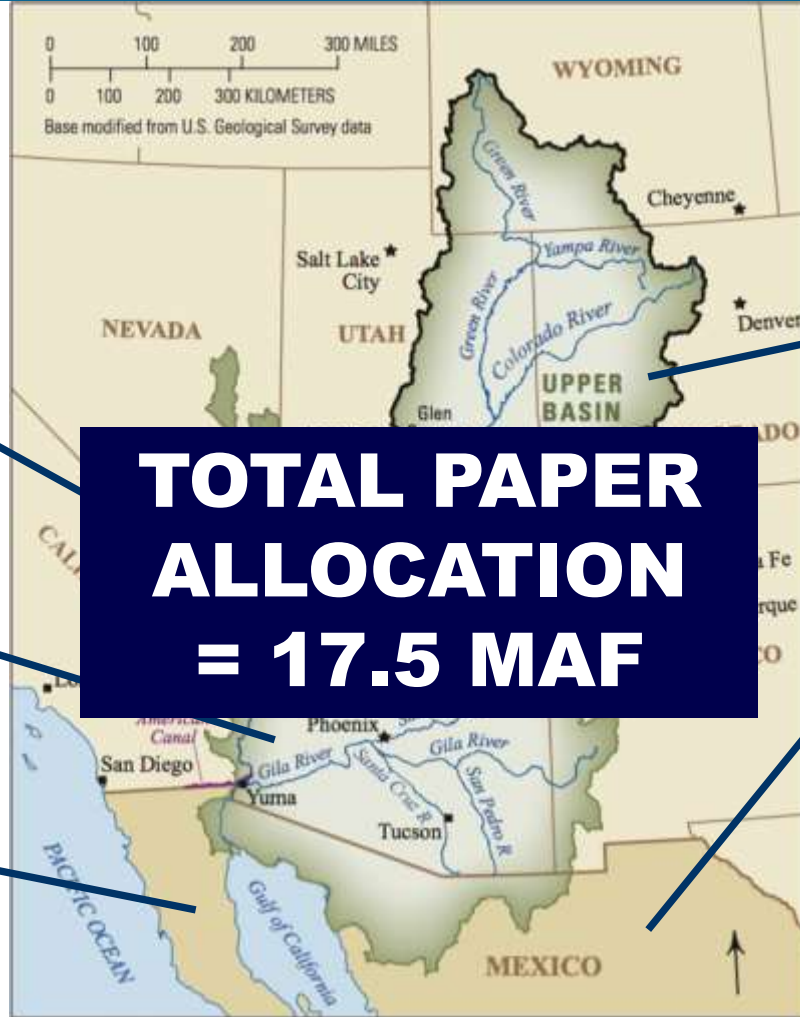
The Colorado River: On Paper

Lower Basin

7.5 MAF
Compact
Allocation

1.0 MAF
Lower Basin
Tributaries

.75 MAF
To Mexico



Upper Basin

7.5 MAF
Compact
Allocation

.75 MAF
To Mexico

MAF = Million Acre Feet

Acre Foot = 325,851 gallons

The Colorado River: Actual Use

Lower Basin

7.5 MAF

Mainstem Uses

1.0 – 1.5 MAF

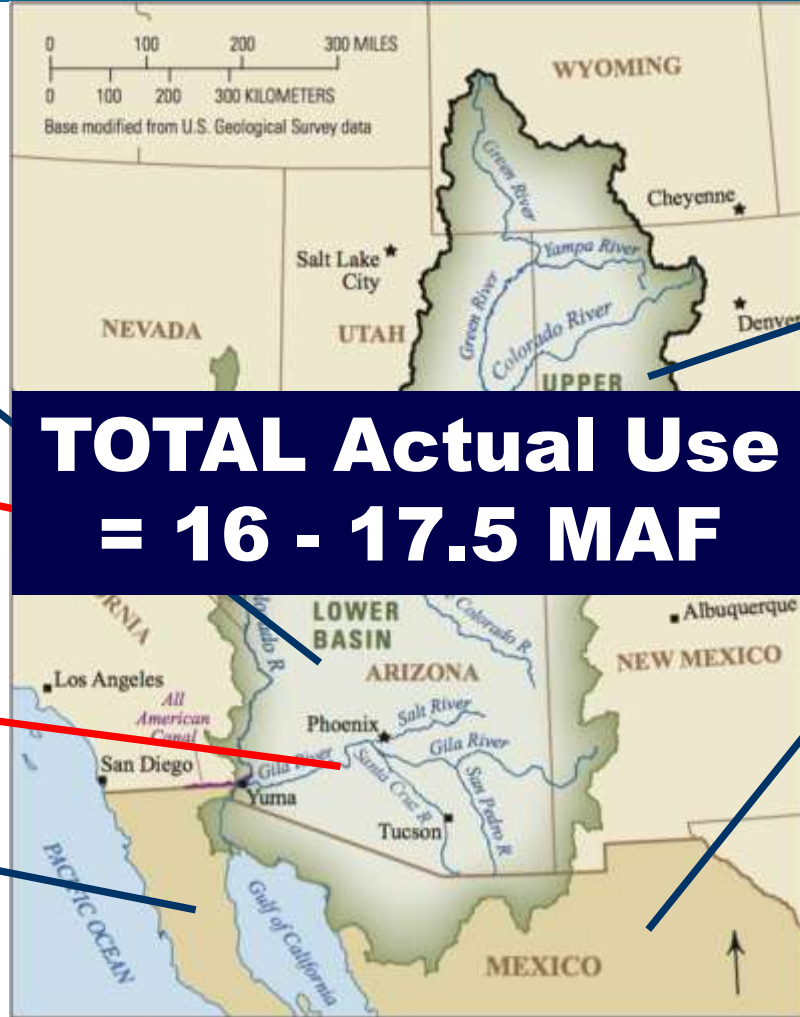
Reservoir Evaporation

2.0 – 2.5 MAF

Tributaries

.75 MAF

To Mexico



Upper Basin

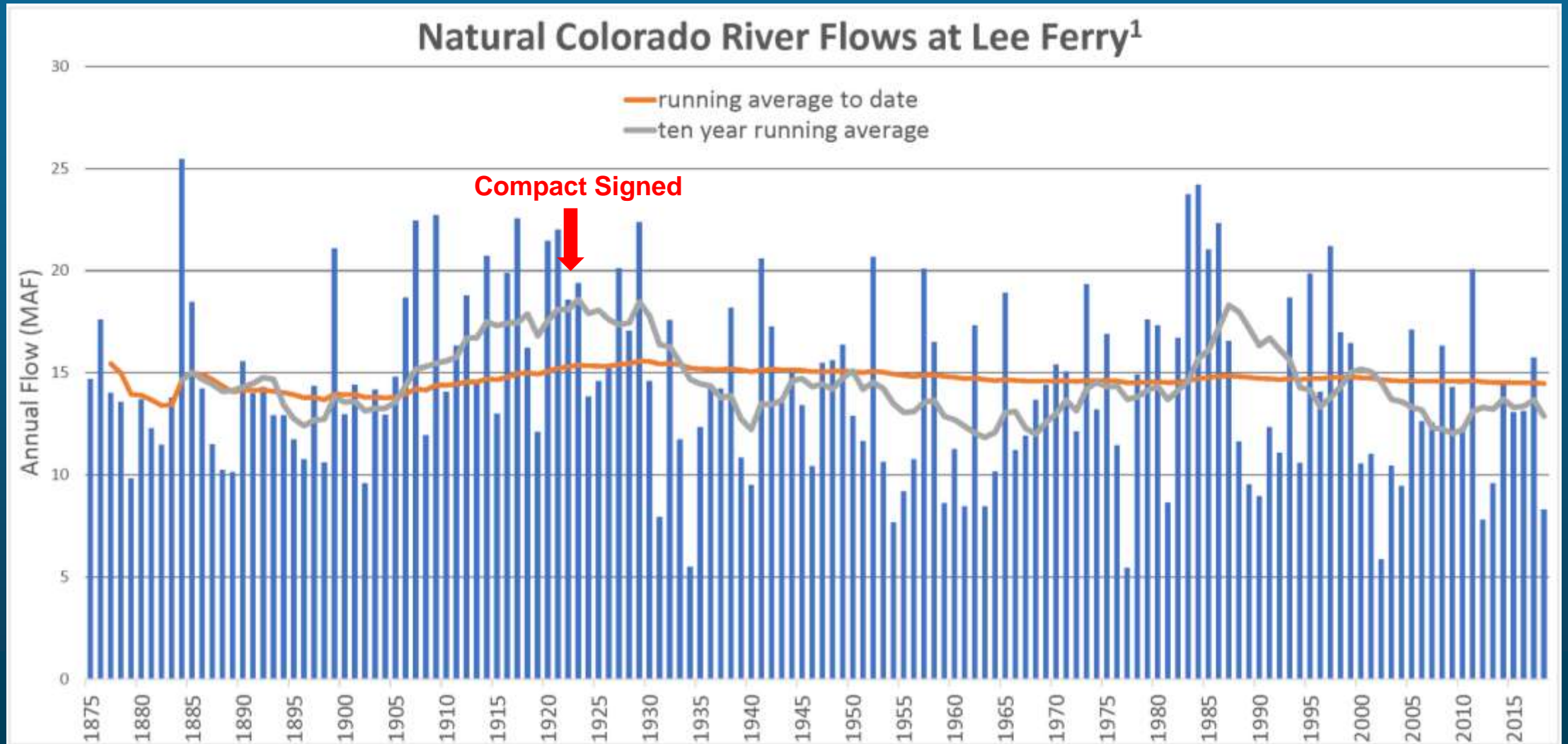
4 - 4.5 MAF

.75 MAF
To Mexico

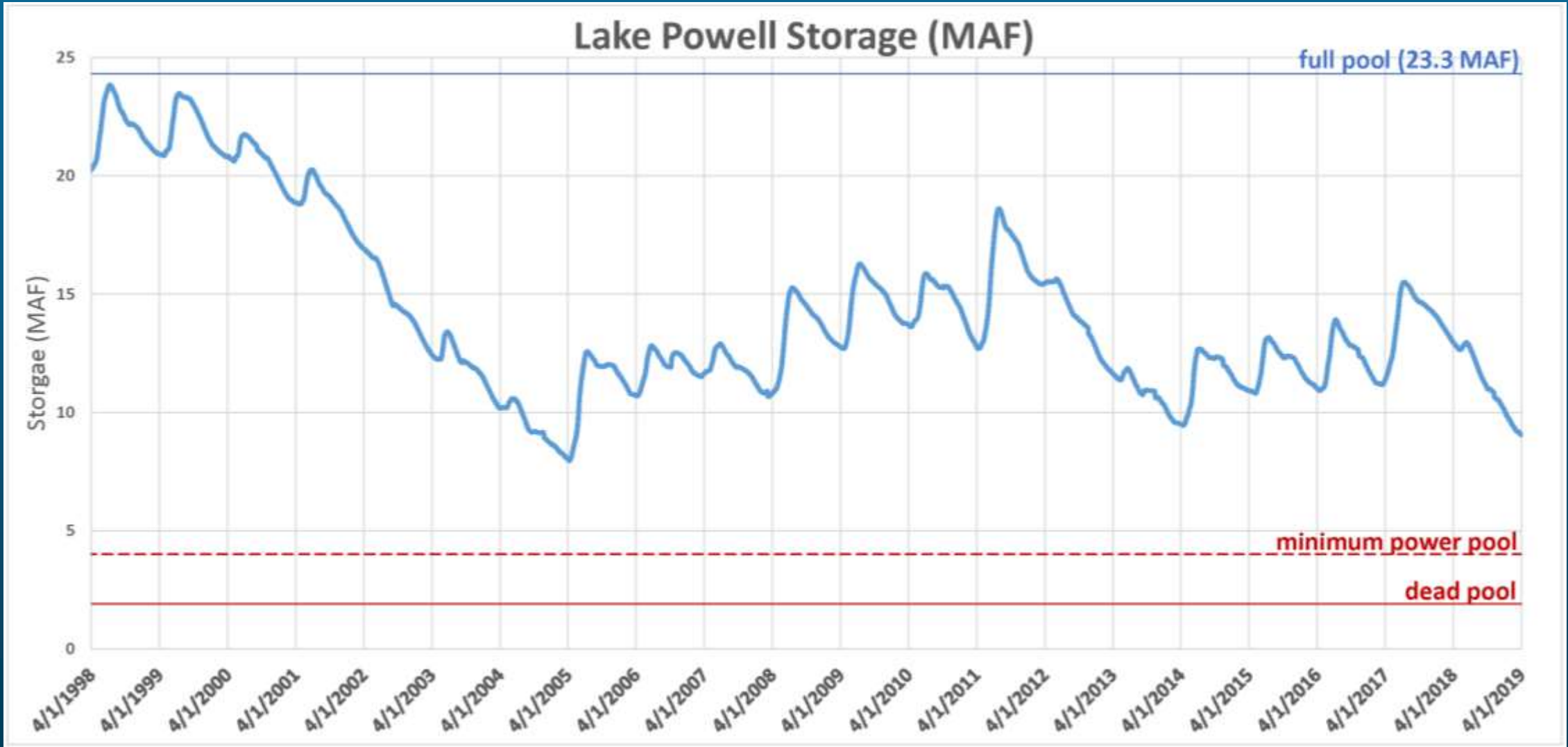
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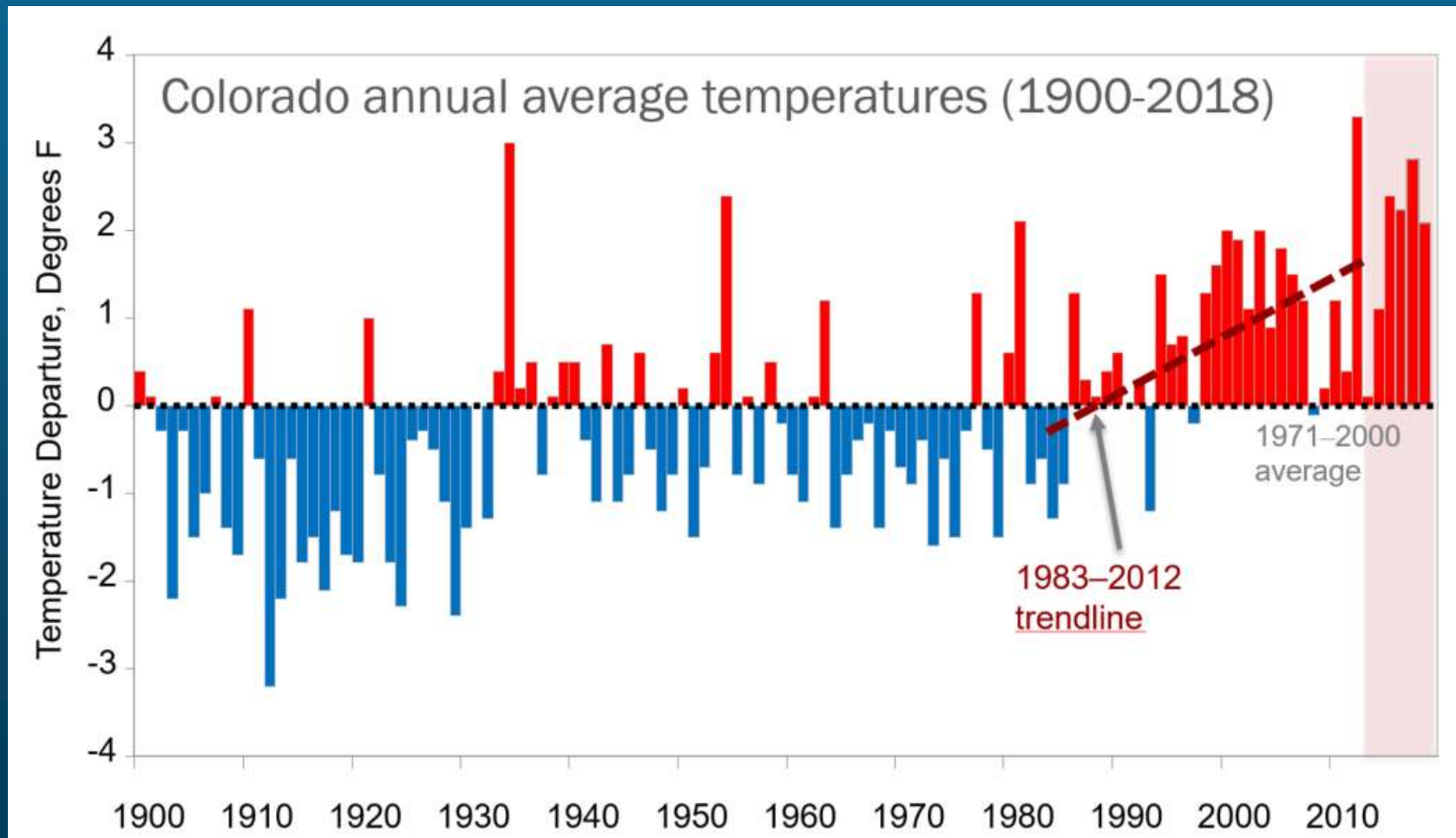
The Colorado River: Actual Water Availability



Lake Powell: We Have a Long-term Problem



Colorado Has Warmed by 2°F in 30 Years



Source: Updated from Lukas et al., Climate Change in Colorado, 2014; Data (1900-2017): NOAA NCEI; <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag/>; (2018) METDATA/gridMET (U. of Idaho) rescaled to match NOAA NCEI average (<https://app.climateengine.org/>)

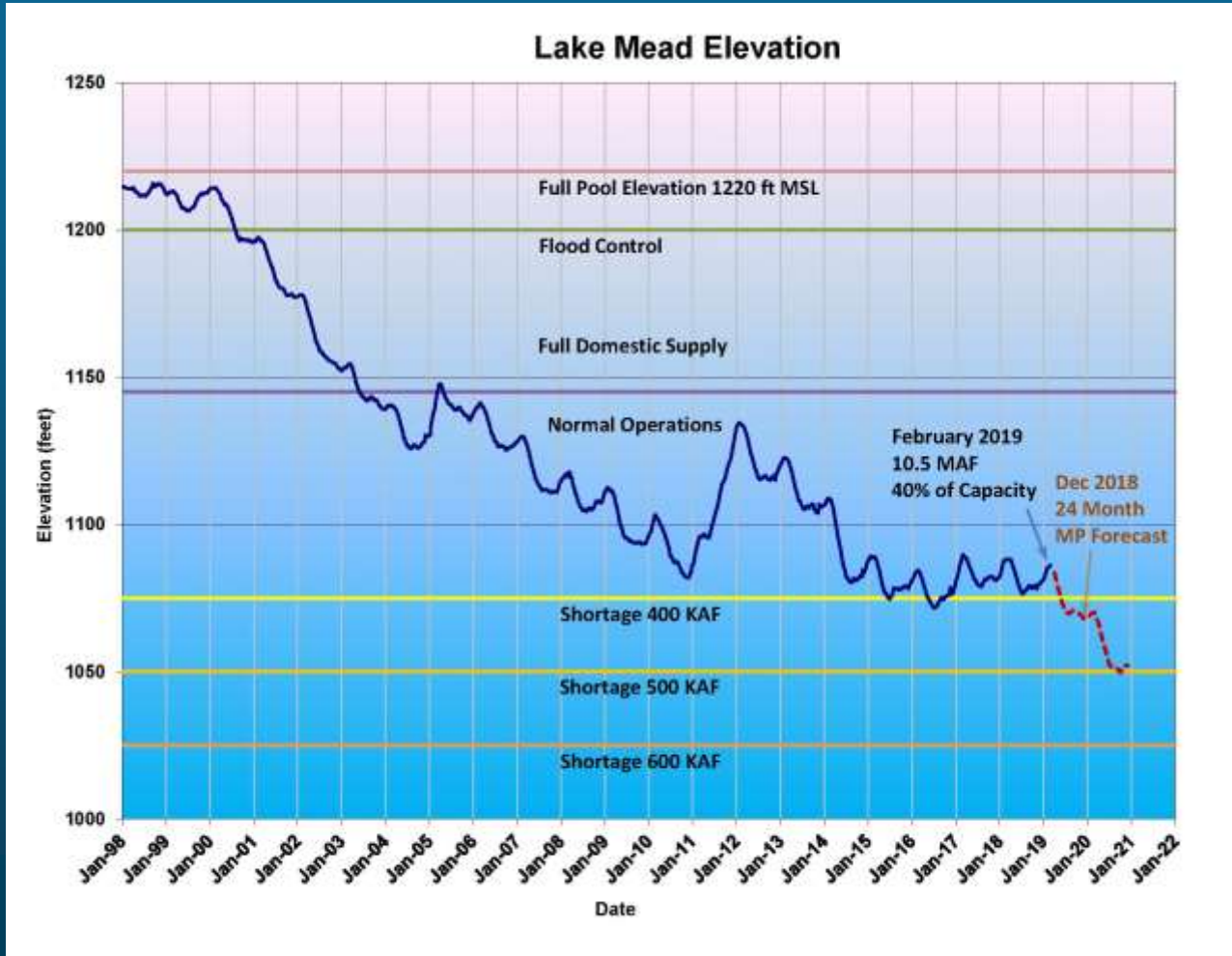
What is Compact Curtailment and How Would it Impact Western Colorado Communities ?



Lower Basin Drought Contingency Planning

Key Observations

- Agreement to Reduce Use Depending on Levels of Lake Mead
- At Lowest Levels of Lake Mead it is Equivalent to 1.1 MAF
- Good Start but Not Enough to Keep the Colorado River Out of Crisis



Upper Basin Drought Contingency Planning



CRSP Reservoir Reoperations



Cloud Seeding & Phreatophyte Removal



Demand Management

DCP: Goals and Benefits for the Upper Basin



**Non-Equalized Storage Account
in Lake Powell, Free of Charge**



**Decreases Risk of Losing Power
Production at Glen Canyon Dam**



**Increases Ability to Maintain
Compact Compliance**

Colorado's Demand Management Plan

The Colorado River District is Advocating for:

- Protection of West Slope Communities
- Must be Voluntary, Temporary and Compensated – and Proportional
- Water from All Sectors of Water User Community
- Water Pro-rata from East and West Slope
- West Slope Agriculture Cannot be the Sacrifice Zone
- Consistent with Prior Appropriation System, No Injury to Others
- Conserved Water Must Remain in Upper Basin Control

To Learn More, Please Join us in Grand Junction on September 18th.

Save the Date!

**2019 ANNUAL
WATER SEMINAR**

09.18.19
Grand Junction, CO



Colorado River District

Protecting Western Colorado Water Since 1937



Questions?

