



Consideration of Effectiveness of 2026 DROA Releases: October 2026 – April 2027

UCRC 316th Special Meeting - April 21, 2026

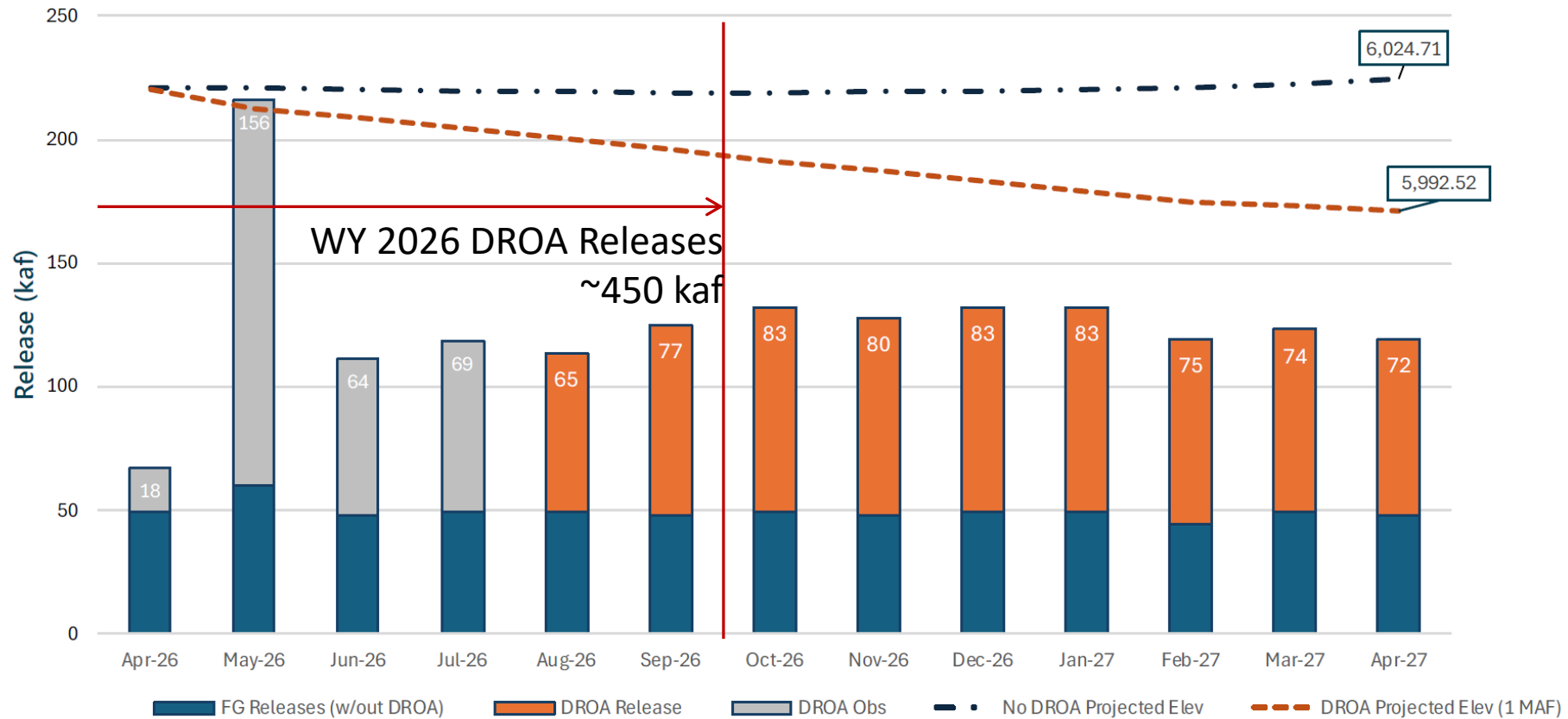
1. *I move to approve the 2026 DROA Plan, subject to a continuing assessment of effectiveness based on actual hydrologic conditions and the Secretary's conduct of reducing releases from Lake Powell, and to direct the Executive Director to transmit the 2026 DROA Plan to the Secretary of the Interior and convey the Commissions' approval. Due to uncertainty regarding Water Year 2027 operations, we are unable to assess the DROA's effectiveness beyond September 30, 2026.*
2. *I move to direct the Executive Director to provide a report on DROA operations at the UCRC Regular Meeting in June and to schedule a special UCRC Meeting after the publication of the August 24 Month Study so the Commission can assess the effectiveness of the 2026 DROA Plan after September 2026.*

From the April 21st 2026 DROA Plan:

The evaluation of effectiveness considers the DROA Target Elevation of 3,525' at Lake Powell and also the critical infrastructure elevation of 3,490' at Lake Powell. The DROA identified the target elevation of 3,525' as the level at which to begin to take proactive measures to protect Lake Powell from declining below elevation 3,490'. There are increasing risks to water management, infrastructure and hydropower resources as Lake Powell declines towards 3490'. Reclamation has identified 3,500' as the operational elevation to provide protection from declining to 3,490'. Accordingly, the analysis considered the reduction in risk of Lake Powell declining below elevation 3,525' and 3,500' in order to protect critical infrastructure at 3,490' with contemplated release volumes ranging from approximately 660,000 acre-feet up to approximately 1 million acre-feet from the Upstream Initial Units.



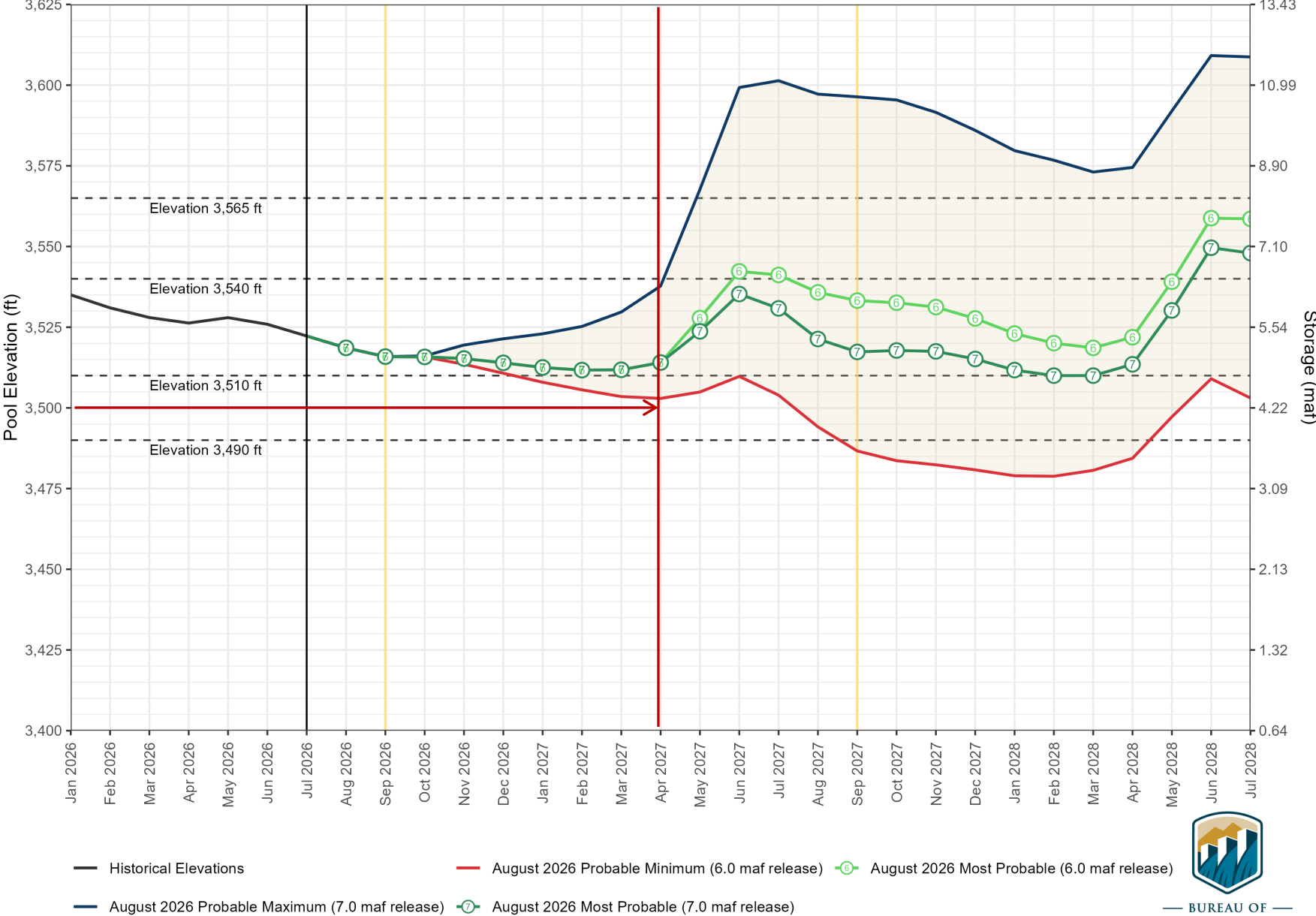
Flaming Gorge DROA Releases^{1,2} Based on the August 2026 Most Probable Scenario



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



Lake Powell End-of-Month Elevations
Projections from August 2026 24-Month Study Inflow Scenarios

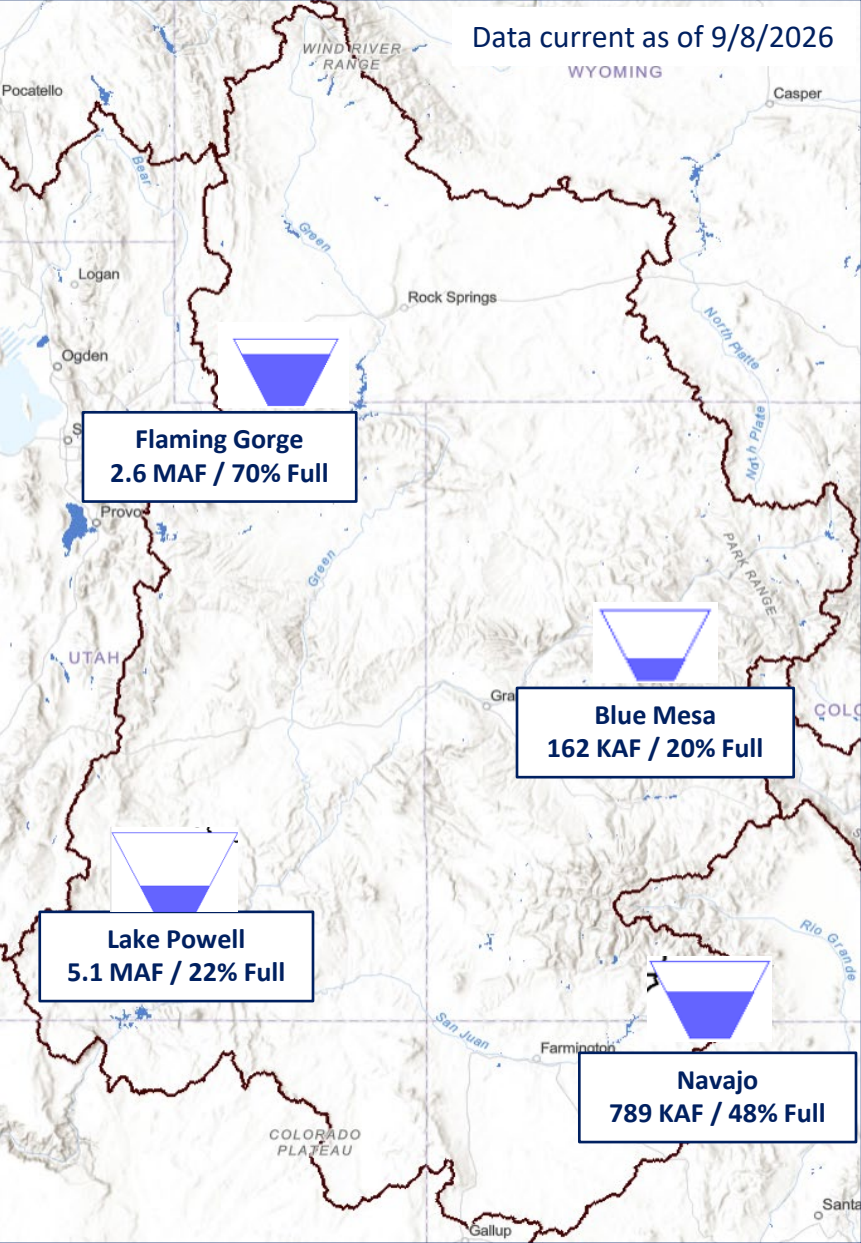


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RECLAMATION



Review of Draft Successor Agreement to DROA: Framework for UIU Releases and Recovery Operations (FURRO)

Current Status of CRSPA Initial Units



2027 – 2028 Operating Guidelines: Colorado River Guidelines for Coordinated Operations of Lake Powell and Lake Mead Operating Years 2027 and 2028

Section 5.2:

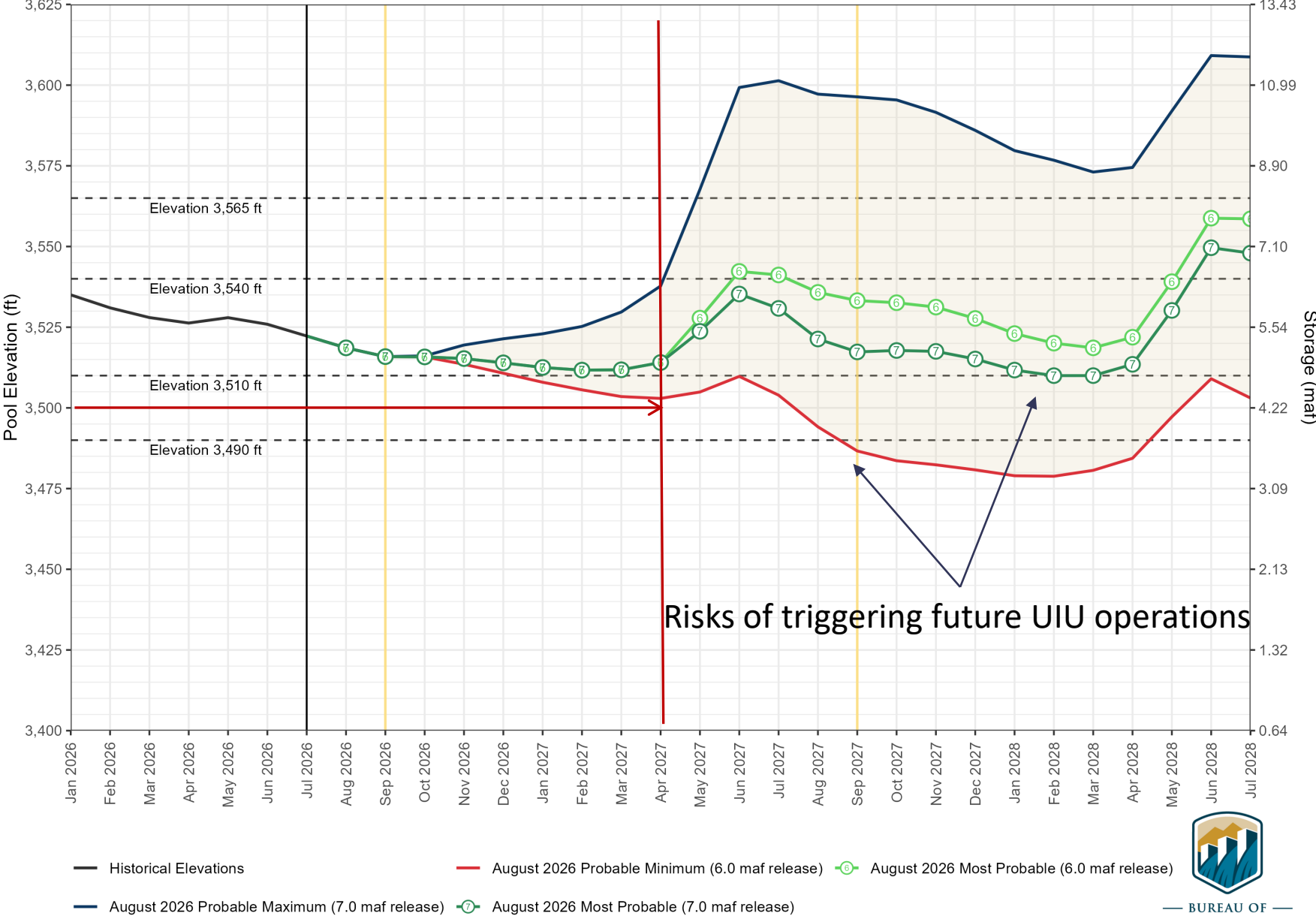
In Operating Year 2027 and 2028, the Secretary will conduct drought operations, in consideration of releases and recovery, at CRSP Upper Initial Units pursuant to the process outlined in an agreement concerning drought operations at these facilities and as referenced in this section. The provisions of this section assume that the Upper Division States reach agreement. If such an agreement is not reached by that date, the Secretary will conduct drought operations at CRSP Upper Initial Units consistent with existing authorities.

Section 5.9:

These 2027–2028 Operating Guidelines contemplate actions that rely upon necessary implementing and parallel agreements as referenced herein. Agreements are anticipated to be executed within a sufficient timeframe to support implementation of 2027 and 2028 operations, including agreements to which the United States is a party or an approver, and non-federal agreements. Namely, the Secretary acknowledges that portions of Sections 5.3 and 5.4, as described, will be implemented only when a Lower Basin implementing agreement takes effect as well as the drought operations at the CRSP Upper Initial Units pursuant to the process outlined in an agreement concerning drought operations at these facilities and as referenced in Section 5.2. The absence of such agreements shall not impair, delay, or otherwise limit the Secretary's authority to act and any Basin State or Basin Tribe or Contractor shall retain any rights as set forth in Section 10.11 of the ROD.



Lake Powell End-of-Month Elevations
Projections from August 2026 24-Month Study Inflow Scenarios



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RECLAMATION

Framework for Operations at Initial Units at the CRSPA Under Drought Conditions (aka Successor to DROA)

Outlines Planning Process at Powell, Flaming Gorge, Aspinall Unit and Navajo:

- Similar to the current planning process under DROA
- Engagement with Upper Basin Tribes
- Opportunities for input by Lower Basin States and Basin Tribes
- Consideration of effectiveness of operations
- Requires full recovery of the Drought Operation releases to complete the process
- Considers unrecovered Drought Operation releases in the preparation of future Drought Operation releases
- Propose an initial 2 Year term with opportunity to renew
- Includes termination provision

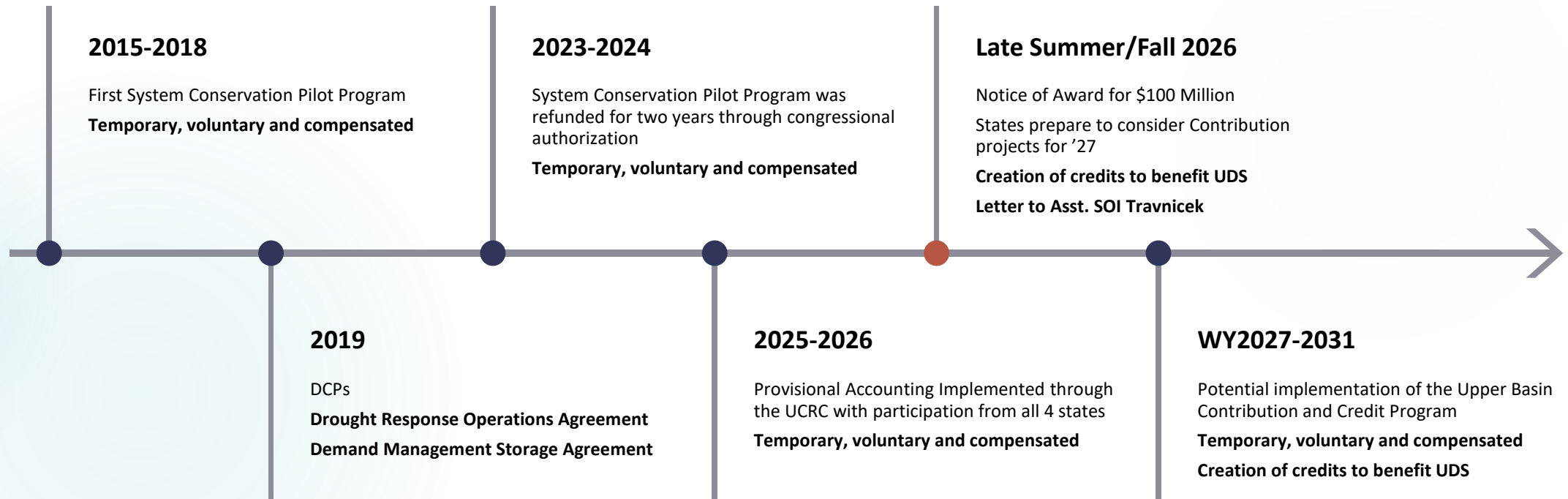
Status of Draft Agreement:

- Draft shared with BOR and Lower Basin July 10th
- Revised draft based on BOR and Lower Basin discussion
- Revised draft based on BOR and Upper Basin Tribes discussion
- Shared updated draft with BOR and Lower Basin on September 2nd - Requested LB comments by September 8th



Upper Basin Contribution and Credit Program - Status (9/14/2026)

Timeline: SCPP to UDS Contributions and Credits



Upper Basin Contribution and Credit Program



Grant Agreement

- Administrative agreement UCRC-Reclamation
- Obligates funding
- \$100 Million
- WY27-31



Implementation Agreement

- Outlines how the grant funds may be used
- Includes details on how funding flows to UDS
- Provides implementation details
- UDS/UCRC – Reclamation
- Fall 2026 timeline



Contribution Agreement

- Outlines procedures for obtaining credit
- Relying on existing authorizations
- Creation of credits irrespective of funding source
- Includes 25/26 activities
- UDS/UCRC-Reclamation
- Fall 2026 timeline



Thank You

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