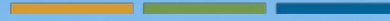


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The background image shows a large, deep reservoir with dark blue water. The surrounding cliffs are steep and rocky, with some sparse vegetation. The sky is clear and blue. A thin red line, possibly a rope or cable, stretches across the water in the middle ground.

Morgan Snyder
Program Officer
Walton Family Foundation

WESTCAS Fall Conference
Tucson, AZ
October 25, 2017

Colorado River—What is at Risk?

- 35 million Americans rely on the Colorado River water supply
- 5 million acres of irrigated farmland
- \$1 trillion annual economy

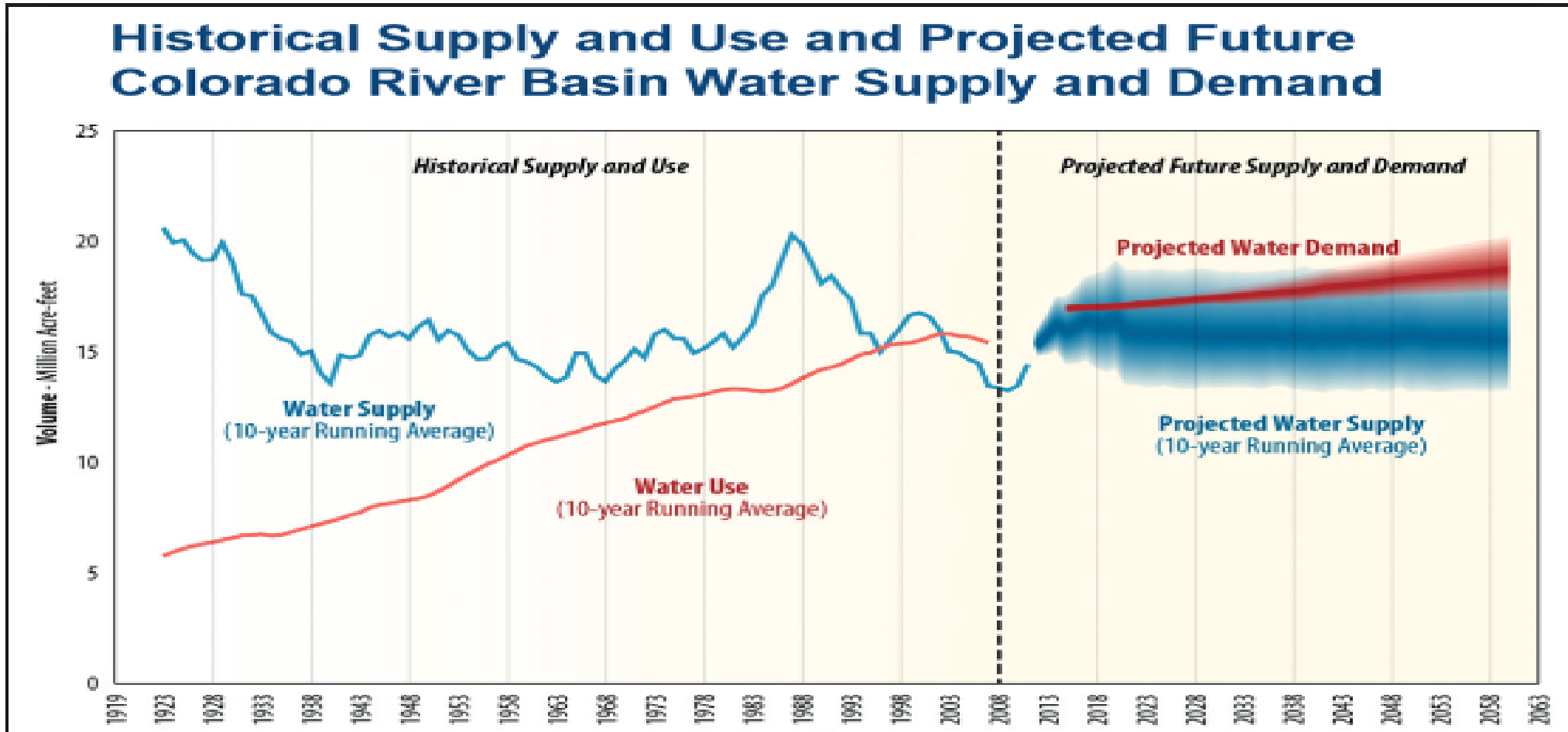


Colorado River—Challenges

- Colorado, Utah, Arizona and Nevada among the top 10 fastest growing states in U.S.
- The last 17-year period has been the driest 17-year period in thousands of years of tree records, representing a new normal.
- Water management of the river is constrained.



Supply and Use and Future Demands



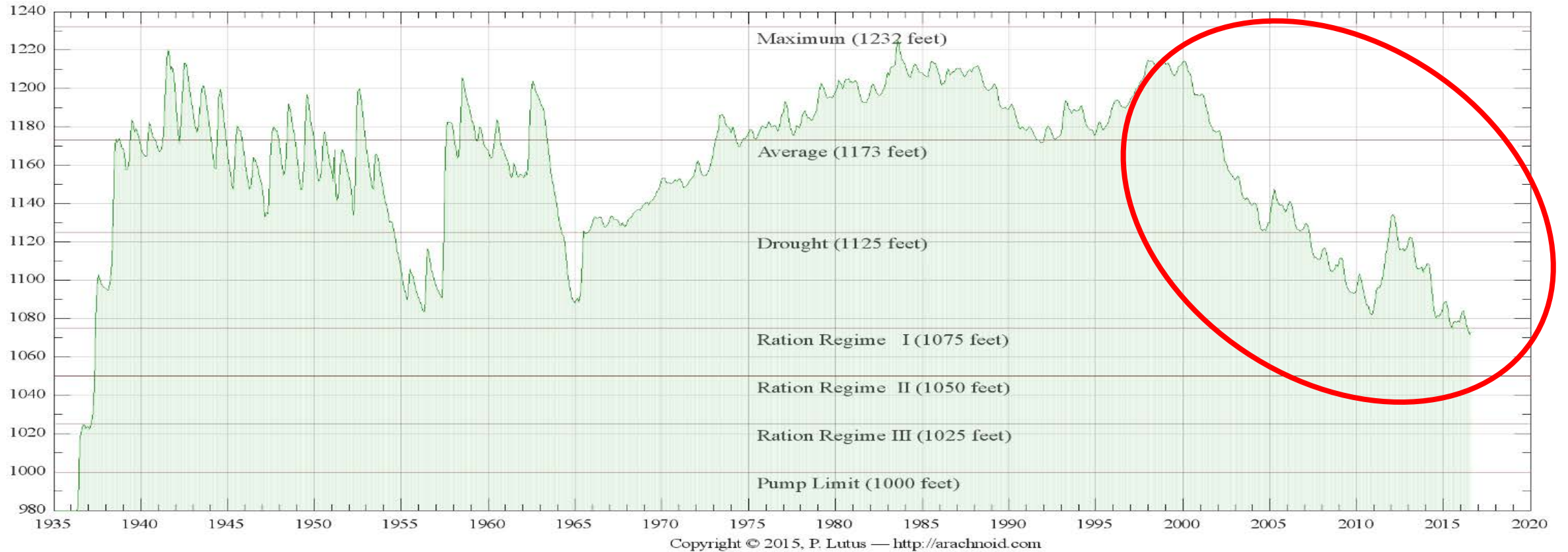
Lower Basin Structural Deficit

Structural Deficit

Lower Basin uses more water than the system normally supplies, about 1.2 MAF, causing Lake Mead to drop an average of 12 feet each year due to this deficit alone

Lake Mead Water Budget	
Inflow = release from Powell, under a “normal” release of 8.23 MAF + side inflows	9.0 MAF
Lower Basin deliveries to AZ, CA, NV and Mexico	-9.0 MAF
Downstream regulation and gains/losses	-0.6 MAF
Lake Mead evaporation	-0.6 MAF
Balance	-1.2 MAF

Historical Lake Mead levels



Walton Colorado River Strategies



Secure an effective Upper Basin drought contingency plan



Improve agricultural and urban conservation through public and private financing

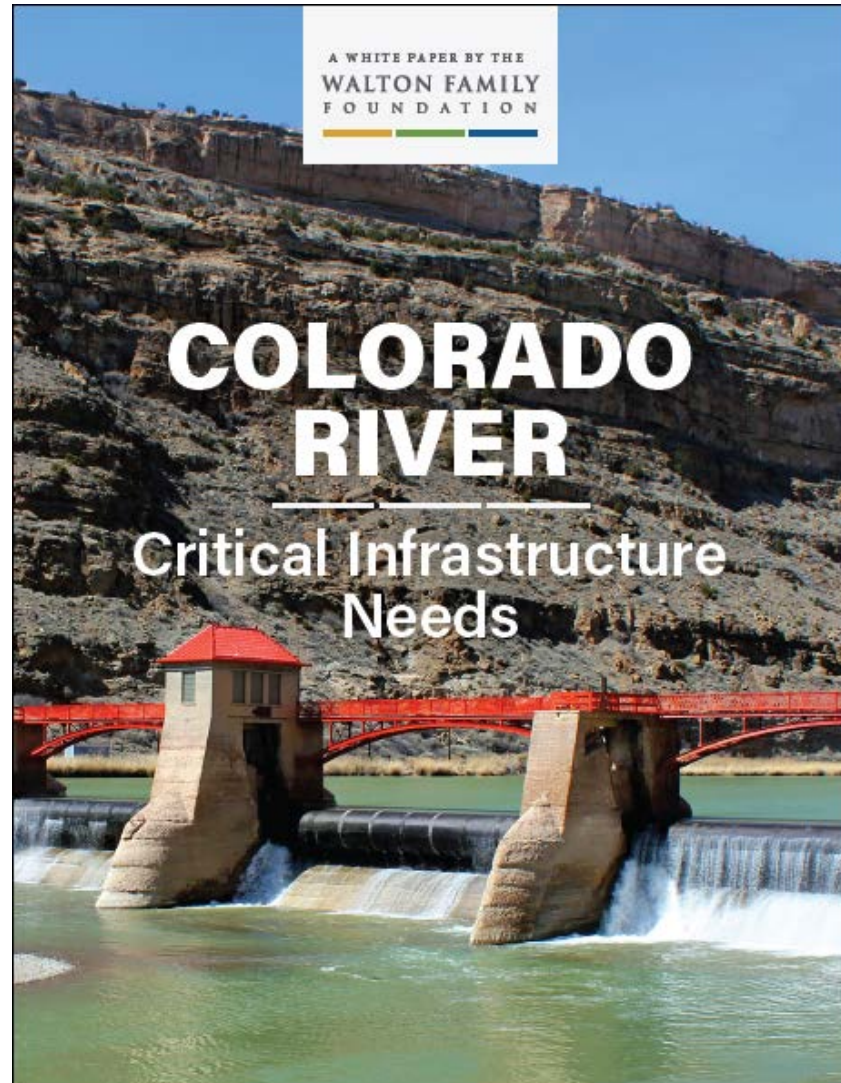


Directly improve river flows and riparian habitat in targeted geographies



Secure effective Lower Basin water agreements

Colorado River Infrastructure



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Water Infrastructure Status



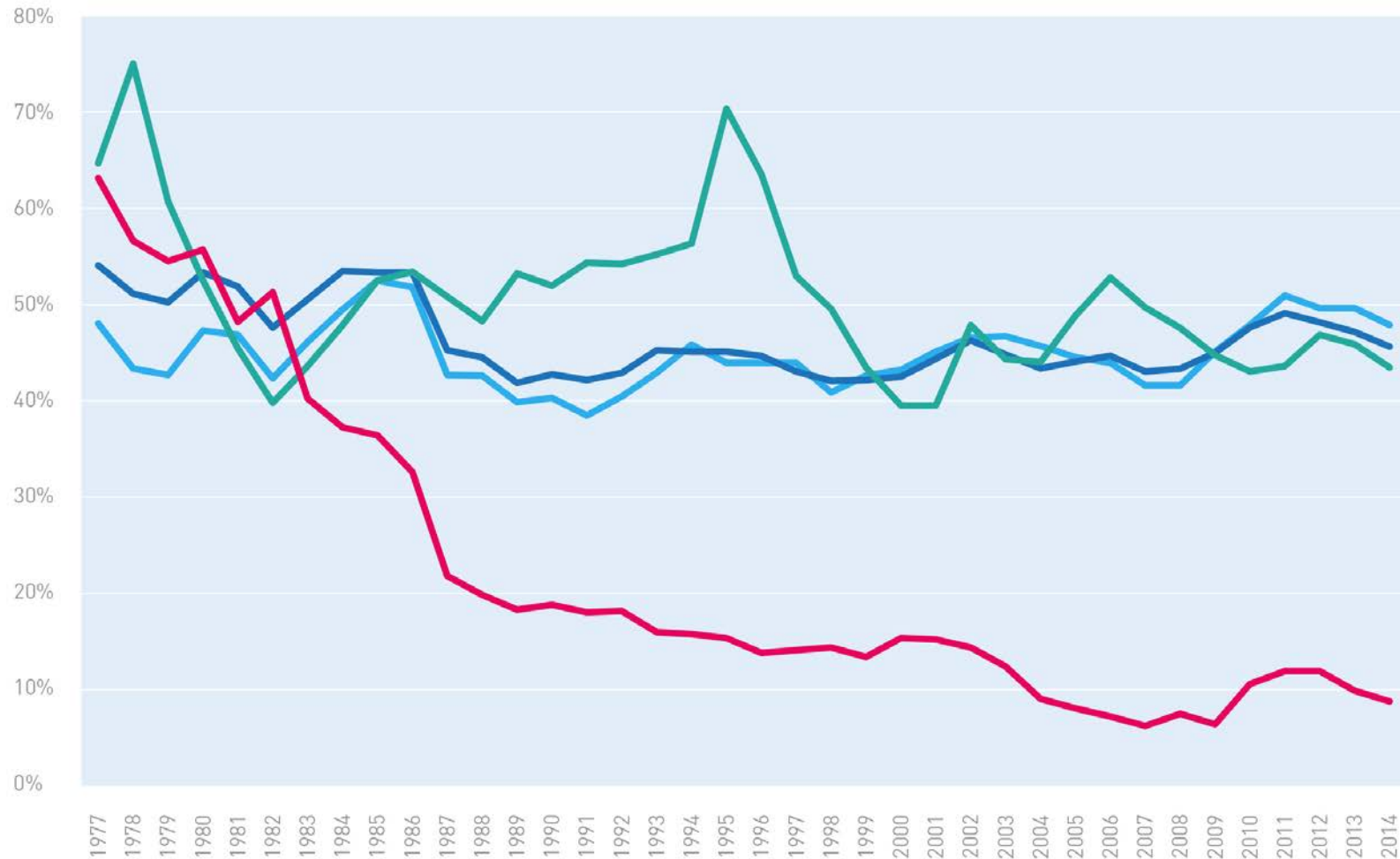
\$200 Billion Gap

Grade of "D"

Federal Contribution to Infrastructure

Federal Contribution to Total Infrastructure Spending

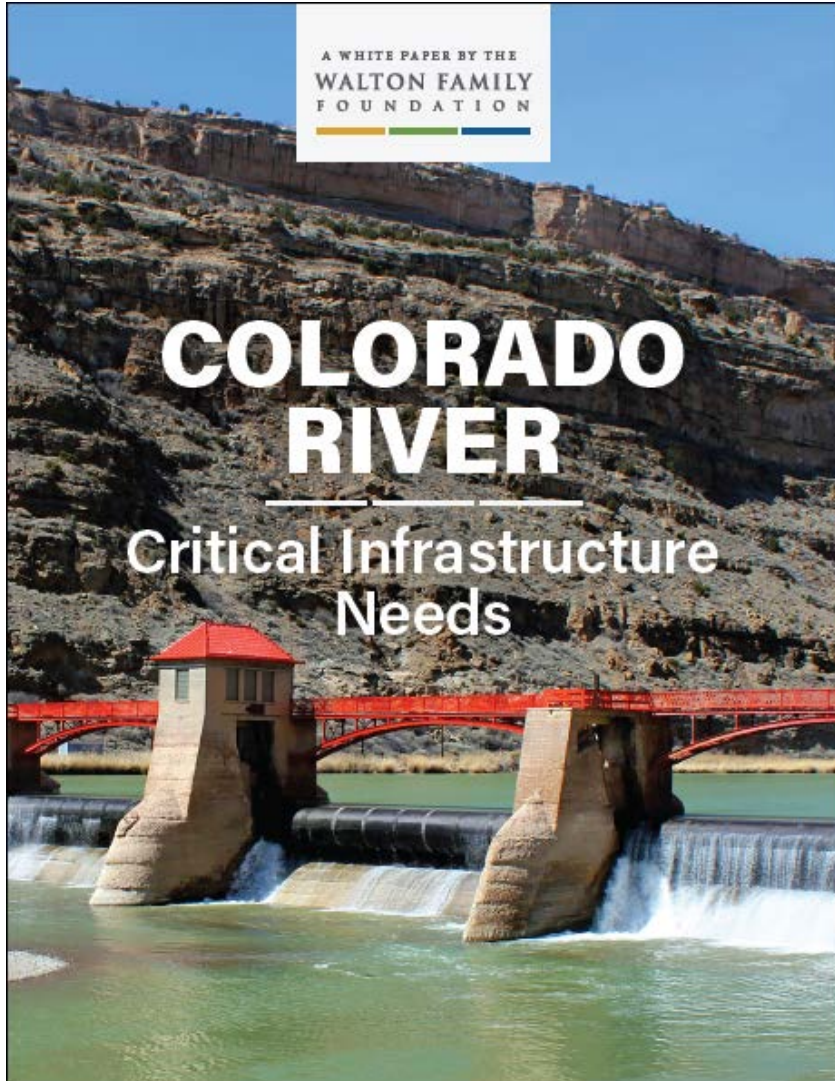
Water Utilities Highways Aviation All Transportation Infrastructure



Source: Value of Water Campaign

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Colorado River Infrastructure



\$1 Million
Investment
=
15 Jobs
Created

Federal Funding Programs

Funding Water Infrastructure Through Existing Programs

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation:

- Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse

U.S. Department of Interior:

- WaterSMART Program (WaterSMART)

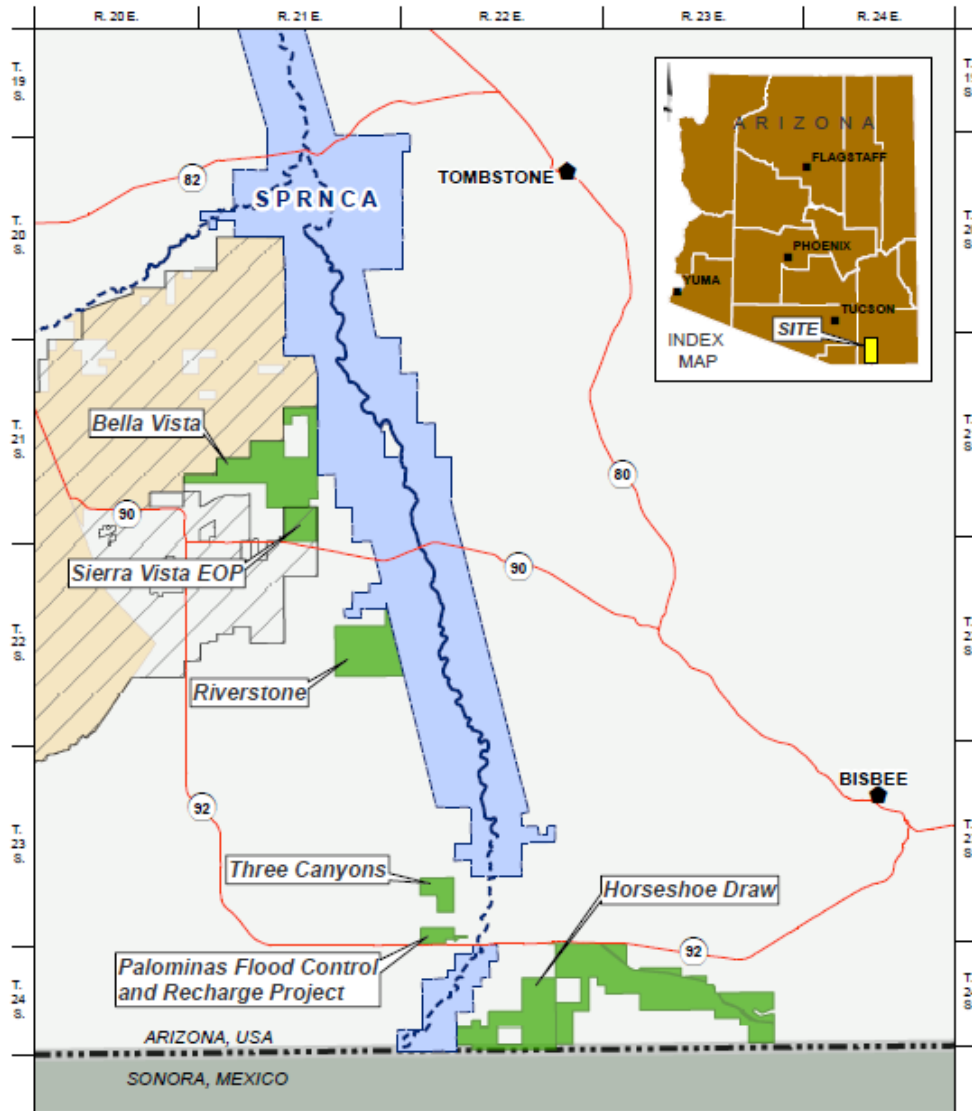
U.S. Department of Agriculture:

- Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)
- Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
- Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (PL566)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency:

- Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA)

Cochise Conservation and Recharge Network

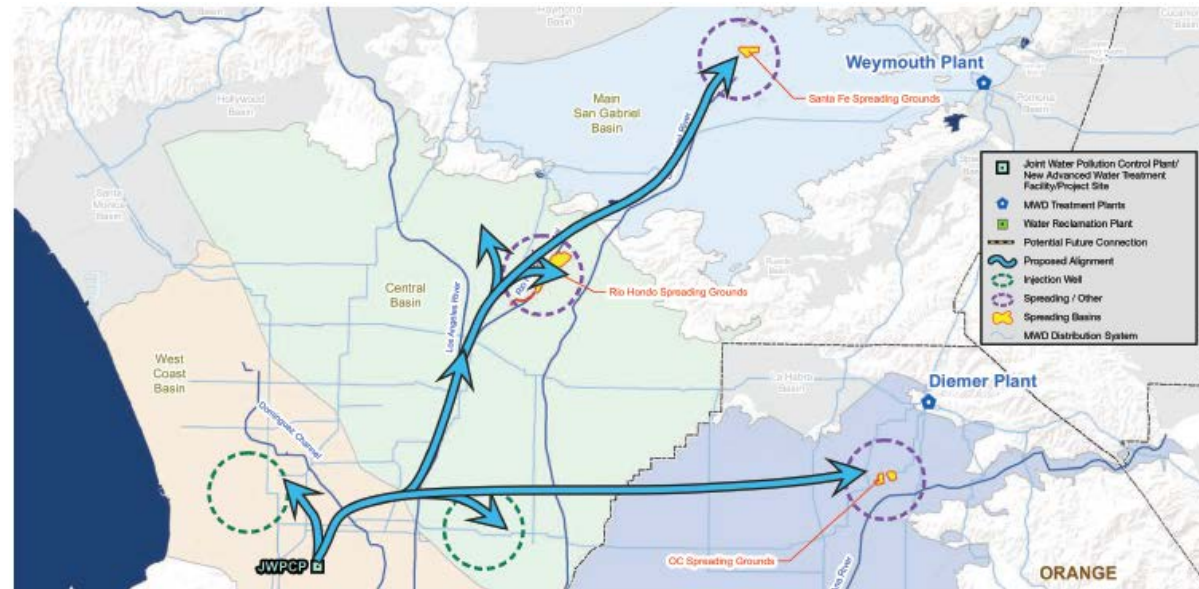


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Los Angeles Regional Recycled Water Program

**A NEW SOURCE OF WATER
FOR SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**



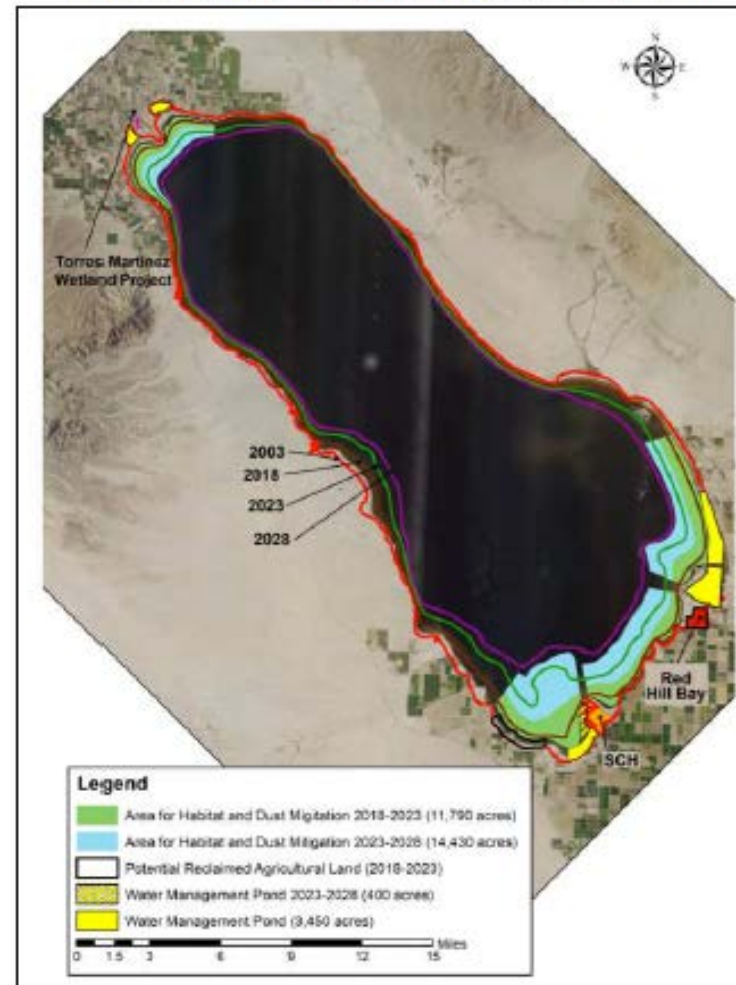
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Salton Sea Management Program



Figure 1. Salton Sea Management Program Overview (2018–2028)



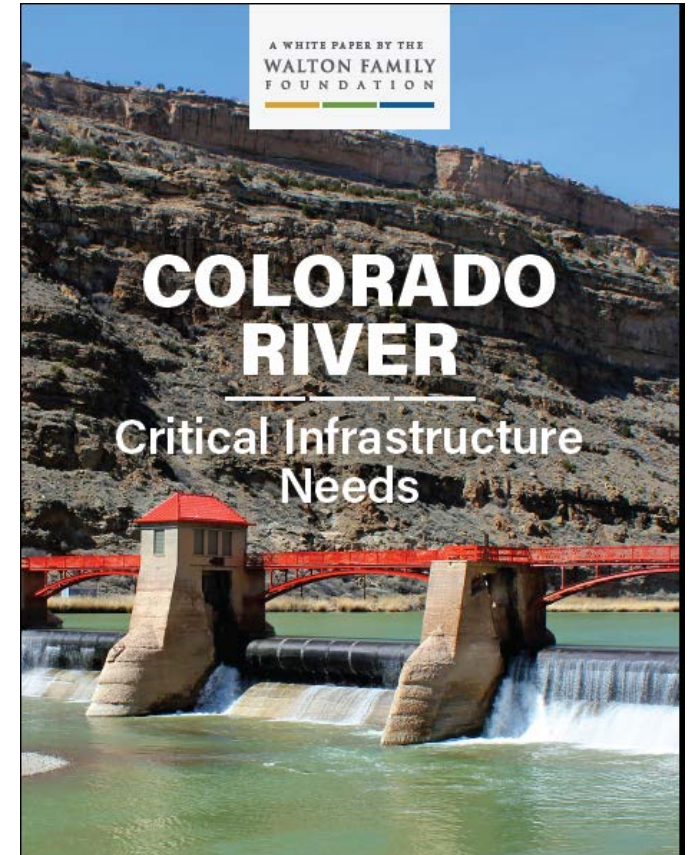
System Conservation Pilot Program



- From Phases 1 and 2 of the Pilot Program in the Lower Basin, the total expected volume of water conservation in Lake Mead will be 116,636 AF.
- The total funding for Lower Basin Pilot Program projects is approximately \$18.6 million.
- The average cost per AF of conserved water in Phases 1 and 2 combined including administrative costs is approximately \$160.

Summary

- Challenges you are facing are significant: drought as the new normal, hot drought, storage as snow at risk, and unpredictable precipitation pattern change.
- Funding is a huge issue – we need to identify consistent revenue sources for agricultural water conservation, tribal water settlements, and water infrastructure.
- Make your voice heard on the Farm Bill. Investing in agricultural efficiencies is a dollar you don't have to spend on System conservation infrastructure projects.
- These Federal programs are at risk if the Administration's early budget proposals are any indication. At the same time, Congress has been a good supporter of these programs to date.
- Its not always new infrastructure, its also about how we operate and manage the infrastructure. The DCP and a System Conservation Program are critical next steps for management in the Basin.



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Thank you

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Colorado River Infrastructure

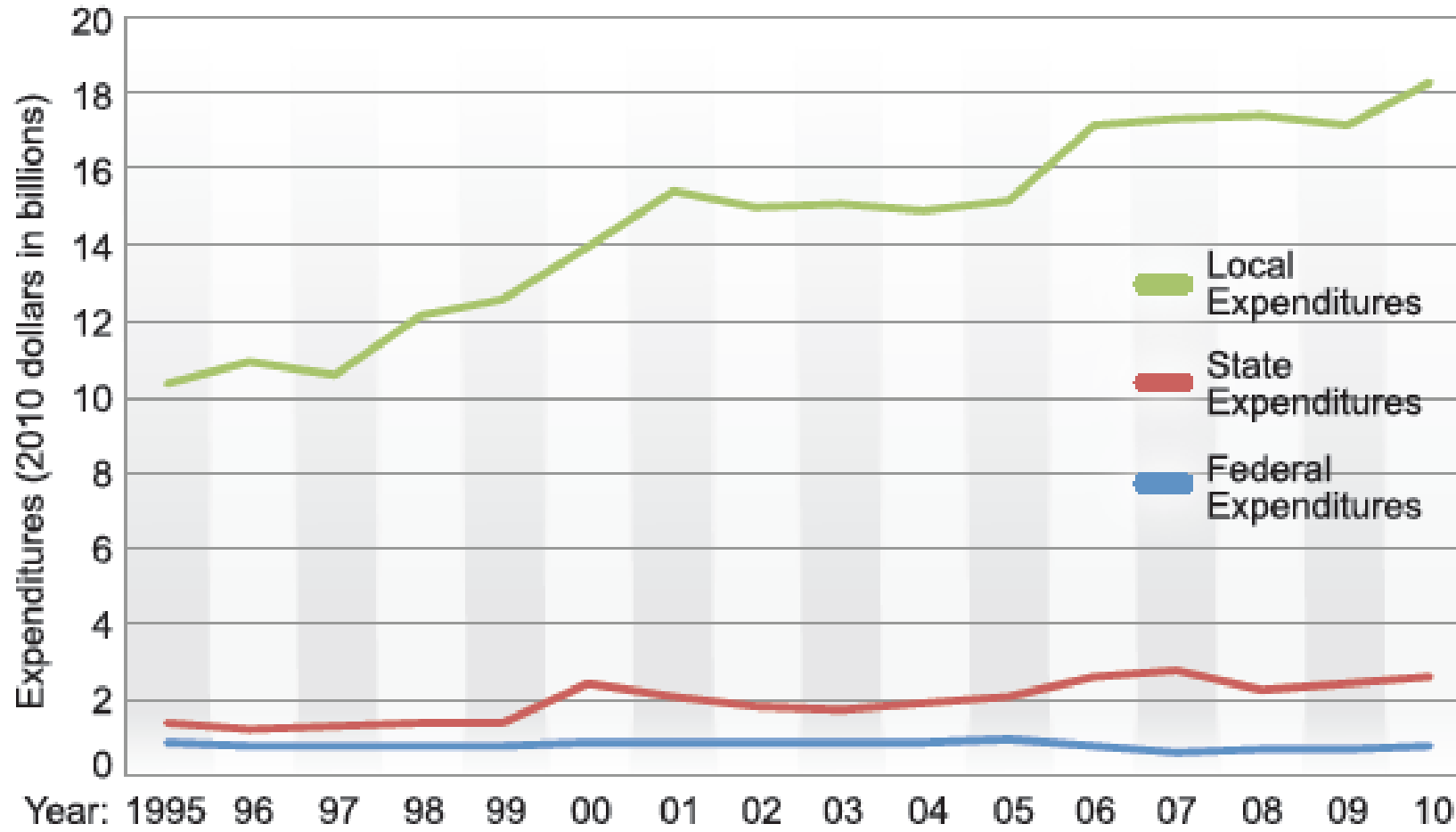


Changing Hydrology

- 2000-2014 12.3 MAF
- 1988-2014 13.2 MAF
- Basin Study Climate Change 13.7 MAF
- 1906-2014 Gage Period 14.8 MAF

Measured at Lee's Ferry

Infrastructure Expenditures By Source



Source: B. Wilkinson, UCSB

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