

# Lower Colorado River Authority

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**City of Horseshoe Bay**

**July 21, 2022**

**John Hofmann**  
**Executive Vice President, Water**



# Current Condition: Severe Drought

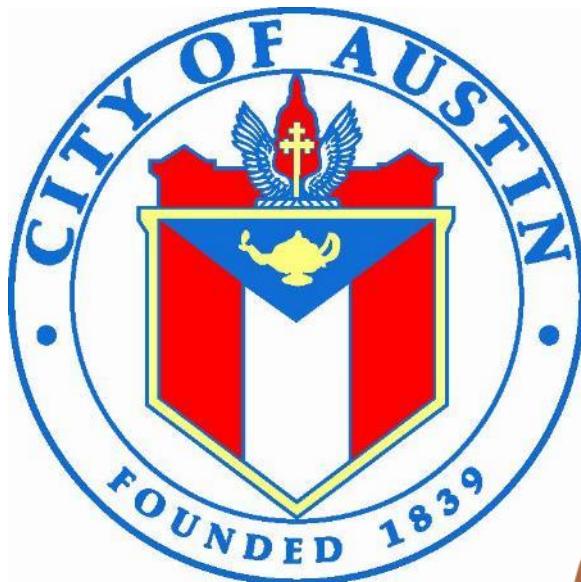
- Lakes Buchanan and Travis: 60% full, 1.2 million acre-feet
- Lakes capture water during wet times for use during dry times
  - Lakes designed to fluctuate



# The Highland Lakes Portion of the Colorado River



# Some LCRA Firm Water Customers



Travis County  
Water Control and  
Improvement District #18



City of  
Leander



# Water Supply Reservoirs

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Lake Buchanan

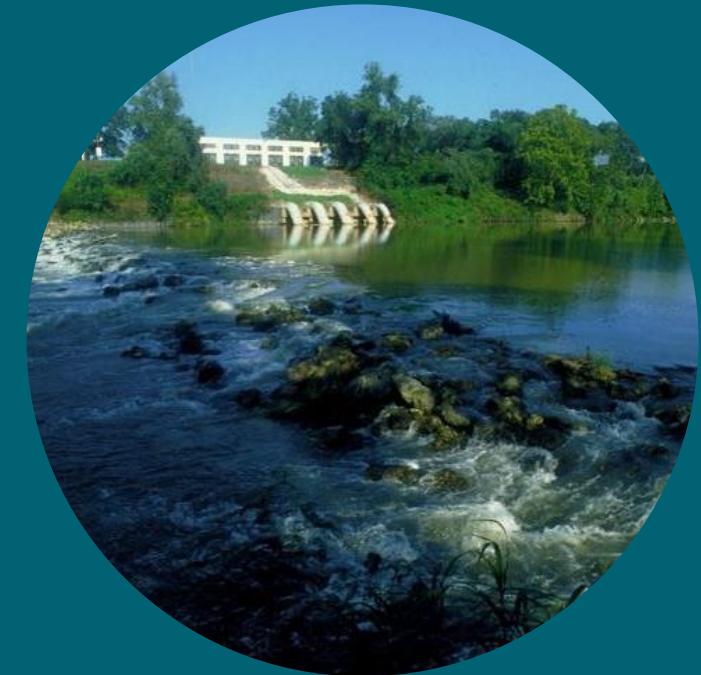


Lake Travis

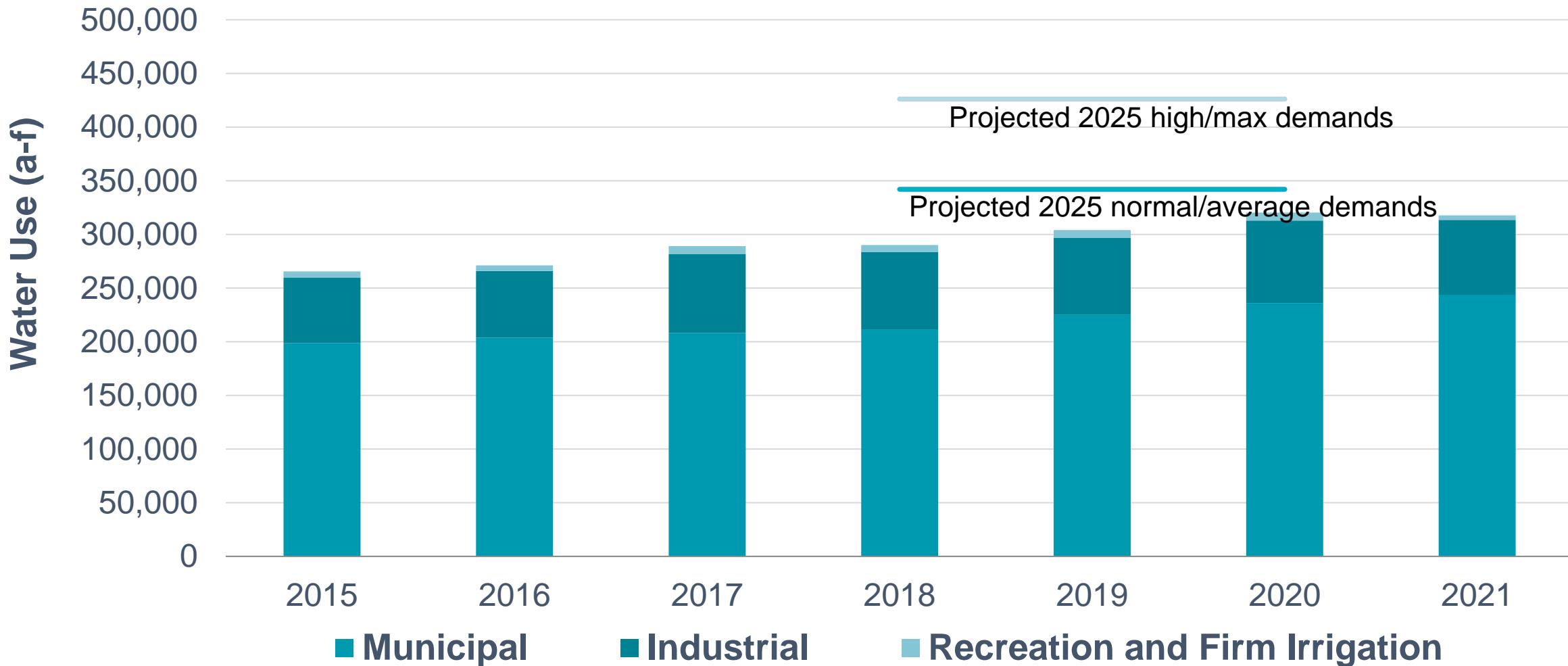


# Water Management Plan

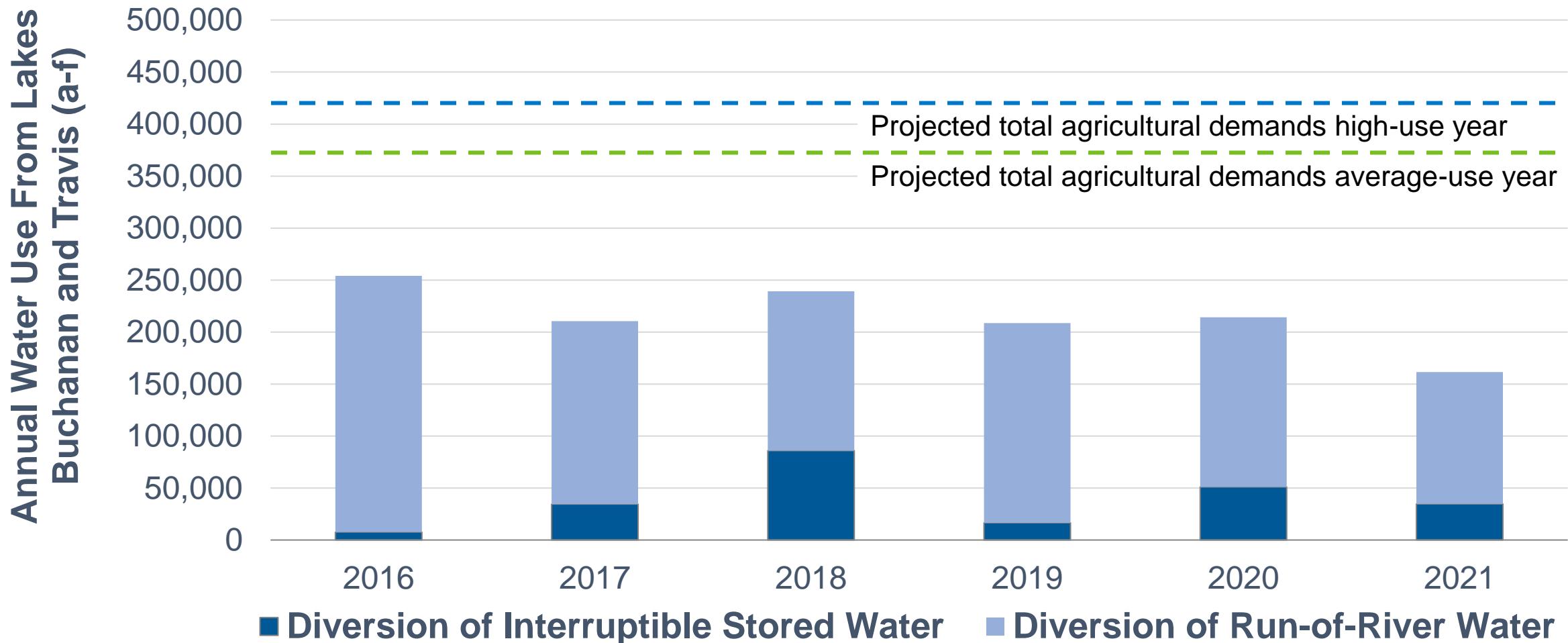
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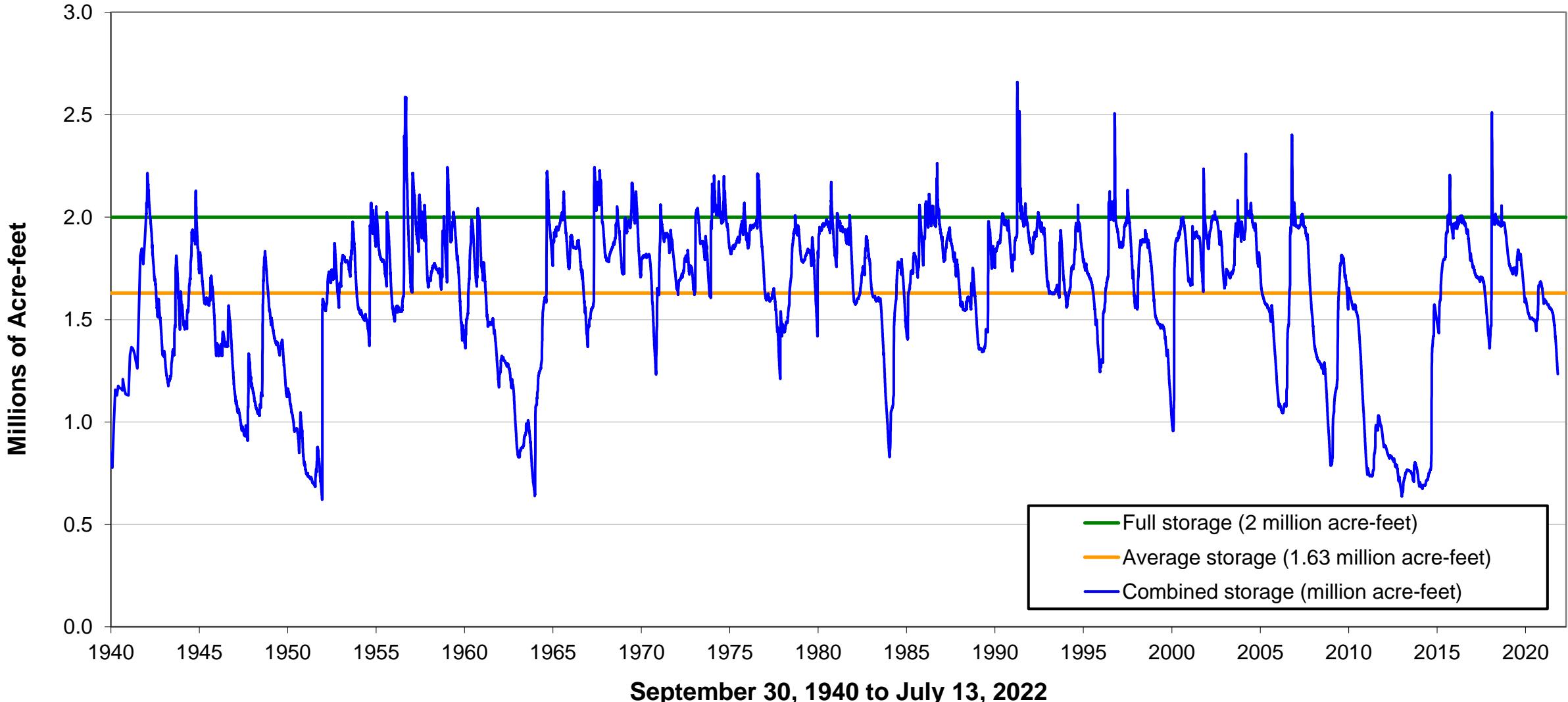
# Municipal, Industrial, Recreation and Firm Irrigation Use From Lakes Buchanan and Travis and Colorado River



# Use of Interruptible Stored Water and Run-of-River at the Four Downstream Agricultural Operations



# Total Combined Storage - Lakes Buchanan and Travis

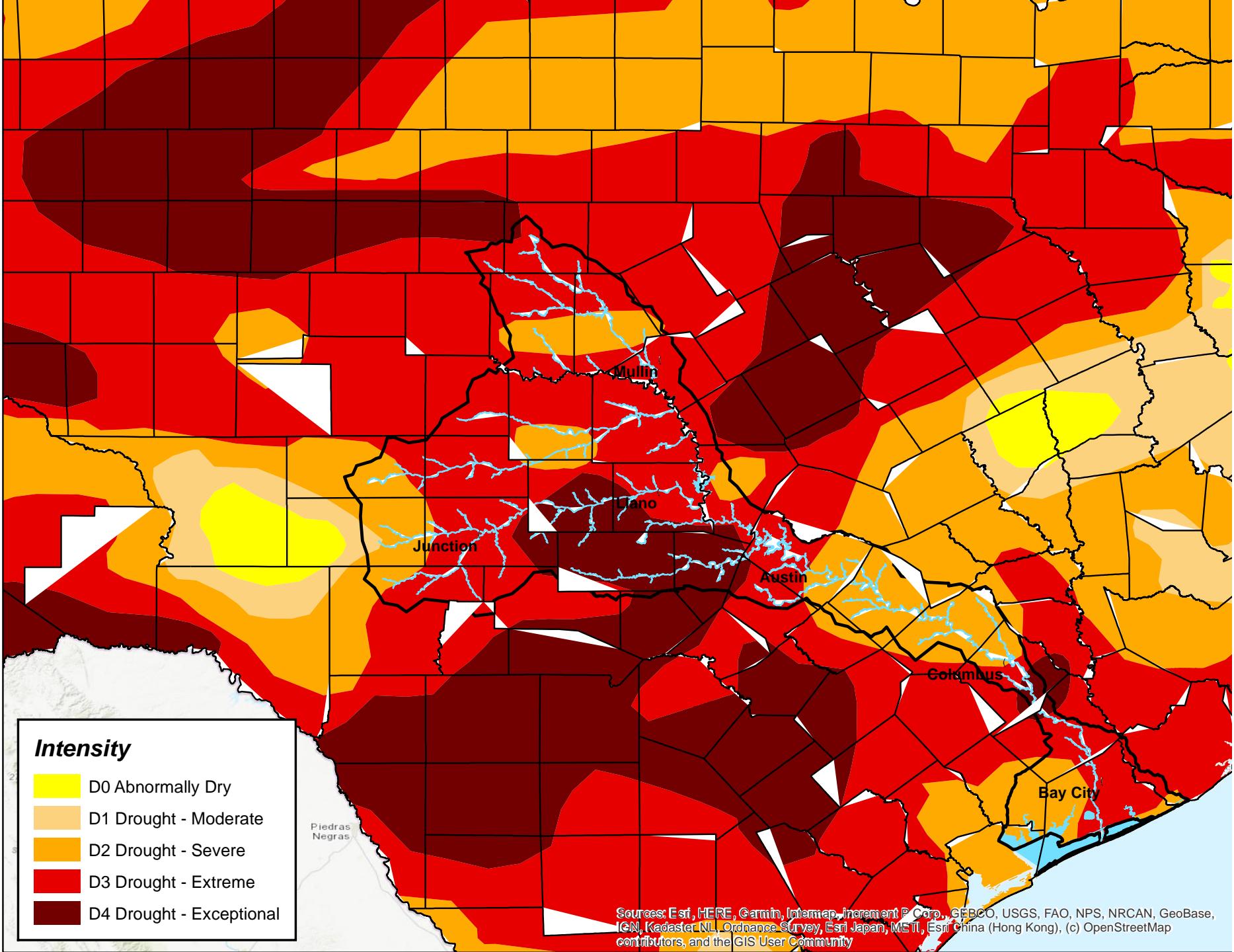


# U.S. Drought Monitor

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## Lower Colorado River Basin

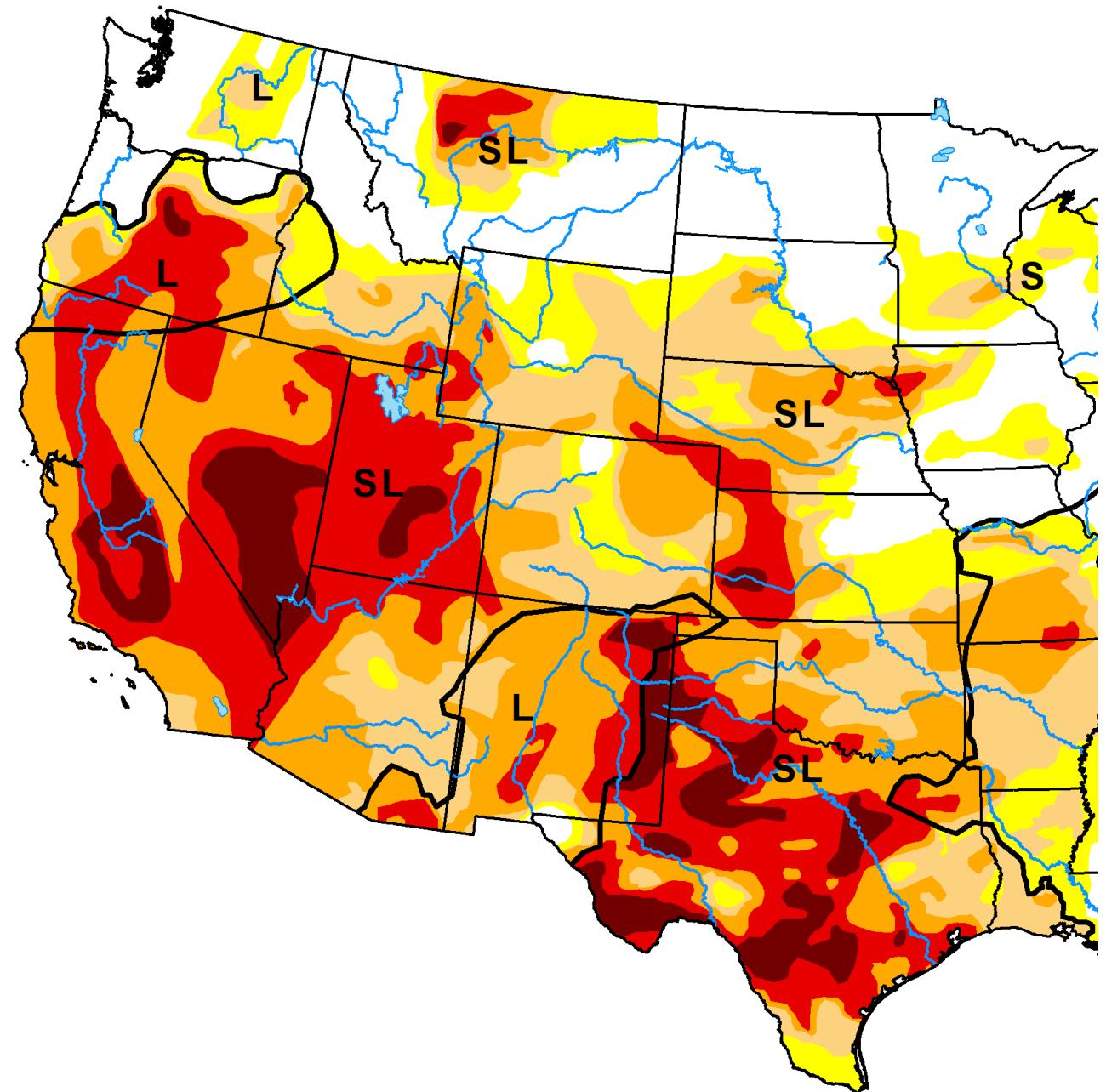
As of July 19, 2022



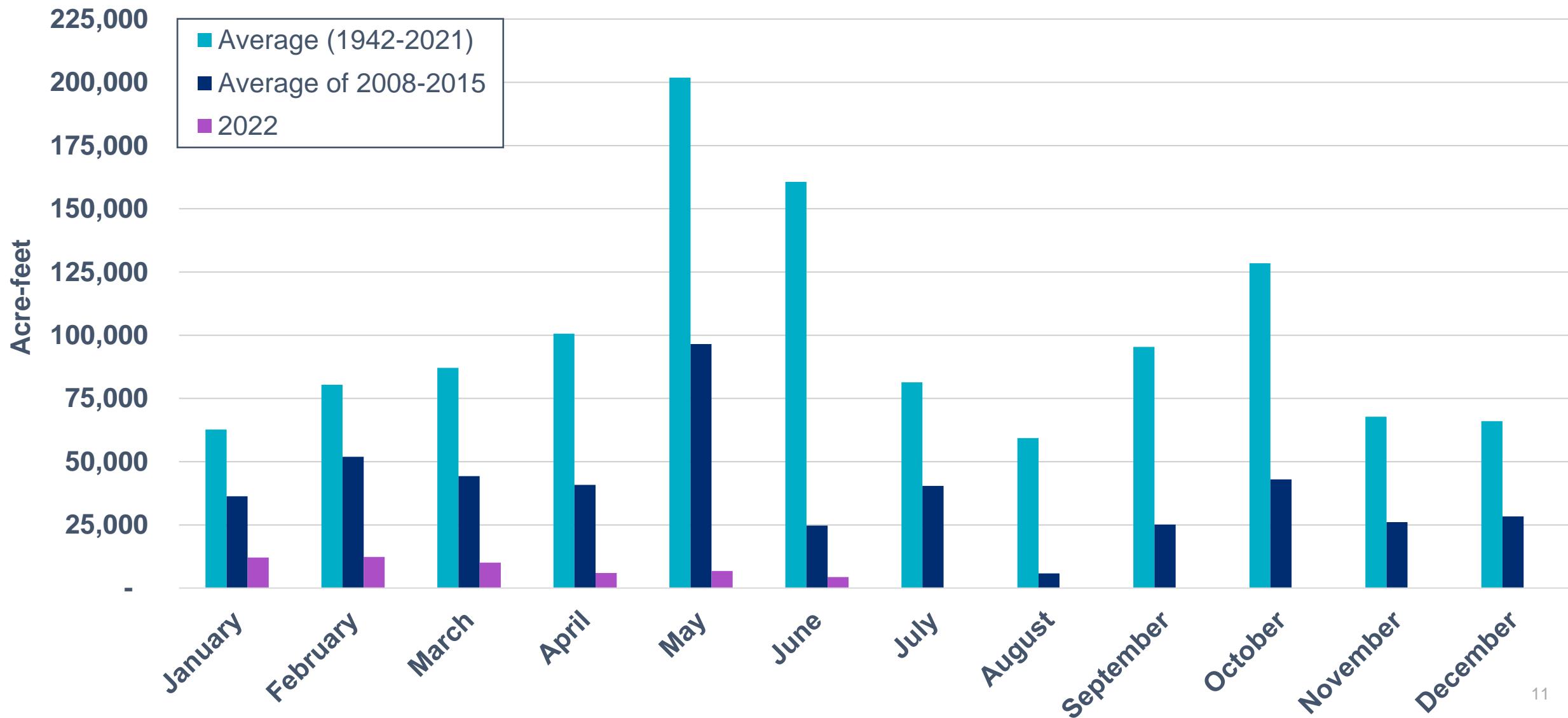
# U.S. Drought Monitor

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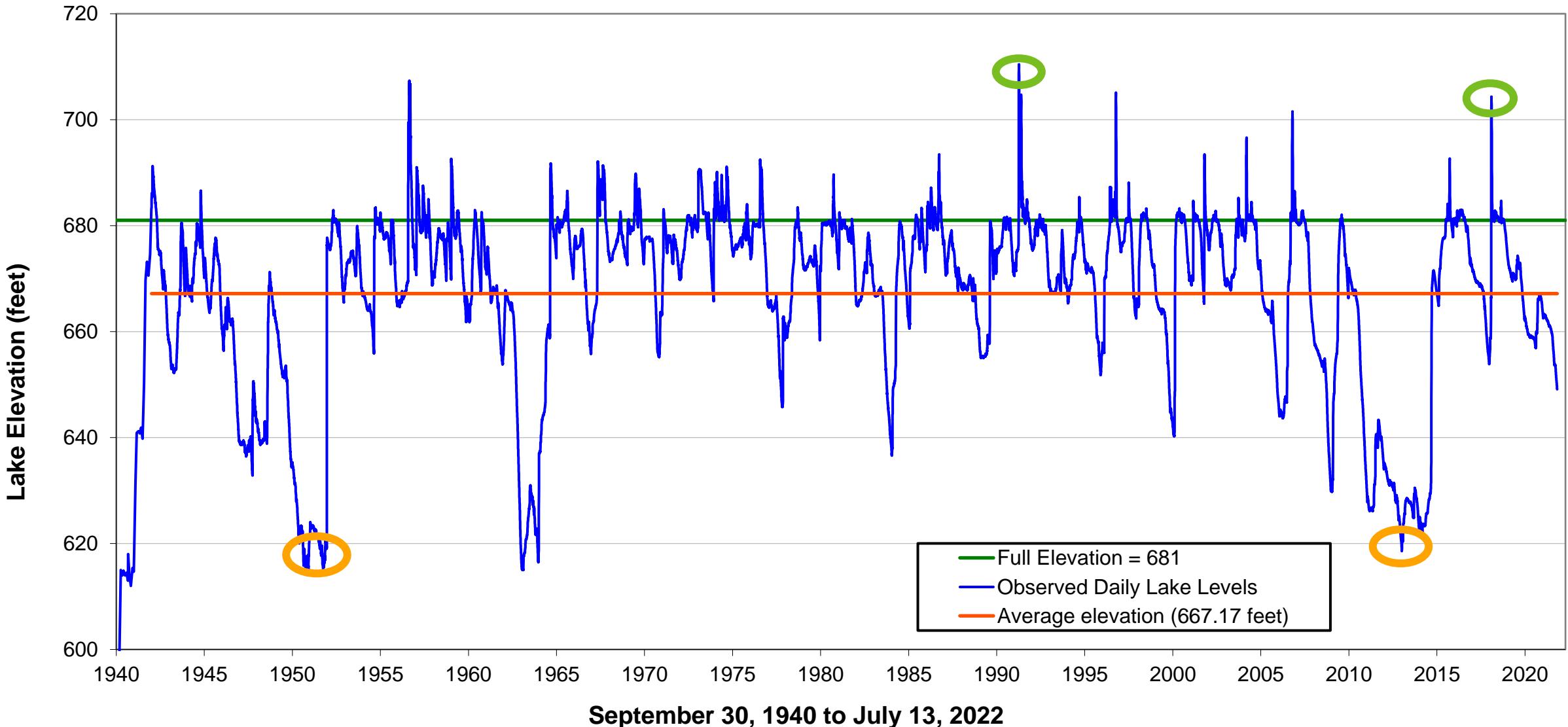
July 19, 2022



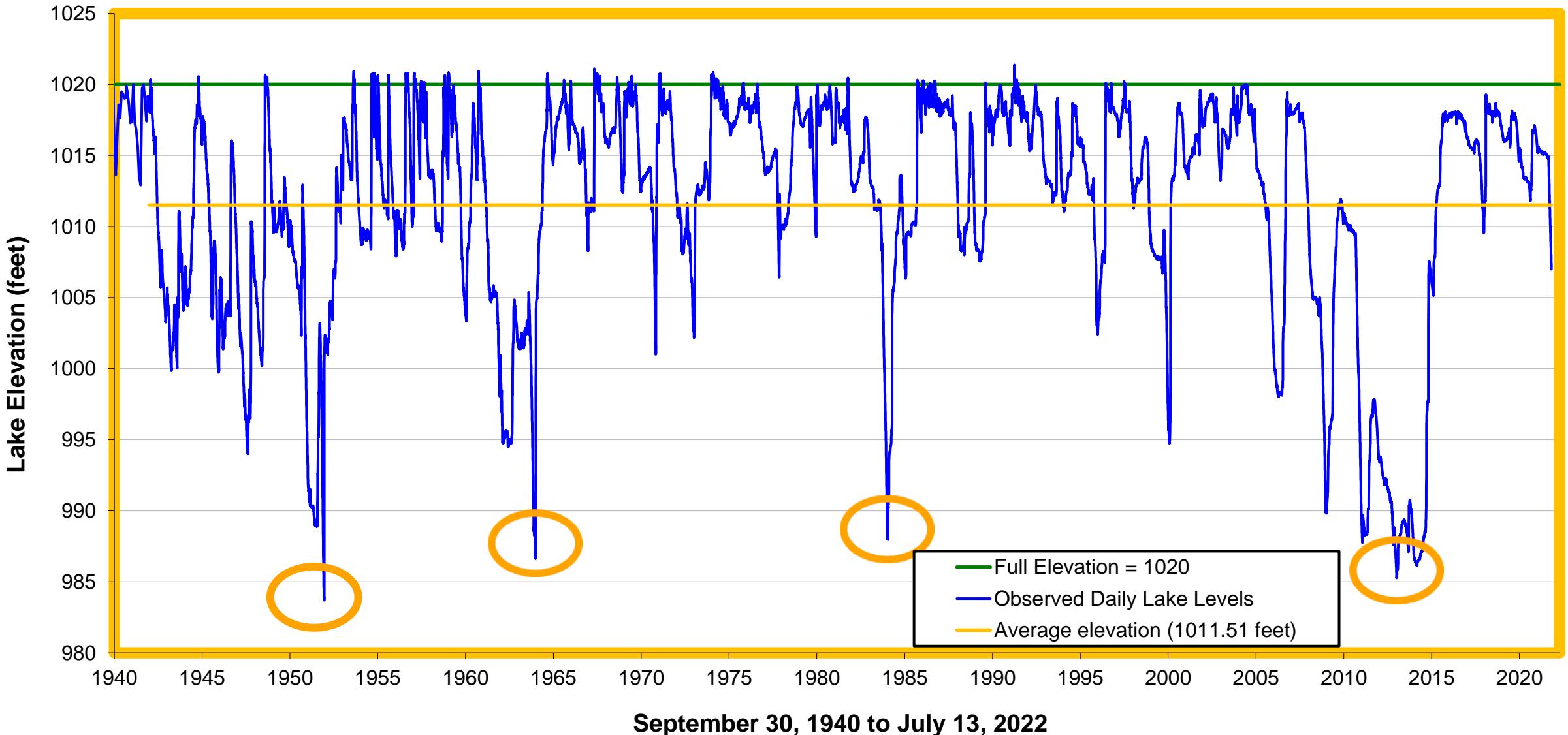
# Water Flowing Into Lakes Buchanan and Travis



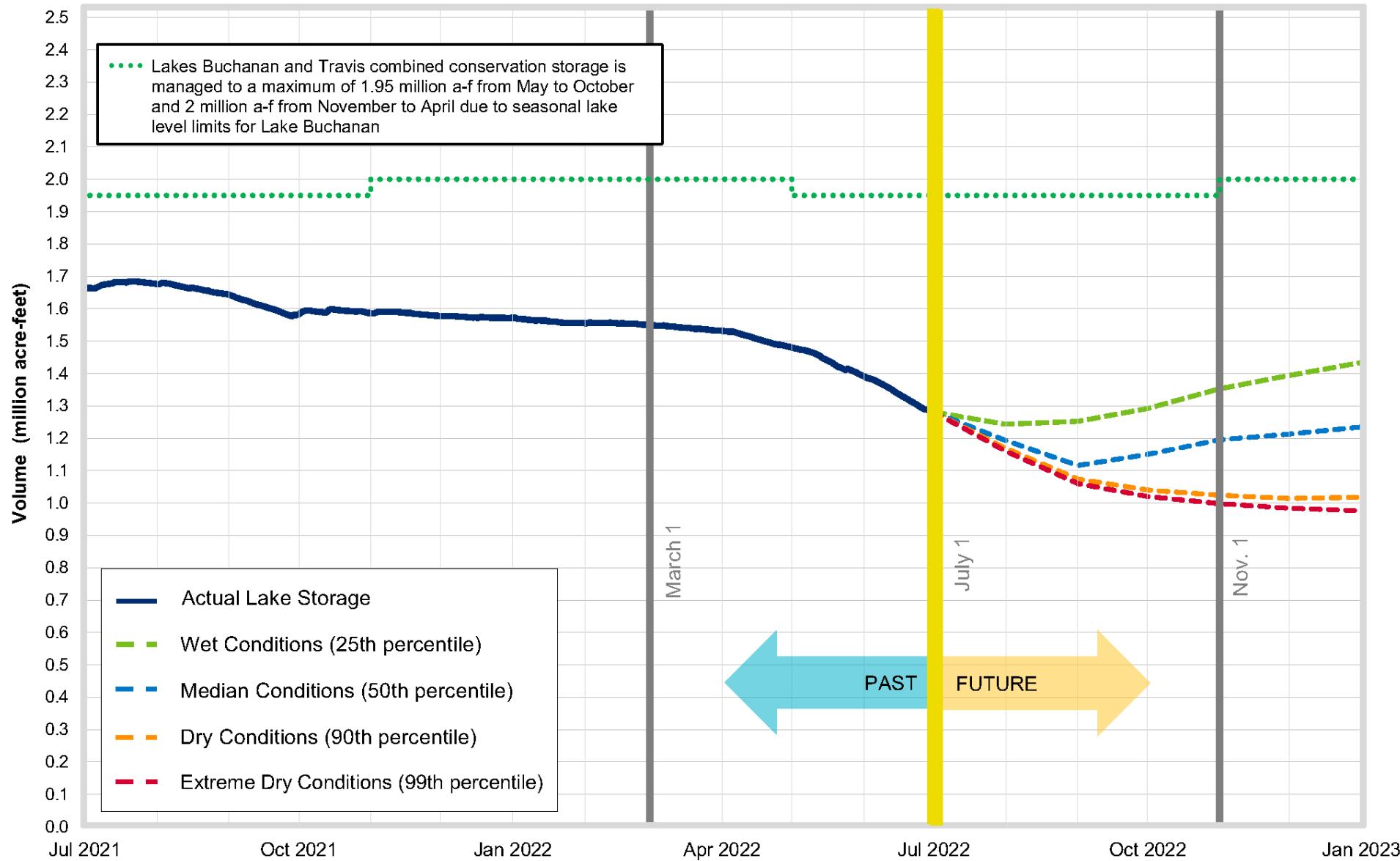
# Lake Travis Daily Elevations



# Lake Buchanan Daily Elevations



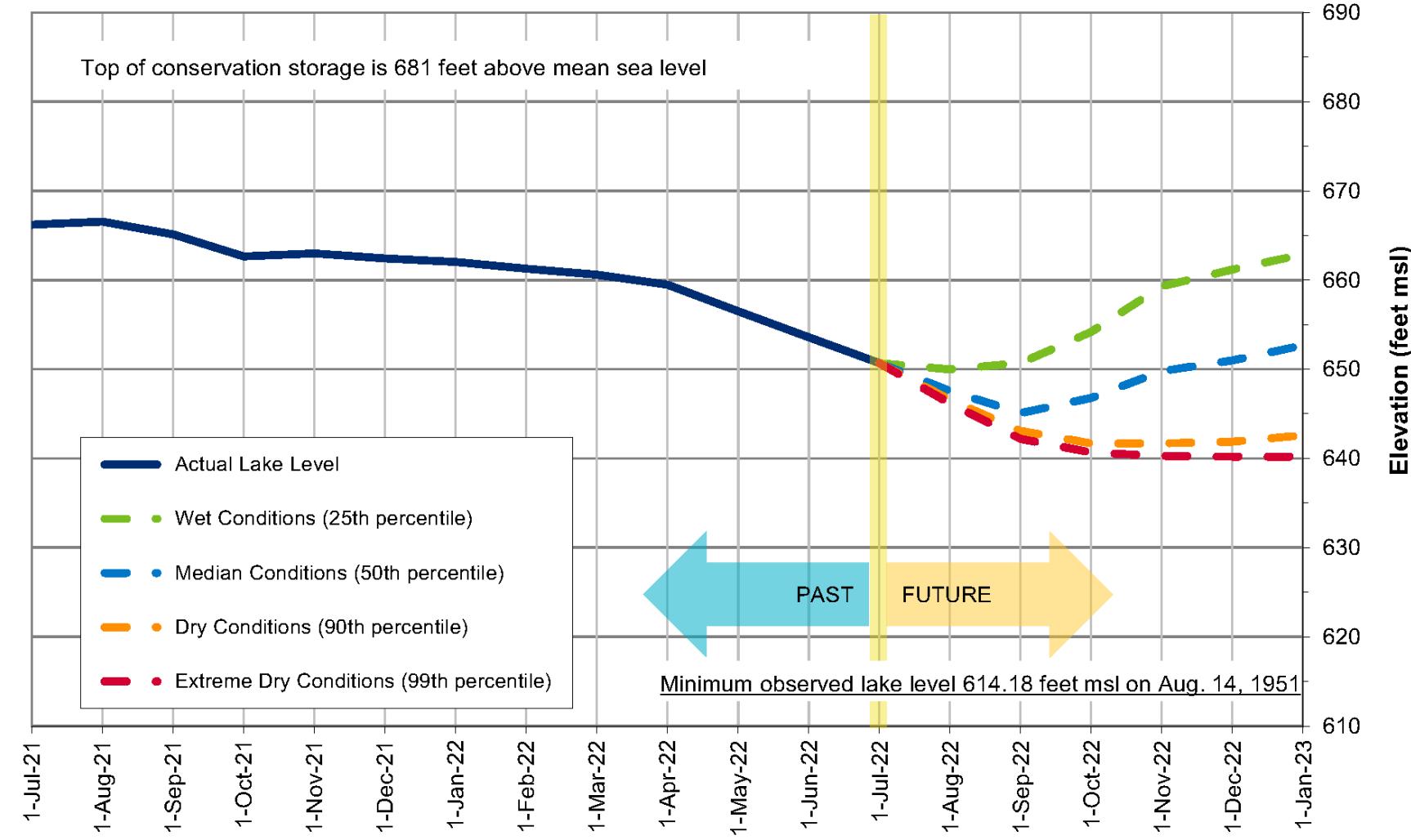
## Lakes Buchanan and Travis Total Combined Storage Projections



Date: July 1, 2022

Note: One acre-foot equals 325,851 gallons

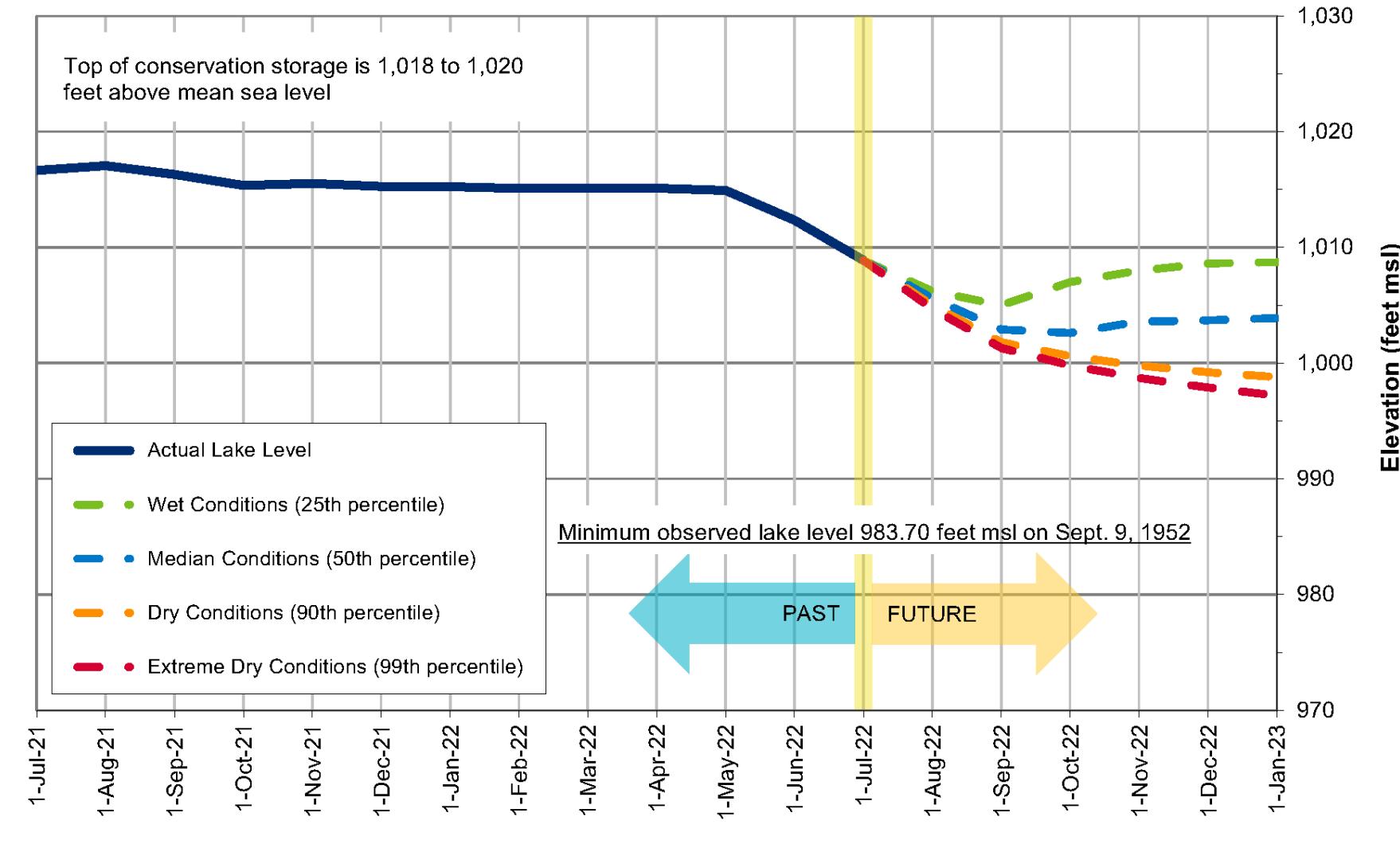
## Lake Travis Level Projection\*



Average for July:  
667.38 feet msl

Historic low (1951):  
614.18 feet msl

## Lake Buchanan Level Projection\*



**Average for July:  
1,012.72 feet msl**

**Historic low (1952):  
983.7 feet msl**

# Planning for Future Water Demand

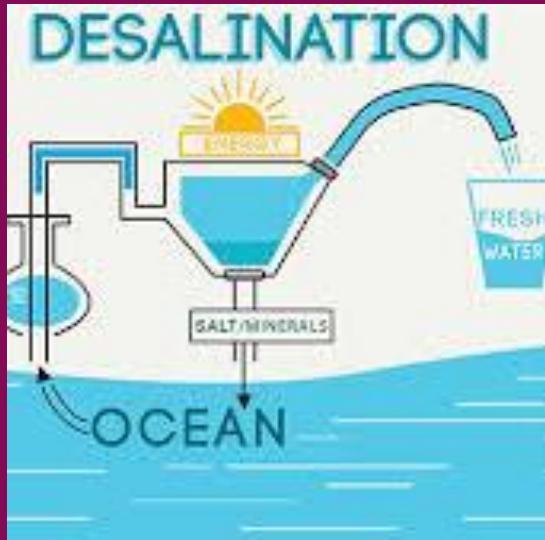
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LCRA Water Supply Projects <sup>1</sup> 50-Year Horizon	Estimated Supply (acre-feet per year)
<b>Ongoing</b>	
Municipal water conservation programs	Up to 15,000
Agricultural water conservation programs	To be determined (interruptible supply)
<b>Construction Phase</b>	
Arbuckle Reservoir	Up to 90,000
<b>Engineering/Design/Permitting Phase</b>	
Griffith League Ranch groundwater	Up to 25,000
Import water from Williamson County	Up to 35,000
<b>Planning/Future Development/Feasibility Phase</b>	
Amend run-of-river water rights to add upstream diversion locations and/or storage	Improved efficiency
Midbasin off-channel reservoir	Up to 20,000

<sup>1</sup> Implementation or planning phase.  
Project implementation order may affect supplies created by subsequent projects, therefore the values in the Estimated Supply column should not be summed at the full project amount.

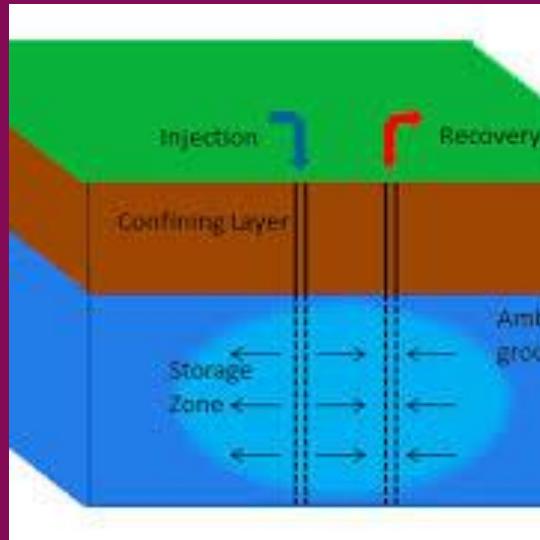
<sup>2</sup> Alternative strategy in 2021 Region K Water Plan

# Additional Strategies



## Desalination

Brackish and Gulf  
seawater



## Aquifer Storage

Aquifer storage and  
recovery with  
off-channel reservoir



## Groundwater

Additional  
conjunctive use



## Importation

Future opportunities  
to partner

# Water Conservation Programs

- **Raw Water Conservation Plan approved by LCRA Board in 2019**
  - Includes municipal, industrial and agricultural five- and 10-year conservation goals
- **Firm Water Conservation Cost-Share Grants**
  - Provides funding for large-scale water efficiency projects
- **Water Smart Program for end users**
  - Provides rebates for irrigation system evaluations, irrigation system equipment, soil testing, pool covers and more
  - [www.WaterSmart.org](http://www.WaterSmart.org)

# Current Condition: Serious Drought

- **Conservative planning**
- **Water Management Plan**  
**required cut off interruptible**  
**water supply for second**  
**growing season**
- **Some water will continue to be**  
**released downstream**
- **Drinking water is in good shape**



# Current Condition: Serious Drought

- Key takeaway: Reservoirs are doing what they are designed to do



