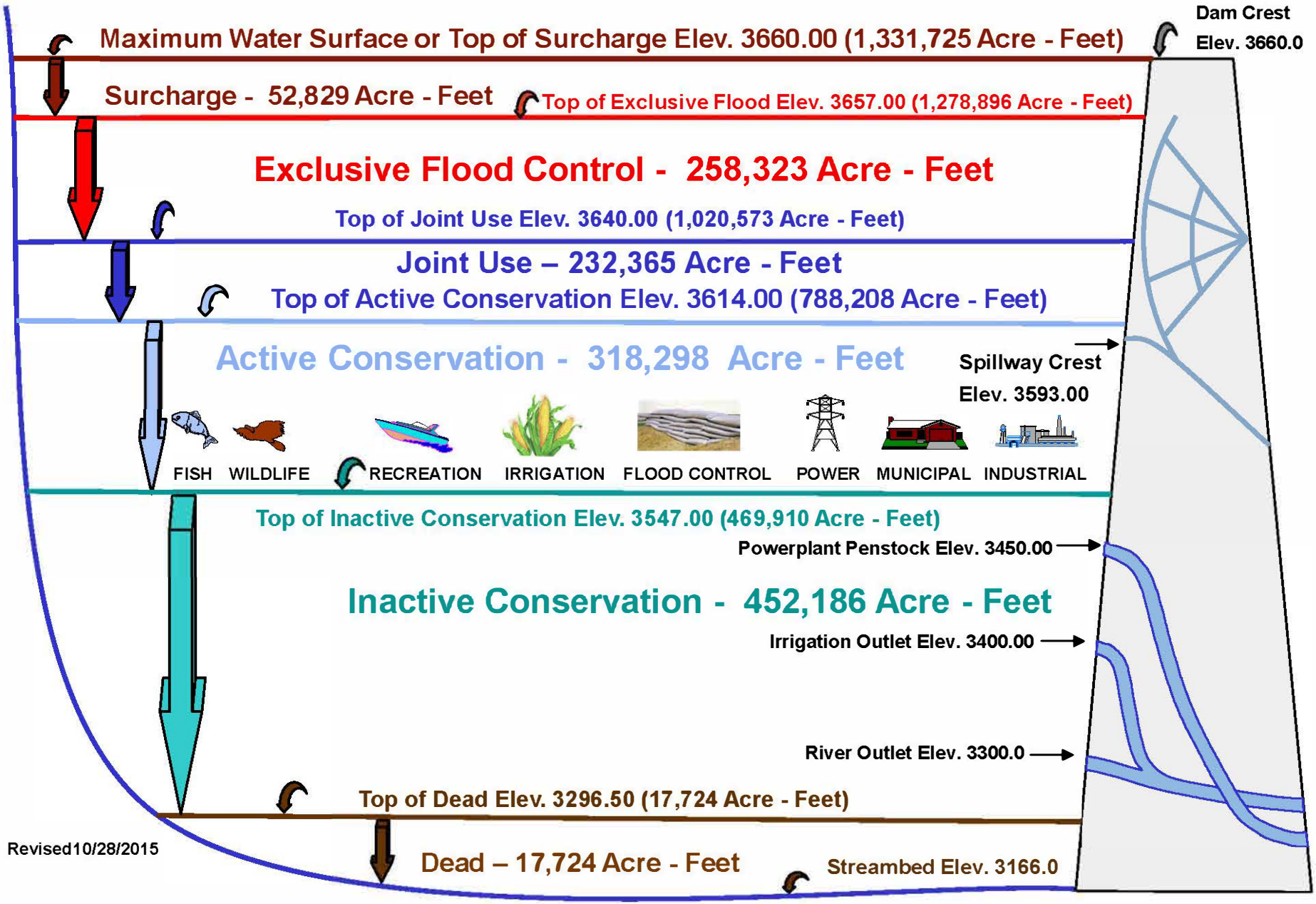
RECLAMATION
Managing Water in the West

Bighorn Basin Operations and Water Supply

April 24, 2018

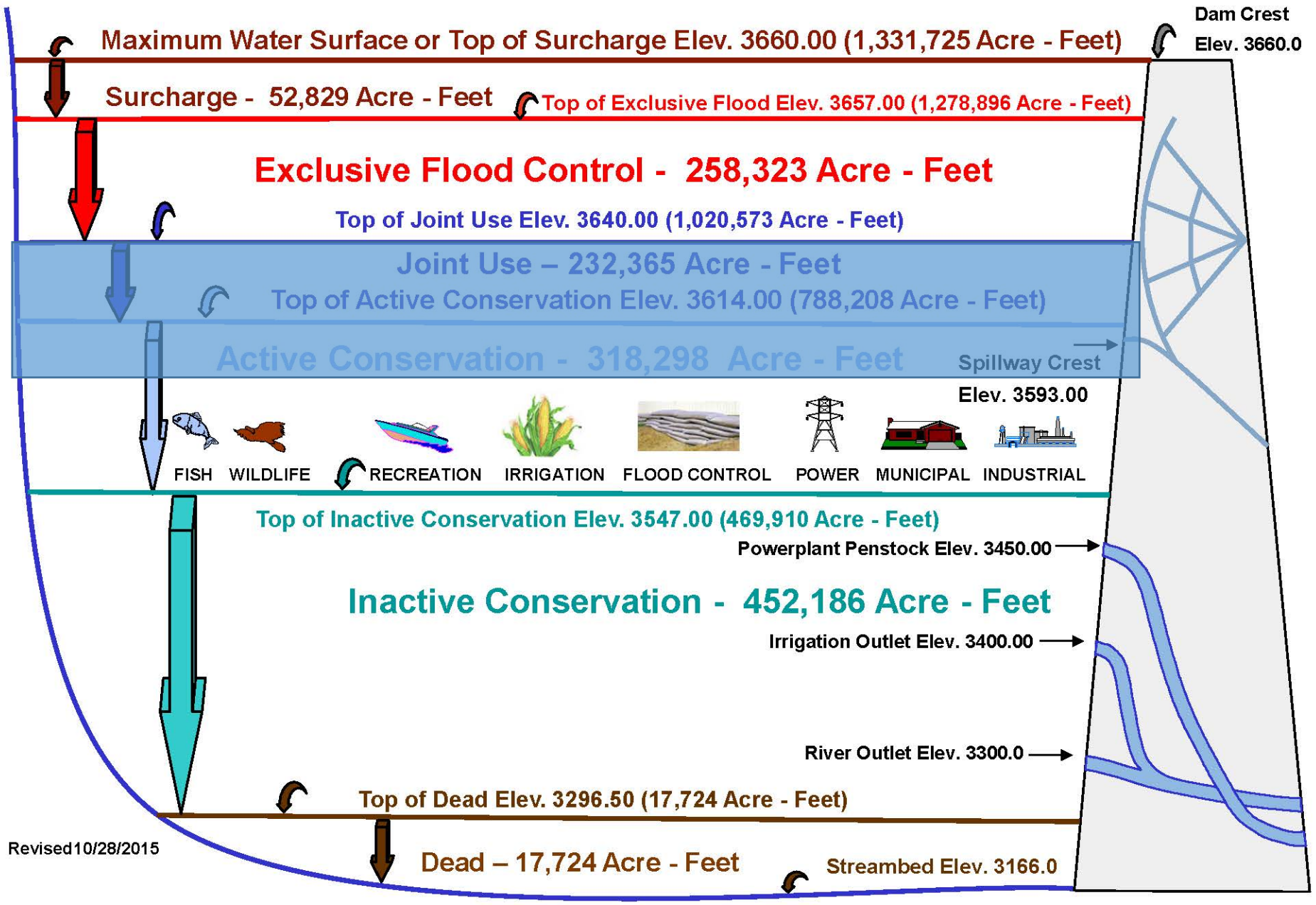
Clayton Jordan

BIGHORN LAKE (YELLOWTAIL DAM) ALLOCATIONS



Revised10/28/2015

BIGHORN LAKE (YELLOWTAIL DAM) ALLOCATIONS



Elevation Range

3640 to 3591.5 ft

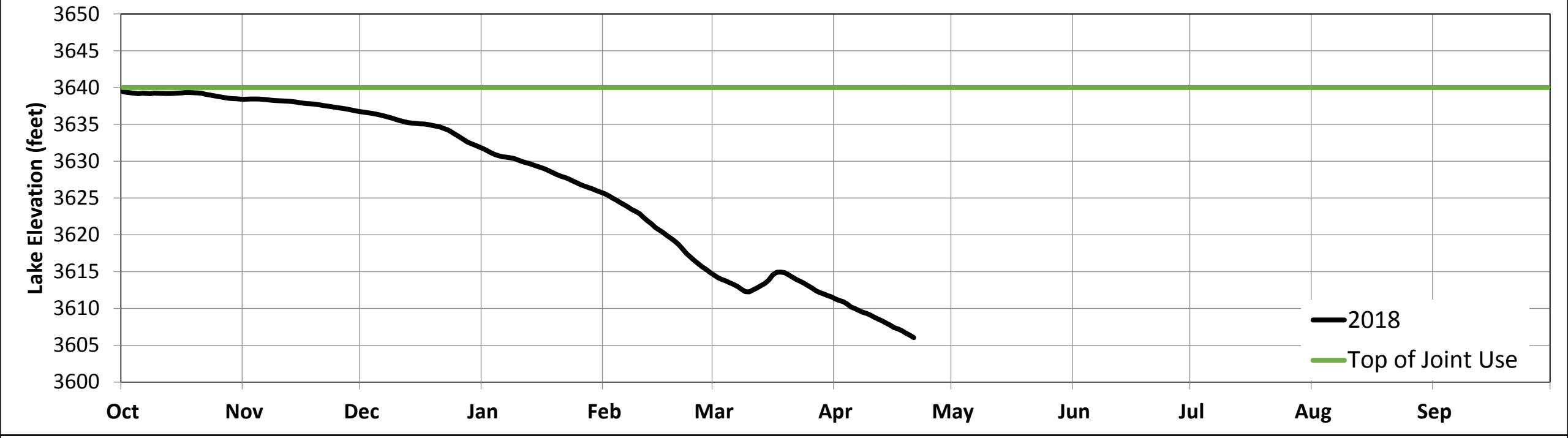
353,852 AF

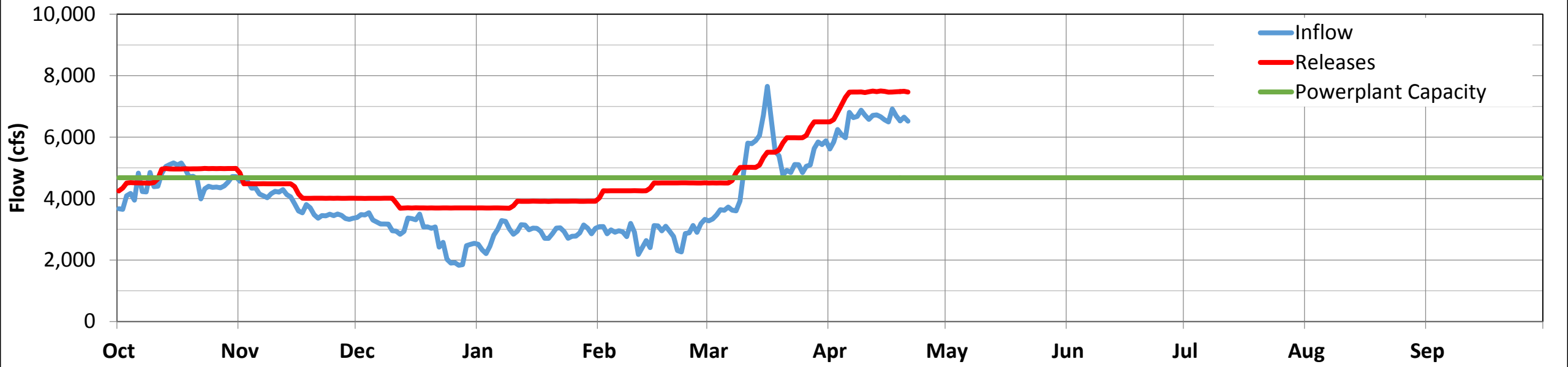
Fall and Winter Recap

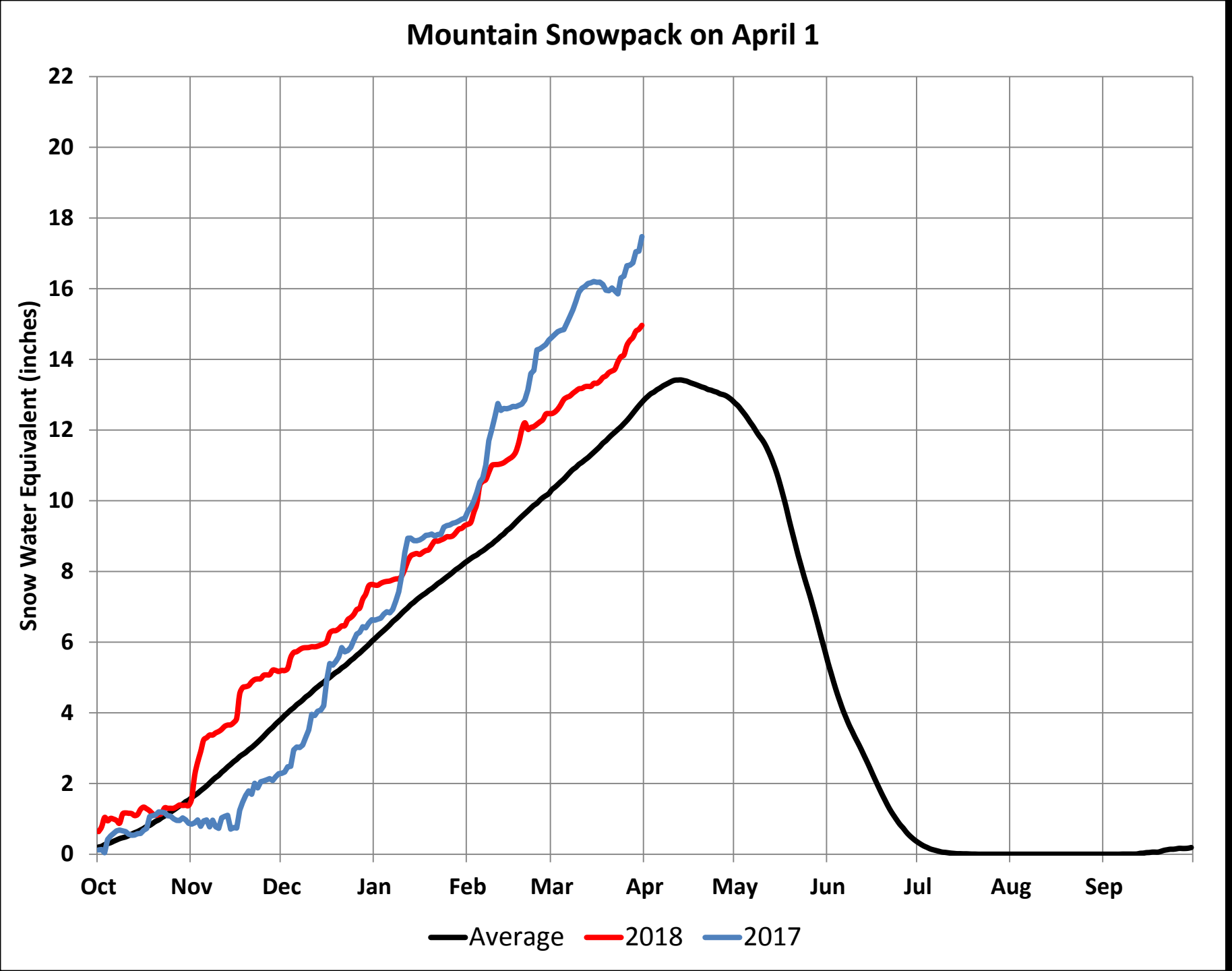
Fall and Winter Recap (November-March)

- 3rd Highest Inflow (Average 3,510 cfs)
- 3rd Highest Release (Average 4,340 cfs)
- Evacuated 228,092 AF of Storage or 27 feet

Bighorn Lake Operations 2018





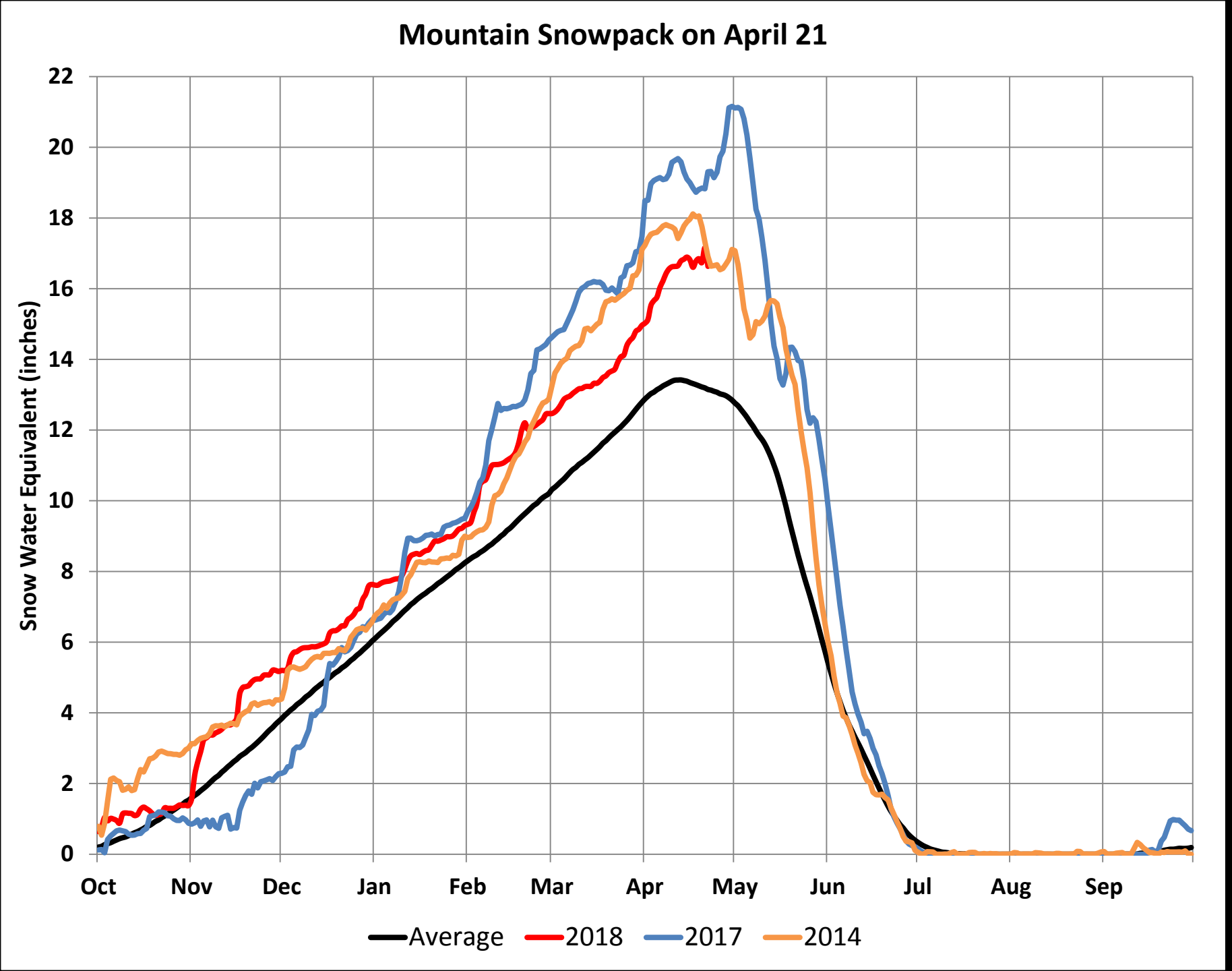


April-July Inflow

2018 Forecast
1,864,800 AF
160% of Average

Average
1,165,700 AF

Snow 117% of Average



April-July Inflow

2018

Forecast
1,864,800 AF

2017

F: 2,231,800 AF

A: 2,953,120 AF

2014

F: 1,960,800 AF

A: 1,724,878 AF

2018 Outlook

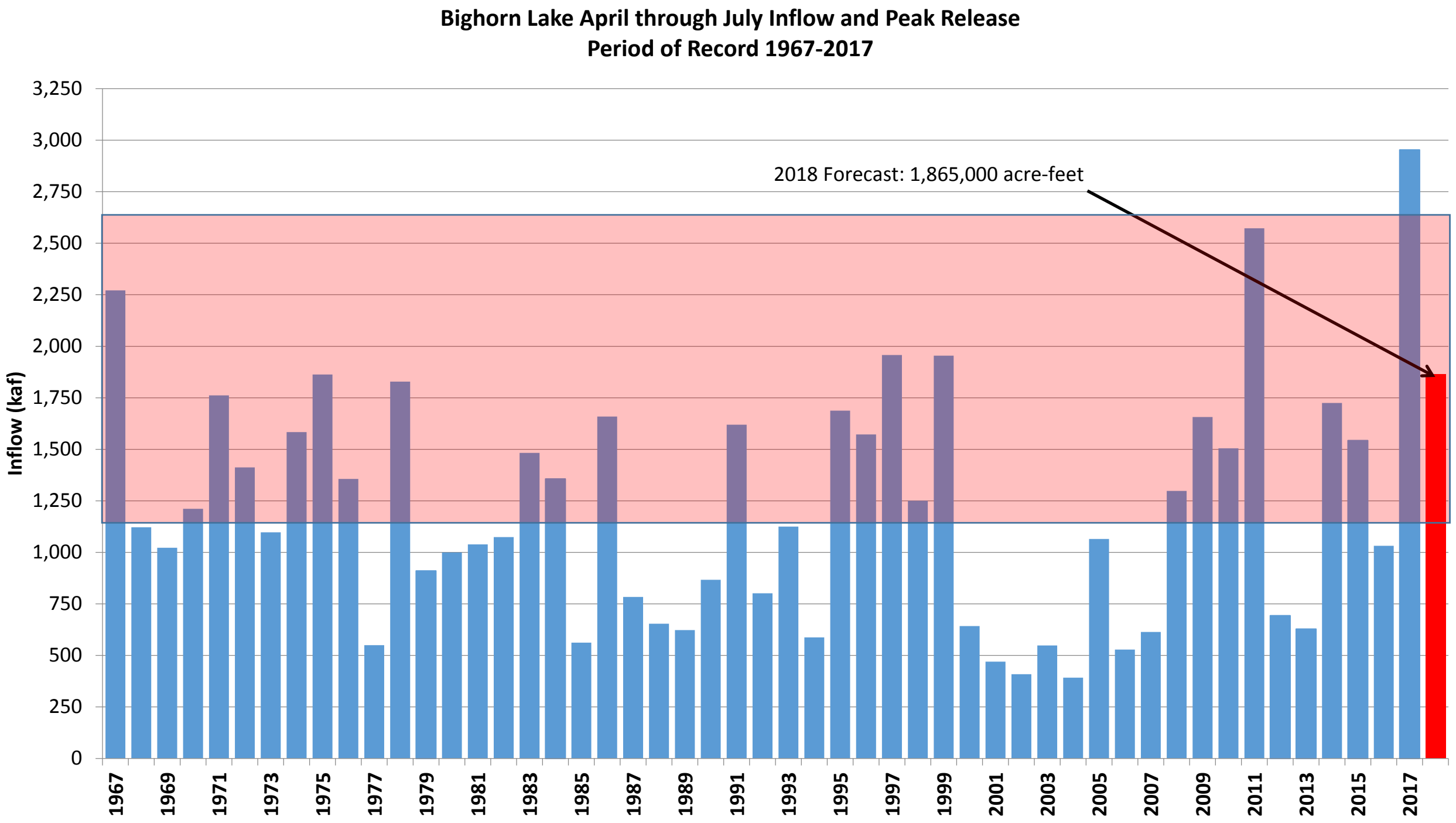
April through July Inflow Forecast

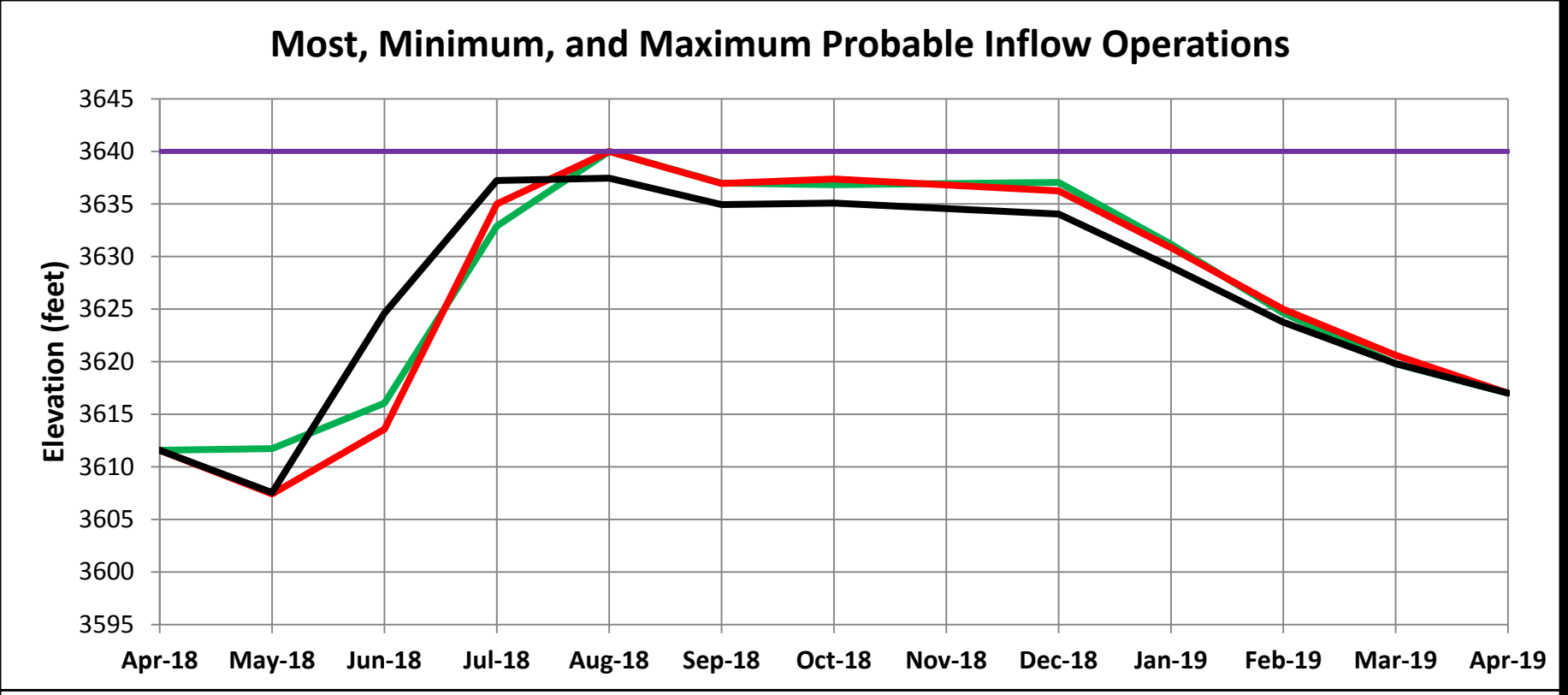
Forecasts in Acre-Feet

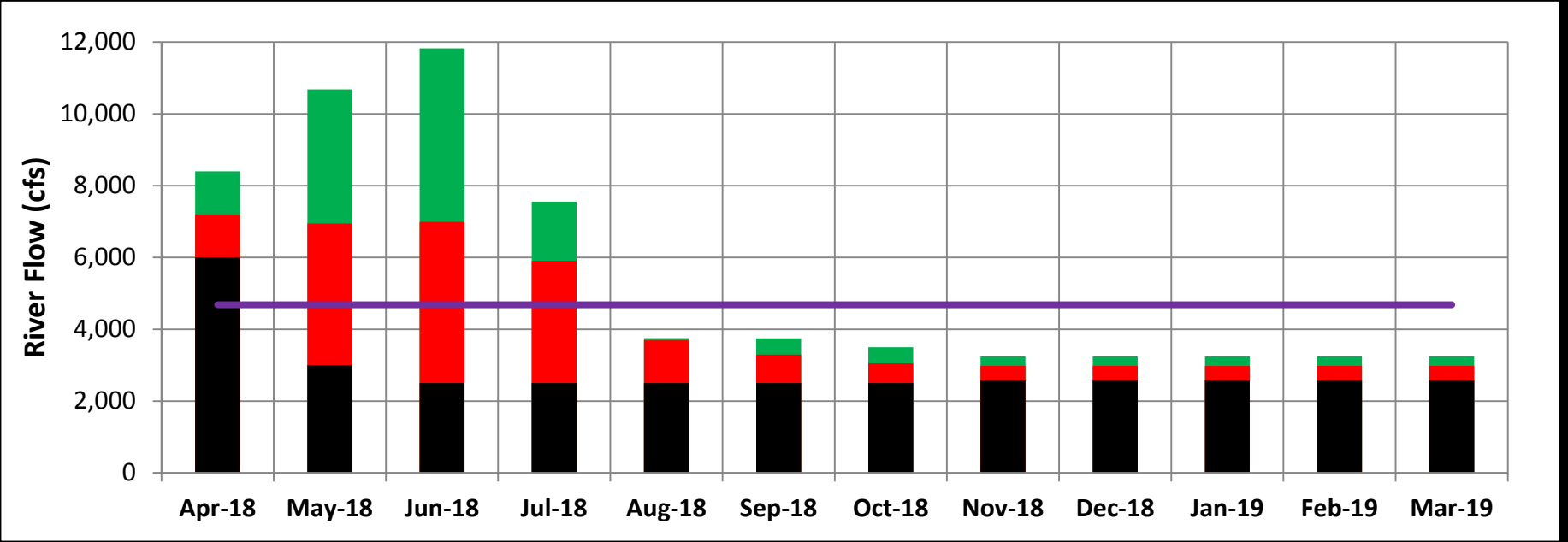
Forecast Range
1,510,000

757,000 Lower

753,000 Higher


Bighorn Lake April through July Inflow and Peak Release
Period of Record 1967-2017
2018 Forecast: 1,865,000 acre-feet
Inflow (kaf)
3,250
3,000
2,750
2,500
2,250
2,000
1,750
1,500
1,250
1,000
750
500
250
0
1967
1969
1971
1973
1975
1977
1979
1981
1983
1985
1987
1989
1991
1993
1995
1997
1999
2001
2003
2005
2007
2009
2011
2013
2015
2017





Target Low Elevation

3603.3 feet

Middle of May

Forecasted Peak Elevation

3637.5 – 3640 feet

Forecasted River Releases

2,500 – 11,900 cfs

Questions and Feedback