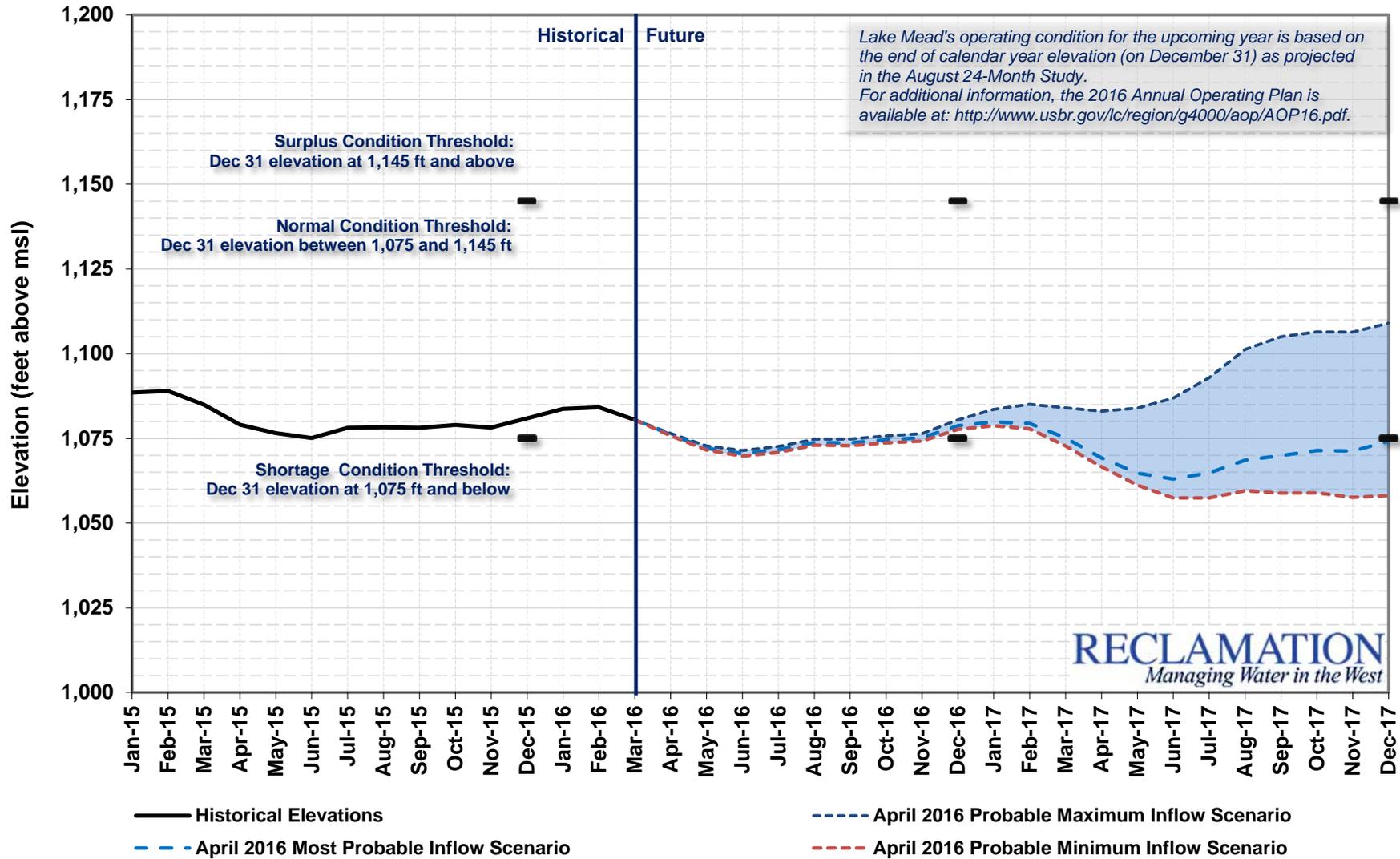


# Lake Mead End of Month Elevations

## Projections from April 2016 24-Month Study Inflow Scenarios



## **April 2016 24-Month Study Projections Lake Mead End of Month Elevation Chart**



### **Explanation of Hydrologic Scenarios**

In addition to the April 2016 24-Month Study based on the Most Probable inflow scenario, Reclamation conducted model runs to determine a possible range of reservoir elevations under Probable Minimum and Probable Maximum inflow scenarios. The Probable Minimum inflow scenario reflects a dry hydrologic condition which statistically would be exceeded 90% of the time. The Most Probable inflow scenario reflects a median hydrologic condition which statistically would be exceeded 50% of the time. The Probable Maximum inflow scenario reflects a wet hydrologic condition which statistically would be exceeded 10% of the time. There is approximately an 80% probability that a future elevation will fall inside the range of the minimum and maximum inflow scenarios. There are possible inflow scenarios that would result in reservoir elevations falling outside the ranges indicated in these reports.

Consistent with Section 6.B of the Interim Guidelines, the Lake Powell operational tier for water year 2016 is the Upper Elevation Balancing Tier. The April 2016 24-Month Study projects the end of water year elevation at Lake Powell to be above 3,575 feet and the end of water year elevation at Lake Mead to be below elevation 1,075.0 feet. Therefore, in accordance with Section 6.B.4 of the Interim Guidelines, Lake Powell operations will shift to "balancing releases" for the remainder of water year 2016. Under Section 6.B.4, the contents of Lake Powell and Lake Mead will be balanced by the end of the water year, but not more than 9.0 maf and not less than 8.23 maf shall be released from Lake Powell. Based on the most probable inflow forecast, this April 24-Month Study projects a balancing release of 9.0 maf in water year 2016; the actual release in water year 2016, however, will depend on hydrology in the remainder of water year and will range from 8.23 to 9.0 maf. The projected release from Lake Powell in water year 2016 will be updated each month throughout the remainder of the water year.

Consistent with Section 2.B.5 of the Interim Guidelines, the Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) Surplus Condition is the criterion governing the operation of Lake Mead for calendar year 2016.

The Interim Guidelines are available for download at: <http://www.usbr.gov/lc/region/programs/strategies/RecordofDecision.pdf>.  
The 2016 AOP is available for download at <http://www.usbr.gov/lc/region/g4000/aop/AOP16.pdf>.

### **April 2016 Probable Minimum Inflow Scenario**

The water year 2016 unregulated inflow into Lake Powell under the April Probable Minimum inflow scenario is 6.86 maf, or 63 percent of average. Consistent with the Interim Guidelines, the Probable Minimum 24-Month Study results in a projected annual release volume from Glen Canyon Dam of 9.00 maf in water year 2016 and 8.23 maf in water year 2017. With intervening flows between Lake Powell and Lake Mead of 0.76 maf in water year 2016, Lake Mead's elevation is projected to be 1,072.87 feet on September 30, 2016.

### **April 2016 Most Probable Inflow Scenario**

The water year 2016 unregulated inflow into Lake Powell under the April Most Probable inflow scenario is 8.44 maf, or 78 percent of average. Consistent with the Interim Guidelines, the April Most Probable inflow scenario results in a projected water year release volume from Glen Canyon Dam of 9.00 maf in water years 2016 and 2017. With intervening flows between Lake Powell and Lake Mead of 0.83 maf in water year 2016, Lake Mead's elevation is projected to be 1,073.69 feet on September 30, 2016.

### **April 2016 Probable Maximum Inflow Scenario**

The water year 2016 unregulated inflow into Lake Powell under the April Probable Maximum inflow scenario is 11.13 maf, or 103 percent of average. Consistent with the Interim Guidelines, the Probable Maximum 24-Month Study results in a projected annual release volume from Glen Canyon Dam of 9.00 maf in water year 2016 and 11.91 maf in water year 2017. With intervening flows between Lake Powell and Lake Mead of 0.93 maf in water year 2016, Lake Mead's elevation is projected to be 1,074.85 feet on September 30, 2016.