

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Partnerships and Progress
on the Lower Colorado River
International Session – Partnering with Mexico

Multi-State Salinity Coalition
2017 Annual Salinity Summit
March 2, 2017



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

International Session

- U.S. and Mexico share a nearly 2,000 mile border
- A border largely defined by water – physically and diplomatically
 - Together the Colorado River and Rio Grande make up two thirds of the international border
 - First was the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo that first recognized allocation issues



1944 Water Treaty – A Framework for Cooperation

- Granted the IBWC authority to implement the Treaty and resolve issues
- The Minute process gives the Treaty adaptability
- Guaranteed annual 1.5 M AF on the Colorado River
 - *Except in cases of extraordinary drought*



Signing of the Treaty for the Utilization of the Colorado River and Tijuana Rivers and the Rio Grande

Washington DC
February 3, 1944

Some Noteworthy Minutes (Colorado River)

Selected Colorado River Minutes

Minute	Outcome
242	Original Treaty silent on water quality. Created equitable salinity solution for both nations
306	Original Treaty silent on ecology/environment. Established the framework for environmental cooperation on the Colorado River and Delta
316	Balanced Yuma Desalting Plant Pilot Run operations with the environment
318	Allowed Mexico to store water in Lake Mead after 2010 (7.2 magnitude earthquake)

Status of Minute 319 Implementation

- Extension of Minute 318
- Intentionally Created Mexican Allocation (ICMA)
- High and low reservoir operations
- Salinity Management
- Water for Environment
- Projects



Signing of Minute 319 on November 20, 2012

Minute 32X

- A work in progress
- Minute 319 ends on December 31, 2017
- Work began in 2015 on the successor Minute to 319
- Minute 32X builds on results of Minute 319 and considers evolving Colorado River basin conditions
- Minute Negotiating Group (MNG)
- Specific Work Groups assist the Negotiating Team

Minute 32X Work Groups

Salinity



- Relationship between volume and salinity

Projects



- U.S. investment in exchange for water

Environmental



- Maintain existing habitat and provide for new project areas

Minute 32X Work Groups *continued*

- Minute 319 Work Groups are also assisting the 32x MNG
- Basin Conditions and Hydrology Team
 - Technical analyses of natural runoff, reservoir elevations, and drought indicators
- All American Canal Work Group
 - Potential construction of AAC turnout for Mexico

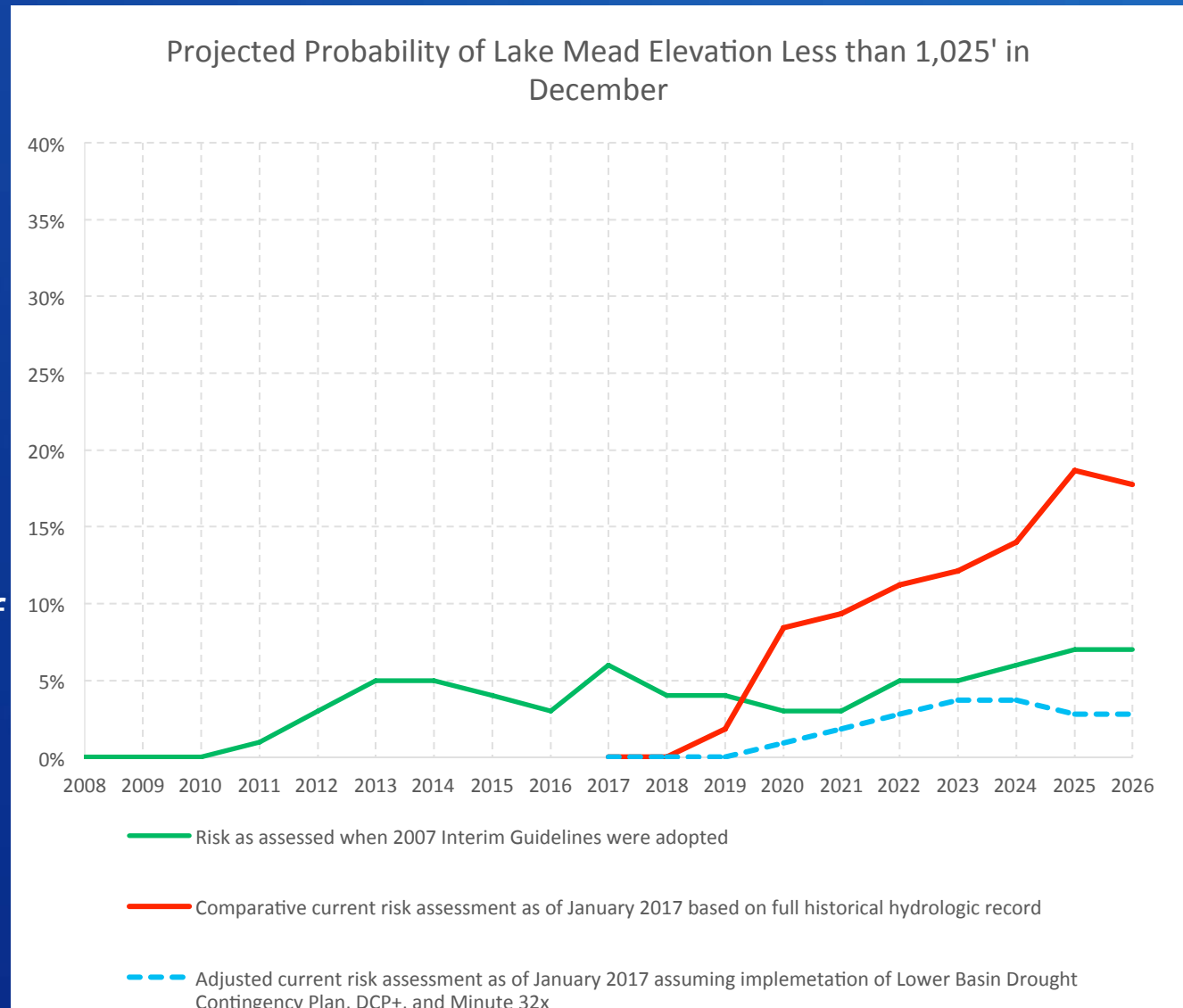


December 2016 Minute 32X Meeting



Minute 32X Status

- Secretarial Order -1/17/2017
- Significant progress that has occurred
- Commitment of the 7 basin states
- Continued emphasis



Cornerstones of Partnership

Leadership

Trust



Commitment

Innovation