



**Technical
Customer Advisory Committee**

AGENDA

Members

Elias Archuleta
Mark Begay
John Fleck
Brian Freeman
Kerry J. Howe

Donald T. Lopez
Anjali Mulchandani
Jill Peterson
Mario Nuño-Whelan

Public participation for this meeting will be via WebEx video conference. To request login information for this meeting or to submit public comment, contact Jordan Salas at jsalas@abcwua.org or 505-289-3100. Requests for login information and public comment must be submitted before 2:00 PM the date of the meeting.

Thursday, April 3, 2025

4:00 PM

**1441 Mission Ave NE
Conference Room 204**

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of March 6, 2025, Action Summary
4. Public Comment
5. FY26 Operating/Capital Budgets
6. Summer Conservation Planning
7. 2025 Annual Operating Plan
8. Water Report
9. Other Business
10. Adjournment

NOTICE TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: If you have a disability and require special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Water Utility Authority Office, Suite 5012, Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Government Center, phone 289-3100, as soon as possible prior to the meeting date.



**Proposed Budget
for Fiscal Year 2026
Operating & Capital Improvement Program**

July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026



Why is a budget needed?

- **Legally Required -**
 - **Required in accordance with NM State Statutes and Water Authority Policies and Procedures**
- **Operational Guide -**
 - **Defines how the Water Authority is wanting to perform and operate for the fiscal year**
- **A Policy Document -**
 - **Defines funding to achieve the goals and objectives as well as performance indicators**
- **Ratepayers -**
 - **Demonstrates the Water Authority's performance and spending plans**



What is governmental fund accounting and why is it used?

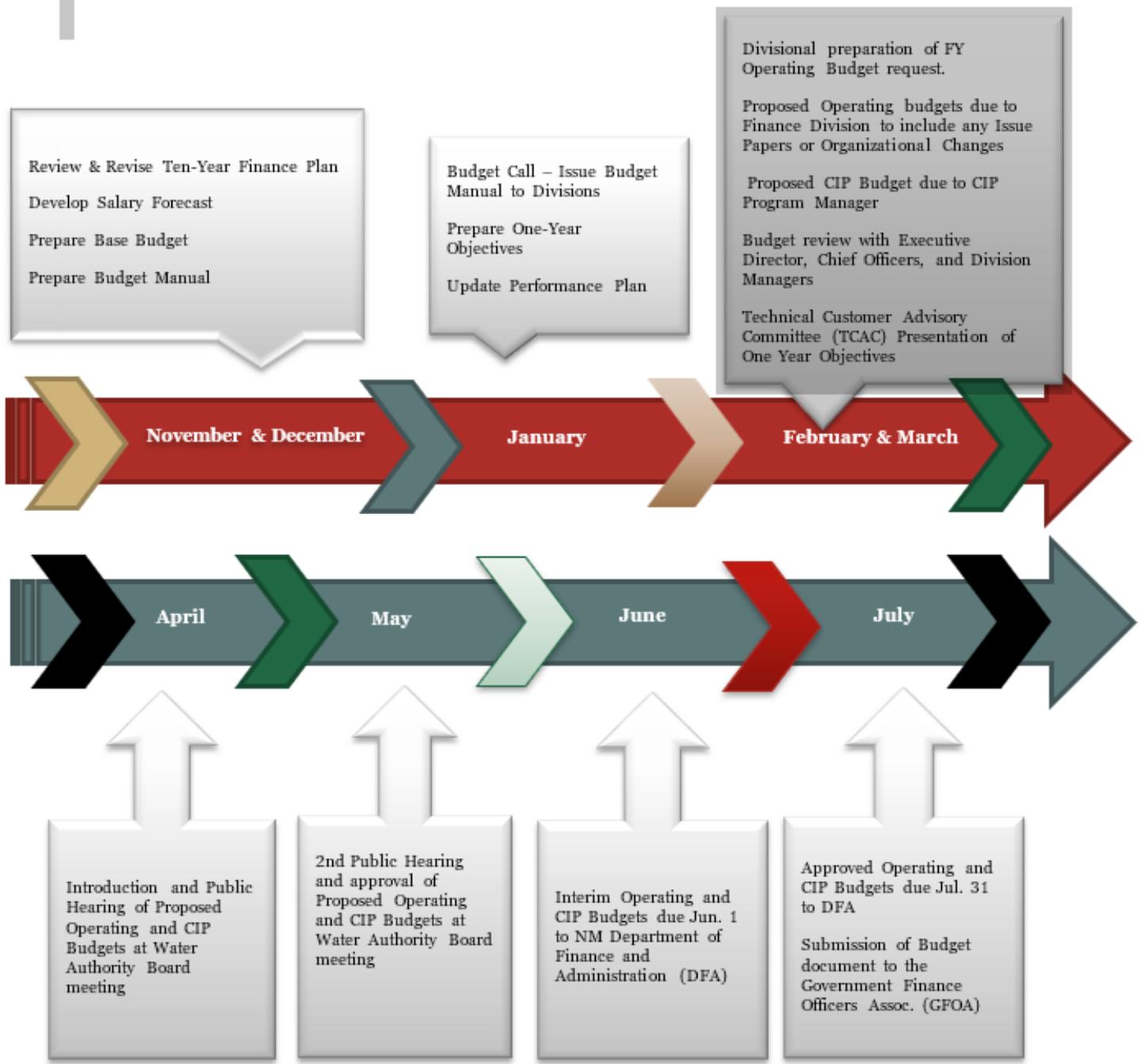
- Fund accounting is used for control purposes that are unique to the government environment. The Water Authority is legally required to set up funds for certain transactions.
- Fund accounting is used to ensure the proper segregation of resources and to maintain proper accountability.
- The Water Authority also has funds, sub-funds, or subaccounts for internal control and financial reporting purposes.



Water Authority Fund Overview

- General Fund-
 - Accounts for operational basic services of the Water Authority
 - Main Revenue Source: Rates
- Debt Service Fund-
 - Accounts for annual principal and interest payments on debt obligations
 - Main Revenue Source: Rates (Transfer from General Fund)
- San Juan Chama Project Contractors Assn Fund-
 - Water Authority is fiscal agent for the association
 - Revenue Source: Dues and special assessments from members
- Capital Funds -
 - Account for acquisition, construction, or improvement of major capital facilities and improvements
 - Three Capital Project Funds:
 - Rehab Projects Fund
 - Growth Projects Fund
 - Water 2120 Projects Fund
 - Main Revenue Source: Rates (Transfer from General Fund), Bond or Loan proceeds, Grants, Utility Expansion Charges (UEC), and Water Resource Charges (WRC)





Budget Planning & Processes

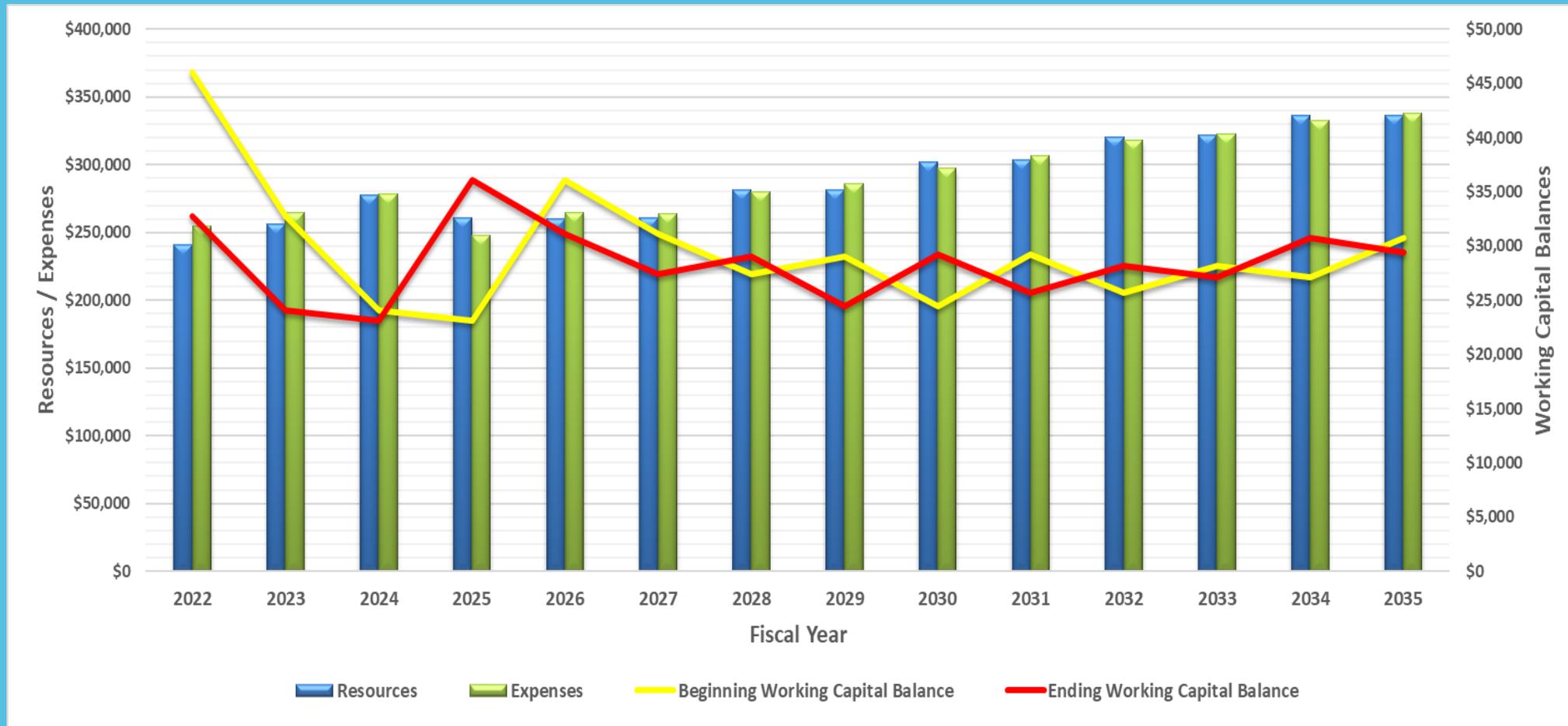


FY26 Budget Assumptions

- ❑ Revenues in Water and Sewer are sufficient to cover operating expenses for 2026
 - Fund for Capital projects
 - Recover operational costs of service
 - Fund debt service principal/interest payments
 - Stabilize fund reserves
- ❑ Nominal growth in service area
- ❑ 3% cost of living increase
- ❑ Increase in fringe benefit premiums
- ❑ No increase in operational costs
 - Efficiencies
 - Business processes
- ❑ Increase Capital project funding
 - Repairs for aging infrastructure



FY26 General Fund Finance Plan

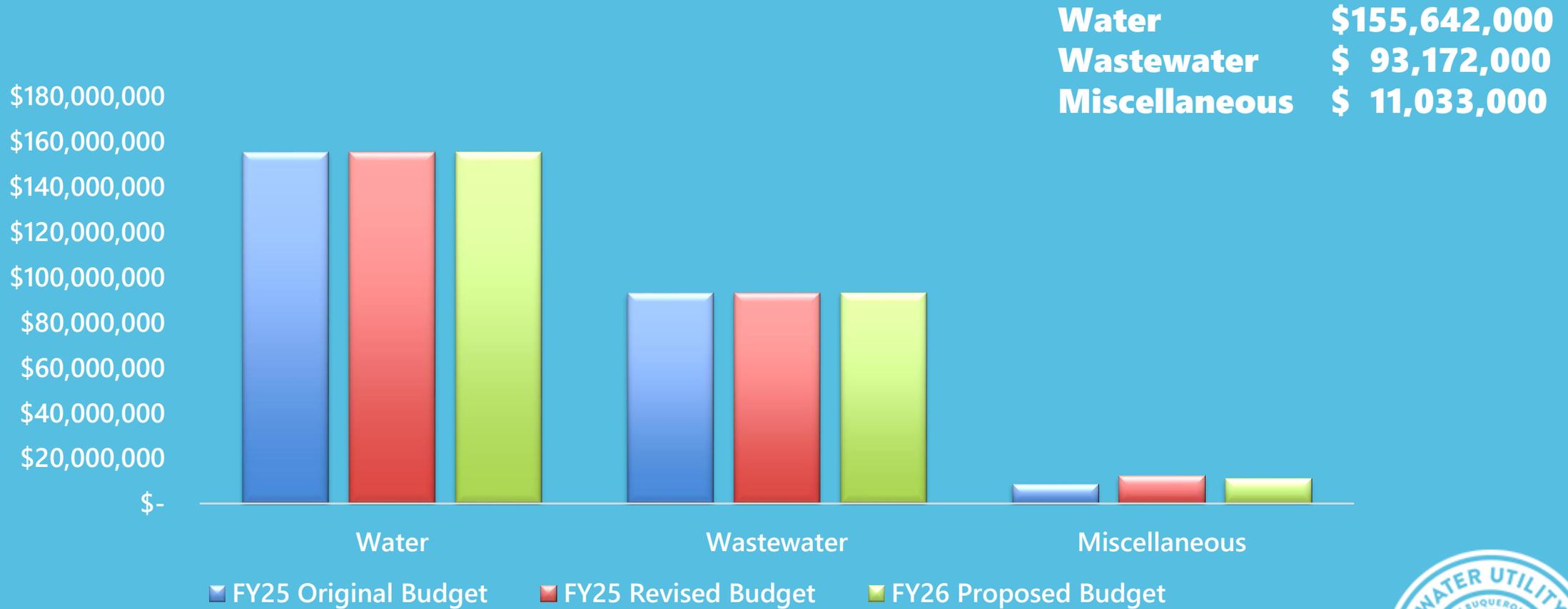


FY26 Performance/Budget Highlights

- ❑ Update Water 2120
- ❑ Colorado River MOU
 - Develop plan to reduce nonfunctional turf by 30%
 - Collaboration with compact members
- ❑ Lead/Copper EPA Rule Service Line Inventory
- ❑ Update Comprehensive Asset Management Plan
- ❑ Expansion of low-income programs
 - Outreach to customers
 - Collaboration with government agencies
- ❑ Update EPA Effective Utility Management program
- ❑ Develop an employee volunteer program
- ❑ Enhance safety inspection programs



FY26 General Fund Revenue



FY26 General Fund Expense



Water Authority Operating Future Challenges

- Increased Conservation
- Reduce system water loss
- Increasing operational costs of services to include:
 - Chemicals
 - Utilities (Electricity, Gas, etc.)
 - Equipment Repairs and Maintenance
 - IT Software Maintenance



FY26 Capital Improvement Program

- Total \$96.4 million CIP include:

\$70.0 million for the Basic Rehab Program to include but not limited to:

- \$10.7 million for drinking water pipelines
- \$12.3 million for Southside Water Reclamation Plant
- \$14.9 million for Groundwater Plant Renewal

\$4.0 million for Growth projects to include:

- Information technology upgrades
- Development reimbursement agreements
- Update to Integrated Master Plan
- Low Income Water and Sewer connections (Pipe Program)

\$20.0 million for Special Projects to include:

- Building Project - SWRP OPs, Warehouse, SAF, Etc.
- Steel waterline and AMI infrastructure (moved to from Special Projects to DW Pipeline Renewal)
- Renewable energy projects (moved from Special Projects to Shared Renewal Rehab decade line)

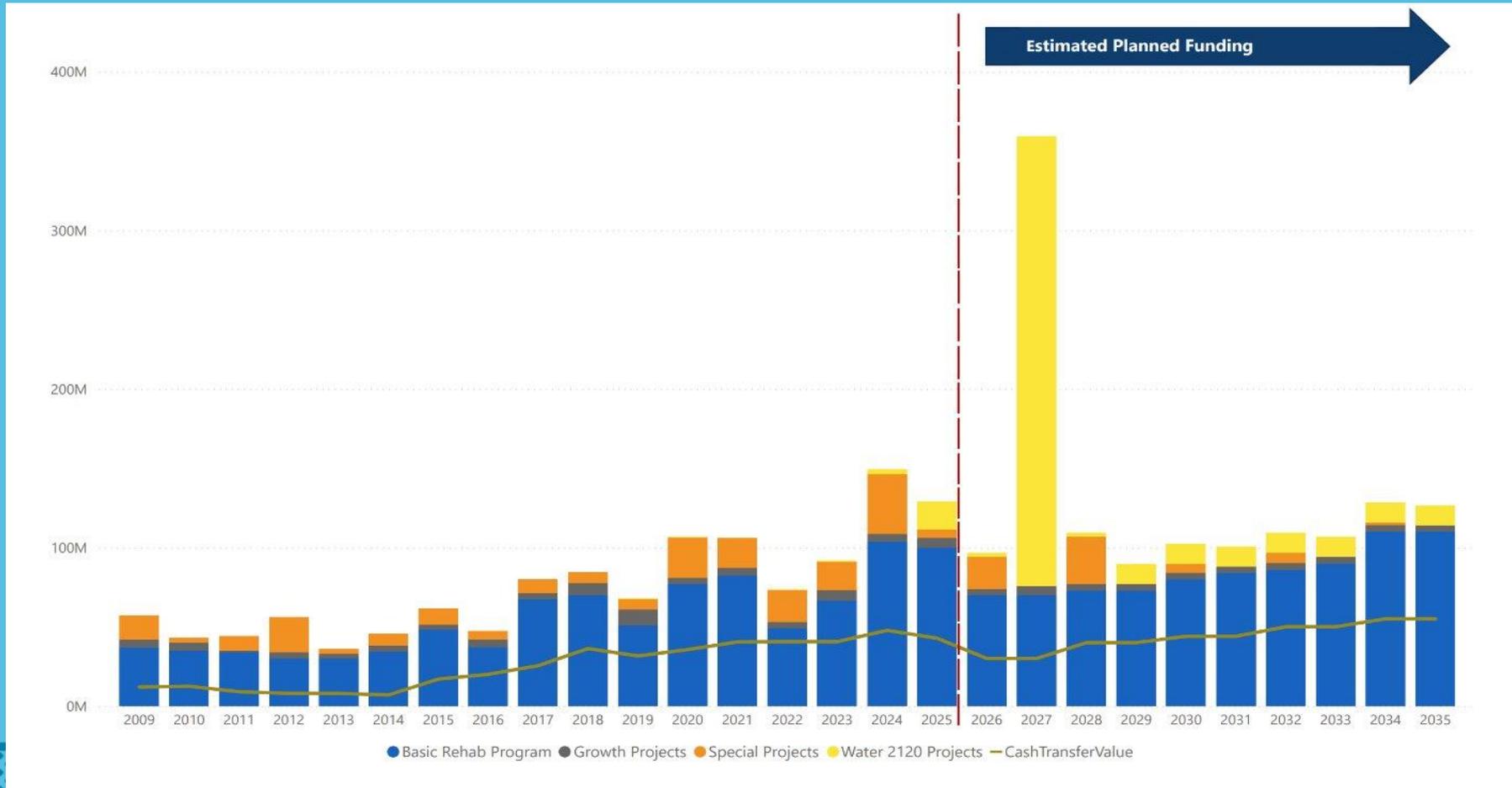
\$2.5 million for Water 2120 projects to include:

- Aquifer Storage and Recovery Well (ASR) Design & Construction
- Water 2120 plan update
- Reuse Irrigation Connections



FY26 Capital Improvement Program

Decade Plan Outlook



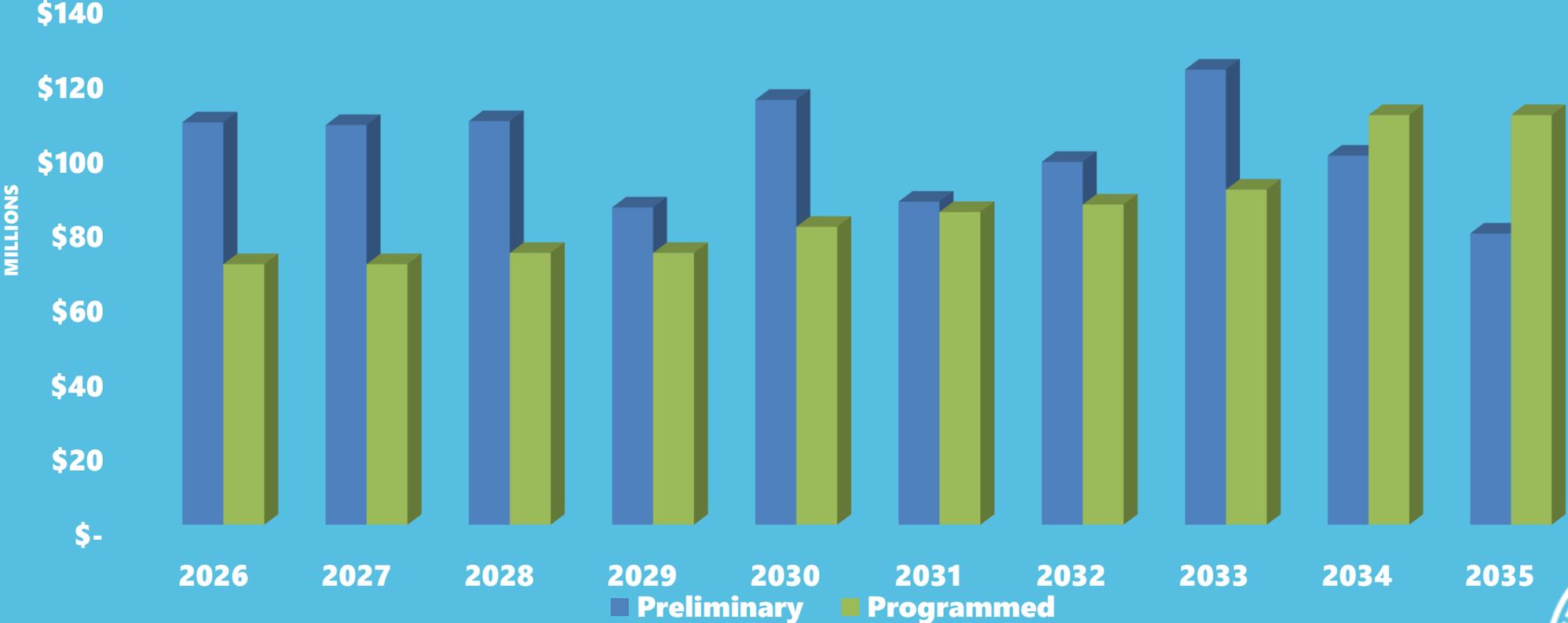
Future Capital Challenges Needs vs. Resources Gap

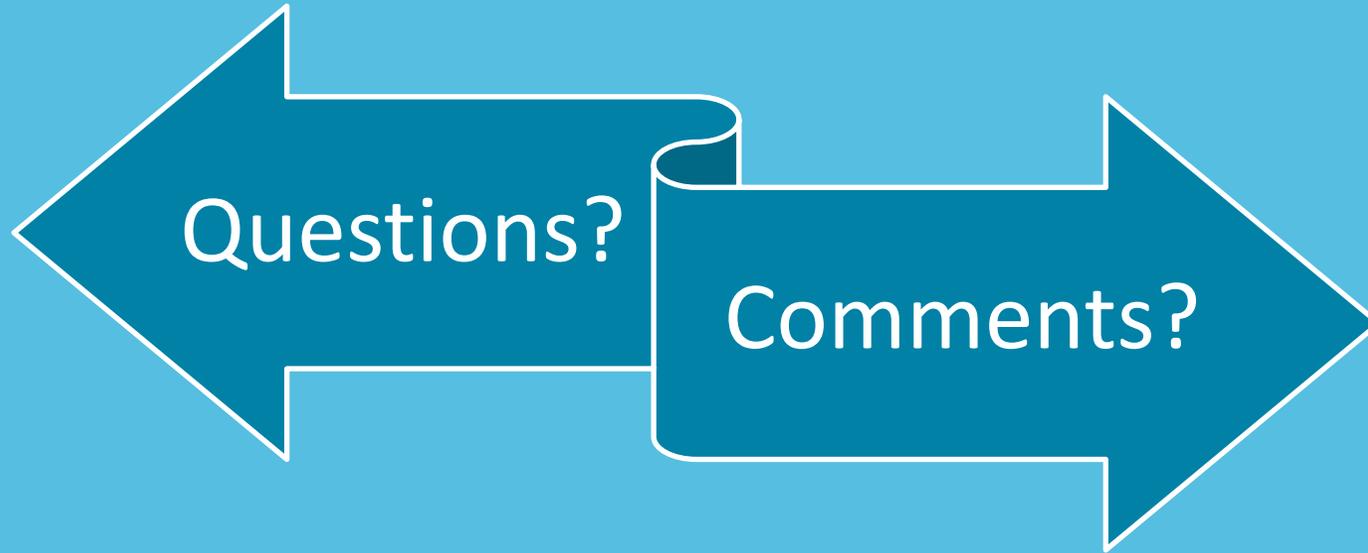
- ❑ Ongoing project cost escalations driven by external economic factors – Water and Wastewater costs outpacing inflation - 115% compared to 49% since 2010 (Producer Price Index (PPI))
- ❑ Capital project initial requests totaled over \$1 billion for rehab projects alone (only able to program \$846 million towards Decade Plan Rehab)
- ❑ Rehab funding gap between \$16 million and \$17 million per year over the next 3 years – Average of almost \$9 million per year over 10 years
- ❑ Invest in aging Water and Sewer infrastructure
- ❑ Funding for the Westside Water Reuse - Bosque Water Reclamation Facility (Bosque WRF) Project



Capital Rehabilitation Needs/Resources Gap

Rehabilitation Program Annual Funding Gap - Preliminary Requests (Based on Actual Priorities) vs. Programmed Allocations





Water Conservation Program

Spring/Summer Conservation and Drought Messaging



Drought Focused Conservation Messaging

- Anticipating further dry conditions within service area
- Increased spending on Promotions and advertising
- Series of water conservation webinars
- Promote seasonal watering guidelines
- Efficient irrigation equipment and Treebates
- Lawn to xeriscape transformation – increased rebate amount
- Data Driven water waste, and time of day restrictions enforcement



WATER AUTHORITY

Handy Spring Watering Guidelines

Hang 'em on the fridge or tape inside your irrigation controller!

Want more info? Search for "Irrigation Guide" at 505Outside.com!

WATER BY THE SEASONS: SPRING
MARCH - MAY

DRIP IRRIGATION – TREES & SHRUBS	HOSE WATERING – TREES & SHRUBS	SPRAY – LAWN	HIGH EFFICIENCY MICRO ROTORS – LAWN
 <p>minutes per cycle 80-100 times a month 2</p>	 <p>minutes per cycle 55 times a month 2</p>	 <p>minutes per cycle 7-10 times a month 8</p>	 <p>minutes per cycle 40-50 times a month 8</p>





GRADUATE TO A "SMART" CONTROLLER!

REBATES AVAILABLE: abcwua.org

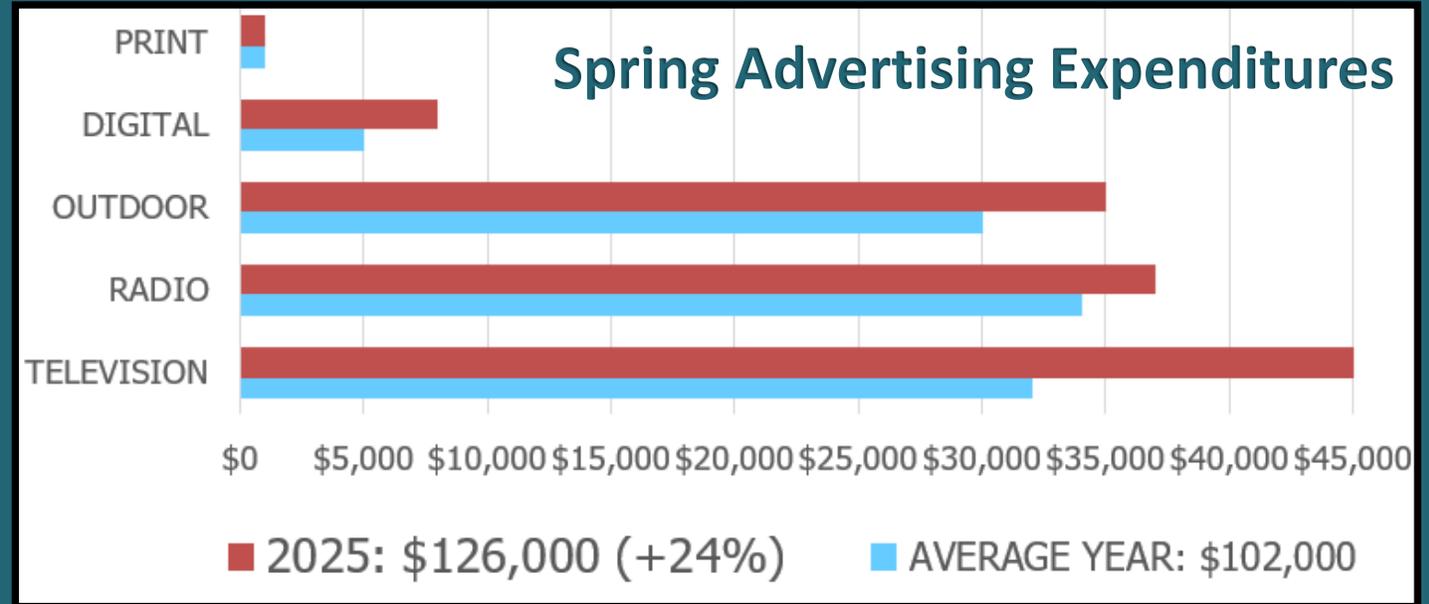
WATER AUTHORITY

Weather the Drought Campaign



Anticipating continued dry conditions including early river drying - preemptively starting drought stage 0 water conservation efforts:

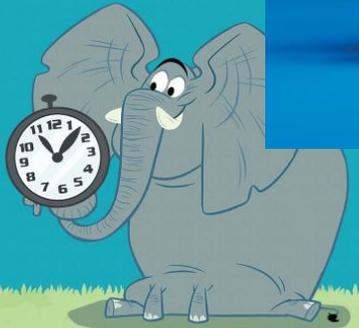
- Increasing public outreach including Duration, quantity, frequency and reach, and budget
- Promotional materials that include drought enhancements focused on drought reminders
- Increase public outreach that emphasizes education and voluntary conservation through a series of bi-monthly webinars - customers receive a \$20 rebate



Spring/Summer 2025 Conservation Messaging

TIME OF DAY REMINDER

REMEMBER:
→ **NO** ←
SPRINKLERS
11AM-7PM



SMART CONTROLLER REBATE



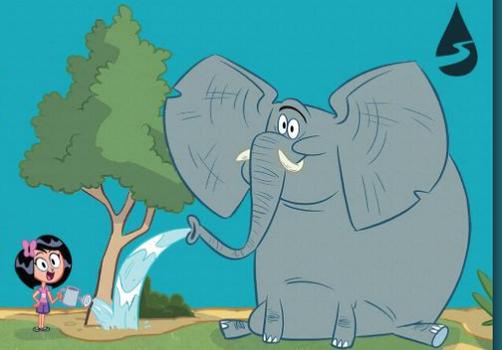
GRADUATE TO A
“**SMART**”
CONTROLLER!

REBATES AVAILABLE: abcwua.org



TREE CARE

REMEMBER:
WATER
→ **YOUR** ←
TREES



RAIN REMINDER

REMEMBER:
TURN OFF
SPRINKLERS
— *when it* —
RAINS!



WATER WASTE

BLOW THE
WHISTLE
ON WATER
WASTE!

REPORT IT @
ABCWUA.ORG



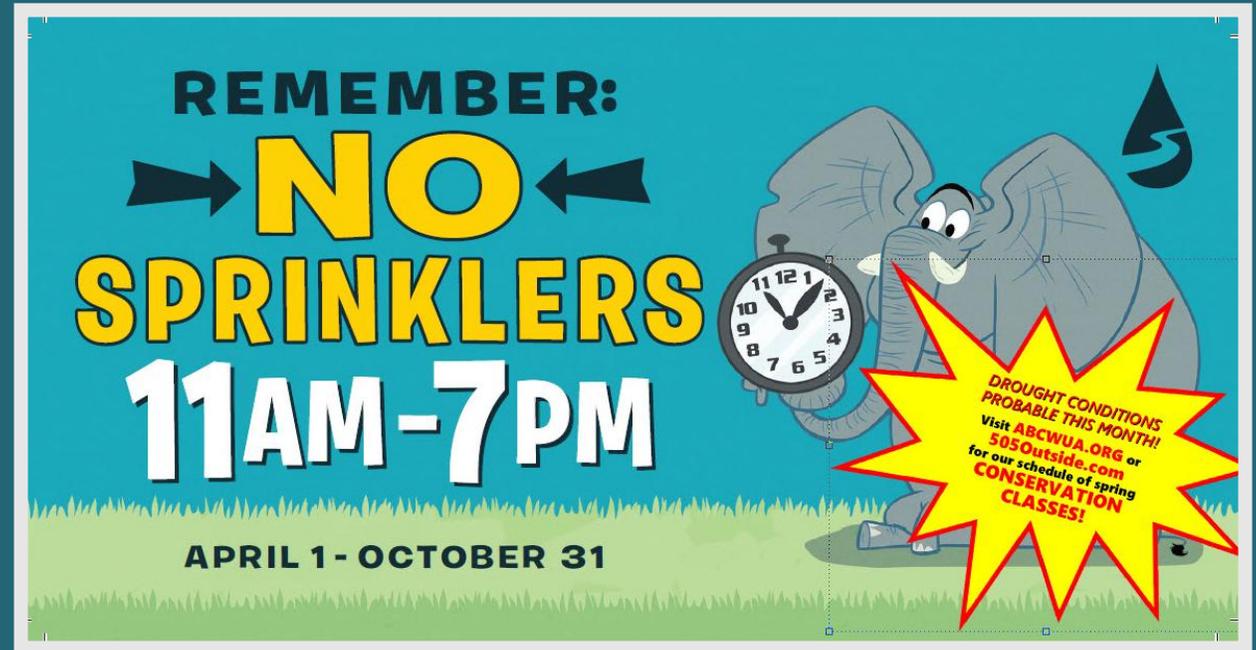
Lawn to xeriscape transformation rebate promotion

- Lawn to xeriscape transformation rebate – 33% increase
- Upcoming 500-word column featured in local weekly newspapers and online publications describing the lawn to xeriscape rebate which details the qualifications, requirements and process
- 505Outside monthly newsletter article promoting the rebate, how to take advantage of it, and numerous free resources such as landscape design templates.



Data Driven Approach to Enforcement and Outreach

- Sending letters to customers that appear from AMI data to be watering with sprinklers within the restricted
- Pursuing a data driven approach for following up on water waste complaints and patrols – focused on excessive users and problematic trunk lines
- Goal of sending 1,000 letters and emails per month to residential customers that are within the top 5% of water users



Questions?





2025 Annual Operating Plan

April 1, 2025 thru March 31, 2026



Annual Operating Plan - Overview

- Water Authority AOP one of three for the Middle Rio Grande
- Operating period: April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026
- Due to USFWS by May 15th
- Key inputs into the AOP:
 - SP-4830 Conditions 12 and 13
 - Reclamation forecast model
 - *Water 2120* demand projection
- Coordinated between Water Resources and Operations

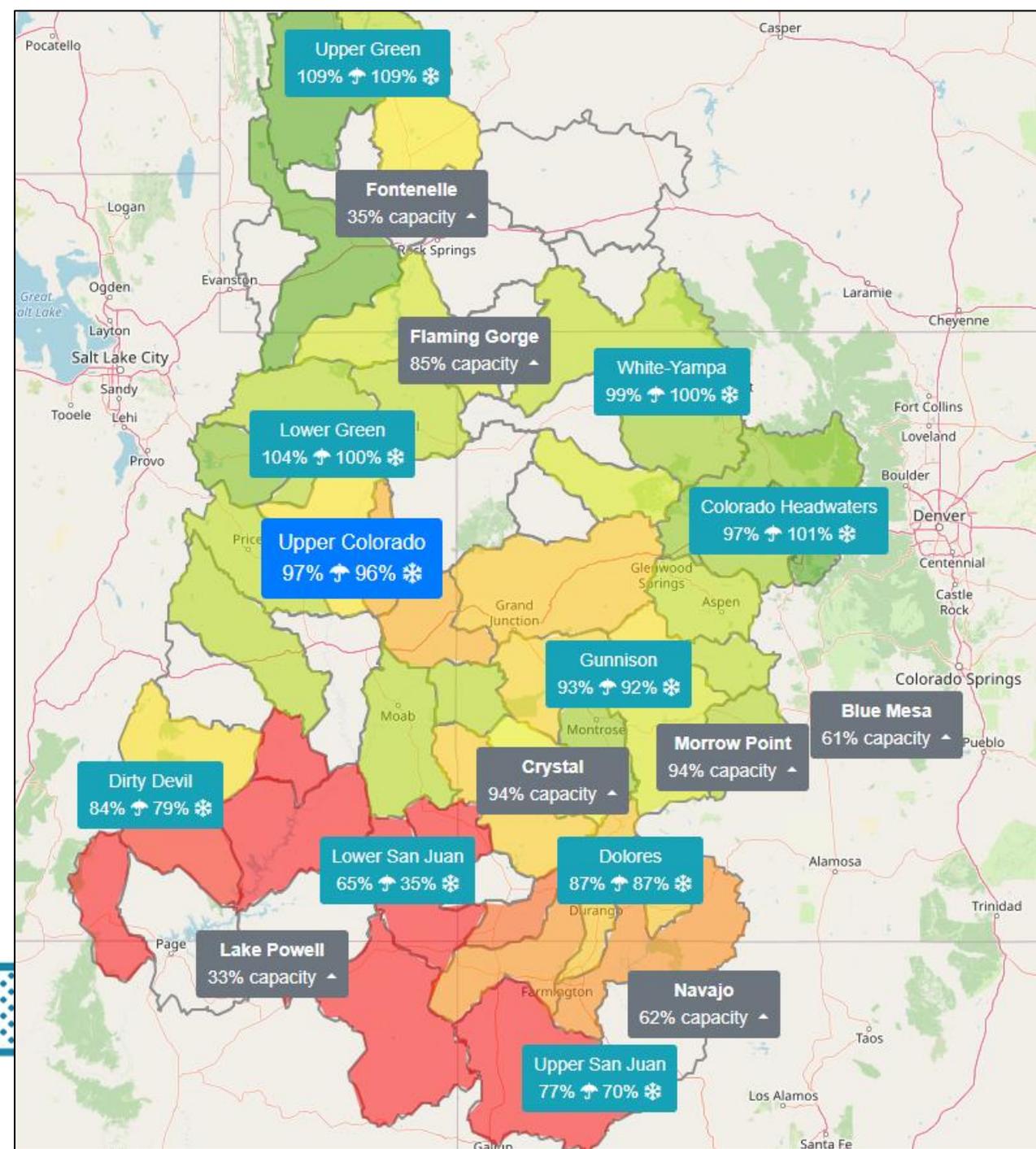
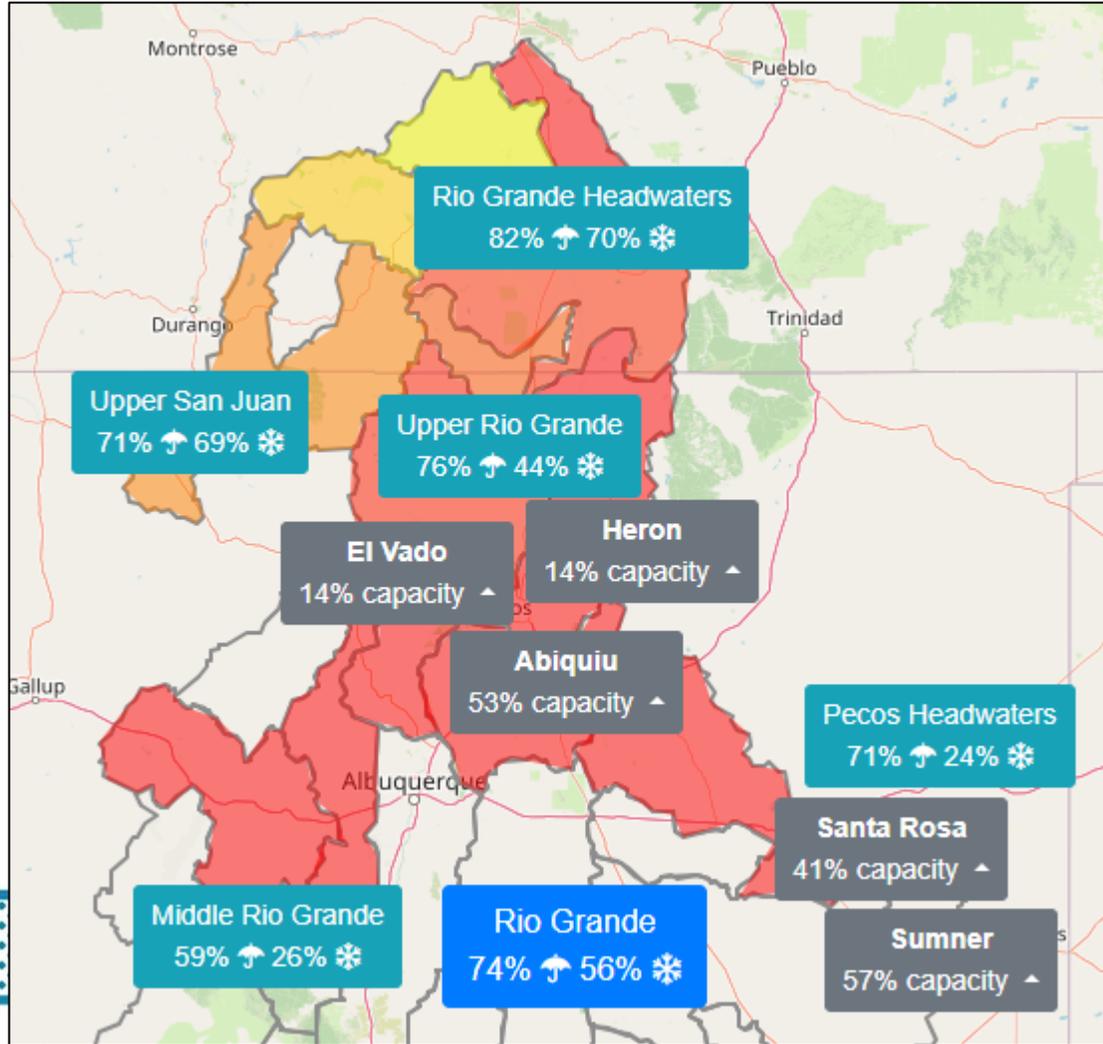


Snowpack

Bureau of Reclamation website:

<https://www.usbr.gov/uc/albug/water/index.html>

(Date accessed: March 25, 2025)



Precipitation and Temperature Outlook

National Weather Service Climate :

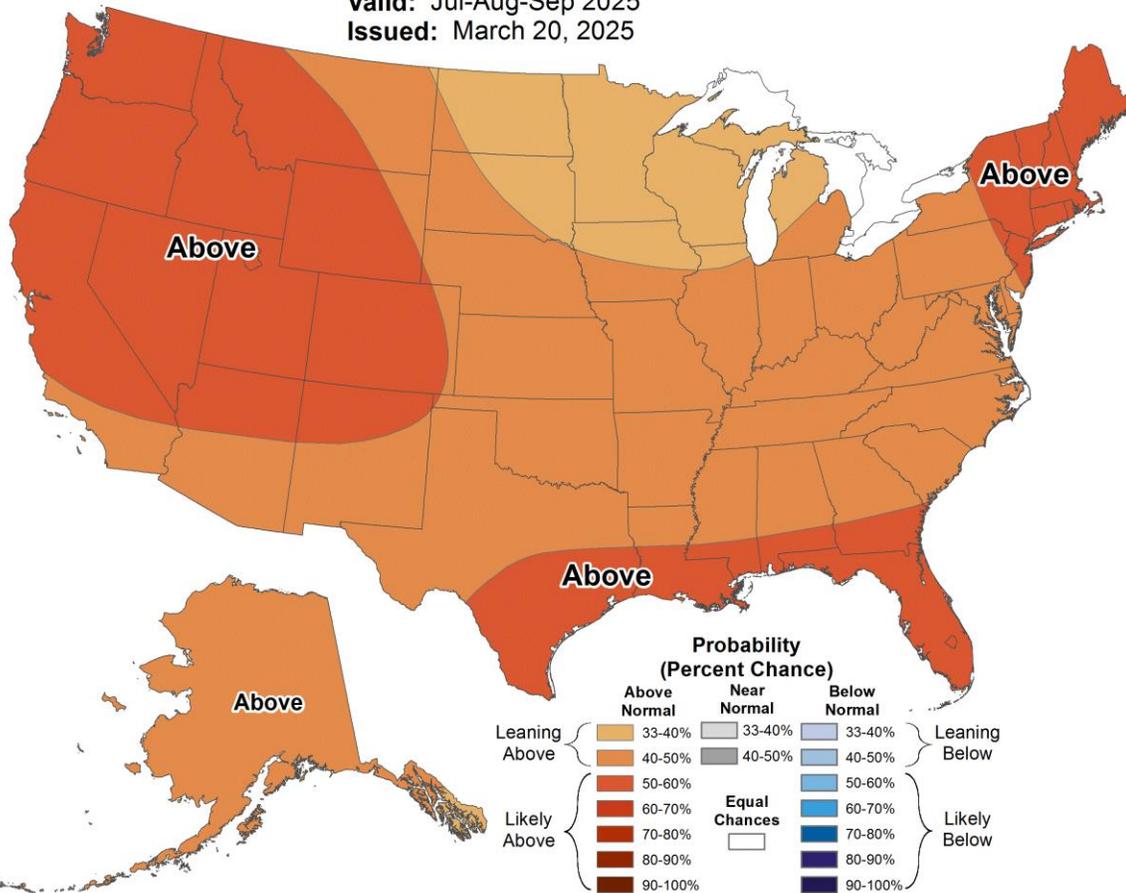
https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long_range/seasonal.php?lead=4 (Date accessed: March 25, 2025)



Seasonal Temperature Outlook



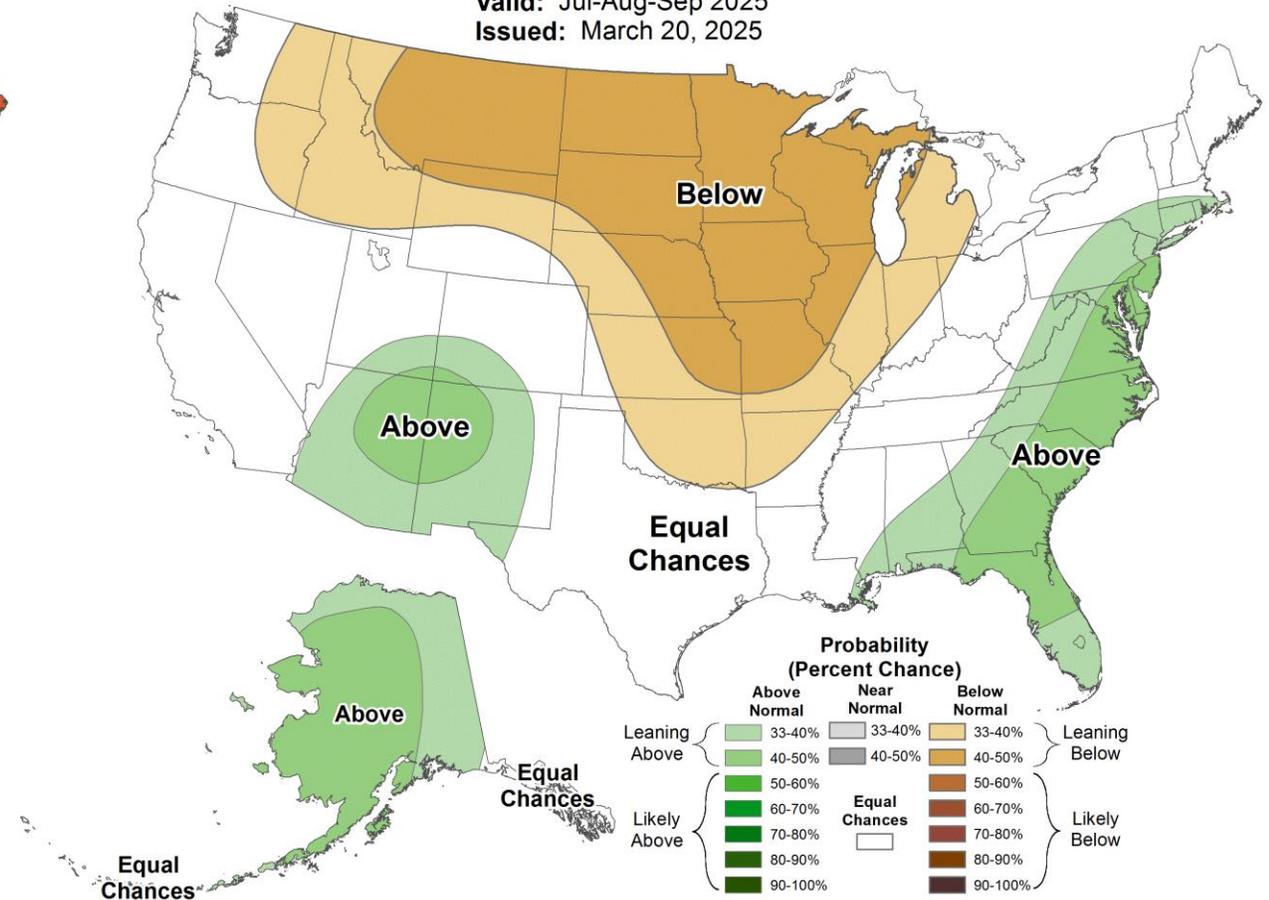
Valid: Jul-Aug-Sep 2025
Issued: March 20, 2025



Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



Valid: Jul-Aug-Sep 2025
Issued: March 20, 2025



SP-4830 Conditions 12 and 13

- *Condition 12* → “native” flow must be available AND stream flows at Albuquerque Central gage must be > 122 cfs
- *Condition 13* → diversion of “native” water must be curtailed when native flow is < 195 cfs at Alameda gage

AND

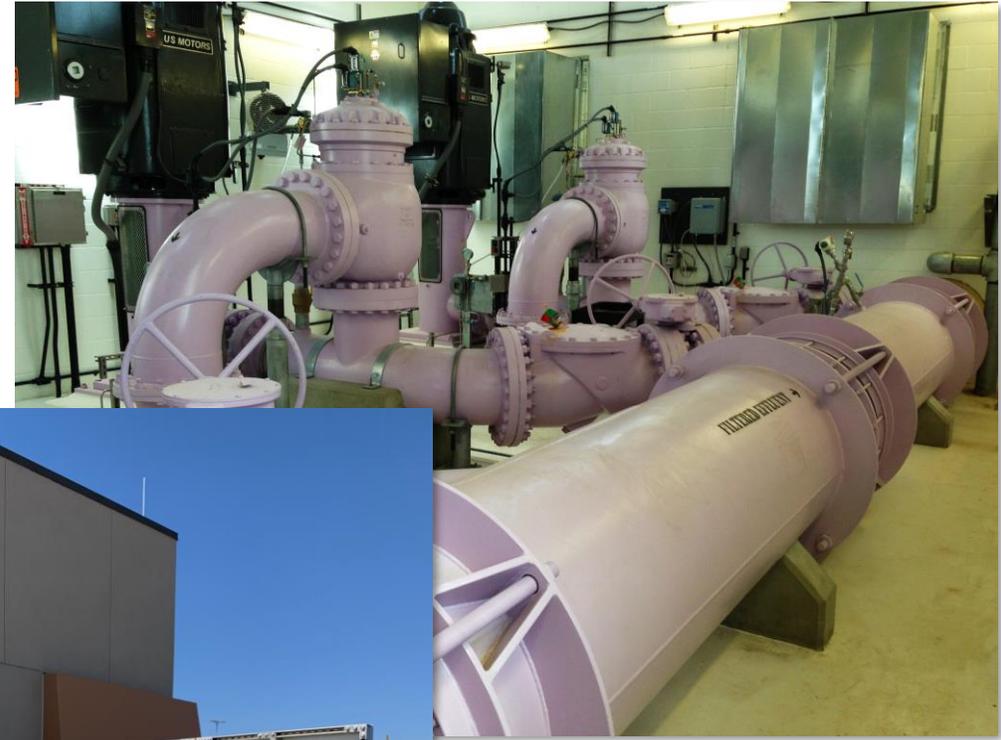
Diversion must be suspended if native flow in the Rio Grande channel is ≤ 130 cfs at Alameda gage OR stream flows in the Rio Grande channel ≤ 122 cfs at the Albuquerque Central gage

- AOP has both conditions set as thresholds that must be met for operation of the DWP diversion

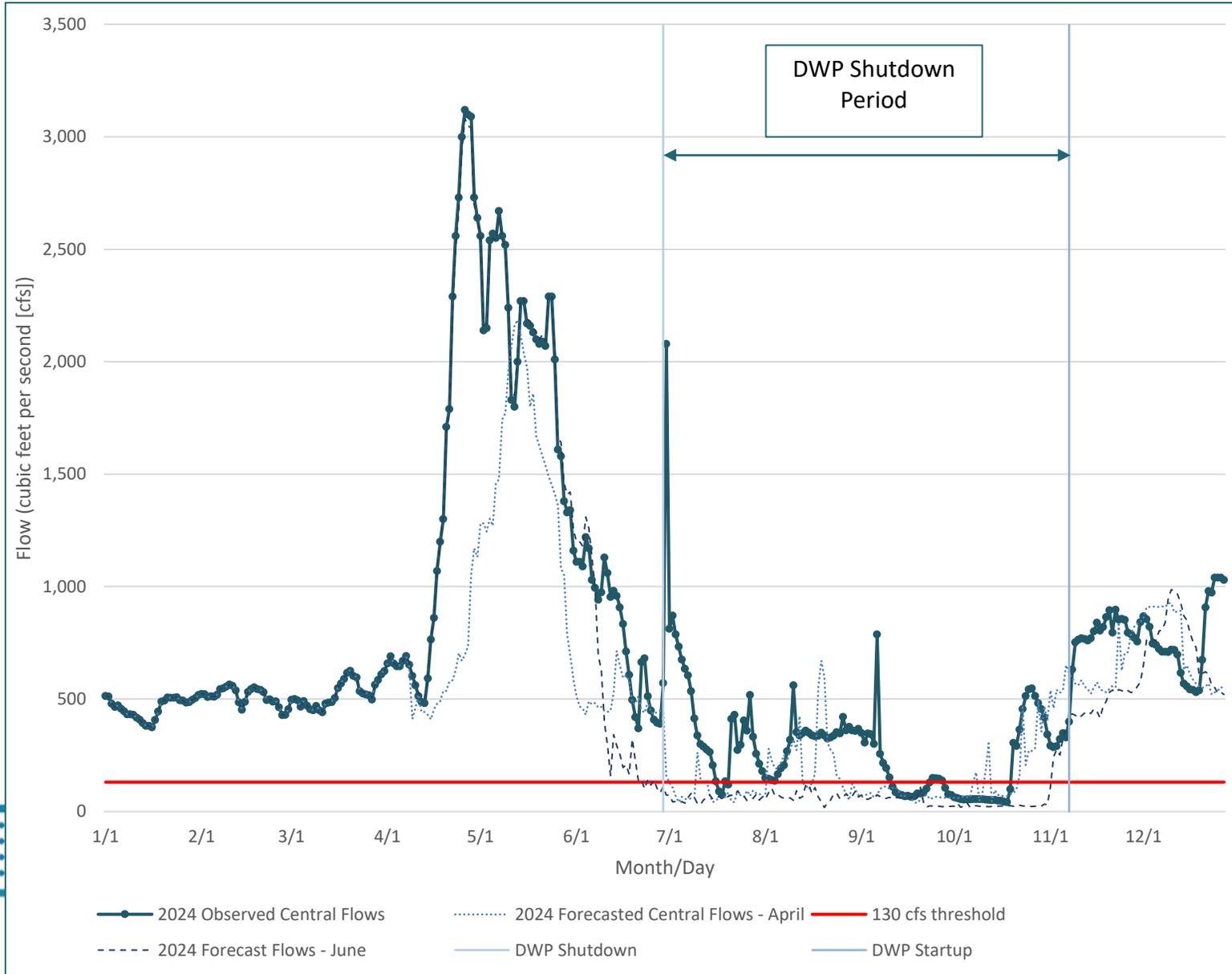


Additional AOP Considerations

- Minimum groundwater pumping (in MGD)
- Reuse usage for operating period based on a three-year average
- North Non-Potable project demand (SP-4819)
- North Non-Potable surface water diversion shutdown during drying in Albuquerque reach
- DWTP Large-Scale Recharge Project – injected volume
- Bear Canyon Recharge Project – recharged volume



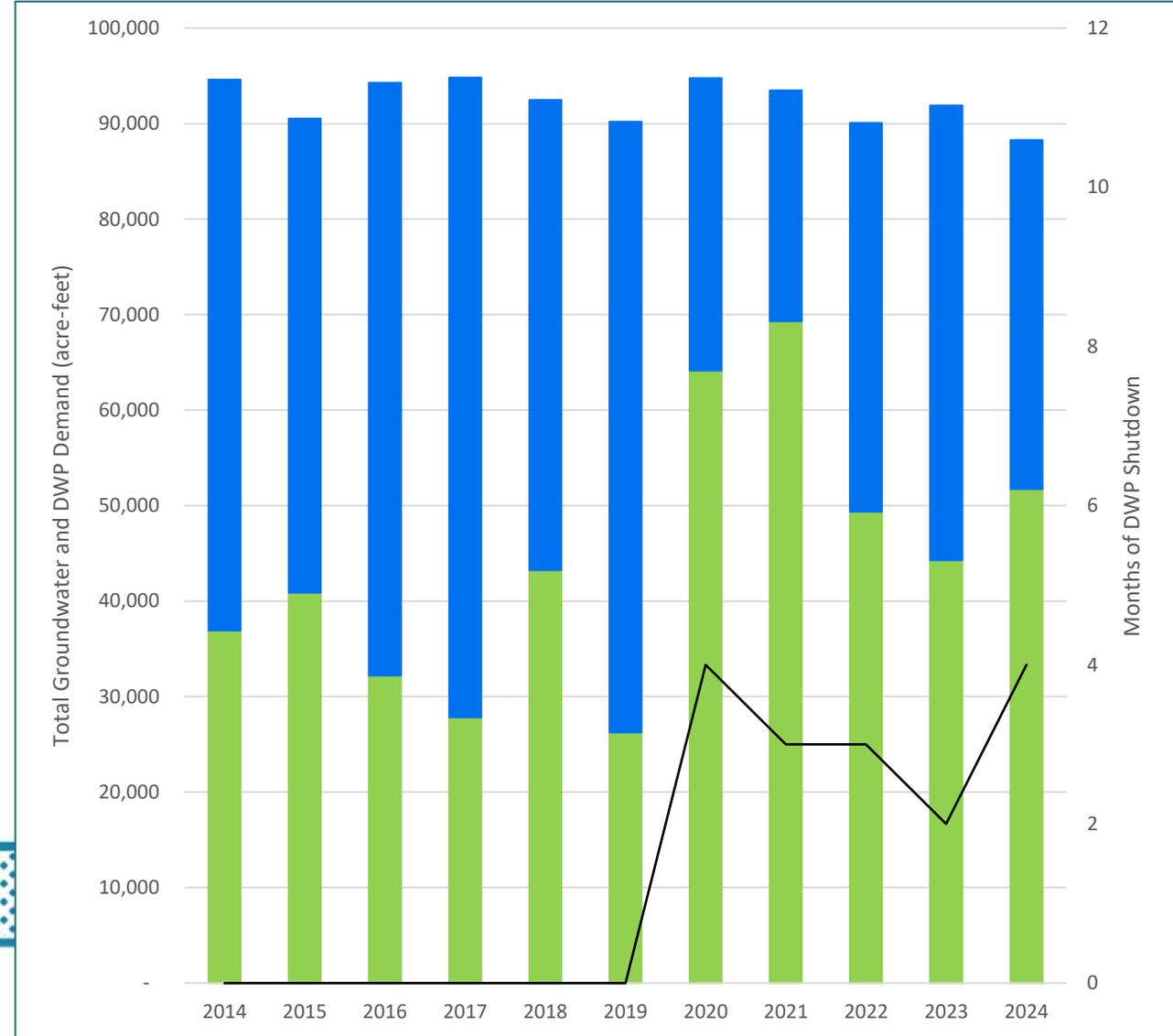
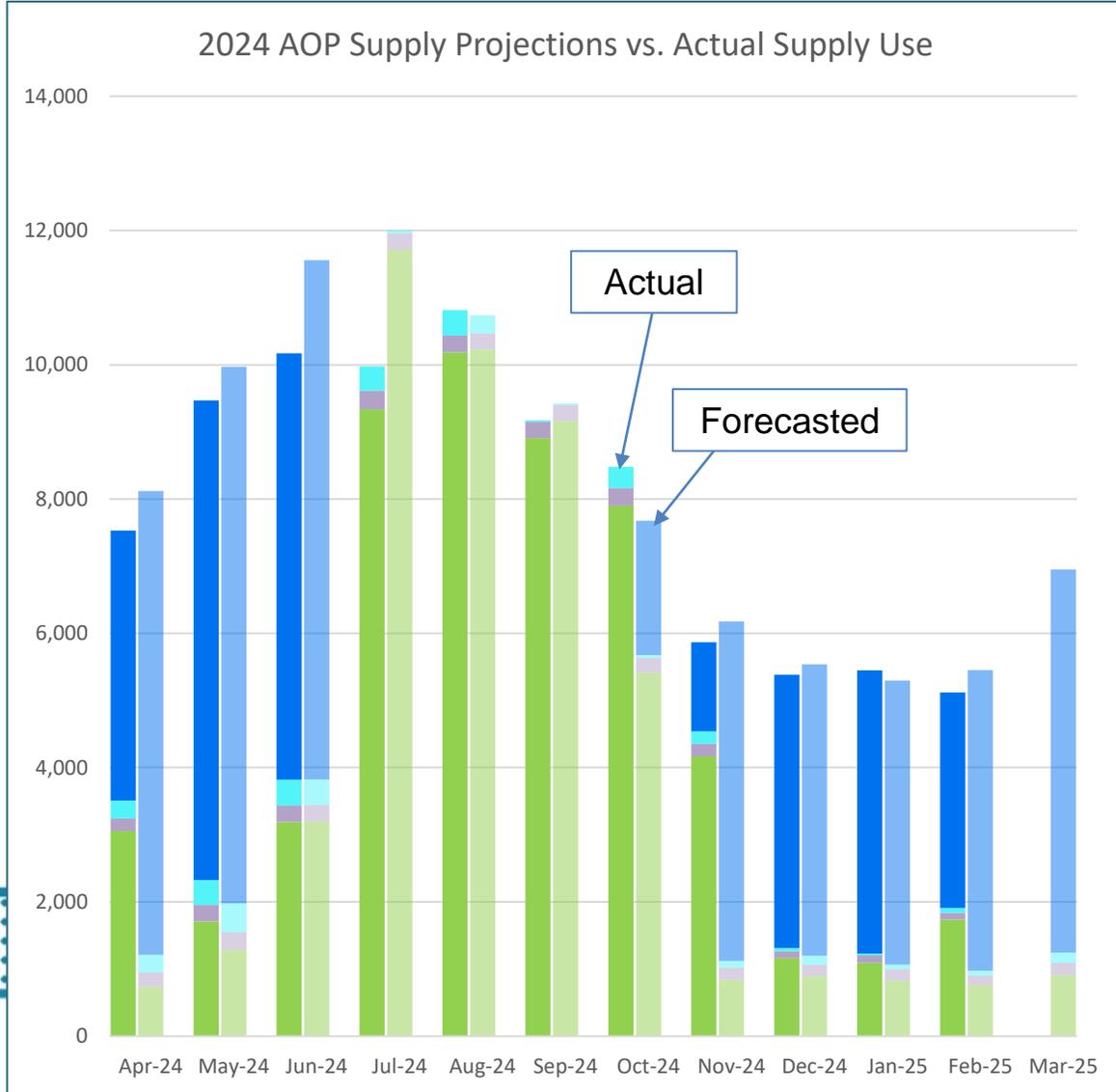
2024 Central Flows and Water Authority DWP Operation



- DWP shutdown: June 30, 2024
 - Rio Chama sediment plug
- DWP resumed on November 7, 2024
- Flood operations April thru June
- North Non-Potable system remained operational all season
- Persistent low flows with mild monsoon season

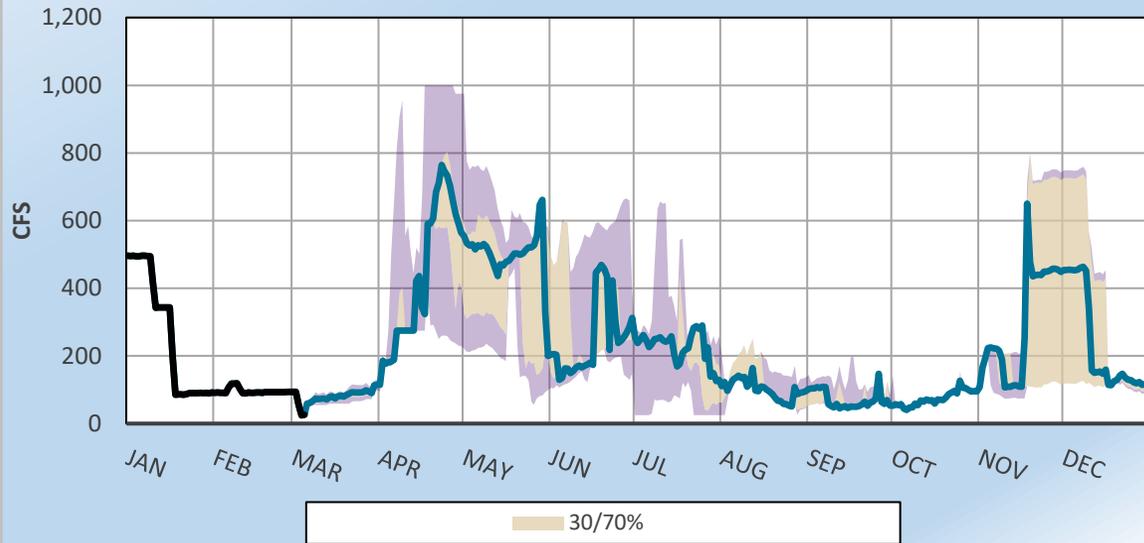


Reflecting Back: 2024 AOP and Historic Groundwater Pumping



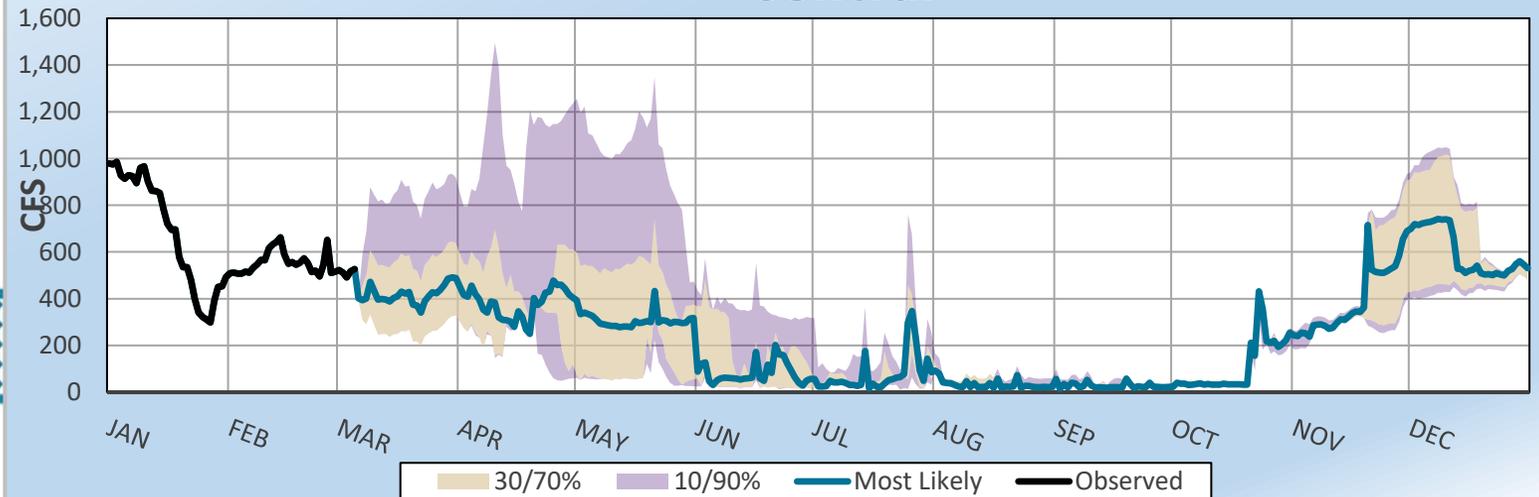
Bureau of Reclamation 2025 Flow Forecast Results

Abiquiu Outflow

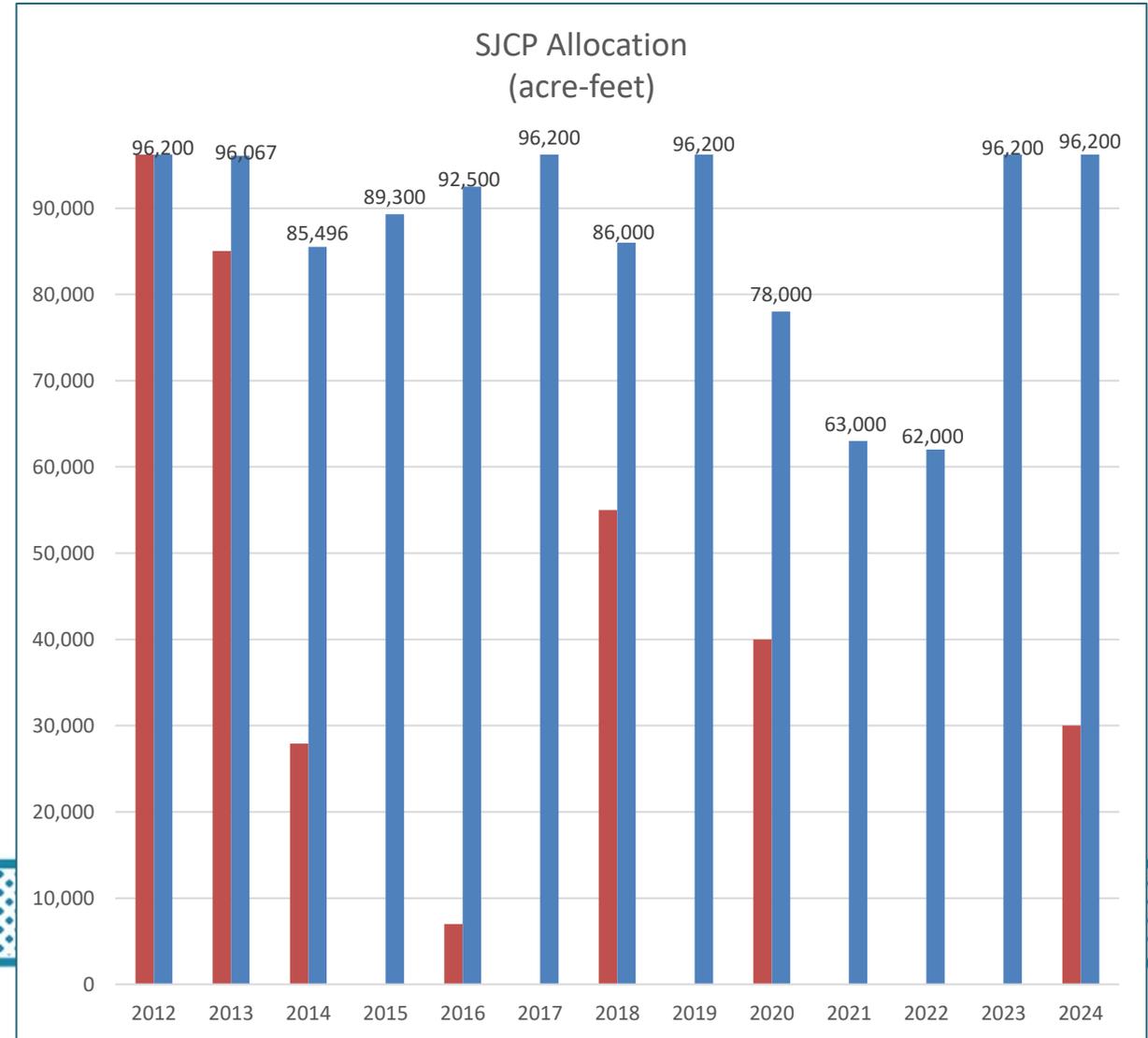
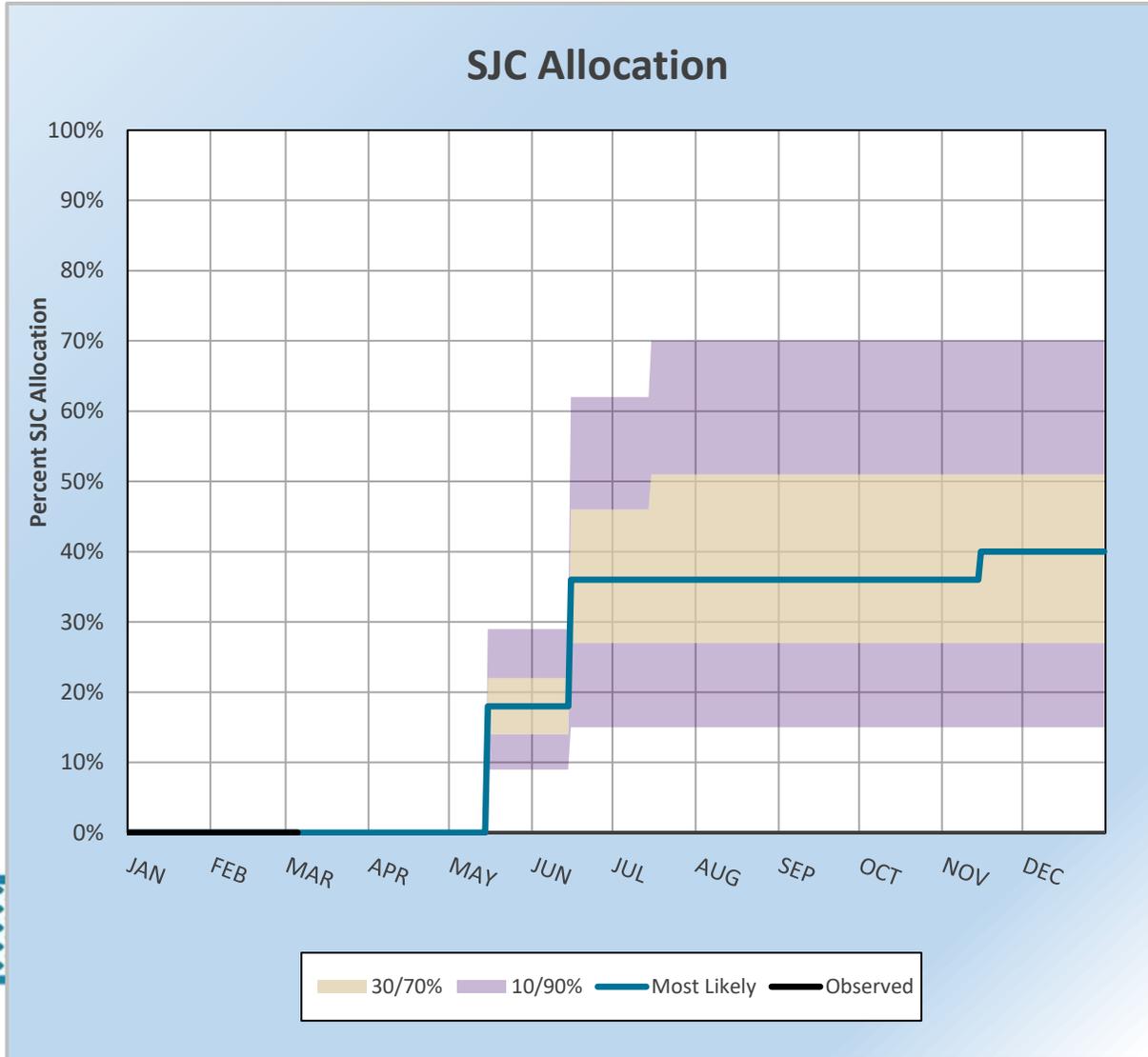


- No flood operations anticipated
 - USACE flood operations threshold 1000 cfs
- Reclamation forecast assumes less active monsoon season
- Hydrographs track with 2018, based on NRCS forecast and snowpack
- Flows at Central go below 122 cfs the end of April and remain low through late-October
- Late-summer flows dependent on monsoons and MRGCD operations

Central

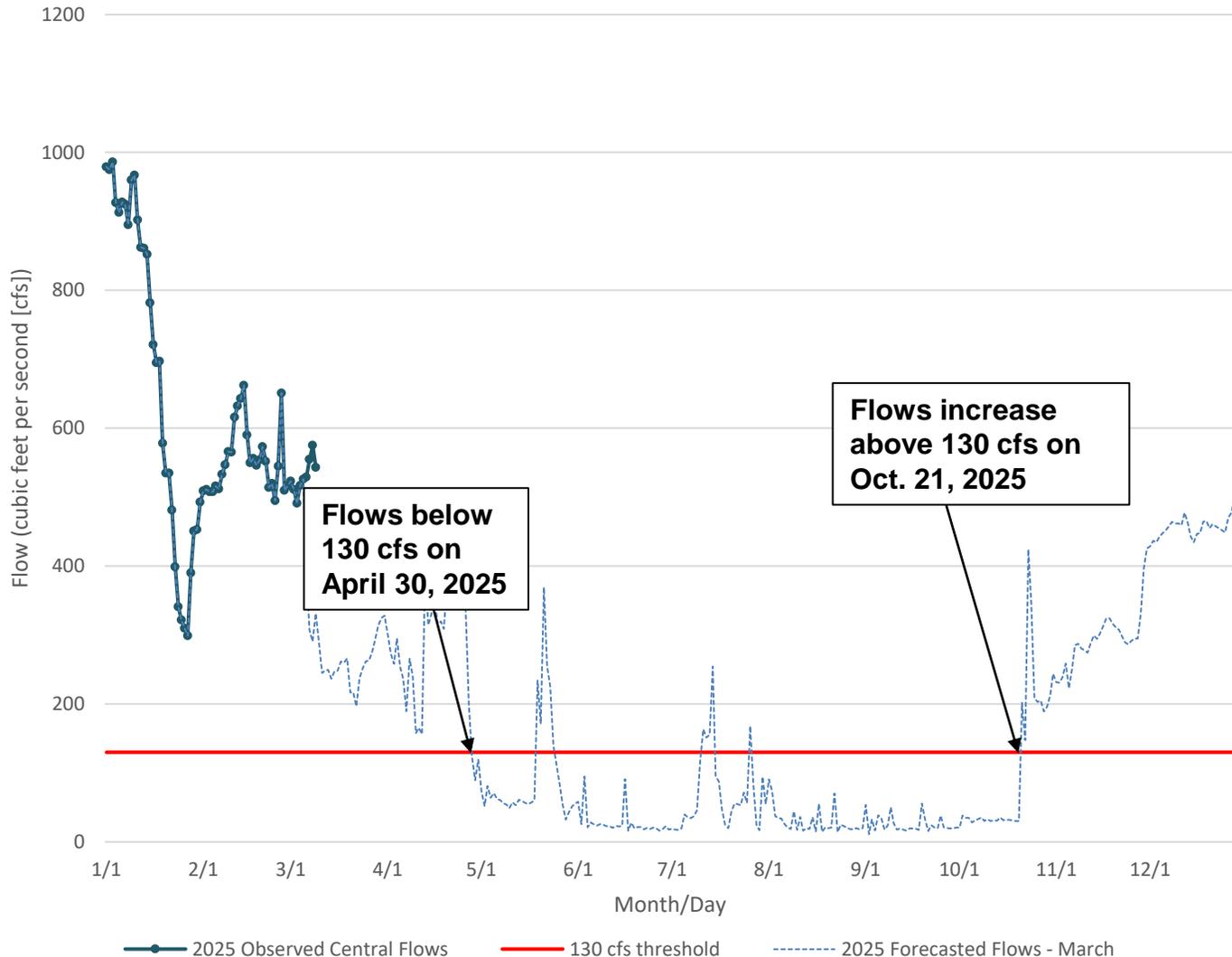


San Juan-Chama Allocation Projection



Water Authority Operations

April 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026

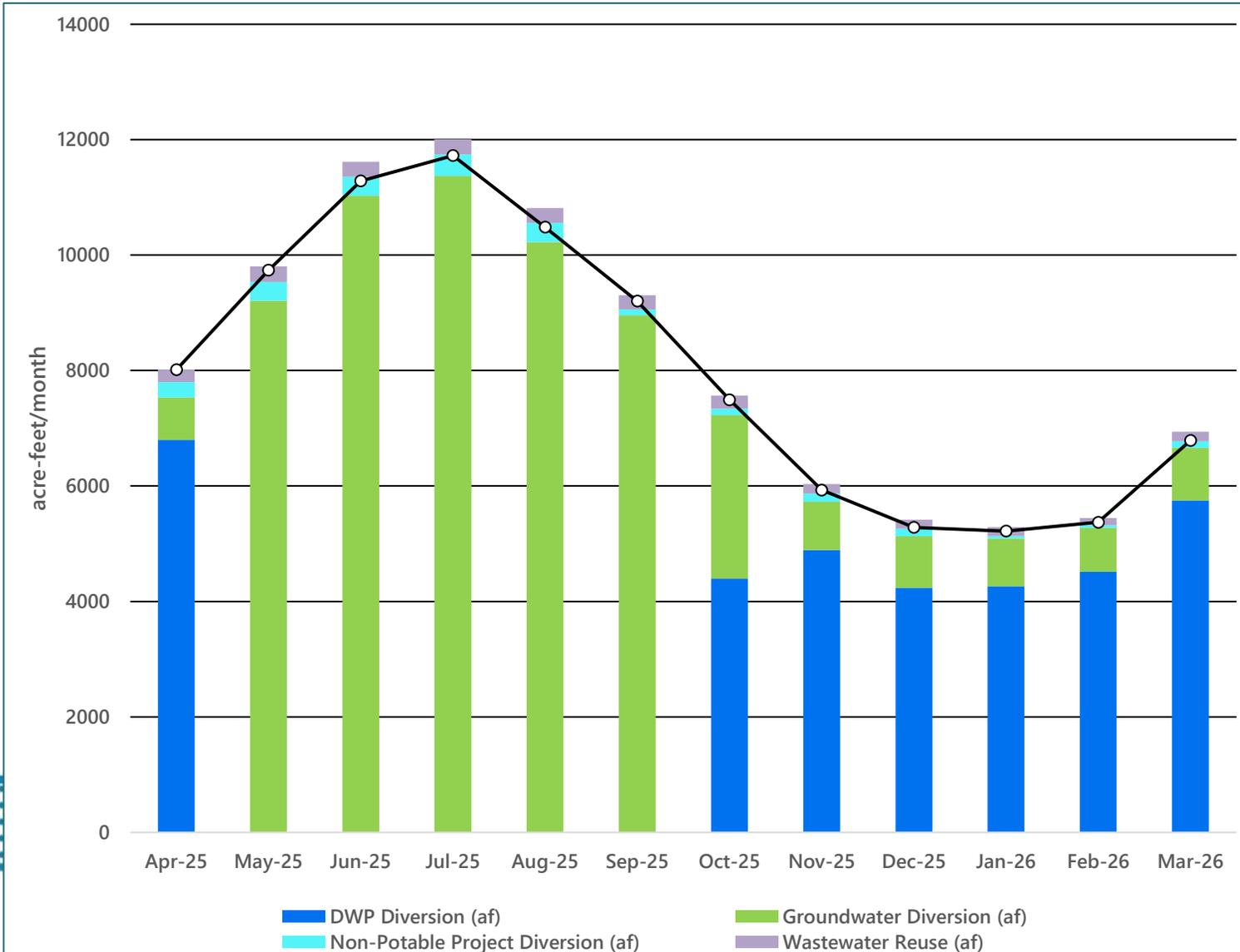


- 70% exceedance scenario
- No DWP diversions beginning in late-April through October 2025
- DWP will utilize shutdown to complete maintenance and CIP projects
- Actual operation will depend on observed flow conditions



Water Authority Monthly Diversions

April 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026



Month	% Surface Water	% Groundwater
April 2025	91%	9%
May 2025	3%	97%
June 2025	3%	97%
July 2025	3%	97%
Aug 2025	3%	97%
Sept 2025	1%	99%
Oct 2025	61%	39%
Nov 2025	86%	14%
Dec 2025	83%	17%
Jan 2026	84%	16%
Feb 2026	86%	14%
March 2026	87%	13%

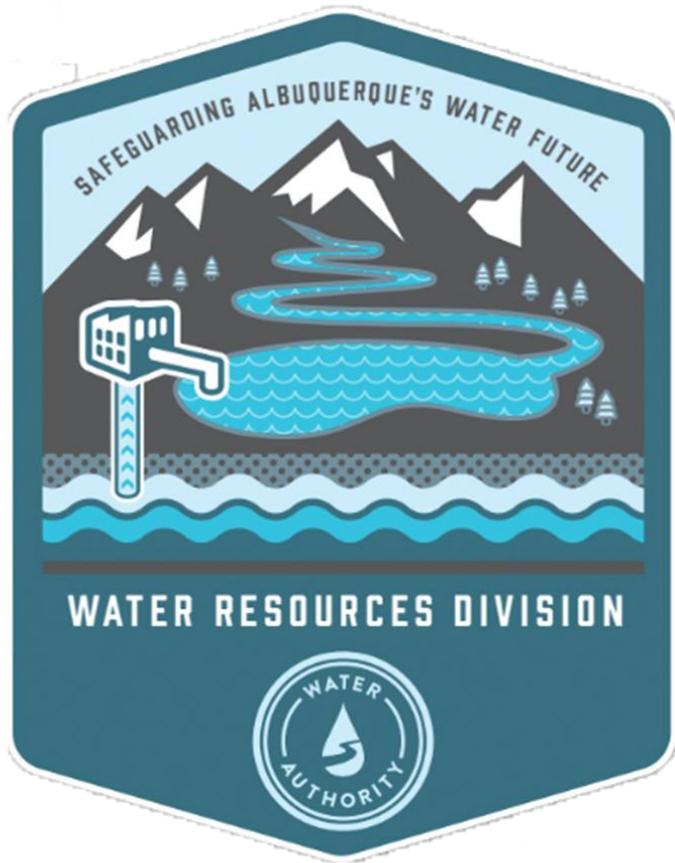
Regional Collaboration

- El Vado “First Fill” storage
- MRGCD loan of 2025 San Juan-Chama for consistent release
- Ongoing coordination on Rio Chama channel capacity
- Support of 2025 jiggle with USFWS and MRGCD
- Coordination with MRGCD for use of lateral in resuming DWP operation



Questions?



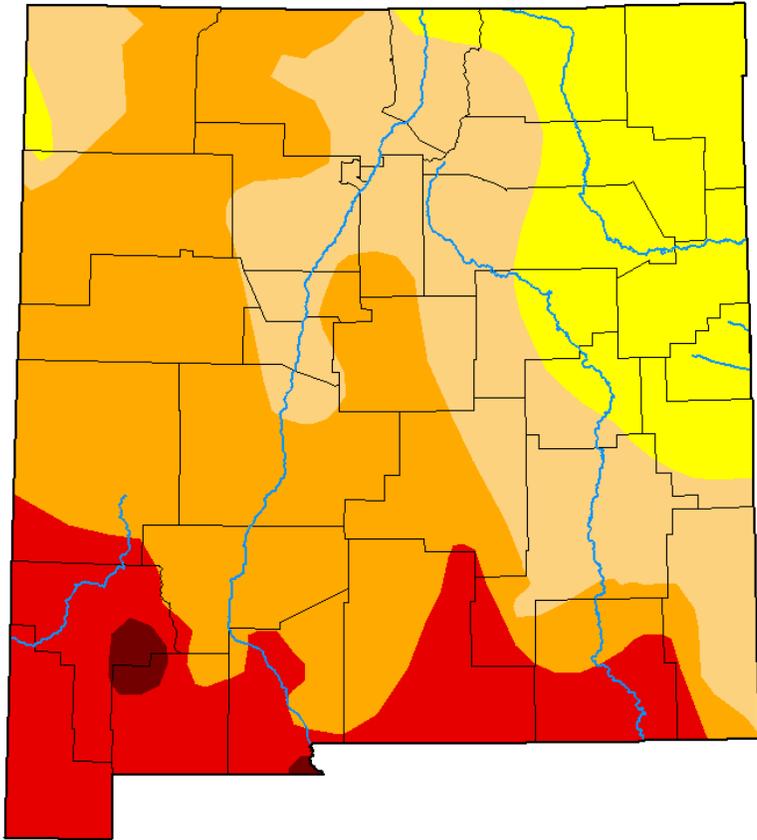


Water Resources Division

Water Report

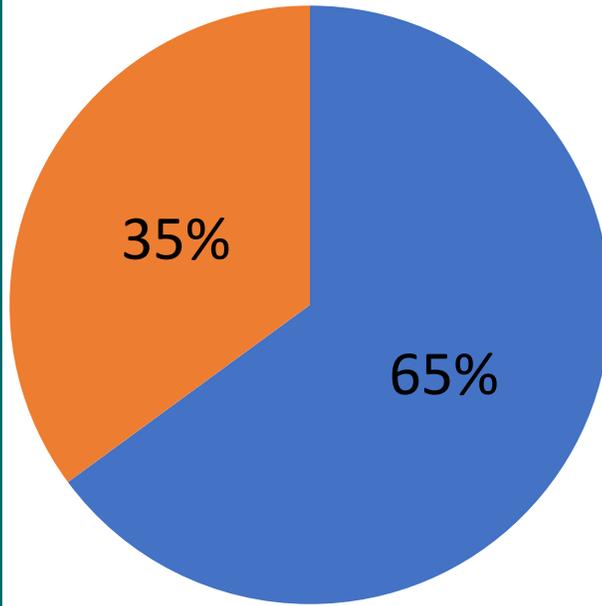
Mark Kelly, PE
Water Resources Manager

SUPPLY METRICS SNAPSHOT

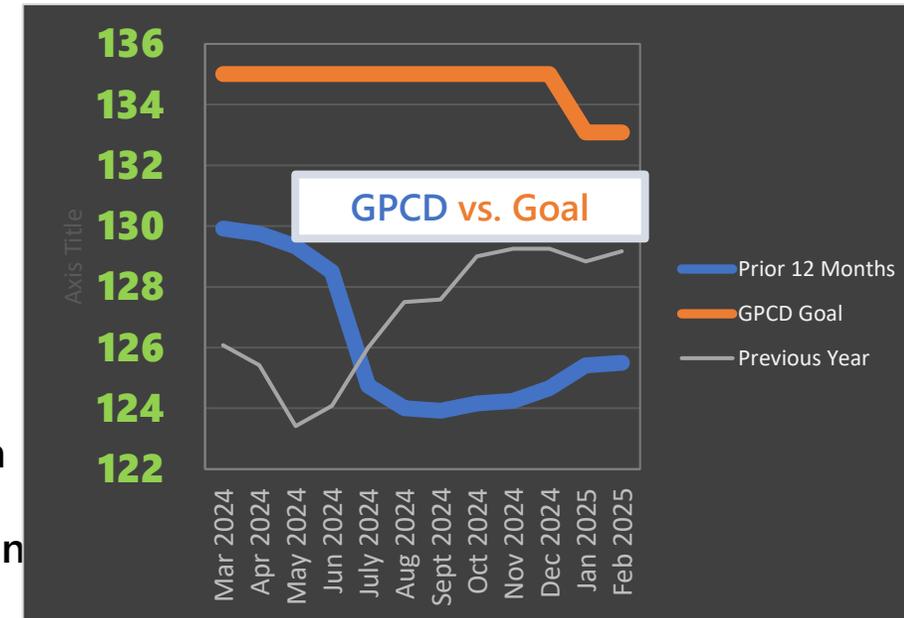
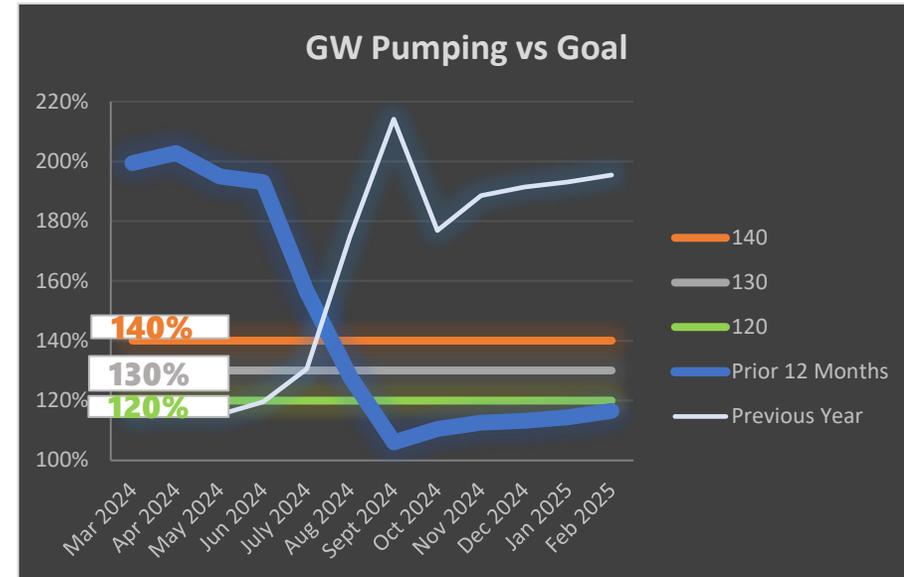


Water Authority
Drought Stage: 0*

April 2025 (February Demand Data)



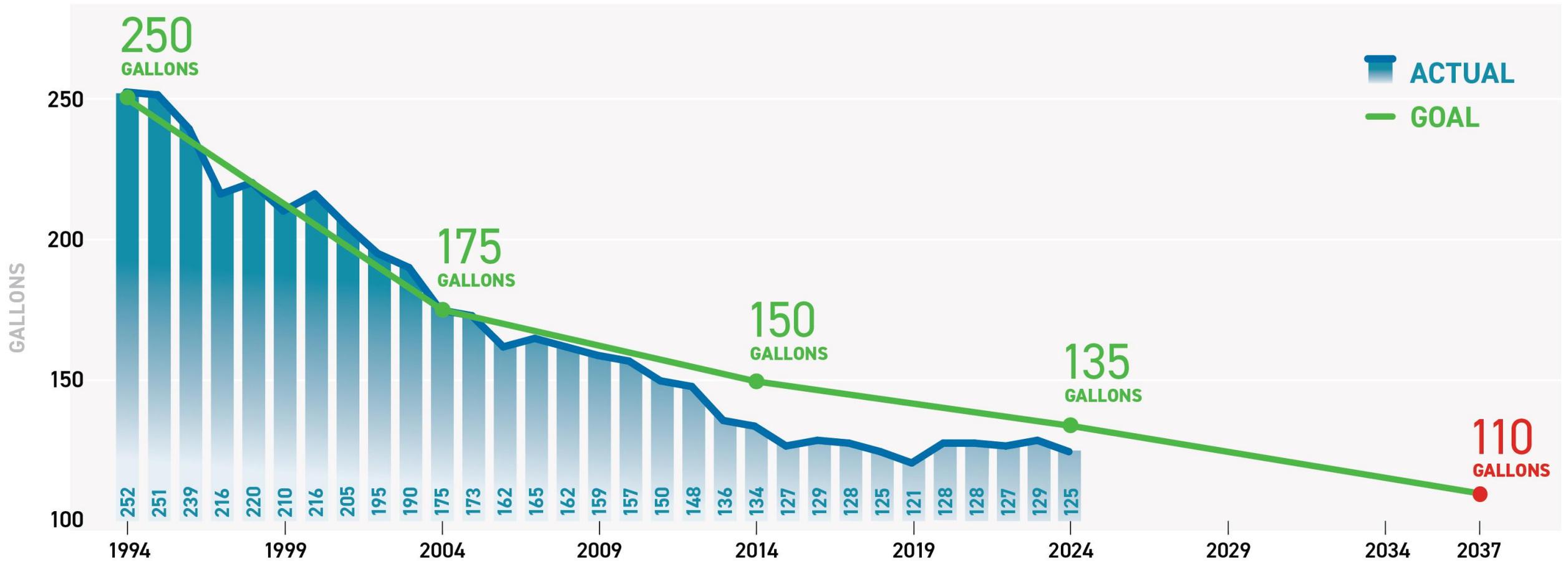
- Groundwater Production
- Surface Water Production



Long Term GPCD



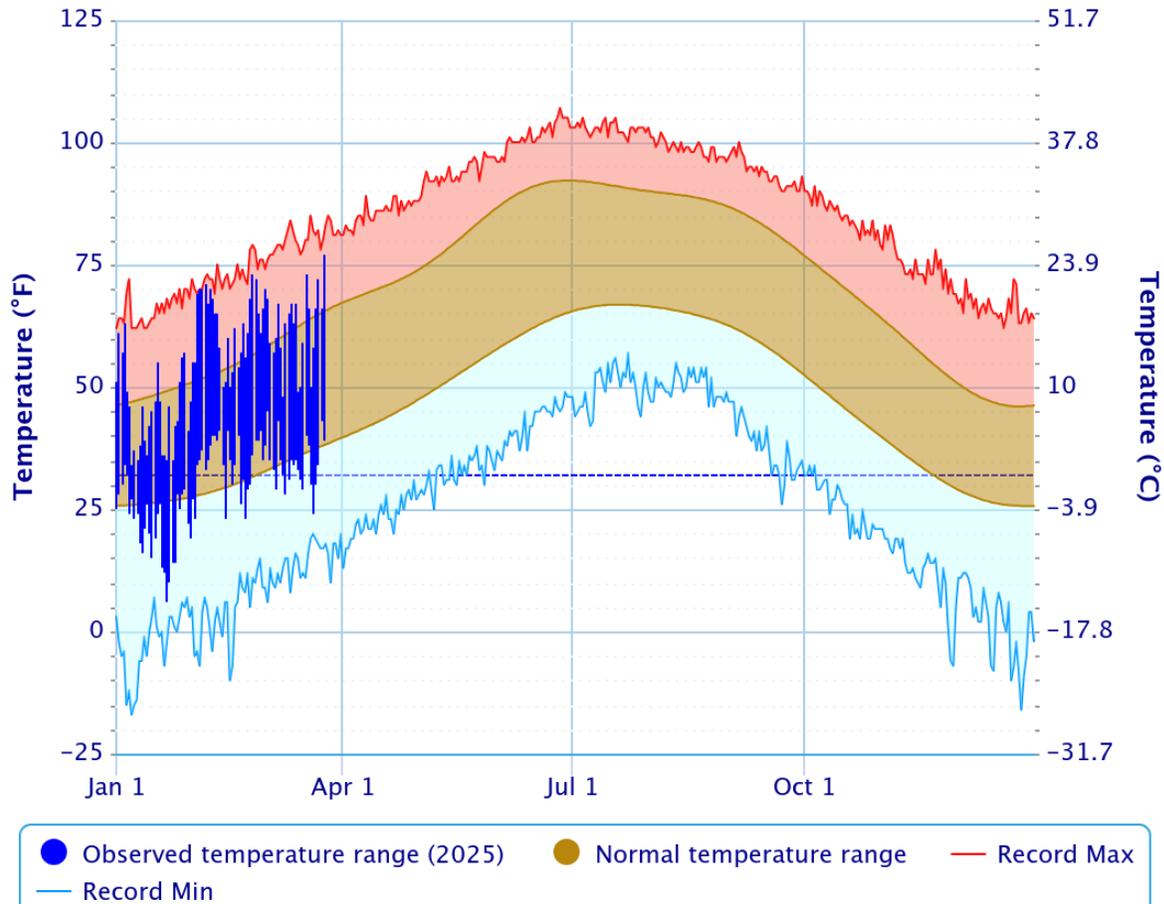
Gallons Per Capita Per Day, 1994-2037



Temperature and Precipitation

Daily Temperature Data – Albuquerque Area, NM (ThreadEx)

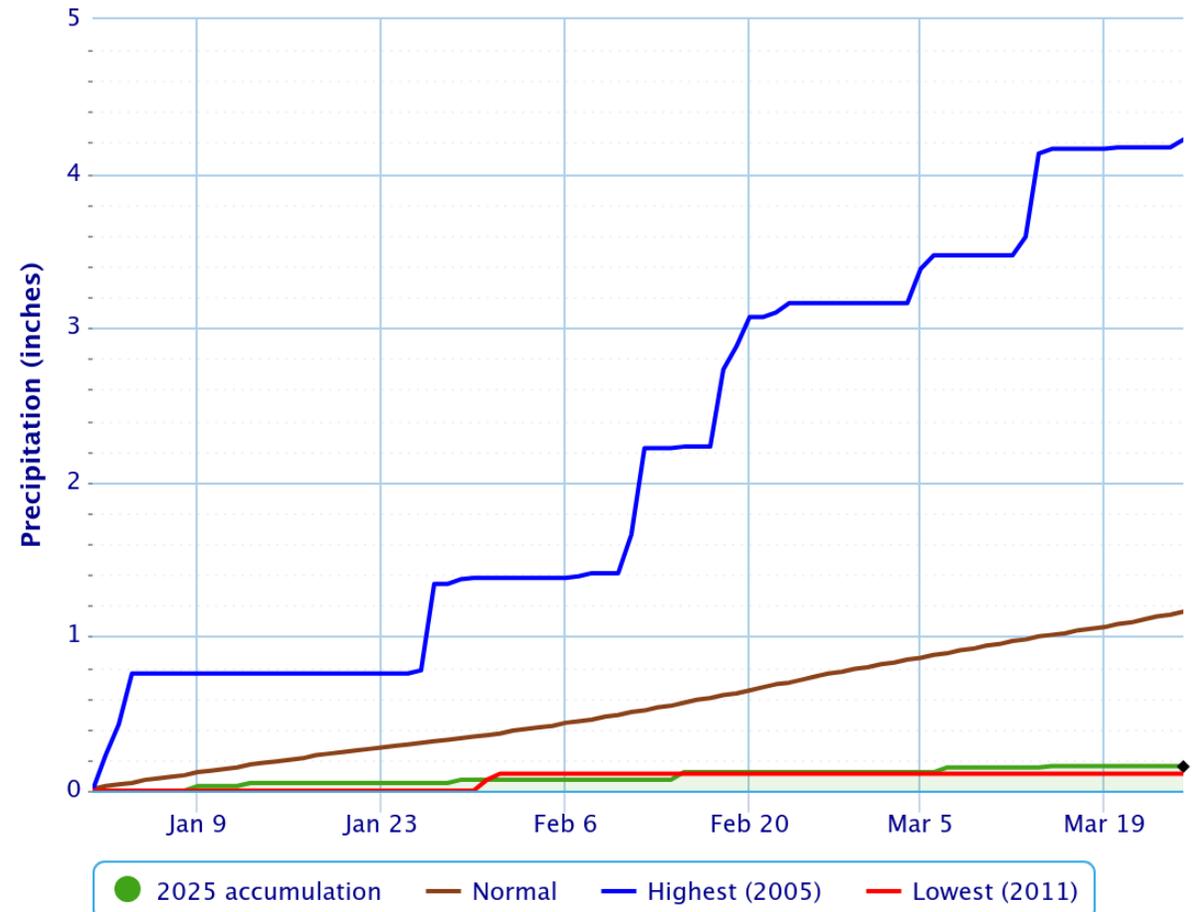
Period of Record – 1891-12-01 to 2025-03-24. Normals period: 1991-2020. Click and drag to zoom chart.



Powered by ACIS

Accumulated Precipitation – Albuquerque Area, NM (ThreadEx)

Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values



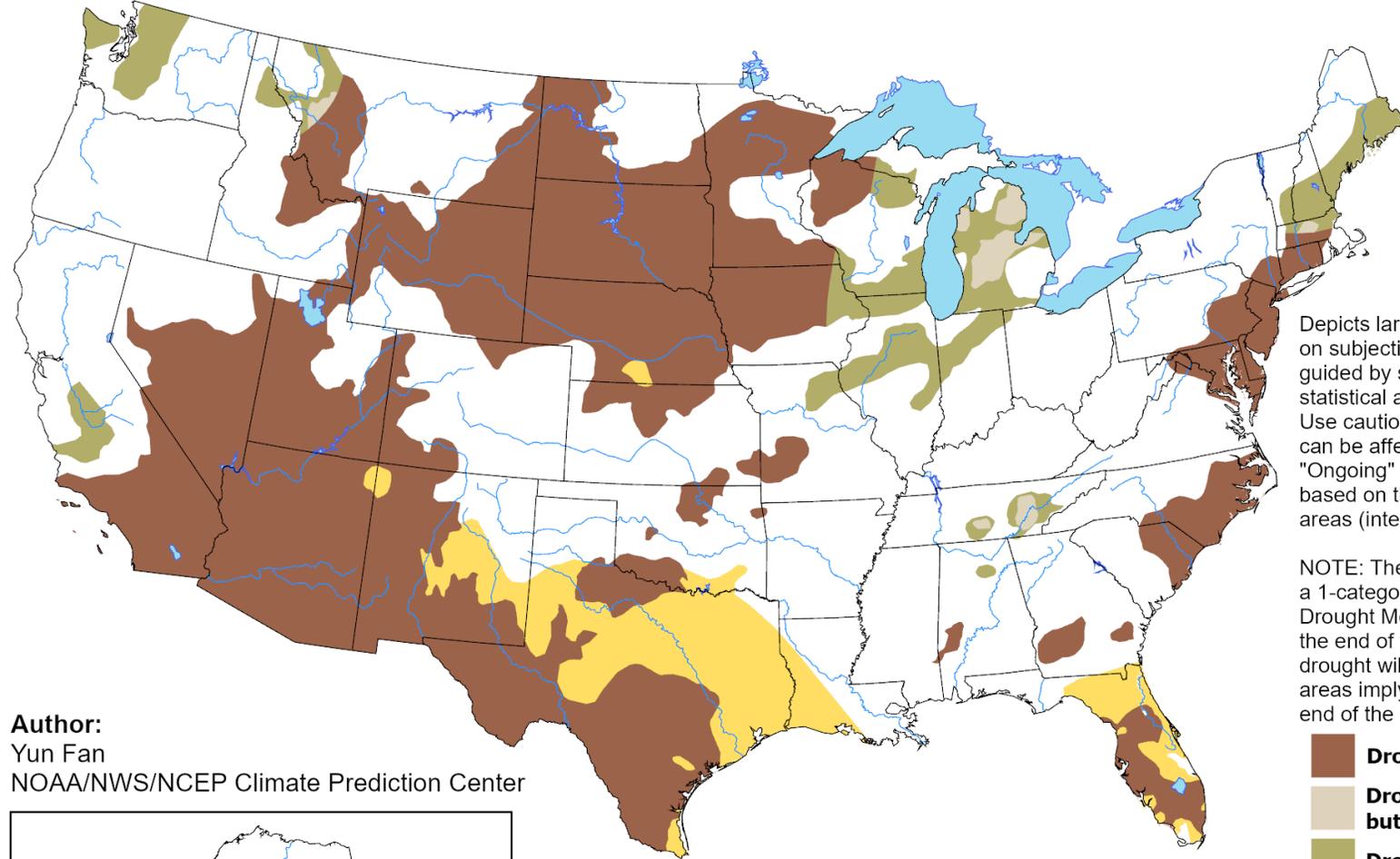
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U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for March 2025
Released February 28, 2025

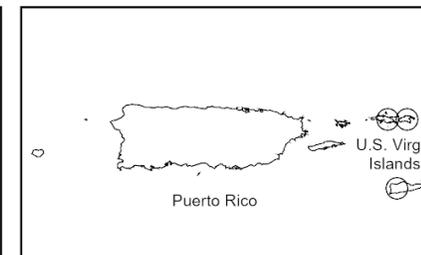
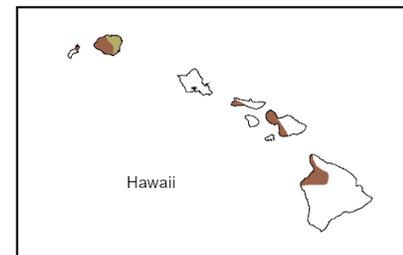
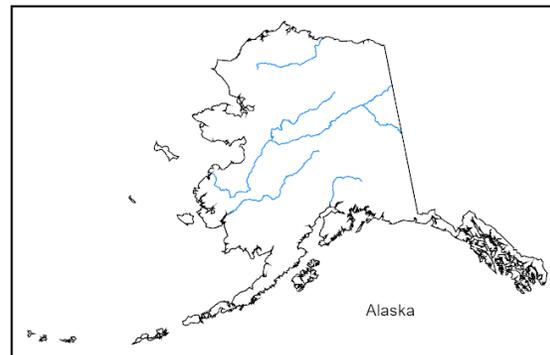
Drought Outlook



Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

Author:
Yun Fan
NOAA/NWS/NCEP Climate Prediction Center



-  **Drought persists**
-  **Drought remains, but improves**
-  **Drought removal likely**
-  **Drought development likely**
-  **No drought**



<https://go.usa.gov/3eZGd>

Drought Stages

Groundwater Production / GPCD	DSCI \geq 300	Less than 120% of the Annual GW Production Goal	Between 120% and 130% of GW Production Goal	Between 130% and 140% of GW Production Goal	More than 140% of the GW Production Goal
0 to < 2 GPCD over the goal	Stage 0	Stage 0	Stage 0	Stage 0	Stage 1
2-4 GPCD over the goal	Stage 0	Stage 0	Stage 1	Stage 1	Stage 2
4-6 GPCD over the goal	Stage 0	Stage 0	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3
> 6 GPCD over the goal	Stage 0	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 3



Questions?