

# Pilot flex accounting to encourage more water conservation in a combined Lake Powell-Lake Mead system



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# 1. Guiding principles

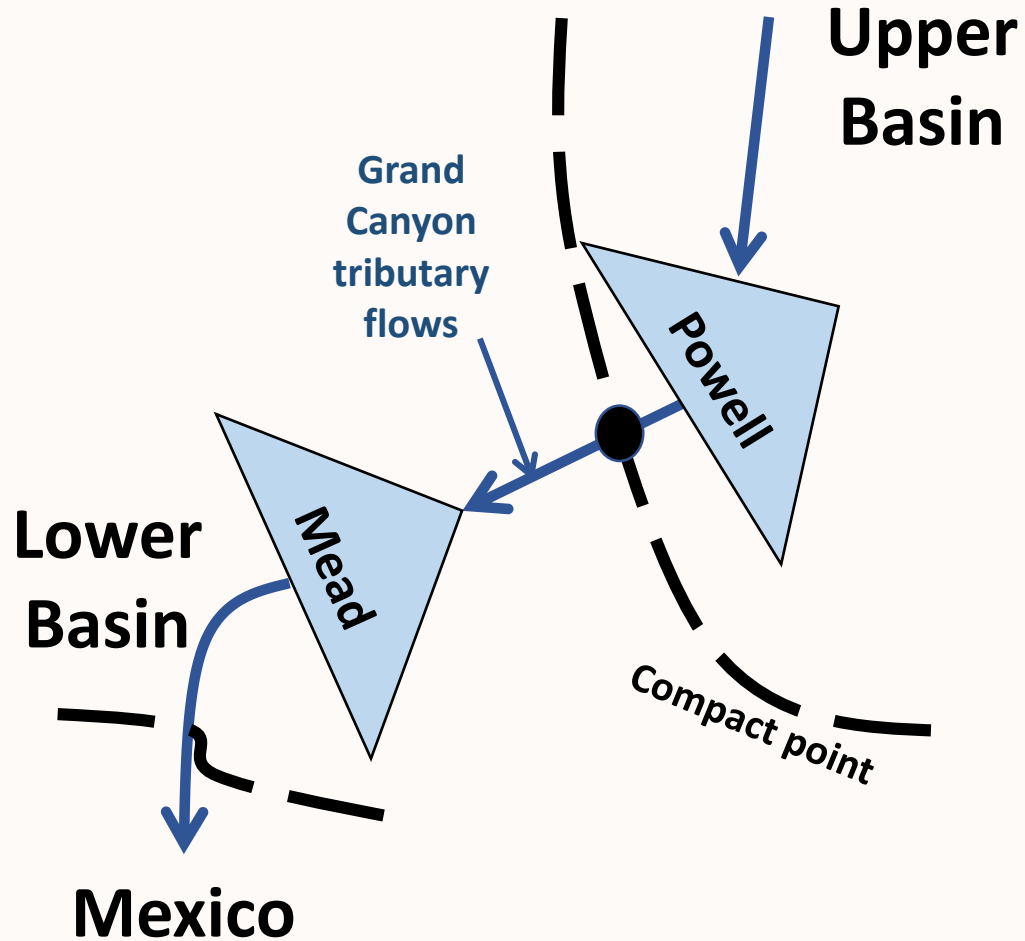
Provoke thought, discussion, and collaboration on renegotiations of Lake Powell-Lake Mead operations.

Current operations expire in 2026.

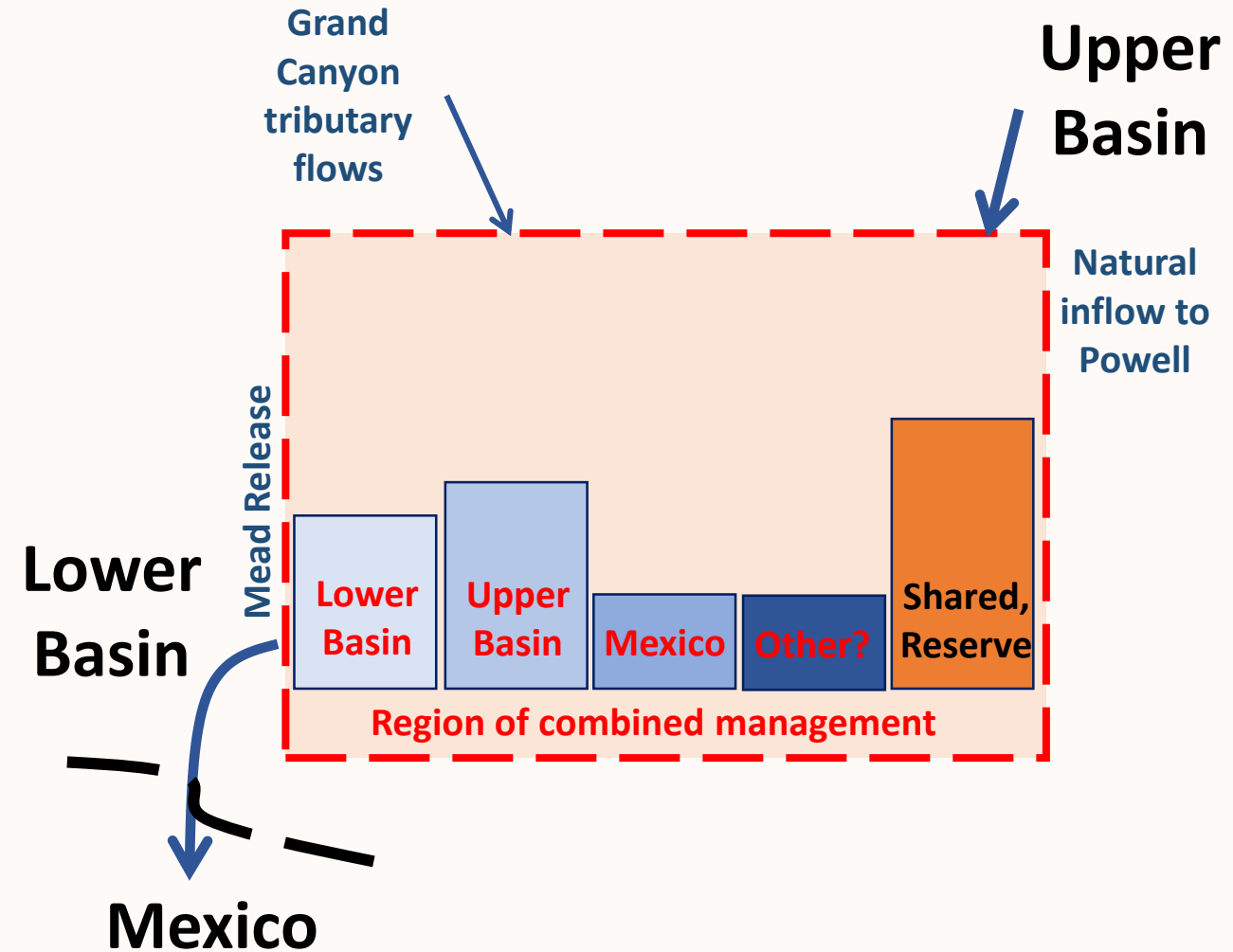
Give managers more flexibility to consume and conserve water independent of other parties.

Convert a shrinking pie (lose-lose) environmental conflict — Colorado River with drought — into expanding pie (win-win) collaborations.

## 2. Stretch the Lee Ferry Compact Point



A. 1922 to present

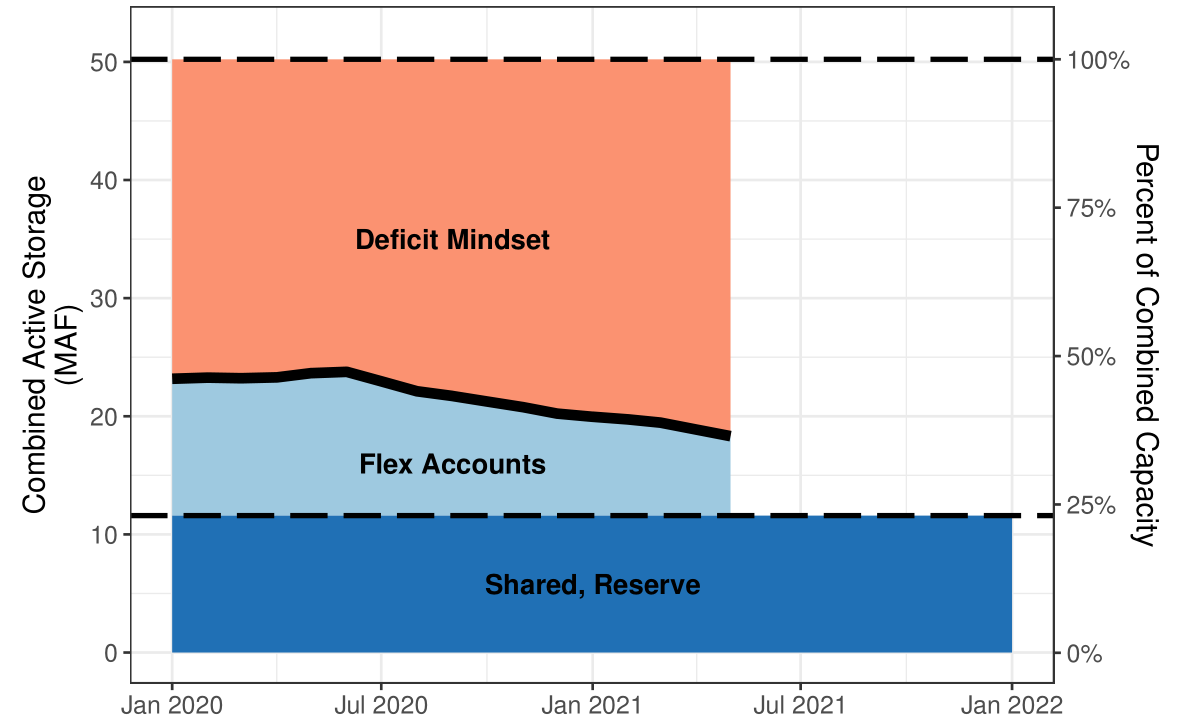
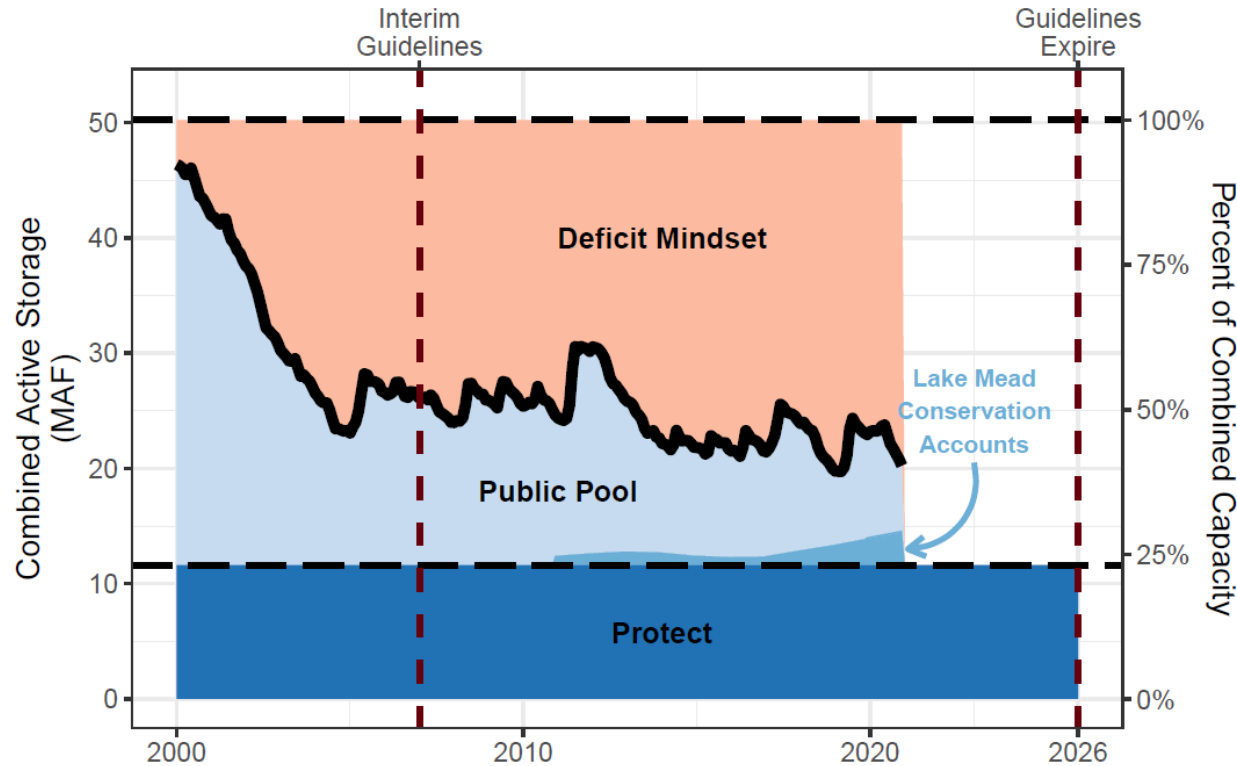


B. Combined system

### 3. Manage all available water not just prior conserved water

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccccc} \text{Available} & & & & & & & & & & \\ \text{Water} & = & \text{Flex} & & \text{Share of} & & \text{Share of} & & \text{Purchases} & - & \text{Sales} \\ & & \text{Account} & + & \text{Inflow} & - & \text{Evaporation} & + & & & \\ & & \text{Balance} & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \underbrace{\hspace{10em}} & & \\ & & & & & & & & \text{Optional} & & \end{array}$$

## 4. Convert Lake Mead Conservation accounts and Public Pool to Flex account balances



A. 1922 to present

B. Combined system

## 4. Try to manage a flex account?

Physical watershed data

Political decision - Player chooses

Calculated cell

	A	B	C	D
20	<b>Assumptions</b>	<b>Powell</b>	<b>Mead</b>	
21	Evaporation rate (feet/year)	5.7	6.0	
22	Starting storage (million acre feet)	11.0	10.1	
23	Protect elevation (feet)	3,525	1,020	
24	Storage at protection elevation (maf)	5.9	5.7	
25				
26	<b>Water Budget Component</b>	<b>Initialize</b>	<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Year 2</b>
27	Natural inflow to Lake Powell			
28	Intervening (Grand Canyon) inflow			
29	<b>Combined Storage - Beginning of Year</b>	<b>21.1</b>		
30	Upper Basin Balance	5.1		
31	Lower Basin Balance	4.3		
32	Mexico Balance	0.17		
33	Mohave & Havasu Evap & ET Balance	0		
34	Shared, Reserve Balance	11.6		



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