RECLANATION Managing Water in the West

Modeling to Support the Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand Study

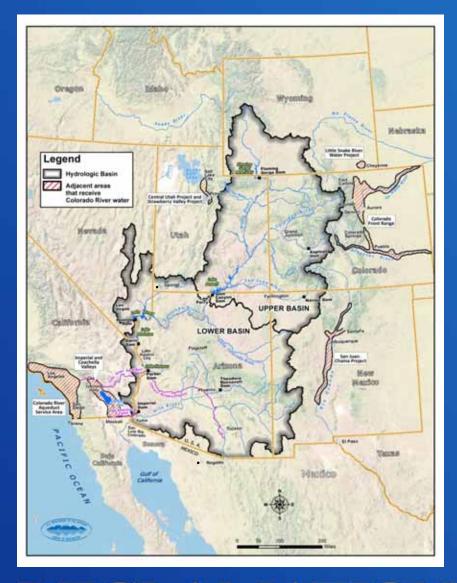
RiverWare User Group Meeting August 28, 2013



U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation

Presentation Outline

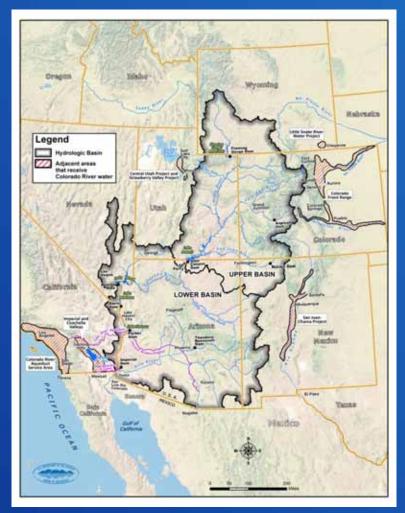
- Basin Study Overview
- Study Manager
- Modeling 'Dynamic' Portfolios



Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand Study

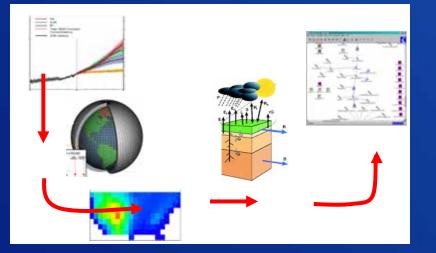
• Study Objective

- Assess future water supply and demand imbalances over next 50 years
- Develop and evaluate opportunities for resolving imbalances
- Study **c**onducted by Reclamation and the Basin States in collaboration with stakeholders throughout the Basin
- A 3 year study that began in January 2010 and completed December 2012
- A planning study did not result in any decisions, but provides the technical foundation for future activities

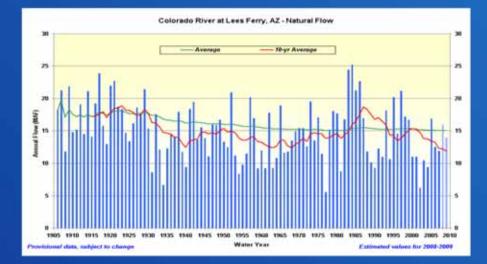


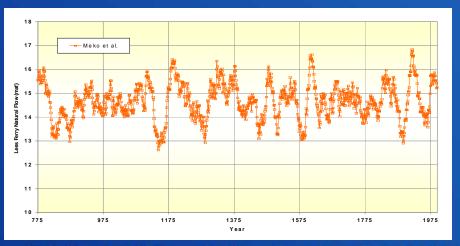
Water Supply Scenarios*

- Observed Resampled
- Paleo Resampled
- Paleo Conditioned
- Downscaled GCM Projected



* Multiple realizations for each scenario





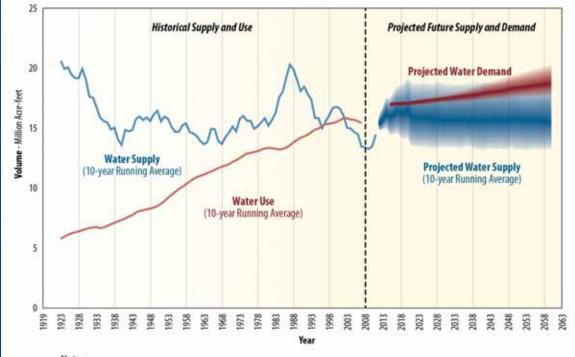


Water Demand Scenarios

- Current Projected (A): growth, development patterns, and institutions continue along recent trends
- Slow Growth (B): low growth with emphasis on economic efficiency
- Rapid Growth (C1 and C2): economic resurgence (population and energy) and current preferences toward human and environmental values
 - C1 slower technology adoption
 - C2 rapid technology adoption
- Enhanced Environment (D1 and D2): expanded environmental awareness and stewardship with growing economy
 - D1 with moderate population growth
 - D2 with rapid population growth

Projected Future Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand

- Average supply-demand imbalances by 2060 are approximately 3.2 million acre-feet
- This imbalance may be more or less depending on the nature of the particular supply and demand scenario
- Imbalances have occurred in the past and deliveries have been met due to reservoir storage



Notes:

Water Supply represents natural flow as measured at the Colorado River above Imperial Dam, Arizona

Water Use and Demand include deliveries to Mexico in accordance with the 1944 Treaty with Mexico and losses such as those due to reservoir evaporation, native vegetation, and operational inefficiencies.

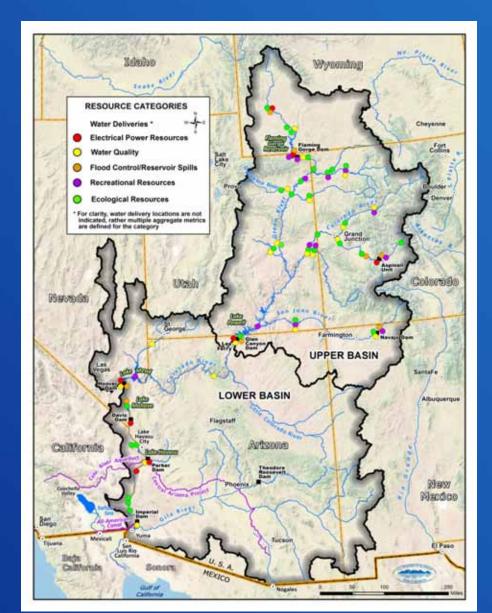
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Projected Water Supply is computed as the average 10th, 50th (median), and 90th percentiles of the Study's 4 water supply scenarios. The average of the medians is indicated by the darker shading.

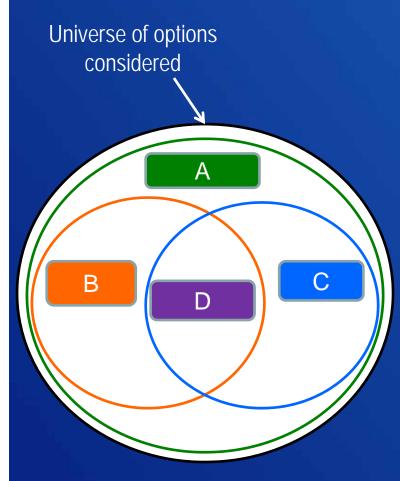
Projected Water Demand is represented by the Study's 6 water demand scenarios. The median of the scenarios is indicated by the darker shading.

System Reliability Analysis

- Simulate the state of the system over the next 50 years for each scenario, with and without options and strategies
- Use metrics and vulnerabilities to quantify impacts to Basin resources
- Resource Categories
 - Water Deliveries
 - Electrical Power Resources
 - Water Quality
 - Flood Control
 - Recreational Resources
 - Ecological Resources



Summary of Portfolios



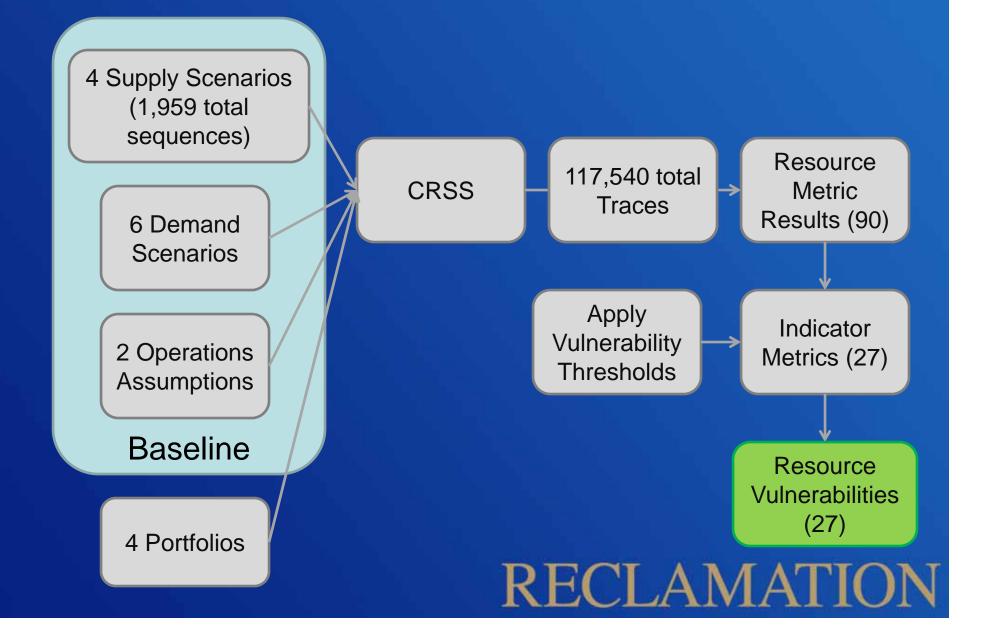
Option Selection

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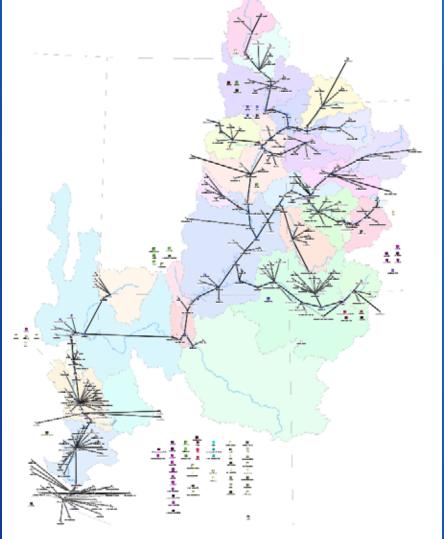
- Least restrictive resulting in a highly inclusive set of option preferences
- Considers the largest set of options
- Low-risk strategy in the long-term with high reliability
- High technical feasibility
- Excludes options with high permitting, legal and policy risks
- Prioritizes options that have low environmental impacts and long-term flexibility
- Excludes options with high permitting risk
- High technical feasibility and long-term reliability
- Low energy intensity
- Excludes options with high permitting, legal, and policy risk
- Considers <u>smallest set</u> of options

System Reliability Analysis Approach



Colorado River Simulation System (CRSS)

- Reclamation's official Basinwide long-term planning model
- Implemented in RiverWare[™]
- Simulates operations at 12 reservoirs and deliveries to over 500 individual 'water users' at a monthly time-step
- Model logic reflects reservoir operations
- Gives a range of potential future system conditions



CRSS Enhancements

- Navajo ROD
- Flaming Gorge ROD
- State of Colorado water priorities
- Climate impacts on reservoir evaporation
- Demands modeling data objects



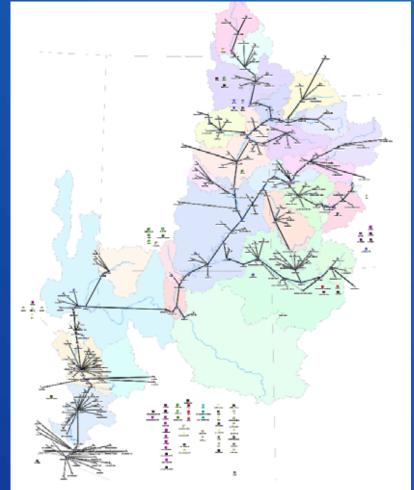
RiverWare[™] Study Manager

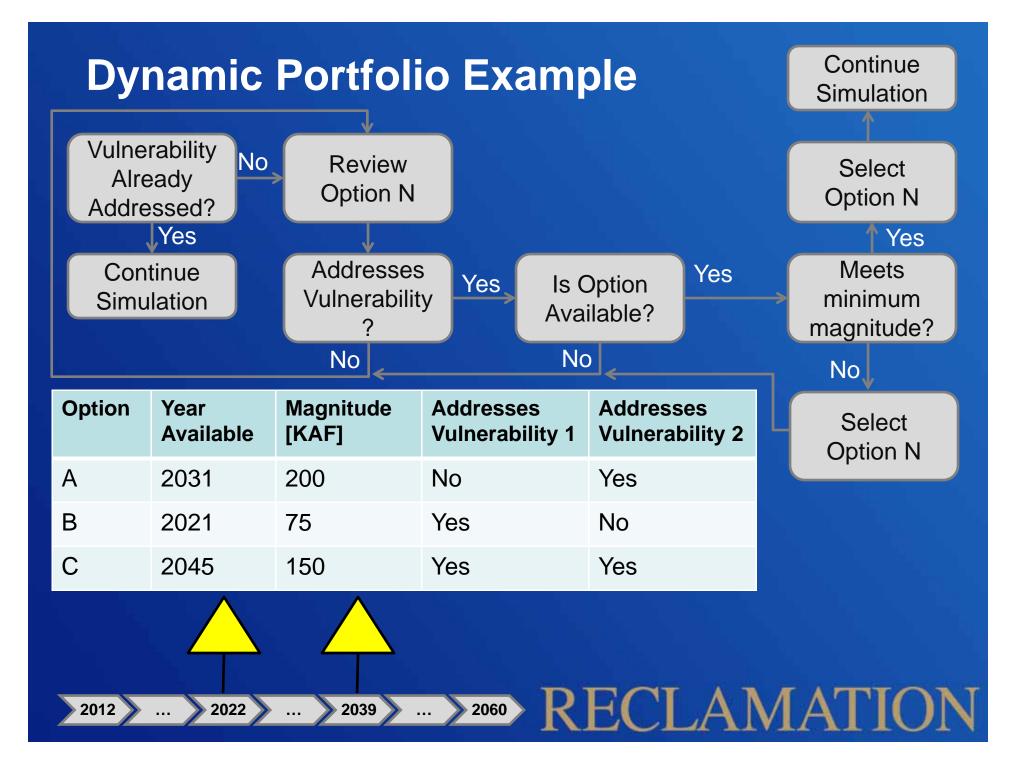
- Manage input and output for all 240 scenarios •
- Automate simulation process •

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Approach to Implement and Analyze Portfolios

- Inputs to CRSS included option timing, yield, and cost
- Options were implemented, based on cost-effectiveness, when signposts indicated an approaching vulnerability
 - This dynamic approach avoids implementing options when not needed
 - Signposts were informed by vulnerable conditions (those conditions that frequently led to vulnerabilities)
- All portfolios were assessed across all future conditions





Dynamic Portfolios In CRSS

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Dynamic Portfolios In CRSS

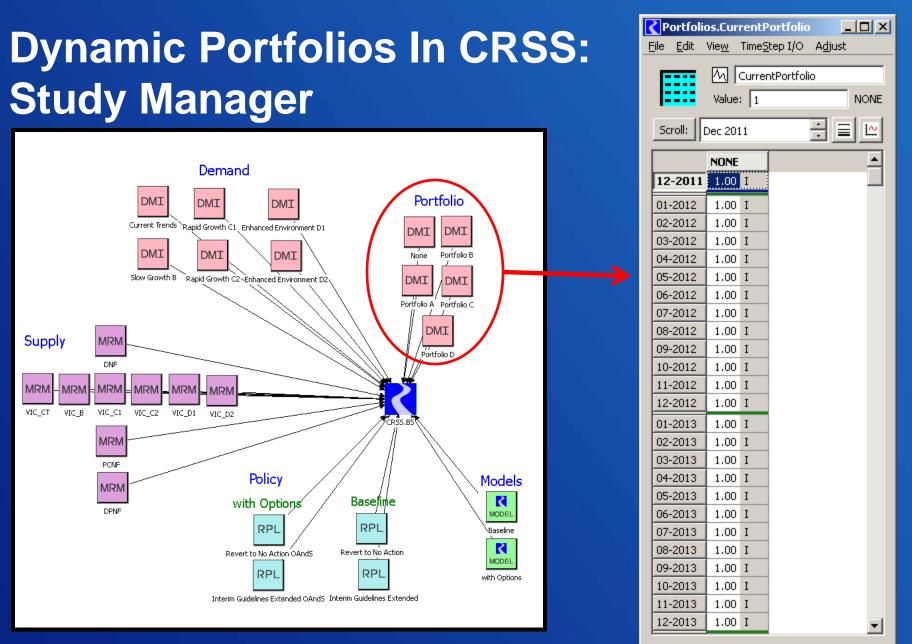
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Dynamic Portfolios In CRSS

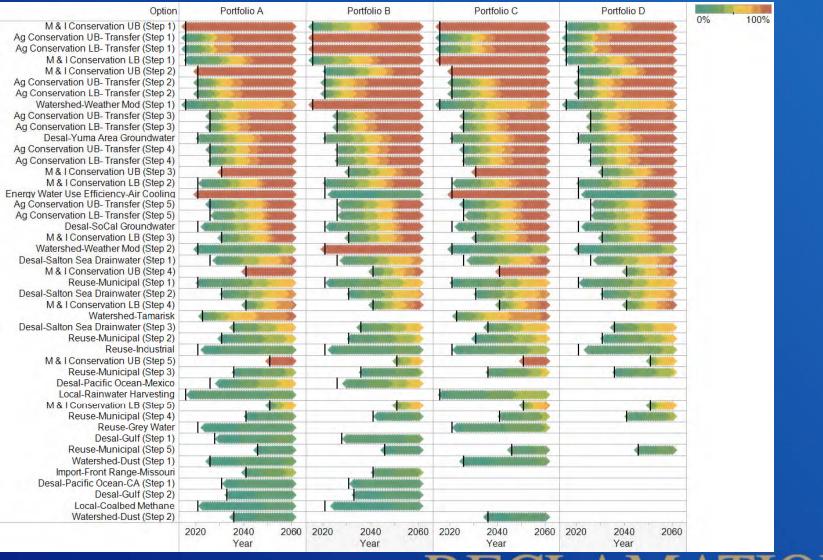
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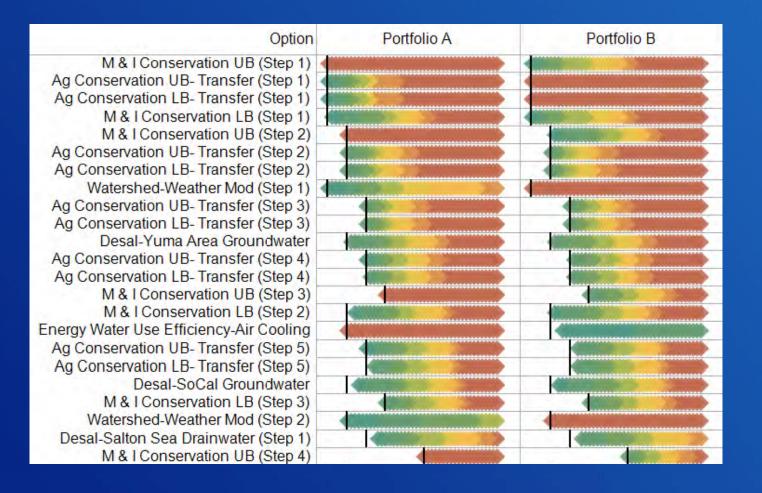


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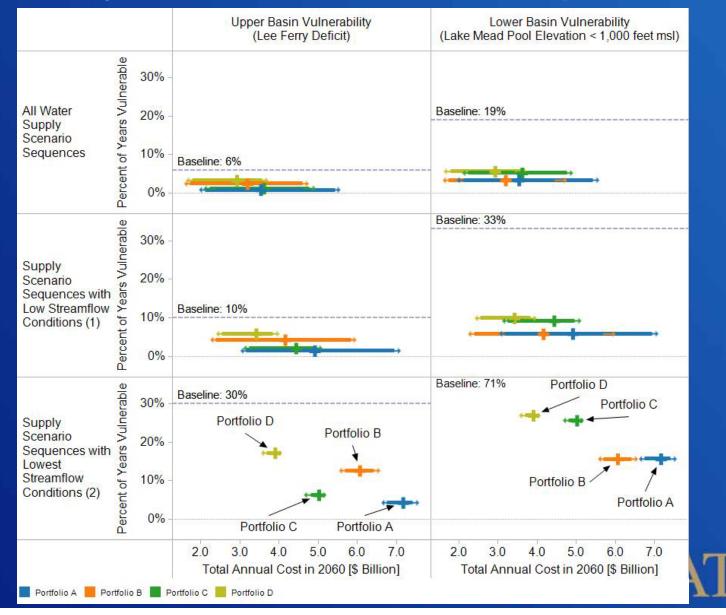
Frequency of Option Implementation



Frequency of Option Implementation



Comparing Portfolio Results Percent years vulnerable vs. cost (2041-2060)



Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand Study

RECLAMAT

Study Contact Information

- Website: http://www.usbr.gov/lc/region/programs/crbstudy.html
- Email: ColoradoRiverBasinStudy@usbr.gov
- Telephone: 702-293-8500; Fax: 702-293-8418