



Basin Conditions Update

Water Operations Committee Meeting
Aug. 19, 2026

U.S. Drought Monitor Texas

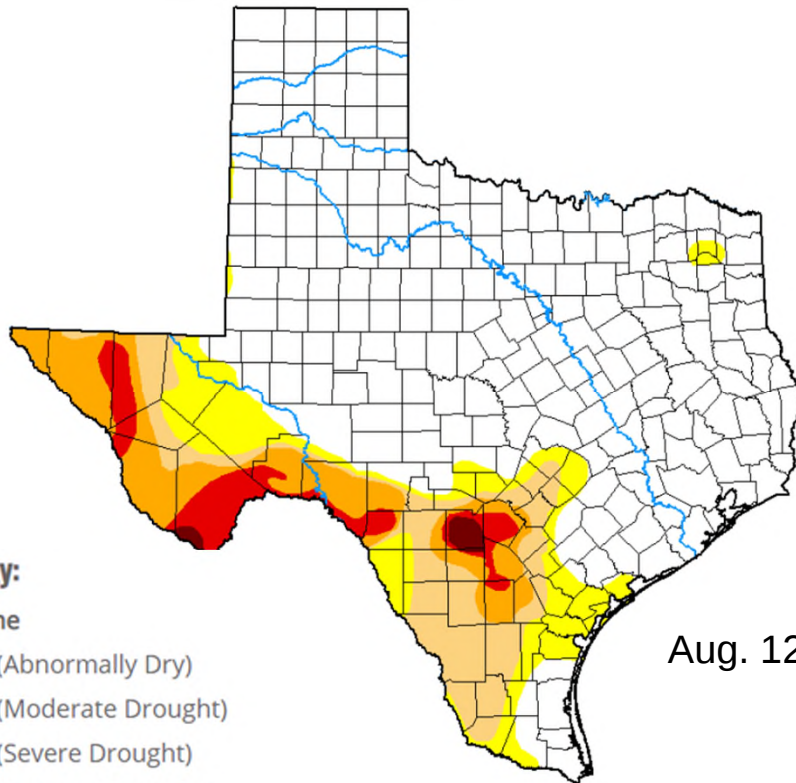
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

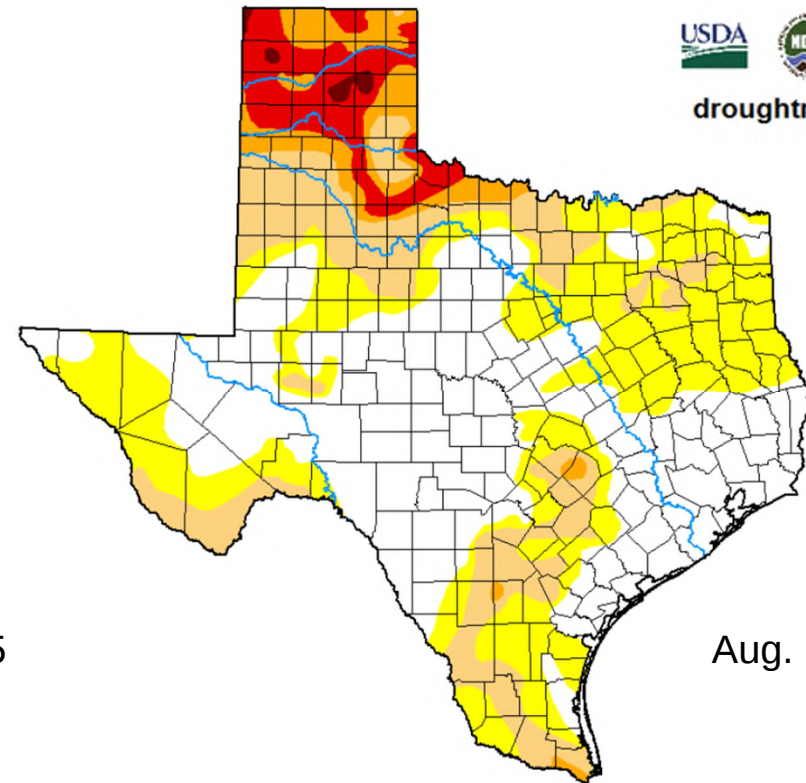
Brad Pugh
CPC/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu



Aug. 12, 2025



Aug. 11, 2026

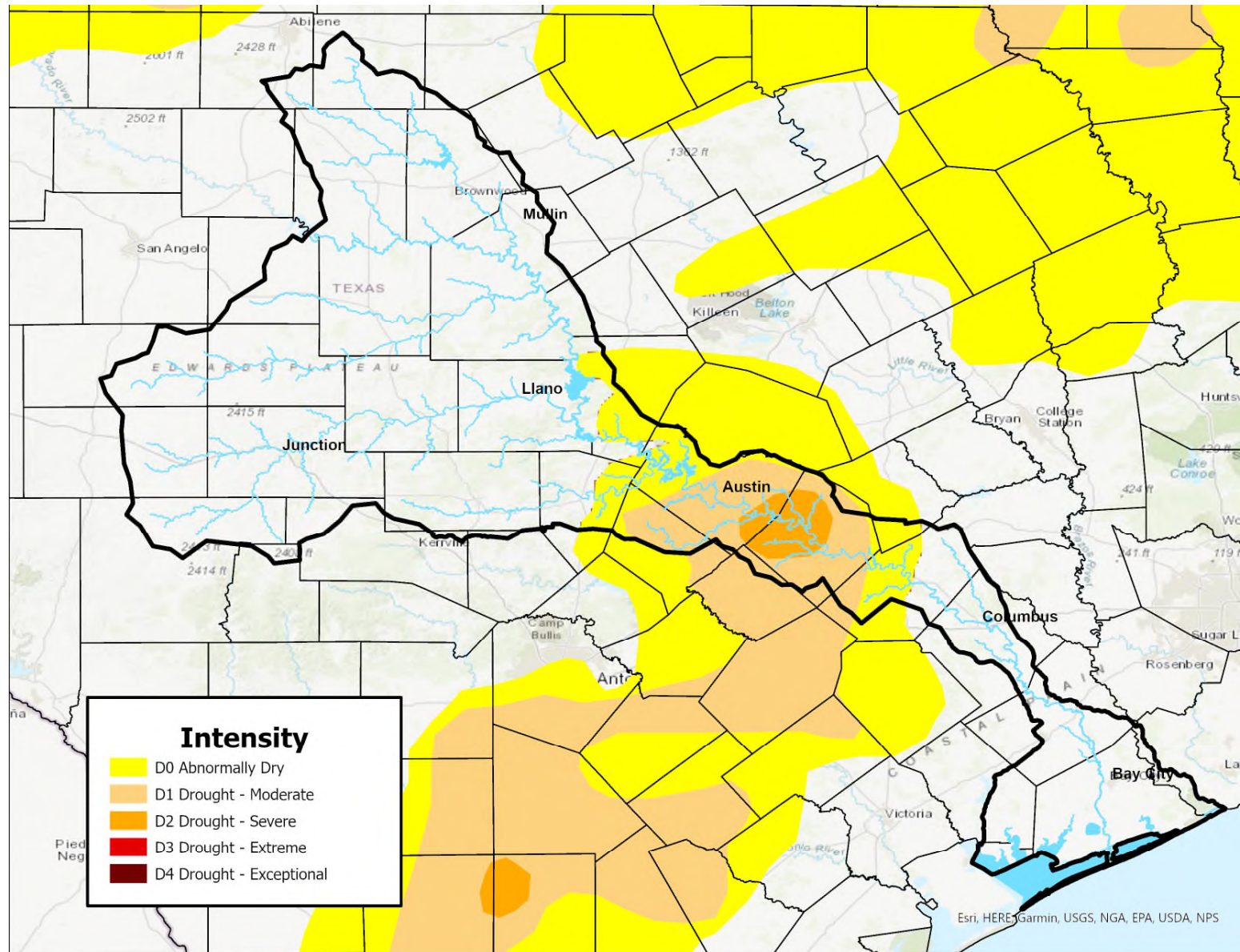
Intensity:

- None
- D0 (Abnormally Dry)
- D1 (Moderate Drought)
- D2 (Severe Drought)
- D3 (Extreme Drought)
- D4 (Exceptional Drought)
- No Data

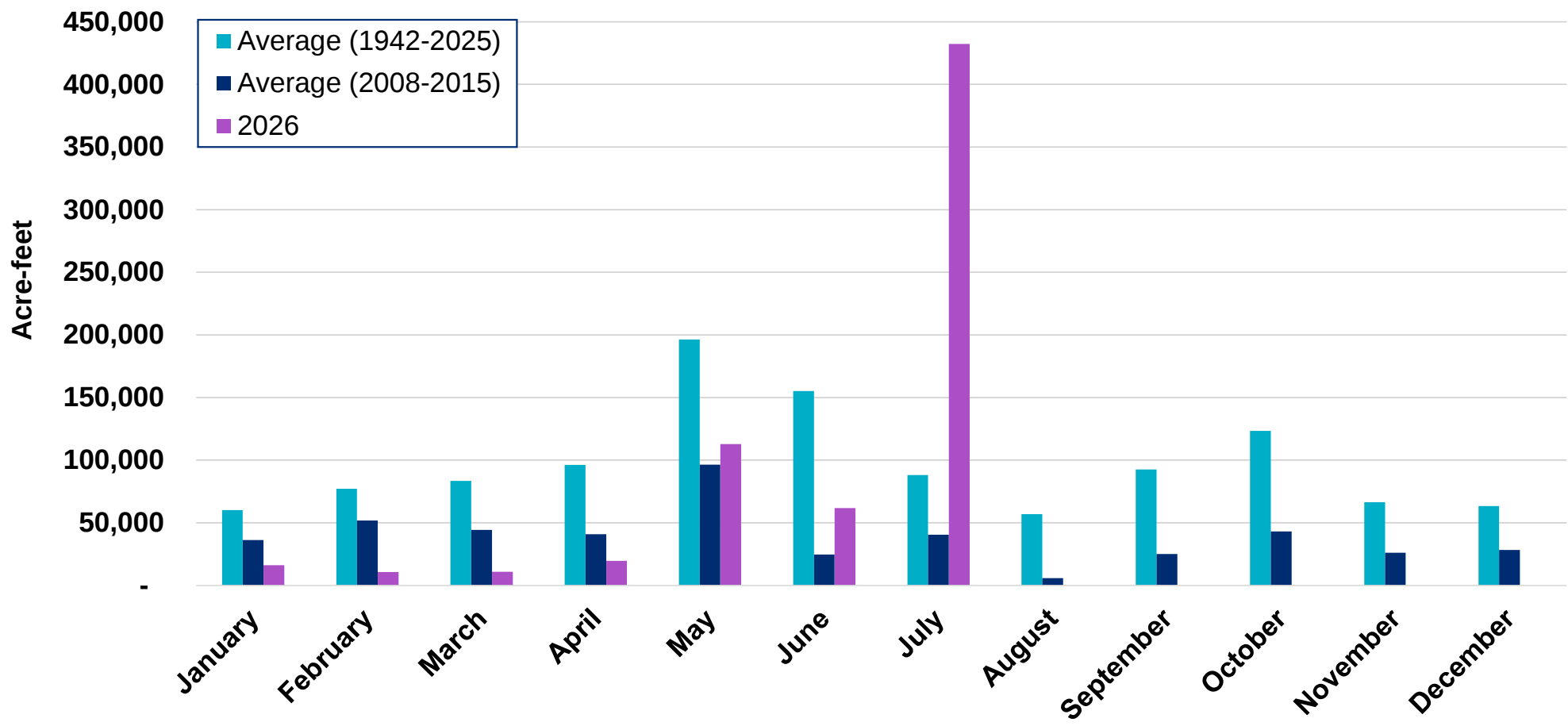
U.S. Drought Monitor

Lower Colorado River Basin

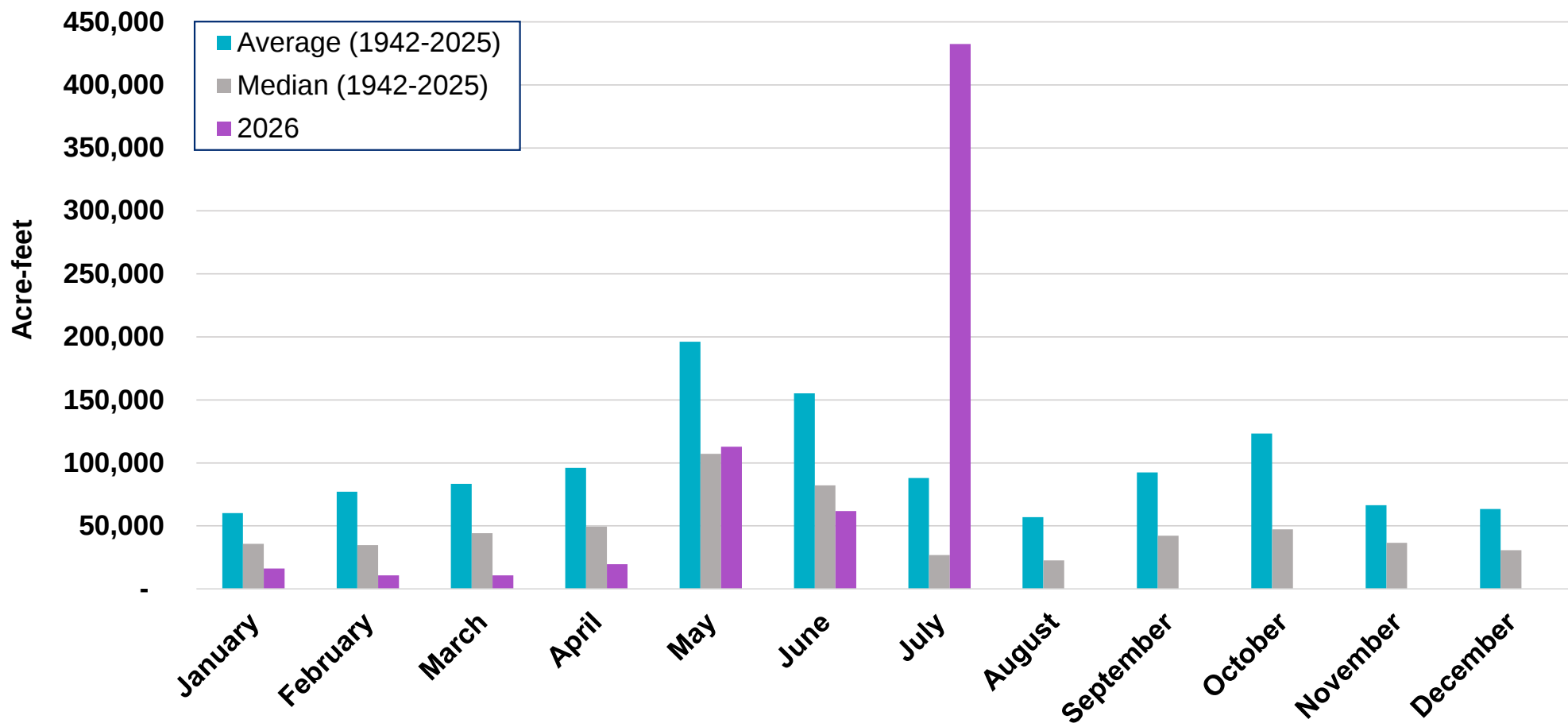
As of Aug. 11, 2026



Water Flowing Into Lakes Buchanan and Travis

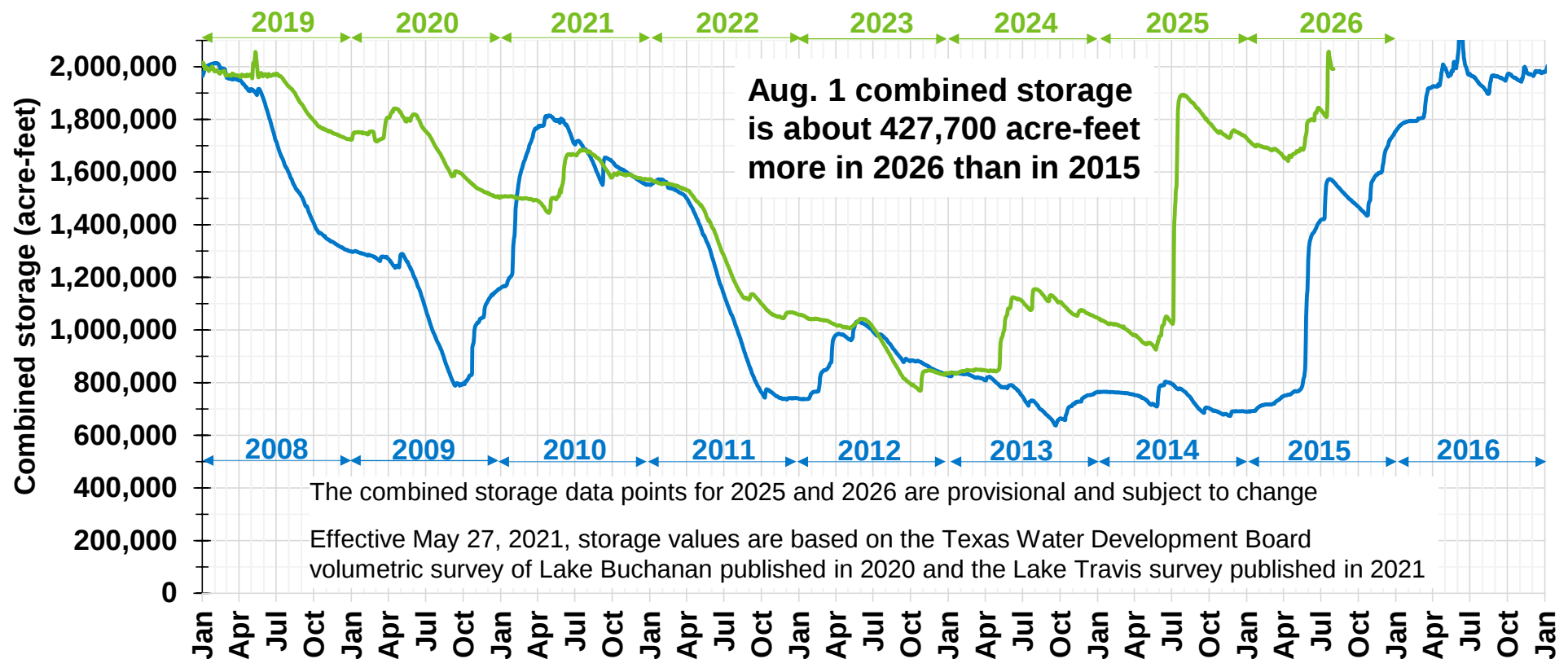


Water Flowing Into Lakes Buchanan and Travis – Median



Combined Storage of Lakes Buchanan and Travis

Comparison of 2019-2026 and 2008-2015



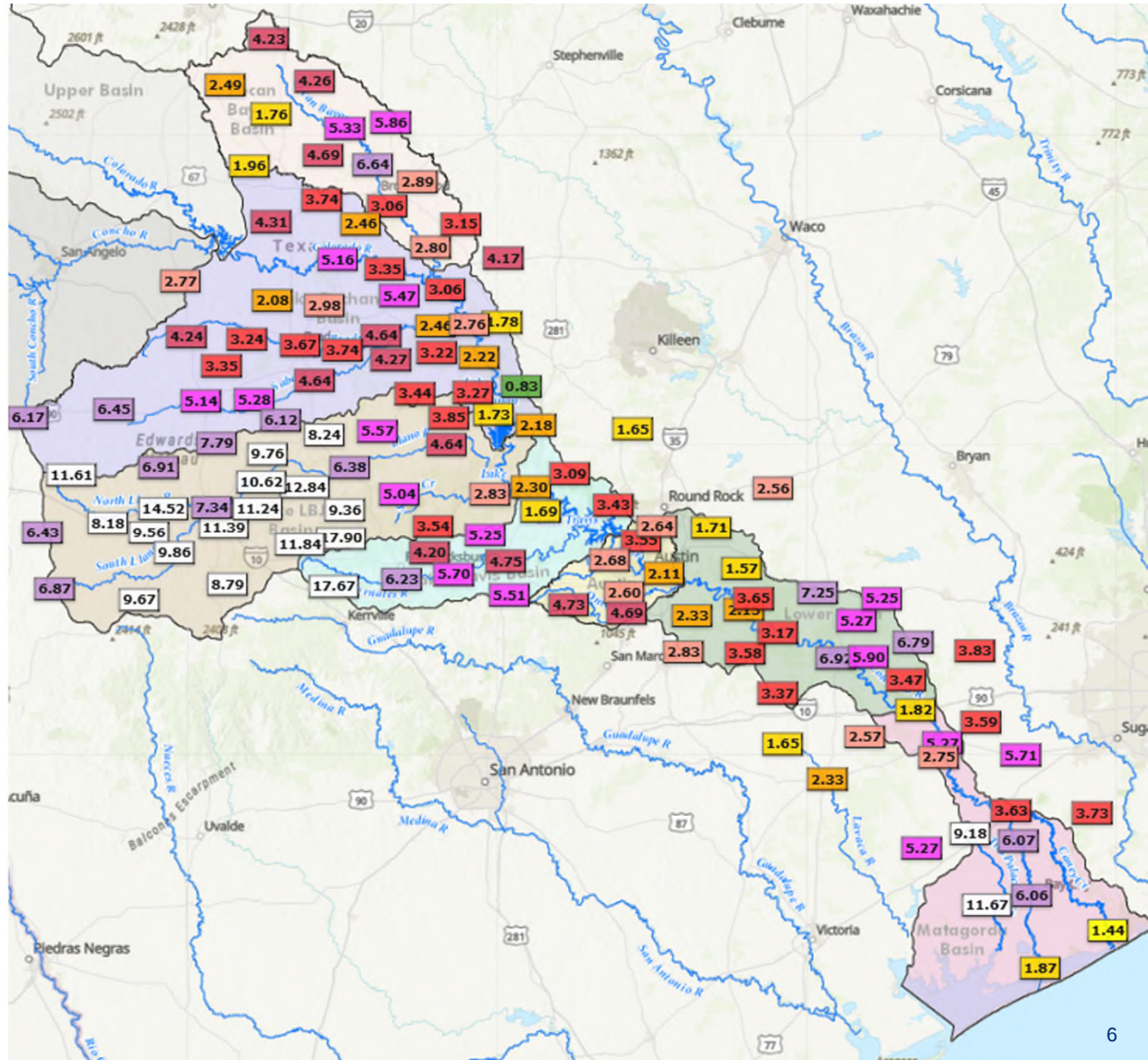
The combined storage data points for 2025 and 2026 are provisional and subject to change

Effective May 27, 2021, storage values are based on the Texas Water Development Board volumetric survey of Lake Buchanan published in 2020 and the Lake Travis survey published in 2021.

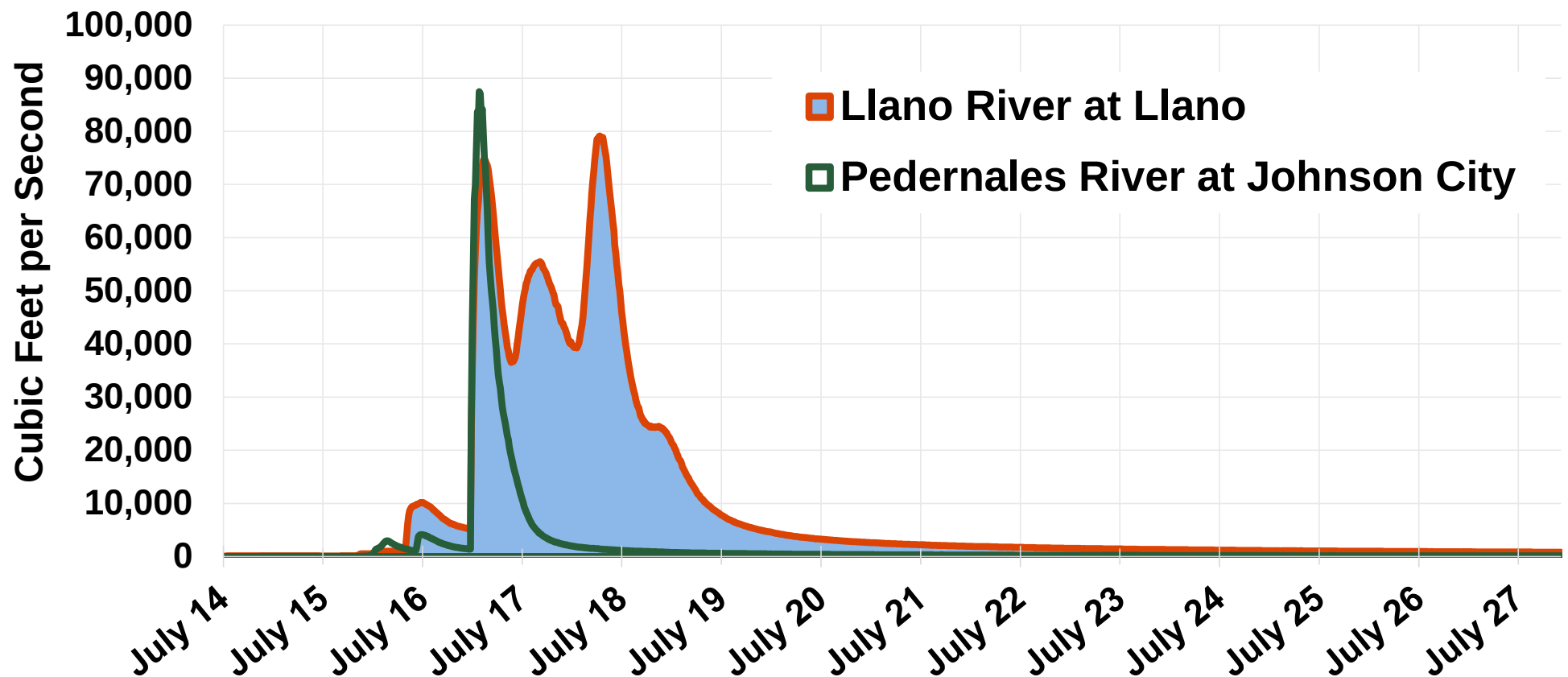
As of Aug. 1, 2026

Hydromet Monitoring

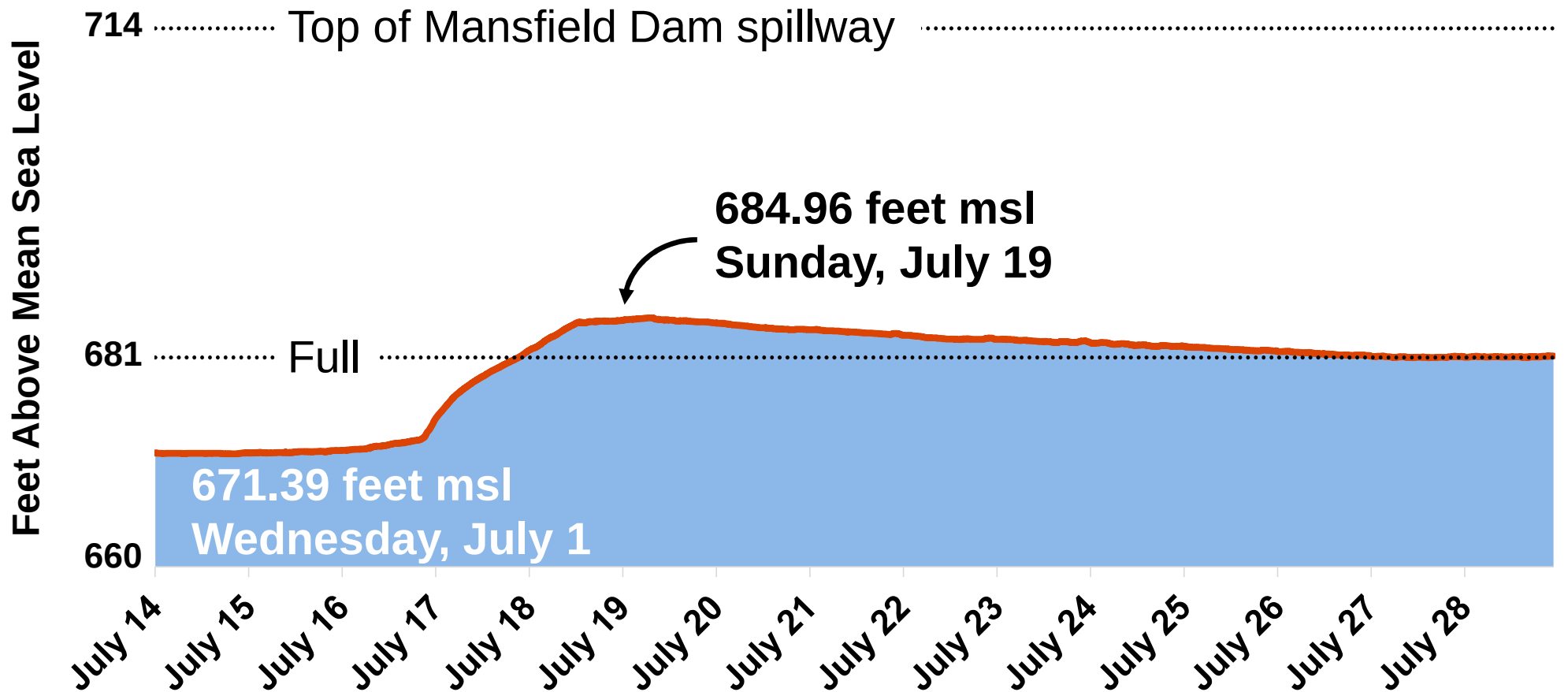
- System of 280+ gauges throughout basin
- Provides information in real time, including:
 - Rain
 - Streamflow
 - Lake levels
- Users include public, emergency officials, National Weather Service
- Hydromet.lcra.org



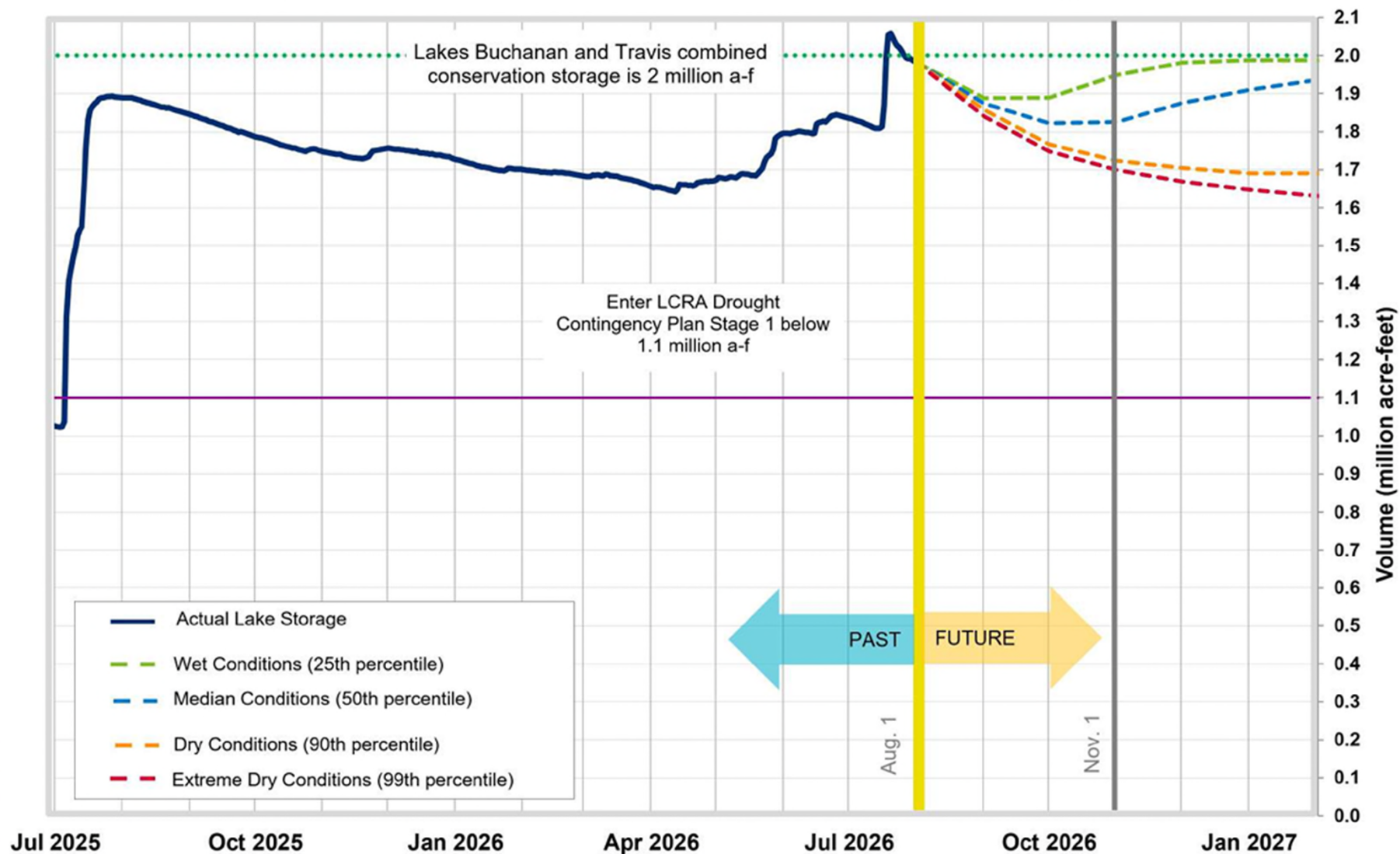
July 2026 Flood Event – Llano and Pedernales River Streamflow



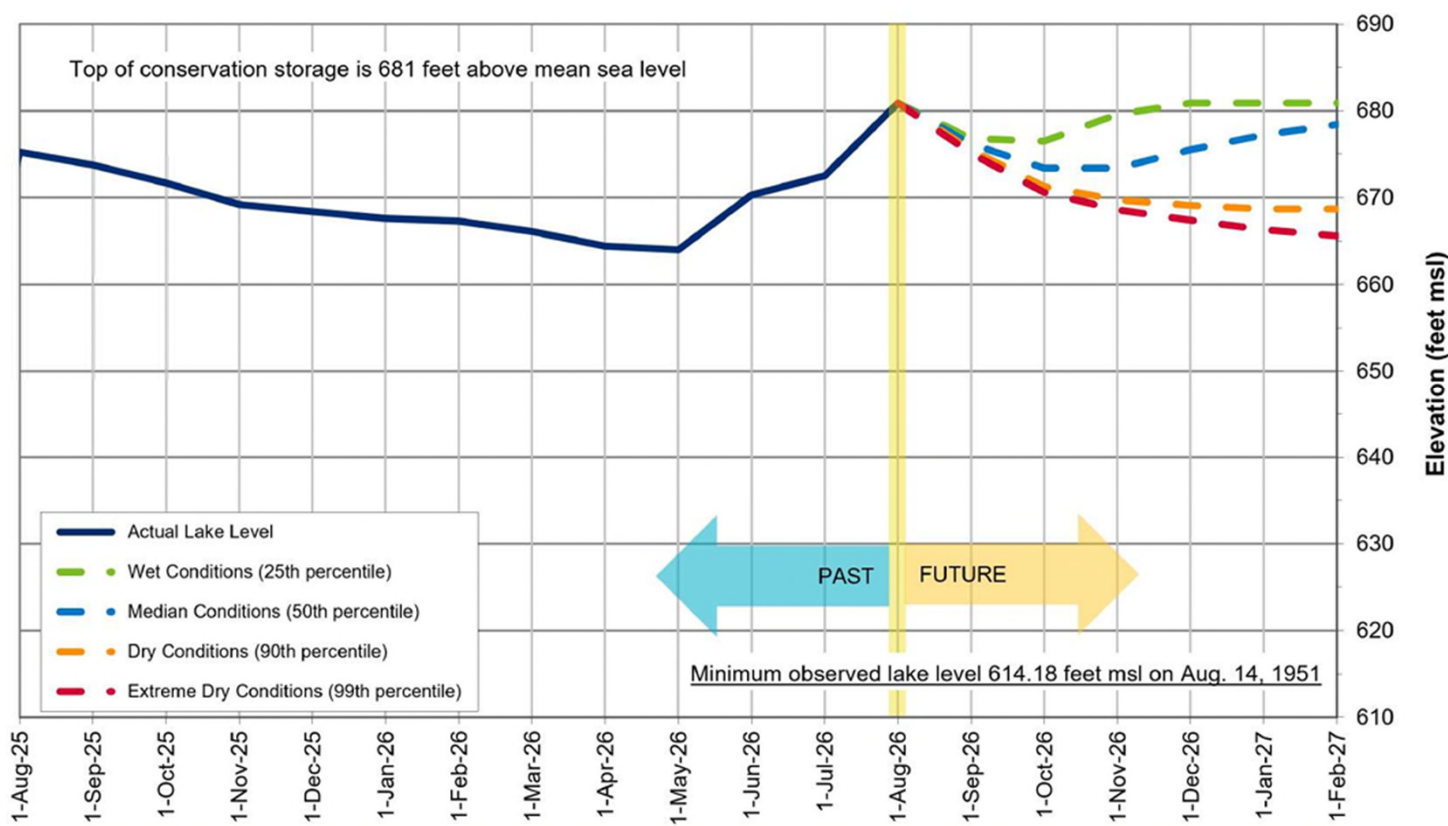
July 2026 Flood Event – Lake Travis Levels



Lakes Buchanan and Travis Total Combined Storage Projections



Lake Travis Level Projection*

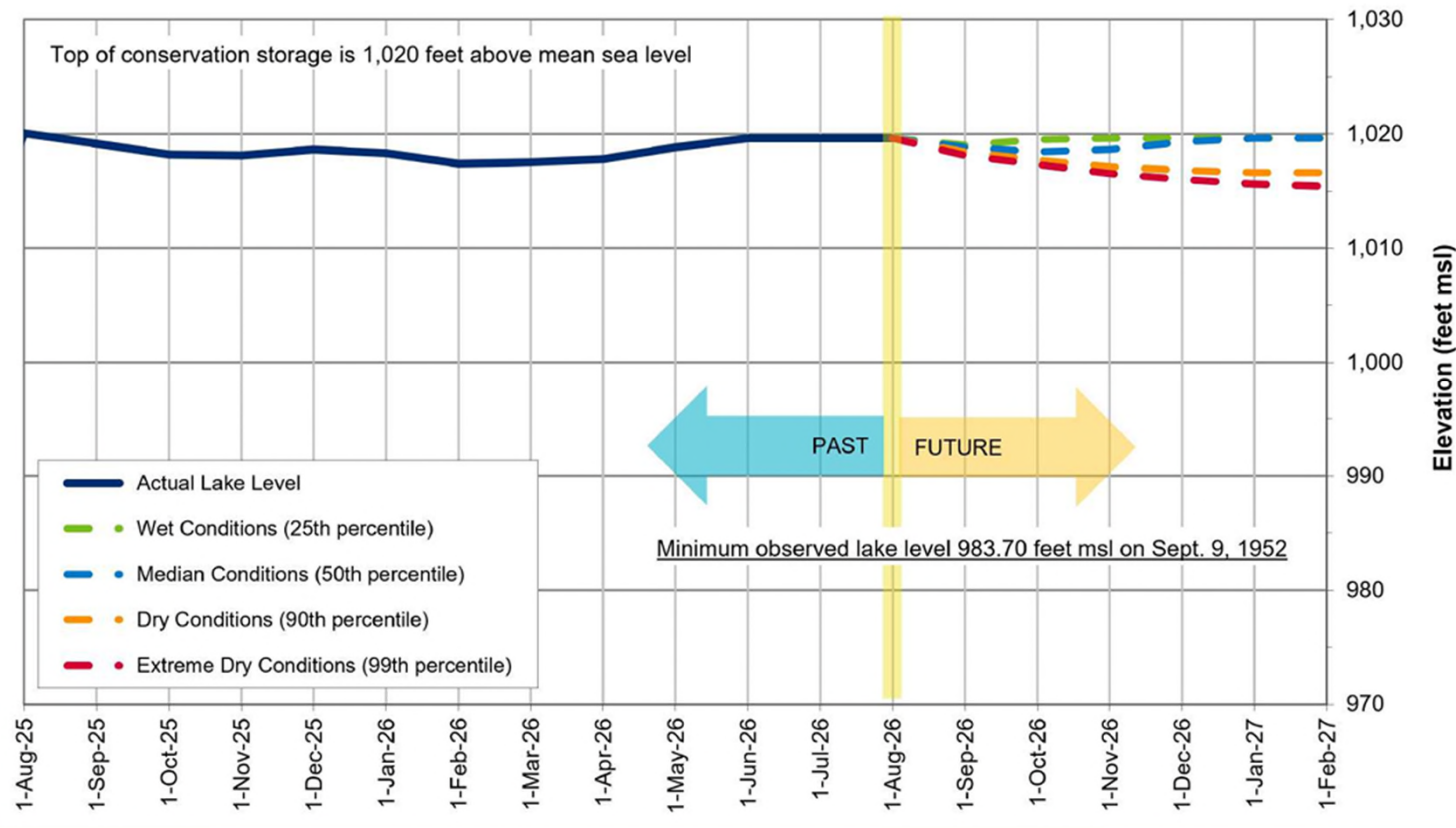


Average for
August:
663.66 feet msl

Historic low
(1951):
614.18 feet msl

*Based on results from the draft stochastic model under development to reflect provisions of the 2020 Water Management Plan

Lake Buchanan Level Projection*

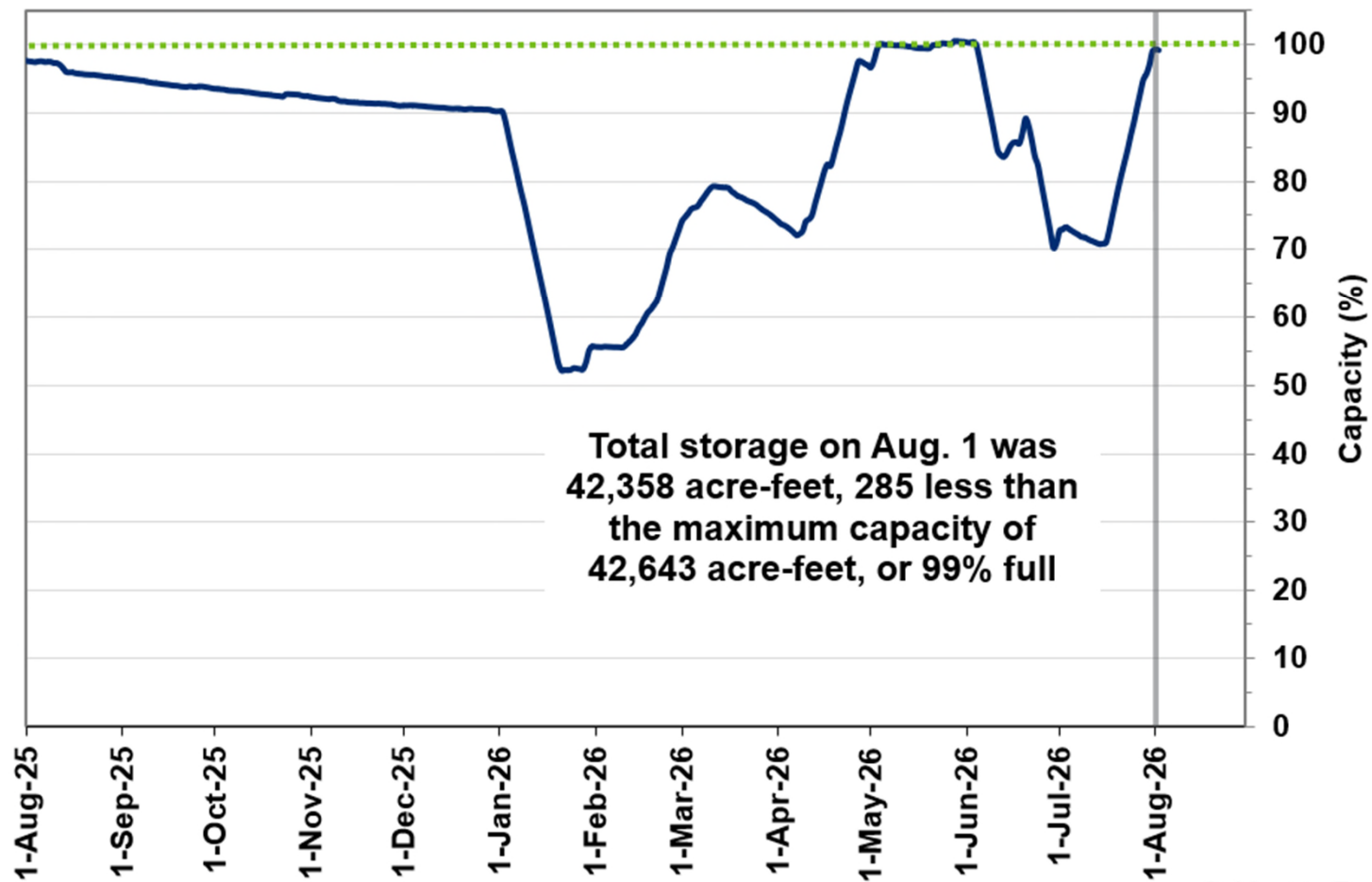


Average for
August:
1,010.85 feet msl

Historic low
(1952):
983.70 feet msl

*Based on results from the draft stochastic model under development to reflect provisions of the 2020 Water Management Plan

Arbuckle Reservoir Percent Full



Total storage on Aug. 1 was 42,358 acre-feet, 285 less than the maximum capacity of 42,643 acre-feet, or 99% full

Subject to Revision

Lake Level Comparisons

	Aug. 1, 2025	Aug. 1, 2026
Lake Travis (feet msl)	675.22	681.03
Lake Buchanan (feet msl)	1,020.00	1,019.76
Combined storage* (a-f)	1,888,326	1,990,103

*For purposes of the 2020 Water Management Plan, the combined storage is defined as the total of the daily average volume of water in lakes Buchanan and Travis. This determination excludes any water in Lake Buchanan above elevation 1,020 feet msl and any water in Lake Travis above elevation 681 feet msl.



