





— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION

Verde Reservoirs Sediment Mitigation Project (VRSMP)

Stakeholder Meeting
December 11, 2024

TEAMS Housekeeping

Thank you for joining us today!

- The meeting will start at 12:00 pm PST/ 1:00 pm MST
- Please when joining mute your microphones to avoid echoes or other audio issues.
 - If calling by telephone, press *6 to mute/unmute yourself.
 - If joining on your computer, turn your mic off/on by selecting the Microphone .
- Please turn off your camera to preserve bandwidth.
 - To turn off/on your camera, turn the Camera .



TEAMS Housekeeping

- Please refrain from asking any questions until the end of the presentation.
- If you do have any questions during the presentation, write your questions in the Chat Box.
- During the Q&A, please raise your hand to be acknowledged.
 - In the meeting controls at the top of the screen, select Raise 🙋.
 - Please identify yourself when asking any questions and let us know if there are other attendees with you.
- An electronic copy of the slides will be sent out to participants as well as posted on our website after meeting.



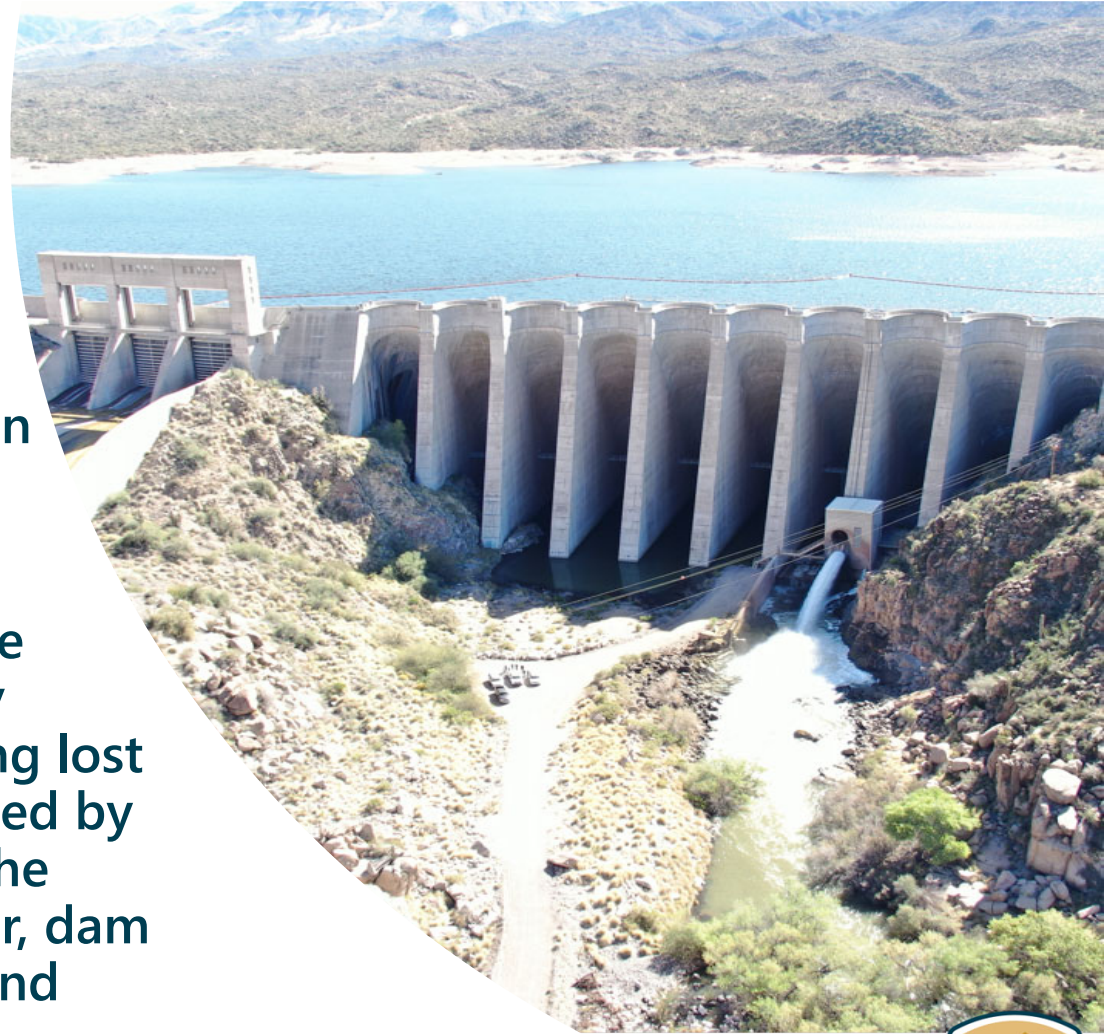
Agenda

- Welcome and opening remarks
- Overview of the VRSMP
- Status update
- Feasibility study timeline
- Opportunities for engagement
- Questions



VRSMP Feasibility Study

- Authorized by Title IX of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, P.L. 117-58
- Cost Share Requirement
- Elaborates on the analysis in the Verde Reservoirs Sediment Mitigation Study (VRSMS) Appraisal Report for restoring lost capacity and increasing benefits created by the Verde River reservoir system for the purposes of water supply, hydropower, dam safety, flood control, environmental and recreation.

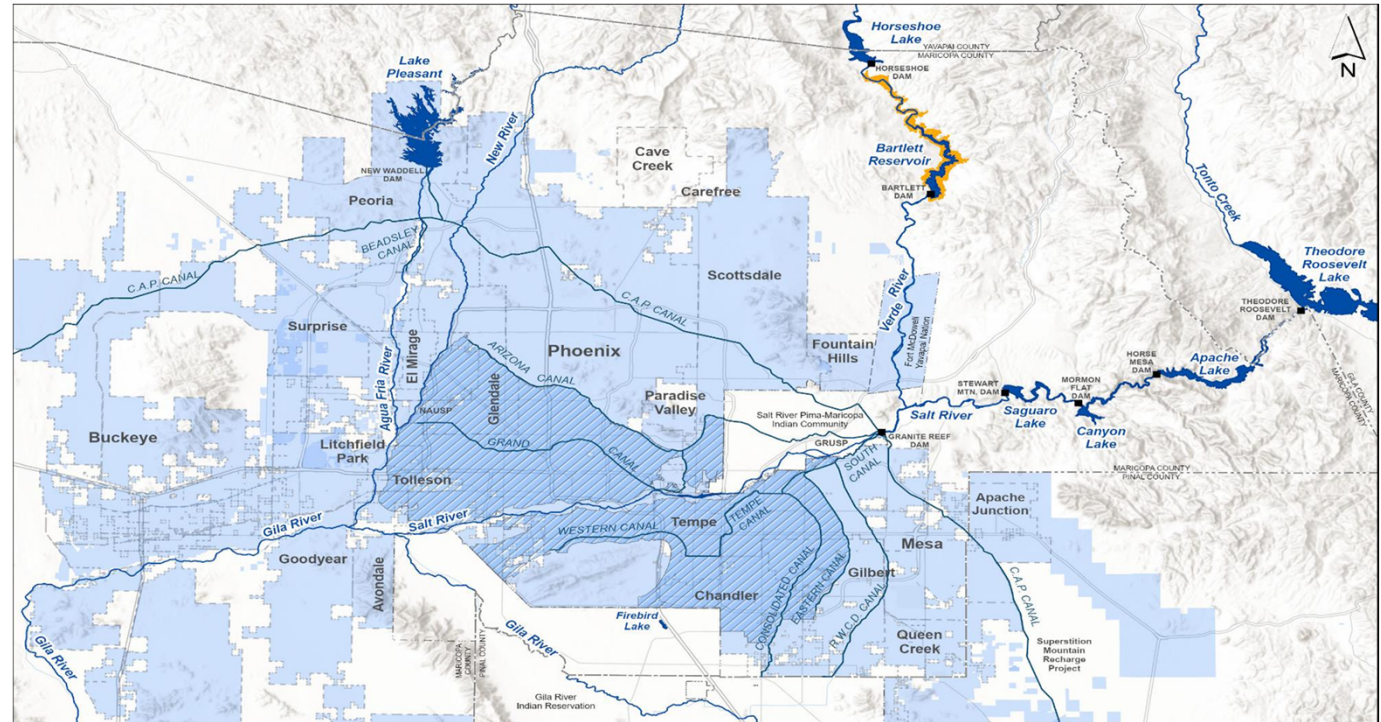


Bartlett Dam



VRSMP Cost Share

- Requires minimum 50% non-federal cost share
- Cost share agreement among 24 non-federal partners
- Cost share agreement between Reclamation and SRP
 - Support non-federal funding requirements
 - Support study with technical information



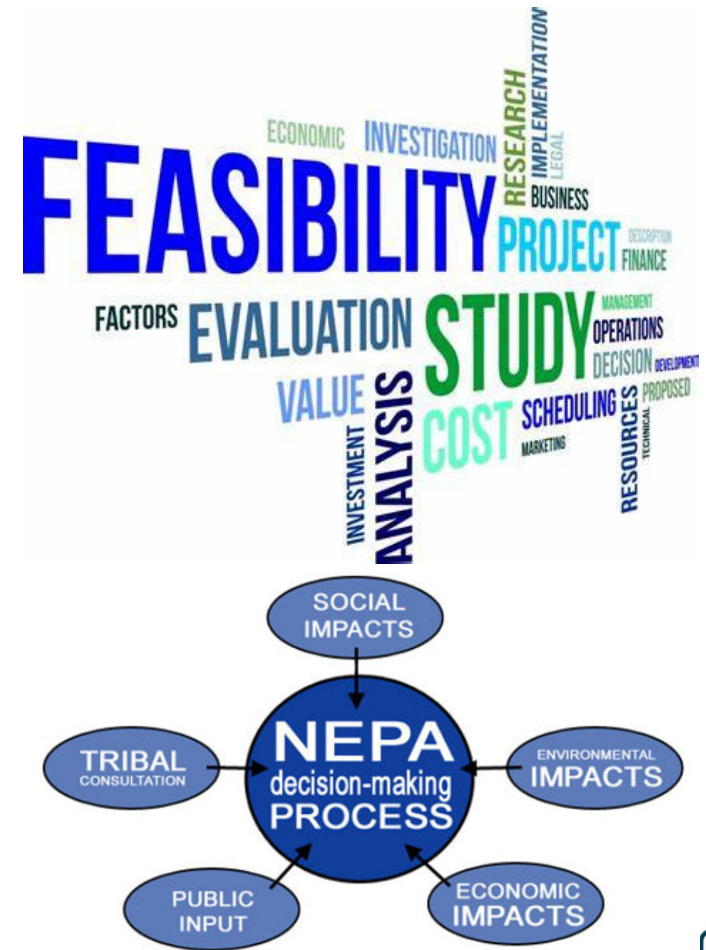
VRSMP Feasibility Objectives

- Restore water storage capacity on the Verde River reservoir system that has been lost from sedimentation at Horseshoe Reservoir and mitigate future sediment accumulation impacts
- Evaluate additional water storage capacity and associated water supplies on the Verde River reservoir system including opportunities for use to facilitate negotiations and implementation of Indian Water Rights Settlements and other federal uses.
- Consider opportunities for increasing benefits created by the Verde River reservoir system for the purposes of dam safety, flood control, fish and wildlife and recreation
- To the extent practicable, avoid and minimize adverse impacts on physical, biological, socioeconomic, cultural, and tribal resources



Feasibility Process

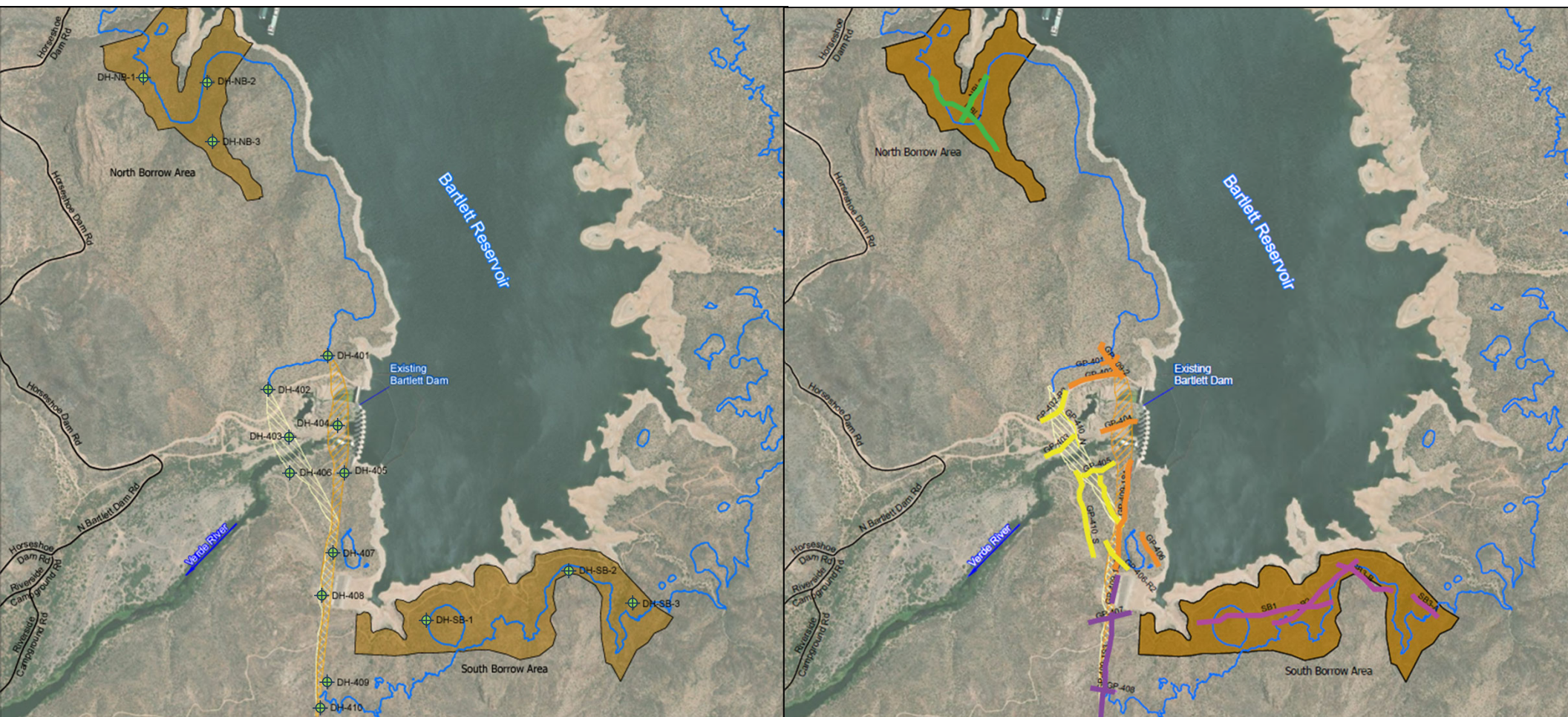
- Appraisal Analysis Review and Feasibility Initiation
- Conduct planning activities
- Inventory existing resources and forecast future conditions
- Formulate, evaluate and compare alternative plans
- Select recommended plan
- Prepare final report



⁸ For more details on the feasibility process visit <https://www.usbr.gov/recman/cmp/cmp09-02.pdf>



Geotechnical Investigations



Trial Quarry



Changes to Appraisal Alternatives

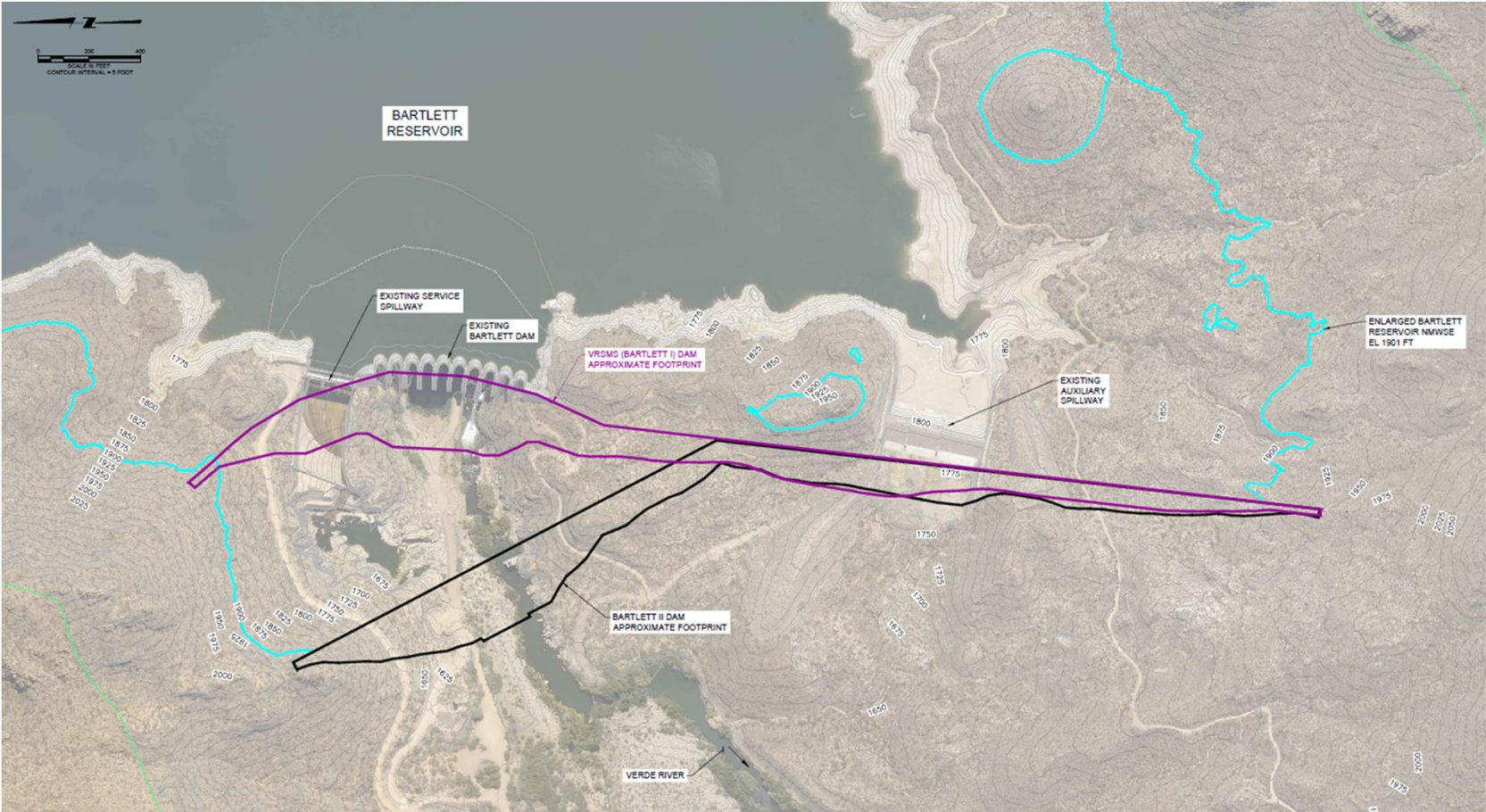
- **Datum Reconciliation**

- 3 elevation datums across Horseshoe and Bartlett Dams: NGVD29, SRP Local Datum, and NAVD88
- VRSMP now consistently uses NAVD88

Appraisal Study Alternatives	Appraisal Reservoir Height Increase	Feasibility Reservoir Height Increase
Bartlett Modification 1	97 ft	101.8 ft
Bartlett Modification 2	62 ft	60.8 ft



Changes to Appraisal Alternatives



Sediment Analysis

- 2021 Horseshoe Survey
- 2022 Bartlett Bathymetry Survey



Bartlett Dam and Spillway



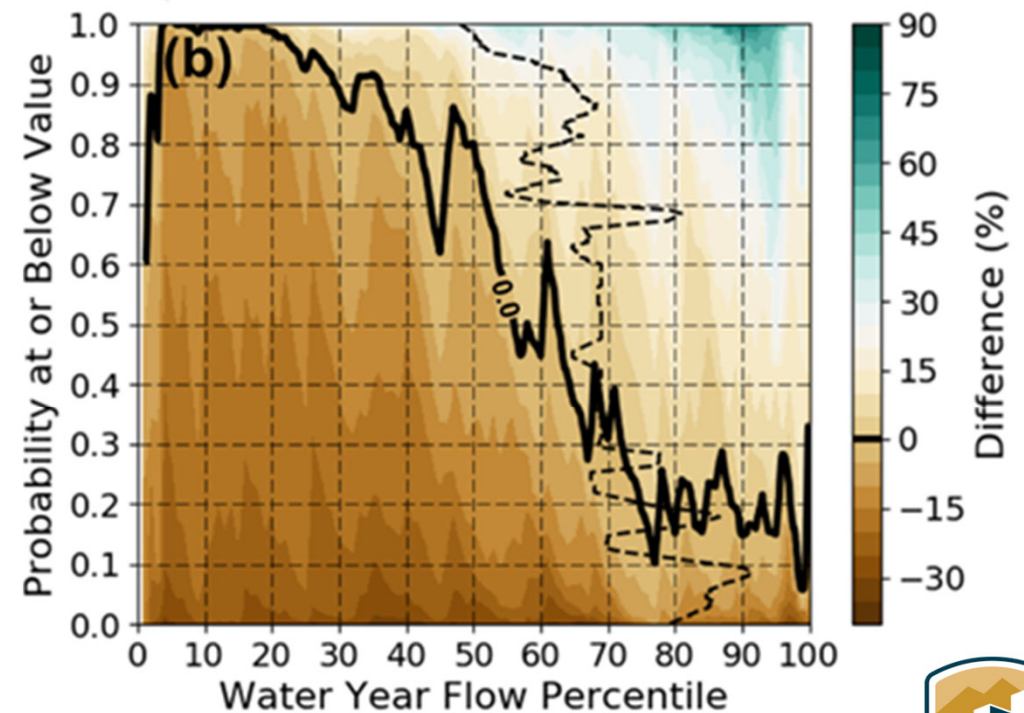
Horseshoe Reservoir 90% full looking south
(March 17, 2023)

Hydrology

Future Salt-Verde Streamflow (2032-2131 vs 1923-2022)

- 1,000 projections of future streamflow were developed.
- There is a wide range in annual streamflow among the projections

- - - Dashed line is the change in average annual streamflow
- Solid line represents no change in annual streamflow

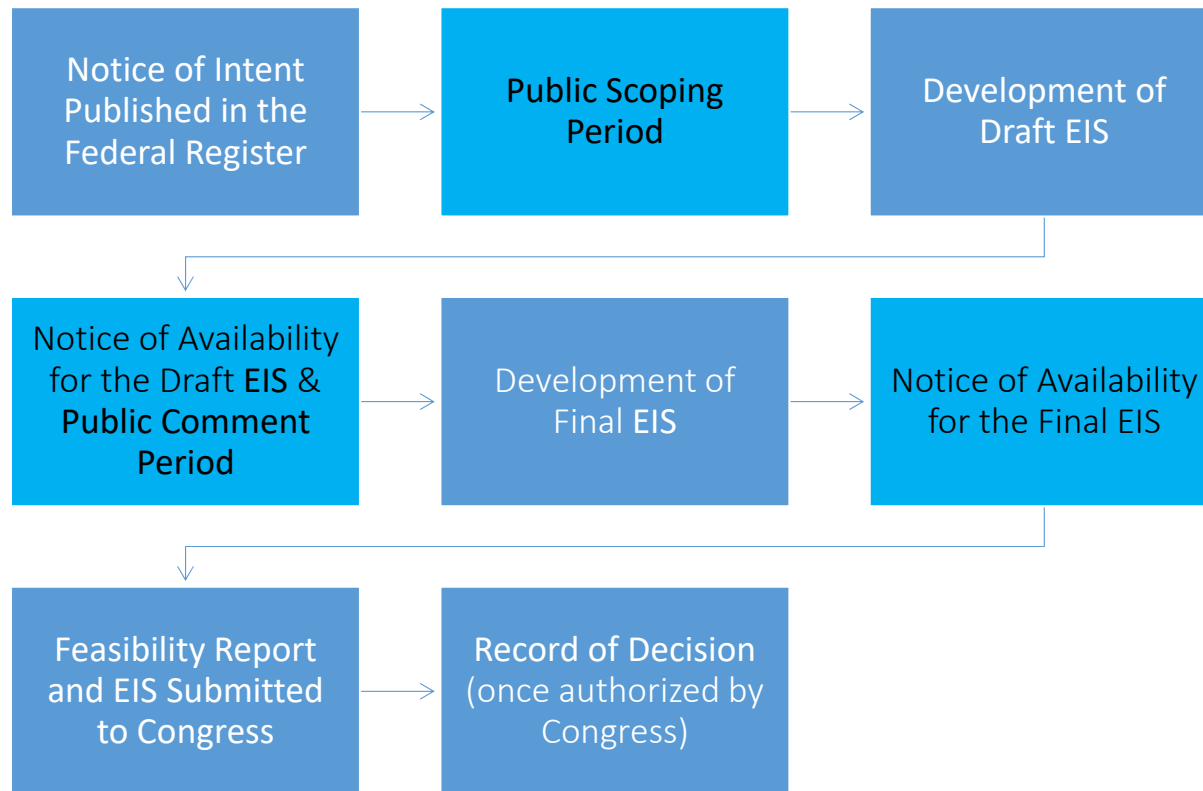


Environmental Activities

- Initiated cultural resources surveys and the development of a Programmatic Agreement
- Awarded the contract for an environmental consultant (AECOM) to prepare the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Feasibility Report
- Conducting baseline surveys, including:
 - Avian surveys (Southwestern willow flycatcher and Yellow-billed cuckoo)
 - Fish surveys
 - Gartersnake surveys
 - Water quality
- Coordinating with Cooperating Agencies
- Preparing the Notice of Intent (NOI) for the EIS



National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Process



VRSMP Feasibility Study Timeline

- Stakeholder meeting December 11, 2024
- Spring 2025 – Initiate NEPA process (NOI)
- Summer 2026 – Draft EIS
- Spring 2027 – Complete Final EIS and Feasibility Report



Horseshoe Dam Reservoir and Spillway



Opportunities for Engagement

- Government-to-Government consultations with tribes
- Stakeholder meetings
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
 - Notice of Intent (NOI)/Public Scoping Period
 - Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Public Comment Period



Project Websites

- NEPA: Coming soon
- Reclamation: <https://www.usbr.gov/lc/phoenix/programs/VRSMP.html>
- SRP: <https://www.srpnet.com/grid-water-management/water-management/lakes/bartlett-dam-project>



Questions?



Email questions to:
VRSMP@usbr.gov



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