

# RECLAMATION

*Managing Water in the West*

## **Challenged but Unbroken:**

Sustaining the Colorado River

Jennifer McCloskey

CRWUA

December 11, 2014



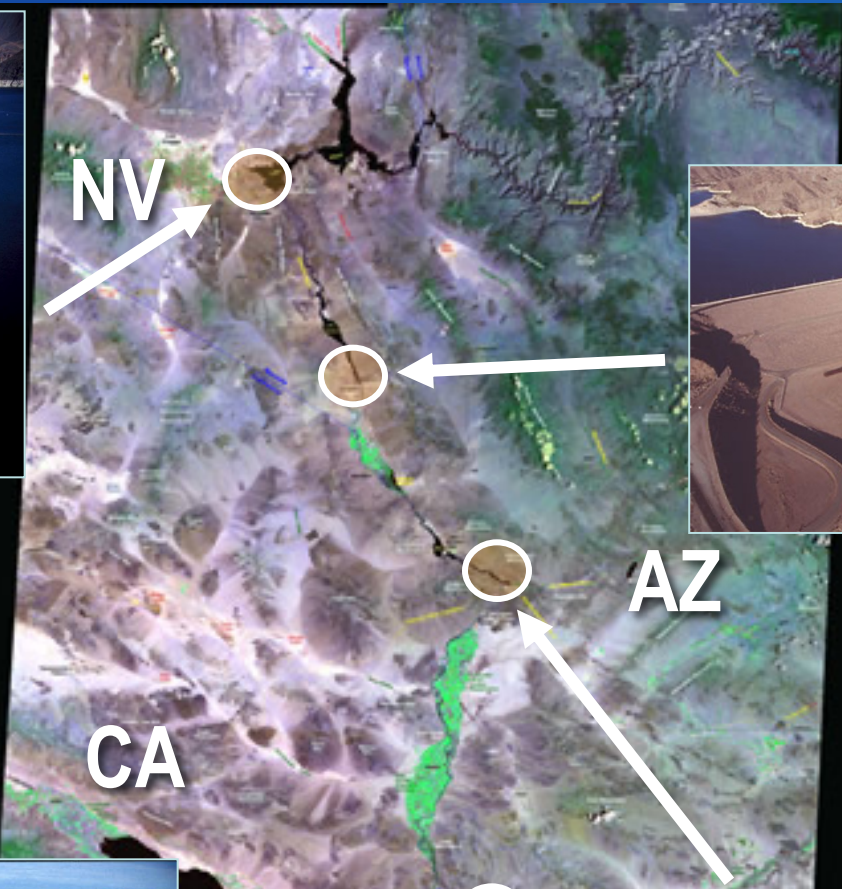
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Reclamation

# Tightening up system operations

“The Department is going to continue efforts to improve water management and operations in the Colorado River System, which many of you have referred to as tightening up system operations.”

*Secretary Jewell, CRWUA 2013*

- Focus on:
  - Excess flows
  - Bypass flows



Mexico

Transit time

# Excess flows

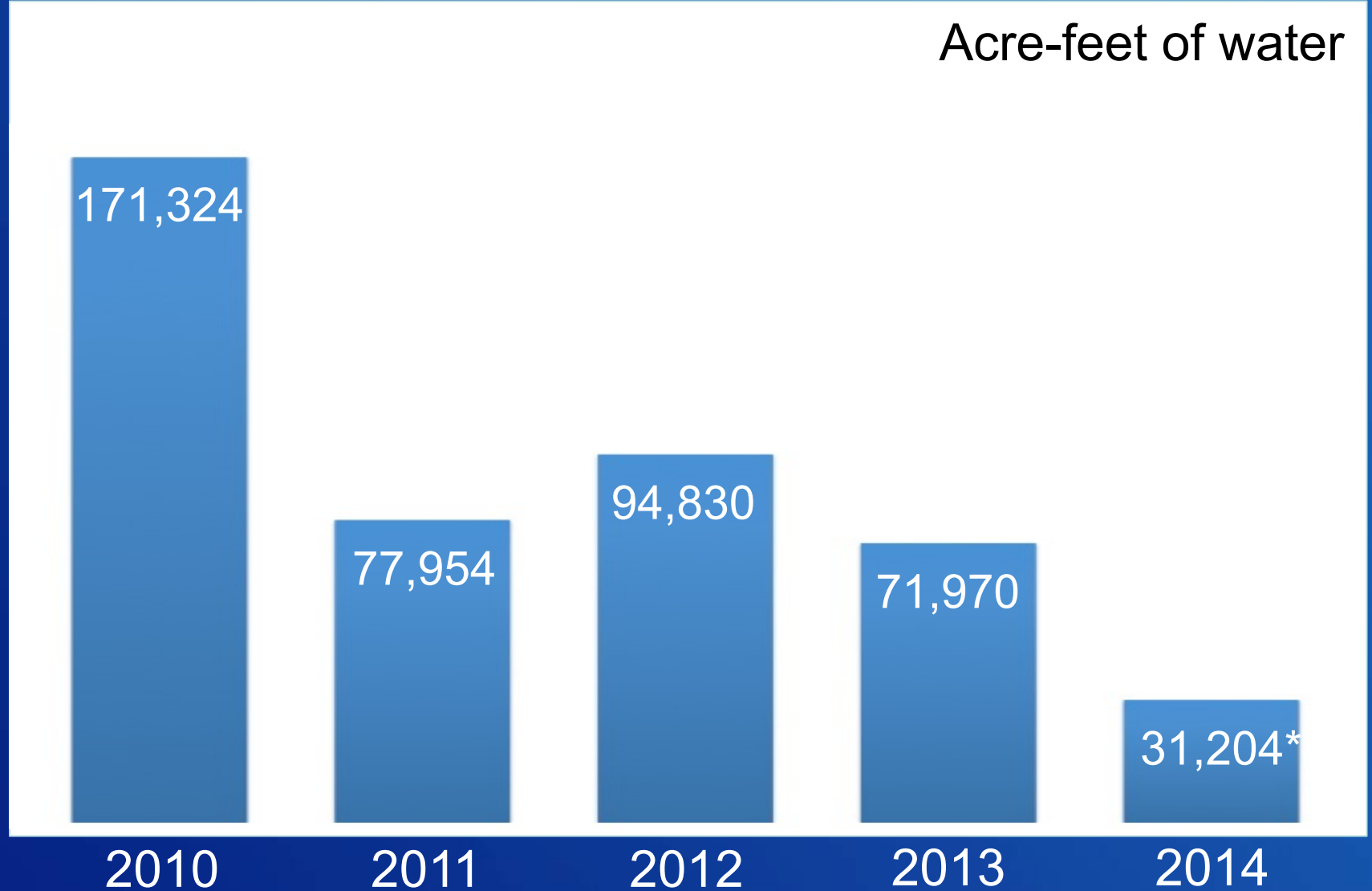
---

- Flows arriving at the Northerly International Boundary (NIB) in excess of Mexico's monthly order. Drivers:
  - Outages unavailability of Brock or Senator Wash off-stream regulating reservoirs
  - Water ordered but not diverted, usually due to rain events after releases from Parker Dam
  - Base flow (in the river between between Imperial Dam and the Northerly International Boundary) greater than scheduled demand
  - Water released to meet delivery requirements within gauge error ("delivery assurance")



# Excess flows

Acre-feet of water



\* 2014 is provisional data through 11/30

RECLAMATION



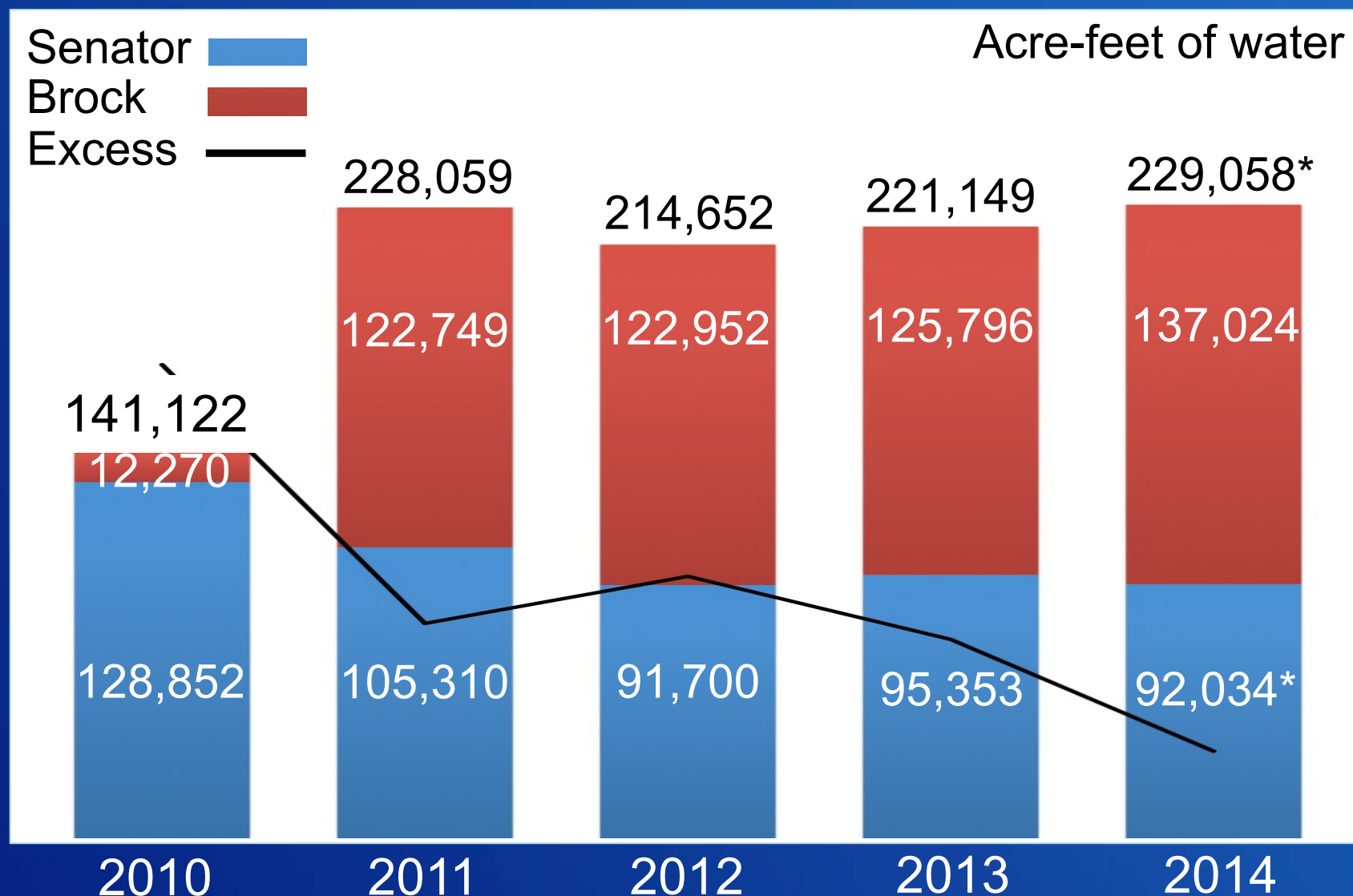
**Brock  
Reservoir**

**Senator Wash  
Reservoir**



**RECLAMATION**

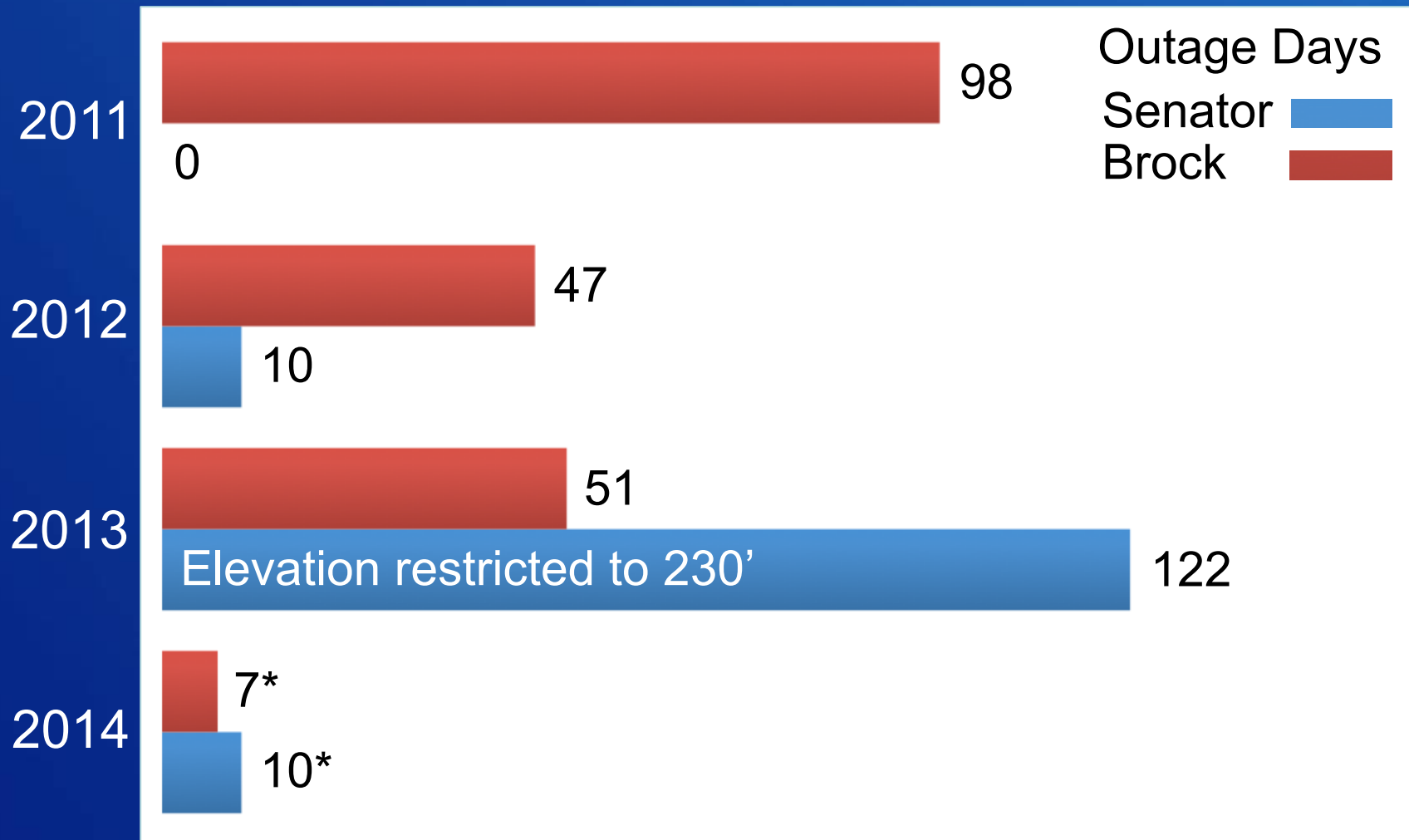
# Recent storage history



\* 2014 is provisional data through 11/30

RECLAMATION

# Recent outage history



\* 2014 is data through 11/30

RECLAMATION



# Looking forward – 2015 and beyond

---

- Memorandum of Understanding for Pilot Drought Response Actions
  - By Lower Basin States (AZ, CA, NV), CAWCD, MWD, SNWA and Reclamation
  - Generation of “Protection Volumes”
  - Target: 740,000 acre-feet of water
  - Between 2014 and 2017
- “Reclamation will work to plan and implement actions to replace, recover and reduce system losses from the Colorado River System.”

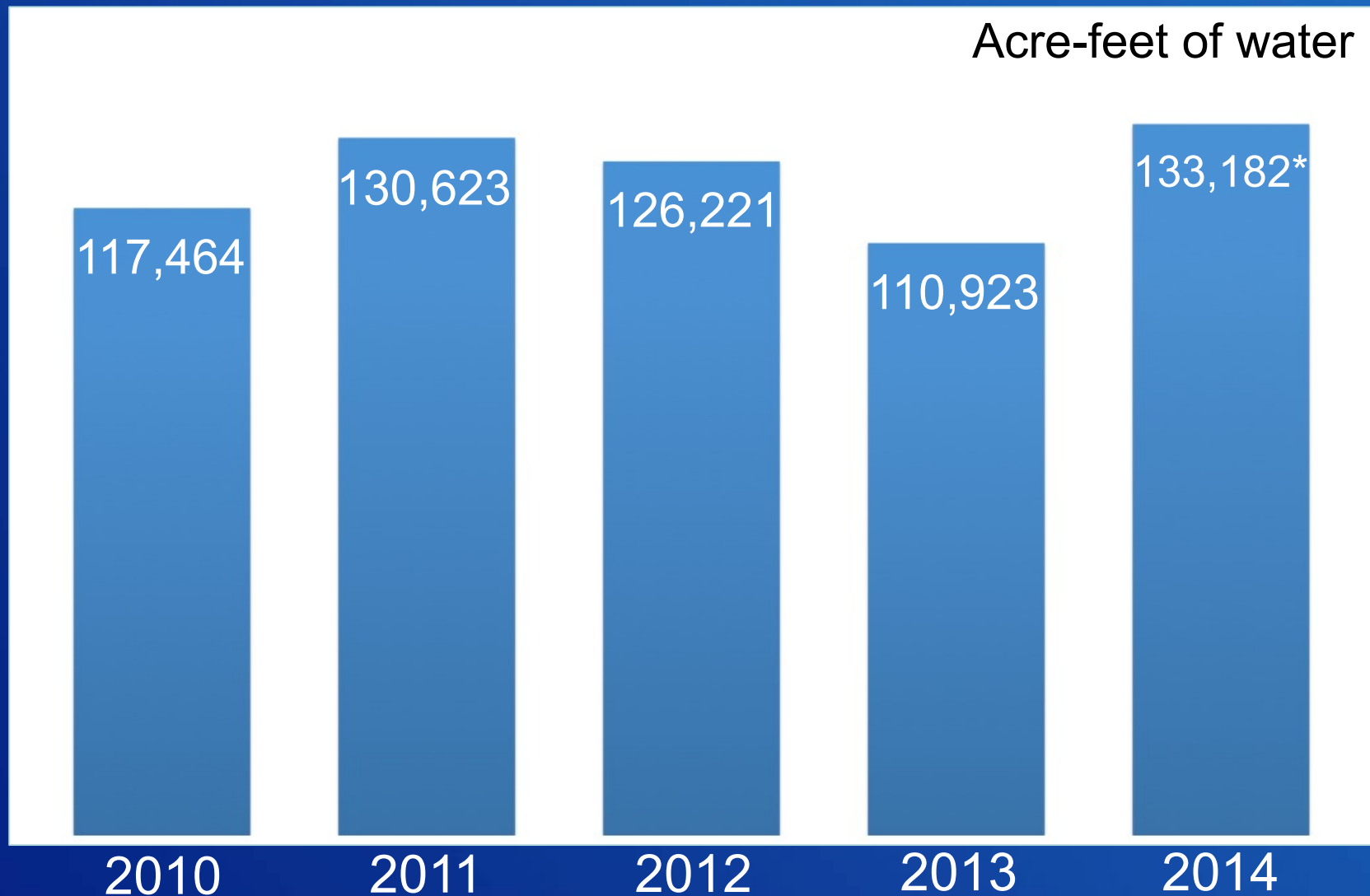
RECLAMATION



Bypass Flows

RECLAMATION

# Bypass flows



\* 2014 is provisional data through 11/30

RECLAMATION



# Success – past and future

---

- Success has been and will continue to be the result of cooperation and partnerships
- Workgroup will provide the vehicle for new focus on the bypass flows



RECLAMATION