

Ecosystem Restoration on the Lower Colorado River: Challenges, Successes, and Applied Research Lessons from the United States and Mexico

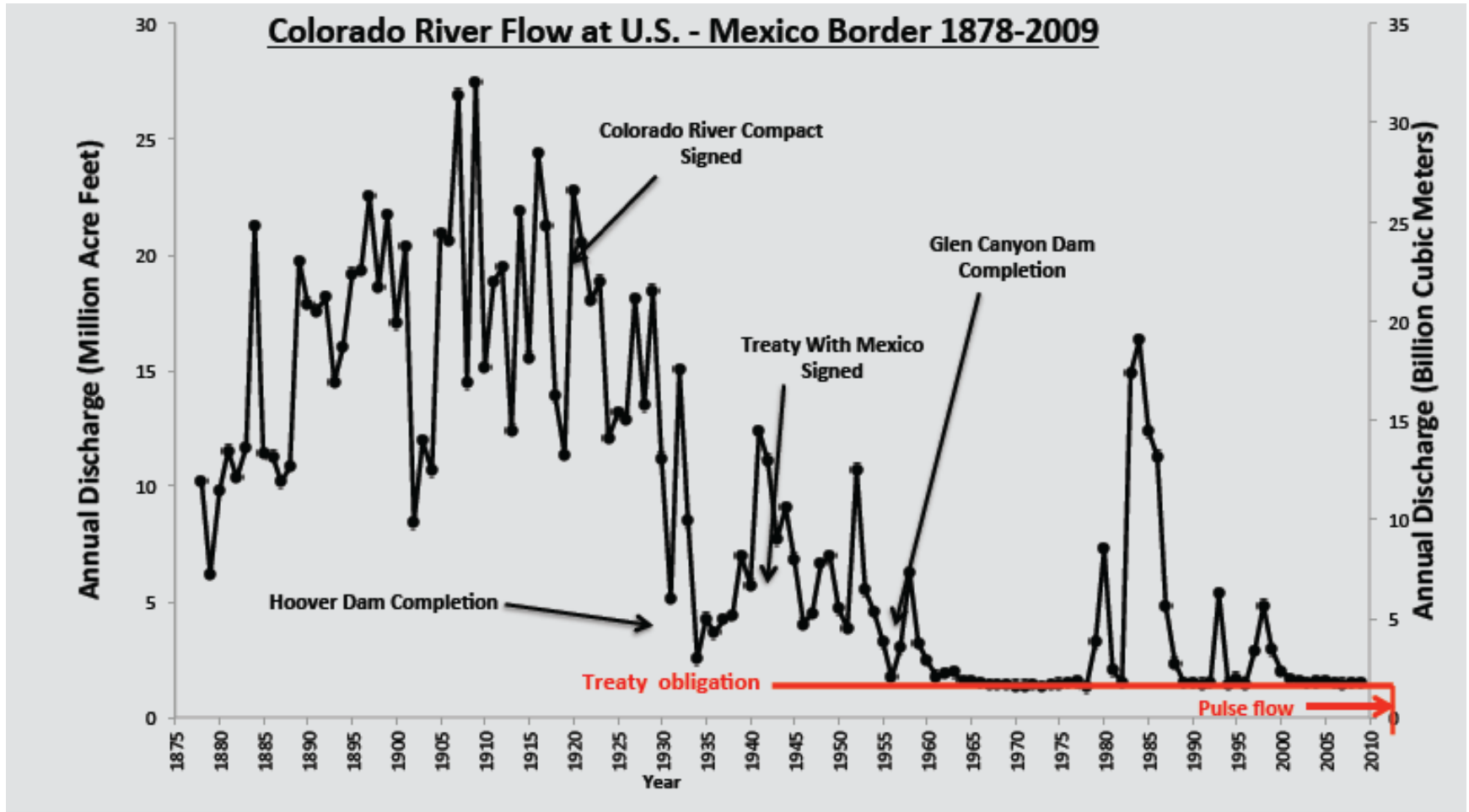
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Colorado River Utilization (2001)

- Municipalities: Over 25 Million People
- Agriculture: Over 3,500,000 acres.
- Hydropower: Up to 12 Billion kwatt hours per year.
- Recreation

Colorado River Management



River Management Impacts

- Environmental:
 - Fishes: 34 known natives, 74% endemic, 3 endangered in the lower basin.
 - Vegetation and birds:
 - Historically 400,000-450,000 acres of native riparian vegetation.
 - Due to clearing, river management, and wildfire, as of 2005, 126,000 acres, only 23,000 native.
 - Endangered: Yuma clapper rail, Southwestern willow flycatcher, another listing coming soon.
- Cultural:
 - Severe impairment of fisheries.