



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

SEP 28 1988

Honorable Garrey Carruthers
Governor of New Mexico
Santa Fe, NM 87504

Dear Honorable Carruthers:

On August 31, 1988, your representative and the representatives of the other Colorado River Basin States and the Federal agencies involved in Colorado River operations agreed to an Annual Operating Plan (copy enclosed) for the Colorado River reservoirs for water year 1989. The plan of operation reflects uses of the reservoirs for all purposes consistent with the Criteria for Coordinated Long-Range Operation of the Colorado River Reservoirs Pursuant to the Colorado River Basin Project Act of September 30, 1968 (Operating Criteria). In particular, the 1989 operation plan reflects the current drought condition throughout the basin.

Given the projected water supply and reservoir conditions, it is anticipated that there will be no excess water available for release during the year. However, recognizing the system storage available and the critical need for a dependable water supply, all requests for Colorado River water by holders of water delivery contracts with the United States, and of other water rights recognized by the decree in Arizona v. California, will be satisfied during the calendar year 1989.

Sincerely,

Don Donald P. Model

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Steven E. Reynolds
State Engineer
State of New Mexico
Bataan Memorial Building, Room 101
Santa Fe, NM 87503

Identical letter to persons on attached sheet.

bc: Secretary's Surname
Secretary's Reading File (2)
ES (8)
AS/WS (3)
Regional Director, Salt Lake City, Utah, Attention: UC-400
Regional Director, Boulder City, Nevada, Attention: UC-400
Project Manager, Phoenix, Arizona
Project Manager, Yuma, Arizona
W-1000, W-1300, W-5120
D-5000, D-5100, D-5700, D-5750, D-5755
(with copy of attachments to each)

WBR:RWCheney:ab:9/8/88:776-3813:5755-9/CO-RIVER

1989 Annual Operating Plan
 Colorado River System
 Assumptions and Objectives

1. WATER SUPPLY ASSUMPTIONS

The 1989 annual operating plan (AOP) details the expected operation of the Colorado River reservoir system starting October 1988, initial reservoir conditions being set to the expected conditions at the end of September 1988. As in past years, three scenarios were evaluated, the most probable, the probable maximum (5 percent chance of exceedence), and the probable minimum (95 percent chance of exceedence). These 1989 inflow conditions were followed by average inflow during water year 1990. Transition months between these periods were adjusted to obtain reasonable hydrologic regimes.

The following inflow assumptions were used in the preparation of the 1989 AOP:

	PROB MAX	MOST PROB	PROB MIN
Oct - Dec 1988	Average	Forecast	Forecast
Jan - Mar 1989	Up. Quart.	Low. Quart.	Low. Decile
Apr - Jul 1989	Adjusted Up. Decile	Adjusted Average	Adjusted Low. Decile
Aug - Dec 1989	Up. Decile	Average	Low. Decile
Jan - Mar 1990	Up. Quart.	Average	Low. Quart.
Apr - Sep 1990	Average	Average	Average

For the 1989 snowmelt runoff season (April - July), the Upper Decile, Average, and Lower Decile inflows have been adjusted using the most recent National Weather Service ESP computer run. This run predicts that the most probable 1989 runoff will be lower than average due to the current low streamflows and very dry basin conditions. This difference was quantified at each of the reservoirs and then applied to each of the 3 AOP scenarios:

Fontenelle	-	127,000	acre-feet
Flaming Gorge	-	184,000	
Blue Mesa	-	89,000	
Navajo	+	26,000	
Lake Powell	-	409,000	

2. CONSUMPTIVE USES

The Lower Basin consumptive use demands for CY 1989 were scheduled as follows in all three water supply scenarios:

Southern Nevada Water Project	115,000 acre-feet
Central Arizona Project	745,000 acre-feet
Metropolitan Water District	1,335,000 acre-feet
Demands Below Parker Dam	4,810,000 acre-feet
Total	7,005,000 acre-feet

3. DELIVERY TO MEXICO

Deliveries to Mexico in CY 1989 are limited to 1.5 million acre-feet under the most probable and probable minimum water supply conditions. Under the probable maximum water supply condition, 1.7 million acre-feet is scheduled for delivery to Mexico.

4. LAKE POWELL STORAGE OBJECTIVES

As in past years, the operation of Lake Powell is adjusted to nearly fill the reservoir in July of each year and to maintain a storage of at least 22.6 million acre-feet (MAF) on January 1 of each year. With a minimum annual release of 8.23 MAF, low inflow conditions can constrain these objectives, as in the cases of the most probable and probable minimum studies.

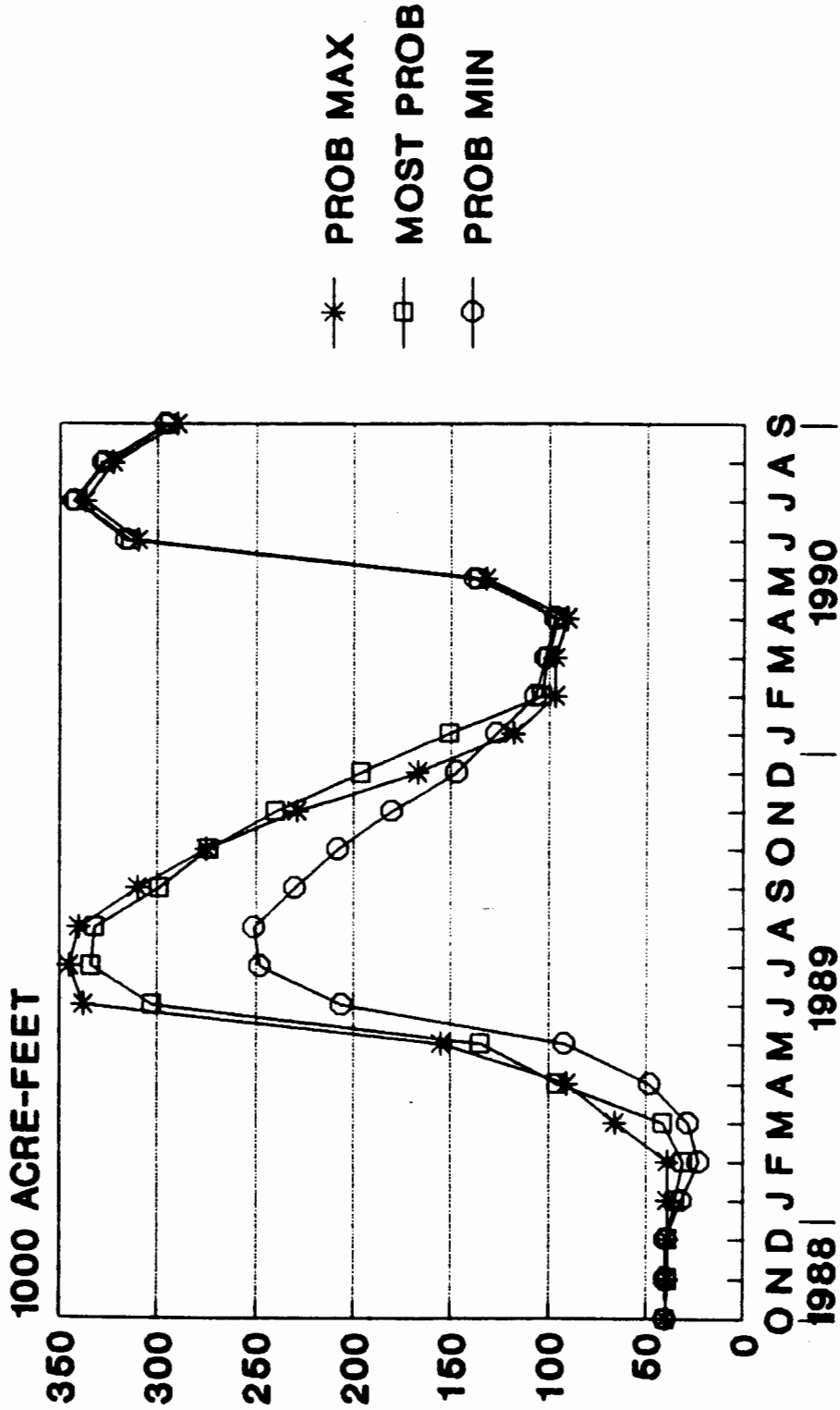
5. HOOVER RELEASE OBJECTIVES

Under most probable and probable minimum water supply conditions, releases from Lake Mead will be limited to meet downstream water requirements only. Under the probable maximum water supply assumption, flood control releases of 19,000 cfs would be required through May 1989, and excess water releases are scheduled throughout the remainder of the water year. These excess releases would be subject to reevaluation in June 1989.

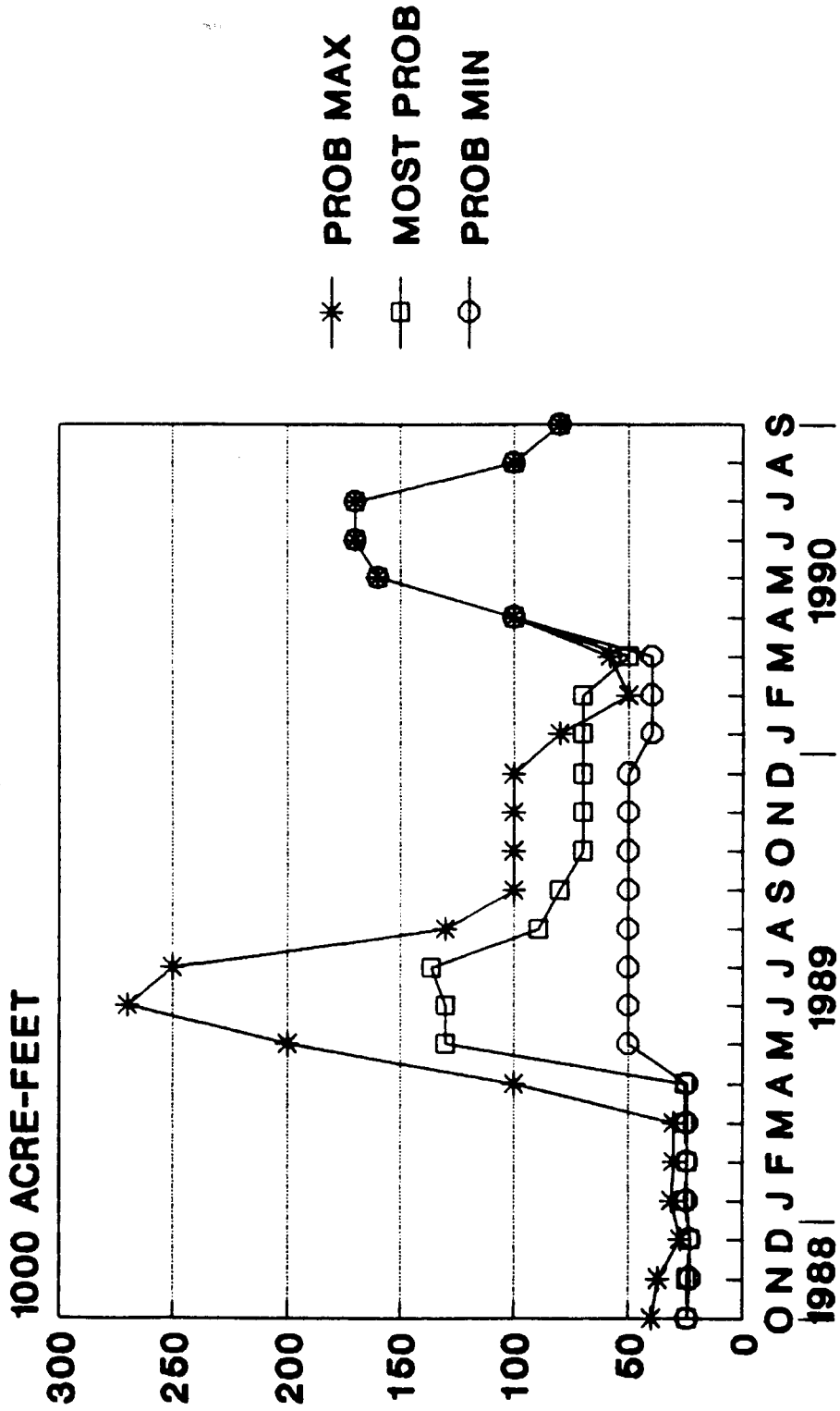
6. STORAGE BUFFER AT LAKE MEAD

Since no excess water releases have been scheduled prior to June 1989 under any water supply condition, the AOP does not provide for a storage buffer at Lake Mead.

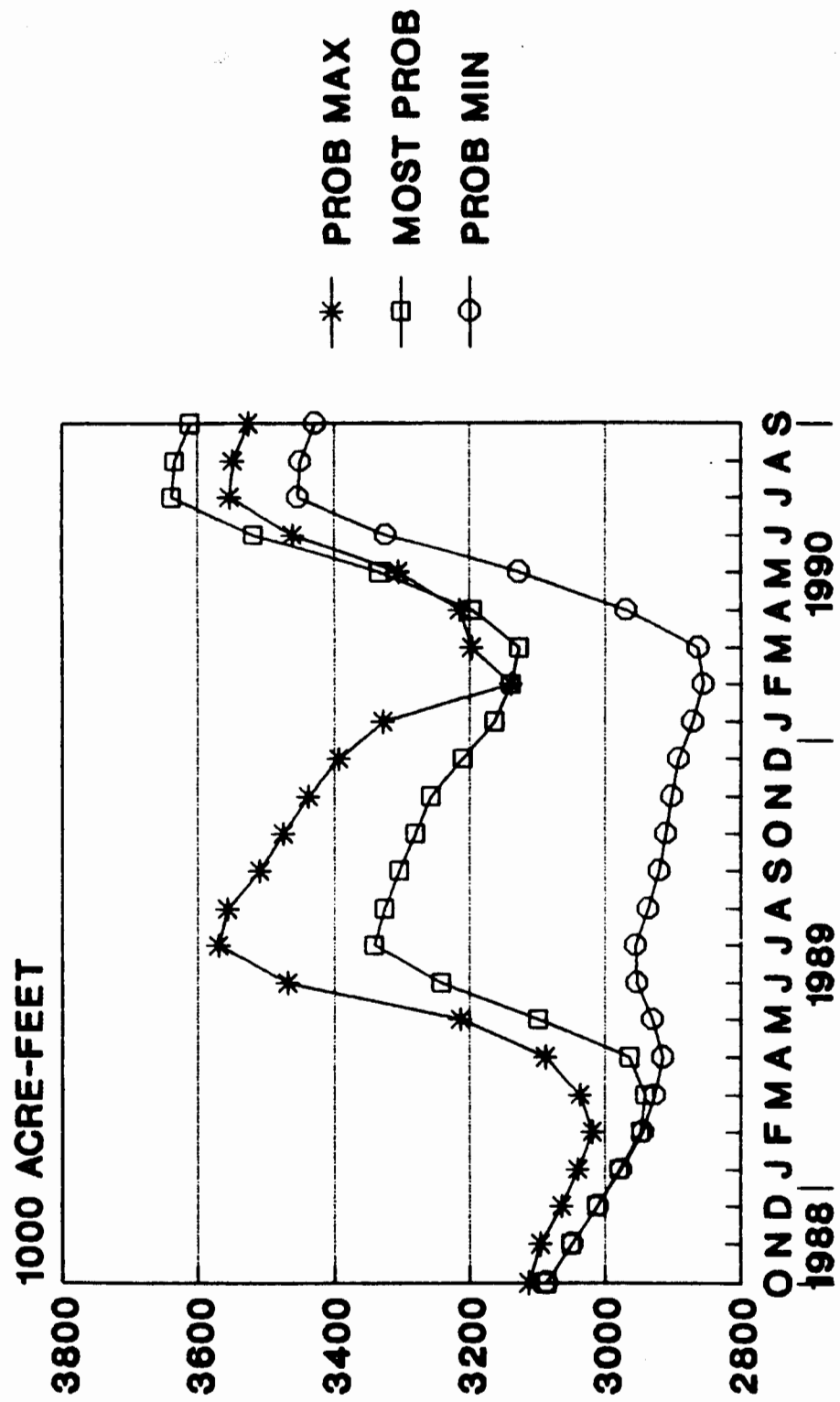
FONTENELLE RESERVOIR MONTHLY STORAGE



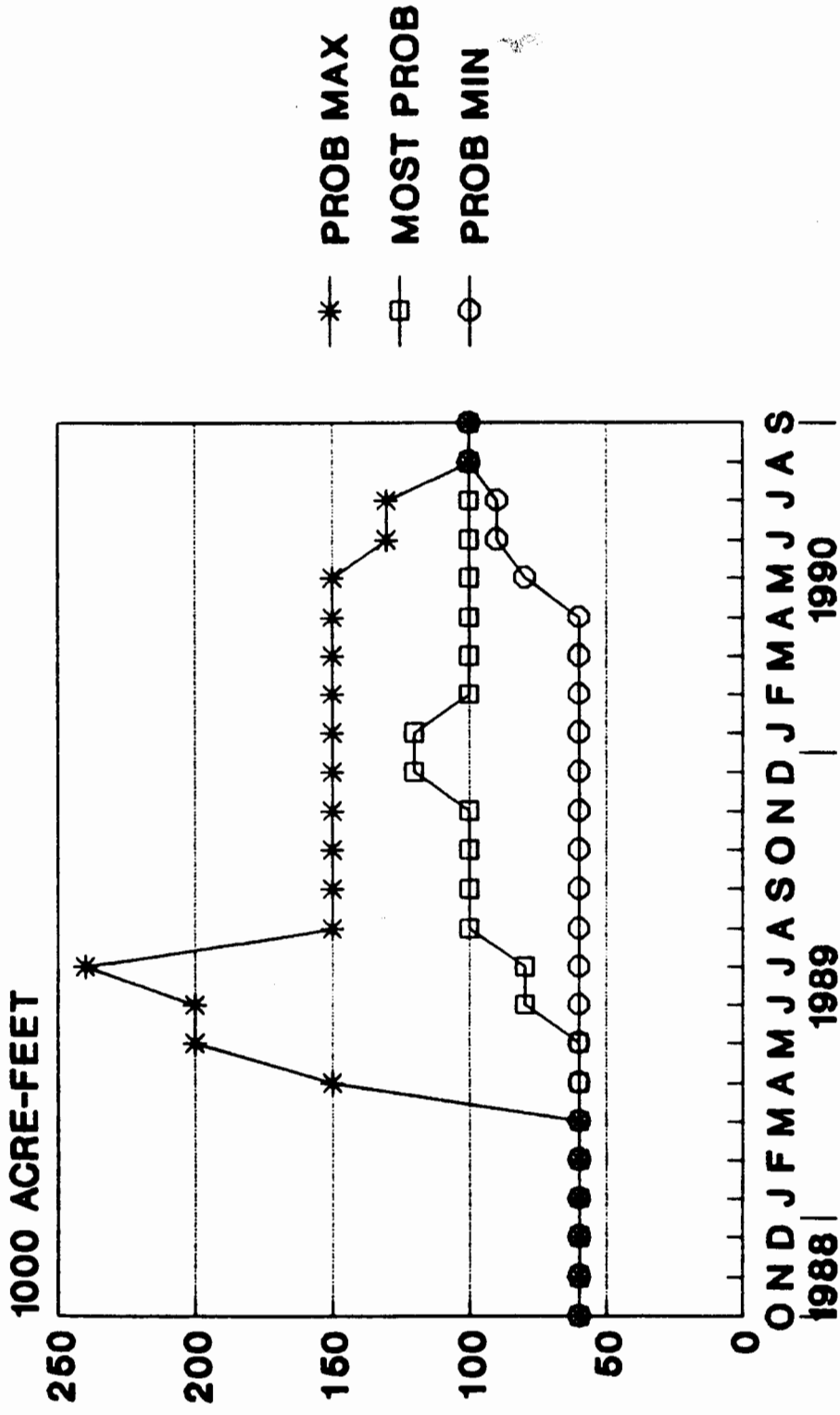
FONTENELLE RESERVOIR RELEASE VOLUMES



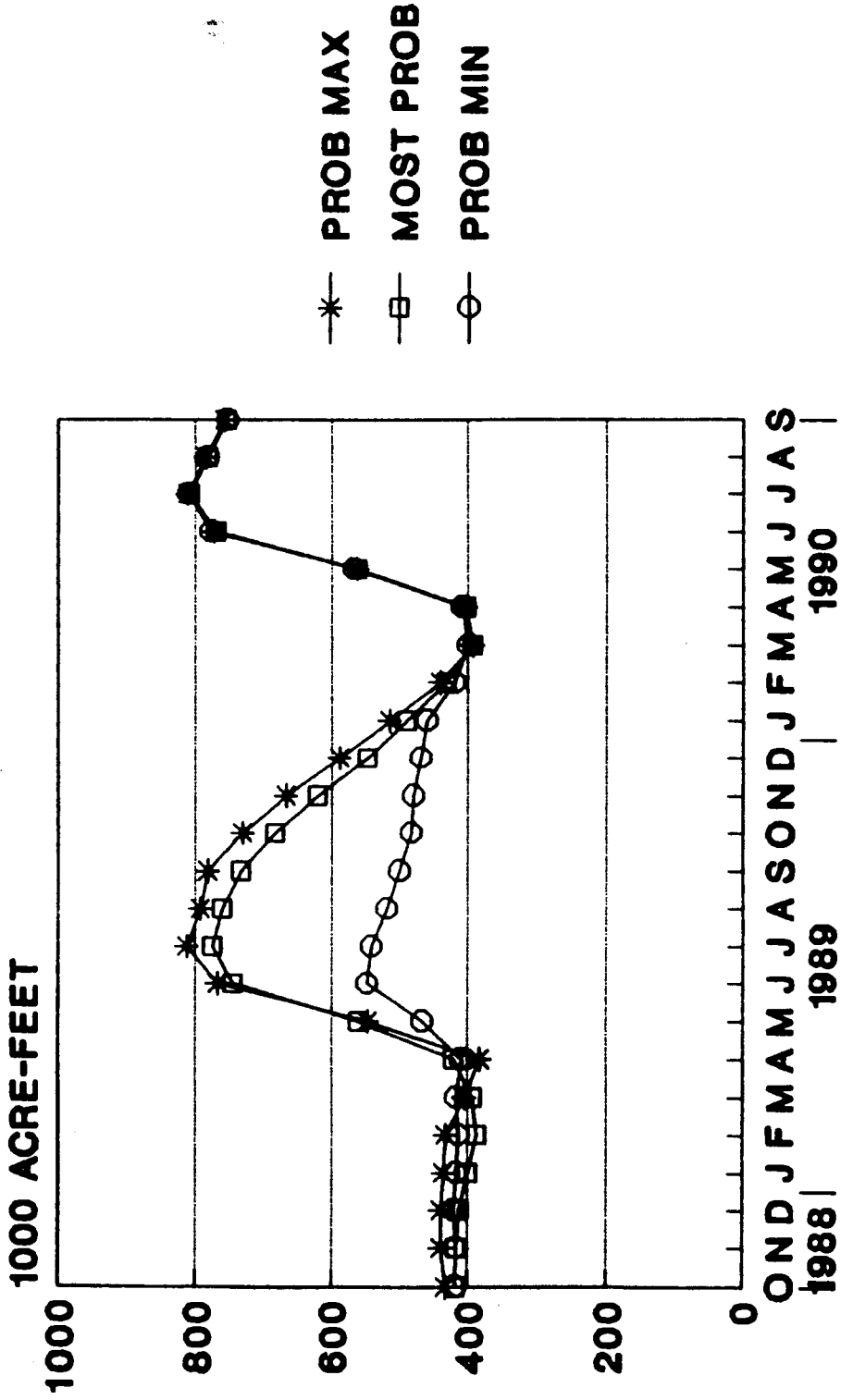
FLAMING GORGE RESERVOIR STORAGE VOLUME



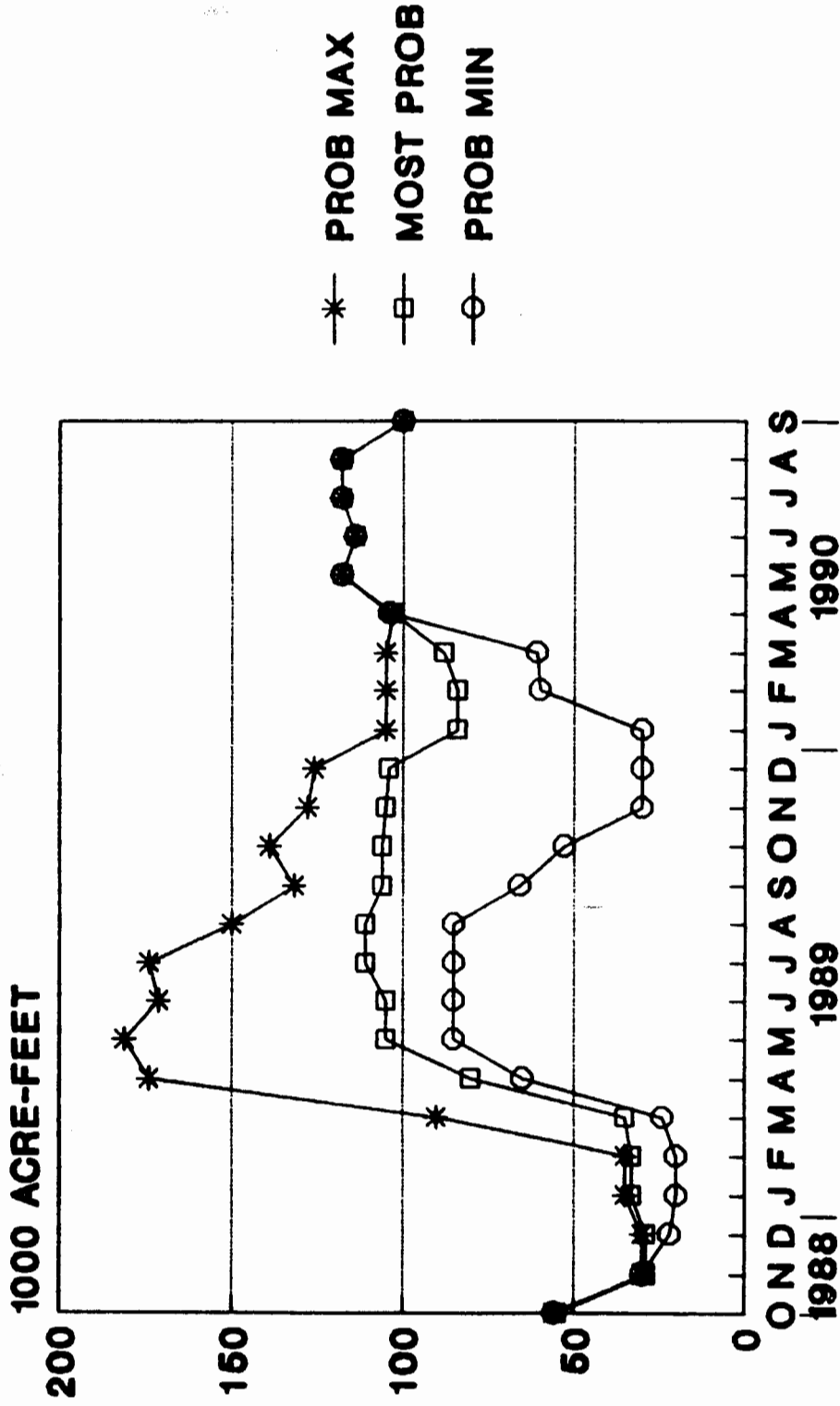
FLAMING GORGE RESERVOIR RELEASE VOLUMES



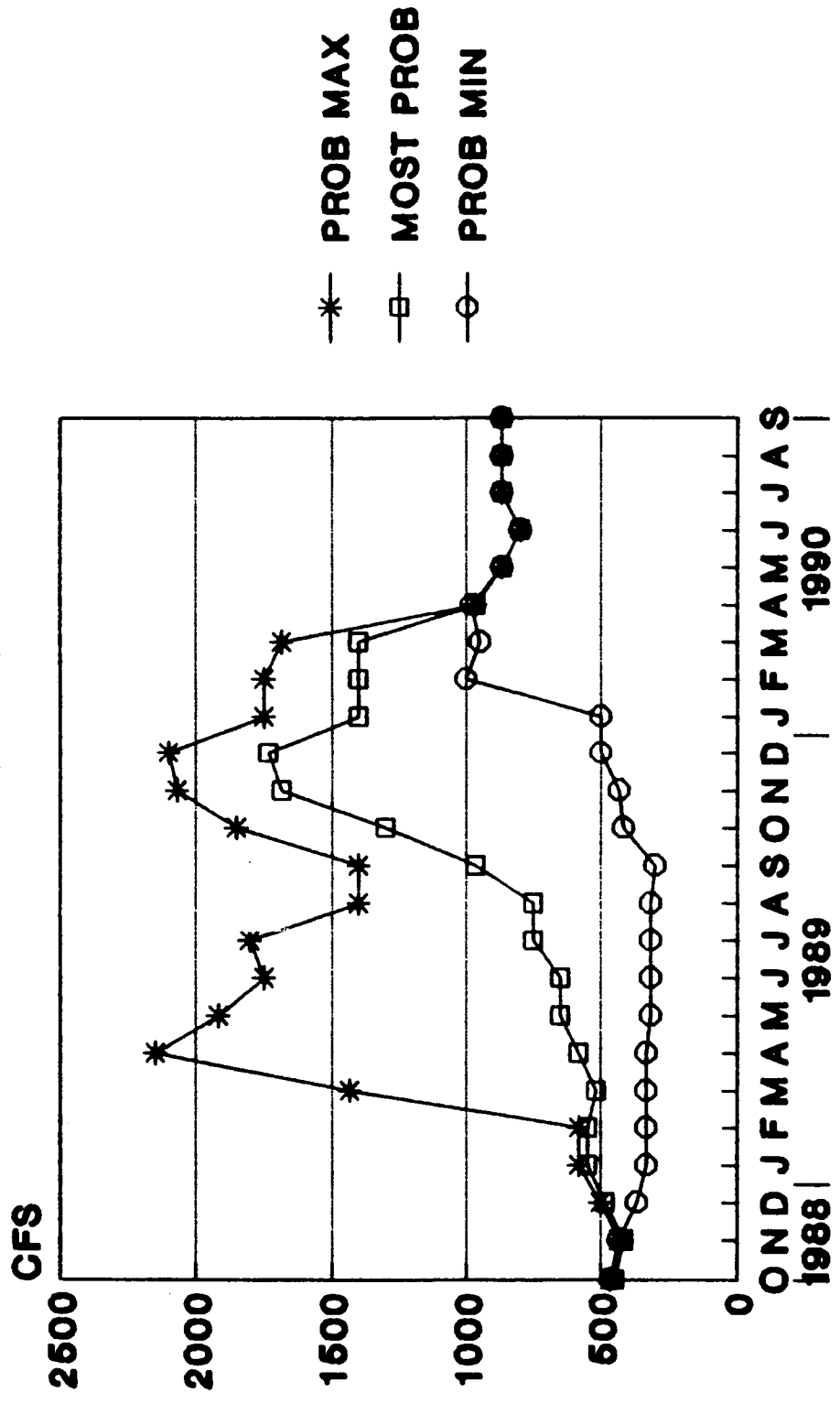
BLUE MESA RESERVOIR STORAGE VOLUME



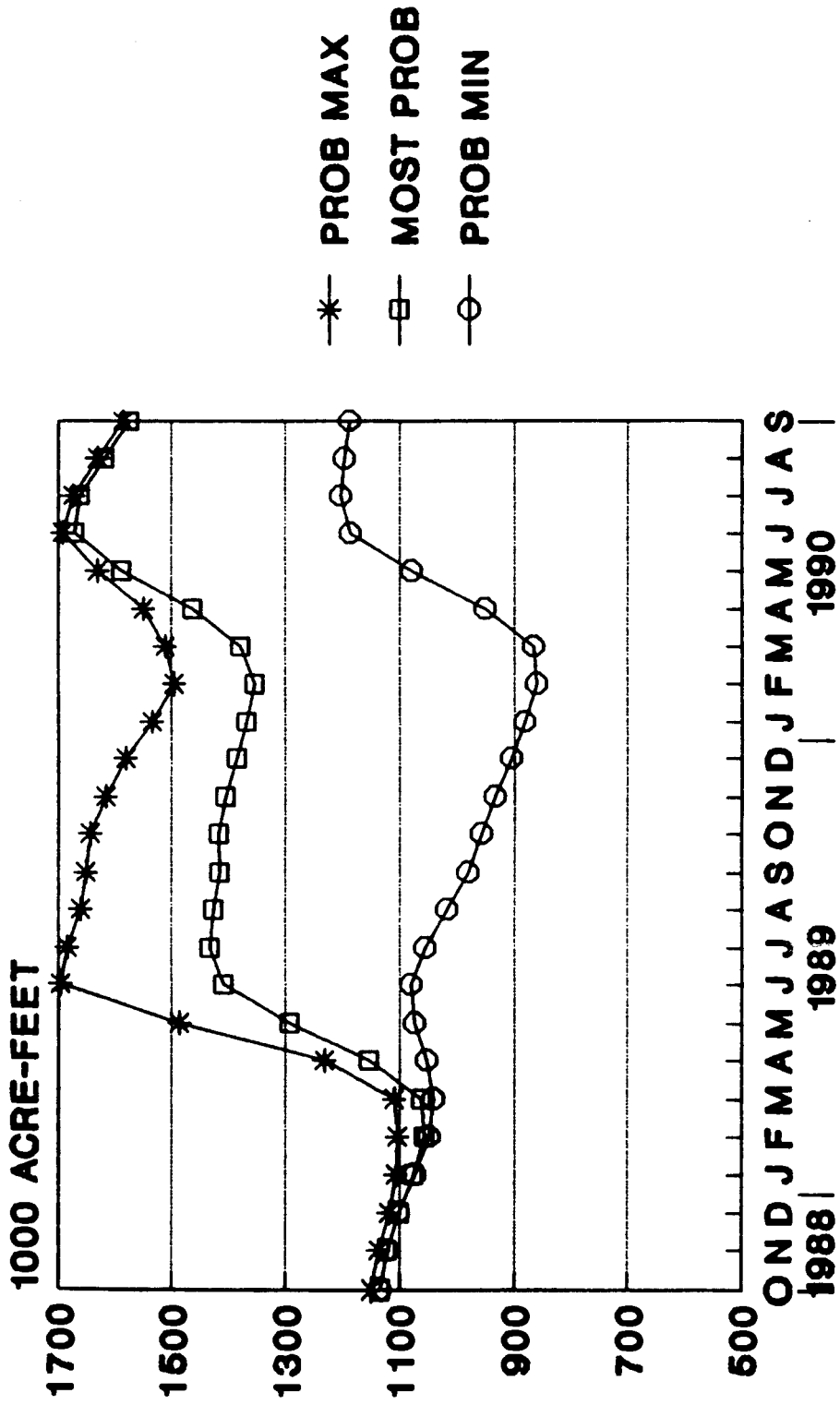
CRYSTAL RESERVOIR RELEASE VOLUMES



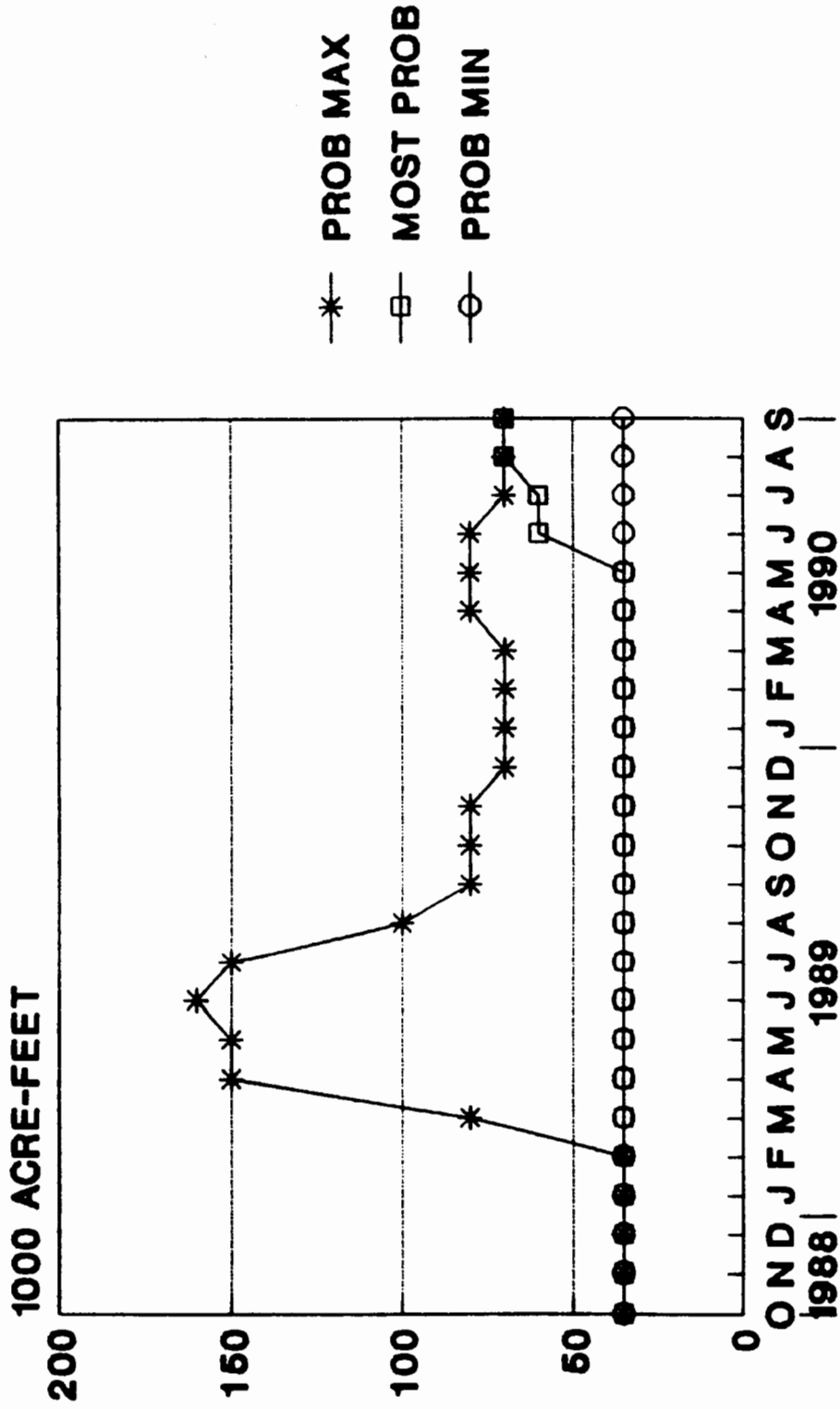
CRYSTAL RESERVOIR FLOWS BELOW GUNNISON TUNNEL



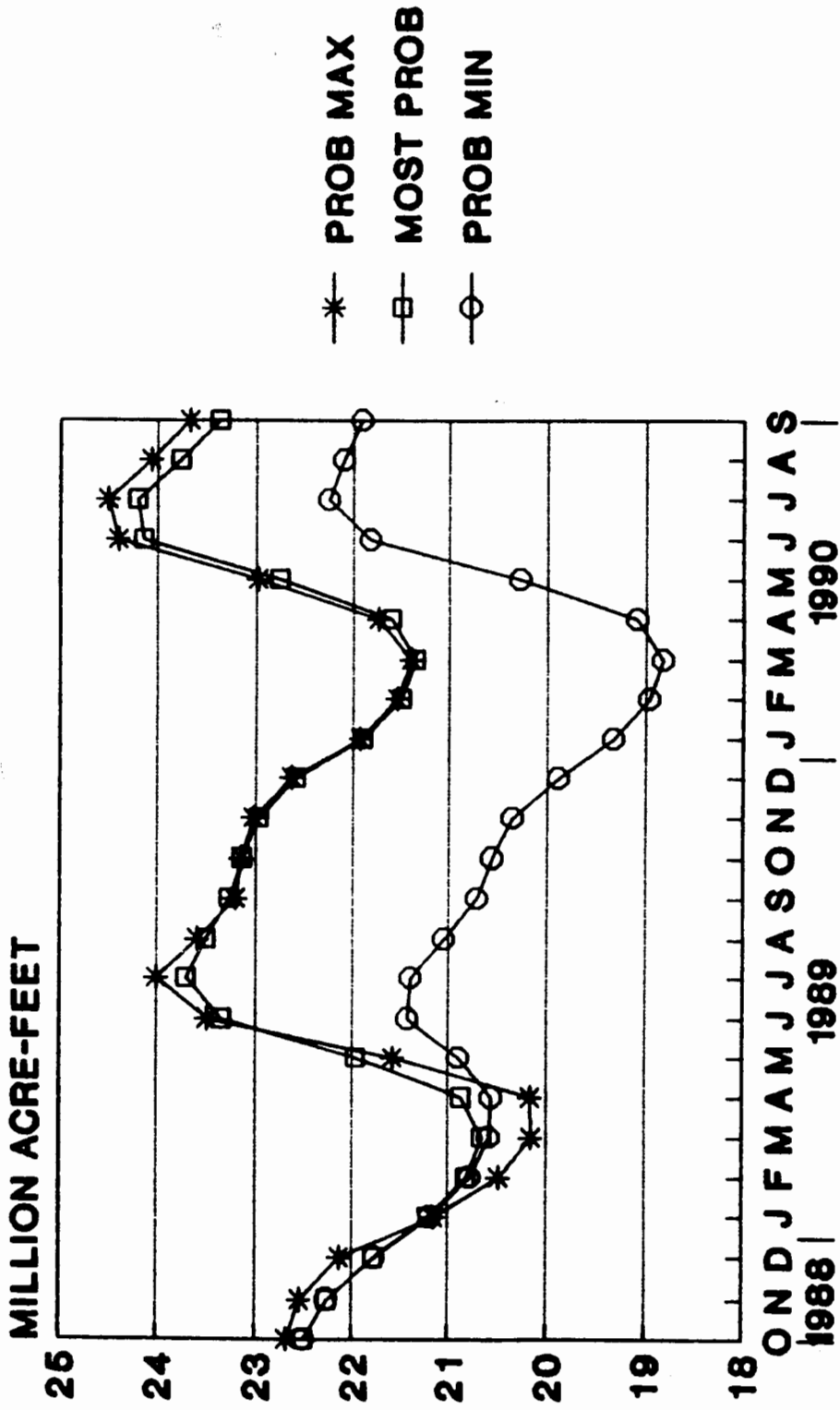
NAVAJO RESERVOIR STORAGE VOLUME



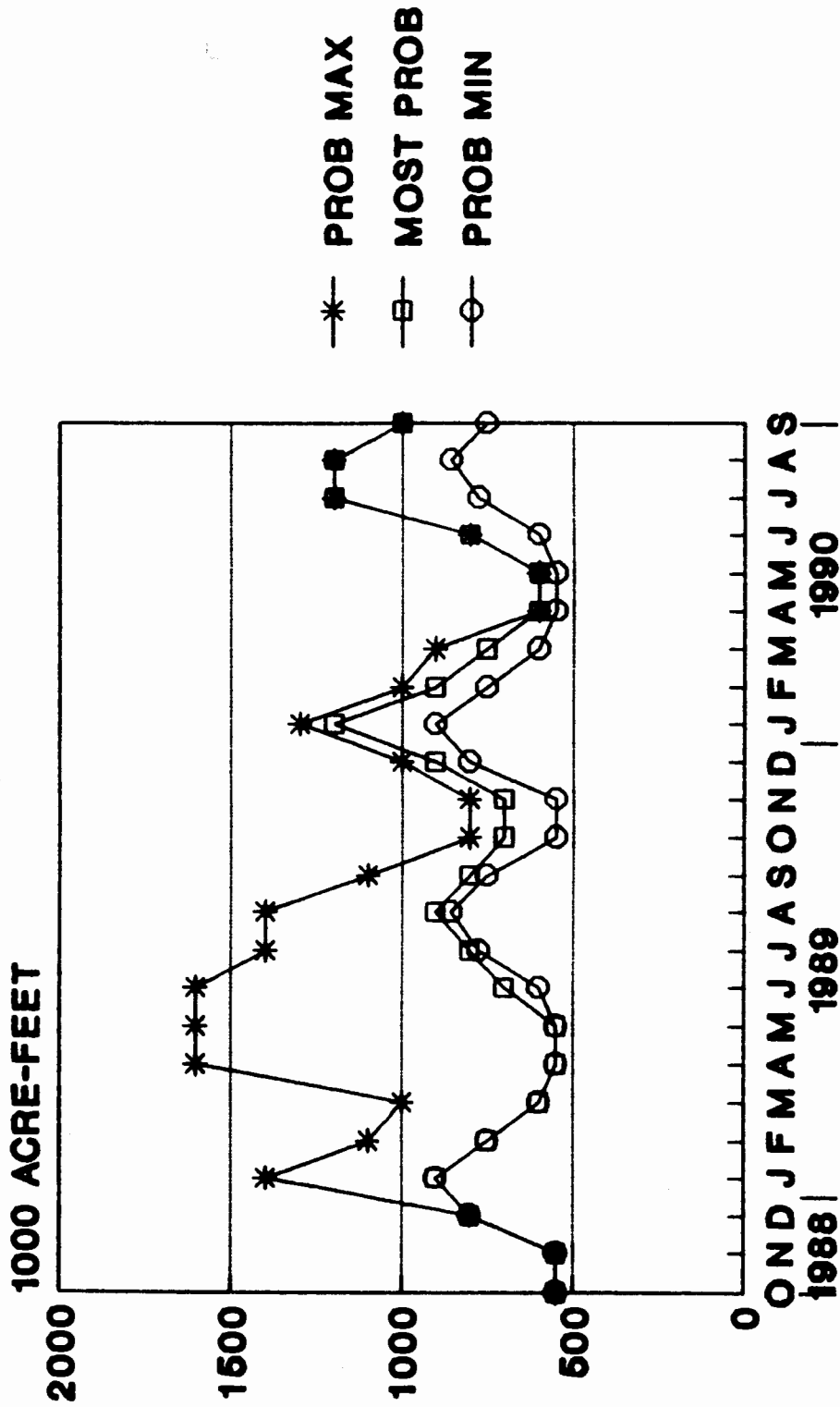
NAVAJO RESERVOIR RELEASE VOLUMES



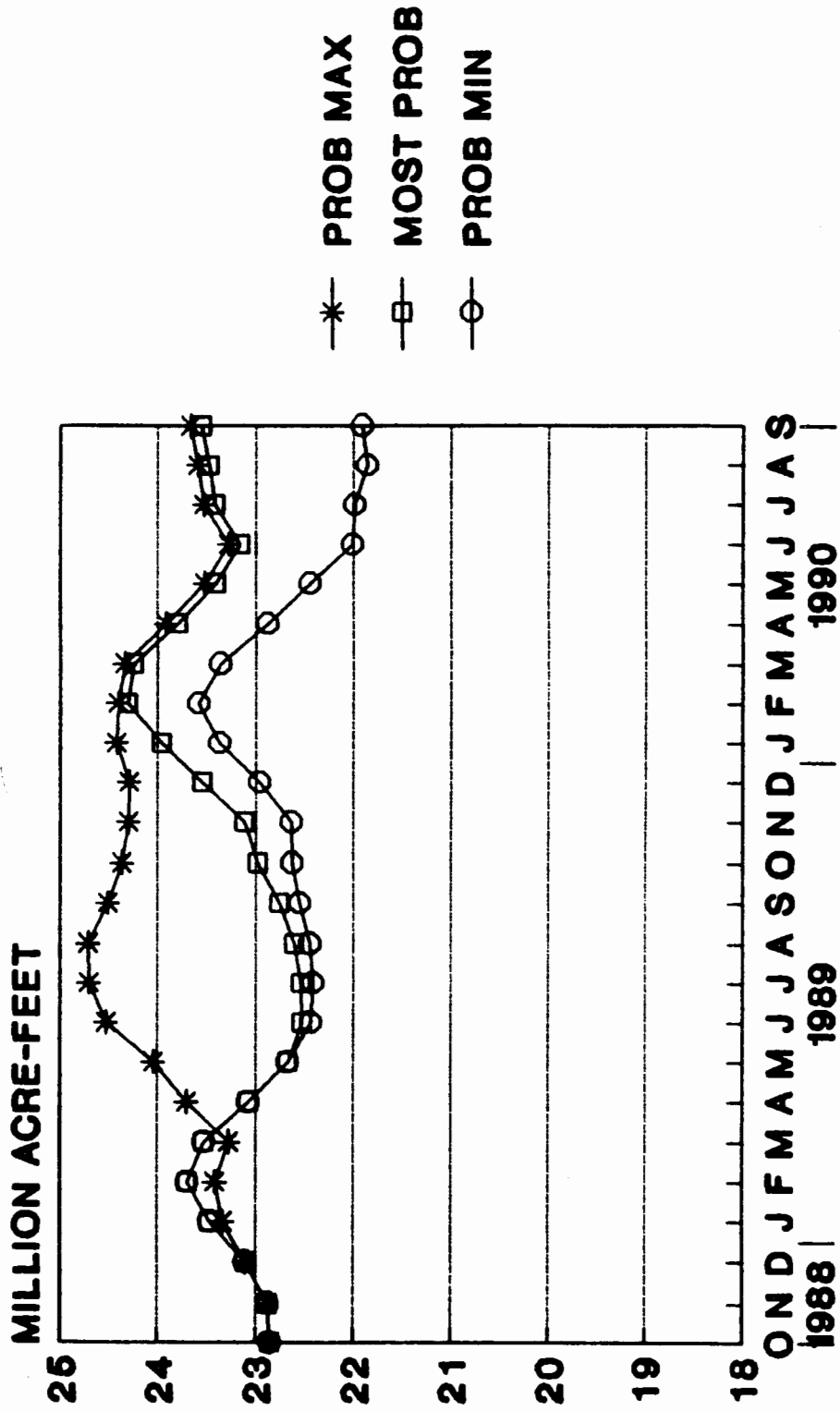
LAKE POWELL STORAGE VOLUME



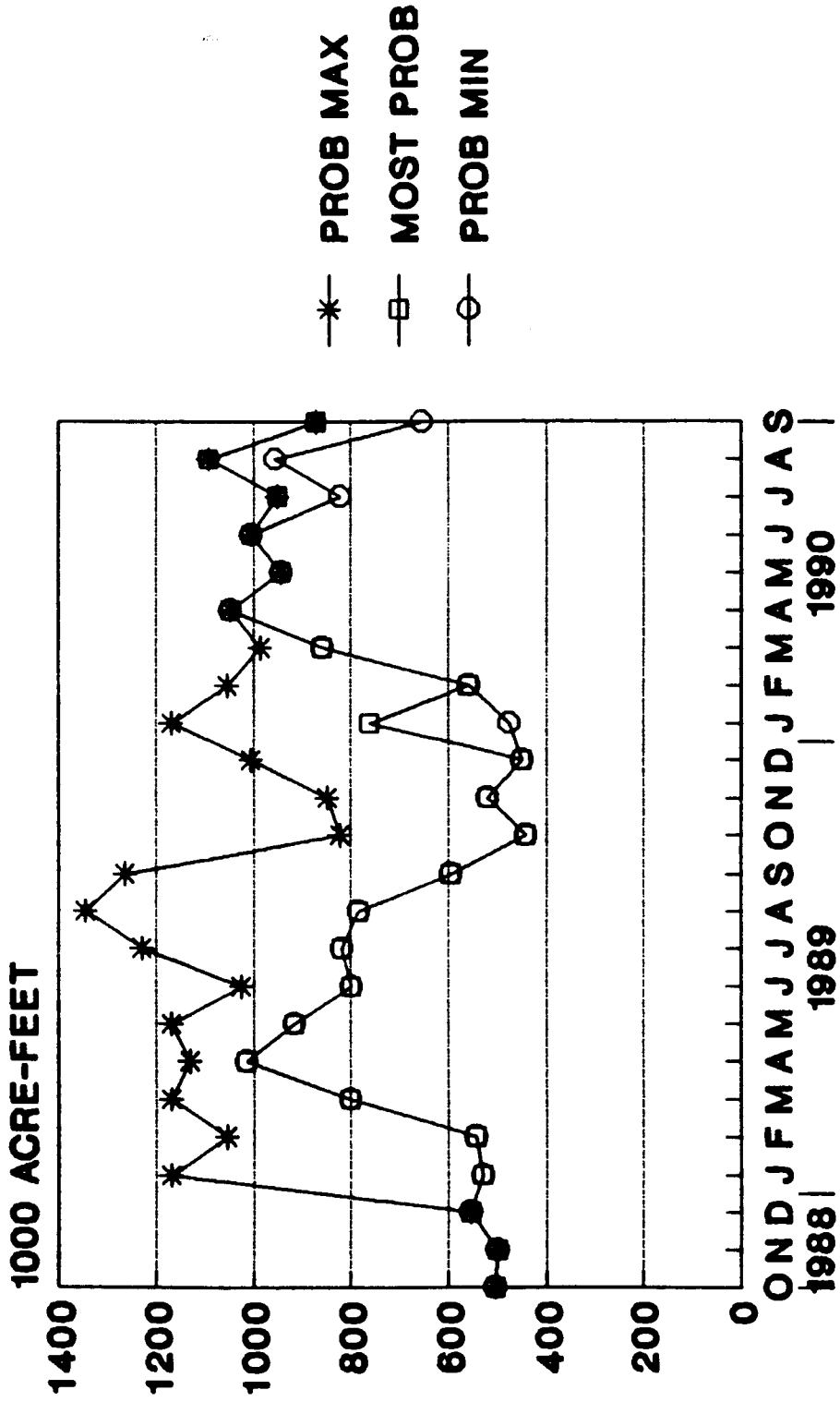
LAKE POWELL RELEASE VOLUMES



LAKE MEAD STORAGE VOLUME



LAKE MEAD RELEASE VOLUMES



Honorable Garry Carruthers

Identical Letters Sent To:

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