

FIGURE 2.4—Sedimentation patterns in Lake Mead have contributed to declines in the capacity of the reservoir to hold water; however, with the completion of Glen Canyon Dam, the rate of sediment accumulation has slowed greatly

Rosen, M.R., Turner, K., Goodbred, S.L., and Miller, J.M., eds., 2012. A synthesis of aquatic science for management of Lakes Mead and Mohave

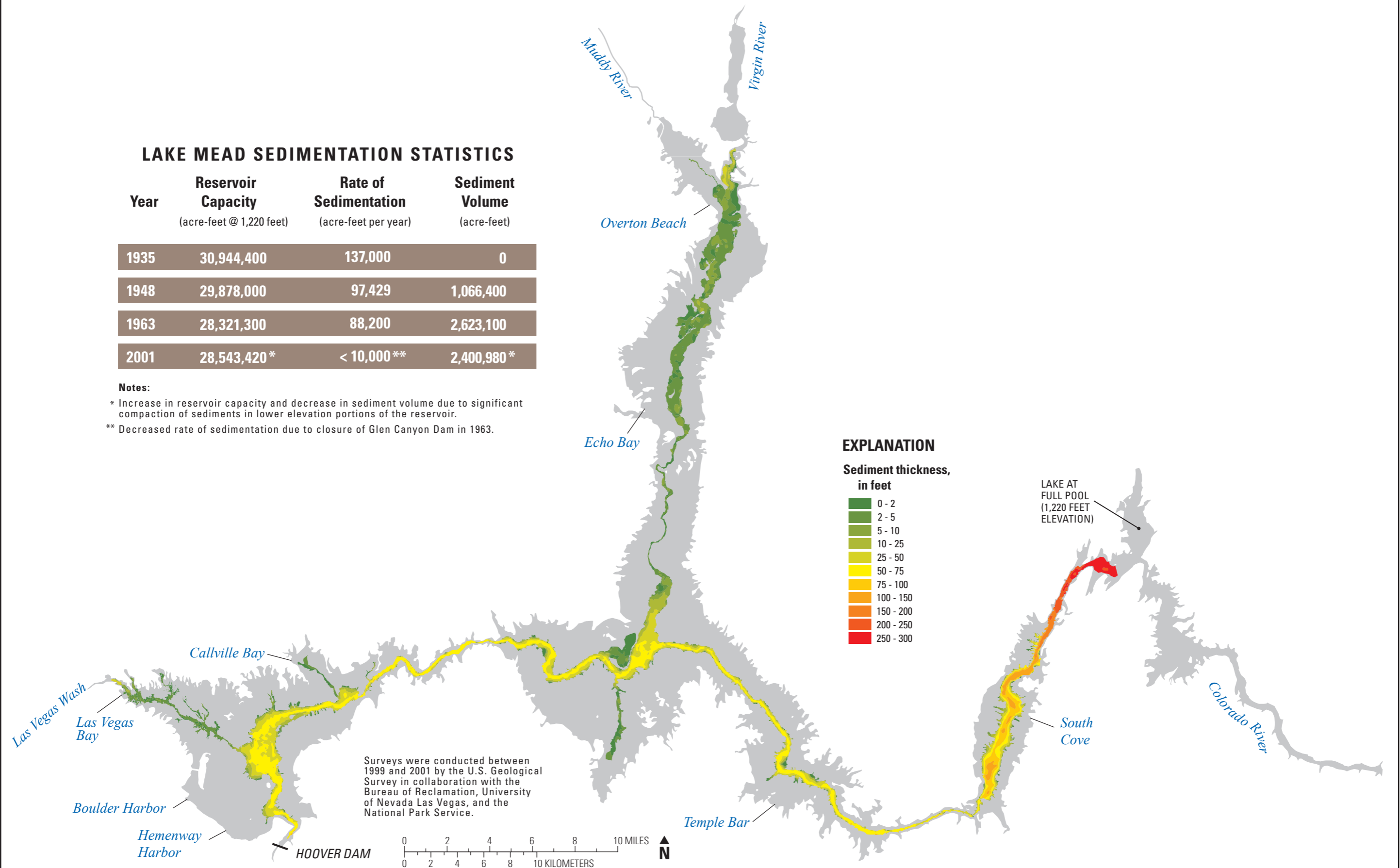
LAKE MEAD SEDIMENTATION STATISTICS

Year	Reservoir Capacity (acre-feet @ 1,220 feet)	Rate of Sedimentation (acre-feet per year)	Sediment Volume (acre-feet)
1935	30,944,400	137,000	0
1948	29,878,000	97,429	1,066,400
1963	28,321,300	88,200	2,623,100
2001	28,543,420*	< 10,000**	2,400,980*

Notes:

* Increase in reservoir capacity and decrease in sediment volume due to significant compaction of sediments in lower elevation portions of the reservoir.

** Decreased rate of sedimentation due to closure of Glen Canyon Dam in 1963.



EXPLANATION

Sediment thickness, in feet

- 0 - 2
- 2 - 5
- 5 - 10
- 10 - 25
- 25 - 50
- 50 - 75
- 75 - 100
- 100 - 150
- 150 - 200
- 200 - 250
- 250 - 300

LAKE AT FULL POOL (1,220 FEET ELEVATION)

Surveys were conducted between 1999 and 2001 by the U.S. Geological Survey in collaboration with the Bureau of Reclamation, University of Nevada Las Vegas, and the National Park Service.

