High and Low Rainfall Conditions in a Watershed

The following are diagrams depicting the reactions of a watershed system during periods of drought and large rainfall.
Lakes / Wetlands Marginally Higher than Normal

River Marginally Higher than Normal
Lakes / Wetlands Lower than Normal

River Marginally Lower
Control structures are holding back water in order to keep the lakes at their court ordered levels. The minimal water being released into the river from the lakes causes the river level to drop.
Control structures are releasing large amounts of water in order to keep the lakes at their court ordered levels. The large volume of water being released from the lakes is causing the river to over flow its banks.