



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
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**Date: January 18, 2007**

**Subject: January 1, 2007 Western Snowpack Conditions and Water Supply Forecasts**

The following information is provided for your use in describing western climate and water supply conditions as of January 1, 2007.

## **OVERVIEW**

Western snowpacks show significant variability, with the Oregon and Washington Cascades, eastern Colorado, northeastern New Mexico and Canada reporting above average amounts. The Intermountain sections of the West report near or slight below average snowpacks, and Arizona is reporting snowpacks that are significantly below average.

Seasonal precipitation is well above average throughout the Pacific Northwest, Utah and eastern Colorado. Precipitation is well below average in California, Nevada and most of Arizona.

Near average, to slightly above average, streamflows are predicted for most Pacific Northwest basins, southeastern Colorado basins and northeast New Mexico. Slightly below average streamflows are predicted for many basins in California, Nevada, southern Idaho, northern Utah, Wyoming and eastern Montana. Well below average streamflows are expected in most of Arizona and western New Mexico.

As of January 1, 2007, reservoir storages are above seasonal averages in California, Nevada, Washington and Wyoming and slightly below average in Colorado, Montana, New Mexico and Utah. Reservoir storage is near average in Arizona, Idaho and Oregon.

## **SNOWPACK**

On January 1, 2007, western snowpacks show significant variability as shown in Fig. 1. The Oregon and Washington Cascades and southern Canada report snowpacks ranging from 90% to 150% of average. Snowpacks are also above average in eastern Colorado and New Mexico, ranging from 110% to 150% of average. The Intermountain states of Nevada, Utah, eastern Colorado, central Idaho, Wyoming and southwestern Montana report predominately slightly below normal snowpacks, ranging from 70% to 89% of average. Below average snowpacks, ranging from 50% to 69% are also interspersed within this area.

Well below normal snowpacks, less than 50% of average, are reported in Arizona, western New Mexico, northeastern Wyoming, and parts of northern Nevada, the California-Nevada border in the Sierras and southern Oregon. Alaska snowpacks are generally below average, 50% to 69% of normal, except in the northwest and southeast, where they are above average, 110% to 150% of normal.

A map containing a daily update of the westwide snowpack may be obtained from the following URL - <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/gis/snow.html>

### **SEASONAL PRECIPITATION**

Preliminary seasonal precipitation is well above normal, greater than 150% of average, throughout the Pacific Northwest, southeastern Utah, eastern Colorado and central New Mexico as shown in Fig. 2. Precipitation is near average, or slightly below, in eastern Wyoming, eastern Montana, eastern Nevada northern California and parts of northern Arizona. Precipitation is well below normal, less than 50% of average, in California, Nevada and most of Arizona.

Monthly and seasonal precipitation maps are available from the following location - <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/gis/precip.html> and <http://www.cbrfc.noaa.gov/wsups/westwide/westwide.cgi>

### **SPRING AND SUMMER STREAMFLOW FORECASTS**

Near normal, to slightly above normal streamflows, 90% to 129% of average, are predicted for most Pacific Northwest basins, eastern Colorado basins and northeast New Mexico as shown in Fig. 3. Slightly below normal streamflows, 70% to 89% of average, are predicted for many basins in California, Nevada, southern Idaho, northern Utah, Wyoming and eastern Montana. Below normal streamflows, below 69% of average, are expected in most of Arizona and western New Mexico.

Specific state streamflow summaries can be obtained from the Internet location - <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/cqibin/bor.pl>

### **RESERVOIR STORAGE**

As of January 1, 2007, reservoir storages, shown in Fig. 4, are above seasonal averages in California, Nevada, Washington and Wyoming and slightly below average in Colorado, Montana, New Mexico and Utah. Reservoir storage is near average in Arizona, Idaho and Oregon.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

The National Water and Climate Center Homepage provides the latest available snowpack and water supply information. Please visit us at <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov>

/s/ DANIEL MEYER

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Washington, DC

# Mountain Snowpack as of January 1, 2007

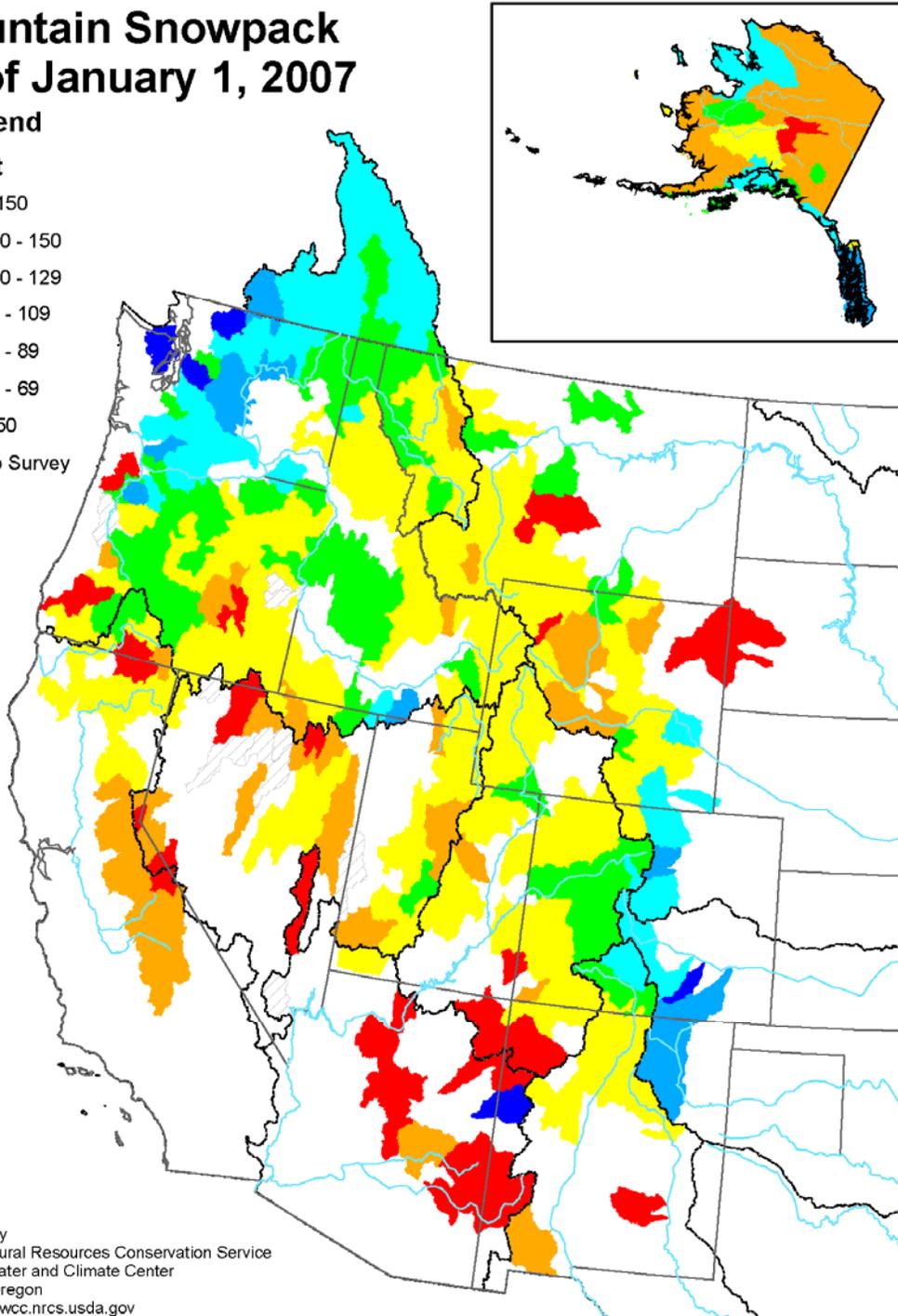
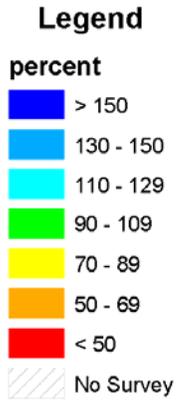
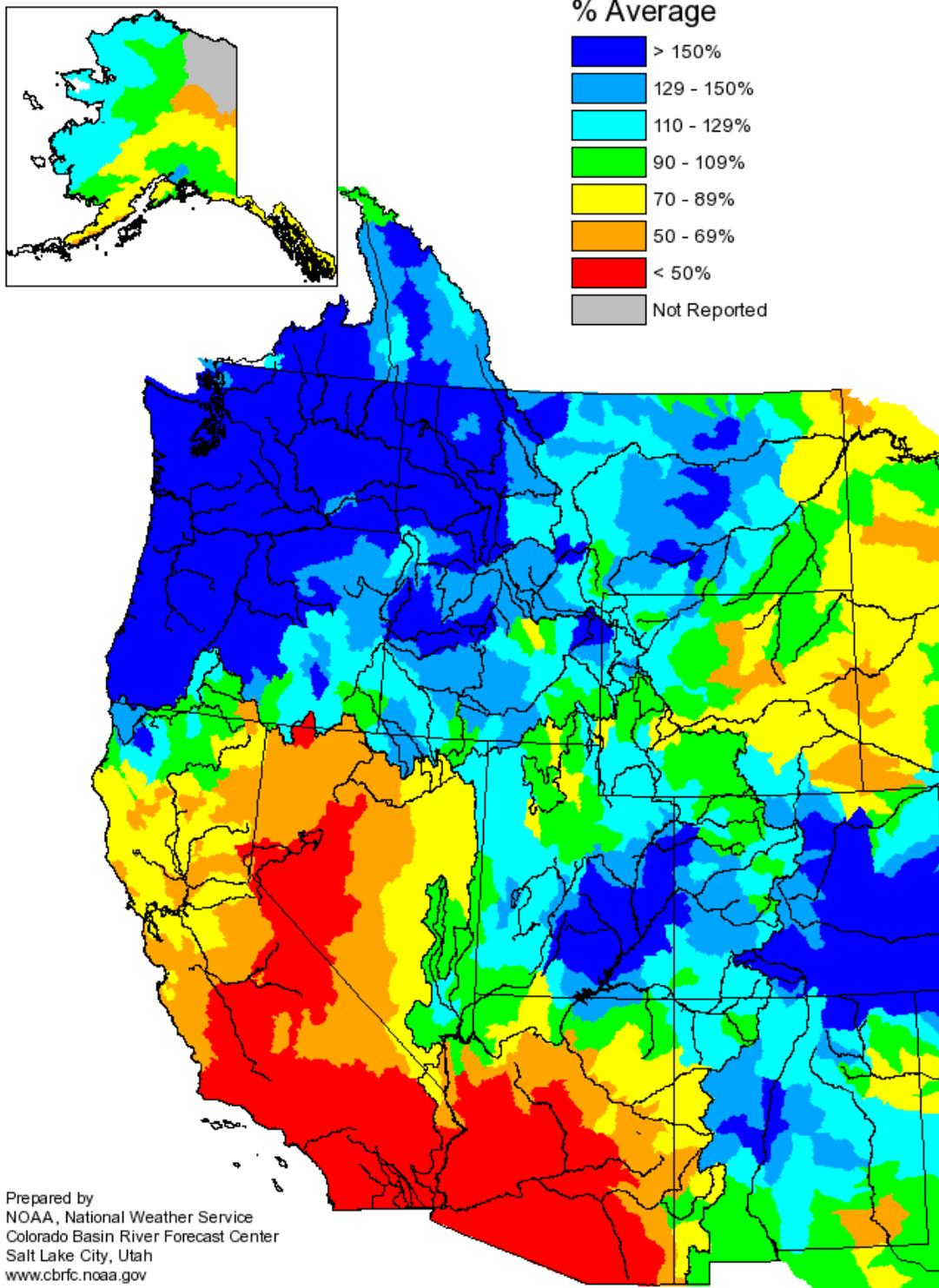


Figure 1. Mountain Snowpack, January 1, 2007

# Seasonal Precipitation, October 2006 - December 2006

(Averaged by Hydrologic Unit)

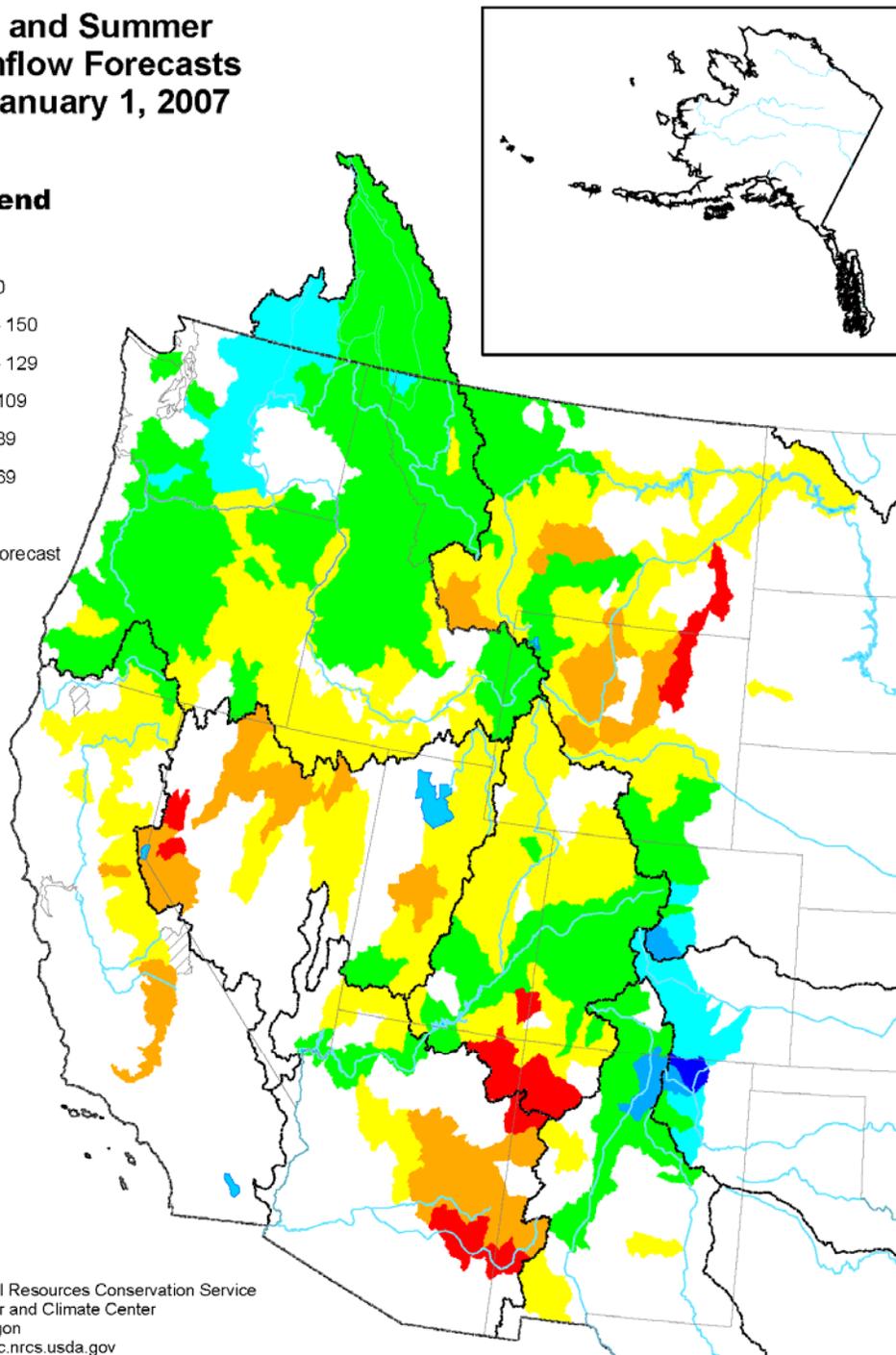


**Figure 2. Seasonal Precipitation, October 1, 2006 to December, 2006**

# Spring and Summer Streamflow Forecasts as of January 1, 2007

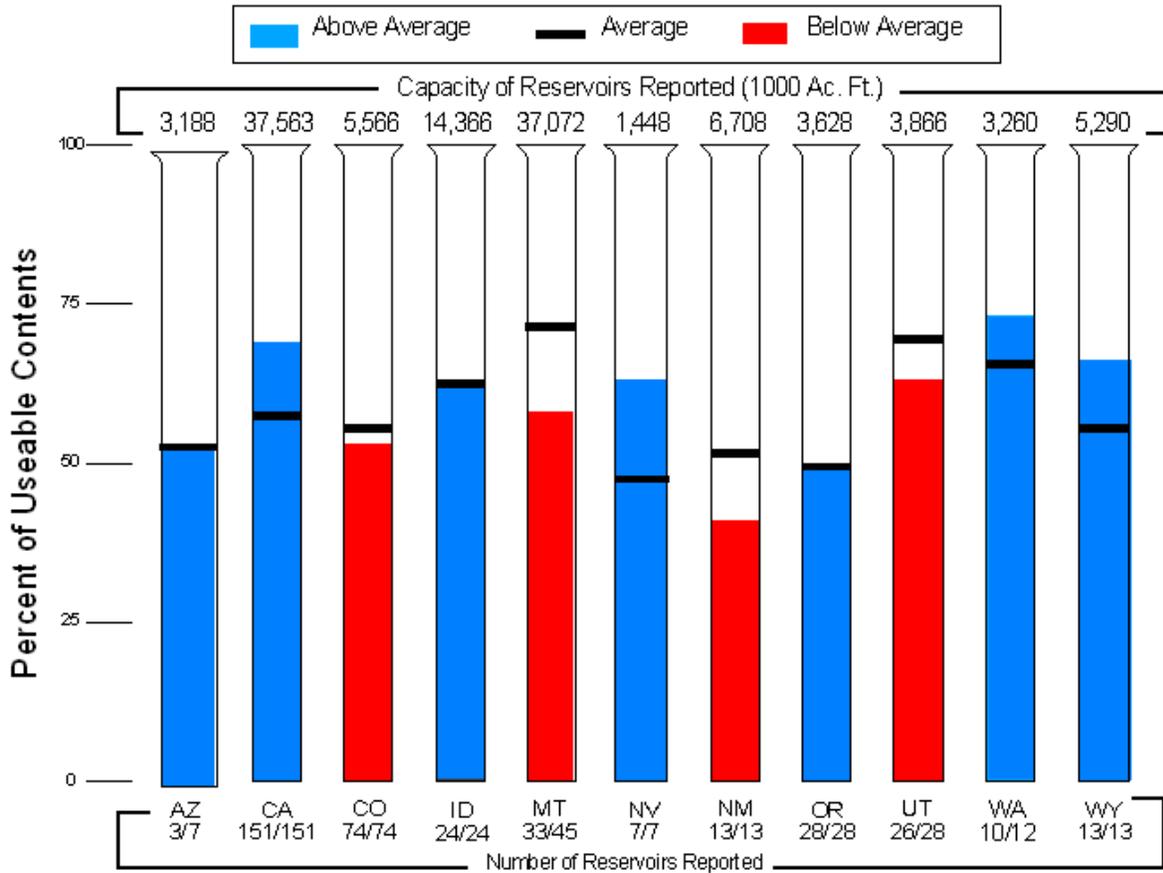
## Legend

### Percent



**Figure 3. Seasonal Water Supply Forecasts - January 1, 2007  
(Alaska not forecast in January.)**

# Reservoir Storage as of January 1, 2007



Prepared by: USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, National Water and Climate Center, Portland, OR  
<http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov>

**Fig. 4. Reservoir Storage - January 1, 2007**