



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
P.O. Box 2890  
Washington, D.C. 20013

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Date: **May 10, 2007**

Subject: **May 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 May 1, 2007.

## **SNOWPACK**

Western snowpacks throughout most of the West are well below normal, with most basins reporting values that are less than 50% of average (Fig. 1). Snowpacks have not recovered from a very dry and warm March. Parts of the Rockies in Montana and northern Idaho approach normal, but the only areas of above normal snowpack are in British Columbia.

Daily updates to state and westwide snowpacks maps are available from the following location - <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/gis/snow.html>

## **STREAMFLOW**

Streamflow Change Between April 1 and May 1, 2007: A majority of western basins showed little change in spring and summer streamflow forecasts between April 1 and May 1, 2007 (Fig. 2). Areas that did change include several basins in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Wyoming and northern New Mexico basins, where declines ranged from 5% to 15%. The most significant increase in streamflow forecasts, ranging from 5% to 15%, was seen in British Columbia and scattered basins in Nevada, Utah and Colorado.

Streamflow Forecasts – May 1, 2007: Forecasted spring and streamflows for most of the West are expected to be below average (Fig. 3). Several basins in the Central Sierras of California, Nevada, southwestern Utah, southeastern Oregon, southern Idaho and central Wyoming are expected to receive less than 50% of average streamflow. Streamflows in a small portion of British Columbia are forecast to be above average, while just to the south, the Washington Cascades are expected to receive near average spring and summer runoff. Alaska streamflows are forecast to be near normal to slightly below normal in most basins with the exception of southeast Alaska, which are forecast to be much above normal.

Specific state streamflow summaries are available from the location - <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/cgibin/bor.pl>

Regional streamflow forecast maps are available from the following locations - <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/gis/watersupply.html>  
<http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/wsf/earth/index.html>

## **MONTHLY AND SEASONAL PRECIPITATION**

April 2007 precipitation was extremely low, less than 50% of average in western Arizona, extreme southern California, southwestern Wyoming, northern Utah, northern Washington, northern Washington and southwestern Oregon (Fig. 4). Precipitation was well above average in New Mexico, eastern Colorado, central Montana and parts of southern Idaho, ranging from 110% to over 150% of normal. The remainder of the West received precipitation that was slightly below average. Note: Alaska data not available at publication time.

Seasonal precipitation, October 2006 through April 2007, continues to show well below normal precipitation in California and western Arizona and above average precipitation in western Oregon, western Washington, northern Idaho, British Columbia, central Montana, eastern Colorado and much of New Mexico (Fig. 5). Note: Alaska data not available at publication time.

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/wsuf/westwide/westwide.cgi>

## **RESERVOIR STORAGE**

As of May 1, 2007, reservoir storages are above seasonal averages in Colorado, Idaho, Nevada and Washington, slightly below seasonal averages in Arizona, Montana, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah and Wyoming, and near seasonal average in California (Fig. 6).

Additional reservoir information is available from the following location – <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/wsf/wsf-reservoir.html>

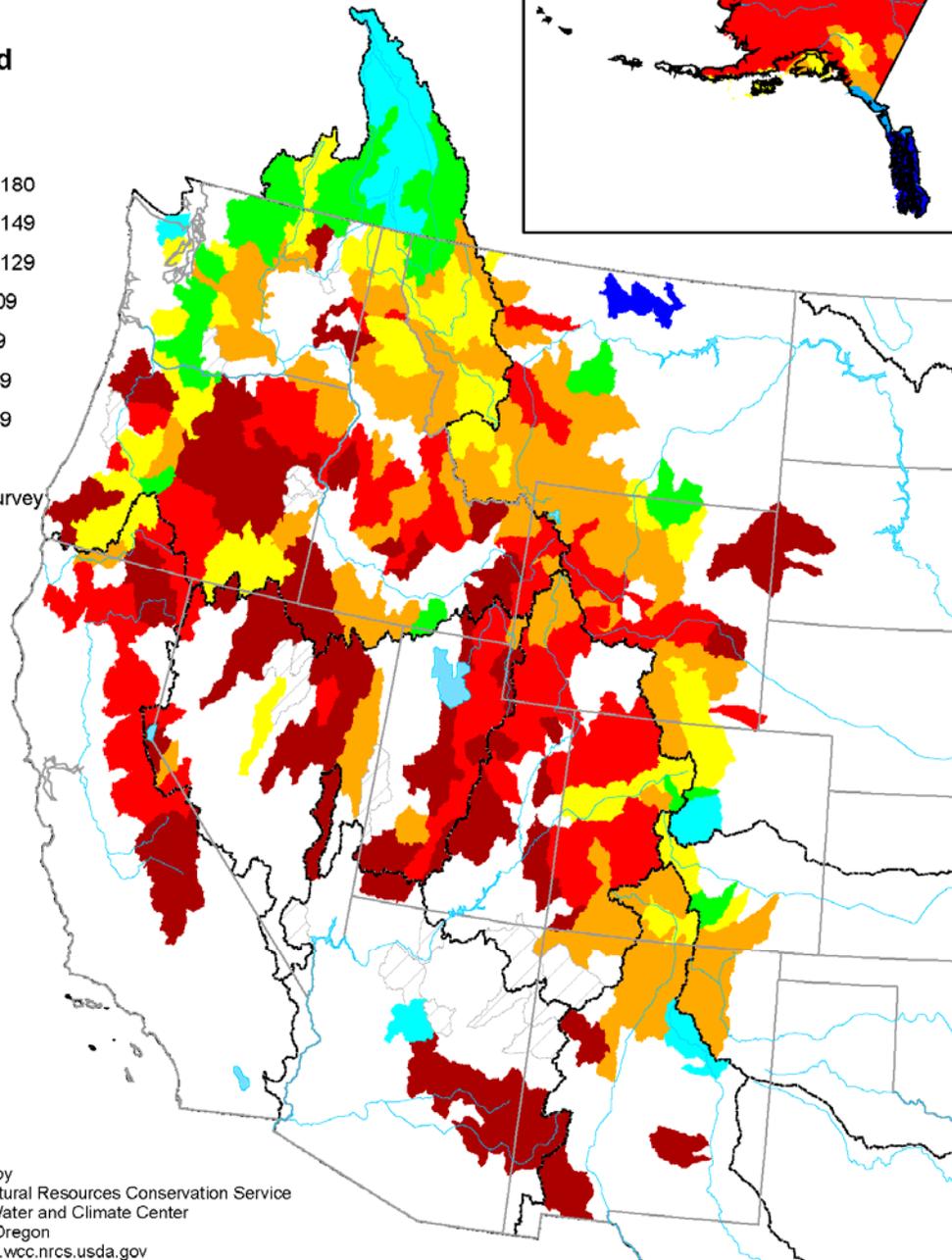
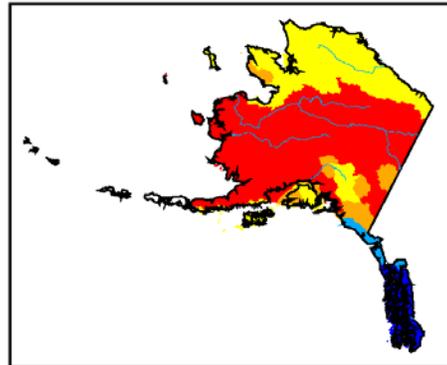
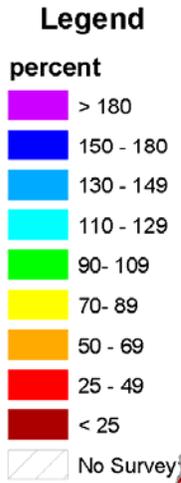
## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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/ NOLLER HERBERT

Acting Director, Conservation Engineering Division, Natural Resources Conservation Division,  
Washington, DC

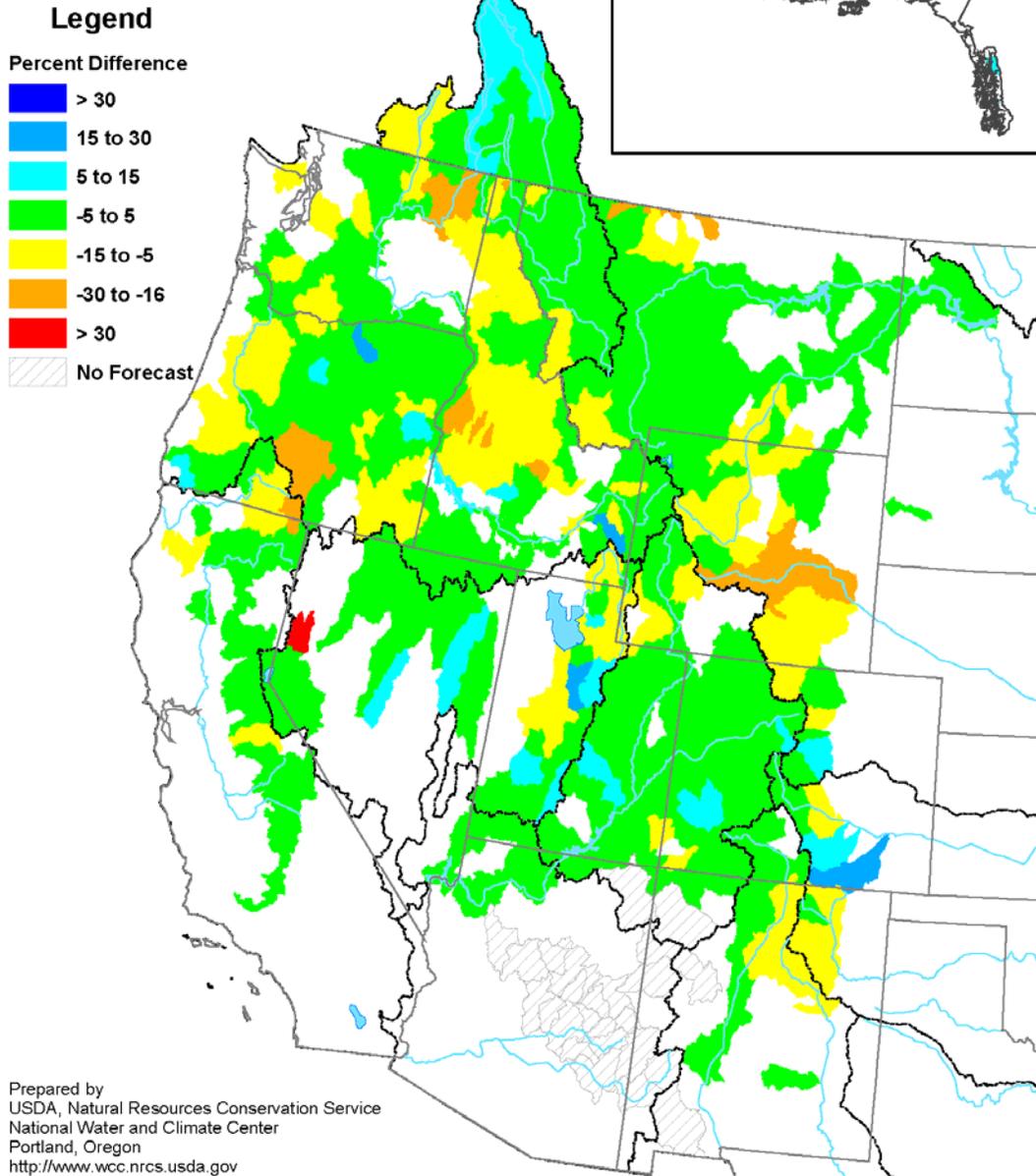
# Mountain Snowpack as of May 1, 2007



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

**Figure 1. Mountain Snowpack, May 1, 2007**

### Change in Spring and Summer Streamflow Forecasts from April 1 to May 1, 2007



**Figure 2. Change in Seasonal Water Supply Forecasts, April 1 to May 1, 2007**

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

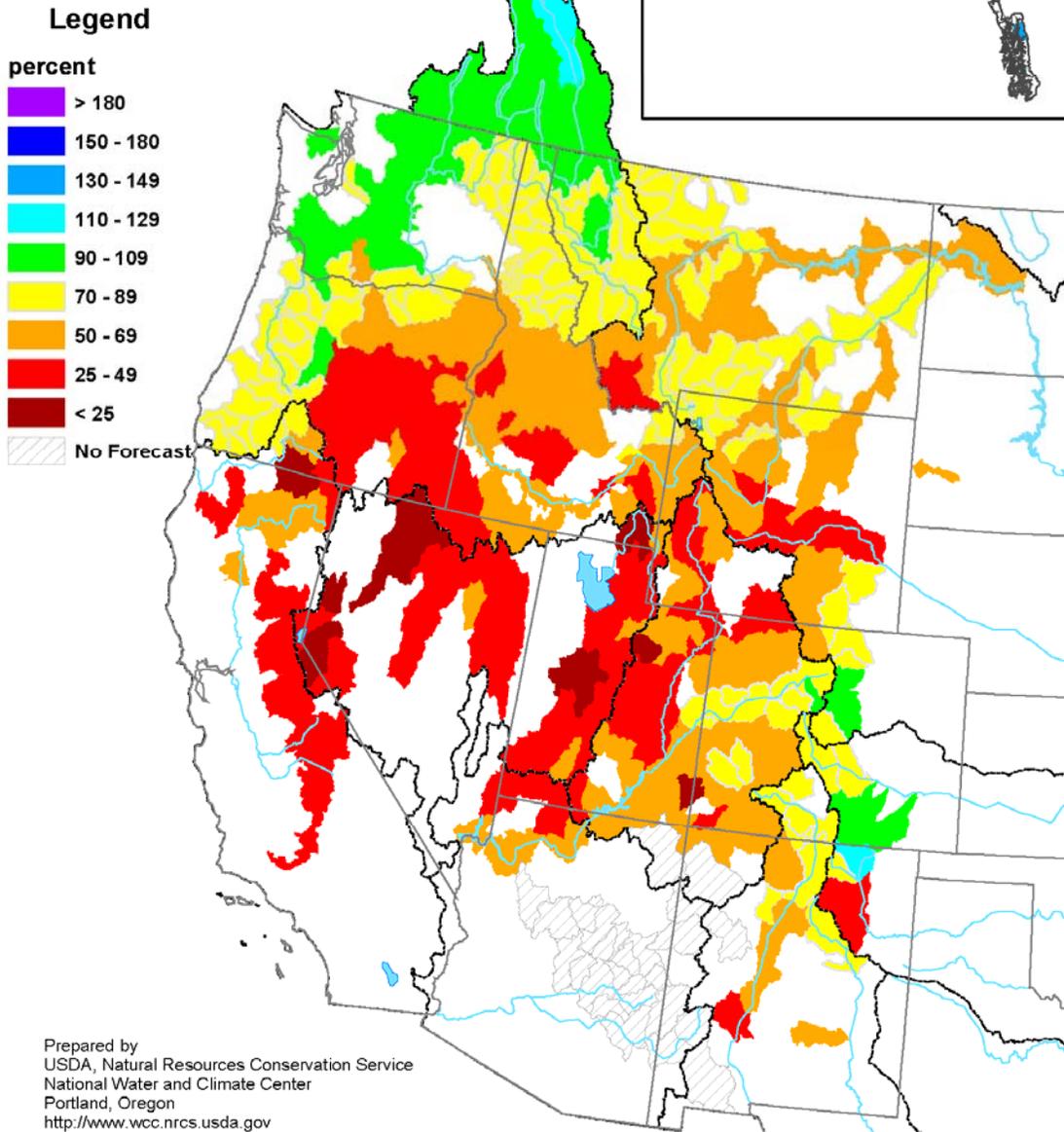


Figure 3. Seasonal Water Supply Forecasts - May 1, 2007

# Monthly Precipitation for April 2007

(Averaged by Hydrologic Unit)

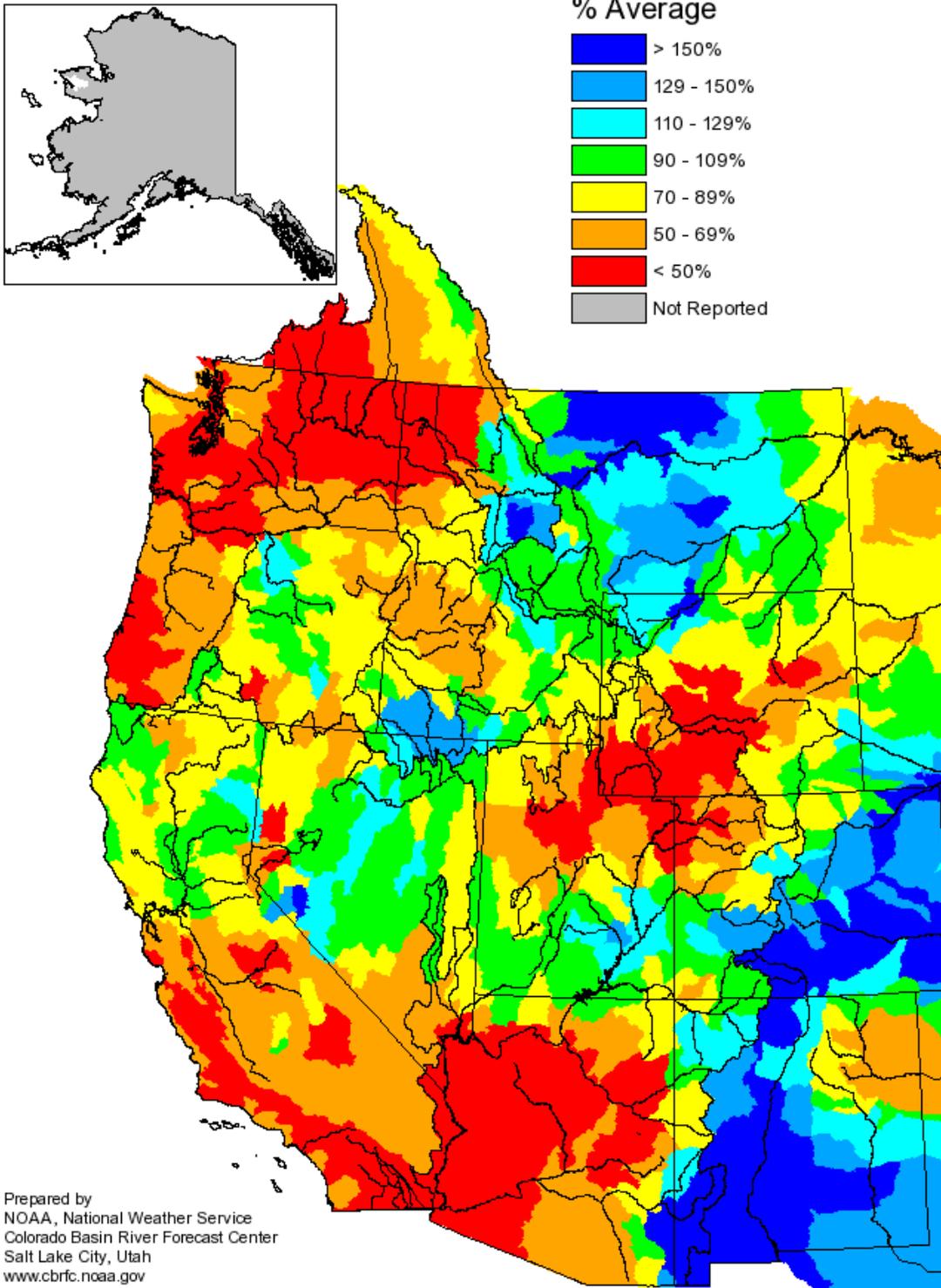
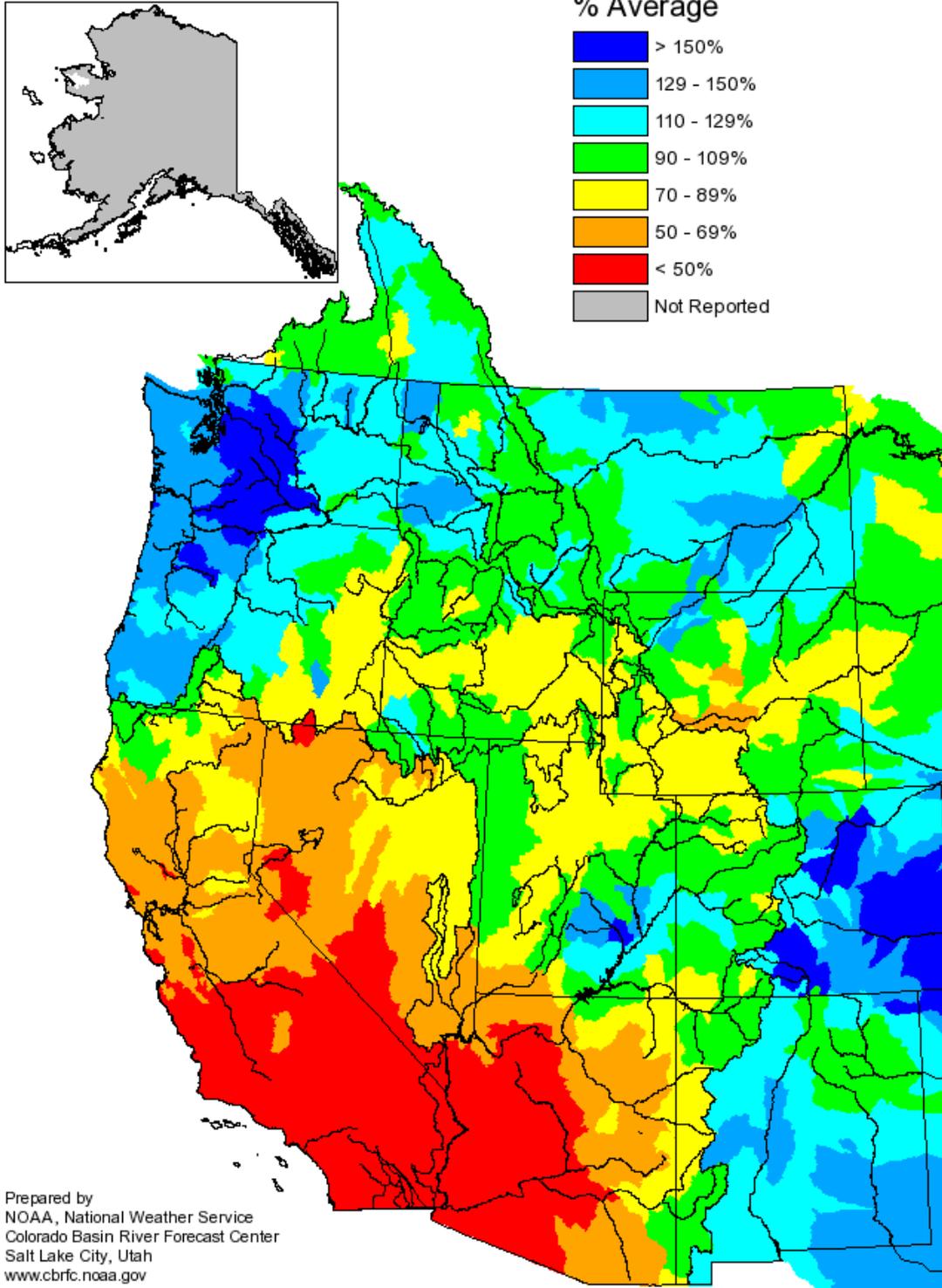


Figure 4. Monthly Precipitation, April 2007

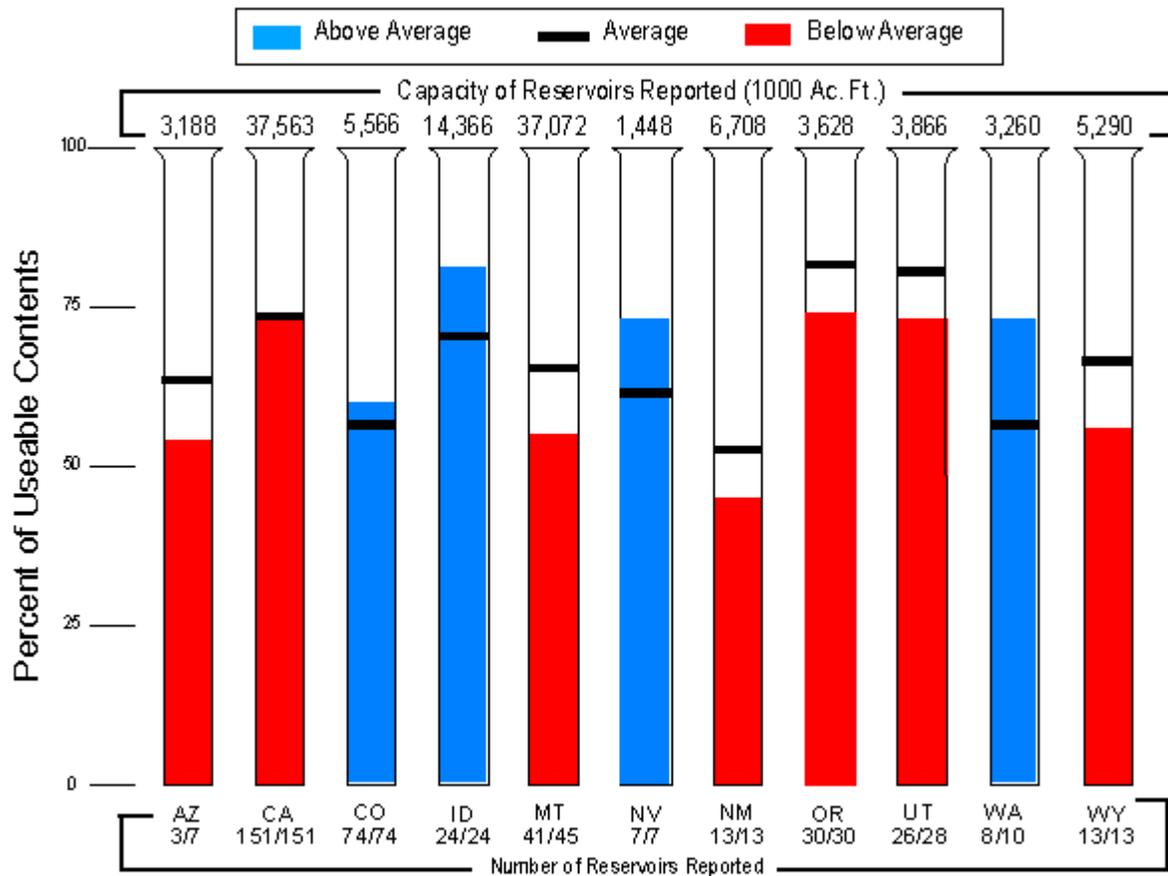
# Seasonal Precipitation, October 2006 - April 2007

(Averaged by Hydrologic Unit)



**Figure 5. Seasonal Precipitation, October 1, 2006 to April 30, 2007**

### Reservoir Storage as of May 1, 2007



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

**Fig. 6. Reservoir Storage - May 1, 2007**