

Colorado Basin Outlook Report February 1, 2011



Basin Outlook Reports and Federal - State - Private Cooperative Snow Surveys

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How forecasts are made

Most of the annual streamflow in the western United States originates as snowfall that has accumulated in the mountains during the winter and early spring. As the snowpack accumulates, hydrologists estimate the runoff that will occur when it melts. Measurements of snow water equivalent at selected manual snow courses and automated SNOTEL sites, along with precipitation, antecedent streamflow, and indices of the El Niño / Southern Oscillation are used in computerized statistical and simulation models to prepare runoff forecasts. These forecasts are coordinated between hydrologists in the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the National Weather Service. Unless otherwise specified, all forecasts are for flows that would occur naturally without any upstream influences.

Forecasts of any kind, of course, are not perfect. Streamflow forecast uncertainty arises from three primary sources: (1) uncertain knowledge of future weather conditions, (2) uncertainty in the forecasting procedure, and (3) errors in the data. The forecast, therefore, must be interpreted not as a single value but rather as a range of values with specific probabilities of occurrence. The middle of the range is expressed by the 50% exceedance probability forecast, for which there is a 50% chance that the actual flow will be above, and a 50% chance that the actual flow will be below, this value. To describe the expected range around this 50% value, four other forecasts are provided, two smaller values (90% and 70% exceedance probability) and two larger values (30%, and 10% exceedance probability). For example, there is a 90% chance that the actual flow will be more than the 90% exceedance probability forecast. The others can be interpreted similarly.

The wider the spread among these values, the more uncertain the forecast. As the season progresses, forecasts become more accurate, primarily because a greater portion of the future weather conditions become known; this is reflected by a narrowing of the range around the 50% exceedance probability forecast. Users should take this uncertainty into consideration when making operational decisions by selecting forecasts corresponding to the level of risk they are willing to assume about the amount of water to be expected. If users anticipate receiving a lesser supply of water, or if they wish to increase their chances of having an adequate supply of water for their operations, they may want to base their decisions on the 90% or 70% exceedance probability forecasts, or something in between. On the other hand, if users are concerned about receiving too much water (for example, threat of flooding), they may want to base their decisions on the 30% or 10% exceedance probability forecasts, or something in between. Regardless of the forecast value users choose for operations, they should be prepared to deal with either more or less water. (Users should remember that even if the 90% exceedance probability forecast is used, there is still a 10% chance of receiving less than this amount.) By using the exceedance probability information, users can easily determine the chances of receiving more or less water.

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Colorado

Water Supply Outlook Report

February 1, 2011

Summary

Colorado experienced a dry month during January, with extremely dry conditions in portions of southwestern Colorado. Snowpack percentages have decreased from those of a month ago in all basins of the state. Given the excellent start to the year, snowpack percentages still remain above average nearly statewide. January was the driest month of the water year with precipitation totals well below average in most basins. As expected, runoff forecasts have decreased from those issued a month ago. The state can now expect below average runoff this summer across all of the southern basins. While the water supply cushion we developed after the December storms has eroded, much of the central and northern basins can still expect near to above average spring runoff. Reservoir storage continues to track near average in most basins.

Snowpack

What a difference just a month makes. After experiencing abundant snowfall during late December, the western storm track left most of Colorado high and dry during January. The driest basins were in southern Colorado where the combined San Juan, Animas, Dolores, and San Miguel basins decreased by 38 percentage points from last month and are now standing at 106% of average. Snowpack statistics in the Gunnison basin closely followed, decreasing by 32 percentage points and is now 126% of average. The monthly decreases were large enough in the Rio Grande basin to decrease the percentages to below average levels, now at only 80% of average. Colorado's statewide snowpack dropped significantly this month; down from the January 1 totals of 136% of average to 117% of average on February 1. Even after such a dry month, above average snowpack totals prevail across most of the state. The highest percents of average remain across northern Colorado, where percentages that exceed 130% of average can be found in the Colorado and North Platte basins. Colorado's eastern basins fared the best during the dry January, with only slight decreases recorded in the Arkansas and South Platte basins. The best snowpack news for this month is the comparison to last year's February 1 snowpack totals. This difference is most striking across the northern basins where percents of last year remain well above those of last year, and is an impressive 188% of last year in the Colorado Basin. While this expresses this year's abundance, it also reflects last year's dryness in this basin. Statewide snowpack totals are now at 137% of last year's February 1 readings.

Precipitation

Monthly precipitation during the 2011 water year has been on a rollercoaster with wet months followed by dry months. Fortunately, statewide totals for the three months of October through December were all above average, leaving January's totals as the only month with below average percentages. Monthly totals of only 23% of average were recorded during January in the Rio Grande Basin, which was the lowest basinwide percentage in the state. Only the South Platte Basin recorded an above average total for the month, at 106% of average. Statewide precipitation measured at SNOTEL sites across Colorado was only 73% of average in January. For the four months comprising the water year, percentages range from 133% of average in the Yampa, White and North Platte basins to only 85% of average in the Rio Grande Basin. Statewide water year totals decreased by 18 percentage points this month and are now at 121% of average. These readings remain well above last year at 137% of those totals.

Reservoir Storage

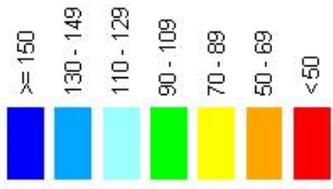
As is typical during mid-winter, reservoir storage changed only slightly during January. Storage volumes are near to above average in all basins, with the exceptions of the Yampa, Arkansas and Rio Grande. The lowest, in terms of percent of average, is the Rio Grande Basin which now stands at 79% of average. In terms of storage volume, the lowest departure from average storage is in the Arkansas Basin, currently storing 91% of average volumes, or a deficit of 50,000 acre-feet. Only the Rio Grande and Arkansas basins are storing significantly less than last year at this time, at 85% and 91% of last year's storage, respectively. The highest storage volumes remain in the Colorado and Gunnison basins this month, at 112% and 109% of average, respectively. With statewide storage now at 103% of average, volumes have exceeded the average mark by 90,000 acre-feet. This year's statewide storage remains at 100% of last year's volumes on this same date. Assuming inflows this spring and summer remain at or above average this year, late summer water supplies should be adequate for most water users across the state.

Streamflow

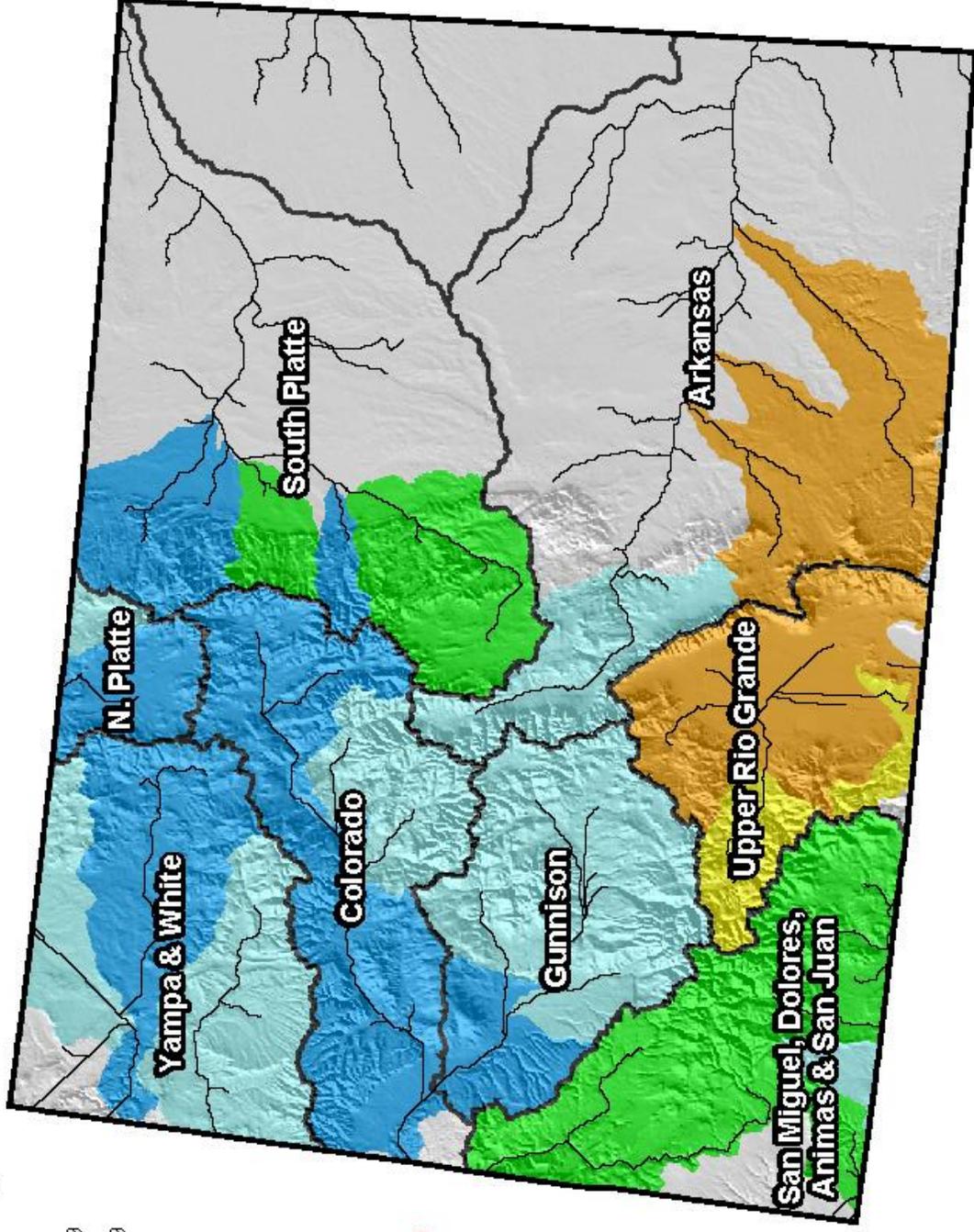
As one would expect after such a dry month, runoff forecasts have decreased across Colorado. While at least the northern basins can continue to expect above average summer water supplies, the greatest concerns remain across the southern basins which now are expecting below average runoff. The lowest forecasts continue to be along those streams originating in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, where volumes of only 40% to 80% are expected. This month also saw runoff forecasts decline sharply in the headwaters of the Rio Grande and San Juan Rivers. Flows on those rivers are now expected to be consistently below average for the 2011 runoff season. These basins will need a significant turnaround in weather patterns over the next few months in order to see improvements in this year's water supply outlook. Meanwhile, across most of central and northern Colorado the water supplies remain quite favorable. Above average volumes are forecast throughout the Colorado, Yampa, White, North Platte and most of the South Platte basins in 2011. As usual, continued snowfall is critical for maintaining these expectations, so monitoring the snowpack will be critical through the remainder of the winter.

Colorado Snowpack Map

Percent of Average

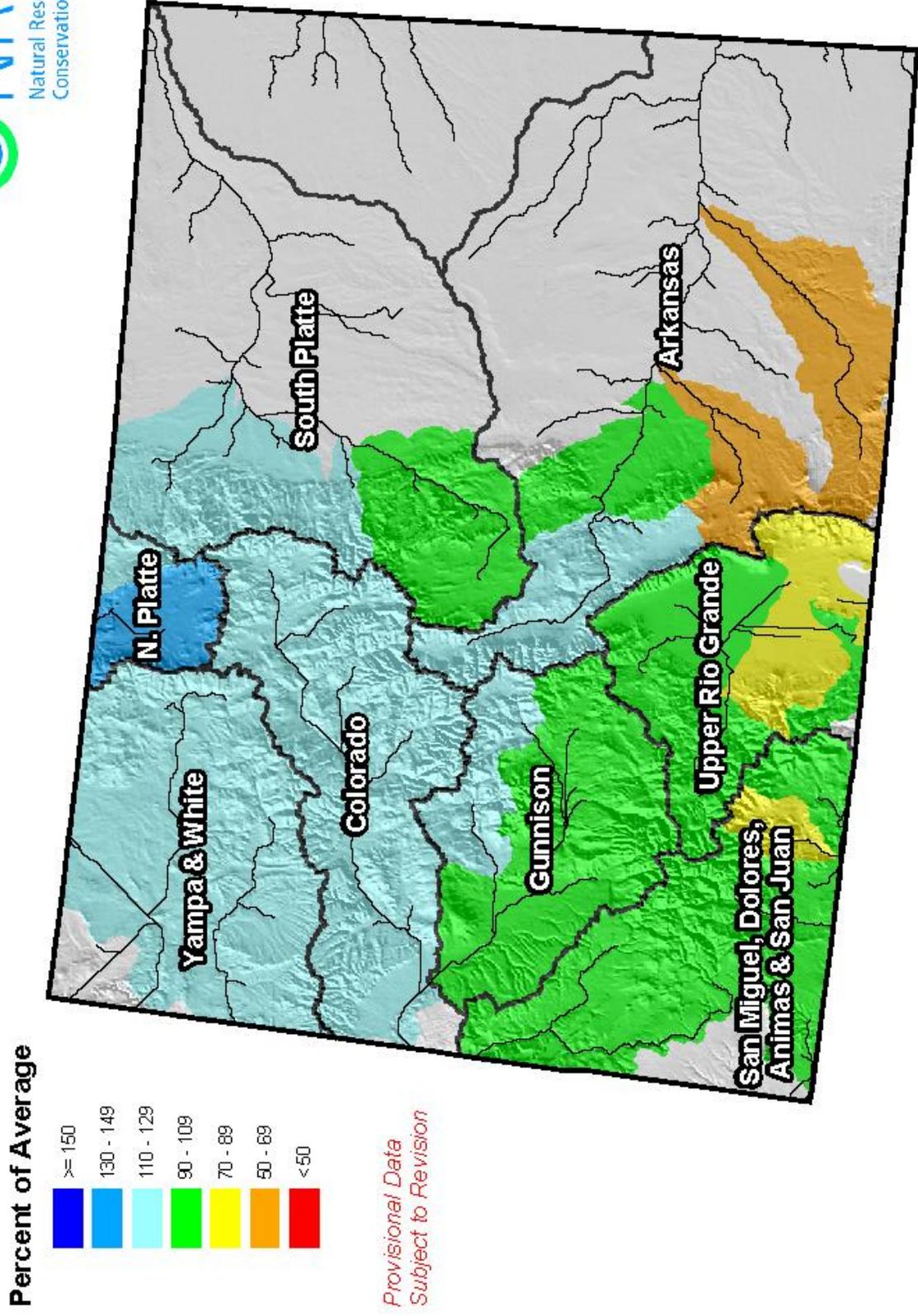


*Provisional Data
Subject to Revision*



Current as of February 1, 2011

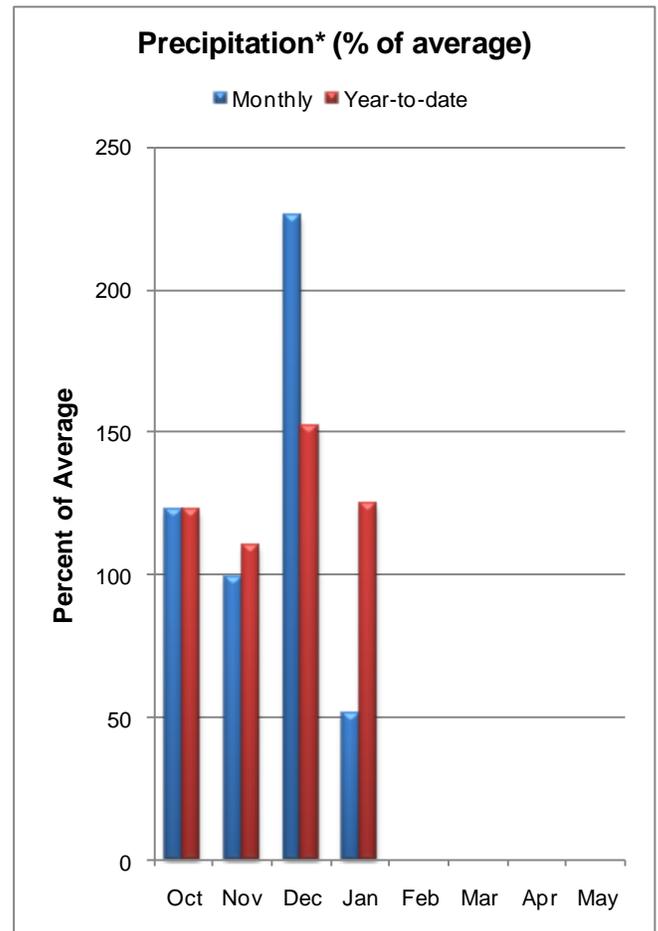
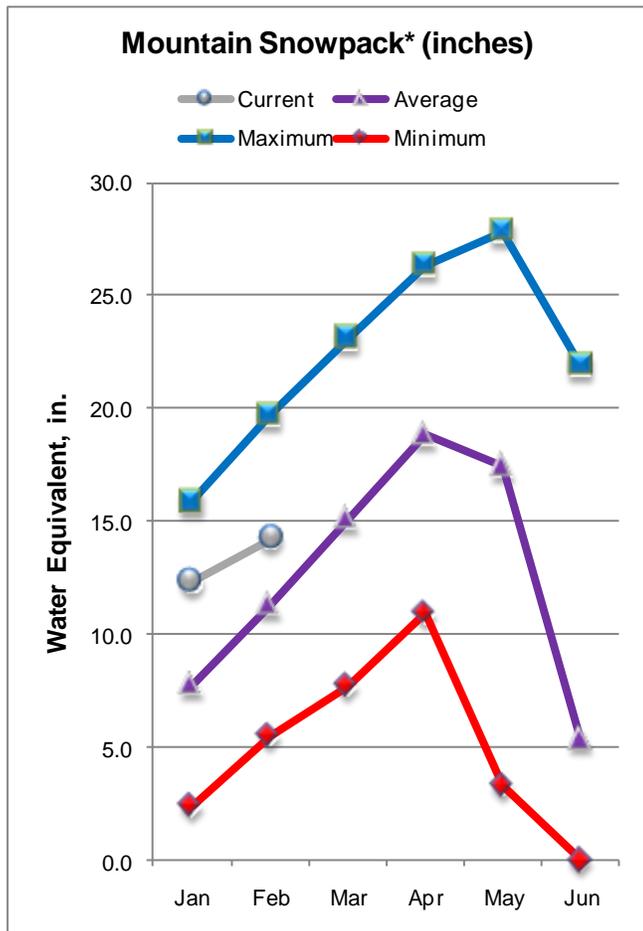
Colorado Streamflow Forecast Map



Current as of February 1, 2011

GUNNISON RIVER BASIN

as of February 1, 2011



*Based on selected stations

After closing out December with some stellar increases in the snowpack, conditions during January in the Gunnison River Basin turned 180 degrees resulting in the driest month the basin has seen so far this water year. The basin snowpack percentage dropped from 158 percent of average last month to 126 percent of average on February 1. Despite the downturn, this is the third best February 1 snowpack the basin has seen since 1997. By comparison, this year's February 1 snowpack is 38 percent higher than the snowpack present this time last year. As you would expect, sub-basin snowpacks took a hit over the last month, but are still above average to well above average. The Uncompahgre reported the lowest sub-basin figure at 119 percent of average, down from 155 percent of average last month. The Surface Creek Drainage boasted the highest sub-basin snowpack at 143 percent of average. January precipitation was well below normal at a mere 51 percent of average. The poor showing for the month dragged the water year precipitation totals down from 152 percent of average last month to 125 percent of average currently. Reservoir storage improved to 109 percent of average, this is up slightly from the amount of stored water available last year at this time. While this month's forecasts are lower than those issued a month ago, water users can expect near average to above average runoff over most of the basin. April-July volumes should range from 87 percent of average at Cochetopa Creek near Parlin to 126 percent of average for the Paonia Reservoir Inflow.

GUNNISON RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2011

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	Future Conditions						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		<<===== Drier =====>>		=====		>>===== Wetter =====>>		
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	Chance Of Exceeding * 50% (1000AF) (% AVG.)		30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
Taylor Park Reservoir Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	79	99	115	112	132	158	103
Slate R nr Crested Butte	APR-JUL	78	89	97	109	105	118	89
East R at Almont	APR-JUL	159	194	220	115	245	290	192
Gunnison R near Gunnison (2)	APR-JUL	310	390	445	114	505	600	390
Tomichi Ck at Sargents	APR-JUL	18.5	26	32	100	39	51	32
Cochetopa Ck bl Rock Ck nr Parlin	APR-JUL	7.5	11.6	15.0	87	19.0	26	17.3
Tomichi Ck at Gunnison	APR-JUL	35	56	75	93	97	138	81
Lake Fk at Gateview	APR-JUL	88	109	124	98	140	166	126
Blue Mesa Reservoir Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	540	660	775	108	900	1100	720
Paonia Reservoir Inflow (2)	MAR-JUN	77	105	126	126	149	187	100
	APR-JUL	75	105	129	127	155	197	102
NF Gunnison R nr Somerset (2)	APR-JUL	255	320	370	121	420	505	305
Surface Ck at Cedaredge	APR-JUL	14.2	18.0	21	123	24	30	17.1
Ridgway Reservoir Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	66	85	100	98	116	142	102
Uncompahgre R at Colona (2)	APR-JUL	72	104	130	94	159	205	139
Gunnison R nr Grand Junction (2)	APR-JUL	1090	1420	1700	109	2010	2450	1560

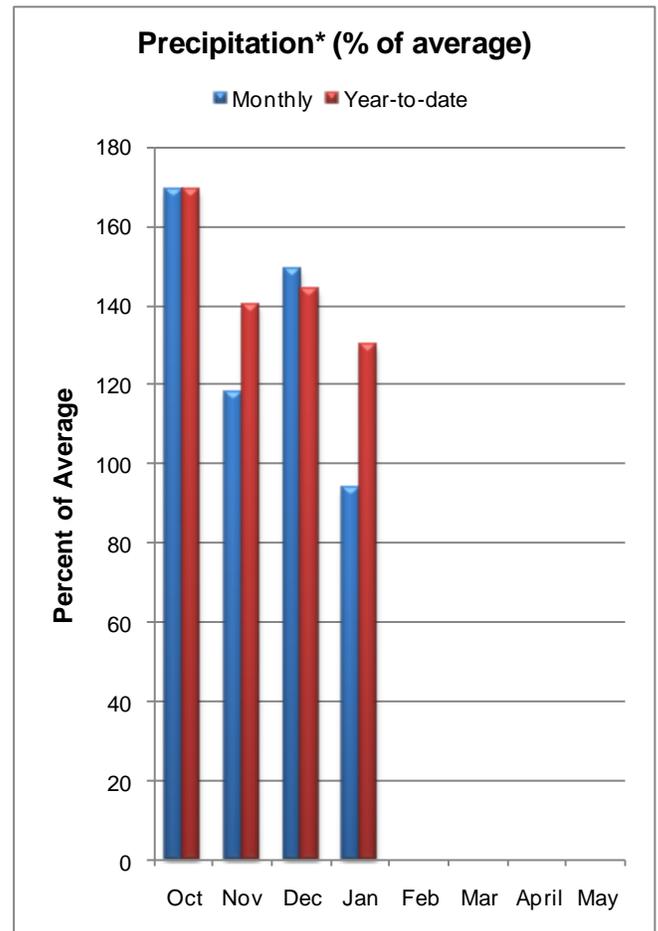
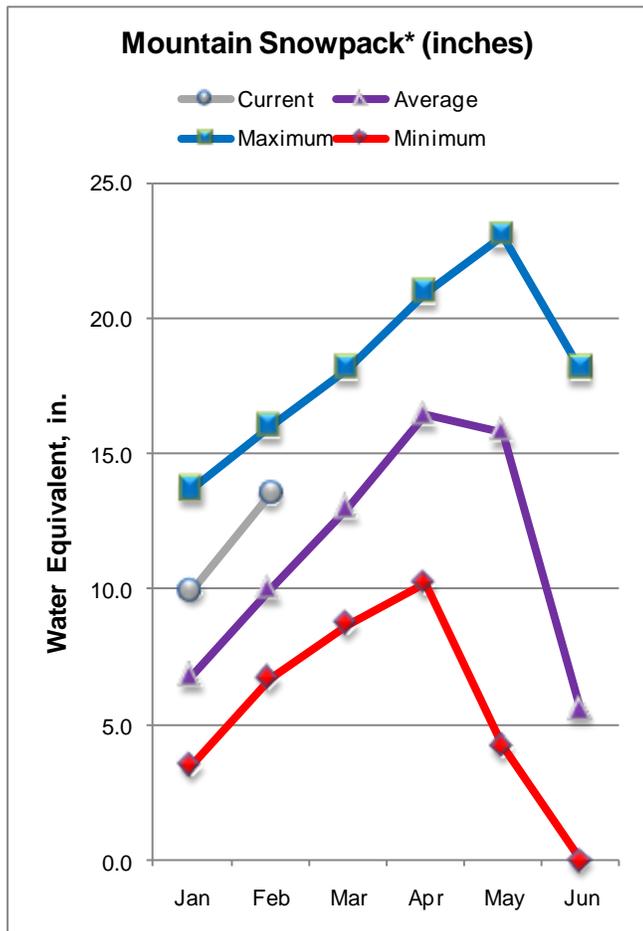
GUNNISON RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of January					GUNNISON RIVER BASIN Watershed Snowpack Analysis - February 1, 2011			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
BLUE MESA	830.0	552.4	559.7	493.3	UPPER GUNNISON BASIN	15	141	128
CRAWFORD	14.0	6.2	5.8	8.2	SURFACE CREEK BASIN	3	150	143
FRUITGROWERS	3.6	2.8	2.9	3.4	UNCOMPAHGRE BASIN	4	129	119
FRUITLAND	9.2	1.4	0.8	1.8	TOTAL GUNNISON RIVER BASI	19	138	126
MORROW POINT	121.0	112.0	109.5	113.4				
PAONIA	15.4	0.6	1.3	4.7				
RIDGWAY	83.0	67.4	65.3	60.2				
TAYLOR PARK	106.0	74.3	66.6	66.7				

* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
- (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.
- (3) - Median value used in place of average.

UPPER COLORADO RIVER BASIN as of February 1, 2011



*Based on selected stations

After three months of above average conditions, the snowpacks in the Upper Colorado River Basin were finally not able to keep up with the norm. As a result, snowpacks dropped from 147 percent of average a month ago to 135 percent on February 1. However, this is still the highest February 1 snowpack percentage since 1997. This year's snowpack is 88 percent higher than the snowpack measured last year at this time. Projections from SNOTEL data indicate only about a 10 percent chance that snowpacks will not match the average peak snowpack. Sub-basin snowpacks are all above average to well above average ranging from 129 percent of average in the Roaring Fork and Williams Fork watersheds to 146 percent of average in the Willow Creek Drainage. Mountain precipitation during January was slightly below normal at 94 percent of average. Total precipitation for the water year dropped 14 percentage points to 130 percent of average because of the drier conditions the basin endured over the past month. Reservoir storage is above normal at 112 percent of average and 76 percent of capacity. Forecasts remain relatively unchanged from last month with the exception of the Inflow to Willow Creek Reservoir which saw a 10 percentage point drop to 127 percent of average. Spring and summer runoff should range from 113 percent of average for the Eagle River below Gypsum and the Inflow to Ruedi Reservoir to 127 percent of average for the Inflow to Willow Creek Reservoir and Muddy Creek below Wolford Mountain Reservoir.

UPPER COLORADO RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2011

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	Future Conditions <<==== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		90%		50%		10%		
		(1000AF)	(1000AF)	(1000AF)	(% AVG.)	(1000AF)	(1000AF)	
Lake Granby Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	205	250	280	124	315	370	225
Willow Ck Reservoir Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	42	55	65	128	76	92	51
Williams Fk Reservoir Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	77	96	110	116	125	149	95
Dillon Reservoir Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	142	178	205	123	235	280	167
Green Mountain Reservoir Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	235	295	340	121	390	465	280
Muddy Ck bl Wolford Mtn Reservoir nr	APR-JUL	49	64	76	127	89	109	60
Eagle R bl Gypsum (2)	APR-JUL	255	325	380	113	435	530	335
Colorado R nr Dotsero (2)	APR-JUL	1250	1490	1730	120	1990	2350	1440
Ruedi Reservoir Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	112	139	160	114	182	215	141
Roaring Fk at Glenwood Springs (2)	APR-JUL	595	730	830	117	935	1100	710
Colorado R nr Cameo (2)	APR-JUL	2070	2520	2910	120	3320	3950	2420

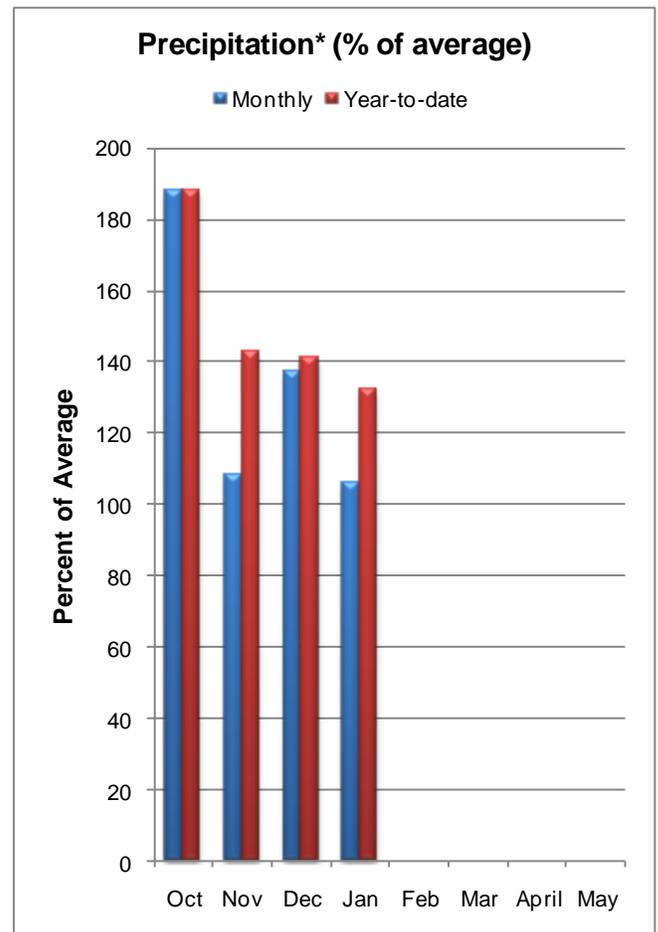
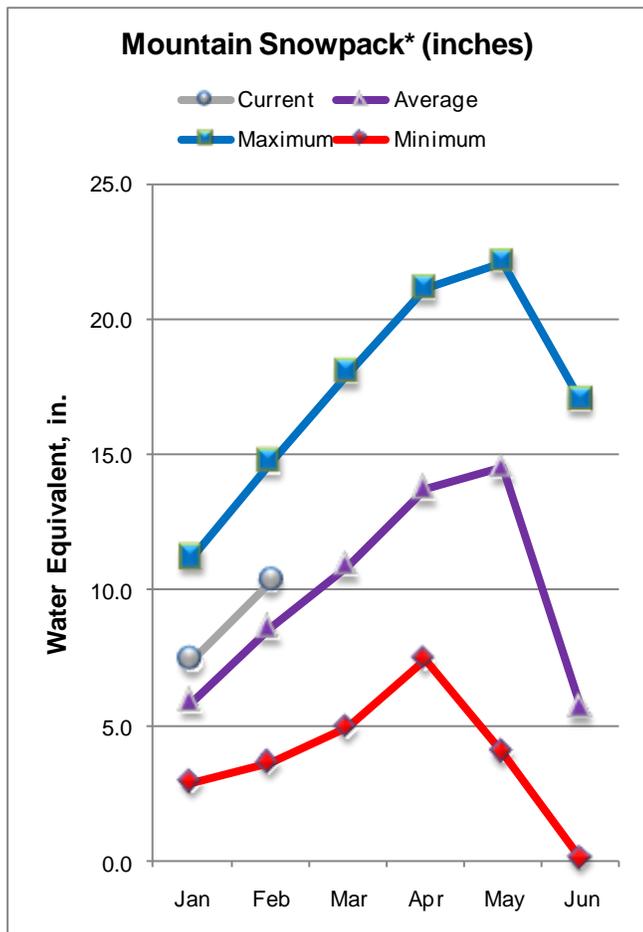
UPPER COLORADO RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of January					UPPER COLORADO RIVER BASIN Watershed Snowpack Analysis - February 1, 2011			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
DILLON	254.0	220.9	240.2	221.3	BLUE RIVER BASIN	9	205	145
LAKE GRANBY	465.6	376.7	331.0	300.7	UPPER COLORADO RIVER BASI	37	201	136
GREEN MOUNTAIN	146.8	70.1	72.8	80.3	MUDDY CREEK BASIN	4	213	135
HOMESTAKE	43.0	37.4	21.8	27.7	PLATEAU CREEK BASIN	3	150	143
RUEDI	102.0	71.9	70.5	73.7	ROARING FORK BASIN	8	163	129
VEGA	32.9	12.6	12.0	11.6	WILLIAMS FORK BASIN	4	175	129
WILLIAMS FORK	97.0	80.7	76.5	59.5	WILLOW CREEK BASIN	4	275	146
WILLOW CREEK	9.1	7.5	5.2	6.4	TOTAL COLORADO RIVER BASI	48	188	135

* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
- (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.
- (3) - Median value used in place of average.

SOUTH PLATTE RIVER BASIN as of February 1, 2011



*Based on selected stations

In general, excellent snowpack conditions continue to exist over the South Platte River Basin as of February 1, 2011. Six small percentage points account for the decrease from last month to this month, shifting snowpack conditions from 126 to 120 percent of average. In terms of snowpack, the South Platte River Basin is currently in the top quartile of its 44 year period of record, having the best year since 1997. The Upper South Platte River Basin remains the only section of the watershed in Colorado below average at 94 percent, but the Clear Creek, Big Thompson and Cache La Poudre watersheds, at 144, 137 and 135 percent of average respectively, more than make up for the deficit. Both the Big Thompson and the Saint Vrain drainages are more than 180 percent of last year's February 1 snowpack levels. The Loveland Basin SNOTEL site presently remains the automated site with the highest snowpack at 171 percent of average, two times the amount of snowpack present at this time last year. For the first time since October, 2010 monthly precipitation during the winter months has been the highest in the state at 106 percent of average in the South Platte River Basin. Reservoir data indicates worry free levels at 99 percent of average. For the first time since 2008, the majority of streamflow forecasts in the South Platte River Basin in Colorado are above 100 percent of average. Only Antero Reservoir Inflow and Bear Creek snowpacks lend themselves to below average streamflow predictions between 43 and 66 percent of normal.

SOUTH PLATTE RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2011

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	Future Conditions						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		Drier		Wetter				
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	Chance Of Exceeding * (% AVG.)	
Antero Reservoir Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	5.5	8.4	11.1	66	14.7	22	16.8
	APR-SEP	6.1	9.4	12.6	57	16.9	26	22
Spinney Mountain Res Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	30	46	61	109	81	123	56
	APR-SEP	36	56	75	109	101	156	69
Elevenmile Canyon Res Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	30	47	63	109	85	132	58
	APR-SEP	36	57	78	108	107	171	72
Cheesman Lake Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	57	90	122	107	166	260	114
	APR-SEP	71	112	154	110	210	335	140
South Platte R at South Platte (2)	APR-JUL	93	153	215	105	300	495	205
	APR-SEP	117	192	270	106	380	625	255
Bear Ck ab Evergreen	APR-JUL	4.2	7.0	9.8	51	13.7	23	19.3
	APR-SEP	6.0	9.5	13.1	52	18.0	29	25
Bear Ck at Morrison	APR-JUL	3.9	7.0	10.5	42	15.7	28	25
	APR-SEP	5.2	9.1	13.4	43	19.7	35	31
Clear Ck at Golden	APR-JUL	103	120	132	120	144	161	110
	APR-SEP	121	142	157	117	172	193	134
St. Vrain Ck at Lyons (2)	APR-JUL	93	105	114	121	123	135	94
	APR-SEP	108	123	133	122	143	158	109
Boulder Ck nr Orodell (2)	APR-JUL	46	53	57	110	61	68	52
	APR-SEP	52	60	65	108	70	78	60
S Boulder Ck nr Eldorado Springs (2)	APR-JUL	35	40	43	105	46	51	41
	APR-SEP	38	44	48	104	52	58	46
Big Thompson R at Canyon Mouth (2)	APR-JUL	88	103	113	114	123	138	99
	APR-SEP	108	126	138	116	150	168	119
Cache La Poudre at Canyon Mouth (2)	APR-JUL	230	275	305	125	335	380	245
	APR-SEP	255	305	340	124	375	425	275

SOUTH PLATTE RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of January

SOUTH PLATTE RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - February 1, 2011

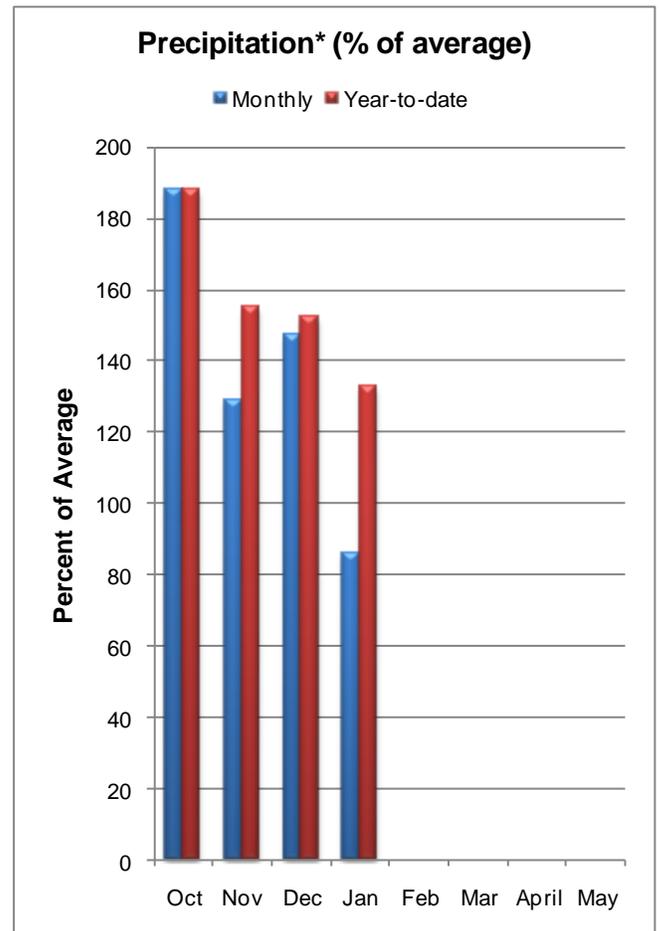
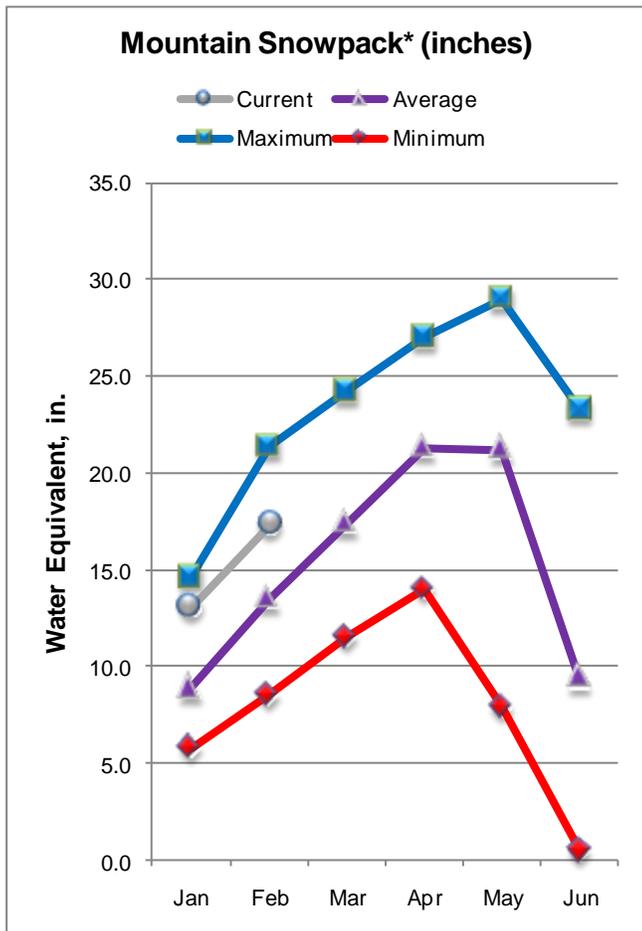
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
ANTERO	19.9	20.0	20.0	16.4	BIG THOMPSON BASIN	7	186	137
BARR LAKE	30.1	19.5	26.2	24.0	BOULDER CREEK BASIN	5	136	104
BLACK HOLLOW	6.5	2.8	3.2	3.9	CACHE LA POUFRE BASIN	8	180	135
BOYD LAKE	48.4	36.8	40.5	32.1	CLEAR CREEK BASIN	4	172	144
BUTTON ROCK/RALPH PRICE	16.2	14.1	13.7	13.0	SAINT VRAIN BASIN	3	188	113
CACHE LA POUFRE	10.1	8.6	9.0	7.2	UPPER SOUTH PLATTE BASIN	16	120	94
CARTER	108.9	53.6	93.1	84.6	TOTAL SOUTH PLATTE BASIN	43	160	120
CHAMBERS LAKE	8.8	3.6	6.6	3.0				
CHEESMAN	79.0	75.1	62.8	59.7				
COBB LAKE	22.3	20.2	20.7	13.9				
ELEVEN MILE	98.0	100.5	99.7	95.9				
EMPIRE	36.5	35.8	30.0	22.8				
FOSSIL CREEK	11.1	5.8	8.8	6.8				
GROSS	41.8	25.0	26.1	26.0				
HALLIGAN	6.4	5.2	4.9	4.3				
HORSECREEK	14.7	4.4	7.0	11.6				
HORSETOOTH	149.7	85.4	70.4	99.0				
JACKSON	26.1	24.5	22.9	26.1				
JULESBURG	20.5	16.5	17.4	18.8				
LAKE LOVELAND	10.3	7.3	9.3	8.7				
LONE TREE	8.7	6.4	7.4	6.4				
MARIANO	5.4	3.0	4.4	4.2				
MARSHALL	10.0	3.9	6.8	5.1				
MARSTON	13.0	2.7	9.4	12.8				
MILTON	23.5	19.8	6.7	15.5				
POINT OF ROCKS	70.6	60.8	58.7	57.0				
PREWITT	28.2	22.3	22.5	19.3				
RIVERSIDE	55.8	42.1	37.7	41.7				
SPINNEY MOUNTAIN	49.0	34.7	34.1	33.3				
STANDLEY	42.0	33.2	35.4	33.1				
TERRY LAKE	8.0	5.3	5.9	5.3				
UNION	13.0	11.8	11.9	10.6				
WINDSOR	15.2	11.5	11.7	10.8				

* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
- (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.
- (3) - Median value used in place of average.

YAMPA, WHITE, NORTH PLATTE AND LARAMIE RIVER BASINS as of February 1, 2011



*Based on selected stations

Even the combined Yampa, White, North Platte and Laramie River basins were not immune to the dry conditions that hit Colorado in January. The February 1 snowpack was measured at 128 percent of average. Not too bad until you consider that one month ago, the combined basin snowpack was 147 percent of average. Even with this setback, the February 1 North Platte and Laramie River basin snowpack is the highest it has been since 1997 and the Yampa and White River basins snowpack is the second highest since that same year. Snowpacks in all the sub-basins are above average to well above average. The lowest sub-basin snowpack was reported in the White River at 118 percent of average. The highest, at 133 percent of average, was measured in the North Platte Watershed. After three consecutive months of above average to well above average monthly precipitation, January precipitation only managed to reach the 86 percent of average level in the combined basins. Total precipitation for the water year dropped from 152 percent of average last month to 133 percent of average. However, this is the highest percentage of the major basins in the state. Reservoir storage at Stagecoach is 89 percent of average while Yamcolo reported 110 percent of average storage. Water users can expect above average to well above average runoff in the spring and early summer at all forecast points. April-July volumes are forecast to range from 108 percent of average for the Yampa River above Stagecoach Reservoir to 145 percent of average on the North Platte River near Northgate.

YAMPA, WHITE, AND NORTH PLATTE RIVER BASINS
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2011

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	Future Conditions						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		<<==== Drier =====		=====> Wetter =====>>				
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	Chance Of Exceeding * 50% (1000AF) (% AVG.)		30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
North Platte R nr Northgate	APR-JUL APR-SEP	240 265	310 345	355 395	145 146	400 445	470 525	245 270
Laramie R nr Woods	APR-JUL APR-SEP	116 129	139 154	155 171	126 127	171 188	194 215	123 135
Yampa R ab Stagecoach Reservoir	APR-JUL	25	33	40	108	47	60	37
Yampa R at Steamboat Springs (2)	APR-JUL	255	300	335	120	370	425	280
Elk R nr Milner	APR-JUL	330	380	420	129	460	525	325
Elkhead Ck ab Long Gulch nr Hayden	APR-JUL	56	78	95	134	114	144	71
Yampa R nr Maybell (2)	APR-JUL	875	1110	1280	129	1460	1760	990
Little Snake R nr Slater	APR-JUL	140	169	190	120	215	250	159
Little Snake R nr Dixon	APR-JUL	275	345	400	121	455	545	330
Little Snake R nr Lily	APR-JUL	260	360	435	119	515	650	365
White R nr Meeker	APR-JUL	235	290	330	114	375	445	290

YAMPA, WHITE, AND NORTH PLATTE RIVER BASINS
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of January

YAMPA, WHITE, AND NORTH PLATTE RIVER BASINS
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - February 1, 2011

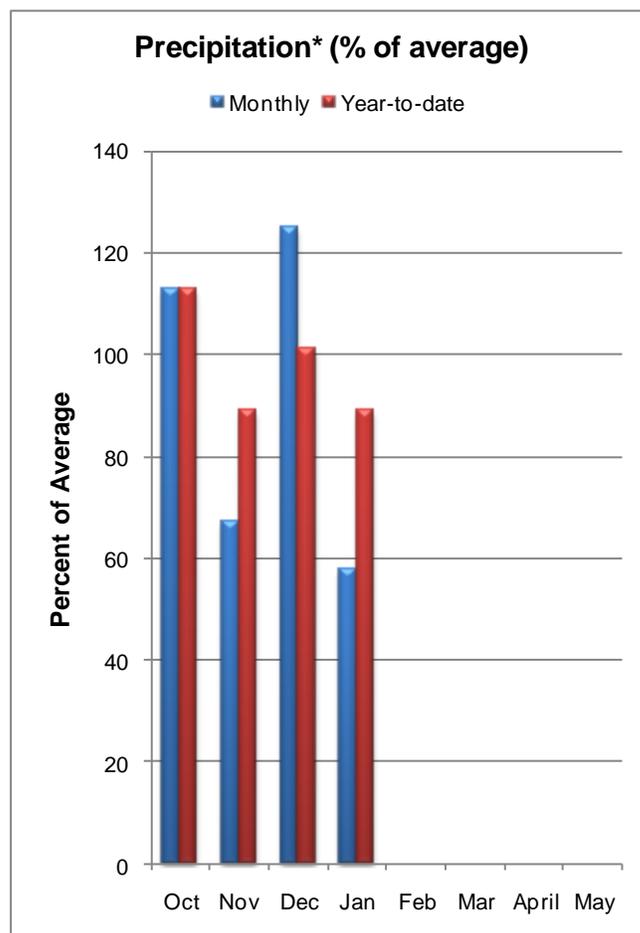
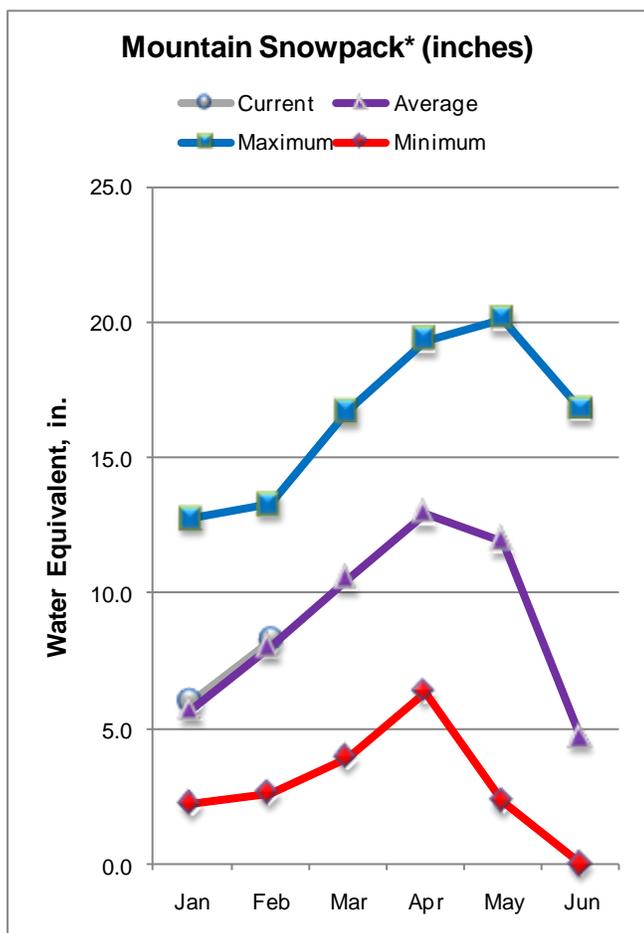
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
STAGECOACH	33.3	22.3	28.3	25.1	LARAMIE RIVER BASIN	3	141	124
YAMCOLO	8.7	6.8	6.8	6.2	NORTH PLATTE RIVER BASIN	12	191	133
					TOTAL NORTH PLATTE BASIN	14	180	132
					ELK RIVER BASIN	2	177	131
					YAMPA RIVER BASIN	12	188	132
					WHITE RIVER BASIN	6	153	118
					TOTAL YAMPA AND WHITE RIV	17	174	126
					LITTLE SNAKE RIVER BASIN	8	146	124
TOTAL YAMPA, WHITE AND NO	36	170	128					

* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
- (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.
- (3) - Median value used in place of average.

ARKANSAS RIVER BASIN as of February 1, 2011



*Based on selected stations

Despite stark contrasts in snowpack from the Upper Arkansas River Basin to the lower reaches of the basin, the snowpack total over the entire Arkansas River watershed hovers close to average at 103 percent, down from 105 percent last month. Since last month, the snowpacks in the southern mountains of the Arkansas stayed level at about 60 percent of average, while the Upper Arkansas snowpack did not receive as much snow, losing 21 percentage points from last month. The Brumley SNOTEL site in the Upper Arkansas boasts the best snowpack at 155 percent of average and 161 percent of last year. The east side of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains is experiencing its worst February 1 snowpack since 2006. The Cucharas and Huerfano sub-basins as well as the Purgatoire River Basin are at 60 and 64 percent of mean snowpack, respectively. Since October, total precipitation is at 89 percent of average, down from 101 percent of average last month. Total reservoir storage of the 13 major reservoirs sums up to 91 percent of average, which happens to be precisely the amount of storage present at this time last year. Streamflow forecasts are a direct reflection of snowpack numbers at just above average in the northern basins and near 60 percent of average in the southern basins. Chalk Creek at Nathrop, CO Apr-Sept shows the most promising forecast at 130 percent of average, while the Arkansas River at Salida, CO Apr-Sept is currently predicted to produce 111 percent of average volume.

ARKANSAS RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2011

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	Future Conditions						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		<<===== Drier =====>>		===== Wetter =====>>				
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	Chance Of Exceeding *		30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
		50% (1000AF)	(% AVG.)					
CHALK CK at Nathrop	APR-JUL	17.1	24	29	126	35	44	23
	APR-SEP	21	29	35	130	41	52	27
ARKANSAS RIVER at Salida (2)	APR-JUL	220	265	300	118	335	395	255
	APR-SEP	250	305	345	110	390	455	315
GRAPE CK nr Westcliffe	APR-JUL	2.0	7.2	12.6	78	19.5	32	16.1
	APR-SEP	3.9	9.9	15.4	79	22	34	19.6
PUEBLO RESERVOIR Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	250	335	405	105	480	600	385
	APR-SEP	330	435	515	106	600	740	485
HUERFANO RIVER nr Redwing	APR-JUL	3.9	6.1	8.0	65	10.1	13.6	12.3
	APR-SEP	5.3	8.1	10.3	67	12.8	16.9	15.5
CUCHARAS RIVER nr La Veta	APR-JUL	2.0	4.6	7.0	62	9.9	15.0	11.3
	APR-SEP	2.7	5.6	8.2	63	11.3	16.7	13.0
TRINIDAD LAKE Inflow (2)	MAR-JUL	4.6	12.3	19.7	58	29	45	34
	APR-SEP	6.6	16.4	26	59	37	57	44

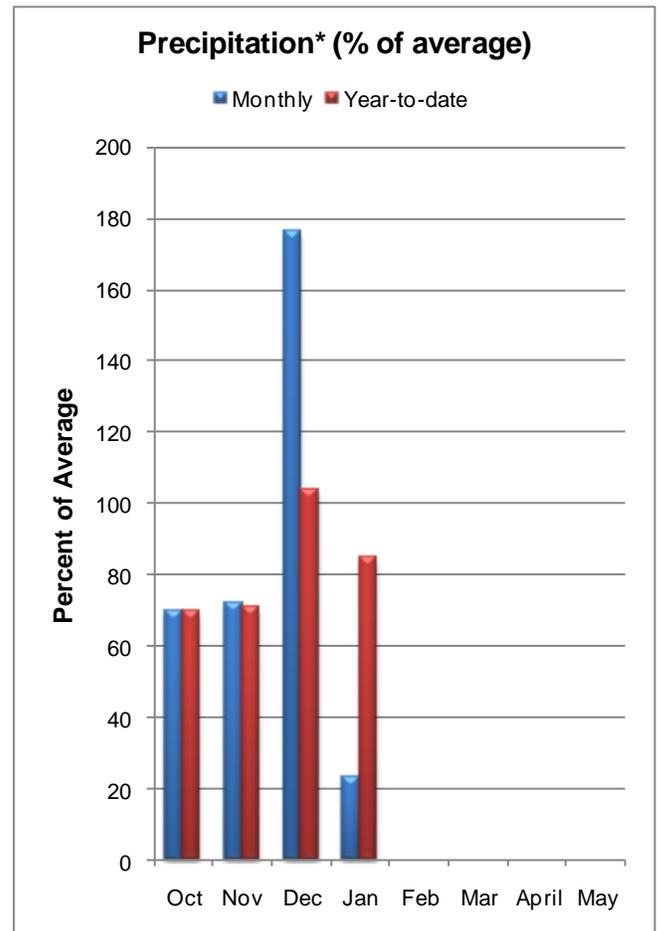
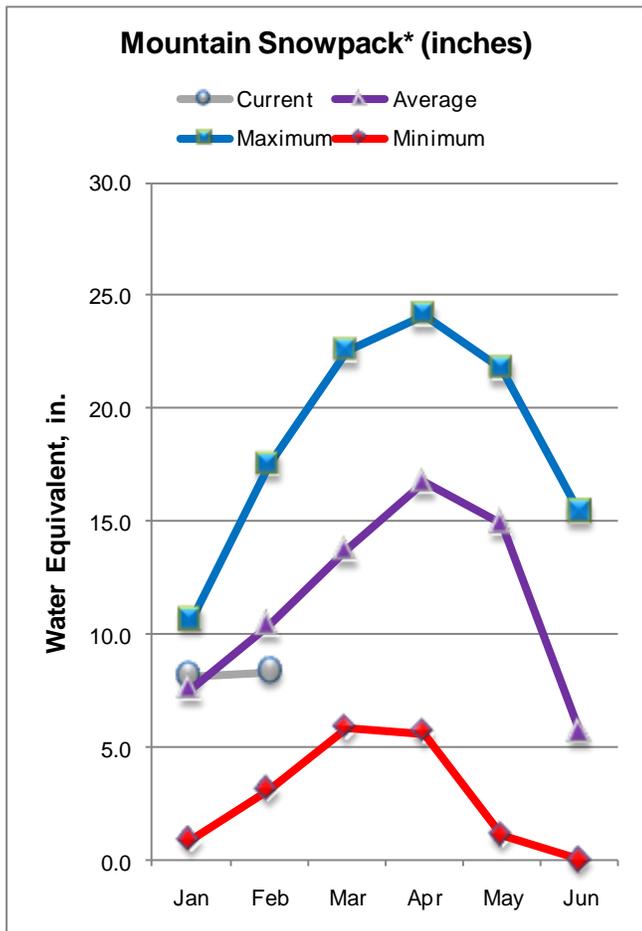
ARKANSAS RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of January					ARKANSAS RIVER BASIN Watershed Snowpack Analysis - February 1, 2011			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
ADOBE	62.0	38.8	47.5	31.1	UPPER ARKANSAS BASIN	10	143	121
CLEAR CREEK	11.4	7.9	7.2	6.4	CUCHARAS & HUERFANO RIVER	4	60	60
CUCHARAS RESERVOIR	40.0	0.1	0.8	4.8	PURGATOIRE RIVER BASIN	2	69	64
GREAT PLAINS	150.0	0.0	0.0	35.2	TOTAL ARKANSAS RIVER BASIN	15	120	103
HOLBROOK	7.0	0.9	1.3	3.9				
HORSE CREEK	27.0	0.0	0.0	12.2				
JOHN MARTIN	616.0	50.5	58.7	120.9				
LAKE HENRY	8.0	6.1	4.7	4.1				
MEREDITH	42.0	30.1	35.8	16.2				
PUEBLO	354.0	225.1	248.4	158.3				
TRINIDAD	167.0	17.9	18.7	25.3				
TURQUOISE	127.0	65.9	67.2	82.7				
TWIN LAKES	86.0	52.6	55.2	44.8				

* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
- (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.
- (3) - Median value used in place of average.

UPPER RIO GRANDE RIVER BASIN as of February 1, 2011



*Based on selected stations

Since a rather optimistic Outlook Report last month, little precipitation has fallen over the entire Upper Rio Grande Basin in Colorado. As can be seen in the snowpack graph above, a flat line from January 1 to February 1 demonstrates the small amount of accumulated snow over the course of the last month. A more detailed graph as well as additional information can be viewed at our website: <http://www.co.nrcs.uda.gov/snow/>. Less than an inch of water equivalent has accumulated at some SNOTEL sites. Snow data for February 1 indicates that the snowpack is at 80 percent of the mean value, down from 107 percent of average last month. Water year precipitation, although below average at 85 percent, is still above the bleak start in October at 70 percent of normal, due to the significant storms of December. Current reservoir data suggests the same concerns as snowpack data, in that reservoir storage levels are below average at 79 percent. In the Upper Rio Grande Basin above the Del Norte forecast point, snowpack has experienced the largest swing from 125 percent of average last month to 80 percent of average this month. The 45 percent loss is the second worst in the state. Streamflow predictions start off fair at the Rio Grande at Thirty Mile Bridge at 92 percent of normal for the Apr-Sept forecast period, down nearly 20 percent from last month. The further down the river one progresses, the tributaries contribute less. For example, at Sangre de Cristo Creek current models place streamflows for Apr-Sept at 40 percent of average.

UPPER RIO GRANDE BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2011

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	Future Conditions						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		<<===== Drier =====>>		=====		===== Wetter =====>>		
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	Chance Of Exceeding * 50% (1000AF) (% AVG.)		30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
Rio Grande at Thirty Mile Bridge (2)	APR-SEP	86	109	125	92	143	171	136
	APR-JUL	78	96	110	93	125	150	118
Rio Grande at Wagon Wheel Gap (2)	APR-SEP	210	270	315	91	360	440	345
SF Rio Grande at South Fork (2)	APR-SEP	82	103	120	91	138	169	132
Rio Grande nr Del Norte (2)	APR-SEP	325	415	485	91	560	685	531
Saguache Ck nr Saguache (2)	APR-SEP	18.3	26	32	97	39	50	33
Alamosa Ck ab Terrace Reservoir	APR-SEP	40	52	61	87	71	88	70
La Jara Ck nr Capulin	MAR-JUL	3.9	5.8	7.4	85	9.3	12.5	8.7
Trinchera Ck ab Turners Ranch	APR-SEP	2.9	4.3	5.5	46	6.8	9.0	12.0
Sangre de Cristo Ck (2)	APR-SEP	1.4	1.8	3.5	40	5.8	10.2	8.8
Ute Creek	APR-SEP	1.7	4.0	6.0	49	8.4	12.8	12.2
Platoro Reservoir Inflow	APR-JUL	41	50	57	89	65	77	64
	APR-SEP	45	55	63	89	71	85	71
Conejos R nr Mogote (2)	APR-SEP	124	157	182	91	210	255	200
San Antonio R at Ortiz	APR-SEP	7.2	10.9	14.0	85	17.6	24	16.4
Los Pinos R nr Ortiz	APR-SEP	37	50	60	81	71	90	74
Culebra Ck at San Luis (2)	APR-SEP	4.7	9.0	13.0	57	18.1	28	23
Costilla Reservoir Inflow	MAR-JUL	2.7	4.5	6.0	57	7.8	11.2	10.6
Costilla Ck nr Costilla (2)	MAR-JUL	6.4	10.9	15.0	58	20	29	26

UPPER RIO GRANDE BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of January

UPPER RIO GRANDE BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - February 1, 2011

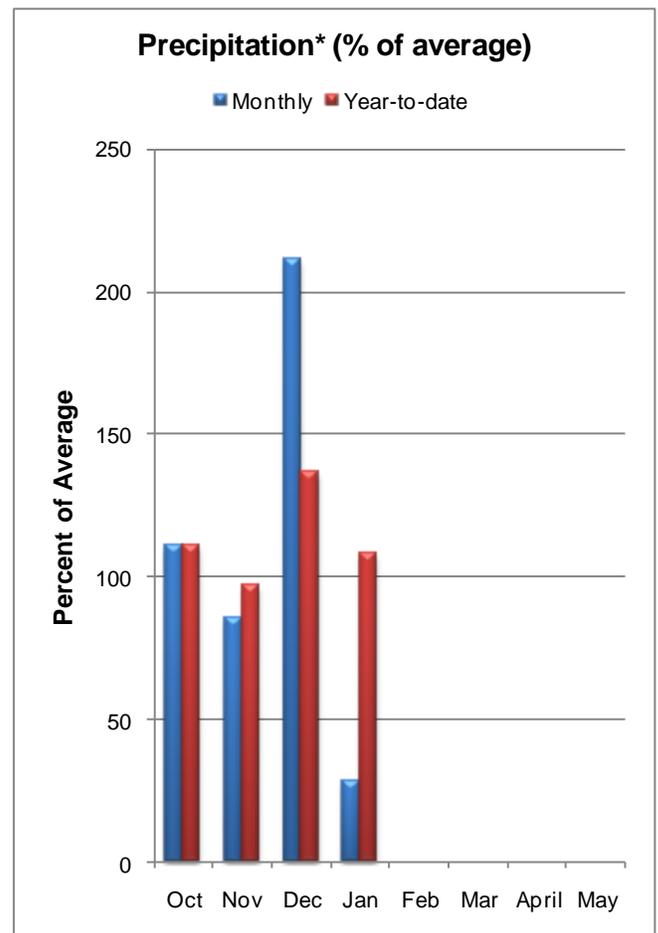
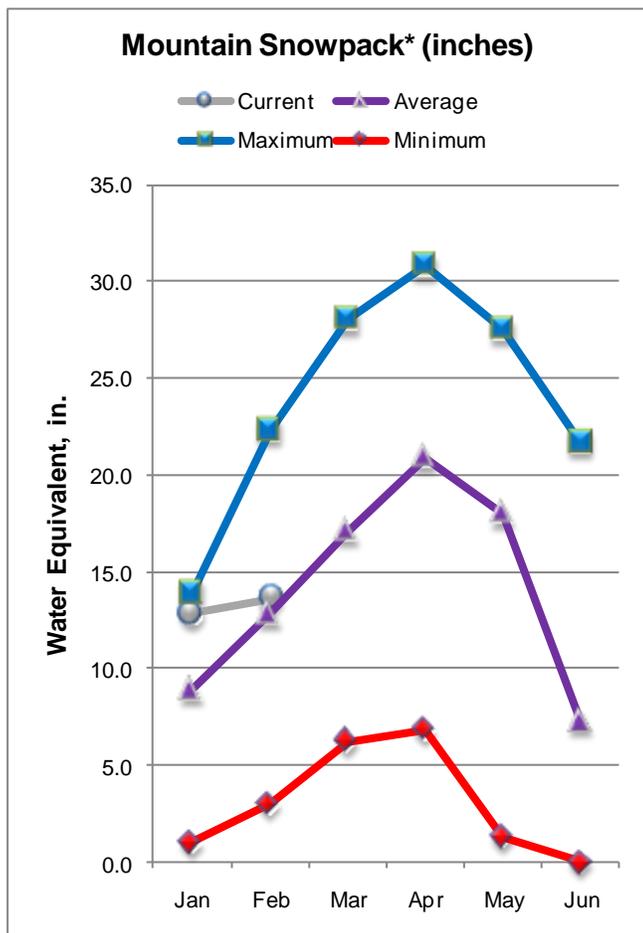
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
CONTINENTAL	27.0	4.4	3.8	5.8	ALAMOSA CREEK BASIN	2	50	63
PLATORO	60.0	21.6	29.8	24.7	CONEJOS & RIO SAN ANTONIO	4	71	87
RIO GRANDE	51.0	16.9	17.8	16.5	CULEBRA & TRINCHERA CREEK	5	63	64
SANCHEZ	103.0	16.5	19.3	24.1	UPPER RIO GRANDE BASIN	12	77	85
SANTA MARIA	45.0	6.3	6.4	10.5	TOTAL UPPER RIO GRANDE BA	23	72	80
TERRACE	18.0	3.6	4.7	6.1				

* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
- (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.
- (3) - Median value used in place of average.

SAN MIGUEL, DOLORES, ANIMAS, AND SAN JUAN RIVER BASINS as of February 1, 2011



*Based on selected stations

After an impressive display during the last two weeks in December, the snowpack in the combined San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan basin took a huge step backward over the past month. Snowpack figures fell from 144 percent of average on January 1 to 106 percent of average on February 1. Looking at the SNOTEL data for the combined basins, if we removed the last two weeks of December and substituted average snowfall, current conditions would be just slightly above those measured in 2002. On the bright side, this is the fifth highest February 1 snowpack since 1997 and is just behind the 109 percent of average snowpack measured last year at this time. Sub-basin snowpacks are near to above average, ranging from 99 percent of average in the San Miguel to 111 percent of average in the Animas Watershed. January precipitation at the higher elevations was a meager 28 percent of average, quite a turnaround from the 211 percent of average December precipitation. Total precipitation for the water year plummeted from 137 percent of average last month to 108 percent of average currently. Reservoir storage remained steady at 102 percent of average and 116 percent of last year. Streamflow forecasts dropped 9 to 20 percentage points from those issued a month ago. Near to below average runoff is forecast for the April-July period throughout the basin. In terms of percentages, Cone Reservoir Inlet is expected to receive the smallest volume at 76 percent of average, while the Animas River at Durango should produce the most at 100 percent of average.

SAN MIGUEL, DOLORES, ANIMAS, AND SAN JUAN RIVER BASINS
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2011

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	Future Conditions						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		<<===== Drier =====>>		===== Wetter =====>>				
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	Chance Of Exceeding *		30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
		(1000AF)	(% AVG.)					
Dolores R at Dolores	APR-JUL	138	189	230	87	275	355	265
McPhee Reservoir Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	173	240	290	91	345	435	320
San Miguel R nr Placerville	APR-JUL	79	102	120	91	140	173	132
Gurley Reservoir Inlet	APR-JUL	9.7	12.7	15.0	82	17.6	22	18.3
Cone Reservoir Inlet	APR-JUL	0.8	1.6	2.5	77	3.6	5.8	3.3
Lillylands Reservoir Inlet	APR-JUL	1.3	1.9	2.3	78	2.8	3.7	2.9
Rio Blanco at Blanco Diversion (2)	APR-JUL	35	44	50	94	57	69	53
Navajo R at Oso Diversion (2)	APR-JUL	41	54	64	93	75	94	69
San Juan R nr Carracas (2)	APR-JUL	225	305	370	91	445	570	405
Piedra R nr Arboles	APR-JUL	111	160	200	87	245	325	230
Vallecito Reservoir Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	132	165	190	93	215	260	205
Navajo Reservoir Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	390	580	700	89	835	990	785
Animas R at Durango	APR-JUL	310	385	440	100	500	595	440
Lemon Reservoir Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	36	47	55	95	64	77	58
La Plata R at Hesperus	APR-JUL	14.9	20	24	96	29	36	25
Mancos R nr Mancos (2)	APR-JUL	11.4	24	32	97	40	53	33

SAN MIGUEL, DOLORES, ANIMAS, AND SAN JUAN RIVER BASINS
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of January

SAN MIGUEL, DOLORES, ANIMAS, AND SAN JUAN RIVER BASINS
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - February 1, 2011

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
GROUNDHOG	22.0	13.2	14.2	12.0	ANIMAS RIVER BASIN	9	108	111
JACKSON GULCH	10.0	5.2	3.5	4.6	DOLORES RIVER BASIN	7	84	101
LEMON	40.0	14.5	9.6	20.2	SAN MIGUEL RIVER BASIN	5	100	99
MCPHEE	381.0	272.9	253.8	274.4	SAN JUAN RIVER BASIN	4	97	107
NARRAGUINNEP	19.0	16.6	10.7	12.7	TOTAL SAN MIGUEL, DOLORES	24	98	106
VALLECITO	126.0	69.9	47.2	59.4	AN JUAN RIVER BASINS			

* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

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- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
- (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.
- (3) - Median value used in place of average.



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In addition to the basin outlook reports, water supply forecast information for the Western United States is available from the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the National Weather Service monthly, January through May. The information may be obtained from the Natural Resources Conservation Service web page at <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/wsf/westwide.html>

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Basin Outlook Report
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