

NRCS Snow Survey & Water Supply Forecasting



Water Availability Task Force Meeting

September 18th, 2013

Mage Hultstrand

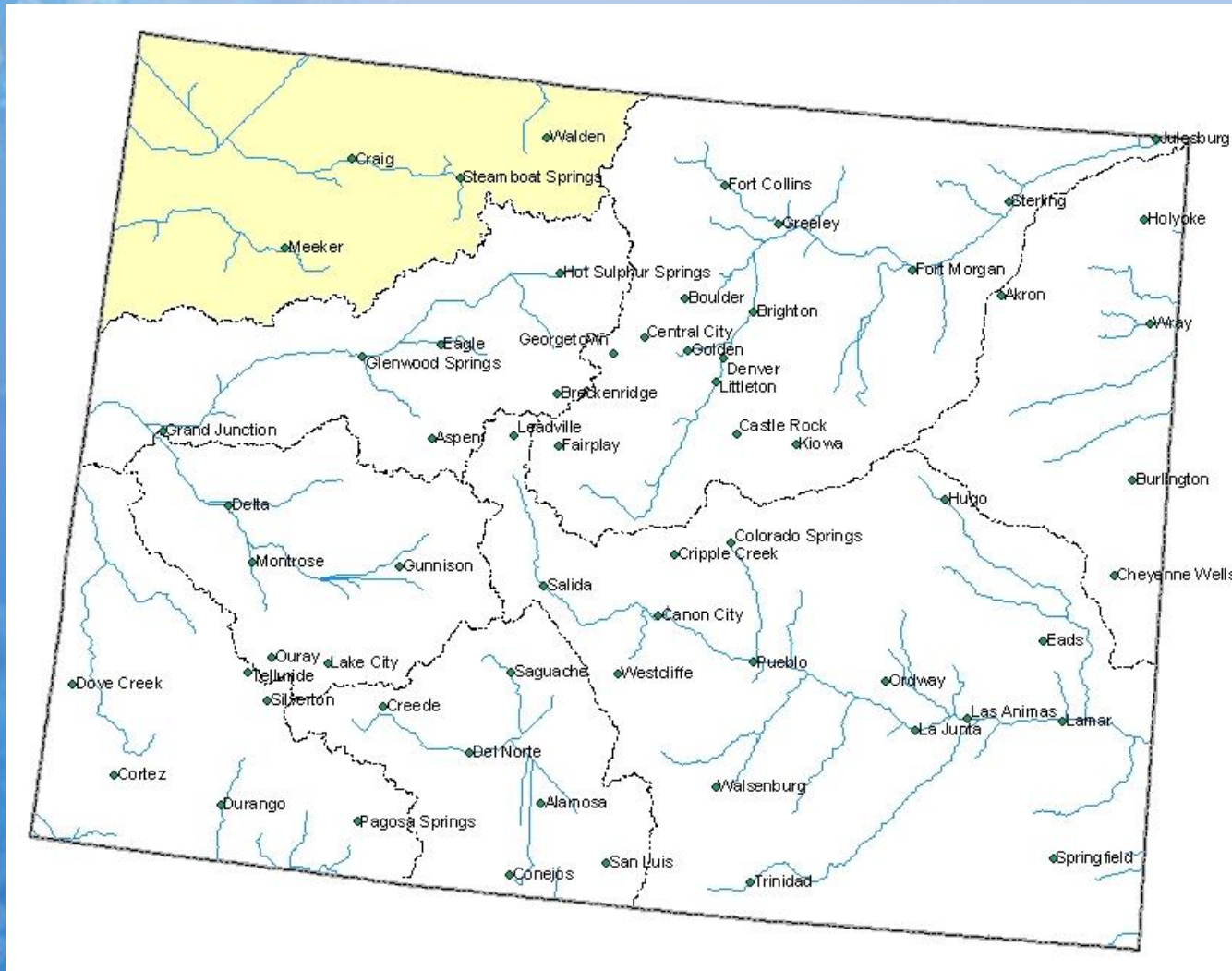
Assistant Snow Survey Supervisor

720-544-2855

mage.hultstrand@co.usda.gov

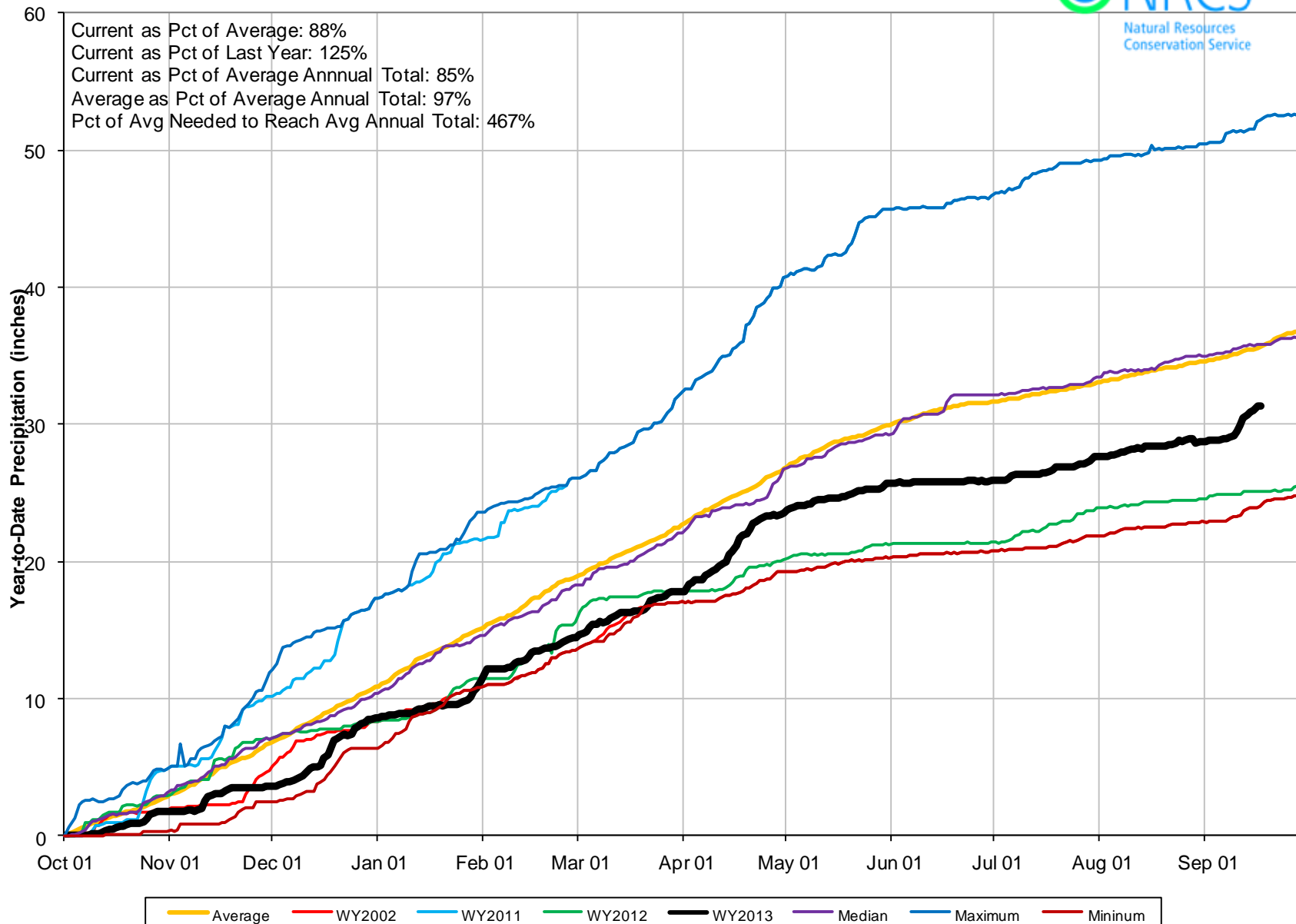
<http://www.co.nrcs.usda.gov/snow/>

Yampa, White & North Platte River Basins Summary



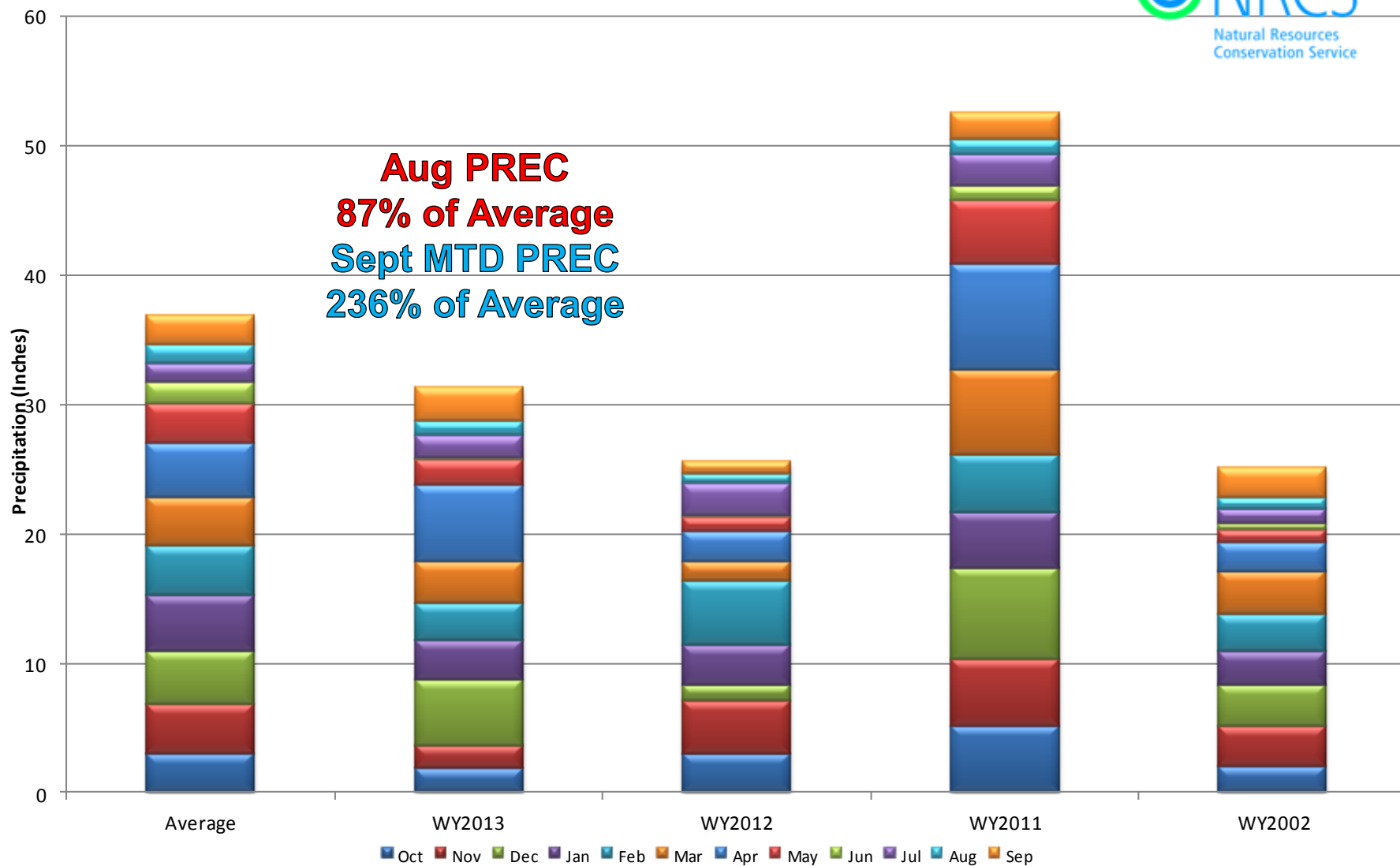
Yampa and White River Basins High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 17, 2013



Yampa and White River Basins High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

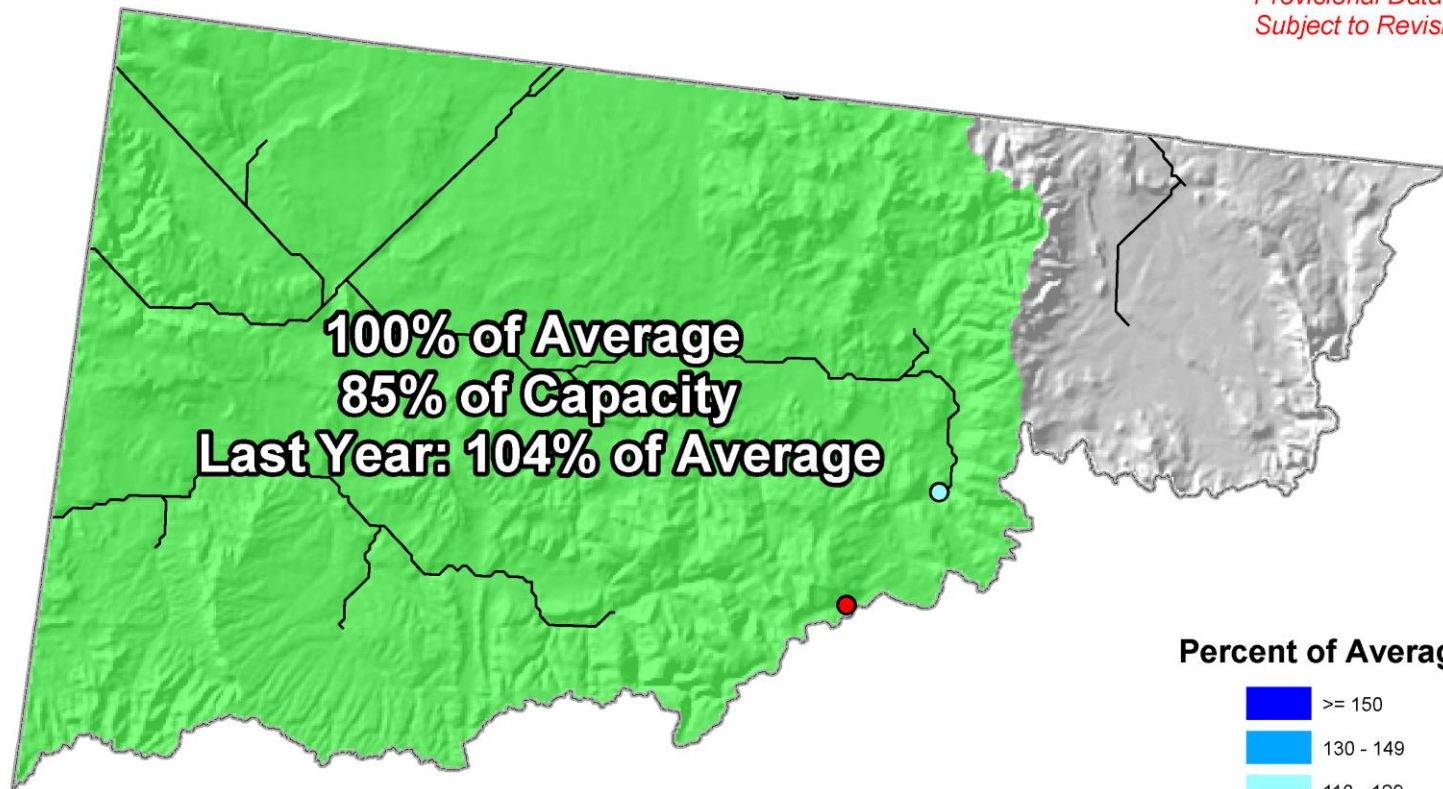
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 17, 2013



Yampa & White River Basins Reservoir Storage Map



*Provisional Data
Subject to Revision*

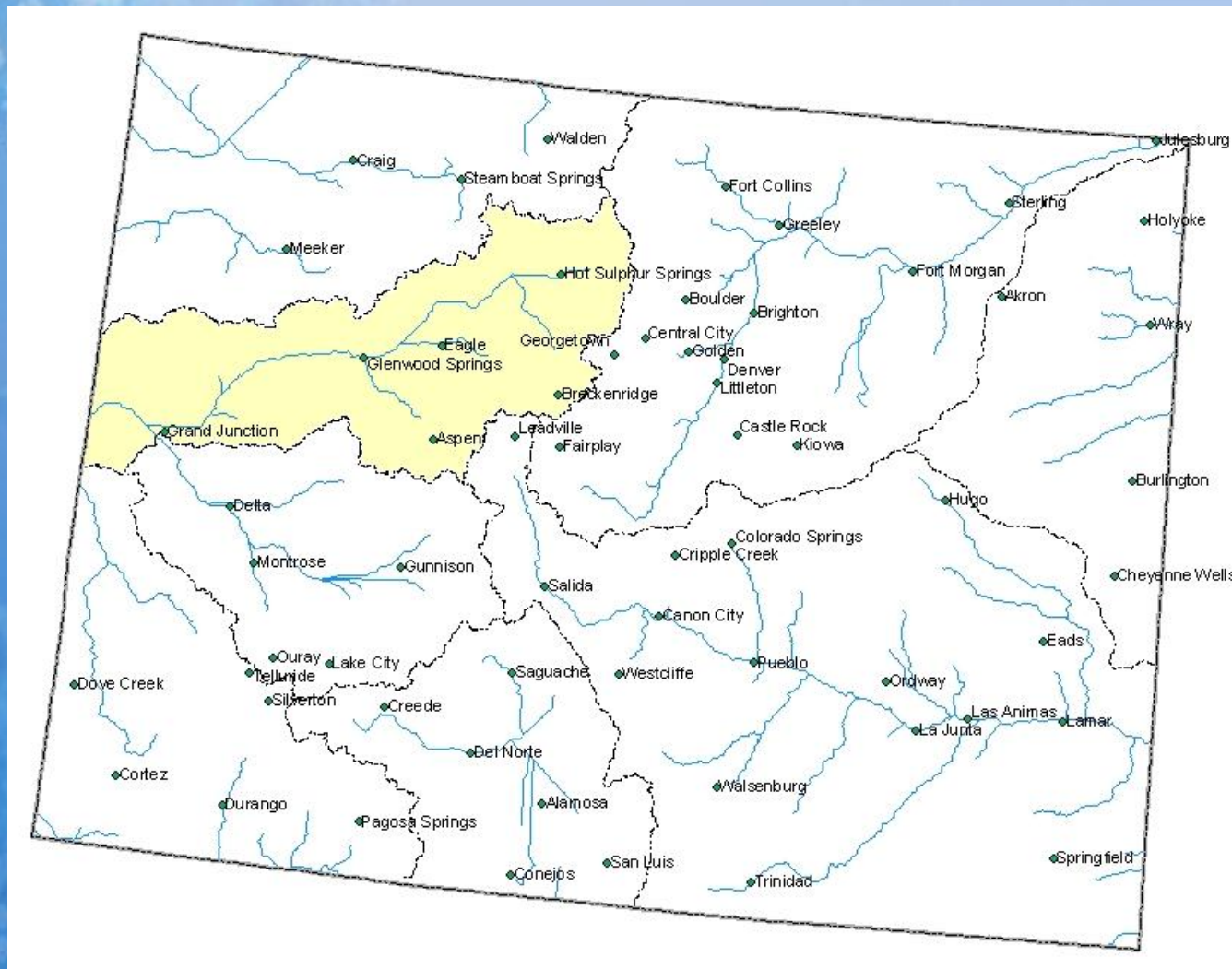


Percent of Average



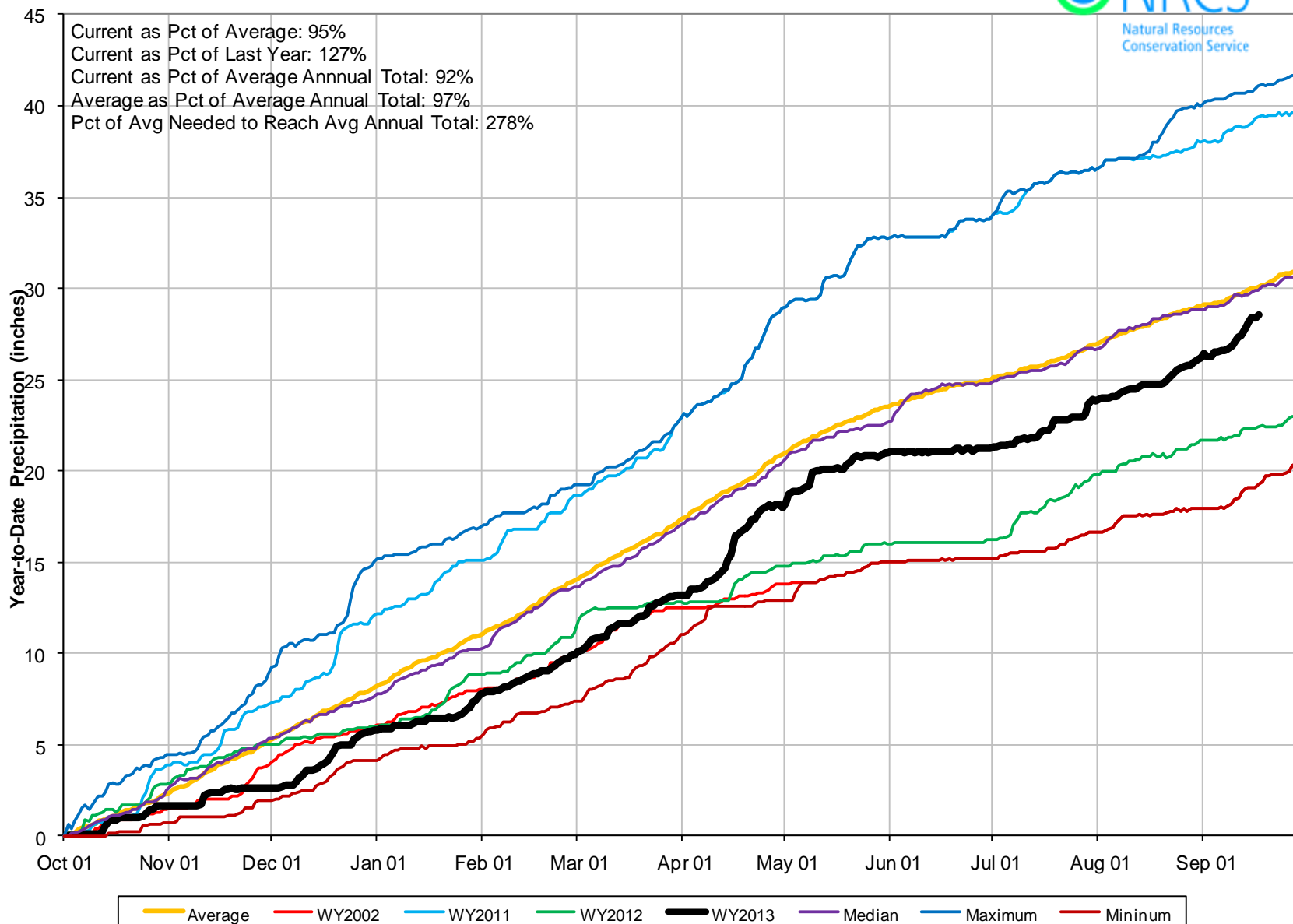
End of August 2013

Colorado River Basin Summary

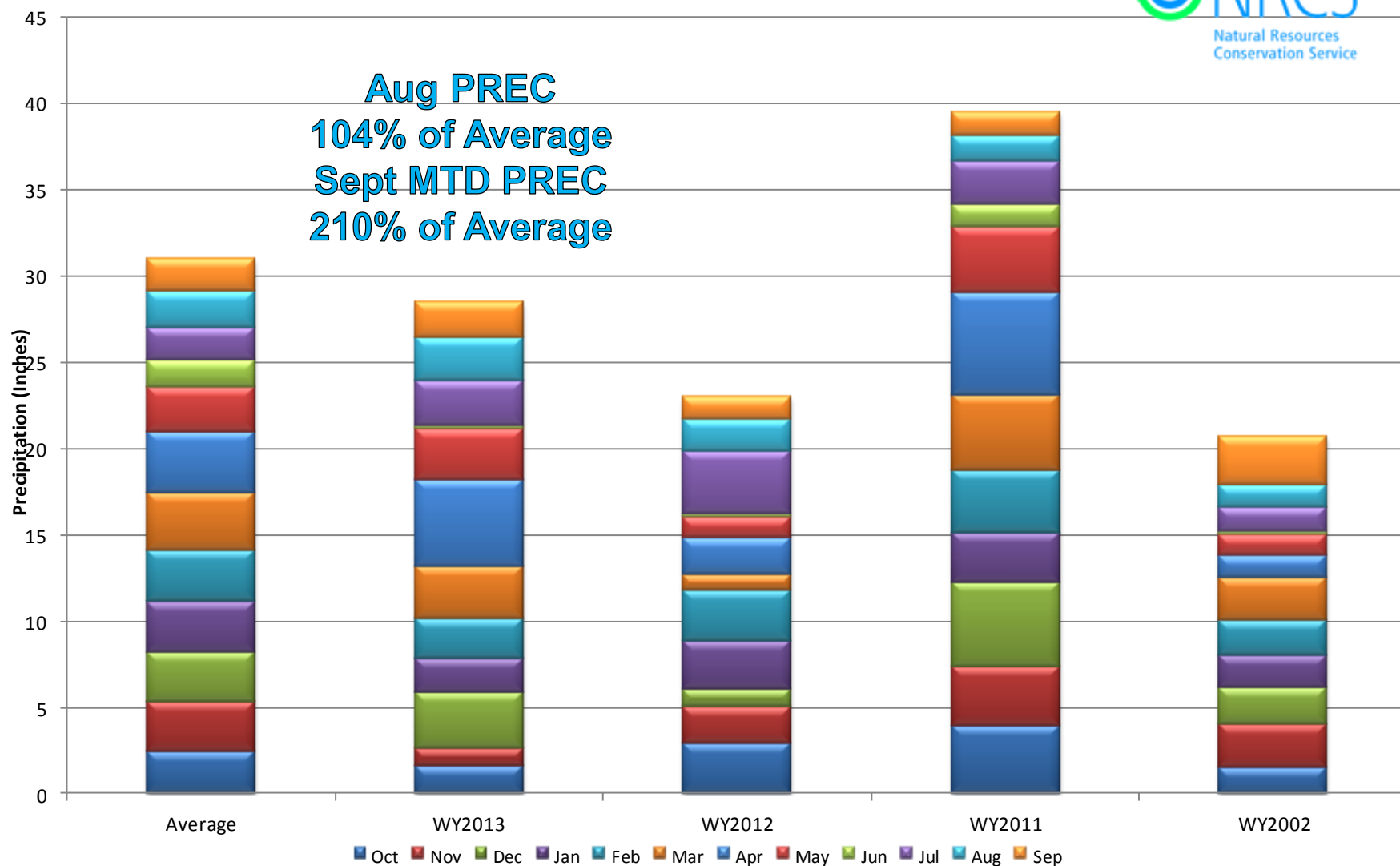


Upper Colorado River Basin High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 17, 2013



Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 17, 2013



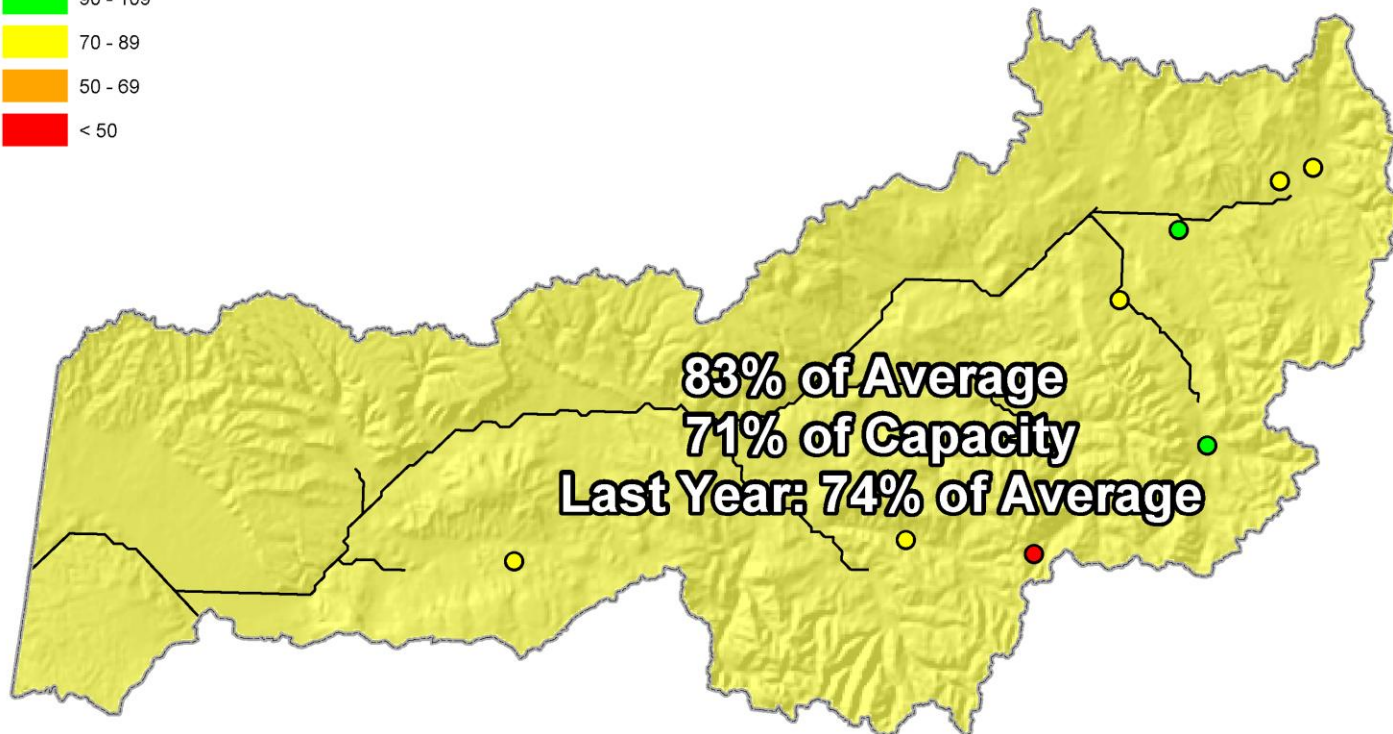
Colorado River Basin Reservoir Storage Map



Percent of Average

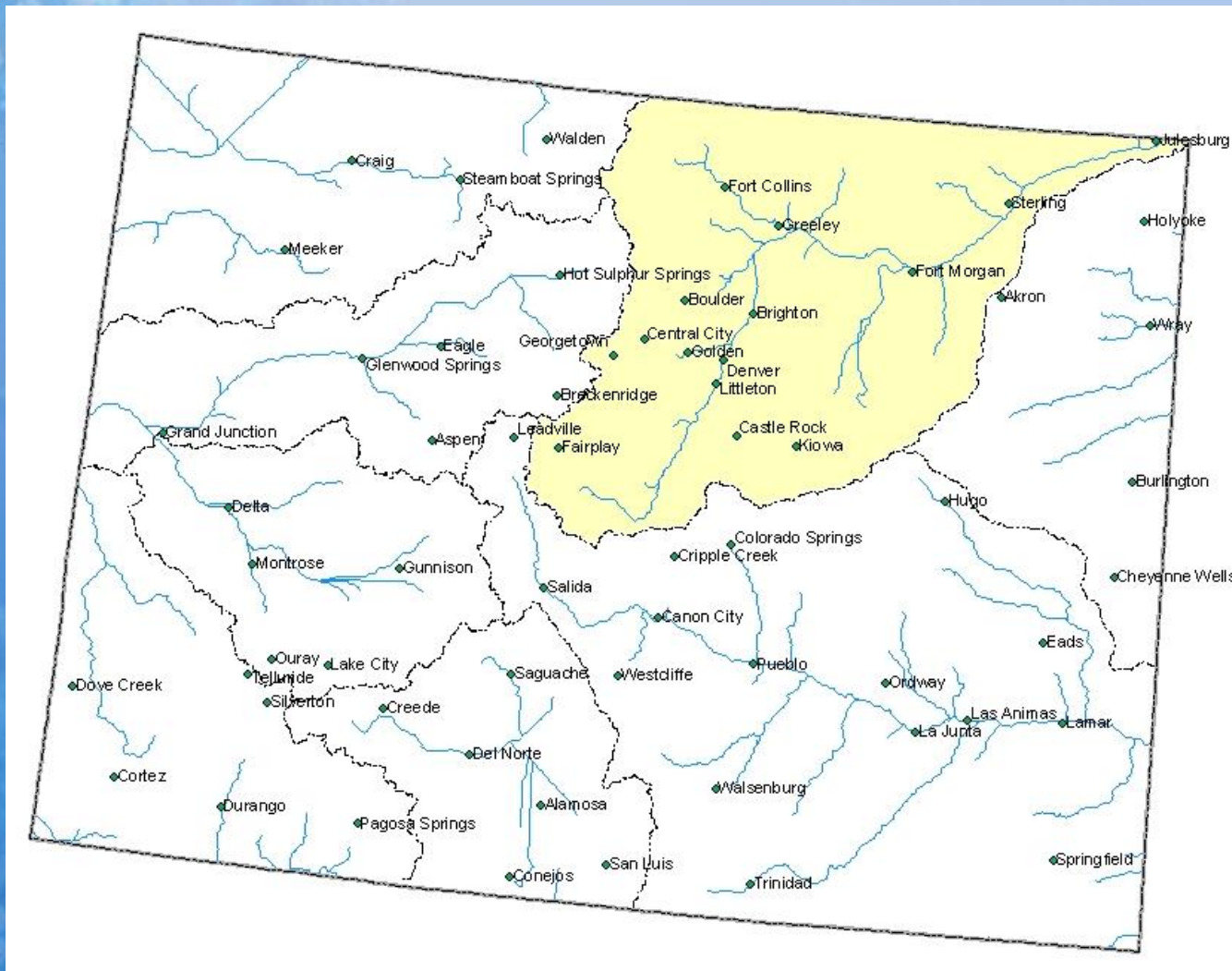


*Provisional Data
Subject to Revision*



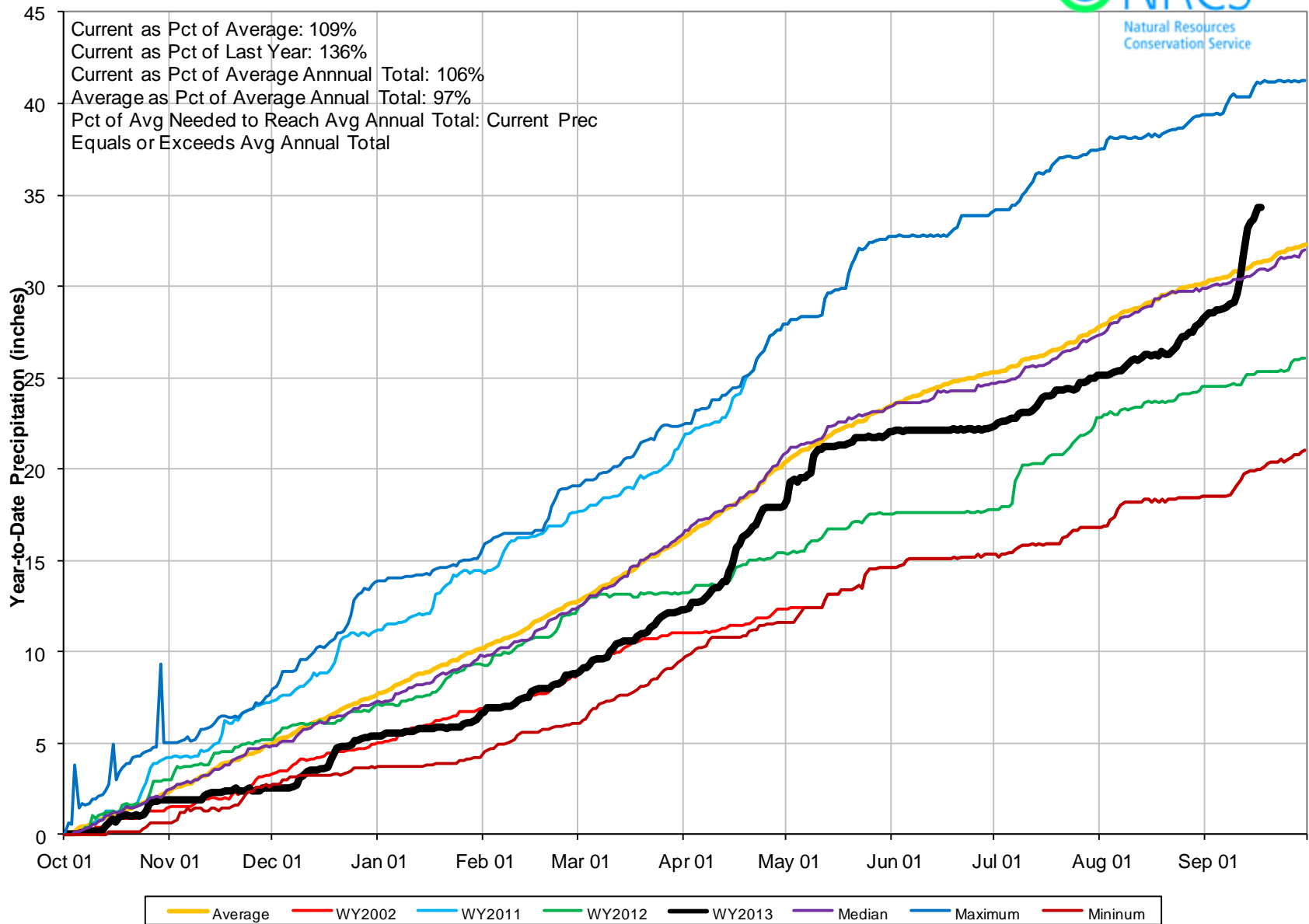
End of August 2013

South Platte River Basin Summary

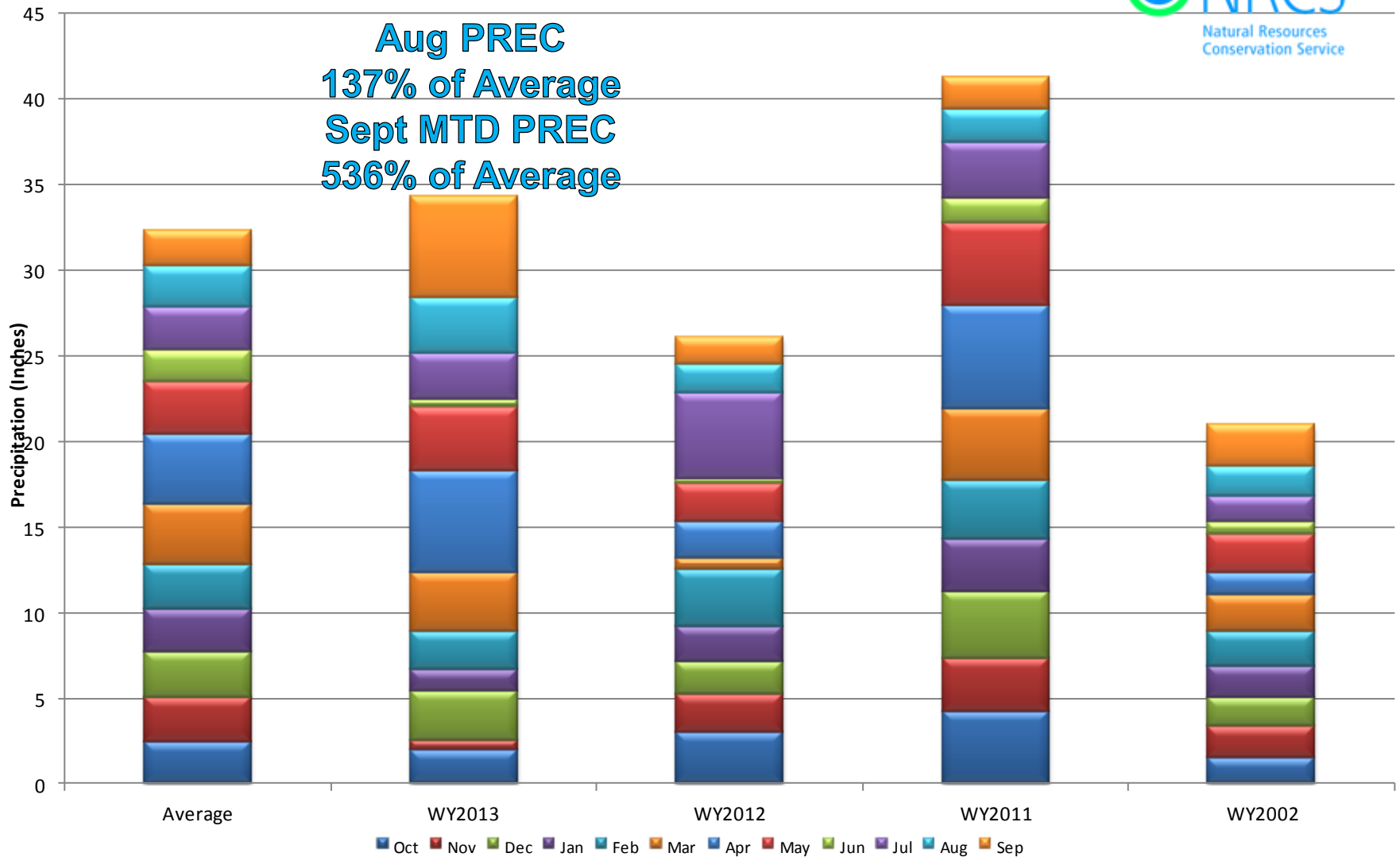


South Platte River Basin High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 17, 2013



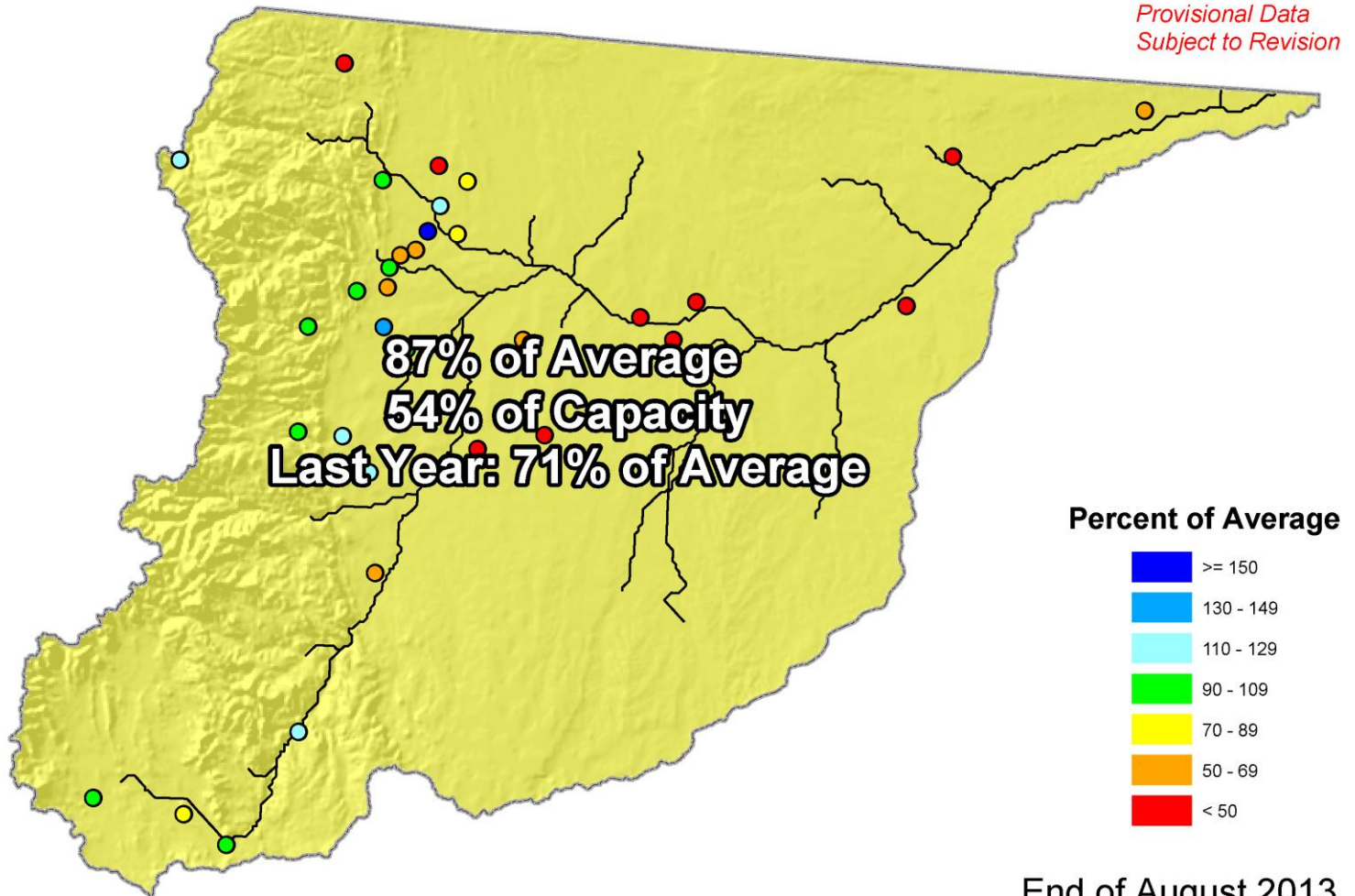
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 17, 2013



South Platte River Basin Reservoir Storage Map

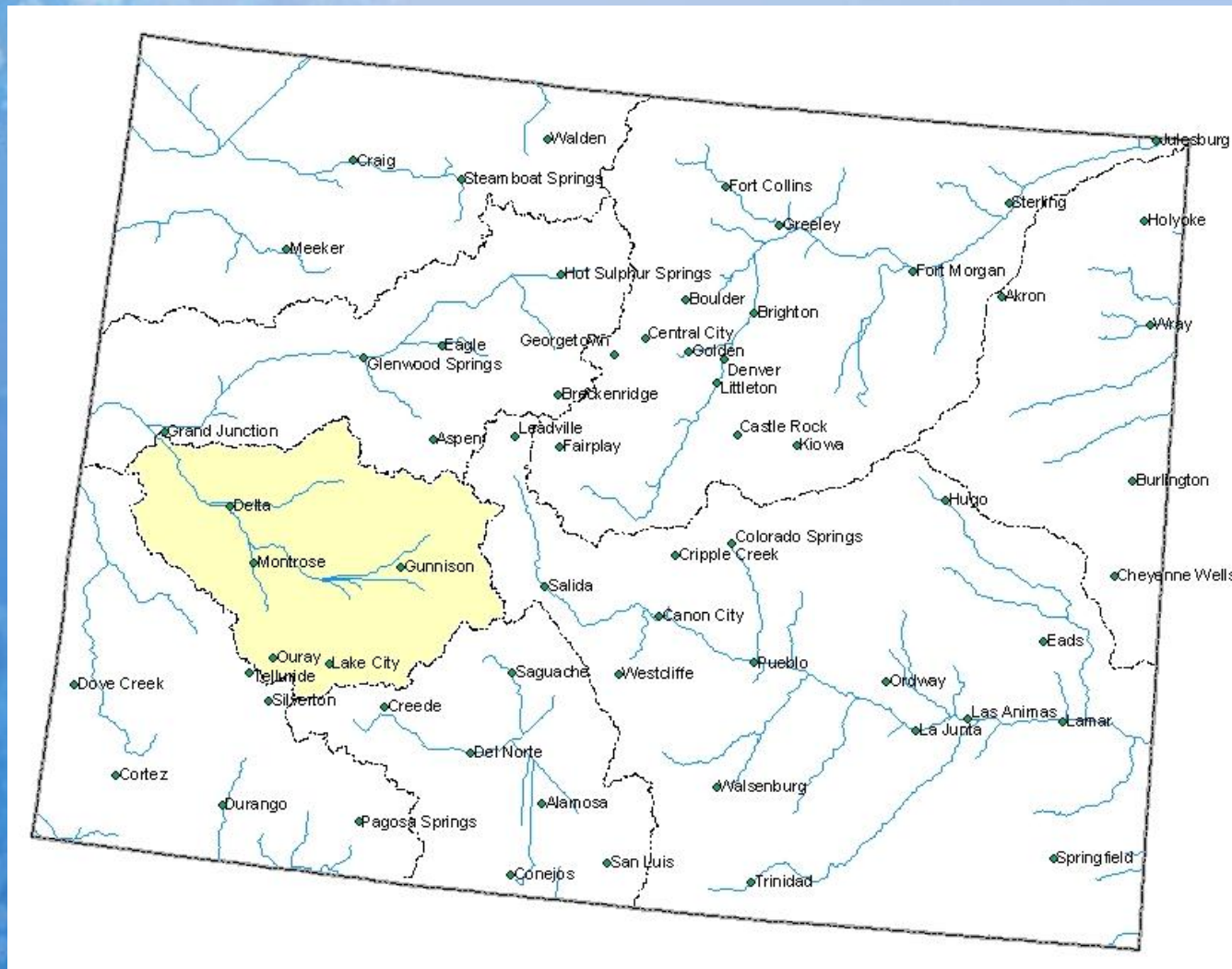


*Provisional Data
Subject to Revision*



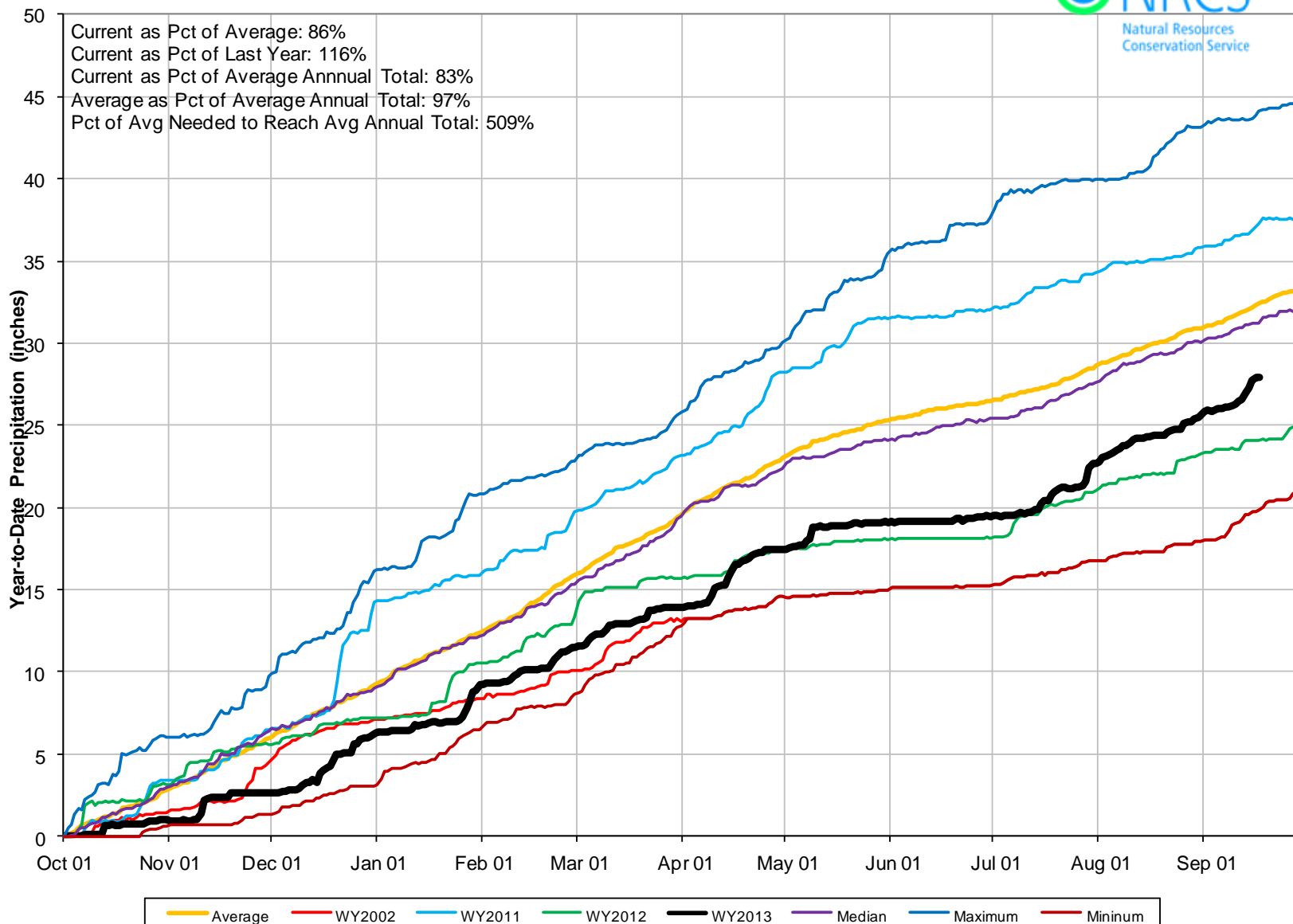
End of August 2013

Gunnison River Basin Summary



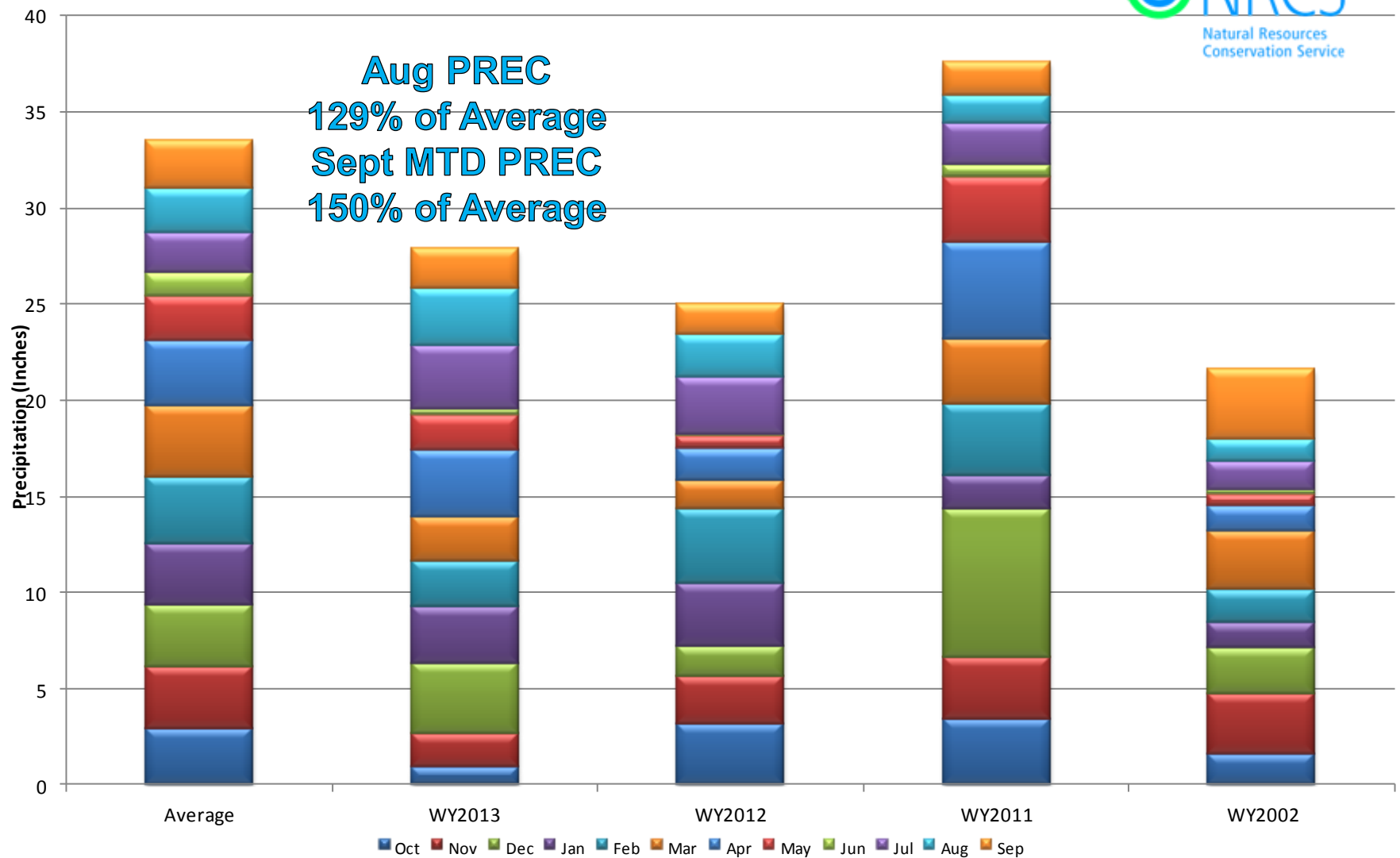
Gunnison River Basin High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 17, 2013



Gunnison River Basin High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

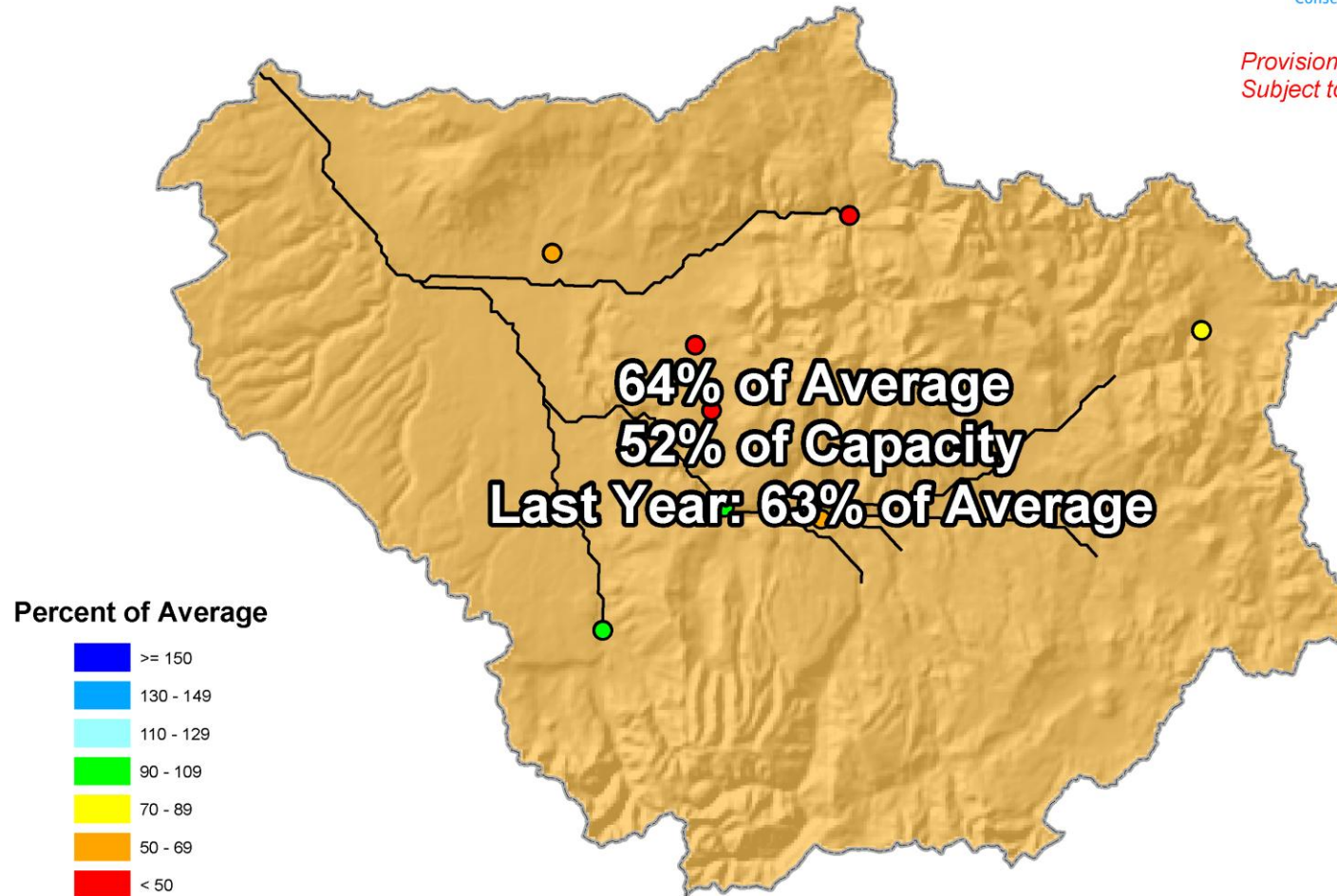
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 17, 2013



Gunnison River Basin Reservoir Storage Map

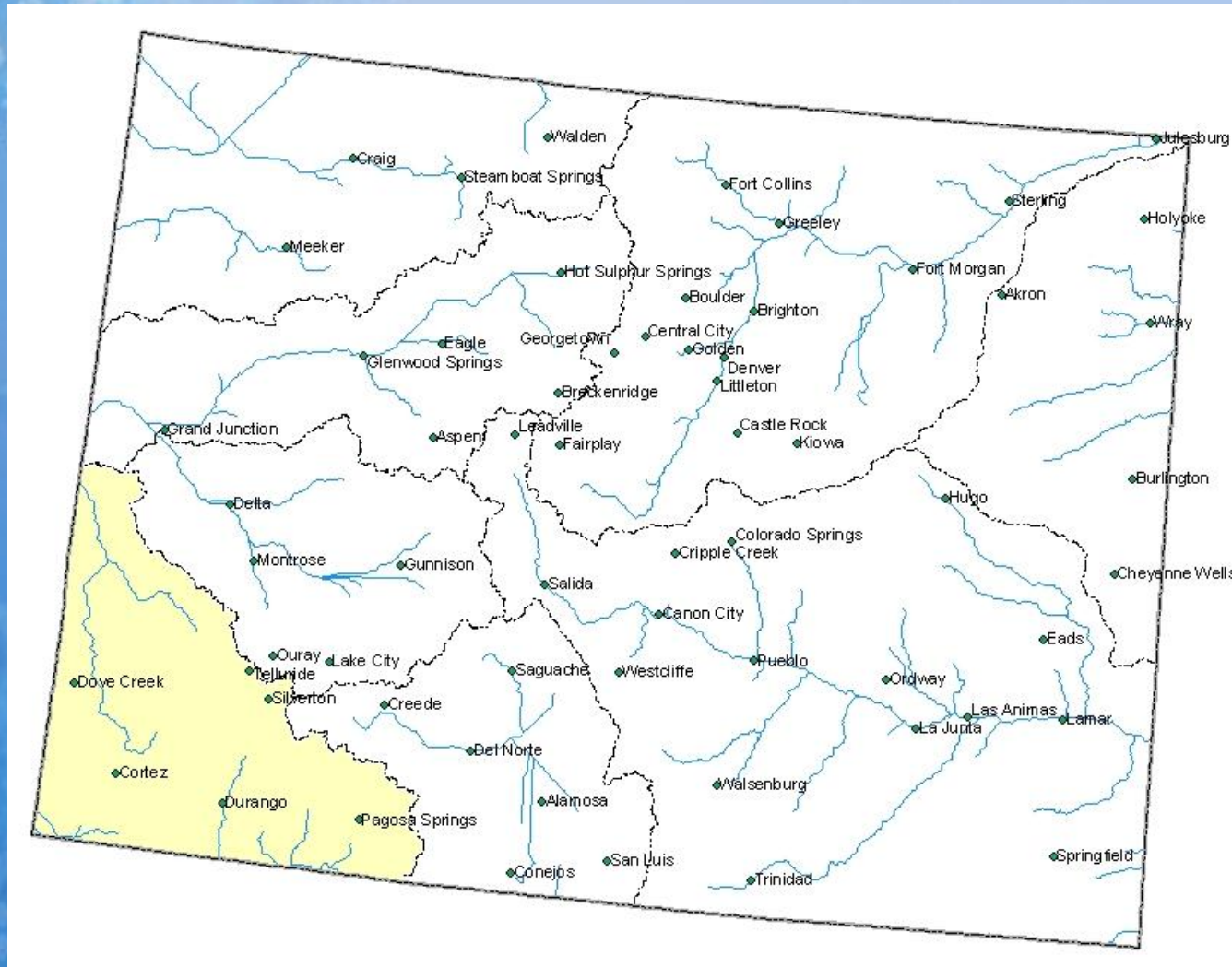


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Subject to Revision*



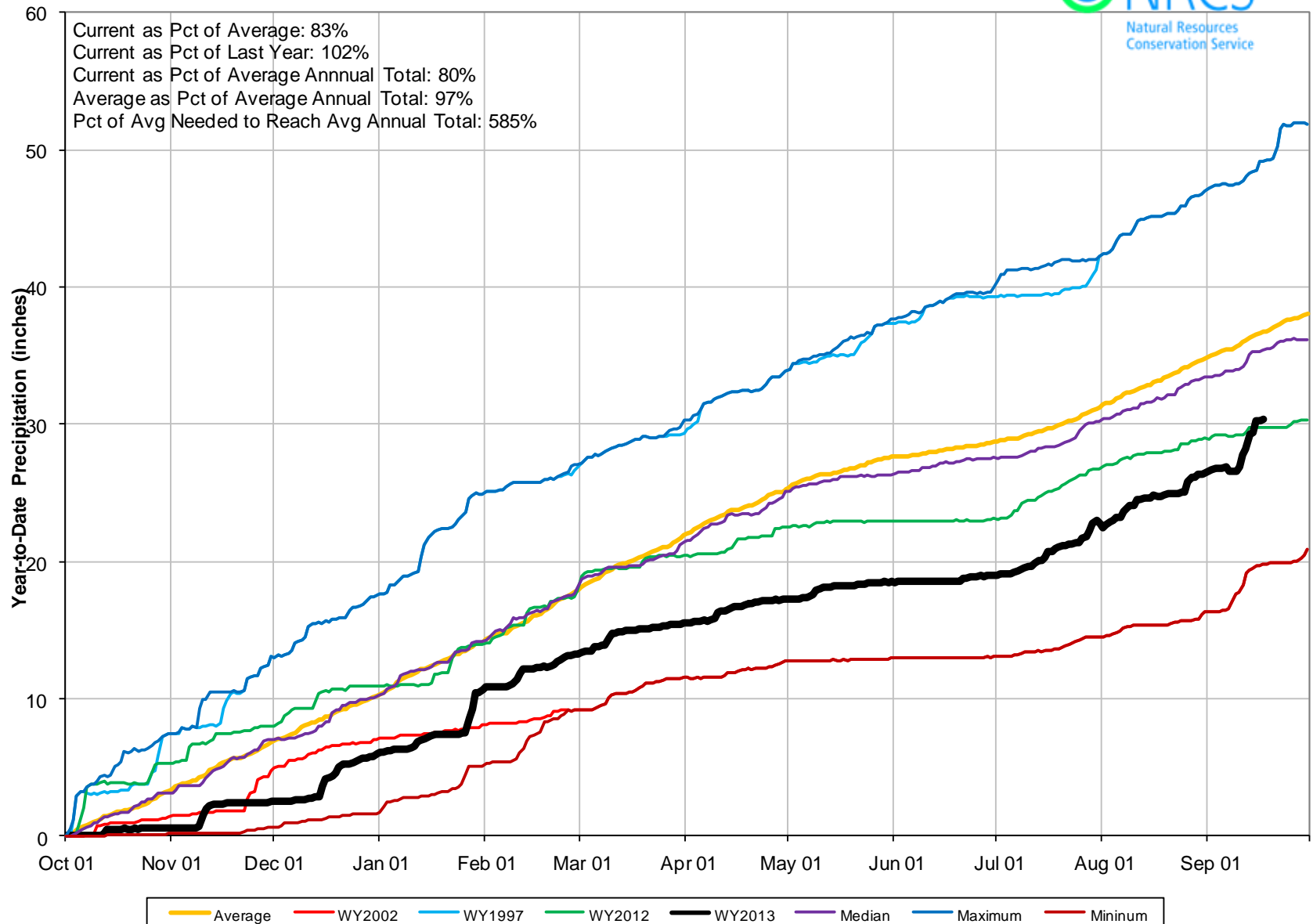
End of August 2013

San Miguel, Dolores, Animas & San Juan River Basins Summary

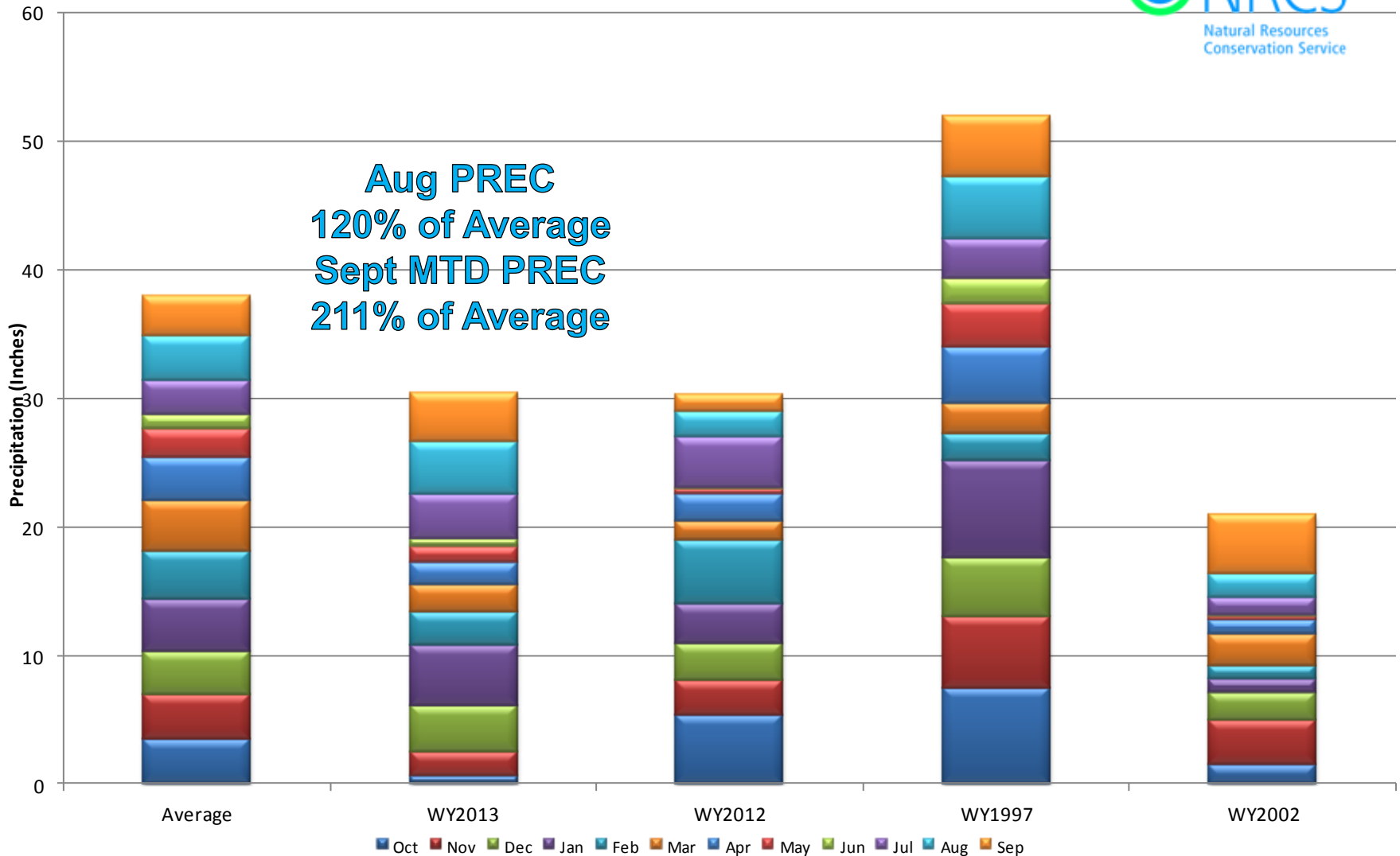


San Miguel, Dolores, Animas & San Juan River Basins High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 17, 2013



San Miguel, Dolores, Animas & San Juan River Basins High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary



San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan River Basins Reservoir Storage Map



Percent of Average

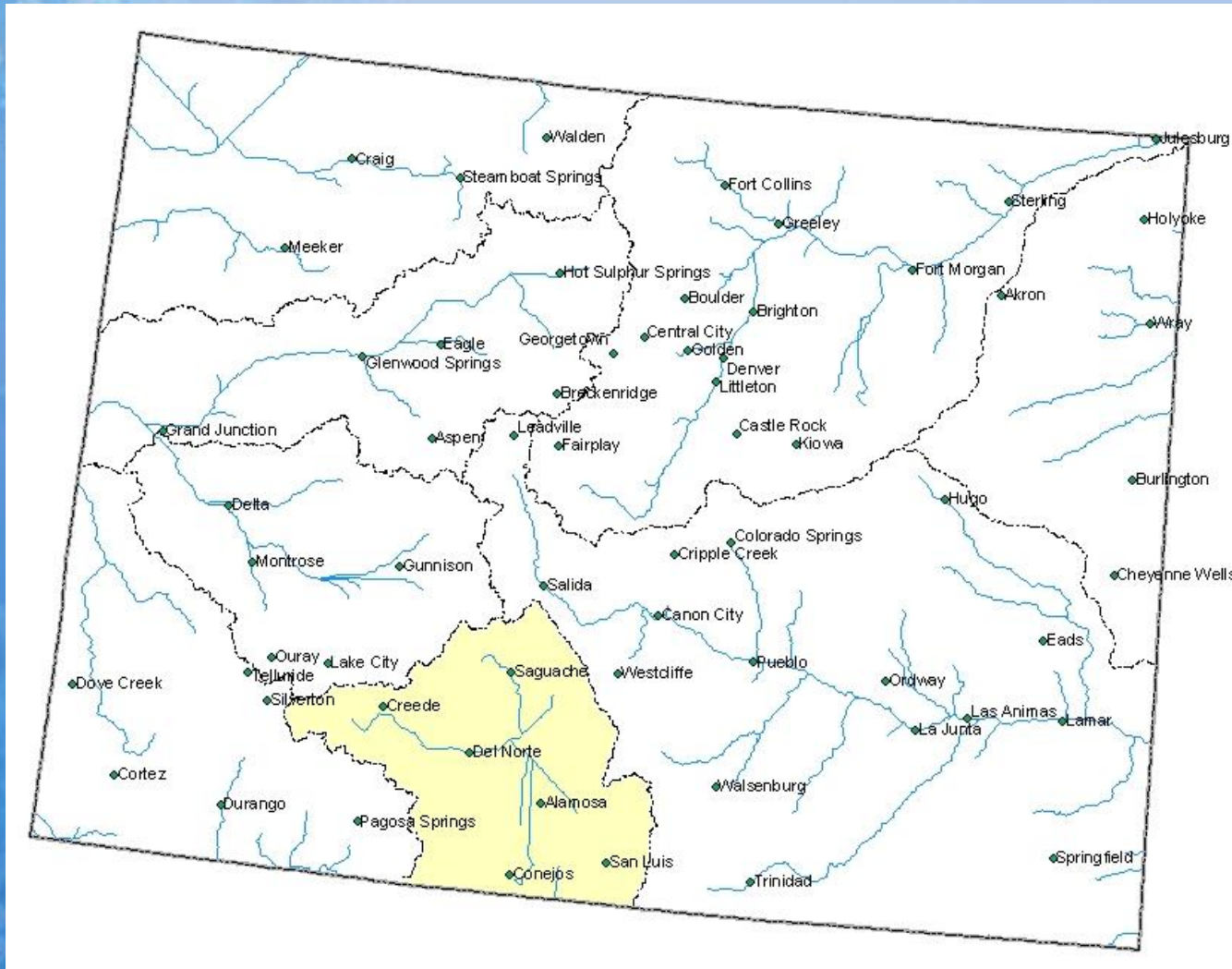


*Provisional Data
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**52% of Average
30% of Capacity
Last Year: 70% of Average**

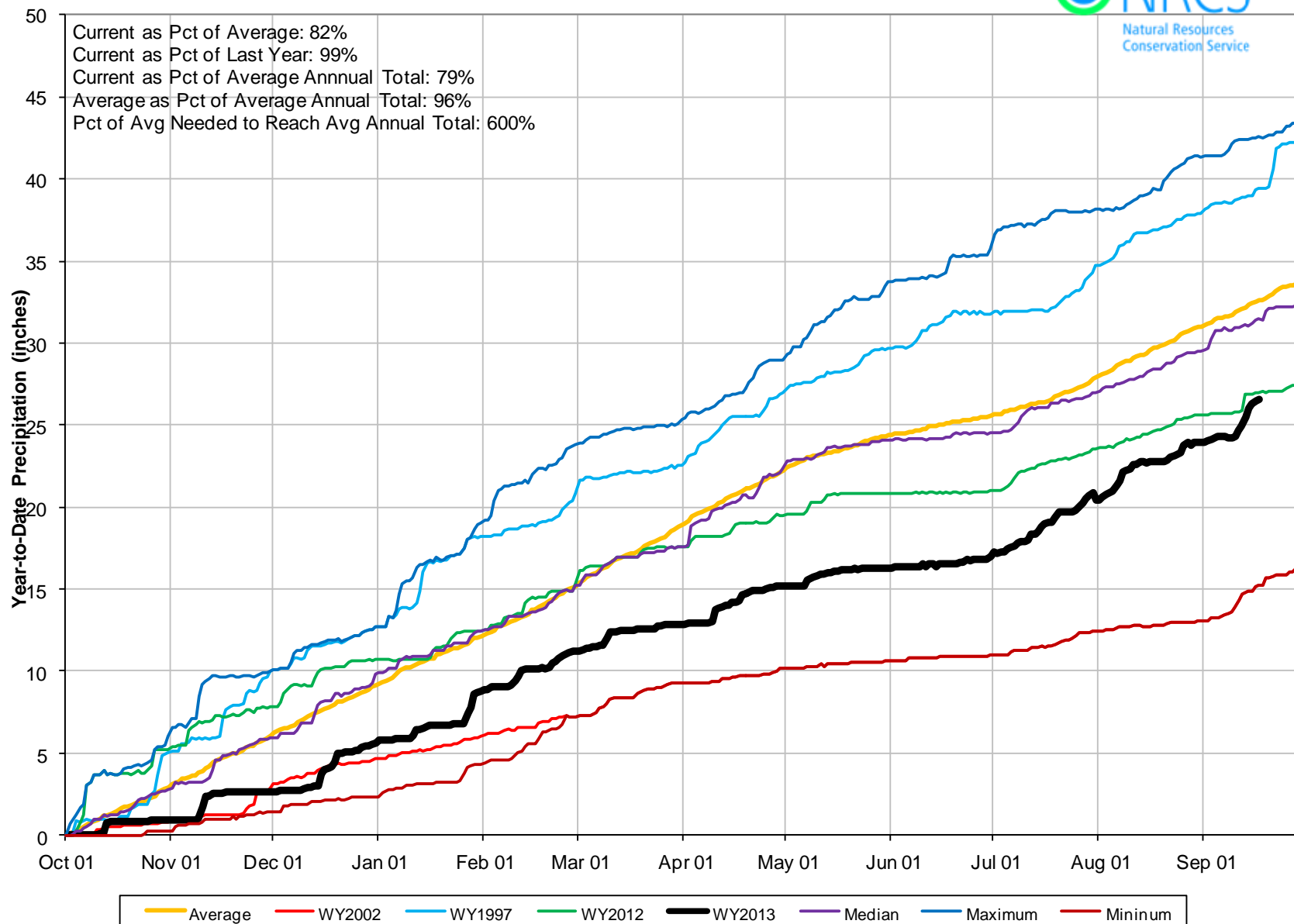
End of August 2013

Upper Rio Grande Basin Summary



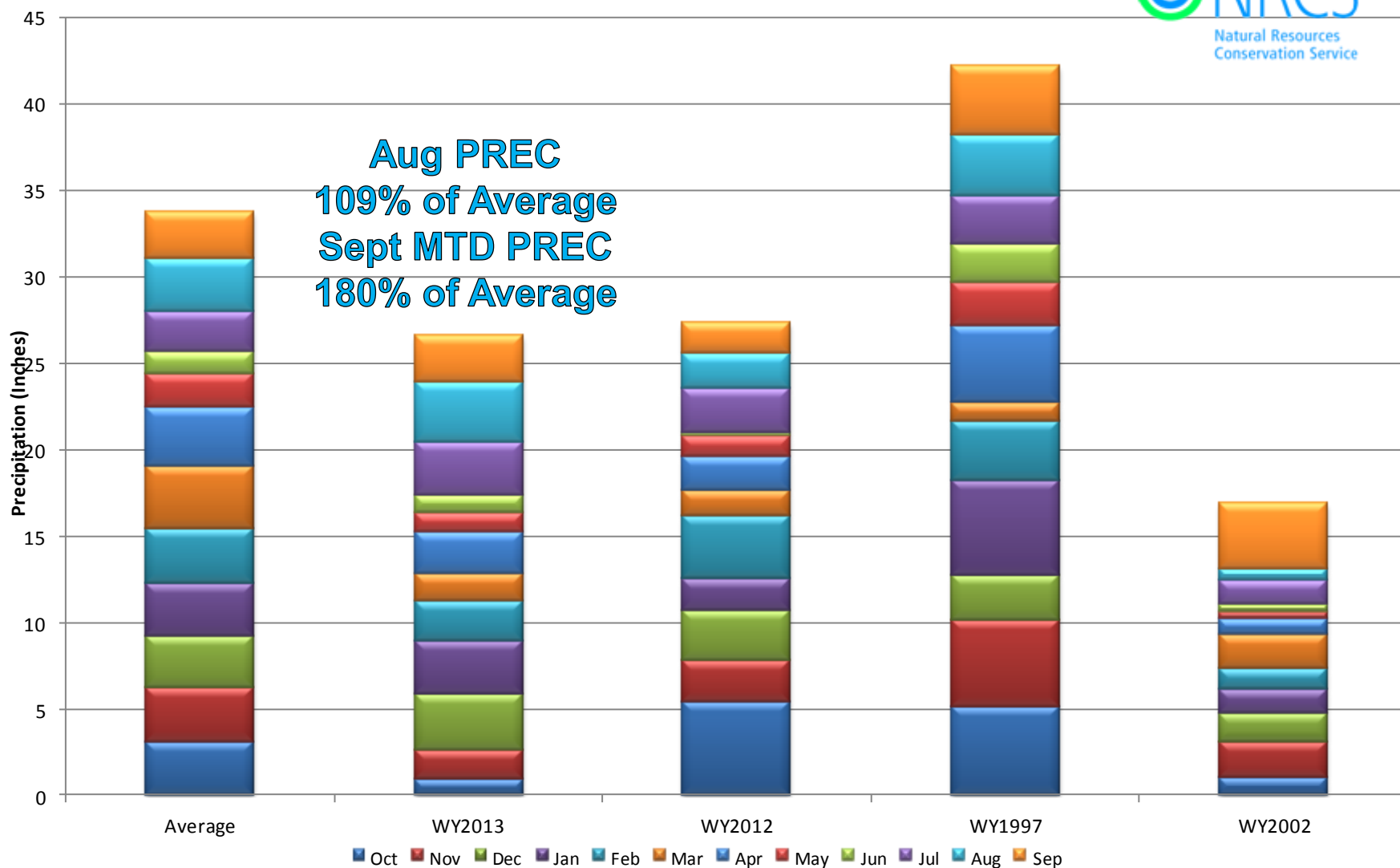
Upper Rio Grande Basin High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 17, 2013



Upper Rio Grande Basin High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

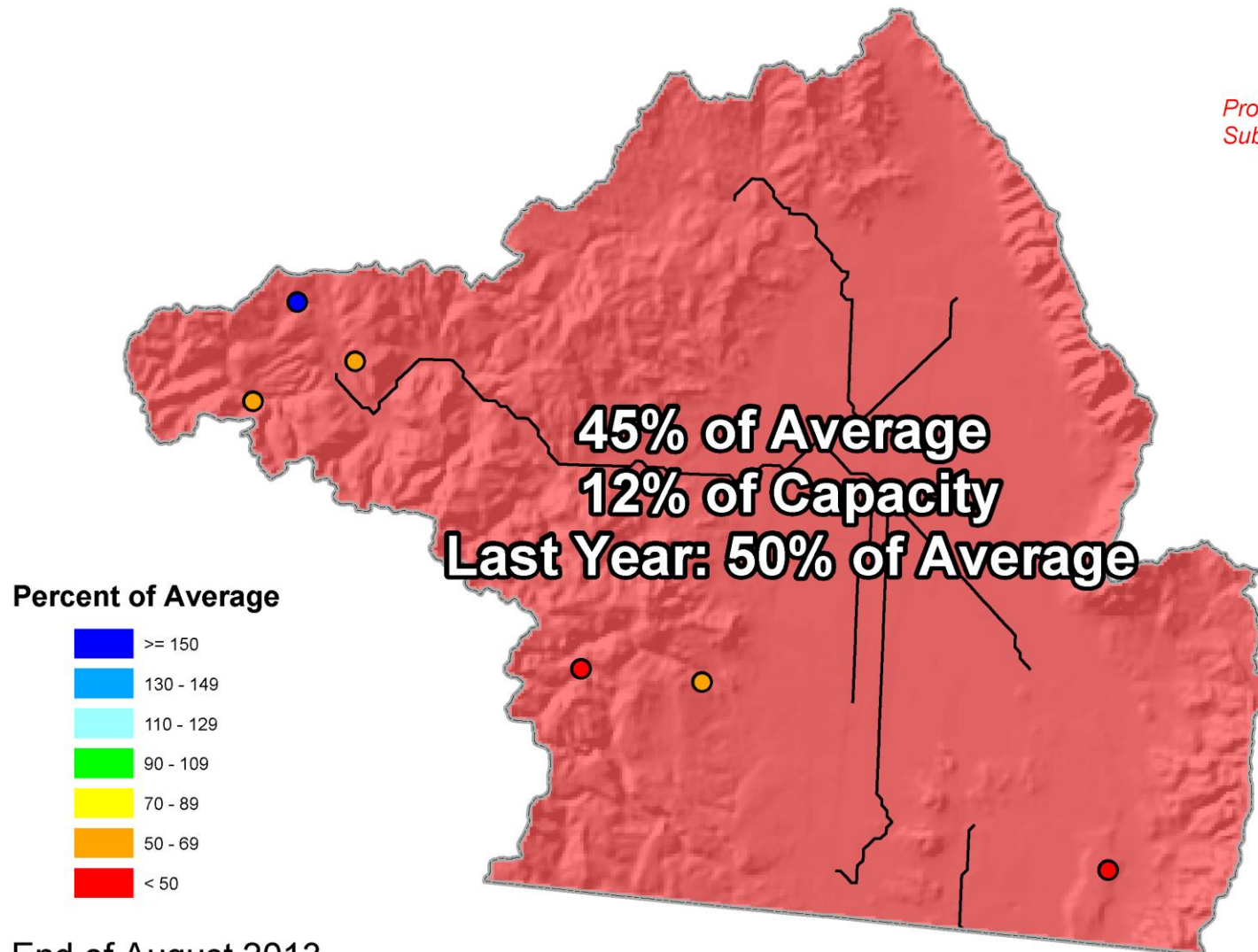
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 17, 2013



Upper Rio Grande Basin Reservoir Storage Map

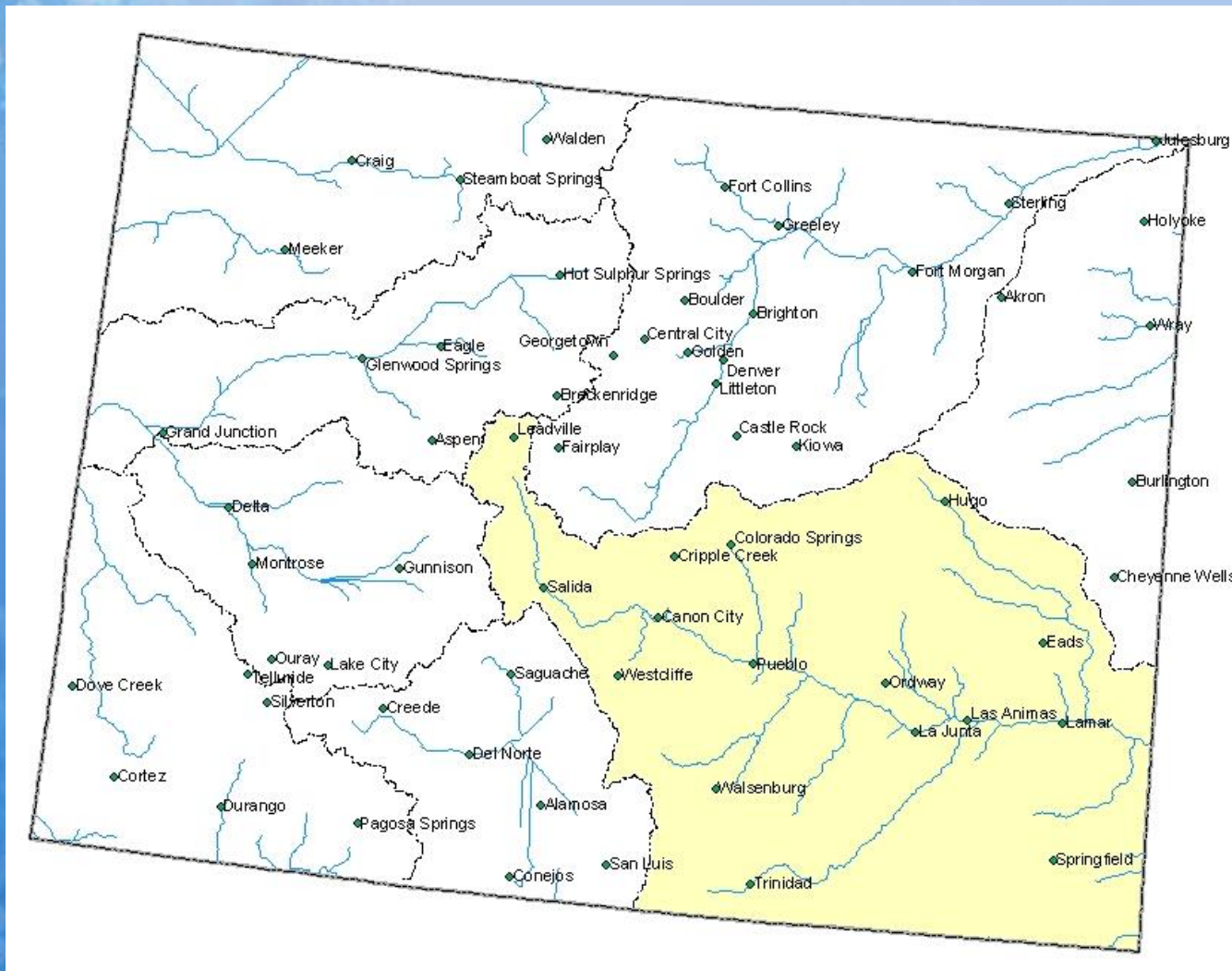


*Provisional Data
Subject to Revision*



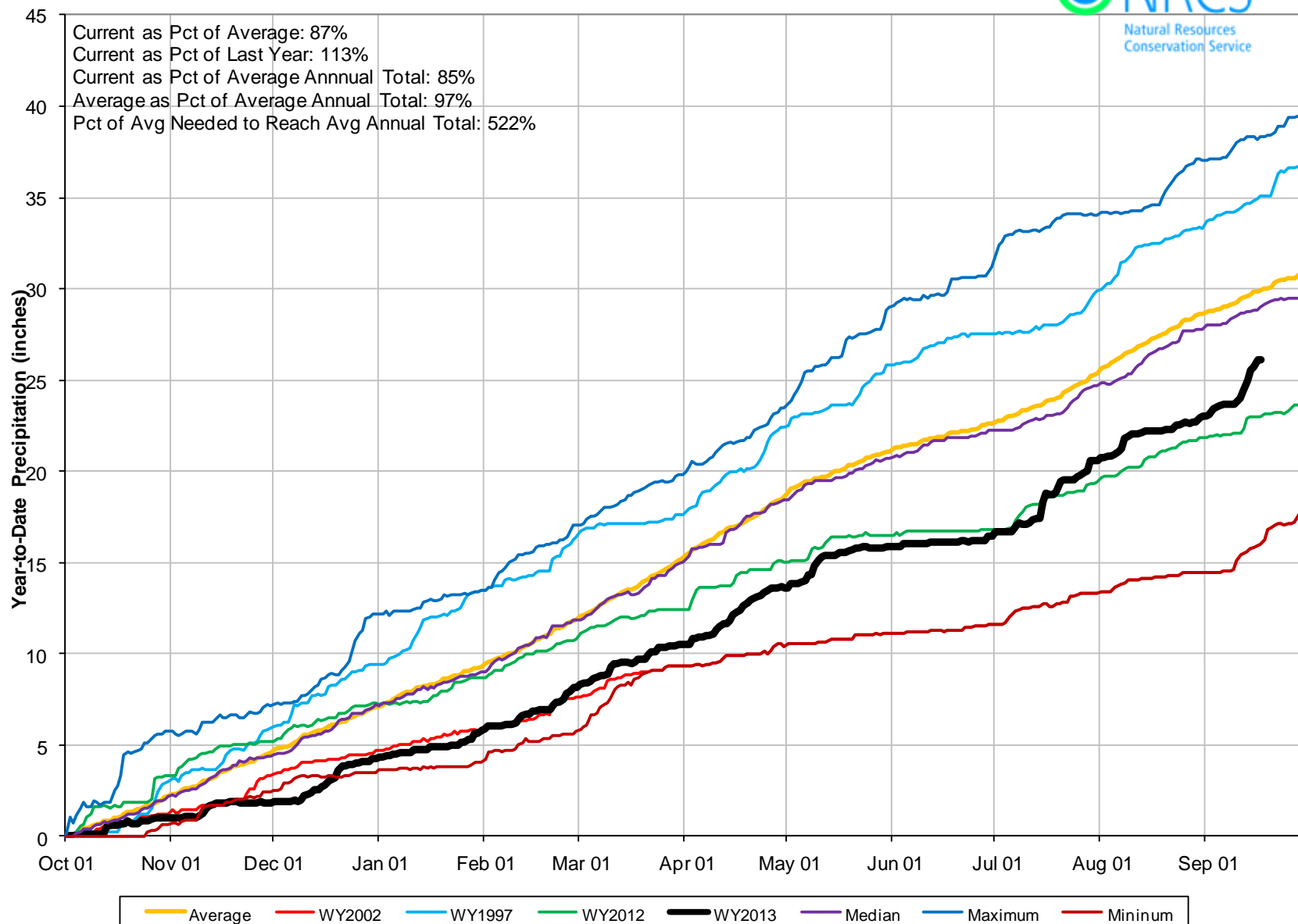
End of August 2013

Arkansas River Basin Summary



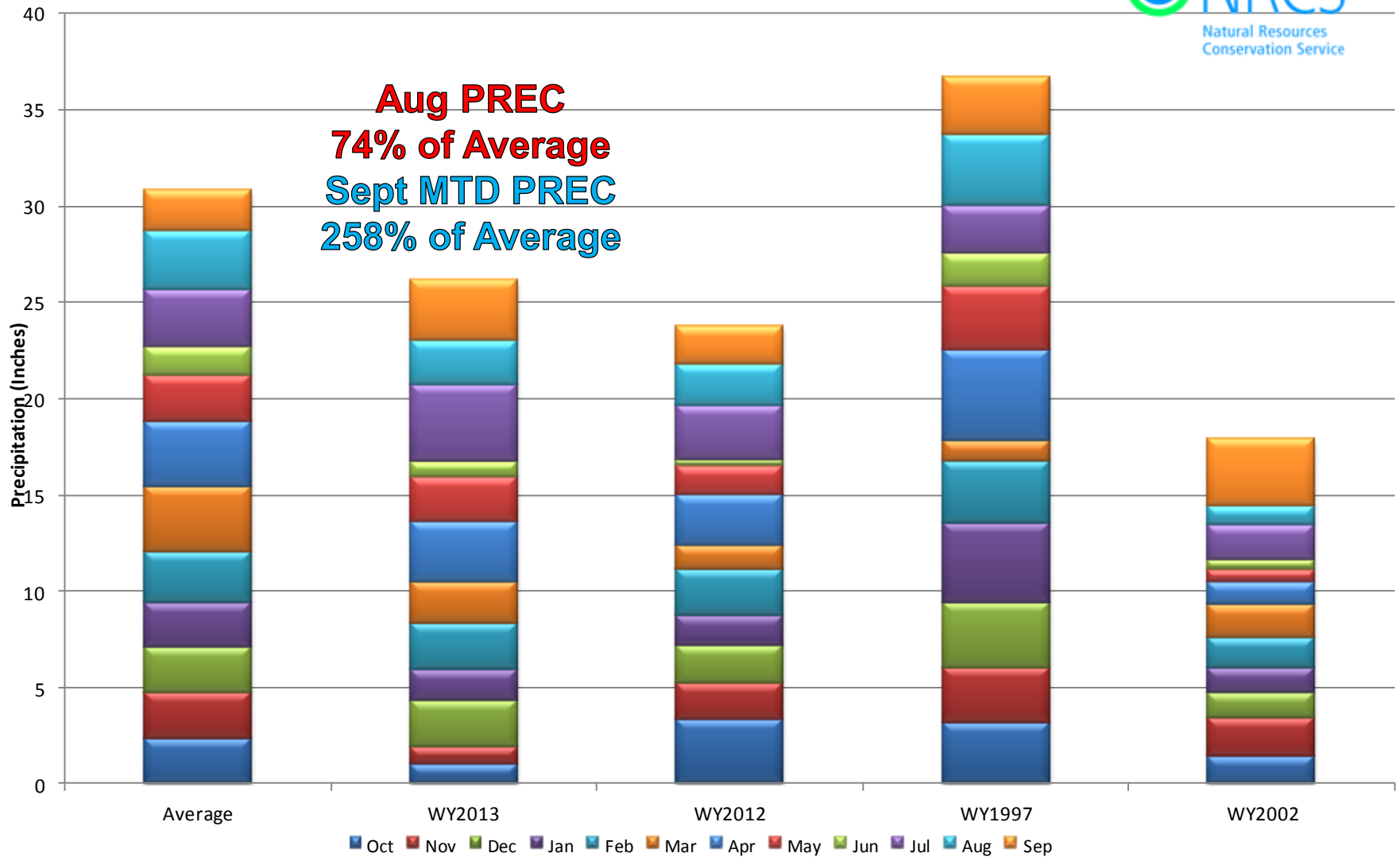
Arkansas River Basin High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 17, 2013



Arkansas River Basin High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

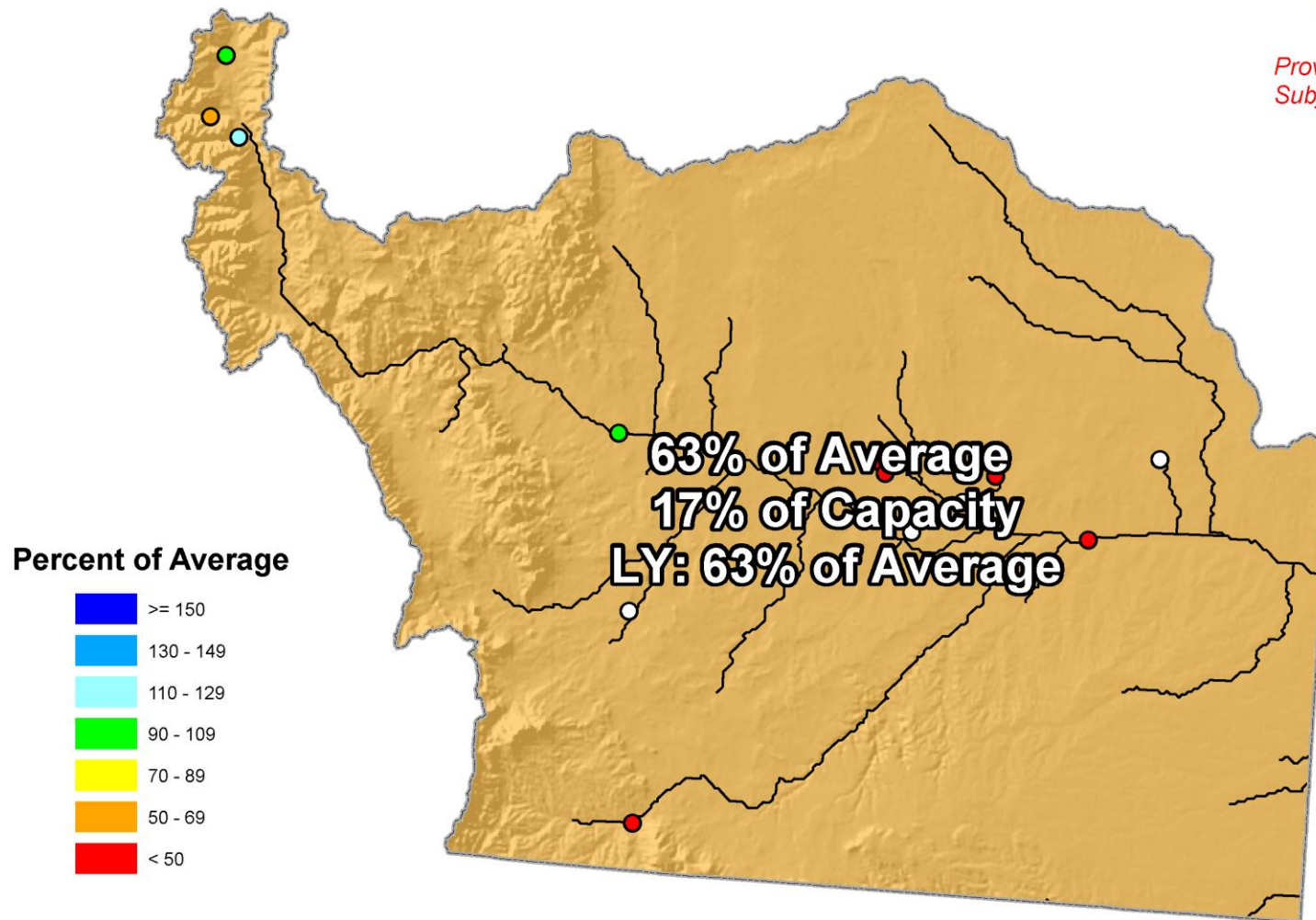
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 17, 2013



Arkansas River Basin Reservoir Storage Map

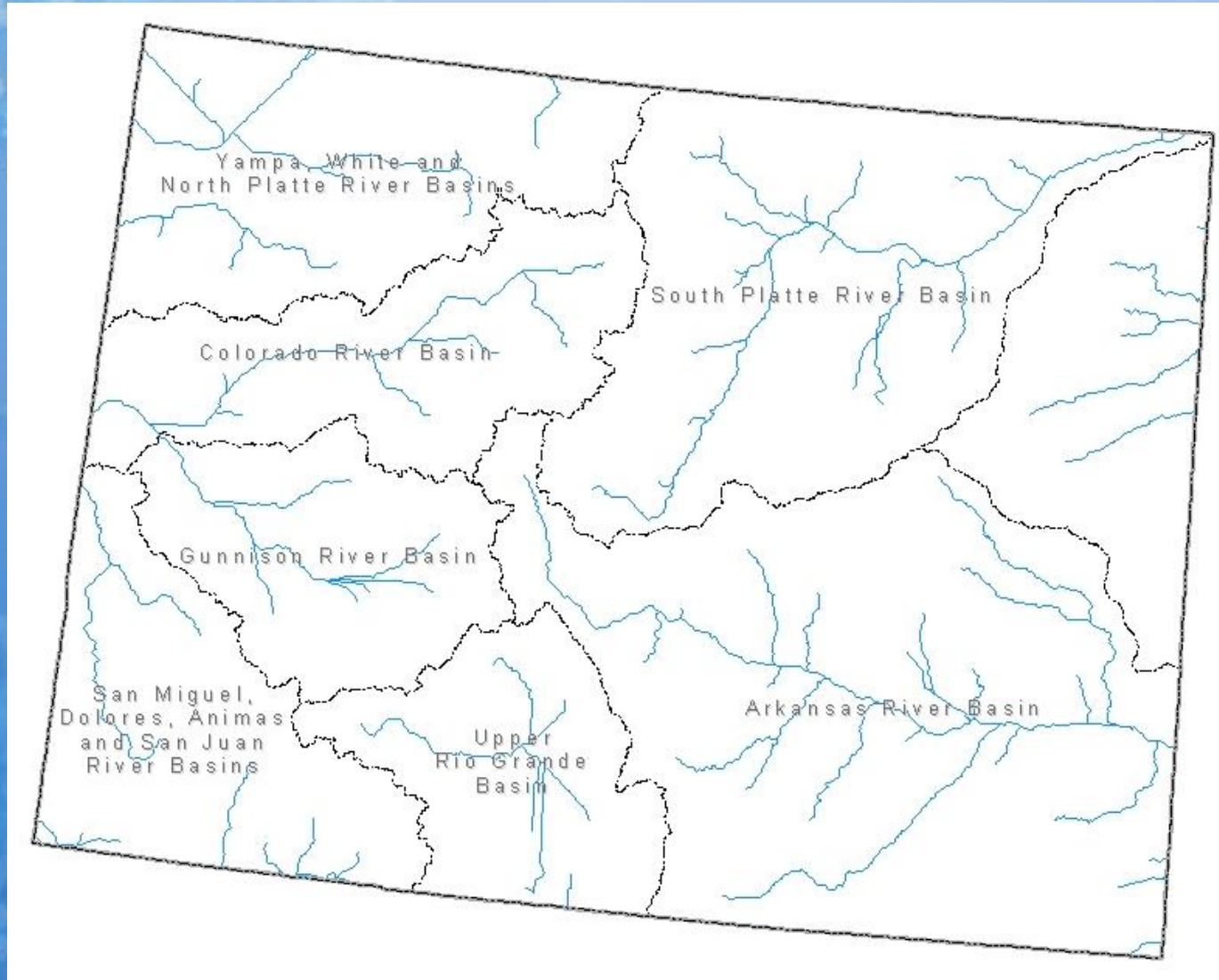


*Provisional Data
Subject to Revision*



End of August 2013

Colorado Statewide Summary



Colorado Monthly Precipitation Summary for WY2013

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

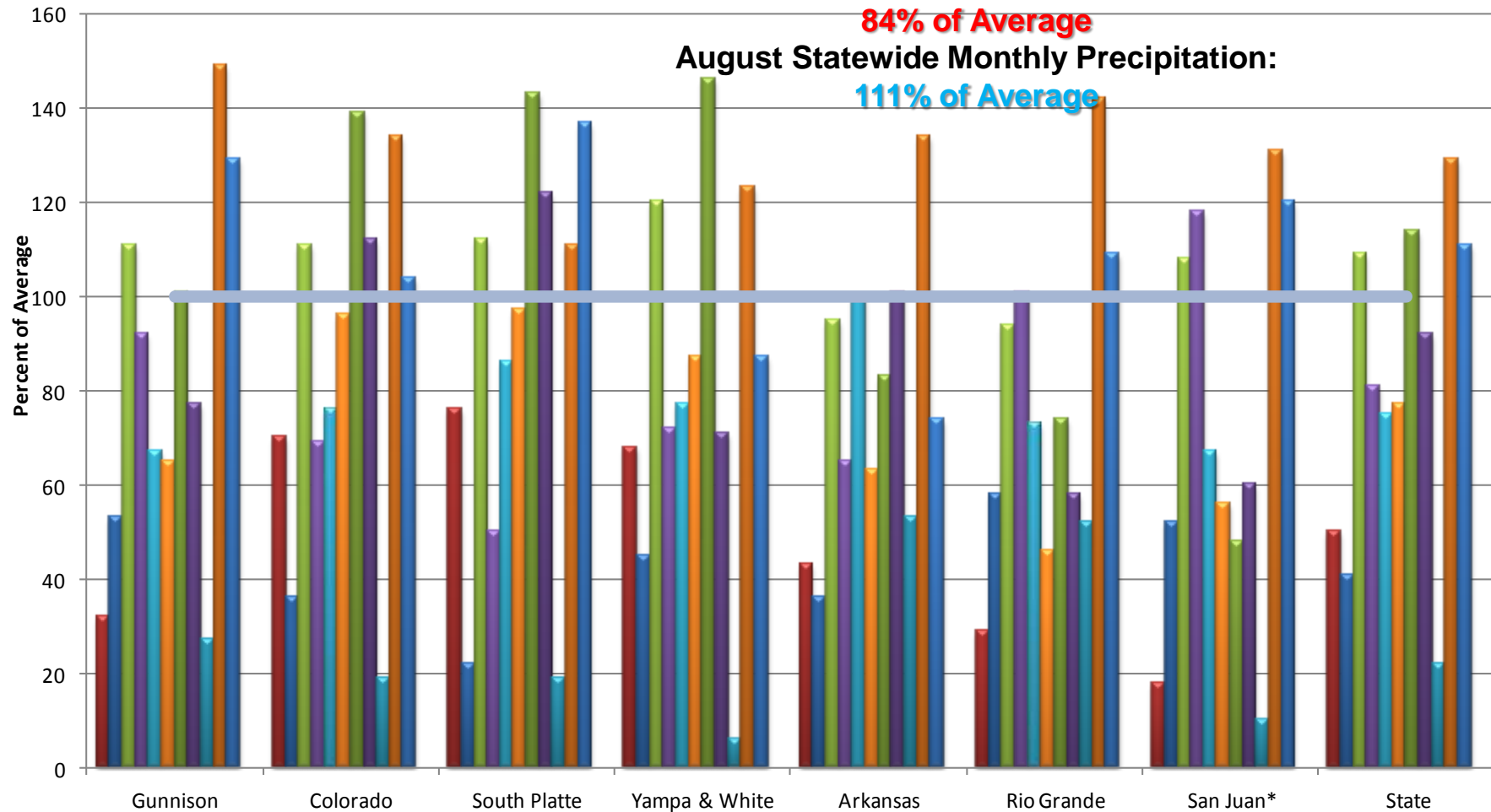
Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Average

September 1 Statewide YTD Precipitation:

84% of Average

August Statewide Monthly Precipitation:

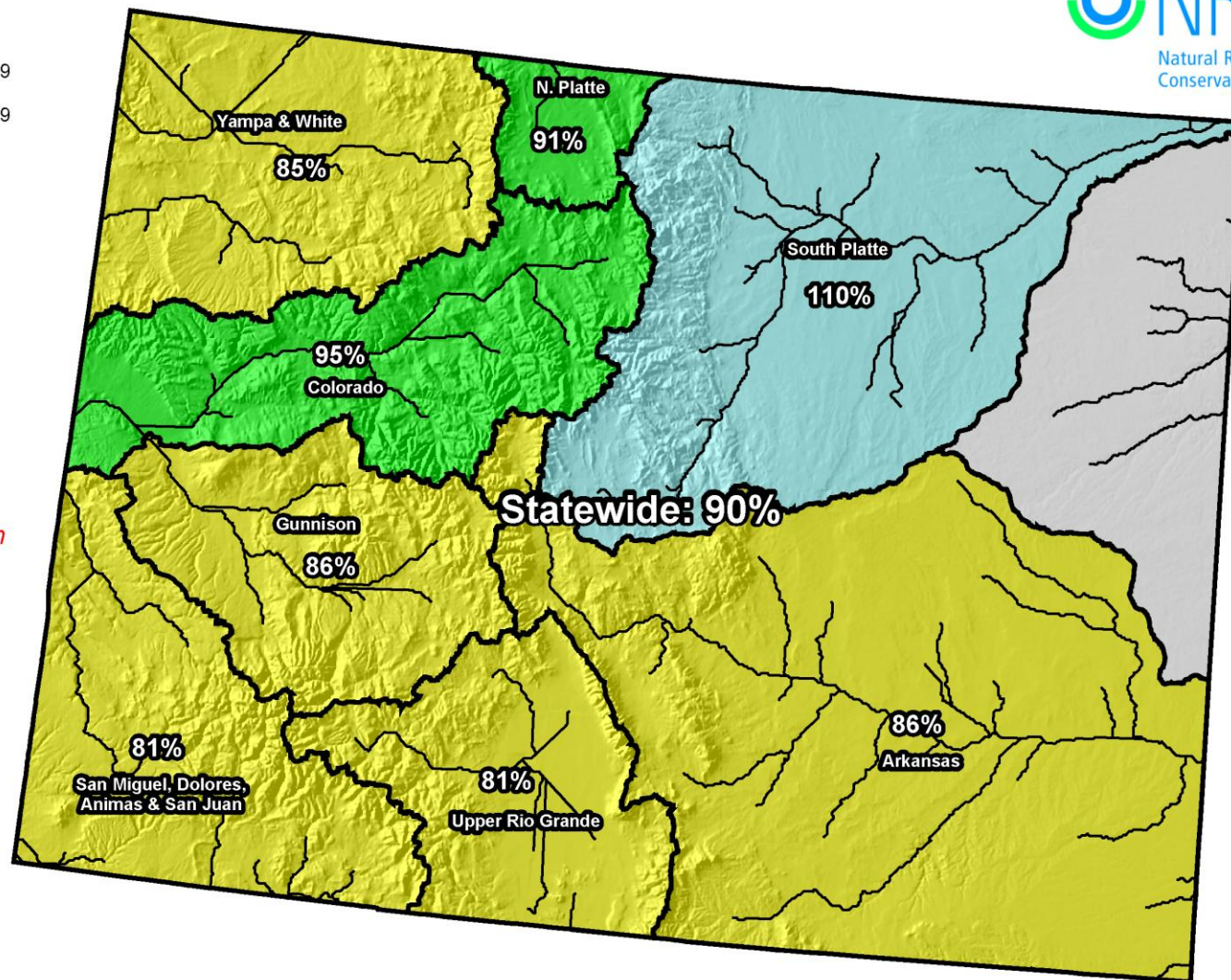
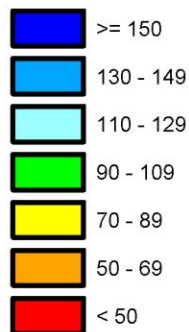
111% of Average



*Includes Animas, Dolores, San Miguel Basins

Colorado SNOTEL Water Year-to-Date Precipitation Update Map

Percent of Average

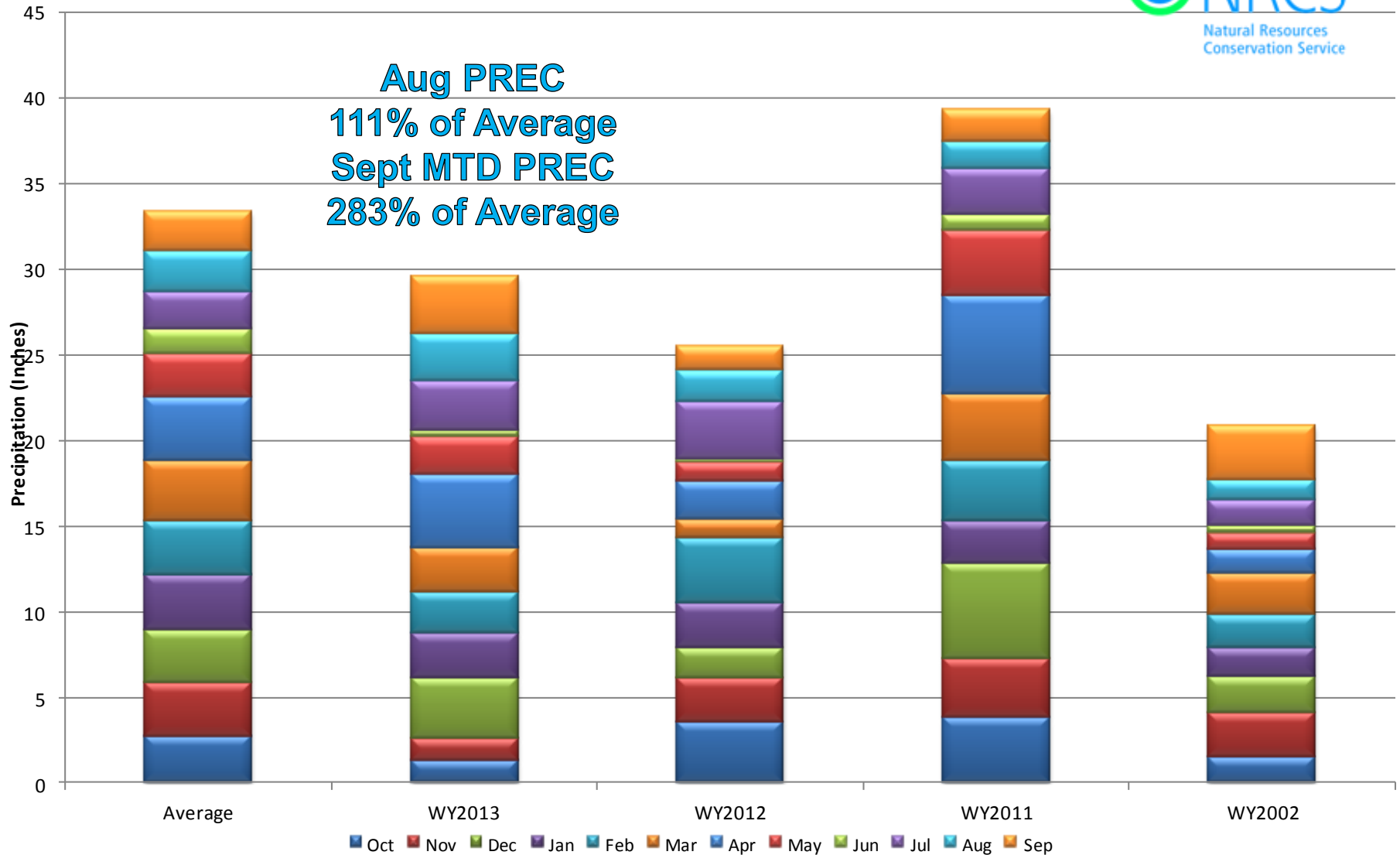


*Provisional Data
Subject to Revision*

Current as of Sep 17, 2013

Colorado Statewide High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 17, 2013

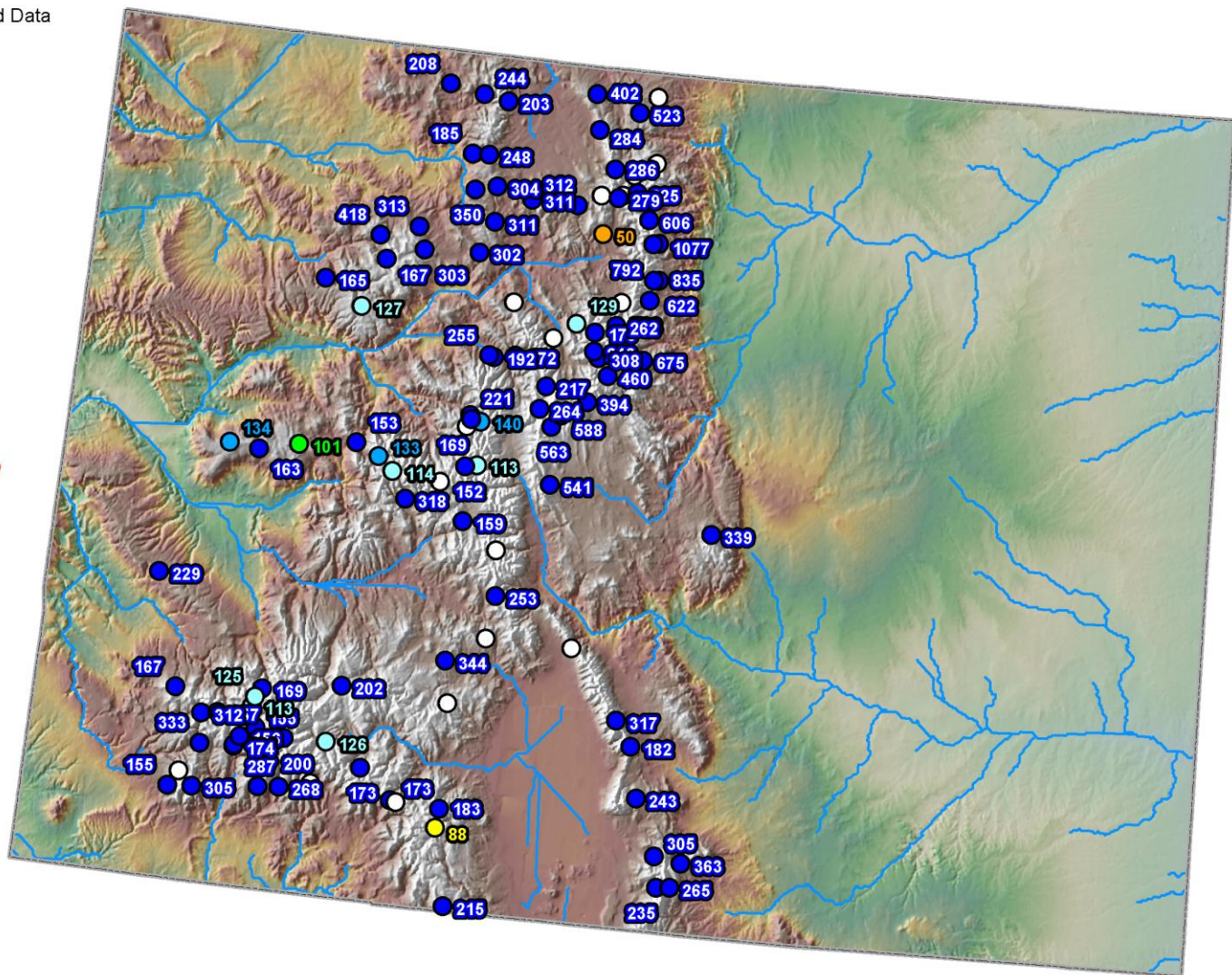


Colorado SNOTEL Month-to-Date Precipitation

Percent of Average

- Missing or Invalid Data
- < 50
- 50 - 69
- 70 - 89
- 90 - 109
- 110 - 129
- 130 - 149
- ≥ 150

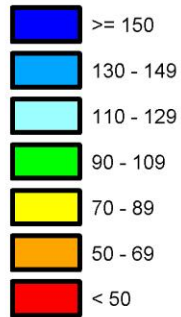
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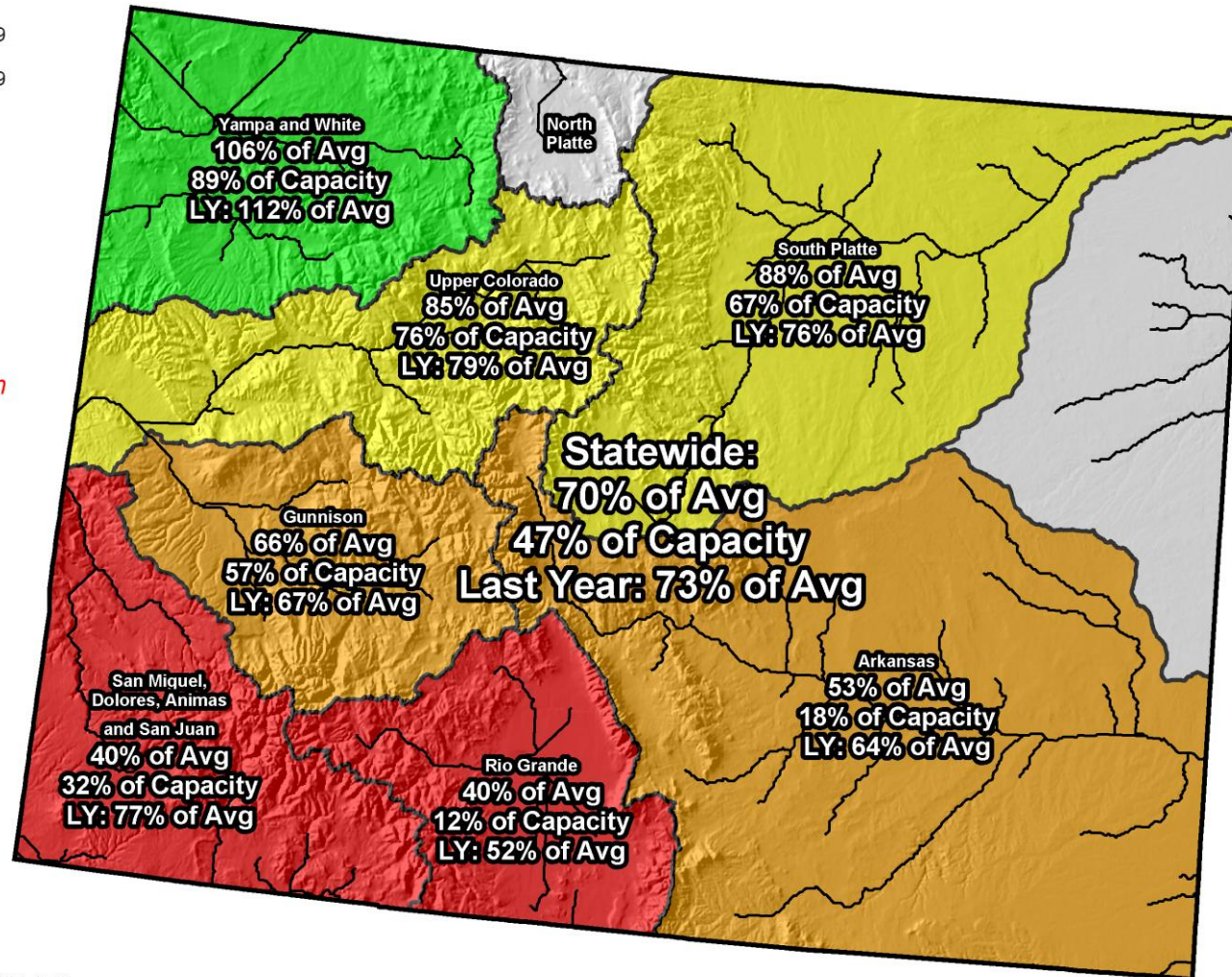
Current as of Sep 17, 2013

Colorado Reservoir Storage Map

Percent of Average



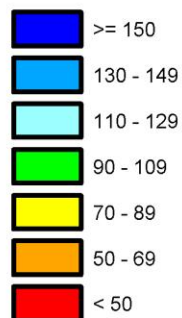
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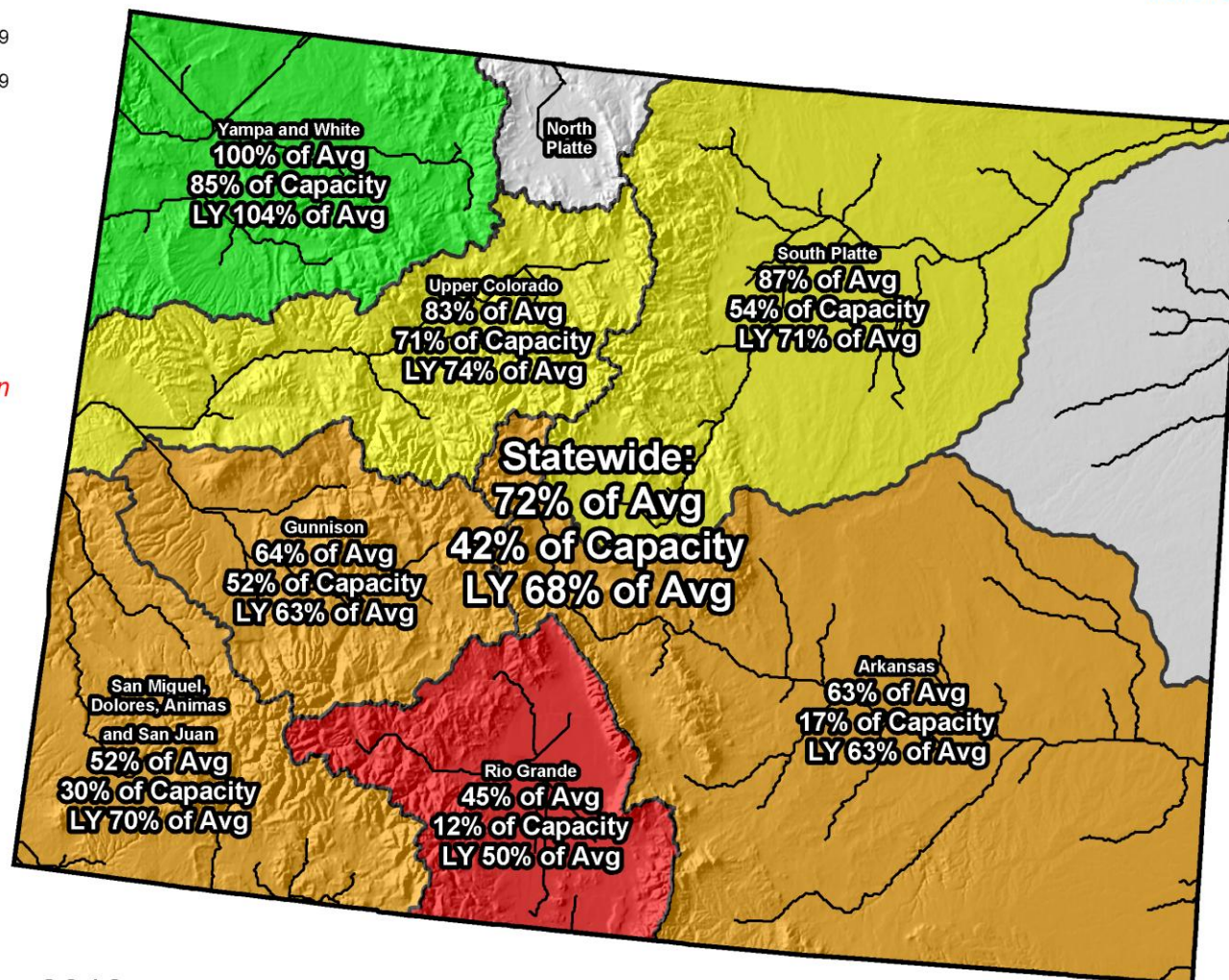
End of July 2013

Colorado Reservoir Storage Map

Percent of Average

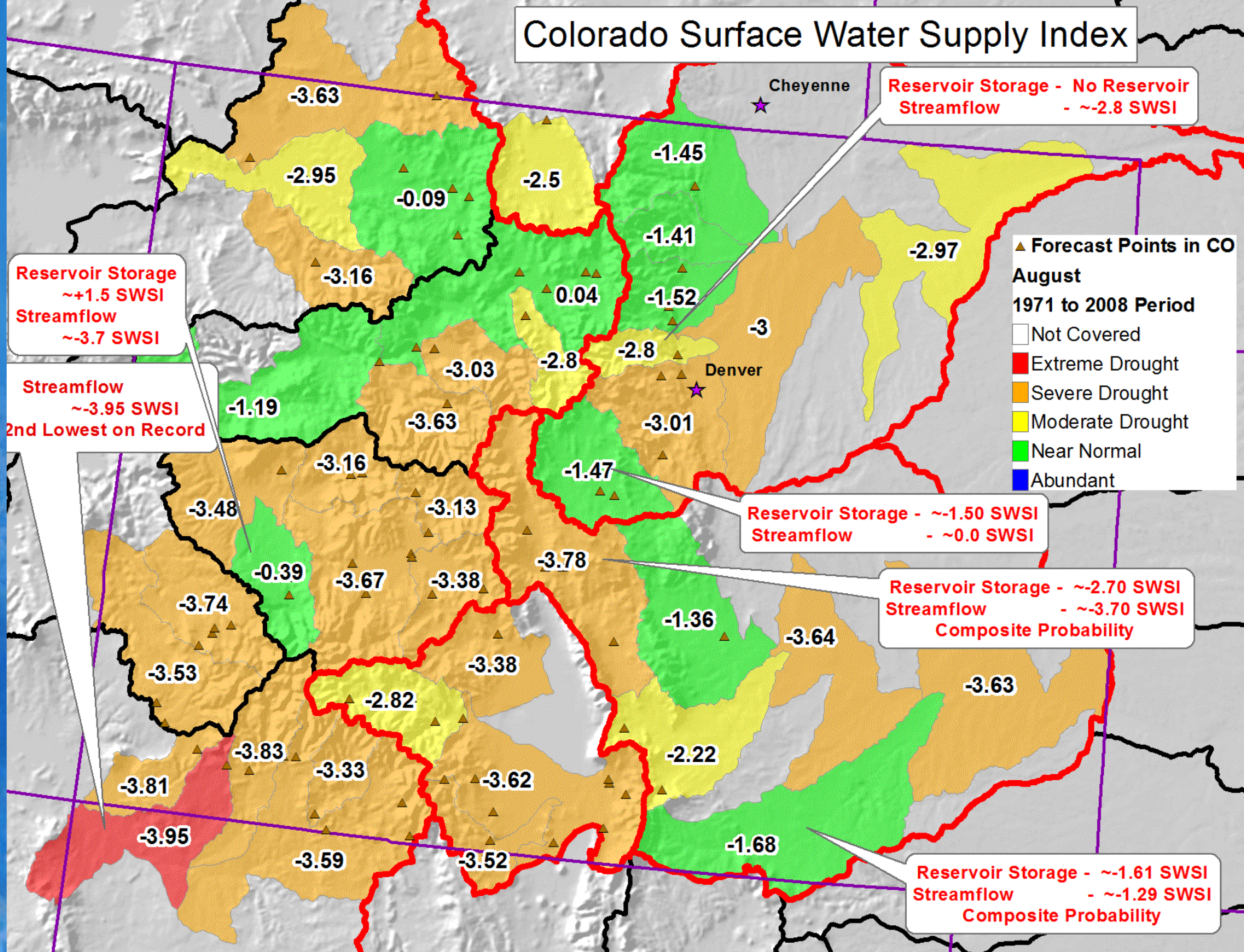


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End of August 2013

Colorado Surface Water Supply Index



WY2013 Summary

- DEC: SNOW! Finally. Storms in mid to late Dec boosted snowpack but it was not enough to reach normal conditions.
- JAN: End of month storm increased the snowpack in Southwest basins.
- FEB: Prec below average. The Snow we did receive was just enough to keep the snowpack from further declining.
- MAR: Storms helped maintained snowpack but no boost.
- APR: Multiple storm systems brought the snowpack up substantially and in some cases to near normal peaks. Really improved the northern basins but did not help the southern basins.
- MAY: Above normal prec recorded for the South Platte, Upper Colorado and Arkansas basins. In the South Platte additional snow accumulation caused the basin to reach a second higher peak SWE in early March.
- JUNE: Little to no precipitation received in the mountains during the month. Reservoir storage improved in some areas but did not recover to normal.
- JULY: Well above average mountain precipitation across the state. Reservoir storage continues to drop especially in the southern part of the state.
- AUG: Another month of above average precipitation across most of the state. The Yampa and Arkansas basins are the two exceptions. Not much change in storage.
- SEP: WAY ABOVE AVERAGE PRECIP SO FAR THIS MONTH. Due mainly to last weeks storm. Should help improve reservoir storage significantly this month, unless reservoir managers let water pass due to their management policies.

