



United States Department of Agriculture

Colorado Snow Surveys

Water Availability Task Force Meeting

April 25th, 2019

NRCS Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecasting Program

Karl Wetlaufer

Hydrologist

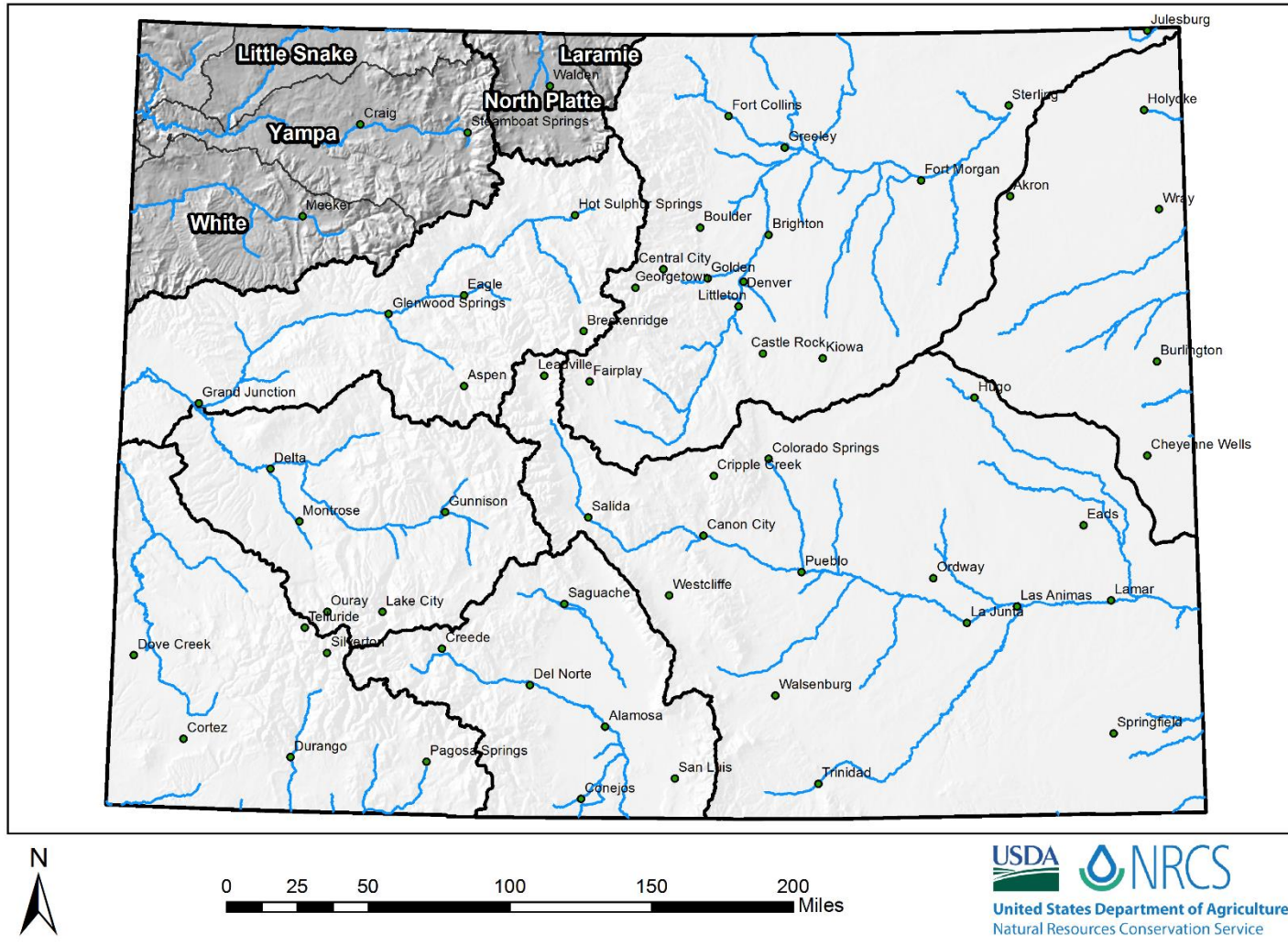
Assistant Snow Survey Supervisor

720-544-2853

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

Major Basin Summary

Yampa, White, and North Platte River Basins





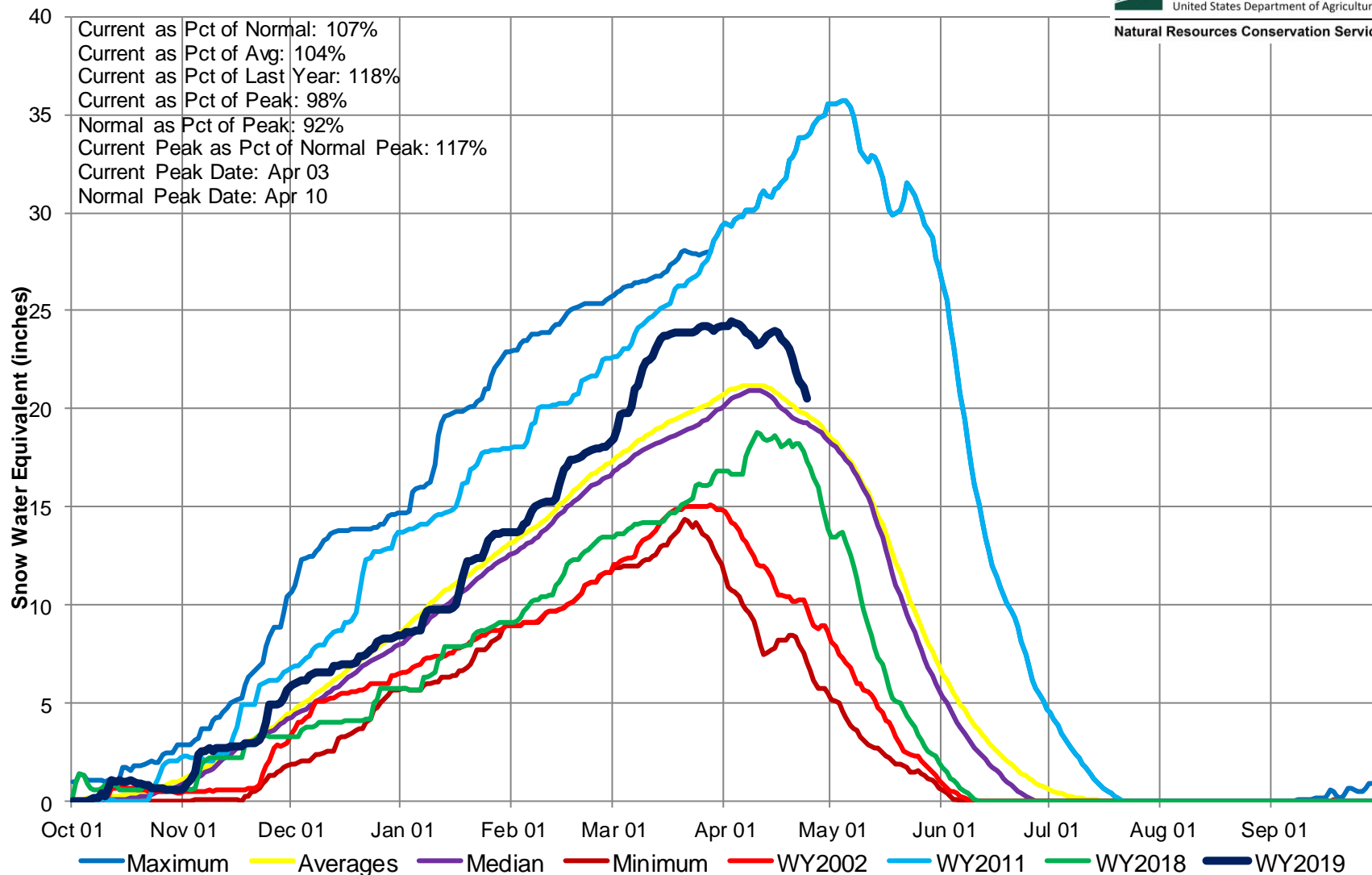
Yampa and White River Basins High/Low Snowpack Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Apr 24, 2019



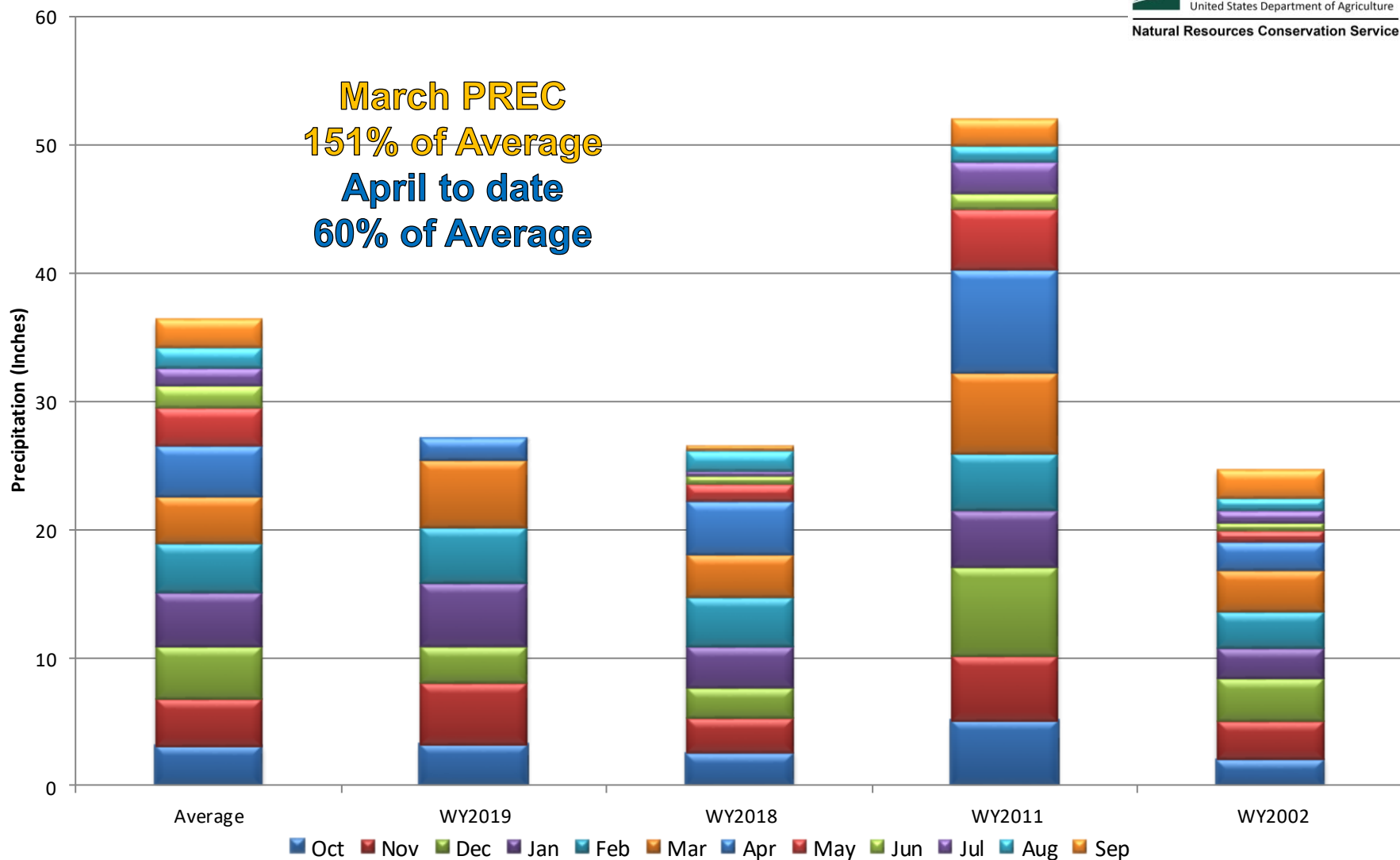
United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

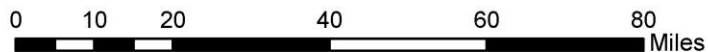
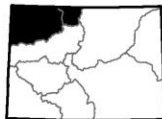
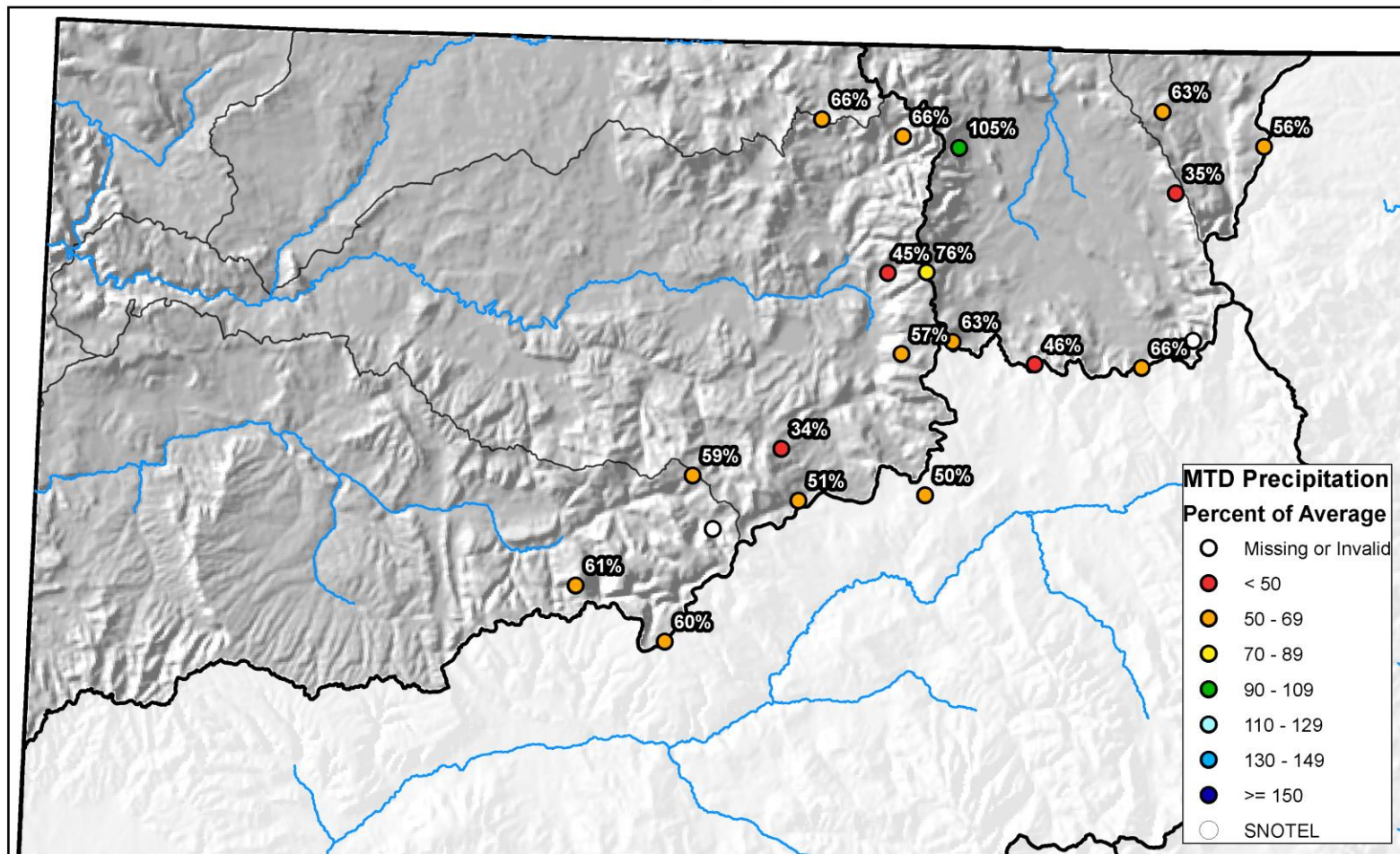


Yampa and White River Basins High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Apr 24, 2019



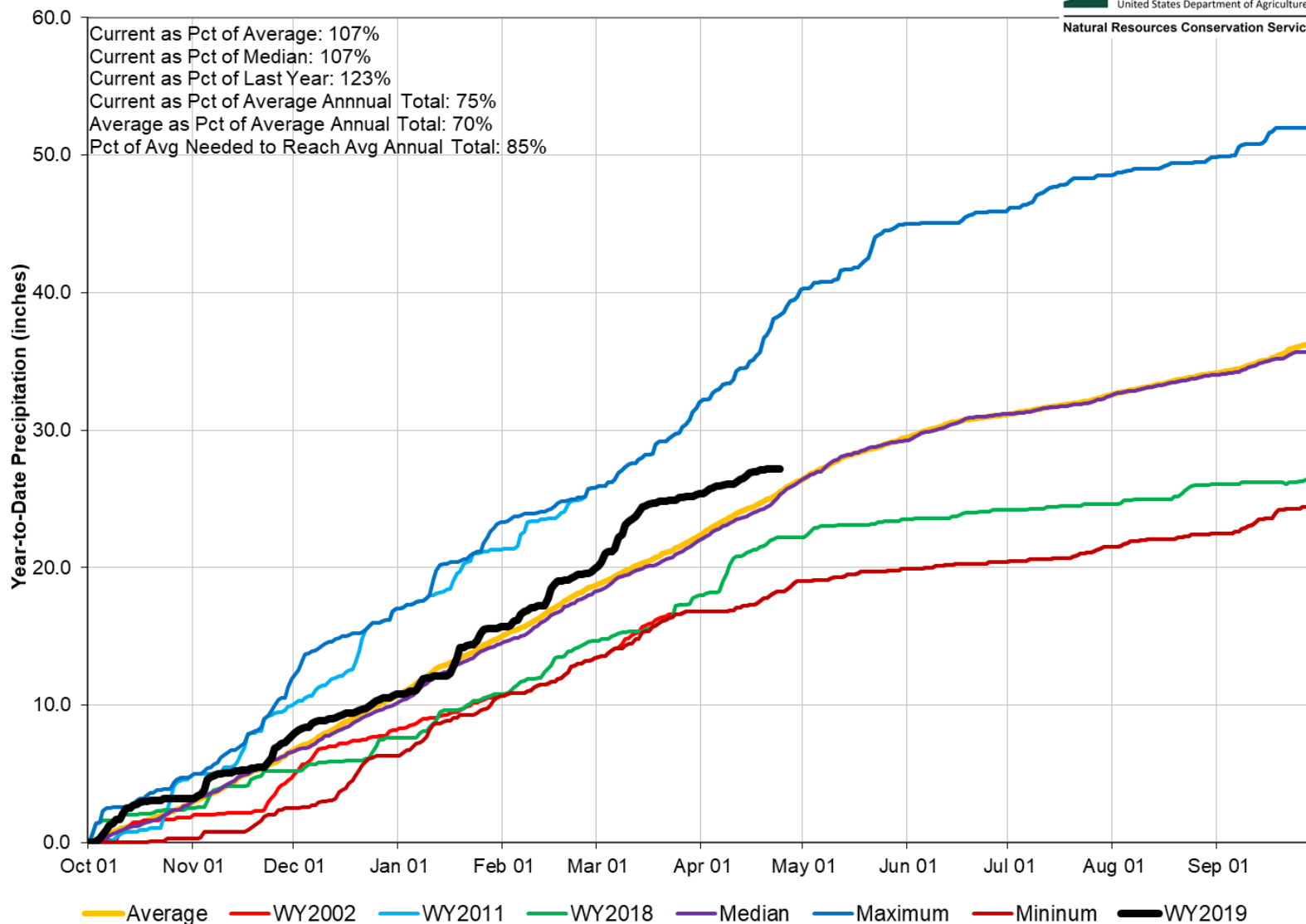
Yampa, White, and North Platte River Basins Month to Date Precipitation Summary Current as of Apr 24, 2019



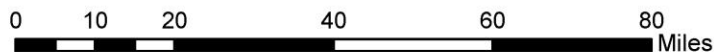
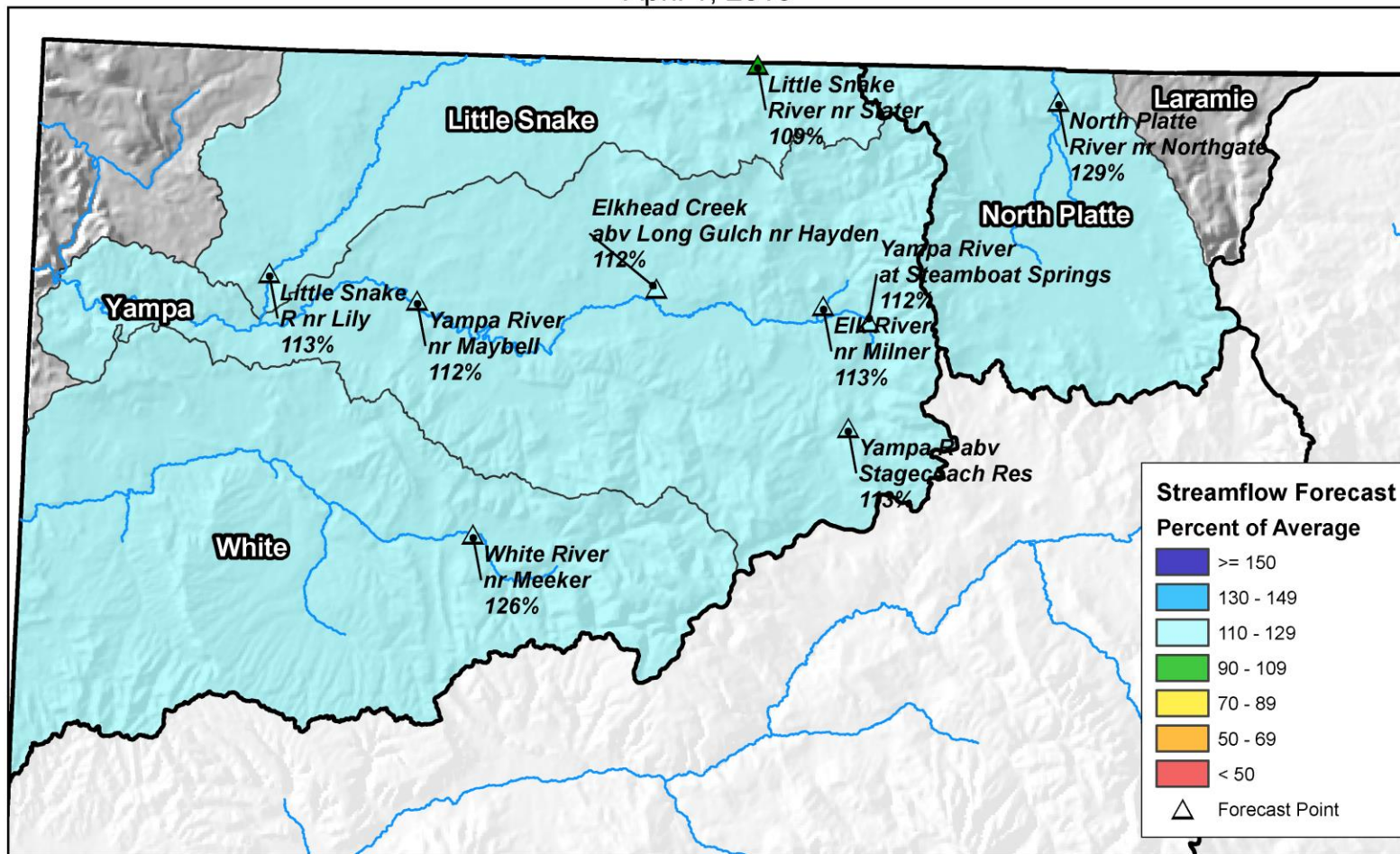
Yampa and White River Basins High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

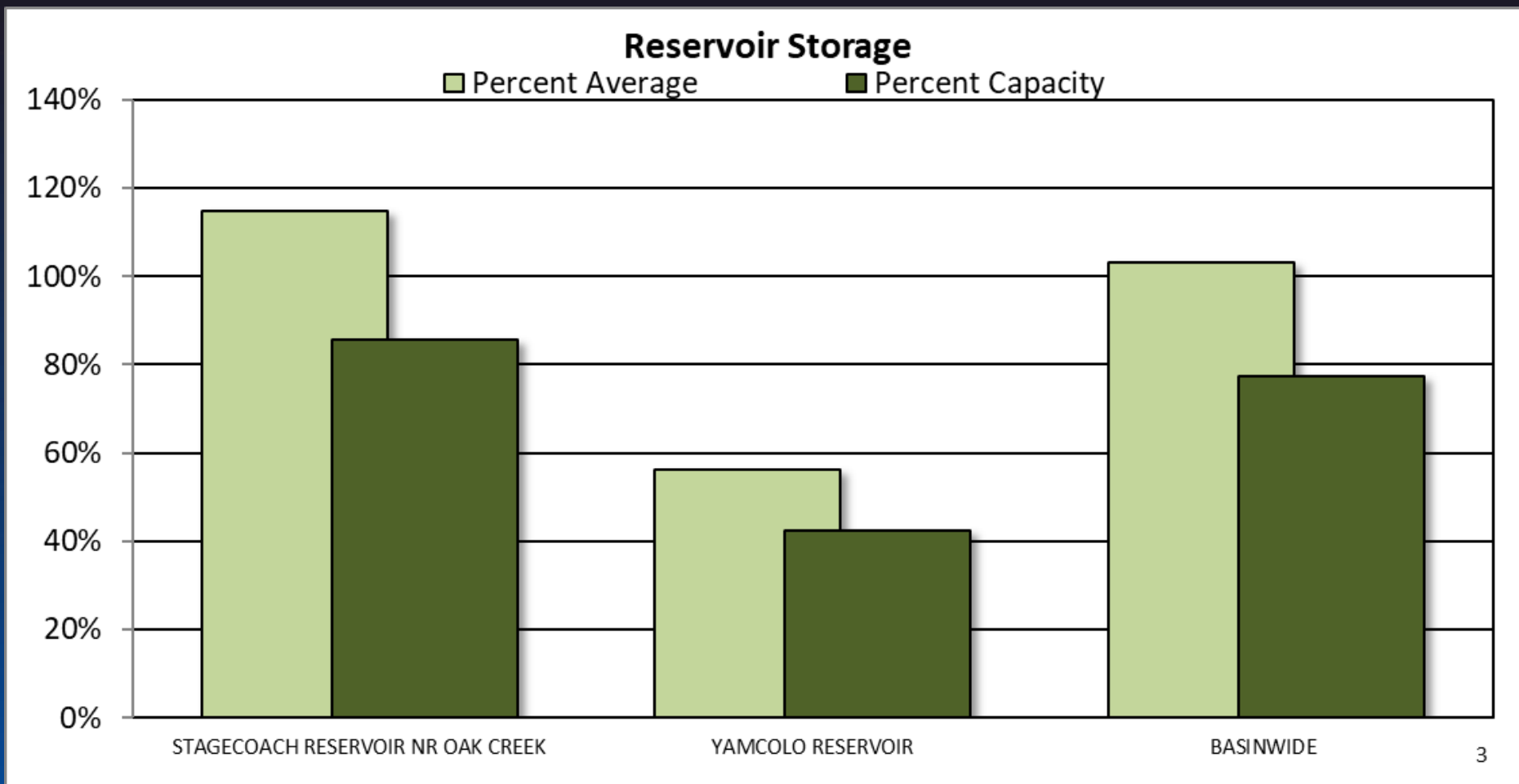
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Apr 24, 2019

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Natural Resources Conservation Service

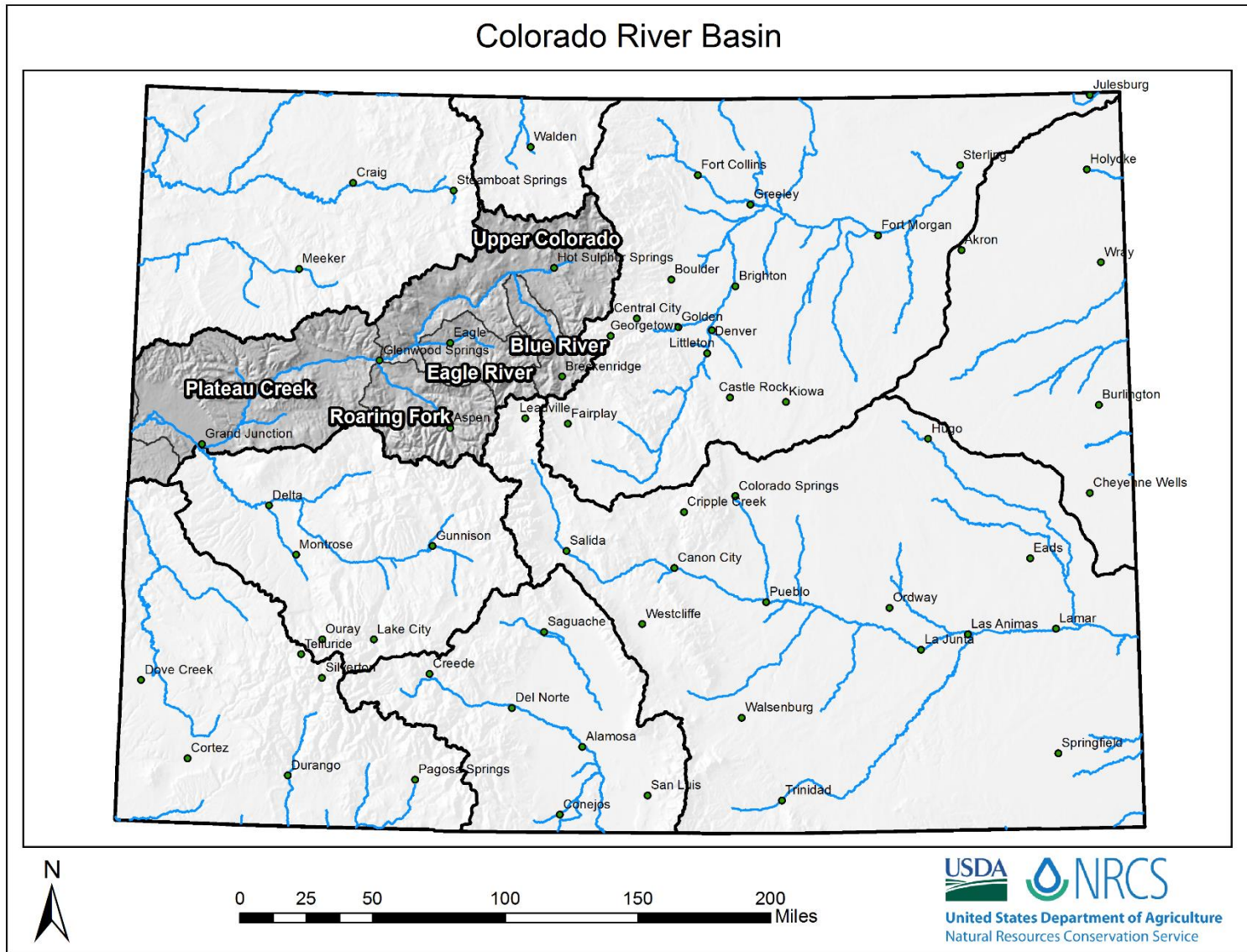


Yampa, White, and North Platte River Basins Streamflow Forecast Summary April 1, 2019





Major Basin Summary





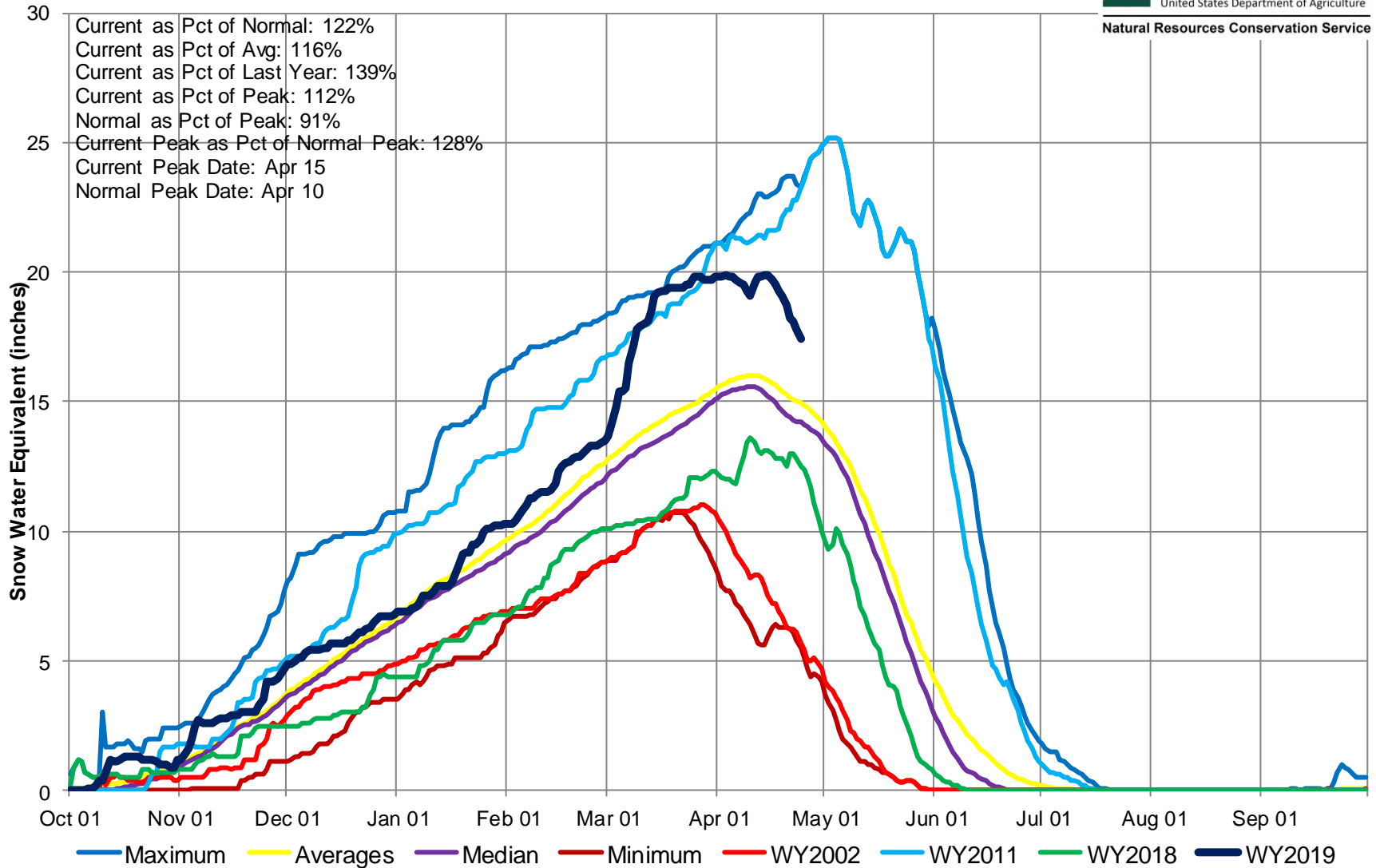
Upper Colorado River Basin High/Low Snowpack Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Apr 24, 2019



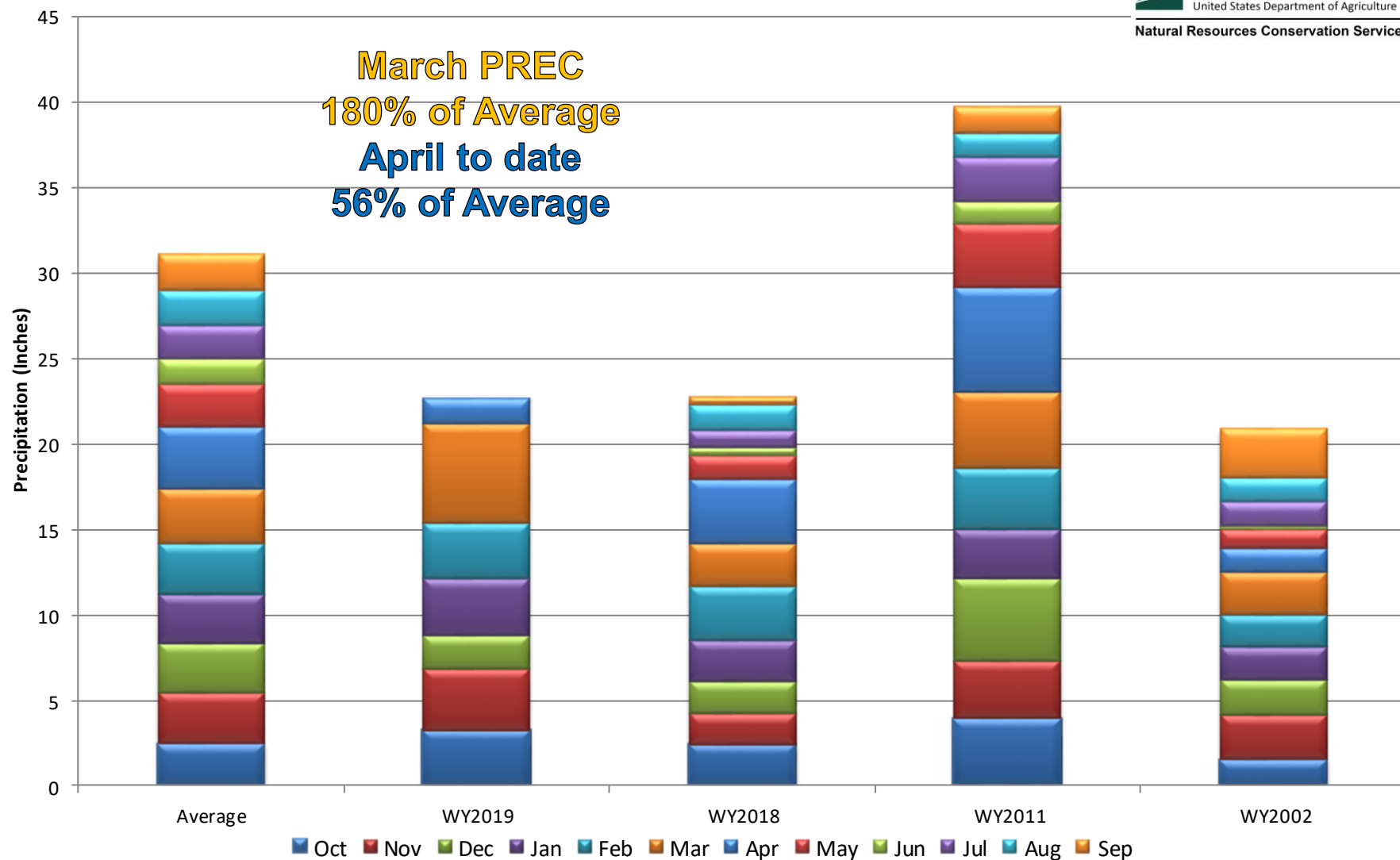
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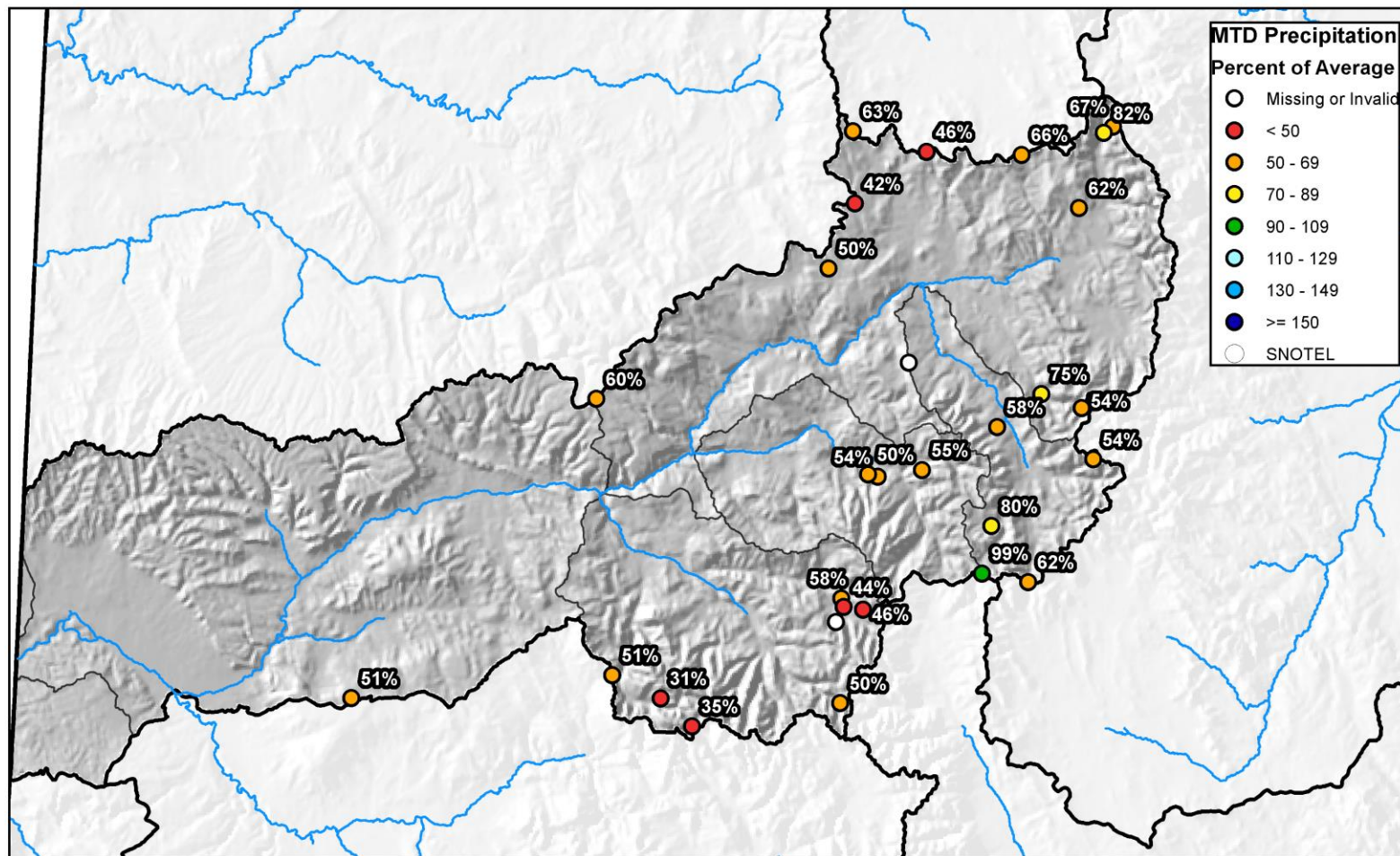
Upper Colorado River Basin High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Apr 24, 2019



Upper Colorado River Basin Month to Date Precipitation Summary

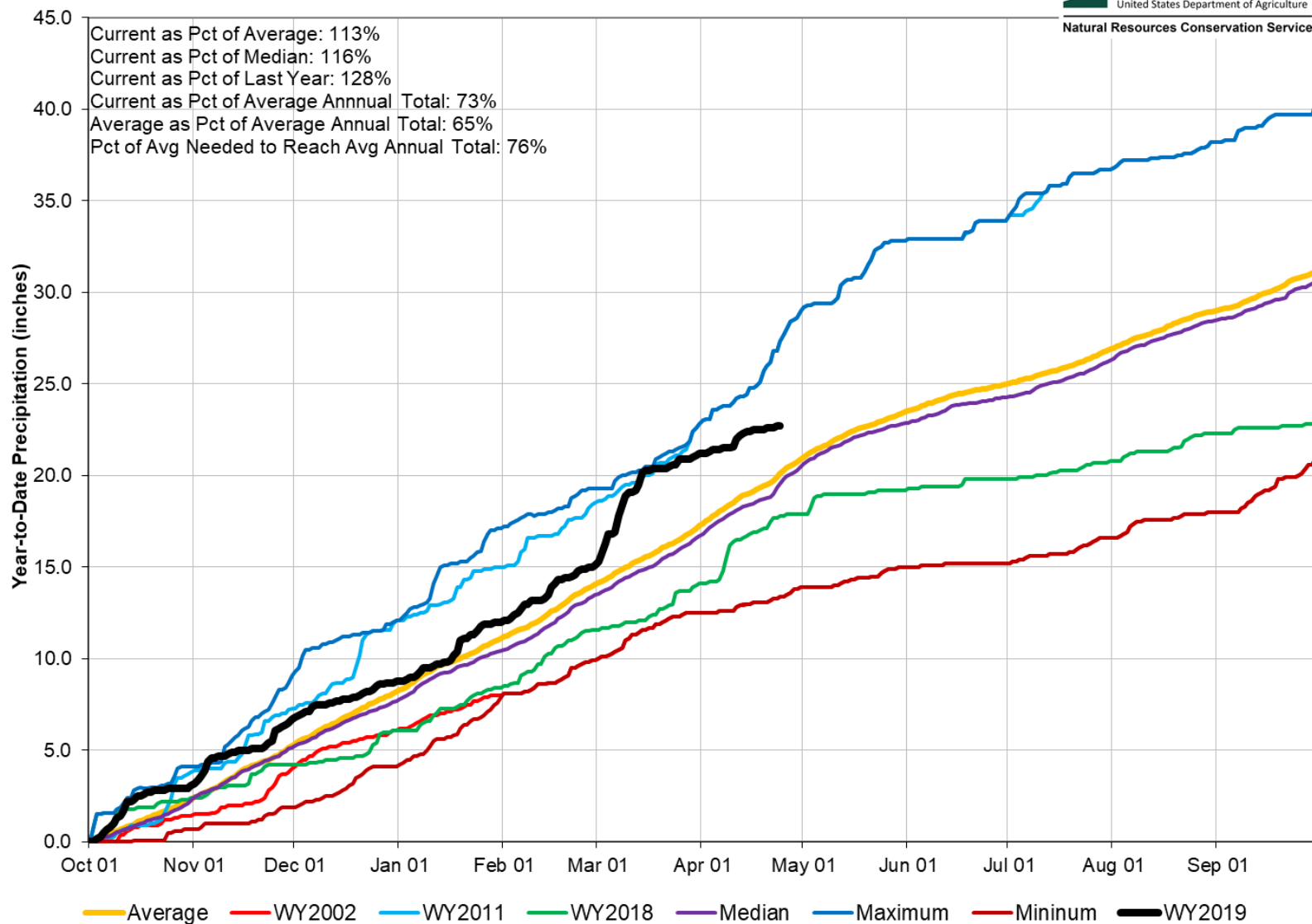
Current as of Apr 24, 2019





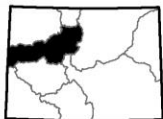
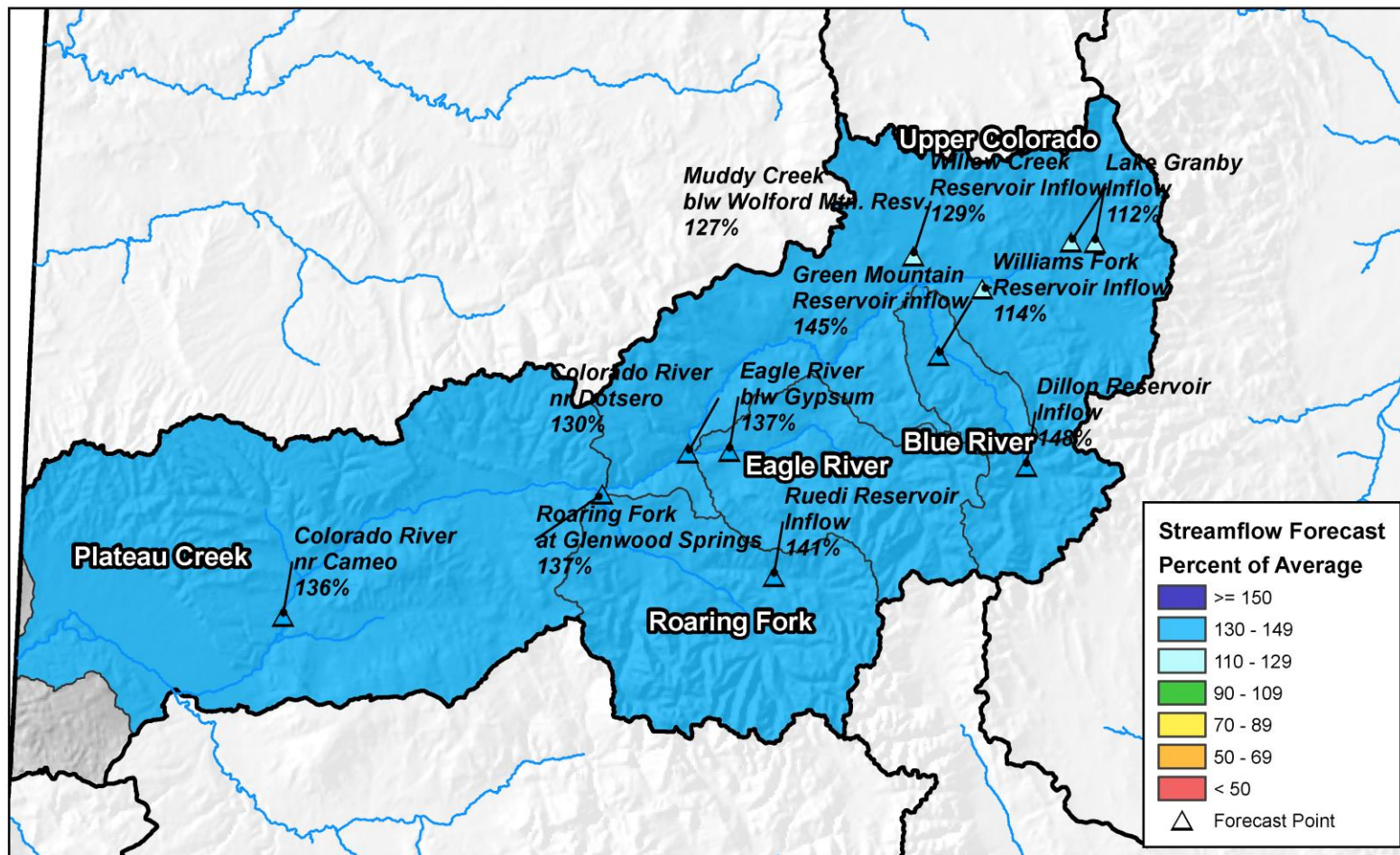
Upper Colorado River Basin High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Apr 24, 2019

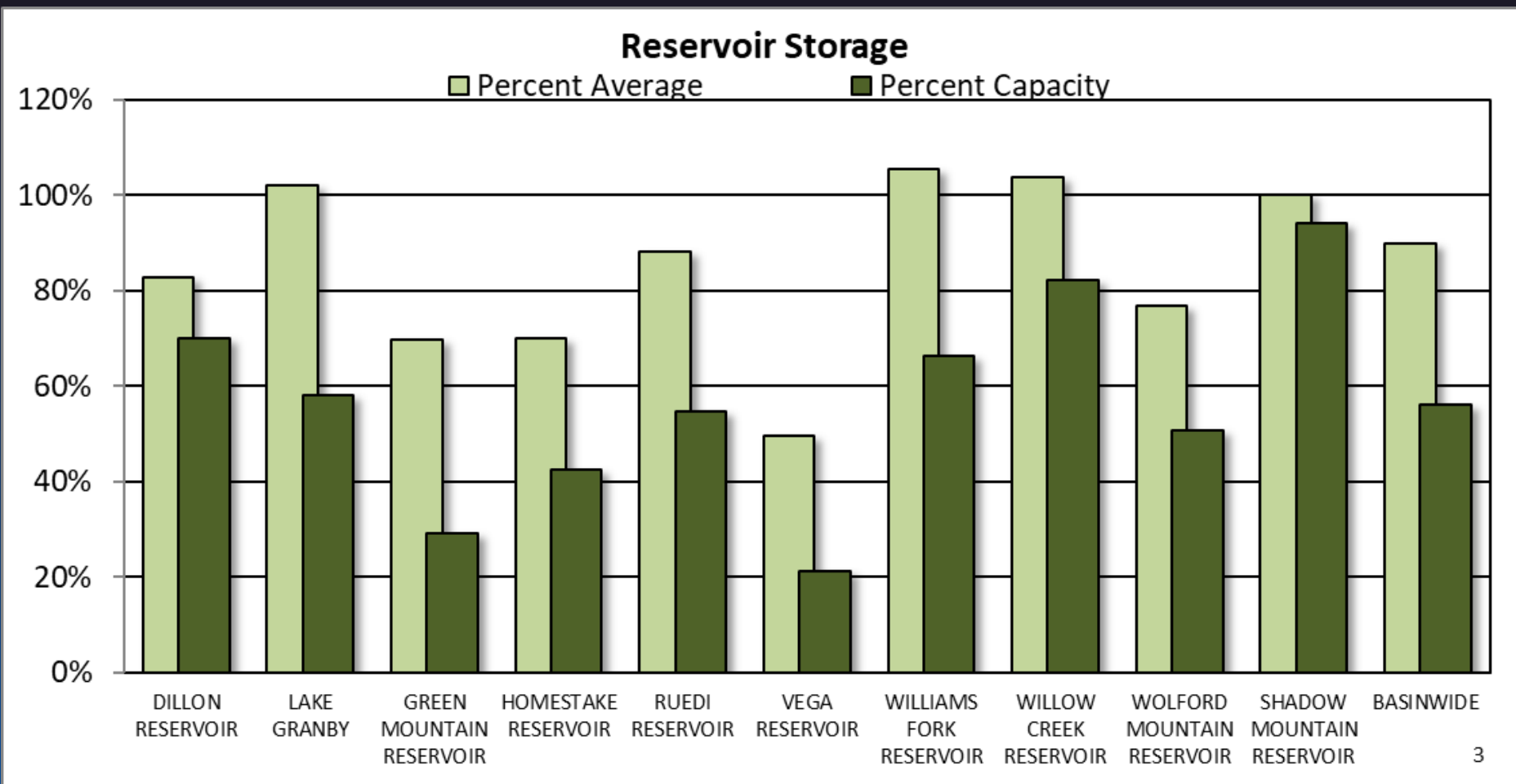


Upper Colorado River Basin Streamflow Forecast Summary

April 1, 2019

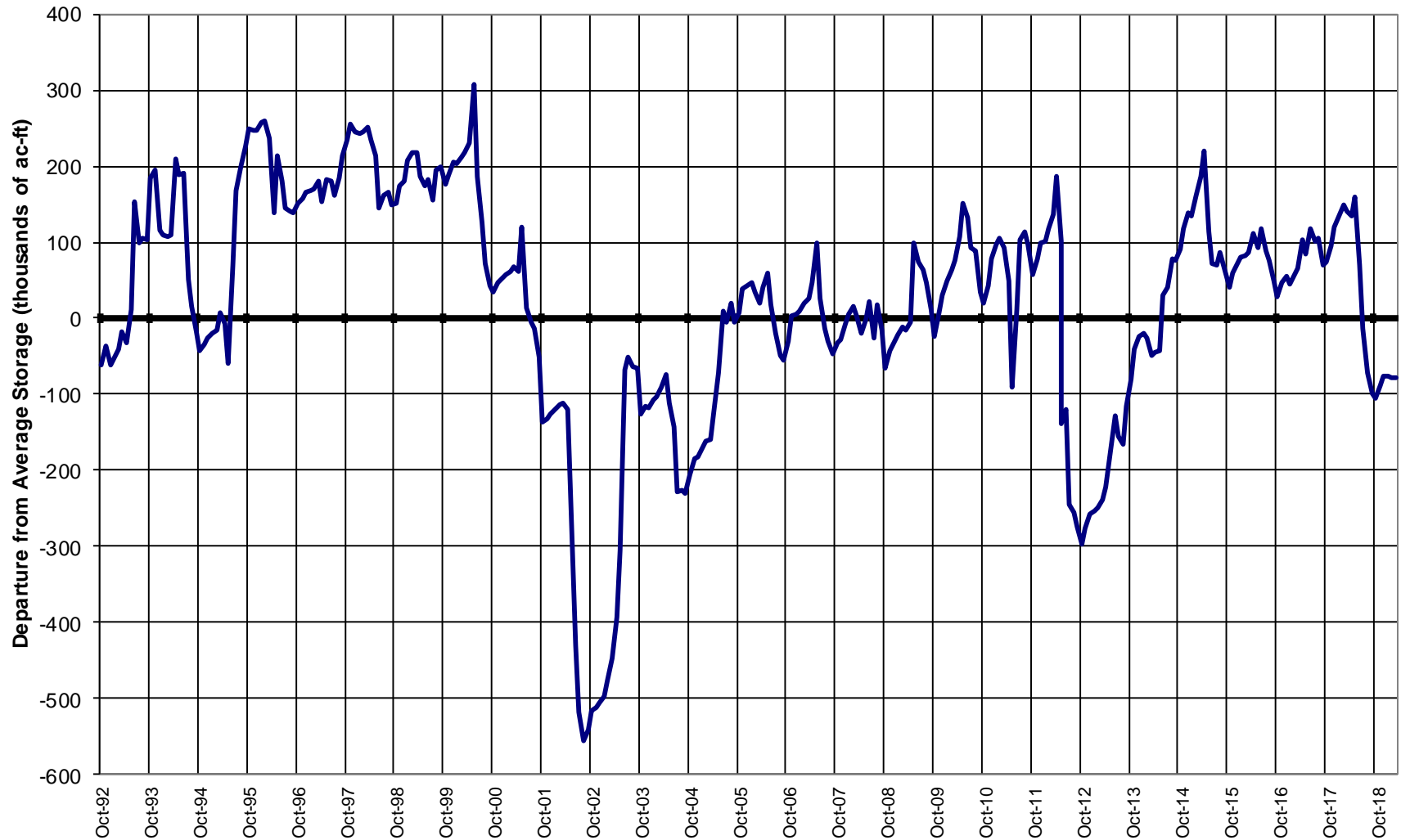


0 10 20 40 60 80 Miles



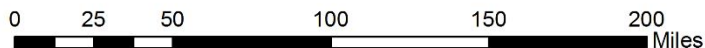
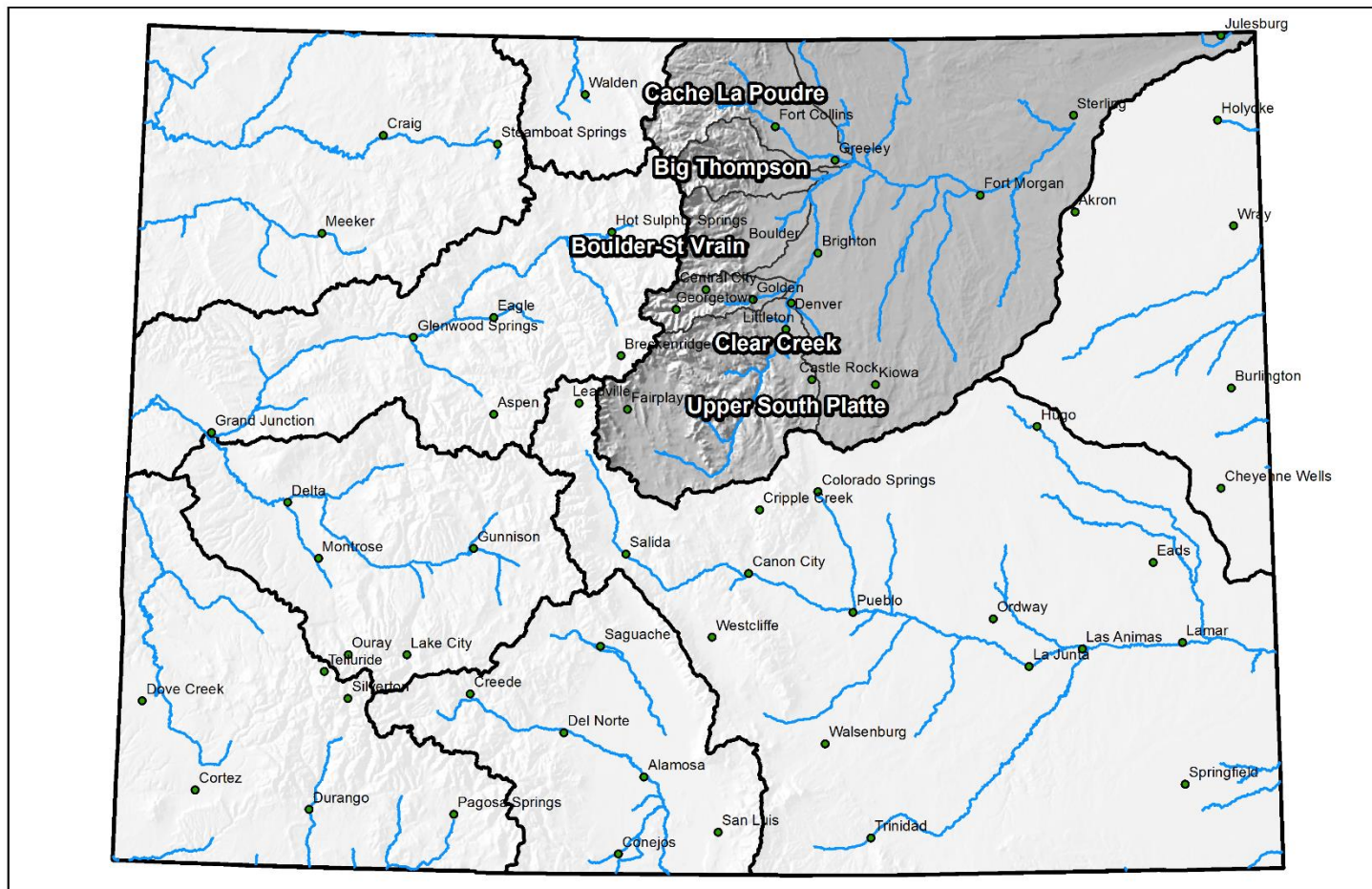


COLORADO RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage Departure from Average



Major Basin Summary

South Platte River Basin





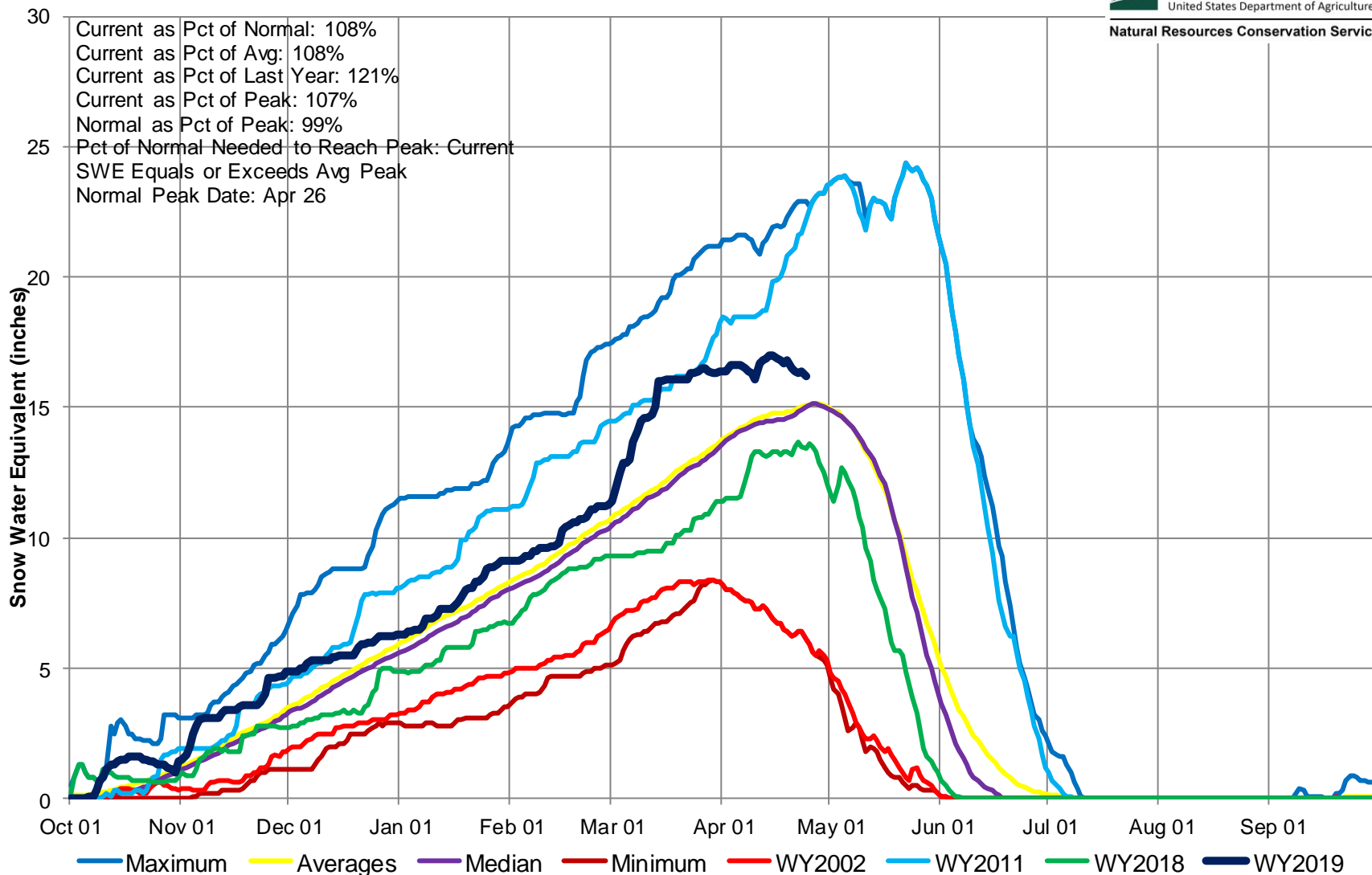
South Platte River Basin High/Low Snowpack Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Apr 24, 2019



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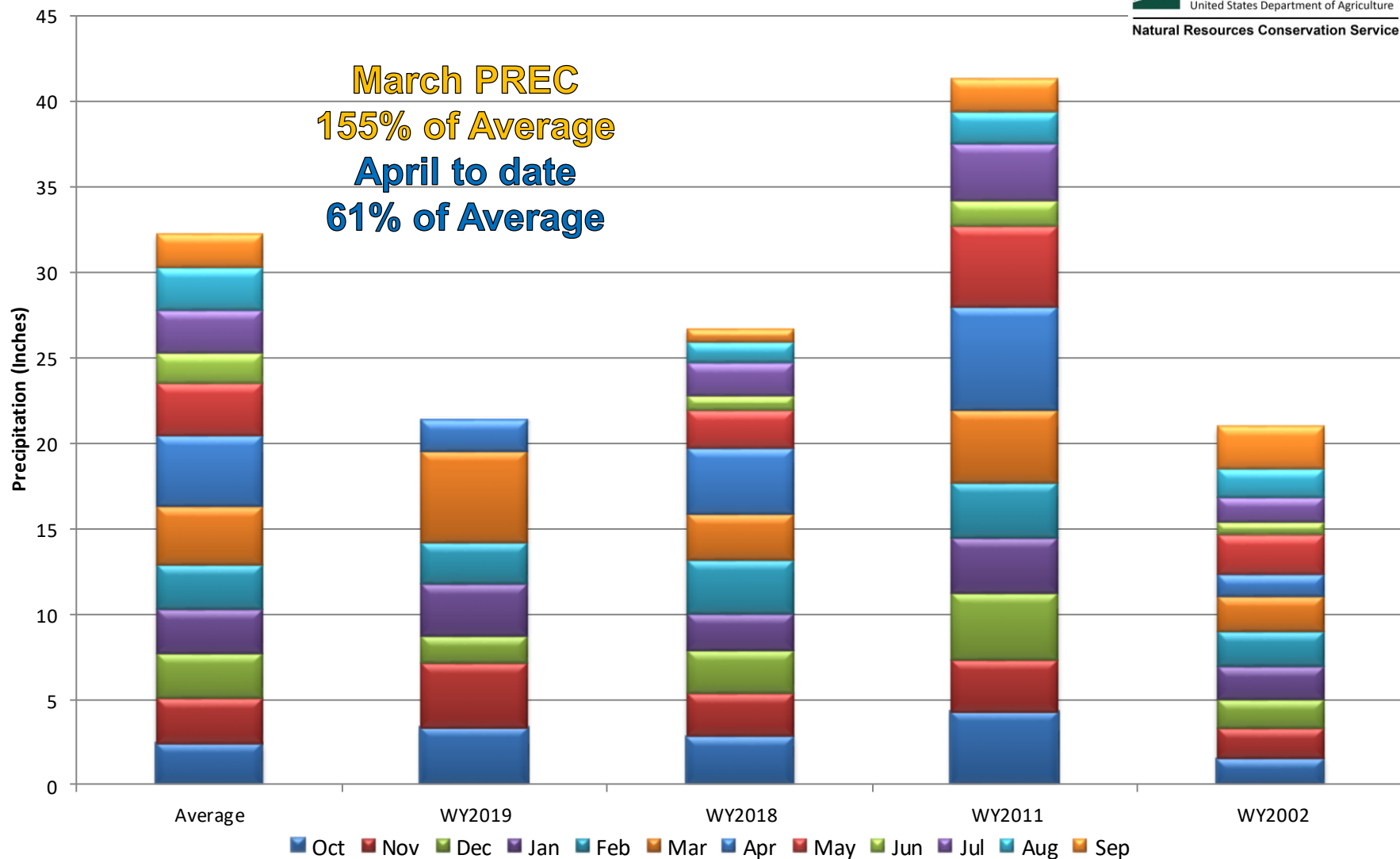
South Platte River Basin High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Apr 24, 2019



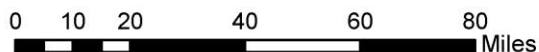
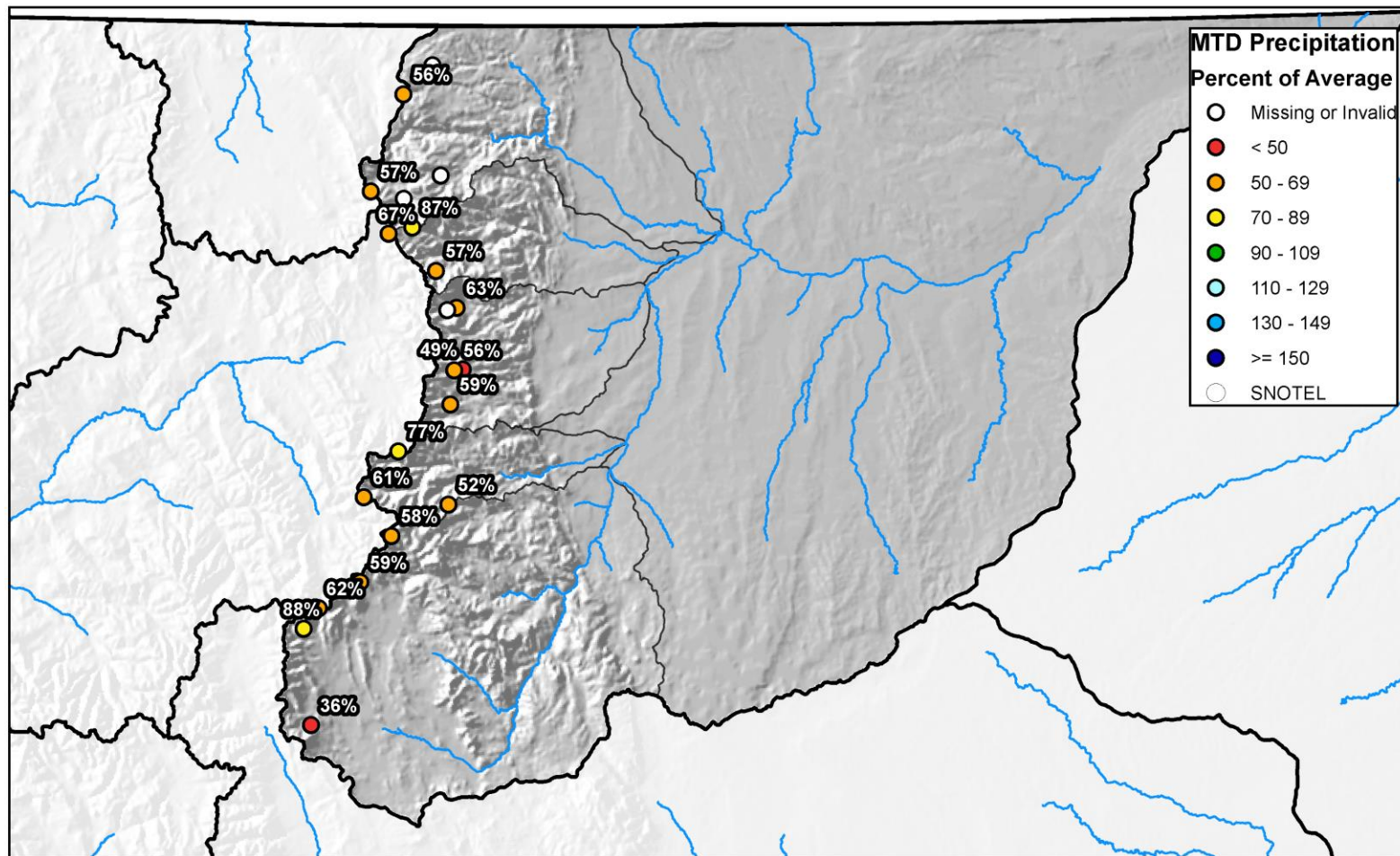
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South Platte River Basin Month to Date Precipitation Summary

Current as of Apr 24, 2019





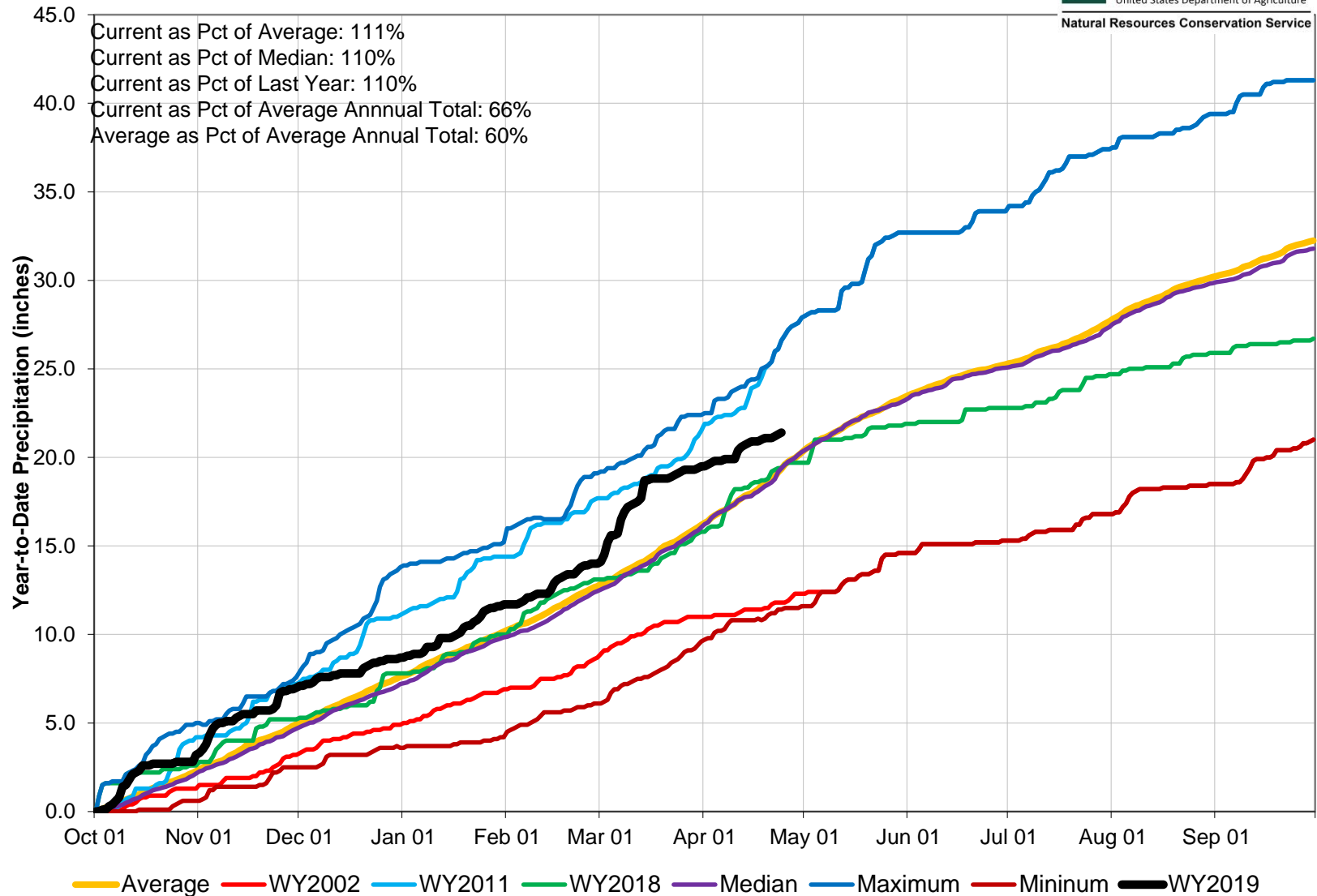
South Platte River Basin High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Apr 24, 2019



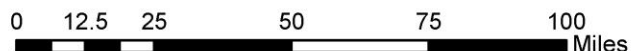
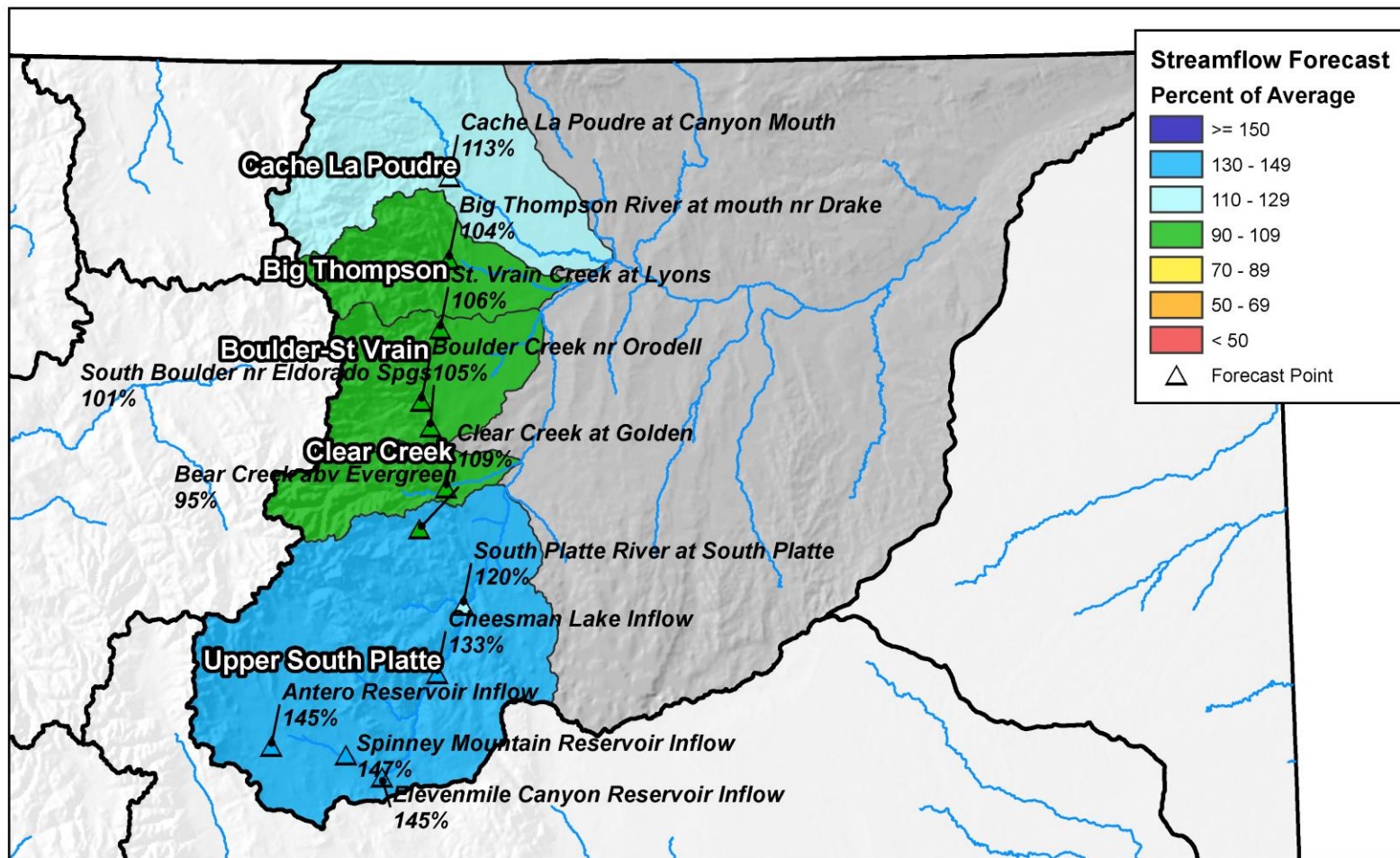
United States Department of Agriculture

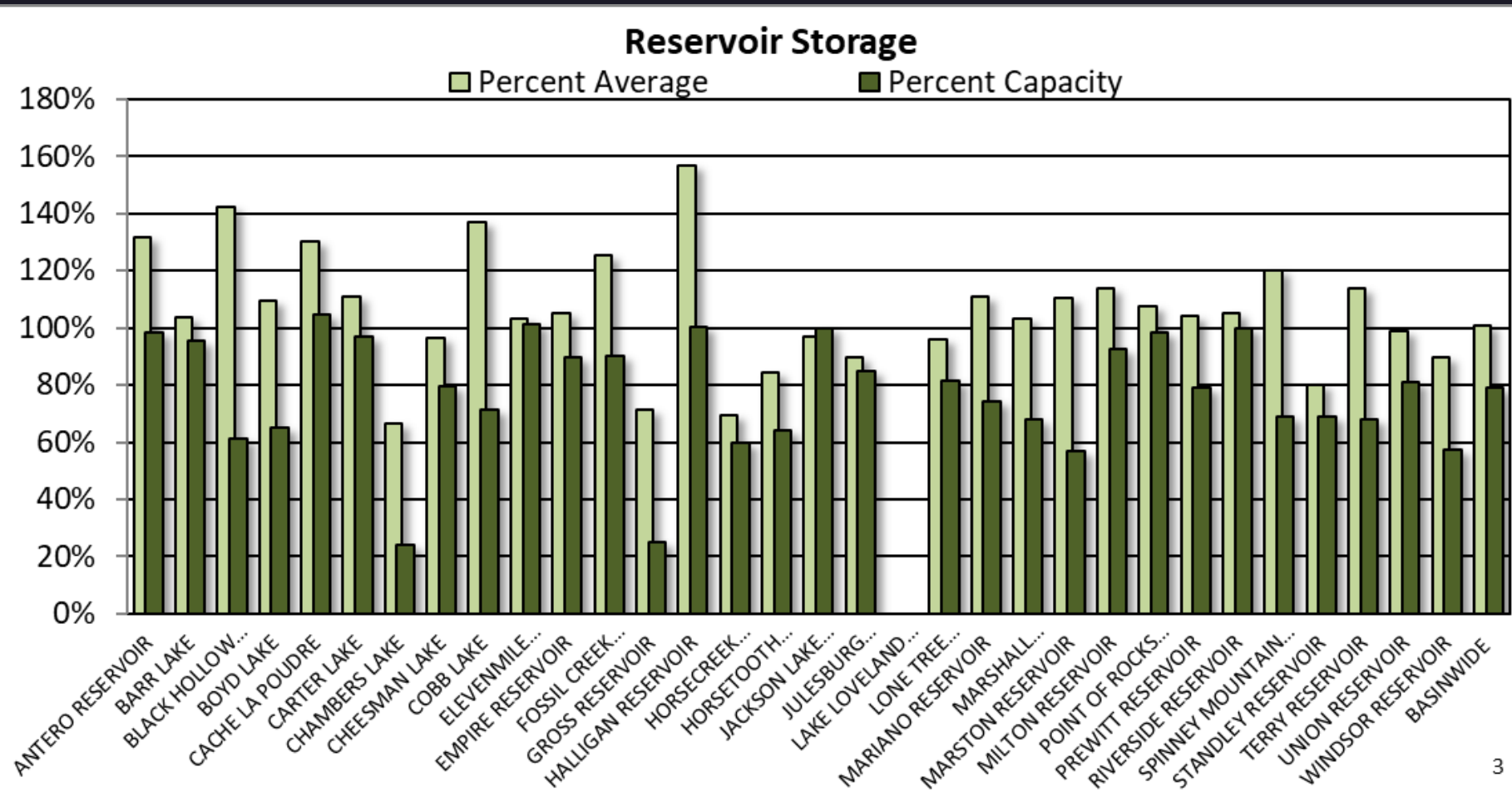
Natural Resources Conservation Service



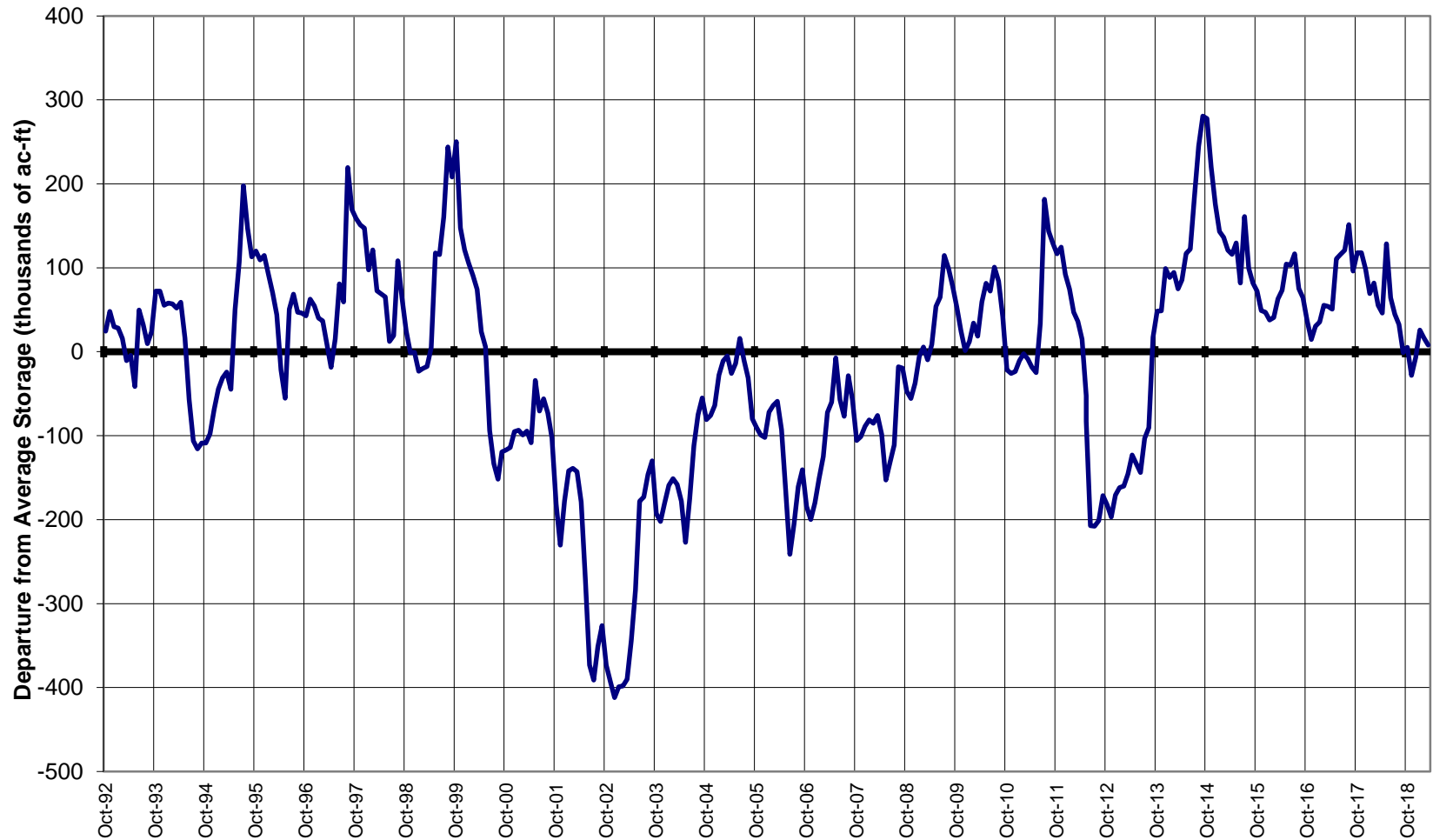
South Platte River Basin Streamflow Forecast Summary

April 1, 2019



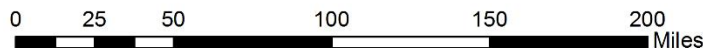
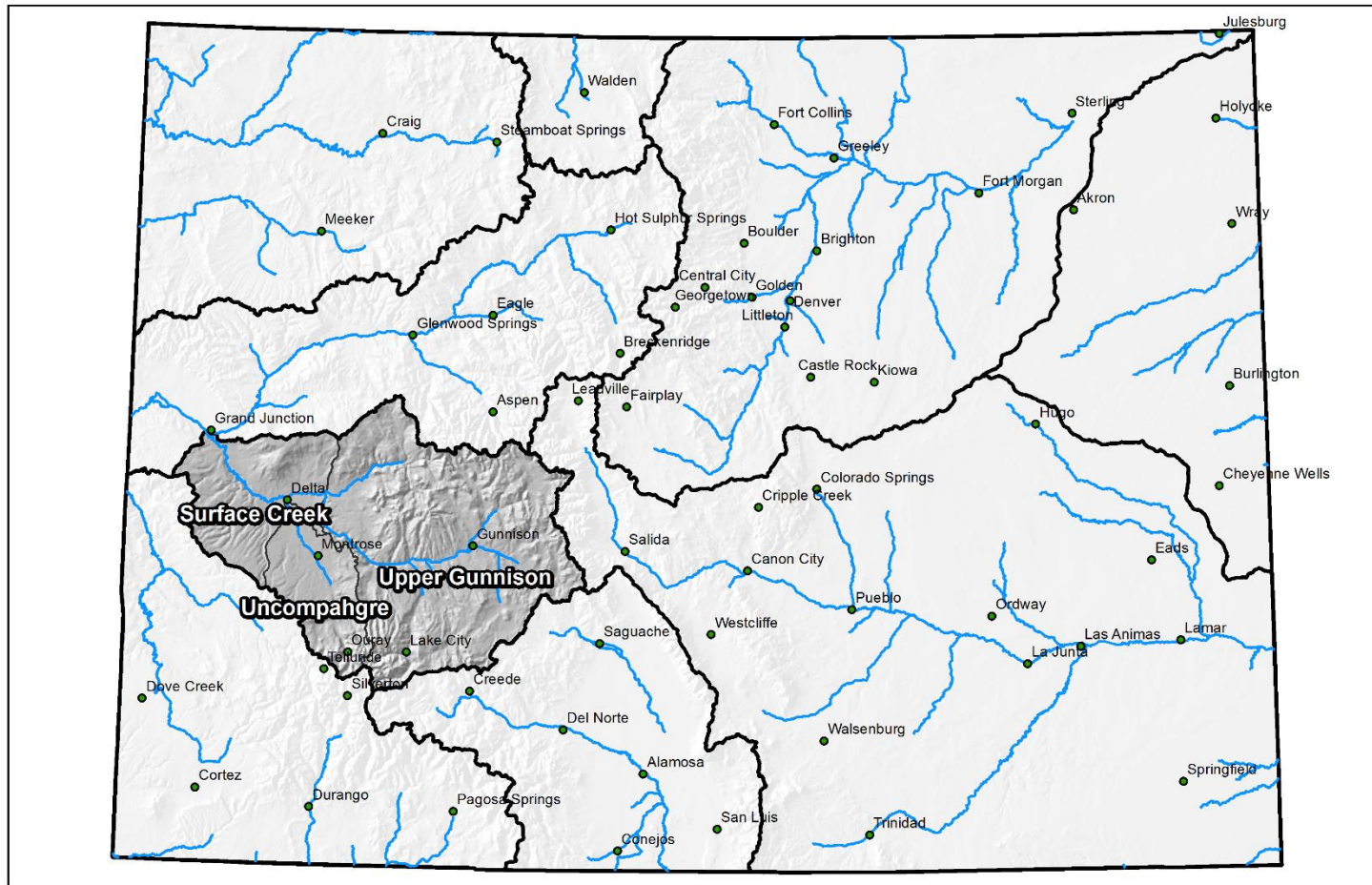


SOUTH PLATTE RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage Departure from Average



Major Basin Summary

Gunnison River Basin





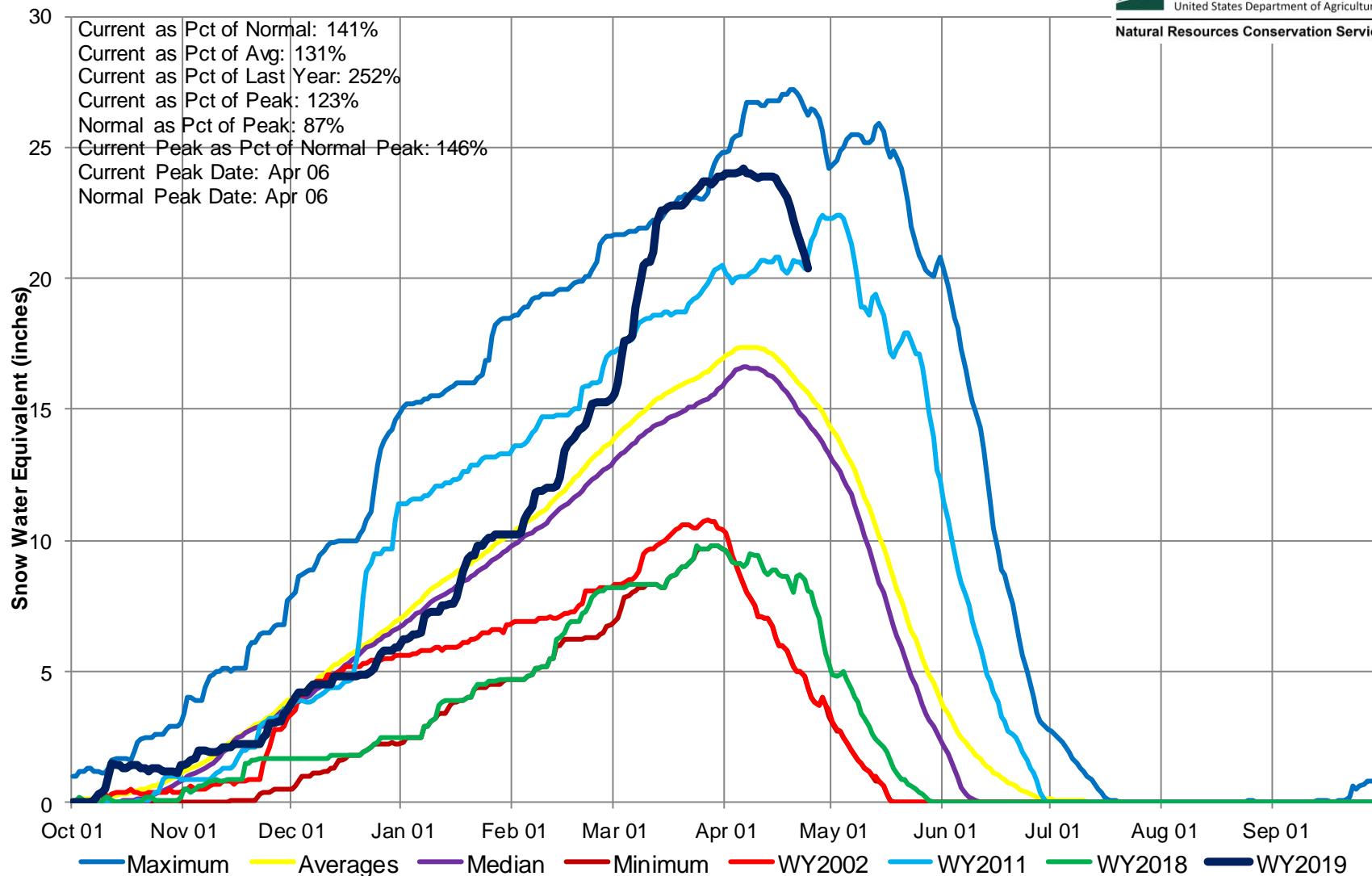
Gunnison River Basin High/Low Snowpack Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Apr 24, 2019



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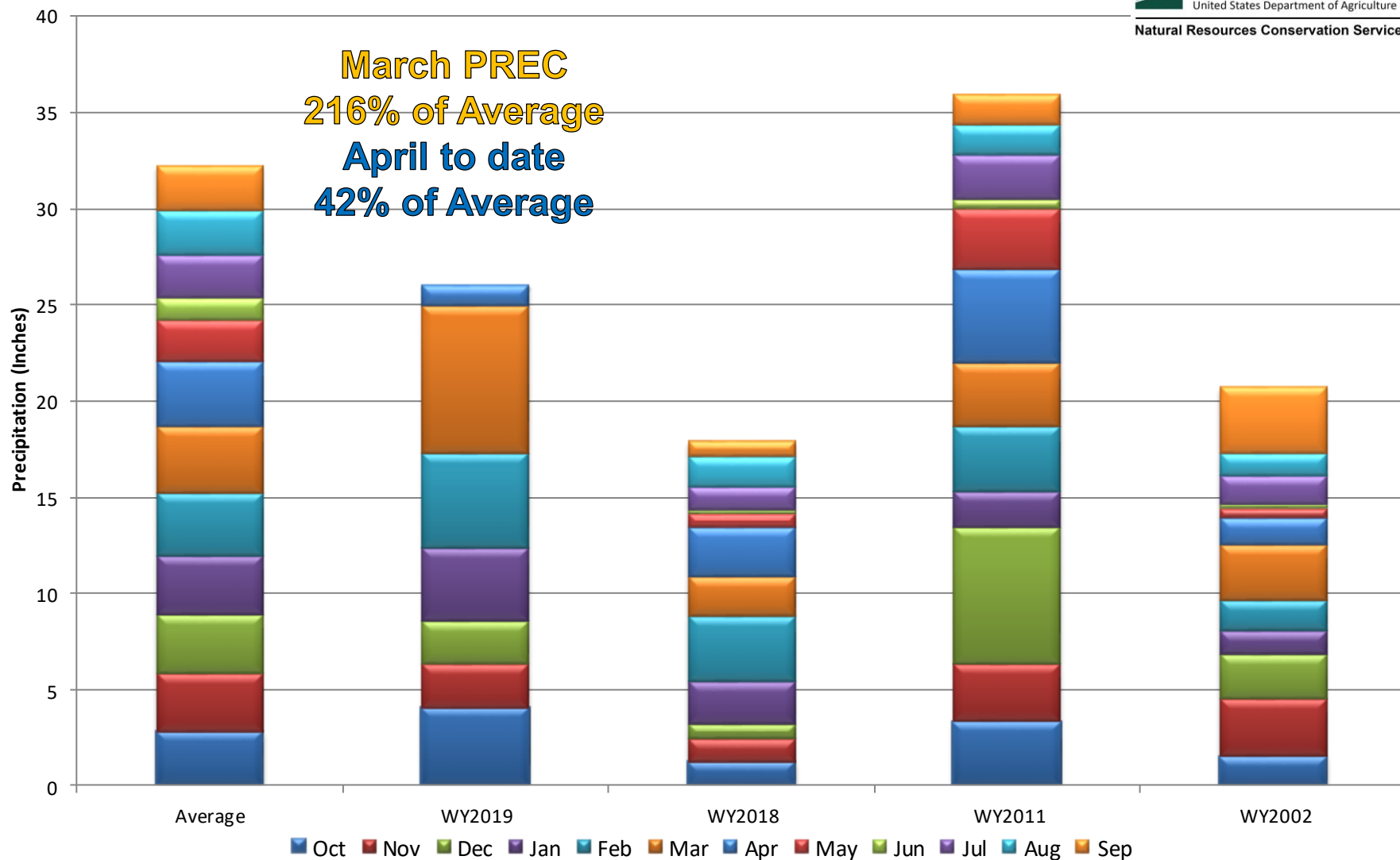
Gunnison River Basin High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Apr 24, 2019



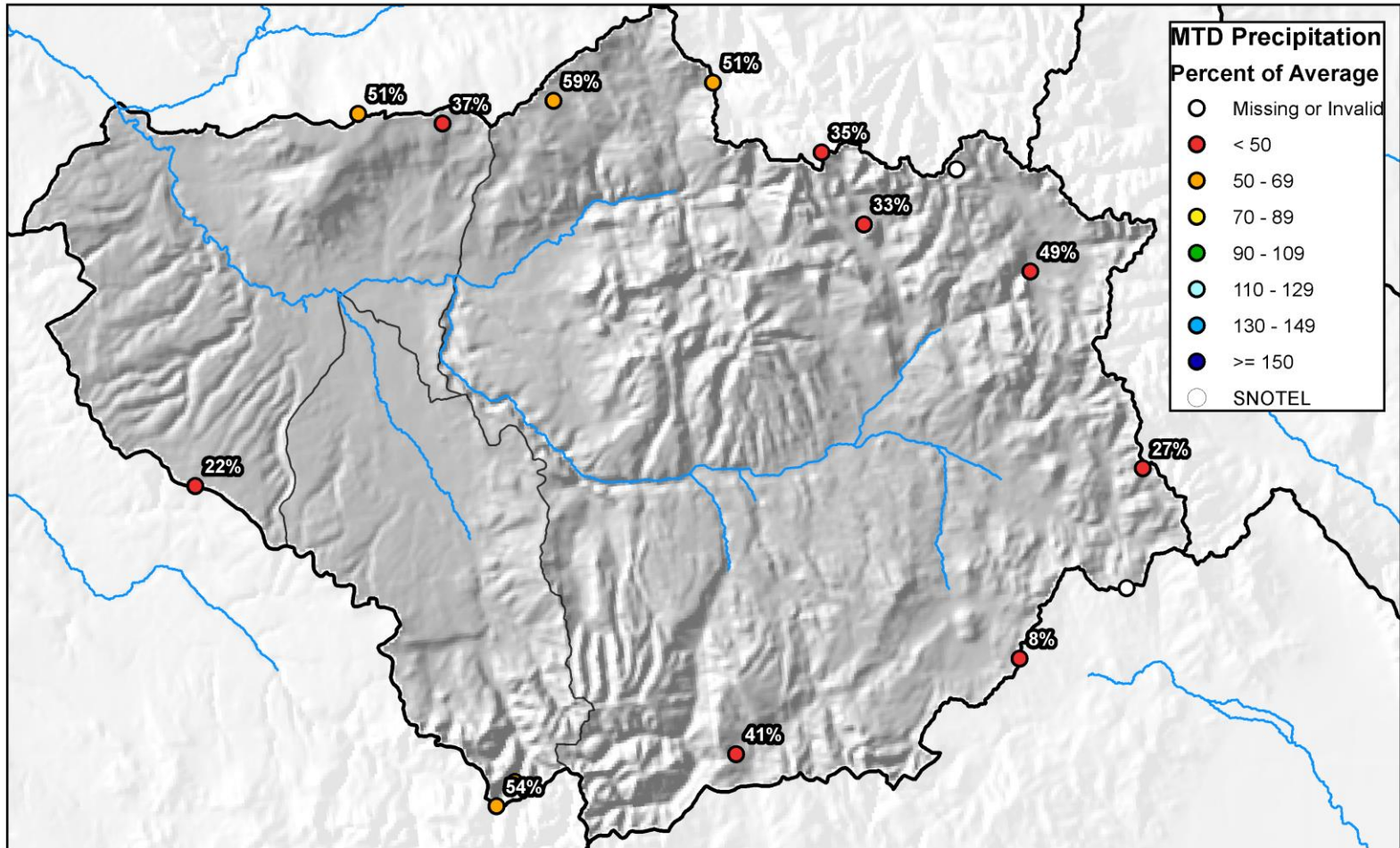
United States Department of Agriculture

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Gunnison River Basin Month to Date Precipitation Summary

Current as of Apr 24, 2019

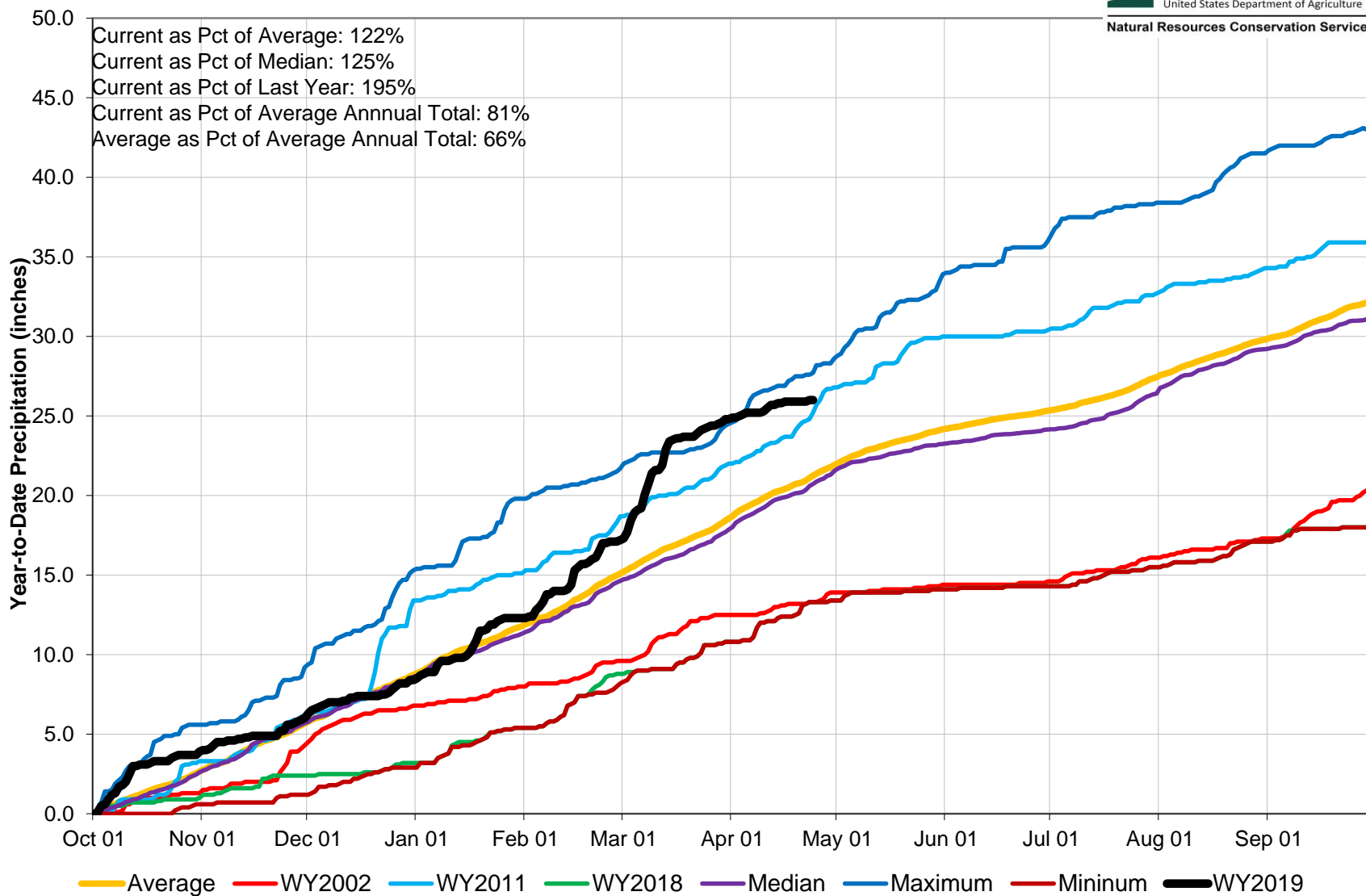


0 5 10 20 30 40 Miles



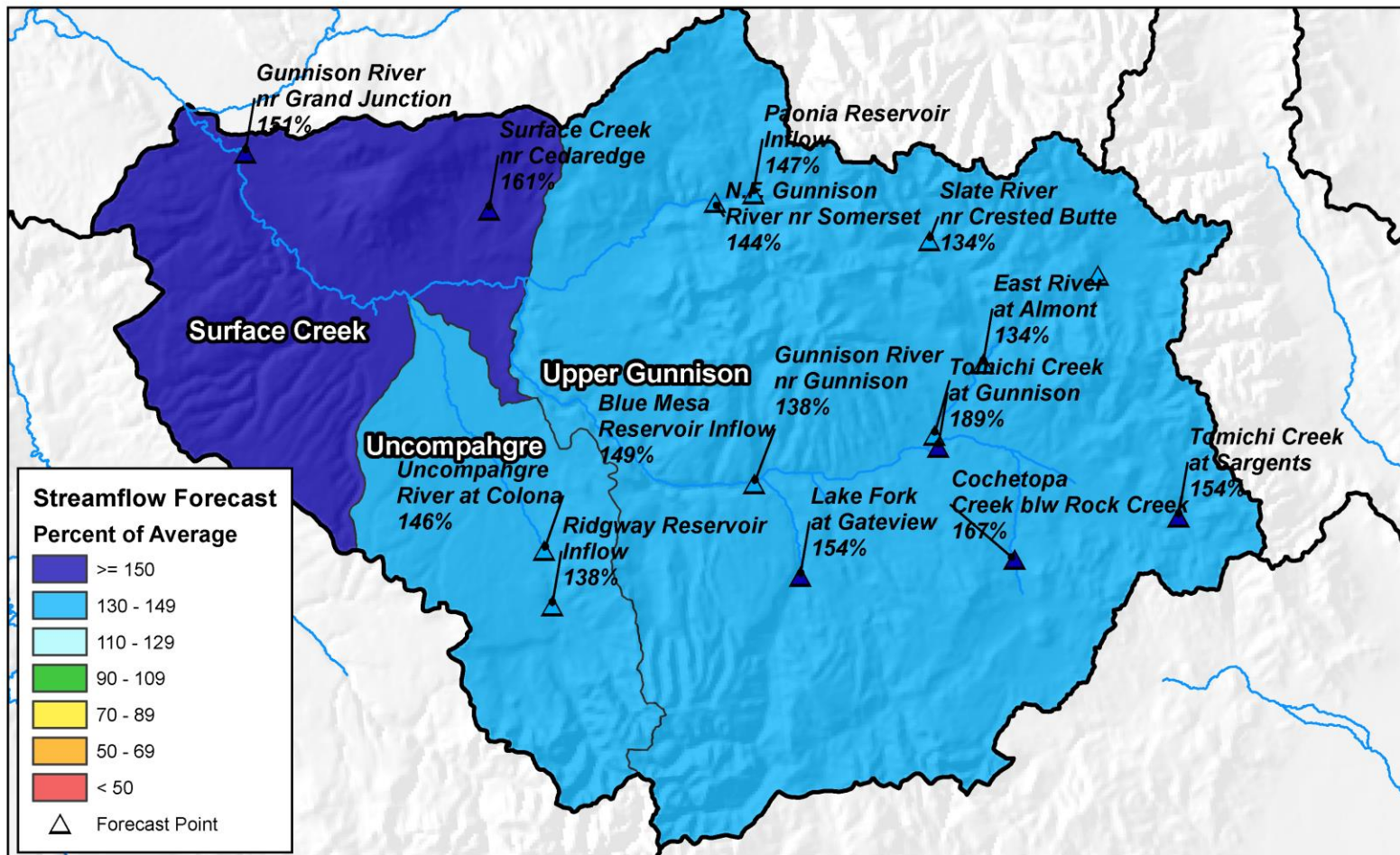
Gunnison River Basin High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Apr 24, 2019

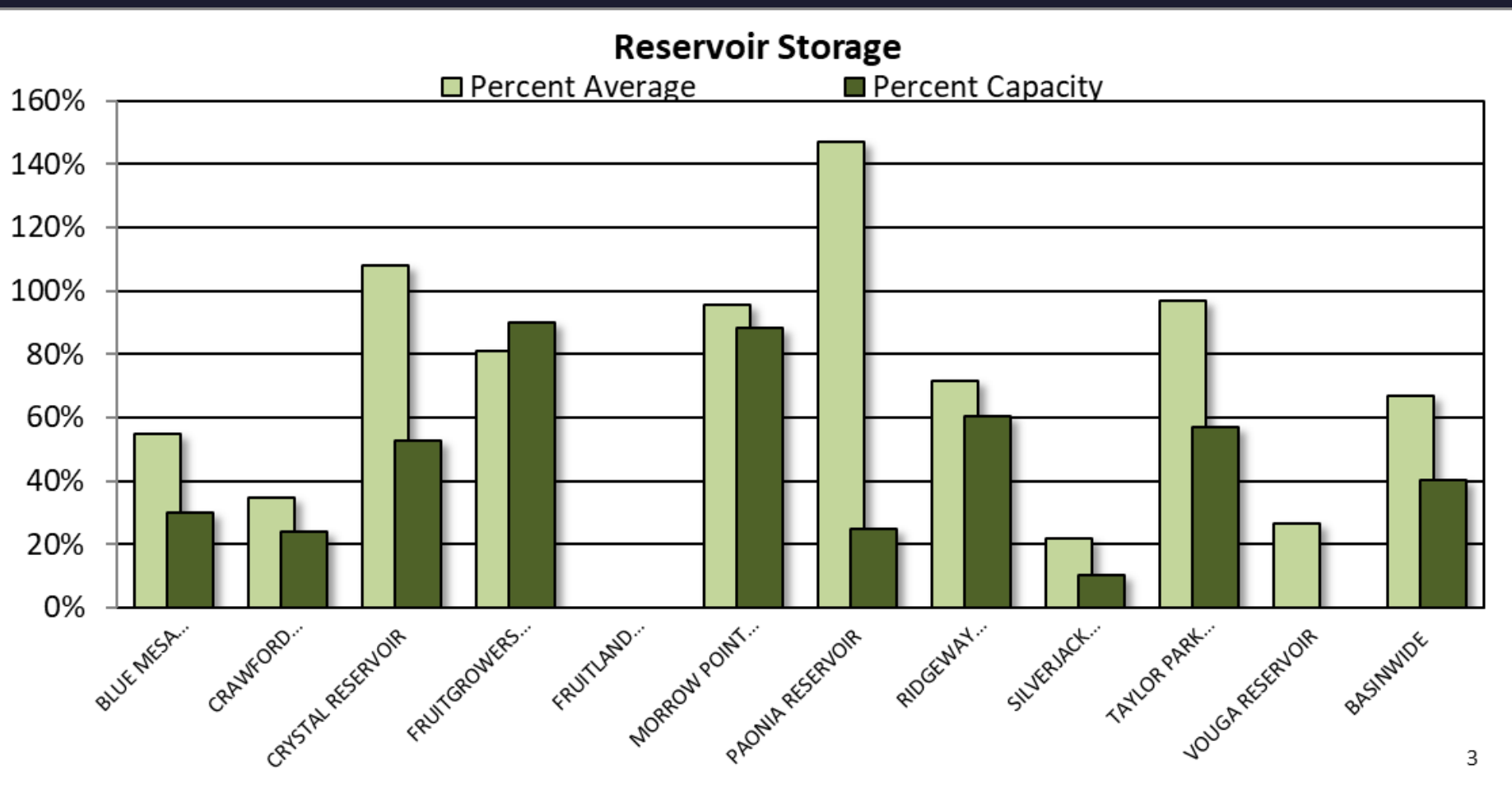


Gunnison River Basin Water Supply Forecast Summary

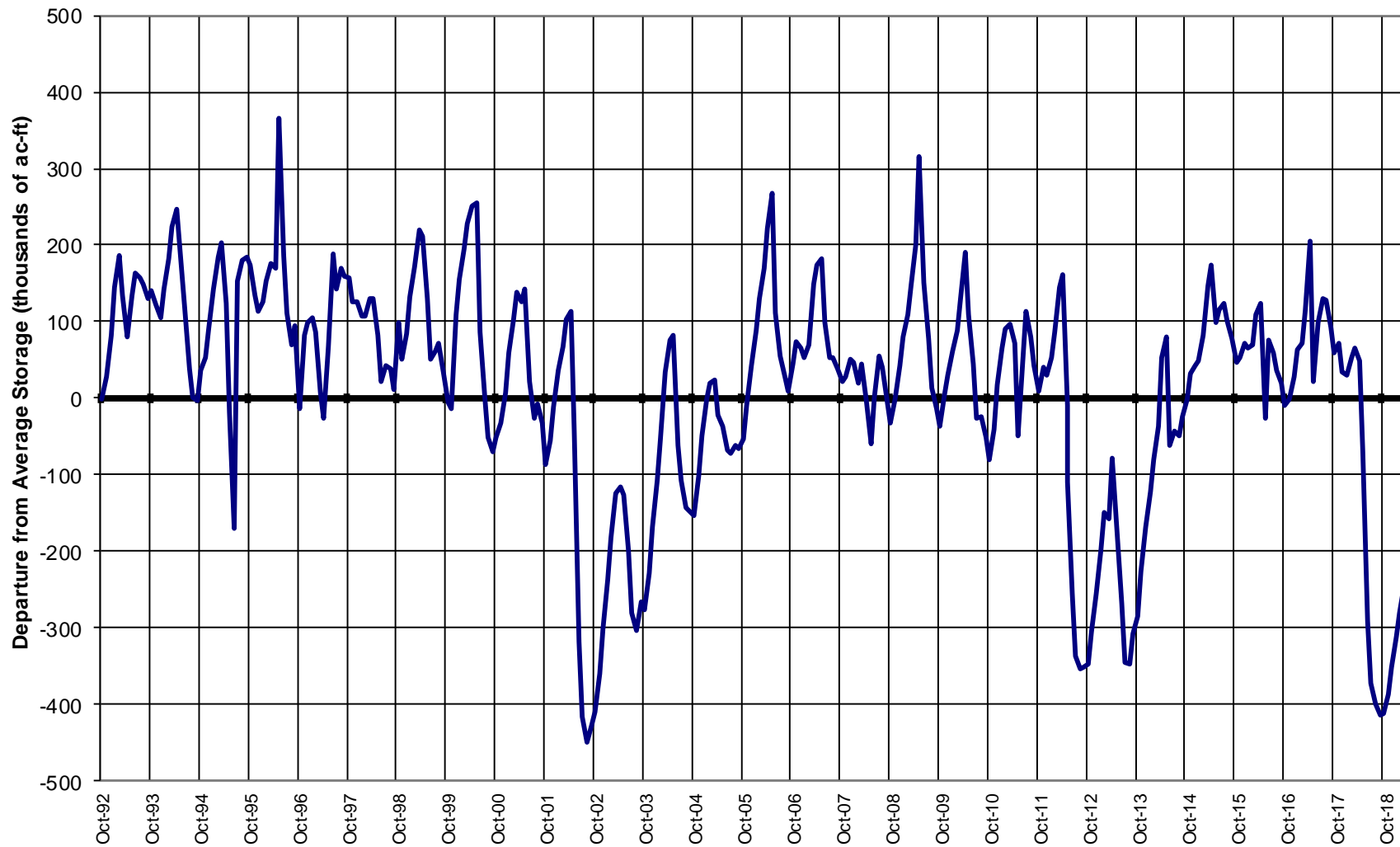
April 1, 2019



0 5 10 20 30 40 Miles

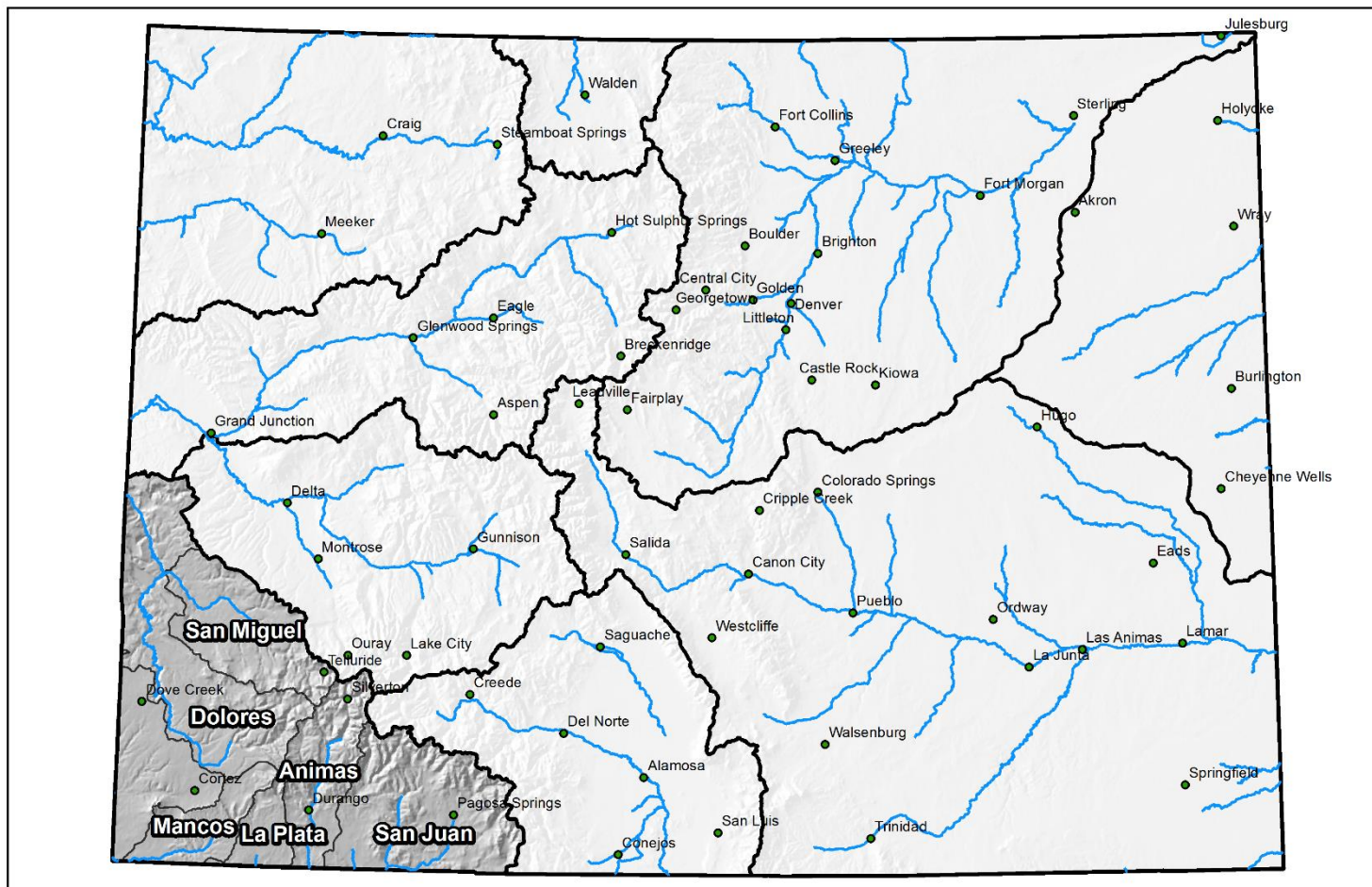


GUNNISON RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage Departure from Average



Major Basin Summary

San Miguel, Dolores, Animas, and San Juan River Basins



0 25 50 100 150 200 Miles



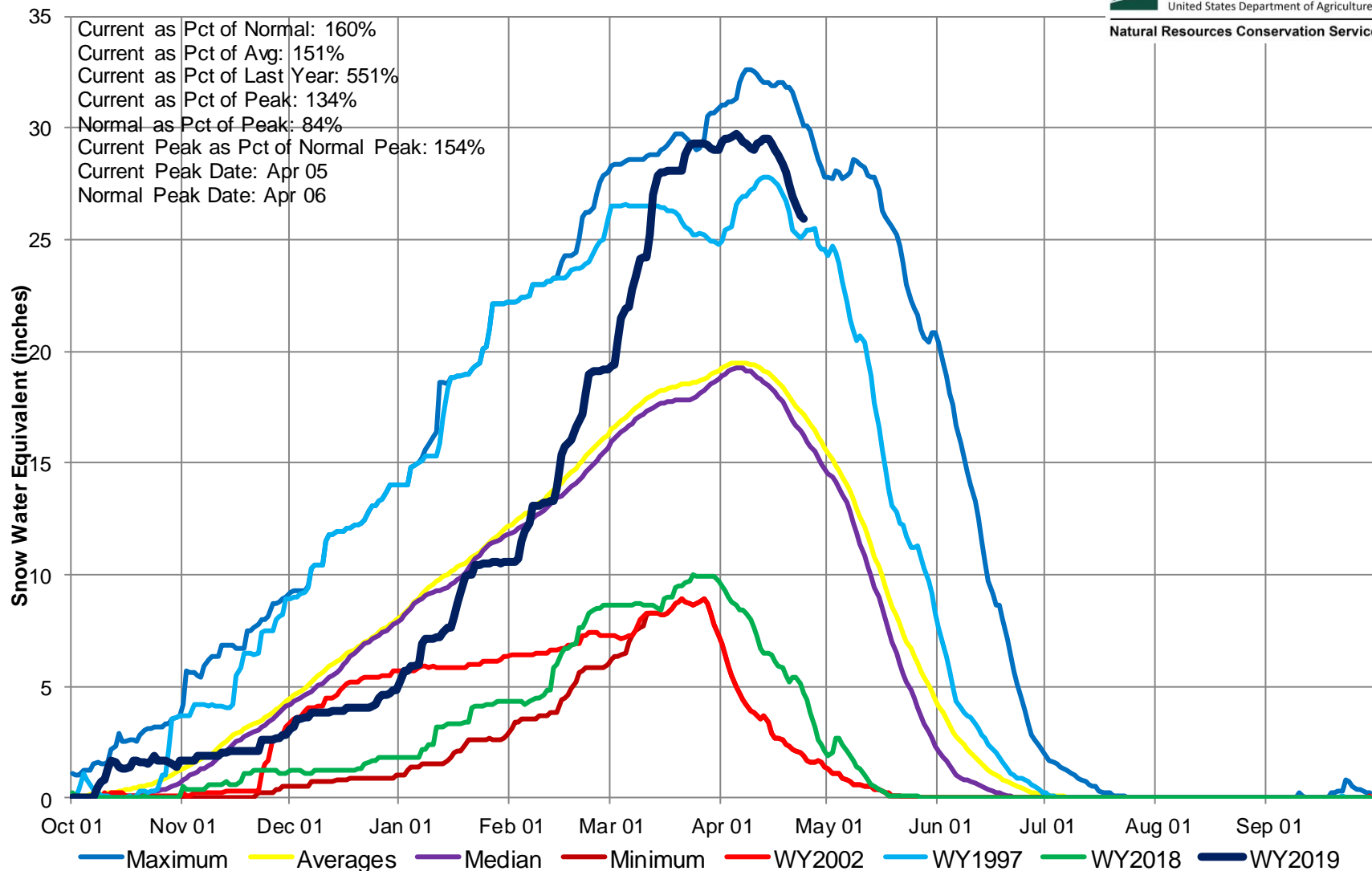
San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan River Basins High/Low Snowpack Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Apr 24, 2019



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

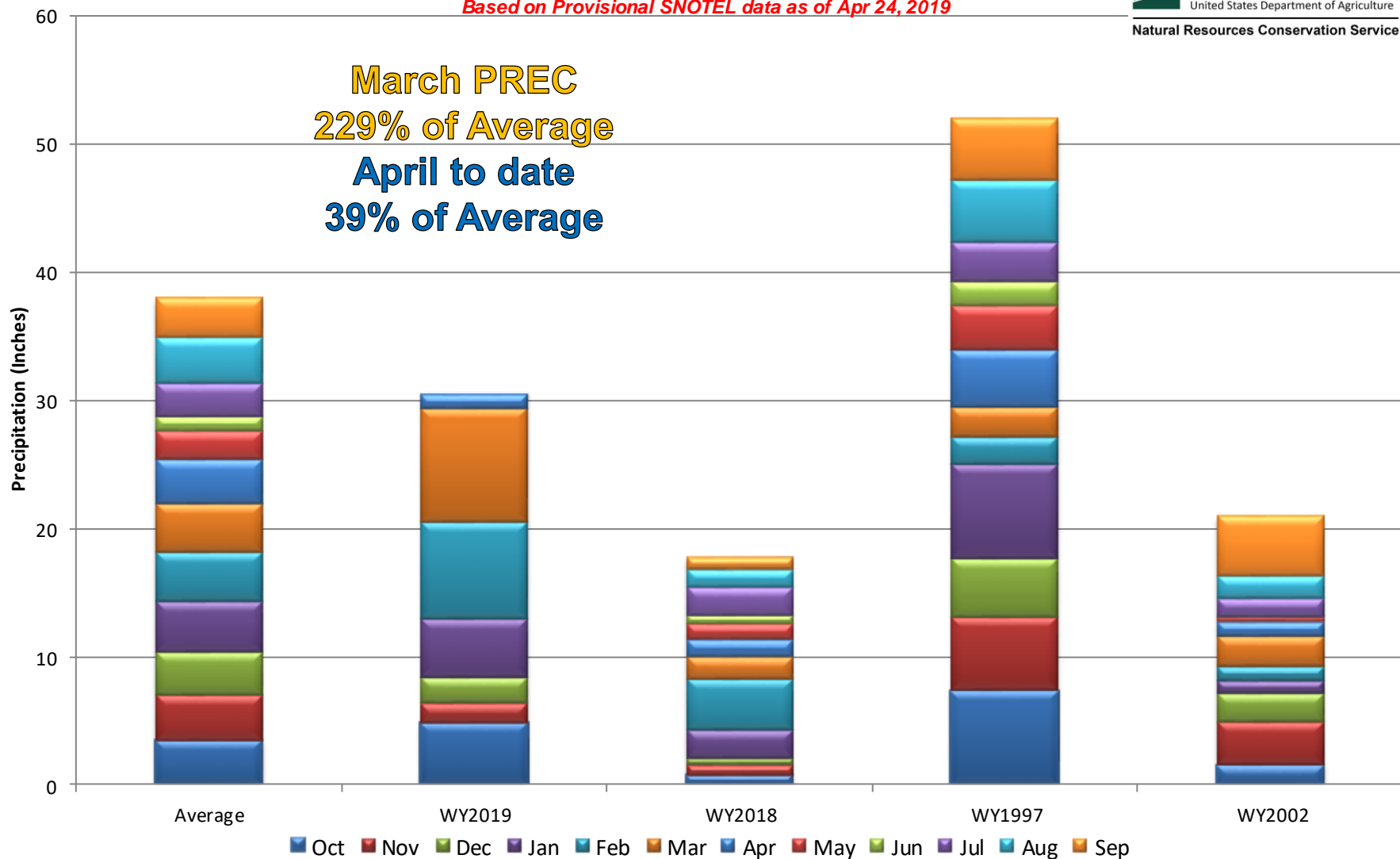
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Apr 24, 2019



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March PREC
229% of Average
April to date
39% of Average

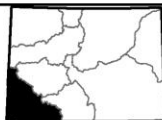
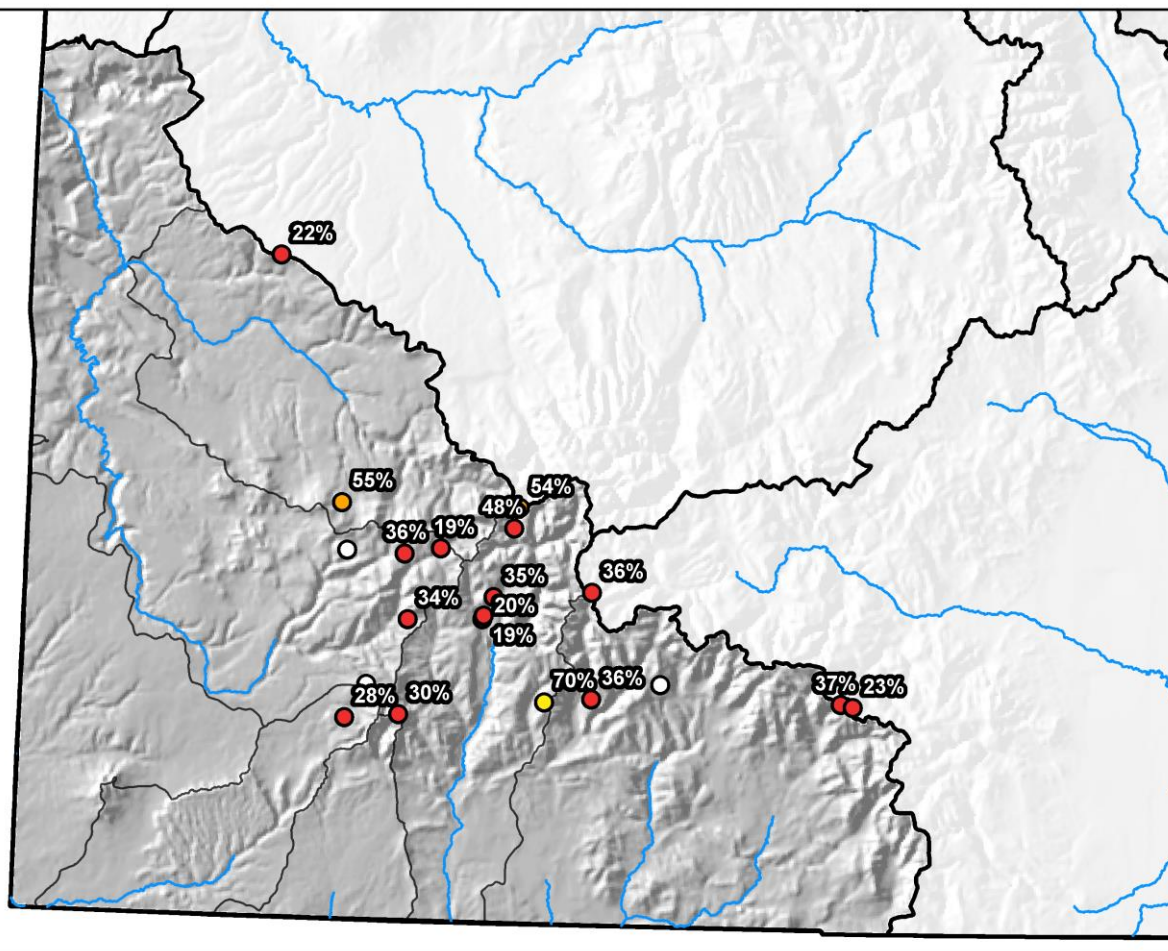


San Miguel, Dolores, Animas, and San Juan River Basins Month to Date Precipitation Summary

Current as of Apr 24, 2019

MTD Precipitation Percent of Average

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



0 10 20 40 60 80 Miles

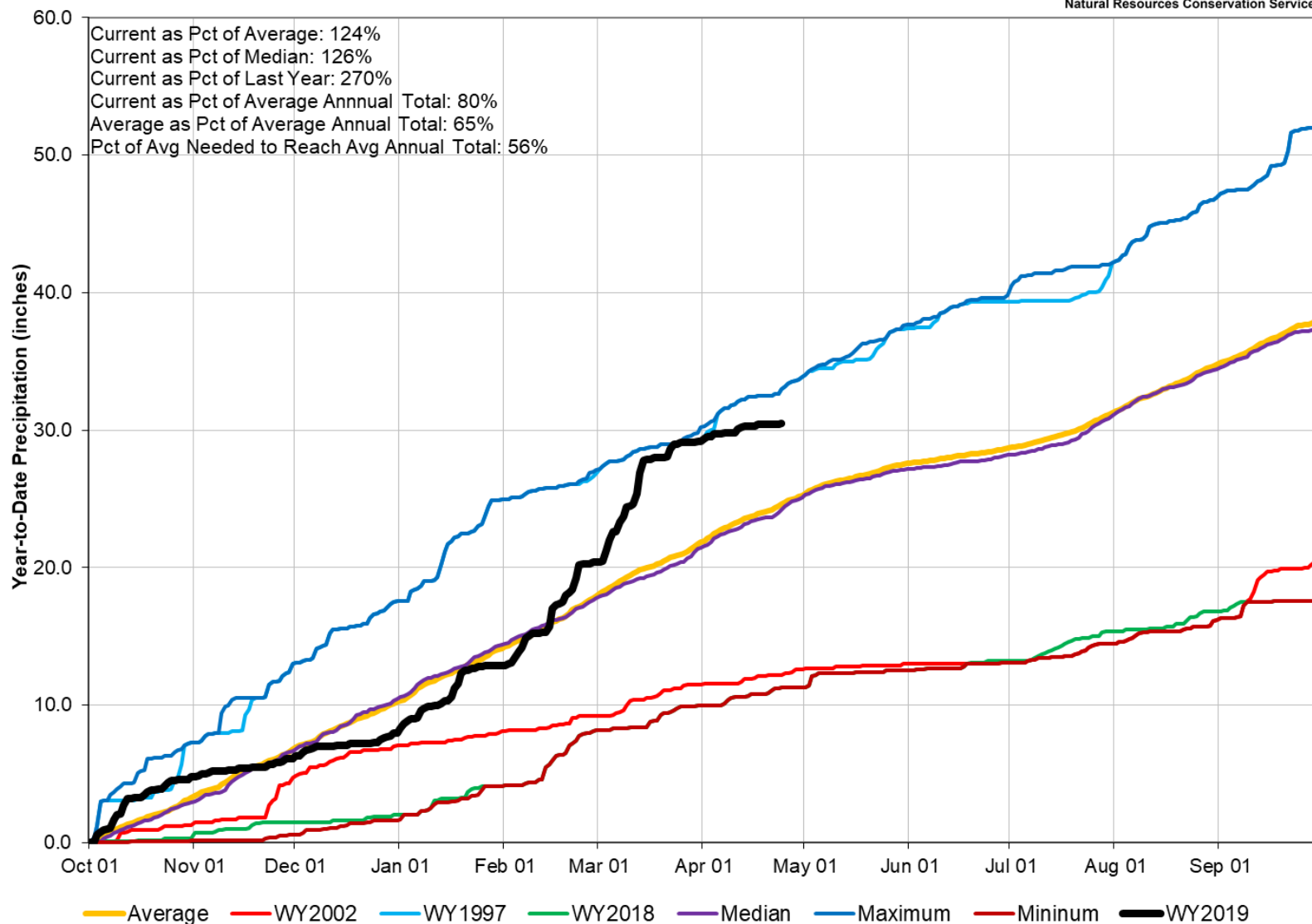
San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan River Basins High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Apr 24, 2019



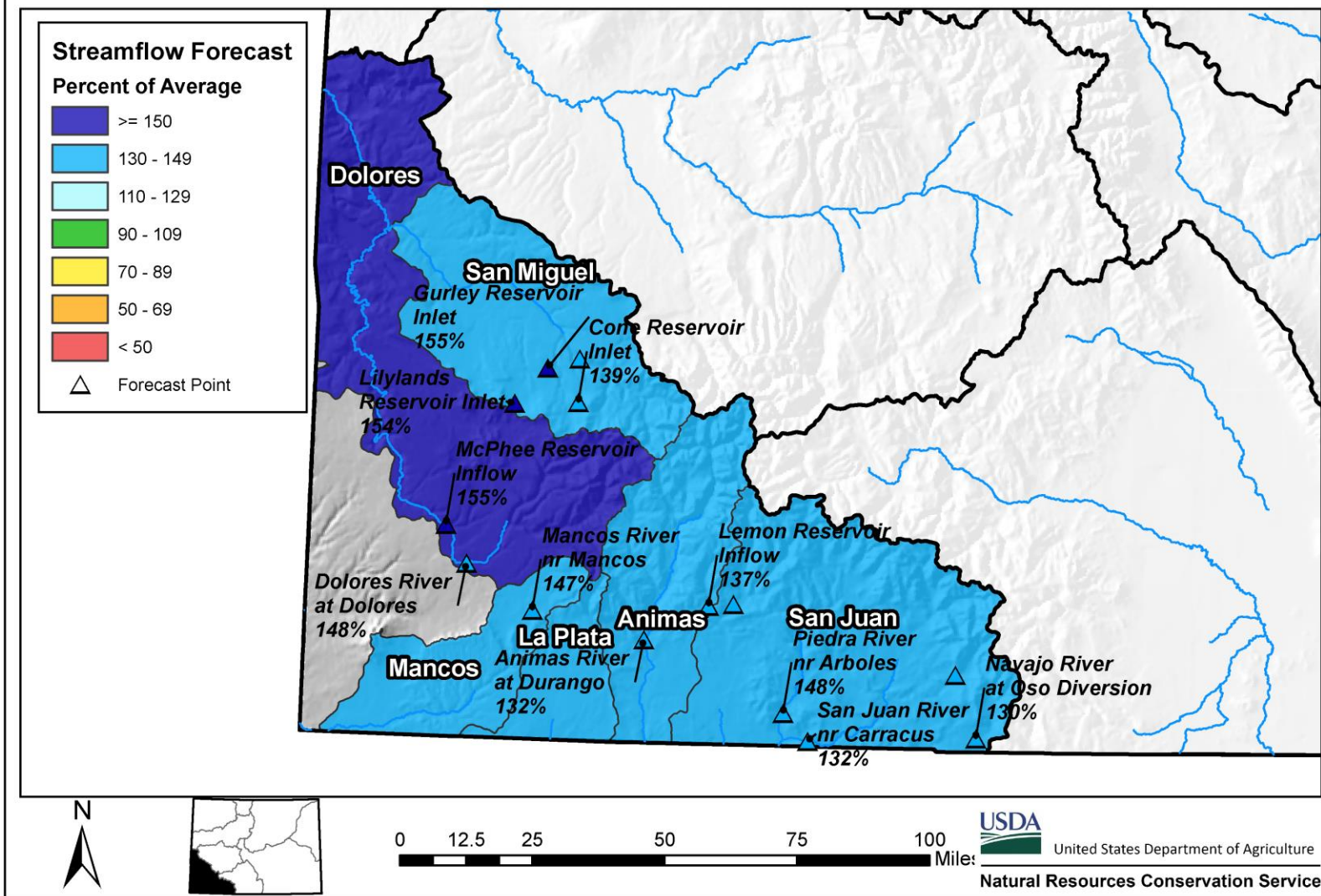
United States Department of Agriculture

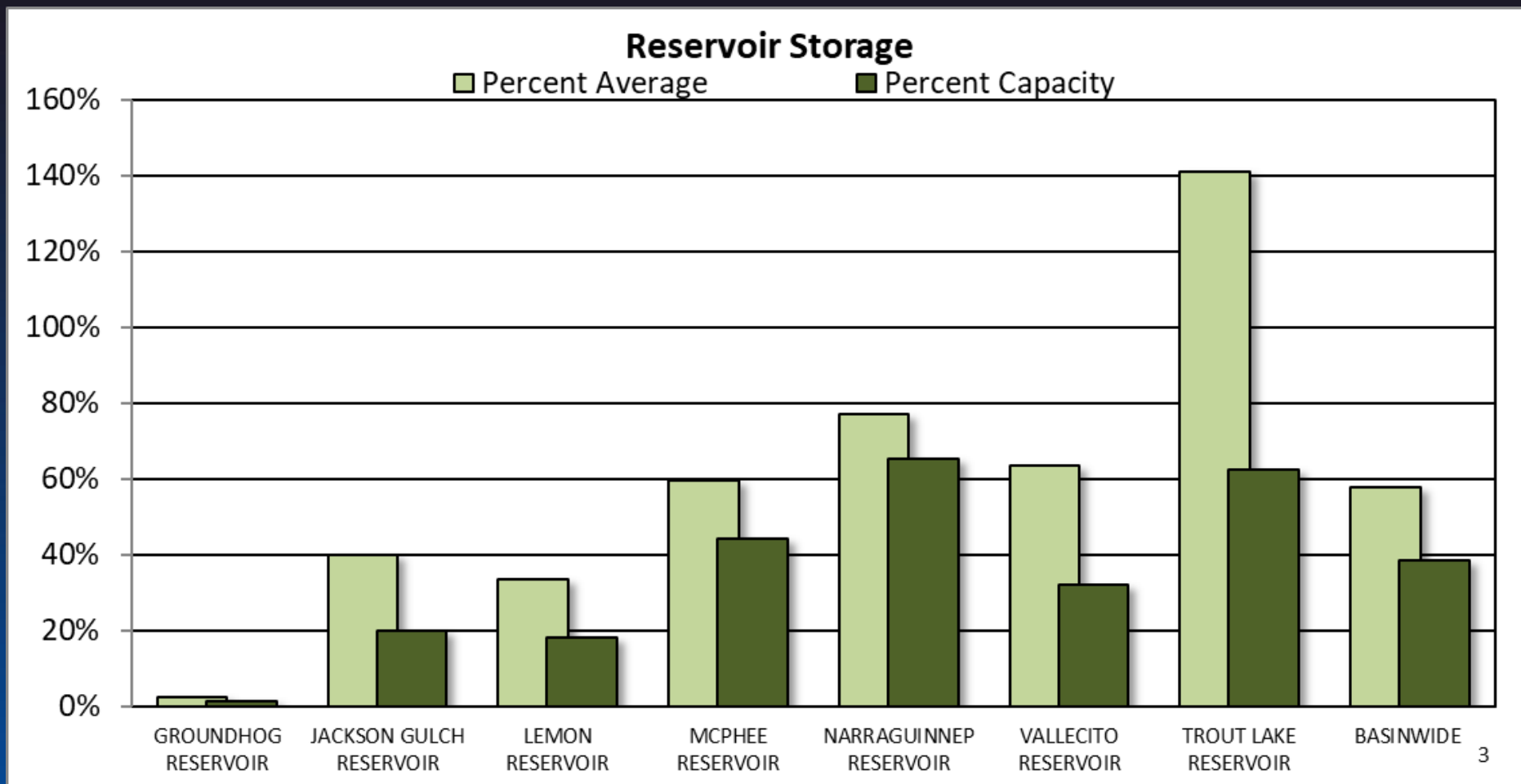
Natural Resources Conservation Service



San Miguel, Dolores, Animas, and San Juan River Basins Streamflow Forecast Summary

April 1, 2019

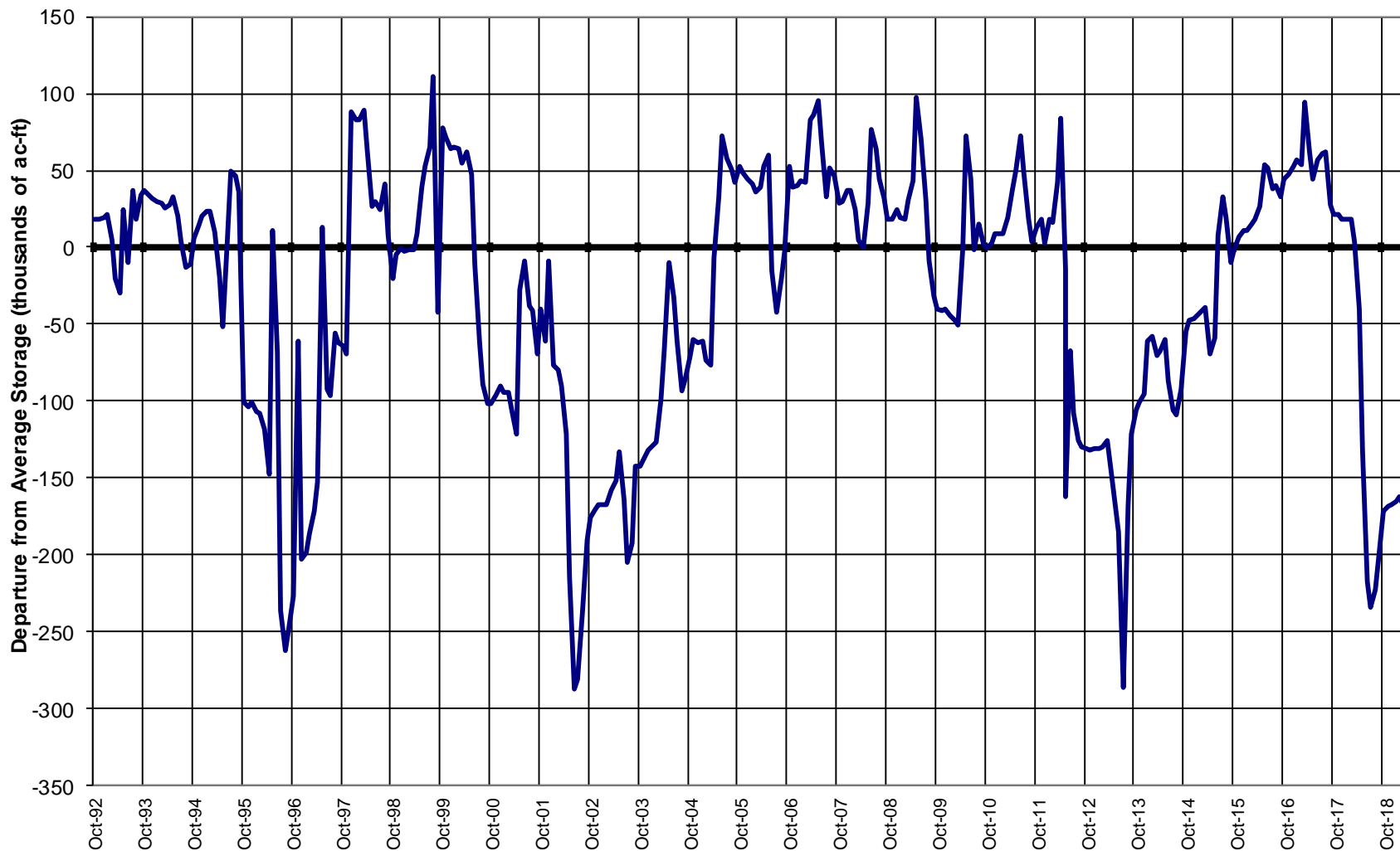




SAN MIGUEL, DOLORES, ANIMAS AND SAN JUAN RIVER BASINS

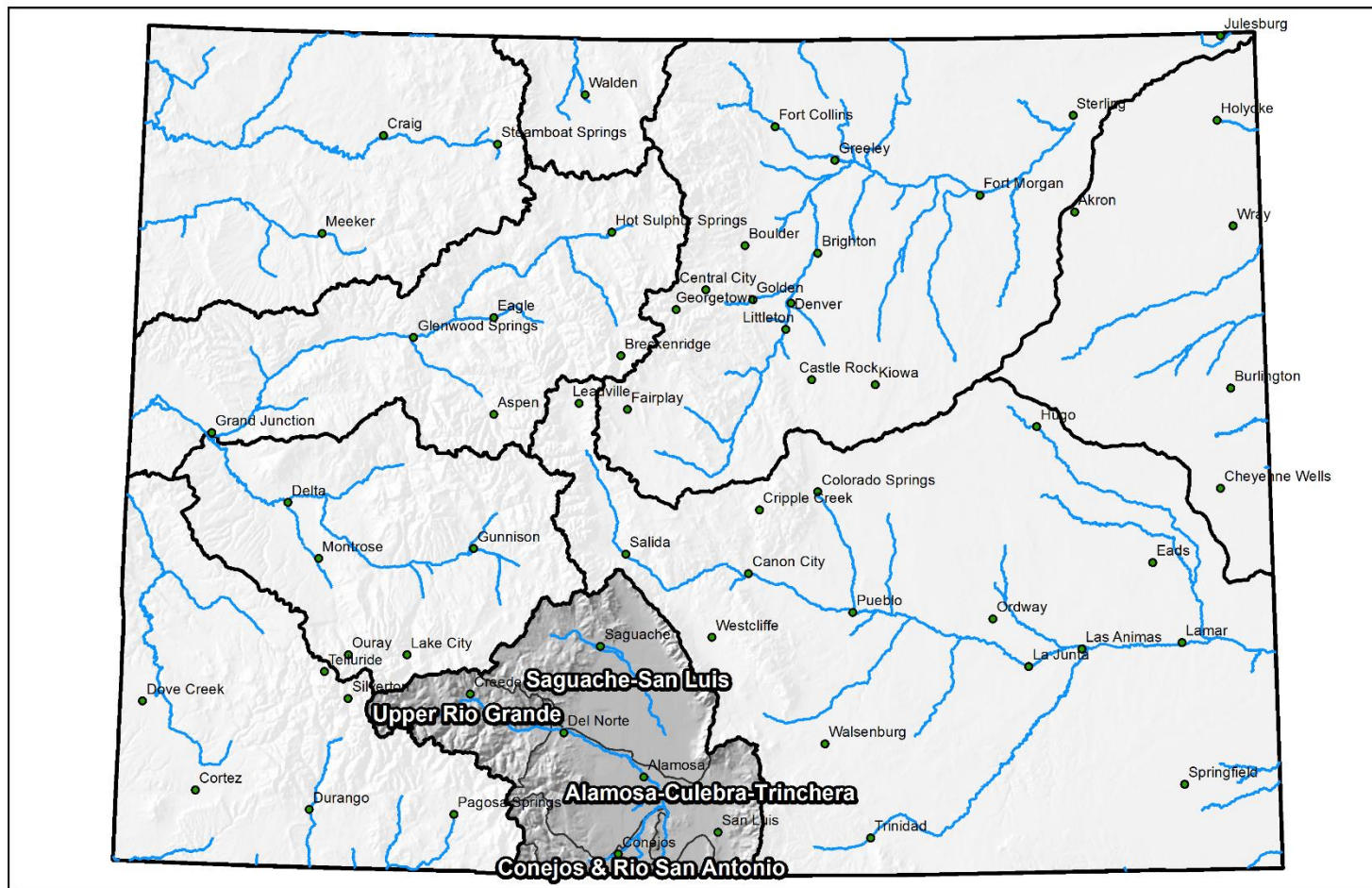
Reservoir Storage

Departure from Average



Major Basin Summary

Upper Rio Grande River Basin



0 25 50 100 150 200 Miles



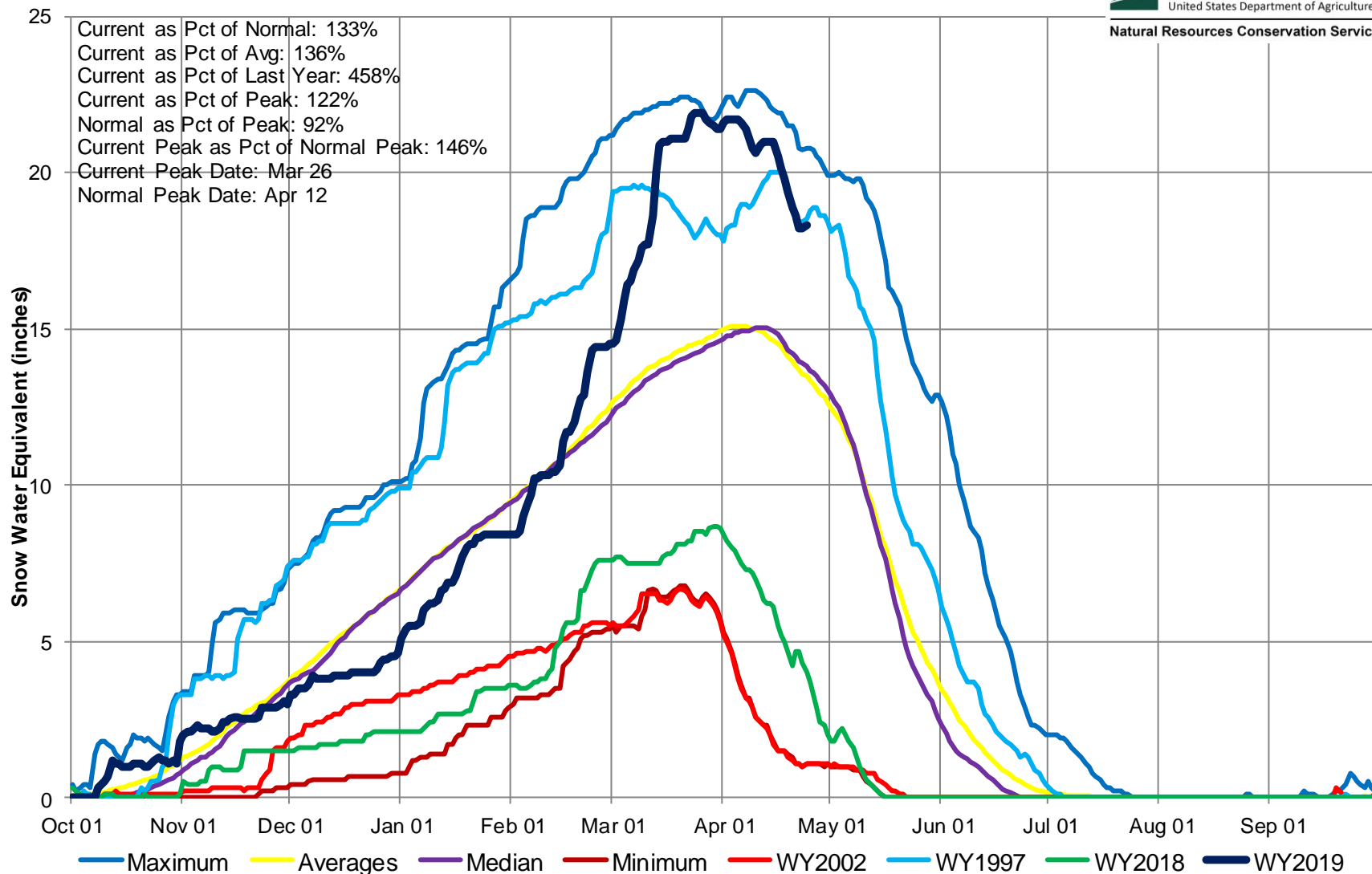
Upper Rio Grande Basin High/Low Snowpack Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Apr 24, 2019



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service



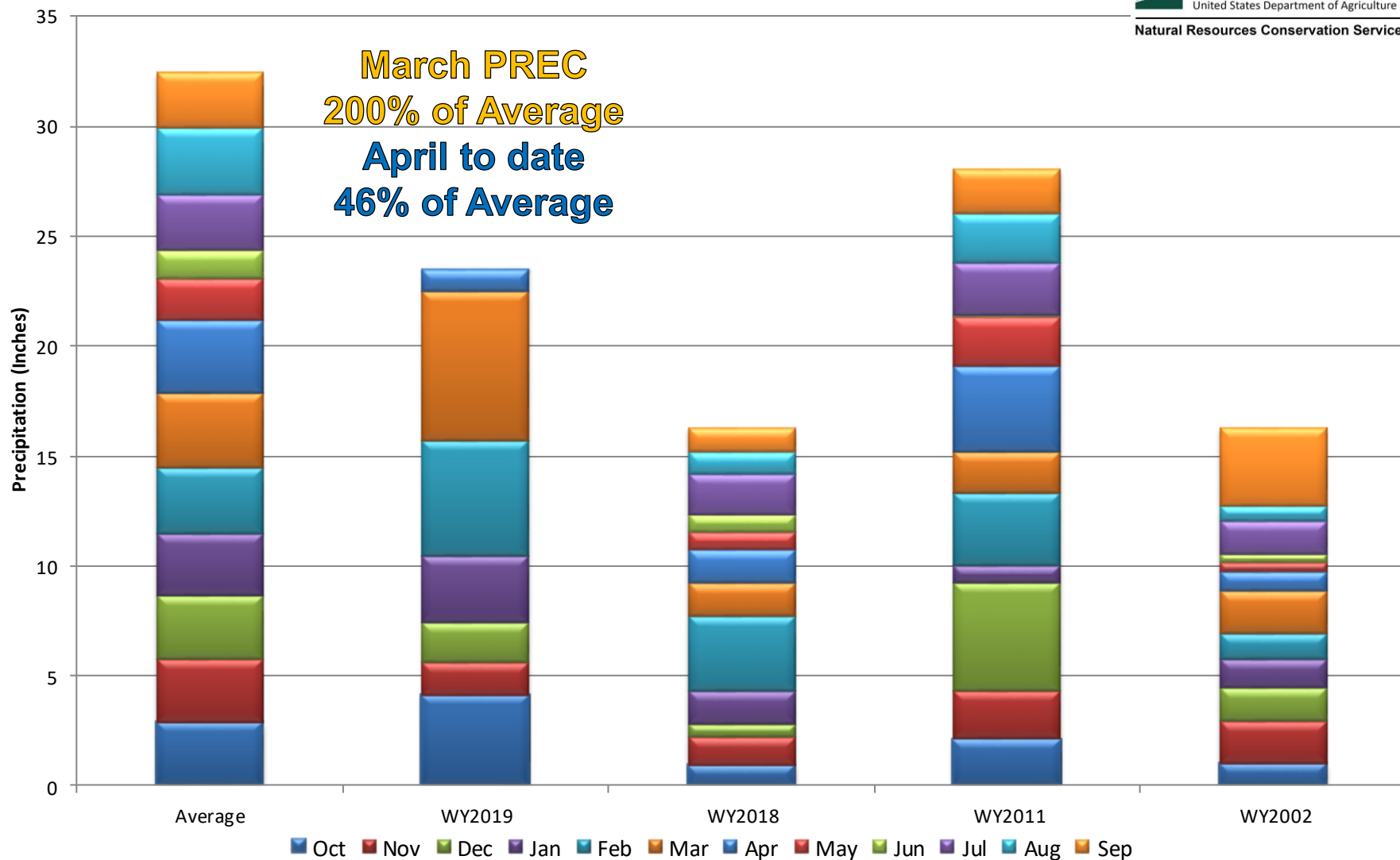
Upper Rio Grande River Basin High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Apr 24, 2019



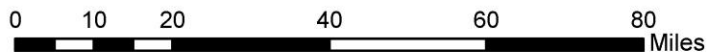
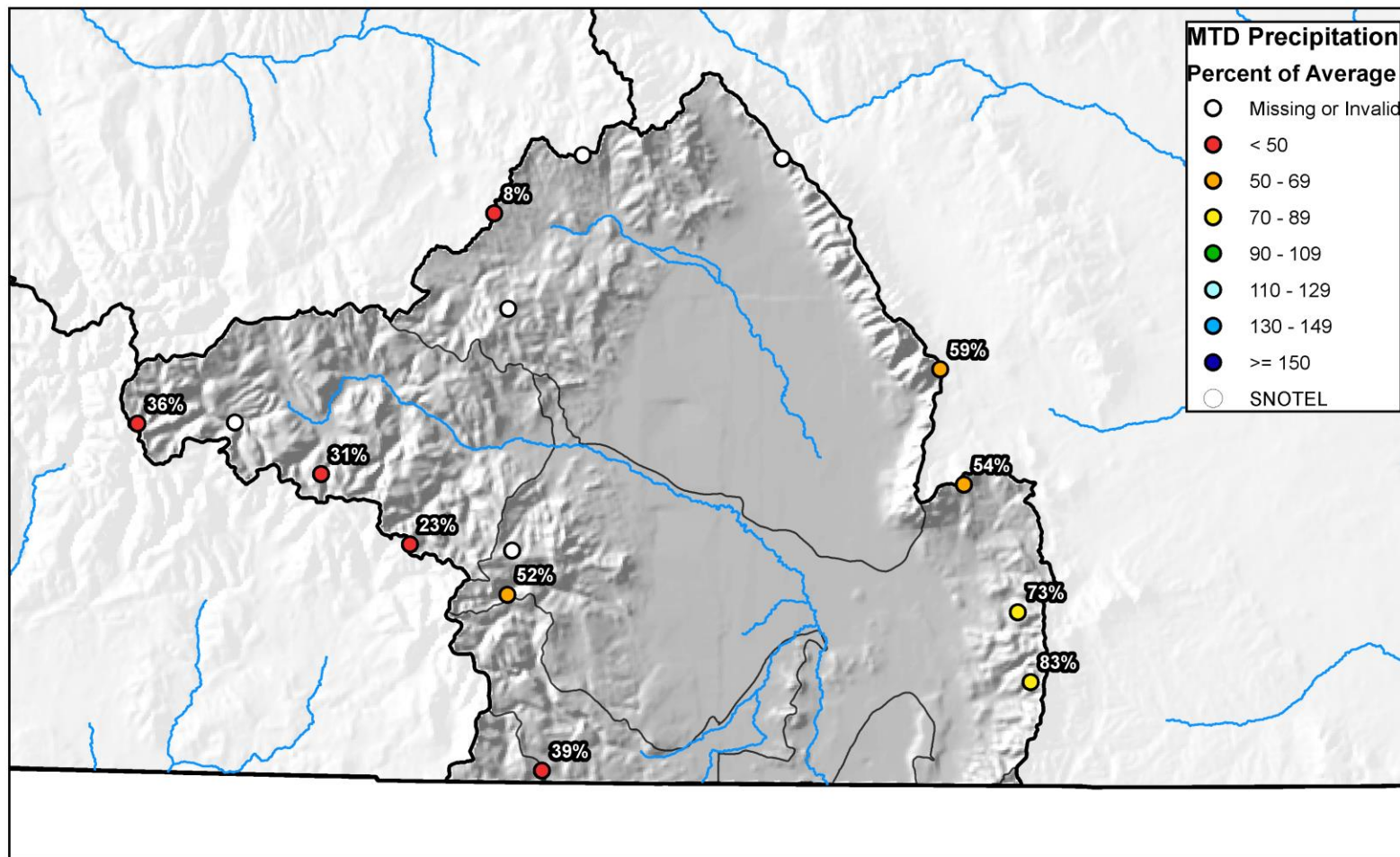
United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service



Upper Rio Grande River Basin Month to Date Precipitation Summary

Current as of Apr 24, 2019





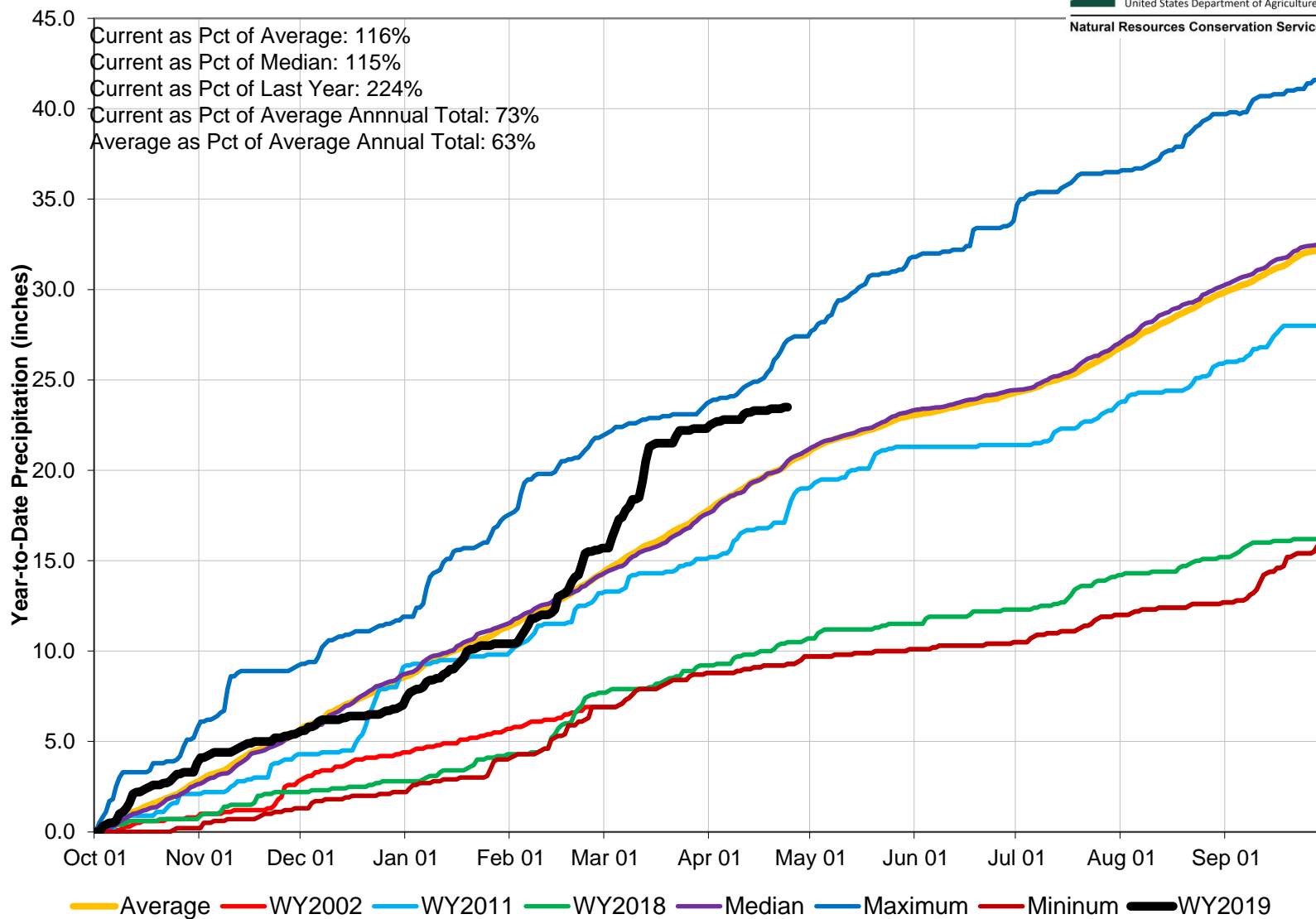
Upper Rio Grande River Basin High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Apr 24, 2019



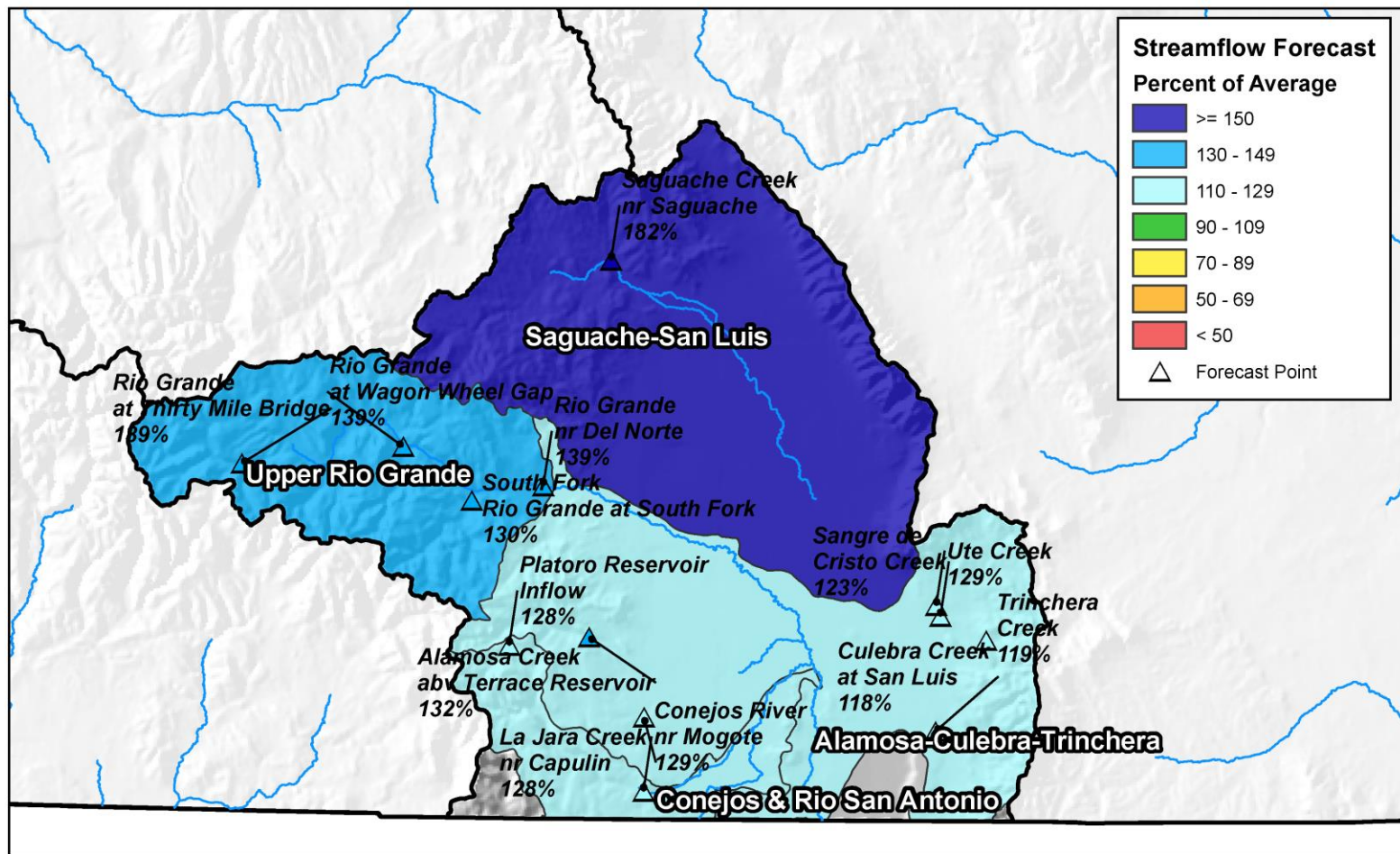
United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

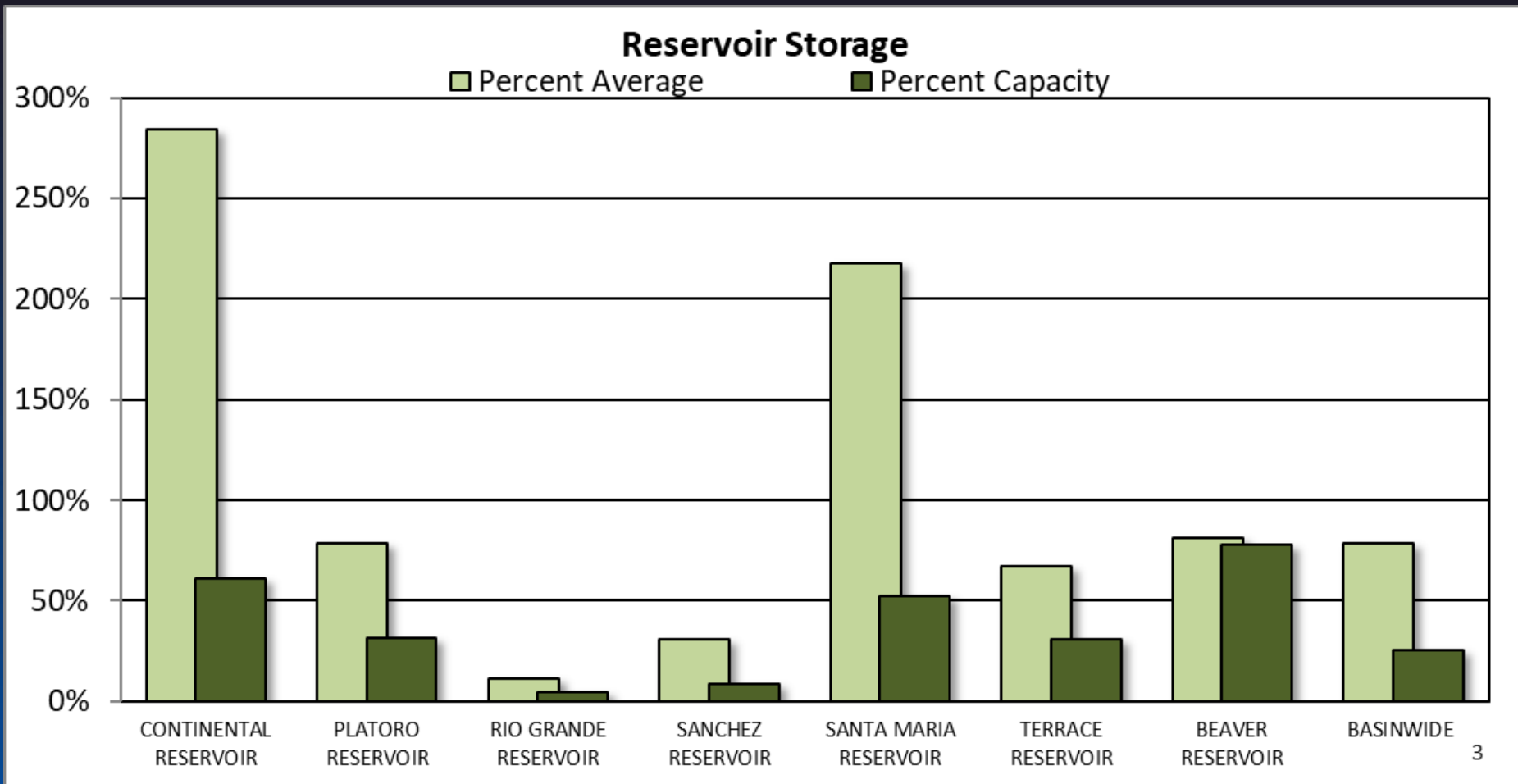


Upper Rio Grande River Basin Streamflow Forecast Summary

April 1, 2019

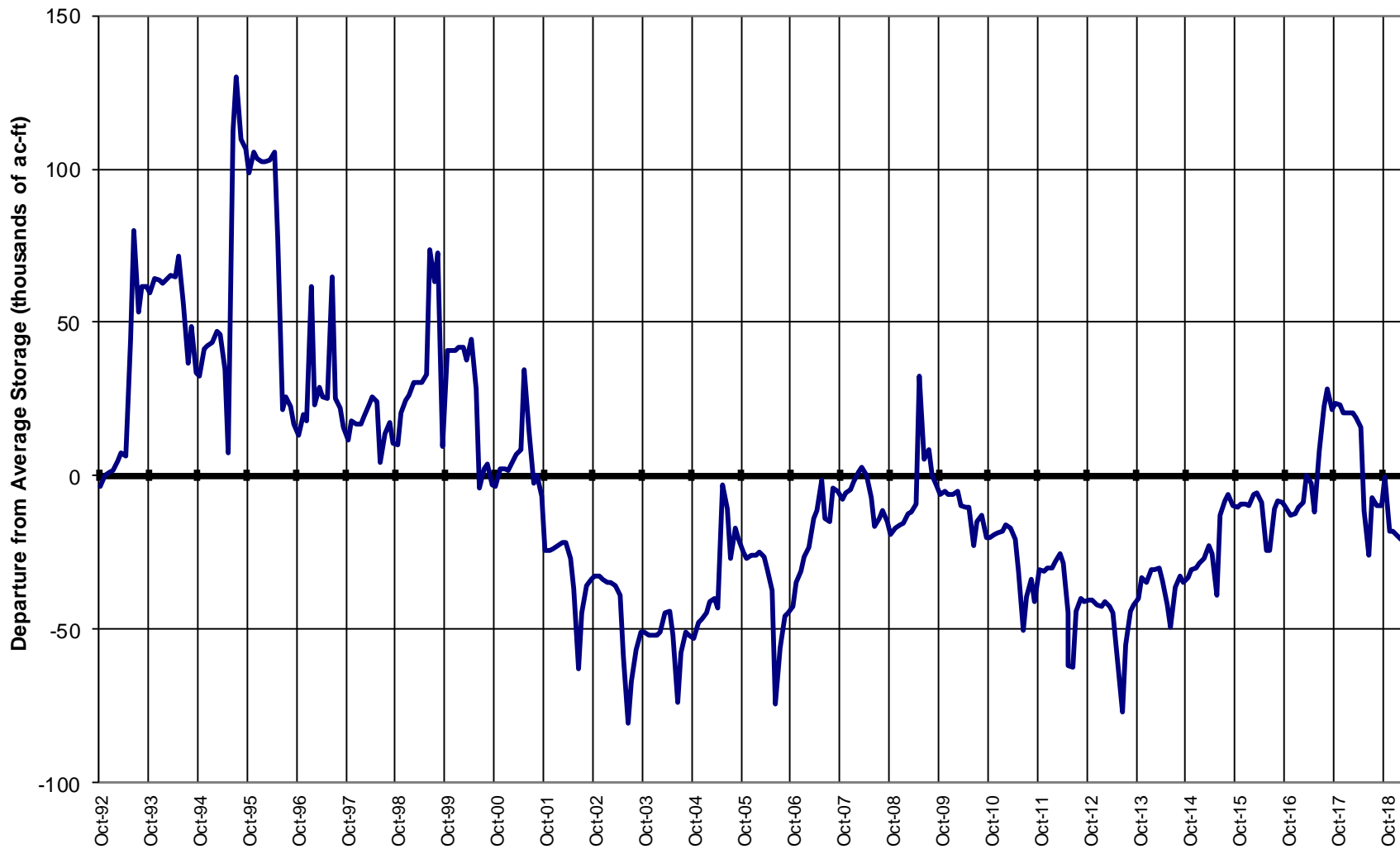


0 10 20 40 60 80 Miles



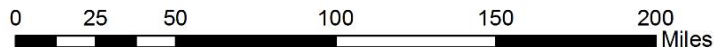
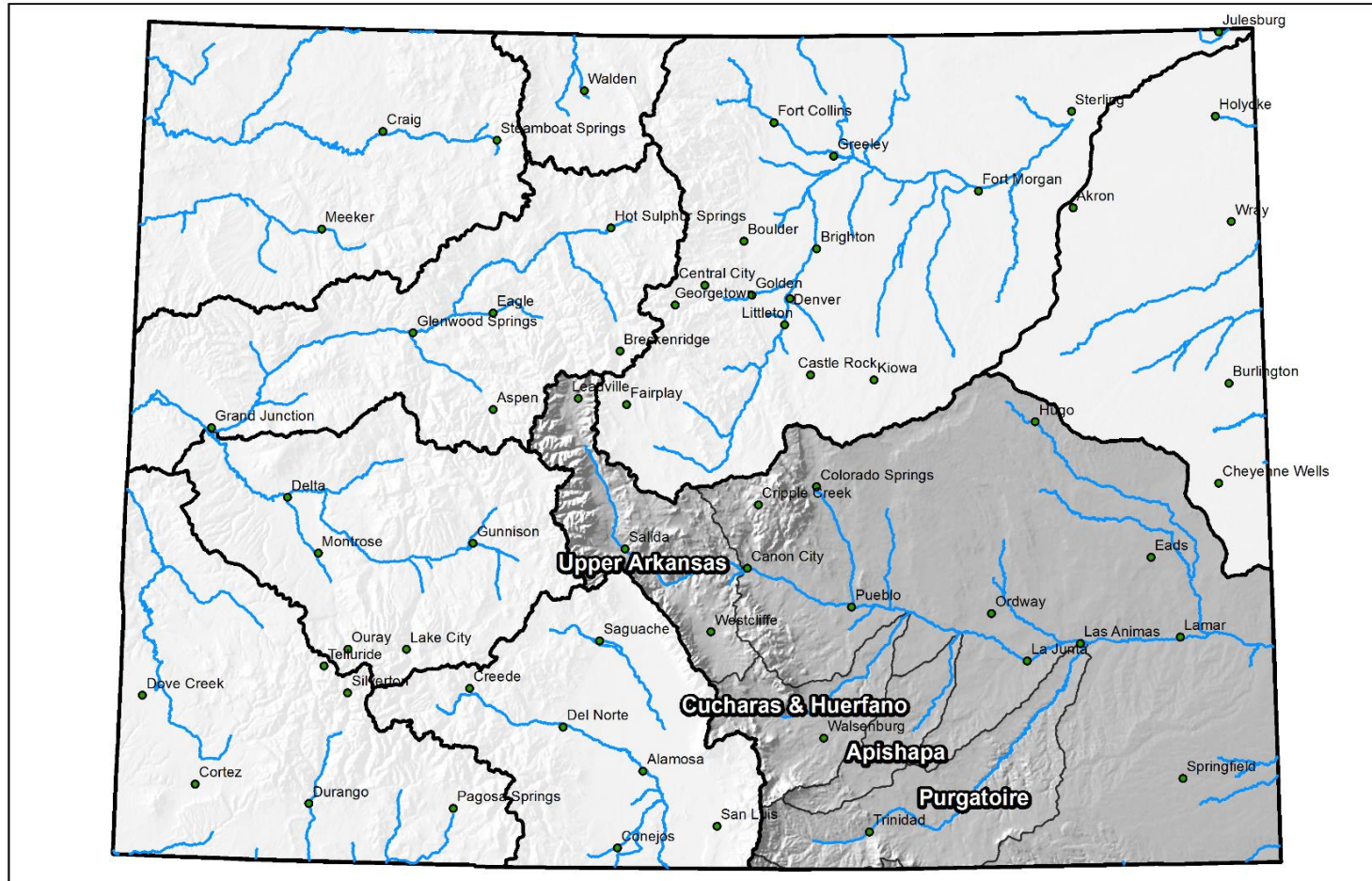


UPPER RIO GRANDE BASIN Reservoir Storage Departure from Average



Major Basin Summary

Arkansas River Basin



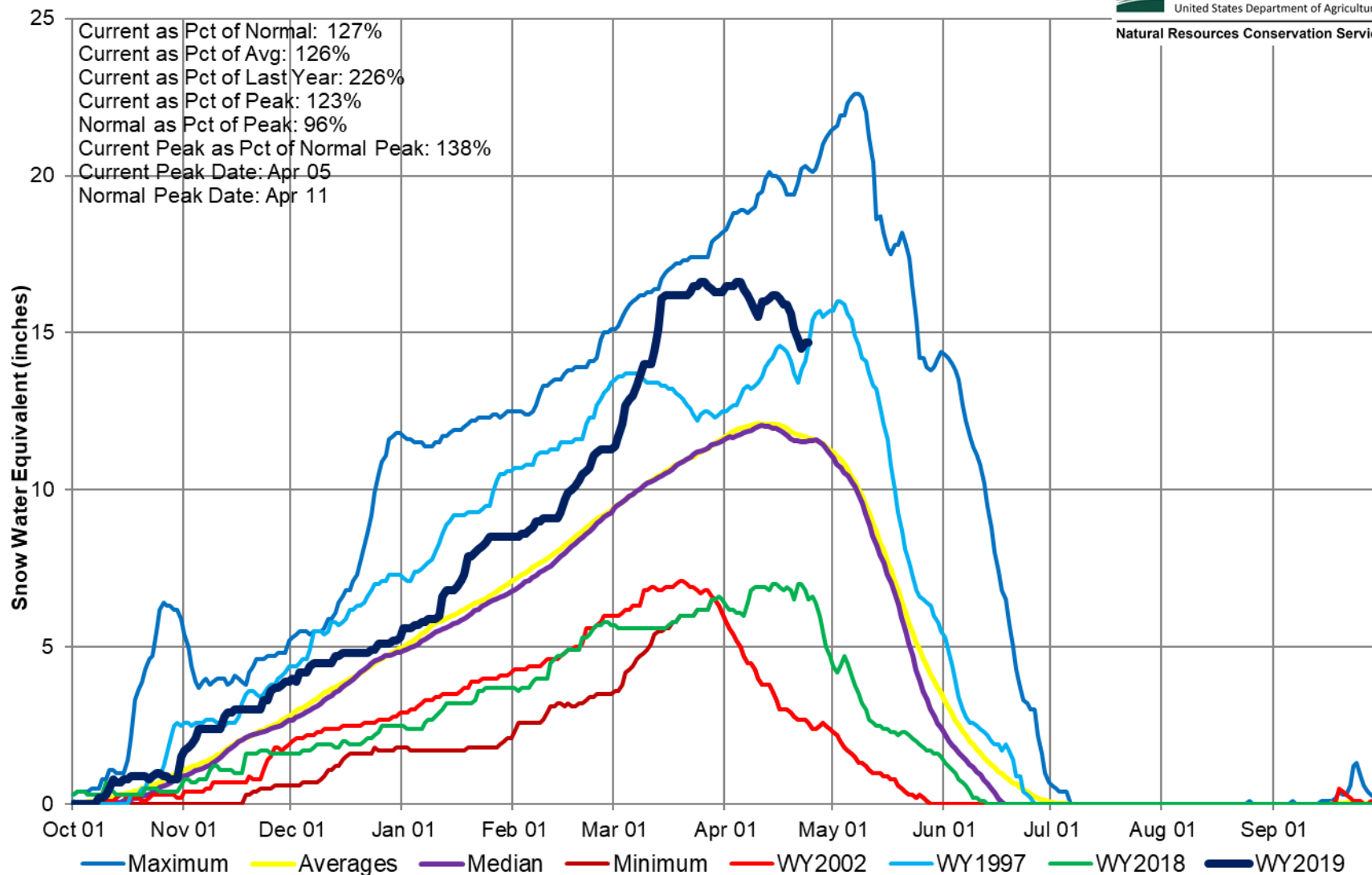
Arkansas River Basin High/Low Snowpack Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Apr 24, 2019



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service



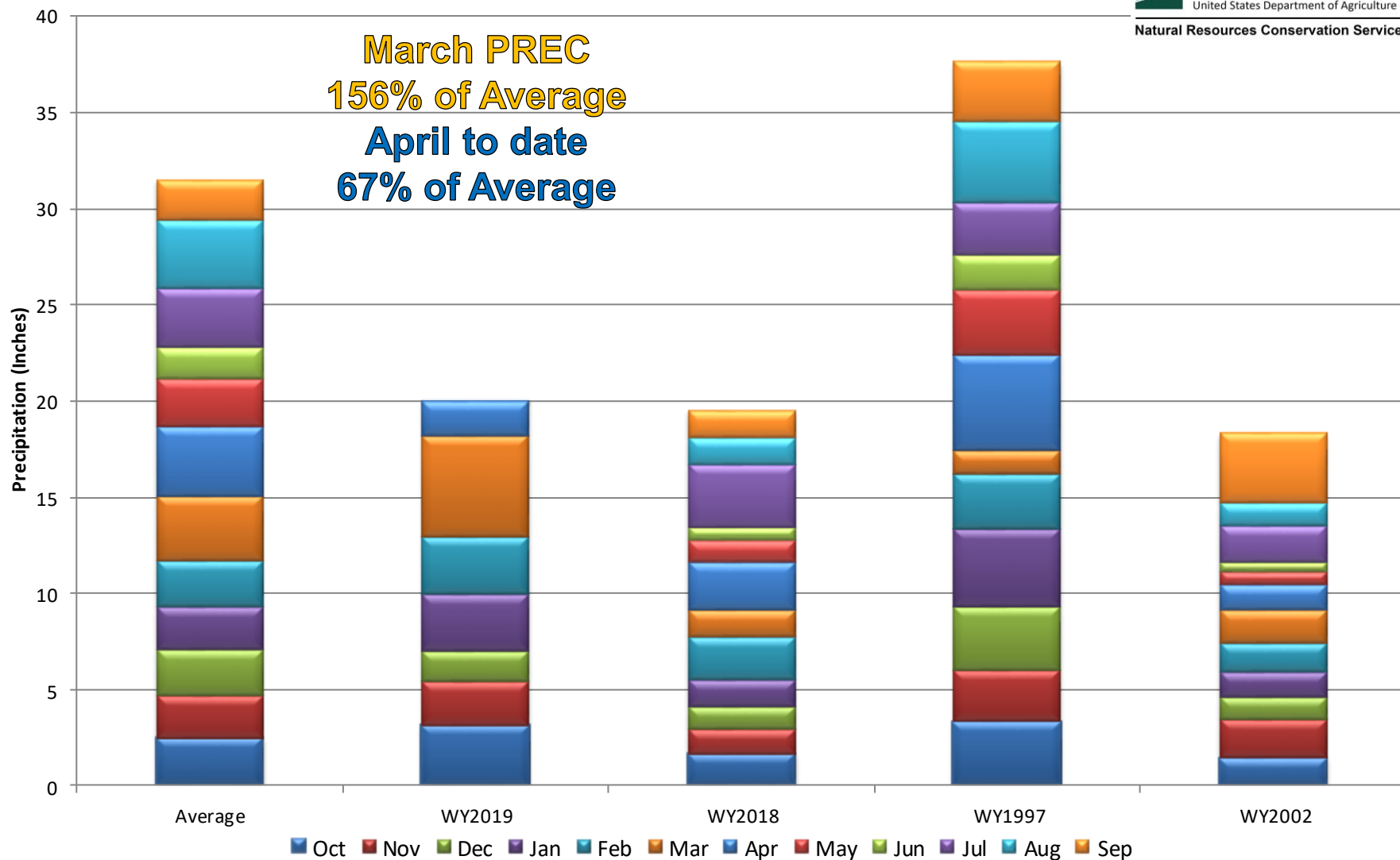
Arkansas River Basin High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Apr 24, 2019



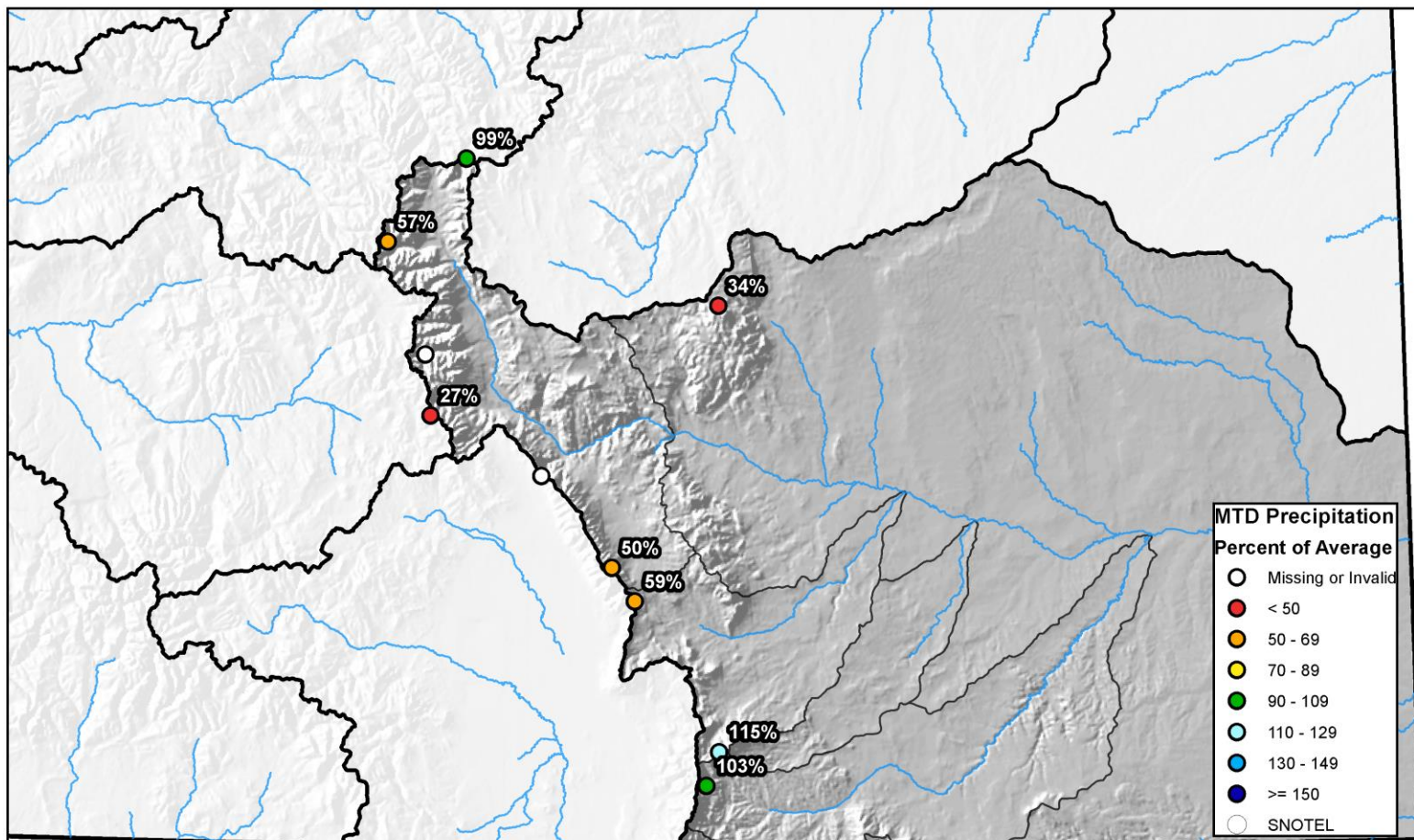
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Arkansas River Basin Month to Date Precipitation Summary

Current as of Apr 24, 2019

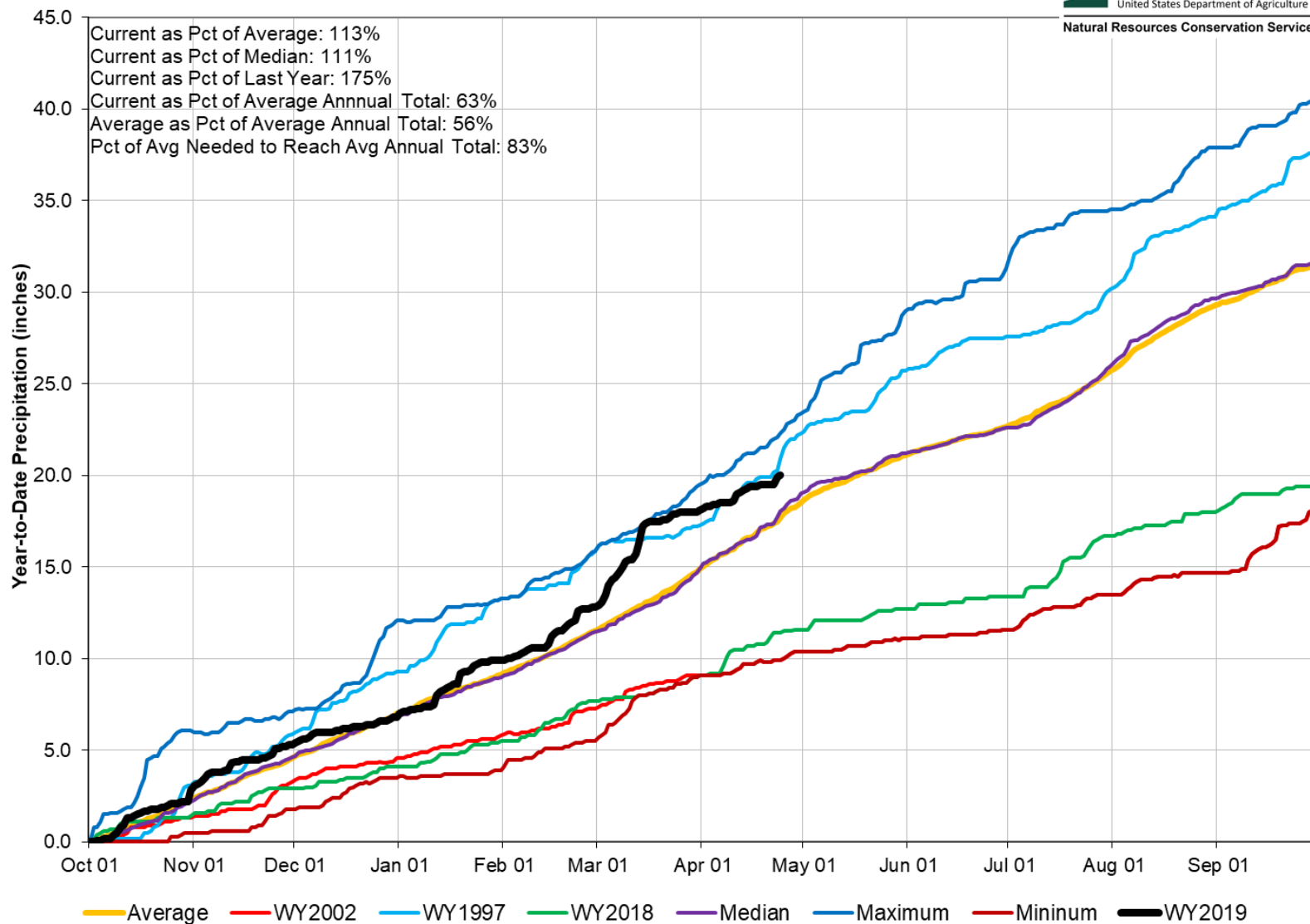


0 10 20 40 60 80 Miles

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

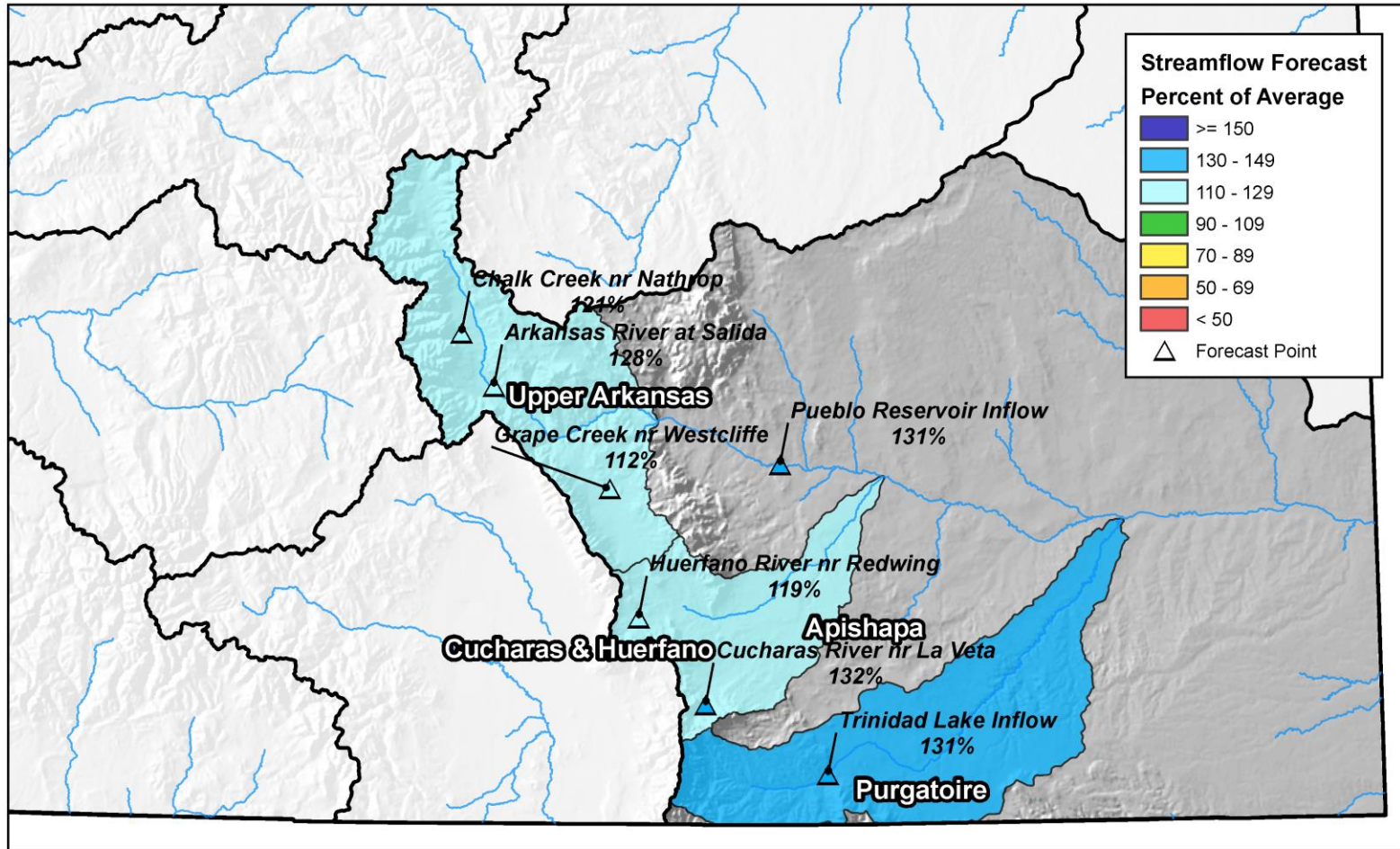
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Apr 24, 2019

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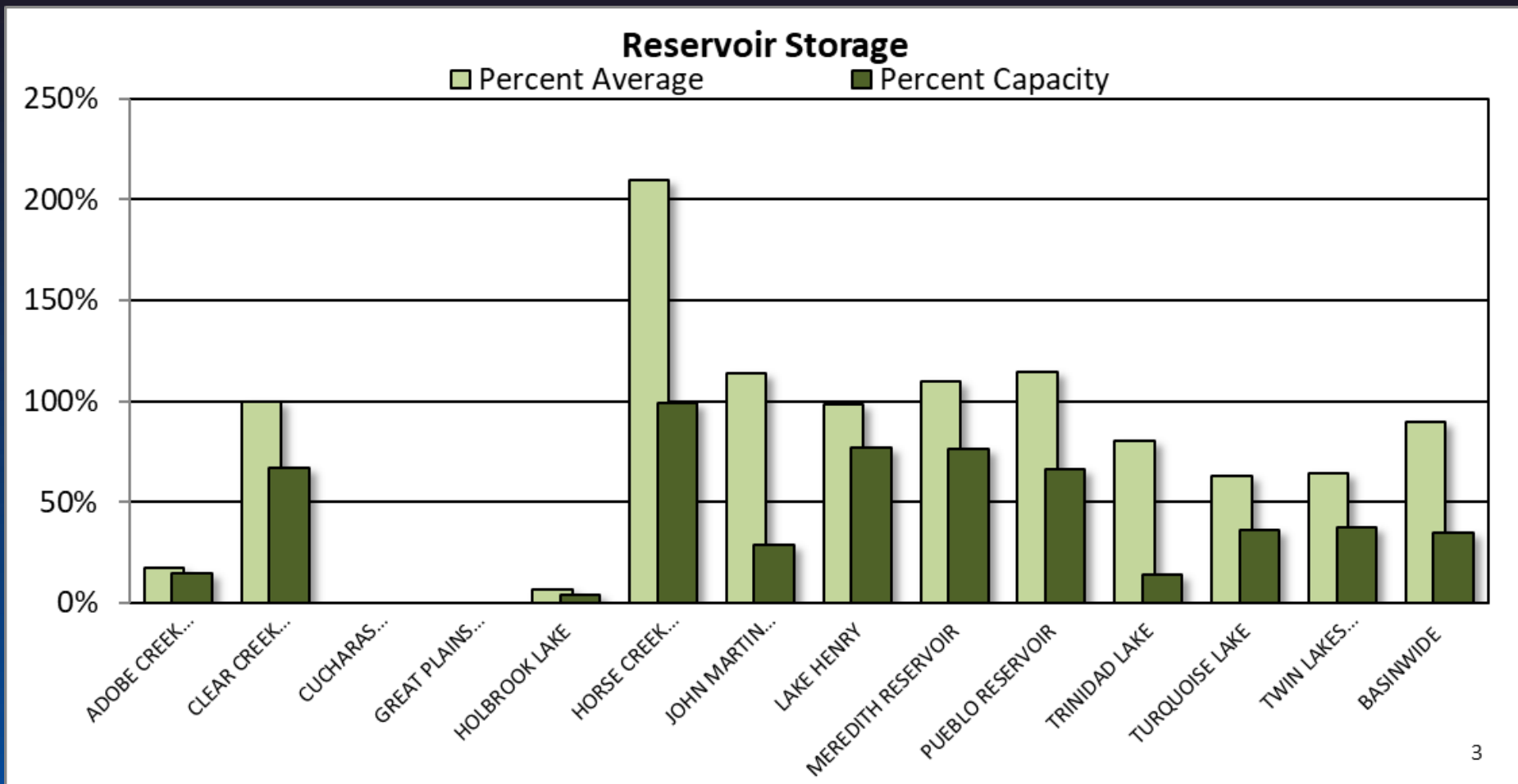


Arkansas River Basin Streamflow Forecast Summary

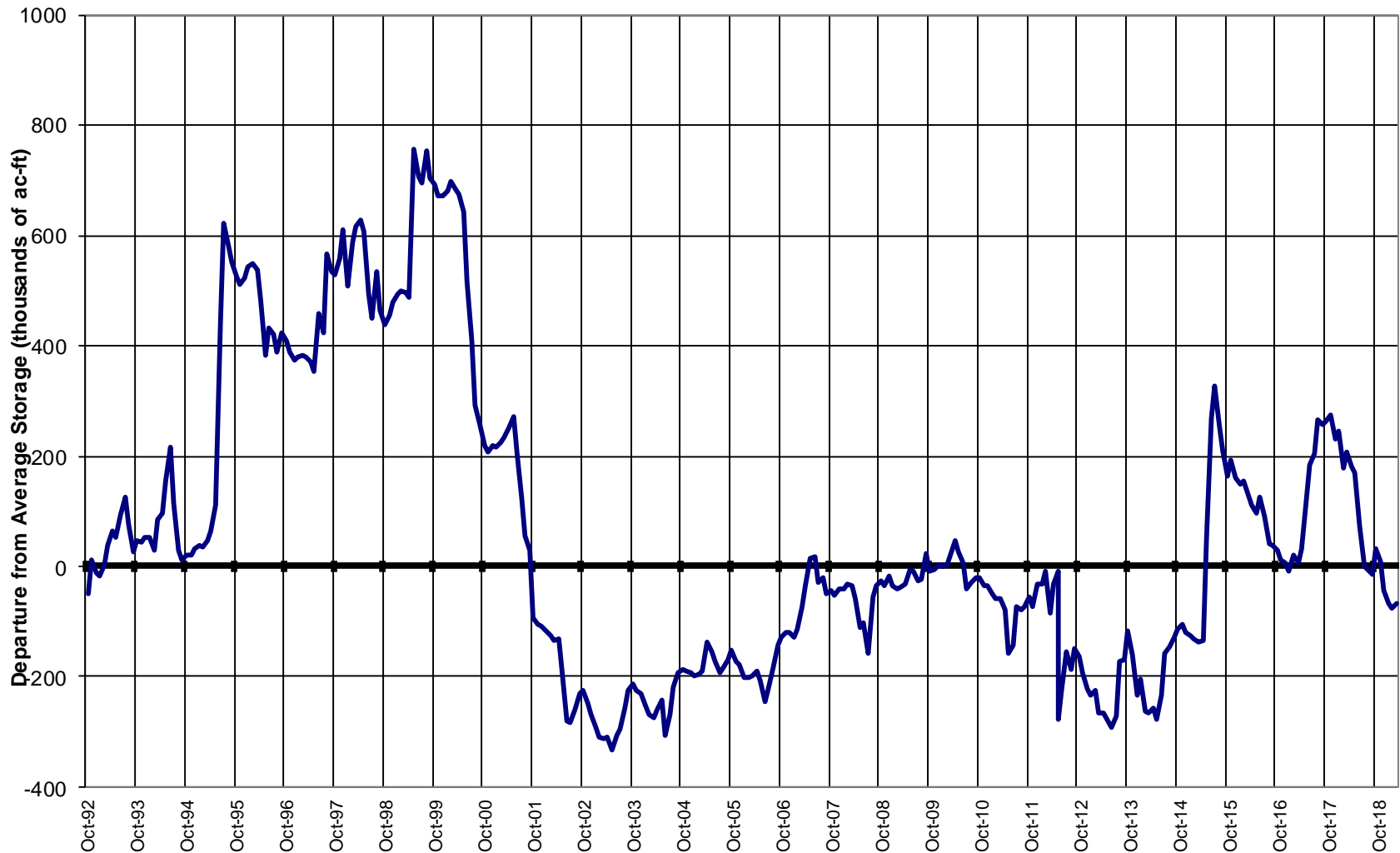
April 1, 2019



0 10 20 40 60 80 Miles

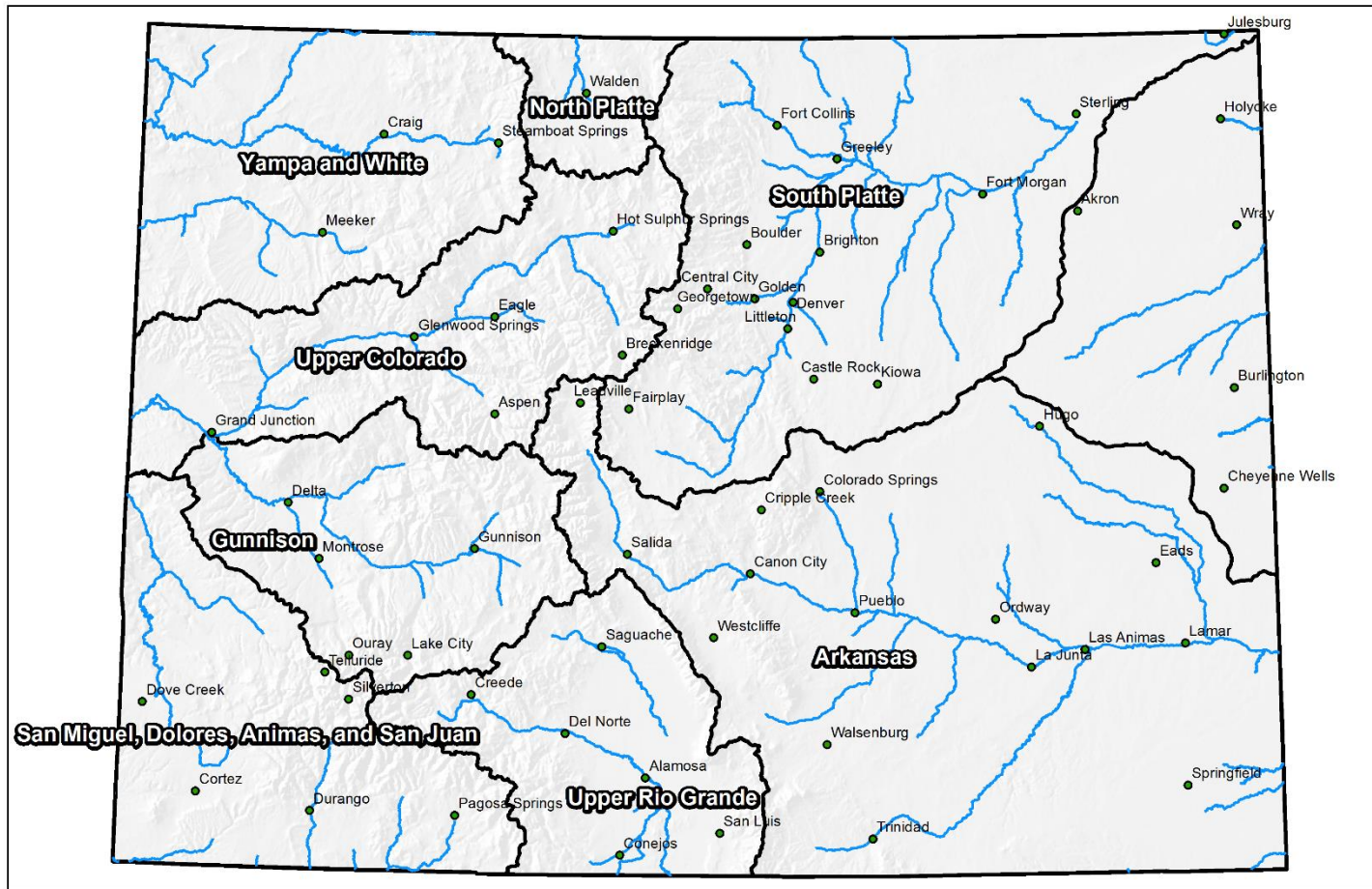


ARKANSAS RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage Departure from Average



Colorado Statewide Summary

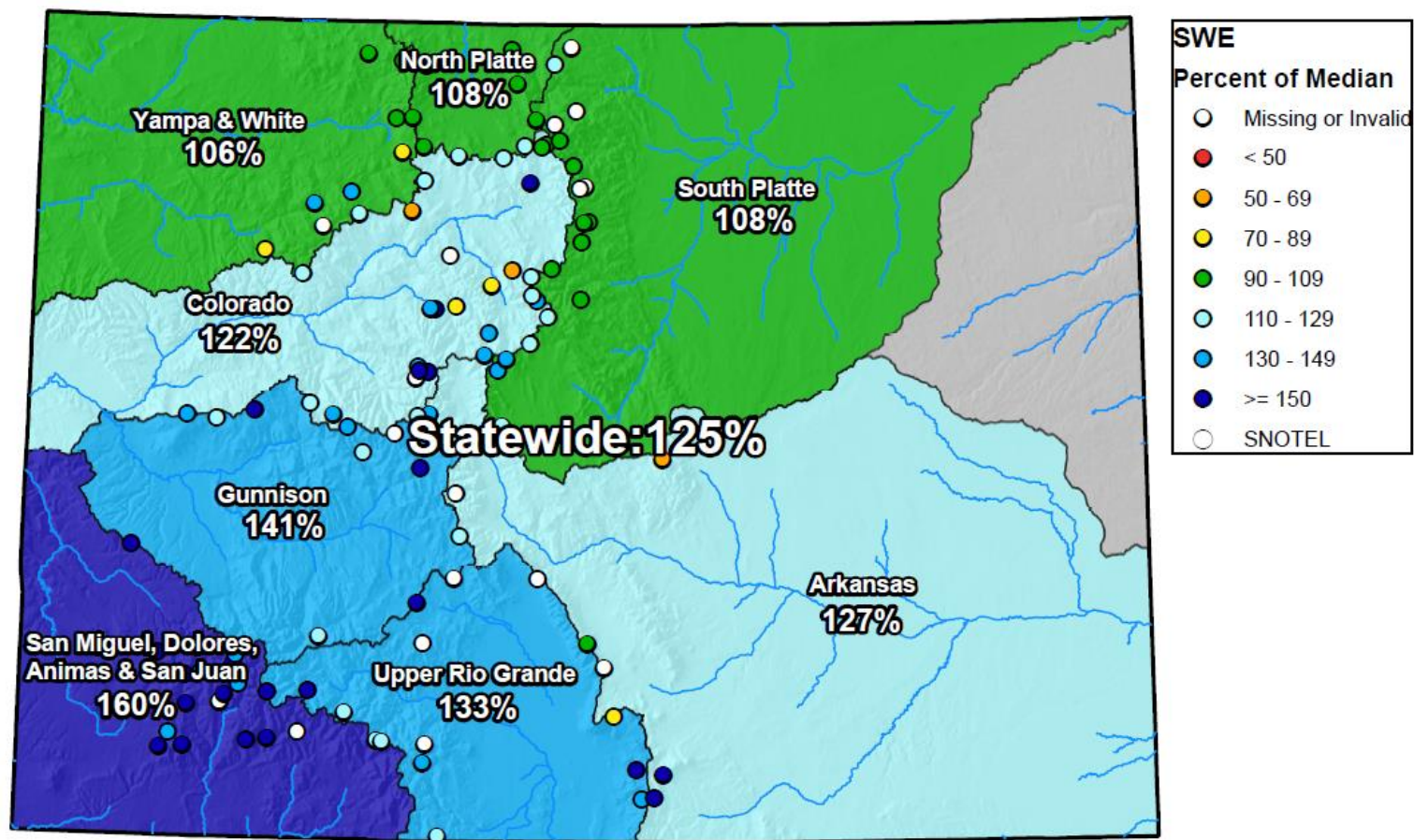
Colorado Major Basins



0 25 50 100 150 200 Miles

Colorado SNOTEL Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) Update Map with Site Data

Current as of Apr 24, 2019



0 25 50 100 150 200 Miles



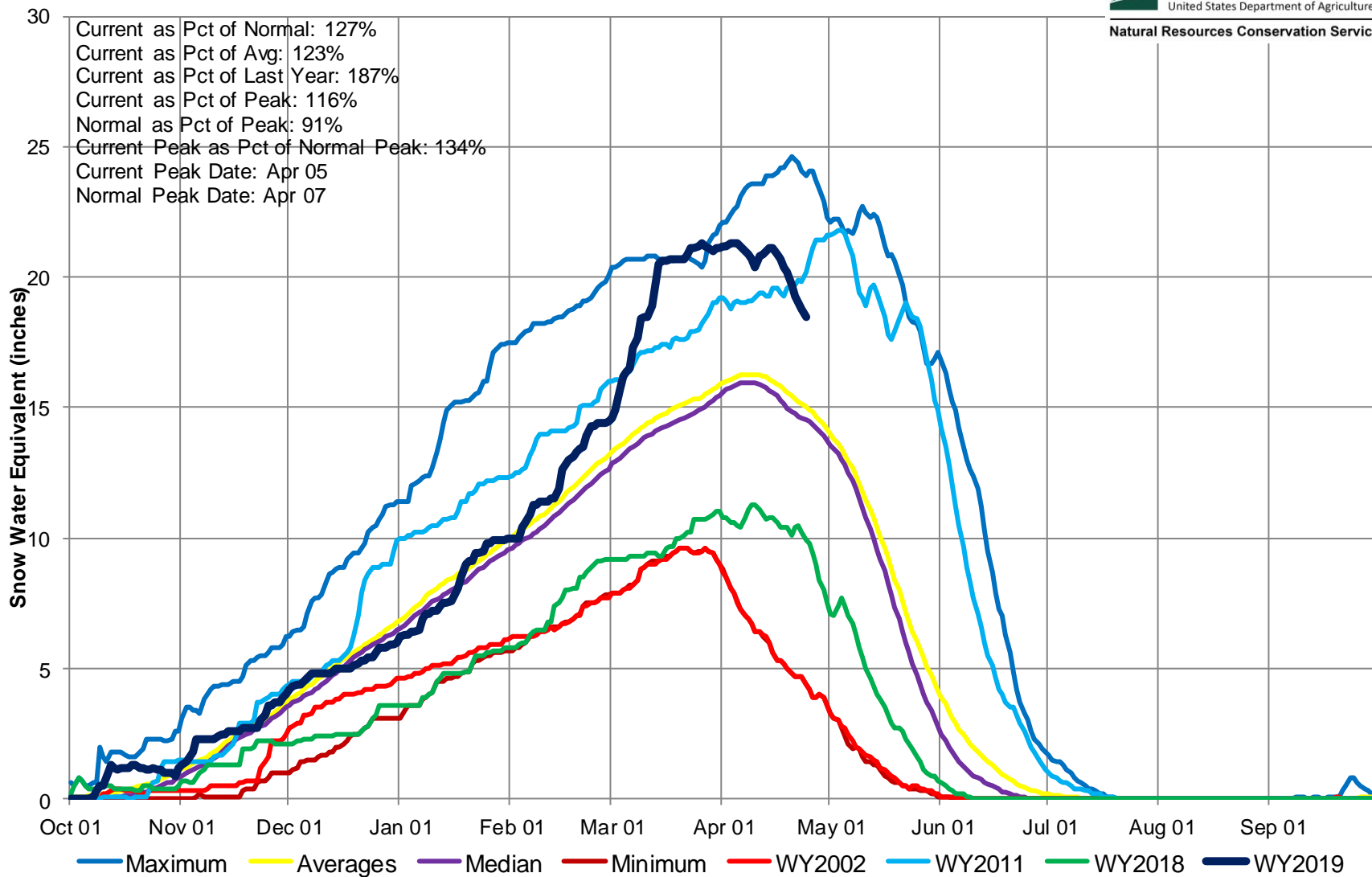
Colorado Statewide High/Low Snowpack Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Apr 24, 2019



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service



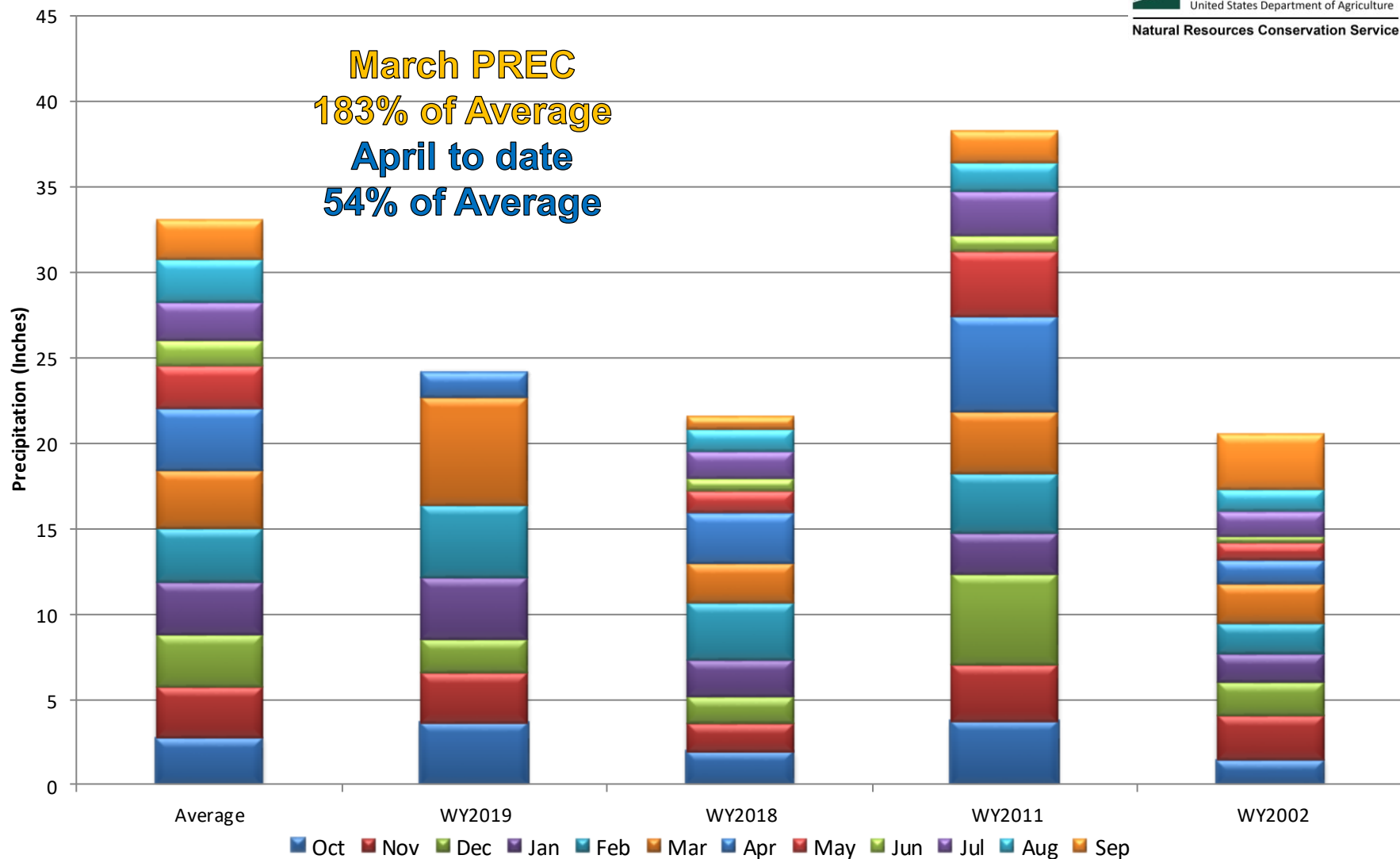
Colorado Statewide High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Apr 24, 2019



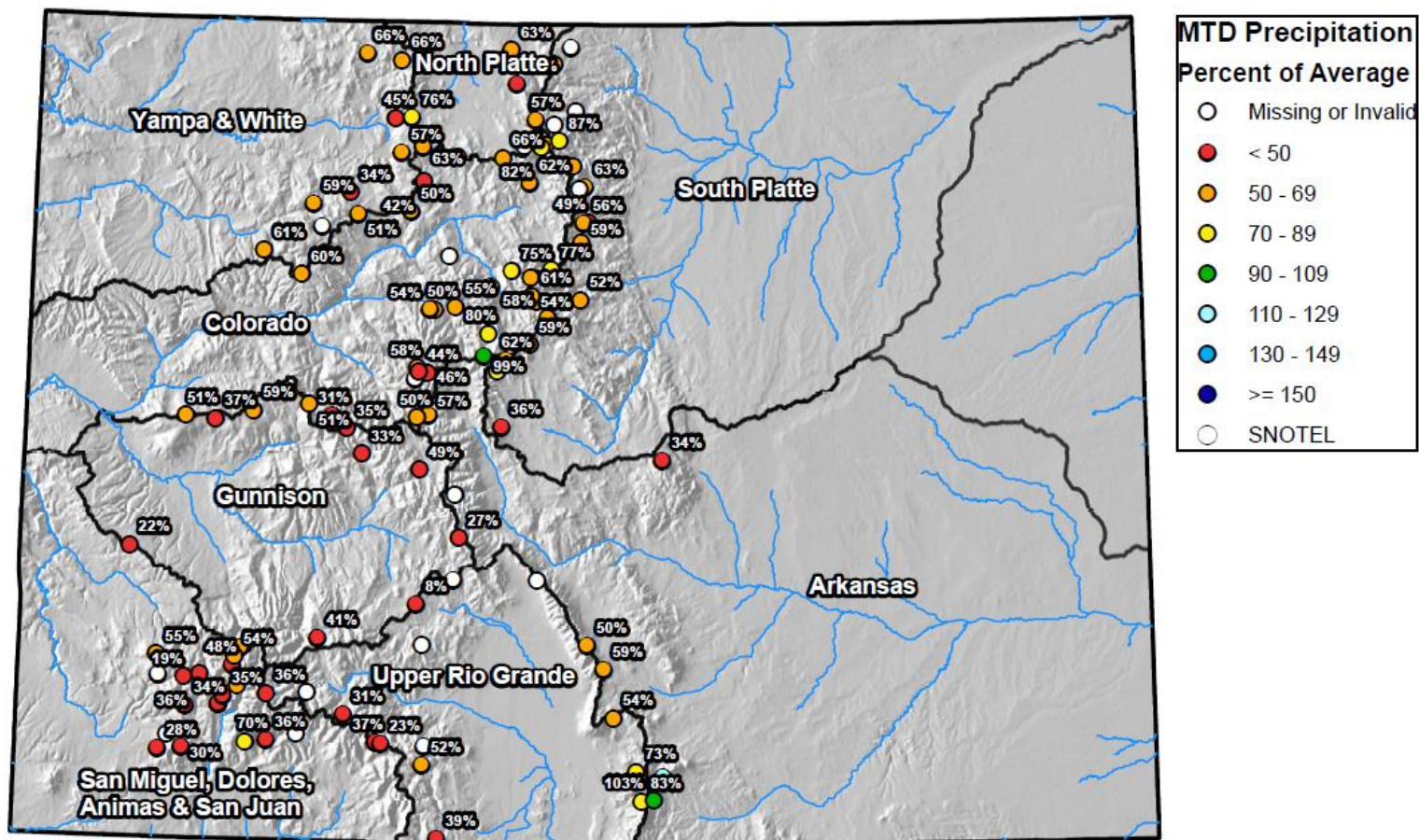
United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service



Colorado SNOTEL Month-to-Date Precipitation

Current as of Apr 24, 2019



0 25 50 100 150 200 Miles



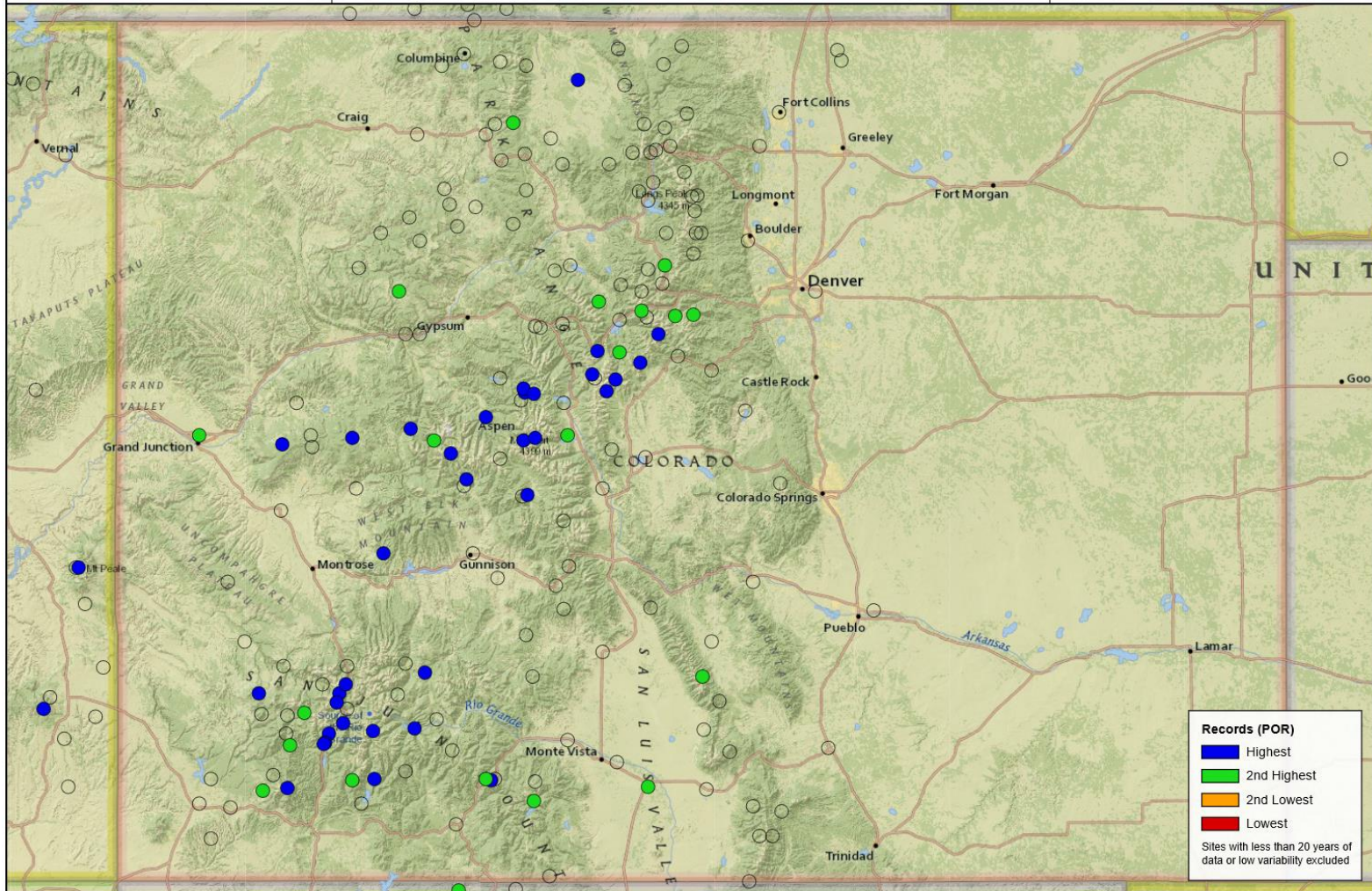
United States Department of Agriculture

Colorado Snow Surveys

1 month Precipitation

Records (POR)

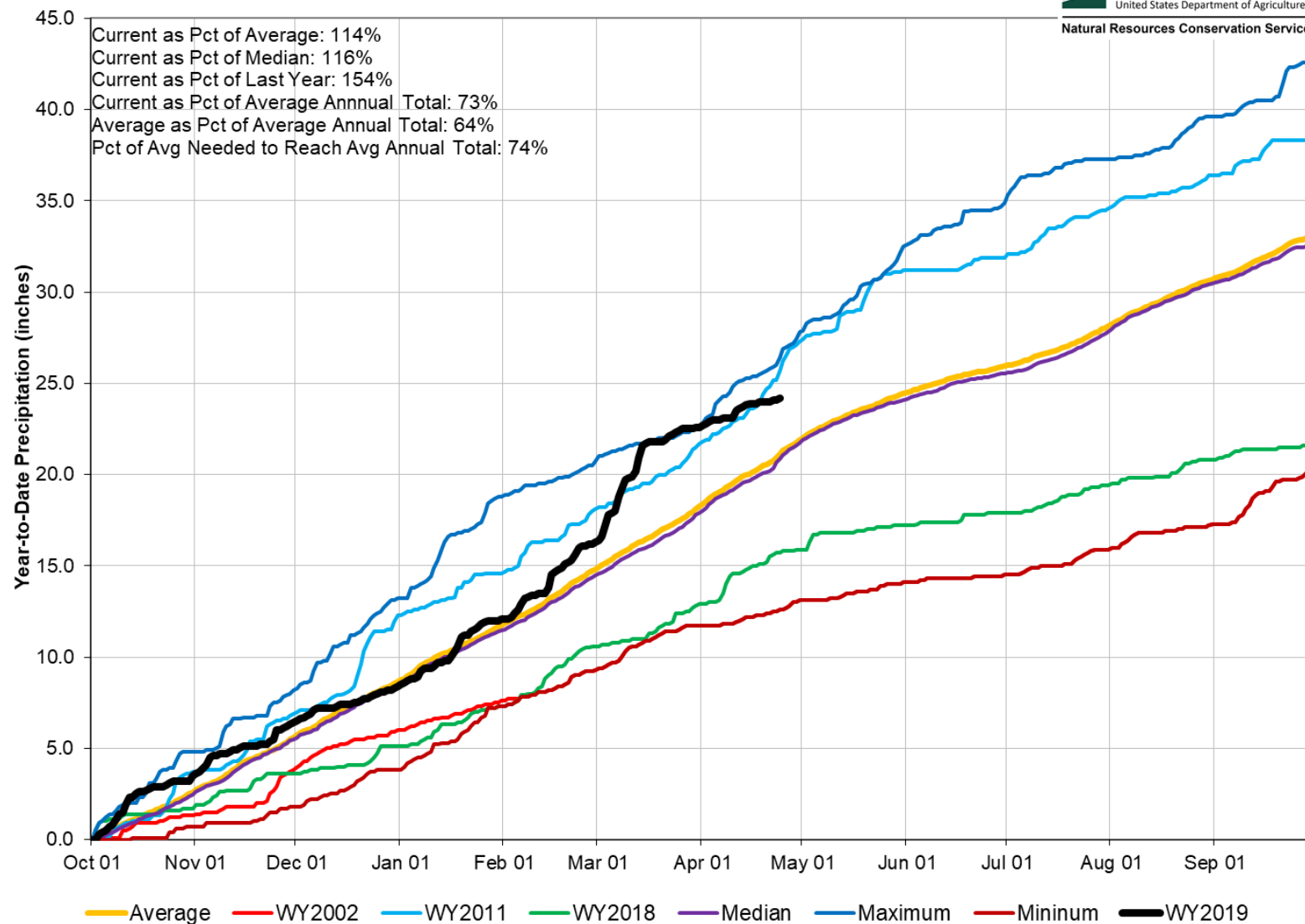
March 1, 2019 - March 31, 2019



Colorado Statewide High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

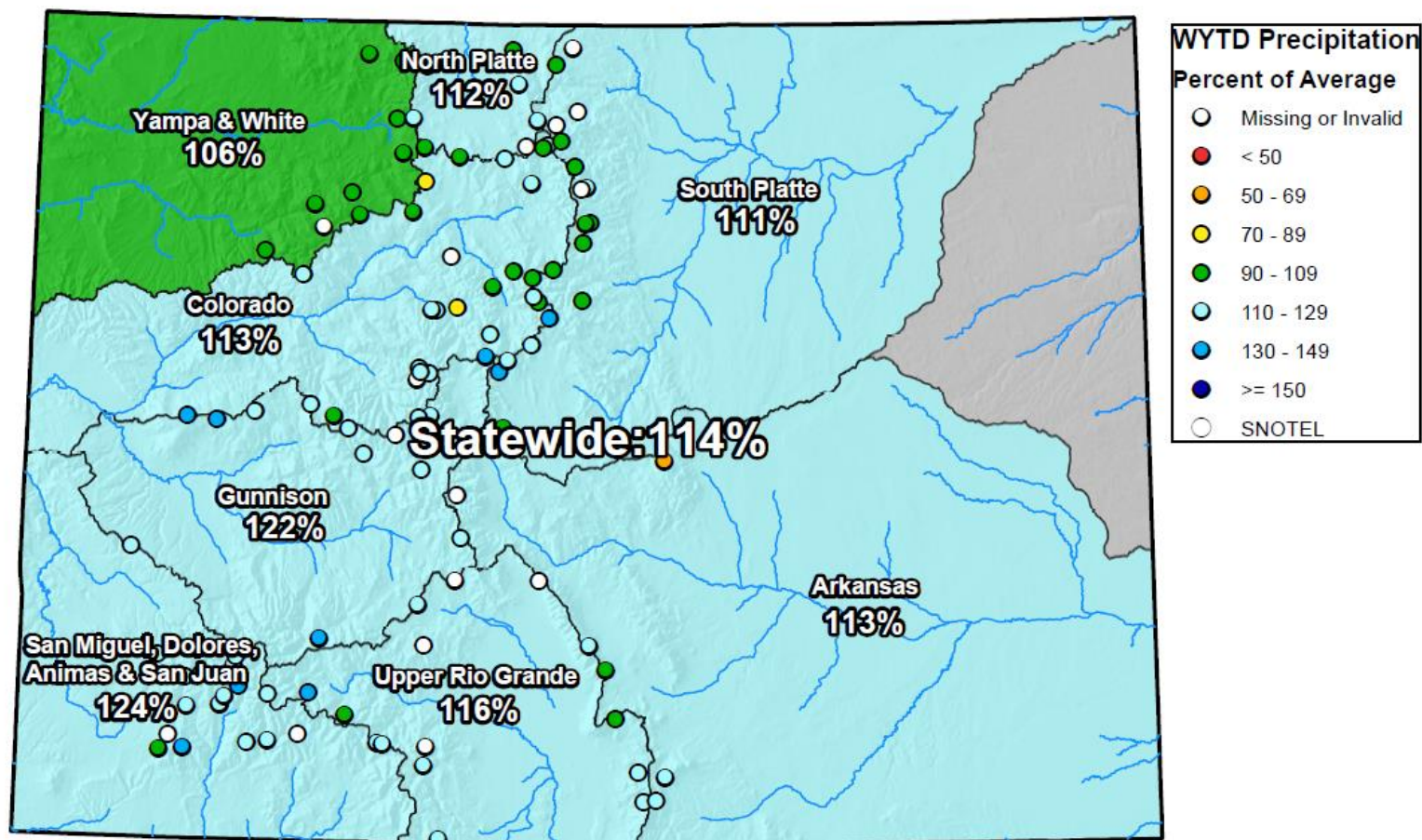
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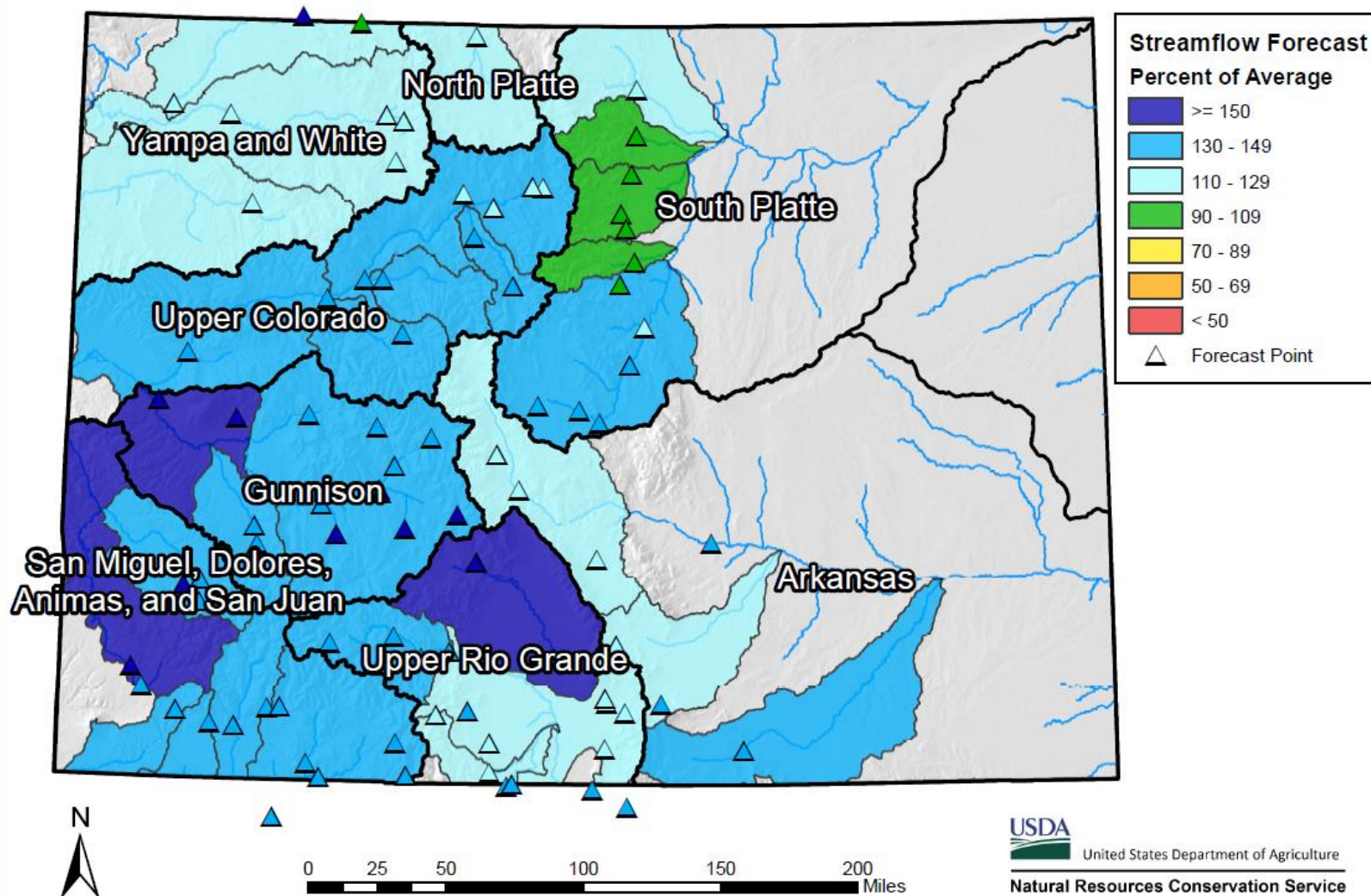
Colorado SNOTEL Water Year to Date Precipitation

Current as of Apr 24, 2019



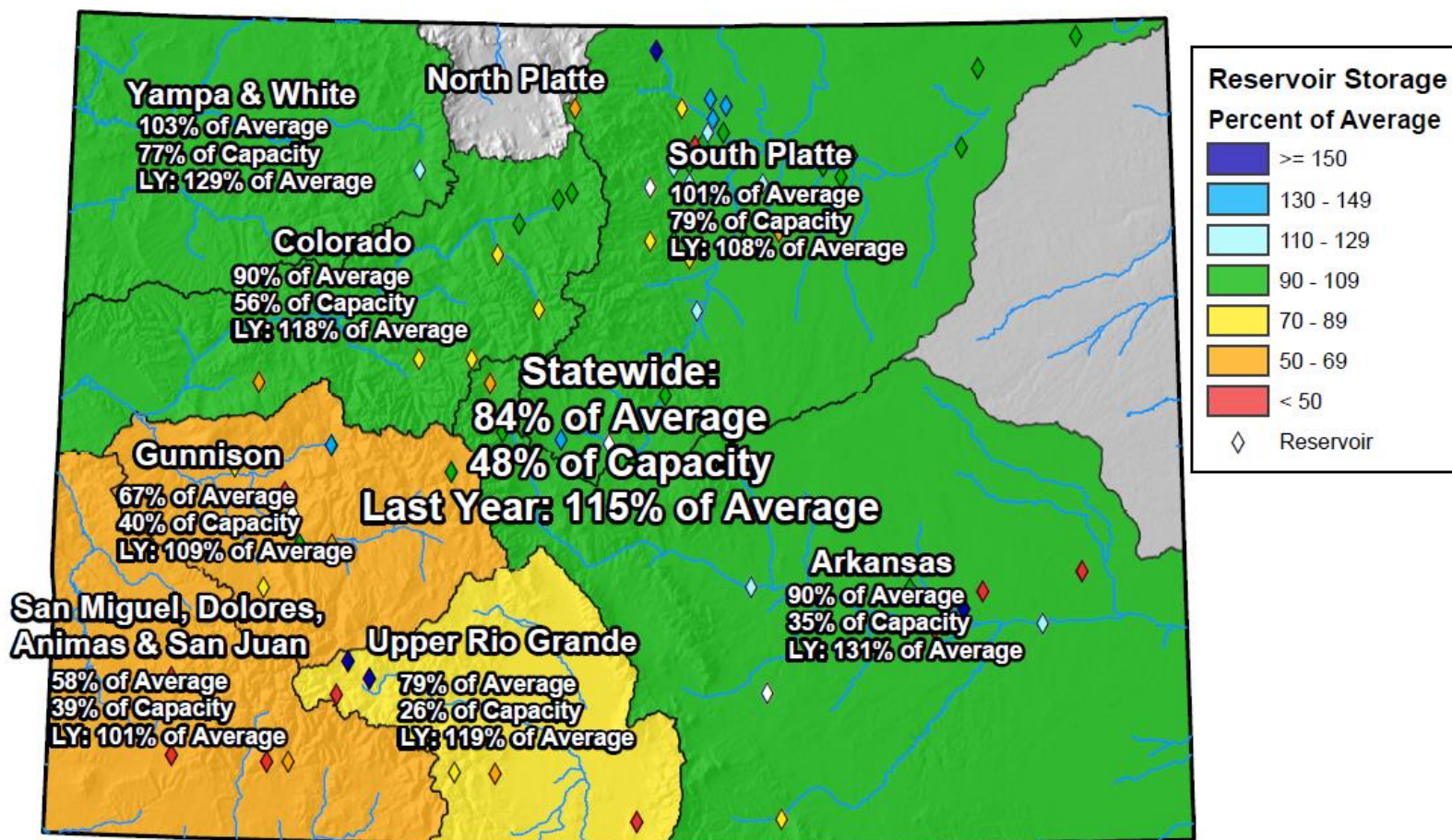
0 25 50 100 150 200 Miles

Colorado Streamflow Forecasts Summary April 1, 2019



Colorado Monthly Reservoir Storage Summary

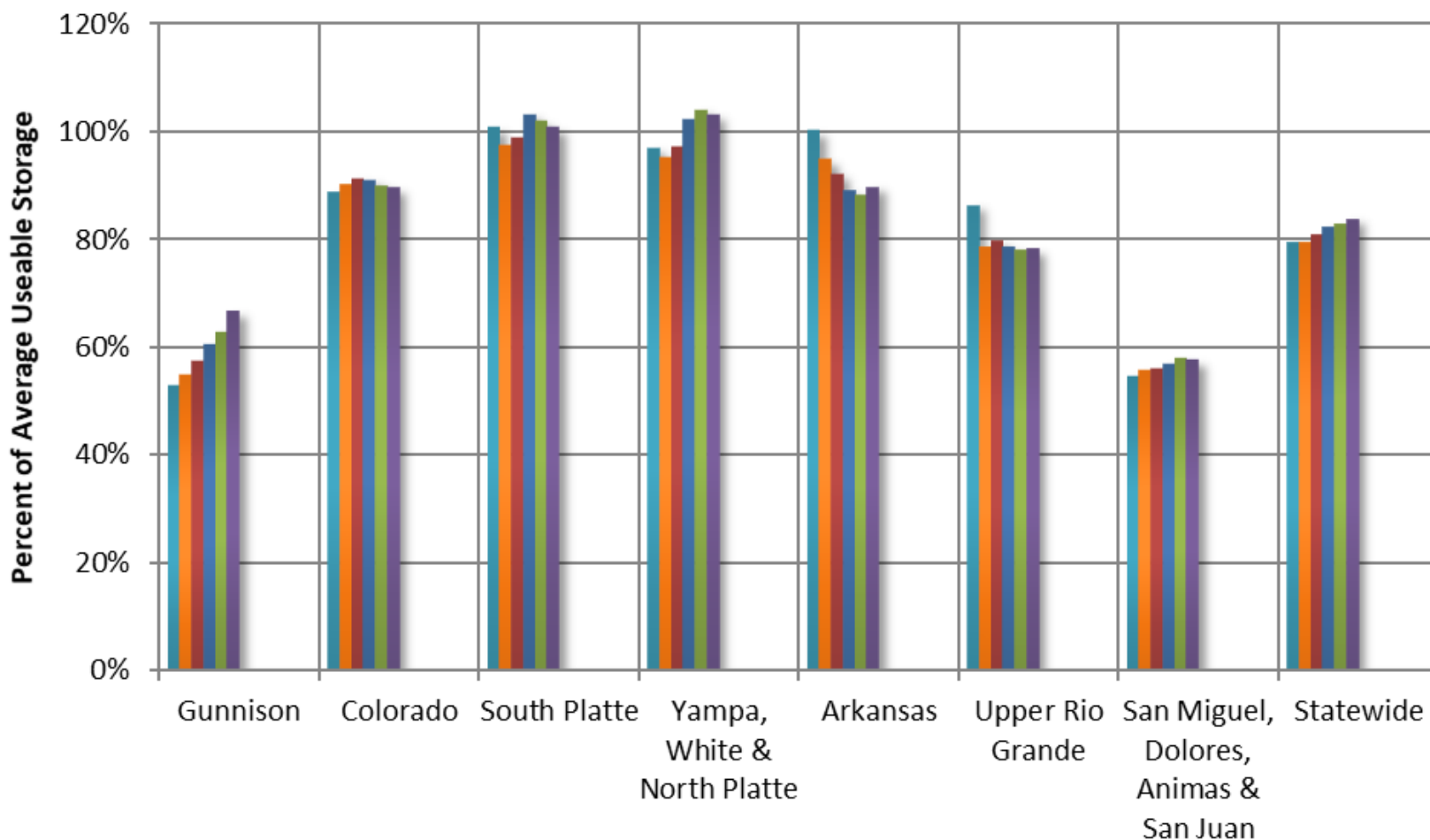
End of March 2019



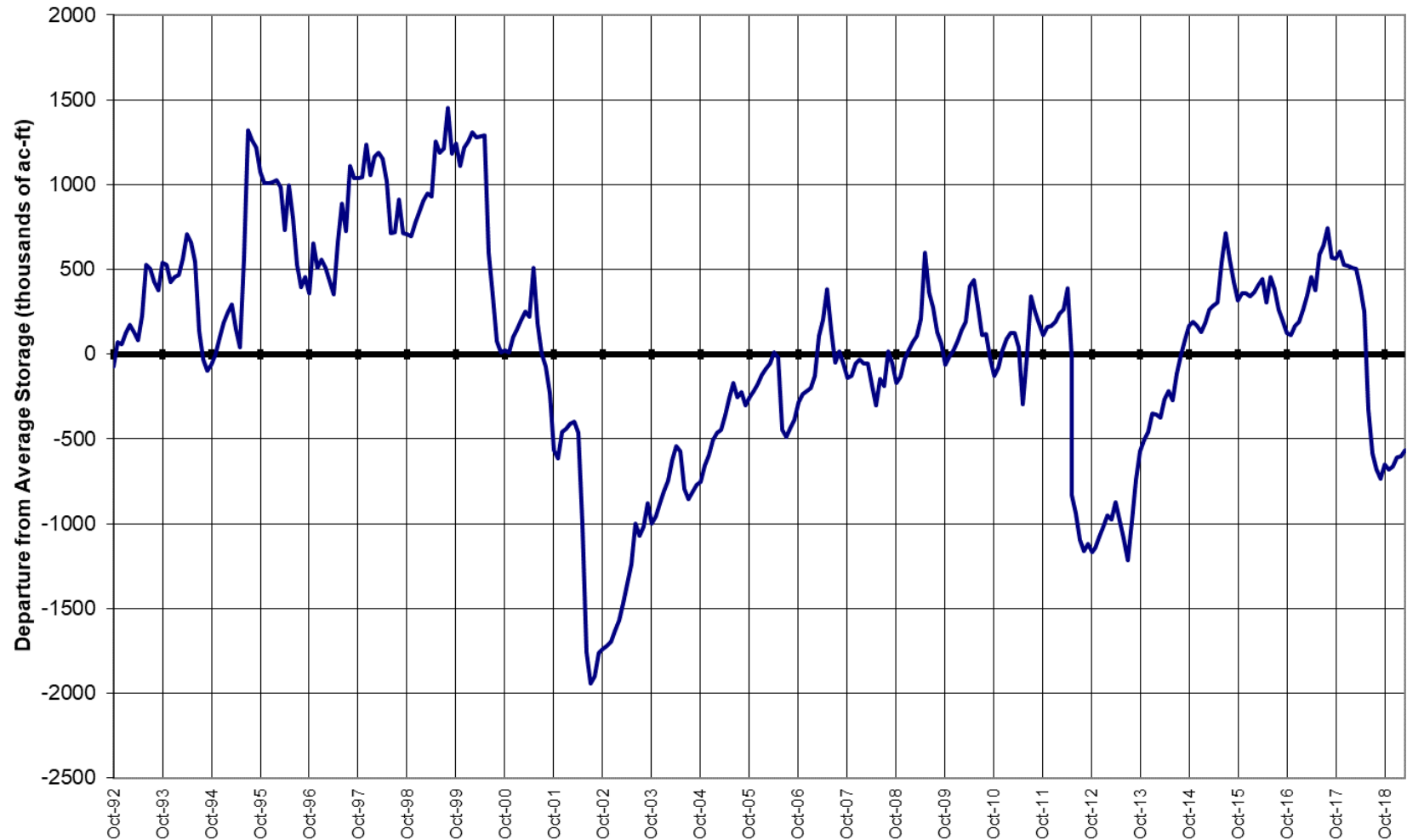
0 25 50 100 150 200 Miles

Colorado Reservoir Storage

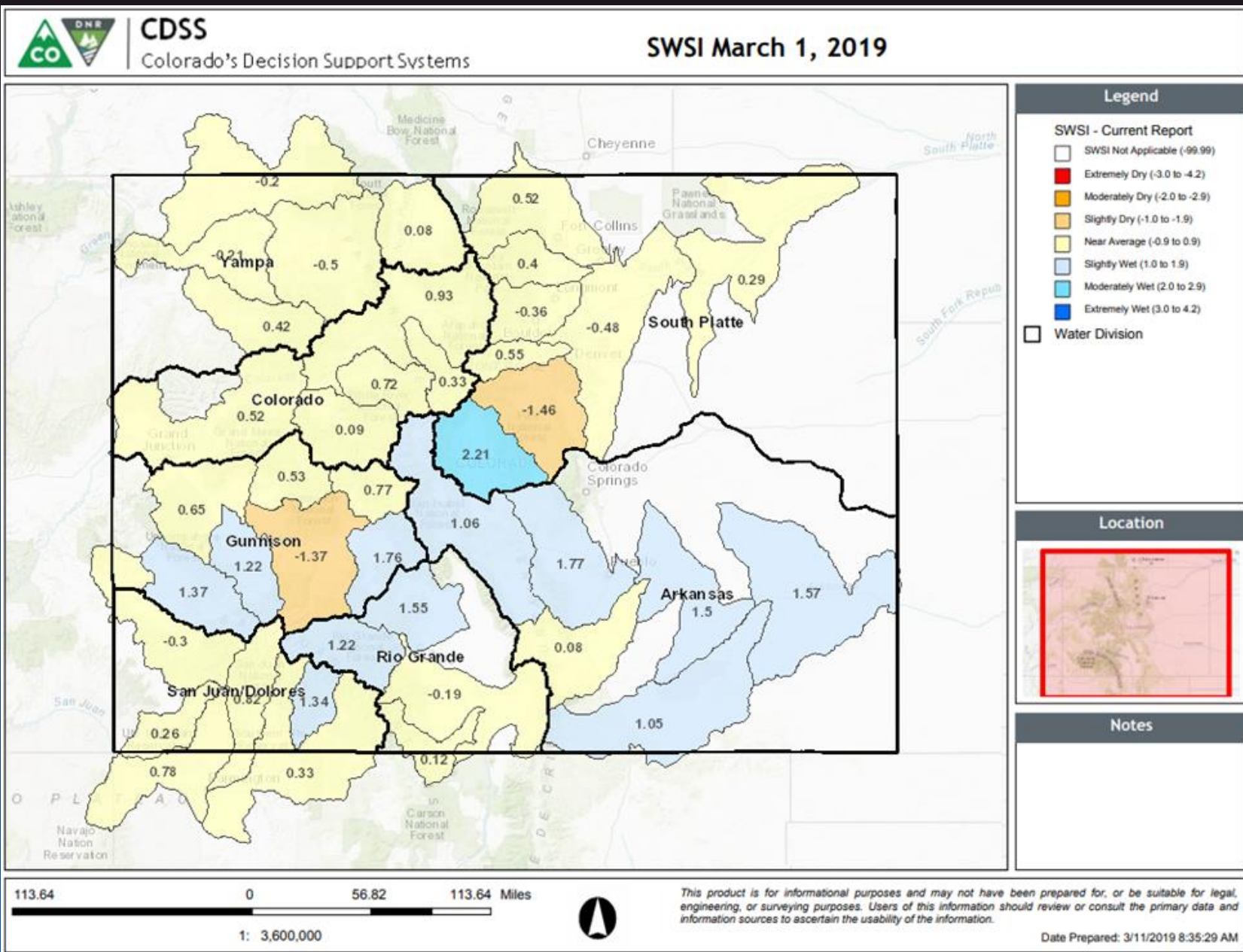
Oct-18 Nov-18 Dec-18 Jan-19 Feb-19 Mar-19
 Apr-19 May-19 Jun-19 Jul-19 Aug-19 Sep-19



COLORADO STATEWIDE Reservoir Storage Departure from Average



March 1, 2019 SWSI



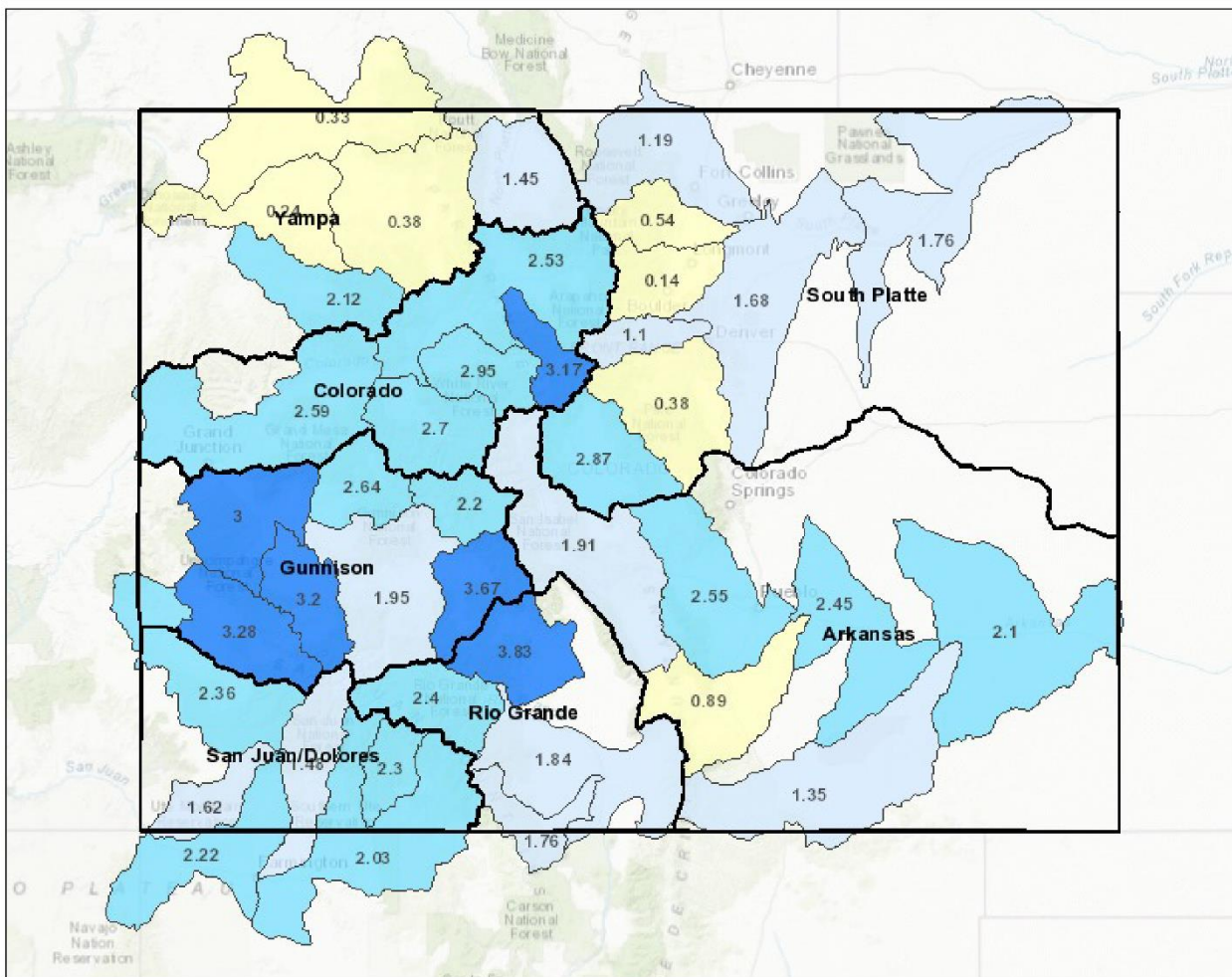
April 1, 2019 SWSI



CDSS

Colorado's Decision Support Systems

SWSI April 1, 2019



Legend

SWSI - Current Report

- SWSI Not Applicable (-99.99)
- Extremely Dry (-3.0 to -4.2)
- Moderately Dry (-2.0 to -2.9)
- Slightly Dry (-1.0 to -1.9)
- Near Average (-0.9 to 0.9)
- Slightly Wet (1.0 to 1.9)
- Moderately Wet (2.0 to 2.9)
- Extremely Wet (3.0 to 4.2)

☐ Water Division

Location



Notes

113.64 0 56.82 113.64 Miles

1: 3,600,000



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Summary

•Precipitation Statewide

- March precipitation ended up at 183% of average statewide
- April has been considerable more dry but all major basins still have well above average water year precipitation

•Snowpack

- Statewide snowpack now @ 125% median
- SMDASJ best snowpack in state w/ 160% median
- Snowmelt has been occurring at all but a few high elevation SNOTEL sites in the state
- Snowpack is not currently the best in the period of record but is one of the best in most southern basins

•Statewide reservoir storage - 84% of normal- minimal change

•April 1 streamflow forecasts were boosted substantially across southern Colorado and are for above average volumes statewide



United States Department of Agriculture

Colorado Snow Surveys

Water Availability Task Force Meeting

April 25th, 2019

NRCS Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecasting Program

Karl Wetlaufer

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



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