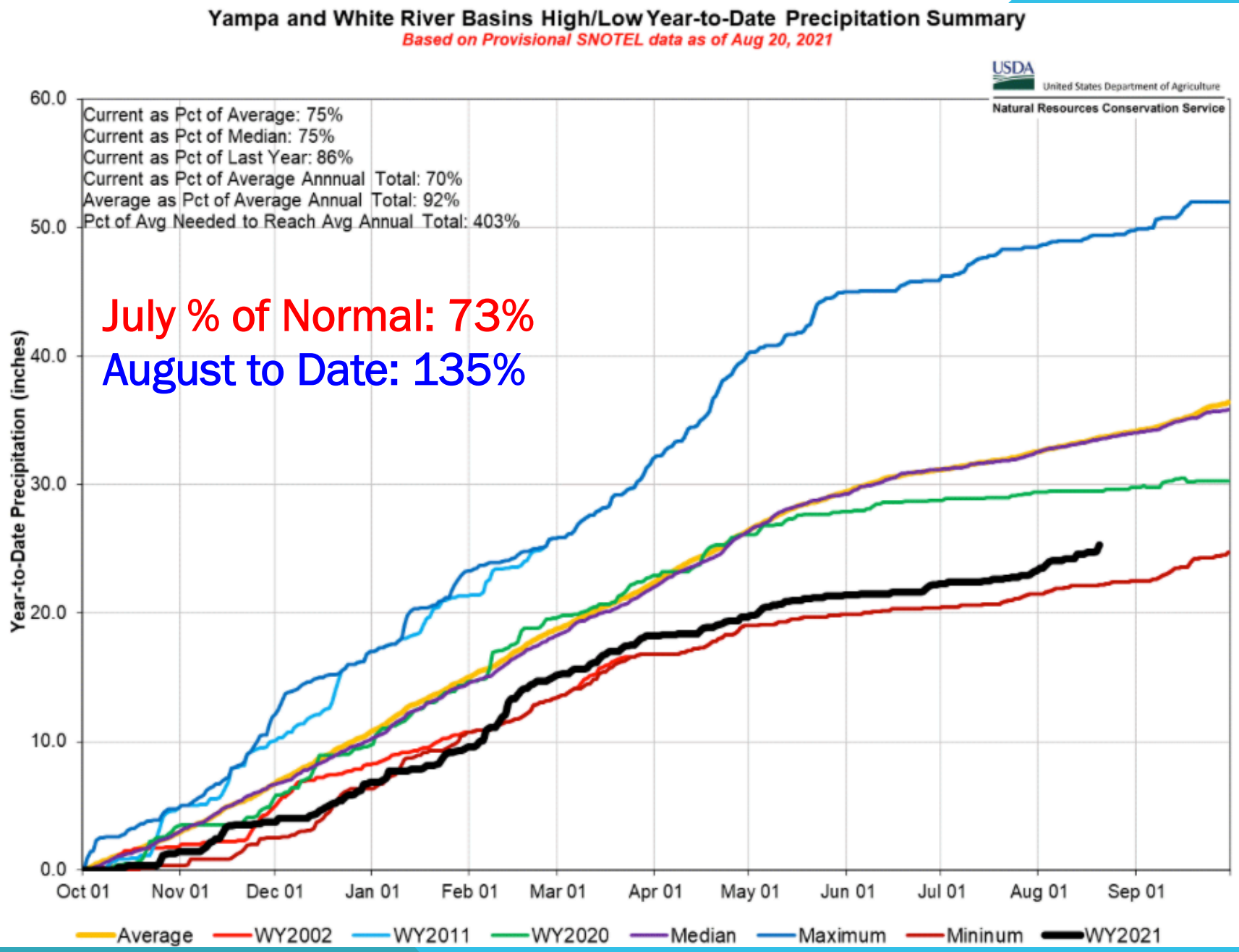
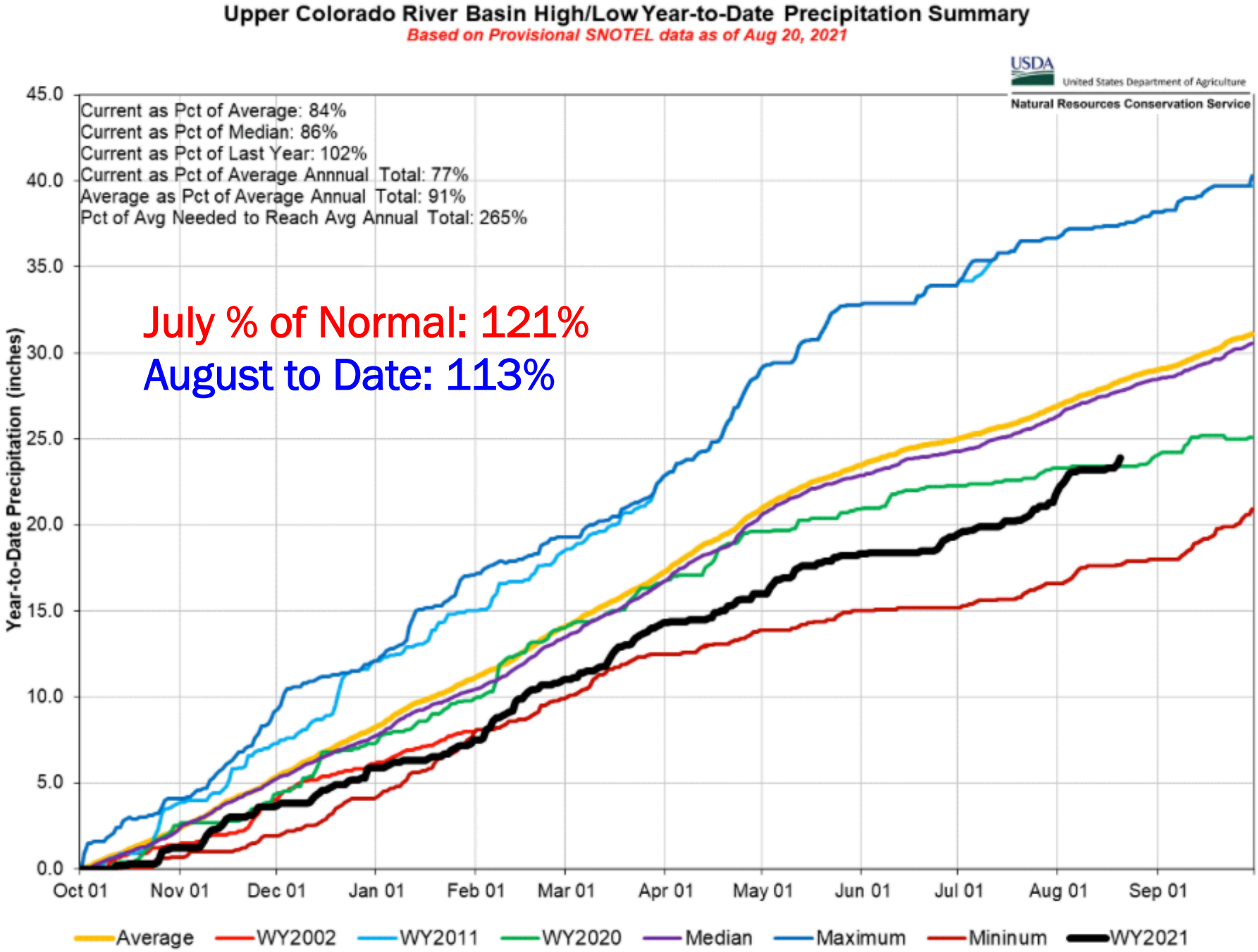
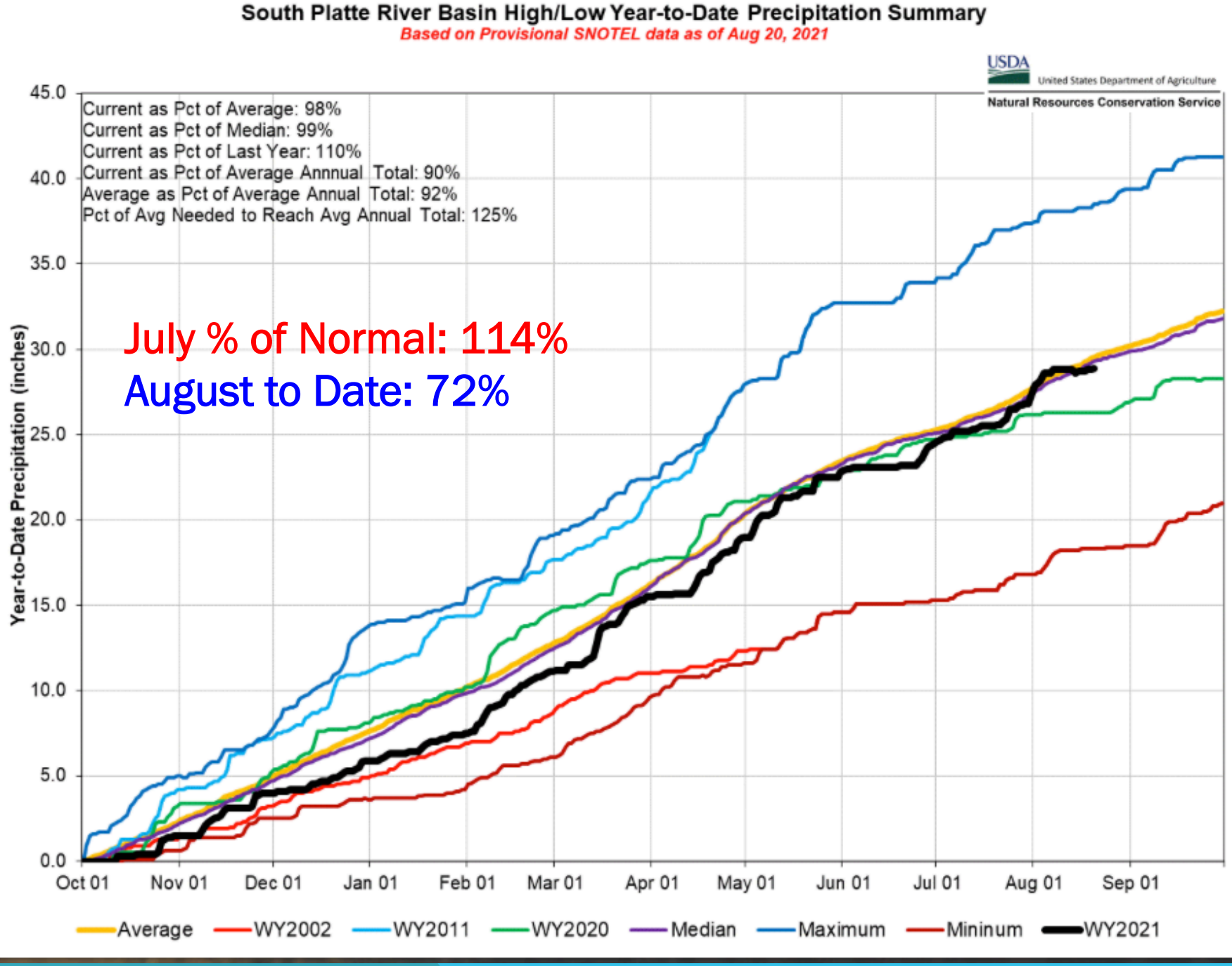
COLORADO WATER AVAILABILITY TASK FORCE

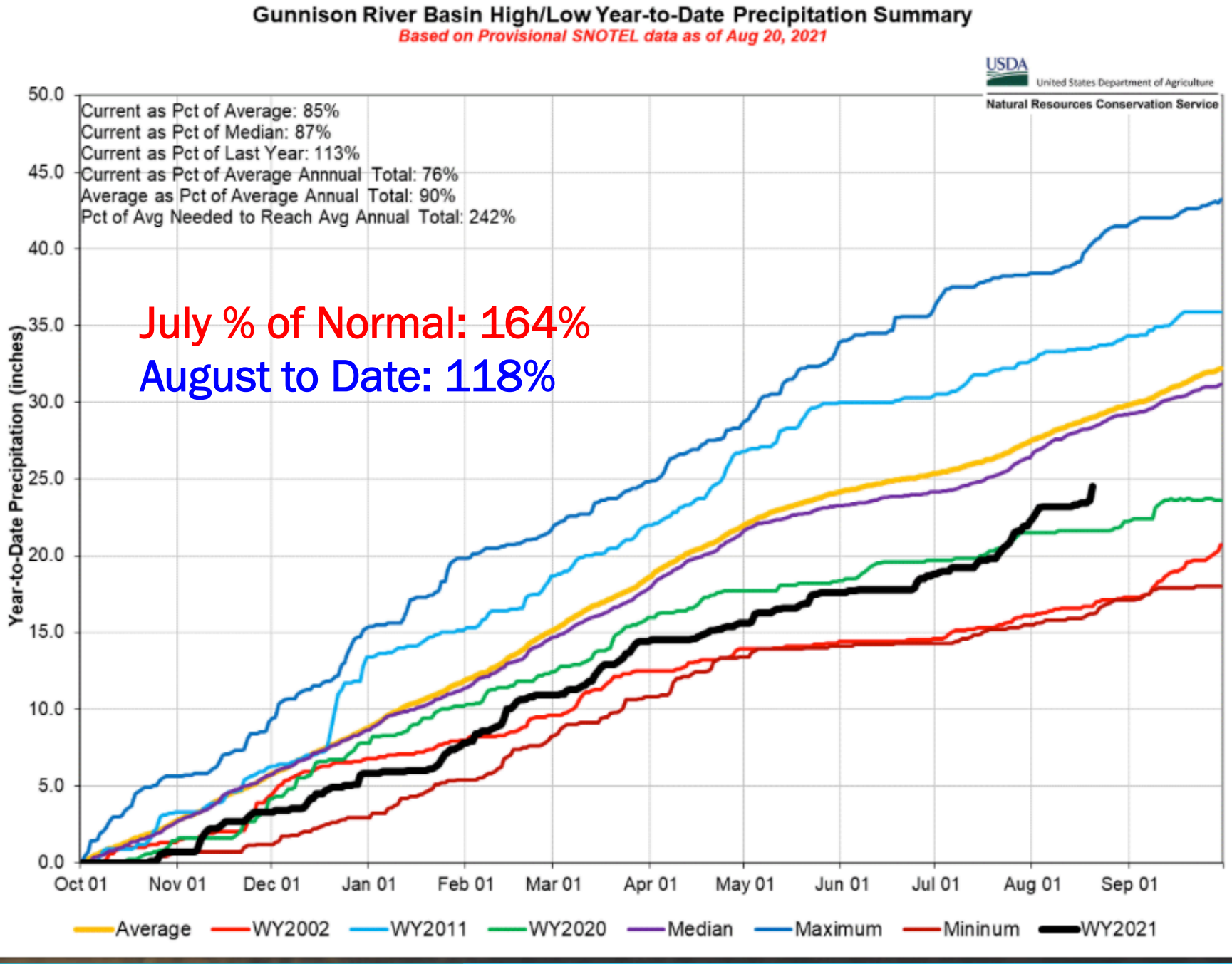
NRCS WATER SUPPLY UPDATE

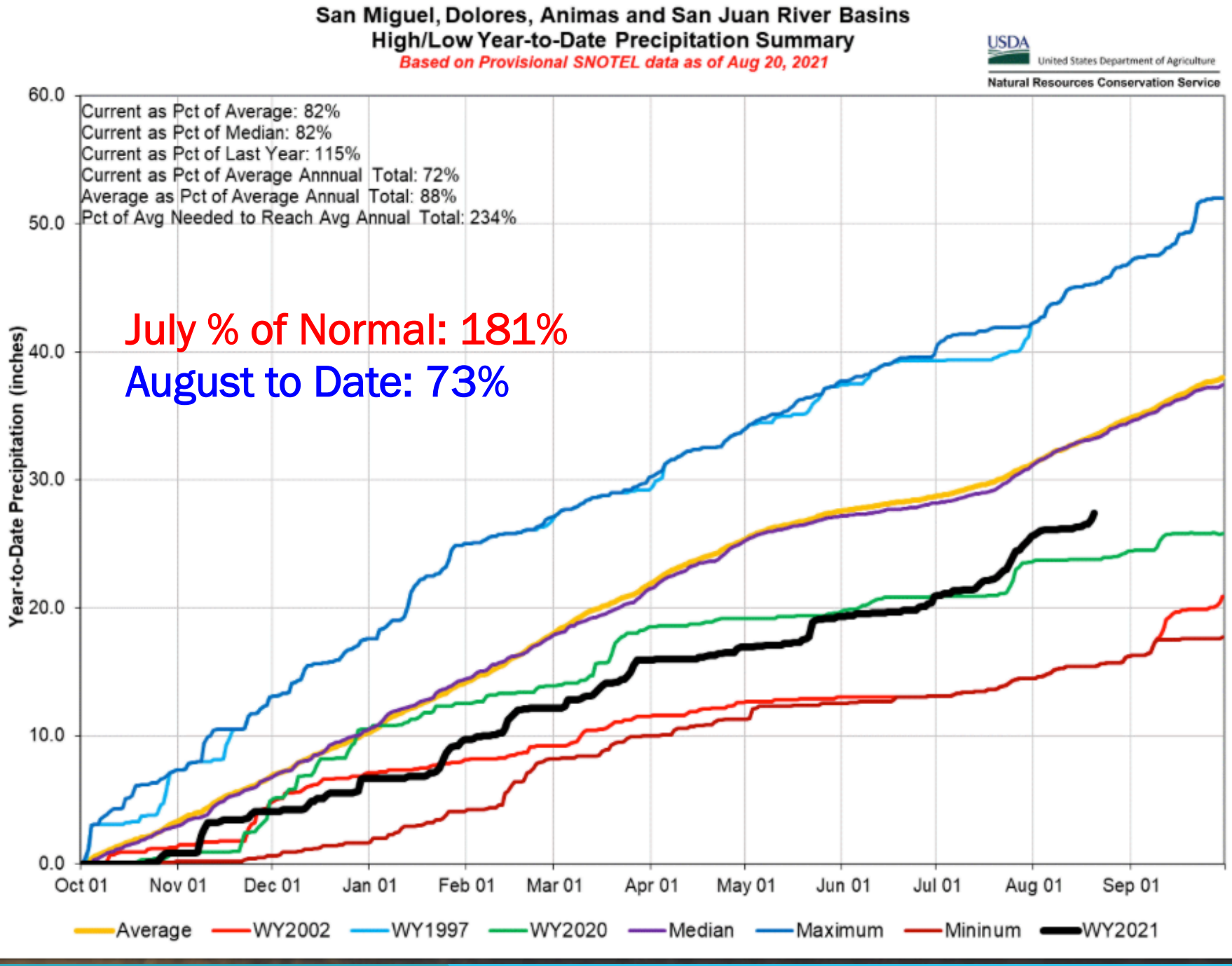
8-24-2021

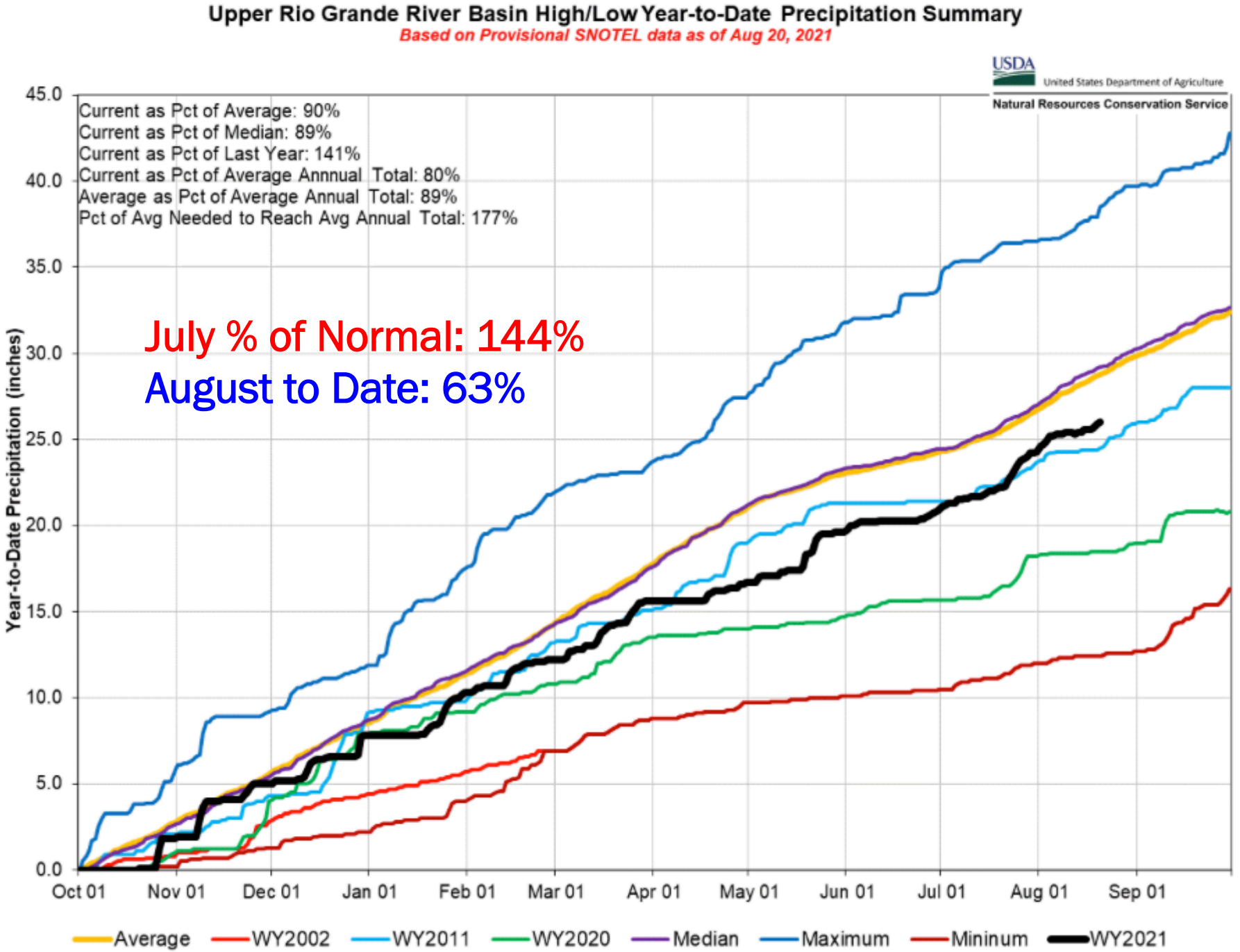

Yampa and White River Basins High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Aug 20, 2021
USDA
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Current as Pct of Average: 75%
Current as Pct of Median: 75%
Current as Pct of Last Year: 86%
Current as Pct of Average Annnual Total: 70%
Average as Pct of Average Annual Total: 92%
Pct of Avg Needed to Reach Avg Annual Total: 403%
July % of Normal: 73%
August to Date: 135%
Year-to-Date Precipitation (inches)
60.0
50.0
40.0
30.0
20.0
10.0
0.0
Oct 01
Nov 01
Dec 01
Jan 01
Feb 01
Mar 01
Apr 01
May 01
Jun 01
Jul 01
Aug 01
Sep 01
Average
WY2002
WY2011
WY2020
Median
Maximum
Mininum
WY2021

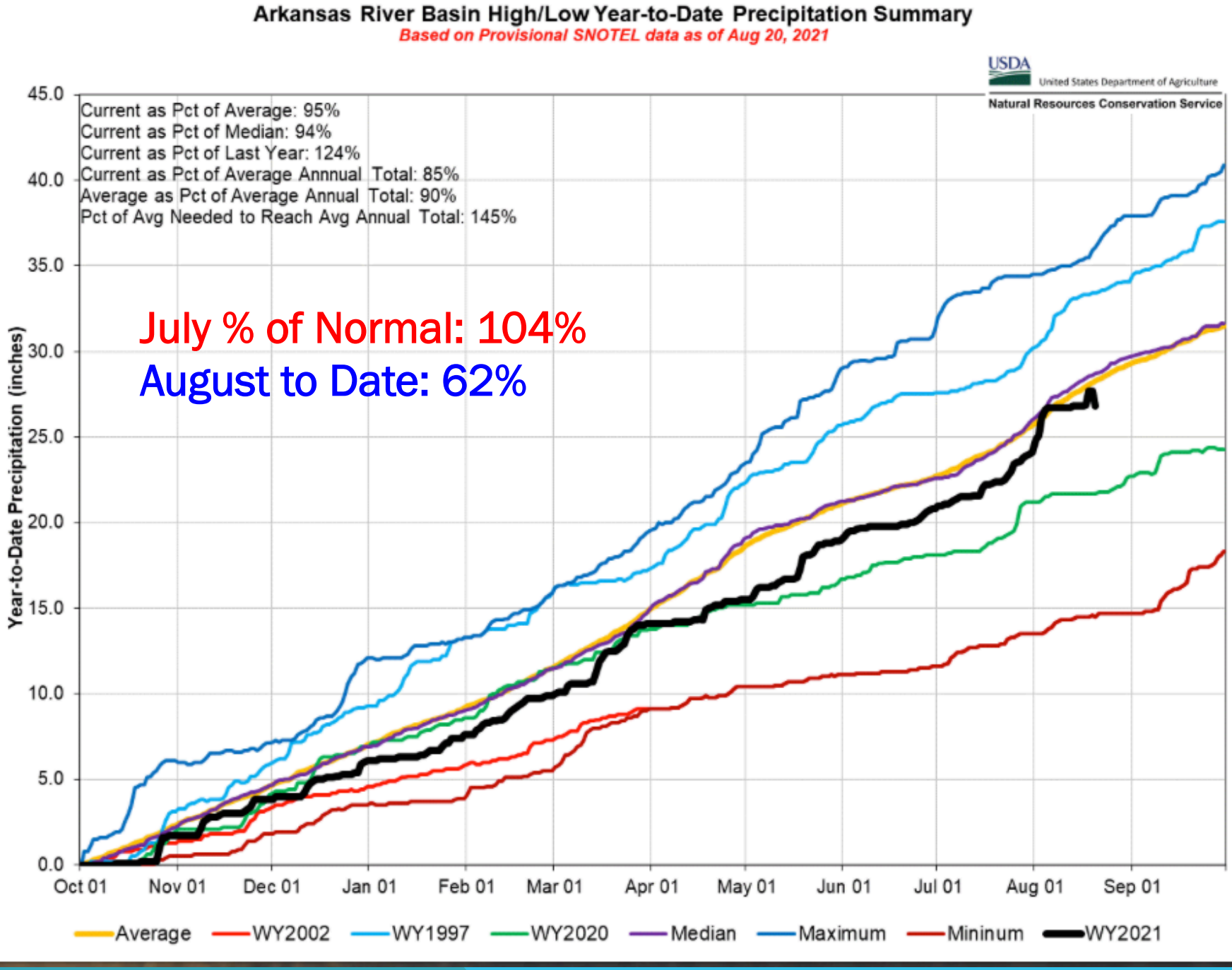

Upper Colorado River Basin High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Aug 20, 2021
USDA
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Current as Pct of Average: 84%
Current as Pct of Median: 86%
Current as Pct of Last Year: 102%
Current as Pct of Average Annnual Total: 77%
Average as Pct of Average Annual Total: 91%
Pct of Avg Needed to Reach Avg Annual Total: 265%
July % of Normal: 121%
August to Date: 113%
Year-to-Date Precipitation (inches)
45.0
40.0
35.0
30.0
25.0
20.0
15.0
10.0
5.0
0.0
Oct 01
Nov 01
Dec 01
Jan 01
Feb 01
Mar 01
Apr 01
May 01
Jun 01
Jul 01
Aug 01
Sep 01
Average
WY2002
WY2011
WY2020
Median
Maximum
Mininum
WY2021

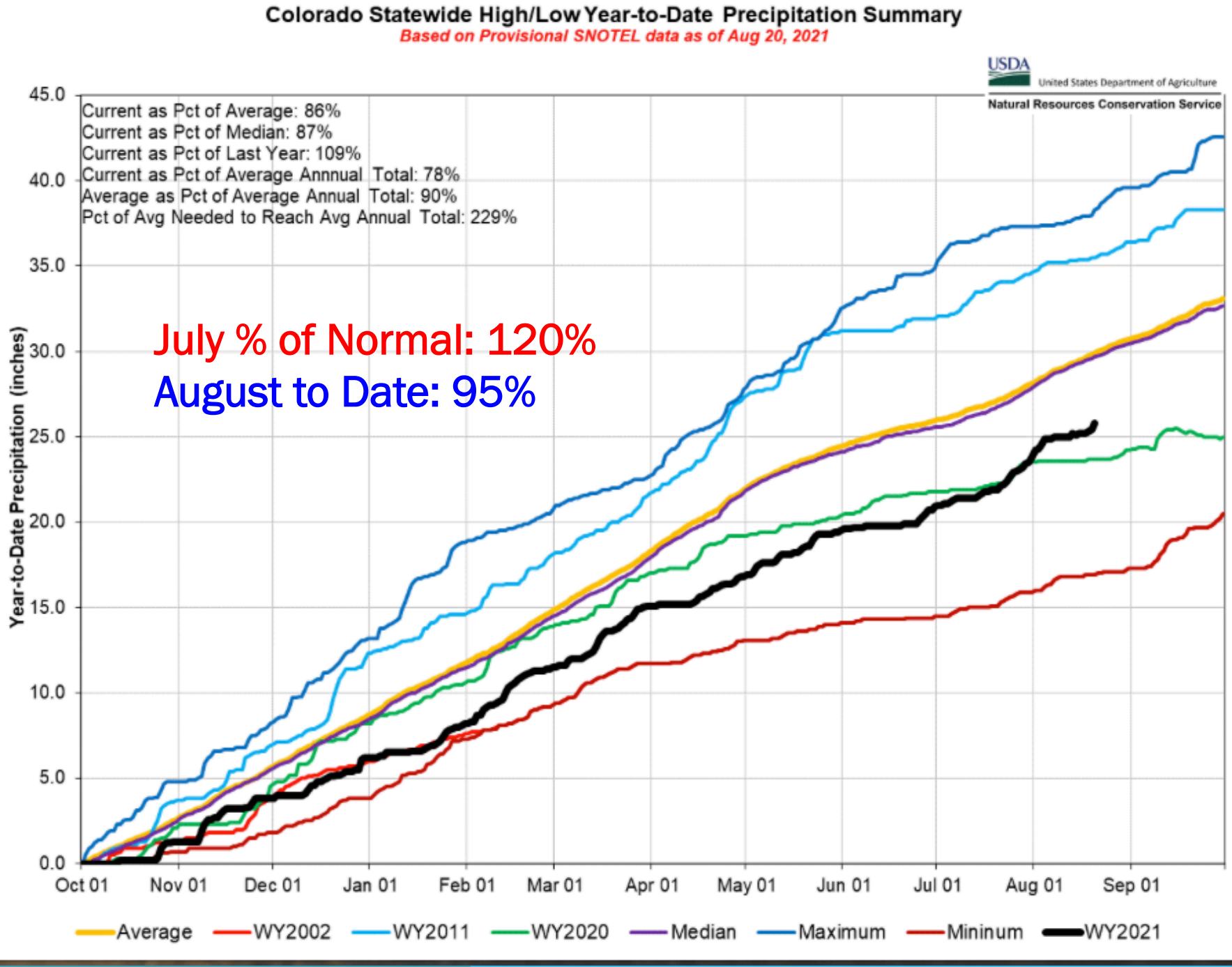

South Platte River Basin High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Aug 20, 2021
USDA
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Current as Pct of Average: 98%
Current as Pct of Median: 99%
Current as Pct of Last Year: 110%
Current as Pct of Average Annnual Total: 90%
Average as Pct of Average Annual Total: 92%
Pct of Avg Needed to Reach Avg Annual Total: 125%
July % of Normal: 114%
August to Date: 72%
Year-to-Date Precipitation (inches)
45.0
40.0
35.0
30.0
25.0
20.0
15.0
10.0
5.0
0.0
Oct 01
Nov 01
Dec 01
Jan 01
Feb 01
Mar 01
Apr 01
May 01
Jun 01
Jul 01
Aug 01
Sep 01
Average
WY2002
WY2011
WY2020
Median
Maximum
Mininum
WY2021


Gunnison River Basin High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Aug 20, 2021
USDA
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Current as Pct of Average: 85%
Current as Pct of Median: 87%
Current as Pct of Last Year: 113%
Current as Pct of Average Annnual Total: 76%
Average as Pct of Average Annual Total: 90%
Pct of Avg Needed to Reach Avg Annual Total: 242%
July % of Normal: 164%
August to Date: 118%
Year-to-Date Precipitation (inches)
50.0
45.0
40.0
35.0
30.0
25.0
20.0
15.0
10.0
5.0
0.0
Oct 01
Nov 01
Dec 01
Jan 01
Feb 01
Mar 01
Apr 01
May 01
Jun 01
Jul 01
Aug 01
Sep 01
Average
WY2002
WY2011
WY2020
Median
Maximum
Mininum
WY2021


San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan River Basins
High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Aug 20, 2021
USDA
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Current as Pct of Average: 82%
Current as Pct of Median: 82%
Current as Pct of Last Year: 115%
Current as Pct of Average Annnual Total: 72%
Average as Pct of Average Annual Total: 88%
Pct of Avg Needed to Reach Avg Annual Total: 234%
July % of Normal: 181%
August to Date: 73%
Year-to-Date Precipitation (inches)
60.0
50.0
40.0
30.0
20.0
10.0
0.0
Oct 01
Nov 01
Dec 01
Jan 01
Feb 01
Mar 01
Apr 01
May 01
Jun 01
Jul 01
Aug 01
Sep 01
Average
WY2002
WY1997
WY2020
Median
Maximum
Mininum
WY2021

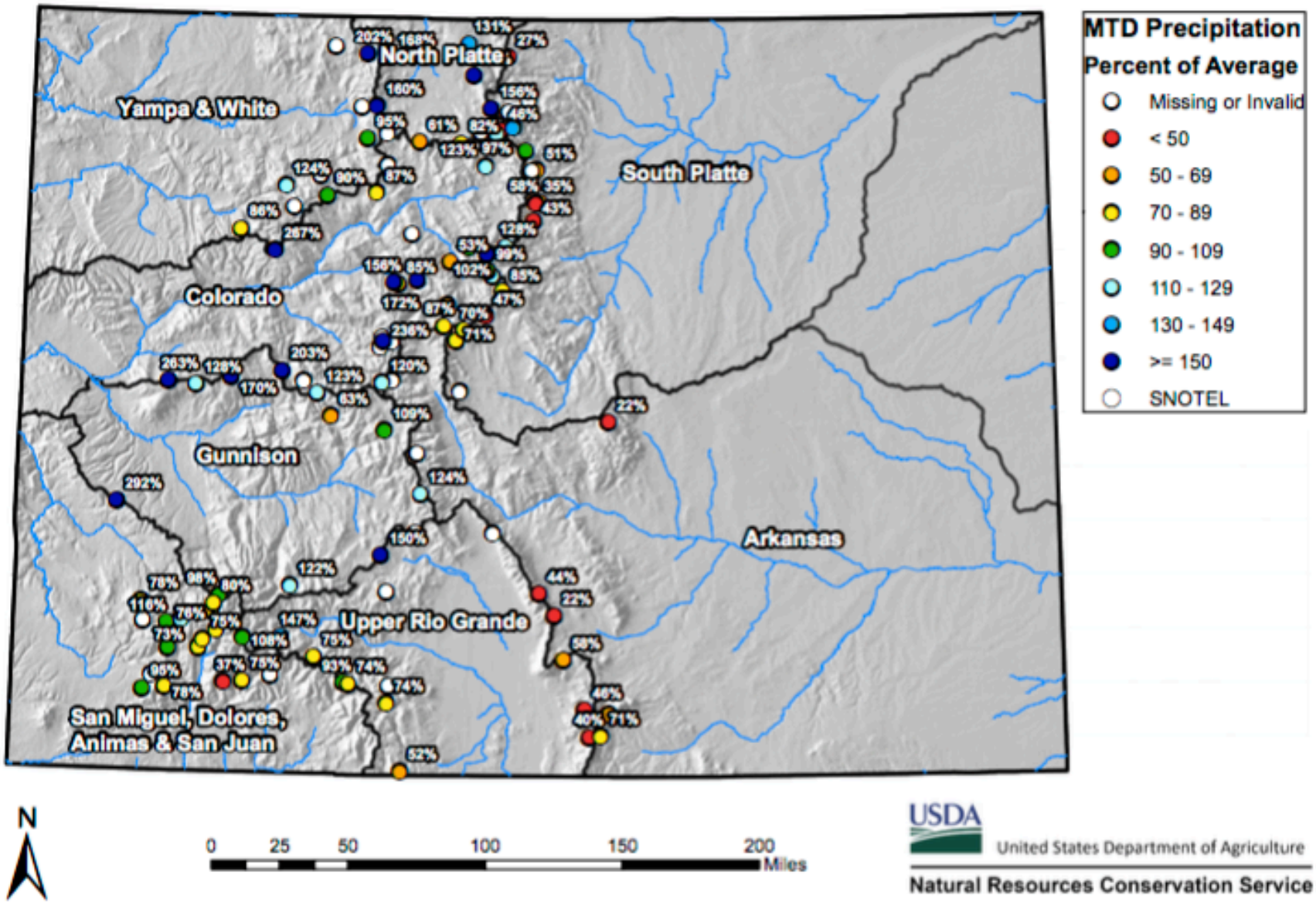

Upper Rio Grande River Basin High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Aug 20, 2021
USDA
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Current as Pct of Average: 90%
Current as Pct of Median: 89%
Current as Pct of Last Year: 141%
Current as Pct of Average Annnual Total: 80%
Average as Pct of Average Annual Total: 89%
Pct of Avg Needed to Reach Avg Annual Total: 177%
July % of Normal: 144%
August to Date: 63%
Year-to-Date Precipitation (inches)
45.0
40.0
35.0
30.0
25.0
20.0
15.0
10.0
5.0
0.0
Oct 01
Nov 01
Dec 01
Jan 01
Feb 01
Mar 01
Apr 01
May 01
Jun 01
Jul 01
Aug 01
Sep 01
Average
WY2002
WY2011
WY2020
Median
Maximum
Mininum
WY2021


Arkansas River Basin High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Aug 20, 2021
USDA
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Current as Pct of Average: 95%
Current as Pct of Median: 94%
Current as Pct of Last Year: 124%
Current as Pct of Average Annnual Total: 85%
Average as Pct of Average Annual Total: 90%
Pct of Avg Needed to Reach Avg Annual Total: 145%
July % of Normal: 104%
August to Date: 62%
Year-to-Date Precipitation (inches)
45.0
40.0
35.0
30.0
25.0
20.0
15.0
10.0
5.0
0.0
Oct 01
Nov 01
Dec 01
Jan 01
Feb 01
Mar 01
Apr 01
May 01
Jun 01
Jul 01
Aug 01
Sep 01
Average
WY2002
WY1997
WY2020
Median
Maximum
Mininum
WY2021


Colorado Statewide High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Aug 20, 2021
USDA
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Current as Pct of Average: 86%
Current as Pct of Median: 87%
Current as Pct of Last Year: 109%
Current as Pct of Average Annnual Total: 78%
Average as Pct of Average Annual Total: 90%
Pct of Avg Needed to Reach Avg Annual Total: 229%
July % of Normal: 120%
August to Date: 95%
Year-to-Date Precipitation (inches)
45.0
40.0
35.0
30.0
25.0
20.0
15.0
10.0
5.0
0.0
Oct 01
Nov 01
Dec 01
Jan 01
Feb 01
Mar 01
Apr 01
May 01
Jun 01
Jul 01
Aug 01
Sep 01
Average
WY2002
WY2011
WY2020
Median
Maximum
Mininum
WY2021

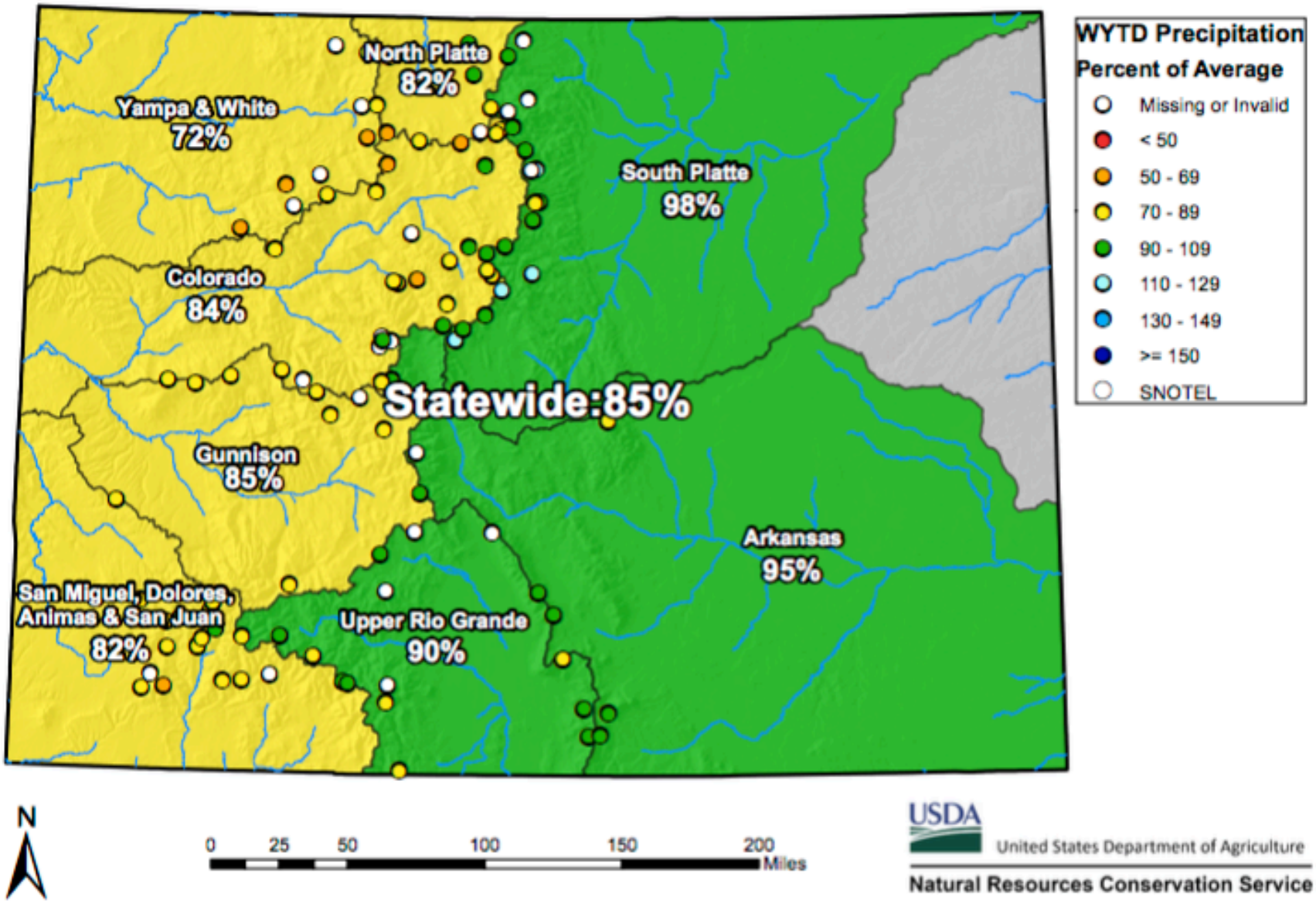
Colorado SNOTEL Month-to-Date Precipitation

Current as of Aug 20, 2021

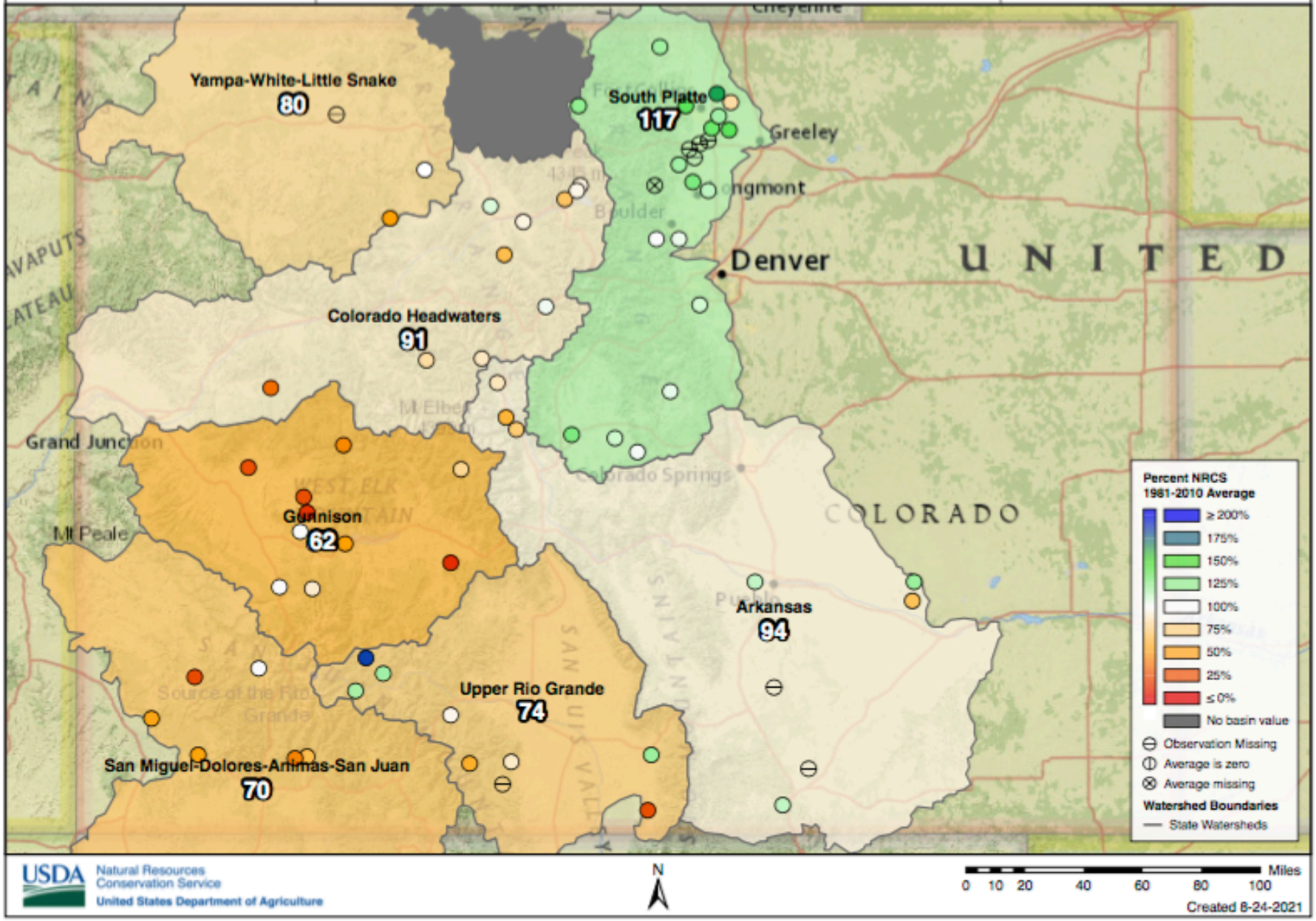


Colorado SNOTEL Water Year to Date Precipitation

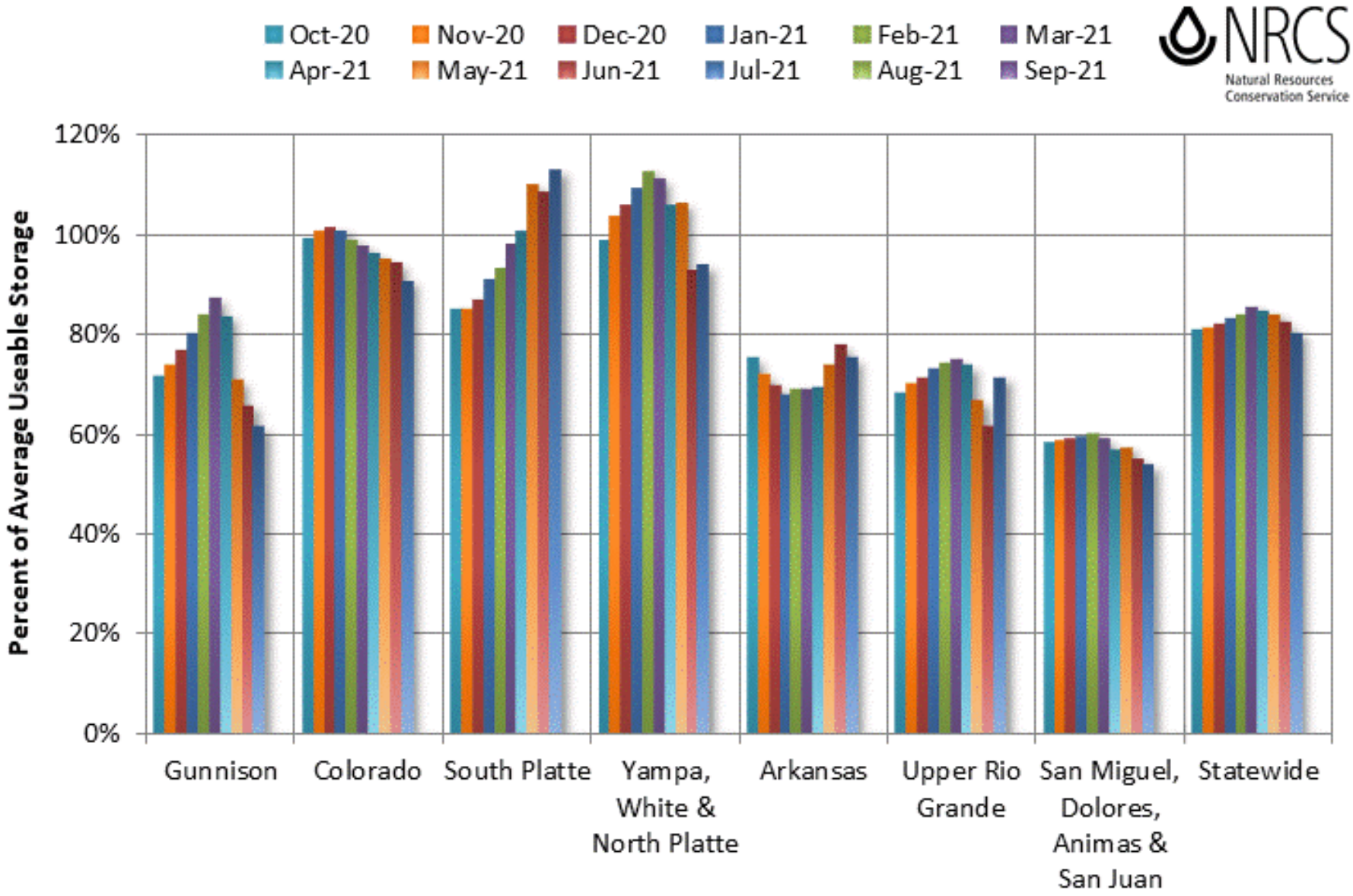
Current as of Aug 20, 2021

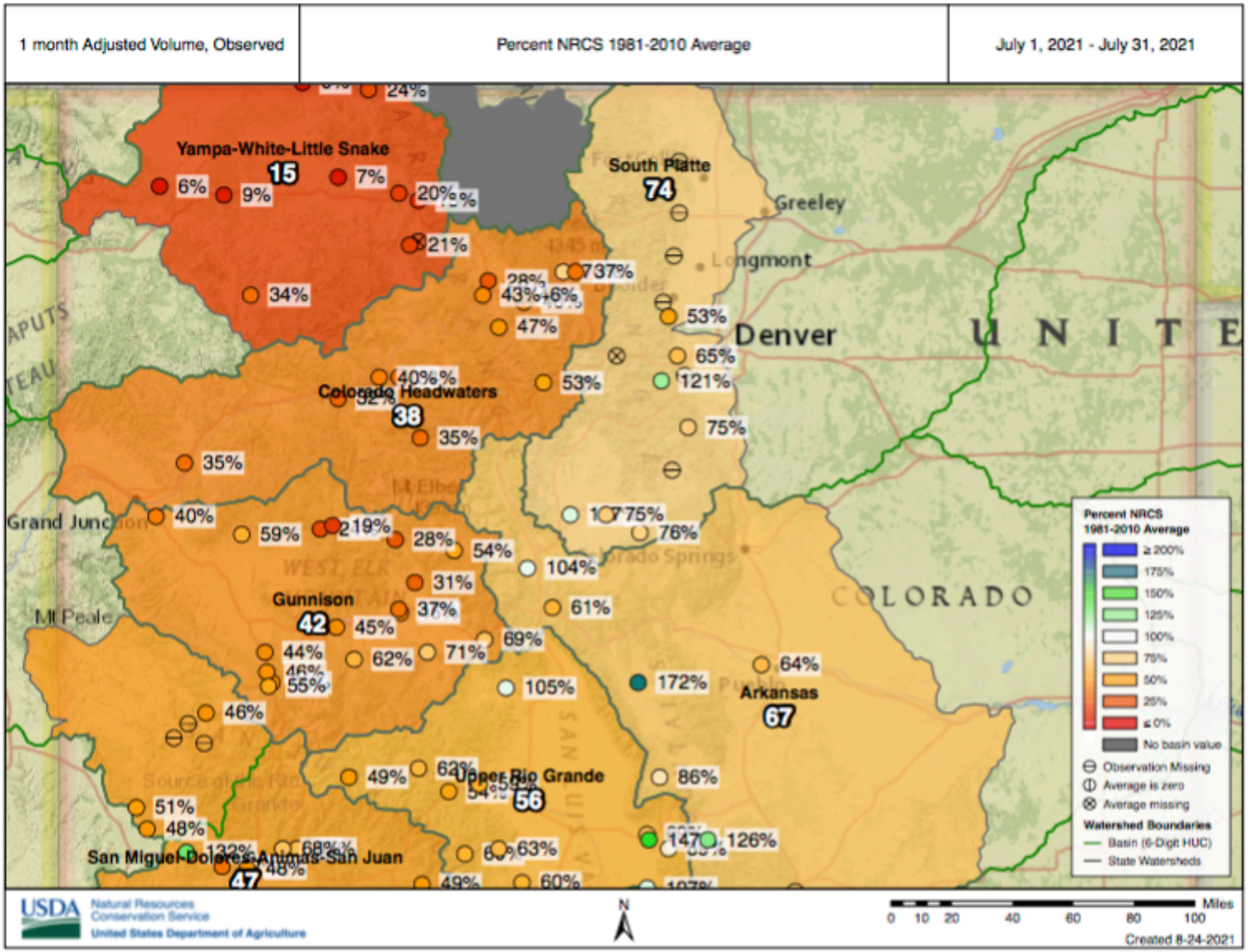


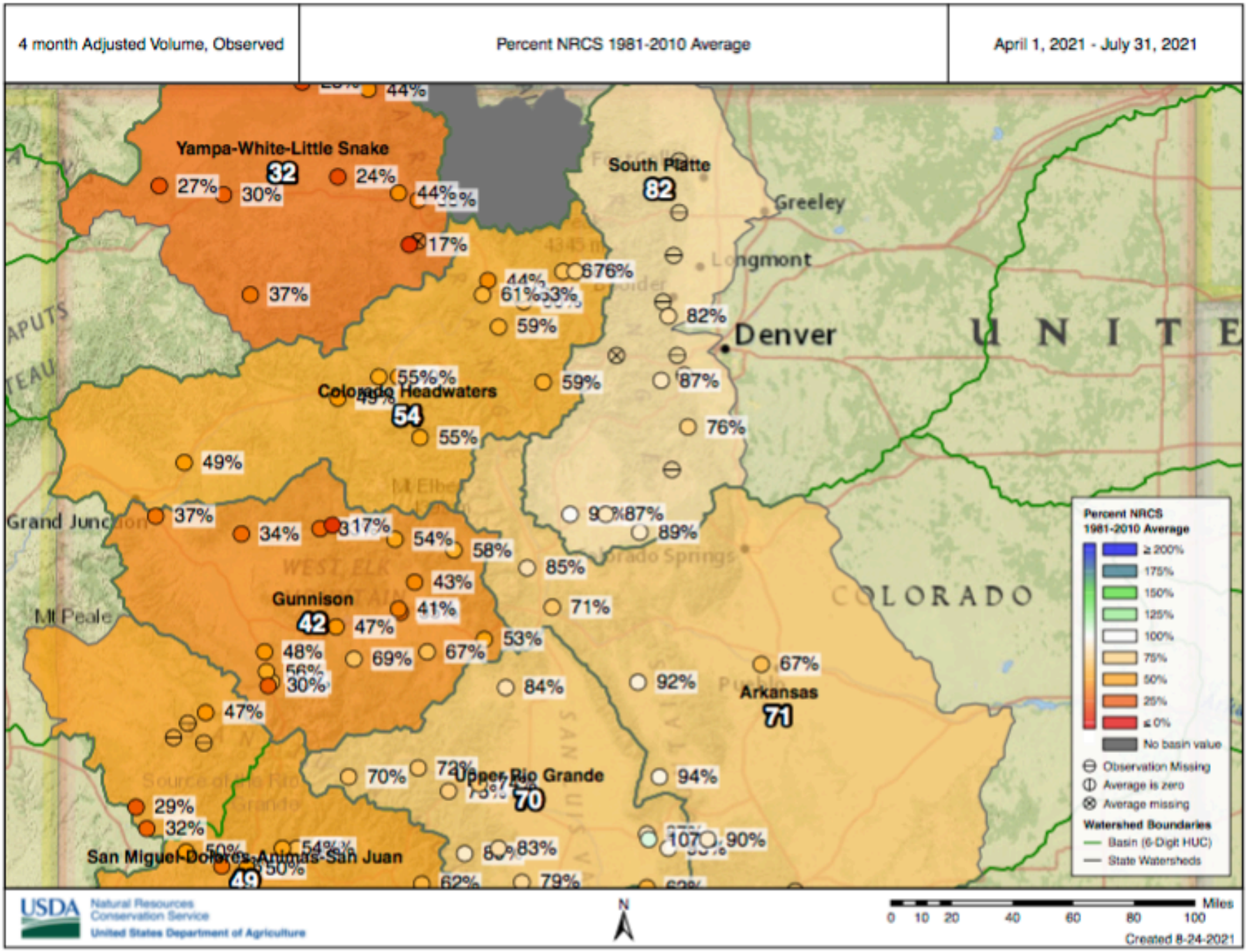
Reservoir Storage	Percent NRCS 1981-2010 Average	End of July, 2021

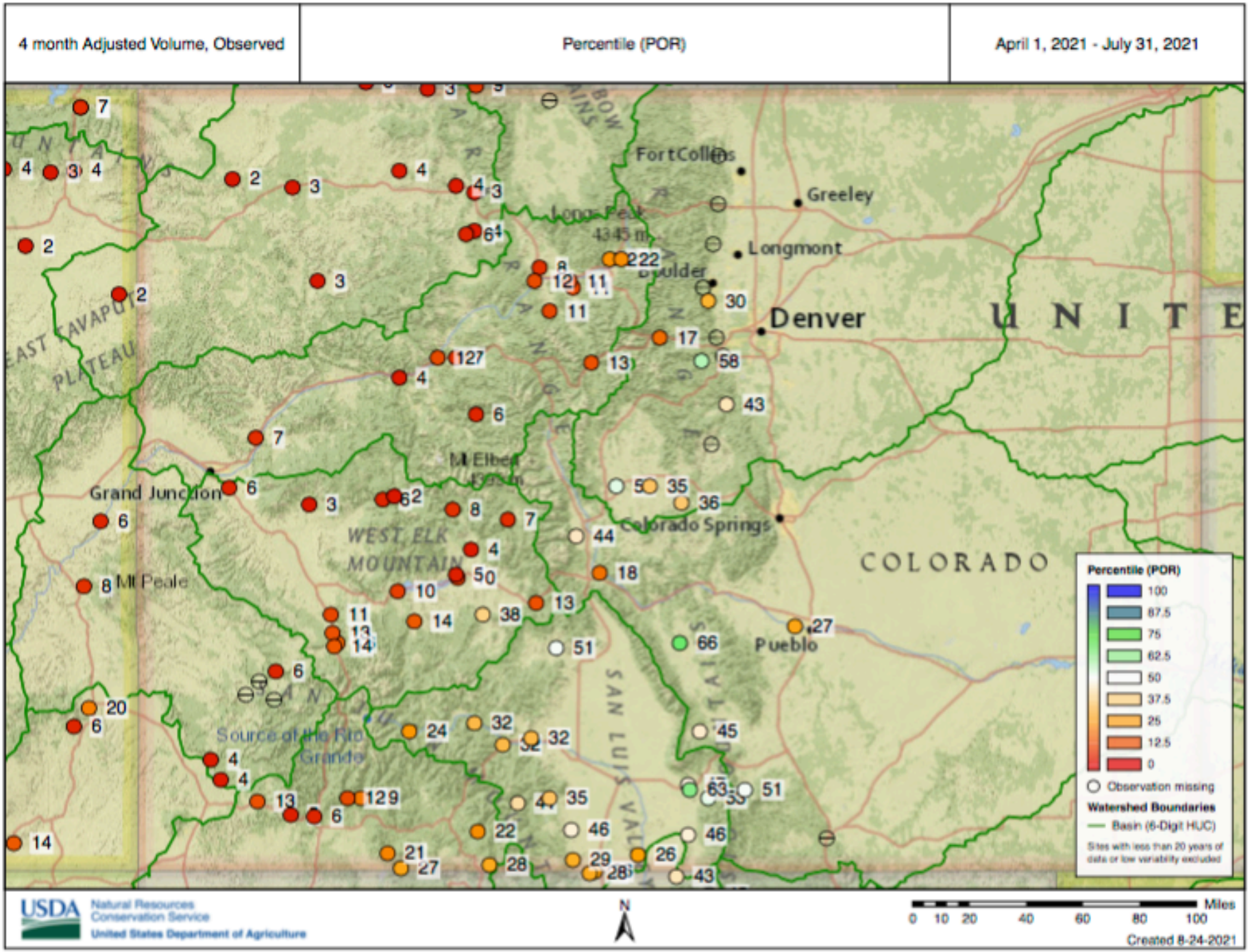


Colorado Reservoir Storage




1 month Adjusted Volume, Observed
Percent NRCS 1981-2010 Average
July 1, 2021 - July 31, 2021
Yampa-White-Little Snake
15
South Platte
74
Colorado Headwaters
38
Gunnison
42
Arkansas
67
Upper Rio Grande
56
San Miguel-Dolores-Animas-San Juan
47
Greeley
Longmont
Denver
Grand Junction
Mt Peale
COLORADO
Percent NRCS 1981-2010 Average
≥ 200%
175%
150%
125%
100%
75%
50%
25%
≤ 0%
No basin value
Observation Missing
Average is zero
Average missing
Watershed Boundaries
Basin (6-Digit HUC)
State Watersheds
USDA
Natural Resources Conservation Service
United States Department of Agriculture
N
Miles
0 10 20 40 60 80 100
Created 8-24-2021


4 month Adjusted Volume, Observed
Percent NRCS 1981-2010 Average
April 1, 2021 - July 31, 2021
Yampa-White-Little Snake
32
South Platte
82
Colorado Headwaters
54
Gunnison
42
Arkansas
71
Upper Rio Grande
70
San Miguel-Dolores-Animas-San Juan
49
Denver
Greeley
Longmont
Grand Junction
Mt Peale
COLORADO
Percent NRCS 1981-2010 Average
≥ 200%
175%
150%
125%
100%
75%
50%
25%
≤ 0%
No basin value
Observation Missing
Average is zero
Average missing
Watershed Boundaries
Basin (6-Digit HUC)
State Watersheds
USDA
Natural Resources Conservation Service
United States Department of Agriculture
N
0 10 20 40 60 80 100
Miles
Created 8-24-2021


4 month Adjusted Volume, Observed
Percentile (POR)
April 1, 2021 - July 31, 2021
Fort Collins
Greeley
Longmont
Boulder
Denver
Colorado Springs
Pueblo
Grand Junction
Mt Elbert
Mt Peale
WEST ELK MOUNTAIN
Source of the Rio Grande
SAN LUIS VALLEY
COLORADO
Percentile (POR)
100
87.5
75
62.5
50
37.5
25
12.5
0
Observation missing
Watershed Boundaries
Basin (6-Digit HUC)
Sites with less than 20 years of data or low variability excluded
USDA
Natural Resources Conservation Service
United States Department of Agriculture
N
Miles
0 10 20 40 60 80 100
Created 8-24-2021

SUMMARY

- July precipitation provided substantial precipitation across Colorado and particularly to much of southern basins that have been some of the most dry in the state over the last two years
- Statewide reservoir storage showed a net decline, relative to normal
  - Only the South Platte and Rio Grande Basins showed notable increases
  - The largest and most continued declines in storage are in the Gunnison Basin
- Very low total streamflow volumes for the April-July period across the state and particularly in Western Colorado
  - Very few streamflow forecasts observed above the 50th percentile of April-July volumes
  - Most points in Western Colorado in the bottom 15th percentile
  - July flows even lower than the total April-July flows indicating we will likely be entering winter with low baseflows again