



Water Availability Task Force Meeting

September 23rd, 2021

NRCS Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecasting Program

Karl Wetlaufer

Hydrologist

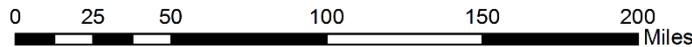
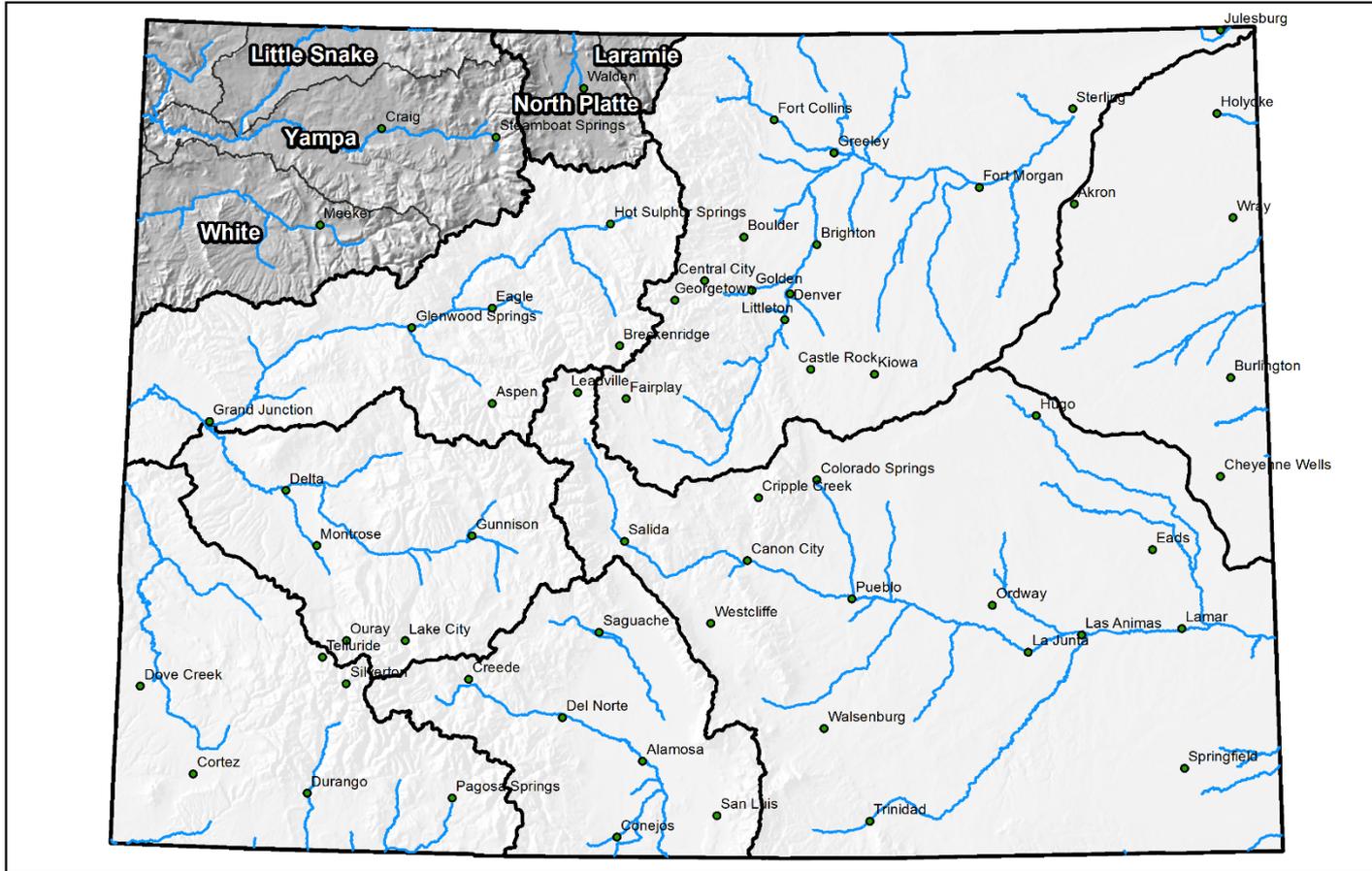
Asst. Snow Survey Supervisor

720-544-2852

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

Major Basin Summary

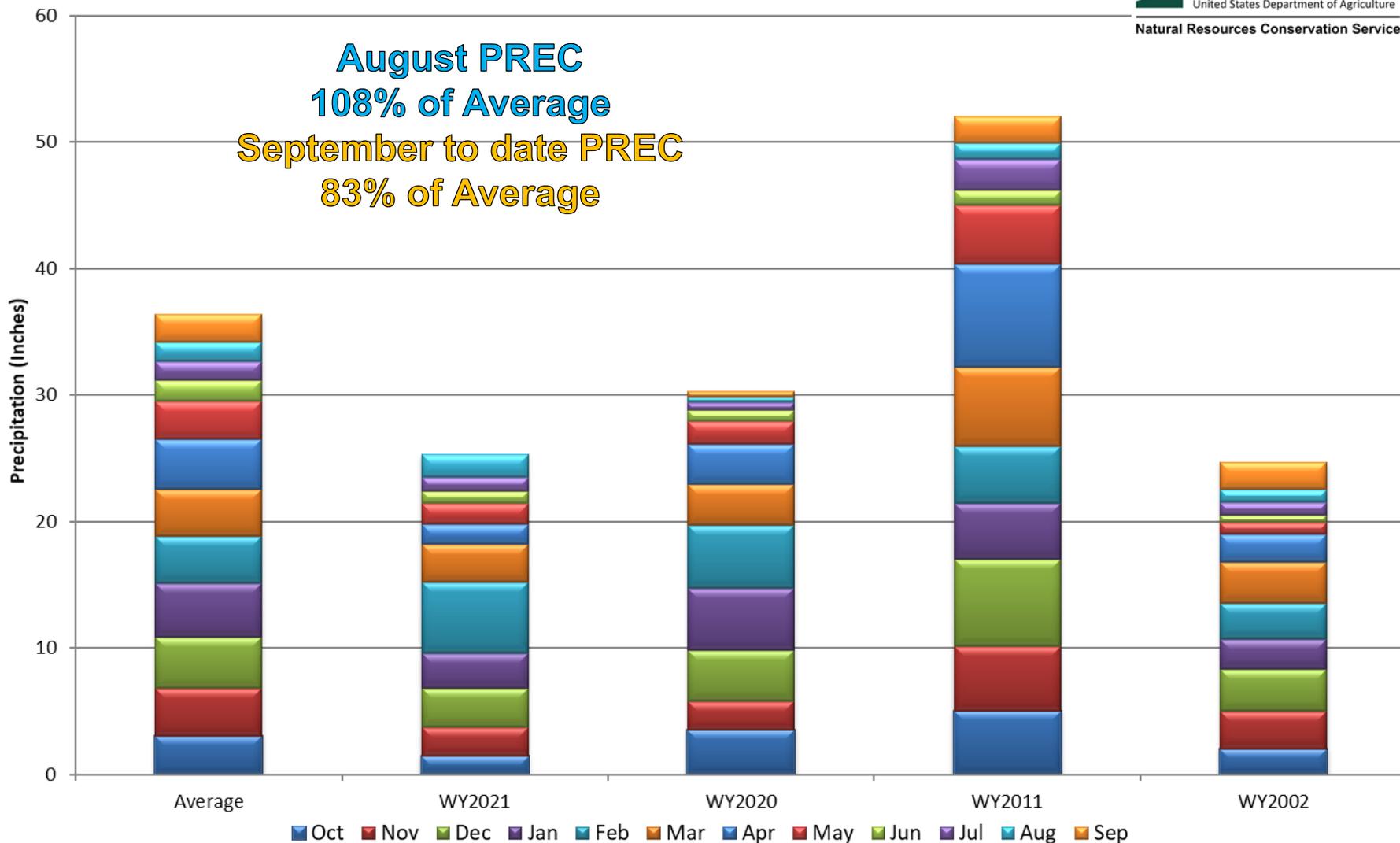
Yampa, White, and North Platte River Basins



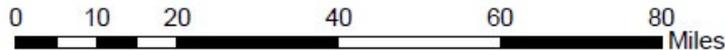
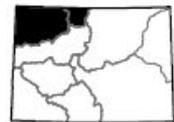
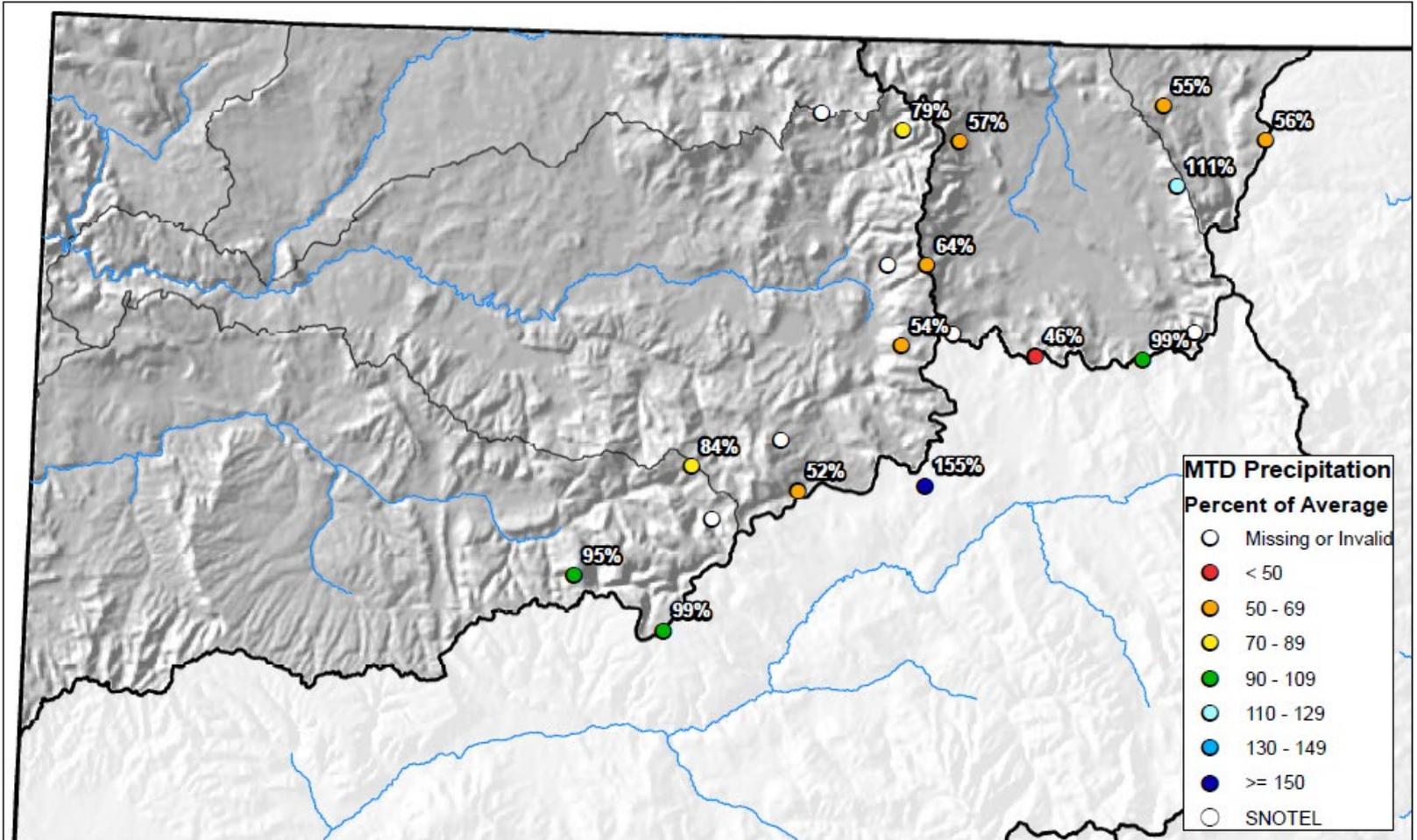
Yampa and White River Basins High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 21, 2021

August PREC
108% of Average
September to date PREC
83% of Average

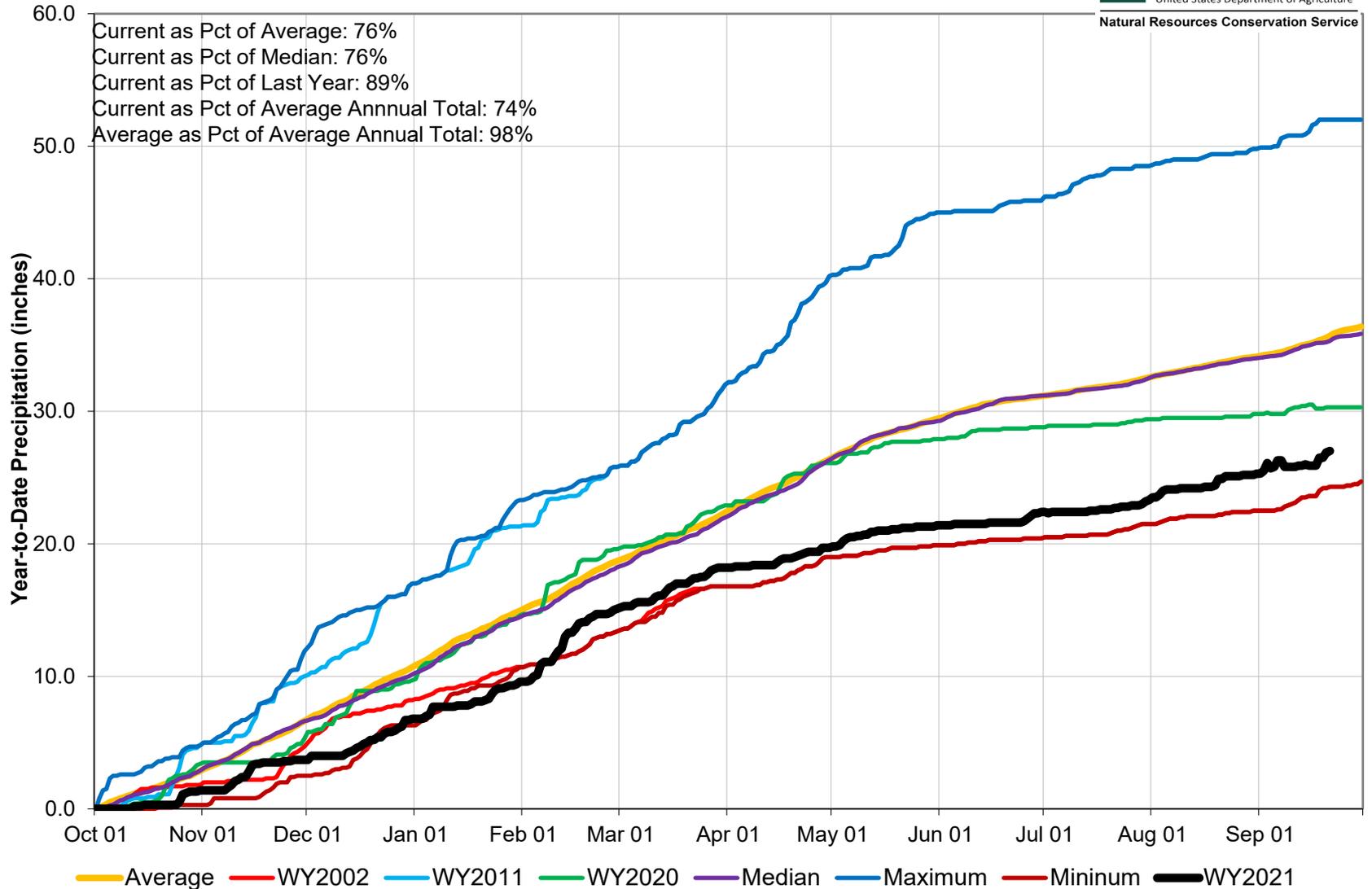


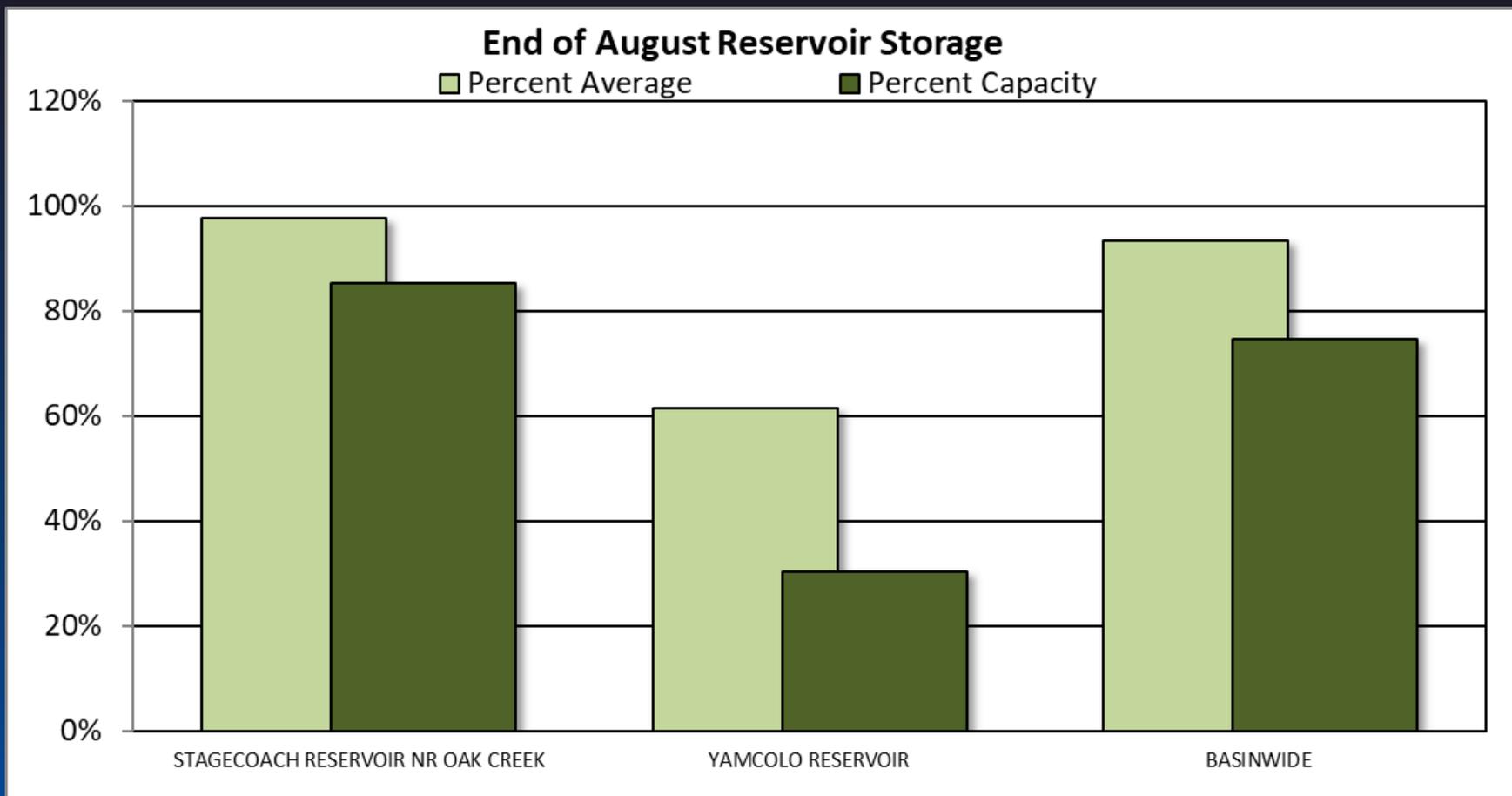
Yampa, White, and North Platte River Basins Month to Date Precipitation Summary Current as of Sep 21, 2021



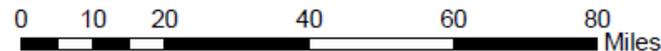
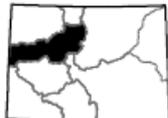
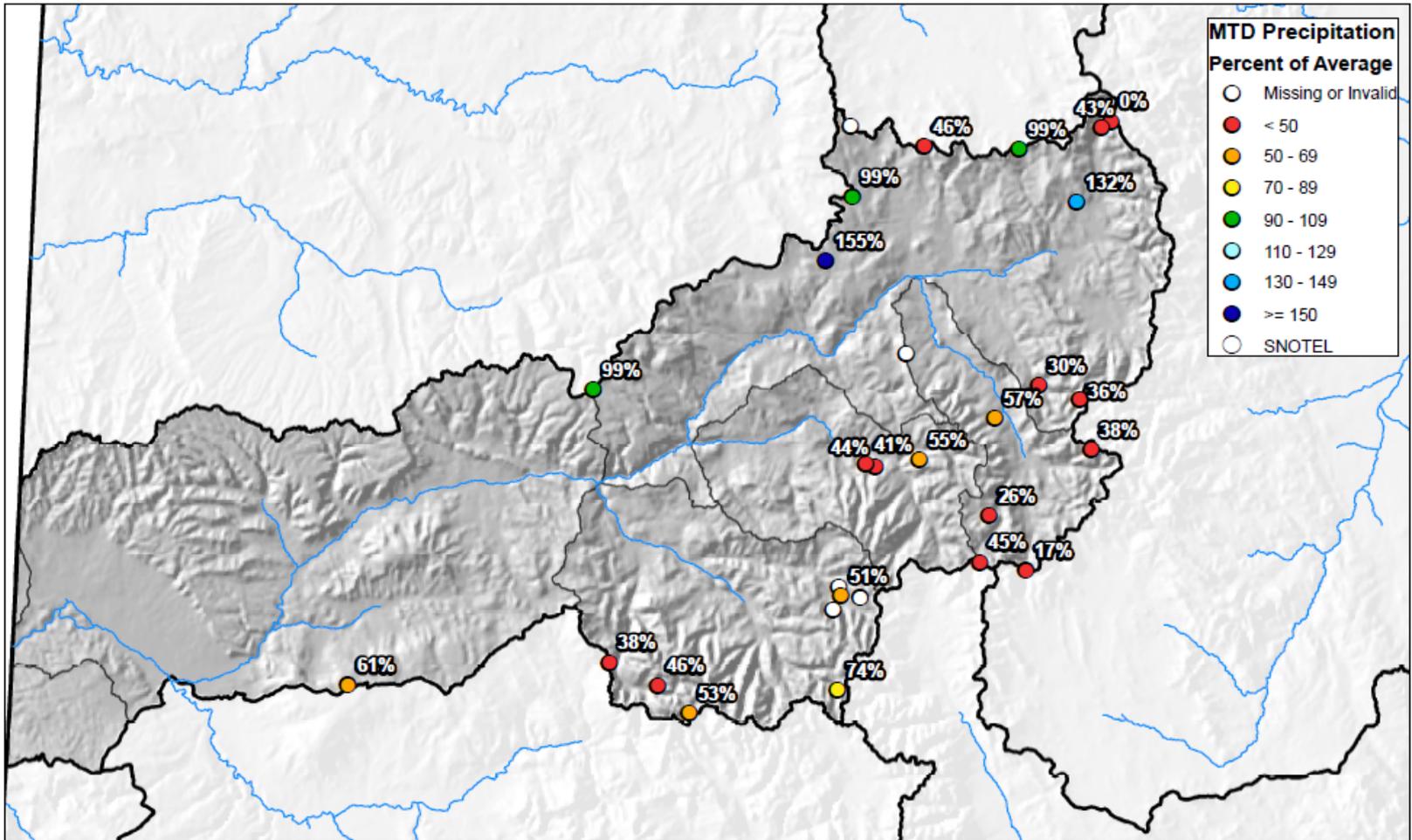
Yampa and White River Basins High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 21, 2021



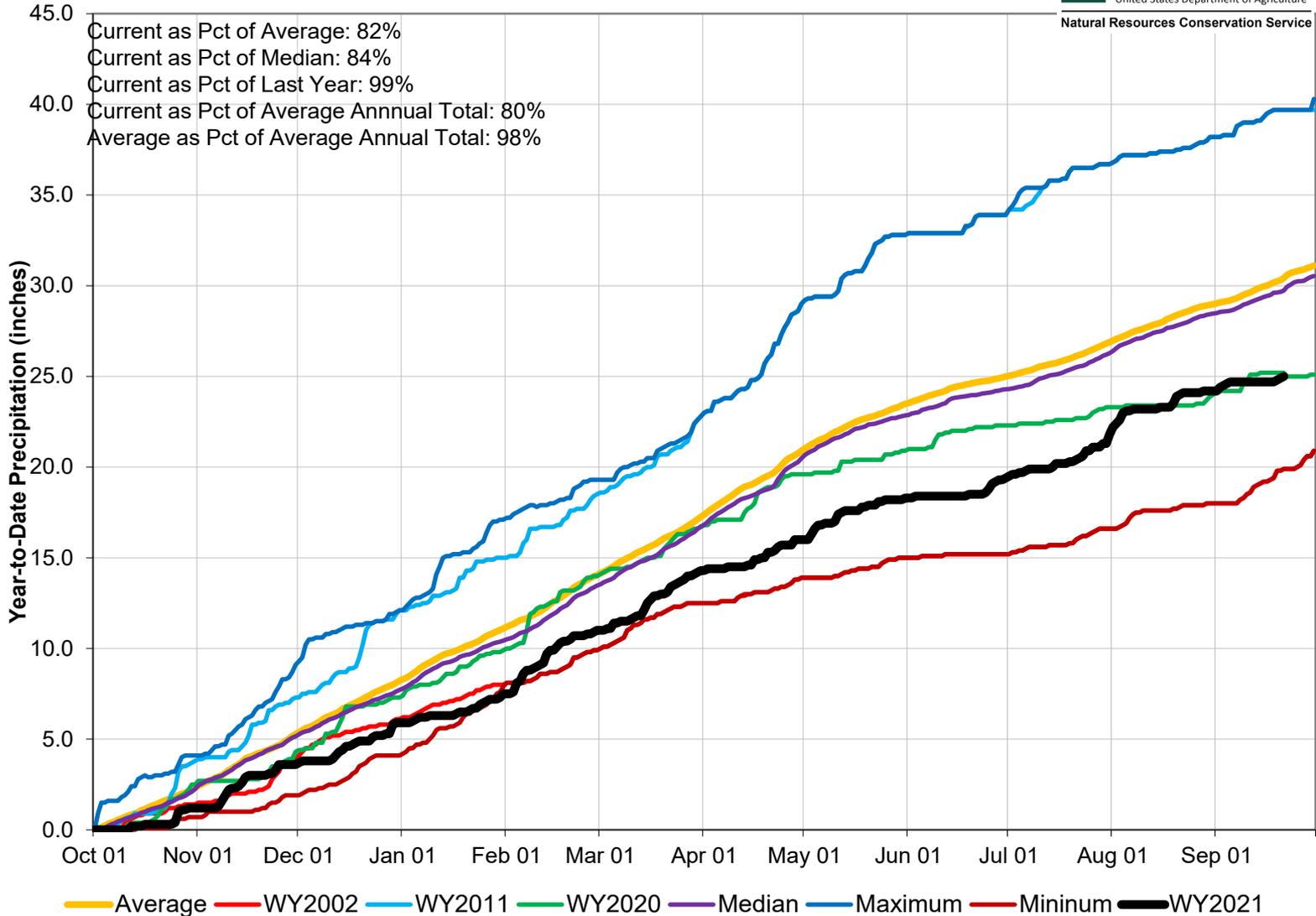


Upper Colorado River Basin Month to Date Precipitation Summary Current as of Sep 21, 2021

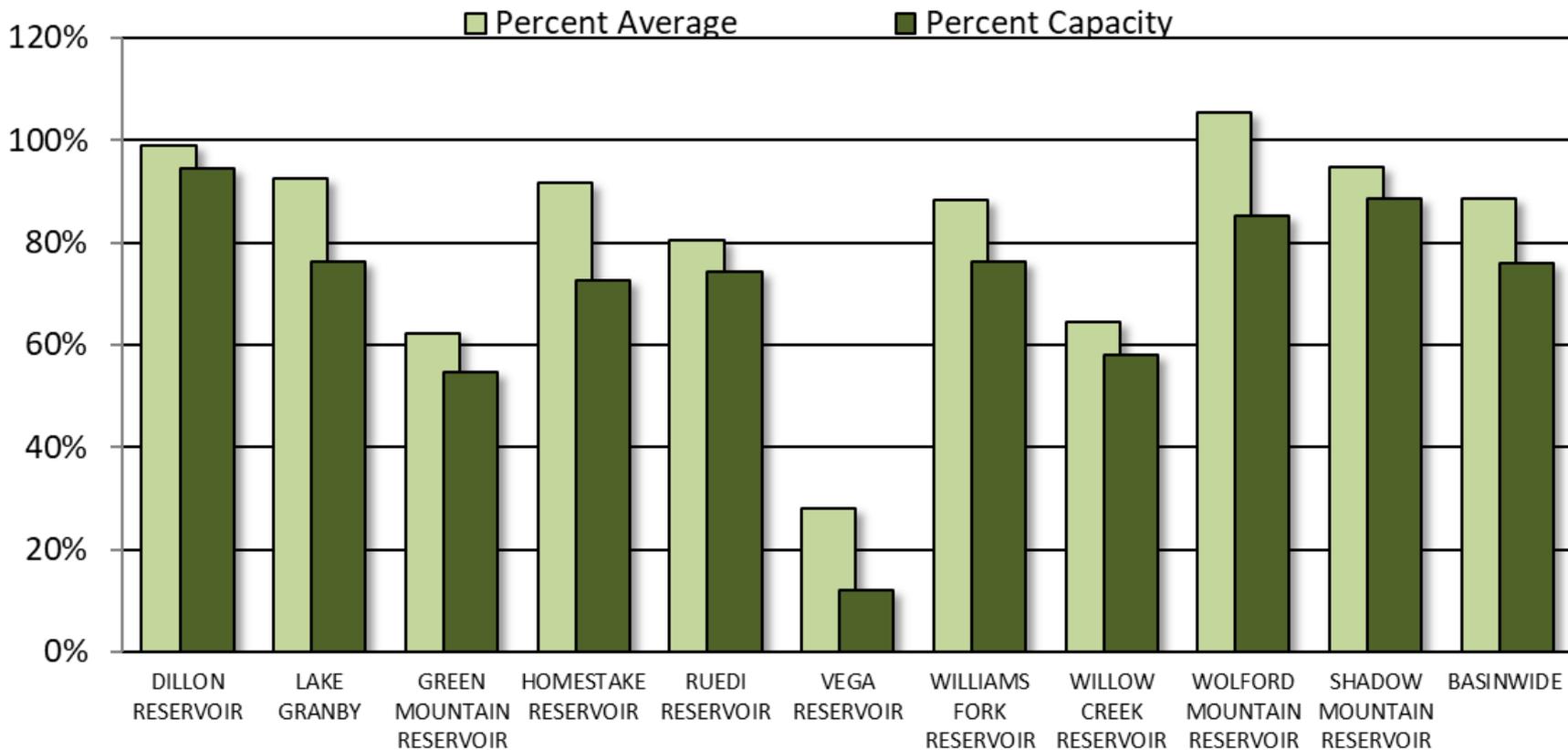


Upper Colorado River Basin High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

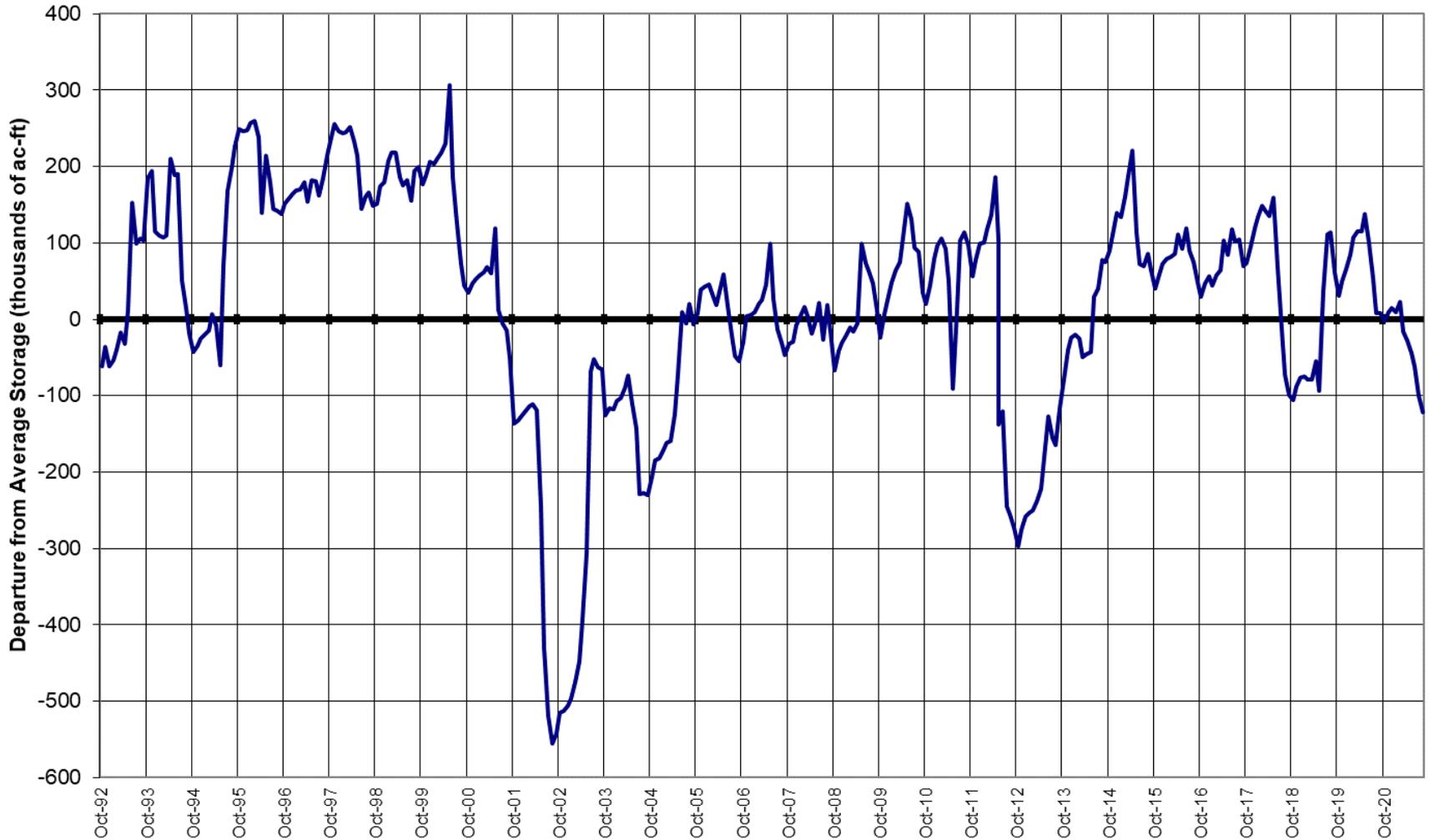
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 21, 2021



End of August Reservoir Storage

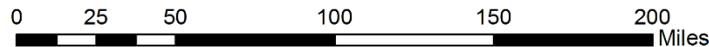
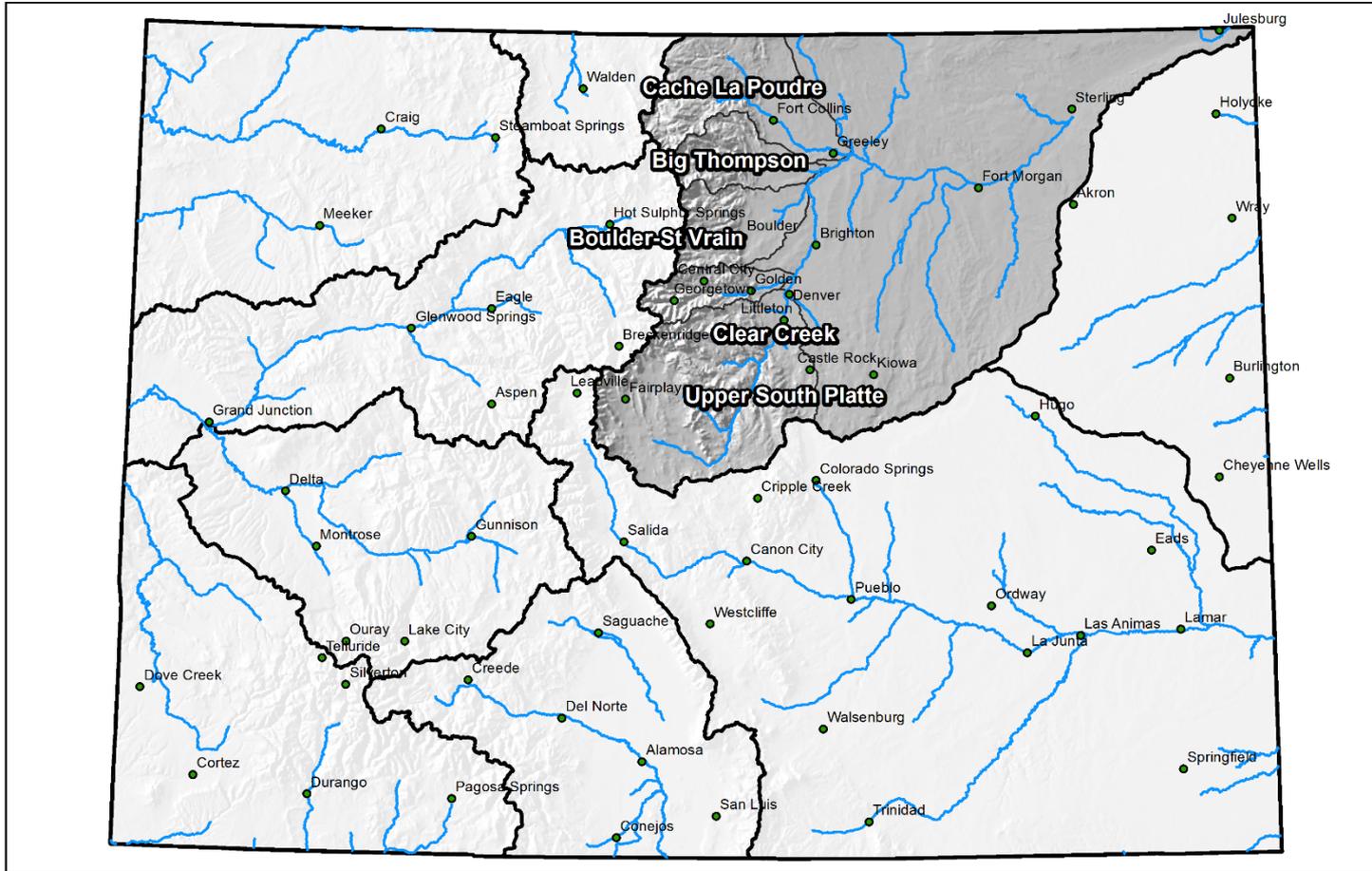


COLORADO RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage Departure from Average



Major Basin Summary

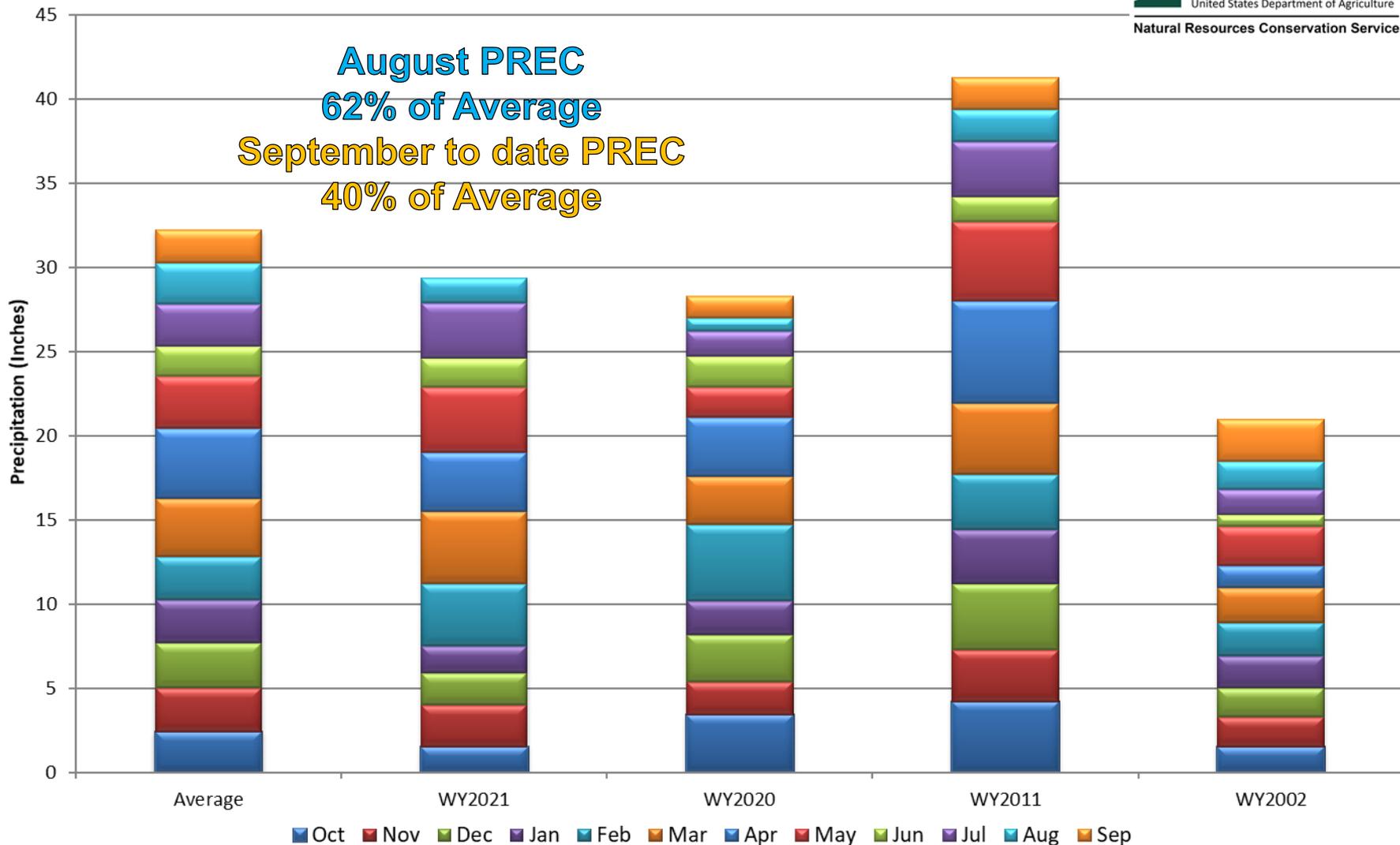
South Platte River Basin



South Platte River Basin High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

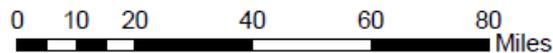
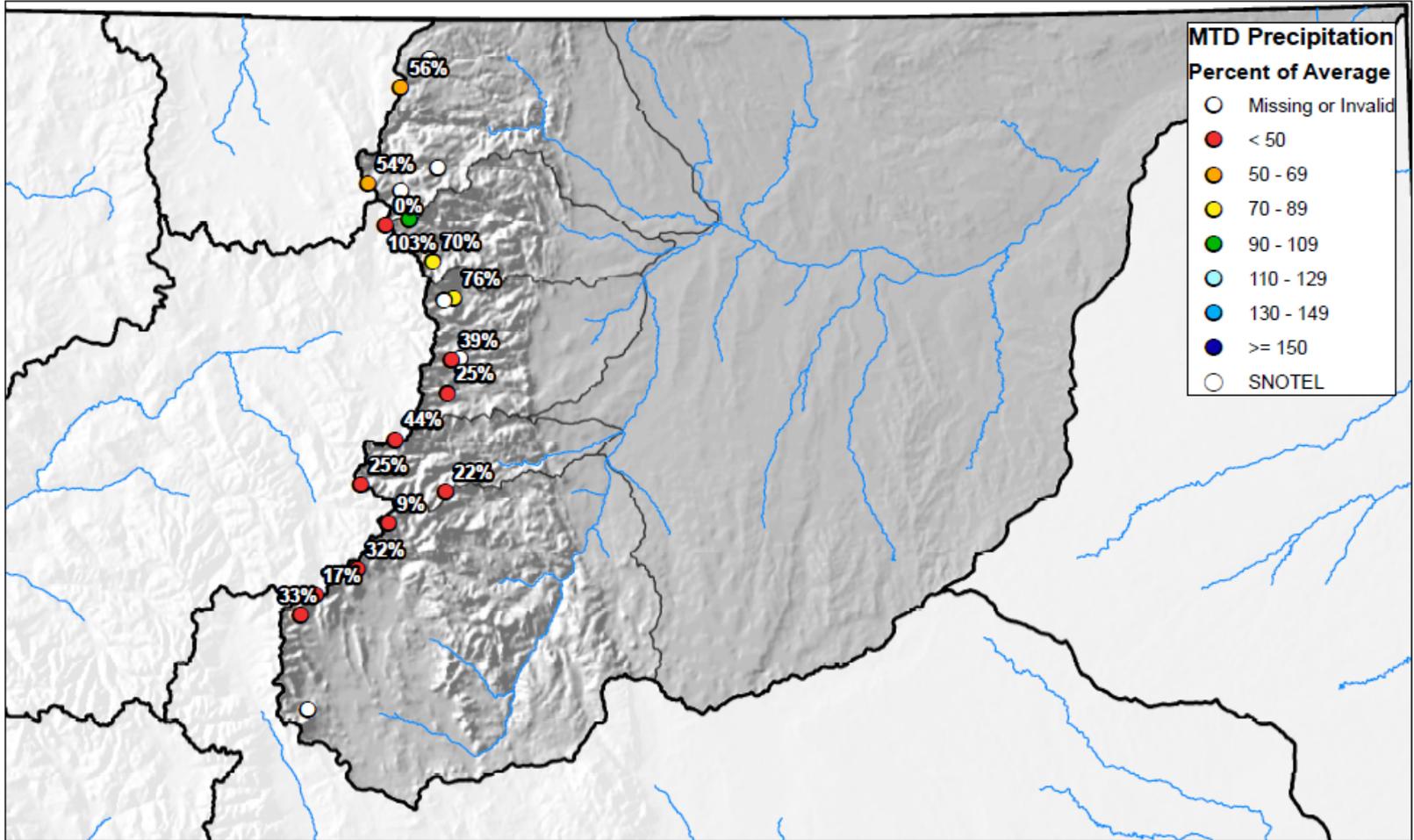
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 21, 2021

August PREC
62% of Average
September to date PREC
40% of Average



South Platte River Basin Month to Date Precipitation Summary

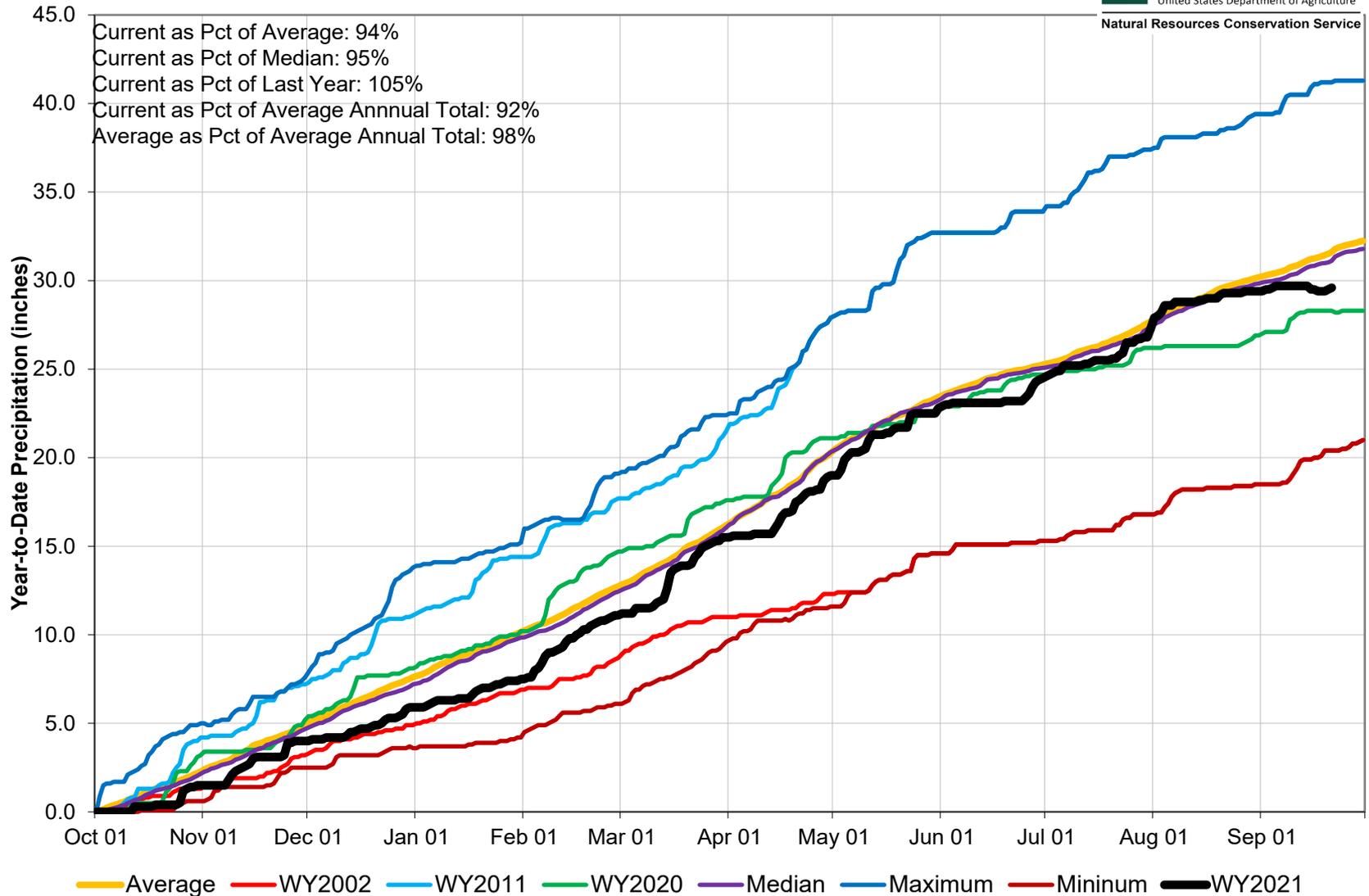
Current as of Sep 21, 2021



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

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 21, 2021

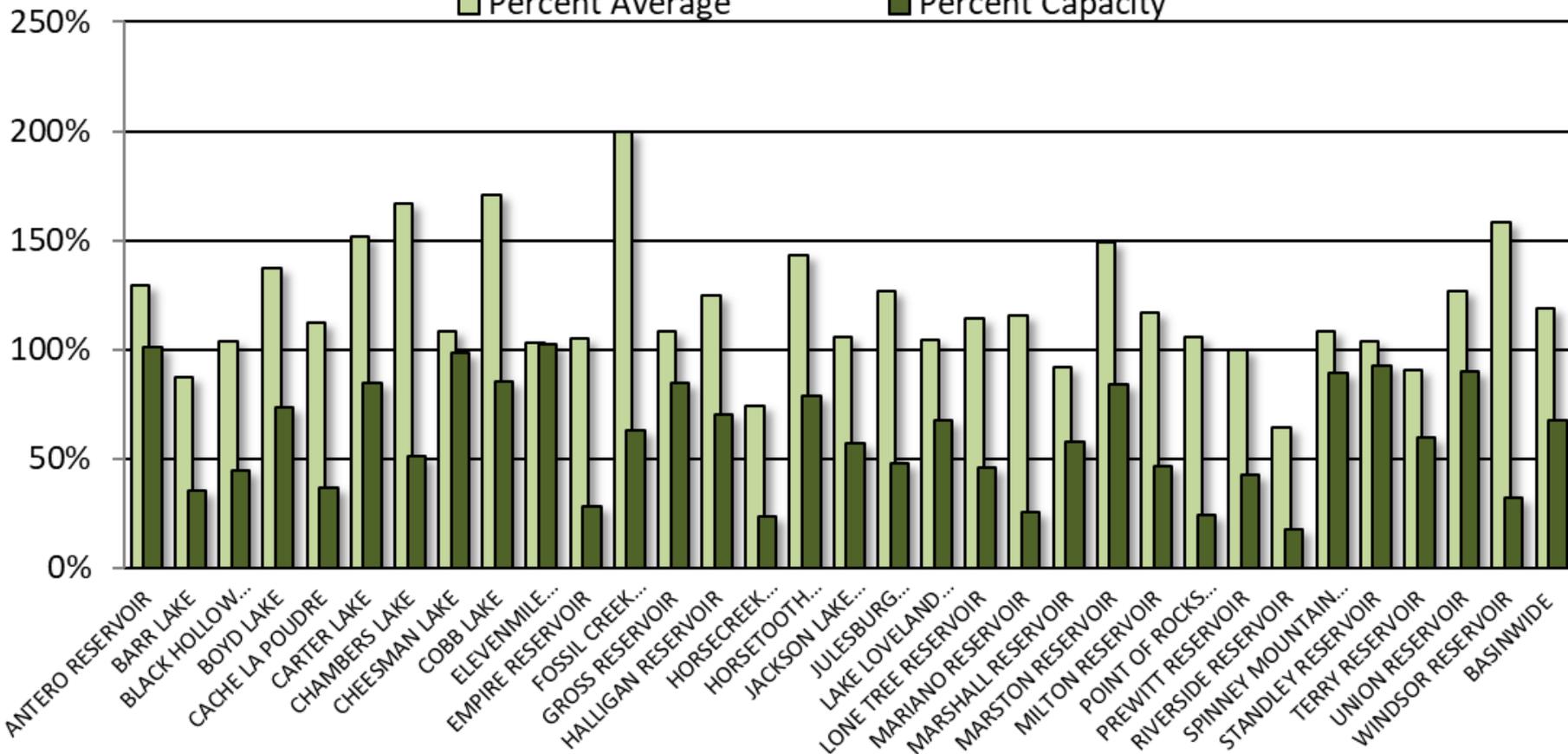
USDA
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service



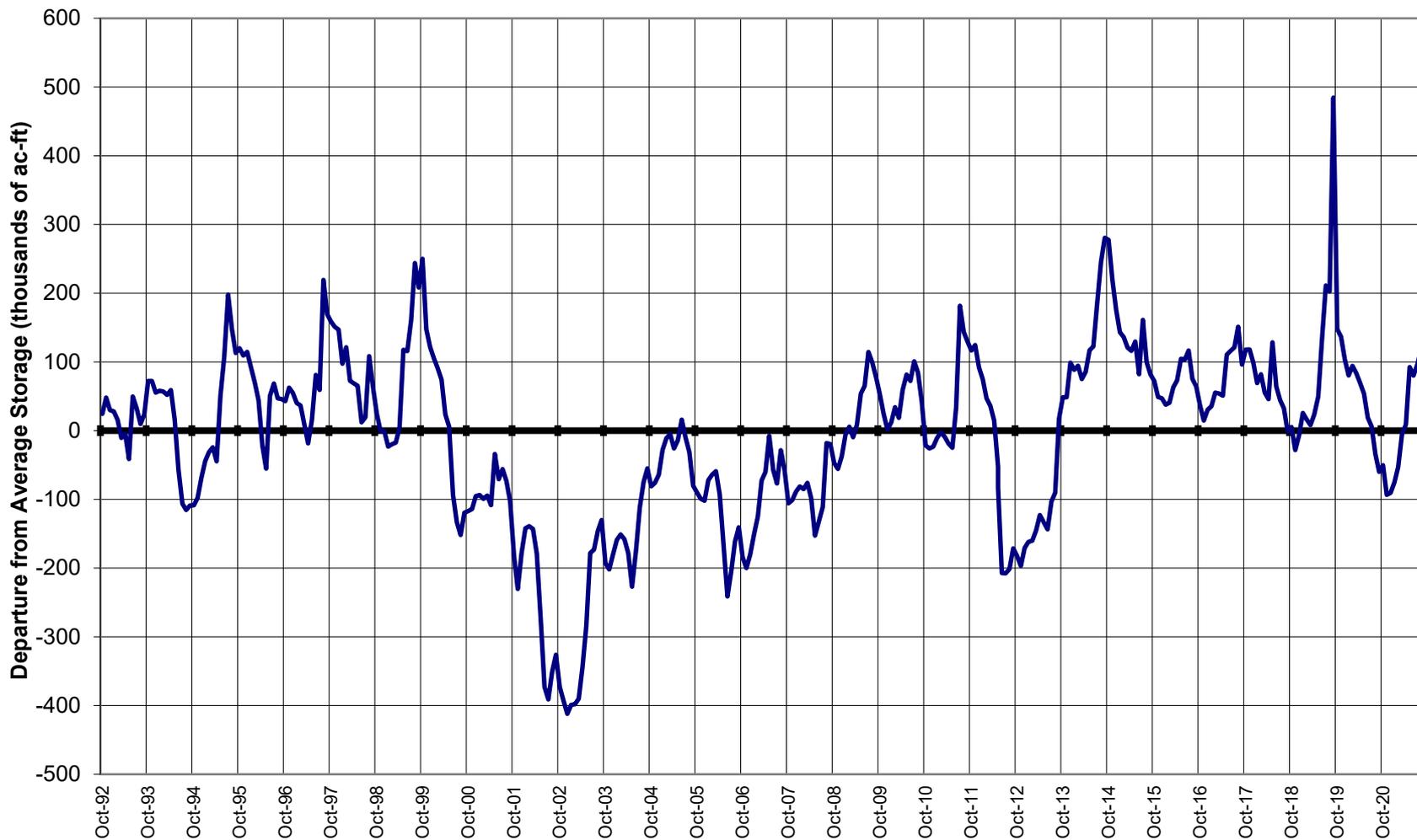
End of August Reservoir Storage

■ Percent Average

■ Percent Capacity

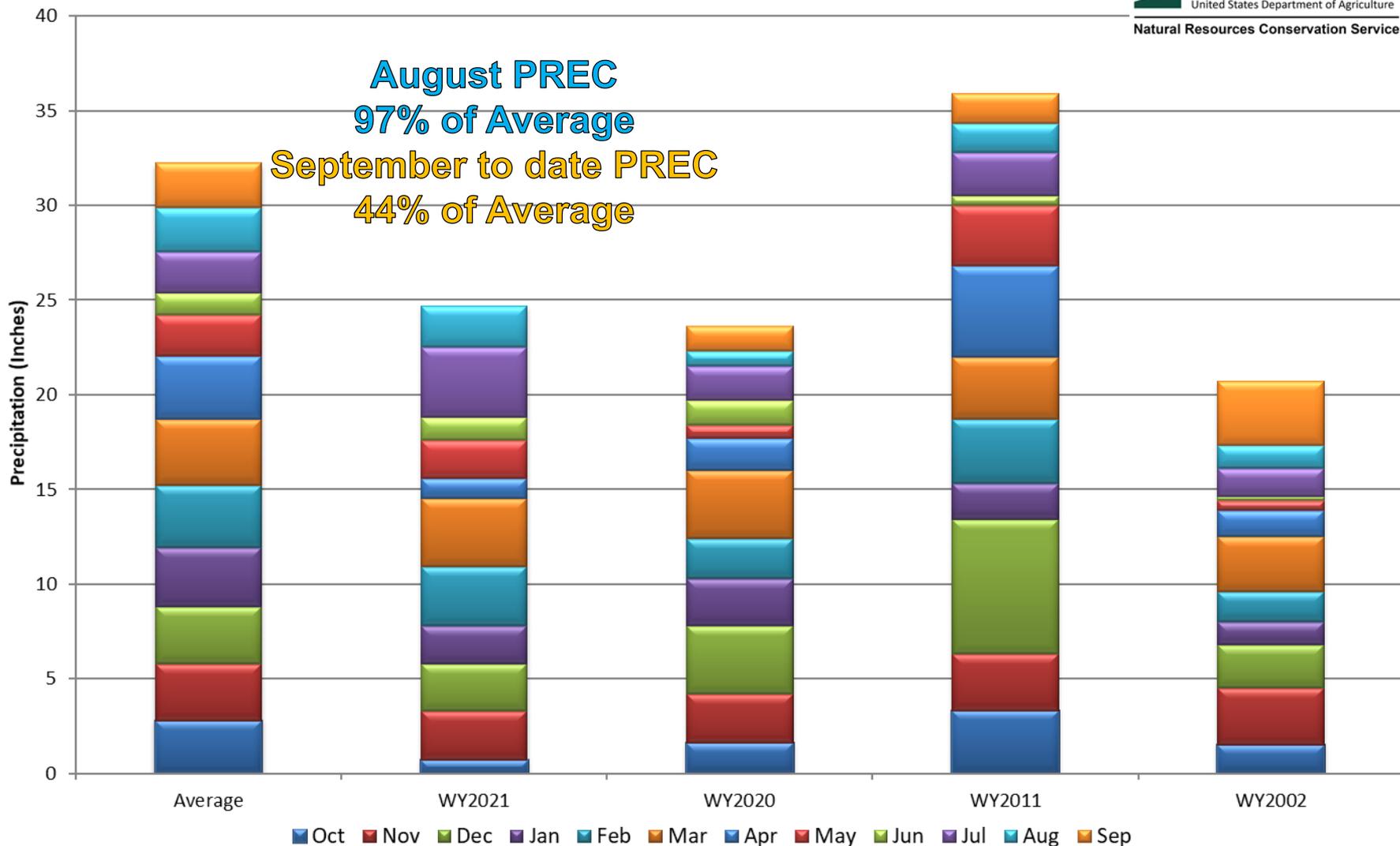


SOUTH PLATTE RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage Departure from Average



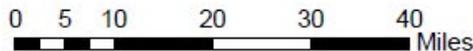
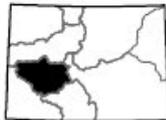
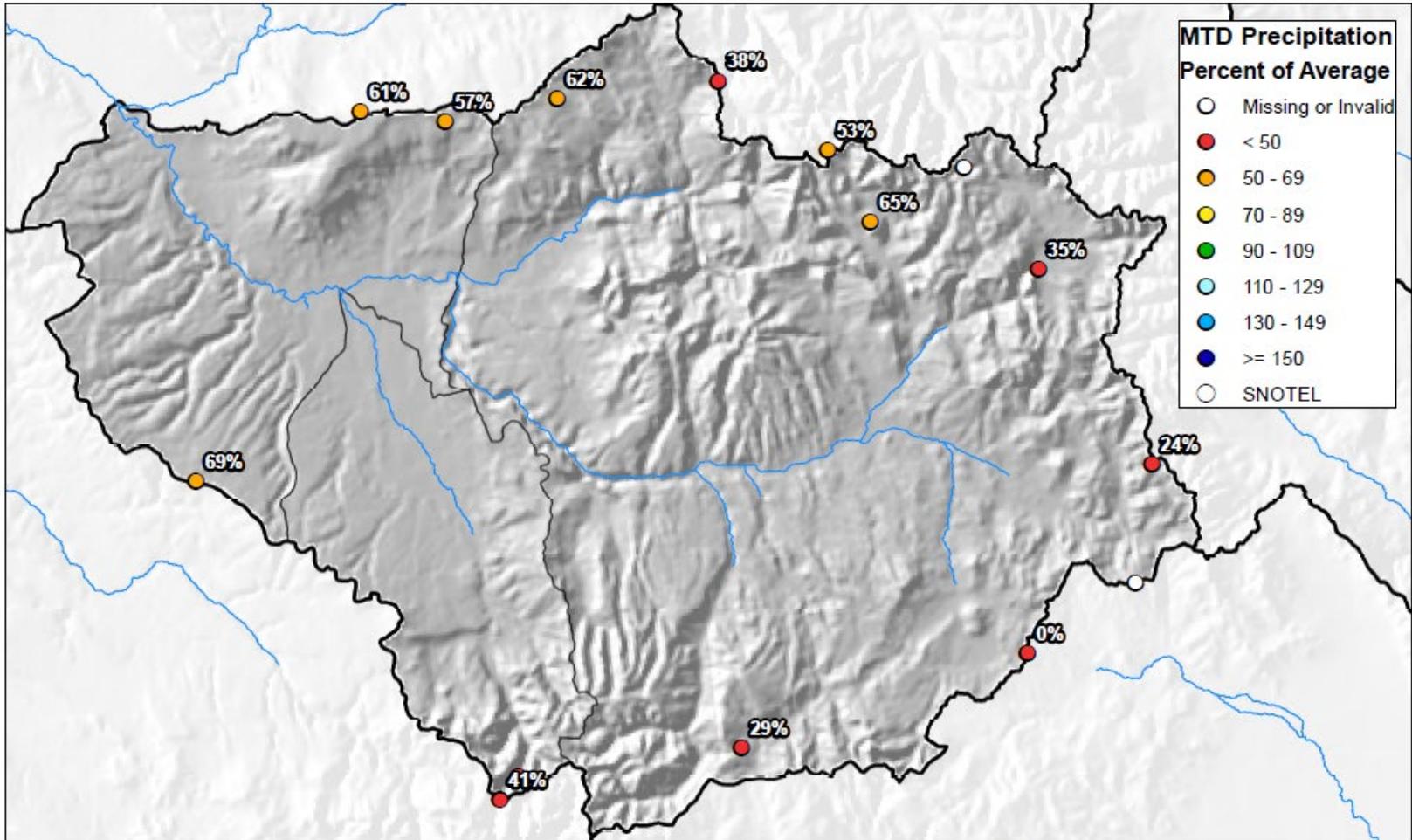
Gunnison River Basin High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 21, 2021



Gunnison River Basin Month to Date Precipitation Summary

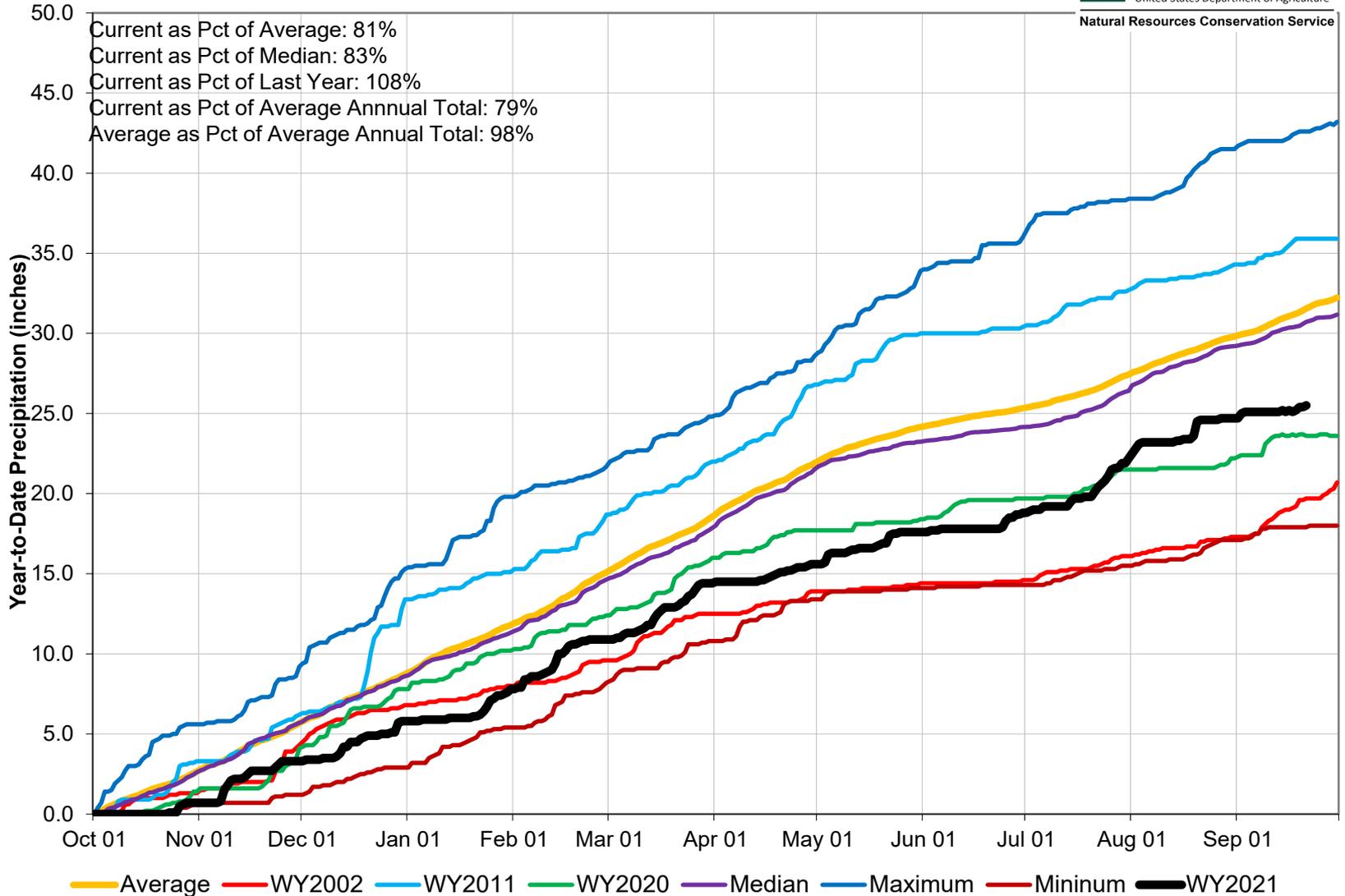
Current as of Sep 21, 2021





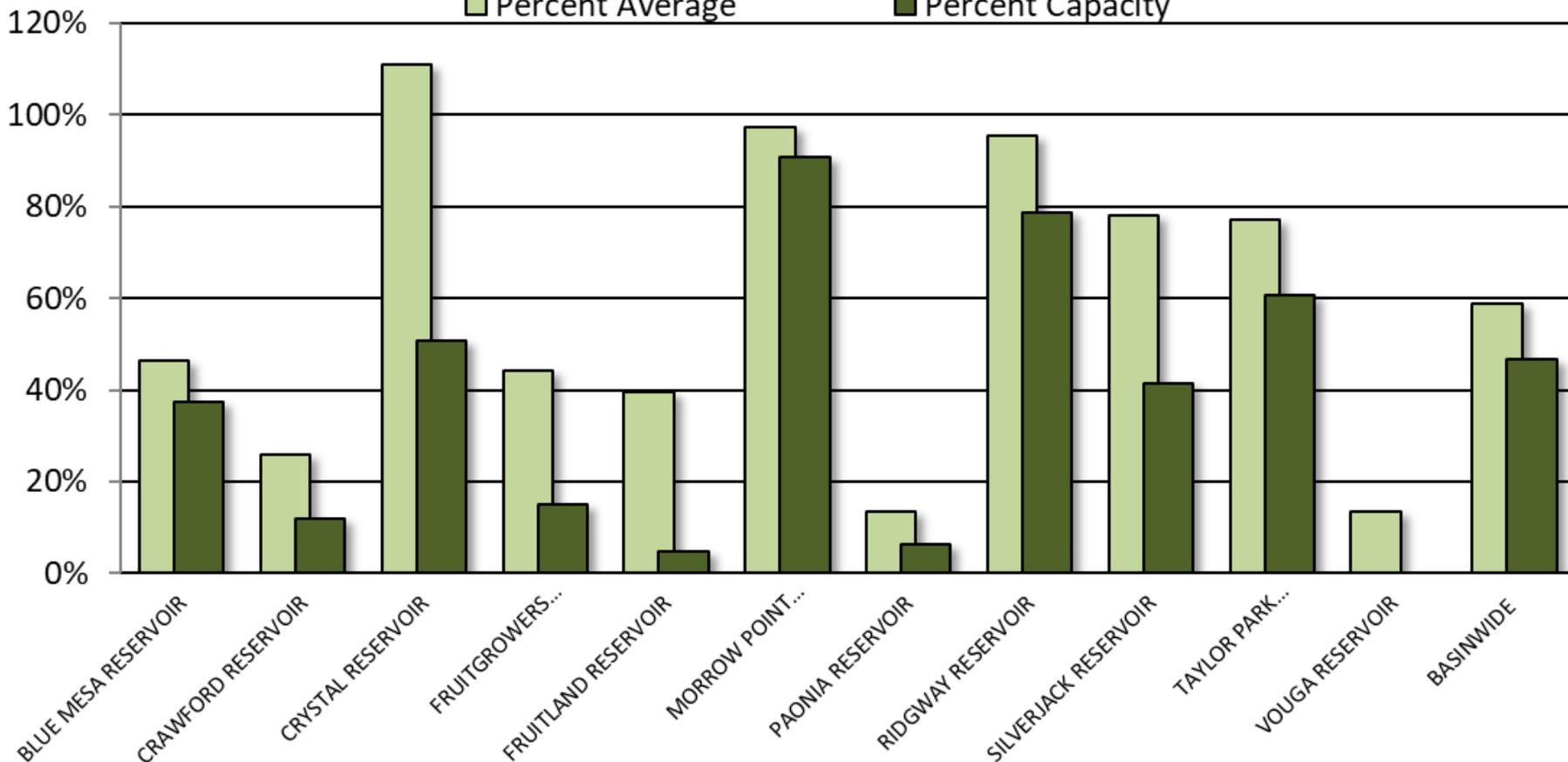
Gunnison River Basin High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 21, 2021

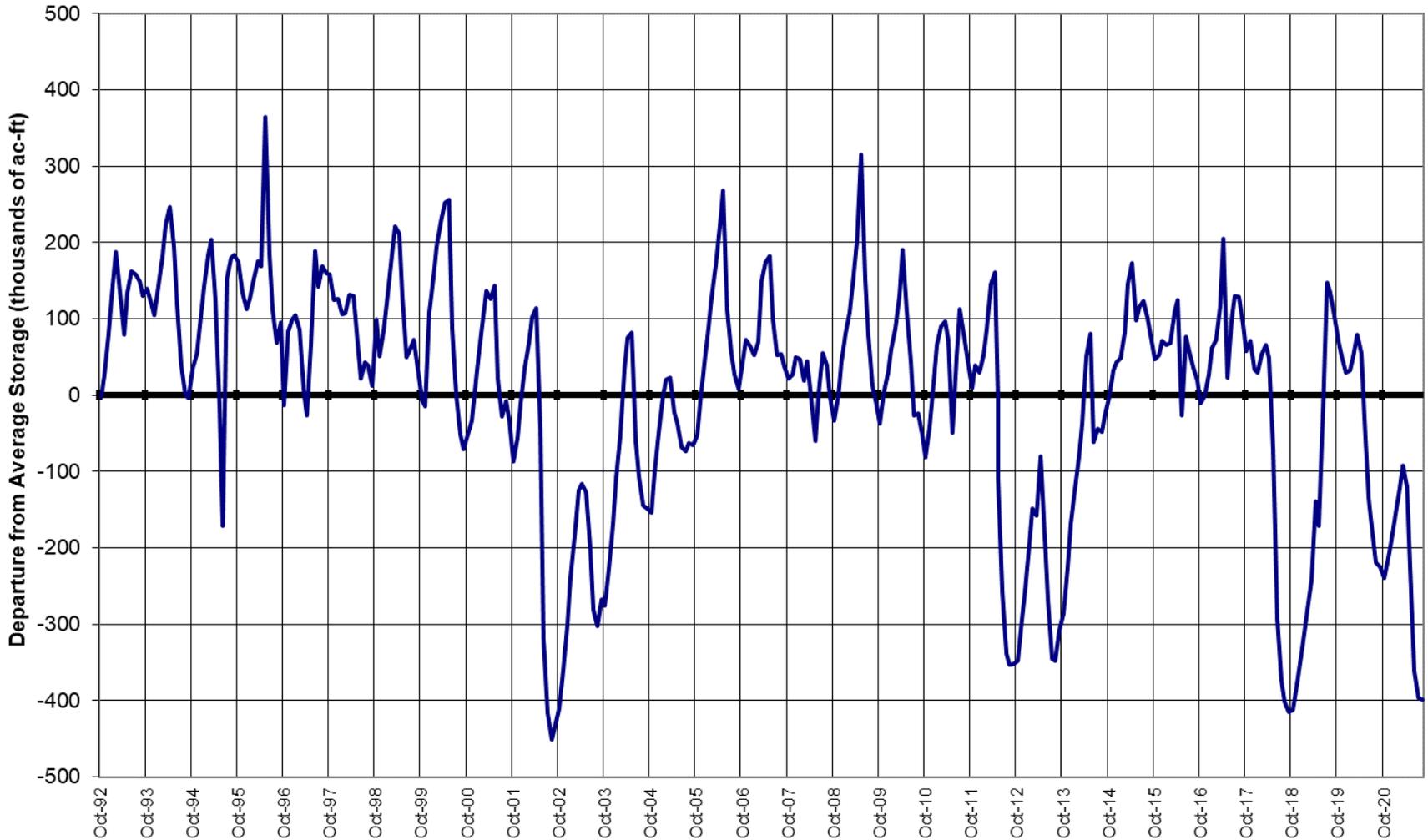


End of August Reservoir Storage

■ Percent Average ■ Percent Capacity



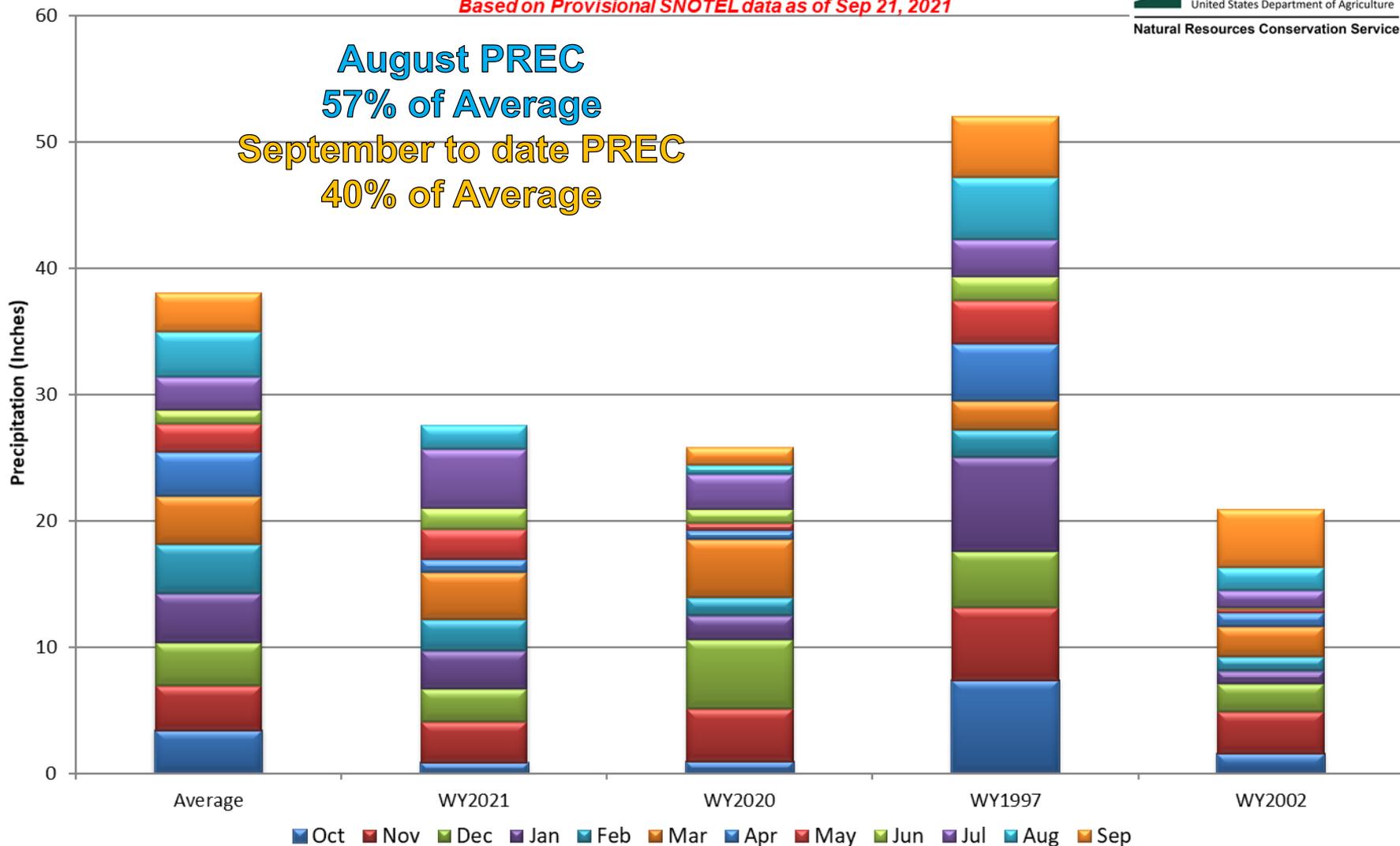
GUNNISON RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage
Departure from Average



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

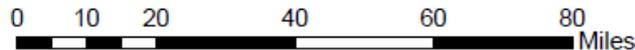
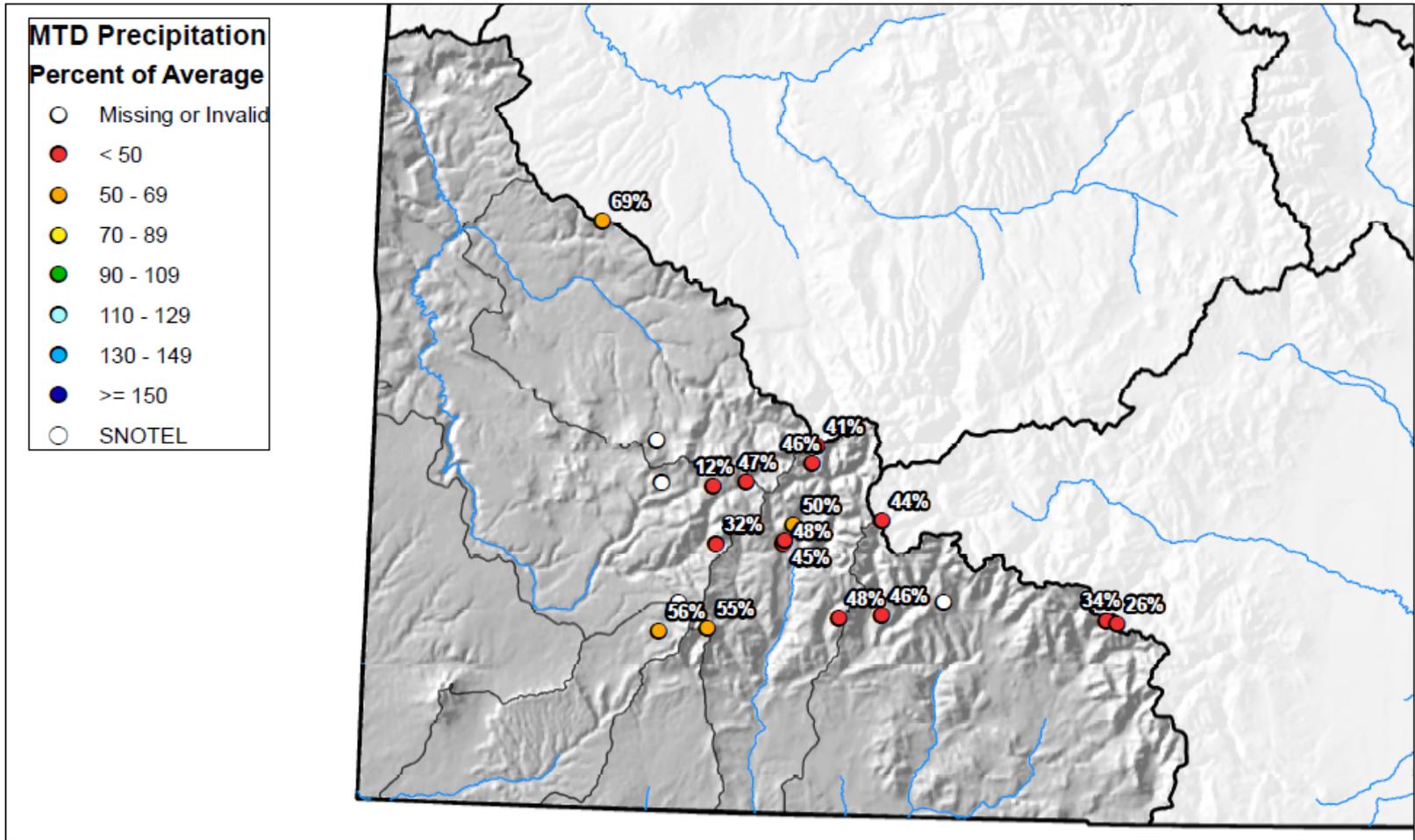
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 21, 2021

August PREC
57% of Average
September to date PREC
40% of Average



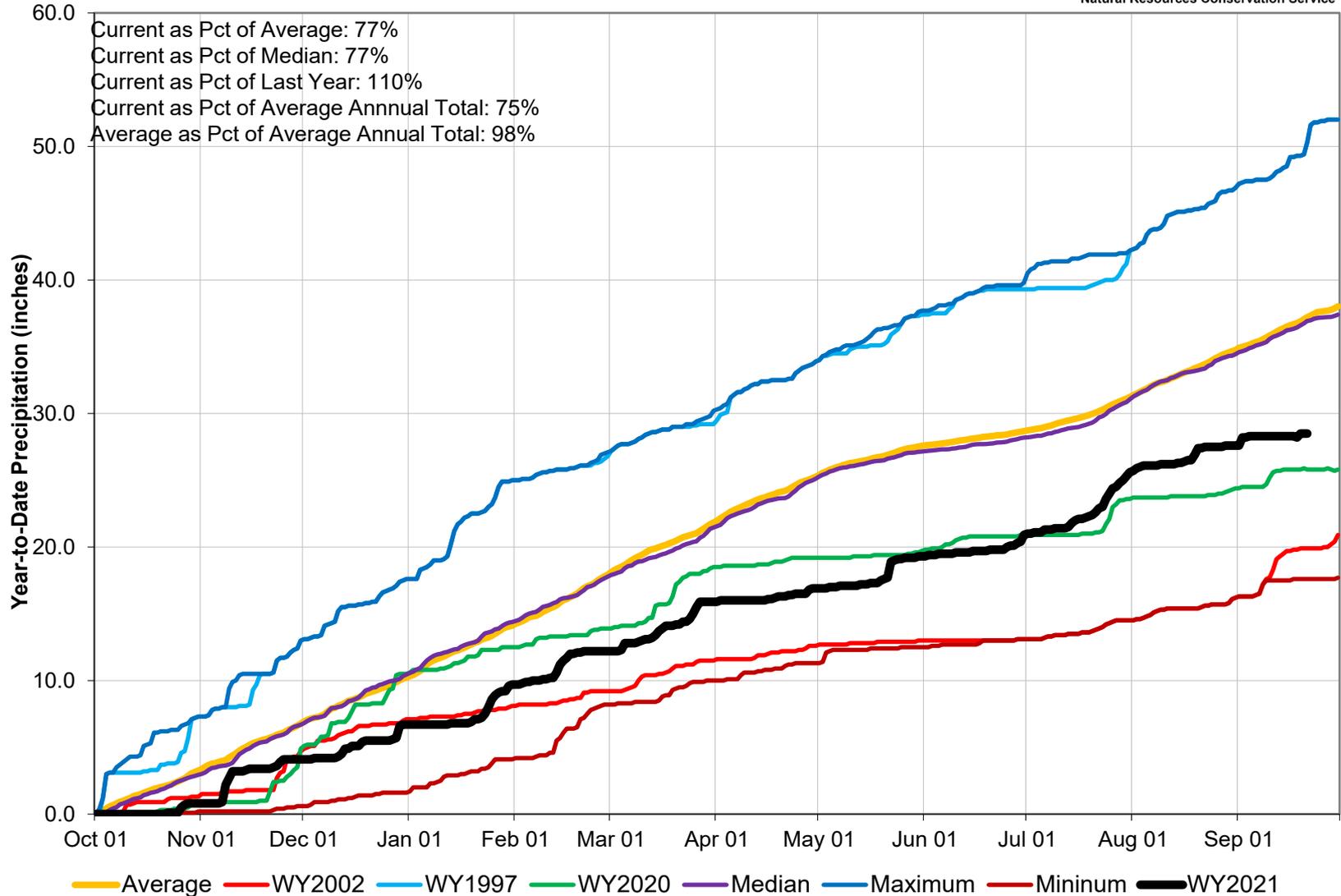
San Miguel, Dolores, Animas, and San Juan River Basins Month to Date Precipitation Summary

Current as of Sep 21, 2021

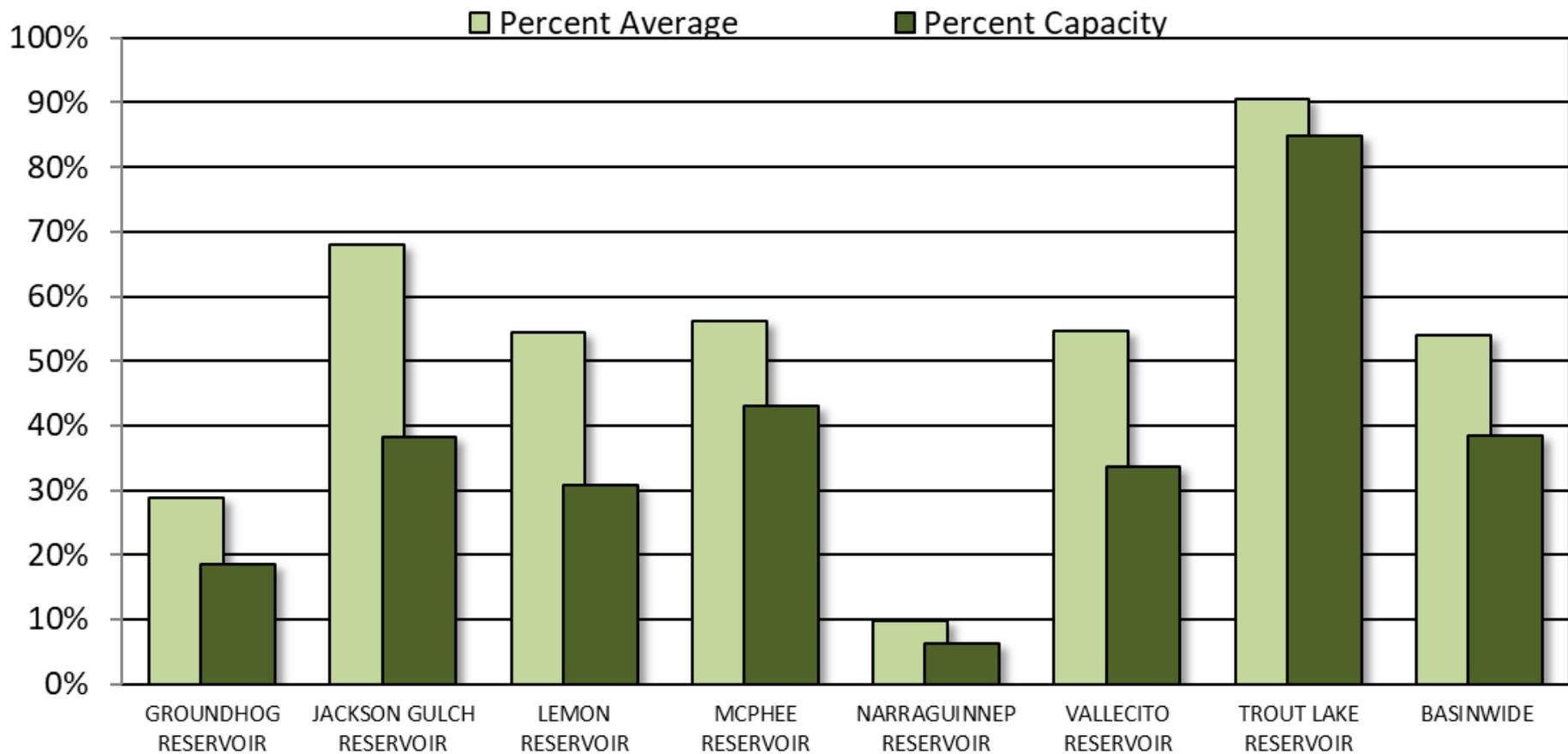


San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan River Basins High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

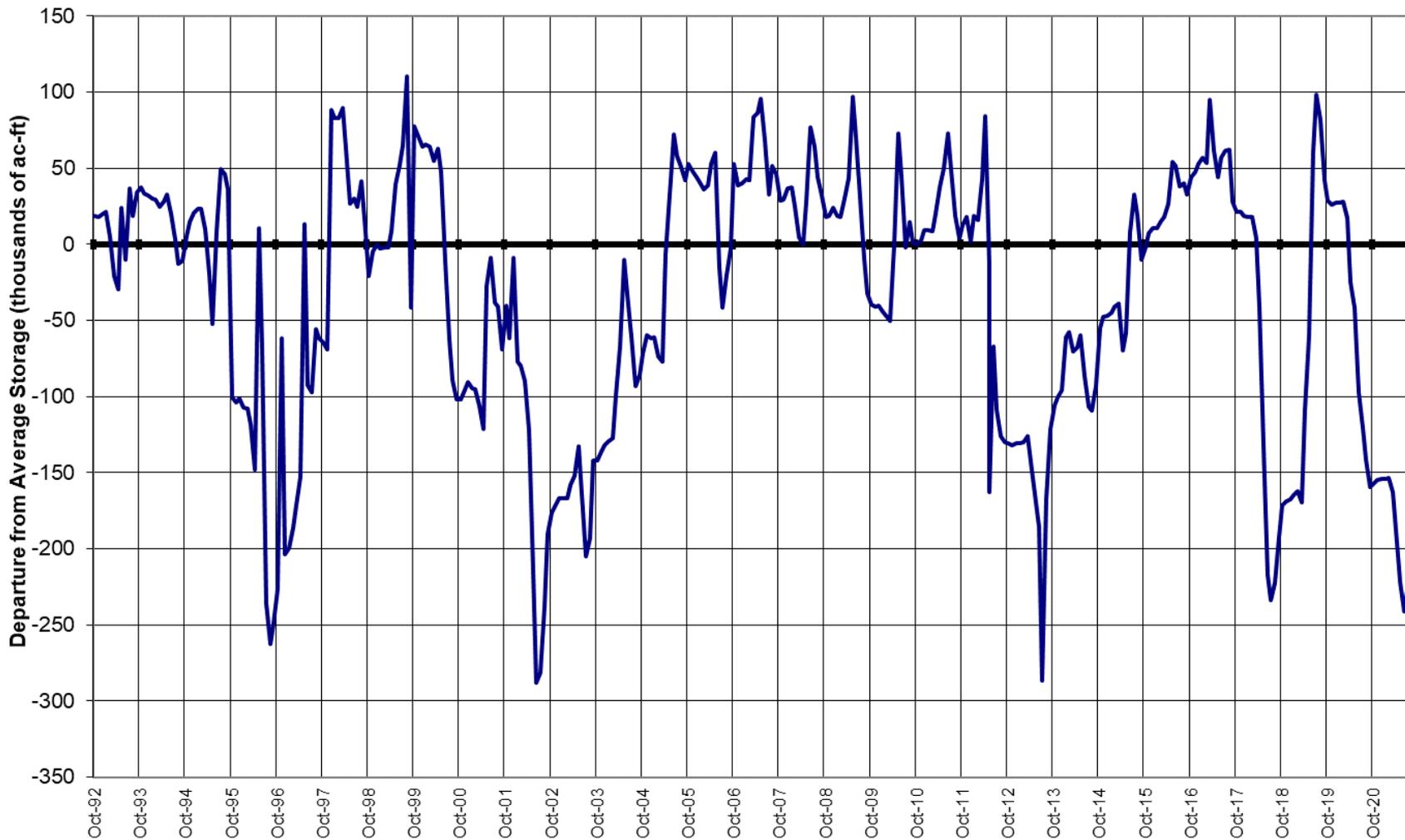
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 21, 2021



End of August Reservoir Storage

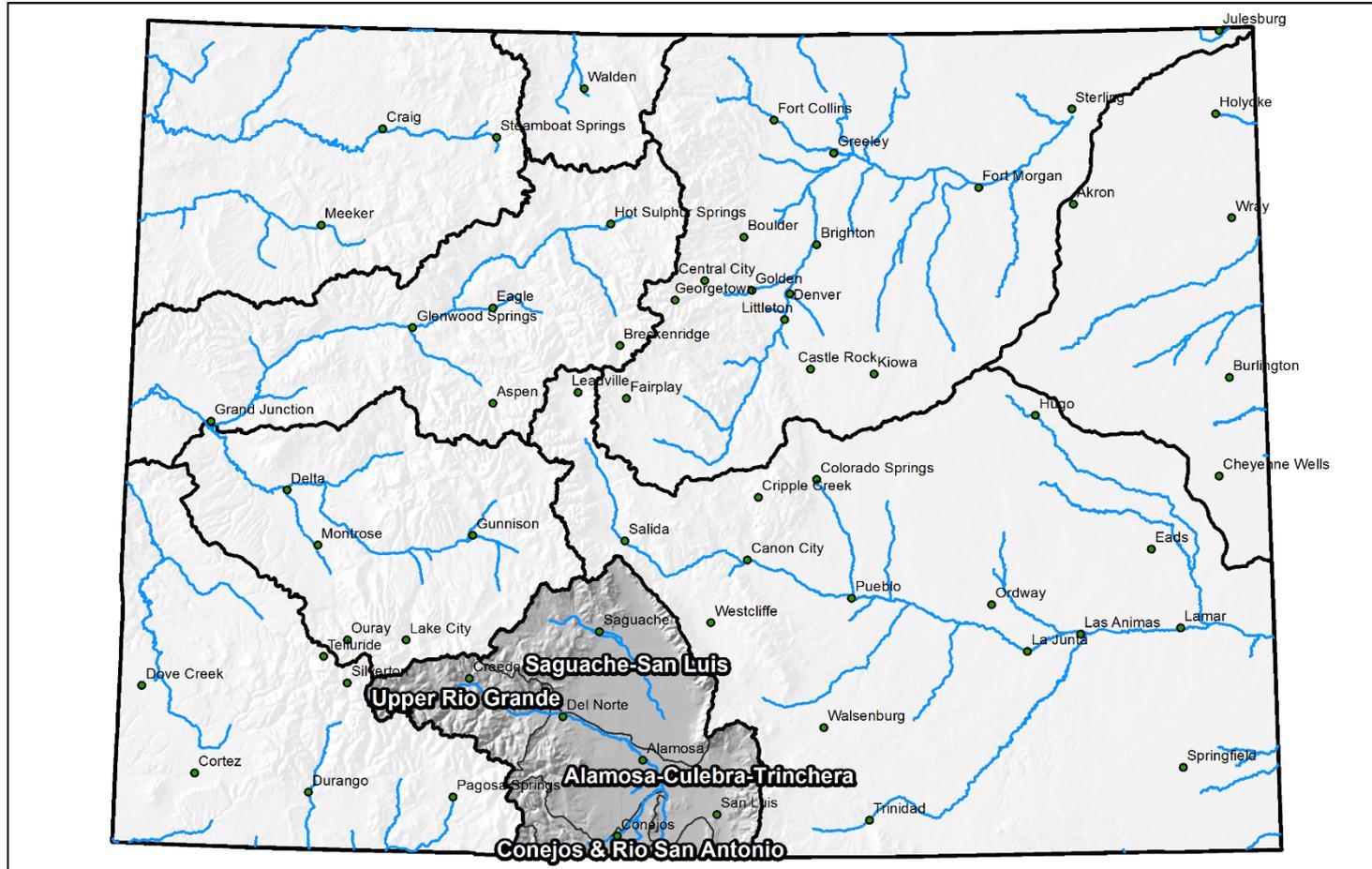


SAN MIGUEL, DOLORES, ANIMAS AND SAN JUAN RIVER BASINS
Reservoir Storage
Departure from Average



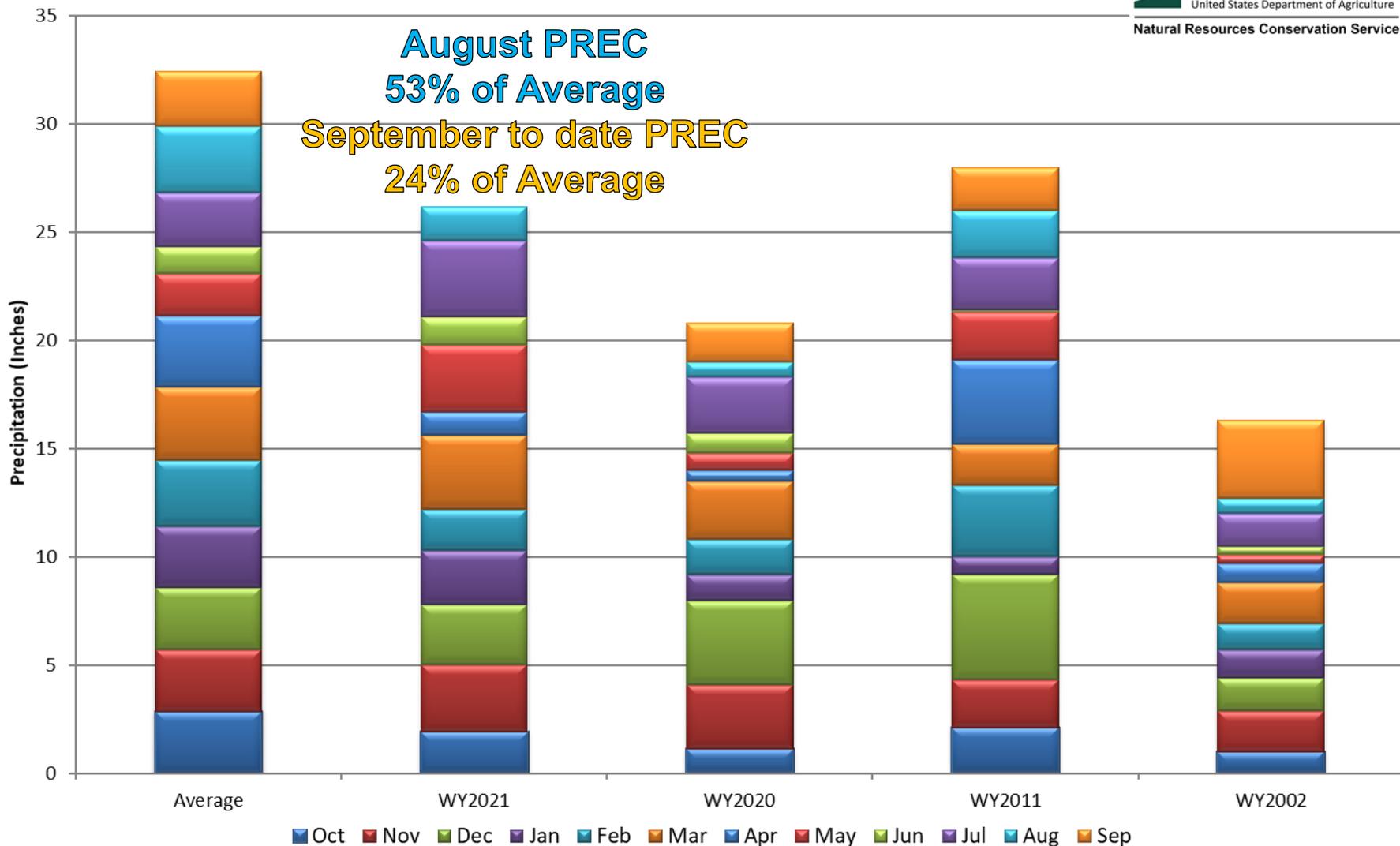
Major Basin Summary

Upper Rio Grande River Basin



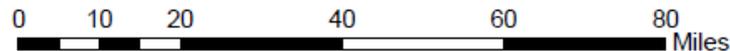
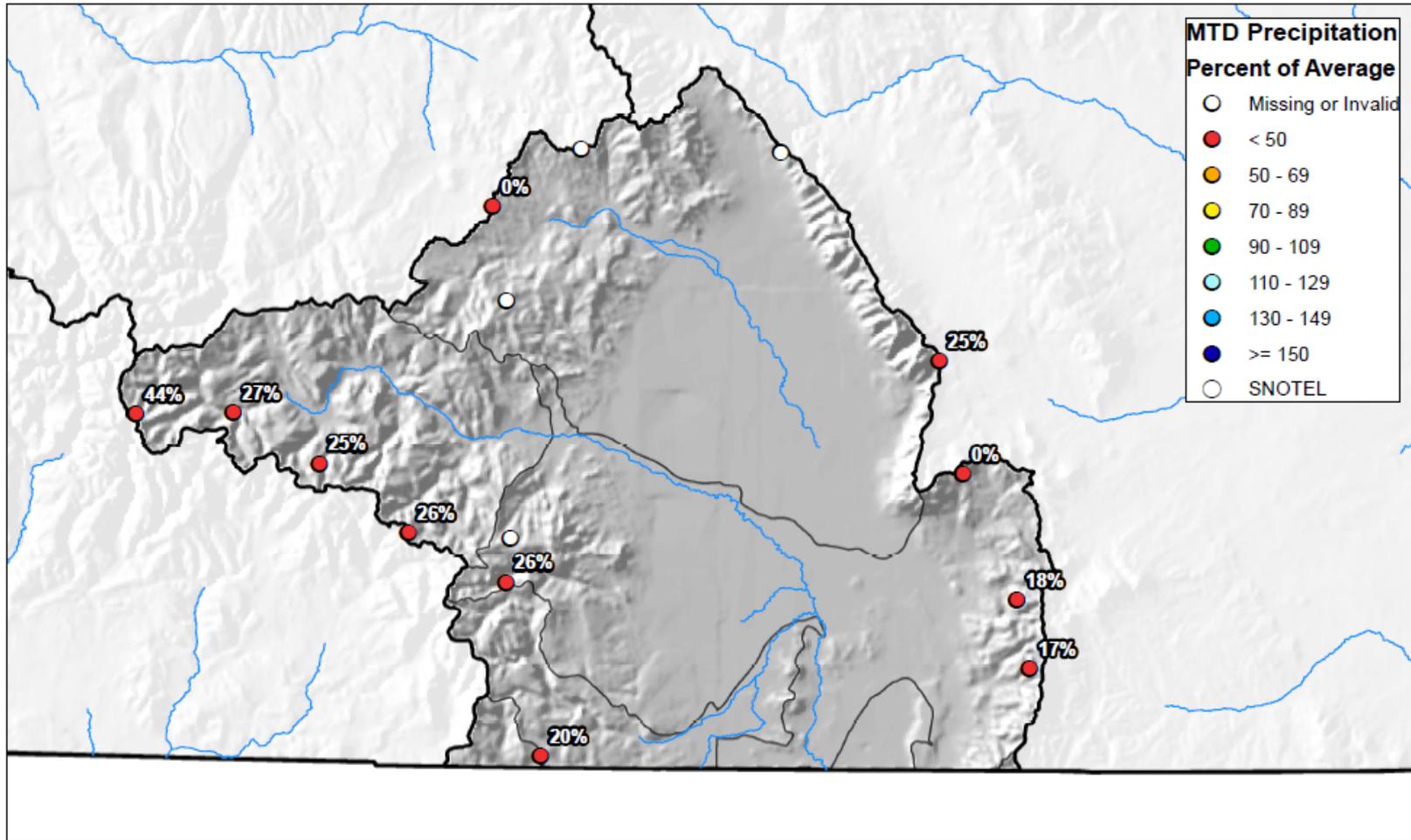
Upper Rio Grande River Basin High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 21, 2021



Upper Rio Grande River Basin Month to Date Precipitation Summary

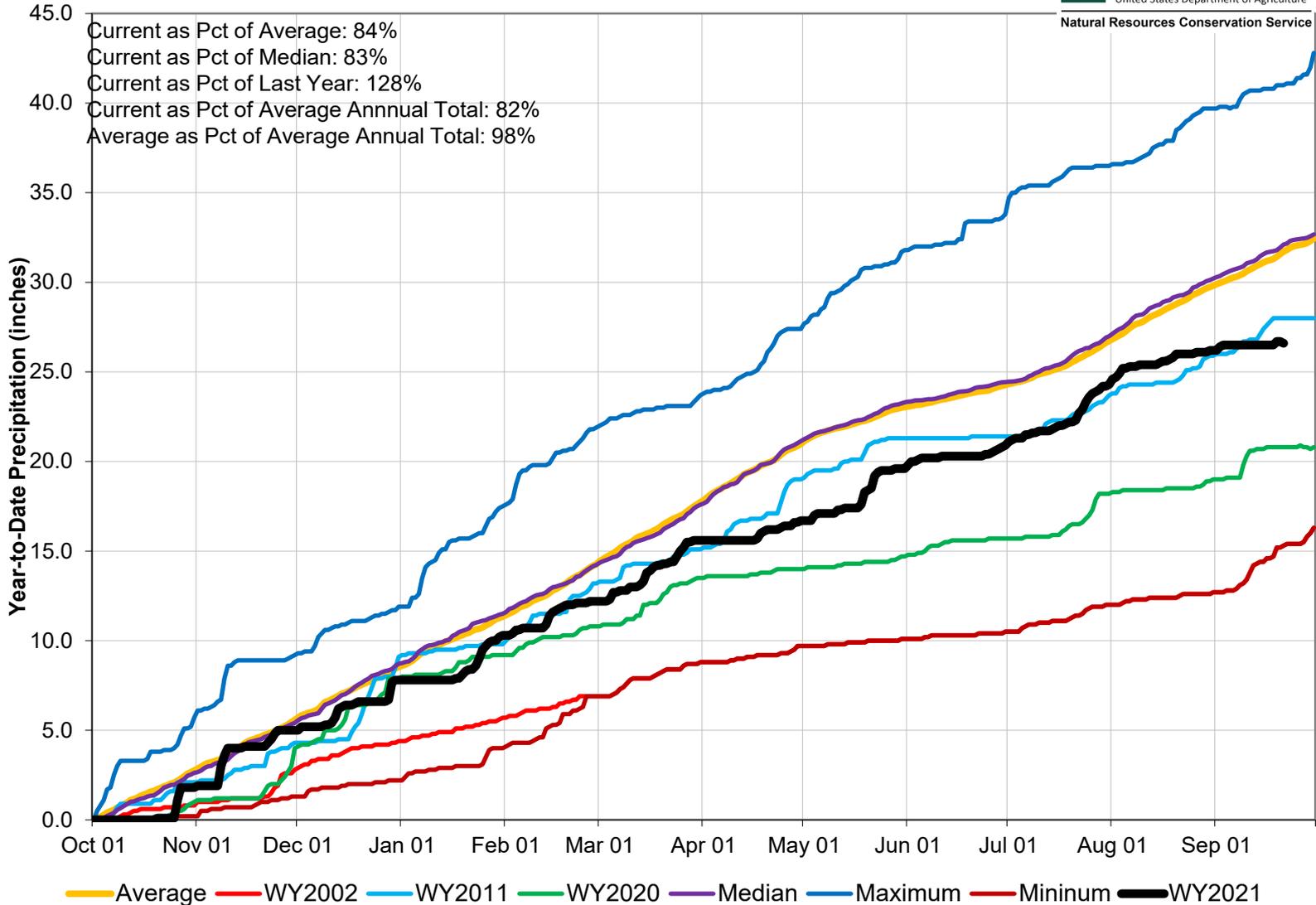
Current as of Sep 21, 2021

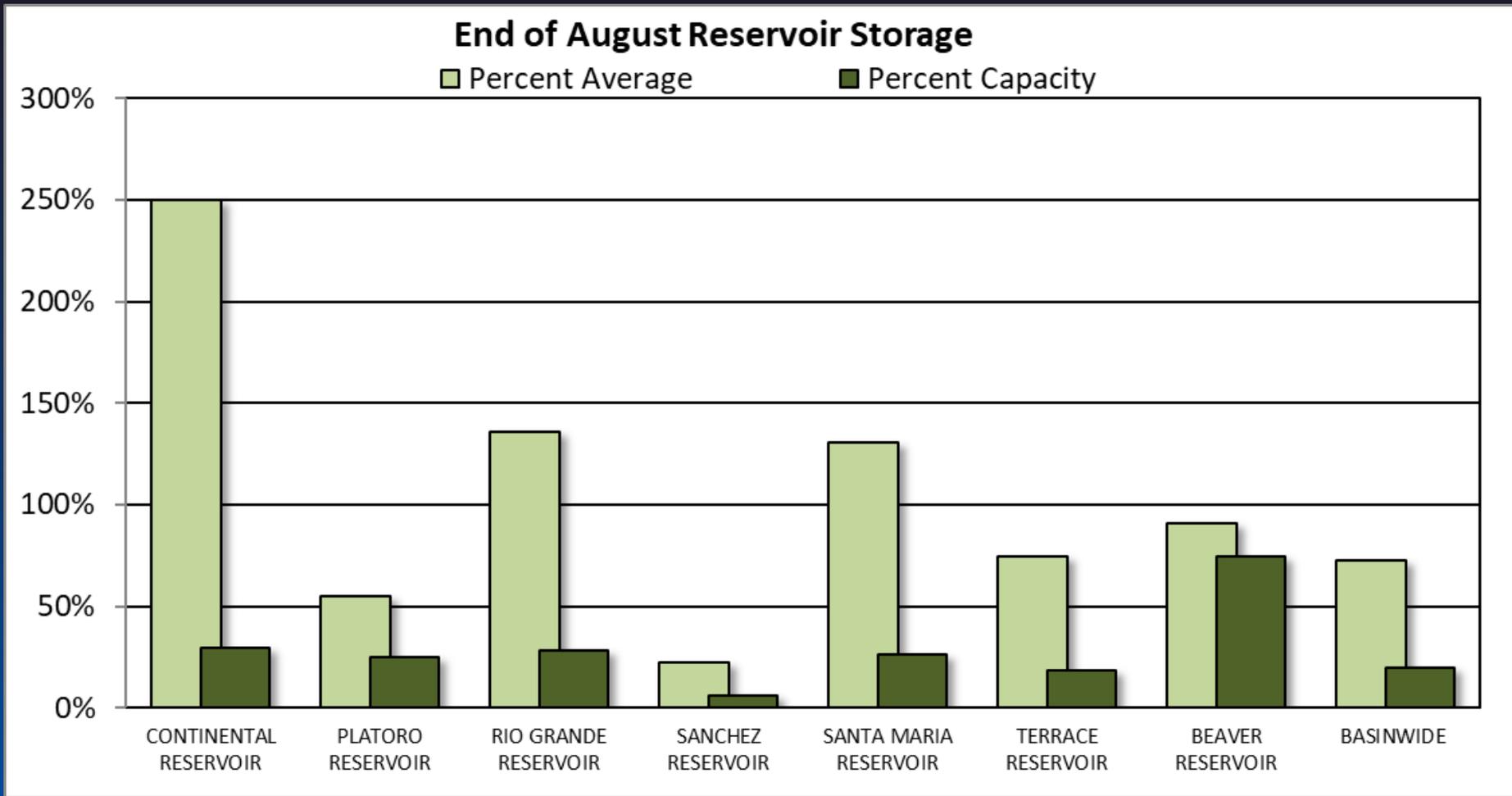


Upper Rio Grande River Basin High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

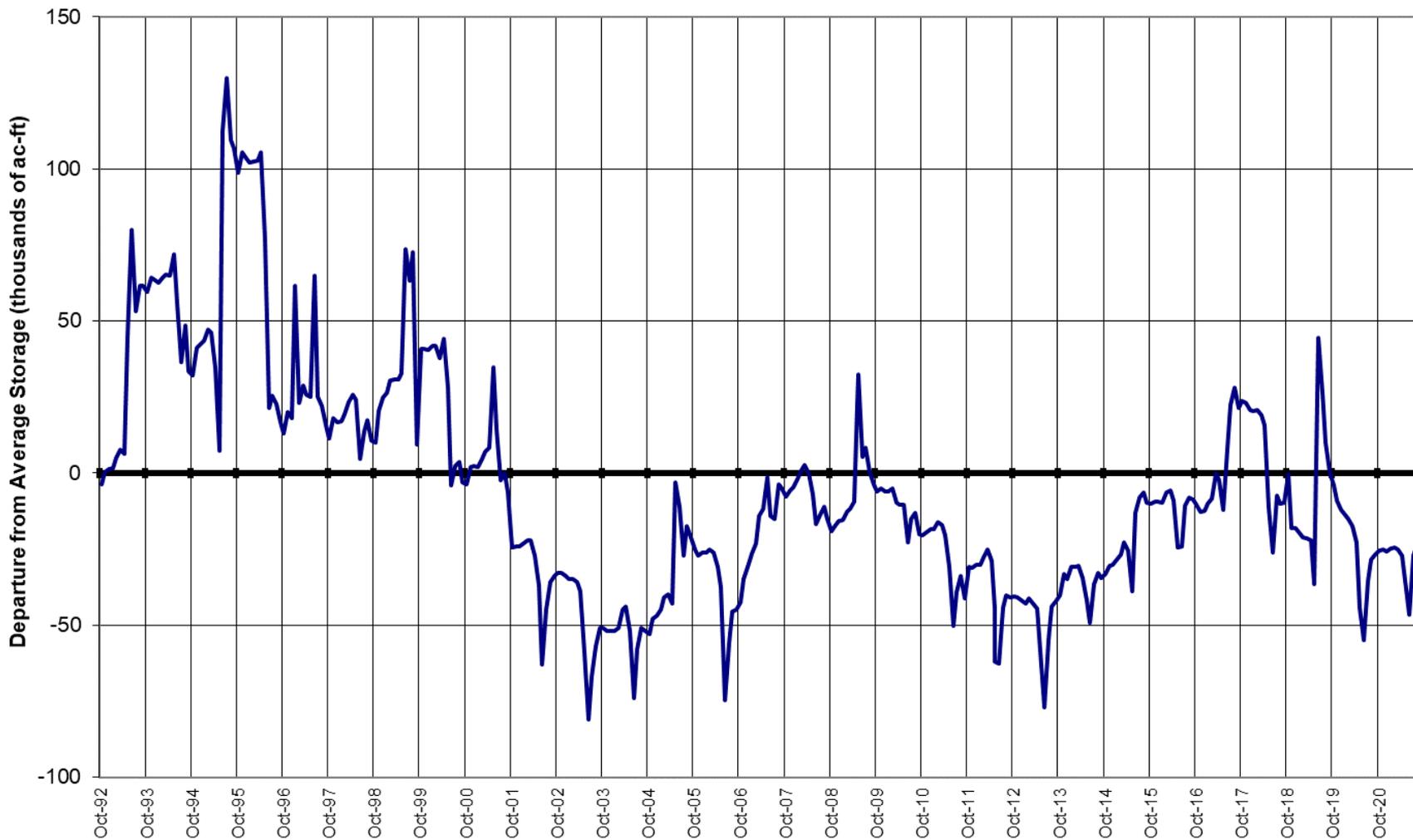
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 21, 2021

USDA
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service



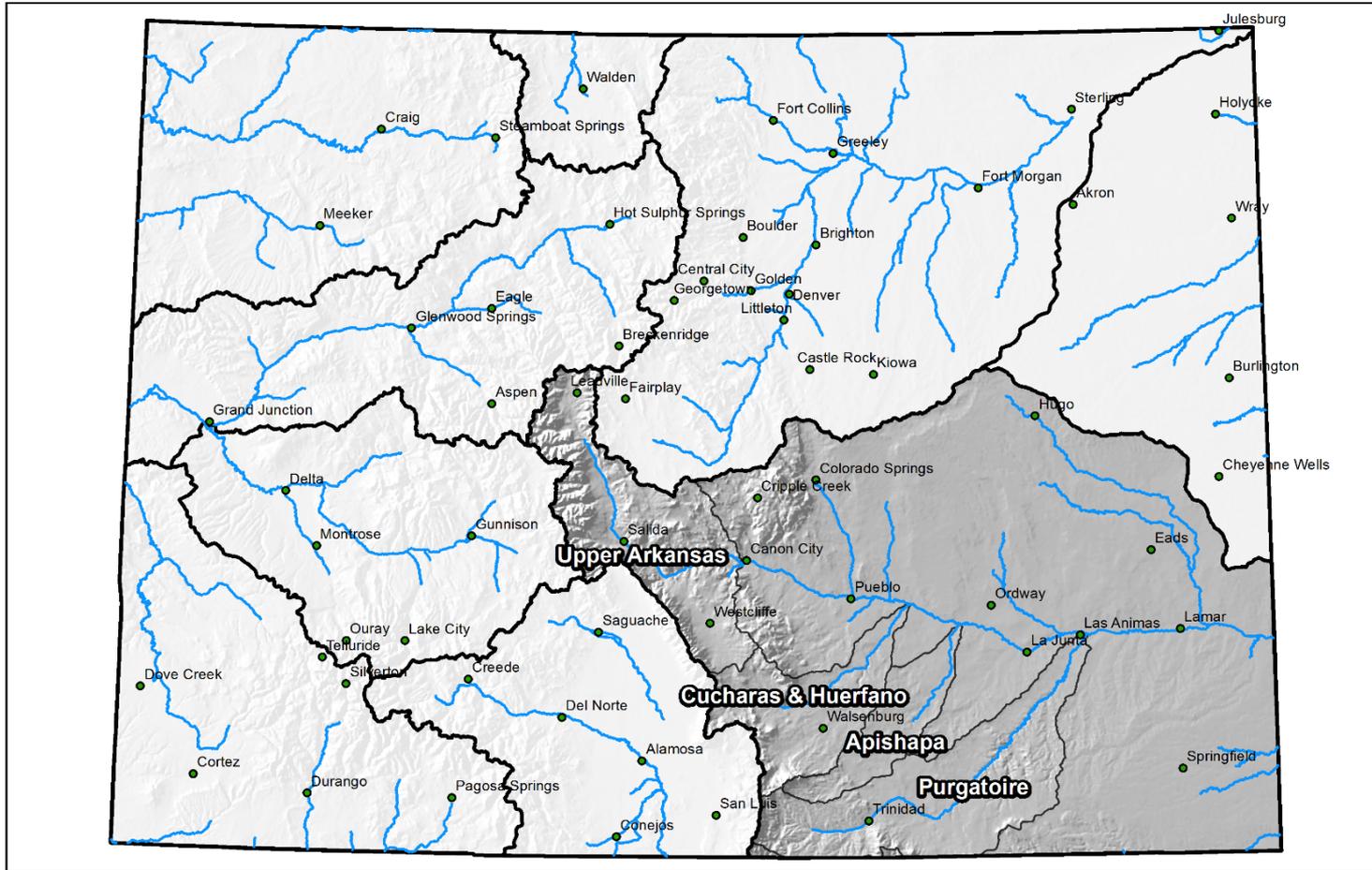


UPPER RIO GRANDE BASIN Reservoir Storage Departure from Average



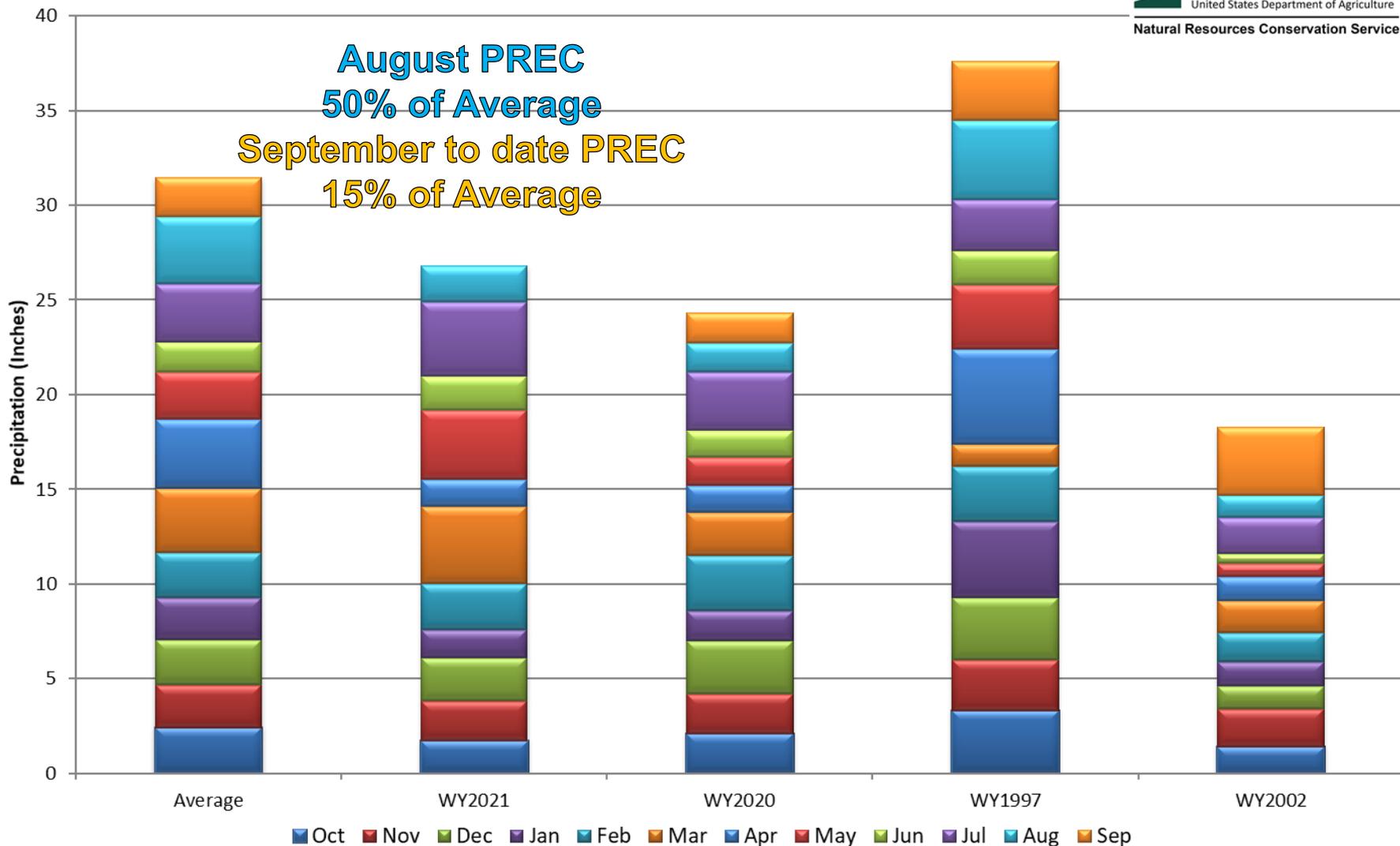
Major Basin Summary

Arkansas River Basin



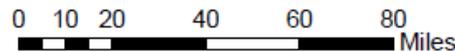
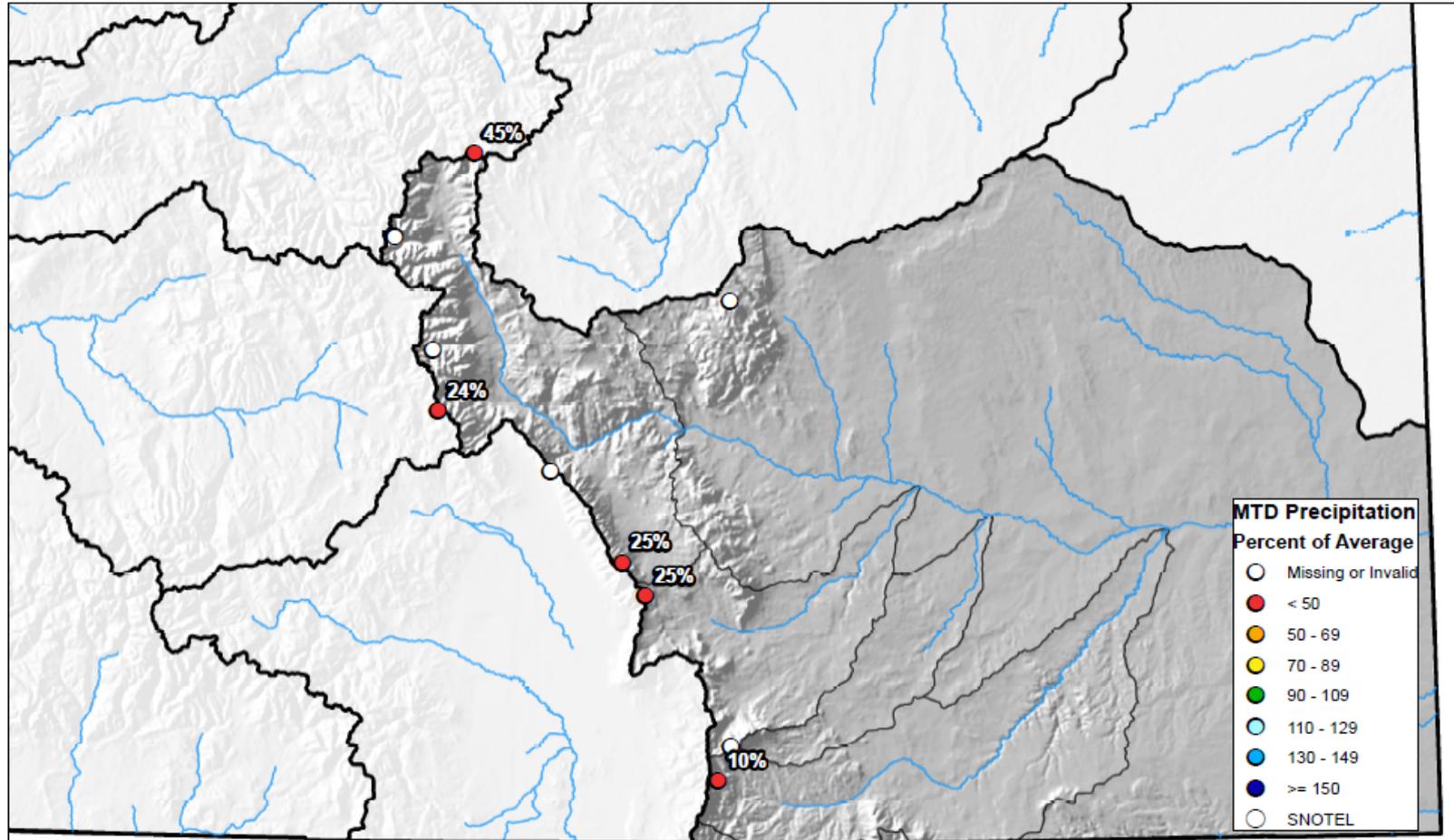
Arkansas River Basin High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 21, 2021



Arkansas River Basin Month to Date Precipitation Summary

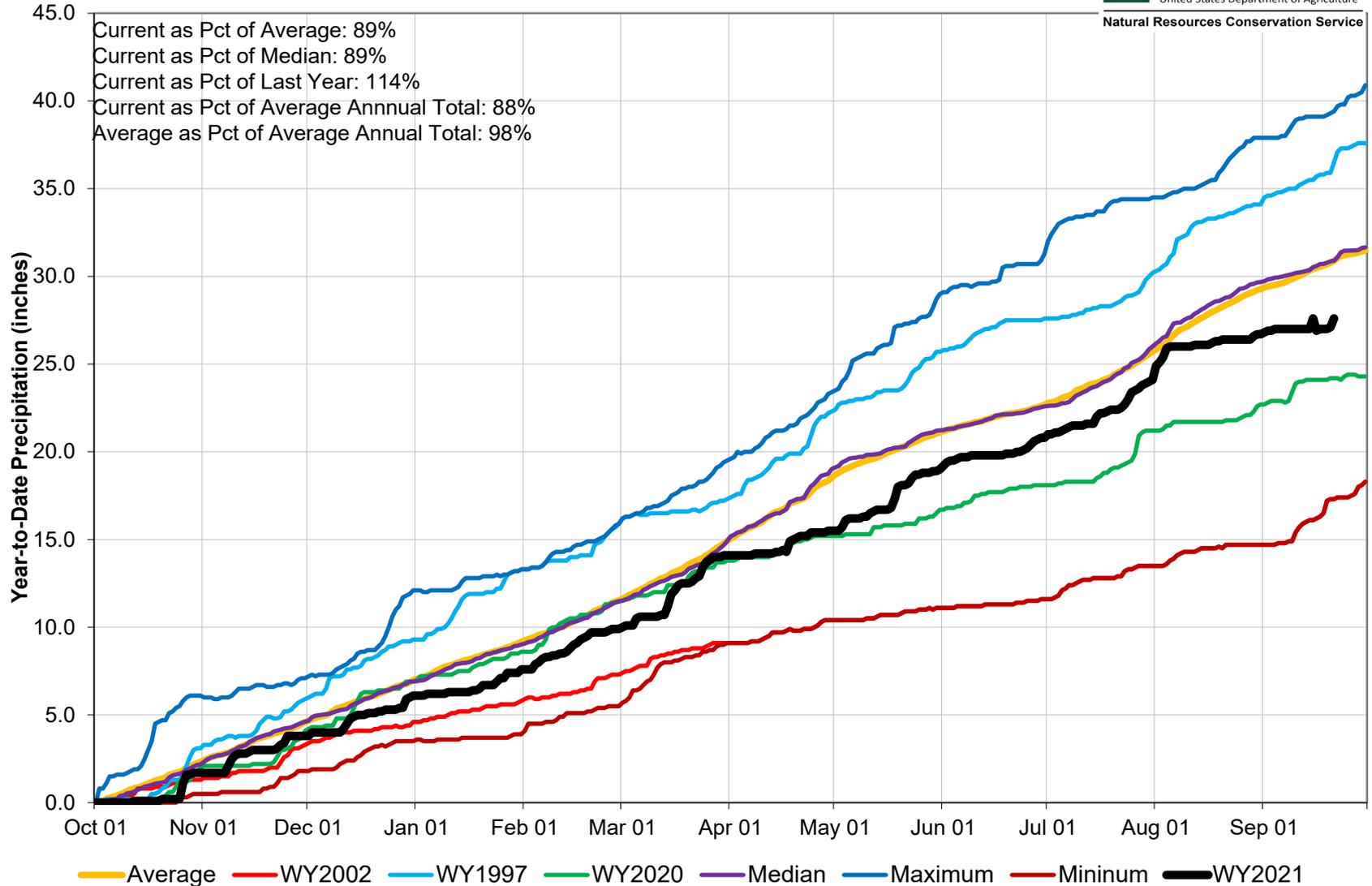
Current as of Sep 21, 2021



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

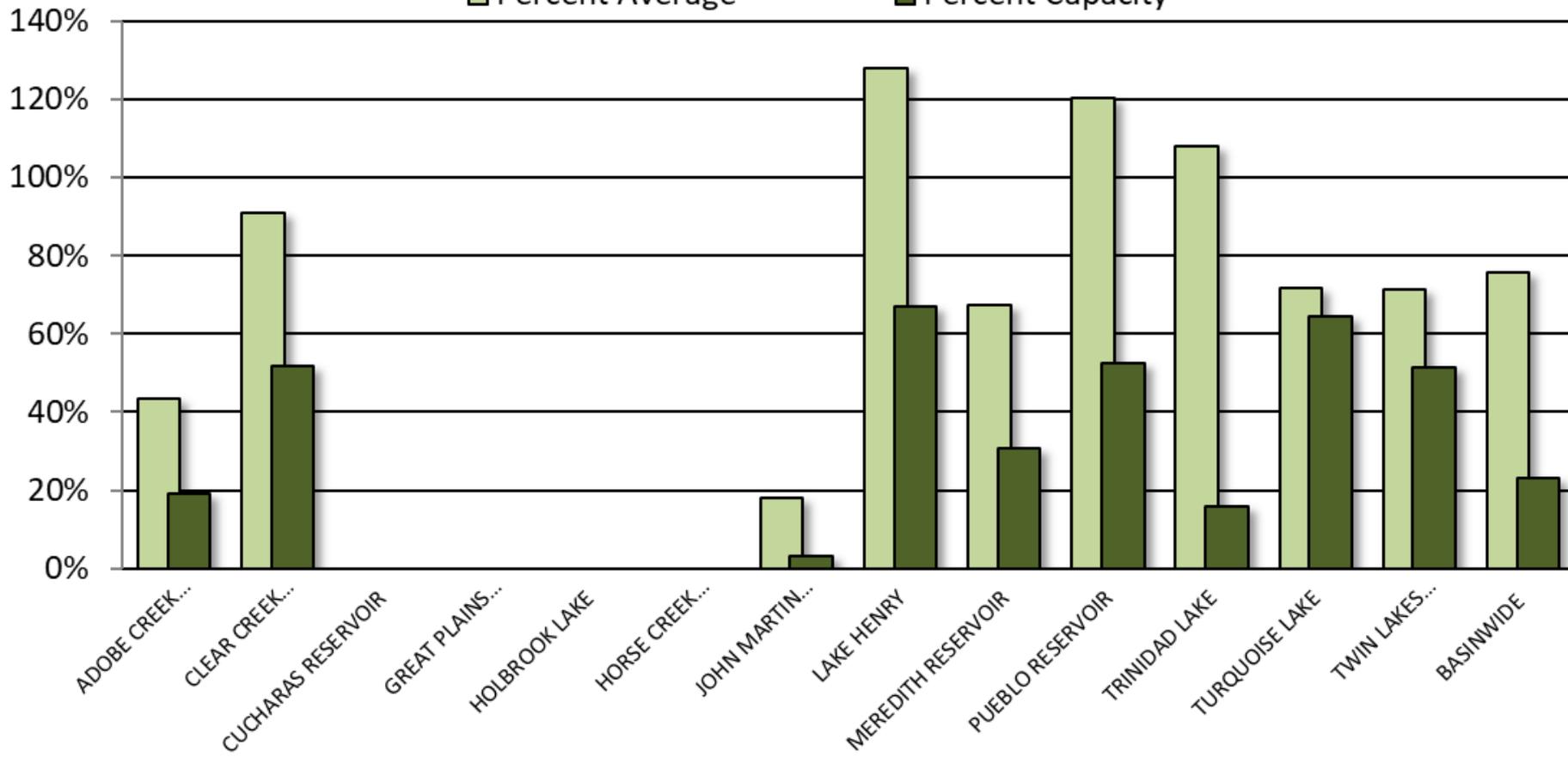
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 21, 2021

USDA
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

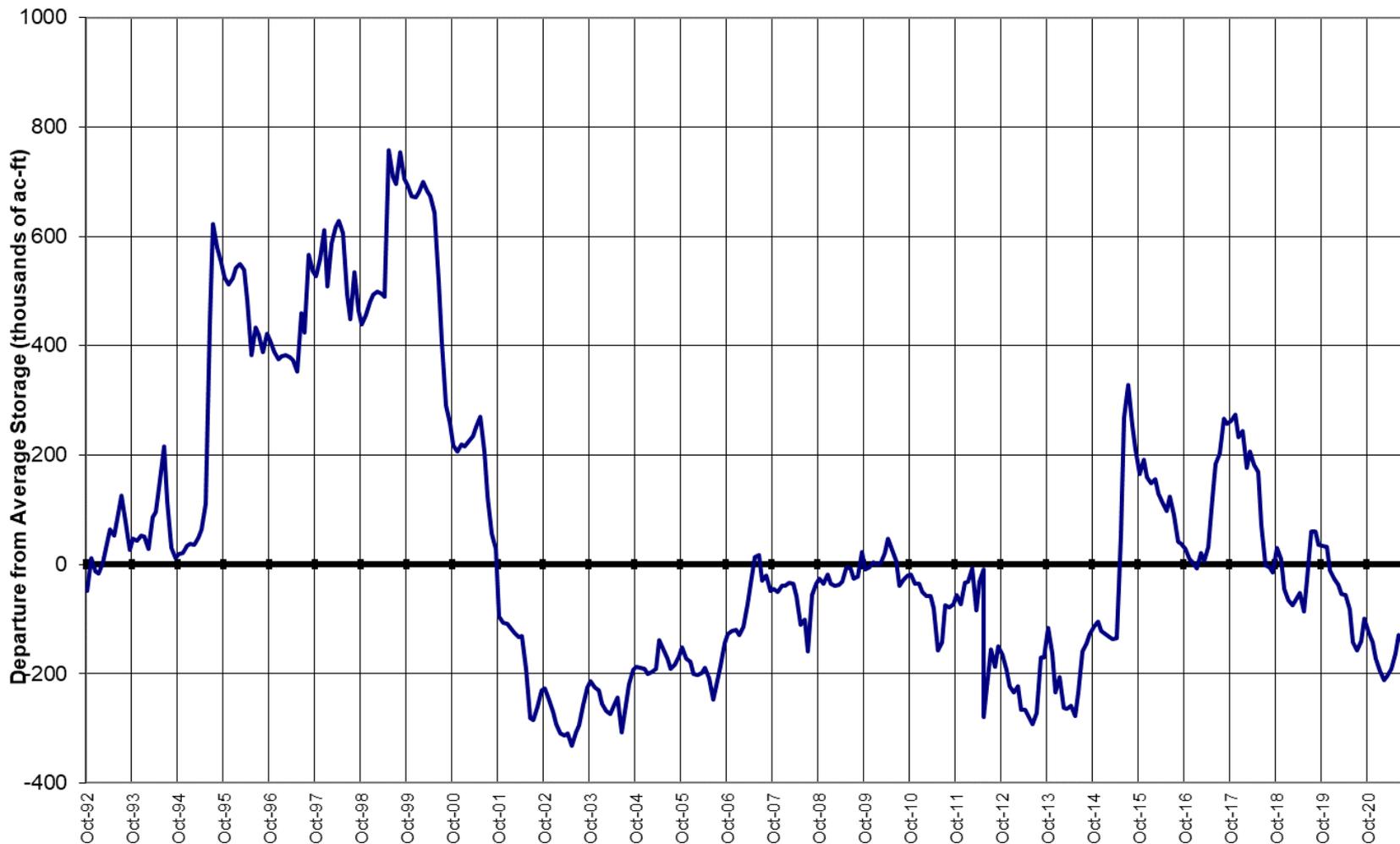


End of August Reservoir Storage

■ Percent Average ■ Percent Capacity

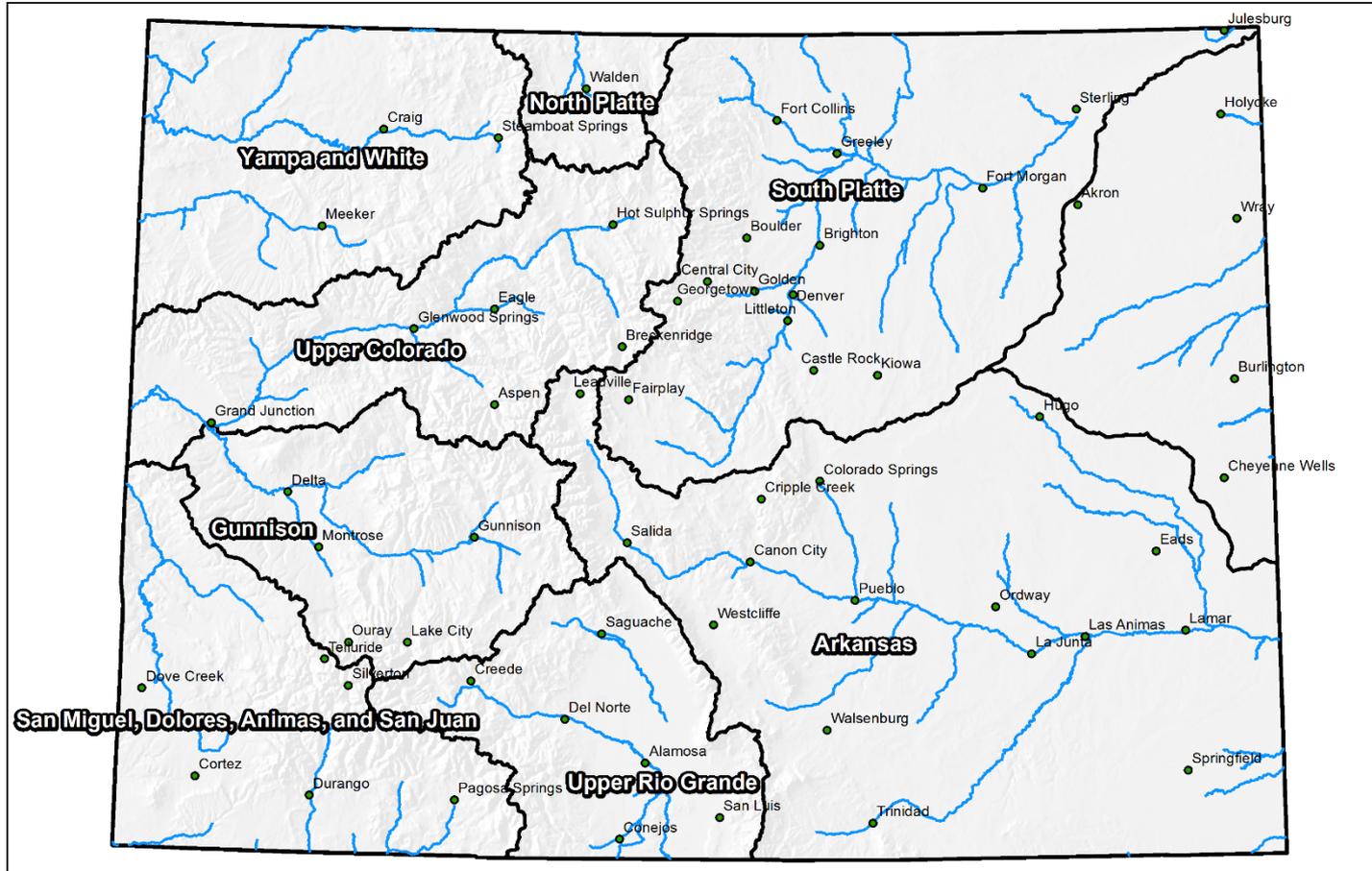


ARKANSAS RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage Departure from Average



Colorado Statewide Summary

Colorado Major Basins

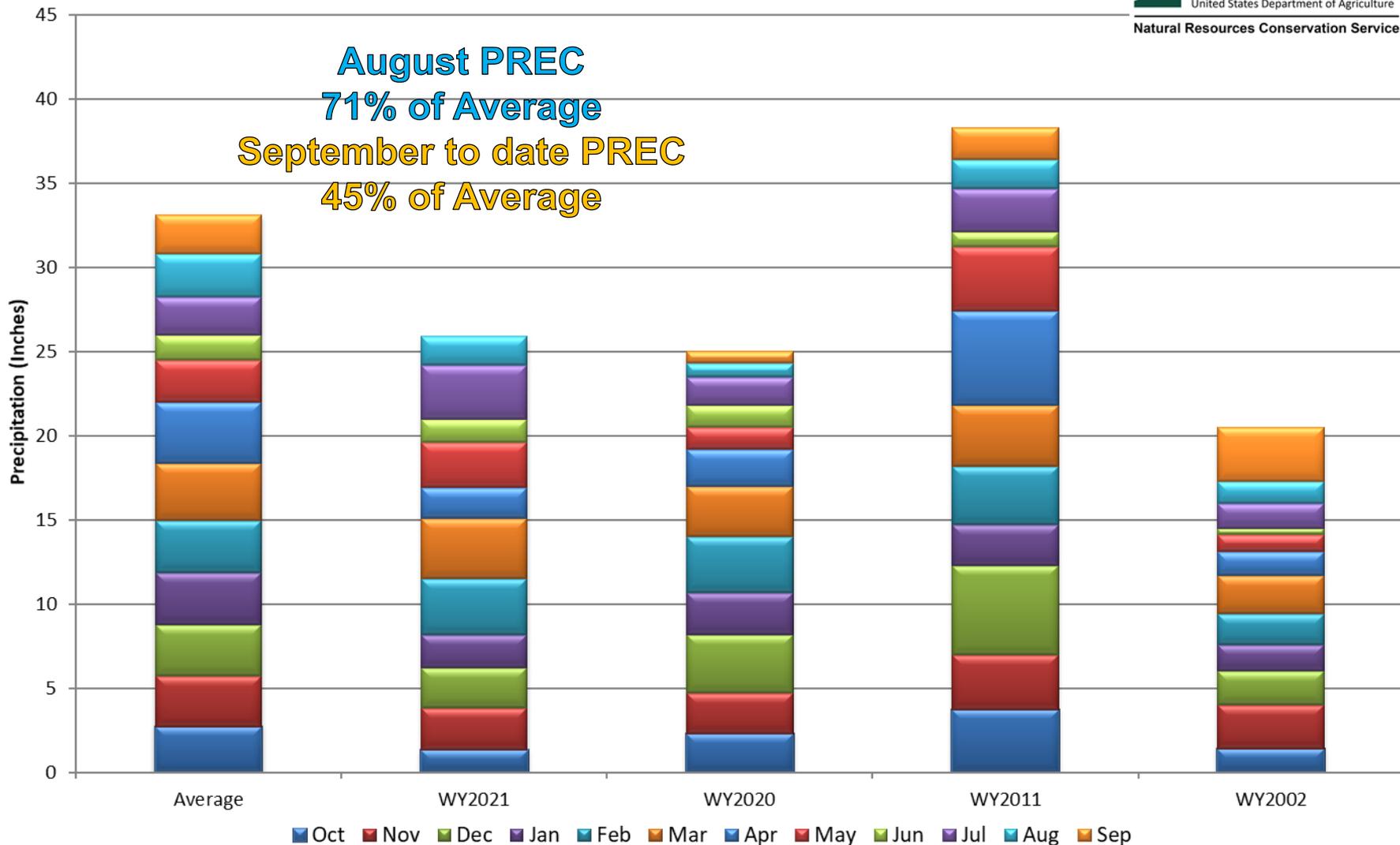


Colorado Statewide High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

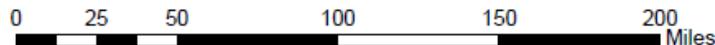
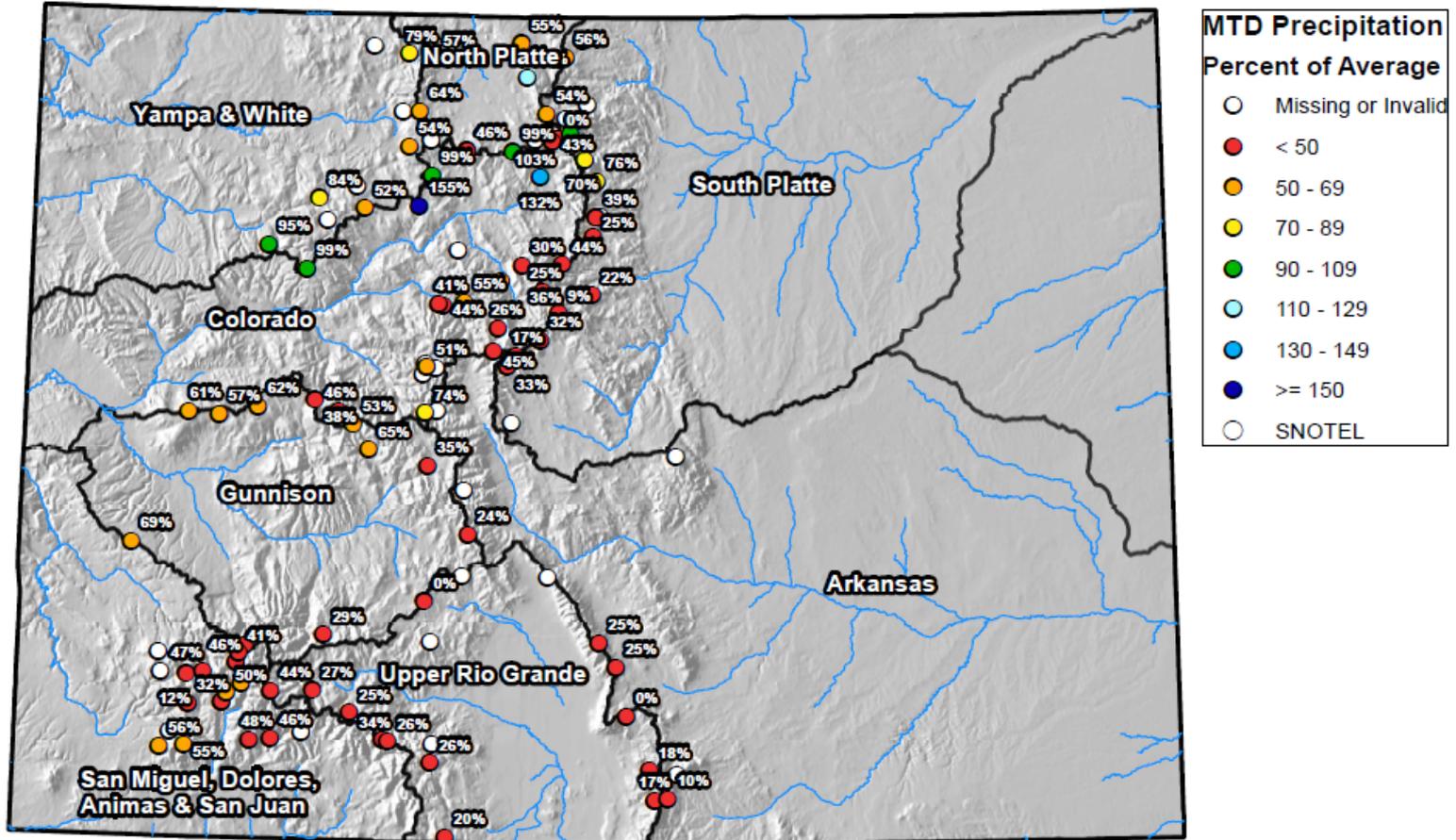
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 21, 2021

August PREC
71% of Average

September to date PREC
45% of Average

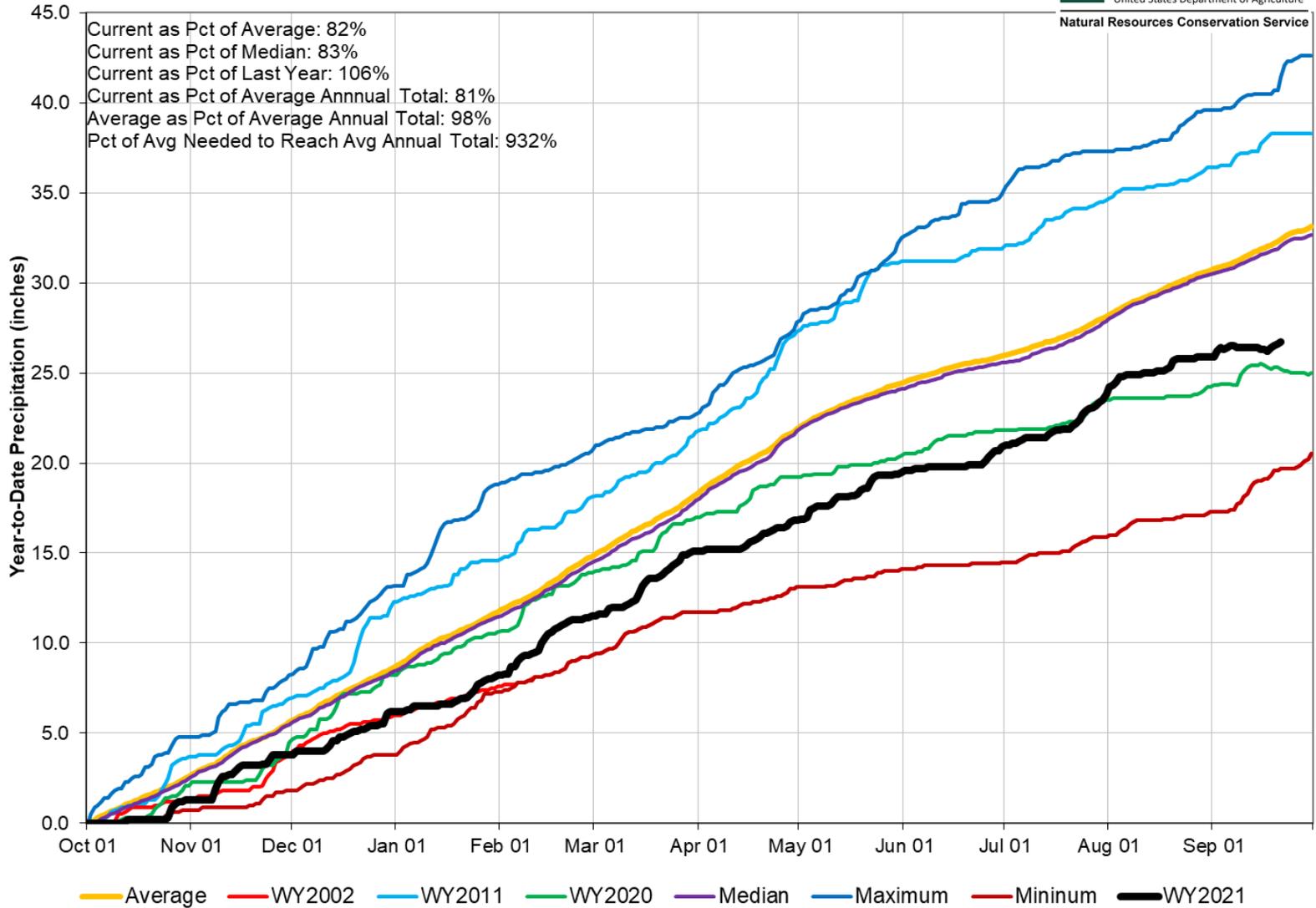


Colorado SNOTEL Month-to-Date Precipitation Current as of Sep 21, 2021



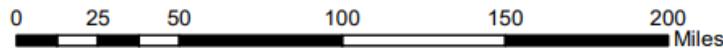
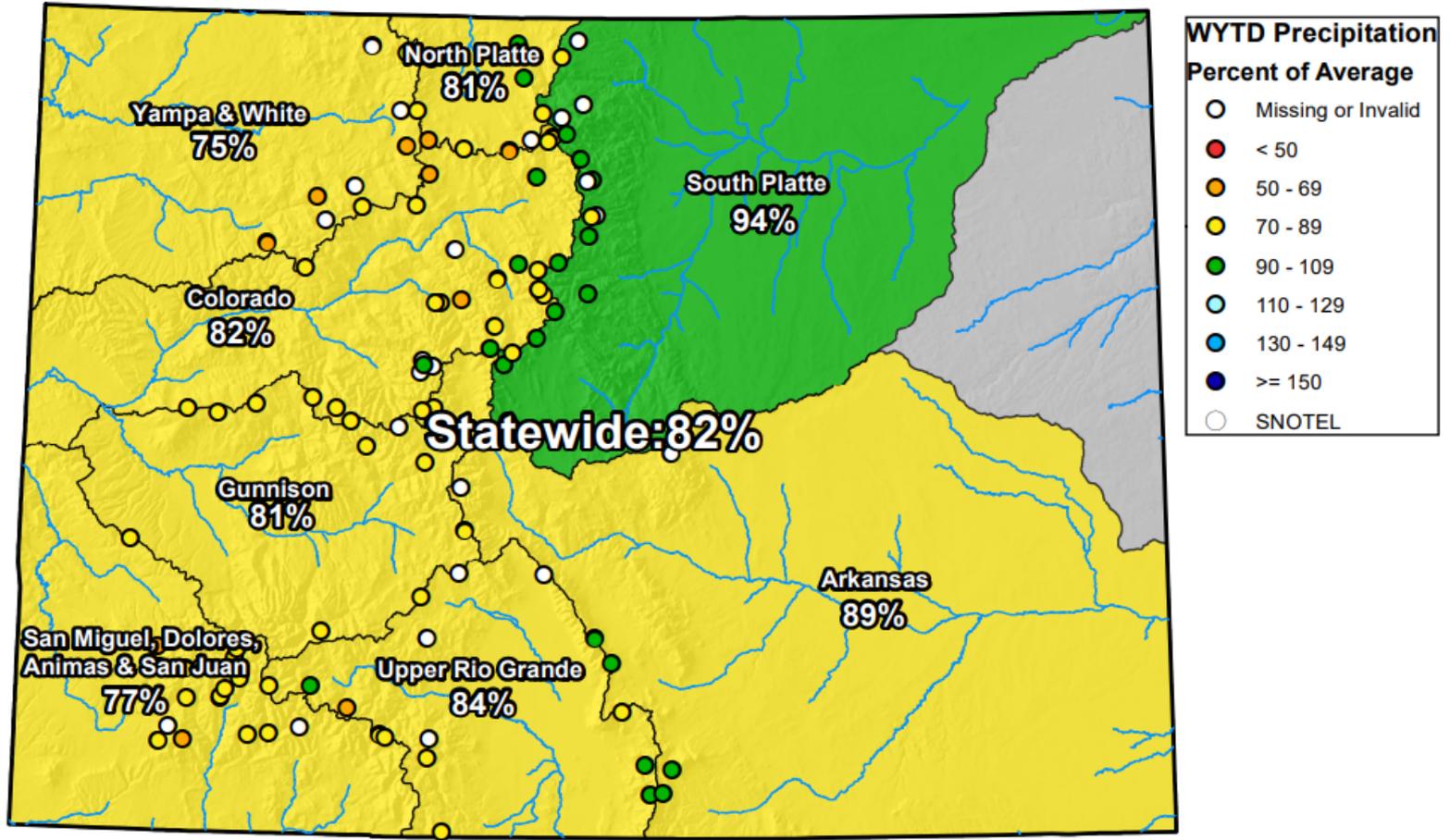
Colorado Statewide High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Sep 21, 2021



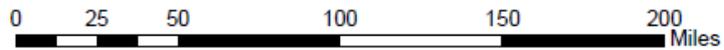
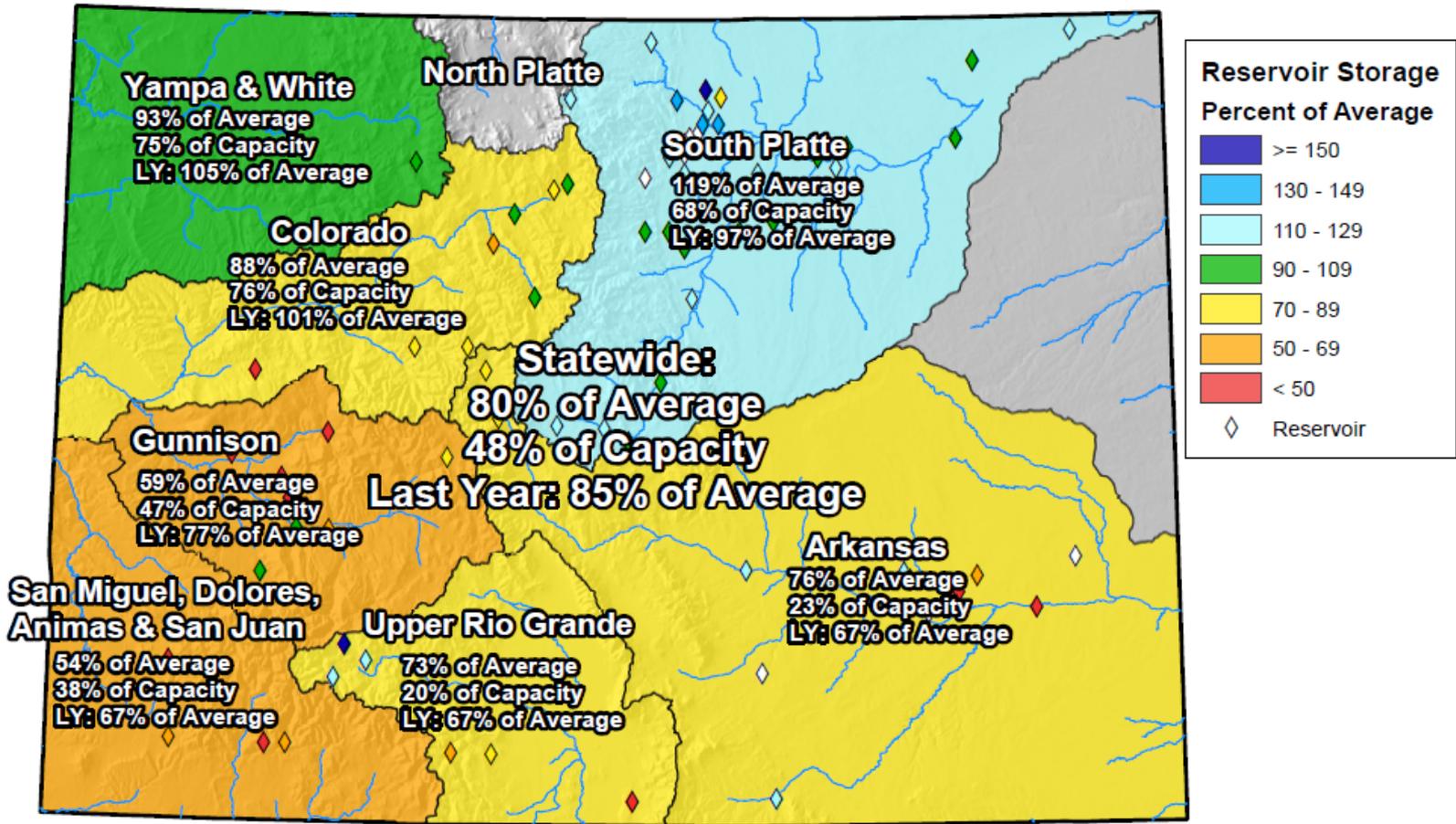
Colorado SNOTEL Water Year to Date Precipitation

Current as of Sep 21, 2021



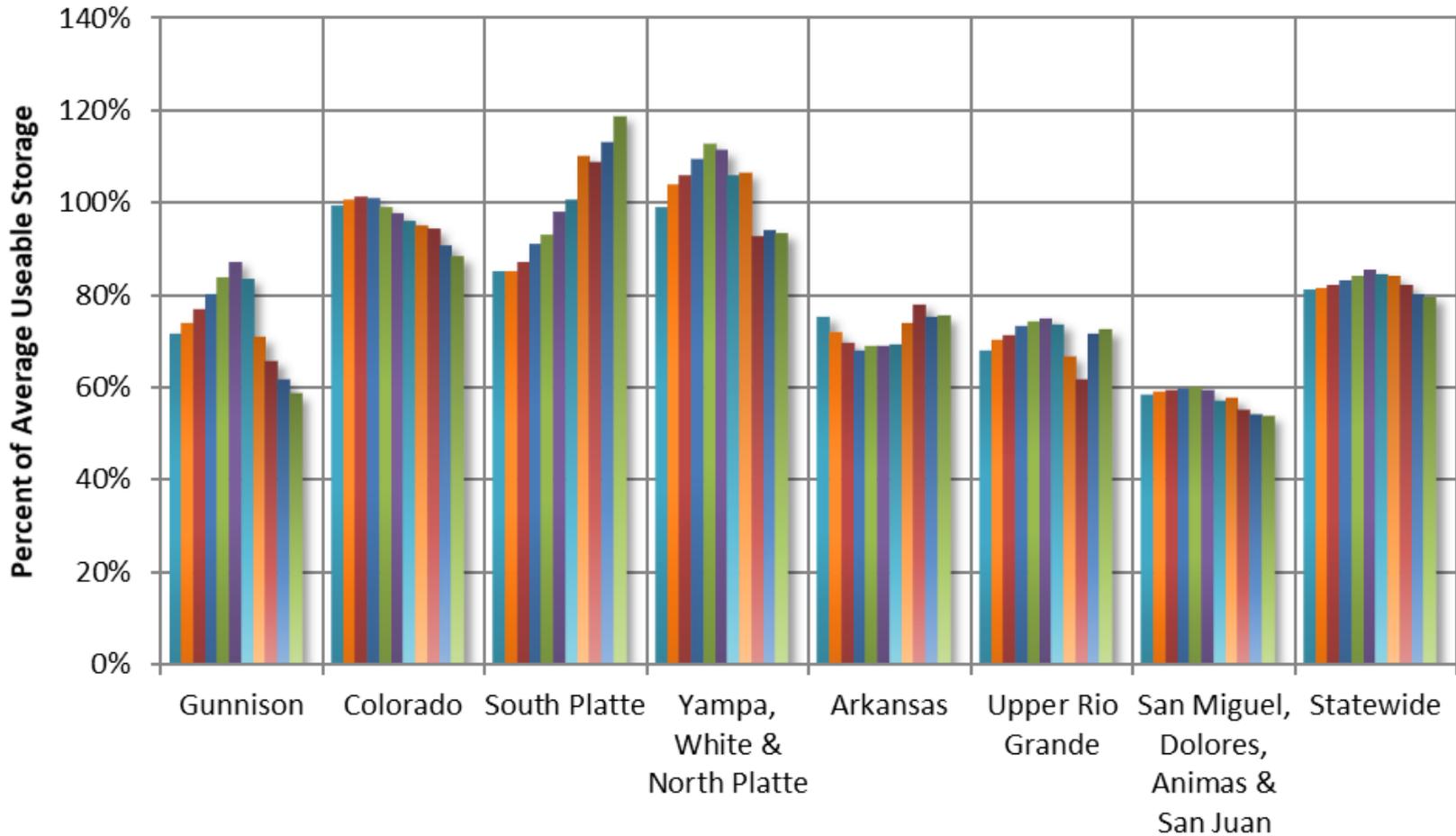
Colorado Monthly Reservoir Storage Summary

End of August 2021

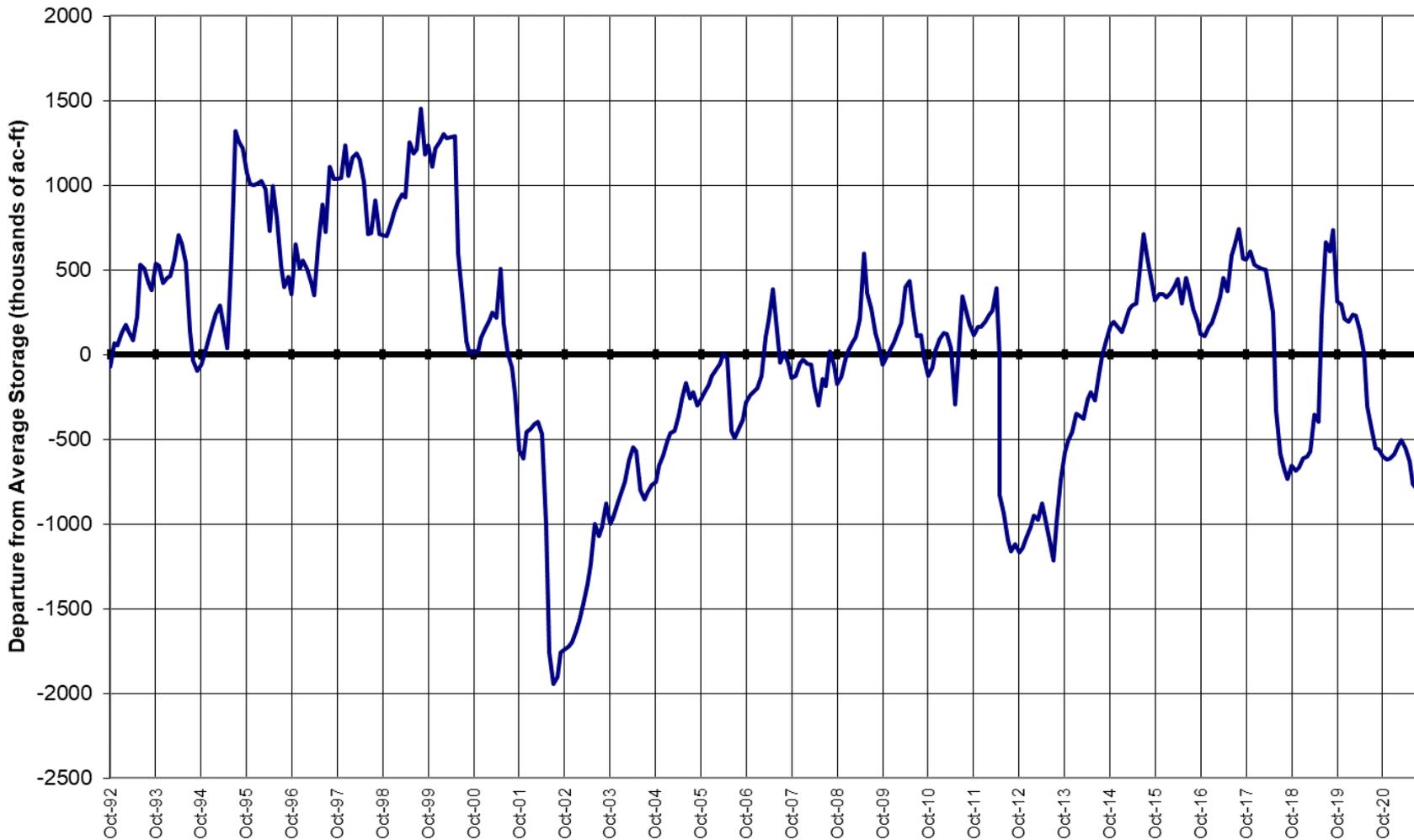


Colorado Reservoir Storage

- Oct-20
- Nov-20
- Dec-20
- Jan-21
- Feb-21
- Mar-21
- Apr-21
- May-21
- Jun-21
- Jul-21
- Aug-21
- Sep-21



COLORADO STATEWIDE Reservoir Storage Departure from Average



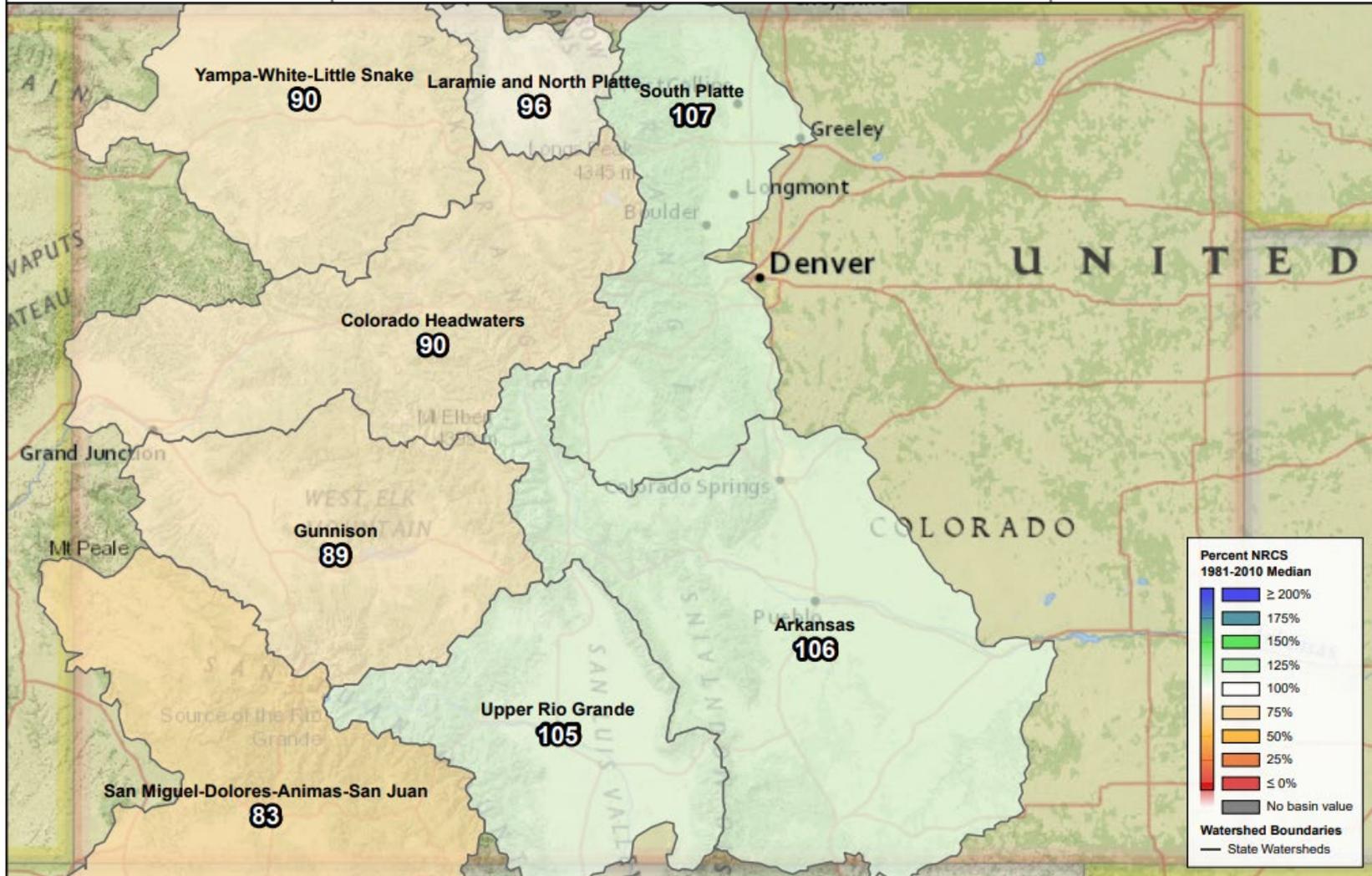


Colorado Snow Surveys

Snow Water Equivalent

Percent NRCS 1981-2010 Median

April 1st, 2021



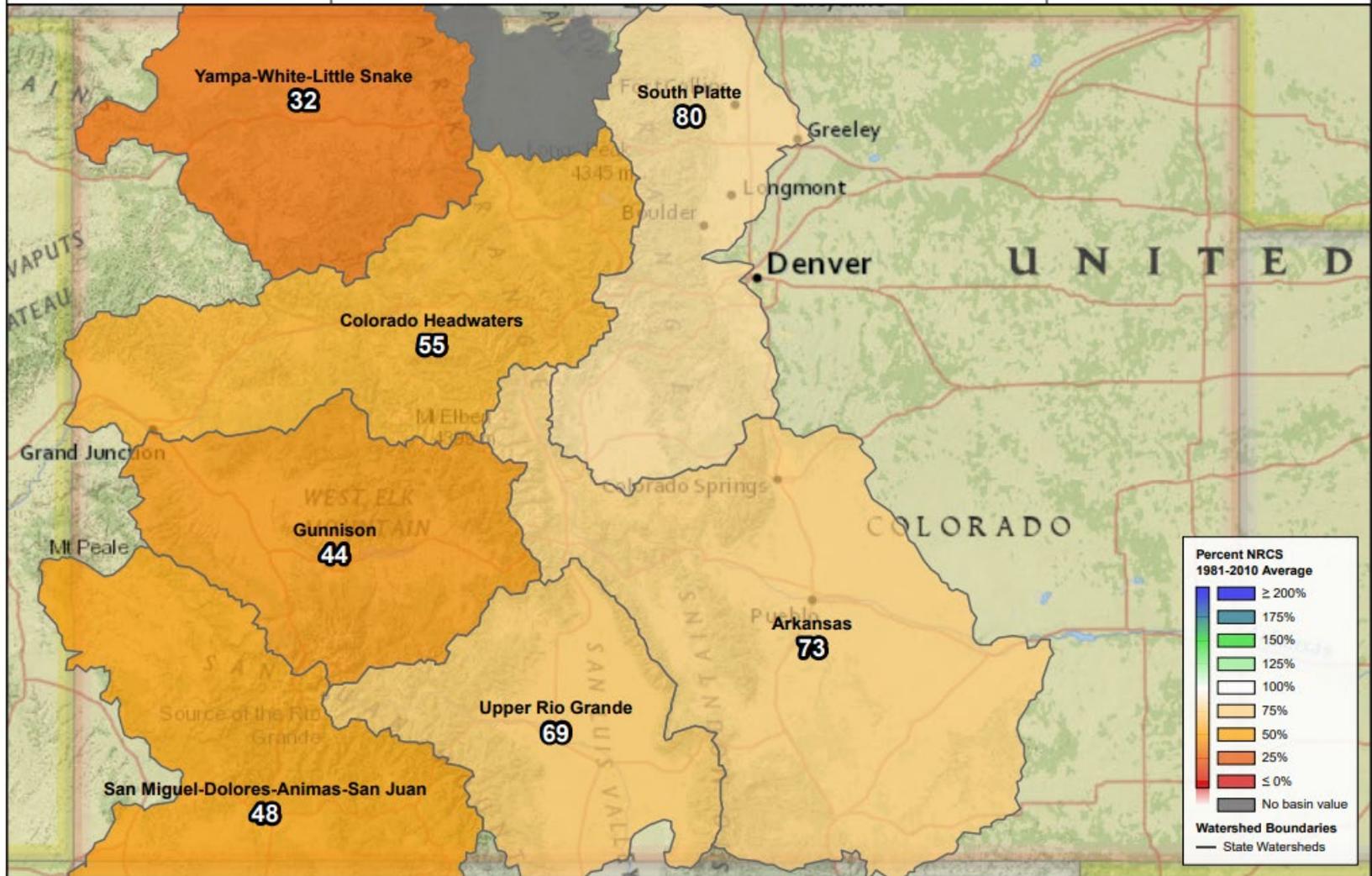


Colorado Snow Surveys

5 month Adjusted Volume, Observed

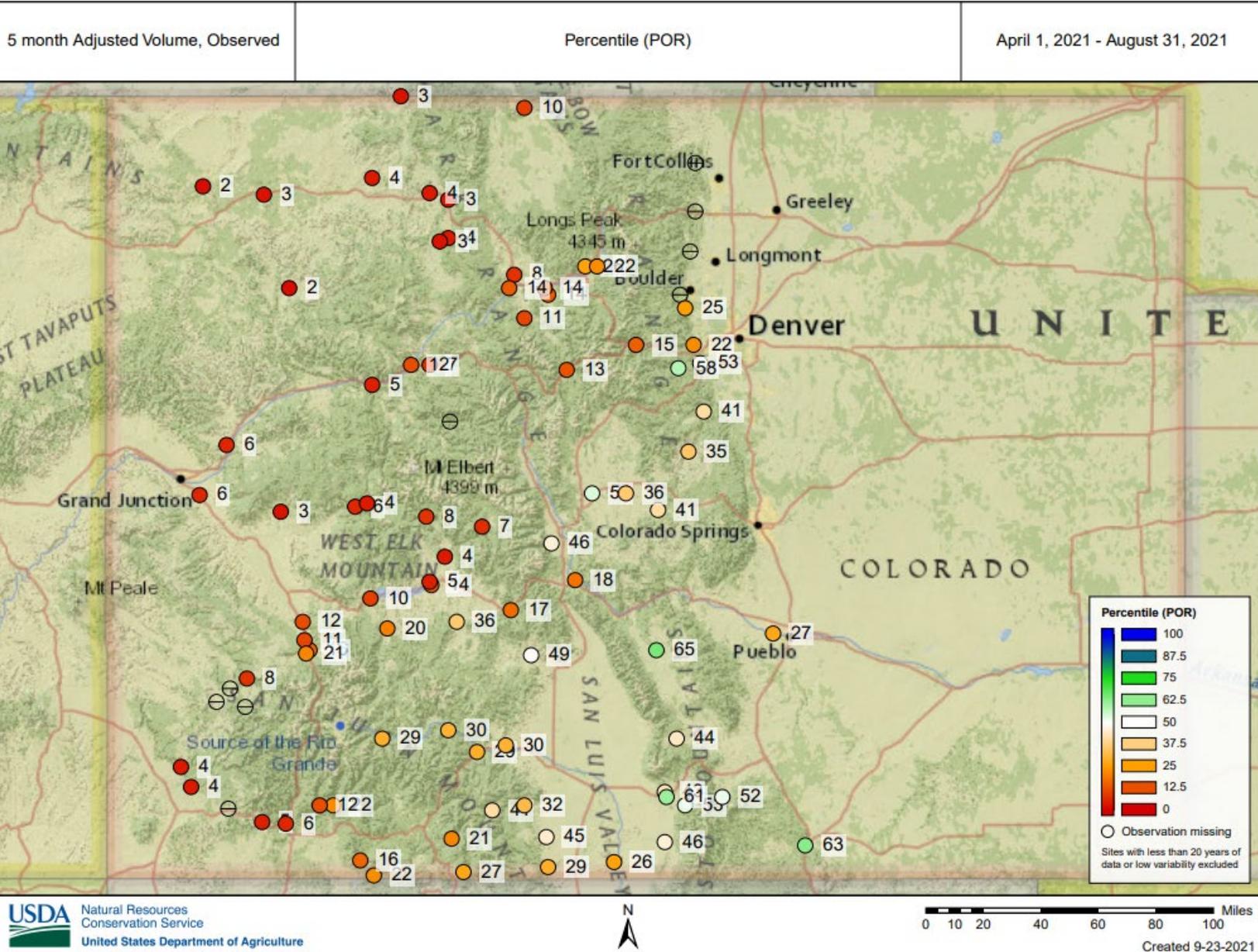
Percent NRCS 1981-2010 Average

April 1, 2021 - August 31, 2021





Colorado Snow Surveys



Summary

- Last week of a rather dry Water Year 2021 across most of the state
- September has reverted back to dry conditions across the state with statewide month to date mountain precipitation being just 45 percent of average
- More than half of the streamflow forecast points in the state were in the bottom 25th percentile of observed streamflows since April 1st
 - 30 percent of streamflow points in the bottom 10th percentile- primarily on the Western Slope
- Statewide reservoir storage is 80 percent of average but with the Southwest Basins holding substantially lower amounts of storage.
- **PRAY FOR SNOW** in Water Year 2022!



Water Availability Task Force Meeting

September 23rd, 2021

NRCS Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecasting Program

Karl Wetlaufer

Hydrologist

Asst. Snow Survey Supervisor

720-544-2852

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



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