Water Availability Task Force Meeting
January 18th, 2022

NRCS Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecasting Program

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Web-Based Products

• Product website and links have changed. Both on the National Water and Climate Center (NWCC) webpages and on Colorado Website pages and links.
  • IT required a change to new servers. As a result links and webpages have changed.
    • Data resource links are not be affected.
    • Products resource webpages and links will be affected.
• Working as fast possible to minimize product interruptions. Most products have been replaced. However, some interruptions remain.
• Changes are requiring considerable work and entirely new tools to generate the replacement products.
• Additional future changes are slated for Oct 1, 2022.
  • Unsure of the scope of the changes but presently functionality is slated to be significantly decreased.
  • Working to negotiate increased functionality.
• iMap and Report Generator tools & products will remain available and supported
• Current presentation maps and graphs will change in appearance however will maintain much of the same data and overall look.
• If you have questions and comments please reach out to us.
Colorado Statewide Summary

Colorado Major Basins

- Yampa and White
- North Platte
- South Platte
- Upper Colorado
- Gunnison
- San Miguel, Dolores, Animas, and San Juan
- Upper Rio Grande

Miles

United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Colorado Statewide Snowpack with Non-Exceedence Projections
Based on Provisional SNOTEL Data as of Jan 17, 2022

119% of Median
Rank: 9\textsuperscript{th} of 37 yr POR
12/1 – 1/6
- 193% of median increase
- 7.1 in water increase
Colorado Statewide High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 17, 2022

December PREC
193% of Average

January to date PREC
100% of Average
Colorado Statewide High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 17, 2022

Current as Pct of Average: 112%
Current as Pct of Median: 114%
Current as Pct of Last Year: 177%
Current as Pct of Average Annual Total: 35%
Average as Pct of Average Annual Total: 32%
Colorado SNOTEL Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) Update Map with Site Data

Current as of Jan 10, 2022

SWE Percent of Median
- Missing or Invalid
- < 50
- 50 - 69
- 70 - 89
- 90 - 109
- 110 - 129
- 130 - 149
- >= 150

Statewide: 128%
North Platte: 140%
Yampa & White: 131%
Colorado: 128%
Gunnison: 149%
San Miguel, Dolores, Animas & San Juan: 134%
Upper Rio Grande: 108%
Arkansas: 90%
Colorado Snow Surveys

Colorado

SNOTEL Current Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) % of Normal

Jan 16, 2022

Laramie and North Platte

Yampa and White

Upper Colorado Headwaters

Gunnison

San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan

Arkansas

Upper Rio Grande

The snow water equivalent percent of normal represents the current snow water equivalent found at selected SNOTEL sites in or near the basin compared to the average values for those sites on this day. Data based on the first reading of the day (typically 00:00).
Impressive SWE Gains in %
**Impressive SWE Gains**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Snow Water Equivalent Delta</th>
<th>SWE Gains Value</th>
<th>January 6, 2022 - December 22, 2021, end of day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Value</td>
<td>2.12 in.</td>
<td>9 in.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Observation missing

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*Colorado Snow Surveys*

United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service
United States Department of Agriculture

Created 1-18-2022
COLORADO STATEWIDE

Reservoir Storage

Departure from Average
GRACE-Based Shallow Groundwater Drought Indicator

January 10, 2022

Wetness percentiles are relative to the period 1948-2012
Cell Resolution 0.125 degrees
Projection of this document is Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area

https://nasagrace.unl.edu
124% of Median
Rank: 10th of 41 yr POR
12/1 – 1/6
• 180% of median increase
• 6.4 in water increase
Major Basin Summary

South Platte River Basin
South Platte River Basin Snowpack with Non-Exceedence Projections
Based on Provisional SNOTEL Data as of Jan 17, 2022

121% of Median
Rank: 10\textsuperscript{th} of 42 yr POR
12/1 – 1/6
  • 184% of median increase
  • 4.9 in water increase
12/23 – 1/6 saw largest increase in 42 yr POR
Gunnison River Basin Snowpack with Non-Exceedence Projections

Based on Provisional SNOTEL Data as of Jan 17, 2022

136% of Median
Rank: 10\textsuperscript{th} of 42 yr POR
12/1 – 1/6

• 227% of median increase
• 8.7 in water increase
Reservoir Conditions for Gunnison on January 1st 2022

Gunnison Reservoirs

Reservoir Percent of Median

Fruitgrowers Reservoir
Paonia Reservoir
Vouga Reservoir
Morrow Point Reservoir
Silverjack Reservoir
Crystal Reservoir
Ridgway Reservoir
Crawford Reservoir
Fruitland Reservoir
Blue Mesa Reservoir
Taylor Park Reservoir

Reservoir Names

United States Department of Agriculture

Colorado Snow Surveys
Major Basin Summary

San Miguel, Dolores, Animas, and San Juan River Basins
San Miguel, Dolores, Animas, San Juan River Basin Snowpack with Non-Exceedence Projections

Based on Provisional SNOTEL Data as of Jan 17, 2022

125% of Median
Rank: 15th of 36 yr POR
12/1 – 1/6

• 216% of median increase
• 9.9 in water increase
Upper Rio Grande Basin Snowpack with Non-Exceedence Projections

Based on Provisional SNOTEL Data as of Jan 17, 2022

90% of Median
Rank: 16th of 36 yr POR
12/1 – 1/6
• 199% of median increase
• 6.9 in water increase
Major Basin Summary

Arkansas River Basin
Arkansas River Basin Snowpack with Non-Exceedence Projections

Based on Provisional SNOTEL Data as of Jan 17, 2022

85% of Median
Rank: 27th of 42 yr POR
12/1 – 1/6
• 127% of median increase
• 3.7 in water increase
Impressive Gains @ Schofield Pass
- 12/8/21 = 15 inches of snow depth
- 12/11/21 = 39 inches of snow depth
- 3.7 in SWE gain = ~3 ft of snow accumulation by ski resort standards
- 12/23/21 = 34 inches of snow depth
- 1/2/22 = 105 inches of snow depth
- 14.4 in SWE gain = ~144 inches (12 ft) of snow accumulation by ski resort standards
December-Early January storms provided much needed snowpack improvement. Statewide snowpack went from 52% of median on Dec 1, 2021 to ~124% of median on Jan 6, 2022.

In some cases improvements were the most in the period of record.

Statewide reservoirs are at 78% of average.

Soil moisture conditions are slightly improved over last year at this time.

Streamflows look to be better than last year at the end of October.

January 1 Streamflow forecasts project generally near to slightly above normal streamflows come spring and summer. Near 100% of normal east of the divide. Forecasts improve further west in Colorado.
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