Water Availability Task Force Meeting April 20th, 2023

NRCS Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecasting Program

Karl Wetlaufer

Hydrologist

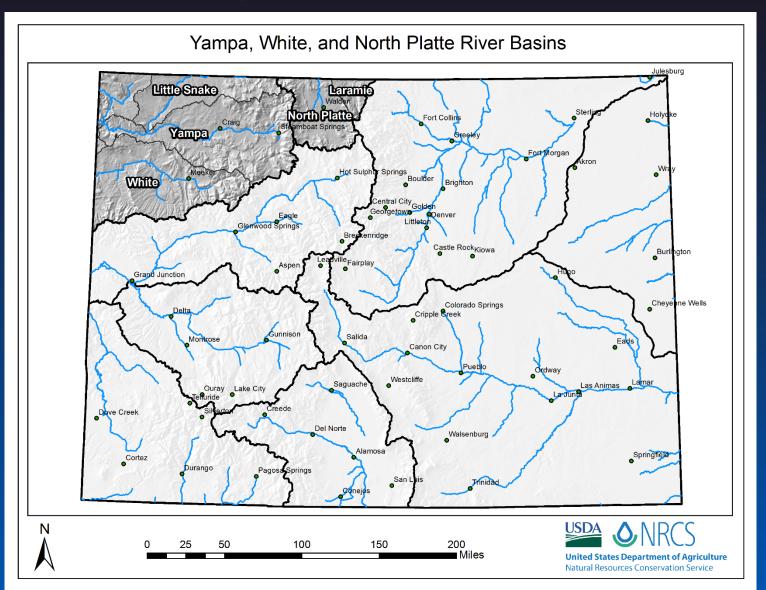
Karl.Wetlaufer@usda.gov

720-544-2853

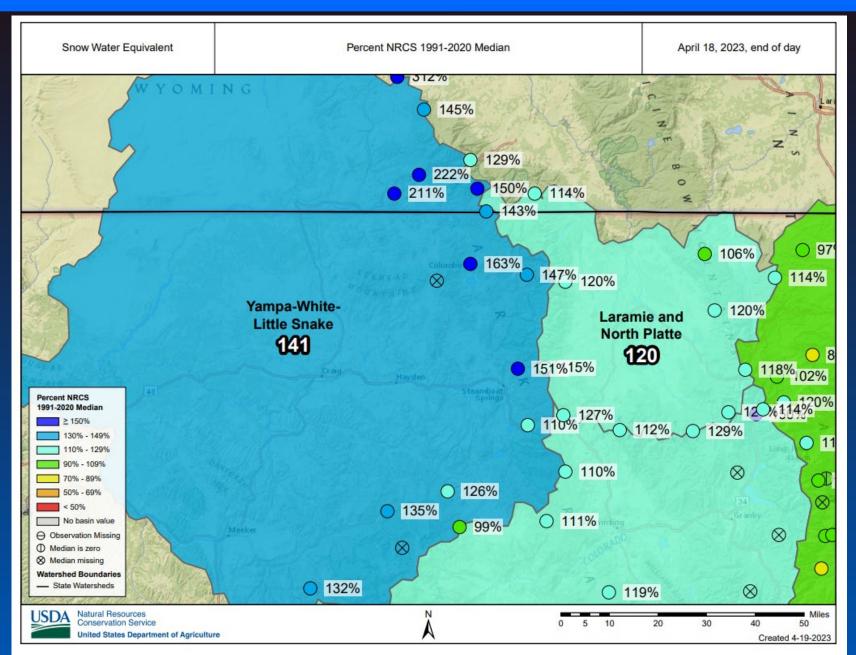
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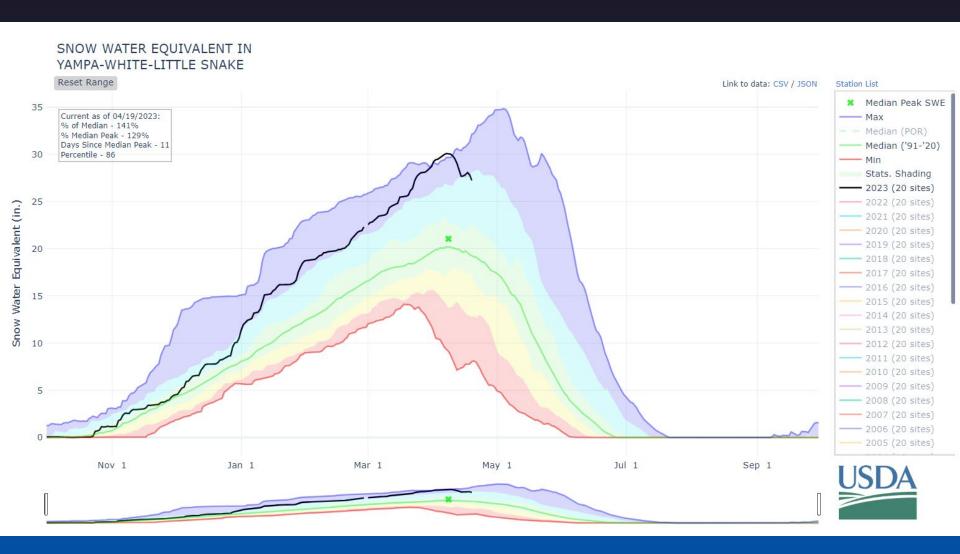
Major Basin Summary



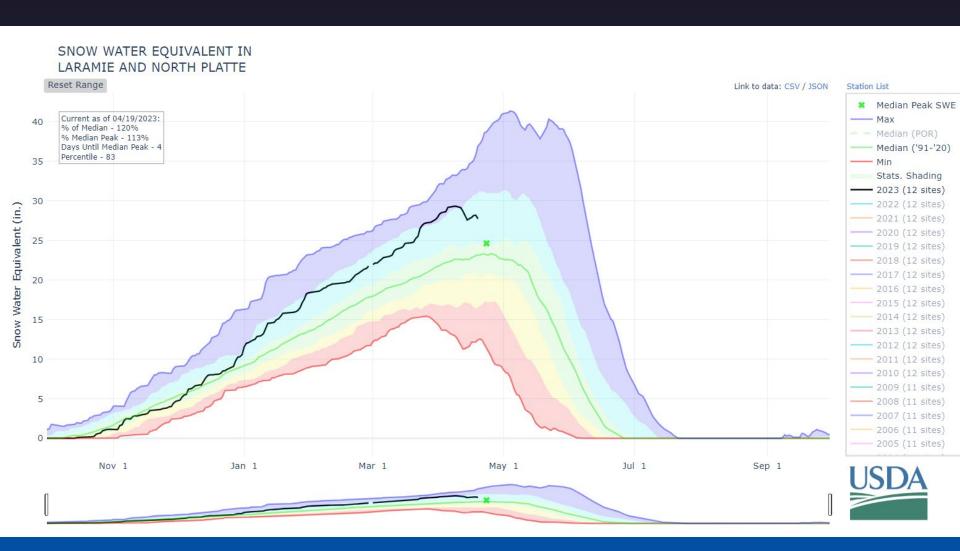




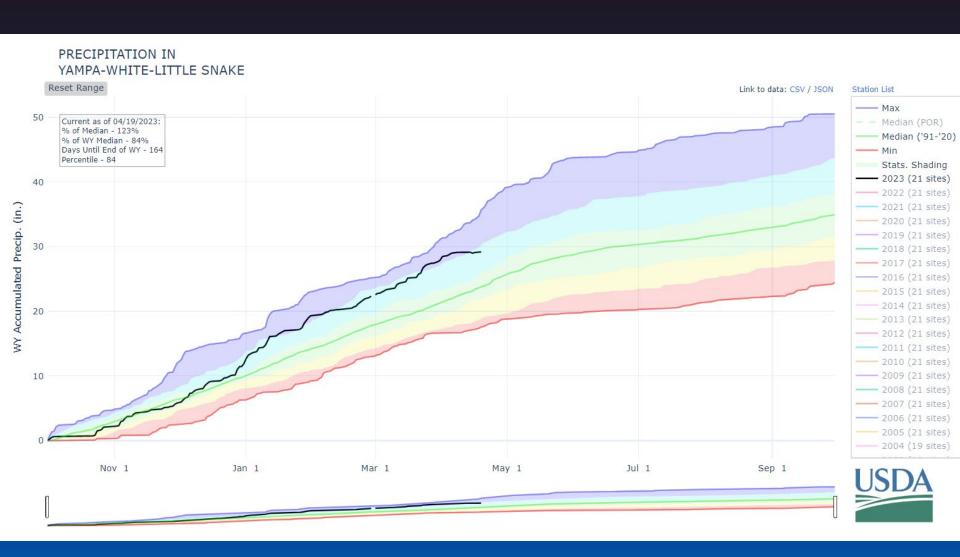




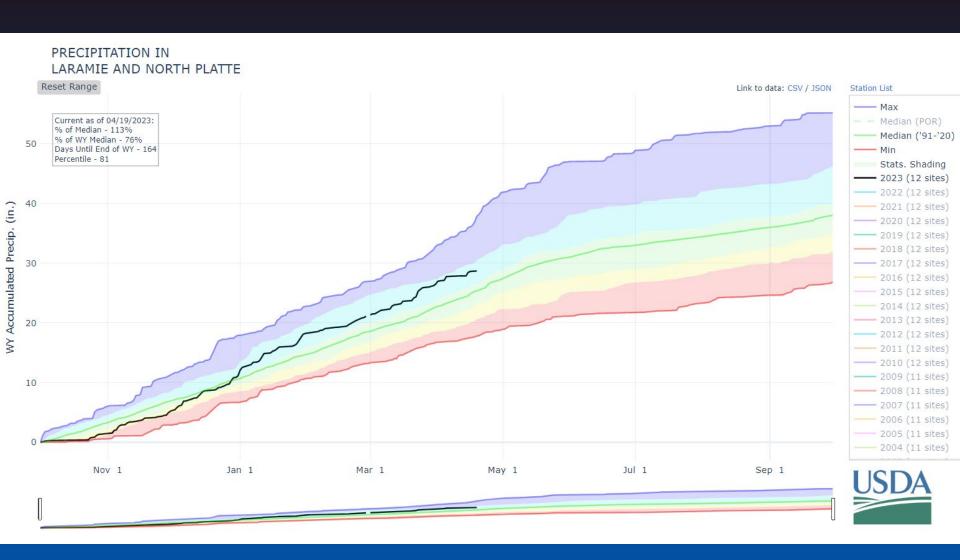






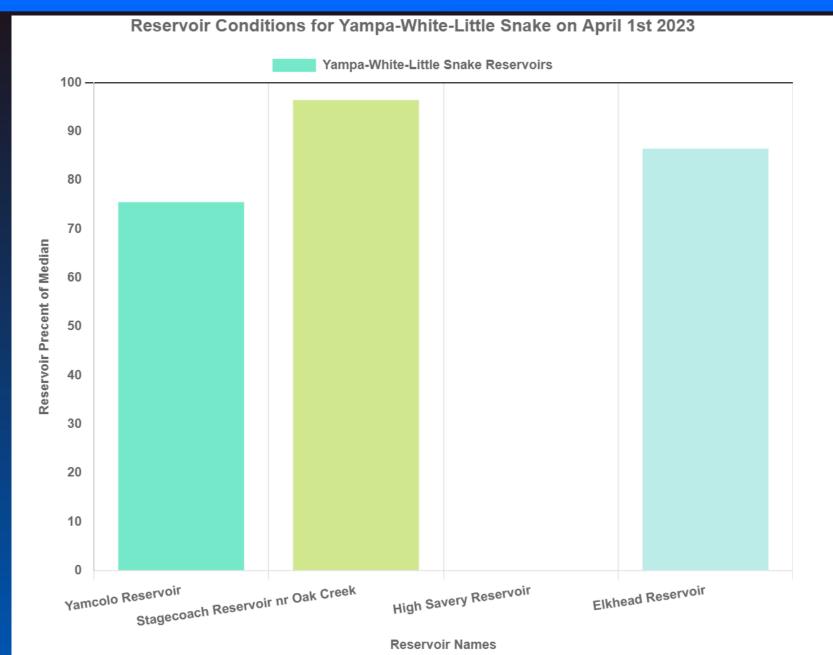




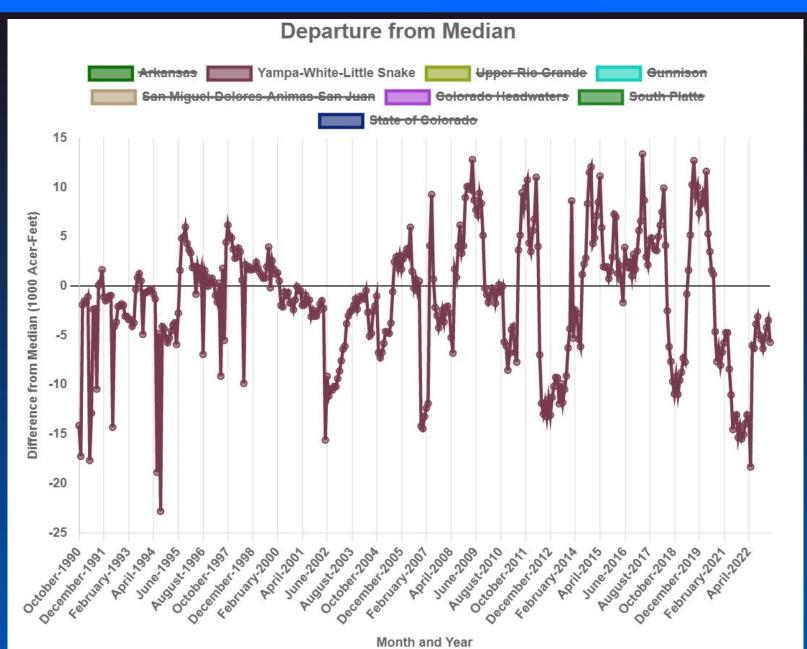




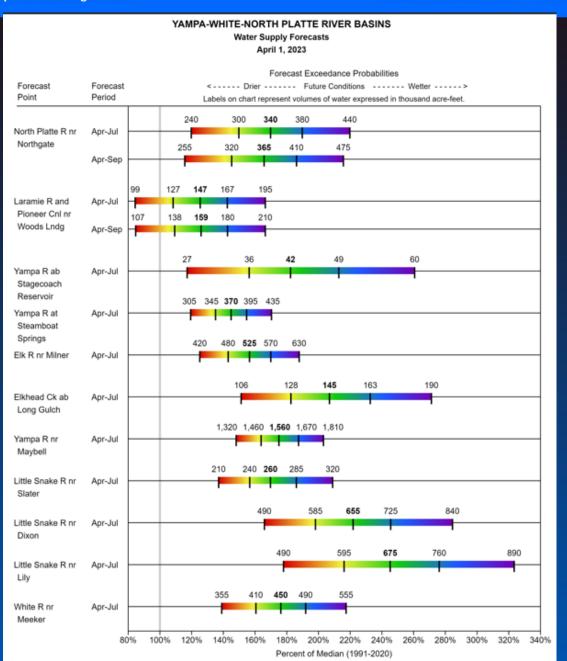








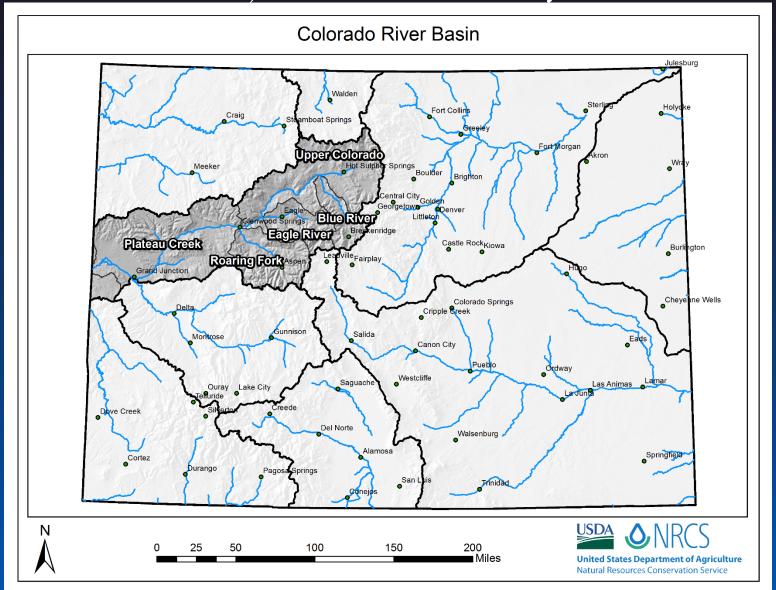




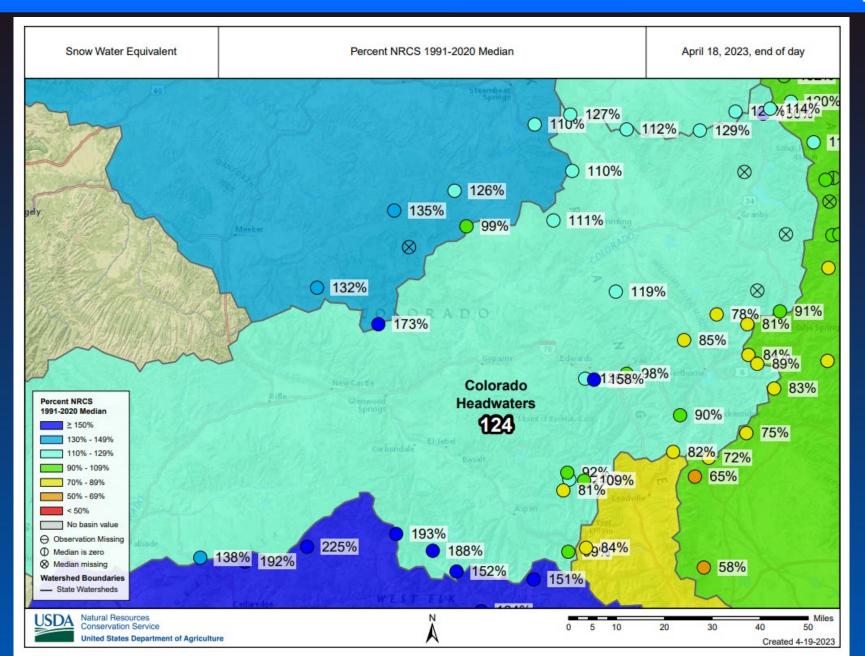




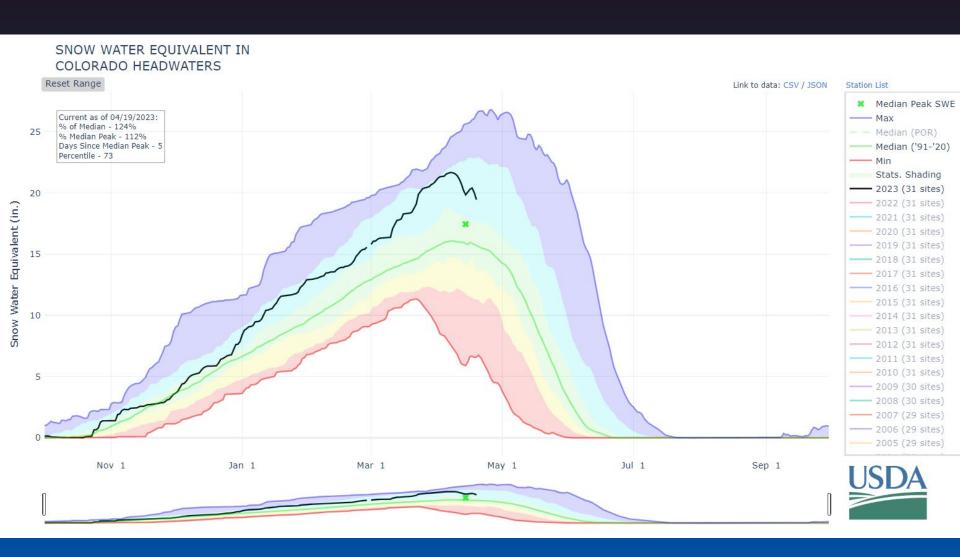
Major Basin Summary



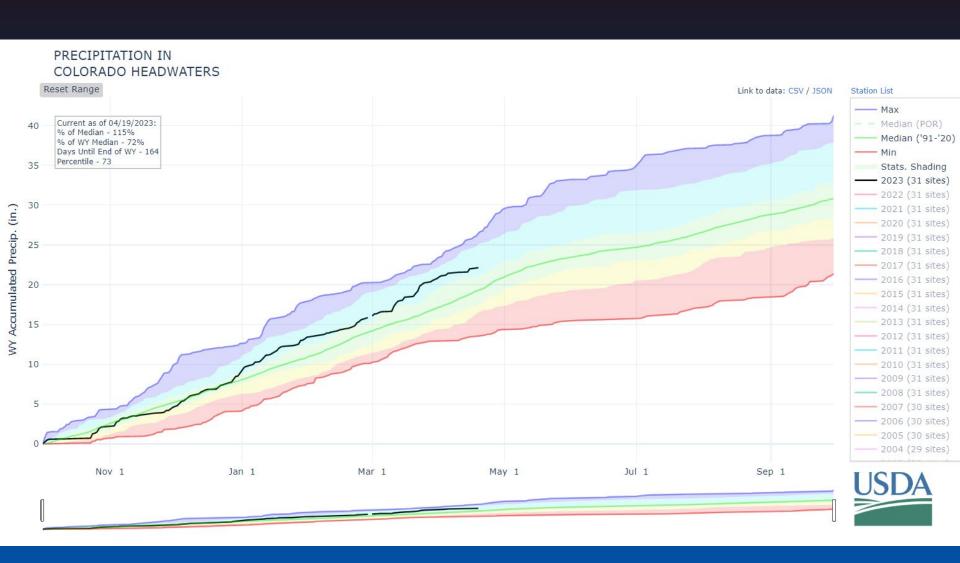




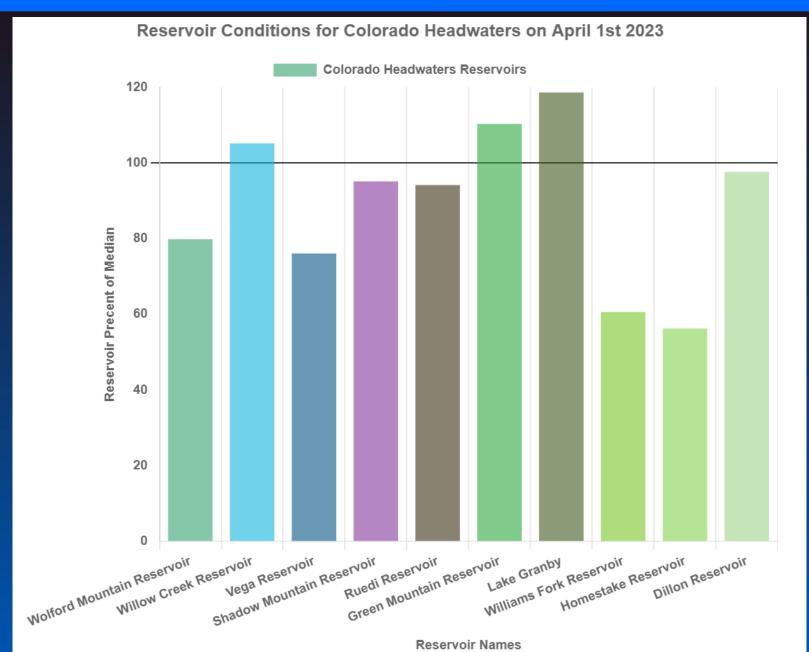




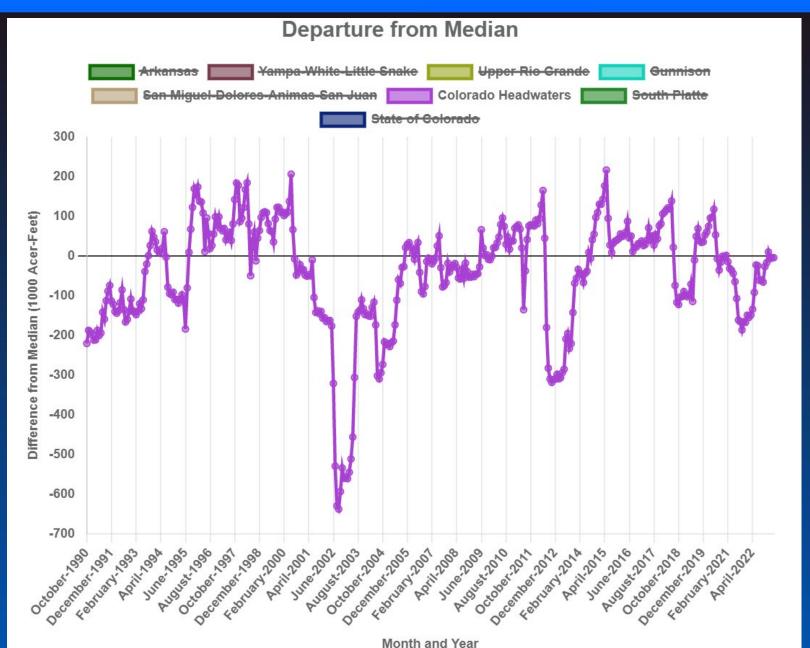




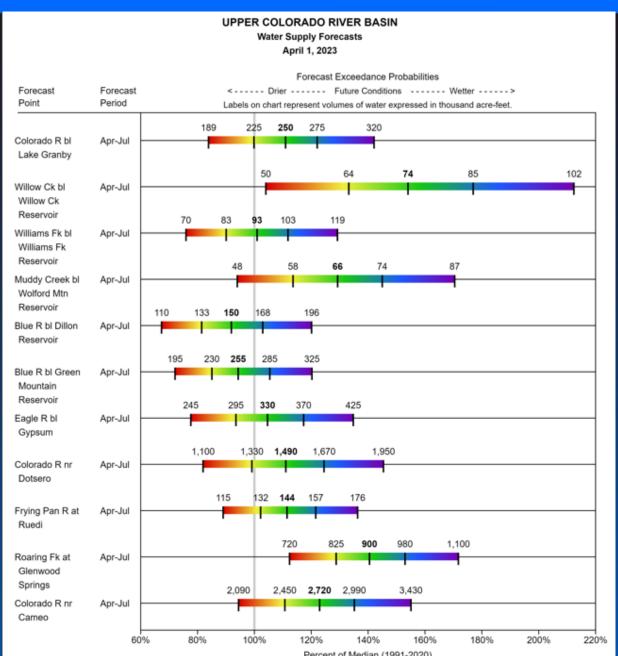








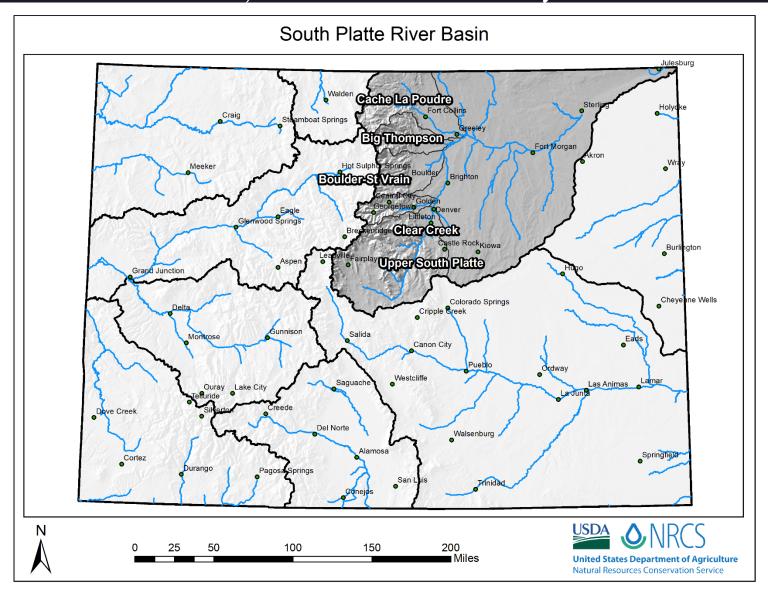








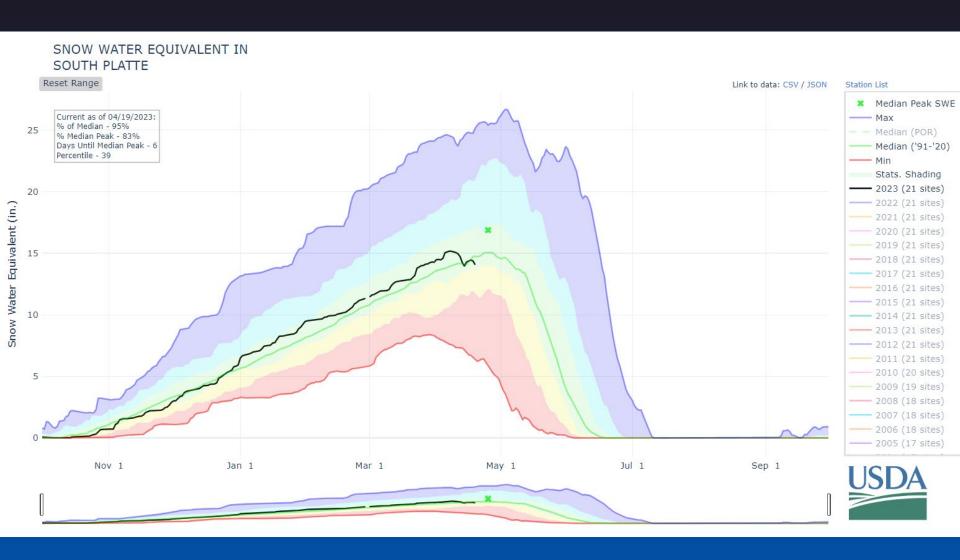
Major Basin Summary



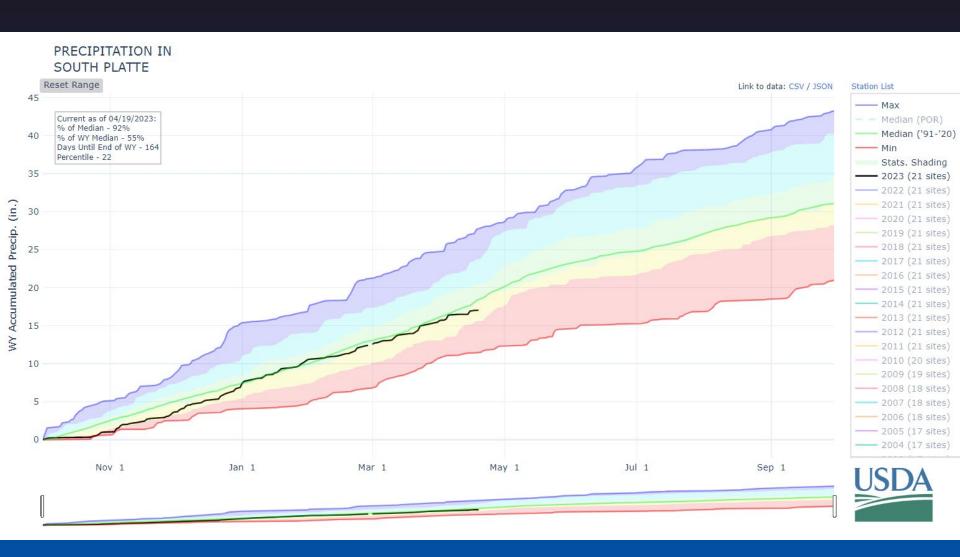




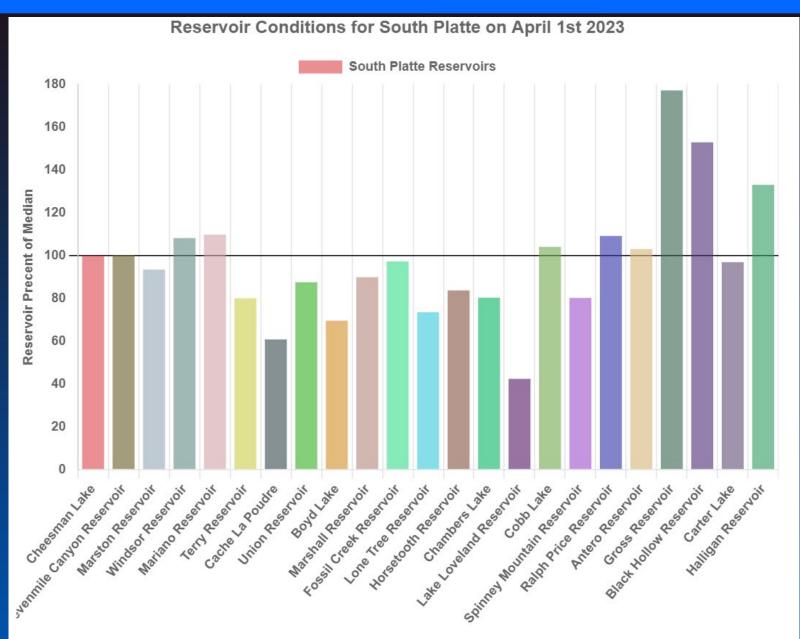








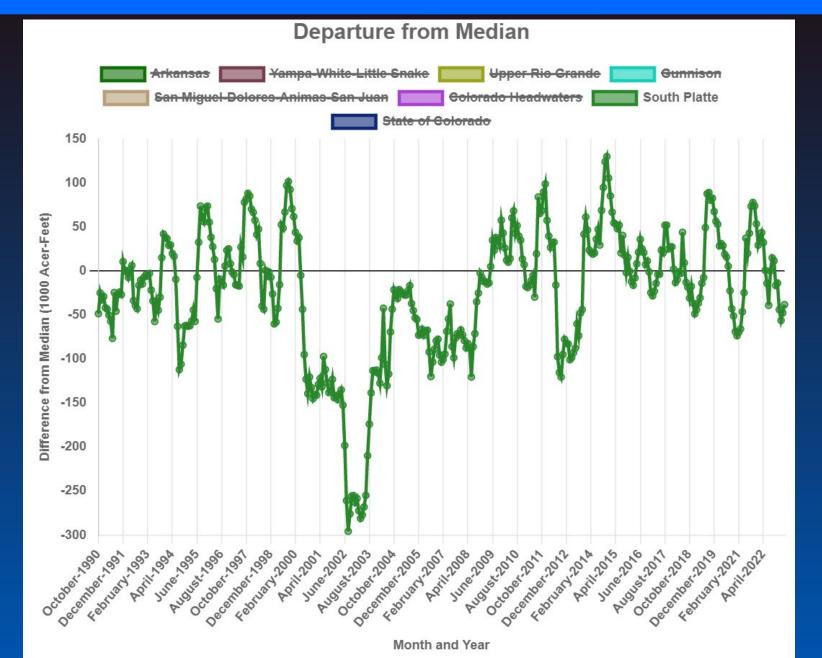




Reservoir Names



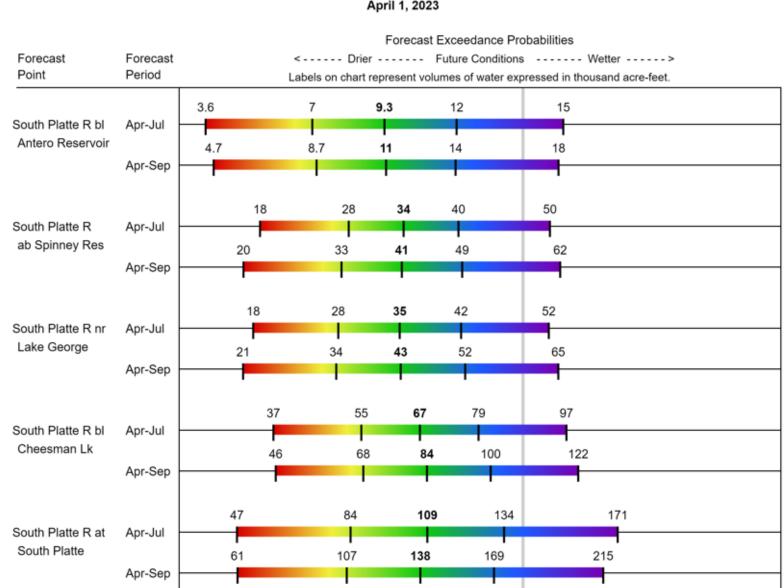




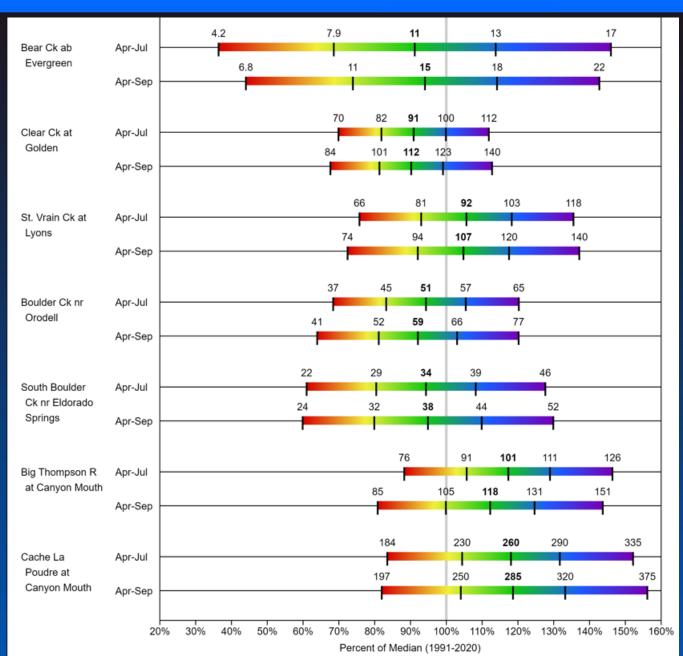


SOUTH PLATTE RIVER BASIN

Water Supply Forecasts April 1, 2023

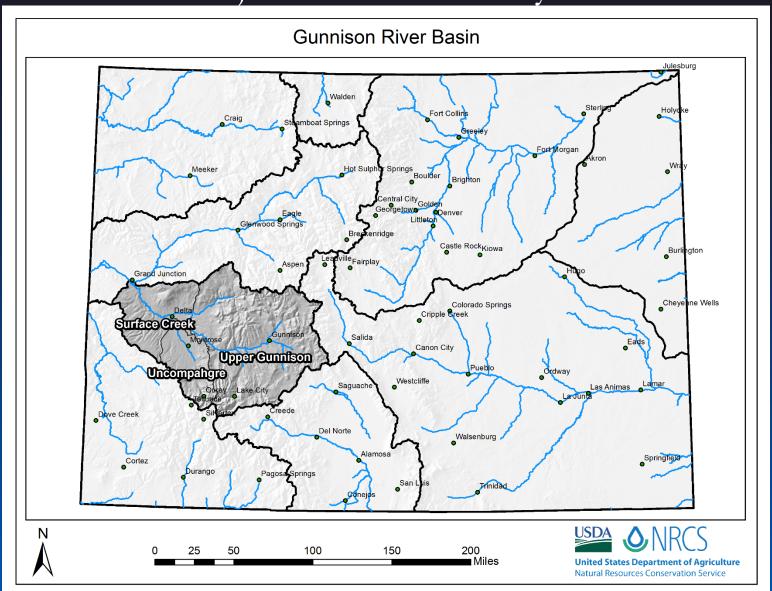




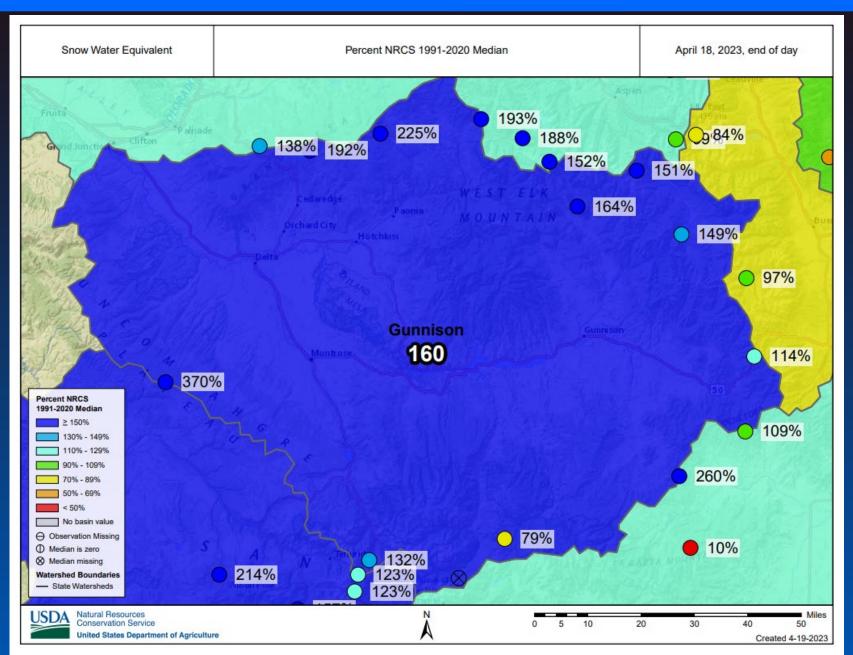




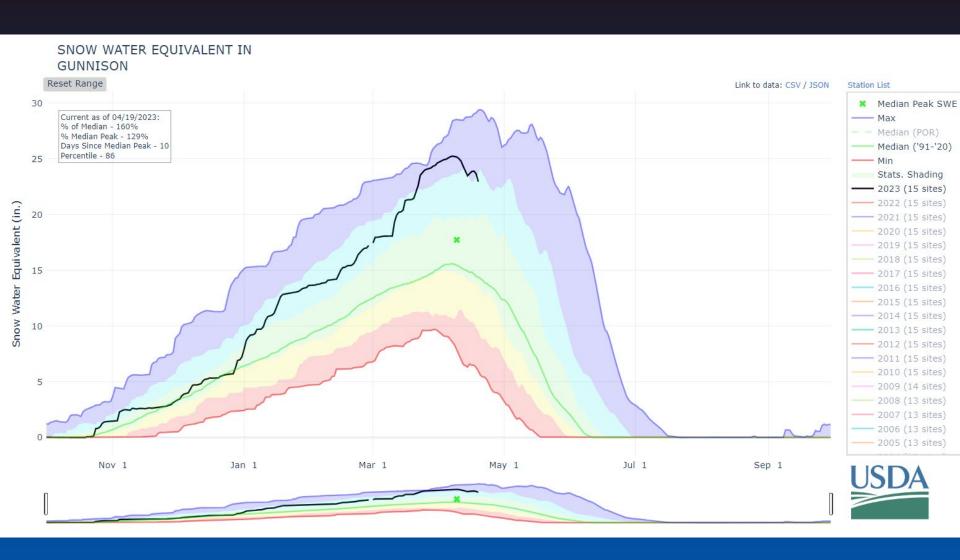
Major Basin Summary



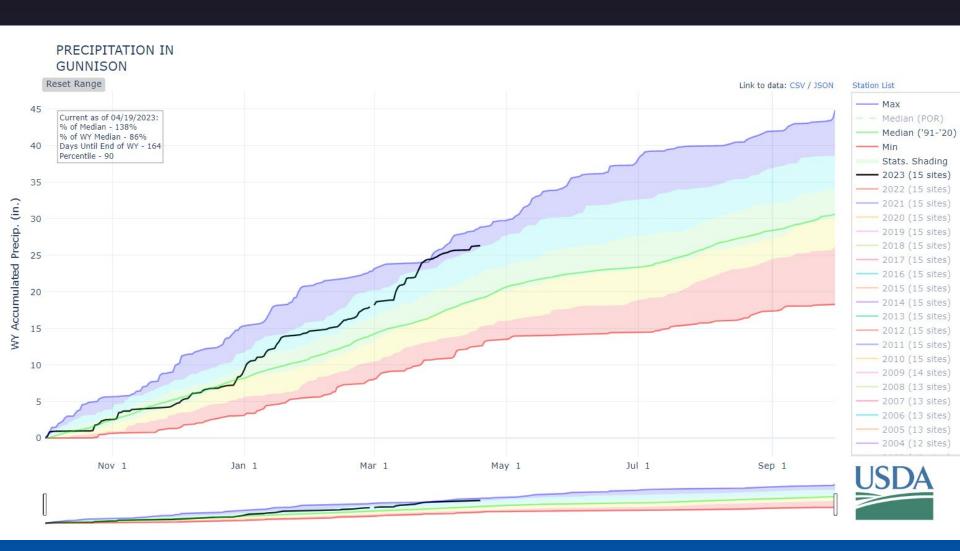




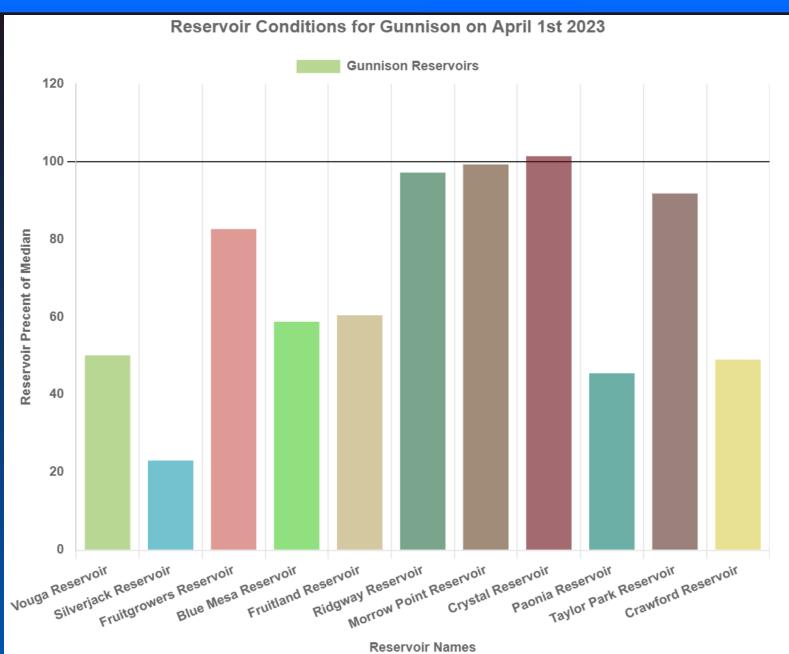






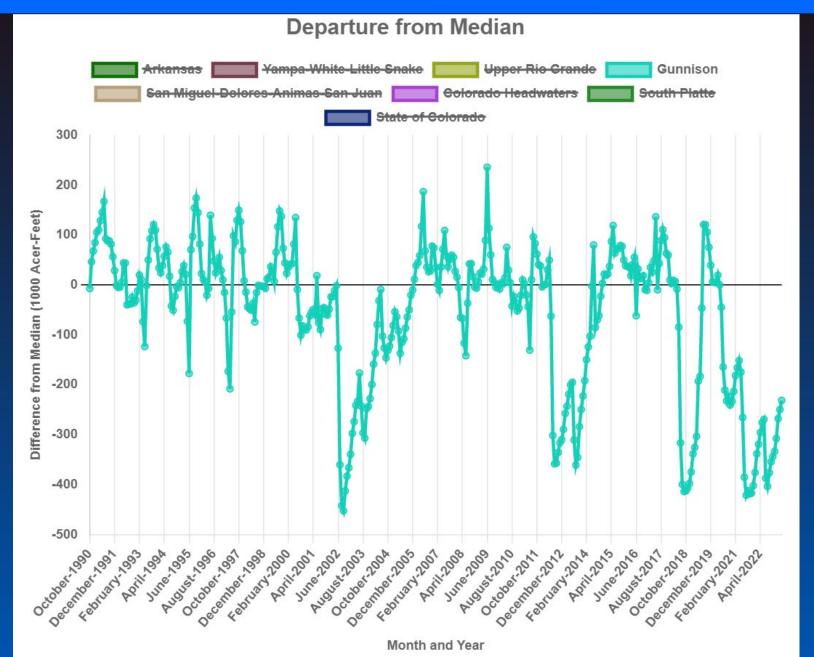




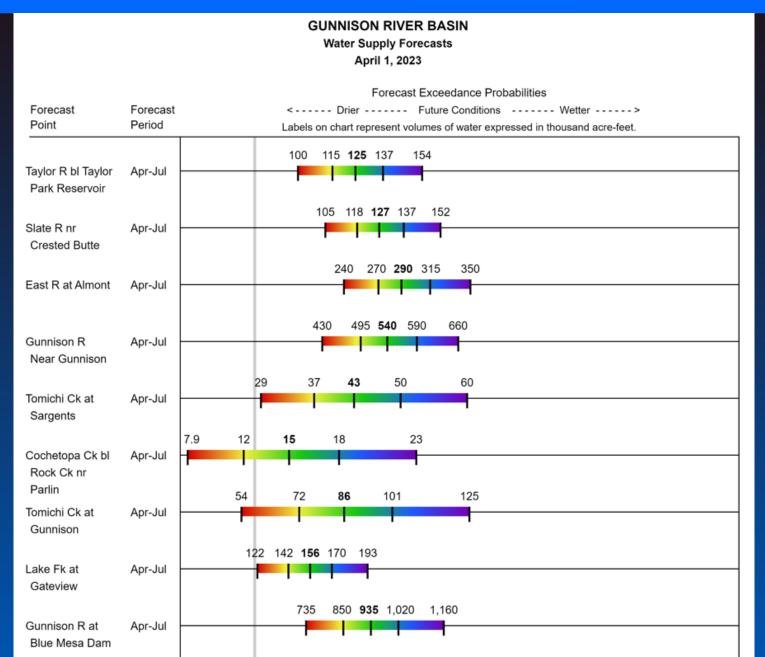




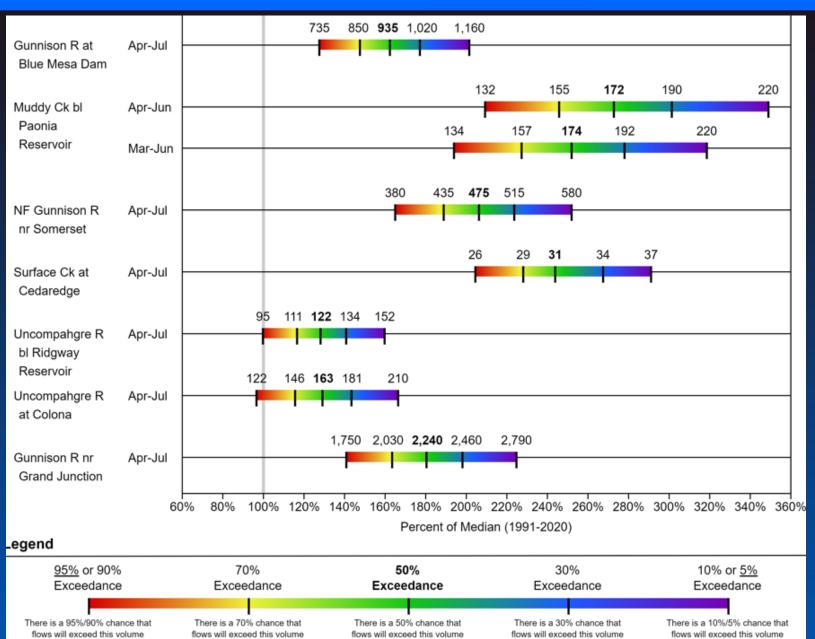








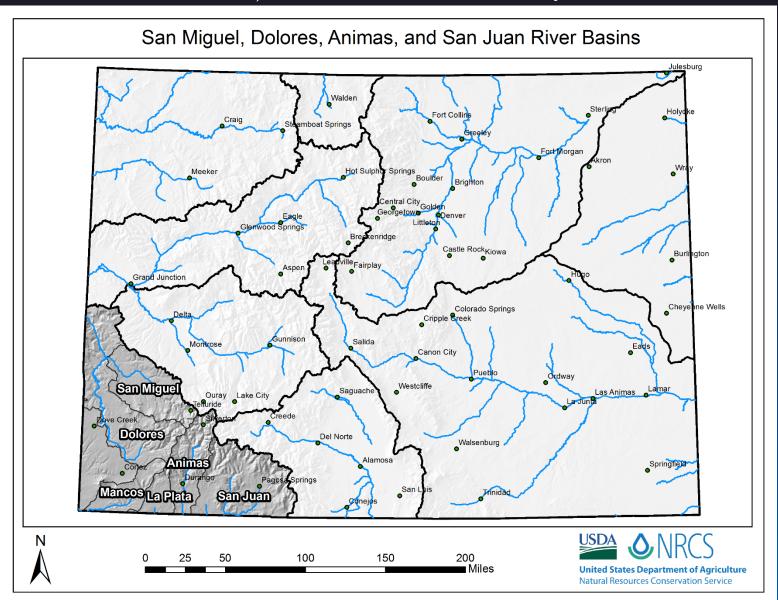




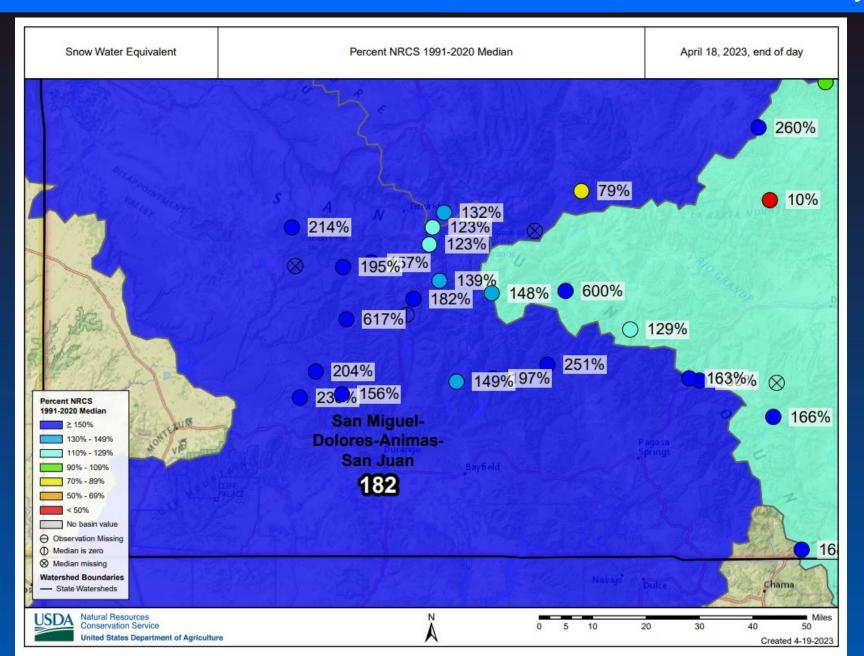




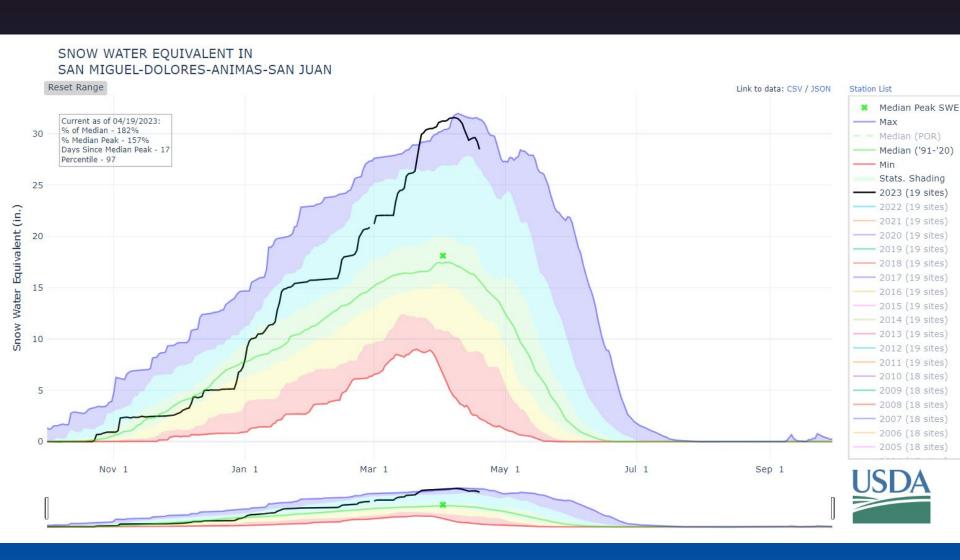
Major Basin Summary



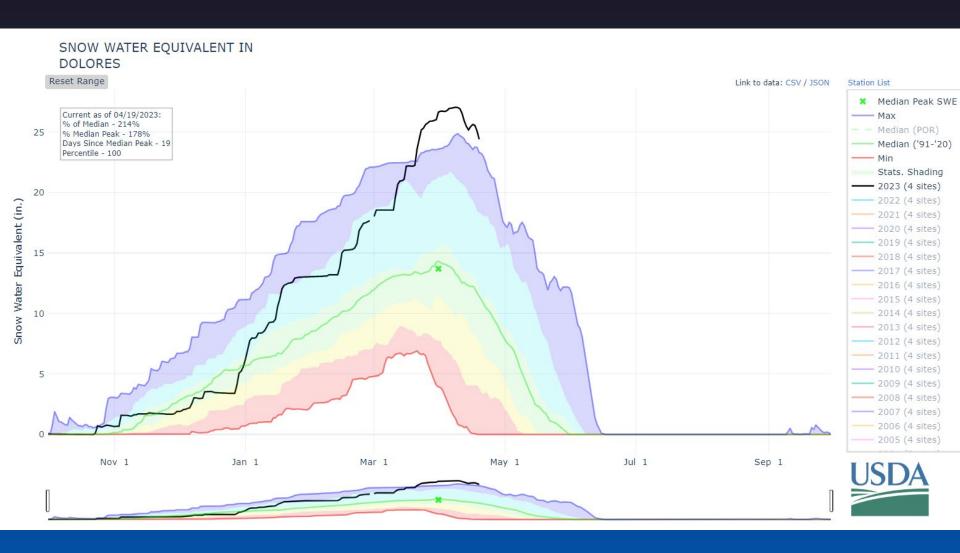




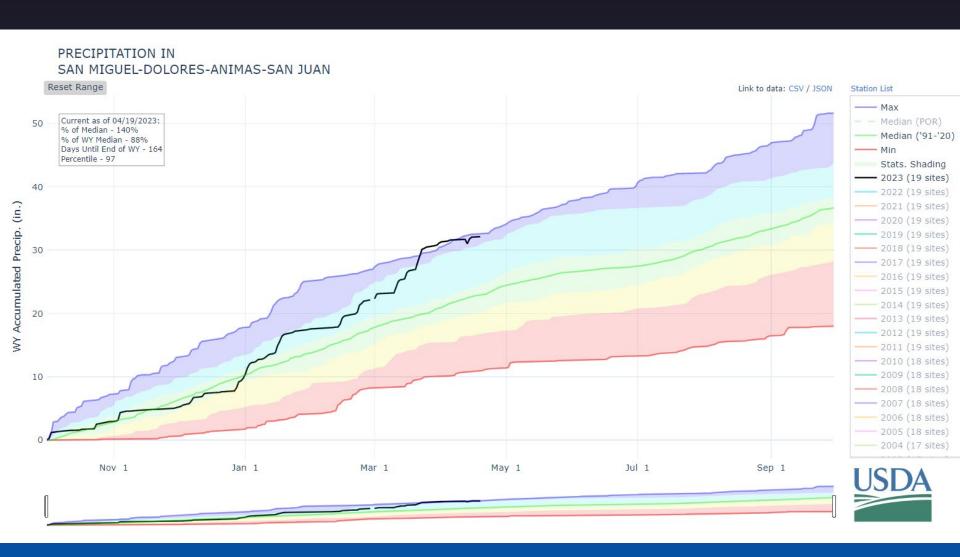




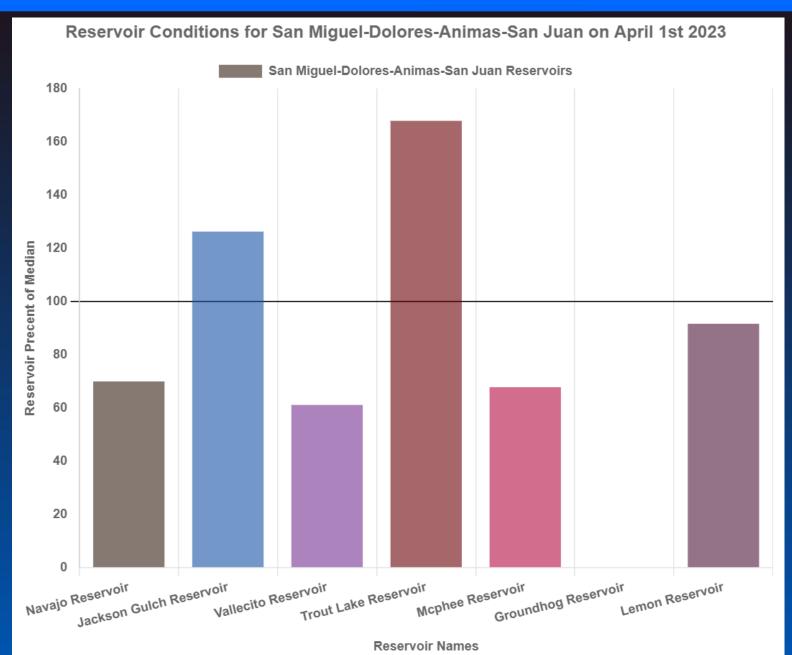






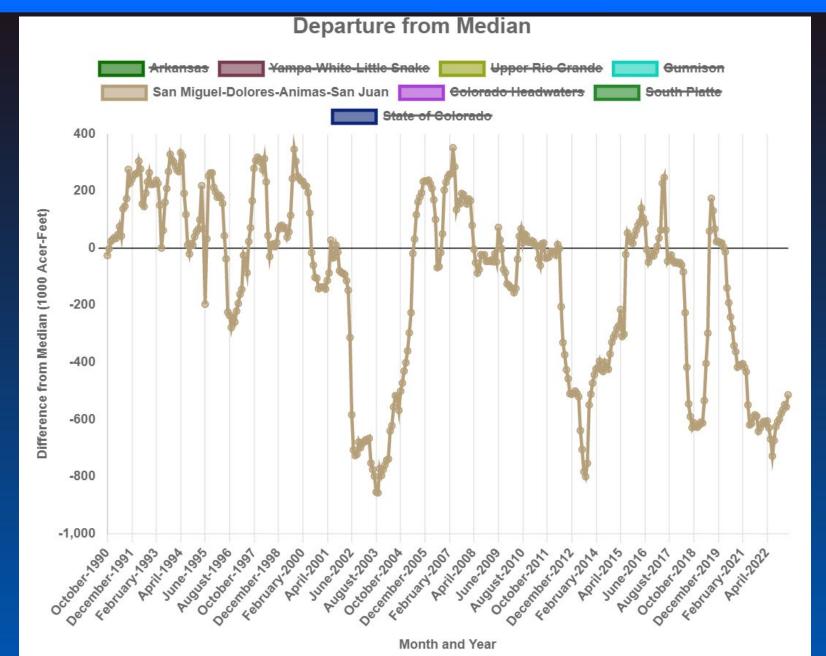




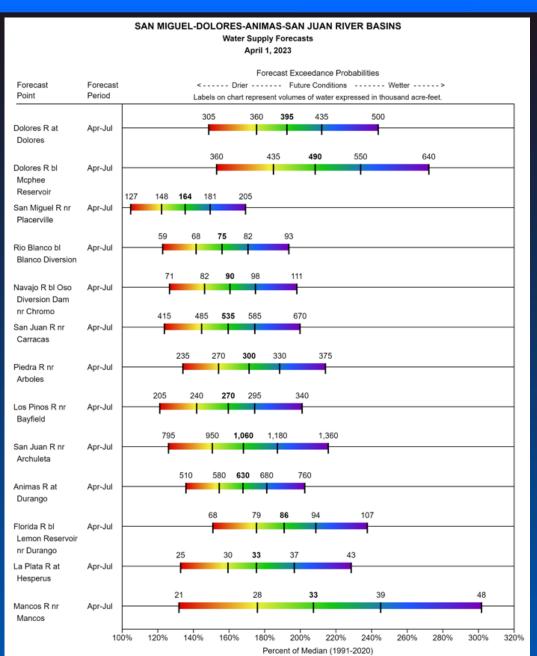








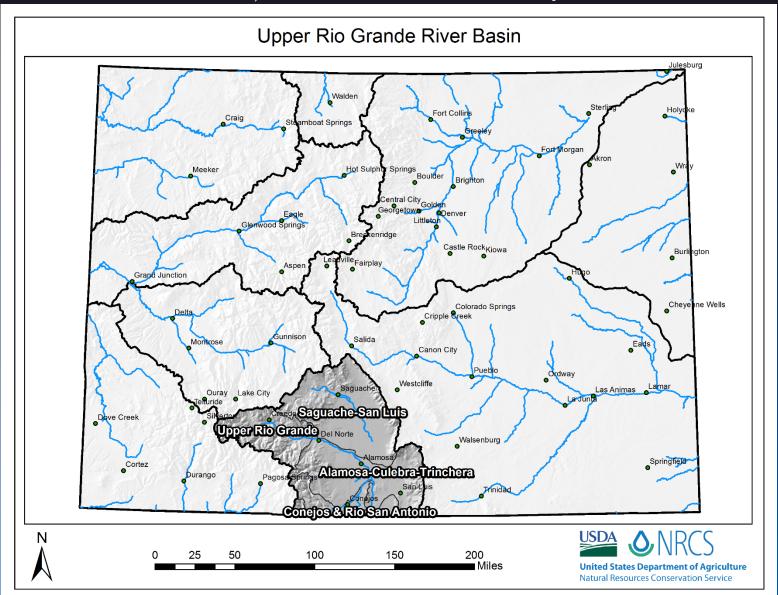




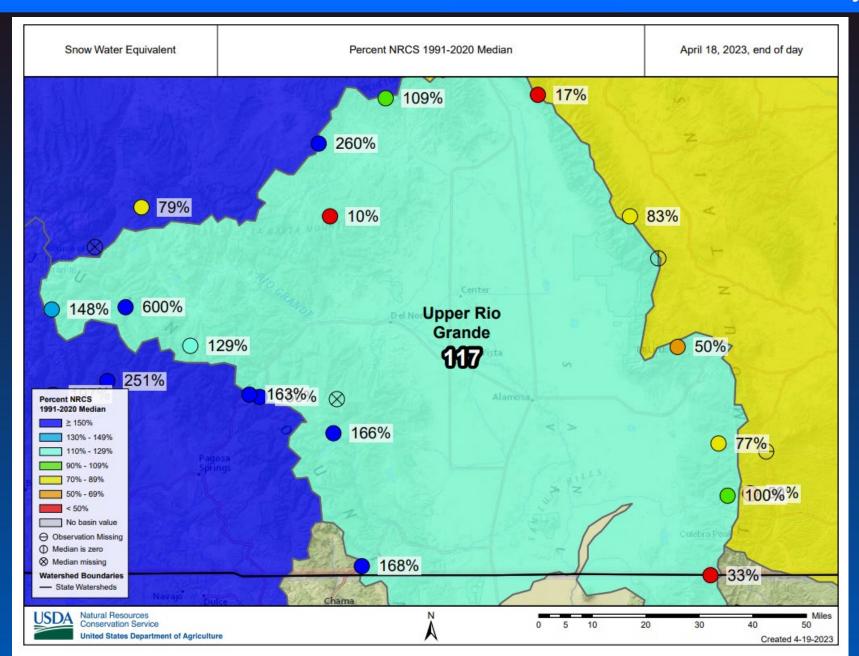




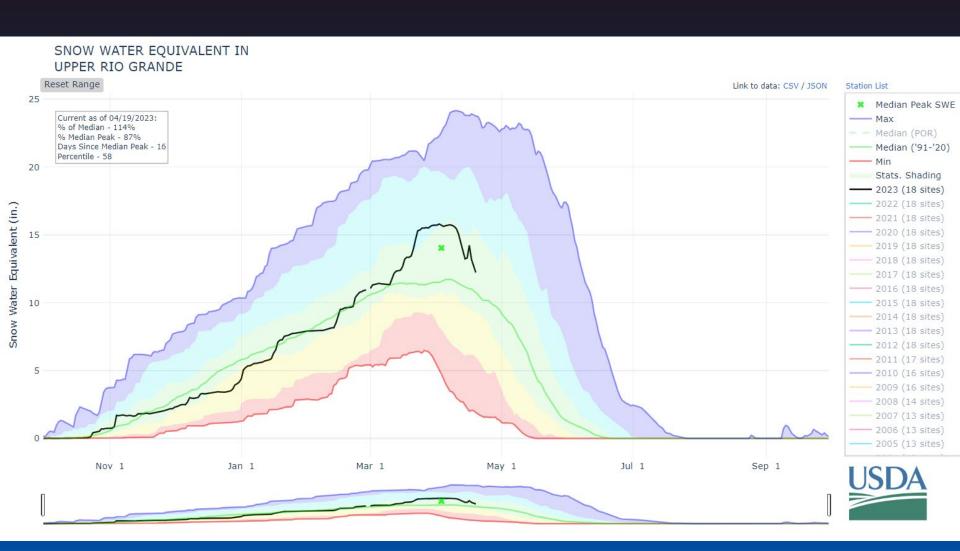
Major Basin Summary



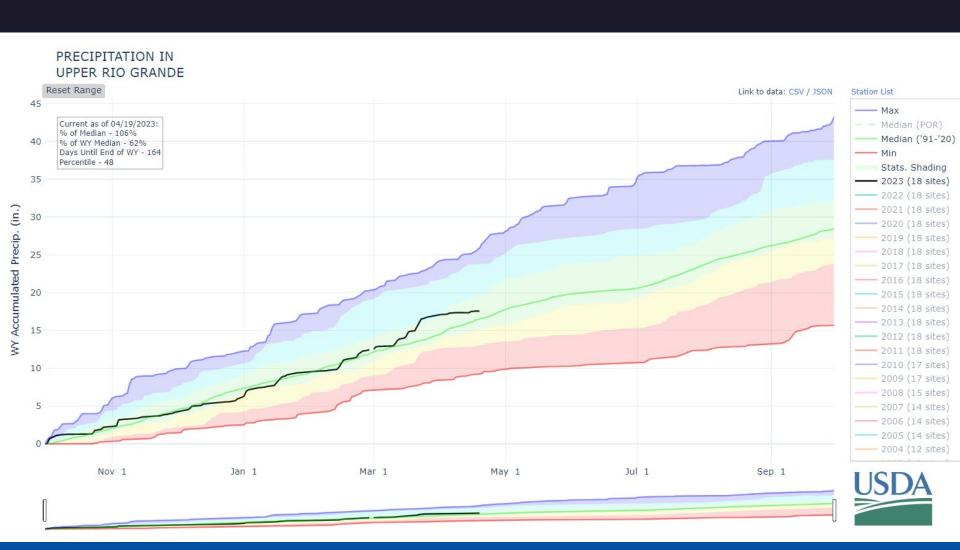






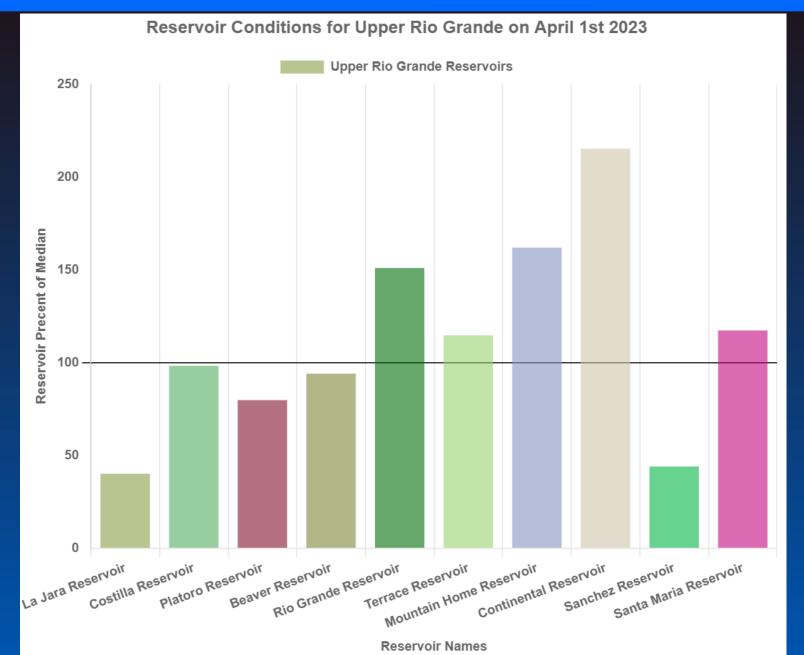






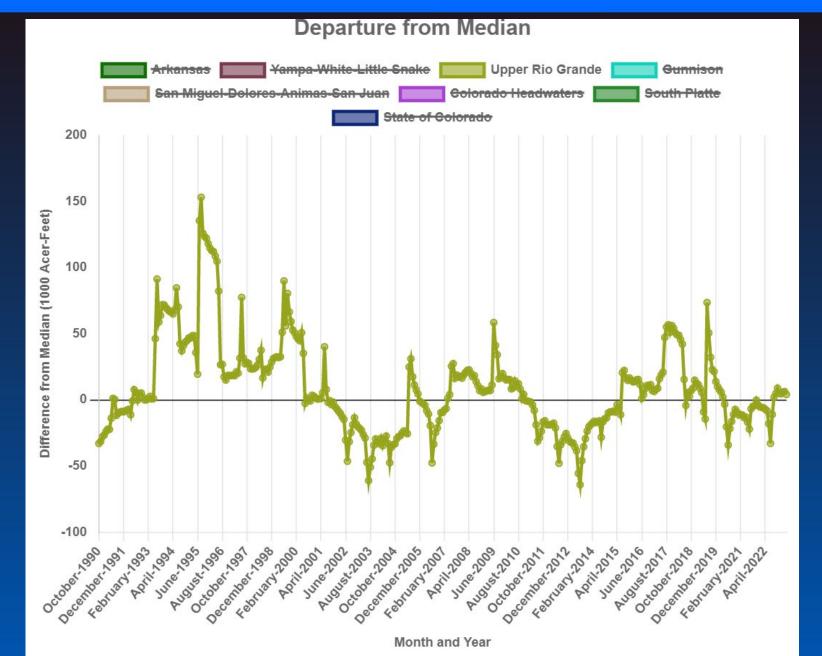




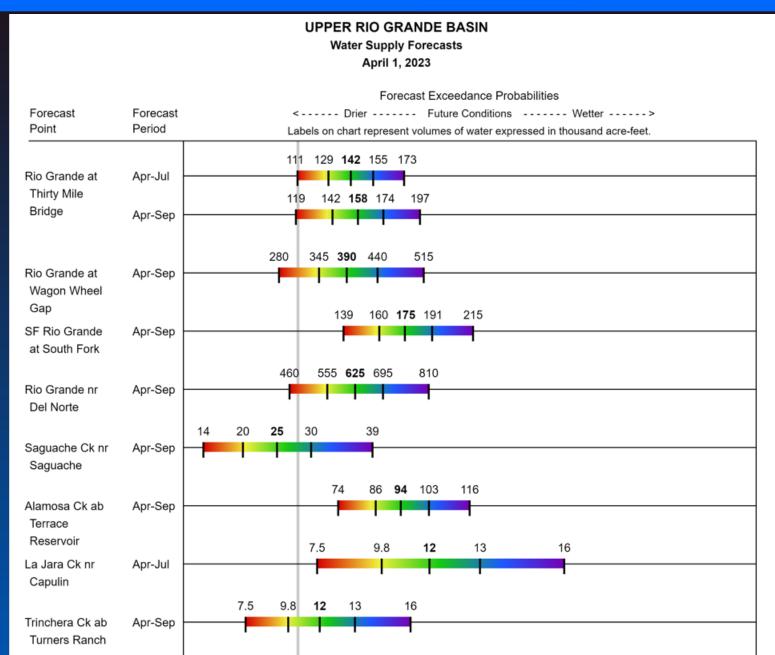




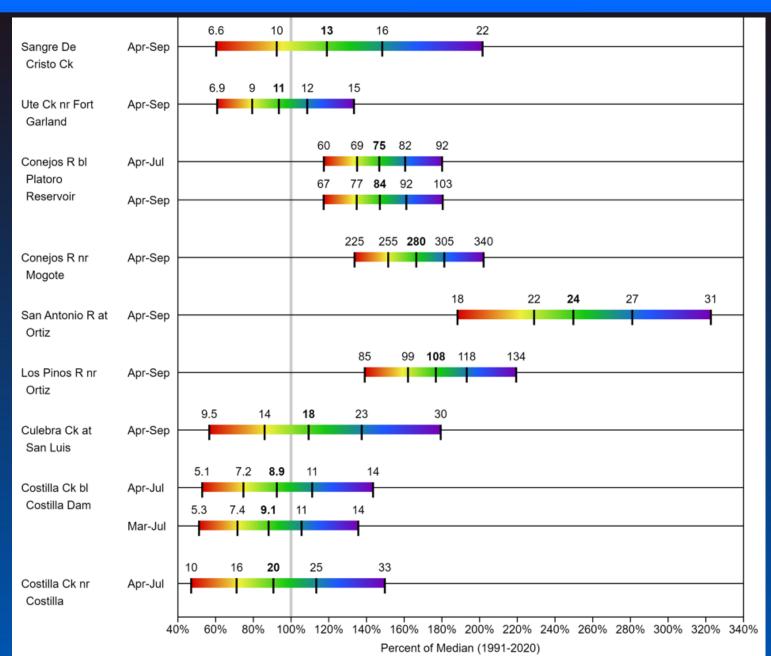






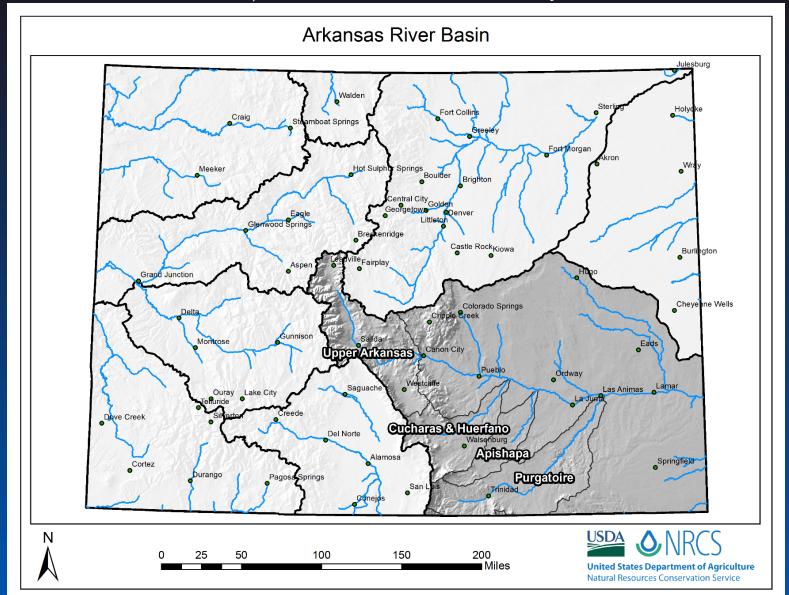




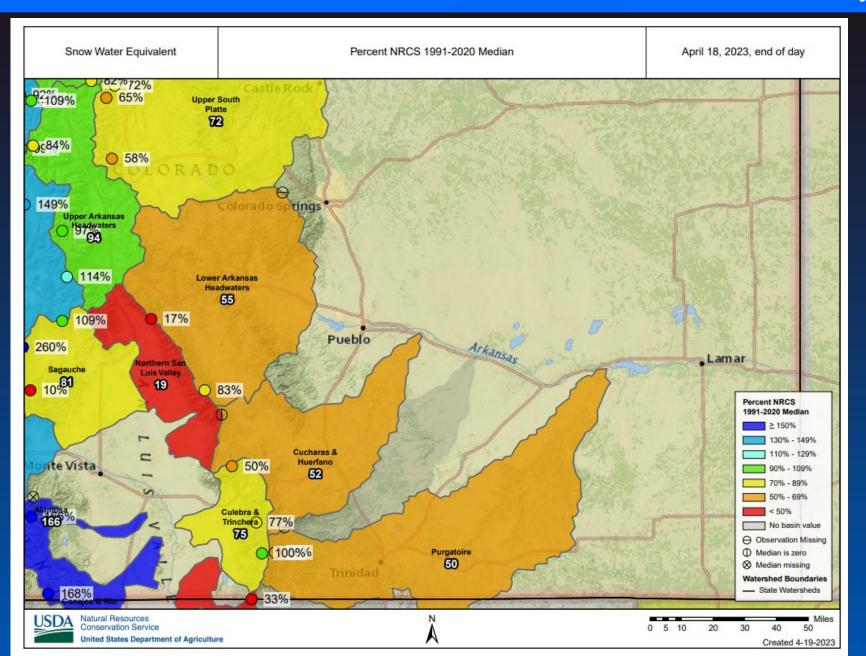




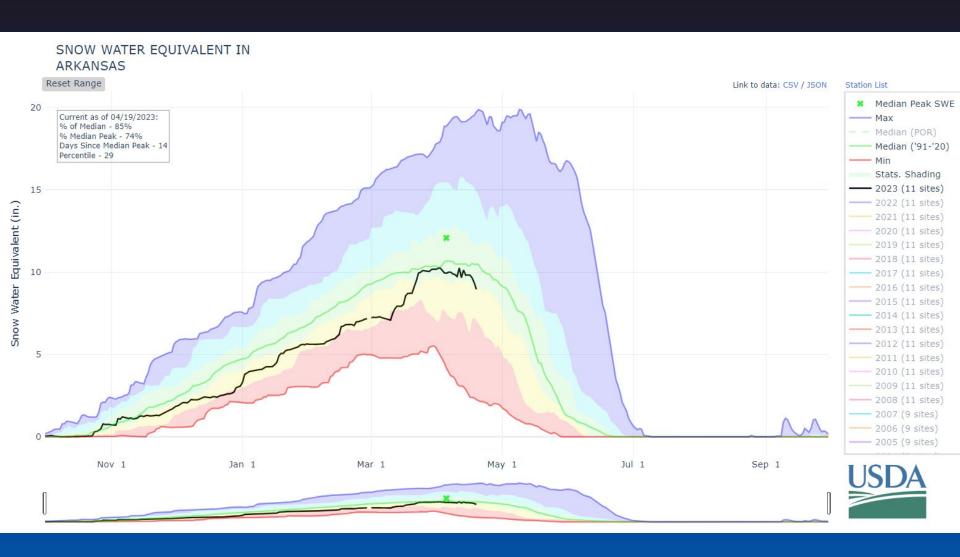
Major Basin Summary



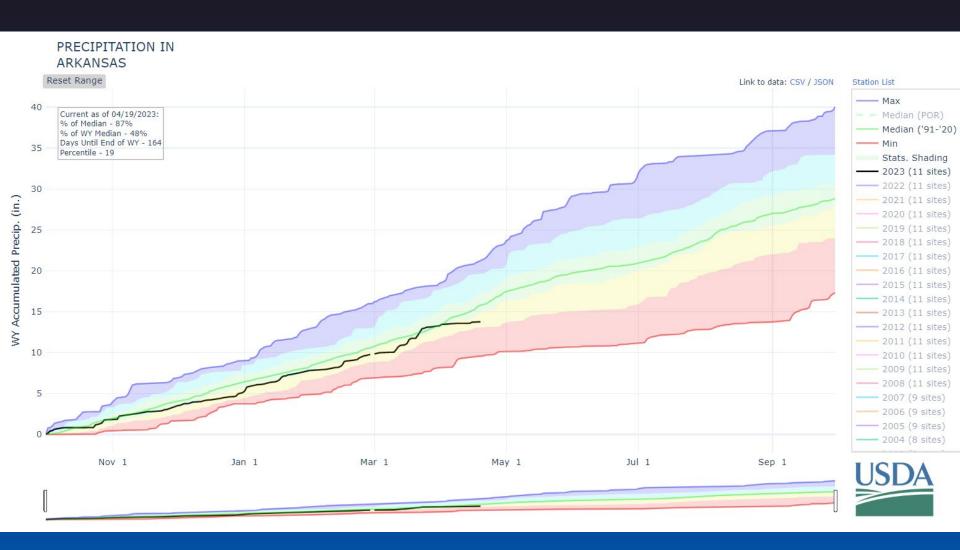




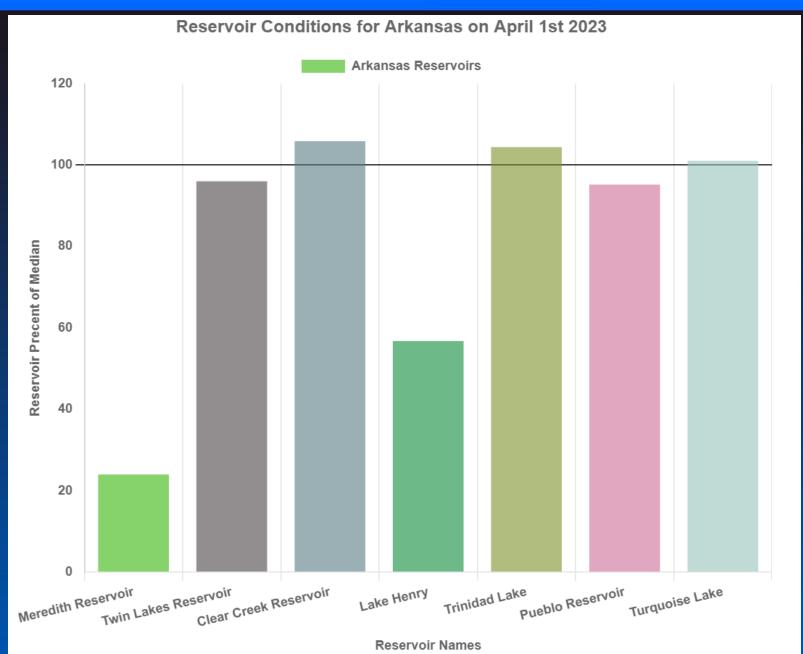






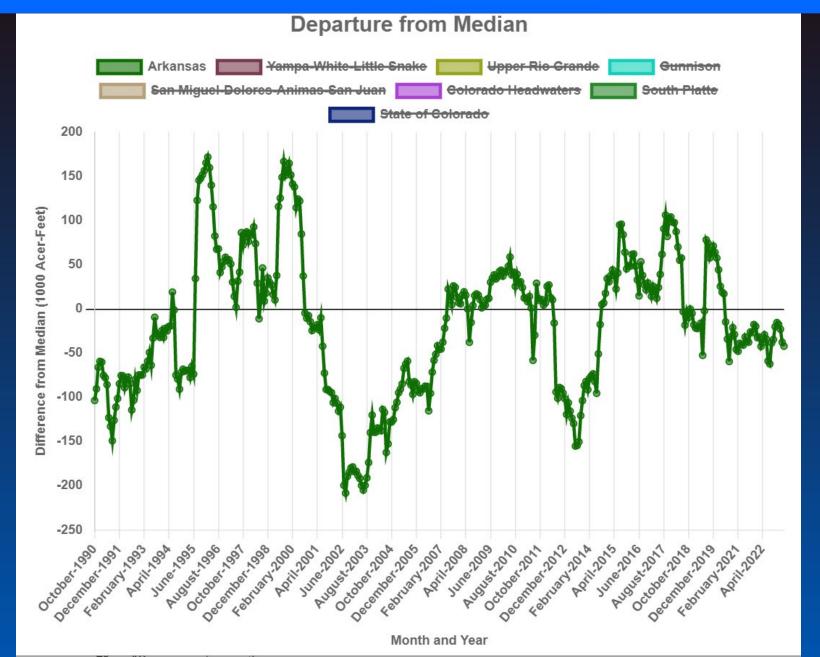




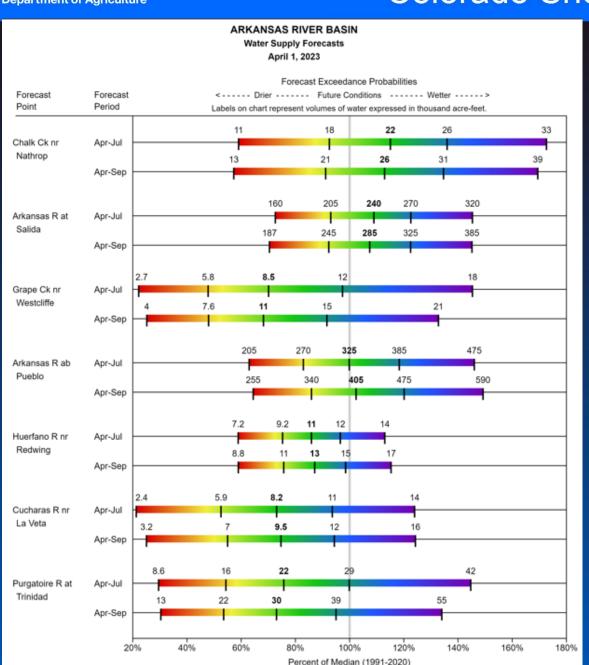






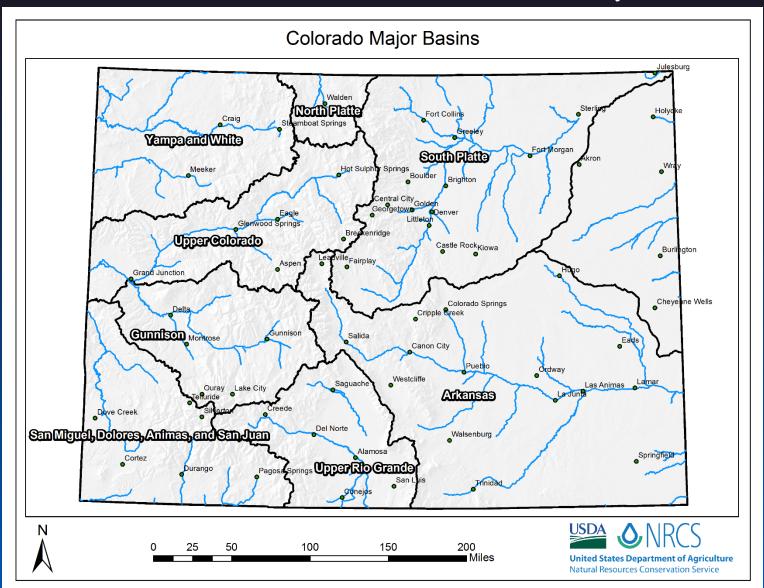


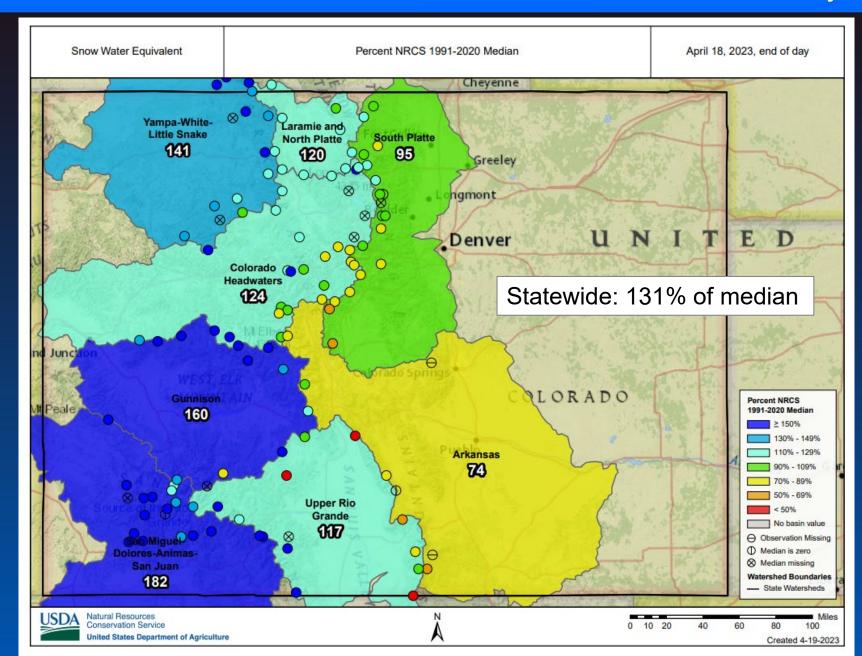


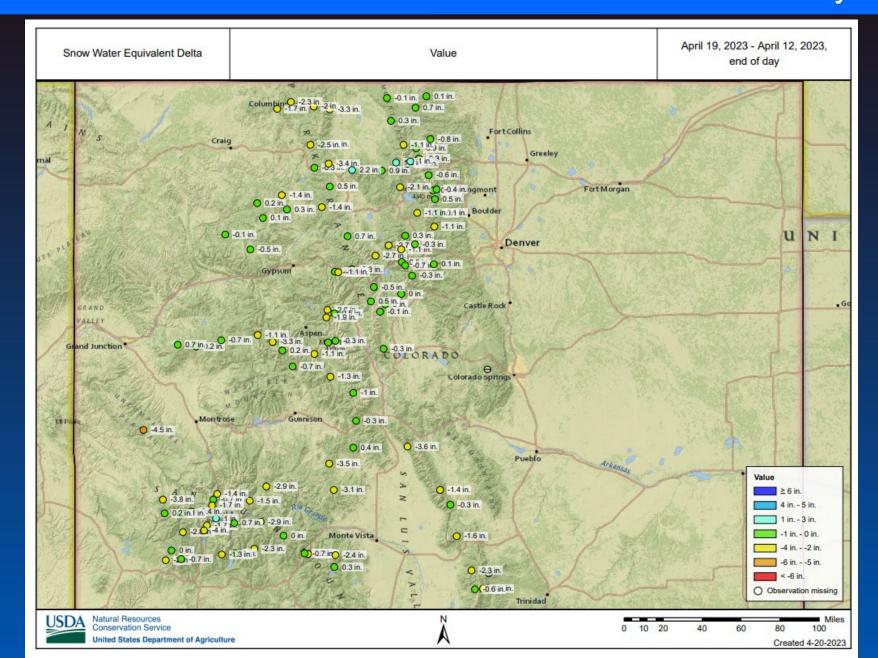




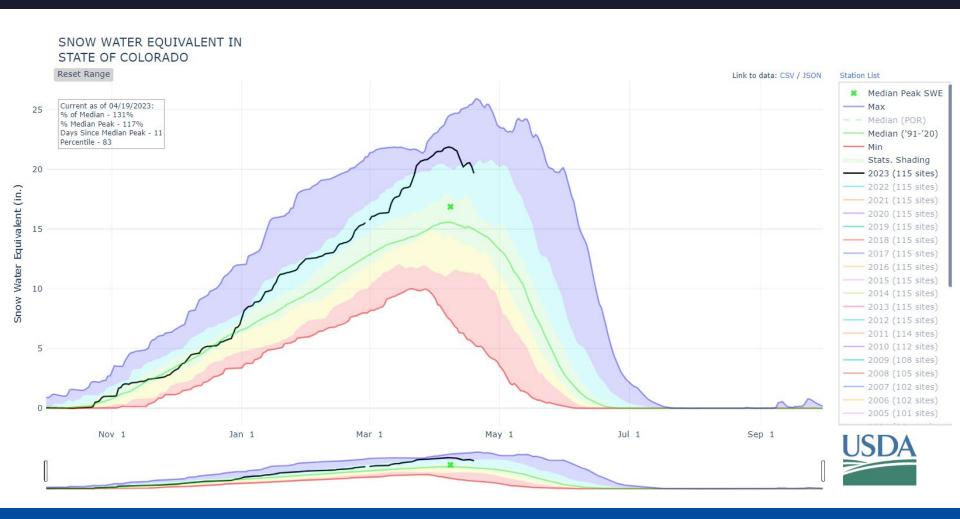
Colorado Statewide Summary

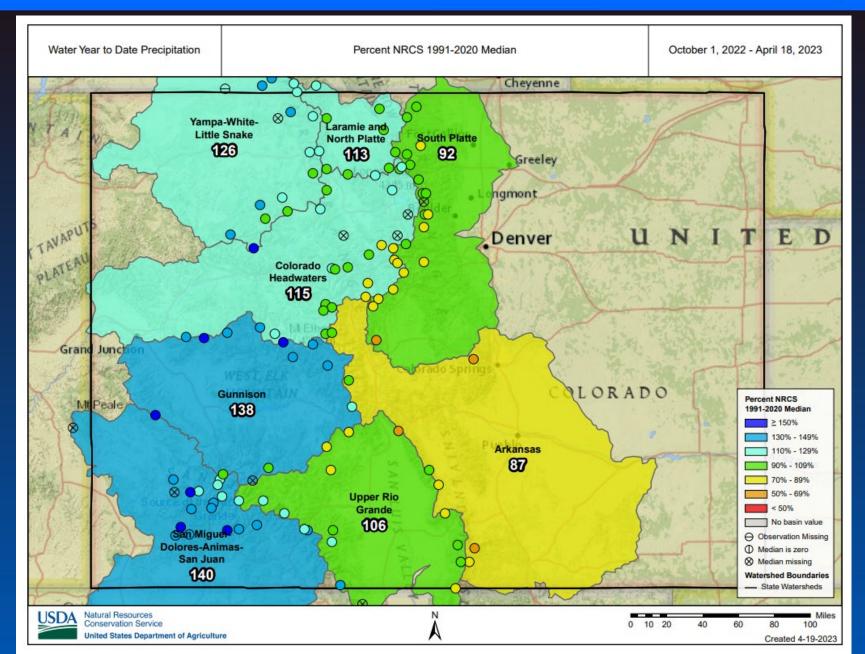


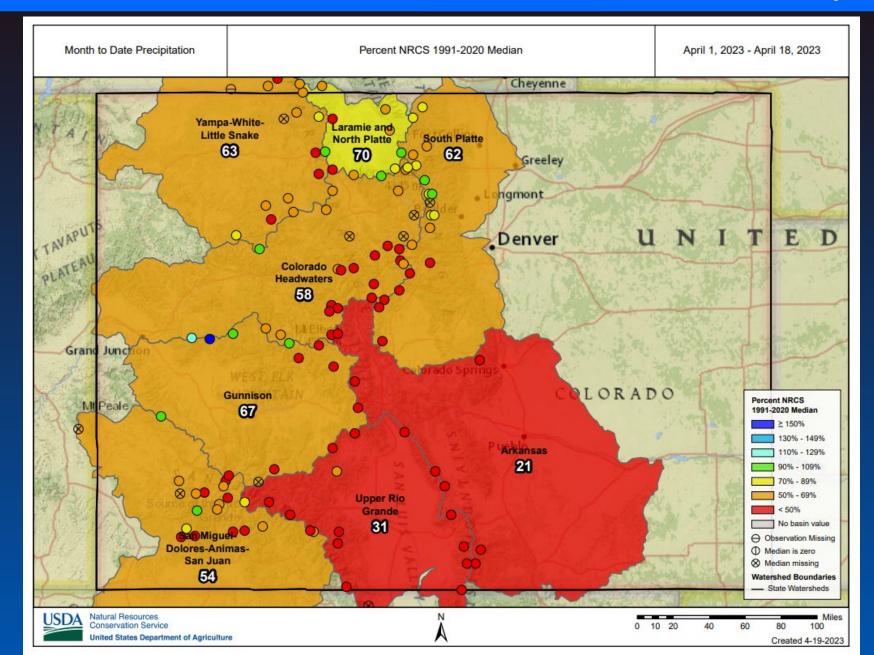




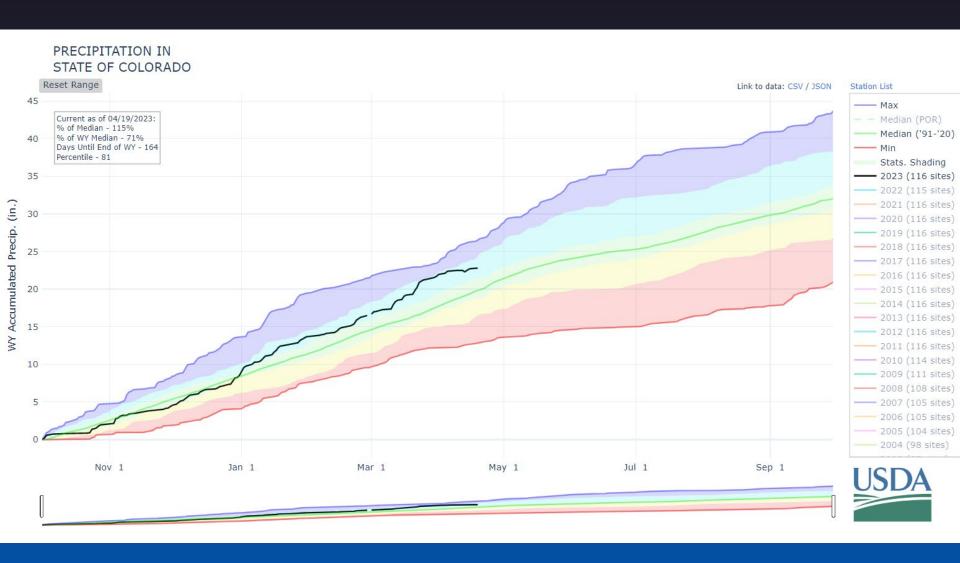


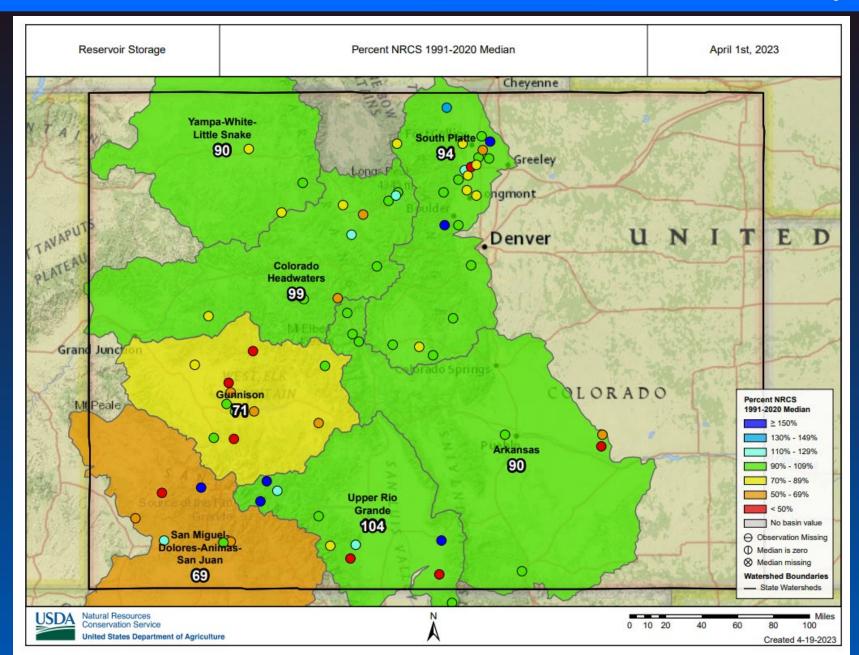




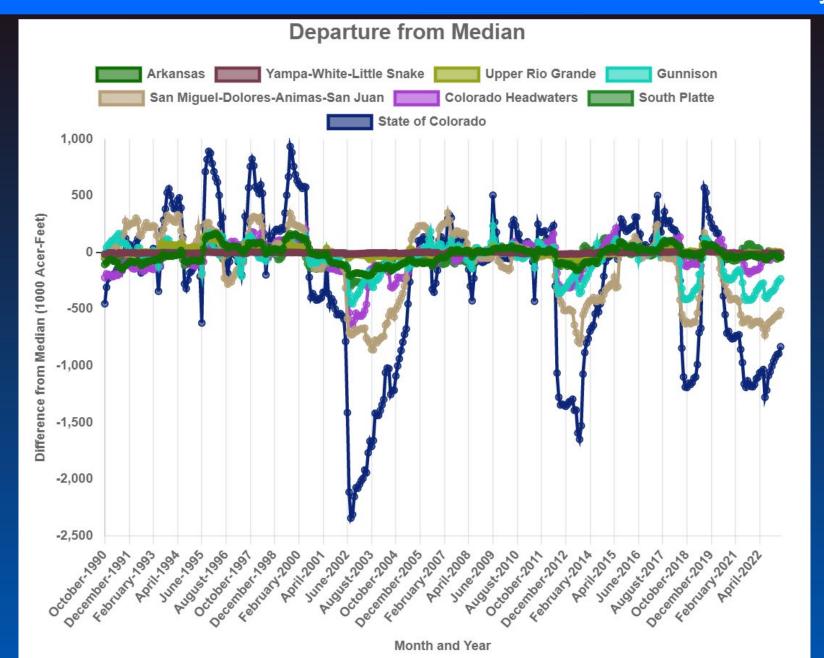


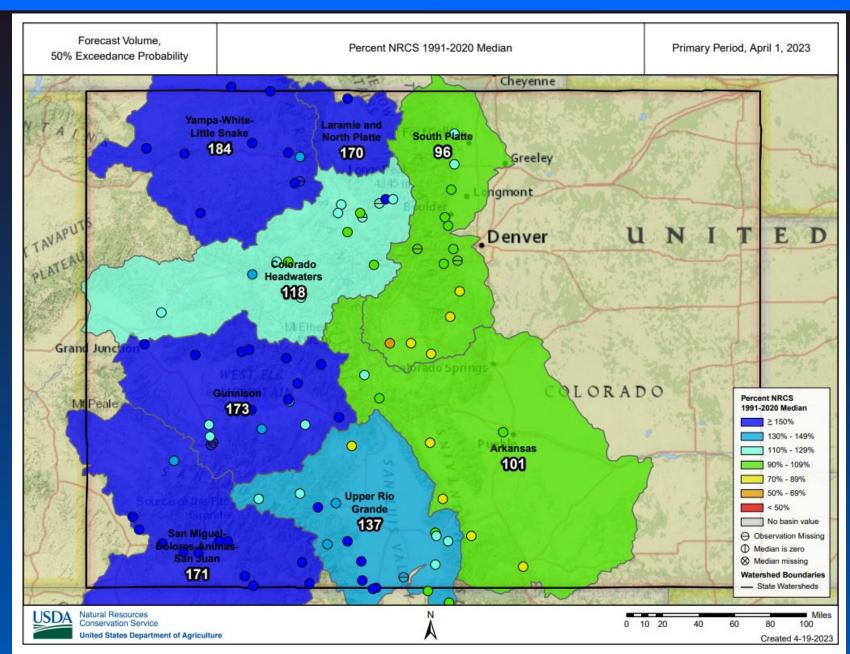


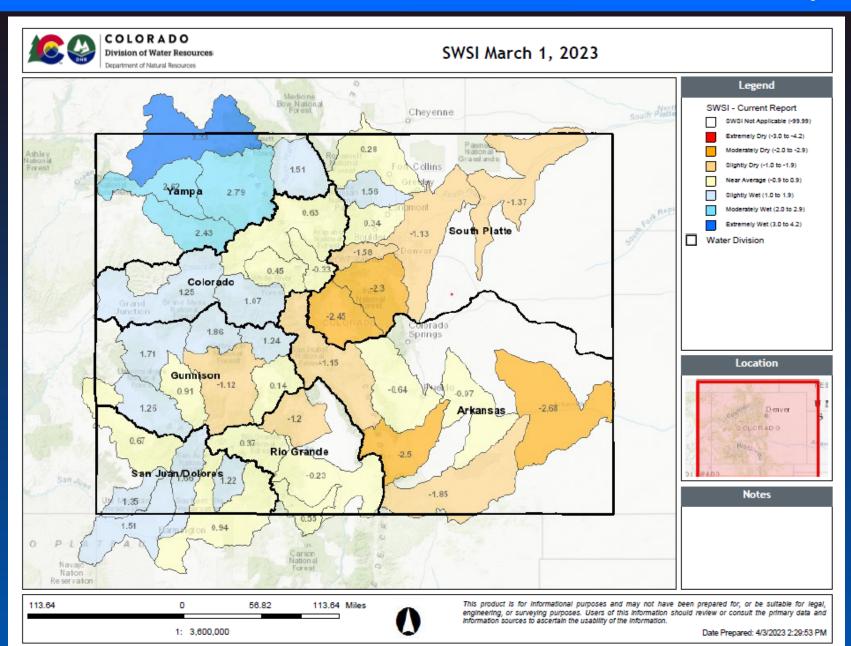


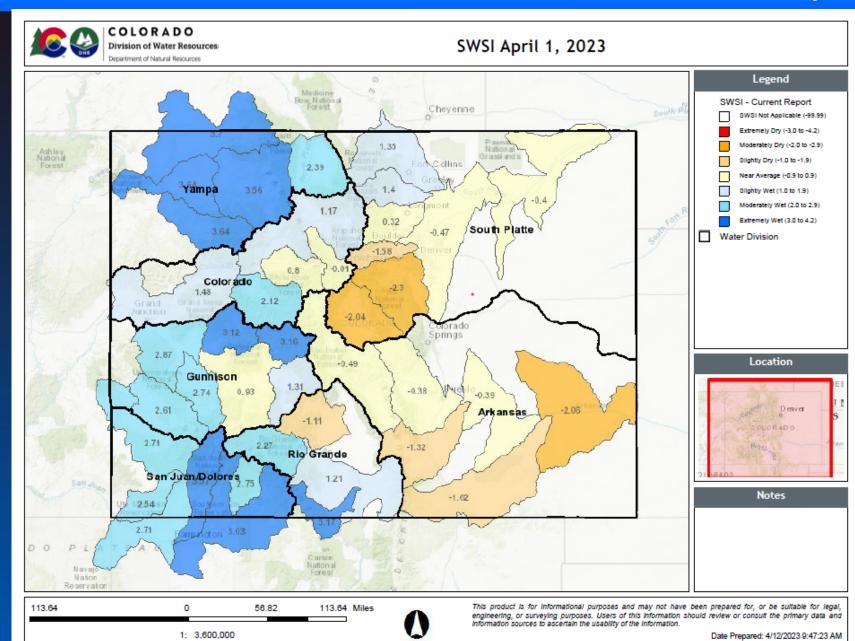














Summary

- •Net snowmelt has started to occur in all major basins of Colorado as measured by SNOTEL.
 - This references the average of all sites in a basin not necessarily every individual site
- •All basins west of the Continental Divide as well as the Rio Grande and North Platte are holding well above normal snowpacks.
 - The combined basins of Southwest Colorado reached near record peak snowpack.
 - Snowpack is the lowest in the Arkansas and South Platte basins with a high level of variability between sub-basins
- •April 1st Streamflow Forecasts increased significantly over the previous month and particularly on the Western Slope.
 - Early signs of snowmelt runoff have already been observed in many basins. In some cases already having high volume spikes.
- •Reservoir storage remains highly variable across Colorado with the Gunnison and combined Southwest Basins holding substantially less water than any other basins.
 - The basins that are holding the lowest reservoir storage also have the most plentiful snowpack which is encouraging for replenishing storage volumes.



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