



United States Department of Agriculture

Colorado Snow Surveys

Water Conditions Monitoring Committee Meeting

May 21st, 2024

NRCS Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecasting
Program

Brian Domonkos

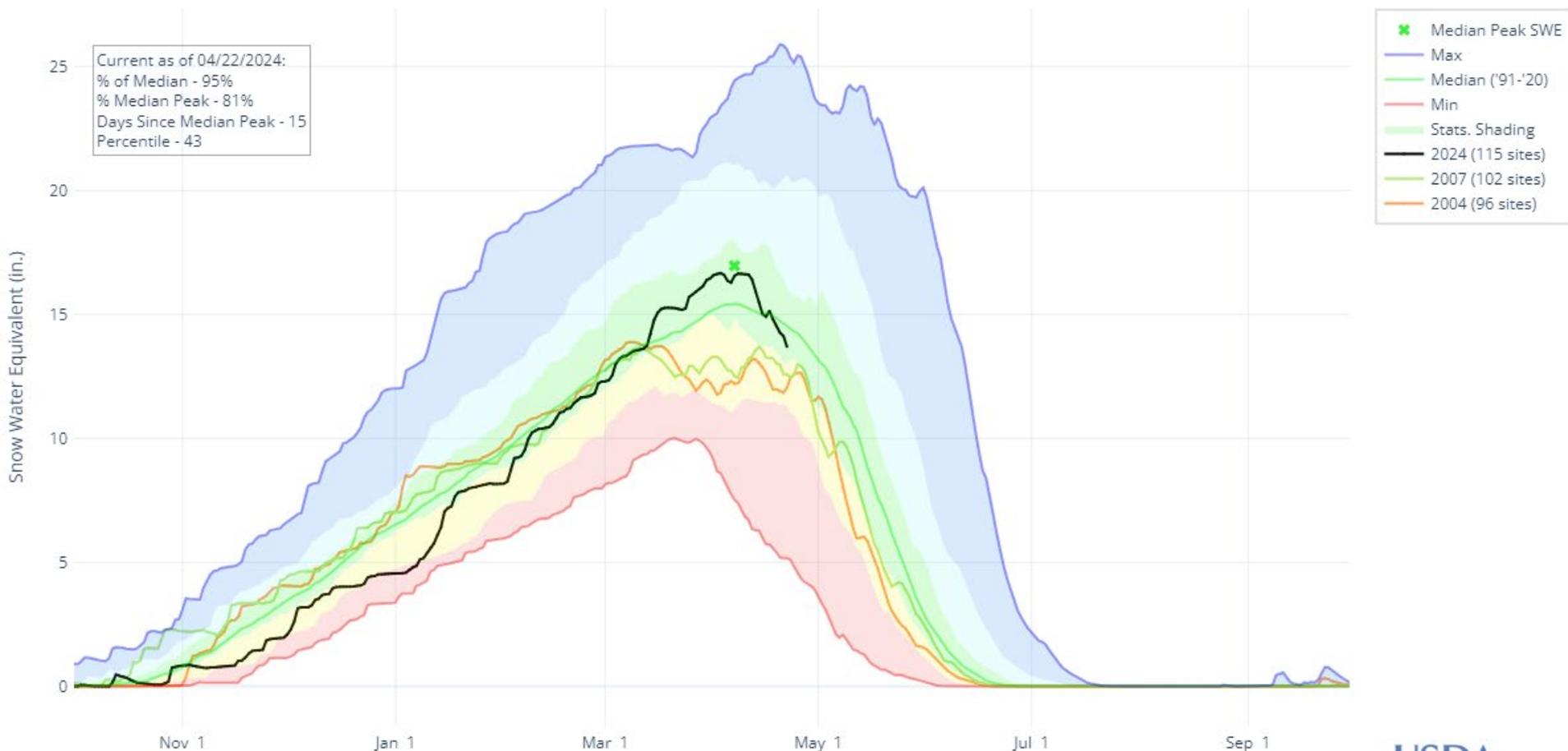
Hydrologist

Brian.Domonkos@usda.gov

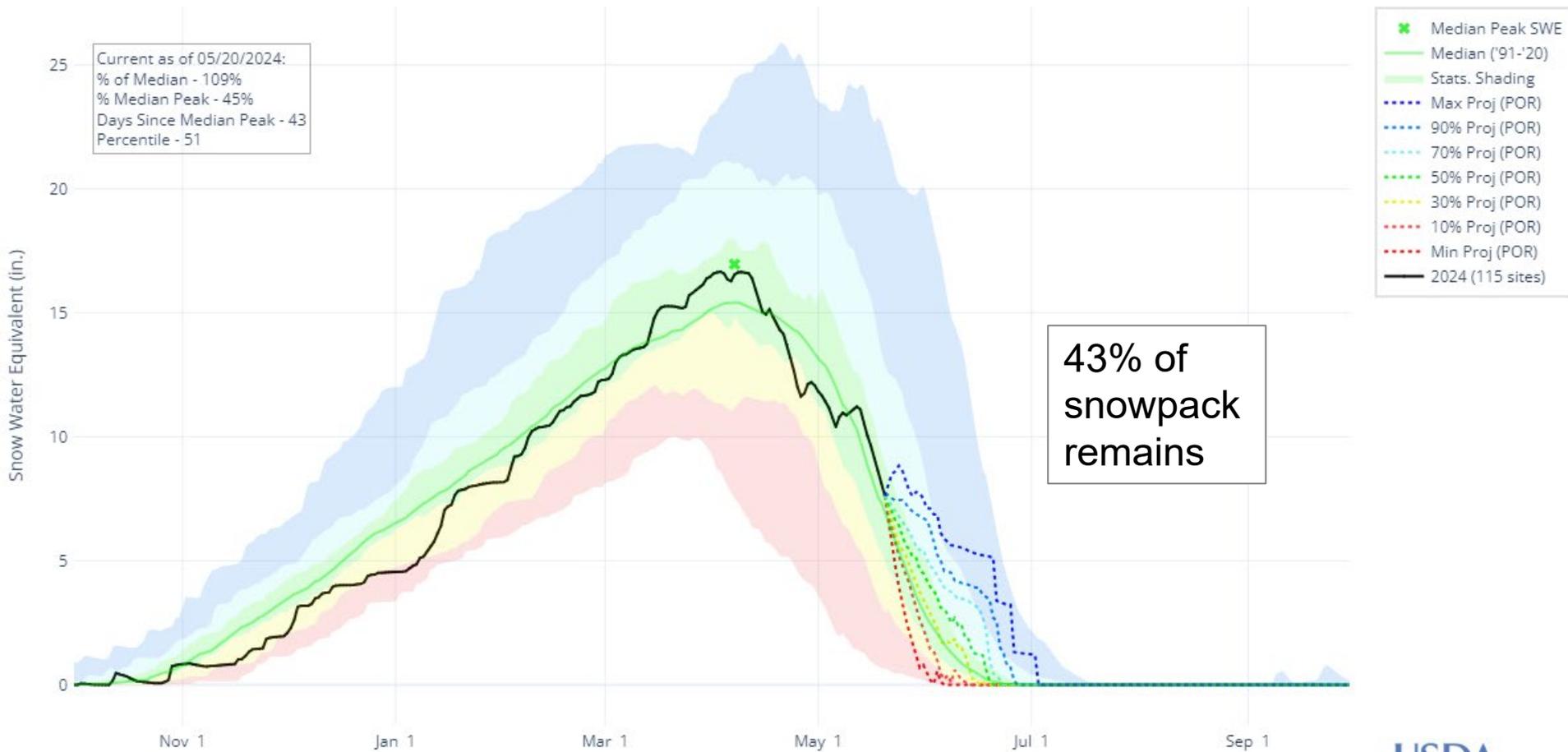
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<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/co/snow/>

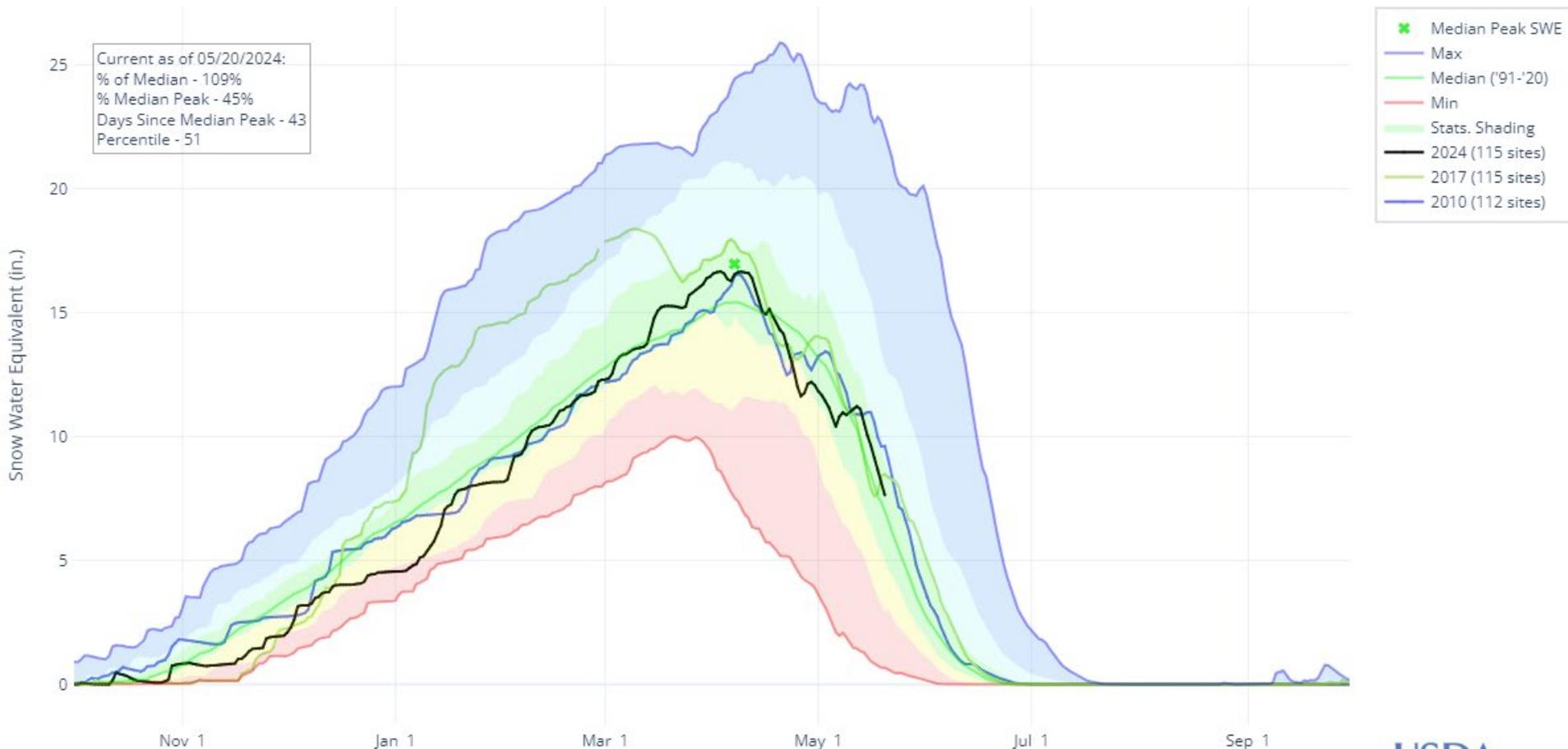
SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN STATE OF COLORADO

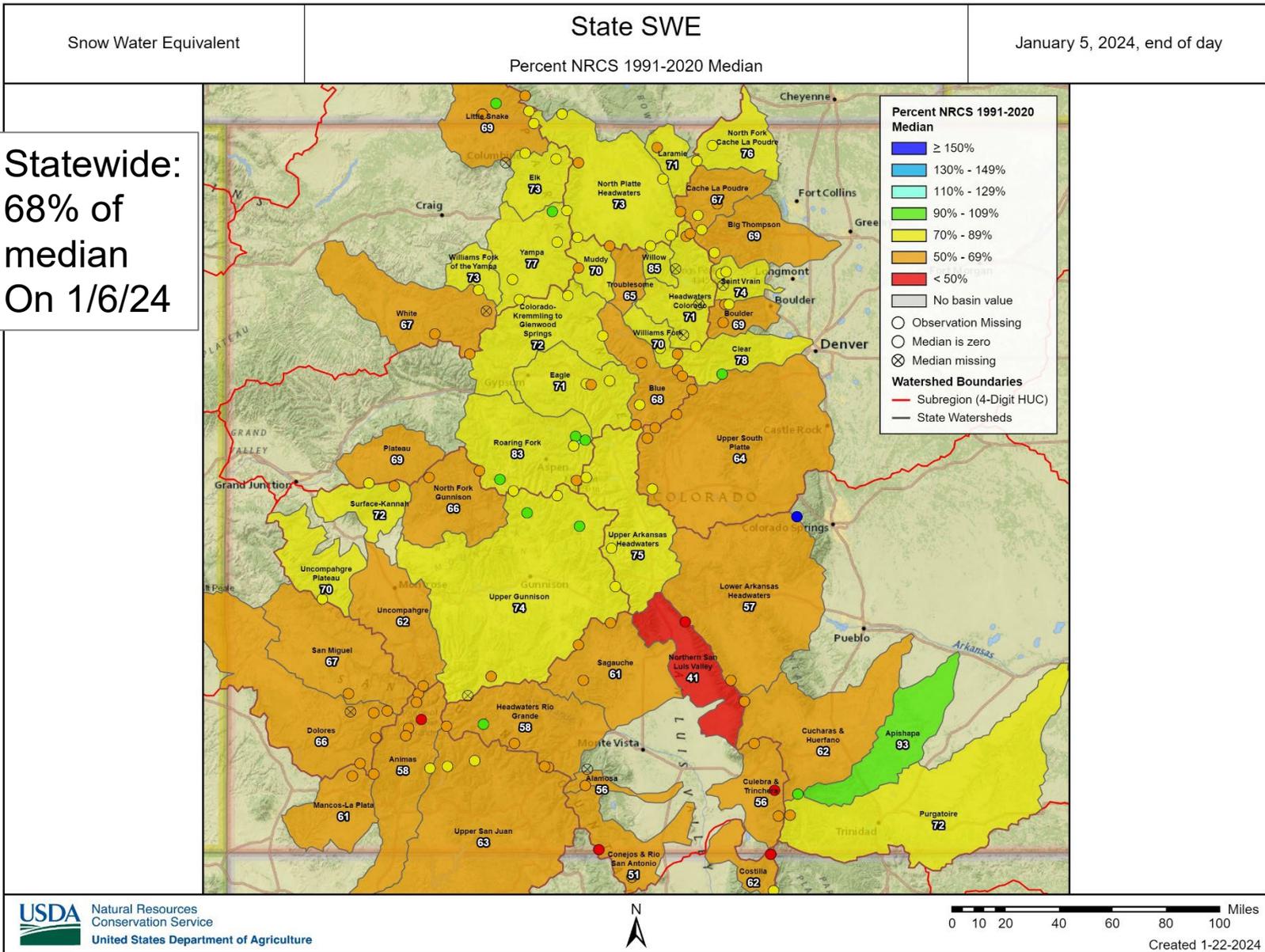


SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT PROJECTION IN STATE OF COLORADO



SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN STATE OF COLORADO

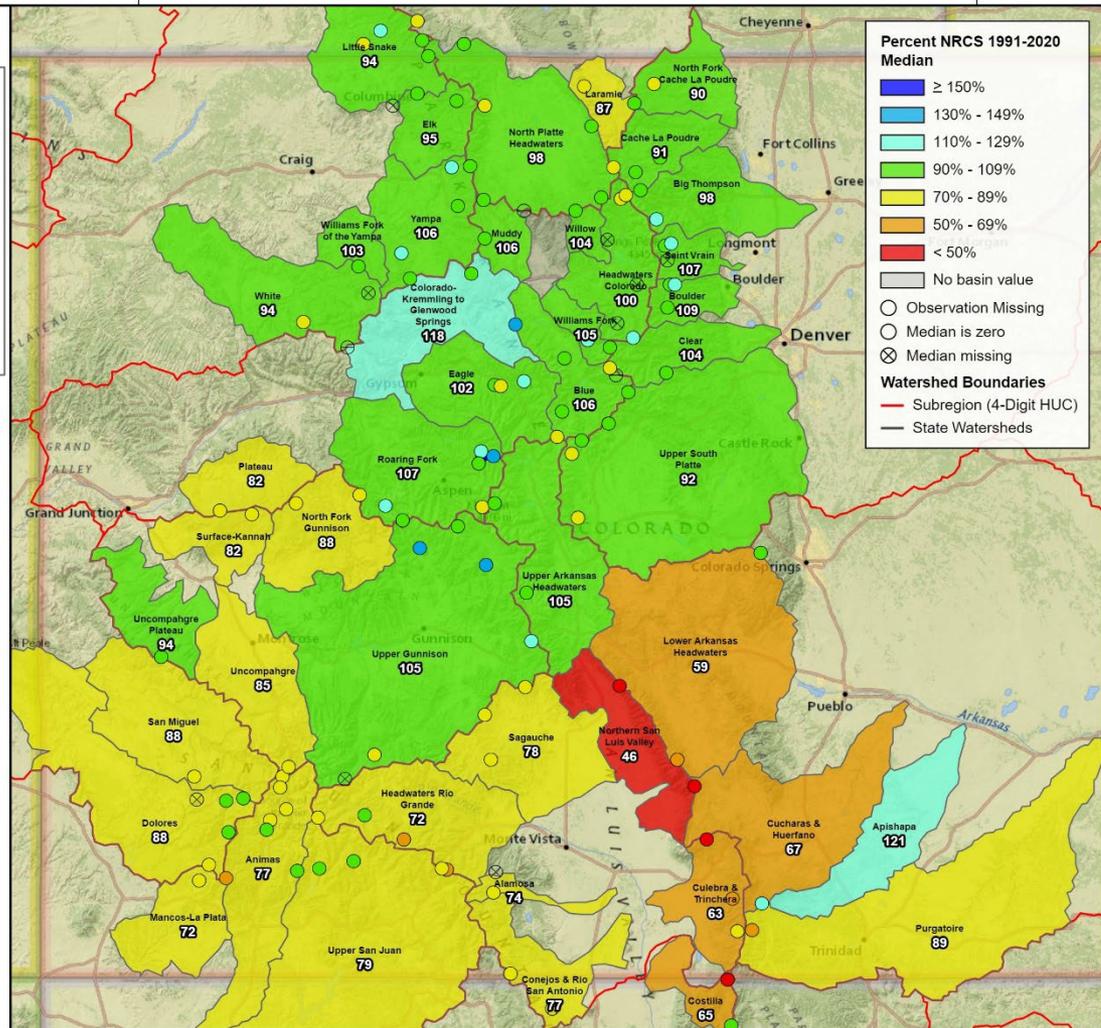






Snow Water Equivalent	State SWE Percent NRCS 1991-2020 Median	January 21, 2024, end of day
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Statewide:
92% of
median
On
1/22/24





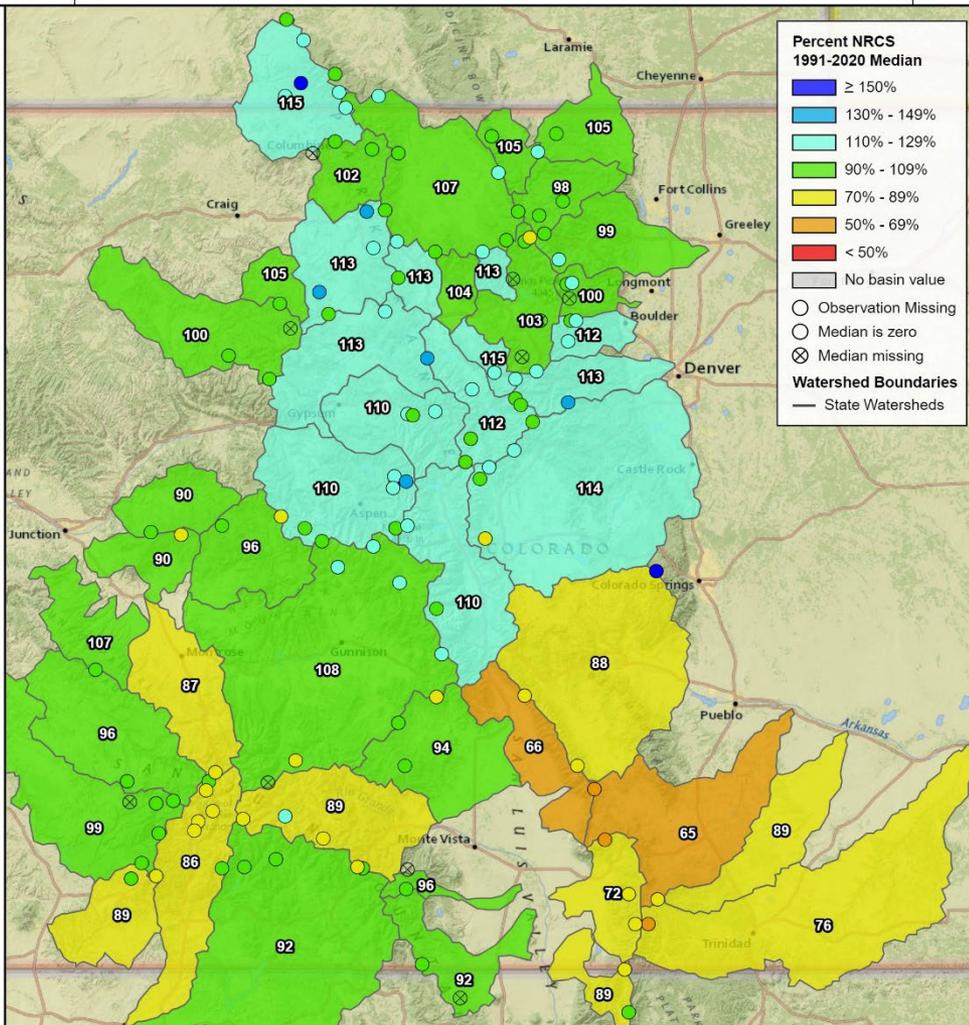
Snow Water Equivalent

Colorado SWE

March 13, 2024, end of day

Percent NRCS 1991-2020 Median

Statewide:
97% of
median
On
3/14/24





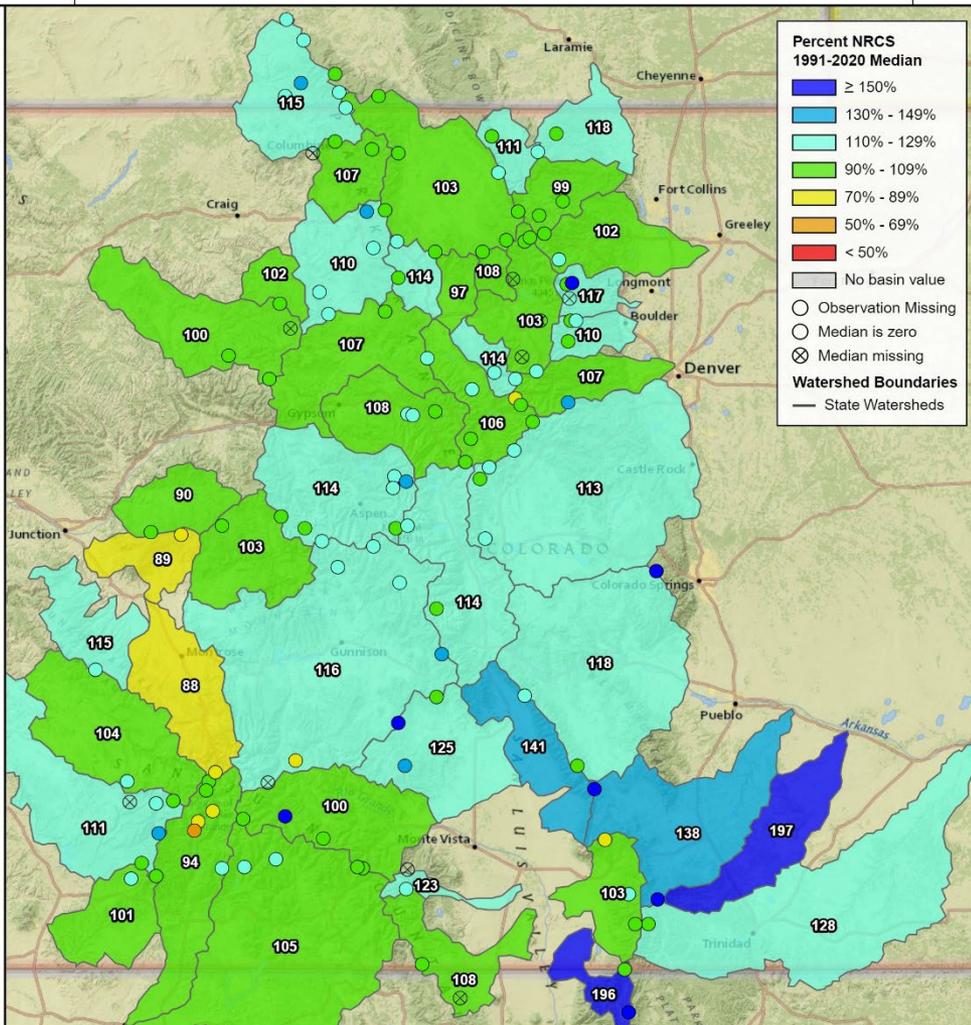
Snow Water Equivalent

Colorado SWE

April 3, 2024, end of day

Percent NRCS 1991-2020 Median

Statewide:
107% of
median
On 4/4/24



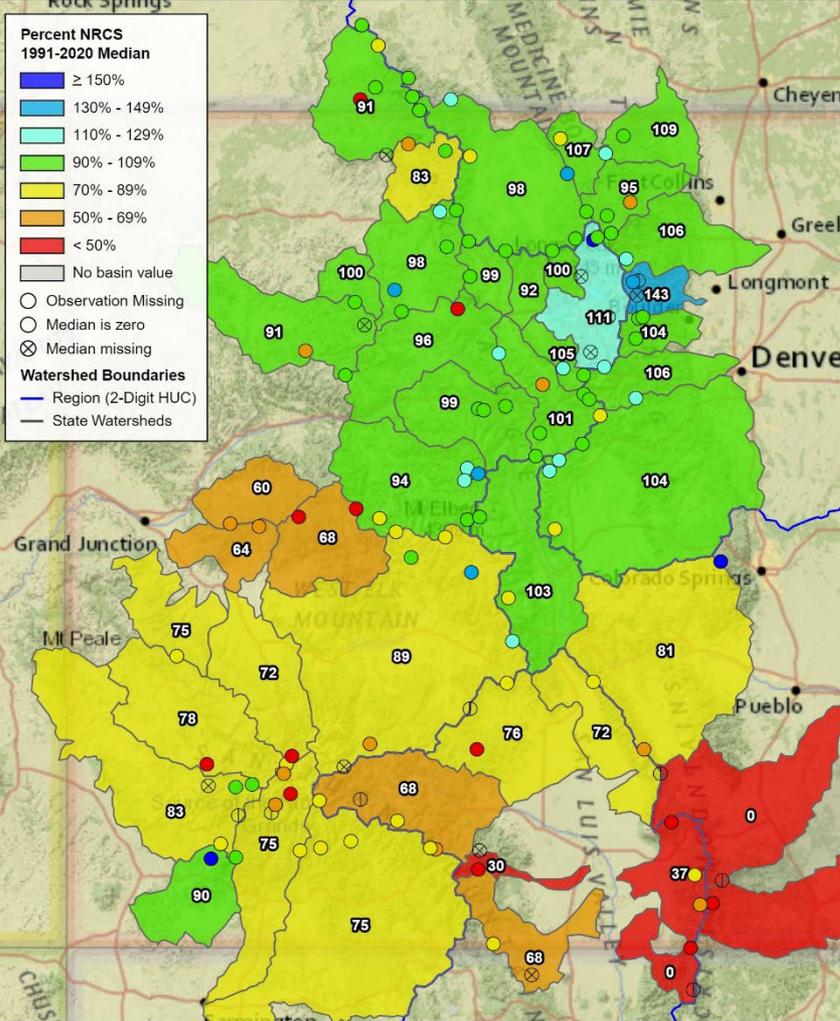
Snow Water Equivalent

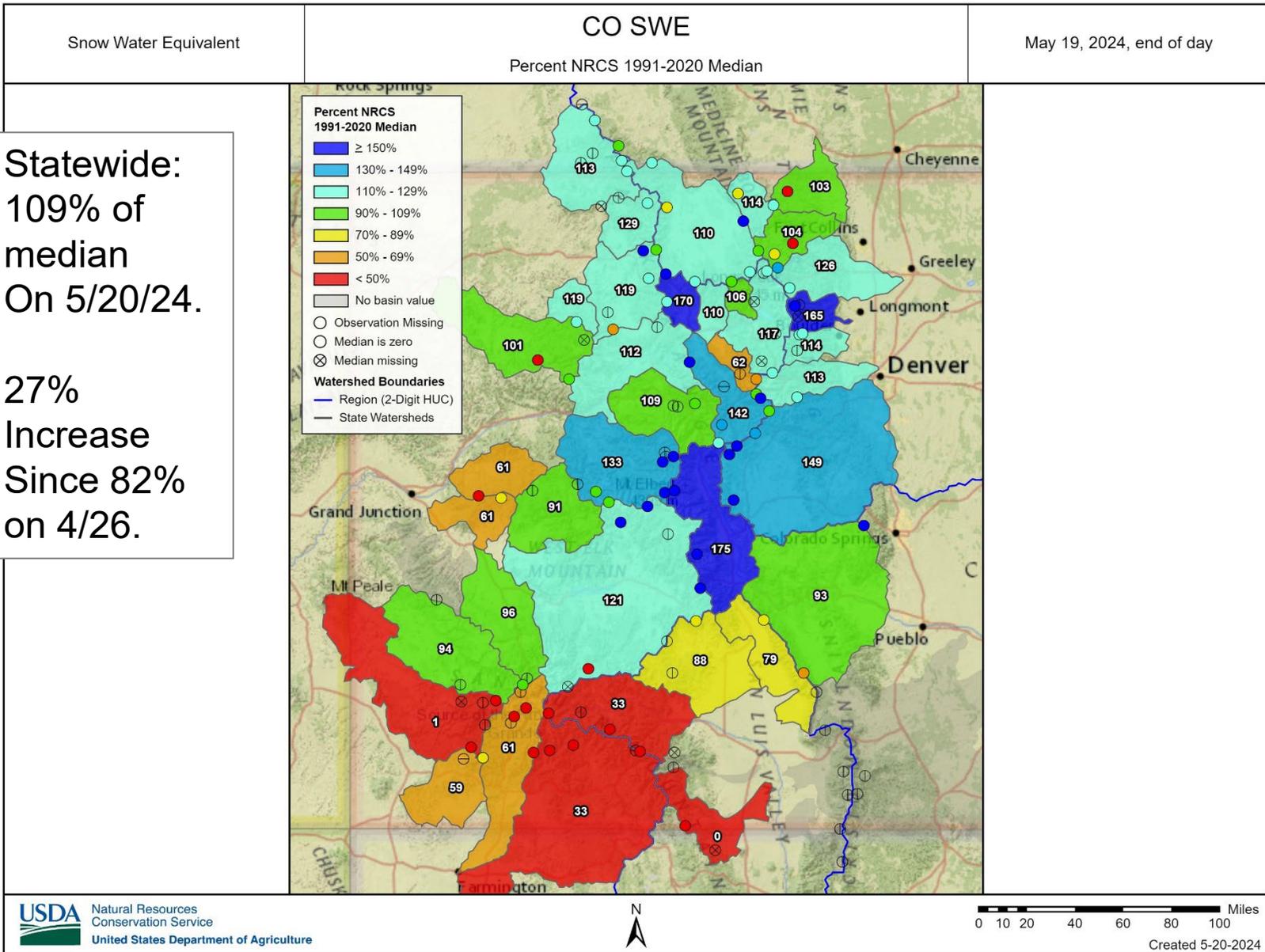
CO SWE

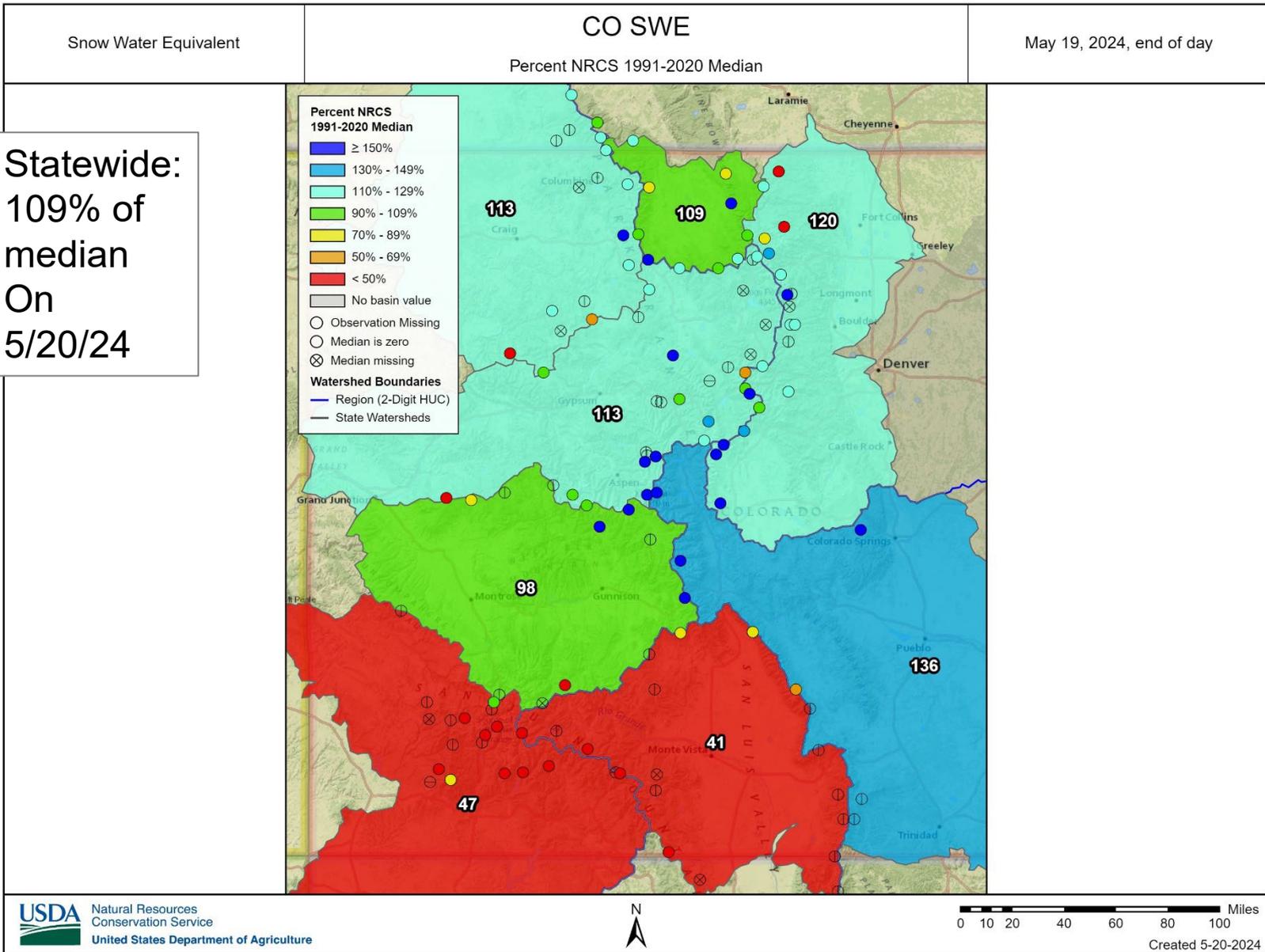
April 29, 2024, end of day

Percent NRCS 1991-2020 Median

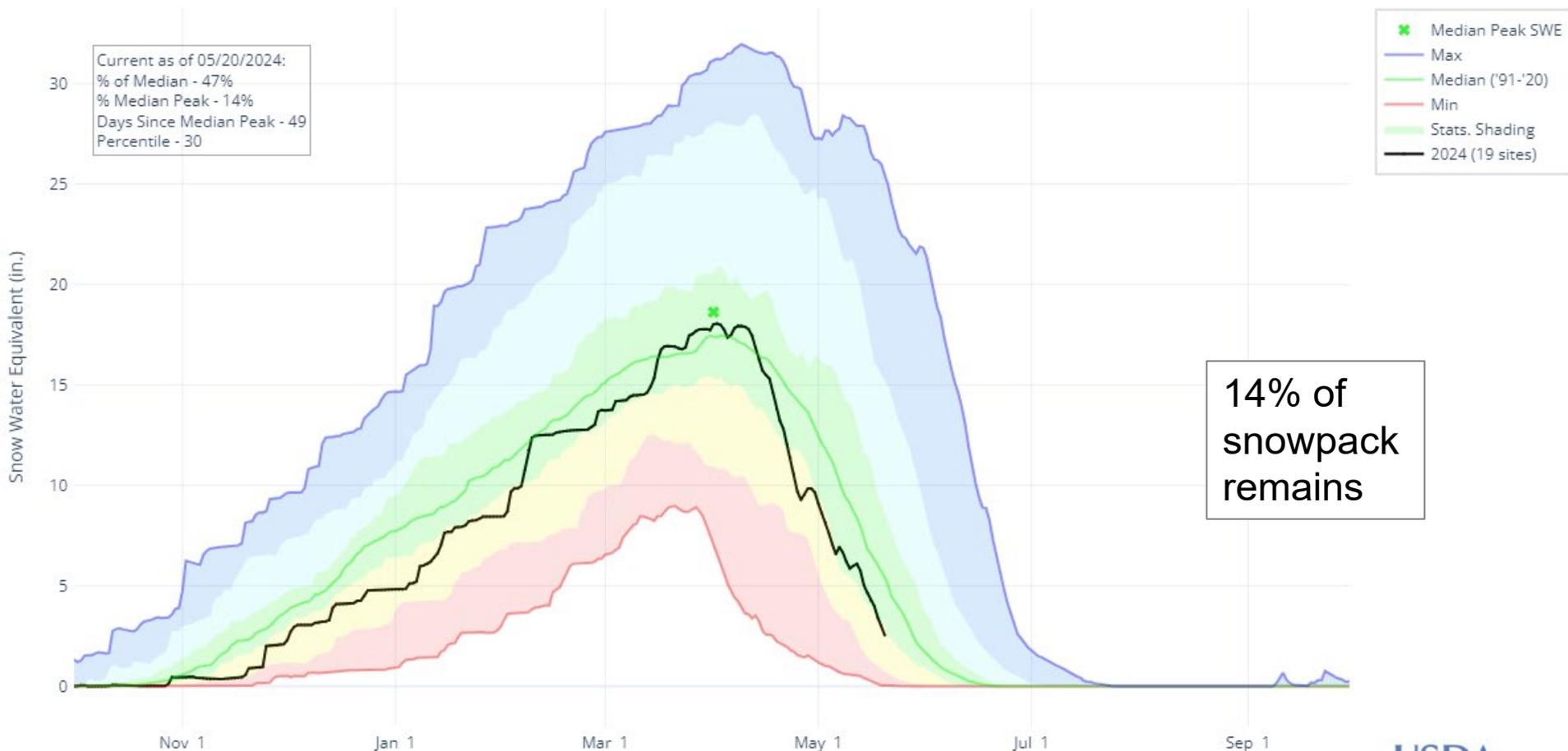
Statewide:
90% of
median
On
4/30/24



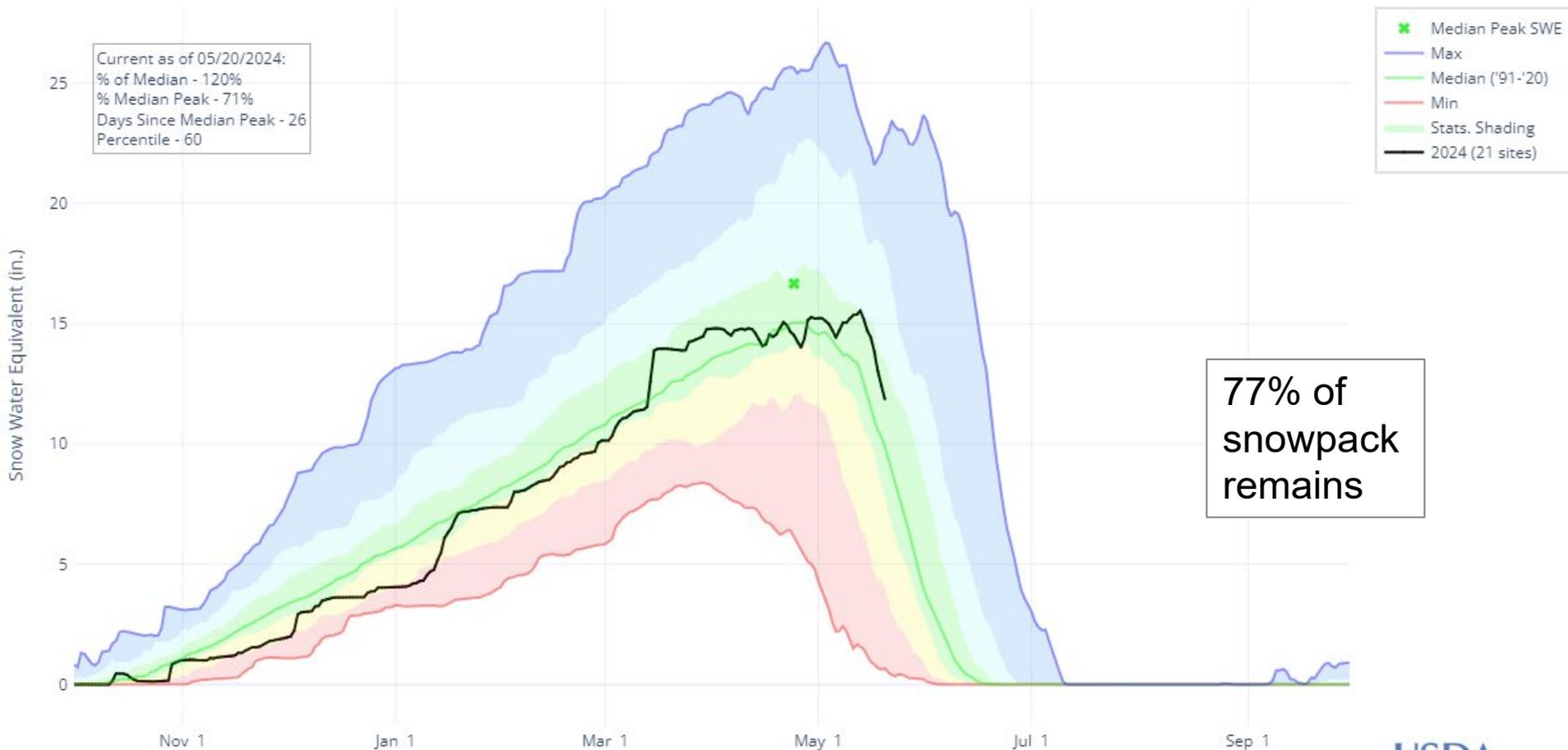




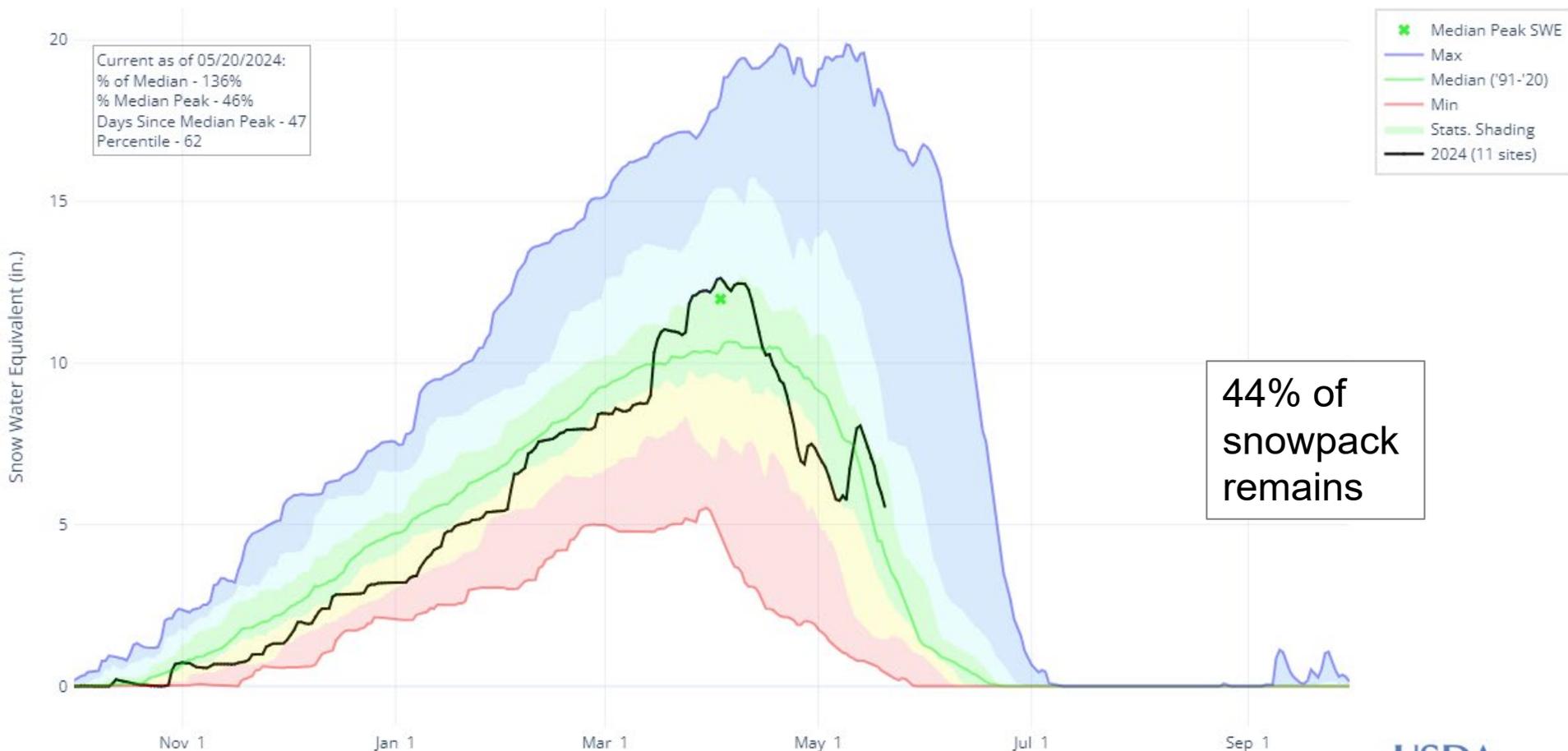
SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN SAN MIGUEL-DOLORES-ANIMAS-SAN JUAN



SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN SOUTH PLATTE



SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN ARKANSAS





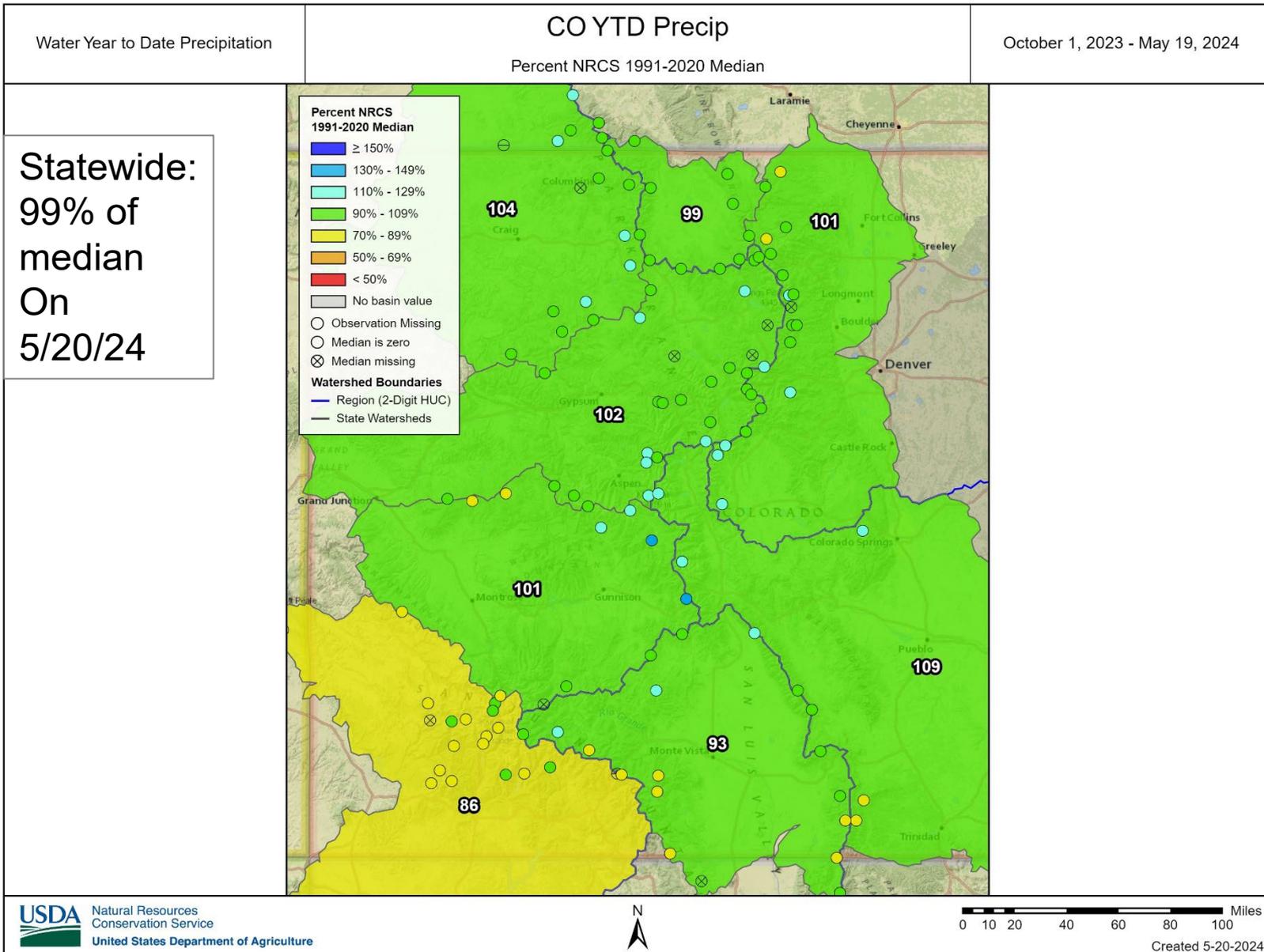
Colorado Snow Surveys

Basin	Normal Peak Date	Normal Peak SWE	Peak Date	Peak SWE	% of Norm Peak SWE	% of Norm SWE 5/20
SMDASJ	4/1	18.6	4/2	18.1	97%	47%
URG	4/2	14.5	4/3	12.9	89%	41%
Arkansas	4/3	12.0	4/3	12.6	105%	136%
Yampa-White-LS	4/7	21.3	4/6	22.0	103%	119%
Gunnison	4/8	17.9	4/10	16.3	91%	98%
Colorado Headwaters	4/12	17.5	4/11	17.1	98%	117%
NP-Laramie	4/21	24.7	4/18*	23.7*	96%	109%
S. Platte	4/24	16.7	5/13	15.5	93%	120%
Statewide	4/7	17.0	4/3	16.7	98%	109%

* = a second (lesser) peak occurred on 5/11 at 23.6 inches of SWE

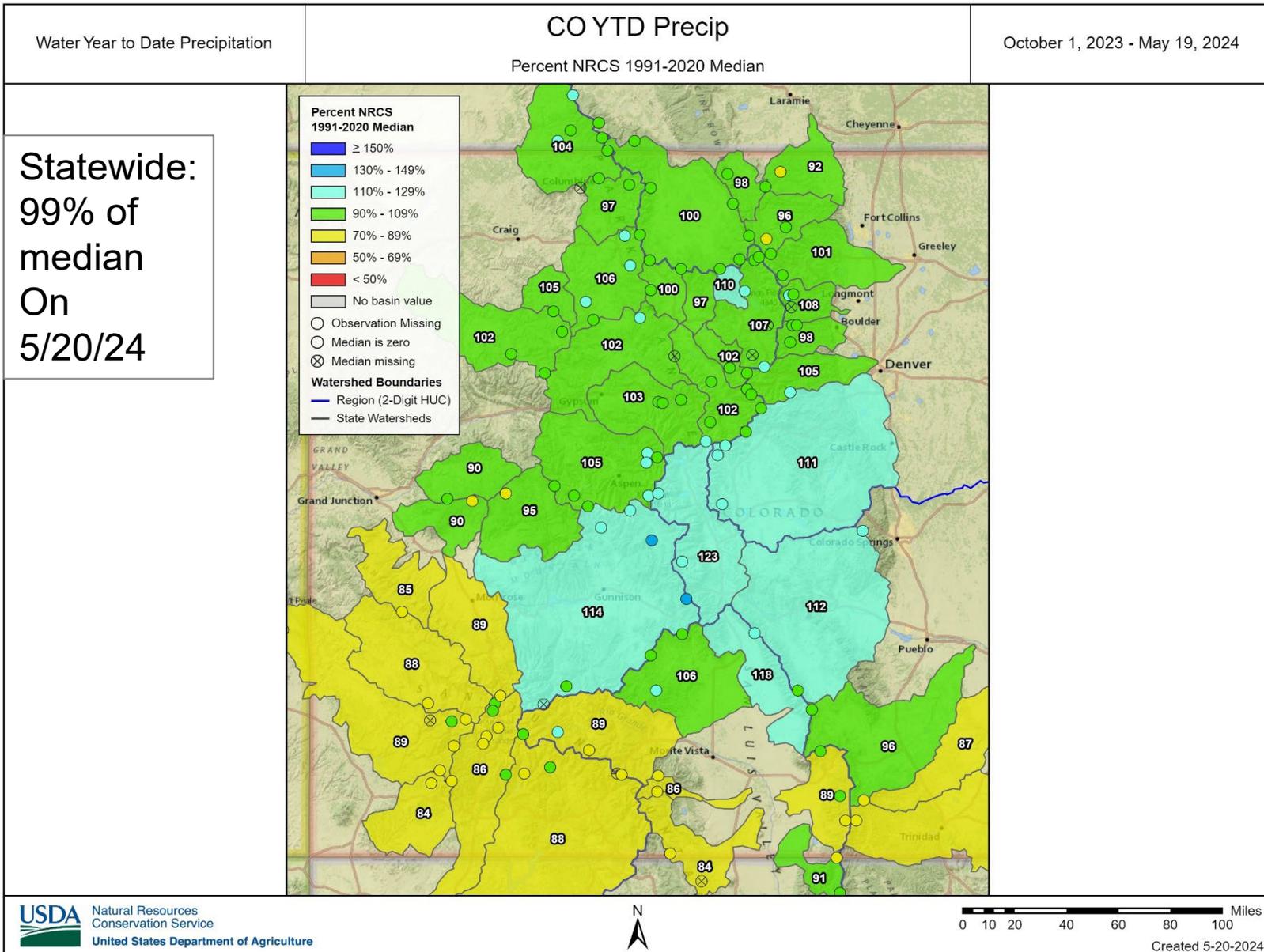
WY Precipitation

Statewide:
99% of
median
On
5/20/24

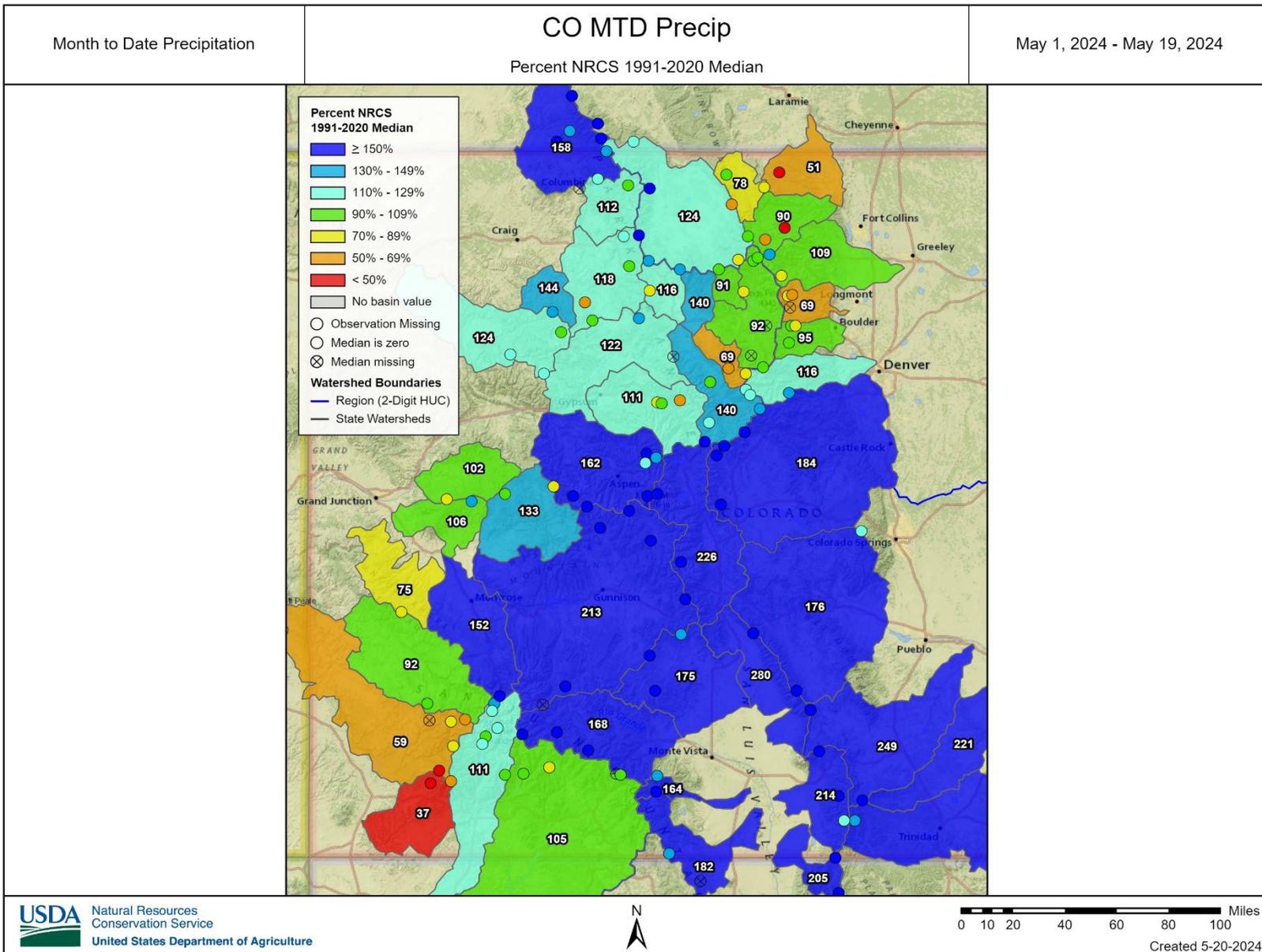


WY Precipitation

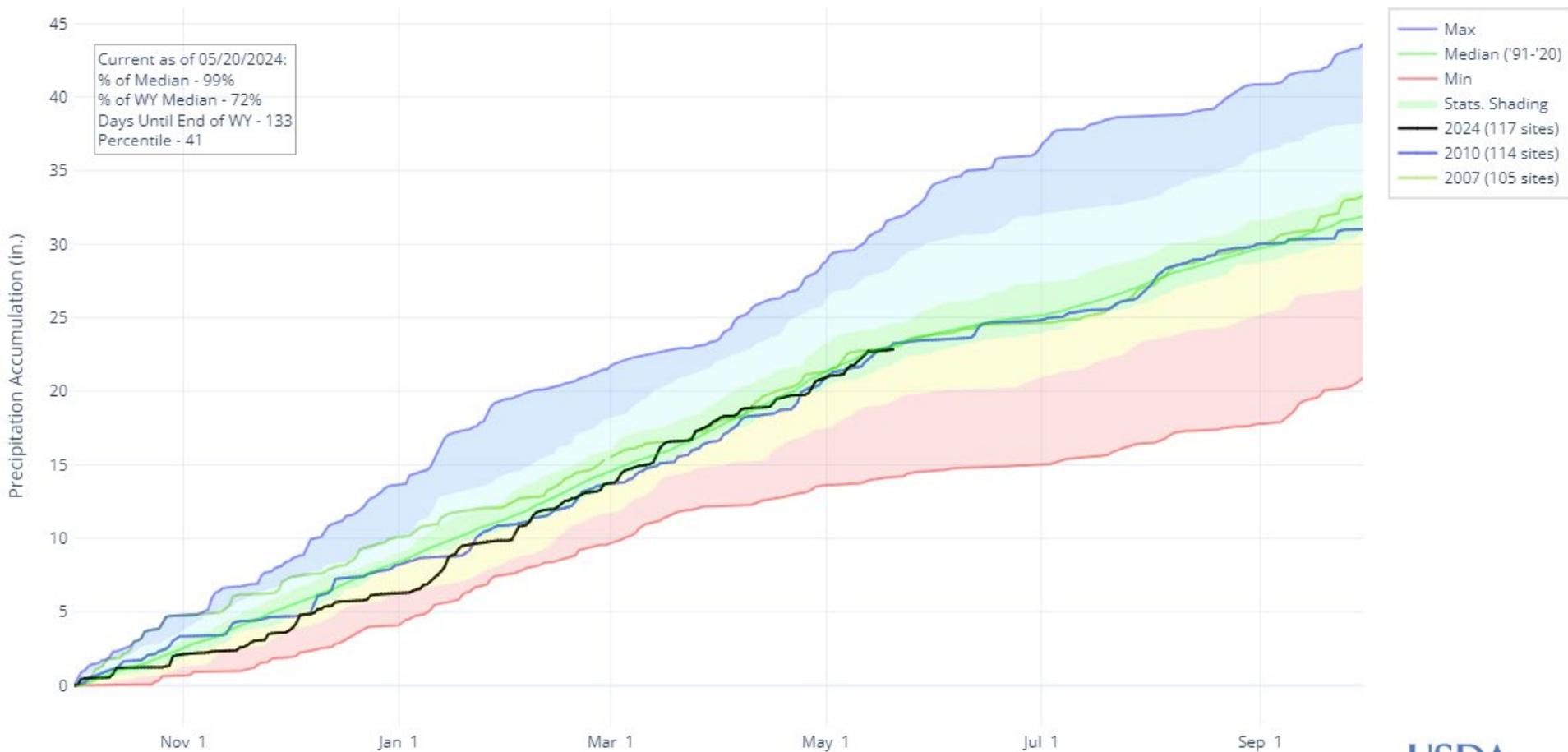
Statewide:
99% of
median
On
5/20/24



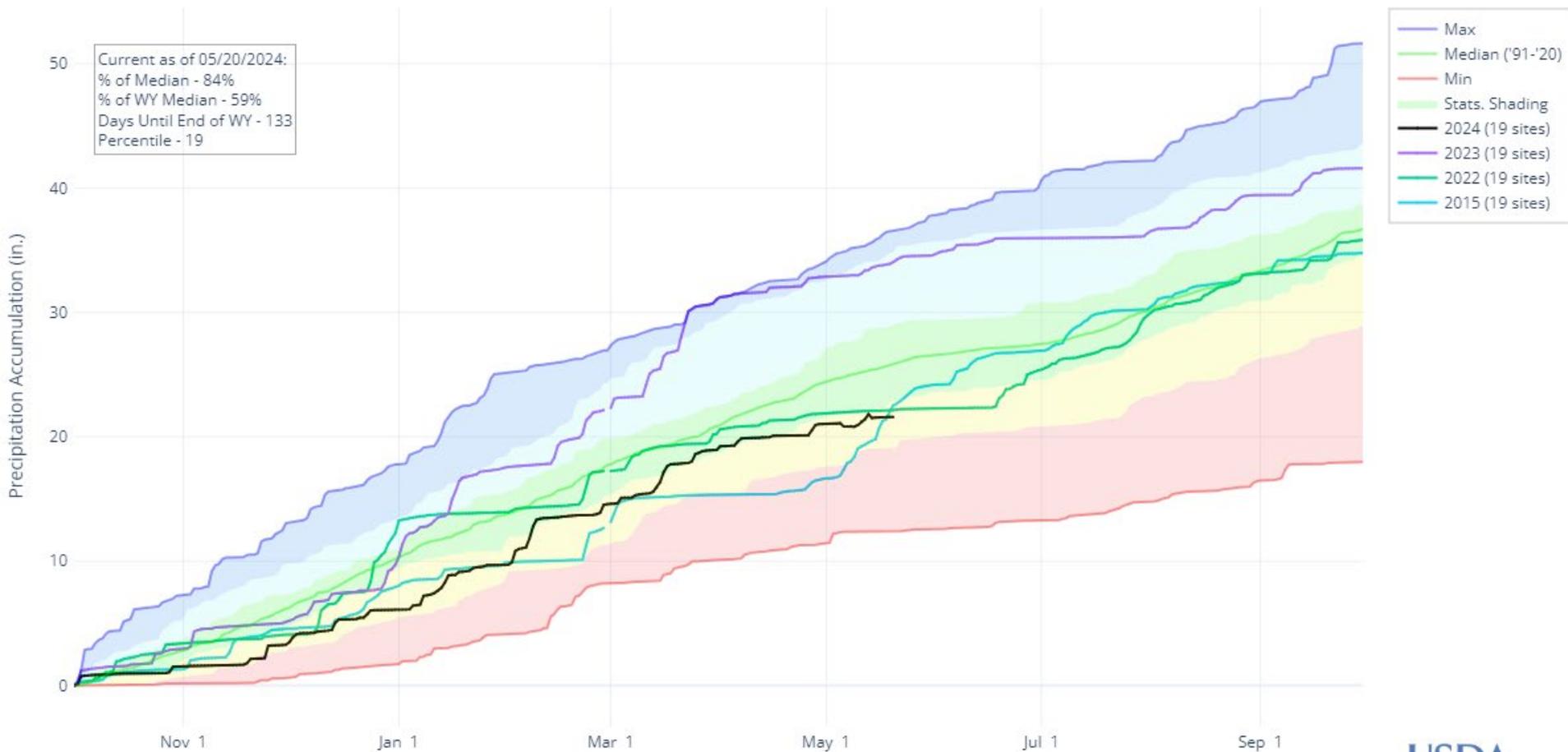
MTD Precipitation



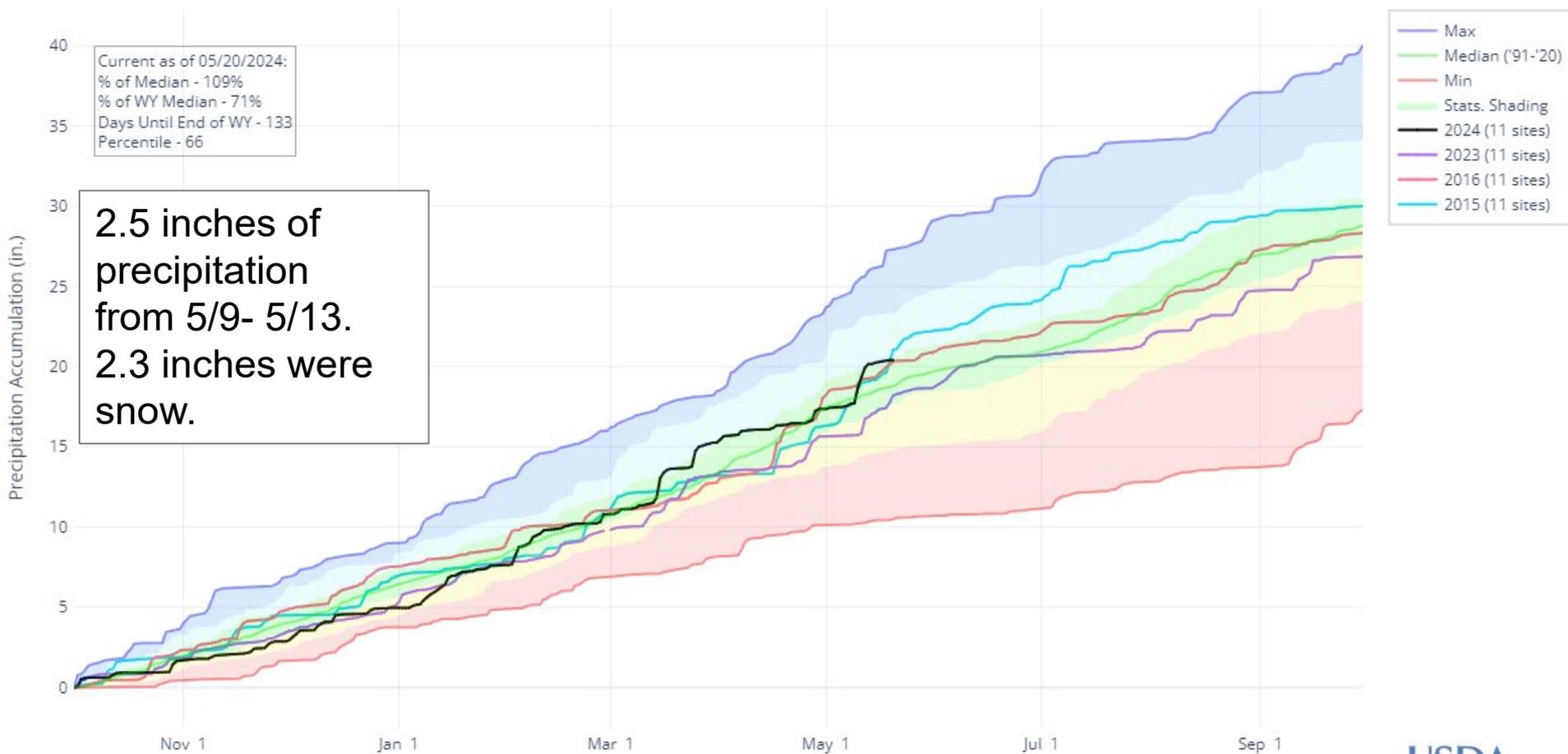
PRECIPITATION ACCUMULATION IN STATE OF COLORADO

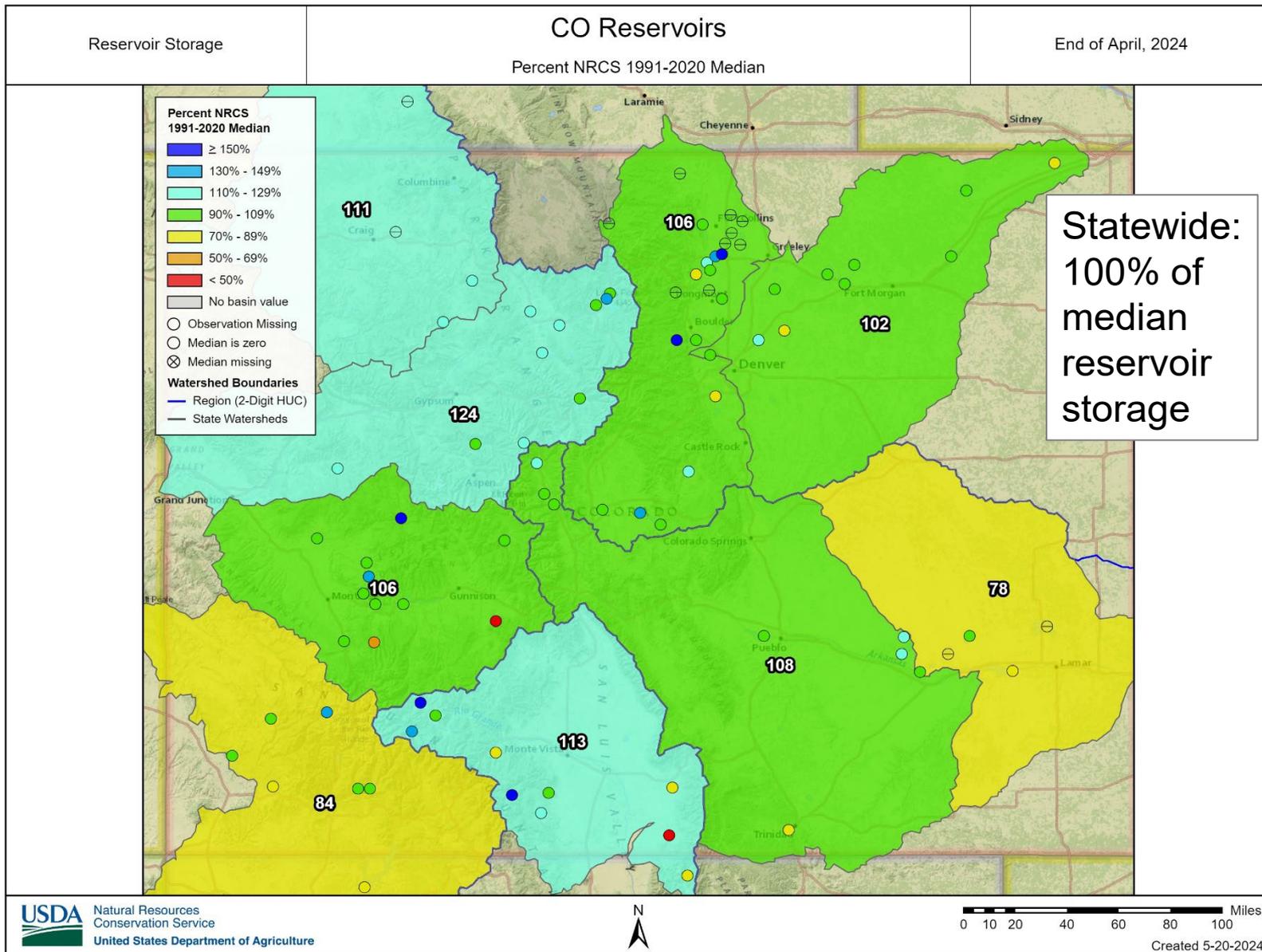


PRECIPITATION ACCUMULATION IN SAN MIGUEL-DOLORES-ANIMAS-SAN JUAN

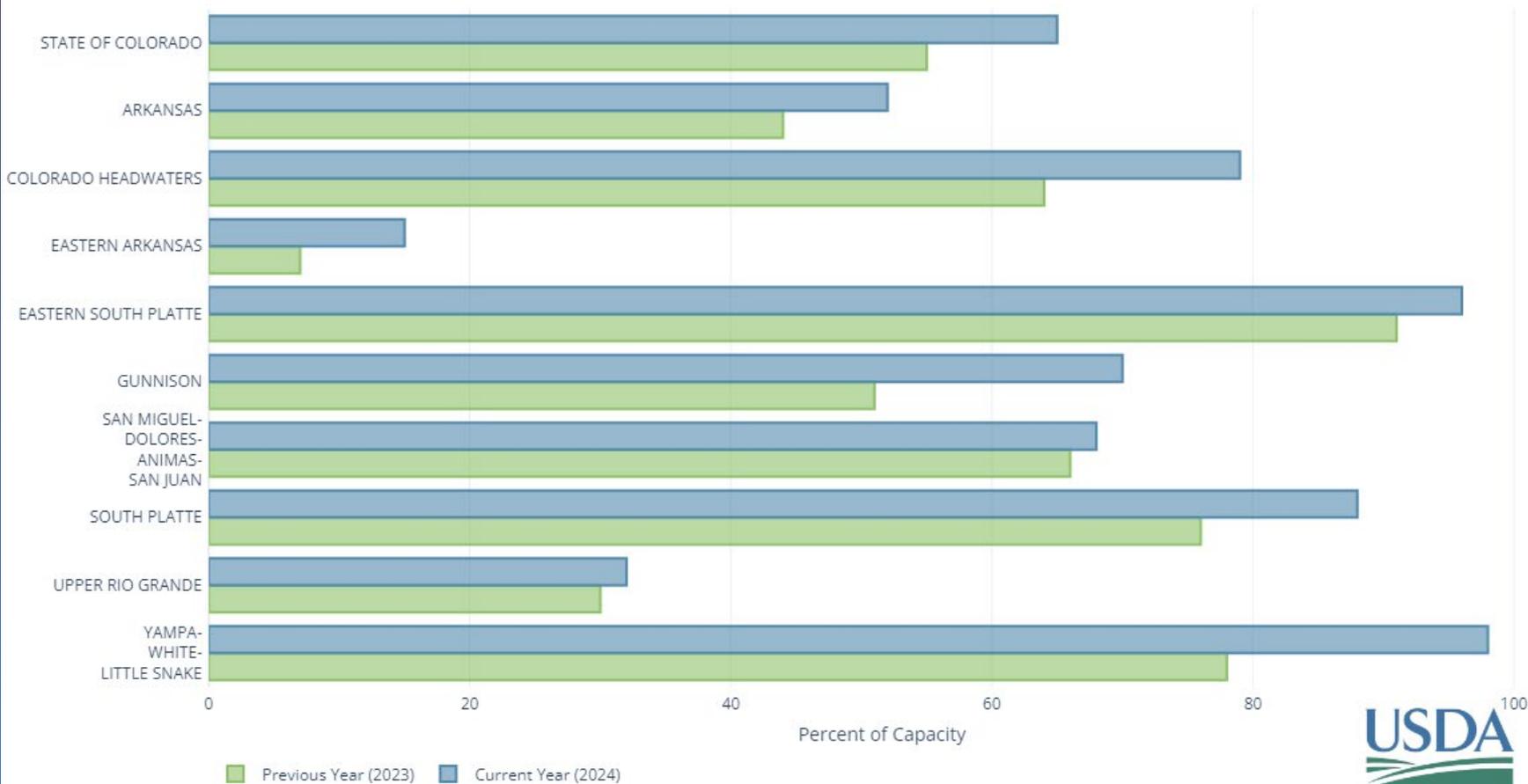


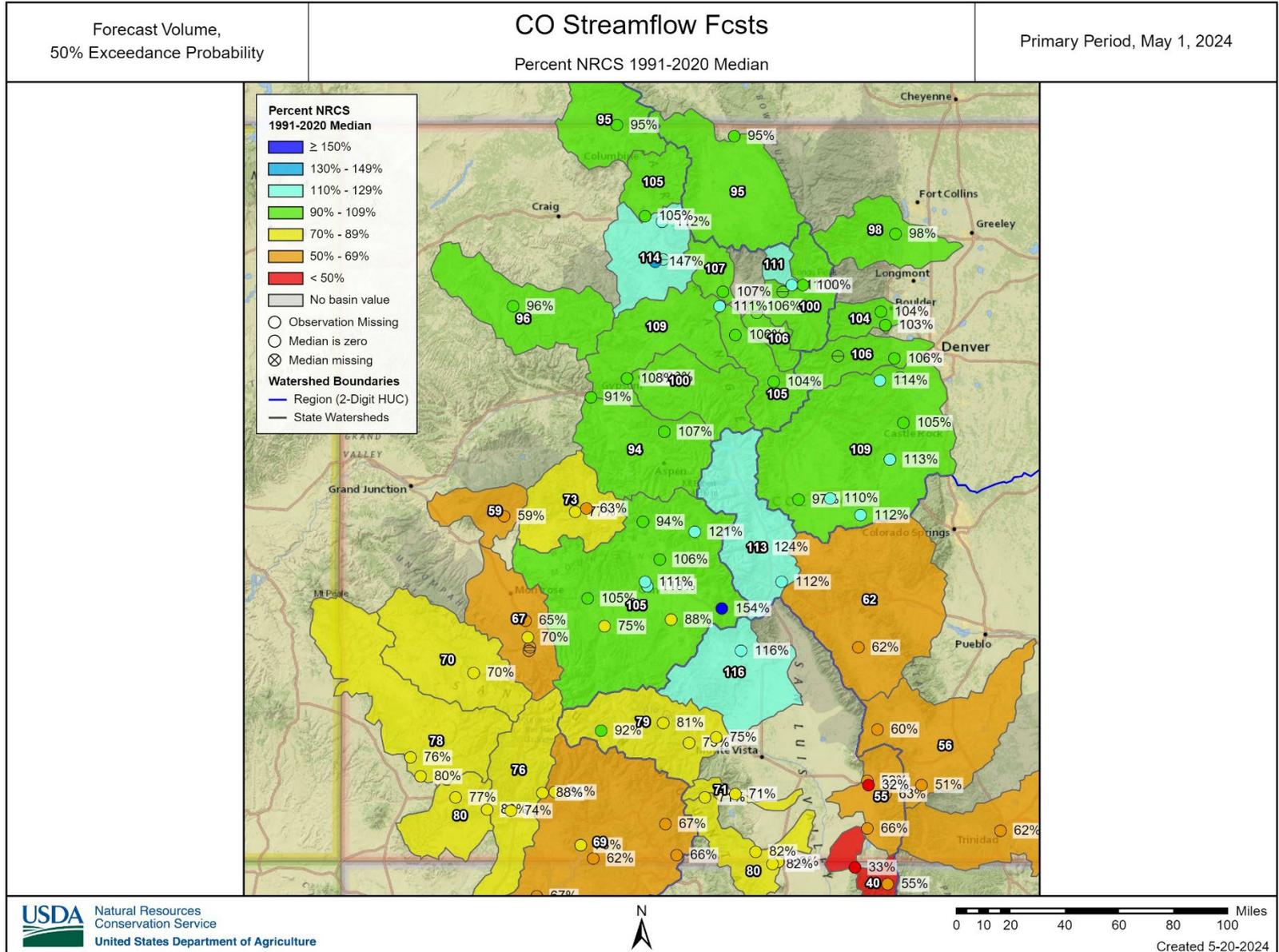
PRECIPITATION ACCUMULATION IN ARKANSAS





RESERVOIR STORAGE IN COLORADO
END OF APRIL 2024

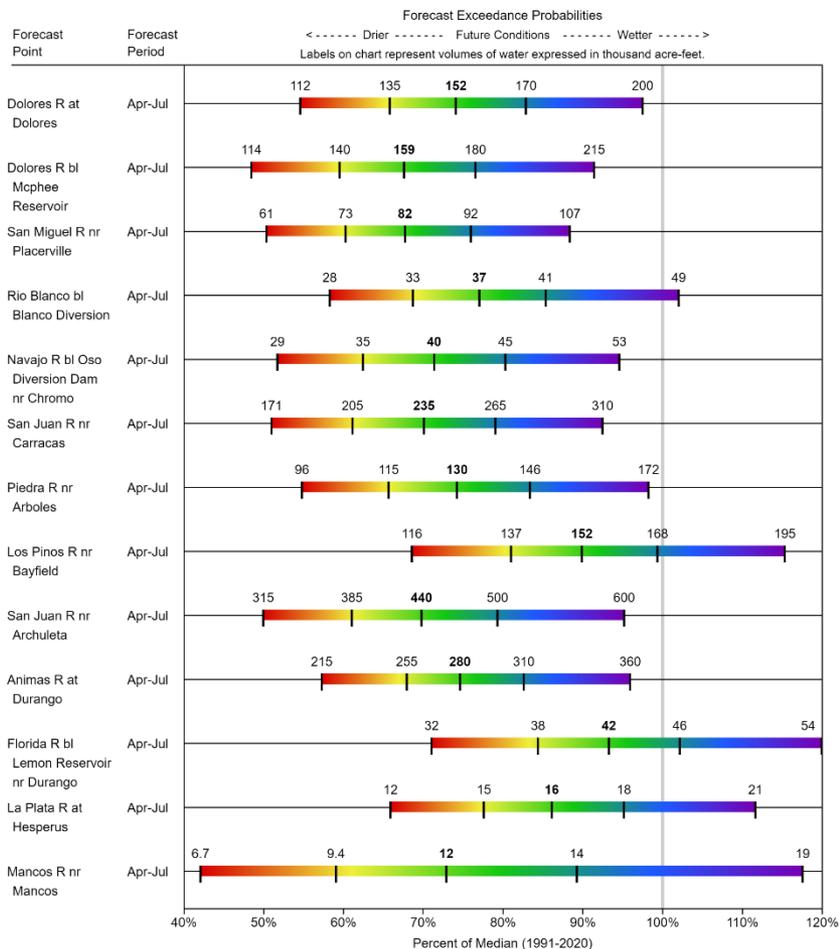




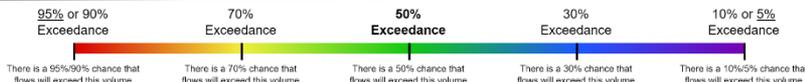


SAN MIGUEL-DOLORES-ANIMAS-SAN JUAN

Water Supply Forecasts
May 1, 2024



Legend



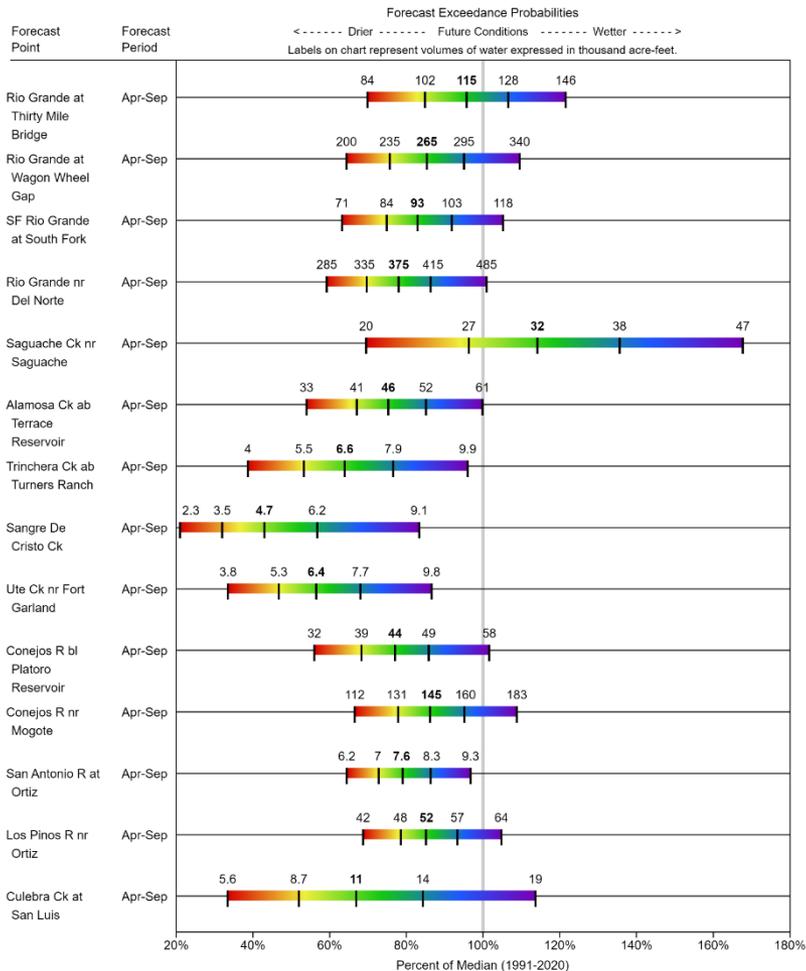
When selected, the following historic streamflow values and statistics will be shown.



Some forecasts may be for volumes that are regulated or influenced by diversions and water management.

UPPER RIO GRANDE

Water Supply Forecasts
May 1, 2024



Legend



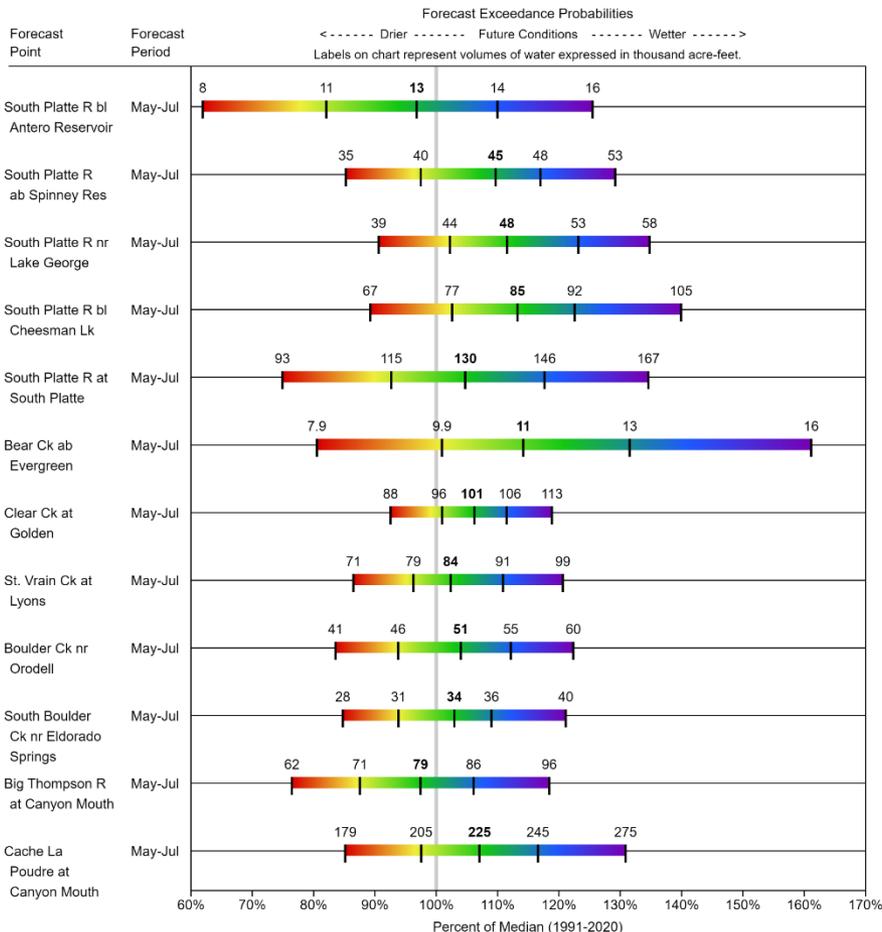
When selected, the following historic streamflow values and statistics will be shown.



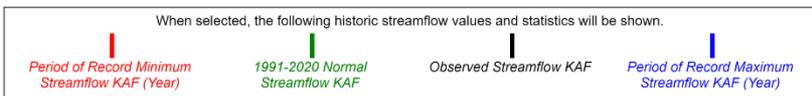
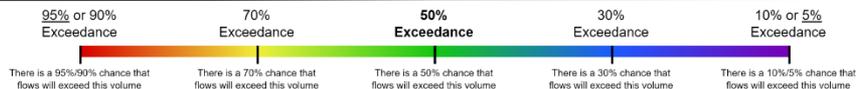
Some forecasts may be for volumes that are regulated or influenced by diversions and water management.



SOUTH PLATTE Water Supply Forecasts May 1, 2024

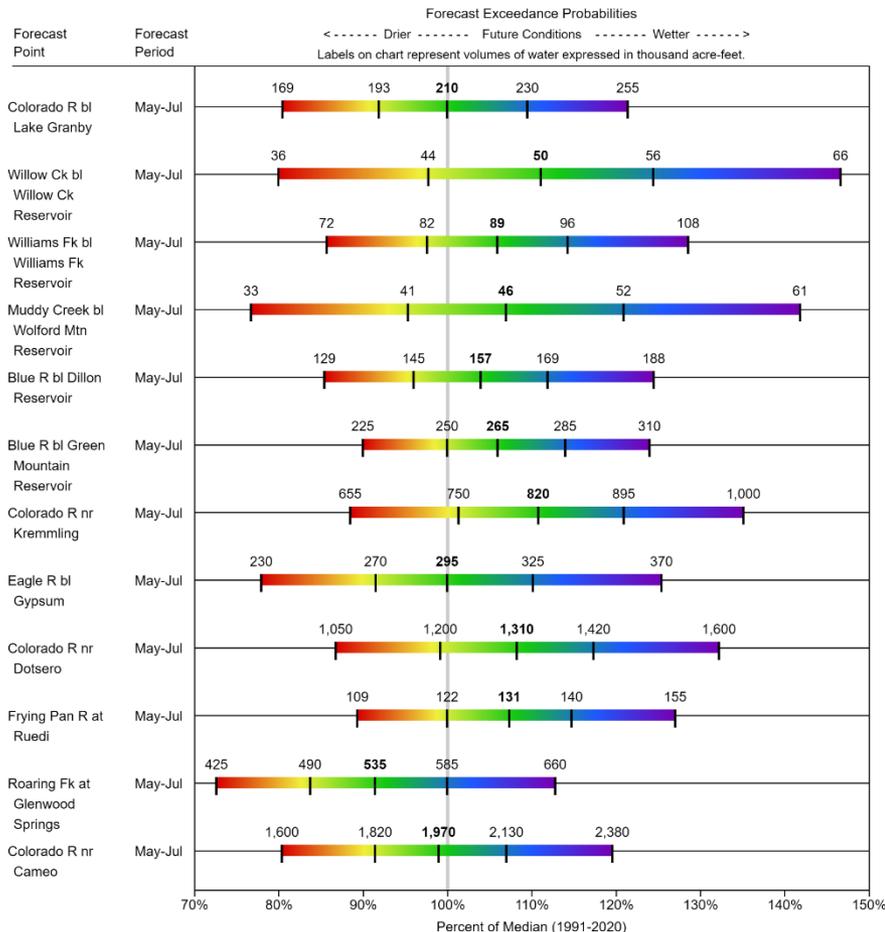


Legend

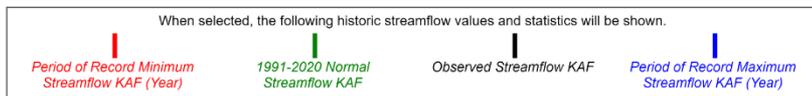


Some forecasts may be for volumes that are regulated or influenced by diversions and water management.

COLORADO HEADWATERS Water Supply Forecasts May 1, 2024



Legend



Some forecasts may be for volumes that are regulated or influenced by diversions and water management.

Summary

- Statewide snowpack is 109% of median.
 - Lowest basin is the Rio Grande @ 41%
- Snowpack Peaked at 98% of median.
- Northern Basins are currently slightly above normal snowpack.
- SMDASJ & Rio Grande snowpacks are melting slightly faster
- May storms have slowed snowmelt rates across much of the state
- South Platte, Laramie & N. Platte experienced 2nd snowpack peaks in mid-May
- Statewide precipitation above normal in May across much of state, particularly central Colorado Mountains
- Year-to-date precipitation below normal in SMDASJ Basins
- Statewide reservoir storage is 100% of median
- Near normal runoff expected in the Colorado R. Basin and upper reaches of Arkansas and Northern Colorado.
- Below normal runoff expected in Southwest Colorado.
- Some forecast improvement could come in from May storms and future precipitation. June 1 forecasts to come.



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