



United States Department of Agriculture

Colorado Snow Surveys

Water Availability Task Force Meeting

January 23rd, 2020

NRCS Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecasting Program

Karl Wetlaufer

Hydrologist

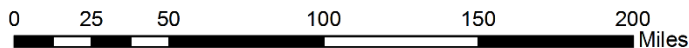
Asst. Snow Survey Supervisor

720-544-2853

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

This map of Colorado illustrates the state's major river basins and urban centers. The basins are color-coded: Little Snake (pink), Yampa (light blue), White (light green), and North Platte (light orange). Major cities are indicated by green dots, and the state's boundaries with neighboring states are shown in black. The map also highlights the Four Corners area in the southwest and the location of the state capital, Denver.

Basin	Major Cities
Little Snake	Walden, Steamboat Springs, Fort Collins, Greeley, Sterling, Holyoke, Wray, Burlington, Cheyenne Wells, Eads, Lamar, Springfield
Yampa	Craig, Meeker, Glenwood Springs, Eagle, Aspen, Leadville, Fairplay, Breckenridge, Castle Rock, Kiowa, Hugo, Colorado Springs, Cripple Creek, Canon City, Pueblo, Ordway, Las Animas, Lamar
White	Grand Junction, Delta, Montrose, Gunnison, Salida, Saguache, Westcliffe, Canon City, Pueblo, Ordway, Las Animas, Lamar
North Platte	Golden, Littleton, Denver, Central City, Georgetown, Boulder, Brighton, Fort Morgan, Akron, Wray, Burlington, Cheyenne Wells, Eads, Lamar





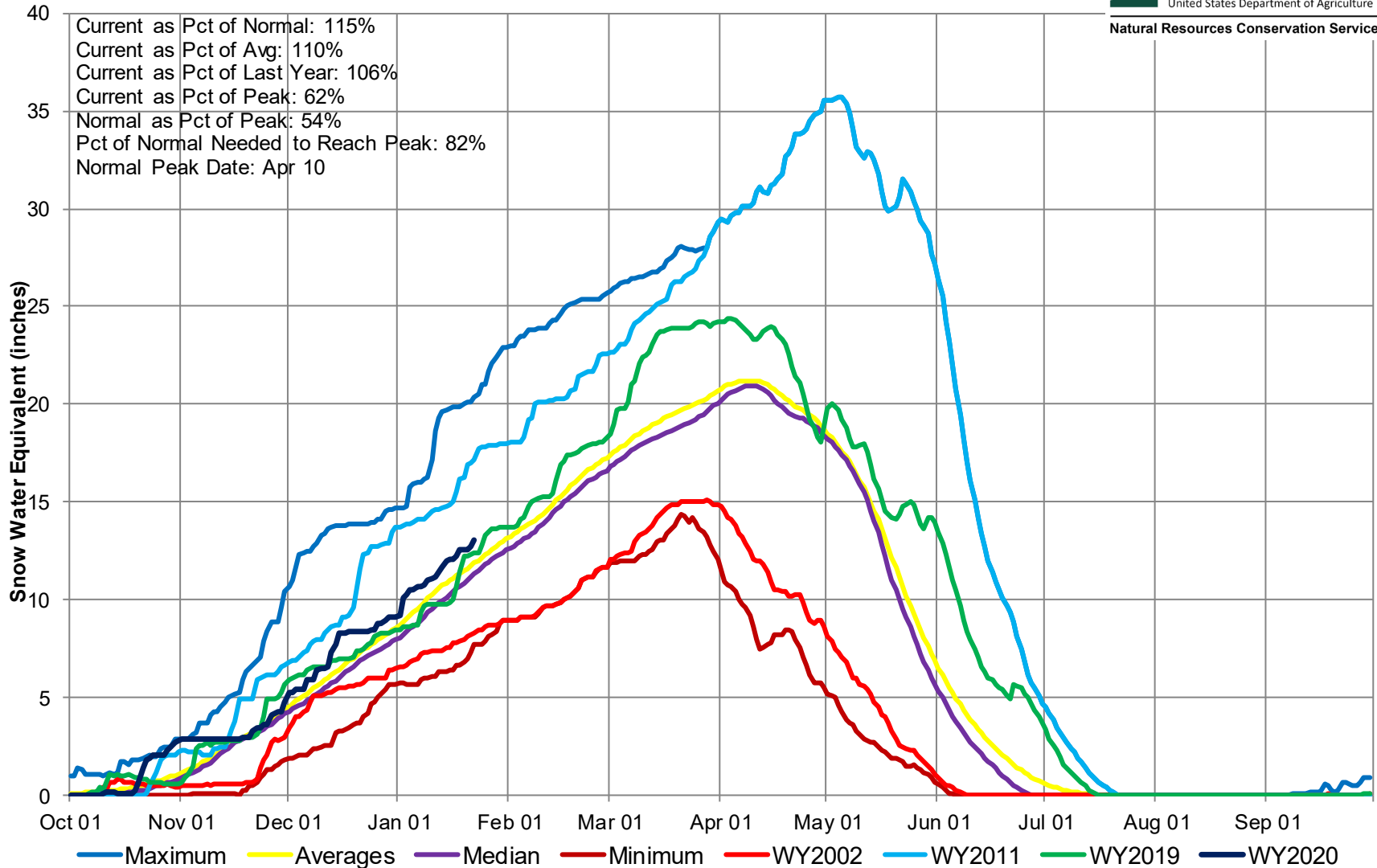
Yampa and White River Basins High/Low Snowpack Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 22, 2020



United States Department of Agriculture

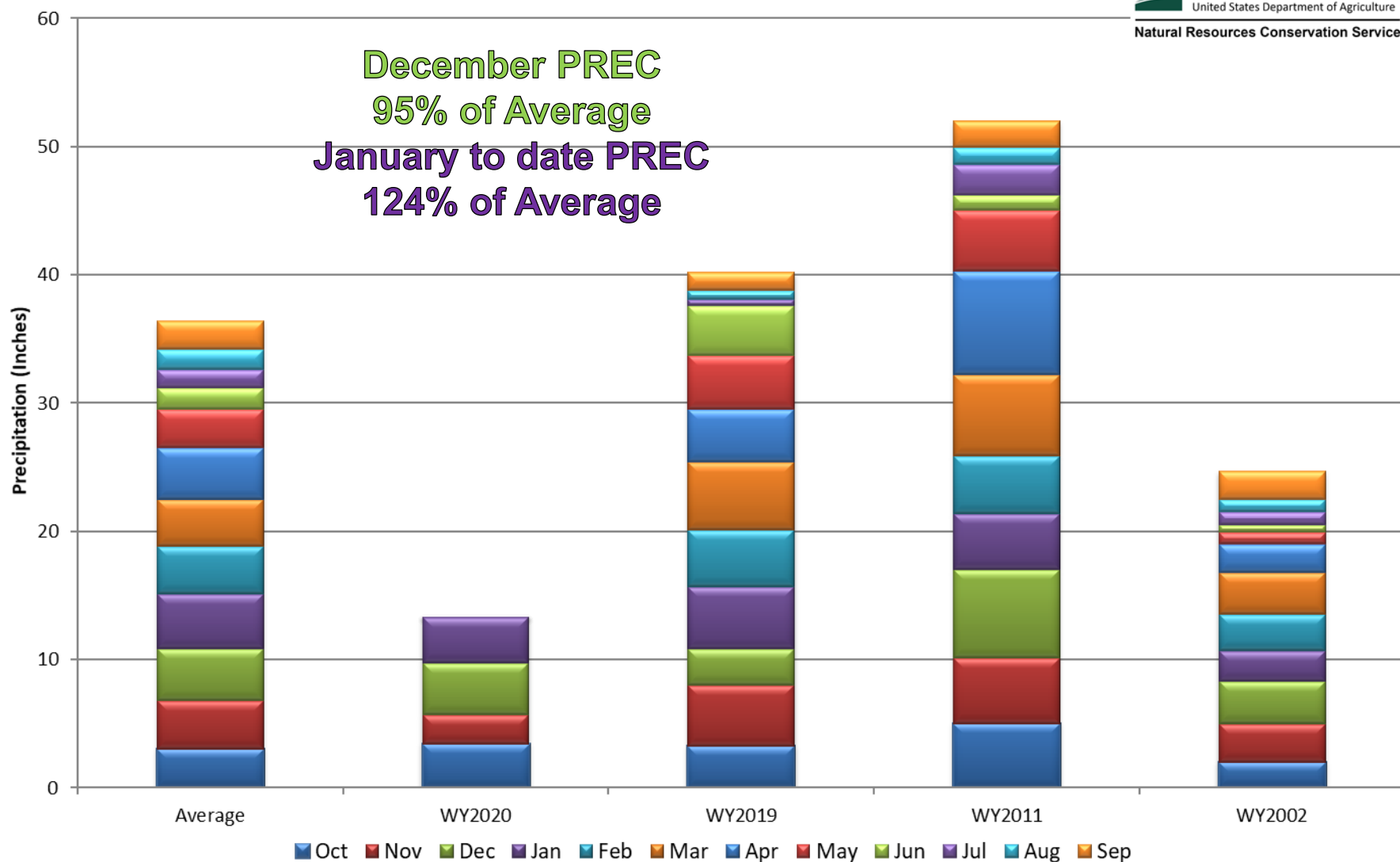
Natural Resources Conservation Service



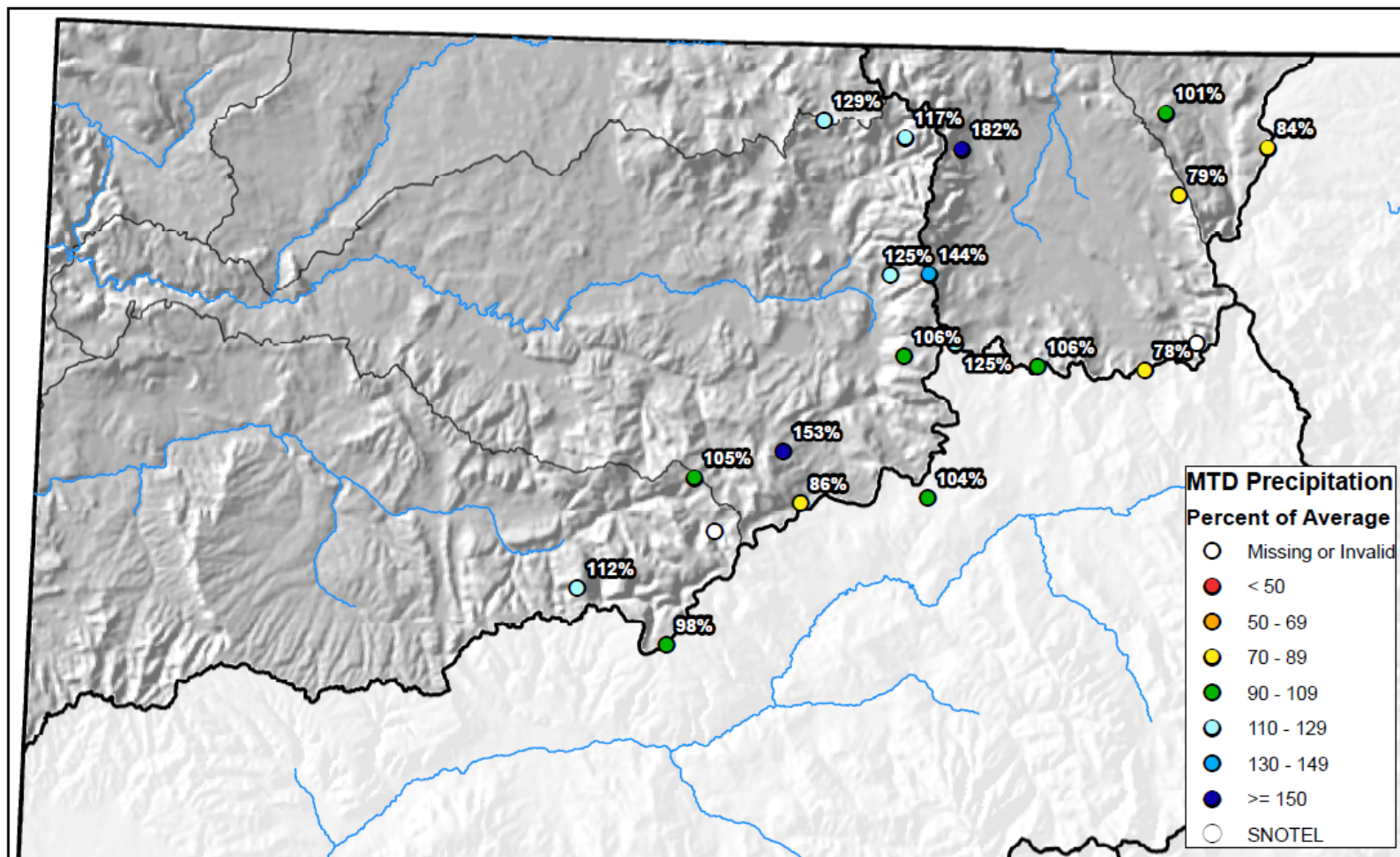


Yampa and White River Basins High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 22, 2020



Yampa, White, and North Platte River Basins Month to Date Precipitation Summary Current as of Jan 22, 2020

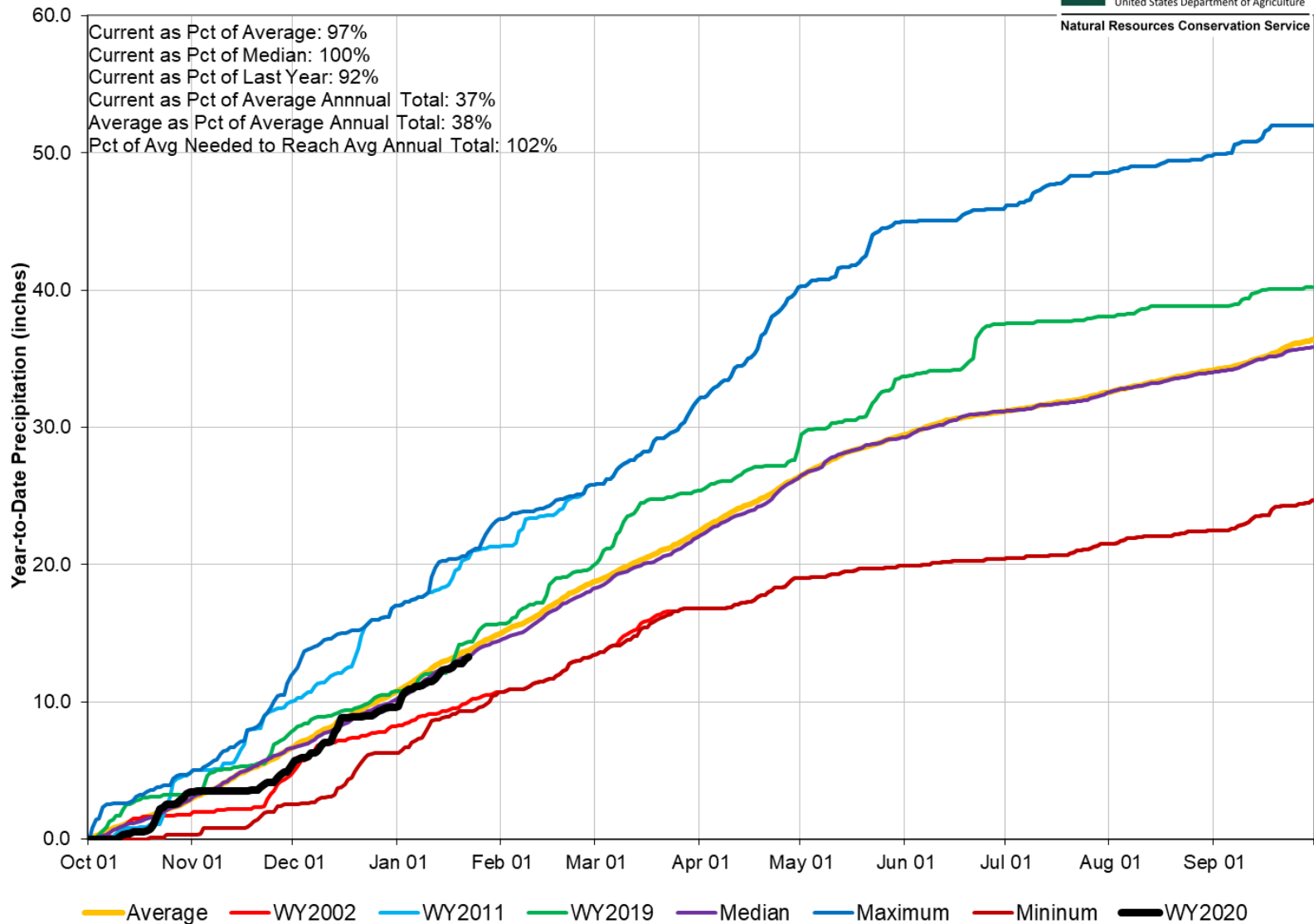


0 10 20 40 60 80 Miles

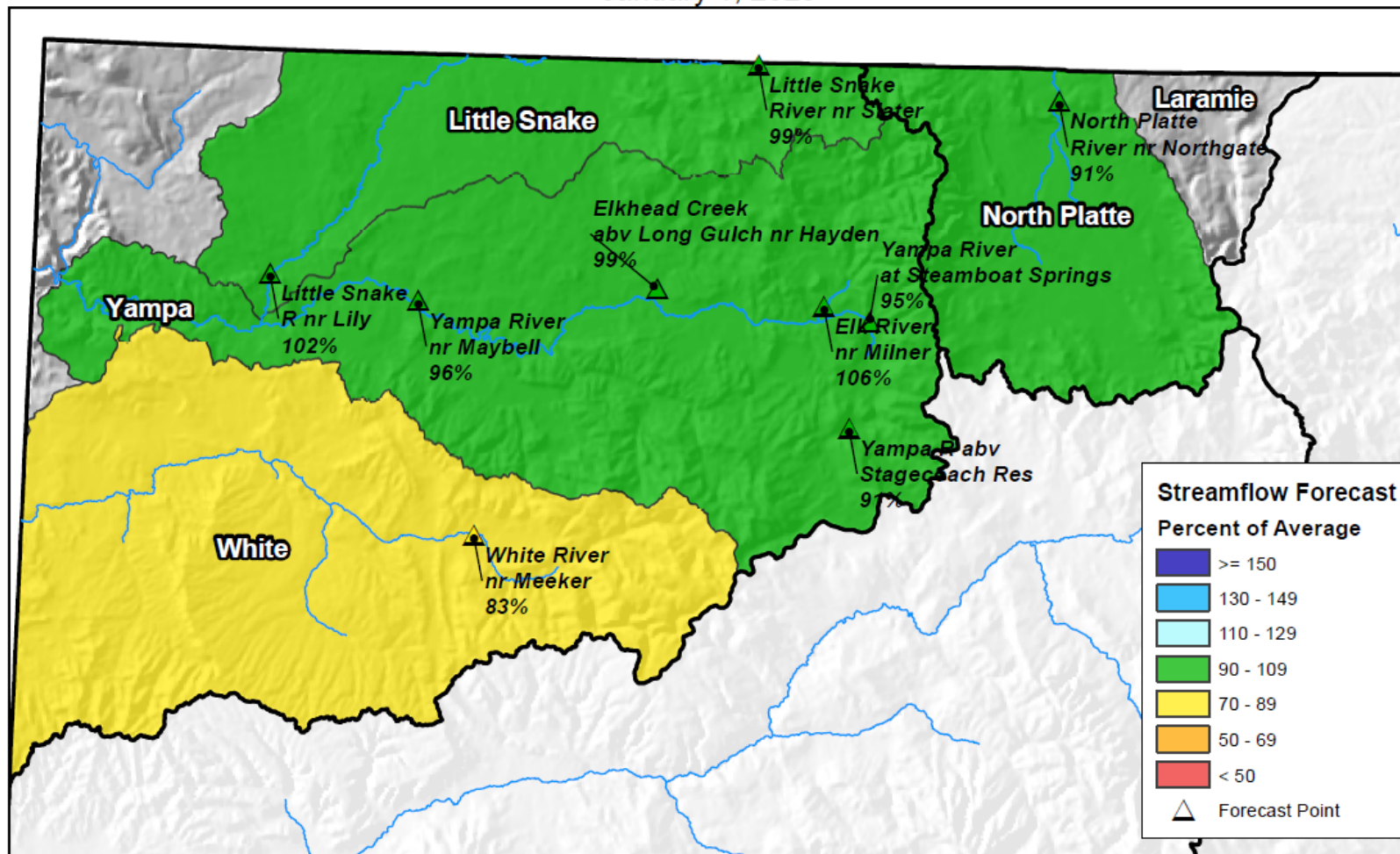


Yampa and White River Basins High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

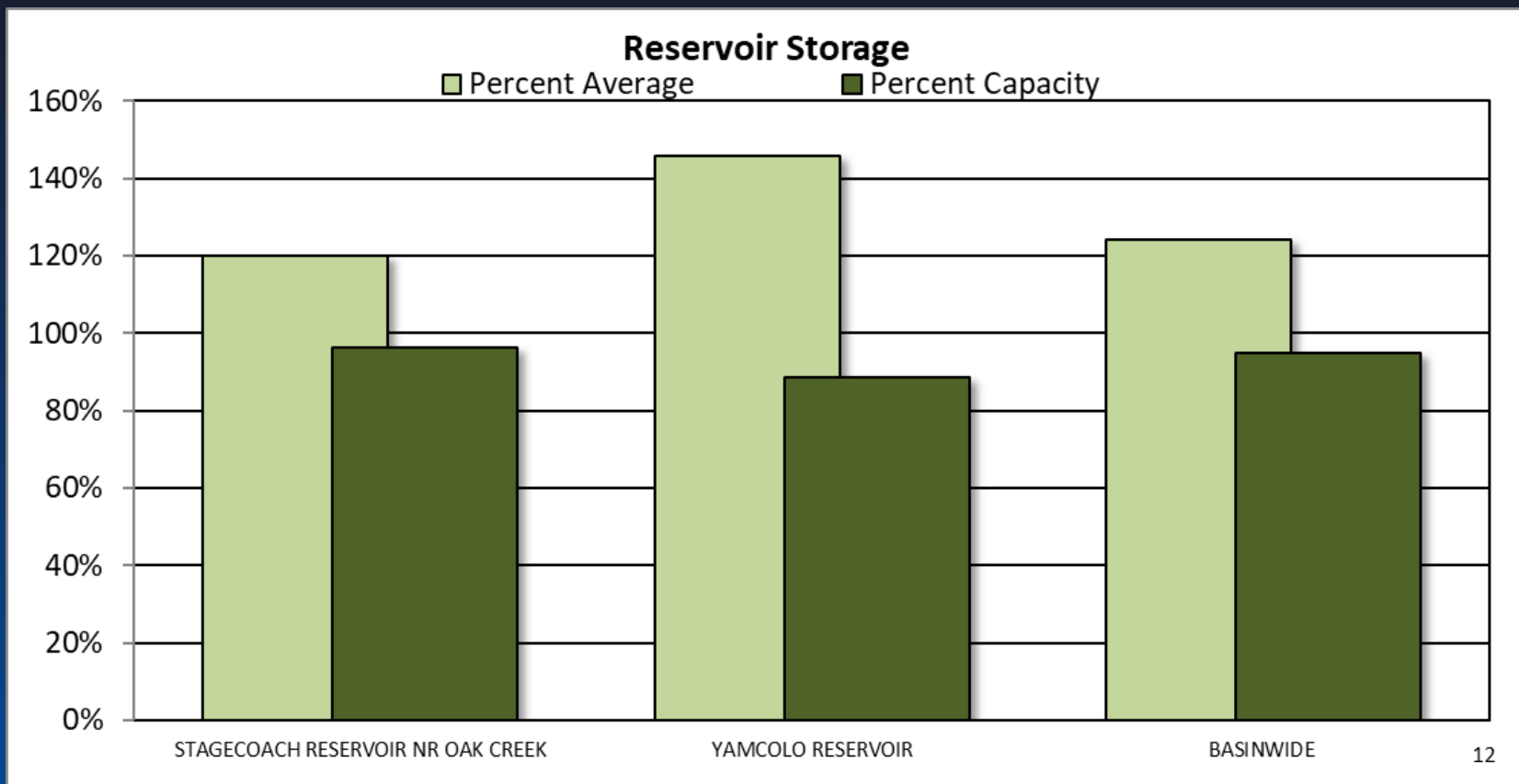
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 22, 2020



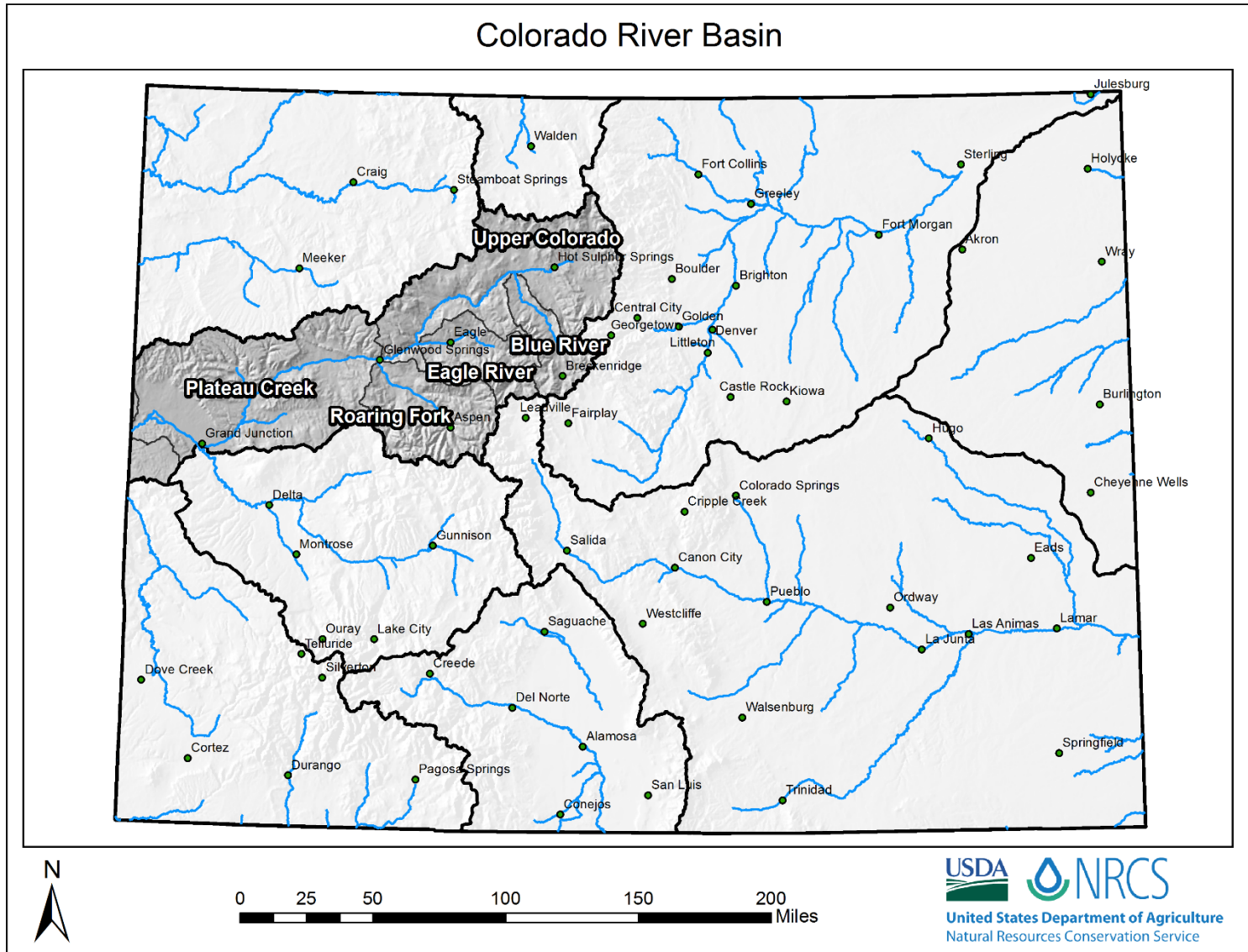
Yampa, White, and North Platte River Basins Streamflow Forecast Summary January 1, 2020



0 10 20 40 60 80 Miles



Major Basin Summary





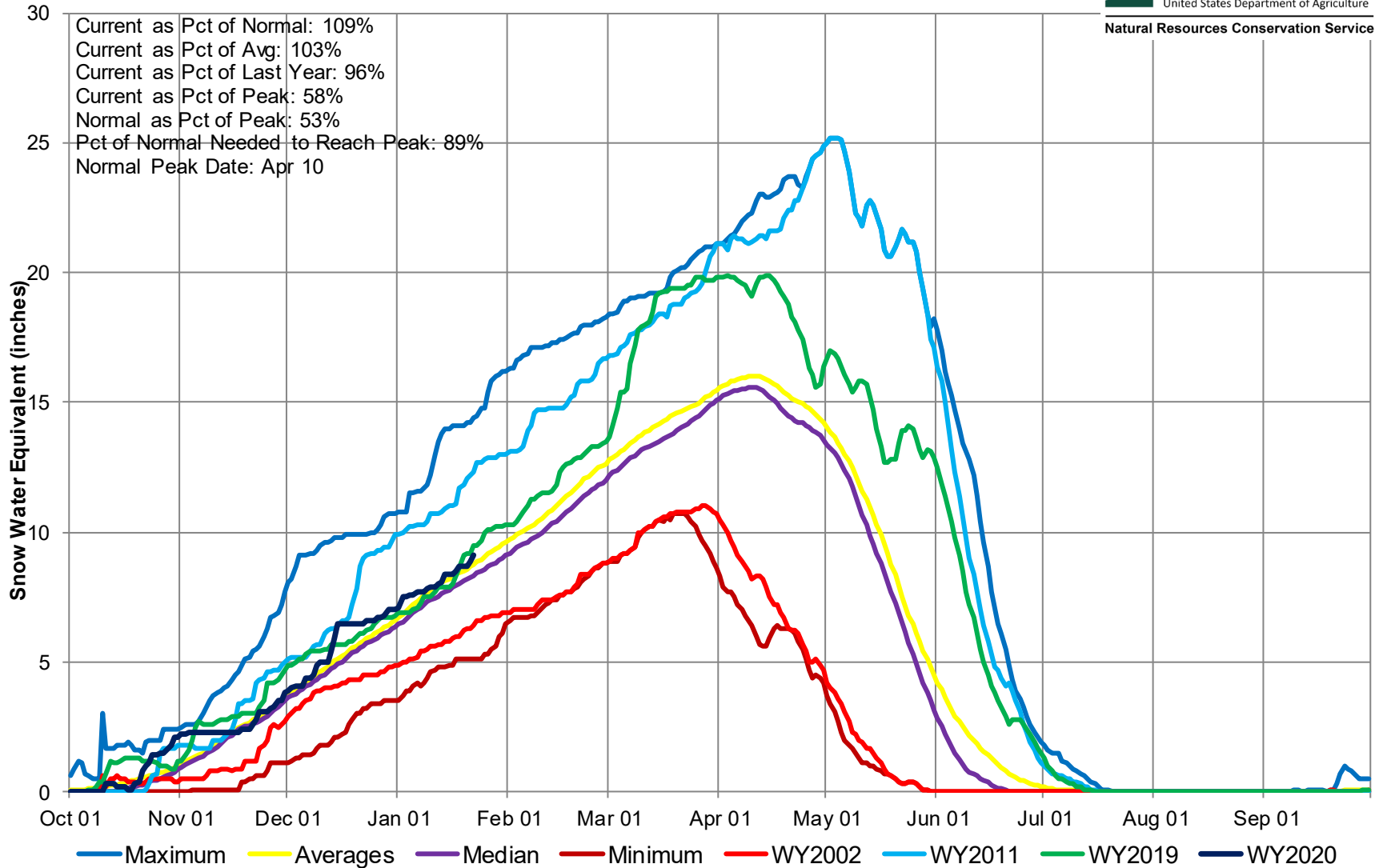
Upper Colorado River Basin High/Low Snowpack Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 22, 2020



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service



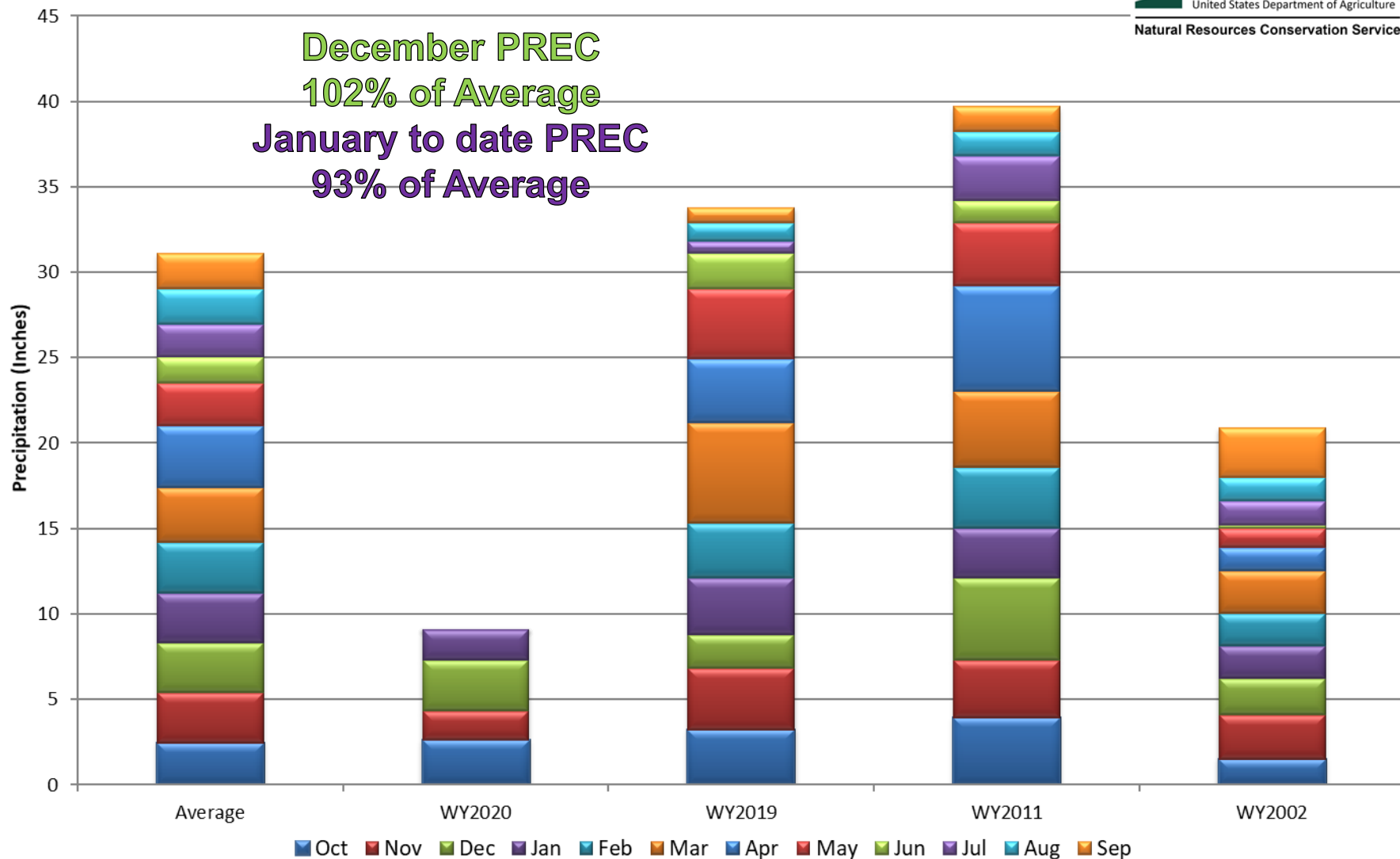
Upper Colorado River Basin High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 22, 2020

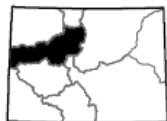
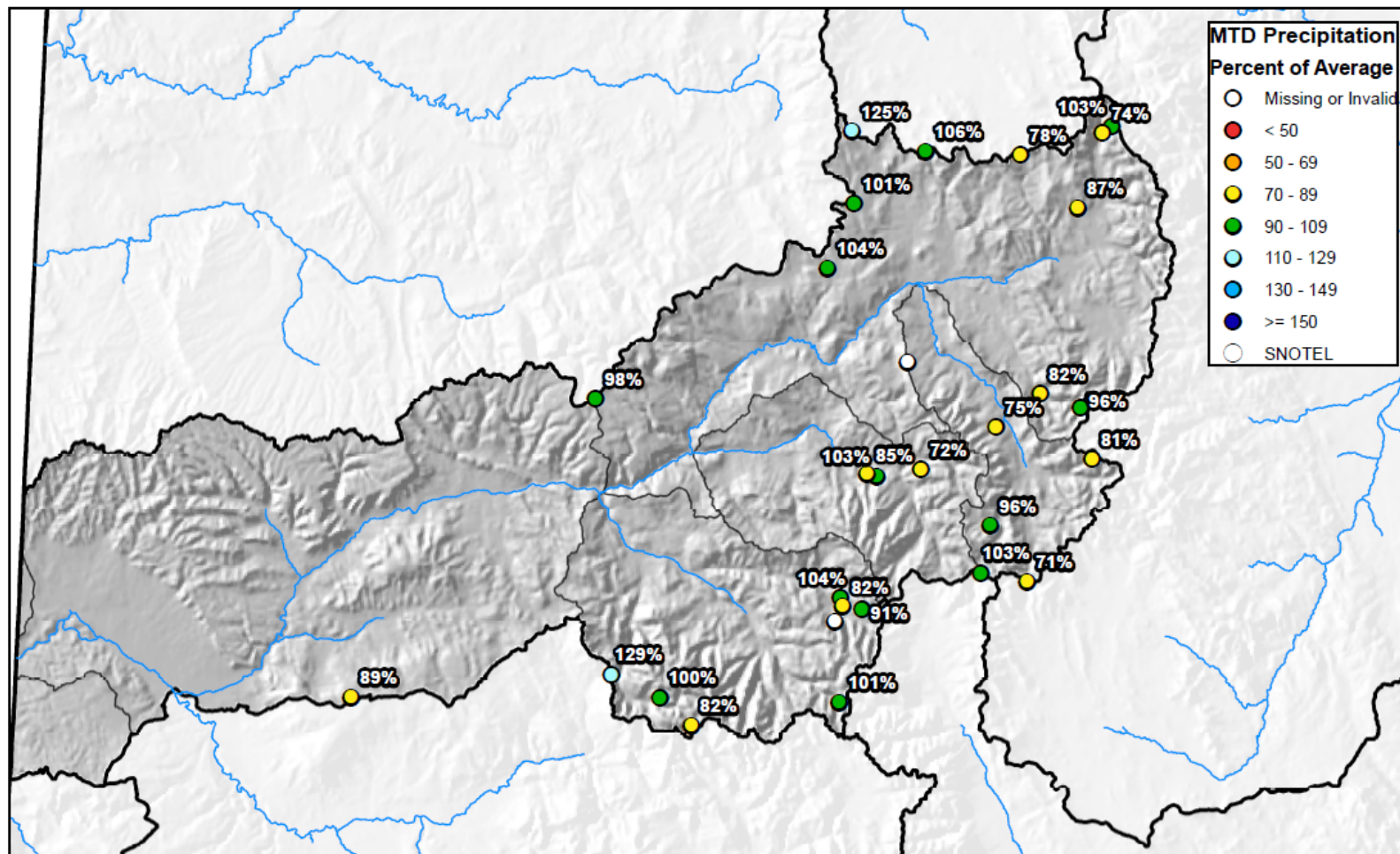


United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service



Upper Colorado River Basin Month to Date Precipitation Summary Current as of Jan 22, 2020



0 10 20 40 60 80 Miles



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service



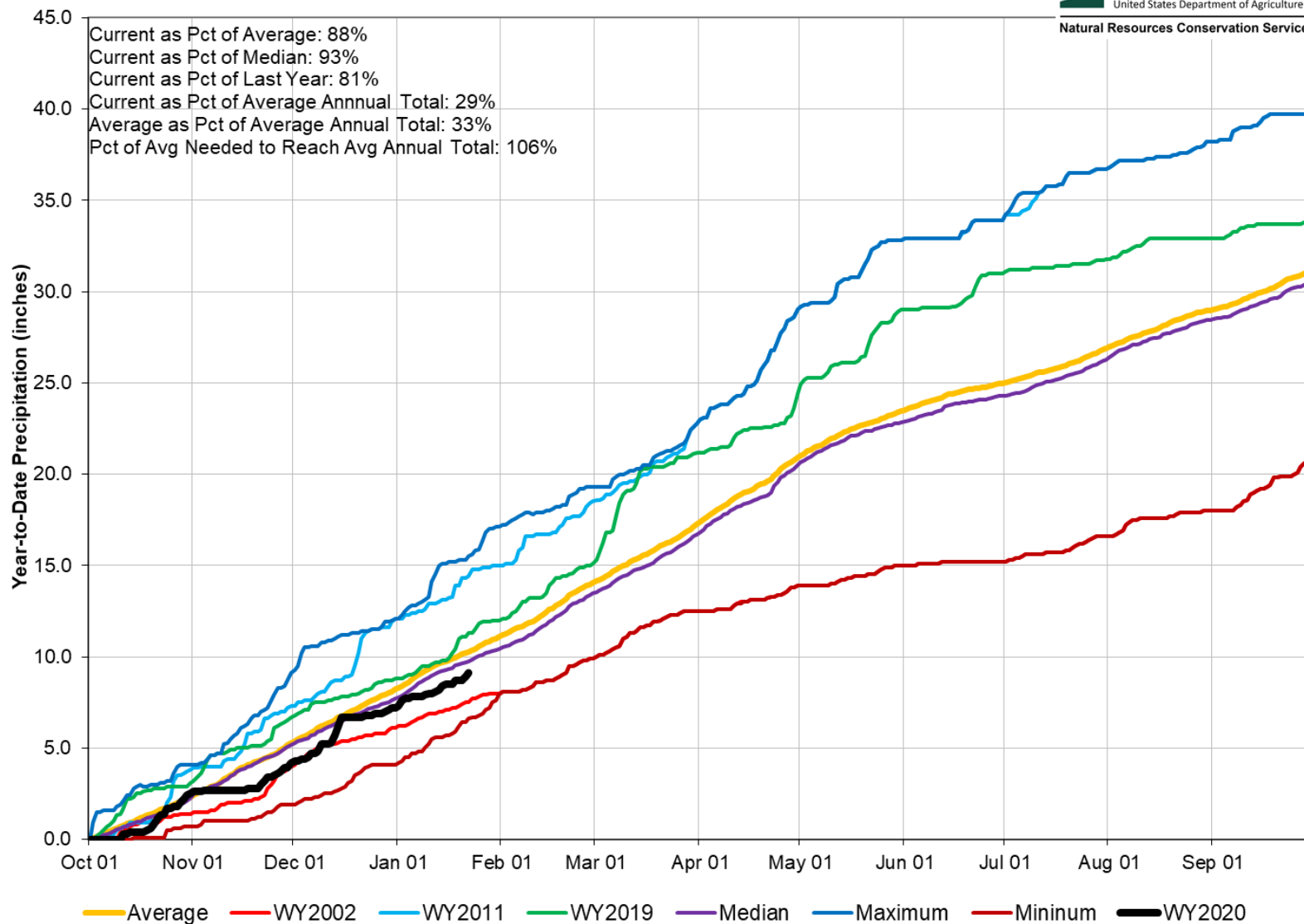
Upper Colorado River Basin High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 22, 2020



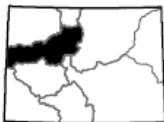
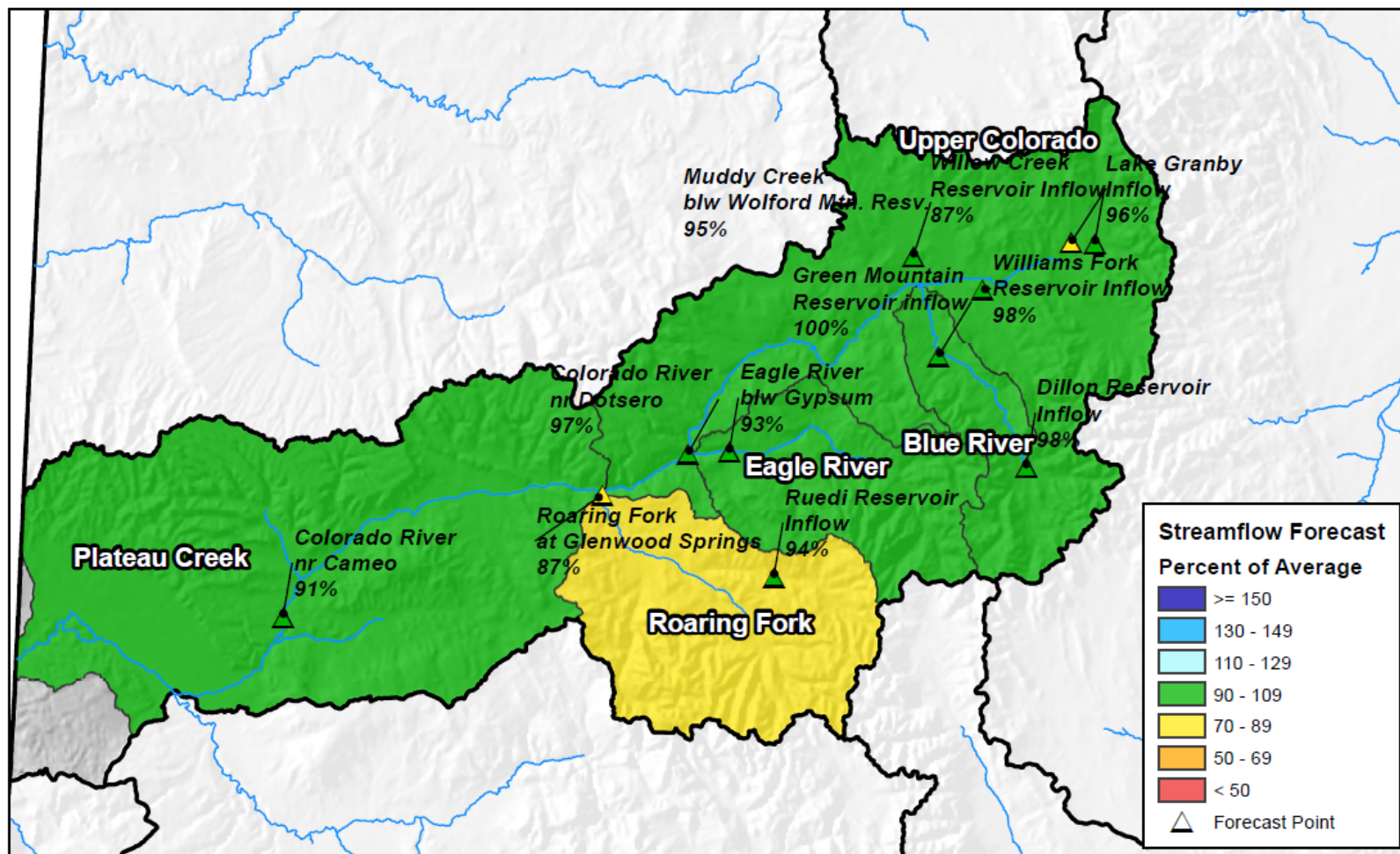
United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service



Upper Colorado River Basin Streamflow Forecast Summary

January 1, 2020



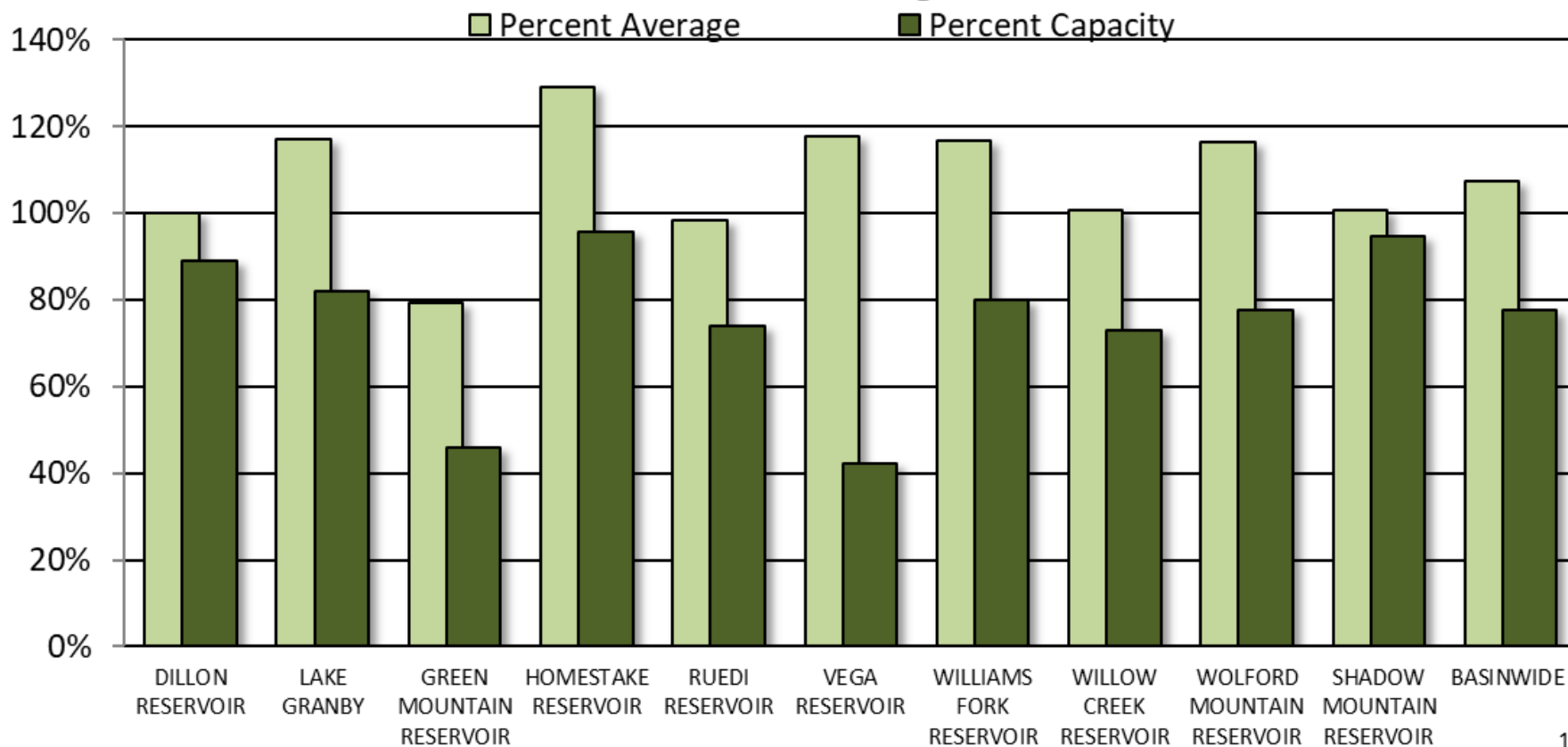
0 10 20 40 60 80 Miles



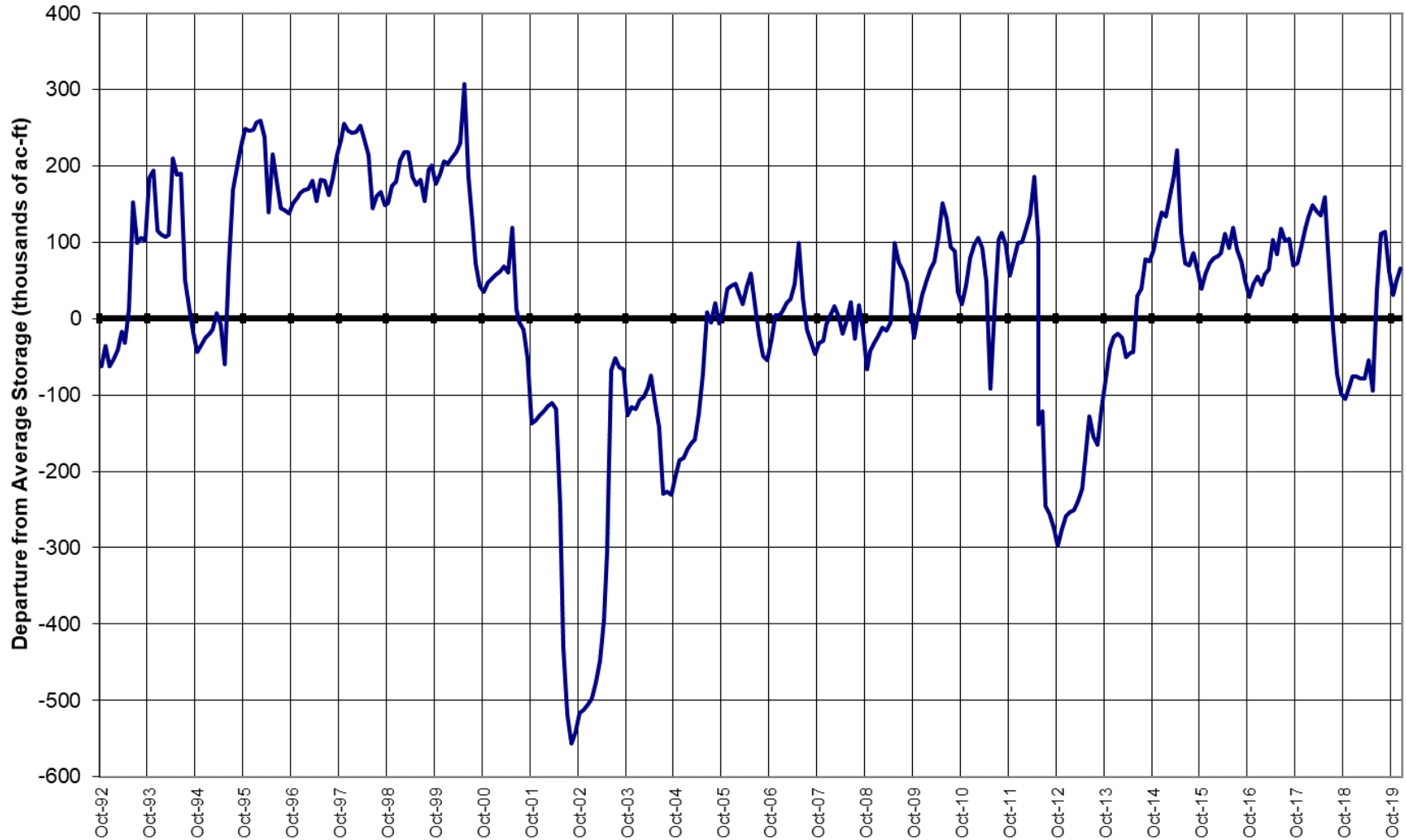
United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Reservoir Storage

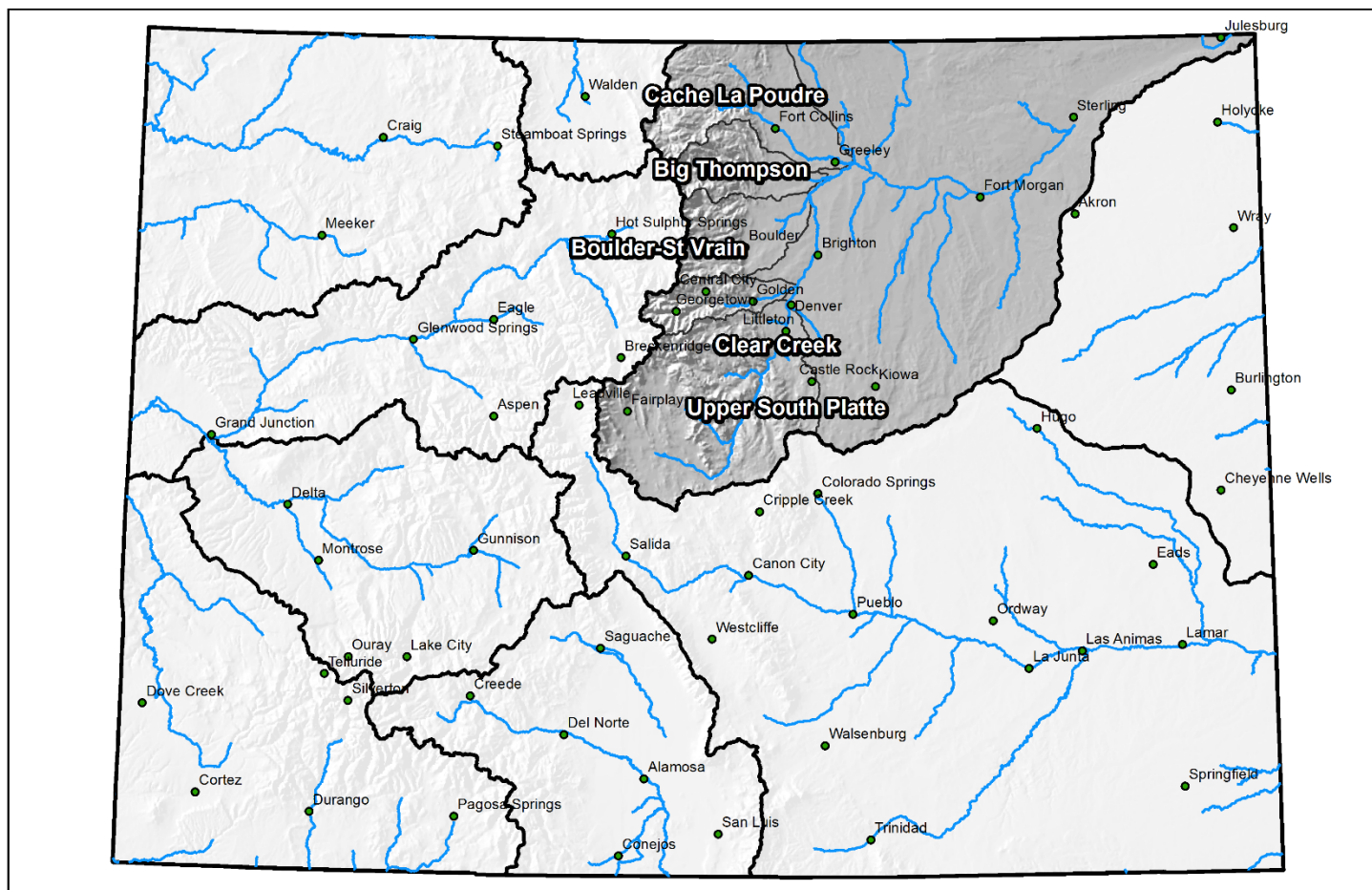


COLORADO RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage Departure from Average



Major Basin Summary

South Platte River Basin





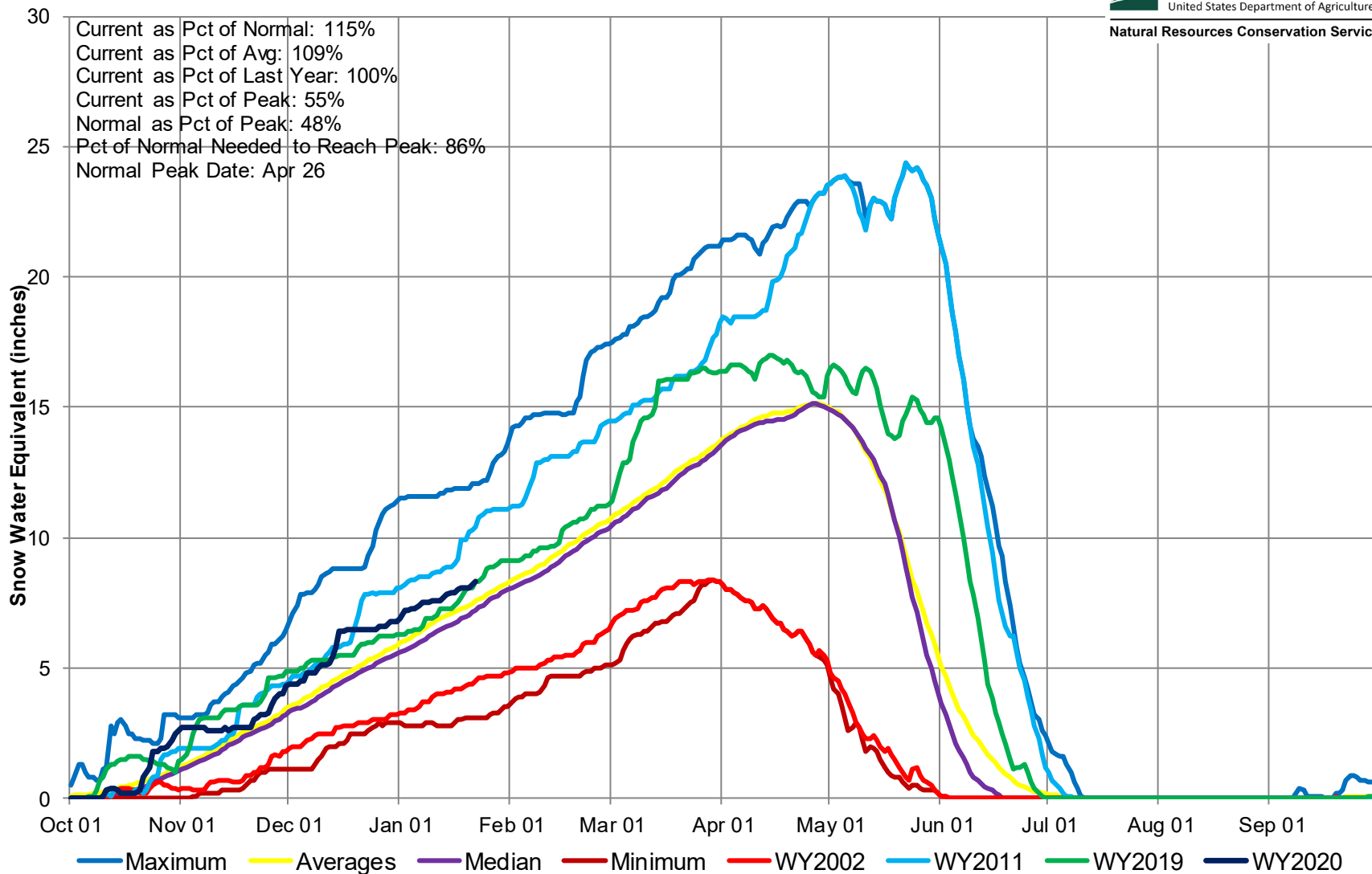
South Platte River Basin High/Low Snowpack Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 22, 2020



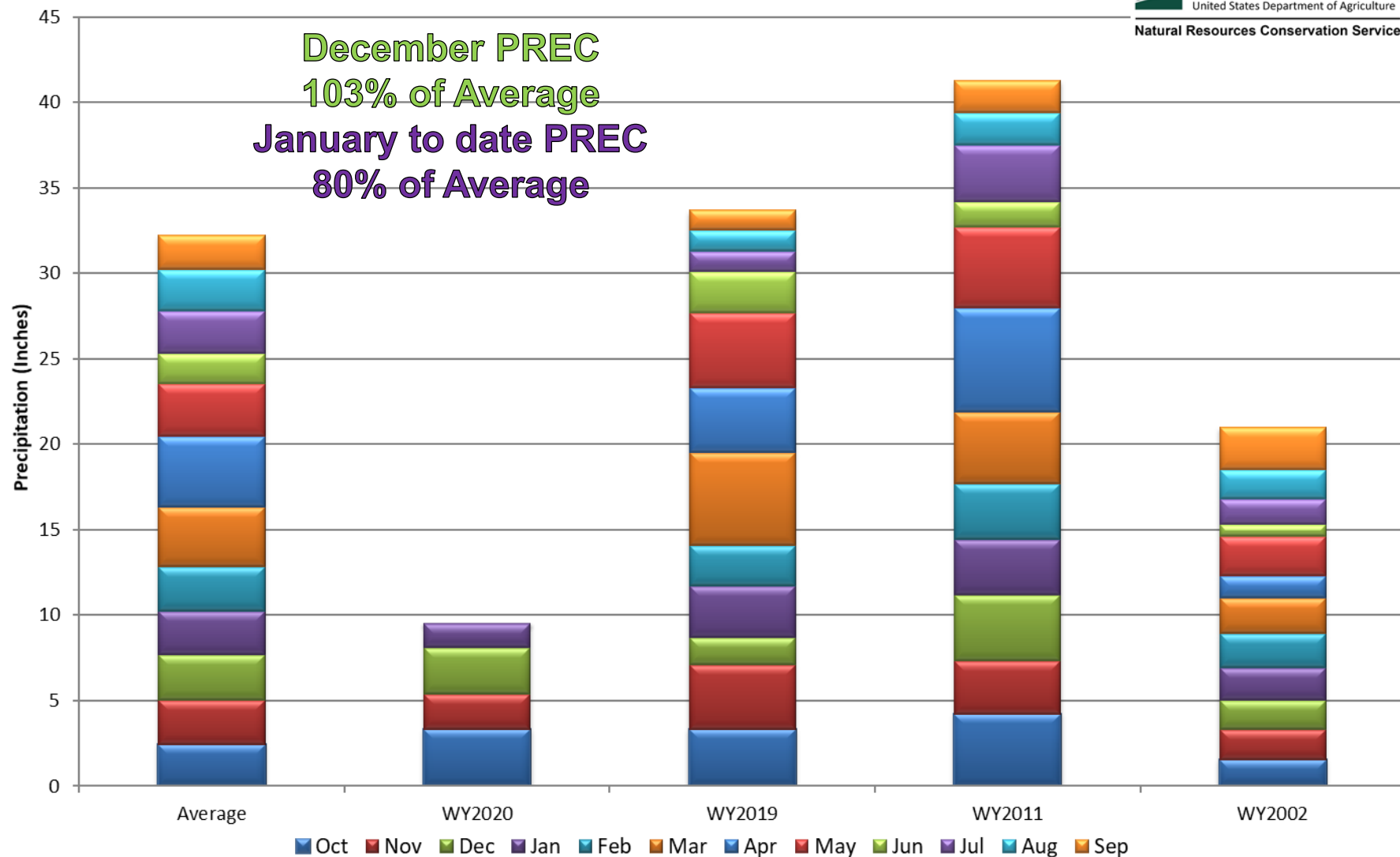
United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service



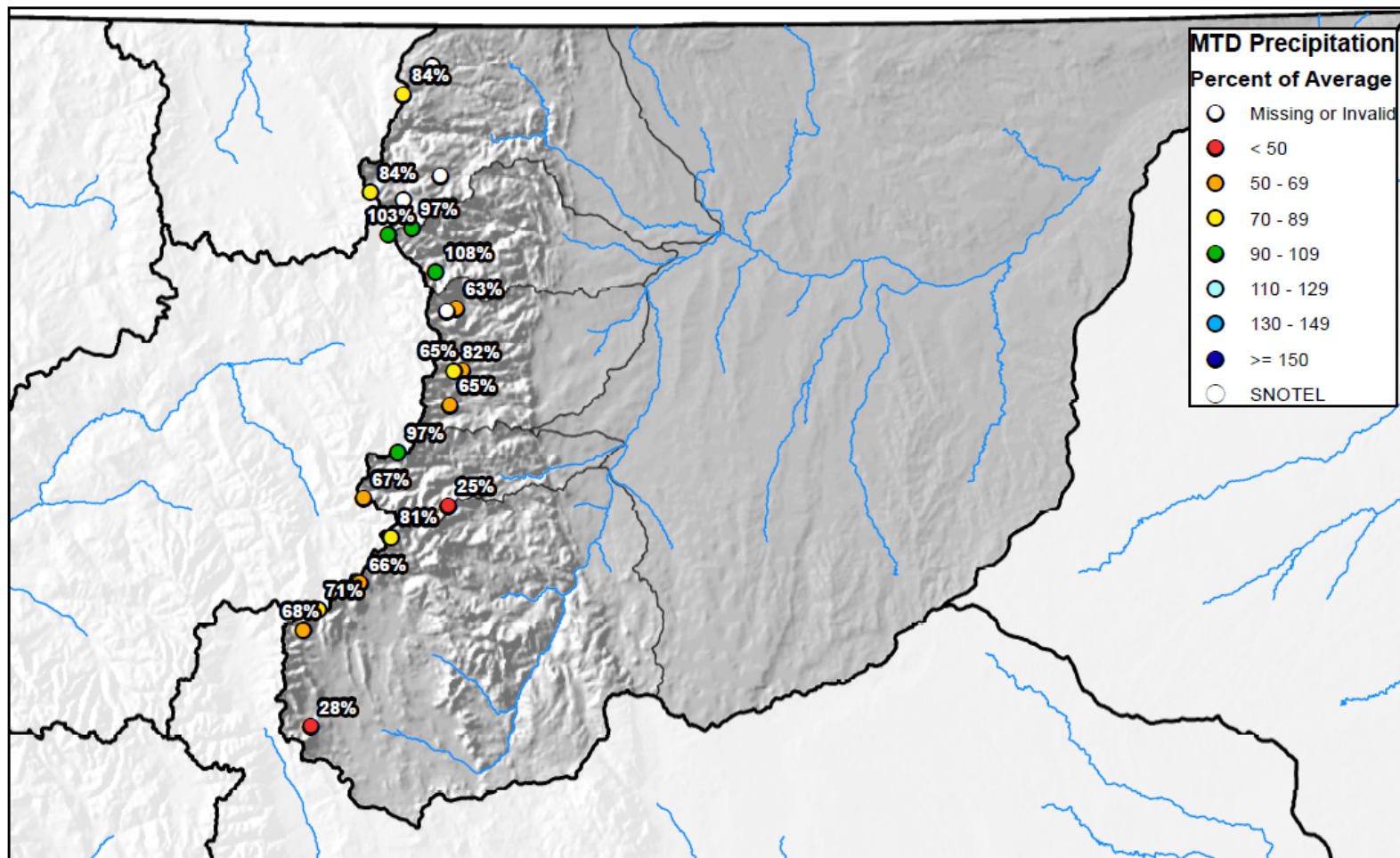
South Platte River Basin High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 22, 2020



South Platte River Basin Month to Date Precipitation Summary

Current as of Jan 22, 2020

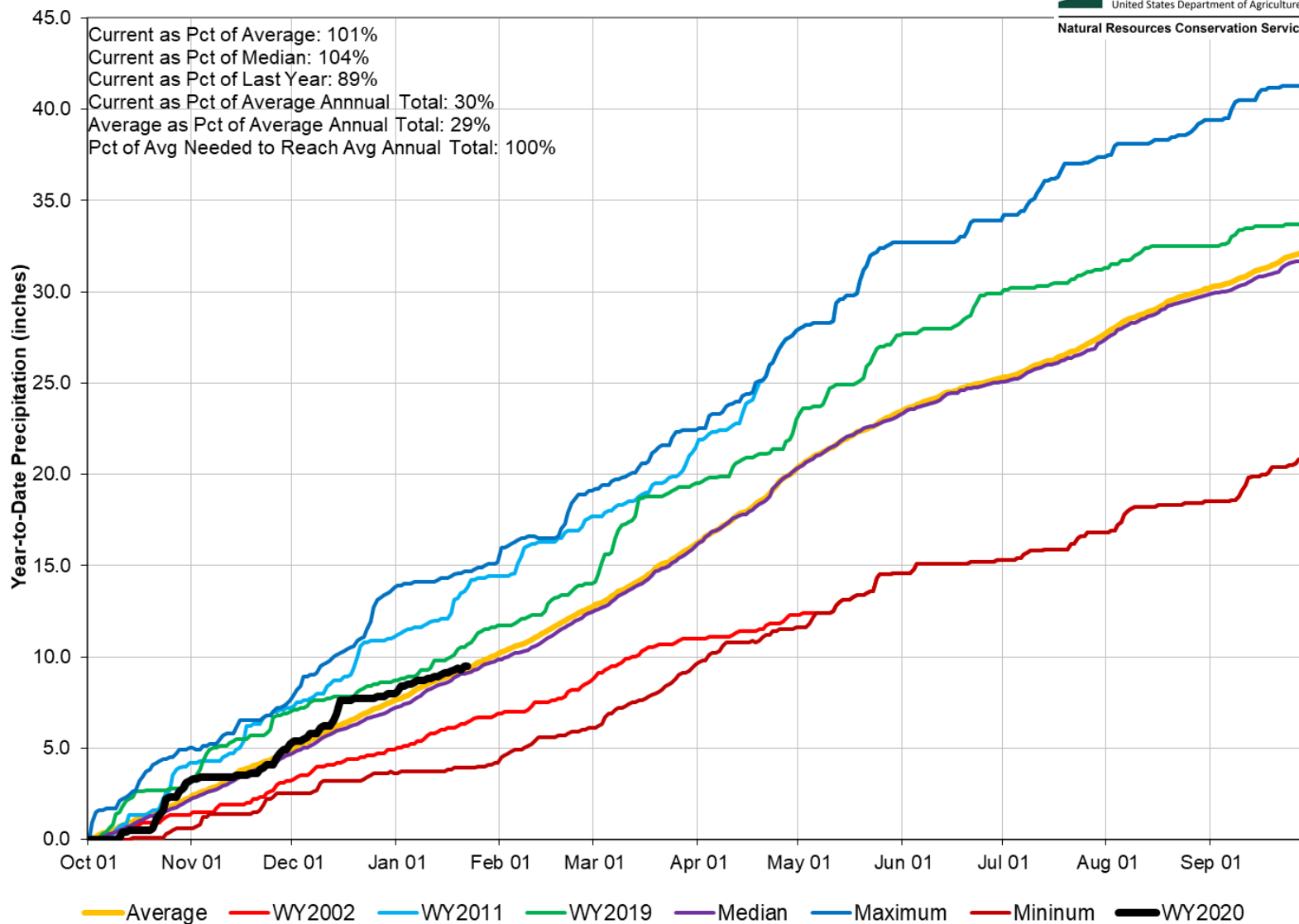


0 10 20 40 60 80 Miles



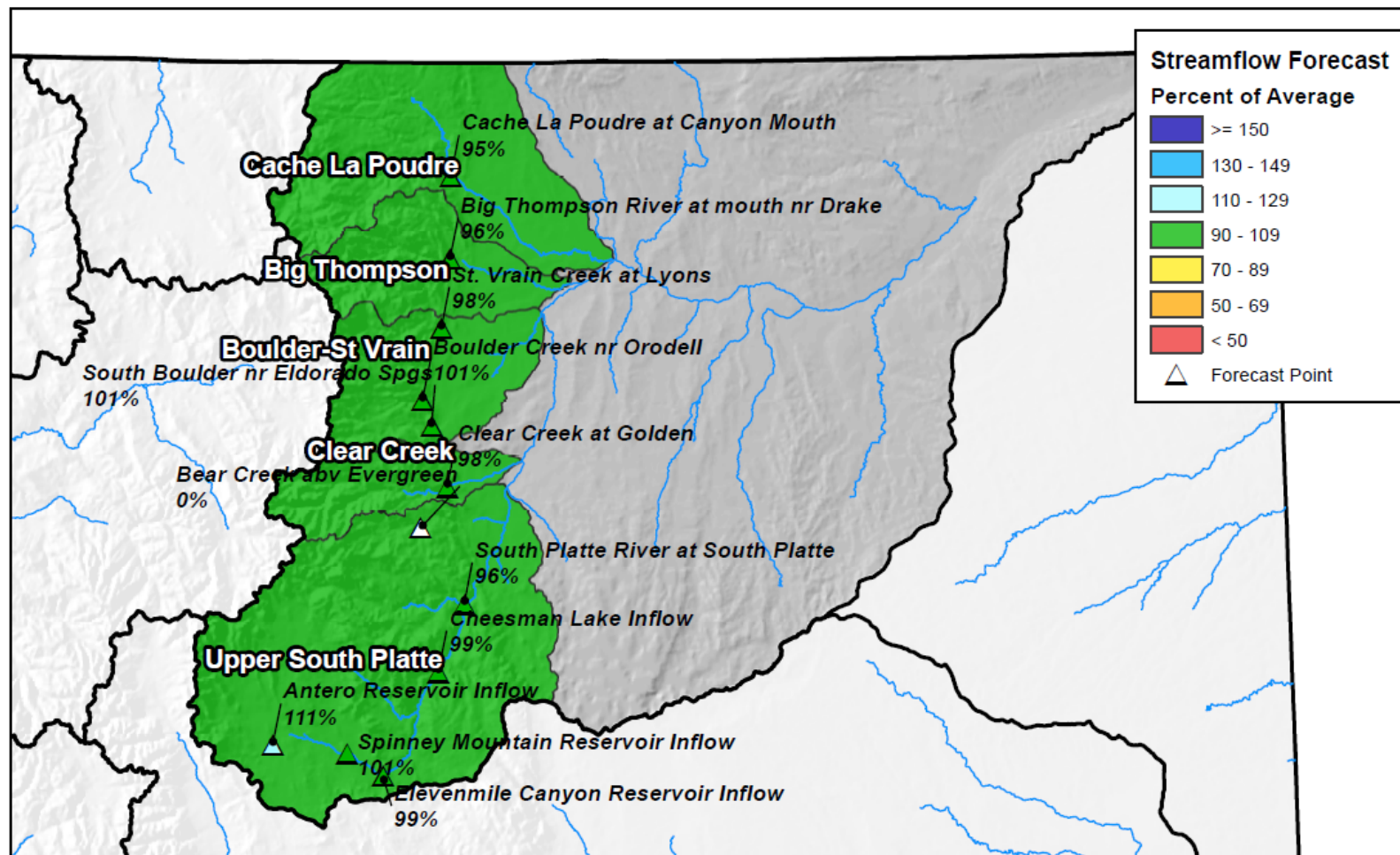
South Platte River Basin High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 22, 2020

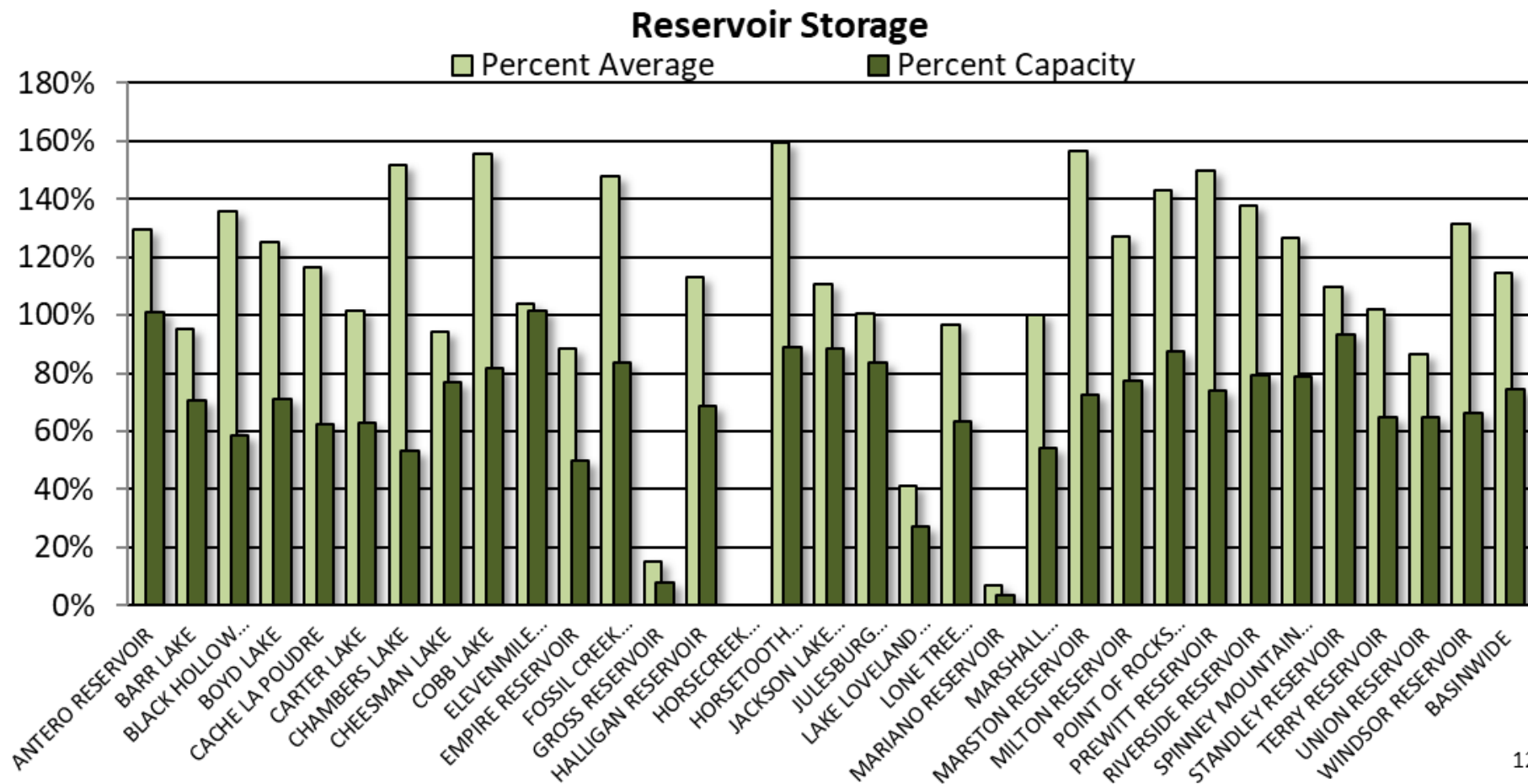


South Platte River Basin Streamflow Forecast Summary

January 1, 2020

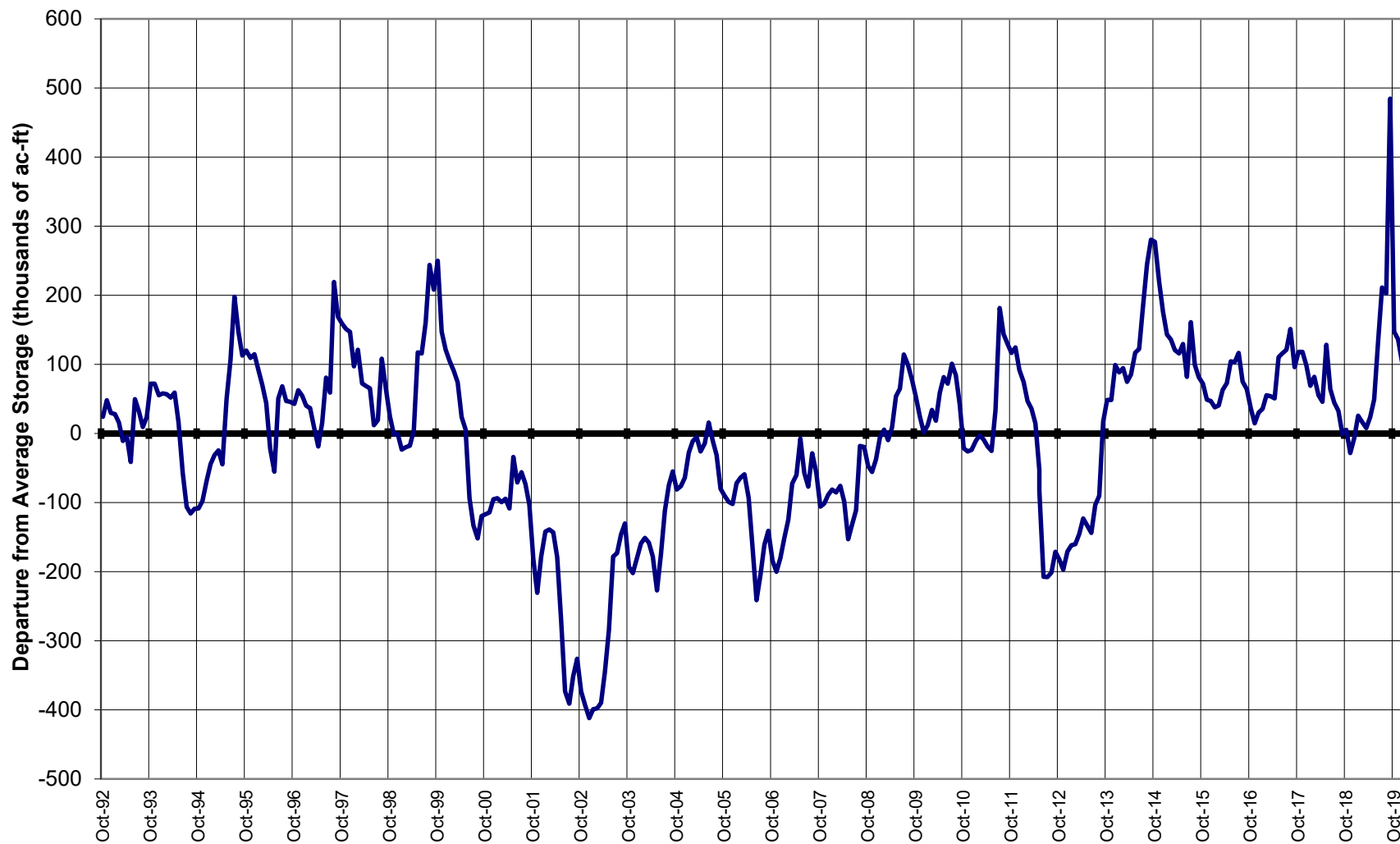


0 12.5 25 50 75 100 Miles



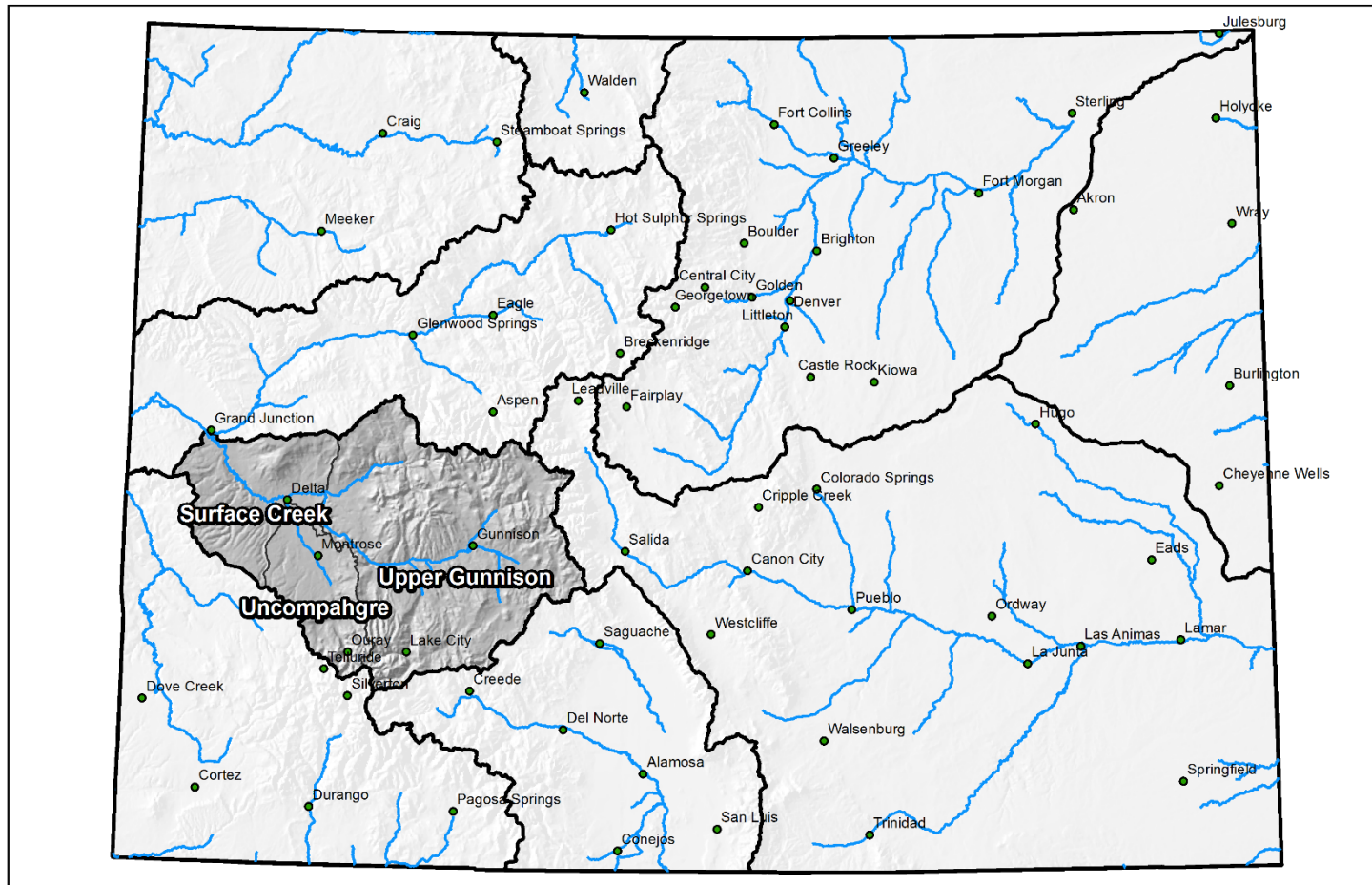


SOUTH PLATTE RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage Departure from Average



Major Basin Summary

Gunnison River Basin



0 25 50 100 150 200 Miles



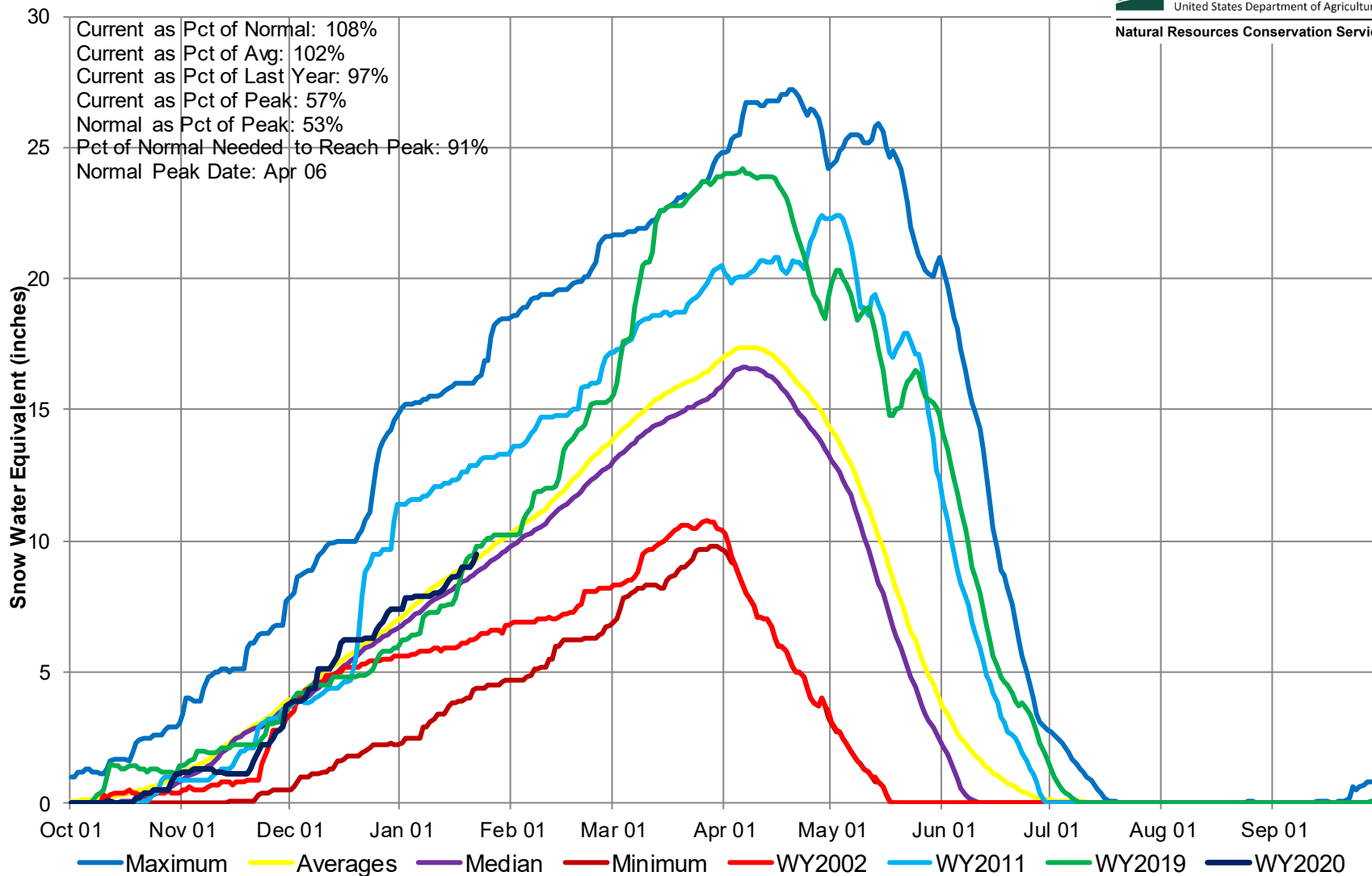
Gunnison River Basin High/Low Snowpack Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 22, 2020



United States Department of Agriculture

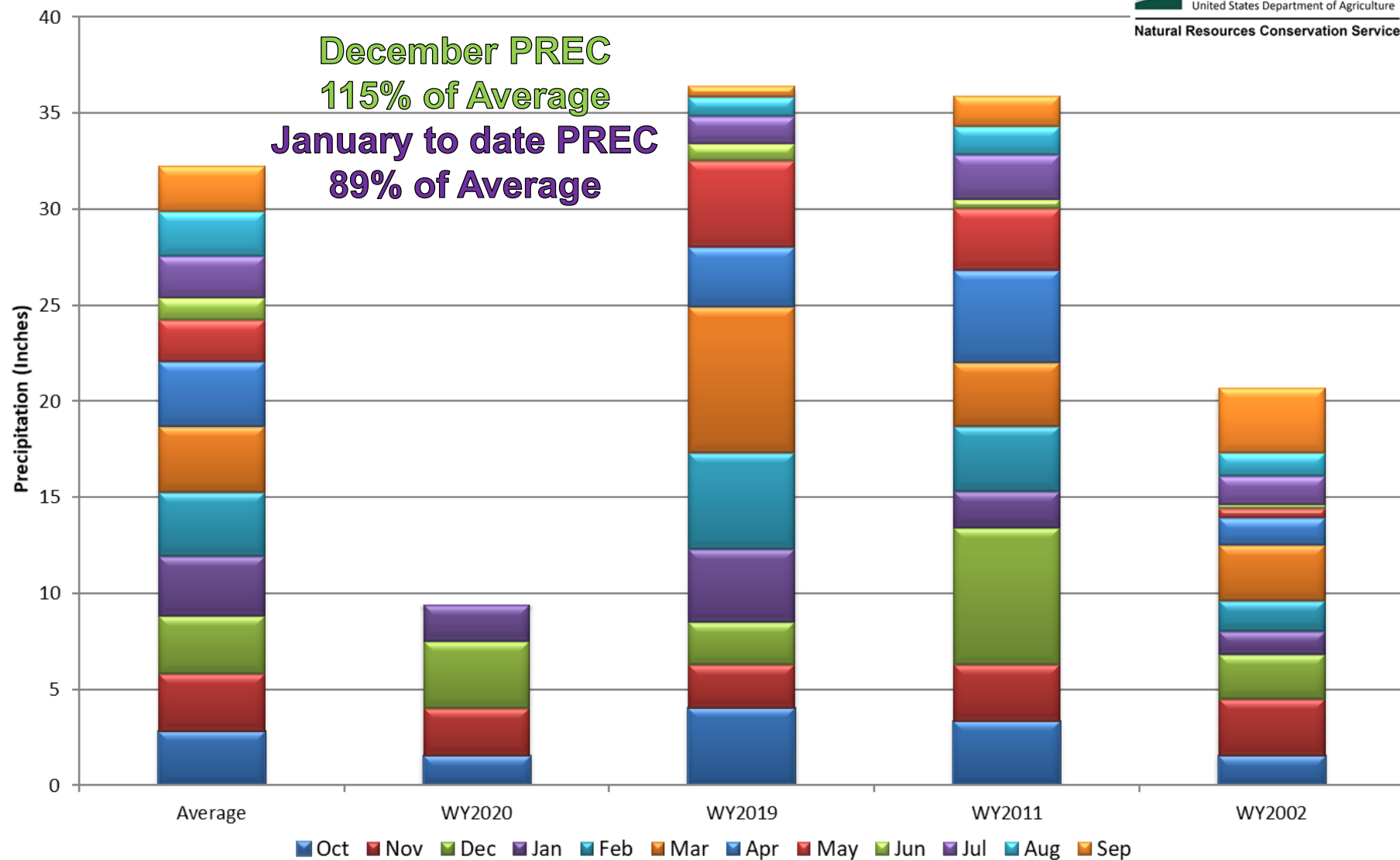
Natural Resources Conservation Service





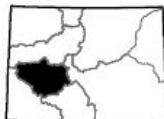
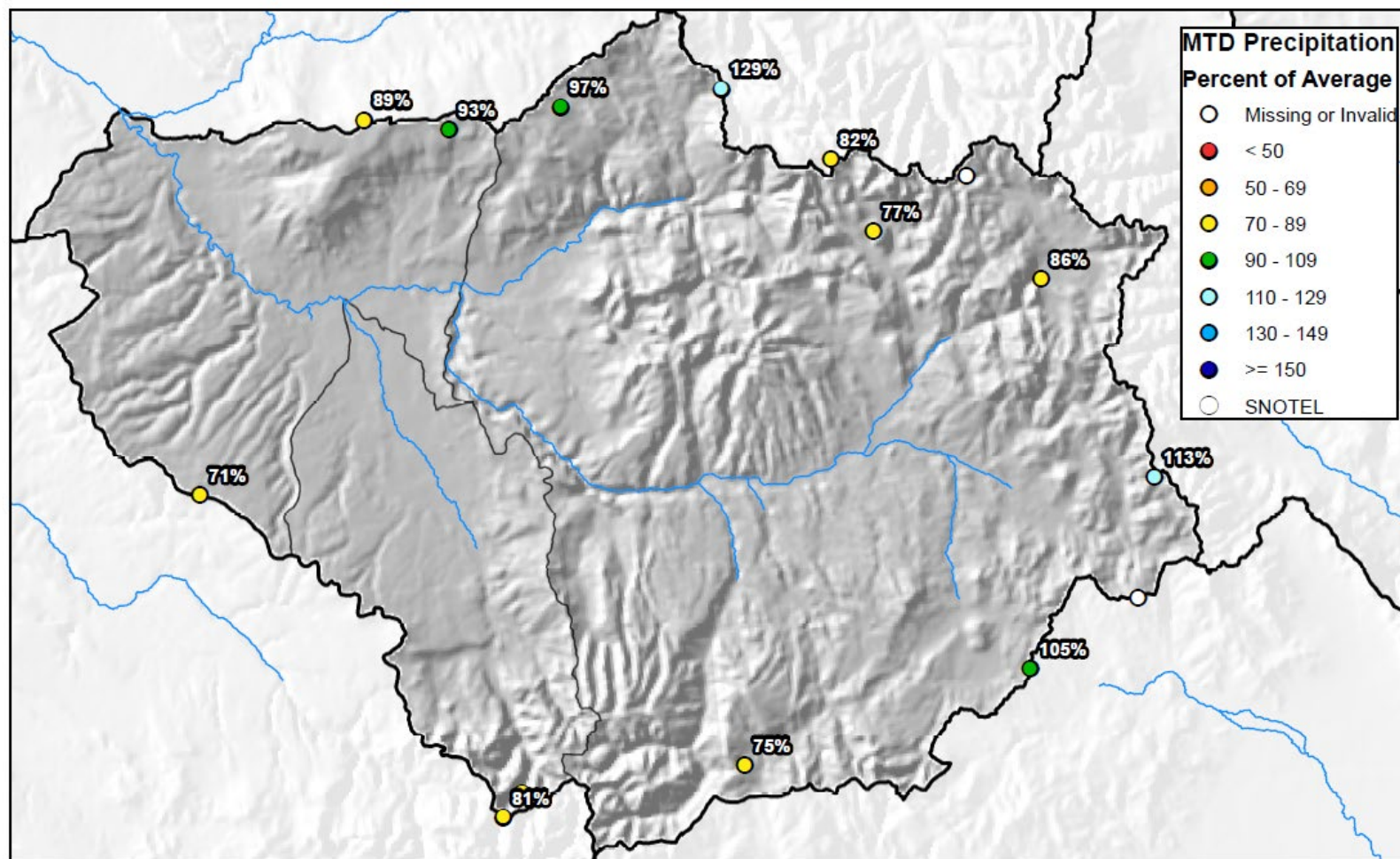
Gunnison River Basin High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 22, 2020



Gunnison River Basin Month to Date Precipitation Summary

Current as of Jan 22, 2020



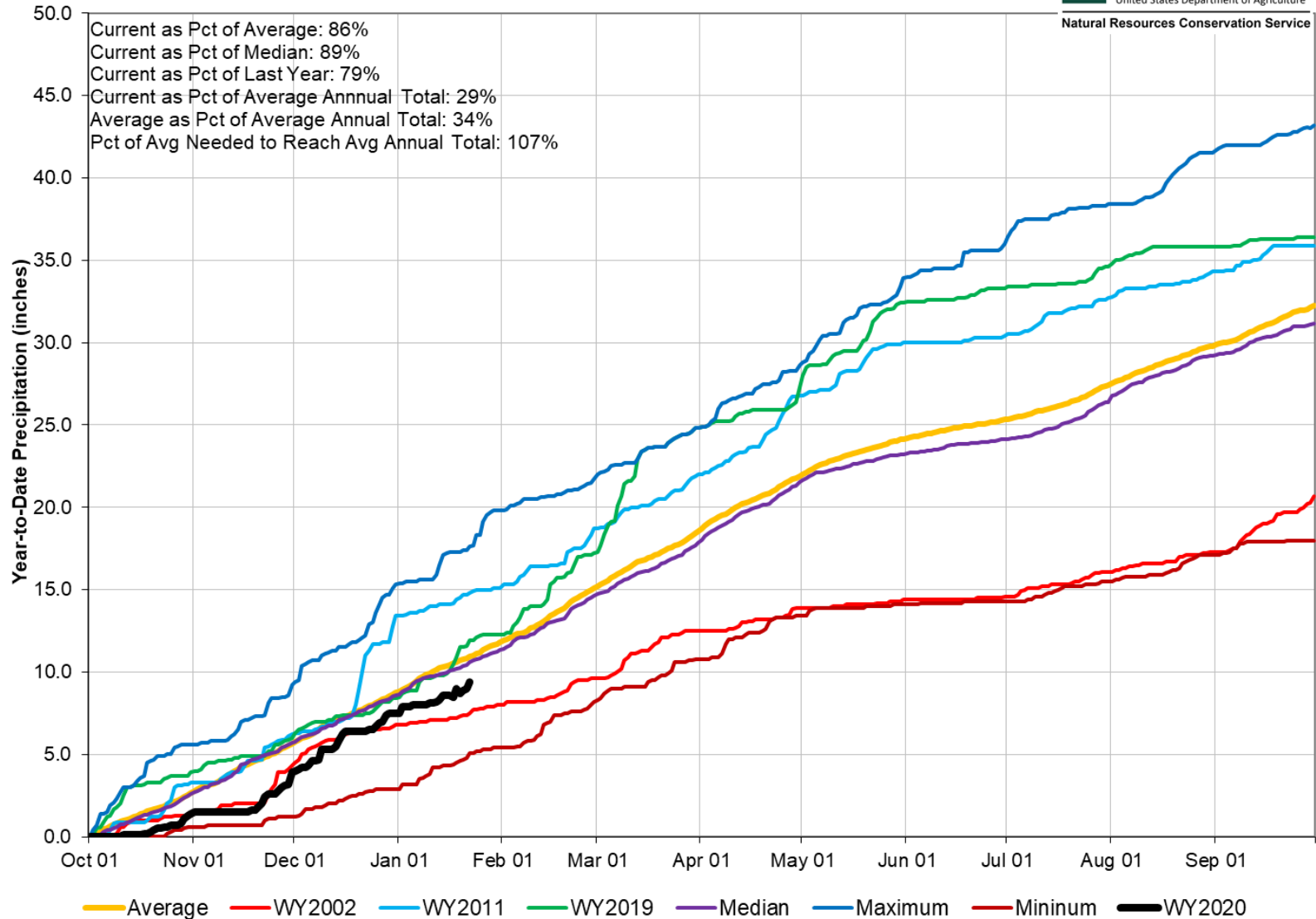
0 5 10 20 30 40 Miles



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

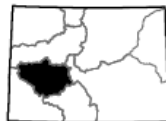
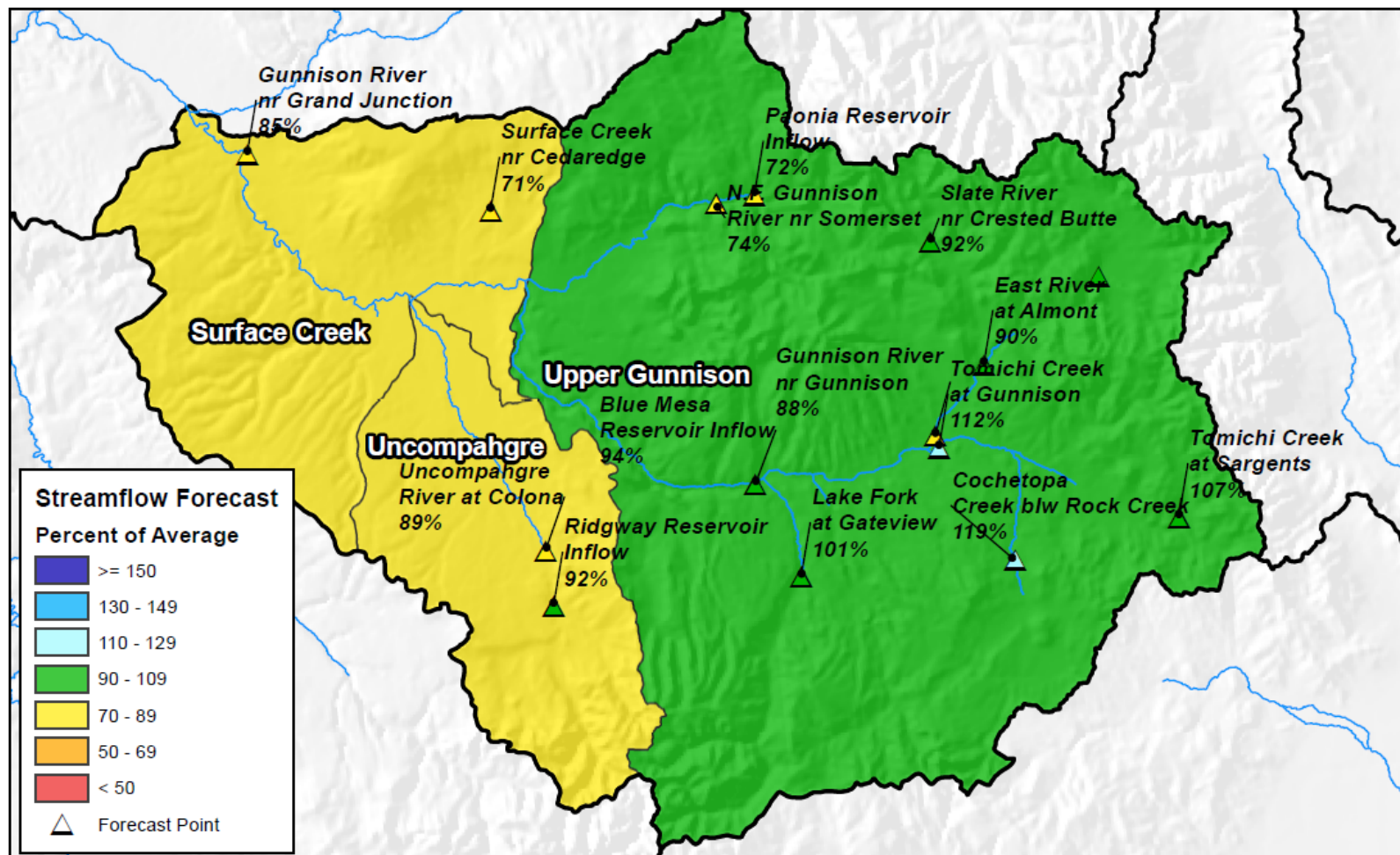
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 22, 2020

USDA
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

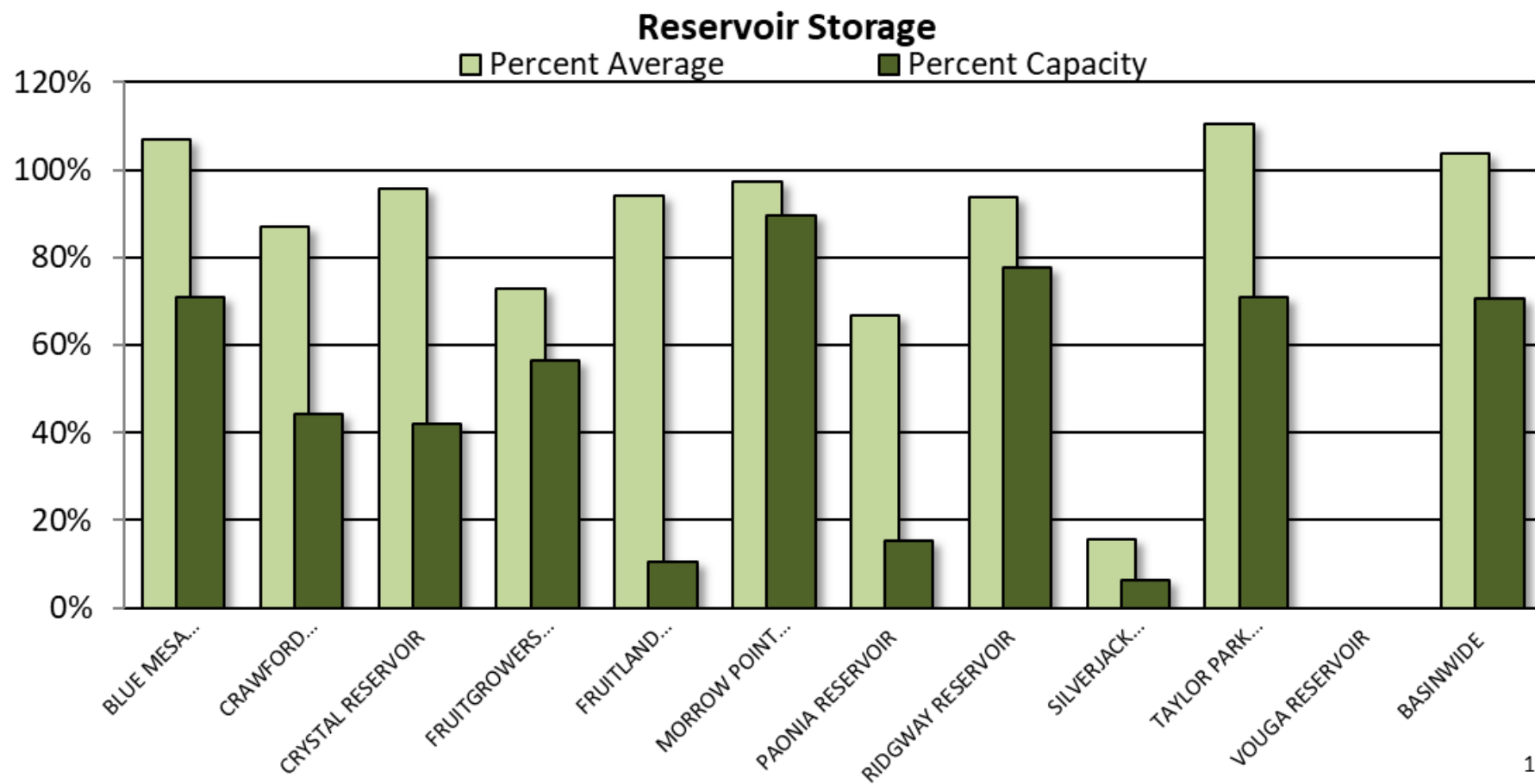


Gunnison River Basin Water Supply Forecast Summary

January 1, 2020

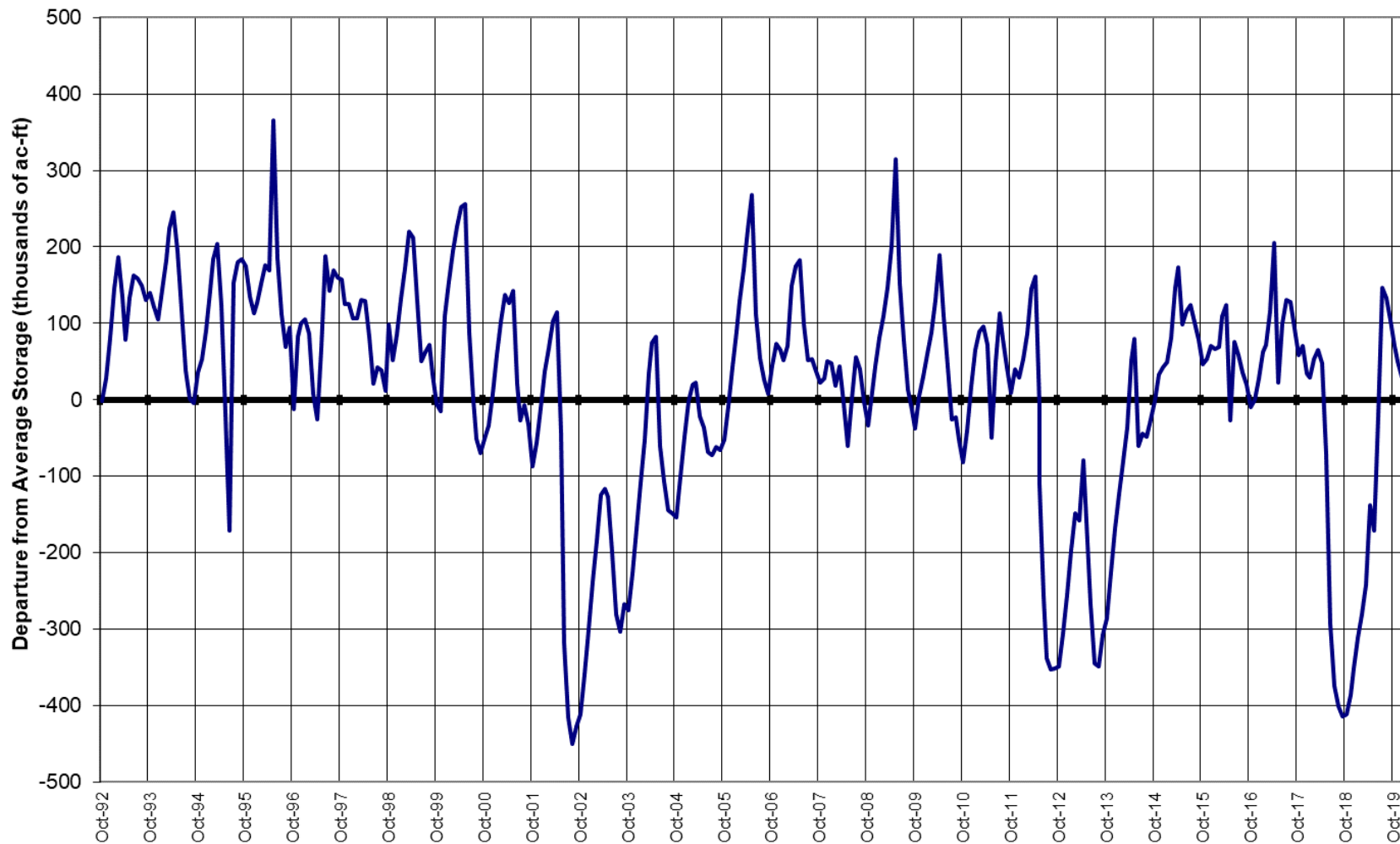


0 5 10 20 30 40 Miles



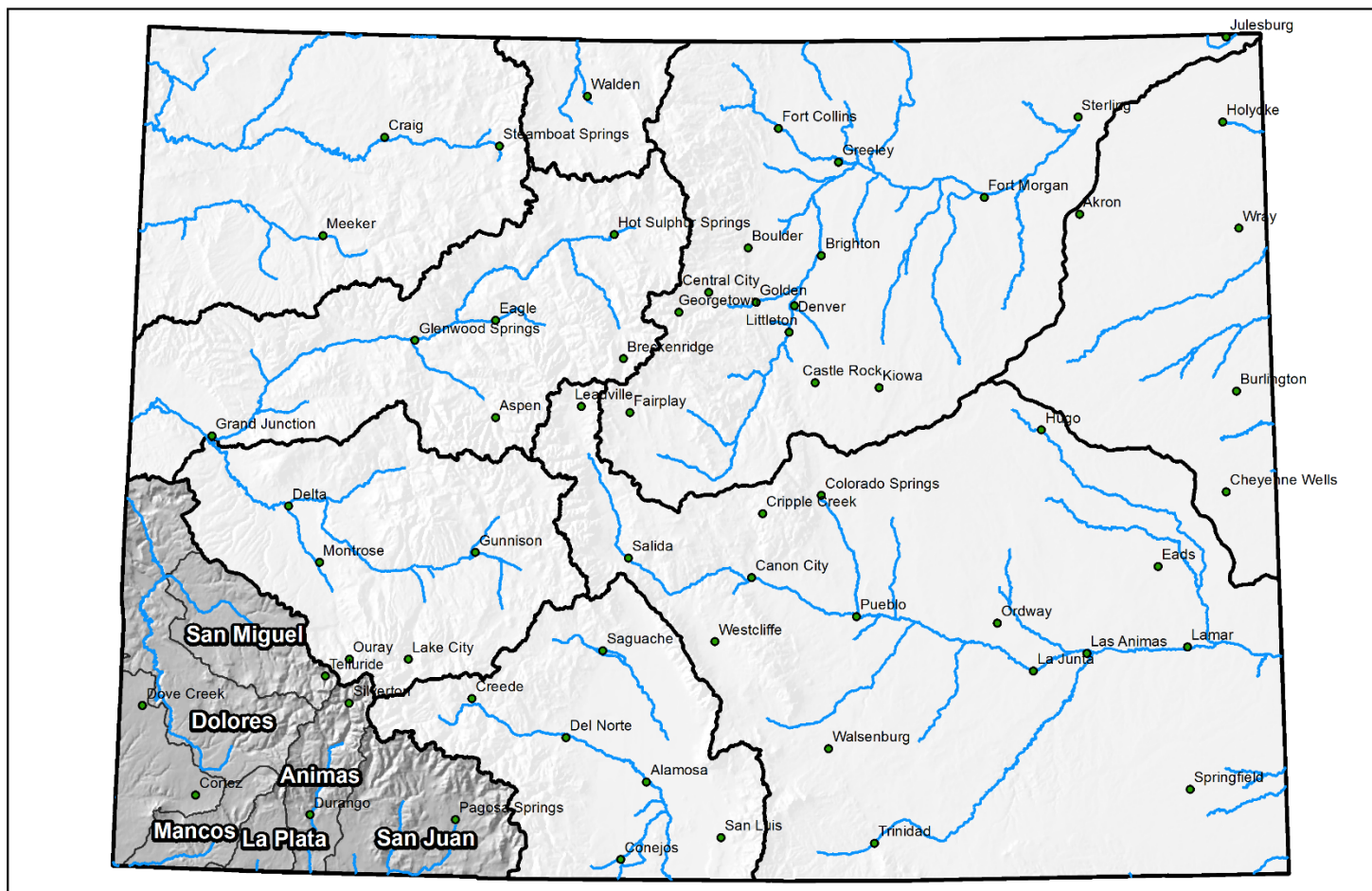


GUNNISON RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage Departure from Average



Major Basin Summary

San Miguel, Dolores, Animas, and San Juan River Basins



0 25 50 100 150 200 Miles



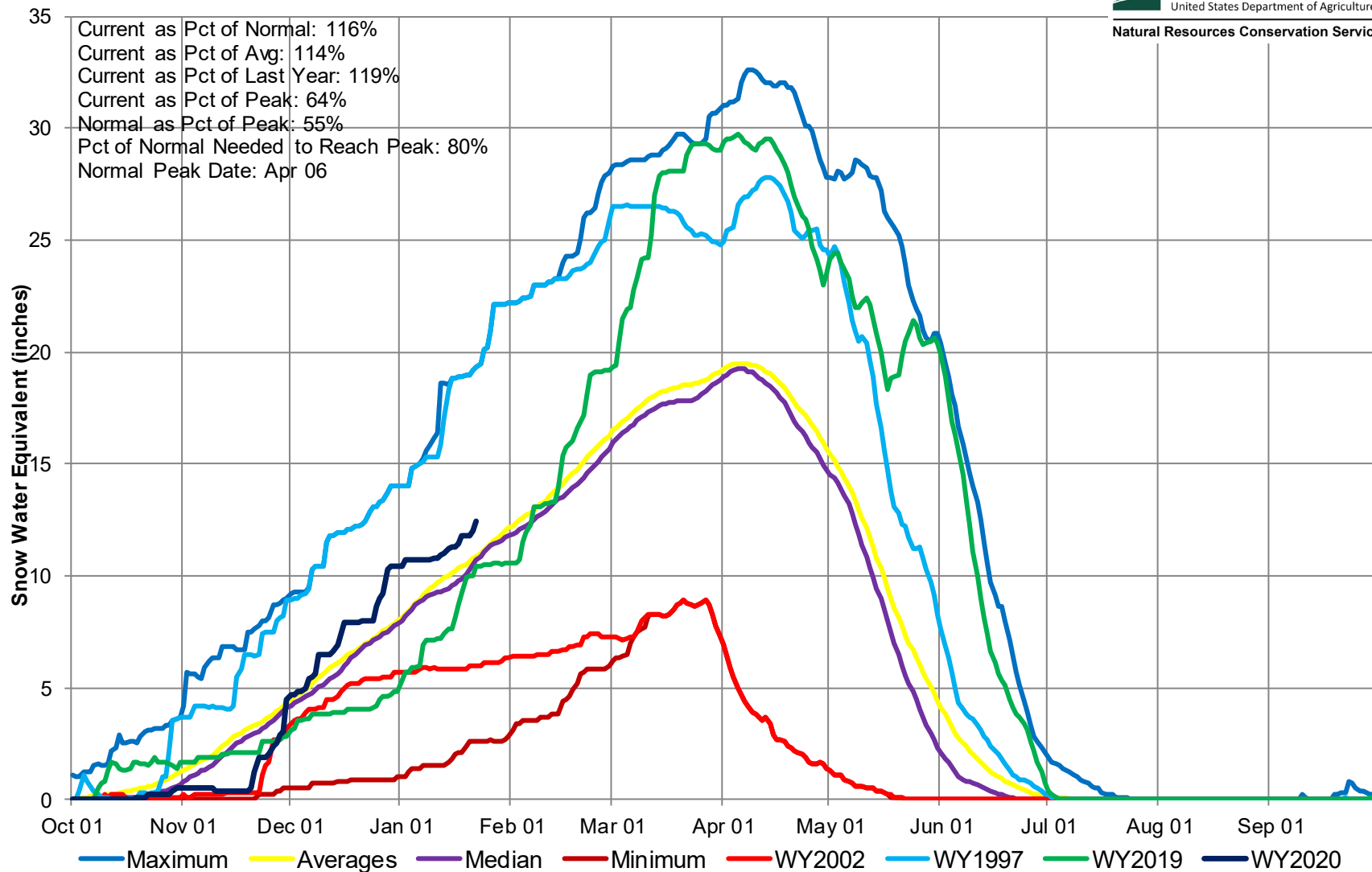
San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan River Basins High/Low Snowpack Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 22, 2020



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service



San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan River Basins

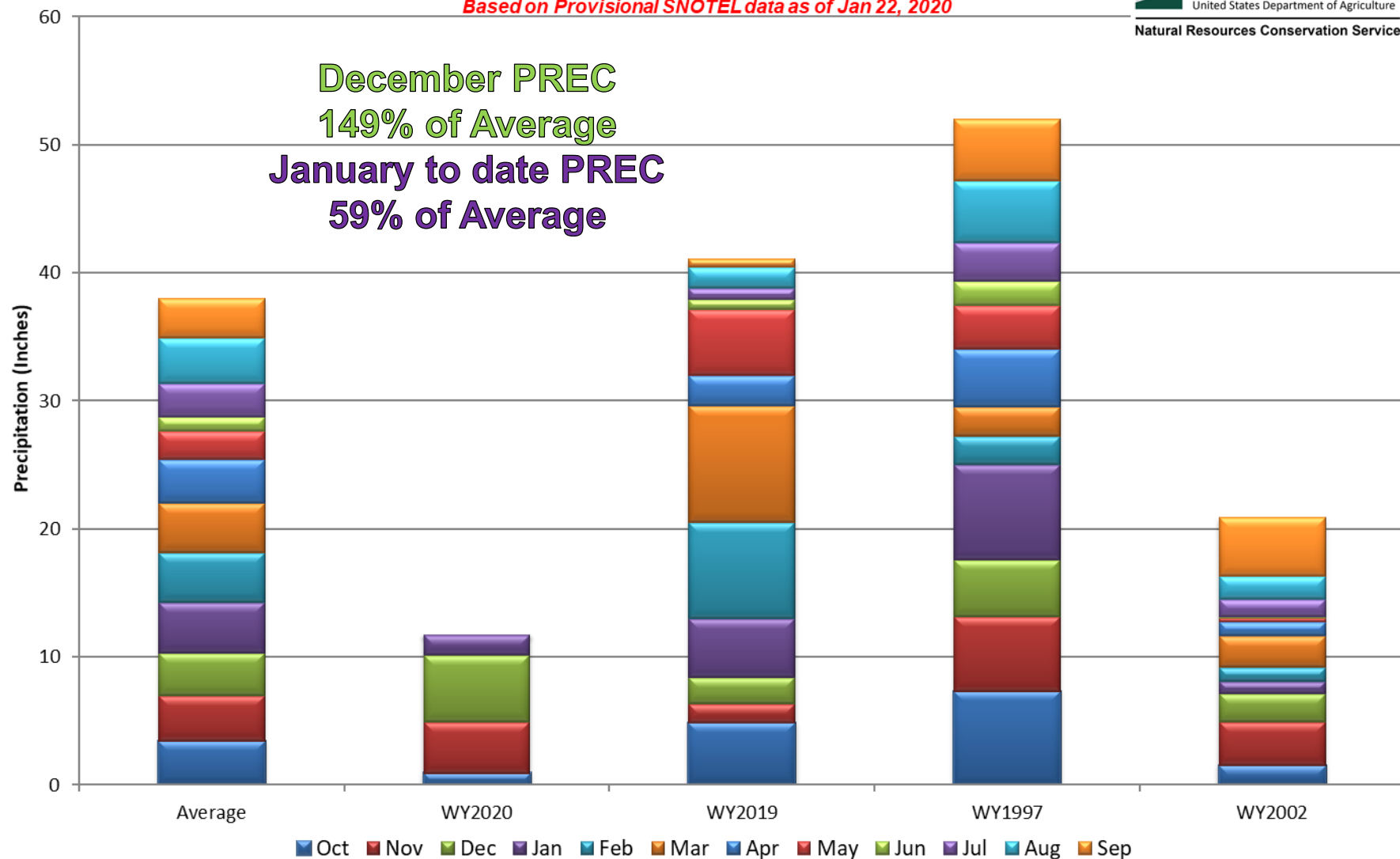
High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 22, 2020



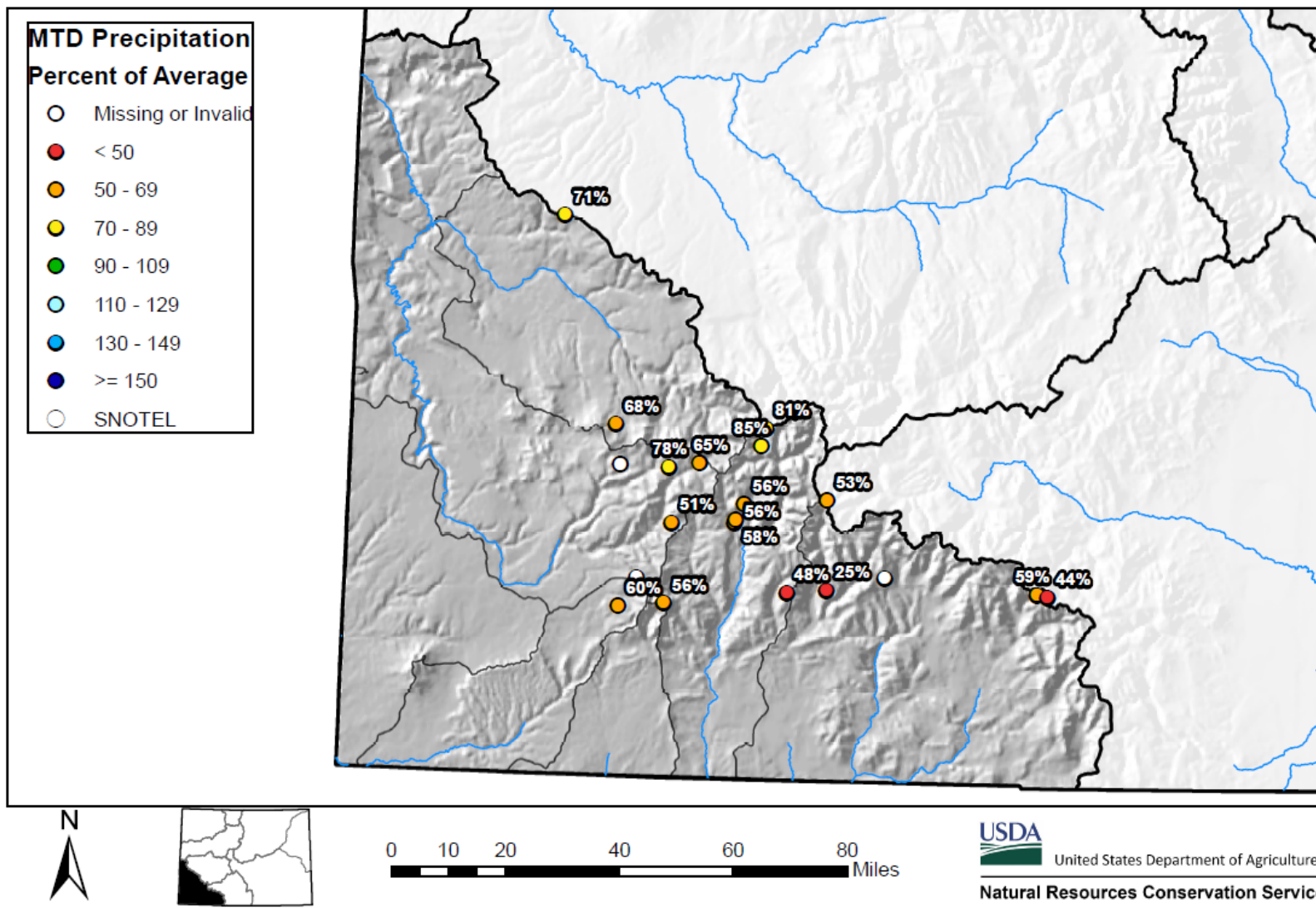
United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service



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

Current as of Jan 22, 2020





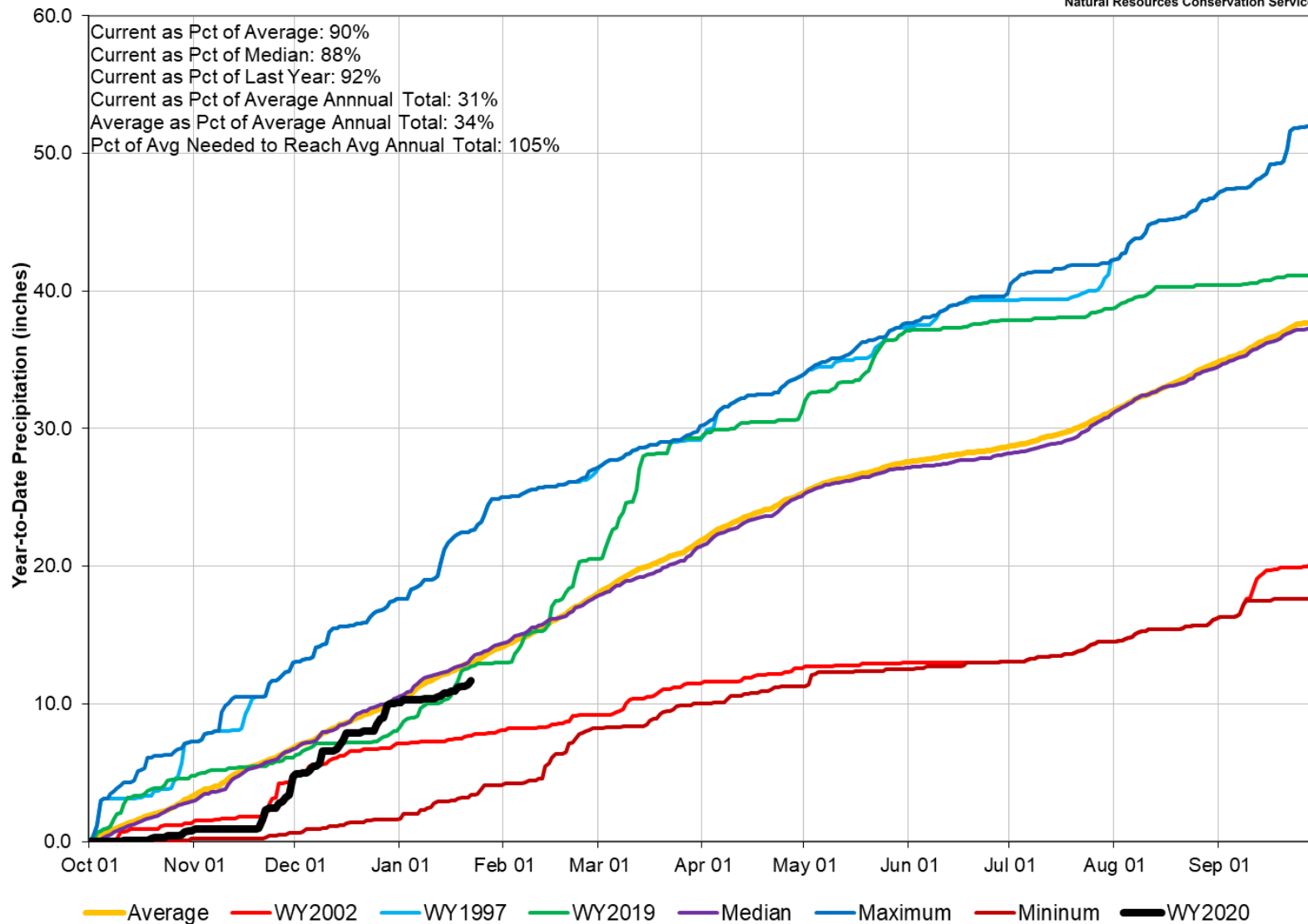
San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan River Basins High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 22, 2020



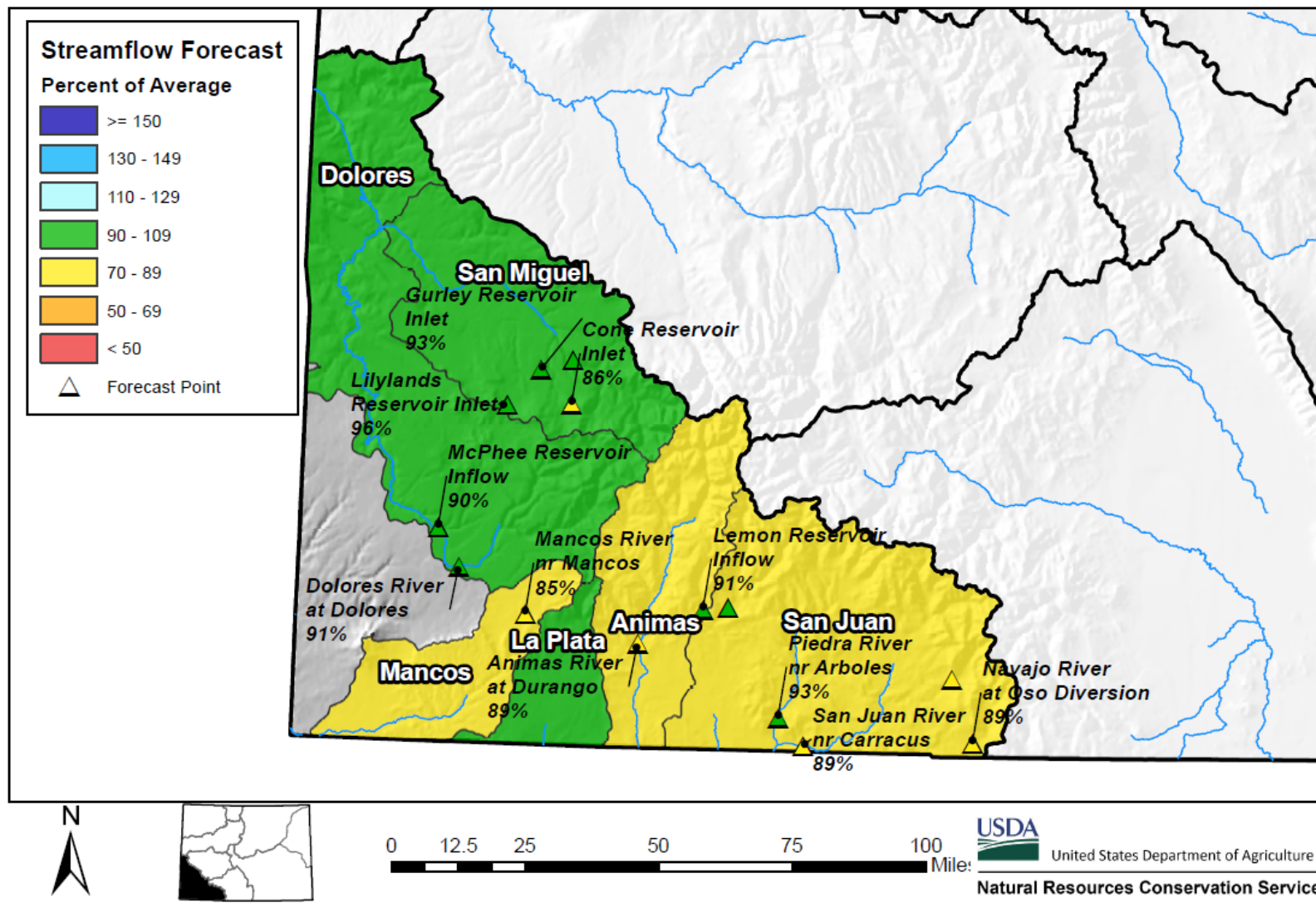
United States Department of Agriculture

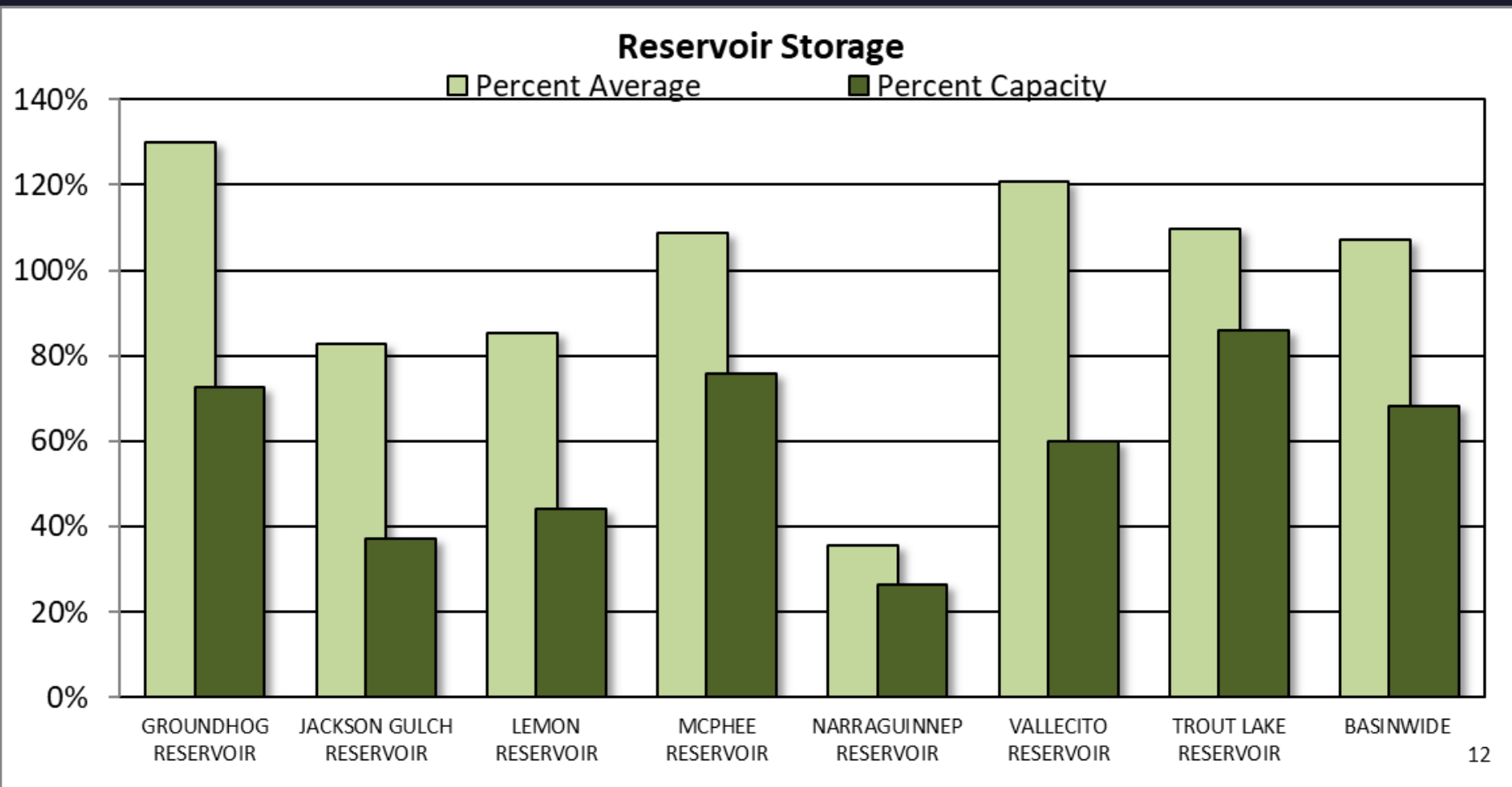
Natural Resources Conservation Service



San Miguel, Dolores, Animas, and San Juan River Basins Streamflow Forecast Summary

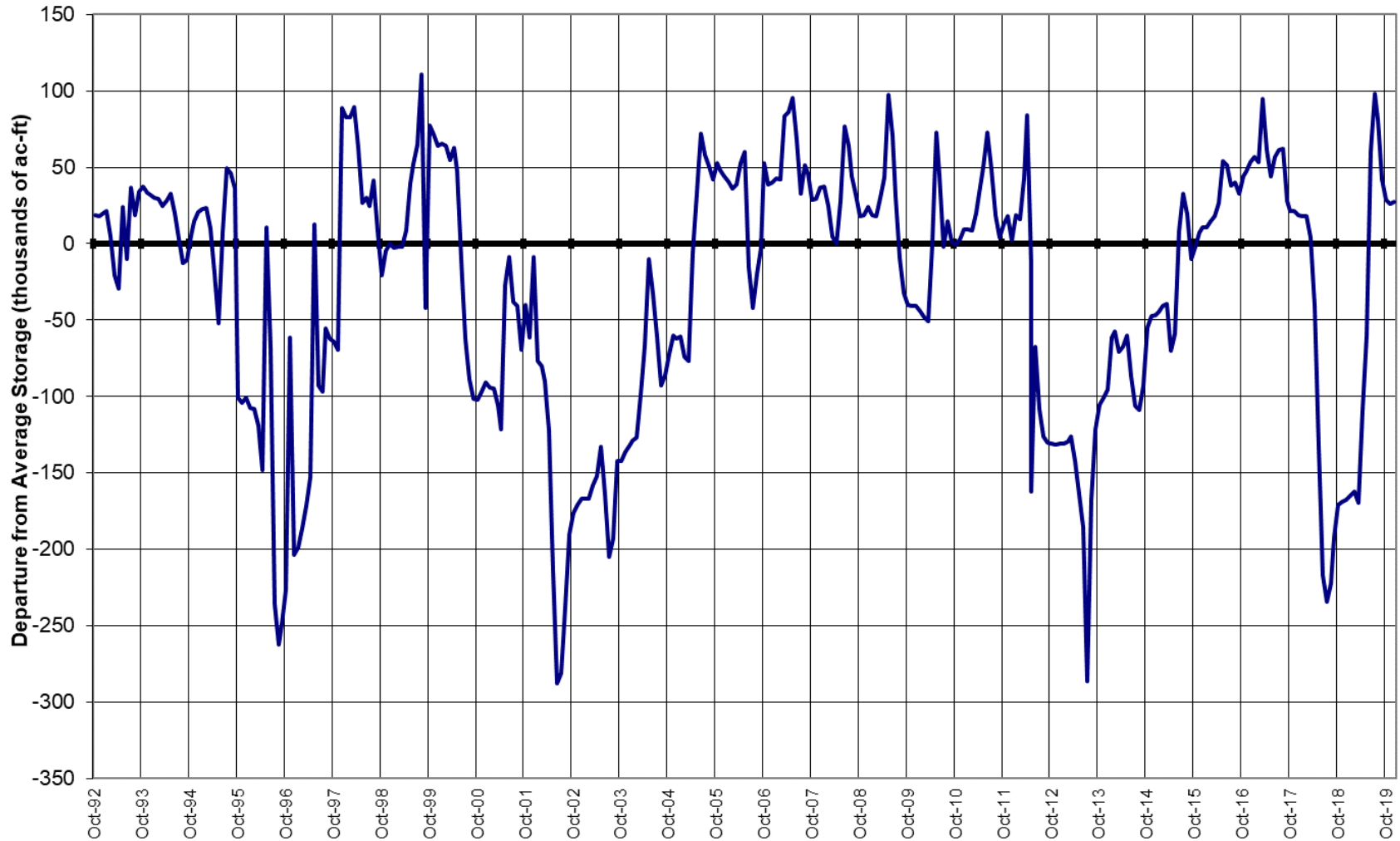
January 1, 2020





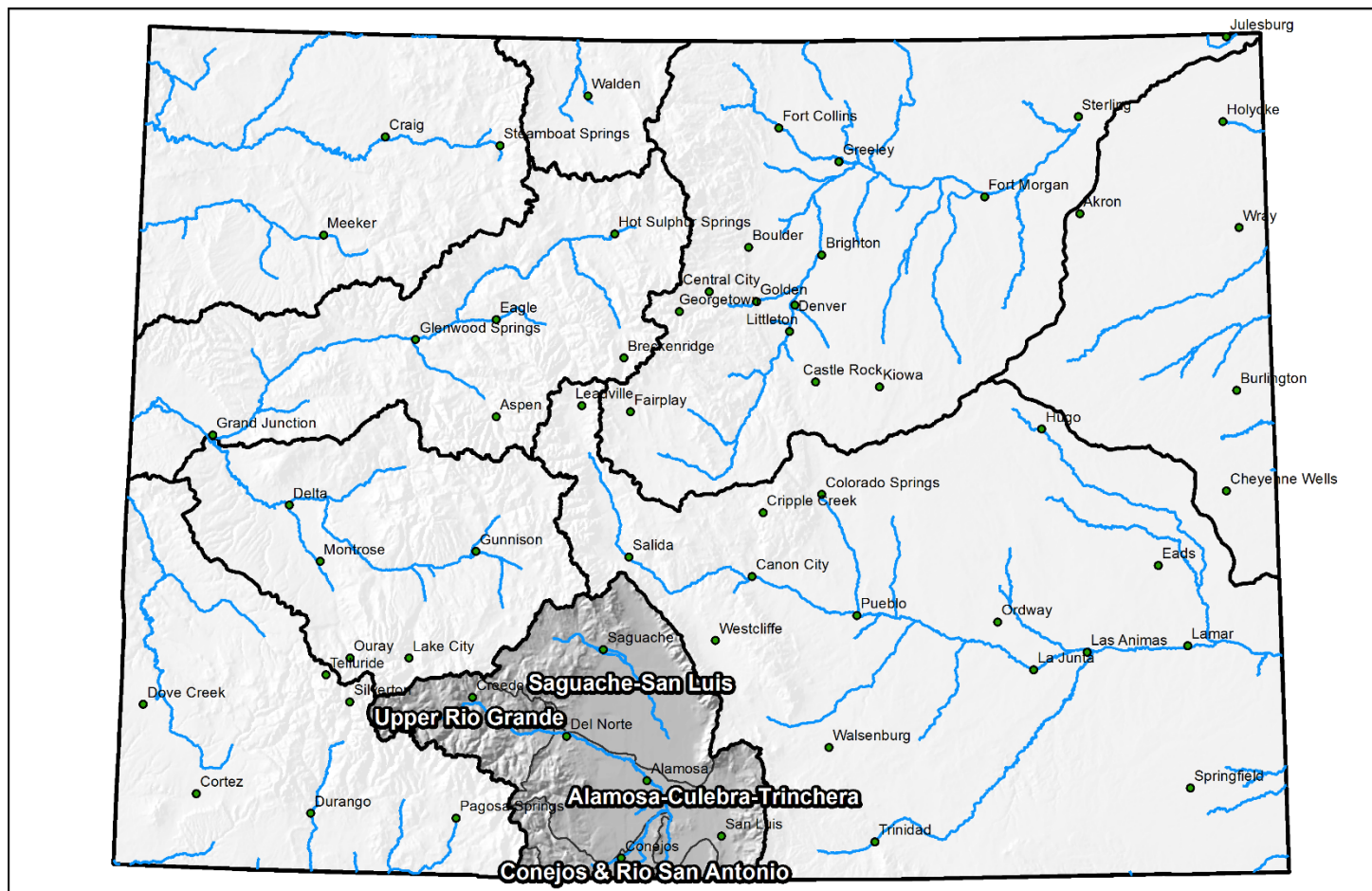
SAN MIGUEL, DOLORES, ANIMAS AND SAN JUAN RIVER BASINS

Reservoir Storage
Departure from Average



Major Basin Summary

Upper Rio Grande River Basin



0 25 50 100 150 200 Miles



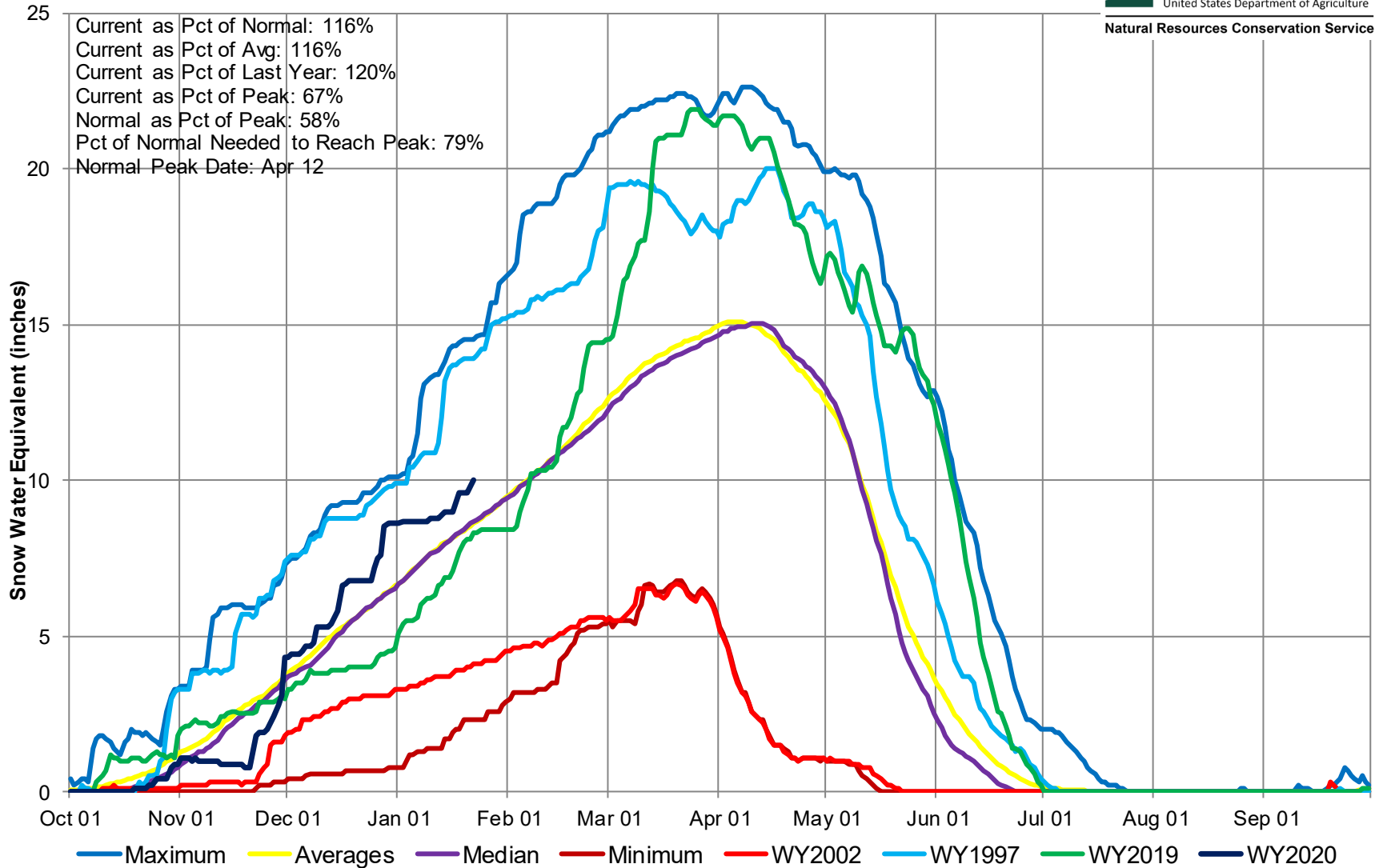
Upper Rio Grande Basin High/Low Snowpack Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 22, 2020



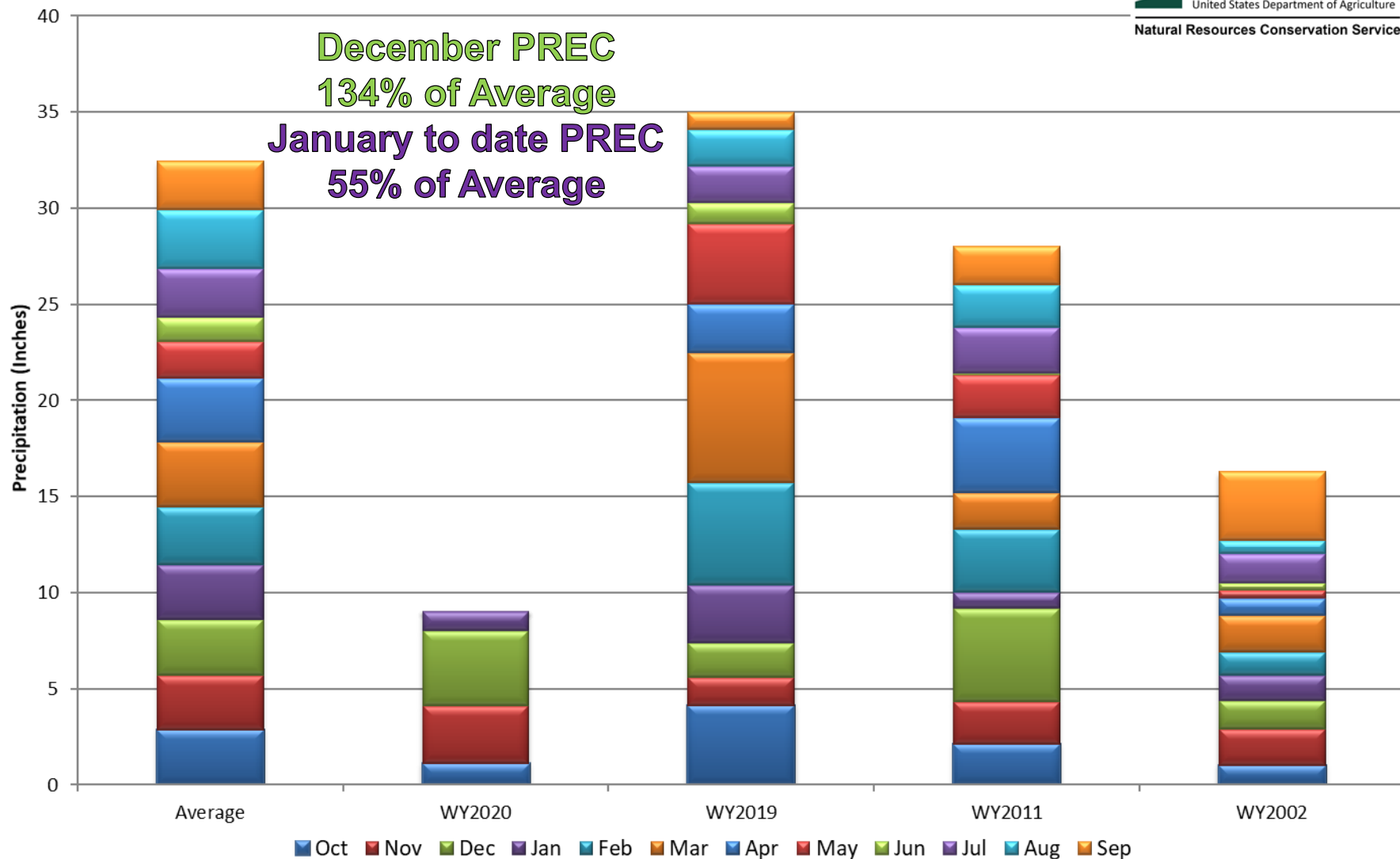
United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service



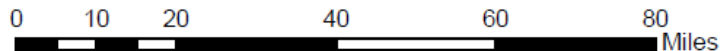
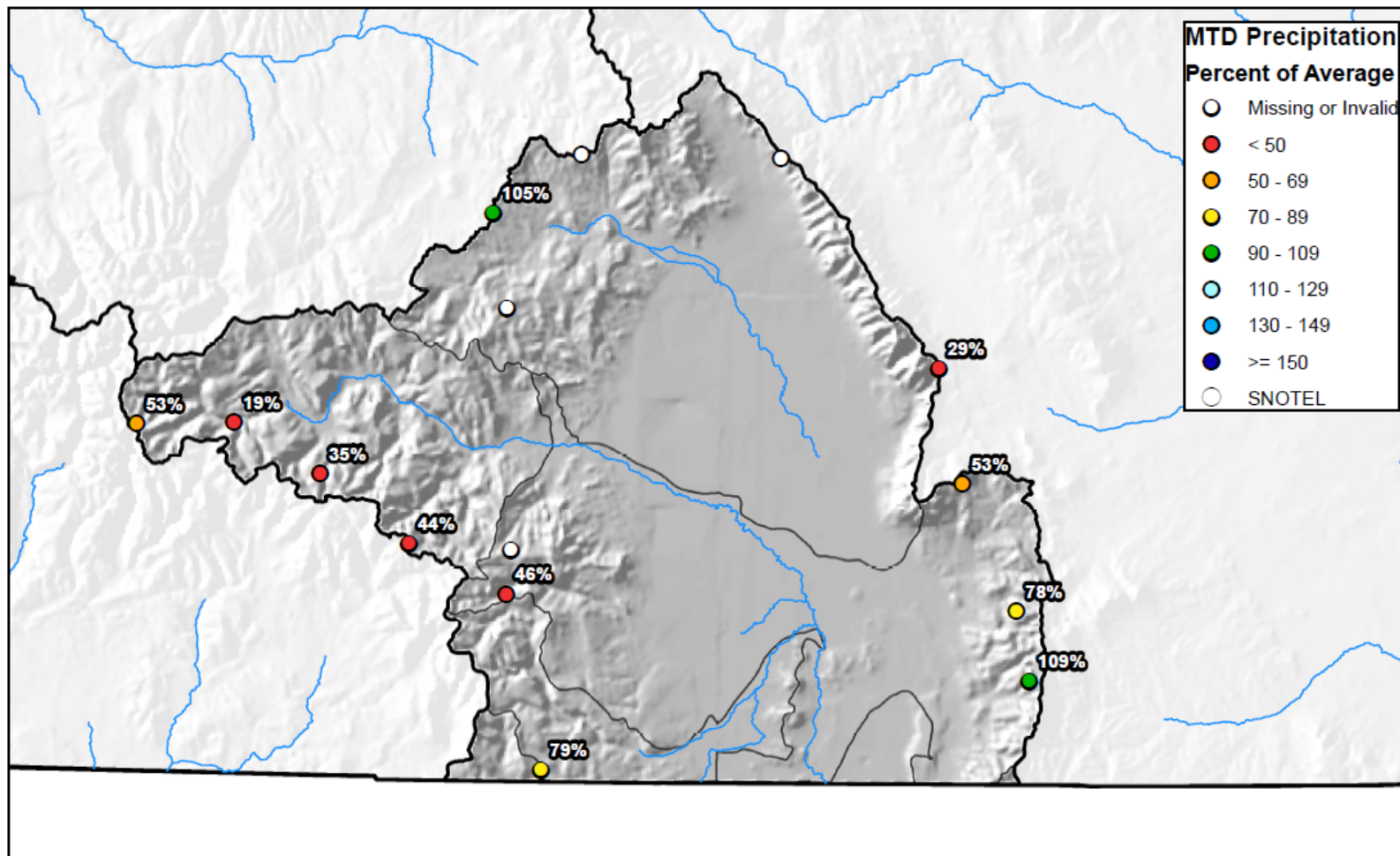
Upper Rio Grande River Basin High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 22, 2020



Upper Rio Grande River Basin Month to Date Precipitation Summary

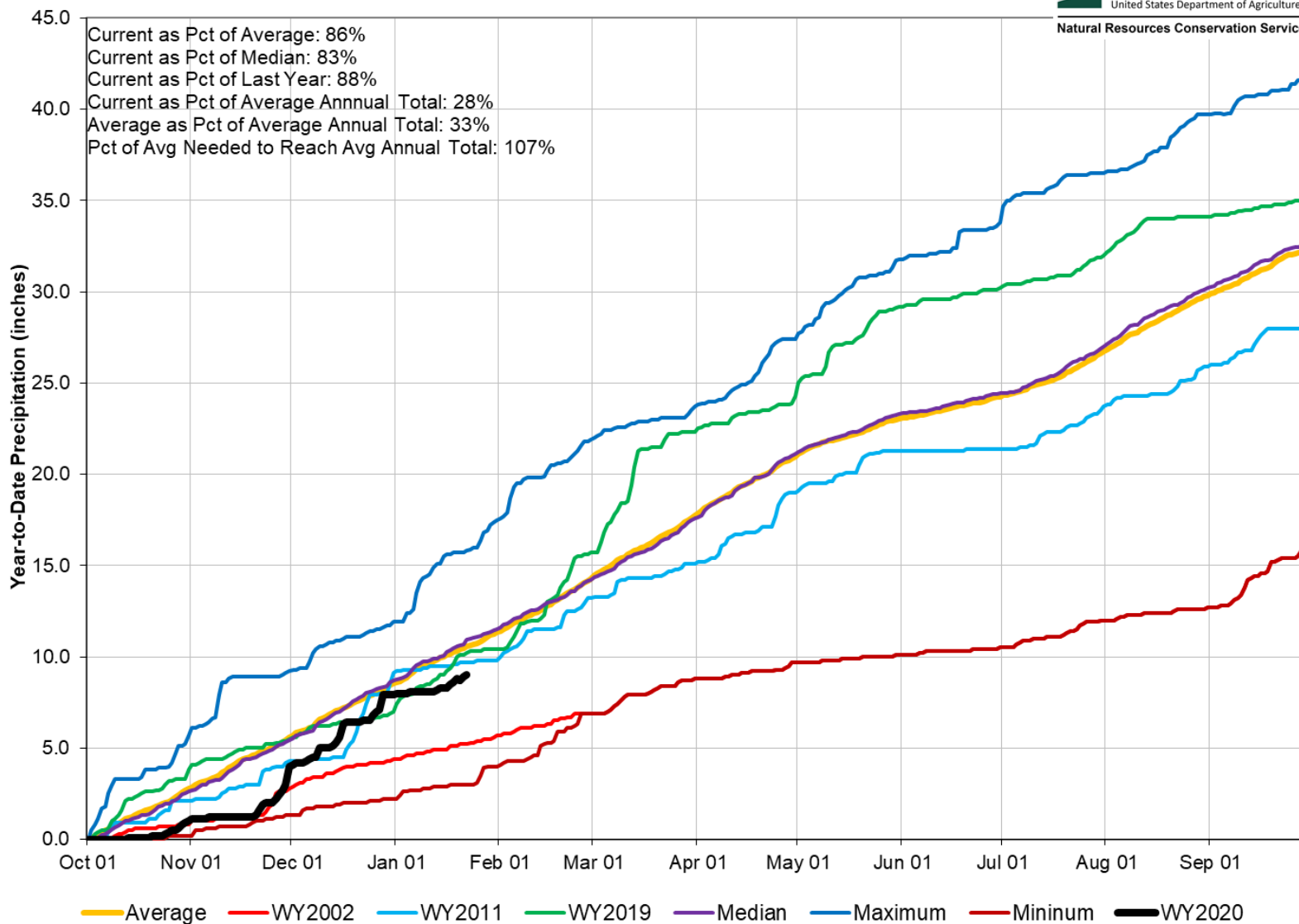
Current as of Jan 22, 2020





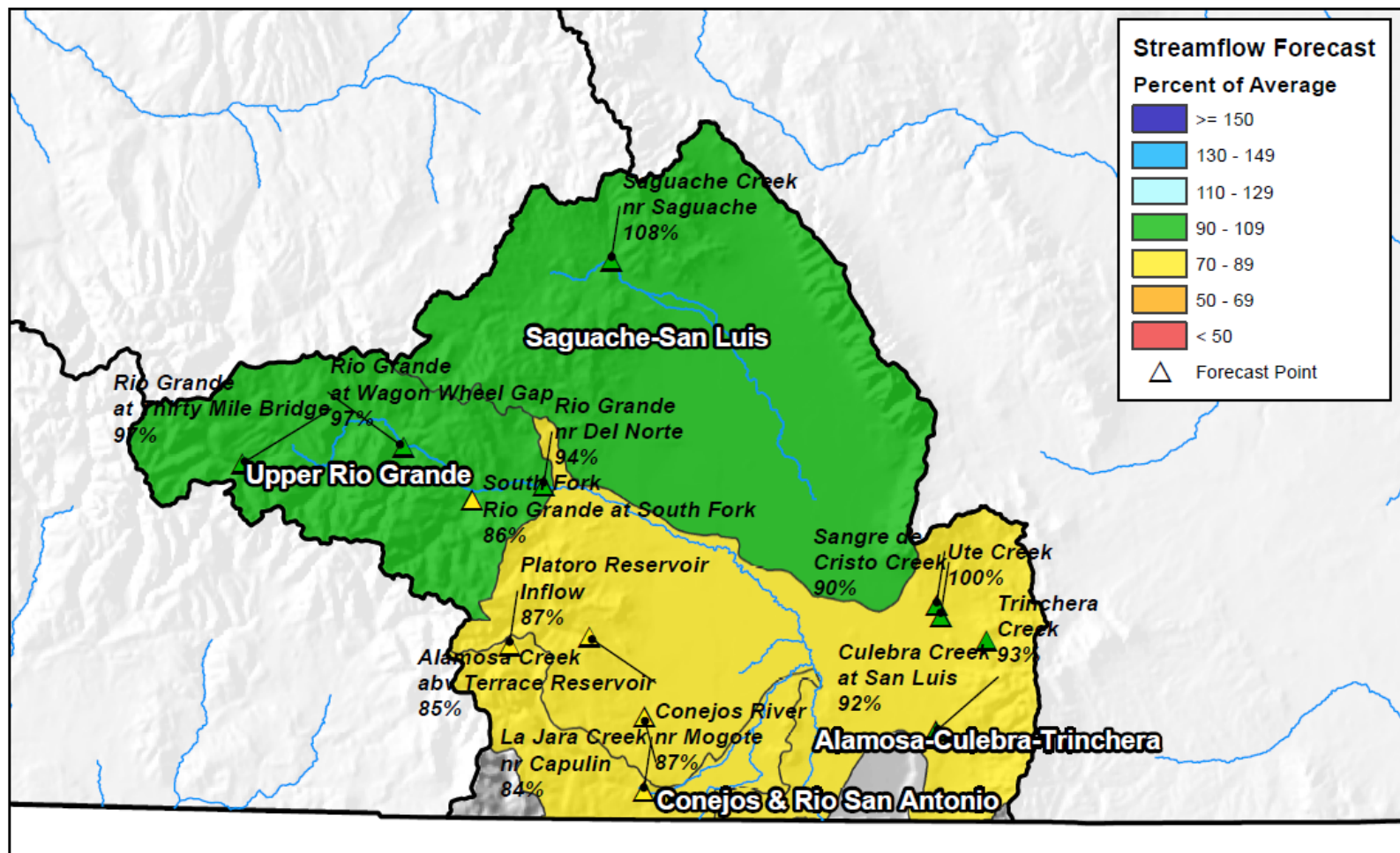
Upper Rio Grande River Basin High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 22, 2020

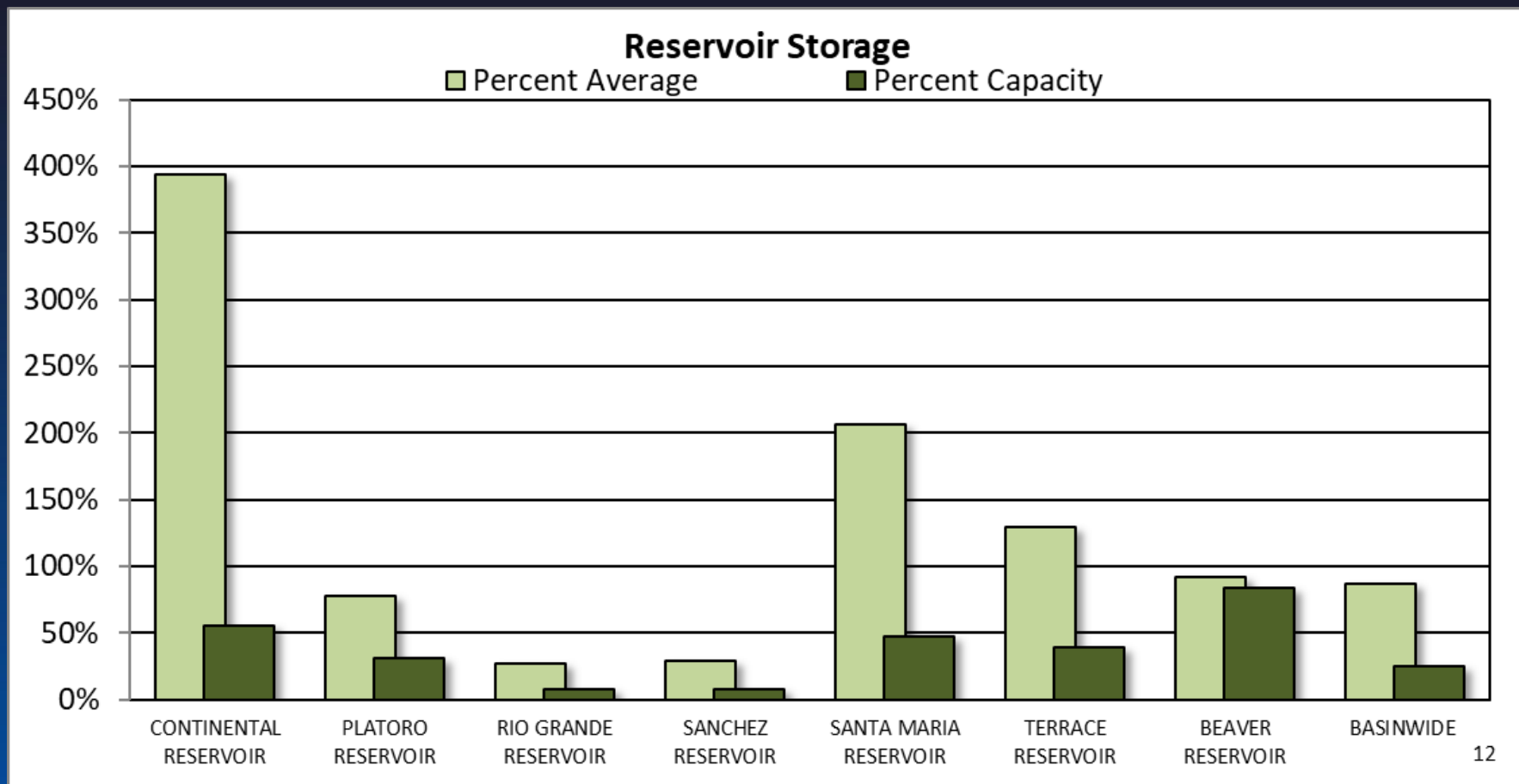


Upper Rio Grande River Basin Streamflow Forecast Summary

January 1, 2020

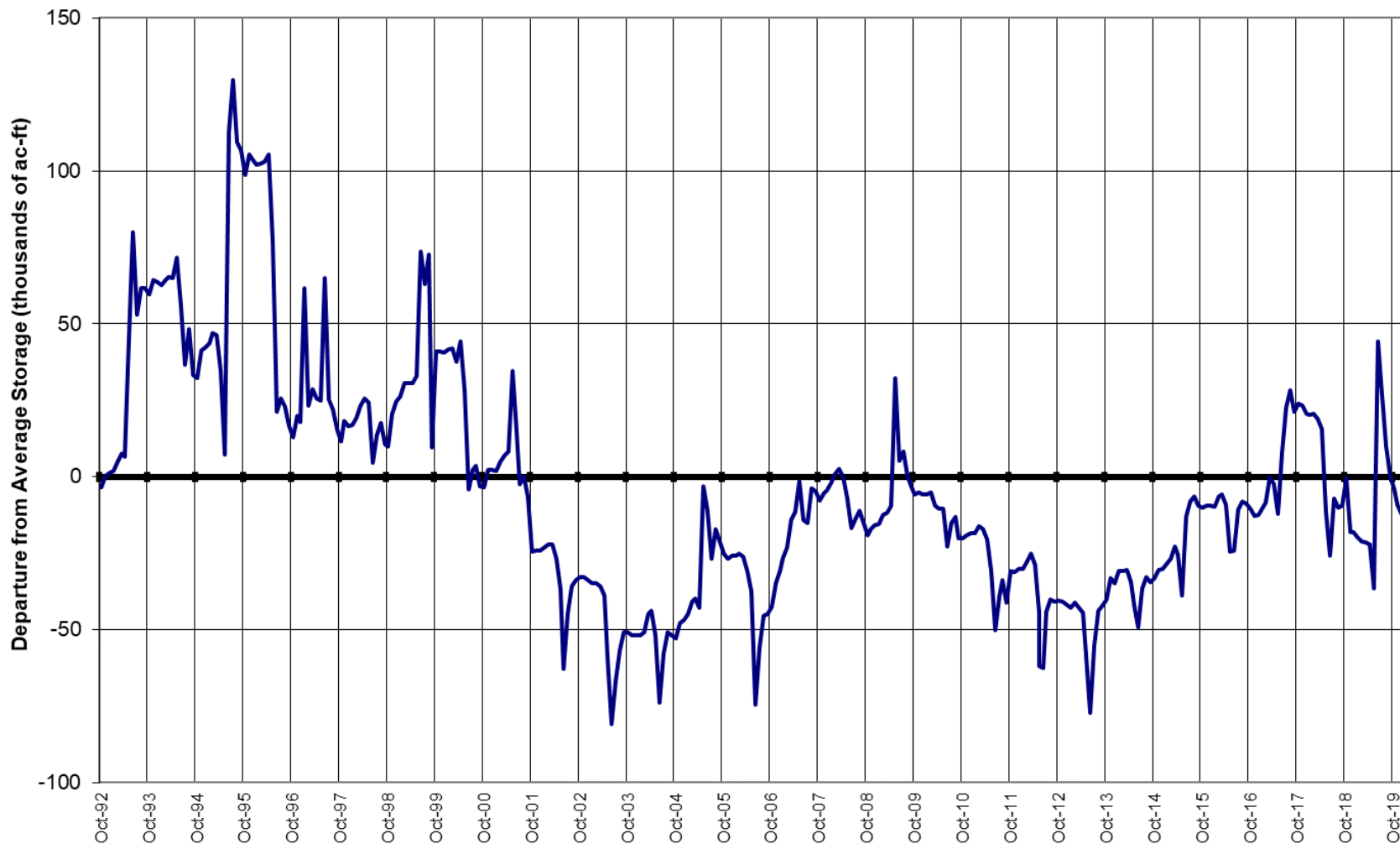


0 10 20 40 60 80 Miles



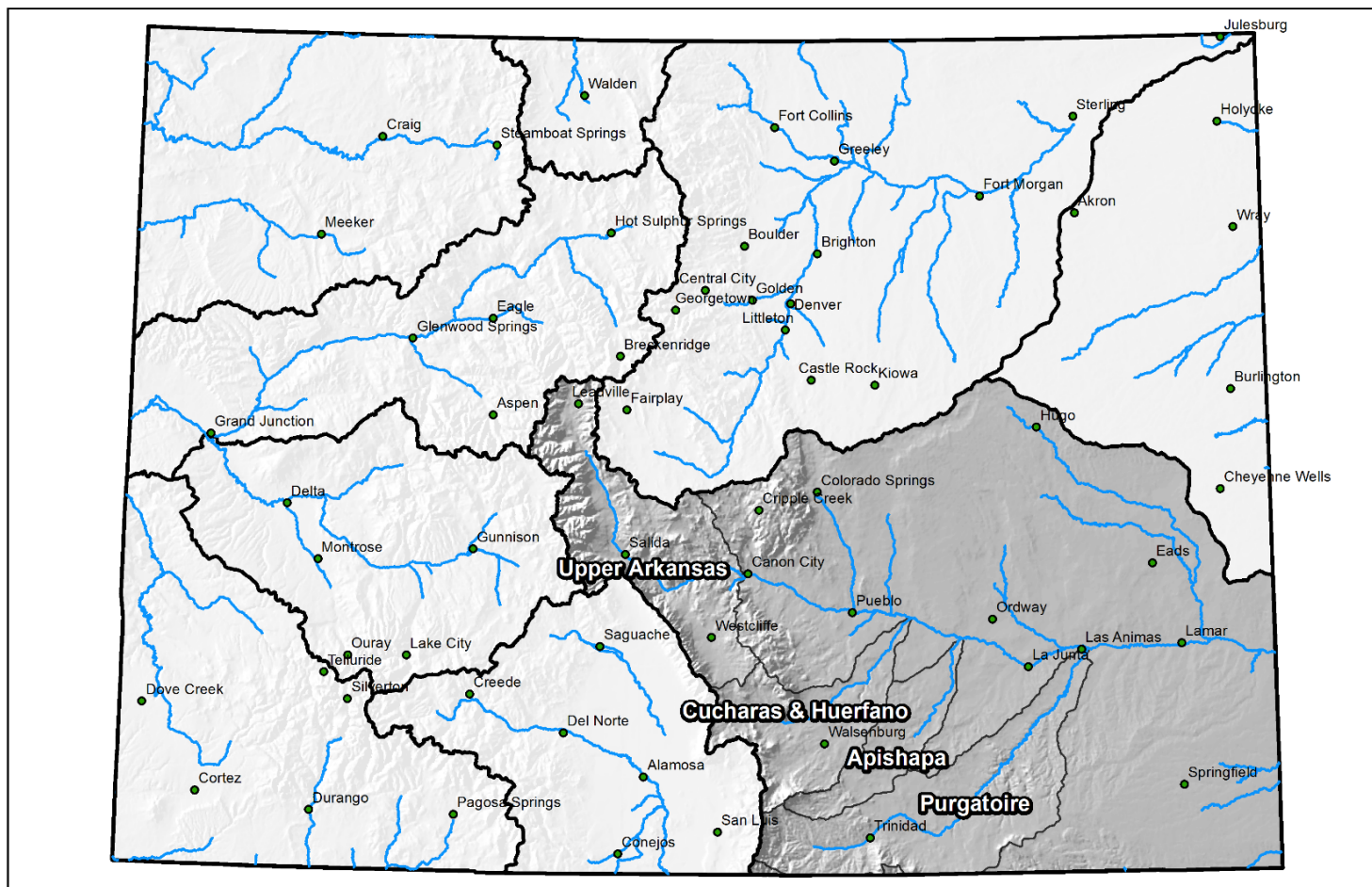


UPPER RIO GRANDE BASIN Reservoir Storage Departure from Average



Major Basin Summary

Arkansas River Basin



0 25 50 100 150 200 Miles

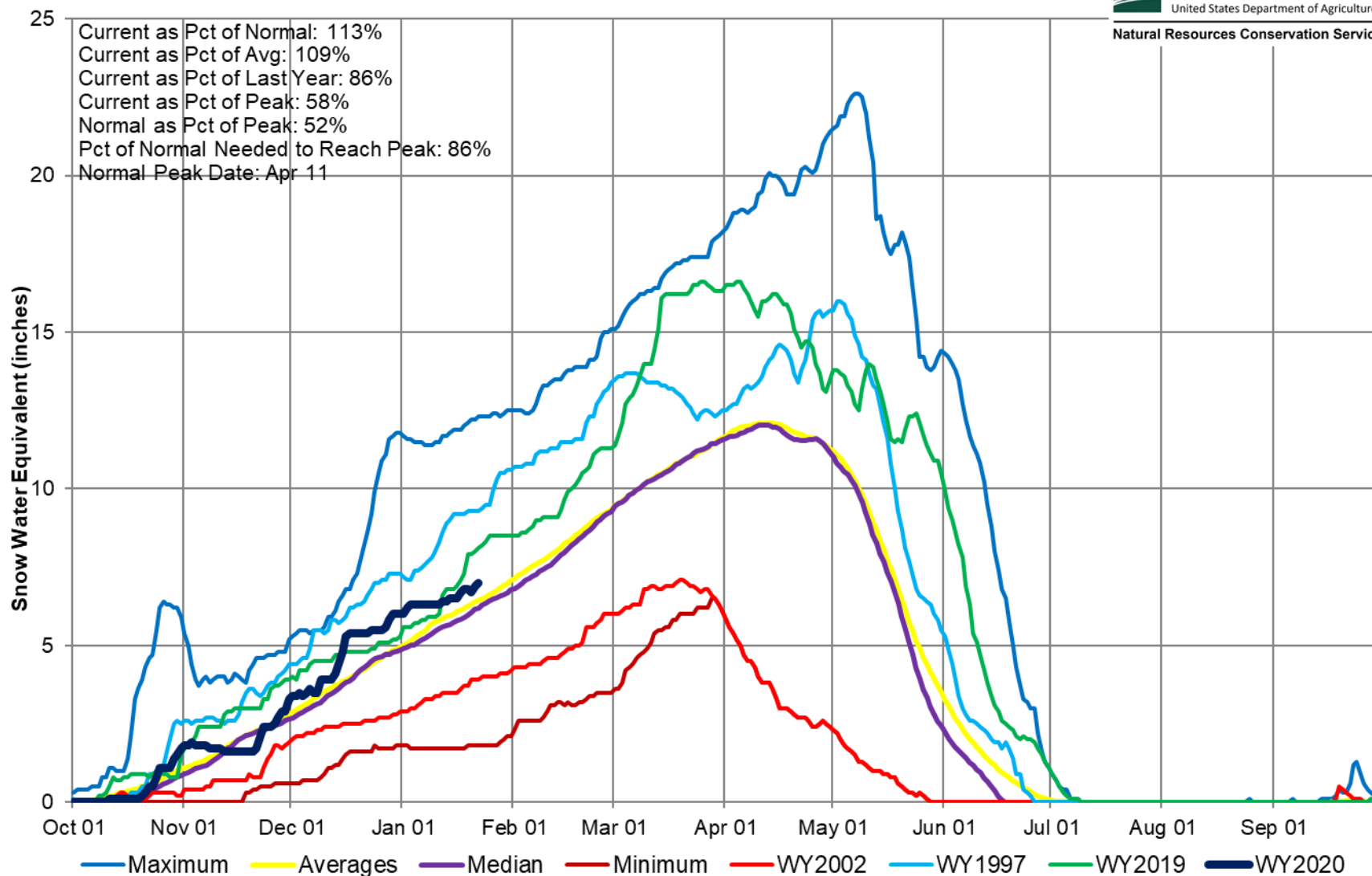
Arkansas River Basin High/Low Snowpack Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 22, 2020



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service



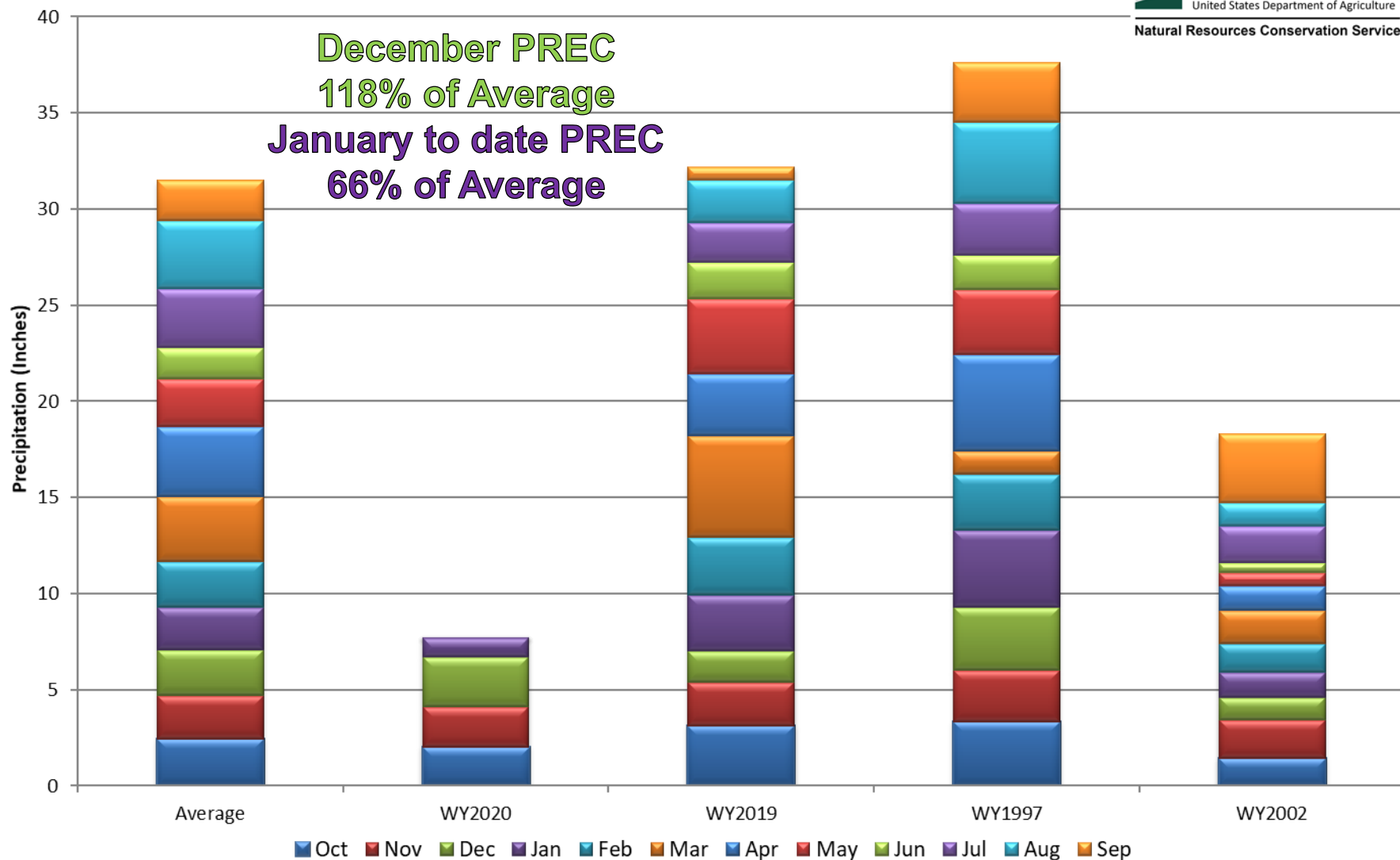
Arkansas River Basin High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 22, 2020



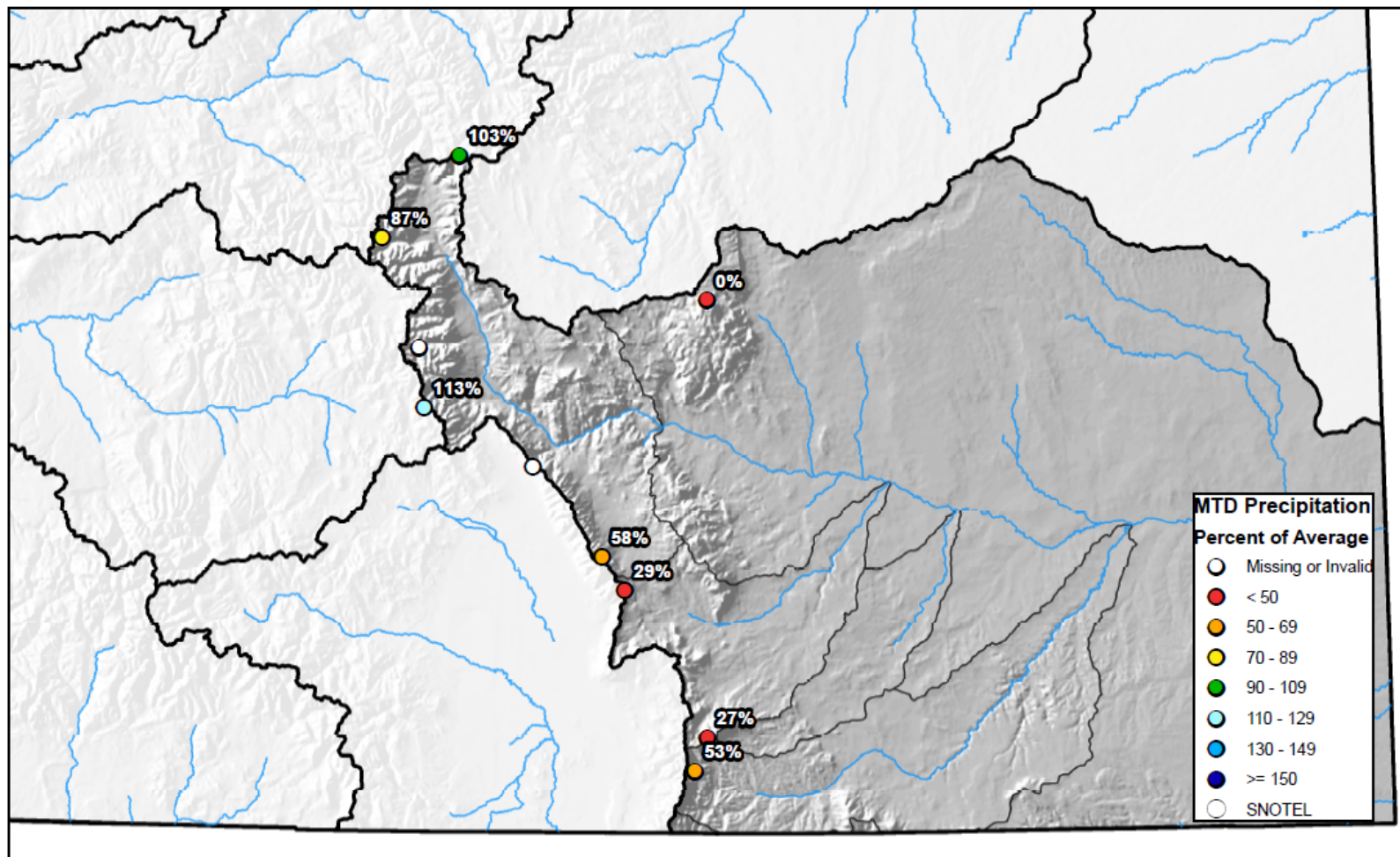
United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service



Arkansas River Basin Month to Date Precipitation Summary

Current as of Jan 22, 2020



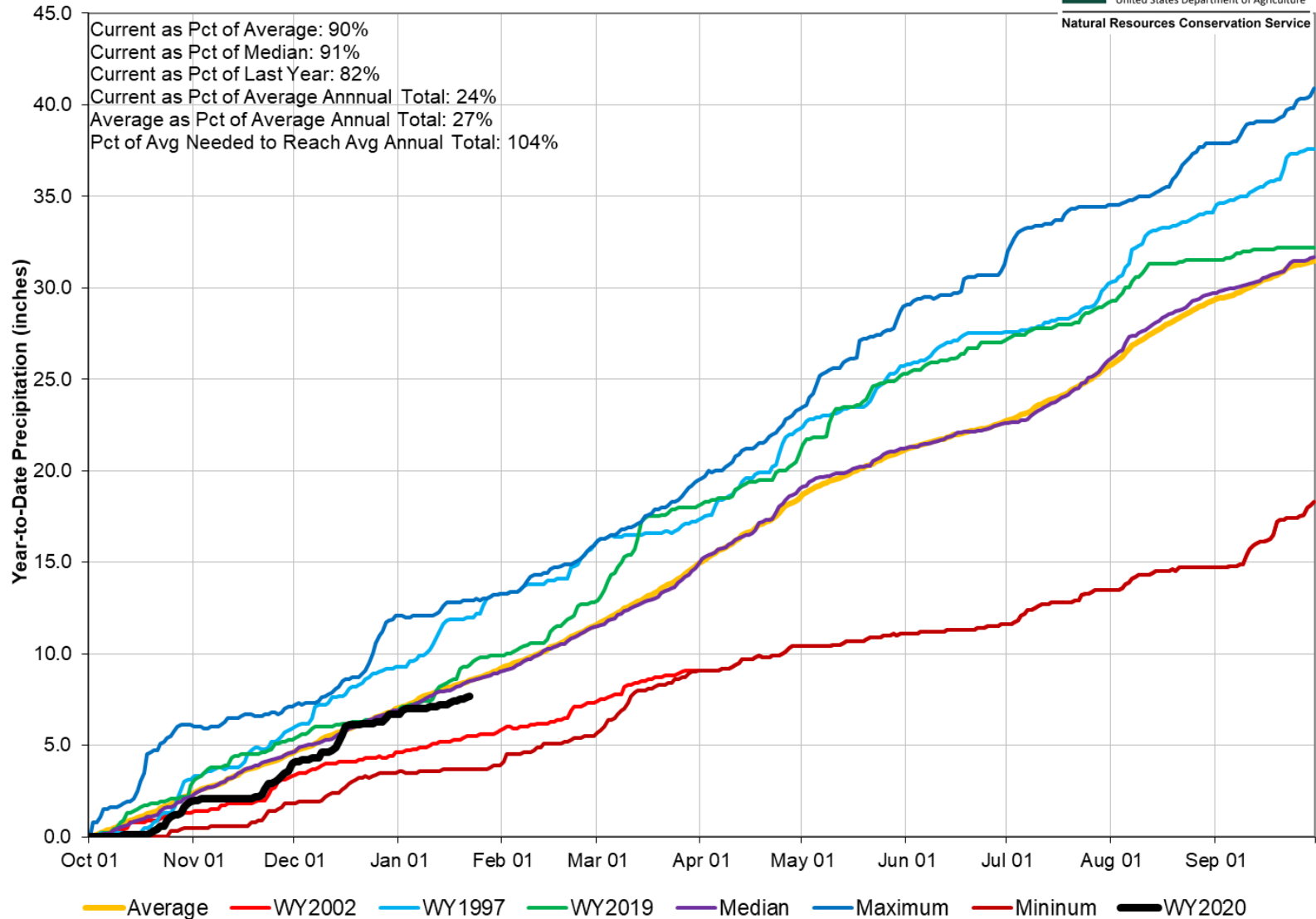
0 10 20 40 60 80 Miles



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

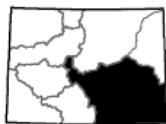
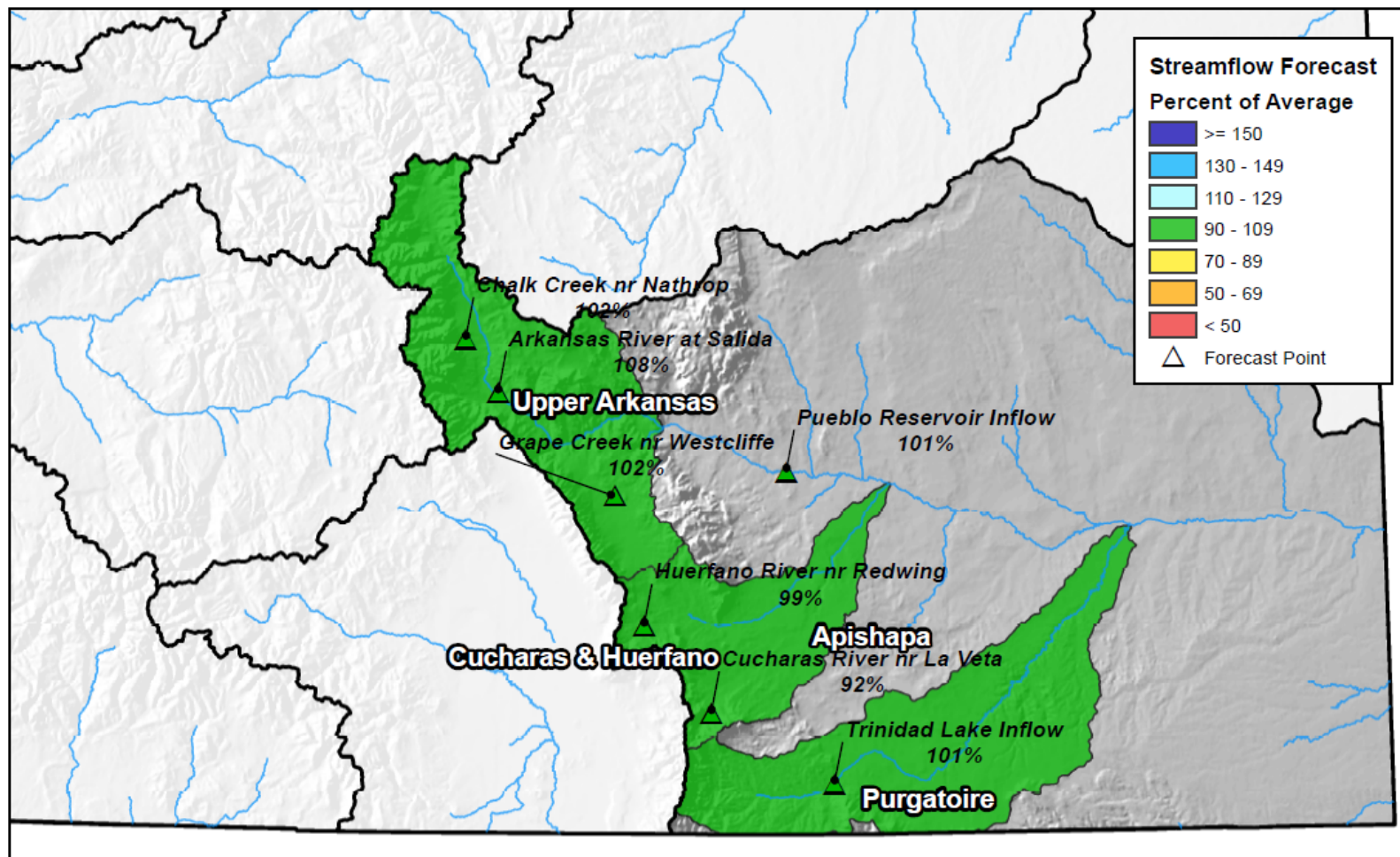
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 22, 2020

USDA
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

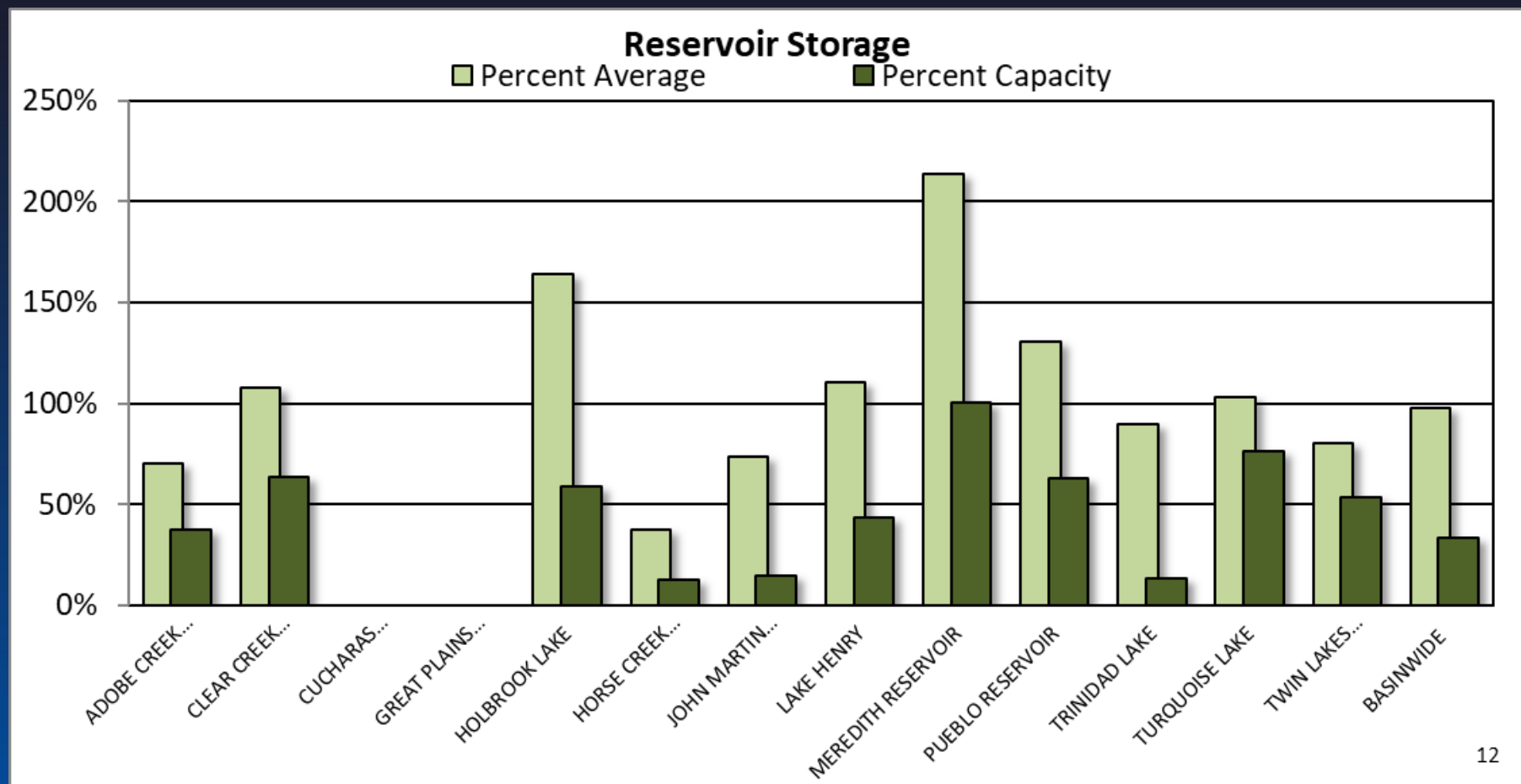


Arkansas River Basin Streamflow Forecast Summary

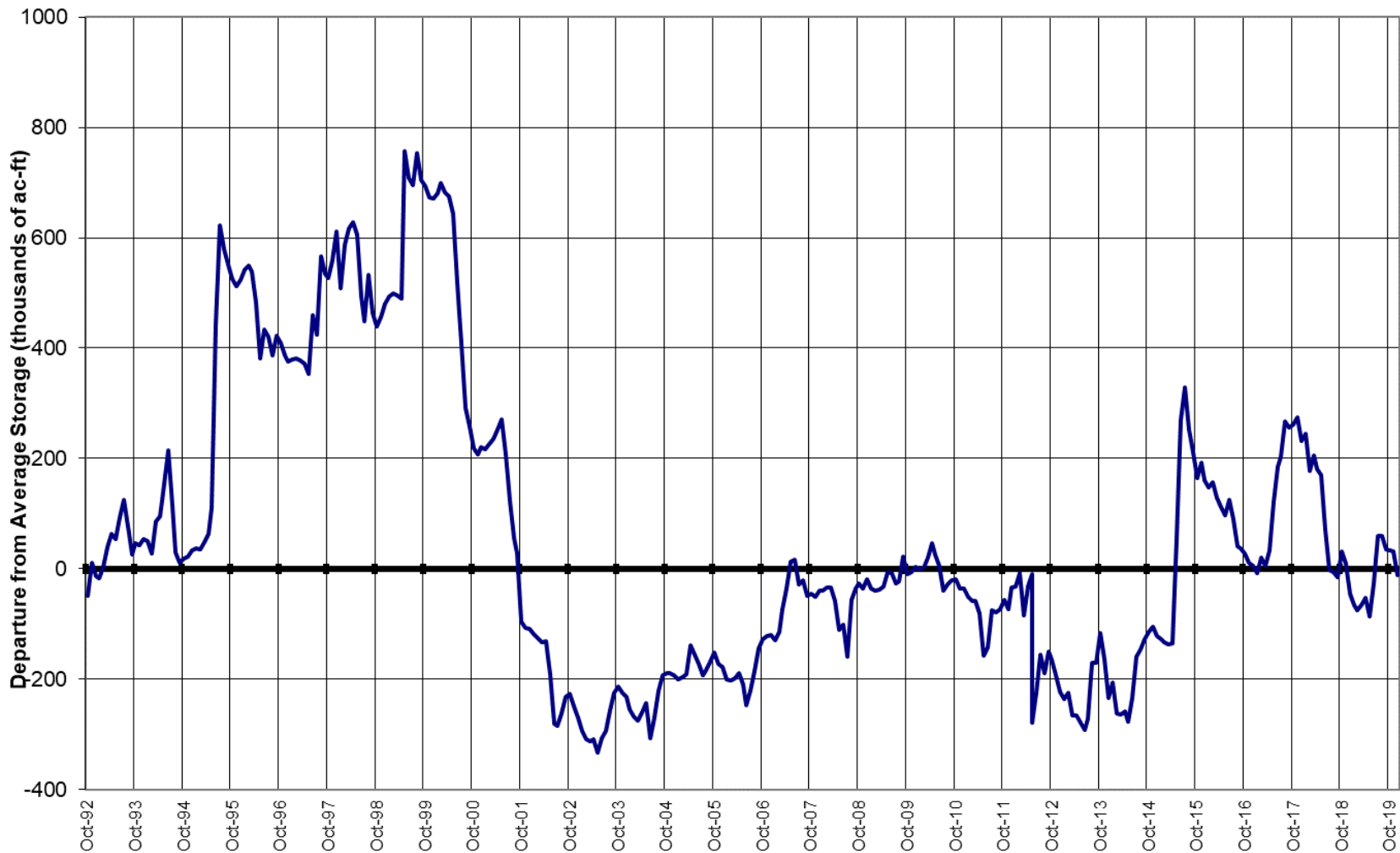
January 1, 2020



0 10 20 40 60 80 Miles

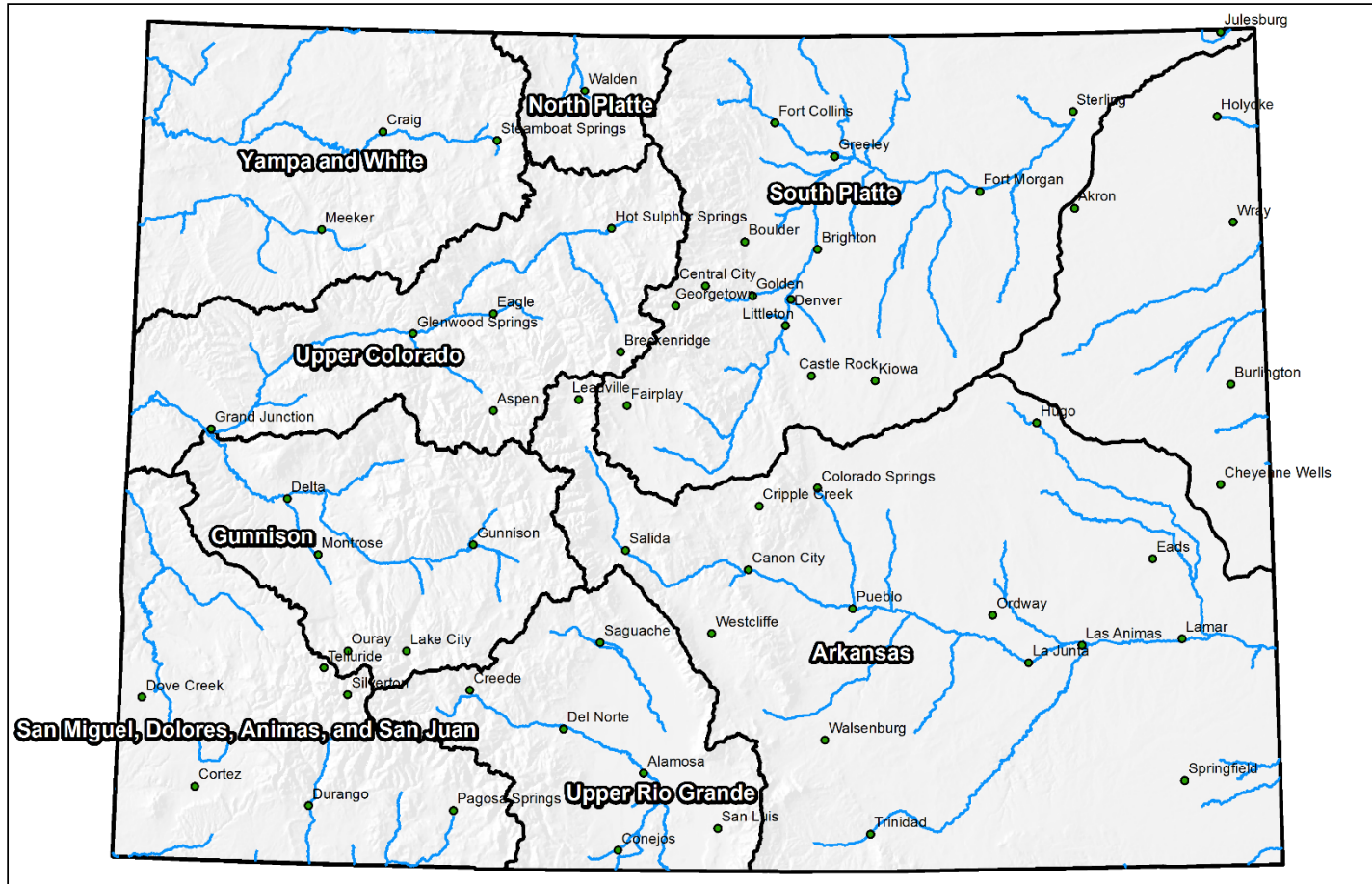


ARKANSAS RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage Departure from Average



Colorado Statewide Summary

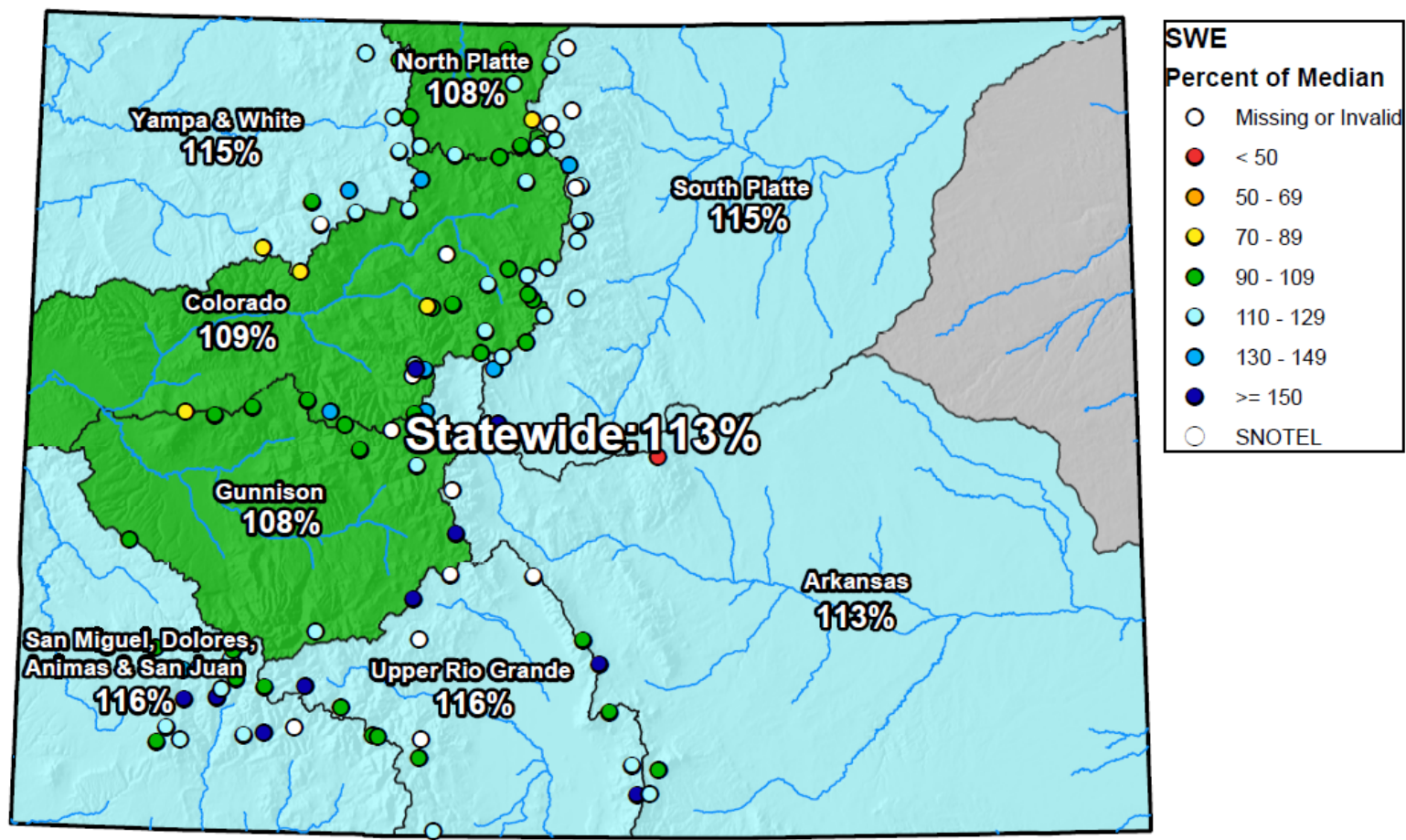
Colorado Major Basins



0 25 50 100 150 200 Miles

Colorado SNOTEL Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) Update Map with Site Data

Current as of Jan 22, 2020



0 25 50 100 150 200 Miles



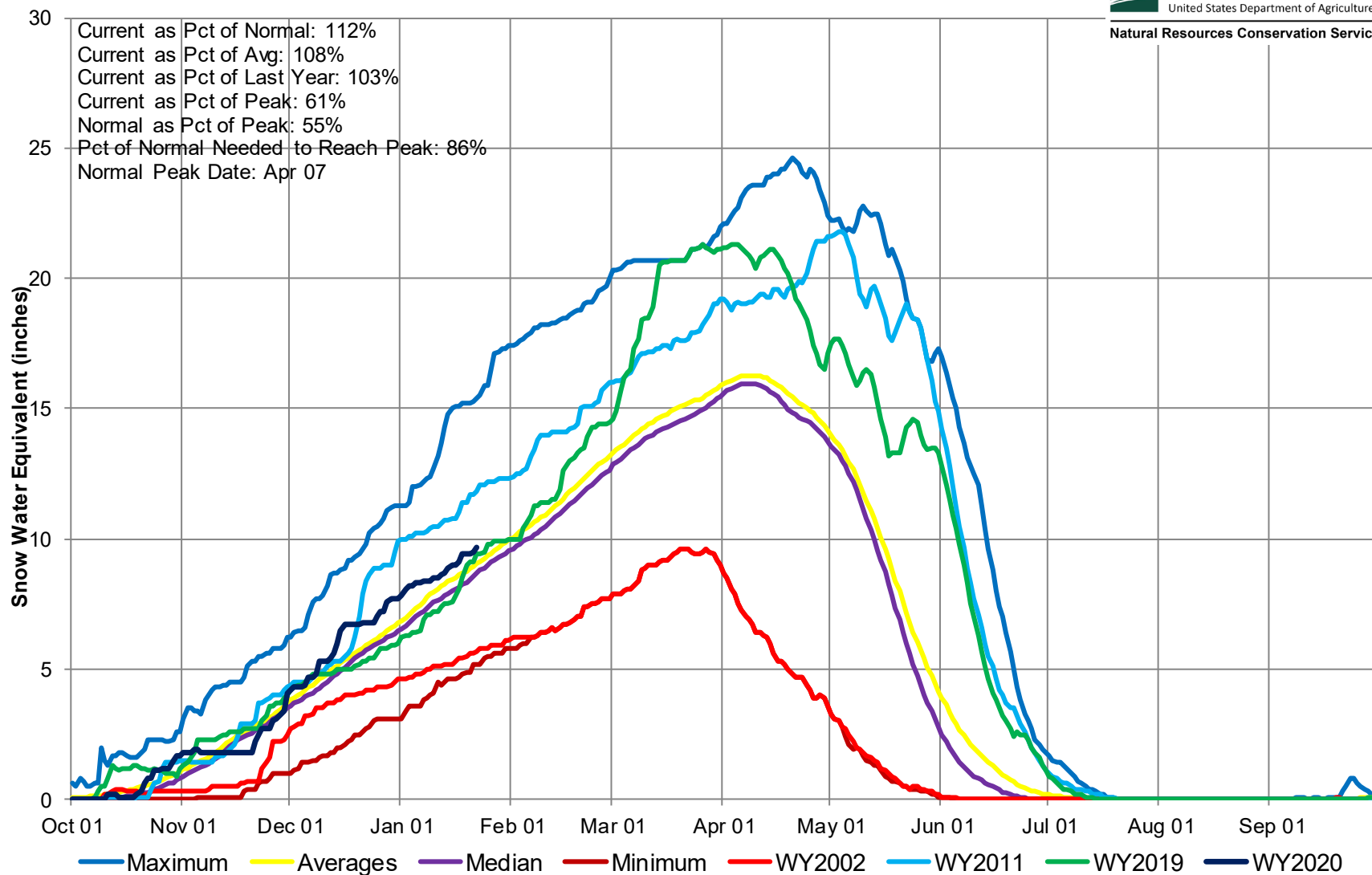
Colorado Statewide High/Low Snowpack Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 22, 2020



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service



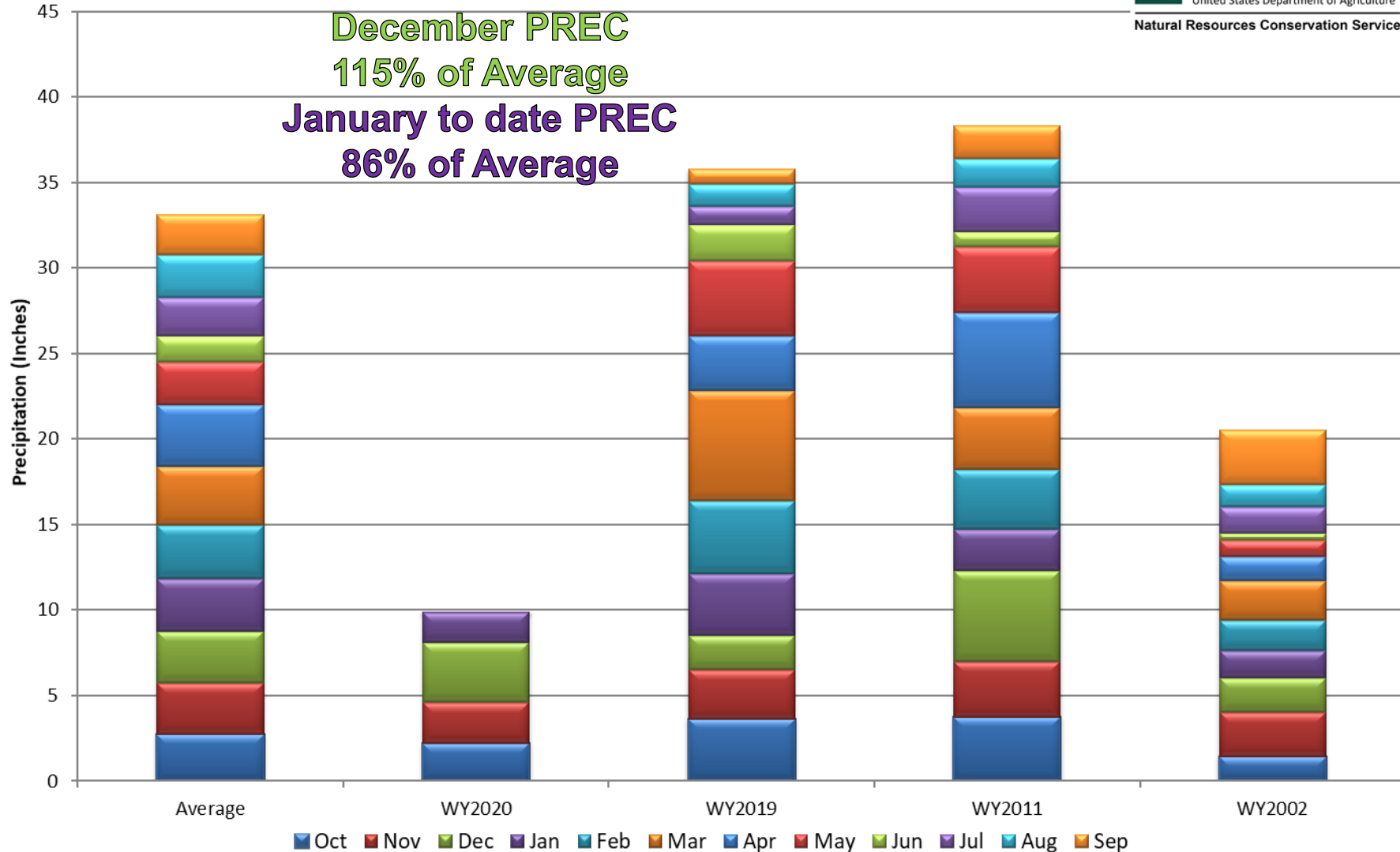
Colorado Statewide High/Low Monthly Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 22, 2020



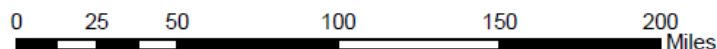
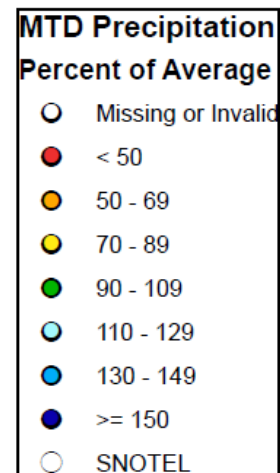
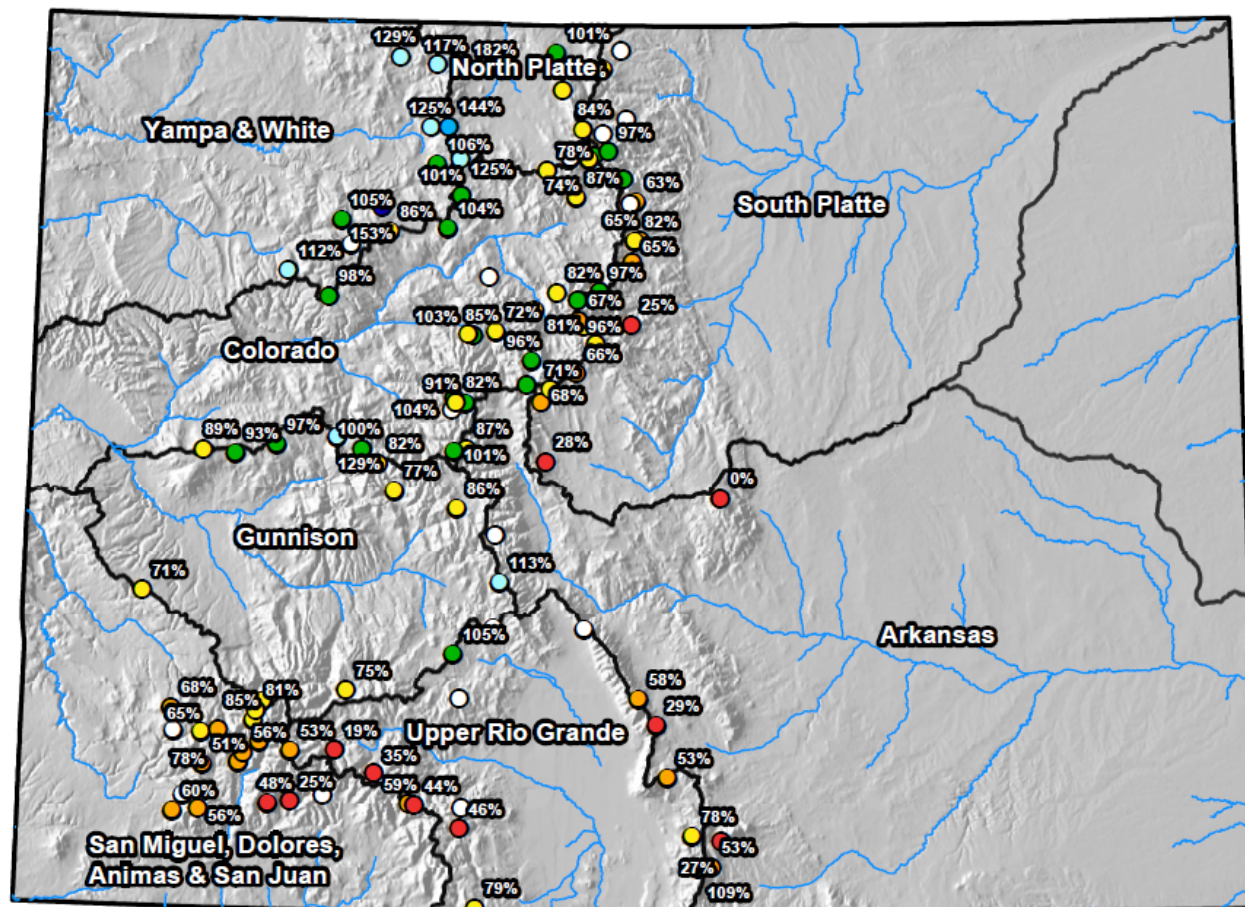
United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service



Colorado SNOTEL Month-to-Date Precipitation

Current as of Jan 22, 2020





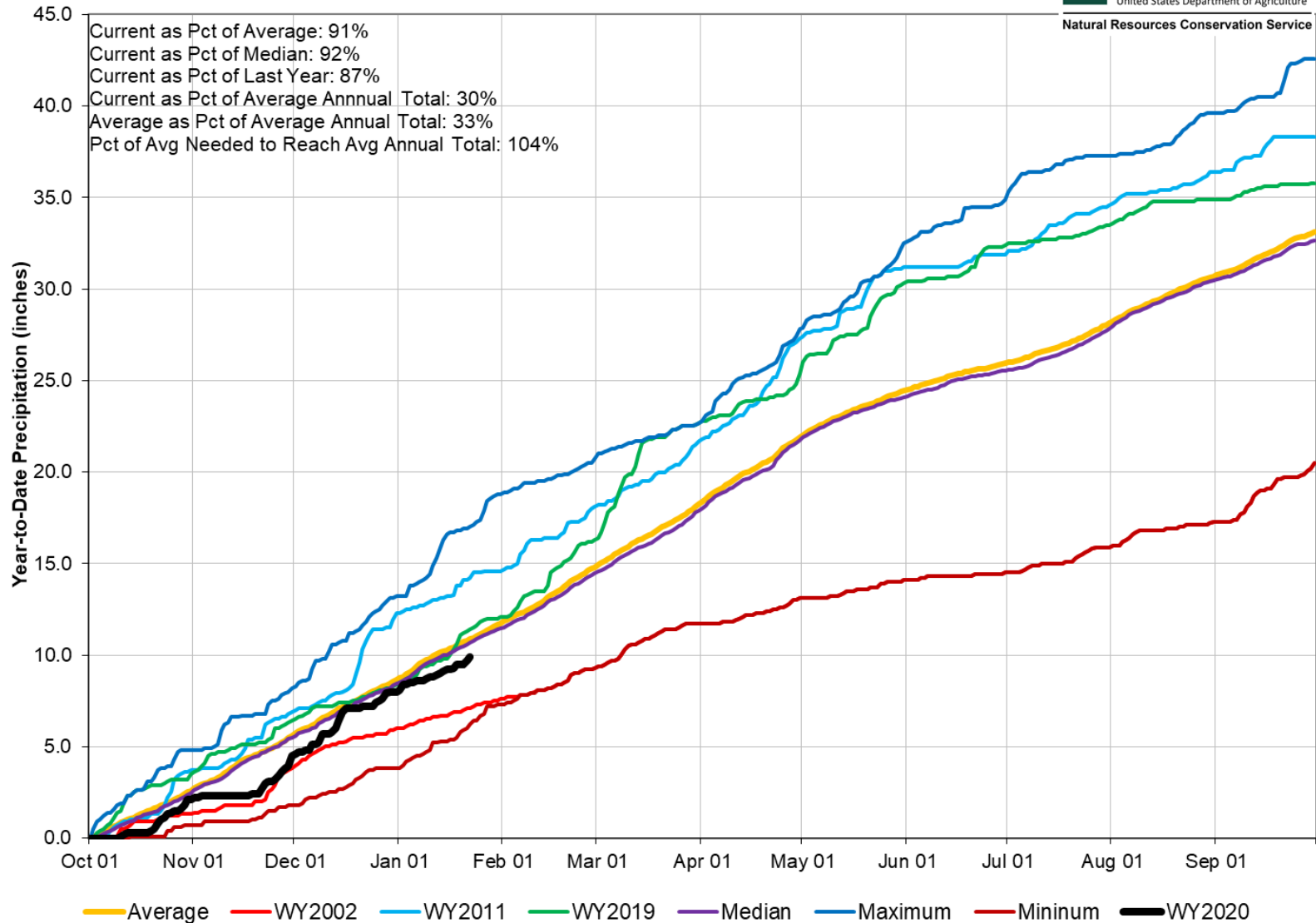
Colorado Statewide High/Low Year-to-Date Precipitation Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Jan 22, 2020



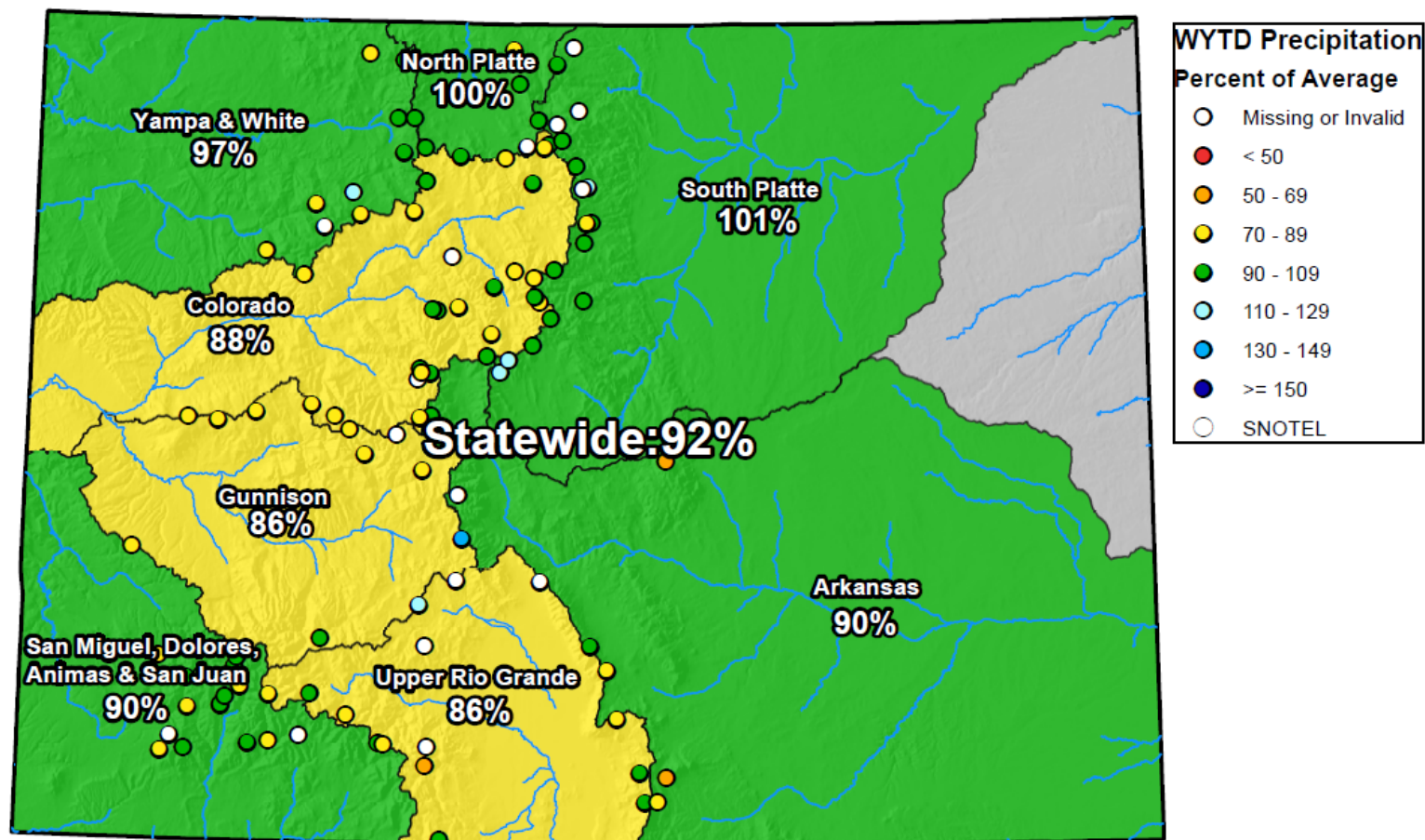
United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service



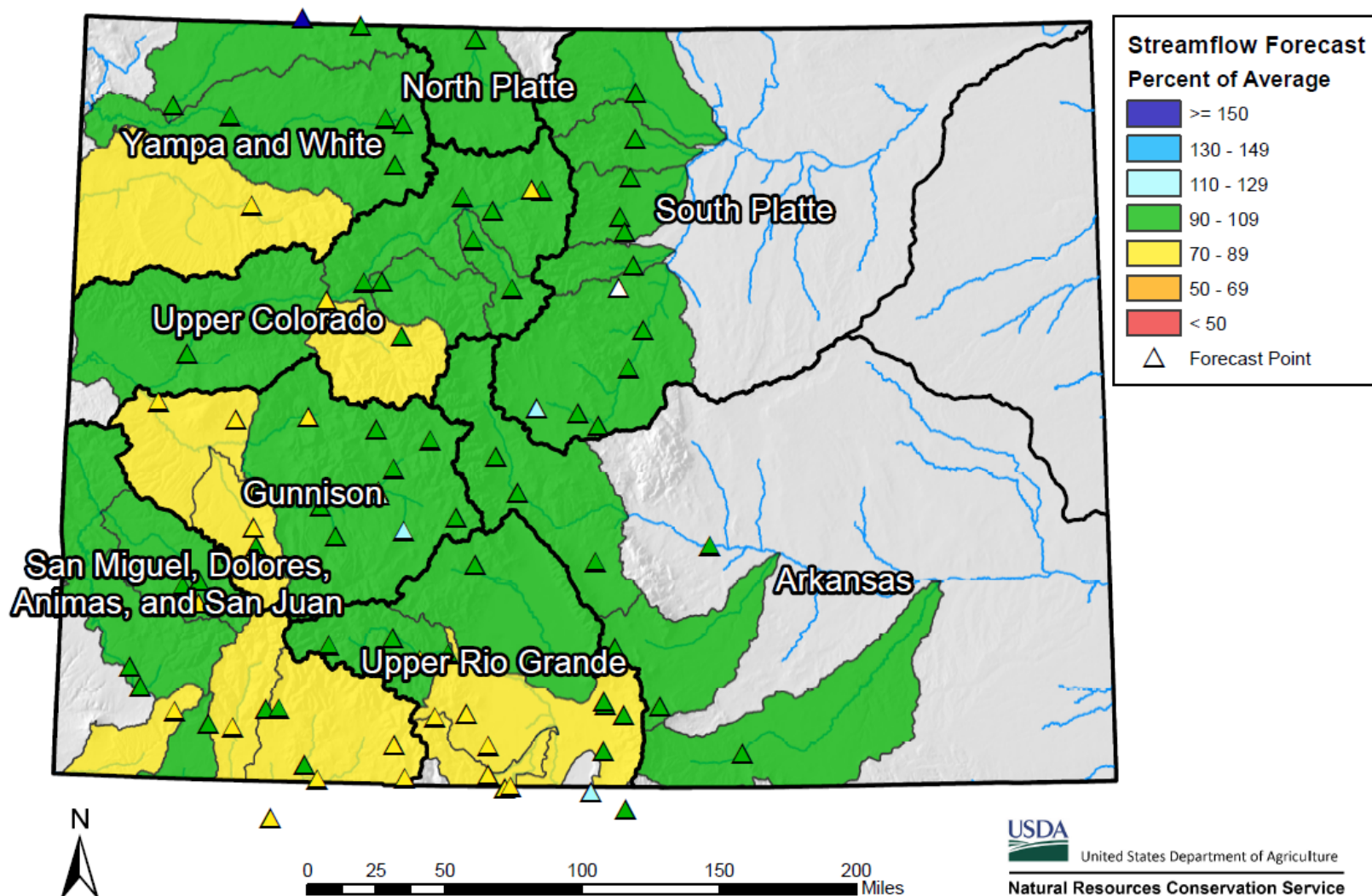
Colorado SNOTEL Water Year to Date Precipitation

Current as of Jan 22, 2020



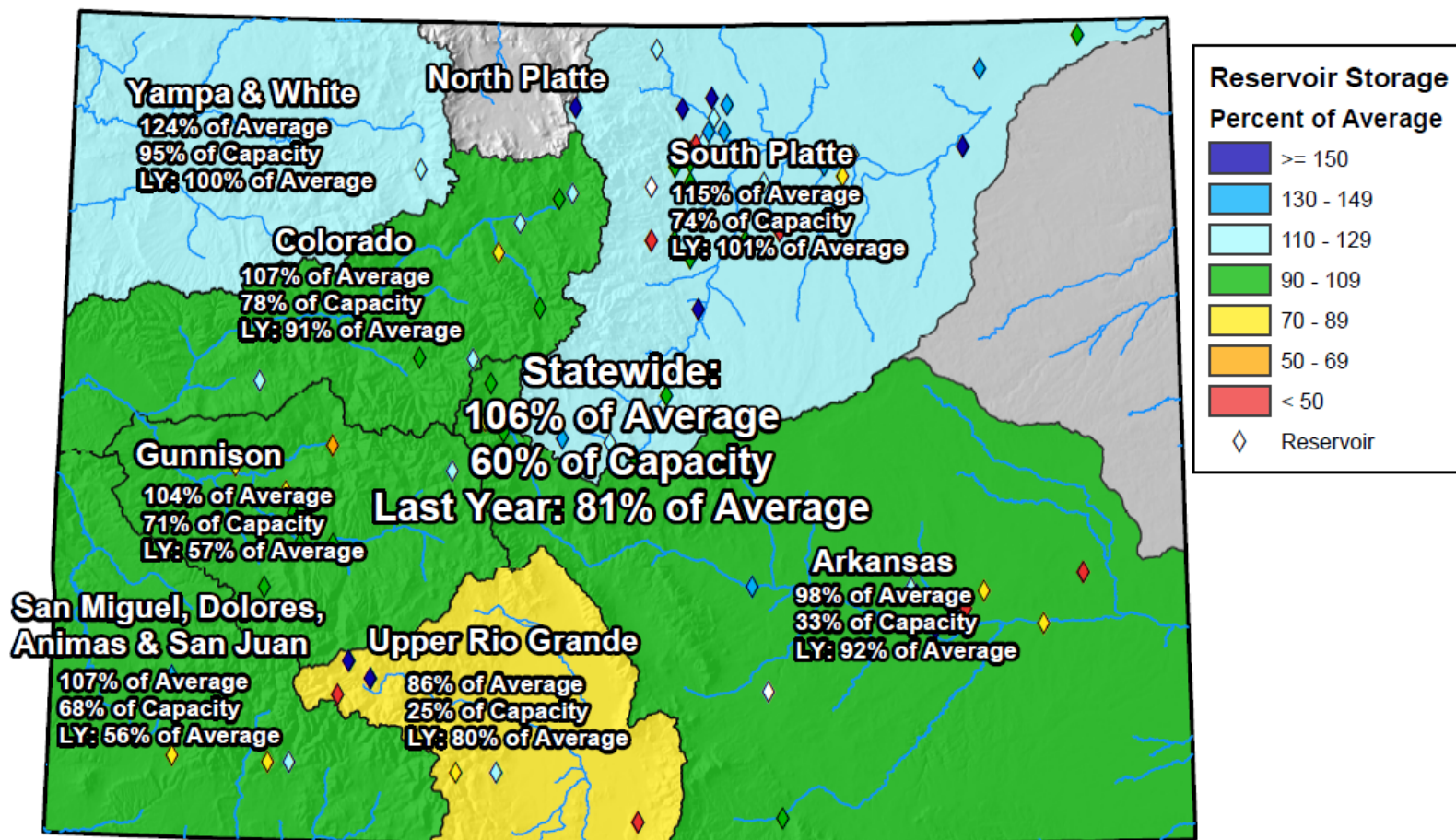
0 25 50 100 150 200 Miles

Colorado Streamflow Forecasts Summary January 1, 2020



Colorado Monthly Reservoir Storage Summary

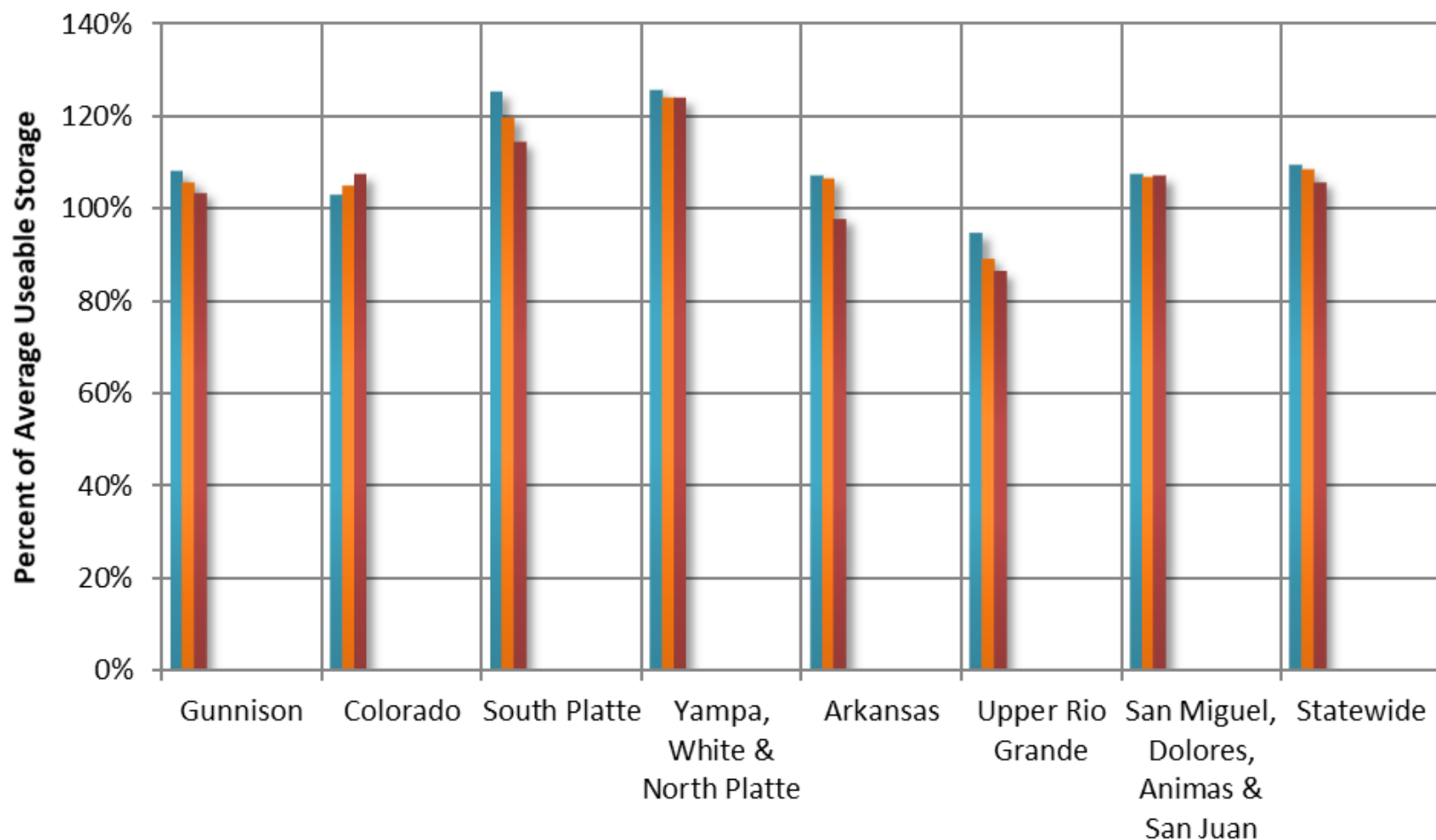
End of December 2019



0 25 50 100 150 200 Miles

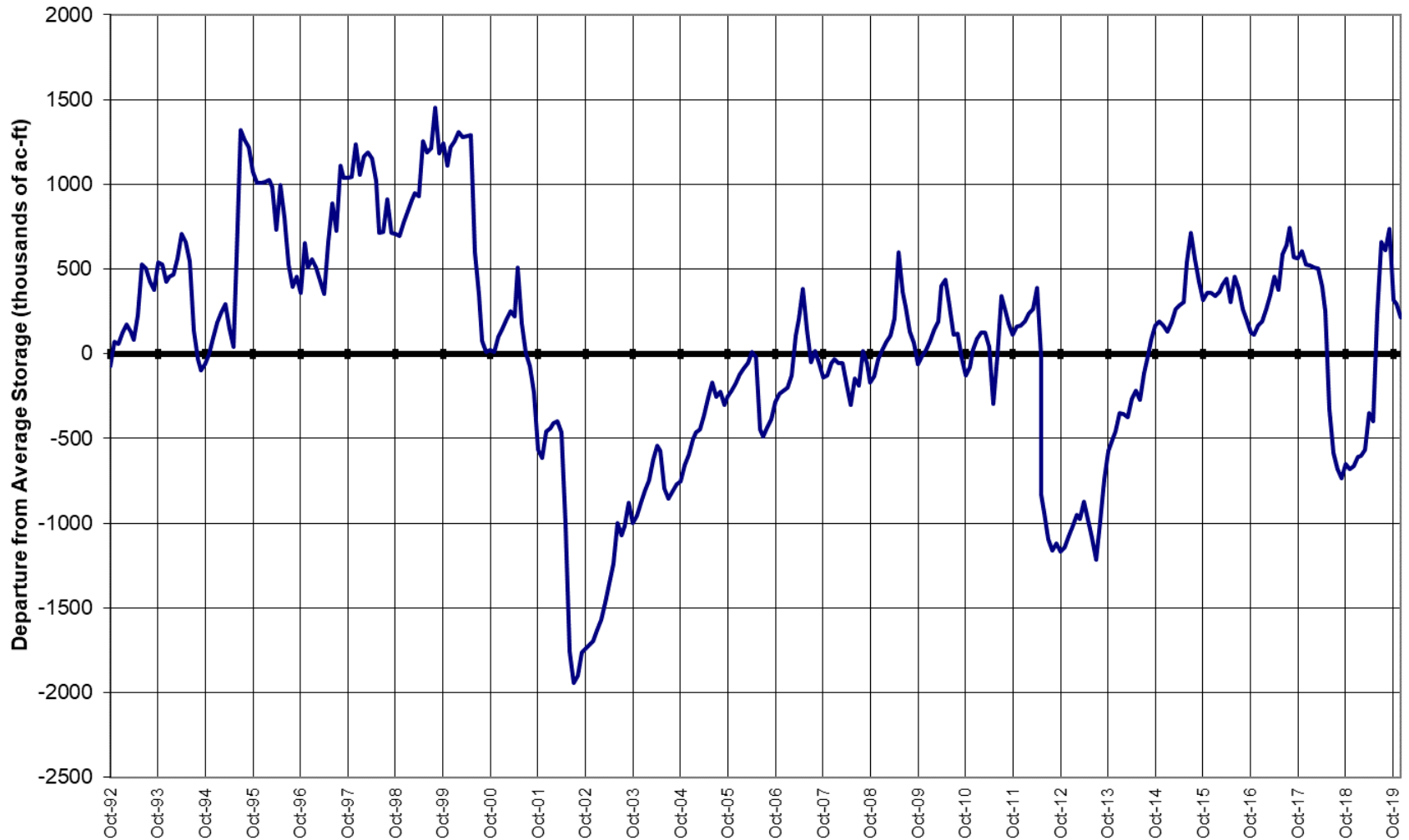
Colorado Reservoir Storage

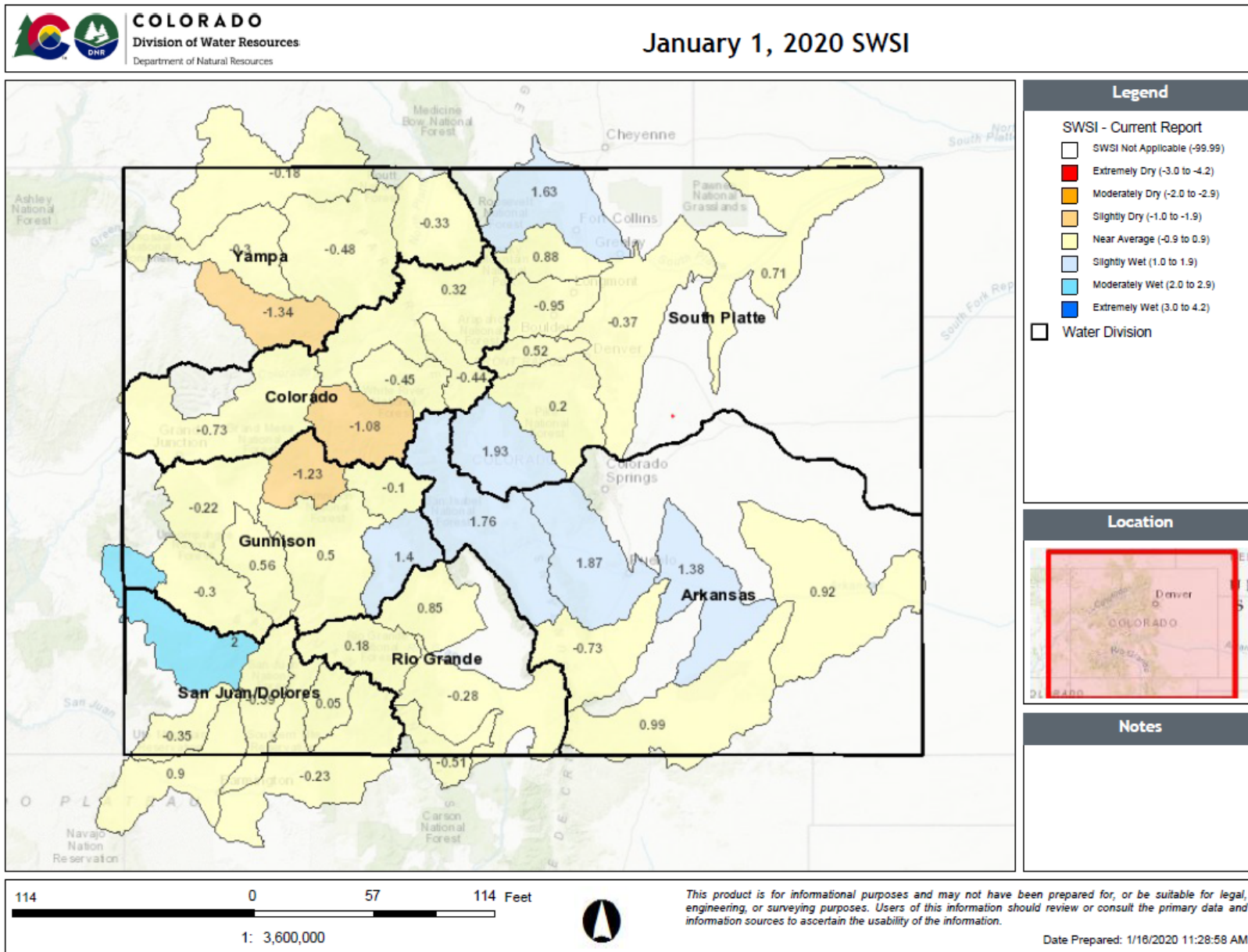
Oct-19 Nov-19 Dec-19 Jan-20 Feb-20 Mar-20
 Apr-20 May-20 Jun-20 Jul-20 Aug-20 Sep-20





COLORADO STATEWIDE Reservoir Storage Departure from Average





Summary

•Precipitation Statewide

- Water year precipitation increased from 81 to 92 percent of average from December 1st to January 1st
- Month to date precipitation has been variable across the state with southern Colorado being notably more dry

•Reservoir storage remains above average in all major basins except for the Rio Grande and Arkansas (barely below)

- Ranging from 86-126 percent of average storage and is 106 percent of average statewide

•Statewide snowpack is 113 percent of normal after notable accumulations in December and all basins are in a close range

•90 percent of streamflow forecasts across the state are in the range of 85 to 115 percent of average values



United States Department of Agriculture

Colorado Snow Surveys

Water Availability Task Force Meeting

January 23rd, 2020

NRCS Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecasting Program

Karl Wetlaufer

Hydrologist

Asst. Snow Survey Supervisor

720-544-2853

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



Non-Discrimination Statement:

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA 's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.