Utah Water Supply Outlook Report

March, 2009

The old Mirror Lake Lodge and one of the first over snow tracked vehicles used for Snow Surveys. Photo - NRCS, USDA.

Water Supply Outlook Reports
and Federal - State - Private Cooperative Snow Surveys

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How forecasts are made

Most of the annual streamflow in the western United States originates as snowfall that has accumulated in the mountains during the winter and early spring. As the snowpack accumulates, hydrologists estimate the runoff that will occur when it melts. Measurements of snow water equivalent at selected manual snowcourses and automated SNOTEL sites, along with precipitation, antecedent streamflow, and indices of the El Niño / Southern Oscillation are used in computerized statistical and simulation models to prepare runoff forecasts. These forecasts are coordinated between hydrologists in the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the National Weather Service. Unless otherwise specified, all forecasts are for flows that would occur naturally without any upstream influences.

Forecasts of any kind, of course, are not perfect. Streamflow forecast uncertainty arises from three primary sources: (1) uncertain knowledge of future weather conditions, (2) uncertainty in the forecasting procedure, and (3) errors in the data. The forecast, therefore, must be interpreted not as a single value but rather as a range of values with specific probabilities of occurrence. The middle of the range is expressed by the 50% exceedance probability forecast, for which there is a 50% chance that the actual flow will be above, and a 50% chance that the actual flow will be below, this value. To describe the expected range around this 50% value, four other forecasts are provided, two smaller values (90% and 70% exceedance probability) and two larger values (30%, and 10% exceedance probability). For example, there is a 90% chance that the actual flow will be more than the 90% exceedance probability forecast. The others can be interpreted similarly.

The wider the spread among these values, the more uncertain the forecast. As the season progresses, forecasts become more accurate, primarily because a greater portion of the future weather conditions become known; this is reflected by a narrowing of the range around the 50% exceedance probability forecast. Users should take this uncertainty into consideration when making operational decisions by selecting forecasts corresponding to the level of risk they are willing to assume about the amount of water to be expected. If users anticipate receiving a lesser supply of water, or if they wish to increase their chances of having an adequate supply of water for their operations, they may want to base their decisions on the 90% or 70% exceedance probability forecasts, or something in between. On the other hand, if users are concerned about receiving too much water (for example, threat of flooding), they may want to base their decisions on the 30% or 10% exceedance probability forecasts, or something in between. Regardless of the forecast value users choose for operations, they should be prepared to deal with either more or less water. (Users should remember that even if the 90% exceedance probability forecast is used, there is still a 10% chance of receiving less than this amount.) By using the exceedance probability information, users can easily determine the chances of receiving more or less water.

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STATE OF UTAH GENERAL OUTLOOK
March 1, 2009

SUMMARY

February 2009 seemed to be a snowy month with a lot of stormy days, especially early on, but the amount accumulated at the higher elevations was much less than what our backs told us we had shoveled. The Weber, Sevier and southwest Utah all received average accumulations and the rest of the state got about 75% to 85% of average February accumulation. Snowpacks across the state now range from 83% over the Uintas to 119% in southwestern Utah. The pattern of more snow in the south and less in the north and on the east side of the Wasatch and Sevier Plateaus remains. The probability of getting enough snow in March to reach an average April 1 snowpack is pretty low at this point: Bear – 13%, Weber – 32%, Provo – 24%, Uintas – 13%, SE Utah – 16%, Sevier – 50%, SW Utah – 68%. February precipitation was near normal in most areas and above normal (121%) in southwest Utah which brings the year-to-date precipitation to near normal in the northwest, above average in the southwest and below average in the east. Current soil moisture saturation levels in runoff producing areas are: Bear – 56%, Weber – 58%, Provo – 46%, Uintah Basin – 34%, SE Utah – 36%, Sevier – 47% and SW Utah – 43%, a 0% to 5 % change from last month. Dryer soils typically mean less runoff from snowmelt. Reservoir storage is currently at 62% of capacity statewide compared to 58% last year. General water supply conditions are near average in northern Utah, except for the Bear, above average on the Virgin and Beaver and near to below average in central Utah. Streamflow forecasts range from 57% for the Duchesne nr Randlett to 124% of average on Coal Creek near Cedar City. Surface Water Supply Indices range from 14% on the Bear River to 74% for the Virgin. The extremely low value for the Bear River is a reflection of Bear Lake storage which continues to be well below normal.

SNOWPACK

March first snowpacks as measured by the NRCS SNOTEL system are as follows: Bear - 90%, Weber - 97%, Provo - 94%, Uintas - 83%, southeast Utah - 85%, Sevier - 100%, southwest Utah - 119% and the statewide figure is 94% of average. With only March remaining in the snow accumulation season, the range of potential outcomes has narrowed, however future climatic conditions can still impact spring runoff. If drought prevails, snowpacks could range between 40% and 70% of average. Given maximum accumulations, April 1 snowpacks could range between 105% and 174% of average. With normal accumulations, April 1 snowpacks will be between 86% and 117% of average. A very large March snow accumulation (110%-180%) is necessary over most areas except southern Utah to reach an average snowpack by April 1. The area with lowest snowpack average is the north slope of the Uintas – 69% and the highest is southwest Utah at 119%.

PRECIPITATION

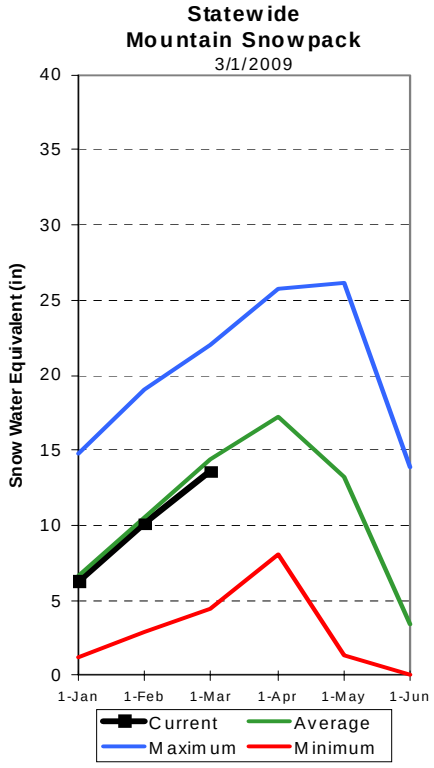
Mountain precipitation during February was: Bear – 91%, Weber – 99%, Provo – 89%, Uintas – 87%, SE Utah – 84%, Sevier – 98%, SW Utah – 121% and the statewide figure is 95% of average. This brings the seasonal accumulation (Oct-Feb) to 100% of average statewide.

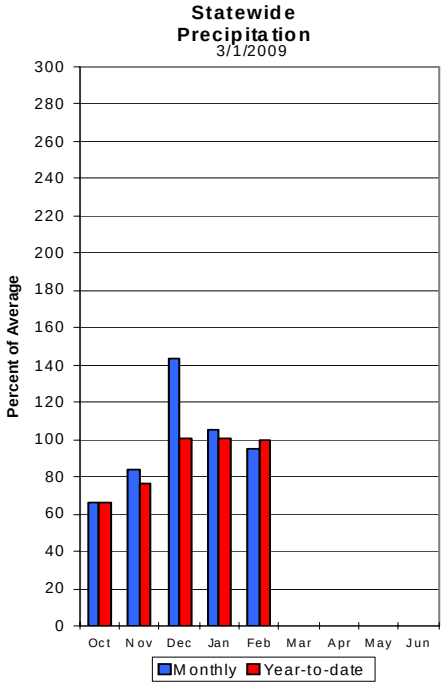
RESERVOIRS

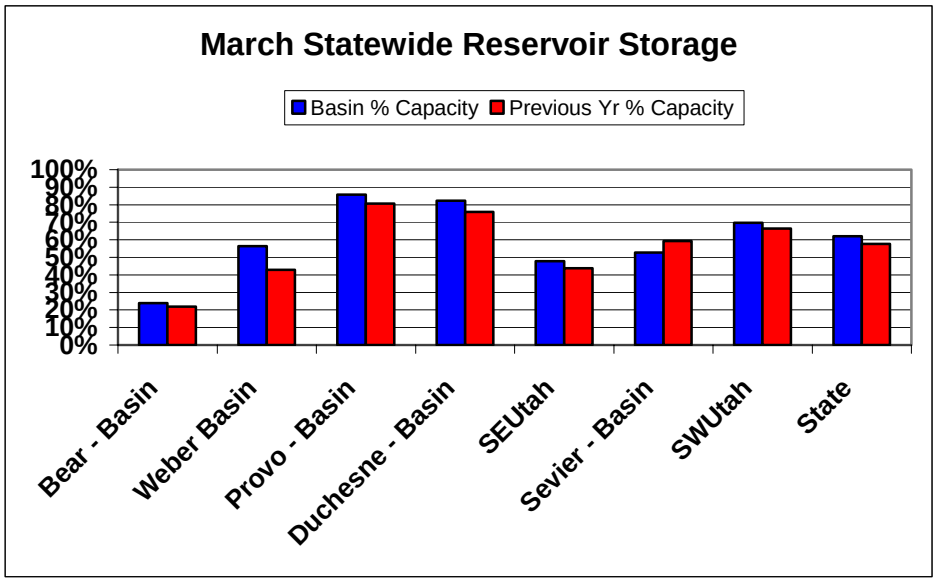
Storage in 46 of Utah's key irrigation reservoirs is at 62% of capacity up 4% compared to March of last year. There is some good news on the reservoir repair front as all previously restricted fill reservoirs are now able to store, including Willard Bay.

STREAMFLOW

Snowmelt streamflows are expected to have a wide range from much below average to above average across the state of Utah this year. Forecast streamflows range from 57% on the Duchesne nr Randlett to 124% on Coal Creek near Cedar City. Most flows are forecast to be in the below to near average range.

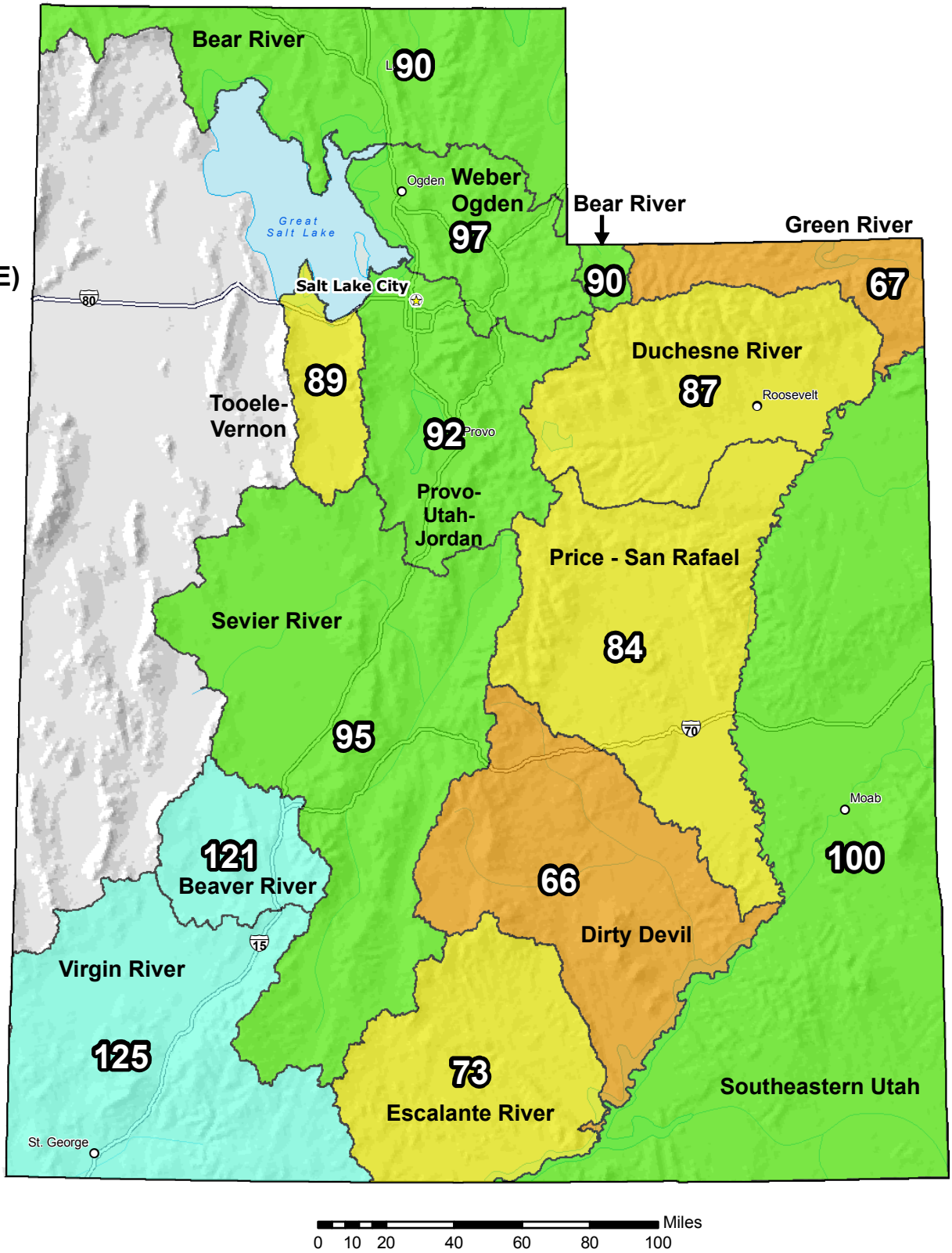






Utah
SNOTEL Current Snow Water Equivalent (SWE)
% of Normal

Mar 02, 2009



Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) Basin-wide Percent of 1971-2000 Normal

- unavailable *
- <50%
- 50 - 69%
- 70 - 89%
- 90 - 109%
- 110 - 129%
- 130 - 149%
- >=150%

* *Data unavailable at time of posting or measurement is not representative at this time of year*

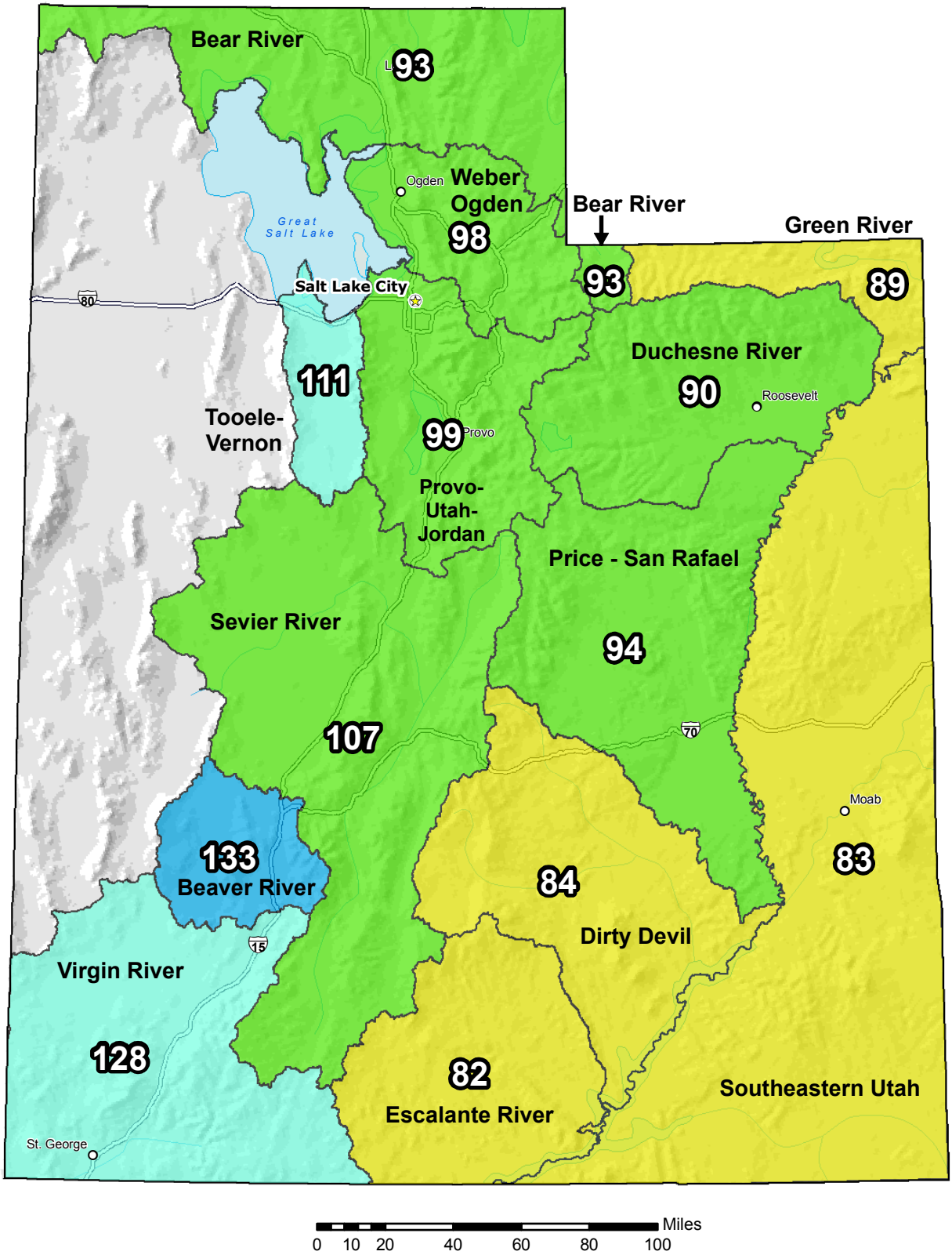
Provisional Data Subject to Revision

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 value for those sites on this day. Data based on the first reading of the day (typically 00:00).

Prepared by the USDA/NRCS National Water and Climate Center
Portland, Oregon http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/gis/
Based on data from http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/reports/
Science contact: Tom.Pagano@por.usda.gov 503 414 3010

Utah
SNOTEL Water Year (Oct 1) to Date Precipitation
% of Normal

Mar 02, 2009



Water Year (Oct 1) to Date Precipitation Basin-wide Percent of 1971-2000 Normal

- unavailable *
- <50%
- 50 - 69%
- 70 - 89%
- 90 - 109%
- 110 - 129%
- 130 - 149%
- >=150%

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Provisional Data Subject to Revision

The water year to date precipitation percent of normal represents the accumulated precipitation found at selected SNOTEL sites in or near the basin compared to the average value for those sites on this day. Data based on the first reading of the day (typically 00:00).

Prepared by the USDA/NRCS National Water and Climate Center
Portland, Oregon http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/gis/
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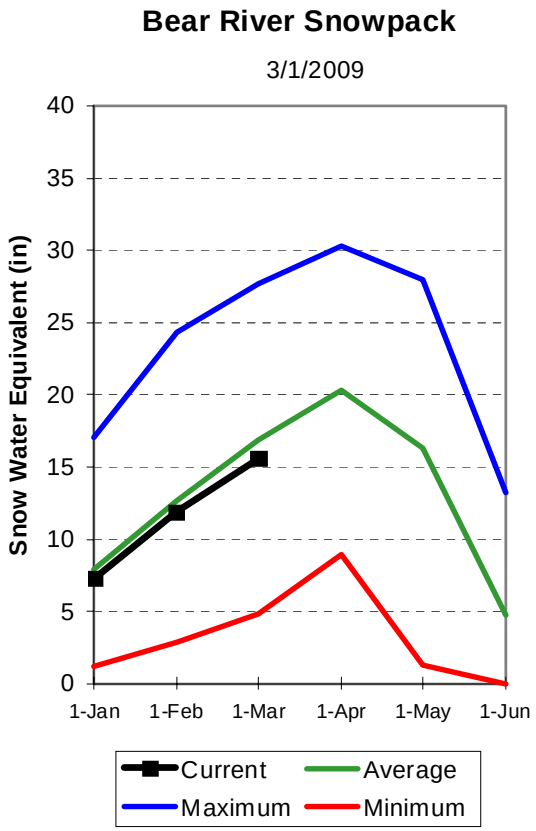
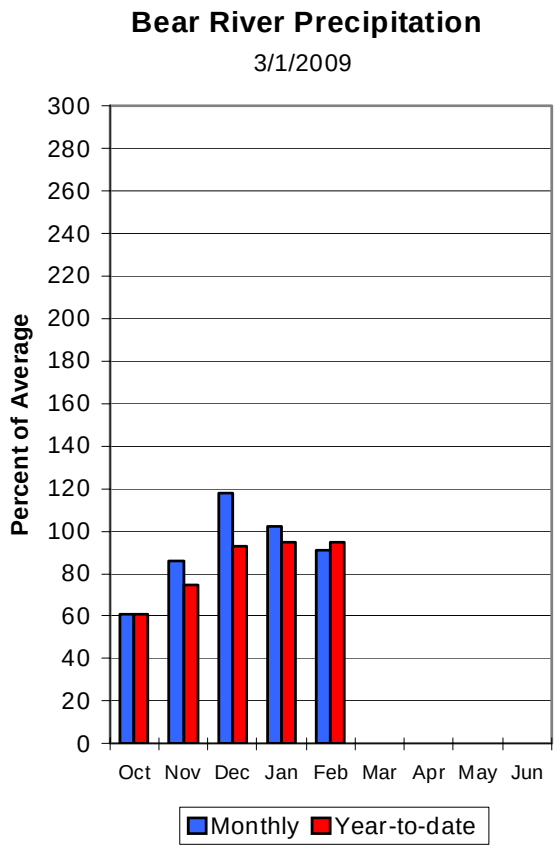
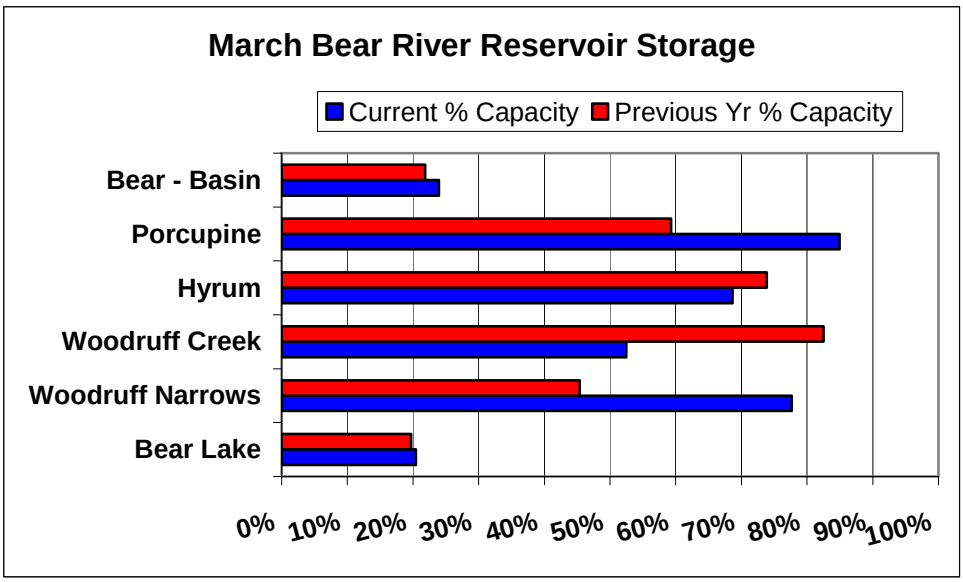
Bear River Basin
March 1, 2009

Snowpacks on the Bear River Basin are near average at 90% of normal, about 92% of last year. Individual sites range from 123% of normal at Vipont to 69% at Garden City Summit. February precipitation was near average at 91%, which brings the seasonal accumulation (Oct-Feb) to 95% of average. Soil moisture levels in runoff producing areas are at 56% of saturation in the upper 2 feet of soil compared to 55% last year. Forecast streamflows (April-July) range from much below to below average (60%-86%) volumes for this spring and summer. Reservoir storage is low at 24% of capacity, but is up 2% from this time last year. The Surface Water Supply Index is at 14% for the Bear River, in other words, 86% of years have had more total water available. Water supply conditions are much below normal due to low reservoir storage in Bear Lake.







BEAR RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2009

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter =====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	50% (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
Bear R nr UT-WY State Line	APR-JUL	65	84	97	86	110	129	113
Bear River ab Reservoir nr Woodruff	APR-JUL	67	95	114	84	133	161	136
Big Creek nr Randolph	APR-JUL	2.20	3.30	4.00	82	4.70	5.80	4.90
Smiths Fork nr Border	APR-JUL	65	79	88	85	97	111	103
Bear River at Stewart Dam	APR-JUL	82	115	140	60	168	213	234
Little Bear at Paradise, UT	APR-JUL	16.4	29	38	83	47	60	46
Logan nr Logan, UT	APR-JUL	73	92	105	83	118	137	126
Blacksmith Fk nr Hyrum, UT	APR-JUL	15.9	30	40	83	50	64	48

BEAR RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
BEAR LAKE	1302.0	266.3	256.8	---
HYRUM	15.3	10.5	11.3	11.0
PORCUPINE	11.3	9.6	6.7	5.6
WOODRUFF NARROWS	57.3	44.5	26.0	27.6
WOODRUFF CREEK	4.0	2.1	3.3	---

BEAR RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2009

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
BEAR RIVER, UPPER	8	95	90
BEAR RIVER, LOWER	9	90	89
LOGAN RIVER	4	93	92
RAFT RIVER	1	71	85
BEAR RIVER BASIN	17	92	90

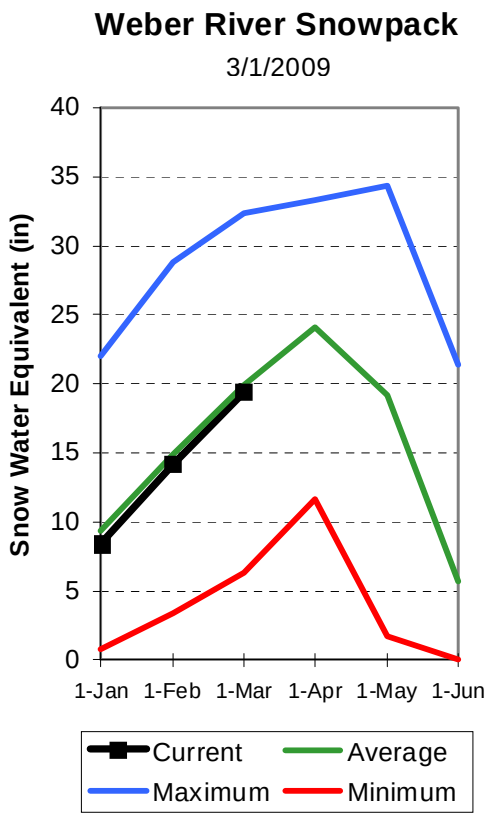
* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

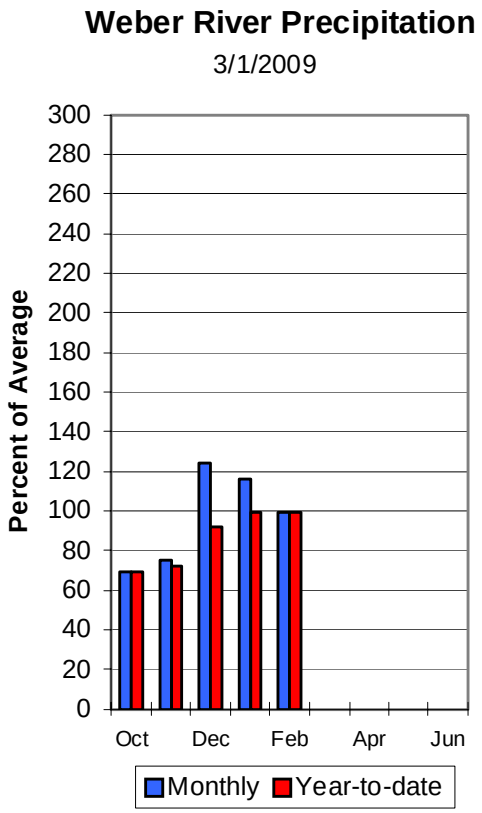
The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

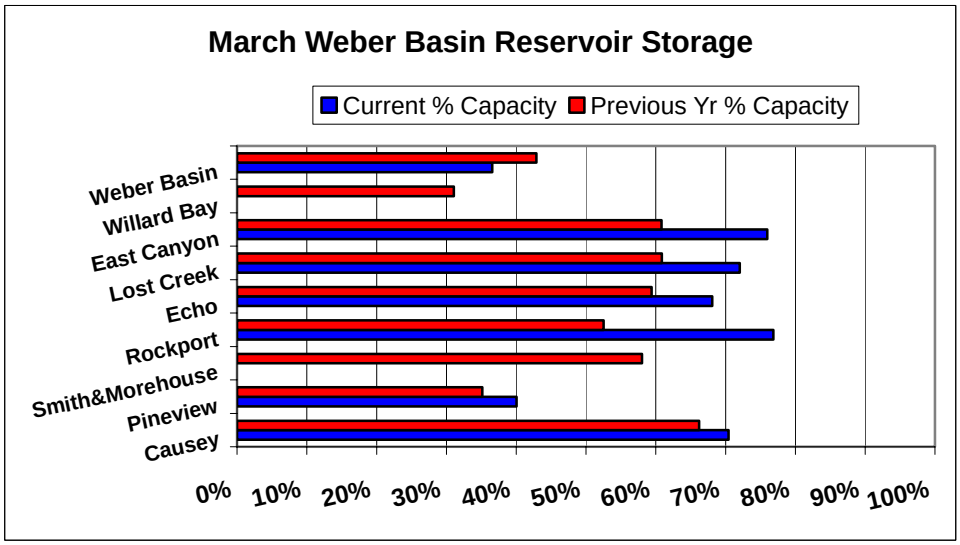
(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

Weber and Ogden River Basins
March 1, 2009

Snowpacks on the Weber and Ogden Watersheds are near average at 97%, about 85% of last year. Individual sites range from 122% at Farmington Upper Snotel to 81% of average at the Monte Cristo Snotel. February precipitation was near average at 99% bringing the seasonal accumulation (Oct-Feb) to 99% of average. Soil moisture levels in runoff producing areas are at 58% of saturation in the upper 2 feet of soil compared to 53% last year. Streamflow forecasts (April-July) range from 78% to 90% of average. Reservoir storage is at 56% of capacity, 15% higher than last year. The Surface Water Supply Index is at 49% for the Weber River and 48% for the Ogden River indicating that overall water supply conditions are near average.







WEBER & OGDEN WATERSHEDS in Utah
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2009

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter =====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	50% (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
Smith & Morehouse Res inflow	APR-JUL	21	26	29	85	32	37	34
Weber R nr Oakley, UT	APR-JUL	72	89	100	81	111	128	123
Rockport Reservoir	APR-JUL	73	95	110	82	125	147	134
Weber R nr Coalville, UT	APR-JUL	75	102	120	88	138	165	137
Chalk Ck at Coalville, UT	APR-JUL	17.6	30	39	87	48	60	45
Echo Resv at Echo, UT	APR-JUL	59	107	140	78	173	221	179
Lost Ck Resv Inflow	APR-JUL	7.7	12.0	15.0	85	18.0	22	17.6
East Canyon Ck nr Morgan, UT	APR-JUL	8.9	19.1	26	84	33	43	31
Weber R at Gateway, UT	APR-JUL	95	217	300	85	383	505	355
SF Ogden R nr Huntsville, UT	APR-JUL	36	48	57	89	66	78	64
Pineview Resv Inflow	APR-JUL	66	98	120	90	142	174	133
Wheeler Ck nr Huntsville, UT	APR-JUL	2.30	4.30	5.70	91	7.10	9.10	6.30

WEBER & OGDEN WATERSHEDS in Utah
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
CAUSEY	7.1	5.0	4.7	2.6
EAST CANYON	49.5	37.6	30.1	35.4
ECHO	73.9	50.3	43.9	51.0
LOST CREEK	22.5	16.2	13.7	13.9
PINEVIEW	110.1	44.1	38.7	52.6
ROCKPORT	60.9	46.8	32.0	33.2
WILLARD BAY	215.0	105.0	66.8	154.9

WEBER & OGDEN WATERSHEDS in Utah
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2009

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
OGDEN RIVER	4	84	98
WEBER RIVER	9	86	98
WEBER & OGDEN WATERSHEDS	13	85	98

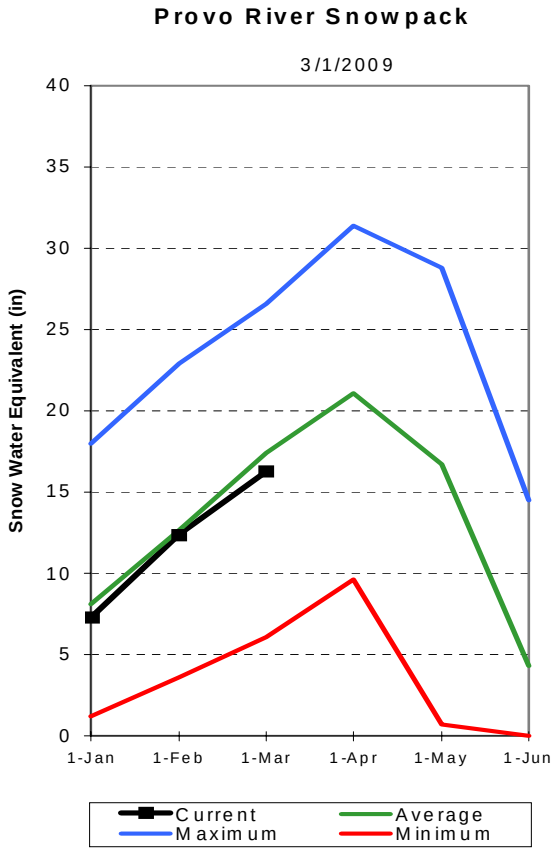
* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

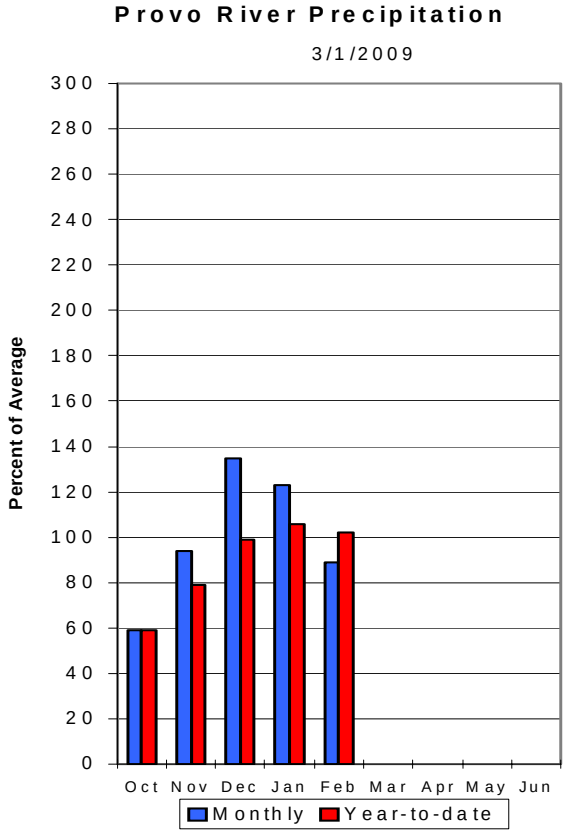
The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

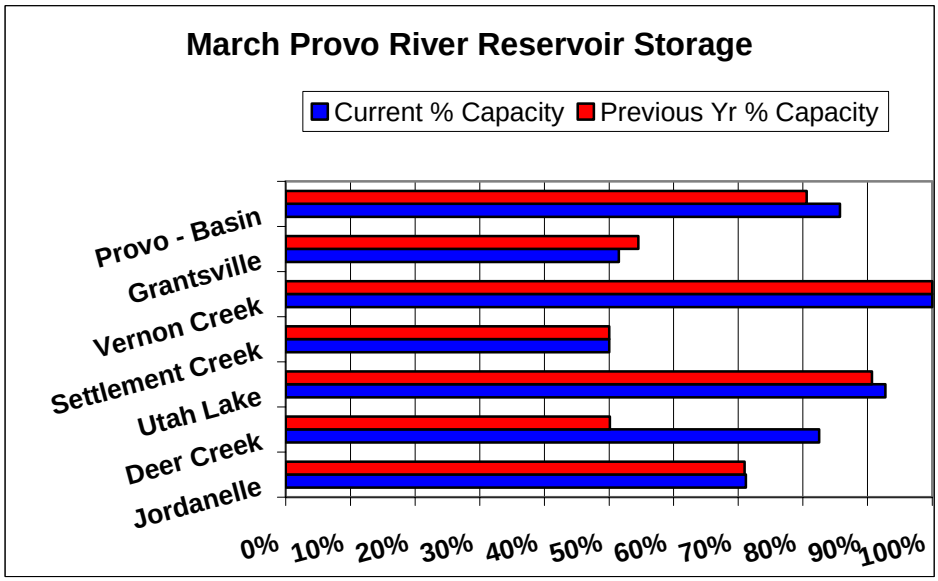
(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

Utah Lake, Jordan River & Tooele Valley Basins
March 1, 2009

Snowpack over these basins are near average at 94%, which is 80% of last year. Individual sites range from 68% at Dry Fork Snotel, to 116% of average at both the Snowbird and Lookout Peak Snotel stations. February precipitation was below average at 89%, bringing the seasonal accumulation (Oct-Feb) to 102% of average. Average soil moisture in runoff producing areas is estimated at 46% of saturation in the upper 2 feet of soil compared to 42% at this time last year. Reservoir storage is at 86% of capacity, 5% higher than last year. Streamflow forecasts (Apr-July) range from 78% to 105% of average. The Surface Water Supply Index below Deer Creek reservoir is 48%, indicating general water supply conditions are near normal.







UTAH LAKE, JORDAN RIVER & TOOELE VALLEY
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2009

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter =====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	50% (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
Spanish Fk at Castilla, UT	APR-JUL	6.2	31	66	86	101	152	77
Provo River nr Woodland	APR-JUL	55	75	90	87	107	133	103
Provo River nr Hailstone	APR-JUL	57	78	95	87	113	143	109
Provo R blw Deer Ck Dam, UT	APR-JUL	72	95	110	87	125	148	126
American Fk abv Upper Powerplant	APR-JUL	17.1	25	30	94	35	43	32
Utah Lake inflow	APR-JUL	105	209	280	86	351	455	325
W Canyon Ck nr Cedar Fort, UT	APR-JUL	1.10	1.69	2.10	88	2.50	3.10	2.40
Little Cottonwood Ck nr SLC	APR-JUL	28	34	39	98	44	51	40
Big Cottonwood Ck nr SLC, UT	APR-JUL	25	32	37	97	42	49	38
Mill Ck nr SLC, UT	APR-JUL	2.20	4.50	6.00	86	7.50	9.80	7.00
Parleys Ck nr SLC, UT	APR-JUL	5.3	10.5	14.0	84	17.5	23	16.7
Dell Fork nr SLC, UT	APR-JUL	0.68	3.40	6.00	88	8.60	12.50	6.80
Emigration Ck nr SLC, UT	APR-JUL	0.20	2.20	3.50	78	4.80	6.80	4.50
City Ck nr SLC, UT	APR-JUL	3.40	6.00	7.80	90	9.60	12.20	8.70
Vernon Ck nr Vernon, UT	APR-JUL	0.32	1.02	1.50	101	1.98	2.70	1.48
Settlement Ck nr Tooele, UT	APR-JUL	0.29	1.14	1.90	91	2.70	3.80	2.10
South Willow Ck nr Grantsville, UT	APR-JUL	1.87	2.80	3.40	105	4.00	4.90	3.23

UTAH LAKE, JORDAN RIVER & TOOELE VALLEY
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
DEER CREEK	149.7	123.5	75.0	107.4
GRANTSVILLE	3.3	1.7	1.8	2.2
SETTLEMENT CREEK	1.0	0.5	0.5	0.6
STRAWBERRY-ENLARGED	1105.9	939.9	880.0	637.8
UTAH LAKE	870.9	808.0	790.0	825.1
VERNON CREEK	0.6	0.6	0.6	---

UTAH LAKE, JORDAN RIVER & TOOELE VALLEY
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2009

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
PROVO RIVER & UTAH LAKE	7	80	91
PROVO RIVER	4	84	95
JORDAN RIVER & GSL	6	80	97
TOOELE & RUSH VALLEY WATE	3	80	91
UTAH LAKE/JORDAN R./TOOEL	16	80	94

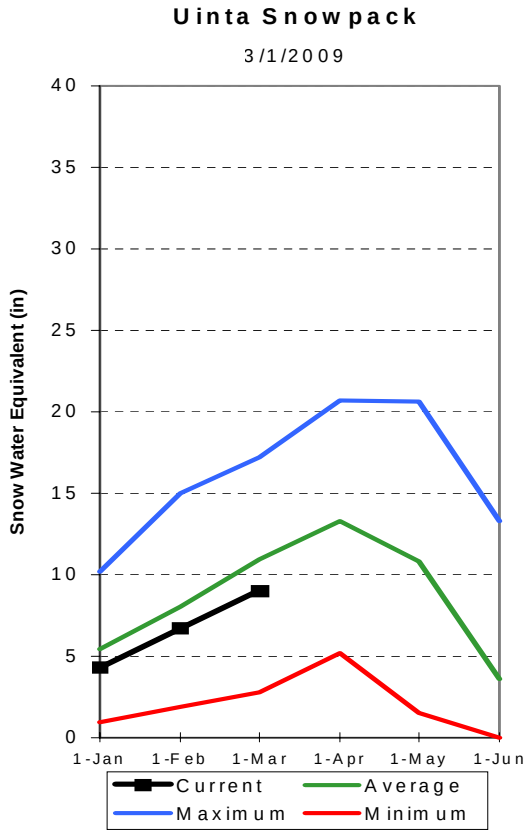
* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

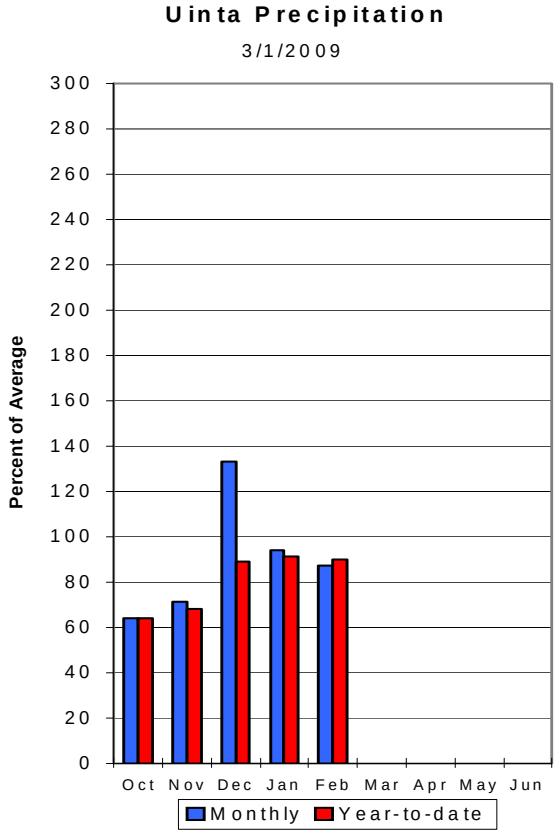
The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

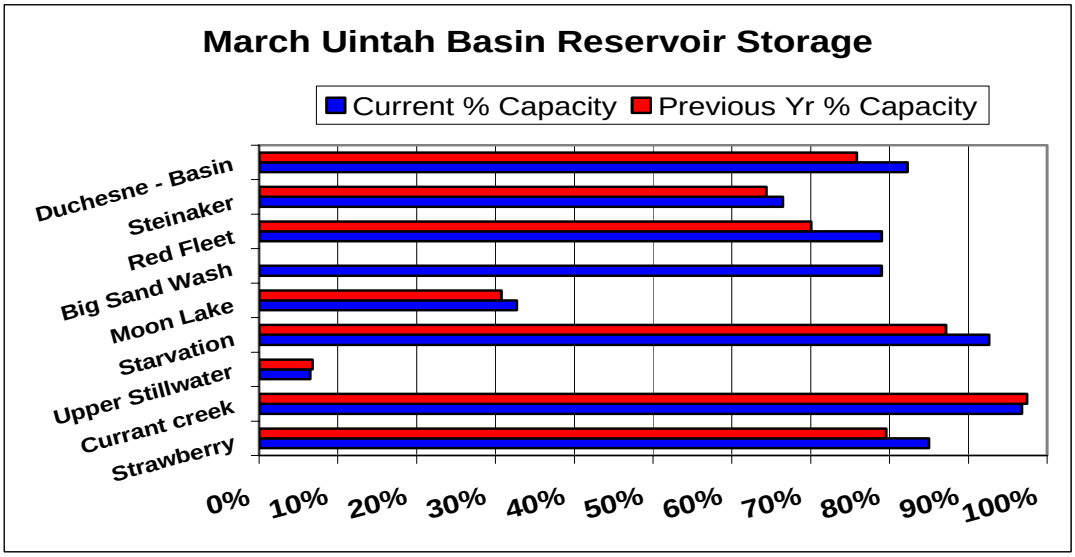
(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

Uintah Basin and Dagget SCD's
March 1, 2009

Snowpack across the Uintas is below average at 82%, which is 70% of last year. Individual sites on the North Slope range from 56% to 97% and on the South Slope range from 71% to 97% of average. Precipitation during February was below average at 87% bringing the seasonal accumulation (Oct-Feb) to 90%. Soil moisture values in runoff producing areas are at 34% of saturation in the upper 2 feet of soil, the same as last year. Reservoir storage is at 82% of capacity, 6% more than last year. Streamflow forecasts (Apr-July) range from 57% to 87% of average. The Surface Water Supply Index for the western area is 45% and for the eastern area it is 39% indicating near normal conditions on the west side and much below normal for the eastern area. General water supply conditions range from near to much below average.







UINTAH BASIN & DAGGET SCD'S
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2009

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter =====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	50% (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
Blacks Fork nr Robertson	APR-JUL	46	60	70	74	81	99	95
EF of Smiths Fork nr Robertson	APR-JUL	12.6	17.4	21	72	25	32	29
Flaming Gorge Reservoir Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	480	685	845	71	1020	1310	1190
Big Brush Ck abv Red Fleet Resv	APR-JUL	8.2	11.5	14.0	67	16.8	21	21
Ashley Creek nr Vernal	APR-JUL	21	29	36	69	43	56	52
WF Duchesne River nr Hanna (2)	APR-JUL	11.9	16.5	20	83	24	30	24
Duchesne R nr Tabiona (2)	APR-JUL	50	67	80	76	94	116	105
Upper Stillwater Reservoir Inflow	APR-JUL	54	63	70	85	77	88	82
Rock Ck nr Mountain Home (2)	APR-JUL	58	69	77	87	85	99	89
Duchesne R abv Knight Diversion (2)	APR-JUL	108	135	155	82	176	210	188
Strawberry R nr Soldier Springs (2)	APR-JUL	22	35	45	76	57	77	59
Currant Creek Reservoir Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	9.4	14.7	19.0	76	24	32	25
Strawberry R nr Duchesne (2)	APR-JUL	44	67	86	71	107	143	121
Lake Fork River Moon Lake Inflow	APR-JUL	42	51	57	84	64	75	68
Yellowstone River nr Altonah	APR-JUL	36	45	52	84	60	72	62
Duchesne R at Myton (2)	APR-JUL	72	128	175	67	230	325	260
Whiterocks nr Whiterocks	APR-JUL	27	37	45	80	54	68	56
Duchesne R nr Randlett (2)	APR-JUL	68	131	185	57	250	360	324

UINTAH BASIN & DAGGET SCD'S
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
FLAMING GORGE	3749.0	2966.0	3021.0	2919.0
MOON LAKE	49.5	11.7	11.0	29.8
RED FLEET	25.7	20.3	18.0	18.4
STEINAKER	33.4	22.2	21.5	22.8
STARVATION	165.3	153.1	144.1	135.9
STRAWBERRY-ENLARGED	1105.9	939.9	880.0	637.8

UINTAH BASIN & DAGGET SCD'S
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2009

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
UPPER GREEN RIVER in UTAH	6	63	69
ASHLEY CREEK	2	62	74
BLACK'S FORK RIVER	2	66	70
SHEEP CREEK	1	54	57
DUCHESNE RIVER	11	72	87
LAKE FORK-YELLOWSTONE CRE	4	79	90
STRAWBERRY RIVER	4	65	82
UINTAH-WHITEROCKS RIVERS	2	78	94
UINTAH BASIN & DAGGET SCD	17	70	82

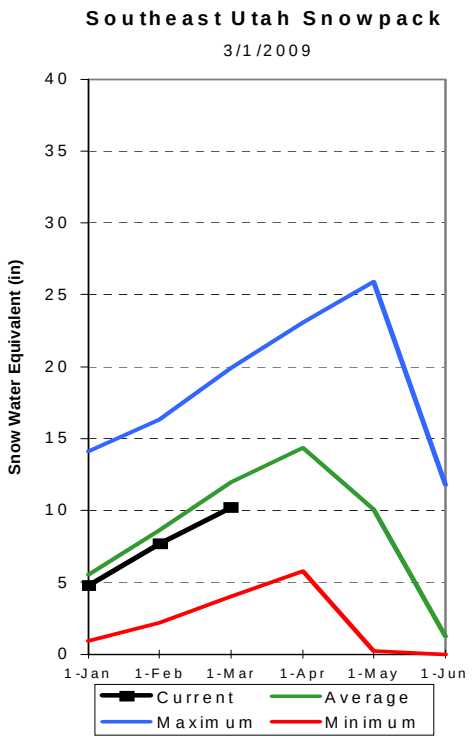
* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

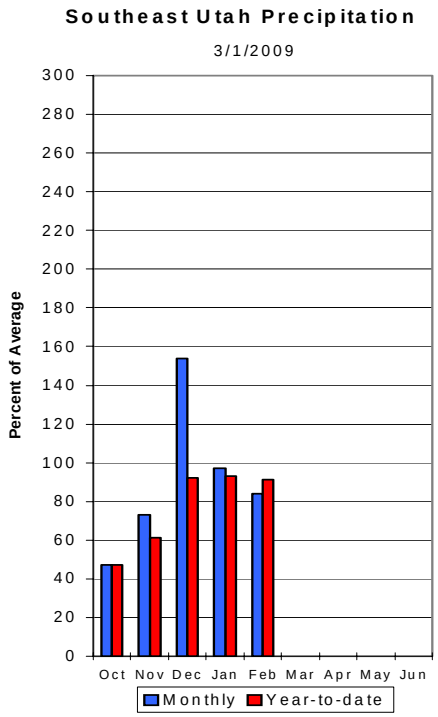
The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

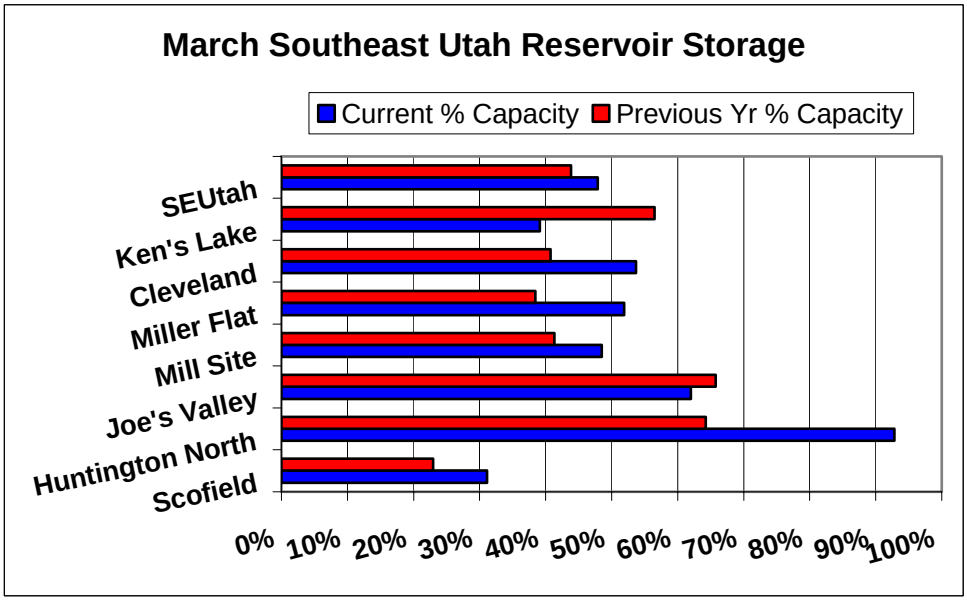
(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

Carbon, Emery, Wayne, Grand and San Juan Co.
March 1, 2009

Snowpacks in this region are below normal at 86% of average, about 71% of last year. Individual sites range from 48% to 117% of average. Precipitation during February was below average at 84%, bringing the seasonal accumulation (Oct-Feb) to 91% of normal. Soil moisture estimates in runoff producing areas are at 36% of saturation in the upper 2 feet of soil, 8% below last year at this time. Forecast streamflows (Apr – July) range from 75% to 110% of average. Reservoir storage is at 48% of capacity, up 4% from last year at this time. Surface Water Supply Indices for the area are: Price 32%, Joe's Valley 50%, Ferron Creek 37%, and Moab 61%. General runoff and water supply conditions are below average in the Price and Ferron Creek areas, and above, and near average in the Moab and Joe's Valley areas respectively.







CARBON, EMERY, WAYNE, GRAND, & SAN JUAN Co.
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2009

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter =====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	50% (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
Gooseberry Creek nr Scofield	APR-JUL	6.5	8.5	10.0	84	11.6	14.3	11.9
Price River nr Scofield Reservoir	APR-JUL	23	30	36	80	43	54	45
White River blw Tabbyune Creek	APR-JUL	8.0	11.1	13.5	78	16.2	20	17.3
Green River at Green River, UT (2)	APR-JUL	1510	2250	2750	87	3250	3990	3170
Huntington Ck Inflow to Electric Lk	APR-JUL	8.6	11.1	13.0	83	15.0	18.3	15.7
Huntington Ck nr Huntington (2)	APR-JUL	25	33	40	82	47	59	49
Joe's Valley Reservoir Inflow	APR-JUL	26	37	45	78	54	69	58
Ferron Ck (Upper Station) nr Ferron	APR-JUL	19.4	25	30	77	35	43	39
Colorado River nr Cisco (2)	APR-JUL	3320	4380	5100	110	5820	6880	4650
Mill Creek at Sheley Tunnel nr Moab	APR-JUL	3.00	4.00	4.80	96	5.70	7.30	5.00
Muddy Creek nr Emery	APR-JUL	8.5	12.1	15.0	75	18.2	23	19.9
South Ck ab Lloyd's Res nr Monticell	MAR-JUL	0.57	0.96	1.30	94	1.72	2.50	1.38
San Juan River near Bluff (2)	APR-JUL	695	1020	1250	102	1480	1810	1230

CARBON, EMERY, WAYNE, GRAND, & SAN JUAN Co.
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
HUNTINGTON NORTH	4.2	3.9	2.7	3.4
JOE'S VALLEY	61.6	38.2	41.2	41.5
KEN'S LAKE	2.3	0.9	1.3	1.3
MILL SITE	16.7	8.1	6.9	84.9
SCOFIELD	65.8	20.5	15.1	34.8

CARBON, EMERY, WAYNE, GRAND, & SAN JUAN Co.
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2009

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
PRICE RIVER	3	73	88
SAN RAFAEL RIVER	3	79	82
MUDDY CREEK	1	58	72
FREMONT RIVER	3	77	76
LASAL MOUNTAINS	1	87	100
BLUE MOUNTAINS	1	52	98
WILLOW CREEK	1	63	106
SOUTHEASTERN UTAH	13	71	86

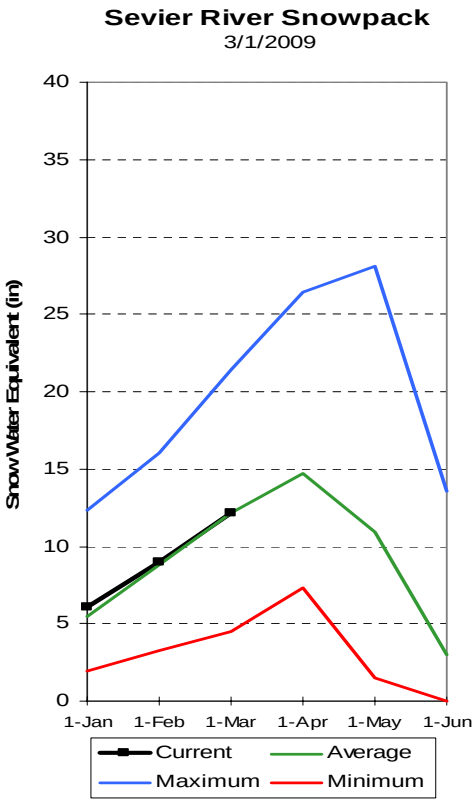
* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

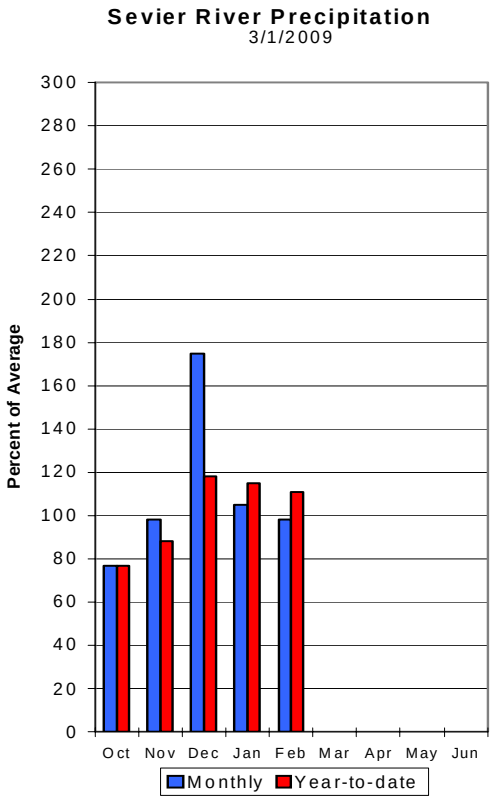
The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

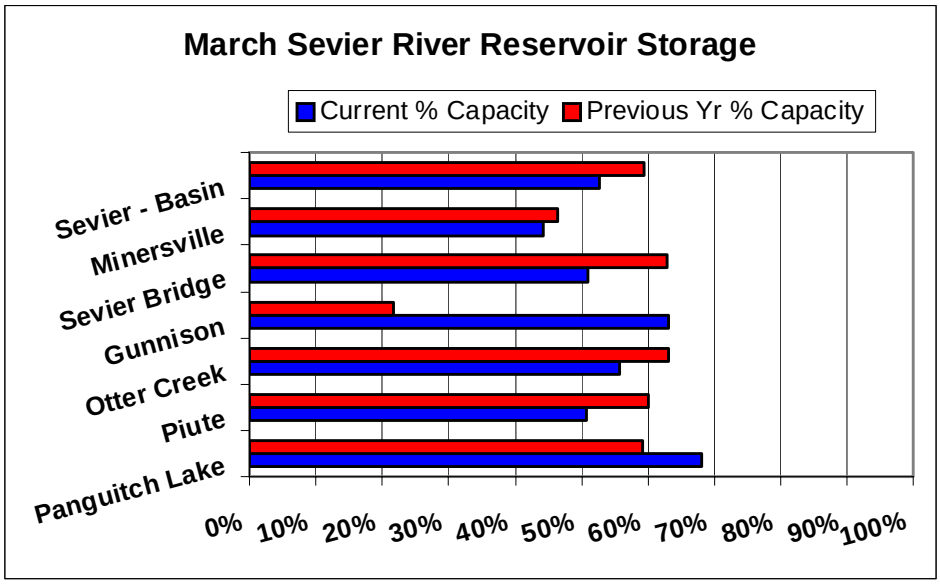
(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

Sevier and Beaver River Basins
March 1, 2009

Snowpacks on the Sevier River Basin are normal at 100% of average, a 3% decline relative to last month and 79% of last year. Individual sites range from 62% at Beaver Dams to 165% of average at Harris Flat. Precipitation during February was near average at 98% of normal, bringing the seasonal accumulation (Oct-Feb) to 111% of average. Soil moisture estimates in runoff producing areas are at 47% of saturation in the upper 2 feet of soil compared to 43% last year. Streamflow forecasts range from 76% to 119% of average. Reservoir storage is at 53% of capacity, 7% less than last year. Surface Water Supply Indices are: Upper Sevier 39%, Lower Sevier 47% and Beaver 63%. Water supply conditions are below average on the upper Sevier, near average on the lower Sevier and above average on the Beaver River watersheds.







SEVIER & BEAVER RIVER BASINS
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2009

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter =====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	50% (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
Sevier R at Hatch, UT	APR-JUL	29	42	51	93	60	73	55
Sevier R nr Kingston, UT	APR-JUL	3.2	15.9	31	94	40	62	33
EF Sevier R nr Kingston, UT	APR-JUL	12.9	27	36	103	45	59	35
Sevier R blw Piute Dam nr Marysvale,	APR-JUL	34	66	87	96	108	140	91
Clear Creek Abv Diversions nr Sevier	APR-JUL	10.5	17.4	22	100	27	34	22
Salina Ck at Salina, UT	APR-JUL	3.1	10.5	18.0	91	27	45	19.7
Manti Ck Blw Dugway Ck Nr Manti	APR-JUL	9.1	12.4	15.0	82	17.8	22	18.3
Sevier R nr Gunnison, UT	APR-JUL	5.0	44	80	76	116	168	106
Chicken Creek nr Levan	APR-JUL	1.40	2.40	3.40	76	4.60	6.71	4.50
Oak Creek nr Oak City	APR-JUL	0.78	1.13	1.40	84	1.70	2.20	1.66
Beaver R nr Beaver, UT	APR-JUL	17.5	26	32	119	38	46	27
Minersville Reservoir	APR-JUL	5.1	11.3	17.5	105	26	42	16.6

SEVIER & BEAVER RIVER BASINS
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
GUNNISON	20.3	12.8	4.4	14.6
MINERSVILLE (RkyFd)	23.3	10.3	10.8	16.2
OTTER CREEK	52.5	29.3	33.1	40.0
PIUTE	71.8	36.5	43.1	53.3
SEVIER BRIDGE	236.0	120.4	148.1	175.6
PANGUITCH LAKE	22.3	15.2	13.2	146.8

SEVIER & BEAVER RIVER BASINS
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2009

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	This Year as % of Average
UPPER SEVIER RIVER	8	82	113
EAST FORK SEVIER RIVER	3	84	101
SOUTH FORK SEVIER RIVER	5	81	119
LOWER SEVIER RIVER	6	65	80
BEAVER RIVER	2	106	122
SEVIER & BEAVER RIVER BAS	16	79	100

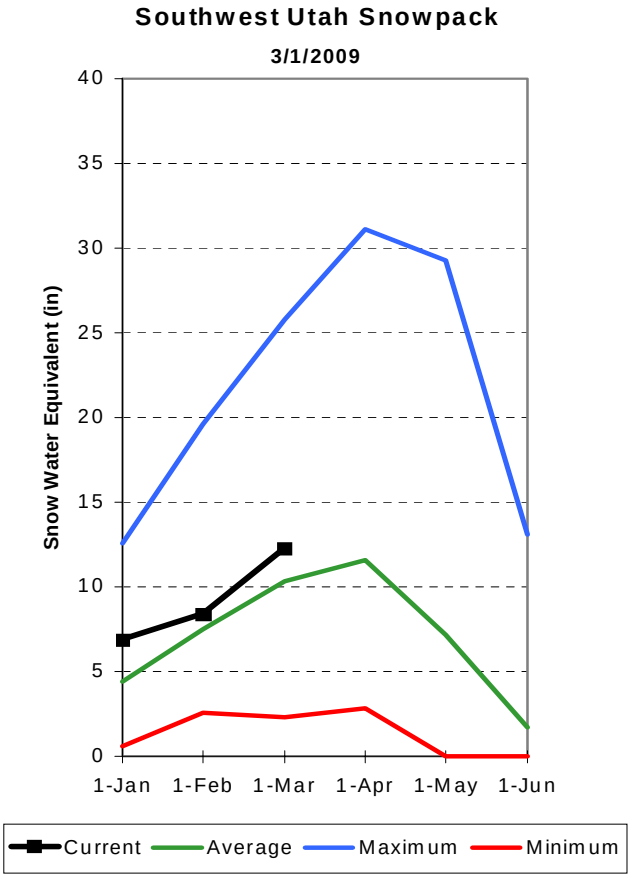
* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

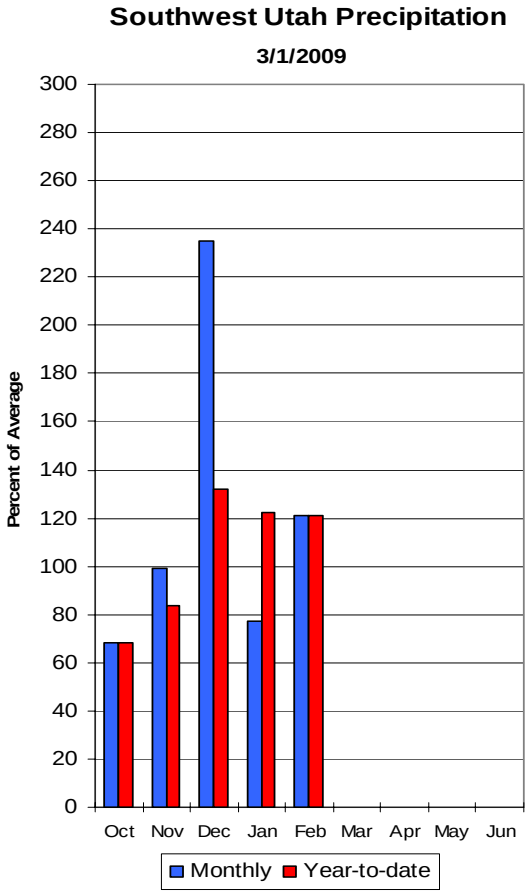
The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

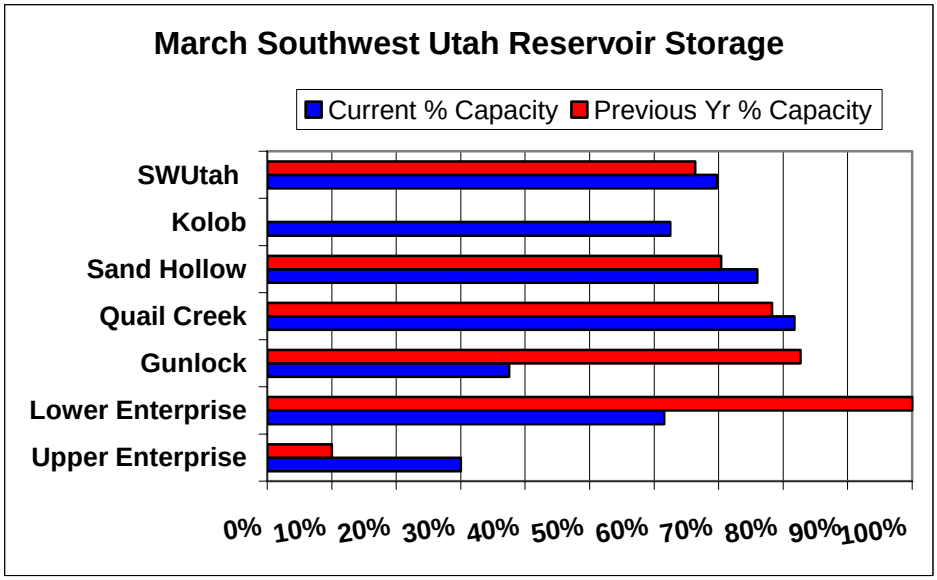
(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

E. Garfield, Kane, Washington, & Iron Co.
March 1, 2009

Snowpacks in this region are above normal at 119% of average, which is 88% of last year. Individual sites range from 65% at Donkey Reservoir Snotel, to 165% of average at Harris Flat Snotel. Precipitation during the month of February was above average at 121%, bringing the seasonal accumulation (Oct-Feb) to 121% of average. The average soil moisture estimate in runoff producing areas is at 43% of saturation within the upper 2 feet of soil, compared to 40% last year. Forecast streamflows (Apr–July) range from 98% to 124% of average. Reservoir storage is at 70% of capacity, 4% higher than last year. The Surface Water Supply Index is at 74%, indicating much above average water supply conditions.







E. GARFIELD, KANE, WASHINGTON, & IRON Co.
Streamflow Forecasts - March 1, 2009

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter =====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	50% (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
Lake Powell Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	4630	6520	7800	98	9080	11000	7930
Virgin River at Virgin	APR-JUL	40	53	64	100	76	94	64
Virgin River nr Hurricane	APR-JUL	38	55	69	100	84	109	69
Santa Clara River nr Pine Valley	APR-JUL	3.00	4.30	5.40	98	6.60	8.50	5.50
Coal Ck nr Cedar City, UT	APR-JUL	15.2	20	24	124	28	33	19.3

E. GARFIELD, KANE, WASHINGTON, & IRON Co.
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of February

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
GUNLOCK	10.4	3.9	8.6	4.9
LAKE POWELL	24322.0	12977.0	10875.0	---
QUAIL CREEK	40.0	32.7	31.3	29.7
UPPER ENTERPRISE	10.0	3.0	1.0	---
LOWER ENTERPRISE	2.6	1.6	2.6	90.0

E. GARFIELD, KANE, WASHINGTON, & IRON Co.
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - March 1, 2009

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
VIRGIN RIVER	5	89	131
PAROWAN	2	82	108
ENTERPRISE TO NEW HARMONY	2	71	111
COAL CREEK	2	86	119
ESCALANTE RIVER	2	93	77
SOUTHWESTERN UTAH	9	88	119

* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

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(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

Surface Water Supply Index

March 1, 2009 Basin or Region	SWSI	Percentile	Years with Similar SWSI
Bear River	-2.10	14%	43,32,95,06
Ogden River	-0.13	48%	91,94,79,96
Weber River	-0.10	49%	79,76,93,05
Provo	-0.13	48%	07,00,08,05
West Uintah Basin	-0.42	45%	01,81,73,74
East Uintah Basin	-2.02	26%	03,81,07,91
Price River	-1.54	32%	94,07,93,05
Joe's Valley	0.00	50%	04,01,00,93
Ferron Creek	-1.10	37%	07,74,03,87
Moab	0.91	61%	07,96,94,97
Upper Sevier River	-0.92	39%	79,75,59,90
Lower Sevier River	-0.25	47%	08,01,96,07
Beaver River	1.11	63%	75,87,99,70
Virgin River	1.99	74%	01,92,06,88

SWSI Scale: -4 to 4	Percentile: 0 - 100%

What is a Surface Water Supply Index?

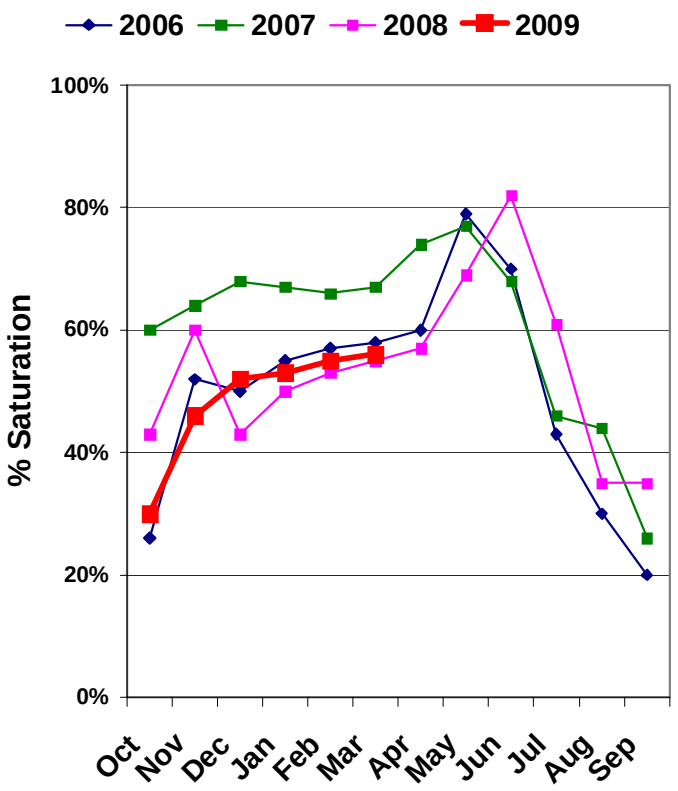
The Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) is a predictive indicator of total surface water availability within a watershed for the spring and summer water use seasons. The index is calculated by combining pre-runoff reservoir storage (carryover) with forecasts of spring and summer streamflow which are based on current snowpack and other hydrologic variables. SWSI values are scaled from +4.1 (abundant supply) to -4.1 (extremely dry) with a value of zero (0) indicating median water supply as compared to historical analysis. SWSI's are calculated in this fashion to be consistent with other hydroclimatic indicators such as the Palmer Drought Index and the Precipitation index.

Utah Snow Surveys has also chosen to display the SWSI as a PERCENT CHANCE OF NON-EXCEEDANCE. While this is a cumbersome name, it has the simplest application. It can be best thought of as a scale of 1 to 99 with 1 being the drought of record (driest possible conditions) and 99 being the flood of record (wettest possible conditions) and a value of 50 representing average conditions. This rating scale is a percentile rating as well, for example a SWSI of 75% means that this years water supply is greater than 75% of all historical events and that only 25% of the time has it been exceeded. Conversely a SWSI of 10% means that 90% of historical events have been greater than this one and that only 10% have had less total water supply. This scale is far more intuitive for most people and is totally comparable between basins: a SWSI of 50% means the same relative ranking on watershed A as it does on watershed B, which may not be strictly true of the +4 to -4 scale.

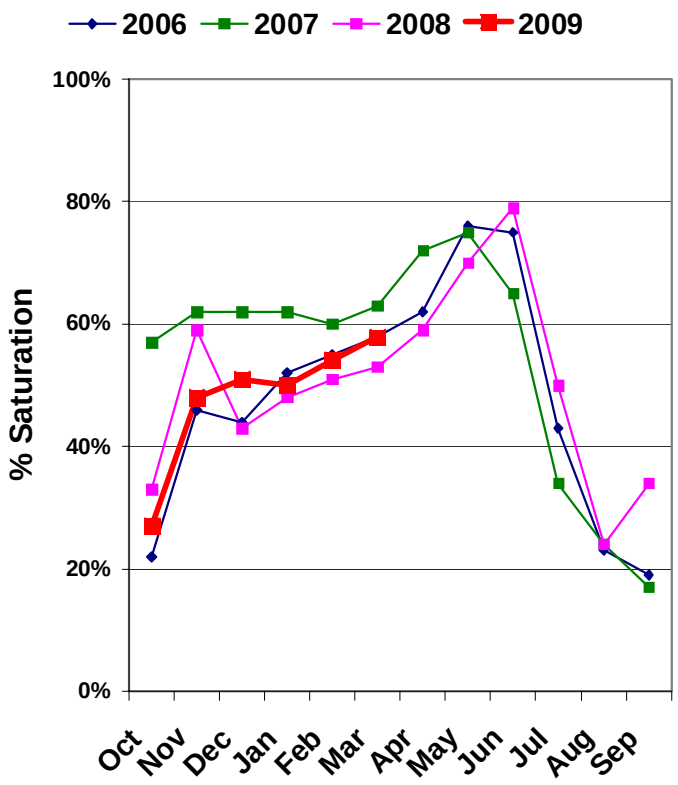
For more information on the SWSI go to: www.ut.nrcs.usda.gov/snow/ on the water supply page. The entire period of historical record for reservoir storage and streamflow is available.

Watershed Soil Moisture Charts for Utah Water Supply

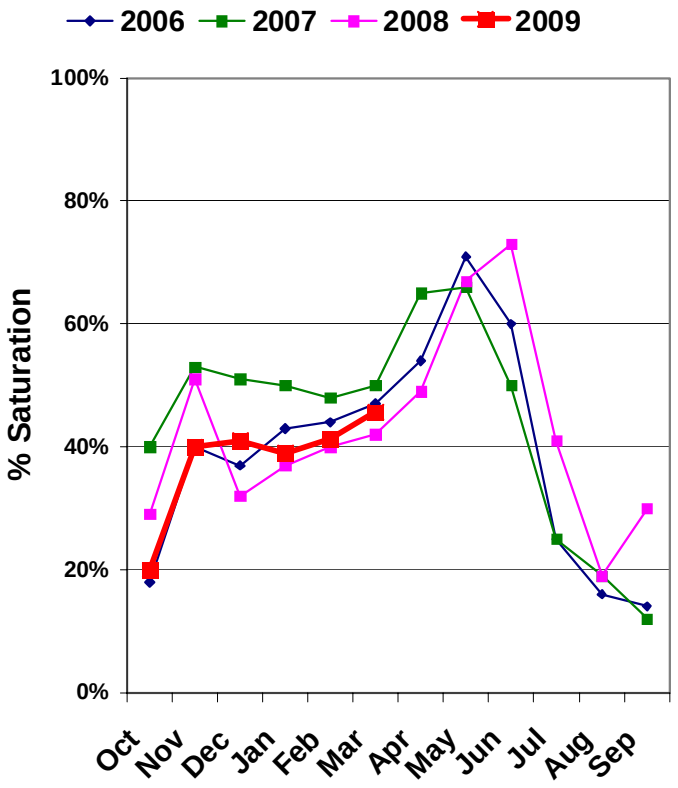
Bear River Soil Moisture



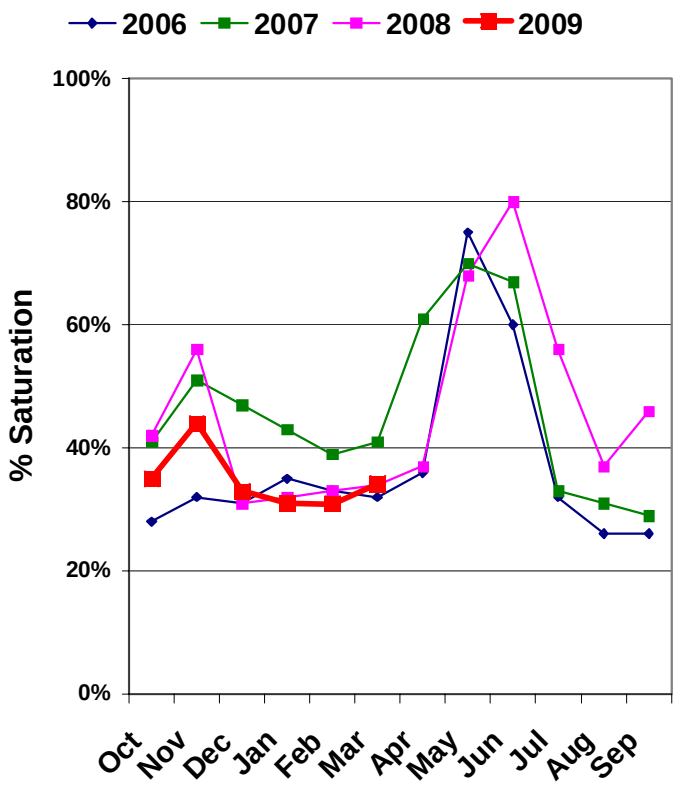
Weber River Soil Moisture



Jordan/Provo River Soil Moisture



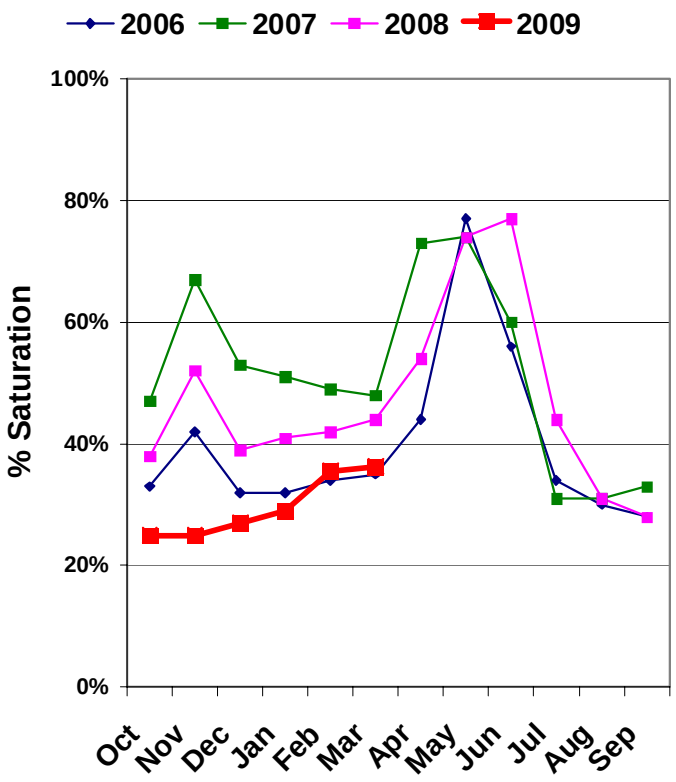
Uintah Basin Soil Moisture



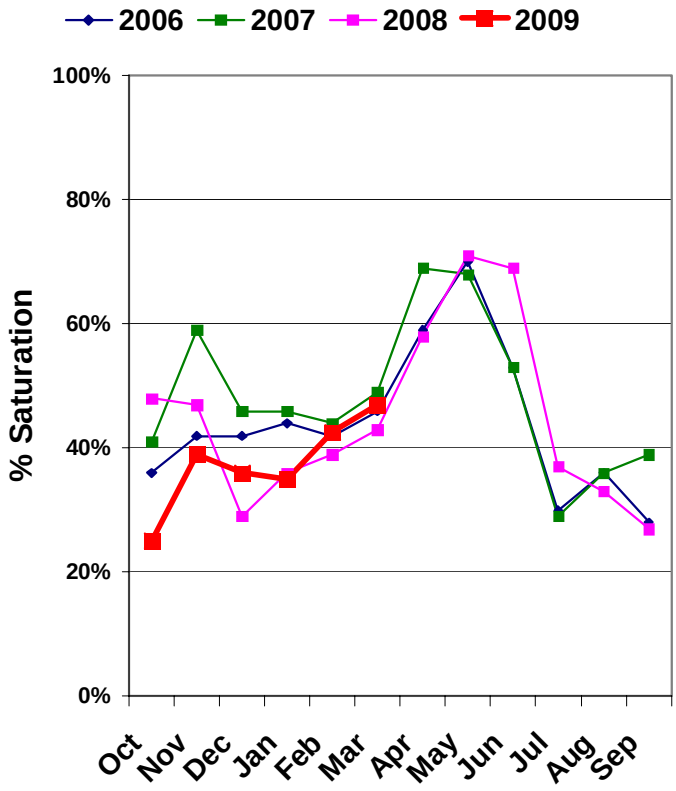
Percent saturation is calculated using the weighted average of volumetric soil moisture content at 2, 8, and 20-inch depths. Saturation is estimated as 40% volumetric water content.

Watershed Soil Moisture Charts for Utah Water Supply

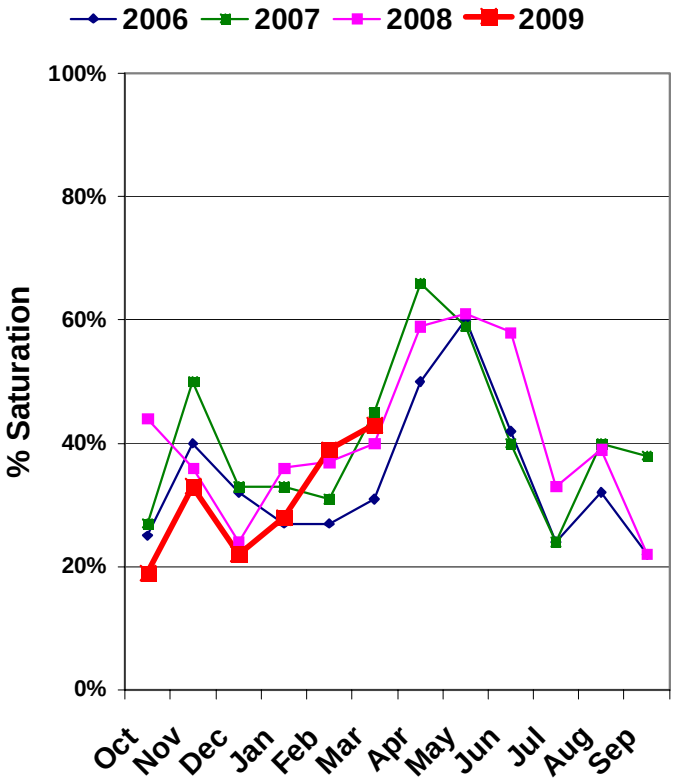
South East Utah Soil Moisture



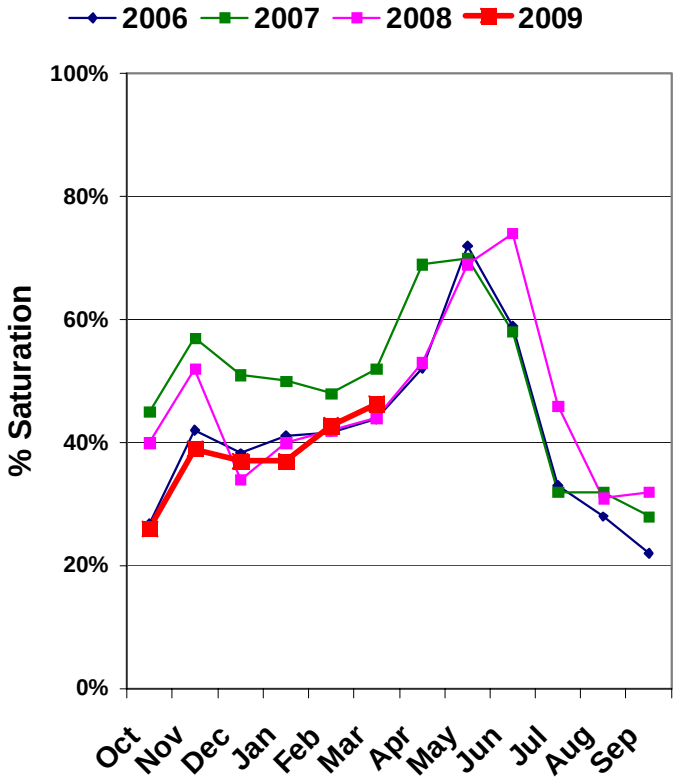
Sevier/Beaver River Soil Moisture



Southwest Utah Soil Moisture



Statewide Soil Moisture



Percent saturation is calculated using the weighted average of volumetric soil moisture content at 2, 8, and 20-inch depths. Saturation is estimated as 40% volumetric water content.

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S N O W C O U R S E D A T A

MARCH 2009

SNOW COURSE	ELEV.	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 71-00
AGUA CANYON SNOTEL	8900	3/01	27	9.1	13.3	7.3
ALTA CENTRAL	8800	2/26	89	30.7	37.0	31.1
BEAVER DAMS SNOTEL	8000	3/01	17	6.3	11.9	10.2
BEAVER DIVIDE SNOTEL	8280	3/01	32	9.7	13.0	10.2
BEN LOMOND PK SNOTEL	8000	3/01	102	39.3	38.5	34.3
BEN LOMOND TR SNOTEL	6000	3/01	57	18.8	27.0	19.0
BEVAN'S CABIN	6450	2/28	23	7.8	12.4	9.2
BIG FLAT SNOTEL	10290	3/01	64	18.0	16.8	15.0
BIRCH CROSSING	8100	2/25	20	6.4	9.4	6.7
BLACK FLAT-U.M. CK S	9400	3/01	25	6.3	10.5	8.5
BLACK'S FORK GS-EF	9340	2/25	23	7.6	9.8	7.8
BLACK'S FORK JUNCTN	8930	2/25	22	5.8	9.9	7.7
BOX CREEK SNOTEL	9800	3/01	39	11.0	13.8	11.0
BRIAN HEAD	10000	2/25	50	16.0	18.5	16.5
BRIGHTON SNOTEL	8750	3/01	50	17.4	26.9	20.4
BRIGHTON CABIN	8700	2/25	61	19.5	30.2	23.1
BROWN DUCK SNOTEL	10600	3/01	54	13.3	17.0	15.0
BRYCE CANYON	8000	2/27	16	6.7	8.4	4.9
BUCK FLAT SNOTEL	9800	3/01	44	13.3	16.6	15.3
BUCK PASTURE	9700	2/25	45	10.2	14.8	14.0
BUCKBOARD FLAT	9000	2/26	31	10.9	17.5	11.0
BUG LAKE SNOTEL	7950	3/01	48	14.3	15.4	17.1
BURT'S-MILLER RANCH	7900	2/25	14	4.8	6.6	4.7
CAMP JACKSON SNOTEL	8600	3/01	32	12.7	24.2	12.9
CASCADE MOUNTAIN SNO	7770	3/01	54	18.9	19.8	-
CASTLE VALLEY SNOTEL	9580	3/01	43	11.0	15.7	11.8
CHALK CK #1 SNOTEL	9100	3/01	56	17.8	22.3	19.9
CHALK CK #2 SNOTEL	8200	3/01	40	12.3	16.5	12.9
CHALK CREEK #3	7500	2/25	19	6.3	9.8	6.8
CHEPETA SNOTEL	10300	3/01	39	10.6	13.0	11.4
CLAYTON SPRINGS SNTL	10000	3/01	39	9.7	10.1	-
CLEAR CK RIDG #1 SNT	9200	3/01	48	14.6	18.7	16.7
CLEAR CK RIDG #2 SNT	8000	3/01	40	10.6	14.8	12.3
CORRAL	8200	2/24	26	7.1	15.2	-
CURRANT CREEK SNOTEL	8000	3/01	29	8.3	13.7	9.6
DANIELS-STRAWBERRY S	8000	3/01	45	12.4	19.5	15.1
DILL'S CAMP SNOTEL	9200	3/01	33	8.8	15.1	12.3
DONKEY RESERVOIR SNO	9800	3/01	22	4.3	5.3	6.6
DRY BREAD POND SNTL	8350	3/01	55	16.4	21.0	19.0
DRY FORK SNOTEL	7160	3/01	33	9.9	13.1	14.5
EAST WILLOW CREEK SN	8250	3/01	28	7.5	11.9	7.1
FARMINGTON U. SNOTEL	8000	3/01	83	33.2	33.0	27.3
FARMINGTON L. SNOTEL	6780	3/01	58	21.3	24.0	-
FARNSWORTH LK SNOTEL	9600	3/01	45	12.2	19.5	14.8
FISH LAKE	8700	2/24	13	3.6	9.9	7.5
FIVE POINTS LAKE SNO	10920	3/01	49	11.9	17.0	13.8
G.B.R.C. HEADQUARTER	8700	2/24	38	11.7	17.7	13.8
G.B.R.C. MEADOWS	10000	2/24	55	17.9	24.2	19.0
GARDEN CITY SUMMIT	7600	2/28	35	9.3	13.2	13.5
GARDNER PEAK SNOTEL	8350	3/01	40	14.7	13.5	-
GEORGE CREEK	8840	2/25	55	19.0	18.0	17.3
GOOSEBERRY R.S.	8400	2/24	25	7.7	13.3	9.9
GOOSEBERRY R.S. SNTL	7900	3/01	15	6.0	11.3	7.9
GUTZ PEAK SNOTEL	6820	3/01	38	14.3	15.2	-
HARDSCRABBLE SNOTEL	7250	3/01	46	15.3	20.2	14.3
HARRIS FLAT SNOTEL	7700	3/01	29	11.4	14.4	6.9
HAYDEN FORK SNOTEL	9100	3/01	42	13.1	16.3	13.2
HENRY'S FORK	10000	2/25	33	7.2	11.2	10.5
HEWINTA SNOTEL	9500	3/01	31	6.5	10.9	9.1
HICKERSON PARK SNTL	9100	3/01	16	3.3	6.1	5.8
HIDDEN SPRINGS	5500	2/25	21	6.4	9.1	5.9
HOBBLE CREEK SUMMIT	7420	2/25	38	12.5	17.2	13.1
HOLE-IN-ROCK SNOTEL	9150	3/01	18	3.2	5.1	5.7
HORSE RIDGE SNOTEL	8260	3/01	52	17.5	20.6	20.2
HUNTINGTON-HORSESHOE	9800	2/24	56	20.0	22.9	19.4
INDIAN CANYON SNOTEL	9100	3/01	38	9.1	14.7	9.6
JOHNSON VALLEY	8850	2/24	16	4.5	10.4	6.4
JONES CORRAL SNOTEL	9750	3/01	32	8.3	9.1	-
KILFOIL CREEK	7300	2/28	38	11.5	17.3	12.4
KILLYON CANYON	6300	2/25	22	7.4	12.1	8.7

SNOW COURSE	ELEV.	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 71-00
KIMBERLY MINE SNOTEL	9300	3/01	43	14.2	16.2	13.3
KING'S CABIN SNOTEL	8730	3/01	26	6.9	10.2	9.4
KLONDIKE NARROWS	7400	2/28	50	16.0	18.8	16.8
KOLOB SNOTEL	9250	3/01	73	24.1	25.2	17.8
LAKEFORK #1 SNOTEL	10100	3/01	34	9.2	11.6	10.5
LAKEFORK BASIN SNTL	10900	3/01	57	16.1	18.1	16.6
LAKEFORK MOUNTAIN #3	8400	2/25	19	4.8	9.6	6.1
LAMBS CANYON	7400	2/26	43	13.3	17.4	14.5
LASAL MOUNTAIN LOWER	8800	2/26	19	6.8	9.2	8.1
LASAL MOUNTAIN SNTL	9850	3/01	31	10.7	12.3	10.7
LIGHTNING RIDGE SNTL	8220	3/01	46	15.1	20.4	-
LILY LAKE SNOTEL	9050	3/01	41	10.6	12.4	10.8
LITTLE BEAR LOWER	6000	2/28	33	11.9	16.6	10.2
LITTLE BEAR SNOTEL	6550	3/01	35	11.7	14.8	12.8
LITTLE GRASSY SNOTEL	6100	3/01	15	5.8	9.6	5.8
LONG FLAT SNOTEL	8000	3/01	25	8.9	11.1	7.4
LONG VALLEY JCT. SNT	7500	3/01	22	8.4	11.7	5.8
LOOKOUT PEAK SNOTEL	8200	3/01	69	23.3	25.2	20.1
LOST CREEK RESERVOIR	6130	2/28	16	6.1	12.6	5.9
LOUIS MEADOW SNOTEL	6700	3/01	51	18.9	21.4	-
MAMMOTH-COTTONWD SNT	8800	3/01	47	16.0	19.7	17.6
MERCHANT VALLEY SNTL	8750	3/01	52	14.1	13.4	11.4
MIDDLE CANYON	7000	2/28	30	11.2	15.1	12.2
MIDWAY VALLEY SNOTEL	9800	3/01	76	22.8	25.6	19.4
MILL CREEK	6950	2/26	47	16.0	20.0	16.6
MILL-D NORTH SNOTEL	8960	3/01	55	20.2	23.0	21.0
MILL-D SOUTH FORK	7400	2/25	47	14.7	22.8	16.9
MINING FORK SNOTEL	8000	3/01	45	14.7	18.8	14.9
MONTE CRISTO SNOTEL	8960	3/01	66	20.1	24.3	24.7
MOSBY MTN. SNOTEL	9500	3/01	38	8.8	11.8	9.3
MT.BALDY R.S.	9500	2/24	57	17.8	23.4	19.9
MUD CREEK #2	8600	2/24	34	9.1	16.1	12.0
OAK CREEK	7760	2/24	33	10.8	11.6	10.0
PANGUITCH LAKE R.S.	8200	2/24	19	6.4	5.8	4.0
PARLEY'S CANYON SNTL	7500	3/01	42	12.9	17.0	15.3
PARRISH CREEK SNOTEL	7740	3/01	70	22.8	24.1	-
PAYSON R.S. SNOTEL	8050	3/01	39	13.9	19.4	17.2
PICKLE KEG SNOTEL	9600	3/01	36	11.4	17.6	14.1
PINE CREEK SNOTEL	8800	3/01	38	15.4	22.8	19.3
RED PINE RIDGE SNTL	9200	3/01	39	11.0	16.5	14.2
REDDEN MINE LOWER	8500	2/25	43	15.3	20.8	15.1
REES'S FLAT	7300	2/24	29	9.0	14.4	11.2
ROCK CREEK SNOTEL	7900	3/01	23	6.5	10.2	7.9
ROCKY BN-SETTLEMT SN	8900	3/01	48	15.8	20.6	21.2
SEELEY CREEK SNOTEL	10000	3/01	33	10.1	10.5	12.3
SMITH MOREHOUSE SNTL	7600	3/01	37	13.1	14.2	12.4
SNOWBIRD SNOTEL	9700	3/01	87	32.9	43.8	28.3
SPIRIT LAKE	10300	2/25	24	6.5	10.7	10.5
SQUAW SPRINGS	9300	2/24	23	6.5	10.0	6.6
STEEL CREEK PARK SNO	10100	3/01	42	8.8	12.3	12.7
STILLWATER CAMP	8550	2/25	28	7.9	11.6	8.8
STRAWBERRY DIVIDE SN	8400	3/01	44	11.5	16.0	16.3
SUSC RANCH	8200	2/25	30	10.3	13.4	8.1
TALL POLES	8800	2/25	38	12.3	14.6	12.1
TEMPLE FORK SNOTEL	7410	3/01	51	14.8	15.7	-
THAYNES CANYON SNTL	9200	3/01	55	17.5	26.7	19.3
THISTLE FLAT	8500	2/24	42	13.1	17.6	-
TIMBERLINE	9100	2/24	32	8.0	16.9	-
TIMBERLINE SNOTEL	8680	3/01	30	8.5	15.7	-
TIMPANOGOS DIVIDE SN	8140	3/01	64	22.4	27.0	20.4
TONY GROVE LK SNOTEL	8400	3/01	86	29.1	31.0	30.0
TONY GROVE R.S.	6250	2/28	35	11.1	14.1	11.3
TRIAL LAKE	9960	2/25	60	19.6	21.8	20.3
TRIAL LAKE SNOTEL	9960	3/01	58	18.3	18.0	20.6
TROUT CREEK SNOTEL	9400	3/01	27	6.1	10.8	8.1
UPPER JOES VALLEY	8900	2/24	24	6.5	13.2	9.3
USU DOC DANIEL SNTL	8270	3/01	79	22.8	24.2	-
VERNON CREEK SNOTEL	7500	3/01	39	11.4	12.7	10.1
VIPONT	7670	2/25	44	15.0	17.2	12.2
WEBSTER FLAT SNOTEL	9200	3/01	44	16.5	19.9	13.5
WHITE RIVER #1 SNTL	8550	3/01	35	9.7	12.7	11.6
WHITE RIVER #3	7400	2/25	27	9.1	11.6	7.8
WIDTSOE #3 SNOTEL	9500	3/01	28	8.2	8.6	9.7
WRIGLEY CREEK	9000	2/24	29	8.3	13.4	9.6
YANKEE RESERVOIR	8700	2/26	31	8.9	10.6	8.4

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Utah Water Supply Outlook Report

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