2023 State of the River Meetings – Middle Colorado Outlook: Water Year 2023



Caleb Foy, P.E. Lead Assistant Division Engineer May 2, 2023



Agenda

- ➤ Colorado River Basin Snowpack
- ➤ Distribution of Winter Precipitation
- ➤ Subbasin Snowpack
- ➤ Soil Moisture Conditions
- ➤ April 1st CBRFC Water Supply Forecasts
- ➤ Current Reservoir Conditions
- ➤ Peak Flow Forecasts
- ➤ Similar Year Call Scenarios at Shoshone and Cameo
- ➤ Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



Colorado River Basin Snowpack



Early January Snowpack in Roaring Fork River

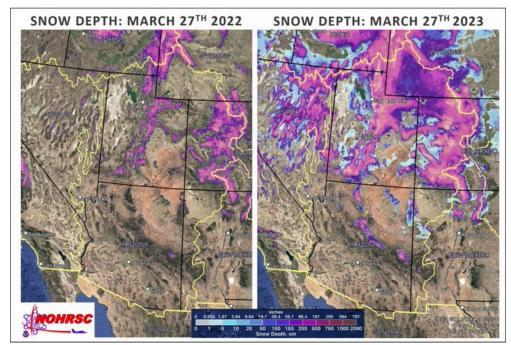
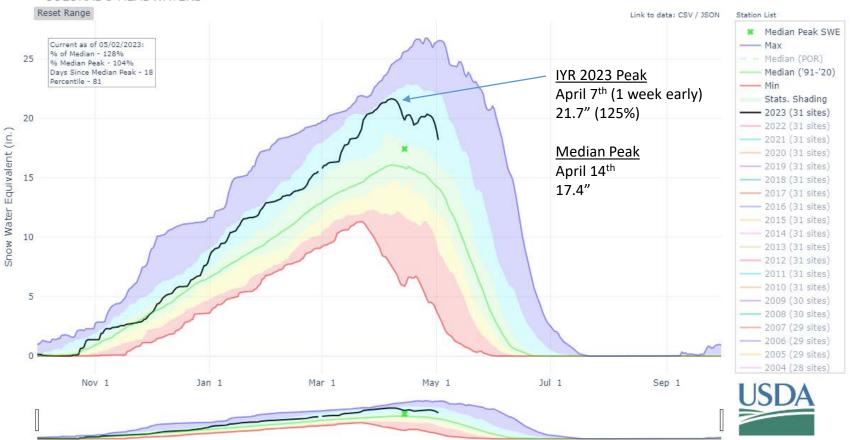


Image Courtesy of Colorado Basin River Forecast Center



SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN COLORADO HEADWATERS





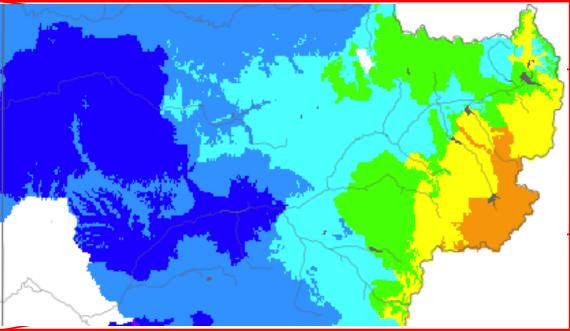
Distribution of Winter Precipitation

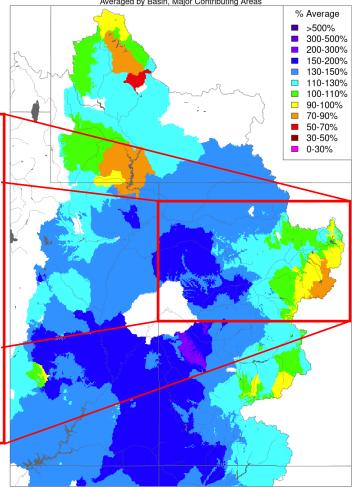




Water Year to Date Precipitation, October 01 - April 30 2023 Averaged by Basin, Major Contributing Areas

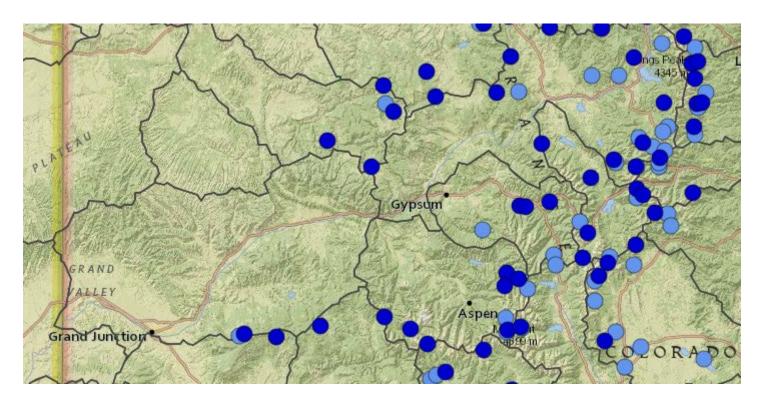
Precipitation Since 10/1/2022





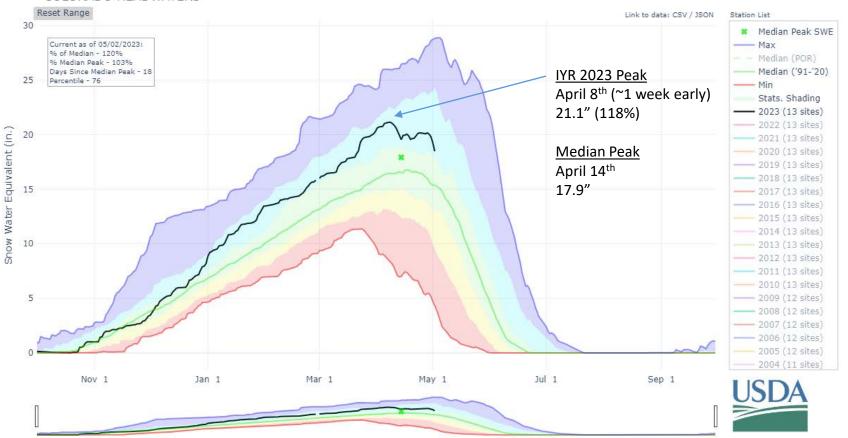


Subbasin Snowpack



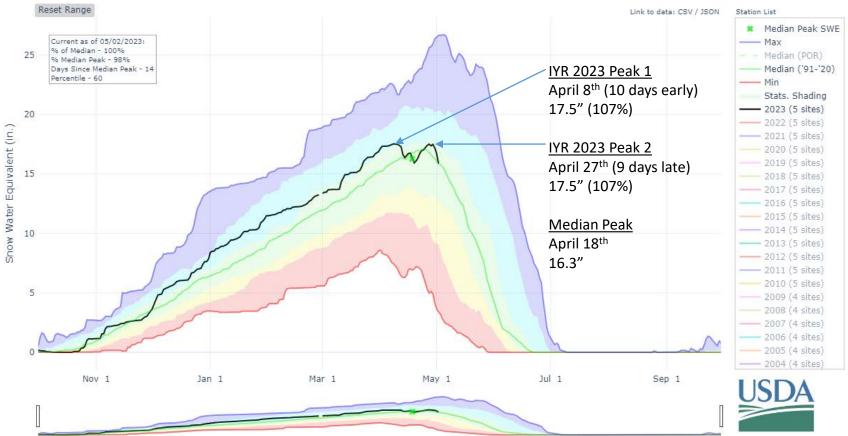


SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN COLORADO HEADWATERS

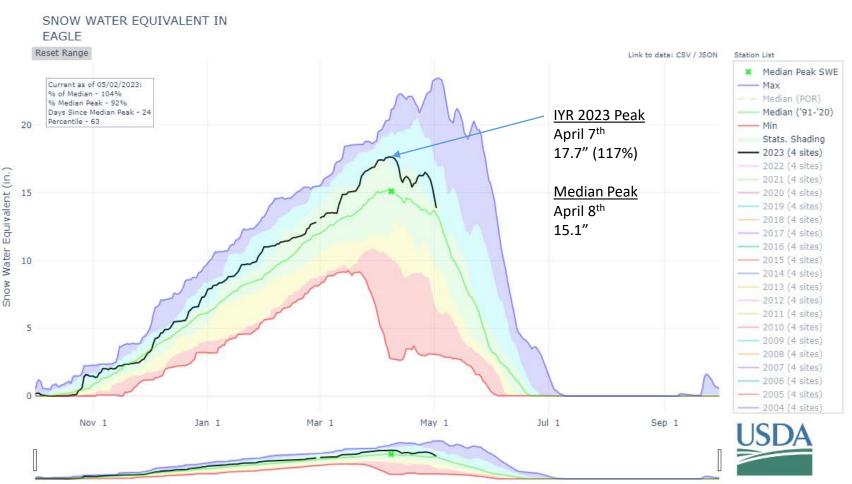




SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN BLUE

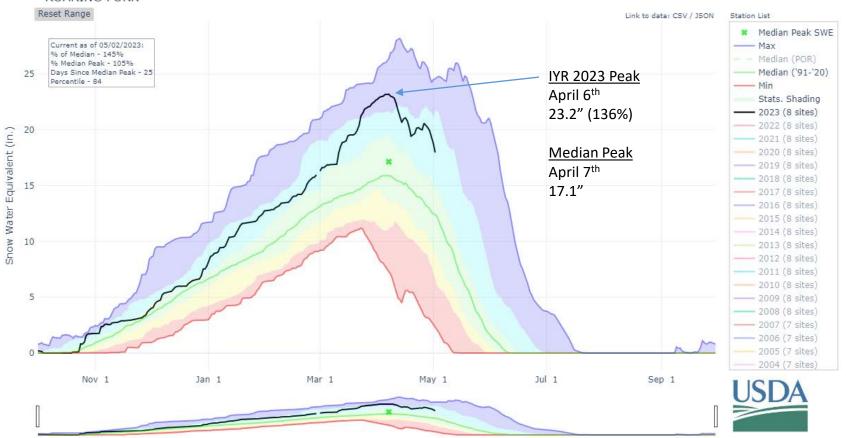






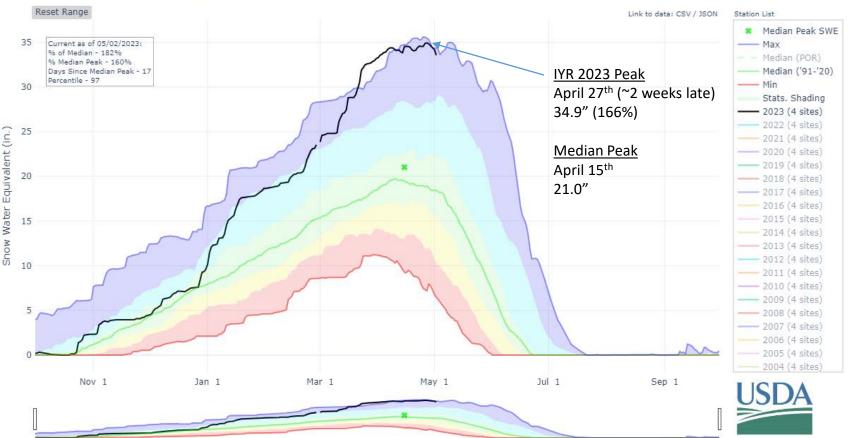


SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN ROARING FORK





SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN COLORADO HEADWATERS-PLATEAU





Soil Moisture Conditions

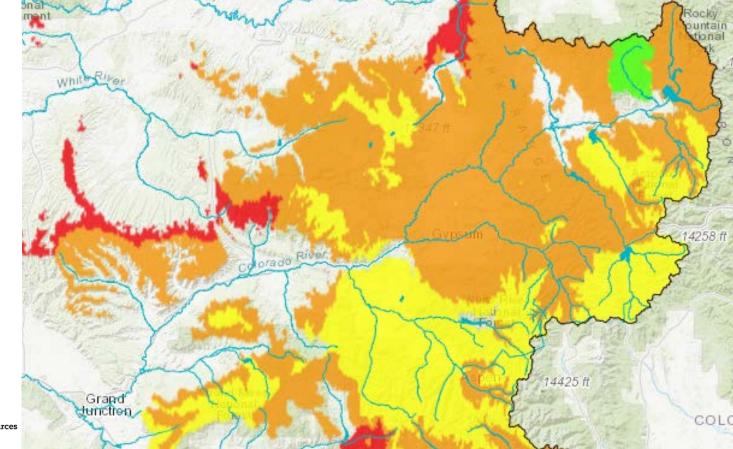




11/2/2022 CBRFC Modeled Soil Moisture Conditions

% Average

- >500%
- 300-500%
- 200-300%
- **150-200%**
- **130-150%**
- 110-130%
- **100-110%**
- 90-100%
- **70-90%**
- **50-70%**
- **30-50%**
- 0-30%





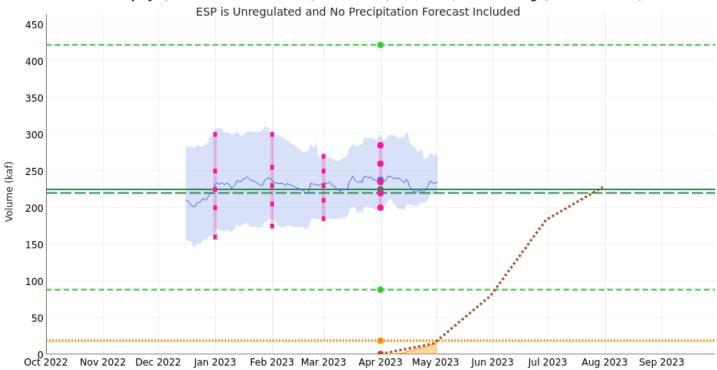
April 1st CBRFC Water Supply Forecasts







Colorado - Lake Granby, Granby, Nr (GBYC2) Period: Apr-Jul, Official 50% Forecast (2023-04-01): 235 kaf (104% Average, 107% Median)



2023/04/01:

Max 2011: 421.85 Min 2002: 88.2

Average: 225 Median: 220

Observed Total: 18.7

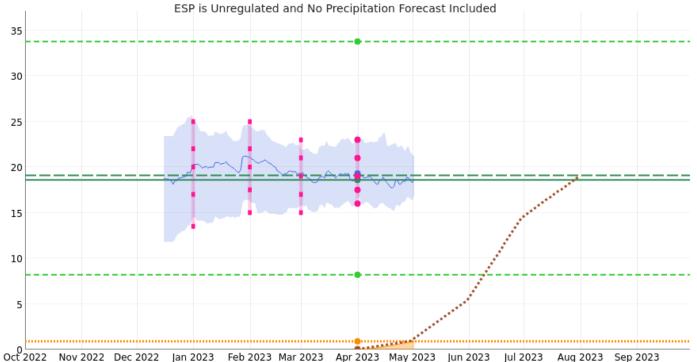
Normal Accumulation: 0.49

ESP: 238

Official 10: 285
Official 30: 260
Official 50: 235
Official 70: 220
Official 90: 200



Fraser - Winter Park (FRWC2) Period: Apr-Jul, Official 50% Forecast (2023-04-01): 19 kaf (102% Average, 99% Median)



2023/04/01:

Max 1984: 33.77 Min 2012: 8.19

Average: 18.6 Median: 19.1

Observed Total: 0.9

Normal Accumulation: 0.03

ESP: 19.3

Official 10: 23

Official 30: 21

Official 50: 19

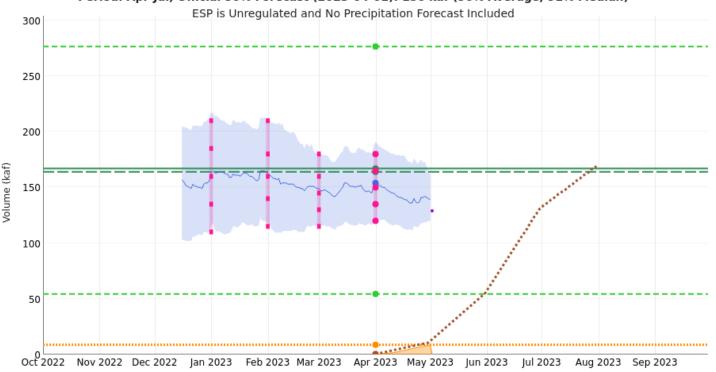
Official 70: 17.5

Official 90: 16



Volume (kaf)

Blue - Dillon Reservoir (DIRC2) Period: Apr-Jul, Official 50% Forecast (2023-04-01): 150 kaf (90% Average, 91% Median)



2023/04/01:

Max 1984: 276.51 Min 2002: 54.36

Average: 167

Median: 164

Observed Total: 8.7

Normal Accumulation: 0.36

ESP: 154

Official 10: 180

Official 30: 165

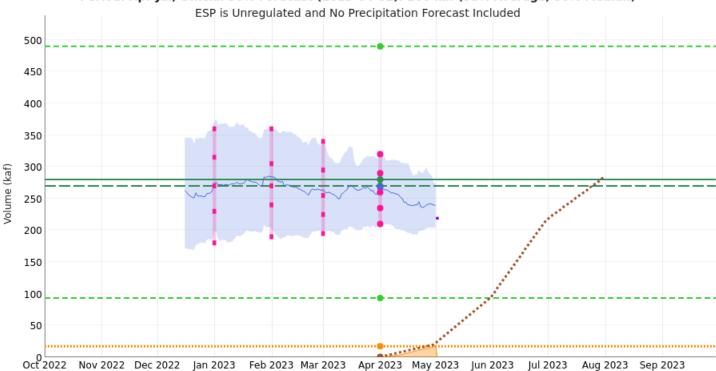
Official 50: 150

Official 70: 135

Official 90: 120



Blue - Green Mtn Reservoir (GMRC2) Period: Apr-Jul, Official 50% Forecast (2023-04-01): 260 kaf (93% Average, 96% Median)



2023/04/01:

Median: 270

Max 1984: 489.79 Min 2002: 93.36 Average: 280

Observed Total: 17.4

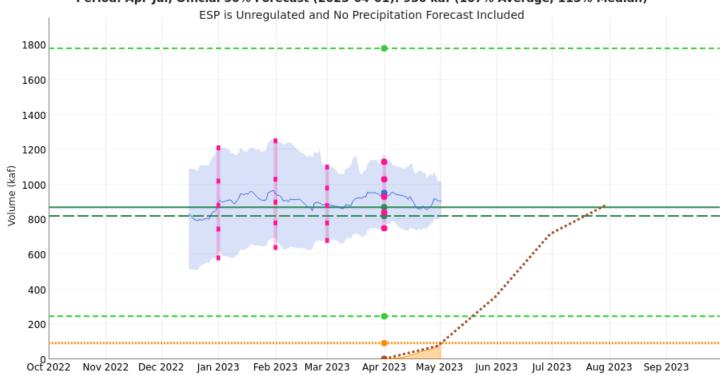
Normal Accumulation: 0.67

ESP: 268

Official 10: 320
Official 30: 290
Official 50: 260
Official 70: 235
Official 90: 210



Colorado - Kremmling, Nr (KRMC2) Period: Apr-Jul, Official 50% Forecast (2023-04-01): 930 kaf (107% Average, 113% Median)



2023/04/01:

Max 2011: 1779.44

Min 2002: 246.03

Average: 870 Median: 820

Observed Total: 92.4

Normal Accumulation: 2.54

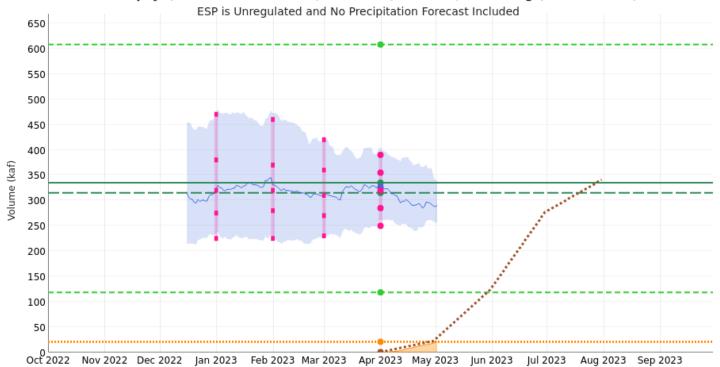
ESP: 952

Official 10: 1130 Official 30: 1030 Official 50: 930 Official 70: 840

Official 90: 750



Eagle - Gypsum, Blo (GPSC2)
Period: Apr-Jul, Official 50% Forecast (2023-04-01): 320 kaf (96% Average, 102% Median)



2023/04/01:

Max 1984: 607.8 Min 2002: 118.63

Average: 335 Median: 315

Observed Total: 21.1

Normal Accumulation: 0.76

ESP: 327

Official 10: 390 Official 30: 355 Official 50: 320 Official 70: 285

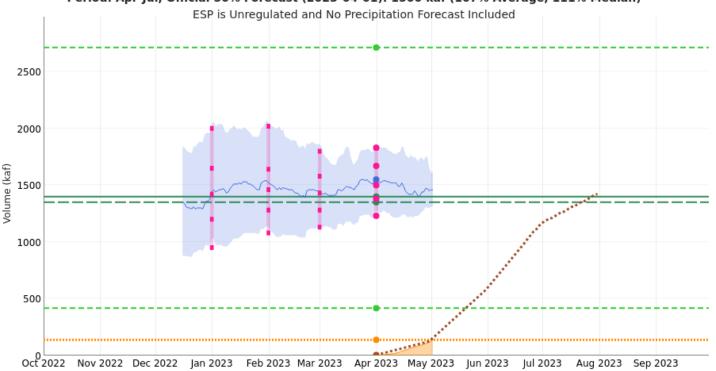
Official 90: 250

COLORADO

Division of Water Resources

Department of Natural Resources

Colorado - Dotsero, Nr (EGLC2) Period: Apr-Jul, Official 50% Forecast (2023-04-01): 1500 kaf (107% Average, 111% Median)



2023/04/01:

Max 2011: 2712.61

Min 2002: 416.7 Average: 1400 Median: 1350

Observed Total: 138

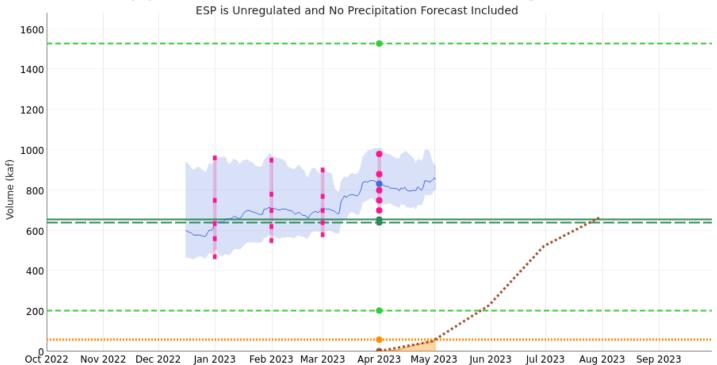
Normal Accumulation: 4.16

ESP: 1550

Official 10: 1830 Official 30: 1670 Official 50: 1500 Official 70: 1380 Official 90: 1230



Roaring Fork - Glenwood Springs (GWSC2) Period: Apr-Jul, Official 50% Forecast (2023-04-01): 800 kaf (122% Average, 125% Median)



2023/04/01:

Max 1914: 1527.97 Min 1977: 203.04

Average: 655 Median: 640

Observed Total: 58.7

observed lotal. 30.7

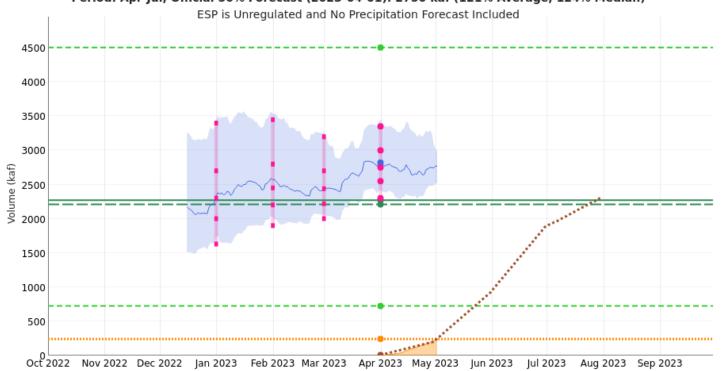
Normal Accumulation: 1.68

ESP: 832

Official 10: 980
Official 30: 880
Official 50: 800
Official 70: 750
Official 90: 700



Colorado - Cameo, Nr (CAMC2) Period: Apr-Jul, Official 50% Forecast (2023-04-01): 2750 kaf (121% Average, 124% Median) ESP is Unregulated and No Precipitation Forecast Included



2023/04/01:

Max 1984: 4503.5 Min 2002: 723.88 Average: 2270 Median: 2210

Observed Total: 242

Normal Accumulation: 6.69

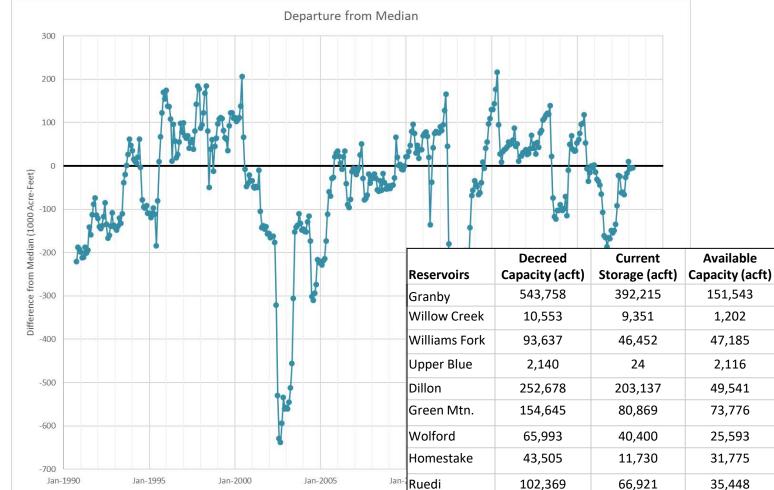
ESP: 2820

Official 10: 3350 Official 30: 3000 Official 50: 2750 Official 70: 2550 Official 90: 2300



Current Reservoir Conditions







Storage as of 5/2/2023

Vega 33,500 Total 1,302,778

66,921 15,520 866,619 31,775 27.0% 65.4% 35,448 46.3% 17,980

436,159

1,202

2,116

Percent

Full 72.1%

88.6%

49.6%

1.1%

80.4%

52.3%

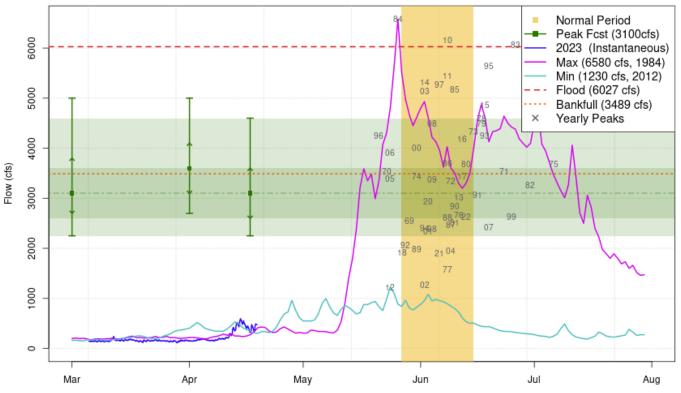
61.2%

66.5%

Peak Flow Forecasts



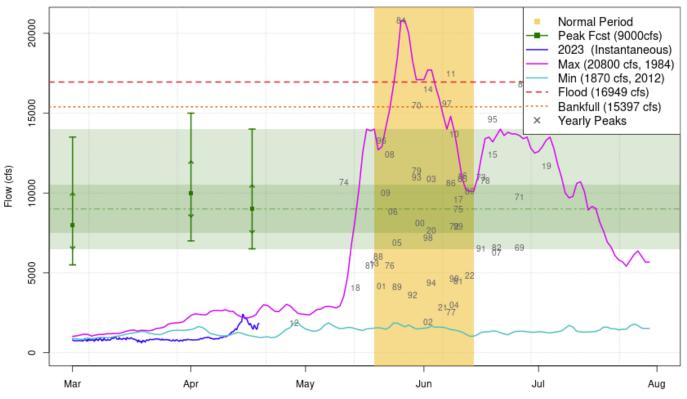
2023 Mean Daily Peak Flow Forecast Eagle - Gypsum- Blo (GPSC2)



These graphics are updated approximately every two weeks between 3/1 and 5/1
Plot Created 2023-04-18 20:04:20
CBRFC / NWS / NOAA



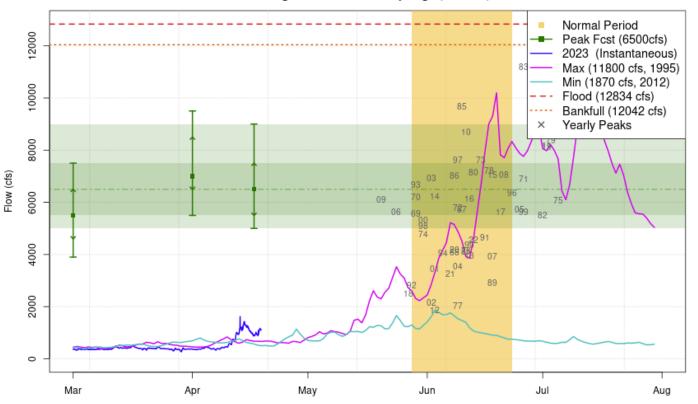
2023 Mean Daily Peak Flow Forecast Colorado - Dotsero- Nr (EGLC2)



These graphics are updated approximately every two weeks between 3/1 and 5/1
Plot Created 2023-04-18 20:04:23
CBRFC / NWS / NOAA



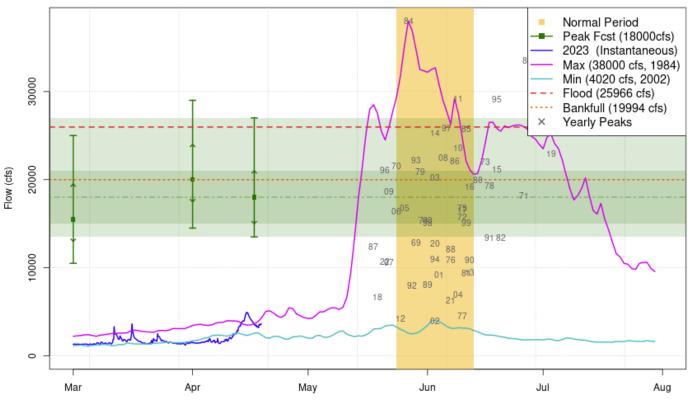
2023 Mean Daily Peak Flow Forecast Roaring Fork - Glenwood Springs (GWSC2)



These graphics are updated approximately every two weeks between 3/1 and 5/1
Plot Created 2023-04-18 20:04:28
CBRFC / NWS / NOAA



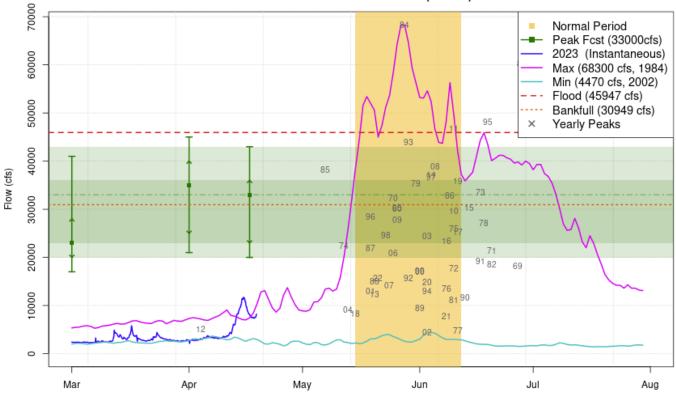
2023 Mean Daily Peak Flow Forecast Colorado - Cameo- Nr (CAMC2)



These graphics are updated approximately every two weeks between 3/1 and 5/1
Plot Created 2023-04-18 20:04:31
CBRFC / NWS / NOAA



2023 Mean Daily Peak Flow Forecast Colorado - Co-ut State Line- Nr (CCUC2)



These graphics are updated approximately every two weeks between 3/1 and 5/1
Plot Created 2023-04-18 20:04:34
CBRFC / NWS / NOAA



Similar Year Call Scenarios at Shoshone and Cameo



Similar Year Call Scenarios at Shoshone and Cameo

- > Similar recent years for water supply and peak forecasts:
 - **2015**
 - **2017**
 - **2019**
- ➤ Shoshone Call Mid to late August
- ➤ Cameo Call Late August to early September



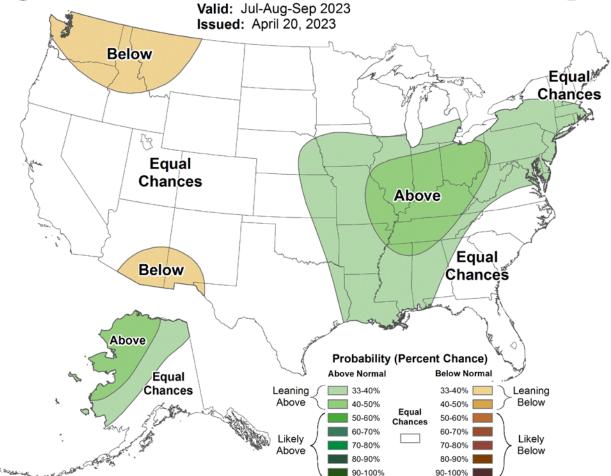
Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



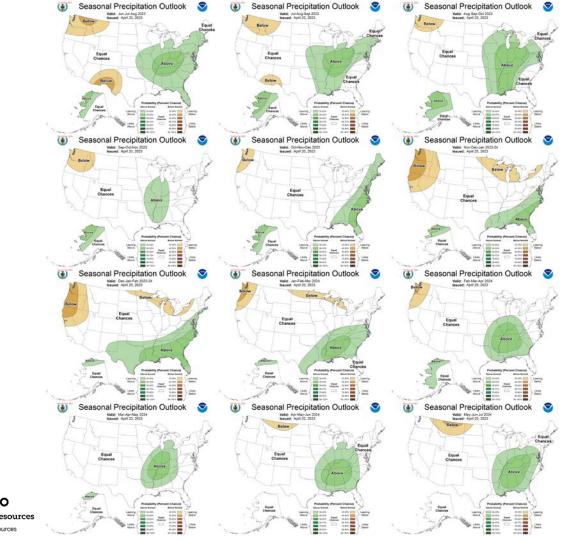


Seasonal Precipitation Outlook











Questions?

& 53 - Middle River

District 38 (Lower)

District 38 (Upper)

District 37

District 39

District 45

Districts 52 & 53

Lead Water Commissioner

Department of Natural Resources

`				
Division 5	Lead Assistant D.E.	Caleb Foy	Caleb.Foy@state.co.us	(970) 945-5665 x5017
Districts 37, 38, 39, 45, 52				(222) (24 222

Dave Hale

Joe Zupancic

Bill Blakeslee

Glen Lund

Bill West

Rick Bumgardner

Heather Ramsey

Dave.Hale@state.co.us

Raymond.Zupancic@state.co.us

Heather.Ramsey@state.co.us

Bill.Blakeslee@state.co.us

WilliamE.West@state.co.us

Rick.Bumgardner@state.co.us

Glen.Lund@state.co.us

(970) 456-9378

(970) 379-8439

(970) 355-4787

(970) 309-3741

(970) 948-2297

(970) 930-5365

(970) 987-0177

Ivanhoe Reservoir

Reference Slides



- ➤ AWS Plot (usda.gov) Colorado headwaters
- >AWS Plot (usda.gov) blue
- >AWS Plot (usda.gov) eagle
- ► AWS Plot (usda.gov) roaring fork
- >AWS Plot (usda.gov) Colorado headwaters-plateau
- ➤ AWS Plot (usda.gov) Entire Div 5



Water Supply Forecasts

- Colorado River Cameo
- Roaring Fork Glenwood Springs
- Colorado River Dotsero
- Eagle River Gypsum
- Colorado River Kremmling
- Blue River Green Mountain Reservoir
- ➤ Blue River Dillon Reservoir
- Colorado River Lake Granby
- Fraser River Winter Park

