

HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE MONTH

DAKOTAS AREA OFFICE

End-of-month storage content at Lake Tschida was the fourth lowest for the month of September. End-of-month storage content at E. A. Patterson was the fourth lowest for the month of September.

EASTERN COLORADO AREA OFFICE

The Lake Granby storage of 408,300 acre-feet (AF) on September 30, 2008, was 29,700 AF below average and 32,000 AF higher than 1 year ago. Colorado-Big Thompson Project storage water in Lake Granby, Carter Lake, and Horsetooth Reservoir was 542,000 AF on September 30, 2008, 34,500 AF below average and 67 percent of the total available storage capacity.

Total water storage in the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project at the end of September 2008 was 486,700 AF, and 4,500 AF lower than 1 year ago.

MONTANA AREA OFFICE

The Helena airport set a daily record for precipitation on September 1st when 0.46 of an inch of rain fell breaking the previous record of 0.41 of an inch that was set 112 years previously in 1896. Also in Helena, the high temperature of 50° on September 1st was a record for the coolest maximum temperature for that date. This tied the record set in 1910. The Havre airport set a daily record for a cool maximum temperature on September 1st when the high temperature of 49° broke the old record of 52° that was set 127 years previously in 1881.

For the month of September, inflow to Clark Canyon Reservoir was the 16th lowest on record; inflow to Lake Elwell was 14th highest on record; inflow to Canyon Ferry was the 16th highest; and inflow to Bighorn Lake was the 18th highest on record.

End of September storage in Lake Sherburne was the highest on record; end of September storage into Bighorn Lake was the fifth highest on record; and end of September storage in Lake Elwell was the third highest on record.

NEBRASKA-KANSAS AREA OFFICE

End of September storage in Bonny Reservoir was the lowest ever recorded for the month.

WYOMING AREA OFFICE

Bighorn River Basin

Nothing significant to report this month.

North Platte River Basin

The Kendrick ownership at the end of September was the fifth lowest in the last 30 years.

OKLAHOMA-TEXAS AREA OFFICE

Nothing significant to report this month.

CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT

System storage in the six main stem reservoirs dropped slightly to 44.5 million acre-feet (MAF) on September 1, a decrease of 0.5 MAF in September. Runoff for 2008 is forecasted to be 25.9 MAF, a decrease of 0.1 MAF from last month's forecast.

Fort Peck Reservoir at the end of September was 9 feet higher than last year. Garrison Reservoir was 11.9 feet higher and Oahe Reservoir was 12 feet higher than last year.

The six main stem power plants generated 450 million kilowatt hours (kWh) of electricity in September, only 50 percent of normal because of lower pool levels and reduced releases from the dams. Total energy production for 2008 is forecasted to be 4.9 billion kWh, compared to the average annual generation of 10 billion kWh.