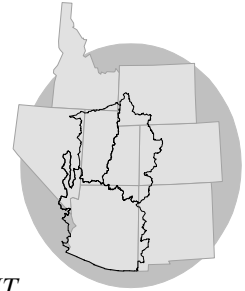


# WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

## for the UPPER COLORADO

### *COLORADO BASIN RIVER FORECAST CENTER*

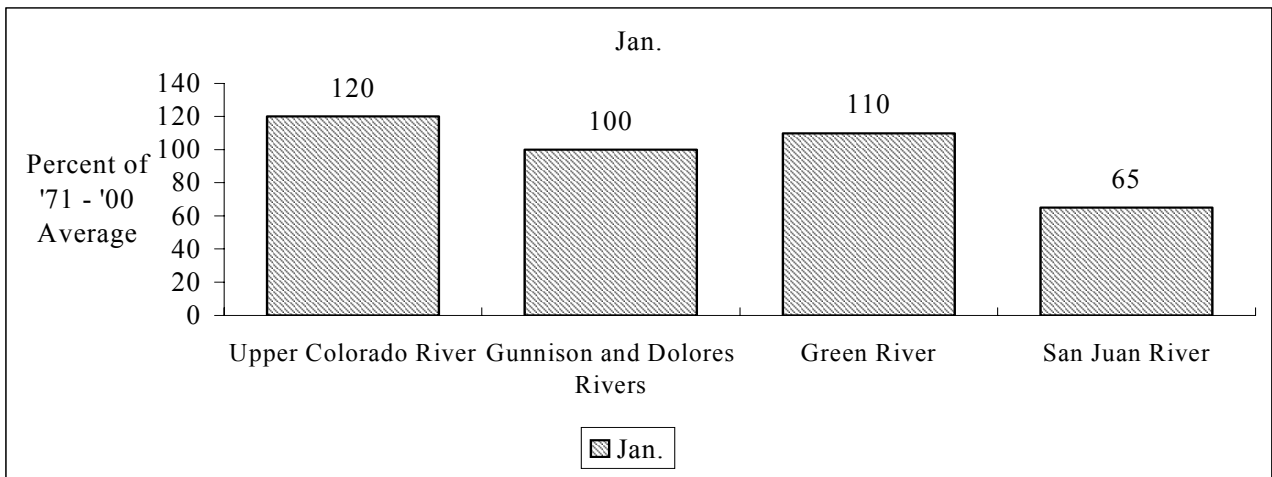
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE, SALT LAKE CITY, UT



## JANUARY 1, 2006

Northern Basins, i.e. the Yampa, the White, the Upper Colorado and headwaters of the Gunnison have fared very well so far this fall and early winter with seasonal precipitation and snowpack above to much above normal. However the lower portions including southern portions of the Gunnison drainage, the Dolores and the San Juan basin did not fair so well and vary from below to much below normal. Early season forecasts reflect this dichotomy.

### APRIL - JULY VOLUME FORECASTS

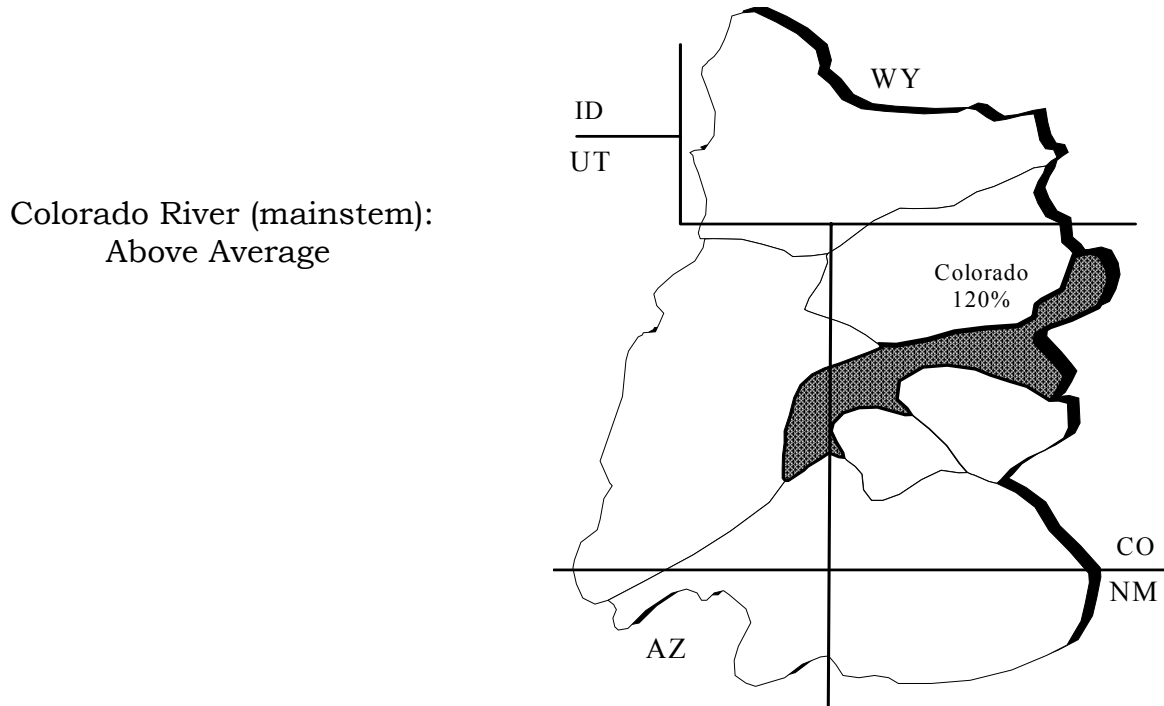


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Flood Control Forecasts	11
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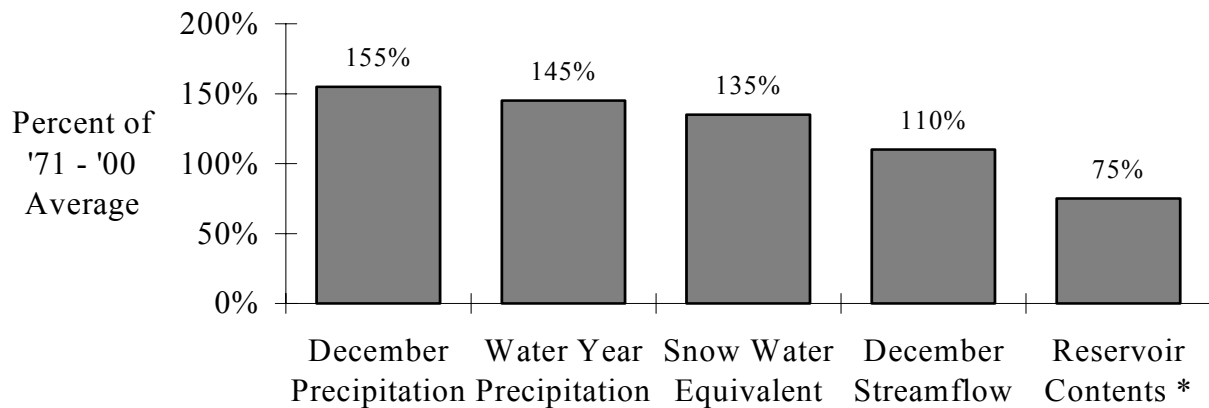
## UPPER COLORADO MAINSTEM

Precipitation over the basin was above to much above average this fall and early winter with snow water equivalents varying from 110% to 175% of average for this time of year. Not since 1997 has the snowpack been this big this early. Forecasts vary from 87% to 134% of average.

April-July streamflow forecasts for the Upper Colorado Mainstem are as follows:



## BASIN CONDITIONS - JANUARY 1, 2006



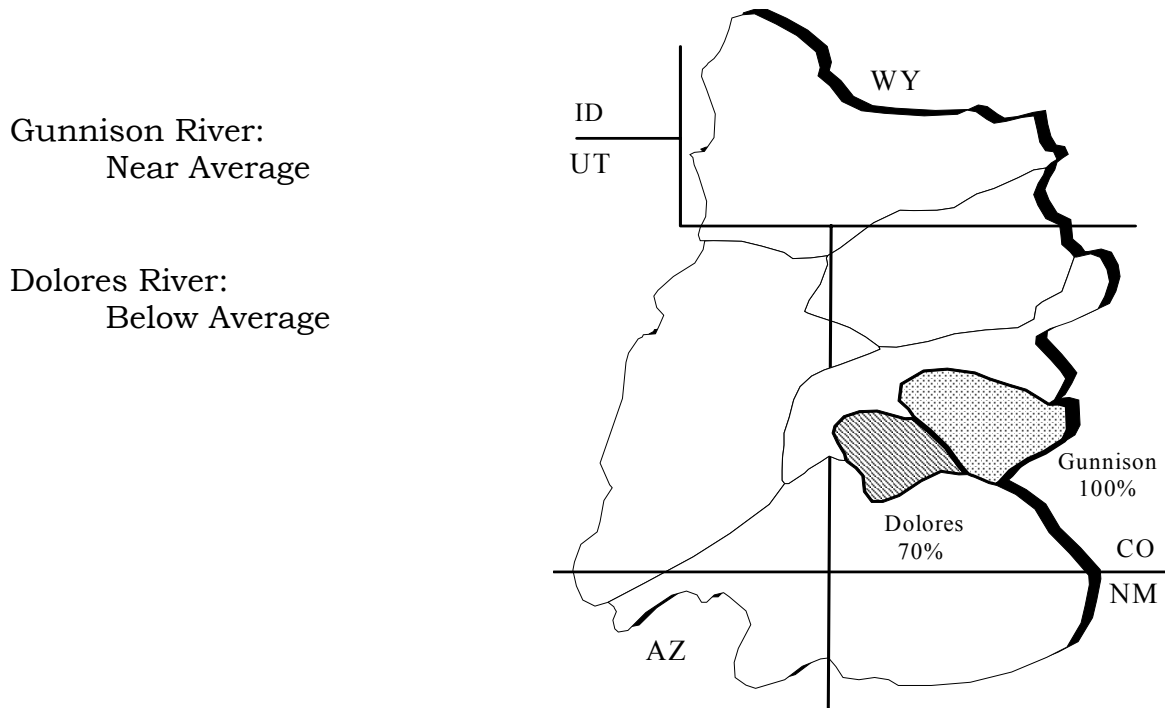
\* Percent usable capacity, not percent average contents.

Specific site forecasts are listed beginning on page 6.

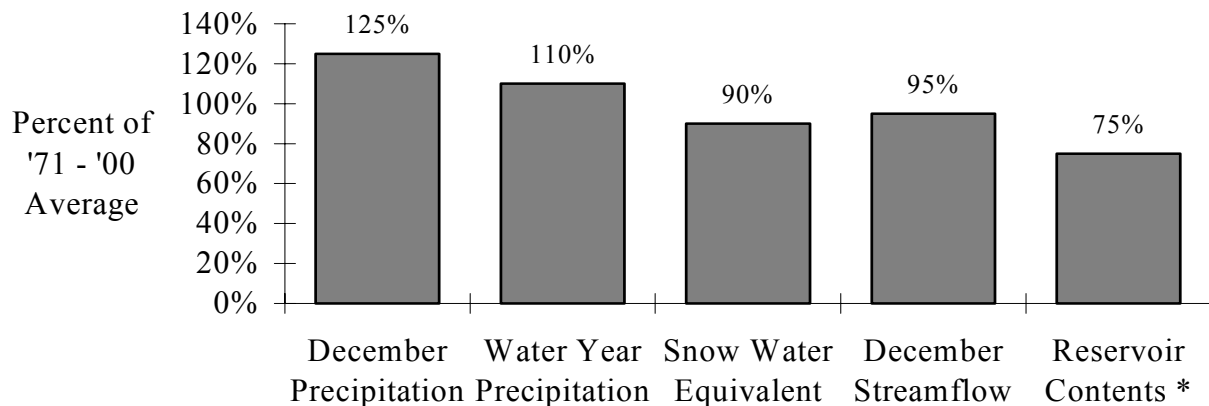
## GUNNISON AND DOLORES RIVERS

The Northern portions of the Gunnison basin have seen good precipitation in the fall and early winter months, with above to much above average precipitation and snowpack. However as one moves further south and into the Dolores Basin, the precipitation and snowpack fall to below to much below average. Forecasts vary from 61% to 114% of average.

April-July streamflow forecasts for the Gunnison and Dolores Rivers are as follows:



## BASIN CONDITIONS - JANUARY 1, 2006



\* Percent usable capacity, not percent average contents.

Specific site forecasts are listed beginning on page 7.

# GREEN RIVER

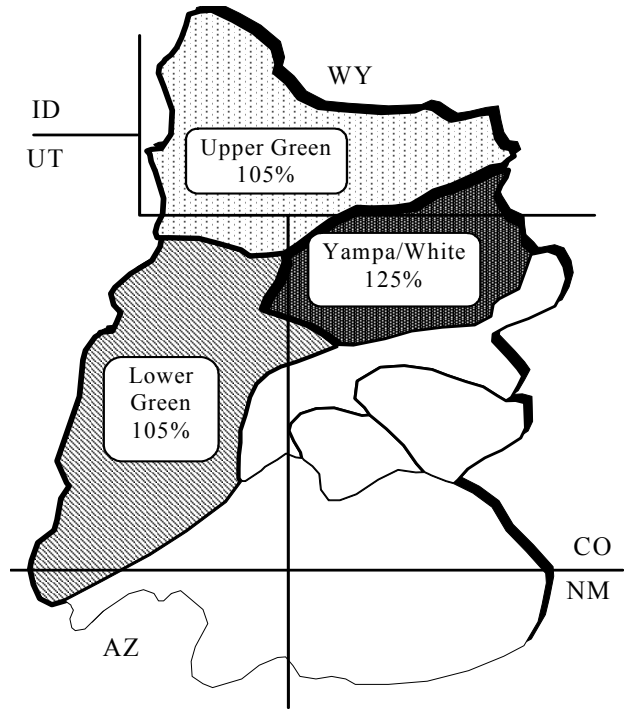
Seasonal precipitation and snowpack are generally above average throughout the Green River Basin as of early January. Snowpack exceeds 150% of average in portions of the Duchesne, Yampa, and Upper Green Basins. At this time, spring 2006 runoff is expected to range from 100% to 120% at most locations

April-July streamflow forecasts for the Green River are as follows:

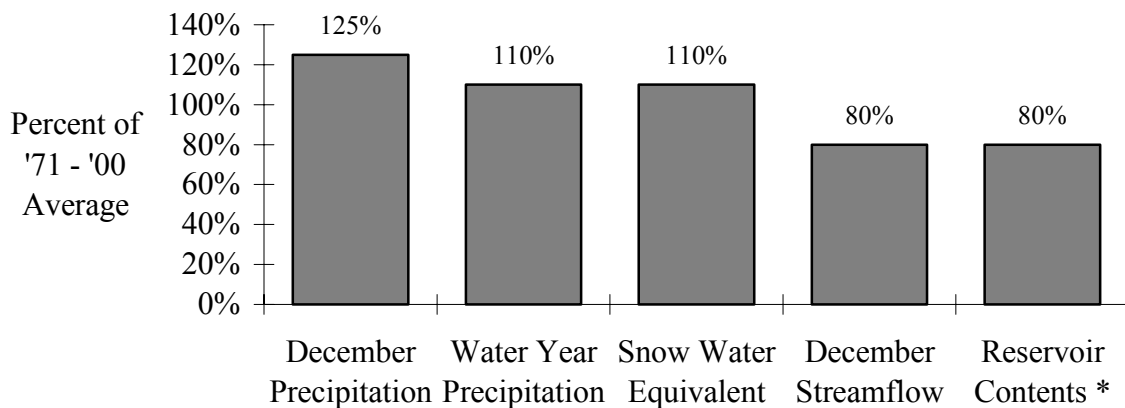
Upper Green River:  
Near Average

Yampa/White Rivers:  
Above Average

Lower Green River  
(below Flaming Gorge):  
Near Average



## BASIN CONDITIONS - JANUARY 1, 2006



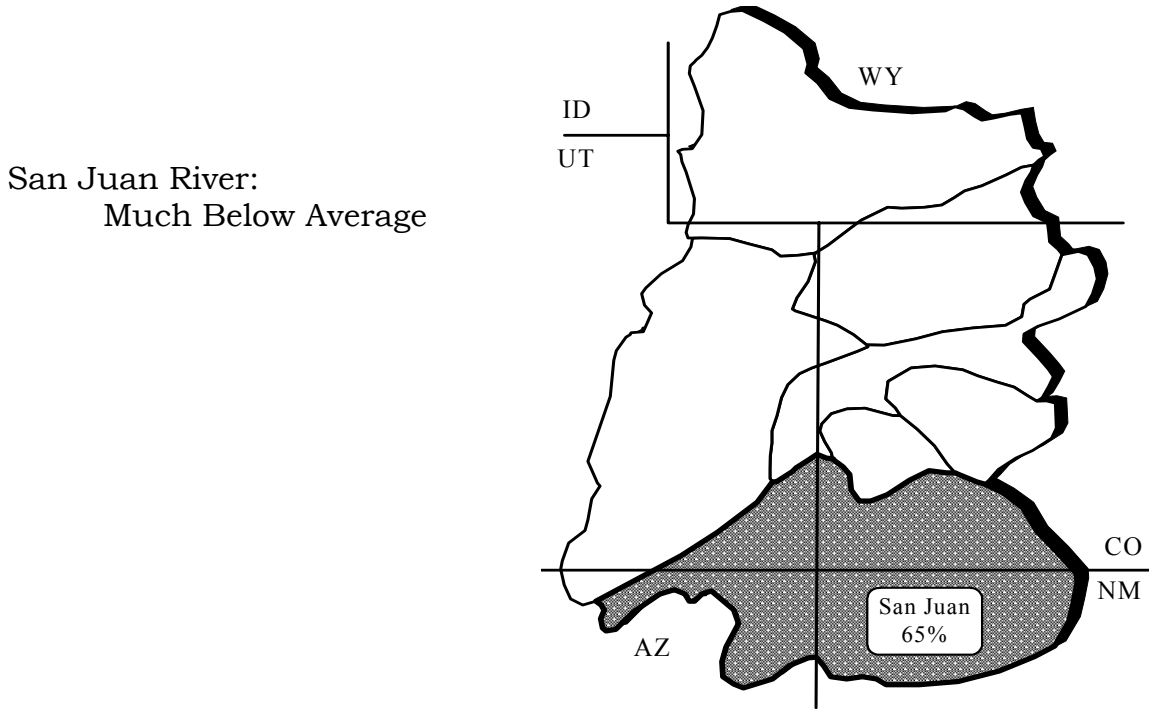
\* Percent usable capacity, not percent average contents.

Specific site forecasts are listed beginning on page 8.

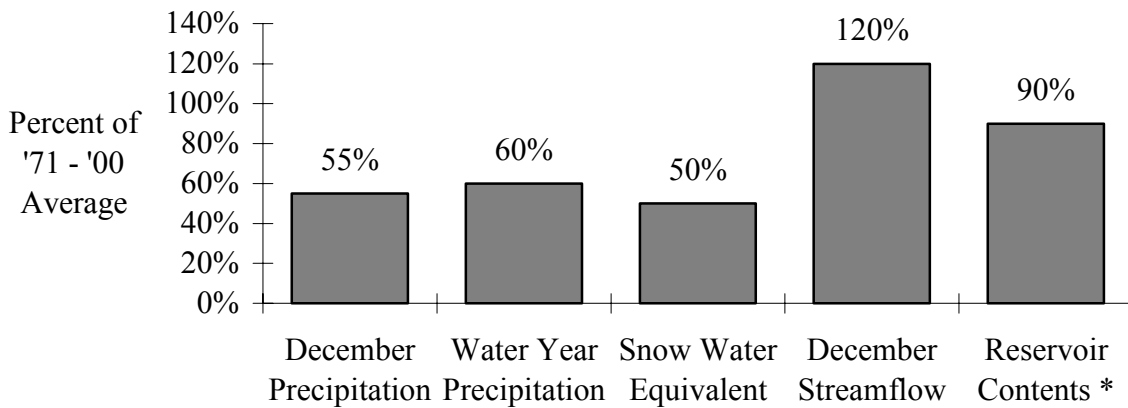
# SAN JUAN RIVER

On January 1st Wolfe Ck Summit's snowpack ranked as the 6th lowest for the period 1961-2006. Temperatures continue to be unseasonably warm after a cold start in December. Monthly observed streamflow was 78% of average in December and total snow is currently 50% of average. April through July 2006 forecasts range from 26% to 78% of average with a median of 65%.

April-July streamflow forecasts for the San Juan Basin are as follows:



## BASIN CONDITIONS - JANUARY 1, 2006



\* Percent usable capacity, not percent average contents.

Specific site forecasts are listed beginning on page 10.

## SPECIFIC SITE FORECASTS

**Upper Colorado Mainstem:** April through July volume (kaf) forecasts (except where noted).

Stream	Station	Most Probable	Percent Avg.	Reas. Max	Reas. Min
COLORADO	LAKE GRANBY, GRANBY, NR	255	113	325	192
	DOTSERO, NR	1860	129	2420	1370
	GLENWOOD SPRINGS, BLO	2700	125	3340	2060
	CAMEO, NR	3050	126	4030	2070
	CISCO, NR	5200	112	7560	2840
WILLOW CK	WILLOW CK RES, GRANBY, NR	58	114	84	38
FRASER	WINTER PARK	22	110	28	16.5
WILLIAMS FORK	WILLIAMS FORK RES, PARSHALL, N	115	121	157	81
MUDDY CK	WOLFORD MTN RES, BLO	78	130	109	54
BLUE	DILLON RES	220	132	290	162
	GREEN MTN RES	370	132	480	275
EAGLE	GYPSUM, BLO	450	134	590	330
FRYING PAN	RUEDI RES, BASALT, NR	175	124	225	130
ROARING FORK	GLENWOOD SPRINGS	825	116	1100	590
PLATEAU CK	CAMEO, NR	100	87	197	10
MILL CK	MOAB, NR, SHELEY TUN, AT	4	80	7.4	1.8

## SPECIFIC SITE FORECASTS

**Gunnison and Dolores Basins:** April through July volume (kaf) forecasts (except where noted).

Stream	Station	Most Probable	Percent Avg.	Reas. Max	Reas. Min
TAYLOR	TAYLOR PARK RES	115	112	152	83
	ALMONT	185	112	245	127
EAST	ALMONT	215	112	305	142
GUNNISON	GUNNISON, NR	445	114	625	295
TOMICHI CK	GUNNISON	80	99	138	41
LAKE FORK	GATEVIEW	110	87	153	74
GUNNISON	MORROW POINT RES	840	107	1160	540
	CRYSTAL RES	950	104	1340	580
MUDDY CK	★ PAONIA RES, BARDINE, NR	100	100	163	56
NF GUNNISON	SOMERSET, NR	330	108	490	210
SURFACE CK	CEDAREEDGE	13.7	80	22	7.7
UNCOMPAHGRE	RIDGWAY RES	90	88	132	58
	COLONA	115	83	181	68
	DELTA	95	81	176	35
GUNNISON	GRAND JUNCTION, NR	1620	104	2540	705
DOLORES	DOLORES	185	70	315	97
	MCPHEE RES	220	69	365	119
	CISCO, NR	375	61	755	25
SAN MIGUEL	PLACERVILLE, NR	105	80	170	59

★ = March - June forecast period.

**Green River Basin:** April through July volume (kaf) forecasts (except where noted).

Stream	Station	Most Probable	Percent Avg.	Reas. Max	Reas. Min
GREEN	DANIEL, NR, WARREN BRIDGE, AT	280	106	375	199
	GREEN RIVER, WY, NR	915	105	1360	560
	GREEN RIVER, UT	3600	114	5170	2030
PINE CK	FREMONT LK, ABV	110	106	137	87
NEW FORK	BIG PINEY, NR	420	106	595	275
BIG SANDY	FARSON, NR	60	103	86	40
BLACKS FORK	ROBERTSON, NR	104	109	144	70
EF SMITHS FORK	ROBERTSON, NR	32	103	45	21
HAMS FORK	FRONTIER, NR, POLE CK, BLO	72	111	112	41
	VIVA NAUGHTON RES	97	109	151	55
YAMPA	STAGECOACH RSVR, ABV	43	148	64	27
	STEAMBOAT SPRINGS	385	138	505	280
	MAYBELL, NR	1340	135	1780	965
ELK	MILNER, NR	395	122	545	270
ELKHEAD CK	ELKHEAD, NR	47	121	68	30
	MAYNARD GULCH, BLO	75	127	99	51
FORTIFICATION CK	★ FORTIFICATION, NR	9	120	16.5	4.2
LITTLE SNAKE	SLATER, NR	200	126	280	133
	DIXON, NR	415	126	580	280
	LILY, NR	455	125	685	275

★= March - June forecast period.



**Green River Basin continued:** April through July volume (kaf) forecasts (except where noted).

Stream	Station	Most Probable	Percent Avg.	Reas. Max	Reas. Min
BIG BRUSH CK	VERNAL, NR, RED FLEET RES, ABV	18.2	87	28	10.3
ASHLEY CK	VERNAL, NR	42	81	67	23
WF DUCHESNE	HANNA, NR	28	117	41	17.5
ROCK CK	UPPER STILLWATER RES	94	115	126	67
	MOUNTAIN HOME, NR	105	118	142	74
DUCHESNE	TABIONA, NR	120	114	174	76
	DUCHESNE, NR, KNIGHT DIV, ABV	215	114	300	145
	MYTON	305	115	535	139
	RANDLETT, NR	350	108	630	152
STRAWBERRY	SOLDIER SPRINGS, NR	65	110	117	28
	DUCHESNE, NR	125	102	220	58
CURRENT CK	CURRENT CK RES	28	112	53	11
LAKE FORK	MOON LAKE RES, MTN HOME, NR	78	115	104	55
YELLOWSTONE	ALTONAH, NR	64	103	91	42
WHITEROCKS	WHITEROCKS, NR	49	88	75	29
WHITE	MEEKER, NR	350	121	495	230
	WATSON, NR	365	120	520	210
GOOSEBERRY CK	SCOFIELD, NR	12.5	105	18.8	7.5
PRICE	SCOFIELD RES, SCOFIELD, NR	46	100	69	23
WHITE	BLO TABBYUNE CK, SOLDIER SUMMI	18	103	32	8.1
HUNTINGTON CK	ELECTRIC LAKE	15.7	100	26	7.9
	HUNTINGTON, NR	49	100	75	23
SEELEY CK	JOES VLY RES, ORANGEVILLE, NR	61	105	92	36
FERRON CK	FERRON, NR	41	105	60	25
SEVEN MILE CK	FISH LAKE, NR	5.7	81	8.7	3.3
MUDDY CK	EMERY, NR	18.2	91	29	9.9

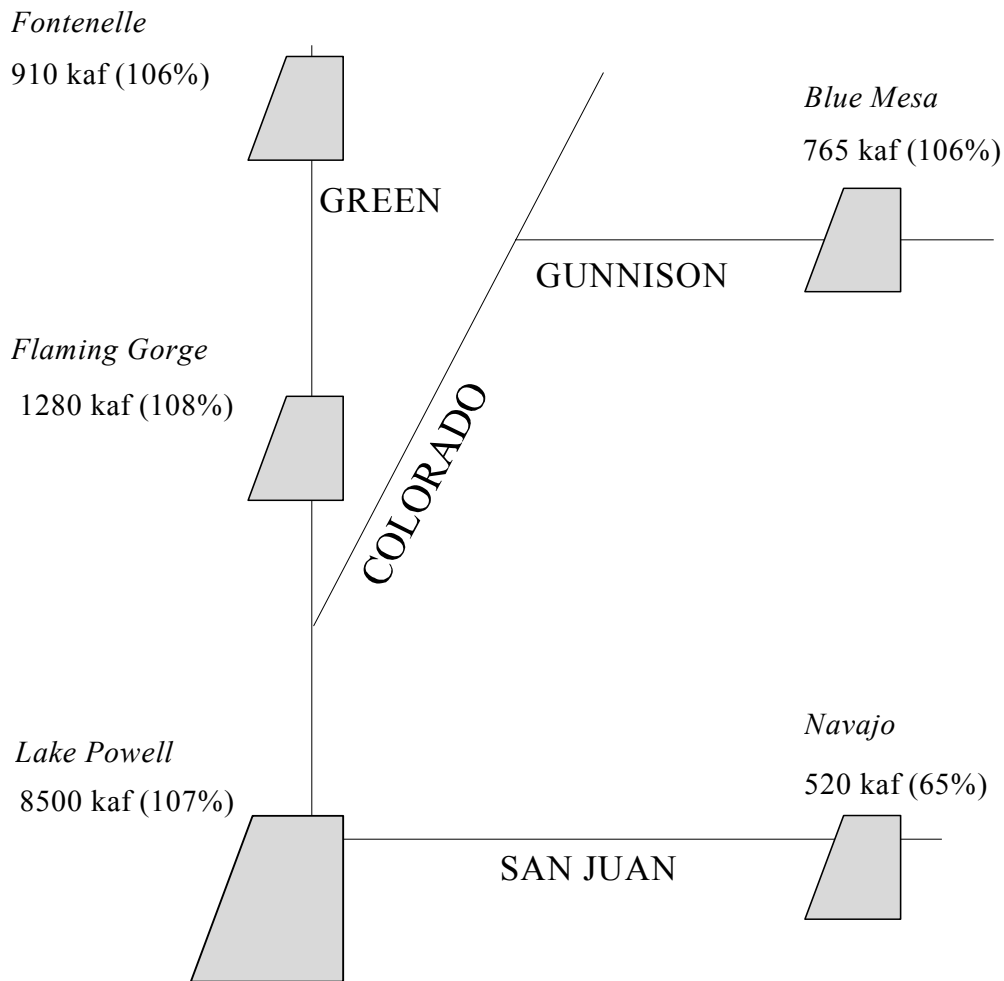
**San Juan River Basin:** April through July volume (kaf) forecasts (except where noted).

Stream	Station	Most Probable	Percent Avg.	Reas. Max	Reas. Min
SAN JUAN	PAGOSA SPRINGS	155	69	265	44
	CARRACAS, NR	290	72	490	153
	FARMINGTON	850	70	1560	330
	BLUFF, NR	850	69	1540	310
RIO BLANCO	PAGOSA SPRINGS, NR, BLANCO DAM	40	75	57	27
NAVAJO	CHROMO, NR, OSO DIV DAM, BLO	50	72	75	31
PIEDRA	ARBOLES, NR	135	59	260	58
LOS PINOS	VALLECITO RES, BAYFIELD, NR	155	76	235	95
ANIMAS	DURANGO	340	77	530	200
FLORIDA	LEMON RES, DURANGO, NR	45	78	70	27
LA PLATA	HESPERUS	17.3	69	29	9.2
MANCOS	MANCOS, NR	27	68	55	4
SOUTH CK	★ LLOYD'S RSVR NR MONTICELLO, AB	0.3	23	1.31	0.01
RECAPTURE CK	★ BLANDING, NR, JOHNSON CK, BLO	1.05	17	4.7	0.05

★ = March - July forecast period.

# FLOOD CONTROL FORECASTS

**MOST PROBABLE FORECASTS**  
**2006 APRIL - JULY INFLOW VOLUMES**  
 (% OF '71 - '00 AVERAGE)

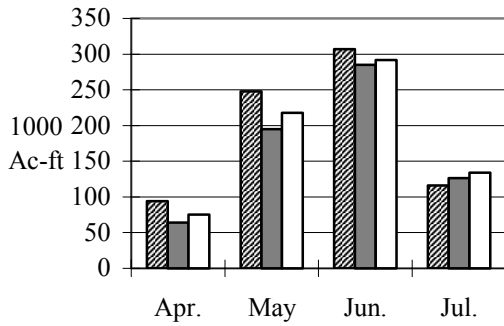


NOTE: Colorado River flood control forecasts account for a smaller set of upstream adjustments than water supply forecast points.

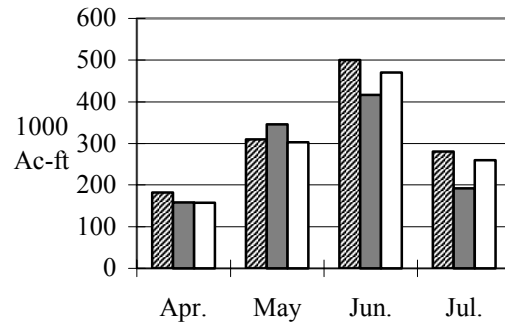
# RESERVOIR MONTHLY INFLOW FORECASTS



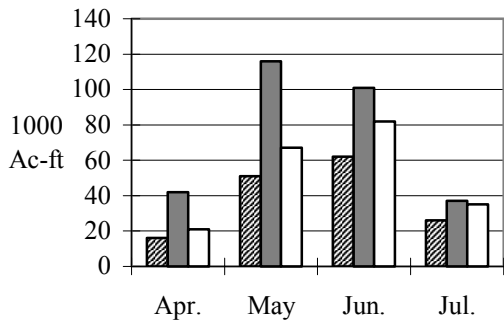
**Blue Mesa Reservoir Inflow**



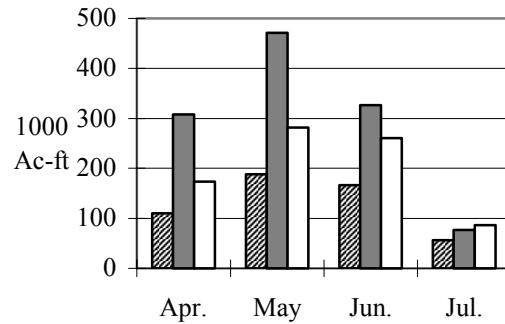
**Flaming Gorge Reservoir Inflow**



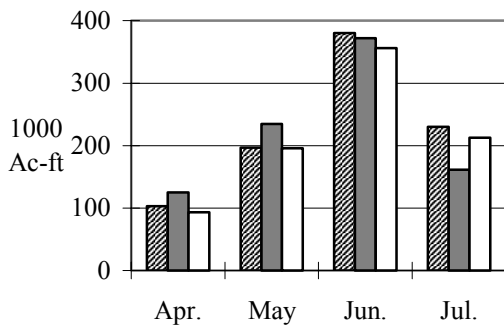
**Vallecito Reservoir Inflow**



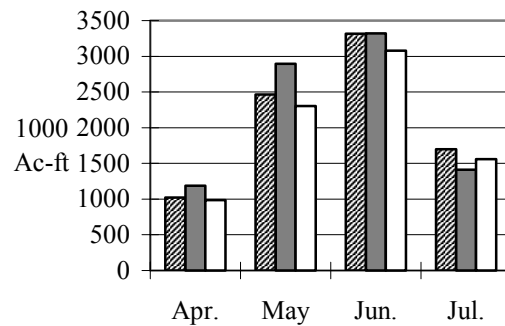
**Navajo Reservoir Inflow**



**Fontenelle Reservoir Inflow**

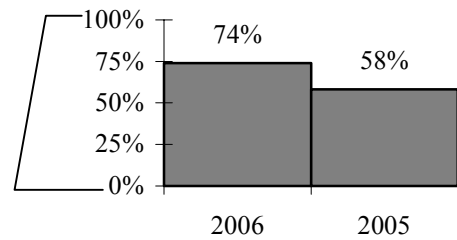
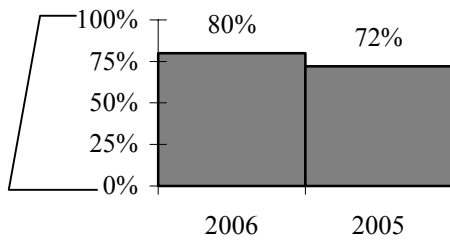


**Lake Powell Inflow**

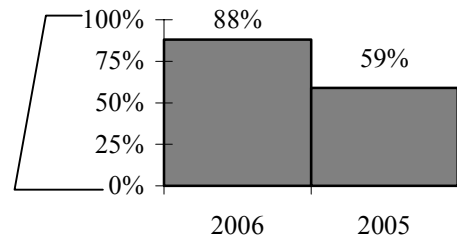
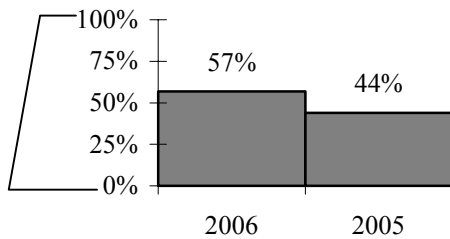


# END OF MONTH RESERVOIR CONTENTS

## Percent of Usable Capacity



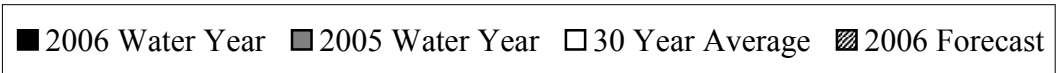
Green  
 Combined  
 Upper Colorado, Gunnison, and Dolores  
 San Juan



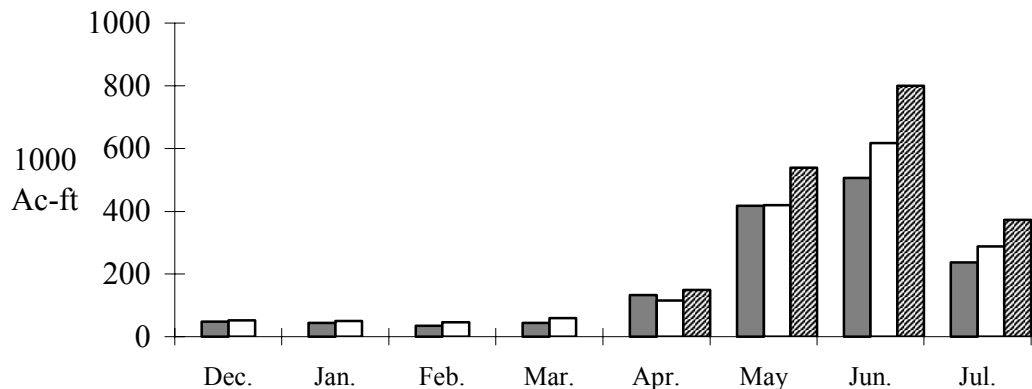
RESERVOIR (vol. in 1000 ac-ft)	Reservoir status	Usable Capacity	EOM Usable Contents	Percent Usable Capacity
Fontenelle	1,4	344.8	189.6	55
Flaming Gorge	1,4	3749	3079.4	82
Strawberry	1,4	1105.9	836	76
Starvation	1,4	165.3	137.4	83
Lake Granby	2,4	490.3	358.6	73
Dillon	2,4	254	232.8	92
Green Mountain	2,4	146.9	91.1	62
Taylor Park	2,4	106.2	71.9	68
Blue Mesa	2,4	829.5	581.3	70
Ridgway	2,4	83.2	68.3	82
McPhee	2,4	381.1	294	77
Vallecito	3,4	125.4	76.1	61
Navajo	3,4	1696	1533.2	90
Lake Powell	4	24322	11576.3	48

- 1 = Green River reservoir status
- 2 = Upper Colorado River reservoir status
- 3 = San Juan River reservoir status
- 4 = Combined reservoir status

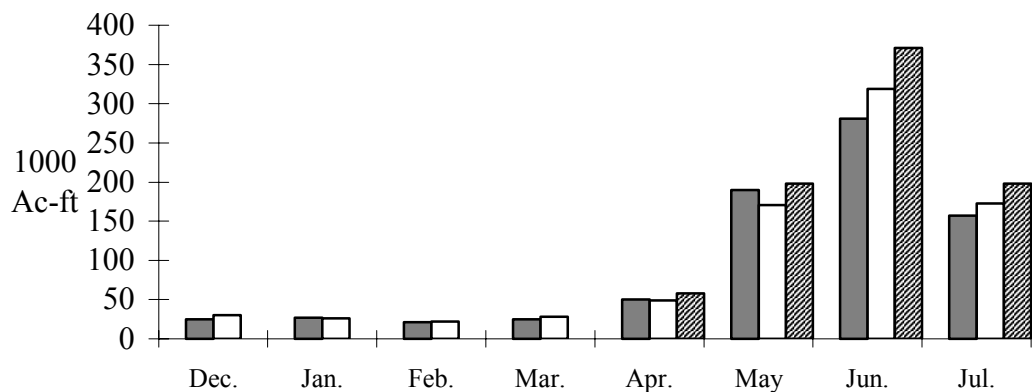
# MONTHLY STREAMFLOWS



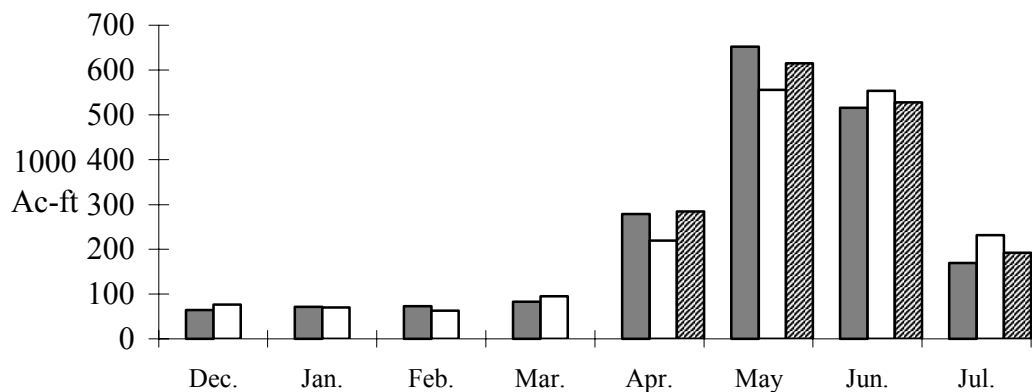
## Colorado - Dotsero, nr:



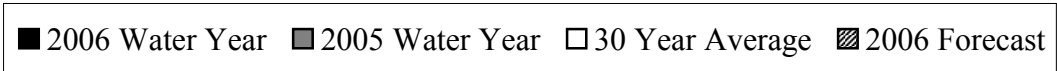
## Roaring Fork - Glenwood Springs:



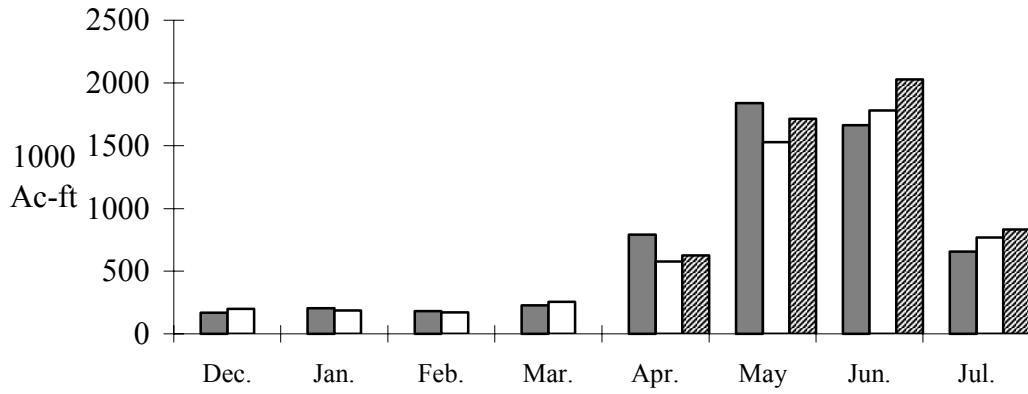
## Gunnison - Grand Junction, nr:



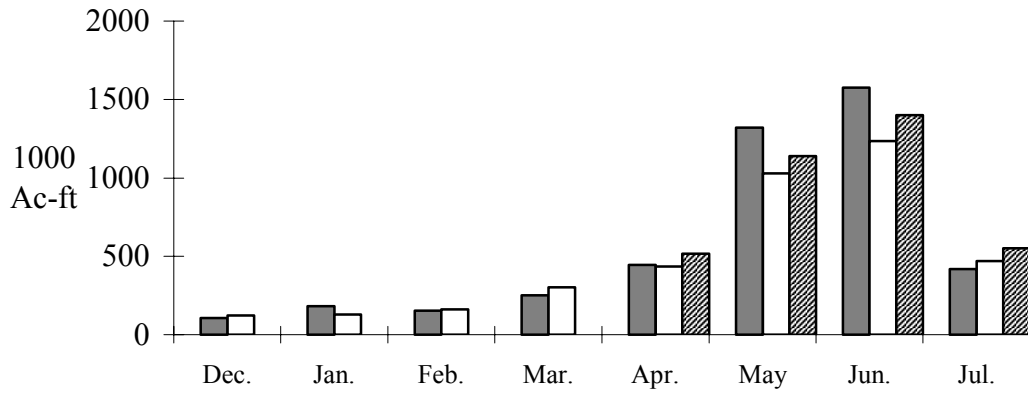
\* Data Not Available



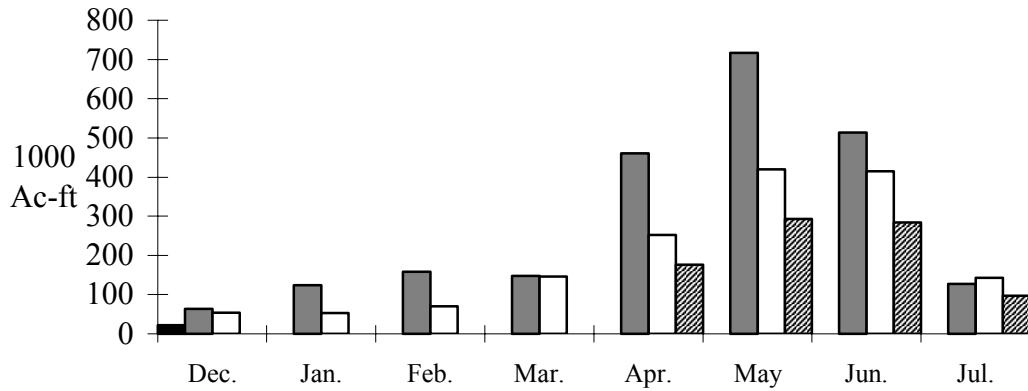
**Colorado - Cisco, nr:**



**Green - Green River, UT:**



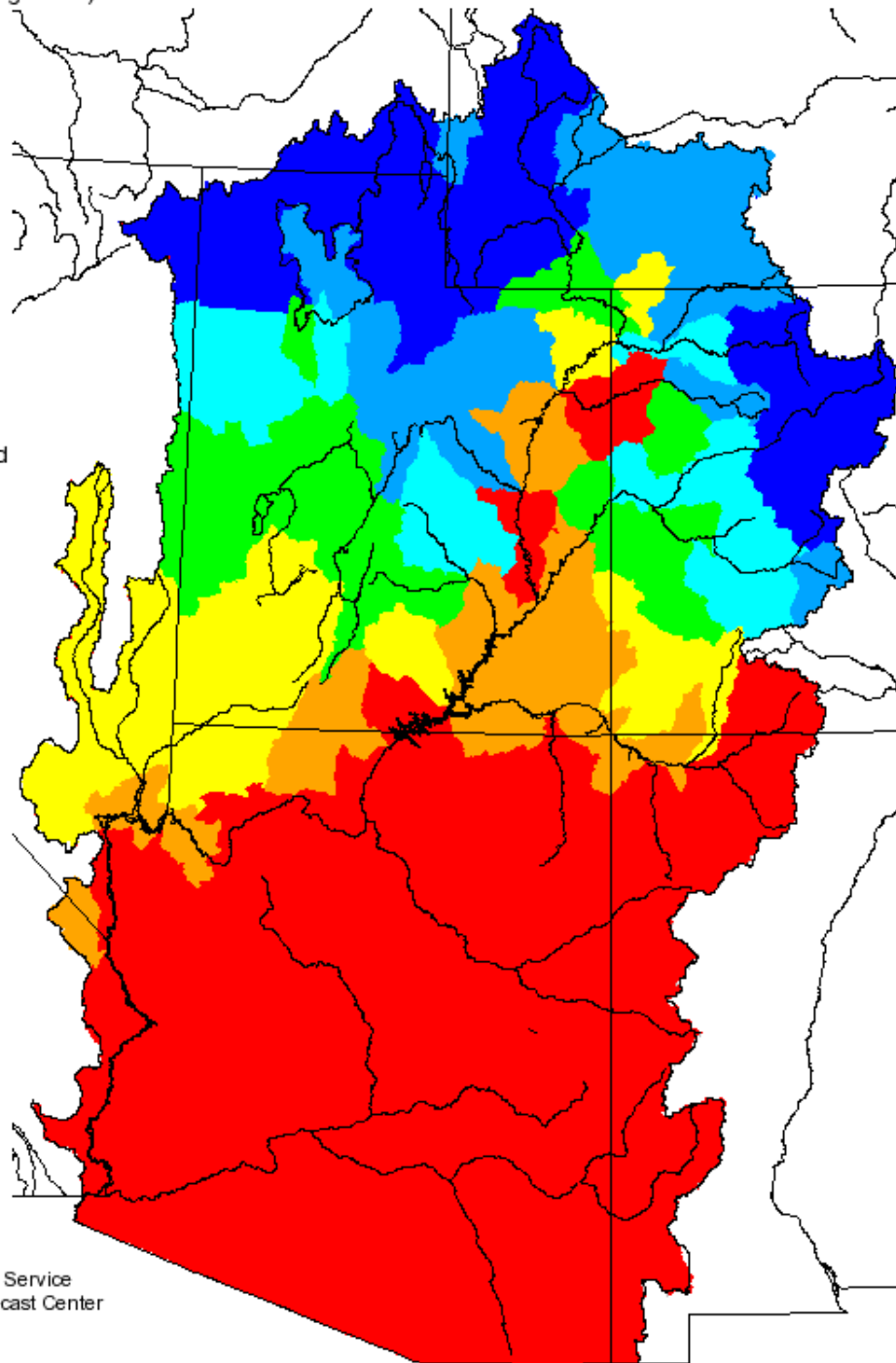
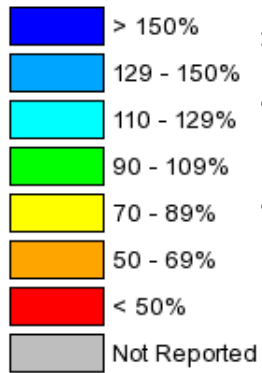
**San Juan - Bluff, nr:**



# Monthly Precipitation for December 2005

(Averaged by Hydrologic Unit)

## % Average



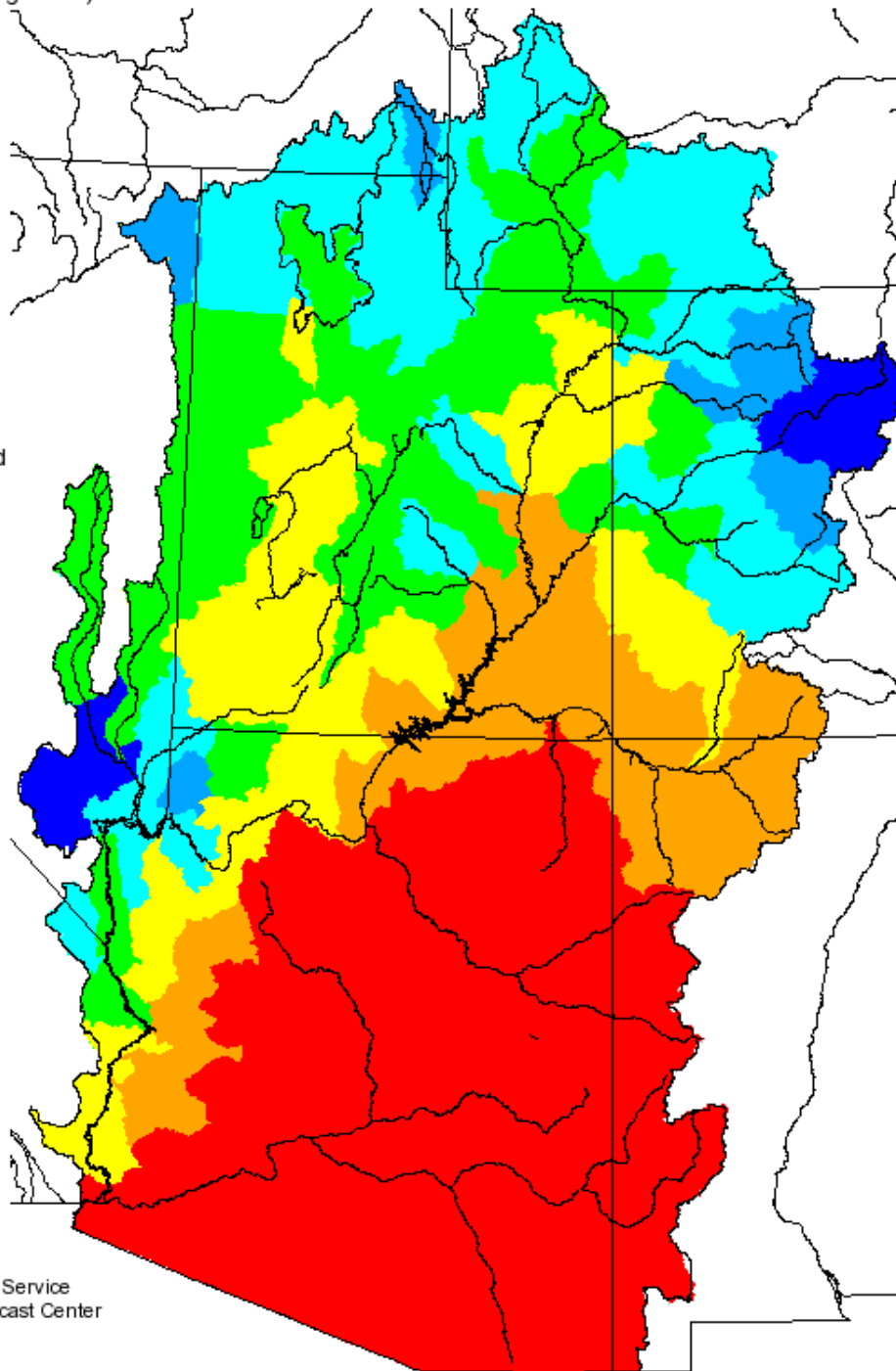
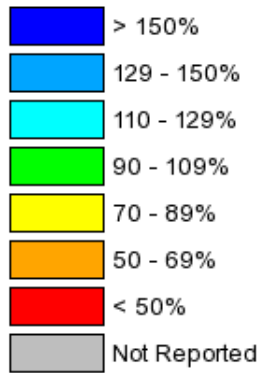
Prepared by  
NOAA, National Weather Service  
Colorado Basin River Forecast Center  
Salt Lake City, Utah  
[www.cbrfc.noaa.gov](http://www.cbrfc.noaa.gov)



# Seasonal Precipitation, October 2005 - December 2005

(Averaged by Hydrologic Unit)

## % Average



Prepared by  
NOAA, National Weather Service  
Colorado Basin River Forecast Center  
Salt Lake City, Utah  
[www.cbrfc.noaa.gov](http://www.cbrfc.noaa.gov)

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Water supply forecasts take into consideration present hydrometeorological conditions and use average basin temperatures and precipitation for the forecast period. As the forecast season progresses, a greater portion of the future hydrologic and climatic uncertainty becomes known and monthly forecasts become more accurate.

Volume forecasts represent adjusted flows; that is, observed flows with upstream water use taken into account. Adjusted flows will closely approximate natural or unimpaired flows. However, not all upstream diversions or impoundments are measured or quantifiable. For specific adjustments used with each forecast point, consult the Guide to Water Supply Forecasting.

The Water Supply Outlook is issued monthly January through May by the Colorado Basin River Forecast Center, National Weather Service. It represents a coordinated effort between the National Weather Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Geological Survey and local water district managers.

### **DEFINITIONS:**

Acre-Foot:

The volume equal to one acre covered one foot deep (43,560 cubic feet).

Average:

The arithmetic mean. The sum of the values divided by the number of values.

Categories:

Much above Average Greater than 130%	Above Average 111-130%	Near Average 90-110%	Below Average 70-89%	Much Below Average- Less than 70%
---	---------------------------	-------------------------	-------------------------	--------------------------------------

Forecast Period:

The period from April 1 through July 31.

Median:

The middle value. One half of the observed values are higher and half of the values are lower than this.

Most Probable Forecast:

Given the current hydrometeorological conditions to date, this is the best estimate of what the runoff volume will be this season.

Reasonable Maximum Forecast:

Given the current hydrometeorological conditions, the seasonal runoff that has a ten percent (10%) chance of being exceeded.

Reasonable Minimum Forecast:

Given the current hydrometeorological conditions, the seasonal runoff that has a ninety percent (90%) chance of being exceeded.

Water Year:

The period from October 1 through September 30.

NOTE: Data used in this report are provisional and are subject to revision.

For more information, or to be included on the mailing list, please contact:

Colorado Basin River Forecast Center, National Weather Service  
2442 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, UT 84116