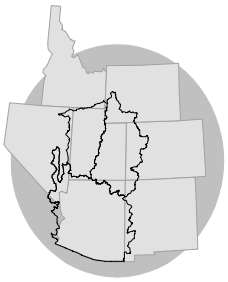
# WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK
for the
# LOWER COLORADO

***COLORADO BASIN***
***RIVER FORECAST CENTER***

*NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE, SALT LAKE CITY, UT*

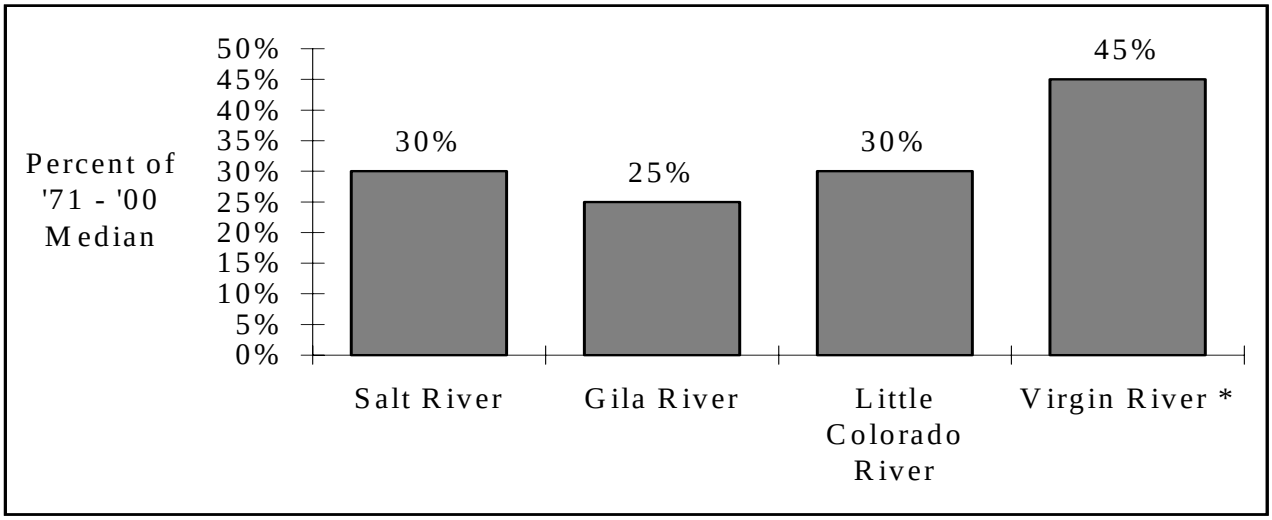


## JANUARY 1, 2006

## SUMMARY

The 2006 Lower Colorado Water Supply Outlook is dry. For Arizona there is essentially no snow pack at this time and no rain in the forecast. Forecasted flows range from 9% to 62% of median. The outlook for the Virgin River in Utah is only slightly better. Forecasted flows range from 41% to 58% of average.

## JANUARY - MAY VOLUME FORECASTS




* Virgin River Basin forecasts are for the April through July period and expressed in percent of average.

**INSIDE**

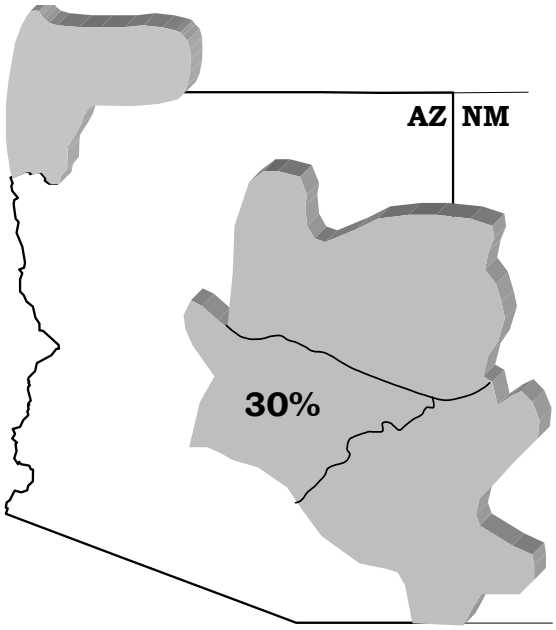
**SALT RIVER** The 2006 Water Year is dry in the Salt River drainage. There is essentially no snow pack and no rain in the forecast.

January-May stream flow forecasts for the Salt River are as follows:

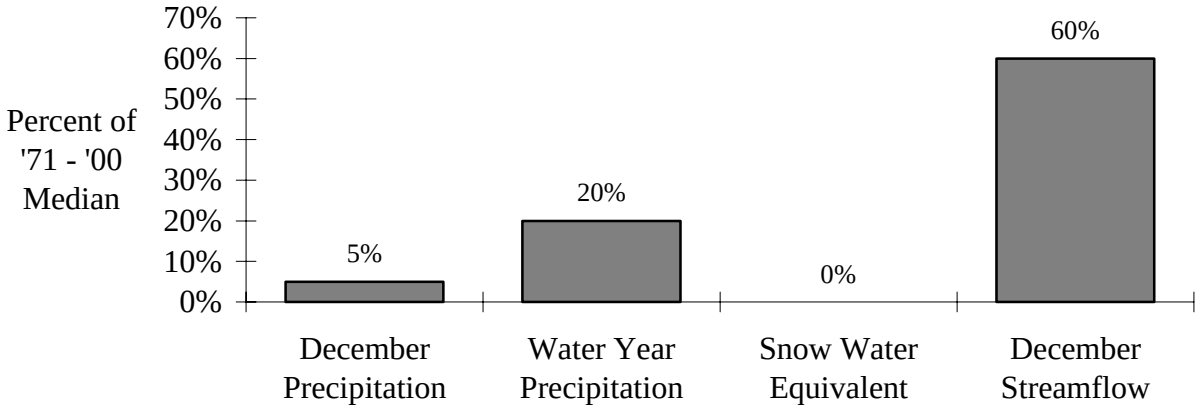
Verde River:
Much Below Median

Tonto Creek:
Much Below Median

Salt River:
Much Below Median




## BASIN CONDITIONS - JANUARY 1, 2006

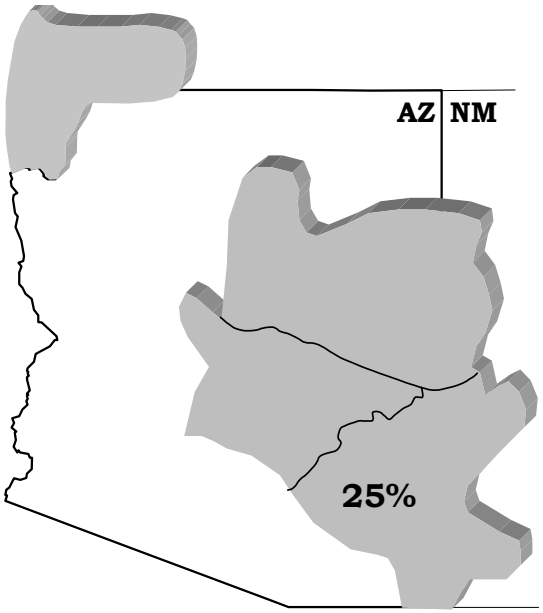



Specific site forecasts are listed on page 6.

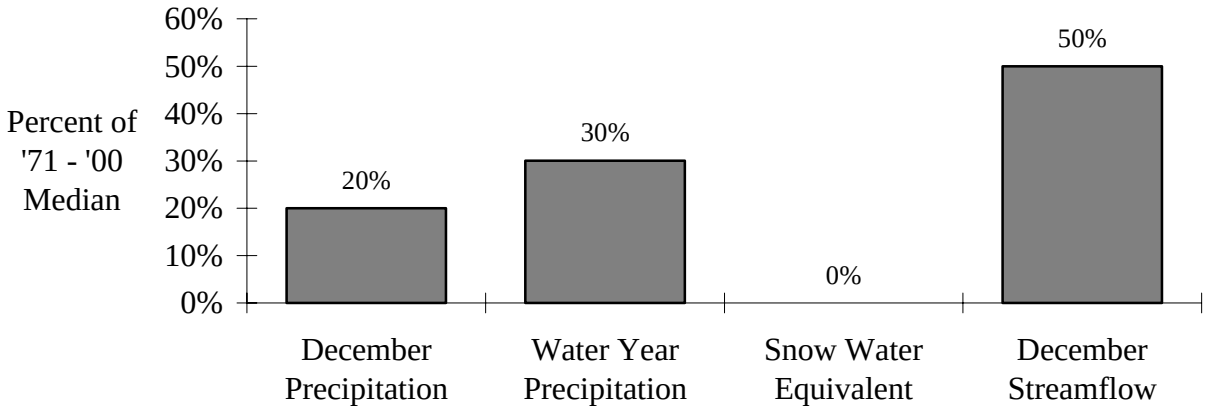
**GILA RIVER** The 2006 Water Year is dry in the Gila River drainage. There is essentially no snow pack and no rain in the forecast.

January-May stream flow forecasts for the Gila River are as follows:

Gila River:
Much Below Median




## BASIN CONDITIONS - JANUARY 1, 2006



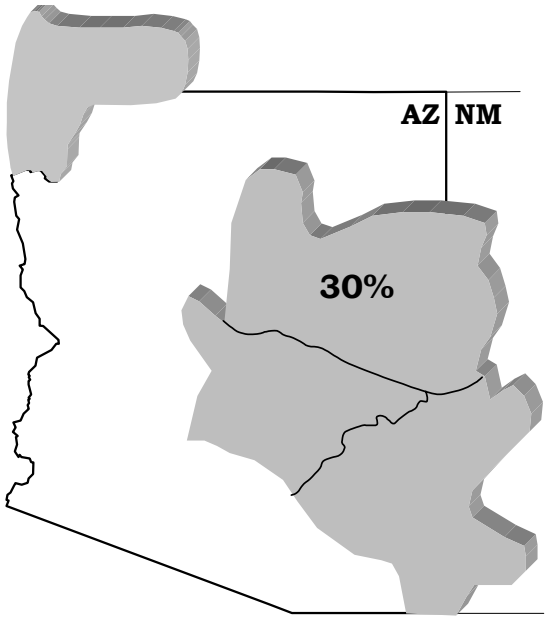

Specific site forecasts are listed on page 6.

## LITTLE COLORADO RIVER

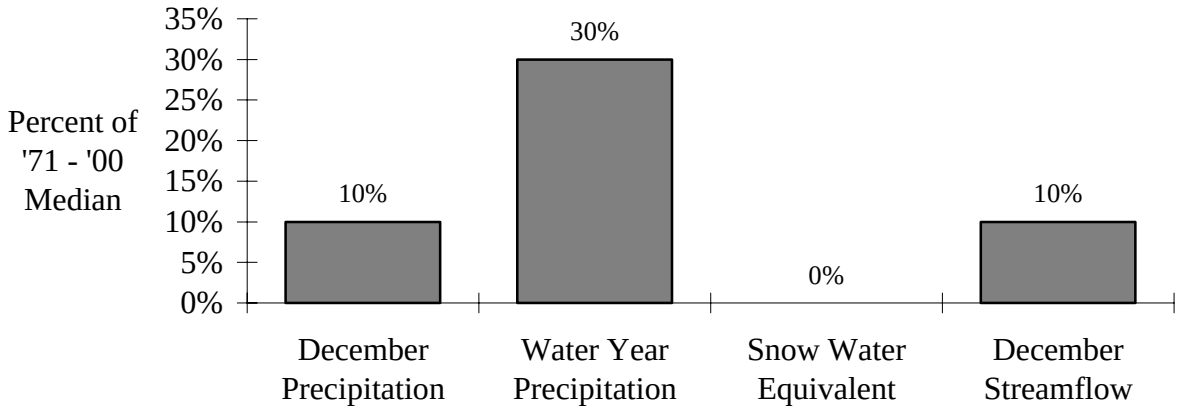
The 2006 Water Year is dry in the Little Colorado River drainage. There is essentially no snow pack and no rain in the forecast.

January-May stream flow forecasts for the Little Colorado River are as follows:

Little Colorado River:
Much Below Median




## BASIN CONDITIONS - JANUARY 1, 2006

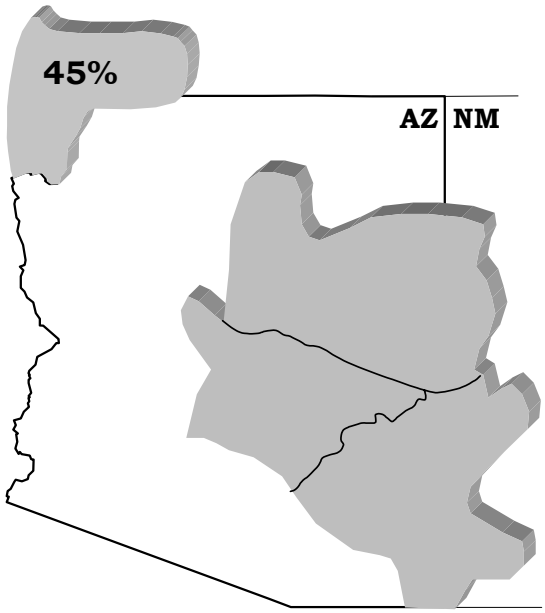



Specific site forecasts are listed on page 6.

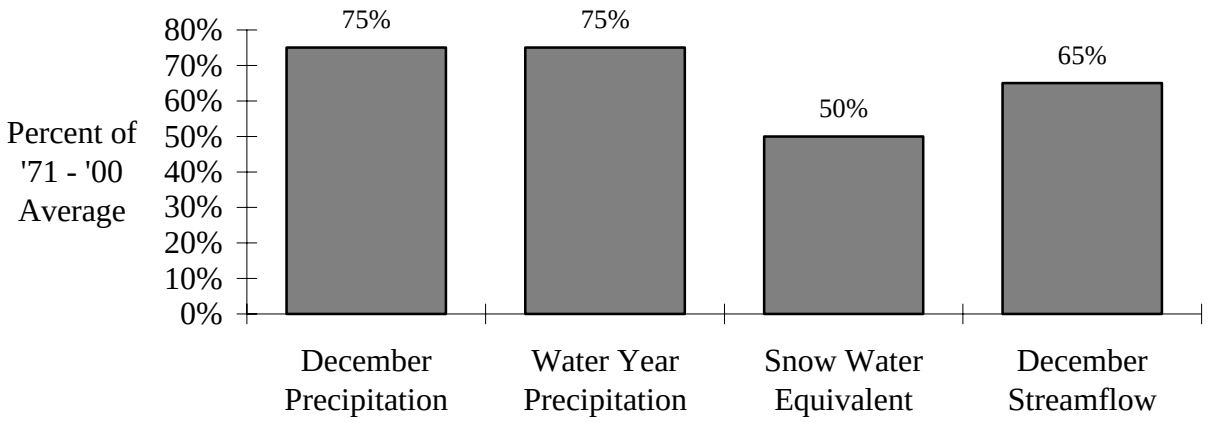
**VIRGIN RIVER** On the Virgin Basin snow coverage averages 50% of normal. Forecasted stream flows are 40% to 50% of normal along the main stem of the Virgin River, and 60% of normal on the Santa Clara river.

April-July stream flow forecasts for the Virgin River are as follows:

Virgin River:
Much Below Average




## BASIN CONDITIONS - JANUARY 1, 2006




Specific site forecasts are listed on page 6.

# Specific Site Forecasts—Water Year 2006

January through May volume (kaf) forecasts (except where noted).

| Stream | Station | Most Probable | Percent Med. | Reas. Max | Reas. Min |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| LITTLE COLORADO ◆ | LYMAN LK, ABV, ST. JOHNS, NR | 1.7 | 23 | 6 | 0.67 |
| | WOODRUFF | 0.31 | 9 | 4 | 0.04 |
| RIO NUTRIA | RAMAH, NR | 0.8 | 26 | 3.1 | 0 |
| ZUNI | BLACK ROCK RES, ABV | 0.4 | 27 | 1.7 | 0 |
| CEBOLLA CK | RAMAH RES | 0.5 | 29 | 2 | 0 |
| EAST CLEAR CK | BLUE RIDGE RES, PINE, NR | 6.9 | 40 | 17.9 | 1 |
| CLEAR CK | WINSLOW, NR | 12 | 35 | 34 | 2 |
| CHEVELON CK | WINSLOW, NR, WILDCAT CYN, BLO | 1.9 | 48 | 4 | 0 |
| WALNUT CK | LAKE MARY | 2 | 40 | 4 | 0.05 |
| SANTA CLARA ↗ | PINE VALLEY, NR | 3.2 | 58 | 8.6 | 0.88 |
| VIRGIN ↗ | VIRGIN | 31 | 48 | 74 | 15.4 |
| ↗ | HURRICANE, NR | 30 | 43 | 91 | 11 |
| ↗ | LITTLEFIELD | 30 | 41 | 96 | 14.8 |
| GILA | GILA, NR | 21 | 35 | 60 | 15 |
| | VIRDEN, NR, BLUE CK, BLO | 22 | 27 | 83 | 14.9 |
| | SOLOMON, NR, HEAD OF SAFFORD V | 45 | 27 | 165 | 25 |
| | CALVA | 20 | 18 | 109 | 5.3 |
| | SAN CARLOS RES, COOLIDGE DAM, | 25 | 26 | 82 | 6.7 |
| SAN FRANCISCO | GLENWOOD, NR | 8 | 30 | 27 | 3.8 |
| | CLIFTON | 17 | 24 | 70 | 11.9 |
| SAN PEDRO | CHARLESTON | 2.4 | 62 | 5.7 | 2 |
| SALT | ROOSEVELT, NR | 115 | 30 | 295 | 50 |
| TONTO CK | ROOSEVELT, NR, GUN CK, ABV | 12 | 21 | 58 | 1.7 |
| VERDE | BLO TANGLE CK, ABV HORSEHOE DA | 105 | 48 | 265 | 59 |
| COLORADO ↗ | LAKE POWELL, GLEN CYN DAM, AT | 8500 | 107 | | |

◆ = January-June forecast period.
↗ = April-July forecast period.

Special Notes:

Lake Powell, Virgin and Santa Clara River forecasts use a 30 year percent of average (1971-2000).

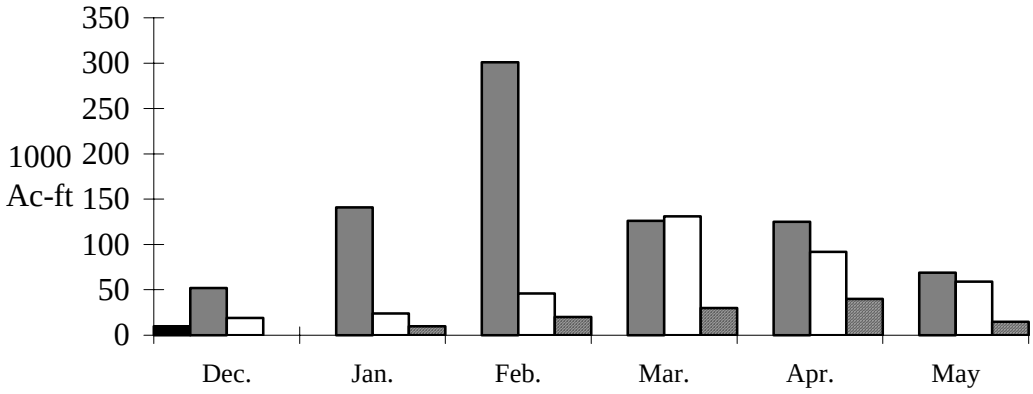
# DECEMBER 2005 END OF MONTH RESERVOIR CONTENTS

| RESERVOIR (vol. in 1000 ac-ft) | Usable Capacity | EOM Usable Contents | Percent Usable Capacity (%) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Roosevelt | 1653.0 | 1315.0 | 80% |
| Horse Mesa | 245.0 | 218.0 | 89% |
| Mormon Flat | 58.0 | 55.0 | 95% |
| Stewart Mountain | 70.0 | 65.0 | 93% |
| Horseshoe | 109.2 | 0.0 | 0% |
| Bartlett | 178.0 | 151.0 | 85% |
| Total SRP Reservoirs | 2313.2 | 1804.0 | 78% |
| | | | |
| San Carlos | 867.0 | 191.0 | 22% |
| Waddell | 1145.0 | 654.0 | 57% |
| Painted Rock | 2476.0 | 0.0 | 0% |
| Alamo | 1045.0 | 180.0 | 17% |
| Lyman | 31.0 | 7.9 | 25% |
| Lake Powell | 24322.0 | 11603.0 | 48% |
| Mead | 27380.0 | 15154.0 | 55% |
| Mohave | 1810.0 | 1651.0 | 91% |
| Havasu | 619.0 | 579.0 | 94% |

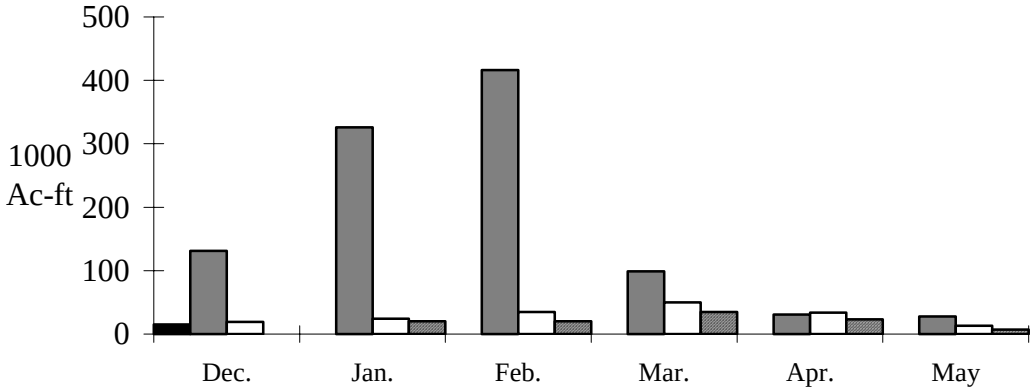
NA = Not Available.

# Monthly Streamflows

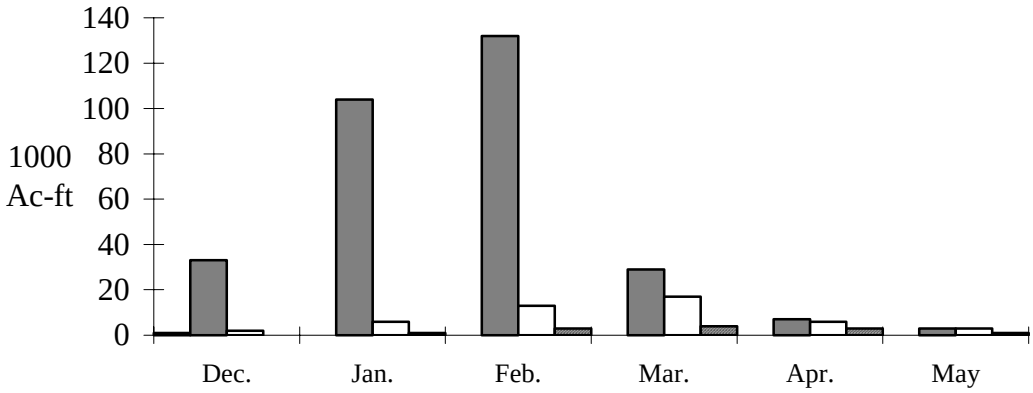

**Salt - Roosevelt:**



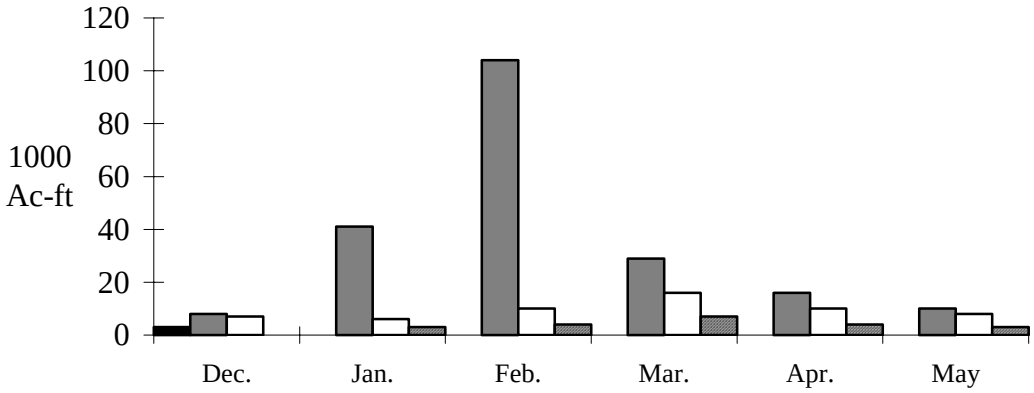

**Verde - Horseshoe Dam, abv, Tangle Ck, blo:**



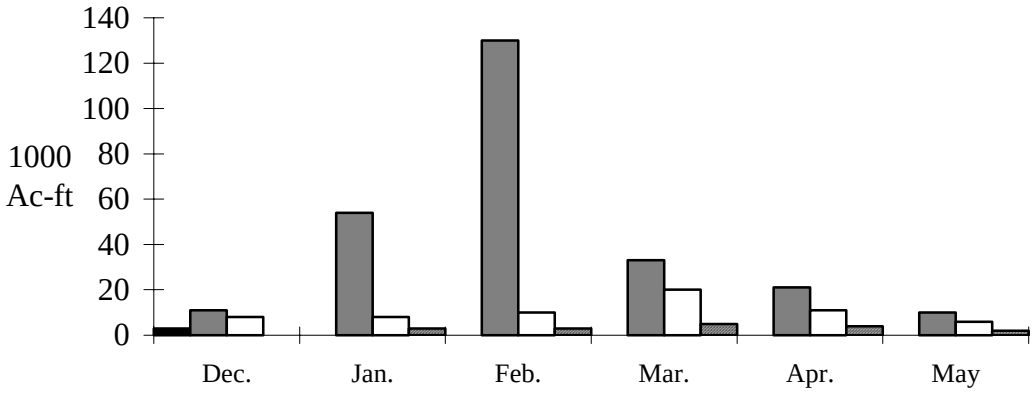

**Tonto Ck - Roosevelt, nr, Gun Ck, abv:**



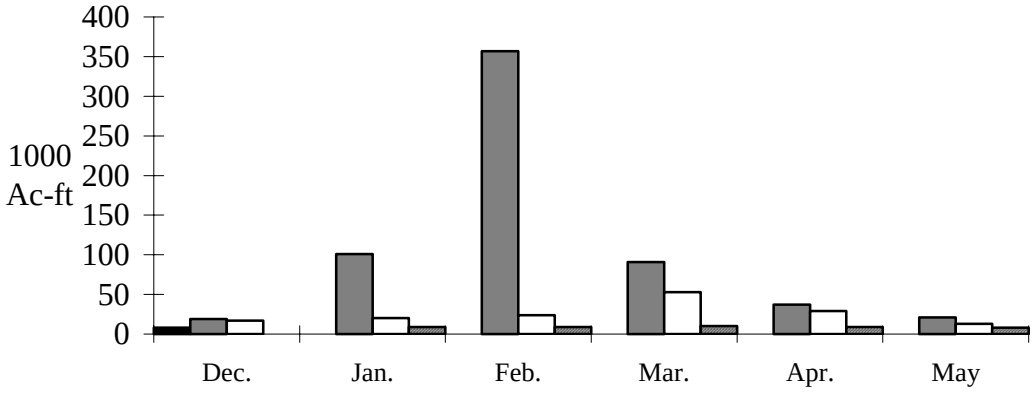

**Gila - Gila, nr:**




**San Francisco - Clifton:**

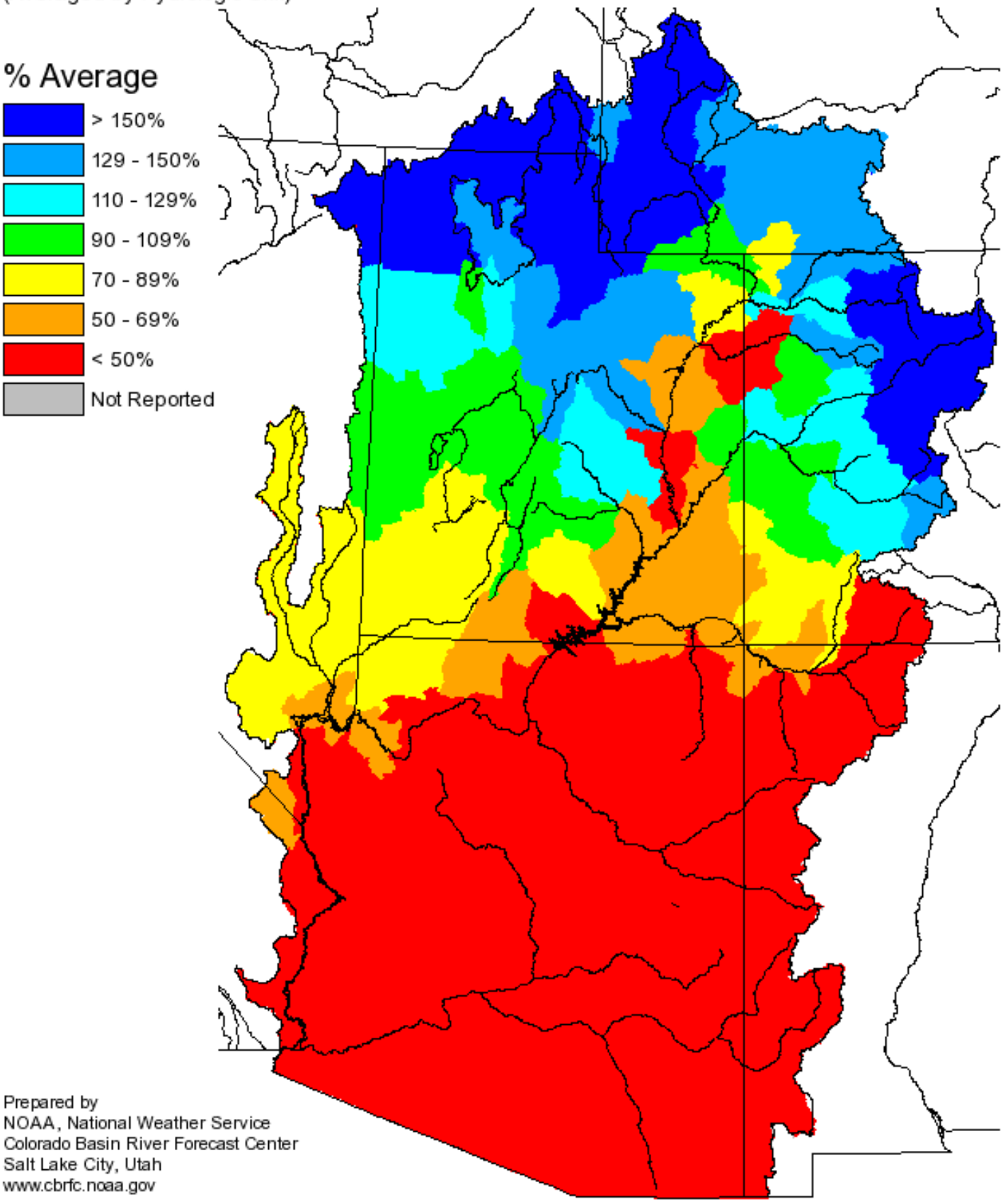



**Gila - Solomon:**



# Monthly Precipitation for December 2005

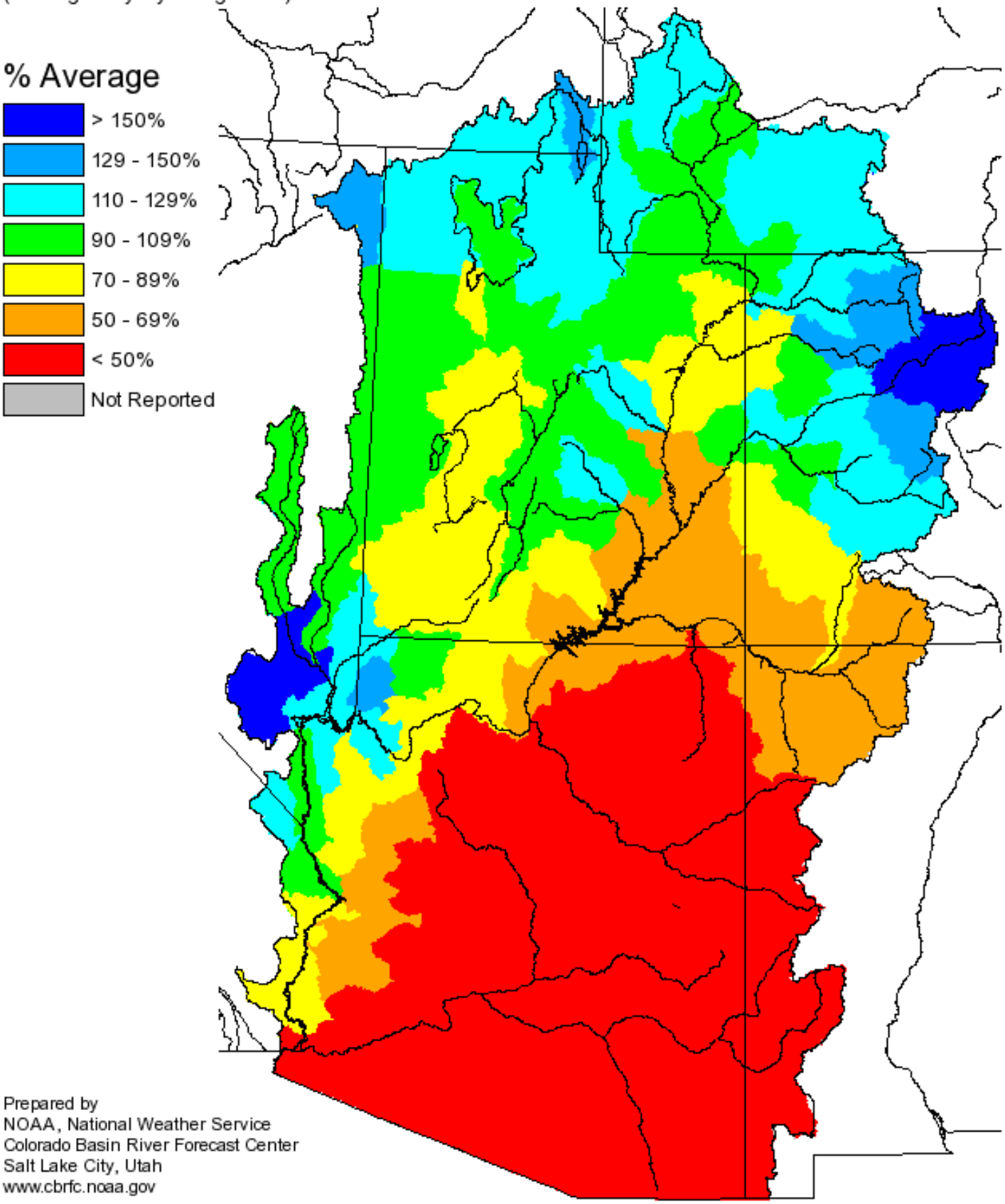
(Averaged by Hydrologic Unit)




Prepared by
NOAA, National Weather Service
Colorado Basin River Forecast Center
Salt Lake City, Utah
www.cbrfc.noaa.gov

# Seasonal Precipitation, October 2005 - December 2005

(Averaged by Hydrologic Unit)




Prepared by
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## 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 April 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, Salt River Project, 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 Median | Above Median | Near Median | Below Median | Much below Median |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Greater than 130% | 111-130% | 90-110% | 70-89% | Less than 70% |

Forecast Period:

Variable. Current month through May 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

2242 W. North Temple · Salt Lake City, UT 84116 · (801) 524-5130 · http://www.cbrfc.gov