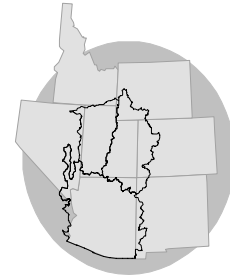


WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

for the
LOWER COLORADO
COLORADO BASIN
RIVER FORECAST CENTER

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE, SALT LAKE CITY, UT



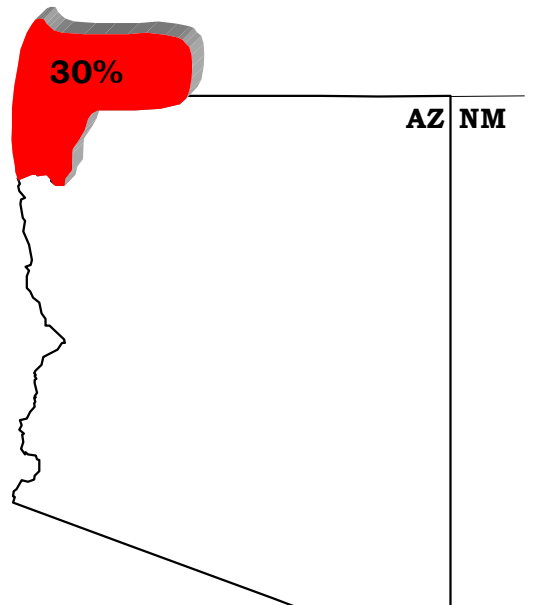
MAY 1, 2003

Virgin River Summary

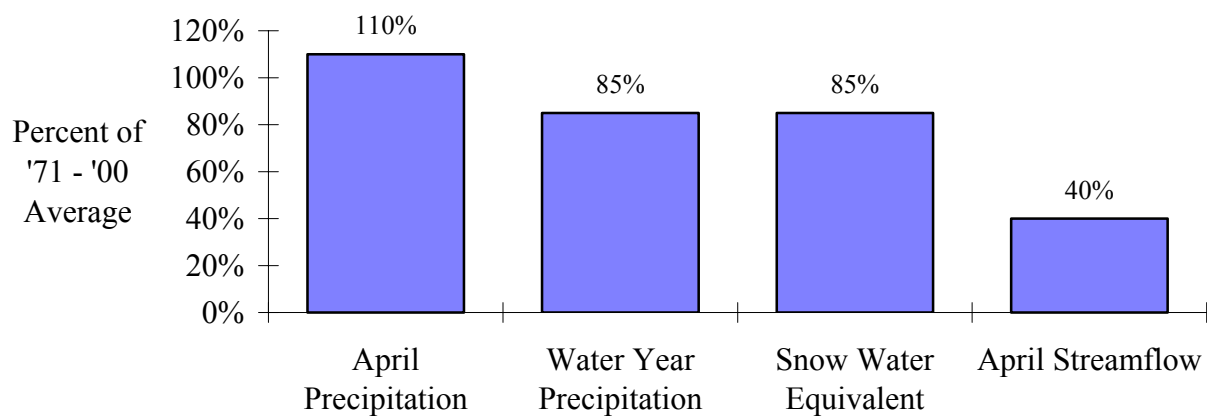
Forecasts are only provided for the Virgin River basin. Individual forecasts for April-July range from 23% to 40% of average. The forecasted flows are perhaps lower than one would expect from a seasonal precipitation of 85% — this is partially due to the peak snow melt occurring a month prior to the forecasted runoff period. Also, the long-term climatic trend towards dry continues to influence the basin's short-term response to seasonal below average precipitation.

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

Virgin River:
Much Below Average



BASIN CONDITIONS - MAY 1, 2003



SPECIFIC SITE FORECASTS—WATER YEAR 2003

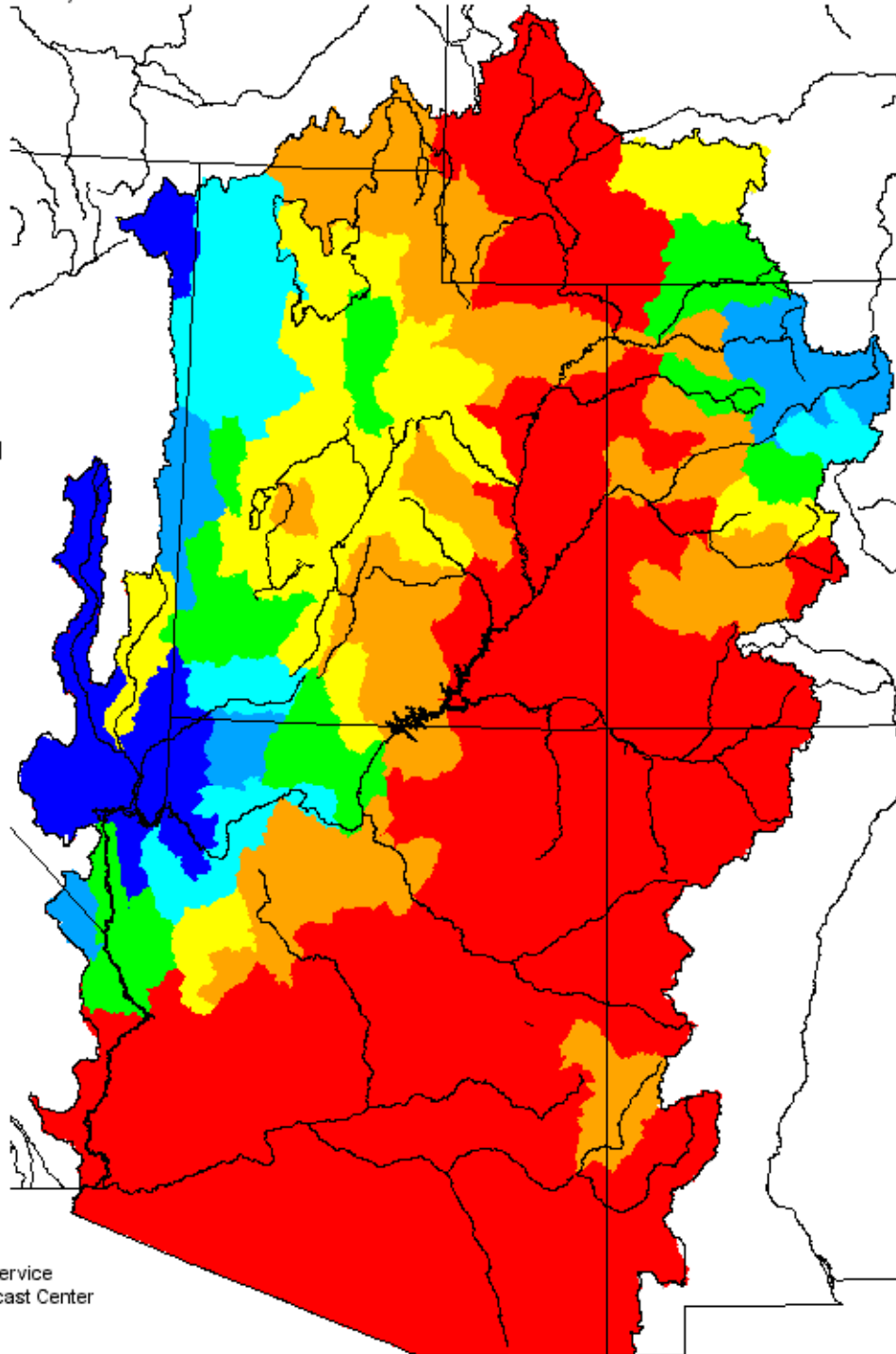
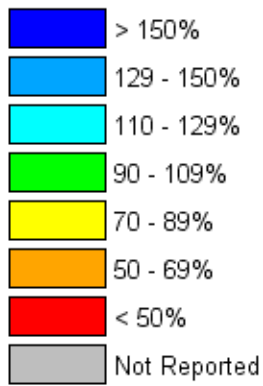
April through May volume (kaf) forecasts.

Stream	Station	Most	Percent	Reas.	Reas.
		Probable	Ave	Max	Min
SANTA CLARA	PINE VALLEY, NR	2.2	40	4.1	0.88
VIRGIN	VIRGIN	34	53	53	19.2
	HURRICANE, NR	32	46	49	19.3
	LITTLEFIELD	25	34	42	17.2

Monthly Precipitation for April 2003

(Averaged by Hydrologic Unit)

% Average

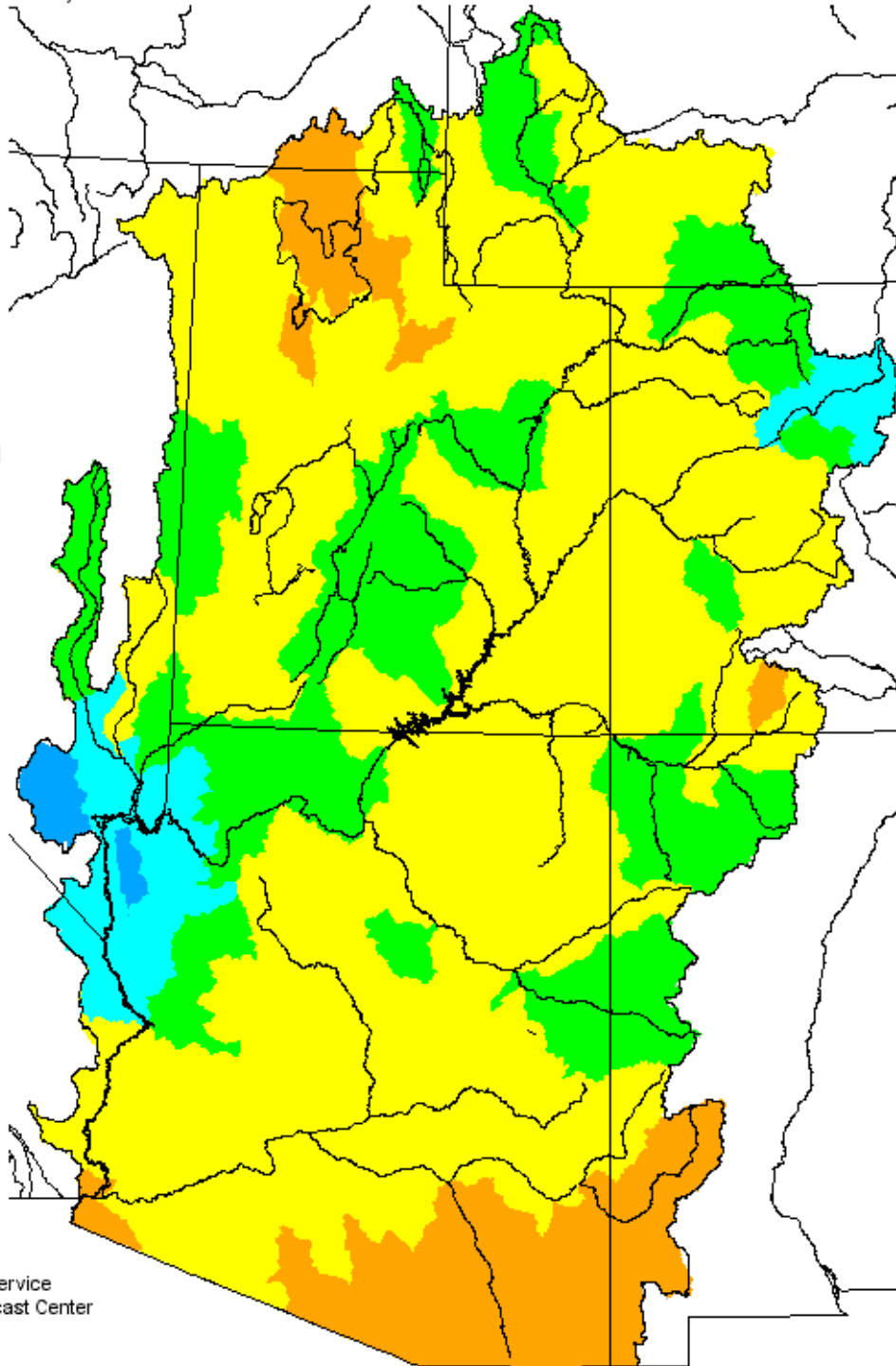
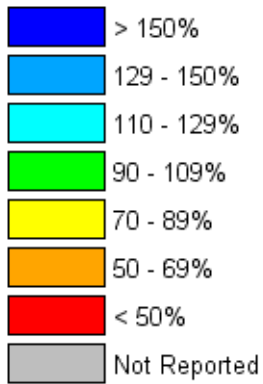


Prepared by
NOAA, National Weather Service
Colorado Basin River Forecast Center
Salt Lake City, Utah
www.cbrfc.noaa.gov

Seasonal Precipitation, October 2002 - April 2003

(Averaged by Hydrologic Unit)

% Average



Prepared by
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Colorado Basin River Forecast Center
Salt Lake City, Utah
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 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

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