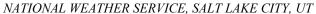


## WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

#### for the

#### LOWER COLORADO

#### COLORADO BASIN RIVER FORECAST CENTER



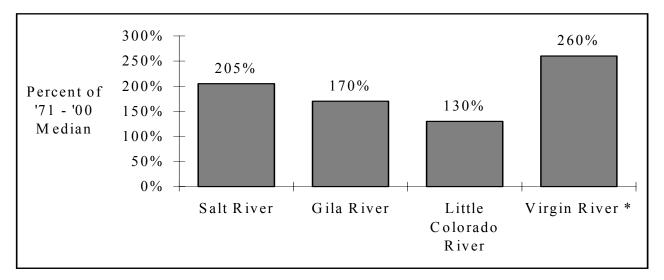


## FEBRUARY 1, 2005

## **S**UMMARY

The 2005 Lower Colorado Water Supply Outlook is wet for the first time in several years with almost all points forecasted much above median (much above average for the Virgin River Basin). The snow conditions are good throughout the Basin, with the exception of a small section of the Little Colorado basin's eastern edge; where a pocket of dry continues to persist.

#### FEBRUARY - MAY VOLUME FORECASTS

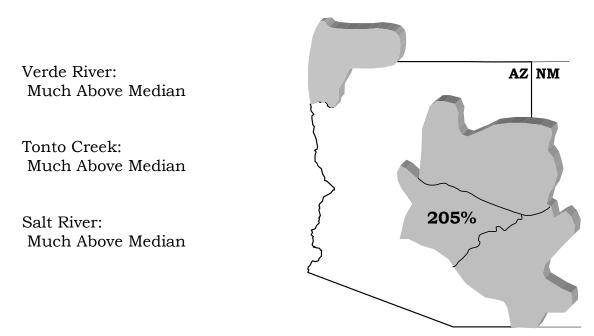


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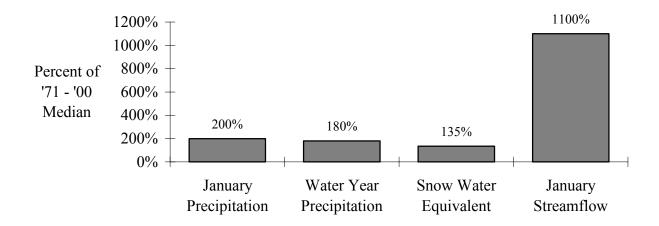
\* Virgin River Basin forecasts are for the April through July period and expressed in percent of average.

**SALT RIVER** The 2005 Water Year is <u>not</u> another dry year in Arizona. Above normal temperatures and above normal precipitation are expected during March, April, and May. Snow is 135% of median on February 1st. Forecasted stream flows for this area are much above median.

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



## Basin Conditions - February 1, 2005

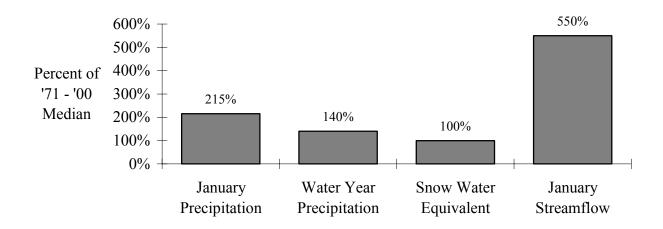


**GILA RIVER** The 2005 Water Year is beginning with a wet December and January in most of Arizona and Southwest New Mexico. Above normal temperatures and above normal precipitation are expected during March, April, and May. Forecasted stream flows are much above median.

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

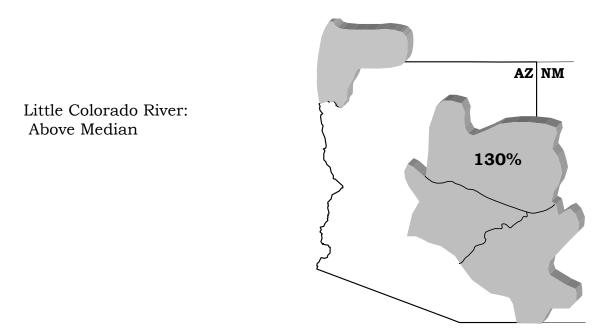


## Basin Conditions - February 1, 2005

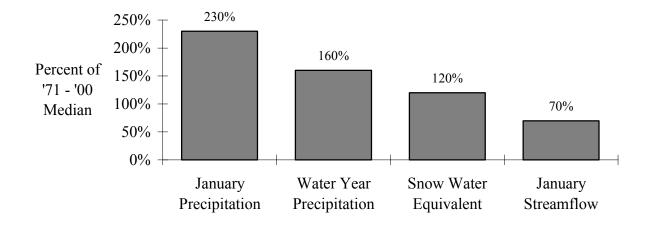


# **LITTLE COLORADO RIVER** The 2005 Water Year for this basin is wet with the exception of a slice of basin's eastern edge; where a small pocket of dry continues to persist. Above normal temperatures and above normal precipitation are expected during March, April, and May. Forecasted stream flows at this time range from 67% to 169% of median.

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

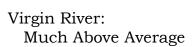


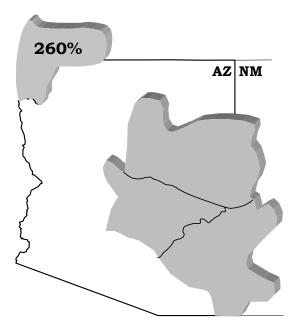
## Basin Conditions - February 1, 2005



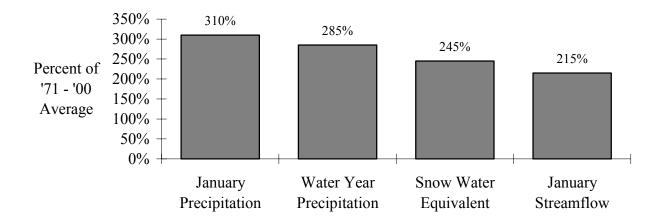
**VIRGIN RIVER** Snow is 245% of average for the Virgin River Basin on February 1st. Above normal temperatures and above normal precipitation are expected during March, April, and May. Because of the forecasted high temperatures for March, a significant percentage (up to 30%) of the snowmelt runoff may occur in March prior to the April-July forecast period. This additional runoff is not included in the April-July forecast.

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





## Basin Conditions - February 1, 2005



## Specific Site Forecasts—Water Year 2005

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

Stream		Station	Most	Percent	Reas.	Reas.
			Probable	Med.	Max	Min
LITTLE COLORADO	<b>*</b>	LYMAN LK, ABV, ST. JOHNS, NR	12	169	25	4.5
		WOODRUFF	4.7	168	8.9	0.46
RIO NUTRIA		RAMAH, NR	2	67	8.8	0.1
ZUNI		BLACK ROCK RES, ABV	1	74	2	0.4
CEBOLLA CK		RAMAH RES	1.2	72	4.2	0.17
EAST CLEAR CK		BLUE RIDGE RES, PINE, NR	21	129	36	9.9
CLEAR CK		WINSLOW, NR	44	129	89	21
CHEVELON CK		WINSLOW, NR, WILDCAT CYN, BLO	5.2	130	23	2.5
WALNUT CK		LAKE MARY	7.5	156	13.9	3.5
SANTA CLARA	<b>7</b> x	PINE VALLEY, NR	14	255	22	7.9
VIRGIN	ζ.	VIRGIN	152	238	200	111
	<i>7</i> ×	HURRICANE, NR	193	280	215	170
	×	LITTLEFIELD	187	253	205	165
GILA		GILA, NR	85	160	126	54
		VIRDEN, NR, BLUE CK, BLO	115	153	169	61
		SOLOMON, NR, HEAD OF SAFFORD V	240	167	375	103
		SAN CARLOS RES, COOLIDGE DAM,	195	188	300	92
SAN FRANCISCO		GLENWOOD, NR	40	167	60	25
		CLIFTON	100	169	156	44
SAN PEDRO		CHARLESTON	4.7	162	7.7	1.74
SALT		ROOSEVELT, NR	585	165	995	310
TONTO CK		ROOSEVELT, NR, GUN CK, ABV	100	200	235	31
VERDE		BLO TANGLE CK, ABV HORSEHOE DA	500	250	800	285
COLOBADO		LAVE DOWELL CLENCYALDAM AT	0000	114		
COLORADO	×	LAKE POWELL, GLEN CYN DAM, AT	9000	114		

February-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).

# January 2004 End Of Month Reservoir Contents

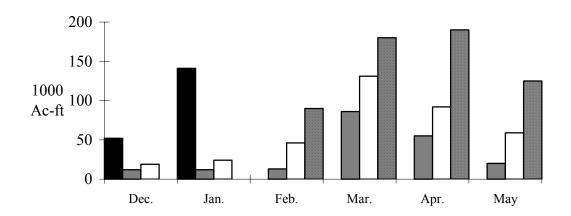
RESERVOIR	Usable	EOM Usable	Percent Usable
(vol. in 1000 ac-ft)	Capacity	Contents	Capacity (%)
Roosevelt	1653.0	789.0	48%
Horse Mesa	245.0	232.0	95%
Mormon Flat	58.0	55.0	95%
Stewart Mountain	70.0	66.0	94%
Horseshoe	109.2	87.0	80%
Bartlett	178.0	164.0	92%
Total SRP Reservoirs	2313.2	1393.0	60%
San Carlos	867.0	83.0	10%
Waddell	1145.0	698.0	61%
Painted Rock	2476.0	25.0	1%
Alamo	1045.0	230.0	22%
Lyman	31.0	4.0	13%
Lake Powell	24322.0	8493.0	35%
Mead	27380.0	15128.0	55%
Mohave	1810.0	1664.0	92%
Havasu	619.0	560.0	90%

NA = Not Available.

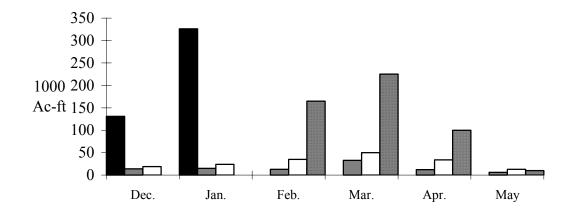
## Monthly Streamflows

■ 2005 Water Year ■ 2004 Water Year □ 30 Year Median ■ 2005 Forecast

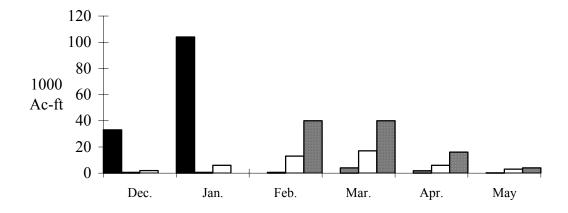
#### Salt - Roosevelt:

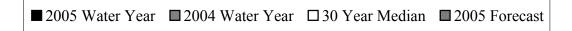


Verde - Horseshoe Dam, abv, Tangle Ck, blo:

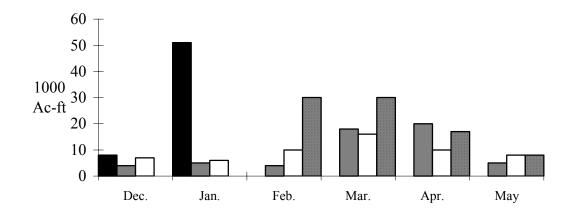


Tonto Ck - Roosevelt, nr, Gun Ck, abv:

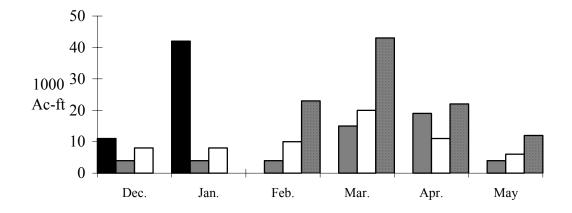




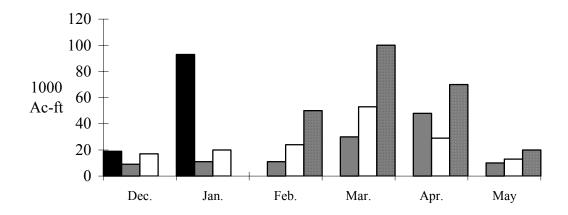
#### Gila - Gila, nr:



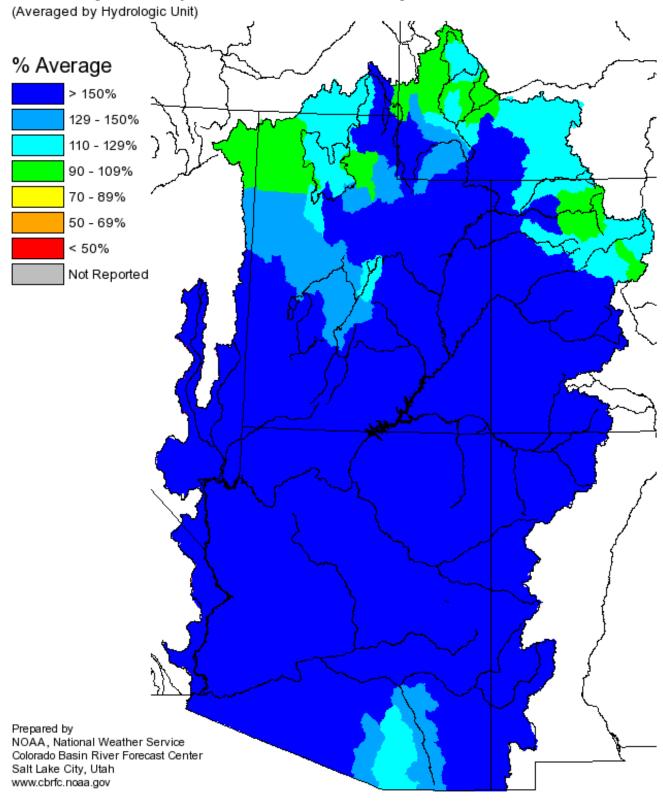
#### San Francisco - Clifton:



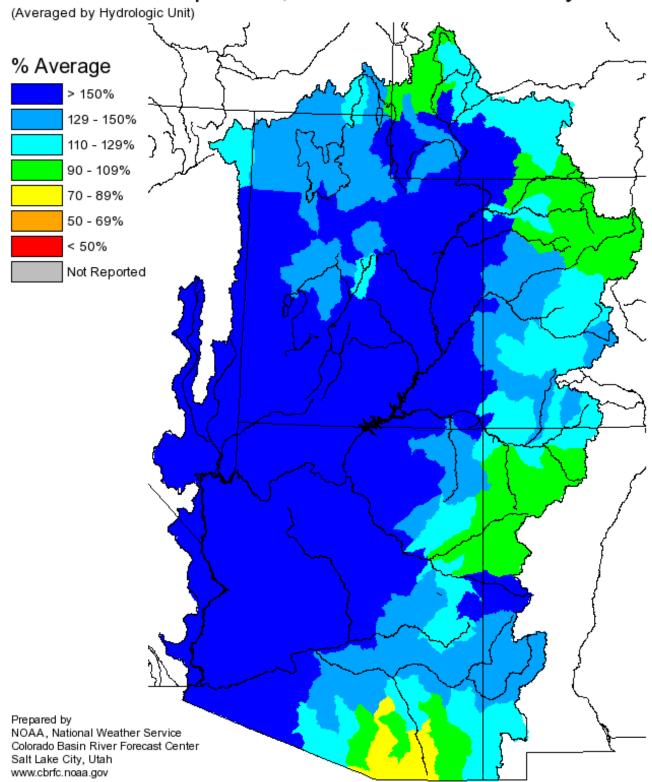
Gila - Solomon:



# Monthly Precipitation for January 2005



# Seasonal Precipitation, October 2004 - January 2005



#### 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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