

New Mexico

Basin Outlook Report

January 1, 2013



Whitewater Aerial Marker – 1/6/13 – Showing the effects of the Whitewater-Baldy Complex Fire during Summer 2012 –
Photo Courtesy of Larry Frost, Blue Sky Aviation

Basin Outlook Reports and Federal - State - Private Cooperative Snow Surveys

For more water supply and resource management information, contact:

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How forecasts are made

Most of the annual streamflow in the western United States originates as snowfall that has accumulated in the mountains during the winter and early spring. As the snowpack accumulates, hydrologists estimate the runoff that will occur when it melts. Measurements of snow water equivalent at selected manual snowcourses and automated SNOTEL sites, along with precipitation, antecedent streamflow, and indices of the El Niño / Southern Oscillation are used in computerized statistical and simulation models to prepare runoff forecasts. These forecasts are coordinated between hydrologists in the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the National Weather Service. Unless otherwise specified, all forecasts are for flows that would occur naturally without any upstream influences.

Forecasts of any kind, of course, are not perfect. Streamflow forecast uncertainty arises from three primary sources: (1) uncertain knowledge of future weather conditions, (2) uncertainty in the forecasting procedure, and (3) errors in the data. The forecast, therefore, must be interpreted not as a single value but rather as a range of values with specific probabilities of occurrence. The middle of the range is expressed by the 50% exceedance probability forecast, for which there is a 50% chance that the actual flow will be above, and a 50% chance that the actual flow will be below, this value. To describe the expected range around this 50% value, four other forecasts are provided, two smaller values (90% and 70% exceedance probability) and two larger values (30%, and 10% exceedance probability). For example, there is a 90% chance that the actual flow will be more than the 90% exceedance probability forecast. The others can be interpreted similarly.

The wider the spread among these values, the more uncertain the forecast. As the season progresses, forecasts become more accurate, primarily because a greater portion of the future weather conditions become known; this is reflected by a narrowing of the range around the 50% exceedance probability forecast. Users should take this uncertainty into consideration when making operational decisions by selecting forecasts corresponding to the level of risk they are willing to assume about the amount of water to be expected. If users anticipate receiving a lesser supply of water, or if they wish to increase their chances of having an adequate supply of water for their operations, they may want to base their decisions on the 90% or 70% exceedance probability forecasts, or something in between. On the other hand, if users are concerned about receiving too much water (for example, threat of flooding), they may want to base their decisions on the 30% or 10% exceedance probability forecasts, or something in between. Regardless of the forecast value users choose for operations, they should be prepared to deal with either more or less water. (Users should remember that even if the 90% exceedance probability forecast is used, there is still a 10% chance of receiving less than this amount.) By using the exceedance probability information, users can easily determine the chances of receiving more or less water.

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New Mexico

Water Supply Outlook Report

as of January 1, 2013

The National Water and Climate Center (NWCC) is providing Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecasting products on the INTERNET. A few of our more popular products (SNOTEL Update Reports, State Basin Outlook Reports, and products previously published in the Water Supply Outlook for the Western United States) are now accessible via our Home Page and our Anonymous FTP server.

The Universal Resources Locator (URL) for the home page is: <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/>

The address for the Anonymous FTP server is: [ftp.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov](ftp://ftp.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov)

You can access the Anonymous FTP server using your INTERNET browser (Netscape, Mosaic, etc.) by changing the URL to: <ftp://ftp.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/>

We will continue to add more products to the Home Page and Anonymous FTP server and welcome any comments and suggestions you might have.

Questions and comments should be directed to the NRCS Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecasting contact in your state:

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Summary

First and foremost, as another water supply forecasting year rolls around for New Mexico, users of this report need to be aware of some changes that have been made. This year represents the transition to a new set of “normals,” replacing the 1971-2000 averages with updated 1981-2010 normals. This change allows us to better reflect current conditions in relation to more recent trends. In addition, Snow Water Equivalent is now calculated as a percent of median value rather than a percent of average since this provides a better representation of “normal” with less influence from outlier years.

After a near record dry 2011, 2012 proved to be another very warm and dry year for most of New Mexico. Most parts of the state saw well below average precipitation, and for much of New Mexico, 2012 set records as the warmest year since measurements began. This one-two punch has left much of the state in very poor condition, both from water supply and vegetation condition standpoints. Outlooks for this snow season seem to favor a continuation of the warmer and drier conditions, so the hope for a good snowpack does not look overly promising. It is still early in the snow accumulation season, so there is a chance that the state could still pick up significant snowpack in the next few months if the storm track moves our direction and carries any moisture with it. Water managers need to be preparing for another year of well below average runoff if this does not happen.

Snowpack

New Mexico has experienced a very slow start to the snow season this year. Most basins in the state had little to no snow prior to December. Although the storm track did move across New Mexico during December, most of the storms which passed through were somewhat moisture starved, so the snowpack did not build as much as hoped. For January 1, many basins in the state are still recording less than 70 percent of normal snowpack. Basins along the western side of the state are the exception, reporting slightly above normal snowpack levels. Given the dry conditions over the last couple years, the prospects for a below average snowpack for 2013 are very concerning. Water users and managers need to be aware of the current conditions throughout this snow season as it will have a major impact on water supply this year.

Basin	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Normal
Canadian River Basin	55	61
Pecos River Basin	54	62
Rio Grande Basin	68	71
Mimbres River Basin	29	105
San Francisco/Upper Gila River Basin	60	119
Zuni/Bluewater Basin	85	113
San Juan River Basin	80	66
Chuska Mountains	158	115
Rio Hondo Basin	66	206

Precipitation

High elevation precipitation in October ranged from 0 percent of average in the Mimbres and Zuni/Bluewater River Basins to 43 percent of average in the Pecos River Basin. The whole state was well below normal, with several basins seeing little to no precipitation for the month. November remained drier than average across all of New Mexico, ranging from 29 percent of normal in the Mimbres Basin up to 90 percent of normal in the Rio Hondo Basin. December brought a series of storms through New Mexico, finally dropping some much needed precipitation. High elevation precipitation ranged from 136 percent of normal in the Canadian Basin to 65 percent of normal in the Mimbres River Basin. As of December 31, year to date averages are generally well below normal for the state, ranging from 70 percent of normal in the Animas/San Juan River Basin to 36 percent of normal in the Mimbres River Basin.

Reservoirs

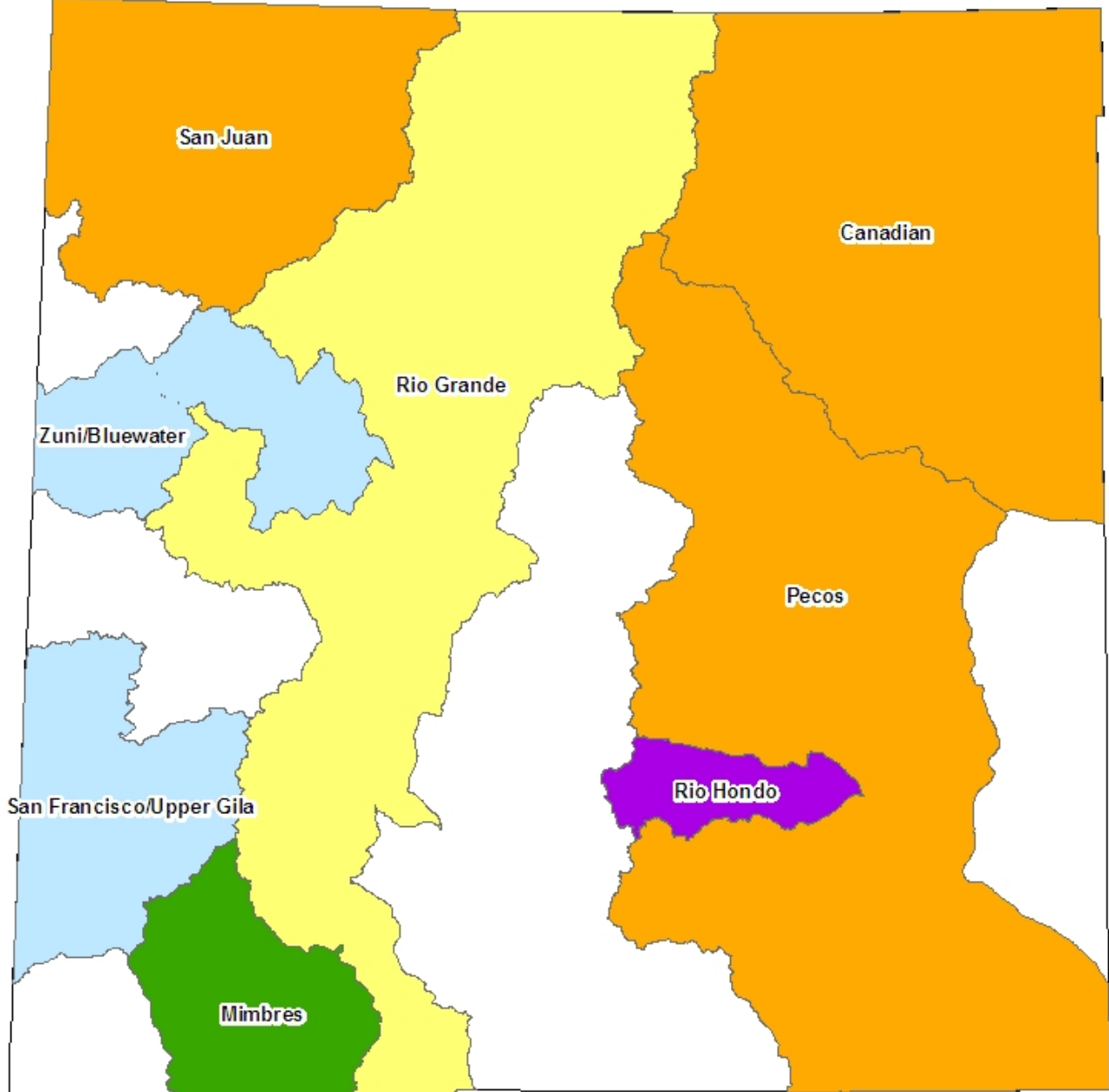
With 2011 and 2012 registering as two of the driest years in New Mexico history, reservoir storage has again dropped considerably state wide. Demand for water stored in New Mexico reservoirs exceeded supply by a substantial margin. Reservoir storage statewide is now only 43 percent of normal as of the end of December 2012. Given the relatively low current storage, the only way to possibly meet user demands is a much higher than normal spring runoff from snowpack. Early indications are not looking very promising again this year, but with the majority of the snow season ahead of us, there is still quite a bit of uncertainty. The early snow season has been below normal, and if this pattern continues, there is no way the state will see even near normal runoff. At this point it is still very difficult to make an accurate prediction of what this year will bring, but water users and managers need to be prepared for very low runoff again this year.

RESERVOIR	Percent of Last Year	Percent of Average
ABIQUIU.....	86	102
BLUEWATER LAKE.....	74	29
BRANTLEY	41	27
CABALLO.....	55	11
COCHITI.....	104	84
CONCHAS.....	12	1
COSTILLA.....	88	38
EAGLE NEST.....	76	55
EL VADO.....	12	10
ELEPHANT BUTTE.....	55	13
HERON.....	73	54
LAKE AVALON	104	120
NAVAJO.....	73	71
SANTA ROSA.....	48	9
SUMNER.....	100	33

Streamflow

Streamflow conditions across the state are generally at or below normal for this time of year statewide. The January 1, 2013 forecast numbers from NRCS show the majority of New Mexico is on track for a significantly lower than normal runoff season at this point. Virtually all forecast points in the state are currently expecting less than 70 percent of normal runoff, with many expecting less than 50 percent. It is important to remember that it is still early enough in the snow season that things could easily change depending on the moisture/snow patterns in coming months, but most predictions call for warmer and drier than average conditions through the spring. Water users and managers need to be prepared for well below normal runoff this year.

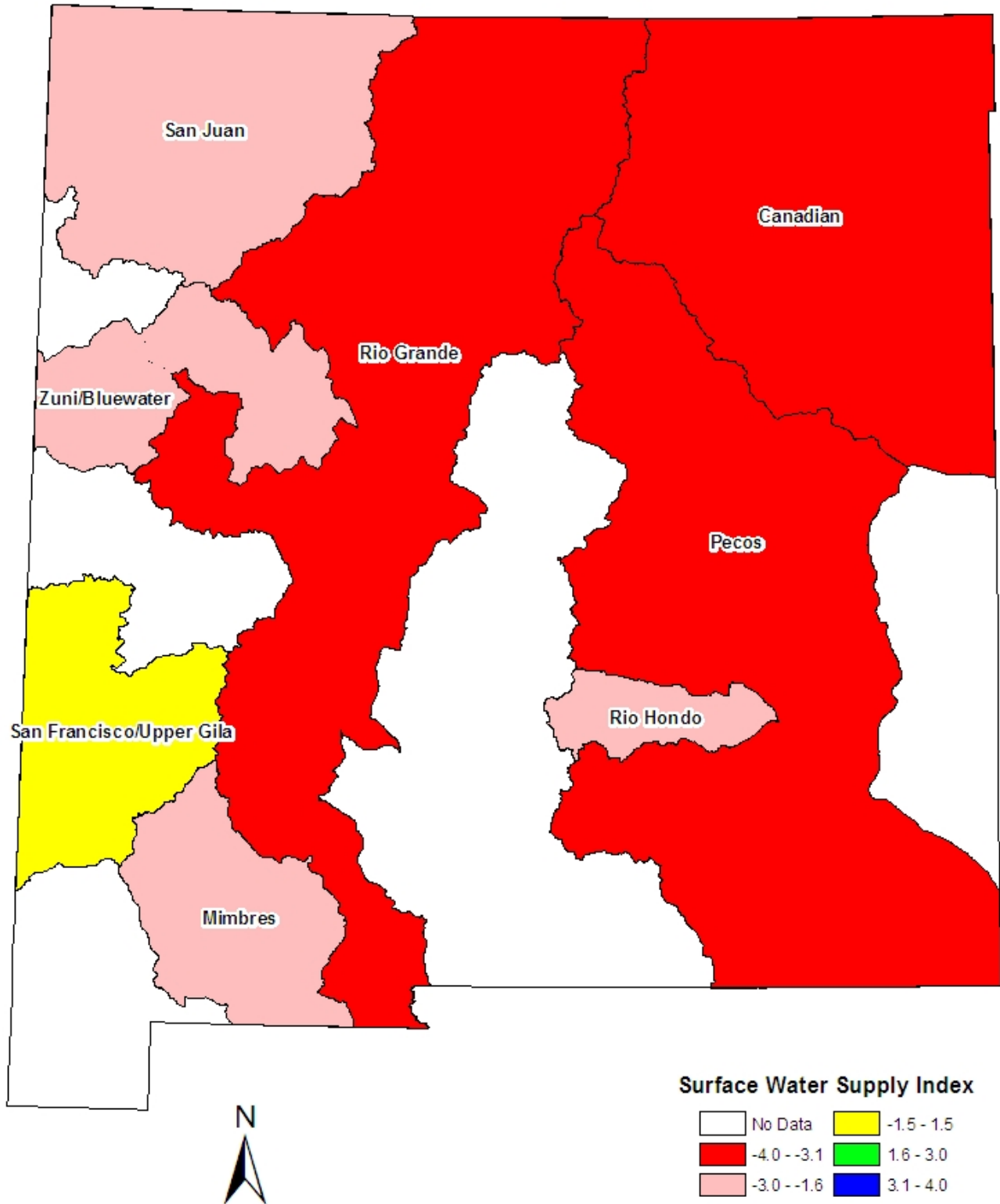
New Mexico Snowpack as of January 1, 2013



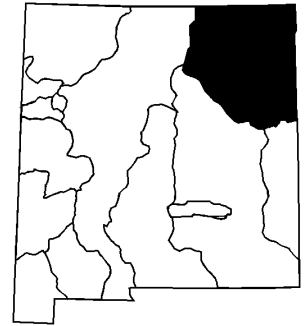
Percent of Average Snowpack

No Data	91 - 110
< 50	111 - 130
50 - 70	131 - 150
71 - 90	> 150

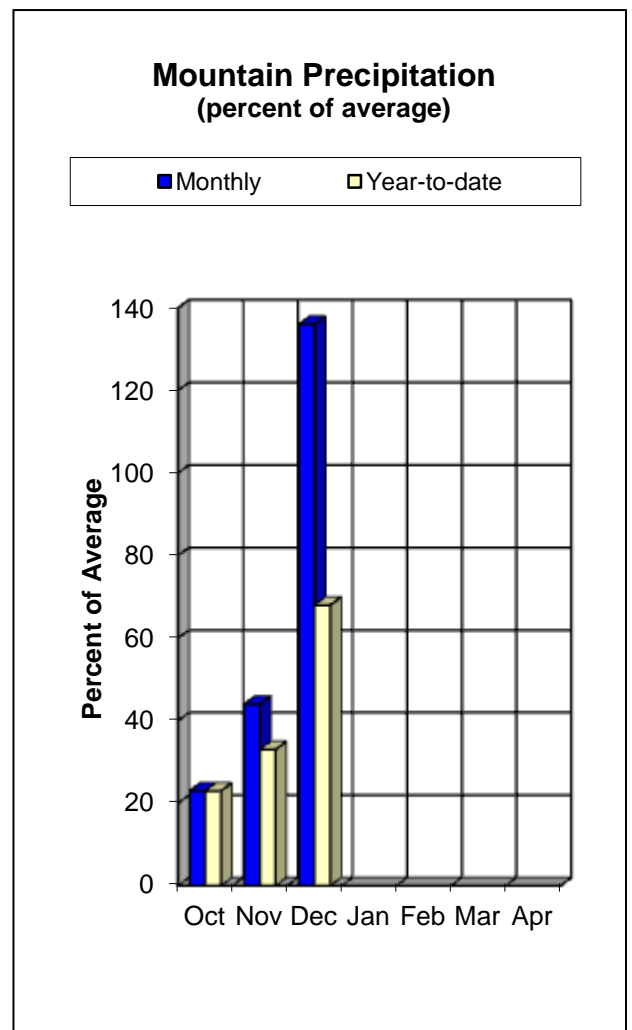
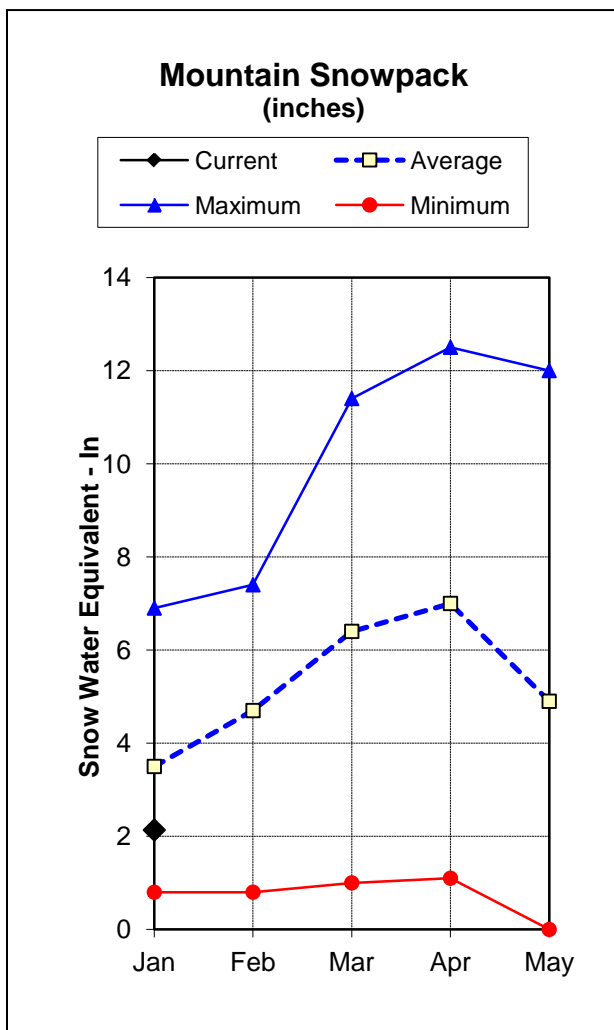
New Mexico Surface Water Supply Index as of January 1, 2013



Canadian River Basin Water Supply Outlook Report as of January 1, 2013



Streamflow forecasts for the Canadian River Basin range from 49 percent of normal for the Mora River near Golondrinas to 64 percent of normal for Rayado Creek near Cimarron. October started out the water year very dry, with 23 percent of normal precipitation received. November remained dry, recording 44 percent of normal. December picked up somewhat and 136 percent of normal was received in the Basin. Year-to-date high elevation precipitation in the Canadian River Basin is currently 68 percent of normal. The basin has been well below average since this water year started on October 1. Snowpack in the basin is well below normal for this time of year at 61 percent of median, compared to last year's 113 percent. Total reservoir storage in the basin is 31,000 acre-feet or 12 percent of normal, down substantially from last year's 24 percent or 54,700 acre-feet at this time.



CANADIAN RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - January 1, 2013

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<----- Drier ----- Future Conditions ----- Wetter ----->>						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)				
		90% (1000AF)		70% (1000AF)		Chance Of Exceeding * 50% (1000AF) (% AVG.)			30% (1000AF)		10% (1000AF)	
Vermejo R nr Dawson	MAR-JUN	2.2	4.4	6.5	59	9.2	14.6	11.1				
Cimarron R bl Eagle Nest Dam (2)	MAR-JUN	2.8	5.0	7.1	63	9.7	14.4	11.2				
Cimarron R nr Cimarron (2)	MAR-JUN	0.5	3.2	9.8	62	16.4	26	15.8				
Ponil Ck nr Cimarron	MAR-JUN	1.37	2.90	4.40	61	6.40	10.20	7.20				
Rayado Ck nr Cimarron	MAR-JUN	1.14	2.80	4.50	64	6.80	11.50	7.00				
Mora R nr Golondrinas (2)	MAR-JUN	1.0	2.5	6.3	49	14.7	27	12.8				
Conchas Reservoir Inflow (3)	MAR-JUN	1.0	6.6	15.0	50	28	60	30				

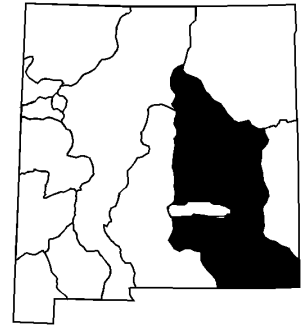
CANADIAN RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of December					CANADIAN RIVER BASIN Watershed Snowpack Analysis - January 1, 2013			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
CONCHAS	254.2	2.0	16.6	197.9	CANADIAN RIVER BASIN	4	55	61
EAGLE NEST	79.0	29.0	38.1	53.0				

* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

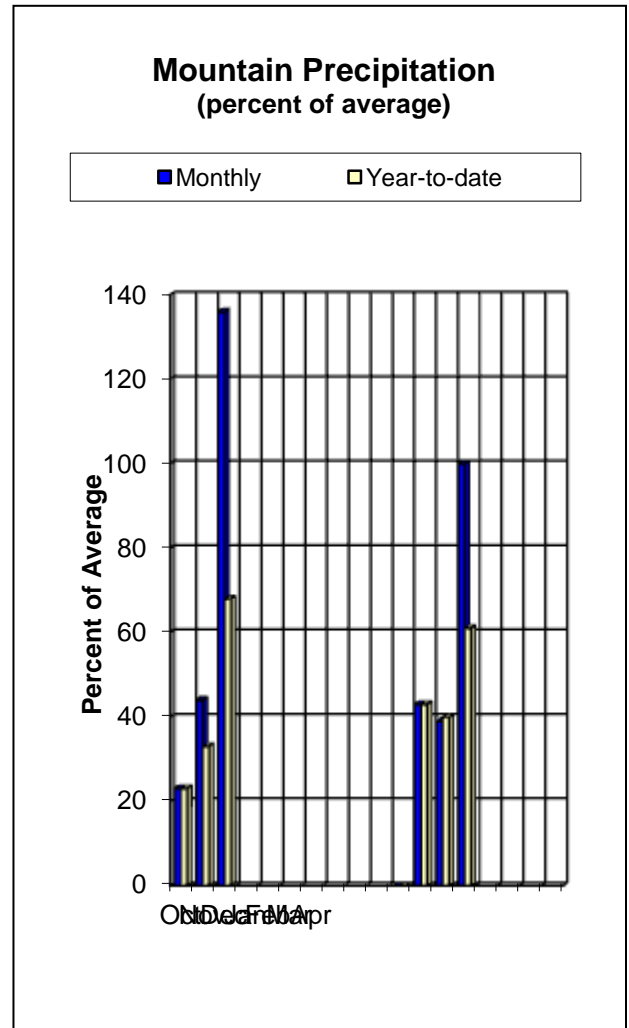
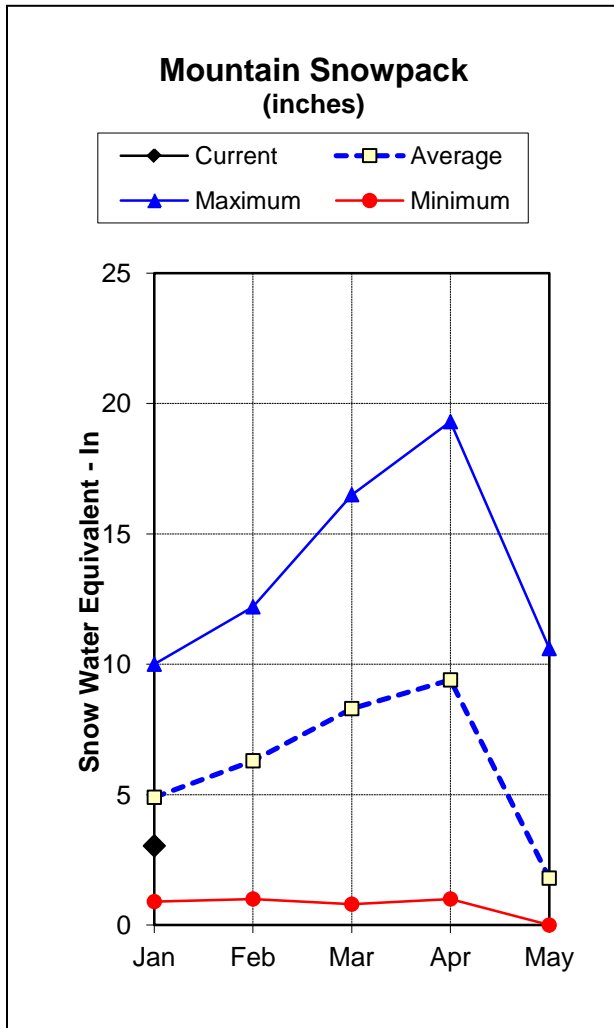
The average is computed for the 1981-2010 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
- (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.
- (3) - Median value used in place of average.

Pecos River Basin Water Supply Outlook Report as of January 1, 2013



Streamflow forecasts for the Pecos River Basin are well below normal at this time, ranging from 37 percent of normal for the Pecos River near Anton Chico to 51 percent of normal for Gallinas Creek near Montezuma. High elevation precipitation for October and November came in about 40 percent of normal. December precipitation was somewhat better, with 100 percent of normal received. Year-to-date precipitation is well below normal at 61 percent for the water year so far. Snowpack in the Pecos River Basin is also well below normal this year, at 62 percent of median, down from last year's 111 percent. January 1 reservoir storage in the basin is 20,600 acre-feet, down from last year's 32,300 acre-feet. Compared to the average of 100,200 acre-feet, current storage is only 21 percent.



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PECOS RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - January 1, 2013

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Forecast Point	Forecast Period	Future Conditions						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		<<===== Drier =====>>		===== Wetter =====>>		Chance Of Exceeding *		
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	
Gallinas Ck nr Montezuma	MAR-JUL	0.41	2.50	5.00	51	8.30	14.70	9.80
Pecos R nr Pecos	MAR-JUL	8.9	19.0	28	49	39	58	57
Pecos R nr Anton Chico	MAR-JUL	0.7	10.3	23	37	41	76	63
Pecos R ab Santa Rosa Lk	MAR-JUL	1.2	10.4	22	39	38	69	56

PECOS RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of December					PECOS RIVER BASIN Watershed Snowpack Analysis - January 1, 2013			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
LAKE AVALON	4.0	2.4	2.3	2.0	PECOS RIVER BASIN	3	54	62
BRANTLEY	1008.2	4.6	11.1	17.1				
SANTA ROSA	438.3	4.8	10.1	54.4				
SUMNER	102.0	8.8	8.8	26.7				

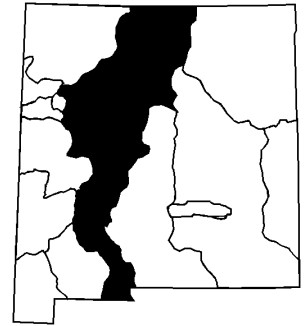
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* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

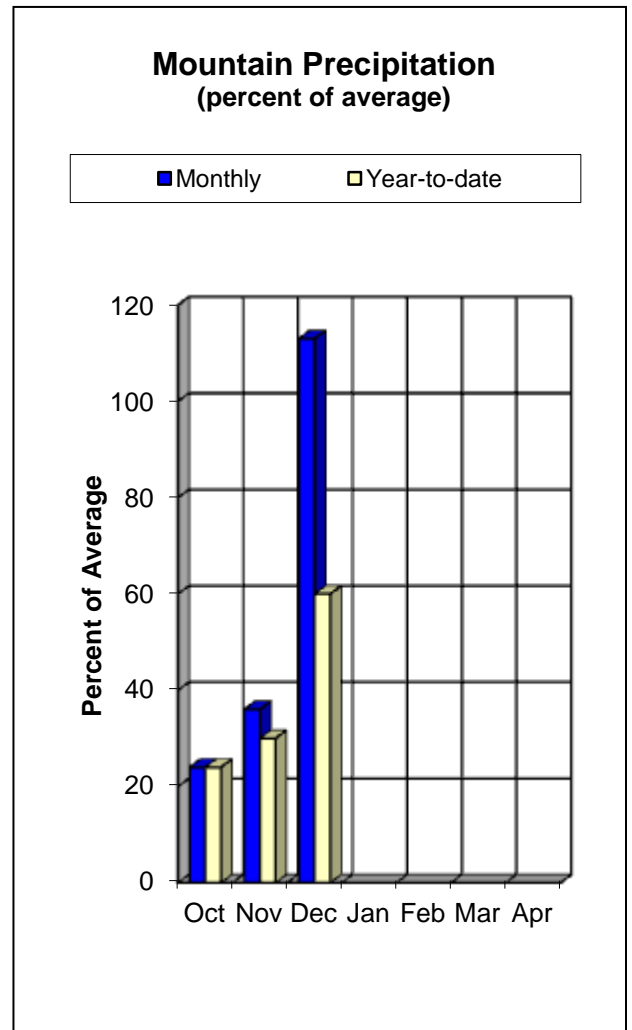
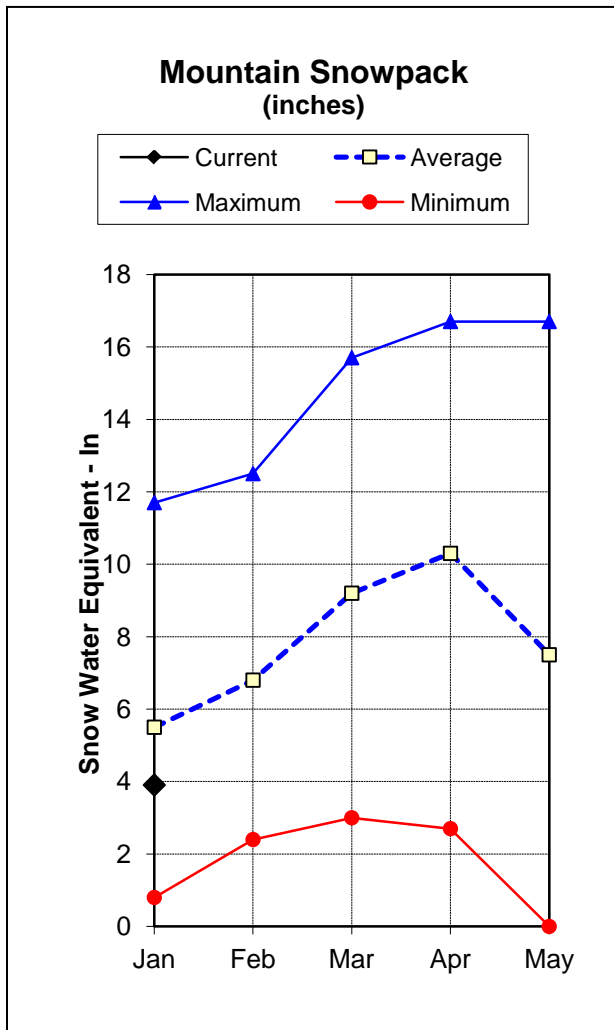
The average is computed for the 1981-2010 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
- (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.
- (3) - Median value used in place of average.

Rio Grande Basin Water Supply Outlook Report as of January 1, 2013



Streamflow forecasts for the Rio Grande Basin are significantly below normal for the most part, ranging from 64 percent of normal for the El Vado Reservoir Inflow, to 36 percent of normal for the Rio Pueblo de Taos below Los Cordovas. The current forecast for the Rio Grande at San Marcial is only 38 percent of normal or 191,000 acre-feet. Year-to-date precipitation is well below normal at 60 percent, much drier than last year at this time. Snowpack in the basin is only 71 percent of median – well below last year's 98 percent. This trend continues into southern Colorado, where many sites are recording well below normal snowpack, which further impacts runoff forecasts for the Rio Grande Basin. Total reservoir storage in the basin is 559,000 acre-feet, down significantly from last year's 860,800 acre-feet. This is only 28 percent of the average of 1,979,300 acre-feet. Abiquiu, is the only reservoir in the basin with above average storage levels for December at 102 percent of normal. Elephant Butte levels continue to decline with current storage of 161,100 acre-feet; compared to 294,500 acre-feet at this time last year or the 30 year average of 1,267,000 acre feet.



RIO GRANDE BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - January 1, 2013

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	Future Conditions						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		<<----- Drier ----->>		----->>		----->>		
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	Chance Of Exceeding * (1000AF) (% AVG.)		30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
Rio Grande nr Del Norte (2)	APR-SEP	195	275	340	66	410	525	515
Platoro Reservoir Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	27	36	43	77	50	59	56
	APR-SEP	29	40	47	76	54	65	62
Conejos R nr Mogote (2)	APR-SEP	83	119	144	74	169	205	194
Costilla Reservoir Inflow (2)	MAR-JUL	3.7	5.5	7.0	63	8.6	11.4	11.1
Costilla Ck nr Costilla (2)	MAR-JUL	6.1	10.5	14.1	54	18.3	25	26
Red R bl Fish Hatchery nr Questa	MAR-JUL	8.6	13.3	17.0	50	21	28	34
Rio Hondo nr Valdez	MAR-JUL	4.0	7.2	9.9	54	13.0	18.4	18.4
Rio Lucero nr Arroyo Seco	MAR-JUL	2.6	4.5	6.1	56	7.9	11.1	10.9
Rio Pueblo de Taos nr Taos	MAR-JUL	2.8	6.1	9.1	54	12.7	19.1	17.0
Rio Pueblo de Taos bl Los Cordovas	MAR-JUL	2.3	7.6	12.9	36	19.7	32	36
Embudo Ck at Dixon	MAR-JUL	5.6	14.1	22	46	32	49	48
El Vado Reservoir Inflow (2)	MAR-JUL	56	103	144	64	191	275	225
	APR-JUL	49	93	130	63	174	250	205
Santa Cruz R at Cundiyo	MAR-JUL	3.7	7.0	9.8	54	13.1	18.9	18.3
Nambe Falls Reservoir Inflow (2)	MAR-JUL	1.23	2.30	3.30	51	4.40	6.40	6.50
Tesuque Ck ab diversions	MAR-JUL	0.13	0.40	0.67	50	1.00	1.62	1.34
Rio Grande at Otowi Bridge (2)	MAR-JUL	146	250	340	47	440	615	720
Santa Fe R nr Santa Fe (2)	MAR-JUL	0.37	1.11	1.85	43	2.80	4.50	4.30
Jemez R nr Jemez	MAR-JUL	7.3	14.1	20	48	27	39	42
Jemez R bl Jemez Canyon Dam	MAR-JUL	3.1	8.6	14.0	41	21	33	34
Rio Grande at San Marcial (2)	MAR-JUL	36	114	191	38	290	465	510

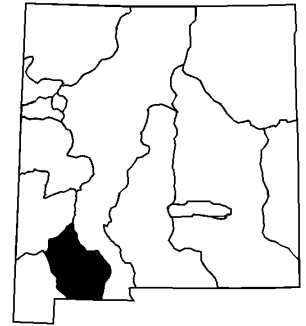
RIO GRANDE BASIN Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of December					RIO GRANDE BASIN Watershed Snowpack Analysis - January 1, 2013			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
ABIQUIU	1192.8	155.9	181.6	152.7	RIO GRANDE BASIN	12	68	71
BLUEWATER LAKE	38.5	3.4	4.6	11.7				
CABALLO	332.0	7.5	13.6	68.0				
COCHITI	491.0	52.9	50.8	63.1				
COSTILLA	16.0	2.3	2.6	6.0				
EL VADO	190.3	10.0	86.2	102.8				
ELEPHANT BUTTE	2195.0	161.1	294.5	1267.0				
HERON	400.0	165.9	226.9	308.0				

* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1981-2010 base period.

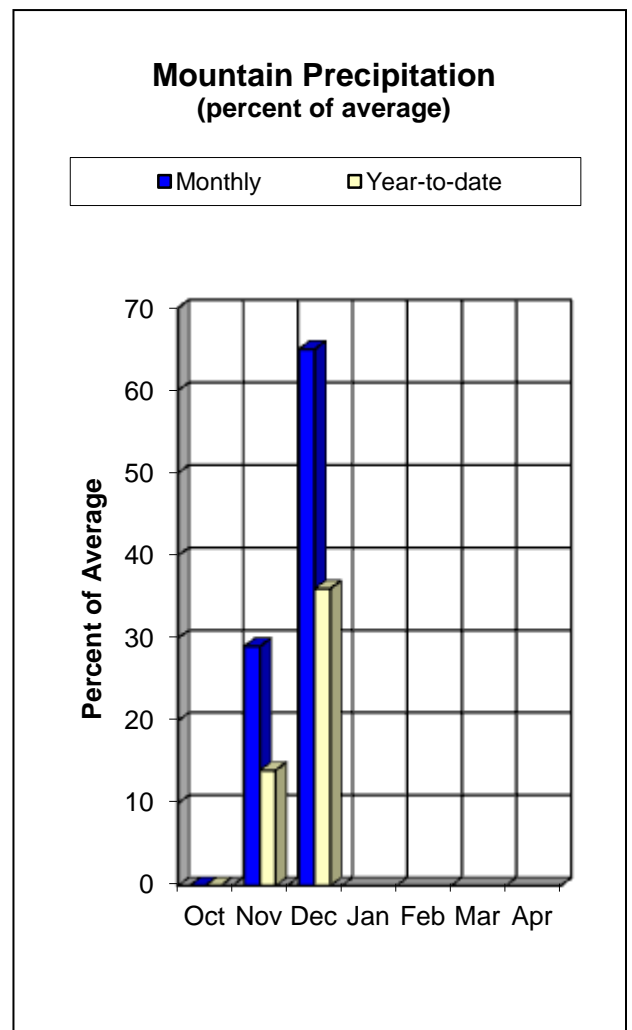
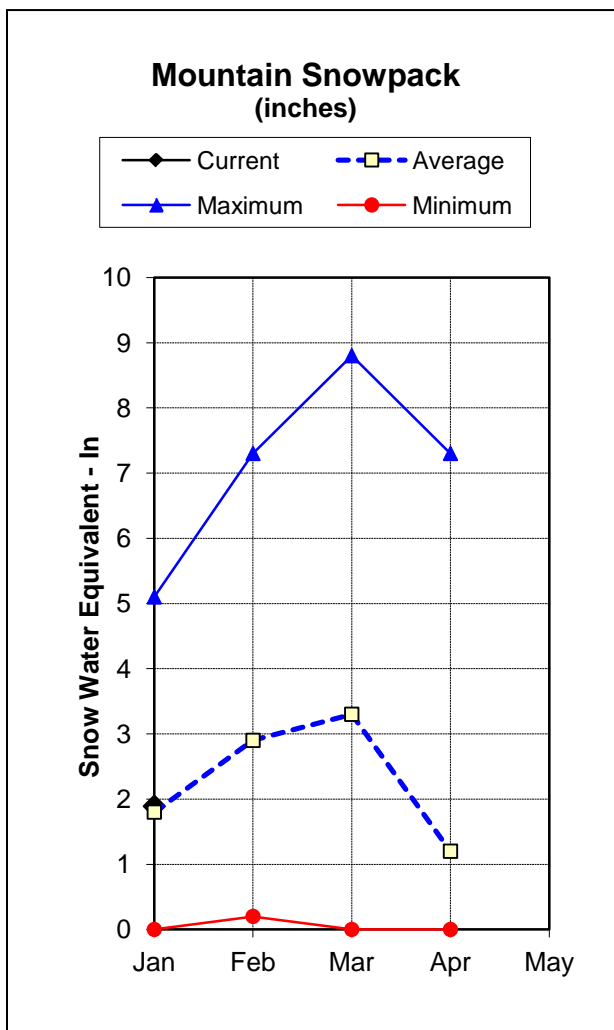
- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
- (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.
- (3) - Median value used in place of average.

Mimbres River Basin Water Supply Outlook Report as of January 1, 2013



The streamflow forecast for the January to May period for the Mimbres River Basin is 1,430 acre-feet or 60 percent of the median runoff. October started off the water year with no measurable precipitation received. November precipitation was also very low with only 29 percent of normal measured. December precipitation picked up somewhat, with 65 percent of normal recorded. Year-to-date precipitation is around 36 percent of normal since October 1, a very dry start to the water year. Snowpack in the basin is near normal at 105 percent of median, compared to last year's 253 percent at this time.

Users of NRCS Snow Survey data should be aware, due to reduced budget allocations, the manual snow course at McKnight Cabin has been discontinued, and Emory Pass #2 is being considered for discontinuation. Data from the automated SNOTEL at McKnight continues, but Emory Pass #2 will cease to report if discontinued.



MIMBRES RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - January 1, 2013

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	Future Conditions						30-Yr Med. (1000AF)
		<<----- Drier ----->>		----->>		----->>		
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	Chance Of Exceeding * 50% (1000AF) (% MED.)		30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
Mimbres R at Mimbres (3)	JAN-MAY	0.22	0.77	1.43	60	2.40	4.50	2.40

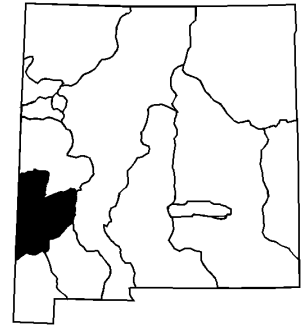
MIMBRES RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of December				MIMBRES RIVER BASIN Watershed Snowpack Analysis - January 1, 2013				
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
					MIMBRES RIVER BASIN	3	29	105

* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

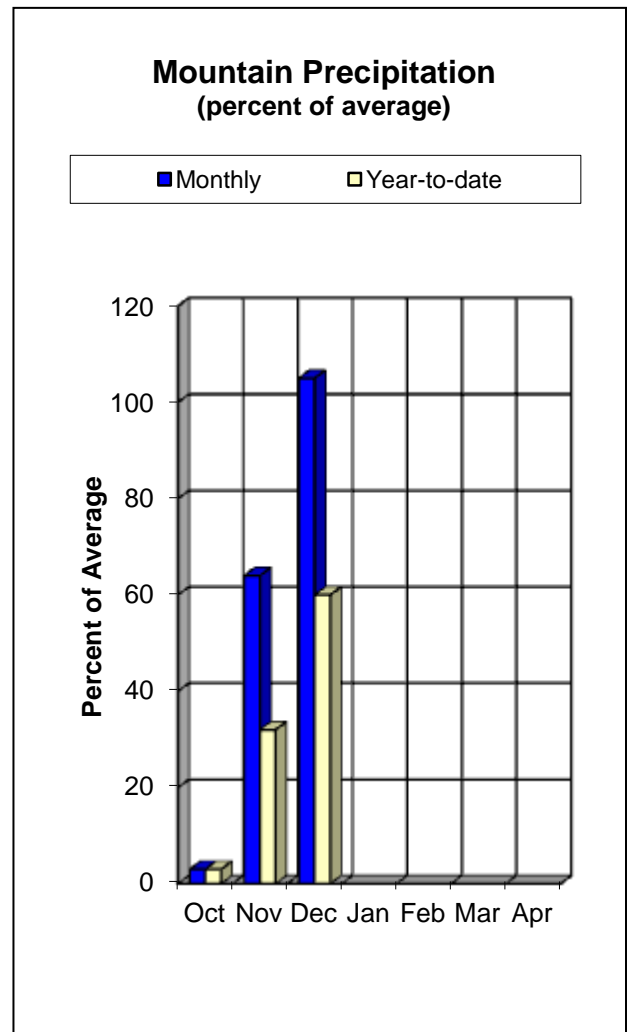
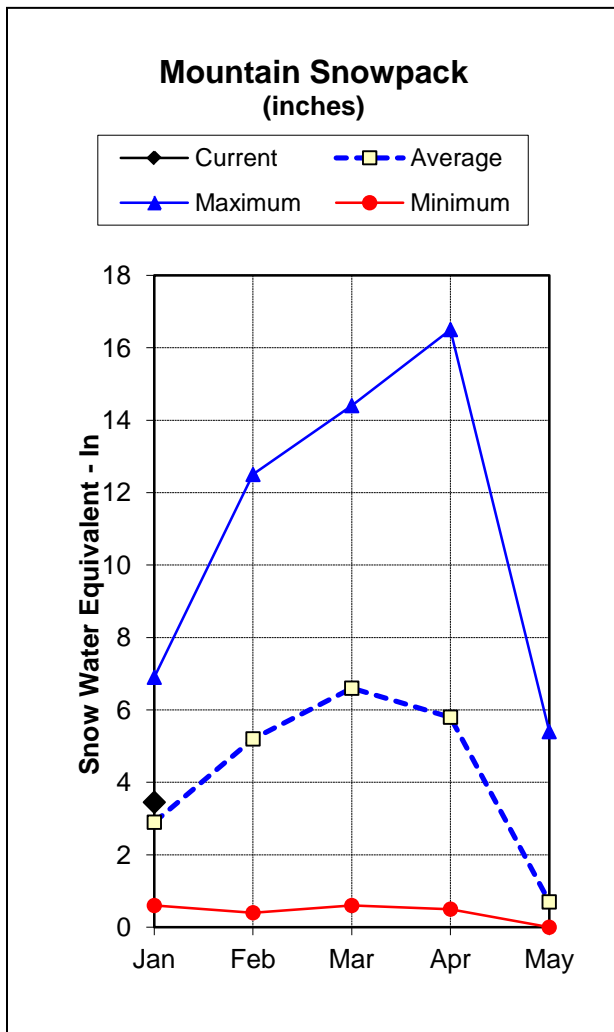
The average and median are computed for the 1981-2010 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
- (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.
- (3) - Median value used in place of average.

San Francisco / Upper Gila River Basin Water Supply Outlook Report as of January 1, 2013



Streamflow forecasts for the San Francisco/Upper Gila River Basin range from 49 percent of normal for the Gila River below Blue Creek near Virden, to 95 percent of normal on the San Francisco River at Glenwood. Precipitation for the month of October was almost non-existent, with 3 percent of normal received. November saw a slight upswing in moisture, with 64 percent of normal precipitation. As has been the case for the last few years, December precipitation picked back up somewhat, with 105 percent of normal recorded. Year-to-date precipitation is hovering around 60 percent of average as of January 1. Snowpack in the basin is at 119 percent of median, compared to last year's 150 percent at this time.



SAN FRANCISCO/UPPER GILA RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - January 1, 2013

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	Future Conditions						30-Yr Med. (1000AF)
		<<----- Drier ----->>		----->>		----->>		
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	Chance Of Exceeding * 50% (1000AF) (% MED.)		30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
Gila R at Gila (3)	JAN-MAY	17.0	21	30	54	42	65	56
Gila R bl Blue Ck nr Virden (3)	JAN-MAY	16.0	21	37	49	58	97	76
San Francisco R at Glenwood (3)	JAN-MAY	5.9	13.0	20	95	29	47	21
San Francisco R at Clifton (3)	JAN-MAY	13.0	29	47	77	70	112	61

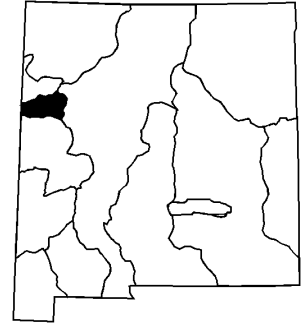
SAN FRANCISCO/UPPER GILA RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of December				SAN FRANCISCO/UPPER GILA RIVER BASIN Watershed Snowpack Analysis - January 1, 2013				
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
					SAN FRANCISCO/UPPER GILA	10	60	119

* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

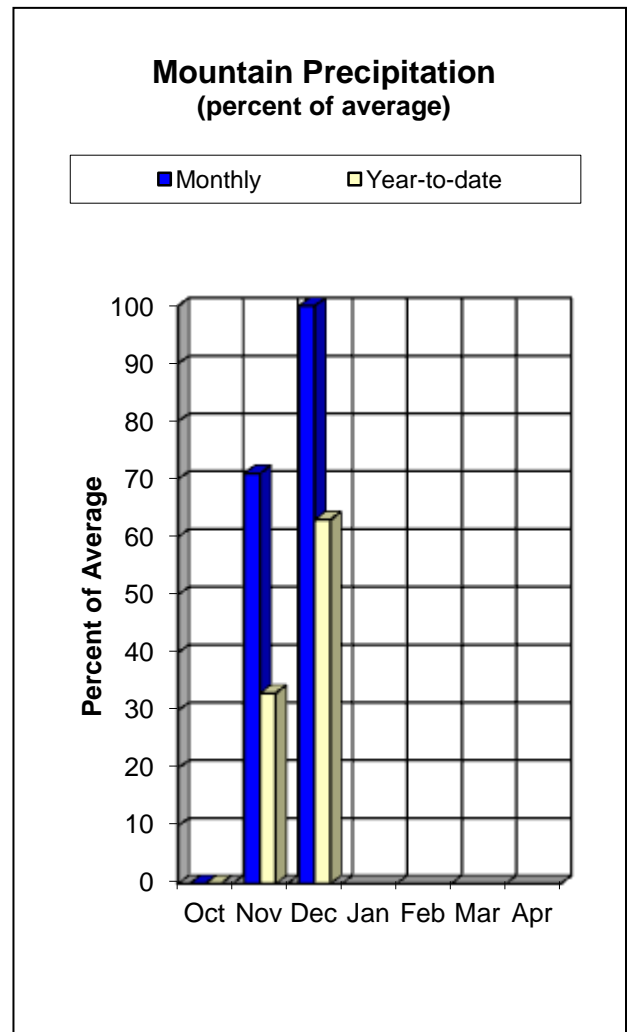
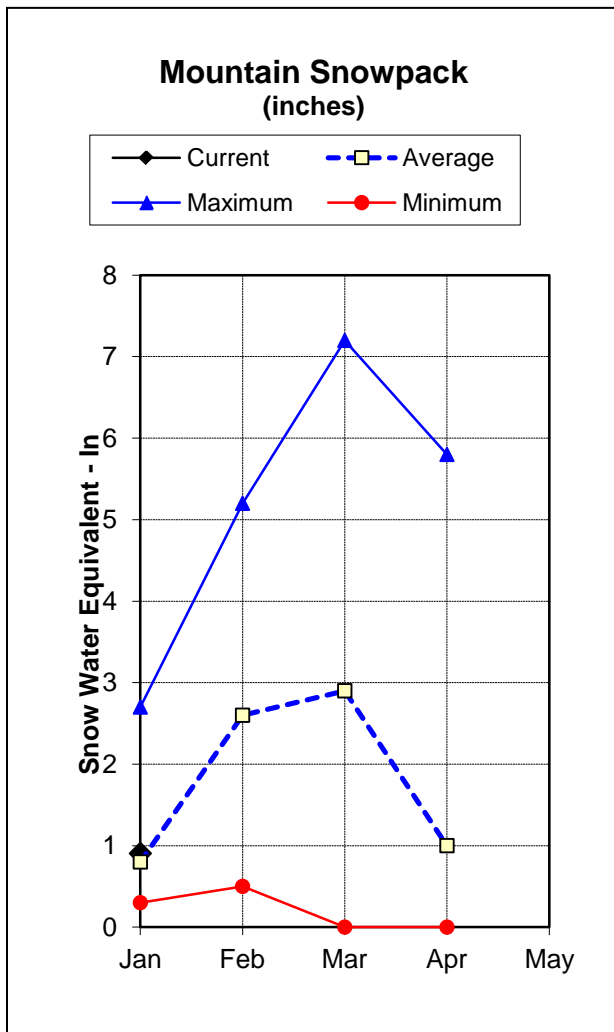
The average and median are computed for the 1981-2010 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
- (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.
- (3) - Median value used in place of average.

Zuni / Bluewater Basins Water Supply Outlook Report as of January 1, 2013



Streamflow forecasts for the Zuni/Bluewater Basins range from 92 percent of normal for the Rio Nutria near Ramah to 61 percent of normal for the Bluewater Lake Inflow. October started off the water year with no measureable precipitation received. November precipitation was up somewhat with 71 percent of normal being recorded. December was 100 percent of normal, much drier than the last few years. Year-to-date precipitation is well below normal, at 63 percent. Snowpack in the basin is slightly above normal, with 113 percent of median, down from last year's 169 percent of average. Storage in Bluewater Lake is 3,400 acre-feet or 29 percent of normal, down somewhat from last year's 4,600 acre-feet at the end of December.



ZUNI/BLUEWATER BASINS
Streamflow Forecasts - January 1, 2013

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	Future Conditions						30-Yr Med. (1000AF)
		<<----- Drier ----->>		----->>		Wetter ----->>		
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	Chance Of Exceeding * 50% (1000AF) (% MED.)		30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
Bluewater Lake Inflow (2,3)	JAN-MAY	0.00	0.50	2.00	61	7.60	15.70	3.30
Rio Nutria nr Ramah (3)	JAN-MAY	0.07	0.54	1.30	92	2.60	5.60	1.42
Ramah Reservoir Inflow (3)	JAN-MAY	0.01	0.29	0.71	89	1.32	2.60	0.80
Zuni River ab Black Rock Reservoir (JAN-MAY	0.00	0.05	0.38	81	1.27	4.20	0.47

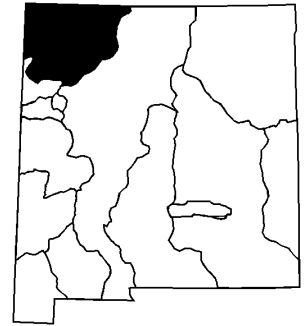
ZUNI/BLUEWATER BASINS Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of December					ZUNI/BLUEWATER BASINS Watershed Snowpack Analysis - January 1, 2013			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
BLUEWATER LAKE	38.5	3.4	4.6	11.7	ZUNI/BLUEWATER BASINS	4	85	113

* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

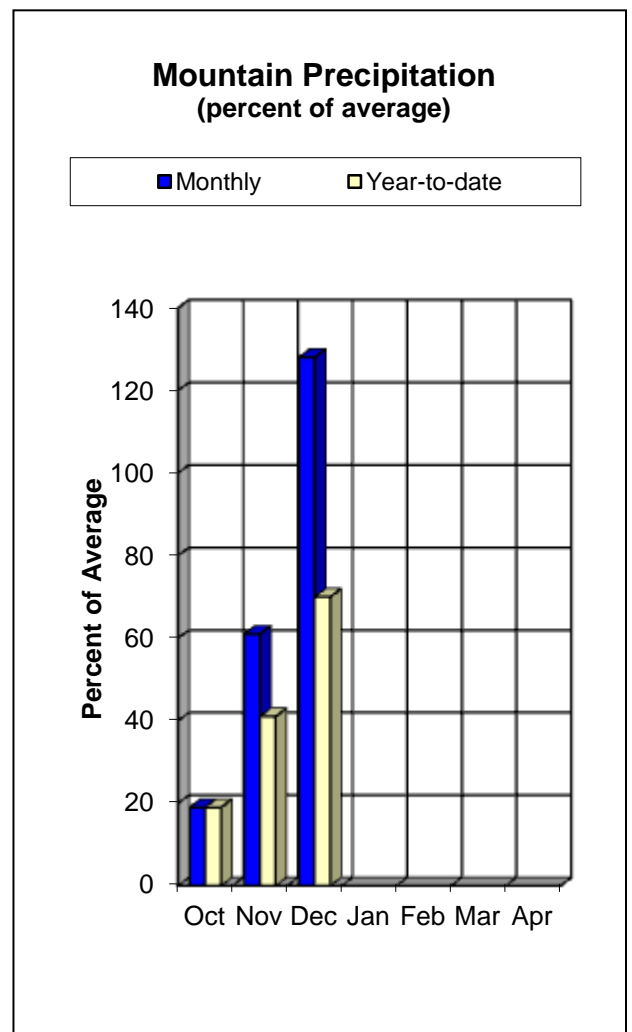
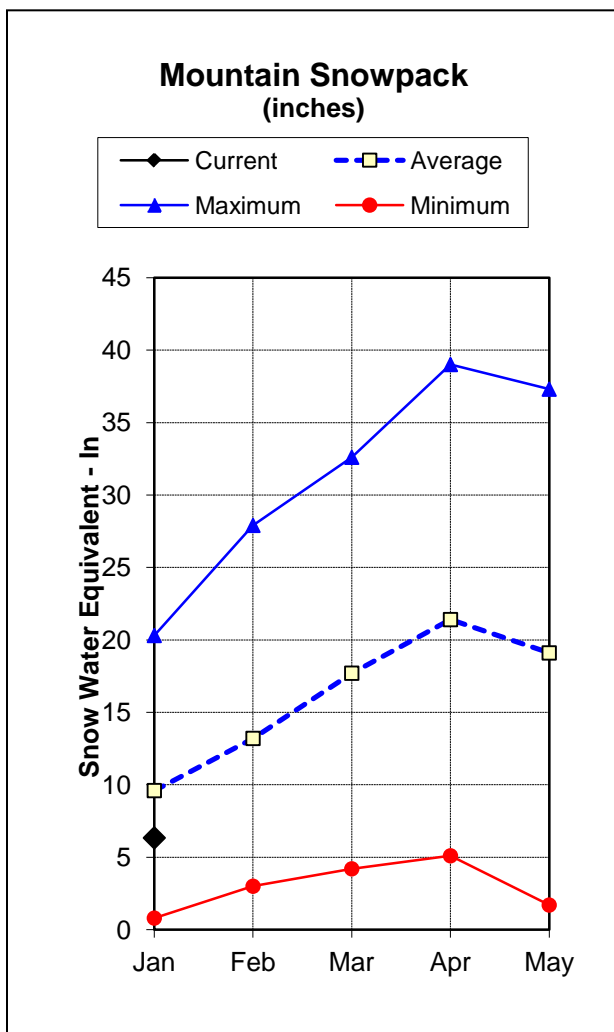
The average and median are computed for the 1981-2010 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
- (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.
- (3) - Median value used in place of average.

San Juan River Basin Water Supply Outlook Report as of January 1, 2013



Streamflow forecasts for the San Juan River Basin range from 62 percent of normal for the Navajo Reservoir Inflow, to 72 percent of normal for the Rio Blanco at Blanco Diversion and the Navajo River at the Oso Diversion. October started the water year out dry, with 19 percent of normal precipitation received. November precipitation was only 61 percent of normal. Like other northern basins in New Mexico, December precipitation was slightly above average in the basin, with 128 percent of normal received. Year-to-date precipitation reflects the dry start to the water year, recording only 70 percent of normal as of January 1. Snowpack in the basin is 66 percent of median, even lower than last year's 75 percent at this time. Navajo reservoir storage is 956,300 acre-feet or 71 percent of normal, down significantly from last year's 1,310,900 acre-feet at the end of December.



SAN JUAN RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - January 1, 2013

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	Future Conditions						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		<<----- Drier ----->>		----->>		----->>		
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	Chance Of Exceeding * 50% (1000AF) (% AVG.)		30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
Rio Blanco at Blanco Diversion (2)	APR-JUL	22	32	39	72	47	60	54
Navajo R at Oso Diversion (2)	APR-JUL	26	38	47	72	57	74	65
Navajo Reservoir Inflow (2)	APR-JUL	245	360	455	62	560	735	735
Animas R at Durango	APR-JUL	153	220	275	66	335	435	415
La Plata R at Hesperus	APR-JUL	6.2	10.7	14.5	63	18.9	26	23

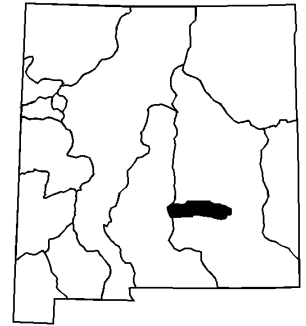
SAN JUAN RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of December					SAN JUAN RIVER BASIN Watershed Snowpack Analysis - January 1, 2013			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
NAVAJO	1696.0	956.3	1310.9	1341.0	SAN JUAN RIVER BASIN	11	80	66

* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1981-2010 base period.

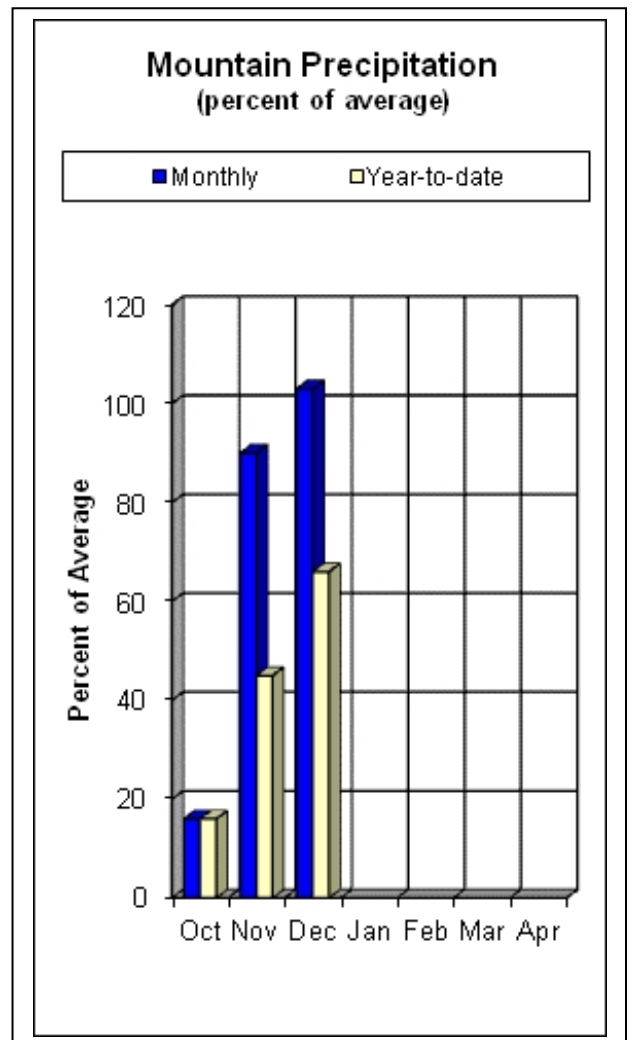
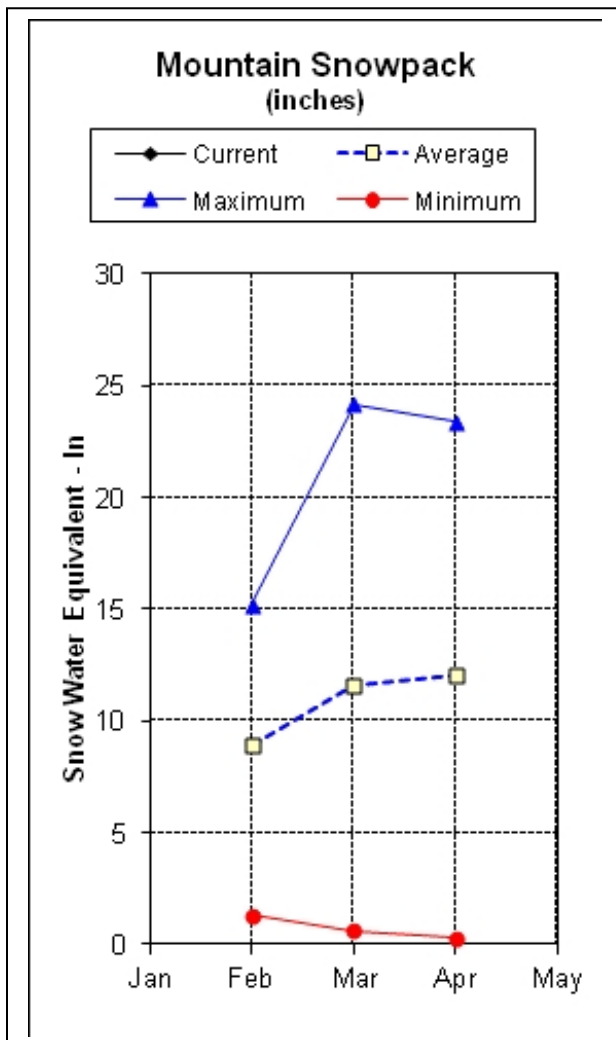
- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
- (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.
- (3) - Median value used in place of average.

Rio Hondo Basin Water Supply Outlook Report as of January 1, 2013



The streamflow forecast for the March to June period for the Rio Hondo Basin is 3,300 acre-feet or 49 percent of normal for the Rio Ruidoso at Hollywood. Similar to the rest of New Mexico, October precipitation in the Rio Hondo Basin was very low, with only 16 percent of normal received. November precipitation picked up somewhat, with 90 percent of normal recorded for the month. December precipitation continued near average, with 103 percent of normal received. Year-to-date precipitation is 66 percent of normal, reflecting the dry start to the water year. The snowpack in the Rio Hondo Basin is 206 percent of median, with 6.6 inches of SWE present on January 1.

It should be noted that the switch to using median snowpack values this year has had a significant influence on the “average” calculations for the Rio Hondo Basin. Using the old system of computing averages based on the 1971-2000 period, 6.7 inches of SWE was considered normal for January 1. Using the new median calculations based on the 1981-2010 period, 3.2 inches of SWE is now normal. For this reason, comparisons of “percent of average” from year to year will be limited in this basin to minimize confusion.



RIO HONDO BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - January 1, 2013

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	Future Conditions						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		<<----- Drier ----->>		----->>		----->>		
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	Chance Of Exceeding * 50% (1000AF) (% AVG.)		30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
Rio Ruidoso at Hollywood	MAR-JUN	0.17	1.56	3.30	49	5.70	10.40	6.70

RIO HONDO BASIN Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of December				RIO HONDO BASIN Watershed Snowpack Analysis - January 1, 2013				
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
					RIO HONDO BASIN	1	66	206

* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1981-2010 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
- (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.
- (3) - Median value used in place of average.

B A S I N S U M M A R Y O F
S N O W C O U R S E D A T A

JANUARY 2013

SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 81-10

NEW MEXICO						
BATEMAN SNOTEL	9800	1/01/13	22	3.6	4.1	4.3
BOON	8140	12/26/12	8	1.6	2.2	1.4
BOWL CANYON	8980	12/27/12	17	3.0	3.4	3.5
CHAMITA SNOTEL	8500	1/01/13	16	2.2	4.0	4.0
DAN VALLEY	7640	12/26/12	7	1.2	1.4	1.2
ELK CABIN SNOTEL	8250	1/01/13	11	1.6	2.9	1.8
EMORY PASS #2	7800	1/02/13	4	.5	2.7	.6
FRISCO DIVIDE SNOTEL	8000	1/01/13	10	2.0	2.7	1.5
GALLEGOS PEAK SNOTEL	9500	1/01/13	25	4.1	4.6	4.1
HIDDEN VALLEY	8480	12/26/12	13	2.7	2.2	--
HOPEWELL SNOTEL	10000	1/01/13	30	5.8	6.3	7.1
HUMMINGBIRD	10550	1/06/13	20	4.8	11.0	4.4
LOOKOUT MTN SNOTEL	8150	1/01/13	2	.8	3.5	1.4
MCGAFFEY	8120	12/26/12	6	1.4	1.2	1.0
MCKNIGHT CABIN SNTL	9240	1/01/13	11	1.8	5.8	1.6
MISSIONARY SPRING	7840	12/29/12	12	2.2	1.4	1.1
NORTH COSTILLA SNTL	10600	1/01/13	8	1.8	1.7	2.6
QUEMAZON SNOTEL	9300	1/01/13	13	2.0	4.5	4.6
RED R PASS #2 SNOTEL	9800	1/01/13	16	2.3	3.9	3.6
RICE PARK SNOTEL	8500	1/01/13	---	2.7	3.3	2.5
SANTA FE SNOTEL	11500	1/01/13	28	4.5	6.7	6.5
SEÑORITA DVD #2 SNTL	8600	1/01/13	20	2.7	4.5	2.8
SIERRA BLANCA SNTL	10280	1/01/13	33	6.6	10.0	3.2
SIGNAL PEAK SNOTEL	8360	1/01/13	12	2.0	6.3	1.9
SILVER CREEK SNOTEL	9070	1/01/13	15	3.1	5.5	3.5
STATE LINE	8000	12/29/12	9	1.6	1.7	.6
TAOS POWDERHORN	11250	12/29/12	29	4.8	11.6	12.0
TOLBY SNOTEL	10180	1/01/13	16	2.9	5.1	3.8
VACAS LOCAS SNOTEL	9310	1/01/13	28	3.7	6.5	4.8
WESNER SPGS SNOTEL	11120	1/01/13	17	3.2	7.7	6.8
WHISKEY CREEK	9050	12/26/12	17	3.7	--	3.5
WHITEWATER	10750	1/06/13	43	10.3	12.8	9.5

(d) denotes discontinued site.

Issued by

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New Mexico
Basin Outlook Report
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