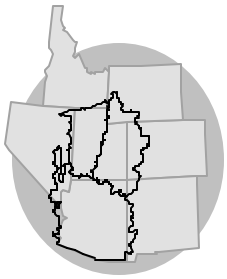
WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK
for the
EASTERN GREAT BASIN

COLORADO BASIN
RIVER FORECAST CENTER

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE, SALT LAKE CITY, UT

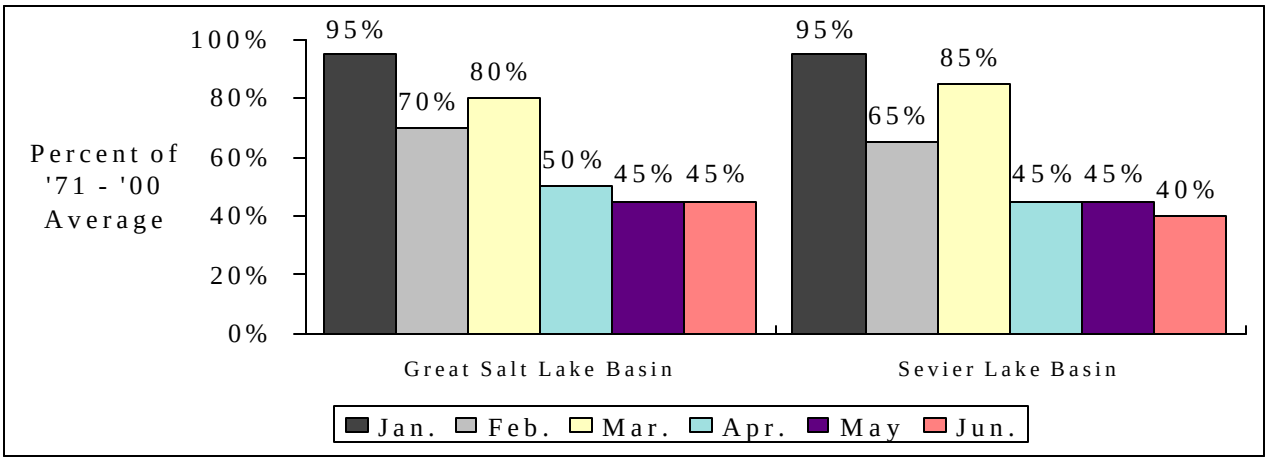


JUNE 1, 2004

SUMMARY

Nearly all of the snowpack has been depleted over the Eastern Great Basin as of June 1. May precipitation was below average in the North and much below average in the South. As a result, the April-July runoff forecasts decreased slightly in most basins. Forecasts range mostly from 25 to 60 percent of the 1971-2000 average in the Great Salt Lake Basin and 25 to 50 percent in the Sevier Lake Basin.

APRIL - JULY VOLUME FORECASTS



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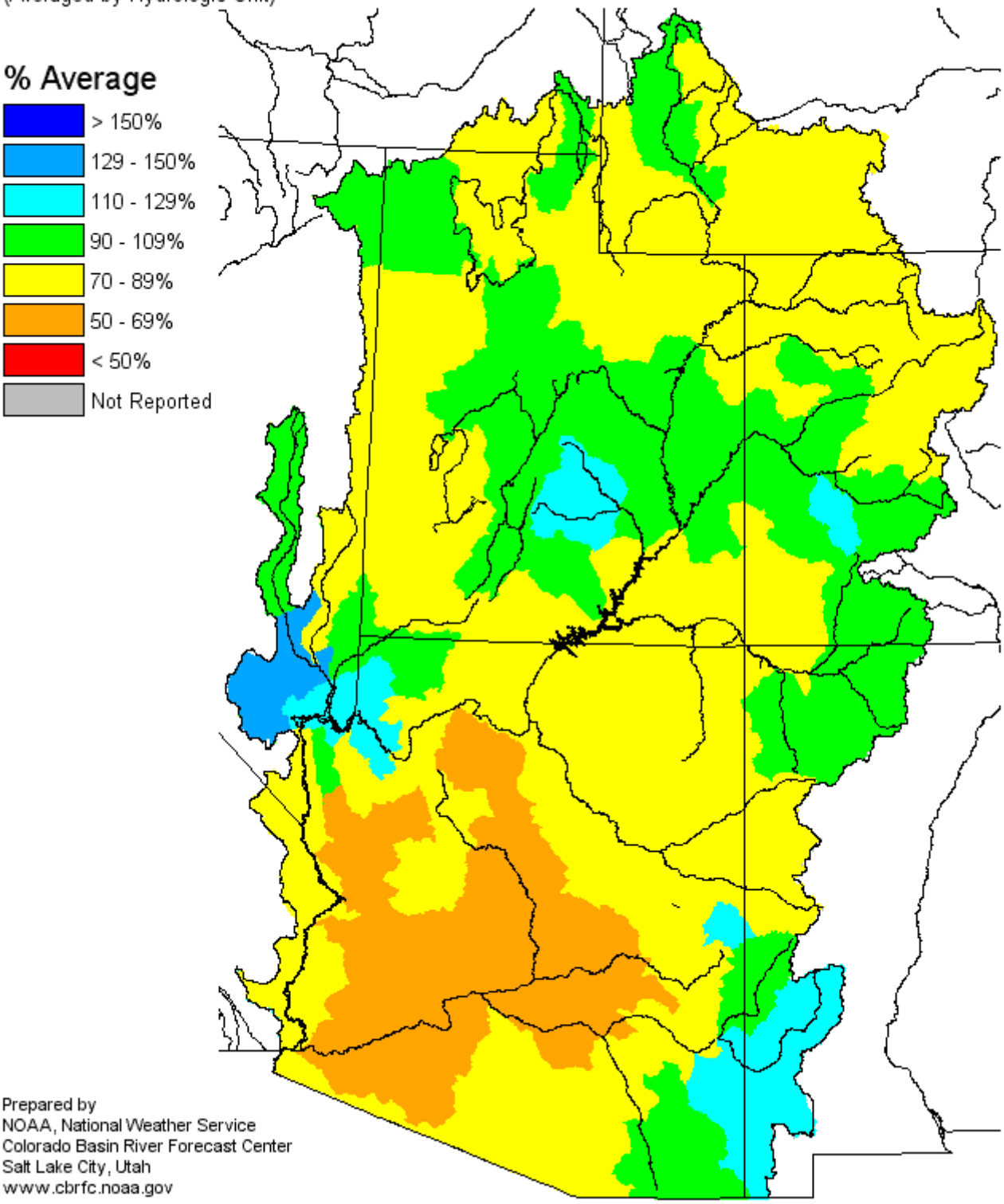
Seasonal Precipitation, October 2003 - May 2004

(Averaged by Hydrologic Unit)



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