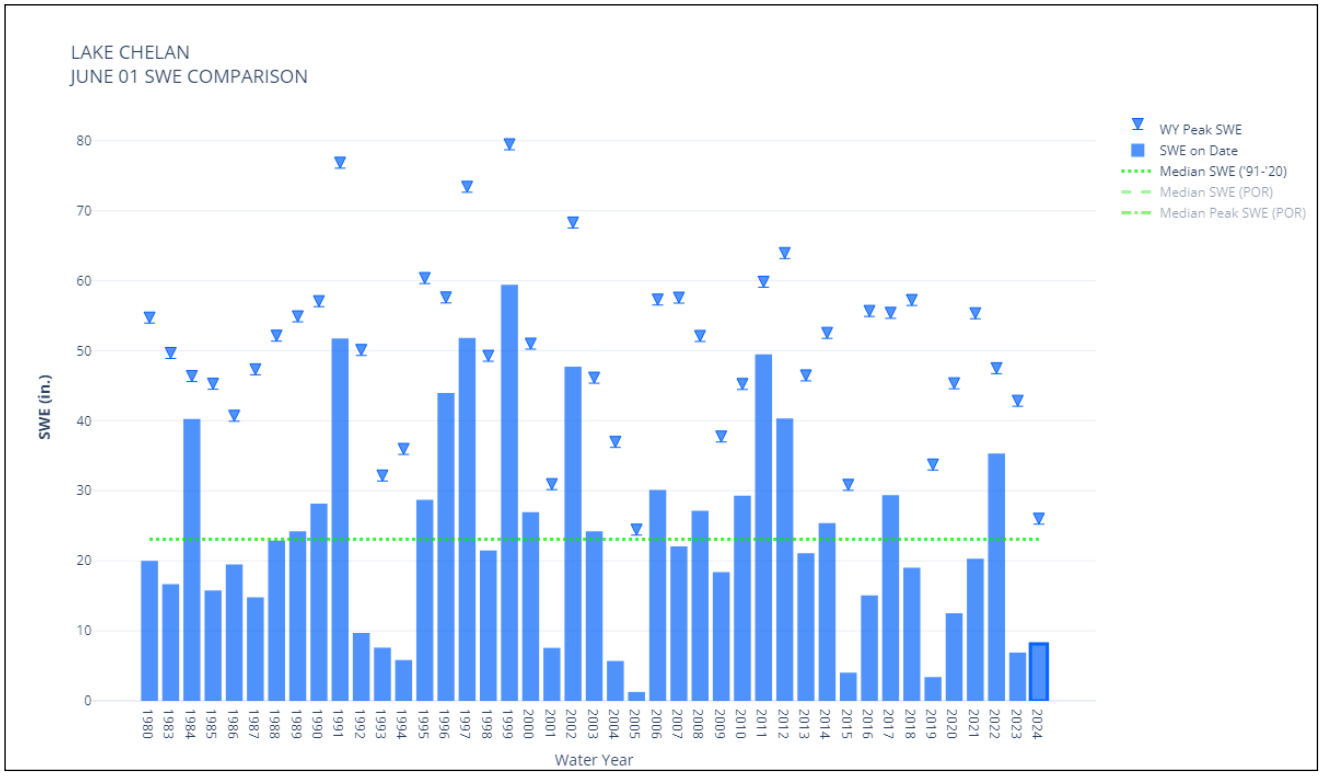
USDA United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Washington Water Supply Outlook Report

June 1, 2024



For water-year 2024, Lake Chelan Basin recorded its second lowest peak snowpack since 1980.

Source: USDA-NRCS National Water and Climate Center

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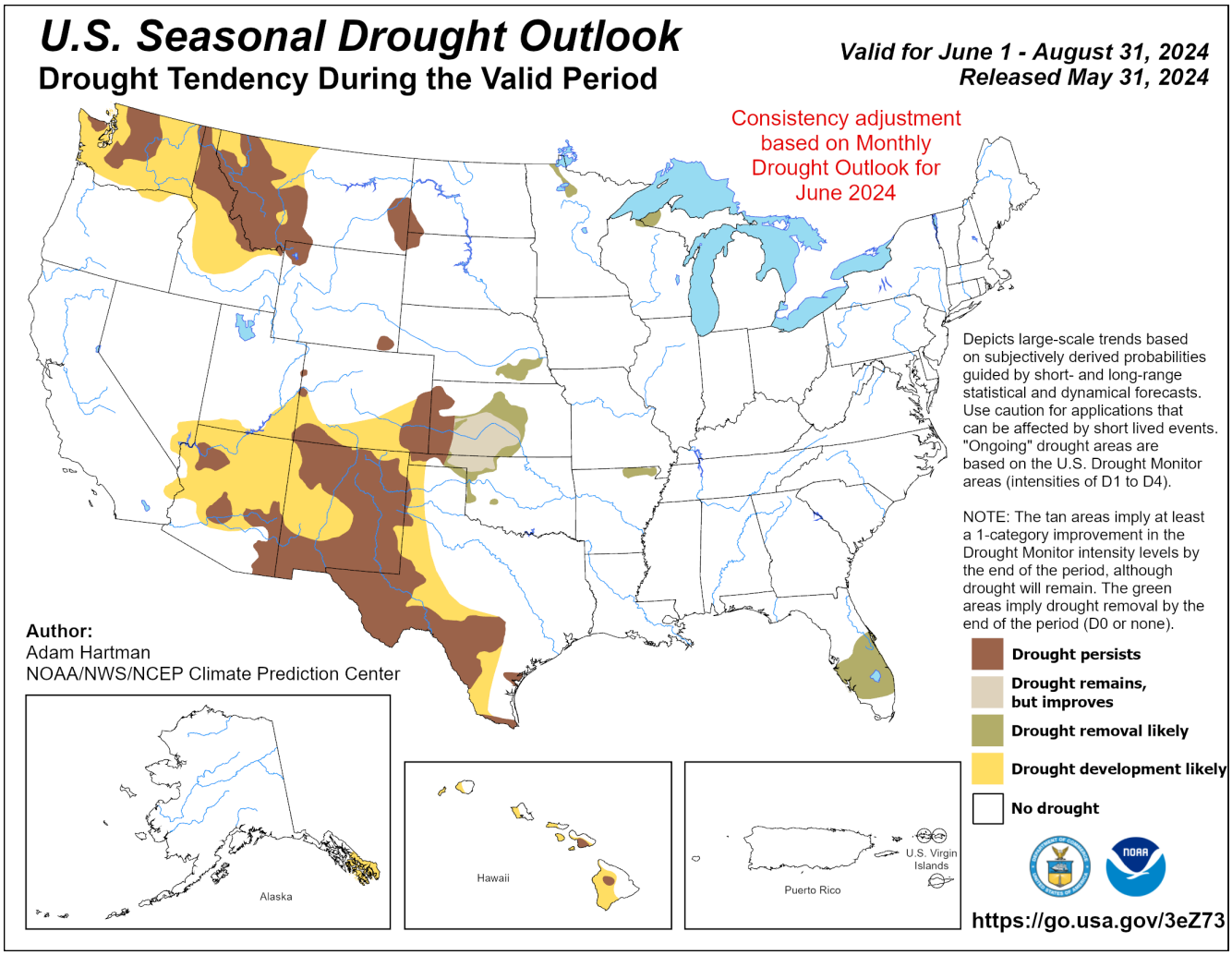
Conditions Overview

Summary

Snowpack this season across much of Washington was severely lacking, in addition to widespread water year -to-date (WYTD) precipitation deficits. In parts of the Cascades, snowpack melted out 13-46 days early. The Lewis wa-tershed in the Mt. St. Helens and Mt. Adams area was the only part of the state to receive both near to above normal WYTD precipitation and near normal snowpack, which is reflected in a near-normal water supply outlook for the Lewis River at Ariel. Elsewhere, the streamflow outlook for the summer is below to well-below normal.

Drought across Washington is expected to expand and deteriorate throughout the summer due to poor hydrologic conditions and a poor streamflow outlook for much of the state. As of April 16, 2024, Washington State Department of Ecology issued an emergency statewide drought declaration. Most basins should expect and prepare for water supply shortages through late spring and summer.

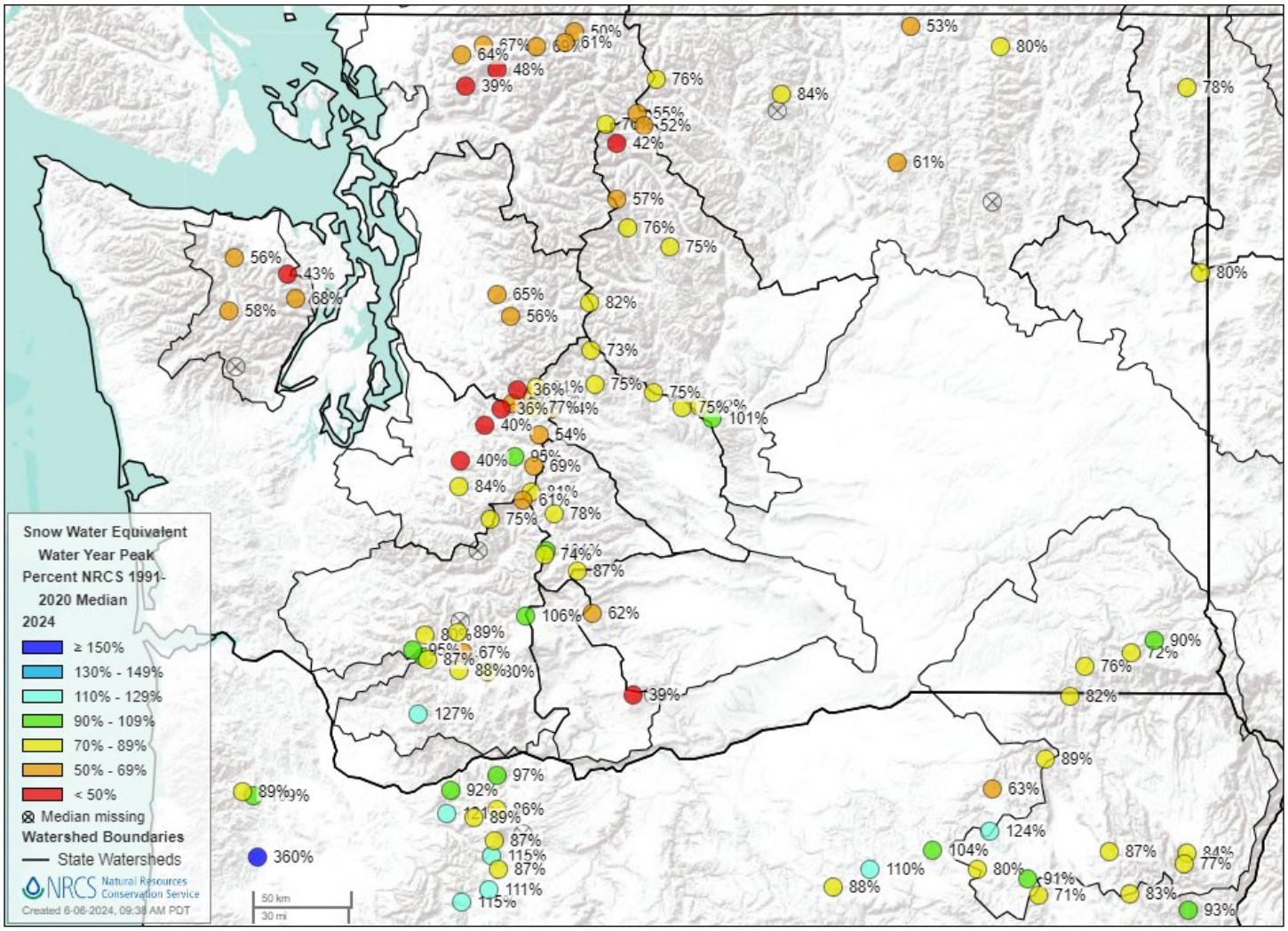
**Note that basin conditions outlined in this report include data from stations within the SNOTEL and SNOLITE network, and/or cooperator weather stations.*



Source: NOAA National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center

Snowpack

As of June 1, several SNOTEL stations, primarily north of Mt. Rainier, have experienced early melt-out across the Cascades. In some cases, snowpack melted out 13-46 days earlier than normal. Snowpack is projected to melt out a few days later than normal at SNOTEL stations with remaining snowpack near Mt. St. Helens. Water year peak snowpack for most stations north of Mt. St. Helens was below normal, similarly with all stations on the Olympic Peninsula and most stations in eastern Washington. Rainy Pass and Park Creek Ridge SNOTEL stations in the North Cascades recorded their second lowest peak snowpack on record.

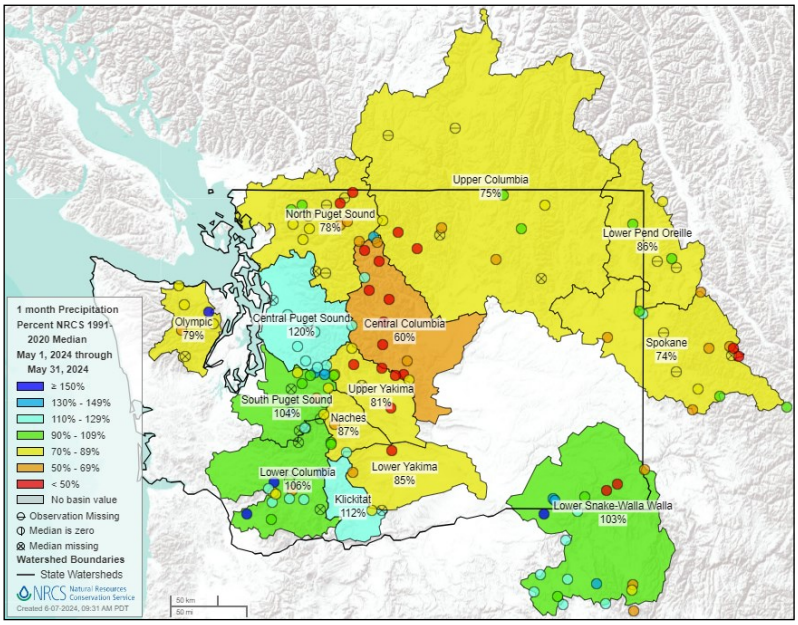


Peak snow water equivalent (% of median) for water year 2024

Precipitation

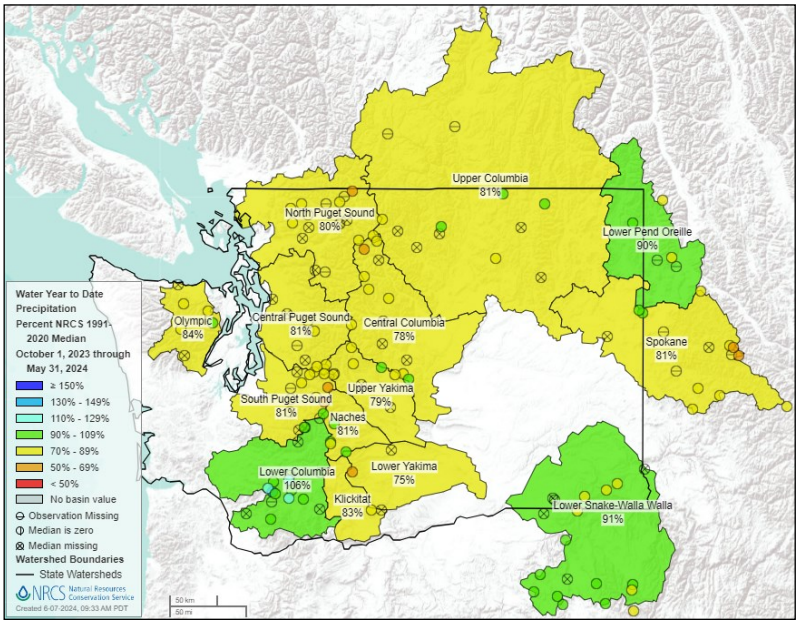
A couple of storms in May did provide some above-normal precipitation across much of the Cascades and parts of eastern Washington. However, these 2 storms were not enough to alleviate drought concerns heading into summer. In addition, water year-to-date (WYTD) precipitation remained largely unchanged and is below normal for most SNOTEL stations. Several stations in the central and northern Cas-cades, on the Olympic Peninsula, and in the northern Blue Mountains are experiencing a deficit in WYTD precipitation.

A few stations are at or near record lows for WYTD precipitation. Lost Horse SNOTEL in the Yakima Basin and Park Creek Ridge SNOTEL near the headwaters of Lake Chelan have both recorded their lowest WYTD on rec-ord. MF Nooksack and Hozomeen Camp SNOTEL stations in the North Cascades are recording their second lowest WYTD precipitation on record.



Monthly

Basin monthly precipitation (% of median) as of June 1



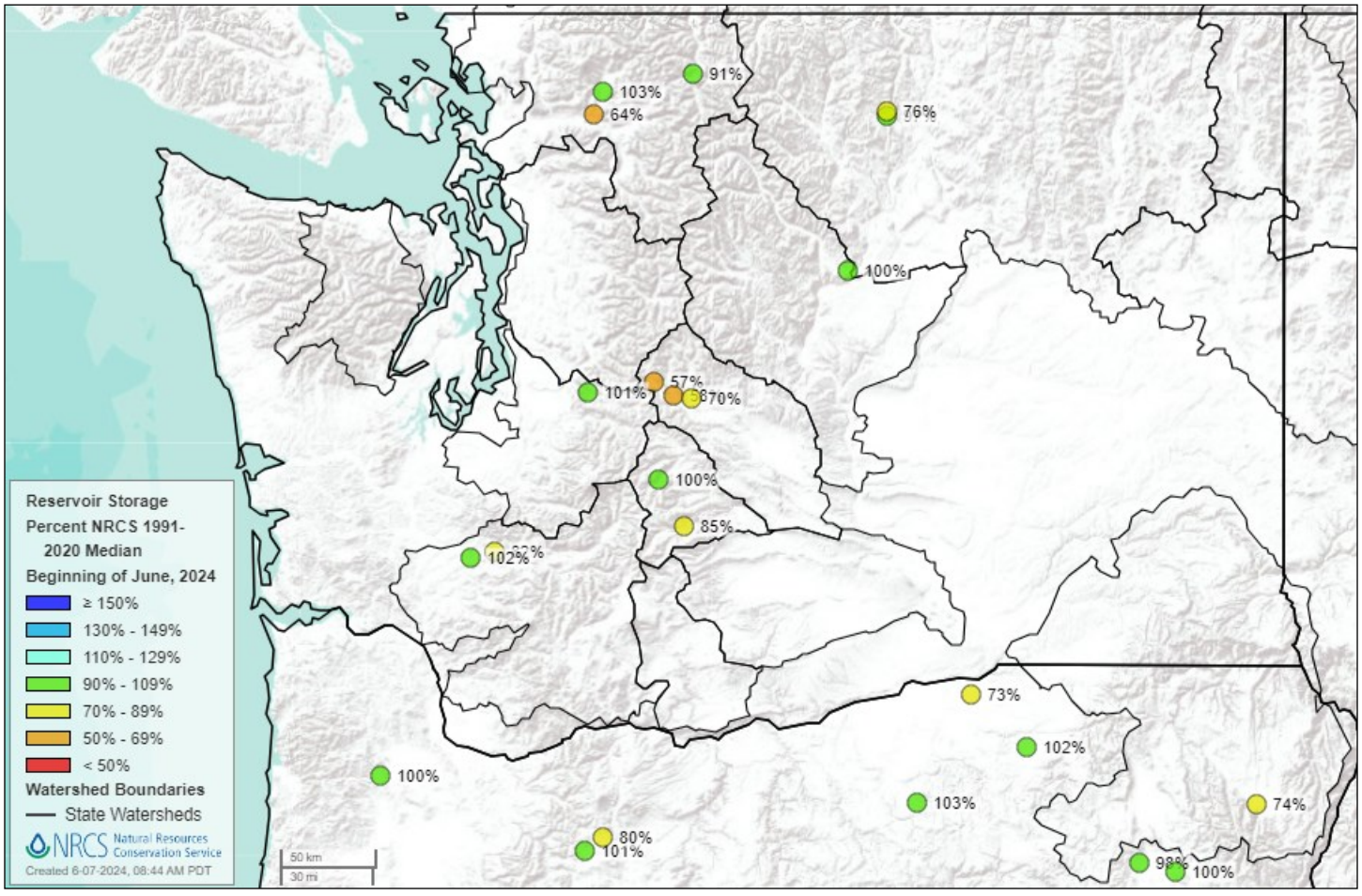
Water Year

Basin water-year precipitation (% of median) as of June 1

Reservoirs

Volumetric storage at reservoirs in Washington varies. In the Upper Yakima Basin, reservoir storage ranges from 57-70% of normal, marking some of the lowest reservoir stores in the state when compared to normal. Storage in the Cowlitz, Naches, and Conconully Lake basins ranges from slightly below to near normal. Elsewhere in the Green, Baker, Lake Chelan, and Skagit basins, reservoirs are storing volumes that are mostly near normal, except Lake Shannon in the Baker Basin with storage at 54% of normal.

Reservoir storage values aren't necessarily reflective of water supply conditions. Reservoir operators control for a variety of factors when choosing to store or release water, including flooding, irrigation, fisheries, and other water needs. These management needs may impact storage values for a reservoir.



Reservoir storage (% of median) as of June 1

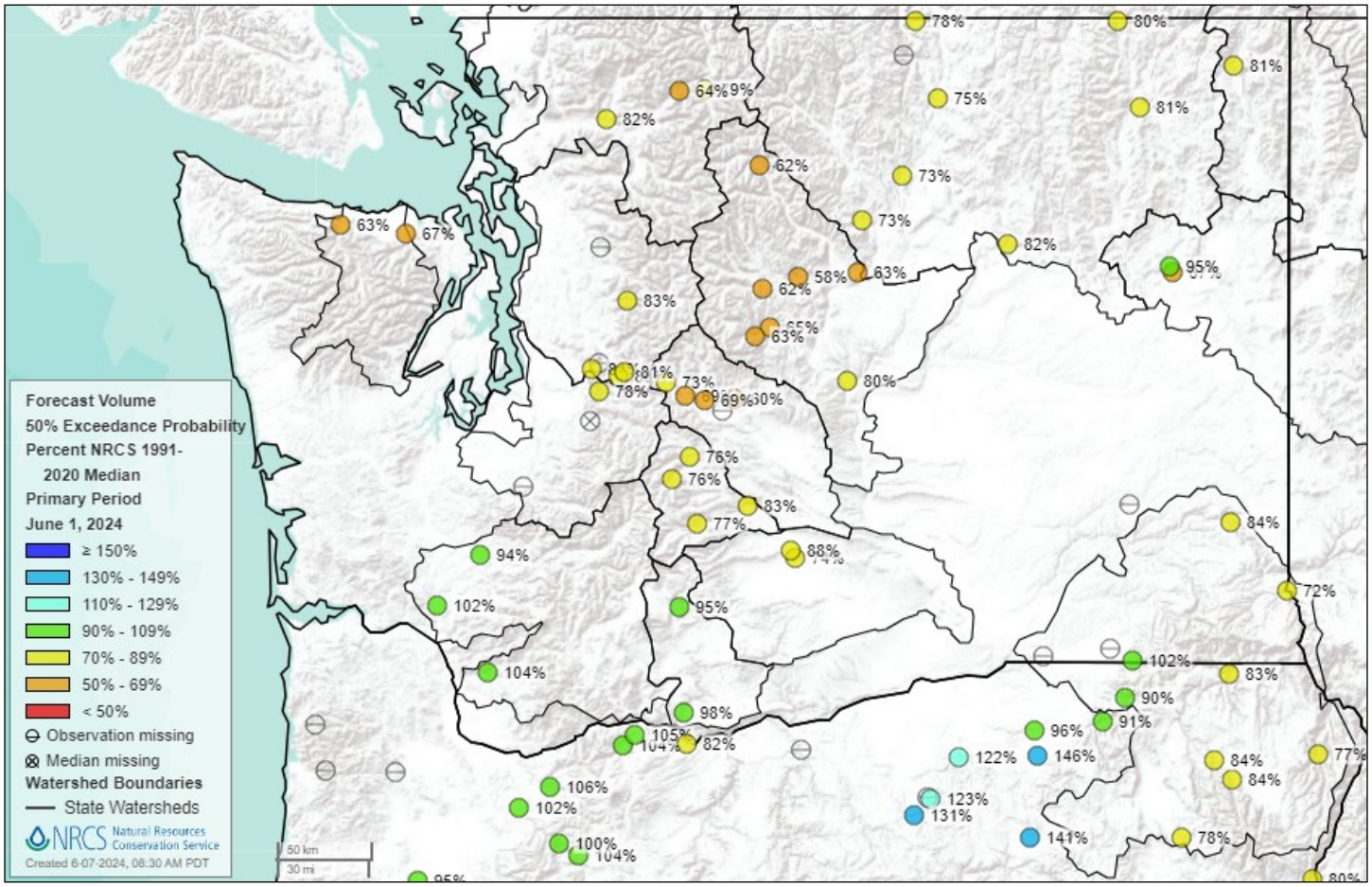
Streamflow and Forecasts

Volumetric streamflow across Washington is below normal, despite areas that experienced above-normal precipitation in May. Poor snowpack conditions and deficits in WYTD precipitation across the state has led to overall poor runoff for most basins.

Water supply forecasts (WSF) for June 1 are predicting mostly below normal streamflow conditions across Washington, with the exception of near-normal summer flows predicted for points in the Lower Columbia and Klickitat basins. Elsewhere, the summer outlook remains largely unchanged or has slightly degraded.

Forecast product-users should bear any model uncertainty, quantitatively captured by exceedance intervals, in mind when interpreting WSFs for decision making.

View the map for May observed streamflow here.

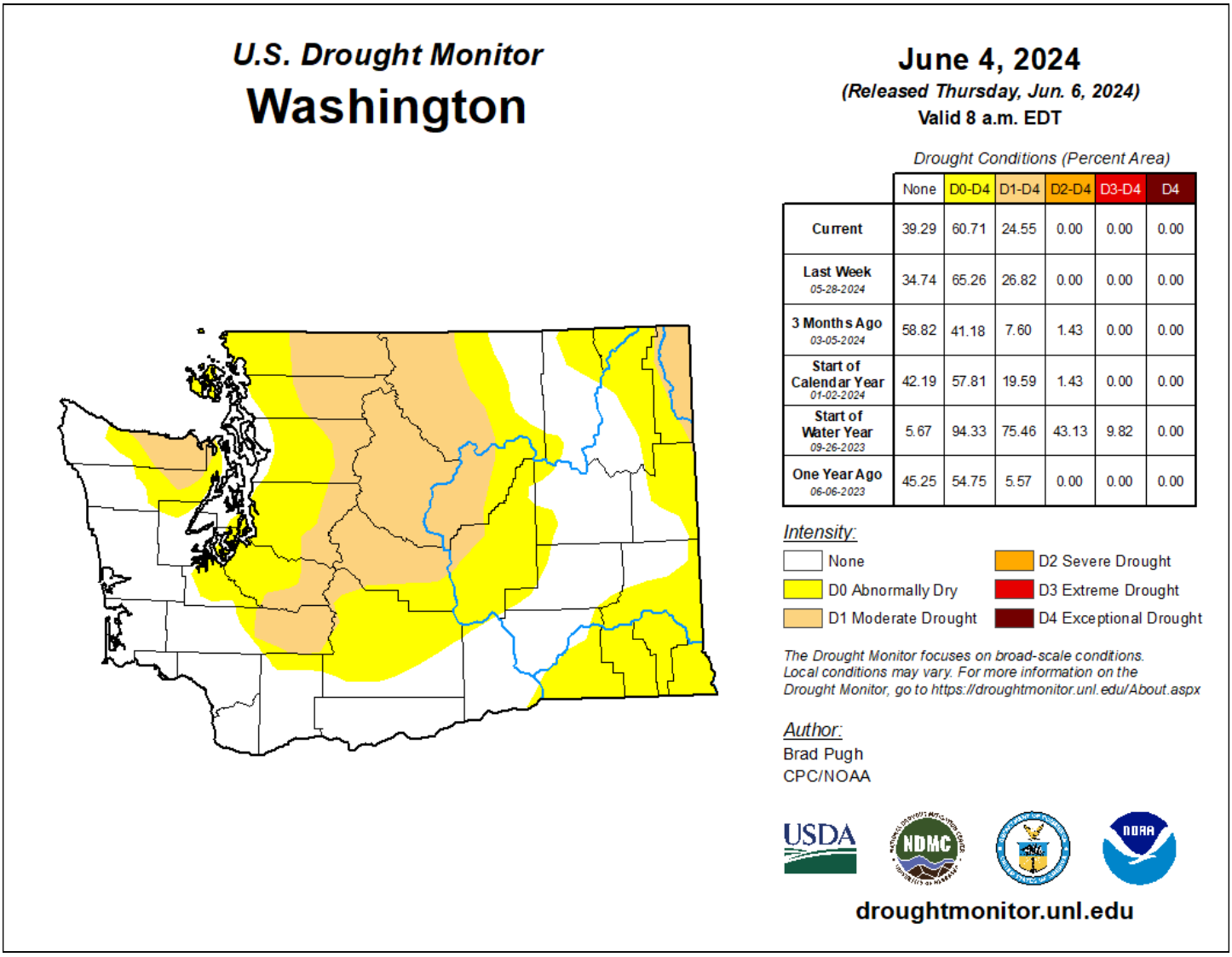


Streamflow forecasts (% of normal) for the primary period as of June 1

Drought

As of June 4, nearly 24% of Washington is in moderate drought (D1), an increase from 15% on April 30. Moderate drought has mostly expanded across the central and northern portions of the Washington Cascades. According to NOAA's Seasonal Drought Outlook, drought is forecasted to develop across much of the state throughout the summer.

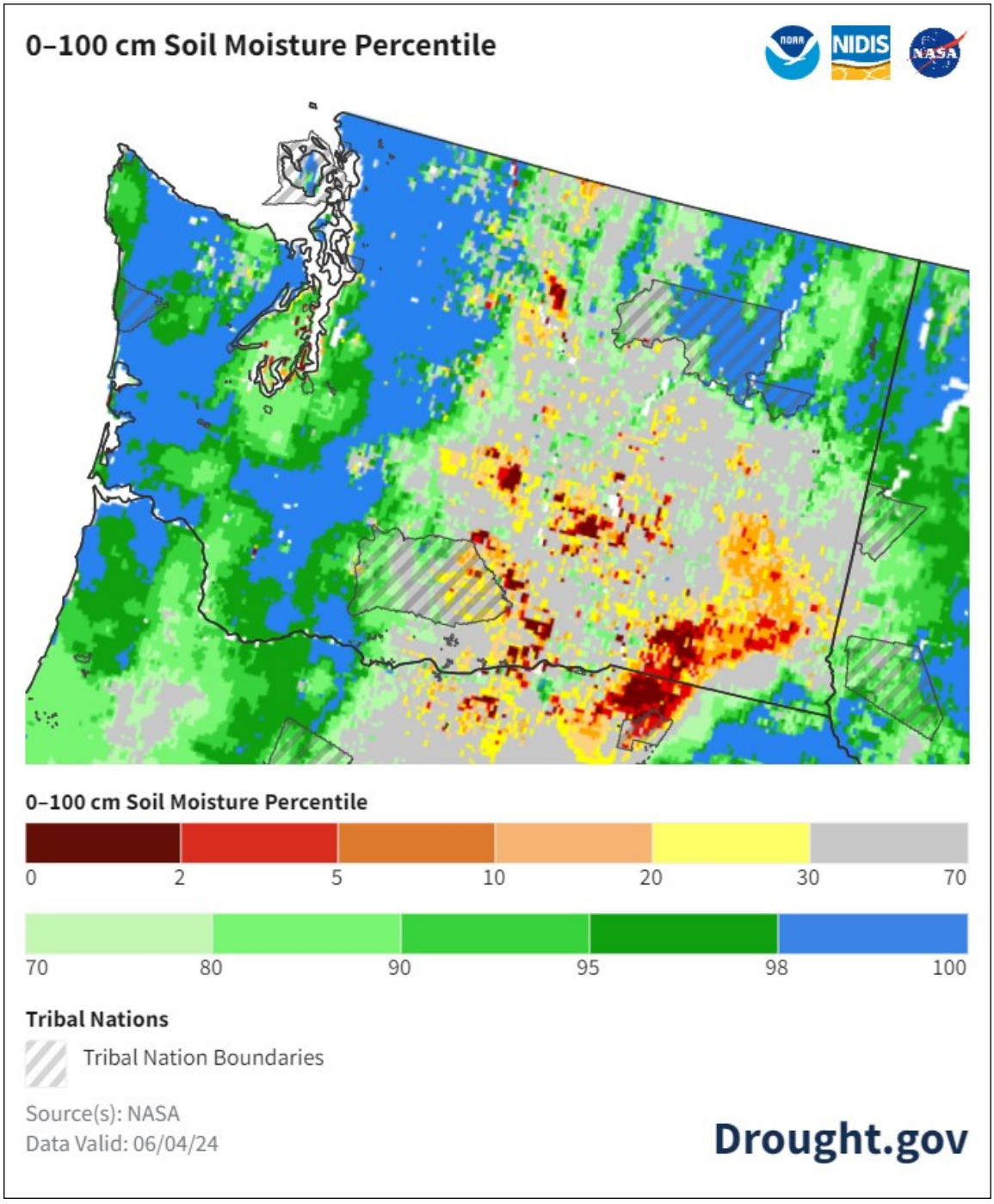
At the beginning of the water year, 75% of the state was in some drought category (D1-D4), with 10% of the state in severe to extreme drought.



Soils

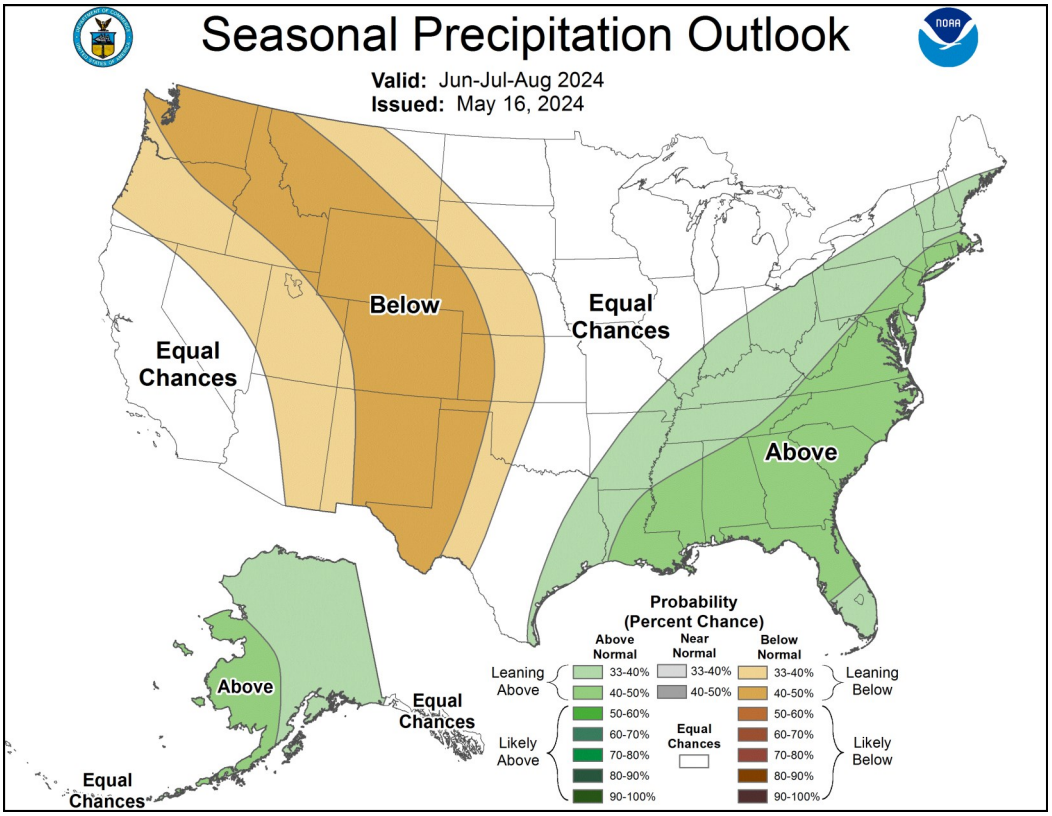
The NASA SPoRT-LiS product for soil moisture (0-100 cm depth) indicates generally wetter soil conditions in western Washington and portions of northeastern Washington, mostly a result of the recent atmospheric river event. Some drier soil-moisture conditions are spread across parts of the eastern Cascades, notably in the Yakima Basin and parts of the Walla Walla and Lower Snake basins.

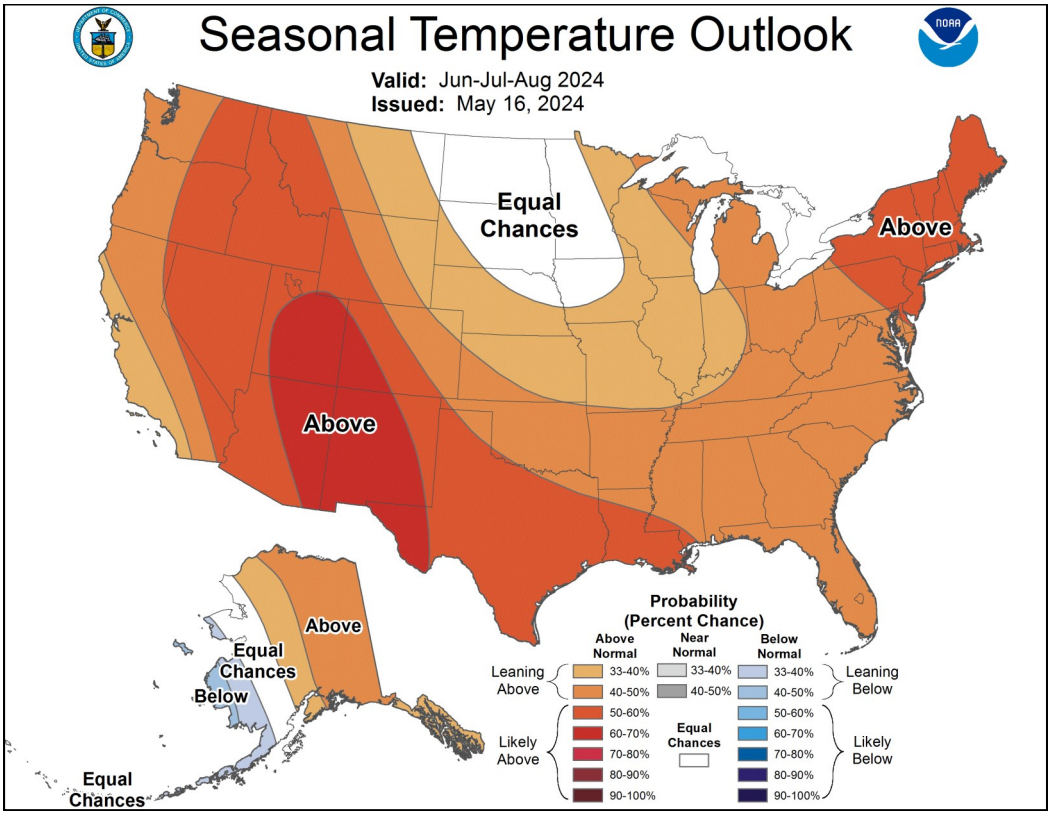
Soil moisture conditions are useful in assessing current drought and future drought potential. In addition, soil moisture is generally a good indicator in some regions of the potential efficiency of snowmelt runoff into streamflow in the spring. Drier soils tend to absorb more water from snowmelt than wetter soils, thus less melt is translated into streamflow (i.e. low efficiency).



3-Month Outlook

The Climate Prediction Center 3-month climatic outlook calls for a higher probability of above-normal temperatures and mostly below-normal precipitation across Washington.

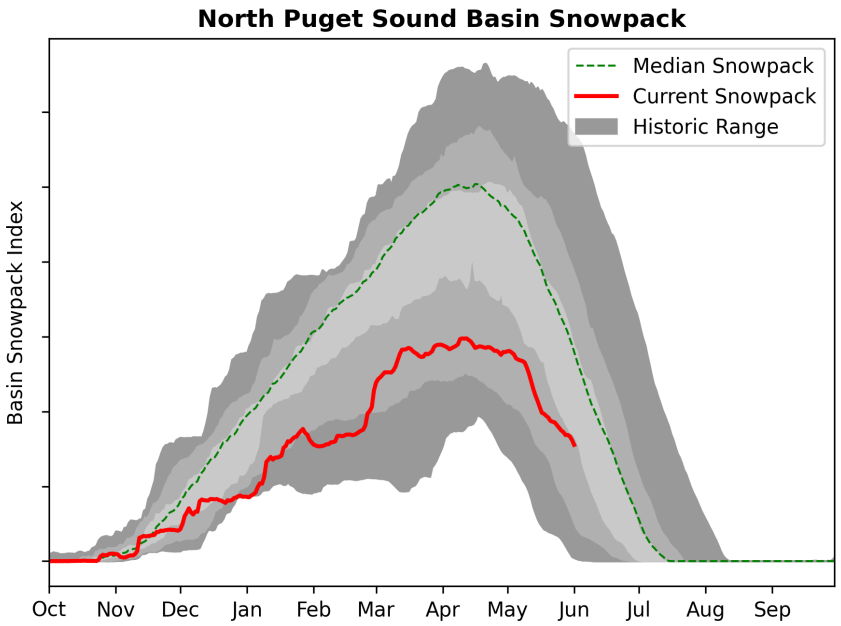




https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/

North Puget Sound Basin Summary

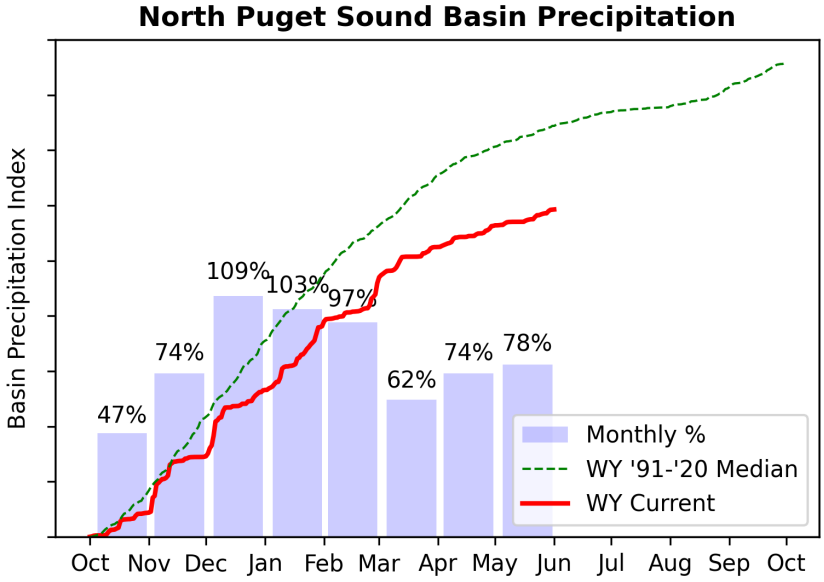
SNOWPACK



► *View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

As of June 1, the basin snowpack is 51% of median. This is lower than May 1 when the basin snowpack was 61% of median.

PRECIPITATION



► *View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

May precipitation is below normal at 78% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 80% of median.

RESERVOIR STORAGE

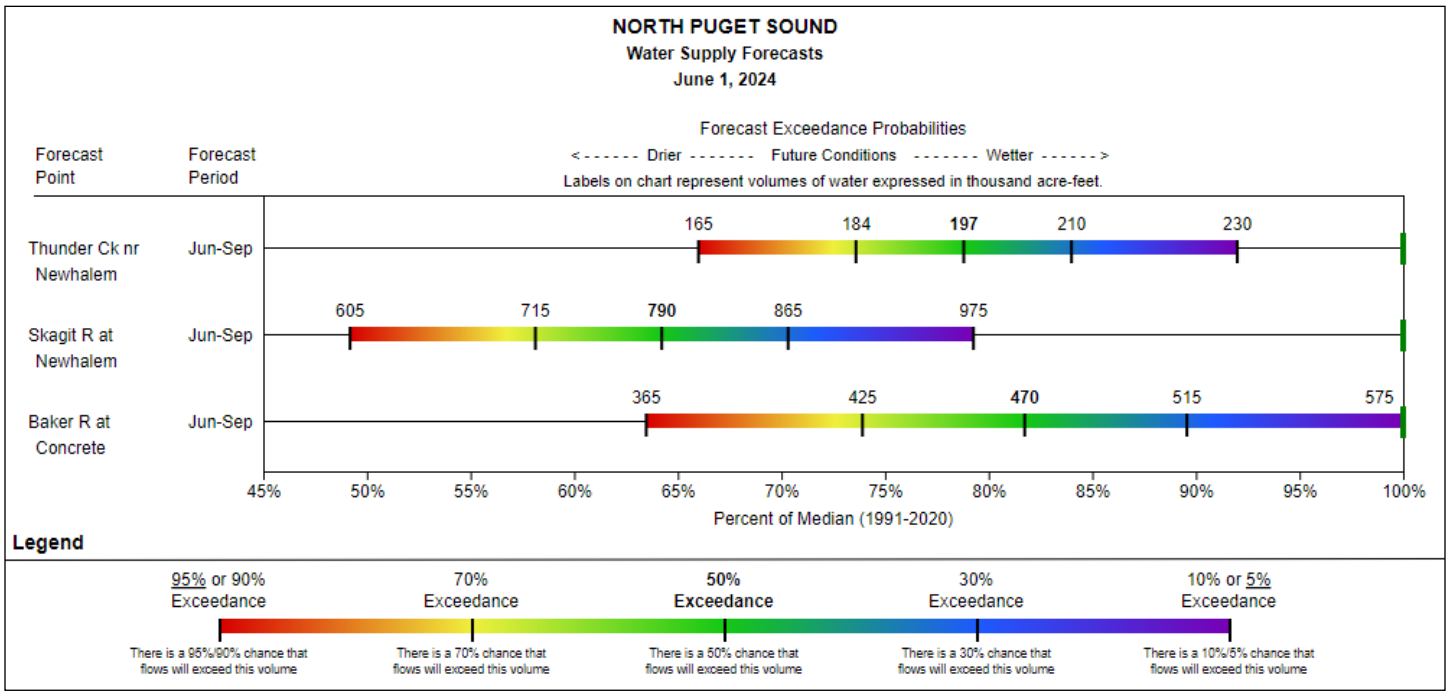
As of June 1, volumetric storage at Ross Reservoir is below normal at 91% of median. Storage at Upper Baker Reservoir slightly above normal at 103% of median, and storage at Lake Shannon is below normal at 64% of median.

North Puget Sound	Current (KAF)	Last Year (KAF)	Median (KAF)	Capacity (KAF)	Current % Capacity	Last Year % Capacity	Median % Capacity	Current % Median	Last Year % Median
Upper Baker	200.9	207.7	195.0	162.7	123%	128%	120%	103%	107%
Ross	1007.1	1097.3	1110.0	1434.7	70%	76%	77%	91%	99%
Lake Shannon	66.9	107.2	104.0	97.2	69%	110%	107%	64%	103%
Basin Index					**75%**	**83%**	**83%**	**90%**	**100%**
# of reservoirs					3	3	3	3	3

STREAMFLOW FORECAST

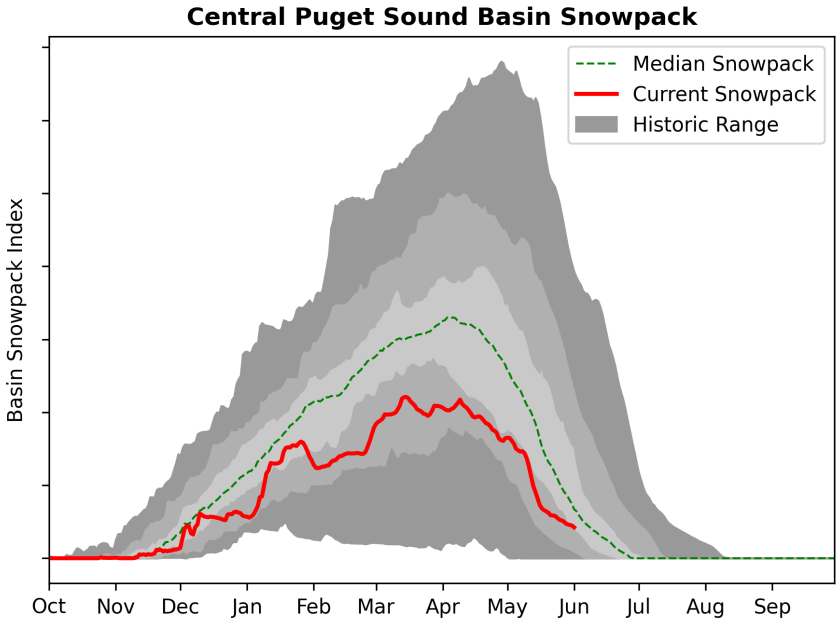
The June through September streamflow forecasts in the basin are below normal and range from 64% to 82% of median.

For data in tabular format and to view other forecasting periods, please view the basin data reports **here**.



Central Puget Sound Basin Summary

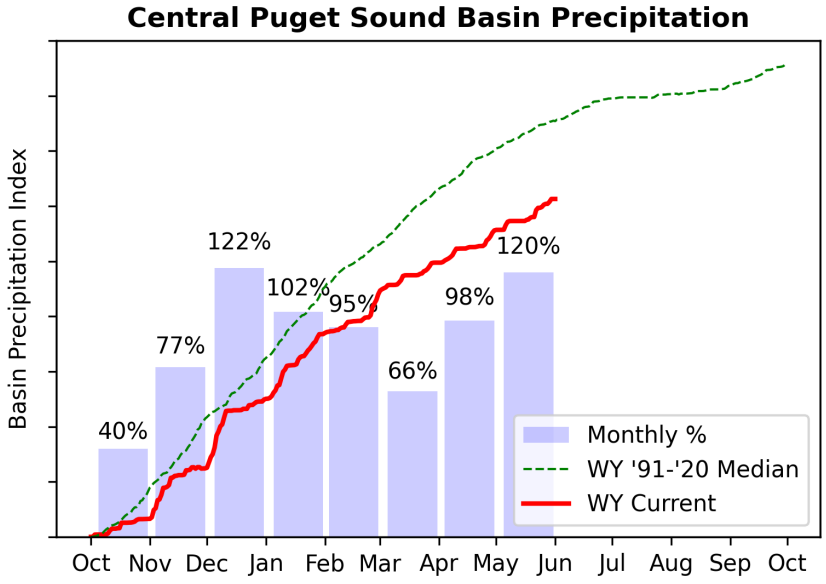
SNOWPACK



► *View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

As of June 1, the basin snowpack is 63% of median. This is slightly lower than May 1 when the basin snowpack was 64% of median.

PRECIPITATION



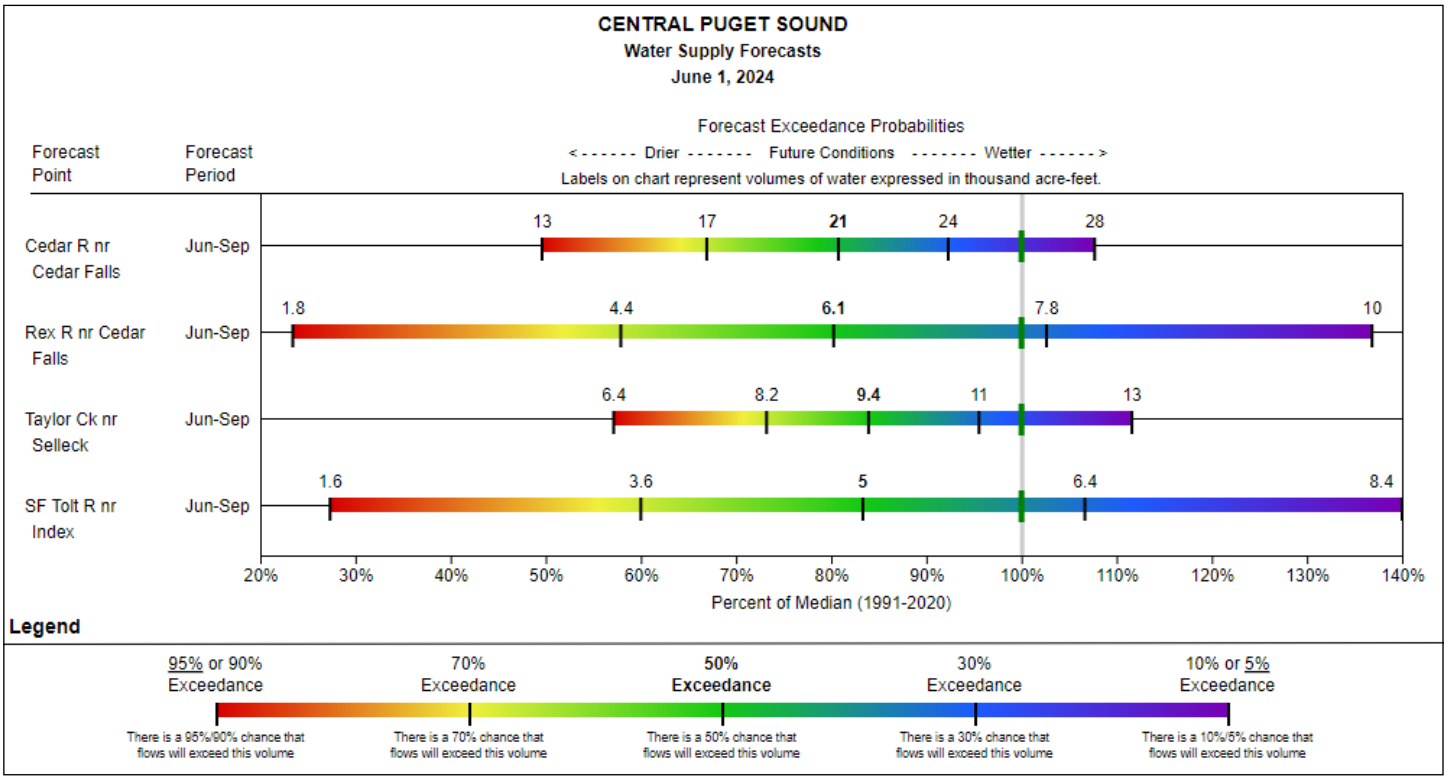
► *View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

May precipitation is above normal at 120% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 81% of median.

STREAMFLOW FORECAST

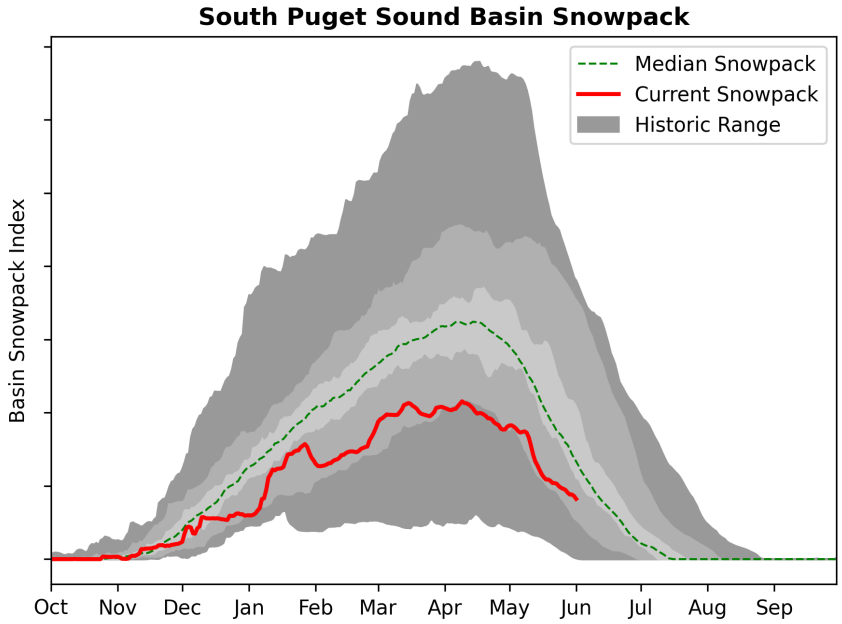
The June through September streamflow forecasts in the basin are below normal and range from 80% to 84% of median.

For data in tabular format and to view other forecasting periods, please view the basin data reports **here**.



South Puget Sound Basin Summary

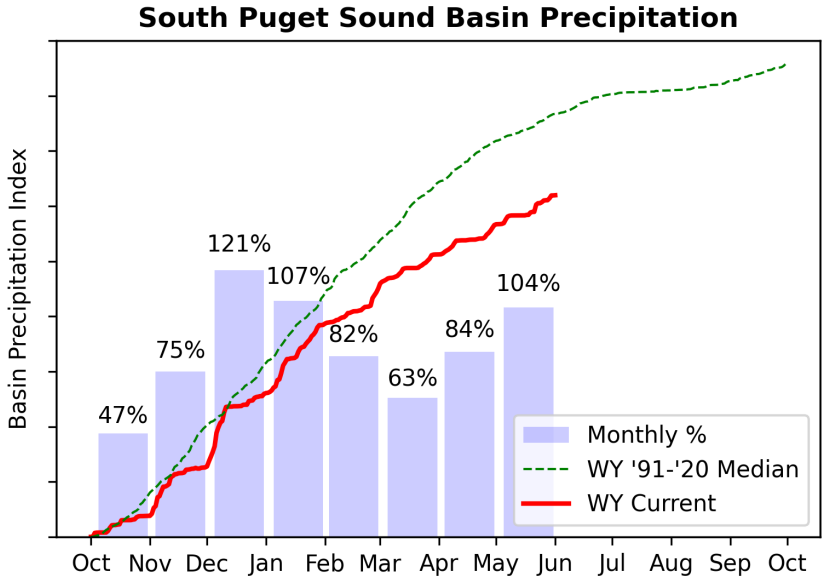
SNOWPACK



► *View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

As of June 1, the basin snowpack is 62% of median. This is slightly lower than May 1 when the basin snowpack was 63% of median.

PRECIPITATION



► *View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

May precipitation is slightly above normal at 104% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 81% of median.

RESERVOIR STORAGE

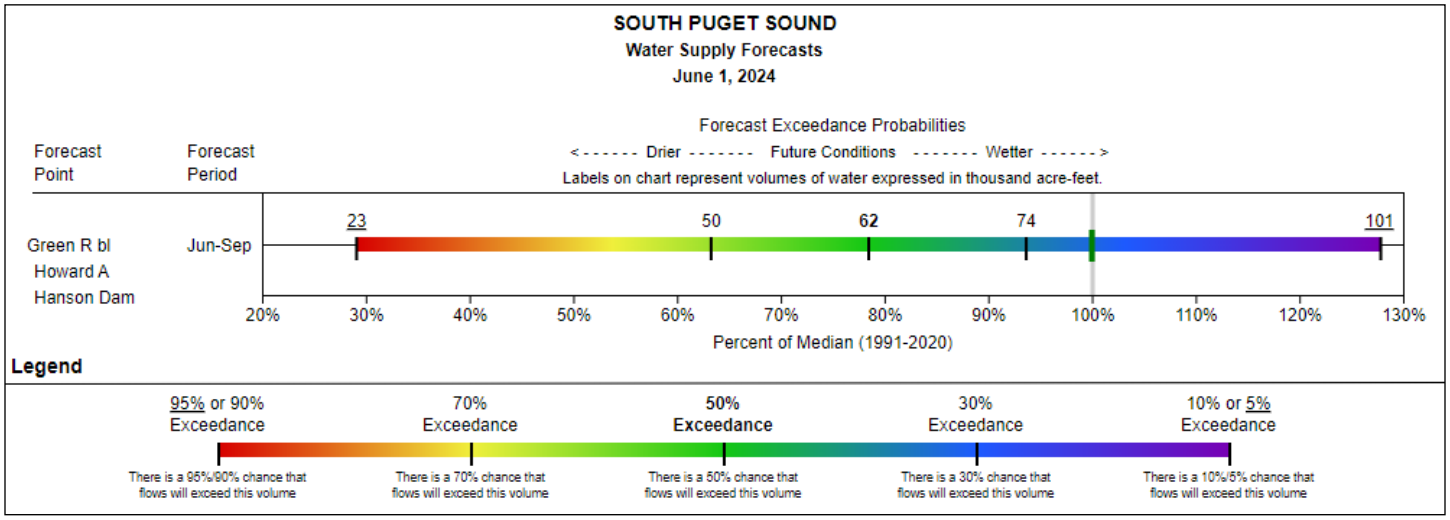
As of June 1, volumetric storage at Howard Hansen Reservoir is slightly above normal at 101% of median.

South Puget Sound	Current (KAF)	Last Year (KAF)	Median (KAF)	Capacity (KAF)	Current % Capacity	Last Year % Capacity	Median % Capacity	Current % Median	Last Year % Median
Howard Hansen	46.3	48.0	46.0	106.0	44%	45%	43%	101%	104%
Basin Index					**44%**	**45%**	**43%**	**101%**	**104%**
# of reservoirs					1	1	1	1	1

STREAMFLOW FORECAST

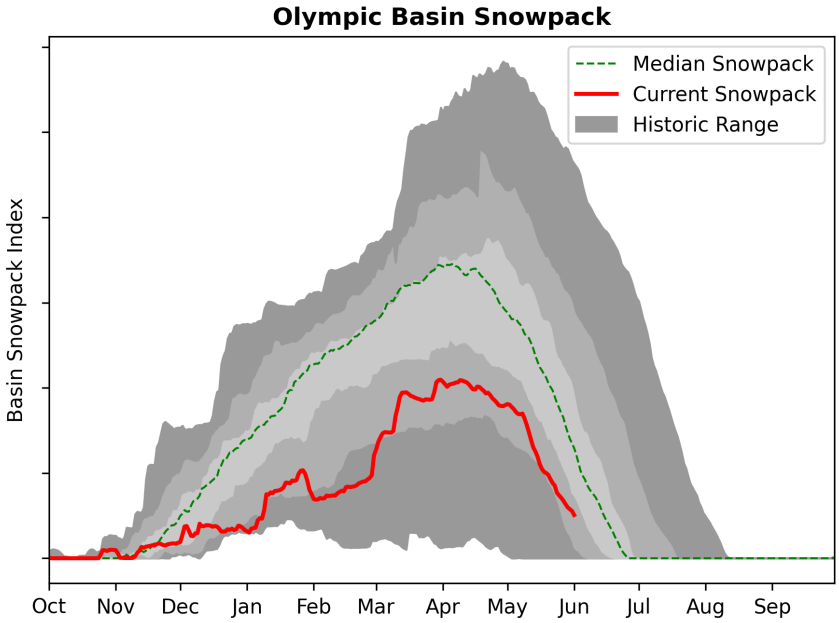
The June through September streamflow forecast for *Green River below Howard A Hanson Dam* is below normal at 78% of median. *White River below Clearwater River near Buckley*, a newly established forecast point for water-year 2024, has a June through September 50%-exceedance value of 250 KAF.

To view data in tabular format, other forecast periods, and the forecast for White R bl Clearwater R nr Buckley, please view the basin data reports **here**.



Olympic Basin Summary

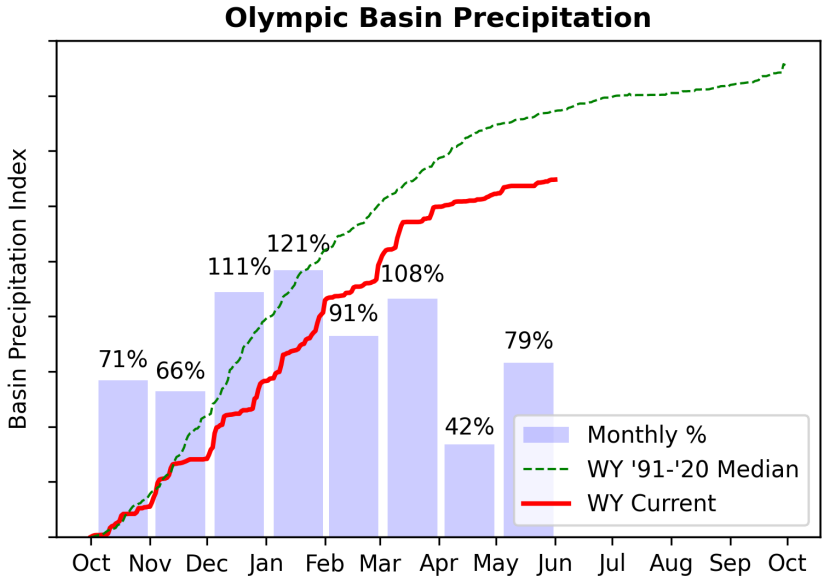
SNOWPACK



► *View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

As of June 1, the basin snowpack is 39% of median. This is lower than May 1 when the basin snowpack was 53% of median.

PRECIPITATION



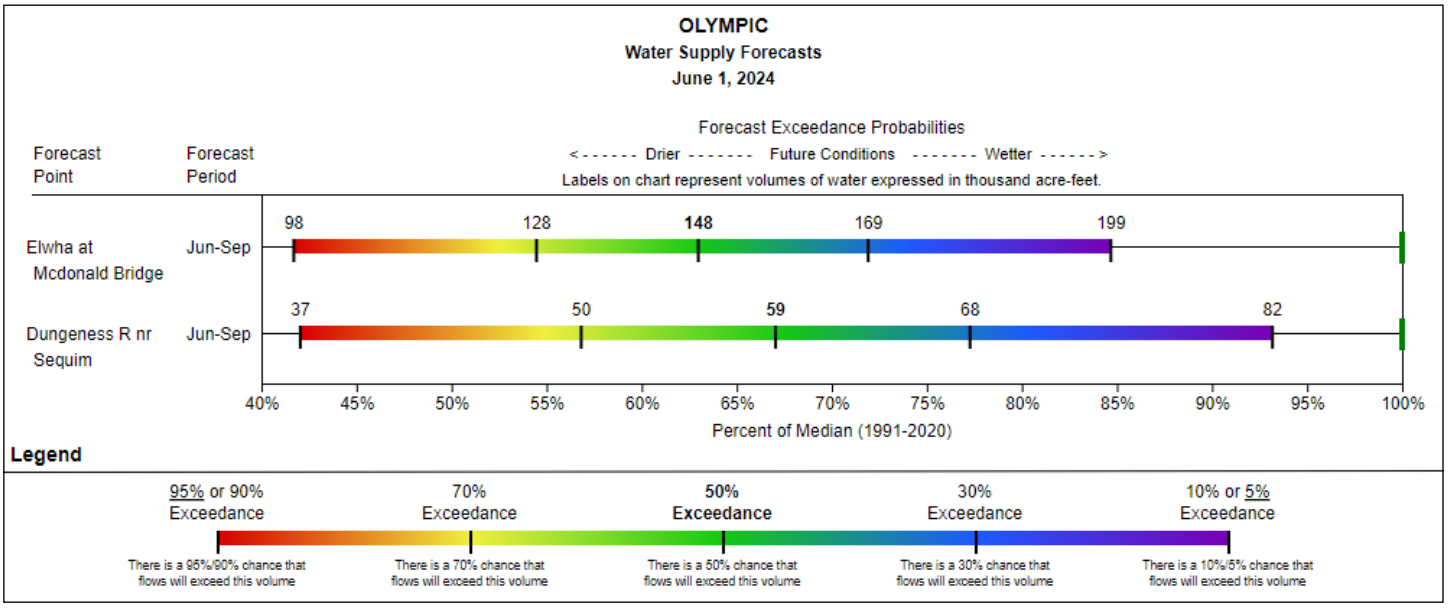
► *View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

May precipitation is below normal at 79% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 84% of median.

STREAMFLOW FORECAST

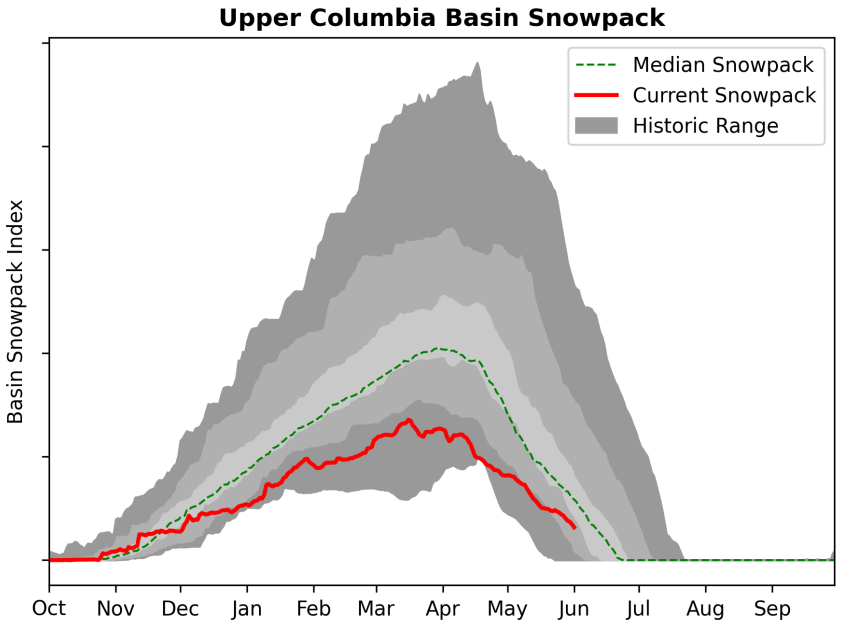
The June through September streamflow forecast for Elwha at Mcdonald Bridge is below normal at 63% of median. The May through September streamflow forecast for Dungeness R nr Sequim is also below normal at 67% of median.

For data in tabular format and to view other forecasting periods, please view the basin data reports **here**.



Upper Columbia Basin Summary

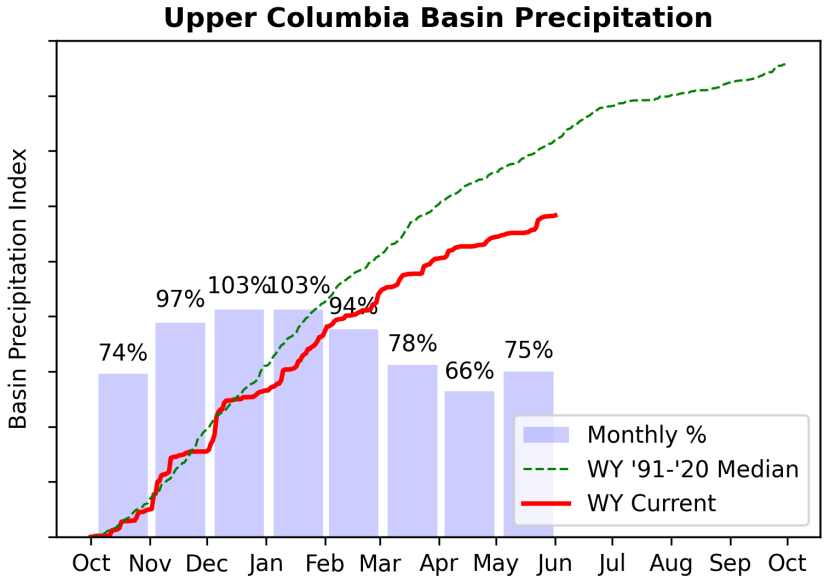
SNOWPACK



► *View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

As of June 1, the basin snowpack is 56% of median. This is lower than May 1 when the basin snowpack was 64% of median.

PRECIPITATION



► *View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

May precipitation is below normal at 75% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 81% of median.

RESERVOIR STORAGE

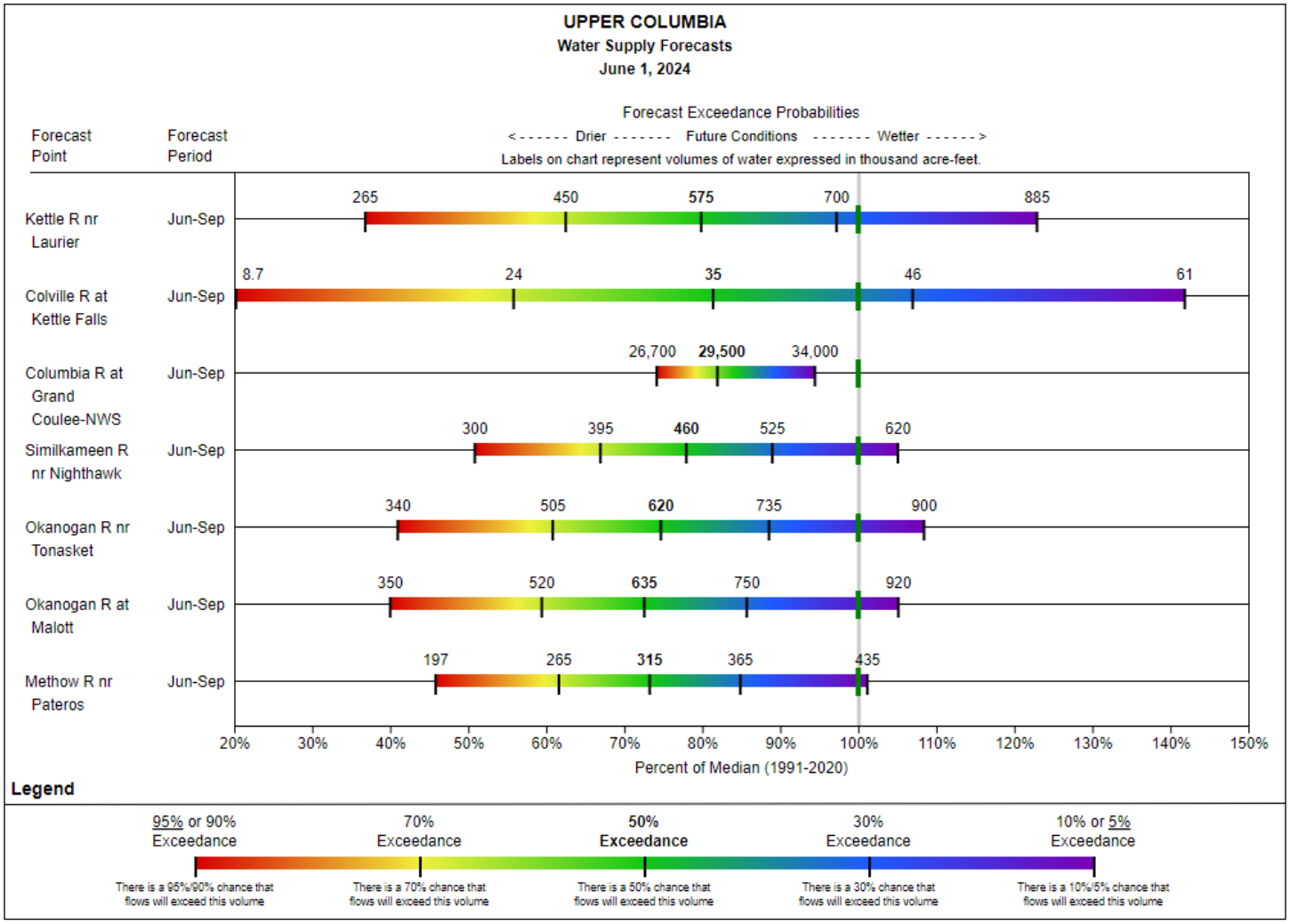
As of June 1, storage at Conconully Reservoir is slightly below normal at 97% of median. Volumetric storage at Conconully Lake (Salmon Lake Dam) is below normal at 76% of median.

Upper Columbia	Current (KAF)	Last Year (KAF)	Median (KAF)	Capacity (KAF)	Current % Capacity	Last Year % Capacity	Median % Capacity	Current % Median	Last Year % Median
Conconully Lake (Salmon Lake Dam)	7.8	8.1	10.2	10.5	74%	77%	97%	76%	80%
Conconully Reservoir	12.7	13.0	13.0	13.0	97%	100%	100%	97%	100%
Basin Index					**87%**	**90%**	**99%**	**88%**	**91%**
# of reservoirs					2	2	2	2	2

STREAMFLOW FORECAST

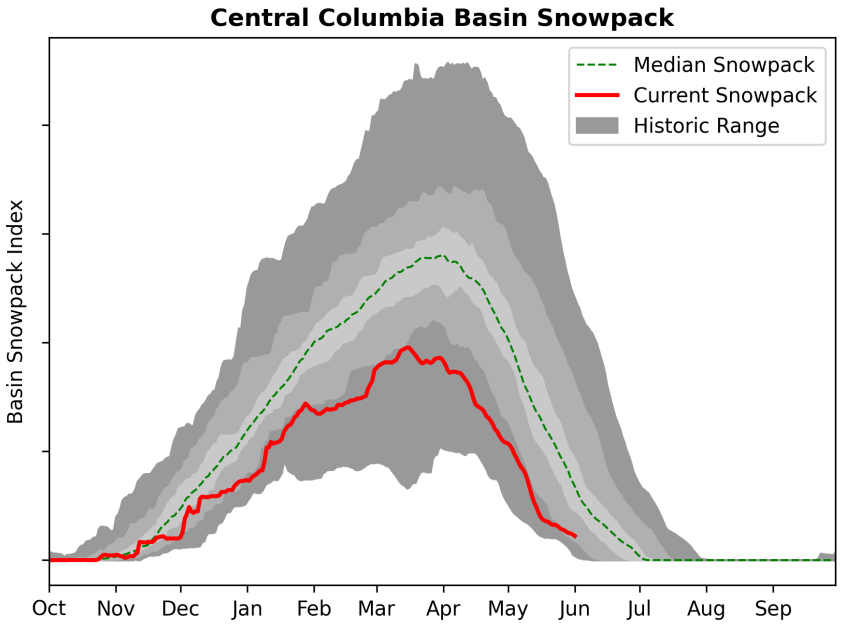
The June through September streamflow forecasts in the basin are below normal and range from 73% to 82% of median.

For data in tabular format and to view other forecasting periods, please view the basin data reports **here**.



Central Columbia Basin Summary

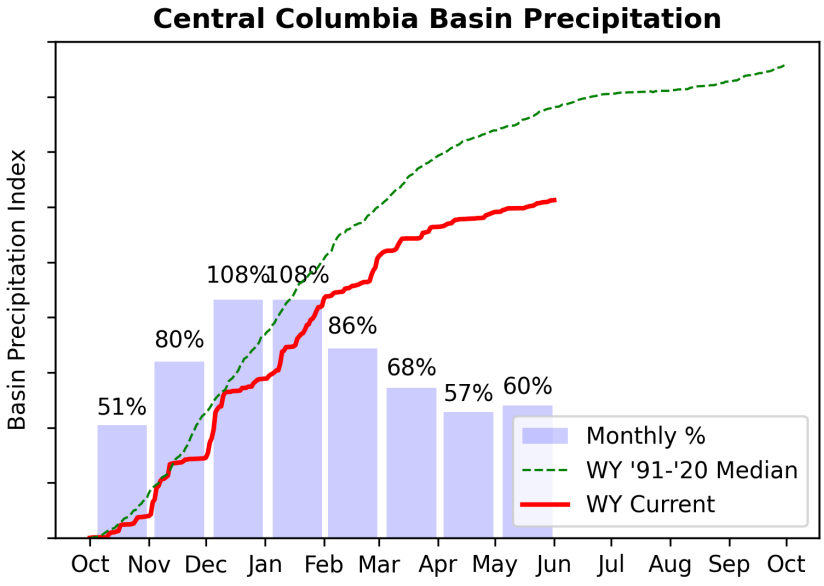
SNOWPACK



► *View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

As of June 1, the basin snowpack is 33% of median. This is lower than May 1 when the basin snowpack was 53% of median.

PRECIPITATION



► *View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

May precipitation is below normal at 60% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 78% of median.

RESERVOIR STORAGE

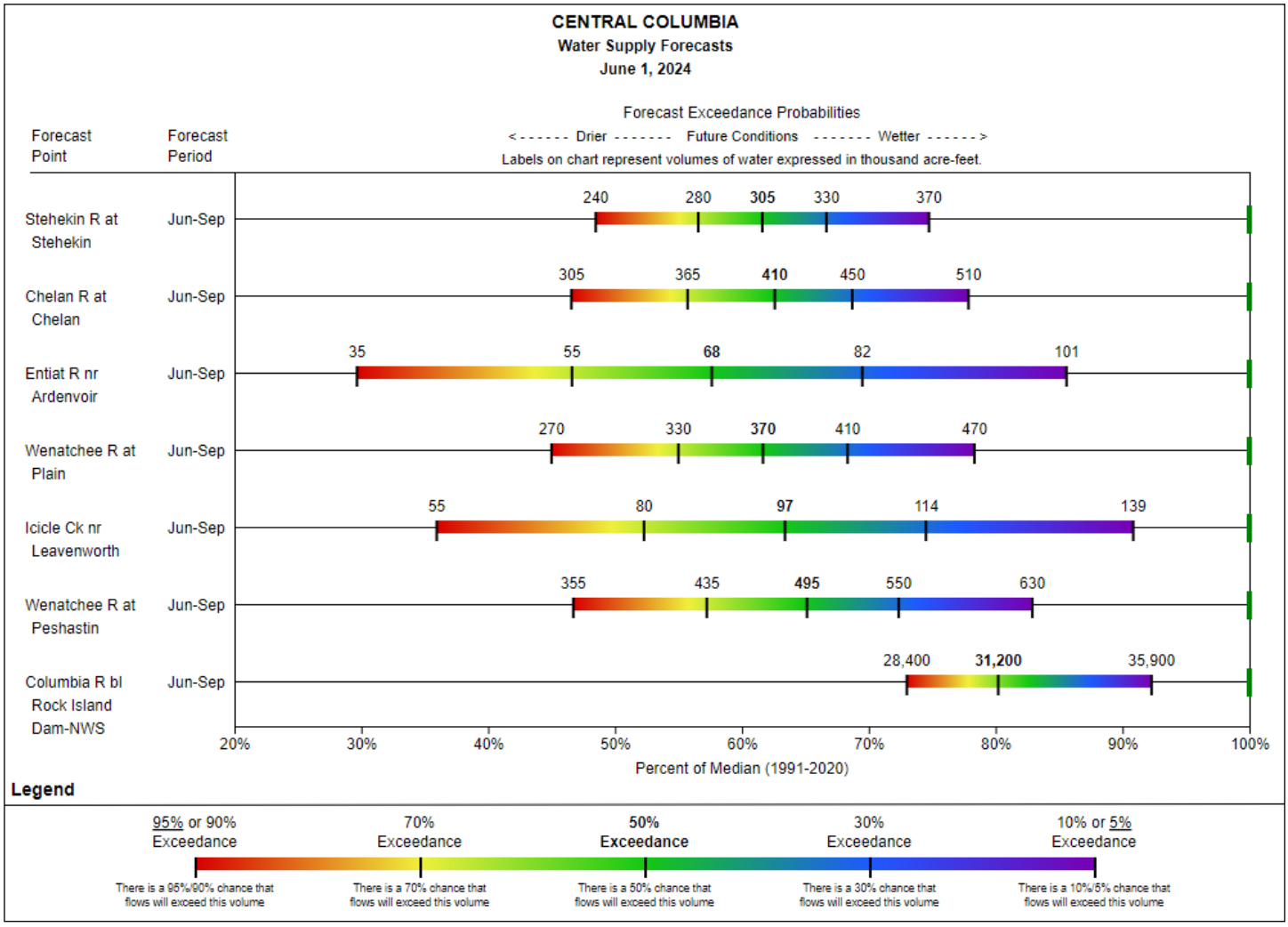
As of June 1, volumetric storage at Lake Chelan is normal at 100% of median.

Central Columbia	Current (KAF)	Last Year (KAF)	Median (KAF)	Capacity (KAF)	Current % Capacity	Last Year % Capacity	Median % Capacity	Current % Median	Last Year % Median
Lake Chelan	513.9	628.3	513.9	676.1	76%	93%	76%	100%	122%
Basin Index					**76%**	**93%**	**76%**	**100%**	**122%**
# of reservoirs					1	1	1	1	1

STREAMFLOW FORECAST

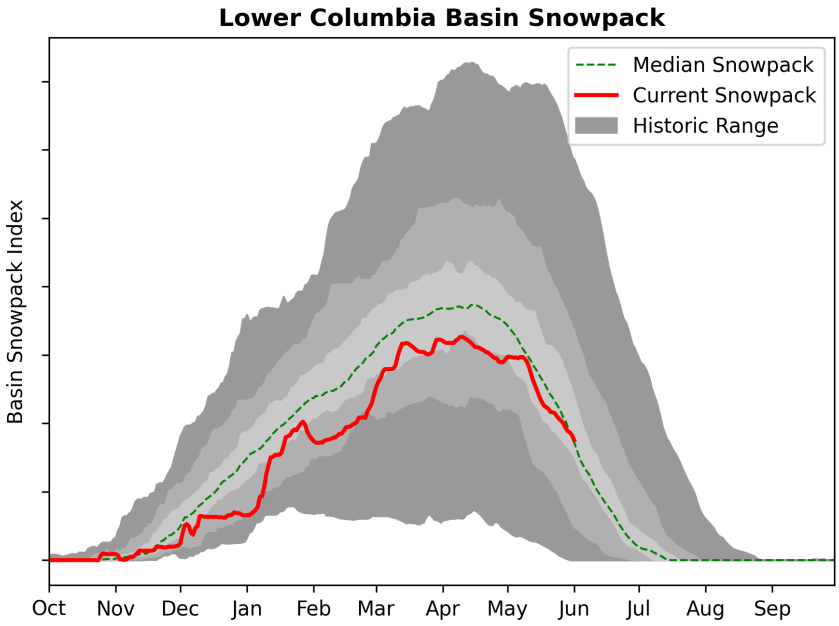
The June through September streamflow forecasts in the basin are below normal and range from 58% to 80% of median.

For data in tabular format and to view other forecasting periods, please view the basin data reports **here**.



Lower Columbia Basin Summary

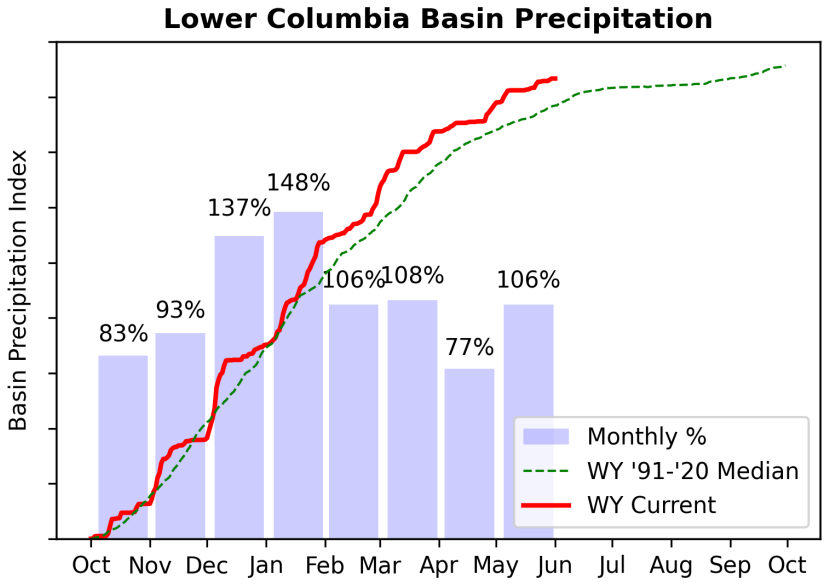
SNOWPACK



► *View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

As of June 1, the basin snowpack is 102% of median. This is higher than May 1 when the basin snowpack was 87% of median.

PRECIPITATION



► *View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

May precipitation is slightly above normal at 106% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is also 106% of median.

RESERVOIR STORAGE

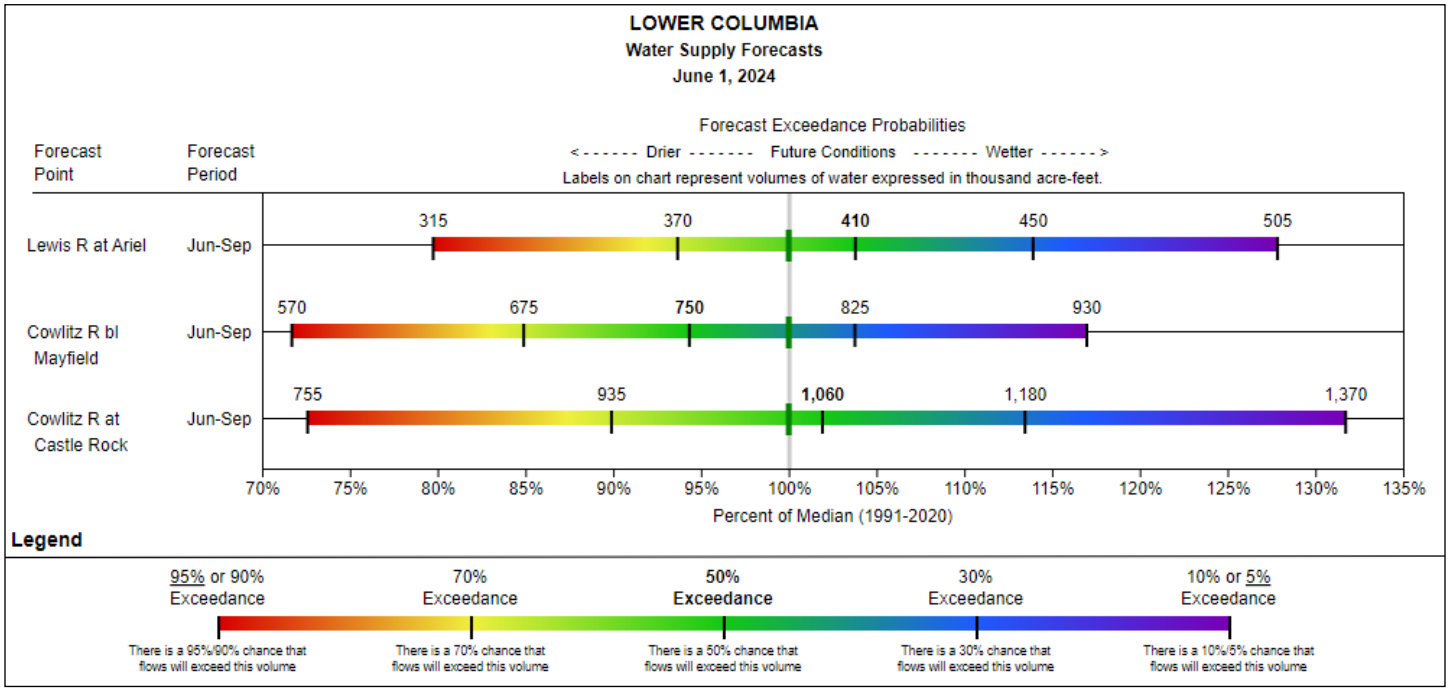
As of June 1, storage at Mossyrock Dam (Riffe Lake) is below normal at 82% of median. Volumetric storage at Mayfield Lake is slightly above normal at 102% of median.

Lower Columbia	Current (KAF)	Last Year (KAF)	Median (KAF)	Capacity (KAF)	Current % Capacity	Last Year % Capacity	Median % Capacity	Current % Median	Last Year % Median
Mossyrock Dam (Riffe Lk)	943.2	885.0	1145.0	1298.0	73%	68%	88%	82%	77%
Mayfield	132.4	128.3	130.4	133.7	99%	96%	98%	102%	98%
Basin Index					**75%**	**71%**	**89%**	**84%**	**79%**
# of reservoirs					2	2	2	2	2

STREAMFLOW FORECAST

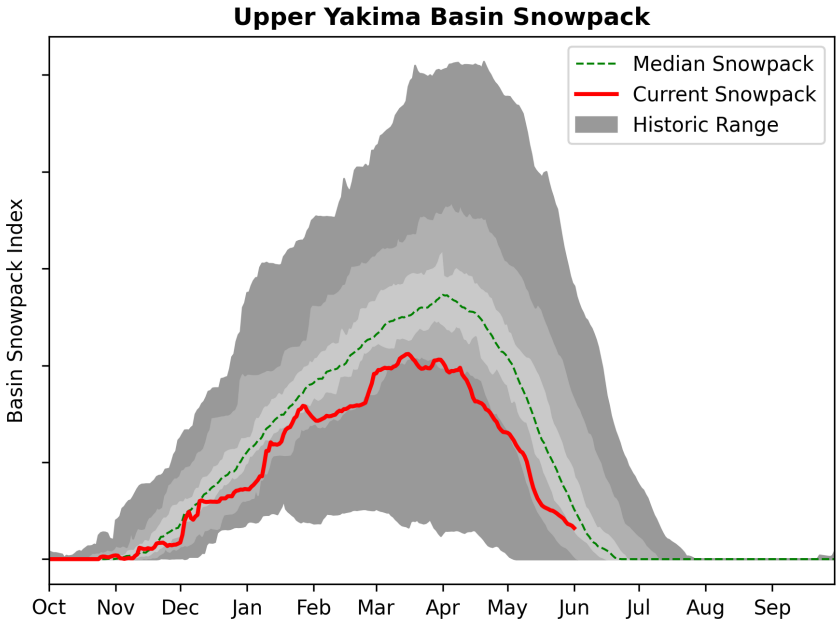
The June through September streamflow forecasts in the basin are below to slightly above normal and range from 94% to 104% of median.

For data in tabular format and to view other forecasting periods, please view the basin data reports **here**.



Upper Yakima Basin Summary

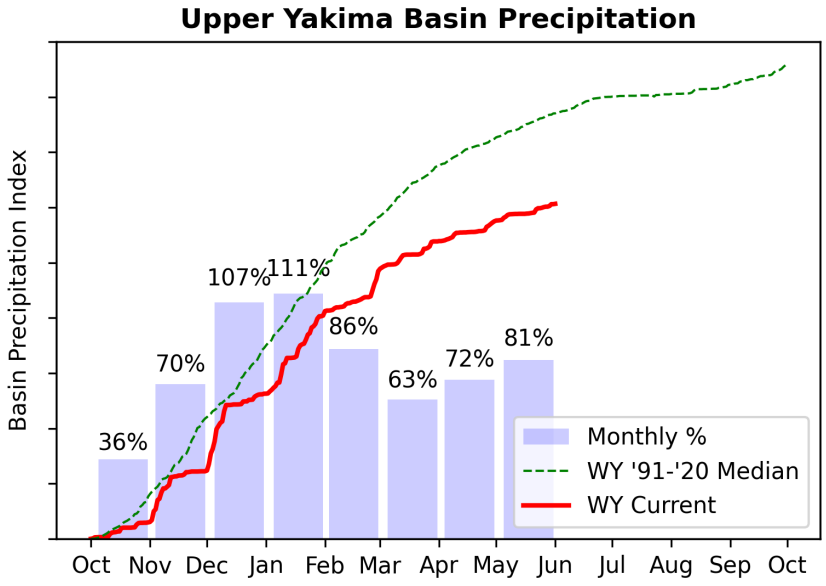
SNOWPACK



► *View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

As of June 1, the basin snowpack is 62% of median. This is slightly higher than May 1 when the basin snowpack was 60% of median.

PRECIPITATION



► *View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

May precipitation is below normal at 81% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 79% of median.

RESERVOIR STORAGE

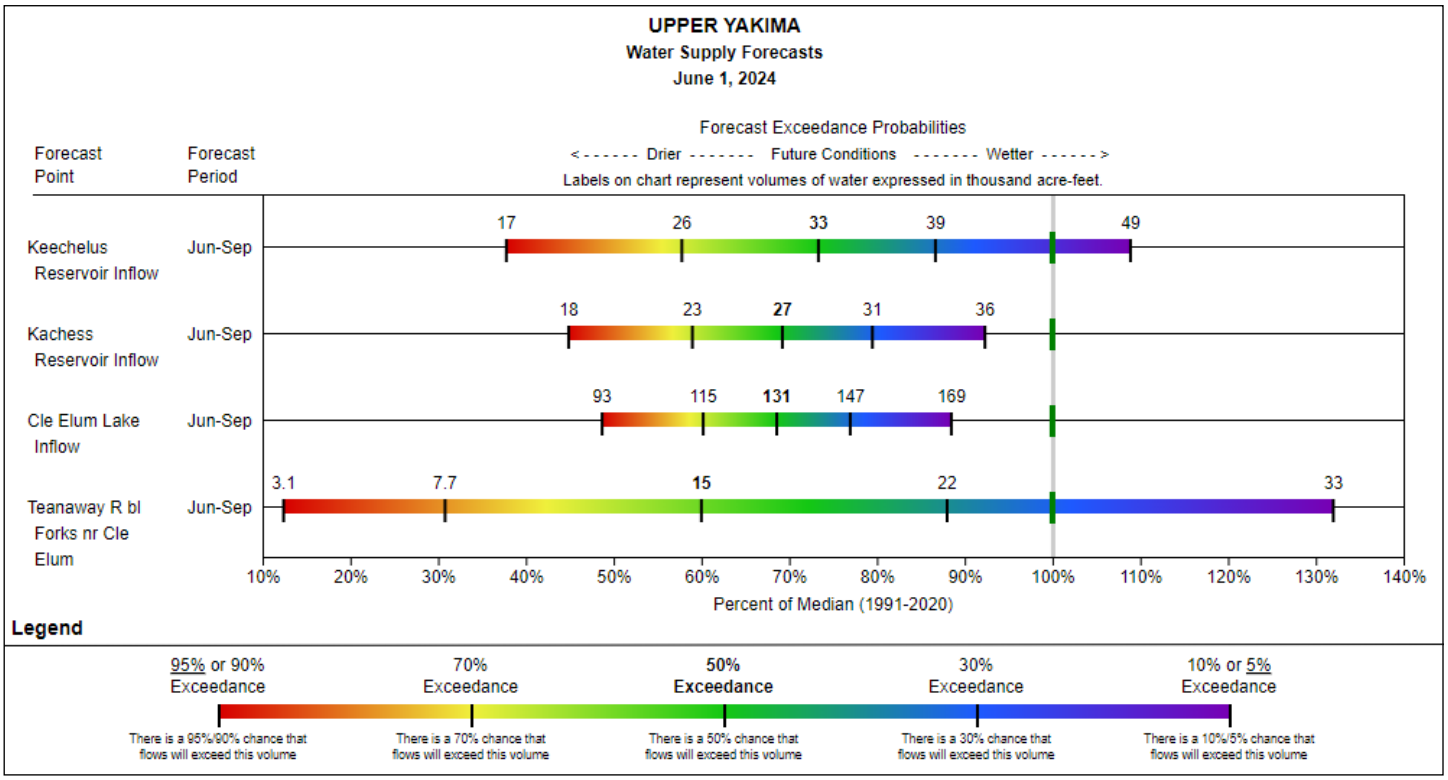
As of June 1, storage at Keechelus Reservoir is below normal at 57% of median. Volumetric storage at Cle Elum Reservoir is 70% of median and 58% of median at Kachess Reservoir.

Upper Yakima	Current (KAF)	Last Year (KAF)	Median (KAF)	Capacity (KAF)	Current % Capacity	Last Year % Capacity	Median % Capacity	Current % Median	Last Year % Median
Kachess	127.8	201.1	220.6	239.0	53%	84%	92%	58%	91%
Cle Elum	286.1	384.8	410.5	436.9	65%	88%	94%	70%	94%
Keechelus	81.0	110.5	141.7	157.8	51%	70%	90%	57%	78%
Basin Index					**59%**	**84%**	**93%**	**64%**	**90%**
# of reservoirs					3	3	3	3	3

STREAMFLOW FORECAST

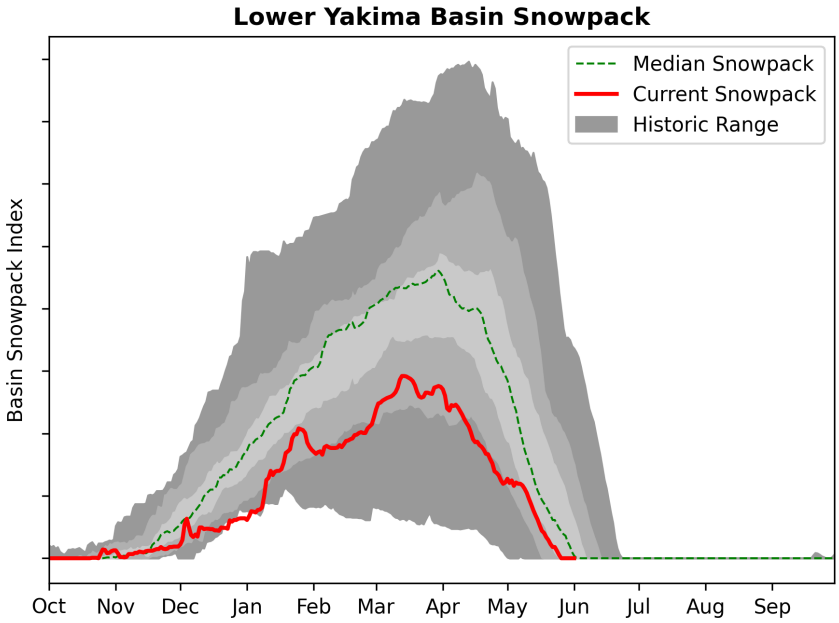
The June through September streamflow forecasts in the basin are below normal and range from 60% to 73% of median.

For data in tabular format and to view other forecasting periods, please view the basin data reports **here**.



Lower Yakima Basin Summary

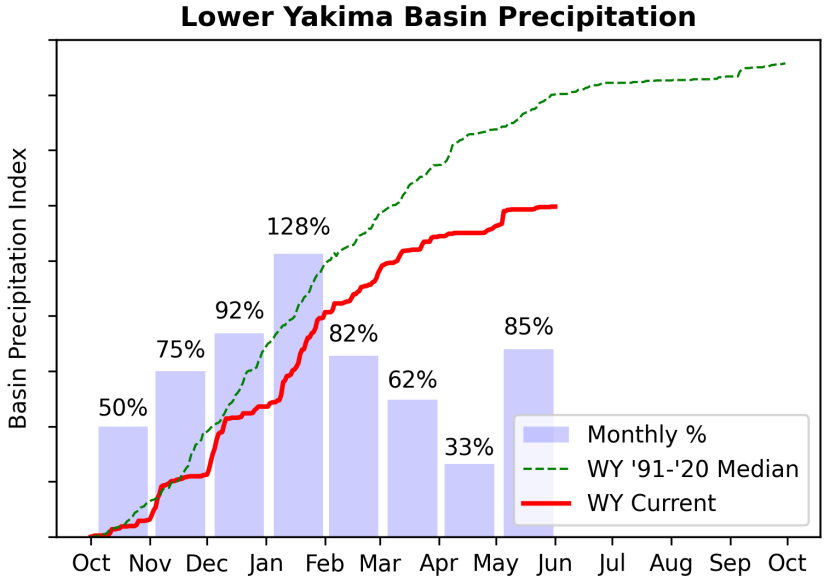
SNOWPACK



► *View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

As of June 1, the basin snowpack has melted out. On May 1, the basin snowpack was 45% of median.

PRECIPITATION



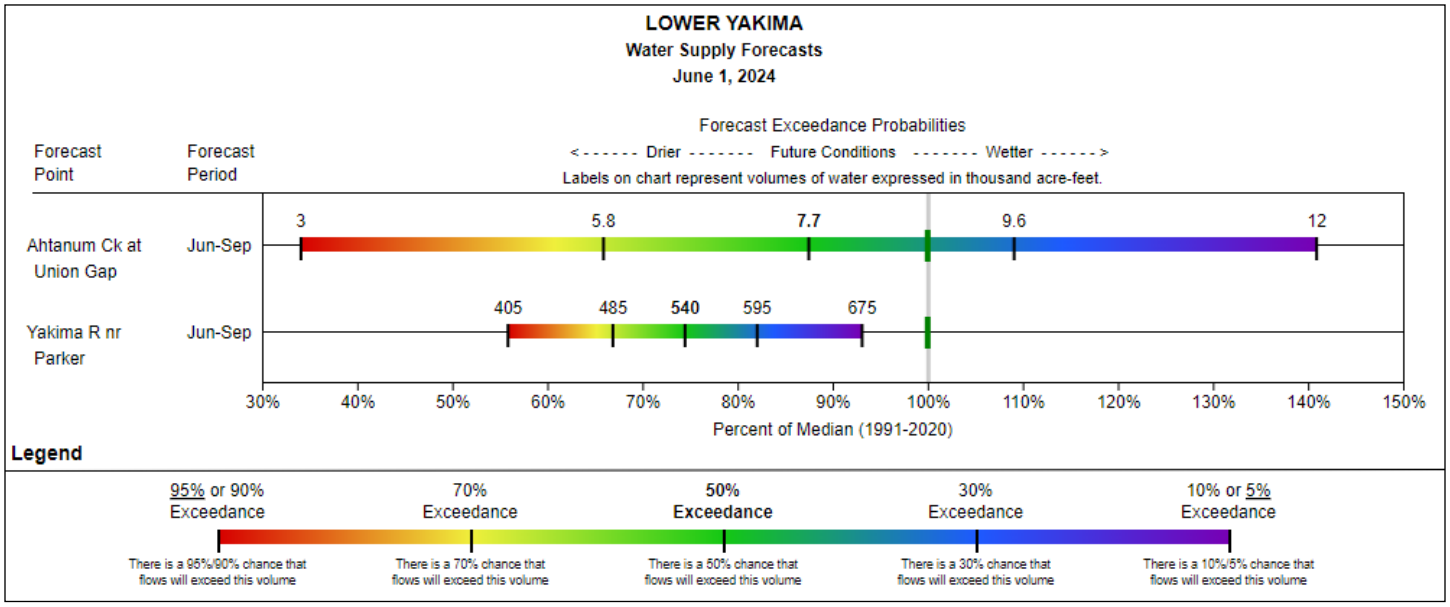
► *View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

May precipitation is below normal at 85% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 75% of median.

STREAMFLOW FORECAST

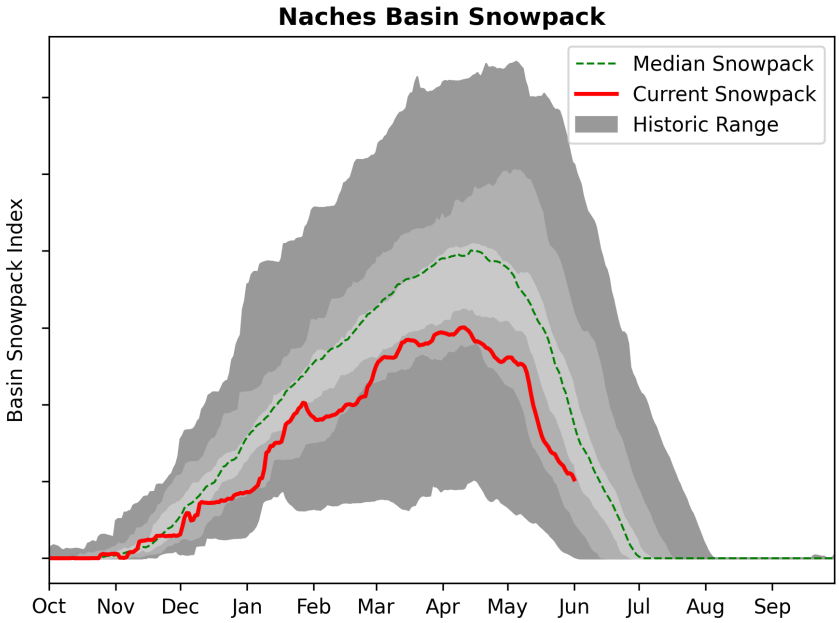
The June through September streamflow forecast for Ahtanum Ck at Union Gap is below normal at 88% of median. The June through September streamflow forecast for Yakima R nr Parker is also below normal at 74% of median.

For data in tabular format and to view other forecasting periods, please view the basin data reports **here**.



Naches Basin Summary

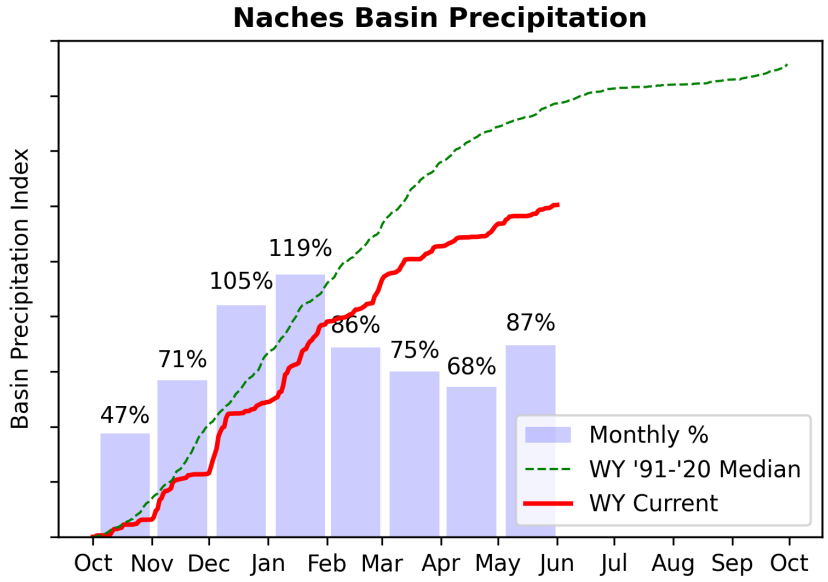
SNOWPACK



► *View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

As of June 1, the basin snowpack is 59% of median. This is lower than May 1 when the basin snowpack was 68% of median.

PRECIPITATION



► *View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

May precipitation is below normal at 87% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 81% of median.

RESERVOIR STORAGE

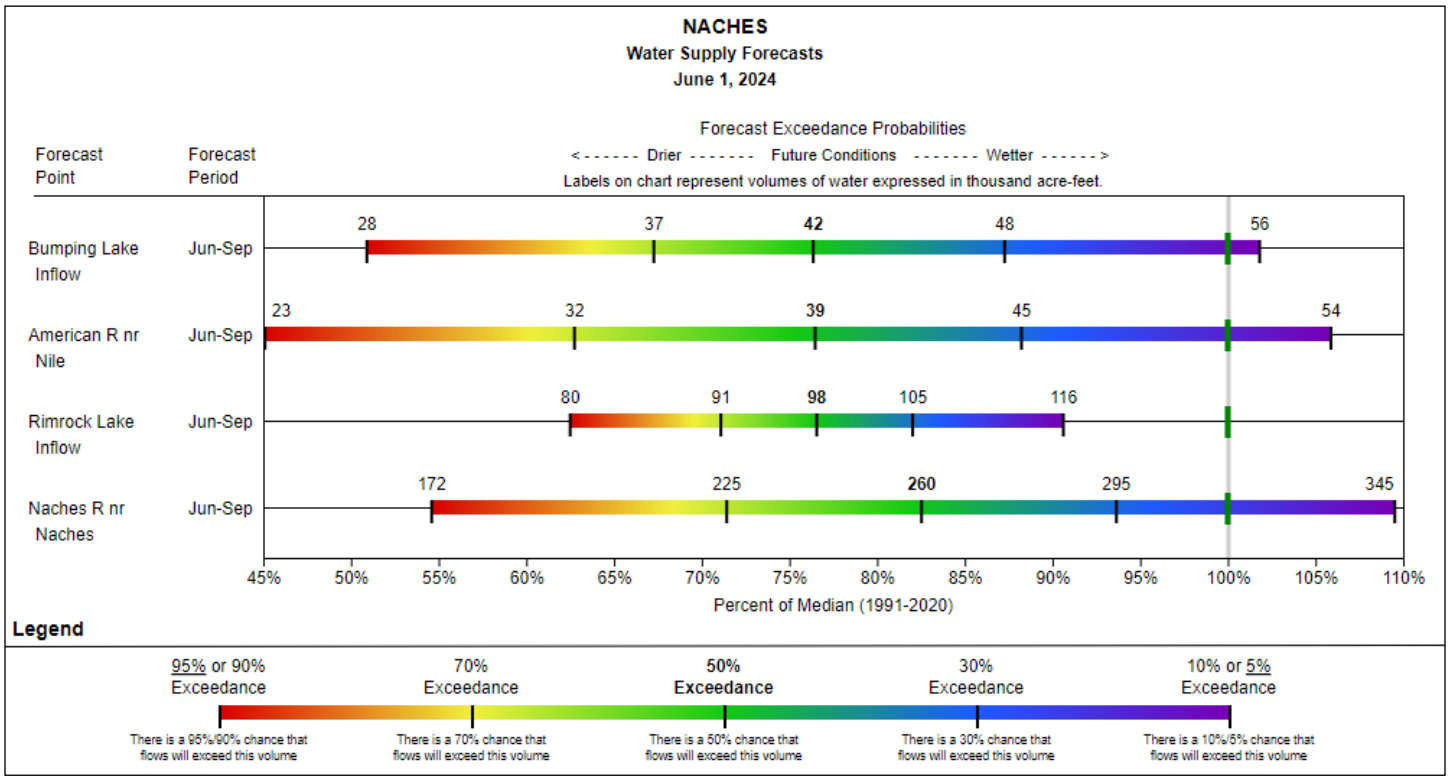
As of June 1, storage at Bumping Lake is normal at 100% of median. Volumetric storage at Rimrock Lake is below normal at 85% of median.

Naches	Current (KAF)	Last Year (KAF)	Median (KAF)	Capacity (KAF)	Current % Capacity	Last Year % Capacity	Median % Capacity	Current % Median	Last Year % Median
Rimrock	165.4	197.3	193.5	198.0	84%	100%	98%	85%	102%
Bumping Lake	33.6	34.2	33.6	33.7	100%	102%	100%	100%	102%
Basin Index					**86%**	**100%**	**98%**	**88%**	**102%**
# of reservoirs					2	2	2	2	2

STREAMFLOW FORECAST

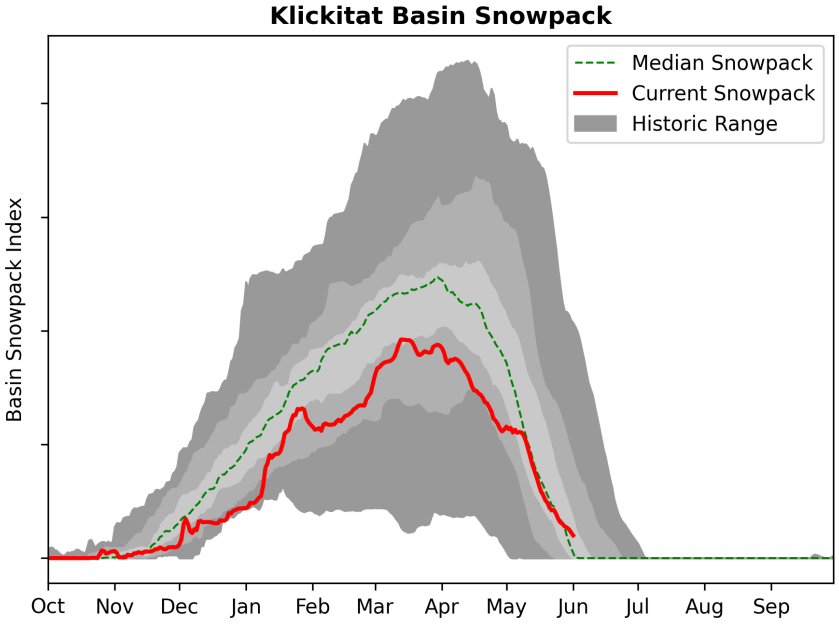
The June through September streamflow forecasts in the basin are below normal and range from 76% to 83% of median.

For data in tabular format and to view other forecasting periods, please view the basin data reports **here**.



Klickitat Basin Summary

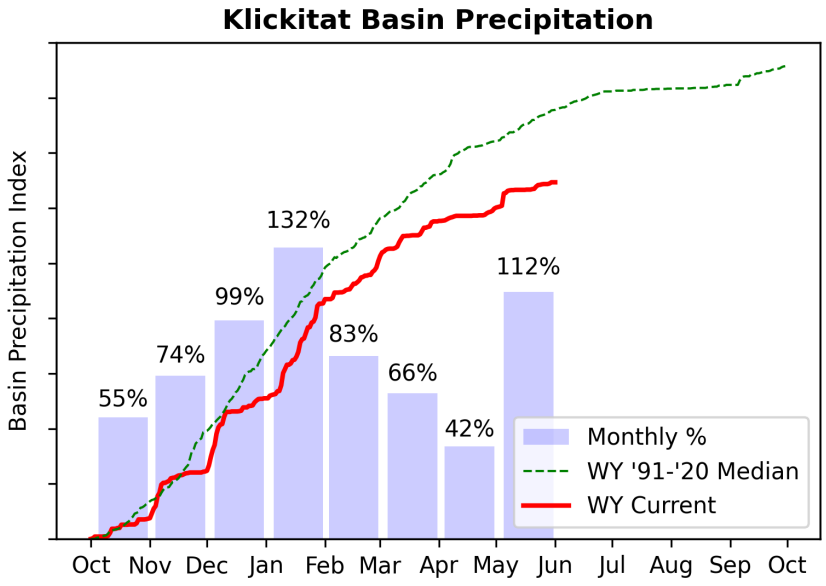
SNOWPACK



► *View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

As of June 1, the basin snowpack is 421% of median. This is higher than May 1 when the basin snowpack was 67% of median. Small deviations in snowpack values this time of year may result in large %-of-normal values.

PRECIPITATION



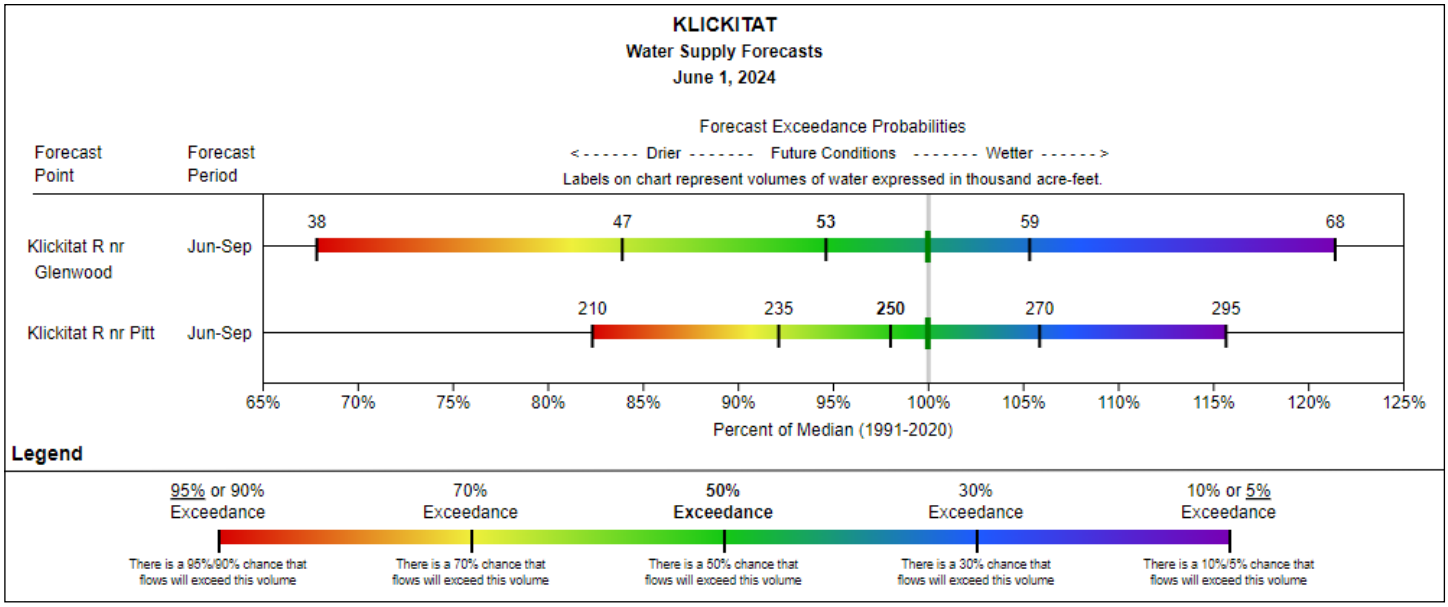
► *View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

May precipitation is above normal at 112% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 83% of median.

STREAMFLOW FORECAST

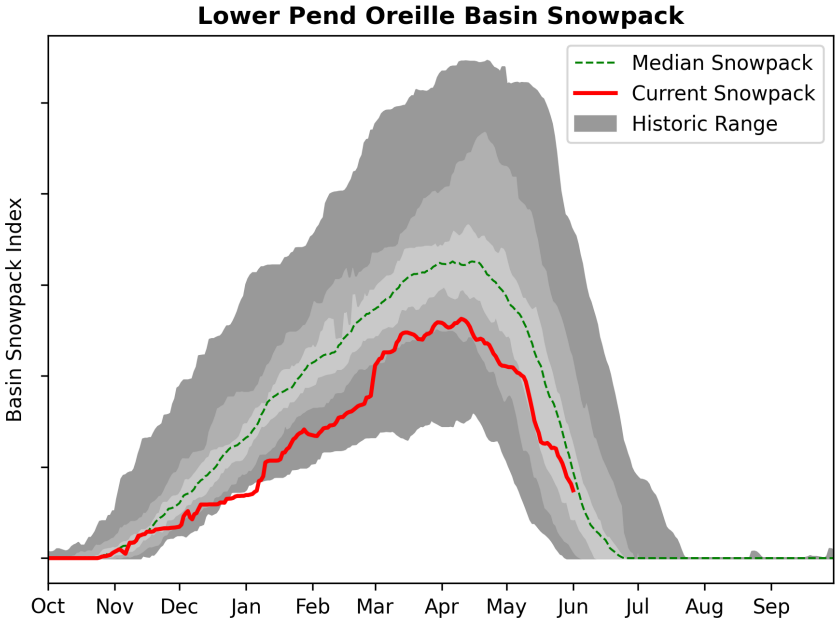
The June through September streamflow forecast for Klickitat R nr Glenwood is slightly below normal at 95% of median. The June through September streamflow forecast for Klickitat R nr Pitt is also slightly below normal at 98% of median.

For data in tabular format and to view other forecasting periods, please view the basin data reports **here**.



Lower Pend Oreille Basin Summary

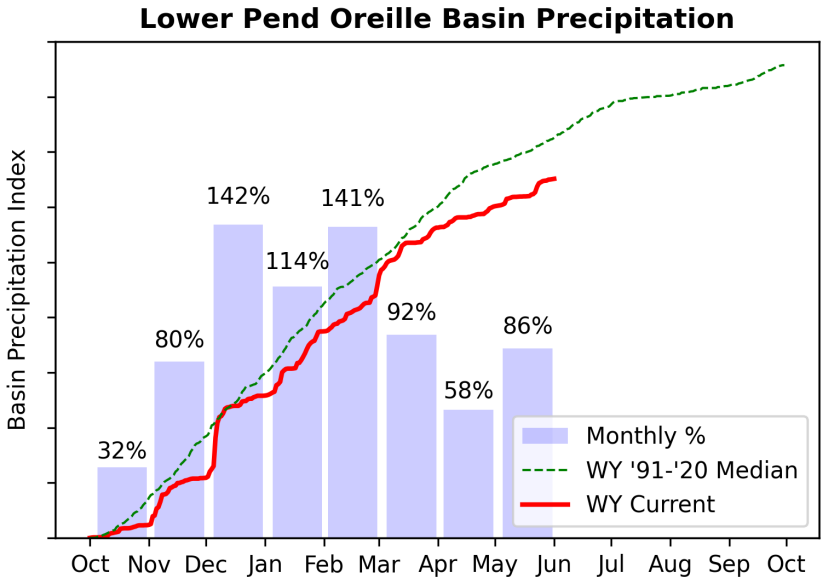
SNOWPACK



► *View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

As of June 1, the basin snowpack is 79% of median. This is higher than May 1 when the basin snowpack was 69% of median.

PRECIPITATION



► *View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

May precipitation is below normal at 86% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 90% of median.

RESERVOIR STORAGE

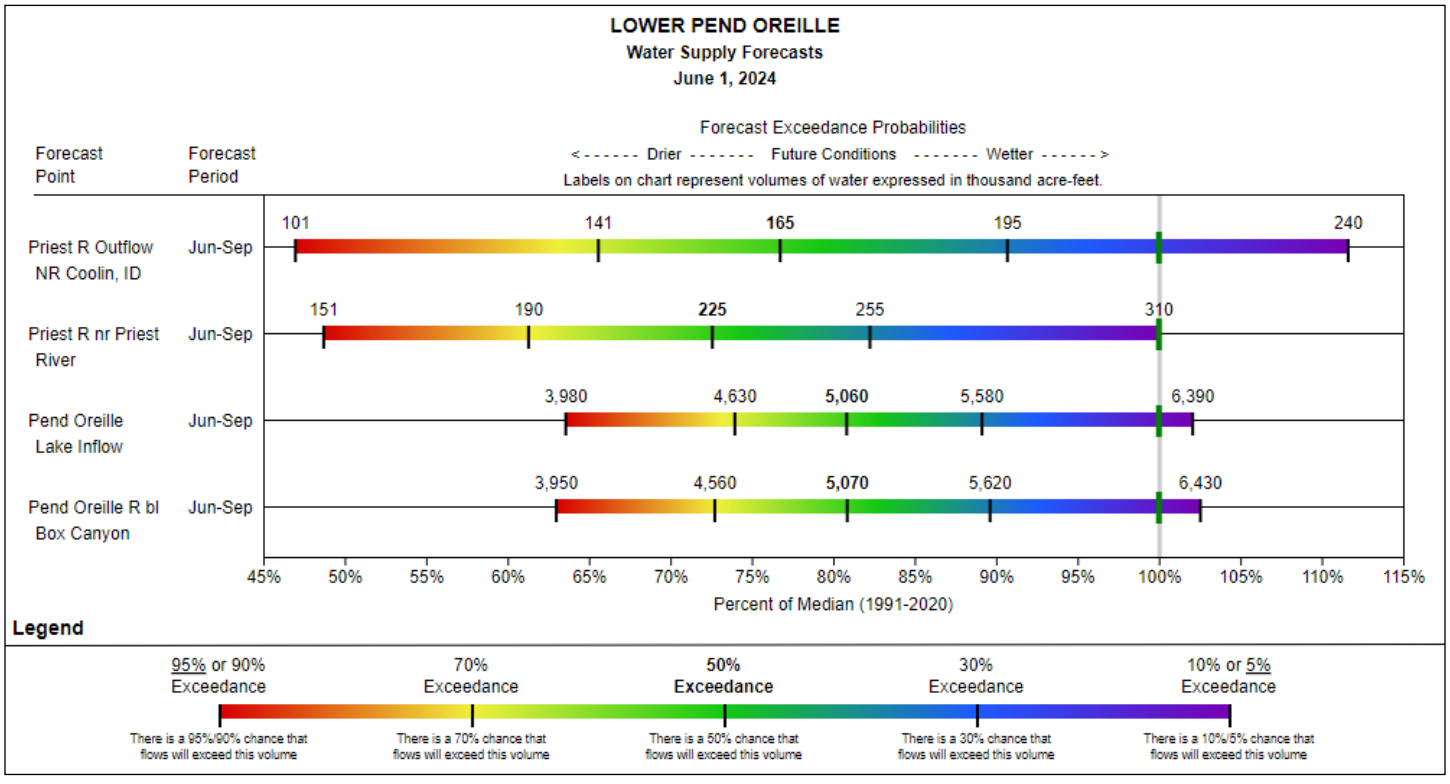
As of June 1, storage at Priest Lake is slightly below normal at 98% of median. Volumetric storage at Lake Pend Oreille is below normal at 85% of median.

Lower Pend Oreille	Current (KAF)	Last Year (KAF)	Median (KAF)	Capacity (KAF)	Current % Capacity	Last Year % Capacity	Median % Capacity	Current % Median	Last Year % Median
Priest Lake	130.6	130.4	133.7	119.3	109%	109%	112%	98%	98%
Lake Pend Oreille	1125.6	1281.8	1318.0	1561.3	72%	82%	84%	85%	97%
Basin Index					**75%**	**84%**	**86%**	**87%**	**97%**
# of reservoirs					2	2	2	2	2

STREAMFLOW FORECAST

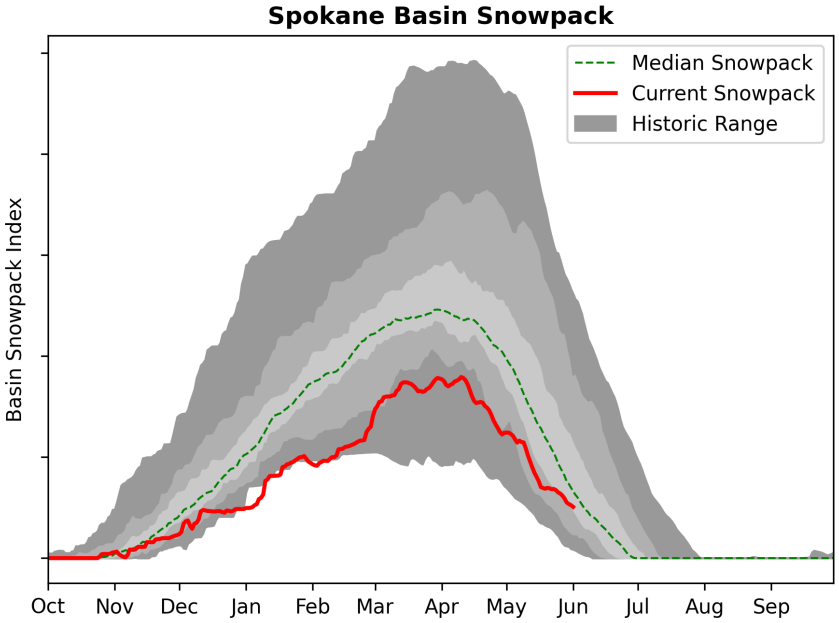
The June through September streamflow forecasts in the basin are below normal and range from 73% to 81% of median.

For data in tabular format and to view other forecasting periods, please view the basin data reports **here**.



Spokane Basin Summary

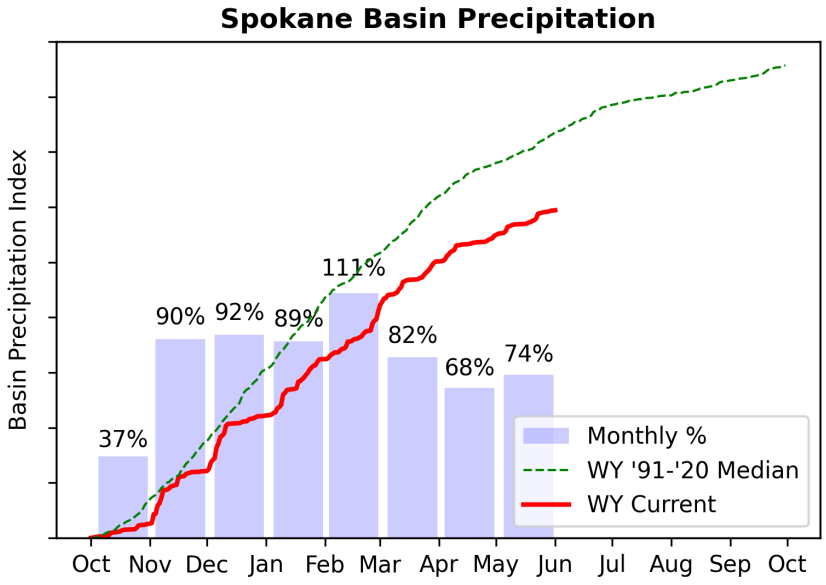
SNOWPACK



► *View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

As of June 1, the basin snowpack is 77% of median. This is higher than May 1 when the basin snowpack was 64% of median.

PRECIPITATION



► *View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

May precipitation is below normal at 74% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 81% of median.

RESERVOIR STORAGE

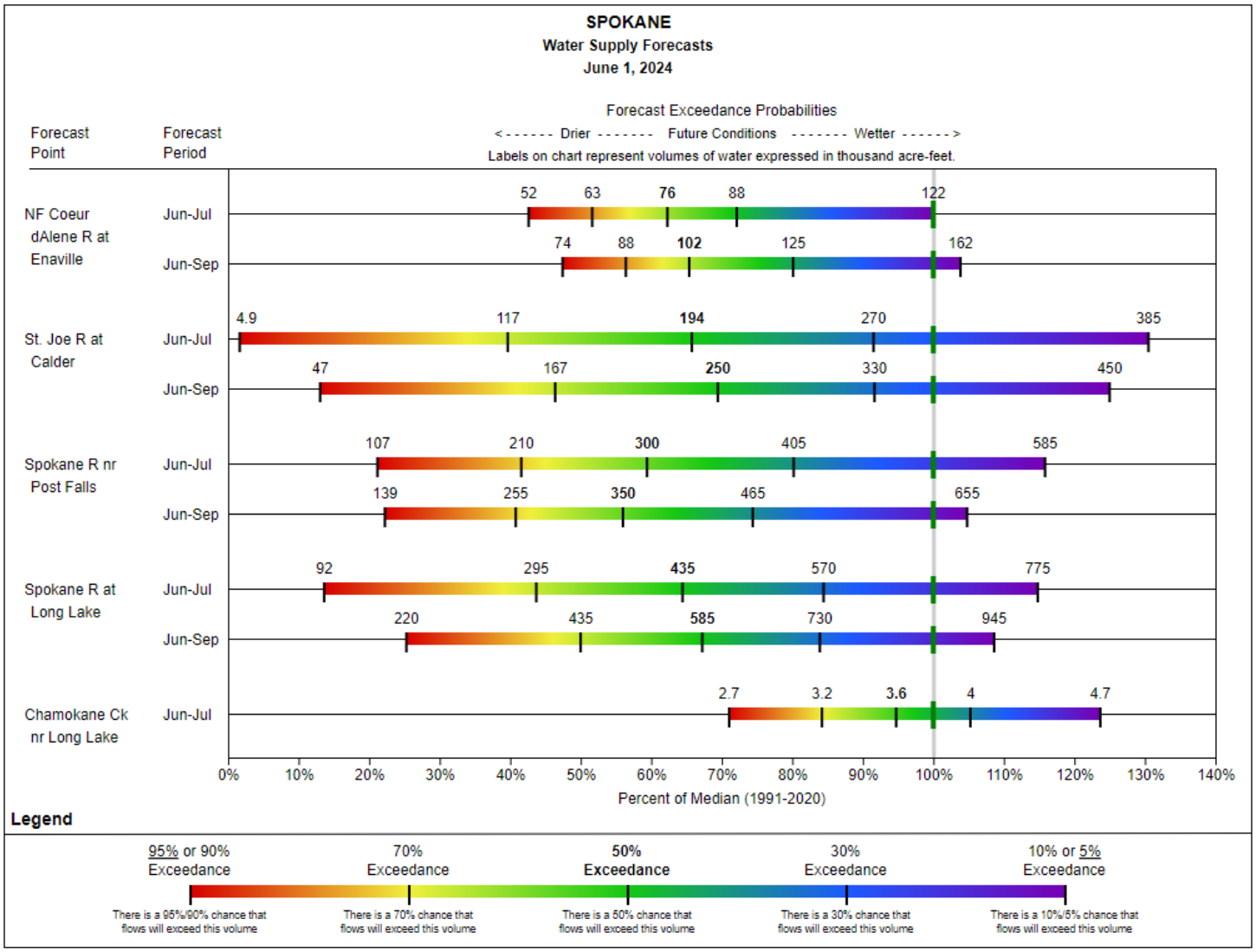
As of June 1, volumetric storage at Lake Coeur d' Alene is slightly below normal at 99% of median.

Spokane	Current (KAF)	Last Year (KAF)	Median (KAF)	Capacity (KAF)	Current % Capacity	Last Year % Capacity	Median % Capacity	Current % Median	Last Year % Median
Lake Coeur d' Alene	228.6	231.5	231.3	238.5	96%	97%	97%	99%	100%
Basin Index					**96%**	**97%**	**97%**	**99%**	**100%**
# of reservoirs					1	1	1	1	1

STREAMFLOW FORECAST

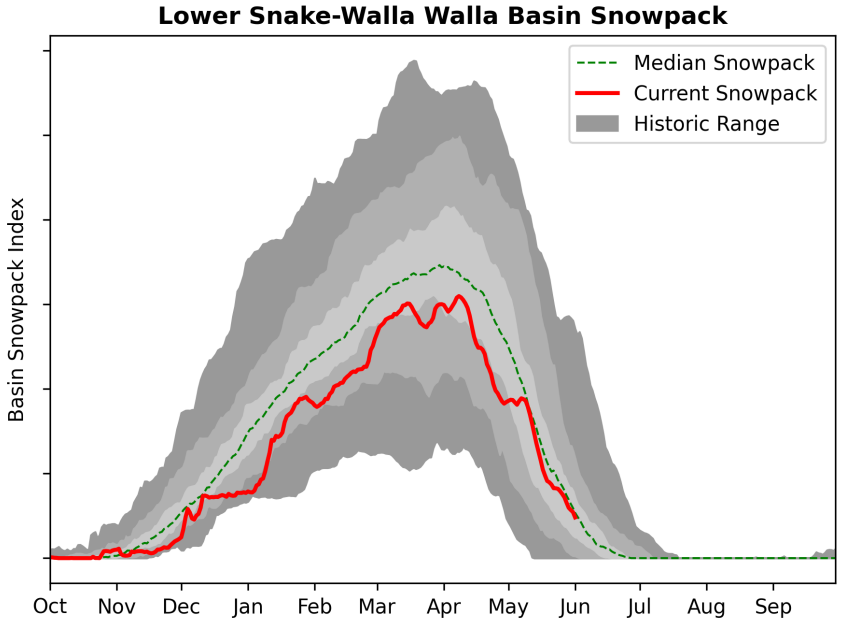
The streamflow forecasts for the primary period in the basin are below normal and range from 56% to 95% of median.

For data in tabular format and to view other forecasting periods, please view the basin data reports **here**.



Lower Snake-Walla Walla Basin Summary

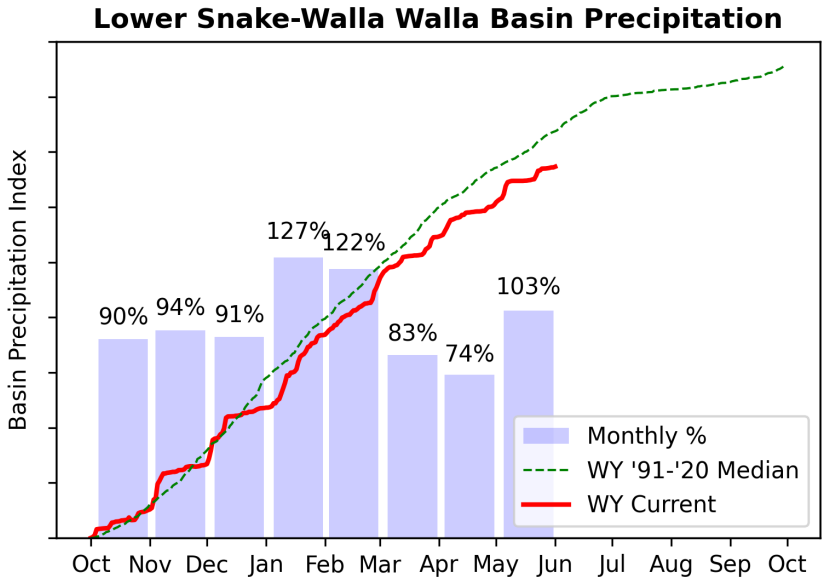
SNOWPACK



► *View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

As of June 1, the basin snowpack is 90% of median. This is higher than May 1 when the basin snowpack was 76% of median.

PRECIPITATION



► *View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report* **here**.

May precipitation is slightly above normal at 103% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 91% of median.

RESERVOIR STORAGE

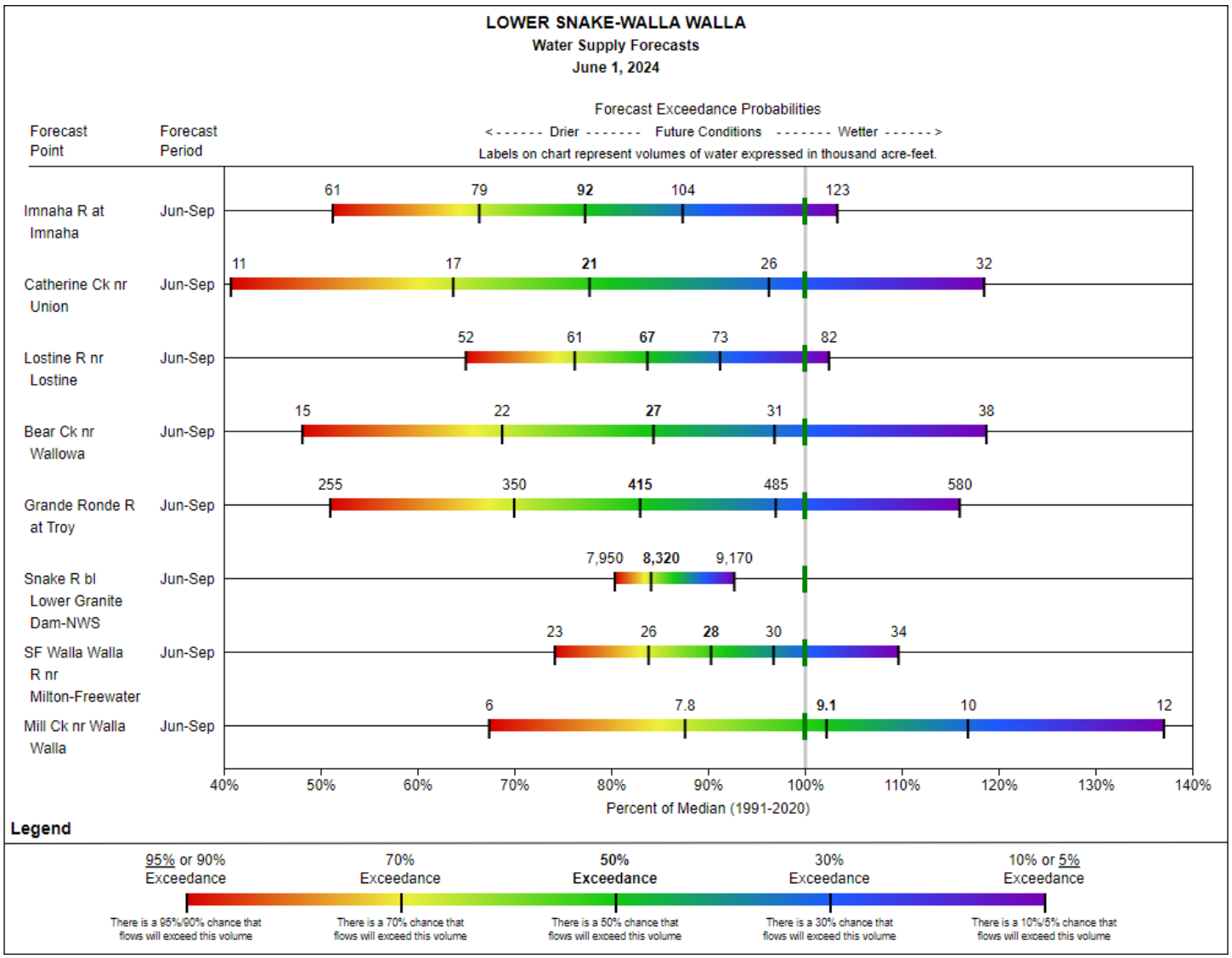
As of June 1, volumetric storage at Wallowa Lake is below normal at 74% of median.

Lower Snake-Walla Walla	Current (KAF)	Last Year (KAF)	Median (KAF)	Capacity (KAF)	Current % Capacity	Last Year % Capacity	Median % Capacity	Current % Median	Last Year % Median
Wallowa Lake	20.2	21.3	27.4	37.5	54%	57%	73%	74%	78%
Basin Index					**54%**	**57%**	**73%**	**74%**	**78%**
# of reservoirs					1	1	1	1	1

STREAMFLOW FORECAST

The June through September streamflow forecasts in the basin are below to slightly above normal and range from 77% to 102% of median.

To view data in tabular format, other forecast periods, and the forecast for Asotin Ck at Asotin, please view the basin data report **here**.



Additional Links

[Development and Interpretation of Water Supply Forecasts]

[User Guide to Forecast Charts]

For more water supply and resource management information, contact:

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