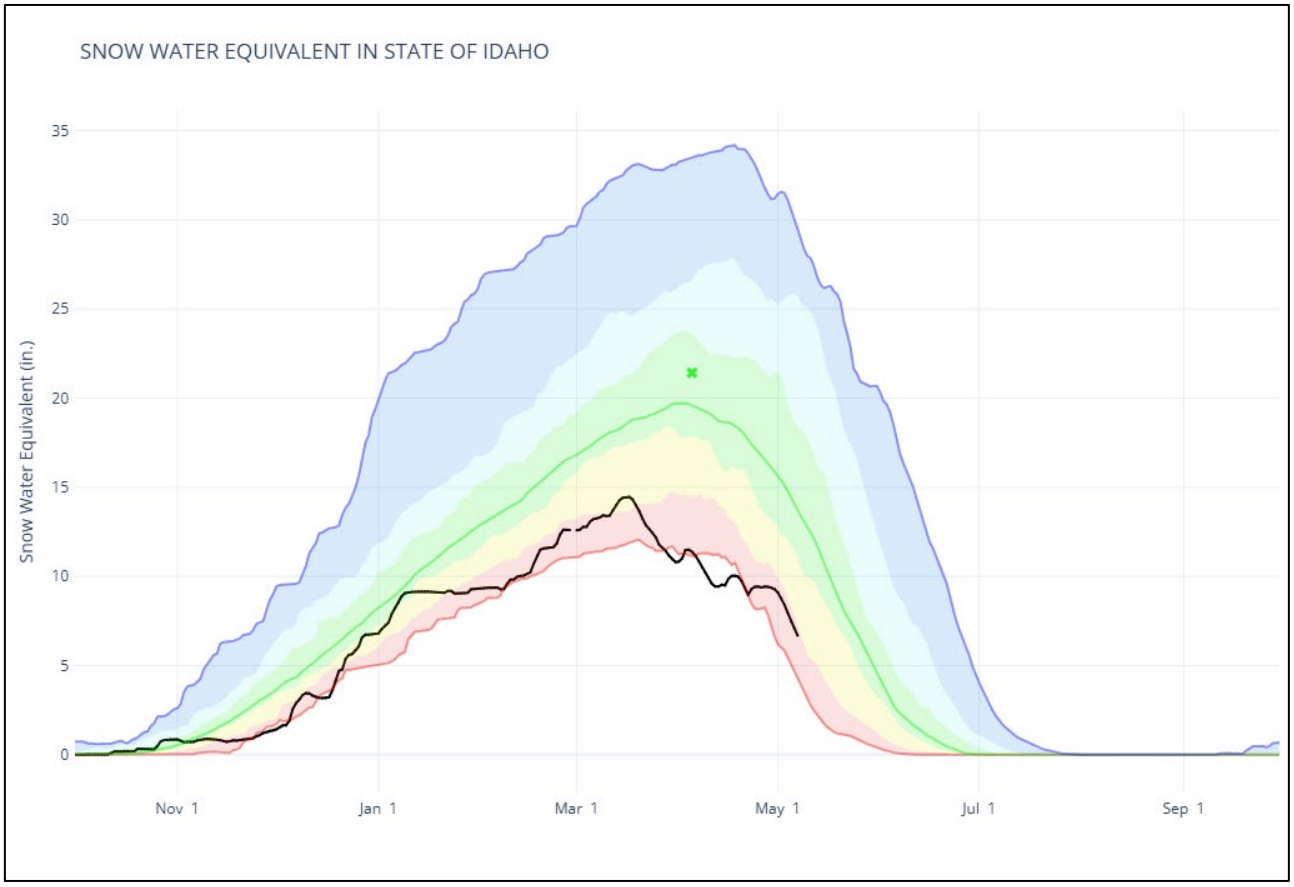
United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Idaho Water Supply Outlook Report

May 1, 2026



Statewide Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) through May 7

Idaho's snowpack started the season slow, and although storms in late December and early January briefly brought it near normal, a dry January drove statewide Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) to near record lows by Feb 8. Following some late February and early March storms, the statewide peak occurred on March 17 with 14.5 inches of SWE, which is 68% of the median peak and about two weeks earlier than normal. A subsequent heat dome in Mid-March accelerated melt, dropping SWE to record lows by March 28. Early April storms offered a modest rebound, and cooler, wetter conditions through the month allowed SWE to decline more gradually, crossing above record lows on April 22. As of May 1, statewide snowpack is 58% of normal and is expected to continue its steady seasonal decline.

Water Supply Outlook Report
Federal - State – Private Cooperative Snow Surveys

For more water supply and resource management information:

Contact: Your local county Natural Resources Conservation Service Office
https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/idaho/snow-survey
Natural Resources Conservation Service Snow Surveys
9173 West Barnes Drive, Suite C
Boise, Idaho 83709-1574 (208) 378-5700 ext. 5

Please contact us by email at: IDBOISE-NRCS-SNOW@usda.gov

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 the snow melts. Measurements of snow water equivalent at selected manual snow courses and automated SNOTEL sites, along with precipitation, antecedent streamflow are used in computerized statistical and simulation models to produce runoff forecasts. Unless otherwise specified, all forecasts are for flows that would occur naturally without any upstream influences.

Forecasts of any kind 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 uncertainty is in 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.

Starting in 2020, streamflow forecasts with poor prediction skill (jackknife $r^2 < 0.34$) will no longer be issued. This will primarily affect January and June forecasts, with little change anticipated for February, March, April, and May forecasts. For more information, please contact Erin Whorton (erin.whorton@usda.gov)

Frequently Used Acronyms

AF	Acre-Feet
BOR	Bureau of Reclamation
CFS	Cubic-Feet per Second
CPC	Climate Prediction Center
ENSO	El Niño Southern Oscillation
Ft	Feet
KAF	Thousand Acre-Feet
NIDIS	National Integrated Drought Information System
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NSIDC	National Snow and Ice Data Center
NWCC	National Water and Climate Center
NWRFC	Northwest River Forecast Center
MAF	Million Acre-Feet
PNW	Pacific Northwest (Columbia River Basin)
SWE	Snow Water Equivalent
SWSI	Surface Water Supply Index
USDM	United States Drought Monitor
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USGS	United States Geologic Survey
WSOR	Water Supply Outlook Report
WY	Water Year

May 1, 2026: Idaho Water Supply Summary

Overview

- Cool, wet conditions in April slowed the snowmelt rate down and preserved the snowpack above ~8,000 ft. south of the Salmon Basin. In northern Idaho, the snowline is around 5,500 ft.
- Above normal precipitation in April helped stretch water supplies but was not enough to make up the difference from a nearly record low snowpack. About 75% of Idaho's surface water comes from the snowpack.
- The remaining snow will likely melt rapidly at all elevations if forecasted warm, dry May weather occurs. It's likely records will be set for earliest melt out date.
- Peak streamflow has either happened or will likely happen much earlier than is normal. This places additional strain on water supplies for irrigators forced to shift to reservoir storage and groundwater sources earlier than normal.
- If irrigation demand remains high this summer, it's likely reservoirs will be drawn down to very low levels by the end of the irrigation season setting us up to need a robust snowpack next year to fill depleted reservoirs. With El Niño looming on the horizon, it's less likely next year will have an above normal snowpack though.

Snowpack and Precipitation Conditions

For the first time since October, most of Idaho experienced near normal temperatures during April, which thankfully slowed down the alarmingly fast paced snowmelt rate that began in March. Periods of below-freezing temperatures paired with above normal precipitation in April brought more snow to the mountains, killed spring blossoms in the valleys, and boosted water supply. Although southern Idaho mostly received below normal precipitation, the rest of the state experienced near normal to well above normal April showers (Fig. 1). Owyhee Basin finally received some moisture in April (108%), but its total water year precipitation remains well below normal (83%) like its neighbors to the east (77 to 92%). North and east of the Snake River, total water year precipitation ranges from 96% of normal in the Weiser Basin to 123% in the Big Lost Basin (Fig. 2). to 123% in the Big Lost Basin (Fig. 2).

As of May 1, about 40% of Idaho's snowpack has melted, leaving ~60% left in the mountains. Since the snowpack peaked on March 17, most of the melt happened during the second half of March (~65%), compared to only ~35% of the melt occurring in April. This report contains three snowpack maps so conditions can be examined from several perspectives:

- Figure 3 shows how current snowpack conditions compare to the 30-year median (1991 to 2020) and is a good way to see if there's more or less snow on the ground compared to "average" conditions. As of May 1, all 21 basins have below normal

amounts of snow left in the mountains compared to how much is typically there at this time of year.

- Figure 5 is this year's peak snowpack map. In other words, how did this year's maximum amount of SWE compare to each basin's typical peak snowpack? With the cool, wet April weather, only the Bear River basin received enough additional snow to see their peak SWE value increase from the previous peak observed around March 11. Every other basin did not receive enough snow in April to surpass the mid-March peak.
- Figure 6 shows how much of this water's year's snowpack is left compared to this year's peak amount using SNOTEL and snow course data. Every basin, except for the Boise River and Henrys Fork-Teton, has less snowpack remaining on May 1 compared to April 1. This is typical once the spring melt season begins.

Figure 6 shows that approximately 69 to 82% of the snowpack remains in northern Idaho. In the West Central basins, there is 8% of the Weiser Basin snowpack remaining and 91% left in the Boise. The Wood and Lost basins have ~55% of their snowpack remaining. However, after flying over the Boise, Big Wood and Little Wood basins on May 6 to visually assess snowpack conditions, these amounts seem like an overestimate. There is little to no snow remaining below ~8,000 ft. in the Boise, Big Wood, and Little Wood basins. Across the Upper Snake River basins, a small amount (6%) of snow is left in the Willow-Blackfoot-Portneuf, 61% in the Snake River headwaters, and 85% in the Henrys Fork-Teton basins. There is virtually no snow remaining in the Southern Snake basins except in the Raft which has 45% of its snowpack remaining.

While cooler, wetter conditions in April slowed down the snowmelt rate, many SNOTEL sites melted out abnormally early. The furthest stations to the south melted out ~2 months earlier than is typical! Many other stations melted out approximately 20 to 45 days earlier than normal. Fortunately, April was cool enough that snow fell at many SNOTEL stations and prevented the earliest melt out on record in many basins.

Weather, climate, and drought outlooks

Early May has brought a significant shift in the spring weather pattern. A high-pressure ridge is bringing warm, dry conditions to the Pacific Northwest. Very little, if any, precipitation is expected over the next two weeks. Freezing levels are expected to remain high (7,000 to 10,000 ft) so we expect significant snowmelt to begin again. Unless cool, wet conditions return, it's likely the snowpack will finish melting out this month. NOAA's mid-term to 1-month outlooks predicts warmer and drier conditions throughout May. They also predict that this spring and summer will be warmer across the state and drier than normal in northern Idaho.

Seventy-five percent of Idaho is in moderate (D1) to exceptional drought (D4). The remaining 25% is considered to be abnormally dry. On April 14, the governor declared drought in all 44 counties. While the impacts from the low snowpack year have not fully

manifested yet, it's very likely that without much summer precipitation, Idaho (and the West) will experience an increase in drought severity. Drought conditions are the most severe along the southern Idaho border. This region had a record low snowpack and has received significantly less precipitation than normal over the water year thus far.

Water supply conditions

Irrigation demand started early this year and was high in response to the abnormally warm weather in the second half of March. Snowmelt also began in earnest with melting observed even in the highest elevation mountains. The rapid melt swelled rivers and streams to levels typically observed much later in the spring. Above normal April precipitation kept streams full even as snowmelt slowed down in response to the cooler temperatures, but the runoff was not enough to meet irrigation demand in regions like the Upper Snake River. Reservoir accrual in the Upper Snake system ended on April 19, and it's whether the remaining incoming snowmelt will be enough for additional accrual is unknown. System storage has already begun to decrease as demand exceeds inflows. Typically, storage doesn't begin to decrease for another six to eight weeks in the Upper Snake reservoir system. These same challenges will likely be widespread. Most reservoirs have above normal storage for this time of year but this map paints a rosier water supply picture than conditions on the ground support. Without much high elevation snowpack remaining to sustain natural flow, most reservoirs will not maintain storage levels for as long as they typically do and are unlikely to accrue additional storage. Streamflow in eastern and southern Idaho rivers have already dropped from well below to extremely below normal levels due to this winter's poor snowpack. Low streamflow levels are beginning to be observed in northern Idaho as well. Without a lot more rain, streamflow levels may decline to historically low levels this summer given the near record low snowpack conditions. These shifts in peak streamflow timing and the early decline to potentially record low summer baseflows will strain water supplies, fisheries and ecosystem health, hydropower generation, and Idaho's recreation sector.

It's likely most reservoirs will be drawn down to very low levels this year and will not have much carryover going into the next water year. If El Niño conditions develop as predicted, persist through the winter, and follow a typical pattern, it's likely there could be back-to-back low snowpack years. Historically, El Niño conditions are more often drier and warmer in Idaho. While we cannot predict whether this will actually happen, the current forecast guidance suggests that it is a distinct possibility.

All streamflow forecasts are below normal for the May through July period (Fig. 4) due to below normal snowpack conditions for this time of year. Near normal snowpack conditions in western Montana, the headwaters of the Pend Oreille River, and Pacific Creek, a tributary of the Snake River below Jackson Lake, are the only streamflow forecast points that have near normal streamflow forecasts. Otherwise, we expect very low streamflow conditions across Idaho and the Pacific Northwest. It's difficult to compare May 1 forecasts to the April 1 until all of the observed April streamflow data is available. One bright spot was that thanks to above normal precipitation in April, streamflow north of the Snake River was mostly higher than normal despite the slowdown in the snowpack melt

rate last month. However, if the spring and summer are drier and warmer than normal (as predicted), we strongly urge water users to utilize the 70 and 90% exceedance forecasted streamflow volumes to minimize their risk. NRCS forecast charts are the easiest way to visualize the range of the five forecasts issued at each location.

While the rainy, cool April boosted water supply and slowed down the pace of snowmelt, it did not change the overall water supply picture this summer. While we can look to other dismal snowpack years like 2015, 2001, 1992 for an idea of what low snowpack impacts are on the horizon, this year was also a lot wetter than those years. Total water year precipitation north and east of the Snake River is near to above normal (exception Southern Snake basins) so we don't have an equivalent analog year to compare to. Since this was one of the lowest snowpacks since 1934, the first in most of our lifetimes, we will learn many important lessons this year as we navigate the challenges that come our way. Ultimately, this year will be a blueprint for strengthening Idaho's resiliency to drought.

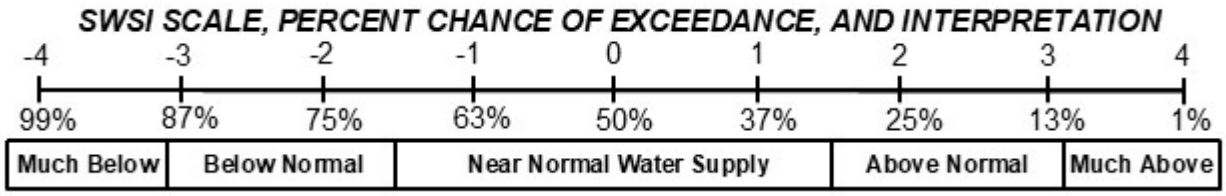
Current streamflow, snowpack, and precipitation data for each basin can be accessed in basin reports, on the NRCS interactive map or via the many data visualization products provided by NRCS's National Water and Climate Center (NWCC) that can be found in the dropdown menus above the interactive map.

Idaho Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) - May 01, 2026

The Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) is a predictive indicator of surface water availability within a watershed for the spring and summer water use season. The index is calculated by combining pre-runoff reservoir storage (carryover) with forecasts of spring and summer streamflow. SWSI values are scaled from +4.0 (abundant supply) to -4.0 (extremely dry), with a value of zero indicating a median water supply as compared to historical occurrences. The SWSI analysis period is from 1991 to present.

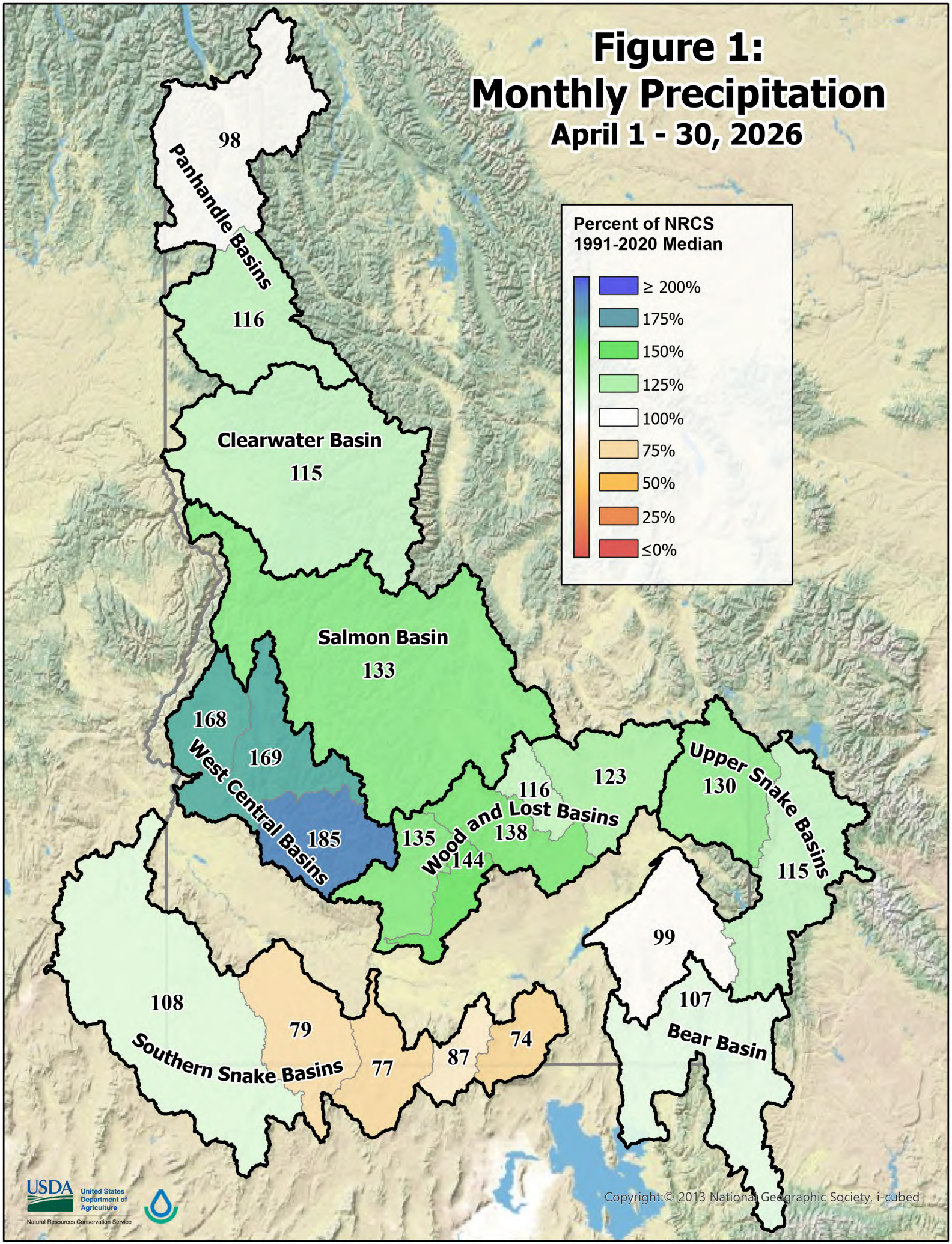
SWSI values provide a more comprehensive outlook of water availability by combining streamflow forecasts and reservoir storage where appropriate. The SWSI index allows comparison of water availability between basins for drought or flood severity analysis. Threshold SWSI values have been determined for some basins to indicate the potential for agricultural irrigation water shortages.

Basin or Region	Reservoir Storage (KAF)	50% Exceedance Forecast (KAF)	Storage + Forecast (KAF)	Percentile	SWSI Value	Water Supply Threshold SWSI Value	Similar SWSI Value Years
Northern Panhandle Region	----	326	326	38	-1.0	----	2005, 2009
Spokane River Basin	227	810	1,037	18	-2.7	----	2025, 2005
Clearwater River Basin	2,966	4,540	7,506	34	-1.3	----	2013, 2023
Salmon River Basin	----	4,310	4,310	40	-0.8	----	2016, 2002
Weiser River Basin	----	123	123	16	-2.8	----	2007, 2021
Payette River Basin	815	830	1,645	30	-1.7	----	2005, 2004
Boise River Basin	955	400	1,355	18	-2.7	-2.7	2021, 2005
Big Wood above Hailey	----	145	145	38	-1.0	----	1991, 2000
Big Wood River Basin	90	85	175	32	-1.5	0.6	2014, 2003
Camas Creek Near Blaine	----	6	6	32	-1.5	----	1991, 2022
Little Wood River Basin	29	25	54	34	-1.3	-1.2	2004, 2008
Big Lost River Basin	38	90	128	47	-0.2	0.5	1991, 2008
Little Lost River Basin	----	22	22	43	-0.6	1.6	2025, 2016
Teton River Basin	----	106	106	16	-2.8	-3.8	2021, 2003
Henrys Fork Basin	233	925	1,158	20	-2.5	-2.9	2015, 1994
Snake River Near Heise	1,541	2,400	3,941	24	-2.2	-1.3	2005, 2007
Oakley Basin	20	5	25	7	-3.6	0.2	2003, 1991
Salmon Falls above Jackpot	----	11	11	4	-3.8	----	1992, 2012
Salmon Falls Creek Basin	26	11	37	4	-3.8	-0.6	1992, 2001
Bruneau Basin	----	35	35	4	-3.8	----	1992, 2012
Owyhee Basin	457	43	500	24	-2.2	-1.0	2021, 1994
Bear River Basin	800	25	825	54	0.3	-3.8	2001, 1996



"----" = Not Available / Not Applicable; Note: The Percent Chance of Exceedance is an indicator of how often a range of SWSI values might be expected to occur. Each SWSI unit represents about 12% of the historical occurrences. As an example of interpreting the above scale, the SWSI can be expected to be greater than -3.0, 87% of the time and less than -3.0, 13% of the time. Half the time, the SWSI will be below and half the time above a value of zero. The interval between -1.5 and +1.5 described as "Near Normal Water Supply" represents three SWSI units and would be expected to occur about one-third (36%) of the time.

Figure 1:
Monthly Precipitation
April 1 - 30, 2026



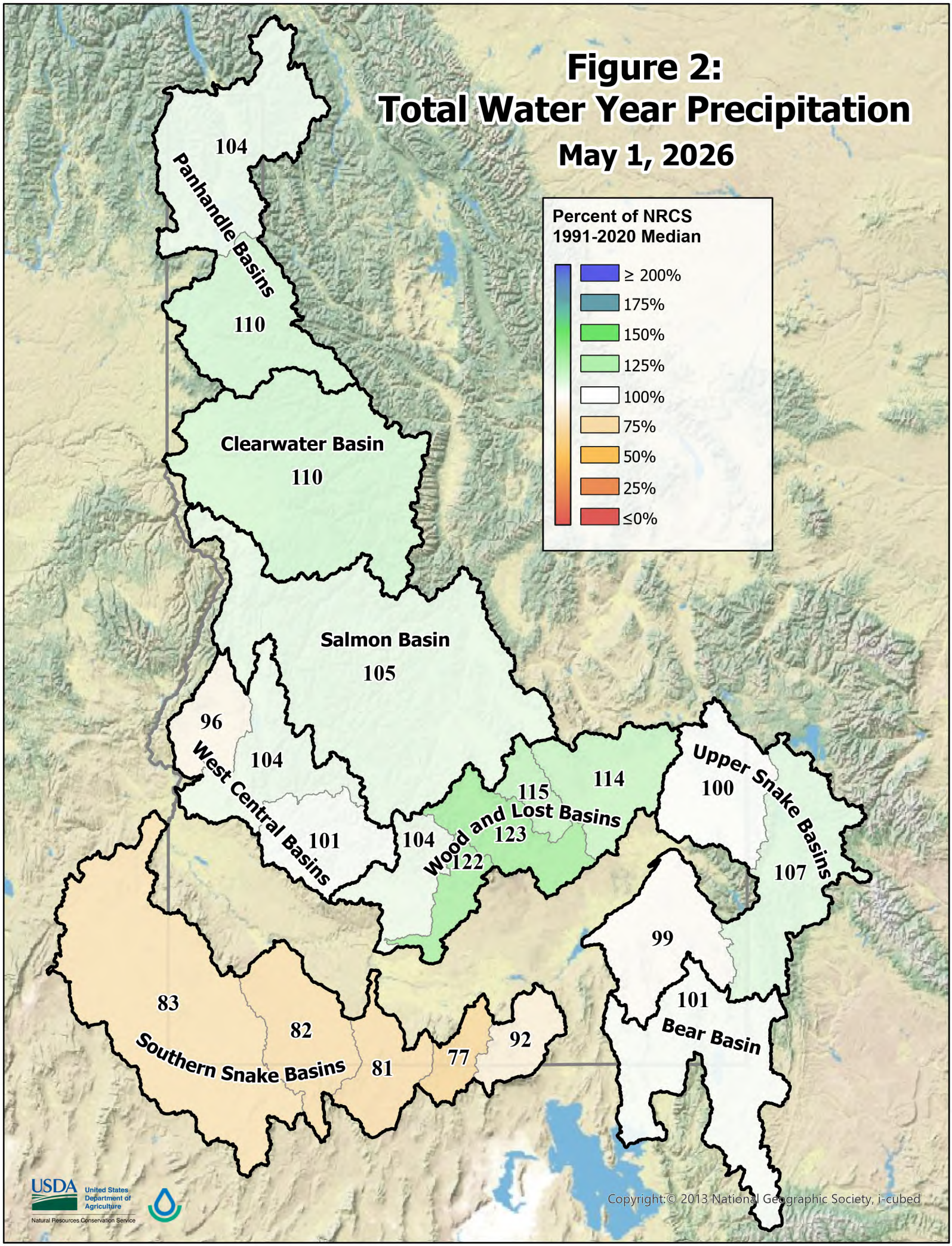


Figure 2:
Total Water Year Precipitation
May 1, 2026
Percent of NRCS
1991-2020 Median
≥ 200%
175%
150%
125%
100%
75%
50%
25%
≤0%
104
Panhandle Basins
110
Clearwater Basin
110
Salmon Basin
105
96
104
West Central Basins
101
104
Wood and Lost Basins
115
123
122
114
Upper Snake Basins
100
107
99
101
Bear Basin
83
82
Southern Snake Basins
81
77
92
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Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
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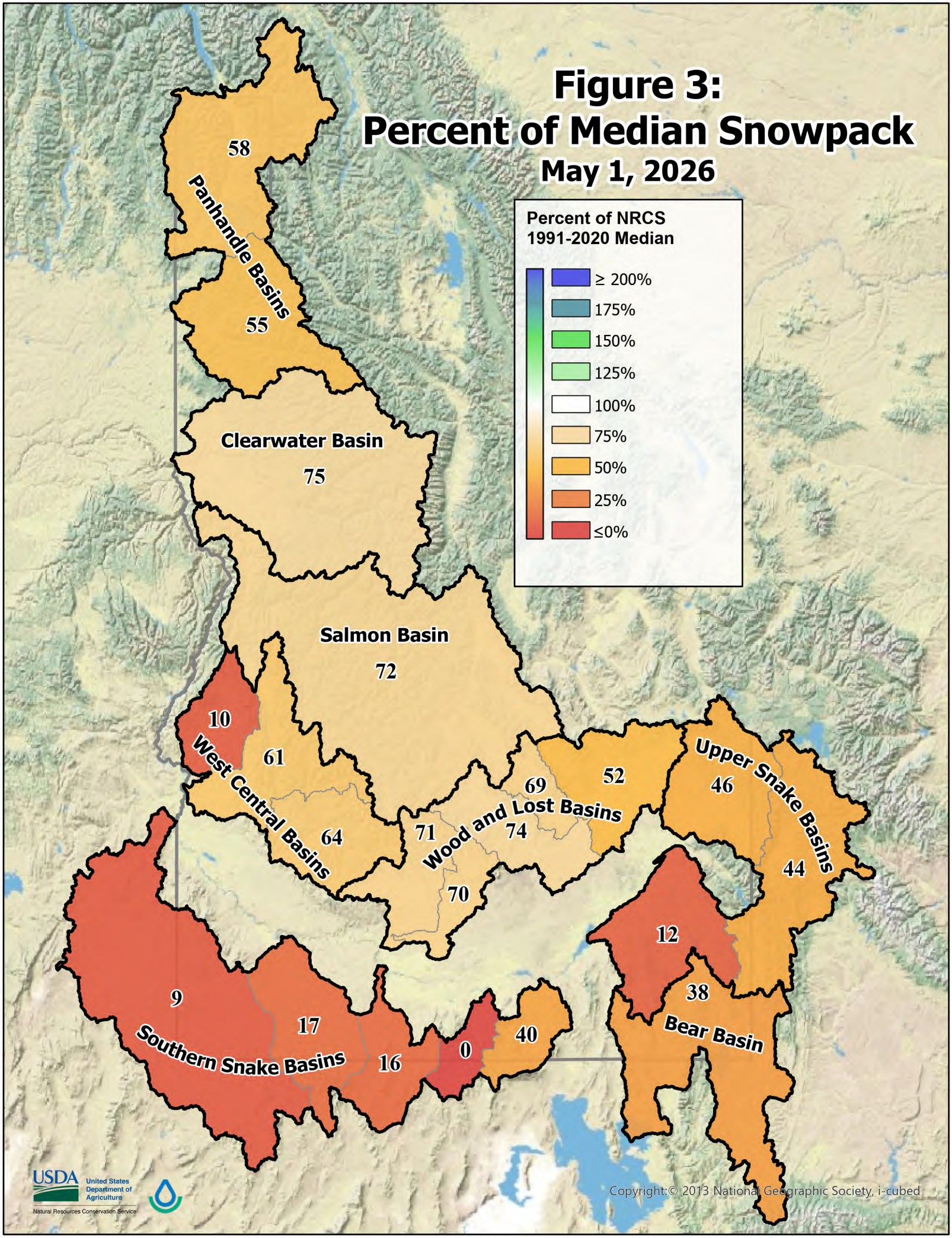
Figure 3:
Percent of Median Snowpack
May 1, 2026



USDA United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Figure 4:
50% Exceedance Streamflow Forecast
May 1, 2026

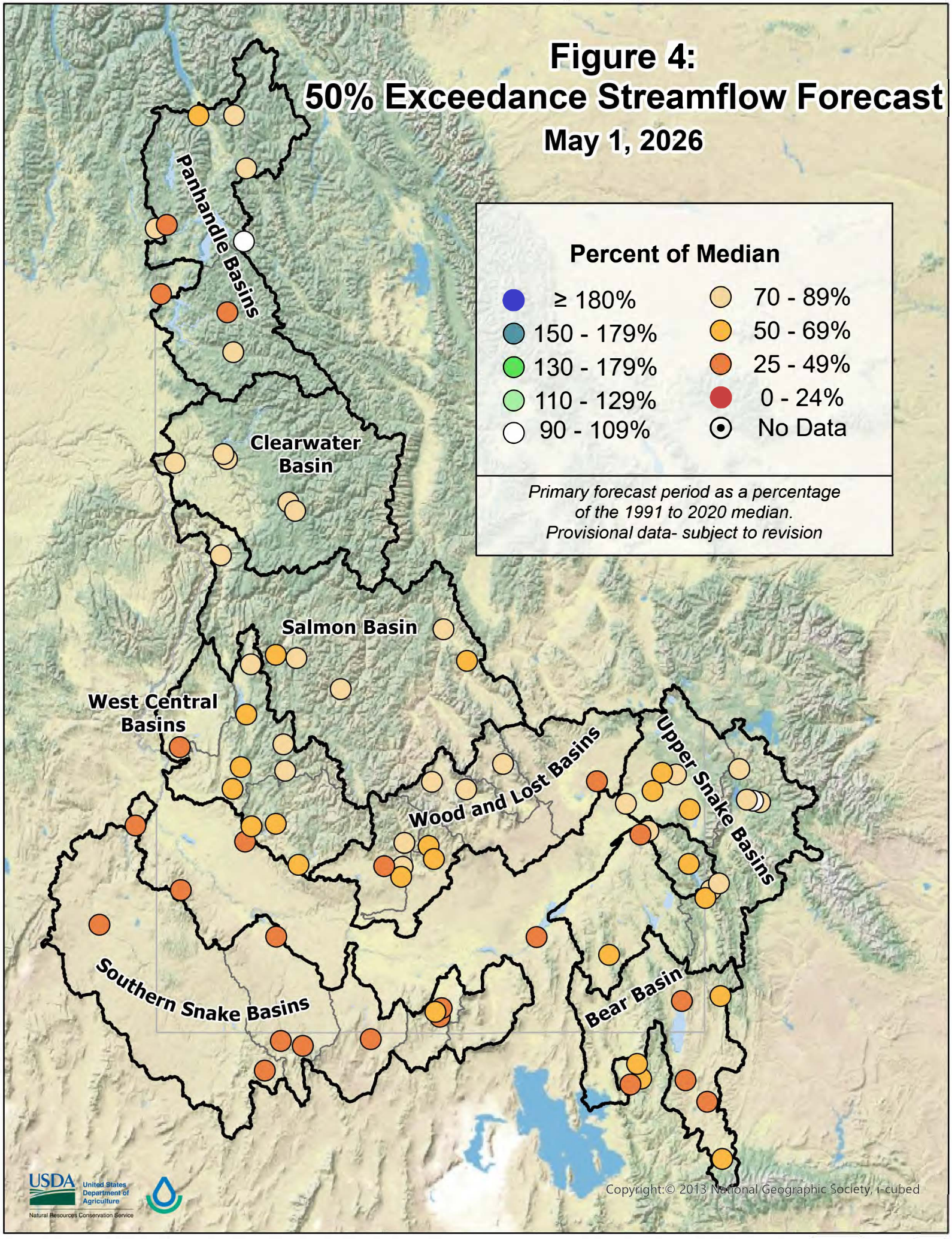
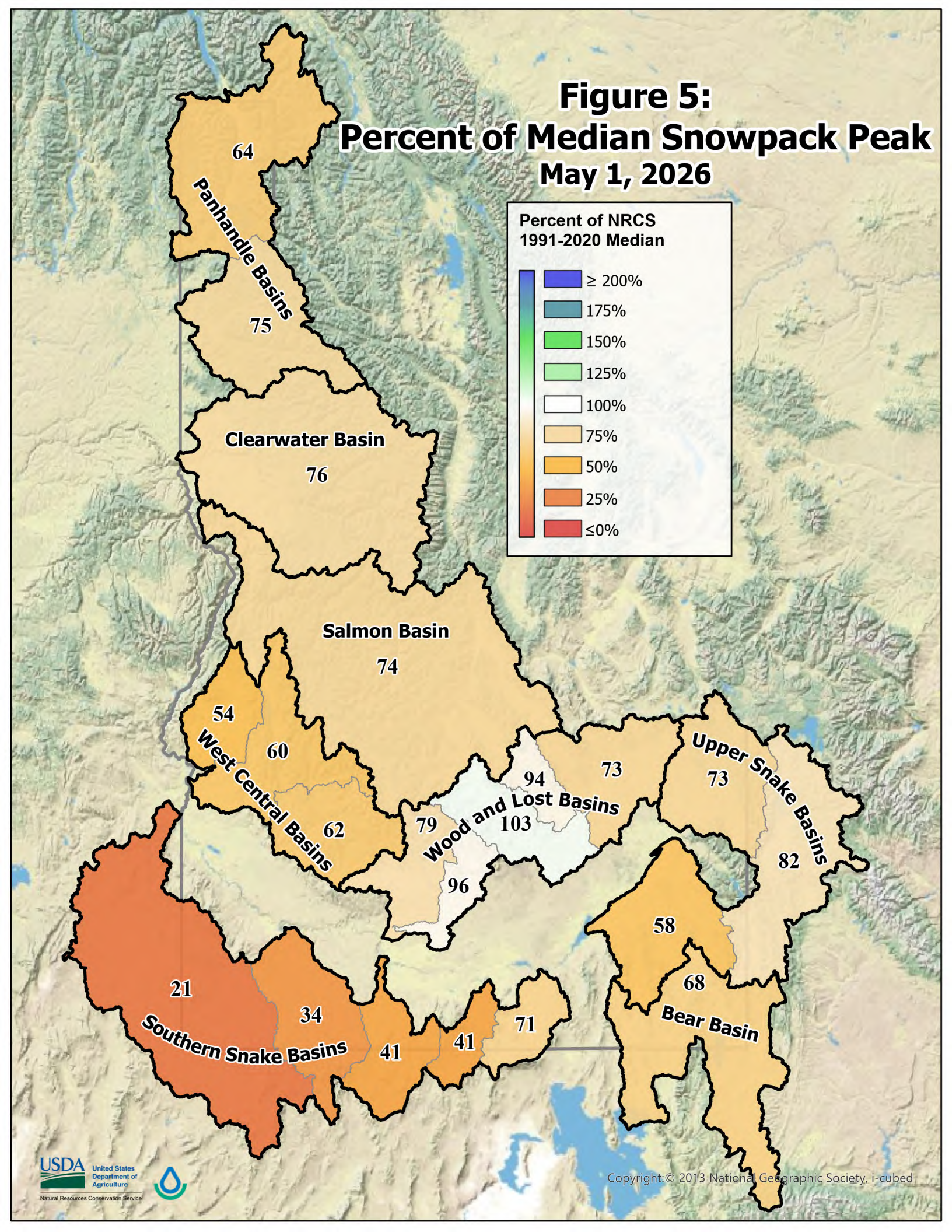
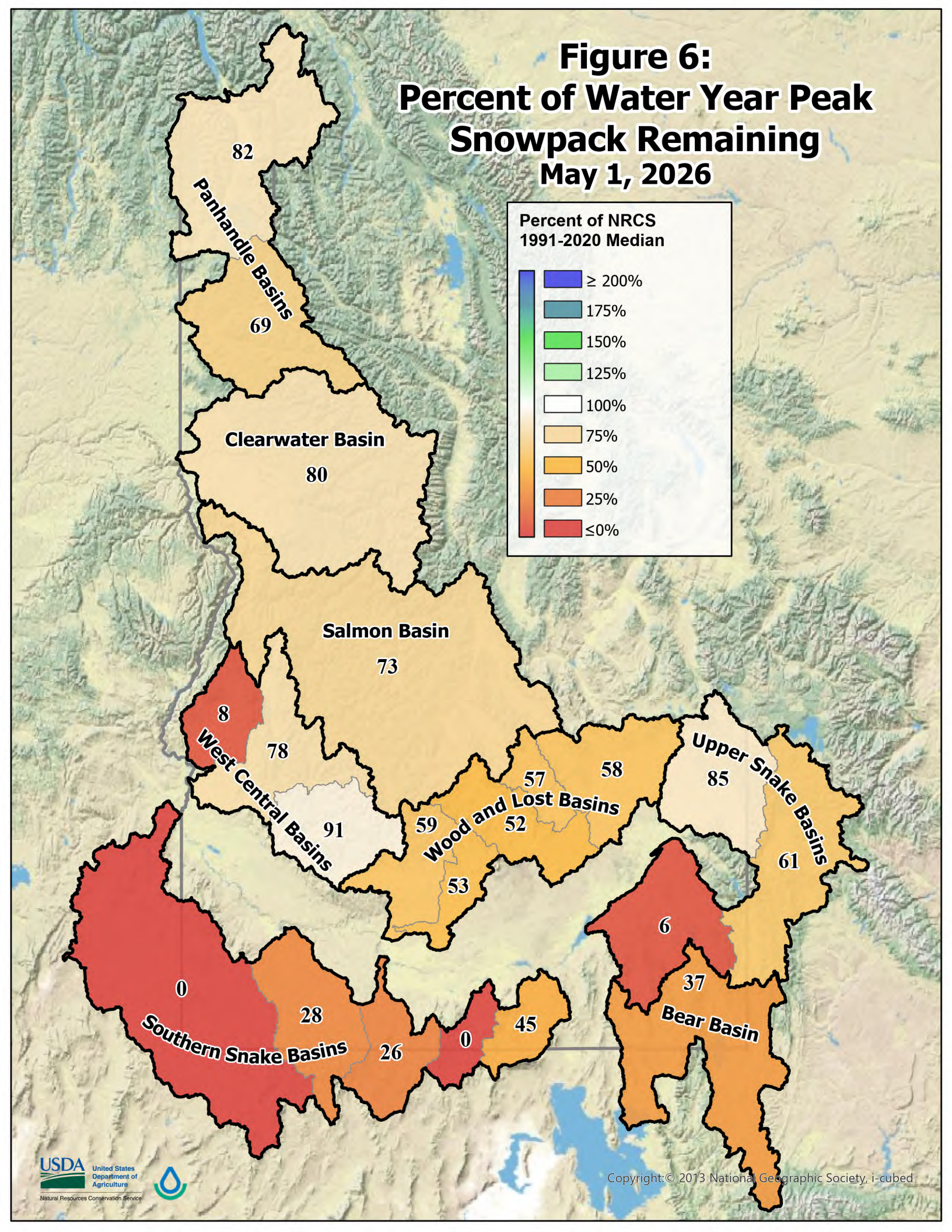


Figure 5:
Percent of Median Snowpack Peak
May 1, 2026



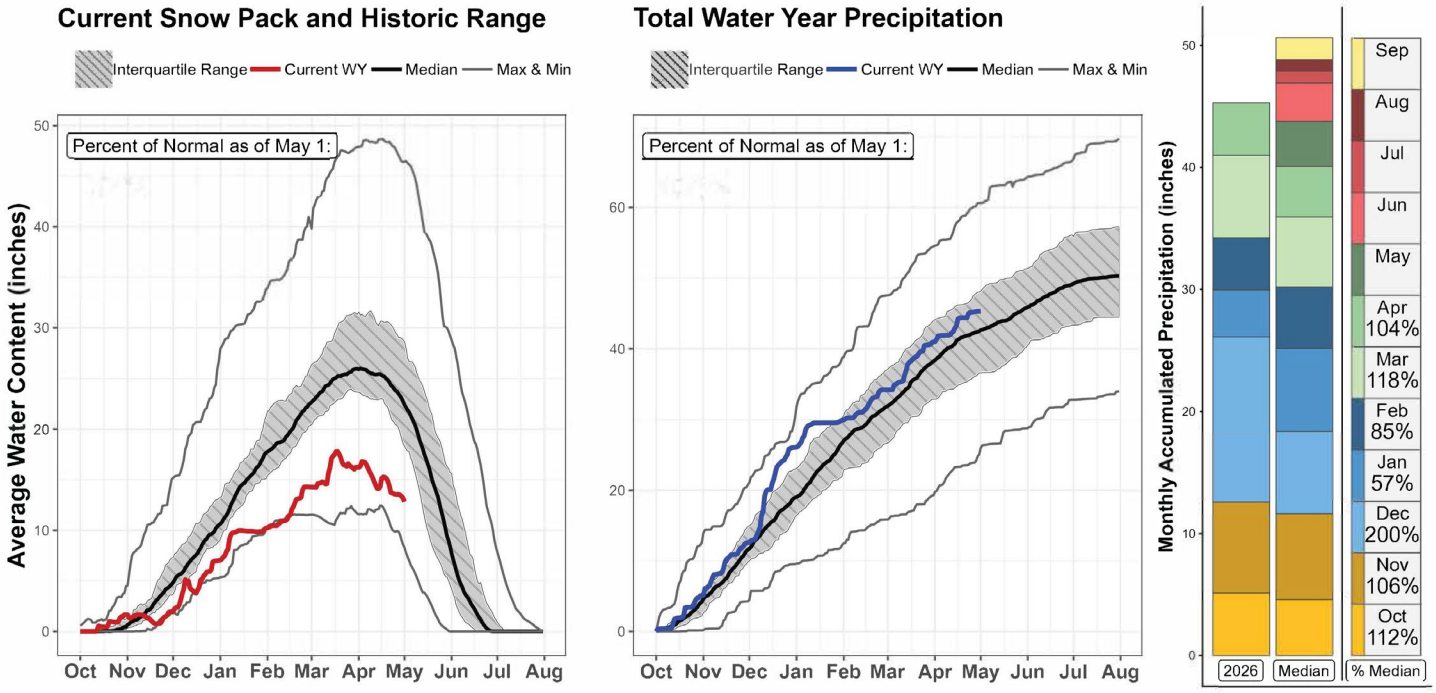
USDA United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Figure 6:
Percent of Water Year Peak Snowpack Remaining
May 1, 2026



Panhandle Basins

May 1, 2026



WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

Panhandle basins received near to above normal precipitation in April ranging between ~100 to 115% (Fig. 1), and total water year precipitation remains near normal at ~105 to 110% (Fig. 2). Snowpack continues to be lackluster for this time of year and is ~55% of normal (Fig. 3). Even though this year's snowpack peak was about a month earlier than normal, April was relatively cold and wet, which helped reduce the rate of snowmelt. NOAA's 30-day outlook predicts above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation, suggesting the snowmelt rate will pick up its pace over the next month. There is ~70 to 80% of this year's snowpack remaining (Fig. 6). Although snowpack has been well below normal across the Idaho Panhandle for most of the winter, this area is faring better than most of the Western United States.

Reservoir storage in the Panhandle lakes is near to above normal: Coeur d'Alene is 108% of normal (95% full), Pend Oreille is 91% of normal (54% full), and Priest Lake is 125% of normal (104% full). Streamflow forecasts for May through July are 38 to 92% of normal at the 50% exceedance level across the Panhandle basins. Streamflow forecasts increased in the Pend Oreille from last month because the headwaters in Montana kept the high-elevation pack at near normal levels due to the cool, wet April weather. However, conditions deteriorate slightly moving north into the Flathead and Kootenai, and decline significantly further to the west in Idaho due to below median snowpack and drier overall conditions in northern Idaho. Outside the Pend Oreille mainstem, streamflow volumes for this portion of Idaho and across the border in Washington are expected to be far below median. Given this winter's below normal snowpack and NOAA's prediction for drier and warmer than normal conditions this spring and summer, we urge water users to consider the 70 and 90% exceedance streamflow forecasts issued at each point rather than only the 50% exceedance forecast to limit risk.

Panhandle Basins Streamflow Forecasts - May 01, 2026

		Forecast Exceedance Probabilities for Risk Assessment <=== Drier ===== Projected Volume ===== Wetter ===>						
Forecast Point	**Forecast Period**	**90% (KAF)**	**70% (KAF)**	**50% (KAF)**	**% Median**	**30% (KAF)**	**10% (KAF)**	**30yr Med (KAF)**
Kootenai R at Leonia 1 & 2	MAY-JUL	4,310	5,050	5,400	87	5,750	6,500	6,190
	MAY-SEP	5,170	5,950	6,310	89	6,670	7,450	7,090
Moyie R at Eastport	MAY-JUL	187	225	255	85	285	325	300
	MAY-SEP	191	235	265	84	295	340	315
Boundary Ck nr Porthill	MAY-JUL	41	52	59	59	66	77	100
	MAY-SEP	43	54	61	59	68	79	104
Clark Fork R bl Cabinet Gorge Dam 2	MAY-JUL	6,630	7,270	7,720	92	8,170	8,810	8,430
	MAY-SEP	7,130	7,910	8,450	89	8,990	9,770	9,490
Priest R Outflow NR Coolin	MAY-JUL	171	225	260	50	295	350	515
	MAY-SEP	164	225	265	50	305	365	530
Priest R nr Priest River 2	MAY-JUL	165	240	290	46	340	415	635
	MAY-SEP	189	270	325	49	380	460	670
Pend Oreille R bl Box Canyon	MAY-JUL	6,350	7,220	7,820	81	8,420	9,290	9,600
	MAY-SEP	7,130	8,020	8,640	80	9,260	10,200	10,800
NF Coeur dAlene R at Enaville	MAY-JUL	24	95	145	38	195	265	380
	MAY-SEP	54	128	180	43	230	305	415
St. Joe R at Calder 2	MAY-JUL	415	505	570	77	635	725	740
	MAY-SEP	415	510	580	71	650	745	815
Spokane R nr Post Falls 2	MAY-JUL	425	610	745	48	875	1,060	1,560
	MAY-SEP	485	675	810	49	940	1,130	1,640

Normals based on 1991-2020 reference period: streamflow, snowpack, precipitation, & reservoir normals are medians.

1) 90% and 10% exceedance probabilities are actually 95% and 5%

2) Forecasts are for unimpaired flows. Actual flow will be dependent on management of upstream reservoirs and diversions

Reservoir Storage (KAF): May 01, 2026

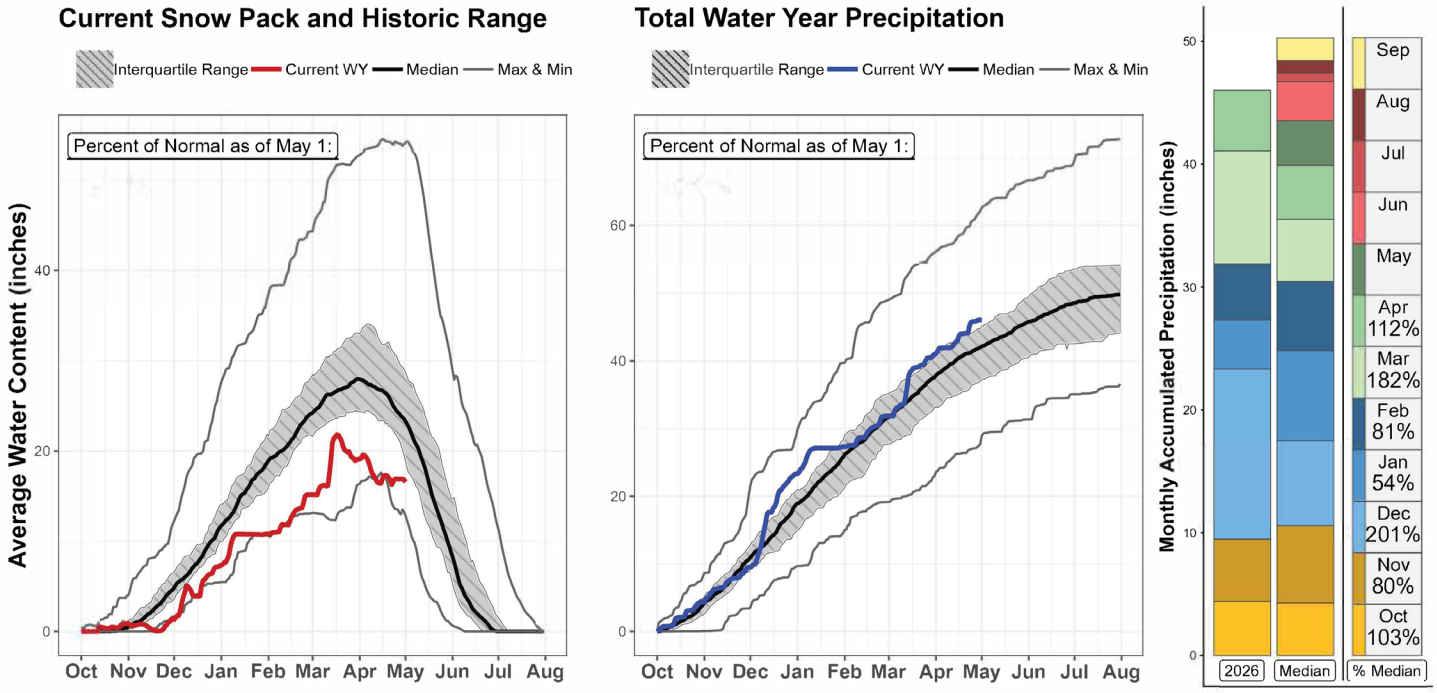
Reservoir Name	Current (KAF)	2025	Median (KAF)	Capacity (KAF)
Hungry Horse Lake	3,075.1	2,658.8	2,480.0	3,451.0
Flathead Lake	1,475.3	879.8	1,025.0	1,791.0
Lake Pend Oreille	841.1	887.8	925.0	1,561.3
Priest Lake	123.6	99.1	99.2	119.3
Lake Coeur d' Alene	227.3	198.4	210.3	238.5

Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 01, 2026

Basin Name	# of Sites	% of Median 2026	% of Median 2025
Pend Oreille-Kootenai	**15**	**58**	**90**
Moyie	1	85	83
Lower Kootenai	2	72	94
Priest	6	58	95
Pend Oreille Lake	6	53	94
Rathdrum	2	0	51
Coeur D'Alene-St. Joe	**10**	**42**	**76**
Coeur D'Alene	7	29	70
St. Joe	3	65	87
Palouse	2	0	0

Clearwater River Basin

May 1, 2026



WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

During the month of April, the Clearwater Basin received 115% of normal precipitation (Fig. 1). This kept the total water year precipitation above normal at 109% (Fig. 2). Although the snowpack in the Clearwater is in much better condition than the rest of the Western U.S., it is still below normal for this time of year at 75% (Fig. 3). Throughout May, the basin experienced multiple snowfall events with periods of melt in between, but none of this was enough to surpass the peak snowpack level that occurred in mid-March. The snowpack peaked at 76% of normal on March 17 with 23.1 inches of Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) (Fig. 5). On May 1, 80% of this year's peak snowpack remains thanks to the cool, wet April weather (Fig. 6). If the current rate of melt continues, we can expect the Clearwater to be melted out by early to mid-June.

Dworshak Reservoir is 86% full, which is 113% of normal on May 1. The 50% exceedance streamflow forecasts in the Clearwater Basin range between 78 to 89% of normal for the May through July forecast period (Fig. 4). Given this winter's below normal snowpack and NOAA's prediction for drier and warmer than normal conditions this spring and summer, we urge water users to consider the 70 and 90% exceedance streamflow forecasts issued at each point rather than only the 50% exceedance forecast to limit risk.

Clearwater Basin Streamflow Forecasts - May 01, 2026

		Forecast Exceedance Probabilities for Risk Assessment <=== Drier ===== Projected Volume ===== Wetter ===>						
Forecast Point	**Forecast Period**	**90% (KAF)**	**70% (KAF)**	**50% (KAF)**	**% Median**	**30% (KAF)**	**10% (KAF)**	**30yr Med (KAF)**
Selway R nr Lowell	MAY-JUL	1,200	1,310	1,400	89	1,490	1,650	1,580
	MAY-SEP	1,270	1,390	1,490	89	1,590	1,750	1,670
Lochsa R nr Lowell	MAY-JUL	780	860	925	83	1,000	1,130	1,110
	MAY-SEP	830	915	985	84	1,060	1,180	1,170
Clearwater R at Orofino	MAY-JUL	2,230	2,470	2,660	79	2,880	3,250	3,350
	MAY-SEP	2,410	2,670	2,880	81	3,110	3,510	3,540
Dworshak Reservoir Inflow 2	MAY-JUL	1,060	1,220	1,360	78	1,530	1,840	1,740
	MAY-SEP	1,200	1,360	1,490	76	1,650	1,930	1,960
Clearwater R at Spalding 2	MAY-JUL	3,410	3,810	4,140	81	4,520	5,160	5,120
	MAY-SEP	3,740	4,180	4,540	82	4,960	5,700	5,560

Normals based on 1991-2020 reference period: streamflow, snowpack, precipitation, & reservoir normals are medians.

1) 90% and 10% exceedance probabilities are actually 95% and 5%

2) Forecasts are for unimpaired flows. Actual flow will be dependent on management of upstream reservoirs and diversions

Reservoir Storage (KAF): May 01, 2026

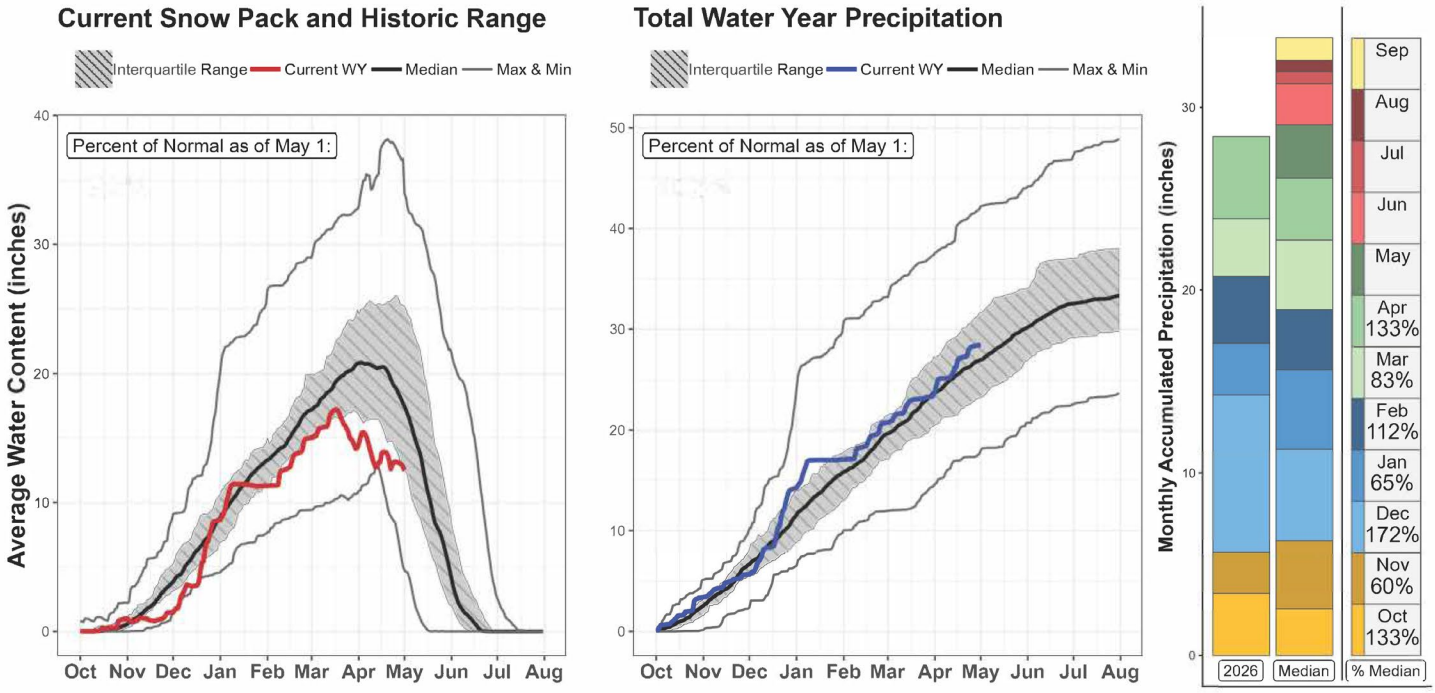
Reservoir Name	Current (KAF)	2025	Median (KAF)	Capacity (KAF)
Dworshak Reservoir	2,966.2	2,624	2,623	3,468

Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 01, 2026

Basin Name	# of Sites	% of Median 2026	% of Median 2025
Clearwater	**16**	**71**	**84**
North Fork Clearwater	6	70	87
Lochsa	3	77	74
Selway	4	75	87
South Fork Clearwater	1	64	89

Salmon River Basin

May 1, 2026



WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

The Salmon River Basin received 133% of normal precipitation in April (Fig. 1). Total water year precipitation is slightly above normal at 103% (Fig. 2). The snowpack in the Salmon is hanging on longer than most of the state, but it is still below normal for this time of year at 72% (Fig. 3). Like the Clearwater, the Salmon Basin experienced multiple snowfall events with periods of melt in between, but peak snowpack still occurred in mid-March. The snowpack peaked at 74% normal on March 16 with 17.2 inches of SWE (Fig. 5). On May 1, 73% of this year's peak snowpack remains due to the cool, wet April conditions (Fig. 6). If the current rate of melt continues, we expect the Salmon River Basin to melt out by the end of May.

There are no reservoirs in the Salmon Basin. The 50% exceedance streamflow forecasts for May through July range between 65 to 88% of normal (Fig. 4). Given this winter's below normal snowpack and NOAA's prediction for drier and warmer than normal conditions this spring and summer, we urge water users to consider the 70 and 90% exceedance streamflow forecasts issued at each point rather than only the 50% exceedance forecast to minimize risk.

Salmon Basin Streamflow Forecasts - May 01, 2026

		Forecast Exceedance Probabilities for Risk Assessment <=== Drier ===== Projected Volume ===== Wetter ===>						
Forecast Point	**Forecast Period**	**90% (KAF)**	**70% (KAF)**	**50% (KAF)**	**% Median**	**30% (KAF)**	**10% (KAF)**	**30yr Med (KAF)**
Salmon R at Salmon	MAY-JUL	480	550	600	88	655	745	680
	MAY-SEP	560	635	695	86	760	865	805
Lemhi R nr Lemhi	MAY-JUL	22	29	34	65	40	50	52
	MAY-SEP	31	38	44	68	51	62	65
MF Salmon R at MF Lodge	MAY-JUL	425	485	530	85	575	650	625
	MAY-SEP	470	530	580	82	630	715	710
SF Salmon R nr Krassel Ranger Station	MAY-JUL	132	152	166	69	181	205	240
	MAY-SEP	145	167	182	70	198	225	260
Johnson Ck at Yellow Pine	MAY-JUL	113	129	141	75	153	172	189
	MAY-SEP	122	140	152	76	165	185	200
Salmon R at White Bird	MAY-JUL	3,130	3,500	3,780	77	4,070	4,510	4,910
	MAY-SEP	3,620	4,020	4,310	79	4,620	5,090	5,480

Normals based on 1991-2020 reference period: streamflow, snowpack, precipitation, & reservoir normals are medians.

1) 90% and 10% exceedance probabilities are actually 95% and 5%

2) Forecasts are for unimpaired flows. Actual flow will be dependent on management of upstream reservoirs and diversions

Reservoir Storage (KAF): May 01, 2026

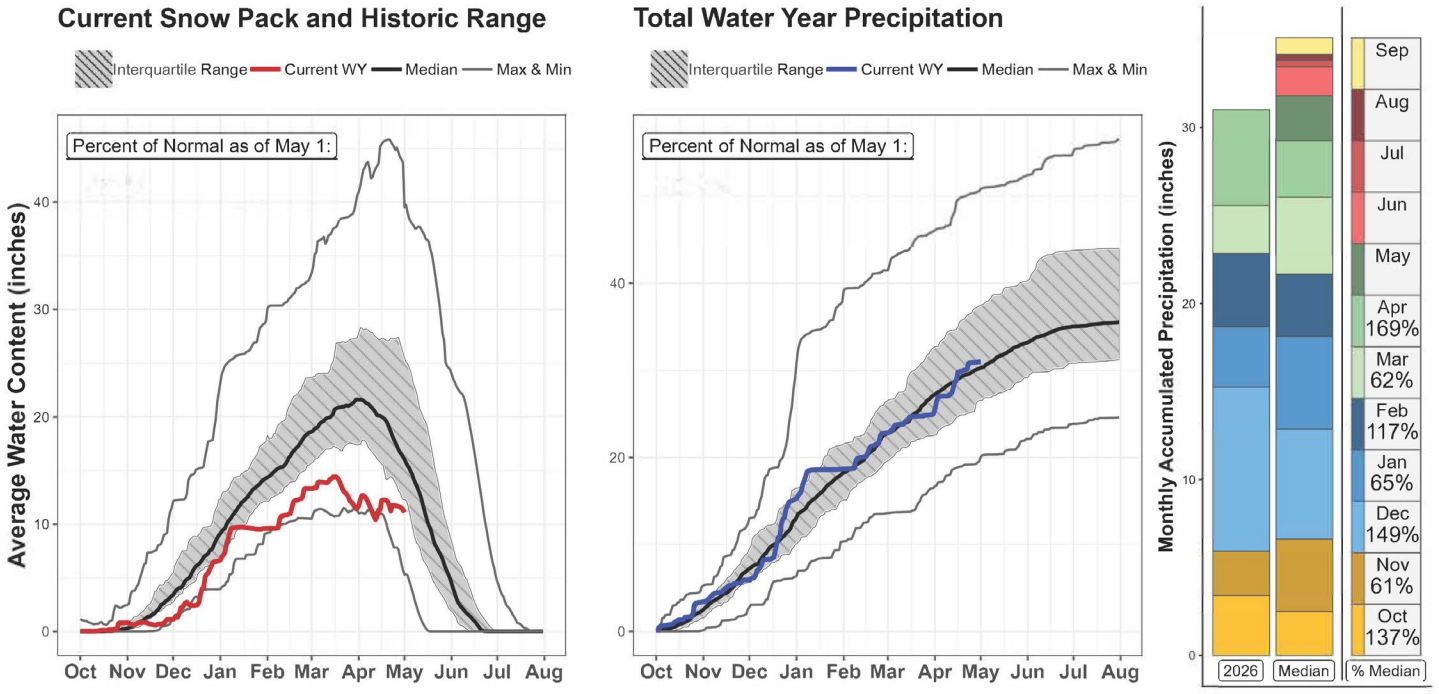
Reservoir Name	Current (KAF)	2025	Median (KAF)	Capacity (KAF)

Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 01, 2026

Basin Name	# of Sites	% of Median 2026	% of Median 2025
Salmon	**21**	**72**	**101**
Lemhi	3	70	67
Salmon ab Salmon	8	84	95
Middle Fork Salmon	3	80	114
South Fork Salmon	3	79	121
Little Salmon	4	38	126
Lower-Middle Salmon	4	50	95

West Central Basins

May 1, 2026



WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

April delivered well above normal precipitation in the Weiser, Payette, and Boise river basins. Monthly precipitation ranged between 168% of normal in the Weiser Basin to 186% of normal in the Boise Basin (Fig. 1). The total water year precipitation across the region remains near normal, ranging from 95% in the Weiser to 102% of normal in the Payette Basin (Fig. 2).

The snowpack in April was dynamic. The month began with a high melt rate that was on pace to melt the majority of the snow in these basins by May 1. However, due to cold wet weather throughout April, the rate of melt slowed down and an increase in snowpack was recorded at most SNOTEL stations in the region before another melt cycle began at the end of the month. Despite these April snowstorms, the snowpack in the West Central basins remains well below normal. The May 1 snowpack is only 10 to 64% of normal for this time of year (Fig. 3). The high variability is mostly controlled by the elevation differences between stations. The snowline assessment flight on May 6 confirmed the snowline is at ~8,000 ft. The majority of the snowpack left in the Boise Basin appeared to be concentrated in the Middle-Fork of the Boise River and all aspects were still holding snow. Looking at the remaining snowpack as a percentage of this year's water year peak (Fig. 6), these basins have 8% of their winter peak snowpack left in the Weiser, 78% in the Payette, and 91% in the Boise. If current melt trends continue, these basins will be melted out by mid-May, which is a month earlier than normal.

As of May 1, combined reservoir storage in the Boise System (Anderson Ranch, Arrowrock, and Lucky Peak) is 124% of normal (94% full). Reservoir storage in the Payette Basin is 128% of normal, while storage in the Weiser Basin is 91% of normal. Streamflow forecasts for the West Central basins for the May through July period are 48 to 82% of normal for the 50% exceedance forecast (Fig. 4). Given this winter's below normal snowpack and NOAA's prediction for drier and warmer than normal conditions this spring and summer, we urge water users to consider the 70 and 90% exceedance forecasts issued at each point rather than only the 50% exceedance forecast to limit their risk.

West Central Basins Streamflow Forecasts - May 01, 2026

		Forecast Exceedance Probabilities for Risk Assessment <=== Drier ===== Projected Volume ===== Wetter ===>						
Forecast Point	**Forecast Period**	**90% (KAF)**	**70% (KAF)**	**50% (KAF)**	**% Median**	**30% (KAF)**	**10% (KAF)**	**30yr Med (KAF)**
Boise R nr Twin Springs	MAY-JUL	230	265	290	61	320	360	475
	MAY-SEP	280	315	345	66	375	425	525
SF Boise R at Anderson Ranch Dam 2	MAY-JUL	119	142	160	50	180	215	320
	MAY-SEP	133	160	180	52	205	240	345
Mores Ck nr Arrowrock Dam	MAY-JUL	21	25	28	55	32	38	51
	MAY-SEP	24	29	32	59	36	42	54
Boise R nr Boise 2	MAY-JUL	290	315	340	40	365	405	845
	MAY-SEP	345	375	400	42	425	465	945
SF Payette R at Lowman	MAY-JUL	235	260	280	82	300	330	340
	MAY-SEP	265	290	310	81	330	365	385
Deadwood Reservoir Inflow 2	MAY-JUL	63	71	78	77	85	96	101
	MAY-SEP	69	79	87	78	95	108	112
Lake Fork Payette R nr McCall	MAY-JUL	46	52	56	79	60	66	71
	MAY-SEP	48	55	59	81	63	70	73
NF Payette R at Cascade 2	MAY-JUL	200	235	260	66	285	320	395
	MAY-SEP	184	225	250	62	280	320	400
NF Payette R nr Banks 2	MAY-JUL	240	285	320	67	350	400	475
	MAY-SEP	230	280	315	65	355	410	485
Payette R nr Horseshoe Bend 2	MAY-JUL	605	695	760	67	830	930	1,140
	MAY-SEP	655	755	830	67	905	1,020	1,240
Weiser R nr Weiser	MAY-JUL	60	80	95	48	112	139	200
	MAY-SEP	76	102	123	55	144	178	225

Normals based on 1991-2020 reference period: streamflow, snowpack, precipitation, & reservoir normals are medians.

1) 90% and 10% exceedance probabilities are actually 95% and 5%

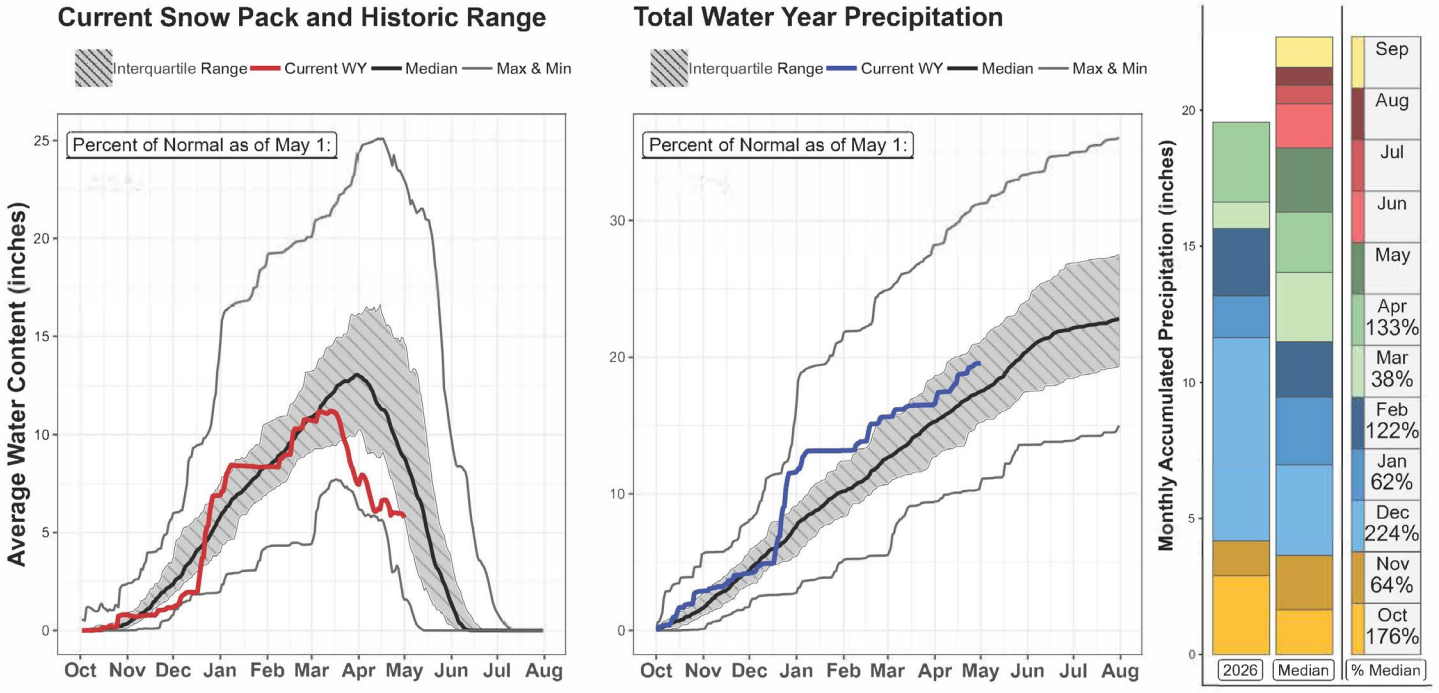
2) Forecasts are for unimpaired flows. Actual flow will be dependent on management of upstream reservoirs and diversions

Reservoir Storage (KAF): May 01, 2026				
Reservoir Name	**Current (KAF)**	**2025**	**Median (KAF)**	**Capacity (KAF)**
Anderson Ranch Reservoir	415.8	381.1	329.8	450.2
Arrowrock Reservoir	250.9	134.7	210.9	272.2
Lucky Peak Reservoir	288.0	212.5	230.6	293.2
Boise River System Total	**954.7**	**728.4**	**771.3**	**1,015.6**
Deadwood Reservoir	145.4	102.0	107.6	161.9
Cascade Reservoir	669.2	464.9	523.8	693.2
Payette River System Total	**814.6**	**566.9**	**631.4**	**855.1**
Lake Lowell	137.2	152.0	127.9	165.2
Mann Creek Reservoir	9.9	10.7	10.8	11.1

Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 01, 2026			
Basin Name	**# of Sites**	**% of Median 2026**	**2025**
Boise	**16**	**64**	**111**
Mores	6	32	117
North and Middle Fork Boise	6	55	111
South Fork Boise	7	85	105
Canyon	1		
Payette	**17**	**62**	**123**
North Fork Payette	8	52	125
South Fork Payette	4	84	116
Weiser	**4**	**10**	**153**
Mann	1	30	202

Wood & Lost River Basins

May 1, 2026



WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

April delivered above normal precipitation in the Wood, Lost, and Birch-Medicine Lodge basins. Monthly precipitation ranged from 116% of normal in the Little Lost Basin to 144% of normal in the Little Wood Basin (Fig. 1). The wet April helped the region to recover from a very dry March and brought its total water year precipitation to above normal levels across these basins, ranging from 104% of normal in the Big Wood Basin to 123% of normal in the Little Wood and Big Lost basins (Fig. 2).

Snowpack conditions remain well below normal for this time of year across the region, with May 1 values ranging from 52% of normal in the Birch-Medicine Lodge to 76% of normal in the Big Wood (Fig. 3). There is about 55% of this year's snowpack remaining (Fig. 6). Although these numbers suggest an improvement from April 1, the apparent gains are somewhat misleading. The increase in percent of normal is primarily the result of slower than expected melt during April, which was relatively cool and wet, rather than any meaningful increase in snow water equivalent. As has been the case throughout the season, the highest SNOTEL stations in the region tell a very different story than the lower elevation sites. Dollarhide Summit (8,390 ft) and Smiley Mountain (9,540 ft) are both at 119% of normal SWE on May 1, while most lower elevation stations are either completely melted out or reporting less than 50% of normal. The snowline assessment flight on May 6 confirmed the snowline is at ~8,000 ft, but most south and west facing aspects were nearly snow-free. The snowpack levels at Smiley Basin were confirmed to be accurate on this flight although the basin this site sits in seems to hold more snow than the surrounding region. This sharp elevation contrast underscores the highly uneven distribution of snowpack and the continued vulnerability of lower elevations basins heading into the runoff season.

Little Wood and Mackay reservoirs have above normal storage as of May 1. They're at 107 and 121% of normal respectively (95 and 84% full). Magic Reservoir is below normal at 61% (47% full), and the Big Wood Canal Company estimates there will only be about 40 to 45 days of water supply, which is

insufficient to grow corn. Streamflow forecasts for the Wood and Lost basins are well below normal, ranging from ~8 on the Camas Prairie to 87% of normal for the 50% exceedance forecast (Fig. 4). Given this winter's below normal snowpack and NOAA's prediction for drier and warmer than normal conditions this spring and summer, we urge water users to consider the 70 and 90% exceedance forecasts issued at each point rather than only the 50% exceedance forecast to limit their risk.

Wood and Lost Basins Streamflow Forecasts - May 01, 2026

		Forecast Exceedance Probabilities for Risk Assessment <=== Drier ===== Projected Volume ===== Wetter ===>						
Forecast Point	**Forecast Period**	**90% (KAF)**	**70% (KAF)**	**50% (KAF)**	**% Median**	**30% (KAF)**	**10% (KAF)**	**30yr Med (KAF)**
Camas Ck at Camas	MAY-JUL	0.1	0.5	0.9	8	1.3	2.0	10.9
Little Lost R bl Wet Ck nr Howe	MAY-JUL	13.6	15.9	17.8	77	19.9	23.0	23.0
	MAY-SEP	16.6	19.6	22.0	81	25.0	30.0	27.0
Big Lost R at Howell Ranch	MAY-JUL	84.0	98.0	109.0	87	122.0	145.0	125.0
	MAY-SEP	94.0	108.0	120.0	86	134.0	157.0	140.0
Big Lost R bl Mackay Reservoir	MAY-JUL	48.0	60.0	70.0	78	82.0	105.0	90.0
	MAY-SEP	67.0	79.0	90.0	80	103.0	128.0	112.0
Big Wood R at Hailey	MAY-JUL	103.0	118.0	130.0	74	143.0	164.0	176.0
	MAY-SEP	114.0	131.0	145.0	73	160.0	186.0	198.0
Big Wood R ab Magic Reservoir	MAY-JUL	40.0	58.0	74.0	70	93.0	126.0	105.0
	MAY-SEP	47.0	68.0	86.0	76	107.0	145.0	113.0
Camas Ck nr Blaine	MAY-JUL	1.7	3.5	4.9	32	8.9	15.0	15.5
	MAY-SEP	1.8	3.8	5.9	37	8.7	14.4	15.8
Big Wood R bl Magic Dam 2	MAY-JUL	36.0	53.0	68.0	57	86.0	117.0	119.0
	MAY-SEP	50.0	69.0	85.0	65	104.0	139.0	131.0
Little Wood R ab High Five Ck	MAY-JUL	17.3	22.0	26.0	68	30.0	37.0	38.0
	MAY-SEP	17.1	23.0	27.0	64	32.0	40.0	42.0
Little Wood R nr Carey 2	MAY-JUL	14.9	19.9	24.0	62	29.0	37.0	39.0
	MAY-SEP	15.9	21.0	25.0	60	30.0	38.0	42.0

Normals based on 1991-2020 reference period: streamflow, snowpack, precipitation, & reservoir normals are medians.

1) 90% and 10% exceedance probabilities are actually 95% and 5%

2) Forecasts are for unimpaired flows. Actual flow will be dependent on management of upstream reservoirs and diversions

Reservoir Storage (KAF): May 01, 2026

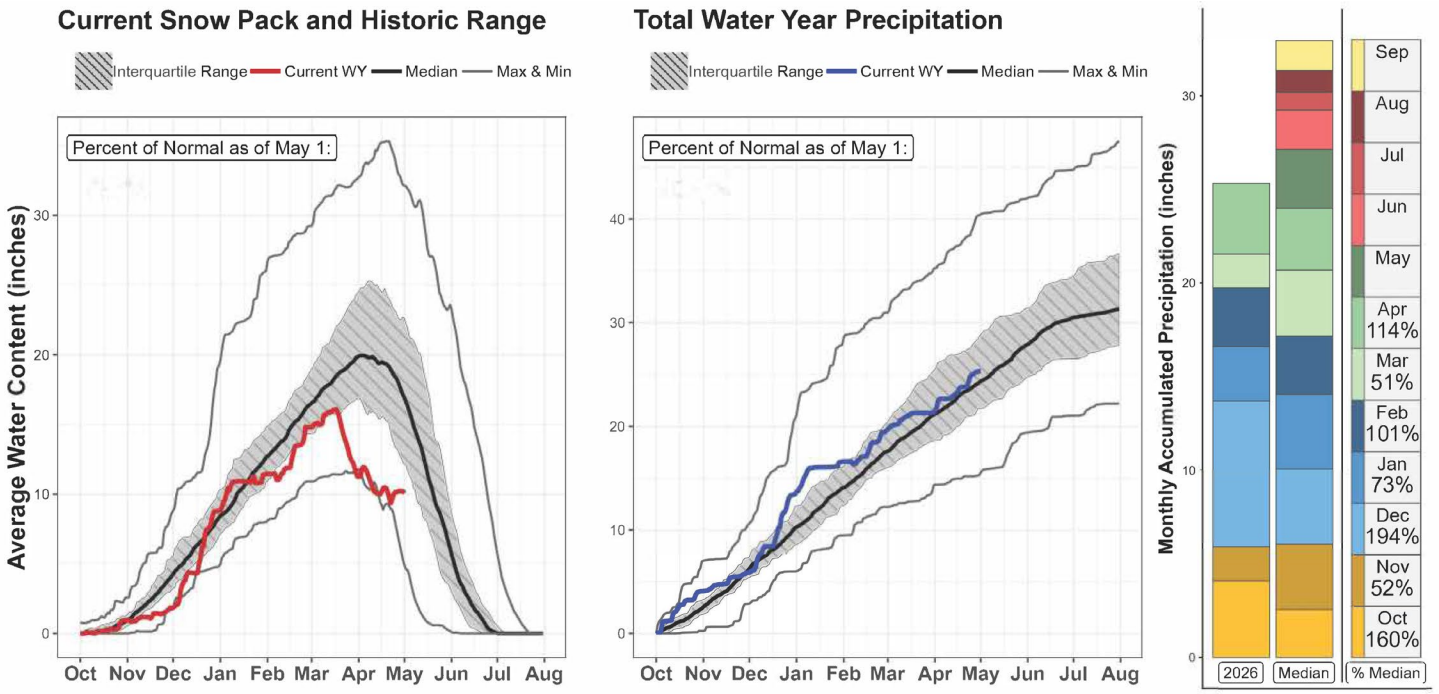
Reservoir Name	Current (KAF)	2025	Median (KAF)	Capacity (KAF)
Mackay Reservoir	37.5	32.8	31.0	44.4
Little Wood Reservoir	28.5	26.1	26.7	30.0
Magic Reservoir	90.0	133.6	146.8	191.5

Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 01, 2026

Basin Name	# of Sites	% of Median 2026	% of Median 2025
Big Wood	**9**	**71**	**91**
Big Wood ab Hailey	6	76	91
Camas	3	0	78
Little Wood	**4**	**70**	**64**
Little Wood ab Resv	4	70	64
Big Lost	**5**	**74**	**78**
Big Lost ab Mackay	4	80	80
Fish			
Little Lost	**3**	**69**	**70**
Birch-Medicine Lodge-Beaver-Camas	**4**	**52**	**55**
Birch-Medicine Lodge	2	82	84
Camas-Beaver	2	0	3

Upper Snake River Basins

May 1, 2026



WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

After a very dry March, precipitation conditions in the Upper Snake River basins were normal to well above normal in April with monthly precipitation ranging from 101 to 141% of normal (Fig. 1). As of May 1, total water year precipitation is 102% of normal in the Henrys Fork-Teton, 98% for the Willow-Blackfoot-Portneuf, and 107% in the Snake River above Heise basins (Fig. 2). There were only slight increases in total water year precipitation levels throughout the Upper Snake River basins from the April precipitation. It was often cold enough for this precipitation to fall as snow throughout the region, which added small amounts of SWE but not enough to surpass the seasonal peak that occurred on March 17. This cooler weather slowed down the rapidly melting snowpack and prevented a record early melt out. As of May 1, snowpack in the Upper Snake River basins is well below normal for this time of year, with the Henrys Fork-Teton at 46% of normal (Fig. 3) and 64% of its peak SWE remaining (Fig. 6). The Snake River above Heise snowpack is at 45% of normal with 61% of its peak SWE remaining, and the Willow Blackfoot-Portneuf has only 14% of its typical snowpack on May 1, with 6% of peak SWE remaining. NOAA's 30-day outlook predicts above normal temperatures in this region with drier than normal conditions in the northern portion of the basin with no clear precipitation signal in the southern part.

The Upper Snake Reservoir system is currently 97% of normal (72% full) and combined storage for the Jackson and Palisades reservoirs is 112% of normal (69% full). The 50% exceedance streamflow forecasts range from 64 to 82% in the Henrys Fork-Teton, and 68 to 91% in the Snake River above Heise for the May through July runoff period. Willow Creek near Ririe forecast is 8% of normal, and Portneuf River near Topaz is 57% of normal (Fig. 4). Given this winter's below normal snowpack and NOAA's prediction for drier and warmer than normal conditions this spring and summer, we urge water users to consider the 70 and 90% exceedance forecasts issued at each point rather than only the 50% exceedance forecast to minimize risk.

Upper Snake Basins Streamflow Forecasts - May 01, 2026

		Forecast Exceedance Probabilities for Risk Assessment <=== Drier ===== Projected Volume ===== Wetter ===>						
Forecast Point	**Forecast Period**	**90% (KAF)**	**70% (KAF)**	**50% (KAF)**	**% Median**	**30% (KAF)**	**10% (KAF)**	**30yr Med (KAF)**
Snake R at Flagg Ranch	MAY-JUL	300.0	330.0	350.0	84	375.0	410.0	415
	MAY-SEP	330.0	360.0	385.0	85	410.0	450.0	455
Snake R nr Moran 2	MAY-JUL	440.0	480.0	510.0	78	540.0	590.0	650
	MAY-SEP	500.0	540.0	575.0	79	610.0	660.0	725
Pacific Ck at Moran	MAY-JUL	95.0	110.0	121.0	90	134.0	154.0	135
	MAY-SEP	99.0	114.0	126.0	88	139.0	159.0	143
Buffalo Fk ab Lava Ck nr Moran	MAY-JUL	205.0	225.0	235.0	89	245.0	265.0	265
	MAY-SEP	225.0	245.0	260.0	88	275.0	295.0	295
Snake R ab Reservoir nr Alpine 2	MAY-JUL	1,330.0	1,430.0	1,500.0	77	1,580.0	1,700.0	1,950
	MAY-SEP	1,530.0	1,640.0	1,720.0	76	1,810.0	1,940.0	2,250
Greys R ab Reservoir nr Alpine	MAY-JUL	163.0	178.0	190.0	73	205.0	220.0	260
	MAY-SEP	189.0	205.0	220.0	71	235.0	255.0	310
Salt R ab Reservoir nr Etna	MAY-JUL	117.0	139.0	157.0	64	178.0	215.0	245
	MAY-SEP	153.0	177.0	197.0	63	220.0	260.0	315
Snake R nr Irwin 2	MAY-JUL	1,560.0	1,700.0	1,800.0	69	1,910.0	2,090.0	2,590
	MAY-SEP	2,000.0	2,170.0	2,300.0	75	2,440.0	2,670.0	3,060
Snake R nr Heise 2	MAY-JUL	1,800.0	1,940.0	2,050.0	75	2,170.0	2,350.0	2,730
	MAY-SEP	2,130.0	2,290.0	2,400.0	73	2,520.0	2,710.0	3,270
Henrys Fk nr Ashton 2	MAY-JUL	205.0	220.0	235.0	68	250.0	270.0	345
	MAY-SEP	345.0	365.0	380.0	75	400.0	425.0	510
Falls R nr Ashton 2	MAY-JUL	210.0	230.0	240.0	74	255.0	275.0	325
	MAY-SEP	265.0	285.0	300.0	73	315.0	340.0	410
Teton R nr Driggs	MAY-JUL	66.0	75.0	81.0	65	88.0	99.0	125
	MAY-SEP	86.0	97.0	106.0	68	115.0	129.0	157
Teton R nr St Anthony	MAY-JUL	167.0	183.0	196.0	63	210.0	230.0	310
	MAY-SEP	215.0	235.0	245.0	64	265.0	290.0	380
Henrys Fk nr Rexburg 2	MAY-JUL	630.0	685.0	725.0	74	770.0	845.0	975
	MAY-SEP	835.0	905.0	960.0	71	1,020.0	1,110.0	1,350
Willow Ck nr Ririe 2	MAY-JUL	1.7	2.7	3.8	14	5.4	8.7	27
Portneuf R at Topaz	MAY-JUL	20.0	23.0	25.0	66	27.0	31.0	38
	MAY-SEP	30.0	33.0	36.0	67	39.0	44.0	54
Snake R at Neeley 2	MAY-JUL	110.0	181.0	480.0	24	780.0	1,210.0	2,000
	MAY-SEP	108.0	149.0	450.0	23	750.0	1,190.0	1,980

Normals based on 1991-2020 reference period: streamflow, snowpack, precipitation, & reservoir normals are medians.

1) 90% and 10% exceedance probabilities are actually 95% and 5%

2) Forecasts are for unimpaired flows. Actual flow will be dependent on management of upstream reservoirs and diversions

Reservoir Storage (KAF): May 01, 2026

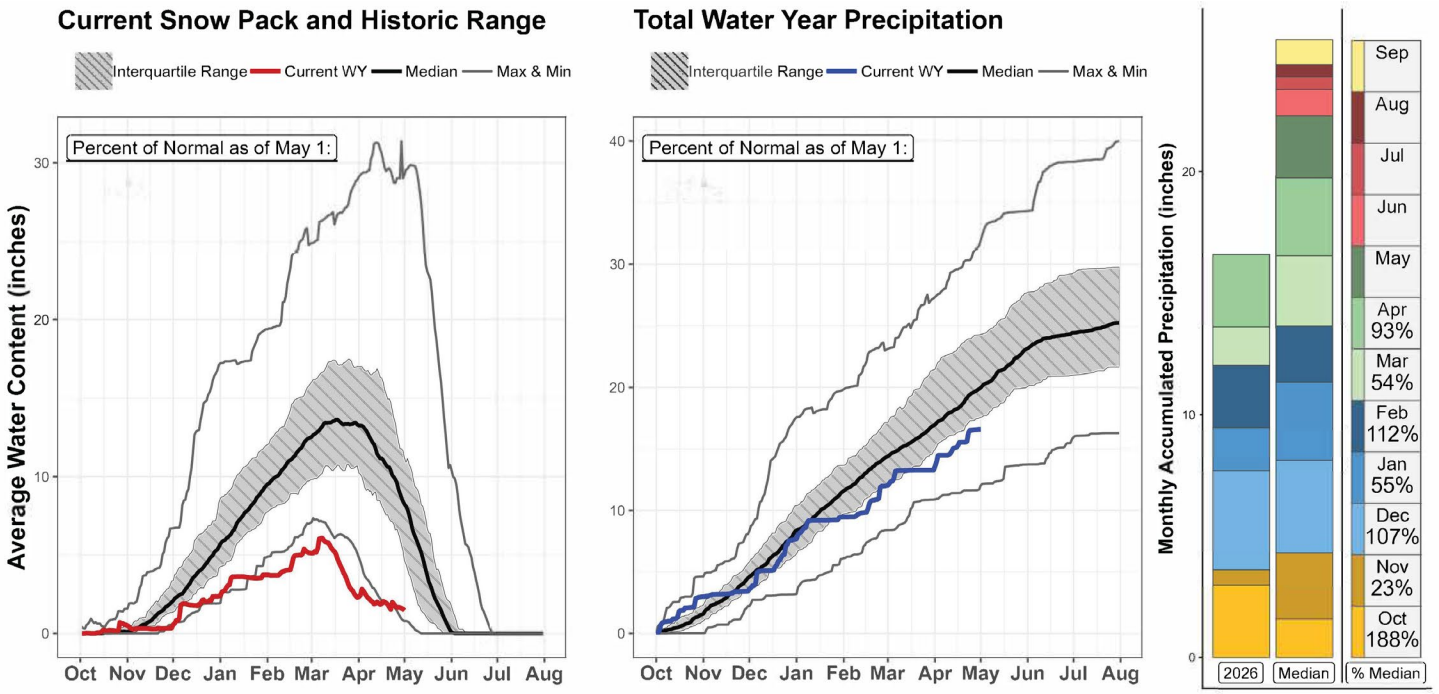
Reservoir Name	Current (KAF)	2025	Median (KAF)	Capacity (KAF)
Jackson Lake	735.6	674.8	600.7	847.0
Palisades Reservoir	805.4	1,039.7	769.8	1,400.0
Snake River Above Heise Total	**1,541.1**	**1,714.5**	**1,370.5**	**2,247.0**
Henrys Lake	88.1	87.2	87.2	90.4
Island Park Reservoir	130.1	126.2	123.8	135.2
Grassy Lake	14.7	12.4	13.6	15.2
Henrys Fork-Teton Total	**232.9**	**225.8**	**224.6**	**240.8**
Ririe Reservoir	60.1	74.6	63.0	80.5
American Falls Reservoir	1,308.2	1,630.4	1,576.0	1,672.6
Upper Snake River System Total	**3,142.3**	**3,961.4**	**3,461.7**	**4,577.9**
Blackfoot Reservoir		316.1	227.6	337.0

Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 01, 2026

Basin Name	# of Sites	% of Median 2026	% of Median 2025
Henrys Fork-Teton	**17**	**51**	**83**
Henrys Fork-Falls River	11	37	75
Teton	9	52	87
Snake River Above Heise	**30**	**48**	**97**
Snake ab Jackson Lake	8	44	90
Pacific	2	94	102
Buffalo Fork	3	35	88
Gros Ventre	5	36	103
Hoback	5	49	98
Greys	5	77	114
Salt	6	41	112
Willow-Blackfoot-Portneuf	**14**	**12**	**66**
Willow	7	18	64
Blackfoot	4	20	82
Portneuf	6	8	68

Southern Snake Basins

May 1, 2026



WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

Following the warm and dry March, April storms brought increased precipitation to parts of southeastern Idaho, resulting in the Owyhee Basin receiving 108% of its normal precipitation. Meanwhile, the Bruneau, Salmon Falls, Goose Creek, and Raft basins received slightly below normal precipitation, ranging from 74 to 87% of normal during April (Fig. 1). As of May 1, the Southern Snake River basins, unlike other regions in Idaho, remain below normal for total water year precipitation, with levels ranging from 77% to 92% of normal (Fig. 2). Snowpack remaining as a percentage of this year's seasonal peak varies across the basins (Fig. 6): Owyhee and Goose Creek have fully melted out; no snow remains. Bruneau has 28% of its snowpack remaining, Salmon Falls has 26%, and Raft Basin has the most at 45% of its peak. Snowpack in each basin in this region remains at or below the record low for this time of year (Fig. 3). NOAA's 8-14 Day Outlook is calling for above normal temperatures, which means continued snow melt and this region will likely melt-out by mid-May. Drought conditions continue to increase according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. These basins are in D3 (Extreme Drought) and D4 (Exceptional Drought) categories due to the record low snowpack, below normal total water year precipitation, extremely low streamflow levels and below normal reservoir storage.

As of May 1, reservoir storage levels vary across the region: Lake Owyhee is at 91% of normal (64% full), Wildhorse is at 111% of normal (64% full), Oakley is 65% of normal (26% full), and Salmon Falls is at 44% of normal (14% full). For the May to July runoff period, the 50% exceedance streamflow forecasts in the Southern Snake River basins are mostly between 16% and 26% of normal. However, there are a few exceptions, streamflow at the Jarbidge River below Jarbidge site is forecasted to be 41% of normal, and Trapper Creek near Oakley is expected to reach 57% of normal (Fig. 4). Given this winter's below normal snowpack and NOAA's prediction for drier and warmer than normal conditions this spring and summer, we urge water users to consider the 70 and 90% exceedance forecasts issued at each point rather than only the 50% exceedance forecast to minimize risk.

Southern Snake Basins Streamflow Forecasts - May 01, 2026

		Forecast Exceedance Probabilities for Risk Assessment <=== Drier ===== Projected Volume ===== Wetter ===>						
Forecast Point	**Forecast Period**	**90% (KAF)**	**70% (KAF)**	**50% (KAF)**	**% Median**	**30% (KAF)**	**10% (KAF)**	**30yr Med (KAF)**
Goose Ck ab Trapper Ck nr Oakley	MAY-JUL	0.3	0.9	1.5	17	2.6	4.6	8.6
	MAY-SEP	0.9	2.0	3.4	37	5.1	8.0	9.1
Trapper Ck nr Oakley	MAY-JUL	1.2	1.5	1.6	57	1.8	2.1	2.9
	MAY-SEP	2.2	2.5	2.7	68	2.9	3.2	4.0
Oakley Reservoir Inflow	MAY-JUL	0.5	1.8	3.1	26	4.6	7.2	11.7
	MAY-SEP	1.7	3.4	4.9	37	6.6	9.6	13.1
Salmon Falls Ck nr San Jacinto	MAY-JUL	2.8	6.0	9.0	22	12.6	18.9	40.0
	MAY-SEP	4.8	8.1	11.0	26	14.4	20.0	43.0
Bruneau R at Rowland	MAY-JUL	3.2	4.8	6.2	20	8.0	11.2	31.0
	MAY-SEP	3.5	5.5	7.2	23	9.3	13.1	31.0
Jarbidge River Below Jarbidge	MAY-JUL	5.3	6.2	6.9	41	7.6	8.8	17.0
	MAY-SEP	5.6	6.5	7.2	41	8.0	9.3	17.6
Bruneau R nr Hot Spring	MAY-JUL	16.9	25.0	32.0	26	40.0	54.0	123.0
	MAY-SEP	20.0	28.0	35.0	27	43.0	56.0	129.0
Reynolds Ck at Tollgate	MAY-JUL	0.3	0.4	0.5	12	0.6	0.9	4.0
	MAY-SEP	0.4	0.6	0.7	17	0.9	1.3	4.1
Owyhee R nr Gold Ck 2	MAY-JUL	0.1	0.9	1.3	26	2.1	3.2	5.1
Owyhee R nr Rome	MAY-JUL	6.5	13.7	21.0	19	31.0	51.0	113.0
	MAY-SEP	7.0	17.2	28.0	22	41.0	68.0	126.0
Owyhee R bl Owyhee Dam 2	MAY-JUL	0.1	8.7	22.0	16	40.0	75.0	140.0
	MAY-SEP	12.1	28.0	43.0	26	62.0	97.0	166.0

Normals based on 1991-2020 reference period: streamflow, snowpack, precipitation, & reservoir normals are medians.

1) 90% and 10% exceedance probabilities are actually 95% and 5%

2) Forecasts are for unimpaired flows. Actual flow will be dependent on management of upstream reservoirs and diversions

Reservoir Storage (KAF): May 01, 2026

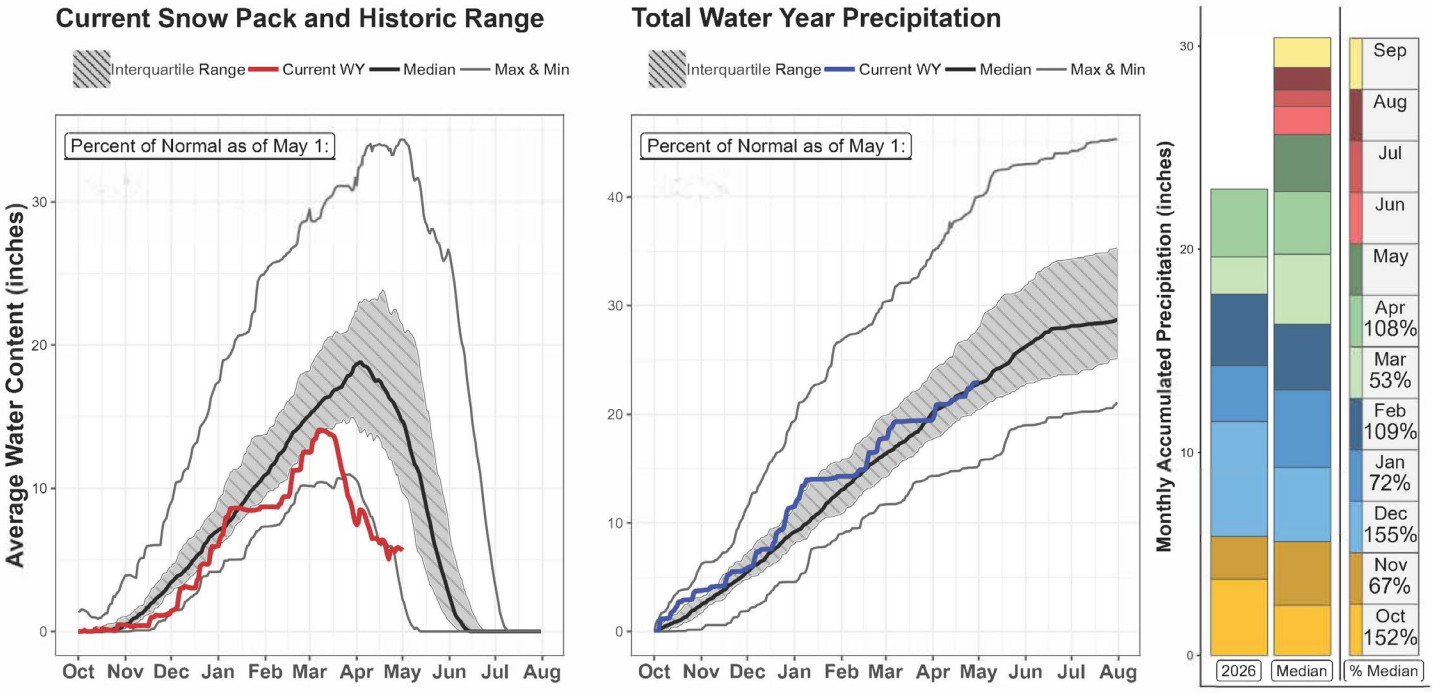
Reservoir Name	Current (KAF)	2025	Median (KAF)	Capacity (KAF)
Oakley Reservoir	19.8	38.4	30.6	75.6
Salmon Falls Reservoir	25.7	48.6	58.6	182.6
Wild Horse Reservoir	45.4	71.4	41.1	71.5
Lake Owyhee	456.7	714.4	502.4	715.0
Brownlee Reservoir	1,290.7	1,055.7	1,148.0	1,420.0

Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 01, 2026

Basin Name	# of Sites	% of Median 2026	% of Median 2025
Raft	**2**	**40**	**80**
Goose Creek	**2**	**0**	**67**
Salmon Falls	**4**	**16**	**70**
Bruneau	**5**	**17**	**65**
Owyhee	**8**	**0**	**74**
Upper Owyhee	5	0	55
Reynolds	6	7	

Bear River Basin

May 1, 2026



WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

In the Bear River Basin, April was notably cooler and wetter compared to previous months in this otherwise warm and mild winter. Precipitation in April reached 107% of the normal monthly average (Fig. 1), marking a return to above normal conditions after March's record-breaking heat wave and low precipitation. This improvement brought the basin's total water year precipitation up to 102% of normal (Fig. 2). The high-pressure systems in March that caused a record-breaking heat wave across much of the west, lead to a higher rate of snowmelt than normal. On March 23, the snowpack in the Bear River Basin reached a new historic low in the SNOTEL era (since 1981). By April 27, cool temperatures and some precipitation events maintained the snowpack long enough to rise above its record low status. Sites below 8,000 ft have fully melted out, while the higher elevations have some snow. As of May 1, the snowpack remaining in the Bear River Basin is 37% of its seasonal peak (Fig. 6).

As of May 1, Bear Lake reservoir storage remains well above normal at 140% (61% full). For the May to July runoff period, the 50% exceedance streamflow forecasts in the Bear River Basin are well below normal at 25 to 53% (Fig. 4). Given this winter's below normal snowpack and NOAA's prediction for drier and warmer than normal conditions this spring and summer, we urge water users to consider the the 70 and 90% exceedance forecasts issued at each point rather than only the 50% exceedance forecast to minimize risk.

Bear Basin Streamflow Forecasts - May 01, 2026

		Forecast Exceedance Probabilities for Risk Assessment <=== Drier ===== Projected Volume ===== Wetter ===>						
Forecast Point	**Forecast Period**	**90% (KAF)**	**70% (KAF)**	**50% (KAF)**	**% Median**	**30% (KAF)**	**10% (KAF)**	**30yr Med (KAF)**
Bear R nr UT-WY State Line	MAY-JUL	37.0	45.0	51.0	53	57.0	66.0	97.0
	MAY-SEP	42.0	50.0	56.0	52	65.0	77.0	108.0
Bear R ab Resv nr Woodruff	MAY-JUL	13.2	20.0	26.0	32	36.0	51.0	80.0
	MAY-SEP	14.5	23.0	30.0	35	41.0	60.0	85.0
Big Ck nr Randolph	MAY-JUL	0.4	0.7	0.9	38	1.3	2.2	2.5
Smiths Fk nr Border	MAY-JUL	24.0	32.0	39.0	52	43.0	49.0	75.0
	MAY-SEP	32.0	40.0	47.0	52	55.0	65.0	90.0
Bear R bl Stewart Dam 2	MAY-JUL	1.0	11.0	23.0	25	41.0	80.0	92.0
	MAY-SEP	2.0	13.0	25.0	23	43.0	82.0	108.0

Normals based on 1991-2020 reference period: streamflow, snowpack, precipitation, & reservoir normals are medians.

1) 90% and 10% exceedance probabilities are actually 95% and 5%

2) Forecasts are for unimpaired flows. Actual flow will be dependent on management of upstream reservoirs and diversions

Reservoir Storage (KAF): May 01, 2026

Reservoir Name	Current (KAF)	2025	Median (KAF)	Capacity (KAF)
Bear Lake	800.2	983.9	572.8	1,302.0
Woodruff Creek	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Woodruff Narrows Reservoir	20.8	55.8	55.5	57.3
Montpelier Reservoir		2.1	3.2	4.0

Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 01, 2026

Basin Name	# of Sites	% of Median 2026	% of Median 2025
Bear	**21**	**38**	**87**
Smiths-Thomas Forks	5	51	106
Bear Lake	7	24	88
Mink			
Cub	1	58	102
Malad	1		

Streamflow Adjustment List for All Forecasts Published in Idaho Water Supply Outlook Report: Streamflow forecasts are projections of runoff volumes that would occur without influences from upstream reservoirs or diversions. These values are referred to as natural, unregulated or adjusted flows. To make these adjustments, changes in reservoir storage, diversions, and inter-basin transfers are added or subtracted from the observed (actual) streamflow volumes. The following list documents the adjustments made for each forecast point. **(Revised Dec. 2018).**

Panhandle Region

Kootenai R at Leonia, MT (2)
+ Lake Koocanusa storage change

Moyie R at Eastport – no corrections

Boundary Ck nr Porthill – no corrections

Clark Fork R bl Cabinet Gorge (2)
+ Hungry Horse storage change
+ Flathead Lake storage change
+ Noxon Res storage change
Whitehorse Rapid gage used create longer term record

Pend Oreille Lake Inflow (2)
+ Pend Oreille R at Newport, WA
+ Hungry Horse Res storage change
+ Flathead Lake storage change
+ Noxon Res storage change
+ Lake Pend Oreille storage change
+ Priest Lake storage change

Priest R nr Priest R (2)
+ Priest Lake storage change

NF Coeur d' Alene R at Enaville - no corrections

St. Joe R at Calder- no corrections

Spokane R nr Post Falls (2)
+ Lake Coeur d' Alene storage change

Spokane R at Long Lake, WA (2)
+ Lake Coeur d' Alene storage change
+ Long Lake, WA storage change

Clearwater River Basin

Selway R nr Lowell - no corrections

Lochsa R nr Lowell - no corrections

Dworshak Res Inflow (2)
+ Clearwater R nr Peck
- Clearwater R at Orofino
+ Dworshak Res storage change

Clearwater R at Orofino - no corrections

Clearwater R at Spalding (2)
+ Dworshak Res storage change

Salmon River Basin

Salmon R at Salmon - no corrections

Lemhi R nr Lemhi – no corrections

MF Salmon R at MF Lodge – no corrections
SF Salmon gage used to create longer term record

SF Salmon R nr Krassel Ranger Station – no corrections

Johnson Creek at Yellow pine – no corrections

Salmon R at White Bird - no corrections

West Central Basins

Boise R nr Twin Springs - no corrections

SF Boise R at Anderson Ranch Dam (2)
+ Anderson Ranch Res storage change

Mores Ck nr Arrowrock Dam – no corrections

Boise R nr Boise (2)
+ Anderson Ranch Res storage change
+ Arrowrock Res storage change
+ Lucky Peak Res storage change

SF Payette R at Lowman - no corrections

Deadwood Res Inflow (2)
+ Deadwood R bl Deadwood Res nr Lowman
+ Deadwood Res storage change

Lake Fork Payette R nr McCall – no corrections

NF Payette R at Cascade (2)
+ Payette Lake storage change
+ Cascade Res storage change

NF Payette R nr Banks (2)
+ Payette Lake storage change
+ Cascade Res storage change

Payette R nr Horseshoe Bend (2)
+ Deadwood Res storage change
+ Payette Lake storage change
+ Cascade Res storage change

Weiser R nr Weiser - no corrections

Wood and Lost Basins

Little Lost R bl Wet Ck nr Howe - no corrections

Big Lost R at Howell Ranch - no corrections

Big Lost R bl Mackay Res nr Mackay (2)
+ Mackay Res storage change

Little Wood R ab High Five Ck – no corrections

Little Wood R nr Carey (2)
+ Little Wood Res storage change

Big Wood R at Hailey - no corrections

Big Wood R ab Magic Res (2)
+ Big Wood R nr Bellevue (1912-1996)
+ Big Wood R at Stanton Crossing nr Bellevue (1997 to present)
+ Willow Ck (1997 to present)

Camas Ck nr Blaine – no corrections

Magic Res Inflow (2)
+ Big Wood R bl Magic Dam
+ Magic Res storage change

Upper Snake River Basin

Falls R nr Ashton (2)
+ Grassy Lake storage change
+ Diversions from Falls R ab nr Ashton

Henrys Fork nr Ashton (2)
+ Henrys Lake storage change
+ Island Park Res storage change

Teton R nr Driggs - no corrections

Teton R nr St. Anthony (2)
- Cross Cut Canal into Teton R
+ Sum of Diversions for Teton R ab St. Anthony
+ Teton Dam for water year 1976 only

Henrys Fork nr Rexburg (2)
+ Henrys Lake storage change
+ Island Park Res storage change
+ Grassy Lake storage change
+ 3 Diversions from Falls R ab Ashton-Chester
+ 6 Diversions from Falls R abv Ashton
+ 7 Diversions from Henrys Fk btw Ashton to St. Anthony
+ 21 Diversions from Henrys Fk btw St. Anthony to Rexburg
Snake R nr Flagg Ranch, WY – no corrections
Snake R nr Moran, WY (2)
+ Jackson Lake storage change
Pacific Ck at Moran, WY - no corrections
Buffalo Fork ab Lava nr Moran, WY - no corrections
Snake R ab Res nr Alpine, WY (2)
+ Jackson Lake storage change
Greys R nr Alpine, WY - no corrections
Salt R nr Etna, WY - no corrections
Palisades Res Inflow (2)
+ Snake R nr Irwin
+ Jackson Lake storage change
+ Palisades Res storage change
Snake R nr Heise (2)
+ Jackson Lake storage change
+ Palisades Res storage change
Ririe Res Inflow (2)
+ Willow Ck nr Ririe
+ Ririe Res storage change
The forecasted natural volume for Willow Creek nr Ririe does not include Grays Lake water diverted from Willow Creek drainage through the Clarks Cut diversion and into Blackfoot Reservoir.
Blackfoot R ab Res nr Henry (2)
+ Blackfoot Res storage change
The forecasted Blackfoot Reservoir Inflow includes Grays Lake water diverted from the Willow Creek drainage through the Clarks Cut diversion and into Blackfoot Reservoir.
Portneuf R at Topaz - no corrections
American Falls Res Inflow (2)
+ Snake R at Neeley
+ Jackson Lake storage change
+ Palisades Res storage change
+ American Falls storage change
+ Teton Dam for water year 1976 only

Southside Snake River Basins

Goose Ck nr Oakley - no adjustments
Trapper Ck nr Oakley - no adjustments
Oakley Res Inflow - *flow does not include Birch Creek*
+ Goose Ck
+ Trapper Ck
Salmon Falls Ck nr San Jacinto, NV - no corrections
Bruneau R nr Hot Springs - no corrections
Reynolds Ck at Tollgate - no corrections
Owyhee R nr Gold Ck, NV (2)
+ Wildhorse Res storage change
Owyhee R nr Rome, OR – no Corrections
Owyhee Res Inflow (2)
+ Owyhee R bl Owyhee Dam, OR
+ Lake Owyhee storage change
+ Diversions to North and South Canals

Bear River Basin

Bear R nr UT-WY Stateline, UT- no corrections
Bear R abv Res nr Woodruff, UT- no corrections
Big Ck nr Randolph, UT - no corrections
Smiths Fork nr Border, WY - no corrections
Bear R bl Stewart Dam (2)
+ Bear R bl Stewart Dam
+ Rainbow Inlet Canal
Little Bear R at Paradise, UT - no corrections
Logan R nr Logan, UT - no corrections
Blacksmith Fk nr Hyrum, UT - no corrections

Reservoir Capacity Definitions (Units in 1,000 Acre-Feet, KAF)

Different agencies use various definitions when reporting reservoir capacity and contents. Reservoir storage terms include dead, inactive, active, and surcharge storage. This table lists the volumes for each reservoir, and defines the storage volumes NRCS uses when reporting capacity and current reservoir storage. In most cases, NRCS reports usable storage which includes active and/or inactive storage. **(Revised Feb. 2015)**

Basin- Lake or Reservoir	Dead Storage	Inactive Storage	Active Storage	Surcharge Storage	NRCS Capacity	NRCS Capacity Includes
Panhandle Region						
Hungry Horse	39.73	---	**3451.00**	---	**3451.0**	Active
Flathead Lake	Unknown	---	**1791.00**	---	**1791.0**	Active
Noxon	Unknown	---	**335.00**	---	**335.0**	Active
Lake Pend Oreille	**406.20**	**112.40**	**1042.70**	**---**	**1561.3**	Dead + Inactive + Active
Lake Coeur d'Alene	Unknown	13.50	**225.00**	**---**	**238.5**	Inactive + Active
Priest Lake	**20.00**	**28.00**	**71.30**	**---**	**119.3**	Dead + Inactive + Active
Clearwater Basin						
Dworshak	Unknown	**1452.00**	**2016.00**	**---**	**3468.0**	Inactive + Active
West Central Basins						
Anderson Ranch	24.90	**37.00**	**413.10**	---	450.1	Inactive + Active
Arrowrock	Unknown	---	**272.20**	**---**	**272.2**	Active
Lucky Peak	Unknown	**28.80**	**264.40**	13.80	**293.2**	Inactive + Active
Lake Lowell	7.90	**5.80**	**159.40**	---	165.2	Inactive + Active
Deadwood	Unknown	---	**161.90**	**---**	**161.9**	Active
Cascade	Unknown	**46.70**	**646.50**	**---**	**693.2**	Inactive + Active
Mann Creek	1.61	0.24	**11.10**	**---**	**11.1**	Active
Wood and Lost Basins						
Mackay	0.13	---	**44.37**	**---**	**44.4**	Active
Little Wood	Unknown	---	**30.00**	**---**	**30.0**	Active
Magic	Unknown	---	**191.50**	**---**	**191.5**	Active
Upper Snake Basin						
Jackson Lake	Unknown	---	**847.00**	**---**	**847.0**	Active
Palisades	44.10	**155.50**	**1200.00**	**---**	**1400.0**	Dead +Inactive +Active
Henrys Lake	Unknown	---	**90.40**	**---**	**90.4**	Active
Island Park	0.40	---	**127.30**	**7.90**	**135.2**	Active + Surcharge
Grassy Lake	Unknown	---	**15.18**	**---**	**15.2**	Active
Ririe	4.00	6.00	**80.54**	10.00	**80.5**	Active
Blackfoot	0.00	---	**333.50**	3.50	**333.50**	Active (rev. 2/1/2015)
American Falls	Unknown	---	**1672.60**	**---**	**1672.6**	Active
Southside Snake Basins						
Oakley	0.00	---	**75.60**	**---**	**75.6**	Active
Salmon Falls	48.00	**5.00**	**182.65**	**---**	**182.6**	Active
Wild Horse	Unknown	---	**71.50**	**---**	**71.5**	Active
Lake Owyhee	406.83	---	**715.00**	**---**	**715.0**	Active
Brownlee	0.45	**444.70**	**975.30**	**---**	**1420.0**	Inactive + Active
Bear River Basin						
Bear Lake	5000.00	119.00	**1302.00**	**---**	**1302.0**	Active:
Capacity does not include 119 KAF that can be used, historic values below this level are rounded to zero						
Montpelier	**0.21**	**---**	**3.84**	**---**	**4.0**	Dead + Active

Interpreting Water Supply Forecasts

Each month, five forecasts are issued for each forecast point and each forecast period. Unless otherwise specified, all streamflow forecasts are for streamflow volumes that would occur naturally without any upstream influences. Water users need to know what the different forecasts represent if they are to use the information correctly when making operational decisions. The following is an explanation of each of the forecasts.

90 Percent Chance of Exceedance Forecast. There is a 90 percent chance that the actual streamflow volume will exceed this forecast value, and there is a 10 percent chance that the actual streamflow volume will be less than this forecast value.

70 Percent Chance of Exceedance Forecast. There is a 70 percent chance that the actual streamflow volume will exceed this forecast value, and there is a 30 percent chance that the actual streamflow volume will be less than this forecast value.

50 Percent Chance of Exceedance Forecast. There is a 50 percent chance that the actual streamflow volume will exceed this forecast value, and there is a 50 percent chance that the actual streamflow volume will be less than this forecast value. Generally, this forecast is the middle of the range of possible streamflow volumes that can be produced given current conditions.

30 Percent Chance of Exceedance Forecast. There is a 30 percent chance that the actual streamflow volume will exceed this forecast value, and there is a 70 percent chance that the actual streamflow volume will be less than this forecast value.

10 Percent Chance of Exceedance Forecast. There is a 10 percent chance that the actual streamflow volume will exceed this forecast value, and there is a 90 percent chance that the actual streamflow volume will be less than this forecast value.

*Note: There is still a 20 percent chance that actual streamflow volumes will fall either below the 90 percent exceedance forecast or above the 10 percent exceedance forecast.

These forecasts represent the uncertainty inherent in making streamflow predictions. This uncertainty may include sources such as: unknown future weather conditions, uncertainties associated with the various prediction methodologies, and the spatial coverage of the data network in a given basin.

30-Year Median. The 30-year median streamflow for each forecast period is provided for comparison. The median is based on data from 1991-2020. The % Median. column compares the 50% chance of exceedance forecast to the 30-year median streamflow; values above 100% denote when the 50% chance of exceedance forecast would be greater than the 30-year median streamflow.

AF - Acre-feet, forecasted volume of water are typically in thousands of acre-feet (KAF).

These forecasts are given to users to help make risk-based decisions. Users can select the forecast corresponding to the level of risk they are willing to accept in order to minimize the negative impacts of having more or less water than planned for.

To Decrease the Chance of Having Less Water than Planned for
A user might determine that making decisions based on a 50 percent chance of exceedance forecast is too much risk to take (there is still a 50% chance that the user will receive less than this amount). To reduce the risk of having less water than planned for, users can base their operational decisions on one of the forecasts with a greater chance of being exceeded such as the 90 or 70 percent exceedance forecasts.

To Decrease the Chance of Having More Water than Planned for
A user might determine that making decisions based on a 50 percent chance of exceedance forecast is too much risk to take (there is still a 50% chance that the user will receive more than this amount). To reduce the risk of having more water than planned for, users can base their operational decisions on one of the forecasts with a lesser chance of being exceeded such as the 30 or 10 percent exceedance forecasts.

<u>Forecast use example:</u>

Using the 50 Percent Exceedance Forecast. Using the example forecasts shown on the next page, there is a 50% chance that actual streamflow volume at the Boise River near Twin Springs will be less than 675 KAF between April 1 and Sept. 30. There is also a 50% chance that actual streamflow volume will be greater than 675 KAF.

Using the 90 and 70 Percent Exceedance Forecasts. If an unexpected shortage of water could cause problems (such as irrigated agriculture), users might want to plan on receiving 605 KAF during April 1 through September 30 (from the 70 percent exceedance forecast). There is a 30% chance of receiving *less* than 605 KAF.

Alternatively, if users determine the risk of using the 70 percent exceedance forecast is too great, then they might plan on receiving 520 KAF (from the **90** percent exceedance forecast). There is 10% chance of receiving less than 520 KAF.

Using the 30 or 10 Percent Exceedance Forecasts. If an unexpected excess of water could cause problems (such as operating a flood control reservoir), users might plan on receiving 750 KAF between April 1 and Sept. 30 (from the 30 percent exceedance forecast). There is a 30% chance of receiving *more* than 750 KAF.

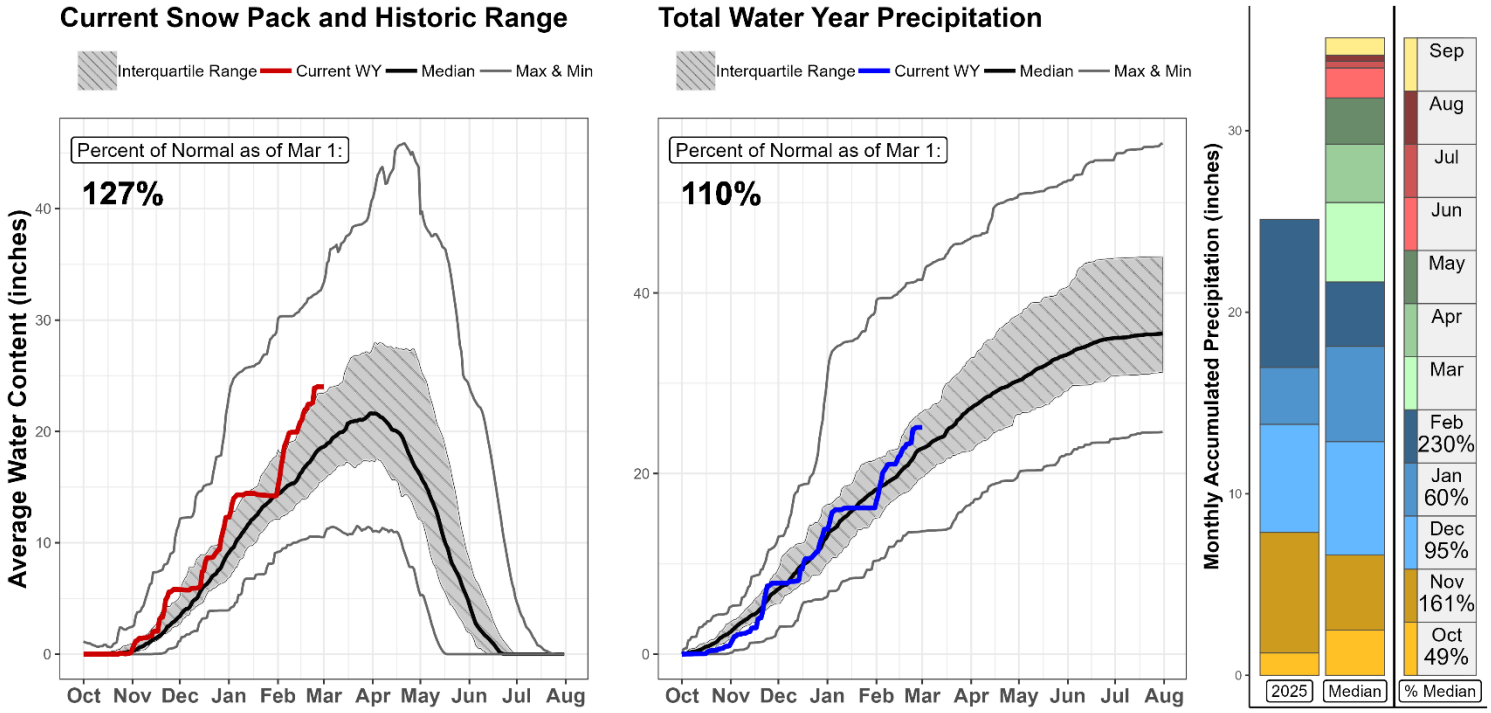
Alternatively, if users determine the risk of using the 30 percent exceedance forecast is too great, then they might plan on receiving 850 KAF (from the 10 percent exceedance forecast). There is a 10% chance of receiving more than 850 KAF. Users could also choose a volume in between any of these values to reflect their desired risk level.

		Forecast Exceedance Probabilities for Risk Assessment <=== Drier ===== Projected Volume ===== Wetter ===>						
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	90% (KAF)	70% (KAF)	50% (KAF)	% Median	30% (KAF)	10% (KAF)	30yr Med (KAF)
Boise R nr Twin Springs	APR-JUL	465	550	635	106	710	825	600
	APR-SEP	520	605	675	105	750	850	645

Interpreting Snowpack & Precipitation Plots

Basin snowpack plots represent snow water equivalent indices using the average daily SNOTEL data[1] from several sites in or near individual basins. The solid red line, which represents the current water year snowpack water content, can be compared to the normal black line (Median) which is considered "normal", as well as the SNOTEL observed historical snowpack range for each basin. This allows users to gather important information about the current year's snowpack as well as the historical variability of snowpack in each basin.

The gray shaded area represents the interquartile range which is the 25th to 75th percentiles of the historical daily snowpack data for each basin for its period of record. Percentiles depict the value of the average snowpack below which the given percent of historical years fall. For example, the top part of the interquartile range (75th percentile) indicates that the snowpack index has



been below this line for 75 percent of the period of record, whereas the reverse is true for the lower part of the interquartile range (25th percentile). This means 50 percent of the time the snowpack index is within the interquartile range (gray area) during the period of record. The maximum and minimum gray lines indicate the maximum and minimum amounts of snow that have been measured across the SNOTEL stations in the basin group on that date.

The basin total water year precipitation plots are similar to the snowpack plots. The blue line represents the current water year, and the black line represents the 30-year median for the basin group which is considered 'normal' for that area. Total water year precipitation is all of the of precipitation that has fallen since the start of the water year on October 1. It includes both rain and snow and all other forms of precipitation. It is a useful metric for evaluating how wet or dry a basin is each year. The gray shaded area represents the interquartile range, and the maximum and minimum lines represent the maximum and minimum amount of precipitation recorded in the basin during the period of record. The monthly accumulated precipitation plot represents how much precipitation has fallen each month compared to the 30-year median. Each month is denoted by a separate color and the monthly precipitation total in that basin is listed as a percent of normal precipitation adjacent to the graph.

[1] All data used for these plots come from daily SNOTEL data only and does not include snow course data (collected monthly), whereas the official basin snowpack percent of normal includes both SNOTEL and snow course data, potentially leading to slight discrepancies between plots and official basin percent of normal.

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Numerous agencies and groups provide funding and/or support for the collection, operation and maintenance of the Cooperative Idaho Snow Survey program. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

This publication is dedicated to the people, agencies and organizations utilizing this data, information and forecasts for short and long term water management, planning, preparation, recreation and otherwise, for the enhancement of the economy and enrichment of livelihoods.