

## December 22, 2010 RESERVOIR LEVEL AND SNOW UPDATE

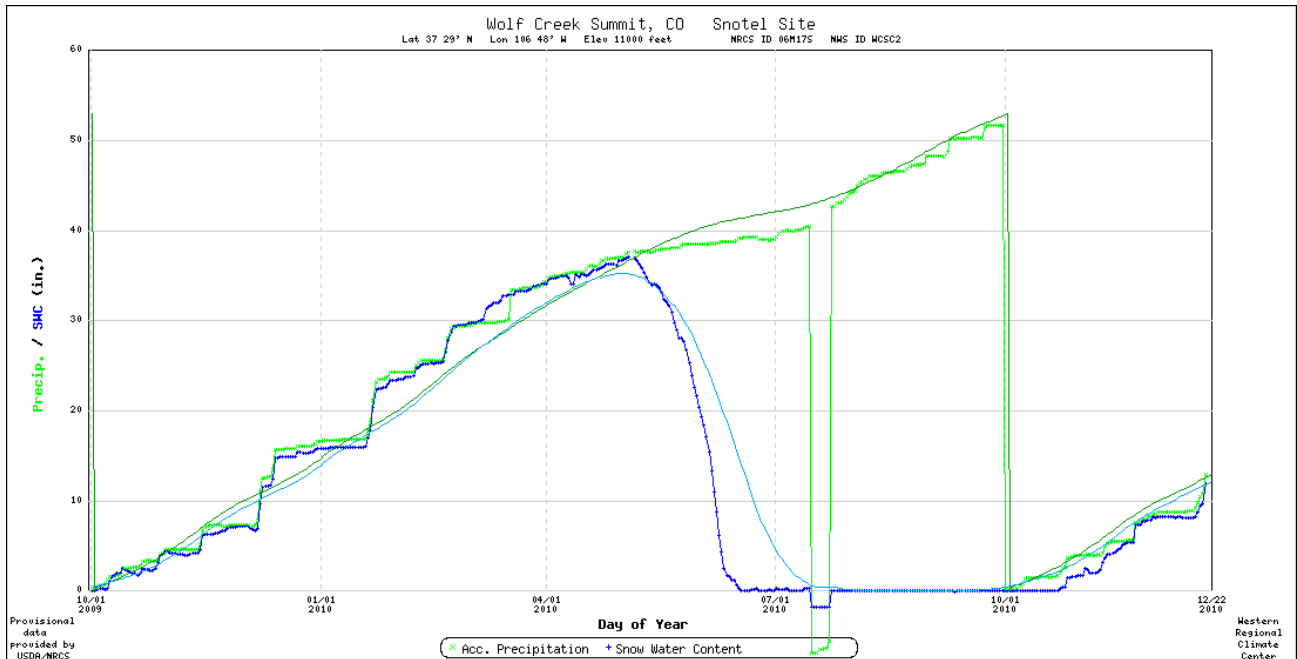
We have finally received the long awaited first big snowfall event of the season. The Upper Rio Grande, Rio Chama and Sangre de Cristo basins received average increases in snow water content of 4.1, 2.3, and 1.1 inches respectively during the past week. The Upper Rio Grande is now up to average for this time of year compared with only 56% of average a week ago. Wolf Creek summit has 16 inches snow water equivalent, which is 23% above average. The snowfall in the other two basins was not enough to bring the snow water equivalent back to 100% of average, especially the Sangre de Cristo which is still only at 46%. However the forecast for more snow is good with an 80-90% chance through Thursday and accumulations of 2 to 4 inches today and tomorrow. Meanwhile, reservoir storage continues its recent 1000 ac-ft/day rate of increase.

### COMBINED STORAGE Elephant Butte and Caballo December 20, 2010 438,420 acre-feet

S N O W - P R E C I P I T A T I O N U P D A T E  
Based on Mountain Data from NRCS SNOTEL Sites  
As of Wednesday December 22, 2010

BASIN	ELEV.	SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT	TOTAL PRECIPITATION
Data Site Name	(Ft)	%	%
		Avg	Avg
<b>UPPER RIO GRANDE BASIN</b>			
	Basin wide percent of average	100	105
<b>RIO CHAMA BASIN</b>			
	Basin wide percent of average	86	80
<b>SANGRE DE CRISTO MOUNTAIN RANGE BASINS</b>			
	Basin wide percent of average	46	62

### WOLF CREEK



### FORECAST

UPPER RIO GRANDE VALLEY/EASTERN SAN JUAN MOUNTAINS BELOW 10000 FT-  
INCLUDING...CREEDE...SOUTH FORK

430 AM MST WED DEC 22 2010

WINTER STORM WARNING IN EFFECT UNTIL 5 PM MST THURSDAY

TODAY

PERIODS OF RAIN AND SNOW SHOWERS. SNOW MAY BE HEAVY AT TIMES IN THE AFTERNOON. SNOW ACCUMULATION UP TO 2 INCHES. HIGHS 30 TO 41. SOUTHWEST WINDS 10 TO 25 MPH. GUSTS UP TO 40 MPH IN THE AFTERNOON. CHANCE OF PRECIPITATION 80 PERCENT.

TONIGHT

PERIODS OF SNOW SHOWERS WITH RAIN SHOWERS LIKELY EARLY IN THE EVENING...THEN PERIODS OF SNOW SHOWERS OVERNIGHT. SNOW ACCUMULATION UP

TO 4 INCHES. NEAR STEADY TEMPERATURE 23 TO 32. SOUTHWEST WINDS 10 TO 20 MPH WITH GUSTS TO AROUND 35 MPH. CHANCE OF PRECIPITATION 80 PERCENT.

THURSDAY

PERIODS OF SNOW THROUGH THE DAY. PERIODS OF RAIN IN THE AFTERNOON. SNOW ACCUMULATION OF 1 TO 4 INCHES. HIGHS 30 TO 41. SOUTHWEST WINDS 10 TO 15 MPH BECOMING WEST IN THE AFTERNOON. CHANCE OF PRECIPITATION 90 PERCENT.

THURSDAY NIGHT

MOSTLY CLOUDY. CHANCE OF SNOW UNTIL MIDNIGHT...THEN SLIGHT CHANCE OF SNOW AFTER MIDNIGHT. LOWS 12 TO 21. NORTHWEST WINDS UP TO 10 MPH. CHANCE OF PRECIPITATION 30 PERCENT.

FRIDAY

MOSTLY SUNNY. HIGHS 31 TO 36. NORTHWEST WINDS UP TO 10 MPH IN THE MORNING BECOMING LIGHT.

FRIDAY NIGHT

PARTLY CLOUDY. LOWS 9 TO 17.

CHRISTMAS DAY

SUNNY. HIGHS IN THE MID TO UPPER 30S.

SATURDAY NIGHT AND SUNDAY

PARTLY CLOUDY. LOWS 9 TO 18. HIGHS 34 TO 39.

SUNDAY NIGHT

MOSTLY CLOUDY. LOWS 9 TO 20.

MONDAY THROUGH TUESDAY

MOSTLY CLOUDY WITH A 10 PERCENT CHANCE OF SNOW. HIGHS 29 TO 38. LOWS 10 TO 21.

