

March 11, 2013 RESERVOIR LEVEL AND SNOW UPDATE

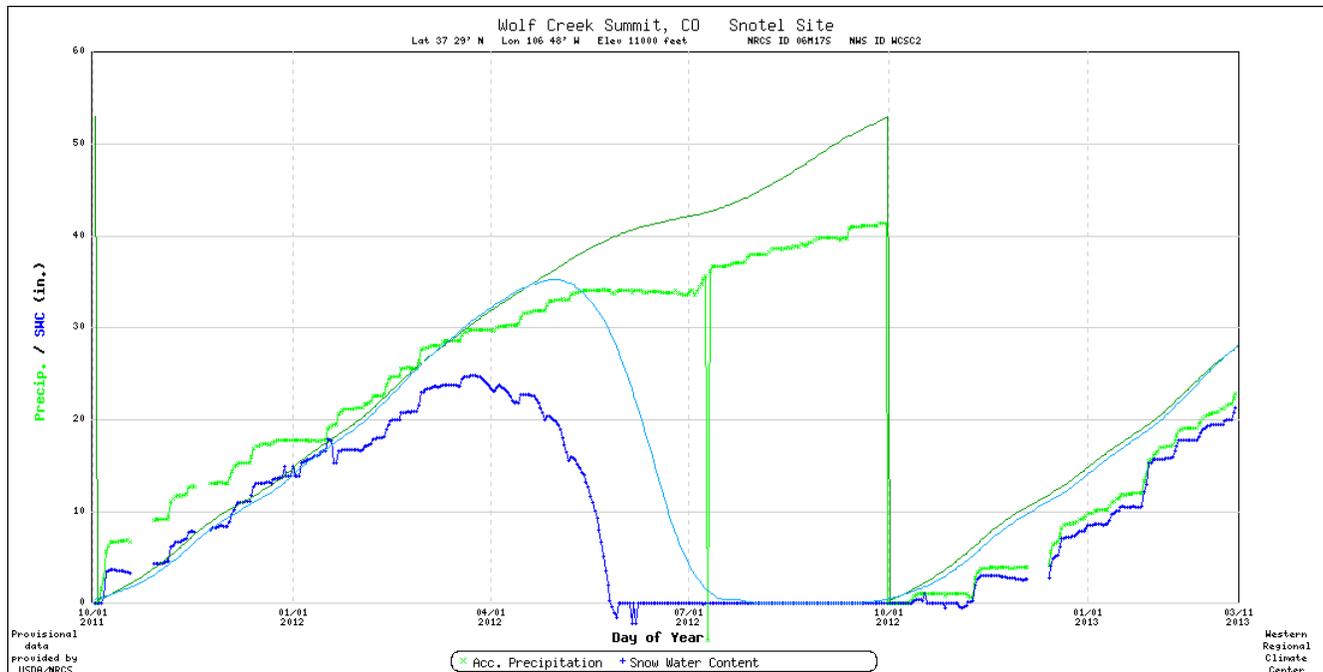
The snowpacks in the Upper Rio Grande, Rio Chama and Sangre de Cristo basins are still below average, and are about the same as they have been for a while relative to the average. The latest (March) NRCS runoff forecast is now published. Forecast runoff at San Marcial is little changed from the February forecast at only 200,000 ac-ft from March to July at the 50% chance of exceedance. This is only 39% of the 30 year average of 510,000 ac-ft. The chances of runoff increasing to the average level are very low at this point as the time remaining in the snow accumulation season diminishes. While there was some recent snow, there is no further snow in the forecast this week.

COMBINED STORAGE Elephant Butte and Caballo March 10, 2013 223,474 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 Monday March 11, 2013

| BASIN | SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT | TOTAL PRECIPITATION |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Data Site Name | % Avg | % Avg |
| UPPER RIO GRANDE BASIN | | |
| Basin wide percent of average | 80 | 74 |
| RIO CHAMA BASIN | | |
| Basin wide percent of average | 73 | 69 |
| SANGRE DE CRISTO MOUNTAIN RANGE BASINS | | |
| Basin wide percent of average | 79 | 75 |

WOLF CREEK



FORECAST

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

354 AM MDT MON MAR 11 2013

TODAY

MOSTLY SUNNY. HIGHS 35 TO 44. SOUTHWEST WINDS UP TO 10 MPH.

TONIGHT

PARTLY CLOUDY. LOWS 10 TO 22. WEST WINDS UP TO 10 MPH UNTIL MIDNIGHT BECOMING LIGHT.

TUESDAY

MOSTLY SUNNY. HIGHS 42 TO 48. LIGHT WINDS BECOMING SOUTH UP TO 10 MPH IN THE AFTERNOON.

TUESDAY NIGHT

PARTLY CLOUDY. LOWS 15 TO 24. WEST WINDS UP TO 10 MPH.

WEDNESDAY

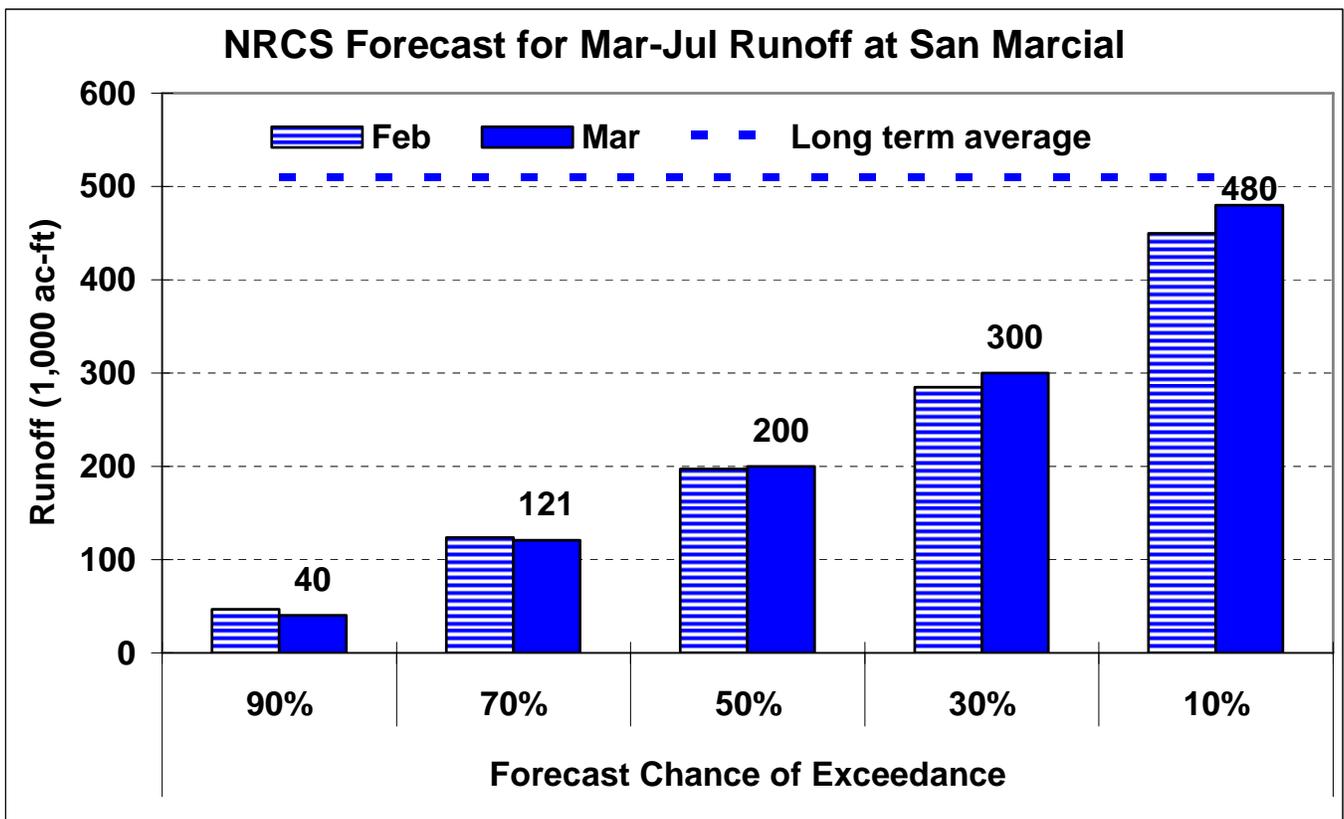
SUNNY. HIGHS 45 TO 52. WEST WINDS UP TO 10 MPH IN THE MORNING BECOMING LIGHT.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT THROUGH FRIDAY

MOSTLY CLEAR. LOWS 17 TO 26. HIGHS 48 TO 57.

FRIDAY NIGHT THROUGH SUNDAY

PARTLY CLOUDY. LOWS 17 TO 28. HIGHS 44 TO 54.



NEW MEXICO Water Supply Outlook Report as of March 1, 2013

February brought a series of cooler storm systems through New Mexico, but most did not carry much moisture with them. Snowpack levels did creep up slightly in most basins, but nearly all areas remain significantly below normal for this time of year. As we near what should be peak snowpack for the year, conditions remain very disappointing virtually statewide. Year-to-date precipitation also remains well below normal, with most basins receiving only 50 to 75 percent of average since October 1st. As a result, runoff forecasts reflect this dry trend, with all forecast points in the state expecting less than 75 percent of normal runoff. This will have a major impact on water users throughout the runoff season. Very little time remains to make up deficits this snow season, and the odds of seeing even close to normal runoff are virtually zero.

SNOWPACK

Although the storm track took several swings over New Mexico in February, snowpack levels as a percent of normal barely crept up during the month. These storms did bring cooler temperatures, which helped prevent additional melting. These storms also packed significant winds which increased the possibility of sublimation. This will be especially true if this windy trend continues as temperatures warm up. Most basins in the state have between 60 to 80 percent of normal snowpack in place at higher elevations. Mid to low elevation snowpack is nearly non-existent. At this point in the season, the odds that the numbers will build up much are diminishing daily. Water managers and users need to be prepared for much lower than average snow water availability going into the runoff season.

PRECIPITATION

February precipitation was significantly below average for much of the state, with many southern basins receiving only 28 to 49 percent of average. The northern basins fared somewhat better, with the Pecos, Rio Grande, and Animas/San Juan Basins all receiving about 70 to 75 percent of normal. The Canadian Basin received 107 percent of normal precipitation in February, the only basin in the state recording higher than average numbers. For the water year, the state as a whole is well below average. Most basins in the state are ranging from around 50 to 75 percent of average precipitation for the water year thus far. Most areas were dry going into the snowpack accumulation season, and have struggled to gain any ground with the sporadic storms this winter. Many models suggest this warm, dry pattern may remain through the spring, so there is a limited chance for making up existing deficits.

RESERVOIRS

With less than stellar snowpack in place for most of New Mexico, the prospects for a near average runoff this year are very slim. Most forecast points in the state are expected to see 40 to 75 percent of normal runoff this season. Reservoir storage levels have dropped compared to last year nearly state-wide. With the well below normal runoff, reservoir levels will probably continue to struggle through this season. Current reservoir storage in New Mexico remains below average for the most part, with several notable reservoirs currently holding less than 20 percent of normal storage levels. This will continue to make it tough to catch up, especially facing another below average runoff year. March still has some potential to build snowpack, but the chances of ending up at or above average are basically non-existent. Water managers need to be planning on another well below average runoff season this year.

STREAMFLOW

Streamflow conditions in New Mexico are significantly below normal for the most part. Many gauging stations in the state are currently recording in the 10th to 24th percentile which is below normal. There is also a significant number of stations around New Mexico reporting in the less than 10th percentile, which is

considered much below normal flows at this time. With a somewhat marginal snowpack in place, along with the early start of the windy season this spring, the potential to see below normal streamflow conditions in many reaches is going to continue.

RIO GRANDE BASIN as of March 1, 2013

Streamflow forecasts for the Rio Grande Basin range from 74 to 76 percent of average for the Red River below the Fish Hatchery near Questa and the Rio Lucero near Arroyo Seco, to 29 percent of average for the Jemez River below Jemez Canyon Dam. Flows for the Rio Grande at San Marcial are forecast to be around 39 percent of average, while El Vado Reservoir Inflow and the Rio Grande at Otowi Bridge are both expected to be around 55 percent of average. Precipitation for February was below normal, at 75 percent, while year-to-date precipitation is also below normal at 67 percent. Snowpack in the basin is also somewhat below normal at 71 percent of median. Total reservoir storage in the basin is 605,000 acre-feet, down significantly from last year's 930,300 acre-feet. This is just 30 percent of the 30 year average of 2,031,300 acre-feet. Abiquiu is the only reservoir in the basin which has above average storage for February. Elephant Butte storage has continued to decline this year, with storage of 206,400 acre-feet as opposed to 367,100 acre-feet at this time last year. Current storage in Elephant Butte equates to 16 percent of the February average of 1,305,000 acre-feet.