- Assessment of current water conditions
- Precipitation Forecast
- Recommendations for Drought Monitor
Precipitation/Snowpack Update
3-month SPI
6-month SPI
Colorado Precipitation (in) February 2010

Produced by the Colorado Climate Center utilizing Snotel, NWS, CoCoRaHS and CoAgMet* Preliminary Precipitation Data Analysis: Inverse Distance Weighting
*Summer only
February 2010 Precipitation as Percent of Normal

Produced by the Colorado Climate Center utilizing Snotel, NWS, CoCoRaHS and CoAgMet* Preliminary Precipitation Data
Analysis: Inverse Distance Weighting
*Summer only
Colorado Water Year 2010 Precipitation as Percent of Normal
Oct 2009 - Feb 2010

Produced by the Colorado Climate Center utilizing Snotel, NWS, CoCoRaHS and CoAgMet* Preliminary Precipitation Data
Analysis: Inverse Distance Weighting
*Summer only
Grand Lake 1 NW
2010 Water Year

Accumulated Precipitation (Inches)

- 30 Year Averages-1971-2000
- Period of Record Average - 1941 - 2002
- 2010 Water Year Accumulated
- Max Precip
- Min Precip

Period of Record Average - 1941 - 2002

2010 Water Year Accumulated

Max Precip

Min Precip
Upper Colorado River Basin
LAKEFORK BASIN SNOTEL for Water Year 2010

*** Provisional Data, Subject to Change ***

Snowpack: 63%
Elevation: 10,900 ft
New Fork Lake

NFLW4, Snow Point, 8340ft
4.1 in, 9.68 Avg, 42.4%, -0.1 in/dy
Observed on 2
Snowpack: 42%
Elevation: 8,340 ft
Willow Creek Pass
[view snotel plot]
WLLC2, Snow Point, 9540ft
5.5 in, 9.69 Avg, 56.8%, -0.1 in/dy
Observed on 2
WILLOW CREEK PASS SNOTEL for Water Year 2010

*** Provisional Data, Subject to Change ***

Snowpack: 57%
Elevation: 9,540 ft
Berthoud Summit
view snotel plot >>

BTSC2, Snow Point, 11300ft
14.6 in, 14.47 Avg, 100.9%, 0.1 in/dy
Observed on 2
BERTHOUD SUMMIT SNOTEL for Water Year 2010

*** Provisional Data, Subject to Change ***

Snowpack: 101%
Elevation: 11,300 ft
Ripple Creek
view snotel plot >>
RCPC2, Snow Point, 10340ft
16.1 in, 21.48 Avg, 75.0%, 0.0 in/dy
Observed on 2
Schofield Pass
view snotel plot >>

SOSC2, Snow Point, 10707ft
26.4 in, 27.86 Avg, 94.8%, -0.1 in/dy
Observed on 2
SCHOFIELD PASS SNOTEL for Water Year 2010

*** Provisional Data, Subject to Change ***

Snowpack: 95%
Elevation: 10,707 ft
Mineral Creek

view snotel plot >>

MINC2, Snow Point, 10040ft
11.6 in, 12.53 Avg, 92.6%, 0.0 in/dy
Observed on 2
MINERAL CREEK SNOTEL for Water Year 2010

*** Provisional Data, Subject to Change ***

Snowpack: 93%
Elevation: 10,040 ft
Snotel WYTD Precipitation as Percent of Average
2 March 2010

Legend
- 47 - 50
- 51 - 75
- 76 - 90
- 91 - 100
- 101 - 125
- 126 - 150
- 151 - 175
- >175
Snotel WYTD Precipitation as Percent of Average

2 March 2010
Streamflow 23 February 2010

Tuesday, March 02, 2010 09:30ET

Explanation - Percentile classes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Low</th>
<th>&lt;10</th>
<th>10-24</th>
<th>25-75</th>
<th>76-90</th>
<th>&gt;90</th>
<th>High</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Much below normal</td>
<td>Below normal</td>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>Above normal</td>
<td>Much above normal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Precipitation Forecast
5 Day Outlook

http://www.hpc.ncep.noaa.gov/
5 Day Outlook Colorado

http://www.hpc.ncep.noaa.gov/
Recommendations

U.S. Drought Monitor

February 23, 2010
Valid 7 a.m. EST

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

http://drought.unl.edu/dm

Released Thursday, February 25, 2010

Author: Brad Rippey, U.S. Department of Agriculture
Decisions

- In light of the recent moisture in Grand County, the decision was made to leave the Drought Monitor at the Status Quo for this week.
INFO

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COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
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NIDIS - UPPER COLORADO BASIN PILOT PROJECT

For more information
Summary

- Modest amounts of precipitation fell last week over much of the state, including the northern and central mountains. For the month of February, over 100% of normal precipitation fell along the eastern plains. The driest areas were Moffat county, south around the Rio Grande basin, and through much of the Upper Colorado River basin. Conditions continue to look very dry for western WY and drier than average for northeastern UT. Water-Year-to-date snotel precipitation changes over the last week show slight decreases in percentages throughout most of CO, though basin-wide percentages have stayed fairly steady.

Two fairly minor systems are forecast to move through the region--the first around Thursday and the second late Sunday into Monday. Both systems look to bring only minor amounts of precipitation to the high country and dry regions. A couple of concerns were voiced about the systems this week. The first issue is that a fairly strong ridge has settled in to the area, bringing with it warm and dry conditions. Second, as the first trough moves through the area, there is the threat of high wind. Both these storm tracks have the possibility of being fairly active, but there is a good chance that conditions could deteriorate this week.

The consensus of the webinar/conference call is to continue in "wait-and-see" mode for the Grand and Summit county areas. It was suggested that even if we introduced some D1 into this small area of the state, it would not be detectable on the national drought map. Also, with the continued passage of storms through the area--though only minor improvements have been seen--conditions have leveled off with little degradation. No other changes were suggested for the current DM map of the tri-state region, though we missed the company of our neighbor states on the call. If they have anything they would like to add, we would greatly appreciate their emails! If no other suggestions are made, it seems that it will be status-quo for the week.

- Becky