

April 15, 2011

Snowpack and Water Supply Conditions for the South Platte basin
as of April 1, 2011

Snowpack conditions in the South Platte River Basin experienced a two percentage point increase over last month. April 1 snow survey data shows the basin at 123 percent of average and 149 percent of April 1, 2010. This is the highest April 1 snowpack percentage going back to 1996 and the second highest since 1984. Sub-basin snowpacks are quite variable but remain mostly above average to well above average. The highest sub-basin snowpack came in at 140 percent of average in the Cache La Poudre while the Upper South Platte laid claim to the lowest measurements at 96 percent of average. Of particular note is the fact that the snow courses above Antero Reservoir all reported no snow and Echo Lake SNOTEL at the headwaters of Bear Creek was only 60 percent of average on April 1. Mountain precipitation during March was 113 percent of average, making it the sixth month in a row the basin has produced above average monthly precipitation. Total precipitation for the water year remains above normal at 127 percent of average. Reservoir levels are just slightly below average and about 3 percent less than last year's storage at this time. Most forecast points in the basin should see average to well above average runoff from April through September. Clear Creek at Golden should see flows of 134 percent of average. The exception to this, reflected by very low snowpacks, are the Inflow to Antero Reservoir, Bear Creek above Evergreen and Bear Creek at Morrison which are expected to produce flows of 41, 51 and 41 percent of average, respectively.

SOUTH PLATTE RIVER BASIN

Forecast Point -----	period -----	50% (KAF)	% of avg	max (KAF)	min (KAF)	30-yr avg
Antero Reservoir Inflow (1)	APR-JUL	8.1	48	15.3	4.30	16.8
	APR-SEP	9.1	41	17.9	4.60	22.0
Spinney Mountain Res Inflow (1)	APR-JUL	64.0	114	118	35.0	56.0
	APR-SEP	79.0	115	153	41.0	69.0
Elevenmile Canyon Res Inflow (1)	APR-JUL	67.0	116	127	35.0	58.0
	APR-SEP	83.0	115	169	41.0	72.0
Cheesman Lake Inflow (1)	APR-JUL	131	115	260	66.0	114
	APR-SEP	161	115	325	80.0	140
South Platte R at South Platte (1)	APR-JUL	230	112	495	107	205
	APR-SEP	285	112	625	130	255
Bear Ck ab Evergreen	APR-JUL	9.4	49	20.0	4.40	19.3
	APR-SEP	12.7	51	27.0	6.00	25.0
Bear Ck at Morrison	APR-JUL	9.8	39	25.0	3.90	25.0
	APR-SEP	12.8	41	32.0	5.20	31.0
Clear Ck at Golden	APR-JUL	150	136	181	119	110
	APR-SEP	180	134	220	138	134
St. Vrain Ck at Lyons (1)	APR-JUL	112.0	119	129	95.0	94.0
	APR-SEP	130	119	150	110	109
Boulder Ck nr Orodell (1)	APR-JUL	60.0	115	71.0	49.0	52.0
	APR-SEP	69.0	115	84.0	54.0	60.0

If you have questions, contact: USDA/Risk Management Agency/Topeka Regional Office –
Telephone 785.228.5512

April 15, 2011

S Boulder Ck nr Eldorado Springs (2	APR-JUL	46.0	112	55.0	37.0	41.0
	APR-SEP	52.0	113	63.0	41.0	46.0
Big Thompson R at Canyon Mouth (1)	APR-JUL	118.0	119	140	96.0	99.0
	APR-SEP	141	119	168	114	119
Cache La Poudre at Canyon Mouth (1)	APR-JUL	330	135	495	220	245
	APR-SEP	360	131	540	240	275

Max is 90 percentile and min is 10 percentile.
Averages are for the 1971-2000 period.
All volumes are in KAF.

footnotes:

1) streamflow is adjusted for upstream storage

If you have questions, contact: USDA/Risk Management Agency/Topeka Regional Office –
Telephone 785.228.5512