

May 9, 2011 RESERVOIR LEVEL AND SNOW UPDATE

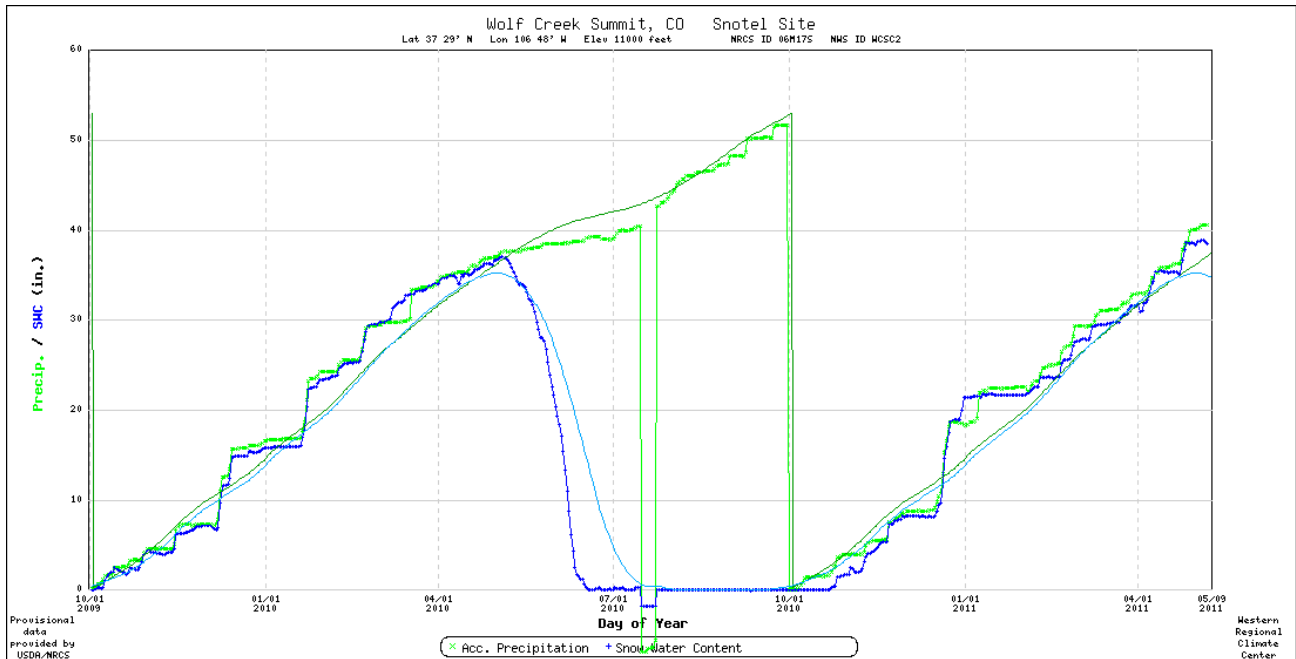
The May NRCS water supply outlook for May has been released, and it is not encouraging. The runoff forecasts have been decreasing every month, with the current forecast for May to July runoff at San Marcial (at the 50% chance of exceedance level, the median) being only 155,000 ac-ft. This is well below the long term average runoff of 400,000 ac-ft. Storage in Elephant Butte/Caballo is still decreasing but may now be leveling off prior to the runoff season. Caballo seems to be filled now, at about 65,000 ac-ft. The best chance for precipitation (50%) is Tuesday night and Wednesday.

COMBINED STORAGE Elephant Butte and Caballo May 8, 2011 440,515 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 May 9, 2011

BASIN	ELEV.	SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT	TOTAL PRECIPITATION
Data Site Name	(Ft)	%	%
		Avg	Avg
UPPER RIO GRANDE BASIN			
	Basin wide percent of average	97	99
RIO CHAMA BASIN			
	Basin wide percent of average	85	83
SANGRE DE CRISTO MOUNTAIN RANGE BASINS			
	Basin wide percent of average	44	77

WOLF CREEK



FORECAST

UPPER RIO GRANDE VALLEY/EASTERN SAN JUAN MOUNTAINS BELOW 10000 FT-
INCLUDING...CREEDE...SOUTH FORK
425 AM MDT MON MAY 9 2011

TODAY

SOUTHWEST WINDS 15 TO 30 MPH WITH GUSTS TO AROUND 45 MPH. MOSTLY SUNNY EARLY IN THE MORNING...THEN ISOLATED THUNDERSTORMS LATE IN THE MORNING. MOSTLY CLOUDY WITH SCATTERED RAIN SHOWERS AND ISOLATED THUNDERSTORMS IN THE AFTERNOON. HIGHS 46 TO 59. CHANCE OF PRECIPITATION 30 PERCENT.

TONIGHT

MOSTLY CLOUDY. SCATTERED RAIN SHOWERS...SNOW SHOWERS AND ISOLATED THUNDERSTORMS UNTIL MIDNIGHT...THEN SLIGHT CHANCE OF RAIN AND SNOW SHOWERS AFTER MIDNIGHT. LOWS 22 TO 28. SOUTHWEST WINDS 15 TO 25 MPH WITH GUSTS TO AROUND 45 MPH DECREASING TO 10 TO 15 MPH AFTER MIDNIGHT. CHANCE OF PRECIPITATION 30 PERCENT.

TUESDAY

PARTLY SUNNY. SLIGHT CHANCE OF THUNDERSTORMS IN THE AFTERNOON. HIGHS 43 TO 56. SOUTHWEST WINDS 10 TO 15 MPH INCREASING TO 15 TO 25 MPH IN THE AFTERNOON. CHANCE OF PRECIPITATION 10 PERCENT.

TUESDAY NIGHT

MOSTLY CLOUDY. CHANCE OF RAIN SHOWERS...SNOW SHOWERS AND SLIGHT CHANCE OF THUNDERSTORMS UNTIL MIDNIGHT...THEN CHANCE OF SNOW SHOWERS AFTER MIDNIGHT. LIGHT SNOW ACCUMULATIONS. LOWS 20 TO 28. WEST WINDS AROUND 10 MPH UNTIL MIDNIGHT BECOMING LIGHT. CHANCE OF PRECIPITATION 50 PERCENT.

WEDNESDAY

MOSTLY CLOUDY. CHANCE OF RAIN AND SNOW SHOWERS IN THE MORNING...THEN CHANCE OF RAIN SHOWERS IN THE AFTERNOON. HIGHS 40 TO 50. WEST WINDS 10 TO 20 MPH WITH GUSTS TO AROUND 35 MPH. CHANCE OF PRECIPITATION 50 PERCENT.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

MOSTLY CLOUDY WITH A 10 PERCENT CHANCE OF RAIN AND SNOW SHOWERS. LOWS 22 TO 28.

THURSDAY

MOSTLY SUNNY. HIGHS 52 TO 64.

THURSDAY NIGHT

MOSTLY CLEAR. LOWS 26 TO 33.

FRIDAY

MOSTLY SUNNY. HIGHS 57 TO 66.

FRIDAY NIGHT THROUGH SATURDAY NIGHT

MOSTLY CLOUDY WITH A 10 PERCENT CHANCE OF THUNDERSTORMS AND SNOW SHOWERS. LOWS 25 TO 38. HIGHS 55 TO 68.

SUNDAY

MOSTLY SUNNY WITH A 10 PERCENT CHANCE OF THUNDERSTORMS.
HIGHS 53 TO 66.

NEW MEXICO Water Supply Outlook Report as of May 1, 2011

The effects of the "La Nina" pattern continued to dominate New Mexico through most of April. Much of the state remained very dry, although there were some significant rain and snow events in some areas. Temperatures also remained above average for most of April, despite some periods of very cool temperatures statewide. The winds also continued this month, which has led to continued sublimation of the remaining snowpack. Overall, as of this final Basin Outlook Report for the year, it looks like New Mexico is going to have an extremely low runoff year for the most part, with the peak runoff probably occurring much earlier than average, if at all.

RIO GRANDE BASIN as of May 1, 2011

May to July streamflow forecasts for the Rio Grande Basin range from 7 percent of average for the Rio Pueblo de Taos below Los Cordovas, to 82 percent of average

for the El Vado Reservoir Inflow. Flows for the Rio Grande at Otowi Bridge are forecast to be 53 percent of average, while the Rio Grande at San Marcial is forecast at 39 percent of average. March to July streamflow forecasts remain substantially below average for all forecast points. Precipitation for April was somewhat above average, at 124 percent, compared to 85 percent last year. Year-to-date precipitation remains below average at 76 percent-compared to last year's 103 percent. Snowpack in the basin is also below average at 54 percent-down from last year's 97 percent at this time. Total reservoir storage in the basin is 1,033,300 acre-feet, down from last year's 1,299,900 acre-feet, and well below the 30 year average of 1,959,400 acre-feet. Elephant Butte storage continues to fall, with storage of 381,100 acre-feet as opposed to 542,500 acre-feet at this time last year and the 30 year average of 1,265,800 acre-feet.

