



Natural
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Arizona

Basin Outlook Report

January 1, 2006



ARIZONA Water Supply Outlook Report as of January 1, 2006

A full range of Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecasting products is available on the Arizona NRCS Home Page:

Snow Survey Program

<http://www.az.nrcs.usda.gov/snow/index.html>

Helpful Internet Sites

Defending Against Drought – NRCS

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/feature/highlights/drought.html>

- Ideas on water, land, and crop management for you to consider while creating your drought plan.

Arizona Agri-Weekly

<http://www.nass.usda.gov/az/cur-agwk.pdf>

- Provides an overview of Arizona's crop, livestock, range and pasture conditions as reported by local staffs of the USDA's Agricultural Statistic Service and University of Arizona, College of Agriculture.

SUMMARY

In 2006, 34 of 38 (89 percent) of the January 1st measurements were snow free, which means essentially no snowpack for those basins covered in this report. Additionally, cumulative precipitation since October 1 ranged from 21 percent to 37 percent of average. As a result, water users who depend on direct stream diversions for irrigation can expect reduced stream flow volumes this season. Overall, in-state reservoir storage is much better than the same time a year ago.

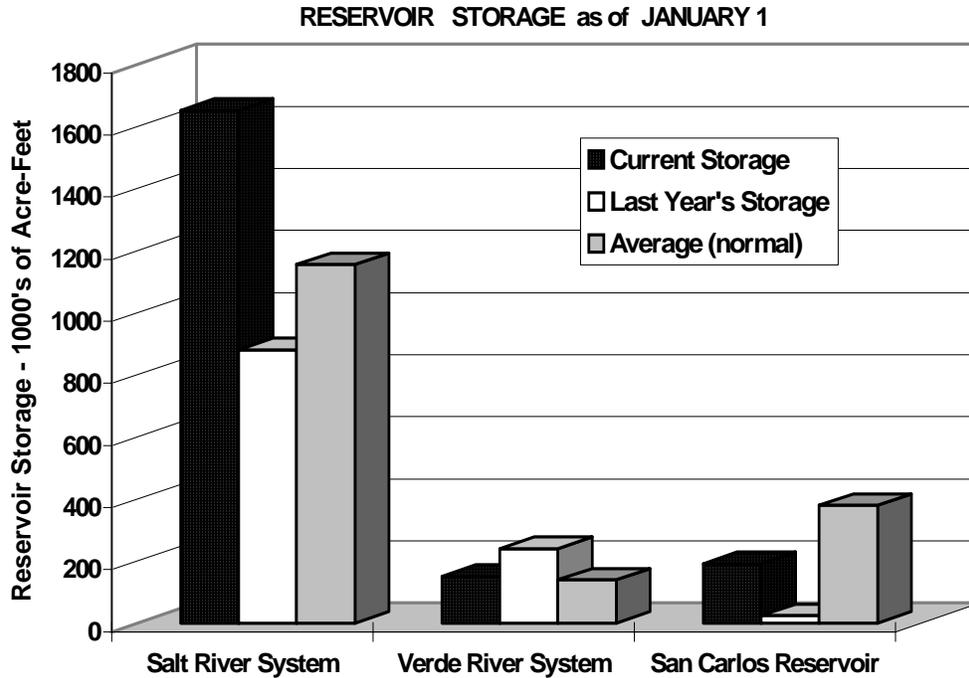
SNOWPACK

Watershed	Percent (%) of 30-Yr. Average Snowpack Levels as of January 1
Salt River Basin	0%
Verde River Basin	0%
Little Colorado River Basin	0%
San Francisco-Upper Gila River Basin	7%
Other Points of Interest	
Chuska Mountains	16%
Central Mogollon Rim	0%
Grand Canyon	0%
San Francisco Peaks	16%
Statewide Snowpack	7%

PRECIPITATION

Mountain data, from NRCS SNOTEL sites, show that seasonal precipitation totals are well below average for this time of year. Please refer to precipitation bar graphs found in this report for more information.

RESERVOIR

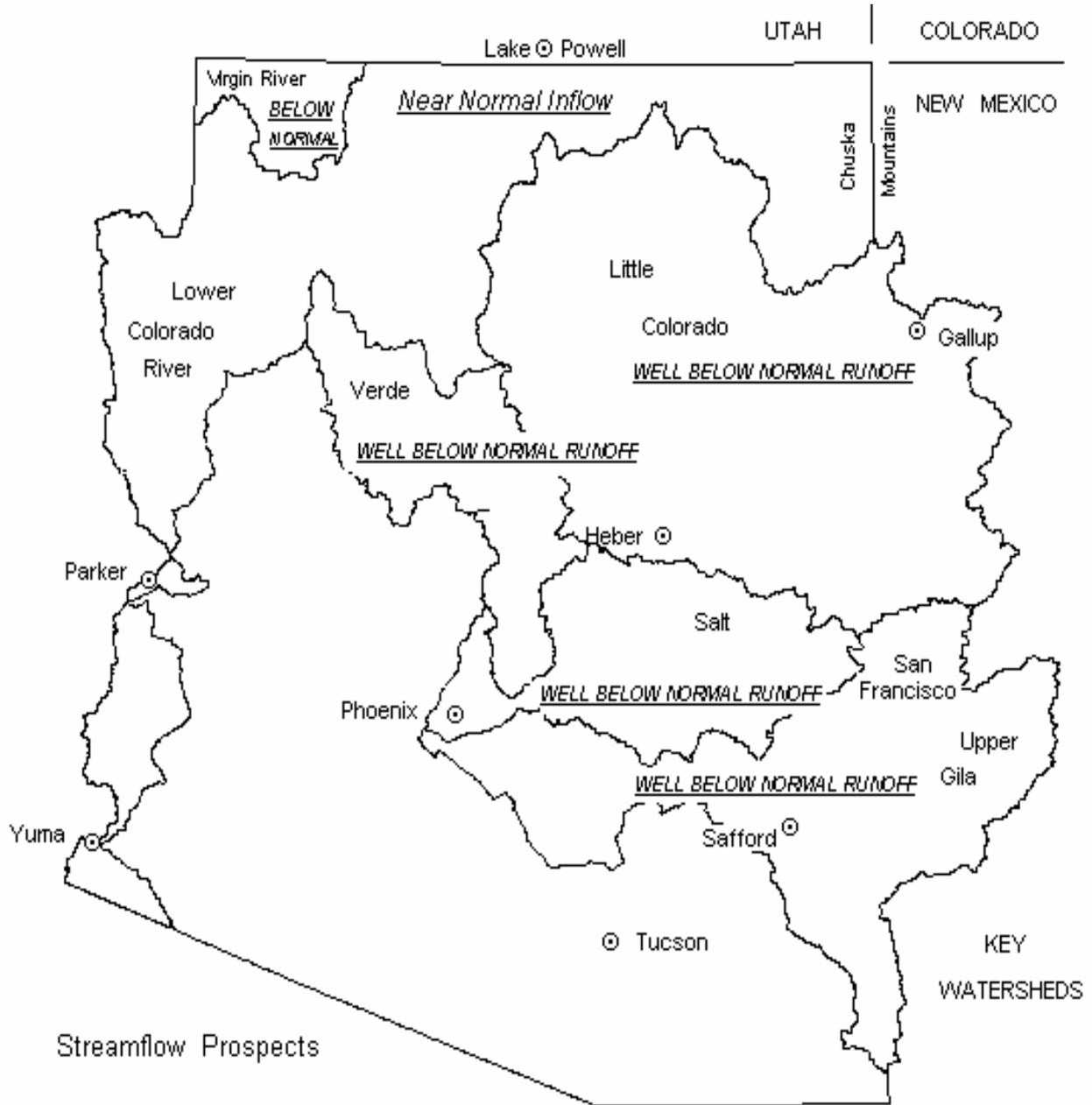


Key storage volumes displayed in thousands of acre-feet (1000 x):

RESERVOIR	CURRENT STORAGE	LAST YEAR STORAGE	30-YEAR AVERAGE
Lyman Lake	7.9	2.6	14.1
Show Low Lake	5.1	2.8	3.1
Lake Pleasant	617.1	467.6	----
Lake Havasu	579.4	560.4	556.4
Lake Mohave	1634.0	1632.6	1596.6
Lake Powell	11576.0	8664.0	18933.0
Lake Mead	15131.0	14355.0	21775.0
Salt River System	1652.6	880.4	1155.4
Verde River System	150.9	239.6	139.5
San Carlos Reservoir	191.5	24.1	379.1

STREAMFLOW

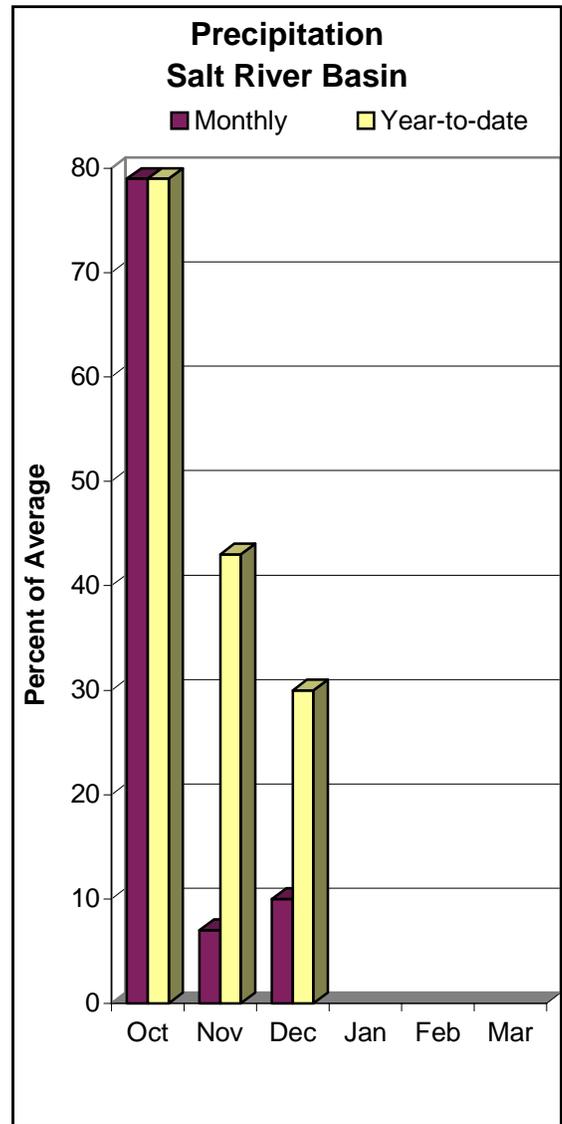
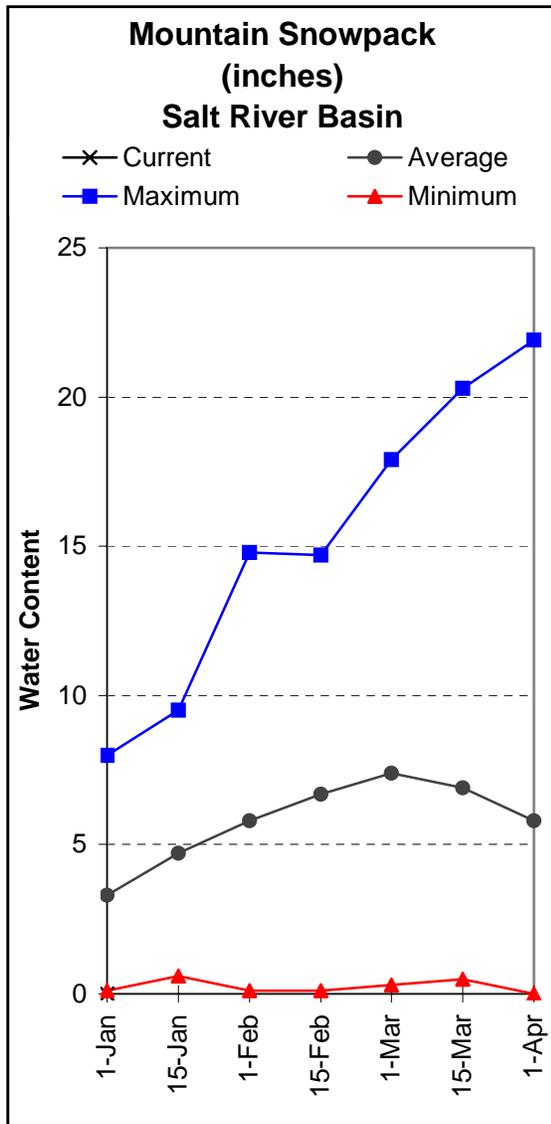
The long range forecast calls for well below median stream flow levels this season as the result of extremely dry conditions in Arizona's mountain watersheds. Please refer to the basin forecast tables found in this report for more information.



SALT RIVER BASIN as of January 1, 2006

Well below median stream flow levels are forecast for the basin. In the Salt River, near Roosevelt, the forecast calls for 30 % of median stream flow levels through MAY, while at Tonto Creek, the forecast calls for 21 % of median streamflow levels through MAY.

Additionally, snow survey measurements show the Salt snowpack to be 0 % of average, while combined reservoir storage in the Salt River system was reported at 1,652,638 acre-feet.



SALT RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - January 1, 2006

Forecast Pt Forecast Period	<=== Drier === Future Conditions === Wetter ===>						30 Yr Med (1000AF)
	Chance of Exceeding *						
	90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF) (% MED.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)		
Salt River nr Roosevelt							
JAN-MAY	50	71	115	30	175	296	385
JANUARY	8.6	9.3	10.0	41	18.5	38	25
Tonto Creek ab Gun Creek nr Roosevelt							
JAN-MAY	1.7	4.5	12.0	21	25	58	56
JANUARY	0.77	0.88	1.00	17	4.49	14.21	5.90

* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average and median are computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
- (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

SALT RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000AF) End of December

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	***** This Year	Usable Storage Last Year	***** Average
SALT RIVER RES SYSTEM	2025.8	1652.6	880.4	1155.4

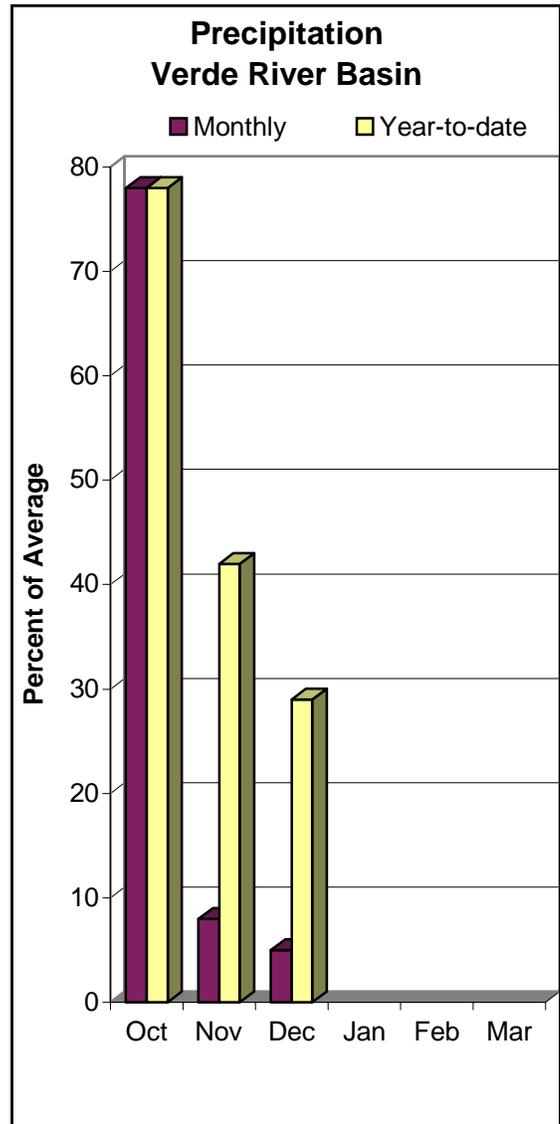
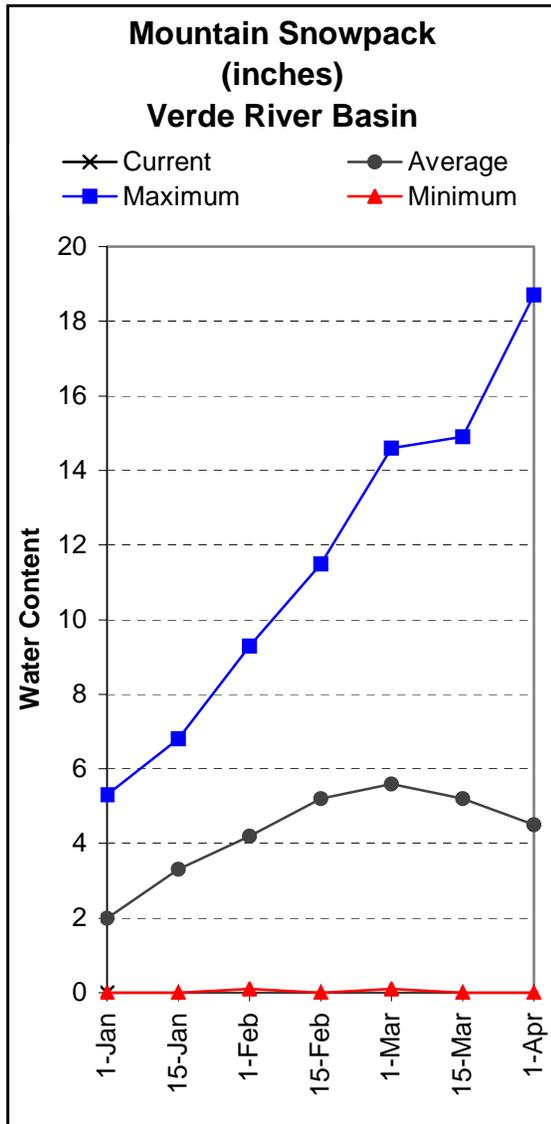
SALT RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - January 1, 2006

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as Percent of Last Year	Average
SALT RIVER BASIN	8	0	0

VERDE RIVER BASIN as of January 1, 2006

Well below median stream flow levels are forecast for the basin. In the Verde River, at Horseshoe Dam, the forecast calls for 48 % of median stream flow levels through MAY.

Furthermore, snow survey measurements show the Verde snowpack to be 0 % of average on JAN. 1, while combined reservoir storage on the Verde River system stands at 150,891 acre-feet.



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VERDE RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - January 1, 2006

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Forecast Pt Forecast Period	<=== Drier === Future Conditions === Wetter ===>						30 Yr Med (1000AF)
	Chance of Exceeding *						
	90%	70%	50%	30%	10%		
	(1000AF)	(1000AF)	(1000AF) (% MED.)	(1000AF)	(1000AF)	(1000AF)	
Verde River abv Horseshoe Dam							
JAN-MAY	59	65	105	48	159	265	220
JANUARY	12.0	14.4	20	83	32	58	24

* 90%, 70%, 50%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

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- (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

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VERDE RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000AF) End of December

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Reservoir	Usable	***** Usable Storage *****		Average
	Capacity	This Year	Last Year	
VERDE RIVER RES SYSTEM	287.4	150.9	239.6	139.5

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VERDE RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - January 1, 2006

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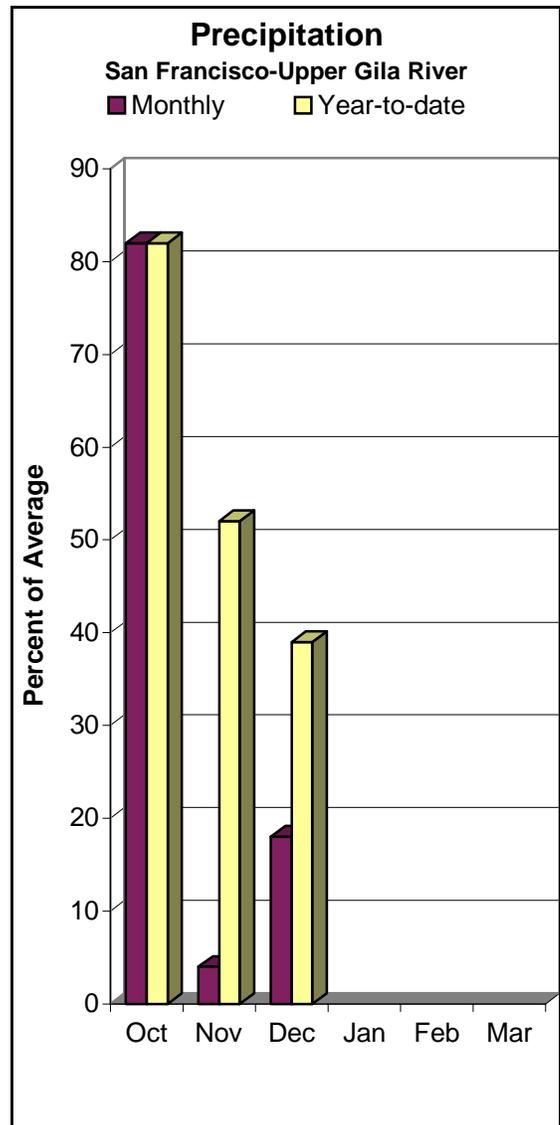
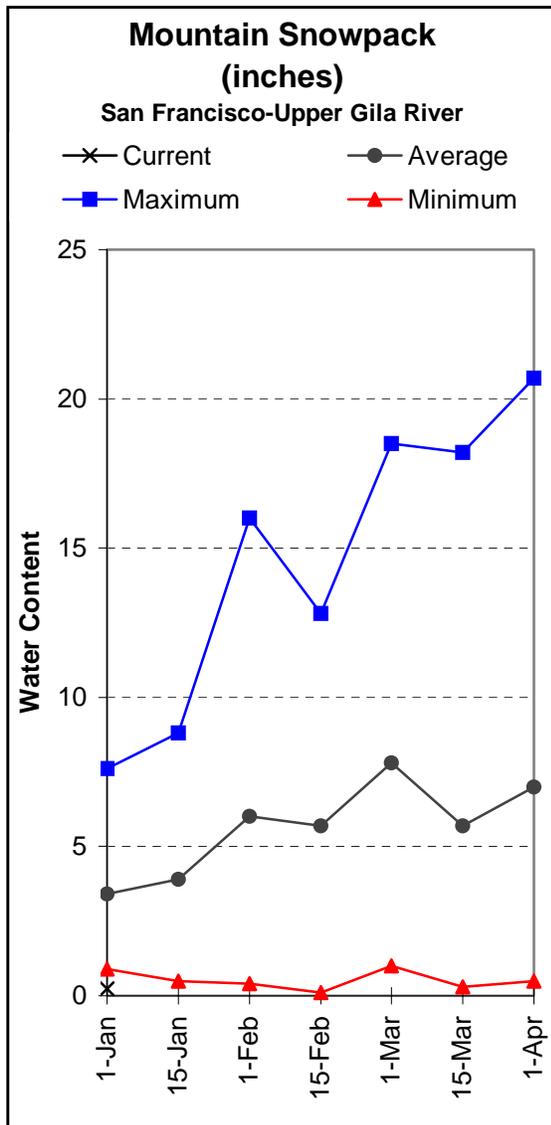
Watershed	Number of	This Year as Percent of	
	Data Sites	Last Year	Average
VERDE RIVER BASIN	10	0	0
SAN FRANCISCO PEAKS	3	9	16

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SAN FRANCISCO-UPPER GILA RIVER BASIN as of January 1, 2006

Well below median stream flow levels are forecast for the basin. In the San Francisco River, at Clifton, the forecast calls for 24 % of median stream flow levels through MAY, while in the Gila River, near Solomon, the forecast calls for 27 % of median stream flow levels through MAY. At San Carlos Reservoir, inflow to the lake is forecast at 26 % of median through MAY.

At San Carlos, reservoir storage stands at 191,500 acre-feet, while measurements show snowpack levels to be at 7 % of the 30-year average.



SAN FRANCISCO - UPPER GILA RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - January 1, 2006

Forecast Pt Forecast Period	<=== Drier === Future Conditions === Wetter ===>						30 Yr Med (1000AF)
	Chance of Exceeding * 90% 70% 50% 30% 10% (1000AF) (1000AF) (1000AF) (% MED.) (1000AF) (1000AF)						
Gila River at Gila							
JAN-MAY	15.0	18.0	21	35	28	60	60
Gila River nr Virden							
JAN-MAY	14.9	17.4	22	27	46	83	83
San Francisco River at Glenwood							
JAN-MAY	3.8	5.7	8.0	30	10.8	27	27
San Francisco River at Clifton							
JAN-MAY	11.9	14.0	17.0	24	42	70	70
Gila River nr Solomon							
JAN-MAY	25	33	45	27	83	165	165
JANUARY			9.0	46			19.7
San Carlos Reservoir inflow							
JAN-MAY	6.7	14.4	25	26	48	82	96

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SAN FRANCISCO - UPPER GILA RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000AF) End of December

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	***** This Year	Usable Storage Last Year	***** Average
SAN CARLOS	875.0	191.5	24.1	379.1
PAINTED ROCK DAM		NO REPORT		

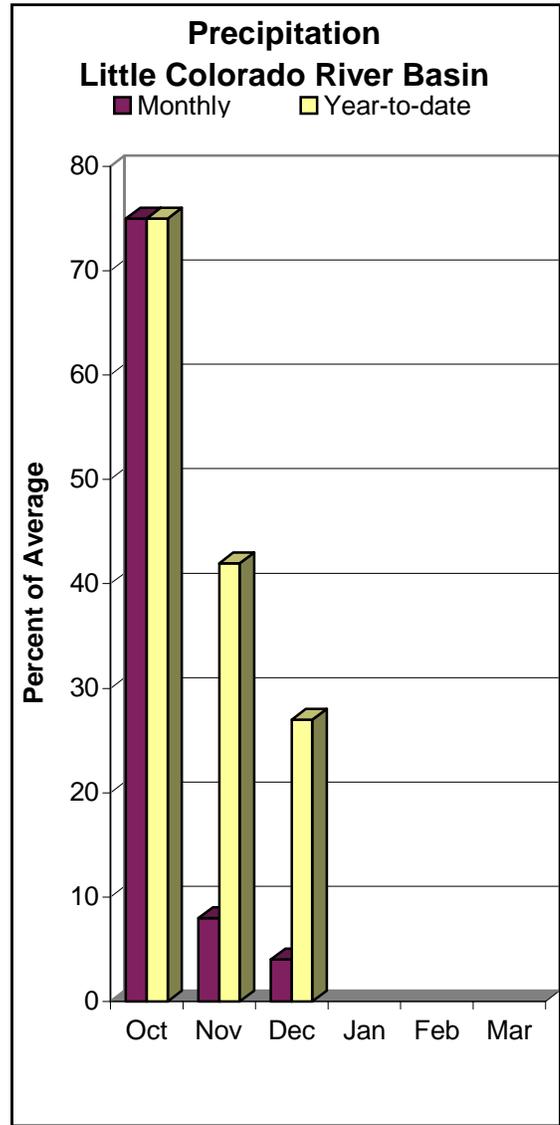
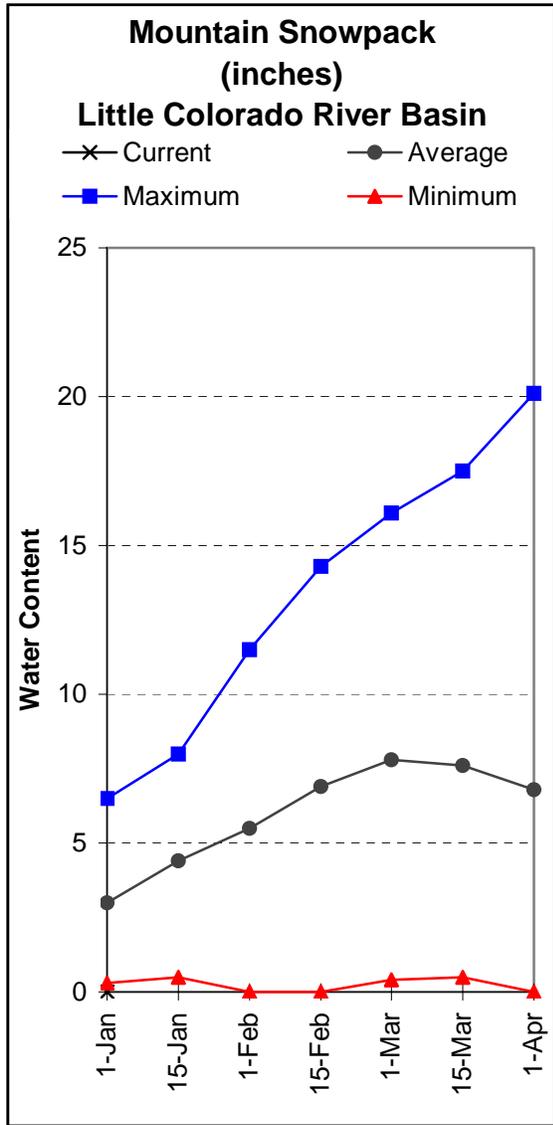
SAN FRANCISCO - UPPER GILA RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - January 1, 2006

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as Percent of Last Year	Average
SAN FRANCISCO - UPPER GILA R	11	6	7

LITTLE COLORADO RIVER BASIN as of January 1, 2006

Well below median stream flow levels are forecast for the basin. In the Little Colorado River, at Lyman Lake, the forecast calls for 23 % of median stream flow levels through JUNE, while at Woodruff, the forecast calls for 9 % of median stream flow levels through MAY.

Additionally, snowpack along the southern headwaters of the Little Colorado River, and along the central Mogollon Rim, were measured at 0 % of average, respectively.



LITTLE COLORADO RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - January 1, 2006

Forecast Pt Forecast Period	<=== Drier === Future Conditions === Wetter ===>						30 Yr Med (1000AF)
	Chance of Exceeding * 90% 70% 50% 30% 10% (1000AF) (1000AF) (1000AF) (% MED.) (1000AF) (1000AF)						
Little Colorado River abv Lyman Lake							
JAN-JUN	0.67	1.11	1.70	23	3.02	6.00	7.40
Rio Nutria nr Ramah							
JAN-MAY	0.00	0.16	0.80	26	1.55	3.10	3.10
Ramah Reservoir inflow							
JAN-MAY	0.00	0.17	0.50	29	1.03	2.00	1.71
Zuni River abv Black Rock Reservoir							
JAN-MAY	0.00	0.15	0.40	27	0.74	1.70	1.48
Little Colorado River at Woodruff							
JAN-MAY	0.04	0.18	0.31	9	1.80	4.00	3.60
Blue Ridge Reservoir inflow							
JAN-MAY	1.0	3.9	6.9	40	10.7	17.9	17.1
Lake Mary inflow							
JAN-MAY	0.05	0.50	2.00	40	2.64	4.00	5.00

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LITTLE COLORADO RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000AF) End of December

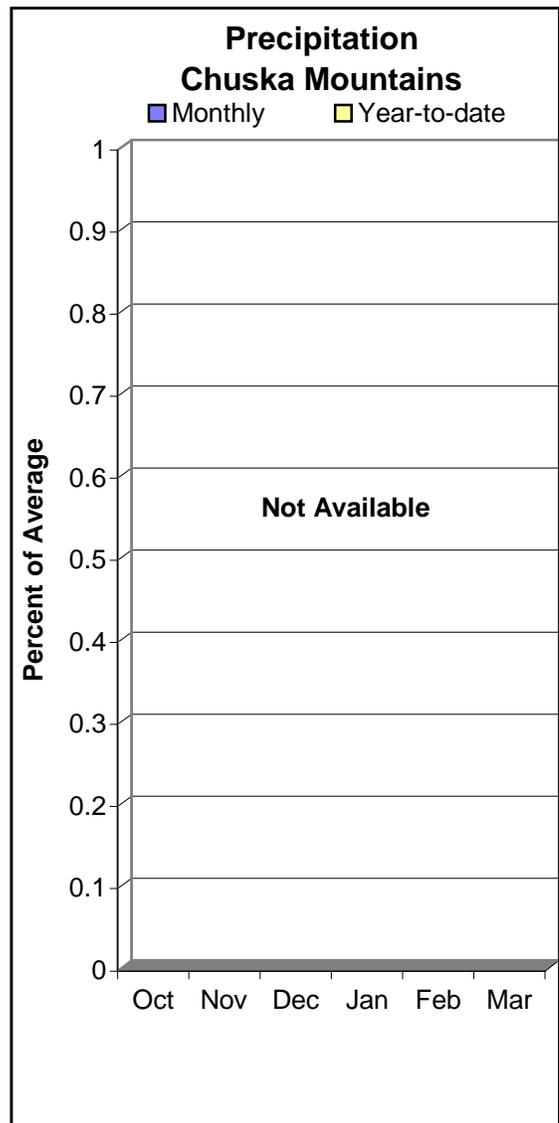
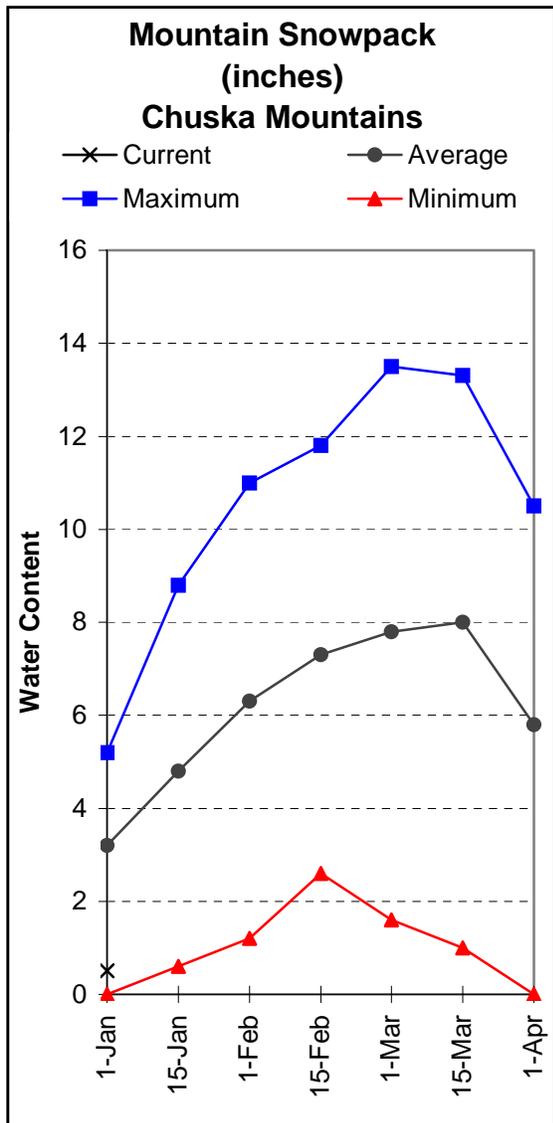
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	***** This Year	Usable Storage Last Year	***** Average
LYMAN RESERVOIR	30.0	7.9	2.6	14.1
SHOW LOW LAKE	5.1	5.1	2.8	3.1

LITTLE COLORADO RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - January 1, 2006

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as Percent of Last Year	Average
LITTLE COLORADO - SOUTHERN H	9	0	0
CENTRAL MOGOLLON RIM	4	0	0

CHUSKA MOUNTAINS as of January 1, 2006

Snow survey measurements conducted by staff of the Navajo Tribe show the Chuska snowpack to be 16 % of average, while well below average runoff is forecast for Captain Tom Wash, Wheatfields Creek, and Bowl Canyon Creek.



CHUSKA MOUNTAINS
Streamflow Forecasts - January 1, 2006

Forecast Pt Forecast Period	<=== Drier === Future Conditions === Wetter ===>						30 Yr Avg (1000AF)
	Chance of Exceeding *						
	90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF) (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)		
Captain Tom Wash nr Two Gray Hills							
MAR-MAY	0.06	0.28	1.10	39	2.80	5.40	2.83
Wheatfields Creek nr Wheatfields							
MAR-MAY	0.06	0.29	1.16	40	2.96	5.56	2.90
Bowl Canyon Creek abv Assayi Lake							
MAR-MAY	0.05	0.15	0.40	40	0.99	1.89	1.00

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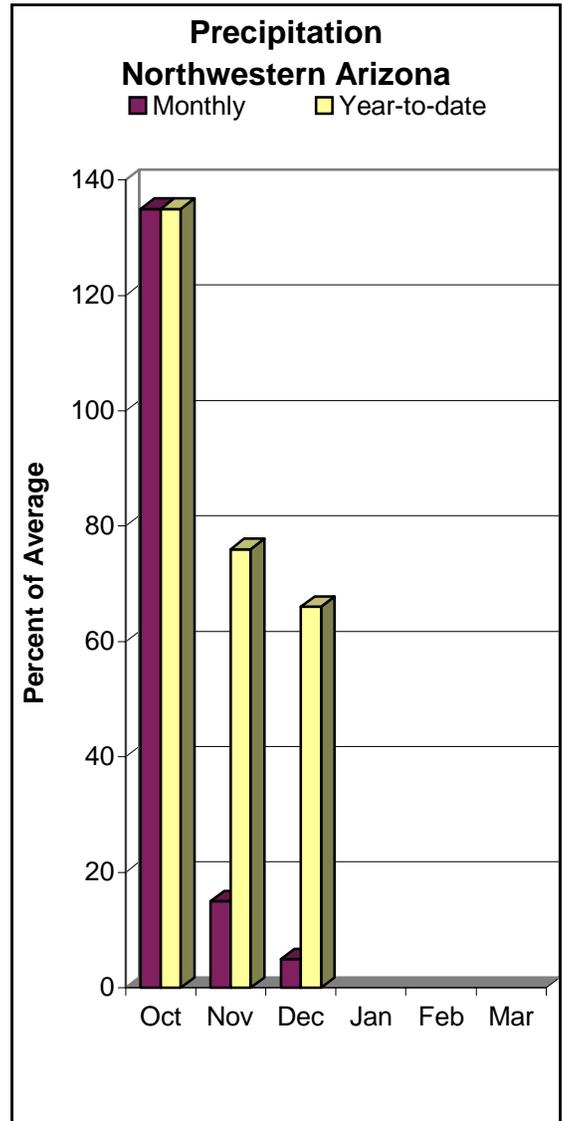
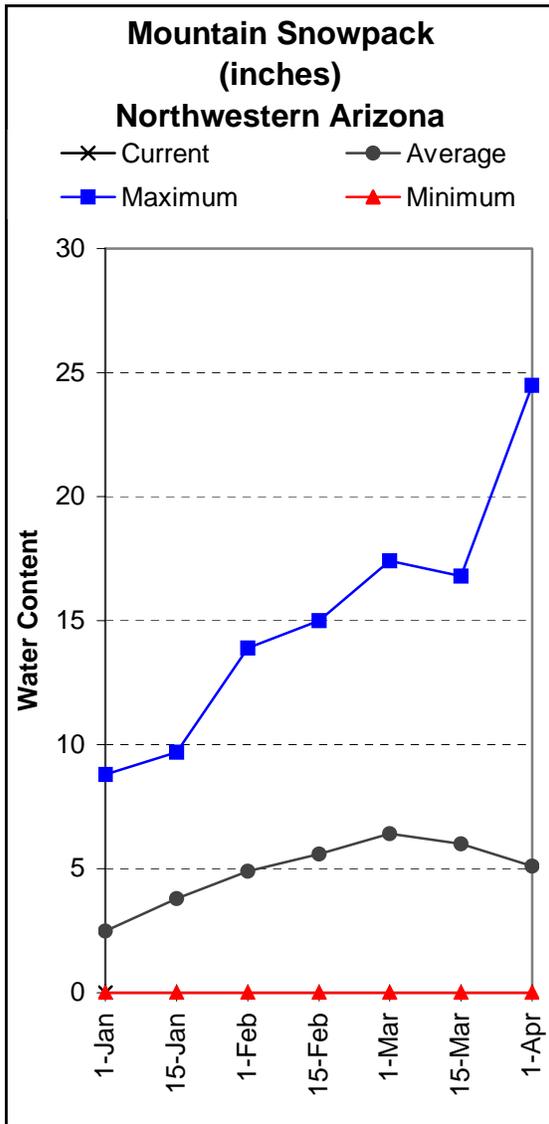
CHUSKA MOUNTAINS
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - January 1, 2006

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as Percent of Last Year	Average
CHUSKA MOUNTAINS	7	16	16
DEFIANCE PLATEAU	2	0	0

NORTHWESTERN ARIZONA as of January 1, 2006

On the Colorado River, inflow to Lake Powell is forecast at 107 % of the 30-year average for the forecast period APR-JULY, while at Littlefield, the Virgin River is forecast at 41 % average.

At the Grand Canyon, measurements conducted by the National Park Service show the snowpack to be at 0 % of average.



NORTHWESTERN ARIZONA
Streamflow Forecasts - January 1, 2006

Forecast Pt Forecast Period	<=== Drier === Future Conditions === Wetter ===>						30 Yr Avg (1000AF)
	Chance of Exceeding *						
	90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (1000AF) (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)		
Virgin River at Littlefield							
Apr-Jul	14.8	21	30	41	52	96	74
Lake Powell Inflow (2)							
APR-JUL	4900	7040	8500	107	9960	12100	7930

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NORTHWESTERN ARIZONA
Reservoir Storage (1000AF) End of December

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	***** This Year	Usable Storage Last Year	***** Average
LAKE HAVASU	619.0	579.4	560.4	556.4
LAKE MOHAVE	1810.0	1634.0	1632.6	1596.6
LAKE MEAD	26159.0	15131.0	14355.0	21775.0
LAKE POWELL	24322.0	11576.0	8664.0	18933.0

NORTHWESTERN ARIZONA
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - January 1, 2006

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as Percent of Last Year	Average
GRAND CANYON	2	0	0

S N O W S U R V E Y D A T A

JANUARY 1, 2006

SNOW COURSE	ELEV.	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 71-00
ARBABS FOREST (AK)	7680	12/30	0	.0	.2	1.2
BAKER BUTTE SNOTEL	7330	1/01	0	.0	1.4	2.3
BAKER BUTTE #2	7700	12/29	0	.0	5.1	4.2
BALDY SNOTEL	9220	1/01	0	.0	2.8	3.5
BEAVER HEAD	8000	12/29	0	.0	1.4	1.6
BEAVER HEAD SNOTEL	7990	1/01	0	.0	3.0	1.9
BEAVER SPRING	9220	12/29	3	1.5	5.4	3.9
BRIGHT ANGEL	8400	12/29	0	.0	3.5	3.9
BUCK SPRING	7400	12/29	0	.0	0.0	2.7
CHALENDER	7100	12/29	0	.0	0.0	1.3
CHEESE SPRINGS	8600	12/29	0	.0	1.2	2.5
CORONADO TRL SNOTEL	8400	01/01	0	.0	2.9	1.8
CORONADO TRAIL	8350	12/29	0	.0	0.0	1.6
FLUTED ROCK	7800	12/30	0	.0	.8	1.4
FORT APACHE	9160	12/29	0	.0	2.5	3.8
FORT VALLEY	7350	12/29	0	.0	0.8	1.2
FRY SNOTEL	7220	1/01	0	.0	4.2	2.8
GRAND CANYON	7500	12/29	0	.0	1.2	1.6
HANNAGAN MDWS SNOTEL	9020	1/01	0	.0	6.8	5.5
HAPPY JACK	7630	12/24	0	.0	2.0	2.0
HAPPY JACK SNOTEL	7630	1/01	0	.0	3.3	2.1
HEBER SNOTEL	7640	1/01	0	.0	1.2	2.3
LAKE MARY	6930	12/29	0	.0	1.1	1.5
MAVERICK FORK SNOTEL	9200	1/01	0	.0	4.0	4.2
MORMON MTN SNOTEL	7500	11/01	0	.0	3.9	2.4
MORMON MT. SUMMIT #2	8470	12/29	0	.0	5.0	1.1
NEWMAN PARK	6750	12/29	0	.0	0.3	.9
NUTRIOSO	8500	12/29	0	.0	0.0	1.0
PROMONTORY SNOTEL	7900	1/01	0	.0	4.0	4.6
SNOW BOWL #1 ALT.	10260	12/24	0	.0	16.8	5.7
SNOW BOWL #2	11000	12/24	3	1.0	8.8	9.0
SNOWSLIDE CYN SNOTEL	9750	1/01	-	2.5	15.0	7.0
TSAILE CANYON #1	8160	12/29	0	.0	2.8	2.6
TSAILE CANYON #3	8920	12/29	2	1.0	4.6	3.6
WHITE HORSE SNOTEL	7180	1/01	0	.0	.6	2.0
WILDCAT SNOTEL	7850	1/01	0	.0	.3	1.7
WILLIAMS SKI RUN	7720	12/29	0	.0	4.5	3.5
WORKMAN CREEK SNOTEL	6900	1/01	0	.0	1.0	2.9

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