

Natural Resources Conservation Service



Washington Water Supply Outlook Report

June 1, 2025



View from Calamity SNOTEL station. Water-year-to-date precipitation at the site is 94% of normal as of June 1. Source: Allen Buckman, NRCS Hydrologist (May 28, 2025)

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Summary

Throughout the winter and spring, several SNOTEL stations experienced deficits in water-year precipitation and snow water equivalent (SWE). Rapid melting across much of the state in April resulted in earlier-than-normal snow melt-out at all stations so far.

Upper Columbia, Lower Pend Oreille, and Spokane Basins

Peak SWE and water-year-to-date (WYTD) precipitation range from near to above normal. The snowmelt rate at many stations in April is within the top 5 highest on record for that period. Snow melt-out so far is 2-12 days earlier than normal.

Northern and Central Washington Cascades

Deficits in SWE and WYTD precipitation are pervasive, further increasing moisture deficits from last winter. Peak snowpack is below normal. Snow melt-out at most stations has been 2 weeks earlier than normal.

Yakima Basin

Peak SWE at most stations is near normal, with WYTD precipitation slightly below normal. Several stations recorded the highest or near highest rate of snowmelt on record in April, resulting in melt out 4-20 days earlier than normal. Multi-year precipitation deficits continue to increase.

Olympic Basin

Peak SWE and WYTD precipitation vary on the peninsula, with conditions at stations above ~4,000 ft slightly below normal and near to slightly above normal below ~4,000 ft.

Southern Washington Cascades

Peak SWE and WYTD precipitation at stations above ~3,400 ft are near to above normal. SWE below 3,400 ft throughout much of the winter was well-below normal.

Northern Blue Mountains

Peak SWE and WYTD precipitation are near to slightly above normal. Snow melt-out so far is 3-9 days later than normal.

The water supply outlook across Washington is generally below normal, except for a near normal outlook for the Lower Columbia. Several basins should expect adverse impacts to water supply this summer and potential drought development or further drought degradation, notably in basins across the central and northern Cascades and in the Okanogan, Yakima, and the Elwha basins.

*Note that basin conditions outlined in this report include data from stations within the SNOTEL and SNOLITE network, and/or cooperator weather stations.

Snow Water Equivalent

Much of the SWE remaining as of June 1 is well below normal, in large part due to rapid melting at some stations in April leading to early melt out and pervasive snowpack deficits in many basins. However, in the Lower Columbia Basin and at Mount Crag SNOTEL station on the Olympic Peninsula, SWE is near to above normal. Snow melt-out so far is earlier than normal at all SNOTEL stations. In the central Washington Cascades, snow has been melting out at most stations 2 weeks earlier than normal.

Earlier-than-normal melt out during the spring, even in basins with near to above normal peak SWE, can lead to reduced water availability during the dry summer months. This can adversely impact the timing of irrigation and fish populations that rely on the temporal predictability of the snowmelt season.

What is snow water equivalent? Click here to find out more!



Peak snow water equivalent (% of normal) for water year 2025

Precipitation

Washington experienced another consecutive month of below normal precipitation, with most SNOTEL stations east of the Cascade crest recording below normal amounts of precipitation. Precipitation for April and May was the <u>lowest or 2nd lowest on record</u> at 15 SNOTEL stations, including several in the central Washington Cascades and the Yakima and Lower Snake basins. Persistent dry conditions have led to slight degradations in water-year-to-date (WYTD) precipitation from May 1 for all major basins. WYTD precipitation remains near normal for stations in northern Washington east of the Methow Basin, in the Lower Snake and Walla Walla Basin, and in the Lower Columbia Basin.



Basin water-year precipitation (% of normal) as of June 1

Reservoirs

Volumetric reservoir storage varies across Washington. In the North Cascades, despite deficits in WYTD precipitation and snowpack, reservoir storage is mostly near normal, including reservoirs in the Skagit Project and Lake Chelan, with storage in the Conconully Project ranging from slightly below to near normal. In the Upper Yakima Basin, reservoir storage is exceptionally low due to current and multi-year precipitation deficits in the basin.

Reservoir operators account for a variety of factors when choosing to store or release water, including flooding, irrigation, fisheries, and other water needs. These management needs may impact storage values for a reservoir.



Reservoir storage (% of normal) as of June 1

Streamflow and Forecasts

Most streamgages across the state are recording flows below normal, mostly due to earlier-than-normal melt out and below normal precipitation the past 2 months. Flows are generally at or below the <u>15th percentile</u> (<u>1991-2020</u>) at gages near the I-90 corridor and in the foothills of the southern Washington Cascades.

Seasonal streamflow forecasts across the state have mostly degraded since May, with several forecasts (50%exceedance prediction) in the central and northern Washington below the <u>15th percentile (1991-2020)</u> for the Apr-Sep period, including at points in the Wenatchee, Upper Yakima, Methow, Elwha, and Lake Chelan basins. The water supply outlook is generally below normal for all major basins in the state, with some near normal flows predicted in the Lower Columbia Basin and at Dungeness R nr Sequim. Water supply shortages should be expected in several basins during the summer.



View the map for May observed streamflow here.

Streamflow forecasts (% of normal) for the primary period as of June 1

Drought

The distribution of moderate drought (D1) and abnormally dry conditions (D0) have expanded across Washington since the update near May 1. As of June 3, 23% of the state is in moderate drought, with 58% experiencing abnormally dry conditions. Moderate drought conditions are distributed across much of the Washington Cascades, while abnormally dry conditions are distributed throughout western Washington, the Central and Upper Columbia basins, and across eastern Washington near the Idaho border.

At the beginning of the water year, 40% of the state was in some drought category (D1-D2), with 10% in severe drought (D2).



Soils

Soil moisture products shown below generally indicate drier root-zone (top 1 meter) soils across parts of the Cascade Range and in parts of western Washington, in addition to much of southeastern Washington and in the Lower Pend Oreille Basin.

Soil moisture conditions are useful in assessing current drought and future drought potential. In addition, soil moisture is generally a good indicator of the efficiency of snowmelt runoff into streamflow in the spring. Drier soils tend to absorb more water from snowmelt than wetter soils, thus less melt is translated into streamflow (i.e. low efficiency). Soil moisture generally recovers each year during late fall and early winter, before precipitation begins falling mainly as snow. Therefore, early-season soil moisture can be essential for increasing runoff efficiency in the spring.



3-Month Outlook

NOAA's Climate Prediction Center's 3-Month Outlook calls for greater chances of above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation statewide.



North Puget Sound Basin Summary

SNOWPACK



As of June 1, the basin snowpack is below normal at 52% of median. This is lower than May 1 when the basin snowpack was 68% of median.

View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.



May precipitation is slightly below normal at 71% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 84% of median.

View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

As of June 1, volumetric storage at Ross Reservoir is slightly above normal at 110% of median. Storage at Upper Baker Reservoir is near normal at 106% of median, and storage at Lake Shannon is near normal at 99% of median.

North Puget S	ound				Water Year 20	025	
Site	Elevation (ft)	Capacity (kaf)	Median (kaf)	Median % Capacity	Storage (kaf)	% Capacity	% Median
Lake Shannon	420	97.2	104	107	102.8	106	99
Ross	1550	1434.67	1110	77	1223.27	85	110
Upper Baker	720	162.7	195	120	206.7	127	106
Basin Index						90	109

View reservoir storage for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

The June through September streamflow forecasts in the basin range from 68% to 89% of median.



Central Puget Sound Basin Summary

SNOWPACK



As of June 1, the basin snowpack is below normal at 19% of median. This is lower than May 1 when the basin snowpack was 55% of median.





May precipitation is below normal at 66% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 78% of median.

View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

The June through September streamflow forecasts in the basin are slightly below normal and range from 74% to 83% of median.



South Puget Sound Basin Summary

SNOWPACK



As of June 1, the basin snowpack is below normal at 64% of median. This is lower than May 1 when the basin snowpack was 67% of median.

View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.



May precipitation is below normal at 56% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 78% of median.

View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

As of June 1, volumetric storage at Howard Hansen Reservoir is near normal at 106% of median.

South Puget Sou	nd				Water Year 2025		
Site	Elevation (ft)	Capacity (kaf)	Median (kaf)	Median % Capacity	Storage (kaf)	% Capacity	% Median
Howard Hansen	1140	106	46	43	48.654	46	106
Basin Index						46	106

View reservoir storage for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

The June through September streamflow forecast for Green River below Howard A Hanson Dam is slightly below normal at 73% of median. White River below Clearwater River near Buckley, a newly established forecast point in water-year 2024, has a June through September []% exceedance value of 350 KAF. *To view data in tabular format, other forecast periods, and the forecast for White R bl Clearwater R nr Buckley, please view the basin data reports <u>here</u>.*



Olympic Basin Summary



As of June 1, the basin snowpack is below normal at 68% of median. This is lower than May 1 when the basin snowpack was 74% of median.

View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.



May precipitation is below normal at 65% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 89% of median.

View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

The June through September streamflow forecast for Elwha at Mcdonald Bridge is slightly below normal at 68% of median. The June through September streamflow forecast for Dungeness R nr Sequim is near normal at 94% of median.



Upper Columbia Basin Summary



As of June 1, the basin snowpack is below normal at 39% of median. This is lower than May 1 when the basin snowpack was 67% of median.

View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.



May precipitation is below normal at 60% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 82% of median.

View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

As of June 1, storage at Conconully Reservoir is near normal at 98% of median. Volumetric storage at Conconully Lake (Salmon Lake Dam) is slightly below normal at 82% of median.

Upper Columbia			Water Year 2025				
Site	Elevation (ft)	Capacity (kaf)	Median (kaf)	Median % Capacity	Storage (kaf)	% Capacity	% Median
Conconully Lake (Salmon Lake Dam)	2330	10.5	10.2	97	8.356	80	82
Conconully Reservoir	2290	13	13	100	12.799	98	98
Basin Index						90	91

View reservoir storage for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

The June through September streamflow forecasts in the basins vary from below to slightly below normal and range from 53% to 80% of median.



Central Columbia Basin Summary

SNOWPACK



As of June 1, the basin snowpack is below normal at 23% of median. This is lower than May 1 when the basin snowpack was 46% of median.

View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.



May precipitation is below normal at 42% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 80% of median.

View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

As of June 1, volumetric storage at Lake Chelan is near normal at 104% of median.

Central Colu	mbia	-			Water Year 20)25	
Site	Elevation (ft)	Capacity (kaf)	Median (kaf)	Median % Capacity	Storage (kaf)	% Capacity	% Median
Lake Chelan	1090	676.1	513.9	76	536.8	79	104
Basin Index						79	104

• View reservoir storage for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

The June through September streamflow forecasts in the basin are below normal to slightly below normal and range from 51% to 76% of median.



Lower Columbia Basin Summary





As of June 1, the basin snowpack is near normal at 97% of median. This is lower than May 1 when the basin snowpack was 101% of median.

View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.



May precipitation is below normal at 58% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 96% of median.

View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

As of June 1, storage at Mayfield Lake is at normal at 100% of median. Volumetric storage at Mossyrock Dam (Riffe Lake) is slightly below normal at 78% of median.

Lower Columbia		Water Year 2025						
Site	Elevation	Capacity	Median	Median %	Storage	%	%	
Site	(ft) (kaf)		(kaf)	Capacity	(kaf)	Capacity	Median	
Mayfield	430	133.72	130.4	98	129.8	97	100	
Mossyrock Dam (Riffe	700	1200.002	1145	00	001 7	<u> </u>	70	
Lk)	780	1298.002	1145	88	891.7	69	78	
Basin Index						71	80	

View reservoir storage for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

The June through September streamflow forecasts in the basin are slightly below normal to near normal and range from 87% to 99% of median.



Upper Yakima Basin Summary





As of June 1, the basin snowpack is below normal at 27% of median. This is lower than May 1 when the basin snowpack was 45% of median.

View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.



May precipitation is below normal at 46% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 76% of median.

View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

As of June 1, storage at Keechelus Reservoir is below normal at 59% of median. Volumetric storage at Cle Elum Reservoir is 71% of median and 67% of median at Kachess Reservoir.

Upper Yaki	ma		220.6 92 148.47 62 67				
Site	Elevation (ft)	Capacity (kaf)	Median (kaf)	Median % Capacity	Storage (kaf)	% Capacity	% Median
Cle Elum	2230	436.9	410.5	94	292.18	67	71
Kachess	2260	239	220.6	92	148.47	62	67
Keechelus	2520	157.8	141.7	90	84.247	53	59
Basin Index						63	68

View reservoir storage for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

The June through September streamflow forecasts in the basin are below normal and range from 54% to 78% of median.



Lower Yakima Summary



As of June 1, the basin snowpack has melted out. On May 1, the basin snowpack was 59% of median. The basin SWE index in the above plot reflects a SWE normal for Indian Rock SNOTEL that has since been deleted due to significant on-site disturbance.
• View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.



June precipitation is below normal at 17% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 80% of median.

View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

The June through September streamflow forecast for Ahtanum Ck at Union Gap is below normal at 68% of median. The June through September streamflow forecast for Yakima R nr Parker is below normal at 65% of median.



Naches Basin Summary



As of June 1, the basin snowpack is below normal at 57% of median. This is lower than May 1 when the basin snowpack was 76% of median.

View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

PRECIPITATION



June precipitation is below normal at 40% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 84% of median.

View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

As of June 1, storage at Bumping Lake is near normal at 96% of median. Volumetric storage at Rimrock Lake is slightly below normal at 76% of median.

Naches					Water Year 20)25	
Site	Elevation (ft)	Capacity (kaf)	Median (kaf)	Median % Capacity	Storage (kaf)	% Capacity	% Median
Bumping Lake	3430	33.7	33.6	100	32.16	95	96
Rimrock	2930	198	193.5	98	146.908	74	76
Basin Index						77	79

View reservoir storage for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

The June through September streamflow forecasts in the basin are slightly below normal and range from 80% to 86% of median.



Klickitat Basin Summary

SNOWPACK



As of June 1, the basin snowpack is slightly below normal at 84% of median. This is higher than May 1 when the basin snowpack was 80% of median.

The basin SWE index in the above plot reflects a SWE normal for Indian Rock SNOTEL that has since been deleted due to significant on-site disturbance. • View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

PRECIPITATION



May precipitation is below normal at 27% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 84% of median.

View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

The June through September streamflow forecast for Klickitat R nr Glenwood is slightly below normal at 75% of median. The June through September streamflow forecast for Klickitat R nr Pitt is slightly below normal at 88% of median.



Lower Pend Oreille Basin Summary

SNOWPACK



As of June 1, the basin snowpack is below normal at 56% of median. This is lower than May 1 when the basin snowpack was 86% of median.

View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.



May precipitation is below normal at 62% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 89% of median.

View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

As of June 1, storage at Lake Pend Oreille is near normal at 100% of median. Volumetric storage at Priest Lake is at normal at 103% of median.

Lower Pend Oreil	le				Water Year 2	025	
Site	Elevation (ft)	Capacity (kaf)	Median (kaf)	Median % Capacity	Storage (kaf)	% Capacity	% Median
Lake Pend Oreille	2060	1561.3	1318	84	1320.632	85	100
Priest Lake	2440	119.3	133.7	112	138.081	116	103
Basin Index						87	100

View reservoir storage for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

The June through September streamflow forecasts in the basin are slightly below normal and range from 71% to 81% of median.



Spokane Basin Summary



As of June 1, the basin snowpack is below normal at 66% of median. This is lower than May 1 when the basin snowpack was 77% of median.

View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

PRECIPITATION



May precipitation is below normal at 59% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 85% of median.

View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

As of June 1, volumetric storage at Lake Coeur d' Alene is near normal at 102% of median.

Spokane		Water Year 2025					
Site	Elevation (ft) Capacity (kaf)	Median (kaf)	Median % Capacity	Storage (kaf)	% Capacity	% Median
Lake Coeur d' Alene	2130	238.5	231.3	97	236.22	99	102
Basin Index						99	102

View reservoir storage for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

June through September streamflow forecasts in the basin range from 65% to 75% of median. *For data in tabular format and to view other forecasting periods, please view the basin data reports <u>here</u>.*



Lower Snake-Walla Walla Basin Summary

SNOWPACK



As of June 1, the basin snowpack is below normal at 69% of median. This is lower than May 1 when the basin snowpack was 97% of median.

View snowpack for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.



May precipitation is below normal at 46% of median. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - June 1) is 94% of median.

View precipitation for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

As of June 1, volumetric storage at Wallowa Lake is slightly below normal at 80% of median.

Lower Snake-V	Valla Walla			Water Year 2025			
Site	Elevation (ft)	Capacity (kaf)	Median (kaf)	Median % Capacity	Storage (kaf)	% Capacity	% Median
Wallowa Lake	4380	37.5	27.4	73	22.038	59	80
Basin Index						59	80

View reservoir storage for individual sites by accessing the basin data report <u>here</u>.

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

Streamflow forecasts for the primary period in the basin vary from below to near normal and range from 66% to 107% of median.

To view data in tabular format, other forecast periods, and the forecast for Asotin Ck at Asotin, please view the basin data report <u>here</u>.



Additional Resources

<u>Snow Survey & Water Supply Forecasting</u> <u>Development and Interpretation of Water Supply Forecasts</u> <u>User Guide to Forecast Charts</u>

For more water supply and resource management information, contact:

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