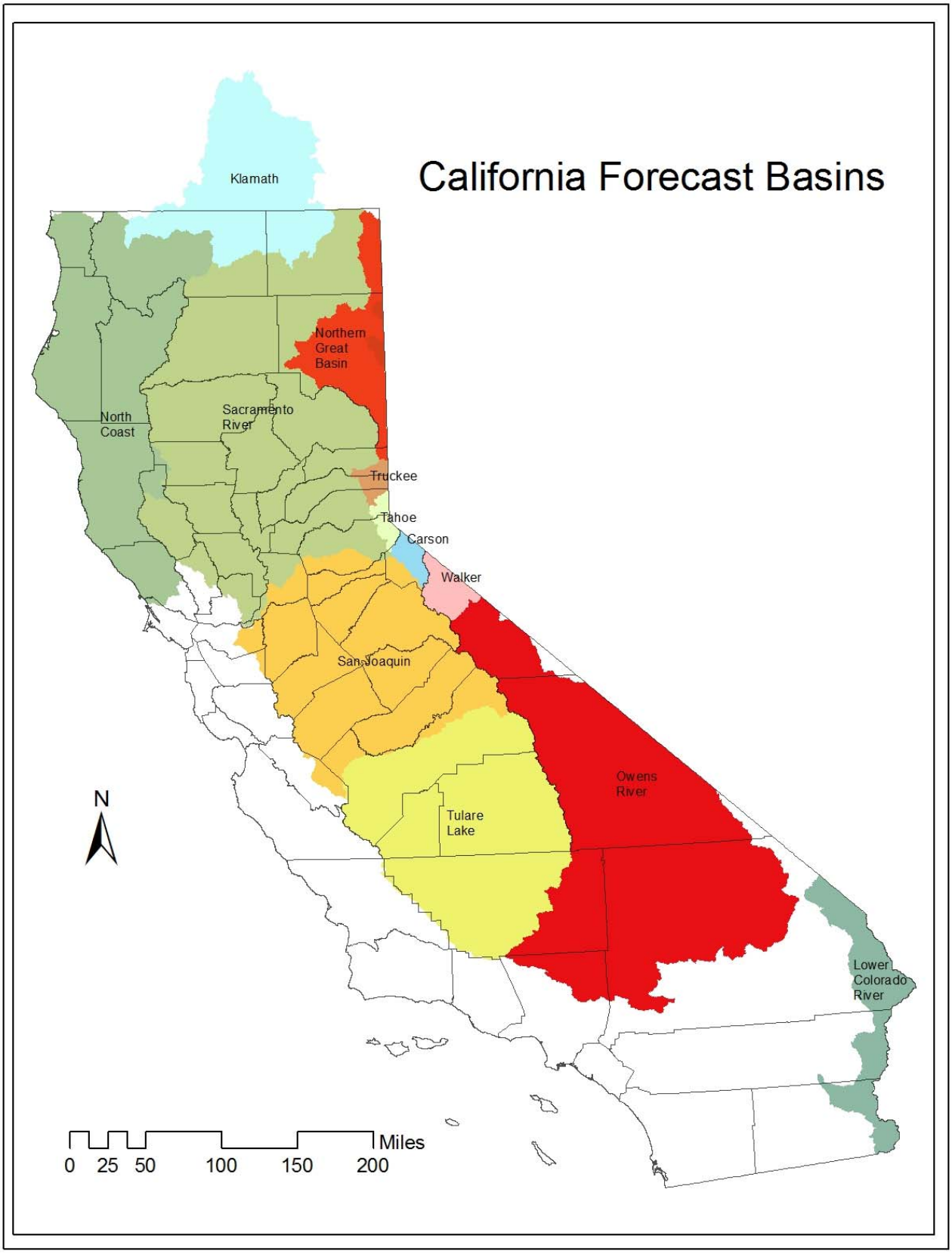
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

California Water Supply Outlook Report

February, 2017

Photo taken on January 30, 2017 by NRCS. NRCS snow surveyors checking on the Squaw Valley SNOTEL site near the Tahoe City, CA. The site is at 8,029 foot elevation.

Contents


California Forecast Basins
Klamath
Northern Great Basin
North Coast
Sacramento River
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Tahoe
Carson
Walker
San Joaquin
Owens River
Tulare Lake
Lower Colorado River
N
0 25 50 100 150 200
Miles

STATE OF CALIFORNIA GENERAL OUTLOOK

February, 2017

SUMMARY

California experienced substantial precipitation in the form of rainfall and snow during the month of January. As a result, existing snowpack continued to build and water levels in the major storage reservoirs increased.

SNOWPACK

As of February 10 snowpack conditions for the Northern, Central, and Southern Sierras are far above normal for this time of year. The snow water equivalents are currently in the range of 151% (North) to 206% (South) of normal as compared to a 95% (South) to 110% (North) of normal range last year. For more information please visit:

http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/snow/DLYSWEQ

PRECIPITATION

Mountain rainfall precipitation is fairly consistent from the Northern end of the Sierras to the Southern end of the Sierras. As of February 10, rainfall gages in the Northern Sierra Region (8-Station index), Central Sierra Region (5-Station index), and Southern Sierra Region (6-Station index) show rainfall amounts to be "off the charts" ranging from 218% to 224% of normal for this time of year. Rainfall amounts are currently at or exceeding the wettest year on record for all Sierra regions.

http://cdec.water.ca.gov/snow_rain.html

RESERVOIRS

Most major reservoirs in California, especially those fed by the Sierra Mountains and Foothills are above average capacity for this time of year. The February 10 report shows Lake Oroville is at 134% of normal storage, Lake Shasta is at 127% of normal storage, and New Hogan is at 154% of normal storage. The comeback kid of the year is San Luis Reservoir. The amount of water stored has increased from 10% of capacity to 89% capacity in just 7 months. The 89% capacity is slightly above normal for this time of year.

http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/reservoirs/RES

STREAMFLOW

Forecasted flows from Sierra fed streams all show much above normal due to the build-up of a strong snowpack to date. The streamflow forecasts for the major basins in California are shown as follows:

Sacramento River Basin

Forecasted streamflow volumes for this April through July are mostly far above normal with a few exceptions. Note the inflow forecasts for Lake Oroville from DWR and NWS are 133% and 127% above normal respectively.

SACRAMENTO RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2017

Forecast Exceedance Probabilities for Risk Assessment
Chance that actual volume will exceed forecast

Forecast Point / Forecast Period	90% (KAF)	70% (KAF)	50% (KAF)	(% AVG.)	30% (KAF)	10% (KAF)	30 Yr Avg (KAF)
Sacramento R at Shasta (DWR)							
APR-JUL			300	99			302
Sacramento R at Shasta (NWS)							
APR-JUL	249	297	359	115	4452	524	312
McCloud R ab Shasta (DWR)							
APR-JUL			410	108			379
McCloud R ab Shasta (NWS)							
APR-JUL	328	367	395	101	458	556	392
Pit R at Shasta Lk (DWR)							
APR-JUL			1170	112			1046
Pit R at Shasta Lk (NWS)							
APR-JUL	693	757	867	86	1082	1274	1013
Inflow to Shasta Lk (DWR)							
APR-JUL			1960	109			1806
OCT-SEP	6585		7700	129		10125	5979
Inflow to Shasta Lk (NWS)							
APR-JUL	1394	1575	1846	102	2268	2840	1803
Sacramento R nr Red Bluff (DWR)							
APR-JUL	2040		2740	110		4410	2485
OCT-SEP	10150		11950	137		16240	8727
Sacramento R nr Red Bluff (NWS)							
APR-JUL	1999	2292	2624	106	3242	4266	2479
Feather R at Lk Almanor (DWR)							
APR-JUL			450	135			333
NF Feather R at Pulga (DWR)							
APR-JUL			1390	135			1028
NF Feather R nr Prattville (NWS)							
APR-JUL	253	273	320	96	363	415	333
MF Feather R nr Clio (DWR)							
APR-JUL			120	140			86
SF Feather R at Ponderosa Dam (DWR)							
APR-JUL			150	136			110
Inflow to Oroville Res (DWR)							

	APR-JUL	1630		2330	133	3770	1758
	OCT-SEP	6035		7450	165	10355	4523
Inflow to Oroville Res (NWS)							
	APR-JUL	1441	1775	2155	127	2571	3235	1701
N Yuba R bl Goodyears Bar (DWR)							
	APR-JUL			380	136			279
N Yuba R bl Goodyears Bar (NWS)							
	APR-JUL	267	313	359	132	422	487	273
Inflow Jackson Mdws & Bowman Res (DWR)							
	APR-JUL			155	138			112
S Yuba R nr Langs Crossing (DWR)							
	APR-JUL			310	133			233
Yuba R at Smartville (DWR)							
	APR-JUL	940		1340	135	2030	996
	OCT-SEP	3585		4330	186	5615	2329
Yuba R at Smartville (NWS)							
	APR-JUL	858	1015	1184	121	1443	1729	981
NF American R at N FK Dam (DWR)							
	APR-JUL			380	145			262
MF American R nr Auburn (NWS)							
	APR-JUL	567	621	702	143	824	991	490
Inflow to Union Valley Res (NWS)							
	APR-JUL	92	104	119	121	146	169	98
Silver Ck bl Camino Div. Dam (DWR)							
	APR-JUL			260	150			173
Silver Ck bl Camino Div. Dam (NWS)							
	APR-JUL	158	179	203	129	249	290	158
Inflow to Folsom Res (DWR)							
	APR-JUL	1240		1790	145	2810	1231
	OCT-SEP	4615		5610	209	7450	2683
Inflow to Folsom Res (NWS)							
	APR-JUL	1228	1360	1550	126	1882	2384	1232

The average is based on the 1981-2010 reference period.

1) 90% and 10% exceedance probabilities are actually 95% and 5%
2) Forecasts are for unimpaired flows. Actual flow will be dependent on management of upstream reservoirs and diversions

San Joaquin River Basin

Forecasted streamflow volumes for this April through July are far above normal, with a few exceptions.

SAN JOAQUIN RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2017

Forecast Exceedance Probabilities for Risk Assessment
Chance that actual volume will exceed forecast

Forecast Point / Forecast Period	90% (KAF)	70% (KAF)	50% (KAF)	(% AVG.)	30% (KAF)	10% (KAF)	30 Yr Avg (KAF)
Cosumnes R at Michigan Bar (DWR)							
APR-JUL	130		200	156		380	128
OCT-SEP	750		935	243		1405	385
Cosumnes R at Michigan Bar (NWS)							
APR-JUL	99	111	143	112	203	306	128
NF Mokelumne R nr West Point (DWR)							
APR-JUL			650	149			437
Inflow to Pardee Res (DWR)							
APR-JUL	540		680	148		980	461
OCT-SEP	1170		1375	183		1800	751
Inflow to Pardee Res (NWS)							
APR-JUL	509	570	640	137	736	878	467
MF Stanislaus R bl Beardsley (DWR)							
APR-JUL			500	150			334
N F Inflow to McKays Pt Dam (DWR)							
APR-JUL			250	112			224
Inflow to New Melones Res (DWR)							
APR-JUL	810		1040	149		1500	699
Inflow to New Melones Resr (DWR)							
OCT-SEP	1810		2165	186		2830	1167
Inflow to New Melones Res (NWS)							
APR-JUL	727	816	894	130	1103	1335	690
Cherry & Eleanor Cks, Hetch Hetchy (DWR)							
APR-JUL			480	152			315
Tuolumne R nr Hetch Hetchy (DWR)							
APR-JUL			920	152			604
Tuolumne R nr Hetch Hetchy (NWS)							
APR-JUL	706	756	819	137	941	1031	596
Inflow to New Don Pedro Res (DWR)							
APR-JUL	1430		1820	149		2610	1221
OCT-SEP	2970		3575	184		4680	1943
Inflow to New Don Pedro Res (NWS)							
APR-JUL	1433	1548	1705	132	2035	2385	1288

Merced R, Pohono Bridge Yosemite(DWR)							
APR-JUL			580	156			372
Merced R, Pohono Bridge Yosemite (NWS)							
APR-JUL	566	597	660	171	734	798	385
Inflow to Lake McClure (DWR)							
APR-JUL	440		620	98		1130	636
OCT-SEP	670		905	90		1560	1007
Inflow to Lake McClure (NWS)							
APR-JUL	852	913	1023	159	1194	1371	642
San Joaquin R at Mammoth Pool (DWR)							
APR-JUL			1690	165			1026
Big Ck bl Huntington Lk (DWR)							
APR-JUL			155	170			91
SF San Joaquin R nr Florence Lk (DWR)							
APR-JUL			340	169			201
Inflow to Millerton Lk (DWR)							
APR-JUL	1690		2050	163		2870	1258
OCT-SEP	2840		3330	182		4390	1831
Inflow to Millerton Lk (NWS)							
APR-JUL	2016	2111	2374	189	2601	2922	1258

The average is based on the 1981-2010 reference period.

1) 90% and 10% exceedance probabilities are actually 95% and 5%
2) Forecasts are for unimpaired flows. Actual flow will be dependent on management of upstream reservoirs and diversions

Tulare Lake Basin

Forecasted streamflow volumes for this April through July are much above average.

TULARE LAKE BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2017

Forecast Exceedance Probabilities for Risk Assessment
Chance that actual volume will exceed forecast

Forecast Point / Forecast Period	90% (KAF)	70% (KAF)	50% (KAF)	(% AVG.)	30% (KAF)	10% (KAF)	30 Yr Avg (KAF)
Inflow to Pine Flat Res (DWR)							
APR-JUL	1570		1970	159		2770	1236
OCT-SEP	2470		2985	173		4010	1729
Inflow to Pine Flat Res (NWS)							
APR-JUL	1947	2031	2264	184	2482	2763	1231
Kaweah R at Terminus Res (DWR)							
APR-JUL	370		470	162		710	290
OCT-SEP	660		805	177		1140	456
Kaweah R at Terminus Res (NWS)							
APR-JUL	300	326	372	129	452	563	288
Tule R at Success Res (DWR)							
APR-JUL	94		120	188		210	64
OCT-SEP	280		335	228		515	147
Tule R at Success Res (NWS)							
APR-JUL	106	116	138	218	163	229	63
Kern R nr Kernville (DWR)							
APR-JUL			770	201			384
Inflow to Isabella Res (DWR)							
APR-JUL	780		930	200		1410	465
OCT-SEP	1180		1380	188		2000	733
Inflow to Isabella Res (NWS)							
APR-JUL	751	817	959	211	1132	1268	454

The average is based on the 1981-2010 reference period.

1) 90% and 10% exceedance probabilities are actually 95% and 5%
2) Forecasts are for unimpaired flows. Actual flow will be dependent on management of upstream reservoirs and diversions

North Coast Area Basin

Forecasted streamflow volumes for this April through July are much above average.

NORTH COASTAL AREA
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2017

Forecast Exceedance Probabilities for Risk Assessment
Chance that actual volume will exceed forecast

Forecast Point / Forecast Period	90% (KAF)	70% (KAF)	50% (KAF)	(% AVG.)	30% (KAF)	10% (KAF)	30 Yr Avg (KAF)
Trinity R at Lewiston (DWR)							
APR-JUL	530		710	109		1100	651
OCT-SEP	1515		1825	133		2495	1376
Inflow to Clair Engle Lk (NWS)							
APR-JUL	667	745	892	134	1001	1172	666
Scott R nr Fort Jones (NWS)							
APR-JUL	181	200	224	130	246	324	173

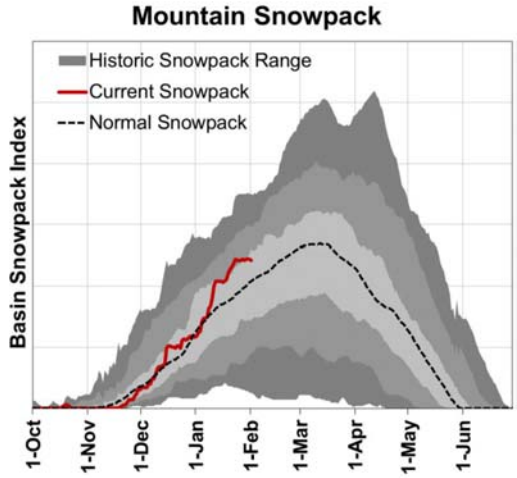
The average is based on the 1981-2010 reference period.

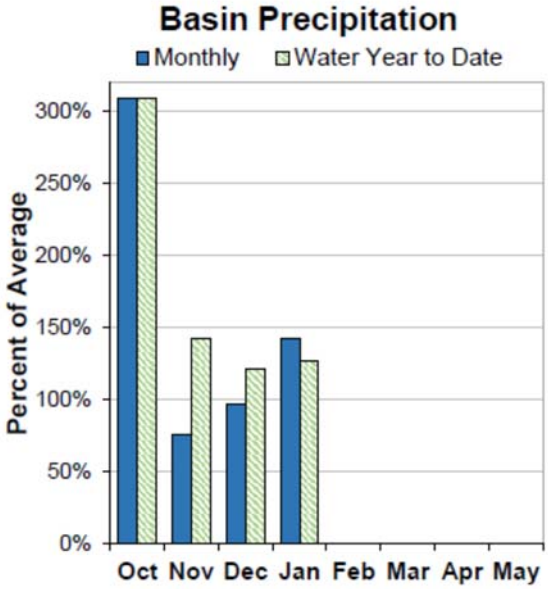
1) 90% and 10% exceedance probabilities are actually 95% and 5%
2) Forecasts are for unimpaired flows. Actual flow will be dependent on management of upstream reservoirs and diversions

Klamath Basin

As of February 1, the basin snowpack was 119% of normal. This is significantly higher than last month when the snowpack was 102% of normal. Taylor Butte SNOTEL accumulated snow at nearly 3 times the normal rate during January, ending with 158% of normal. January precipitation was 142% of average. Precipitation since the beginning of the water year (October 1 - February 1) has been 126% of average.

As of February 1, storage at major reservoirs in the basin ranges from 43% of average at Clear Lake to 100% of average at Upper Klamath Lake. The April through September streamflow forecasts in the basin range far above average. Overall, forecasts increased significantly from last month's report. If conditions remain similar, water supplies in the basin are likely to be well above normal this summer.





KLAMATH BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2017

Forecast Exceedance Probabilities for Risk Assessment
Chance that actual volume will exceed forecast

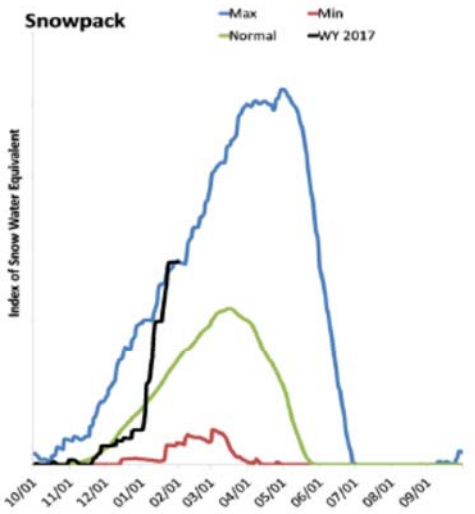
Forecast Point / Forecast Period	90% (KAF)	70% (KAF)	50% (KAF)	(% AVG.)	30% (KAF)	10% (KAF)	30 Yr Avg (KAF)
Gerber Res Inflow (2)							
FEB-JUL	32	49	61	149	73	90	41
APR-SEP	4.1	14.3	21	146	28	38	14.4
Sprague R nr Chiloquin							
FEB-JUL	305	380	430	146	475	550	295
Williamson R bl Sprague R nr Chiloquin							
FEB-JUL	420	510	575	121	640	730	475
APR-SEP	325	395	440	124	485	555	355
Upper Klamath Lake Inflow (1,2)							
FEB-JUL	575	775	865	120	955	1160	720
APR-SEP	400	540	600	125	665	800	480

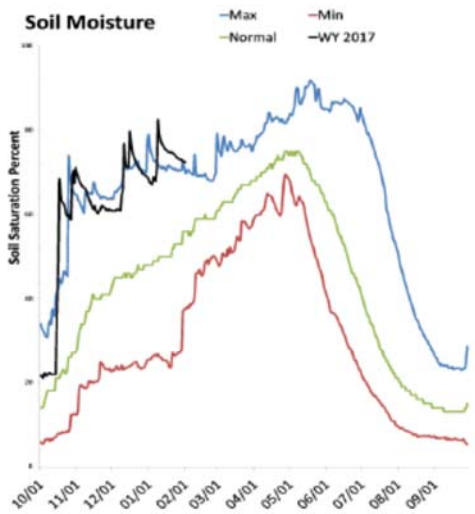
The average is based on the 1981-2010 reference period.

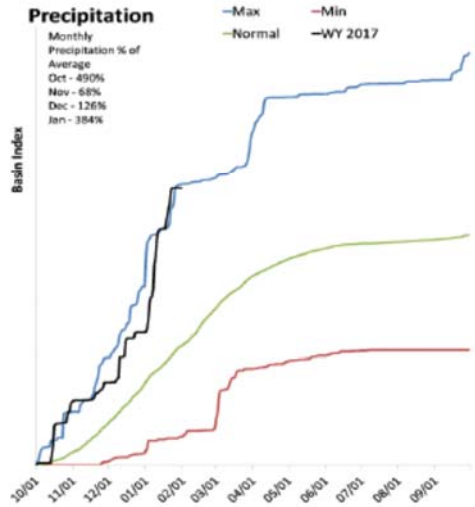
1) 90% and 10% exceedance probabilities are actually 95% and 5%
2) Forecasts are for unimpaired flows. Actual flow will be dependent on management of upstream reservoirs and diversions

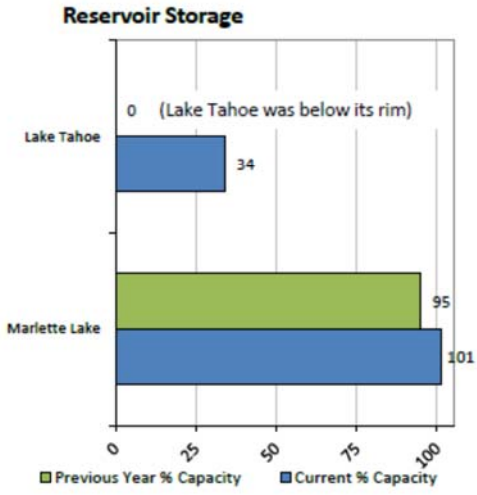
Lake Tahoe Basin

Snowpack in the Lake Tahoe Basin is much above normal at 190% of median, compared to 129% last year. Precipitation in January was much above average, which brings the seasonal accumulation (Oct-Jan) to 233% of average. Soil moisture is at 72% saturation, compared to 67% last year. Lake Tahoe's water elevation is 6225.1 ft, which is 2.1 ft above the lake's natural rim and equals a storage of 255 thousand acre-feet. Last year its elevation was 6222.06 ft which equaled a storage deficit of 114 thousand acre-feet. Lake Tahoe is forecast to rise 5.2 feet from October 1 to its highest elevation.









LAKE TAHOE BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2017

Forecast Exceedance Probabilities for Risk Assessment
Chance that actual volume will exceed forecast

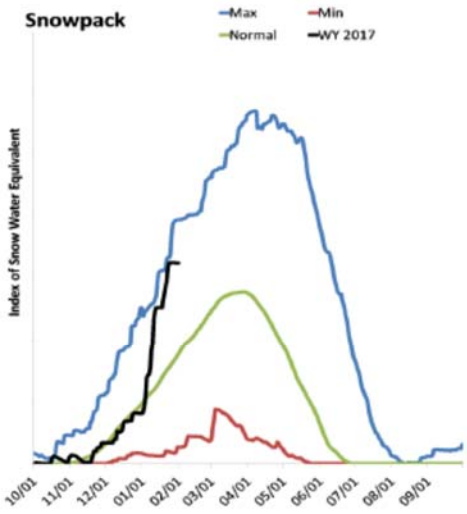
Forecast Point Forecast Period	90% (KAF)	70% (KAF)	50% (KAF)	(% AVG.)	30% (KAF)	10% (KAF)	30 Yr Avg (KAF)
Marlette Lk Inflow (Acre-Ft)							
MAR-JUL	1180	1770	2160	198	2560	3140	1110
APR-JUL	760	1260	1600	193	1940	2450	830
Lake Tahoe Rise (Gates Closed) (1)							
MAR-HIGH	2.1	2.8	3.2	185	3.6	4.3	1.7
APR-HIGH	1.26	2.00	2.4	183	2.8	3.5	1.31

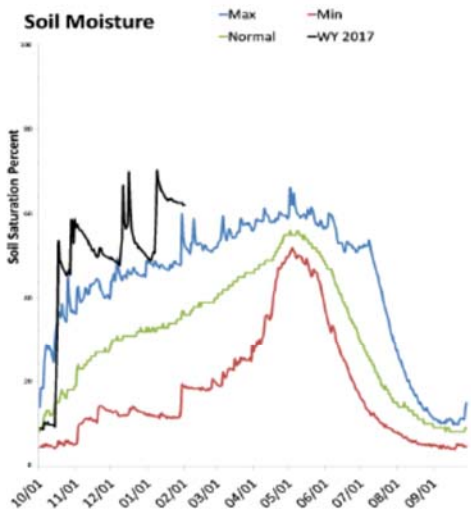
The average is based on the 1981-2010 reference period.

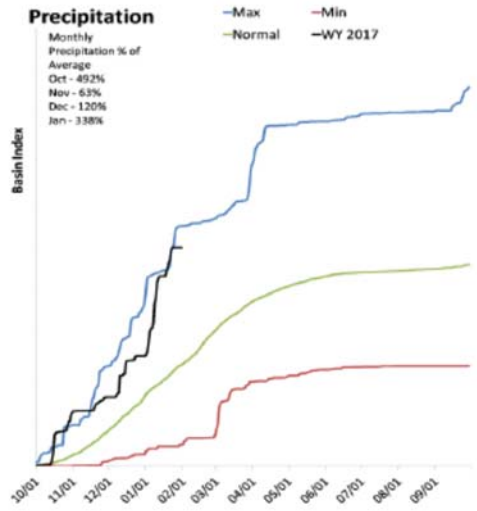
1) 90% and 10% exceedance probabilities are actually 95% and 5%
Forecasts are for unimpaired flows. Actual flow will be dependent on management of upstream reservoirs and diversions

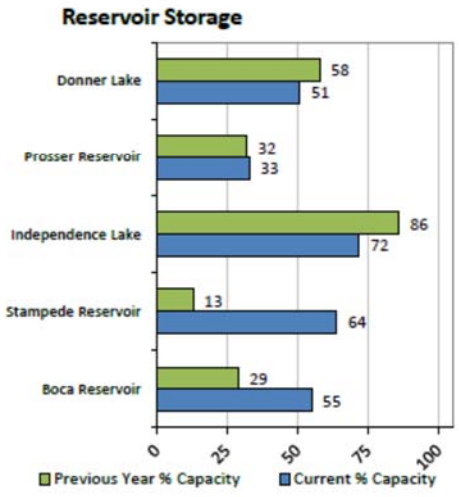
Truckee River Basin

Snowpack in the Truckee River Basin is much above normal at 178% of median, compared to 115% last year. Precipitation in January was much above average, which brings the seasonal accumulation (Oct-Jan) to 215% of average. Soil moisture is at 62% saturation, compared to 54% last year. Combined reservoir storage is 60% of capacity, compared to 22% last year. Forecast streamflow volumes range are all much above average.









TRUCKEE RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2017

Forecast Exceedance Probabilities for Risk Assessment
Chance that actual volume will exceed forecast

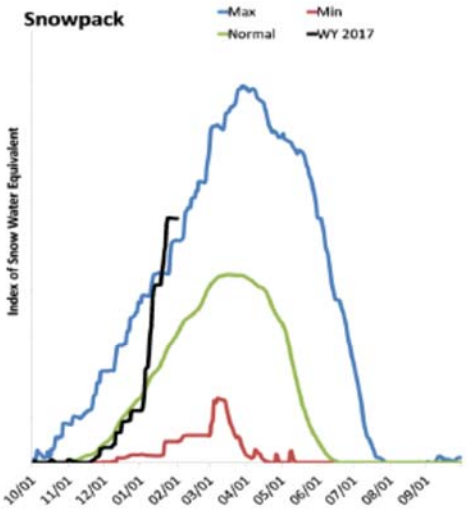
Forecast Point / Forecast Period	90% (KAF)	70% (KAF)	50% (KAF)	(% AVG.)	30% (KAF)	10% (KAF)	30 Yr Avg (KAF)
Sagehen Ck nr Truckee							
MAR-JUL	7.1	10.2	13.0	203	16.6	24	6.4
APR-JUL	5.8	8.6	11.3	202	14.8	22	5.6
L Truckee R ab Boca Resv							
MAR-JUL	148	179	200	202	221	252	99
APR-JUL	123	150	168	200	186	213	84
Truckee R at Farad							
MAR-JUL	455	541	600	195	659	745	307
APR-JUL	374	449	500	196	551	626	255

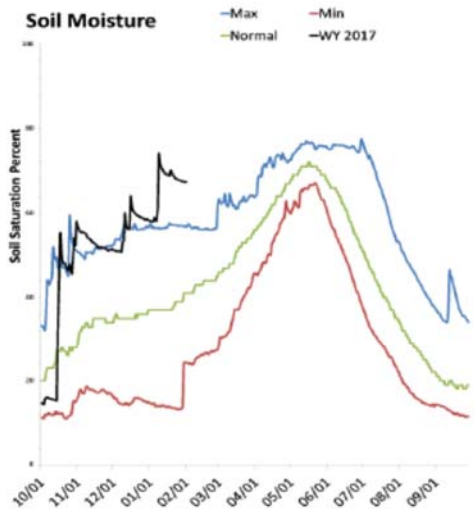
The average is based on the 1981-2010 reference period.

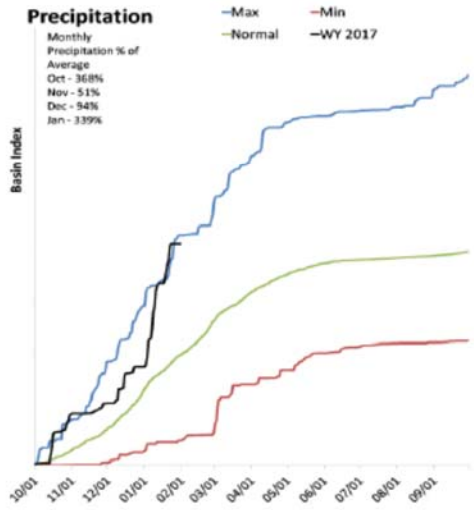
1) 90% and 10% exceedance probabilities are actually 95% and 5%
2) Forecasts are for unimpaired flows. Actual flow will be dependent on management of upstream reservoirs and diversions

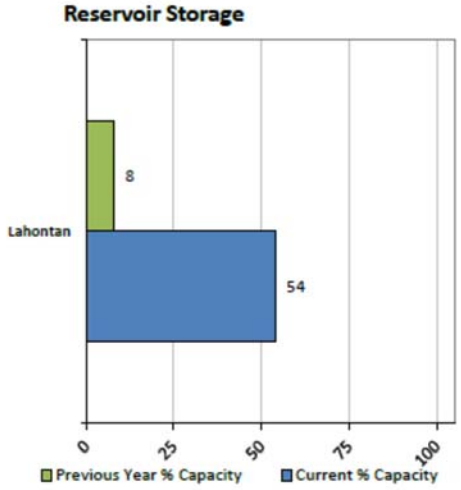
Carson River Basin

Snowpack in the Carson River Basin is much above normal at 193% of median, compared to 125% last year. Precipitation in January was much above average, which brings the seasonal accumulation (Oct-Jan) to 200% of average. Soil moisture is at 67% saturation, compared to 51% last year. Storage in Lahontan Reservoir is 54% of capacity, compared to 8% last year. Forecast streamflow volumes are far above average.









CARSON RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2017

Forecast Exceedance Probabilities for Risk Assessment
Chance that actual volume will exceed forecast

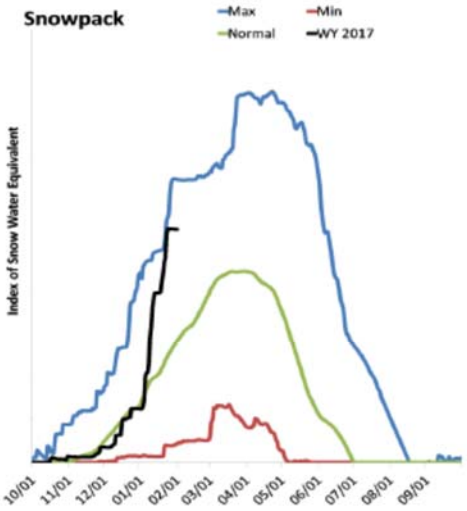
Forecast Point Forecast Period	90% (KAF)	70% (KAF)	50% (KAF)	(% AVG.)	30% (KAF)	10% (KAF)	30 Yr Avg (KAF)
EF Carson R nr Gardnerville							
MAR-JUL	265	340	390	190	440	515	205
APR-JUL	240	310	355	191	400	465	186
WF Carson R at Woodfords							
MAR-JUL	92	112	125	212	138	158	59
APR-JUL	89	104	115	213	126	141	54

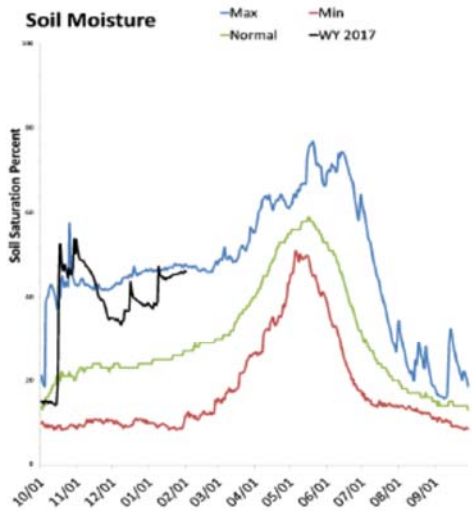
The average is based on the 1981-2010 reference period.

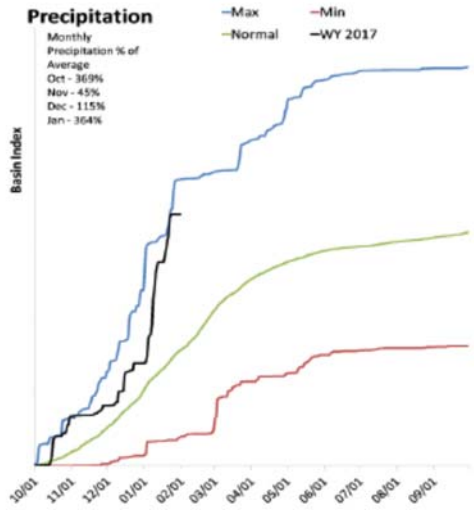
1) 90% and 10% exceedance probabilities are actually 95% and 5%
2) Forecasts are for unimpaired flows. Actual flow will be dependent on management of upstream reservoirs and diversions

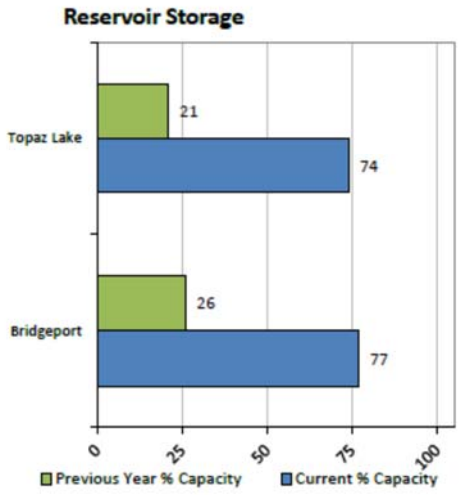
Walker River Basin

Snowpack in the Walker River Basin is much above normal at 197% of median, compared to 118% last year. Precipitation in January was much above average, which brings the seasonal accumulation (Oct-Jan) to 218% of average. Soil moisture is at 46% saturation, compared to 36% last year. Combined reservoir storage is 75% of capacity, compared to 23% last year. Forecast streamflow volumes range from 168% to 182% of average.









WALKER RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2017

Forecast Exceedance Probabilities for Risk Assessment
Chance that actual volume will exceed forecast

Forecast Point / Forecast Period	90% (KAF)	70% (KAF)	50% (KAF)	(% AVG.)	30% (KAF)	10% (KAF)	30 Yr Avg (KAF)
Walker R nr Bridgeport							
MAR-AUG	78	109	131	168	152	184	78
APR-AUG	71	98	116	171	134	161	68
W Walker R bl L Walker R nr Coleville							
MAR-JUL	216	266	300	177	334	384	170
APR-JUL	200	251	285	176	319	370	162
W Walker R nr Coleville							
MAR-JUL	304	309	313	182	316	321	172
APR-JUL	211	261	295	181	330	380	163

The average is based on the 1981-2010 reference period.

1) 90% and 10% exceedance probabilities are actually 95% and 5%
Forecasts are for unimpaired flows. Actual flow will be dependent on management of upstream reservoirs and diversions

Owens River Basin

OWENS RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2017

Forecast Exceedance Probabilities for Risk Assessment
Chance that actual volume will exceed forecast

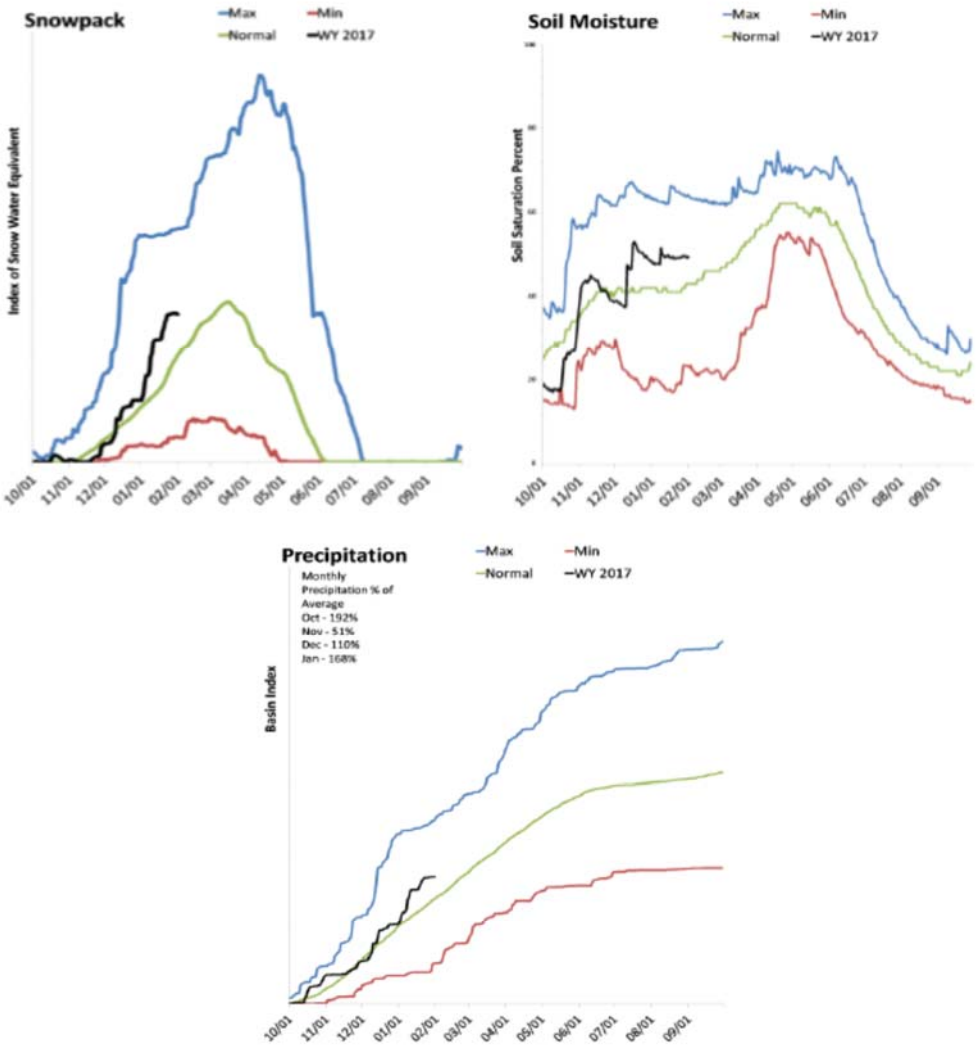
Forecast Point / Forecast Period	90% (KAF)	70% (KAF)	50% (KAF)	(% AVG.)	30% (KAF)	10% (KAF)	30 Yr Avg (KAF)
Owens R (DWR) APR-SEP			477	203			235

The average is based on the 1981-2010 reference period.

1) 90% and 10% exceedance probabilities are actually 95% and 5%
2) Forecasts are for unimpaired flows. Actual flow will be dependent on management of upstream reservoirs and diversions

Northern Great Basin

Snowpack in the Northern Great Basin is much above normal at 142% of median, compared to 151% last year. Precipitation in January was much above average, which brings the seasonal accumulation (Oct-Jan) to 148% of average. Soil moisture is at 46% saturation, compared to 55% last year. Forecast streamflow volumes range from 142% to 163% of average.



NORTHERN GREAT BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2017

Forecast Exceedance Probabilities for Risk Assessment
Chance that actual volume will exceed forecast

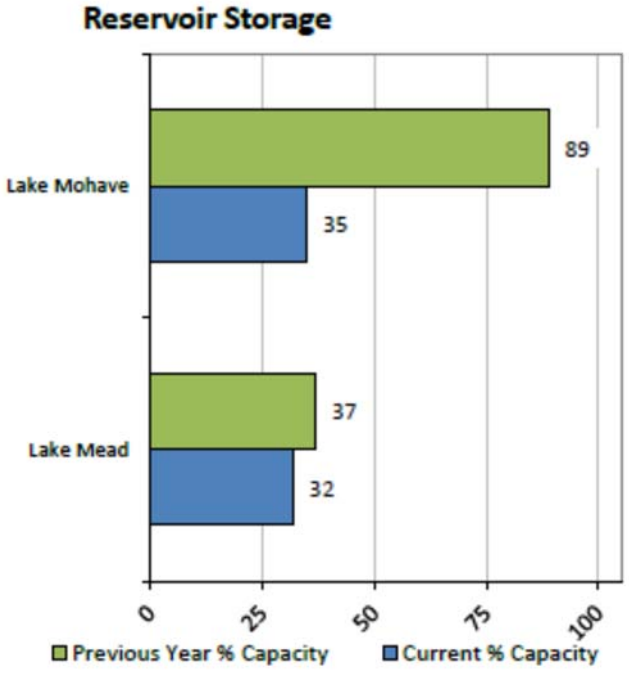
Forecast Point / Forecast Period	90% (KAF)	70% (KAF)	50% (KAF)	(% AVG.)	30% (KAF)	10% (KAF)	30 Yr Avg (KAF)
Davis Ck (Acre-ft)							
APR-JUL	4910	7740	10600	147	14400	22700	7233
APR-SEP	5710	8740	11700	146	15600	23900	7991
Eagle Ck nr Eagleville							
APR-JUL	3.3	5.5	7.0	163	8.5	10.7	4.3
Bidwell CK nr Ft. Bidwell							
APR-JUL	13.2	15.4	17.0	142	18.6	21	12.0

The average is based on the 1981-2010 reference period.

1) 90% and 10% exceedance probabilities are actually 95% and 5%
2) Forecasts are for unimpaired flows. Actual flow will be dependent on management of upstream reservoirs and diversions

Lower Colorado River Basin

Snowpack in the Colorado River Basin is forecasted to produce 147% of normal runoff into Lake Powell during the April to July months. Lake Mead water levels have decreased as shown below since last year.



COLORADO RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - February 1, 2017

Forecast Exceedance Probabilities for Risk Assessment
Chance that actual volume will exceed forecast

Forecast Point Forecast Period	90% (KAF)	70% (KAF)	50% (KAF)	(% AVG.)	30% (KAF)	10% (KAF)	30 Yr Avg (KAF)
Lake Powell Inflow (2) APR-JUL	6860	8940	10500	147	12200	14900	7160

The average is based on the 1981-2010 reference period.

1) 90% and 10% exceedance probabilities are actually 95% and 5%
2) Forecasts are for unimpaired flows. Actual flow will be dependent on management of upstream reservoirs and diversions

How forecasts are made

Most of the annual streamflow in the western United States originates as snowfall that has accumulated in the mountains during the winter and early spring. As the snowpack accumulates, hydrologists estimate the runoff that will occur when it melts. Measurements of snow water equivalent at selected manual snowcourses and automated SNOTEL sites, along with precipitation, antecedent streamflow, and indices of the El Niño / Southern Oscillation are used in computerized statistical and simulation models to prepare runoff forecasts. These forecasts are coordinated between hydrologists in the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the National Weather Service. Unless otherwise specified, all forecasts are for flows that would occur naturally without any upstream influences.

Forecasts of any kind, of course, are not perfect. Streamflow forecast uncertainty arises from three primary sources: (1) uncertain knowledge of future weather conditions, (2) uncertainty in the forecasting procedure, and (3) errors in the data. The forecast, therefore, must be interpreted not as a single value but rather as a range of values with specific probabilities of occurrence. The middle of the range is expressed by the 50% exceedance probability forecast, for which there is a 50% chance that the actual flow will be above, and a 50% chance that the actual flow will be below, this value. To describe the expected range around this 50% value, four other forecasts are provided, two smaller values (90% and 70% exceedance probability) and two larger values (30%, and 10% exceedance probability). For example, there is a 90% chance that the actual flow will be more than the 90% exceedance probability forecast. The others can be interpreted similarly.

The wider the spread among these values, the more uncertain the forecast. As the season progresses, forecasts become more accurate, primarily because a greater portion of the future weather conditions become known; this is reflected by a narrowing of the range around the 50% exceedance probability forecast. Users should take this uncertainty into consideration when making operational decisions by selecting forecasts corresponding to the level of risk they are willing to assume about the amount of water to be expected. If users anticipate receiving a lesser supply of water, or if they wish to increase their chances of having an adequate supply of water for their operations, they may want to base their decisions on the 90% or 70% exceedance probability forecasts, or something in between. On the other hand, if users are concerned about receiving too much water (for example, threat of flooding), they may want to base their decisions on the 30% or 10% exceedance probability forecasts, or something in between. Regardless of the forecast value users choose for operations, they should be prepared to deal with either more or less water. (Users should remember that even if the 90% exceedance probability forecast is used, there is still a 10% chance of receiving less than this amount.) By using the exceedance probability information, users can easily determine the chances of receiving more or less water.

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California Water Supply Outlook Report

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