

June 1, 2015 – Nevada Water Supply Summary

Precipitation

May turned out to be our second wettest month of the water year across Nevada and the Eastern Sierra. Monthly precipitation was above normal across all basins, averaging 3.8 inches for the month for the 81 SNOTEL sites. The Walker Basin made out the best with 281% of the average May amount. This is nearly three times what normally falls and totals set new records for the month at a few SNOTEL sites. Pole Canyon SNOTEL on the northern end of the Ruby Mountains received the most for an individual site with 7.0 inches!

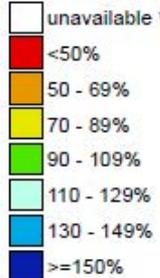
Water year precipitation as of June 1 is still below normal across Nevada, but is up 4% to 16% from May 1 percentages. June 1 water year to date precipitation ranges from 55% of average in the Carson Basin to 94% in the Clover Valley. Rains helped rangelands stay green, which is good news for ranchers. The timing of the rains should help irrigators stretch very limited reservoir storage and will hopefully help produce a second cutting of alfalfa in some areas. Weather forecasts hold hope for more rain later in June starting tomorrow.

Streamflow

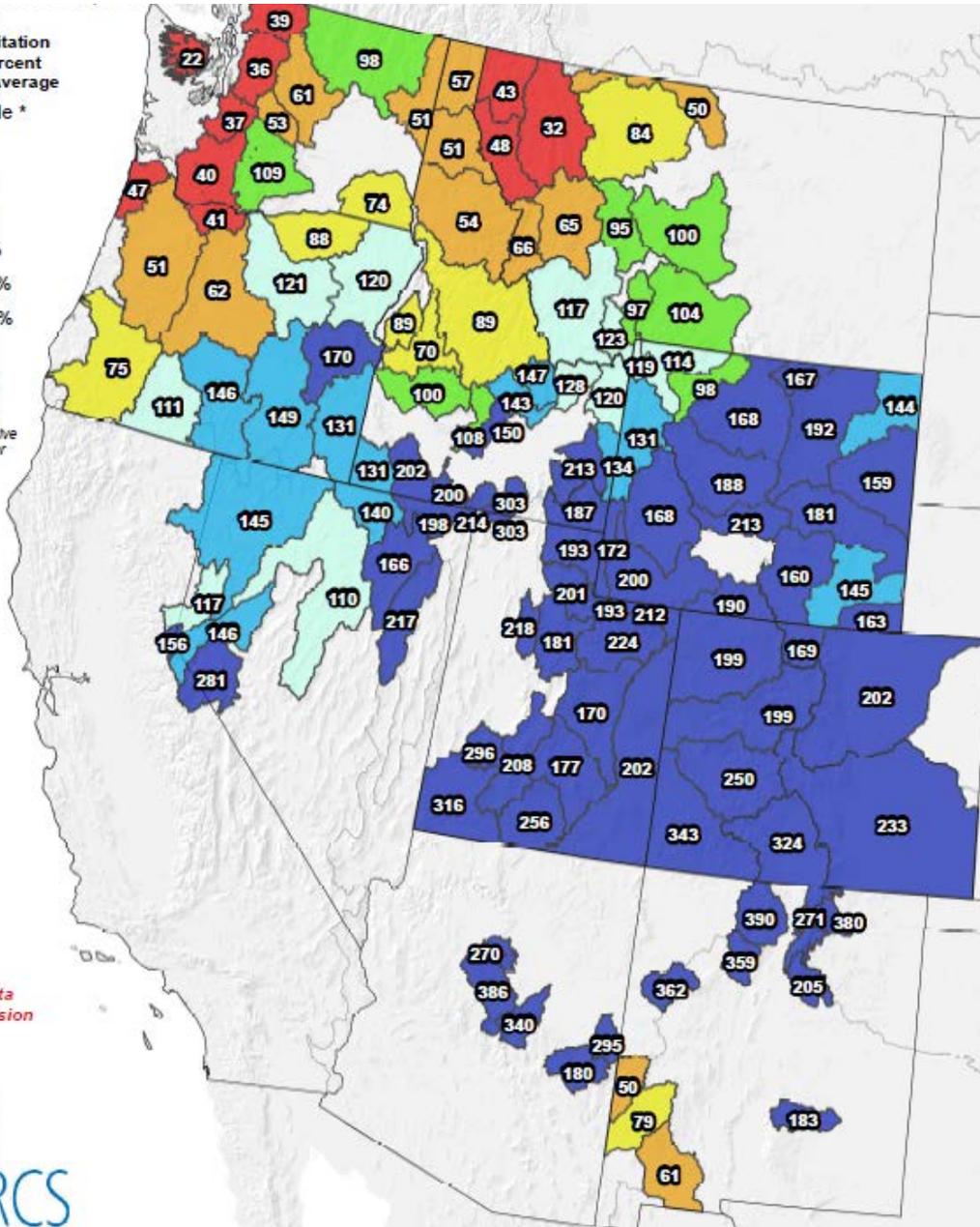
Streamflow was better on May 31 than on May 1 for many points, particularly those in north central Nevada. June 1 streamflow forecasts show improvement from last month. April-July volumes in the Walker and Humboldt basins are now forecast two to four times better than the forecasts made on May 1. Averaging the April-July forecasts for the entire state the 50% exceedance forecasts are up from an average of 12% last month to 21% this month. These forecasts are still very low compared to historical amounts but any improvement is welcome. [Click here to see streamflow forecasts](#)

Westwide SNOTEL Monthly Precipitation as a Percent of Average for May 2015

Current Month
to Date Precipitation
Basin-wide Percent
of 1981-2010 Average



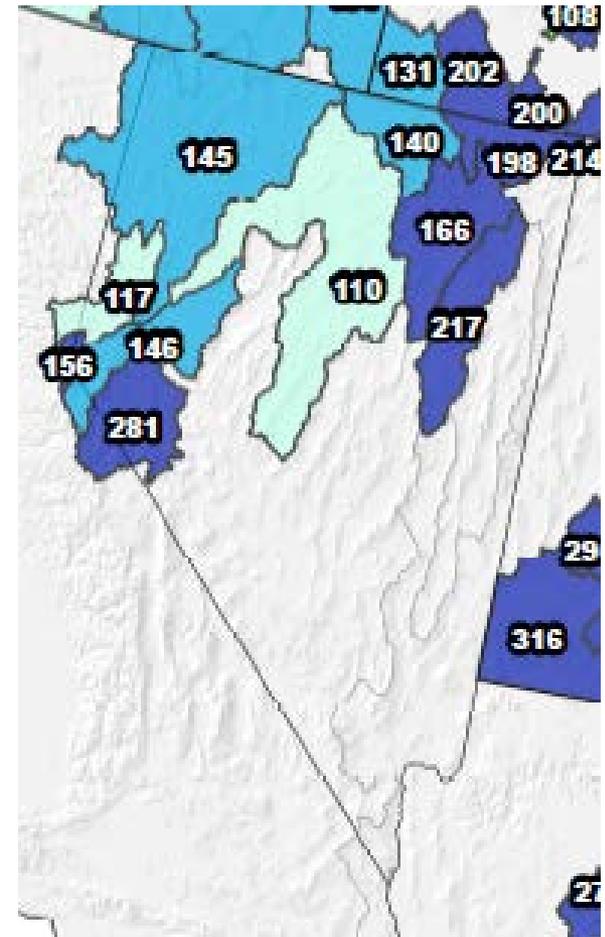
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at time of posting
or measurement
is not representative
at this time of year



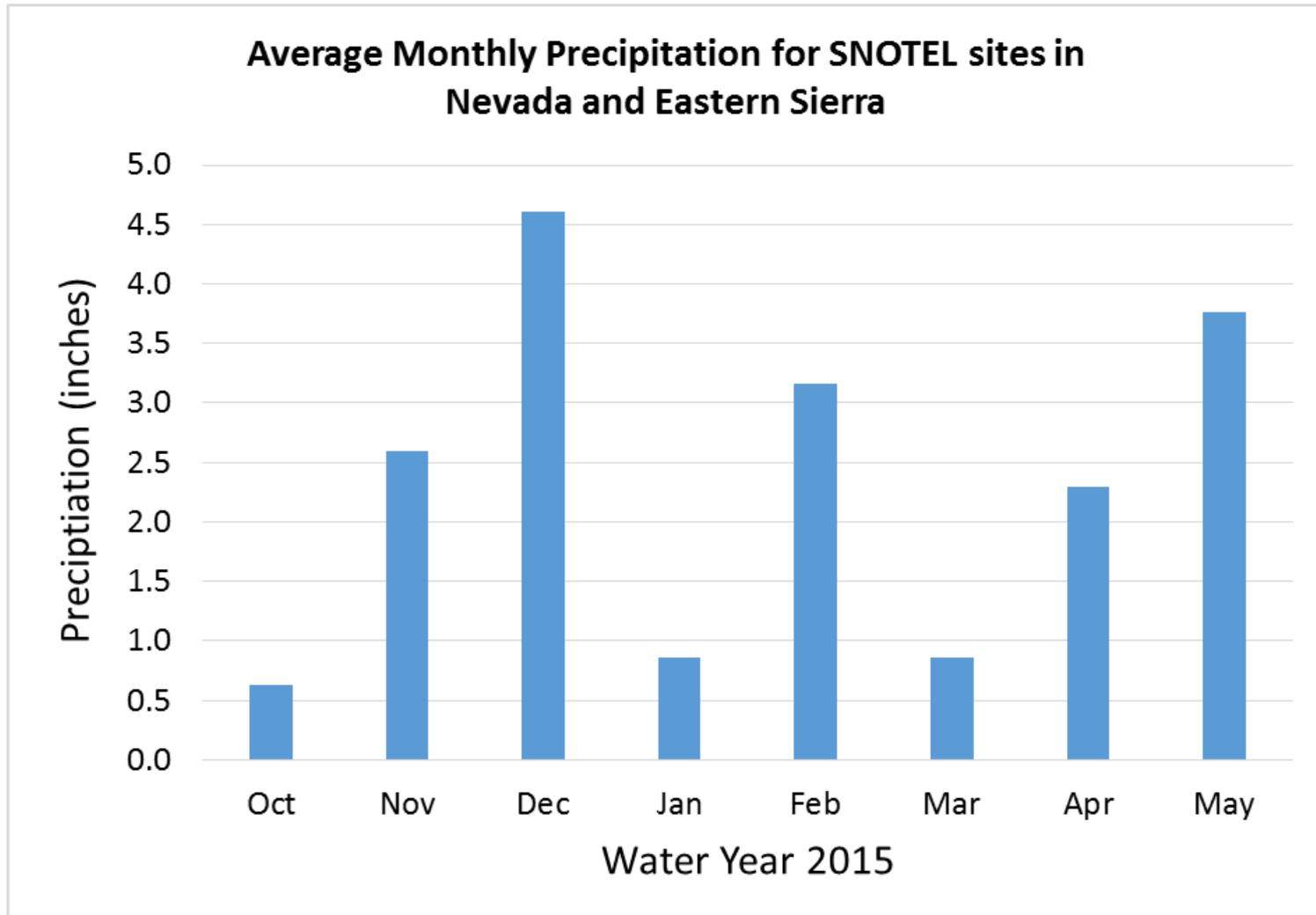
Provisional data
subject to revision



May SNOTEL Precipitation
was above average across
Nevada and the
Eastern Sierra



Averaging all 81 SNOTEL stations together monthly precipitation in May was 3.8 inches. Only December with 4.6 inches recorded more.

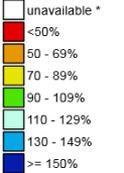


Water Year to Date Precipitation as a Percent of Average increased 4-16% from May 1 to June 1

Nevada/California SNOTEL Water Year (Oct 1) to Date Precipitation % of Normal

May 01, 2015

Water Year (Oct 1) to Date Precipitation Basin-wide Percent of 1981-2010 Average



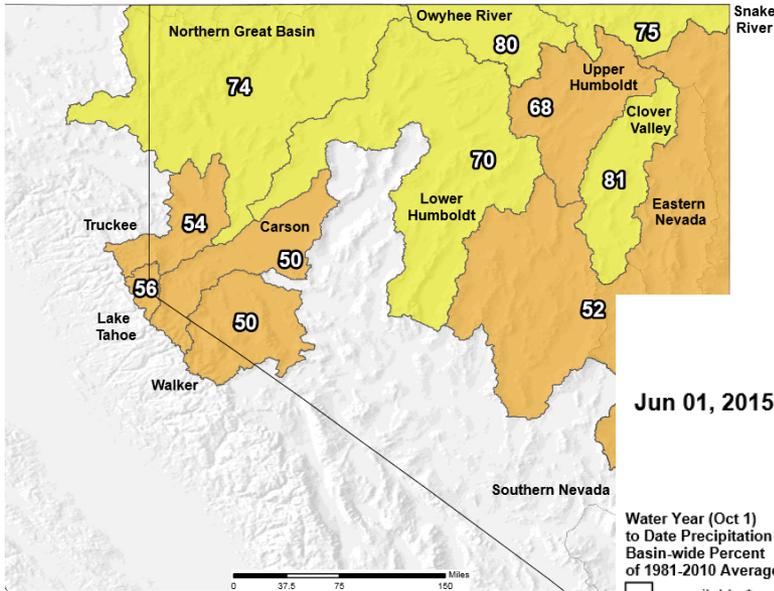
* Data unavailable at time of posting or measurement is not representative at this time of year

Provisional data subject to revision



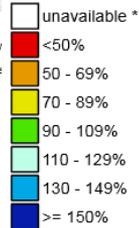
The water year to date precipitation percent of normal represents the accumulated precipitation found at selected SNOTEL sites in or near the basin compared to the average value for those sites on this day. Data based on the first reading of the day (typically 00:00).

Prepared by: USDA/NRCS National Water Research Institute, Portland, Oregon
http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda



Jun 01, 2015

Water Year (Oct 1) to Date Precipitation Basin-wide Percent of 1981-2010 Average

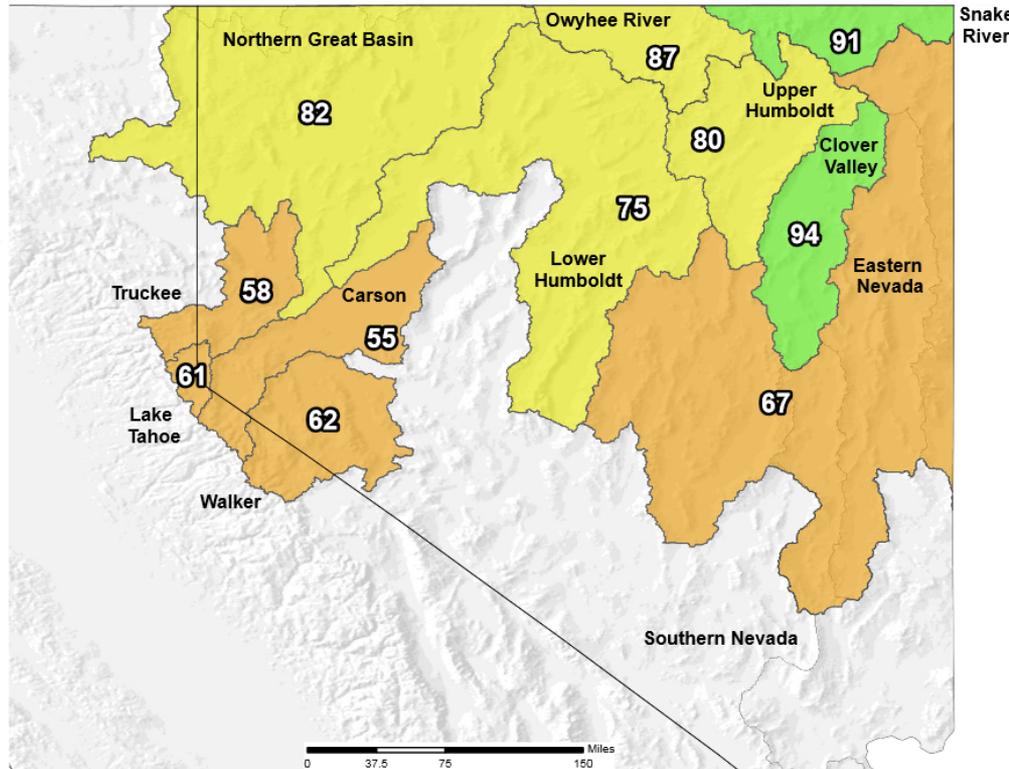


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Nevada/California SNOTEL Water Year (Oct 1) to Date Precipitation % of Normal

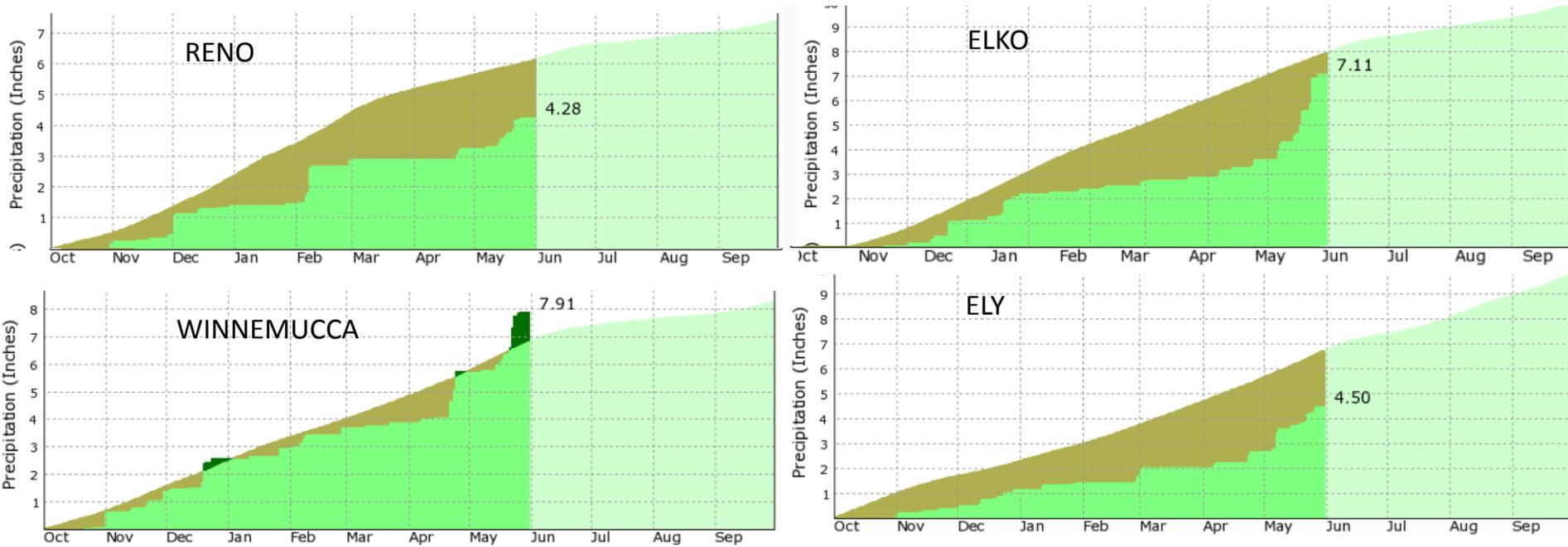


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Prepared by: USDA/NRCS National Water and Climate Center, Portland, Oregon
http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov

Valley Station Water Year Precipitation

In Elko, Ely and Winnemucca May was the wettest month so far this water year. Winnemucca currently is about an 1" of precipitation above normal for the water year.

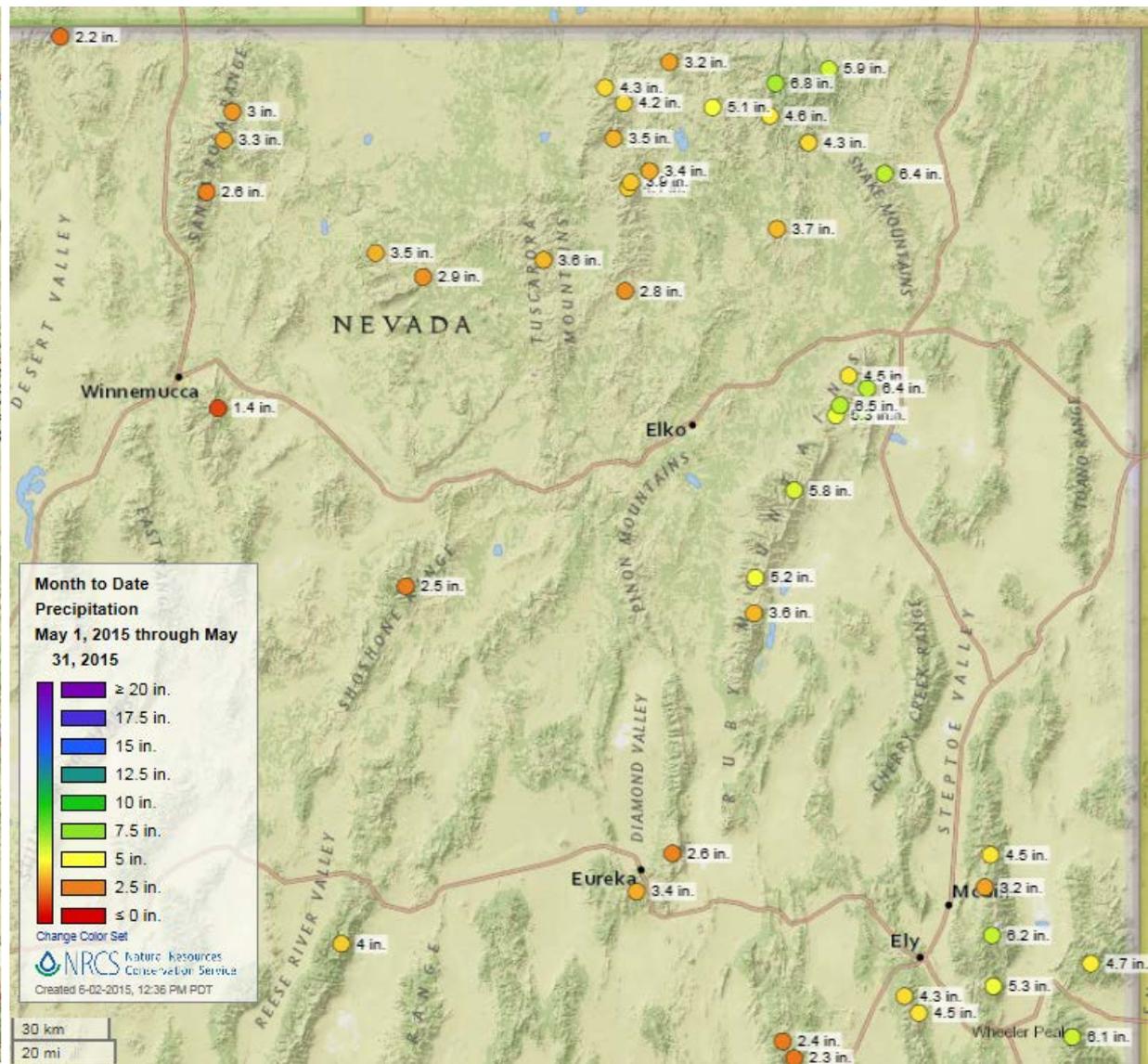
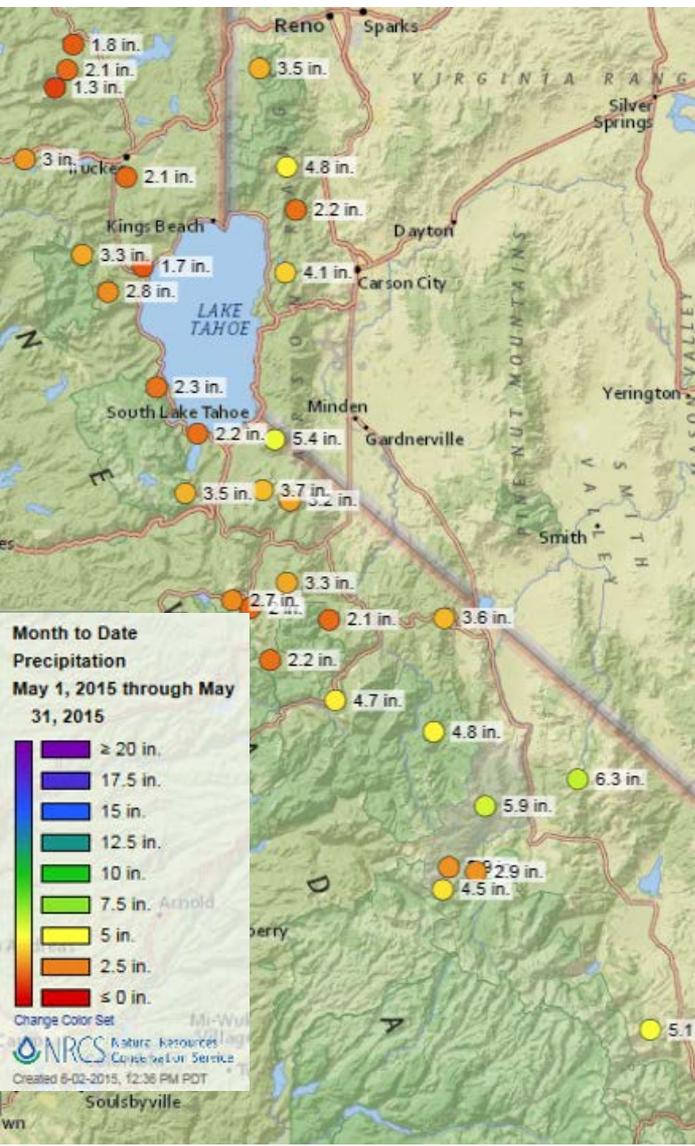


Normal Below Normal Above Normal



Graphic courtesy: National Weather Service

Monthly Precipitation Totals for Individual SNOTEL Stations ranged from 1.3 to 7.0 inches.
 Statewide precipitation averaged 3.8 inches in May.

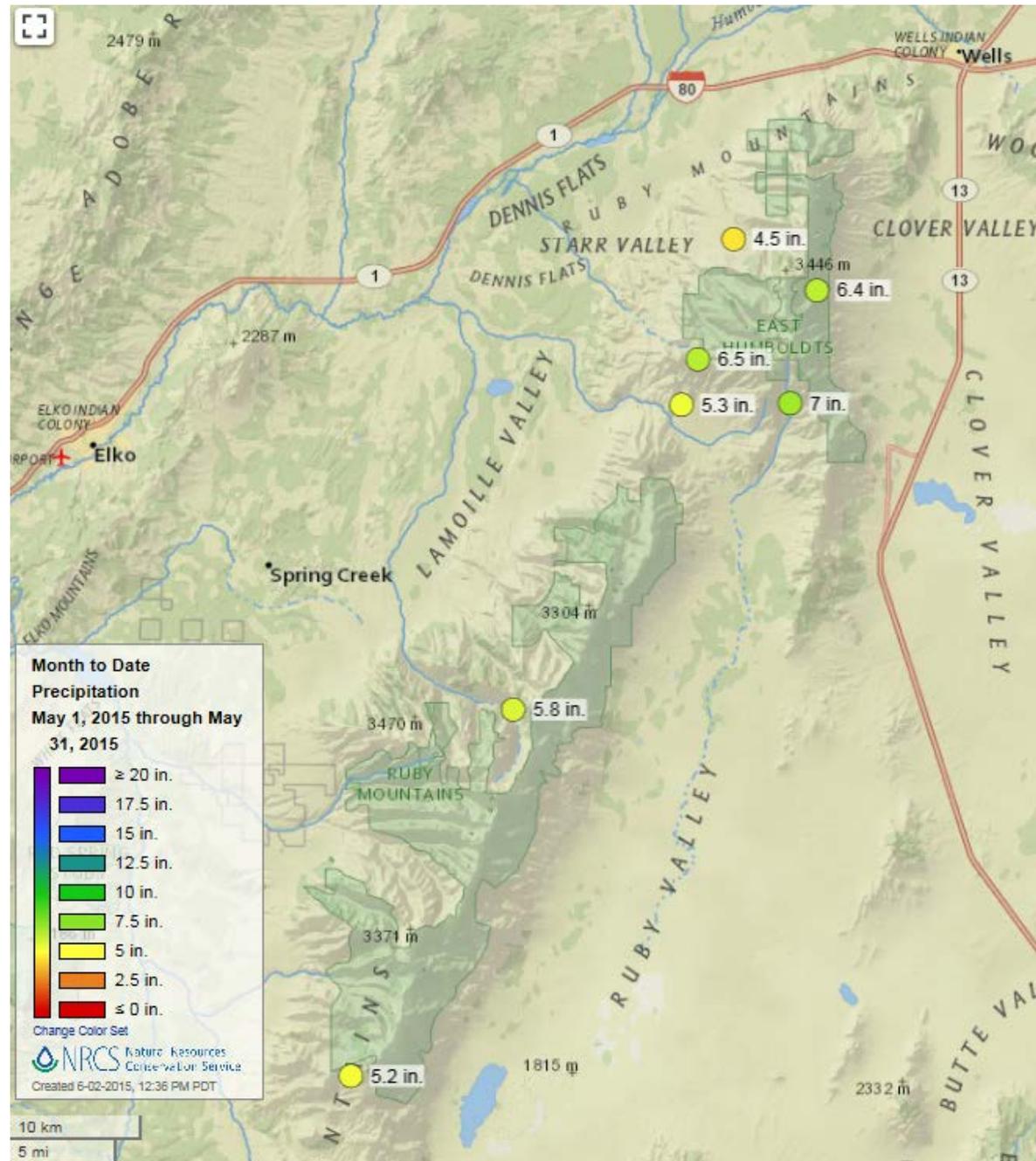


The most precipitation was measured at sites in the Northern Rubies, Walker Basin and Snake River Basin with:

Northern Rubies:
6.4" at Hole in Mountain
6.5" at Dorsey Basin
7.0" at Pole Canyon

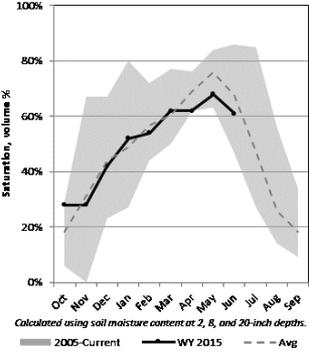
Walker Basin:
5.9" at Summit Meadow
6.3" at Lobdell Lake

Snake River Basin:
5.9" at Pole Creek RS
6.4" Jakes Creek
6.8" at Bear Creek

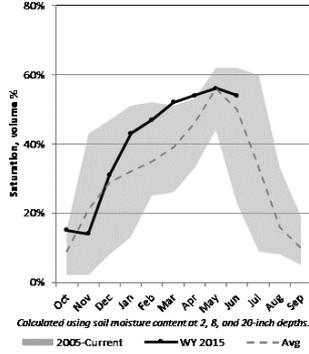


Soil Moisture increased from last month in the Northern Great Basin, Snake Basin, and Eastern Nevada and remained similar to last month in the Truckee, Carson, Walker, and Owyhee Basin.

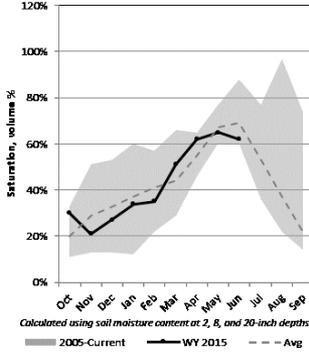
Lake Tahoe Basin



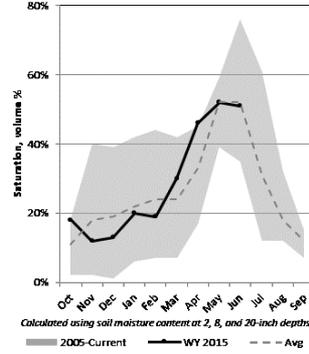
Truckee River Basin



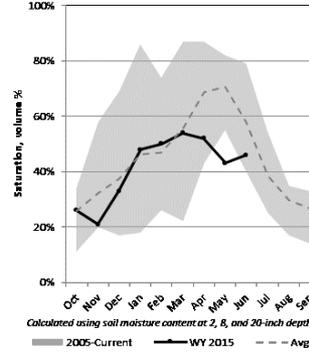
Carson River Basin



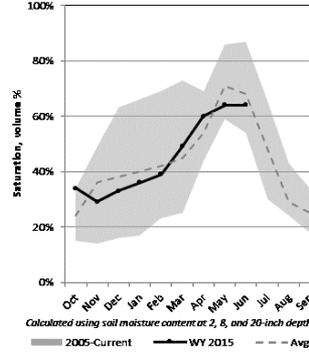
Walker River Basin



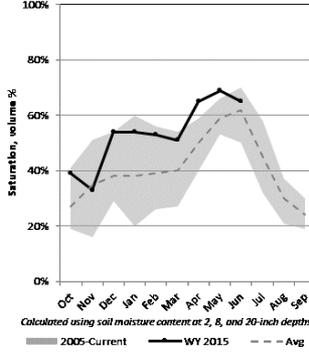
Northern Great Basin



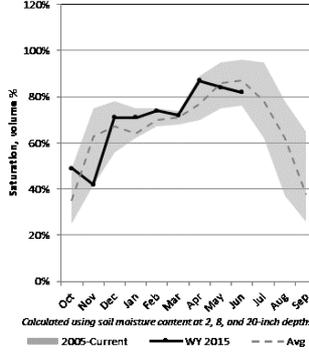
Upper Humboldt River Basin



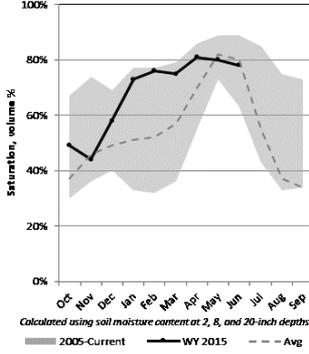
Lower Humboldt River Basin



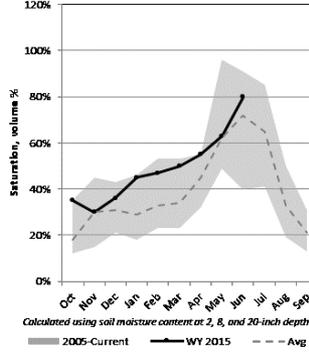
Clower Valley & Franklin River Basin



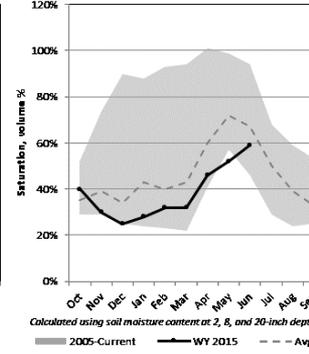
Owyhee River Basin



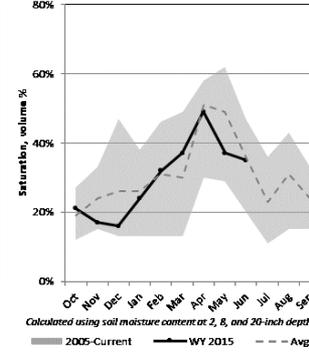
Snake River Basin



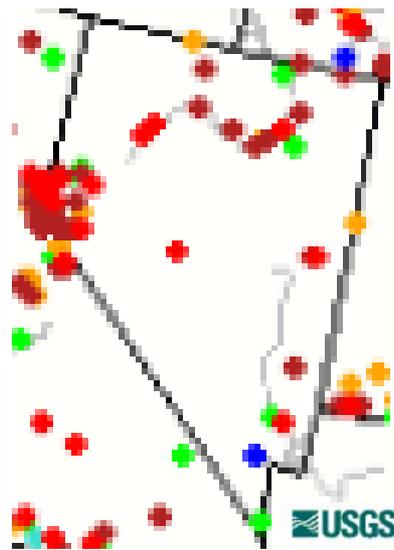
Eastern Nevada



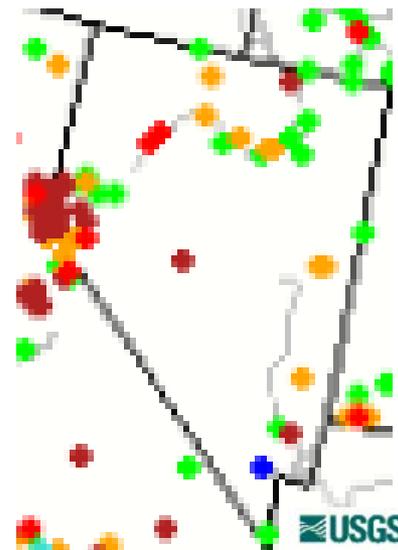
Lower Colorado River Basin



Rains boosted streamflow.
 Streamflow was closer to normal
 on May 31 as compared to May 1



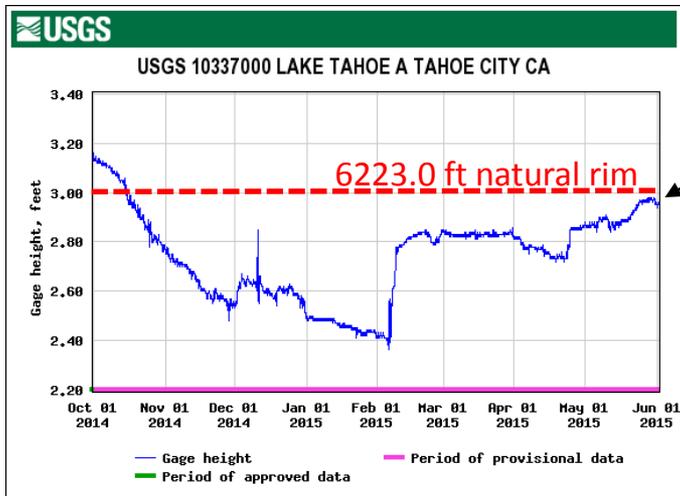
May 1, 2015



May 31, 2015

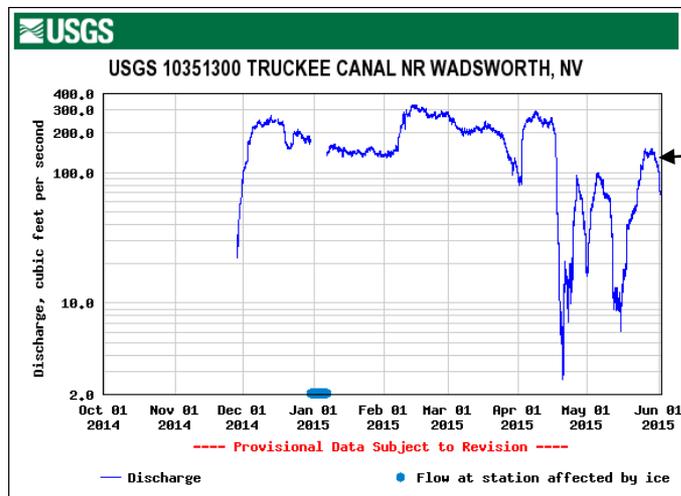
Explanation - Percentile classes						
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

Streamflow increased at upstream points and was enough to produce increases at downstream points as well



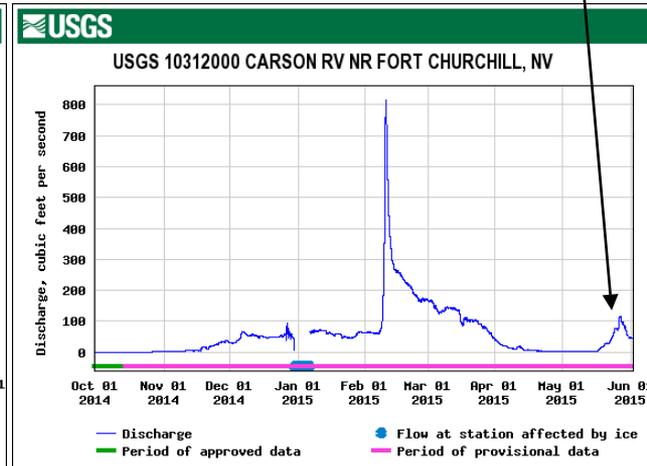
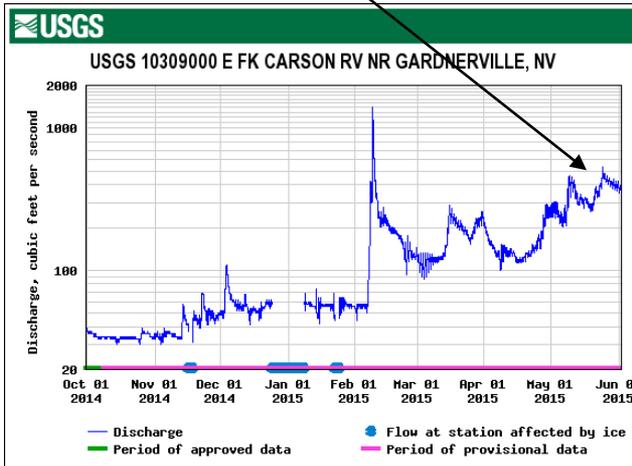
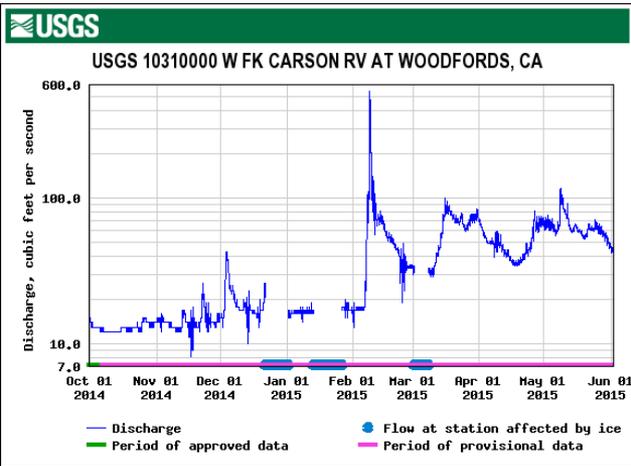
Lake Tahoe got within a few hundredths of an inch of its natural rim.

E Fk Carson May flows were better than during Mar/Apr snowmelt period

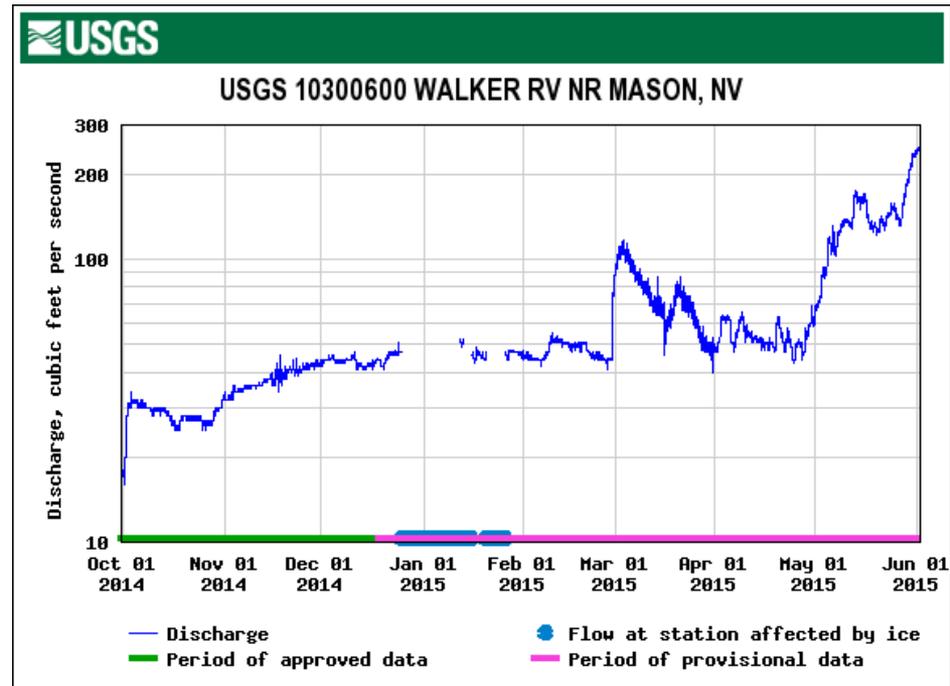
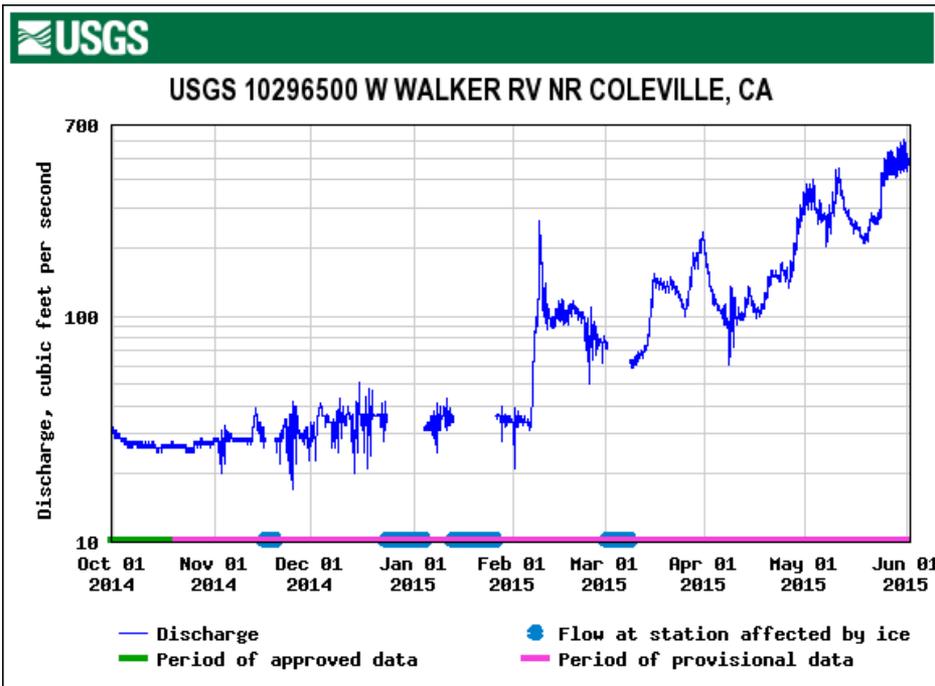


Flows in the Truckee Canal below Derby Dam picked up for a period

Water even made it down to Fort Churchill

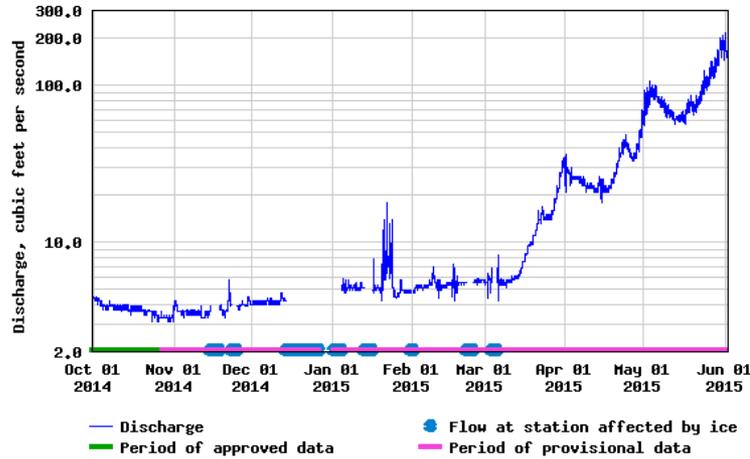


May produced the best streamflow of the water year on the Walker River

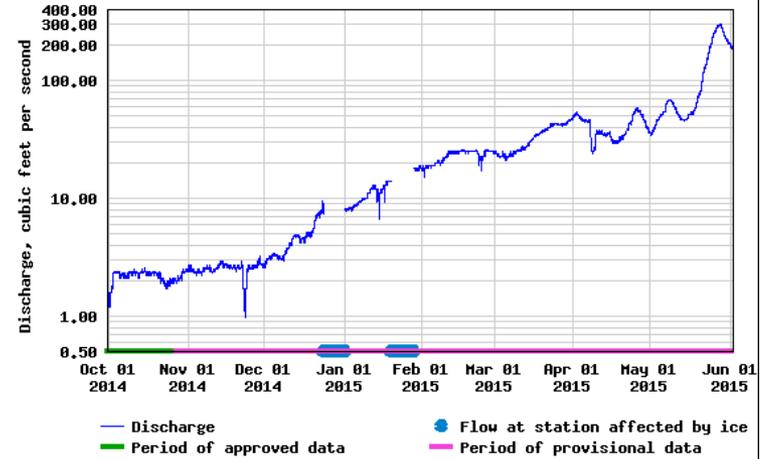




USGS 10316500 LAMOILLE CK NR LAMOILLE, NV



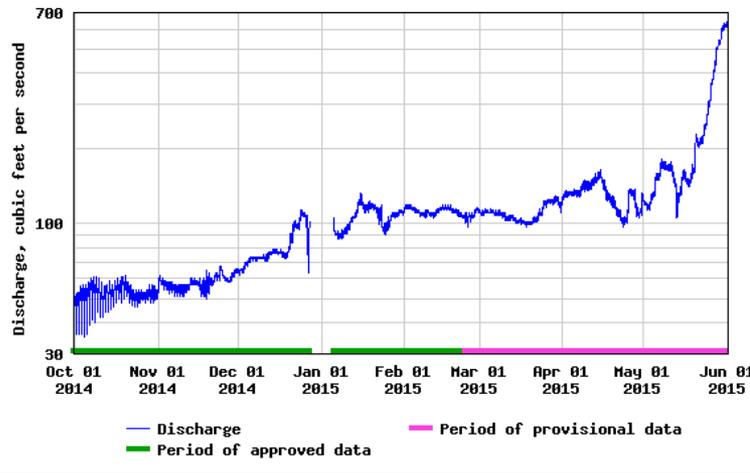
USGS 10315500 MARYS RV ABV HOT SPGS CK NR DEETH, NV



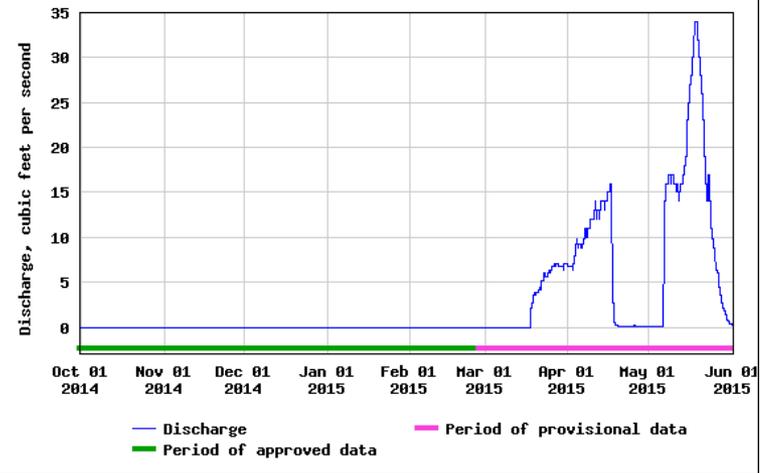
From upstream tributaries to downstream main stem points, May provided the best streamflow of water year on the Humboldt River



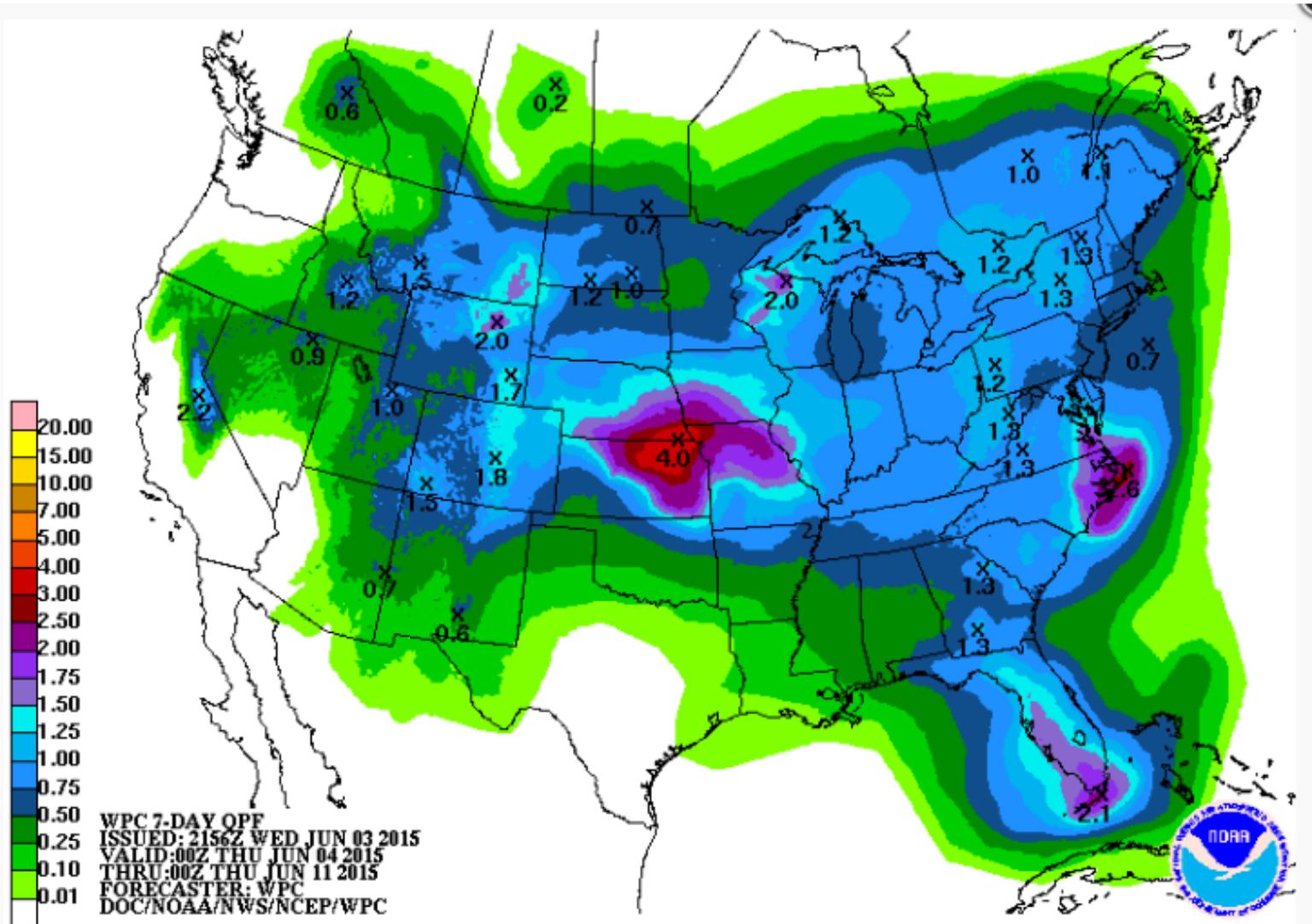
USGS 10322500 HUMBOLDT RV AT PALISADE, NV



USGS 10333000 HUMBOLDT RV NR IMLAY, NV



7 Day Precipitation Outlook - the wet trend may continue....



June 1, 2015 – Nevada Water Supply Summary

- May SNOTEL precipitation totals ranged from 1.3 to 7.0 inches.
- Statewide precipitation averaged 3.8 inches in May making it the second wettest month this water year.
- Above normal May precipitation boosted water year to date precipitation 4-16% across Nevada.
- Soil Moisture increased from last month in the Northern Great Basin, Snake Basin, and Eastern Nevada and remained similar to last month in the Truckee, Carson, Walker, and Owyhee Basin.
- Lake Tahoe got within a few hundredths of its natural rim, its highest water surface elevation since last fall.
- Streamflow in May was better than in April for the Carson, Walker and Humboldt rivers.
- Streamflow forecasts are still low compared to average, but June 1 forecasts improved from last month particularly in Walker and Humboldt basins. [Click here to see streamflow forecasts](#)
- Weather forecasts show more moisture headed our way in June.