

Colorado River Commission of Nevada

Hydrology and Water Use Update

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May 11, 2021



Summary

Lake Powell

- Drought conditions are causing below average inflow forecasts.
- Unregulated inflow for water year¹ 2021 is forecasted at 34% of average.
- Upper Basin snowpack peaked at 83% of the seasonal average.

Lake Mead

- Lake Mead is forecasted to decrease about 11 feet in elevation by the end of calendar year 2021.
- Lower Basin conservation programs have conserved roughly 3.5 million af or about 40 addition feet in Lake Mead.

Nevada Water Supply

- Southern Nevada has about 9 years of water supply banked. ²
- **In 2020, Southern Nevada used 15% less than its annual allocation.**

Storage	Elevation (f)	% Capacity	Change since last year
Lake Mead	1,078.2	38%	-17.5 ft
Lake Powell	3,561.7	35%	-37.8 ft

Data retrieved May 5, 2021

¹ Water year is defined as October through September.

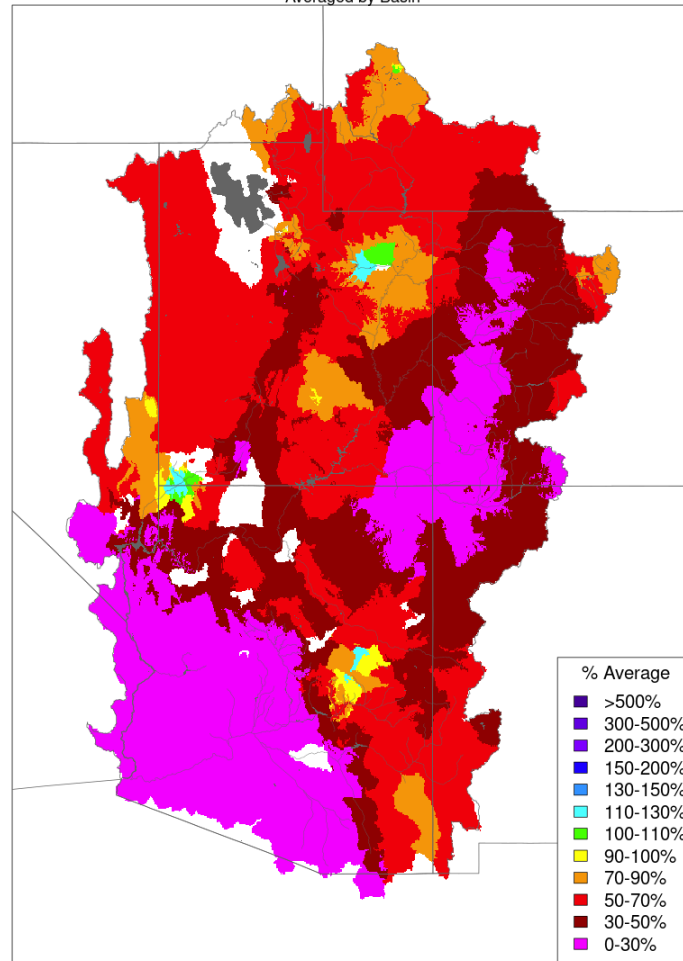
² Based on 2020 consumptive use and storage volumes through 2020.

Precipitation and Temperature



Monthly Precipitation - April 2021

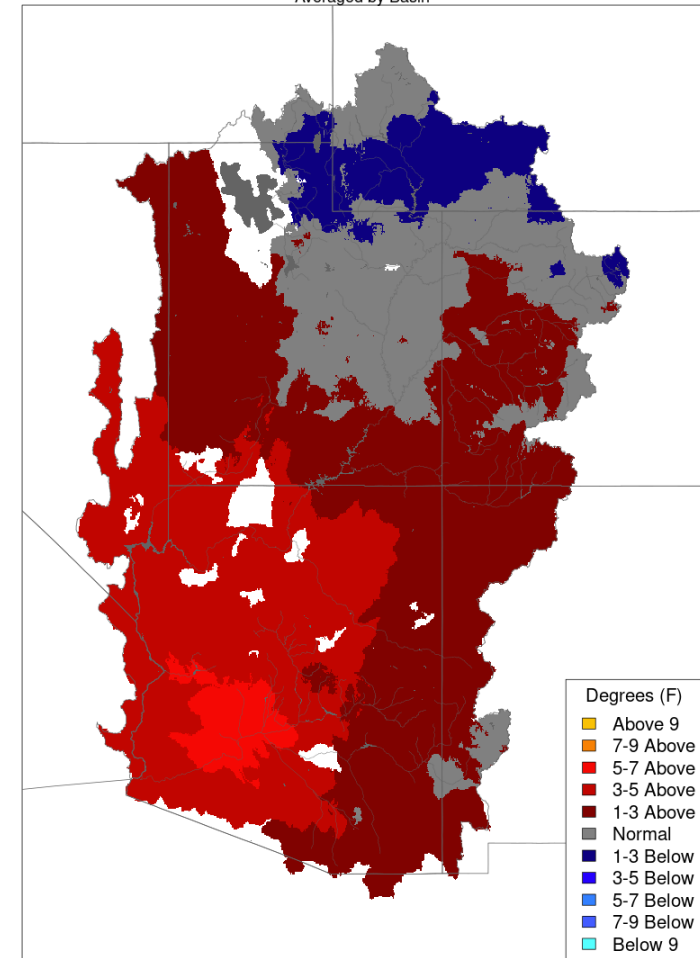
Averaged by Basin



Prepared by NOAA, Colorado Basin River Forecast Center
Salt Lake City, Utah, www.cbrfc.noaa.gov

Max Temp - Monthly Deviation - April 2021

Averaged by Basin



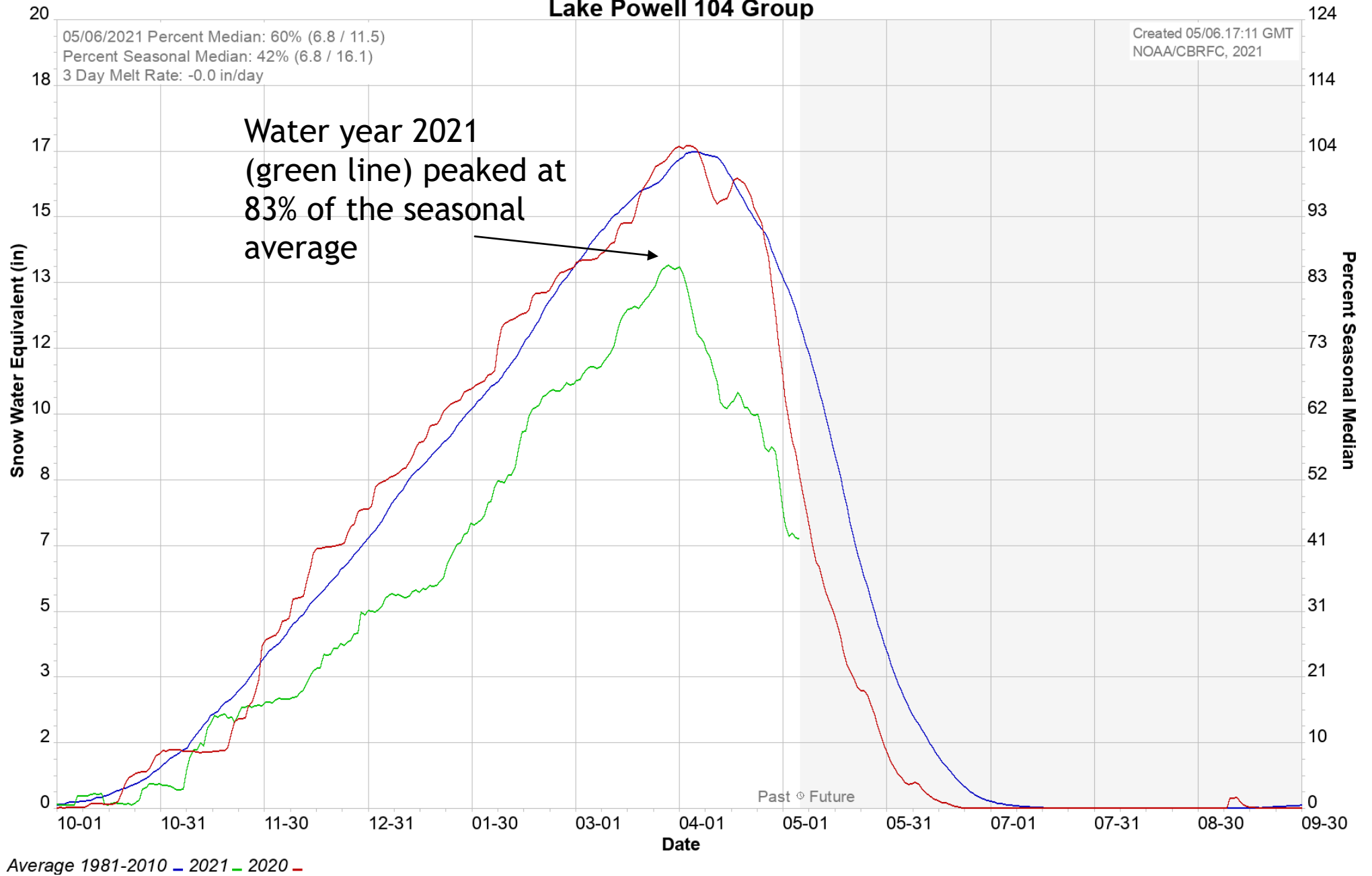
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Above Lake Powell April precipitation: 46%

Above Lake Powell water year 2021 cumulative precipitation: 73%



Colorado Basin River Forecast Center Lake Powell 104 Group



Unregulated Inflow, Current and Projected Reservoir Status

Projected unregulated inflow to Lake Powell Acre-Feet % Average

Water Year 2021	3,636,000	34%
April thru July 2021	2,000,000	28%

Reservoir	Current Elevation	Current Storage Acre-Feet	Current % Capacity	Projected Elevation on 1/1/2022 ¹
Lake Mead	1,078.2	9,922,000	38%	1,067.2
Lake Powell	3,561.7	8,485,000	35%	3,550.0

Data retrieved May 5, 2021

¹ Based on Reclamation's April 2020 24 Month Study Most Probable Inflow.

Water Use In Southern Nevada

Southern Nevada Water Use

2020 Actual Use in Acre-Feet ¹

Nevada Annual Allocation	300,000
Diversion	478,969
Return Flows	223,401
Consumptive Use	255,568
Unused Allocation Available for Banking	44,432 (15%)

Southern Nevada Water Use

Diversions

Return Flows

Consumptive Use

January - March 2021	90,878	56,078	34,799
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Banked Water (through end of 2020)¹

Acre-Feet

Ground Water Recharge in So. Nevada	357,643
Banked in Lake Mead	865,741
Banked in California and Arizona	944,071
Total	2,167,455

¹ Water accounting totals for 2020 are provisional.