

Colorado River Commission of Nevada

Natural Resources Group Hydrologic Update May 12, 2015



Unregulated Inflow Into Lake Powell

As of May 11, 2015

	MAF*	% Avg**
• WY 2015 (forecast):	6.4	59%
• April-July 2015 (forecast):	3.0	42%
• April (observed):	0.64	61%
• May (forecasted):	1.00	43%

*MAF=Million Acre-Feet

**30-year average, from 1981-2010 (current normal)



Storage Conditions

As of May 11, 2015

		<u>Percent of Capacity</u>	<u>Δ from last year</u>
Lake Mead elev.	1077.95 ft	38%	↓ 14.82 ft
Lake Powell elev.	3,590.39 ft	45%	↑ 11.39 ft
Total System Storage (5/2015)	28.33 maf	48%	↑ 0.13 maf
Total System Storage (5/2014)	28.20 maf	47%	



Reservoir Storage

As of May 6, 2015

Colorado River Reservoir Storages

Basin	Reservoir	Max Storage	*Current Storage	Percentage	Current Storage subtotals
Upper Basin	Crystal Reservoir	17,356	16,987	98%	5,325,444
	Flaming Gorge	3,749,000	3,225,347	86%	
	Fontenelle	344,800	193,356	56%	
	Morrow Point	117,190	111,172	95%	
	Blue Mesa	829,500	602,906	73%	
	Navajo	1,696,000	1,175,676	69%	
	Lake Powell	24,322,000	10,806,931	44%	
Lower Basin	Lake Mead	26,120,000	9,911,000	38%	2,275,600
	Lake Mohave	1,809,800	1,683,100	93%	
	Lake Havasu	619,400	592,500	96%	
	TOTAL	59,625,046	28,318,975	47%	

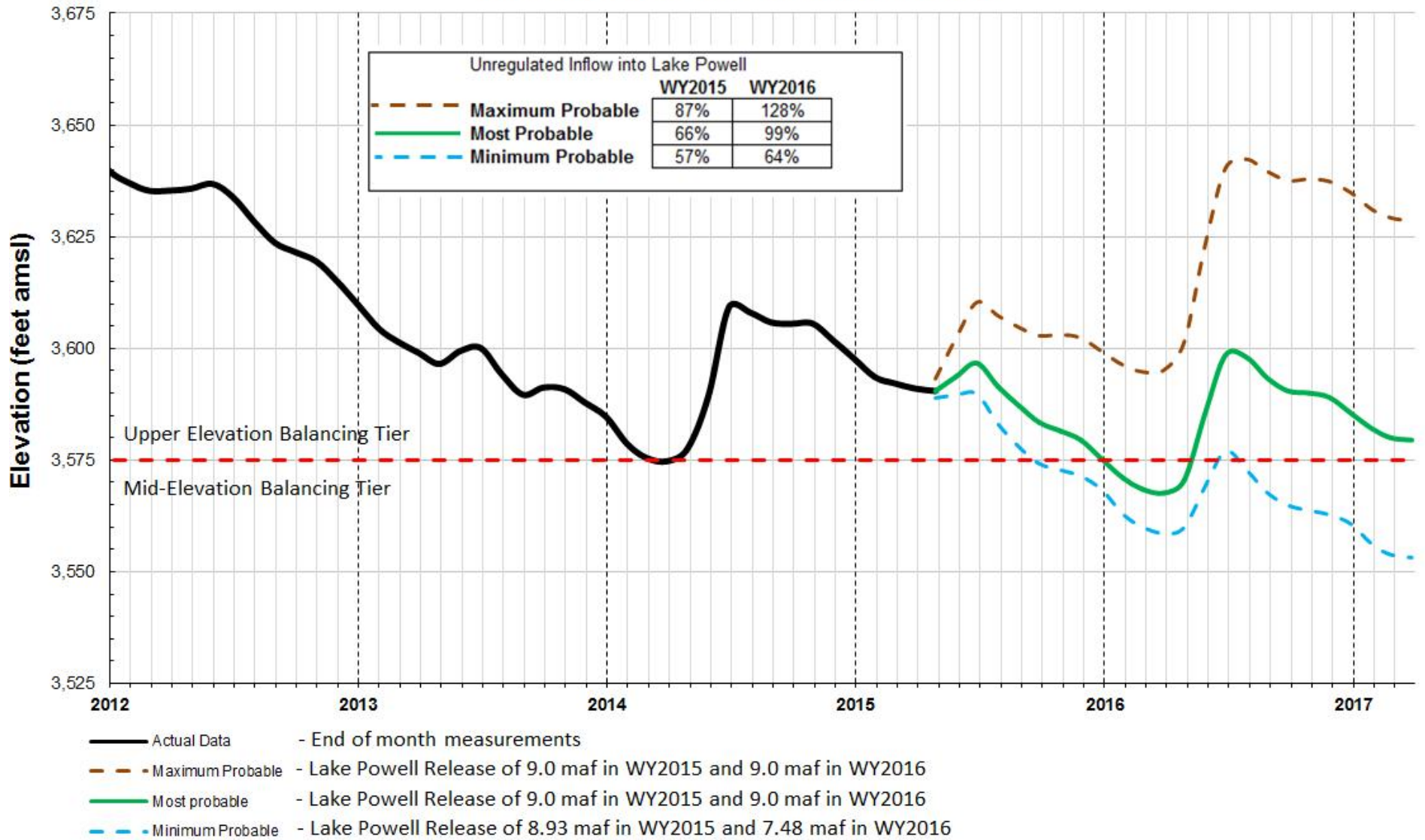
*Data current as 3/9/2015

<http://www.usbr.gov/lc/region/g4000/hourly/levels.html>

<http://www.usbr.gov/uc/water/rsvrs/ops/r40day.html>

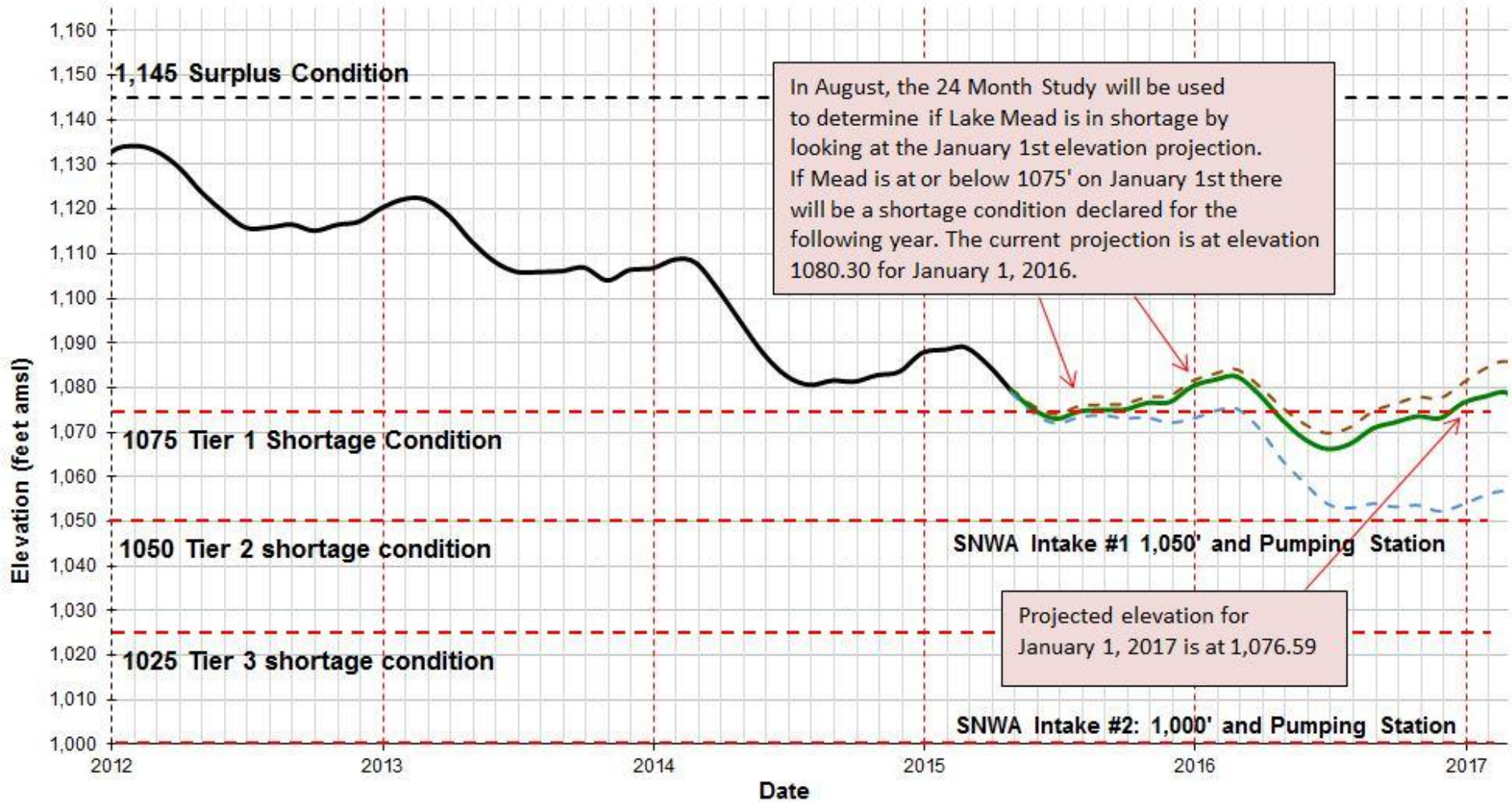
Lake Powell End of Month Elevations

(based on April 2015 24-month Study)



Lake Mead End of Month Elevation Projections

(Projections based on the April 2015 24-month study)



- Actual Data - End of month measurements
- - - Maximum Probable - Lake Powell Release of 9.0 maf in WY2015 and 9.0 maf in WY2016
- Most probable - Lake Powell Release of 9.0 maf in WY2015 and 9.0 maf in WY2016
- - - Minimum Probable - Lake Powell Release of 8.93 maf in WY2015 and 7.48 maf in WY2016

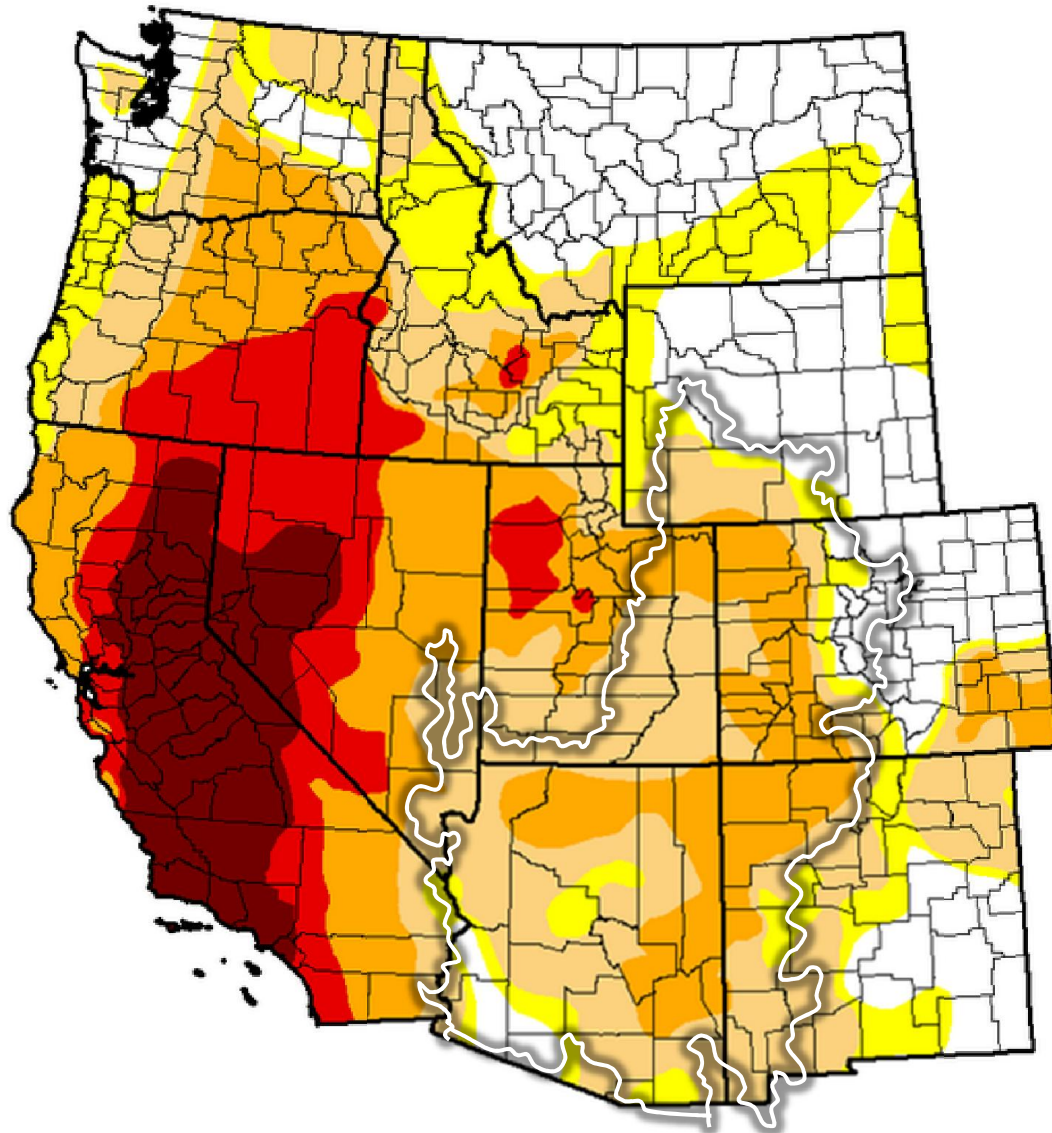
U.S. Drought Monitor

West






May 5, 2015

(Released Thursday May 7, 2015)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



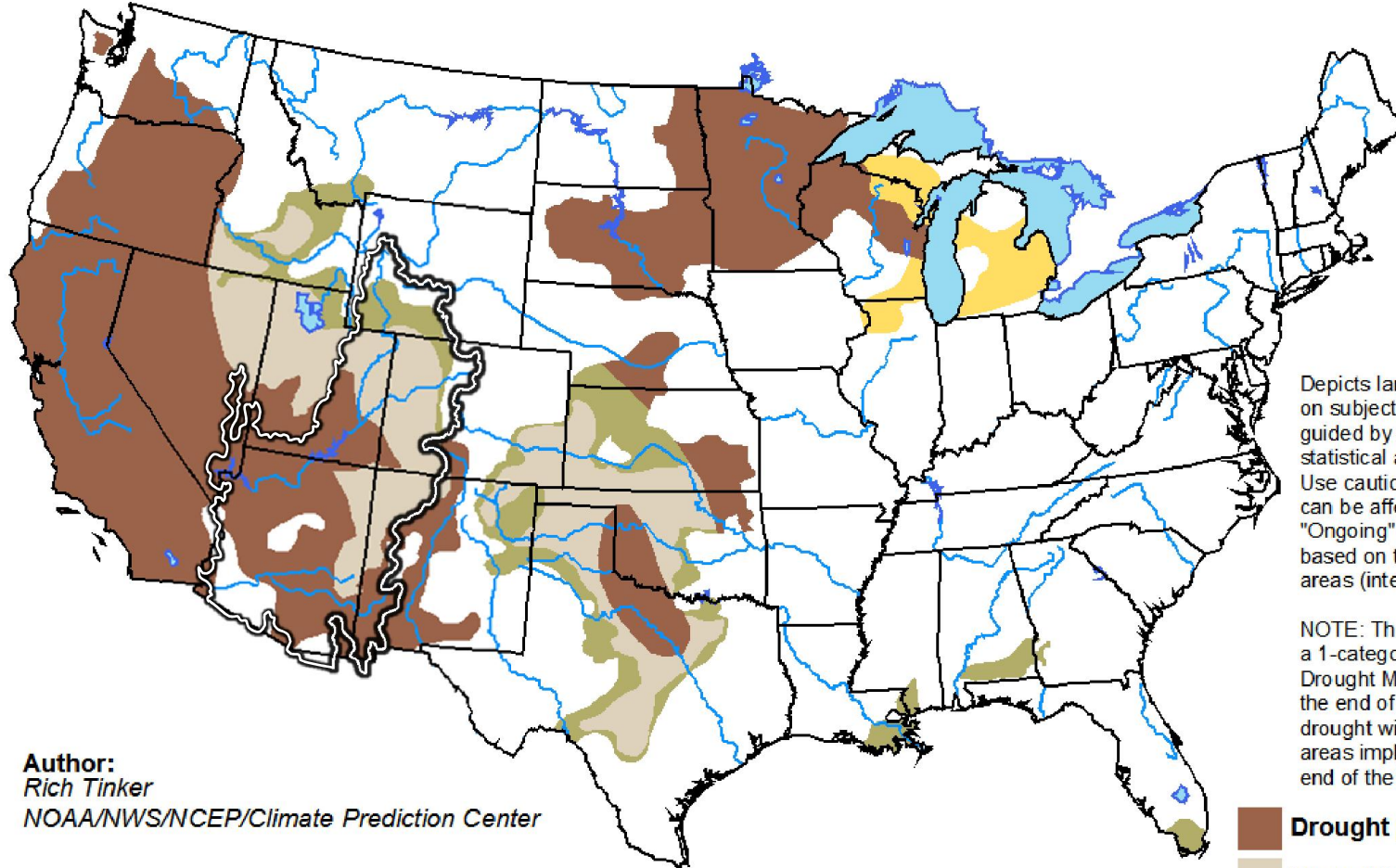
Intensity:

-  D0 - Abnormally Dry
-  D1 - Moderate Drought
-  D2 - Severe Drought
-  D3 - Extreme Drought
-  D4 - Exceptional Drought

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period





Valid for April 16 - July 31, 2015
Released April 16, 2015

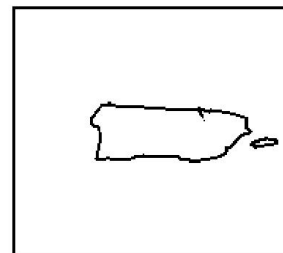
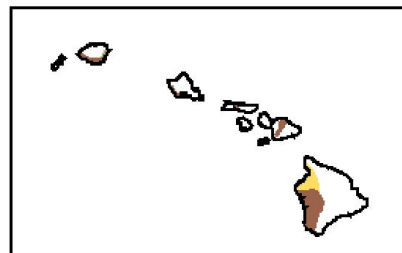
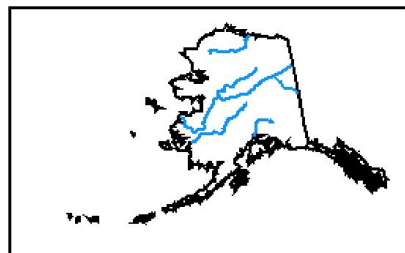


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

Author:
Rich Tinker
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

-  Drought persists/intensifies
-  Drought remains but improves
-  Drought removal likely
-  Drought development likely



<http://go.usa.gov/hHTe>

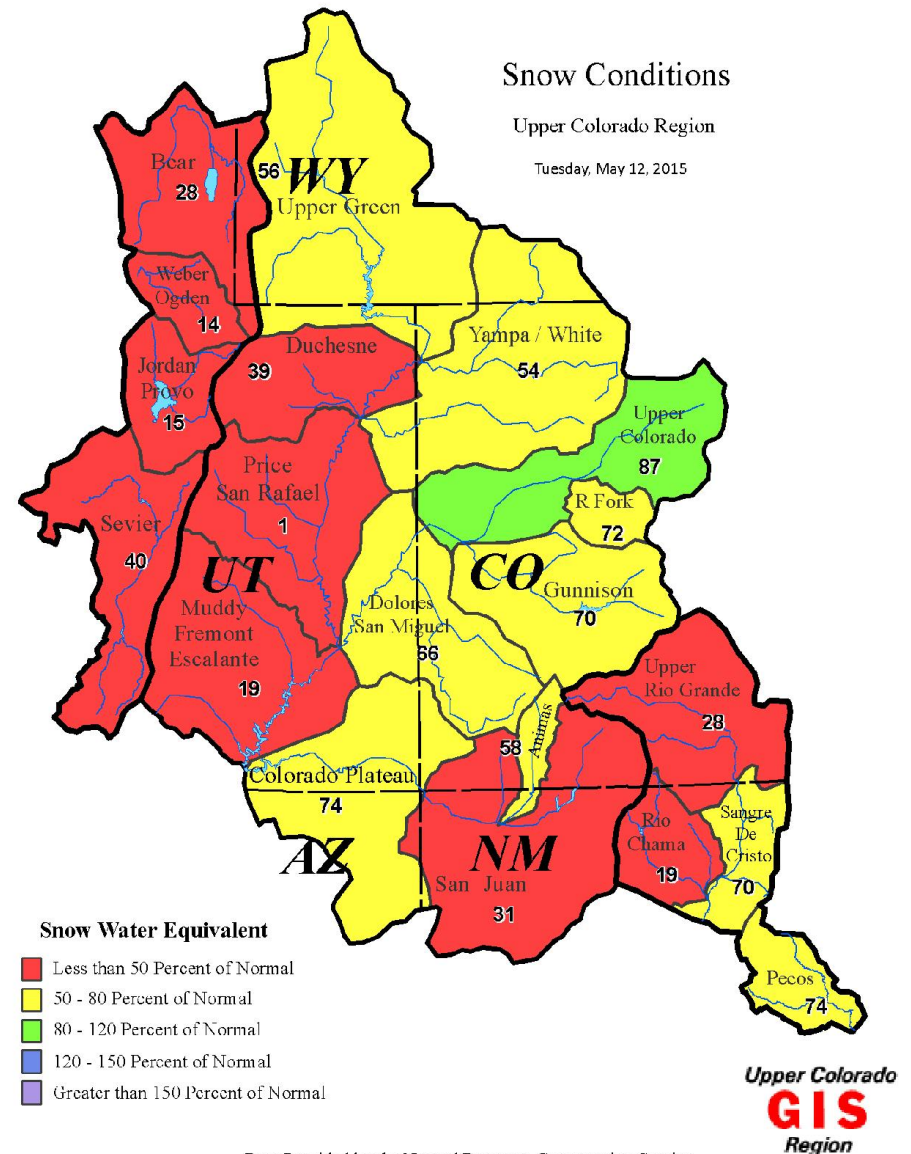
Precipitation and Snowpack

As of May 11, 2015

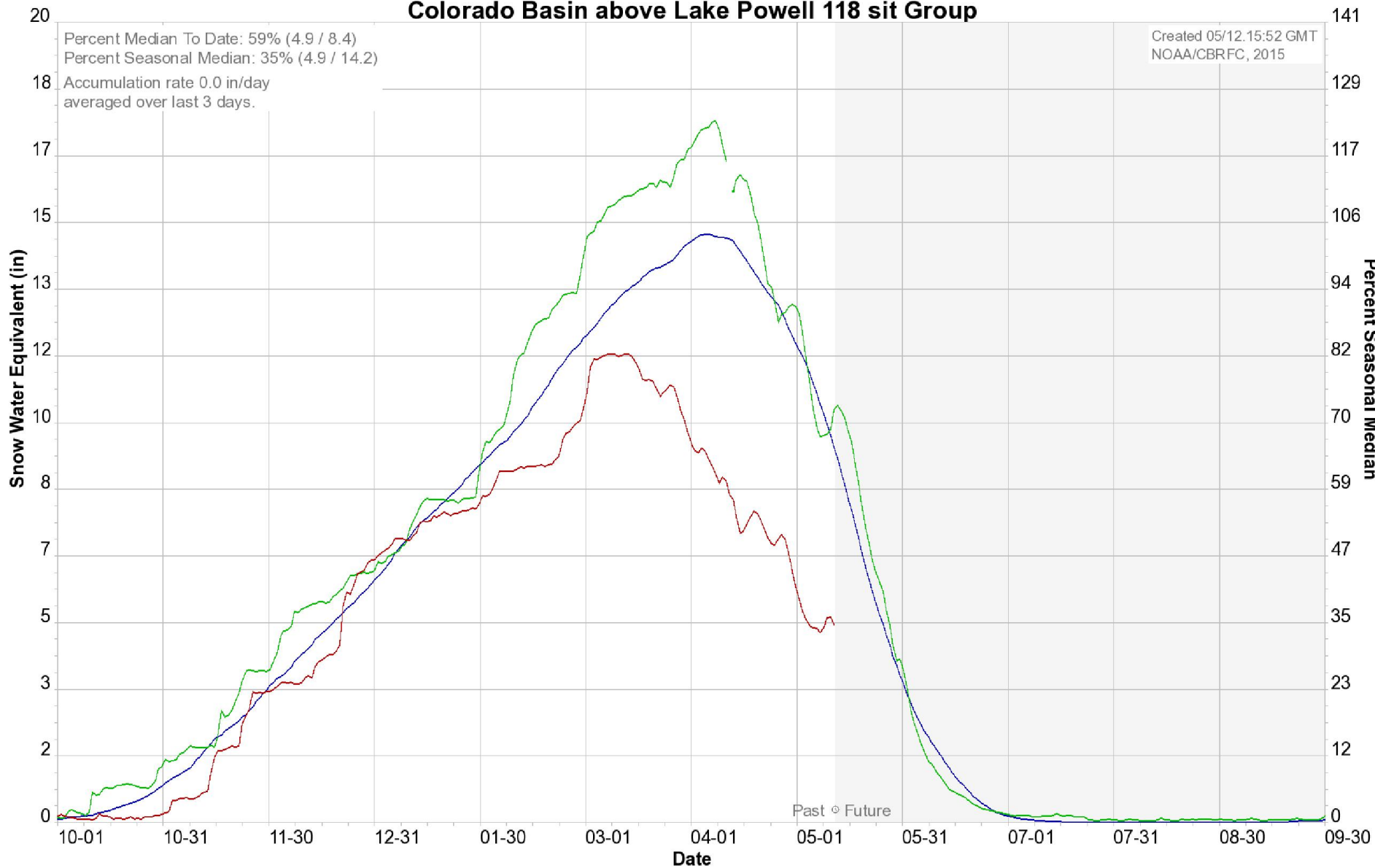
Upper Colorado Basin

WY 2015 Precip to Date: 79% (17.6")

Current Basin Snowpack: 55% (7.3")



Colorado Basin River Forecast Center Colorado Basin above Lake Powell 118 sit Group



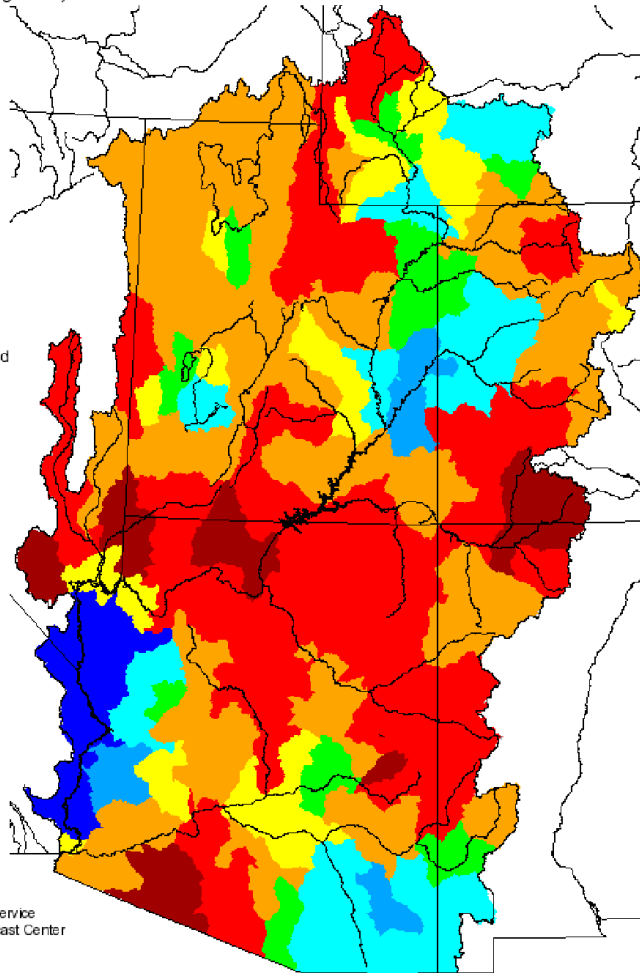
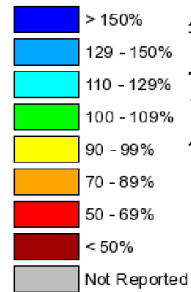
Average 1981-2010 — 2014 — 2015 —

Upper Basin Precipitation

Monthly Precipitation for April 2015

(Averaged by Hydrologic Unit)

% Average

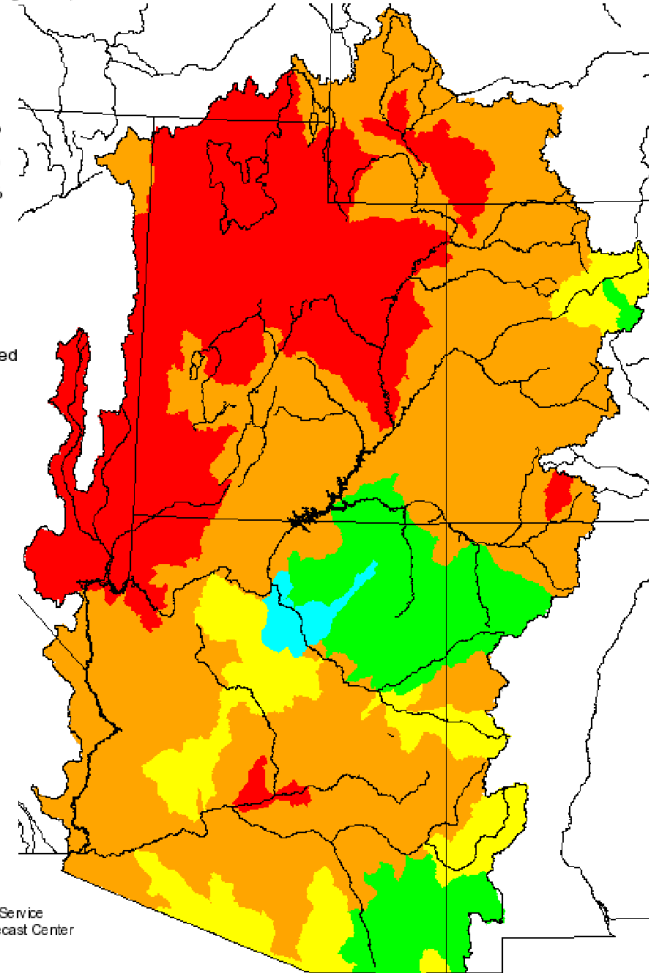
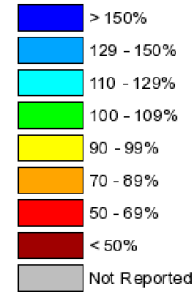


Prepared by
NOAA, National Weather Service
Colorado Basin River Forecast Center
Salt Lake City, Utah
www.cbrfc.noaa.gov

Seasonal Precipitation, October 2014 - April 2015

(Averaged by Hydrologic Unit)

% Average

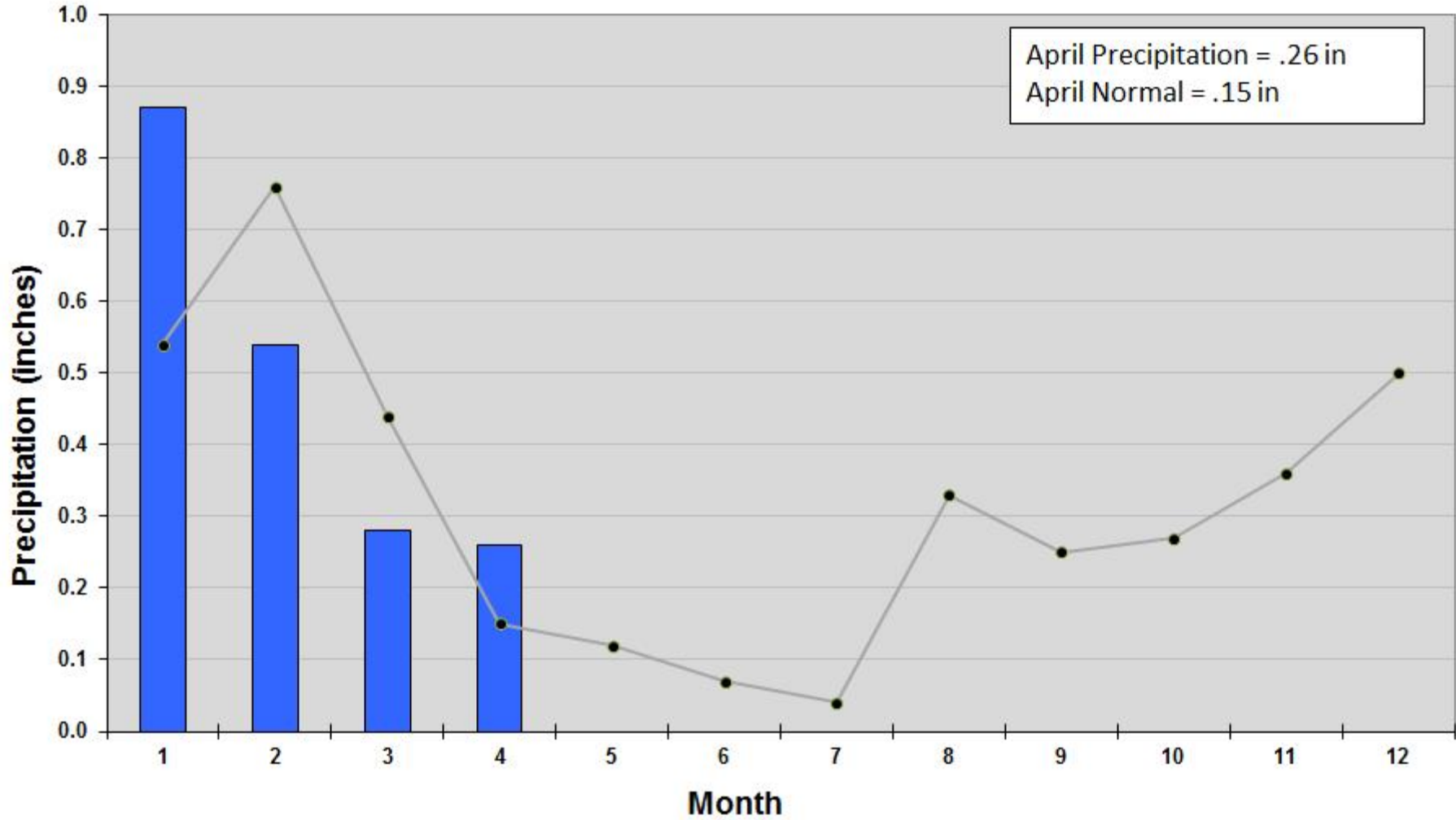


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Monthly Precipitation at McCarran International Airport, Las Vegas, NV

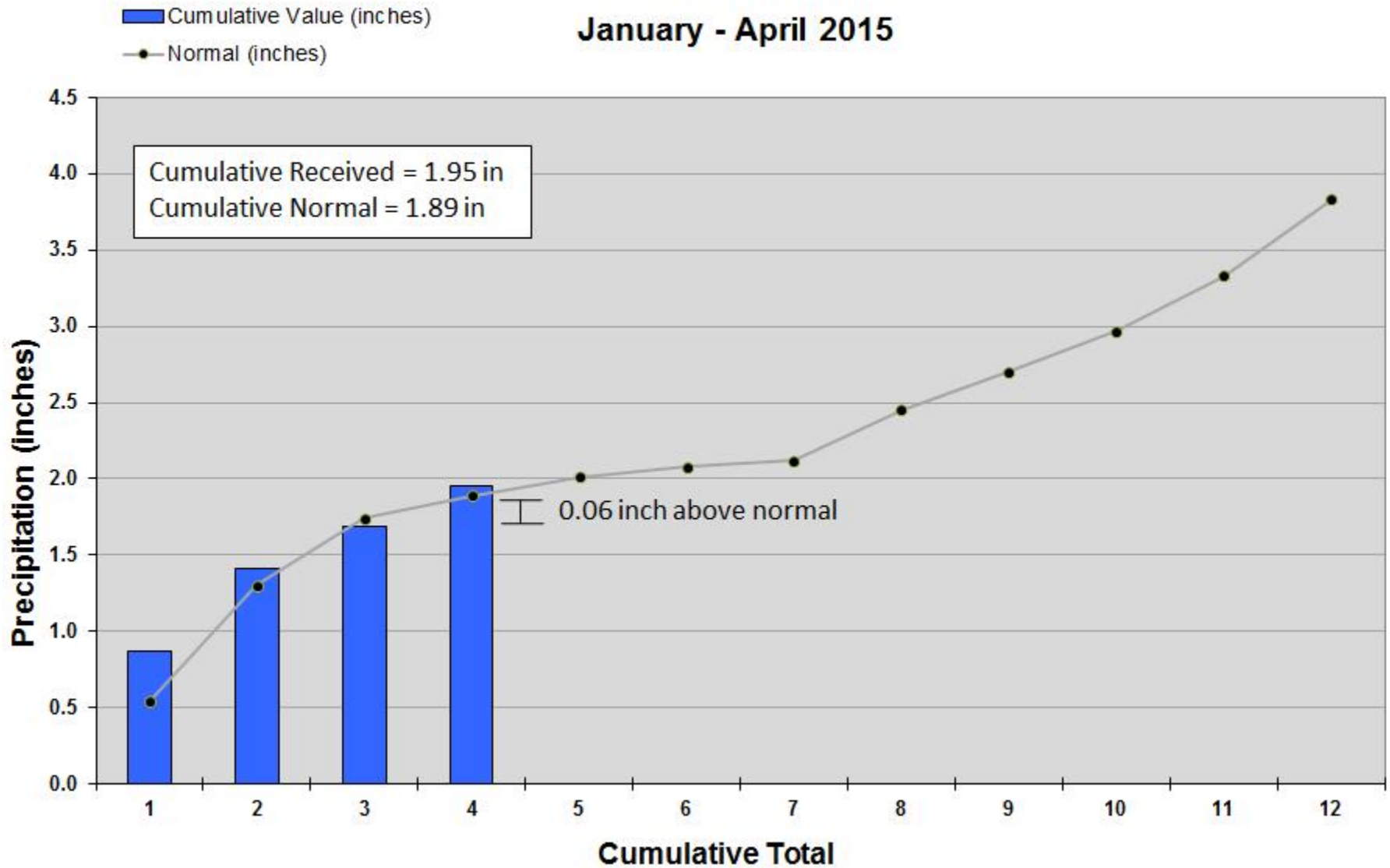
January - April 2015

Recorded Value (inches)
Normal (inches)

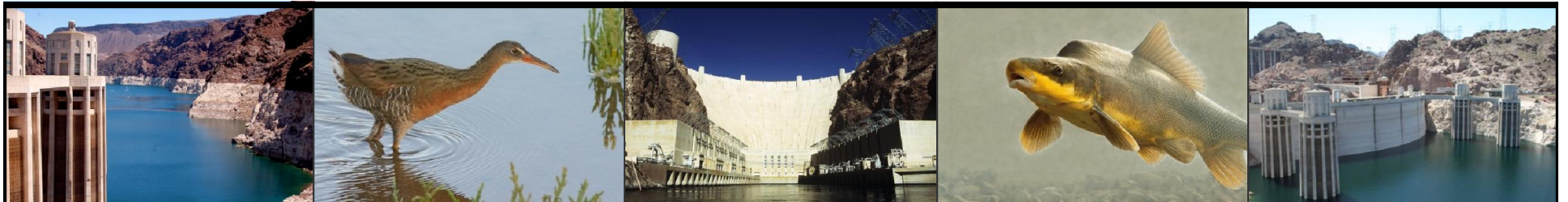


Cumulative Precipitation at McCarran International Airport, Las Vegas, NV

January - April 2015



Water Use in Southern Nevada



Water Use in Southern Nevada

January – March 2015

2015*: Consumptive Use = 28,630 af

2014*: Consumptive Use = 30,136 af

Difference = -1,506 af

*Subject to final accounting.



Colorado River Commission of Nevada

Questions?

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