

Colorado River Commission of Nevada

Hydrology and Water Use Update

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March 16, 2021





Summary

Lake Powell

- Drought conditions are causing below average inflow forecasts.
- Unregulated inflow for water year¹ 2021 is forecasted at 47% of average.
- Upper Basin snowpack is currently 82% of the seasonal average.

Lake Mead

- Lake Mead is forecasted to decrease about 18 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 8 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	1,086.2	40%	-10.2 ft
Lake Powell	3,569.2	37%	-32.4 ft

Data retrieved March 16, 2021

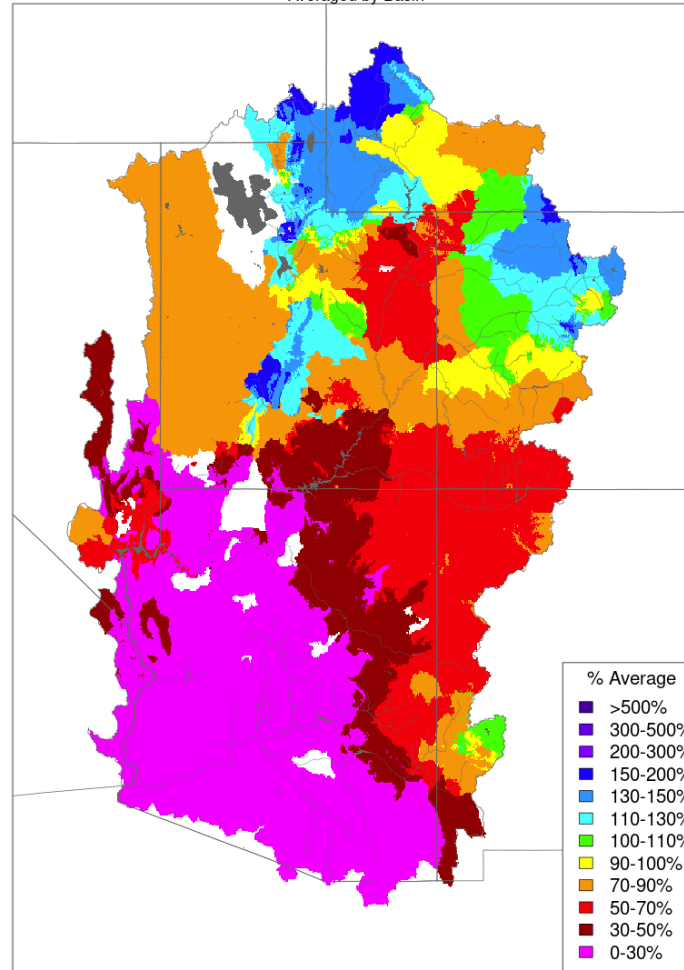
¹ Water year is defined as October through September.

² Based on 2020 consumptive use and storage volumes through 2019.

Precipitation and Temperature

Monthly Precipitation - February 2021

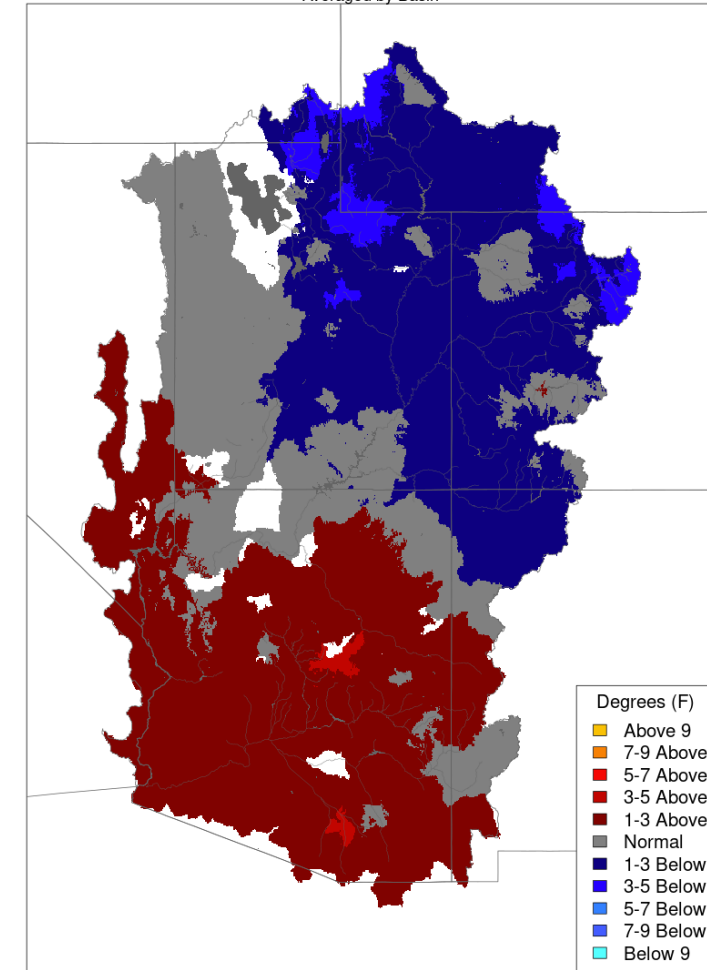
Averaged by Basin



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

Max Temp - Monthly Deviation - February 2021

Averaged by Basin



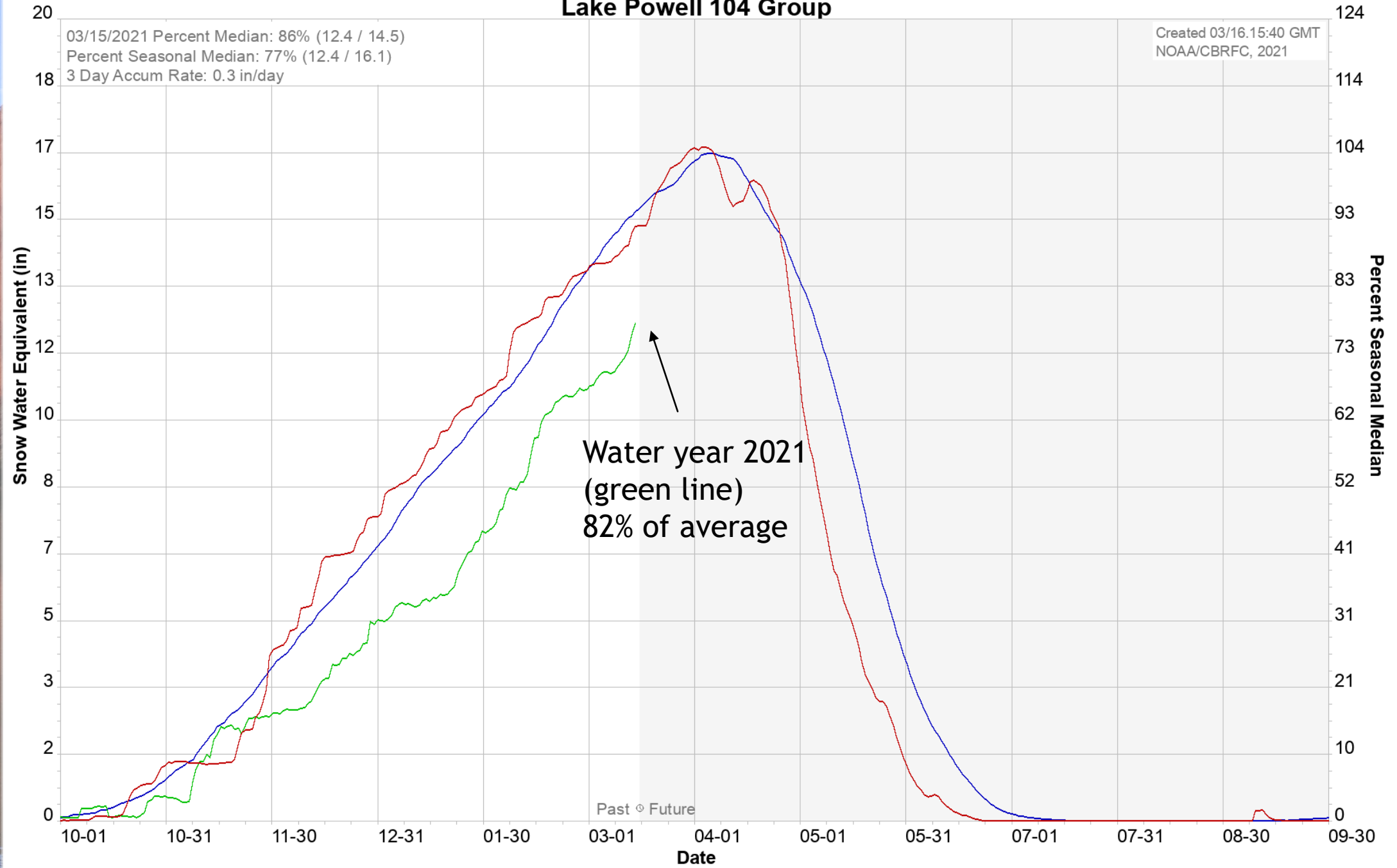
Prepared by NOAA, Colorado Basin River Forecast Center
Salt Lake City, Utah, www.cbrfc.noaa.gov

Above Lake Powell February precipitation: 105%

Above Lake Powell water year 2021 cumulative precipitation: 74%



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	5,130,000	47%
April thru July 2021	3,400,000	47%

Reservoir	Current Elevation	Current Storage Acre-Feet	Current % Capacity	Projected Elevation on 1/1/2022 ¹
Lake Mead	1,086.2	10,530,000	40%	1,068.5
Lake Powell	3,569.2	9,041,000	37%	3,550.9

Data retrieved March 16, 2021

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

Water Use In Southern Nevada

Southern Nevada Water Use

2020 Actual Use in Acre-Feet

Nevada Annual Allocation	300,000
Diversion	479,146
Return Flows	223,420
Consumptive Use	255,726
Unused Allocation Available for Banking	44,274 (15%)

Southern Nevada Water Use

Diversions

Return Flows

Consumptive Use

January 2021	29,200	18,326	10,873
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Banked Water (through end of 2019)

Acre-Feet

Ground Water Recharge in So. Nevada	358,315
Banked in Lake Mead	785,913
Banked in California and Arizona	944,071
Total	2,088,299