



# Colorado River Commission of Nevada

## Hydrology and Water Use Update

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May 12, 2020





# Summary

## Lake Powell

- Upper Basin snowpack reached the seasonal average in April.
- Dry conditions in April reduced the unregulated inflow forecast to Lake Powell by one million af.
- Water Year 2020 unregulated inflow is forecasted at 68% of average.

## Lake Mead

- Based on Reclamations April 24 Month Study Lake Powell will not have a balancing release for the remainder of Water Year 2020.
- Reclamation has essential staff continuing to operate the reservoirs water releases and hydropower generation.

## Nevada Water Supply

- Southern Nevada has 9 years of water supply banked. <sup>1</sup>
- **In 2019, Southern Nevada used 22% less than its annual allocation.**

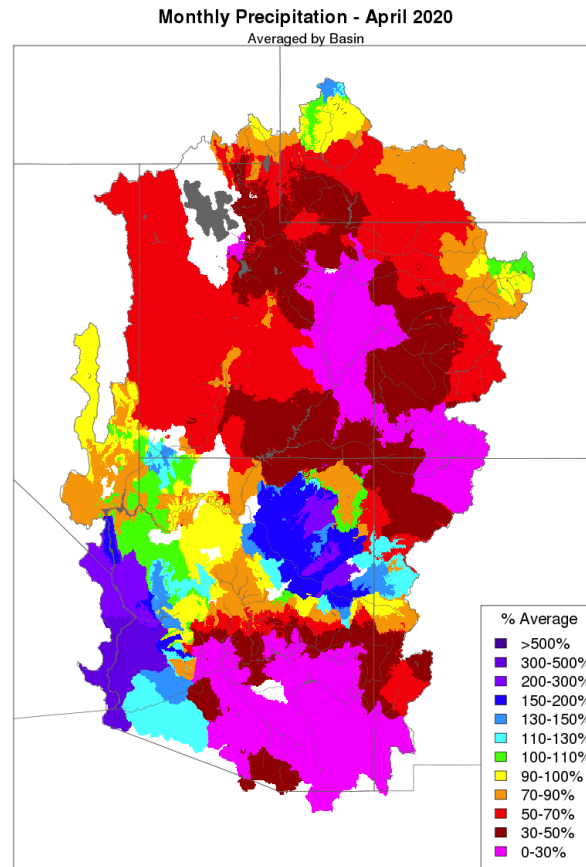
| Storage     | Elevation (f) | % Capacity | Change since last year |
|-------------|---------------|------------|------------------------|
| Lake Mead   | 1,094.8       | 43%        | 6.6 ft                 |
| Lake Powell | 3,600.6       | 49%        | 24.2 ft                |

Data retrieved May 11, 2020

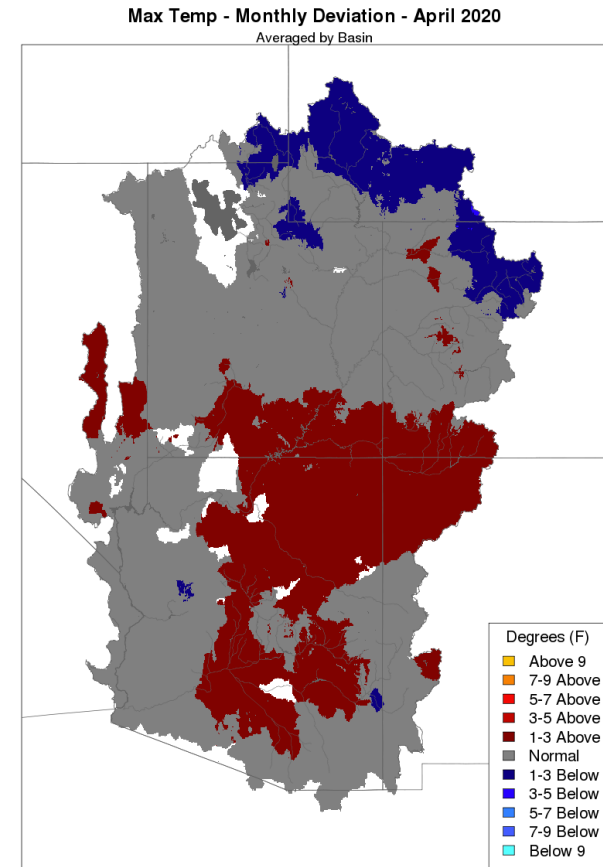
<sup>1</sup> Based on historical Southern Nevada water use.



# Precipitation and Temperature



Prepared by NOAA, Colorado Basin River Forecast Center  
Salt Lake City, Utah, [www.cbrfc.noaa.gov](http://www.cbrfc.noaa.gov)



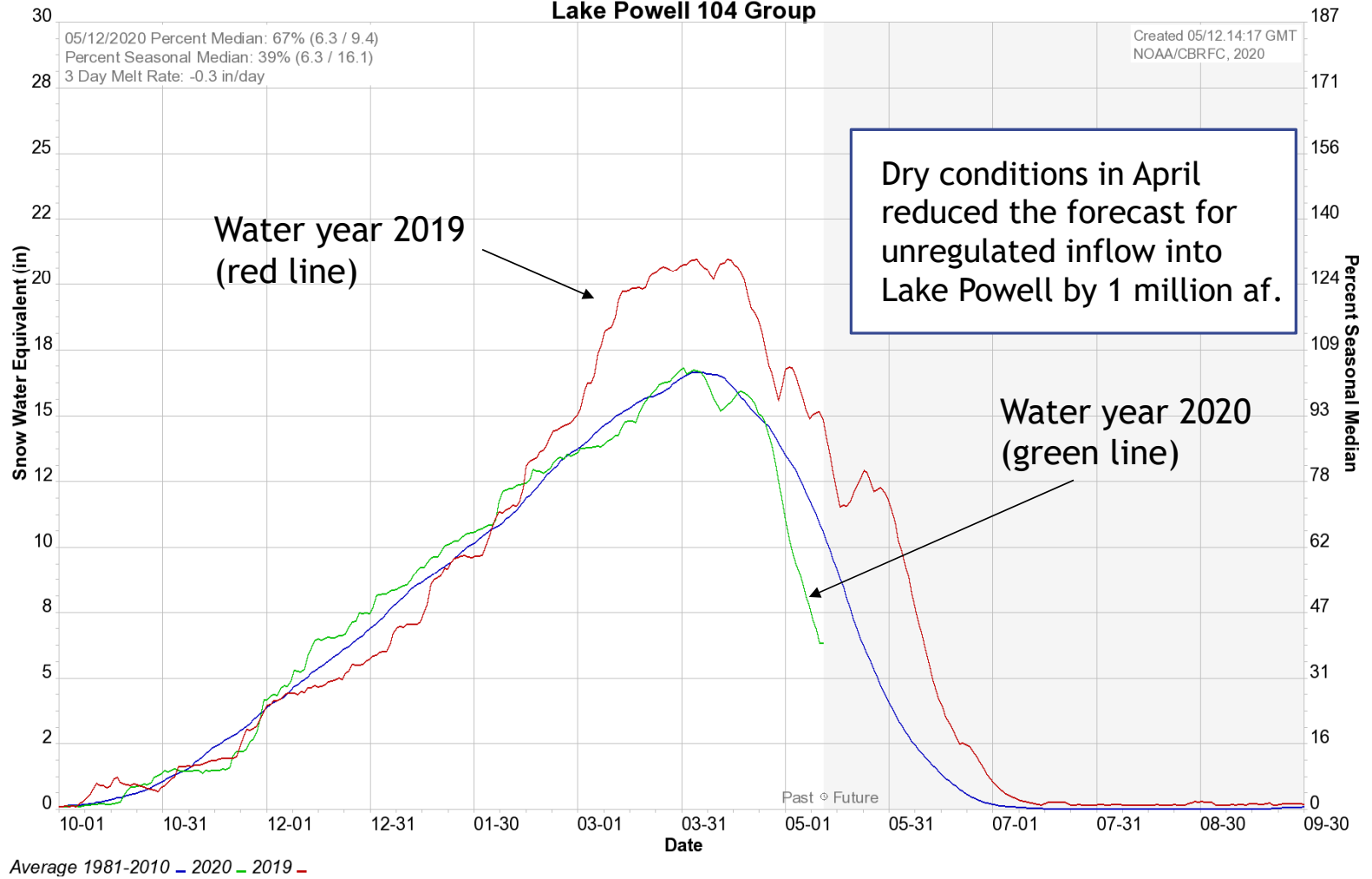
Prepared by NOAA, Colorado Basin River Forecast Center  
Salt Lake City, Utah, [www.cbrfc.noaa.gov](http://www.cbrfc.noaa.gov)

Above Lake Powell April precipitation: 60%  
Above Lake Powell water year 2020 cumulative precipitation: 86%



# Upper Basin Snowpack Accumulation

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 2020                             | 7,402,000 | 68%*      |
| April thru July 2020                        | 4,650,000 | 65%*      |

\* 2020 forecast reduced due to below average precipitation and dry soil conditions.

| Reservoir   | Current Elevation | Current Storage Acre-Feet | Current % Capacity | Projected Elevation on 1/1/2021 <sup>1</sup> |
|-------------|-------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Lake Mead   | 1,094.8           | 11,277,000                | 43%                | 1,084.7                                      |
| Lake Powell | 3,600.6           | 11,808,000                | 49%                | 3,609.3                                      |

Data retrieved May 11, 2020

<sup>1</sup> Based on Reclamation's April 2020 24 Month Study Most Probable Inflow.



# Water Use In Southern Nevada

## Southern Nevada Water Use

## 2019 Actual Use in Acre-Feet

|                                         |               |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------|
| Nevada Annual Allocation                | 300,000       |
| Diversion                               | 472,314       |
| Return Flows                            | 238,318       |
| Consumptive Use                         | 233,996       |
| Unused Allocation Available for Banking | 66,004, (22%) |

## Southern Nevada Water Use

## Diversions

## Return Flows

## Consumptive Use

|                    |        |        |        |
|--------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| January-March 2020 | 91,163 | 60,854 | 30,309 |
|--------------------|--------|--------|--------|

## 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 |