



# 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.**

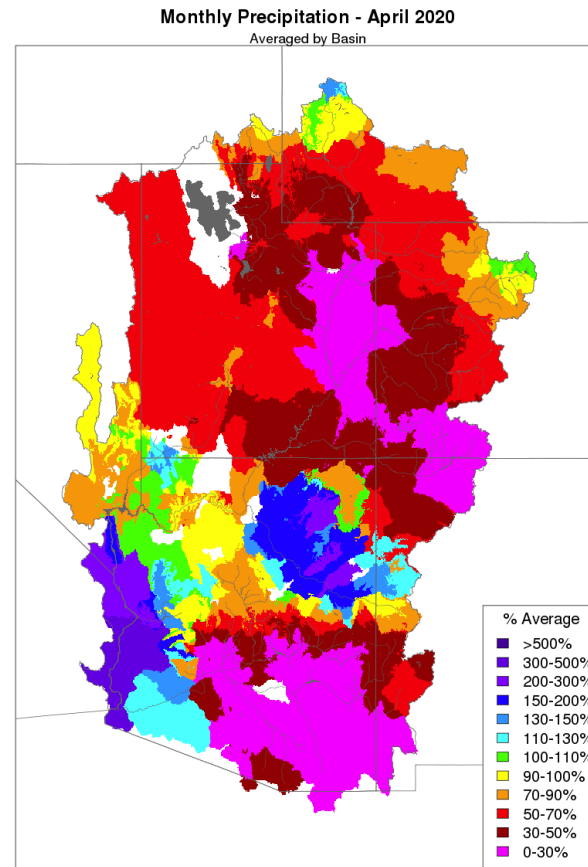
Storage	Elevation (f)	% Capacity	Change since last year
Lake Mead	1,094.8	43%	6.6 ft
Lake Powell	3,600.6	49%	24.2 ft

Data retrieved May 11, 2020

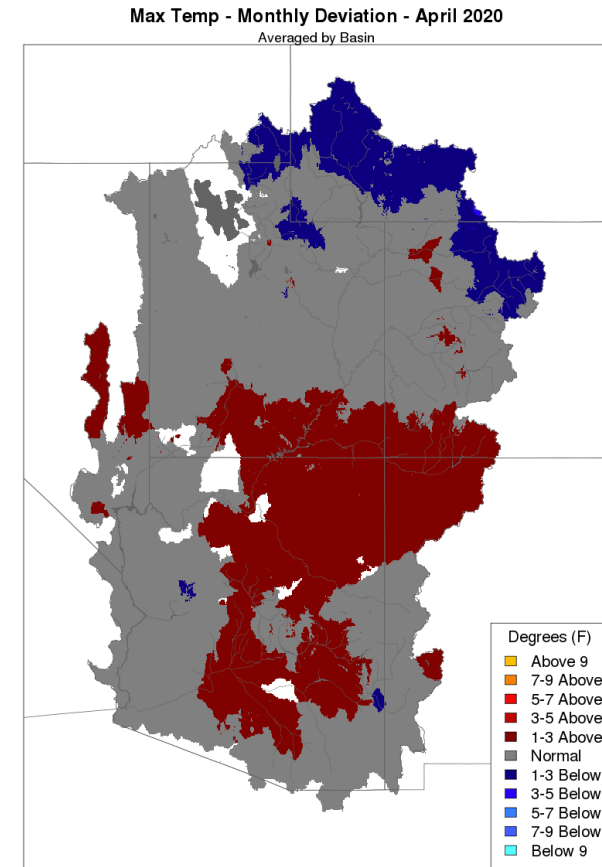
<sup>1</sup> Based on historical Southern Nevada water use.



# Precipitation and Temperature



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



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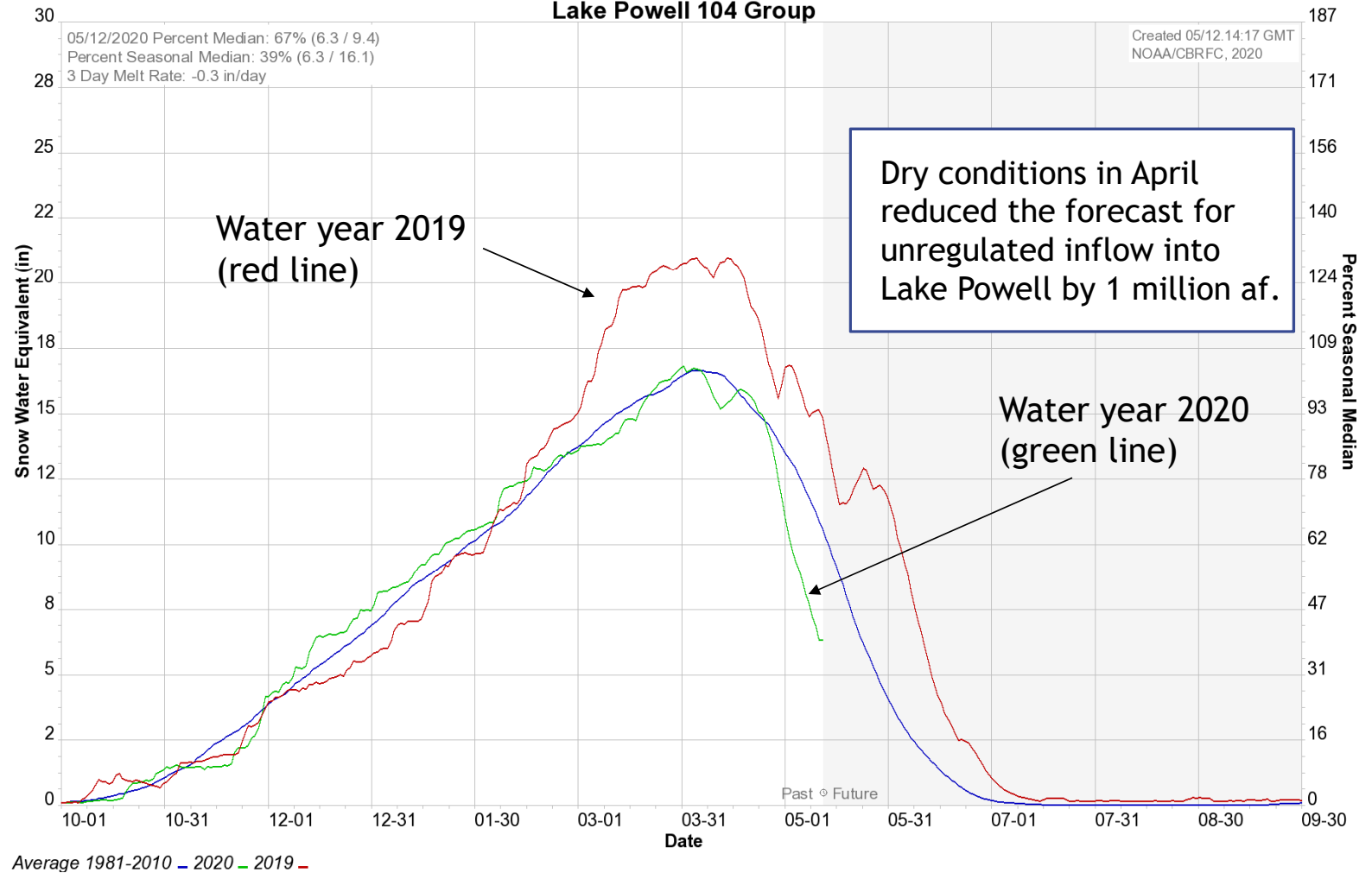
Above Lake Powell April precipitation: 60%

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
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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