

Boise Basin iSnobal Modeling



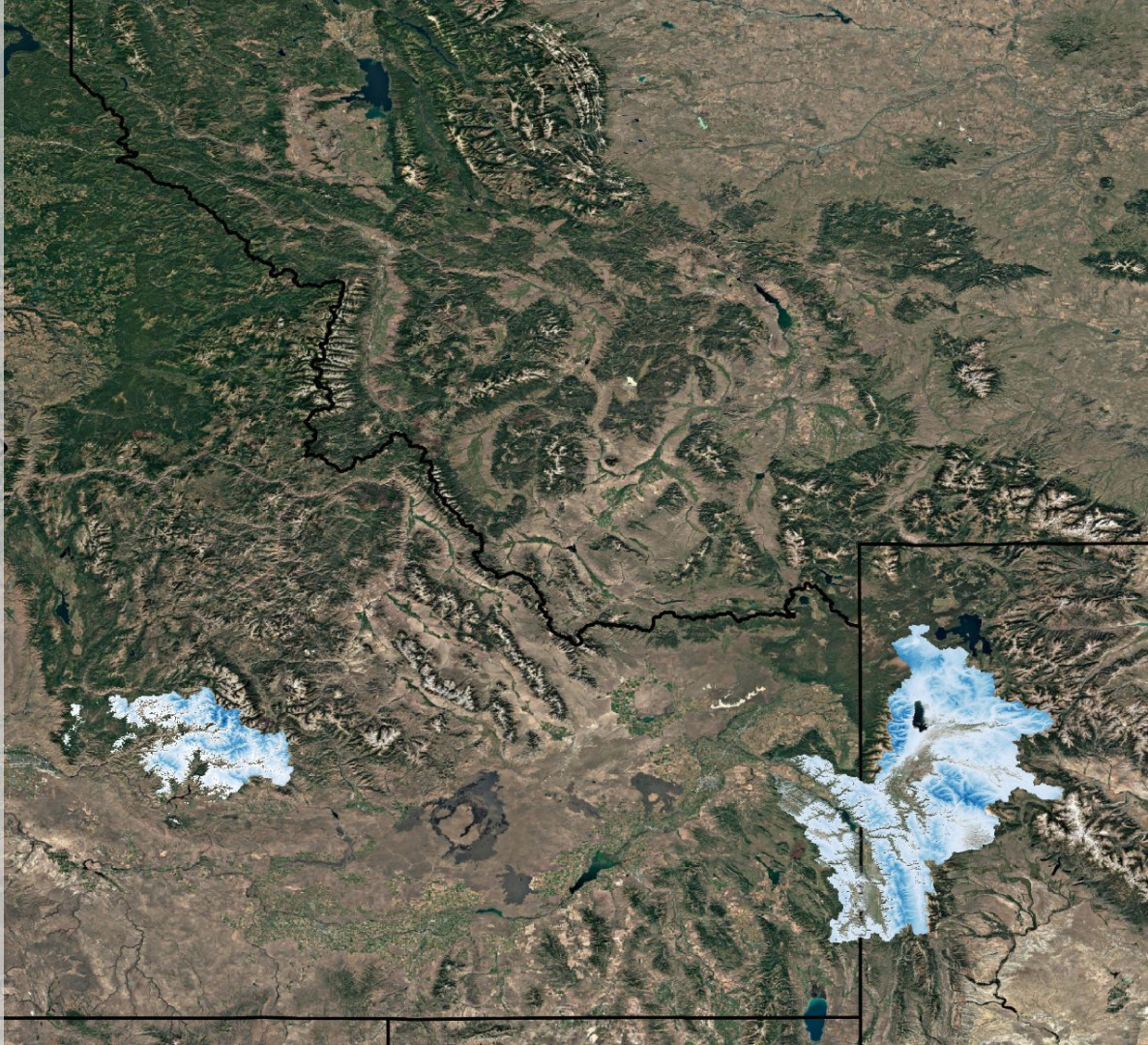
Idaho Water Supply Committee
May 20, 2026



**Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service**

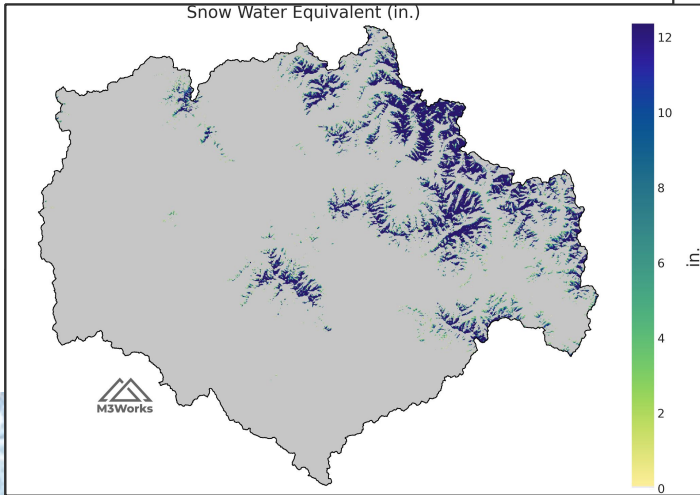
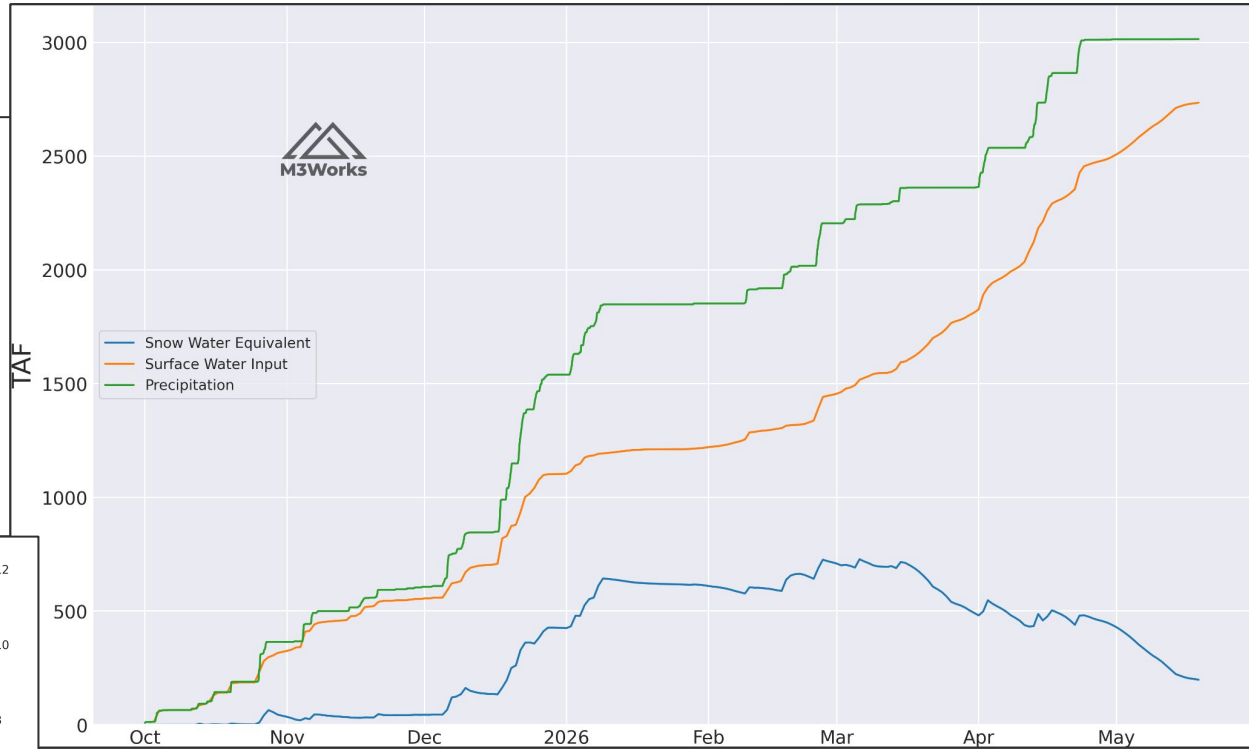


**Idaho
Department of
Water Resources**

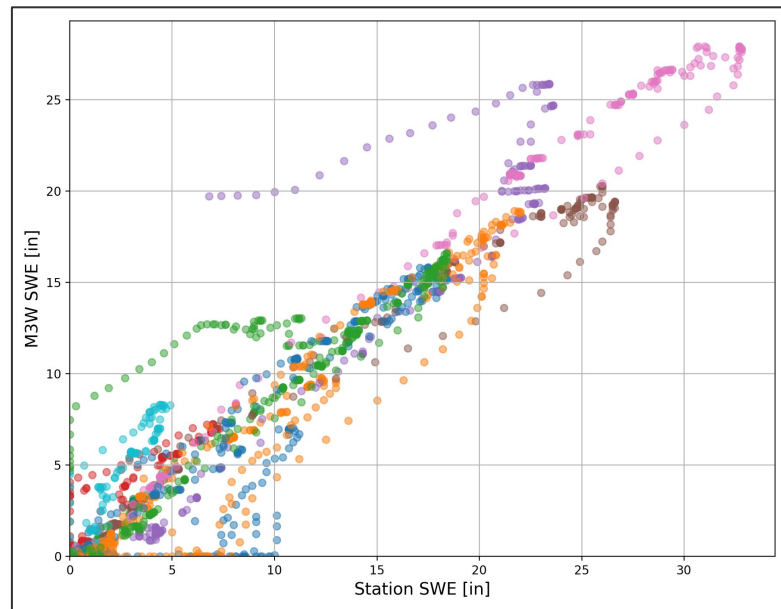
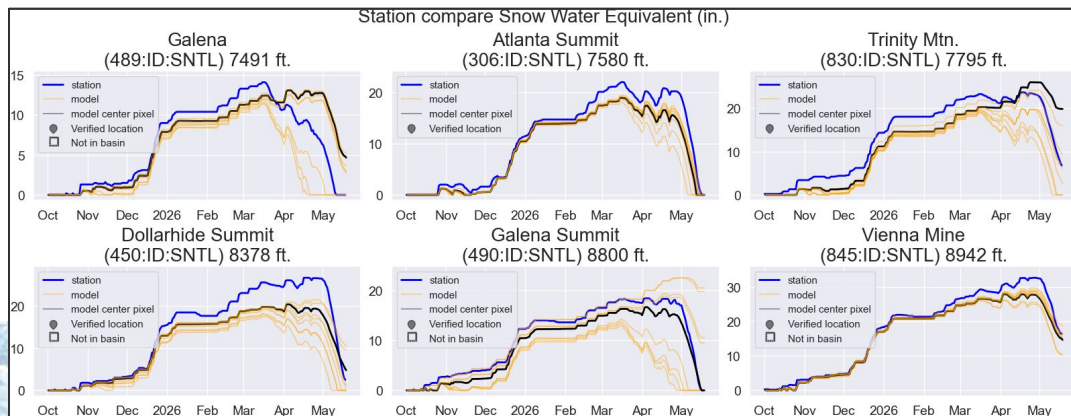
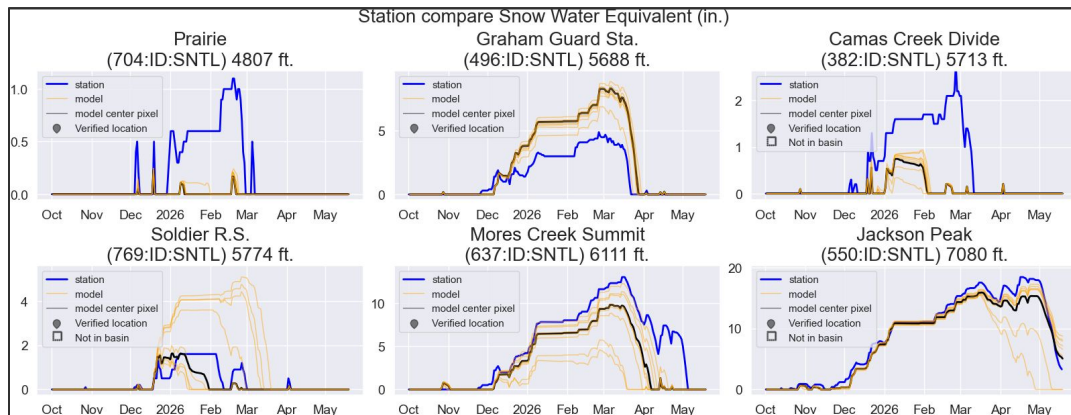


May 18

SWE: 198 KAF



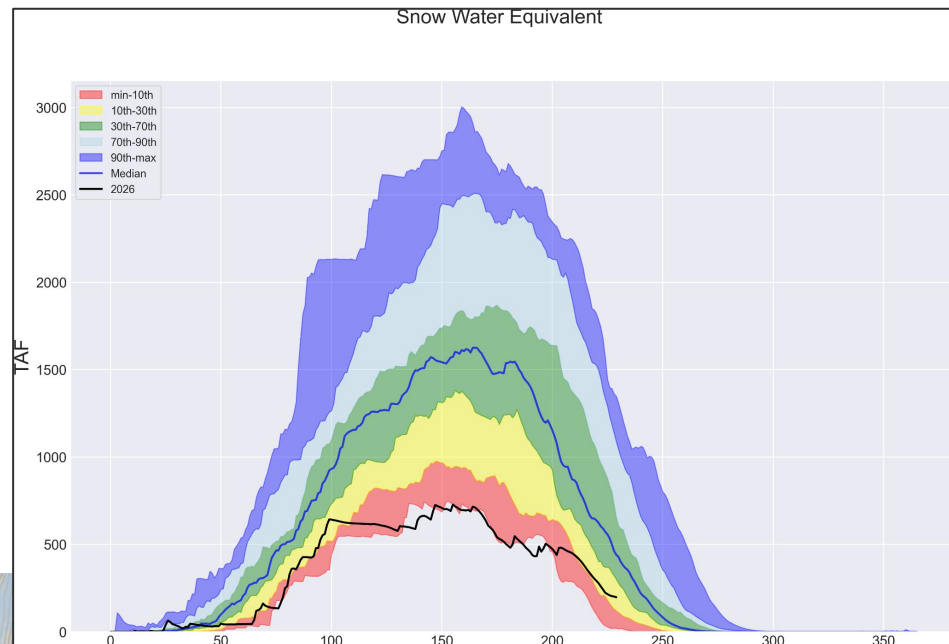
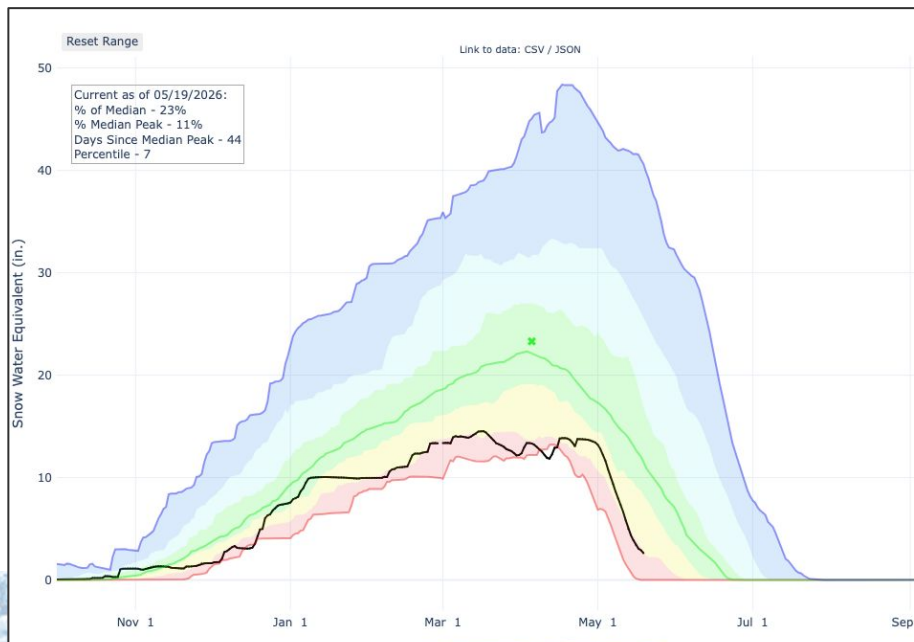
Validation



SNOTEL and M3W-iSnobal Normals

SNOTEL:
~**23%** of median

iSnobal:
~**45%** of median



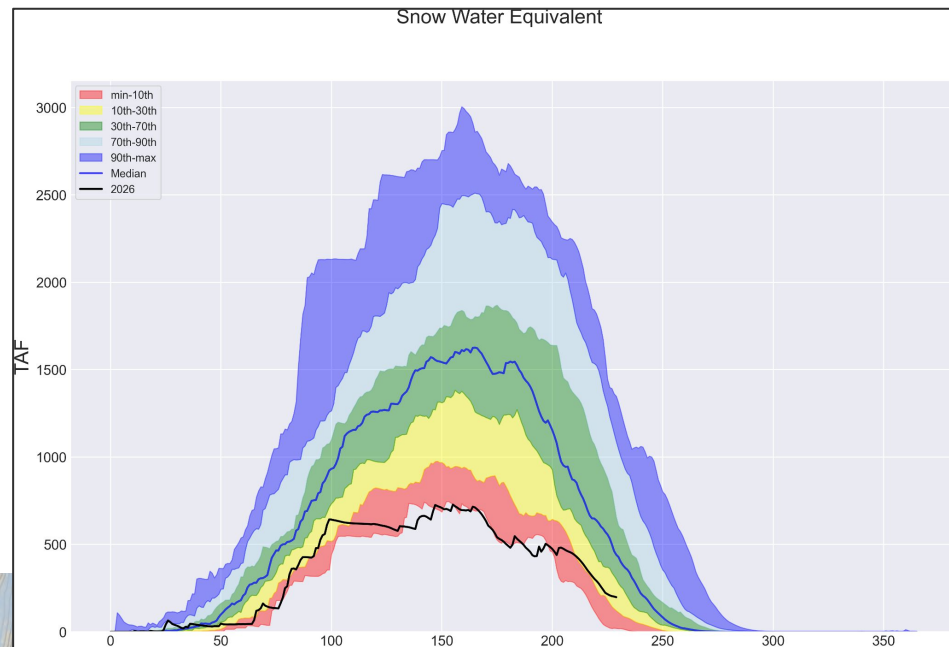
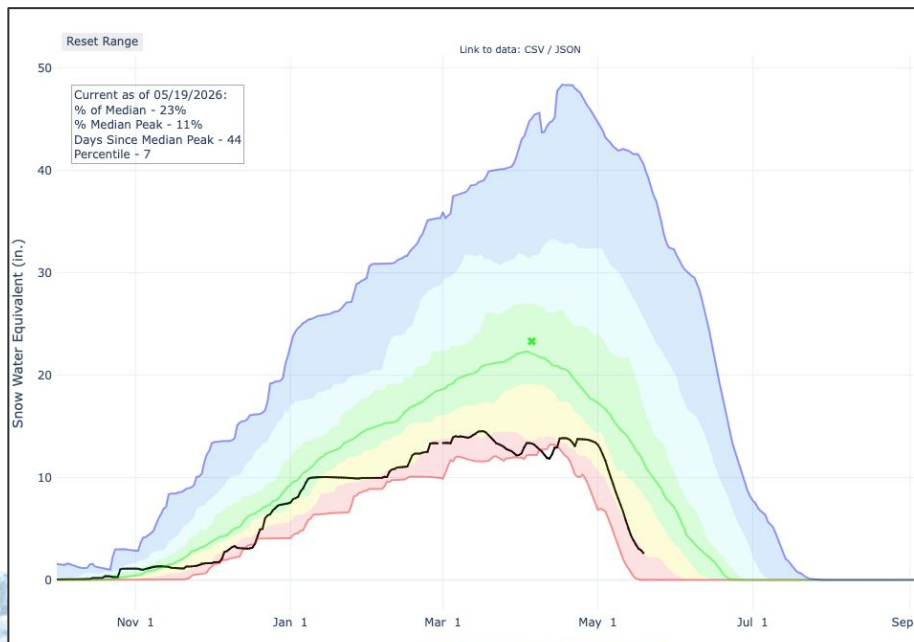
SNOTEL and M3W-iSnobal Normals May 1

SNOTEL:

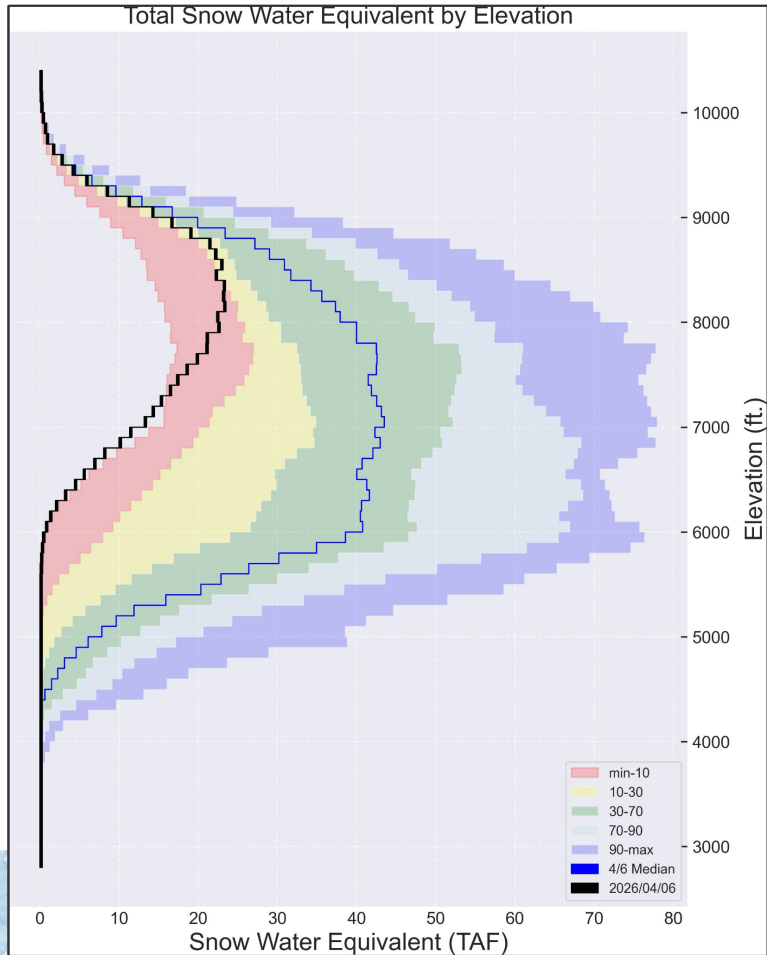
~**64%** of median

iSnobal:

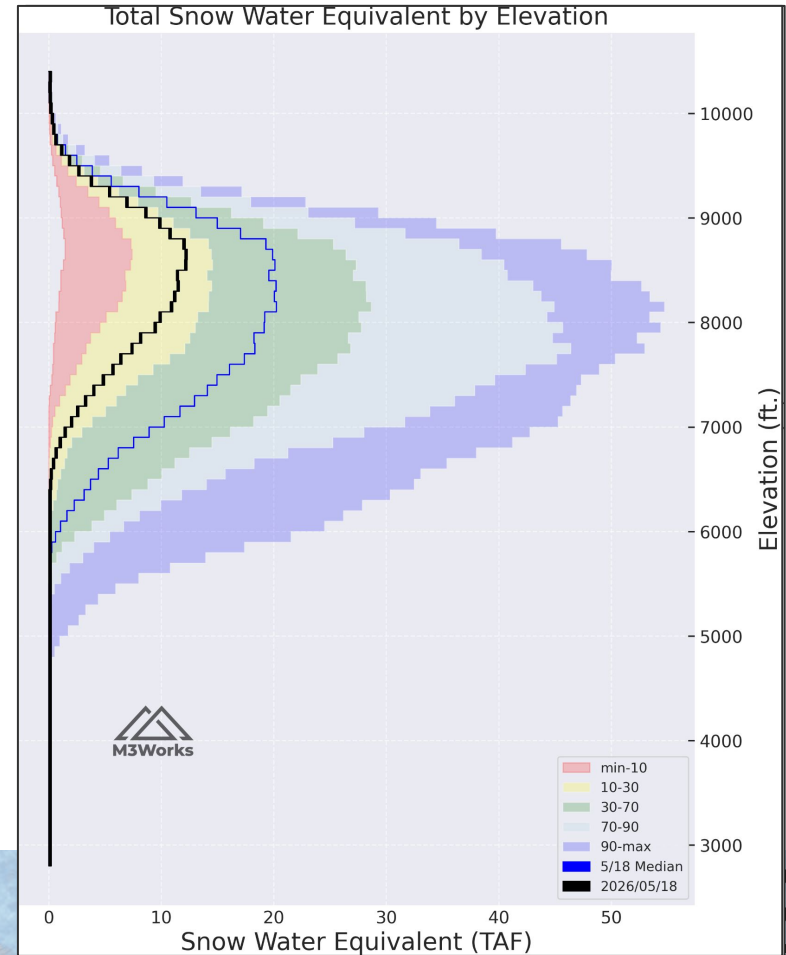
~**52%** of median



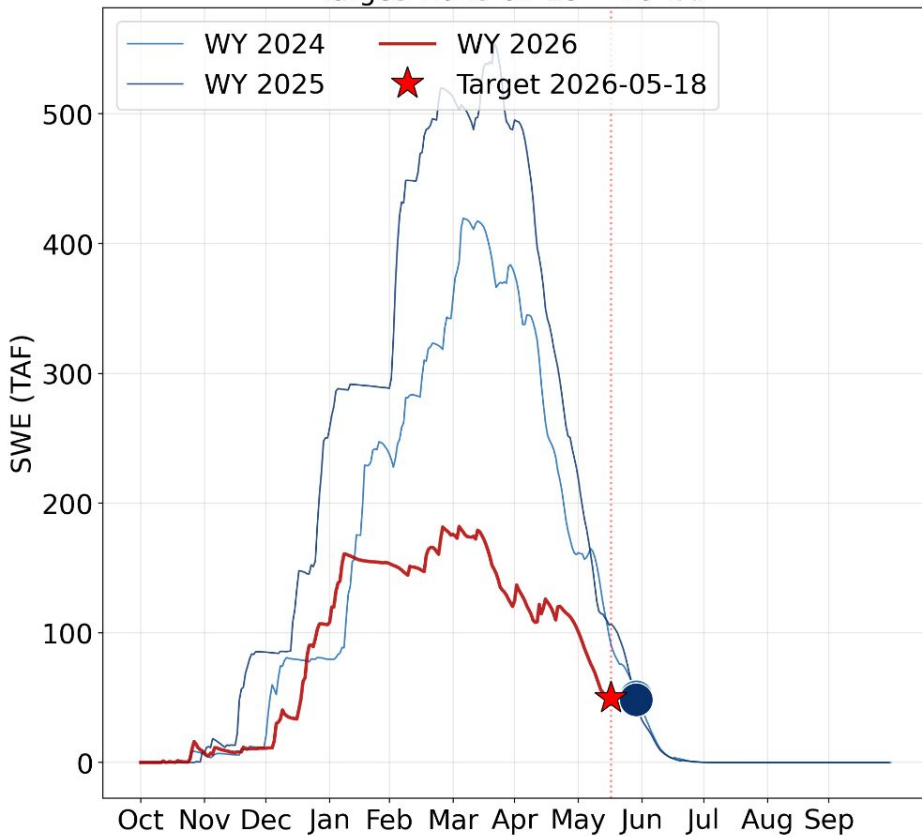
April 6



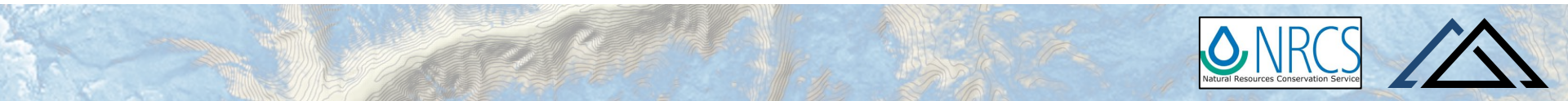
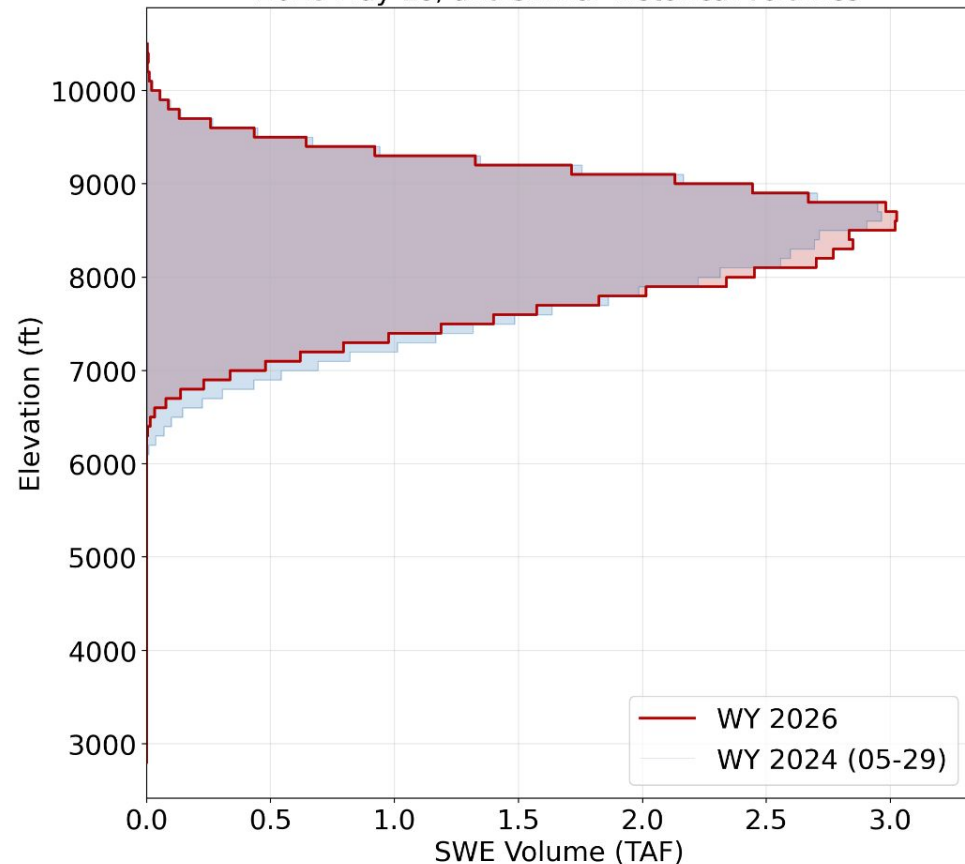
May 18



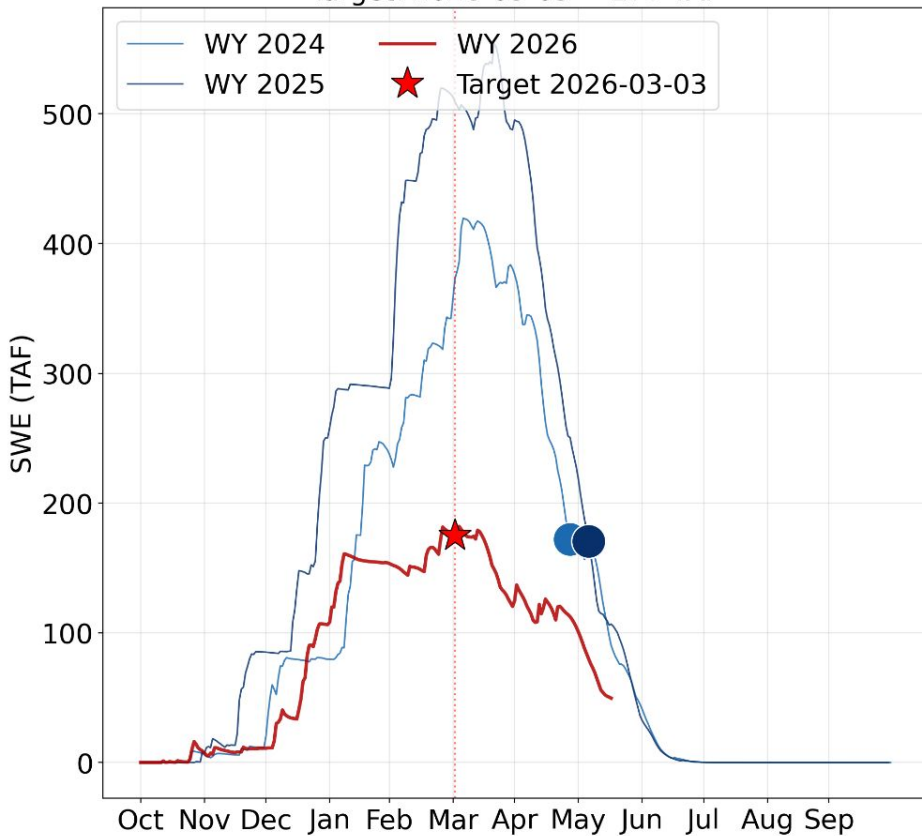
Boise - Multi-Year SWE Comparison
Target: 2026-05-18 = 50 TAF



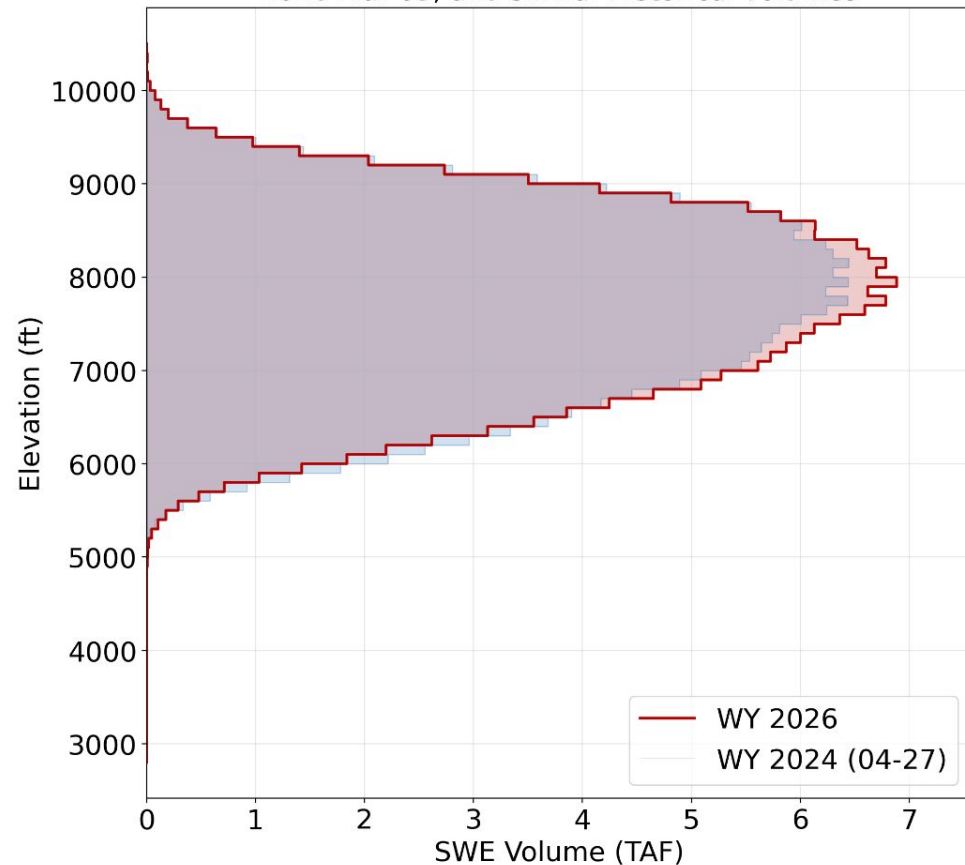
Boise - SWE by Elevation
2026 May 18, and similar historical volumes



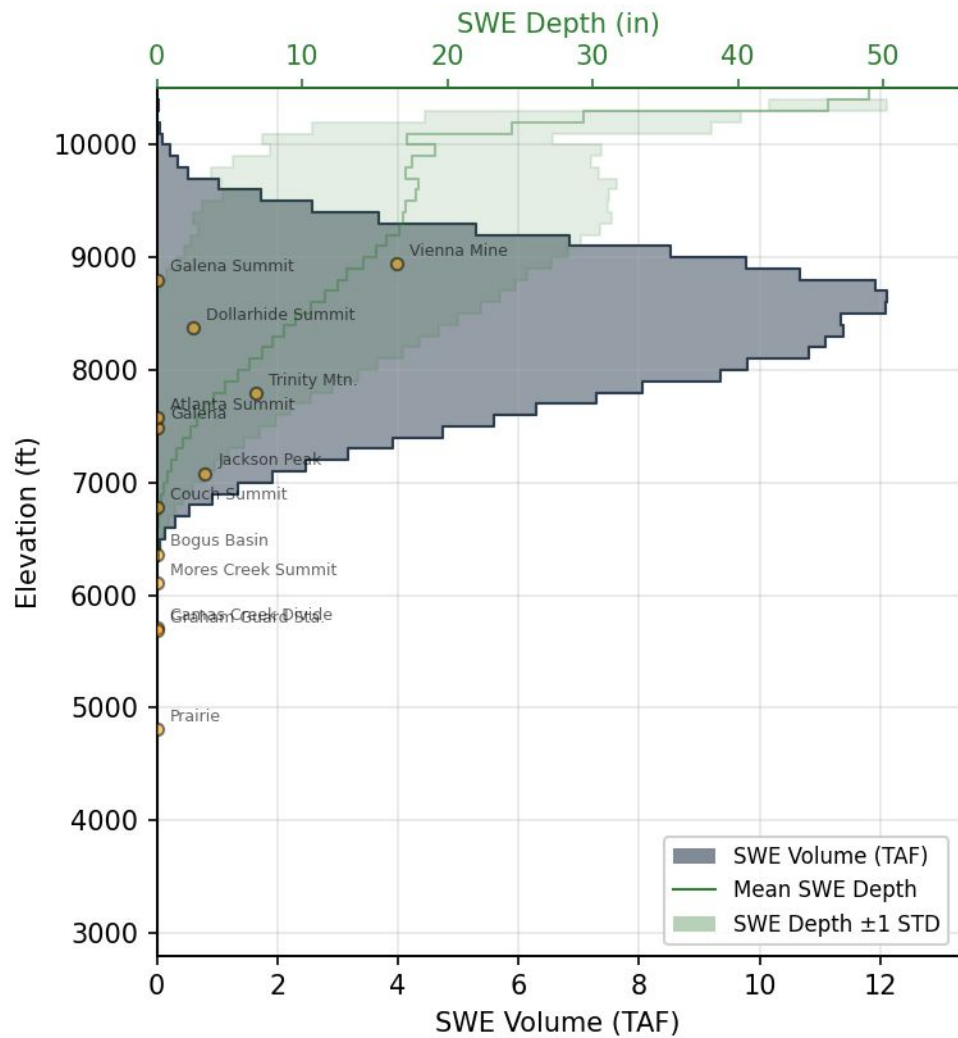
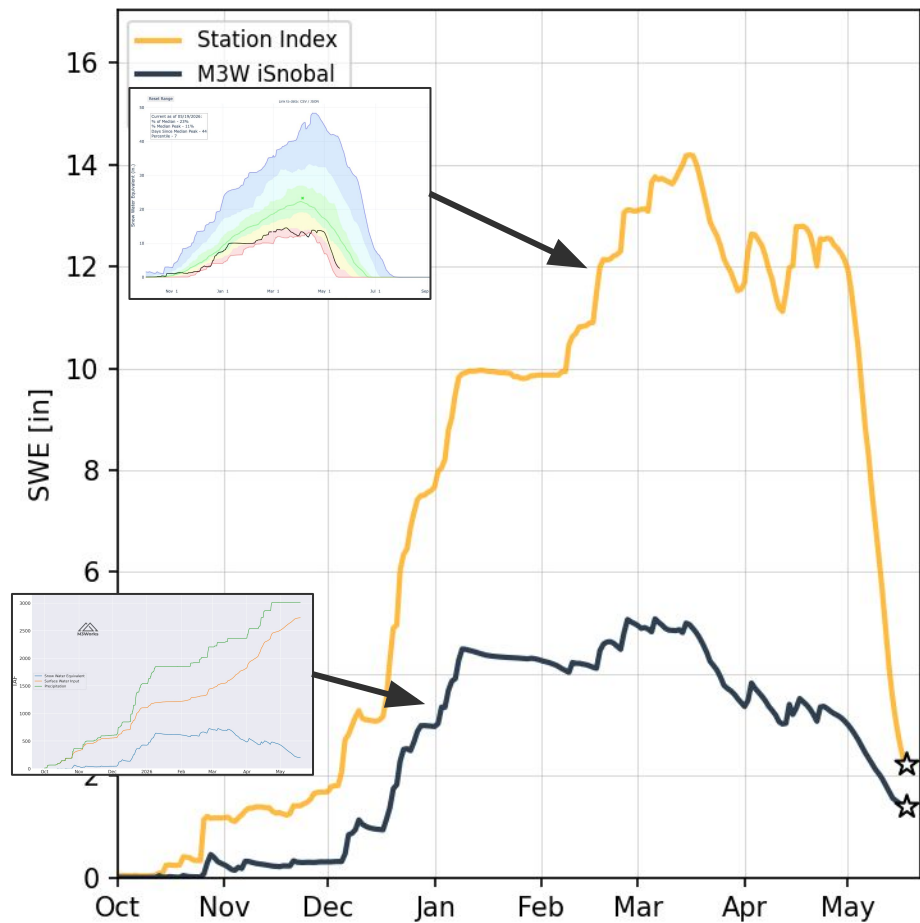
Boise - Multi-Year SWE Comparison
Target: 2026-03-03 = 175 TAF



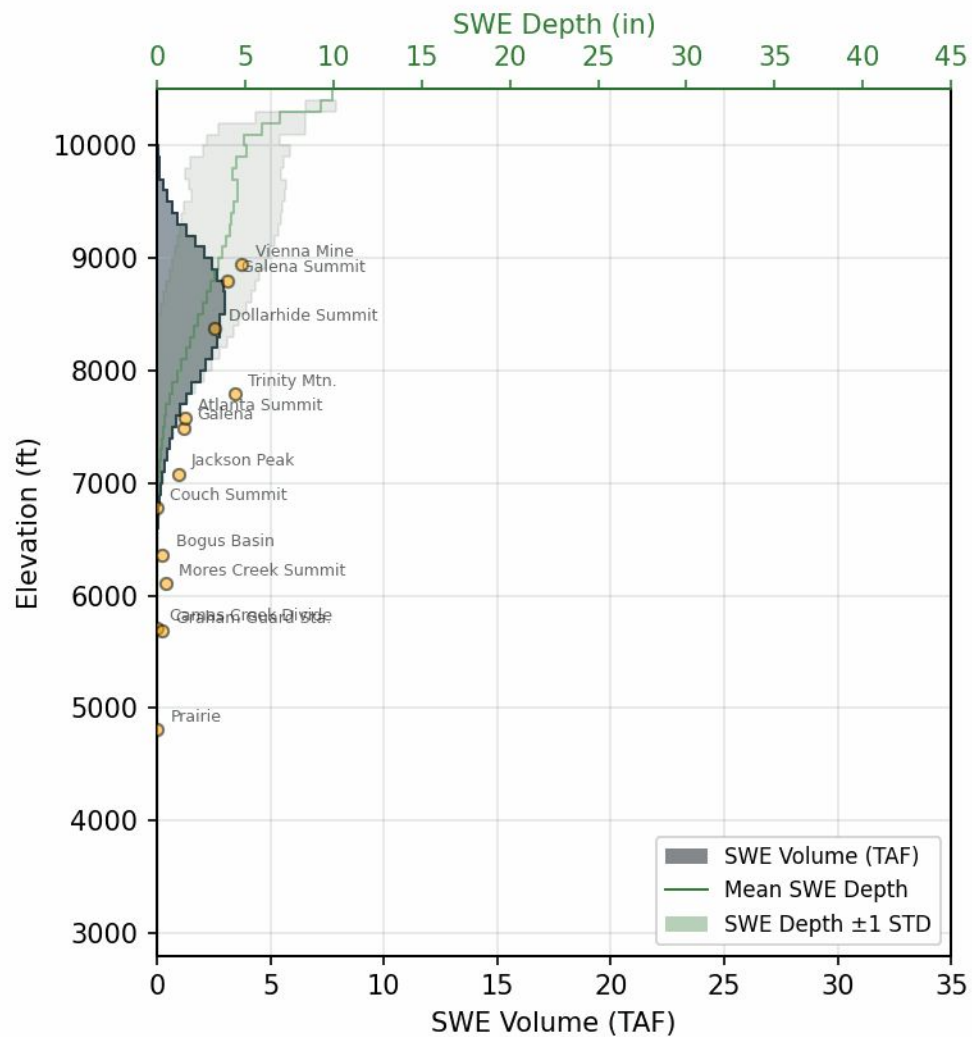
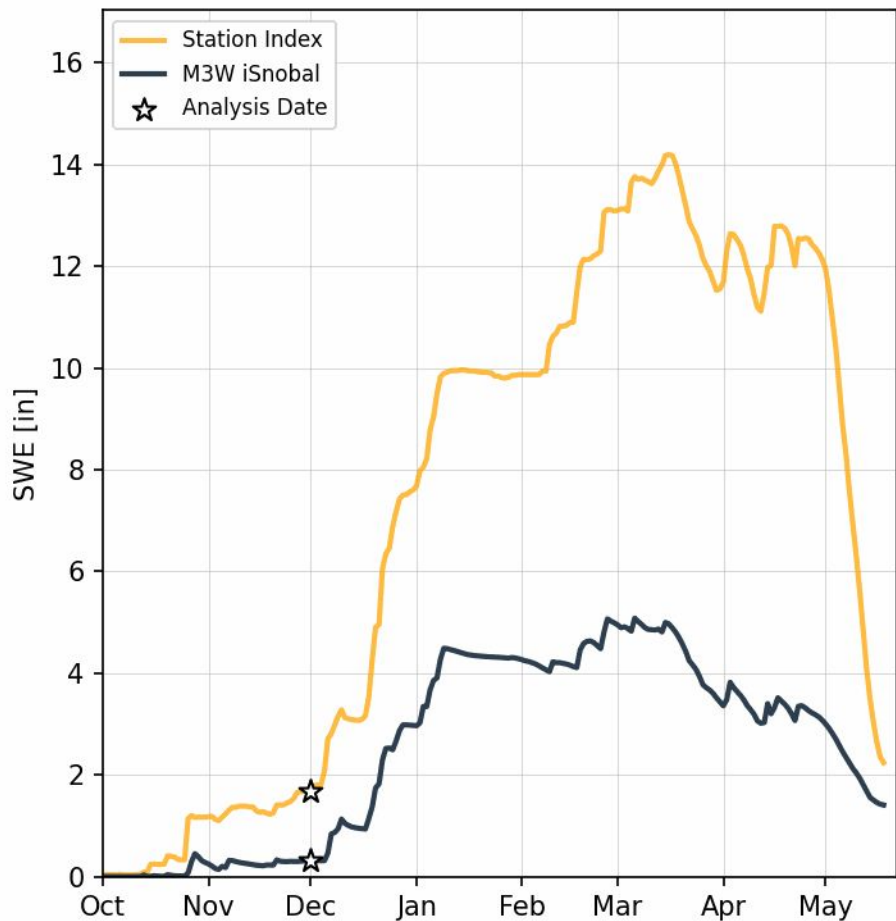
Boise - SWE by Elevation
2026 Mar 03, and similar historical volumes



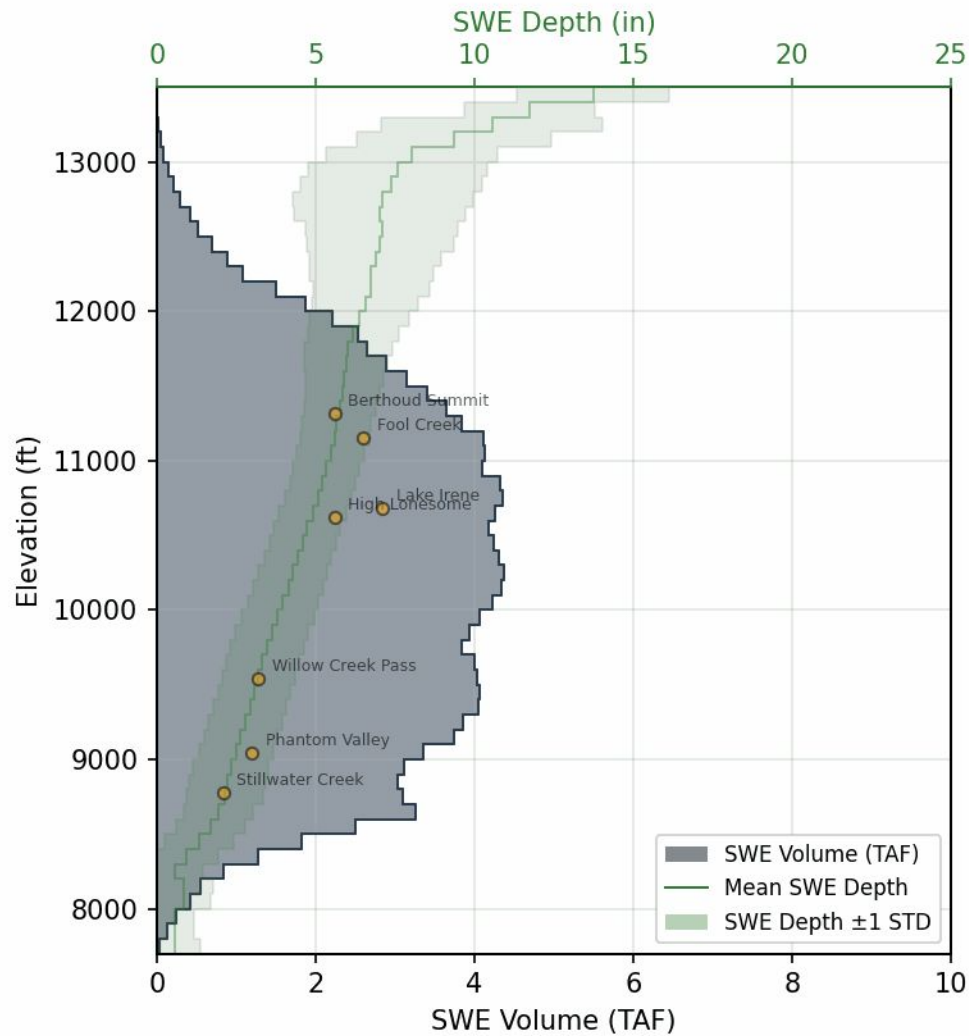
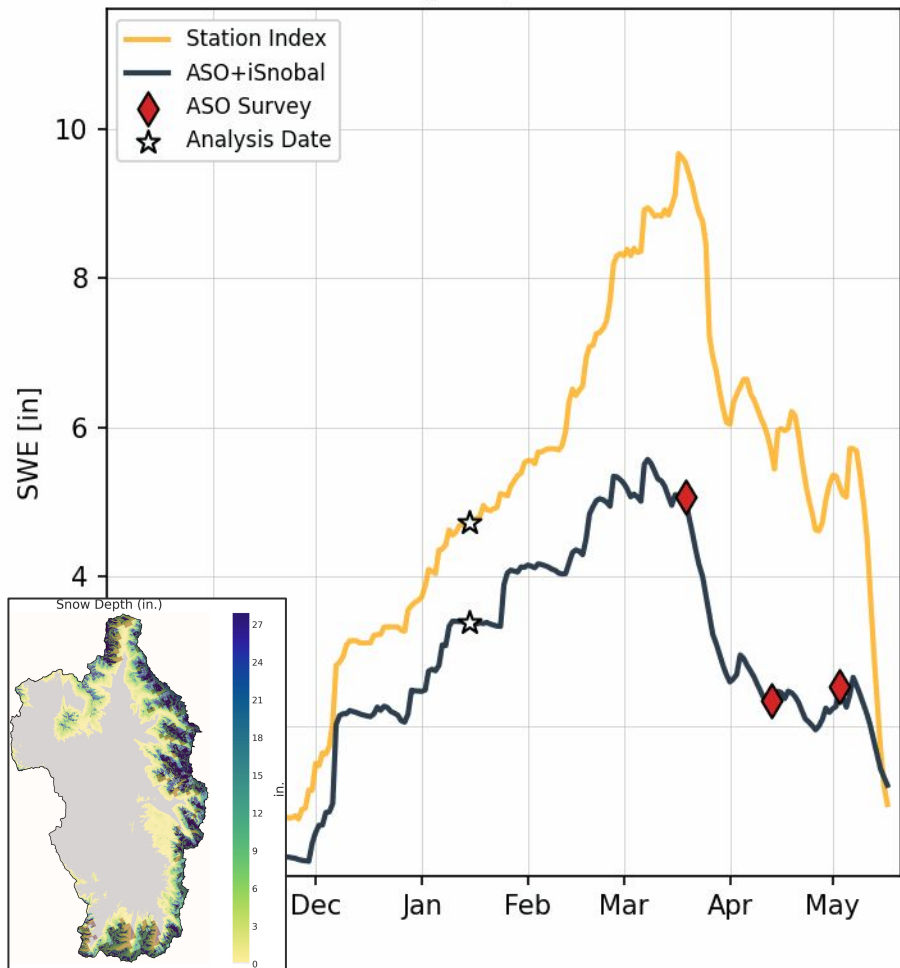
Boise WY2026



Boise WY2026



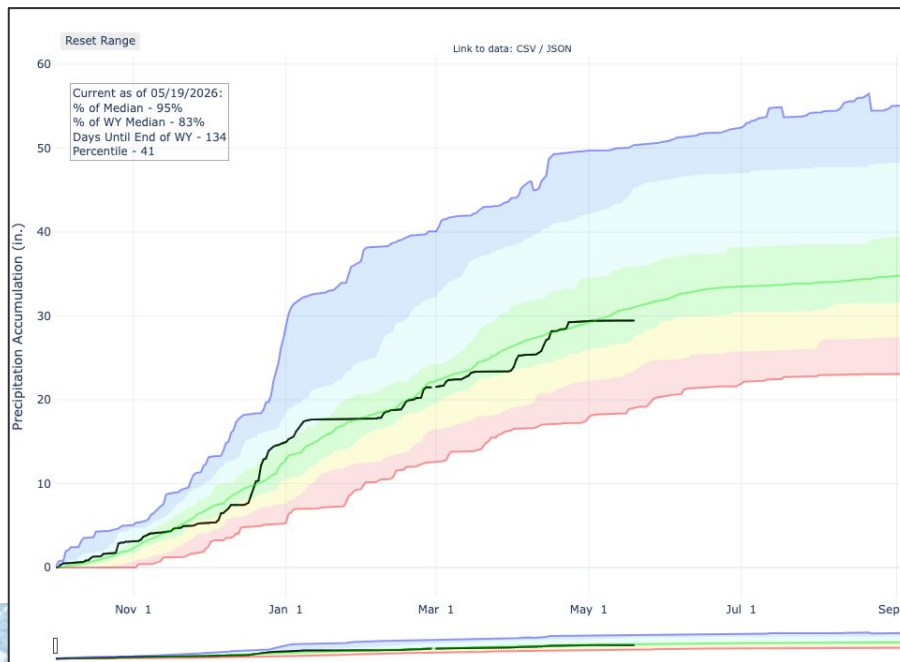
Windy Gap WY2026



SNOTEL and M3W-iSnobal Normals

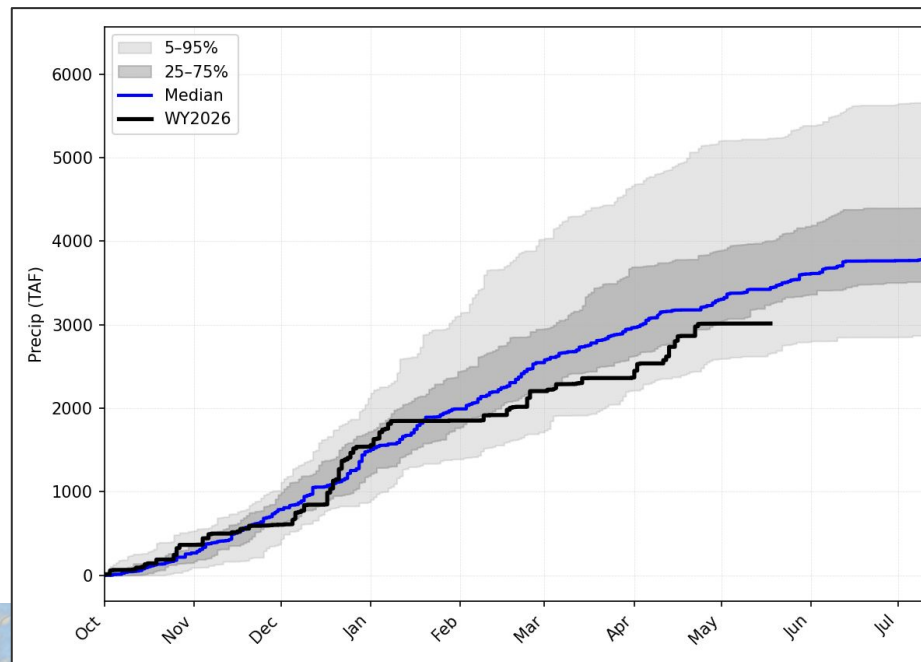
SNOTEL:

~**95%** of median

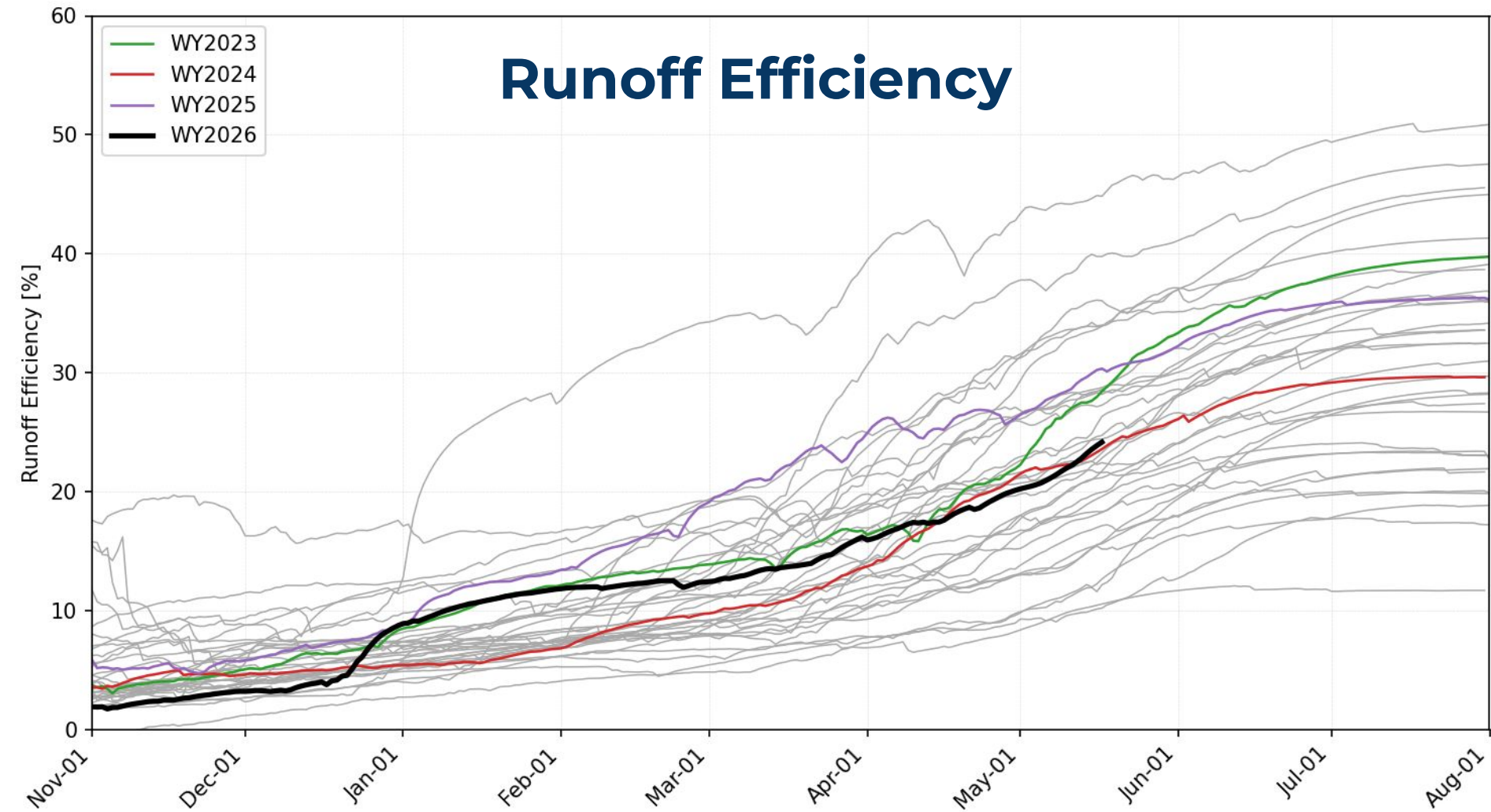


iSnobal:

~**87%** of median

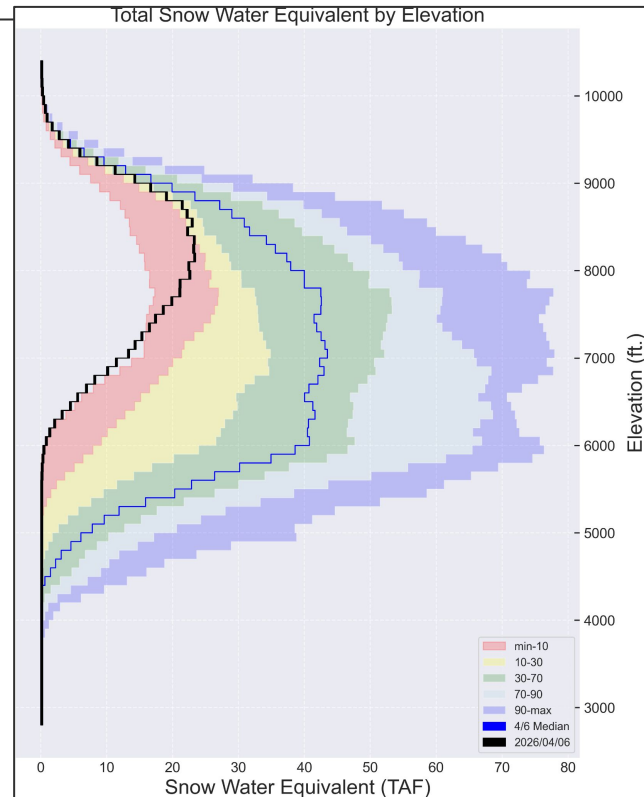


Runoff Efficiency



Takeaways From a Spatial Perspective

- Distributed modeling suggested less snow than snow pillows were showing beginning in January
- Snow courses in the Boise Basin shouldn't be overlooked
- December precipitation boosted runoff efficiency
- Record low snowpack below ~7,000'
- NRCS iSnobal modeling is expanding



**Natural
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**Idaho
Department of
Water Resources**



North Fork Clearwater

