NWW USACE Water Management Outlook

10 May 2023

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Glenwood Bridge, 6,000cfs
5/9/2023

U.S. ARMY

US Army Corps of Engineers®

CLEARWATER BASIN FORECAST

DATE	APR – JUL FORECAST
JANUARY 5	2,178 KAF / 88%
FEBRUARY 3	2,117 KAF / 86%
MARCH 3	2,344 KAF / 95%
April 3	2,521 KAF / 102%
May 3	2,620 KAF / 106%

- Current FRM requirement is no higher than 1,590ft by end of May, which is 10ft from full.
- With the observed & forecasted warmer temperatures, higher than normal runoff is forecasted in May.

DWORSHAK OPERATIONS

Usable Boat Ramp Elevations

Boat Ramp	Lake Elevation
Big Eddy	1445 – 1600
Bruce Eddy #1	1490 – 1600
Bruce Eddy #2	1560 – 1600
Canyon Creek	1560 – 1600
Dent Acres	1485 – 1600
Freeman Creek	1515 – 1600
Grandad	1530 – 1600

- High runoff expected through May
- Rapid rise of reservoir throughout May at rates up to 2-4ft/day
- Forecasting to be 15-20ft from full by Memorial Day

Flow and Storage/Space is based on 5/9/2023

BOISE BASIN CONDITIONS

<u>SWE at lower elevations on 4/27/2023 vs. 5/9/2023</u>

Prairie, 4800ft – 0in → 0in
Graham Guard Station, 5690ft – 12in → 1in
Camas Creek Divide, 5,710ft – 16in → 4.5in
Soldier R.S. 5740 ft – 7in → 0in

Snow above 6,100ft is above average, but has less volume remaining in the snowpack compared to other large years like 1996, 2006, 2017.

Values based on 5/9/2023

20 APR
Smiths Ferry
Stanley
Clayton
Garden Valley
Lowman
Ontario
Horseshoe Bend
Emmett
Idaho City
Robie Creek
Homedale
Meridian
Boise
Nampa
Fairfield
Mountain Home
Mountain Home Air Force Base
Grand View
Jordan Valley
Glenns Ferry
Gooding
Created 2023 Apr 20, 10:18 UTC
Inches of water equivalent
> 30
20 to 30
18 to 20
16 to 18
14 to 16
12 to 14
10 to 12
8 to 10
6 to 8
4 to 6
2 to 4
1 to 2
trace to 1
Not Estimated
Elevation in feet
> 13124
8203 to 13124
3281 to 8203
3 to 3281
< 3

7 May
Smiths Ferry
Stanley
Clayton
Garden Valley
Lowman
Ontario
Horseshoe Bend
Emmett
Idaho City
Robie Creek
Homedale
Meridian
Boise
Nampa
Fairfield
Mountain Home
Mountain Home Air Force Base
Grand View
Jordan Valley
Glenns Ferry
Gooding
Created 2023 May 7, 10:17 UTC
Inches of water equivalent
> 30
20 to 30
18 to 20
16 to 18
14 to 16
12 to 14
10 to 12
8 to 10
6 to 8
4 to 6
2 to 4
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SYSTEM FORECAST

- Forecast showing warm temperatures over next 10-days
- Precipitation is forecasted to be below average
- This all provides ideal conditions to continue melting the snowpack.

Flow and Storage/Space is based on 5/9/2023

LUCKY PEAK OPERATIONS

- Current operations will continue to have flows through Boise at 6,000cfs
- Possible reduction in flows in May but are highly dependent on how snow continues to runoff through next 5-15days.
- Expect flows above 3,000cfs through town throughout May

Flow and Storage/Space is based on 5/9/2023

SUMMARY

- Expecting to see higher inflows to the Boise system through next 10-day as snow continues to runoff.
- System remains **well positioned** to continue absorbing runoff with the remaining snowpack.
- Current flows from Lucky Peak will keep flows through town close to 6,000cfs for the immediate future.
- As we move through May expect incremental adjustments to reduce outflow as we manage a safe refill, with current snowpack, and the remaining risk.
- The river through Boise will continue to be very fast and deep, extreme caution should be used within proximity.
- Lake elevations in the Boise system and at Dworshak will be rising fast with high inflows and extreme caution should be used when launching, camping, or operating on/near the water.

QUESTION / COMMENTS

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