

#### STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

PO Box 47600, Olympia, WA 98504-7600 • 360-407-6000

#### Water Supply Availability Committee (WSAC)

Thursday, October 10, 2024, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Zoom: Click to join. (Call-in: 253.205.0468; Meeting ID: 816 5686 6078; Passcode: 038972)

#### Meeting Objectives – October:

- Share pertinent info and assess water supply conditions in Washington as we near fall.
- Share Ecology's process to update the permanent drought relief rule (WAC 173-166).

#### Agenda

Time	Agenda item	Responsible
10:00 a.m.	Welcome and agenda review	Caroline Mellor, Ecology
	Recap: Drought Declaration and implications	
10:10 a.m.	Update to Ecology's permanent drought rule	Danielle Gallatin, Ecology
	Rulemaking process & engagement options	
10:20 a.m.	Regional Climate Setting/ ENSO	Karin Bumbaco, OWSC
	Water Year meeting & survey	
10:35 a.m.	Streamflow and Groundwater	Nick Sutfin, USGS
10:50 a.m.	Yakima Project	Chris Lynch, BOR
11:00 a.m.	Water Supply Forecasts	Amy Burke, NWRFC
11:15 a.m.	Discussion – Updated: What concerns do folks	All participants
	have for drought recovery and Water Year 2025?	Ecology facilitates
11:25 a.m.	Wrap-up and next steps	Caroline Mellor, Ecology

#### Committee Purpose

WSAC provides an important consultative and advisory role to Ecology related to current and forecasted water supply conditions and whether the hydrologic drought threshold has been met or is forecasted to be met: seventy-five percent of normal water supply within a geographic area (RCW 43.83B.405 and WAC 173-166-050).

#### Resources

WSAC Website: <u>Water Supply Availability Committee - WA State Department of Ecology</u> Ecology Drought homepage: <u>Drought response - WA State Department of Ecology</u>

#### Contact

Committee Chair: Caroline Mellor, Statewide Drought Lead, WA Department of Ecology Caroline.Mellor@ecy.wa.gov | (c) 360.628.4666









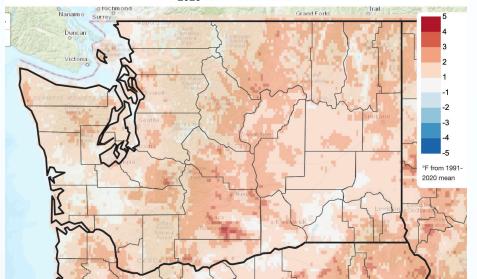
# Current Conditions and Seasonal Outlook

Karin Bumbaco
Office of the Washington State Climatologist
Climate Impacts Group
University of Washington
October 10, 2024

# Water Year 2024

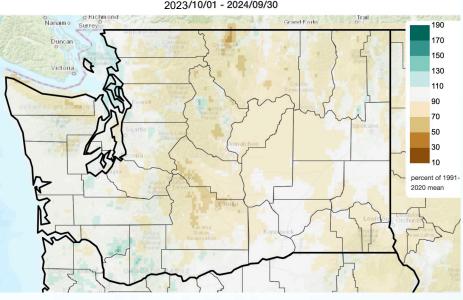
#### Temperature

Mean Daily Temperature Anomaly, Last Oct to Last Full Month 2023/10/01 - 2024/09/30



#### Precipitation

Total Precipitation Anomaly, Last Oct to Last Full Month 2023/10/01 - 2024/09/30



Climate Toolbox

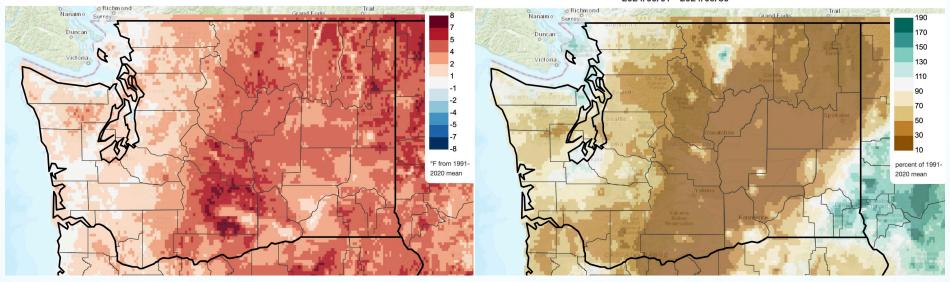
- Averaged statewide, the 2024 water year temperatures were about 1.3°F above normal\*
- Averaged statewide, the 2024 water year precipitation was about 90% normal

# September 2024

Temperature

Precipitation

Mean Daily Temperature Anomaly, Last Full Month 2024/09/01 - 2024/09/30 Total Precipitation Anomaly, Last Full Month



Climate Toolbox

- Averaged statewide, September temperatures were about 3.2°F above normal\*
- Averaged statewide, September precipitation was about 43% of normal

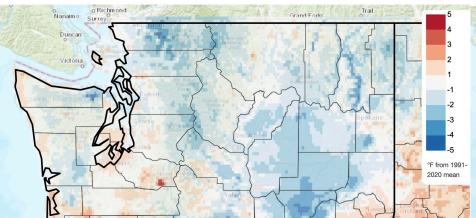
# September Rankings

Station	Temperature ranking	Temperature Anomaly (°F)	Precipitation Ranking	Period of Record
Wenatchee	Warmest	+4.5	Driest (tied)	1959
Omak	Warmest	+5.2	5 <sup>th</sup> driest	1998
Yakima AP	Warmest	+4.5	17 <sup>th</sup> driest	1946
Pullman	Warmest (tied)	+5.1 (*4 days missing)	16 <sup>th</sup> wettest	1940
Spokane Airport	2 <sup>nd</sup> warmest	+5.6	9 <sup>th</sup> driest	1881

# (First week of) October 2024

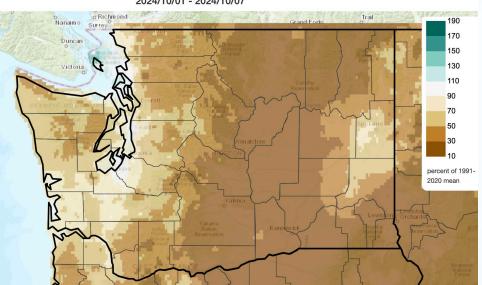
#### Temperature

Mean Daily Temperature Anomaly, Last 7 Days 2024/10/01 - 2024/10/07



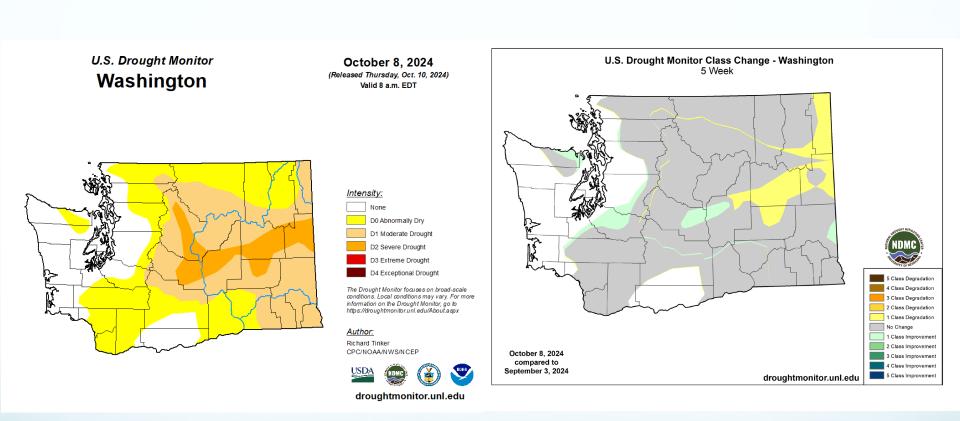
#### Precipitation

Total Precipitation Anomaly, Last 7 Days 2024/10/01 - 2024/10/07

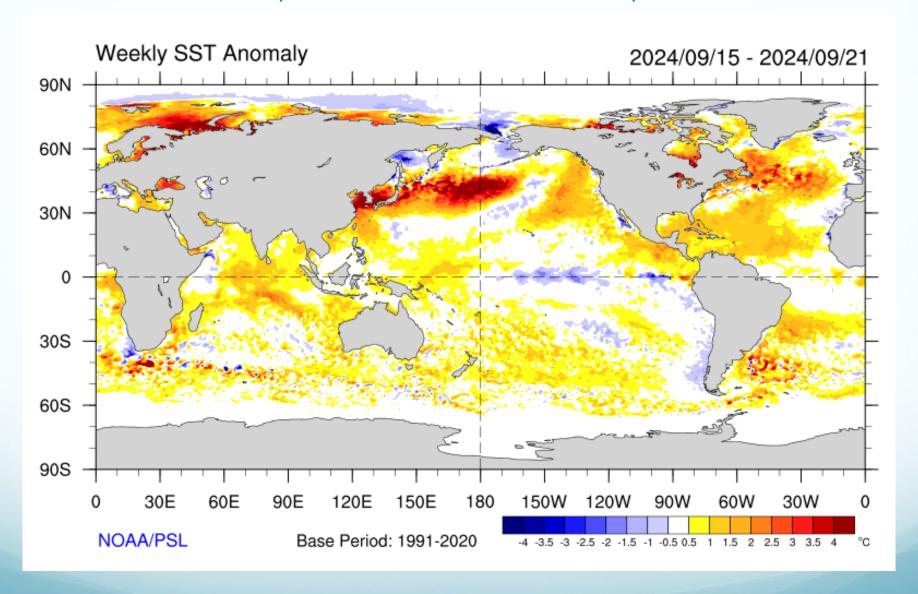


Climate Toolbox

# U.S. Drought Monitor

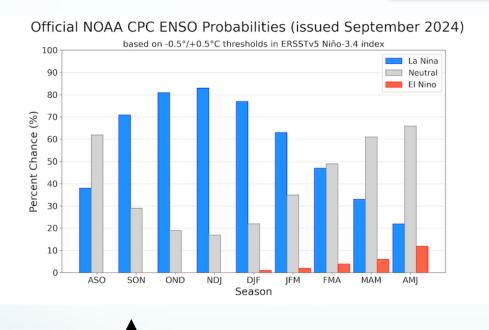


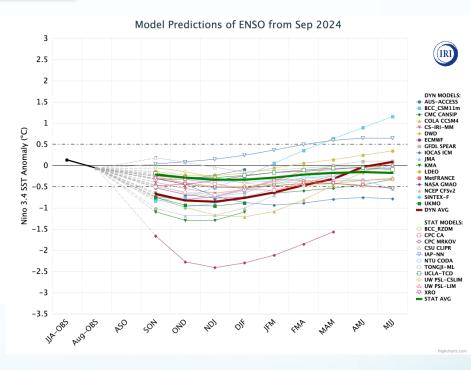
#### Sea Surface Temperature Anomalies: Sept 15-21, 2024



# Current Status: Neutral Conditions

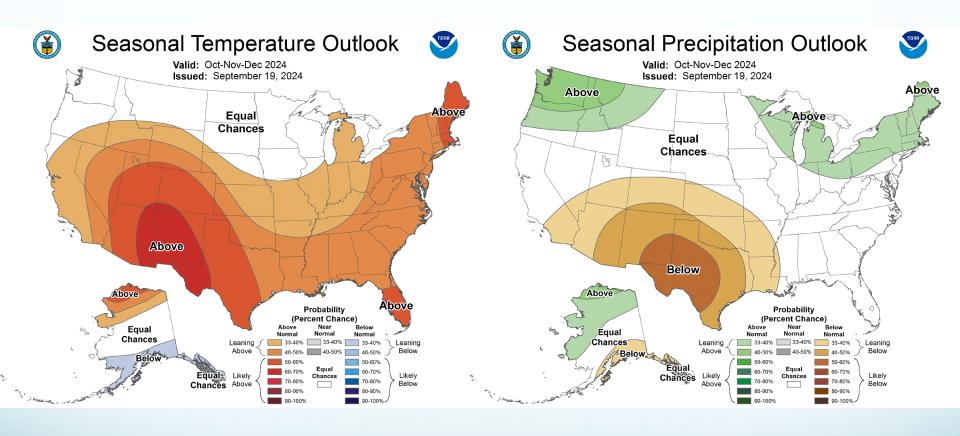
#### La Niña Watch



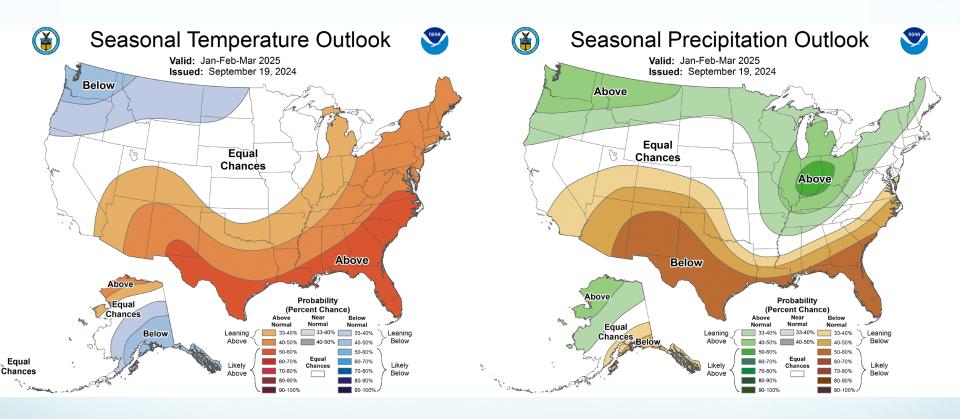


- Probabilities of La Niña have increased slightly and still expected to emerge over Sept-Nov
- Chances of a moderate to strong event are less than 50%

#### Climate Prediction Center Outlook: Oct-Dec



#### Climate Prediction Center Outlook: Jan-Mar



NMME shows near-normal temperatures during January-March

Better consistency among products for wetter than normal Jan-Mar.

# Oregon-Washington Water Year Meeting



**What**: Recap the weather and climate of water year 2024 and review sector-specific impacts

#### With presentations from:

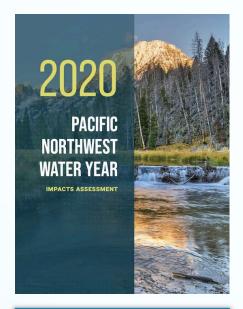
- Amy Burke (Retrospective on Water Year 2024 streamflow forecasts)
- Guillaume Mauger (Recap of WY2024)
- Michael Garrity (Resilient Columbia Basin Initiative)

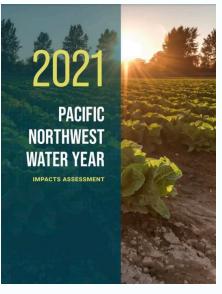
When: 9 am – noon on Tues, Oct 29 and

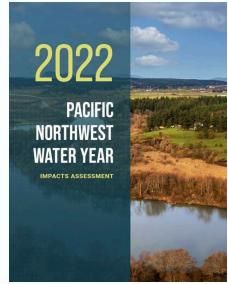
Wed, Oct 30

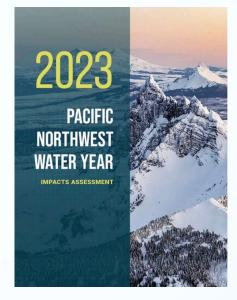
Where: Zoom

# PNW Water Year Impacts Assessment









2024

Your Input Here

Take the PNW 2024 Water Year Impacts Survey!



# Summary

- Water year 2024 was warmer than normal statewide and drier than normal for a majority of the state
- September precipitation was minimal across most of eastern WA with above normal temperatures statewide
  - Fall rain has not yet been consistent enough to claim drought recovery
- Weak La Niña is likely to develop by late Fall
- There are higher chances of above normal fall and winter precipitation; fall and winter temperatures are more uncertain



# Streamflow & Groundwater Conditions in Washington State as of 10 October 2024

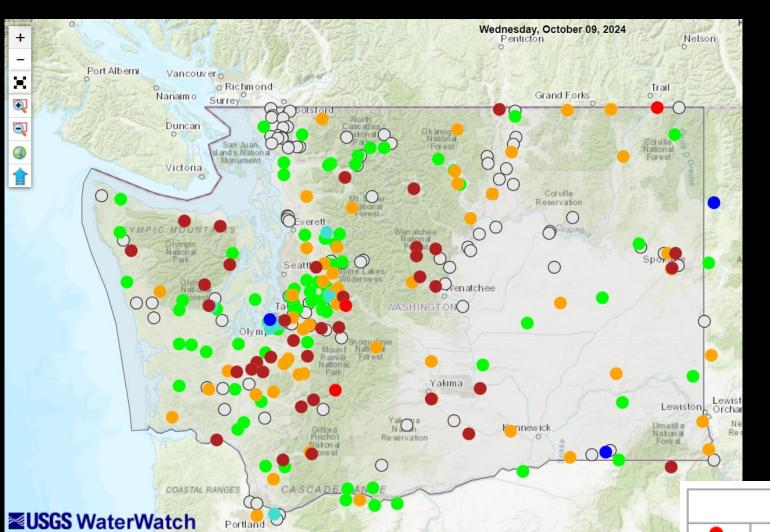
Presented on 10 October 2024
to the Washington Water Supply Availability Committee
by Nicholas Sutfin, nsutfin@usgs.gov
USGS Washington Water Science Center

This information is preliminary and is subject to revision. It is being provided to meet the need for timely best science. The information is provided on the condition that neither the U.S. Geological Survey nor the U.S. Government shall be held liable for any damages resulting from the authorized or unauthorized use of the information.



# 7-day Average Streamflow

Conditions as of 10 October 2024



Preliminary Information-Subject to Revision. Not for Citation or Distribution.

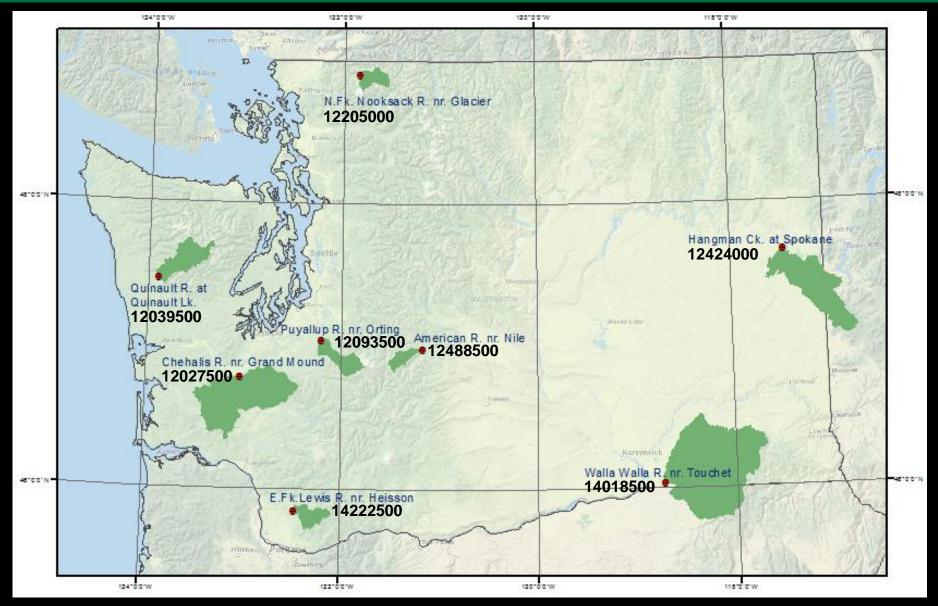
WaterWatch is scheduled to be discontinued in 2026

Explanation - Percentile classes 10-24 25-75 >90 <10 76-90 Record Record Not-ranked Much below Below Much above High Low Above Normal

https://dashboard.waterdata.usgs.gov/app/nwd/en/?aoi=state-wa



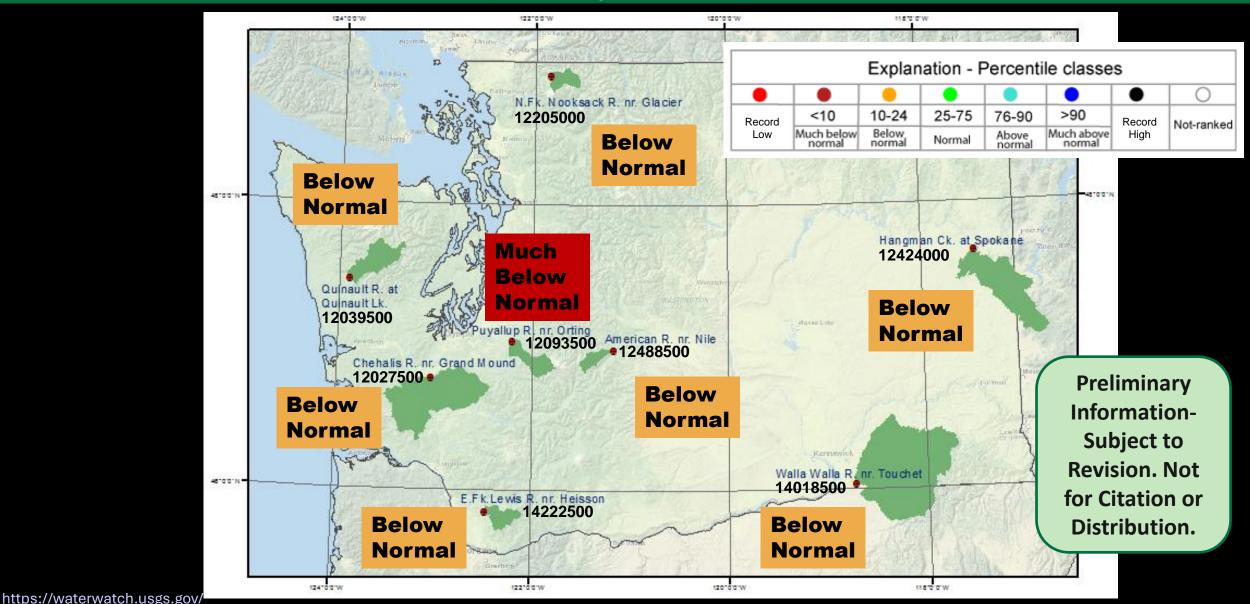
Index Gaging Stations
(Stations that measure natural or near-natural streamflow)





# **Index Gaging Stations**

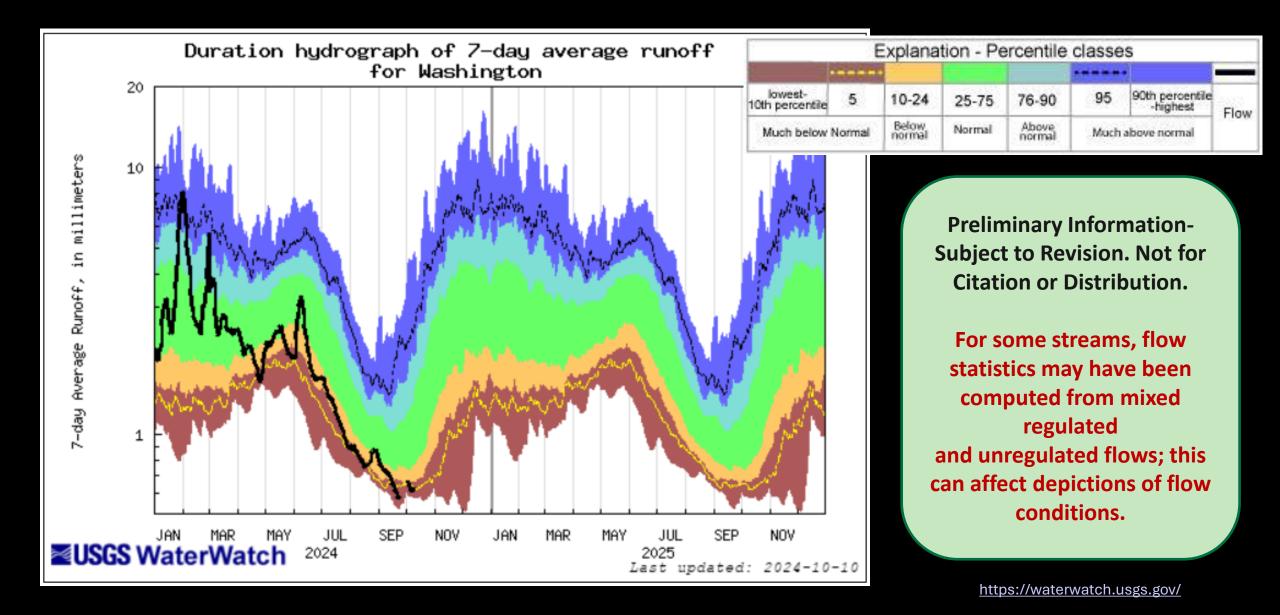
7-day average streamflow as of 10 October 2024



# **USGS**

# **Area-Based Runoff Duration Hydrograph**

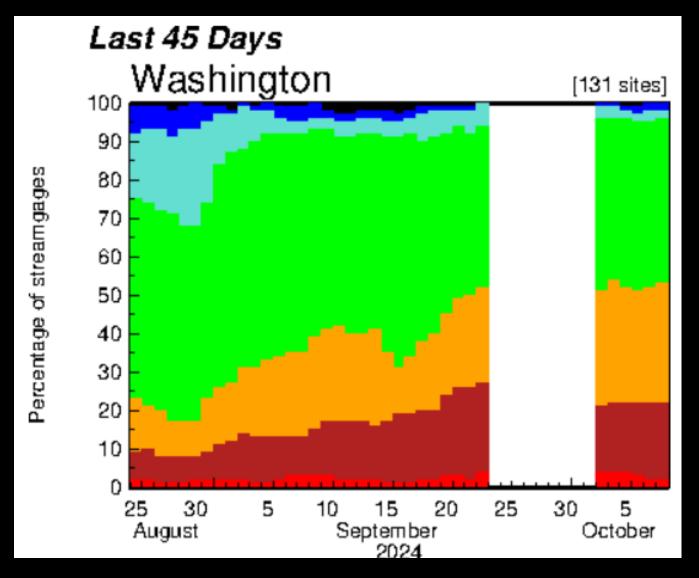
science for a changing world 7-day average streamflow as of 10 Oct. 2024 is ~much below normal

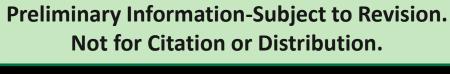


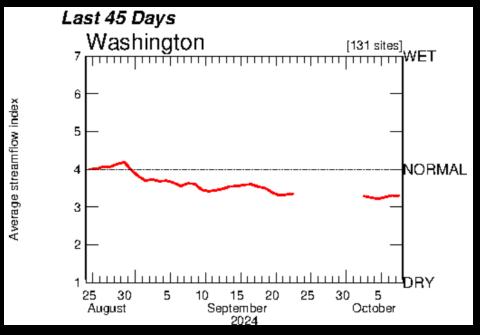


# 7-day average streamflow

Most USGS stream gages below normal as of 10 Oct. 2024





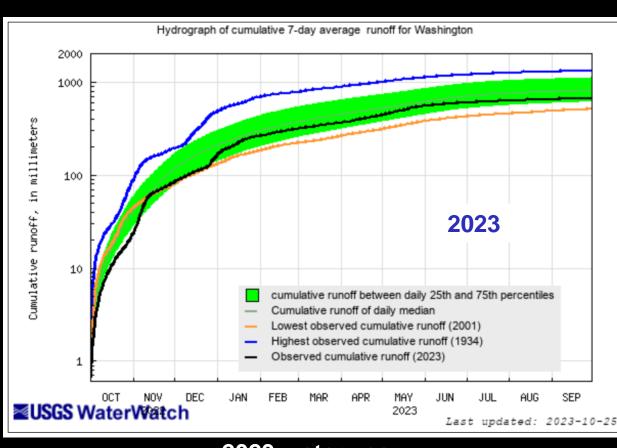


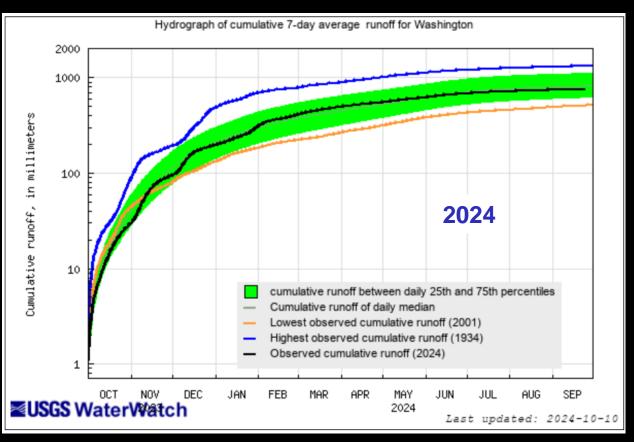
	Explan	ation -	Percent	ile class	ses	
Record	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	Decemb
Record Low	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	Record High



### Cumulative runoff hydrograph Area-based runoff based on 7-day average

#### Normal in 2024 as of 9 October





2023 water year

Area-based runoff may have been computed from mixed regulated and unregulated streamflows

https://waterwatch.usgs.gov/

2024 water year

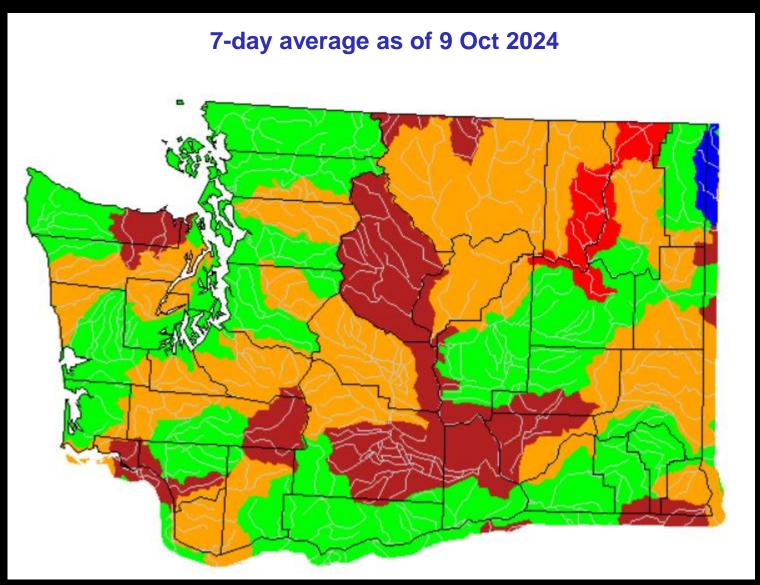
Preliminary Information-Subject to Revision.

Not for Citation or Distribution.



### **Average streamflow**

### compared to historical streamflow



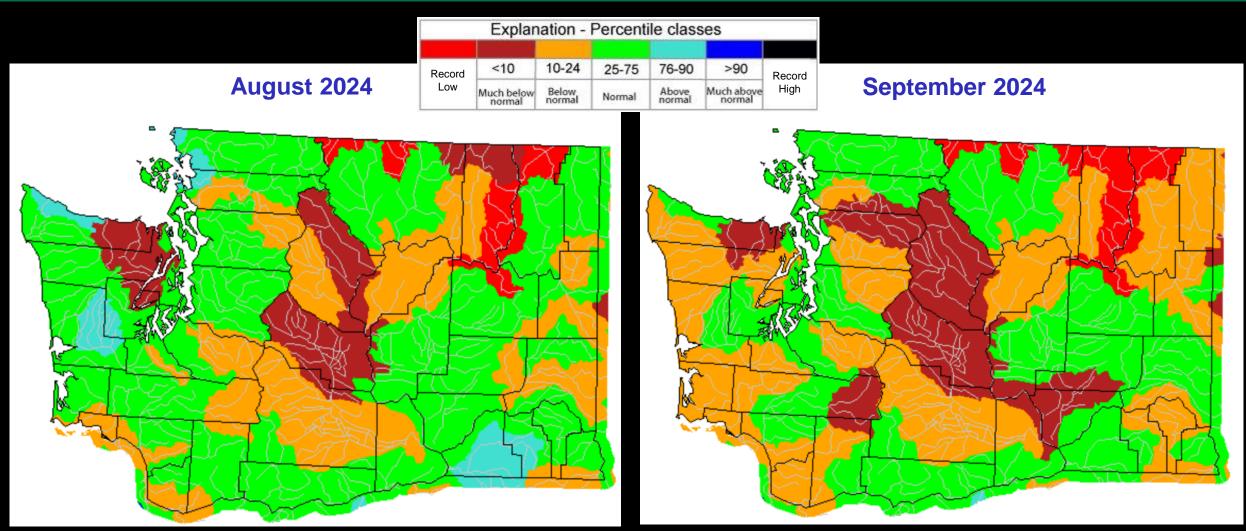
Explanation - Percentile classes									
Record	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	Record			
Low	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	High			

Preliminary Information-Subject to Revision. Not for Citation or Distribution.



# Monthly average streamflow

compared to historical streamflow

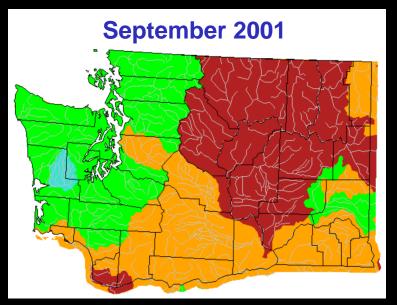


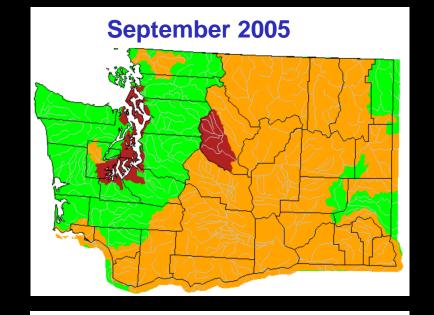
Preliminary Information-Subject to Revision. Not for Citation or Distribution.

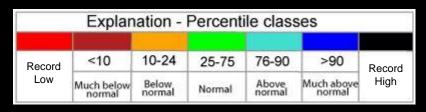


# September monthly average streamflow

compared to historical streamflow

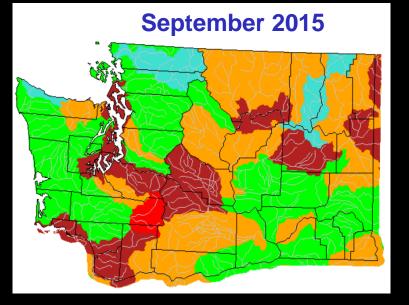


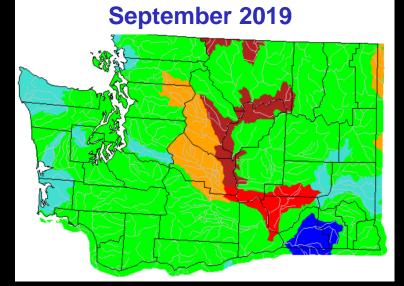


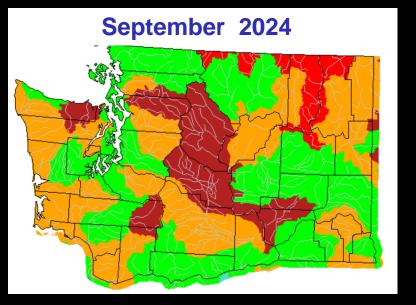


https://waterwatch.usgs.gov/

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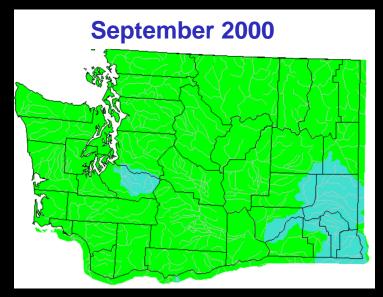


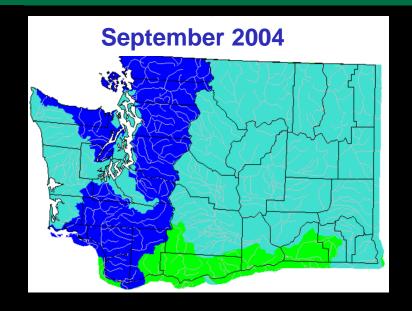


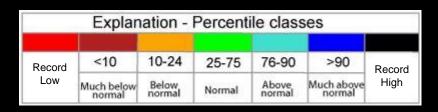


# September monthly average streamflow

compared to historical streamflow

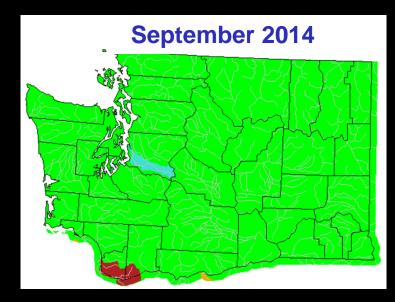


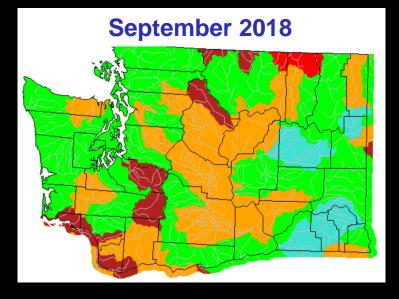


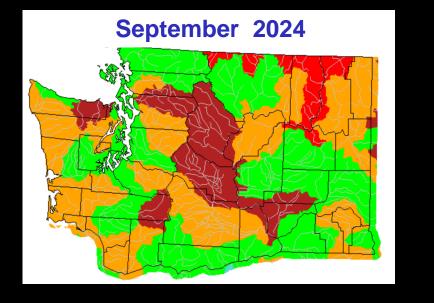


https://waterwatch.usgs.gov/

Preliminary Information-Subject to Revision. Not for Citation or Distribution.





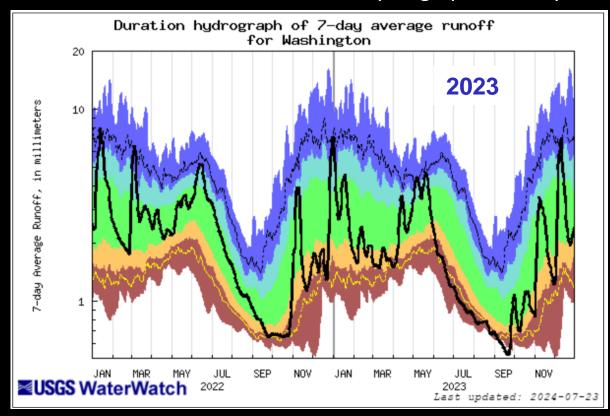


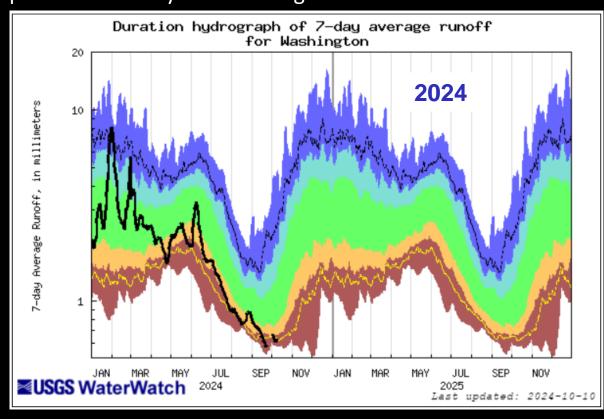


### **Area-Based Runoff Duration Hydrograph**

7-day average streamflow

#### Duration hydrograph for the year compared to recent years of drought



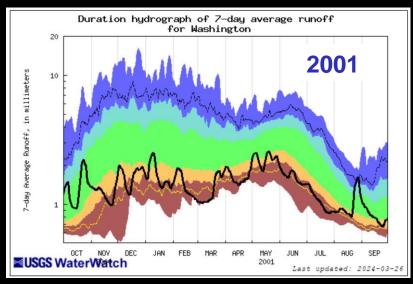


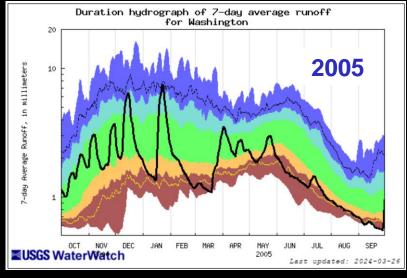
	E	xplana	tion - Pe	ercentile	classes	S	
							_
lowest- 10th percentile	5	10-24	25-75	76-90	95	90th percentile -highest	Flow
Much below Normal		Below normal	Normal	Above normal	A 100 PE 100 PE 100 PE	above normal	1.19000

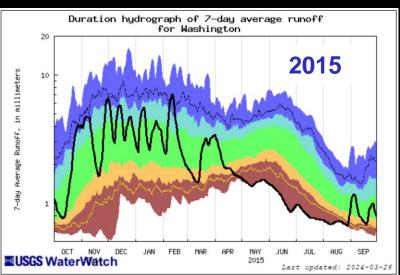


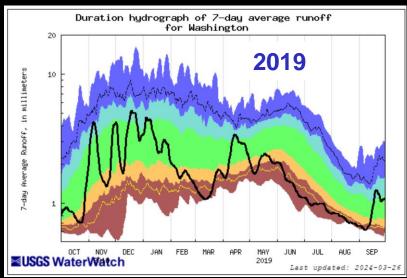
#### Area-Based Runoff Duration Hydrograph

7-day average streamflow

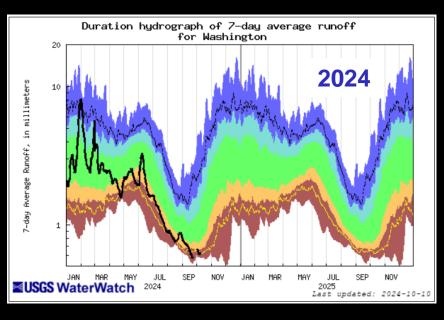








Duration hydrograph for the year compared to recent years of drought



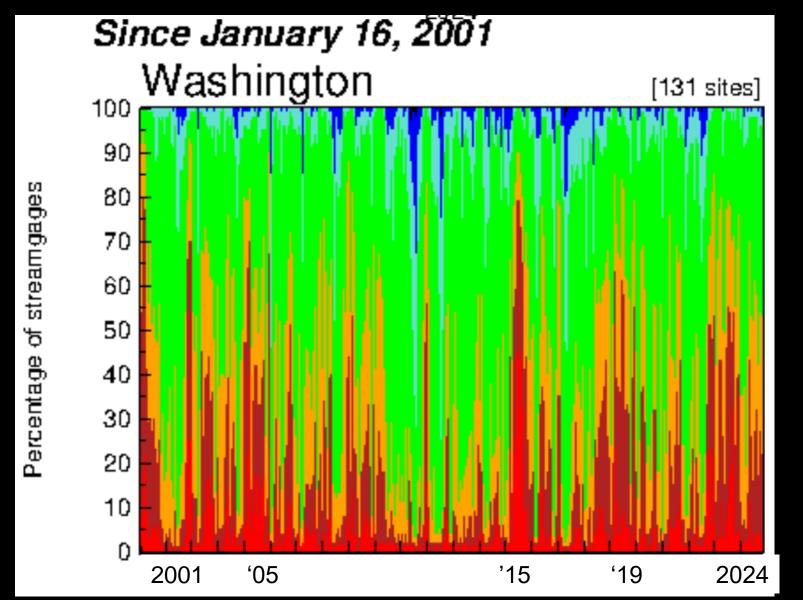
1	E	xplana	tion - Pe	ercentile	classe	s	
							_
lowest- 10th percentile	5	10-24	25-75	76-90	95	90th percentile -highest	Flow
Much below Normal		Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much	Much above normal	

Preliminary Information-Subject to Revision. Not for Citation or Distribution.



#### **Area-Based Runoff Duration Hydrograph**

7-day average streamflow



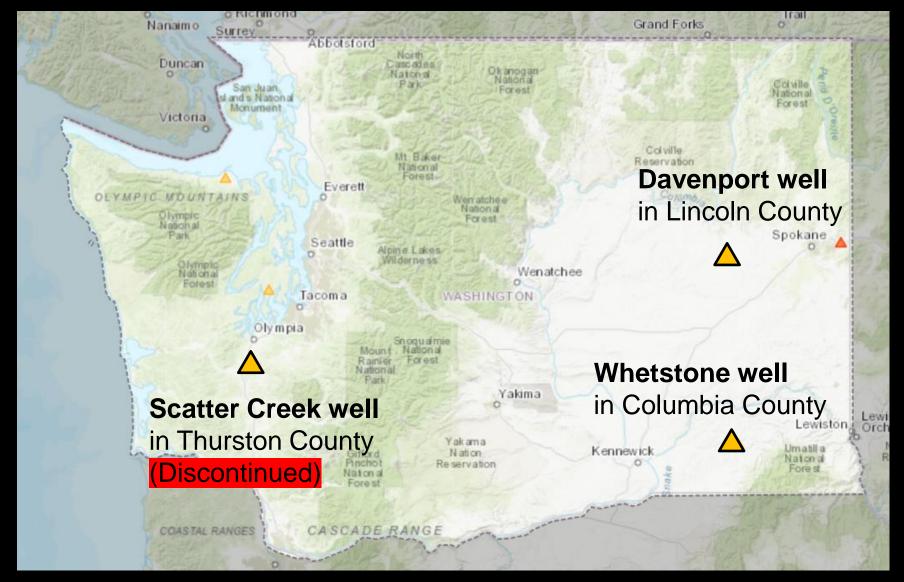
7-day average streamflow compared to historical conditions for 131 streamgages in Washington state.

	E	xplana	tion - Pe	ercentile	classe	es	
							_
lowest- 0th percentile	5	10-24	25-75	76-90	95	90th percentile -highest	Flow
Much below Normal		Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much	above normal	T. IOWA

Preliminary Information-Subject to Revision. Not for Citation or Distribution.



# Two reference groundwater wells

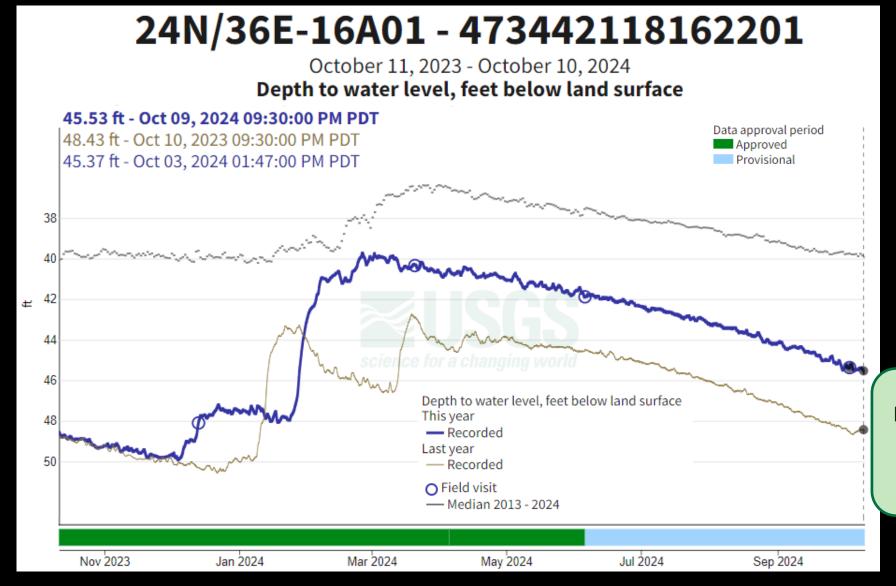


- All three groundwater
   Monitoring Network
   wells on the west side
   of the state are
   discontinued due to a
   lack of funding,
   including Scatter Creek
   well.
- Equipment has been removed or will be removed by Oct. 1.
- Three wells remain on the east side of the state.

Preliminary Information-Subject to Revision. Not for Citation or Distribution.



# **Davenport Well Groundwater Conditions**



### Davenport well

#### Well Details

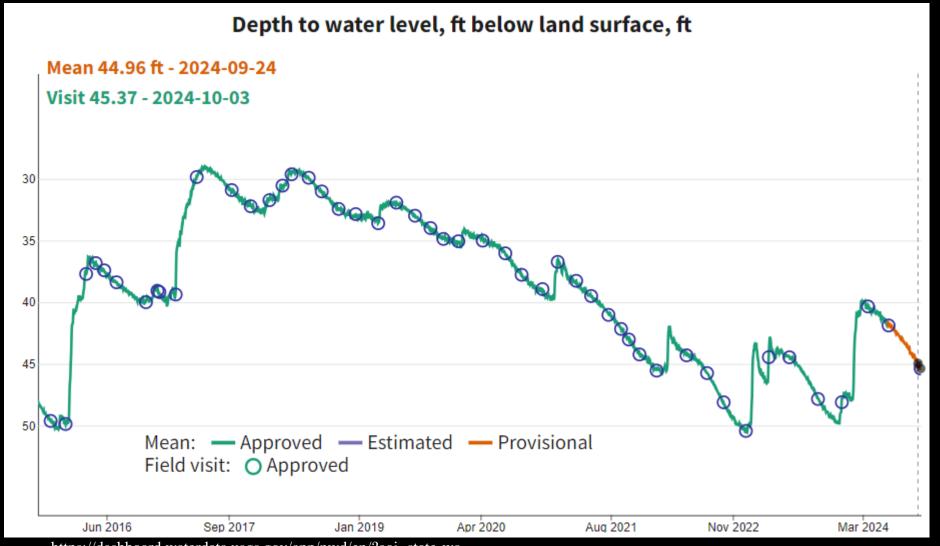
- Lincoln County
- 117-ft deep
- Wanapum Basalt

Preliminary Information-Subject to Revision. Not for Citation or Distribution.



# **Davenport Well Groundwater Conditions**

#### Well ID: 24N/36E-16A01 - 473442118162201



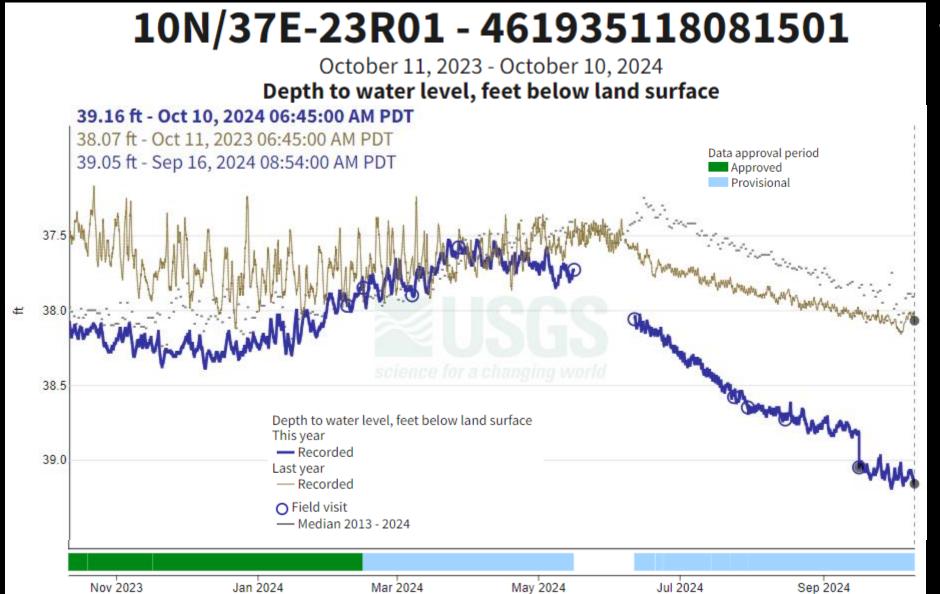
#### Well Details

- Lincoln County
- 117-ft deep
- Wanapum Basalt

Preliminary
InformationSubject to
Revision. Not for
Citation or
Distribution.



#### **Whetstone Well Groundwater Conditions**



### Whetstone well

#### Well Details:

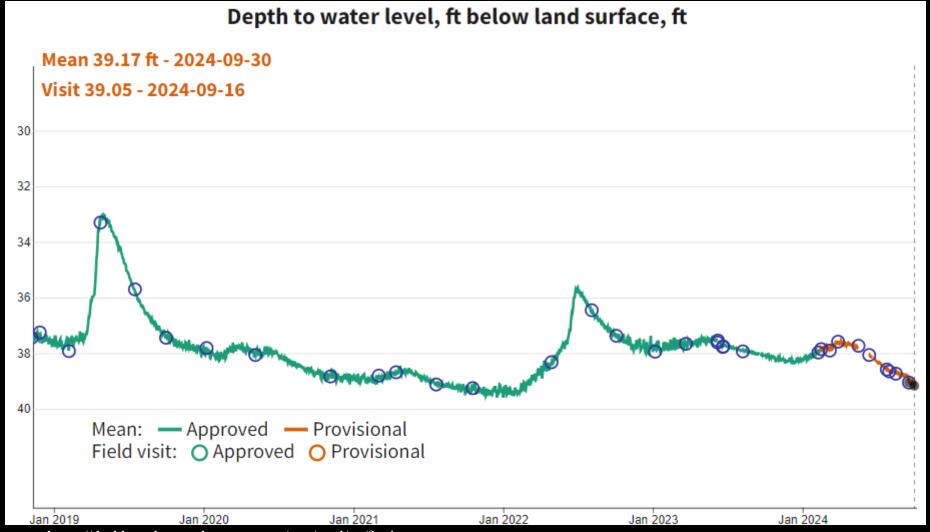
- ColumbiaCounty nearWaitsburg
- 172.5-ft deep
- Grande Ronde Basalt Formation

Preliminary Information-Subject to Revision. Not for Citation or Distribution.



#### Whetstone Well Groundwater Conditions

#### Well ID: 10N/37E-23R01 - 461935118081501



#### Well Details:

- ColumbiaCounty nearWaitsburg
- 172.5-ft deep
- Grande Ronde Basalt Formation

Preliminary
InformationSubject to
Revision. Not for
Citation or
Distribution.



# Summary of Washington Streamflow and Groundwater Conditions as of 10 Oct. 2024

# 7-day average streamflow at eight index gaging stations:

#### **Below Normal**

- Quinault River
- Chehalis River nr. Grand Mound
- EF Lewis RiverNF Nooksack River
- Hangman Creek
- Walla Walla River
- American River

#### **Much Below Normal**

Puyallup River nr. Orting

# Cumulative Runoff Hydrograph Much Below Normal

#### **Monthly average groundwater conditions:**

- Davenport well
  - below median
  - above 2023
- Whetstone well
  - below median
  - below 2023

Preliminary Information-Subject to Revision. Not for Citation or Distribution.

# NWS

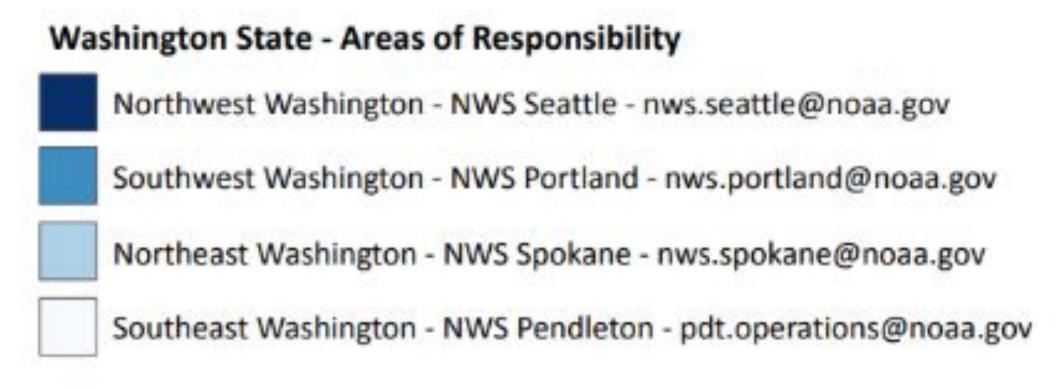
# October 2024 Washington Water Supply

Amy Burke, Sr Hydrologist - Northwest River Forecast Center NWRFC.watersupply@noaa.gov

Brent Bower, Sr Service Hydrologist Seattle Andy Bryant, Sr Service Hydrologist Portland Robin Fox, Service Hydrologist Spokane George Perry, Service Hydrologist Pendleton

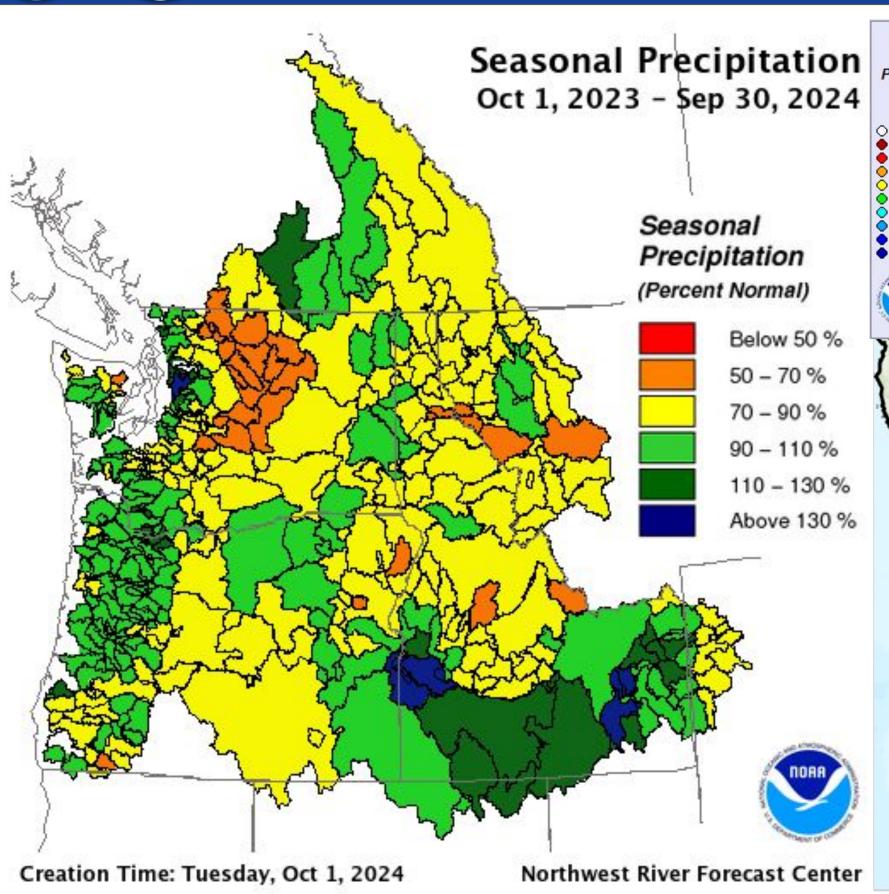


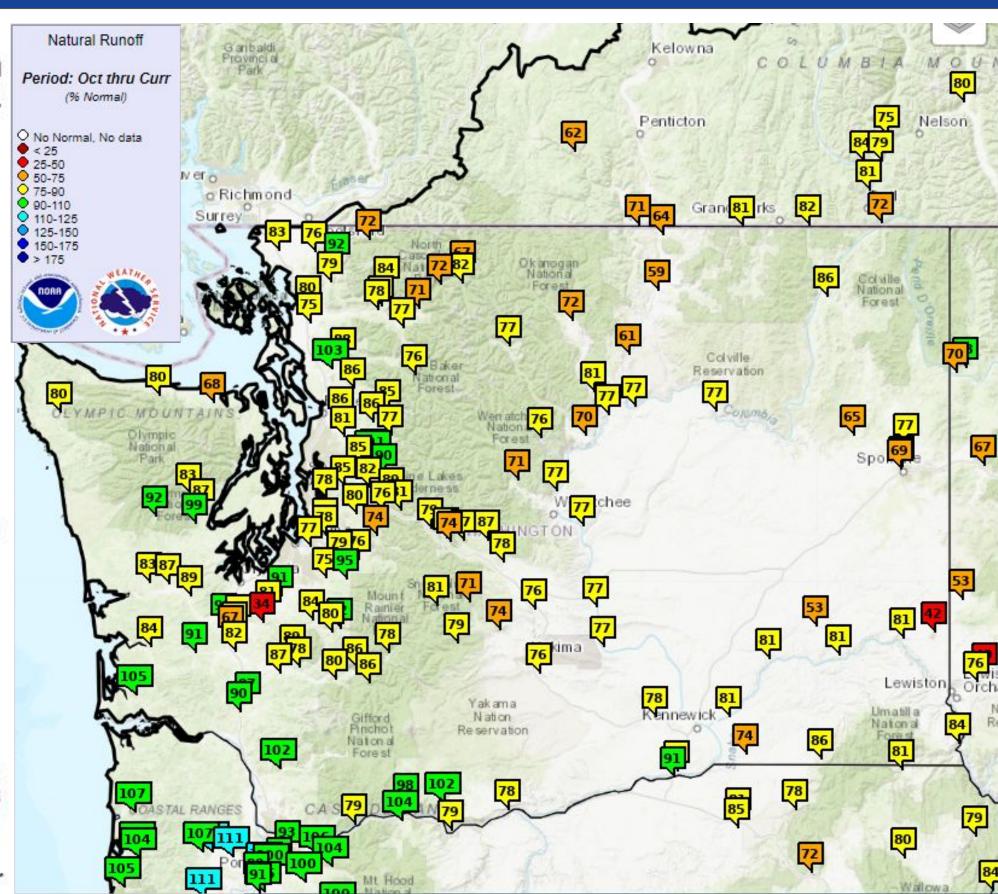




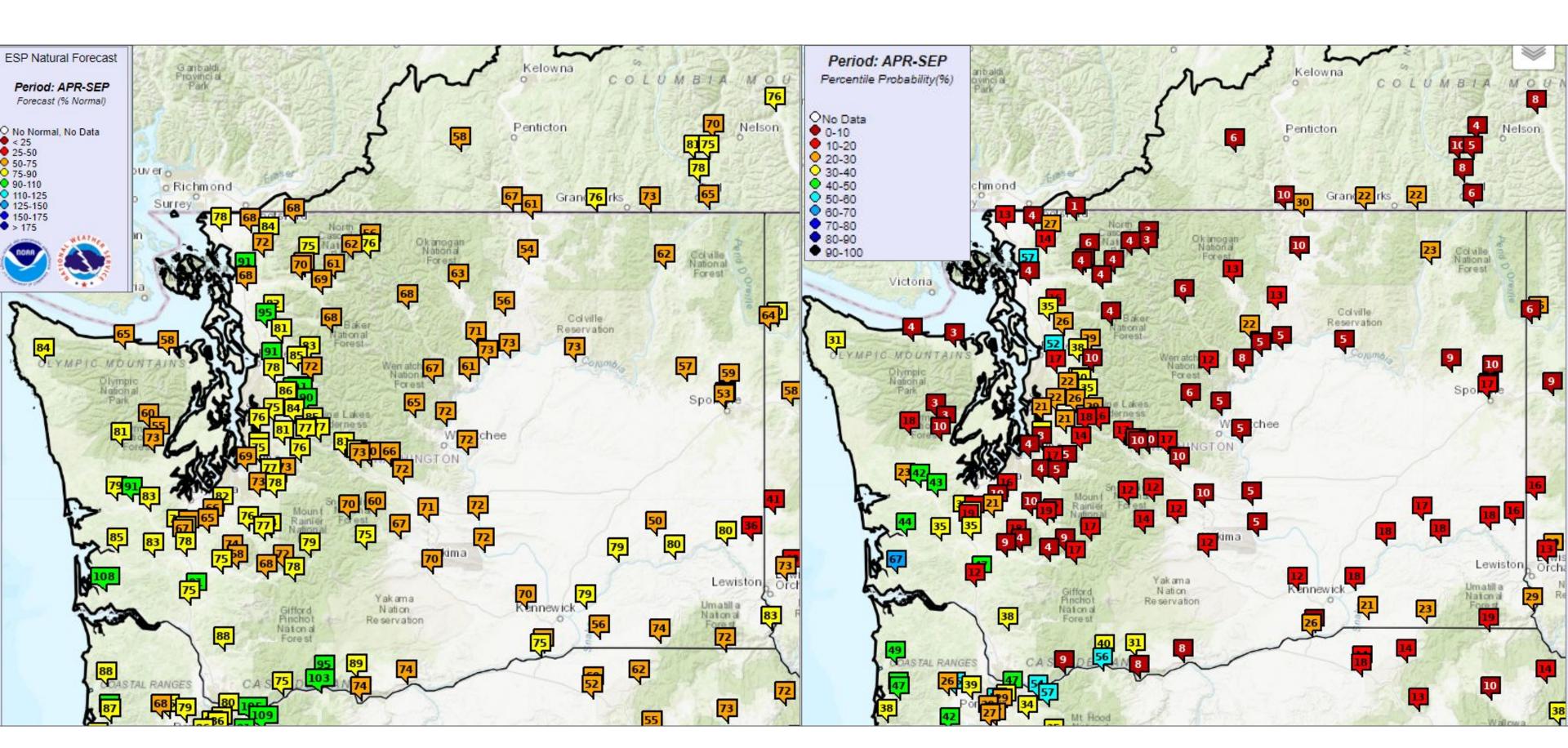


# Water Year 2024 Precipitation and Runoff



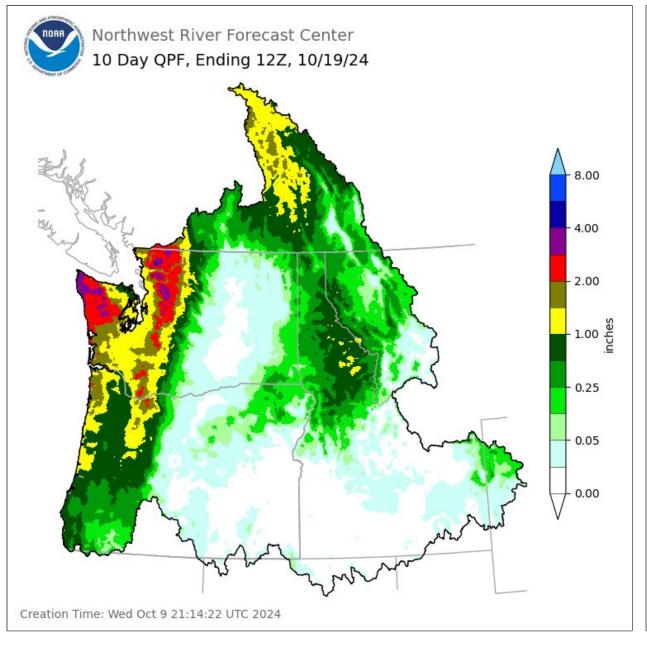


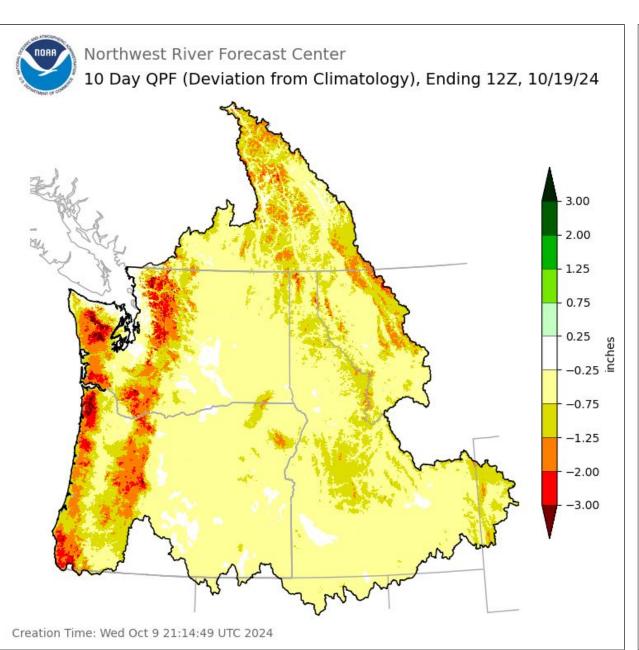
# Apr - Sep Volumes 2024

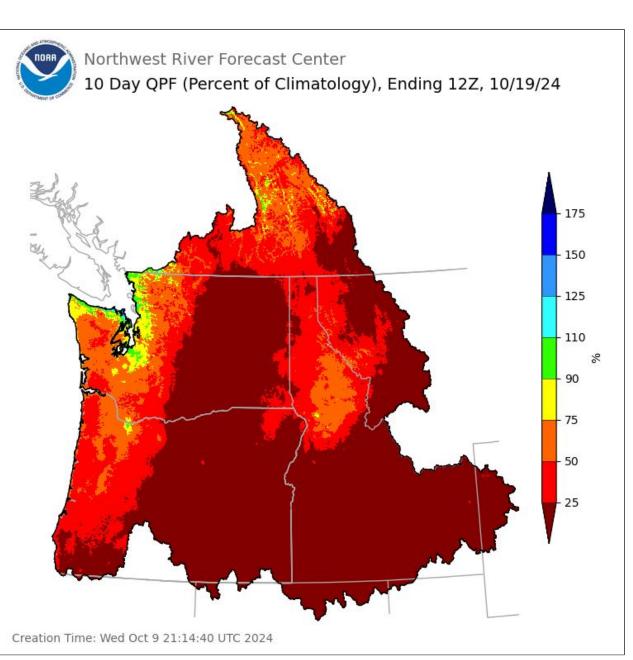




## 10 Day Precipitation Forecast used in ESP10 Forecasts







Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF) Sources

Days 1 - 2 NWS Weather Forecast Offices (WFO) in the US, WPC in BC Days 3 - 7 NWS Weather Prediction Center (WPC)

Days 8 - 10 NWS National Blend of Models (NBM)

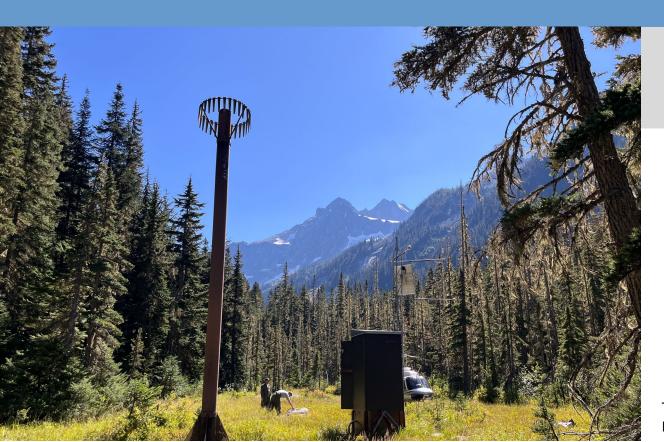
 Apr - Sep Volumes were lower than normal with very low percentiles

• Water year 2025 forecasts are closer to normal. This early in the water year forecast skill is low and spread is wide.





## USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecasting Program



# Washington Water Supply Availability Committee

October 8, 2024

#### **Matt Warbritton**

Supervisory Hydrologist USDA NRCS SSWSF Portland Data Collection Office <u>matt.warbritton@usda.gov</u> 503-307-2829

Thunder Basin SNOTEL North Cascades, WA



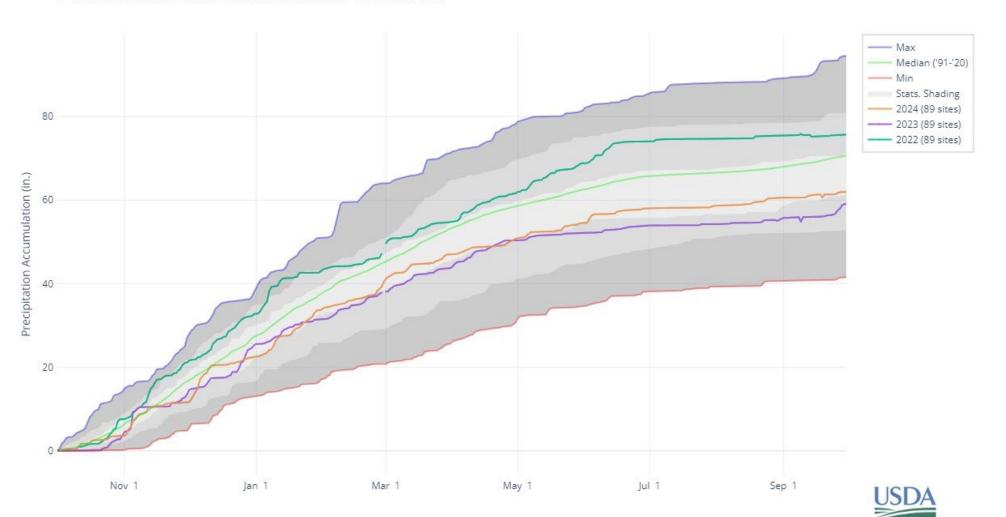


## **Precipitation Conditions**

## **Precipitation Profile**



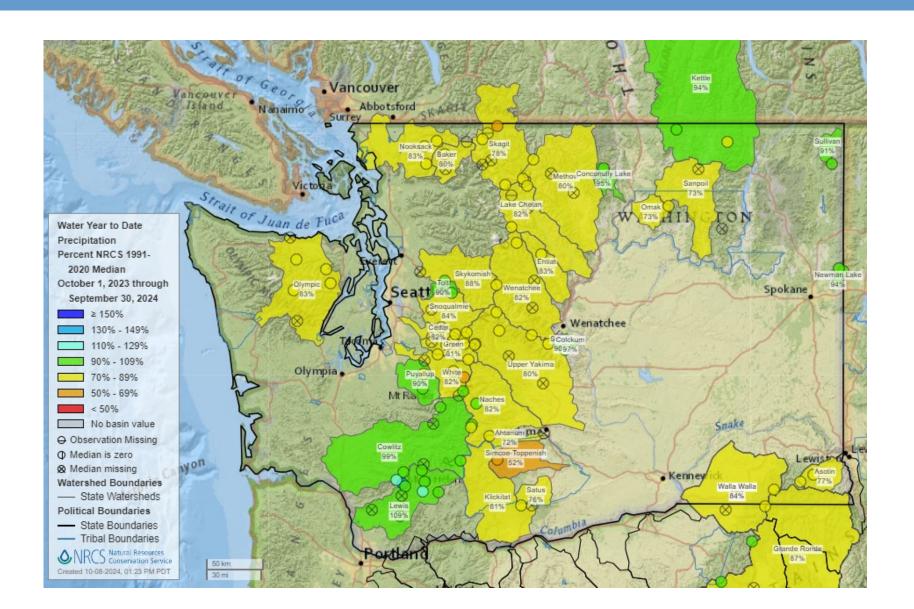
#### PRECIPITATION ACCUMULATION IN STATE OF WASHINGTON



### **WY 24 Precipitation**

Basin and Site Map



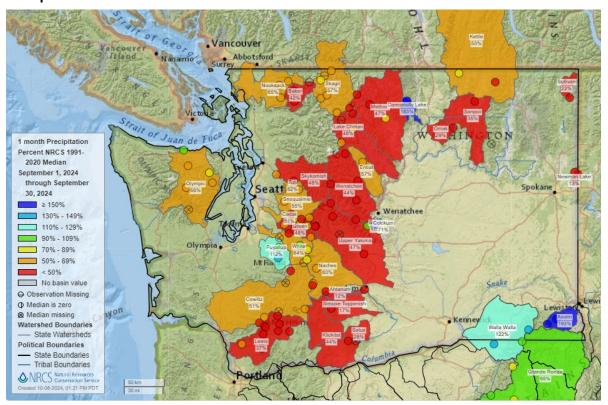


### Monthly/Month-to-Date Precipitation

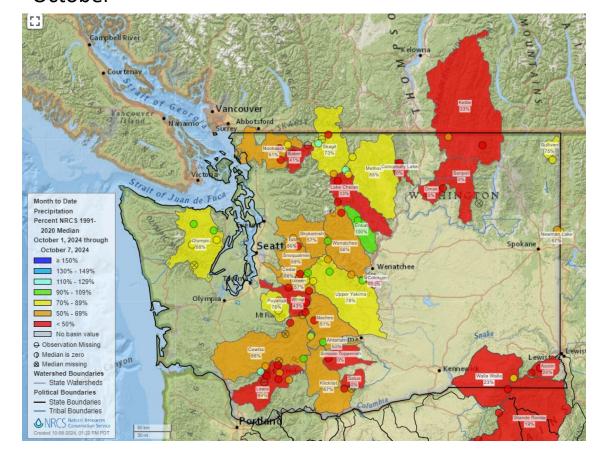
Basin and Site Map



#### September



#### October





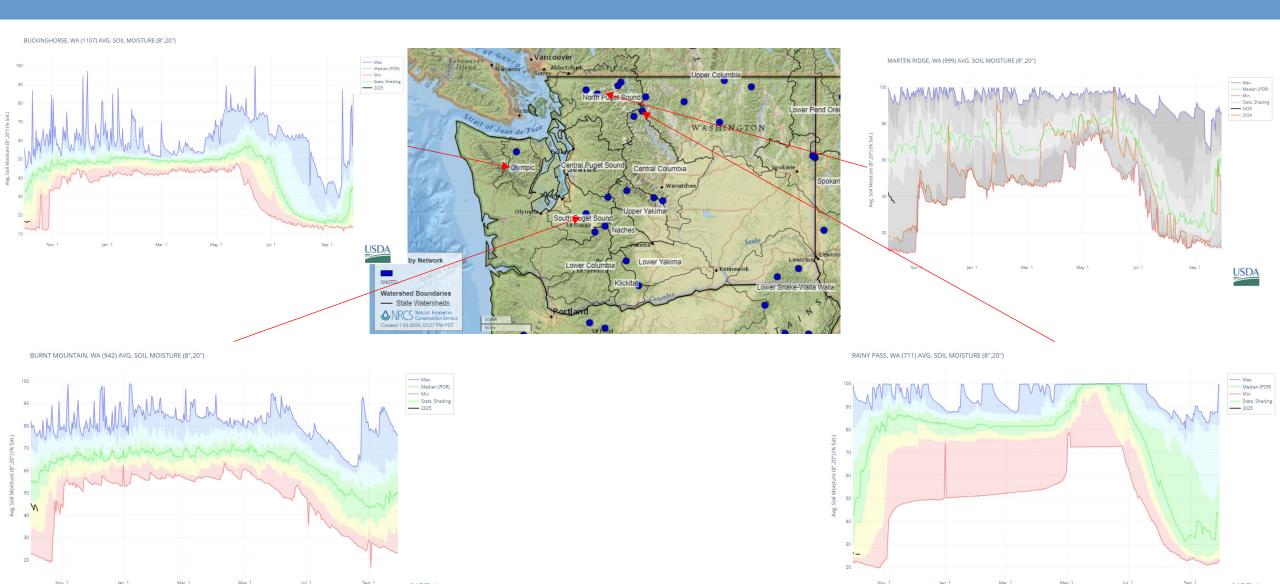


## **Soil Moisture**

### **Soil Moisture**

WY 2024 – Select Site Charts

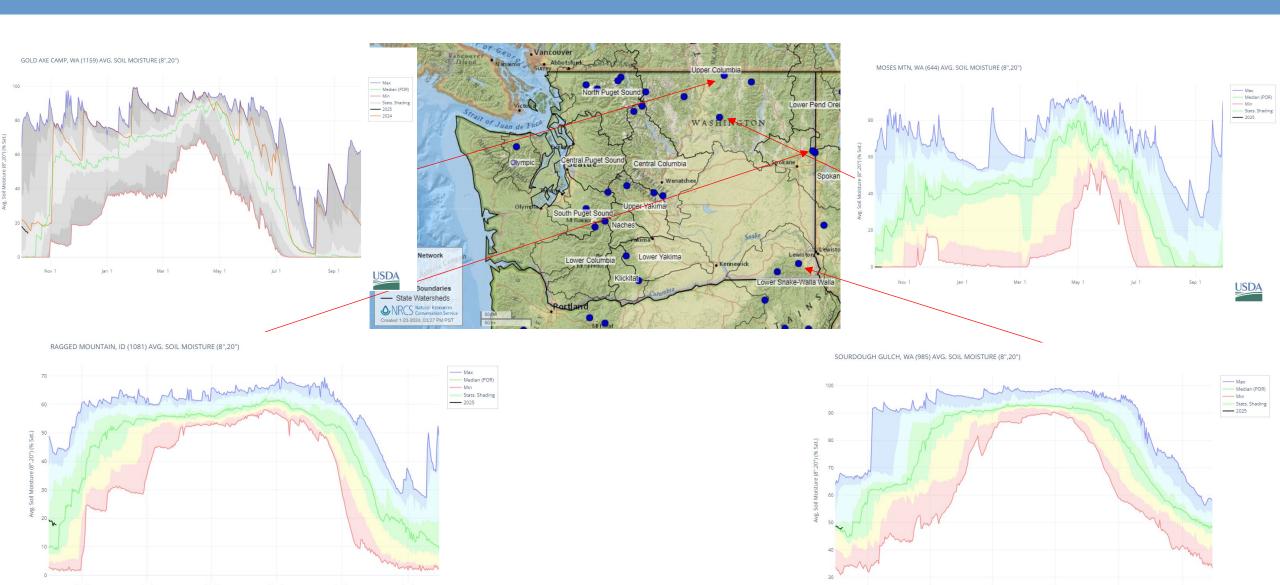




### **Soil Moisture**

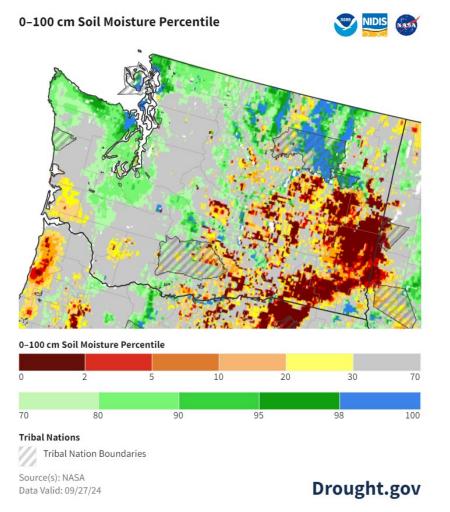
WY 2024 – Select Site Charts

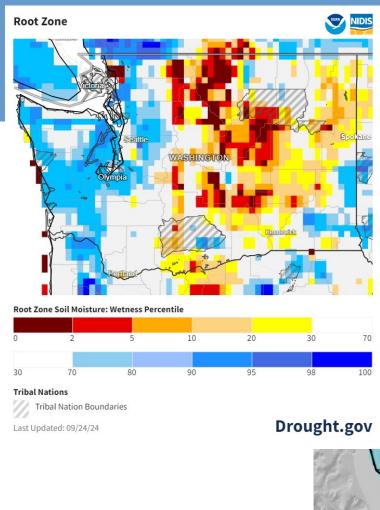




### **Soil Moisture NASA GRACE and SPORT-LIS**

#### **SPoRT-LIS**

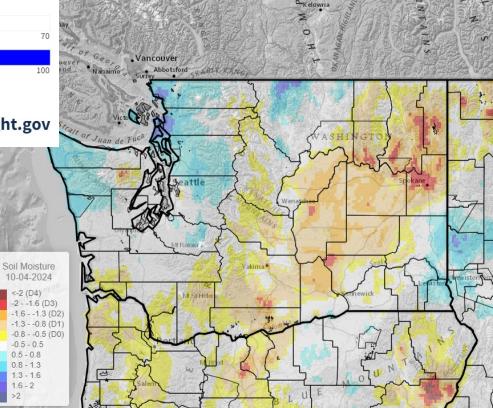




1.6 - 2



#### Topofire Soil Moisture for 10-04-2024





**Natural Resources Conservation Service** 



### Thank you!

Matt Warbritton
Supervisory Hydrologist
USDA NRCS SSWSF
Portland Data Collection Office
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503-307-2829

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Meeting starts at 10:30 AM



For Release: October 3, 2024

Media Contact: Marc Ayalin, 208-378-6203, mayalin@usbr.gov

## Reclamation announces Yakima basin October water supply forecast

**YAKIMA, Wash.** – The Bureau of Reclamation's 2024 Total Water Supply Available provided the senior, non-proratable irrigators 100% of their entitlements and the junior, proratable irrigators 52% of their entitlements for the May 21-September 30 period. A separate forecast is made for the water supply in October.

The forecast for the October water supply available for the Yakima basin indicates the senior water rights will receive 100% of their full entitlements, but junior water rights will receive 0.0% of their entitlements for the October 1-20 period, which means no additional water. Any users that have unused water remaining from the May 21-September 30 period may use that water in October.

Storage in the Yakima basin reservoirs on October 1 was 114 thousand acre-feet, 11% full, and 35% of average. Inflows to the 5 Yakima Project reservoirs in September were 80% of average.

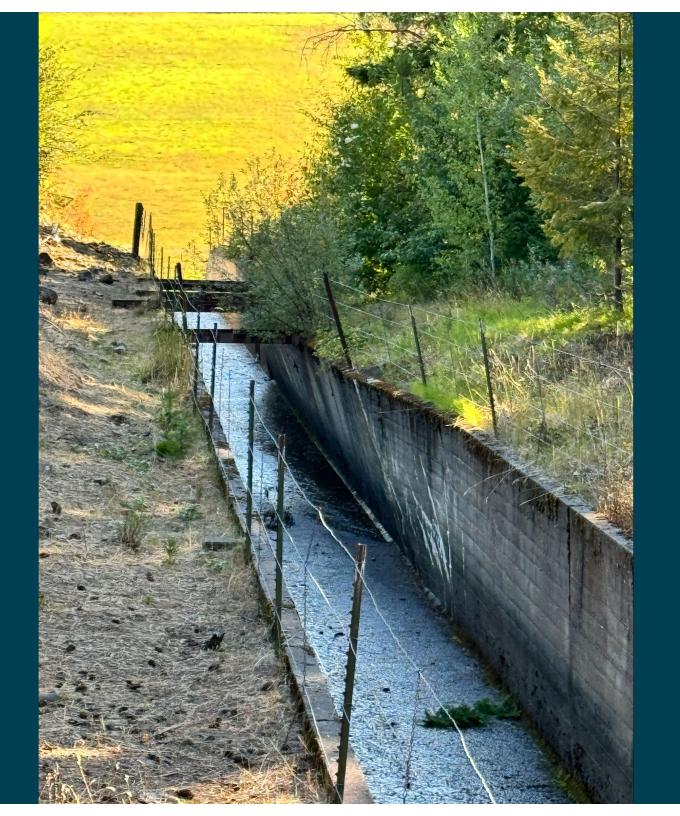
Reclamation manages the water in the five Yakima Project storage reservoirs, along with the basin's unregulated inflows to fulfill water rights, water contracts and instream flow obligations. Water shortages in the basin are shared equally by the junior water rights, which represent over half of the water rights in the basin.

This Water Supply Available forecast is the last forecast for the 2024 irrigation season. The next forecast will be in March 2025. Reclamation provides updated water supply forecasts monthly—typically March through July of each year—using the latest data each month to reflect changing conditions as they develop. In a water short year, Reclamation will add mid-month forecasts and forecasts after July as necessary to adjust for prevailing conditions.

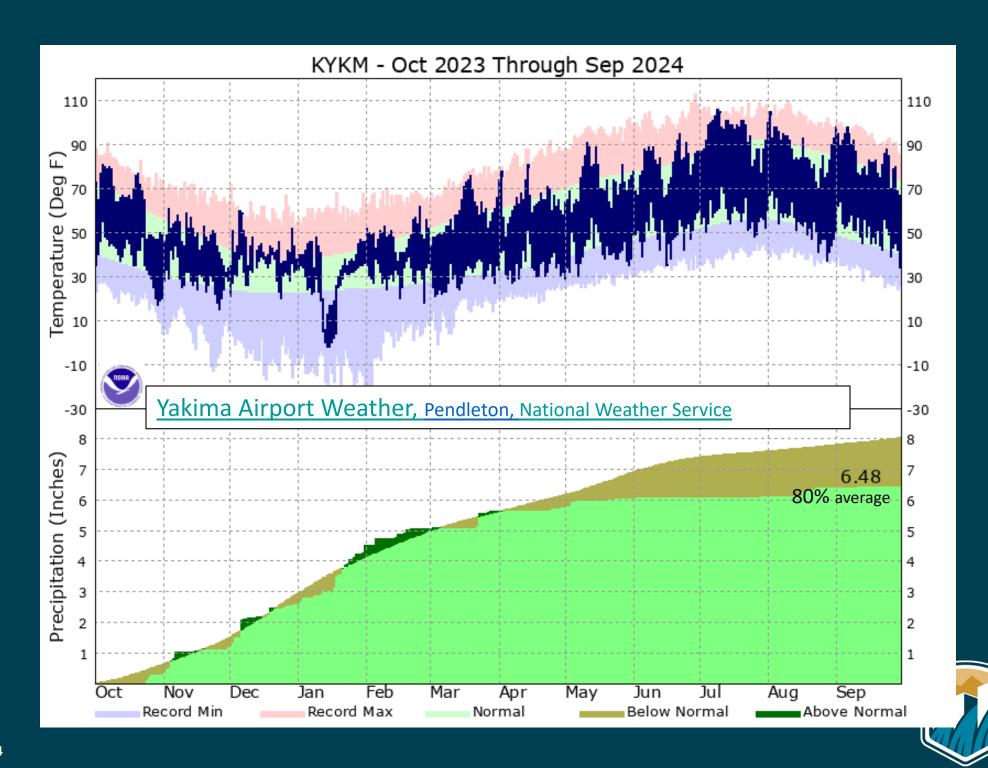
The monthly forecast is based on flows, precipitation, snowpack, and reservoir storage through the 1st day of the month, along with estimates of future river flows. Future weather conditions also are critical in determining stream flows, irrigation demands, and reservoirs storage.

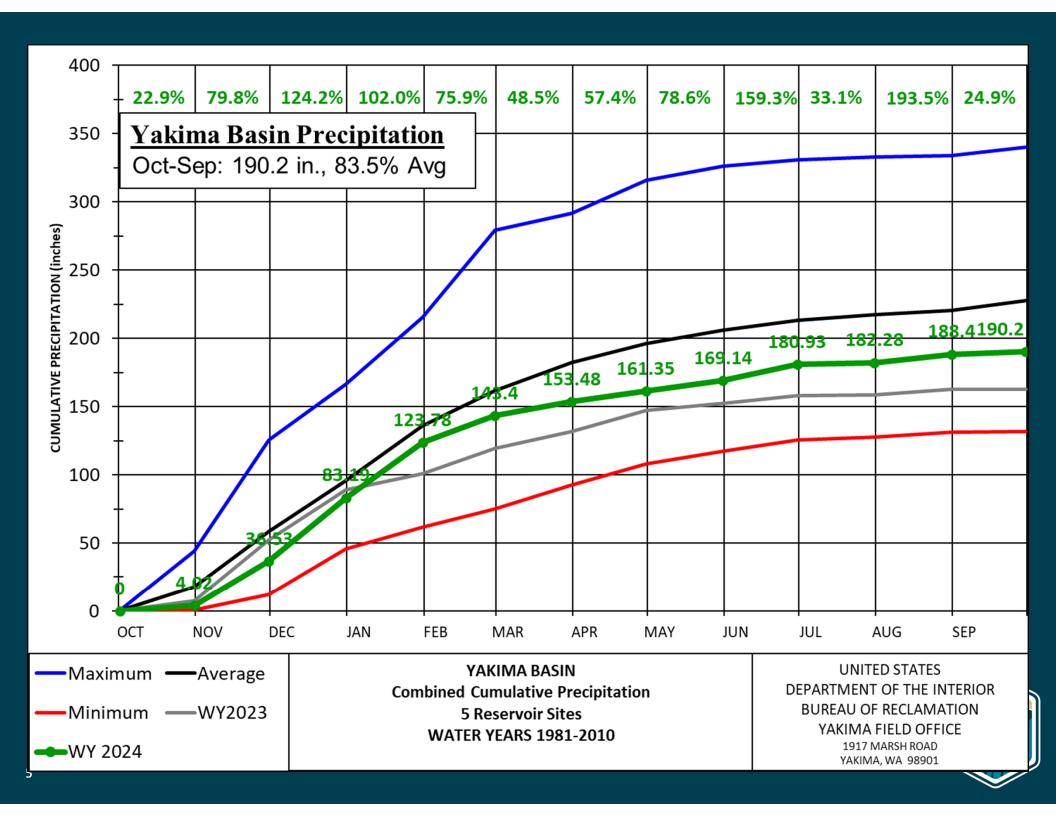
For more information, visit Reclamation's website at <a href="https://www.usbr.gov/pn/hydromet/yakima/">https://www.usbr.gov/pn/hydromet/yakima/</a>.

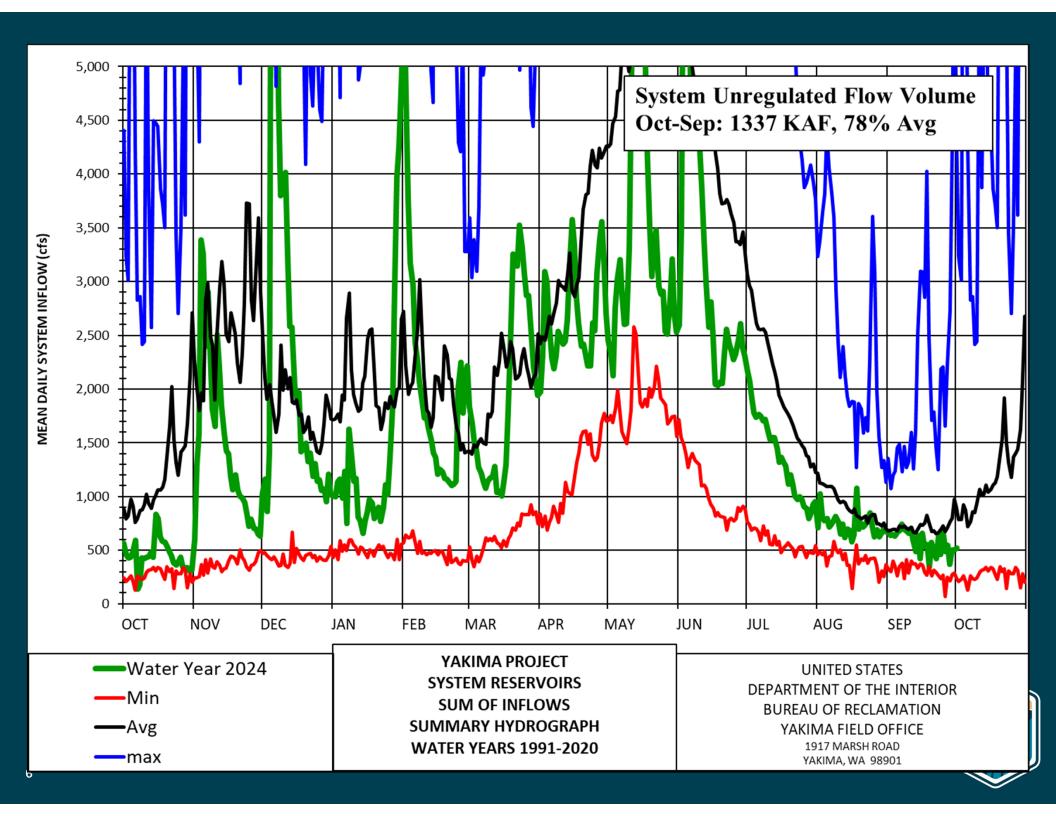


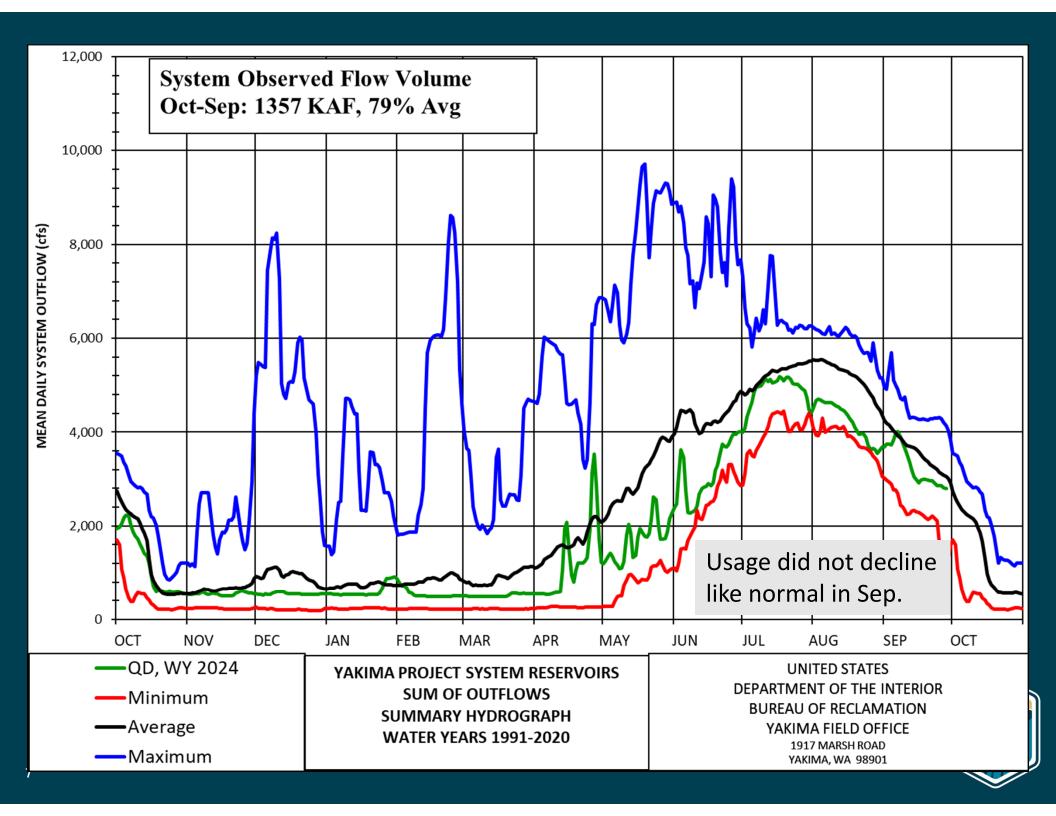


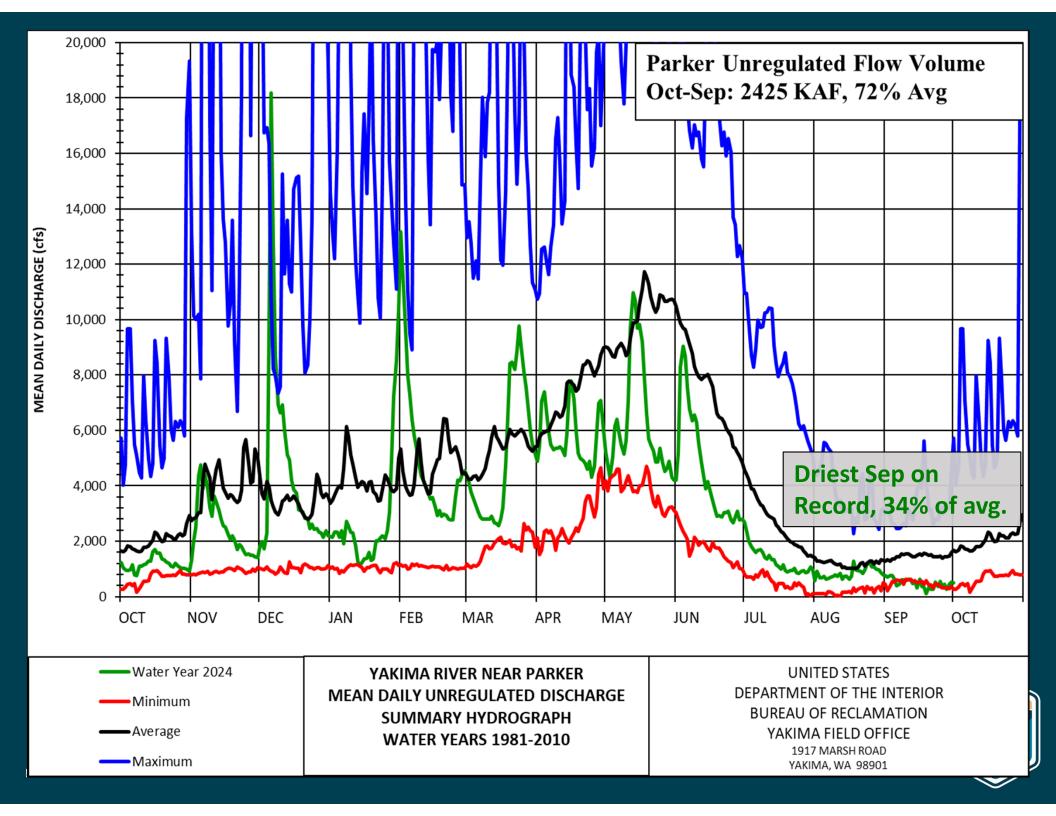


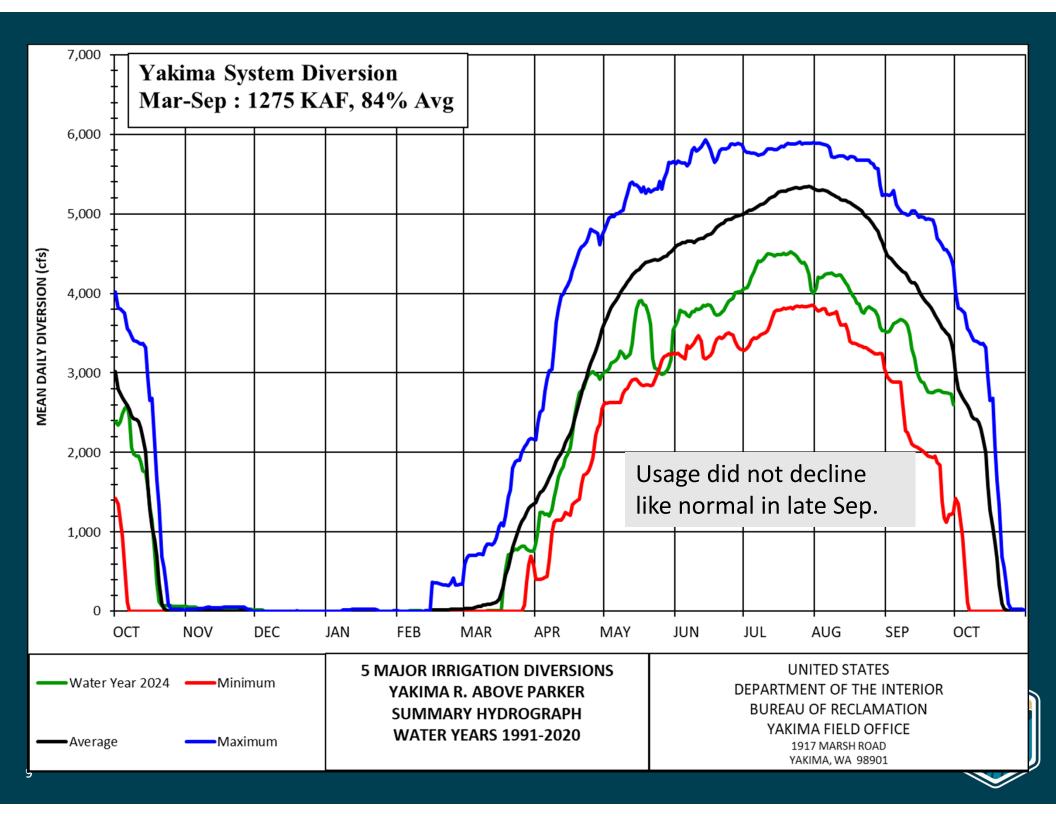


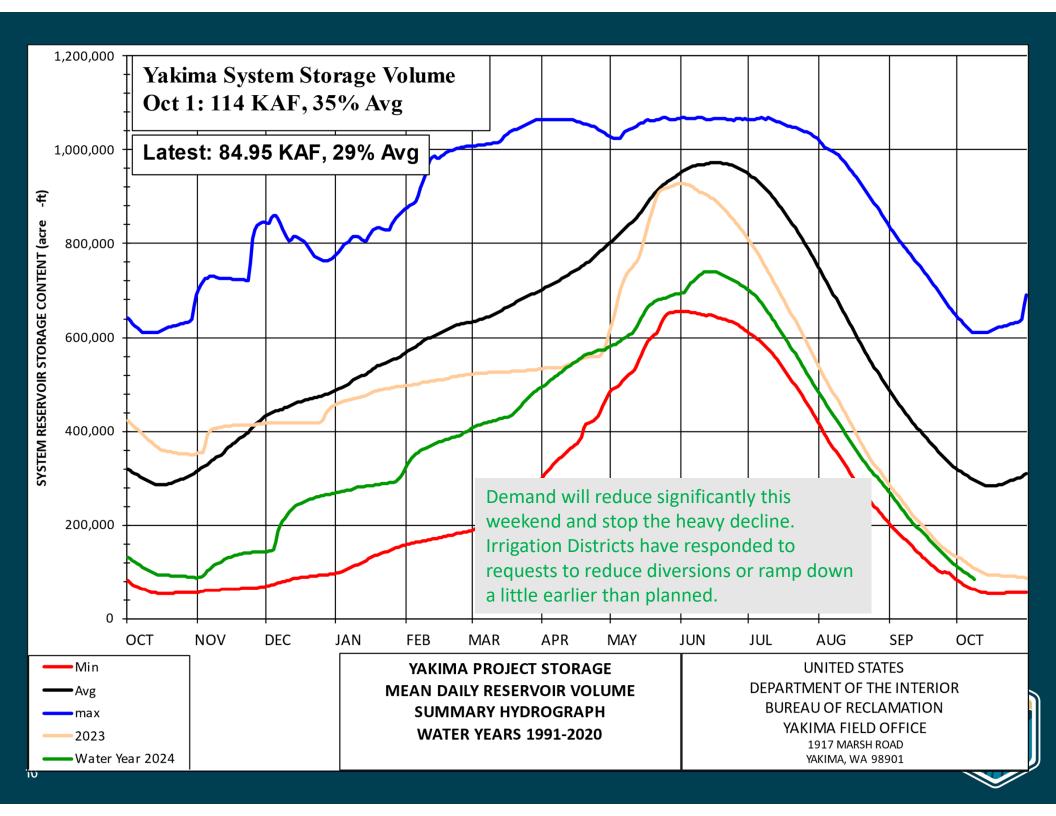




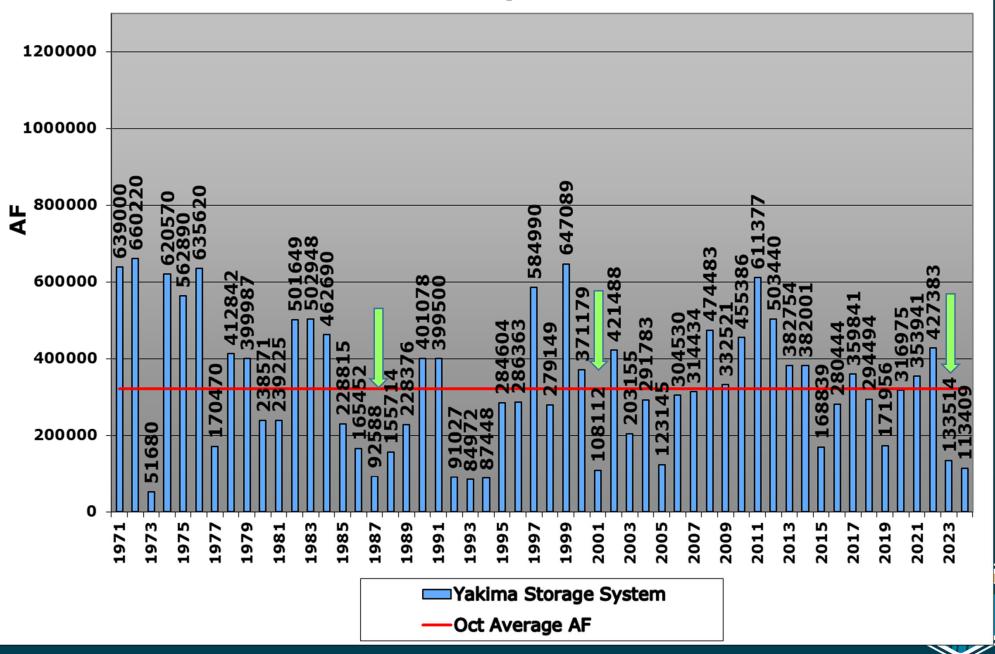


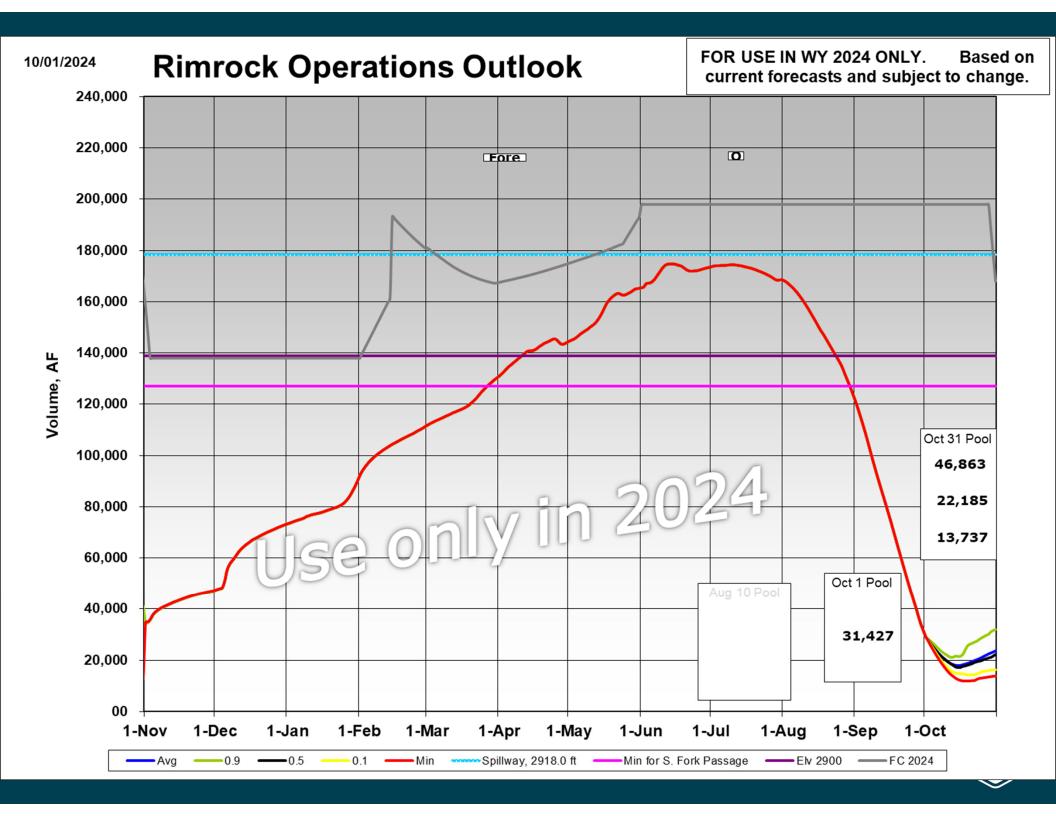






#### Yakima Basin Storage, Historical Comparison





# October 2024, Water Supply Available Estimate Oct 1 - Oct 20

Parameter	"+/-/="	Low	Mid	High
Oct 1 - Oct 20 Natural Flow at Parker est.	+	25	36	55
Return Flow Estimate	+	25	25	25
1st of Month Reservoir Content	+	114	114	114
OWSA	=	164	175	194
Conservation water in Storage	+	2.7	2.7	2.7
OWSA Adjusted	=	161	172	191
Oct 20 Minimum Reservoir Content	-	54	54	54
FLOW OVER SUNNYSIDE DAM	-	14	14	14
TWSA FOR IRRIGATION	=	93	104	123
NONPRORATABLE ENTITLEMENT	-	115	115	115
REMAINING TWSA	=	0	0	8
PRORATABLE ENTITLEMENT		44	44	44
% RATIO= REMAINING TWSA/PRORATABLE ENTITLEMENT		0%	0%	19%
TITLE 12 FLOW REQUIREMENTS	October	300	300	300
Flow available to Title 12, cfs *#*		77	77	82
Non-storeable Portion of added flow, cfs		22	22	22
Storable portion of added flow, cfs		56	56	60

<sup>\*\*</sup>All values in units of 1,000 acre-ft unless otherwise specified



#### September 1, 2024 TWSA ESTIMATE Comparison

#### Proration period\*\*

Parameter	"+/-/="	May 2024	Jun 2024	Jul 2024	Aug 2024	<b>Sep 2024</b>
Apr 1-Sep 30 Natural Flow at Parker est.	+	948	539	591	585	580
Return Flow Estimate	+	285	245	245	245	245
April 1, Reservoir Content	+	580	675	675	675	675
TWSA	=	1813	1460	1512	1505	1500
SEP 30 EST RESERVOIR CONTENT*	-	76	76	76	76	76
FLOW OVER SUNNYSIDE DAM	-	200	120	128	128	130
TWSA FOR IRRIGATION	=	1537	1264	1308	1301	1294
NONPRORATABLE ENTITLEMENT	-	909	789	789	789	773
YRPW-KID release	=	15	10	10	6	4
REMAINING TWSA		628	465	509	507	517
PRORATABLE ENTITLEMENT		1145	998	998	998	998
% RATIO= REMAINING TWSA/PRORATABLE ENTITLEMENT		54%	47%	51%	51%	52%
TITLE XII FLOW REQUIREMENTS, cfs	July	300	300	300	300	300
TOTAL FLOW AVAILABLE AT PARKER, cfs *#*		405	330	332	341	330

<sup>\*</sup>Values are in 1,000 ac-ft unless otherwise specified. \*\* May 21-Sep 30 except May 2024 was May1-Sep30.



<sup>\*#\*</sup> State & YRBWEP Trust, Acquisition, & Conservation additions to Title XII flow.

## Yakima Basin Minimum Flows

Table 3-3. Minimum winter instream flow targets (cfs).

	Minimum Flow (cfs) by Water Year Type					
Location	Dry	Average	Wet			
KEE	Inflow - 80	100	120			
KAC	Inflow - 30	30	30			
EASW	190	250	300			
CLE	Inflow - 180	220	250			
BUM	Inflow - 130	Inflow - 130	Inflow - 130			
RIM	Inflow - 50	75	90			
TICW	75	100	120			

# Hydrologic Summary

- Flip-flop had no use of SW1146
- 6th lowest storage since 1971, 84 KAF, 8% full, 29% avg.
- September precip forecasts did not materialize.
- Very low September precip, 25% avg.
- Record Low Sept Parker unregulated flow, 34% avg
- Diversion and reservoir demand has been high.
- OWSA's Prorationing is 0%. TWSA's ended at 52%.
- Title XII flow is 300 cfs plus 22 cfs.
- Conservation water (at 52% prorationing) has a balance of 2,675 AF plus Oct water of 1.6 to 2.0 KAF.
- Latest Rimrock routings show low pool of 10 to 11 KAF.