Water 2018: the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly

Southern Rocky Mountain Agricultural Conference
February 8, 2018
Pat McDermott – Colorado DWR – Water Division No. 3
Rio Grande Basin Snowpack Selected Years

Percent of Median

January | February | March | April | May | June

Years:
- 1990
- 1996
- 2000
- 2002
- 2003
- 2006
- 2018
Forecasted Annual Flow at Del Norte: 340,000 Acre-feet (54% of long term average)

Obligation to downstream states: 83,800 Acre-feet (~25% of the index flow)

Delivery Obligation in Irrigation Season: 5%
Forecasted Upper Index Annual Flow:
160,000 Acre-feet (54% of long term average)

Obligation to downstream states: 25,000 Acre-feet (~16% of the index flow)

Delivery Obligation in Irrigation Season: 1%
Upper Rio Grande Basin Time Series Snowpack Summary
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Feb 08, 2017

Current as Pct of Normal: 152%
Current as Pct of Avg: 151%
Current as Pct of Last Year: 131%
Current as Pct of Peak: 105%
Normal as Pct of Peak: 69%
Pct of Normal Needed to Reach Peak: Current
SWE Equals or Exceeds Avg Peak
Normal Peak Date: Apr 10
Upper Rio Grande Basin Time Series Snowpack Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Feb 07, 2018

Current as Pct of Normal: 33%
Current as Pct of Avg: 33%
Current as Pct of Last Year: 24%
Current as Pct of Peak: 22%
Normal as Pct of Peak: 69%
Pct of Normal Needed to Reach Peak: 247%
Normal Peak Date: Apr 10

Snow Water Equivalent (inches)

Oct 01 Nov 01 Dec 01 Jan 01 Feb 01 Mar 01 Apr 01 May 01 Jun 01 Jul 01 Aug 01 Sep 01

Median WY2015 WY2016 WY2017 WY2018 Average