

NWS Form E-5 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND FLOOD CONDITIONS	HYDROLOGIC SERVICE AREA: Pocatello, Idaho
	REPORT FOR: MONTH: February YEAR: 2008
TO: Hydrologic Operations Division, W/OH2 National Weather Service National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Silver Spring, Maryland 20910	SIGNATURE Sherrie Hebert Service Hydrologist
	DATE: March 4, 2008
When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts and hydrologic products issued (NWS Instruction 10-924).	

X	An X in this box indicates that no flooding has occurred for the month within this hydrologic service area.
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Winter continued to hold its grasp on Eastern Idaho in February. The snow that did fall was primarily over the eastern and Central Mountains. For the remainder of the month, inversions held much of the lower elevations in the cold, while the mountain areas enjoyed sun and warmth. The trapped cold air has held the valley snow on the ground with little melting.

Other Hydrologic Interests

Precipitation

Precipitation was near or above normal for much of the Pocatello Hydrologic Service Area (HSA) in February. The entire HSA received an average of 99% of normal precipitation for 34 of 43 reporting stations with climate data, according to Western Region Climate Center data. Topping the “above-normal precipitation” list of 14 stations was Tetonia at 400%. Stations with more than double normal precip were Shoshone and Richfield at 354% and 213%, respectively. Tetonia again set a monthly precip record for February with 4.36 inches walloping the 1999 record of 2.77 inches. The Challis and Burley ASOS stations received the least with 44% and 31% of normal, respectively.

Reservoirs

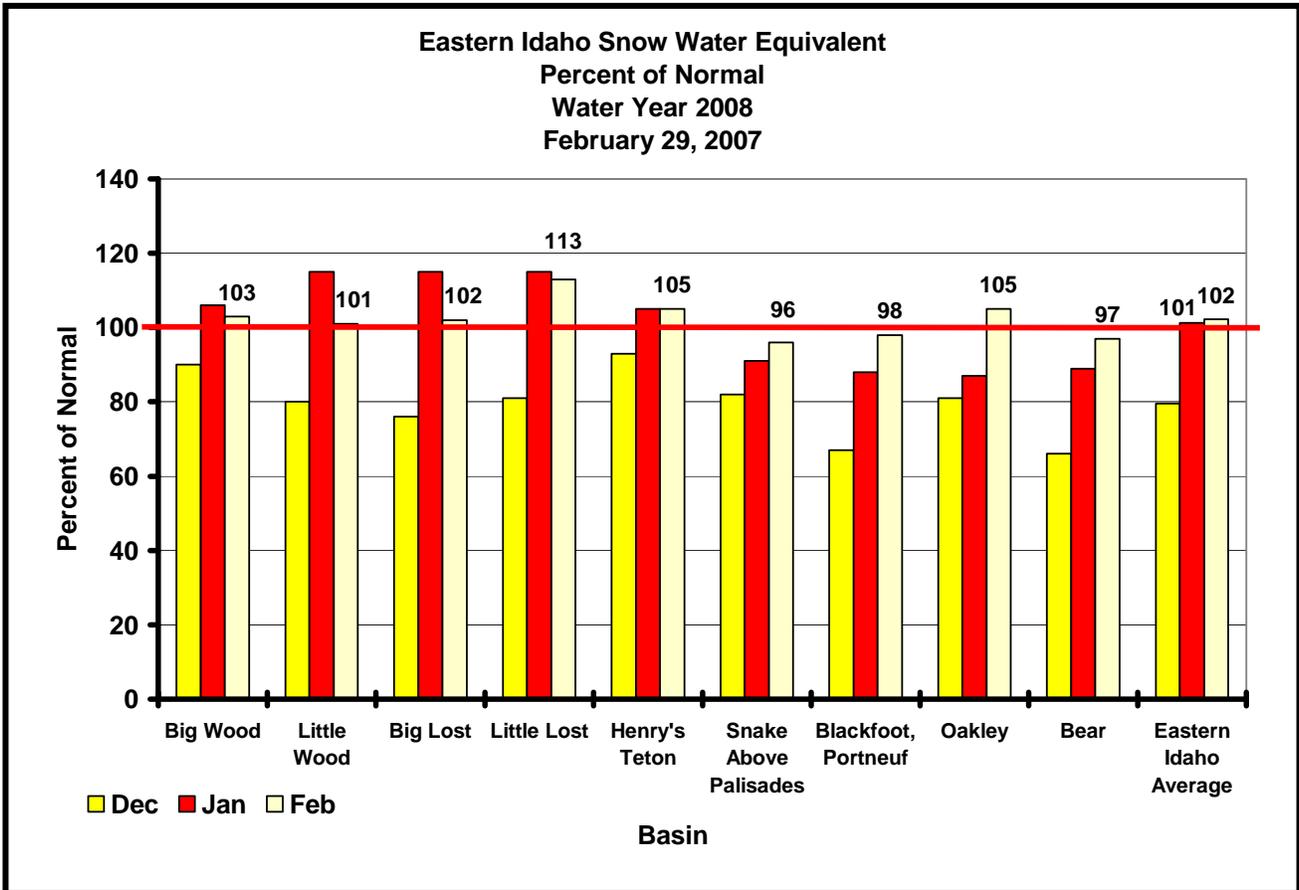
The Upper Snake River reservoir system is at 50% of capacity¹, up 6% from February 6, 2008².

Reservoir	% Capacity January 31 ³	% Capacity February 29 ⁴	Percent Change	% of Average ⁴	% of Last Year ⁴
American Falls	54	65	11	86	77
Bear Lake	25	26	1	41	68
Blackfoot	24	26	2	40	52
Henry's Lake	86	88	2	94	97
Island Park	63	70	7	88	80
Little Wood	40	35	-5	59	38
Mackay	49	58	9	83	83
Magic	11	13	2	27	19
Oakley	33	35	2	85	62
Palisades	36	41	5	55	54
Ririe	48	50	2	104	90
Lake Walcott	101 ²	40 ¹	-61	n/a	n/a
Milner	99 ²	86 ¹	-13	n/a	n/a

Source: (1) US Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), March 4, 2008; (2) BOR, February 6, 2008; (3) NRCS, January 31, 2007; (4) NRCS, February 29, 2008.

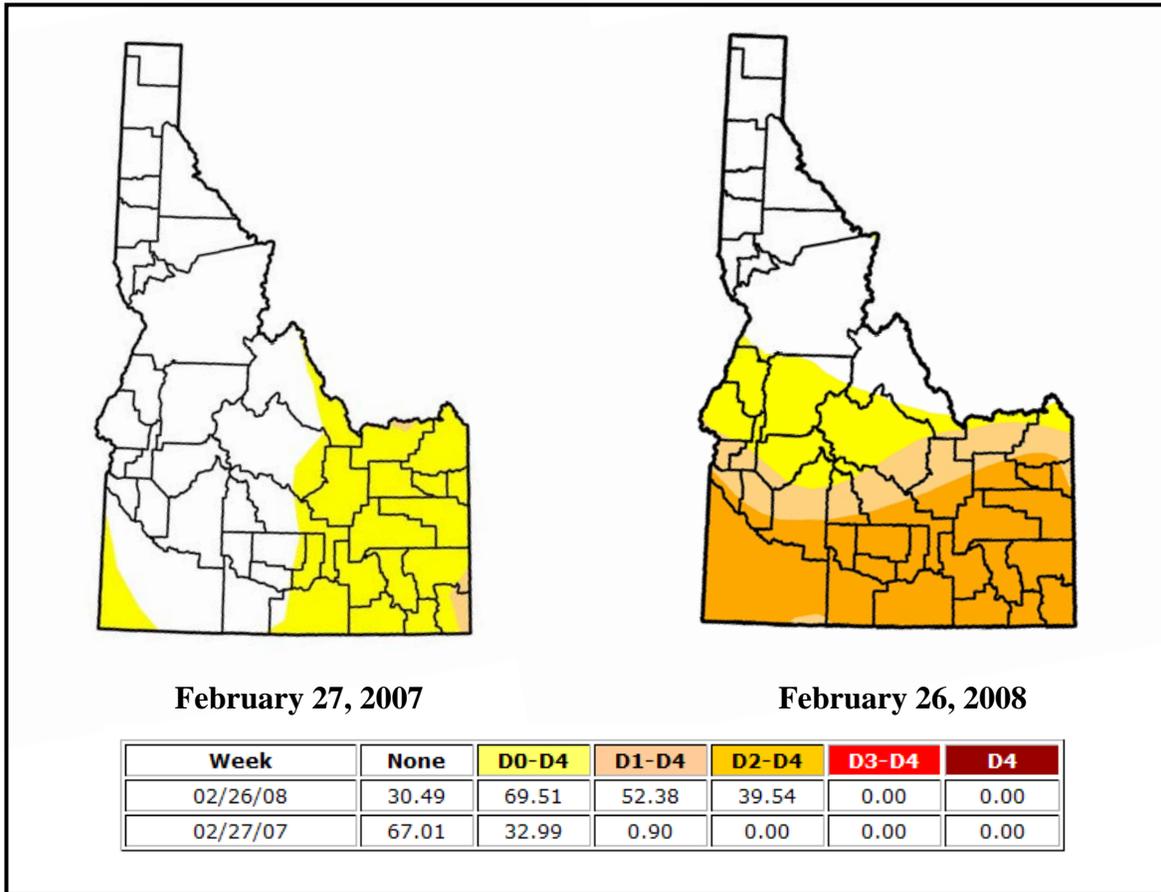
Snowpack

Eastern Idaho's snowpack held nearly steady as the basin-average snow water equivalent (SWE) only slightly increased from 101% in January to 102% in February. A basin SWE summary is below.



Drought

The only changes to the Drought Monitor (DM) for the month in Idaho were in the Panhandle, while Eastern Idaho remained unchanged in the Severe Drought, D2, category. The images below compare Idaho's DM last year to the current year.



February 2008 Hydrologic Product Summary

No hydrologic products were issued in February for the Pocatello HSA.

cc: Daniel Matusiewicz, Western Region WFO Hydrology Program Manager
Harold Opitz, Hydrologist in Charge, Northwest River Forecast Center
Hydrometeorological Information Center
Rick Dittman, Meteorologist in Charge, Pocatello, Idaho
Jay Breidenbach, Service Hydrologist, Boise, Idaho
Drought Monitor Mailing List
Pocatello WFO Forecasters and HMTs