

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: March YEAR: 2010
TO: Hydrologic Operations Division, W/OH2 National Weather Service National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Silver Spring, Maryland 20910	SIGNATURE Troy Lindquist Service Hydrologist
	DATE: April 9, 2010
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.

Summary

Mountain snowpack continued to lag across the Pocatello Hydrologic Service Area through March 2010. The influence of El Nino appeared to have lost some of its grip near the end of the month as a wet weather pattern developed. This resulted in significant snowfall across much of the mountains of eastern Idaho and substantial rain and snow across portions of the Eastern Magic Valley and Snake River Plain. Although the high elevation snowpack remained well below normal, the late month surge in wetness kept the area from losing ground compared to the beginning of the month.

Other Hydrologic Interests

Precipitation

March precipitation was 67% of normal for the 40 lower elevation COOP stations with climate data that reported monthly totals. Nine low elevations stations reported greater than 100% of normal precipitation while 13 stations reported less than 50% of normal.

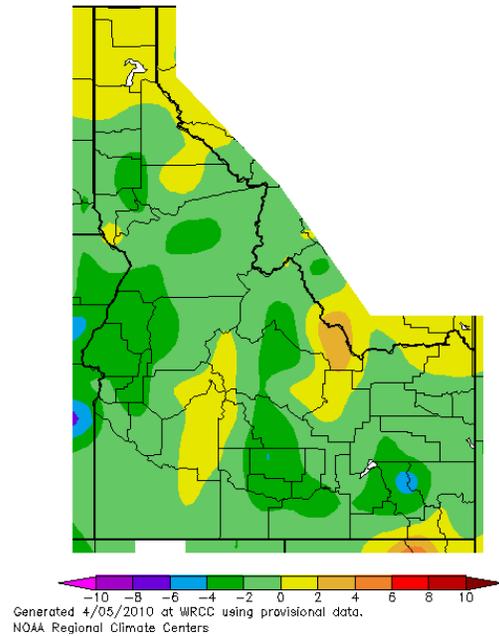
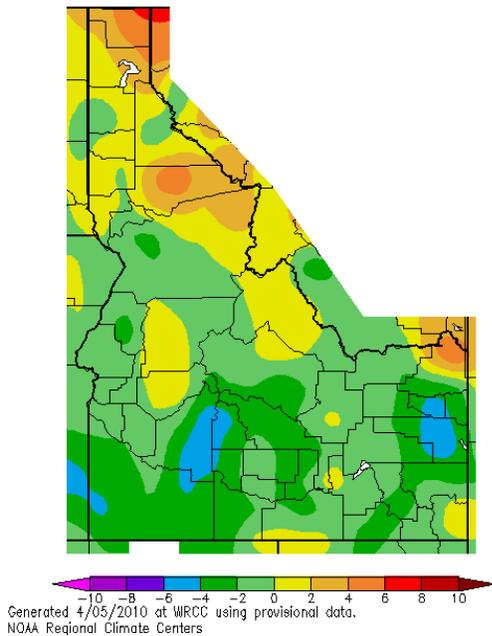
Station	March, 2010 Precipitation Records
St. Anthony COOP	0.05” monthly precip total tied the record low total for the month.
Challis ASOS	0.19” precip on the 29 th broke old record of 0.14” set in 1967.
Idaho Falls ASOS	0.63” precip on the 30 th broke old record of 0.59” set in 1980.
Pocatello ASOS	3” snowfall on the 26 th broke the old record of 1.5” set in 1945.
Stanley ASOS	0.62” precip on the 30 th broke the old record of 0.25” set in 1980.

Temperature

Temperatures were generally normal or a little below normal across the HSA for March.

Av. Max. Temperature dep from Ave (deg F)
3/6/2010 – 4/4/2010

Av. Min. Temperature dep from Ave (deg. F)
3/6/2010 – 4/4/2010

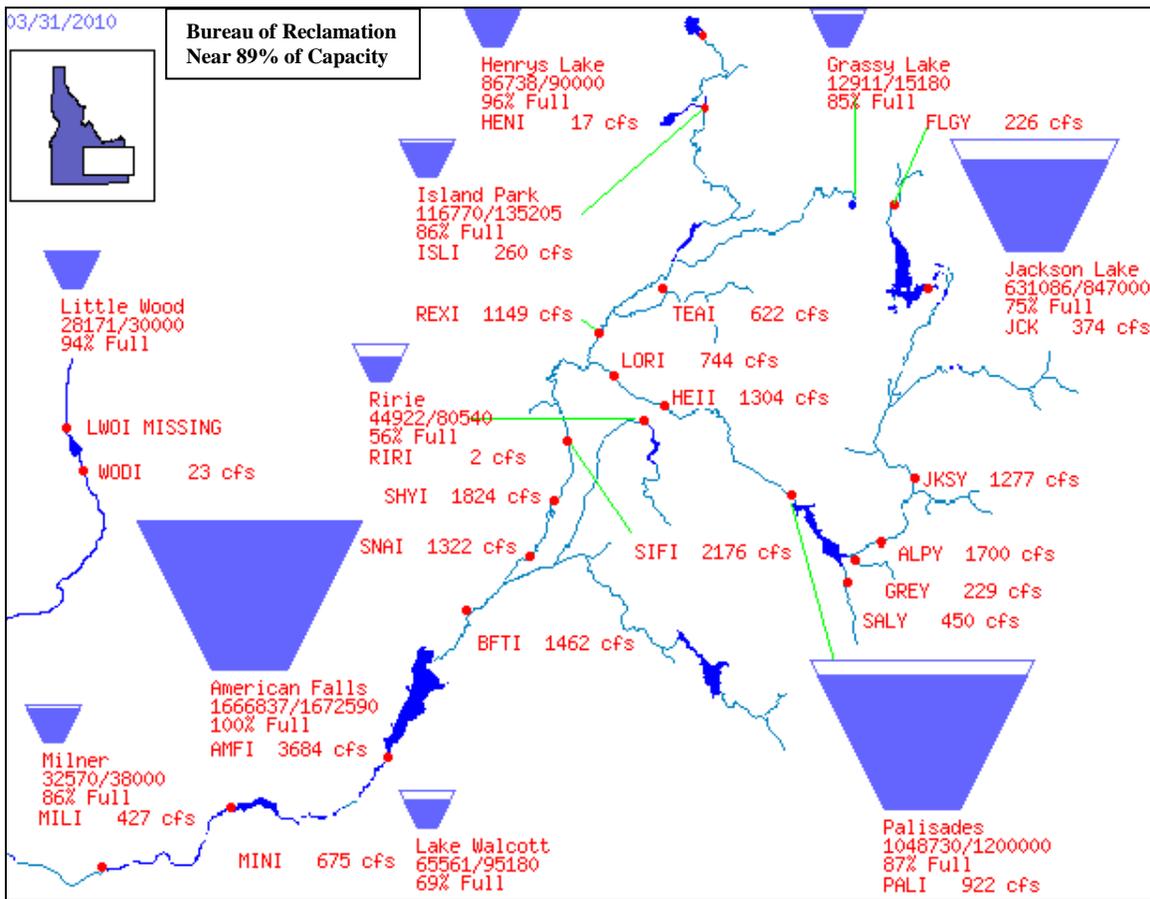


Reservoirs

The Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) Upper Snake River Basin Reservoir System was near 89% of capacity the end of March 2010, up about 7% from the beginning of the month. Last year at end of March the BOR Reservoir System was near 84% of capacity.

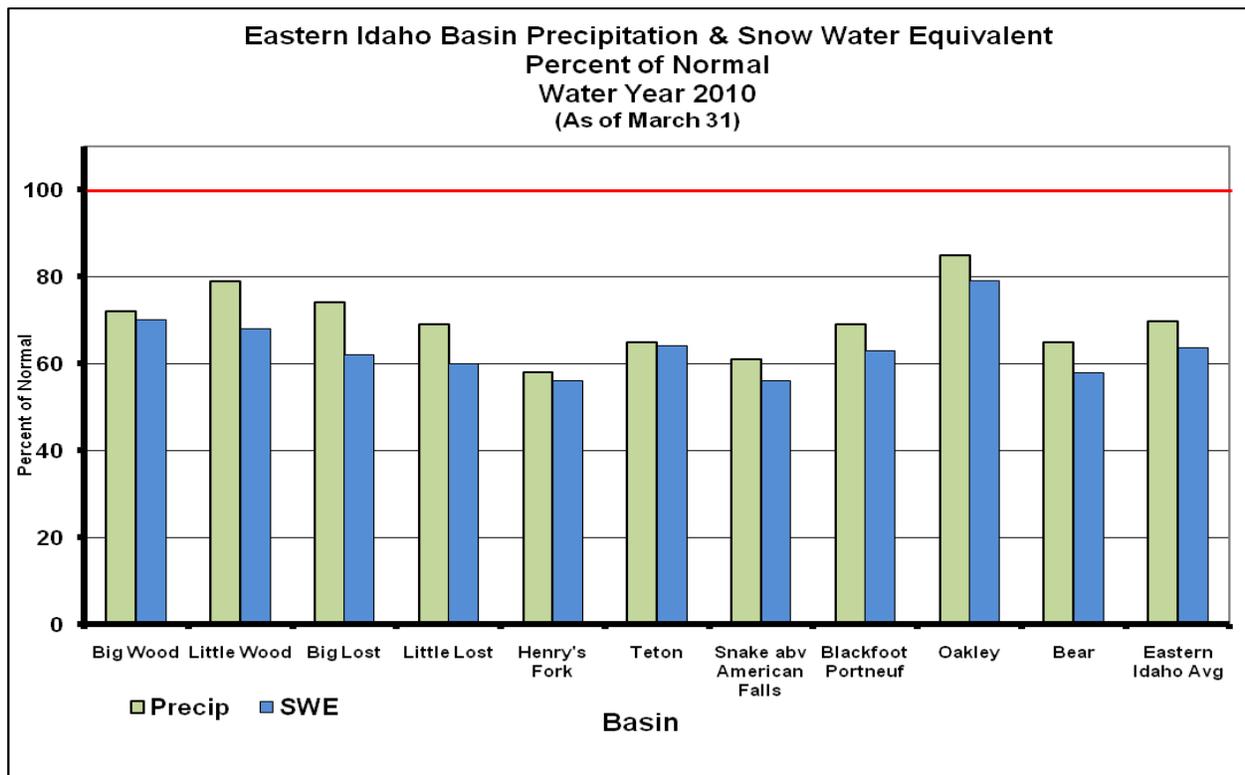
Reservoir	% Capacity February 28 ³	% Capacity March 31 ⁴	Percent Change	% of Average ⁴	% of Last Year ⁴
American Falls	90	100	10	115	103
Bear Lake	39	40	1	62	138
Blackfoot	58	60	2	91	201
Henry's Lake	95	96	1	101	99
Island Park	84	86	2	102	96
Little Wood	81	94	13	145	152
Mackay	87	93	6	127	142
Magic	43	48	5	86	214
Oakley	34	38	4	79	116
Palisades	84	89	5	133	113
Ririe	52	56	108	110	99
Lake Walcott	46 ¹	69 ²	23	n/a	n/a
Milner	90 ¹	86 ²	-4	n/a	n/a

Source: (1) US Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) February 28, 2010; (2) BOR March 31, 2010; (3) NRCS February 28, 2010; (4) NRCS March 31, 2010.

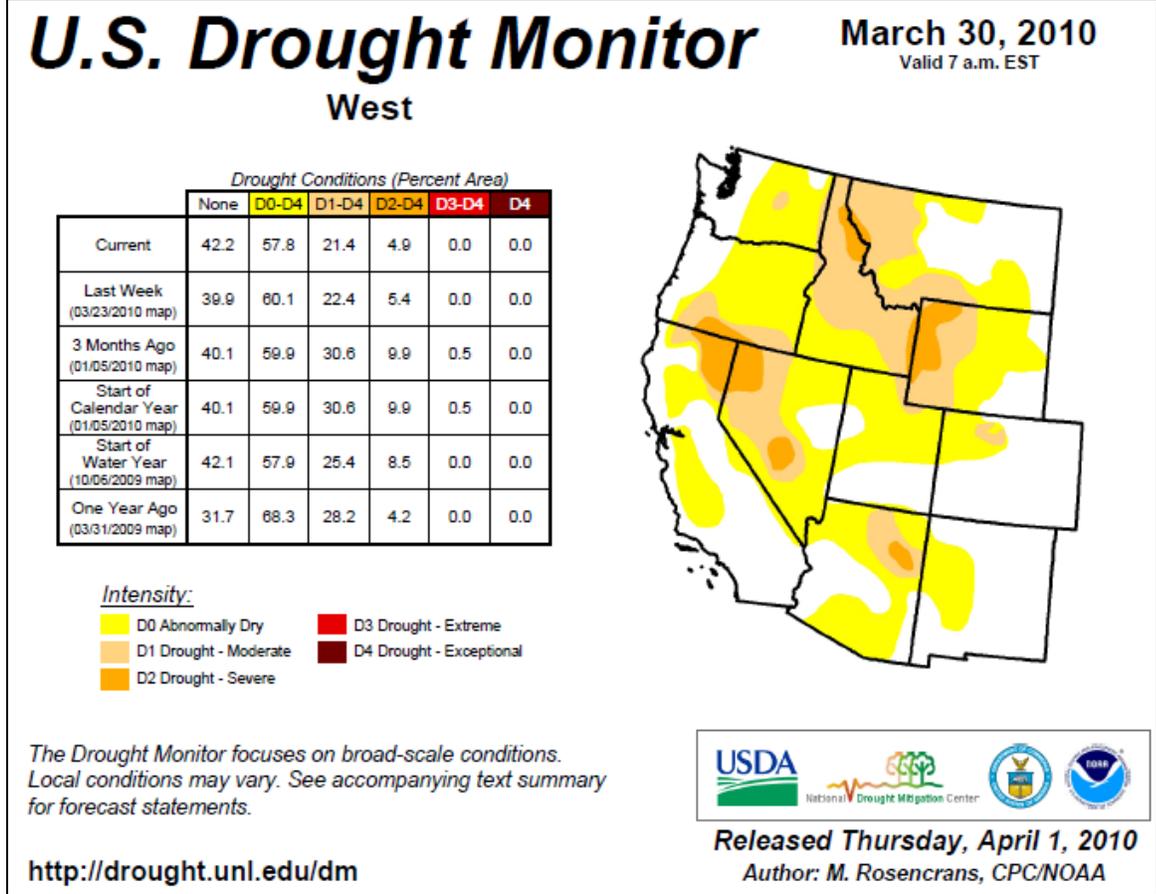


Snowpack Conditions

Winter snowpack continued to lag across the HSA. For the current Water Year the snow water equivalent across the HSA as a whole was at 64% of normal the end of March.



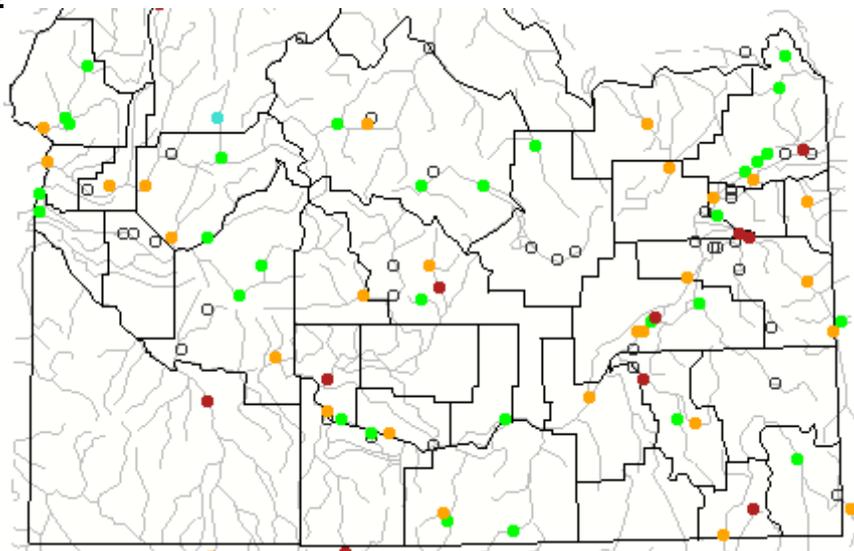
Drought



Moderate drought continued over the majority of the HSA due to well below normal winter snowpack.

River/Stream Conditions

March 2010 streamflow compared to historical streamflow.



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

March 2010 Hydrologic Product Summary

Product	Number Issued
Flood Watch for Flash Flooding	0
Flash Flood Warning	0
Flash Flood Statement	0
Urban and Small Stream Flood Advisory	0
Flood Watch for Flooding	0
Flood Warning	0
Flood Statement	0
Flood Advisory	0
Hydrologic Statement	0
Hydrologic Outlook	0
Water Supply Outlook (Issued by WFO BOI, covering all of Idaho)	1

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
Pocatello WFO Forecasters and HMTs