

**Utilities**

electric · stormwater · wastewater · water

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DATE: February 8, 2023

TO: Water Commission

FROM: Michael Neale, Water Resources Engineer
& Water Resources Division Staff

RE: **January 2022 Water Resources Division Staff Report**

Purpose

This memorandum is intended to update the Water Commission on water resource conditions for the City of Fort Collins Water Utility (Water Utility) over the month of January and provide updated outlook information. For additional information, please refer to the City's website:

<https://www.fcgov.com/utilities/water-status>

Water Resources Summary**Supply and Demand**

- Water Supply – During the month of January, water supply consisted of 49% from Horsetooth Reservoir, and 51% from the Cache la Poudre River.
- Water Demand – Demands within the Water Utility service area for the month of January and total for 2022:
 - Water demand in January was 101.3% of projected demand.

Weather: <https://climate.colostate.edu/>

Measured at the Fort Collins weather station 053005 along with average normals from 1991-2020:

- Mean daily high temperature recorded for the month: 38.6 °F.
 - 30-year average daily high temperature for the month is: 45.0 °F.
- Total recorded monthly precipitation: 0.79 in.
 - 30-year average precipitation for the month: 0.41 in.
- Total recorded monthly snowfall: 8.8 in.
 - 30-year average snowfall: 6.7 in.

Snowpack: Natural Resources Conservation Service SNOTEL program percent of median snow water equivalent totals as of 2/08/2023:

- Upper Colorado Basin: 127% of median.
- Poudre Basin: 122% of median.

Reservoir Storage:

- Presented in the Northern Water District Storage and Delivery Report, as of February 1:
 - Colorado-Big Thompson project reservoirs (Granby, Carter, and Horsetooth): 76% full.
 - Horsetooth Reservoir: 54% full.
- Joe Wright Reservoir: 66% full (106% of average based on 14 years of data).

Cache la Poudre River flow: Graphical data for the Poudre River is available on-line at:

- Cache La Poudre River at the Canyon Mouth
<https://dwr.state.co.us/Tools/Stations/CLAFTCCO?params=DISCHRG>
- Cache La Poudre River at Fort Collins
<https://dwr.state.co.us/Tools/Stations/CLAFORCO?params=DISCHRG>

Drought Monitors:

- Larimer County and Colorado https://climate.colostate.edu/drought_info.html
As of January 31, Larimer County is not experiencing drought conditions.
- Colorado and the USA <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>
The Colorado River basin remains in severe drought conditions.

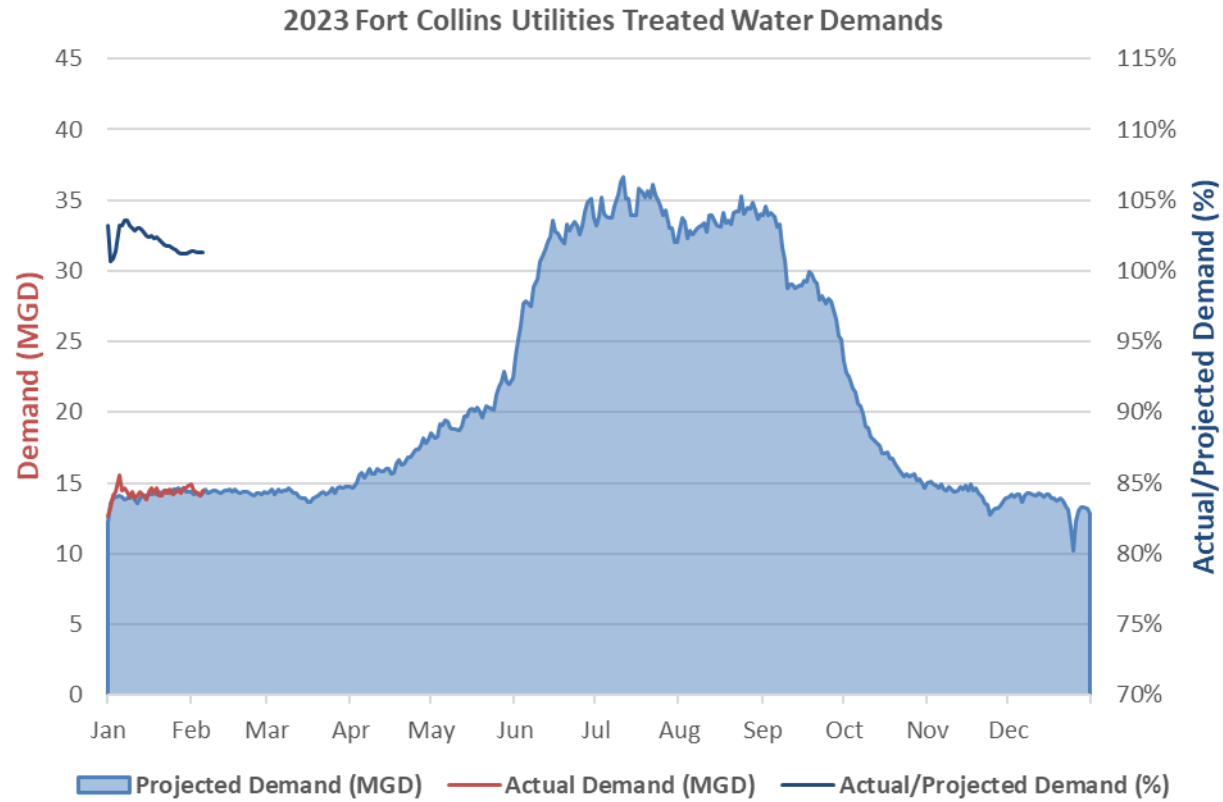
Climate Outlook: <https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/>

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) climate outlooks for the northern Front Range and northern mountains, over the next three months:

- Equal chances of above or below normal precipitation and temperature.

Other Water Supply Considerations:

- The Colorado-Big Thompson (CBT) system currently with 99% equivalent quota in project reserves, this on top of the initial quota allocation and carryover. See Northern Water's February report attached.
- Water Resources Division is closely monitoring the hydrology of the Colorado River basin, the statewide and regional discussions around the Colorado River Compact, and any demand management action by the Federal Bureau of Reclamation in response to drought in the Colorado River basin.
- Water Resources Division maintains close communication with Northern Water regarding any drought response or policy action affecting the CBT system. As of now, there is no indication of drought management action needed from Northern Water.
- If drought management action is called for, the Water Shortage Action Plan (WSAP) is in place to guide our decisions and actions (fcgov.com/WSAP).





**City of Fort Collins Utilities
Treated Water Monthly Summary
2023**

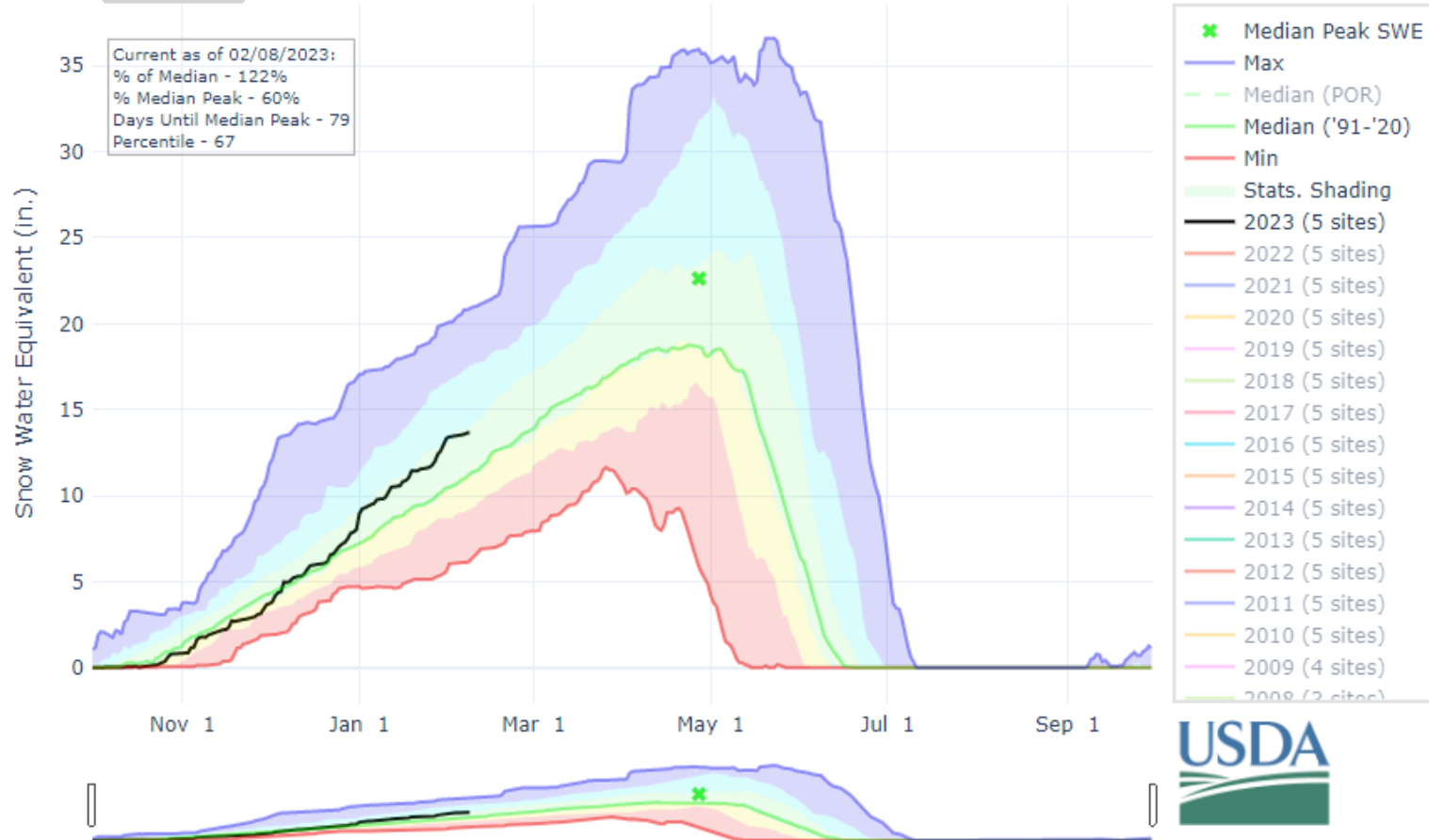
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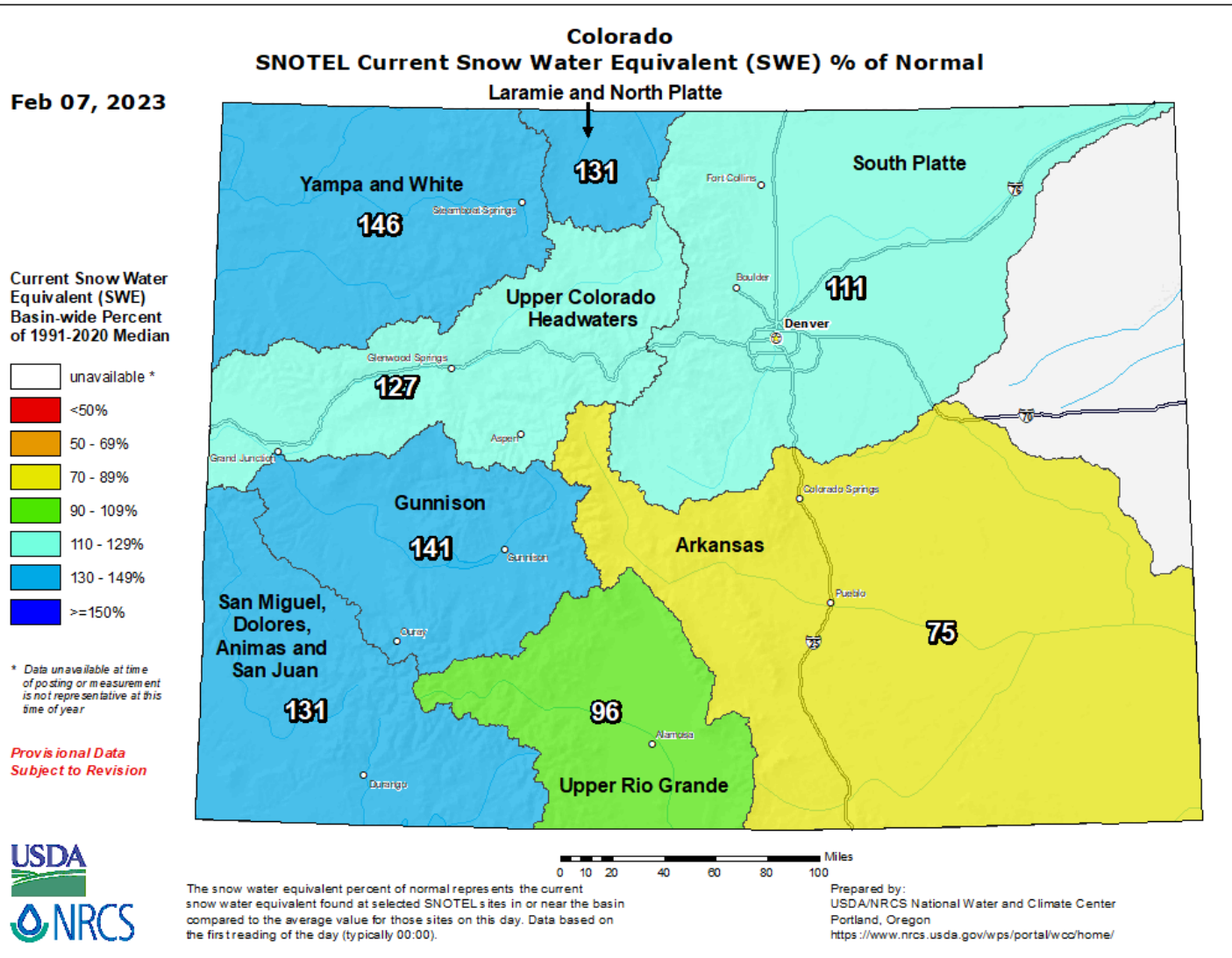
SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN CACHE LA POUDRE

Reset Range

Link to data: [CSV](#) / [JSON](#)

[Station List](#)



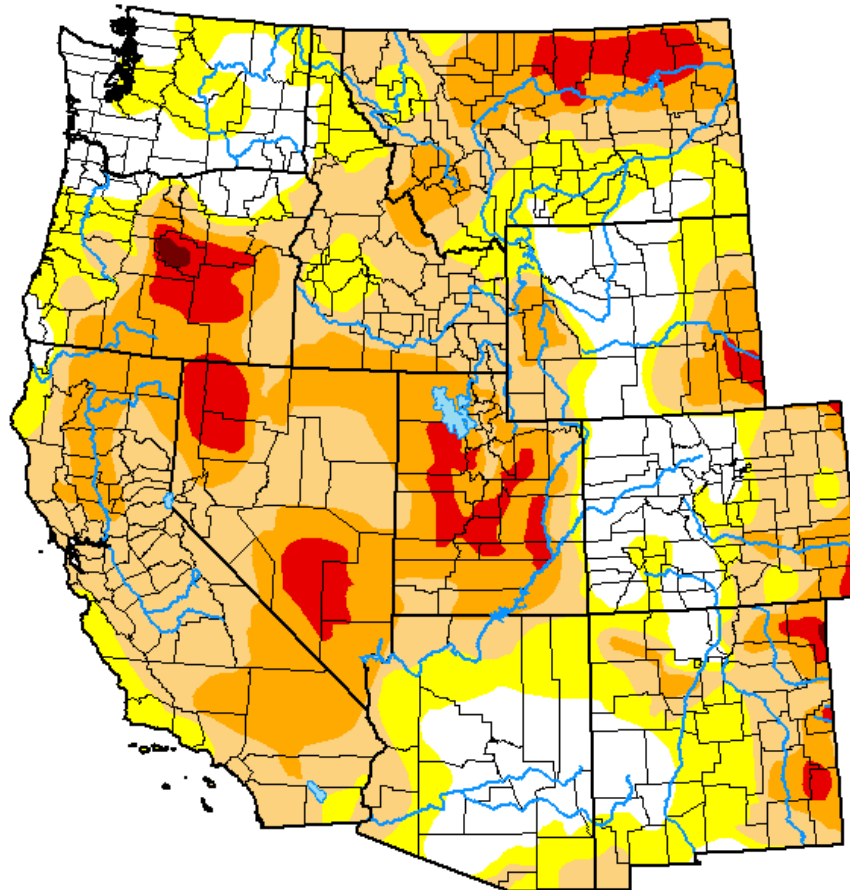


U.S. Drought Monitor **West**







January 31, 2023

(Released Thursday, Feb. 2, 2023)

Valid 7 a.m. EST



Intensity:

-  None
-  D0 Abnormally Dry
-  D1 Moderate Drought
-  D2 Severe Drought
-  D3 Extreme Drought
-  D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

Rocky Bilotta
NCEI/NOAA



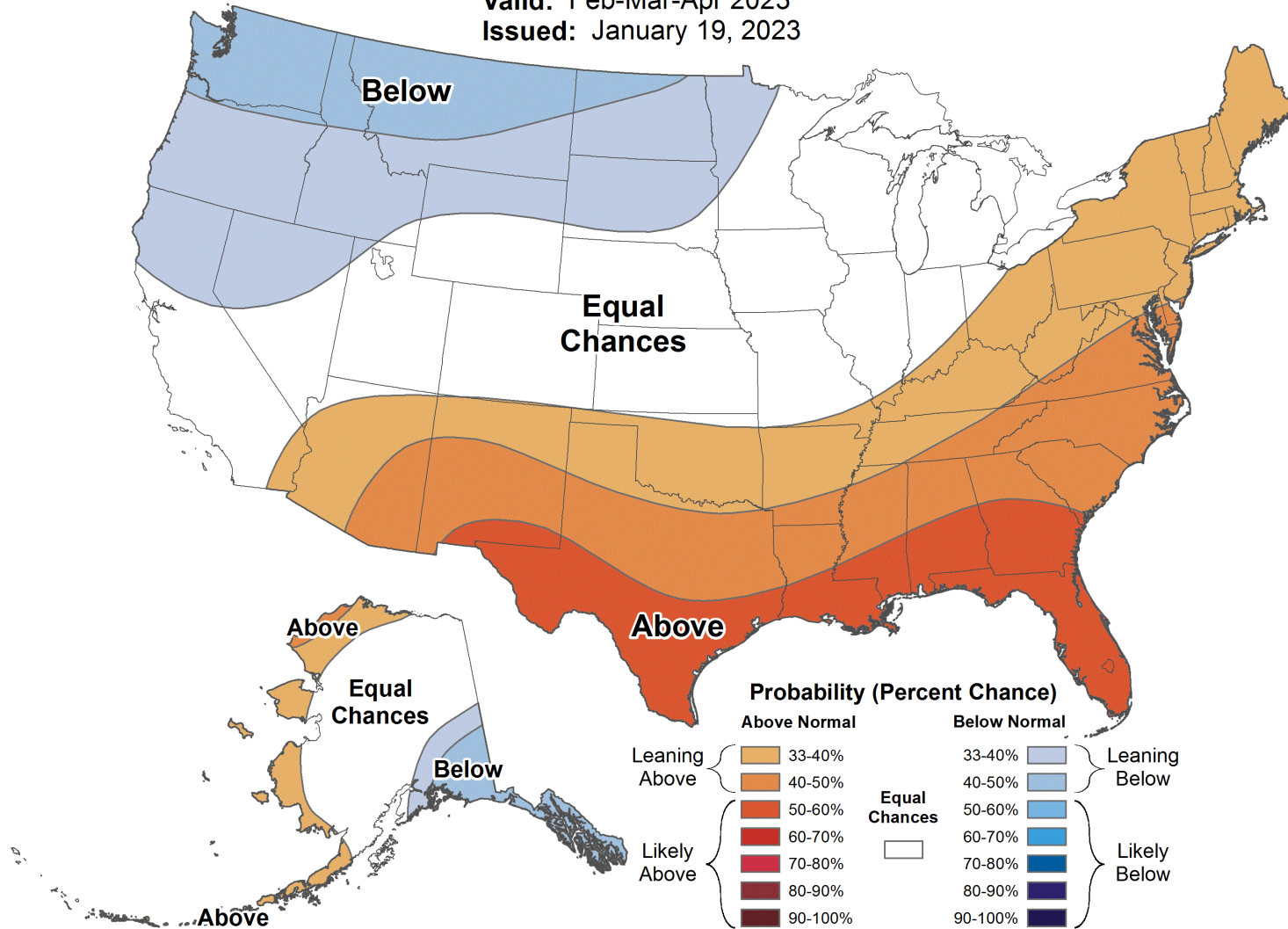
droughtmonitor.unl.edu



Seasonal Temperature Outlook



Valid: Feb-Mar-Apr 2023
Issued: January 19, 2023

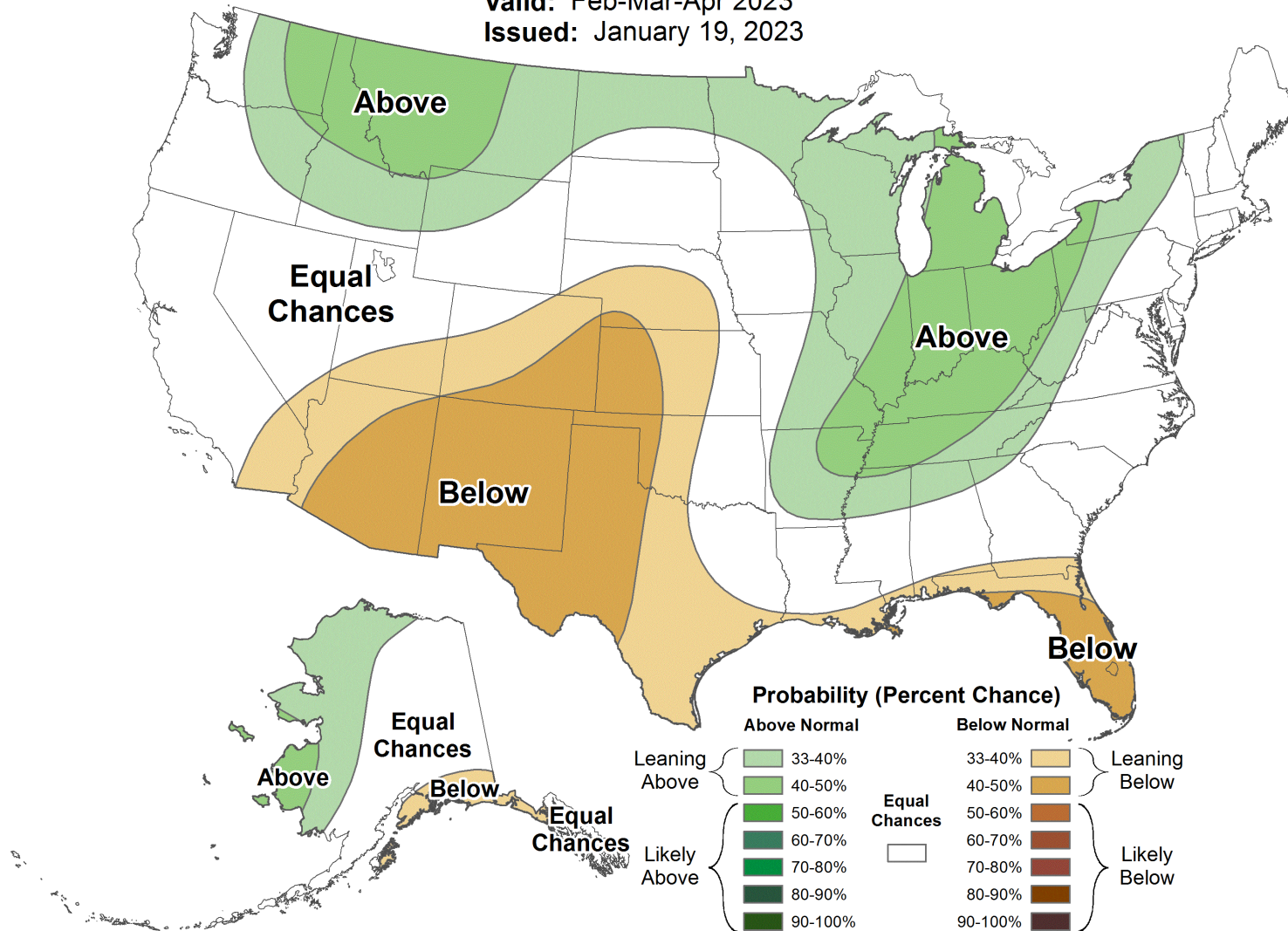




Seasonal Precipitation Outlook

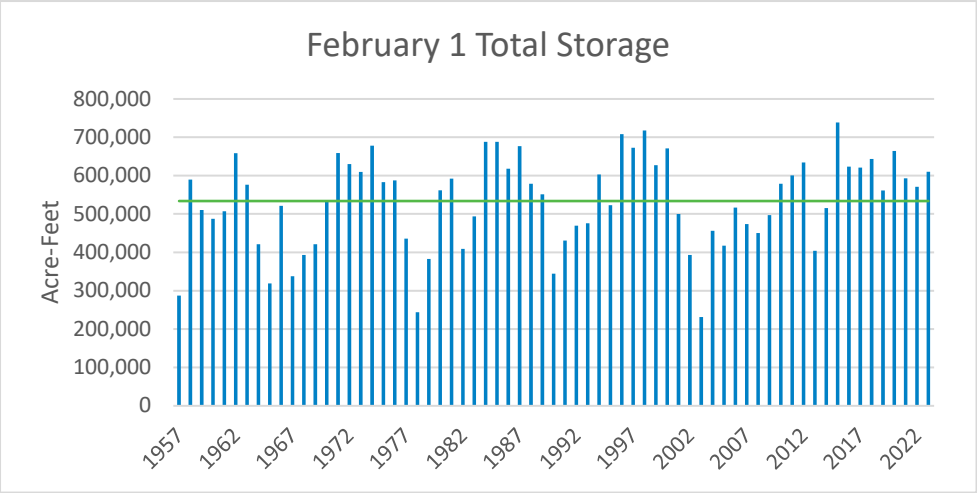
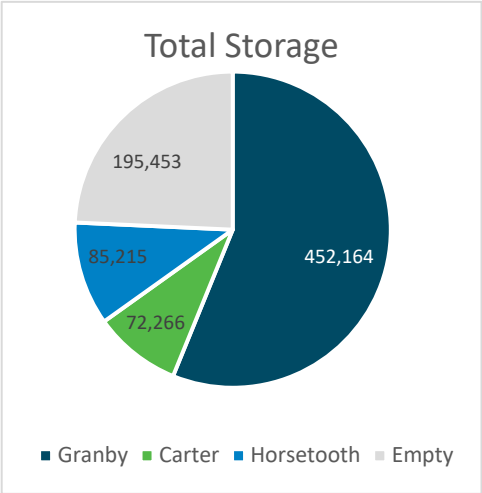


Valid: Feb-Mar-Apr 2023
Issued: January 19, 2023

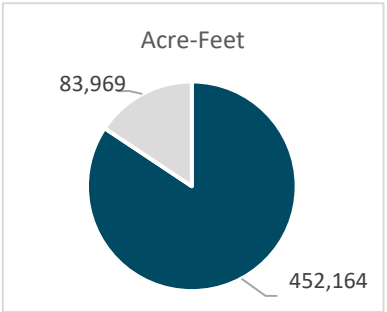
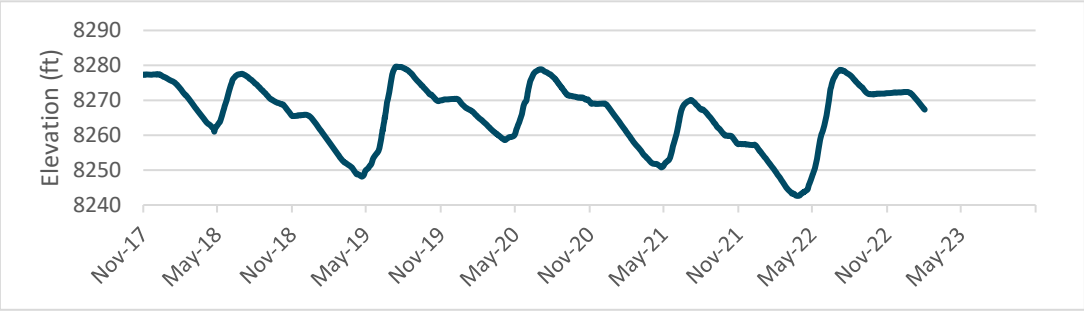


C-BT Project Storage

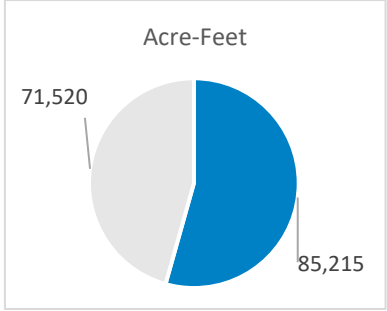
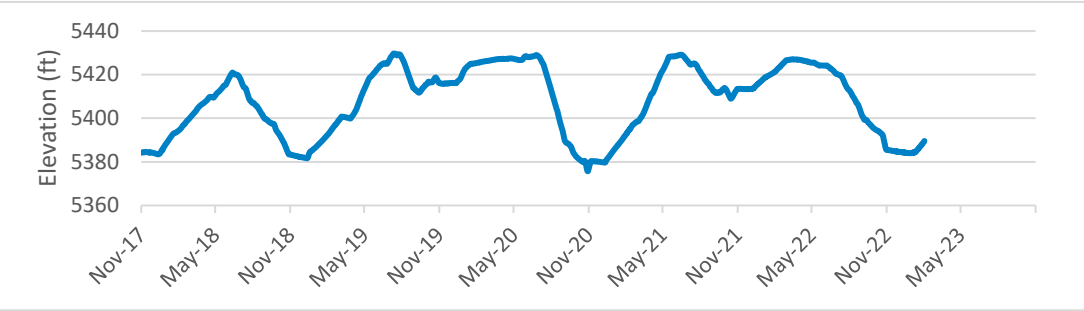
February 1, 2023



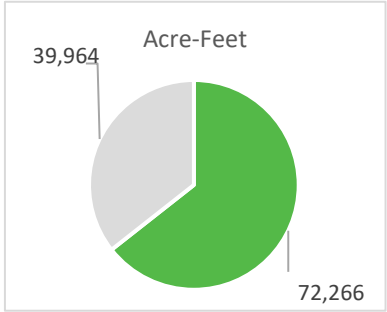
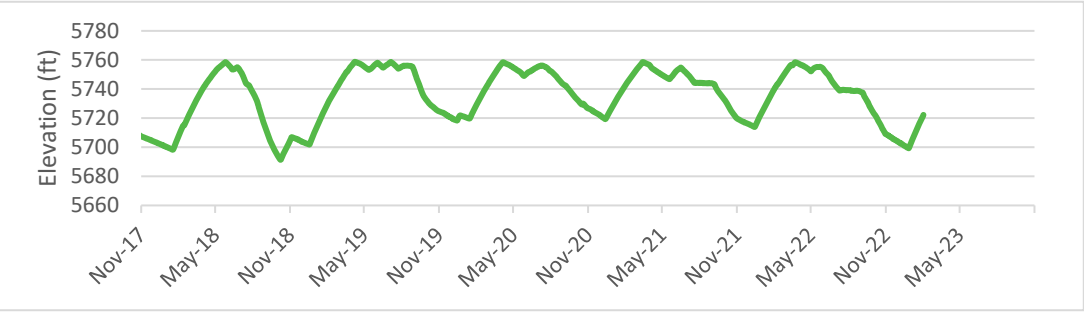
Lake Granby Storage in Lake Granby decreased 481,536 acre-feet last month



Horsetooth Reservoir Storage in Horsetooth Reservoir increased 7,627 acre-feet last month



Carter Lake Storage in Carter Lake increased 18,419 acre-feet last month



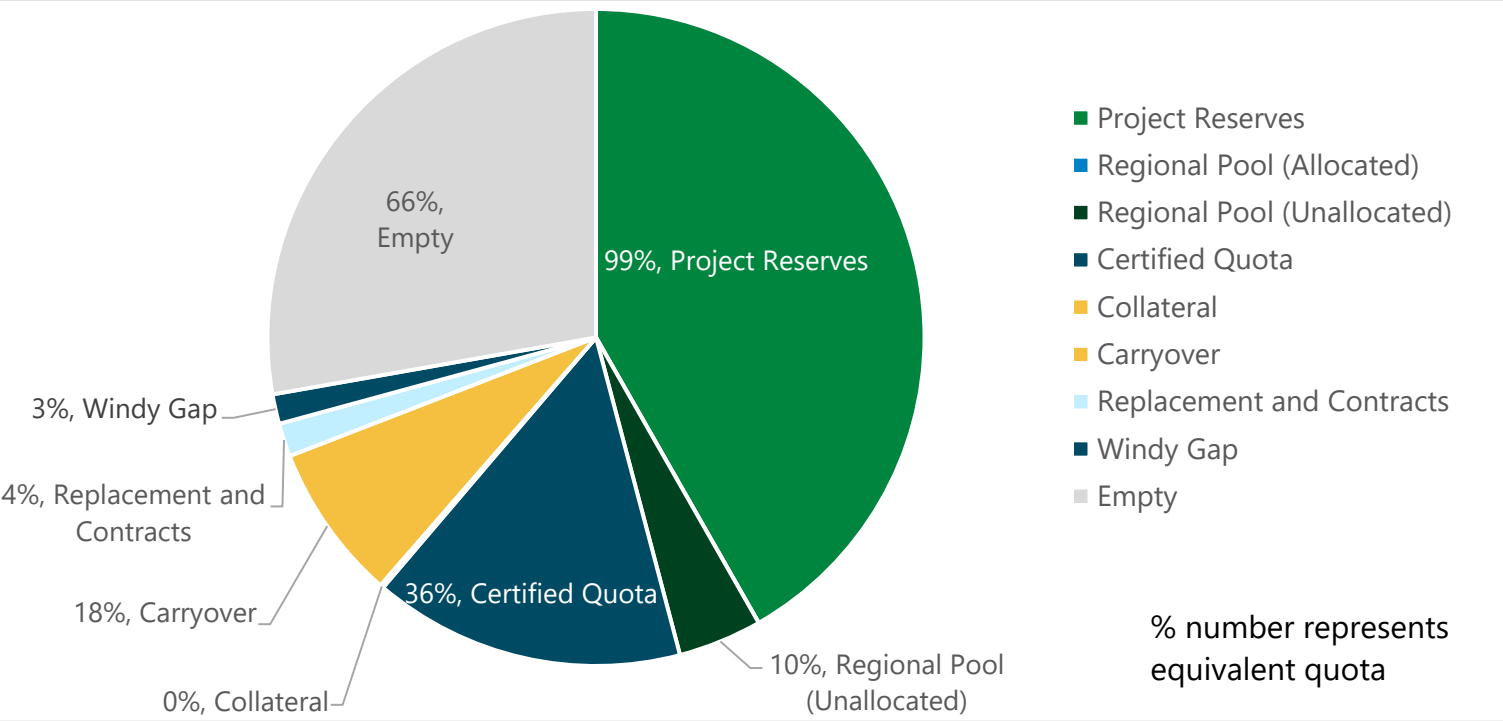
Note: Storage in pie charts represents total storage (active and dead storage).

C-BT Project Allocated Water

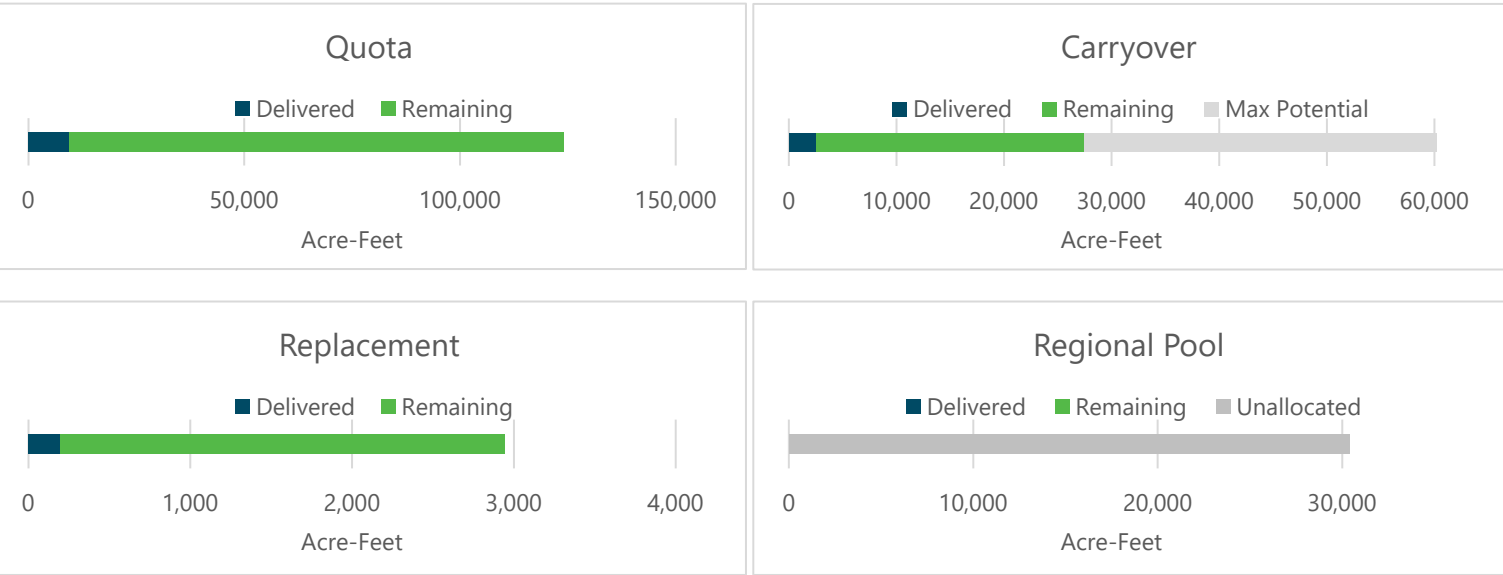
February 1, 2023



C-BT Active Storage



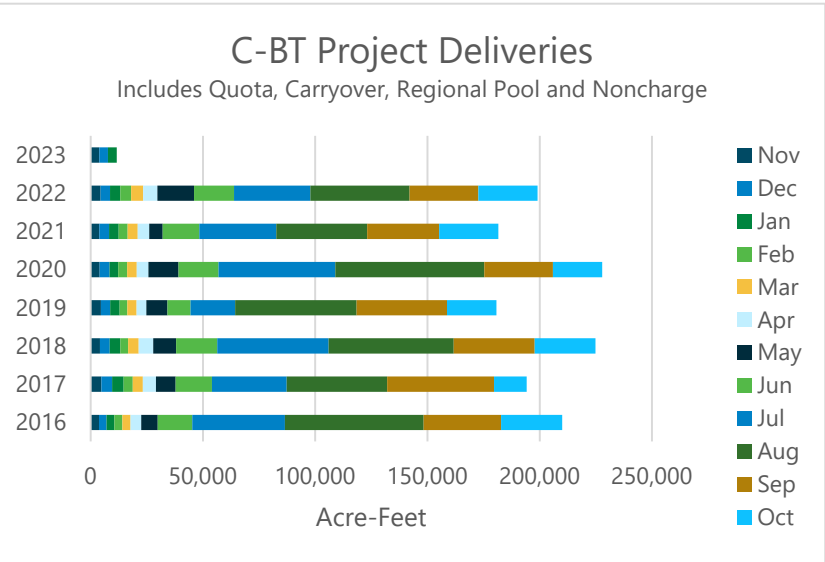
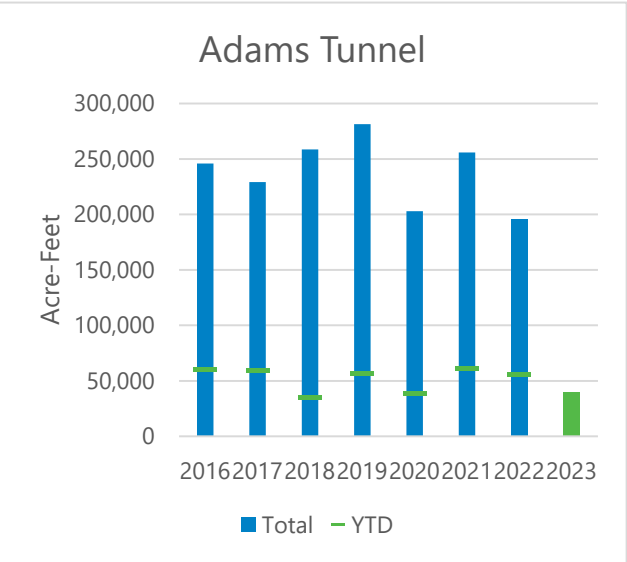
C-BT Delivery Obligations



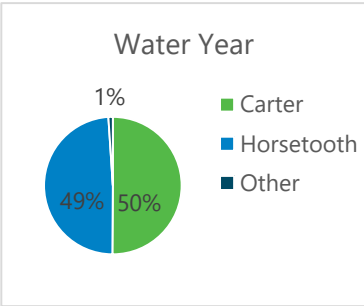
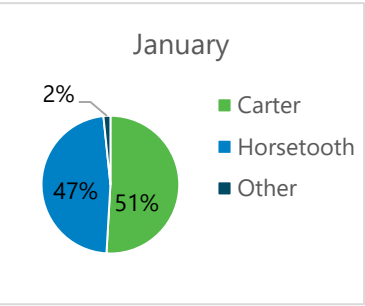
- Notes:**
- 1) Quota set at 40%
 - 2) Carryover - Carryover will not be certified until April 30. Until that date, the Maximum Potential Carryover is reported for Carryover so that adequate supplies are set aside to fulfill all potential obligations.
 - 3) Regional Pool - Additional water will accrue to the Regional Pool until April 30. The current volume reflects water supplies not eligible for the Carryover Program.
 - 4) Pie chart reflects the active storage in Granby, Carter, Horsetooth and Boulder Reservoir.

C-BT Project Deliveries

February 1, 2023



Deliveries by Area



Deliveries by Use

