



# Colorado River Commission of Nevada

## Hydrology and Water Use Update

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March 10, 2020





# Summary

## Lake Powell

- Water Year 2020 snowpack is currently below the seasonal average.
- Below average precipitation from June to September 2019 has caused dry soil conditions in the Upper Basin.
- Water Year 2020 unregulated inflow is forecasted to be 78% of average.

## Lake Mead

- In calendar year 2020, Nevada will be required to have an Extraordinary ICS contribution of 8,000 acre feet pursuant to the DCP operation agreement.
- Lake Mead is projected to decrease about 11 feet by end of this calendar year.

## Nevada Water Supply

- Southern Nevada has 7 years of water supply banked. <sup>1</sup>
- **In 2018, Southern Nevada used 19% less than its annual allocation.**

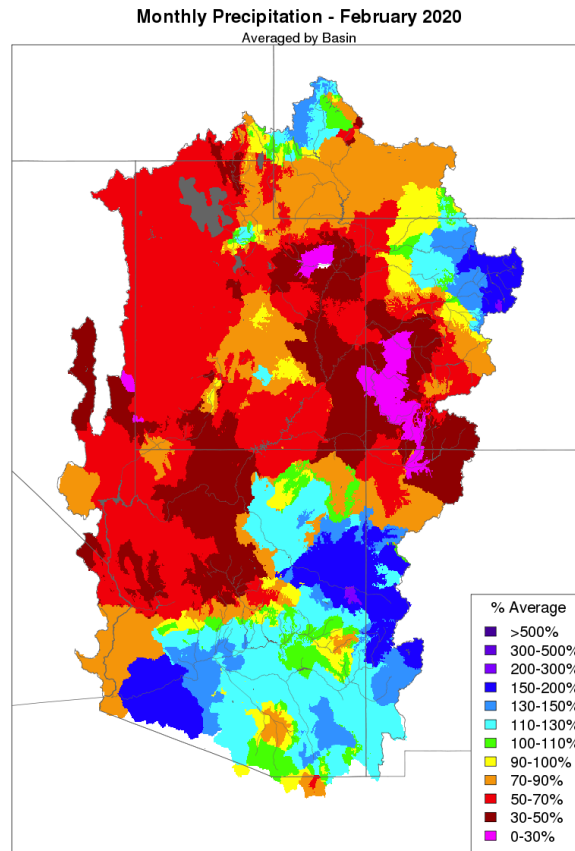
Storage	Elevation (f)	% Capacity	Change since last year
Lake Mead	1,095.9	44%	7.0 ft
Lake Powell	3,602.0	49%	30.9 ft

Data retrieved March 8, 2020

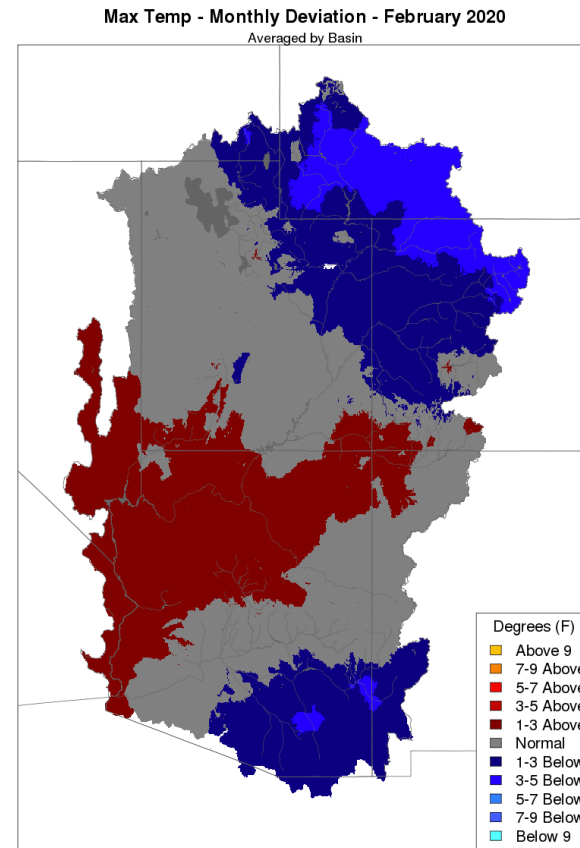
<sup>1</sup> Based on historical Southern Nevada water use.



# Precipitation and Temperature



Prepared by NOAA, Colorado Basin River Forecast Center  
Salt Lake City, Utah, [www.cbrfc.noaa.gov](http://www.cbrfc.noaa.gov)



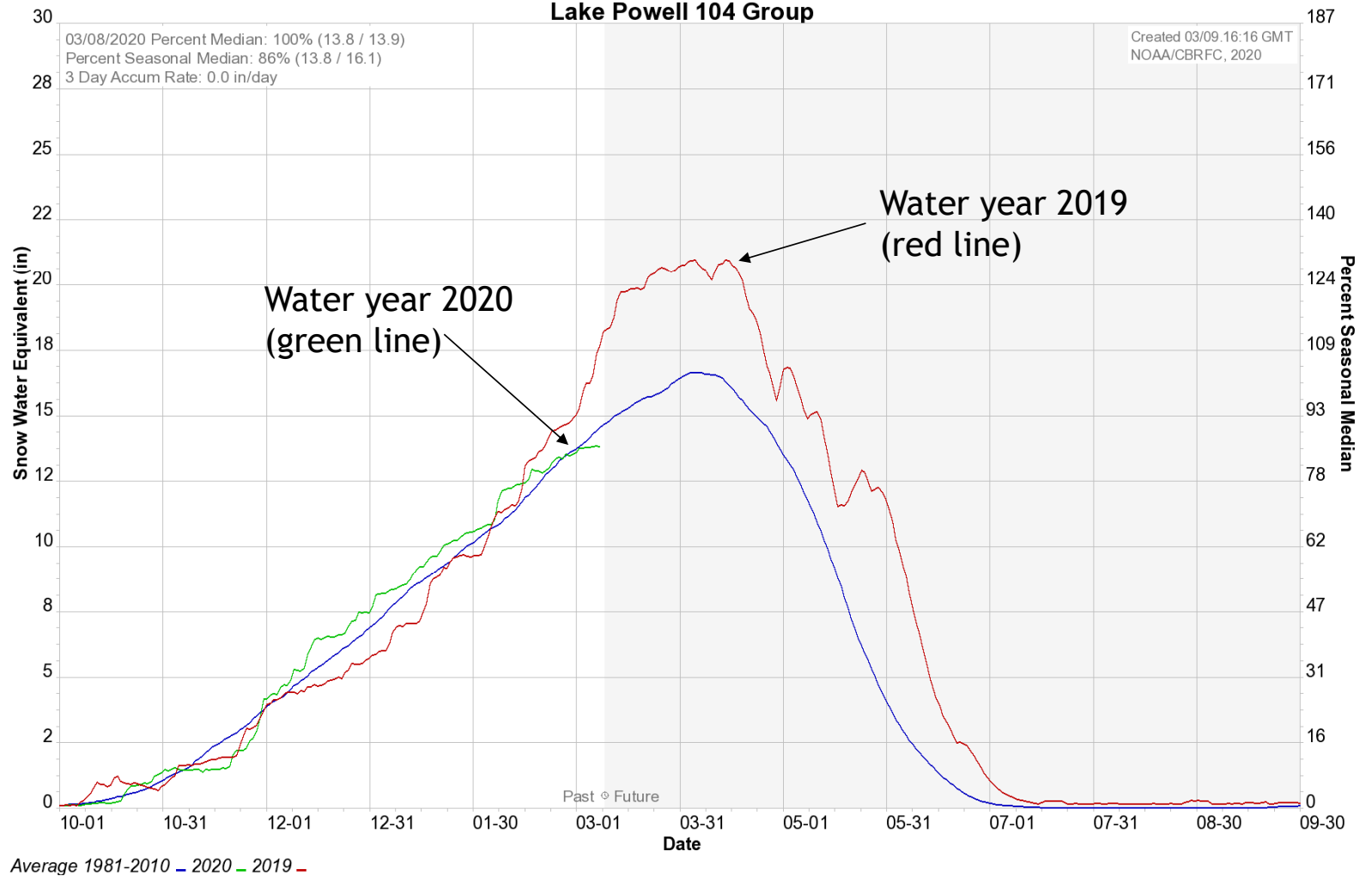
Prepared by NOAA, Colorado Basin River Forecast Center  
Salt Lake City, Utah, [www.cbrfc.noaa.gov](http://www.cbrfc.noaa.gov)

Above Lake Powell February precipitation: 91%  
Above Lake Powell water year 2020 cumulative precipitation: 91%



# Upper Basin Snowpack Accumulation

Colorado Basin River Forecast Center  
Lake Powell 104 Group





## Unregulated Inflow, Current and Projected Reservoir Status

Projected unregulated inflow to Lake Powell      Acre-Feet      % Average

Water Year 2020	8,482,000	78%*
April thru July 2020	5,700,000	80%*

\* 2020 forecast reduced due to below average precipitation and dry soil conditions.

Reservoir	Current Elevation	Current Storage Acre-Feet	Current % Capacity	Projected Elevation on 1/1/2021 <sup>1</sup>
Lake Mead	1,095.9	11,371,000	44%	1,084.8
Lake Powell	3,602.0	11,945,000	49%	3,611.3

Data retrieved March 8, 2020

<sup>1</sup> Based on Reclamation's February 2020 24 Month Study Most Probable Inflow.





# Water Use In Southern Nevada

## Southern Nevada Water Use

## 2018 Actual Use in Acre-Feet

Nevada Annual Allocation	300,000
Diversion	479,279
Return Flows	235,176
Consumptive Use	244,103
Unused Allocation Available for Banking	55,897 (19%)

## Southern Nevada Water Use

## Diversions

## Return Flows

## Consumptive Use

January 2020	30,301	20,870	9,431
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## Banked Water (through end of 2018)

## Acre-Feet

Ground Water Recharge in So. Nevada	358,045
Banked in Lake Mead	700,448
Banked in California and Arizona	943,821
Total	2,002,314