

Colorado River Commission of Nevada

Natural Resources Group Hydrologic Update March 17, 2016



Unregulated Inflow Into Lake Powell

As of March 14, 2016

	MAF*	% Avg**
• WY 2016 (Projected):	9.02	83%
• April-July 2016 (Projected):	5.7	80%
• February (observed):	0.40	101%
• March (forecasted):	0.70	105%

*MAF=Million Acre-Feet

**30-year average, from 1981-2010 (current normal)



Storage Conditions

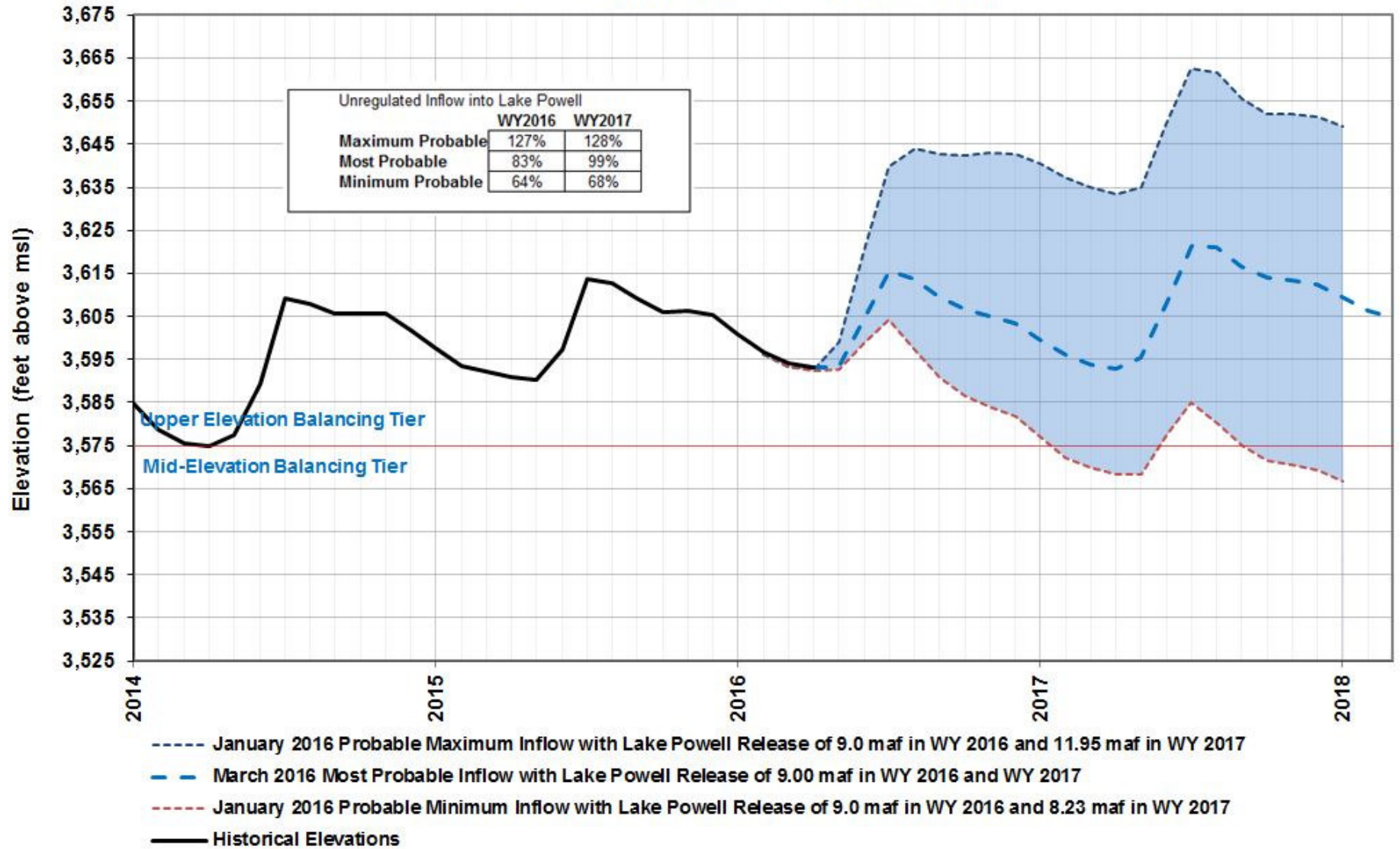
As of March 14, 2016

		<u>Percent of Capacity</u>	<u>Δ from last year</u>
Lake Mead elev.	1,082.84 ft	39%	↓ 4.57 ft
Lake Powell elev.	3,593.72 ft	46%	↑ 1.91 ft
Total System Storage (3/2016)	29.05 maf	49%	↓ 0.04 maf
Total System Storage (3/2015)	29.09 maf	49%	



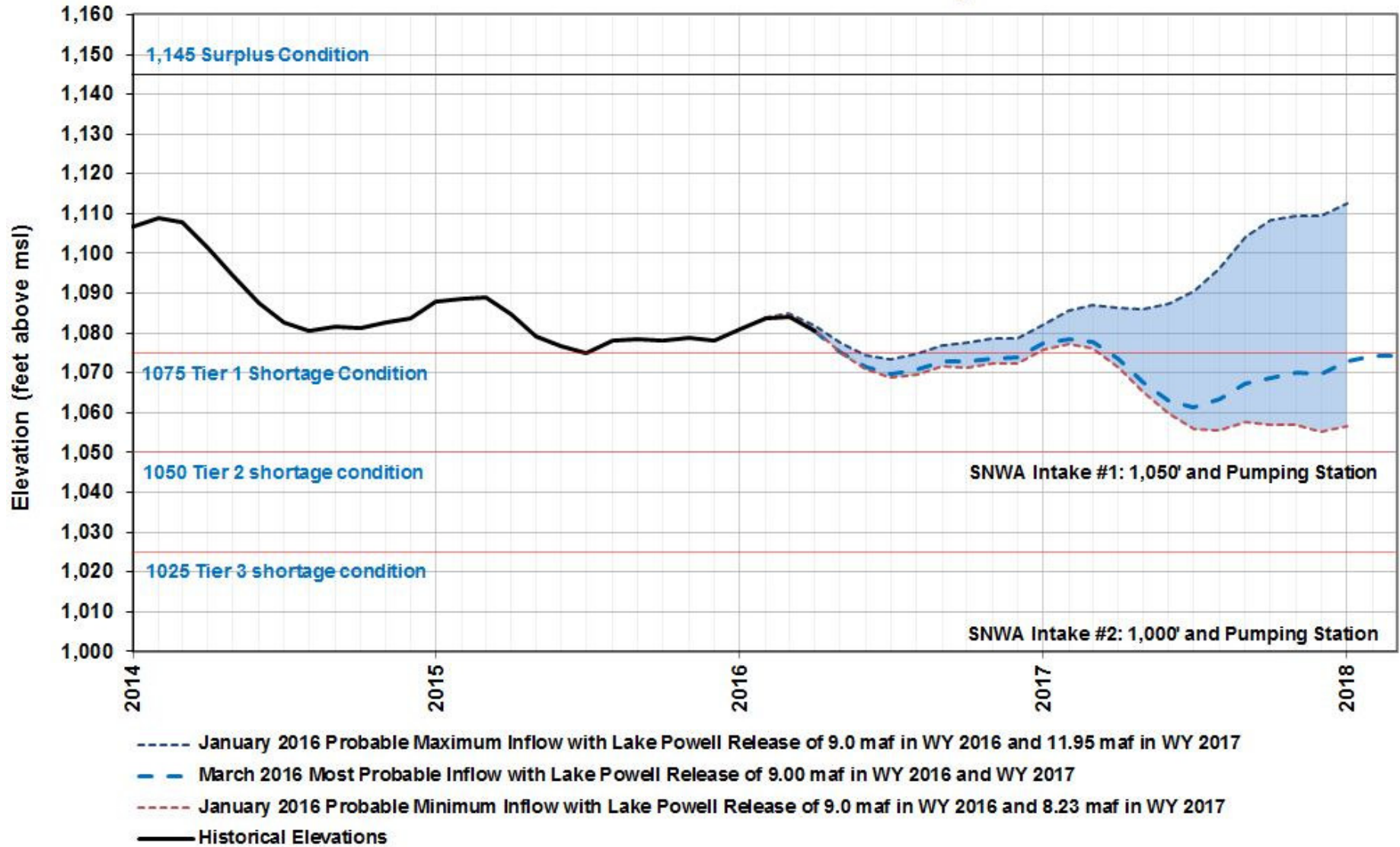
Lake Powell Projections

Reclamation's March 2016 24-Month Study



Lake Mead Projections

Reclamation's March 24-Month Study

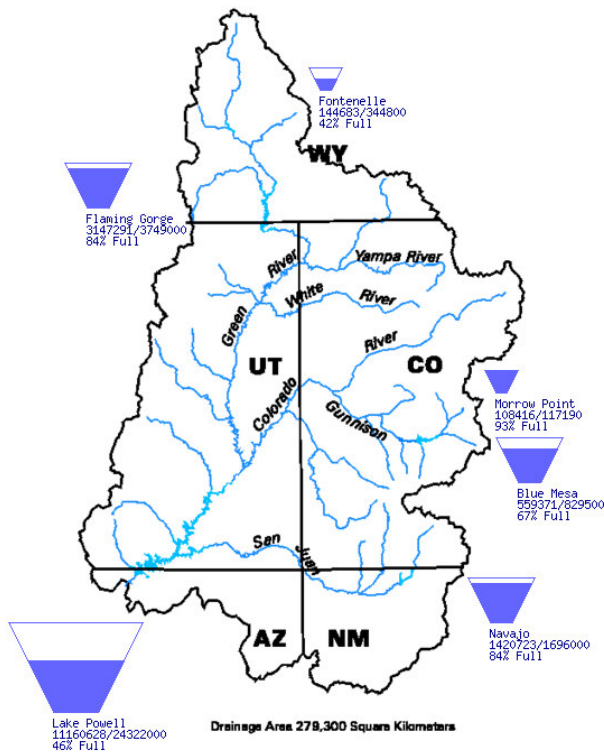


Reservoir Storage

As of March 14, 2016

Data Current as of:
03/13/2016

Upper Colorado River Drainage Basin



Colorado River Reservoir Storages

Basin	Reservoir	Max Storage	*Current Storage	Percentage	Current Storage subtotals
Upper Basin	Crystal Reservoir	17,356	16,758	97%	5,397,242
	Flaming Gorge	3,749,000	3,147,291	84%	
	Fontenelle	344,800	144,683	42%	
	Morrow Point	117,190	108,416	93%	
	Blue Mesa	829,500	559,371	67%	
	Navajo	1,696,000	1,420,723	84%	
Lower Basin	Lake Powell	24,322,000	11,160,628	46%	2,246,200
	Lake Mead	26,120,000	10,243,000	39%	
	Lake Mohave	1,809,800	1,664,100	92%	
	Lake Havasu	619,400	582,100	94%	
	TOTAL	59,625,046	29,047,070	49%	

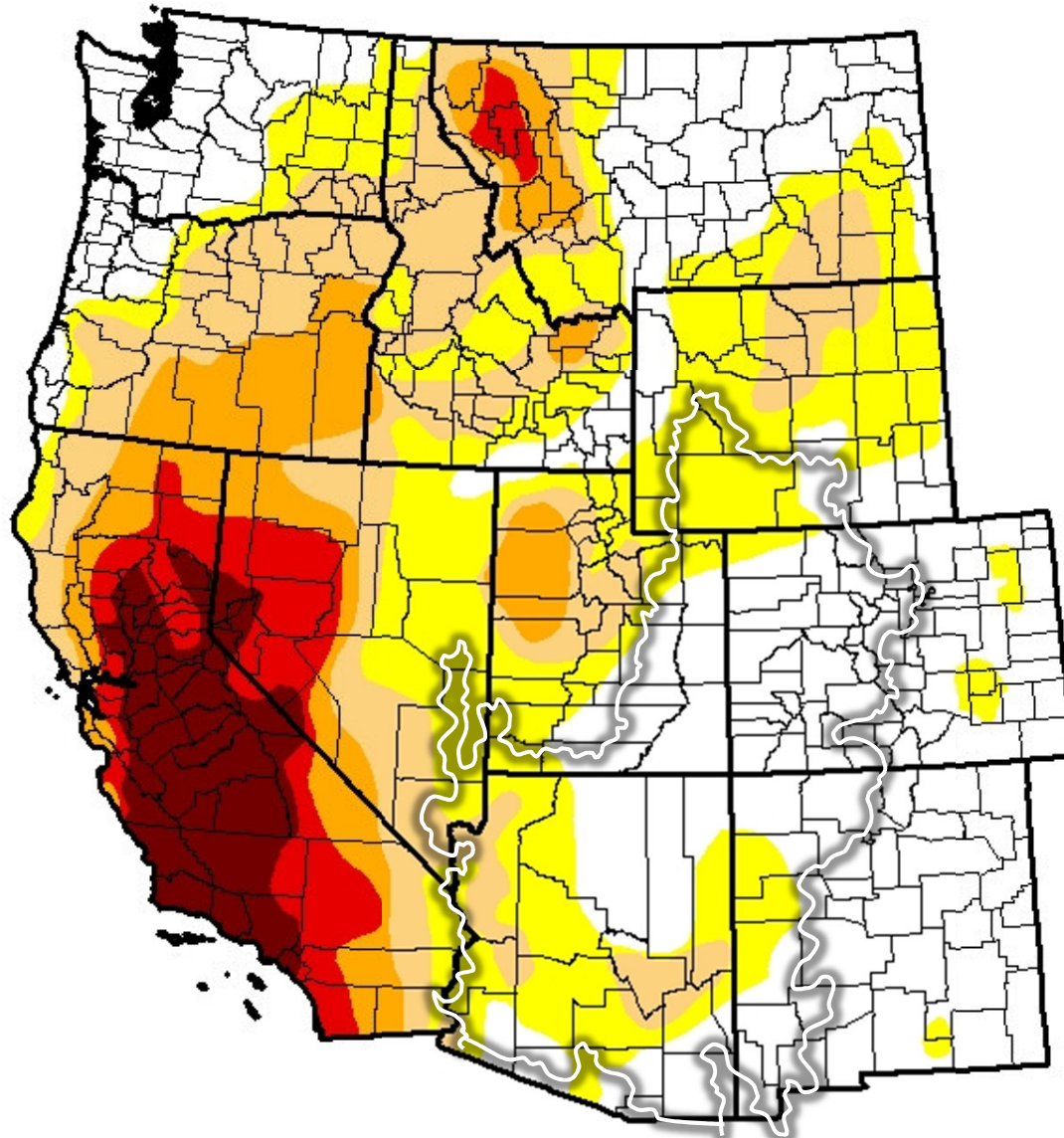
*Data current as 3/14/2016

<http://www.usbr.gov/lc/region/g4000/hourly/levels.html>

<http://www.usbr.gov/uc/water/rsrvs/ops/r40day.html>

U.S. Drought Monitor

West








March 8, 2016

(Released Thursday, Mar. 10, 2016)

Valid 7 a.m. EST

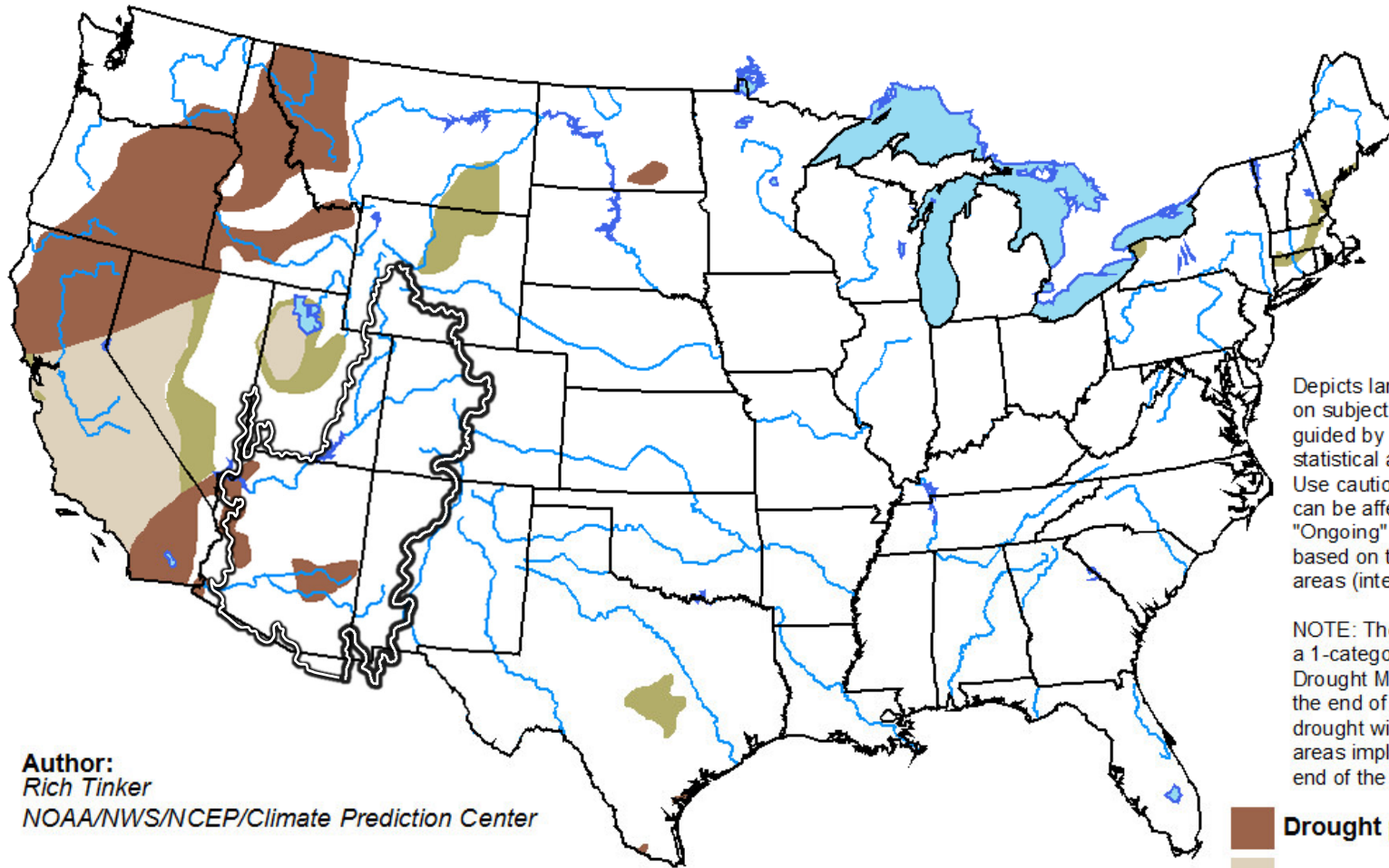
Intensity:

-  D0 - Abnormally Dry
-  D1 - Moderate Drought
-  D2 - Severe Drought
-  D3 - Extreme Drought
-  D4 - Exceptional Drought

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for February 18 - May 31, 2016
Released February 18, 2016

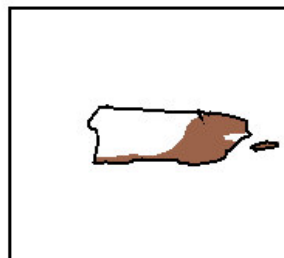
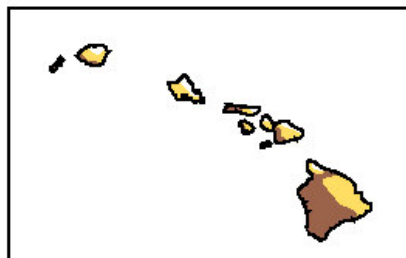
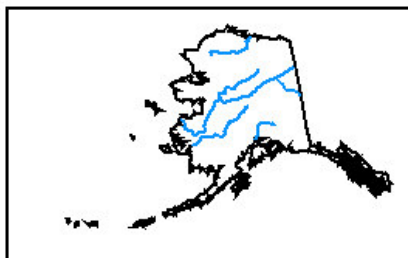


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

Author:
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NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

-  Drought persists
-  Drought remains but improves
-  Drought removal likely
-  Drought development likely



<http://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>

Precipitation – Colorado River Basin

As of March 14, 2016

Upper Colorado Basin

WY Precip to Date

91% (14.7")

Current Basin Snowpack

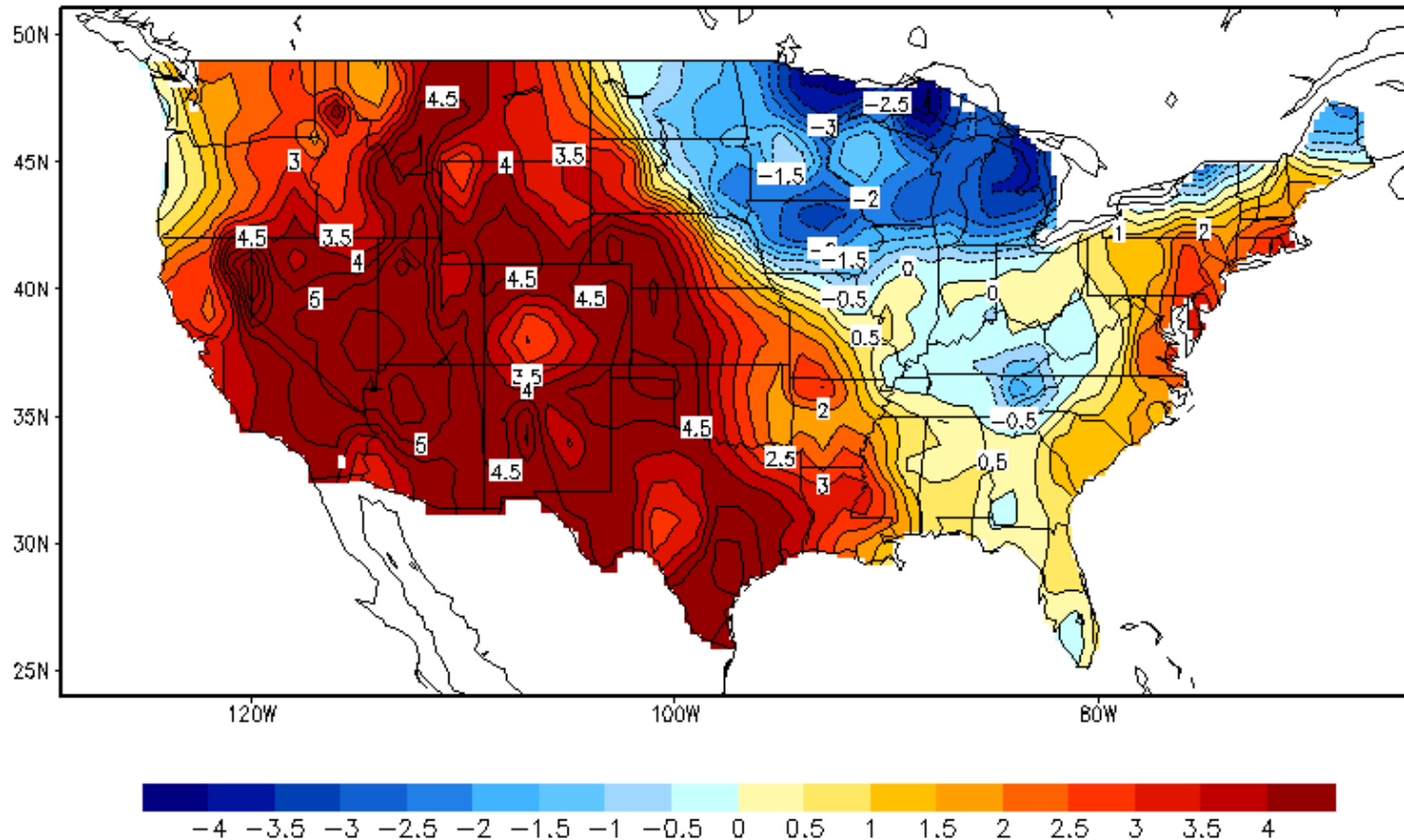
90% (12.8")

(Avg 1981-2010)



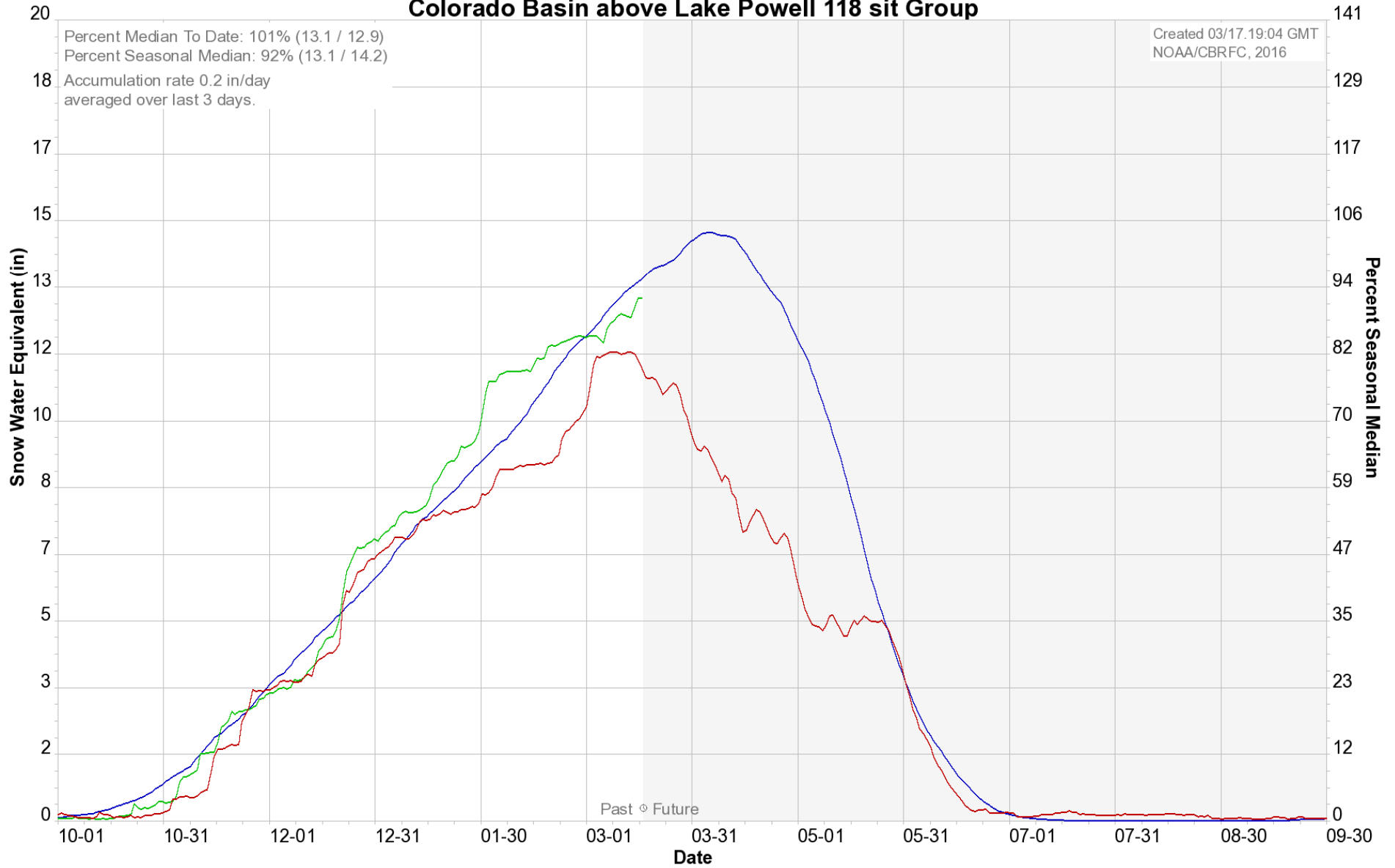
Temperature Deviations

Latest Month Averaged Temperature Anomaly



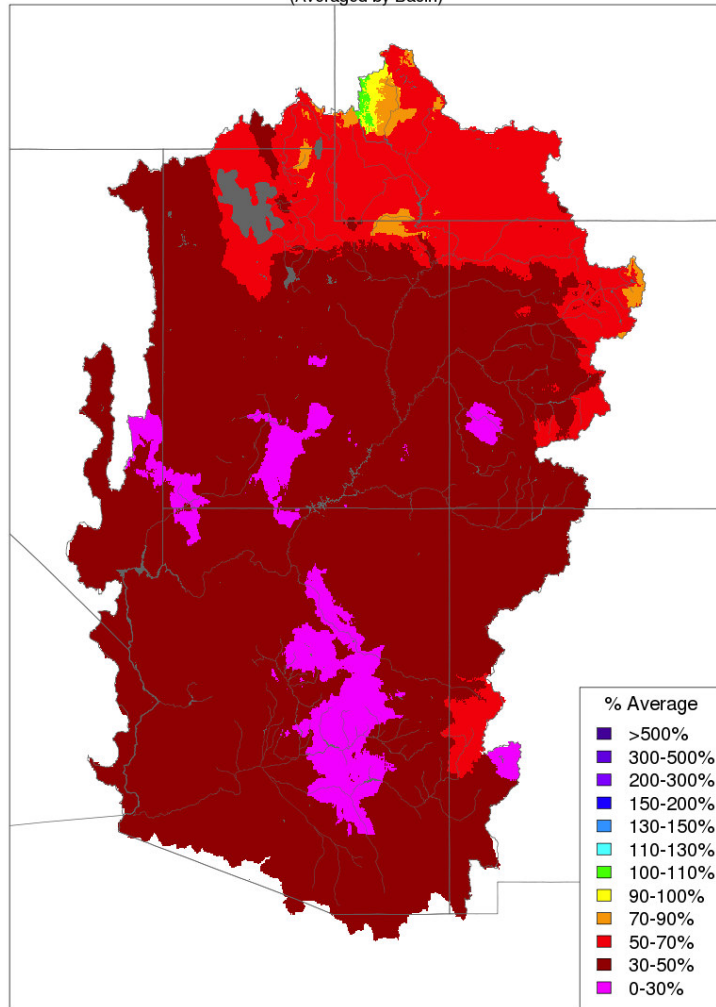
Warmer than average temperatures in February caused some areas of snow accumulation to start melting early. Historically, March and some of April can contribute to snowpack accumulation. To get above average snowpack for this water year, temperature needs to decrease and precipitation needs to increase through April. Some recent storms have improved snowpack conditions.

Colorado Basin River Forecast Center Colorado Basin above Lake Powell 118 sit Group



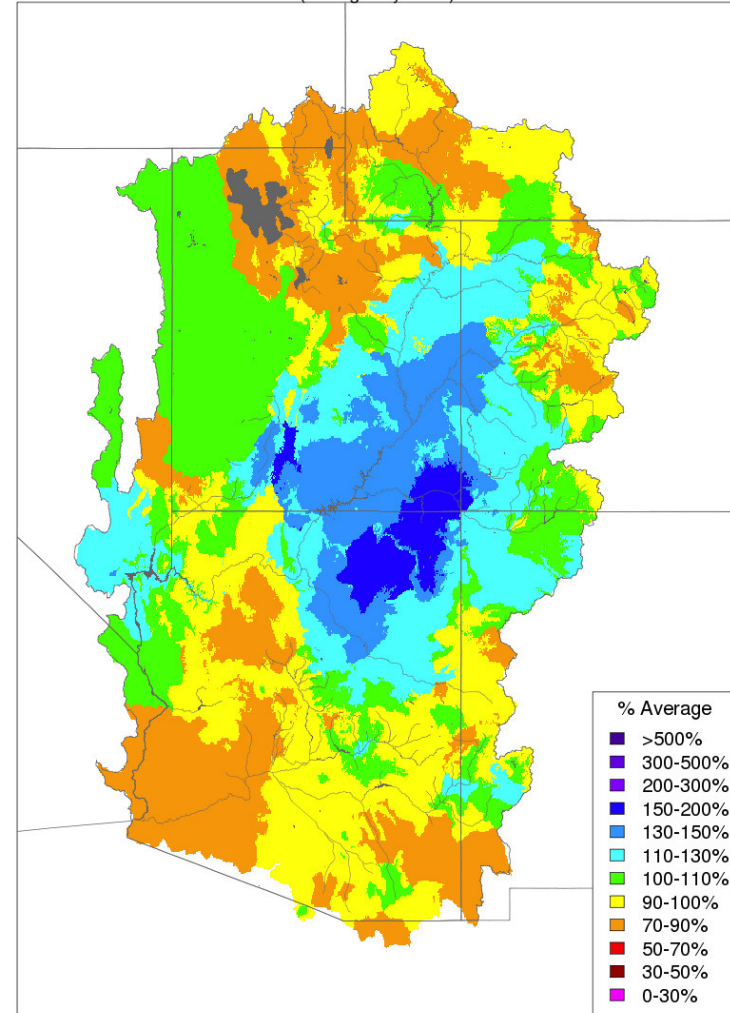
Precipitation

Monthly Precipitation - February 2016
(Averaged by Basin)



Prepared by NOAA, Colorado Basin River Forecast Center
Salt Lake City, Utah, www.cbrfc.noaa.gov

Water Year Precipitation, October 2015 - February 2016
(Averaged by Basin)



Prepared by NOAA, Colorado Basin River Forecast Center
Salt Lake City, Utah, www.cbrfc.noaa.gov

Water Use in Southern Nevada



Water Use in Southern Nevada

January – 2016

2016*: Consumptive Use = 8,451 af

2015*: Consumptive Use = 6,146 af

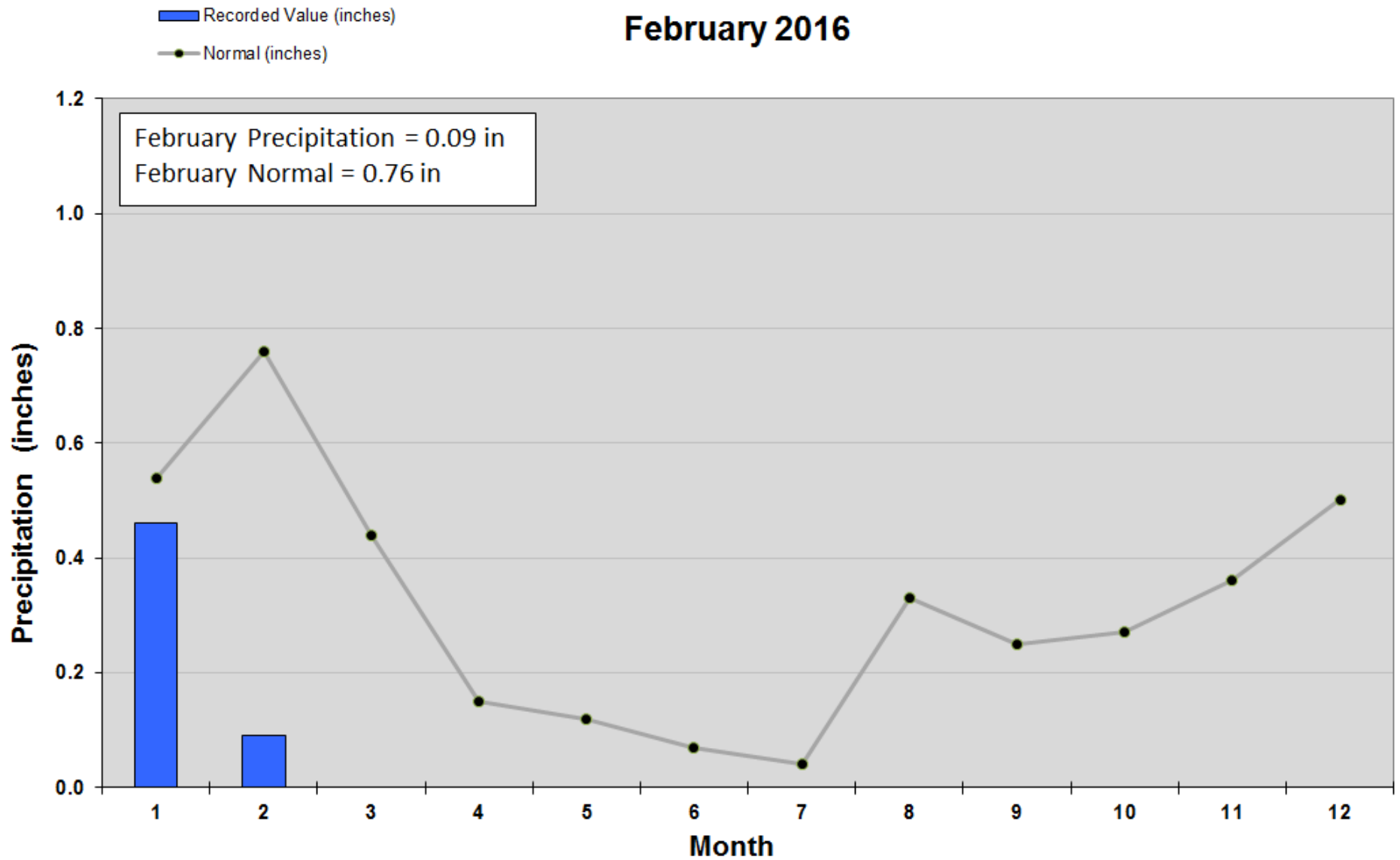
Difference = 2,305 af

*Subject to final accounting.



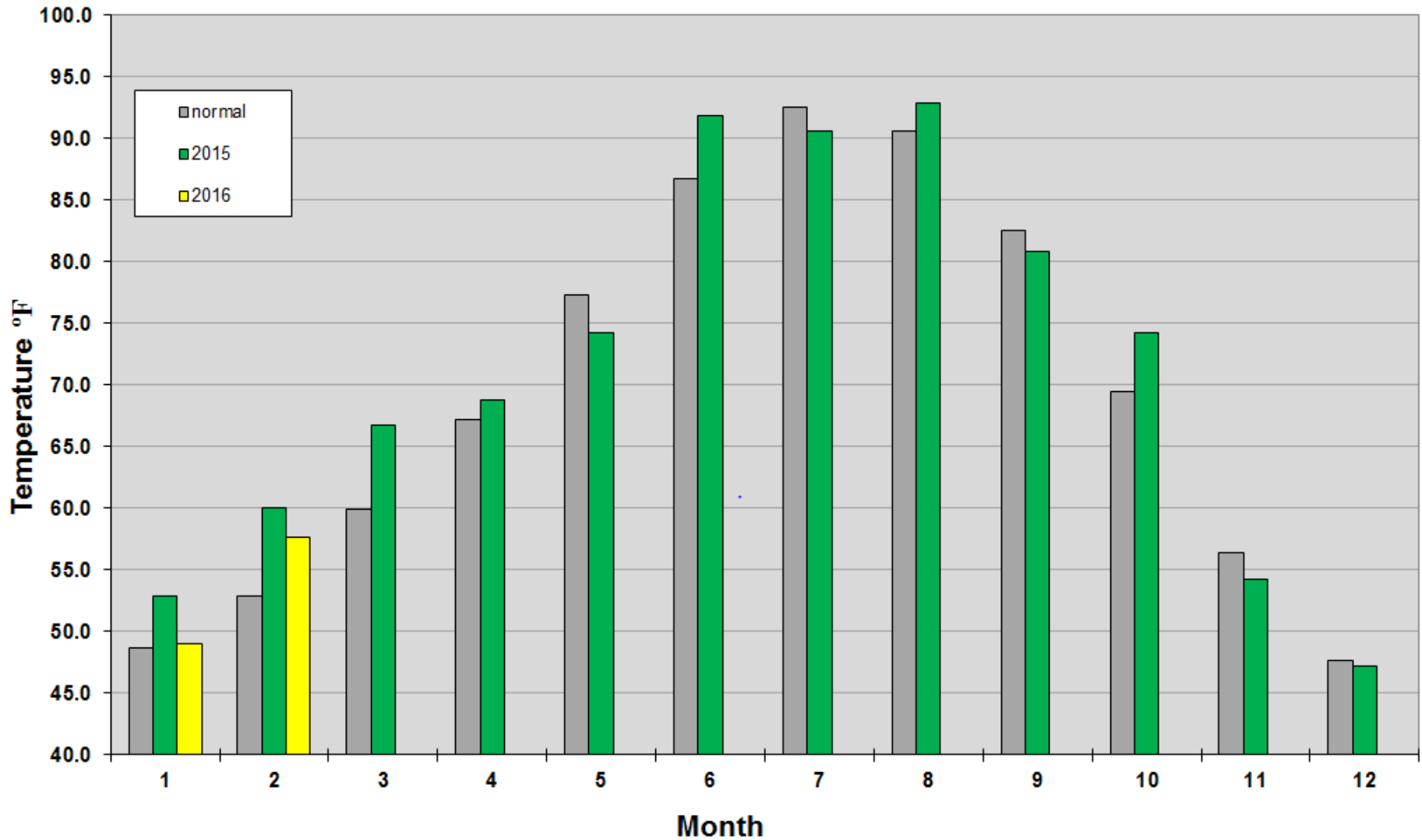
Monthly Precipitation at McCarran International Airport, Las Vegas, NV

February 2016



Las Vegas Average Temperature

Average Monthly Temperature at McCarran Airport, Las Vegas, NV



Colorado River Commission of Nevada

Questions?

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