



Colorado River Commission of Nevada

Hydrology and Water Use Update

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January 12, 2021





Summary

Lake Powell

- Drought conditions are causing below average inflow forecasts.
- Unregulated inflow for water year¹ 2021 is forecasted at 53% of average.
- Upper Basin snowpack is currently 66% of seasonal average.

Lake Mead

- Lake Mead is forecasted to decrease almost 15 feet in elevation by the end of calendar year 2021.
- Lower Basin conservation programs have conserved roughly 3.5 million af or about 40 additional feet in Lake Mead.

Nevada Water Supply

- Southern Nevada has 9 years of water supply banked. ²
- **In 2019, Southern Nevada used 22% less than its annual allocation.**

Storage	Elevation (f)	% Capacity	Change since last year
Lake Mead	1,084.5	40%	-7.3 ft
Lake Powell	3,580.4	42%	-27.2 ft

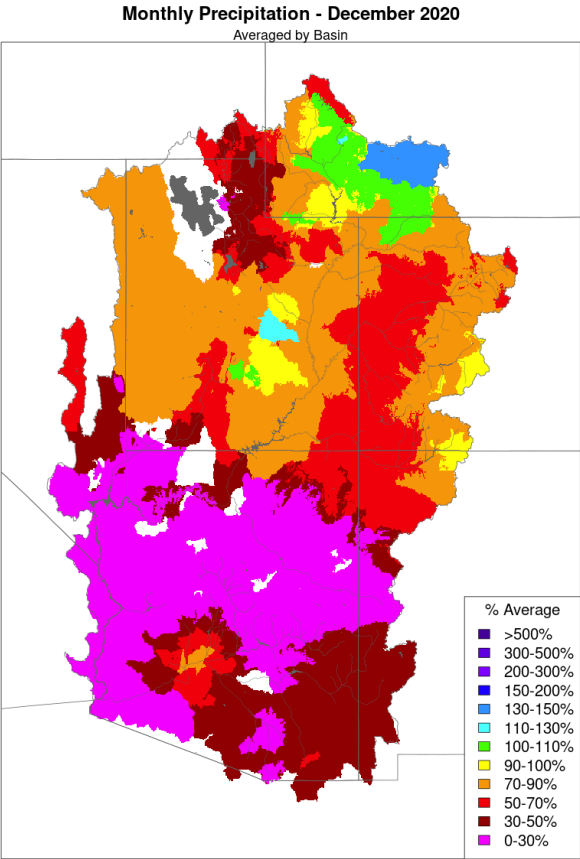
Data retrieved January 10, 2021

¹ Water year is defined as October through September.

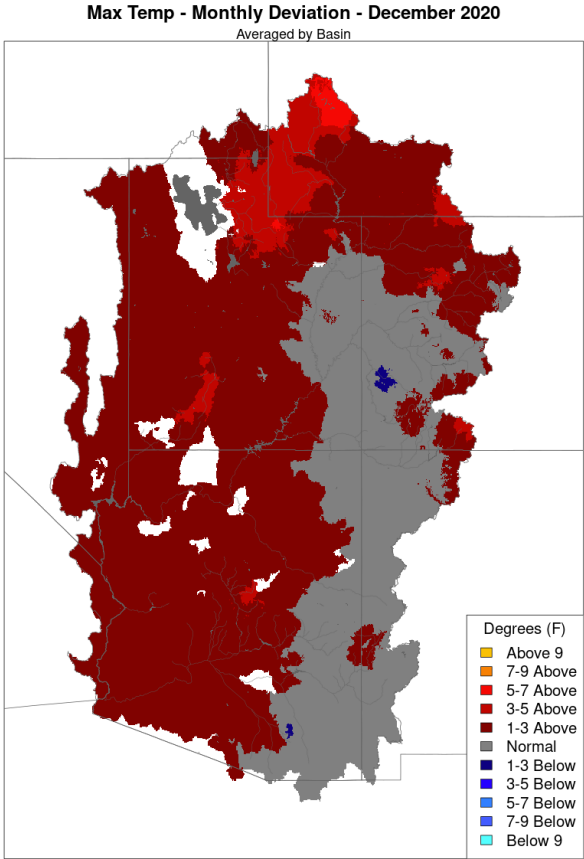
² Based on historical Southern Nevada water use.



Precipitation and Temperature



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

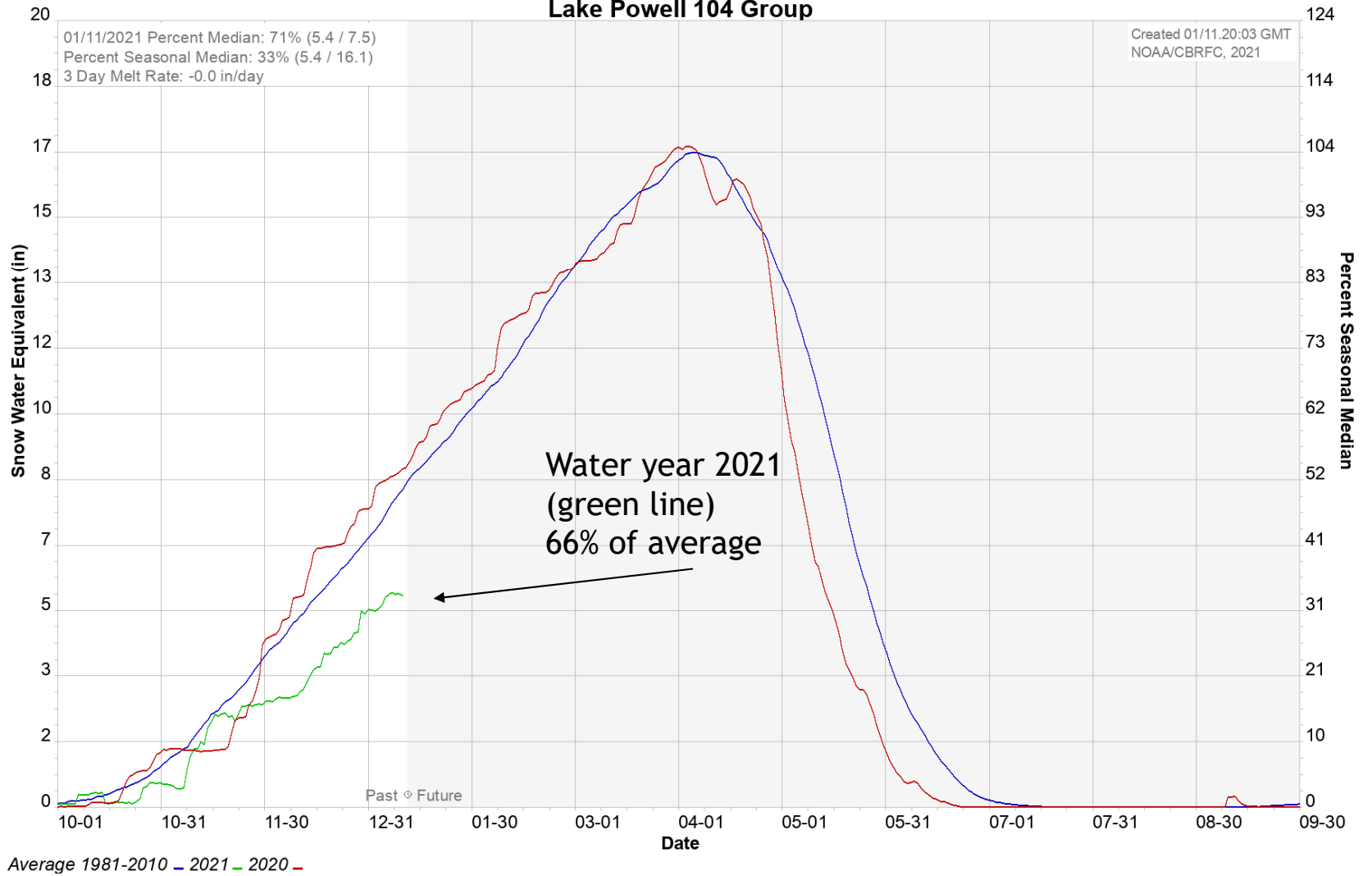


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Above Lake Powell December precipitation: 75%
Above Lake Powell water year 2021 cumulative precipitation: 67%



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 2021	5,732,000	53%
April thru July 2021	3,800,000	53%

Reservoir	Current Elevation	Current Storage Acre-Feet	Current % Capacity	Projected Elevation on 1/1/2022 ¹
Lake Mead	1,084.5	10,336,000	40%	1,069.7
Lake Powell	3,580.4	10,095,000	42%	3,564.8

Data retrieved January 10, 2021

¹ Based on Reclamation's December 2020 24 Month Study Most Probable Inflow.



Water Use In Southern Nevada

Southern Nevada Water Use	2019 Actual Use in Acre-Feet
Nevada Annual Allocation	300,000
Diversion	472,314
Return Flows	238,318
Consumptive Use	233,996
Unused Allocation Available for Banking	66,004 (22%)

Southern Nevada Water Use	Diversions	Return Flows	Consumptive Use
January-November 2020	452,831	204,903	247,928

Banked Water (through end of 2019)	Acre-Feet
Ground Water Recharge in So. Nevada	358,315
Banked in Lake Mead	785,913
Banked in California and Arizona	944,071
Total	2,088,299