

Water District 1 Report – January 6th, 2026

The Upper Snake River reservoir system is currently holding approximately 1.9 million acre-feet and is 47% full. Storage is well below average and about 570,000 acre-feet lower than at this time last year.

Since October 1, 2025, precipitation accumulation for the Snake River above Milner is 134% of the median to date, which is a strong start to the season. Temperatures have been unusually warm, with several records broken during the period. As a result, a higher-than-normal share of precipitation has fallen as rain rather than snow. Soil moisture is therefore off to a strong start and is currently around 130% of average for the Snake above Milner.

Snow accumulation has lagged behind precipitation totals due to the warm temperatures, but is still above average in key areas. Current snow water equivalent (SWE) is:

- 129% for the Snake above Heise
- 103% for the Henrys Fork–Teton
- 80% for the Willow Creek–Blackfoot–Portneuf

The majority of system runoff is generated from the Snake above Heise, making that basin the primary driver of spring inflows.

Overall, it remains too early to predict the water supply for the Upper Snake River. Physical system contents are still very low, meaning April–June runoff will likely need to be well above average for the system to have a realistic chance of filling. While conditions are favorable from a precipitation perspective thus far, we are only about halfway through the snow accumulation season. Although SWE above Heise is 129% of average for this date, it is still only 54% of its typical seasonal peak, leaving substantial room to accumulate over the next three months.

The American Falls 1921 storage right is currently in priority and is expected to remain so for the remainder of winter. Whether it completely fills will ultimately depend on spring runoff, although probabilities favor a complete (or near-complete) fill due to its senior priority.

Fill into more junior accounts—such as Island Park 1935, Palisades 1939, and Ririe 1969—is less certain. If runoff is low, it remains possible that these accounts receive little to no new fill.

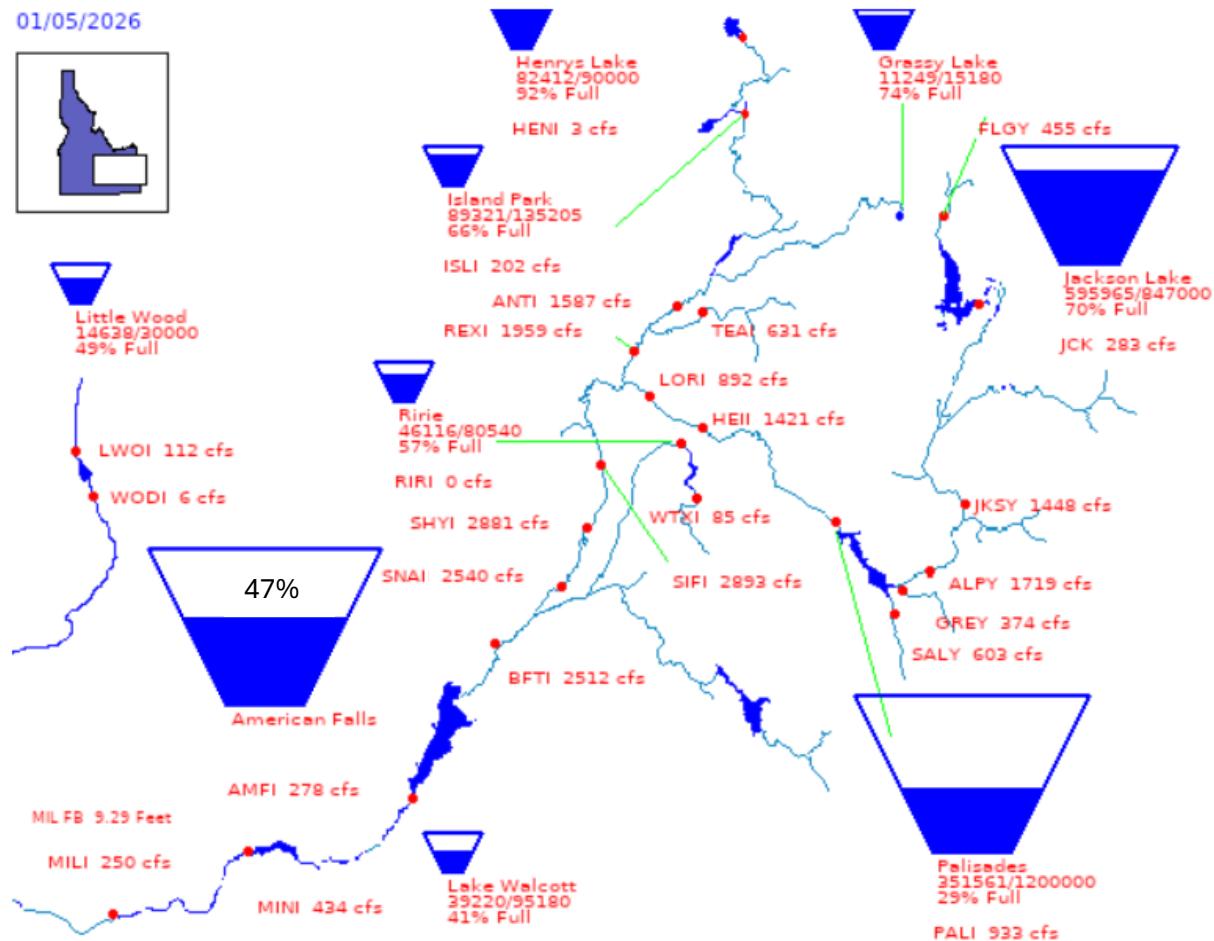
Jackson Lake's 1910 and Henrys Lake's 1917 storage water rights are currently accruing all inflows under their senior priorities. Jackson Lake's 1910 is likely to completely fill, while Jackson Lake's 1913 fill will depend on runoff into the lake. The Lake Walcott, Palisades Winter Water Savings, and Island Park Winter Water Savings storage water rights have filled.

January 19-22 – Idaho Water Users Annual Convention at the Riverside Hotel in Boise, Idaho.

January 29th – Committee of Nine at 10 AM at the Pocatello Airport.

March 3rd – Water District 1 Annual Meeting at the Holliday Inn, Idaho Falls.

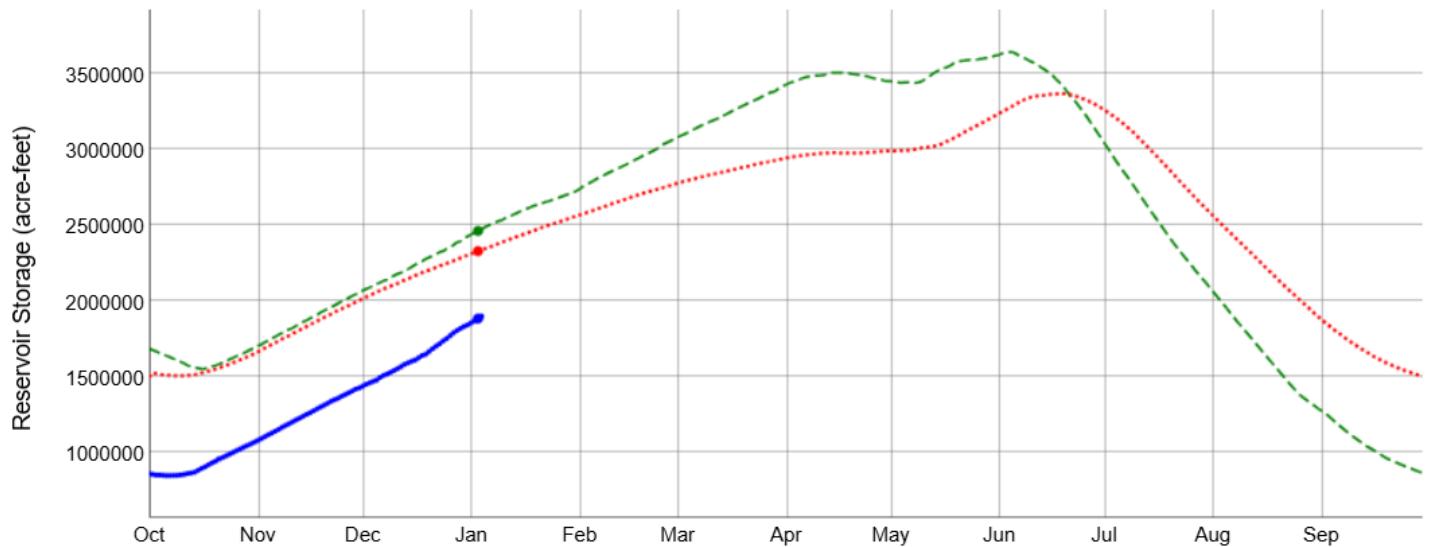
Bureau of Reclamation, Pacific Northwest Region Major Storage Reservoirs in the Upper Snake River Basin



Current Year: 1884257

Previous Year: 2461891

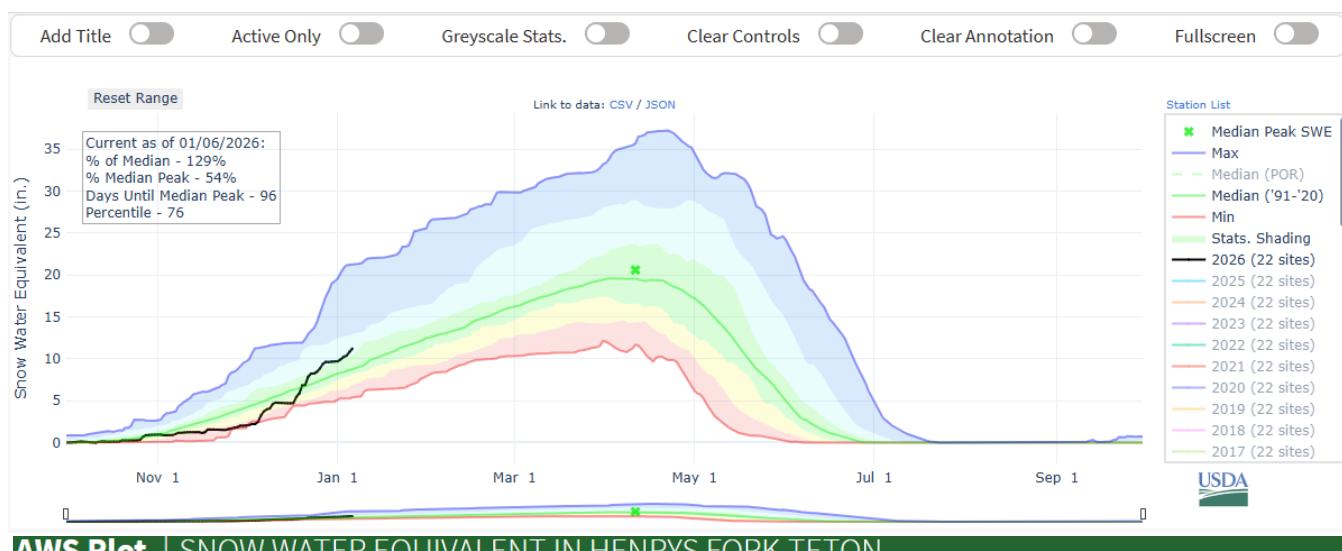
Average: 2328697.91



PROVISIONAL DATA - Subject to change

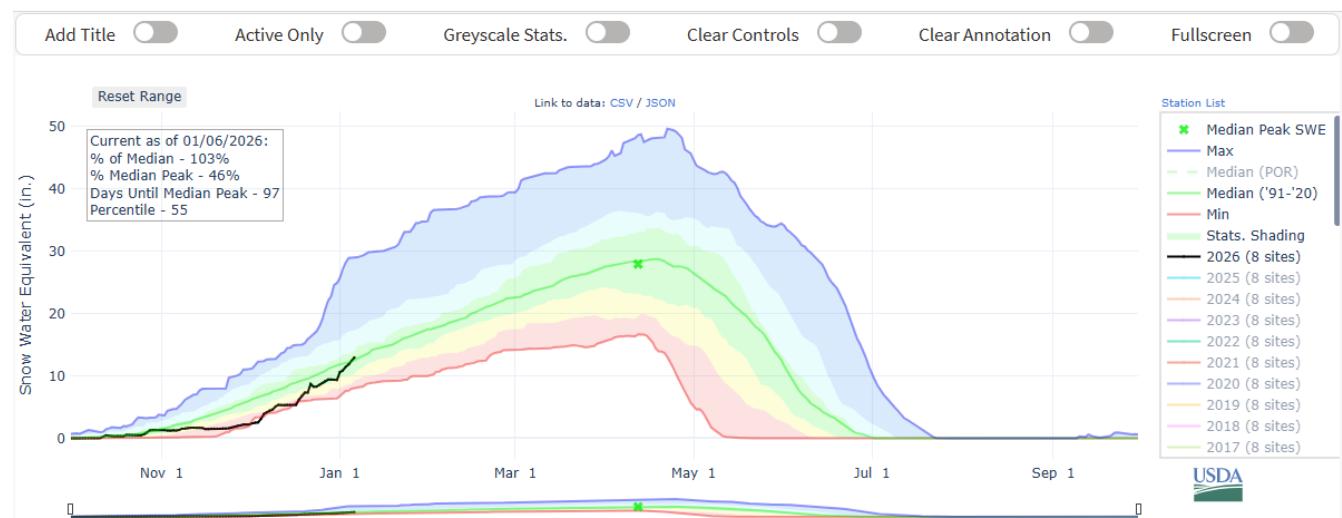
AWS Plot | SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN SNAKE RIVER ABOVE HEISE

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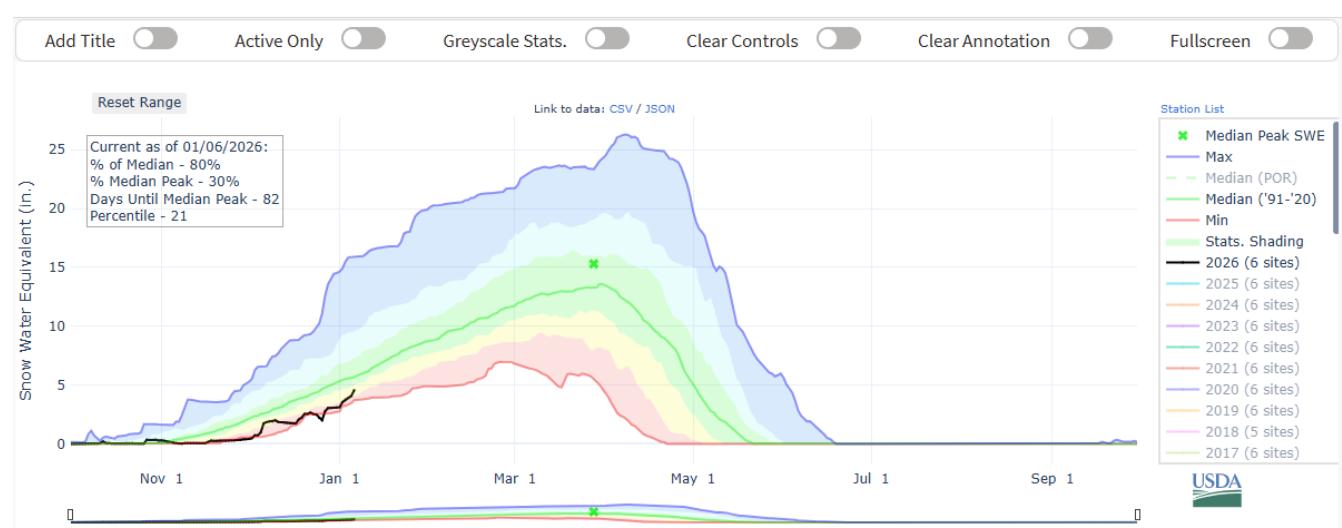
AWS Plot | SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN HENRYS FORK-TETON

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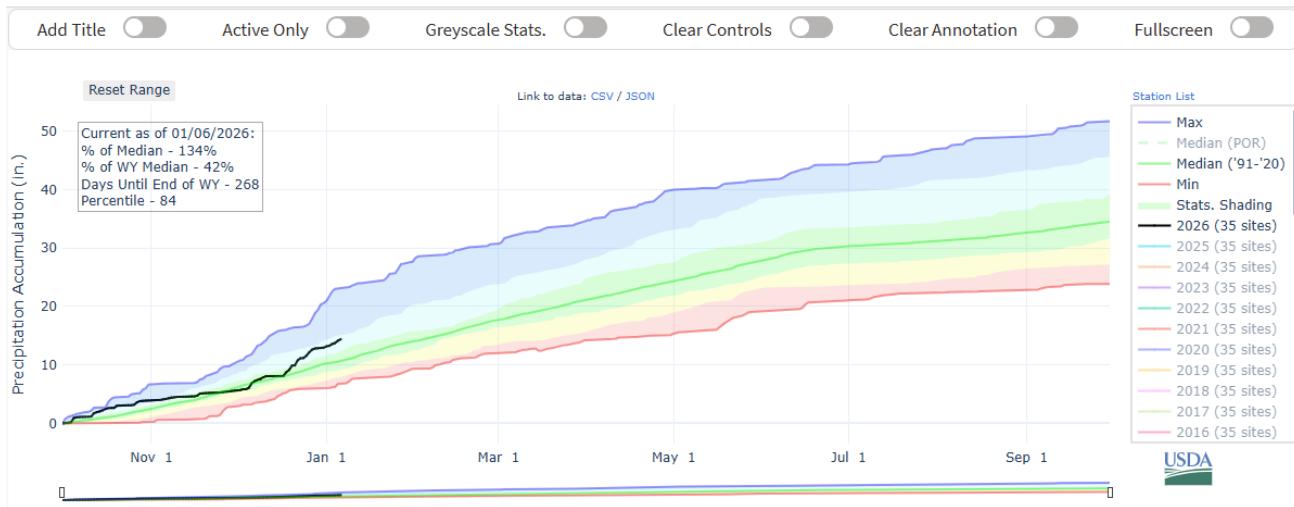
AWS Plot | SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN WILLOW-BLACKFOOT-PORTNEUF

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AWS Plot | PRECIPITATION ACCUMULATION IN SNAKE AB MILNER

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AWS Plot | DAILY AVERAGE TEMPERATURE IN SNAKE AB MILNER

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