Water District 1 Report – April 8th, 2026

Well above-average temperatures over the winter have carried into the spring, with the trend of significantly above-average temperatures continuing. This has had a substantial impact on system hydrology, resulting in early snowmelt and unusually early irrigation demand. The system is now multiple weeks ahead of normal in terms of snowmelt, system inflows, and irrigation demand. In all three areas, conditions are near record levels or setting records. Over the past 50 years, there have been only two years in which a day of allocation occurred in May, and current conditions suggest this year could potentially become another. Those years were 2001 and 2007.

Precipitation accumulation since October 1, 2025, has been near to somewhat above average, with the Snake River above Heise at 107% of median, the Henrys Fork–Teton at 94% of median, and the Willow–Blackfoot–Portneuf at 99% of median. Temperatures have been so warm, however, that current snowpack values are at or near record lows for this time of year. Snow water equivalent (SWE) in the Snake River above Heise tied the record low on April 1 and is currently at 64% of median. The Henrys Fork–Teton is at a record low of 49% of median, and the Willow–Blackfoot–Portneuf is at a record low of 11% of median. Peak snowpack occurred roughly one month earlier than average across the subbasins. Snowmelt has progressed rapidly, with only a brief reprieve from the cooler weather and precipitation received last week. There is a chance for additional precipitation this weekend.

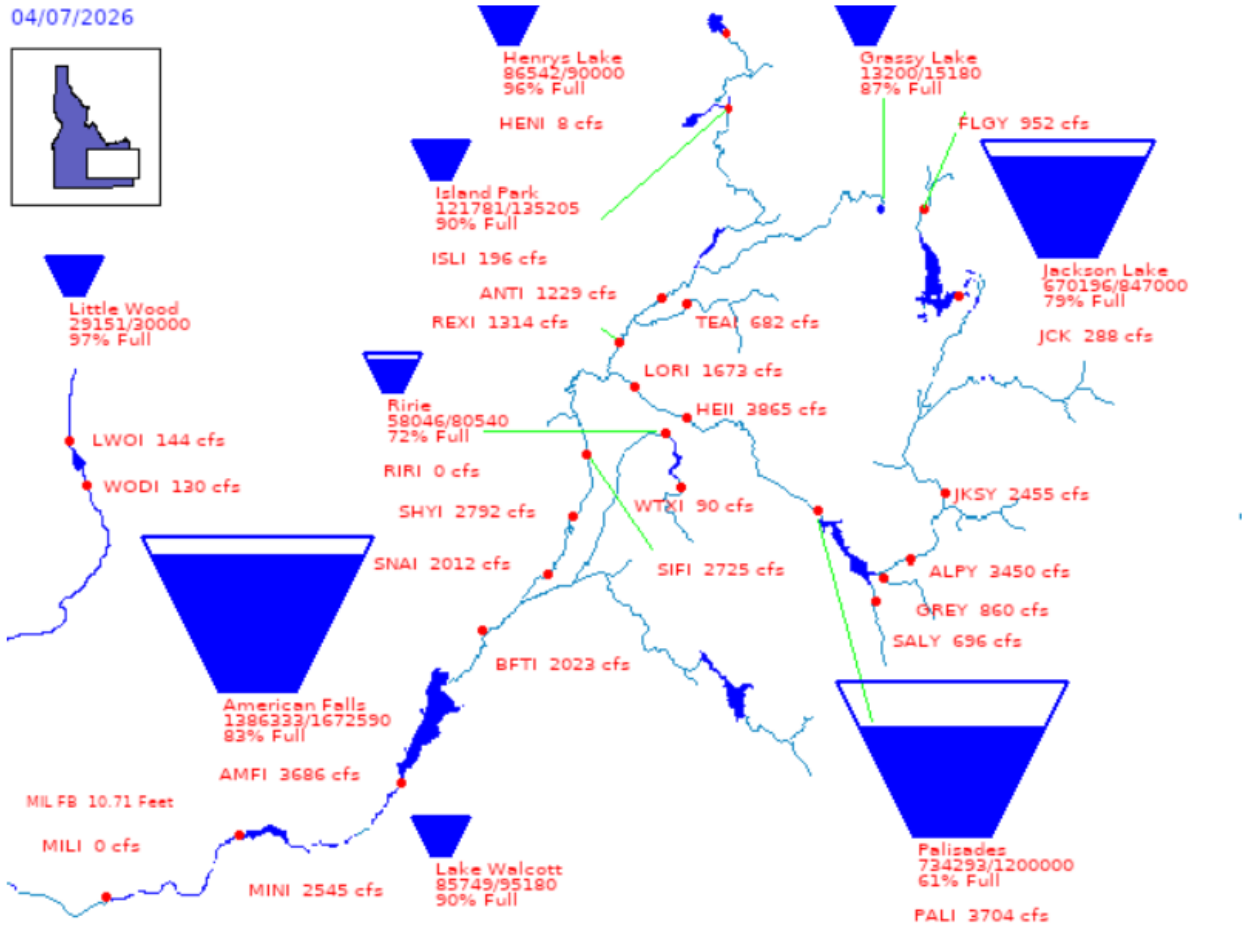
System carryover ended 2025 at a low level, roughly 500,000 acre-feet below average. Due to the unusual hydrologic dynamics, however, the physical reservoir system has filled more quickly than normal, and current system contents are now roughly 100,000 acre-feet above average. The reservoir system is currently at 76% of capacity. There remains ample vacant space in the system to capture the anticipated remaining runoff, and there appears to be little chance of a Milner spill occurring this year. **Please report anticipated turn-on dates and quantities** to assist in the management of system flows and the efficient filling of the reservoir system

The April 1 coordinated runoff forecast prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for the Snake River above Heise for the April-through-September period is 2,679,000 acre-feet, or **70% of normal**. Under the Water District 1 "Rainbow Chart," this forecast indicates that **0 acre-feet** will be provided through the common pool for the 2026 flow augmentation program. There will still be reductions to 2026 spaceholder allocations for participants, however, as a result of flow augmentation provided through the common pool in 2025. The Bureau has Palisades Powerhead space available that could be delivered for flow augmentation in 2026.

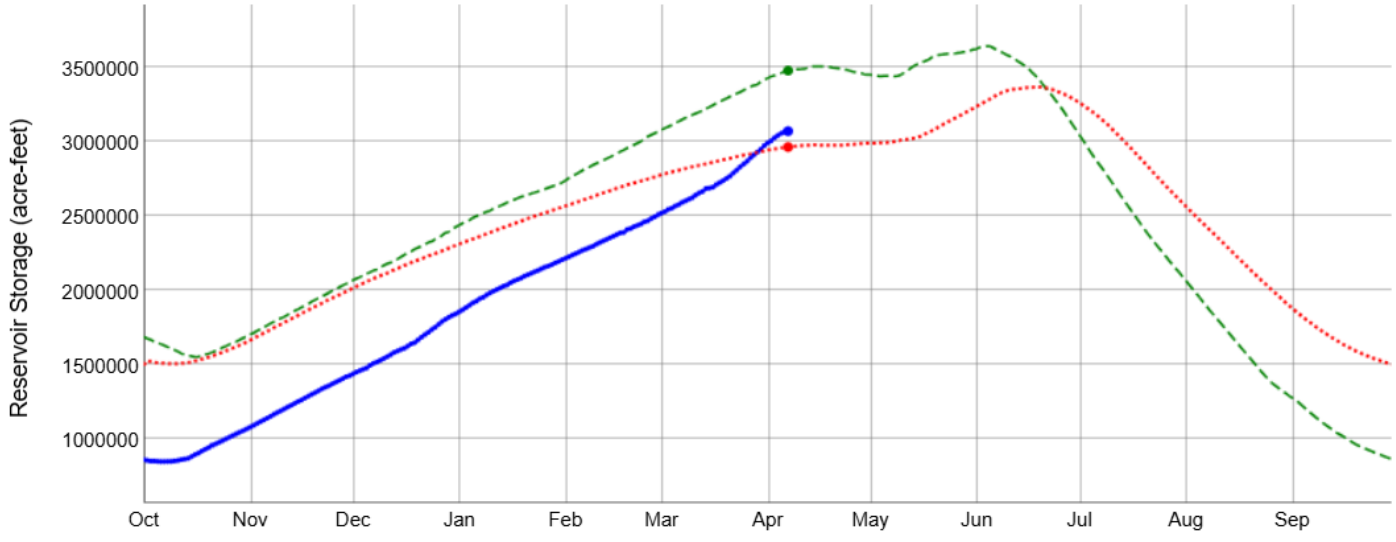
Systemwide natural flow has been robust early in the season, with streamflows responding to the accelerated snowmelt. Natural flow above Blackfoot is currently well above the 90th percentile for this time of year. The American Falls 1921 water right has filled, allowing the Palisades 1939 and Island Park 1935 rights to come into priority. How much fill these rights ultimately receive will depend largely on the size of irrigation demand over the next month.

Special Committee of Nine – Friday, 4/10 at 1 pm at IDWR Eastern region and virtual
River and Reservoir Ops, Rental Pool, and Nez Perce Subcommittee – Wednesday, 4/22
Committee of Nine – Thursday, 4/23 at 10 am at the Pocatello Airport and virtual

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



Current Year: 3069598
Previous Year: 3476447
Average: 2962676.35



PROVISIONAL DATA - Subject to change

AWS Plot | SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN SNAKE RIVER ABOVE HEISE

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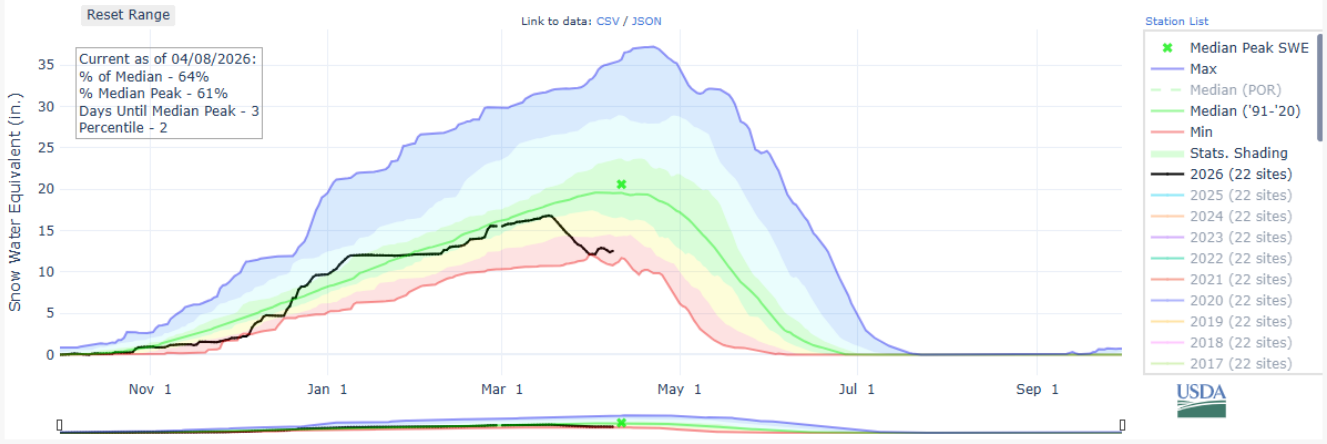

AWS Plot | SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN HENRYS FORK-TETON

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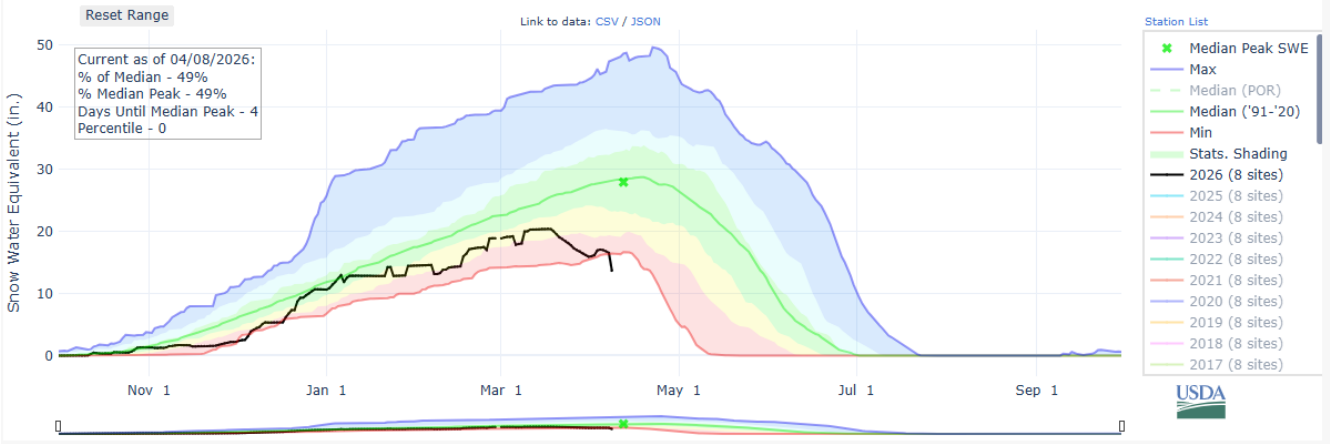

AWS Plot | SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN WILLOW-BLACKFOOT-PORTNEUF

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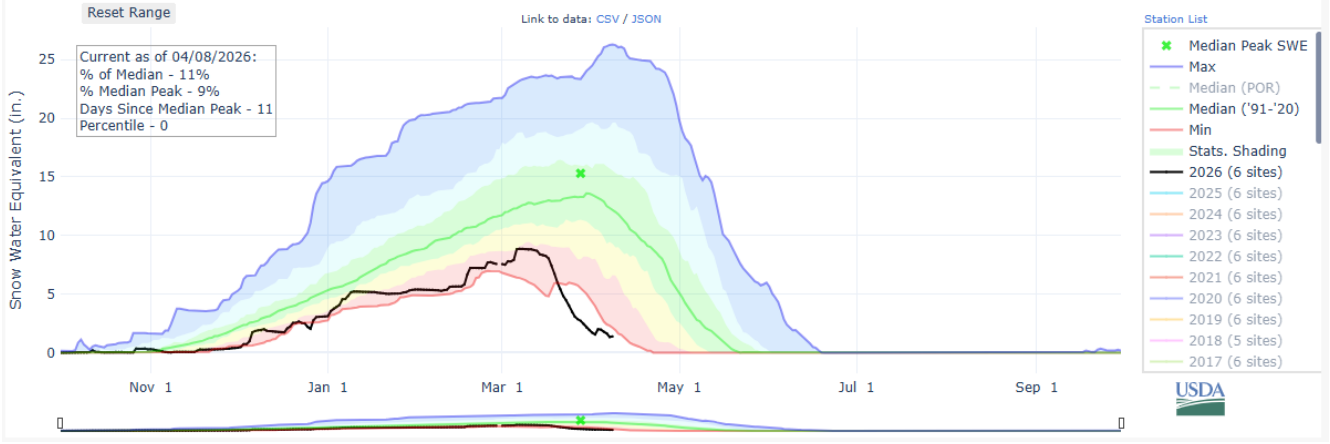
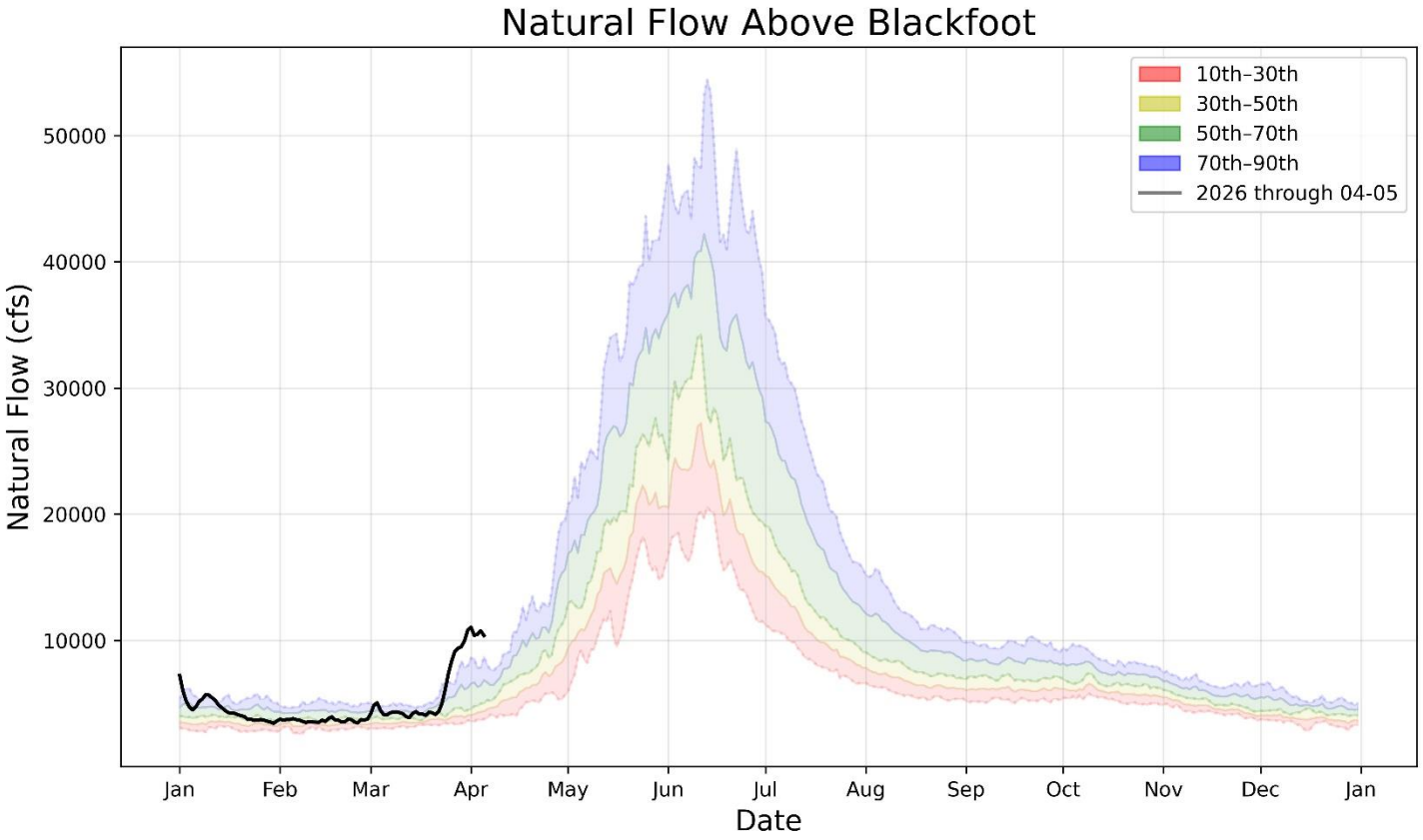
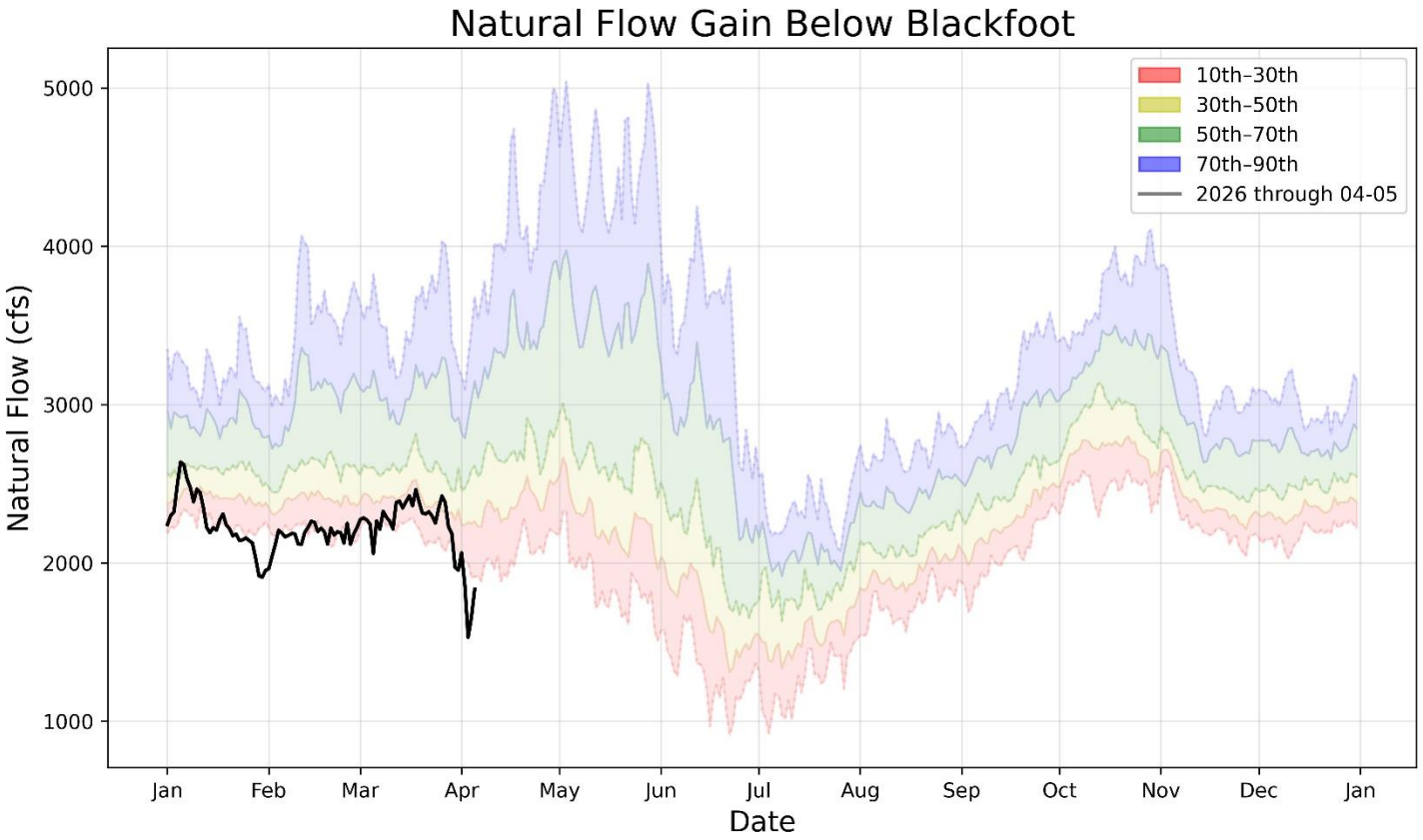



Natural Flow Above Blackfoot
10th–30th
30th–50th
50th–70th
70th–90th
2026 through 04-05
Natural Flow (cfs)
50000
40000
30000
20000
10000
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Date


Natural Flow Gain Below Blackfoot
10th–30th
30th–50th
50th–70th
70th–90th
2026 through 04-05
Natural Flow (cfs)
5000
4000
3000
2000
1000
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
Date