

Water District 1 Report – March 12th, 2025

February brought much-needed precipitation to the region, helping obtain near-average snowpack levels, though conditions vary by subbasin. Snow water equivalent in the Snake River above Heise, the largest watershed, is at 102% of median. In the Henrys Fork-Teton drainage, it is at 93% of median, while the Willow-Blackfoot-Portneuf basin is at 117% of median.

Since October, precipitation accumulation stands at 98% of median for the Snake River above Heise, 92% for the Henrys Fork-Teton, and 106% for the Willow-Blackfoot-Portneuf. Base flows at Heise have been 89% of average since October 1. The Bureau of Reclamation's March 1 unregulated flow forecast for the Snake River at Heise projects **94% of average**.

The Upper Snake River reservoir system is currently 79% full, holding approximately 3.2 million acre-feet. This is 350,000 acre-feet above average but 320,000 acre-feet less than at this time last year. With above-average reservoir contents, there appears to be a 50/50 chance of a Milner Spill this year, largely dependent on irrigation demand below American Falls. If the weather turns hot and dry in the coming weeks, increasing irrigation demand early, the probability of spill decreases. Conversely, if the weather turns cool and wet, reducing early irrigation demand, the likelihood of spill increases.

If Milner Spill occurs, recharge water will be available across the basin, and water users are encouraged to prepare in advance to maximize aquifer benefits. Milner Spill duration could be shorter than last year, making it important to have recharge operations ready as soon as the spill begins. The potential timeframe for spill appears to be a few weeks out. Temporary water use permits are available for those without a recharge water right and are attached to this report.

The American Falls 1921 water right is currently accumulating all inflows except those being delivered to Henrys Lake 1917. American Falls 1921 is 80% full, while Henrys Lake 1917 is 90% full. American Falls 1921 is expected to completely fill by early April, at which point Palisades 1939 and Island Park 1935 will come into priority. Palisades 1939 is approximately 65% full of carryover, though the percentage varies significantly among individual spaceholders. Jackson Lake, Lake Walcott, Palisades Winter Water Savings, and Island Park Winter Water Savings storage water rights are completely full.

March 17th – River Ops Subcommittee at 1:00 pm at IDWR office in Idaho Falls.

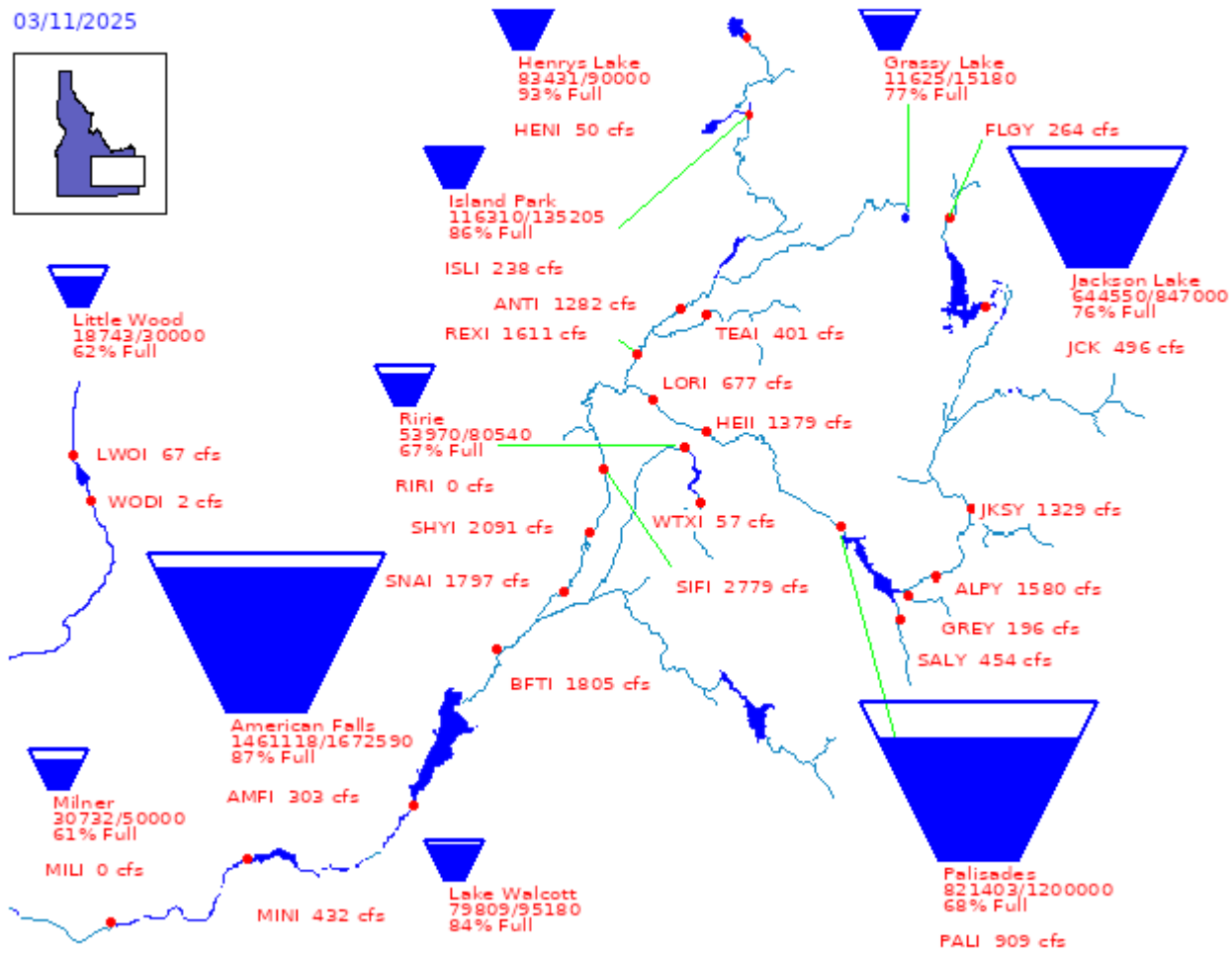
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Meeting ID: 862 2026 7621

Passcode: 416347

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

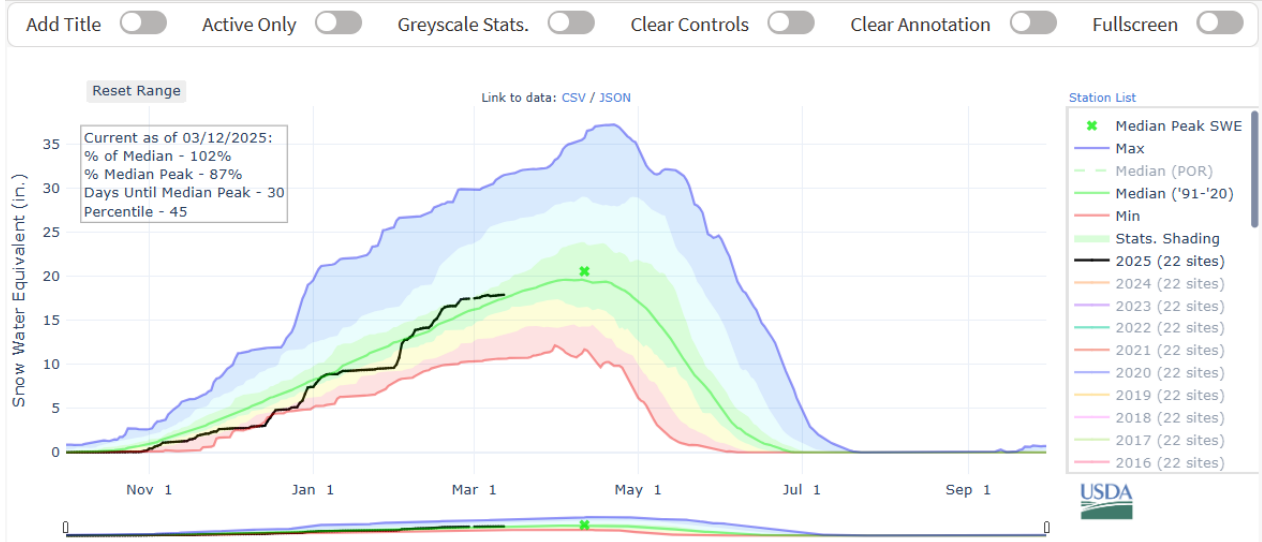
03/11/2025



PROVISIONAL DATA - Subject to change

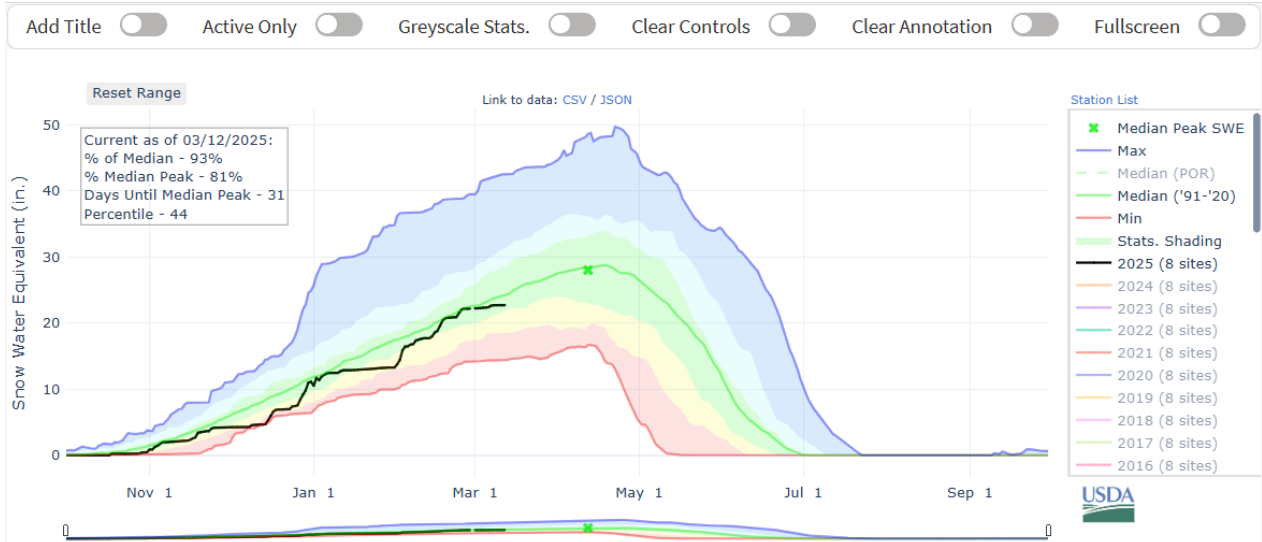
AWS Plot | SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN SNAKE RIVER ABOVE HEISE

NWCC Home Site Plots Basin Plots Interactive Map Report Generator Update Reports Forecast Plots Webservices



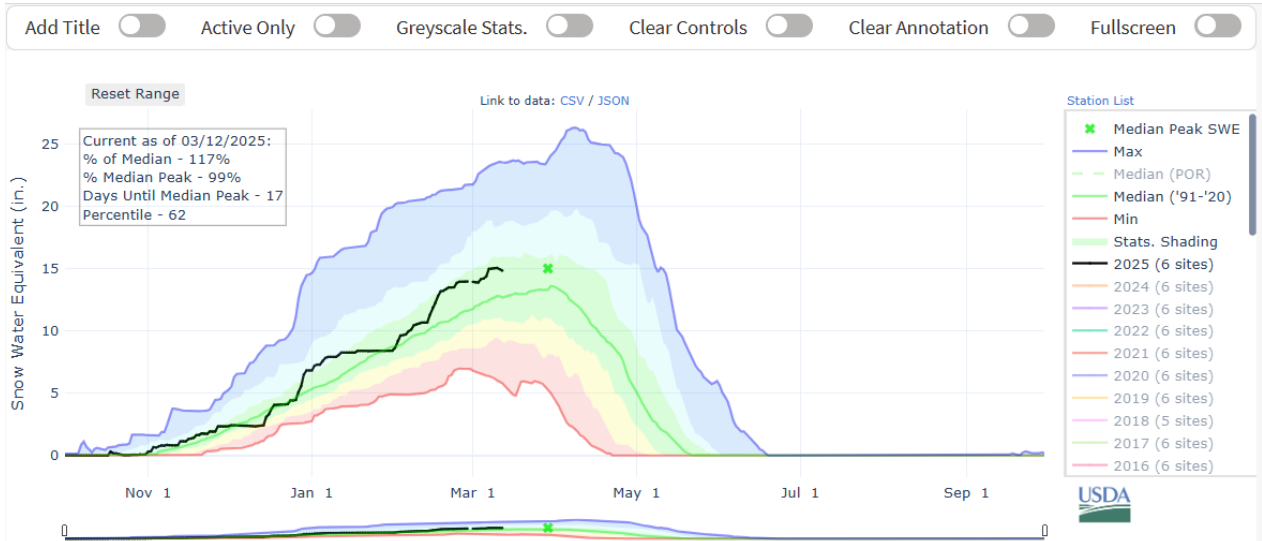
AWS Plot | SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN HENRYS FORK-TETON

NWCC Home Site Plots Basin Plots Interactive Map Report Generator Update Reports Forecast Plots Webservices



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

NWCC Home Site Plots Basin Plots Interactive Map Report Generator Update Reports Forecast Plots Webservices



STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY APPROVAL OF WATER USE

For a use not intended to become an established water right and not to exceed one (1) year in duration in accordance with Idaho Code § 42-202A.

Name of applicant _____ Phone () _____

Mailing address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Email _____

1. Source of water _____ tributary to _____

2. Location of point(s) of diversion. If more than two, attach a Point of Diversion/Place of Use Supplement. []

Table with 10 columns: TWP, RGE, SEC, GOVT LOT, 1/4, 1/4, 1/4, County, Source, Local name or tag #

3. Location of place of use. If more rows are needed, attach a Point of Diversion/Place of Use Supplement. []

Table with 17 columns: TWP, RGE, SEC, NE, NW, SW, SE, NE, NW, SW, SE, NE, NW, SW, SE, NE, NW, SW, SE, Totals

4. Proposed use of water:

- a. [] Prevention of flood damage [] Ground water recharge [] Ground water or surface water remediation
[] Other (Limited to a diverted volume of 5 acre-feet.) Describe: _____

b. Attach a detailed description of how the proposal will accomplish the intended objective, such as prevention of flood damage.

5. Amount of water. Complete all three:

- a. Maximum rate of diversion: _____ cfs; or _____ gpm.
b. Maximum daily volume: _____ AF; or _____ gallons.
c. Maximum volume over the duration of the request: _____ AF; or _____ gallons.

6. Duration of diversion: from _____ (month-day) to _____ (month-day).

7. Describe proposed diverting works: _____

- 8. a. Who owns the property at the requested point of diversion? _____
b. Who owns the facilities that will convey water to the place of use? _____
c. Who owns the land to be irrigated or place of use? _____
d. If any of the items above is owned by a person or entity other than the applicant, describe the arrangement allowing access and attach written evidence of the arrangement. _____

9. Attach an 8 1/2" x 11" map identifying the water source, point(s) of diversion, place(s) of use and conveyance system.

I hereby acknowledge that I assume all risk of the diversion and use of the water under this approval. I certify this is a temporary use and is not intended to become an established water right.

Signature of Applicant _____ Title, if any _____ Date _____

Received by _____ Date _____ Time _____

\$50.00 fee received by _____ # _____ Date _____

Watermaster comments received? _____ Date _____

STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

The Idaho Department of Water Resources ("Department") has examined this application for temporary approval to use water under the provisions of Idaho Code § 42-202A and has determined that:

___ A. The application for temporary approval should be denied because _____

- ___ B. The application for temporary approval should be approved, since
 1. The temporary approval can be properly administered.
 2. Other water sources are not readily available.
 3. The approval is in the public interest.
 4. The approval will not injure known public values associated with the water source or any known water rights.
 5. If the temporary approval is within a water district, the Department has sought and considered the recommendations of the watermaster.

This application is therefore hereby:

- ___ A. DENIED
- ___ B. APPROVED, subject to the following conditions:
 1. Diversion and use of water under this approval is subject to all valid existing water rights.
 2. The applicant assumes all risk of the use of the water under this approval.
 3. This approval authorizes a maximum diversion volume of _____ AF and a maximum diversion rate of _____ cfs.
 4. This approval does not grant a right-of-way across the land of another.
 5. The Department may cancel or reduce the rate of flow or volume authorized by this approval. For example, the Department may cancel or reduce this approval if it concludes the water use is injuring other water rights or adversely affecting fish, wildlife or other public values.
 6. The applicant shall not divert water when downstream minimum flow water rights are not being satisfied.
 7. This approval does not create a continuing right to use water.
 8. A temporary approval for ground water recharge or prevention of flood damage shall be an opportunistic use of surplus water and shall not interfere with the filling of surface water reservoirs.
 9. For a temporary approval authorizing ground water recharge or ground water or surface water remediation, the applicant shall measure and record the weekly quantity of water diverted and report the diversion data to the Department upon request.
 10. This temporary approval is not an authorization for the described water use to be used as mitigation or credit for any other purpose.
 11. Other: _____

 12. This approval expires on _____.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 20____.

For the Department