WATER SUPPLY HIGHLIGHTS — SEPTEMBER 2026

MB&ART Region · Bureau of Reclamation

DAKOTAS AREA OFFICE

Heart River

Reservoir	Precip	Inflow	Storage
Dickinson	102%	0%	100%
Lake Tschida	93%	0%	77%

September precipitation was near average across the Heart River basin, 102 percent of average at Dickinson Reservoir and 93 percent at Lake Tschida. There was no inflow at either reservoir. End-of-month storage was near average at Dickinson (100 percent) and below average at Lake Tschida (77 percent).

Cheyenne, Grand & James Rivers

Reservoir	Precip	Inflow	Storage
Angostura	194%	755%	71%
Belle Fourche	208%	89%	115%
Deerfield	142%	68%	108%
Keyhole	86%	0%	108%
Pactola	233%	54%	86%
Shadehill	160%	0%	92%
Jamestown	203%	71%	106%

Precipitation in the Cheyenne, Grand, and James River basins was above average at six of the seven reservoirs: Pactola Reservoir (233 percent of average), Belle Fourche Reservoir (208 percent), Jamestown Reservoir (203 percent), Angostura Reservoir (194 percent), Shadehill Reservoir (160 percent), and Deerfield Reservoir (142 percent). Keyhole Reservoir was near average at 86 percent. Inflows were below average at five reservoirs, from zero at Keyhole and Shadehill to 71 percent at Jamestown. Belle Fourche was near average at 89 percent, and Angostura was above average at 755 percent. End-of-month storage was near average at five reservoirs, from 86 percent at Pactola to 108 percent at Deerfield and Keyhole. Belle Fourche was above average at 115 percent, and Angostura was below average at 71 percent.

WYOMING AREA OFFICE

Bighorn River

Reservoir	Precip	Inflow	Storage
Bull Lake	75%	103%	89%
Boysen	176%	97%	86%
Buffalo Bill	126%	77%	93%

Precipitation in the Bighorn River basin was above average at Boysen Reservoir (176 percent of average) and Buffalo Bill Reservoir (126 percent), and below average at Bull Lake Reservoir (75 percent). Inflows were near average at Bull Lake (103 percent) and Boysen (97 percent), and below average at Buffalo Bill (77 percent). End-of-month storage was near average at all three reservoirs, from 86 percent at Boysen to 93 percent at Buffalo Bill.

North Platte River

Reservoir	Precip	Inflow	Storage
Seminoe	117%	27%	39%
Pathfinder	121%	0%	31%
Glendo	52%	22%	105%
Guernsey	36%	47%	123%

Precipitation in the North Platte River basin was above average at Pathfinder Reservoir (121 percent of average) and Seminoe Reservoir (117 percent), and below average at Glendo Reservoir (52 percent) and Guernsey Reservoir (36 percent). Inflows were well below average at all four reservoirs: zero at Pathfinder, 22 percent at Glendo, 27 percent at Seminoe, and 47 percent at Guernsey. End-of-month storage was variable: well below average at Seminoe (39 percent) and Pathfinder (31 percent), near average at Glendo (105 percent), and above average at Guernsey (123 percent). The end-of-month North Platte storage in the four reservoirs was 557,500 AF, 43 percent of average.

EASTERN COLORADO AREA OFFICE

Colorado-Big Thompson Project

Reservoir	Precip	Inflow	Storage
Green Mountain	117%	54%	16%
Willow Creek	73%	47%	78%
Lake Granby	73%	34%	61%
Lake Estes	51%	42%	87%
Carter Lake	—	—	110%
Horsetooth	—	—	139%

September precipitation over the Colorado-Big Thompson Project (CBT) was below average at Willow Creek Reservoir and Lake Granby (73 percent of average at each) and Lake Estes (51 percent), and above average at Green Mountain Reservoir (117 percent). Inflows were below average at all four reservoirs, from 34 percent at Lake Granby to 54 percent at Green Mountain. End-of-month storage was below average, with Green Mountain Reservoir critically low (16 percent). Lake Granby (61 percent) and Willow Creek Reservoir (78 percent) were also below average, Lake Estes (87 percent) and Carter Lake (110 percent) were near average, and Horsetooth Reservoir (139 percent) was above average. The end-of-month CBT storage in Green Mountain, Lake Granby, Carter Lake, and Horsetooth Reservoir was 475,200 AF, 68 percent of average.

Fryingpan-Arkansas Project

Reservoir	Precip	Inflow	Storage
Ruedi	125%	26%	49%
Turquoise	121%	193%	67%
Twin Lakes	24%	16%	86%
Pueblo	158%	45%	98%

Precipitation over the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project (Fry-Ark) was above average at Pueblo Reservoir (158 percent of average), Ruedi Reservoir (125 percent), and Turquoise Reservoir (121 percent), and well below average at Twin Lakes (24 percent). Inflows were below average at Pueblo (45 percent), Ruedi (26 percent), and Twin Lakes (16 percent), and above average at Turquoise (193 percent). End-of-month storage was near average at Pueblo (98 percent) and Twin Lakes (86 percent), and below average at Turquoise (67 percent) and Ruedi (49 percent). The total end-of-month storage in the four reservoirs was 370,700 AF, 80 percent of average.

MONTANA AREA OFFICE

Upper Missouri River

Reservoir	Precip	Inflow	Storage
Clark Canyon	94%	50%	73%
Canyon Ferry	136%	83%	96%
Gibson	190%	150%	73%
Tiber	195%	293%	105%

September precipitation in the upper Missouri River basin was above average at Tiber Reservoir (195 percent of average), Gibson Reservoir (190 percent), and Canyon Ferry Reservoir (136 percent), and near average at Clark Canyon Reservoir (94 percent). Inflows were above average at Tiber (293 percent) and Gibson (150 percent), and below average at Canyon Ferry (83 percent) and Clark Canyon (50 percent). End-of-month storage was near average at Tiber (105 percent) and Canyon Ferry (96 percent), and below average at Clark Canyon (73 percent) and Gibson (73 percent).

Milk River

Reservoir	Precip	Inflow	Storage
Sherburne	192%	174%	63%
Fresno	145%	164%	136%

Precipitation in the Milk River basin was above average at Sherburne Reservoir (192 percent of average) and Fresno Reservoir (145 percent). Inflows were also above average at both reservoirs: 174 percent at Sherburne and 164 percent at Fresno. End-of-month storage was below average at Sherburne (63 percent) and above average at Fresno (136 percent).

Bighorn River

Reservoir	Precip	Inflow	Storage
Yellowtail	83%	73%	96%

At Yellowtail Dam, September precipitation was 83 percent of average and inflow was 73 percent of average, both below average. End-of-month storage was near average at 96 percent.

NEBRASKA-KANSAS AREA OFFICE

Republican River

Reservoir	Precip	Inflow	Storage
Swanson	156%	20%	54%
Enders	58%	1%	33%
Hugh Butler	310%	26%	56%
Harry Strunk	179%	83%	58%
Keith Sebelius	266%	76%	76%
Harlan County	234%	72%	62%
Lovewell	221%	102%	49%

September precipitation in the Republican River basin was above average at six of the seven reservoirs, from 156 percent of average at Swanson Lake to 310 percent at Hugh Butler Lake. Enders Reservoir was below average at 58 percent. Inflows were below average at six reservoirs, from one percent at Enders to 83 percent at Harry Strunk Lake. Lovewell Reservoir was near average at 102 percent. End-of-month storage was below average at all seven reservoirs, from 33 percent at Enders to 76 percent at Keith Sebelius Lake.

Solomon River

Reservoir	Precip	Inflow	Storage
Kirwin	81%	12%	30%
Webster	63%	1%	27%
Glen Elder	138%	113%	83%

Precipitation in the Solomon River basin was above average at Glen Elder Reservoir (138 percent of average) and below average at Kirwin Reservoir (81 percent) and Webster Reservoir (63 percent). Inflow was above average at Glen Elder (113 percent) and well below average at Kirwin (12 percent) and Webster (one percent). End-of-month storage was below average at all three reservoirs, from 27 percent at Webster to 83 percent at Glen Elder.

Smoky Hill, Niobrara & Lower Platte

Reservoir	Precip	Inflow	Storage
Cedar Bluff	125%	26%	51%
Box Butte	169%	98%	43%
Merritt	165%	102%	89%
Calamus	49%	104%	75%
Davis Creek	124%	70%	62%

Across the Smoky Hill, Niobrara, and Lower Platte basins, September precipitation was above average at Box Butte Reservoir (169 percent of average), Merritt Reservoir (165 percent), Cedar Bluff Reservoir (125 percent), and Davis Creek Reservoir (124 percent), and below average at Calamus Reservoir (49 percent). Inflows were near average at Calamus (104 percent), Merritt (102 percent), and Box Butte (98 percent), and below average at Davis Creek (70 percent) and Cedar Bluff (26 percent). End-of-month storage was below average at Calamus (75 percent), Davis Creek (62 percent), Cedar Bluff (51 percent), and Box Butte (43 percent), and near average at Merritt (89 percent).

OKLAHOMA-TEXAS AREA OFFICE

Arkansas River

Reservoir	Precip	Inflow	Storage
Cheney	124%	61%	117%
Norman	6%	0%	101%
Sanford	442%	73%	124%

September precipitation in the Arkansas River basin was above average at Sanford Reservoir (442 percent of average) and Cheney Reservoir (124 percent), and well below average at Norman Reservoir (six percent). Inflows were below average at all three reservoirs: zero at Norman, 61 percent at Cheney, and 73 percent at Sanford. End-of-month storage was above average at Sanford (124 percent) and Cheney (117 percent), and near average at Norman (101 percent).

Red River

Reservoir	Precip	Inflow	Storage
Altus	78%	0%	56%
Arbuckle	163%	41%	116%
McGee Creek	42%	2%	90%
Mountain Park	7%	21%	88%

Precipitation in the Red River basin was below average at three of the four reservoirs: Altus Reservoir (78 percent of average), McGee Creek Reservoir (42 percent), and Mountain Park Reservoir (seven percent). Arbuckle Reservoir was above average at 163 percent. Inflows were well below average at all four reservoirs: zero at Altus, two percent at McGee Creek, 21 percent at Mountain Park, and 41 percent at Arbuckle. End-of-month storage was variable: below average at Altus (56 percent), near average at McGee Creek (90 percent) and Mountain Park (88 percent), and above average at Arbuckle (116 percent).

Nueces, Colorado & Washita

Reservoir	Precip	Inflow	Storage
Choke Canyon	3%	0%	38%
Twin Buttes	33%	0%	26%
Nasworthy	30%	67%	106%
Foss	49%	21%	109%
Fort Cobb	16%	9%	86%

Across the Nueces, Colorado, and Washita basins, September precipitation was well below average at all five reservoirs, from three percent of average at Choke Canyon Reservoir to 49 percent at Foss Reservoir. Inflows were below average at all five reservoirs: zero at Choke Canyon and Twin Buttes Reservoir, nine percent at Fort Cobb Reservoir, 21 percent at Foss, and 67 percent at Nasworthy Reservoir. End-of-month storage was near average at Foss (109 percent), Nasworthy (106 percent), and Fort Cobb (86 percent), and well below average at Choke Canyon (38 percent) and Twin Buttes (26 percent).

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS — MISSOURI RIVER MAINSTEM

Runoff into the Missouri River Mainstem Reservoir System (System) totaled 1.0 million acre-feet (MAF) in September, 82 percent of average. The 2026 runoff forecast above Sioux City, Iowa is 16.3 MAF, 63 percent of average. System storage on October 1 was 46.1 MAF, 10 MAF below the base of the flood control zone; System storage is forecast to be 44.7 MAF at the start of the 2027 runoff season, 11.4 MAF below the base of the flood control zone. The U.S. Drought Monitor indicated that approximately 72 percent of the basin was abnormally dry or in drought.

SEPTEMBER RUNOFF

1.0

MAF

82% of average for the month.

ANNUAL FORECAST

16.3

MAF

63% of average above Sioux City, Iowa.

SYSTEM STORAGE

46.1

MAF

10 MAF below base of flood control zone.

DROUGHT COVERAGE

72%

of basin

Abnormally dry or in drought.

Project	Avg. Sept. Release (cfs)	Current Release (cfs)	Forecast Release (cfs)	End of Sept. Level (ft)	Forecast End of Oct. Level (ft)
Gavins Point	27,000	25,000	25,300*	1,207.6	1,207.5
Fort Randall	25,000	—	—	1,353.2	1,341.2
Big Bend	22,300	—	9,500*	—	1,420.7
Oahe	22,500	—	9,500*	1,592.0	1,592.5
Garrison	14,900	13,000	13,000*	1,824.3	1,824.0
Fort Peck	6,900	7,000	7,000*	2,222.2	2,221.2

** Forecast average rate for the month.*

Hydropower

The six mainstem power plants generated 676 million kWh of electricity in September, 75 percent of the long-term September average of 896 million kWh. The annual forecast is 7.0 billion kWh, 75 percent of the long-term average of 9.3 billion kWh.