

Water Supply Highlights — July 2026

MB&ART Region · Bureau of Reclamation

This report summarizes July 2026 precipitation, inflow, and storage conditions, each expressed as a percentage of the historical average, for reservoirs across the Missouri Basin and Arkansas-Rio Grande-Texas Gulf (MB&ART) Region, followed by a summary of Missouri River Mainstem System conditions from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Dakotas Area Office

Heart River

Table: Heart River — reservoir precipitation, inflow, and storage, percent of average, July 2026.

Reservoir	Precipitation (% of average)	Inflow (% of average)	Storage (% of average)
Dickinson	41%	0%	94%
Heart Butte	12%	0%	77%

July precipitation was below average across the Heart River basin: 41 percent of average at Dickinson Reservoir and 12 percent at Heart Butte Reservoir. There was no inflow at either reservoir. End-of-month storage was near average at Dickinson (94 percent) and below average at Heart Butte (77 percent).

Cheyenne, Grand & James Rivers

Table: Cheyenne, Grand & James Rivers — reservoir precipitation, inflow, and storage, percent of average, July 2026.

Reservoir	Precipitation (% of average)	Inflow (% of average)	Storage (% of average)
Angostura	90%	5%	62%
Belle Fourche	59%	18%	97%
Deerfield	88%	56%	103%
Keyhole	75%	0%	112%
Pactola	65%	30%	87%
Shadehill	45%	0%	91%
Jamestown	63%	13%	95%

Precipitation was below average at most reservoirs in the Cheyenne, Grand, and James River basins, ranging from 45 percent of average at Shadehill Reservoir to 90 percent at Angostura Reservoir. Inflows were below average, from zero at Keyhole and Shadehill Reservoirs to 56 percent at Deerfield Reservoir. End-of-month storage was near average at most reservoirs, from 62 percent at Angostura to 112 percent at Keyhole.

Wyoming Area Office

Bighorn River

Table: Bighorn River — reservoir precipitation, inflow, and storage, percent of average, July 2026.

Reservoir	Precipitation (% of average)	Inflow (% of average)	Storage (% of average)
Bull Lake	133%	90%	96%
Boysen	112%	37%	84%
Buffalo Bill	78%	71%	100%

Precipitation in the Bighorn River basin was above average at Bull Lake Reservoir (133 percent of average) and Boysen Reservoir (112 percent), and below average at Buffalo Bill Reservoir (78 percent). Inflows were below average at Boysen (37 percent) and Buffalo Bill (71 percent), and near average at Bull Lake (90 percent). End-of-month storage was near average at Bull Lake (96 percent) and Buffalo Bill (100 percent), and below average at Boysen (84 percent).

North Platte River

Table: North Platte River — reservoir precipitation, inflow, and storage, percent of average, July 2026.

Reservoir	Precipitation (% of average)	Inflow (% of average)	Storage (% of average)
Seminole	102%	11%	45%
Pathfinder	46%	93%	31%
Glendo	14%	209%	57%
Guernsey	20%	0%	133%

Precipitation in the North Platte River basin was below average at Pathfinder Reservoir (46 percent of average), Guernsey Reservoir (20 percent), and Glendo Reservoir (14 percent), and near average at Seminole Reservoir (102 percent). Inflows were variable: below average at Seminole (11 percent) and Guernsey (zero), near average at Pathfinder (93 percent), and above average at Glendo (209 percent). End-of-month storage was below average at Seminole (45 percent), Pathfinder (31 percent), and Glendo (57 percent), and above average at Guernsey (133 percent). The end-of-month North Platte storage in the four reservoirs was 728,700 acre-feet, 43 percent of average.

Eastern Colorado Area Office

Colorado-Big Thompson Project

Table: Colorado-Big Thompson Project — reservoir precipitation, inflow, and storage, percent of average, July 2026.

Reservoir	Precipitation (% of average)	Inflow (% of average)	Storage (% of average)
Green Mountain	76%	26%	22%
Willow Creek	75%	28%	N/A
Lake Granby	75%	29%	71%
Lake Estes	174%	30%	N/A
Carter Lake	N/A	N/A	92%
Horsetooth	N/A	N/A	114%

July precipitation over the Colorado-Big Thompson Project (CBT) was below average at Green Mountain Reservoir (76 percent of average), Willow Creek Reservoir (75 percent), and Lake Granby (75 percent), and above average at Lake Estes (174 percent). Inflows were below average at all four reservoirs, from 26 percent at Green Mountain to 30 percent at Lake Estes. End-of-month storage was variable: below average at Green Mountain (22 percent) and Lake Granby (71 percent), near average at Carter Lake (92 percent), and above average at Horsetooth Reservoir (114 percent). The end-of-month CBT storage in Green Mountain, Lake Granby, Carter Lake, and Horsetooth Reservoir was 580,900 acre-feet, 71 percent of average. Precipitation and inflow data are not tracked for Carter Lake and Horsetooth Reservoir; storage figures are shown as N/A above where not applicable.

Fryingpan-Arkansas Project

Table: Fryingpan-Arkansas Project — reservoir precipitation, inflow, and storage, percent of average, July 2026.

Reservoir	Precipitation (% of average)	Inflow (% of average)	Storage (% of average)
Ruedi	47%	20%	67%
Turquoise	75%	18%	77%
Twin Lakes	28%	17%	77%
Pueblo	41%	22%	93%

Precipitation over the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project (Fry-Ark) was below average, from 28 percent of average at Twin Lakes Reservoir to 75 percent at Turquoise Reservoir. Native inflows were below average, from 17 percent at Twin Lakes to 22 percent at Pueblo Reservoir. End-of-month storage was below average at Ruedi (67 percent), Turquoise (77 percent), and Twin Lakes (77 percent) Reservoirs, and near average at Pueblo (93 percent). The total end-of-month storage in the four reservoirs was 419,500 acre-feet, 81 percent of average.

Montana Area Office

Upper Missouri River

Table: Upper Missouri River — reservoir precipitation, inflow, and storage, percent of average, July 2026.

Reservoir	Precipitation (% of average)	Inflow (% of average)	Storage (% of average)
Clark Canyon	130%	62%	67%
Canyon Ferry	102%	84%	95%
Gibson	53%	94%	156%
Tiber	14%	152%	102%

July precipitation in the upper Missouri River basin was variable: above average at Clark Canyon Reservoir (130 percent of average), near average at Canyon Ferry Reservoir (102 percent), and below average at Gibson Reservoir (53 percent) and Tiber Reservoir (14 percent). Inflows were variable: below average at Clark Canyon (62 percent) and Canyon Ferry (84 percent), near average at Gibson (94 percent), and above average at Tiber (152 percent). End-of-month storage was variable: below average at Clark Canyon (67 percent), near average at Canyon Ferry (95 percent) and Tiber (102 percent), and above average at Gibson (156 percent).

Milk River

Table: Milk River — reservoir precipitation, inflow, and storage, percent of average, July 2026.

Reservoir	Precipitation (% of average)	Inflow (% of average)	Storage (% of average)
Sherburne	13%	96%	112%
Fresno	14%	144%	109%

Precipitation in the Milk River basin was below average at Sherburne Reservoir (13 percent of average) and Fresno Reservoir (14 percent). Inflow was near average at Sherburne (96 percent) and above average at Fresno (144 percent). End-of-month storage was above average at Sherburne (112 percent) and near average at Fresno (109 percent).

Bighorn River

Table: Bighorn River — reservoir precipitation, inflow, and storage, percent of average, July 2026.

Reservoir	Precipitation (% of average)	Inflow (% of average)	Storage (% of average)
Yellowtail	80%	39%	92%

At Yellowtail Dam, July precipitation was 80 percent of average and inflow was 39 percent of average. End-of-month storage was near average at 92 percent.

Nebraska-Kansas Area Office

Republican River

Table: Republican River — reservoir precipitation, inflow, and storage, percent of average, July 2026.

Reservoir	Precipitation (% of average)	Inflow (% of average)	Storage (% of average)
Swanson	56%	44%	66%
Enders	131%	9%	36%
Hugh Butler	164%	15%	58%
Harry Strunk	70%	39%	84%
Keith Sebelius	76%	36%	79%
Harlan County	175%	22%	70%
Lovewell	118%	44%	69%

July precipitation in the Republican River basin was above average at Harlan County Lake (175 percent of average), Hugh Butler Lake (164 percent), Enders Reservoir (131 percent), and Lovewell Reservoir (118 percent), and below average at Keith Sebelius Lake (76 percent), Harry Strunk Lake (70 percent), and Swanson Lake (56 percent). Inflows were below average across the basin, from nine percent at Enders to 44 percent at Swanson and Lovewell. End-of-month storage was below average at all seven reservoirs, from 36 percent at Enders to 84 percent at Harry Strunk.

Solomon River

Table: Solomon River — reservoir precipitation, inflow, and storage, percent of average, July 2026.

Reservoir	Precipitation (% of average)	Inflow (% of average)	Storage (% of average)
Kirwin	102%	8%	45%
Webster	85%	29%	31%
Glen Elder	94%	16%	85%

Precipitation in the Solomon River basin was near average, from 85 percent of average at Webster Reservoir to 102 percent at Kirwin Reservoir. Inflows were below average, from eight percent at Kirwin to 29 percent at Webster. End-of-month storage was below average at Kirwin (45 percent) and Webster (31 percent), and near average at Glen Elder Reservoir (85 percent).

Smoky Hill, Niobrara & Lower Platte

Table: Smoky Hill, Niobrara & Lower Platte — reservoir precipitation, inflow, and storage, percent of average, July 2026.

Reservoir	Precipitation (% of average)	Inflow (% of average)	Storage (% of average)
Cedar Bluff	79%	10%	53%
Box Butte	107%	49%	70%
Merritt	170%	99%	90%
Calamus	71%	101%	93%
Davis Creek	74%	105%	108%

Across the Smoky Hill, Niobrara, and Lower Platte basins, July precipitation was variable: above average at Merritt Reservoir (170 percent of average), near average at Box Butte Reservoir (107 percent), and below average at Cedar Bluff Reservoir (79 percent), Davis Creek Reservoir (74 percent), and Calamus Reservoir (71 percent). Inflows were near average at Davis Creek (105 percent), Calamus (101 percent), and Merritt (99 percent), and below average at Box Butte (49 percent) and Cedar Bluff (10 percent). End-of-month storage was near average at Davis Creek (108 percent), Calamus (93 percent), and Merritt (90 percent), and below average at Box Butte (70 percent) and Cedar Bluff (53 percent).

Oklahoma-Texas Area Office

Arkansas River

Table: Arkansas River — reservoir precipitation, inflow, and storage, percent of average, July 2026.

Reservoir	Precipitation (% of average)	Inflow (% of average)	Storage (% of average)
Cheney	88%	59%	122%
Norman	67%	50%	108%
Sanford	56%	35%	132%

Precipitation over the Arkansas River basin was below average at Norman Reservoir (67 percent of average) and Sanford Reservoir (56 percent), and near average at Cheney Reservoir (88 percent). Inflows were below average, from 35 percent at Sanford to 59 percent at Cheney. End-of-month storage was above average at Sanford (132 percent) and Cheney (122 percent), and near average at Norman (108 percent).

Red River

Table: Red River — reservoir precipitation, inflow, and storage, percent of average, July 2026.

Reservoir	Precipitation (% of average)	Inflow (% of average)	Storage (% of average)
Altus	17%	44%	45%
Arbuckle	30%	0%	121%
McGee Creek	42%	20%	99%
Mountain Park	82%	26%	97%

Precipitation over the Red River basin was below average, from 17 percent of average at Altus Reservoir to 82 percent at Mountain Park Reservoir. Inflows were below average, from zero at Arbuckle Reservoir to 44 percent at Altus. End-of-month storage was variable: below average at Altus (45 percent), near average at McGee Creek Reservoir (99 percent) and Mountain Park (97 percent), and above average at Arbuckle (121 percent).

Nueces, Colorado & Washita

Table: Nueces, Colorado & Washita — reservoir precipitation, inflow, and storage, percent of average, July 2026.

Reservoir	Precipitation (% of average)	Inflow (% of average)	Storage (% of average)
Choke Canyon	4%	313%	45%
Twin Buttes	397%	40%	37%
Nasworthy	373%	47%	107%
Foss	57%	0%	113%
Fort Cobb	120%	74%	94%

Across the Nueces, Colorado, and Washita basins, precipitation was above average at Twin Buttes Reservoir (397 percent of average), Nasworthy Reservoir (373 percent), and Fort Cobb Reservoir (120 percent), and below average at Foss Reservoir (57 percent) and Choke Canyon Reservoir (four percent). Inflows were below average at most reservoirs, from zero at Foss to 74 percent at Fort Cobb; Choke Canyon inflow was 313 percent of average. End-of-month storage was variable: below average at Twin Buttes (37 percent) and Choke Canyon (45 percent), near average at Fort Cobb (94 percent) and Nasworthy (107 percent), and above average at Foss (113 percent).

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers — Missouri River Mainstem

Runoff into the Missouri River Mainstem Reservoir System (System) totaled 2.0 million acre-feet (MAF) in July, 61 percent of average. The 2026 runoff forecast above Sioux City, Iowa is 15.4 MAF, 60 percent of average; if realized, this forecast would be the 11th lowest runoff in the period of record. System storage on August 1 was 48.5 MAF, down 0.6 MAF during July and 7.6 MAF below the base of the Annual Flood Control and Multiple Use zone. The U.S. Drought Monitor indicated 80 percent of the basin was abnormally dry or in drought.

System Summary Indicators

Table: Missouri River Mainstem System summary indicators, July 2026.

Indicator	Value	Description
July runoff	2.0 MAF	61 percent of average for the month.
Annual forecast	15.4 MAF	60 percent of average above Sioux City, Iowa.
System storage	48.5 MAF	7.6 MAF below the base of the Annual Flood Control and Multiple Use zone.
Drought coverage	80% of basin	Share of the basin classified as abnormally dry or in drought.

Mainstem Project Releases and Reservoir Levels

Table: Average, current, and forecast releases and reservoir levels at the six Missouri River Mainstem projects, July 2026.

Project	Average July Release (cfs)	Current Release (cfs)	Forecast Release (cfs)	End of July Level (ft)	Forecast End of August Level (ft)
Gavins Point	25,700	28,000	28,500	1,206.7	1,206.5
Fort Randall	24,000	Not reported	Not reported	1,355.7	1,354.9
Big Bend	24,400	Not reported	26,900 (forecast average rate for the month)	1,420.8	1,420.8
Oahe	23,800	Not reported	27,300 (forecast average rate for the month)	1,596.0	1,593.7
Garrison	18,000	18,000	17,200	1,827.4	1,826.3
Fort Peck	6,800	7,000	7,000 (forecast average rate for the month)	2,223.9	2,223.3

"Not reported" indicates no current-release figure was published for that project this month. Forecast release values marked as a forecast average rate for the month represent a projected average, not a fixed daily target.

Hydropower

The six mainstem power plants generated 747 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity in July, 79 percent of the long-term July average of 946 million kWh. The annual forecast is 7.1 billion kWh, 76 percent of the long-term average of 9.3 billion kWh.

Source: Bureau of Reclamation, MB&ART Region.