

(Friday, June 10)

Subject: 2022 Upper Snake River and Reservoir Operations Update

Purpose: The purpose of these updates is to provide information regarding Reclamation's operations and basin conditions as the season progresses. The operations outlined in this update are based on the best data available at the time and are subject to change as new information becomes available. For additional information and resources, please visit our website at <https://www.usbr.gov/pn/hydromet/uppersnake/>.

Highlights

***2022 Flow Augmentation delivery below Milner Dam will ramp-down to zero next week**

***Milner Dam:** Releases from Milner Dam are currently 2,000 cfs and delivery of the designated volume will be complete next week. Beginning early next, releases below Milner Dam will incrementally decrease and are anticipated to be at 0 cfs on Wednesday, June 15.

Total System Update: The Upper Snake reservoir system is 60% full, which is approximately 73% of average for this date. The effects of recent precipitation and cooler than normal temperatures trends have been significant. To this point, the current anomalies for growing day degree (GDD) since January 1 near Burley and Rexburg are negative -128 and -78 GDD, respectively. Normal cumulative GDD for these location on this date would be 362 and 246 GDD, respectively.

Despite these water supply enhancing conditions, the current systemwide storage is the 3rd lowest in the last 47 years. It is likely that accrual to reservoir storage rights will cease in the next 7-10 days and 2022 allocations of storage will be made. At this time, it is not anticipated that storage rights junior to 1921 will receive any new accrual in 2022 and water users accounts in that space will be reliant on their respective carryover from 2021. The table below provides an overview of current storage conditions across the basin. If the reader is interested in individual reservoirs not shown in this table, this embedded [link](#) can be used to locate that information.

As of June 9, 2022

BASIN	FULL (Acre-Feet)	AVG (Acre-Feet)	CURRENT (Acre-Feet)	%FULL	%AVG	Year-DELTA (Acre-Feet)
Little Wood	30,000	26,098	26,200	87%	100%	12,928
Upper Snake System	4,135,695	3,422,265	2,490,775	60%	73%	-716,545
<i>Above Heise Reservoirs</i>	2,047,000	1,630,331	980,318	48%	60%	-928,331
Palisades Reservoir	1,200,000	883,225	677,423	56%	77%	-412,493
Jackson Lake	847,000	747,107	302,895	36%	41%	-515,838
<i>Henry's Fork Reservoirs</i>	240,385	233,622	241,106	100%	103%	-313
Ririe Reservoir	80,540	70,553	61,811	77%	88%	-5,469
<i>Lower System</i>	1,767,770	1,487,758	1,207,540	68%	81%	217,568

For additional information, please contact the individuals below, or call the Upper Snake River and Reservoir Operations line at 208-670-0761.

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Reservoir levels, reservoir discharge, and river flows can be monitored on the USBR Hydromet page here: <https://www.usbr.gov/pn/hydromet/>

The Upper Snake “teacup” diagram which provides a graphical overview of system conditions can be accessed here: <https://www.usbr.gov/pn/hydromet/burtea.html>

Water District 1: [Home](#) | [Water District 1](#)

Key Term Definitions

Unregulated Flows (depleted) – calculated flow values at a given point that have been adjusted to remove the influence of upstream reservoir regulation

Natural/Naturalized Flow – calculated flow values at a given point that have been adjusted to account for the influence of upstream reservoir regulation, reservoir evaporation, and consumptive use of diversions.

Growing Degree Days – GDD’s are calculated using a standard minimum growing temperature of 50°F. Thus, the equation applied is $(\text{Max Daily Temperature} + \text{Minimum Daily Temperature})/2 - 50^\circ\text{F}$.