

(Wednesday, September 13)

Subject: 2023 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 information is provisional and subject to change.

Highlights

***Beginning Friday, September 15th, Lake Walcott levels will be reduced**

Total System Update: The reservoir system is 49% full, which is approximately 109% of median for the date and 1,258,197 acre-feet higher than a year ago.

Snake above King Hill Storage (Sep 12)

BASIN	CURRENT STORAGE (Acre-Feet)	Storage Capacity (Acre-Feet)	%Full	%Median	365-Delta (Acre-Feet)
Little Wood	18,378	30,000	61%	266%	10,996
Upper Snake Reservoir System	2,008,636	4,135,695	49%	109%	1,258,197
<i>Above Heise (Jck & Pal)</i>	1,330,966	2,047,000	65%	107%	909,701
Jackson Lake (Jck)	610,498	847,000	72%	107%	419,263
Palisades (Pal)	720,468	1,200,000	60%	106%	490,438
<i>Henrys Fork Reservoirs (Hen, Isl, Grs)</i>	180,529	240,385	75%	112%	37,127
Island Park (Isl)	86,049	135,205	64%	128%	23,668
Ririe Reservoir (Rir)	53,823	80,540	67%	85%	9,894
<i>Lower System (American Falls and Lake Walcott)</i>	443,318	1,767,770	25%	118%	301,475

Jackson Lake: Releases from Jackson Lake Dam will continue to be adjusted as needed to achieve reservoir level targets and objectives. At this time, it is anticipated that releases will be incrementally reduced to initial storage season flows by October 2nd. There is a public meeting in Jackson on September 14th where Reclamation staff will present a 101-level overview of the Upper Snake System. Please see the following link for more information - [Link](#).

***Lake Walcott:** USFWS submitted a request to draft Lake Walcott by 2-3' this fall for the purpose of facilitating prescribed burns and shoreline maintenance on the wildlife refuge. Similar operations have been conducted at Lake Walcott for various purposes, including as recently as last year. The draft of Lake Walcott is achieved via reduced releases from upstream reservoirs (American Falls) while maintaining water delivery at and below Minidoka Dam. The operation will begin later this week with an initial 2' draft of Lake Walcott and, when conditions permit, an additional 1' draft by early October.

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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