



(Friday, April 3, 2026)

Subject: Water Year 2026 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.

Overall storage conditions

Upper Snake River system: 74% full, which is approximately 103% of the 1991-2020 median for today's date. Little Wood Reservoir: 97% full, which is approximately 130% of the 1991-2020 median for today's date.

April 2026 runoff forecasts

The April through July Heise runoff forecast coordinated between Reclamation and the US Army Corps of Engineers included below corresponds to the April 1 to September 30 Heise Forecast of 2,679 KAF (70% of normal). This April through September forecast combined with the system carryover from the previous fall results in a Reclamation flow augmentation rental of 0 acre-feet from Water District 1 to occur this year, per the Water District 1 Flow Augmentation Rental Chart.

CURRENT MONTHLY FORECAST SUMMARY APR 1, 2026

Table with 5 columns: FORECAST POINT, FORECAST PERIOD, 1991-2020 AVERAGE (KAF), FORECAST (KAF), PERCENT NORMAL. Rows include HEISE, JACKSON LAKE, ISLAND PARK, TETON, RIRIE, and LITTLE WOOD.

* Coordinated with USACE

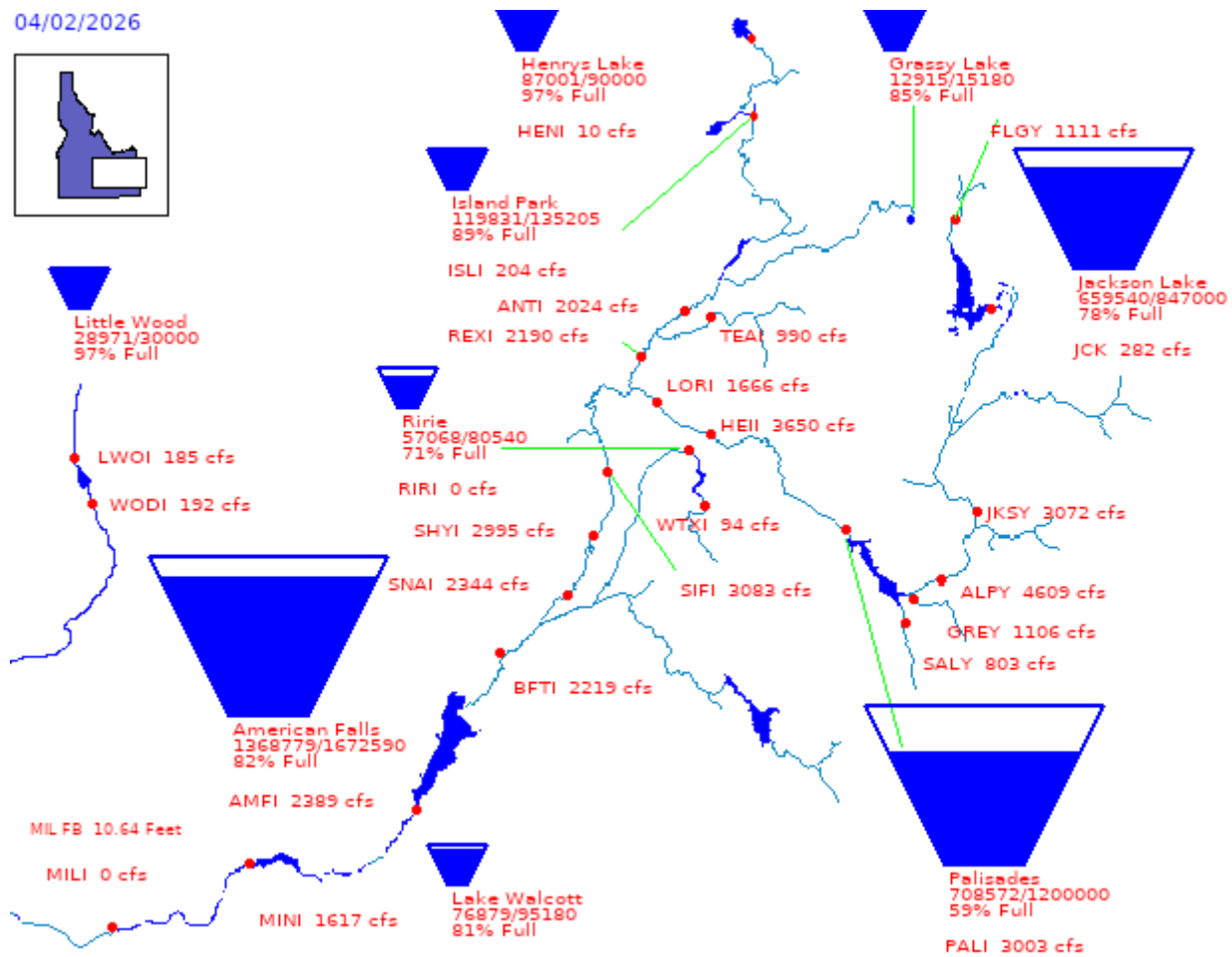
Operational Summary and Outlook

Palisades Dam outflow was increased this week from its winter flow of 900 cfs up to the current 3,000 cfs for diversions between Palisades Dam and American Falls Dam which began this week. Additional outflow adjustments will continue to be made at Palisades, American Falls and Minidoka Dams over the coming weeks in alignment with diversions throughout the system.

There may be some flood risk management at Palisades and Jackson this year. However, it is likely that irrigation diversions downstream alone will govern the refill curve and the eventual peak physical levels of both until they begin to draft in the May/June timeframe. There is no anticipation of Milner Spill (unstorable water passing Milner Dam) occurring this year. Approximately 132,000 acre-feet from the Palisades Powerhead storage account may be delivered downstream of Milner Dam in the late April/May timeframe this year for flow augmentation. The flow augmentation program (Upper Snake Irrigation Project Flow Augmentation, CPN

Region) is one of several northwest regional supplies of water used to help improve conditions for ESA listed salmon and steelhead species downstream.

04/02/2026



For additional information please contact Brian Stevens at 208-670-0761.

Helpful Links

- [BOR Upper Snake Teacup](#)
- [BOR Hydromet Data System](#)
- [BOR RISE Data and Dashboard](#)
- [National Water Prediction Service](#)
- [NWRFC Water Supply](#)
- [NRCS Interactive Map](#)
- [USGS Select Gaging Data](#)