RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Water Supply Outlook and Reservoir Operating Projections

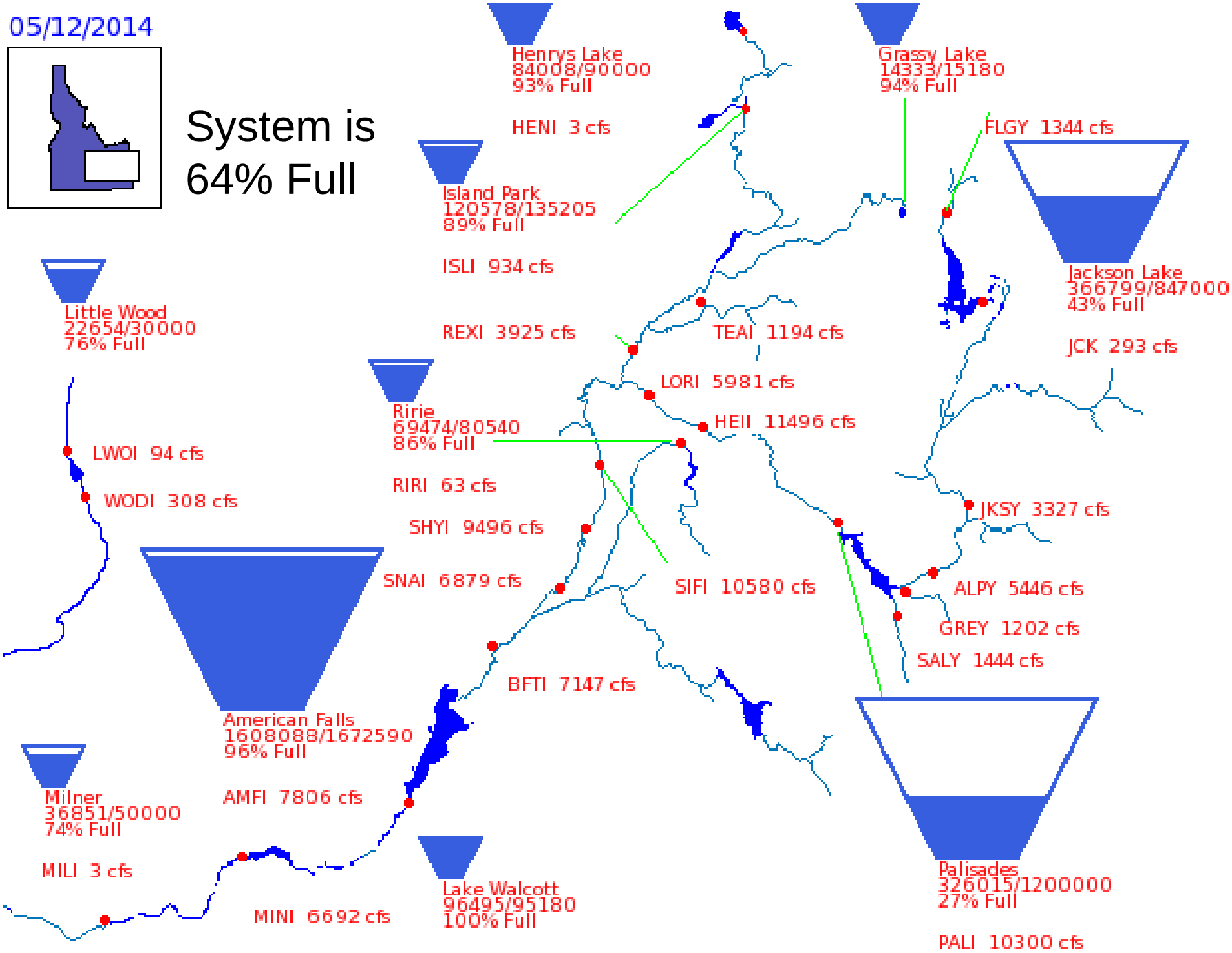
Jackson Wyoming Information Meeting

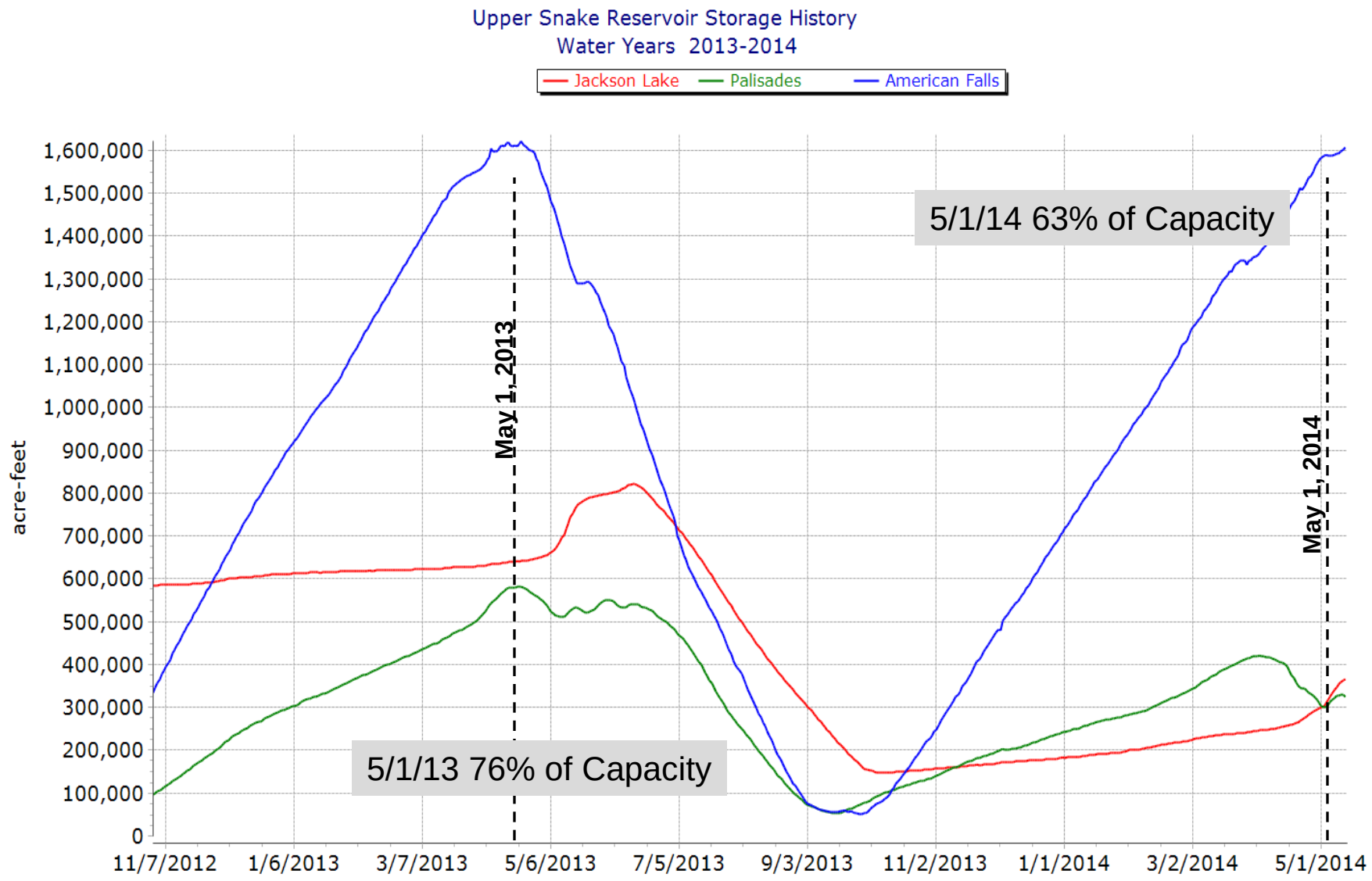
May 15,2014

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

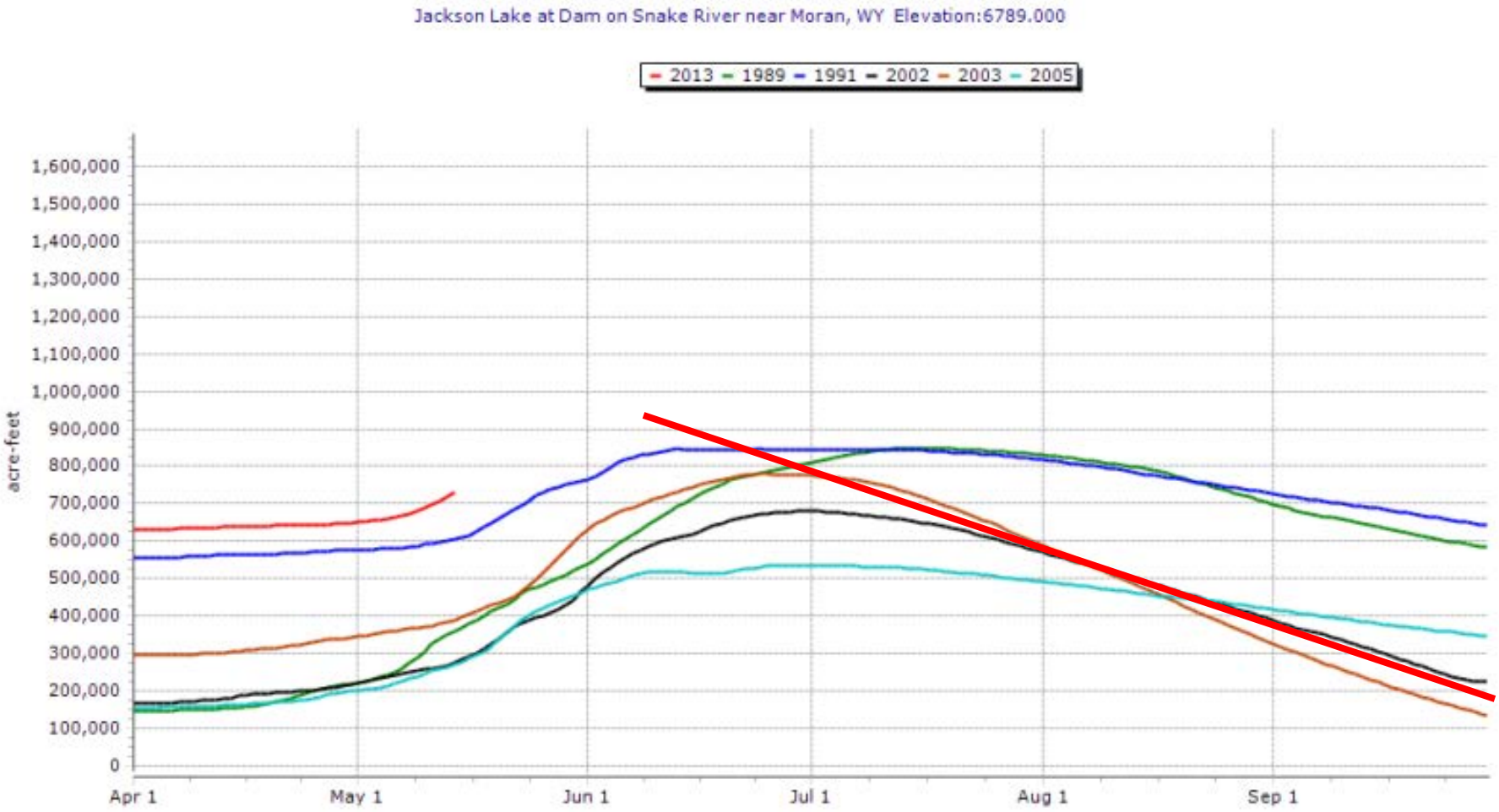
05/12/2014

System is 64% Full

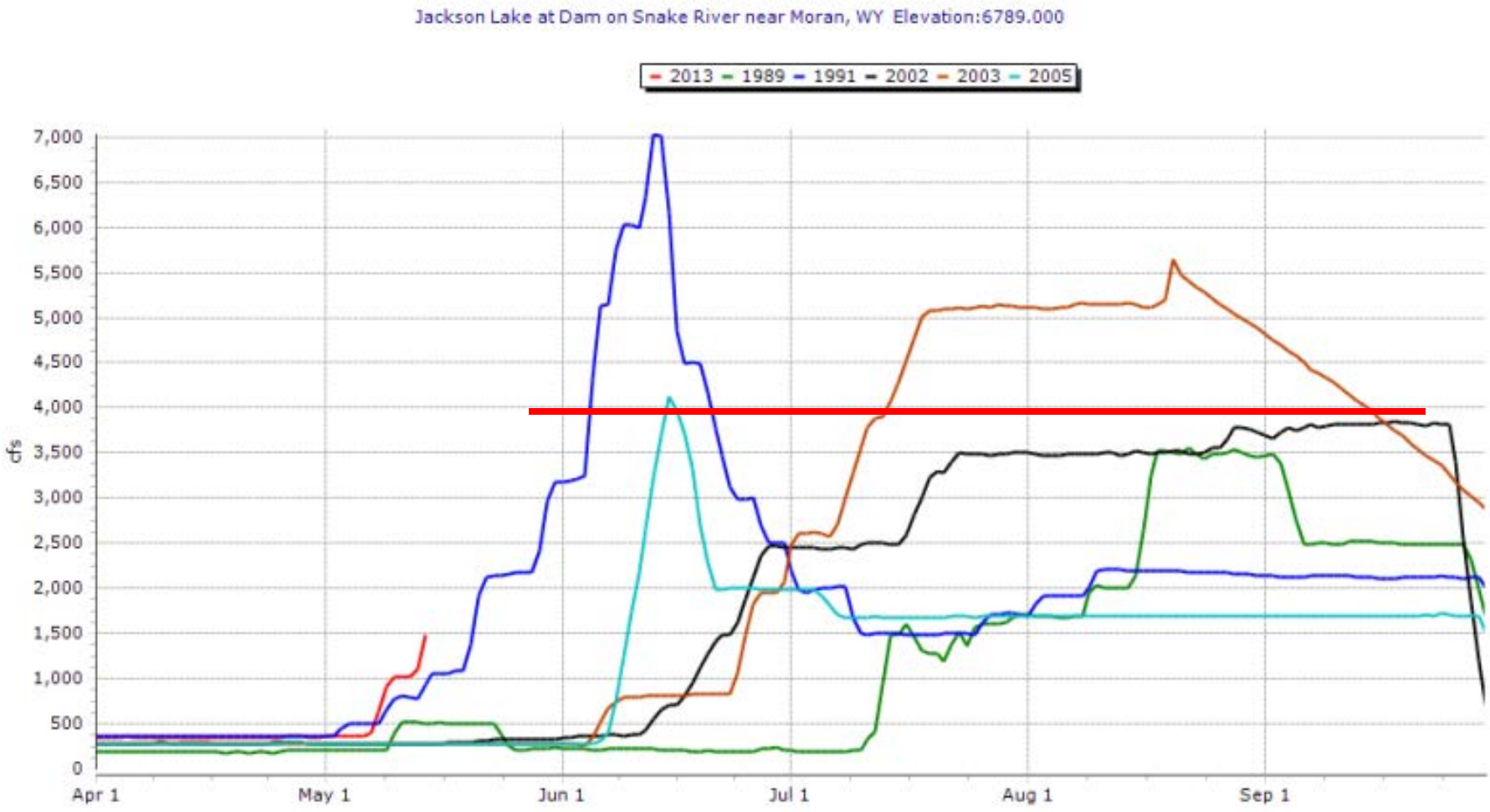




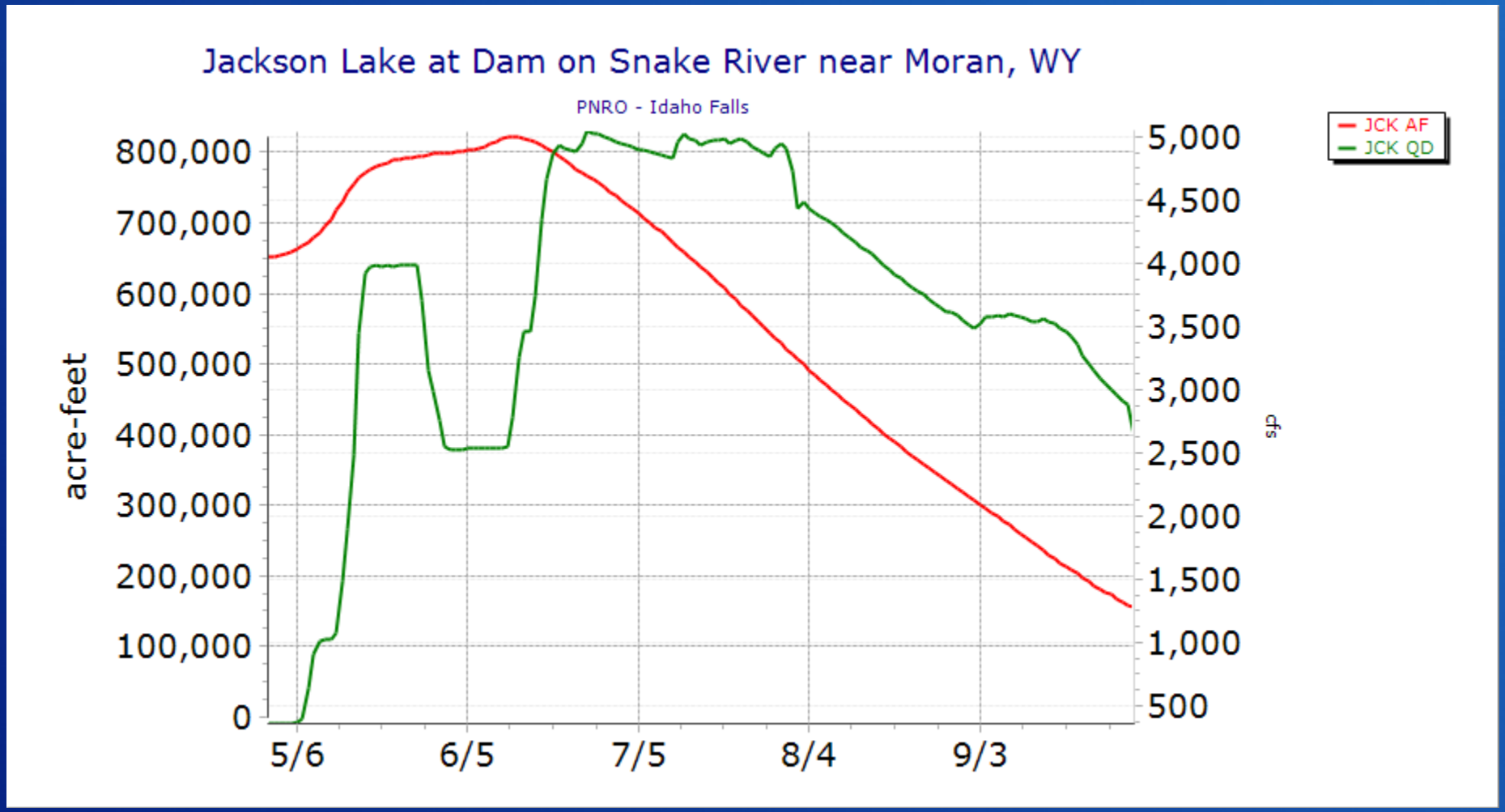
RECLAMATION



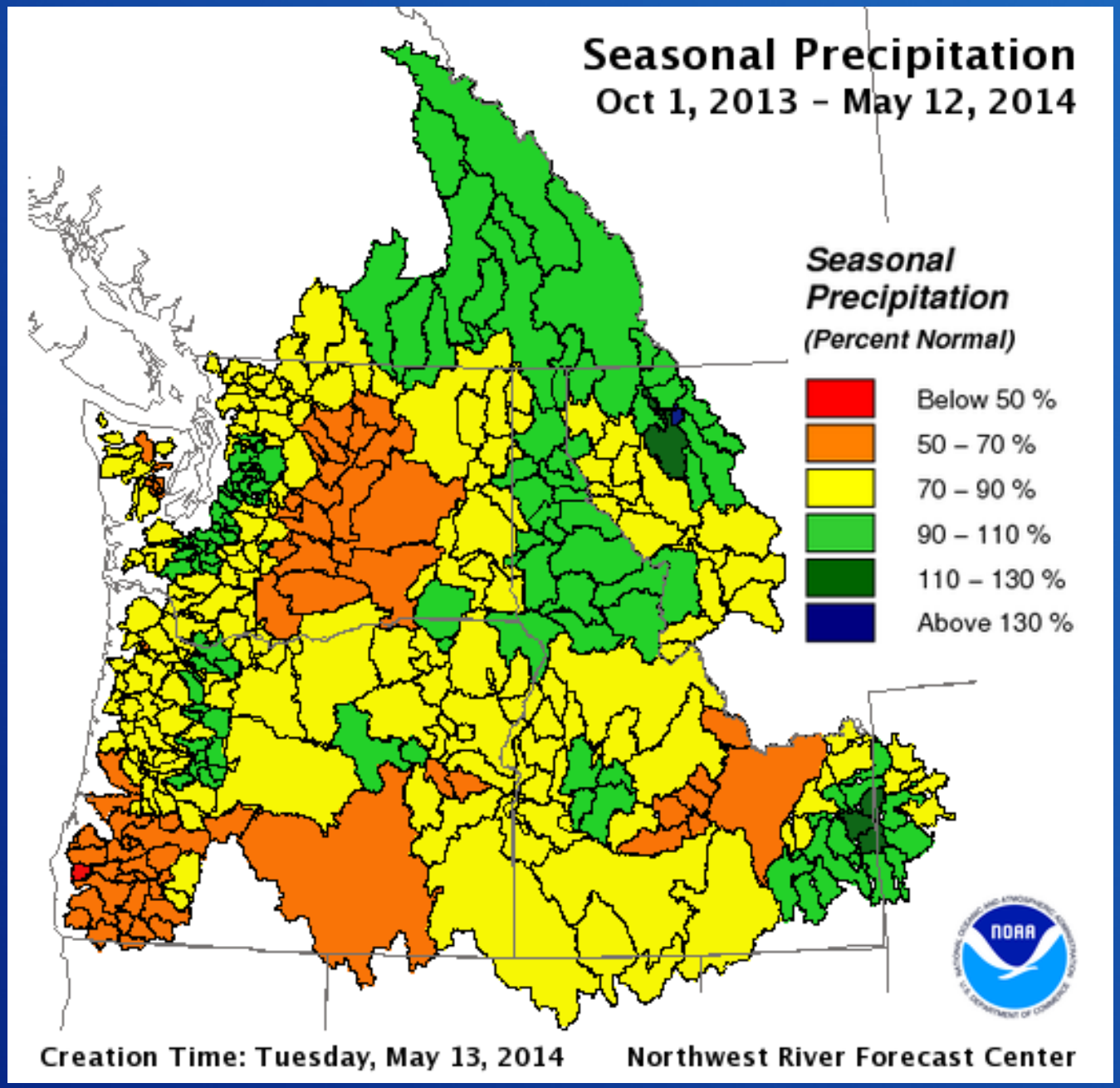
RECLAMATION



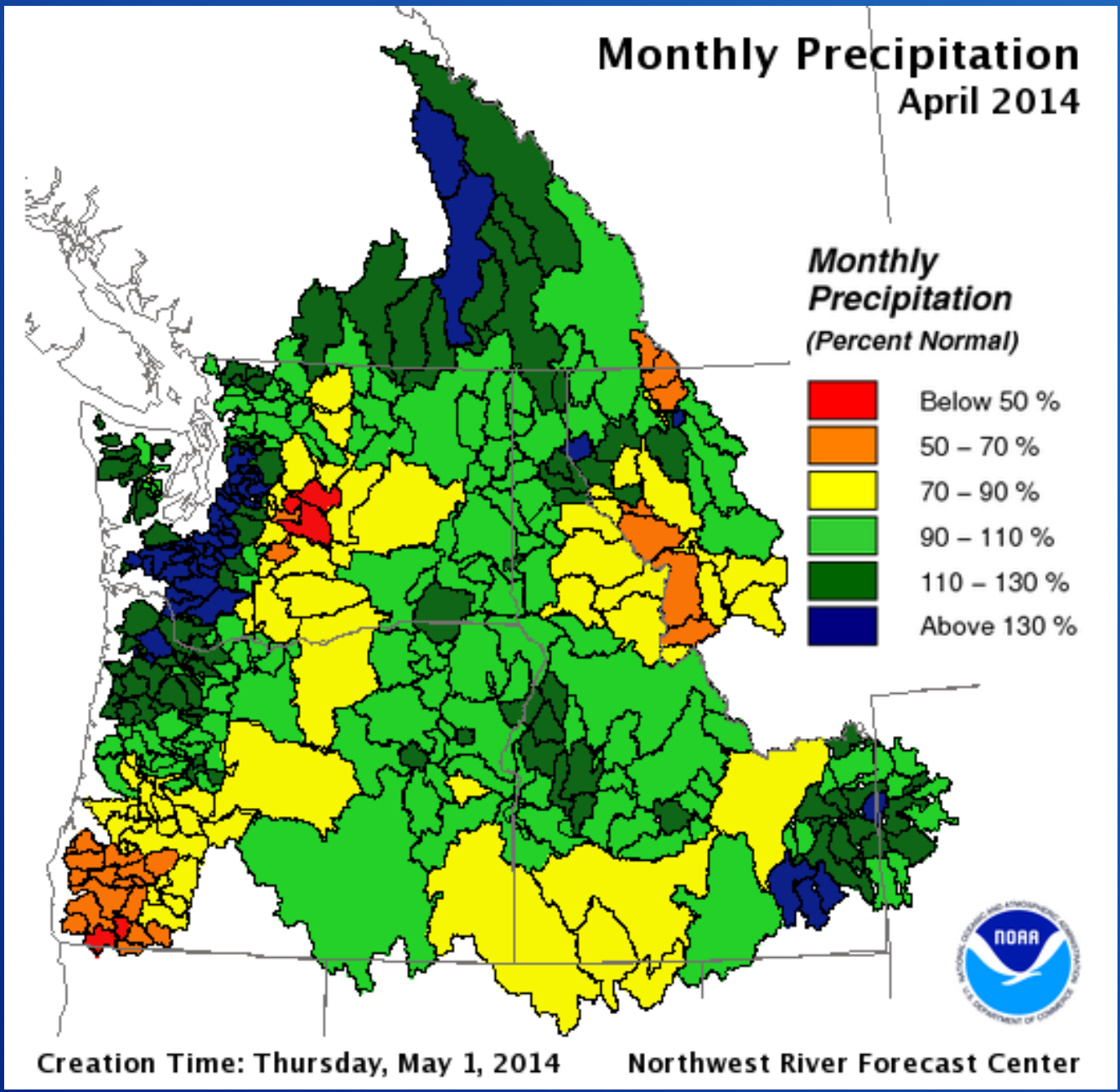
RECLAMATION



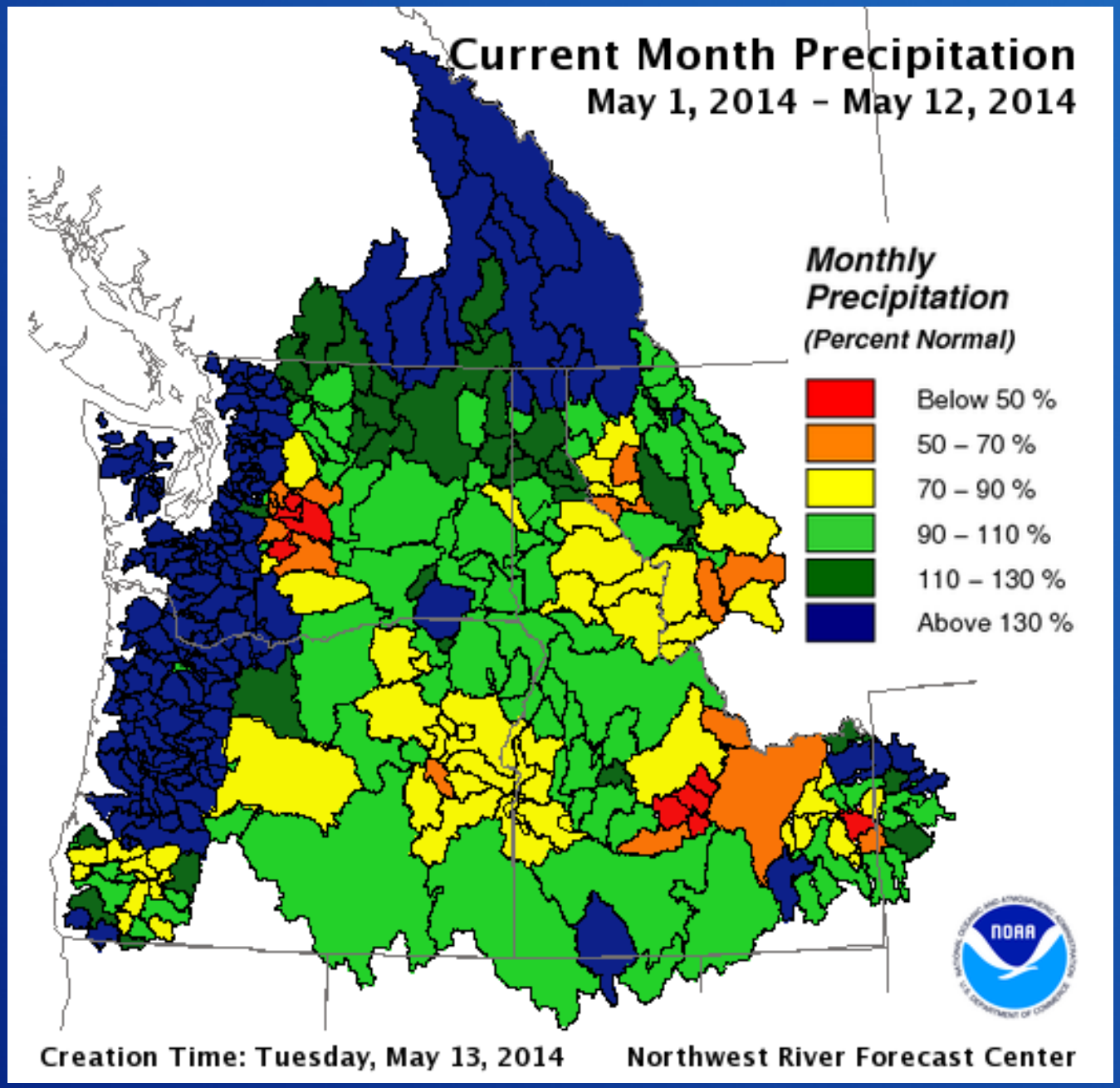
RECLAMATION



RECLAMATION



RECLAMATION



RECLAMATION

Precipitation, Upper Snake Basin

- Since February 1, 2014
  - From NRCS Basin Outlook Reports
    - February 212% of normal
    - March 157% of normal
    - April 101% of normal
    - May 115% of normal

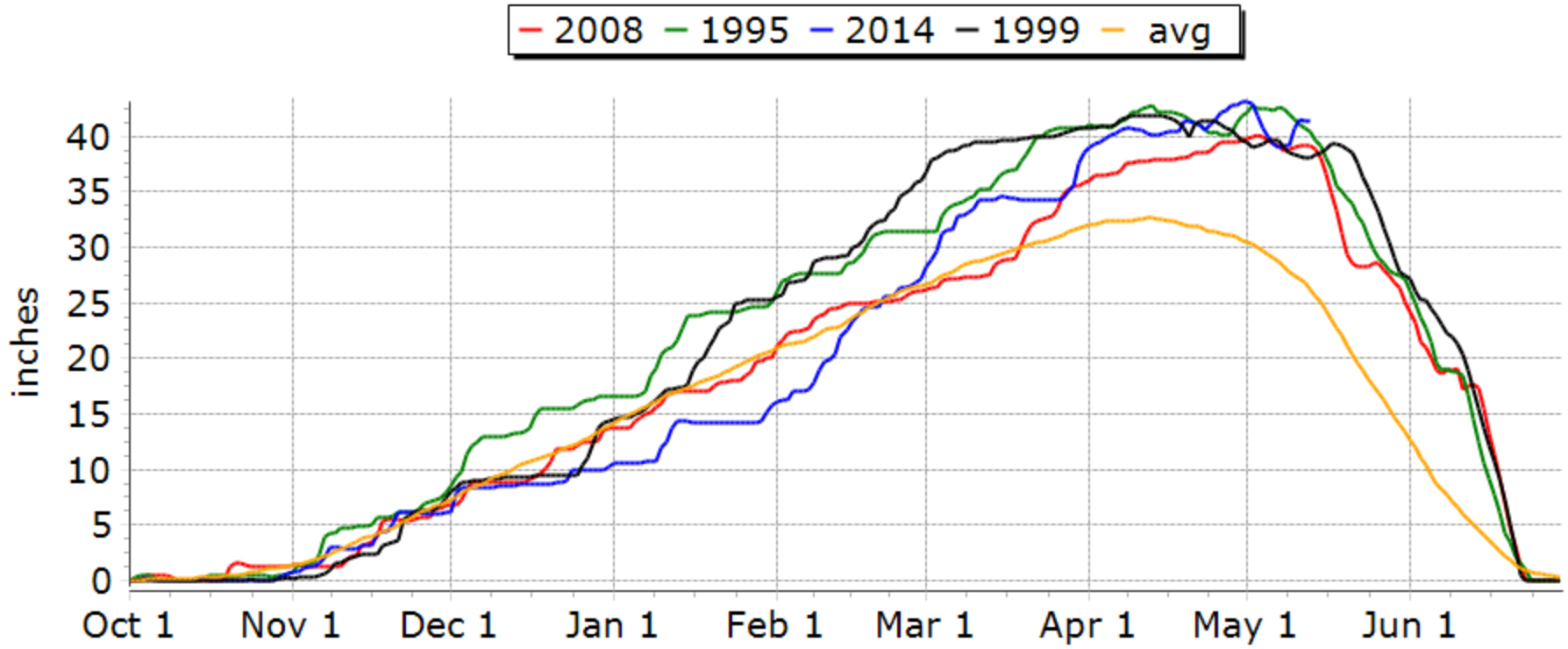
RECLAMATION

NRCS SnoTel Report May 13, 3014

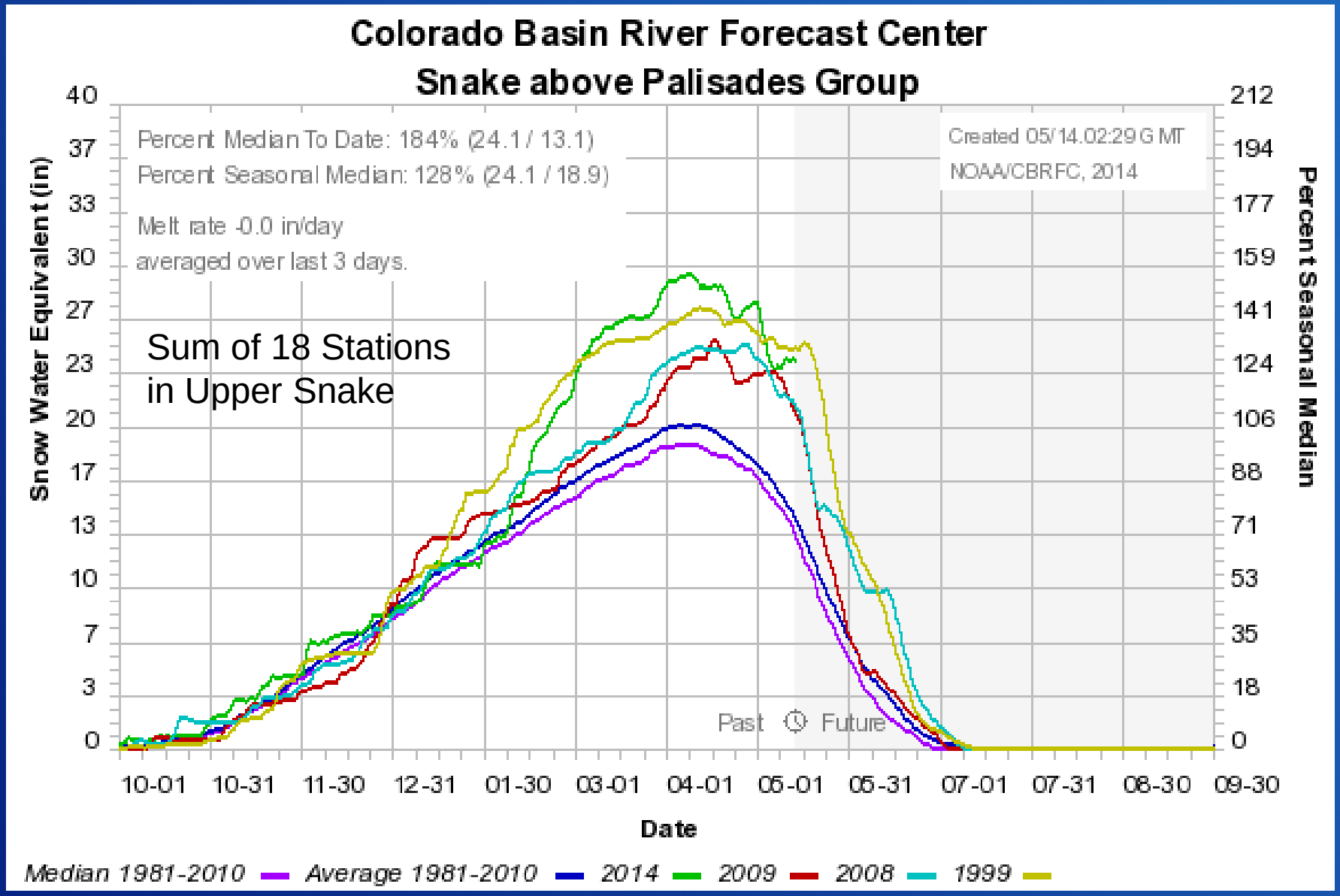
Basin Site Name	Elev (ft)	Snow Water Equivalent Current (in)	Snow Water Equivalent Median (in)	Snow Water Equivalent Pct of Median	Water Year-to-Date Precipitation Current (in)	Water Year-to-Date Precipitation Average (in)	Water Year-to-Date Precipitation Pct of Average
SNAKE BASIN ABOVE PALISADES							
BASE CAMP	7030	13.1	2.7	485	30.3	23.9	127
BLIND BULL SUM	8650	36.9	22.2	166	25.8	22.6	114
COTTONWOOD CREEK	7670	24.6	11.6	212	39.3	29.3	134
EAST RIM DIVIDE	7930	4.1	5.0	82	17.3	13.8	125
GRANITE CREEK	6770	14.4	3.2	450	27.5	22.4	123
GRASSY LAKE	7265	34.4	23.9	144	46.4	41.0	113
GROS VENTRE SUMMIT	8750	13.3	9.2	145	16.9	15.6	108
GUNSIGHT PASS	9820	20.2	12.4c	163	21.9	17.4c	126
LEWIS LAKE DIVIDE	7850	41.3	27.9	148	46.6	40.1	116
LOOMIS PARK	8240	17.0	6.5	262	27.4	20.1	136
PHILLIPS BENCH	8200	35.3	22.5	157	39.4	32.3	122
SALT RIVER SUMMIT	7760	8.5	2.7	315	22.3	19.4	115
SNAKE RIVER STATION	6920	8.6	0.6	1433*	30.4	25.8	118
SPRING CREEK DIVIDE	9000	36.6	23.1	158	36.3	27.5	132
THUMB DIVIDE	7980	15.7	6.8	231	23.3	22.1	105
TOGWOTEE PASS	9580	35.1	25.1	140	37.5	29.0	129
TWO OCEAN PLATEAU	9240	40.4	29.4	137	39.6	32.0	124
WILLOW CREEK	8380	34.7	20.2	172	47.2	39.9	118
Basin Index (%)				**170**			**121**

RECLAMATION

LEWIS LAKE DIVIDE SnoTel



RECLAMATION

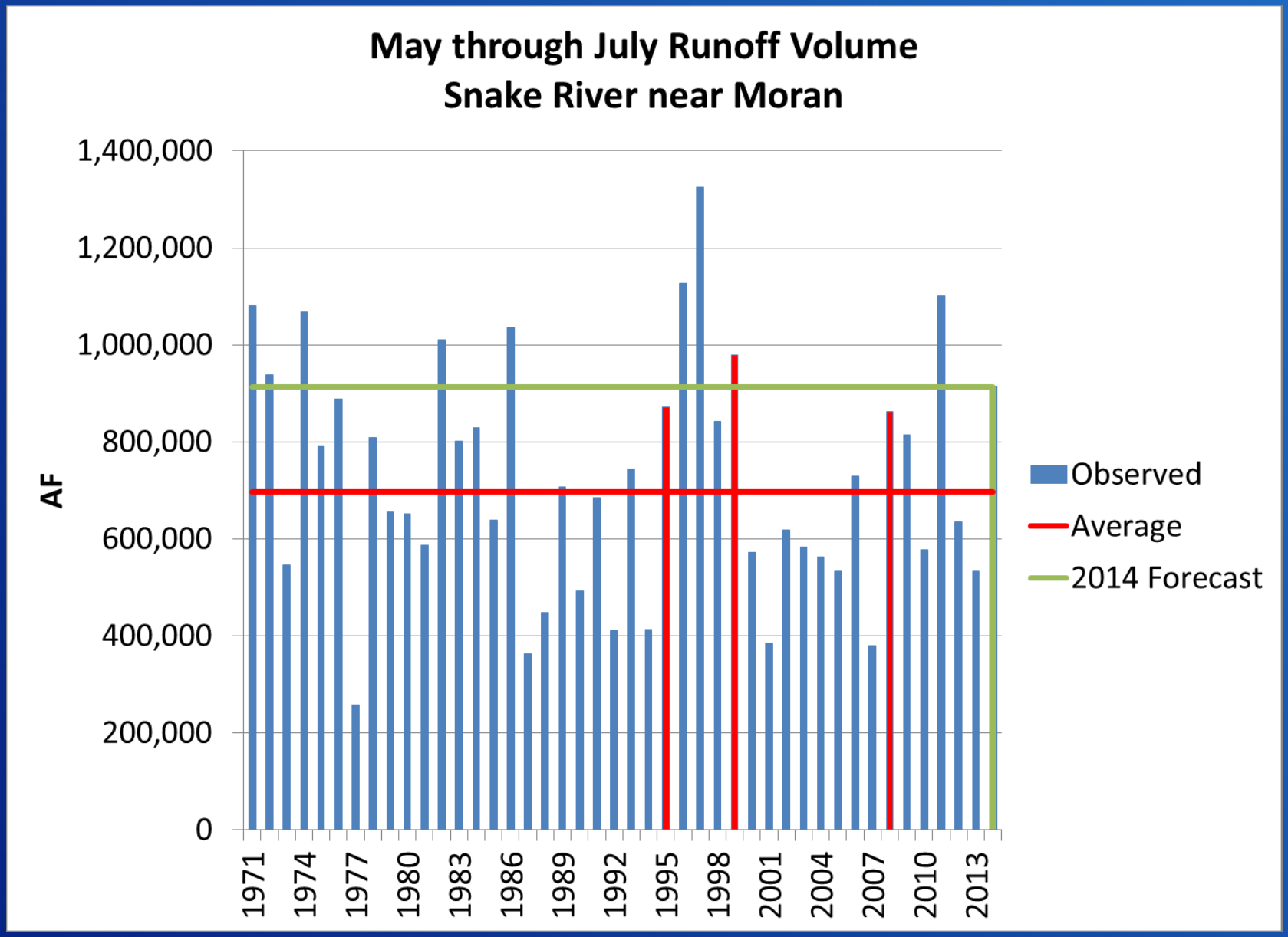


RECLAMATION

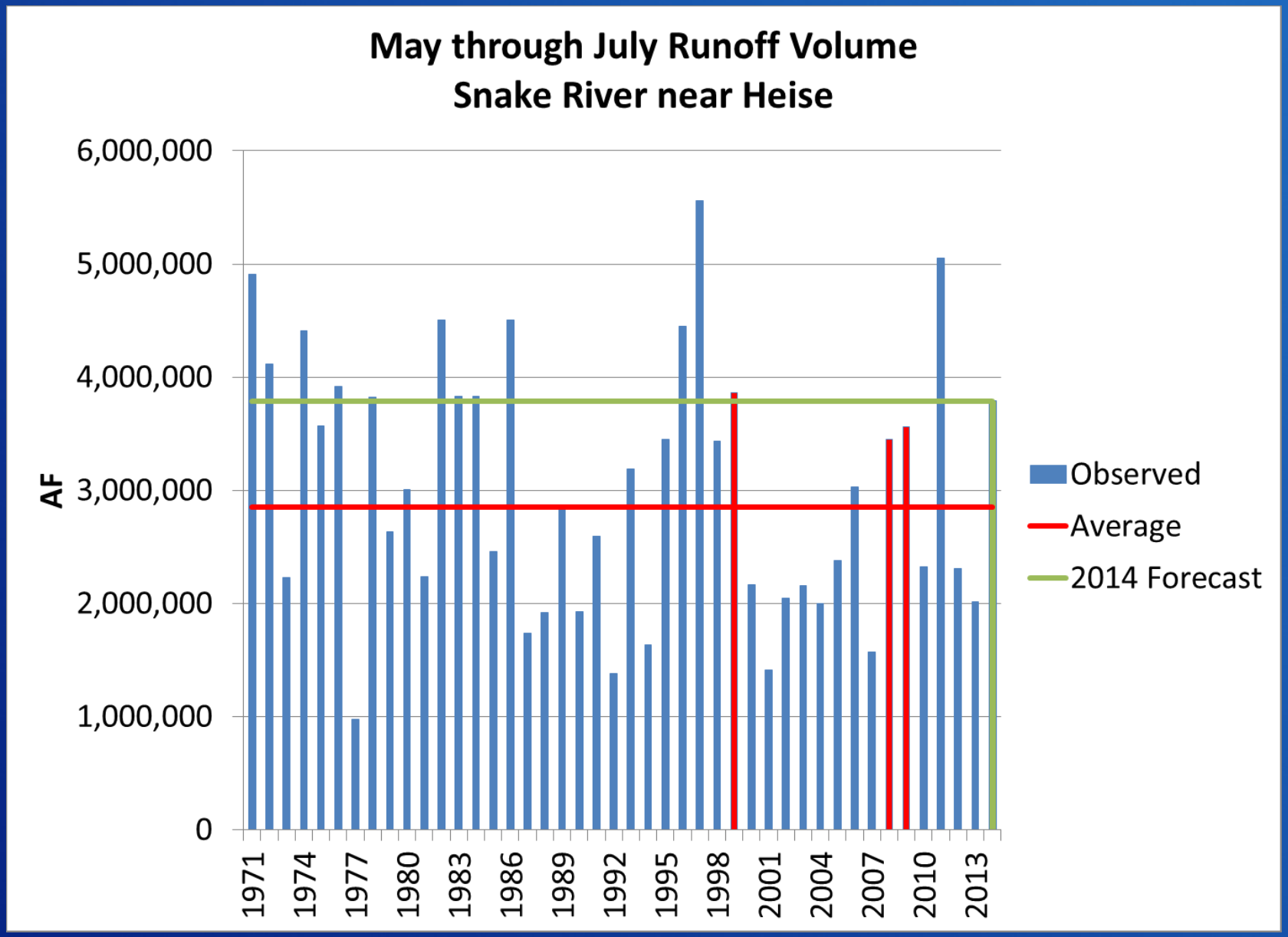
Runoff Forecasts

- Reclamation - Corps Coordinated Forecasts
  - Month-July Unregulated Volume at Heise
    - February – 92% of normal (3.3 MAF)
    - March – 122% of normal (4.2 MAF)
    - April – 135% of normal (4.37 MAF)
    - May – 133% of normal (3.79MAF)

RECLAMATION



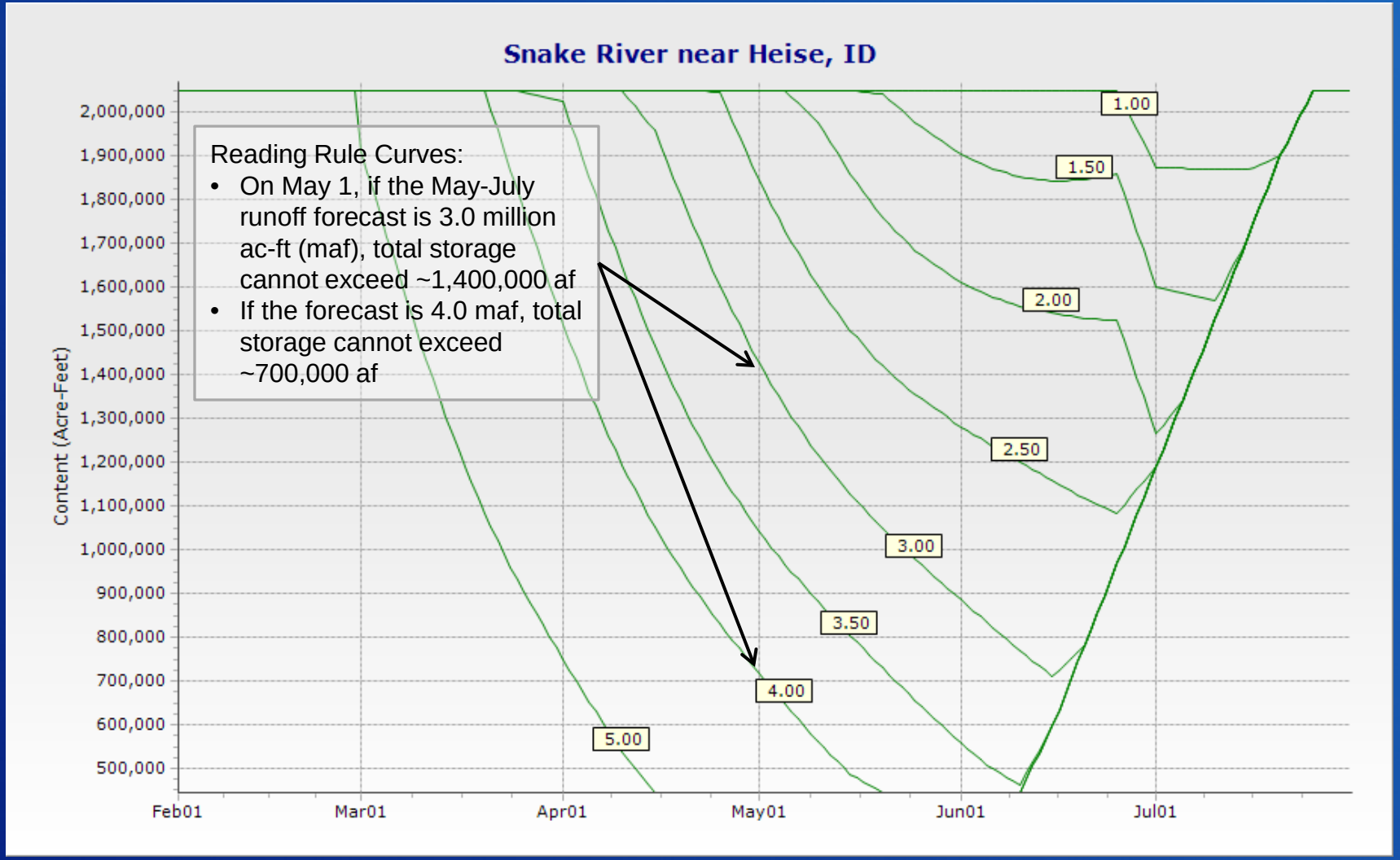
RECLAMATION



RECLAMATION

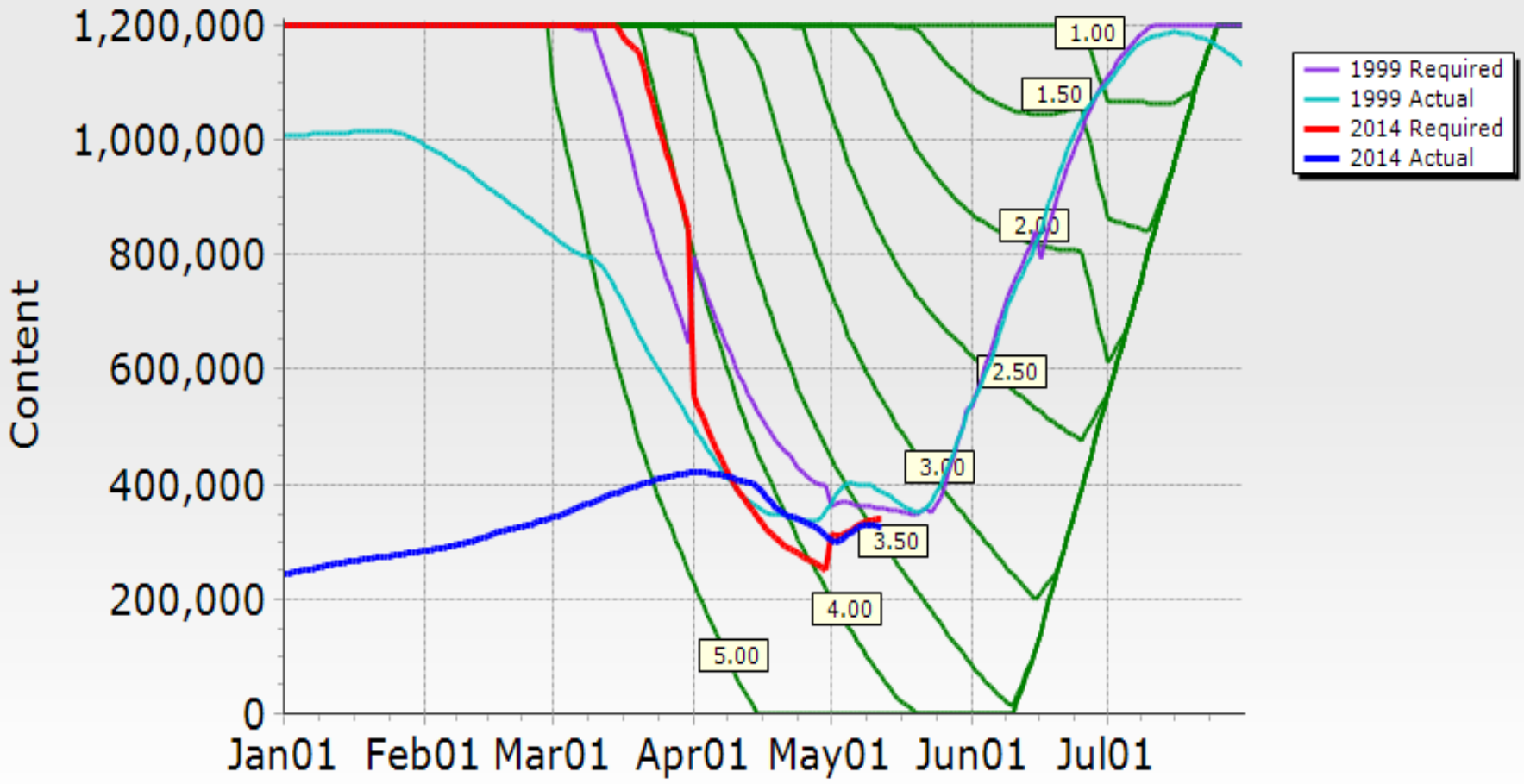
Rule Curve for Snake River near Heise

Defines Reserved Space in Jackson Lake and Palisades



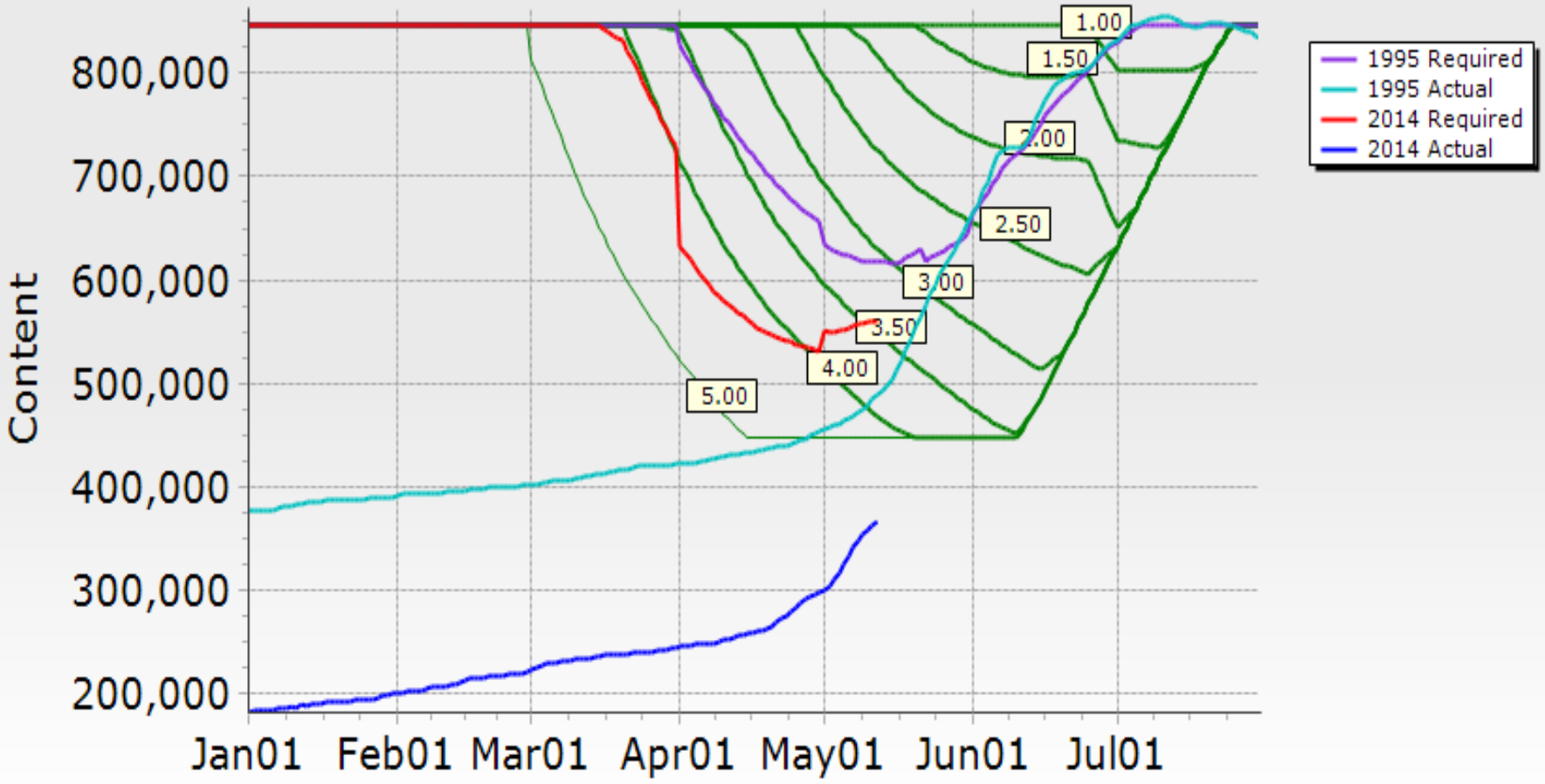
RECLAMATION

Palisades Flood Operation

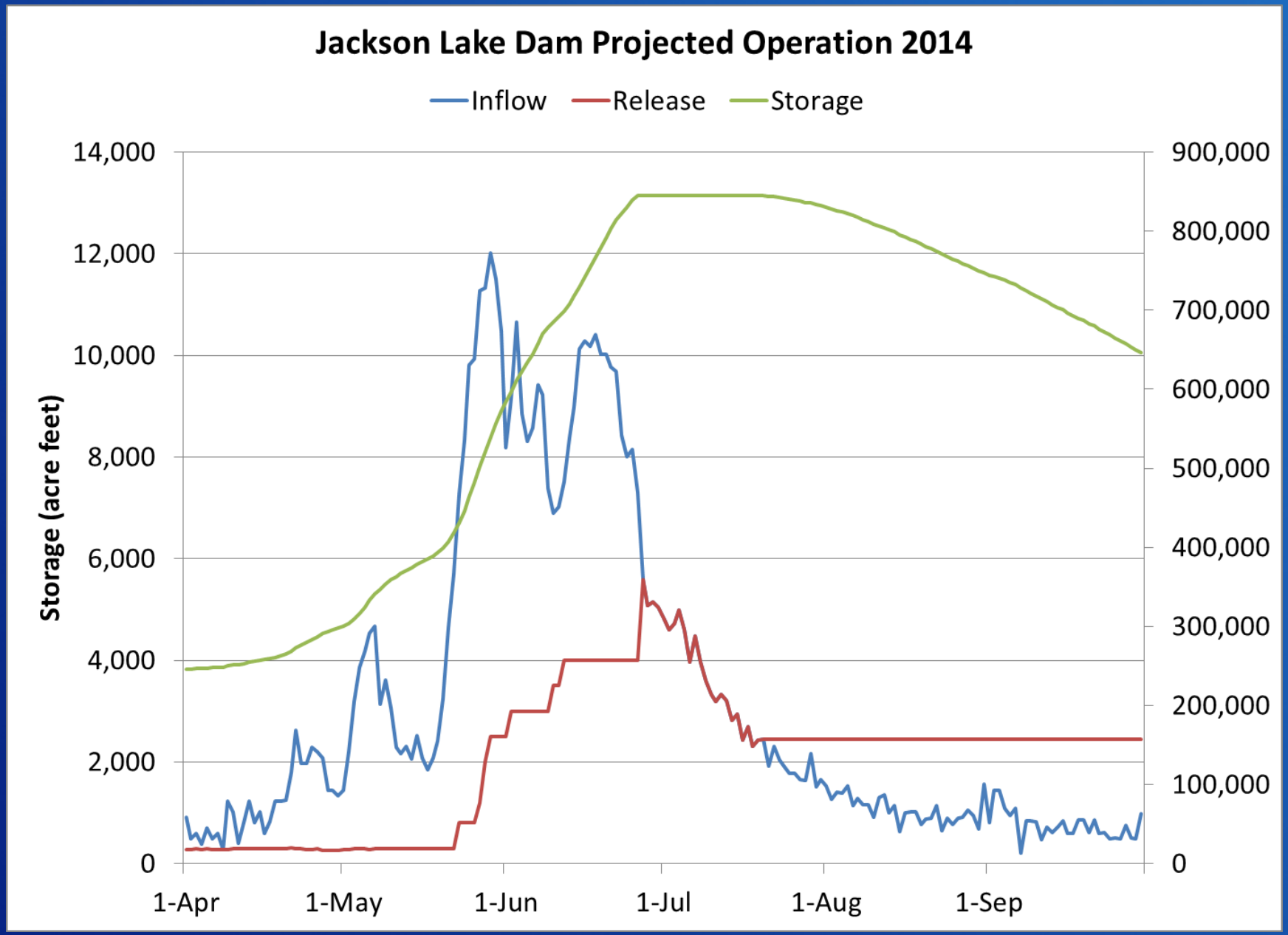


RECLAMATION

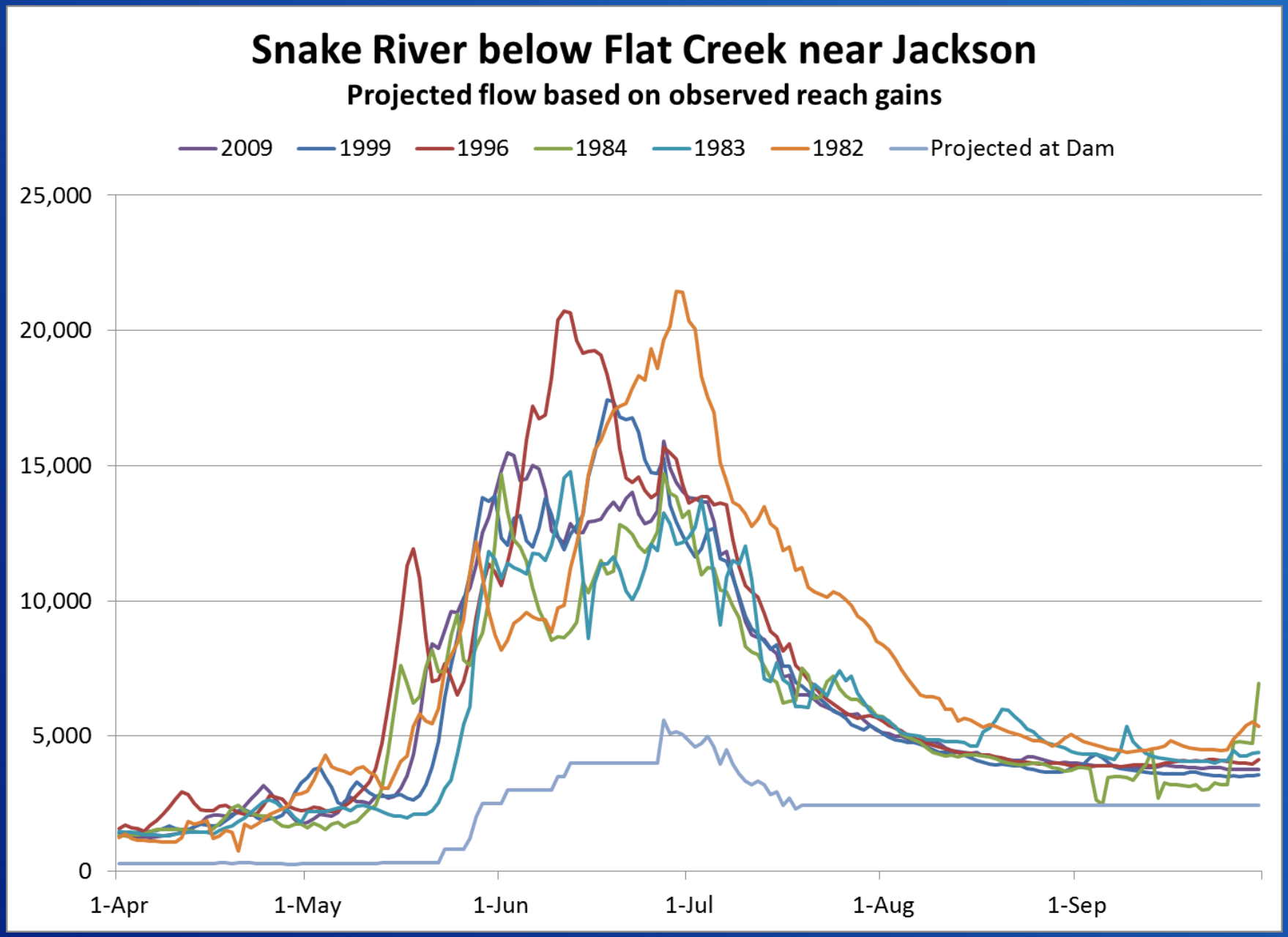
Jackson Lake Flood Operation



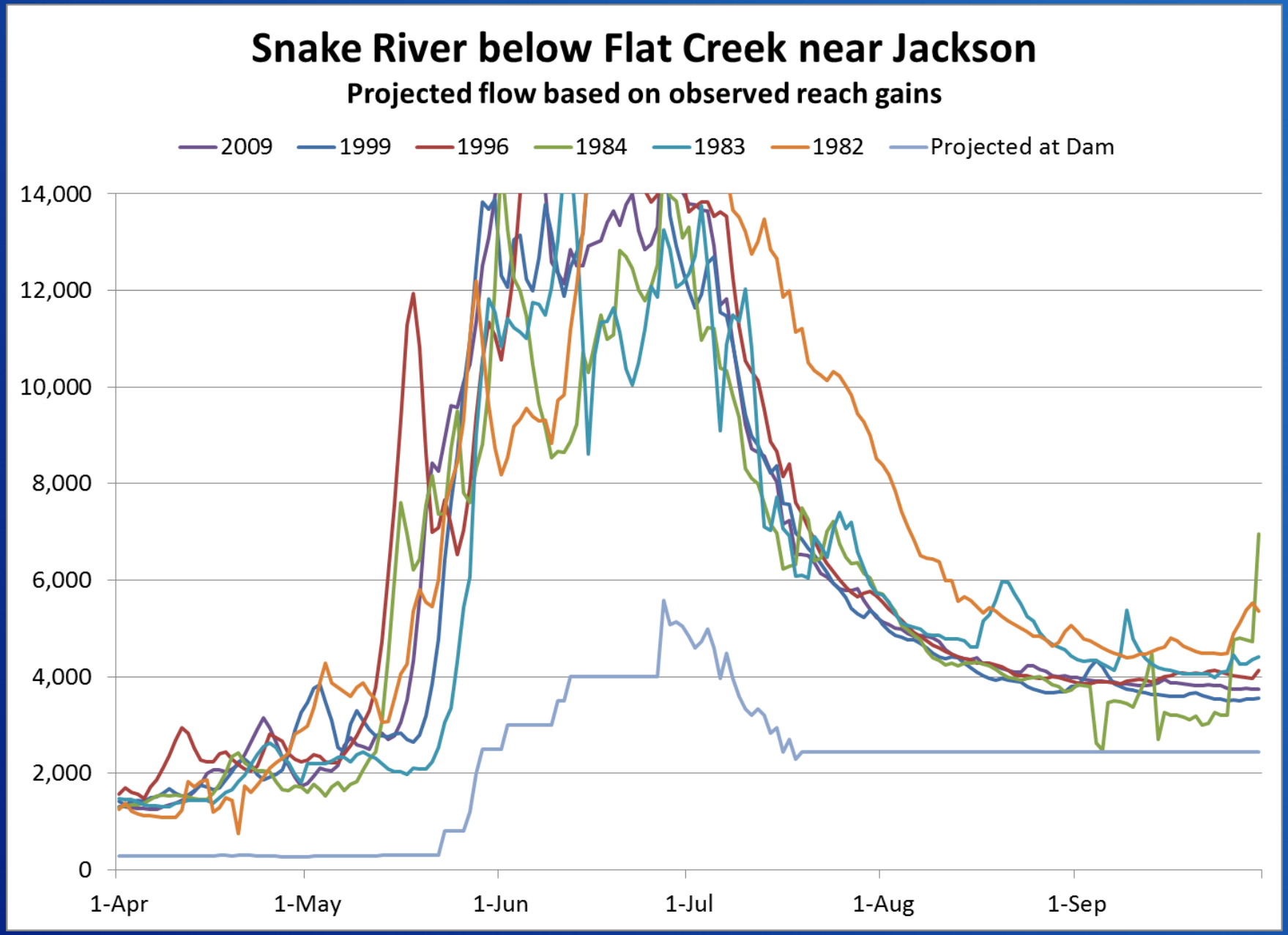
RECLAMATION



RECLAMATION



RECLAMATION



RECLAMATION

Operations Summary

- Projected Operations
  - No changes at Jackson Lake until May 23
  - Increasing discharge at Palisades to maintain required flood control space
- Other Operation Considerations
  - 185,000 acre-feet will be released from the Upper Snake system to meet ESA requirements after flood season
  - About 20,000 acre-feet more from un-contracted space to ESA
  - In springtime ,weather drives reservoir operations
    - Irrigation demand , runoff volume, snowmelt timing

RECLAMATION

Operations Key Points

- Higher than normal runoff this year
  - May 1st forecast is 133% of normal
  - 130% above Jackson Lake
- The system is expected to fill
- Low storage following last year helps limit potential flooding
- Operations will adapt to flood control requirements as conditions change
- Jackson Lake and Palisades should remain above average after all demands are met
- After snowmelt season, Snake River flows below Jackson Lake will be much lower than last year but not critically low

RECLAMATION

For Further Information

- **Upper Snake Field Office**
  - **Roland Springer – Field Office Manager (208-578-0461 x34)** rspringer@usbr.gov
  - **Mike Beus – Water Ops Manager (x27)** mbeus@usbr.gov
  - **John Hildreth – Civil Engineer (x46)** jhildreth@usbr.gov

- **Water Information Line** (800) 658-5771
- **Snake River Operations Web Sites**
  - **USBR HydroMet -** www.usbr.gov/pn/hydromet/
    - **Teacup –** www.usbr.gov/pn/hydromet/burtea.html
  - **Snake River Area Office Web Site**
  - **Water Operations -** www.usbr.gov/pn/snakeriver/water/

RECLAMATION