Upper Colorado River Basin

- Glen Canyon Dam releases: 8.23 maf in 2020
- The September 2020 24-MS set WY2021 operating tier in the Upper Elevation Balancing Tier of the 2007 IG. The most probable release in WY2021 is 9.0 maf, while the min and max studies both show a WY2021 release of 8.23 maf
- April-July observed runoff is 3.758 maf (52% of average)

Green River Basin

- Based on the Flaming Gorge reservoir August observed unregulated inflow the hydrologic condition has changed from Average to Moderately Dry. Therefore, in accordance with the Flaming Gorge 2020-2021 Operation Plan the operations will change to match the Moderately Dry hydrologic condition. Current releases are being targeted for the summer base flow period and Colorado Pikeminnow proposed flow request. Targeted flows at the USGS Jensen gage with the combination of Flaming Gorge Dam releases and Yampa River flows are estimated to be between 1,800 cfs to 2,000 cfs or within the +/- 40% of calculated base flows at the Jensen Gage, Reach 2. This has resulted in daily average release of 1,600 cfs. The summer base flow period will end on September 30, 2020. Autumn average daily releases will be decreased from 1,600 cfs to 950 cfs at 50 cfs/day increments to meet Moderately Dry hydrologic condition lower targets in Reach 2, 1,100 cfs to 1,500 cfs.
- Fontenelle is in the Base flow operation period. Releases were lowered on September 21st to 900 cfs to compensate for lower inflows and pool elevation. Due to scheduled maintenance, releases have been switched from power generation to bypass until mid-October.

Gunnison River Basin

- Releases from Aspinall are 1,450 cfs.
- This week Crystal will be bypassing rather than generating so that annual maintenance can be performed from 9/21/2020 through 10/9/2020 (total of 19 days).
- Aspinall is in base flow mode.
- Due to the low runoff year a drought provision has been triggered this summer allowing for a reduction in the Whitewater reach base flow target.
- The September final forecast (issued on 9/1/2020) has the unregulated inflow to Blue Mesa over the next 3 months as: September – 24,000 acre-feet (63% of average), October – 26,000 acre-feet (68% of average), November – 24,000 acre-feet (77% of average).
- Blue Mesa will not fill this year due to the below normal forecast for the spring runoff.
- Blue Mesa reached its peak elevation for the year on June 19, 2020 and is expected to continue declining.
San Juan River Basin

- Navajo peaked on June 9th at an elevation of 6062.7 ft (1.38 maf, 81% full).
- The weekly averaged baseflow in the critical habitat reach is currently 526 cfs, which is within the SJRIP recommended target of 500 to 1,000 cfs.
- The most probable inflow forecast for September, October, and November, is 10,000 af (23% of average), 25,000 af (53% of average), and 25,000 af (75% of average), respectively.
- Releases will continue declining as irrigation tapers off for the season.

Rio Grande Basin

- Rio Grande Project releases for irrigation began on March 13 and were discontinued from Elephant Butte on September 22. The calendar year minimum storage for Elephant Butte of ~81,500 ac-ft occurred on that date. Inflow to Elephant Butte is expected to increase in early to mid-October as irrigation in the Middle Rio Grande Valley is reduced. The EBFD manager expressed his appreciation to the team for a successful water year, and the ability to generate hydropower with 100% of the water delivered to Caballo Reservoir.
- Elephant Butte Irrigation District (EBID) shut off irrigation releases in the Mesilla Valley on August 28, and Mexico stopped taking its diversions from the Acequia Madre on September 10. Releases from Caballo for El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1 (EP1) will be discontinued for the season on September 25. The calendar year minimum storage for Caballo of ~27,500 ac-ft will also occur on this date.
- On September 24, EBFD reported that three consecutive elevation surveys of the reservoir were completed and the SDR system tracked consistently with the surveys. EBFD requested that we switch the primary elevation readings back to the SDR and use the bubbler system as the secondary method. Surveys to monitor the accuracy of real time data continue, and a multi-agency end-of-year survey will
- be conducted with staff from the NM Interstate Stream Commission, the USGS and Reclamation in December.
- Rio Grande Project Reservoir projections were updated and sent to stakeholders on September 17.
- The final June 1 allocation put Mexico’s allocation at 50,362 ac-ft (~83% of a full allocation). The districts’ allocations are: EP1 354,663 ac-ft and EBID 191,432 ac-ft. Since June, ~20 KAF of additional unallocated Project water has made it to Elephant Butte bringing the end-of-season projected storage up from what was estimated in April.
- In mid-July, the Rio Grande Compact Commission allowed for the emergency release of water held in El Vado to cover NM’s 2019 Compact debit, under the rules of the Compact. Approximately 32,000 ac-ft of New Mexico’s Compact debit water was released from July 18 to September 7, per the State Engineer’s direction. About 3,500 ac-ft remain in storage and will most likely be released to Elephant Butte Reservoir after irrigation season.
Rio Grande Basin - continued

- On September 14, after a contentious vote by the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District (MRGCD), irrigation in the Middle Rio Grande is scheduled to end early on October 5 with the intent of increasing New Mexico’s Compact delivery to Elephant Butte Reservoir. Reclamation has released about 20,175 ac-ft of supplemental San Juan – Chama Project water to date to support MRG Project operations. An additional 7,000 ac-ft of supplemental water was acquired from the Albuquerque Bernalillo Water Utility Authority by MRGCD, Reclamation and the NM Interstate Stream Commission. The release of this additional leased water began on September 8 at a rate of 150 cfs/day. Approximately 3,350 ac-ft has been released to date, just under half of the total leased volume. This water is intended to maintain a continuous river in the reach between Cochiti Dam and Isleta Diversion Dam in support of endangered species, irrigators, and other users.
- The EBID and EP1 board meetings are scheduled for October 14 and IBWC will hold the next Convention of 1906 meeting on October 21, 2020.
Upper Colorado Region Weekly Hydrology Summary

This hydrologic information is provided weekly to summarize the hydrologic conditions in the Upper Colorado Region. If additional information is required, please contact Mark Delorey (mdelorey@usbr.gov) in the Water Management Group, Power Office.

Selected Reservoir Status - Report Date: September 25, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reservoir</th>
<th>Elevation (ft)</th>
<th>Live Storage (1000 AF)</th>
<th>% of Live Capacity</th>
<th>Avg Daily Unreg Inflow (cfs)</th>
<th>Daily Release (cfs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lake Powell</td>
<td>3,596.77</td>
<td>11,445</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>-323</td>
<td>10,463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Mesa</td>
<td>7,472.14</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>363</td>
<td>1,243</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flaming Gorge</td>
<td>6,026.19</td>
<td>3,204</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>338</td>
<td>1,632</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fontenelle</td>
<td>6,495.42</td>
<td>265</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>422</td>
<td>900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navajo**</td>
<td>6,044.28</td>
<td>1,160</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>-86</td>
<td>707</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elephant Butte</td>
<td>4,293.24</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Current as of: 9/24/2020 **Unreg inflow is actually Modified Unreg Inflow

Selected Reservoir Inflows - Forecasted & Water Year to September 25, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reservoir</th>
<th>Final APR-JUL Unregulated Inflow (1000 AF)</th>
<th>Final APR-JUL Unregulated Inflow (% Average)</th>
<th>September Mid-Month Forecast WY2020 Unregulated Inflow (1000 AF)</th>
<th>September Mid-Month Forecast WY2020 Unregulated Inflow (% Average)</th>
<th>August Unregulated Inflow Observed (1000 AF)</th>
<th>August Unregulated Inflow Observed (% Average)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lake Powell</td>
<td>3,759</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>5,906</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>-20</td>
<td>-4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blue Mesa</td>
<td>388</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>612</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>41%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fontenelle</td>
<td>677</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>1,002</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flaming Gorge</td>
<td>833</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>1,257</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Navajo</td>
<td>347</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>-15.0</td>
<td>-33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
% AVERAGE PRECIPITATION - Upper Colorado Region - September 25, 2020

% AVG PRECIPITATION Conditions Map