

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Snowpack and Reservoir Operations



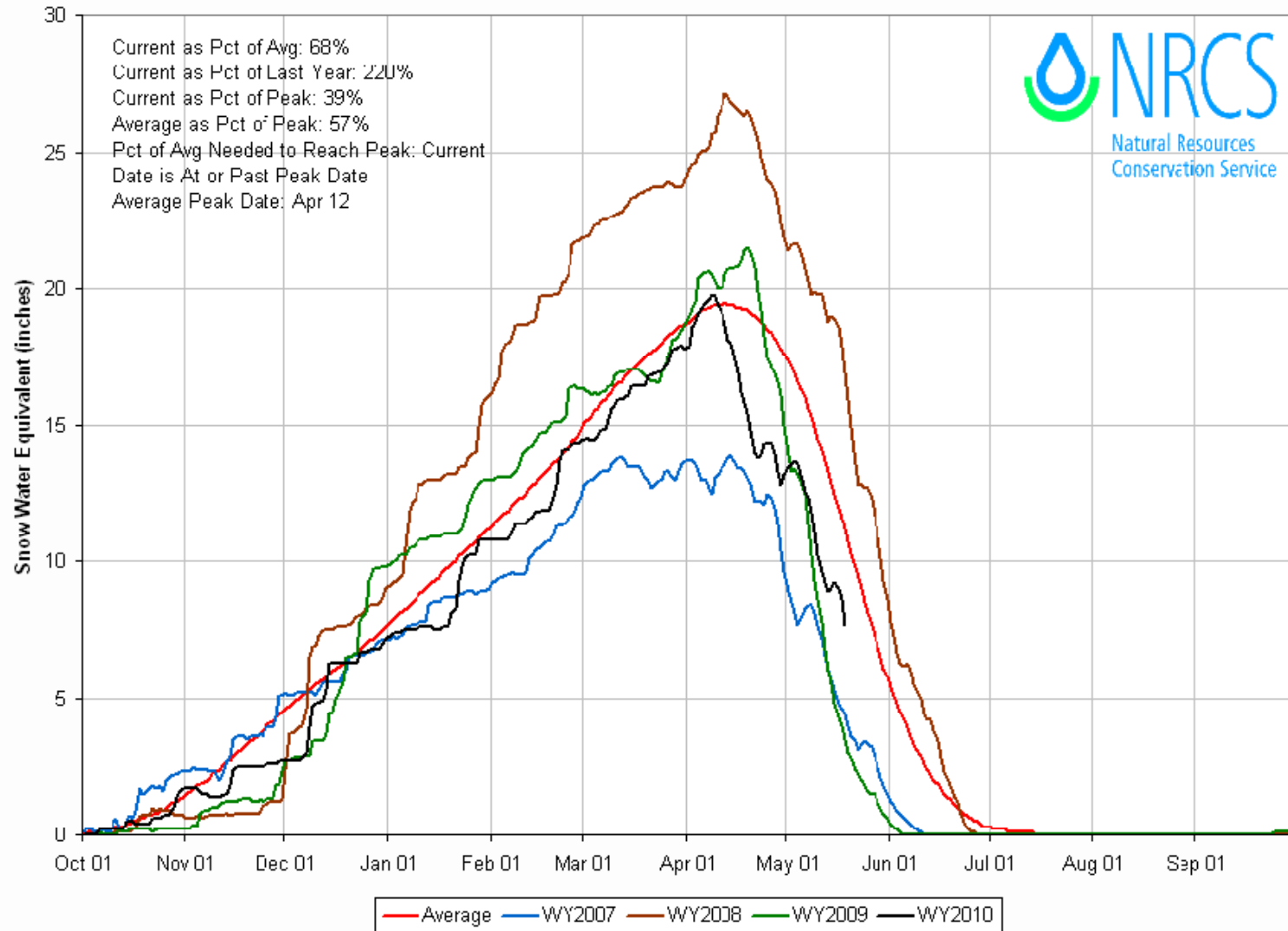
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

Peak Snowpack

- Gunnison Basin – 102% of Average
- Colorado Basin – 84% of Average
- Dust on Snow Events
 - Center for Snow and Avalanche Studies
 - 8 Events in Southwest Colorado
 - Causes Early Runoff

Gunnison River Basin Time Series Snowpack Summary

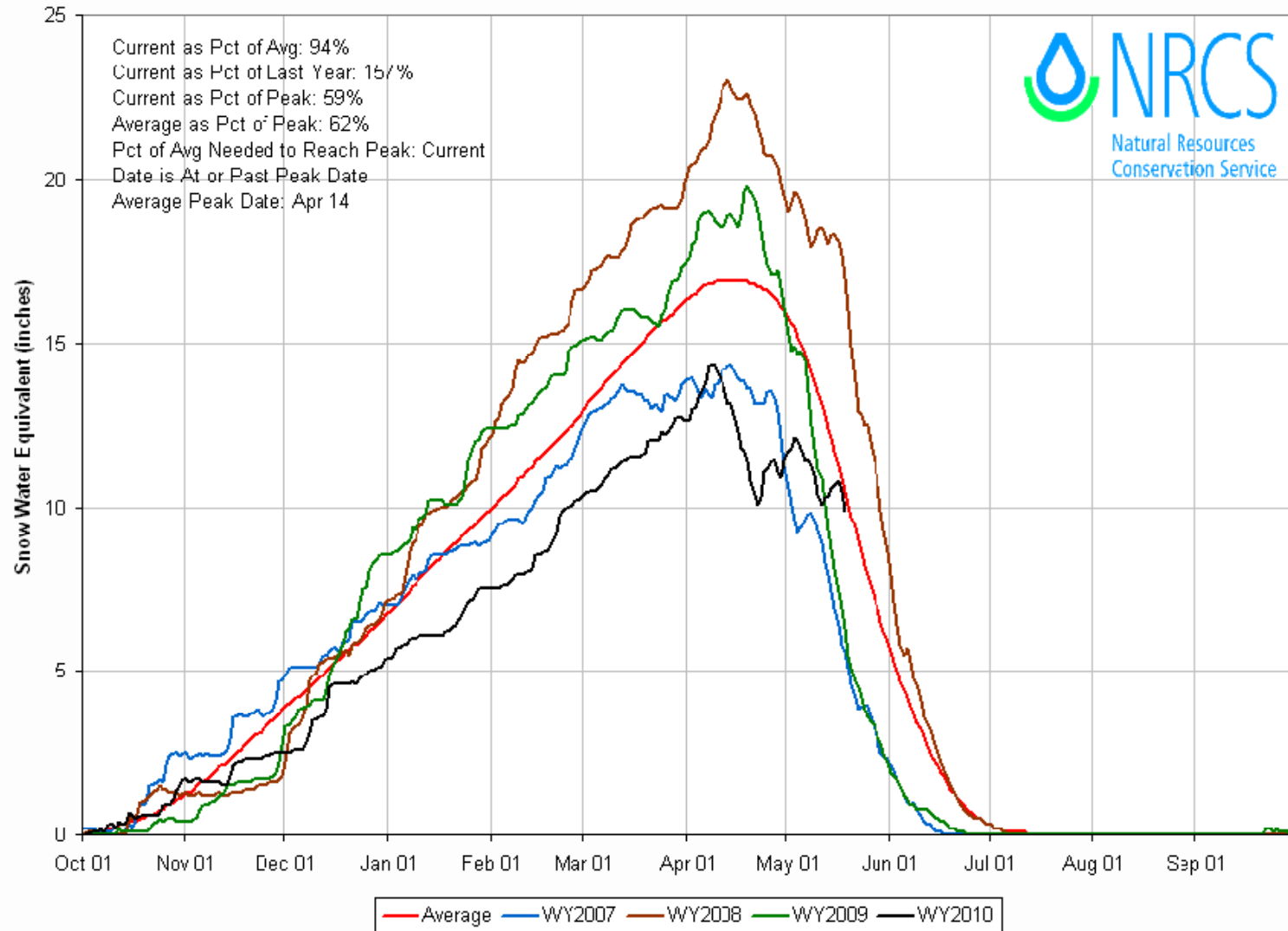
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of May 18, 2010



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Upper Colorado River Basin Time Series Snowpack Summary

Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of May 18, 2010



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Green Mountain Reservoir

- Used to replace for out-of-priority depletions by the C-BT Project
- Provide storage for West Slope beneficiaries
- Some of the unused water is available for endangered fish



*Green Mountain Reservoir
in late summer 2003*

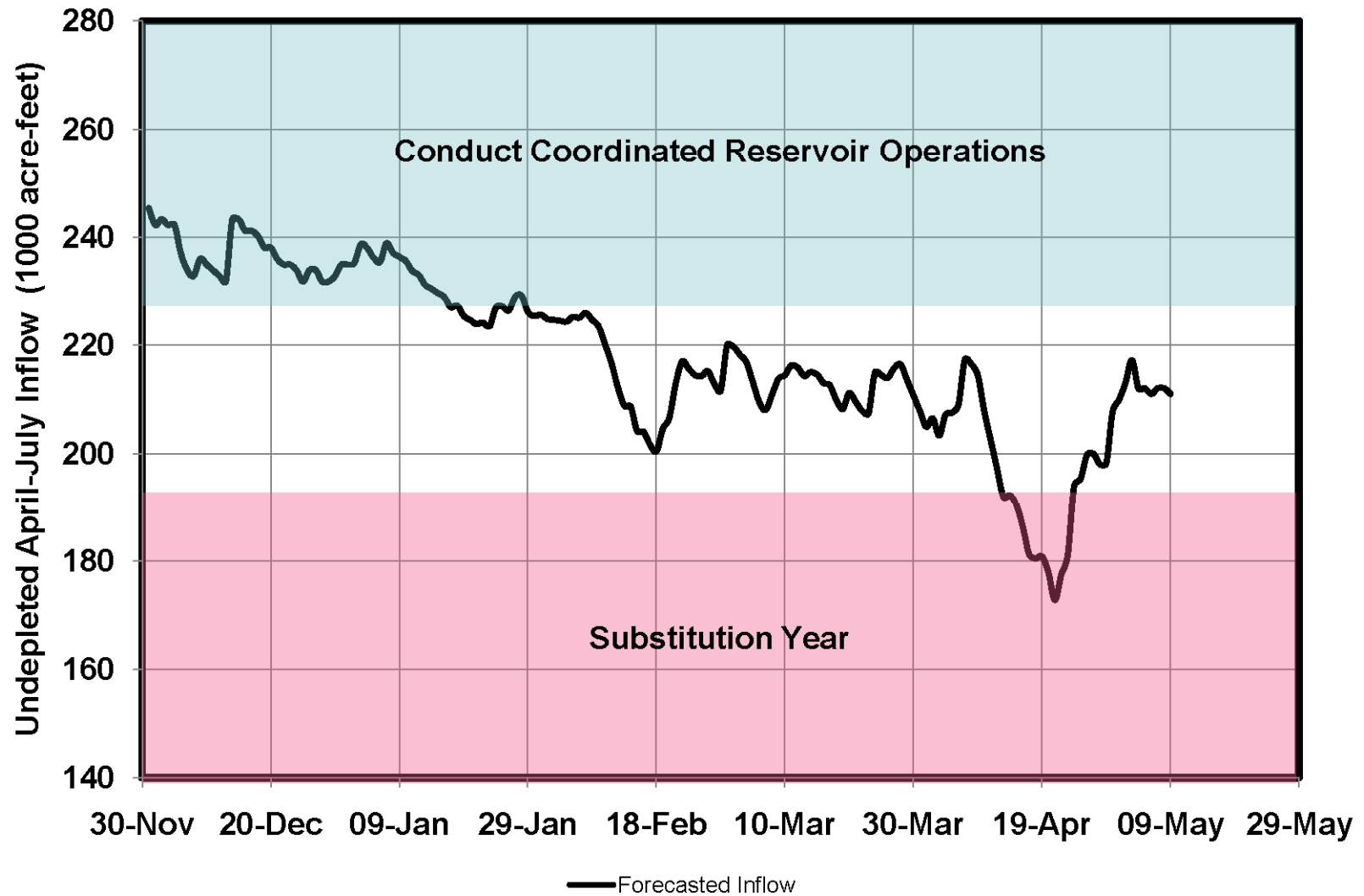
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Coordinated Reservoir Operations (CROS)

- Augment the peak flow in the 15-Mile Reach of the Colorado River to improve habitat conditions for 4 endangered fish species
- Reservoir owner/operators voluntarily bypass inflow during the peak (late May/early June)
- Two conditions necessary:
 - Operators must be fairly certain their reservoir will fill
 - Must be able to achieve a peak in the range of 12,900 cfs to 23,000 cfs (current forecast is 12,000 cfs)

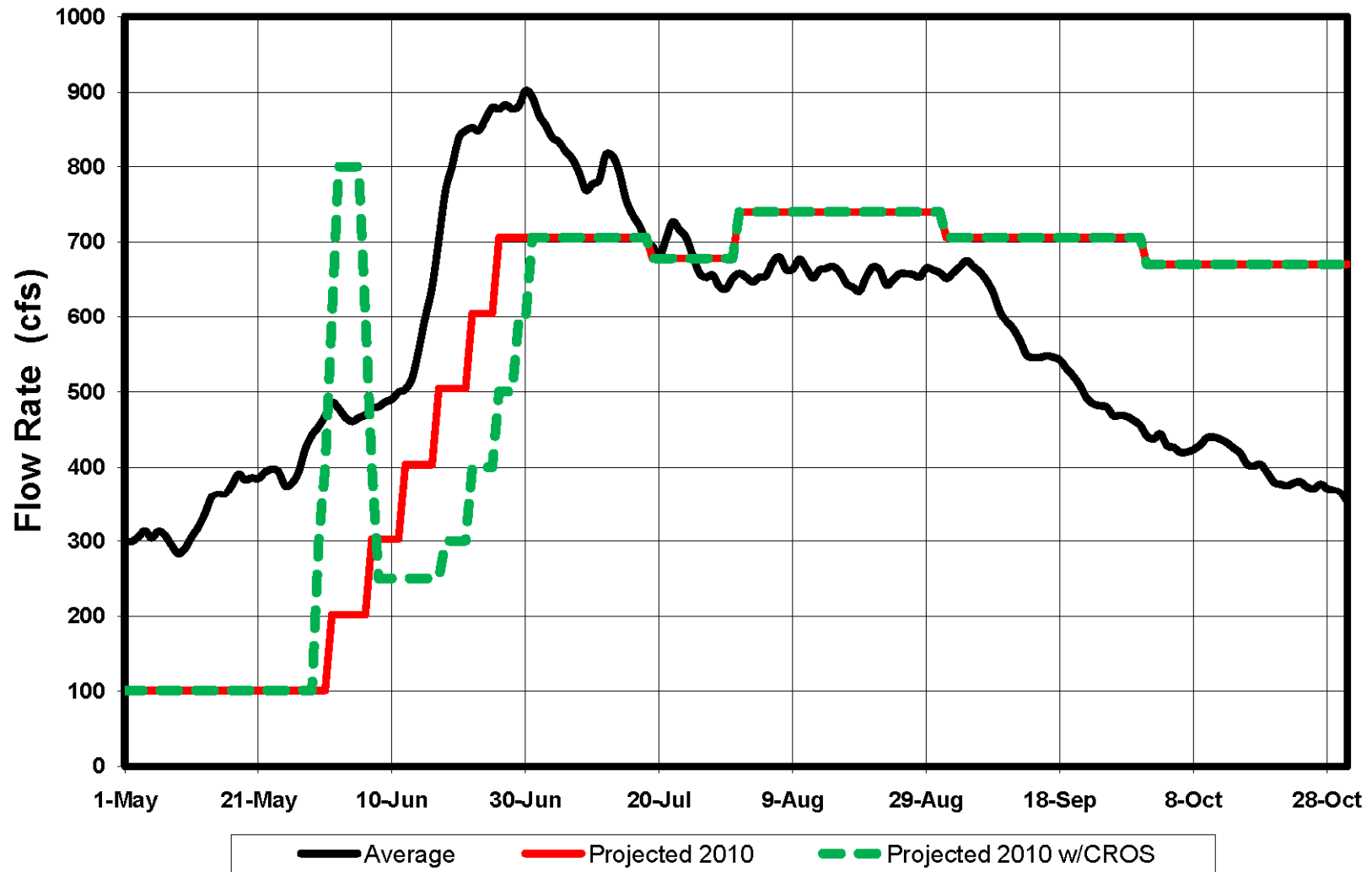
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GREEN MOUNTAIN RESERVOIR Forecasted April-July Inflow - Water Year 2010



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Green Mountain Reservoir Releases



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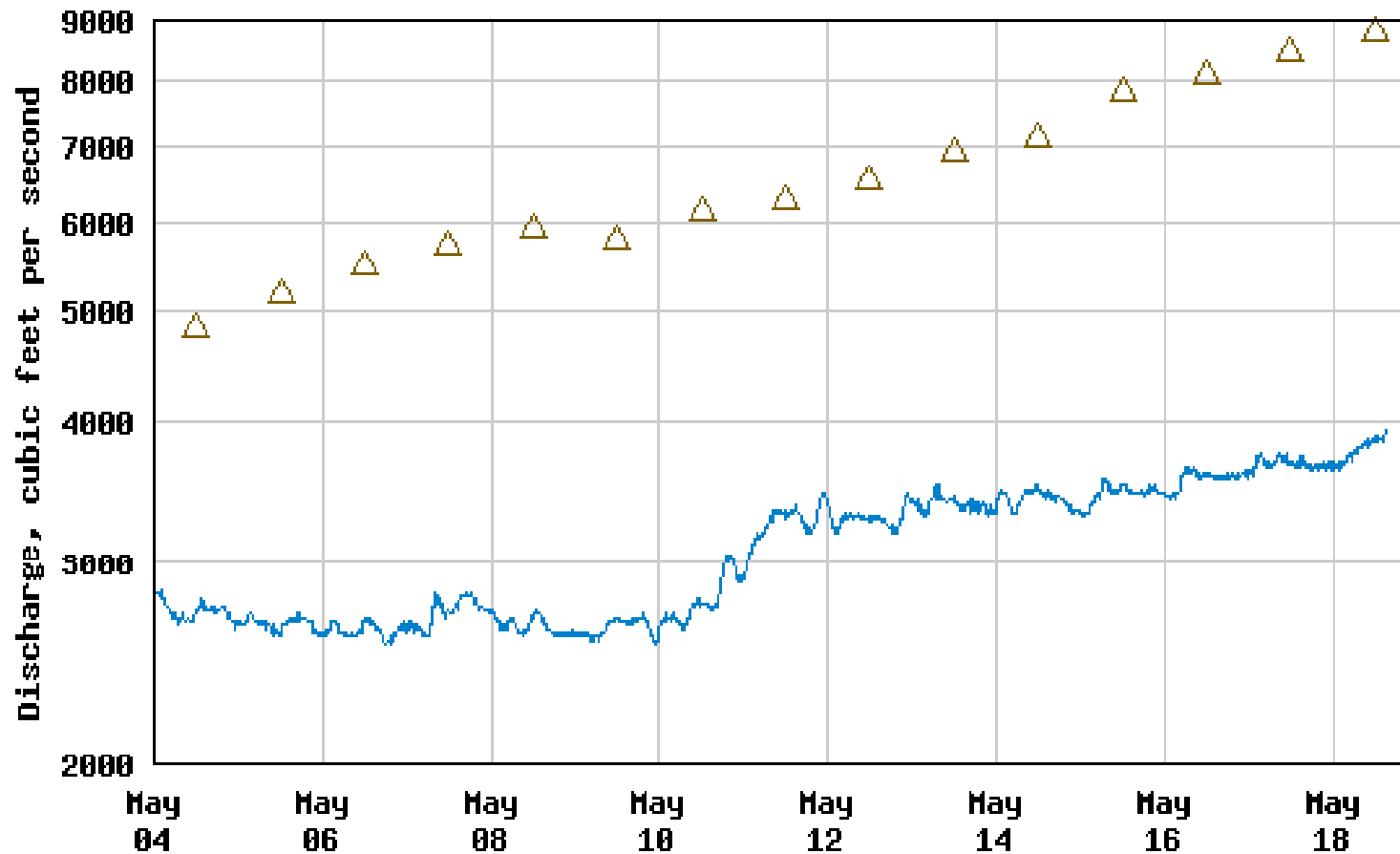
Colorado River Operations

- Snowpack Below Average
- Green Mountain Reservoir will Fill
- Coordinated Reservoir Operations
 - Enhances Peak for Endangered Fish
 - By-passes water that would otherwise spill
 - Tight Control of Reservoirs
 - 2010 Peak – 12,000 cfs (forecast)
 - 2009 Peak – 20,000 cfs (2008 Peak 22,500 cfs)

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USGS 09095500 COLORADO RIVER NEAR CAMEO, CO.

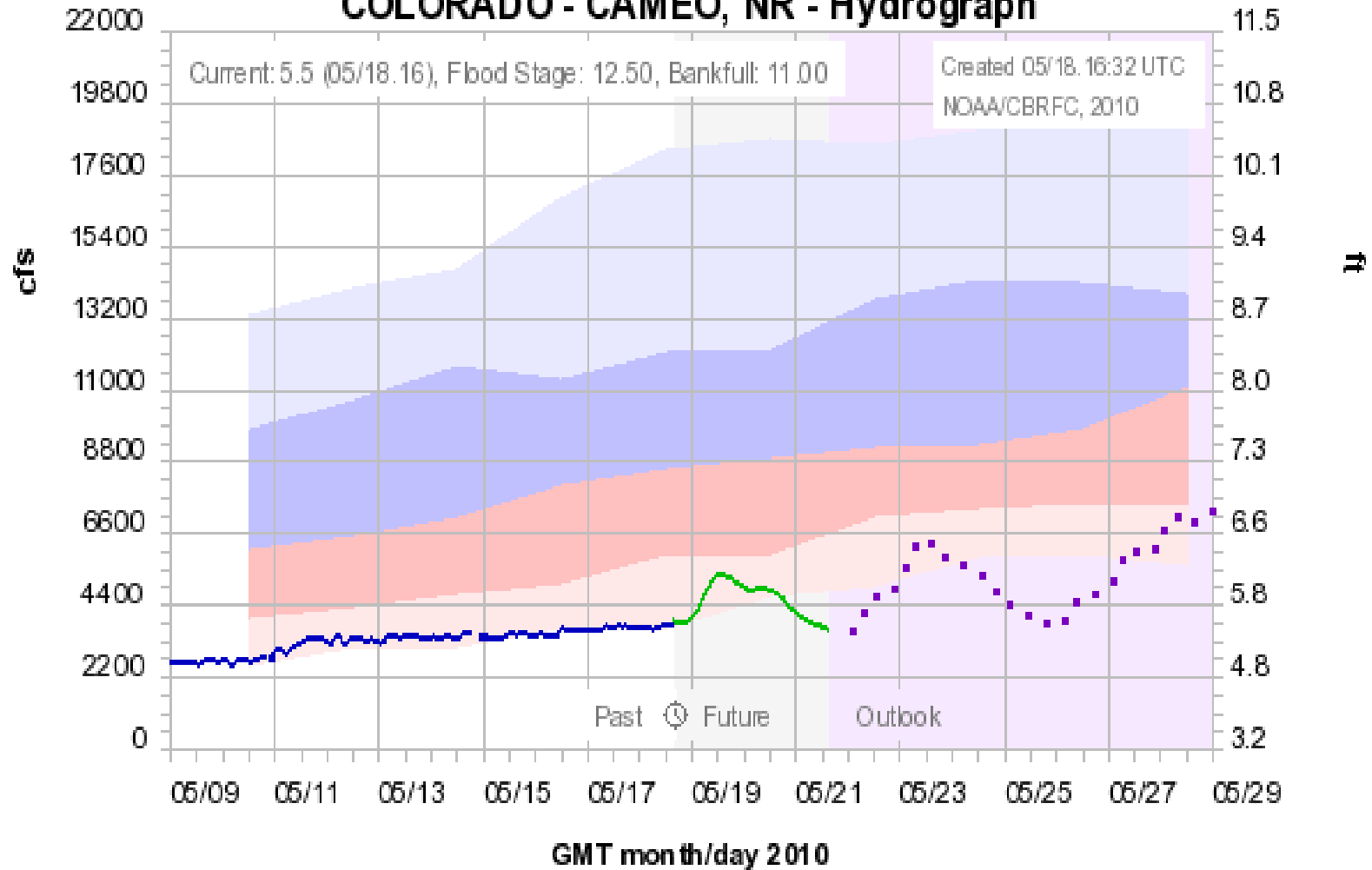


---- Provisional Data Subject to Revision ----

△ Median daily statistic (76 years) — Discharge

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Colorado Basin River Forecast Center COLORADO - CAMEO, NR - Hydrograph



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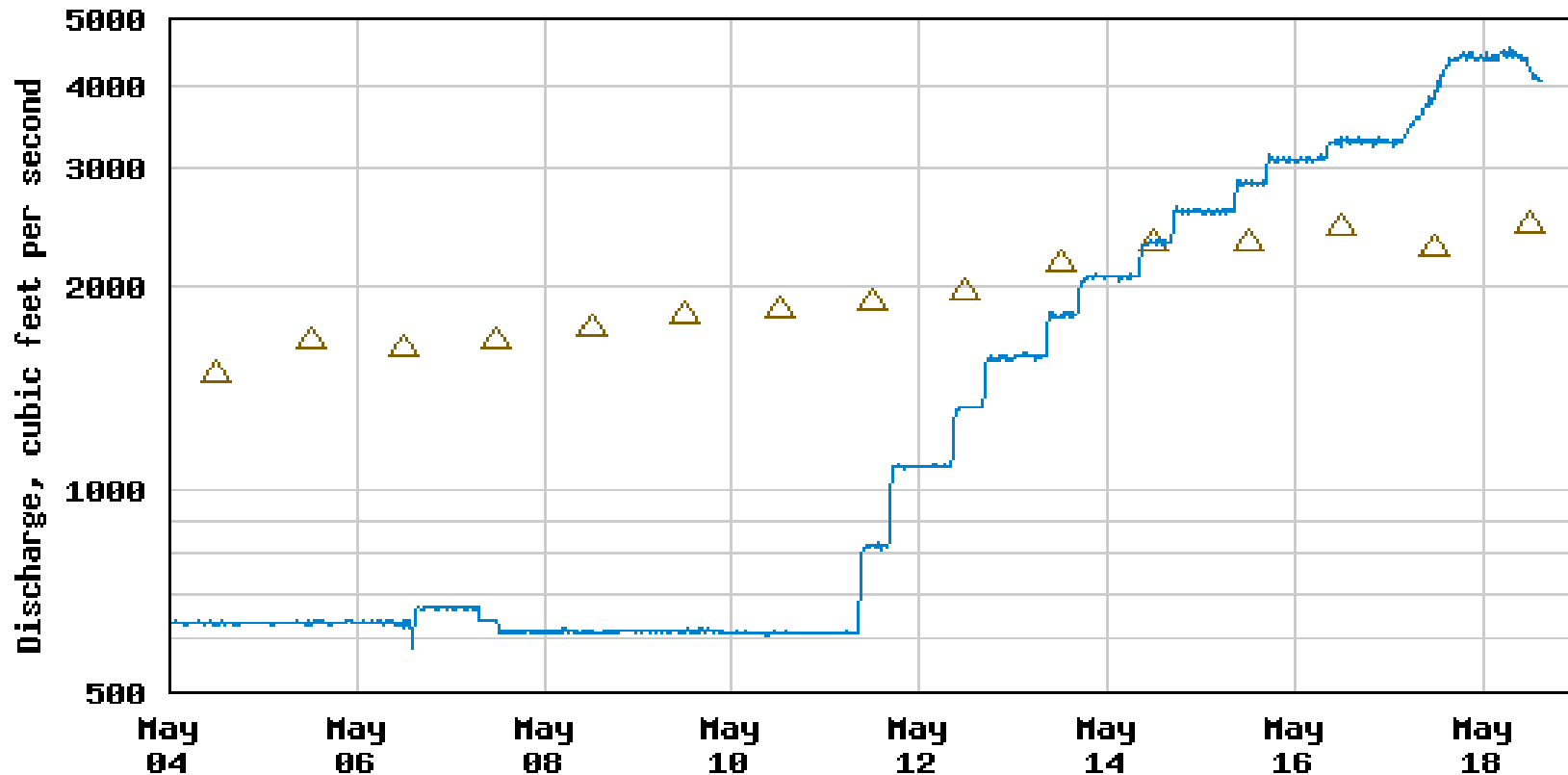
Gunnison River Operations

- 525,000 ac-ft Projected Inflow to Blue Mesa (April – July Forecast, 73% of Average)
- Blue Mesa, Taylor Park Reservoirs will not Fill
- Black Canyon National Park Water Right
 - 3,883 cfs Peak
 - 300 cfs Minimum
 - No Shoulder Flows this year
 - Post Peak Operation – 700 cfs

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USGS 09128000 GUNNISON RIVER BELOW GUNNISON TUNNEL, CO



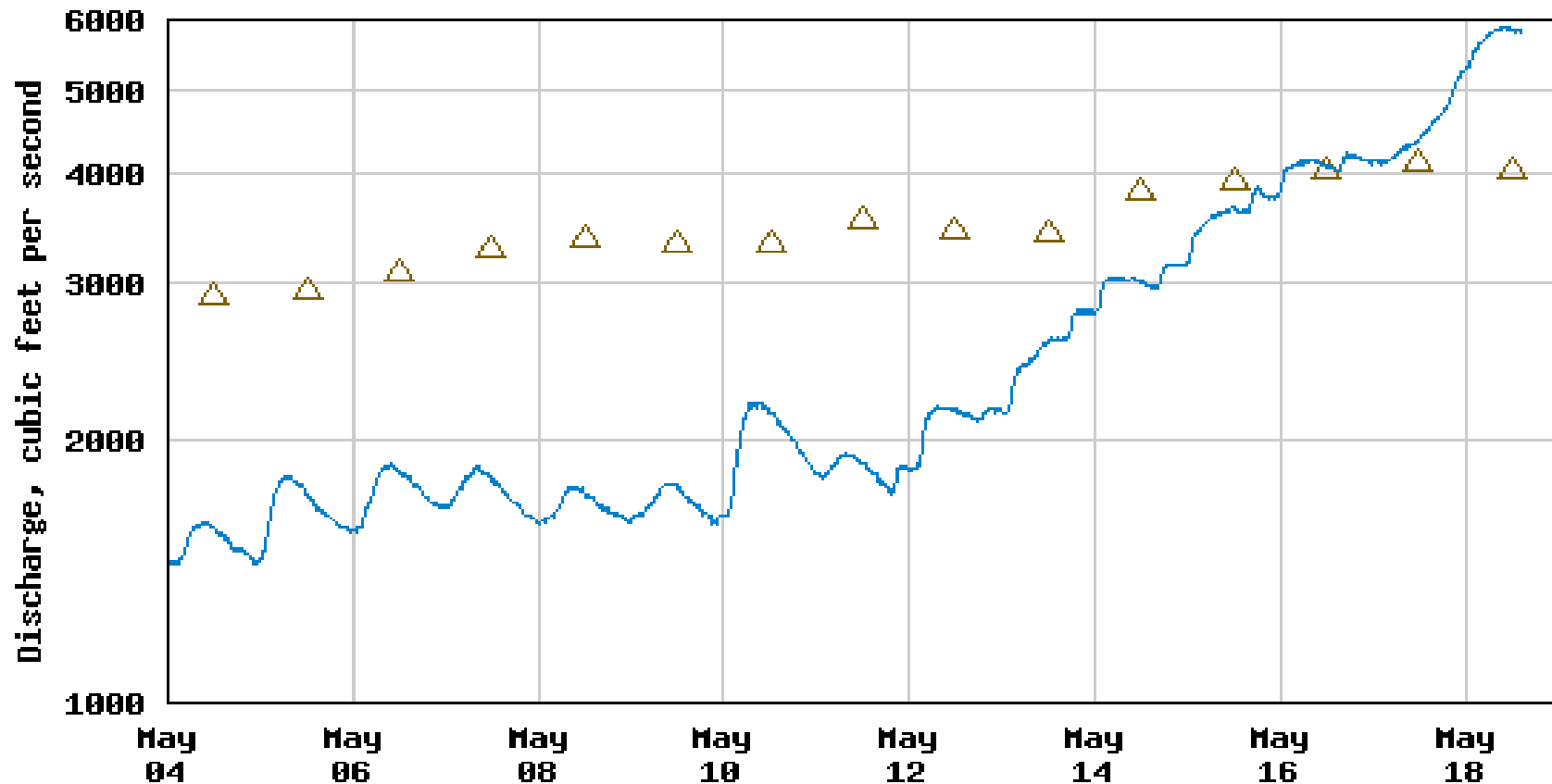
---- Provisional Data Subject to Revision ----

△ Median daily statistic (99 years) — Discharge

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USGS 09144250 GUNNISON RIVER AT DELTA, CO.



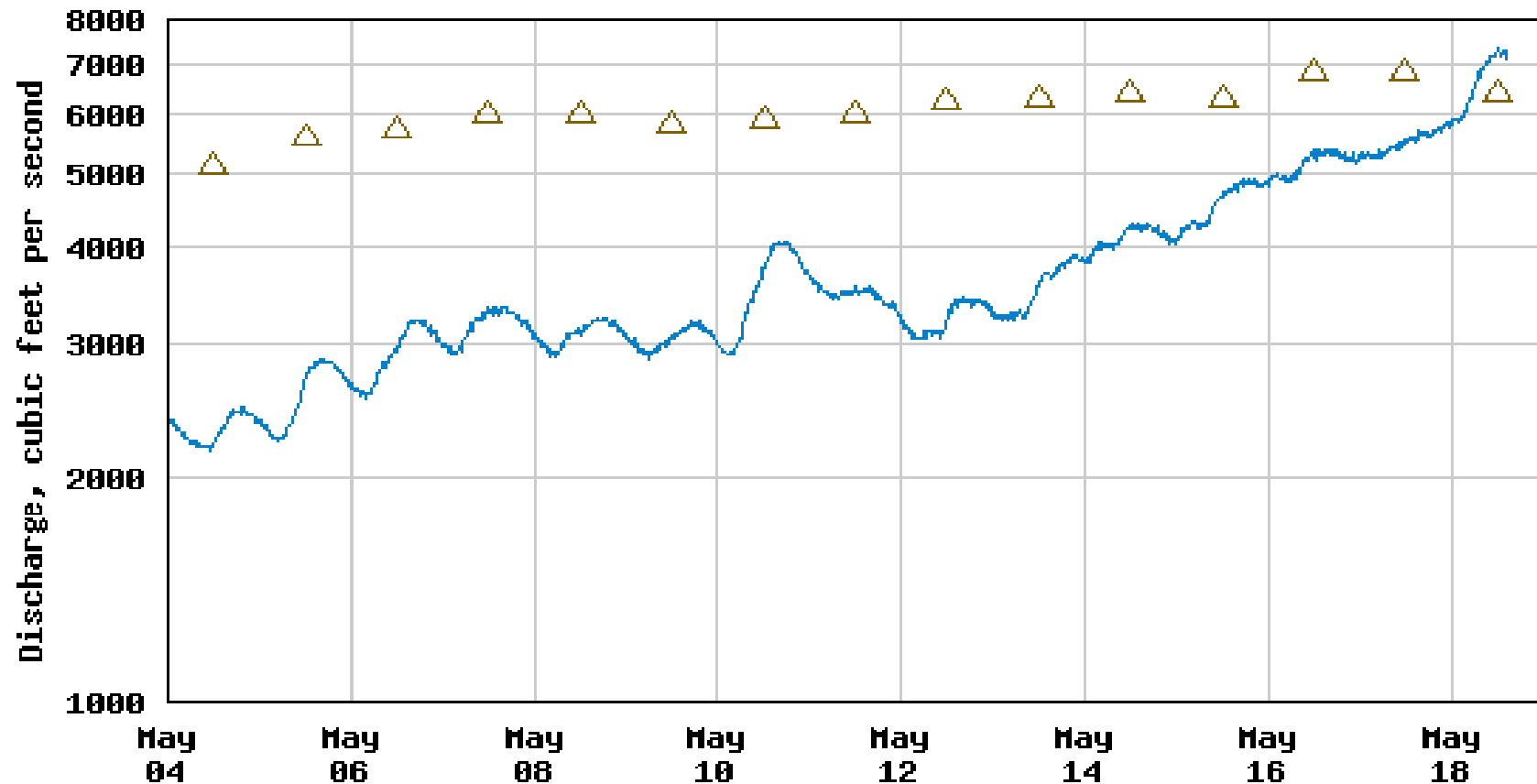
---- Provisional Data Subject to Revision ----

△ Median daily statistic (33 years) — Discharge

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USGS 09152500 GUNNISON RIVER NEAR GRAND JUNCTION, CO.



---- Provisional Data Subject to Revision ----

△ Median daily statistic (101 years) — Discharge

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Lake Powell

- 5.3 Million Ac-Ft
(April – July Forecasted Inflow)
- 67% of Average Inflow
- Peak Elev. 3,634 ft. – 2010
 - Elev. 3,641 ft. – 2009
- Coordinated Operations - Lake Powell and Lake Mead
 - Total Glen Canyon 2010 Release – 8.23 mil Ac-Ft

Questions



Crystal Spill – May 18th, 2010

Total Release 5,400 cfs; Spill 1,200 cfs

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