

Concluding Remarks

- How good are water supply forecasts?
- Are forecasts getting better or worse?
- When does a forecast not work out?

Mean Absolute Forecast Error, by Month from Reforecast Data

Upper Co. & Great Basins

n = 139

Median Error

January 29%

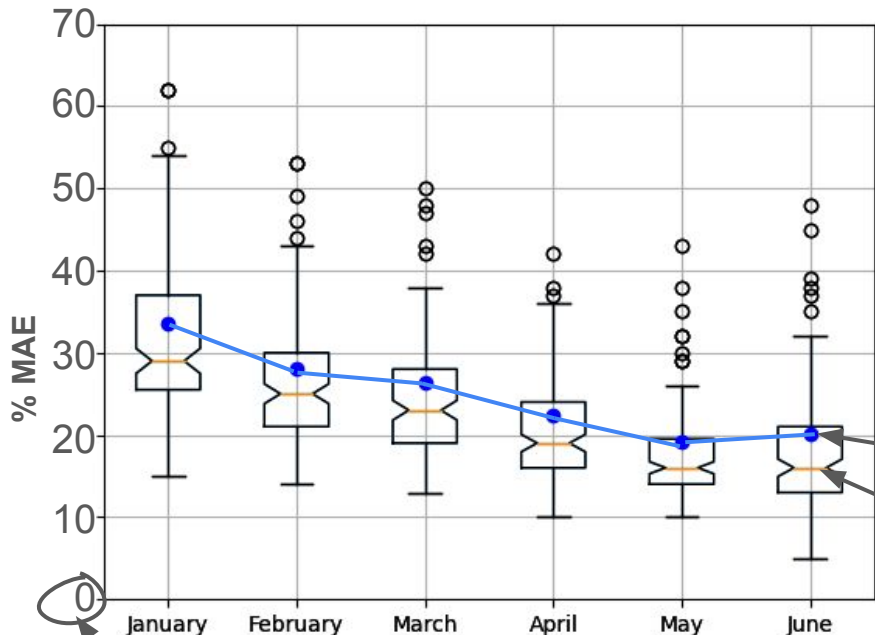
February 25%

March 23%

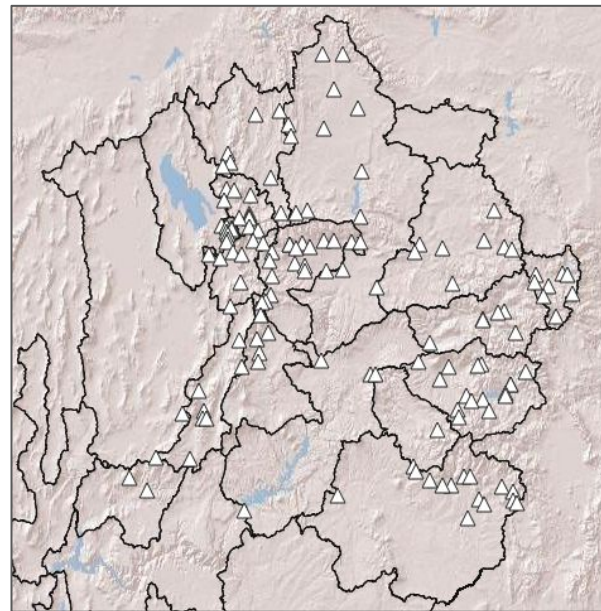
April 19%

May 16%

June 16%

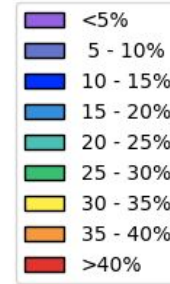


0 = Perfect Forecast



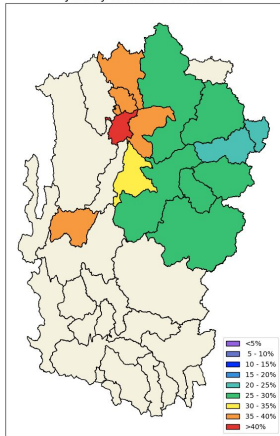
● Mean
— Median

Mean Absolute Error by Forecast Group from Reforecast Data



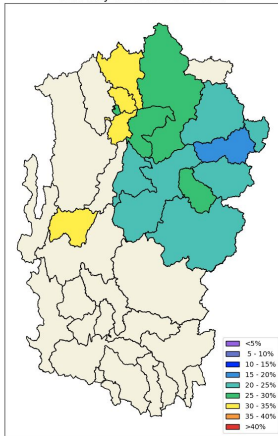
January

January Mean Absolute Error



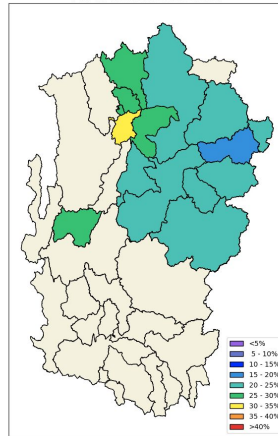
February

February Mean Absolute Error



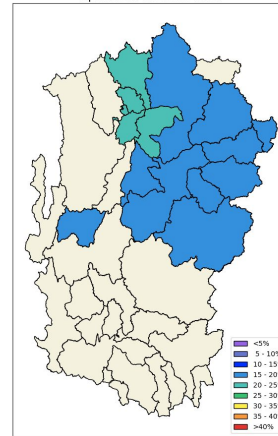
March

March Mean Absolute Error



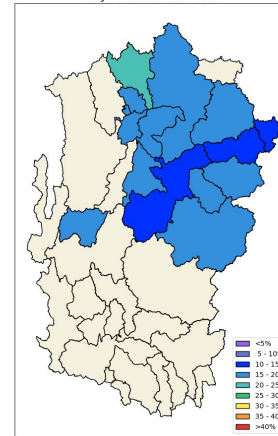
April

April Mean Absolute Error



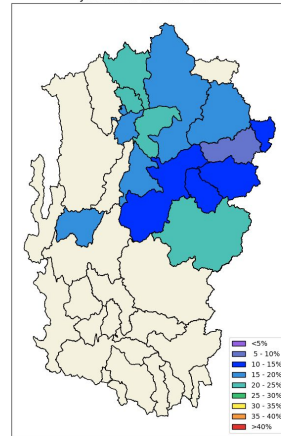
May

May Mean Absolute Error



June

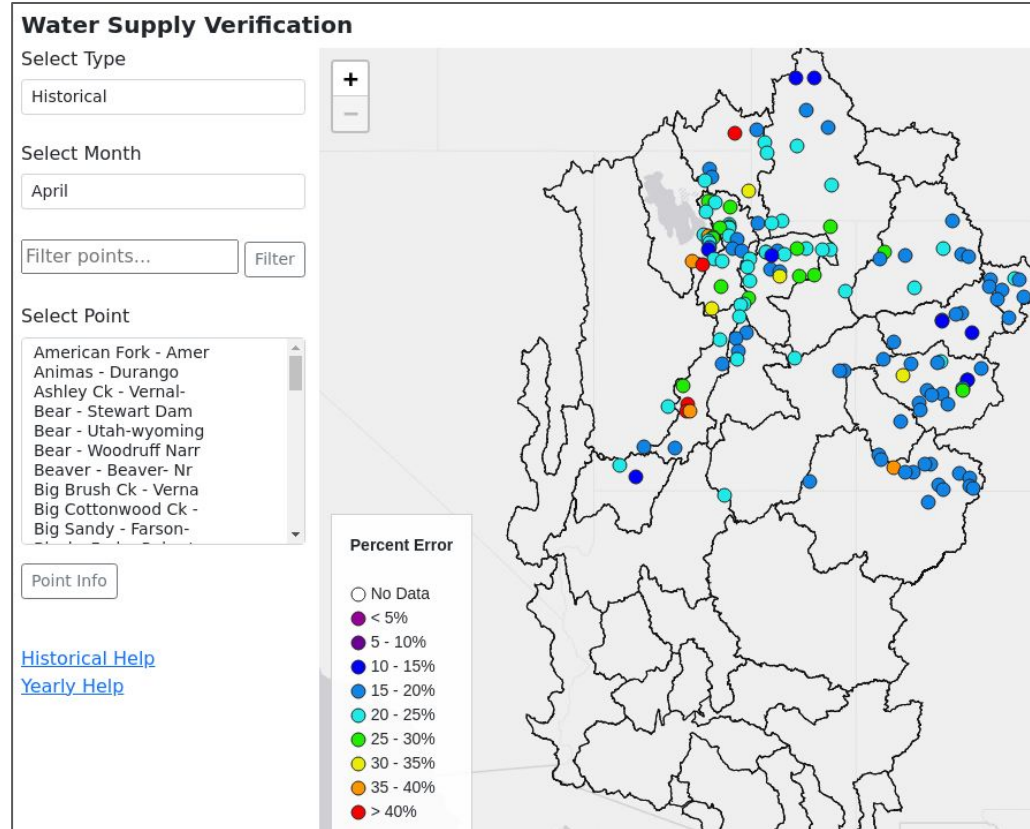
June Mean Absolute Error



Mean Absolute Error by Forecast Point.

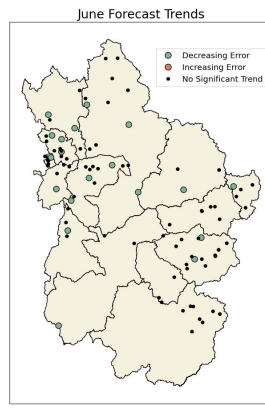
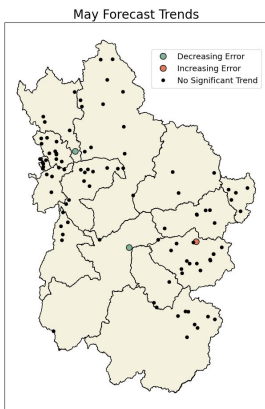
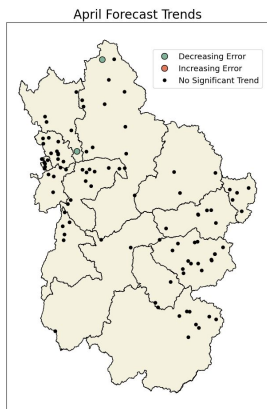
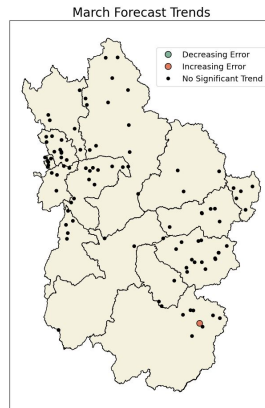
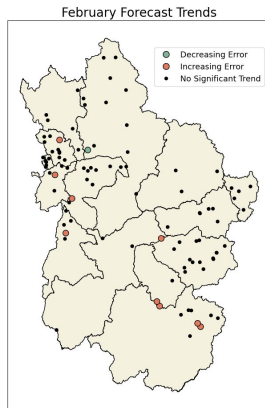
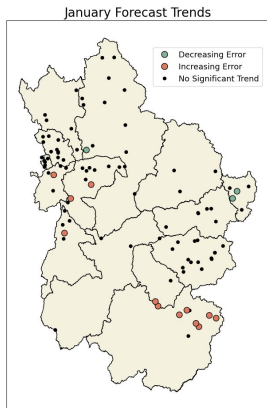
This is on our website.

- type: Historical, performance from reforecast, comparable to previous slides, 30 year average
- type: year, gives performance of operational forecasts for a given year

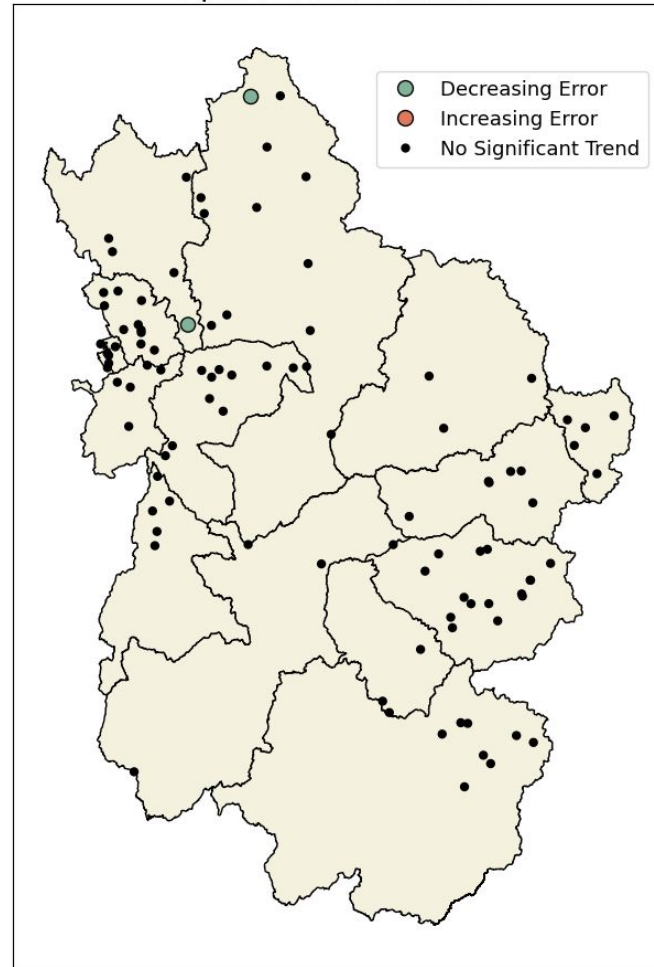


Trends in Forecast Errors, from Official Forecasts

Are the forecasts getting better or worse? 95% Confidence

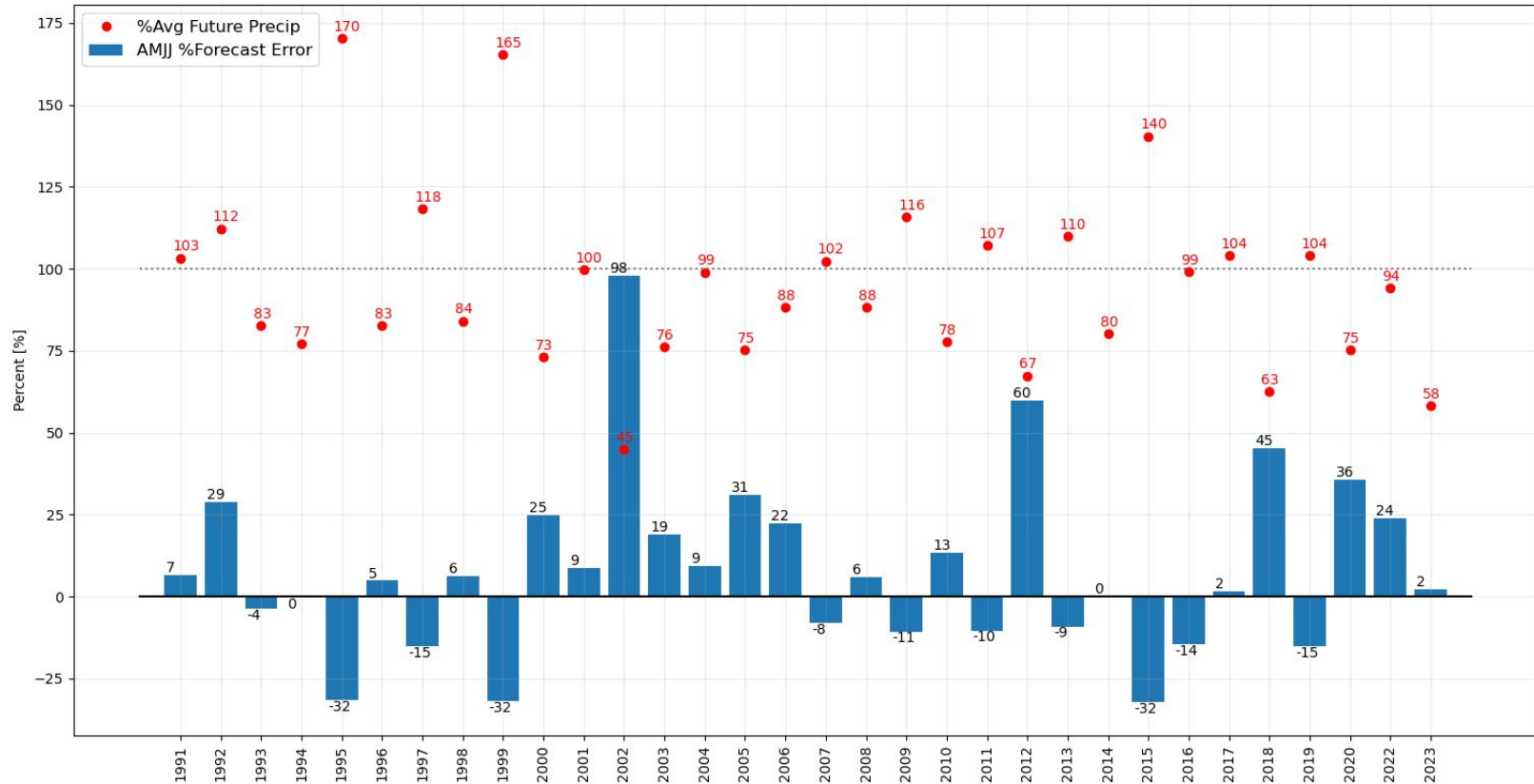


April Forecast Trends



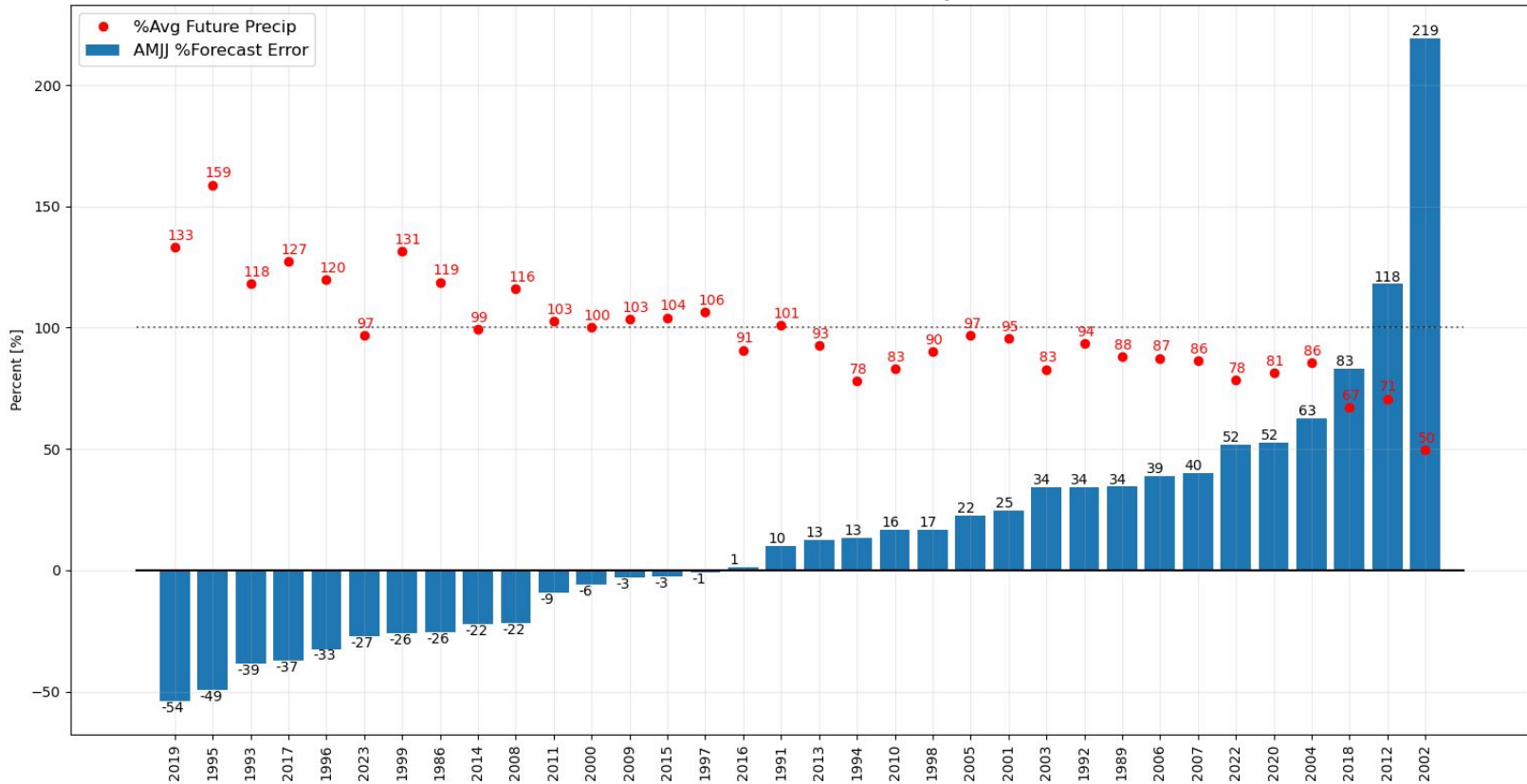
Forecast Error (bar) and Future Precipitation (dots)

Blue Mesa April 1st



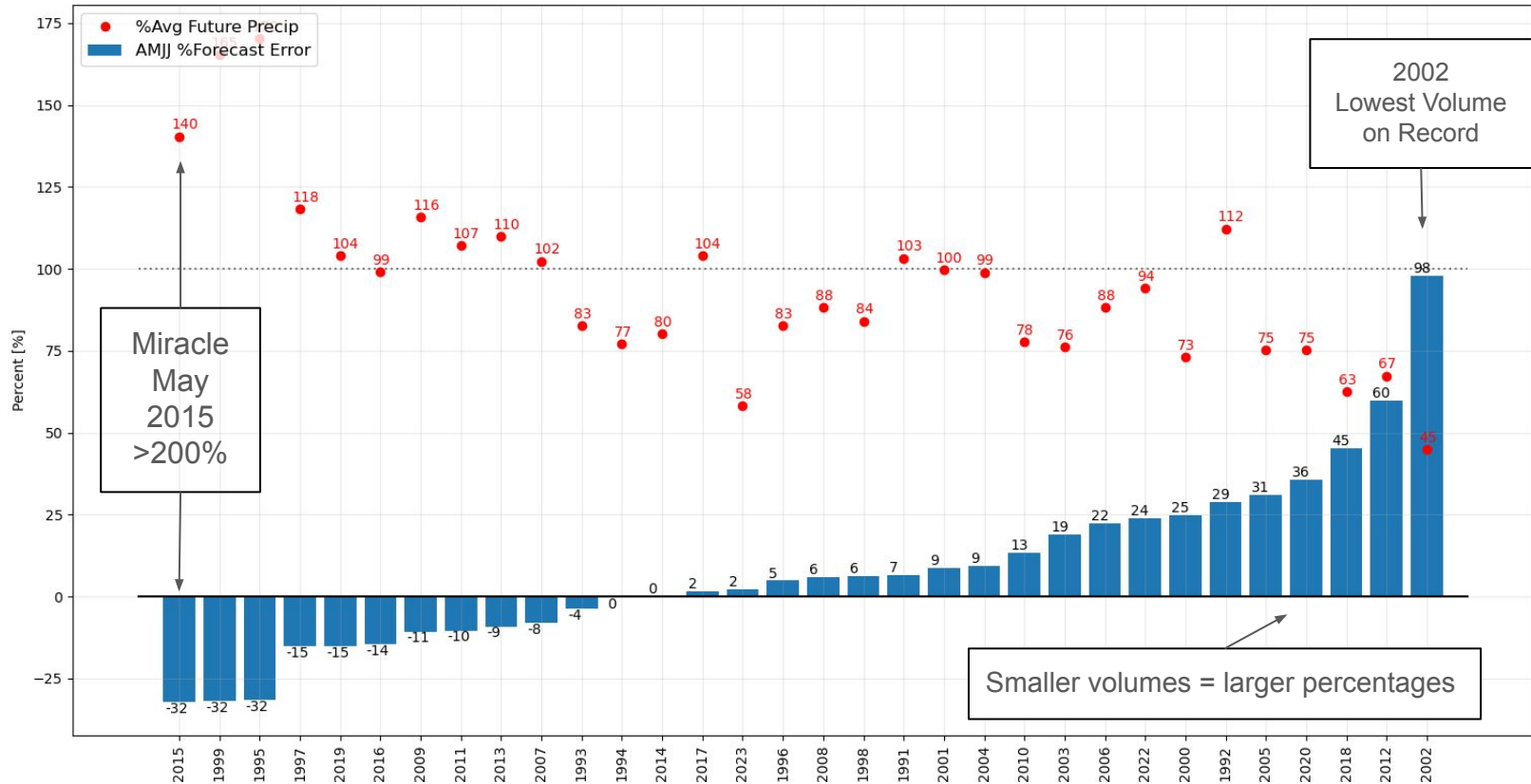
Forecast Error (bar) and Future Precipitation (dots)

Blue Mesa January 1st



Forecast Error (bar) and Future Precipitation (dots)

Blue Mesa April 1st



In Summary...

- CBRFC forecasts skill increases month by month
 - Verification on website.
 - Verification is ongoing.
- Official forecasts are generally not getting worse
- When (future) precipitation is much higher or lower than (the 30 year) average, forecast error can be large.