

NOAA's Colorado Basin River Forecast Center

CBRFC Overview

Michelle Stokes
Hydrologist In Charge

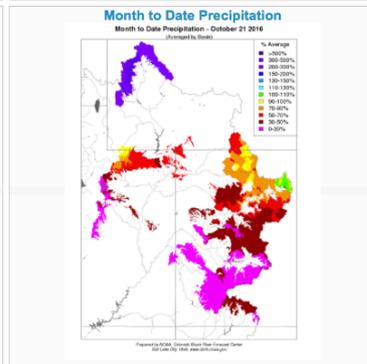
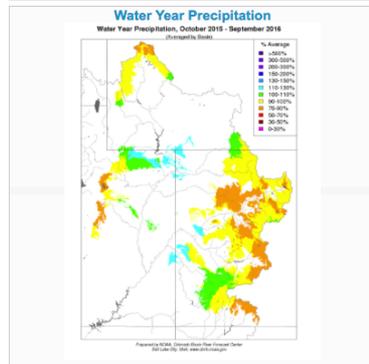
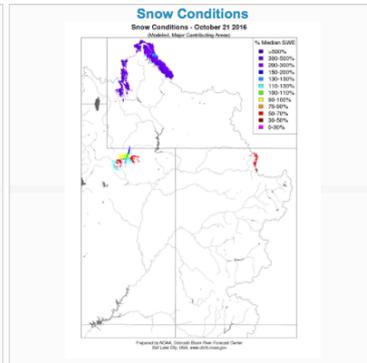
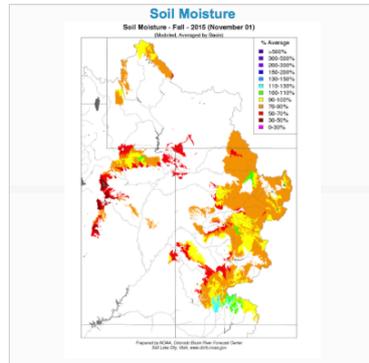
CRFS Meeting – Oct 27, 2016



Upper Colorado Situational Awareness Webpage

- Accessible from the Water Supply Dropdown menu
- Future enhancements:
 - Addition of snow group plots
 - Lower Basin?

Upper Colorado Situational Awareness



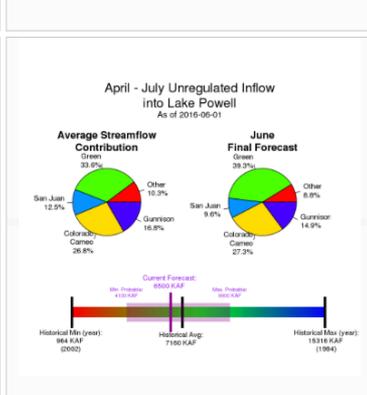
Lake Powell Unregulated Inflow (kaf) Water Year 2017 Forecasts as of 2016-10-01

Period	Obs to Date	Full Fcst	%Avg
Apr-Jul	0	6100	85%
Water Year	0	9240	85%

Lake Powell %Average Precipitation Water Year 2016

Area	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
UC-Powell	89	100	127	108	51	97

Area	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Water Year
UC-Powell	111	125	56	62	101	93	95

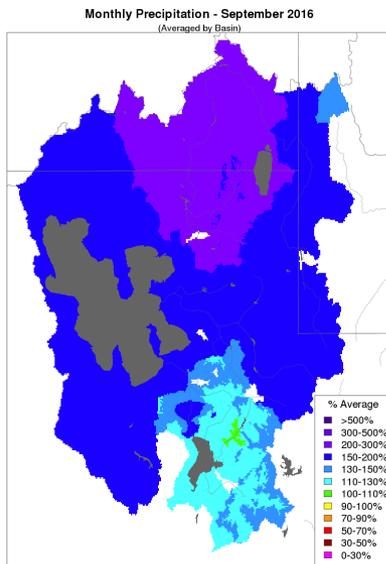


Webinars

3

New this past year:

- Great Basin only webinar



Prepared by NOAA, Colorado Basin River Forecast Center
Salt Lake City, Utah, www.cbrfc.noaa.gov

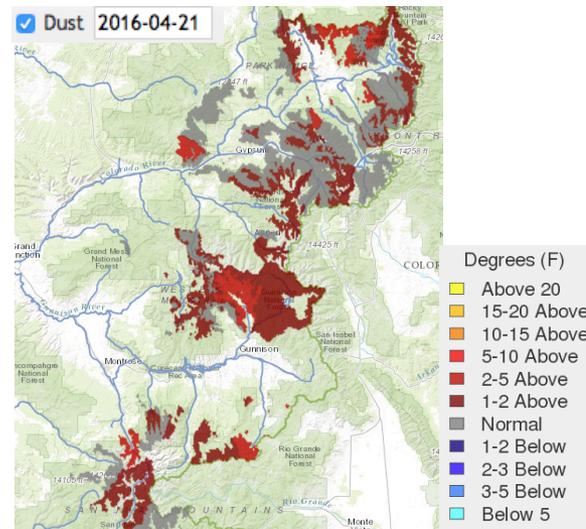
Upcoming

- Verification/year-in-review webinar in November
 - Watch mailing list and news listing on our web page for date
 - Will cover addition of 5 years to our calibration dataset
- Early outlook
 - December

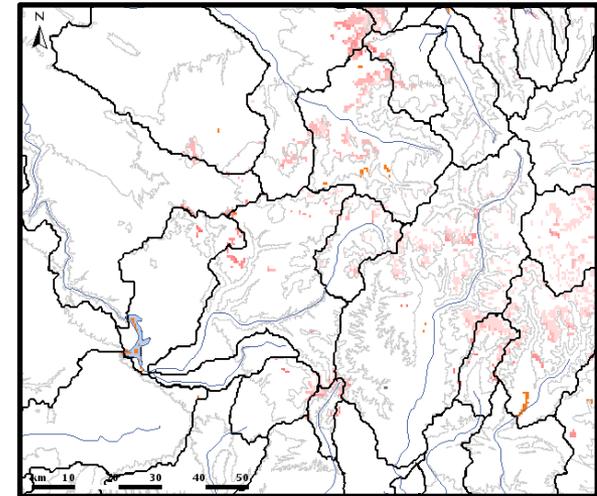
Dust on snow

4

- Temperature adjustment during snow melt based on dustiness of snow
- Grids available on the webpage



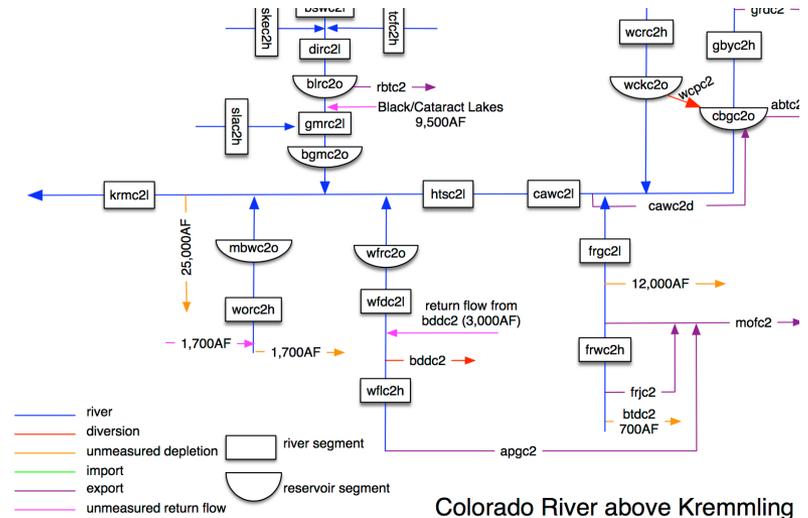
Temperature adjustments in model



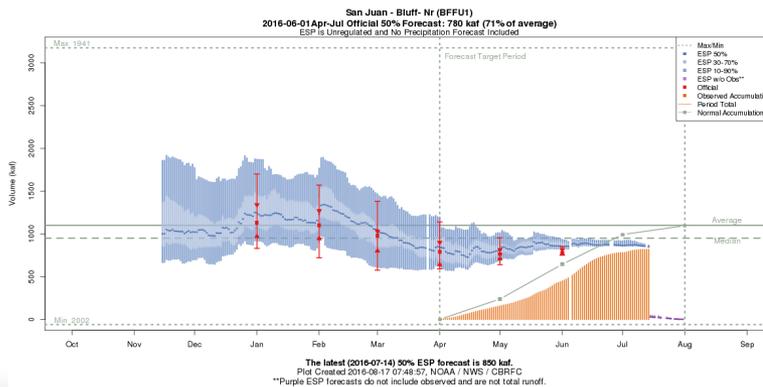
Snow contamination grids from JPL

Other updates

- Stick diagrams
 - New nomenclature (unmeasured depletions)
- Addition of 30% and 70% exceedance values to water supply forecasts



Colorado River above Kremming



The latest (2016-07-14) 50% ESP forecast is 850 kaf. Plot Created 2016-09-17 07:46:57, NOAA - NWS - CBRFC. **Purple ESP forecasts do not include observed and are not total runoff.

2016 Stakeholder Forum

7

- Goals:
 - Interactive discussion between stakeholders illustrating the broad abilities and impacts of the CBRFC
 - Provide an update on recent work with researchers and implementation at the CBRFC
 - Update on the National Water Center and National Water Model
- Proposed enhancements to CBRFC products and services
 - Updates to website
 - Mailing list updates
 - Newsletter or yearly report of activities
 - Ideas to improve Upper Colorado Situational Awareness page
 - Enhancement to snow plots
 - ... and many more



Updates on Ongoing projects

8

- Add 5 years to the calibration period
- Evaluating Energy Balance Snow model with USU and RTi
- National Water Model evaluation
- Water Resources Monitoring and Outlook (WRMO)

National Water Model Streamflow Guidance
Analysis valid for 2016-10-21 18:00:00 UTC
Model initialized at 2016-10-21 15:00:00 UTC

