**UCRB Weekly Drought and Water Assessments**

**NIDIS**

**Upper Colorado River**
Regional Drought Early Warning System

**Weekly Climate, Water & Drought Assessment**

[http://climate.colostate.edu/~drought/](http://climate.colostate.edu/~drought/)
We help put current conditions into historical perspective for diverse users.
Local and Regional Expertise

- Federal, state and local agencies provide updates on current conditions.
  - USGS puts streamflow data into context.
  - NWS provides weather forecasts.

- Regional experts provide less frequent, but desirable updates.
  - CBRFC provides water supply and peak flow forecasts. We refer folks to CBRFC forecast webinars.
  - Klaus Wolter provides long range climate outlooks.
Snowpack and runoff monitoring

Colorado Basin River Forecast Center
Upper Colorado Mainstem Group

Independence Pass Snow Course April 1 Snow Water Equivalent

Snotel Year Precipitation Percentile Ranking for 10 September 2012 (Stations with 15+ years of data only)

Seasonal Water Supply Forecast

On the ground reports of snowpack conditions help confirm data.
Weekly Drought and Water Assessment Webinars

- During critical times of year (Feb – July or times of major drought), weekly webinars are held at 10AM on Tuesday.
  - monthly through the rest of the year
- Normally 15-20 are on the call and the USDM sometimes joins
  - Greater attendance with long range climate outlooks/streamflow forecasts.
- Approximately 30 minutes, covering precipitation, snowpack conditions, streamflow, reservoir levels, evapotranspiration, soil moisture and NWS forecast.
- Ends with open discussion from all participants on recommended USDM changes
Weekly Drought and Water Assessment Webinars

- Content is dynamic as conditions change
- Farm Service Agency and Extension contacts have been very useful for on the ground crop and grazing conditions
  - i.e. Does VegDRI depiction represent what is being observed on the ground?
- After the call, summaries are sent out to the entire list
- Suggestions and feedback are encouraged!
If interested, we can put you on our weekly update list

See me today
And don’t forget – Join the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network

http://www.cocorahs.org

or see me today
There’s room for you in CoCoRaHS
This morning’s reports
Colorado Climate Center

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