The images above use daily precipitation statistics from NWS COOP, CoCoRaHS, and CoAgMet stations. From top to bottom, and left to right: most recent 7-days of accumulated precipitation in inches; current month-to-date accumulated precipitation in inches; last month's precipitation as a percent of average; water-year-to-date precipitation as a percent of average.

**Last Week Precipitation:**

- The western side of the UCRB received mostly less than .50 inches of moisture last week, while many locations on the eastern side received between .50 and 1 inch of precipitation
- The higher elevations in western WY were drier, receiving less than .25 inches
- The Four Corners area received beneficial moisture last week, with
most areas receiving between .50 and 1 inch, and some locations receiving up to 2 inches

- East of the basin, many areas of eastern WY and northeast CO received between .50 and 1 inch of moisture
- Isolated locations along the Front Range received more than 2 inches of precipitation for the week
- Many areas of the Arkansas basin were missed out on the precipitation, receiving less than .50 inches for the week, although parts of Las Animas, Baca, Prowers, and eastern Kiowa counties received over .50 inches

April Precipitation:

- April precipitation throughout the UCRB was mixed, ranging from 30% of average to over 170% of average
- Wetter than average areas during April include much of the Wasatch range in UT and the northern higher elevations of the basin in WY
- Drier than average areas include Sweetwater County in WY, and the lower Colorado River valley just above Lake Powell
- East of the basin, much of eastern WY received above average precipitation for the month
- The northern Front Range and far eastern plains of Colorado were drier than average, mostly between 30% and 70%
- The Sangre de Cristos were much wetter than average, receiving between 90% to 200% of average precipitation
- Parts of the Arkansas valley and parts of the central plains (around Adams and Arapahoe counties) were near average for April

Water Year Precipitation (Oct-Apr):

- Most of the northern and higher elevations of the UCRB have received near to above average precipitation for the water year
- The Four Corners region and areas around the Duchesne basin in northeast UT have been drier than average, mostly receiving less than 70% of average precipitation since October
- Most of Wyoming has received from 90% of average to 200% of average precipitation
- The Wasatch range in central UT has been mixed, receiving between 50% to 130% of average
- The northern, central, and southern CO mountains have all been above average for the water year
- East of the basin, the CO Front Range and most of northeast CO have received near to above average precipitation
- The far eastern CO plains and much of southeast CO has been drier than average, mostly receiving less than 70% of average
SNOTEL AND SNOWPACK

The top left image shows the Natural Resources Conservation Service's SNOTEL water-year-to-date precipitation percentile rankings. The top right image shows sub-basin averaged snow water equivalent accumulations as a percent of average. The images below show accumulated snow water equivalent in inches (green) compared to average (blue) and last year (red) for several different sub-basins across the UCRB (and were created by the Colorado Basin River Forecast Center).

**SNOTEL Precipitation Percentiles:**

- SNOTEL precipitation is at or above the median (50th percentile) for the northern and eastern part of the UCRB with drier percentiles along the western and southern portions of the basin.
- Percentiles in the Upper Green region are mainly above the 60th percentile.
- In the northern and central CO mountains percentiles are at or well above the median. Most SNOTEL
sites along the Continental Divide are reporting precipitation above the 70th percentile.

- Percentiles in the Wasatch range in UT are in the 20s to 40s. The Uintah range in northeast UT is reporting widely variable percentiles, with near median values on the north side, and single digit percentiles on the south side.
- Percentiles in the San Juans range from teens in the lower elevations on the SW side of the range to near median on the north side of the range.
- Percentiles in the San Juans range from teens in the lower elevations on the SW side of the range to near median on the north side of the range.
- In the Rio Grande Basin, percentiles are mainly below the 25th percentile.
- While the headwaters of the Arkansas basin are reporting above the median, the southern basins (Custer, Huerfano, Costilla counties) are reporting mainly below the median. The southern basins are below the 40th percentile.

**Basin-wide Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) Percent of Normal:**

- In the UCRB, the CO and WY sub-basins show above normal snowpack, while the UT sub-basins are showing more variable snowpack.
- Several UT sub-basins are below 70% of normal snowpack, and others (in central UT and the north side of the Uintahs) have above normal snowpack.
- WY sub-basin snowpack ranges from 101% of normal to over 250% of normal.
- The majority of the CO sub-basins are showing above normal snowpack, with the exception of the San Juan and Rio Grande basins which are 76% and 48% of normal, respectively.
- East of the basin, eastern CO and WY sub-basins are also above normal.

**SWE Timeseries Graphs:**

- All sub-basins peaked in snowpack around the second week of April and have seen large amounts of snowmelt since.
- The Upper Green, Yampa-White, and Upper Colorado sub-basins peaked well above normal and remain above normal.
- The Gunnison sub-basin peaked just above the median seasonal peak and remains near the median.
- The Duchesne and San Juan sub-basins peaked below their normal seasonal peaks with 96% and 87% of the median peak, respectively.
- The regions have not seen any accumulations in the past week, but have seen rapid snowmelt.

**STANDARDIZED PRECIPITATION INDEX**
Standardized Precipitation Index standardizes precipitation accumulations for a specified time period into percentile rankings. -1.0 to -1.5 is equivalent to a D1 to D2, -1.5 to -2.0 is equivalent to a D2 to D3, -2.0 and worse is equivalent to a D3 to D4. 30- and 60-day SPIs focus on short-term conditions while 6- and 9-month SPIs focus on long-term conditions. SPI data provided by High Plains Regional Climate Center.

**Short Term (30-day):**

- Much of the UCRB is indicating wet conditions on the shorter time scale. Slightly dry SPI values (0 to -1) are present in western Wyoming, NE Utah and around the Four Corners
- East of the basin, most of northeast CO is indicating wet SPIs
- Central WY is showing SPIs between 0 and -1, with wetter indicators in southeast WY
- Southeast CO and the Rio Grande basin are drier with SPIs ranging between 0 and -2

**Long Term (6-month):**
In the basin, most of UT is showing drier long-term SPIs, ranging between 0 and -1.5 around the Wasatch range, between 0 and -2 in the Duchesne basin, and some below -2 in the Four Corners region.

In southwest WY, the Upper Green basin is near average, with SPIs between -1 and +1.

Most of western CO is near average (SPIs between -1 and +1), with the exception of the drier Four Corners region.

East of the basin, the Front Range from southern WY through southern CO is near average.

The eastern plains of CO are drier, with SPIs ranging between 0 and -1.5.

---

**STREAMFLOW**

The top left image shows 7-day averaged streamflows as a percentile ranking across the UCRB. The top right image shows 7-day averaged discharge over time at three key sites.
around the UCRB: The Colorado River at the CO-UT state line; the Green River at Green River, UT; and the San Juan River near Bluff, UT. All streamflow data provided by United States Geological Survey.

Streamflow Statistics:

- 86% of the gages in the UCRB are reporting above the 25th percentile (normal and above) for 7-day average streamflow (an increase from 59% last week in response to warmer temperatures and increasing snowmelt)
- 14% of the gages are recording below the 25th percentile (below normal) for 7-day average streamflows, with one gage reporting record low flows on the San Juan River
- The lowest streamflows are the San Juan river in SW Colorado and the Duchesne River in NE Utah, while streamflows are highest in the Colorado River headwaters
- Flows on all three key gages around the basin increased last week
- Flows on the Colorado River near the CO-UT state line are in the near normal range, currently at the 57th percentile
- Flows on the Green River at Green River, UT and the San Juan River near Bluff, UT are in the below normal range, at the 15th and 11th percentiles, respectively

SURFACE WATER
The top left image shows VIC modeled soil moisture as a percentile ranking. The top right image shows satellite-derived vegetation from the VegDRI product (which updates on Mondays).
The above image shows last month's and this month's current volumes of the major reservoirs in the UCRB, with percent of average and percent of capacity.

**VIC:**

- The UCRB is showing a mix of wetter and drier soil moisture conditions
- Soil moisture throughout northeast UT and southern WY are between the 2nd and 30th percentiles with the driest area in the Duchesne basin just south of the Uintah mountains and through Sweetwater and Carbon counties.
- The Four Corners region is showing drying soil moisture, with much of the region between the 20th and 30th percentiles.
- Western CO continues to show wetter soil moisture conditions, above the 70th percentile
- East of the basin, most of northern and eastern WY shows near normal to wet soil moisture conditions.
- Soil moisture is near normal along the Continental Divide and across most of the Front Range
- Soil on the SE plains continues to report below the 30th percentile over much of the area, with a large region below the 10th percentile

**Reservoirs:**
• Green Mountain, Flaming Gorge, and Blue Mesa are near or above their May average volumes
• Lake Powell, McPhee, Navajo, and Granby are all below average, ranging between 55% to 72% of their May average volumes
• Granby's drop in volume through the late winter and early spring has been due to sending water to the Front Range reservoirs, not due to any losses from the system
• Most of the reservoirs are now increasing in volume as a result of increased runoff from snowmelt
• Dillon continues to decrease in volume at this time in preparation for the expected high runoff

TEMPERATURE

All images show temperature departures from average over different time periods (last 7 days on top left; month-to-date on top right; last full month on bottom). Temperature departure maps provided by HPRCC ACIS.
Last Week Temperatures:

- Most of the UCRB saw warmer than average temperatures
- Along the northern and eastern edges of the basin, temperatures were 2 to 6 degrees above average
- Temperatures were closer to average along the border of eastern UT and western CO
- Cooler than average temperatures were observed along the lower Colorado River above Lake Powell
- East of the basin, temperatures across most of WY and eastern CO were between 2 and 6 degrees warmer than average

Last Month Temperatures:

- Most of the UCRB saw near normal temperatures for the month of April
- Eastern UT, western CO, and northwest WY temperatures were 0 to 4 degrees below average
- Central UT, southwest WY and parts of the Four Corners saw temperatures 0 to 2 degrees above average
- East of the basin, most of eastern CO saw temperatures very near to slightly warmer than average, with cooler than average in northeast WY

FORECAST AND OUTLOOK
The top two images show Climate Prediction Center's Precipitation outlooks for 8 - 14 days (top left) and 3 months (top right). The bottom left image shows the Hydrologic Prediction Center's Quantitative Precipitation Forecast accumulation for the five days between Tuesday 12Z and ending Sunday 12Z. The bottom right image shows the Climate Prediction Center's most recent release of the U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook.

Short Term:

- A ridge of high pressure will build over the region this week, bringing warm and dry conditions with it

http://climate.colostate.edu/~drought/current_assessment.php
• Mid-week, only a slight chance of afternoon thunderstorms and showers is expected over the foothills and higher elevations
• Thunderstorm activity should increase throughout the region late in the week and into the weekend

Longer Term:

• The 8-14 day precipitation outlook shows increased probability of drier than average conditions over most of UT, near normal precipitation across much of the central part of the UCRB, and increased chances for wetter than average conditions over much of CO and WY
• The CPC 3-month outlook shows higher chances for wetter than normal conditions over the UCRB in Utah, Colorado, and Wyoming for the June-July-August time period
• The seasonal drought outlook indicates the drought in NE Utah will persist, however the drought around the southern tier of Utah and Colorado (including the Arkansas basin) should improve or be removed through the August 31st time period.

U.S. DROUGHT MONITOR

Above is the most recent release of the U.S. Drought Monitor map for the UCRB region. Below shows the proposed changes for this week, with supporting text.
Summary: May 27, 2014

Warmer temperatures and widespread precipitation contributed to increased snowmelt and streamflow throughout the basin. East of the basin, flooding is becoming a concern as high snowpack melts and runs off into the already high streams and rivers. Although widespread precipitation fell over much of Colorado, areas of the Arkansas valley (already in drought) missed out on many of the heavier accumulations.

Recommendations**

UCRB: Areas of the Four Corners did receive beneficial moisture last week. But water-year-to-date totals and SNOTEL precipitation percentiles are still low. Status quo is recommended for the UCRB.

Eastern Colorado: In northeast CO, large areas of Washington and Yuma counties received between 1 and 2 inches of precipitation last week (with 2 to 4 inches accumulated month-to-date). Long-term SPIs over the area are in the 0 to -1 range. Therefore, we recommend an improvement of the D1 to D0 (green shape).