YBSA Monthly Report May 2024

Storage: The Yakima Basin storage system, 5 reservoirs, is at 65% of capacity. Aso of June 1 there is 613,243 acre/feet of stored water which is 257,693 acre/feet less than last year. The storage is at 54% of average for this time of year. With snow melt almost over, water returning to the 5 reservoirs is slightly more than what is being released.

<u>River Flow</u>: Sunnyside Valley Irrigation District irrigators will continue to get 100% of their alotment. Roza Irrigation District, which is a proratable district, is having to make important decisions about water alotments to maintaining irrigation water available for irrigators to the end of the season. Roza has stopped delivery for 10 days to help extend the irrigation season. All other irrigation districts were asked to reduce irrigation demand to avoid releasing water from the reservoirs.

The river flow target has not been met, so additional water from the reservoirs will be used to meet the target. Additional flow is necessary to flush juvinile salmon and steelhead down the river. Water temperature in the river is crucial for the survival of salmonoids. This week temperatures will be in the high 80s and low 90s.

A joint effort should be made to work together to develop projects to increase water availability for the future (storage=Columbia River water).

Go to www.ybsa.org for additional information.