

YBSA Monthly Report January 2025

Storage: The 5 reservoirs in the Yakima River system are at 18% of capacity. The amount of water is at 400,000 acre/feet (a/f) less than the average and 100,000 a/f less than last year.

River Flow: The Yakima River flow at this time of year at Parker is 1365 cubic feet per second (cfs) and 616 cfs at Prosser. What is the water use in the lower Yakima Valley that is causing this reduction of flow?

Snow Water Content: The snow water content in the upper Yakima Valley is at 85% in Lake Cle Elum, Kachess, Keechelus (the largest reservoirs in the system), and the Naches Basin is at 93% at Rimrock and Bumping Reservoirs.

Agriculture Season Outlook: The snowpack in the Cascade Mountains will have to greatly increase to provide the water necessary during the spring and summer for instream flow and out-of-stream use. There are 3 months left for more snow to accumulate. *Plans should be made to try to improve ways to add additional water for the Yakima Basin.* The economy this summer and fall will be impacted with less water and a smaller number of workers to maintain and harvest our crops.

Go to www.ybsa.org for additional information.