

YBSA Monthly Report April 2026

Storage: The five reservoirs are currently at 96% of capacity which is more than normal for this time of year. Reservoir intake is 2213 cubic feet per second (cfs), and release is at 1962 cfs. Total diversion for irrigation is at 3101 cfs.

Drought: Central Washington has had 4 years of continued water shortages. Governor Ferguson is taking emergency action in 2026 to address the continuous problem that affects farmers, fish, and communities.

Snowpack: The Cascade Mountains snowpack is extremely low. Snow water equivalent (swe), which is the amount of water held in the snowpack, is at 45%. That means that very little water will be available this spring from the snowpack melt runoff. With the low snowpack swe, reservoir water will have to be used to supplement the flow in the Yakima and Naches Rivers for fish and agriculture. In the upper basin the swe is near 30% and in the Naches basin swe is at 49%.

Yakima River: The current flow in the Yakima River is extremely low for this time of year. The aquatic livelihood and fish survival is being threatened. **Water from a new source is necessary for the future.**

See more information at www.ybsa.org.