

YBSA Monthly Report May 2026

Storage: The five reservoirs are currently at 81% of capacity. The amount in storage is less than average, but is greater than last year's storage at this time of year. Cubic-feet per second (cfs) release of water from the five reservoirs is greater than the intake flow. Very little snowpack and a minimal amount of water returning to the reservoirs this summer reduces the amount of water in the Yakima Basin to provide adequate water for both the irrigation needs and maintaining the flow in the Yakima River for fish and other aquatic life.

Precipitation for the month of June was at 80% of average. Hot, dry weather in July will not provide the rain needed to provide the necessary water in the basin. A summer with insufficient water available and the possibility of fires, both in the Yakima Basin and the Cascades, which produces smoke that is harmful to the crops will negatively effect the agricultural production.

Ground Water: The water level is very low in the aquifer. Aquifer water provides additional water needed for agriculture and water needed to fight the fires. This reduction of water available will hinder both agriculture and fire response in the Yakima Basin.

See more information at www.ybsa.org.