

YBSA Monthly Report

August 2026

Storage: The five reservoirs are at 33% of capacity. The capacity is more than last year's storage at this time. Lake Keechelus can only release water in amounts that are equal to the intake flow of the reservoir. Lake Kachess is more than 50% full.

Rimrock is 75% full and will begin releasing more water in the process called flip-flop. Flip-flop is when the release of water from the three Yakima River reservoirs (Cle Elum, Keechelus, Kachess) is reduced, and the release of water from the two Naches River reservoirs (Bumping, Rimrock) is increased.

Once flip-flop is enacted, the Naches River will have a larger flow, and the upper Yakima River will have a reduced flow. This provides water in the lower Yakima River for irrigation, and the survival of fish and aquatic life.

Irrigation: The precipitation throughout September will dictate the water availability for irrigation in September and October. Precipitation occurring over the next month will set the amount of water available to irrigators, which might be at full allotment or at prorated levels. By September 30th the water availability will be set. (See the Sunnyside Sun article: [SVID, Roza Water updates leave October irrigation uncertain](#) from August 26, 2026.

See more information at www.ybsa.org.