



## COLORADO

Colorado Water  
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

## Hydrology Summary: South Platte River Basin

May 15, 2025

EAC/RCC Spring 2025 Meeting

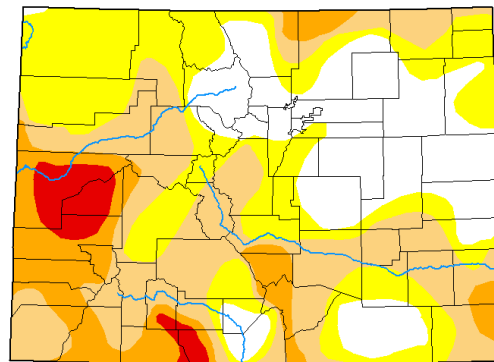
### U.S. Drought Monitor

### Colorado

May 6, 2025

(Released Thursday, May 8, 2025)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



#### Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

#### Author:

Brad Pugh  
CPC/NOAA



[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

### Temperature and Drought Conditions:

Temperatures during the first part of WY2025 were very warm, especially on the eastern side of the state. Drought conditions in the South Platte basin vary from no drought to D2 severe drought. Generally, drought conditions have improved for most of the basin over the last 6 months.

**Snowpack and Reservoir Storage:** Snowpack has degraded quickly across the entire state due to warm temperatures. Peak snowpack came early, averaging 11 days early across the state. The South Platte basin's snowpack was in part prolonged by late April and early May snowstorms that hit the eastern part of the state. Currently SWE is at 78% of median.

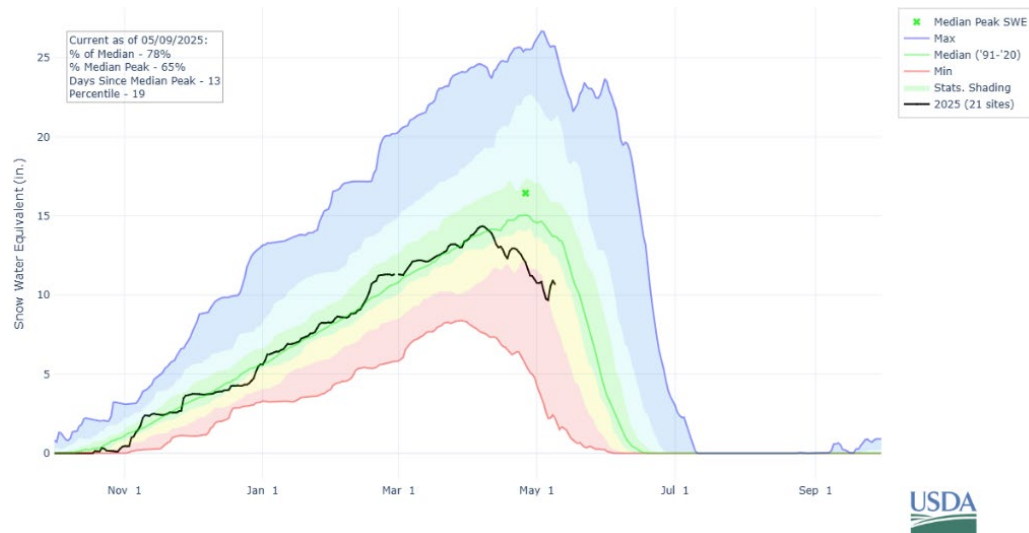
Statewide, SWE is 58%. As of May 1, reservoir storage statewide was at 93% of median.

**Seasonal outlook:** The monthly outlook indicates above normal temperatures and above normal chances of precipitation. The three-month outlook indicates above normal temperatures and below normal chance of precipitation

### CWCB Water Conditions Monitoring Committee (WCMC):

The CWCB convenes monthly WCMC meetings to monitor and report statewide conditions that affect Colorado's water supply, including snowpack, reservoir storage, streamflow, etc. The next meeting will be held on May 20, 2025.

#### SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN SOUTH PLATTE



P 303.866.3441 F 303.866.4474 [www.cwcb.colorado.gov](http://www.cwcb.colorado.gov)

Jared Polis, Governor | Dan Gibbs, DNR Executive Director | Lauren Ris, CWCB Director



## References

30-day forecast: <https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/30day/>

Colorado Climate Center: <https://climate.colostate.edu/>

Colorado DWR, Division 1 office: <https://dwr.colorado.gov/division-offices/division-1-office>

Colorado DWR, Drought & Surface Water Supply Index: <https://dwr.colorado.gov/services/water-administration/drought-and-swsi>

Colorado's Water Availability Task Force: <https://cwcb.colorado.gov/water-availability-flood-task-forces>

Drought Monitor: <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Maps/MapArchive.aspx>

Drought Monitor Class Change: <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Maps/ChangeMaps.aspx>

High Plains Regional Climate Center: <https://hprcc.unl.edu/maps.php?map=ACISClimateMaps>

National Weather Service: [https://www.weather.gov/bou/co\\_precipitationtemperature](https://www.weather.gov/bou/co_precipitationtemperature)

NRCS, Water Supply and Data Products:

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/wcc/home/quicklinks/states/colorado/products/watersupply>

Snow Water Equivalent:

[https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/co/snow/products/?cid=nrcs144p2\\_063323](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/co/snow/products/?cid=nrcs144p2_063323)

Three Month Precipitation and Temperature Outlooks:

[http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long\\_range/seasonal.php?lead=1](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long_range/seasonal.php?lead=1)