



**U.S. Forest Service
Pacific Southwest Region
Klamath National Forest
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News Release

For Immediate Release

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May 1st snow survey results for Scott River sub-basin

YREKA, Calif. — The Klamath National Forest has completed the final snow surveys of the season. These measurements are a part of the statewide California Cooperative Snow Survey program (CCSS), which helps the State forecast the amount of water available for agriculture, power generation, recreation, and stream flow releases later in the year.

Above average temperatures and little precipitation through much of April has melted much of the winter snowpack. The May snow measurements for 2020 (see results below) show snow for the Scott River watershed to be well below average at all locations for this time of the year. While some snow lingers at the higher elevations, lower locations and sites exposed to the sun have largely lost their snow cover.

Snow surveys are conducted monthly during the winter and spring months (February-May). Forest Service employees travel to established sites in the headwaters of the Scott River watershed to collect information about snow accumulation in the mountains of the Klamath National Forest. The newest measuring site at Scott Mountain has been monitored for over thirty years; the oldest site at Middle Boulder has been monitored for over seventy years. Some sites are located close to Forest roads with good access, while others require hours of travel by snowshoe and/or snowmobile.

The height of snow and snow water equivalent (SWE) are measured by a snow sampling tube with a cutter end that is driven through the snowpack, measuring depth. The snow core is then weighed to determine the water content. The information is forwarded to the State of California, where the data is compiled with other snow depth reports and becomes part of the California Cooperative Snow Surveys program. The data is managed by the California Department of Water Resources; more information is available on their website at <http://cdec.water.ca.gov/snow/current/snow/index.html>.



May 1st, 2020 snow survey results Scott River sub-basin

Snow Course	Height of Snow			Snow Water Equivalent		
	Measured	Historic Average	% of Historic Average	Measured	Historic Average	% of Historic Average
Middle Boulder 1 (Established 1946 / Elevation 6600')	8.0"	52.4"	15%	3.4"	27.1"	13%
Middle Boulder 3 (Established 1948 / Elevation 6200')	5.8"	39.9"	15%	2.7"	19.8"	14%
Dynamite Meadow (Established 1955 / Elevation 5700')	0.0"	21.5"	0%	-N/A-	12.3"	0%
Swampy John (Established 1951 / Elevation 5500')	6.2"	51.3"	12%	2.8"	24.2"	12%
Scott Mountain (Established 1986 / Elevation 5900')	0.0"	25.7"	0%	-N/A-	21.5"	0%
Total average		8%			8%	