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|  | <p>United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service</p> | <p>NEWS RELEASE</p> | <p>KLAMATH NATIONAL FOREST 1711 South Main Street Yreka, CA 96097 (530) 841-6131 www.fs.usda.gov/klamath</p> |  |
| <p>March 7, 2013</p> | | <p>For Immediate Release</p> | <p>Media Contact: Jennifer Velez (530)841-4485 or jvelez@fs.fed.us</p> | |

March 1st Snow Survey Results for the Scott River Watershed

(Fort Jones, CA.) – The March 1st snow survey results for five snow courses in the Scott River Watershed have been measured and compared to data from previous years. These measurements are part of the statewide California Cooperative Snow Survey program, which is operated by the California Department of Water Resources.

The survey shows that the snow depth and water content are below average, with snow depth at 64% of normal and water content at 60% of normal compared to historical values for March (see Table 1). Warmer temperatures and low precipitation have contributed to the current snowpack conditions. However, a few months of the rainy season remain, with most locations usually reaching their annual maximum by late March or early April.

The snow surveys are measured monthly during the winter and spring months (February - May). Employees from the Salmon and Scott River Ranger District travel to pre-determined sites to collect information about snow accumulation in the mountains west of Scott Valley, located in the Klamath National Forest. The measuring sites are established locations used to quantify snow depth and water content. Access to these snow sites vary; some are located closer to forest roads while others require hours of travel by snow shoes or snowmobile.

The snow depth and water content are measured and calculated with a specially designed and calibrated aluminum tube. The depth of snow is recorded, and the water equivalent of the snow core is derived by weighing the snow sample. This information is used to help the State of California forecast the amount of water available for agriculture, power generation, recreation, and stream flow releases later in the year.

For more information, go to the California Department of Water Resources Website:

<http://cdec.water.ca.gov/snow> or contact Verna Yin on the Salmon and Scott River Ranger District at (530) 468-1241.

(See snow survey results below)

Table 1. March 1st, 2013 Snow Survey Results Scott River Sub-Basin

| Snow Course | Snow Depth | | | Equivalent Water Content | | |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Name | 3/1/2013 | Historic Average | Current vs. Historic Average | 3/1/2013 | Historic Average | Current vs. Historic Average |
| | | | | | | |
| Middle Boulder #1 6600' elevation | 51" | 67.1" | 76% | 20.6" | 27.4" | 75% |
| | <i>(Established 1946)</i> | | | | | |
| Middle Boulder #3 6200' elevation | 44.7" | 63.8" | 70% | 14.8" | 24.2" | 61% |
| | <i>(Established 1948)</i> | | | | | |
| Dynamite Meadow 5700' elevation | 27.2" | 49.5" | 55% | 8" | 17.0" | 47% |
| | <i>(Established 1955)</i> | | | | | |
| Swampy John 5500' elevation | 43.2" | 74.3" | 58% | 15.4" | 26.0" | 59% |
| | <i>(Established 1951)</i> | | | | | |
| Scott Mountain 5900' elevation | 35" | 55.5" | 63% | 12" | 21.2" | 57% |
| | <i>(Established 1986)</i> | | | | | |
| Total average: | 64% | | | 60% | | |

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