

	<p>United States Department of Agriculture</p> <p>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>May 8, 2013</p>		<p>For Immediate Release</p>	<p>Media Contact: Jennifer Velez (530) 841-4485 or jvelez@fs.fed.us</p>	

May 1st Snow Survey Results for the Scott River Watershed

(Fort Jones, CA.) – The May 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 well below average, with snow depth at 4.4% of normal and water content at 4.8% of normal compared to historical values for May (see Table 1). A record dry January and February in much of the state, along with low precipitation have contributed to the current snowpack conditions.

According to the California Department of Water Resources, electronic readings indicate that water content in the northern mountains is 16% of normal, yet most key storage reservoirs are near normal levels thanks to storms that occurred in November and December. Reservoir storage will meet much of the state’s water demand this year, but successive dry years would create drought conditions in some areas.

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

Snow Course	Snow Depth			Equivalent Water Content		
	Measured	Historic Average	% of Historic Average	Measured	Historic Average	% of Historic Average
Middle Boulder 1 (Established 1946/Elevation 6600')	7.5"	55.8"	13%	3.9"	27.6"	14%
Middle Boulder 3 (Established 1948/Elevation 6200')	1.3"	42.6"	3%	.8"	20.4"	4%
Dynamite Meadow (Established 1955/Elevation 5700')	0"	23.7"	0%	0"	10.5"	0%
Swampy John (Established 1951/Elevation 5500')	3.6"	56.6"	6%	1.6"	25.4"	6%
Scott Mountain (Established 1986/Elevation 5900')	0"	29.8"	0%	0"	14.1"	0%
Total Average		4.4%			4.8%	

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