



**COLORADO SPRINGS UTILITIES BOARD**  
**MS Teams and Blue River Board Room**  
**Plaza of the Rockies**  
**121 S. Tejon Street**  
**South Tower, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor**

**AGENDA**  
**Wednesday, April 22, 2026**  
**1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**  
[Join the meeting now](#)  
**Dial-in by phone**  
[+1 719-733-3651,,628171185#](tel:+17197333651,628171185)

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<b>1:00 p.m.</b>	<b>1. Call to Order</b>	Chair Donelson
<b>1:05 p.m.</b>	<b>2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance</b>	Chair Donelson
<b>1:10 p.m.</b>	<b>3. Consent Agenda</b> These items will be acted upon as a whole unless a specific item is called for discussion by a Board Member or a customer wishing to address the Utilities Board. (Any items called up for separate consideration shall be acted upon following Compliance Reports.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Approval of March 18, 2026, Utilities Board meeting minutes</b></li> <li>• <b>Approval of April 6, 2026, Special Utilities Board meeting minutes</b></li> </ul>	Chair Donelson
<b>1:15 p.m.</b>	<b>4. Customer Comments</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During the customer comment period, comments are accepted for any topic not on the agenda.</li> <li>• Comments for specific agenda items will be taken following the presentation of the item and the Board’s discussion.</li> <li>• Comments will be limited to three minutes per speaker, per item.</li> <li>• Following the comments from customers who have signed up to speak, an announcement will be made seeking additional comments and the Board will accept all those wishing to comment.</li> </ul>	Chair Donelson
<b>1:20 p.m.</b>	<b>5. Recognition</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diamond Level Safety Award from American Public Power Association (APPA)</li> <li>• Water and Wastewater Worker Appreciation and National Association of Clean Water Agencies Peak Performance Award</li> </ul>	Sara Akins, Safety and Health Manager  Tara Kelley, Treatment Plants Manager  Michael Myers, Manager of Water

		and Wastewater Operations
1:25 p.m.	<b>6. Compliance Reports:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I-12 Environmental Stewardship</li> <li>• CEO/Board Partnership Responsibilities – CEO Responsibilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Water Outlook</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Travas Deal, Chief Executive Officer
1:40 p.m.	<b>7. Items Called Off Consent Agenda</b>	Chair Donelson
1:45 p.m.	<b>8. North Slope Recreation Area Plan</b> <u>Informational presentation</u> on the North Slope Recreation Area Plan.	Lisa Walters, Water Resource Planner III
		Abigail Ortega, General Manager of Infrastructure and Resources Planning
2:05 p.m.	<b>9. Resolution Allowing Commercial Recreation Use on Utilities-Controlled Watershed</b> <u>Vote</u> to recommend approval of a resolution allowing commercial recreation on Utilities-controlled watershed properties pursuant to City Charter § 15-120 and City Code § 12.4.804.	Lisa Walters, Water Resource Planner III
		Abigail Ortega, General Manager of Infrastructure and Resources Planning
2:10 p.m.	<b>10. Southwest Power Pool Regional Transmission Organization Update</b> <u>Informational presentation</u> on the entrance into the Southwest Power Pool and Regional Transmission Organization.	Alex Baird, General Manager of Fuels and Purchase Power
2:30 p.m.	<b>11. Board Member Updates</b>	Chair Donelson
2:35 p.m.	<b>12. Summary of Board Actions</b>	Anna Bingman, Utilities Board Administrator
2:40 p.m.	<b>13. Adjournment</b>	Chair Donelson



**Minutes**  
**Wednesday, March 18, 2026**  
**1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**  
**Blue River Board Room**

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Dave Donelson called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

Ms. Anna Bingman, Utilities Board Administrator, called roll.

Present – Chair Dave Donelson, Board Member Lynette Crow-Iverson, Board Member Kimberly Gold, Board Member Nancy Henjum (online), Board Member Brian Risley, Board Member Roland Rainey and Vice Chair Brandy Williams.

**2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

Ms. Crystal Martinez, Customer Quality Specialist Senior, offered the invocation, and Chair Donelson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Consent Agenda**

- **Approval of the February 18, 2026, Utilities Board Meeting Minutes**

Board Member Leinweber made a motion to approve the item on the Consent Agenda. Board Member Risley seconded the motion. The motion to approve the Consent Agenda passed unanimously.

**4. Customer Comments**

Mr. Tom Carter, an alternate member of the Utilities Policy Advisory Committee (UPAC), provided a brief presentation about the nuclear energy landscape in the United States. This presentation included facilities, number of jobs created, and timelines. Additionally, the presentation included updates on the Department of Energy initiatives.

Mr. Brian Safyan, a Colorado Springs Utilities customer, stated that he had listened to the net metering presentation during the Working Committee meeting the day prior. Mr. Safyan encouraged the Board to look at net metering with a systems thinking approach. He encouraged the Board to take a holistic approach and consider how the whole system interacts, rather than focusing on the apparent cost shift. He also asked the Board to continue conversations about net metering with both solar and non-solar customers.

Mr. Harold Franson, a Colorado Springs Utilities customer, expressed frustration about driveway damage that occurred during fiber installation. Chair Donelson asked Mr. Franson to provide his information to Ms. Bingman for a follow-up conversation about this issue.

Ms. Susan Luenser, a Colorado Springs Utilities customer, spoke in support of Senate Bill 26-022. She urged the Board and Colorado Springs Utilities to continue their efforts to maintain reliability and affordability for customers among the changing State laws around carbon-based fuels.

Mr. Gary Burghart, a member of UPAC, asked the Board to reactivate UPAC and provide an assignment. He listed off a number of the assignments that UPAC examined in the past and informed the Board of how those assignments influenced decision-making later.

## 5. Recognition

- **Resolution of Appreciation for Former Utilities Board Member Tom Bailey**

Mr. Travas Deal, Chief Executive Officer, thanked Mr. Tom Bailey, former Utilities Board Member, for his service during his time as a Board Member. He noted Mr. Bailey's diligence in understanding and advocating for both his constituents and staff. Next, Mr. Deal read a resolution of appreciation for Mr. Bailey.

Board Member Gold expressed her appreciation for serving with Mr. Bailey, and thanked him for both his kindness and his consistency.

Vice Chair Williams echoed her previous comments about serving with Mr. Bailey on City Council, but wanted to thank him for always providing a thorough view on issues in front of the Board in this setting. She said his positive attitude would certainly be missed.

Board Member Leinweber thanked Mr. Bailey for his service, and expressed his disappointment in his feeling that policy had dictated how Mr. Bailey was able to serve the City. He stated that Mr. Bailey is a man of integrity, and thanked him for his dedication.

Board Member Lynette Crow-Iverson echoed the comments of her fellow Board Members, and told Mr. Bailey she looks forward to working with him in the future, and wished him well on his next endeavors.

Mr. Bailey thanked the Board for their comments, and expressed his appreciation for serving with them. He also thanked the staff for their leadership, stating that learning the culture of Colorado Springs Utilities and the service they provide to the citizens should be valued. He said he felt tremendous joy in serving as a Utilities Board Member.

Board Member Lynette Crow-Iverson made a motion to approve the Resolution of Appreciation for former Board Member Tom Bailey. Board Member Risley seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

## 6. Compliance Reports:

- **ER: 1-3 Utilities Board Expected Results Year End Performance – Scorecard**

Ms. Natalie Watts, Manager of Strategic Planning and Governance, presented the ER: 1-3 Utilities Board Expected Results Year End Performance – Scorecard. This presentation included the four-year performance highlights, including the final score of 3.86, which exceeds expectations. Ms. Watts detailed the different number of expectation levels that were met: 5 measures that far exceeded expectations, 9 measures that exceeded expectations, 4 measures meeting expectations. 3 measures partially meeting expectations, and 1 measure that did not meet expectations. At the end of her presentation, Ms. Watts provided next steps. The Board will review the 2026 midyear scorecard at their August meeting, however, Ms. Watts informed the Board that the CEO Leadership Team receives a quarterly update to temperature check and course correct if needed.

- **I-4 Risk Management – Office of the City Auditor’s Report**
- **I-5 Economic Development**
- **I-8 Asset Protection**
- **I-13 Community Development**

There were no presentations on these items.

- **E-2 CEO/Board Partnership Responsibilities – Water Outlook**

Mr. Nick Harris, Water Resource Planner and Engineer, and Abby Ortega, Manager of Infrastructure and Resource Planning, presented the Board with the Water Outlook for March 2026. Mr. Harris noted that February was much warmer than average, and provided information on the drought conditions and outlook. Mr. Harris stated provided visuals pertaining to the basin and reservoir levels, both current and historic. Reservoir runoff is expected to be significantly below average this year, too. Finally, Mr. Harris informed the Board that an agreement on operations of Lake Powell and Lake Mead had not been reached by the seven Basin States by the required deadline. Now the Bureau of Reclamation will evaluate five alternatives and consider next steps. Mr. Harris stated that Colorado Springs Utilities will continue to provide input on those alternatives through the Front Range Water Council.

Board Member Rainey asked if Mr. Harris had been observing similar patterns from previous drought years. Mr. Harris said yes, however, the data is not completely comparable as water conservation efforts have become more comprehensive in recent years.

Board Member Leinweber highlighted one slide about monthly water use, and commented that the community does a wonderful job in conserving water, which is the opposite of what some community members may believe.

Board Member Crow-Iverson asked if water is still being released to the lower basin states, even with less water coming in. Ms. Ortega responded yes, and described current inflow and outflow of reservoirs to support operations at Lake Powell.

**7. Items Called Off Consent Agenda**

No items were called off consent.

**8. Drought Response Resolution**

Ms. Ortega presented the Drought Response Resolution, which would formally initiate a Water Shortage Preparation Stage. She alluded to Mr. Harris' presentation on the Water Outlook, stating that though most of Colorado is facing drought and water restrictions, Colorado Springs Utilities' system storage is in a very good place. This resolution simply recognizes that a drought could happen, and to prepare customers should there be restrictions. Additionally, this resolution provides staff the grounds to use operational tools and infrastructure to maximize water availability and system reliability while encouraging long-term planning.

Chair Donelson recognized that the citizens have been vital in making the water conservation program successful through their personal efforts.

Board Member Leinweber made a motion to approve the Drought Response Resolution. Board Member Gold seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**9. Electric Cost Adjustment/Gas Cost Adjustment**

Mr. Scott Shirola, Pricing and Rates Manager, reported on the Electric Cost Adjustment (ECA) and Gas Cost Adjustment (GCA) Filing. Mr. Shirola explained that due to low projected costs for the ECA and GCA, Colorado Springs Utilities is recommending a rate decrease for the ECA, GCA and Green Power Service. Mr. Shirola shared sample monthly bills and provided the average cost of savings for residential, commercial, and industrial customers. At the end of February, the ECA had a \$17,100,000 overcollection. Setting the ECA at the proposed rate would help to reduce this overcollection. Mr. Shirola provided information on methods to receive assistance in paying bills for those customers who may need it.

Chair Donelson asked for a thumbs up from Board Members to put this item on the March 24, 2026 Regular City Council meeting as Utilities Business. All Board Members provided a thumbs up.

**10. Authorization of the Use of a Possession and Use Agreement and/or Eminent Domain to Acquire Permanent Easements on Properties Owned by the Lockwood Limited Liability Company Needed for the Kelker to South Plant Transmission Project**

Ms. Jessica Davis, Land Resource Manager, presented the Authorization of the Use of a Possession and Use Agreement and/or Eminent Domain to Acquire Permanent Easements on Properties Owned by the Lockwood Limited Liability Company Needed for the Kelker to South Plant Transmission Project. This presentation included the vicinity map, property

information, and a summary of negotiations thus far. Ms. Davis explained the action needed to move forward.

Board Member Gold made the motion to move the Authorization of the Use of a Possession and Use Agreement and/or Eminent Domain to Acquire Permanent Easements on Properties Owned by the Lockwood Limited Liability Company Needed for the Kelker to South Plant Transmission Project forward to the April 14, 2026 Regular City Council meeting. Board Member Rainey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Donelson asked the Board members to put a thumbs up if they would like to put this on the Consent Agenda. Board Member Gold stated that members of her district are interested in this project and this property, so she would like to keep this item as Utilities Business to provide for public comment.

#### **11. Board Member Updates**

Board Member Rainey stated that he will be hosting a Town Hall meeting for District 6 on April 9, and there will be representatives from Colorado Springs Utilities present to answer questions. The meeting will be held at the Colorado Springs Police Department's Stetson Hills Substation at 5:30 p.m.

Vice Chair Williams announced that she will also be hosting a Town Hall meeting for District 3 on April 9. The meeting will be held at The Sluice at 5:30 p.m.

#### **12. Summary of Board Actions**

Ms. Bingman provided a summary of Board Actions:

- Approved the February 18, 2026, Utilities Board Minutes
- Approved a Resolution of Appreciation for former Utilities Board Member Tom Bailey
- Approved a Resolution to formally initiate a Water Shortage Preparation Stage
- Recommended the Electric Large Cost Adjustment and Gas Cost Adjustment Filing be placed on the March 24, 2026 regular City Council meeting agenda as Utilities Business
- Approved a Resolution Authorizing the Use of a Possession and Use Agreement and/or Eminent Domain to Acquire an Easement from Lockwood Limited Liability Company for the Kelker to South Plant Transmission Project, Pursuant to Section 7.3(e) of the City's Real Estate Manual to placed on the April 14, 2026 Regular City Council meeting agenda as Utilities Business

#### **13. Executive Session**

Ms. Renee Congdon read the meeting into Closed Executive Session.

Board Members unanimously approved the motion to go into Closed Executive Session.

Board Members took a five-minute break at 2:45 p.m. to prepare the room.

The Regular Utilities Board Meeting came back into session at 3:47 p.m.

**14. Adjournment**

Chair Donelson adjourned the meeting at 3:48 p.m.



**Minutes  
Monday, April 6, 2026  
8:00 a.m. – 8:50 a.m.  
City Council Chambers**

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Dave Donelson called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

Ms. Anna Bingman, Utilities Board Administrator, called roll.

Present – Chair Dave Donelson, Board Member Lynette Crow-Iverson, Board Member Kimberly Gold, Board Member Nancy Henjum, Board Member Brian Risley, and Vice Chair Brandy Williams.

Excused – Board Member Roland Rainey

**2. Executive Session**

Ms. Renee Congdon read the meeting into Closed Executive Session.

Board Members unanimously approved the motion to go into Closed Executive Session.

Board Members took a five-minute break at 8:04 a.m. to prepare the room.

The Regular Utilities Board Meeting came back into session at 8:44 a.m.

Board Member Leinweber arrived late to the Executive Session and was admitted to the session.

**3. Adjournment**

Chair Donelson adjourned the meeting at 8:48 a.m.

## Board Memo Agenda Item Staff Report

<b>Date:</b> (Date of Utilities Board Meeting)	April 22, 2026
<b>To:</b>	Utilities Board
<b>From:</b>	Travas Deal, Chief Executive Officer
<b>Subject:</b>	Safety Award – American Public Power Association (APPA) 2025 APPA Safety Award of Excellence

### NARRATIVE:

<b>Desired Action:</b> Choose only one	<input type="checkbox"/> Approval <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information
<b>Executive Summary:</b>	Each year the American Public Power Association (APPA) recognizes public power utilities that prioritize safety in their day-to-day operations and the overall state of their safety programs and culture. Additionally, award recipients are determined by worker-hours of exposure and the utility incident rates that showcases the effectiveness of their safety programs. For 2025, Colorado Springs Utilities has earned the Diamond level award.
<b>Benefits:</b>	Aligning to the strategic objective of Enable Employee Empowerment, the priority of Promoting Safety Maturity Excellence is achieved in making safety a part of everything Colorado Springs Utilities does. Colorado Springs Utilities being recognized for our safety programs, incident rates and employee engagement showcases the amazing accomplishments we have had in safety over the last several years.
<b>Board Policy:</b> If this impacts one of the board policies, indicate that here.	N/A
<b>Cost / Budget:</b> Include the projected cost or budget here.	N/A
<b>Affected Parties:</b> This could include community groups, specific City Council Districts, other utilities, nonprofit organizations, certain neighborhoods, Colorado Springs Utilities employees, etc.	All Colorado Springs Utilities employees
<b>Alternatives:</b>	N/A

<b>Submitter:</b>	Sara Akins	<b>Email Address:</b>	sakins@csu.org
<b>Division:</b>	Administrative and Human Resources Division	<b>Phone Number:</b>	719-668-7372
<b>Department:</b>	Safety and Health Department	<b>Date Submitted:</b>	March 13, 2026
<b>SPG Staff Use Only:</b>	Consent Calendar <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		Item Number 05a

ITEMS SUBMITTED AFTER THE DEADLINE WILL BE POSTPONED UNTIL THE NEXT UTILITIES BOARD MEETING

# Board Memo Agenda Item Staff Report

<b>Date:</b> (Date of Utilities Board Meeting)	April 22, 2026
<b>To:</b>	Utilities Board
<b>From:</b>	Travas Deal, Chief Executive Officer
<b>Subject:</b>	Water and Wastewater Worker Appreciation and National Association of Clean Water Agencies Peak Performance Awards
<b>NARRATIVE:</b>	
<b>Desired Action:</b> Choose only one	<input type="checkbox"/> Approval <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information
<b>Executive Summary:</b>	<p>Colorado Springs Utilities takes pride in ensuring clean and safe water for our community, the environment, and our downstream users. Behind the scenes, water and wastewater workers monitor and operate systems 24 hours a day, seven days a week – keeping things running, maintaining regulatory compliance, and planning for our future. Water and wastewater collection and treatment relies on operators, mechanics, electricians, instrumentation and controls staff, distribution and collection specialists, laboratory workers, industrial pretreatment specialists, engineers and many more skilled workers.</p> <p>To recognize these hard-working individuals, Colorado Governor Jared Polis declared April 5-11, 2026, Wastewater Worker Appreciation Week statewide. Nationally, the American Water Works Association will be celebrating Drinking Water Week May 3-9, 2026.</p> <p>The Las Vegas Street Water Resource Recovery Facility and the J.D. Phillips Water Resource Recovery Facility are regulated through state-issued discharge permits. Both facilities have demonstrated continued excellence in permit compliance for 2025 and have once again been recognized by the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) with Peak Performance Awards.</p> <p>Springs Utilities collects and treats approximately 37 million gallons of wastewater daily through more than 1,800 miles of collection system piping, 23 lift stations and three resource recovery facilities. Springs Utilities also brings water from over 100 miles away for treatment at six water treatment plants, delivering on average almost 60 million gallons of water a day to Colorado Springs and surrounding communities.</p>
<b>Benefits:</b>	Colorado Springs Utilities wastewater and water workers continue to provide exceptional service and serve as regional leaders
<b>Board Policy:</b> If this impacts one of the board policies, indicate that here.	N/A
<b>Cost / Budget:</b> Include the projected cost or budget here.	N/A
<b>Affected Parties:</b> This could include community groups, specific City Council Districts, other utilities, nonprofit organizations, certain	N/A

neighborhoods, Colorado Springs Utilities employees, etc.			
<b>Alternatives:</b>		N/A	
<b>Submitter:</b>	Tara Kelley	<b>Email Address:</b>	tkelley@csu.org
<b>Division:</b>	Operations	<b>Phone Number:</b>	719-668-4477
<b>Department:</b>	Plants	<b>Date Submitted:</b>	April 6, 2026
<b>SPG Staff Use Only:</b>	Consent Calendar <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		Item Number 05b
ITEMS SUBMITTED AFTER THE DEADLINE WILL BE POSTPONED UNTIL THE NEXT UTILITIES BOARD MEETING.			



WHEREAS, Colorado's water is a valuable economic, environmental, and recreational resource that should be protected; and

WHEREAS, Colorado's wastewater treatment workers consistently work to maintain and improve the quality of Colorado's streams, rivers, and lakes; and

WHEREAS, Colorado's wastewater treatment workers include operators, maintenance personnel, laboratory workers, sewer maintenance workers, biosolids workers, industrial waste pretreatment workers, administrative workers, engineers, and suppliers; and

WHEREAS, Colorado's wastewater treatment workers have served as essential workers; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting to honor Colorado's wastewater workers for protecting the water and environment of this state; and

WHEREAS, we are all stewards of the wastewater infrastructure upon which current and future generations depend;

THEREFORE, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim the period of time between April 5 and April 11, 2026, as

### WASTEWATER WORKER APPRECIATION WEEK

in the State of Colorado.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this fifth day of April, 2026



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jared Polis".

Jared Polis  
Governor



**Date:** April 22, 2026

**To:** Utilities Board

**From:** Travas Deal, Chief Executive Officer

**Subject:** **Excellence in Governance Compliance Report  
Environmental Stewardship (I-12)**

**Desired Action:** Monitoring

**Compliance:** The CEO reports compliance with the instructions except where noted with an asterisk (\*).

INSTRUCTIONS			
Category:	<b>Utilities Board Instructions to the Chief Executive Officer</b>	Reporting Timeframe:	<b>January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025</b>
Policy Title (Number):	<b>Environmental Stewardship (I-12)</b>	Reviewing Committee:	<b>Working Committee</b>
Monitoring Type:	<b>Internal</b>	Monitoring Frequency:	<b>Annual</b>

**The Chief Executive Officer shall direct that Colorado Springs Utilities is a leader in environmental stewardship. Accordingly, the CEO shall:**

- 1. Provide customers with educational materials and solutions to promote energy and water conservation and renewable energy technologies.*

In 2025, a total of 474 water and energy education classes, tours, community events, and webinars were held for youth and adults in the community. Colorado Springs Utilities shared educational materials to promote energy and water conservation with 18,577 customers through in-person classes, events, or tours and 6,713 streamed connections throughout the year.

Nine water and energy rebate and retrofit programs were offered for residential customers (including net metered solar interconnections) and 11 rebate and retrofit programs for business customers. In partnership with the Energy Resource Center to reduce annual water and energy consumption, Colorado Springs Utilities helped retrofit 111 homes through the

Home Efficiency Assistance Program (HEAP).

In addition to the work under the HEAP program, Colorado Springs Utilities programs distributed or installed 633 efficient toilets, 486 showerheads, 1,024 faucet aerators, and 6,546 LED bulbs for customers and other non-profit enterprises. Irrigation rebate and retrofit programs distributed 11,339 high-efficiency sprinkler nozzles, 8,820 pressure-regulating sprinkler heads, 482 smart irrigation controllers, 27 flow sensors, and 28 rain sensors. Commercial landscape transformation programs converted nearly 470,000 square feet of high-water use turfgrass to low-water-use native grass, while residential programs converted more than 100,000 square feet. Colorado Springs Utilities provided indoor water use evaluations for 150 businesses, commercial irrigation evaluations covering nearly 4.8 million square feet of irrigated land, and high-water use notifications to nearly 1,184 business customers.

Customer rebates, direct-install, wholesale promotional, low-income efficiency water use evaluations, high water use and leak notifications, and renewable energy programs resulted in an estimated total commodity savings of 75 million gallons of water, 31,160 million cubic feet of natural gas, 12,494 megawatt hours (MWh) of electricity consumption, and 2.5 incremental megawatts (MW) of electricity demand. An additional 10.5 MW of actively controlled summer demand reduction was due to customers' enrollment of their smart thermostat in the Peak Energy Rewards demand response program. Water-wise Rules contributed nearly 3.7 million gallons of new annual water savings. Proactive potable water distribution system water loss control programs contributed an additional 25.6 million gallons of water savings.

In 2025, Colorado Springs Utilities expanded focus on natural gas decarbonization programs, in response to significant legislative mandates, electric resource mix changes, and significant changes in baseline equipment efficiencies. Outreach on these programs was expanded through in-depth educational classes for HVAC and insulation contractors.

In 2025, Colorado Springs Utilities continued to offer incentives for ENERGY STAR and cold-climate heat pumps and heat pump water heaters, both as direct-to customer rebates and through the Builder Incentive Program for installation in new homes. These provide efficient options for customers looking to decarbonize by electrifying their space and water heating needs. Additional rebate options were provided for ENERGY STAR gas boilers, combination boilers, and natural gas instantaneous water heaters. The Builder Incentive Program provided incentives directly to participating home builders for construction of 372 new homes meeting Energy Star certification requirements and 38 all electric homes, out of the 1,154 homes exceeding the minimum code standards. Within this program, Colorado Springs Utilities also provided rebates to builders for certain ENERGY STAR appliances.

The Commercial Building Efficiency Program provided energy audits to more than 4.8 million square feet of large commercial buildings to help building owners discover and prioritize energy efficiency, decarbonization, and money-saving measures and began to pay performance-based incentives for completed efficiency upgrades identified in the audits.

In 2025, Utilities expanded customer education on energy and water conservation and renewable programs. Through high-engagement email campaigns, more than 49 personalized site visits, large-scale event distribution (275+ contacts), and targeted sector outreach, Utilities provided customers with actionable materials, solutions, and guidance. Our efforts helped customers adopt conservation practices, pursue rebate programs, understand regulatory requirements, and overcome cost barriers—all supporting Springs Utilities’ broader Environmental Stewardship and efficiency goals.

2. *Promote efficient energy and water consumption in new buildings and landscapes.*

Colorado Springs Utilities encourages efficient new construction, landscaping, and retrofits and promotes energy and water efficient buildings and landscapes through its ongoing educational efforts, and through the Unified Development Code (UDC) update.

The Mesa Conservation and Environmental Center (Center) entered its 22<sup>nd</sup> year of operation and continues to showcase demonstration programs to promote energy efficiency and water conservation. The Water Wise Demonstration Garden is considered one of the finest in the country. The Center received more than 2,600 visitors in the building in 2025 and thousands more visited the Garden without entering the building.

The UDC update limits turfgrass installation in new homes and businesses to no more than 25% of the irrigatable landscape. This change influenced nearly 137 acres of irrigated commercial landscapes and approximately 1,000 homes, resulting in estimated annual water savings of more than 2.3 million gallons.

3. *Ensure emissions from operations meet or surpass air quality regulations.*

Colorado Springs Utilities meets air quality expectations through a combination of effective operations and maintenance, pollution controls, fuel selection and use of renewable energy. Colorado Springs Utilities has a diverse portfolio of electric generating resources, including fossil fuel fired units, such as coal and natural gas, and renewables, such as hydroelectric, wind, and solar power. Between 2005 and 2025, annual emissions from Colorado Springs Utilities electric generating resources have been reduced by more than 96% for sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), by more than 80% for nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), and by more than 49% for carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). The current fleet of alternative-fuel vehicles includes four electric hybrid vehicles, 15 electric vehicles (EVs), 299 ethanol flex-fuel vehicles, and 42 compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicles.

4. *Ensure local ground and surface water discharges from operations meet or surpass surface water and groundwater quality standards.*

Discharges from Colorado Springs Utilities operations are consistent with permit requirements through the operation of advanced wastewater treatment technology and the industrial pretreatment program to control pollutants in the wastewater treatment system. Colorado Springs Utilities’ power plants are designed for zero discharge or to discharge water to the water resource recovery facility for treatment. The Las Vegas Street Water Resource Recovery Facility (LVSRRF) has installed infrastructure and revised operational practices to meet permit limits for nutrients that became effective in 2020.

In 2025, the J.D. Phillips Water Resource Recovery Facility (JDPWRRF)'s pilot project to reduce nutrients was discontinued. The required pilot project report was submitted to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) Water Quality Control Division in March 2025, and the Site Location Amendment Request was withdrawn. Instead, the JDPWRRF will seek to move forward with biological nutrient upgrades during 2026.

Work on the JDPWRRF Studies and Alternatives Analysis (SAA) continued in 2025. The SAA is expected to be completed during Q1 2026. There will be capital improvements that come out of the SAA to ensure that the JDPWRRF reliably meets current and future permit limits. The projected overall schedule has design/permitting from Q2 2026 to Q4 2027 with construction running from 2028 to 2030, depending on the alternatives Utilities selects.

Colorado Springs Utilities continues its participation in the CDPHE's Policy 17-1 Voluntary Incentive Program, which encourages reductions in total phosphorus and total inorganic nitrogen and should provide for additional compliance time for future nutrient criteria.

At Clear Spring Ranch, groundwater quality monitoring is regularly performed in association with the on-site placement of biosolids, coal combustion residuals, and water treatment residuals. The results are annually reported to the CDPHE.

*\* In June 2025, the JDPWRRF experienced a treatment issue that led to a total inorganic nitrogen annual median limit permit exceedance. In September and December 2025, the JDPWRRF experienced technical difficulties with its UV disinfection system. These difficulties did not result in an exceedance of the JDPWRRF E. coli permit limit.*

5. *Maintain or enhance the visual appeal of utility operations where cost effective.*

The provision of utility services necessitates the operation of extensive and highly visible infrastructure such as power plants, water and wastewater treatment facilities, pump stations, power lines, electric substations, and work centers. The location and design of these facilities can dramatically impact the vistas of an area. The overall impact can often be diminished or blended with the surroundings to make them less obtrusive. Colorado Springs Utilities strives to receive input from the community on any facility built or externally remodeled, including the addition of recreational amenities on properties with Colorado Springs Utilities operations, such as watersheds.

6. *Ensure the community receives a portion of its electric needs from renewable sources.*

Colorado Springs Utilities meets the Colorado Renewable Energy Standard, which obligates municipal utilities to obtain 10% of retail electricity from eligible energy resources. In 2025, 26.5% of Colorado Springs Utilities' overall generation mix (all energy produced or received to serve Colorado Springs Utilities' load and sales obligations) was generated from carbon-free resources. Colorado Springs Utilities' portfolio currently includes 290 MW of solar energy generation that supplied 14.7% of energy, 110 MW of hydro-electric generation that supplied 7.4% of energy, 60 MW of wind generation that supplied 4.4% of energy, and 100 MW of battery storage that supplied 0.8% of energy. These percentages describe Colorado Springs Utilities' generation portfolio and do not represent compliance with the Colorado Renewable Energy Standard or make any claim to the environmental attributes generated from the resources. Colorado Springs Utilities purchases and sells Renewable Energy

Certificates (RECs) from eligible energy resources to comply with the Colorado Renewable Energy Standard. The RECs generate revenue, helping reduce electric costs for our customers.

Colorado Springs Utilities brought 100MW of battery storage online at Fuller Substation in 2025.

7. *Strive to preserve and protect wildlife, wildlife habitat, and wetlands during construction and operation of facilities and infrastructure.*

Pre-construction environmental review processes identify potential wildlife and wetland impacts, allowing for avoidance, minimization, and mitigation throughout the lifecycle of construction projects. Colorado Springs Utilities actively protects avian wildlife through its Avian Protection Program, which includes but is not limited to annual avian safety training for electric operations crews, pre-construction nest surveys, removals of inactive nests from active facilities as necessary, and retrofitting electric systems to protect avian wildlife from potential interactions with those systems. In 2025, Colorado Springs Utilities cleared a 13-year backlog consisting of 27 distribution pole retrofits to mitigate avian mortalities. It is a practice to retrieve injured or fledgling raptors that have fallen out of the nest within Colorado Springs Utilities' infrastructure and transport them to the Pueblo Raptor Center for rehabilitation and release back to the wild when possible. Colorado Springs Utilities collaborates with the local community and wildlife organizations to conduct annual bird surveys and bird-banding on our properties to gather data on bird populations, habitat status, and migration patterns.

Noxious weeds are identified and controlled in compliance with the Colorado Noxious Weed Act on local and remote properties to promote healthier native ecosystems that support wildlife. Vegetation restoration processes are implemented on construction projects to establish native and desirable vegetation species and minimize noxious weed establishment in disturbed areas.

Colorado Springs Utilities partners with Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) as needed to relocate orphaned bear cubs onto remote watershed properties as well as salvage activities in our reservoirs. Additionally, in 2025, Colorado Springs Utilities assisted CPW in removing cutthroat trout from Mason Reservoir for relocation to other suitable reservoirs in the region.

8. *Strive to preserve and protect cultural and historic sites during construction and operation of facilities and infrastructure.*

Colorado Springs Utilities conducts cultural and historical research and surveys as part of property acquisitions and construction projects to ensure important resources are identified and preserved. Any significant cultural resources encountered during a project, including buildings or structures older than 50 years and artifacts are evaluated by professional archaeologists to ensure the preservation of these cultural resources as required. Forest management activities on watershed properties are conducted in a manner that ensures protection of on-site cultural resources.

In 2025, Colorado Springs Utilities conducted cultural resource surveys associated with watershed wildland fire mitigation work, Rosemont pipeline, and the Wastewater System Expansion project to ensure protection of identified Native American cultural resources and historic resources.

*9. Engage the community in Utilities Board decisions on Colorado Springs Utilities' operations that affect the environment.*

Community education and outreach programs convey the value of our services and promote utility efficiency and safety. In 2025, staff presented numerous water, energy, and safety programs to student and adult audiences. Messaging revolved around safe and efficient use of utility services. Methodology included community event booths, facility and stakeholder tours, adult presentations, teacher workshops, student programs, landscape classes and webinars, public meetings and town halls. In total, 31,276 customer connections were made, and 563 events were attended.

A total of 71 Raptor Protection Program presentations were made at 37 unique organizations reaching 3,362 individuals to teach the community about powerline protection for birds, and our environmental stewardship efforts around utility services.

*10. Strive to minimize or reuse waste generated by Colorado Springs Utilities to reduce impact on the environment.*

In 2025, Colorado Springs Utilities' e-waste recycling program sent 7 tons of electronic waste components and 19,974 mercury-containing lamps to be recycled; 8,525 gallons of used oil, 584 gallons of antifreeze, and over 515 tons of steel, aluminum, copper, brass, iron, and tin was recycled; 42,774 tons of fly ash was beneficially re-used for liquid waste solidification; 10,993 tons of bottom ash was sold for cement; and nearly 75,540 tons of construction debris (including over 11,084 tons of asphalt and 20,620 tons of concrete removed from job excavation activities) was accepted for recycling at the Sand Creek Recycling Center. After separation, the soil is re-used locally as construction fill; and the asphalt and concrete are crushed and re-used locally.



**Date:** April 22, 2026

**To:** Utilities Board

**From:** Travas Deal, Chief Executive Officer

**Subject:** **Excellence in Governance Monitoring Report**  
**Utilities Board/Chief Executive Officer Partnership Expectations (E-2)**

**Desired Action:** Monitoring

EXPECTATIONS	
Category:	<b>Utilities Board/Chief Executive Officer Partnership Expectations</b>
Policy Number:	<b>E: 2 (Chief Executive Officer Responsibilities)</b>

**The Utilities Board and the Chief Executive Officer work in partnership to achieve excellence in governance and operations to attain long-term organizational success and sustainability.**

**Electric Cost Adjustment / Gas Cost Adjustment**

**Electric Cost Adjustment (ECA)**

On March 24, 2026, City Council approved the ECA rate of \$0.0233 per kWh effective April 1, 2026. As of February 28, 2026, the ECA over collection balance was \$17.1 million. The over collection balance changed by \$1.4 million from the January over collection balance of \$18.5 million. Springs Utilities will continue to provide regular updates to the Utilities Board as appropriate.

**Gas Cost Adjustment (GCA)**

On March 24, 2026, City Council approved the GCA rate of \$0.1994 per Ccf effective April 1, 2026. As of February 28, 2026, the GCA over collection balance was \$3.7 million. The over collection balance changed by \$0.4 million from the January over collection balance of \$3.3 million. Springs Utilities will continue to provide regular updates to the Utilities Board as appropriate.

**Water Outlook**

**March 2026 Water Outlook: Data as of March 31, 2026**

**Local Conditions:** March brought above normal temperatures and above average precipitation to the region.

**Water Demands:** March water use averaged 44.9 million gallons per day (MGD), which

was about 8.6% than last March. Year-to-date water use averaged 3.8 billion gallons (BG), which was about 0.02 billion gallons more than 2025. Total system storage is currently at 77% of capacity, equating to approximately 3 years of demand in storage, based on the past 3 years of demand. Local storage currently holds enough water to meet approximately 225 days of demand, based on average usage.

**Climate Summary:** Temperatures in March were average at 50.8 degrees Fahrenheit. Total precipitation for March was 1.03 inches, which is slightly above normal.

**Current Reservoir Levels:** Local storage is currently at about 41,686 acre-feet (63% of capacity). The 1991-2020 average is 72% of capacity. Rampart Reservoir is at 73% of capacity, and Pikes Peak storage is at 48% of capacity. System wide, total storage is about 200,200 acre-feet (76.8% of capacity). Last year at this time, total system wide storage was 79% of capacity. It was about 72% at this same time in 2023, about 73% of capacity in 2022, about 71% of capacity in 2021, and about 80% of capacity in 2020. The 1991-2020 normal system wide storage for the end of March is 72% of capacity.

**Water Supply Outlook:** The U.S. Drought Monitor indicates varying drought conditions across the country, with 23% of the U.S. experiencing no drought conditions. In Colorado, 26% of the state is currently free from drought conditions, a 10-percentage point decline since the beginning of 2025. There have been some notable increases in the drought conditions across the state over the 2025 calendar year.

Looking ahead, the Seasonal Drought Outlook predicts drought persistence is likely in Northwestern Colorado with drought development likely in Central and Southern Colorado between now and March 31, 2026. The three-month climate outlook predicts Central and Southern Colorado have a slightly higher chance of above normal temperatures. The three-month outlook is also forecasting near normal precipitation across most of the state, with a small portion of southeast Colorado showing a slightly reduced likelihood of precipitation.

**Operational Notes:** Mason Reservoir capacity remains restricted for maintenance.



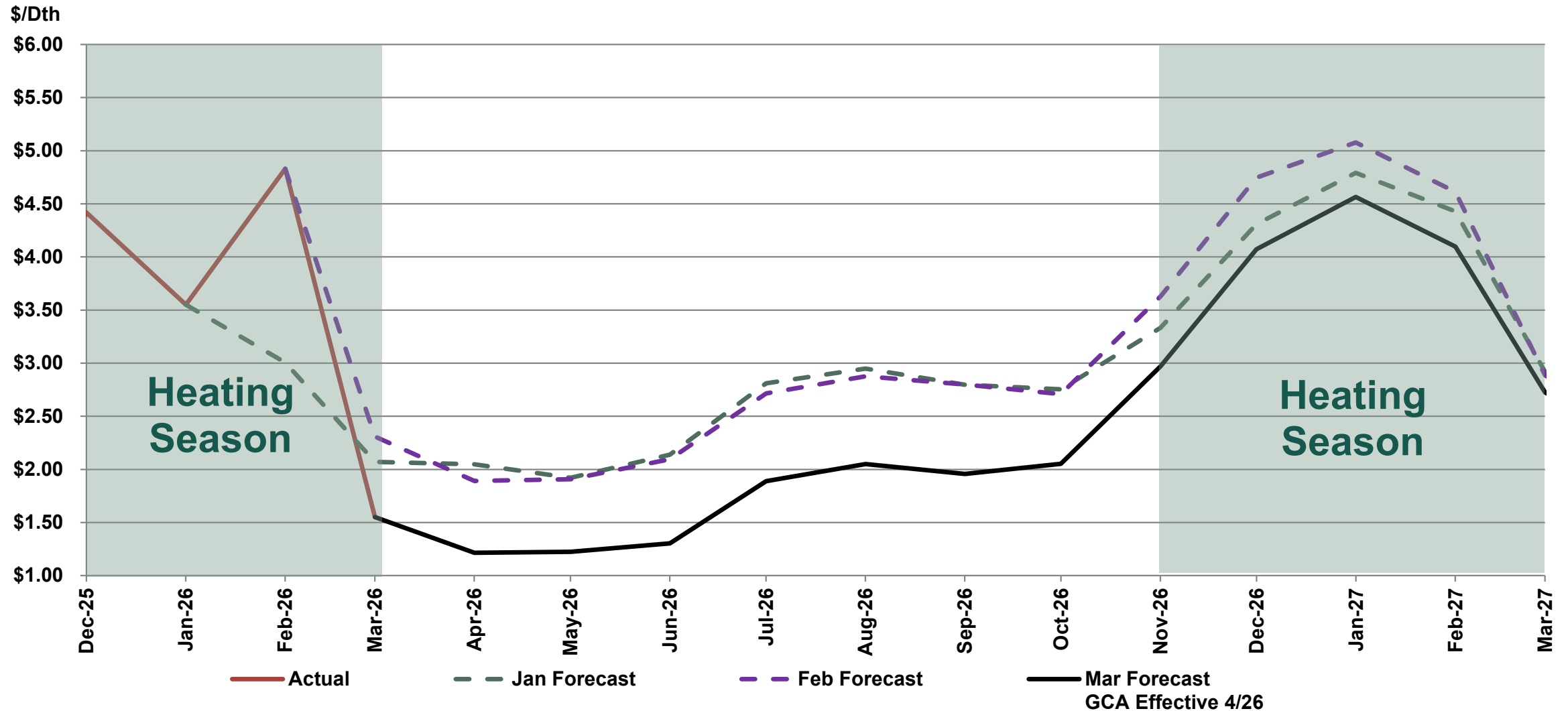
Colorado Springs Utilities  
*It's how we're all connected*

# **Electric Cost Adjustment Gas Cost Adjustment**

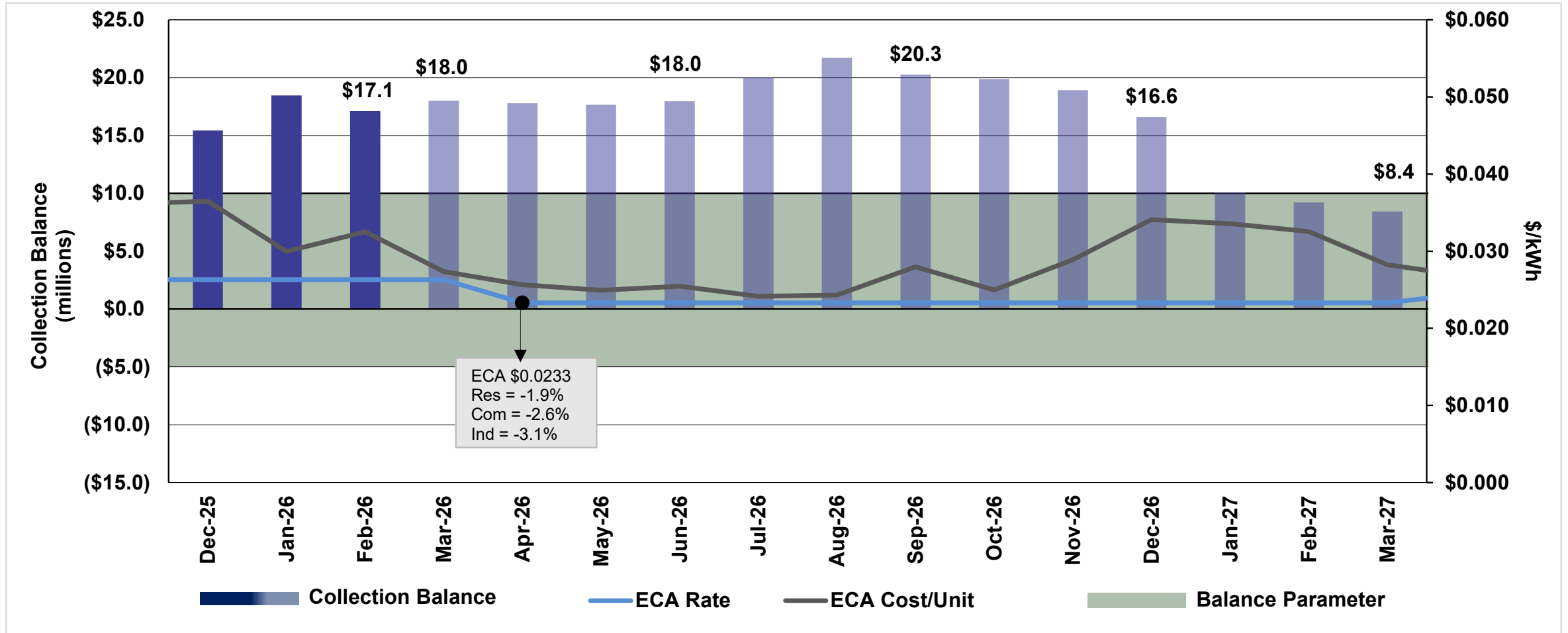
Scott Shirola, Pricing and Rates Manager

April 22, 2026

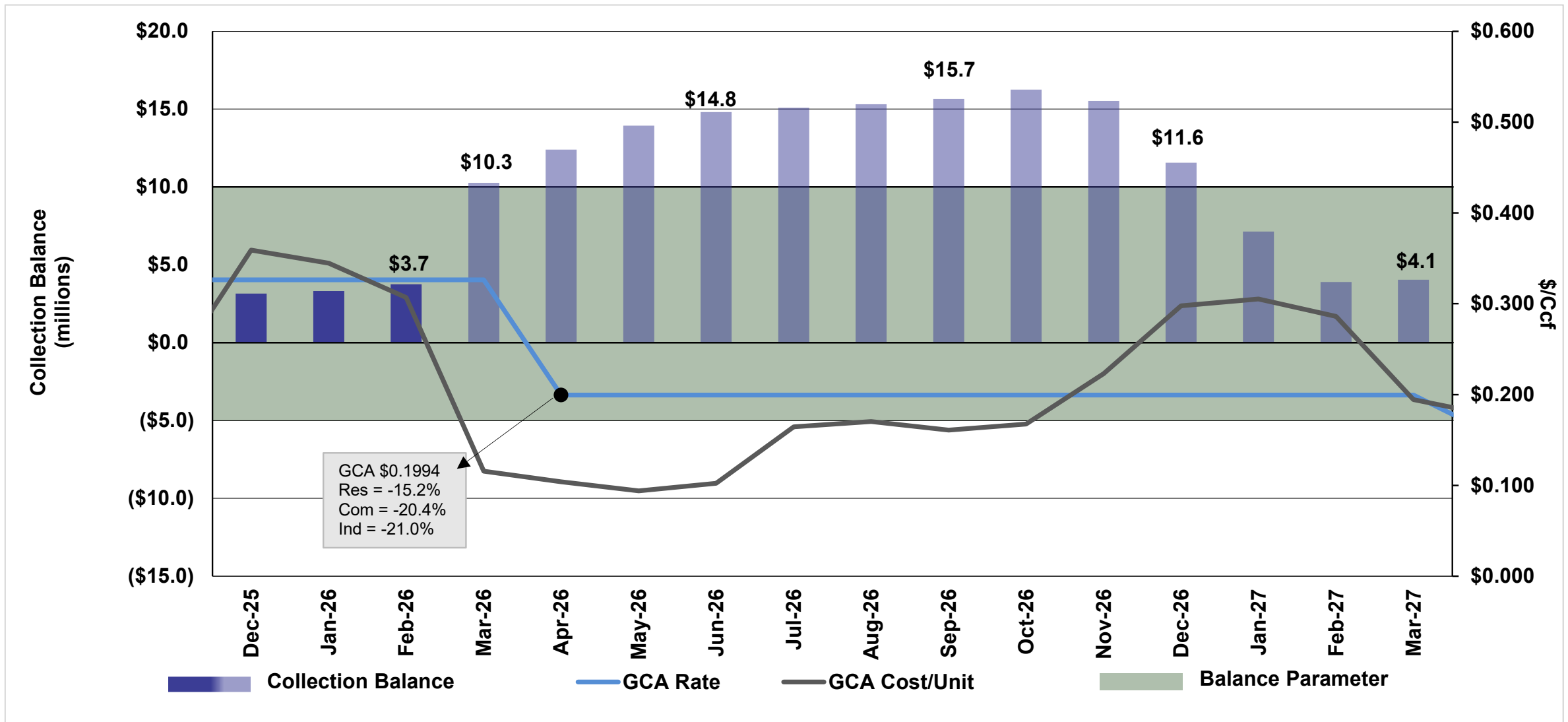
# Natural Gas Prices as of March 1, 2026



# ECA Projections March 2026



# GCA Projections March 2026





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# Water Outlook

Justin Zeisler, P.E.

Supervisor, Water Resource Planning

April 22, 2026

# Local Weather Conditions as of March 31, 2026

## Precipitation (Inches of Moisture)

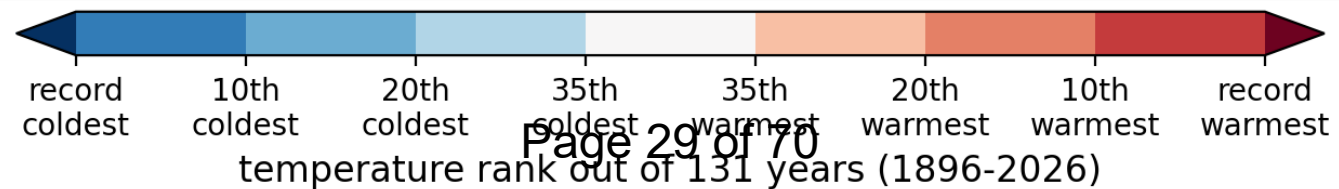
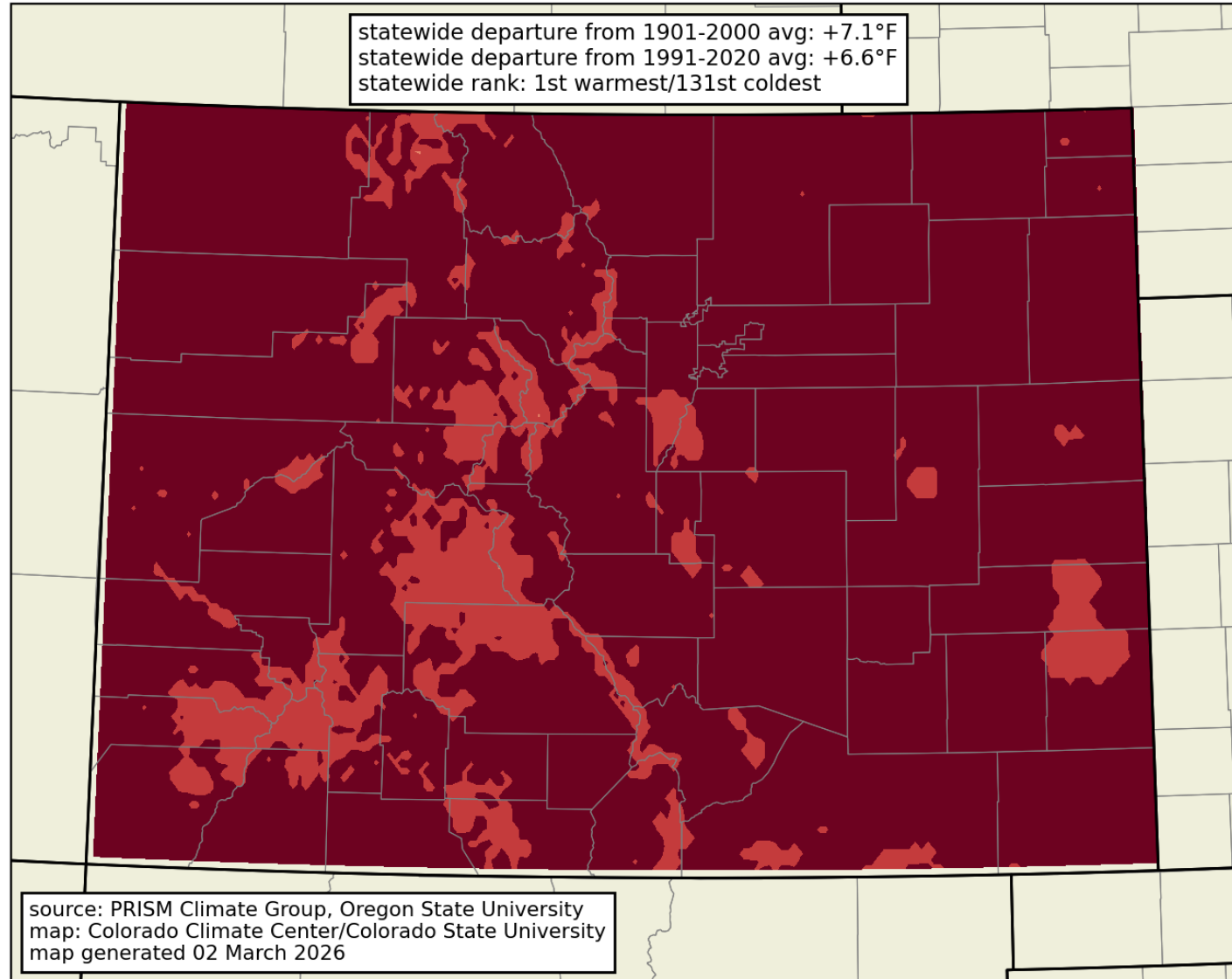
- March 2026 – 1.03 in. (130% of normal)
- 2026 YTD Total – 2.10 in. (150% of normal)

## Average Temperature

- March 2026 – 50.8 °F (9.6 °F above normal)
- 2026 YTD Average – 41.5 °F (6.0 °F above normal)

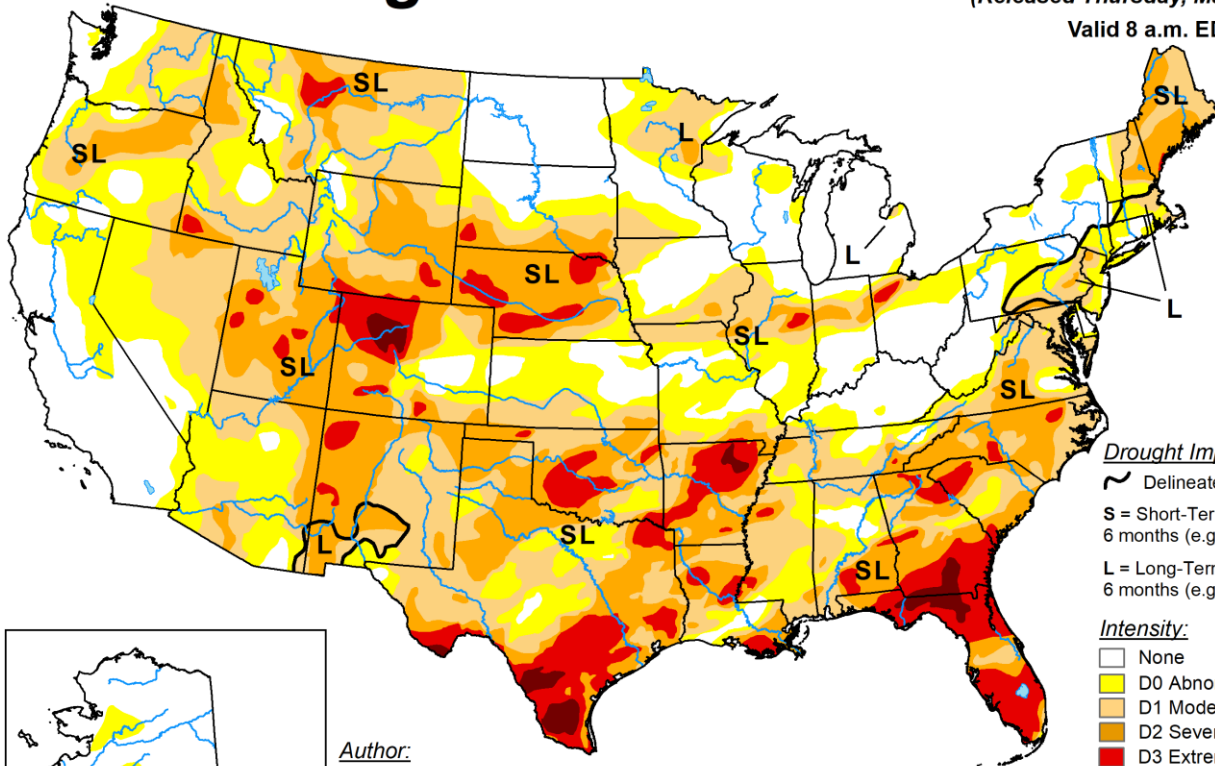


temperature rank (preliminary PRISM data)  
4 months ending February 2026 (Nov-Feb)



# U.S. Drought Monitor

March 24, 2026  
 (Released Thursday, Mar. 26, 2026)  
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT



**Drought Impact Types:**

- ~ Delineates dominant impacts
- S = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
- L = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

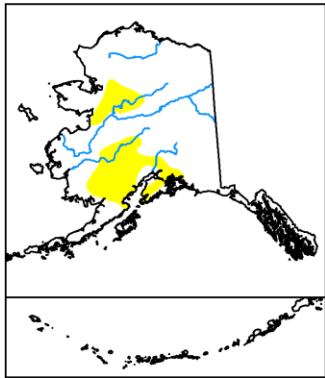
**Intensity:**

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

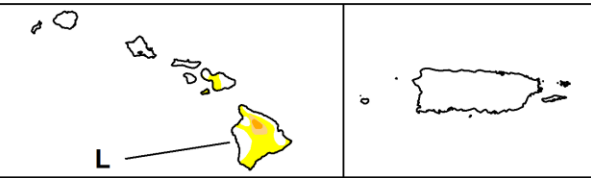
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>



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

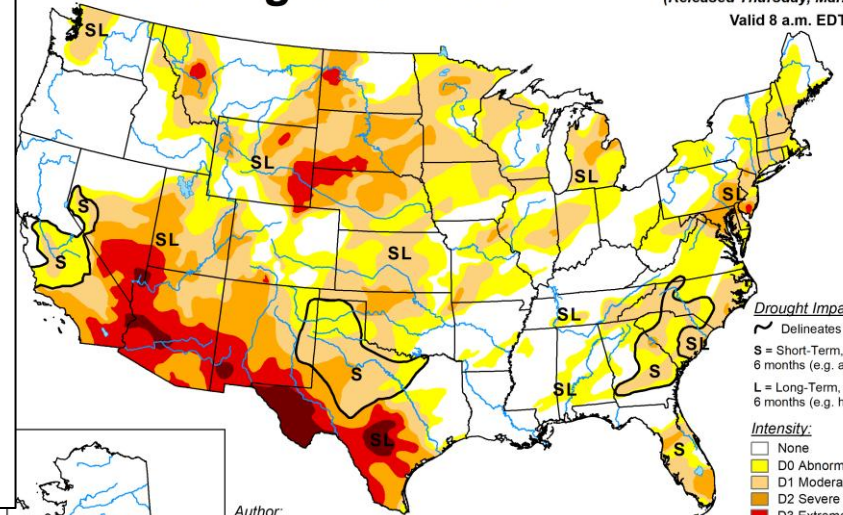


Author:  
 Rocky Bilotta  
 NCEI/NOAA



# U.S. Drought Monitor

March 25, 2025  
 (Released Thursday, Mar. 27, 2025)  
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT



**Drought Impact Types:**

- ~ Delineates dominant impacts
- S = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
- L = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

**Intensity:**

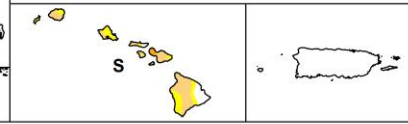
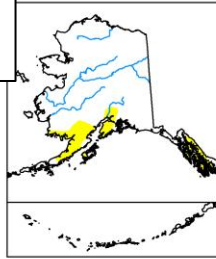
- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

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>

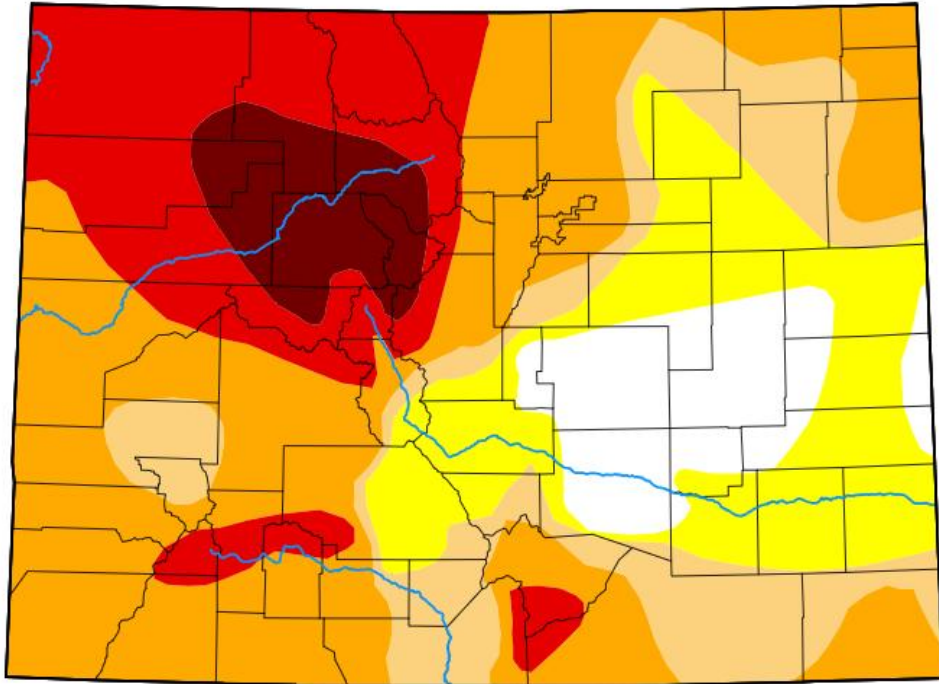


[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

Author:  
 Brad Rippey  
 U.S. Department of Agriculture










# Colorado



Map released: Thurs. March 26, 2026

Data valid: March 24, 2026 at 8 a.m. EDT

## Intensity

-  None
-  D0 (Abnormally Dry)
-  D1 (Moderate Drought)
-  D2 (Severe Drought)
-  D3 (Extreme Drought)
-  D4 (Exceptional Drought)
-  No Data

## Authors

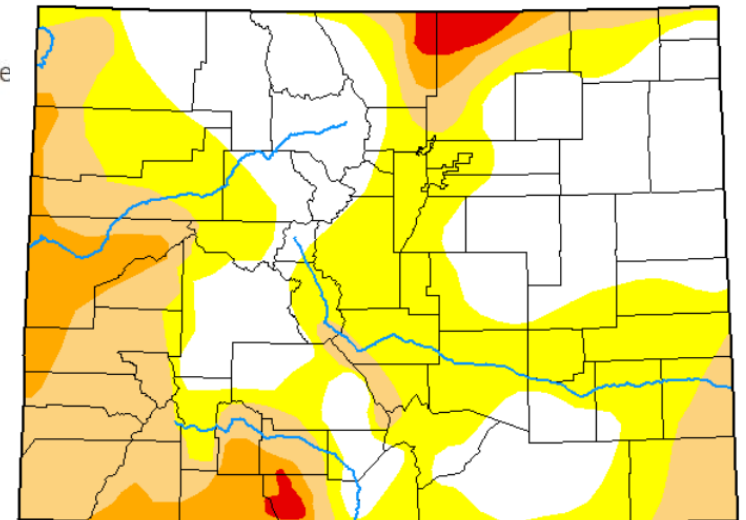
United States and Puerto Rico Author(s):

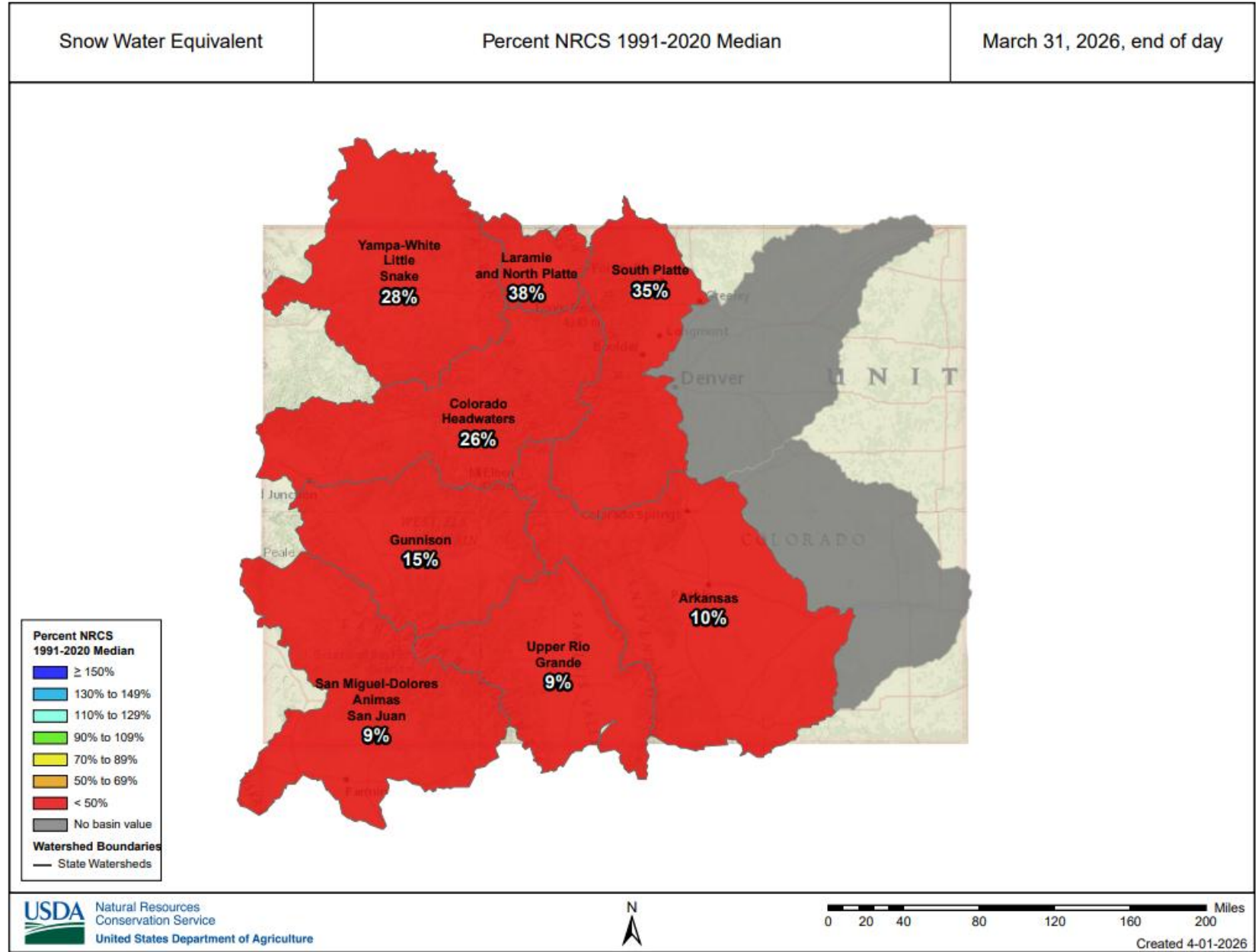
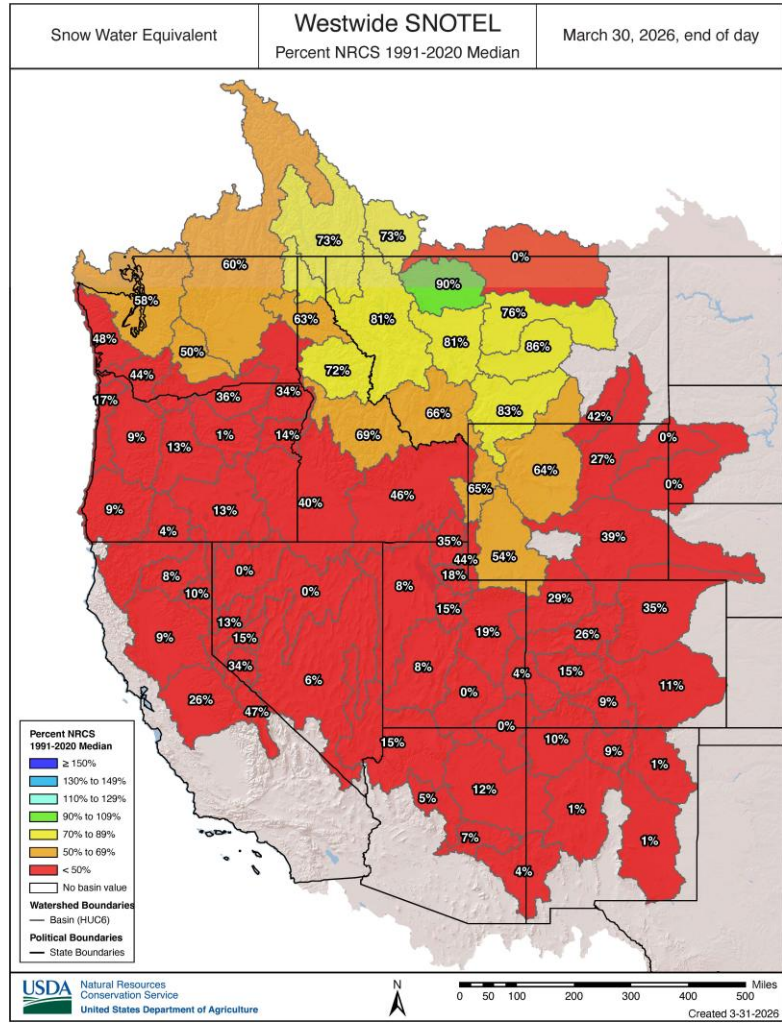
[Rocky Bilotta](#), NOAA/NCEI

Pacific Islands and Virgin Islands Author(s):

[Brad Rippey](#), U.S. Department of Agriculture

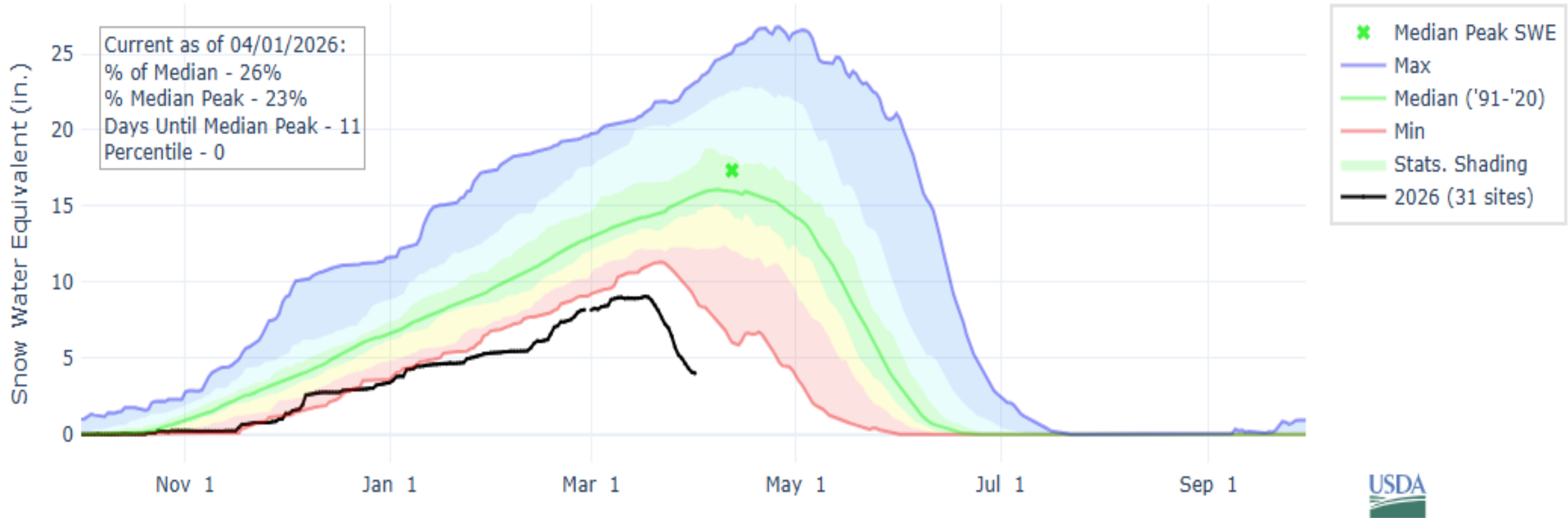
March 2025





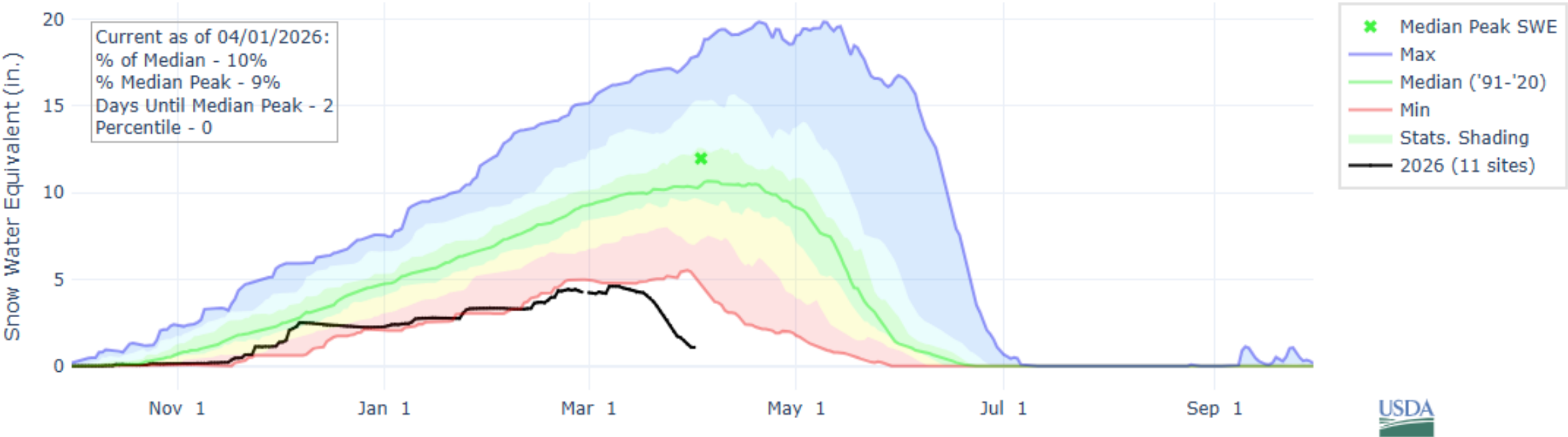
# Snowpack in the Colorado River Headwaters Basin is 26% of normal as of April 1, 2026

## SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN COLORADO HEADWATERS



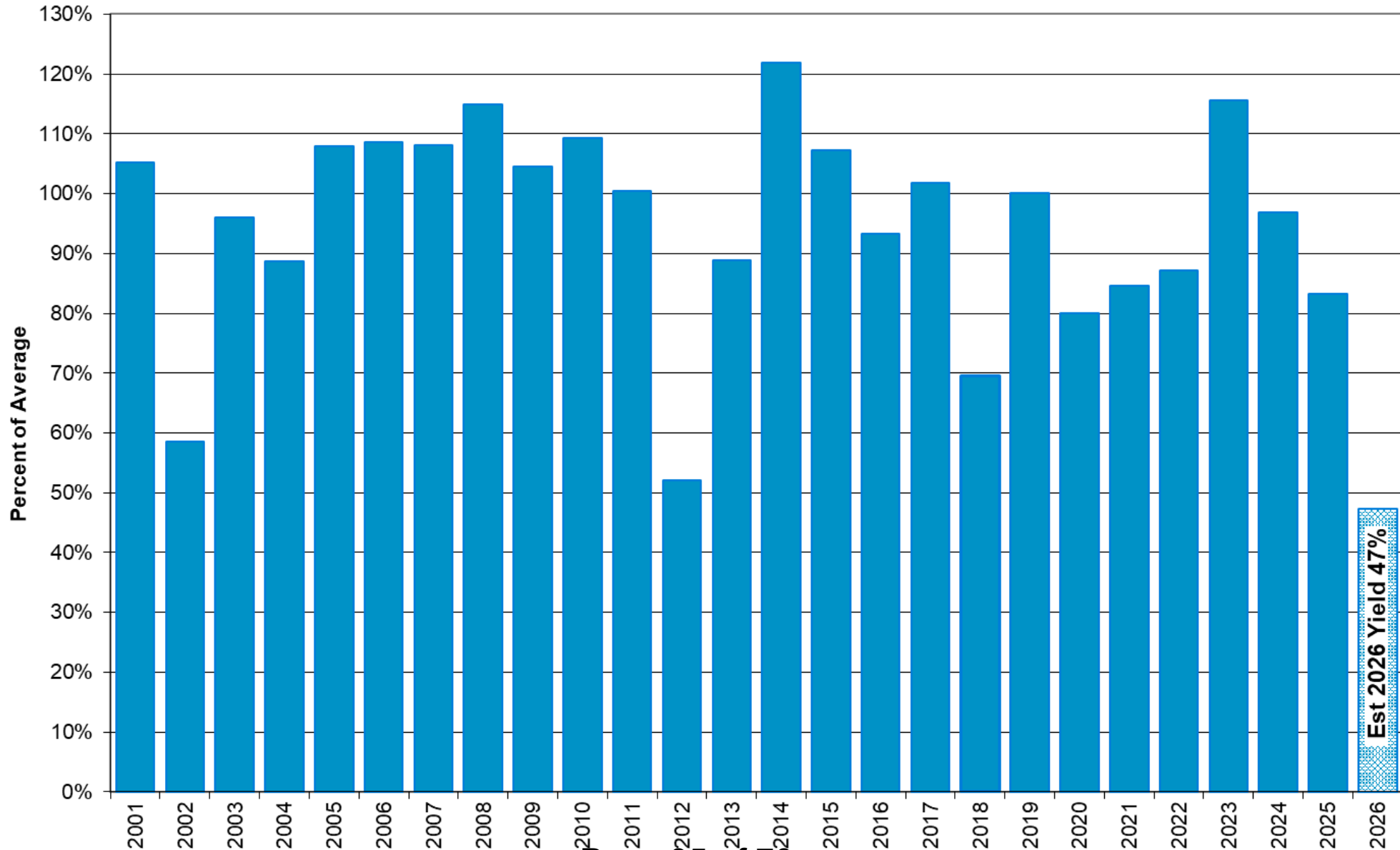
**Snowpack in the Arkansas River Basin is 10% of normal as of April 1, 2026**

**SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN ARKANSAS**



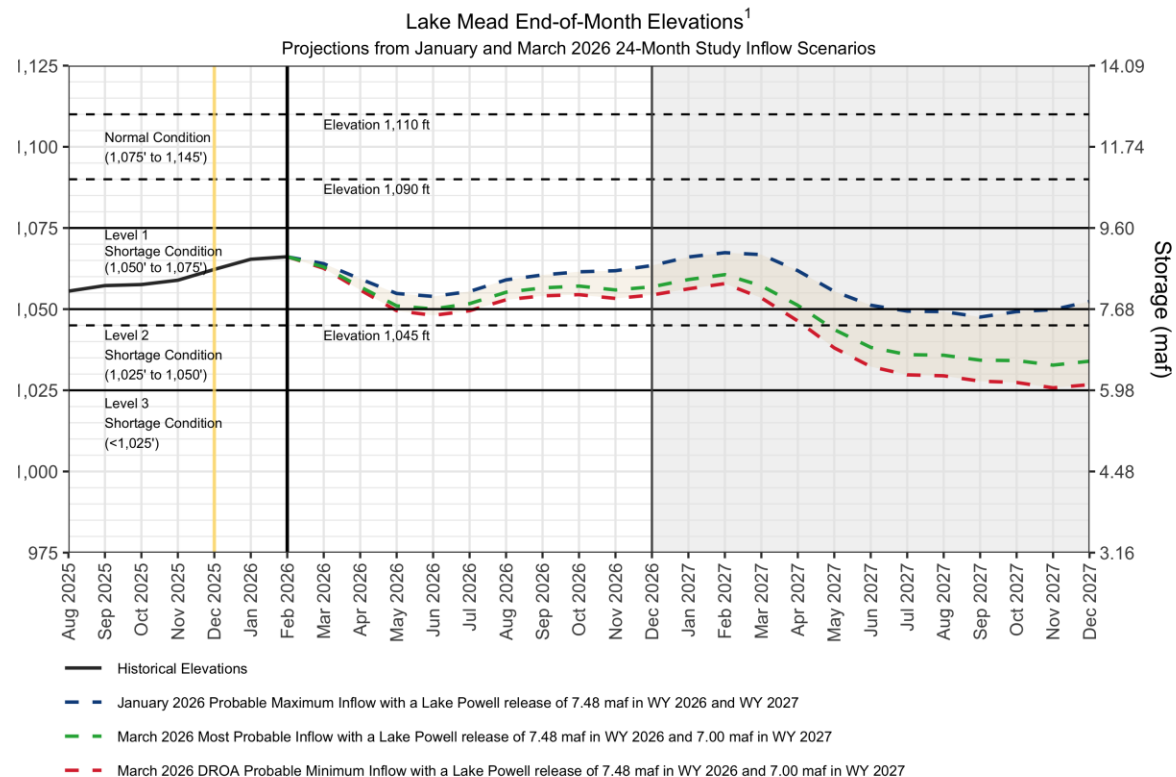
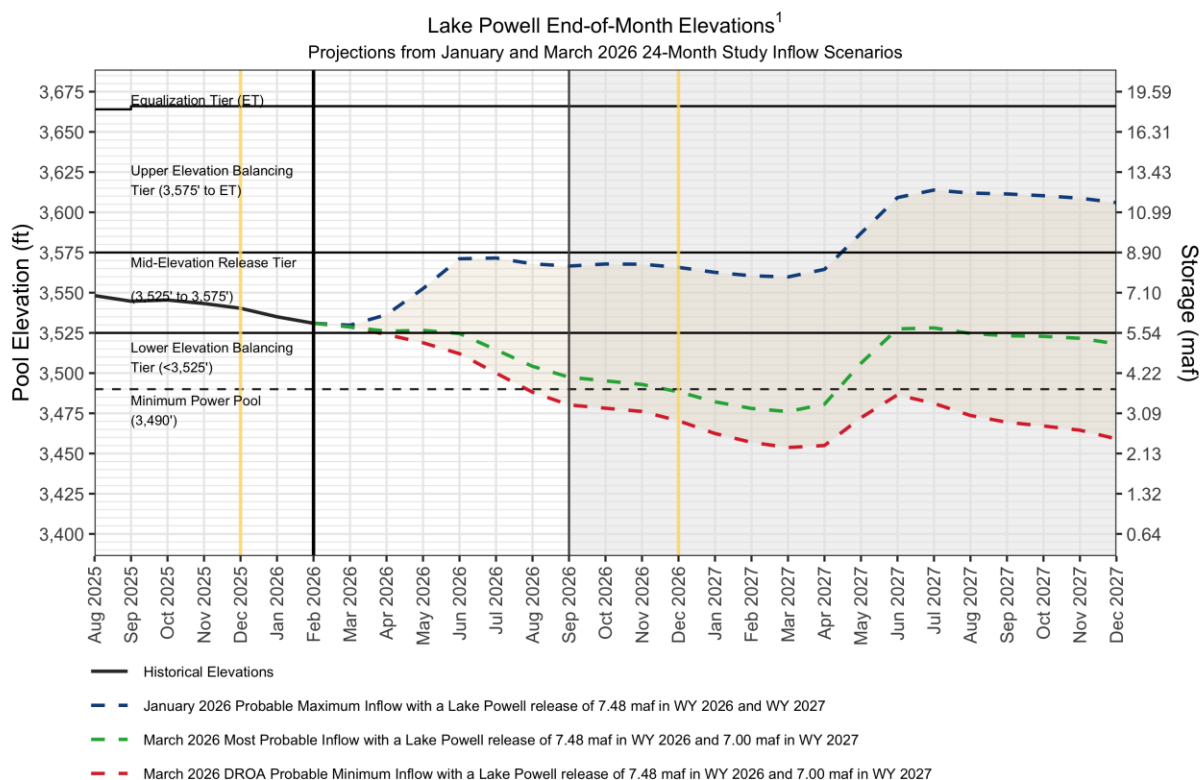
# Colorado Springs Water Yields 2001 - 2026

## Percent of Average Yield



# Colorado River System Projections

## Lake Powell & Lake Mead 24-Month Projections



The Drought Response Operations Agreement (DROA) is available online at <https://www.usbr.gov/dcp/finaldocs.html>.

<sup>1</sup>For modeling purposes, simulated years beyond 2026 assume a continuation of the 2007 Interim Guidelines including the 2024 Supplement to the 2007 Interim Guidelines (no additional SEIS conservation is assumed to occur after 2026), the 2019 Colorado River Basin Drought Contingency Plans, and Minute 323 including the Binational Water Scarcity Contingency Plan. With the exception of certain provisions related to ICS recovery and Upper Basin Demand management, operations under these agreements are in effect through 2026.



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<sup>1</sup>For modeling purposes, simulated years beyond 2026 assume a continuation of the 2007 Interim Guidelines including the 2024 Supplement to the 2007 Interim Guidelines (no additional SEIS conservation is assumed to occur after 2026), the 2019 Colorado River Basin Drought Contingency Plans, and Minute 323 including the Binational Water Scarcity Contingency Plan. With the exception of certain provisions related to ICS recovery and Upper Basin Demand management, operations under these agreements are in effect through 2026.



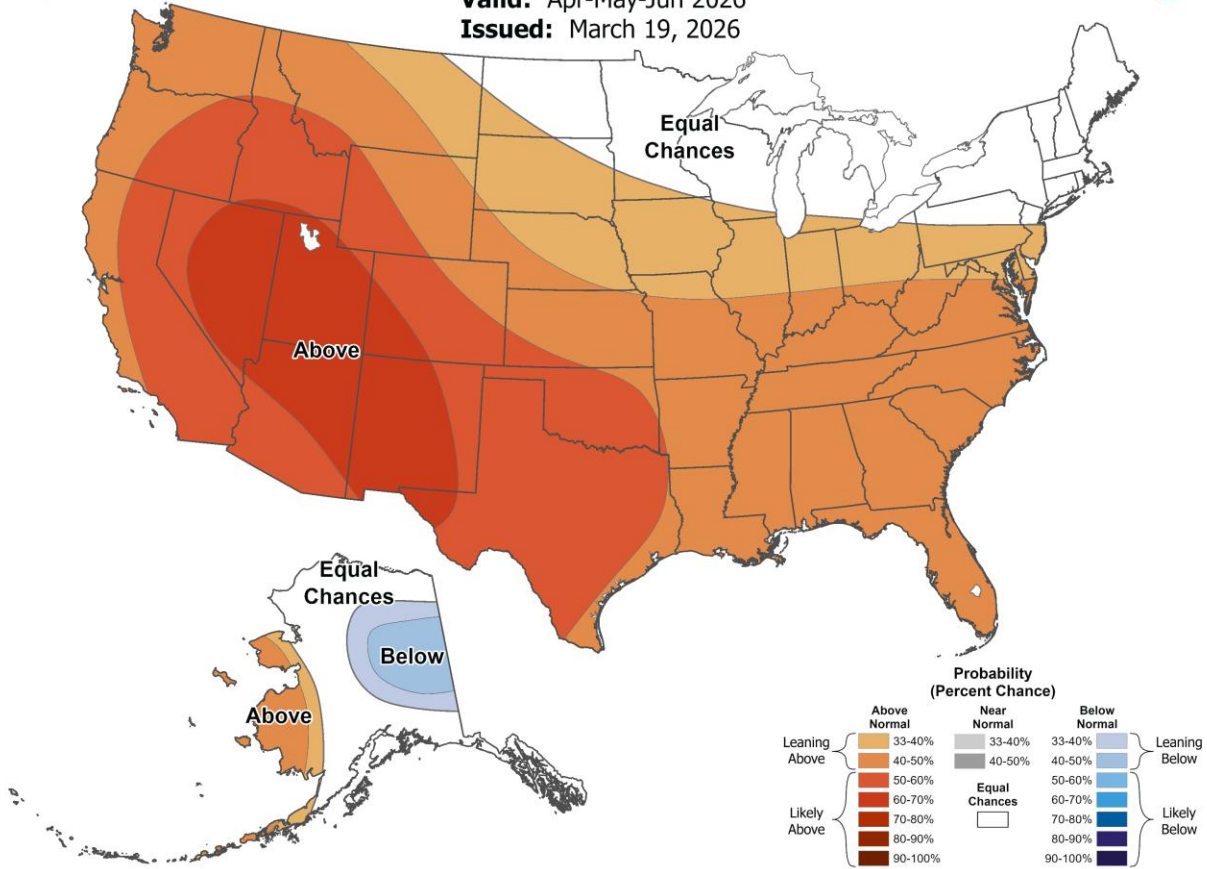
# Seasonal Outlook

Climate Prediction Center



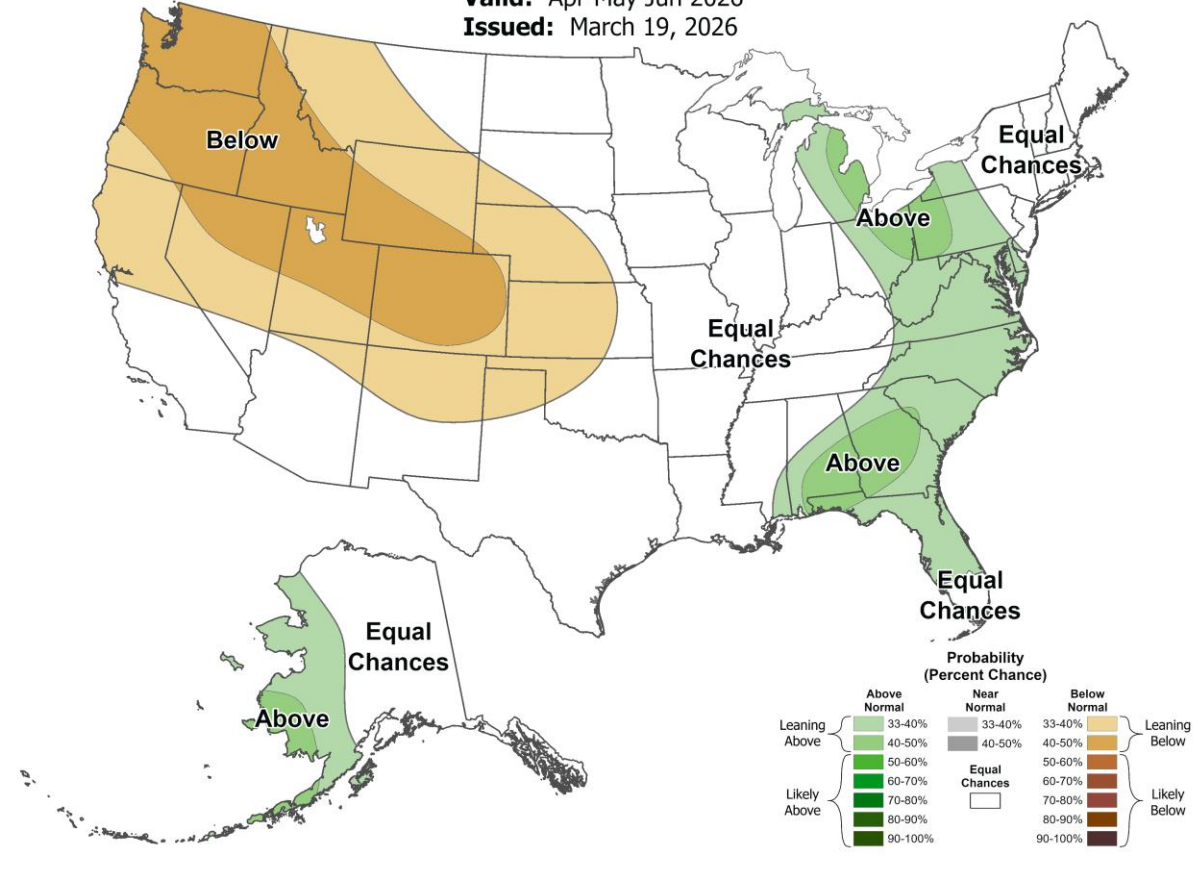
## Seasonal Temperature Outlook

Valid: Apr-May-Jun 2026  
Issued: March 19, 2026



## Seasonal Precipitation Outlook

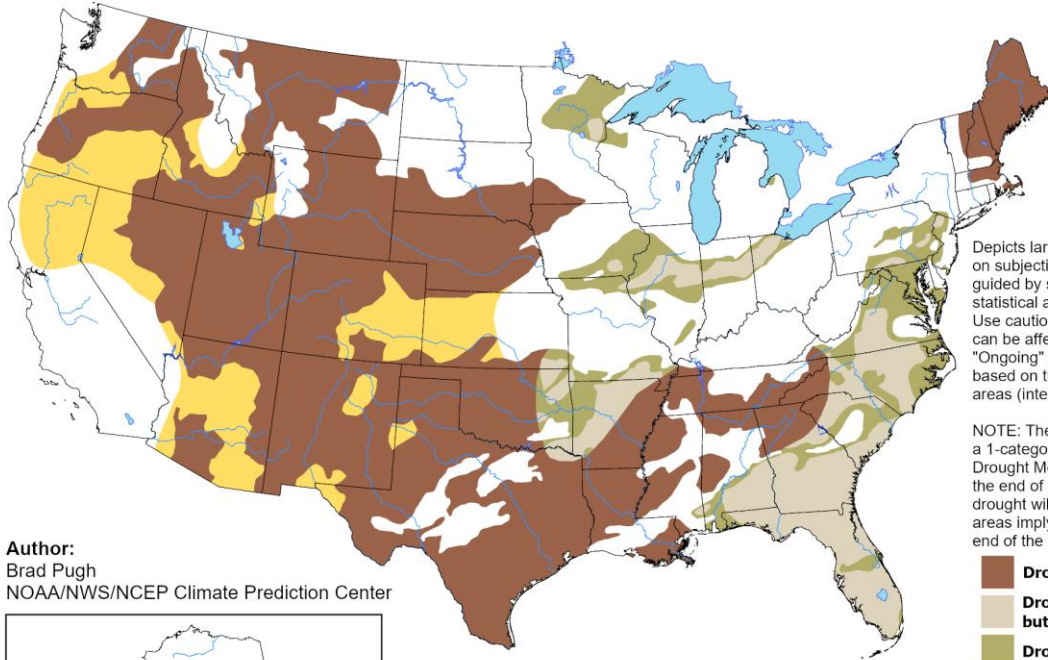
Valid: Apr-May-Jun 2026  
Issued: March 19, 2026



# U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

## Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for March 19 - June 30, 2026  
Released March 19, 2026



Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

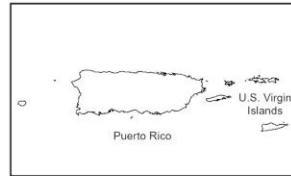
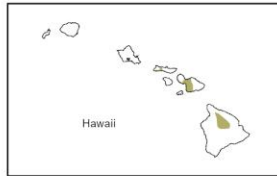
NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

- Drought persists
- Drought remains, but improves
- Drought removal likely
- Drought development likely
- No drought



<https://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>

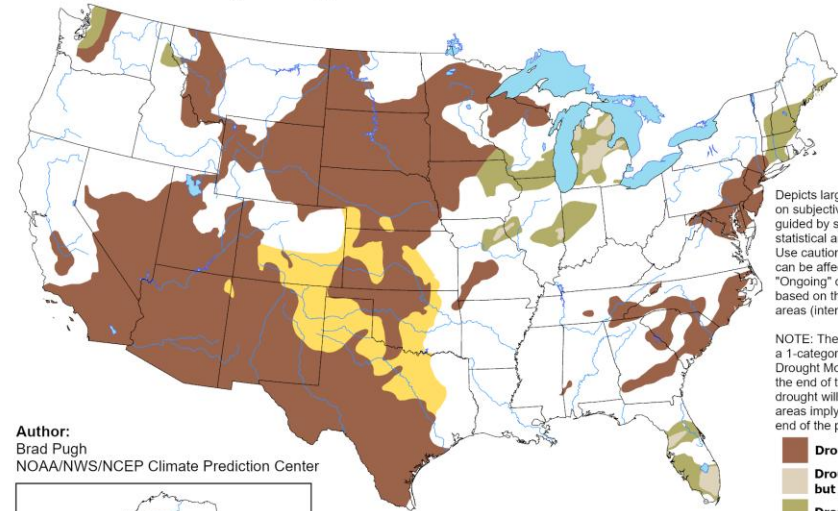
Author:  
Brad Pugh  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP Climate Prediction Center



# U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

## Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for March 20 - June 30, 2025  
Released March 20, 2025



Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

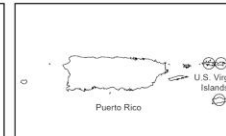
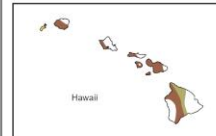
NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

- Drought persists
- Drought remains, but improves
- Drought removal likely
- Drought development likely
- No drought



<https://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>

Author:  
Brad Pugh  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP Climate Prediction Center



# 2026 Demands

## March 2026

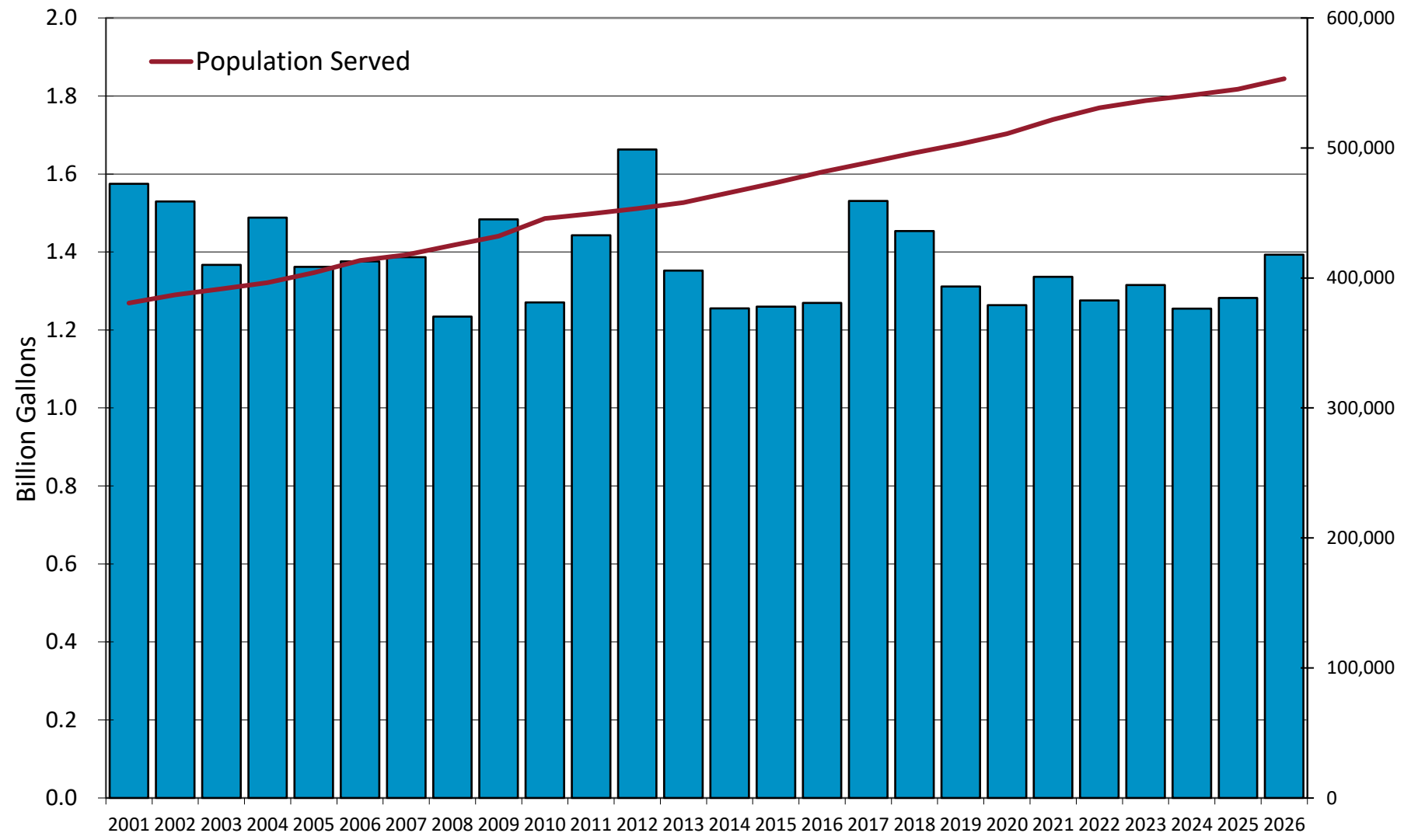
- Averaged 44.9 MGD
- 8.6% more than March 2025

## 2026 Year to Date through March 31

- Averaging 41.5 MGD, 3.8 BG total
  - 0.4% higher compared to the same time in 2025
  - 0.02 Billion Gallons more than 2025



### Monthly Water Use for March



# Reservoir Levels

March 31, 2026

- Pikes Peak 48 %
  - 91-20 Avg. 65 %
- Rampart 73 %
  - 91-20 Avg. 76 %
- Local Total 63 %
  - 91-20 Avg. 72 %
- System Total 77%
  - 91-20 Avg. 73 %

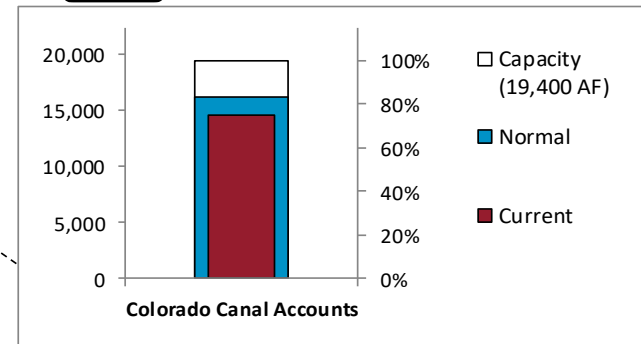
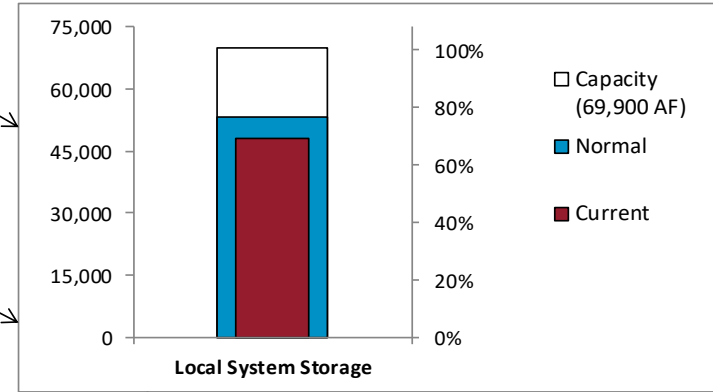
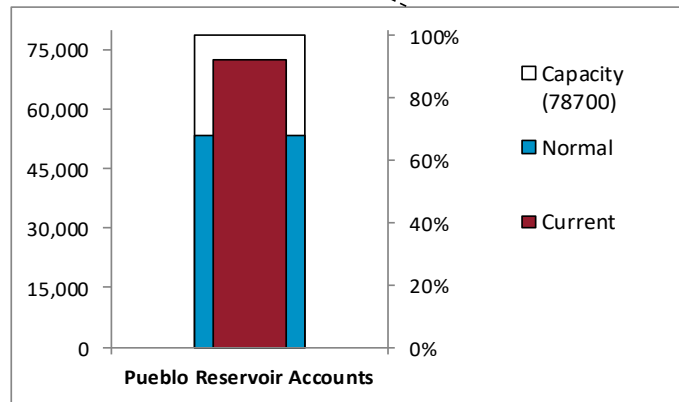
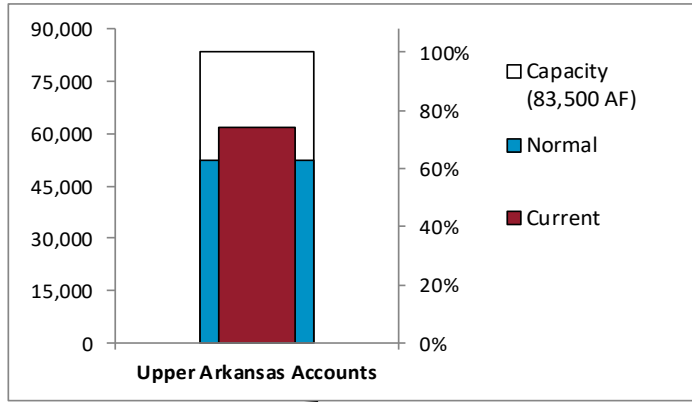
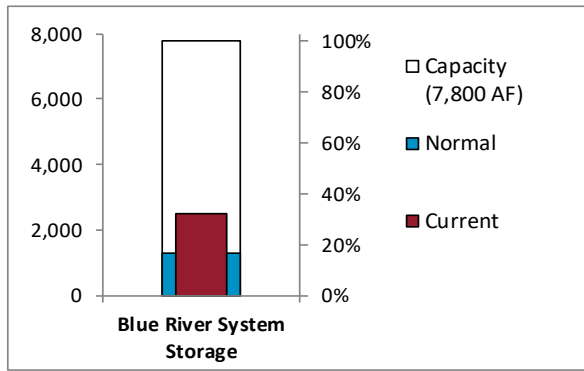


Upper Blue Reservoir

**Colorado Springs' System Wide Storage:**

**March 31, 2026 : 200,200 af**  
**76.8 %**  
**2001-2022 avg : 176,800 af**  
**67.8 %**

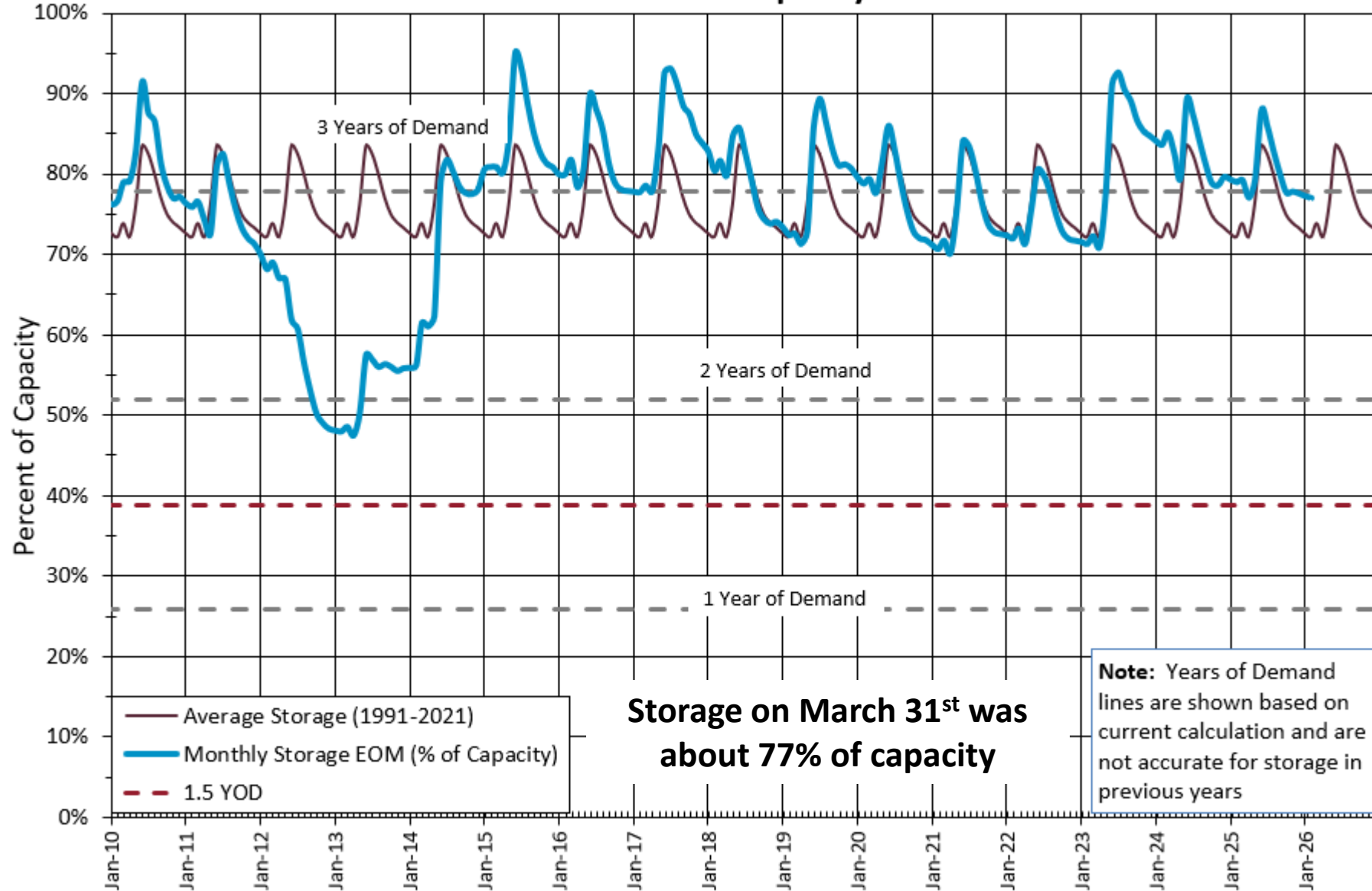
**Average YTD Demand : 42 MGD**



MAX 20 MGD

MAX 68 MGD

## Monthly Storage Percent of Capacity



**Storage on March 31<sup>st</sup> was  
about 77% of capacity**

**Note:** Years of Demand lines are shown based on current calculation and are not accurate for storage in previous years

# Water Outlook

## Situation Outlook Summary

- System-wide storage is at 77.0% of capacity which equates to about 3.0 years of demand in storage
- Snowpack in our mountain watersheds is at record lows
- Soil moisture conditions remain below normal in the Colorado and Arkansas River basins
- We expect significantly below average runoff this season

## Three-month outlook predictions

- Across the state of Colorado, there is an elevated likelihood of experiencing above normal temperatures and increased chances of below normal precipitation

We continue to monitor snowpack, demand, and storage to maximize available water supply

# Operational Notes

## Storage Conditions

- Mason Reservoir capacity remains restricted for maintenance.

## Colorado River Update

- Seven basin states did not reach agreement on new operating rules for Lakes Powell and Mead by the Feb. 14 deadline
- The Bureau of Reclamation continues to evaluate the five EIS alternatives in an effort to develop new operational guidelines
- Springs Utilities continues submitting input through the Front Range Water Council
- We maintain that any solution must reflect hydrologic reality: less water in, means less water out



Colorado Springs Utilities<sup>®</sup>

*It's how we're all connected*

# Board Memo Agenda Item

## Staff Report

<b>Date:</b> (Date of Utilities Board Meeting)	April 22, 2026
<b>To:</b>	Utilities Board
<b>From:</b>	Travas Deal, Chief Executive Officer
<b>Subject:</b>	North Slope Recreation Area Plan

### NARRATIVE:

<b>Desired Action:</b> Choose only one	<input type="checkbox"/> Approval <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information
---	---

<b>Executive Summary:</b>	<p>The North Slope Recreation Area (NSRA) is Utilities'-controlled watershed property on the North Slope of Pikes Peak that is part of Utilities' water system. Utilities staff reviewed alternatives and developed policy recommendations regarding recreation on the NSRA, including trail improvements and realignments to address operational needs and public safety while improving trail connectivity. Those policy recommendations are incorporated in the NSRA Watershed Access and Recreation Plan.</p>
---------------------------	---

<b>Benefits:</b>	<p>The Plan will enhance security and strengthen protection of critical drinking water assets, ensure public, staff, and infrastructure safety and ensure resources and best practices for the sustainable recreation management of the NSRA.</p>
------------------	---

<b>Board Policy:</b> <small>If this impacts one of the board policies, indicate that here.</small>	I-7, Water Supply Management/Regional Water and Wastewater Service
---	--

<b>Cost / Budget:</b> <small>Include the projected cost or budget here.</small>	N/A
--	-----

<b>Affected Parties:</b> <small>This could include community groups, specific City Council Districts, other utilities, nonprofit organizations, certain neighborhoods, Colorado Springs Utilities employees, etc.</small>	<p>Users and visitors to the NSRA, recreation managers (Pikes Peak-America's Mountain), City of Colorado Springs, local counties, state and federal agencies, and local organizations.</p>
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<b>Alternatives:</b>	N/A
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<b>Submitter:</b>	Abigail Ortega	<b>Email Address:</b>	ajortega@csu.org
<b>Division:</b>	System Planning & Projects Division	<b>Phone Number:</b>	(719) 668-8748
<b>Department:</b>	Infrastructure & Resource Planning	<b>Date Submitted:</b>	April 3, 2026

<b>SPG Staff Use Only:</b>	Consent Calendar <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Item Number 08
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ITEMS SUBMITTED AFTER THE DEADLINE WILL BE POSTPONED UNTIL THE NEXT UTILITIES BOARD MEETING.



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# **North Slope Recreation Area (NSRA) Plan Recommendations**

Lisa Walters, Source Water Protection RM  
Kim Gortz, Manager of Water Supply Resources

April 22, 2026

# Background

- Recreation authorized by Charter Amendment and developed under the 1992 Recreation Plan.
- Recreational uses within the NSRA are managed by Pikes Peak America's Mountain, an enterprise of the City of Colorado Springs.
- Recreation uses include:
  - Fishing
  - Non-motorized boating
  - Hiking
  - Non-motorized mountain biking
- The forested areas surrounding the NSRA are managed by U.S. Forest Service and Teller County.
- Plan assesses existing recreational use of service roads and non-authorized trails to reduce operational conflicts, protect resources and infrastructure, and improve public safety.



# Concept Plan Recommendations



# **Resolution for New Commercial Recreation Use**

# New Use: Commercial Recreation

- Assessed based on Colorado Springs City Code §12.4.804 - “legally allowable and consistent with maintenance of **proper health, safety, fire protection and conservation standards.**”
- Plan recommendation for a one-year pilot period with specific commercial uses, continue activity with successful implementation.
- Utilize appropriate **Best Management Practices** and **Adaptive Management** process to ensure Springs Utilities and Managing Partner address issues and improve overall management.
- Resolution authorizing commercial guided recreation on Utilities’ controlled watershed lands.

# Next Steps

April  
28

Resolution to City  
Council

May  
1

North Slope  
Recreation Area  
Open for the Season

2026-  
2031

Project  
Implementation





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# Board Memo Agenda Item

## Staff Report

<b>Date:</b> (Date of Utilities Board Meeting)	April 22, 2025		
<b>To:</b>	Utilities Board		
<b>From:</b>	Travas Deal, Chief Executive Officer		
<b>Subject:</b>	Resolution Authorizing Commercial Recreation on Utilities-controlled Watershed Properties		
<b>NARRATIVE:</b>			
<b>Desired Action:</b> Choose only one	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion <input type="checkbox"/> Information		
<b>Executive Summary:</b>	<p>City Charter § 15-120 and City Code § 12.4.804 require City Council to authorize recreation on Utilities-controlled watershed properties. City Code requires that such recreational uses must be consistent with the maintenance of proper health, safety, fire protection and conservation standards. Utilities is seeking City Council approval of commercial recreation all Utilities-controlled watershed properties, subject to Utilities oversight.</p>		
<b>Benefits:</b>	<p>Commercial recreation activities on Utilities-controlled watershed properties can enhance security measures and strengthen infrastructure protection, safeguard critical assets, support public recreational access opportunities that align with Utilities' core operations, provide financial and environmental sustainability, and ensure adequate resource allocation for the sustainable management of the watershed properties.</p>		
<b>Board Policy:</b> If this impacts one of the board policies, indicate that here.	City Charter § 15-120 and City Code § 12.4.804		
<b>Cost / Budget:</b> Include the projected cost or budget here.	N/A		
<b>Affected Parties:</b> This could include community groups, specific City Council Districts, other utilities, nonprofit organizations, certain neighborhoods, Colorado Springs Utilities employees, etc.	<p>Users and visitors to the watershed properties, recreation managers (Pikes Peak-America's Mountain, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, etc.), City of Colorado Springs, counties, state and federal agencies, and organizations.</p>		
<b>Alternatives:</b>	Rejecting the resolution and not authorizing commercial recreation		
<b>Submitter:</b>	Abigail Ortega	<b>Email Address:</b>	<a href="mailto:ajortega@csu.org">ajortega@csu.org</a>
<b>Division:</b>	System Planning & Projects Division	<b>Phone Number:</b>	719) 668-8748
<b>Department:</b>	Infrastructure & Resource Planning	<b>Date Submitted:</b>	April 3, 2026
<b>SPG Staff Use Only:</b>	Consent Calendar <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		Item Number 09
ITEMS SUBMITTED AFTER THE DEADLINE WILL BE POSTPONED UNTIL THE NEXT UTILITIES BOARD MEETING.			

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COMMERCIAL  
RECREATION ACTIVITIES ON UTILITIES-CONTROLLED  
WATERSHED AREAS AND RESERVOIRS

WHEREAS, the City of Colorado Springs (the “City”), by and through its enterprise Colorado Springs Utilities (“Utilities”), operates water systems throughout the State of Colorado to collect, store, and transport water to provide a safe and secure municipal water supply to the citizens of Colorado Springs, including watershed areas and reservoirs (“watershed areas and reservoirs”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to City Charter § 15-110, City Council may allow the Northfield watershed to be used for recreational purposes; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to City Charter § 15-120, City Council may allow the North Slope watershed to be used for recreational purposes, such as access and service roads, sanitary facilities and parking, recreational and camping areas, provided the use is legally allowable and consistent with the maintenance of proper health, safety, fire protection, and conservation standards: and

WHEREAS, pursuant to City Code § 12.4.804, City Council may allow the watershed areas and reservoirs of the City to be used for public recreational purposes, provided that the uses are “legally allowable and consistent with the maintenance of proper health, safety, fire protection and conservation standards;” and

WHEREAS, City Council recognizes the value of allowing commercial recreation in the watershed areas and reservoirs, because commercial recreation will: (1) enhance security measures and strengthen infrastructure protection to safeguard critical assets; (2) support public recreational access opportunities that align with Utilities’ core operations and are financially and environmentally sustainable: and (3) ensure adequate resource allocation for the sustainable management of the watershed areas and reservoirs.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO:**

Section 1. In accord with City Charter §§ 15-110 and 15-120 and City Code §12.4.804, City Council hereby authorizes commercial recreation on Utilities-controlled watershed areas and reservoirs, subject to Utilities’ oversight and provided that such uses are consistent with the maintenance of proper health, safety, fire protection and conservation standards.

Section 2. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption.

Dated at Colorado Springs, Colorado, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lynette Crow-Iverson, Council President

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk



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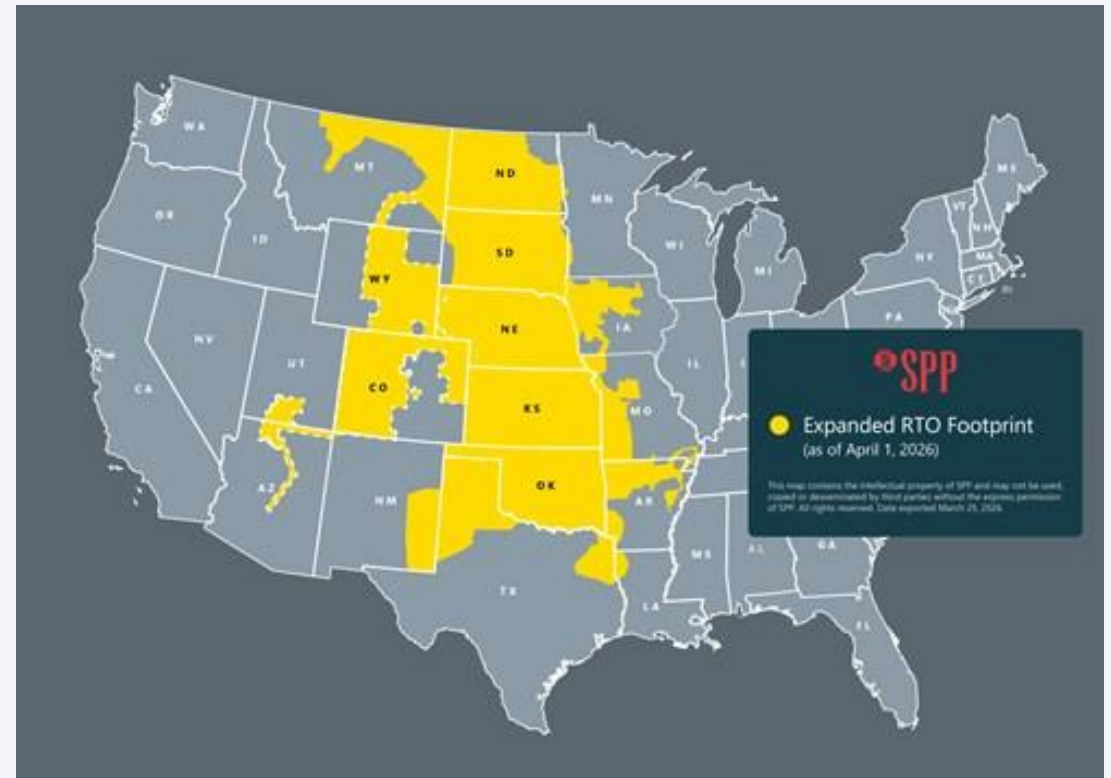
# Southwest Power Pool Update

Alex Baird, General Manager - Fuels & Purchase Power

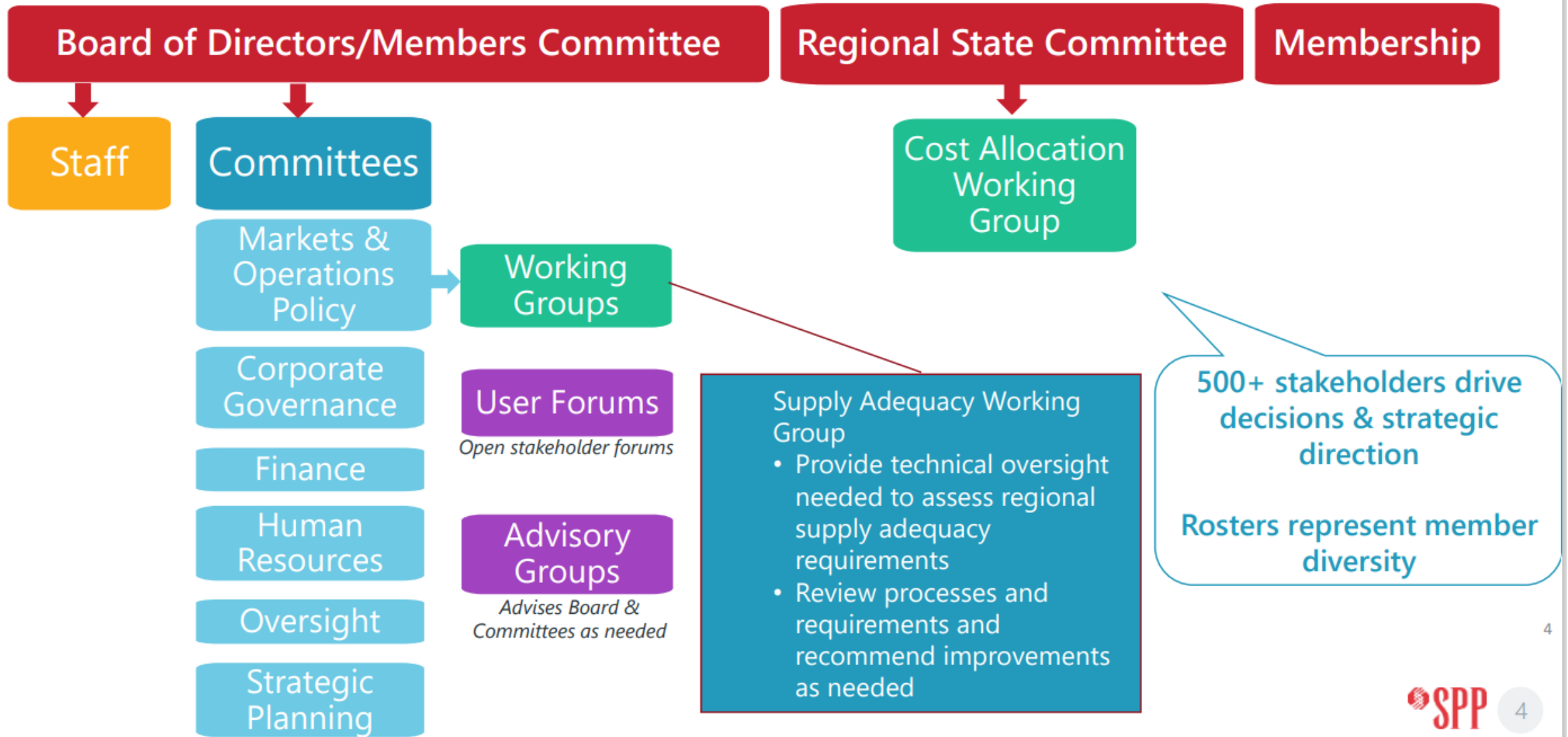
April 22, 2026

# Southwest Power Pool RTO

- SPP and member utilities successfully complete historic western expansion - Southwest Power Pool
- Milestone date 4/1/2026: Colorado Springs Utilities is now a member of Southwest Power Pool Regional Transmission Organization



# COLLABORATIVE STAKEHOLDER PROCESS



# **SPP provides services to its members. What services do we provide?**

As an RTO, SPP is required by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to provide the following services to our members.

1. Reliability Coordination
2. Tariff Administration
3. Regional Scheduling
4. Market Administration
5. Transmission Planning

# SPP Western Area – Resource Mix

## RESOURCE MIX

Fuel Type	Summer Nameplate (MW)	Winter Nameplate (MW)
CC Gas	422	449
CT Gas	1,383	1,485
Hydro	1,654	1,648
IC Gas	23	23
IC Petroleum	97	121
Import Transaction	225	225
ST Coal	2,079	2,082
ST Gas	23	23
Demand Response	83	44
Wind	1,317	1,317
Solar	1,058	1,058
Battery Storage	381	381
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,745</b>	<b>8,856</b>

Value representative of hydro resources rating change for historical performance and removal of capacity used to serve external obligations

	Summer (MW)	Winter (MW)
2026 Non-Coincident Peak Load	5,251	4,476

DC Ties Dispatch	Net Export West => East
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# Expansion Footprint Load

## **RTO EXPANSION ZONAL NETWORK LOAD (MW)**

Colorado Springs	854
Platte River Power Authority	541
Tri-State G&T	1,258
Colorado River Storage Project	327 (1)
Loveland Area Projects	1,236
LAP – West	23
LAP – East	1,213
Upper Missouri – West	242
Total in RTO Expansion & UM – West	4,458



Real Time

Day Ahead

Delta

Table

West Generation  
2,433

East Generation  
32,507

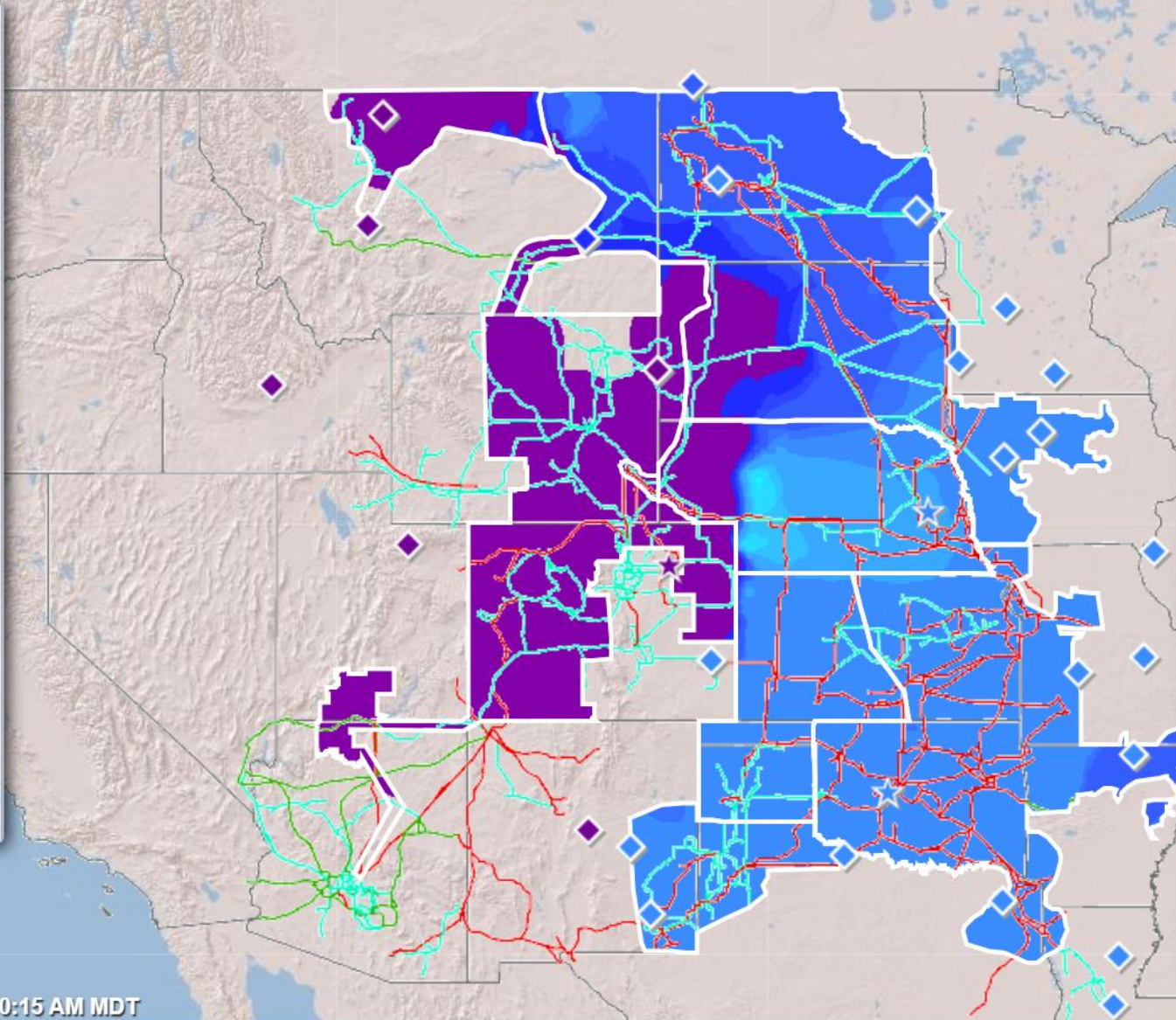
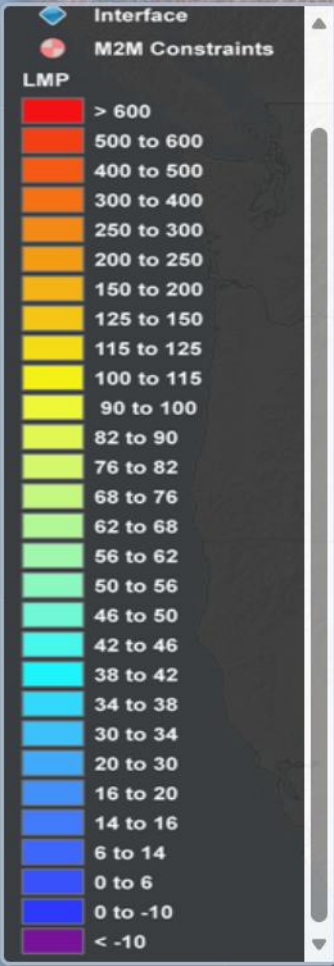
West Load  
2,536

East Load  
32,194

West Interchange  
-408

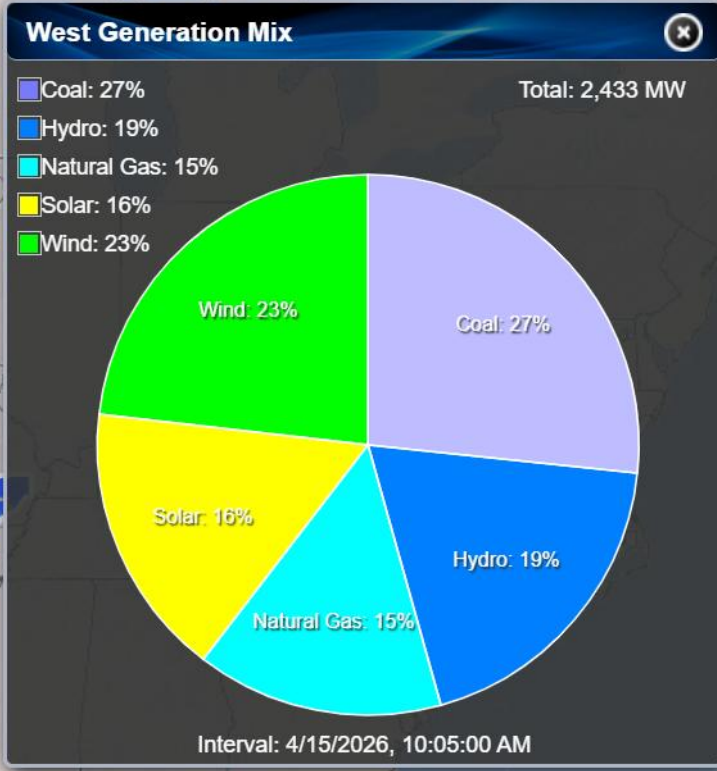
East Interchange  
-850

Help



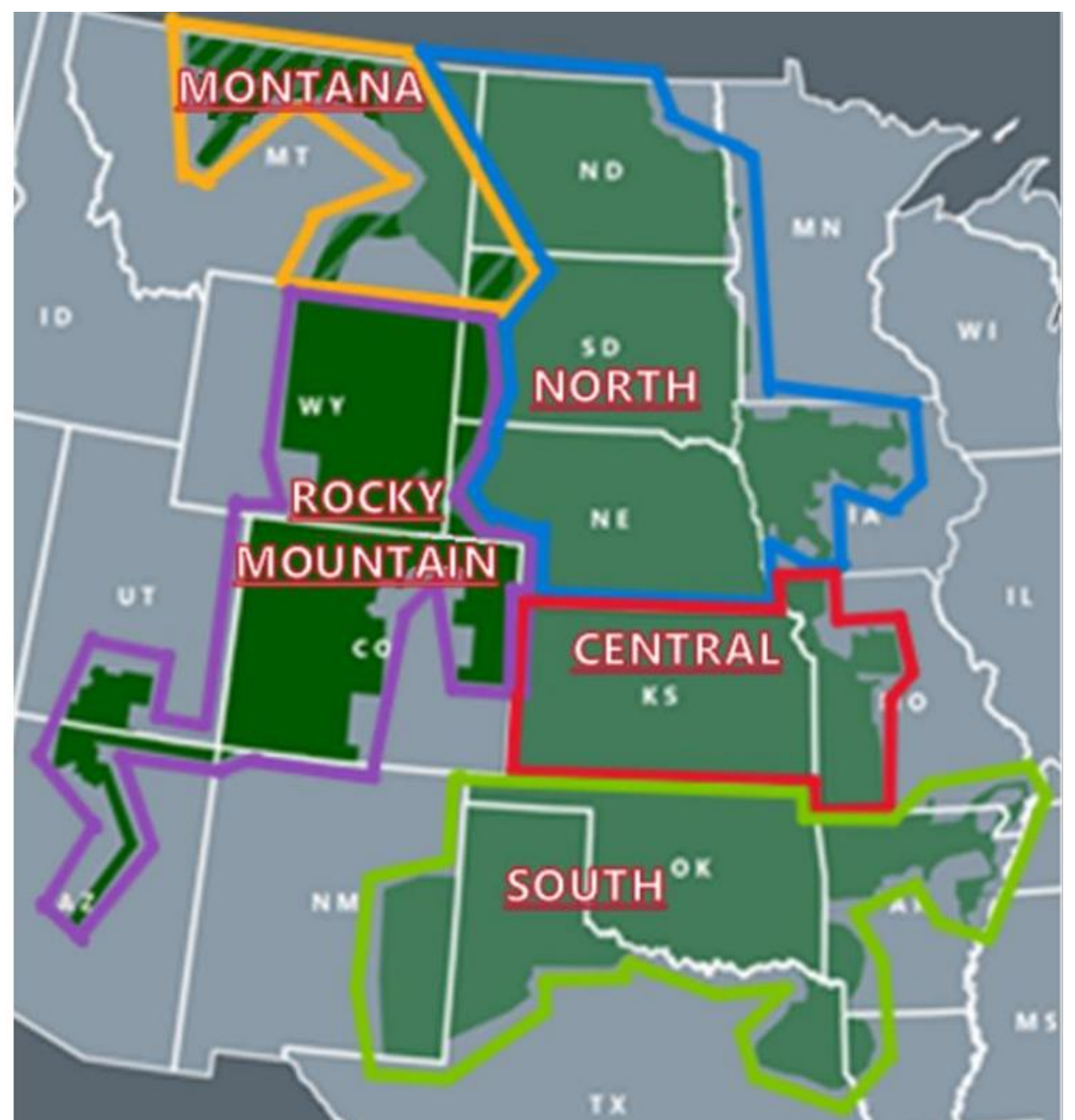
**RTBM Layers**

- Settlement Locations
- Binding Constraints
- M2M Constraints
- Transmission (230/345/500 kV)



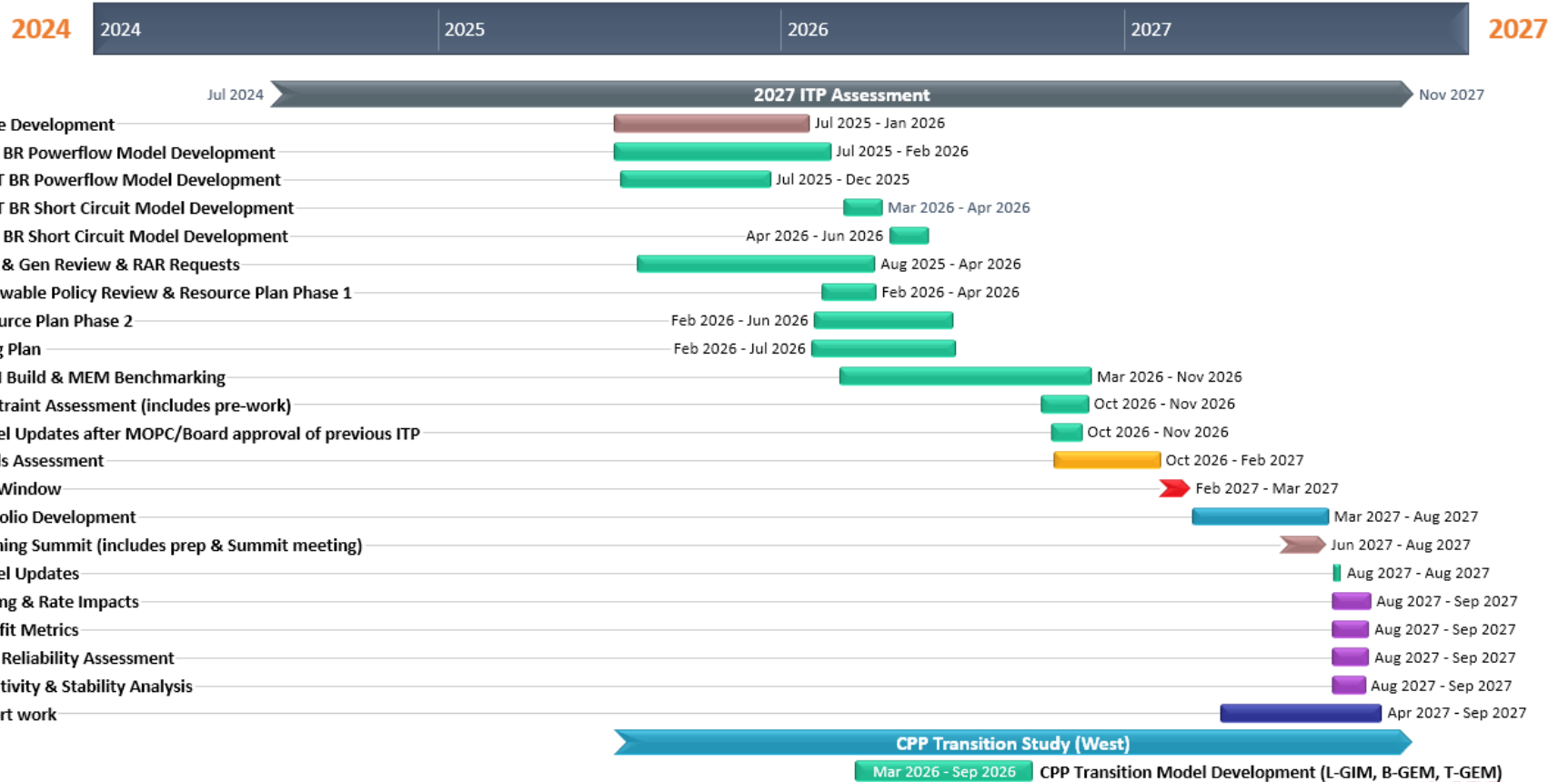
RTBM Interval: 4/15/2026, 10:15 AM MDT

# DELIVERABILITY AREAS IN THE EAST AND WEST REGIONS OF SPP



# Transmission Planning Cycle - SPP

## 2027 ITP SUNSET AND RTOE TRANSITION ASSESSMENT



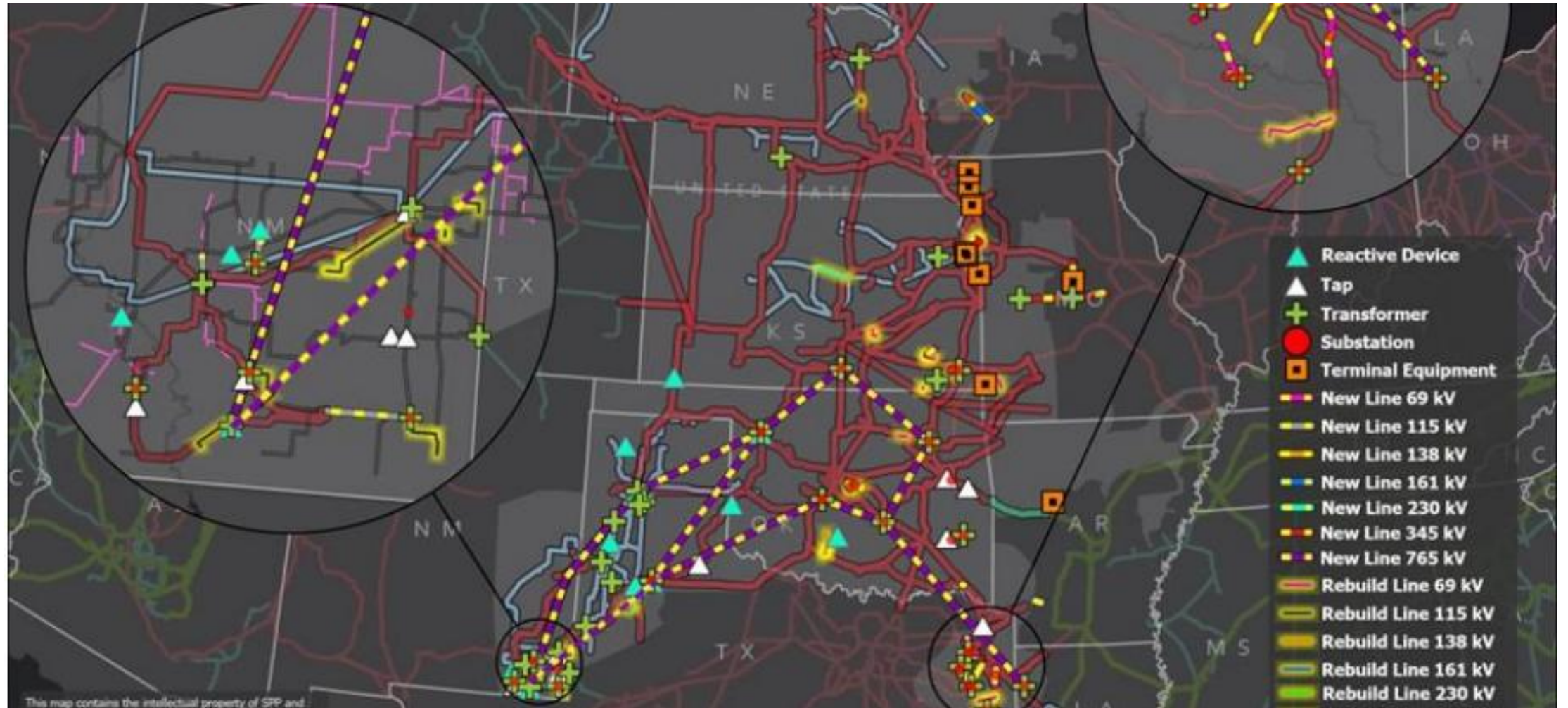
**Notes:**

\*Additional schedule updates will be made as the studies progress

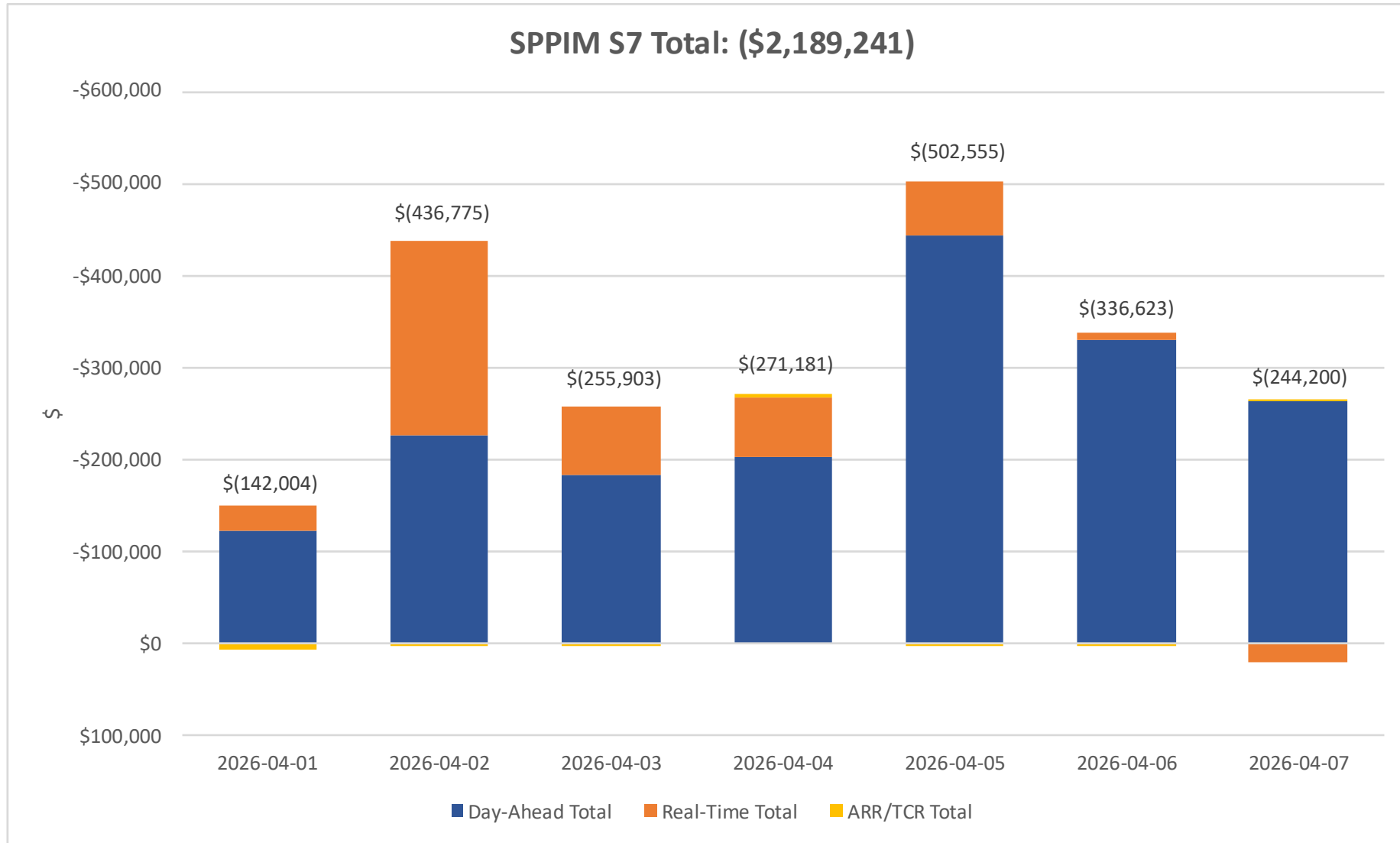


2027 ITP Sunset / RTOE Transition Assessment & NERC TPL Assessment Study Years	
ITP & TPL Assessment (Study Year)	2027
Year 1	2027
Year 2	2028
Year 5	2031
Year 10	2036
Year 20 (RTOE Models Only)	2046

# Example – 2025 SPP Transmission Plan



# First 7 Days – Net Cash Flows



# SPP Value Statement Handout

## Value for SPP Members and the Communities They Serve

**17** States in the SPP RTO service territory

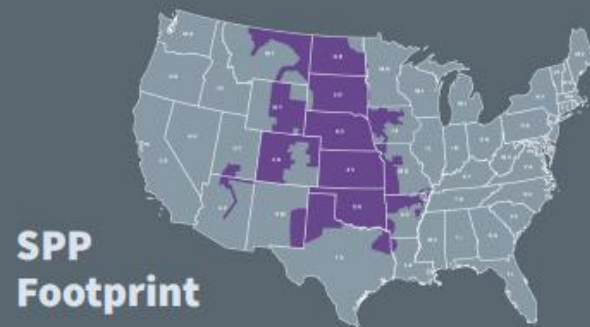
**24:1** Return on investment for SPP participation

**\$4.7B+** Net annual savings to members, year after year

**86k** Miles of transmission lines

**1,000+** Generators available to meet the region's energy needs

**20M** People calling the SPP region home



## Stronger Together

At the heart of everything we do is a commitment to keeping the lights on. We optimize electric generation and transmission resources around the clock and plan transmission infrastructure to meet future energy needs.

***SPP brings the scale, coordination and innovation no single utility can achieve alone, delivering stronger reliability, lower costs and a more resilient energy future.***

As an independent, not-for-profit Regional Transmission Organization (RTO), SPP can be trusted to improve reliability and reduce wholesale electricity costs through shared operations, regional planning and competitive markets.

**The result:** dependable, cost-effective electricity for 20 million people and a stronger, more resilient energy future.

## Bottom Line

SPP helps utilities deliver reliable, affordable electricity by coordinating solutions to the complex challenges of the modern grid — ensuring homes, businesses and communities have power when they need it.



Colorado Springs Utilities<sup>®</sup>

*It's how we're all connected*