

**WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION
HYDRO CONDITIONS AND PURCHASE POWER REPORT
May 2026**

	Generation (Megawatt-Hours [MWh])				Purchase Power (MWh)	Purchase Power Expenses (Dollars)		
	Projected Dry	Most Probable	Average	Actual	Actual	Projected Dry	Most Probable	Actual
Oct 25	1,397,646	1,347,558	1,670,402	1,316,783	285,260	\$ 11,270,175	\$ 10,881,648	\$ 10,828,269
Nov 25	1,103,107	1,111,265	1,498,255	1,072,315	337,097	\$ 14,303,895	\$ 13,973,220	\$ 12,418,912
Dec 25	914,546	922,154	1,459,541	982,541	507,585	\$ 20,875,923	\$ 21,640,254	\$ 18,097,601
Jan 26	1,048,635	1,073,469	1,592,976	1,361,654	484,547	\$ 28,069,770	\$ 27,036,800	\$ 36,881,720
Feb 26	1,255,292	1,387,343	1,504,849	1,201,305	458,622	\$ 15,780,115	\$ 15,975,566	\$ 14,779,497
Mar 26	1,438,398	1,611,315	1,766,314	1,372,982	326,178	\$ 11,594,548	\$ 11,234,635	\$ 8,565,311
Apr 26	1,816,540	1,874,128	1,975,896	1,699,772				
May 26								
Jun 26								
Jul 26								
Aug 26								
Sep 26								
Total	8,974,163	9,327,233	11,468,231	9,007,352	2,399,289	\$ 101,894,426	\$ 100,742,123	\$ 101,571,310
Actual generation as a percentage of average: 78.5%					Cost per MWh: \$42.33			

Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) generated a total of 9,007,352 gigawatt-hours (GWh) from October through April of fiscal year 2026, or 78.5 percent of average. Actual purchase power data is currently available from October through March for all WAPA's regions, and during this period total purchase power was 2,399 GWh and total purchase power expenses were \$101,571,310, which equates to \$42.33 per MWh overall.

Note: April data from the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) are not yet final for CRSP, RMR, and UGPR. These values will be updated in the June 2026 report.

The following pages indicate WAPA's regional snowpack, lake/reservoir inflow and storage, generation, and purchase power expenses. Snowpack is reported as snow water equivalent, which is the depth of water that theoretically would result if the entire snowpack melted instantaneously.

Disclaimer: The monthly purchase power numbers in this report are used by WAPA's regions as a forecasting tool; therefore, they do not reflect energy imbalance transactions and other such information that cannot be forecasted. Furthermore, the purchase power numbers have not been verified for financial auditing purposes. Consequently, these numbers will vary from those reported in WAPA's year-end financial statements, and the latter should be considered the definitive source for WAPA's purchase power data.



Colorado River Storage Project

	Snowpack (Inches in Snow Water Equivalent)		Lake/Reservoir Inflow (Thousand Acre-Feet)		Lake/Reservoir Content (Million Acre-Feet)		Generation (MWh)				Purchase Power (MWh)*	Purchase Power Expenses (Dollars)**		
	Median	Actual	Average	Actual	Average	Actual	Projected Dry	Most Probable	Average	Actual	Actual	Projected Dry	Most Probable	Actual
Oct 25	0.61	0.31	440,023.80	662,985.62	14.26	6.80	212,123.85	232,118	262,786	200,599	37,225	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$1,293,014
Nov 25	3.31	1.32	407,186.39	373,683.93	14.06	6.66	190,473.11	208,426	274,491	209,468	8,773	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$392,435
Dec 25	6.46	4.29	313,209.50	316,540.65	13.73	6.47	189,369.69	207,219	326,817	209,658	4,953	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$201,438
Jan 26	9.55	5.40	311,209.70	265,117.00	13.32	6.14	226,798.90	248,176	336,025	250,167	184	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$7,534
Feb 26	12.82	8.99	337,866.40	252,881.63	12.98	5.90	193,209.04	211,420	283,556	209,956	-126	\$ 0	\$ 0	-\$3,976
Mar 26	15.45	3.81	548,146.91	349,751.01	12.72	5.72	199,301.09	218,086	294,752	220,041	4,292	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$119,116
Apr 26	14.15	3.00	872,541.91	372,000.00	12.64	5.62	220,342.18	241,111	272,857	246,353	***	\$ 0	\$ 0	***
May 26														
Jun 26														
Jul 26														
Aug 26														
Sep 26														
Total							1,431,618	1,566,557	2,051,285	1,546,241	55,301	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 2,009,561
Actual generation as a percentage of average:												Cost per MWh:		
												\$36.34		

* Negative values indicate net sales to the market.

** Customers are offered allocations quarterly based on actual forecasted hydrology, rather than projections.

*** April values from RTO are not yet available.

Lake/Reservoir Levels

End of April storage volume for Lake Powell was 5.6 million acre-feet (MAF), about 24.0%¹ of live capacity. Lake Powell reservoir inflow for the most recent historical month (April 2025) was 372.0 thousand acre-feet (42.6% of average). End of April Lake Powell elevation was about 3,526 feet, 174 feet from maximum reservoir level², and 36 feet from the minimum generation level. If current inflow forecasts are realized, the April to July inflow to Lake Powell will be the lowest on record. Consequently, Lake Powell release volume has decreased from 7.48 MAF to 6.0 MAF for WY 2026. Also, Reclamation is planning on releasing up to 1.0 MAF of additional water from Flaming Gorge through next April, an attempt to prevent Lake Powell from dropping below minimum power pool elevations.

¹ Based on active capacity of 23.4 million acre feet, <https://www.usbr.gov/projects/index.php?id=144>

² <https://www.usbr.gov/uc/water/crsp/cs/gcd.html>



For water year 2026, firming purchase power costs through March 2026 were \$2,009,561. Due to new settlements process from joining the RTO, values through April are not yet available.

Purchase power in the region was available and prices over the last month averaged in the low \$20s for on-peak and high \$20s for off-peak.

Weather and Other Conditions

The Department of Interior (DOI) implemented a bypass experiment for summer 2025, that started on August 2 and ended October 20, which incurred significant purchased power expenses (est. \$5.7 - \$7 million dollars). For situational awareness, The Department of Interior is considering implementing bypass experiments during this summer. The decision to implement those experiments should be final early to mid-June. The purpose of the bypass experiment is to cool the waters downstream from Glen Canyon dam thereby disadvantaging spawning of the smallmouth bass, an invasive species.

Note: April data from the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) are not yet final for CRSP, RMR, and UGPR. These values will be updated in the June 2026 report.



Desert Southwest Region

	Snowpack (Inches in Snow Water Equivalent)		Lake/Reservoir Inflow (Thousand Acre-Feet)		Lake/Reservoir Content (Million Acre-Feet)		Generation (MWh)				Purchase Power (MWh)	Purchase Power Expenses (Dollars)		
	Median	Actual	Average	Actual	Average	Actual	Projected Dry	Most Probable	Average	Actual	Actual	Projected Dry	Most Probable	Actual
Oct 25	0.61	0.31	60.54	91.00	19.79	10.37	284,400	251,400	371,668	251,093	12,227	\$ 1,437,110	\$ 1,437,110	\$ 699,140
Nov 25	3.31	1.32	54.23	72.00	19.75	10.58	248,150	249,340	357,293	200,345	5,810	\$ 1,635,149	\$ 1,635,149	\$ 315,193
Dec 25	6.46	4.29	72.67	82.00	19.76	10.80	100,350	129,405	355,813	136,691	360	\$ 4,329,851	\$ 4,329,851	\$ 25,844
Jan 26	9.55	5.40	90.09	50.00	19.83	11.07	196,400	195,255	379,471	192,886	2,650	\$ 4,040,395	\$ 4,040,395	\$ 225,648
Feb 26	12.82	8.99	102.88	55.00	19.78	11.13	256,850	251,800	379,232	254,206	8,580	\$ 1,514,659	\$ 1,514,659	\$ 572,372
Mar 26	15.45	3.81	101.45	30.00	19.58	10.85	431,800	445,005	520,970	433,943	32,133	\$ 1,939,892	\$ 1,939,892	\$ 1,351,514
Apr 26														
May 26														
Jun 26														
Jul 26														
Aug 26														
Sep 26														
Total							1,517,950	1,522,205	2,364,447	1,469,164	61,760	\$ 14,897,056	\$ 14,897,056	\$ 3,189,711

Actual generation as a percentage of average: 62.1%

Cost per MWh: \$51.65

Lake/Reservoir Levels

April End of Month Aggregate Storage (Mead, Mohave & Havasu): 10.453 MAF – 37% of Lower Basin capacity of 28.549 MAF (10.845 MAF Mar 2026), 19.474 MAF (90-Year Historical Avg).

The Lake Mead end of April 2026 elevation was 1056.32 ft. (5.73 ft. lower than end of March 2026 elevation), or about 163.3 ft. below full storage elevation of 1,219.64 ft. and 21.32 ft above the minimum operational elevation of 1035 ft & 106.32 ft. above the minimum generation elevation 950 ft. The USBR Lower Colorado Region has identified a critical Lake Mead elevation of 1035 ft. Below this elevation, only wide-head turbines 398 MW (A1-92MW, A8-37MW, N5-90MW, N6-89MW, N8-90MW) would be available. That represents a loss of 983MW of capacity at current rated capacities (1381MW) at 1052 ft Lake Mead elevation.

Lake Mead elevation peaked at 1066.14 ft in February 2026 (2.04 ft. below the WY 2025 peak elevation of 1068.18 ft.). The WY 2026 minimum elevation of 1037.22 ft. is projected to occur in September 2026, a projected maximum fluctuation in lake elevation of 28.9 ft.

The Lake Powell operational tier for WY 2026 is the Mid-Elevation Release Tier with an initial projected WY release to Lake Mead of 7.48 MAF. The projected April – July unregulated inflow into Lake Powell is currently projected at 0.80 MAF or 13% of average (actual of 2.63 MAF or 41% of average for 2025). Due to the poor snowpack accumulation in the Upper Colorado River Basin this past winter, the BOR has invoked Section 6.E. of Supplemental



Environmental Impact Study (SEIS) Record of Decision where Lake Powell will reduce releases from 7.48 MAF to 6.0 MAF for the remaining months of WY2026 commencing in May 2026.

Weather and Other Conditions

Basin Snowpack and Precipitation: DSW hydrology, or the Lower Colorado River Basin, is mostly dependent on the Colorado River Basin snowpack and precipitation above Lake Powell. The precipitation is currently 82% of average and the snowpack is gone.

Lower Basin Runoff: The observed lower basin tributary inflow into Lake Mead, mostly from the Paria River, the Virgin River and the Muddy Creek, for April 2026 was 8 KAF, 10% of the 5-year average for April. The total projected side inflow into Lake Mead for WY 2026 is 710 KAF which represents a 30% increase over last year's actual of 547 KAF and represents 55% of the normal annual side inflow of 1.3 MAF.

Projected WY 2026 Generation (Hoover, Davis & Parker): 3795 GWh compared to 5494 GWh (Historical Average). The projected Hoover and Parker-Davis generation for WY 2026 is 69% of the average historical generation.

Wholesale Power Market Conditions: The April 2026 market prices in the Desert Southwest averaged about \$11/MWh firm on-peak, \$19/MWh firm off-peak compared to \$21/MWh firm on-peak, \$26/MWh firm off-peak for March 2026.



Rocky Mountain Region

	Snowpack (Inches in Snow Water Equivalent)		Lake/Reservoir Inflow (Thousand Acre-Feet)		Lake/Reservoir Content (Million Acre-Feet)		Generation (MWh)				Purchase Power (MWh)	Purchase Power Expenses (Dollars)		
	Median	Actual	Average	Actual	Average	Actual	Projected Dry	Most Probable	Average	Actual	Actual	Projected Dry	Most Probable	Actual
Oct 25	0.00	0.00	111.20	142.90	3.31	3.96	78,422	90,140	97,400	62,466	95,791	\$ 4,923,266	\$ 4,313,920	\$ 3,745,195
Nov 25	3.30	1.90	89.90	125.90	3.36	3.99	56,984	65,499	110,000	89,501	65,589	\$ 4,176,425	\$ 3,733,652	\$ 2,874,216
Dec 25	10.90	4.80	103.00	104.70	3.35	3.97	78,326	90,030	123,500	111,217	59,424	\$ 3,706,243	\$ 3,097,640	\$ 2,506,115
Jan 26	18.90	16.10	93.70	103.00	3.33	3.98	84,336	96,938	122,100	107,820	56,578	\$ 4,553,325	\$ 3,898,024	\$ 2,912,972
Feb 26	31.60	22.50	101.60	92.00	3.35	3.93	78,233	89,923	111,600	96,800	32,059	\$ 5,291,883	\$ 4,684,004	\$ 1,096,278
Mar 26	38.10	28.70	161.00	36.30	3.41	3.97	73,797	84,824	128,900	58,700	87,562	\$ 6,858,962	\$ 6,285,552	\$ 2,838,889
Apr 26														
May 26														
Jun 26														
Jul 26														
Aug 26														
Sep 26														
Total							450,098	517,354	693,500	526,504	397,003	\$ 29,510,105	\$ 26,012,792	\$ 15,973,665
							Actual generation as a percentage of average:		75.9%		Cost per MWh: \$40.24			

Lake/Reservoir Content

At the end of March reservoir inflows were at 23 percent of average, and storage is at 86 percent of average. At the end of April reservoir inflows are sitting at 78% of average, looking at our storage, we are remaining at 86% of average.

Weather and Other Conditions

LAP's hydrologic conditions can vary from one river basin and watershed to another. The latest National Weather Service forecast indicates June through August temperatures are looking to have a likely probability for above average temperatures in Wyoming and in Colorado. The same forecast indicates precipitation will be below average for the Wyoming area and in the Colorado area. S generation in the Big Horn Basin, the North Platte Basin and the Colorado River Basin is forecasted to be below average.

Note: April data from the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) are not yet final for CRSP, RMR, and UGPR. These values will be updated in the June 2026 report.



Sierra Nevada Region

	Snowpack (Inches in Snow Water Equivalent)		Lake/Reservoir Inflow (Thousand Acre-Feet)		Lake/Reservoir Content (Million Acre-Feet)		Generation (MWh)				Purchase Power (MWh)	Purchase Power Expenses (Dollars)		
	Median	Actual	Average	Actual	Average	Actual	Projected Dry	Most Probable	Average	Actual	Actual	Projected Dry	Most Probable	Actual
Oct 25	N/A	N/A	309.00	352.00	5.28	6.32	220,000	185,000	163,000	232,419	29,763	\$ 2,148,878	\$ 2,148,878	\$ 2,148,866
Nov 25	26.00	1.30	419.00	582.00	5.29	6.44	65,000	55,000	104,000	19,416	32,360	\$ 2,047,014	\$ 2,047,014	\$ 2,231,849
Dec 25	26.67	6.40	817.00	1,392.00	5.68	7.46	42,000	0	143,000	63,013	36,333	\$ 1,522,520	\$ 1,522,520	\$ 2,147,789
Jan 26	26.76	9.90	1,138.94	1,678.00	6.29	8.05	0	2,000	163,000	302,673	30,491	\$ 2,548,160	\$ 2,548,160	\$ 2,573,768
Feb 26	23.44	15.00	1,285.81	1,073.00	6.75	8.45	223,000	343,000	195,000	187,636	28,640	\$ 1,891,680	\$ 1,891,680	\$ 1,937,359
Mar 26	26.32	5.00	1,470.25	1,075.00	7.32	8.90	60,000	210,000	207,000	34,211	25,178	\$ 968,125	\$ 968,125	\$ 1,122,188
Apr 26														
May 26														
Jun 26														
Jul 26														
Aug 26														
Sep 26														
Total							610,000	795,000	975,000	839,368	182,765	\$ 11,126,377	\$ 11,126,377	\$ 12,161,819

Actual generation as a percentage of average: 86.1%

Cost per MWh: \$66.54

Lake/Reservoir Content

Reservoir storage as of 30 April was 128 percent of the 15 year average for Trinity, 112 percent for Shasta, 122 percent for Folsom and 121 percent for New Melones. Accumulated inflow as of 30 April was 122 percent of the 15 year average for Trinity, 105 percent for Shasta, 105 percent for Folsom and 93 percent for New Melones.

Weather and Other Conditions

On the Northern Sierra 8-Station Index of Precipitation, April had 7.8 inches or 181 percent of its average. Through 05/27/2026, May has 0.5 inches for 18 percent of average (extremely wet April, dry May). The statewide snowpack is well below average and reached its peak in February (prior to the April average); but the April runoff has pushed the Sacramento Valley 40-30-30 index forecast for both the 50 and 90 percent exceedance level to near normal. The wet April may push both forecast "Above Normal".

Note: The Sierra Nevada Region's average generation is based upon long-term modeling done for its "Green Book." The region does not project purchase power expenses for dry conditions, and its most probable expenses are based upon term purchases of 35 to 65 percent of projected power needs, with the difference being left to day-ahead markets after project pumping and generation have been scheduled.



Upper Great Plains Region

Snowpack (Inches in Snow Water Equivalent)			Lake/Reservoir Inflow (Thousand Acre-Feet)		Lake/Reservoir Content (Million Acre-Feet)		Generation (MWh)				Purchase Power (MWh)	Purchase Power Expenses (Dollars)			
Median	Actual		Average	Actual	Average	Actual	Projected Dry	Most Probable	Average	Actual	Actual	Projected Dry	Most Probable	Actual	
Oct 25	1.20	1.00	8,188.00	5,435.95	54.11	51.07	602,700	588,900	775,548	570,206	110,254	\$ 2,760,920	\$ 2,981,740	\$ 2,942,054	
Nov 25	3.80	1.60	7,527.00	5,201.19	53.08	50.30	542,500	533,000	652,471	553,585	224,565	\$ 6,445,307	\$ 6,557,405	\$ 6,605,219	
Dec 25	7.10	6.60	6,425.00	4,472.40	54.44	50.26	504,500	495,500	510,411	461,963	406,515	\$ 11,317,309	\$ 12,690,243	\$ 13,216,415	
Jan 26	10.30	8.00	6,664.00	4,835.06	54.34	50.20	541,100	531,100	592,379	508,108	394,644	\$ 16,927,890	\$ 16,550,221	\$ 31,161,798	
Feb 26	13.10	10.00	6,297.00	4,798.37	54.63	50.70	504,000	491,200	535,460	452,707	389,469	\$ 7,081,893	\$ 7,885,223	\$ 11,177,464	
Mar 26	15.80	0.00	8,247.00	6,487.77	56.39	51.04	673,500	653,400	614,692	626,087	177,013	\$ 1,827,569	\$ 2,041,066	\$ 3,133,604	
Apr 26	14.90	0.00	8,205.00	6,683.98	57.24	50.81	727,400	710,500	706,386	678,432	*	\$ 1,249,355	\$ 1,475,676	*	
May 26															
Jun 26															
Jul 26															
Aug 26															
Sep 26															
Total							4,095,700	4,003,600	4,387,347	3,851,088	1,702,460	\$ 47,610,243	\$ 50,181,574	\$ 68,236,554	
Actual generation as a percentage of average:										87.8%	Cost per MWh:				\$40.08

Actual generation as a percentage of average: 87.8%

Cost per MWh: \$40.08

Lake/Reservoir Content

The yearly runoff forecast for the Missouri River Basin as of May 1 was 17.1 million acre-feet or 67 percent of average. Runoff above Sioux City for April was 1.513 MAF or 51 percent of average. System storage as of May 12 was 49 MAF.

Weather and Other Conditions

On May 17, the mountain snow water equivalent (SWE) in the total above Fort Peck reach was 4.7 inches or 38 percent of average, and the mountain SWE in the Fort Peck to Garrison reach was 4.5 inches or 39 percent of average. Both reaches peaked early on March 16. The week of May 14, the high plains region was warm, while precipitation was defined by a significant east-west gradient. The eastern portions of the region experienced temperatures below seasonal norms and exceptionally dry conditions, which expanded drought in several areas. In contrast, the western High Plains across Wyoming, much of Colorado, and western portions of South Dakota and Nebraska, experienced unseasonable warmth, accompanied by an active moisture corridor through the southern High Plains. While northern and eastern reaches were dry, portions of Colorado and adjacent areas of Wyoming and Kansas recorded 0.7 to 1.6 inches of precipitation, ranging from 0.3 to 0.9 inches above normal. This above-normal precipitation improved drought conditions in Wyoming, Colorado and western Kansas. The 90- to 180-day averages outlook indicates above normal temperatures and equal to below normal precipitation for most the region.

Notes:



- *The Upper Great Plains Region reports 50 percent share of Yellowtail Dam generation while Rocky Mountain Region reports the snowpack, inflow, content, and remaining share of generation. Asterisks indicate that actual purchase power data is not available for the month.*
- *April data from the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) are not yet final for CRSP, RMR, and UGPR. These values will be updated in the June 2026 report.*

