

Arizona Reservoir Levels (through 11/30/06)

Source: National Water and Climate Center

Arizona reservoir levels experienced little change in November relative to the previous month, with the exception of the Verde River System, which dropped by 11 percent. That decrease is most likely due to dry conditions experienced in the region during November. All other reservoirs saw levels either remain unchanged or fluctuate by 1 to 2 percent.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, precipitation in the Colorado River Basin was 85 percent of average. Unregulated inflow into Lake Powell was 103 percent of average, due in part to lingering effects from heavy October precipitation. Lake Powell storage is expected to decrease between now and next April when snowmelt runoff causes levels to rise again. Water Year 2007 is off to a good start with precipitation so far in the Colorado River Basin at more than 200 percent of average.

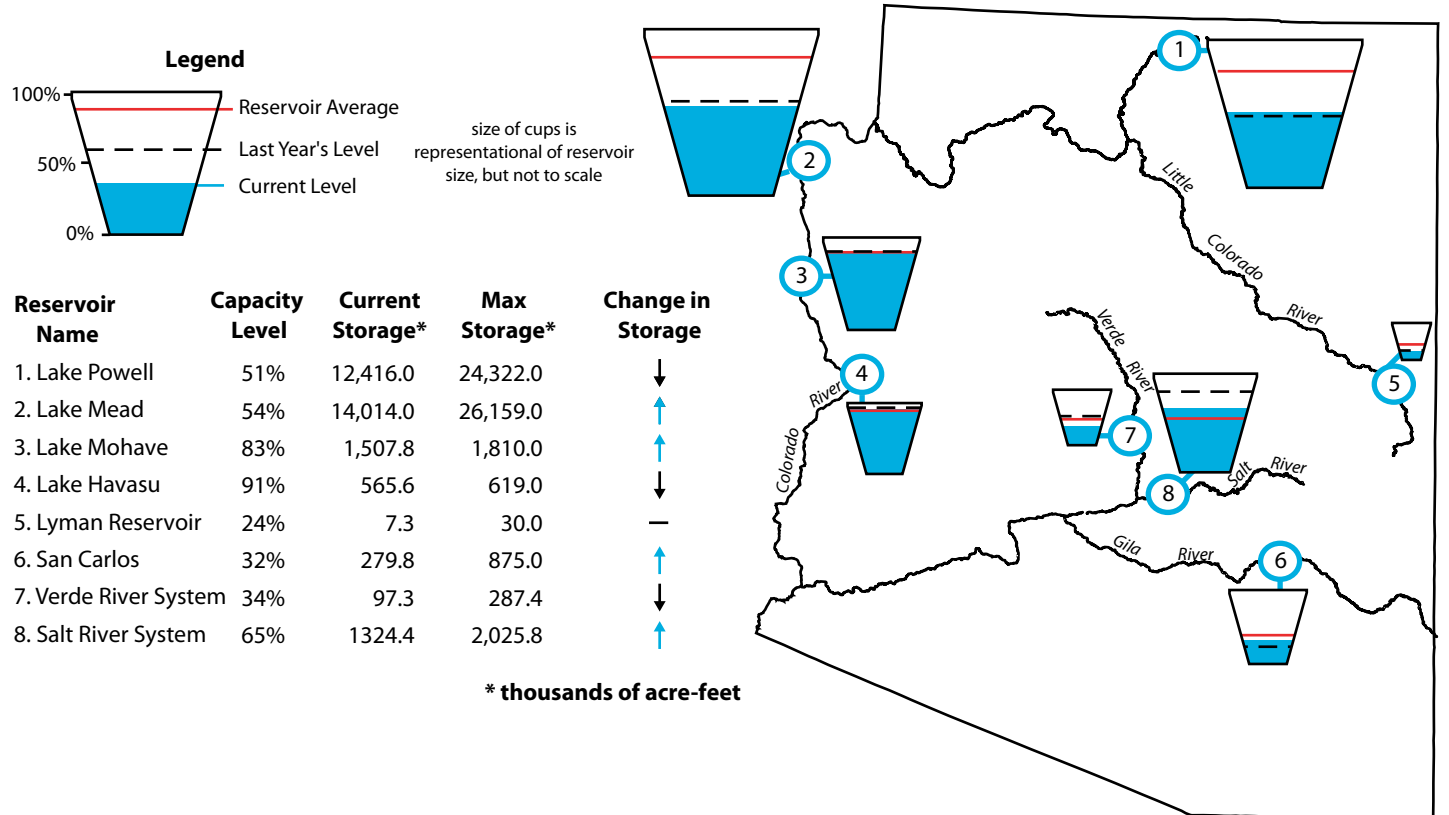
Notes:

The map gives a representation of current storage levels for reservoirs in Arizona. Reservoir locations are numbered within the blue circles on the map, corresponding to the reservoirs listed in the table. The cup next to each reservoir shows the current storage level (blue fill) as a percent of total capacity. Note that while the size of each cup varies with the size of the reservoir, these are representational and not to scale. Each cup also represents last year's storage level (dotted line) and the 1971–2000 reservoir average (red line).

The table details more exactly the current capacity level (listed as a percent of maximum storage). Current and maximum storage levels are given in thousands of acre-feet for each reservoir. The arrows in the last column of the table indicate an increase or decrease in storage since last month. A line indicates no change.

These data are based on reservoir reports updated monthly by the National Water and Climate Center of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resource Conservation Service. For additional information, contact Tom Pagano at the National Water Climate Center (tom.pagano@por.usda.gov; 503-414-3010) or Larry Martinez, Natural Resource Conservation Service, 3003 N. Central Ave, Suite 800, Phoenix, Arizona 85012-2945; 602-280-8841; Larry.Martinez@az.usda.gov).

Figure 1. Arizona reservoir levels for November 2006 as a percent of capacity. The map also depicts the average level and last year's storage for each reservoir. The table also lists current and maximum storage levels, and change in storage since last month.



On the Web:
 Portions of the information provided in this figure can be accessed at the NRCS website:
http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/wsf/reservoir/resv_rpt.html

New Mexico Reservoir Levels (through 11/30/06)

Source: National Water and Climate Center

Storage in New Mexico’s two largest reservoirs, Navajo and Elephant Butte, increased by almost 100,000 acre-feet during November 2006. Elephant Butte reservoir is up 3 percent from last month. Changes in storage were a mixed bag for the rest of New Mexico’s reservoirs, as storage increased in El Vado, Caballo, Sumner, and Costilla and decreased in Heron, Abiquiu, Cochiti, Brantley, Lake Avalon, Santa Rosa, and Conchas. Above-average storage is evident in only four New Mexico reservoirs: Navajo, Abiquiu, Santa Rosa, and Costilla.

The NOAA Climate Prediction Center forecasts increased probabilities of above-average precipitation for most of New Mexico, with the highest statewide probabilities of above-average precipitation forecast for the February through April three-month season. The forecasts predict slightly lower, but still increased, probabilities of above-average precipitation for the southern Colorado Rocky Mountains, which are essential to New Mexico statewide water supplies.

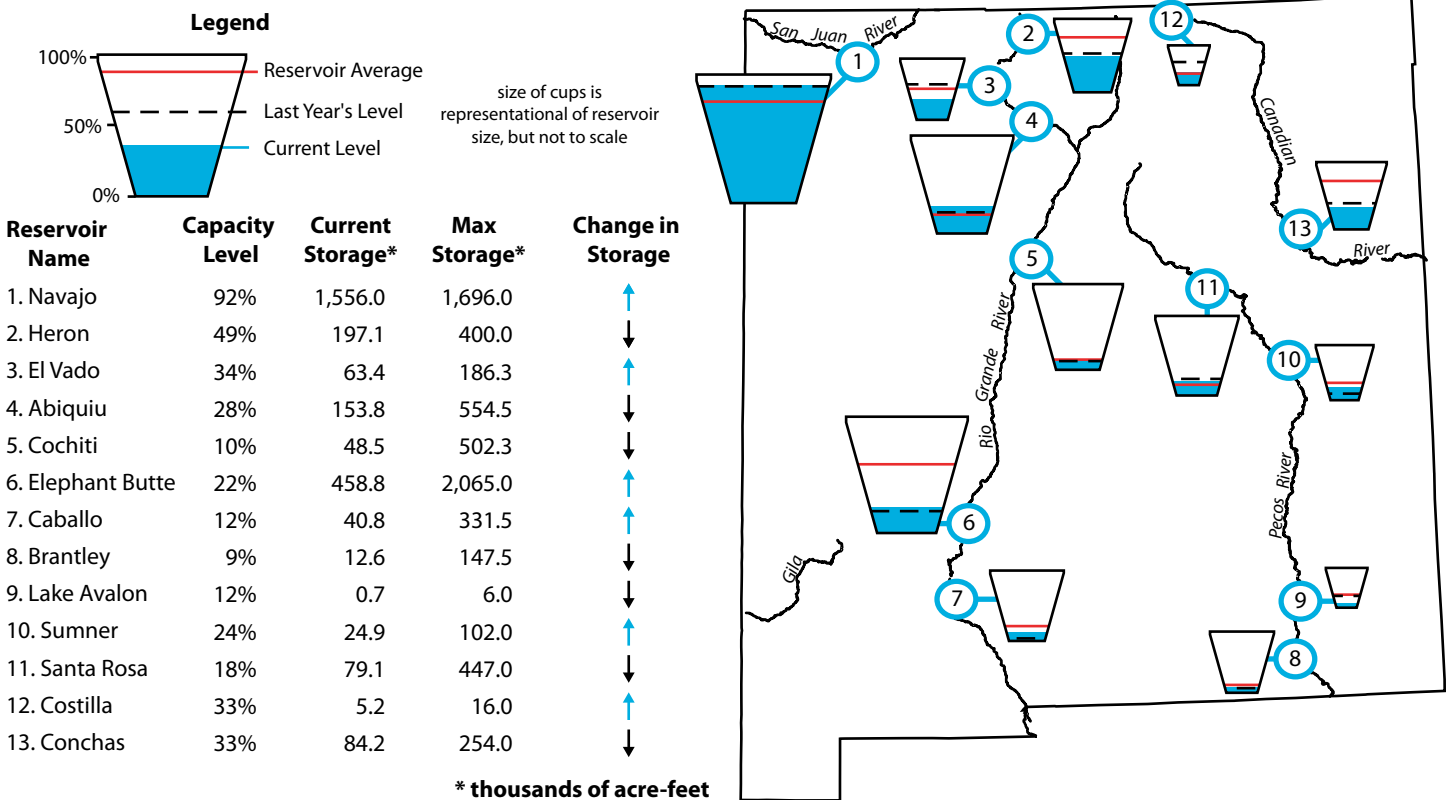
Notes:

The map gives a representation of current storage levels for reservoirs in New Mexico. Reservoir locations are numbered within the blue circles on the map, corresponding to the reservoirs listed in the table. The cup next to each reservoir shows the current storage level (blue fill) as a percent of total capacity. Note that while the size of each cup varies with the size of the reservoir, these are representational and not to scale. Each cup also represents last year’s storage level (dotted line) and the 1971–2000 reservoir average (red line).

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Figure 2. New Mexico reservoir levels for November 2006 as a percent of capacity. The map also depicts the average level and last year’s storage for each reservoir. The table also lists current and maximum storage levels, and change in storage since last month.



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