Arizona Reservoir Levels

(through 11/30/07)

Source: National Water and Climate Center

Storage increased in the majority of Arizona reservoirs during November. Despite small increases, storage in the Salt and Verde River reservoirs is below average, and well below capacity. Storage in Lake Powell is expected to continue declining until the spring 2008 snowmelt runoff season. The November increases in the San Carlos and Salt River Basin reservoirs were probably due to precipitation from a major storm that visited the region, following a dry fall. Early December storms dumped copious precipitation and snow over much of the state.

On December 13, 2007, Interior Secretary Dirk Kempthorne signed an agreement for the Colorado River Basin states to share and conserve water during shortages on the river. The agreement specifies new rules for declaring shortages and for management of lakes Powell and Mead. Las Vegas will receive more Colorado River in exchange for financing the construction of the Drop 2 Reservoir in California.

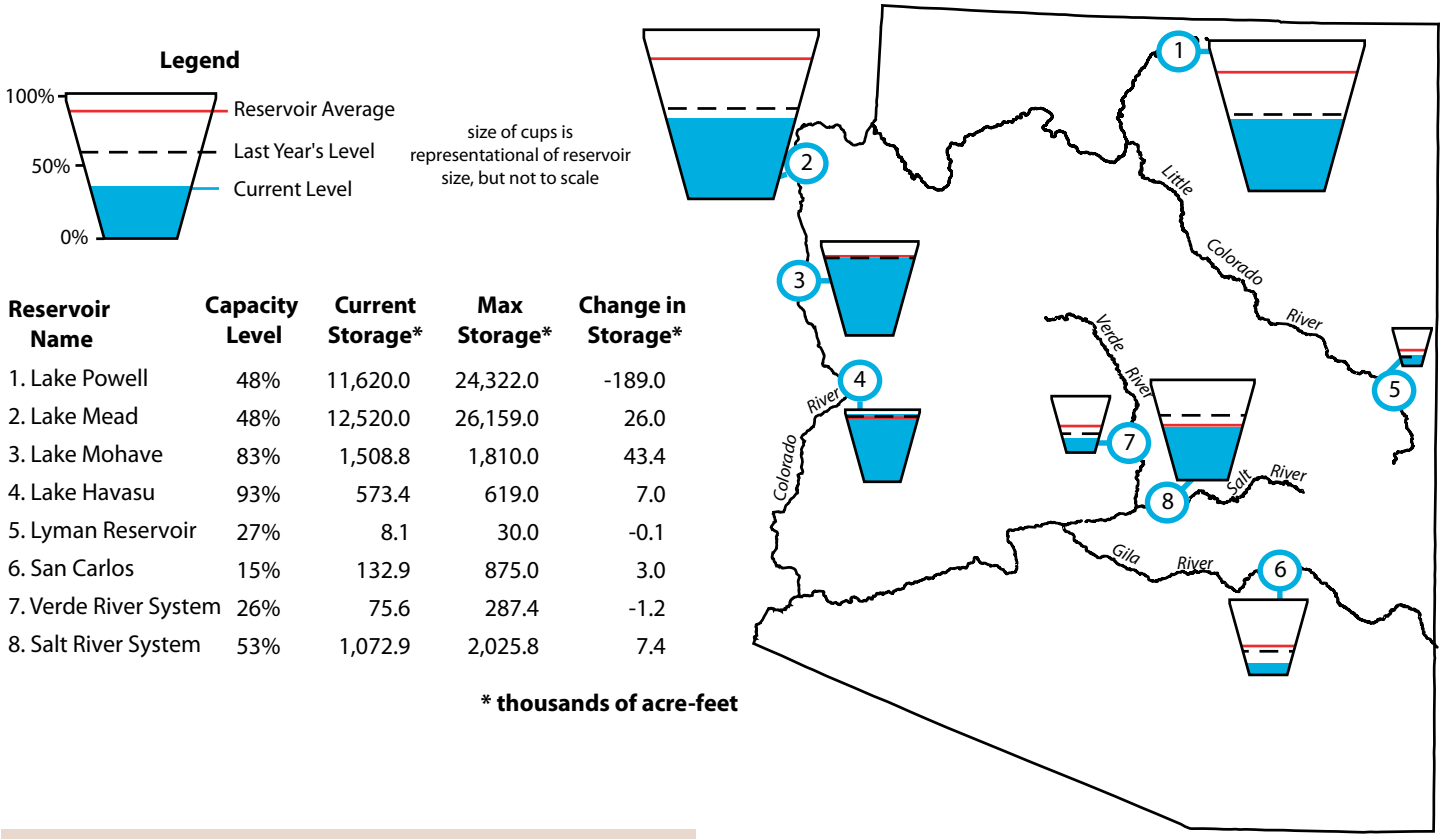
Notes:

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. One acre-foot is the volume of water sufficient to cover an acre of land to a depth of 1 foot (approximately 325,851 gallons). On average, 1 acre-foot of water is enough to meet the demands of 4 people for a year. The last column of the table list 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 (NRCS). For additional information, contact Larry Martinez, NRCS, Larry.Martinez@az.usda.gov.

Figure 1. Arizona reservoir levels for November 2007 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.



Reservoir Name	Capacity Level	Current Storage*	Max Storage*	Change in Storage*
1. Lake Powell	48%	11,620.0	24,322.0	-189.0
2. Lake Mead	48%	12,520.0	26,159.0	26.0
3. Lake Mohave	83%	1,508.8	1,810.0	43.4
4. Lake Havasu	93%	573.4	619.0	7.0
5. Lyman Reservoir	27%	8.1	30.0	-0.1
6. San Carlos	15%	132.9	875.0	3.0
7. Verde River System	26%	75.6	287.4	-1.2
8. Salt River System	53%	1,072.9	2,025.8	7.4

*** thousands of acre-feet**

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 11/30/07)

Source: National Water and Climate Center

There were no major changes in storage in New Mexico's largest reservoirs. Brantley Reservoir and Lake Avalon storage declined by large percentages between the end of October and the end of November.

New Mexico State Engineer John D'Antonio cautioned members of the state legislature's Water and Natural Resources Committee that failure to settle Indian water rights claims along the San Juan River would have adverse impacts on all water users (*Santa Fe New Mexican*, November 27). The Navajo Nation has the largest pending settlement. Congress is reviewing legislation related to the Navajo settlement, which has implications for the City of Gallup's water supply, as well as for mining operations and irrigators in northwestern New Mexico. According to the report in the *New Mexican*, the San Juan Agriculture Water Users oppose the Navajo settlement, saying that it gives too much water to the Navajo Nation and that it does not protect non-Indian irrigators.

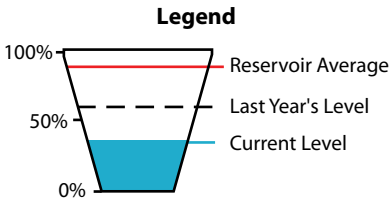
Notes:

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).

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. One acre-foot is the volume of water sufficient to cover an acre of land to a depth of 1 foot (approximately 325,851 gallons). On average, 1 acre-foot of water is enough to meet the demands of 4 people for a year. The last column of the table list 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 (NRCS). For additional information, contact Larry Martinez, NRCS, Larry.Martinez@az.usda.gov.

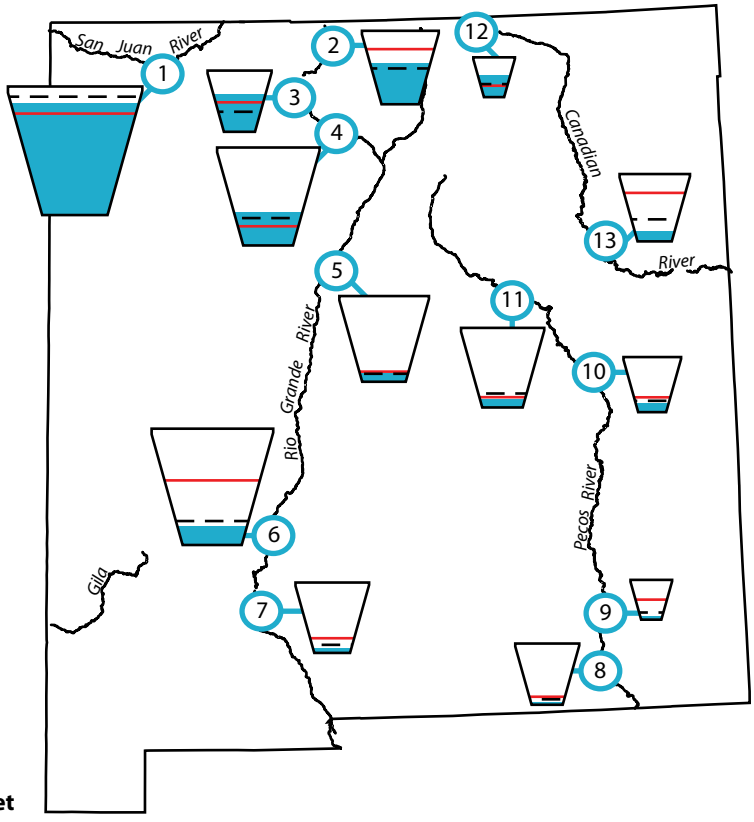
Figure 2. New Mexico reservoir levels for November 2007 as a percent of capacity. The map also depicts the average level and last year's storage for each reservoir. The table also lists current and maximum storage levels, and change in storage since last month.



size of cups is representational of reservoir size, but not to scale

Reservoir Name	Capacity Level	Current Storage*	Max Storage*	Change in Storage*
1. Navajo	87%	1,481.5	1,696.0	-27.1
2. Heron	56%	222.9	400.0	-0.6
3. El Vado	61%	119.4	195.0	-2.8
4. Abiquiu	33%	181.8	554.5	0.4
5. Cochiti	10%	50.4	491.0	0.6
6. Elephant Butte	16%	352.0	2,195.0	27.1
7. Caballo	7%	22.2	332.0	1.7
8. Brantley	4%	5.7	147.5	-12.2
9. Lake Avalon	10%	0.4	4.0	-1.1
10. Sumner	17%	17.5	102.0	0.0
11. Santa Rosa	11%	49.8	438.3	-0.1
12. Costilla	54%	8.7	16.0	0.4
13. Conchas	16%	39.9	254.2	-3.7

*** thousands of acre-feet**



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