

## YAKIMA BASIN WATER SUPPLY - MAY FORECAST

Pacific Northwest Region

Boise, Idaho

Media Contact: John Redding (208) 378-5212 Chuck Garner (509) 575-5848 ext. 205

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The Bureau of Reclamation has just released the May 2007, forecast for irrigation water supply in the Yakima Basin. The forecast is based on flow data, current snowpack and this year's precipitation data.

"We are expecting a near average water supply at this time," said Chuck Garner, Yakima Project river operations supervisor. "The May 2007 forecast indicates a full water supply for all water users."

As of May 1, system storage was a healthy 121 percent of average at 92 percent full.

"The overall water situation is good. The reservoir storage is very good but the snowpack is below average and spotty right now," Garner said.

At this time both junior and senior water rights holders are expected to receive their full water supply. Specific water delivery levels will not be determined until later in the year.

The weather conditions that determine precipitation, the run-off timing, and demand for water are critical in determining whether the reservoirs fill, the amount of water available for irrigation, and possible rationing levels. If warm, dry weather prompts an early run-off, the situation could degrade.

Water demands requiring storage releases, even prior to storage control, may be charged to the users' total entitlement.

Reservoir storage on May 1, 2007

Reservoir Content (acre-ft)	Total Capacity	percent of Capacity	Keechelus	145465							
157,800	92	Kachess	228302	239,000	96	Cle Elum	407880	436,900	93	Bumping	19953
33,700	59	Rimrock	176840	198,000	89	Totals	978440	1,065,400	92		