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# Water Supply Outlook

May 2026



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**Water Supply Outlook** | Environment and Protected Areas

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## Summary

The May Water Supply Outlook forecasts above normal to much above normal March to September river volumes for the North Saskatchewan, Red Deer, Bow, and most of the Oldman River basins. The St. Mary River forecast indicates near normal runoff, while the Milk River basin is expected to see much below normal March to September volumes. All basins are forecast to have March to September volumes that exceed those observed in 2025.

The reduction in the Milk River forecasts from April to May is partly due to the below average natural flows observed in March and April. Although winter precipitation was generally strong, much of the snowmelt entered the rivers earlier than usual or was absorbed into dry soils, rather than contributing to runoff in rivers. Snowmelt runoff in this region appears to be largely complete, and if the developing dry pattern continues into the coming months, only limited additional runoff is likely, resulting in a below normal runoff forecast for the season.

A series of spring storms significantly increased the winter precipitation totals across much of Alberta resulting in normal to much above normal conditions in most locations. Only a small pocket of slightly below normal precipitation remains between Claresholm and Brooks as well as the southern border.

Basin wide storage for large reservoirs is above normal in the Athabasca River, North Saskatchewan River, Bow River and Oldman & South Saskatchewan River basins; and normal in the Red Deer River basin.

The Water Supply Outlook is available here: <https://rivers.alberta.ca/Contents/WaterSupply/2026/5/>



# Contents

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 1. Mountain Runoff Forecast.....   | 3  |
| 2. Mountain Runoff Forecast Comparisons .....                                    | 5  |
| 3. Reservoir Storage .....   | 7  |
| 4. Snow Conditions .....   | 9  |
| 5. Seasonal Precipitation.....   | 11 |
| 6. Long-Range Weather Outlooks .....   | 14 |
| 7. Soil Moisture Maps .....  | 15 |
| 8. Table: Provincial Reservoir Storage Summary .....                             | 16 |
| 9. Table: Mountain Runoff Volume Forecast for<br>May 1 to Sept 30, 2026 .....    | 18 |
| 10. Table: Recorded (Natural)<br>March 1 to May 1, 2026 Volume .....             | 19 |
| 11. Table: Mountain Runoff Volume Forecast<br>for March 1 to Sept 30, 2026 ..... | 20 |
| 12. Water Supply Outlook Figures .....   | 21 |



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## 1. Mountain Runoff Forecast

**North Saskatchewan River basin:** Above normal to much above normal

**Red Deer River basin:** Above normal

**Bow River basin:** Above normal to much above normal

**Oldman River basin:** Normal to much above normal

**Milk River basin:** Much below normal

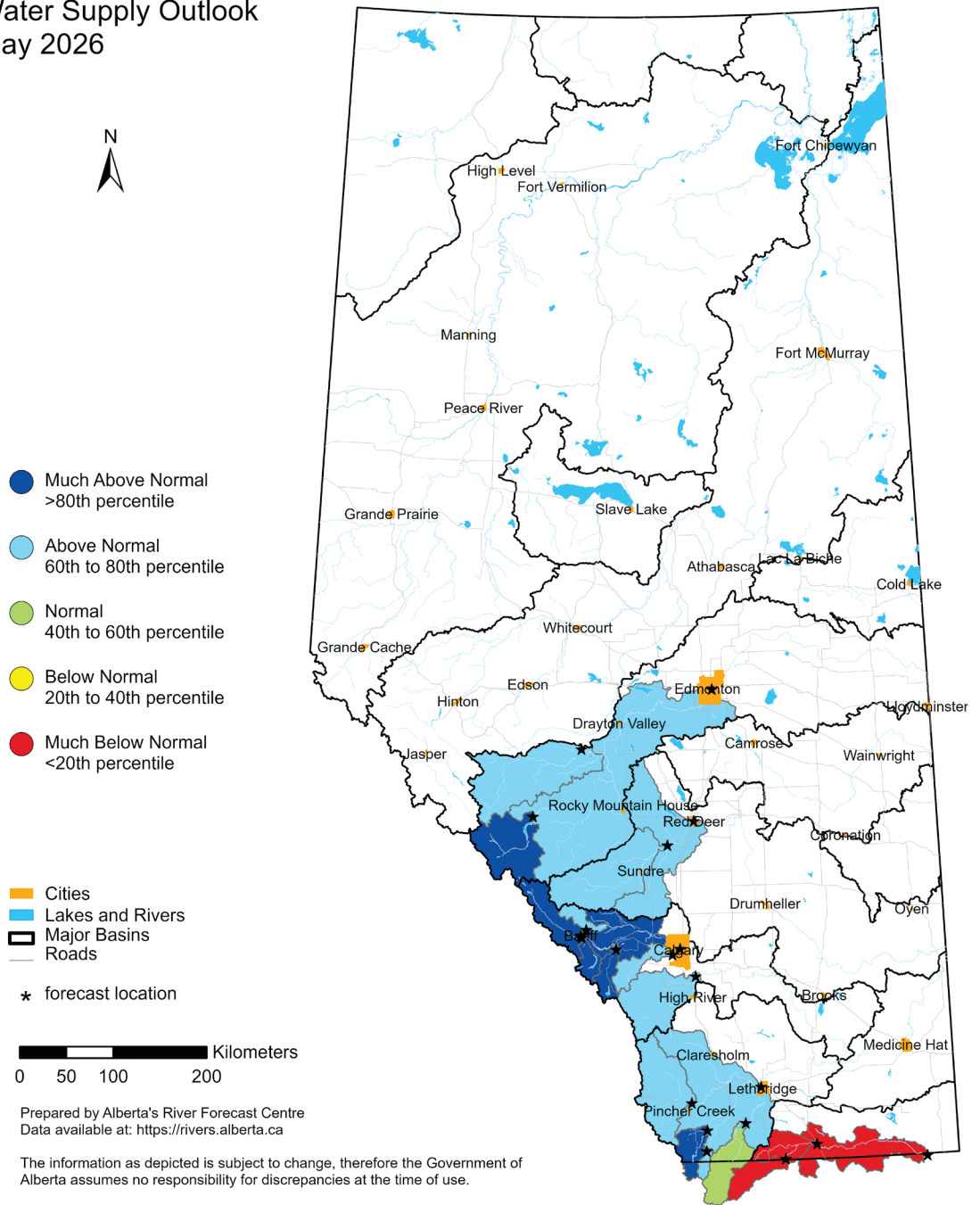
Precipitation can have a major impact on water supply between now and the end of September. These forecasts assume that precipitation over the remainder of the forecast period will be normal. Quantile values illustrate some of the possible variation in future precipitation amounts.

Observed and forecasted natural flow volumes are preliminary and subject to change. Since more information becomes known over time, forecast ranges will narrow. Streamflow volume forecasts are updated monthly from February to August.

The Mountain Runoff Forecast is a seasonal decision-making tool and is not intended to guide day-to-day operations. The forecasts are statistical regressions between predictors and estimated monthly natural streamflow at select locations for the period from March to September. The natural flow volumes used in these regressions are the official historical natural flow volumes calculated by EPA's regional hydrologists. These calculations account for reservoir operations, precipitation/evaporation at the reservoirs, and all documented withdrawals and diversions. The suite of predictors includes snow courses surveyed near the first of the month, snow pillow values on the first of the month, accumulated winter precipitation at stations located throughout the forecast basin and fall flow volumes for the 30-year normal period from 1981 to 2009.

**Figure 1:** Mountain Runoff Forecast Descriptions

**Mountain Runoff Forecasts: March to September  
Water Supply Outlook  
May 2026**





## 2. Mountain Runoff Forecast Comparisons

### **North Saskatchewan River Basin forecasts:**

- Ranked between 61<sup>st</sup> and 85<sup>th</sup> out of 99 years of record
- Above the 2025 observed March-September volumes

### **Red Deer River Basin forecasts:**

- Ranked 61<sup>st</sup> and 72<sup>nd</sup> out of 99 years of record
- Well above the 2025 observed March-September volumes

### **Bow River Basin forecasts:**

- Ranked between 57<sup>th</sup> and 89<sup>th</sup> out of 99 years of record
- Well above the 2025 observed March-September volumes

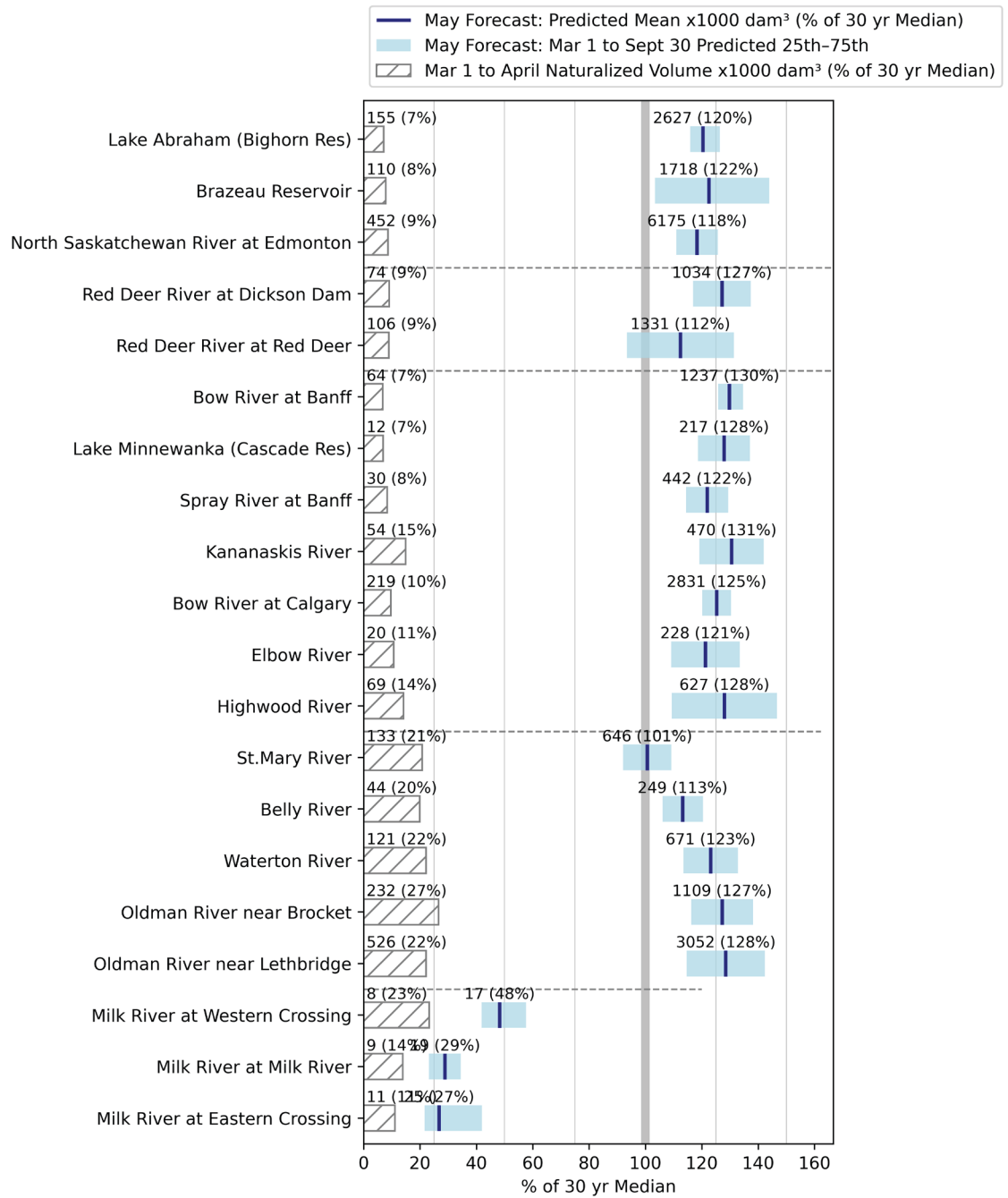
### **Oldman River Basin forecasts:**

- Ranked between 30<sup>th</sup> and 71<sup>st</sup> out of 99 years of record
- Well above the 2025 observed March-September volumes

### **Milk River Basin forecasts:**

- Ranked between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> out of 99 years of record
- Above the 2025 observed March-September volumes

**Figure 2:** March to September Forecast Comparison Plots



### 3. Reservoir Storage

Detailed reservoir storage volume information can be found in tables at the end of this report and in daily updates to the Reservoir Storage Summary Report available on the Alberta River Basins website.

Summary of reservoir storage status (basin totals):

**Athabasca River basin (77% full):** Basin total is above normal for this time of year. Since the previous month, volumes have increased by 14%.

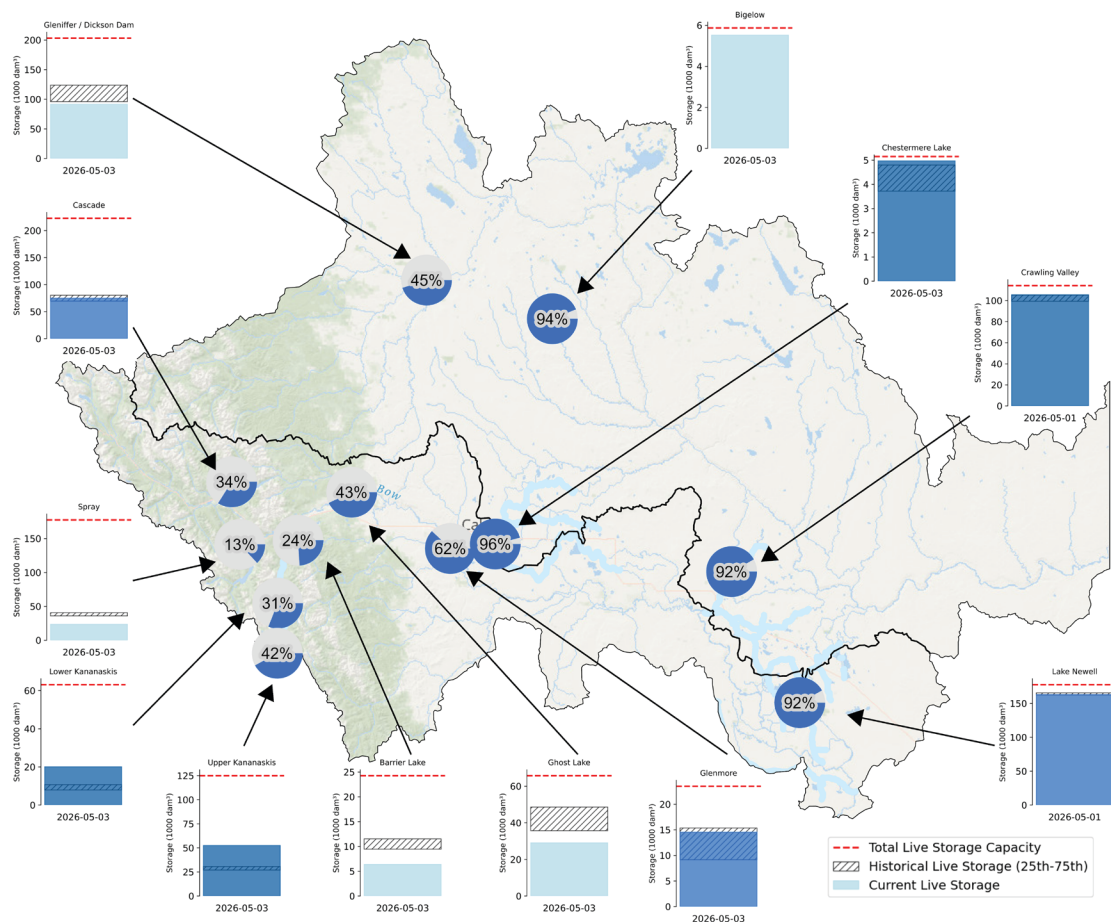
**North Saskatchewan River basin (24% full):** Basin total is above normal for this time of year. Since the previous month, volumes have decreased by 30%.

**Red Deer River basin (54% full):** Basin total is normal for this time of year. Since the previous month, volumes have increased by 8%.

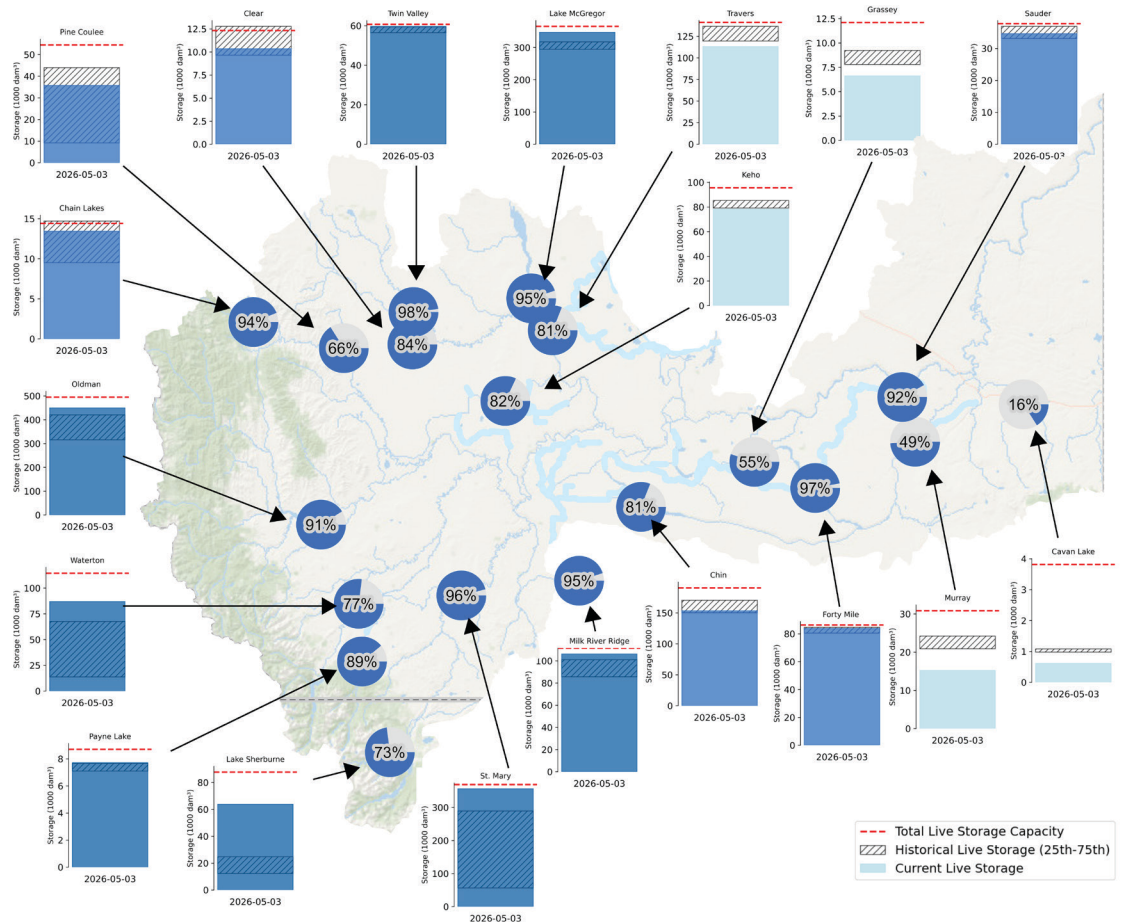
**Bow River basin (66% full):** Basin total is above normal for this time of year. Since the previous month, volumes have decreased by 1%.

**Oldman & South Saskatchewan River basins (87% full):** Basin total is above normal for this time of year. Since the previous month, volumes have increased by 4%.

**Figure 3: Reservoir Storage Summary Map: Bow River and Red Deer River Basin Reservoirs**



**Figure 4: Reservoir Storage Summary Map: Oldman River and South Saskatchewan River Basin Reservoirs**



## 4. Snow Conditions

Around the beginning of May, 27 mountain snowpack sites were surveyed in Alberta. Of the 26 sites that have more than 20 years of historical records, 24 had snowpack conditions that were above normal or much above normal, and 13 sites are within the top five highest observations on record. Only 1 of 5 scheduled snow surveys were completed this month in the Oldman River basin. The Bow River basin had 14 of its normal 17 surveys completed.

**Athabasca River Basin:** above normal; ranging from 118% at Sunwapta Falls to 121% at Marmot-Jasper; basin average is 107 mm higher than last year (2 Alberta sites surveyed)

**North Saskatchewan River Basin:** normal to much above normal; ranging from 79% at Limestone Ridge to 166% at Nigel Creek; three sites are in the top five and the basin average is 185 mm higher than last year (8 Alberta mountain sites surveyed)

**Red Deer River Basin:** much above normal; ranging from 152% at McConnell Creek to 160% at Gable Mountain, both locations are in the top five and the basin average is also 185 mm higher than last year (2 Alberta mountain sites surveyed)

**Bow River Basin:** much above normal; ranging from 116% at Three Isle Lake to 173% at Cuthead Lake; eight sites are in the top five and the basin average is 281 mm higher than last year (14 Alberta mountain sites surveyed)

**Oldman River Basin:** much below normal; 47% at Akamina Pass 2; Akamina Pass 2 is in the bottom five years of record, and the basin average is 15 mm higher than last year (1 Alberta mountain sites surveyed)

Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation publishes maps of modelled plains snow accumulations and accumulations as compared to normal. <https://www.acis.alberta.ca/acis/climate-maps.jsp>

**Figure 5: Snow Survey Results Compared to Normal**

### Snow Survey Results: May 2026

- Much Above Normal  
>80th percentile
- Above Normal  
60th to 80th percentile
- Normal  
40th to 60th percentile
- Below Normal  
20th to 40th percentile
- Much Below Normal  
<20th percentile
- Missing Value
- Insufficient Data to Calculate Normals

- Cities
  - Lakes and Rivers
  - Major Basins
  - Roads
  - \* Data from snow pillow/scale
- 0 50 100 200 Kilometers

Prepared by Alberta's River Forecast Centre  
Data available at: <https://rivers.alberta.ca>

The information as depicted is subject to change, therefore the Government of Alberta assumes no responsibility for discrepancies at the time of use.





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## 5. Seasonal Precipitation

Precipitation in April varied widely across the province. Most areas saw normal to above normal amounts of precipitation, with the main exceptions being the regions around Grande Prairie, Stettler, the southern border, and parts of the central and northern Rockies, where below-normal precipitation was observed.

Despite relatively low April precipitation, winter precipitation along the Rockies remains above normal. Much of north-central Alberta has also seen above-normal winter totals, while conditions in the south are closer to normal or below normal.

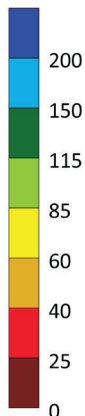
Accumulated precipitation and percent of normal maps are available on the Alberta River Basins website and the Alberta Rivers app: previous month, winter, fall and summer seasonal amounts and the complete water year. <https://rivers.alberta.ca/Contents/PrecipitationMaps/2026/5/>

**Figure 6:** Past Month Precipitation as Percent of Normal

### Precipitation Map

### Percent of Normal

Stations have a minimum record of 30 years



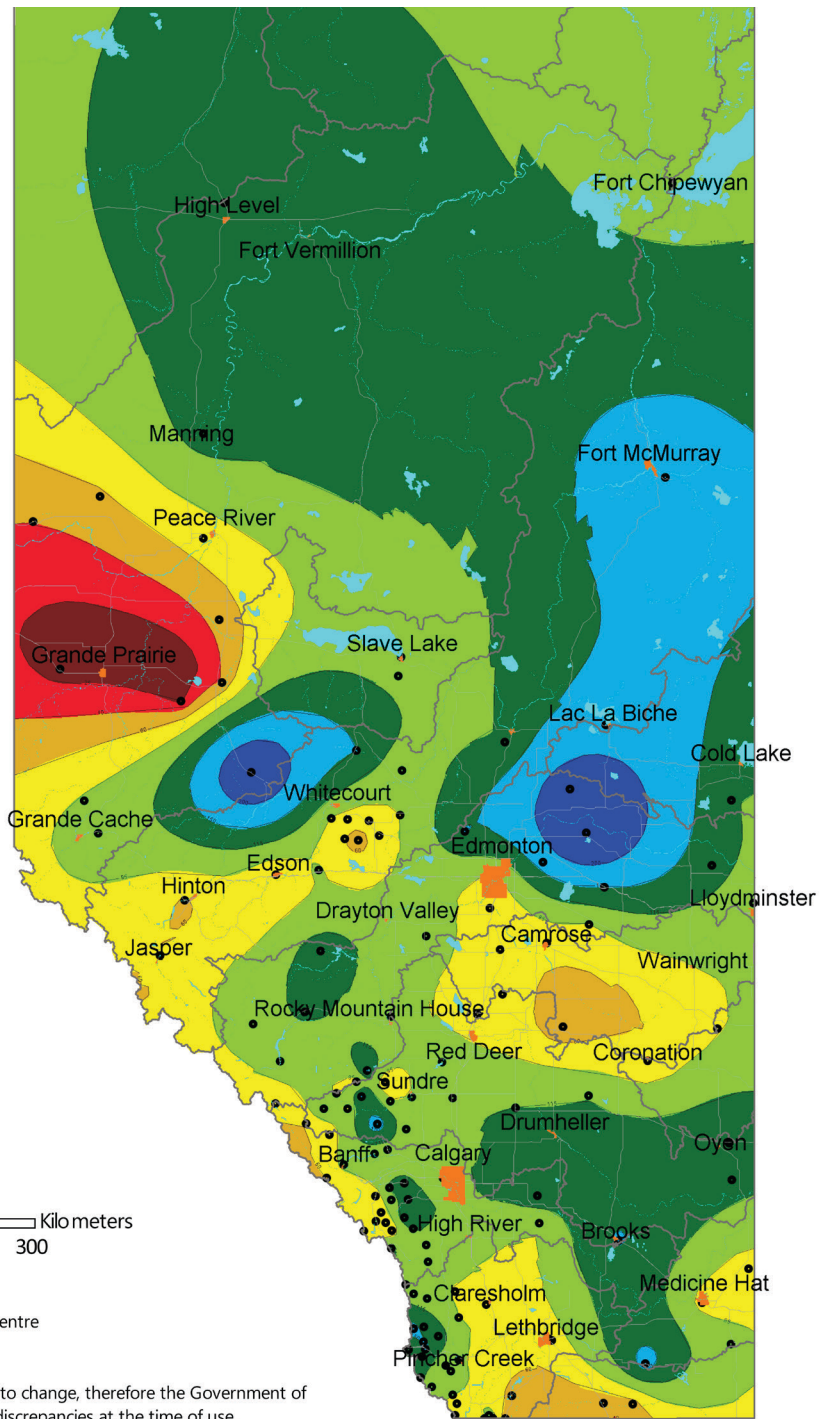
April % Normal  
 April 01, 2026 00:00  
 May 01, 2026 00:00

- Cities
- Lakes and Rivers
- Major Basins
- Roads
- Precipitation Stations



Prepared by Alberta's River Forecast Centre  
<https://rivers.alberta.ca>

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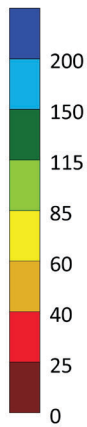


**Figure 7:** Winter Precipitation as Percent of Normal

### Precipitation Map

### Percent of Normal

Stations have a minimum record of 30 years



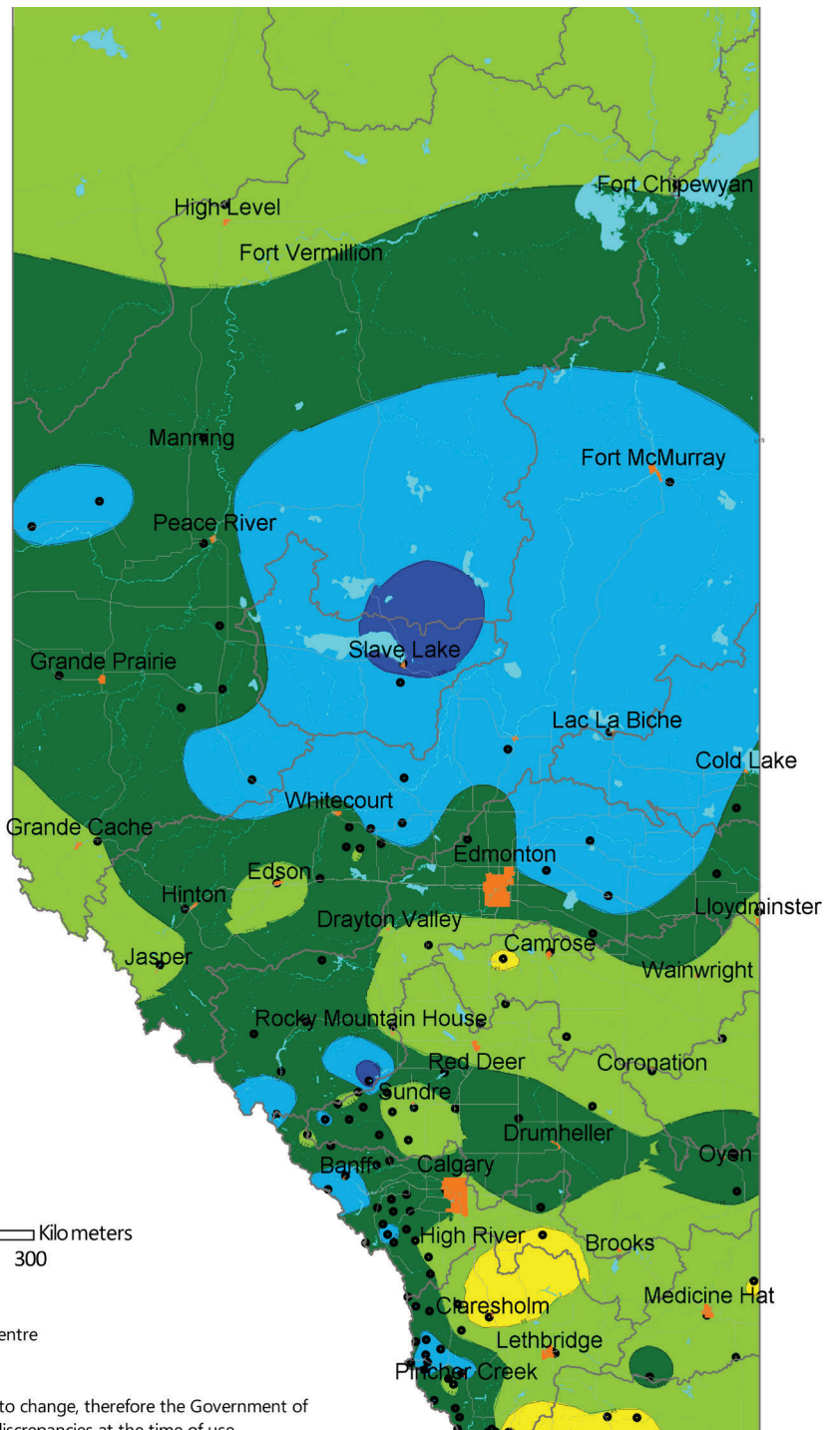
Winter Season to Date  
November 01, 2025 00:00  
May 01, 2026 00:00

- Cities
- Lakes and Rivers
- Major Basins
- Roads
- Precipitation Stations



Prepared by Alberta's River Forecast Centre  
<https://rivers.alberta.ca>

The information as depicted is subject to change, therefore the Government of Alberta assumes no responsibility for discrepancies at the time of use.



## 6. Long-Range Weather Outlooks

### Environment and Climate Change Canada (issued April 30, 2026):

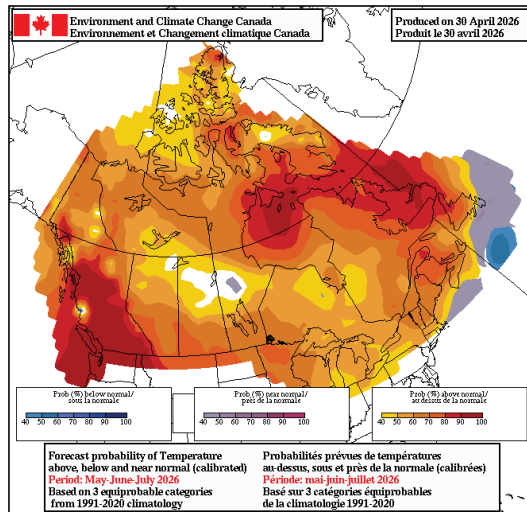
The May-June-July forecast shows a likelihood of above-normal temperatures across much of the province, with the highest likelihood in the south and along the Rockies. There is an equal chance of above normal, normal, or below normal amounts of precipitation. <https://weather.gc.ca/saisons/>

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) (issued on April 16, 2026):

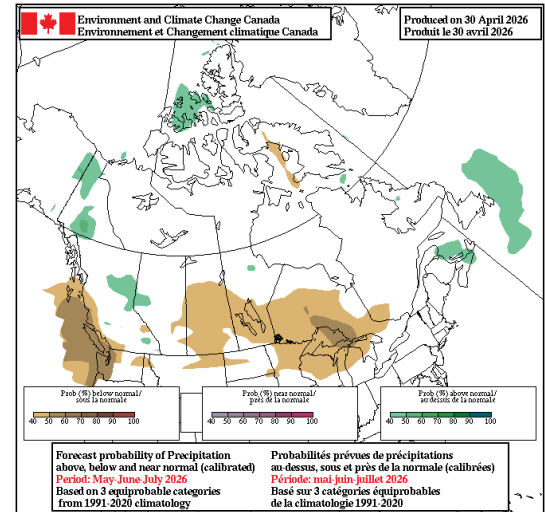
The May-June-July forecast shows a tendency toward above-normal temperatures and below-normal precipitation in southern Alberta. [https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long\\_range/seasonal.php](https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long_range/seasonal.php)

**Climate Indicators (NOAA) (issued April 9, 2026):** ENSO-neutral conditions are present and are favored through April-June 2026 (80% chance). In May-July 2026, El Niño is likely to emerge (61% chance) and persist through at least the end of 2026. El Niño summers tend to bring warmer temperatures and overall drying trends, but also the potential for increased convective instability across Alberta. [https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis\\_monitoring/enso\\_advisory/ensodisc.pdf](https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/enso_advisory/ensodisc.pdf)

**Figure 8:** ECCC Forecast Probability of Temperature - above, below and near normal (calibrated)



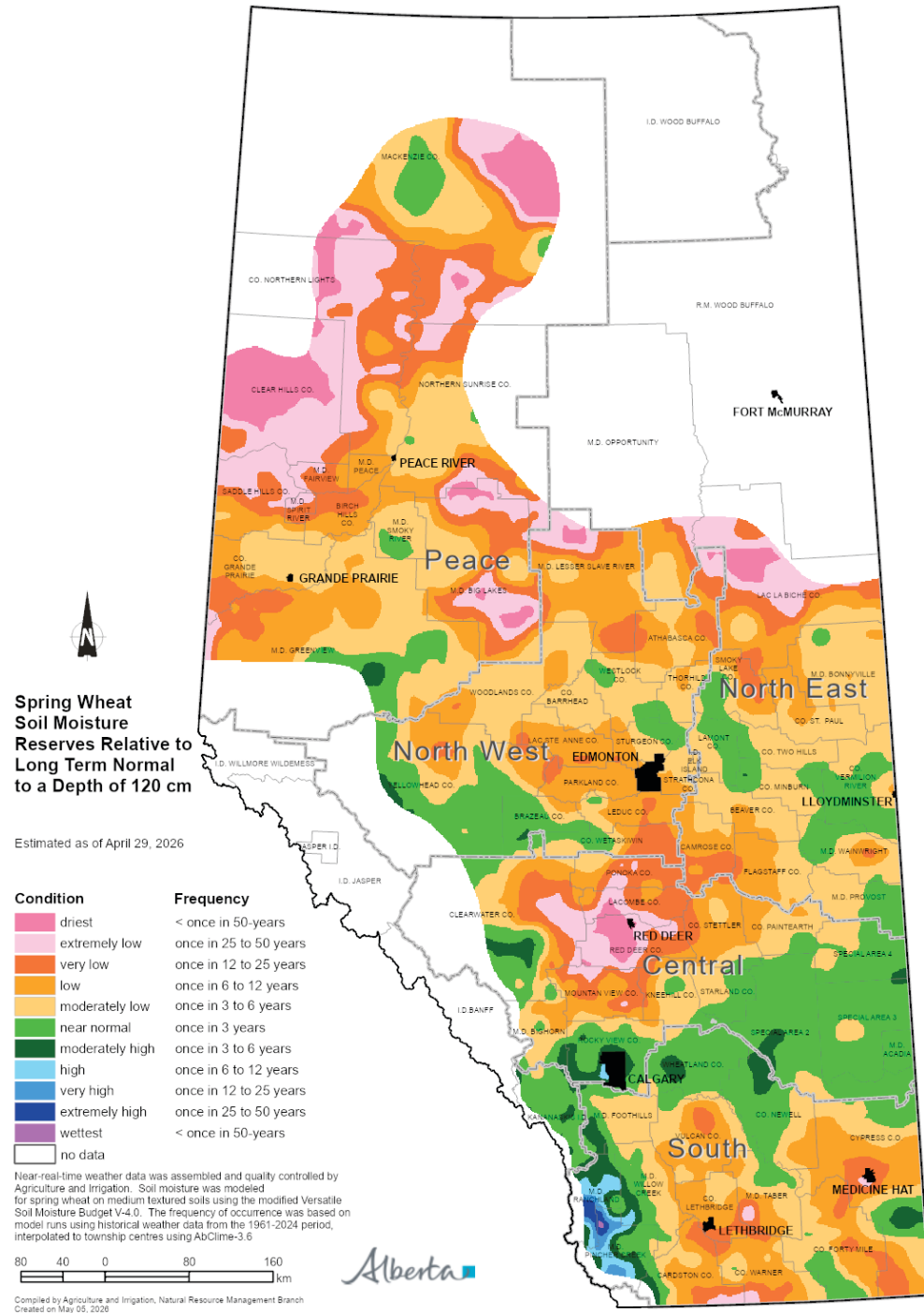
**Figure 9:** ECCC Forecast Probability of Precipitation - above, below and near normal (calibrated)



## 7. Soil Moisture Maps

Compiled by Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation. Soil moisture was modeled for spring wheat on medium textured soils.  
<https://www.acis.alberta.ca/acis/climate-maps.jsp>

**Figure 10:** Spring Wheat Soil Moisture Reserves Relative to Long Term Normal



Visit [weatherdata.ca](http://weatherdata.ca) for additional maps and meteorological data

## 8. Table: Provincial Reservoir Storage Summary

|                                    | Station ID   | Storage (dam <sup>3</sup> ) | Max Storage (dam <sup>3</sup> ) | % of Max Storage | Compared to Normal Range | Change from 06-Apr-2026 (dam <sup>3</sup> ) | Change from 06-Apr-2026 (%) | Water Elevation (m) | Day of Reading |
|------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| <b>Peace River Basin</b>           |              |                             |                                 |                  |                          |   |                             |                     |                |
| Williston Lake near Schooler Creek | 07EF003      | 24,283,960                  | 39,472,000                      | 62%              | -                        | 62,182                                      | 0.3%                        | 31.48               | 2026-05-03     |
| <b>Athabasca Basin</b>             |              |                             |                                 |                  |                          |   |                             |                     |                |
| Paddle River                       | 07BB914      | 19,059                      | 38,875                          | 49%              | ABOVE                    | 172   | 1%                          | 696.91              | 2026-05-03     |
| South Heart                        | 07BF008      | 42,828                      | 41,848                          | 104%             | ABOVE                    | 8,374                                       | 24%                         | 626.15              | 2026-05-03     |
|                                    | <b>Total</b> | 61,887                      | 80,723                          | 77%              | ABOVE                    | 8,546                                       | 14%                         |                     |                |
| <b>North Saskatchewan Basin</b>    |              |                             |                                 |                  |                          |   |                             |                     |                |
| Bighorn                            | TAU-001      | 419,548                     | 1,409,900                       | 30%              | ABOVE                    | -164,884                                    | -28%                        | -                   | 2026-05-03     |
| Brazeau                            | 05DD006      | 29,055                      | 486,300                         | 6%               | NORMAL                   | 28,521                                      | 5,341%                      | 949.7               | 2026-05-03     |
|                                    | <b>Total</b> | 448,603                     | 1,896,200                       | 24%              | ABOVE                    | -136,363                                    | -30%                        |                     |                |
| <b>Battle Basin</b>                |              |                             |                                 |                  |                          |   |                             |                     |                |
| Coal Lake                          | 05FA016      | -                           | -                               | -%               | -                        | -   | -%                          | 702.76              | 2026-05-04     |
| Driedmeat Lake                     | 05FA020      | -                           | -                               | -%               | -                        | -   | -%                          | 685.24              | 2026-05-04     |
| <b>Red Deer Basin</b>              |              |                             |                                 |                  |                          |   |                             |                     |                |
| Berry Creek / Carolside            | 05CH014      | 16,285                      | 18,500                          | 88%              | BELOW                    | 452   | 3%                          | 733.51              | 2026-05-03     |
| Bigelow                            | 05CE901      | 5,521                       | 5,869                           | 94%              | -                        | 626   | 13%                         | 882.14              | 2026-05-03     |
| Forster / Deadfish                 | 05CH013      | 2,867                       | 3,700                           | 77%              | -                        | 87  | 3%                          | 705.13              | 2026-05-03     |
| Gleniffer / Dickson Dam            | 05CB006      | 91,557                      | 203,100                         | 45%              | BELOW                    | 3,887                                       | 4%                          | 940.08              | 2026-05-03     |
| Snake Lake                         | WMO-002      | 19,213                      | 18,521                          | 104%             | NORMAL                   | 5,658                                       | 42%                         | -                   | 2026-05-01     |
|                                    | <b>Total</b> | 135,443                     | 249,690                         | 54%              | NORMAL                   | 10,710                                      | 8%                          |                     |                |
| <b>Bow Basin: Headwaters</b>       |              |                             |                                 |                  |                          |   |                             |                     |                |
| Barrier Lake                       | 05BF024      | 6,388                       | 24,255                          | 24%              | BELOW                    | -10,235                                     | -62%                        | 1369.09             | 2026-05-03     |
| Cascade                            | TAU-002      | 74,990                      | 222,600                         | 34%              | NORMAL                   | -10,866                                     | -13%                        | -                   | 2026-05-03     |
| Ghost Lake                         | 05BE005      | 29,050                      | 65,730                          | 43%              | BELOW                    | -27,566                                     | -49%                        | 1188.01             | 2026-05-03     |
| Glenmore                           | 05BJ008      | 14,547                      | 23,502                          | 62%              | NORMAL                   | -4,845                                      | -25%                        | 1074.46             | 2026-05-03     |
| Lower Kananaskis                   | 05BF009      | 20,073                      | 63,100                          | 31%              | ABOVE                    | -5,696                                      | -22%                        | 1659.12             | 2026-05-03     |
| Spray                              | 05BC006      | 23,570                      | 177,500                         | 13%              | BELOW                    | -14,353                                     | -38%                        | 1687.28             | 2026-05-03     |
| Upper Kananaskis                   | 05BF005      | 52,464                      | 124,947                         | 42%              | ABOVE                    | -2,915                                      | -5%                         | 1692.79             | 2026-05-03     |
|                                    | <b>Total</b> | 221,082                     | 701,634                         | 32%              | NORMAL                   | -76,476                                     | -35%                        |                     |                |

|   | Station ID | Storage (dam <sup>3</sup> ) | Max Storage (dam <sup>3</sup> ) | % of Max Storage | Compared to Normal Range | Change from 06-Apr-2026 (dam <sup>3</sup> ) | Change from 06-Apr-2026 (%) | Water Elevation (m) | Day of Reading |
|---|------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| <b>Bow Basin: Mainstem</b>                          |            |                             |                                 |                  |                          |   |                             |                     |                |
| Bassano   | 05BM907    | 9,600                       | -                               | -%               | -                        | 3,387                                       | 55%                         | -                   | 2026-05-01     |
| Chestermere Lake                                    | 05BM904    | 4,971                       | 5,150                           | 96%              | ABOVE                    | 3,847                                       | 342%                        | 1025.6              | 2026-05-03     |
| Crawling Valley                                     | 05BM908    | 105,610                     | 114,200                         | 92%              | ABOVE                    | 11,485                                      | 12%                         | -                   | 2026-05-01     |
| Lake Newell   | 05BN901    | 163,189                     | 177,600                         | 92%              | NORMAL                   | 6,471                                       | 4%                          | -                   | 2026-05-01     |
| <b>Total</b>  |            | 283,370                     | 296,950                         | 95%              | ABOVE                    | 25,190                                      | 9%                          |                     |                |
| <b>Bow Basin: Little Bow Basin</b>                  |            |                             |                                 |                  |                          |   |                             |                     |                |
| Clear   | 05AC901    | 10,351                      | 12,325                          | 84%              | NORMAL                   | 459   | 5%                          | 965.76              | 2026-05-03     |
| Lake McGregor                                       | 05AC022    | 347,450                     | 365,500                         | 95%              | ABOVE                    | 31,687                                      | 10%                         | 874.04              | 2026-05-03     |
| Little Bow  | 05AC922    | 33,378                      | 43,704                          | 76%              | -                        | 1,818                                       | 6%                          | 854.92              | 2026-05-03     |
| Travers   | 05AC921    | 113,081                     | 141,139                         | 81%              | BELOW                    | 5,376                                       | 5%                          | 854.93              | 2026-05-03     |
| Twin Valley   | 05AC940    | 59,662                      | 60,710                          | 98%              | ABOVE                    | 1,132                                       | 2%                          | 964.67              | 2026-05-03     |
| <b>Total</b>  |            | 563,922                     | 623,378                         | 90%              | ABOVE                    | 40,472                                      | 7%                          |                     |                |
| <b>Bow Basin Total</b>                              |            |                             |                                 |                  |                          |   |                             |                     |                |
| <b>Total</b>  |            | 1,068,374                   | 1,621,962                       | 66%              | ABOVE                    | -10,814                                     | -1%                         |                     |                |
| <b>Oldman Basin: Upper Oldman, Willow and Keho</b>  |            |                             |                                 |                  |                          |   |                             |                     |                |
| Chain Lakes   | 05AB037    | 13,443                      | 14,413                          | 94%              | NORMAL                   | 2,045                                       | 18%                         | 1296.8              | 2026-05-03     |
| Keho  | 05AC919    | 78,375                      | 95,600                          | 82%              | BELOW                    | 1,911                                       | 2%                          | 963.48              | 2026-05-03     |
| Oldman  | 05AA921    | 449,963                     | 495,056                         | 91%              | ABOVE                    | 38,511                                      | 9%                          | -                   | 2026-05-03     |
| Pine Coulee   | 05AB044    | 35,796                      | 54,446                          | 66%              | NORMAL                   | 2,078                                       | 6%                          | 1049.2              | 2026-05-03     |
| <b>Total</b>  |            | 577,577                     | 659,515                         | 88%              | ABOVE                    | 44,545                                      | 8%                          |                     |                |
| <b>South Sask Basin &amp; Oldman Basin: St Mary</b> |            |                             |                                 |                  |                          |   |                             |                     |                |
| Cavan Lake  | 05AH048    | 612                         | 3,815                           | 16%              | BELOW                    | -55   | -8%                         | 806.02              | 2026-05-03     |
| Chin  | 05AG901    | 153,450                     | 190,300                         | 81%              | NORMAL                   | -1,024                                      | -1%                         | -                   | 2026-05-03     |
| Forty Mile  | 05AH923    | 83,911                      | 86,340                          | 97%              | NORMAL                   | 71  | 0%                          | -                   | 2026-05-03     |
| Grassey   | 05AG903    | 6,611                       | 12,100                          | 55%              | BELOW                    | 1,845                                       | 39%                         | -                   | 2026-05-03     |
| Lake Sherburne                                      | 05AE036    | 63,830                      | 87,700                          | 73%              | ABOVE                    | -14,984                                     | -19%                        | 1456.1              | 2026-05-03     |
| Milk River Ridge                                    | 05AF030    | 106,278                     | 111,500                         | 95%              | ABOVE                    | 9,113                                       | 9%                          | 1032                | 2026-05-03     |
| Murray  | 05AH924    | 15,220                      | 30,825                          | 49%              | BELOW                    | -77   | -1%                         | -                   | 2026-05-03     |
| Payne Lake  | 05AD940    | 7,717                       | 8,703                           | 89%              | ABOVE                    | 860   | 13%                         | 1343.1              | 2026-05-03     |
| Sauder  | 05AJ907    | 34,667                      | 37,795                          | 92%              | NORMAL                   | 4,323                                       | 14%                         | -                   | 2026-05-03     |
| St. Mary  | 05AE025    | 356,410                     | 369,304                         | 96%              | ABOVE                    | 4,143                                       | 1%                          | 1103.2              | 2026-05-03     |
| Waterton  | 05AD026    | 86,916                      | 114,418                         | 77%              | ABOVE                    | 13,038                                      | 18%                         | 1182.9              | 2026-05-03     |
| <b>Total</b>  |            | 915,622                     | 1,052,800                       | 87%              | ABOVE                    | 17,253                                      | 2%                          |                     |                |
| <b>Oldman &amp; South Sask Basin Total</b>          |            |                             |                                 |                  |                          |   |                             |                     |                |
| <b>Total</b>  |            | 1,493,199                   | 1,712,315                       | 87%              | ABOVE                    | 61,798                                      | 4%                          |                     |                |

## 9. Table: Mountain Runoff Volume Forecast for May 1 to Sept 30, 2026

| Locations                             | Volume in dam <sup>3</sup> | Volume as % of Median | Probable Range as % of Median | Potential Minimum as % of Median | Forecast Ranking (Low to High Years) | Forecast Description |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>North Saskatchewan River Basin</b> |                            |                       |                               |                                  |                                      |                      |
| Lake Abraham (Bighorn Res)            | 2,472,000                  | 120                   | 115-126                       | 111                              | 82/99                                | Much Above Normal    |
| Brazeau Reservoir                     | 1,608,000                  | 124                   | 103-147                       | 85                               | 62/99                                | Above Normal         |
| North Saskatchewan River at Edmonton  | 5,723,000                  | 128                   | 119-137                       | 112                              | 66/99                                | Above Normal         |
| <b>Red Deer River Basin</b>           |                            |                       |                               |                                  |                                      |                      |
| Red Deer River at Dickson Dam         | 960,000                    | 139                   | 127-152                       | 116                              | 73/99                                | Above Normal         |
| Red Deer River at Red Deer            | 1,225,000                  | 137                   | 112-162                       | 90                               | 68/99                                | Above Normal         |
| <b>Bow River Basin</b>                |                            |                       |                               |                                  |                                      |                      |
| Bow River at Banff                    | 1,173,000                  | 130                   | 125-135                       | 122                              | 81/99                                | Much Above Normal    |
| Lake Minnewanka (Cascade Res)         | 206,000                    | 131                   | 121-141                       | 112                              | 78/99                                | Above Normal         |
| Spray River at Banff                  | 411,000                    | 121                   | 113-129                       | 106                              | 85/99                                | Much Above Normal    |
| Kananaskis River                      | 417,000                    | 125                   | 113-138                       | 102                              | 64/99                                | Above Normal         |
| Bow River at Calgary                  | 2,612,000                  | 123                   | 118-128                       | 113                              | 80/99                                | Much Above Normal    |
| Elbow River                           | 208,000                    | 126                   | 112-140                       | 100                              | 63/99                                | Above Normal         |
| Highwood River                        | 558,000                    | 129                   | 108-150                       | 89                               | 58/99                                | Above Normal         |
| <b>Oldman River Basin</b>             |                            |                       |                               |                                  |                                      |                      |
| St.Mary River                         | 513,000                    | 92                    | 82-102                        | 73                               | 23/99                                | Below Normal         |
| Belly River                           | 205,000                    | 105                   | 96-113                        | 89                               | 38/95                                | Above Normal         |
| Waterton River                        | 550,000                    | 113                   | 102-124                       | 92                               | 54/99                                | Above Normal         |
| Oldman River near Brocket             | 877,000                    | 116                   | 103-128                       | 92                               | 47/99                                | Above Normal         |
| Oldman River near Lethbridge          | 2,526,000                  | 128                   | 111-145                       | 97                               | 51/98                                | Above Normal         |
| <b>Milk River Basin</b>               |                            |                       |                               |                                  |                                      |                      |
| Milk River at Western Crossing        | 9,000                      | 44                    | 33-61                         | 23                               | 13/99                                | Much Below Normal    |
| Milk River at Milk River              | 10,000                     | 31                    | 19-43                         | 9                                | 5/99                                 | Much Below Normal    |
| Milk River at Eastern Crossing        | 15,000                     | 30                    | 20-58                         | 6                                | 5/99                                 | Much Below Normal    |

Median is calculated for the period 1981-01-01 to 2009-12-31. Ranking is based on the period 1912-01-01 to 2009-12-31.

NOTE: There is a 50% chance that the actual natural flow will fall within the probable range given; a 25% chance that the actual flow will be less than the lower bound of the probable range given; and a 10% chance that the actual natural flow will be less than the potential minimum. Actual day to day streamflow conditions may vary throughout the season as a result of the effects of streamflow diversion and reservoir storage.

## 10. Table: Recorded (Natural) March 1 to May 1, 2026 Volume

| Locations                             | Recorded (Natural)<br>March 1 to April 1, 2026<br>Volume in dam <sup>3</sup> | Recorded (Natural)<br>March 1 to April 1, 2026<br>Volume as a % of Median | Ranking<br>(Low to High Years) | Recorded (Natural)<br>March 1 to April 1, 2026<br>Volume Description |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>North Saskatchewan River Basin</b> |  |   |                                |  |
| Lake Abraham (Bighorn Res)            | 155,000  | 152   | 85/99                          | Much Above Normal  |
| Brazeau Reservoir                     | 110,000  | 103   | 40/99                          | Normal   |
| North Saskatchewan River at Edmonton  | 452,000  | 84  | 40/99                          | Below Normal   |
| <b>Red Deer River Basin</b>           |  |   |                                |  |
| Red Deer River at Dickson Dam         | 74,000   | 77  | 19/99                          | Much Below Normal  |
| Red Deer River at Red Deer            | 106,000  | 58  | 23/99                          | Much Below Normal  |
| <b>Bow River Basin</b>                |  |   |                                |  |
| Bow River at Banff                    | 64,000   | 134   | 96/99                          | Much Above Normal  |
| Lake Minnewanka (Cascade Res)         | 12,000   | 80  | 21/99                          | Much Below Normal  |
| Spray River at Banff                  | 30,000   | 127   | 94/99                          | Much Above Normal  |
| Kananaskis River                      | 54,000   | 208   | 99/99                          | Much Above Normal  |
| Bow River at Calgary                  | 219,000  | 126   | 92/99                          | Much Above Normal  |
| Elbow River                           | 20,000   | 98  | 42/99                          | Normal   |
| Highwood River                        | 69,000   | 143   | 70/99                          | Much Above Normal  |
| <b>Oldman River Basin</b>             |  |   |                                |  |
| St.Mary River                         | 133,000  | 198   | 90/99                          | Much Above Normal  |
| Belly River                           | 44,000   | 186   | 93/95                          | Much Above Normal  |
| Waterton River                        | 121,000  | 236   | 97/99                          | Much Above Normal  |
| Oldman River near Brocket             | 232,000  | 226   | 93/99                          | Much Above Normal  |
| Oldman River near Lethbridge          | 526,000  | 216   | 82/98                          | Much Above Normal  |
| <b>Milk River Basin</b>               |  |   |                                |  |
| Milk River at Western Crossing        | 8,000  | 59  | 12/99                          | Much Below Normal  |
| Milk River at Milk River              | 9,000  | 48  | 3/99                           | Much Below Normal  |
| Milk River at Eastern Crossing        | 11,000   | 38  | 2/99                           | Much Below Normal  |

Recorded (natural) volumes are preliminary and subject to change.

Median is calculated for the period 1981-01-01 to 2009-12-31. Ranking is based on the period 1912-01-01 to 2009-12-31.

## 11. Table: Mountain Runoff Volume Forecast for March 1 to Sept 30, 2026

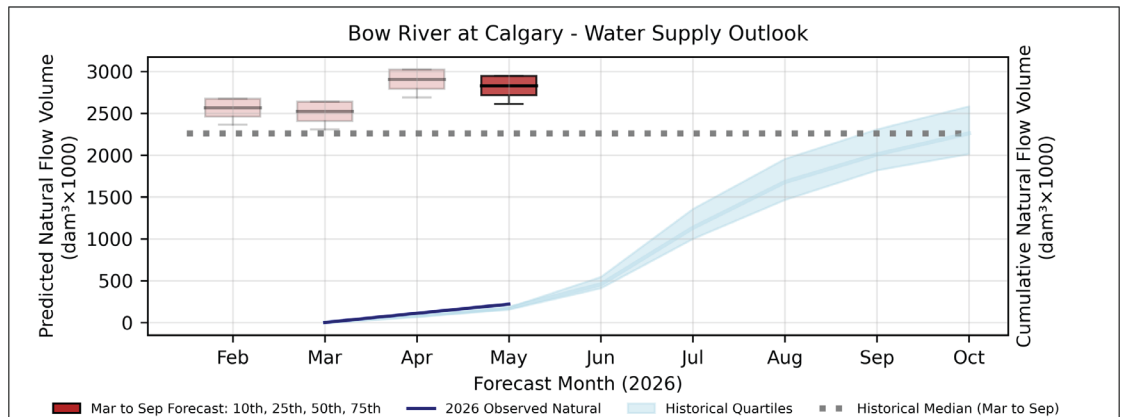
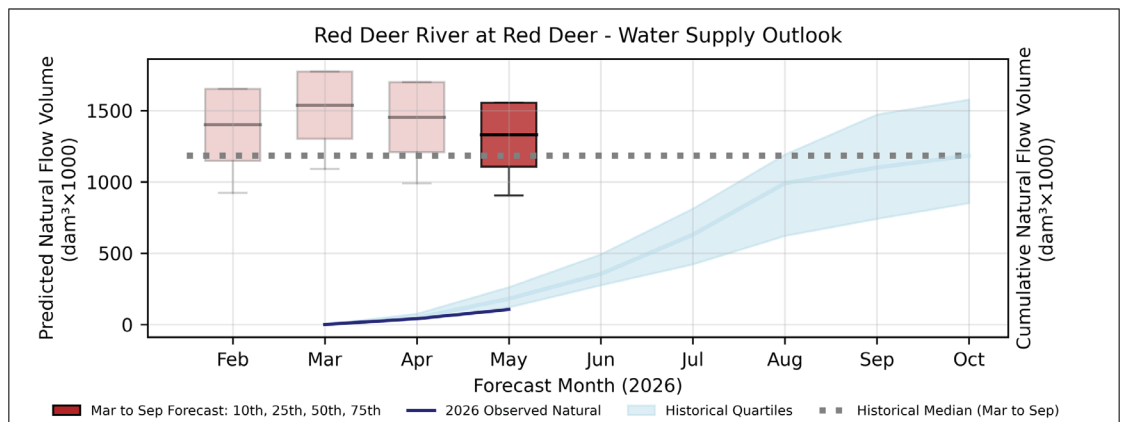
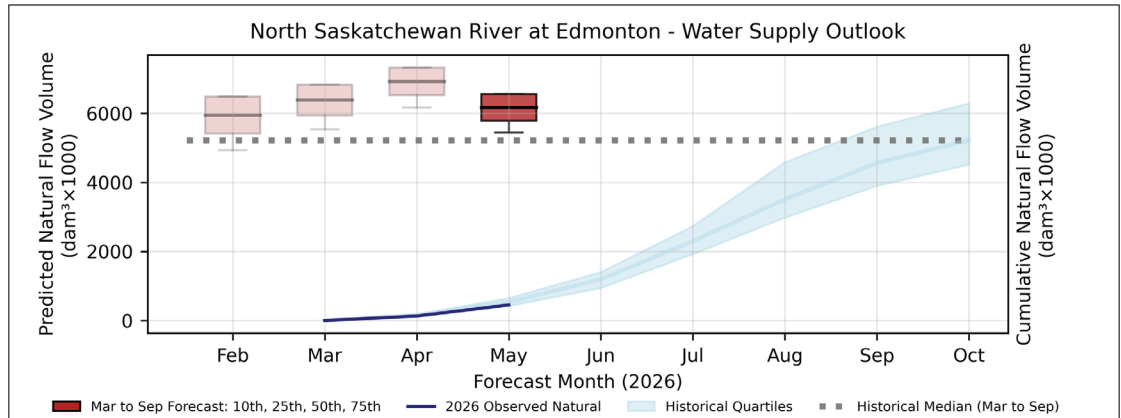
| Locations                             | Volume in dam <sup>3</sup> | Volume as % of Median | Probable Range as % of Median | Potential Minimum as % of Median | Forecast Ranking (Low to High Years) | Forecast Description | Recorded (Natural) Mar 1 to Sept 30, 2025 Volume as % of Median |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|---|
| <b>North Saskatchewan River Basin</b> |                            |                       |                               |                                  |                                      |                      |   |
| Lake Abraham (Bighorn Res)            | 2,627,000                  | 120                   | 116-126                       | 112                              | 85/99                                | Much Above Normal    | 108   |
| Brazeau Reservoir                     | 1,718,000                  | 122                   | 103-144                       | 86                               | 61/99                                | Above Normal         | 101   |
| North Sask River at Edmonton          | 6,175,000                  | 118                   | 111-126                       | 104                              | 64/99                                | Above Normal         | 100   |
| <b>Red Deer River Basin</b>           |                            |                       |                               |                                  |                                      |                      |   |
| Red Deer River at Dickson Dam         | 1,034,000                  | 127                   | 117-137                       | 108                              | 72/99                                | Above Normal         | 81  |
| Red Deer River at Red Deer            | 1,331,000                  | 112                   | 93-131                        | 76                               | 61/99                                | Above Normal         | 70  |
| <b>Bow River Basin</b>                |                            |                       |                               |                                  |                                      |                      |   |
| Bow River at Banff                    | 1,237,000                  | 130                   | 126-135                       | 122                              | 85/99                                | Much Above Normal    | 95  |
| Lake Minnewanka (Cascade Res)         | 217,000                    | 128                   | 119-137                       | 110                              | 75/99                                | Above Normal         | 79  |
| Spray River at Banff                  | 442,000                    | 122                   | 114-129                       | 108                              | 89/99                                | Much Above Normal    | 81  |
| Kananaskis River                      | 470,000                    | 131                   | 119-142                       | 109                              | 79/99                                | Much Above Normal    | 87  |
| Bow River at Calgary                  | 2,831,000                  | 125                   | 120-130                       | 116                              | 80/99                                | Much Above Normal    | 89  |
| Elbow River                           | 228,000                    | 121                   | 109-133                       | 98                               | 63/99                                | Above Normal         | 114   |
| Highwood River                        | 627,000                    | 128                   | 109-147                       | 93                               | 57/99                                | Above Normal         | 97  |
| <b>Oldman River Basin</b>             |                            |                       |                               |                                  |                                      |                      |   |
| St. Mary River                        | 646,000                    | 101                   | 92-109                        | 84                               | 30/99                                | Normal               | 66  |
| Belly River                           | 249,000                    | 113                   | 106-120                       | 100                              | 54/95                                | Above Normal         | 72  |
| Waterton River                        | 671,000                    | 123                   | 114-133                       | 105                              | 71/99                                | Much Above Normal    | 75  |
| Oldman River near Brocket             | 1,109,000                  | 127                   | 116-138                       | 106                              | 59/99                                | Above Normal         | 62  |
| Oldman River near Lethbridge          | 3,052,000                  | 128                   | 115-142                       | 102                              | 57/98                                | Above Normal         | 61  |
| <b>Milk River Basin</b>               |                            |                       |                               |                                  |                                      |                      |   |
| Milk River at Western Crossing        | 17,000                     | 48                    | 42-58                         | 36                               | 9/99                                 | Much Below Normal    | 29  |
| Milk River at Milk River              | 19,000                     | 29                    | 23-34                         | 18                               | 2/99                                 | Much Below Normal    | 23  |
| Milk River at Eastern Crossing        | 25,000                     | 27                    | 22-42                         | 14                               | 2/99                                 | Much Below Normal    | 30  |

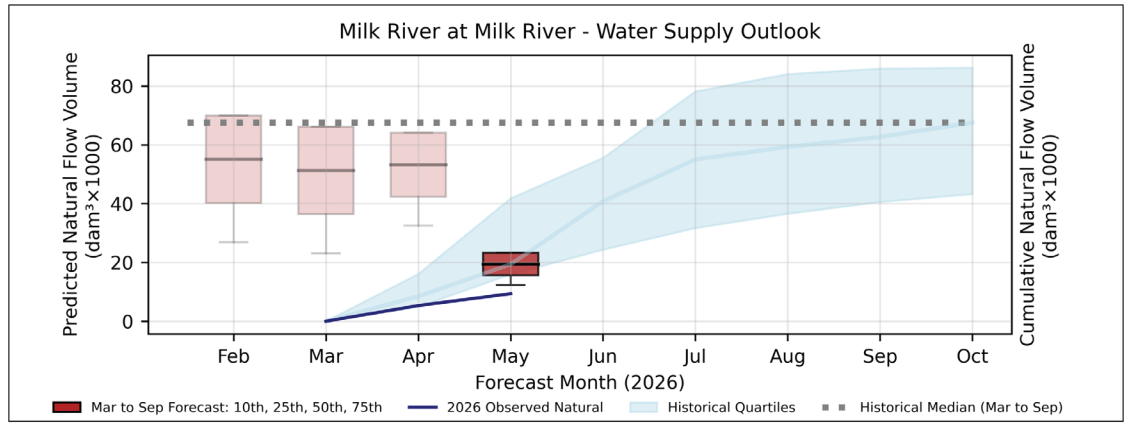
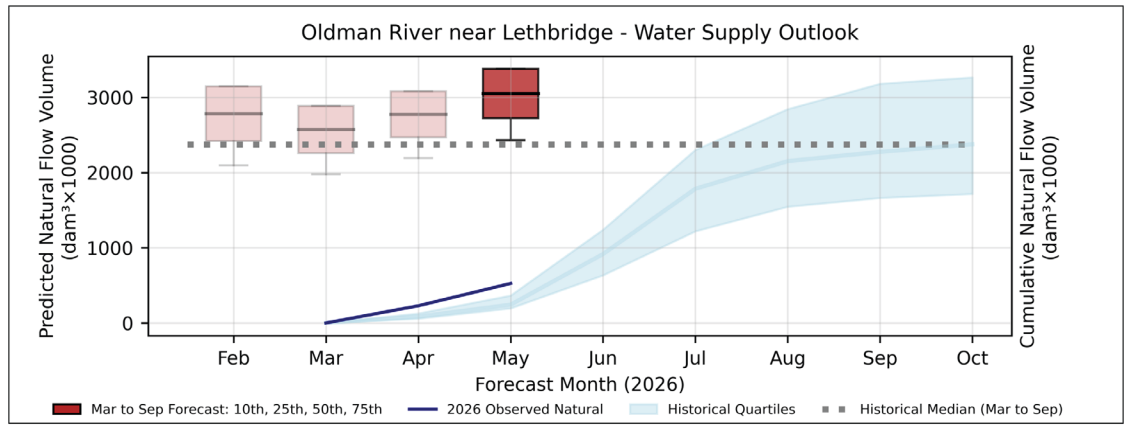
Median is calculated for the period 1981-01-01 to 2009-12-31. Ranking is based on the period 1912-01-01 to 2009-12-31.

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## 12. Water Supply Outlook Figures

**Water Supply Outlook Forecasts, Historical and Measured Accumulative Volume:** The red box plots display the 10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, and 75<sup>th</sup> percentiles for the March to September monthly natural volume forecasts. The dark red box represents the current month's forecast, while the lighter red boxes show earlier forecasts (if applicable). The solid blue line tracks the current year's cumulative monthly volume. The dashed horizontal line indicates the historical 30-year median cumulative volume from March to September. The shaded grey area shows the historical 25<sup>th</sup> to 75<sup>th</sup> percentile range for cumulative volume.





Alberta 