Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes

Annual Water Measurement Program Report

Water Year 2024

Little Bitterroot River at the Mouth gaging station. January 2025

June 26, 2025

Overview

This report is prepared by the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT) Water Monitoring and Measurement Program to summarize cumulative volumes at surface water gaging stations and irrigation reservoirs on the Flathead Reservation. This report is produced annually to provide data to inform water resources management, operational compliance reporting, and irrigation water management.

Introduction

Water Year 2024 marks the second annual publication in this reporting series. While the inaugural report outlined the Program's scope, historical development, and institutional relationship with the Flathead Indian Irrigation Project (FIIP), the present report emphasizes programmatic updates and a comparative analysis of observed streamflow conditions. Specifically, this analysis evaluates Water Year 2024 streamflow data relative to Water Year Type Determinations established by the Compact Implementation Technical Team (CITT) and long-term historical median flows, with the objective of better understanding seasonal deviations and regional water availability trends. The analysis draws upon high-resolution discharge data collected at 15-minute intervals and transmitted via satellite from the Program's gaging network. Streamflow summaries, comparisons to long-term conditions, and Compact compliance observations are presented to inform water rights administration and operational coordination across the Reservation.

Progress Updates

Continuous Record QA/QC

Since the release of the inaugural report, the Program has transitioned from annual record QA/QC processing to a continuous record workflow approach. This transition is driven by the growing operational need to support the implementation of Minimum Enforceable Flows (MEFs), River Diversion Allowances (RDAs), Minimum Reservoir Pool Elevations (MRPEs), and Target Instream Flows (TIFs) under the CSKT-Montana Water Rights Compact. In response, the Program is increasingly focused on ensuring timely, accurate, and defensible hydrologic data to support the protection, enforcement, and sustainable administration of the Tribal Water Right.

CSKT-MT Water Rights Settlement

In 2015 the CSKT, the State of Montana, and the United States reached an agreement on a water rights settlement that includes a Compact quantifying the water rights of the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes both on and off the Flathead Indian Reservation. That settlement agreement provides for the continued use of state-based water rights on the reservation, and also provided a path forward for new water rights on the Reservation.

The Tribal Water Right, including the FIIP Water Use Right, is described in detail in Article III of the Compact. Those water rights abstracts are contained with the Compact appendices. These rights include Minimum Enforceable Flows (MEFs), River Diversion Allowances (RDAs), Minimum Reservoir Pool Elevations (MRPEs), and Target Instream Flows (TIFs). Those rights phase in by service area (see map on page 5) and will become fully enforceable following the schedule found in Appendix 3.4 of the Compact. The CSKT Water Measurement Program monitors water measurement data at stream, canal, and reservoirs ensure Tribal water rights are met, including the FIIP water use right.

Hydrologic Conditions

Atmospheric Temperature

The beginning of 2024 brought a significant contrast in temperature patterns across the Flathead Reservation. Record-low air temperatures in early winter were rapidly followed by extended periods of above-normal temperatures from late January through April. In contrast, May temperatures were below normal across the Flathead Basin. While much of the lower elevation snowpack melted, this late season cooling trend helped the higher elevation snowpack and prolonged snowmelt into near-median levels for June.

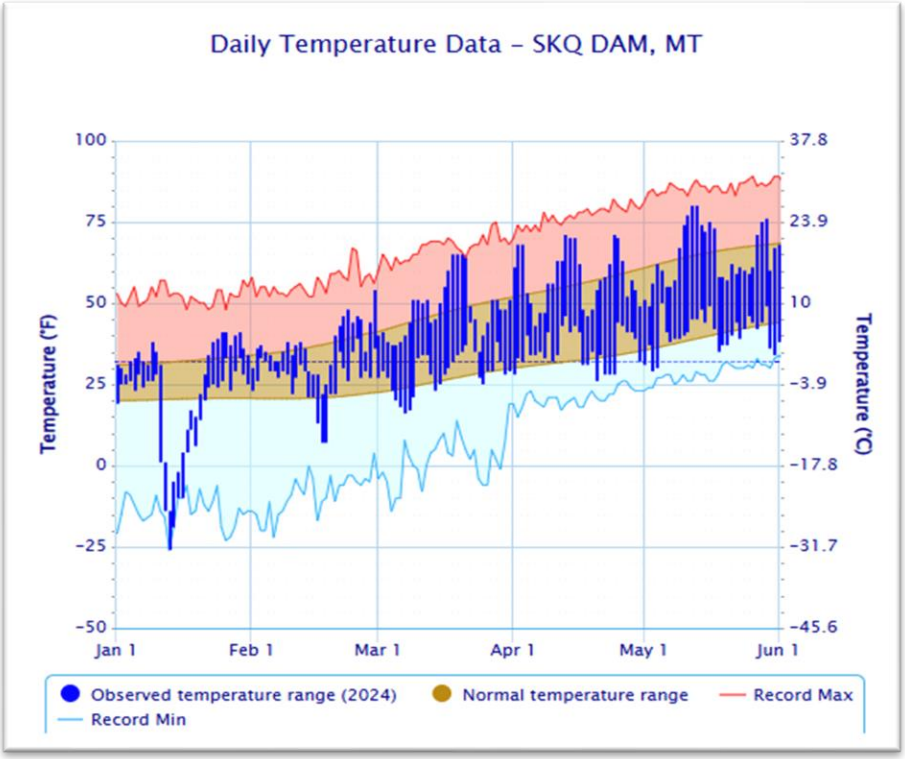


Figure 1. January through June 2024 air temperature from the NOAA weather station at Kerr Dam near Polson, MT. Retrieved May 2025 from https://www.weather.gov/wrh/Climate?wfo=mso.

Precipitation

Precipitation for the greater Flathead Basin was below median for the wettest period of the year. April precipitation levels were 80 percent of median, carrying record low precipitation levels for the beginning of the year. For example, the North Fork Jocko SNOTEL site accumulated only 36.9 inches of precipitation from October 1, 2023 to May 1, 2024, presenting the lowest May 1 water year precipitation total in 35 years of record.

Snowpack

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) SNOTEL data was reviewed to evaluate hydrologic conditions for the Flathead Reservation for water year 2024. In the Flathead Basin, annual streamflow volume and timing is predominately influenced by snow accumulation and melt patterns. Snow Water

Equivalent (SWE) is the measurement used to determine how much liquid water is stored in snowpack. This stored water is released during snowmelt and is critical for many beneficial uses, including ecological processes, agriculture, and hydropower.

The greater Flathead Basin experienced *below normal* snowpack conditions during Water Year 2024. SNOTEL stations near the Flathead Reservation exhibited record low snowpack values following long durations of above average temperatures and below average precipitation in late winter and spring. Most notably, the North Fork Jocko SNOTEL station recorded its lowest peak SWE in 34 years of record at 28.9 inches and 77 inches of snow depth, compared to the station's median peak values of 43.5 inches in SWE and 110 inches of snow depth.

As stated previously, below-median temperatures in May influenced low SWE levels to remain in the median and above-median levels during the melt-out period.

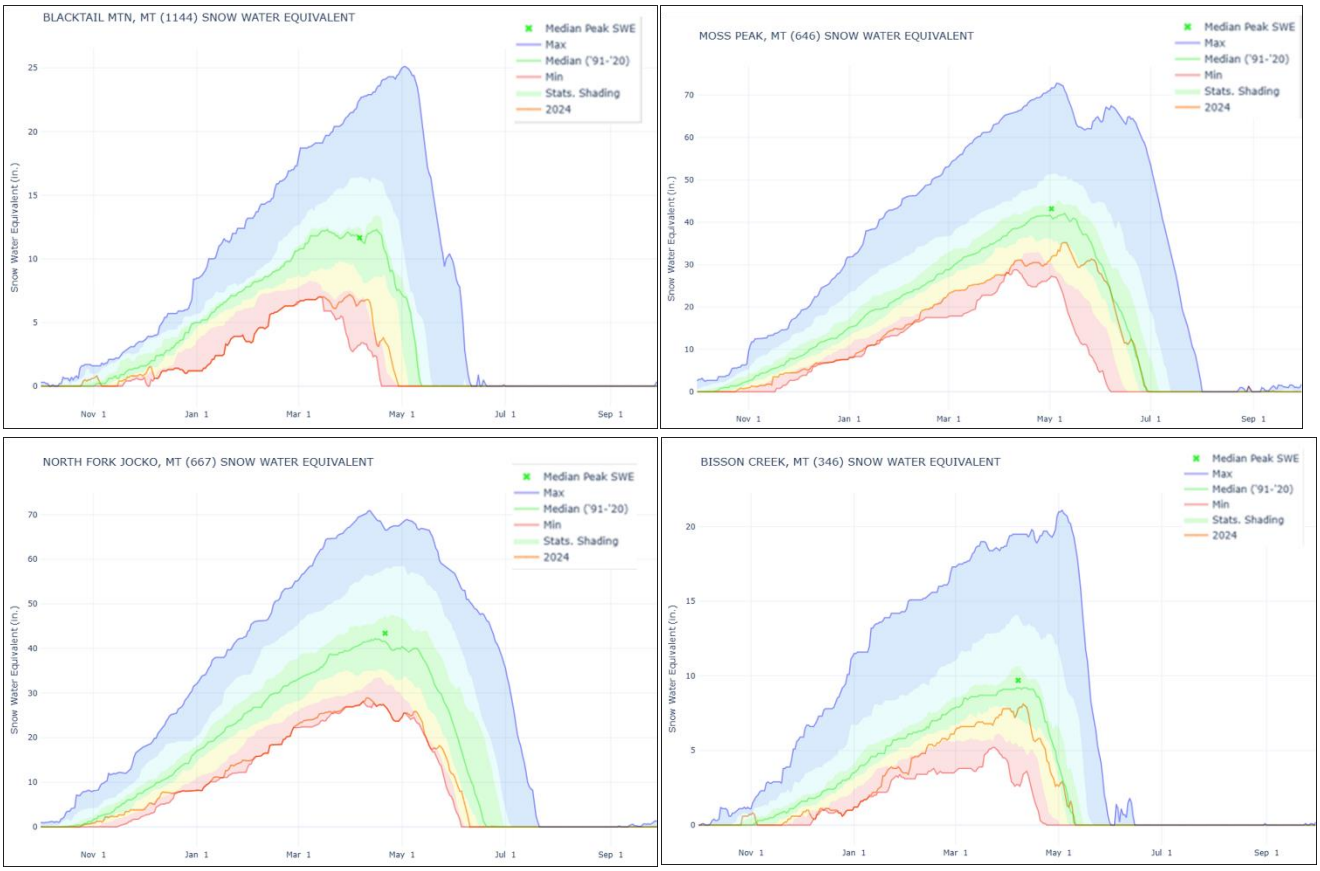


Figure 2. Graphs of Snow Water Equivalent during water year 2024 for NRCS SNOTEL stations on and near the Flathead Reservation. Much of the Flathead Basin experienced record low snowpack levels in 2024. Retrieved May 2025 from https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/resources/data-and-reports/snow-and-water-interactive-map.

Water Year Type (Wet, Normal, Dry Year)

The Compact is based on the Tribes' priorities of meeting or improving fisheries objectives while also meeting FIIP's historical farm deliveries. This balance occurs in part through meeting the MEFs, RDAs,

MRPEs, and TIFs outlined in Appendix 3.1 and 3.2. The concept of Adaptive Management is also incorporated into these water rights, and is defined as:

"an ongoing process of decision-making, based on water measurement and accounting designed to continuously manage and improve the allocation of water between Instream Flows, Minimum Reservoir Pool Elevations, and FIIP Water Use Rights pursuant to the Adaptive Management Appendix 3.5.a (Compact Article II).

The Compact quantifies RDAs and TIFs for wet, normal, and dry years. Those volumes and flow rates were quantified by the parties to the Settlement by utilizing a surface water supply modeling approach. Wet, normal, and dry water year types are defined in detail in Compact Appendix 3.7, and are based on the modeled streamflow for the April through July forecasting period. The thresholds for water year type categorizations were determined utilizing surface water discharge data for the 1983-2002 study period. Appendix 3.7 defines wet years as cumulative streamflow volumes with exceedance levels above the 20th-percentile, normal years as volumes between the 80th and 20th percentile exceedance levels, and dry years as volumes below the 80th percentile exceedance level. Water year types are determined by Geographical Service Areas, with recognition that different water year types may occur simultaneously for each service area within a forecasting season.

Applying the thresholds from Appendix 3.7 to measured discharge from water year 2024 demonstrates that the Jocko and Mission Geographical Service Areas experienced a *normal year* of streamflow, while the Little Bitterroot Area experienced a *dry year* (Table 1).

Table 1. Hydrologic conditions determined by natural flow gages in each Geographical Service Area for water year 2024.

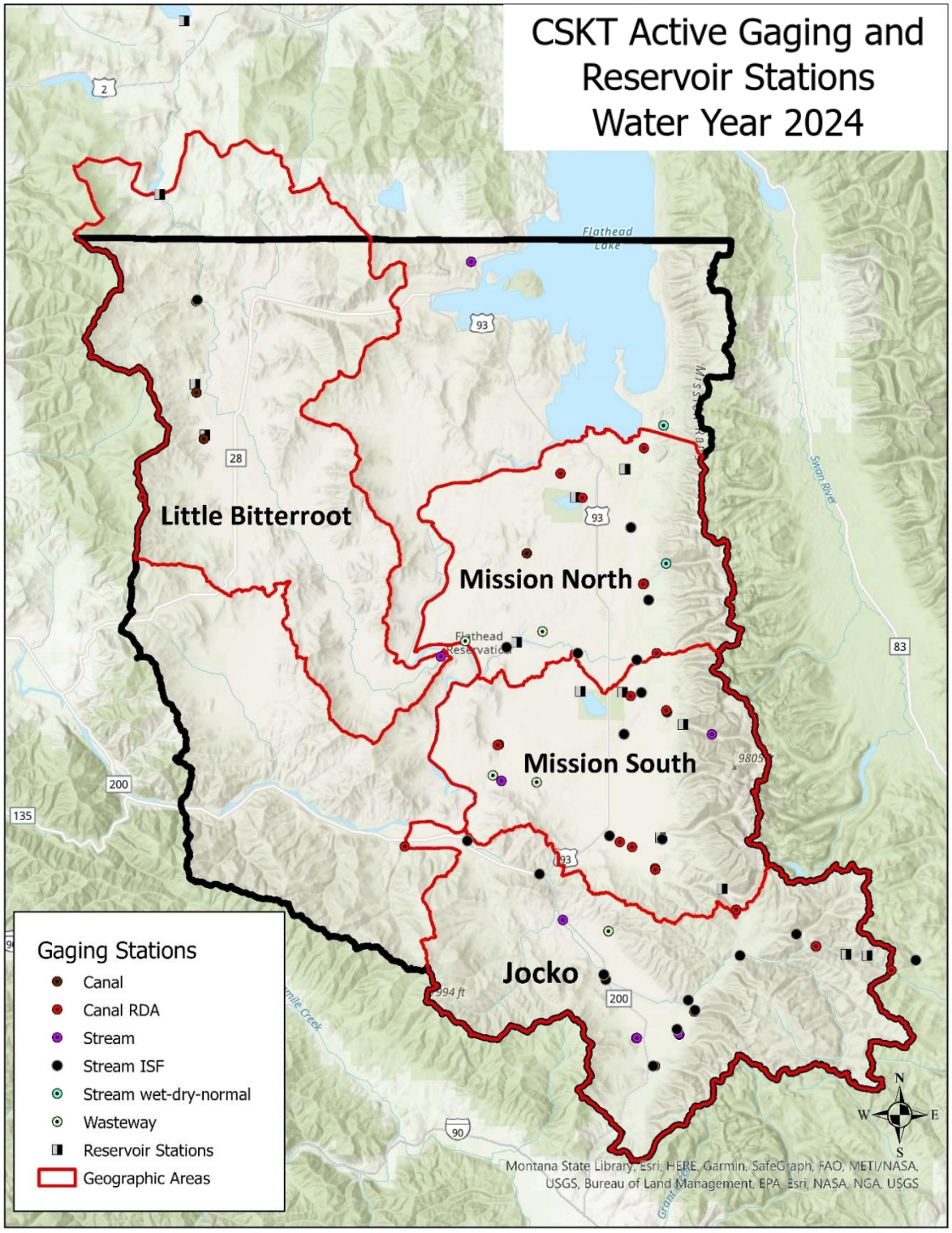
Hydrologic Condition	***Jocko Area***		***Mission Area***		***Little Bitterroot Area***	
	Gaging Station	April-July Flow	Gaging Station	April-July Flow	Gaging Station	April-July Flow
	South Fork Jocko River (USGS Gage)	27,314	South Crow Creek	8,279	Mill Creek ab Bassoo Creek	1,985
	Agency Creek ab Jocko S Canal	5,441	Mission Creek ab Reservoir (USGS Gage)	23,994		
			Hellroaring Creek ab Reservoir	3,593		
			North Crow Creek at Campground	17,553		
Cumulative Flow	32,755		53,419		1,985	
Wet Year	> 41,500		> 66,500		> 4,900	
Normal Year	29,000 - 41,500		46,500 - 66,500		2,200 - 4,900	
Dry Year	< 29,000		< 46,500		< 2,200	

Findings

Surface Water Discharge
Surface water discharge data are presented in tabular format in Supplement A. Data are stratified by Geographical Service Area. Tables include monthly cumulative discharge in acre-feet for each gaging season as well as annual cumulative discharge volumes. At canal locations, cumulative discharge volumes are also reported during the irrigation season (April 15 – September 15).

Reservoir Levels and Volumes
Annual reservoir volumes are presented in Supplement B, and are displayed in hydrograph format, or reservoir storage graphs.

River Diversion Allowances
A detailed summary of FIIP's diversion of water is summarized in Supplement C of this report. Although the RDAs are not enforceable at this time, this summary is prepared and provided to FIIP on an annual basis during the interim period to allow the project to compare the current year's diversions against future RDA water allocations, allowing them time for planning and adjustment in water management to align with upcoming water allocations.


CSKT Active Gaging and Reservoir Stations Water Year 2024
Little Bitterroot
Mission North
Mission South
Jocko
Flathead Lake
Flathead Reservation
Swan River
Gaging Stations
Canal
Canal RDA
Stream
Stream ISF
Stream wet-dry-normal
Wasteway
Reservoir Stations
Geographic Areas
N
W
E
S
Montana State Library, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, FAO, METI/NASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS

Supplement A

Surface Water Discharge

Jocko Area

Jocko Area Canals															
Station Name	Station #	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Apr 15 - Sept 15	Annual Volume
Tabor Feeder Canal bl Middle Fork Jocko River	5105.10	***	***	***	***	***	***	208	1444	629	***	***	***	2,281	2,281
Tabor Feeder Canal bl North Fork Jocko River	5105.20	***	***	***	***	***	***	2797	9521	5197	***	***	***	17,089	17,515
Tabor Feeder Canal bl Twin Lakes	5105.70	***	***	***	***	***	***	1684	10592	6803	***	***	***	19,084	19,079
Upper Jocko "S" Canal at Headworks	5131.00	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	409	2281	1632	24	4,352	4,346
Jocko "K" Canal bl Headworks	5140.00	1535	212	***	***	***	***	787	3868	6883	8767	3650	2023	24,982	27,725
Upper Jocko "S" at Big Knife Creek	5132.00	383	337	268	164	166	218	428	833	1680	2360	1803	520	7,261	9,160
Jocko "N" Canal at East Fork Finley Creek	5162.00	***	***	***	***	***	***	12	144	543	46	***	***	746	745
Upper Jocko "J" Canal at Agency Creek	5167.10	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	123	718	849	373	11	2,075	2,074
Jocko "S" Canal bl Agency Creek	5167.50	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	395	801	845	643	***	2,791	2,684
Jocko "E" Canal at Agency Creek	5167.90	139	159	***	***	***	***	532	664	605	545	405	355	2,781	3,404
Jocko "E" Canal bl Finley Creek	5169.10	58	116	96	13	11	77	216	193	230	460	292	128	1,349	1,890
Jocko "K" Canal at Lamoose Creek	5140.90	134	9	***	***	***	***	76	204	222	192	120	54	850	1,011
Revais "R" Canal at Revais Creek	5410.10	240	139	170	198	208	99	45	296	647	440	246	148	1,732	2,876

Jocko Area Streams/Rivers															
Station Name	Station #	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Apr 15 - Sept 15	Annual Volume
Middle Fork Jocko River bl Tabor Feeder Canal	5100.00	813	690	659	625	659	843	1428	1468	2102	5593	2221	756	12,560	17,857
North Fork Jocko River bl Tabor Feeder Canal	5130.00	196	1269	466	468	401	553	1575	2122	3392	1323	377	282	8,248	12,424
Jocko River bl Upper "S" Canal	5131.50	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Jocko River bl Jocko "K" Canal	5149.00	2836	3987	3927	3570	3689	4562	9719	15729	12674	3709	2896	3154	42,242	70,452
Big Knife Creek bl Jocko "S" Canal	5143.00	195	161	140	272	202	216	298	508	331	250	234	246	1,603	3,053
East Finley Creek bl Jocko "N" Canal	5165.00	254	238	200	162	139	156	508	1656	950	458	294	266	3,878	5,281
Agency Creek ab Jocko "S" Canal	5167.00	307	260	204	164	146	208	569	1787	2202	883	462	349	5,879	7,541
Agency Creek bl Upper "J" Canal	5169.00	284	315	268	166	151	240	768	1753	1630	734	651	508	5,548	7,468
Finley Creek bl "E" Canal	5175.00	831	780	593	488	518	567	1529	3848	3055	1073	662	641	10,017	14,585
Finley Creek at Mouth	5178.00	732	813	641	448	458	482	1745	4621	4007	1392	803	750	12,369	16,892
Jocko River bl Lower "S" Canal	5180.00	5554	6565	5117	3967	3987	4899	10294	19617	16562	8390	7279	6605	61,676	98,836
Jocko Spring Creek near Mouth	5187.00	1501	1273	1107	1010	871	807	887	1039	1131	1210	1422	1357	5,950	13,615
Valley Creek near Mouth	5192.00	575	662	546	547	513	550	994	2301	1638	678	474	391	5,917	9,869
Jocko River bl Jocko "J" Canal	5194.00	9540	10294	8509	7498	6902	7438	13507	24198	20063	10651	9620	9640	77,365	137,860
Jocko River near Mouth near Dixon Mt.	5195.00	9798	10552	8707	7597	7081	7656	13626	24000	20826	10889	9818	9501	78,307	140,051

Symbols Denoted: (***) Zero flow (–) No data or not enough data to evaluate

Mission South Area

Mission South Area Canals															
Station Name	Station #	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Apr 15 - Sept 15	Annual Volume
Pablo Feeder Canal bl Post Creek	4868.00	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	2281	11147	6327	8489	4443	29,984	32,687
Kicking Horse Feeder Canal ab KH Reservoir	4869.20	57	111	263	184	83	11	405	879	4463	3749	530	30	9,988	10,765
Post "F" Canal at Headworks	4875.10	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	607	1067	982	100	2,703	2,756
Post "F" Canal ab Hillside Reservoir	4875.90	1	***	***	***	***	14	68	30	754	748	698	34	2,258	2,347
Hillside Ditch at Headworks	4890.00	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	11	627	774	653	105	2,168	2,170
Moiese "A" Canal near Headworks	3585.00	1014	***	***	***	***	222	371	2916	3253	4225	3372	1775	15,497	17,148
Moiese Wasteway ab Pioneer Lane	3585.70	52	***	***	***	3	***	***	232	196	139	216	***	848	838
Mission "A" Canal bl Headworks	4814.10	88	38	***	***	***	5	1260	2598	9679	5970	9302	4324	28,997	33,264
Mission "B" Canal nr Headworks	4827.10	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	48	514	2122	1724	405	4,695	4,813
Mission "DA" Canal bl Headworks	4828.10	256	337	434	551	512	547	611	1906	3769	4126	11286	4939	23,226	29,274
Mission "F" Canal at Headworks	4829.00	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	754	1890	1168	84	3,898	3,896
Mission "C" Canal nr St. Ignatius	4829.10	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	117	942	3094	2737	700	7,289	7,590

Mission South Area Streams/Rivers															
Station Name	Station #	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Apr 15 - Sept 15	Annual Volume
Crow Creek bl Moiese "A" Canal	3595.00	2182	2460	2638	2678	2618	3907	4086	2678	1936	1547	1472	1916	10,875	30,118
Post Creek ab McDonald Reservoir	4860.00	1492	1567	1083	916	1139	1073	1388	5653	9045	7379	3550	2241	27,237	36,526
Post Creek ab Pablo Feeder Canal	4867.00	2202	2301	2083	1839	1670	1547	1962	2777	12430	13983	9501	3213	36,890	55,508
Post Creek nr Fort Connah	4876.00	1944	1779	1355	1283	1192	1182	1496	2162	3074	1831	1862	1749	10,528	20,909
Marsh Creek ab Kicking Horse Feeder Canal	4870.55	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Mission Creek bl Mission "A" Canal	4815.00	1432	1521	1549	1367	1131	1154	1365	2539	4225	7101	5336	1799	21,030	30,519
Mission Creek at St. Ignatius	4831.00	1380	1382	1414	1442	1162	984	1071	2142	2698	1872	1662	1577	9,810	18,786
Dublin Gulch at Bison Range	4892.00	10	28	34	35	41	46	105	34	123	294	216	34	714	1,000
Mission Creek at National Bison Range	4895.00	8549	8311	7716	8767	7537	6486	7517	9084	9838	8350	9481	8132	44,665	99,768
Coleman Coulee	4897.00	37	70	46	35	111	55	110	27	375	432	847	23	1,718	2,168

Symbols Denoted: (***) Zero flow (–) No data or not enough data to evaluate

Mission North Area

Mission North Area Canals															
Station Name	Station #	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Apr 15 - Sept 15	Annual Volume
Twin Feeder Canal at Centipede Creek	66.00	159	47	14	***	***	***	99	494	526	315	294	248	1,853	2,196
Pablo Feeder Canal ab Pablo Drop	4868.80	***	***	***	***	***	***	811	4939	8172	1234	1622	1373	17,282	18,151
Pablo "A" Canal bl Pablo Reservoir	4868.91	1105	22	***	***	***	22	54	811	8469	16879	13884	1456	40,826	42,702
Pablo "A" Canal at Round Butte weir	4868.97	631	***	***	***	***	***	***	351	4979	8390	6208	591	20,228	21,150
Ronan "B" Canal at Headworks	3567.10	26	24	8	12	3	2	***	60	436	305	948	188	1,842	2,012
Pablo Feeder Canal bl North Crow Creek	4868.30	67	77	74	66	57	56	982	5038	11722	6843	6426	2737	32,019	34,145
Pablo Feeder Canal bl South Crow Creek	4868.10	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	6764	5494	5812	2281	18,719	20,351
South Crow Feeder Canal at Headworks	3529.00	23	21	21	33	68	48	104	4502	7894	2202	1926	1492	17,393	18,334

Mission North Area Streams/Rivers															
Station Name	Station #	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Apr 15 - Sept 15	Annual Volume
Hellroaring Creek ab Reservoir	60.00	442	440	417	391	347	613	660	1210	1045	678	579	536	4,126	7,358
Mud Creek bl Ronan "B" Canal	3568.00	80	51	48	81	56	68	175	373	315	234	188	268	1,333	1,937
Mud Creek ab Crow Reservoir	3571.00	893	1103	1020	1242	2043	1285	1386	1137	730	567	676	613	3,778	12,695
West Miller Coulee	3570.00	85	39	26	29	110	102	182	78	331	367	323	54	1,178	1,726
North Crow Creek at Campground	3512.00	801	1002	817	664	875	829	2063	6109	6783	2598	1452	902	18,914	24,895
North Crow Creek bl Pablo Feeder Canal	3515.00	660	845	744	440	79	748	1611	1876	2241	881	787	740	6,954	11,652
Middle Crow Creek bl Pablo Feeder Canal	3519.00	118	153	176	157	154	97	68	361	387	244	168	164	1,248	2,247
South Crow Creek nr Ronan	3521.00	472	482	391	363	547	524	982	2519	3372	1406	571	496	8,711	12,125
South Crow Creek bl South Crow Feeder Canal	3530.00	323	458	357	240	375	357	934	1234	1031	970	799	778	4,895	7,856
Crow Creek bl Crow Pump	3540.00	1825	2202	1948	1558	1355	1880	3392	3848	4205	2321	2122	2102	15,092	28,758
Hopkins Draw	3285.00	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

Symbols Denoted: (***) Zero flow (–) No data or not enough data to evaluate

Little Bitterroot Area

Little Bitterroot Area Canals															
Station Name	Station #	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Apr 15 - Sept 15	Annual Volume
Camas "A" Canal bl Mill Creek	3111.00	***	***	***	***	***	***	383	1339	1712	789	450	***	4,629	4,673
Camas "B" Canal at Headworks	3176.10	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	1109	567	280	65	2,021	2,021
Camas "C" Canal at Headworks	3177.10	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	204	1000	401	45	***	1,649	1,650

Little Bitterroot Area Streams/Rivers															
Station Name	Station #	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Apr 15 - Sept 15	Annual Volume
Mill Creek ab Bassoo Creek	3121.00	129	198	172	150	136	202	569	861	371	184	118	101	1,974	3,191
Little Bitterroot River bl Camas "A" Canal	3131.00	367	426	349	329	296	387	627	555	462	411	417	288	2,263	4,914
Little Bitterroot River at Mouth	3198.00	419	674	781	817	1410	1196	1061	160	56	29	21	41	736	6,665
Dayton Creek nr Dayton Mt	1640.00	47	67	67	57	82	150	339	181	52	23	16	17	462	1,098

Off-Reservation Gaging Stations

Placid Canal															
Station Name	Station #	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Apr 15 - Sept 15	Annual Volume
Placid Canal ab Black Lake	5101.00	***	***	***	***	***	***	889	2142	871	***	***	***	3,735	3,902

Placid Creek															
Station Name	Station #	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Apr 15 - Sept 15	Annual Volume
Placid Creek bl Placid Canal	5000.00	72	185	198	0	174	337	869	827	633	246	118	98	2,305	3,757

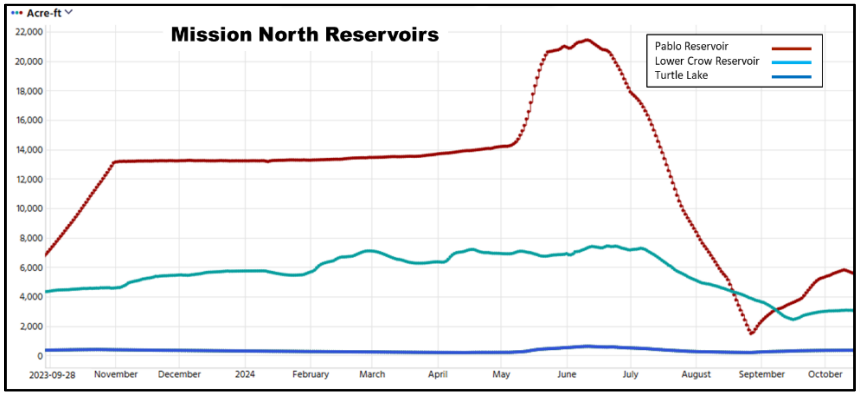
McGinnis Diversion															
Station Name	Station #	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Apr 15 - Sept 15	Annual Volume
McGinnis Diversion	3171.00	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	45	1	***	***	***	46	46

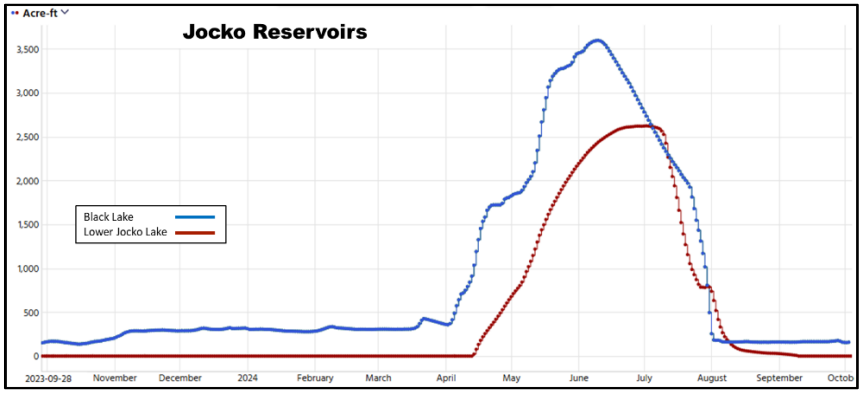
Alder Diversion															
Station Name	Station #	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Apr 15 - Sept 15	Annual Volume
Alder Diversion	3174.00	42	***	51	***	***	***	***	545	266	113	73	36	1,085	1,126

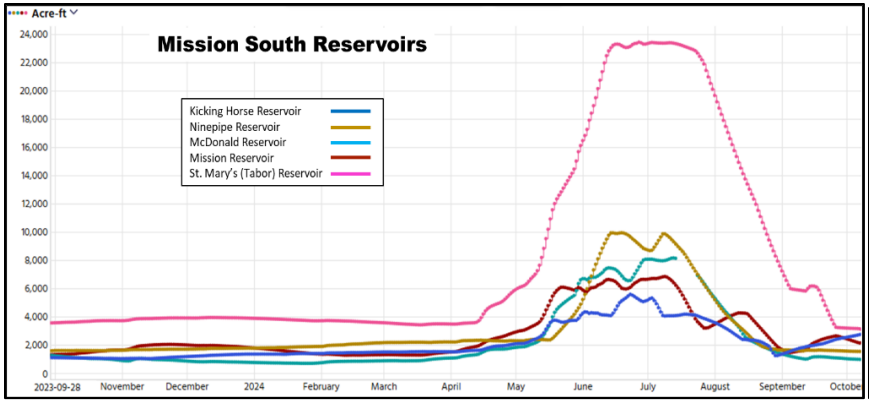
Symbols Denoted: (***) Zero flow (–) No data or not enough data to evaluate

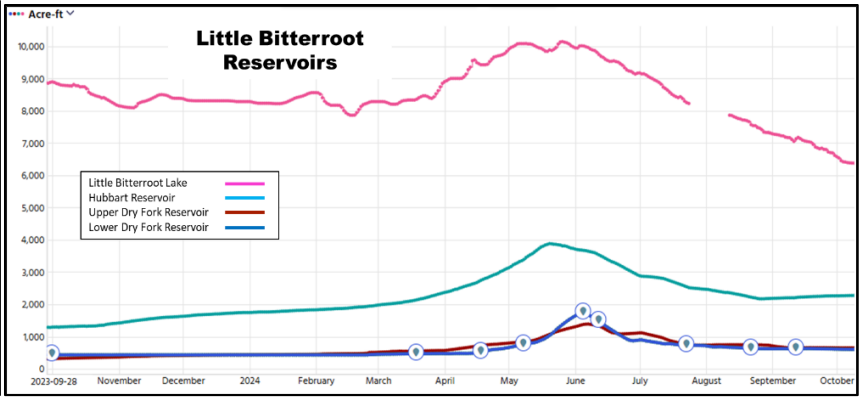
Supplement B

Reservoir Volumes by Service Area


Acre-ft
Mission North Reservoirs
Pablo Reservoir
Lower Crow Reservoir
Turtle Lake
22,000
20,000
18,000
16,000
14,000
12,000
10,000
8,000
6,000
4,000
2,000
0
2023-09-28
November
December
2024
February
March
April
May
June
July
August
September
October


Acre-ft
Jocko Reservoirs
Black Lake
Lower Jocko Lake
3,500
3,000
2,500
2,000
1,500
1,000
500
0
2023-09-28
November
December
2024
February
March
April
May
June
July
August
September
Octob


Acre-ft
Mission South Reservoirs
Kicking Horse Reservoir
Ninepipe Reservoir
McDonald Reservoir
Mission Reservoir
St. Mary's (Tabor) Reservoir
24,000
22,000
20,000
18,000
16,000
14,000
12,000
10,000
8,000
6,000
4,000
2,000
0
2023-09-28
November
December
2024
February
March
April
May
June
July
August
September
Octobe


Acre-ft
Little Bitterroot Reservoirs
Little Bitterroot Lake
Hubbart Reservoir
Upper Dry Fork Reservoir
Lower Dry Fork Reservoir
10,000
9,000
8,000
7,000
6,000
5,000
4,000
3,000
2,000
1,000
0
2023-09-28
November
December
2024
February
March
April
May
June
July
August
September
October

Supplement C

River Diversion Allowances – 2024 Summary

River Diversion Allowances

Water Year 2024 Diversion Summary

June 30, 2025

Background

This memo provides a brief description of River Diversion Allowances (RDAs) and summarizes Flathead Indian Irrigation Project (FIIP) RDA diversions for the 2024 irrigation season utilizing water year 2024 data collected and managed by the CSKT Water Monitoring & Measurement Program.

River Diversion Allowances

The CSKT-MT Water Compact defines River Diversion Allowances as "initially the volume of water identified in Appendix 3.2 and defined for wet, normal and dry Natural Flow years that is necessary to be diverted or pumped to supply the FIIP Water Use Right" (CSKT Compact, Article II). River Diversion Allowances are reported by RDA Administrative Areas for administered locations as well as administered plus incremental inflow locations. Administered locations are irrigation headworks or pumping facilities where water measurement and seasonal accounting of the RDA volumes will occur. Specific information regarding River Diversion Allowances, including individual water allocations, is further described in Compact Appendix 3.2.

RDAs, Minimum Enforceable Flows, Target Instream Flows, and Minimum Reservoir Elevations become enforceable following the schedule in Appendix 3.4. Generally, RDAs will be phased in by geographic service area following a period of years after the Effective Date of the Compact, which was **September 17, 2021**.

Geographic Area	Schedule for Implementation of RDAs
Mission Valley South	Effective Date + 5 years
Mission Valley North	Effective Date + 7 years
Jocko Valley	Effective Date + 8 years
Little Bitterroot Valley	Effective Date + 9 years

Although none of the RDAs are enforceable as of the writing of this document, this summary is prepared on an annual basis during the interim period to allow the project to compare the current year's diversions against future RDA water allocations, allowing them time for planning and adjustment in water management to align with upcoming water allocations.

Details regarding the calculation of specific River Diversion Allowance Administrative Areas are provided in the February 2023 CSKT memo on River Diversion Allowance Dashboard Development[1].

The following table and graphs provide a summary of river diversions for irrigation season 2024.

[1] River Diversion Allowances Dashboard Development and Water Year 2022 RDA Diversions. February 17, 2023. CSKT Natural Resources Department.

Summary of Water Year 2024 River Diversion Allowances

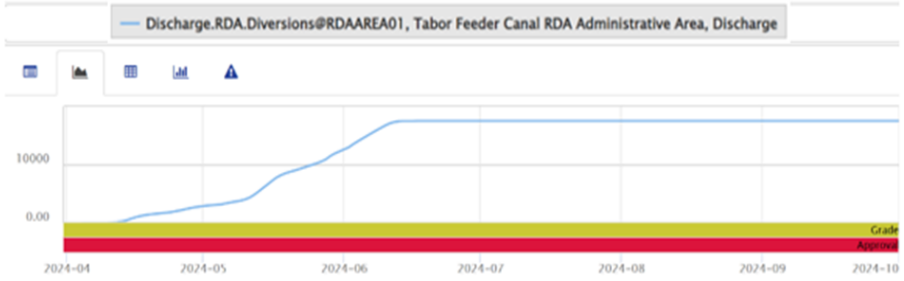
RDA Administrative Area	Normal Year RDA (acre-feet)	Total Diversion (acre-feet)	Percent of RDA Allocation	Date RDA Exceeded	Irrigation Season Served
Mission South					
Upper Mission Creek	33,800	29,400	87%		100%
Lower Mission Creek	1,000	*	*		
Lower Crow Creek	20,000	17,600	88%		100%
Mission North					
Flathead River Pumping Plant (FPP)	65,000	*No FPP data provided by FIIP for WY24 as of publication of this document*			100%
Hellroaring/Centipede/Bisson Creek	1,400	2,070	148%	7/14/2024	59%
Pablo A Canal	47,100	42,300	90%		100%
Upper Crow Creek	14,000	20,000	143%	7/4/2024	53%
Pablo Feeder Canal	66,400	*	*		
Jocko					
Tabor Feeder Canal	28,200	17,500	62%		100%
Upper Jocko River	24,000	34,400	143%	7/24/2024	65%
Agency/Finley Creek	6,100	6,500	107%	9/4/2024	93%
Lower Jocko River	1,700	*	*		
Revais Creek	1,800	1,660	92%		100%
Little Bitterroot					
Little Bitterroot River	18,000	4,620	26%		100%
Off-Reservation					
Placid Canal	10,000	3,890	39%		100%
Alder Diversion	3,500	1,220	35%		100%
McGinnis Diversion	1,800	46	3%		100%

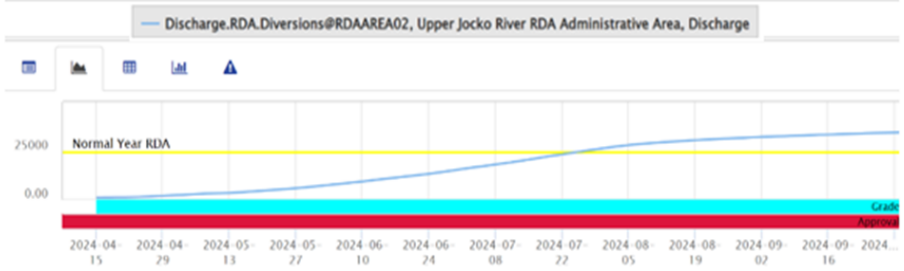
* No data or not enough data to evaluate

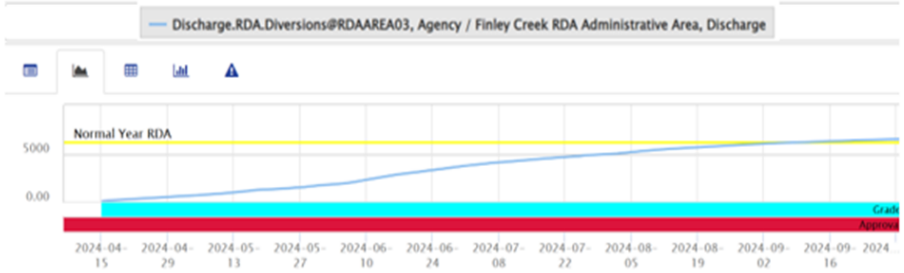
^ Not all Administered Locations reported

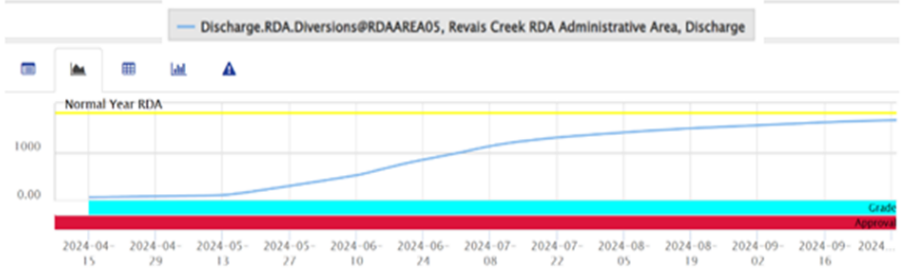
& The Flathead River Pumping Plant RDA is not restricted to the April 15 - September 15 period. Data reported as of 11/30/2023.

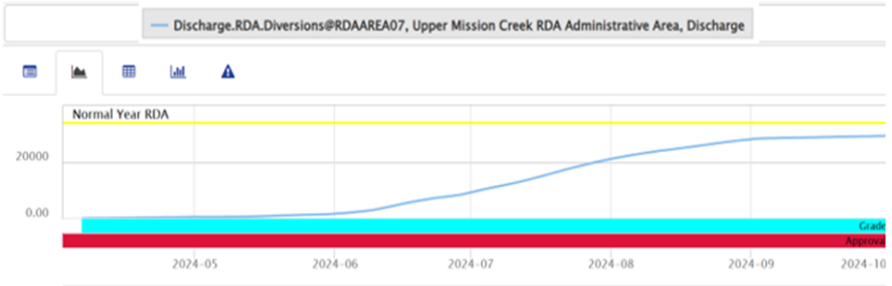
RDA Charts – 2024

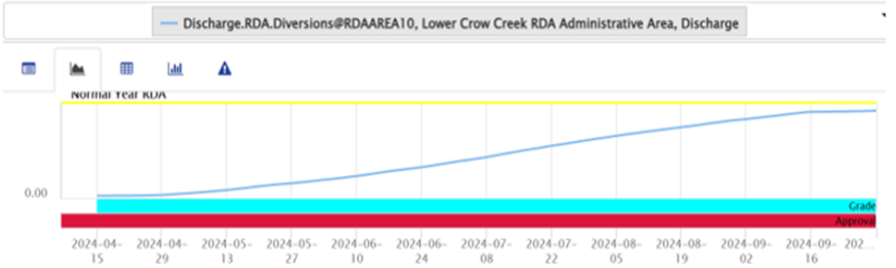


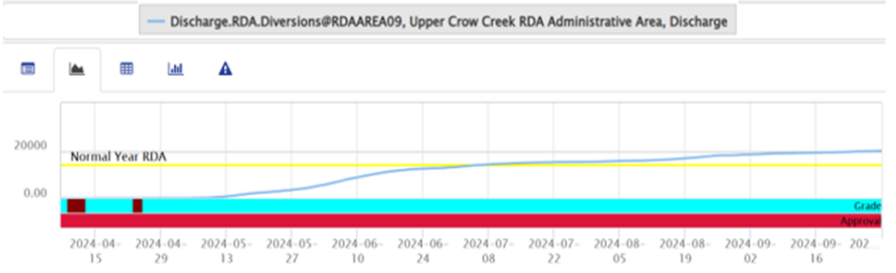


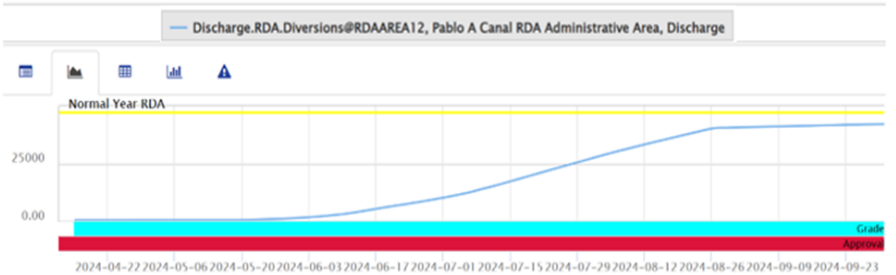




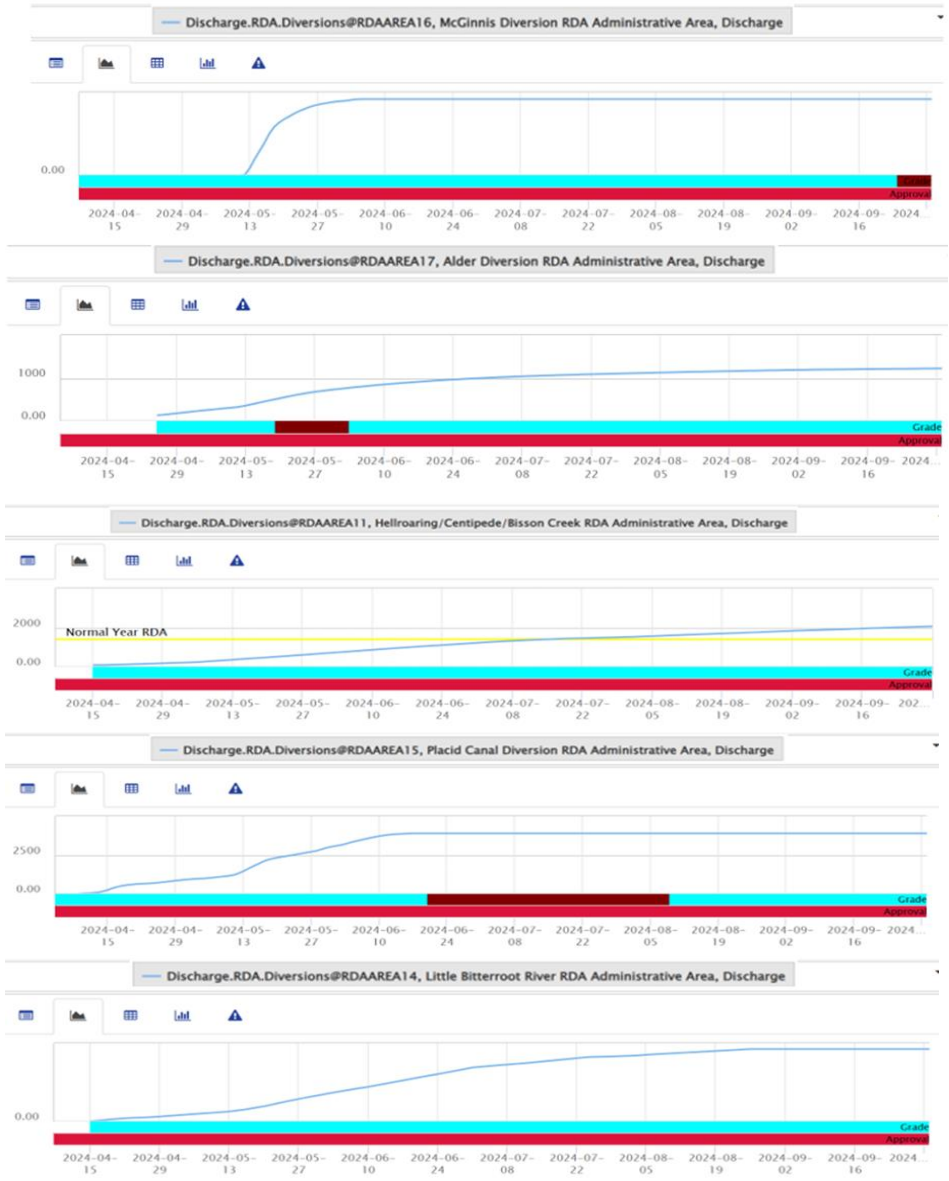








Supplement C



Charts exported from CSKT Water Data website: https://csktwaterdata.org

Supplement C