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Glen Canyon Dam

Updated June 9, 1998

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Unregulated inflows to Lake Powell were about 131 percent of normal in May. The National Weather Service June 5 forecast update for the April - July runoff was for 7.7 MAF (100 percent of normal), and the May inflow was just as they predicted. They expect inflows to gradually decrease during June to about 30,000 cfs. July inflows to Lake Powell are then expected to be much below normal.

Inflows into Lake Powell have been relatively steady lately at about 50,000 to 55,000 cfs. However, the cool weather this past week has slowed the high elevation snowmelt significantly and Lake Powell inflow will now drop sharply to the low-30,000's cfs level during the next week. This cool, wet pattern is consistent with a weak correlation that the Upper Colorado River Basin has for this type of weather during El Nino years. The northern part of the basin in the Green River drainage received between 1 and 2 inches of precipitation during the last week. Lake Powell current reservoir elevation is now about 3693 feet with a live storage of 23.2 MAF. We expect Lake Powell storage to reach its highest level this year in early July, with a maximum elevation of between 3695 and 3700 feet.

Average daily releases from Glen Canyon Dam on weekdays are about 19,000 cfs. Weekday hourly flows will fluctuate between 15,000 cfs to 23,000 cfs, with flows about 14,000 cfs on Sundays. We expect these releases to continue at this rate through August.

Reclamation has scheduled meetings for the preparation of the 1999 Annual Operating Plan for the Colorado River System Reservoirs. The next working meeting will be held on June 30, 1998, and a final consultation meeting will be held August 4, 1998. All meetings will be held in the Commissioner's Conference Room, level 5, at the Las Vegas McCarren Airport beginning at 9:30 am.