

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Upper Snake Field Office Conditions and Water Ops Update

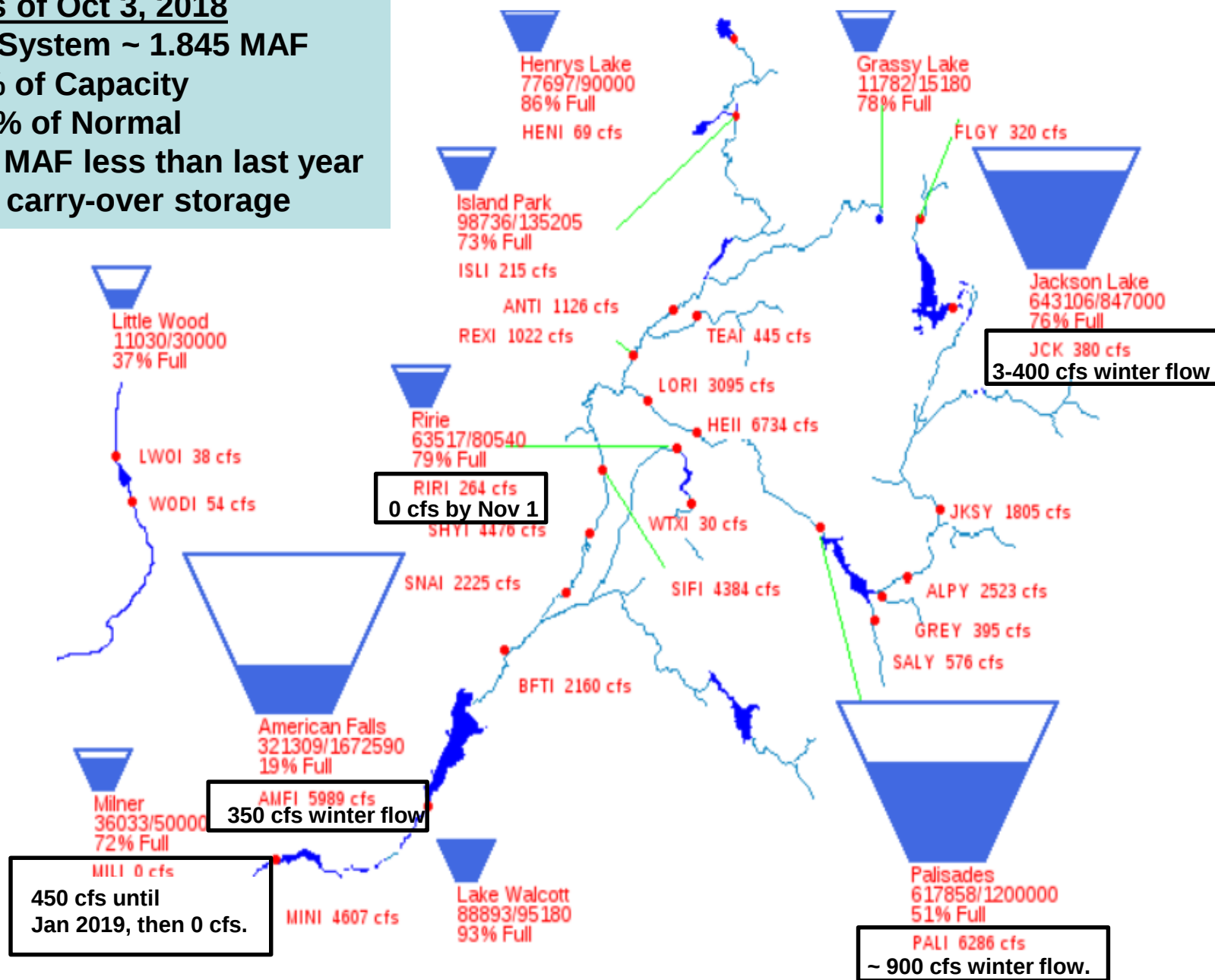
Jeremy Dalling – Reservoir Operations Hydrologist
October 9, 2018



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

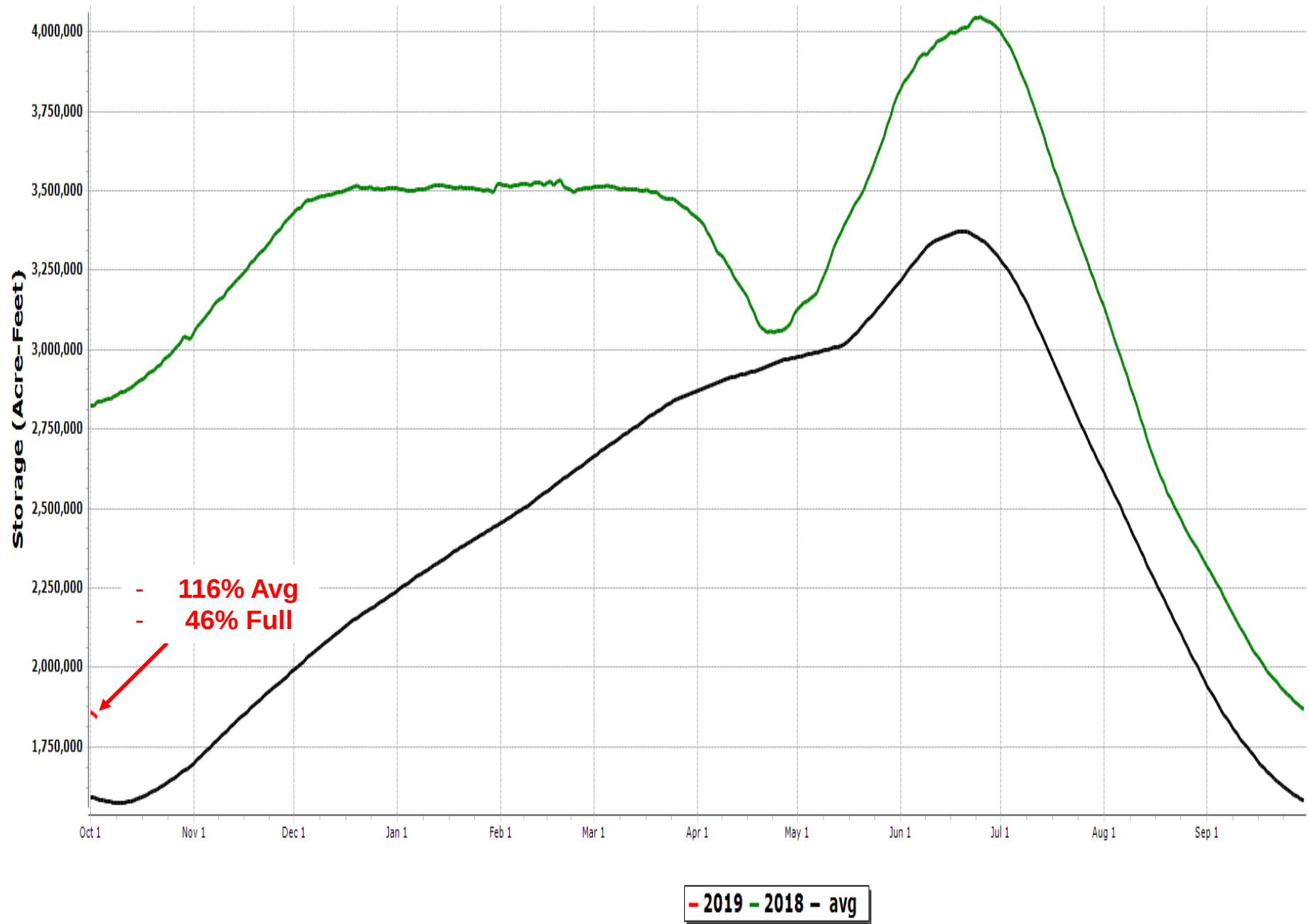
As of Oct 3, 2018

- Total System ~ 1.845 MAF
- ~ 46% of Capacity
- ~ 116% of Normal
- ~ 990 MAF less than last year
- Good carry-over storage

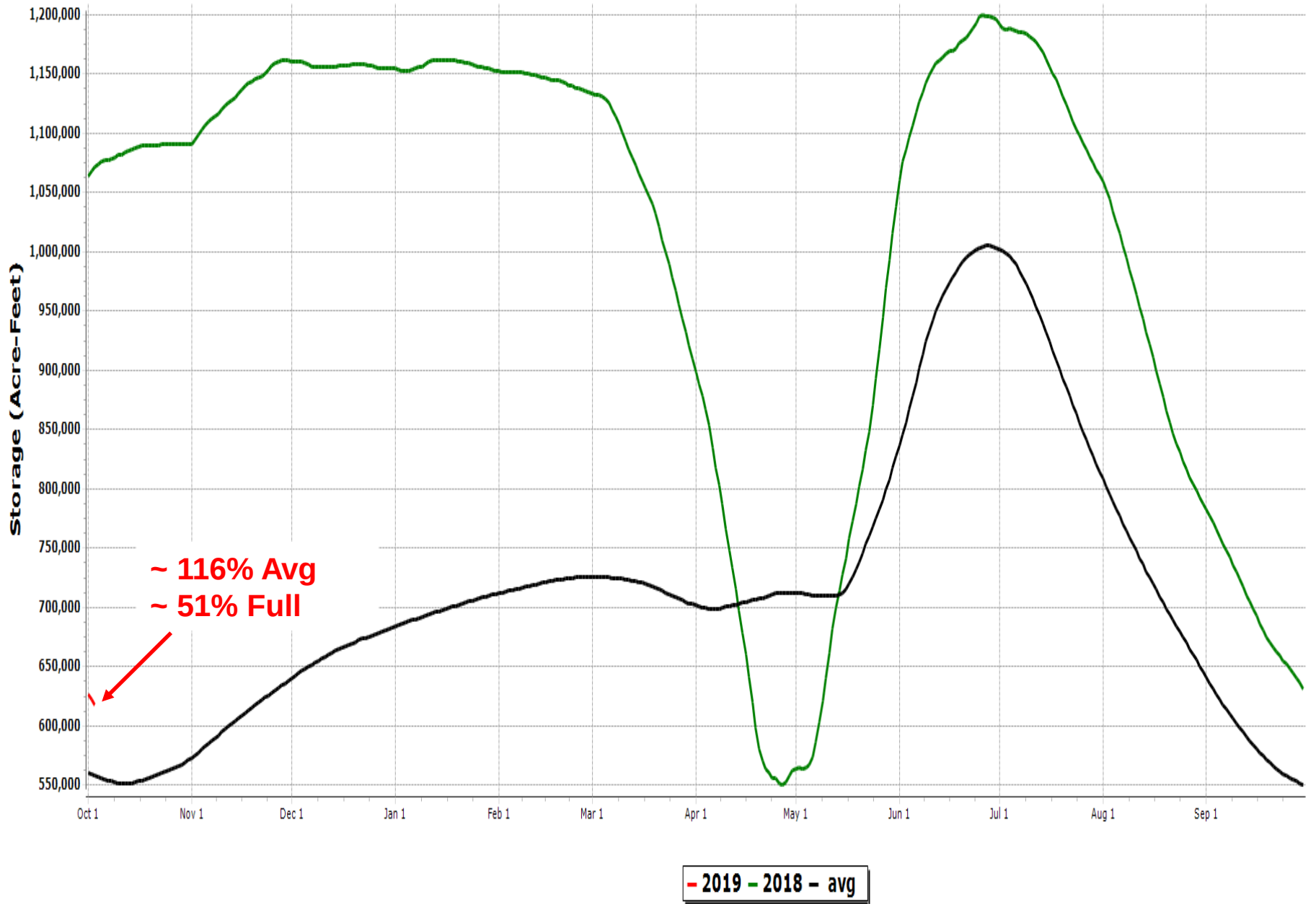


PROVISIONAL DATA - Subject to change

Snake River System Total Storage WY 2019 vs 2018 and 81-10 avg

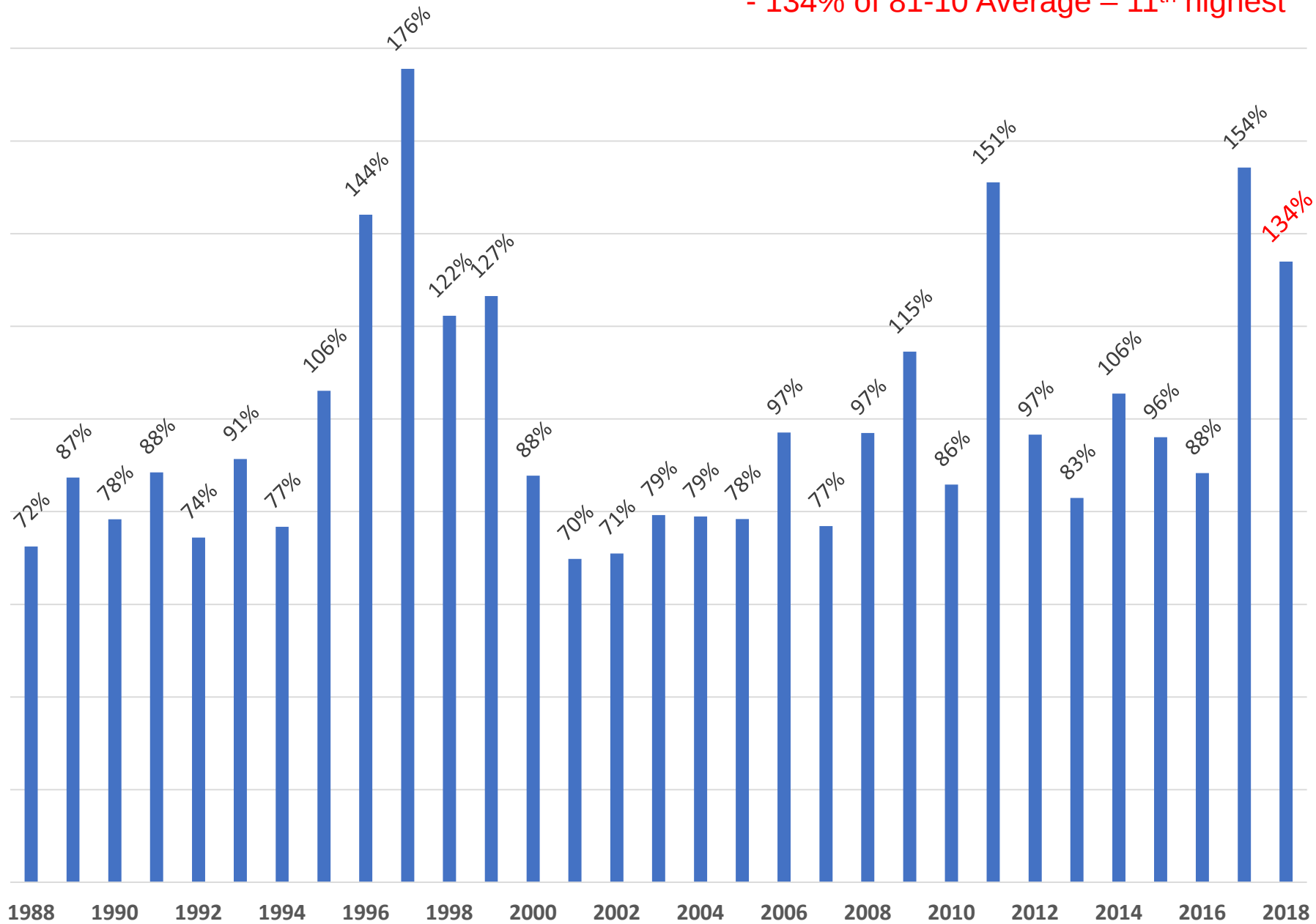


Palisades Reservoir Storage (AF)

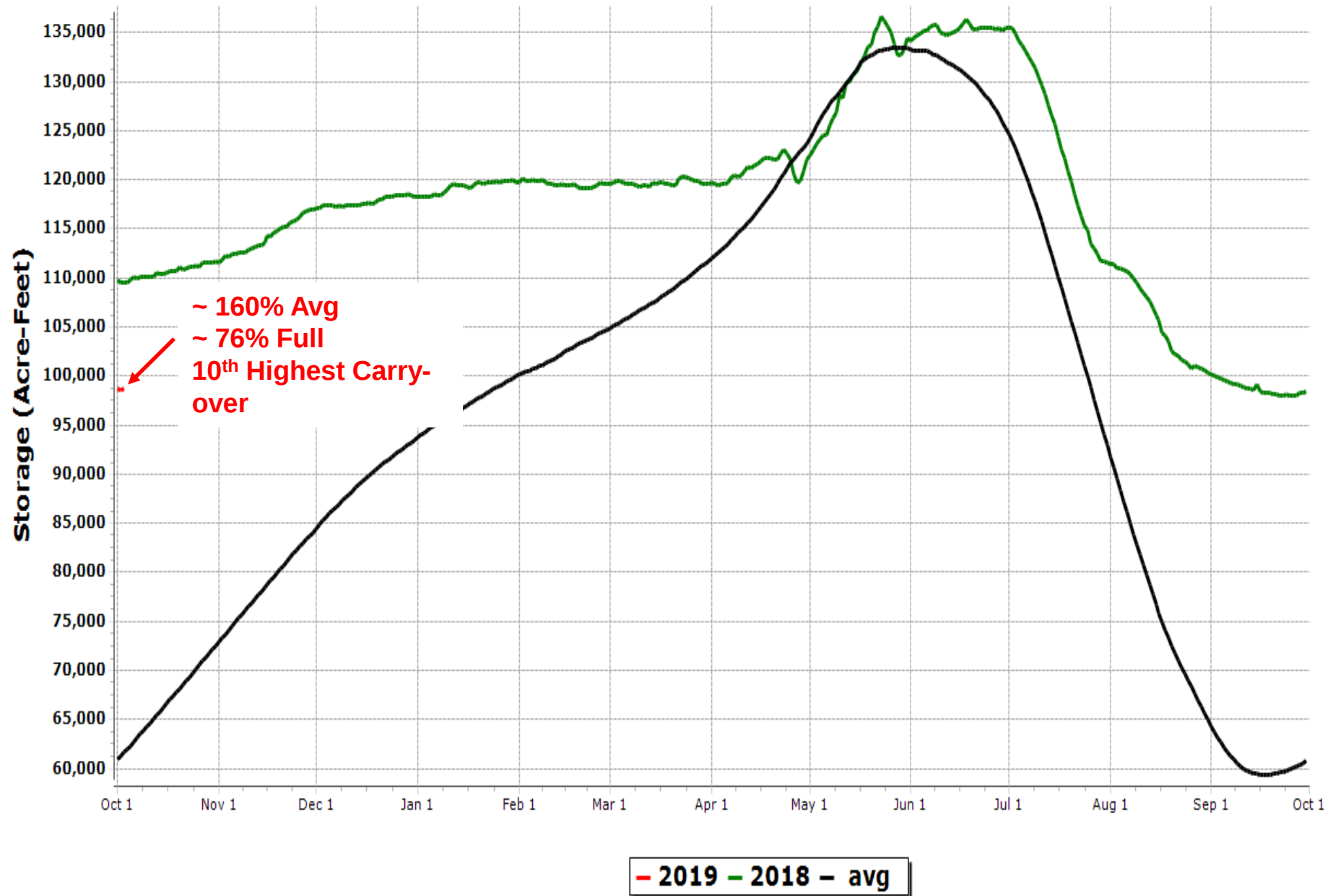


Palisades Water Year Inflow Volume: % 81-10 Avg

- 134% of 81-10 Average – 11th highest

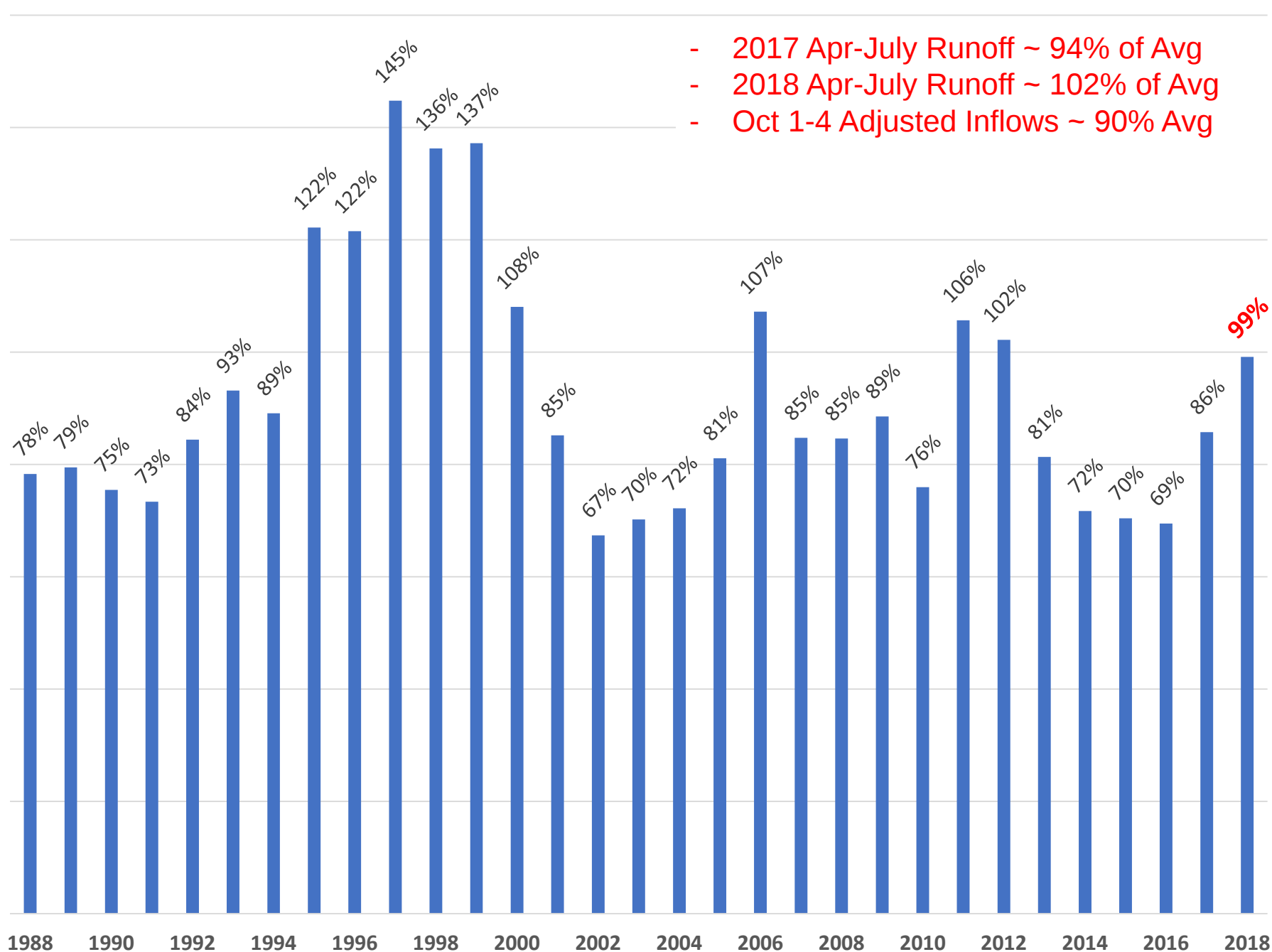


Island Park Reservoir Storage (AF)



Island Park Water Year Inflow Volume: % Average

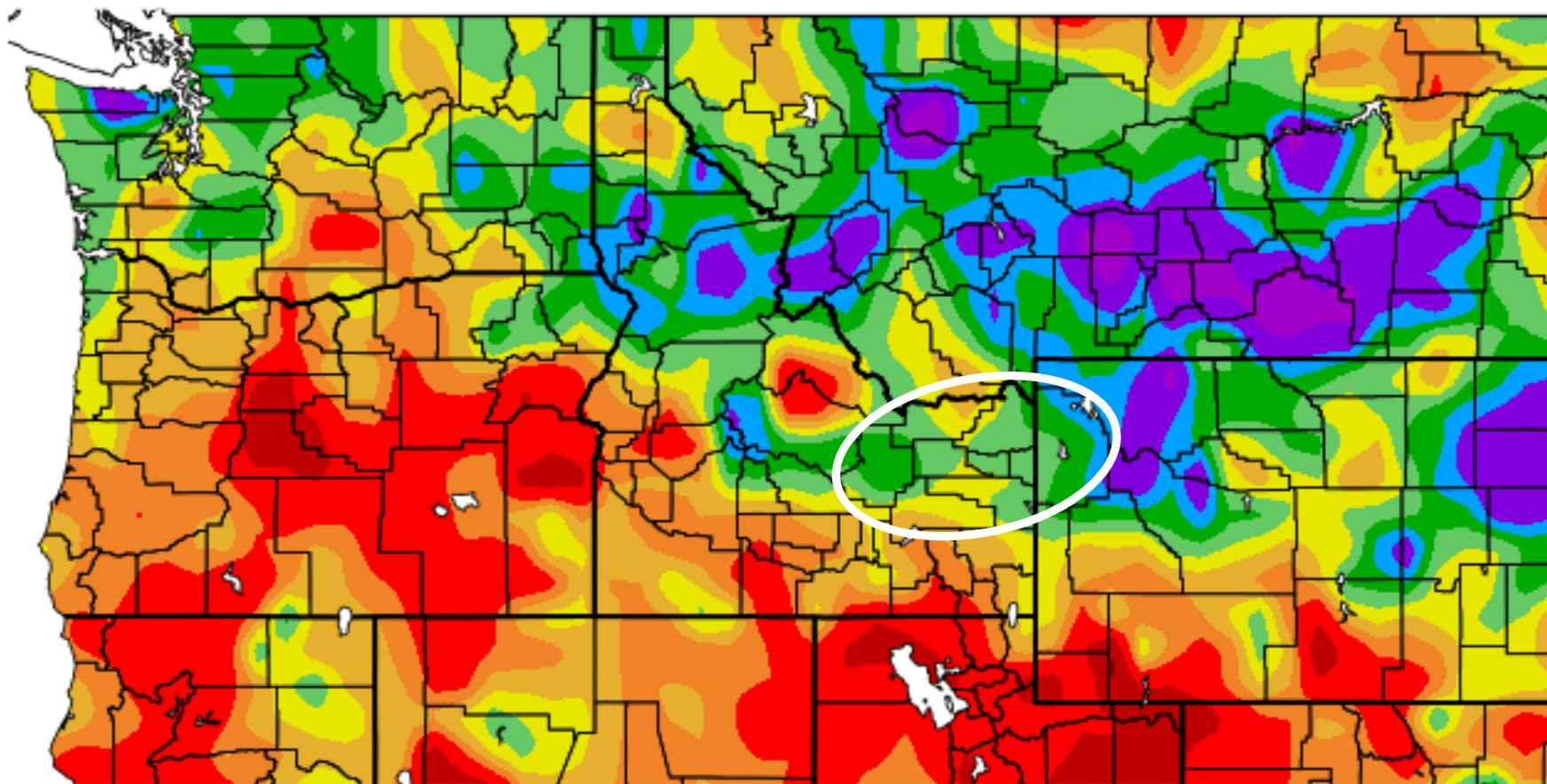
- 2017 Apr-July Runoff ~ 94% of Avg
- 2018 Apr-July Runoff ~ 102% of Avg
- Oct 1-4 Adjusted Inflows ~ 90% Avg



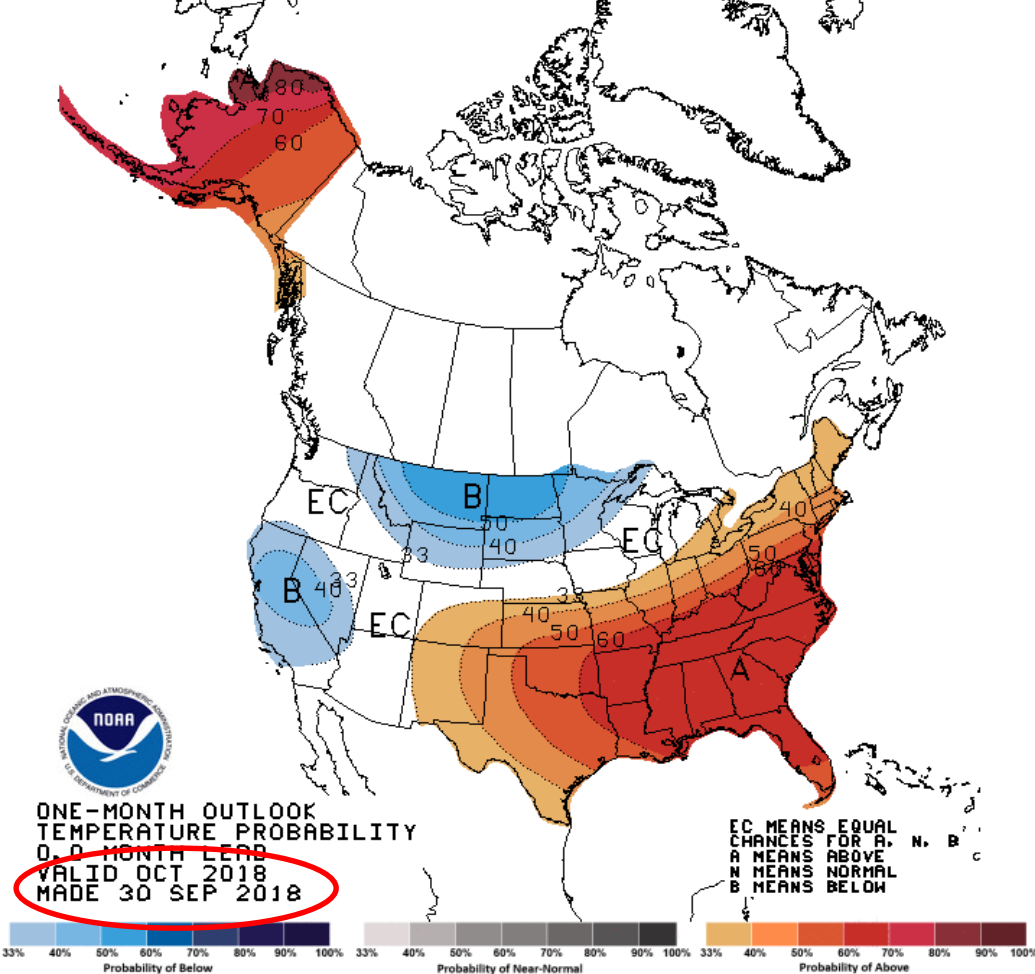
Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)

10/4/2017 – 10/3/2018

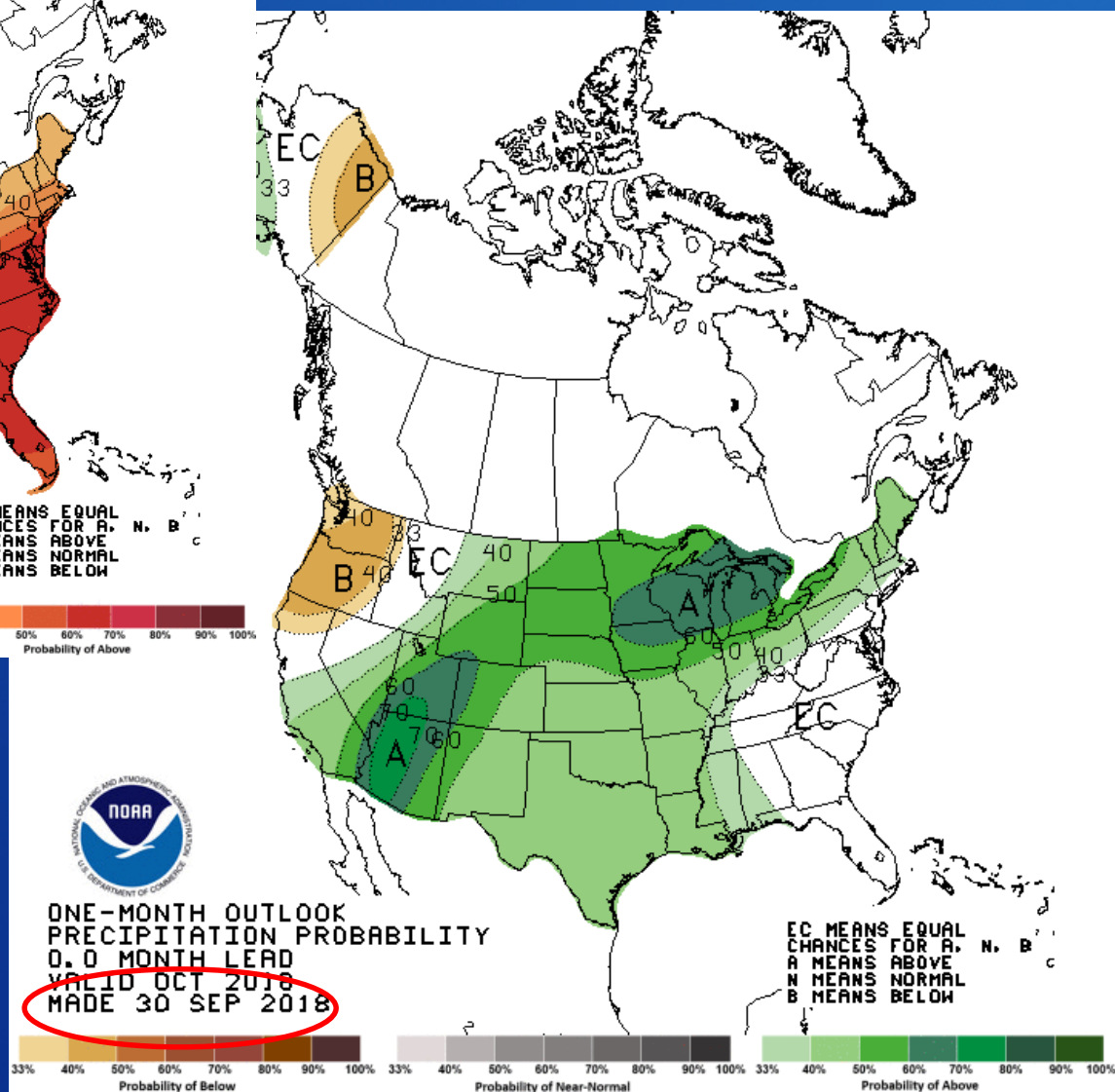
- Upper Snake River Basin Water Year
- Above normal precip Oct 17-June18
- Precip was near average ~ 99%
- Below normal precip Jul 18-Sep 18



Water Year 2019 Climate Outlooks

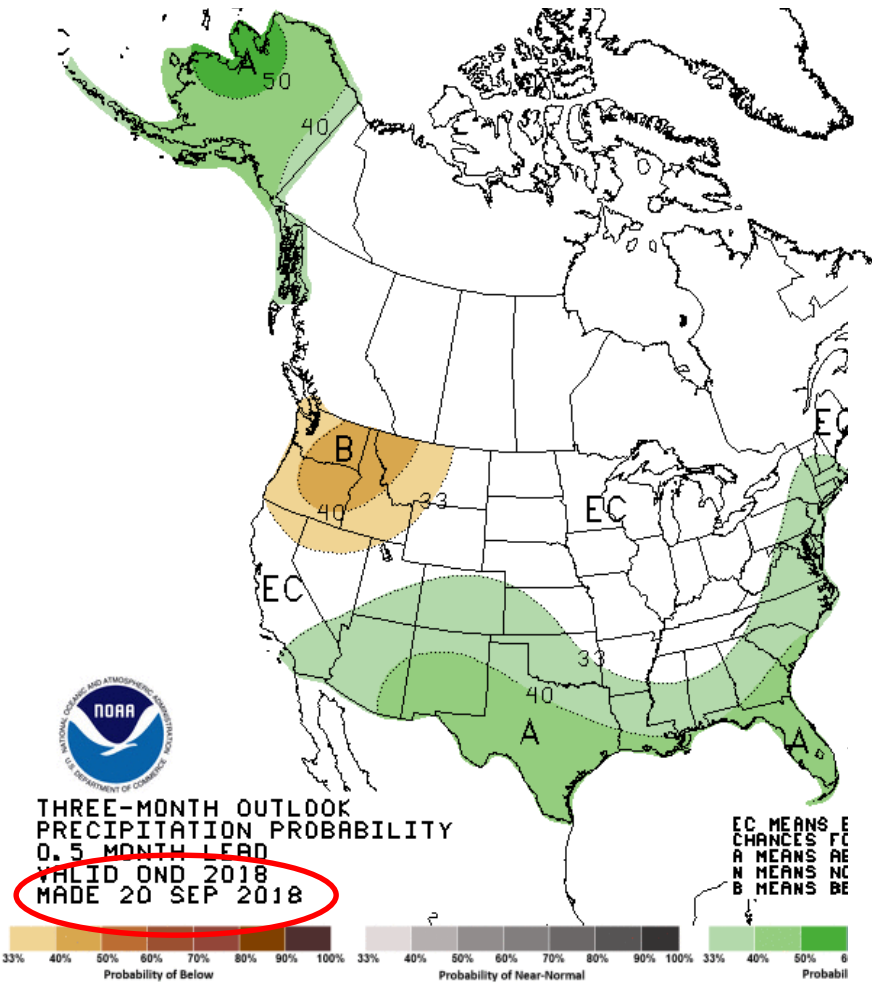


October 2018 Outlook

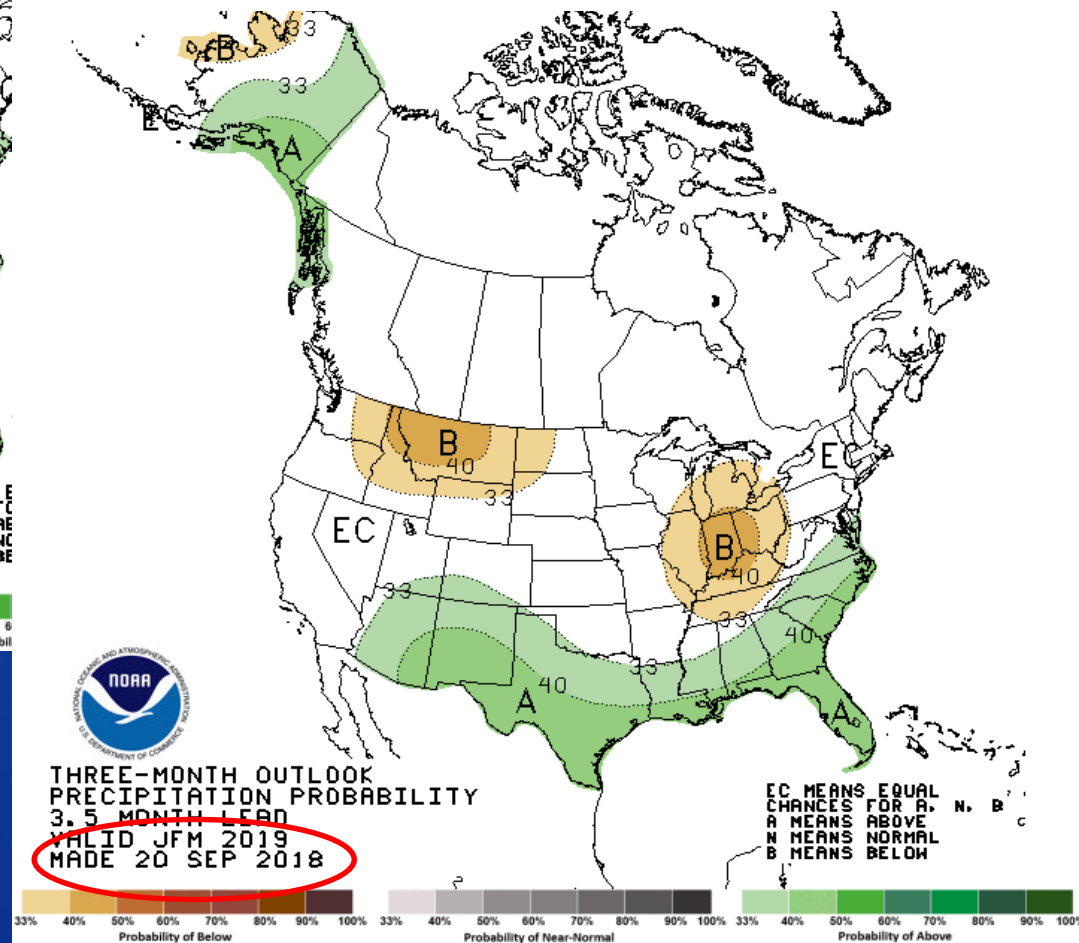


Water Year 2019 Long Range Climate Outlooks

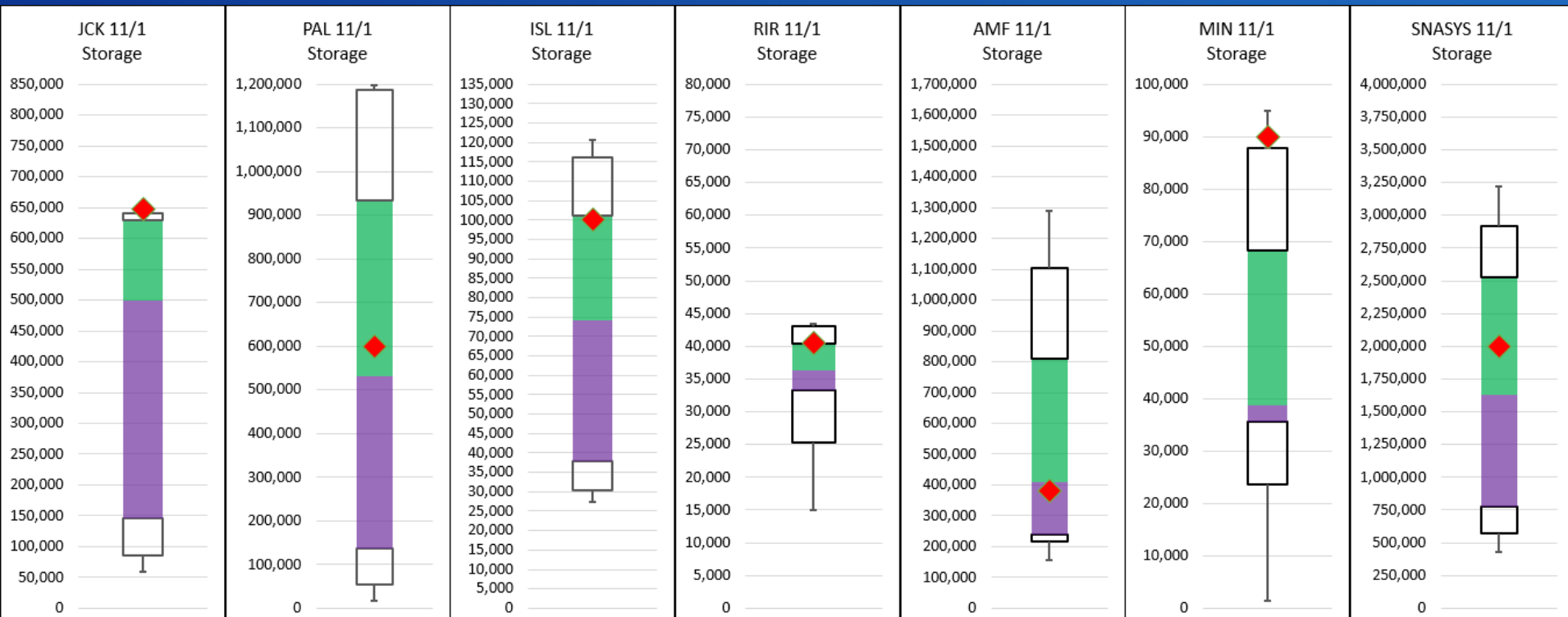
October 18 – Dec 18 Precip Trend Outlook



January 19 – March 19 Precip Trend Outlook



Estimated November 1 Reservoir Contents (ac-ft)

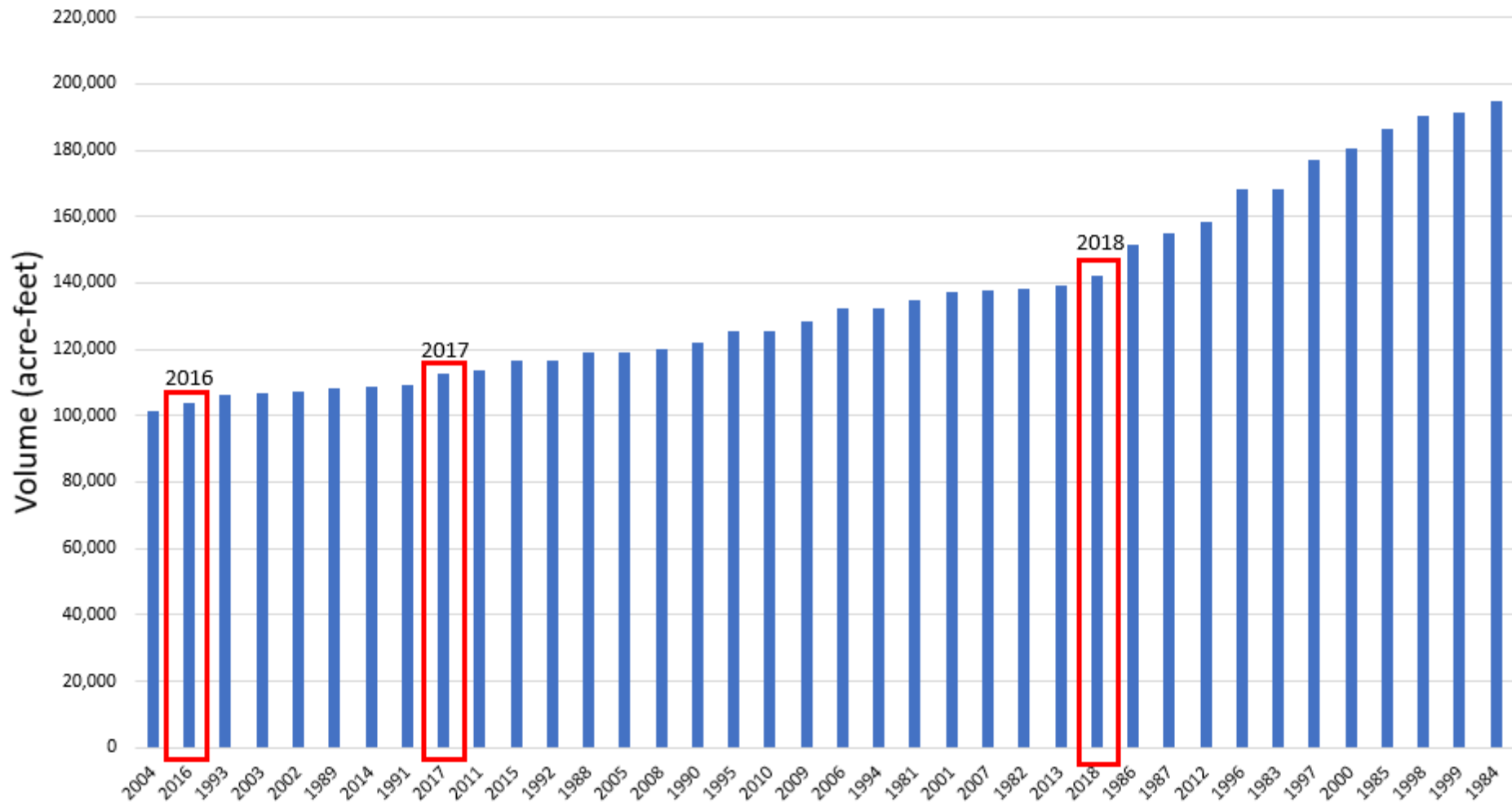


Estimated 11/1 Contents (af)	
JCK AF	647,000
PAL AF	600,000
ISL AF	100,000
RIR AF	40,500
AMF Af	380,000
MIN AF	90,000
SNASYS AF	2,000,000

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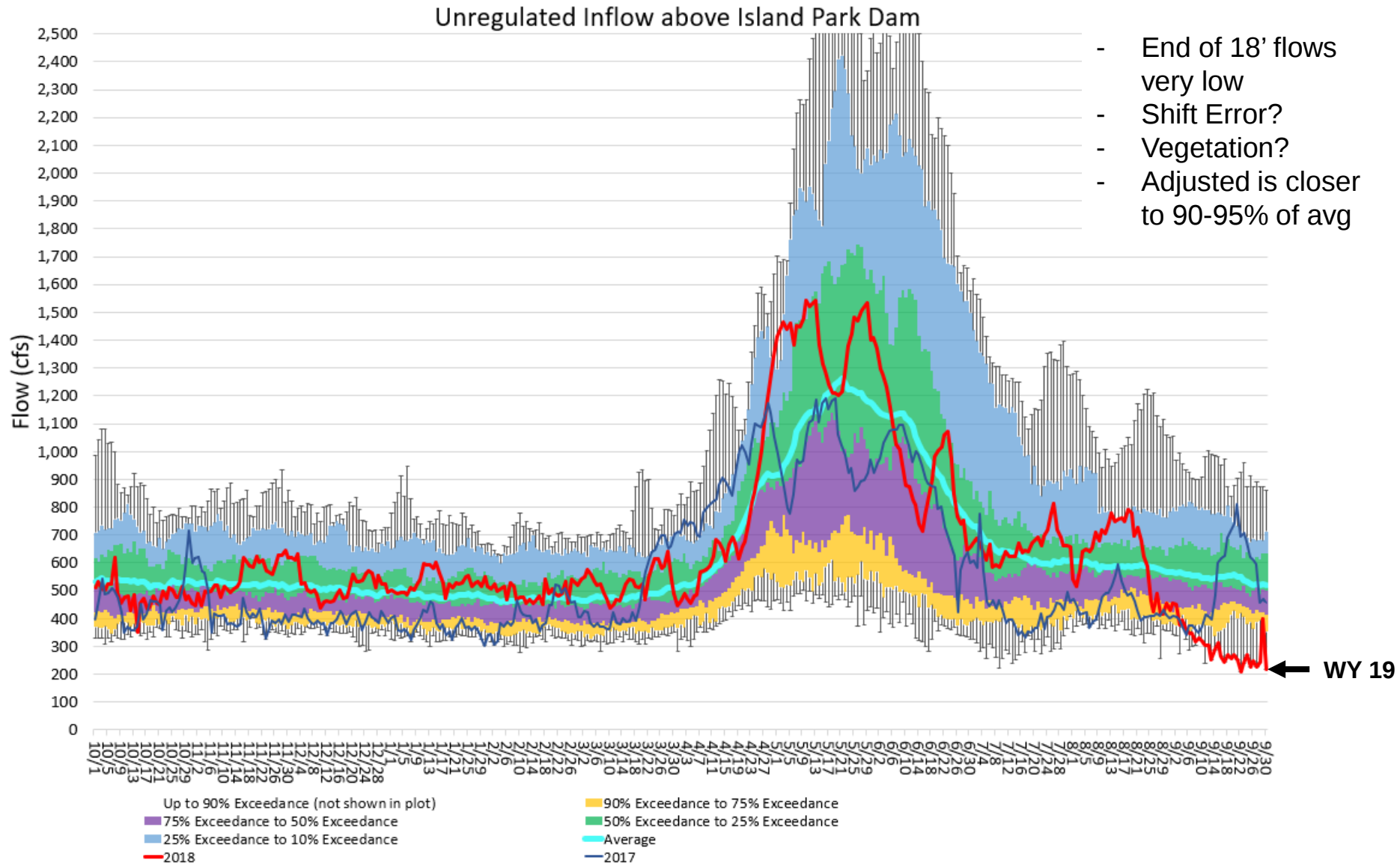
Historical Unregulated Winter Flow Volume Ranking

October 15 through March 1 Island Park Unregulated Inflow
(1981-2018)



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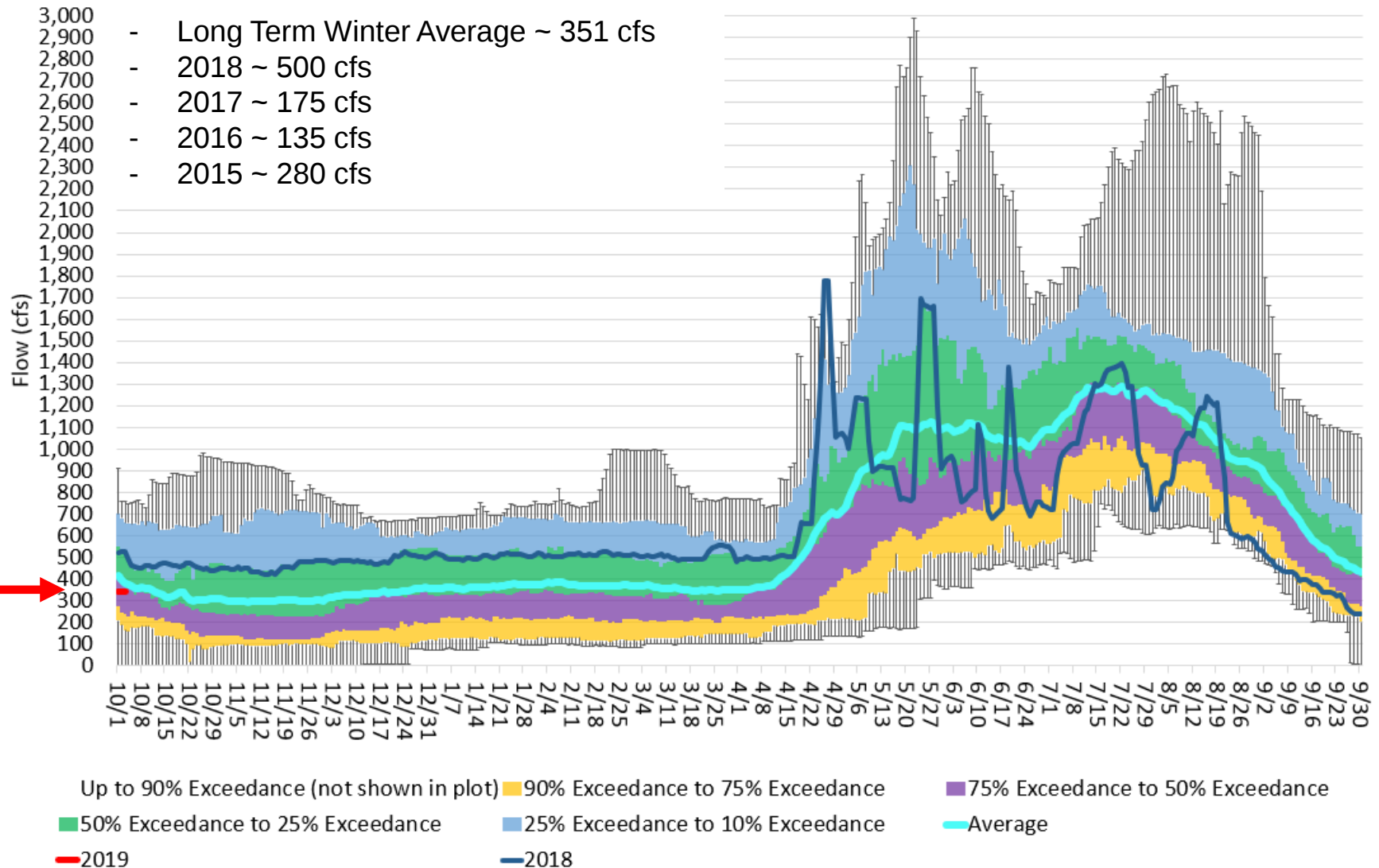
Unregulated Flow Conditions and Trends



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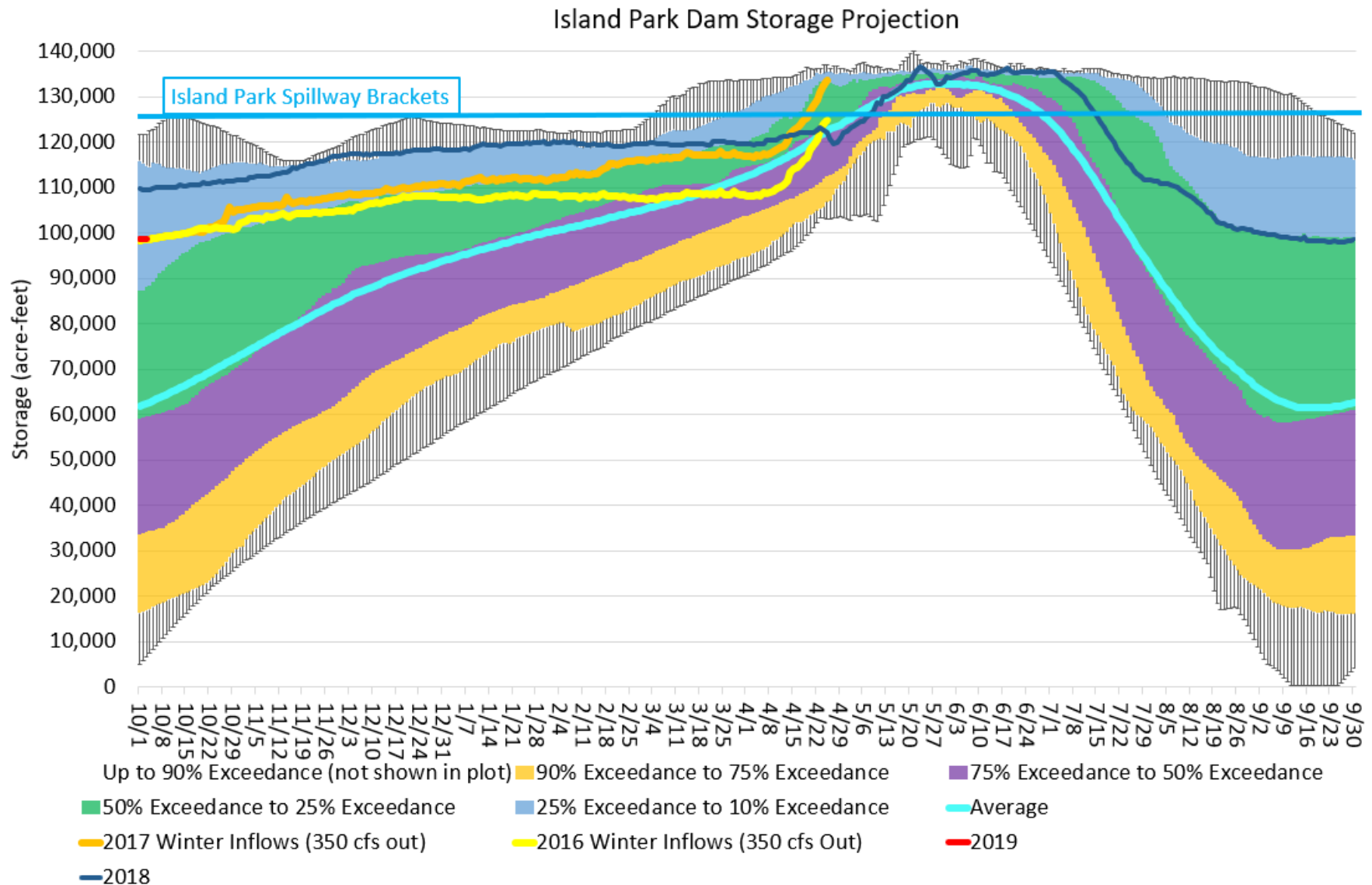
Island Park Discharge

Historical Island Park Dam Discharges



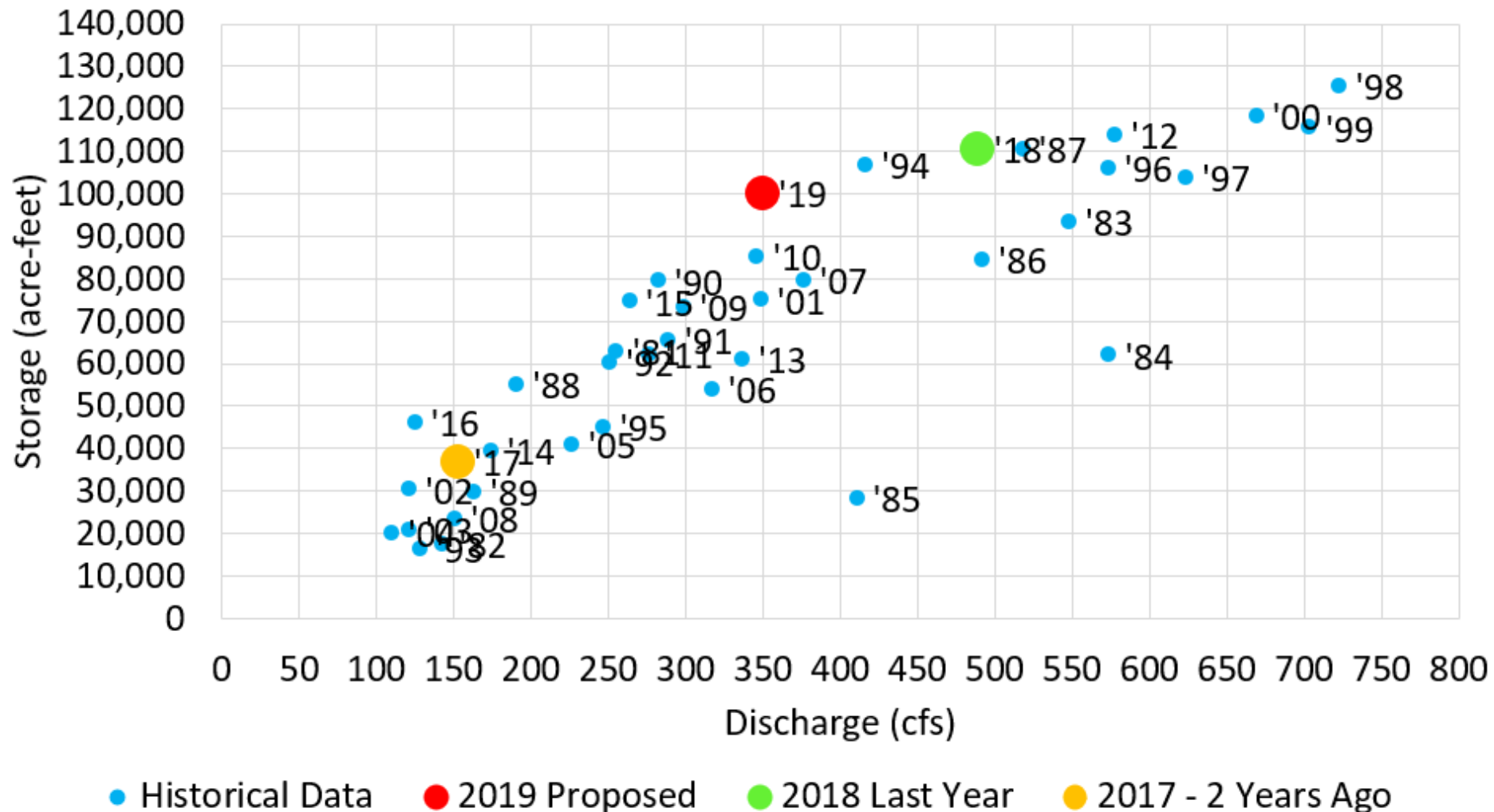
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Ops Projection: 2017 & 2016 Inflows with 350 cfs winter flow

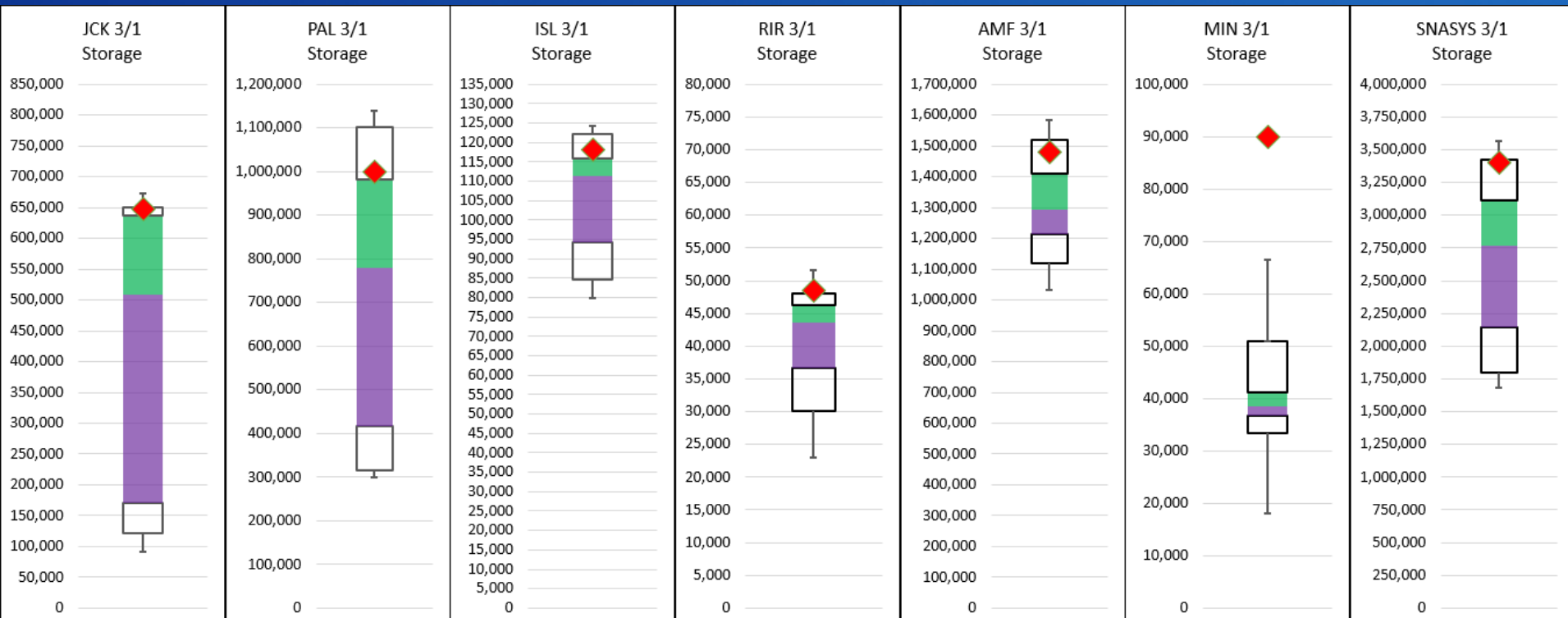


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Average November-February Island Park Discharge vs Island Park Storage Oct 15 Content



March 1, 2019 Reservoir Targets (ac-ft)



3/1 Reservoir Targets (af)	
JCK AF	647,000
PAL AF	1,000,000
ISL AF	118,000
RIR AF	48,500
AMF Af	1,480,000
MIN AF	90,000
SNASYS AF	3,400,000

Upper Snake River Operations Summary

➤ South Fork

- Jackson Lake – Maintain storage at ~ 647,000 KAF with a winter release between 300-400 cfs
- Palisades – Release for irrigation demand, then reduce to winter flow of approximately 900 cfs
- Ririe – Increase release from 270 cfs to ~ 400 cfs to achieve Nov 1 storage target of 40,500 AF, after which releases will be made as needed to manage the reservoir

➤ Henry's Fork

- Henry's Lake is expected to have a winter release between 0-10 cfs
- Island Park's official winter release has not yet been determined, but will most likely range between 300-400 cfs
- Grassy Reservoir is not expected to make releases until next spring/summer

➤ Lower System

- American Falls is currently releasing for irrigation demands and will reduce to 350 cfs for the winter
- Minidoka Dam/Lake Walcott is delivering irrigation water and is expected to release 550 cfs during the winter
- Milner is passing 0 cfs, with a total diversions of ~ 5,400 cfs. Irrigation diversions are expected to continue into the latter half of October.
- Milner will discharge approximately 450 cfs from the end of irrigation season into January 2019, and then 0 cfs when canal construction is completed.

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For More Information:

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Snake River Operations Web Sites

- New Upper Snake water information site - <http://www.usbr.gov/pn/hydromet/uppersnake/index.html>
- USBR HydroMet - <http://www.usbr.gov/pn/hydromet/>
- Northwest River Forecast Center - <http://www.nwrfc.noaa.gov/rfc/>
- NRCS SNOTEL Data - <http://www.id.nrcs.usda.gov/snow/>

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