



SHERIDAN COUNTY SNOWPACK REPORT

February 1, 2022

Below median snow-water content in Bighorn Mountain snowpack is the news for this first 2022 Sheridan County Snowpack Report, but above levels seen this date a year ago. Snowpack water content was mostly within 15 percent of 30 year observed median, and fairly consistent across the eastern Bighorns on Tuesday, February 1st. Most sites reported percent-of-median values of 85-95%, with values ranging from 57% to 118% of median. Tongue River drainage composite snow-water data – Snotel site data combined with manually collected snow-course data – show below median average for the entire drainage, at 88%. The same composite snow-course and Snotel data in the Clear Creek drainage indicate a notch higher average basin-wide snow-water at 89% of median. As a whole, the Powder River basin Snotel site data, including Clear Creek, averaged lower at 77% of median.

This time one year ago, Tongue River watershed snowpack snow-water was similar, with 2022 data showing slightly higher – at 103% of last year. Clear Creek is quite a bit ahead of last year, at 134% of 2021 snow-water data.

Precipitation measured at Snotel sites indicate the Powder River basin Total Water Year to Date near average, at 96%, while the Tongue River basin is above average at 110%.

February 1st Snotel data for all river basins across Wyoming reflect western basins mostly near or even above median, while eastern basins remain below median. The lowest percent of median snow-water in the State this month was the South Platte basin at 58% of median. Just next door to the west, the Laramie River basin was the highest in the State at 107% of median.

Manual snow course data presented in this report was collected January 27th to 31st. Snotel data in this report is as reported February 1st. Snotel data collectors are permanent, remote sites that transmit real-time snow-water content and precipitation data via satellite link. Daily data from these sites, as well as other water supply-related reports and products can be accessed through the Water link under Topics on the Wyoming NRCS Homepage at www.wy.nrcs.usda.gov.

Table with 7 columns: Site, Site Elevation, Observed Snow Depth (Inches), Observed Snow Water Content (Inches), 30 year Median Water Content (Inches), 2021 Observed as % of Median, 2021 Observed as % of Last Year. Rows include Tongue River Drainage (North Tongue Snow Course, Sawmill Divide Snow Course, Woodrock Snow Course, Bald Mountain Snotel, Big Goose Snotel, Bone Springs Snotel, Burgess Junction Snotel, Dome Lake Snotel, Sucker Creek Snotel, Tie Creek Snotel) and Clear Creek Drainage (Soldier Park Snow Course, Sourdough Snow Course, Cloud Peak Snotel, Hansen Sawmill Snotel, Powder River Pass Snotel). Includes an average row for each drainage and a note: *** Not Measured; Inaccessible.

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