



SHERIDAN COUNTY SNOWPACK REPORT

February 1, 2023

The inaugural 2023 Sheridan County Snowpack Report tells of above median snow-water content in Bighorn Mountain snowpack, and more than one year ago. Wednesday, February 1st snowpack water content on the eastern Bighorns varied widely compared to 30 year observed medians. Most sites exceeded 30-year medians, though values ranged from 77% to 179% of median. Composite snow-water data in the Tongue River drainage, that is Snotel remote-site data combined with manually collected snow-course data, indicated above-median average for the entire basin, at 112%. The same Clear Creek drainage composite snow-course and Snotel data was very similar with an average basin-wide snow-water at 113% of median. This was also reflected in the entire Powder River basin Snotel site data, including Clear Creek, which also averaged 113% of median.

Compared to last year, Tongue River watershed snowpack snow-water was higher this year; 2023 data are 132% of last year values for February 1. Similarly, Clear Creek watershed snow-water was higher than last year on February 1st, at 132% of 2022 values for that date.

Total Water-Year-to-Date Precipitation measured at Snotel sites showed both the Powder and Tongue River basins a bit above median, at 106% and 113% respectively

Snotel data for all Wyoming river basins on February 1st reported nearly all basins near or above median. This month the South Platte River basin had the lowest percent of median snow-water in the State, reporting 75% of median. The highest in the State this month was the Sweetwater River basin at 158% of median.

Manual snow course data presented in this report was collected January 27th to February 1st. Snotel data in this report is as reported end-of-day on January 31st. 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), 2023 Observed as % of Median, 2023 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.