



Chester Morse Lake Reservoir on November 2, 2015

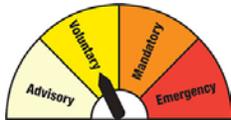
Photo Credit: Aaron Erman

## Water System Operational Highlights

November 2, 2015 – November 9, 2015

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### The Message on Our Water Supply



We are in the Voluntary Stage of our water shortage contingency plan which was activated on August 11, 2015.

After moving to the voluntary stage of their water shortage response plans on August 11, Everett, Seattle and Tacoma asked customers to reduce their water use by 10 percent to stretch water supplies, for people and fish, to the rainy season.

As reported on October 21, the region has collectively cut back on water use by 12 percent. That's down from previous reports showing 14 percent reductions, indicating that it's getting more difficult for customers to reduce water use.

We appreciate what people have done to cut back and thank them for their efforts. Continued water use reductions are needed until fall rains return in earnest and fill our reservoirs back to normal levels.

As the weather continues to cool, customers should think about what they can do to save water inside their homes.

Indoor water-saving tips for residents:

- Reduce showering time
- Check for and fix leaks
- Wash only full loads of laundry and dishes
- Turn off the tap while brushing teeth or shaving
- Don't pre-rinse dishes
- If purchasing fixtures or equipment, choose water-efficient models

Unless conditions change significantly, the next round of regional water-use reduction results will be released in mid-November.

Find more water saving tips at [www.savingwater.org](http://www.savingwater.org).

## **Water Supply Update**

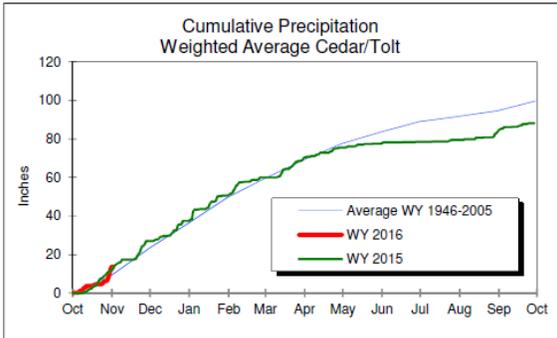
Last week, several vigorous weather systems brought much needed rains to our South Fork Tolt River and Cedar River watersheds. Our water supply reservoirs in the mountains have started to refill as we are capturing rising reservoir inflows. As a result, water supply conditions are improving and total combined reservoir storage is currently 90 percent of average for this time of the year.

Last week, 7.85 inches and 9.73 inches of precipitation were recorded in our Cedar River and South Fork Tolt River watersheds, respectively.

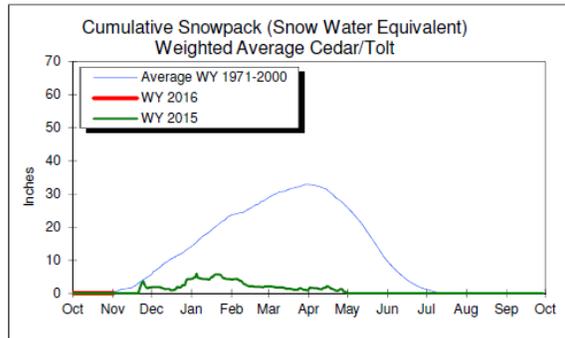
Chester Morse Lake at the Overflow Dike is at elevation 1549.4 feet, about 10.7 feet higher than last week, and about 3.3 feet above its long term average (based on the years 1989 to 2005). Masonry Pool Reservoir at Masonry Dam is at elevation 1536.6 feet, about 7.2 feet higher than last week, and about 1.0 feet below its long term average. The South Fork Tolt Reservoir at the South Fork Tolt Dam is at elevation 1728.3 feet, about 14.9 feet higher than last week, and about 15.5 feet below its long term average. Water releases from reservoir storage are actively being managed for water supply, hydropower, fish habitat and flood management objectives for both the Cedar and South Fork Tolt Rivers. Stream flows in both the South Fork Tolt River and Cedar River are being held at guaranteed flows for this time of the year and are providing full protection for spawning salmon and incubating eggs.

Water consumption for the previous seven days averaged approximately 104 mgd. That is less than the 107 mgd consumed during the same period last year, and less than the average of 120 mgd used during the same period over the years 1999-2008.

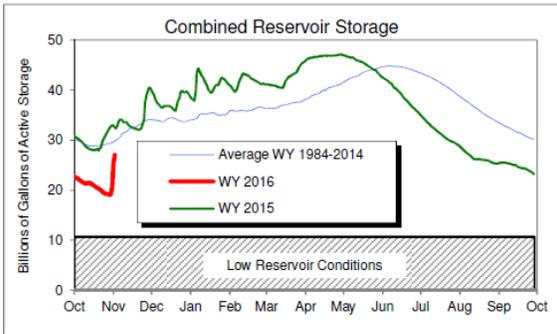
## Seattle Public Utilities Water System Synopsis as of November 2, 2015



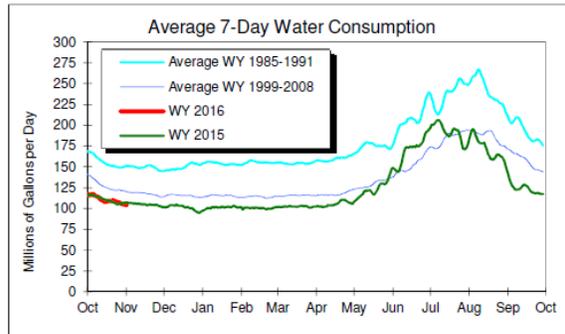
Precipitation was recorded in the Cedar River and South Fork Tolt River Watersheds over the past week.



The average snow accumulation across the sites that we monitor is estimated to be about 0.0 inches snow water equivalent which is at the long term average for this time of the year.



The combined reservoir storage of Chester Morse Lake, Masonry Pool, Lake Youngs and South Fork Tolt Reservoir is below the long term average for this time of the year.



Water use over the past week averaged about 104 million gallons per day (mgd), which is less than the 120 mgd used during the same period over the years 1999-2008.

All data is provisional and subject to revision.

**Figure 1.** Seattle Public Utilities Water System Synopsis Graphs