

## **Summary:**

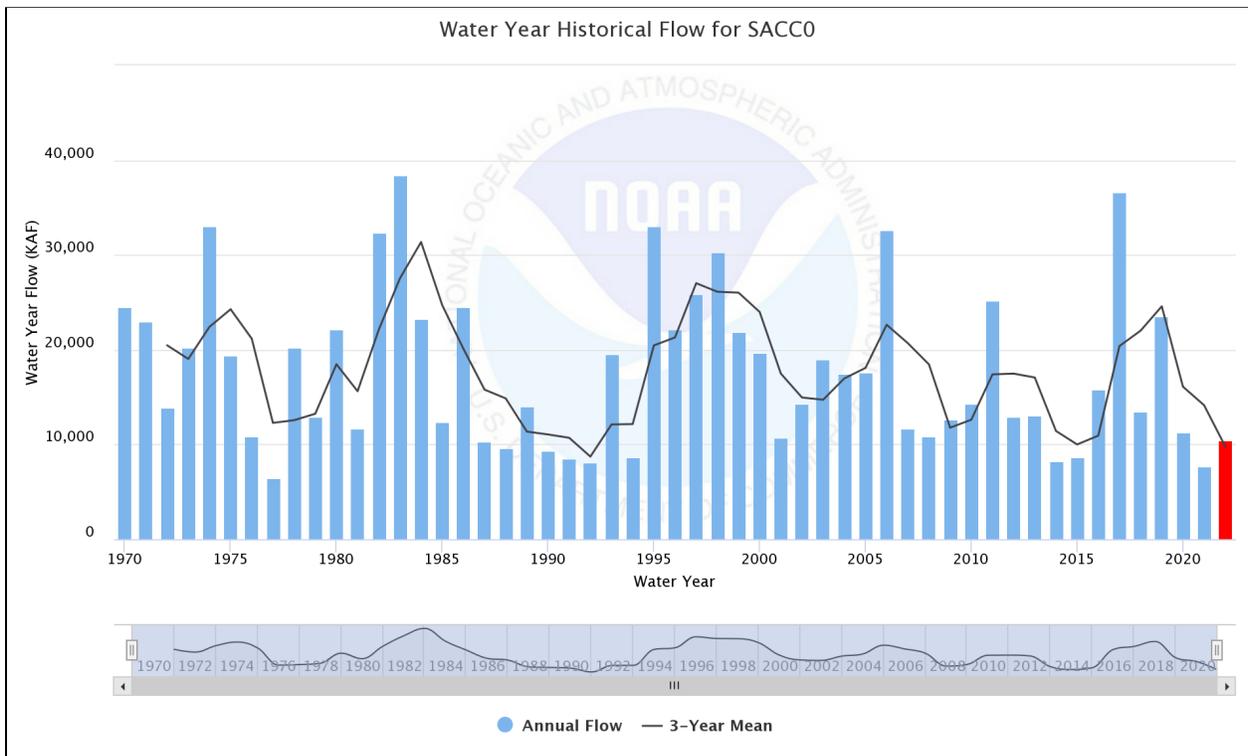
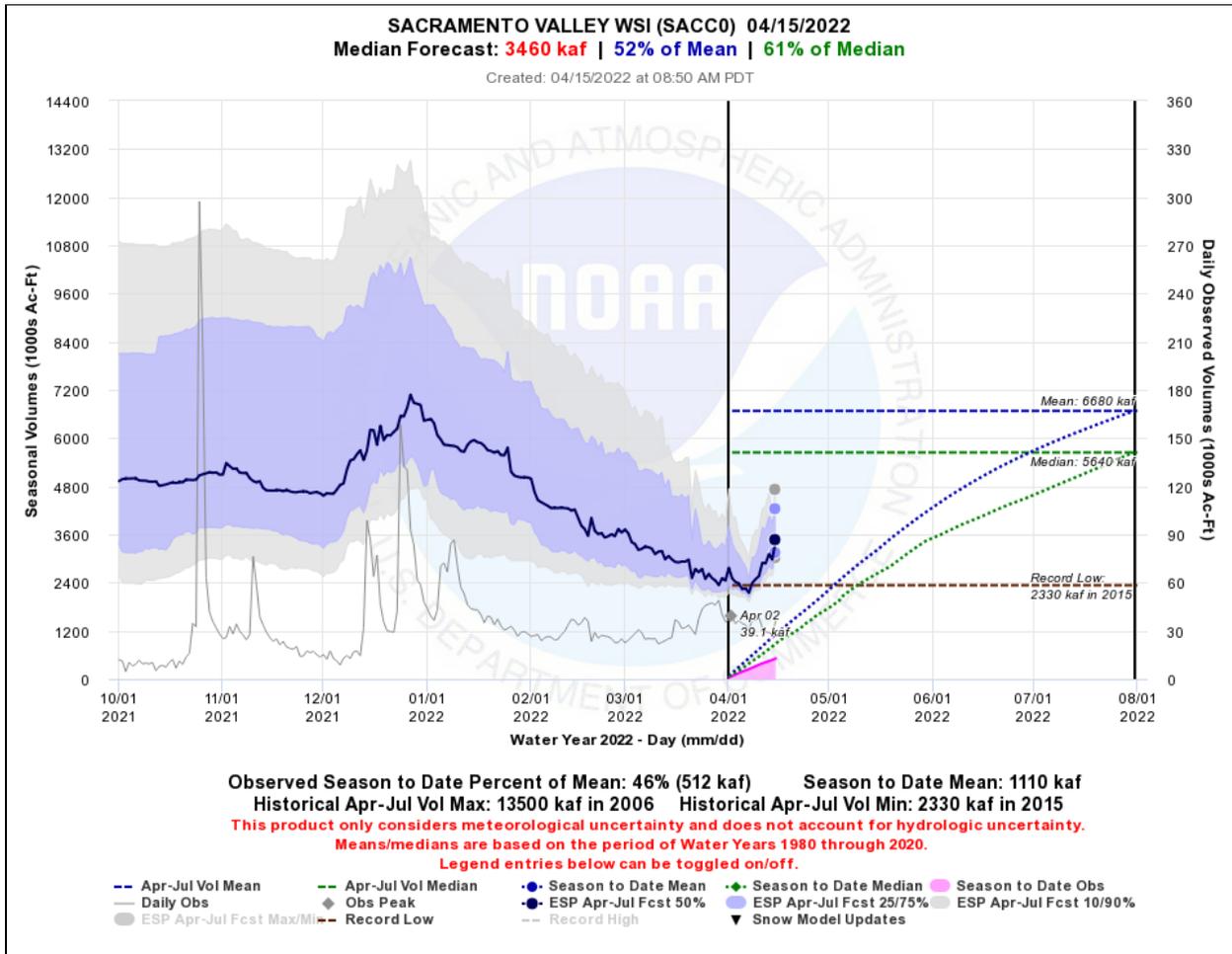
- **Record dry Jan-Mar**
- **Good start to April - especially in the Sacramento basin**
- **Looking wet in the near term, but trending dry after that**

## **Details:**

The January through March period was the driest on record for all three Central Valley indices: 8-station, 5-station, and 6-station. However, looking at the long-term 3-year water year precipitation totals, the 2020-2022 period is not the driest everywhere. As of today, the 2020-2022 3-year water year total for the Sacramento basin 8-station index is still the driest. However, the San Joaquin 5-station index driest 3-year total is the 2013-2015 period followed by 2020-2022. The Tulare 6-station 3-year total is nearly a tie between the 2013-2015 and 2020-2022. With more precipitation in the near-term forecast, the 2013-2015 period will most likely be the driest for the 6 and 5-station indices. The combined index still has the current 3-year period being the driest by a fairly large margin, and will most likely remain the driest by the end of the water year.

3-Year Period	Combined Indices (in)
2020-2022	200.49
2013-2015	225.35
2012-2014	240.36
1975-1977	240.55
1929-1931	244.34
1959-1961	247.35
1990-1992	254.80
1987-1989	257.99
2014-2016	259.27
1924-1926	261.01

The April precipitation has been a refreshing change to the record dry 3-month period that was just experienced. As a result, the April-July runoff projections have increased, most notably in the Sacramento basin. On April 7th, the April-July runoff projections for much of the Sacramento locations were in the 30-40% of average range. Today, Shasta, Oroville, and Folsom are near 55%, along with the Sacramento index up to 52% of average.

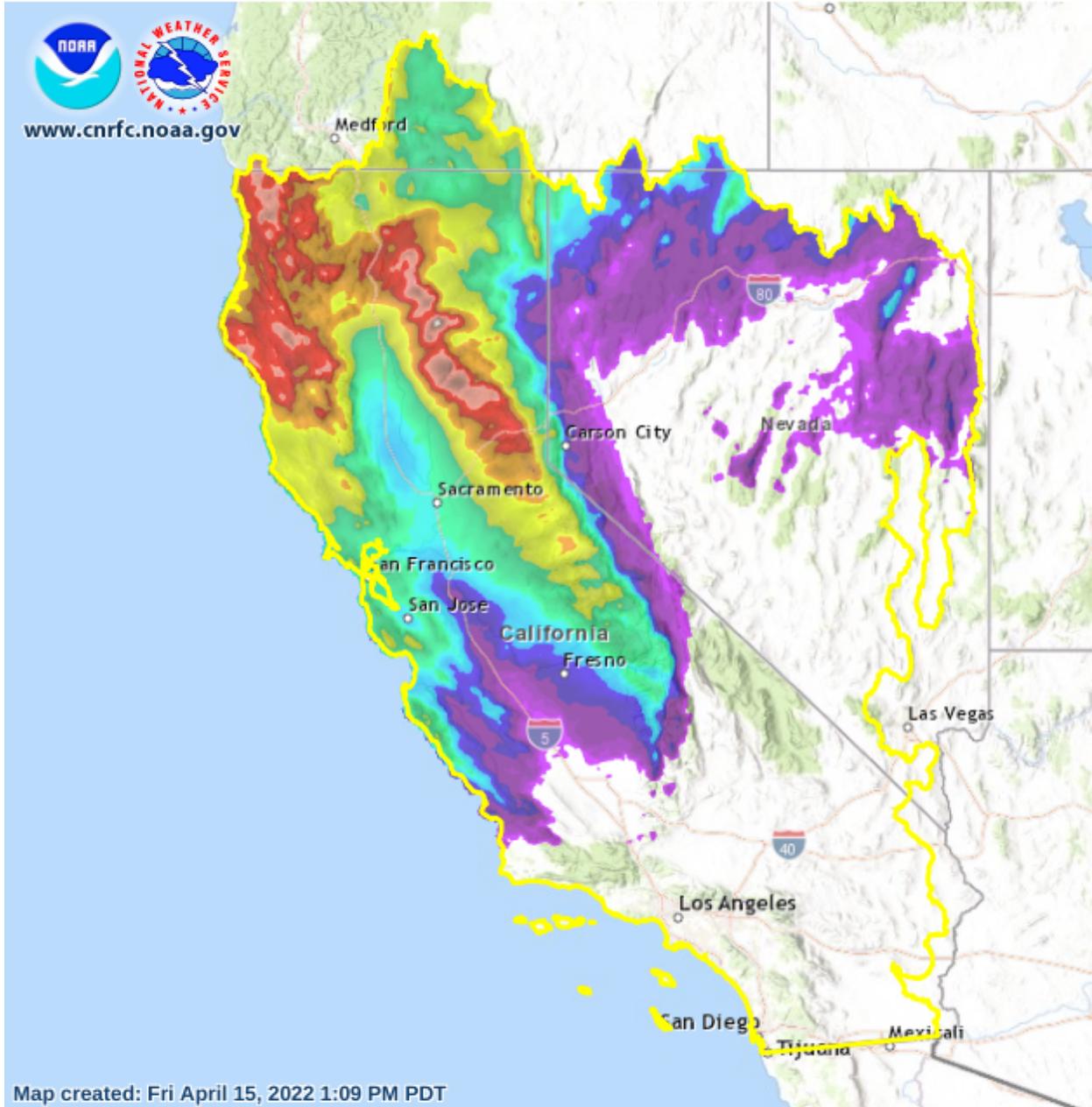


That is quite a jump in about a week. The Sacramento Valley WSI April-July runoff is expected to be nearly 1.2 MAF more than last year. While this is still well below normal, it is a noticeable

improvement from last year. It's important to keep in mind that these April-July forecasts include runoff due to past weather, but also the near-term forecasted precipitation. Over the next 6 days, we are expecting a pretty wet period, mainly in Northern California (see below).

### 6-Day Precipitation Forecast

Fri Apr 15 05 AM PDT (15/12Z) to Thu Apr 21 05 AM PDT (21/12Z)



Precipitation (inches)



Beyond that, it is looking drier than normal according to CPC's latest guidance.

