

**Wyoming Area Office  
Mills, Wyoming**

Media Contact: Mahonri Williams, 307-261-5624  
[mlwilliams@usbr.gov](mailto:mlwilliams@usbr.gov)

For Release: May 3, 2018

## **Reclamation Issues Snowmelt Forecast and Expected Operations for North Platte River Basin**

MILLS, Wyoming - The Wyoming Area Office of the Bureau of Reclamation in Mills, Wyoming, has prepared the May snowmelt runoff forecasts and operating plans for the North Platte River Basin.

"Despite this month's continued projections of below average runoff, we still expect the North Platte Basin water contractors will have a full water supply this year due to excellent carry-over storage from last year," said Wyoming Area Manager, Carlie Ronca.

The May forecasts indicate the spring snowmelt runoff will be below average. Total April through July runoff in the North Platte River Basin above Glendo Dam is expected to be 605,000 acre-feet (AF) which is 68 percent of the 30-year average.

As of April 30, 2018, storage content in the North Platte Reservoirs amounts to 2,246,670 AF, which is 128 percent of the 30-year average. The total conservation storage capacity of the North Platte Reservoir System is approximately 2.8 million AF.

Current releases are 2,700 cubic feet per second (cfs) from Seminole Reservoir through the Miracle Mile, 2,000 cfs out of Gray Reef, and 1,000 cfs out of Guernsey Reservoir. Based on current projections for the months of May, June, and July, the releases out of Seminole Reservoir are not expected to exceed 3,000 cfs, while flows out of Gray Reef are expected to be in the range of approximately 2,500 to 3,000 cfs. Releases from Guernsey will be in the 3,500 to 5,300 cfs range. Pathfinder Reservoir is not expected to spill this spring.

###

Reclamation is the largest wholesale water supplier in the United States, and the nation's second largest producer of hydroelectric power. Its facilities also provide substantial flood control, recreation, and fish and wildlife benefits. Visit our website at <https://www.usbr.gov> and follow us on Twitter [@USBR](https://twitter.com/USBR).

