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SHERIDAN COUNTY SNOWPACK REPORT**MAY 1, 2009**

DATA SITE	ELEV.	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	* 30-YR AVE.	% OF AVE.	% OF LAST YR
<u>TONGUE RIVER DRAINAGE:</u>						
BALD MTN SNOTEL	9375'	-	20.2"	23.5"	86%	107%
BIG GOOSE	7760'	25"	7.5"	7.7"	97%	123%
BIG GOOSE SNOTEL	7990'	-	10.8"	11.7"	92%	107%
BONE SPRINGS SNOTEL	9350'	-	17.7"	18.3"	97%	84%
BURGESS JCT. SNOTEL	7880'	-	13.5"	13.3"	102%	89%
DOME LAKE SNOTEL	8880'	-	12.7"	13.7"	93%	102%
NORTH TONGUE	8450'	41"	12.1"	13.3"	91%	88%
SAWMILL DIVIDE	9260'	52"	16.4"	15.1"	109%	100%
SUCKER CREEK SNOTEL	8880'	-	15.8"	13.2"	120%	98%
TIE CREEK SNOTEL	7080'	-	4.0"	4.2"	95%	62%
WOODROCK GUARD STA.	8440'	36"	10.8"	11.2"	96%	96%
				Average:	98%	96%
<u>CLEAR CREEK DRAINAGE:</u>						
CLOUD PEAK SNOTEL	9860'	-	19.5"	16.3"	120%	108%
HANSEN SAWMILL SNOTEL	8760'	-	3.9"	5.0"	78%	80%
POWD. RIV. PASS SNOTEL	9480'	-	12.6"	10.9"	116%	98%
SOLDIER PARK	8780'	**n/a	-	-	-	-
SOURDOUGH	8460'	**n/a	-	-	-	-
				Average:	**105%	** 95%
*Period of record is 1971 - 2000						
**Sites inaccessible due to melting						

The final first-of-month snapshot of snowpack conditions on the Tongue & Clear Creek drainages shows both within 5% of normal, and within 5% of last May 1st. As is often the case at the first of May, some melting near the low-elevation sites on the Clear Creek basin makes comparisons less reliable. This summary combines May 1 snotel readings with manual snow course measurements taken April 27th & 28th. Overall precipitation (rain & snow) since October '08 at the snotel sites shows the Powder Tongue basin presently at 108% of normal. While the overall water supply picture for Sheridan County for the summer of '09 generally looks favorable, temperature and rainfall over the next two months will largely determine how this "normal" snowpack will translate into runoff.

May 1 snowpack on the other major basins in the State range from 114% on the Little Snake, 112% on the Upper Yellowstone/Madison, 110% on the Wind, and 109% on the Snake; down to 87% on the Lower Green and 81% on the Belle Fourche.

Additional snowpack & water supply information is available on-line through the *Water* link on the WY NRCS Homepage at www.wy.nrcs.usda.gov.

Reported by Jerry Forster, District Conservationist