

Klamath National Forest

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News

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April snow surveys completed on Klamath National Forest

Forest specialists on the Klamath National Forest completed snow surveys for the month of April. Measurements taken in April are significant because the amount of water in the snow pack historically reaches a maximum by April 1st. Even if late storms occur, warmer weather and longer days combine to begin melting the snow pack after that date.

Since March snow surveys, the snow pack has remained very stable and is near average at all eight courses where measurements are taken on the Salmon/Scott River Ranger District. Seven of those locations are in the Scott River drainage and one is located in the Trinity River drainage. Measurements were also taken for Little Shasta on the Goosenest Ranger District.

The snow pack for this year has been below average but recent storms have increased the accumulation to near normal figures. The water content and density of the snow at all courses is good, according to Forest specialists, although the depth is below average.

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Snow Course	Snow Depth			Equivalent Water Content		
	Name	4/1/09	Avg.	% Average	4/1/09	Avg.
Middle Boulder #5	68.1"	72.9"	93%	29.6"	32.1"	92%
6,600' elevation	(63 year average)					
Middle Boulder #3	58.1"	66.0"	88%	24.4"	28.7"	85%
6,200' elevation	(61 year average)					
Dynamite Meadow	37.4"	45.8"	82%	14"	18.8"	74%
5,700' elevation	(54 year average)					
Swampy John	59.8"	84.8"	70%	22.6"	33.7"	67%
5,500' elevation	(59 year average)					
Scott Mountain	47.8"	52.7"	91%	22"	22.8 "	96%
5,900' elevation	(23 year average)					
Box Camp	77.2"	89.1"	87%	32.6"	36.9"	88%
6,440' elevation	(31 year average)					
Etna Mountain	59.3"	72.0"	82%	24.7"	28.5"	87%
5,900' elevation	(59 year average)					

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Wolford Cabin	58.2"	86.0"	68%	24.1"	36.0"	67%
6,150' elevation	(56 year average)					
Little Shasta	53.0"	19.0"	63%	12.0"	19.0"	63%
6,200' elevation	(65 year average)					

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) compiles information from all snow courses measured in northern California. For a summary of DWR data visit: <http://cdec.water.ca.gov/snow/current/snow/courses.html>

For a comparison of this years snow pack to average and previous years, visit: <http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/current/PlotSWC>

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Ben Timchak, (left), and Steve Renner at Wolford Cabin Snow Course