

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Kremmling, Colorado

Snow Survey Report for Feb. 1, 2000

Course Name	Last Year		This Year		30 Year Average 1961 – 1990		Percent/Average	
	Snow Depth	Moisture Content	Snow Depth	Moisture Content	Snow Depth	Moisture Content	Snow Depth	Moisture Content
Gore Pass	28"	7.4"	25"	5.9"	29"	6.7"	86%	88%
Lynx Pass	34"	7.4"	28"	6.4"	34"	7.9"	82%	81%
Summit Ranch	25"	6.0"	25"	5.9"	26"	6.2"	96%	95%
Middle Fork	26"	5.5"	31"	4.9"	28"	6.3"	110%	77%
Glen - Mar	22"	4.7"	24"	4.6"	26"	5.6"	92%	86%
Granby	26"	5.5"	26"	4.7"	24"	4.7"	92%	100%
Willow Creek	39"	8.4"	35"	7.1"	33"	8.2"	94%	87%
Corral Creek	40"	11.3"	41"	9.9"	39"	9.5"	105%	104%
Stillwater	25"	5.4"	28"	6.0"	21"	4.5"	133%	133%
Buffalo Park	33"	7.6"	36"	8.1"	*course read since 1996.			
Columbine	56"	13.9"	68"	15.5"	63"	15.8"	107%	98%

MIDDLE PARK SNOW PACK - IT'S BETTER THAN YOU WOULD THINK !

Mark Volt and Deb Heeney of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) took the first manual snowpack readings of the year and the century during the last week of January.

Snowpack conditions were far below normal until mid January. Thanks to January snowstorms the snowpack in Middle Park is now only slightly below average. All other river basins in the state are recording below average with the overall statewide snowpack measuring only 68% of average. Last year the statewide average was 92% of average.

Moisture in the Middle Park snowpack ranges from 77% to 133% of average for this time of year. The highest snowpack on record was in 1952 while the lowest was in 1981. Snow density is averaging 23%; which means - for every foot of snow there is 2.6 inches of water.

Reported readings for the major river basins in Colorado are as follows: The upper Colo. River basin averages 76%; Gunnison River Basin 62%; South Platt Basin 86%; Yampa & White River Basin 85%; Arkansas River Basin 77%; Upper Rio Grande 35%; San Miguel, Dolores, Animas, San Juan River Basins 42% of Average for this time of year.

Area Snowpack readings are taken at the end of each month, beginning in January and continuing through April. Most of the snow courses in Middle Park have been read since the 1940's. For further information contact the NRCS office at 106 S. 2nd. Ave in Kremmling or call 724-3456.

Course Name	Most Moisture Amount / Date		Least Moisture Amount / Date	
Gore Pass	11.7	1997	1.3	1981
Lynx Pass	12.6	1978	2.4	1981
Summit Ranch	12.6	1952	0.9	1981
Middle Fork	11.6	1952	1.8	1981
Glen - Mar	11.6	1952	2.0	1981
Granby	10.6	1997	1.1	1981
Willow Creek	16.7	1952	2.2	1981
Corral Creek (read since 1990)	15.6	1997	6.1	1995
Stillwater (read since 1986)	11.6	1997	2.3	1987
Buffalo Park (read since 1996)	13.0	1997	7.6	1999
Columbine	26.5	1978	3.6	1981