

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Kremmling, Colorado

Snow Survey Report for March 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	32"	8.9"	32"	8.3"	34"	8.8"	94%	94%
Lynx Pass	35"	8.7"	35"	8.7"	41"	10.7"	85%	81%
Summit Ranch	29"	7.8"	35"	8.7"	28"	8.0"	125%	109%
Middle Fork	34"	7.6"	33"	8.9"	34"	8.3"	97%	107%
Glen - Mar	30"	6.5"	28"	8.3"	31"	7.3"	90%	114%
Granby	30"	8.0"	29"	7.4"	28"	6.4"	104%	116%
Willow Creek	40"	11.3"	43"	11.9"	40"	10.5"	108%	113%
Corral Creek	46"	14.7"	46"	14.7"	35"	11.2"	131%	131%
Stillwater	24"	6.6"	34"	8.5"	26"	7.0"	130%	121%
Buffalo Park	40"	10.1"	43"	11.4"	40"	10.5"	108%	109%
Columbine	68"	17.8"	95"	25.3"	75"	21.0"	126%	121%

MIDDLE PARK SNOW ABOVE AVERAGE FOR THIS TIME OF YEAR

Manual snowpack readings were taken during the last week of February by Deb Heeny and Mark Volt of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

Although snowpack at the lower elevations remains below average, there are now above normal levels of snowpack remaining in the high country. Exceptions include the Lynx Pass, Gore Pass sites which are 19%, and 6% lower than normal respectively. Overall, the statewide snowpack was 79% of average for this time of year.

Moisture in the Middle Park snowpack ranged from 81 to 131% of average for this time of year. The highest snowpack on record for this time of year was in 1996 while the lowest was in 1981. Snow density is averaging 26%; which means - for every foot of snow there is 3.1 inches of water.

Reported readings for the major river basins in Colorado are as follows: The upper Colo. River basin averages 86%; Gunnison River Basin 77%; South Platt Basin 93%; Yampa & White River Basin 97%; Arkansas River Basin 74%; Upper Rio Grande 52%; San Miguel, Dolores, Animas, San Juan River Basins 60%; Larimie, North Platt 94% 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	14.3	1962	2.6	1981
Lynx Pass	16.4	1996	4.1	1977
Summit Ranch	16.6	1996	1.9	1981
Middle Fork	13.9	1996	3.0	1981
Glen - Mar	12.6	1952	3.0	1981
Granby	10.8	1997	1.8	1981
Willow Creek	20.4	1952	3.8	1977
Corral Creek (read since 1990)	18.0	1997	7.5	1991
Stillwater (read since 1986)	11.8	1986	5.5	1992
Buffalo Park (read since 1996)	16.4	1996	10.1	1999
Columbine	34.3	1996	7.3	1981