

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Kremmling, Colorado

Snow Survey Report for April 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	23"	8.3"	31.2"	10.4"	36"	10.4"	87%	100%
Lynx Pass	28"	9.6"	33.8"	10.5"	43"	13.6"	79%	77%
Summit Ranch	28"	9.1"	37.3"	12.1"	29"	10.9"	129%	111%
Middle Fork	24"	8.6"	33.1"	10.3"	36"	10.1"	92%	102%
Glen - Mar	17"	6.9"	26.8"	9.1"	32"	8.7"	84%	105%
Granby	23"	7.8"	27.3"	8.4"	27"	7.2"	101%	117%
Willow Creek	32"	10.0"	44.7"	13.6"	44"	12.0"	102%	113%
Corral Creek	31"	12.7"	45.0"	16.5"	41"	12.7"	110%	130%
Stillwater	Not Read		30.3"	10.4"	27"	7.7"	112%	135%
Buffalo Park	33"	11.0"	44.0"	14.8"	45"	12.5"	98%	118%
Columbine	43"	17.6"	78.0"	27.5"	58"	24.9"	135%	110%

MIDDLE PARK SNOW PACK BELOW AVERAGE FOR THIS TIME OF YEAR

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

Although most of the snowpack in the lower elevations has melted off, snow moisture content in many areas of Middle Park's higher elevations is well above normal for this time of year. The only exception is Lynx Pass which is only reporting 77% of normal moisture content for this time of year.

Moisture in the Middle Park snowpack ranged from 77 to 135 percent 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 33%; which means - for every foot of snow there is 4.0 inches of water.

Reported readings for the major river basins in Colorado are as follows: The upper Colo. River basin averages 95%; Gunnison River Basin 90%; South Platt Basin 98%; Yampa & White River Basin 98%; Arkansas River Basin 91%; Upper Rio Grande 60%; San Miguel, Dolores, Animas, San Juan River Basins 77% 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	16.0	1964	4.3	1966
Lynx Pass	19.2	1961	6.0	1977
Summit Ranch	17.8	1996	2.8	1981
Middle Fork	17.0	1984	5.8	1981
Glen - Mar	15.7	1952	5.2	1955
Granby	12.3	1965	3.2	1981
Willow Creek	20.5	1952	7.2	1977
Corral Creek (read since 1990)	16.9	1996	9.0	1992
Stillwater (read since 1986)	11.8	1986	3.8	1987
Buffalo Park (read since 1996)	17.8	1996	11.0	1999
Columbine	34.9	1978	11.0	1981