



Bear River Managers Note Flooding Potential is High

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SALT LAKE CITY — Managers of the Bear River system in northern Utah and southeastern Idaho have been closely monitoring spring runoff conditions in the Bear River basin. They conclude that the potential for flooding is high all along the Bear River below Bear Lake, including the area between Wardboro and Bern in Bear Lake County, Idaho.

"Based on runoff forecasts, we believe there will be localized flooding of the Bear River into its historic flood plain," said Connely Baldwin, Rocky Mountain Power hydrologist. "There are many variable factors, that could influence the extent of flooding, including how rapidly snow melts and the possibility of a local heavy rain storm. However, people with property along or near the river should take all prudent measures to address the risks. These conditions could rival or perhaps exceed those of 1983-84."

Local emergency management officials have been notified of the current situation and are kept informed of changing local conditions. The Bear River hydroelectric projects have tested emergency operating plans that include provisions for contacting the National Weather Service and local public safety officials in the case of impending high runoff events or more serious emergencies. Rocky Mountain Power urges residents in proximity to the Bear River to monitor these information sources until the threat of spring runoff subsides.

The Bear River hydro system has been operated by Rocky Mountain Power or its predecessor companies since development began in 1909. Its primary goals are to provide irrigation water for some 150,000 acres of farm land, reduce the impacts of flooding, generate hydroelectric power, provide recreational opportunities and enhance fish and wildlife habitat.

About Rocky Mountain Power

Rocky Mountain Power is headquartered in Salt Lake City and provides electric service to more than 1 million customers in Utah, Wyoming and Idaho. As part of PacifiCorp, one of the lowest-cost electricity producers in the United States, Rocky Mountain Power and Pacific Power provide approximately 1.7 million customers in six western states with reliable, efficient energy. The company works to meet growing electricity demand while protecting and enhancing the environment. Visit www.rockymountainpower.net.

Media inquiries: 800-775-7950

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