



Real-Time Spatial Estimates of Snow-Water Equivalent (SWE)

Sierra Nevada Mountains, California

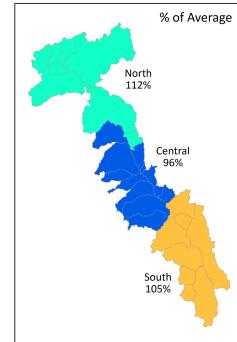
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Summary of current conditions

This year we've added the Trinity basin to our model runs. The regional summary map above shows the mean SWE above 5000' elevation for three major regions of the Sierra Nevada, percent of average is calculated from a long-term average of 2001-2021. Figure 2 contains comparison maps of CU SWE versus ASO SWE. Detailed SWE maps (in JPG format) and summaries of SWE (in Excel format) by individual basin and elevation band accompany the report and are publicly available on our website [here](#).

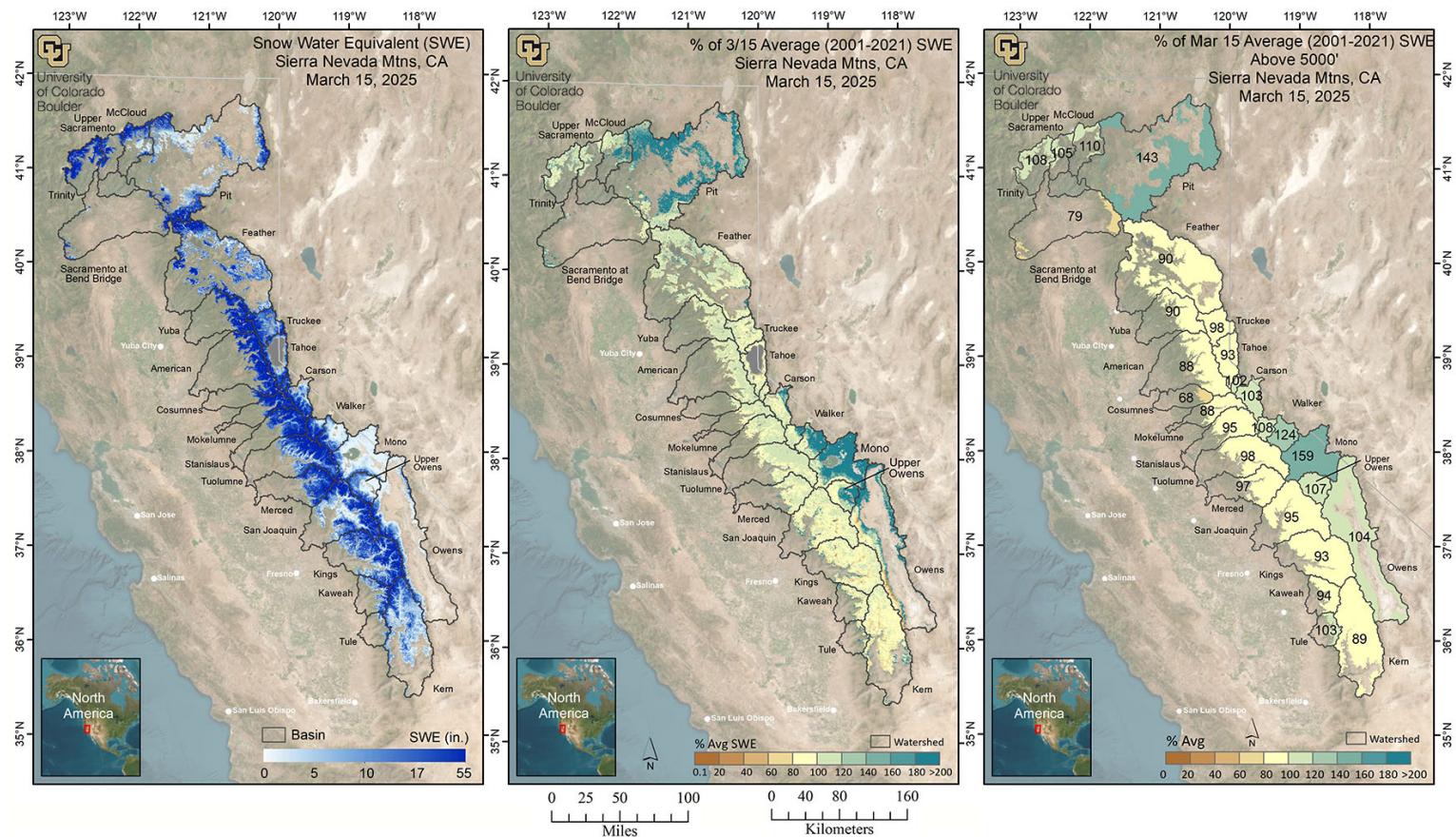


Figure 1. Estimated SWE and % of Average SWE across the Sierra Nevada, Current Report. SWE amounts (left), and percent of average (2001-2021) SWE for the Sierra Nevada, calculated for each pixel (middle) and basin-wide (right). Basin-wide percent of average is calculated across all model pixels >5000' elevation.

Location of Reports and Excel Format Tables

<https://github.com/CU-Mountain-Hydrology/SierraNevada>

About this report

This is an experimental research product that provides near-real-time estimates of snow-water equivalent (SWE) at a spatial resolution of 500 m for the Sierra Nevada in California from mid-winter through the melt season. The report is typically released within a week of the date of data acquisition at the top of the report. A similar report covering the entire Western United States is available and is distributed to water managers across the western U.S. Note that SWE estimates in the northern basins may be low given recent and persistent cloud cover. See the forthcoming March 1 report which will contain cloud-free imagery.

The spatial SWE-fusion analysis method for the Sierra Nevada uses the following data as inputs:

- In-situ SWE from all operational CA and NV snow pillow sensor sites and CoCoRaHS SWE values when available and applicable
- Fractional snow-covered area (fSCA) data from recent cloud-free satellite images or model
- Physiographic information (elevation, latitude, upwind mountain barriers, slope, etc.)
- Historical daily SWE patterns (1985-2021) retrospectively generated using historical fSCA data and an energy-balance model that back-calculates SWE given the fSCA time-series and meltout date for each pixel.
- Satellite-observed daily mean fractional snow-covered area (DMFSCA)

For more details on the estimation method see the *Methods* section below. Please be sure to read the *Data Issues / Caveats* section for a discussion of persistent challenges or uncertainties of the SWE product.

Data availability for this report

There are a total of 134 snow pillow sites in the Sierra Nevada network that are used by the SWE-fusion model and when applicable there are typically 10-20 CoCoRaHS measurements that can be used. Sites that are recording SWE, offline sites, sites recording zero, and CoCoRaHS measurements are shown in Figure 6, on the left map (shown in black, red, yellow, and green respectively).

The value of spatially explicit estimates of SWE

Snowmelt makes up the large majority (~60-85%) of the annual streamflow in the Sierra Nevada. The spatial distribution of snow-water equivalent (SWE) across the landscape is complex. While broad aspects of this spatial pattern (e.g., more SWE at higher elevations and on north-facing exposures) are fairly consistent, the details vary a lot from year to year, influencing the magnitude and timing of snowmelt-driven runoff.

SWE is operationally monitored at over a hundred and thirty snow pillow sensor sites spread across the Sierra Nevada, providing a critical first-order snapshot of conditions, and the basis for runoff forecasts from the CA DWR, NRCS, and NOAA. However, conditions at snow pillow sites (e.g., percent of normal SWE) may not be representative of conditions in the large areas between these point measurements, and at elevations above and below the range of the sensor sites. The spatial snow analysis creates a detailed picture of the spatial pattern of SWE using snow sensors, satellite, and other data, extending beyond the snow sensor sites to unmonitored areas.

Interpreting the spatial SWE estimates in the context of snow pillows

The spatial product estimates SWE for every pixel where the fSCA product identifies snow-cover. Comparatively, snow sensor samples 8-20 points per basin within a narrower elevation range. Thus, the basin-wide percent of average from the spatial SWE estimates is not directly comparable with the snow sensor basin-wide percent of average. A better comparison might be made with the % of average in the elevation bands (Table 2) that contain snow sensor sites.

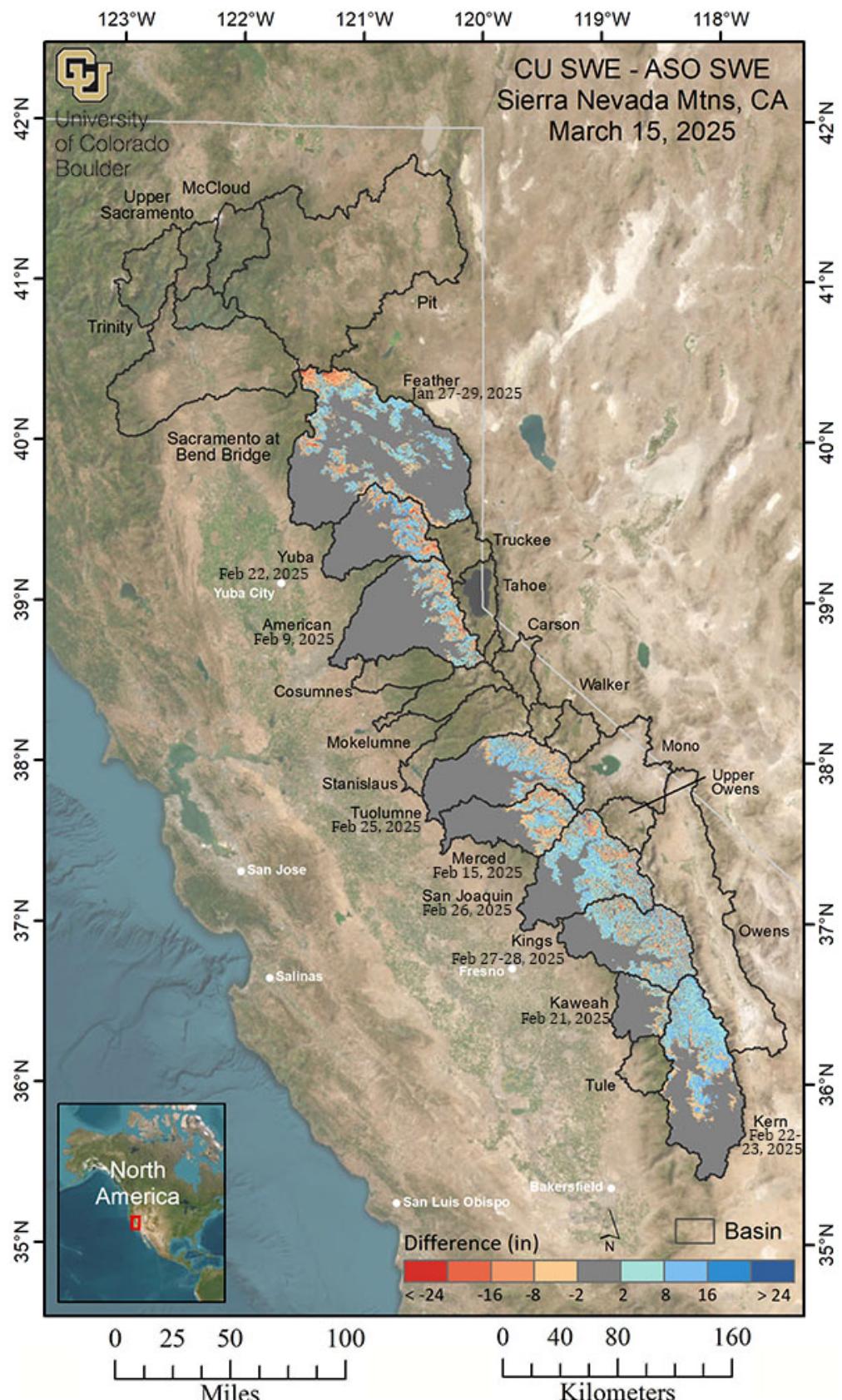


Figure 2. Comparison to ASO, Sierra Nevada. The difference in SWE amounts between the CU SWE-fusion model runs and Airborne Snow Observatories (ASO) lidar-derived SWE are shown for available basins flown this year. The date referenced to each basin, corresponds to the most recent ASO flight date where data has been released and is then compared to the CU SWE-fusion model run is that closest to the ASO flight date. Red colors show where CU SWE is lower than ASO SWE and blue colors show where CU SWE is higher than ASO SWE. This map will be updated as new ASO data becomes available. ASO data from current and sometimes past years are used to bias-correct our model data.

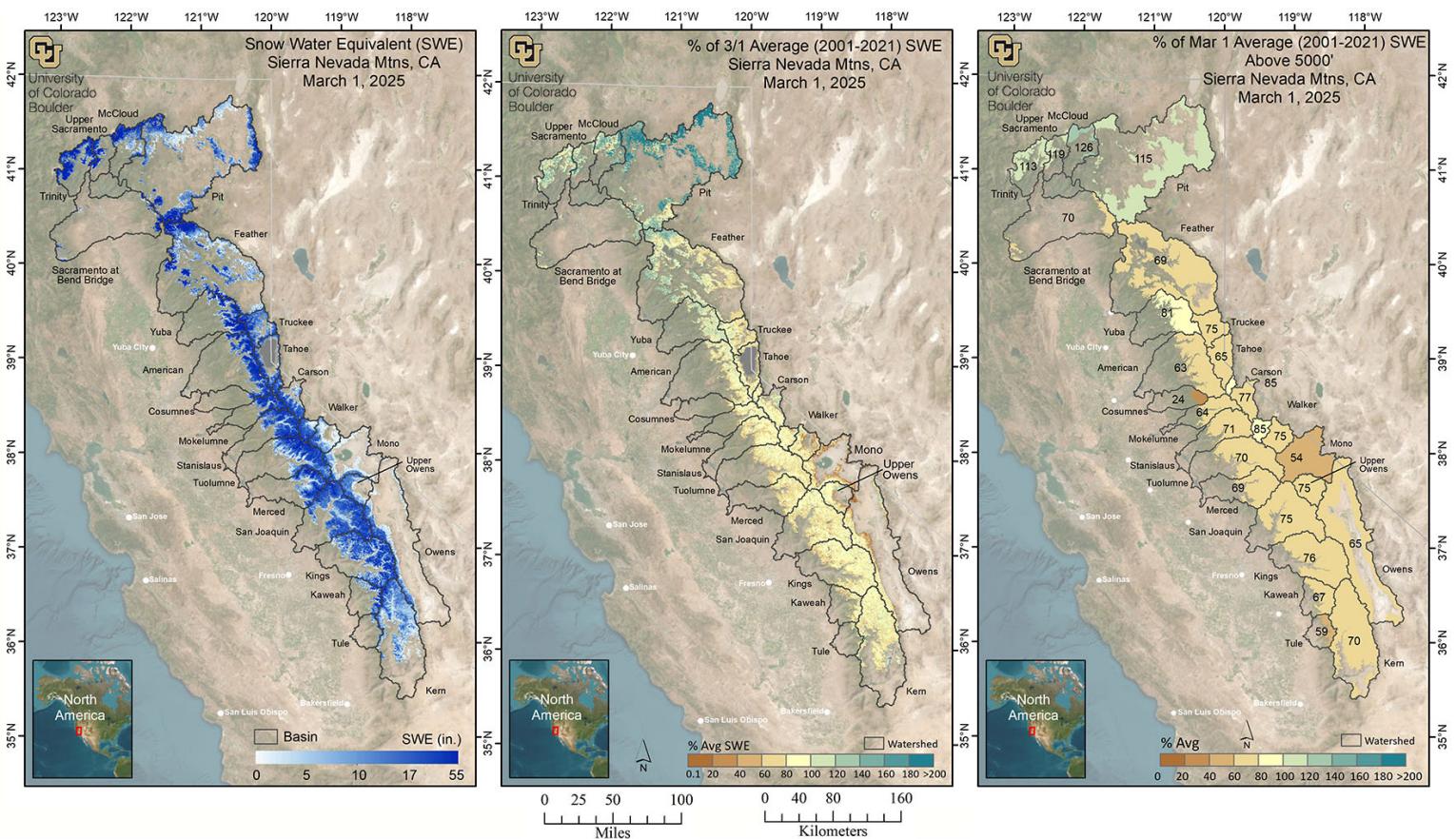


Figure 3. Estimated SWE and % of Average SWE across the Sierra Nevada, Past Report. SWE amounts (left), and percent of average (2001-2021) SWE for the Sierra Nevada, calculated for each pixel (middle) and basin-wide (right). Basin-wide percent of average is calculated across all model pixels >5000' elevation for the previous report.

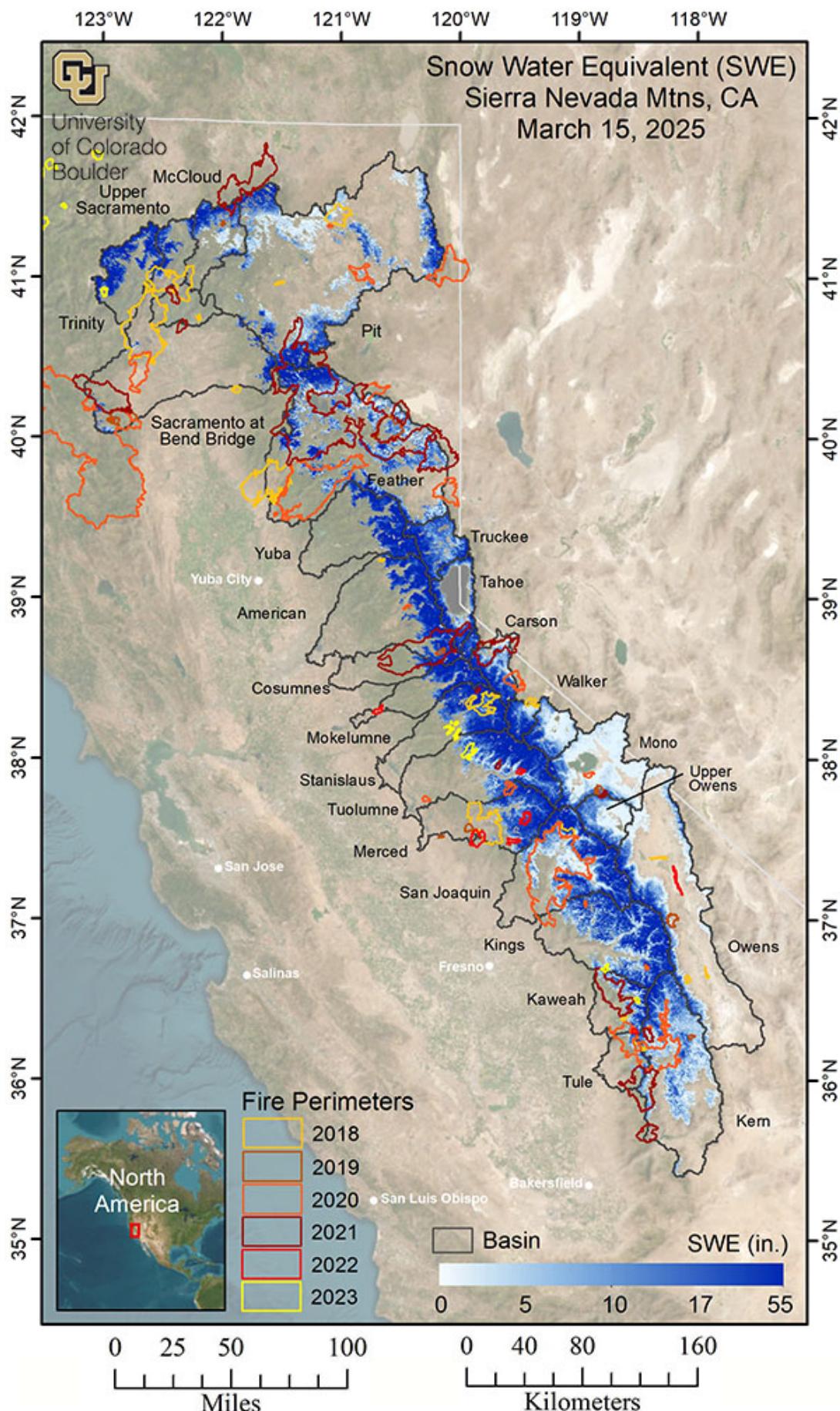


Figure 4. Estimated SWE with Fire Perimeters, Sierra Nevada. SWE amounts are shown with fire perimeters from 2018-2024 (colored from yellow to red).

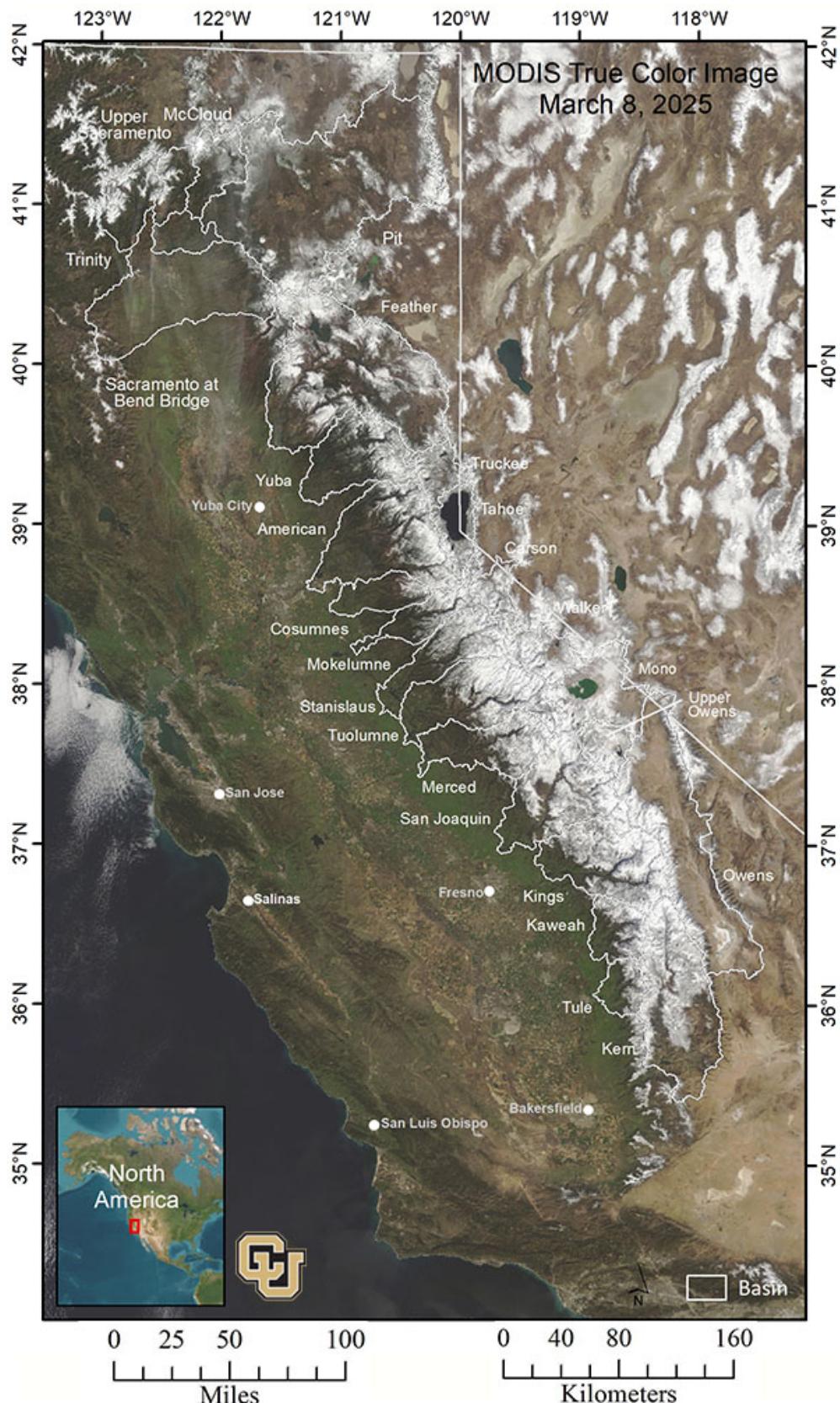


Figure 5. MODIS image, Sierra Nevada. The most recent cloud-free true color MODIS image, showing the Sierra Nevada as close to the model run as possible. Model input fractional snow-covered area (fSCA) was derived from the MODIS Snow Today product (Rittger, et al. 2019) which was calculated using the SPIRES algorithm (Bair, et al. 2021) and from the MODIS cloud-gap-filled product (Hall, et al. 2019).

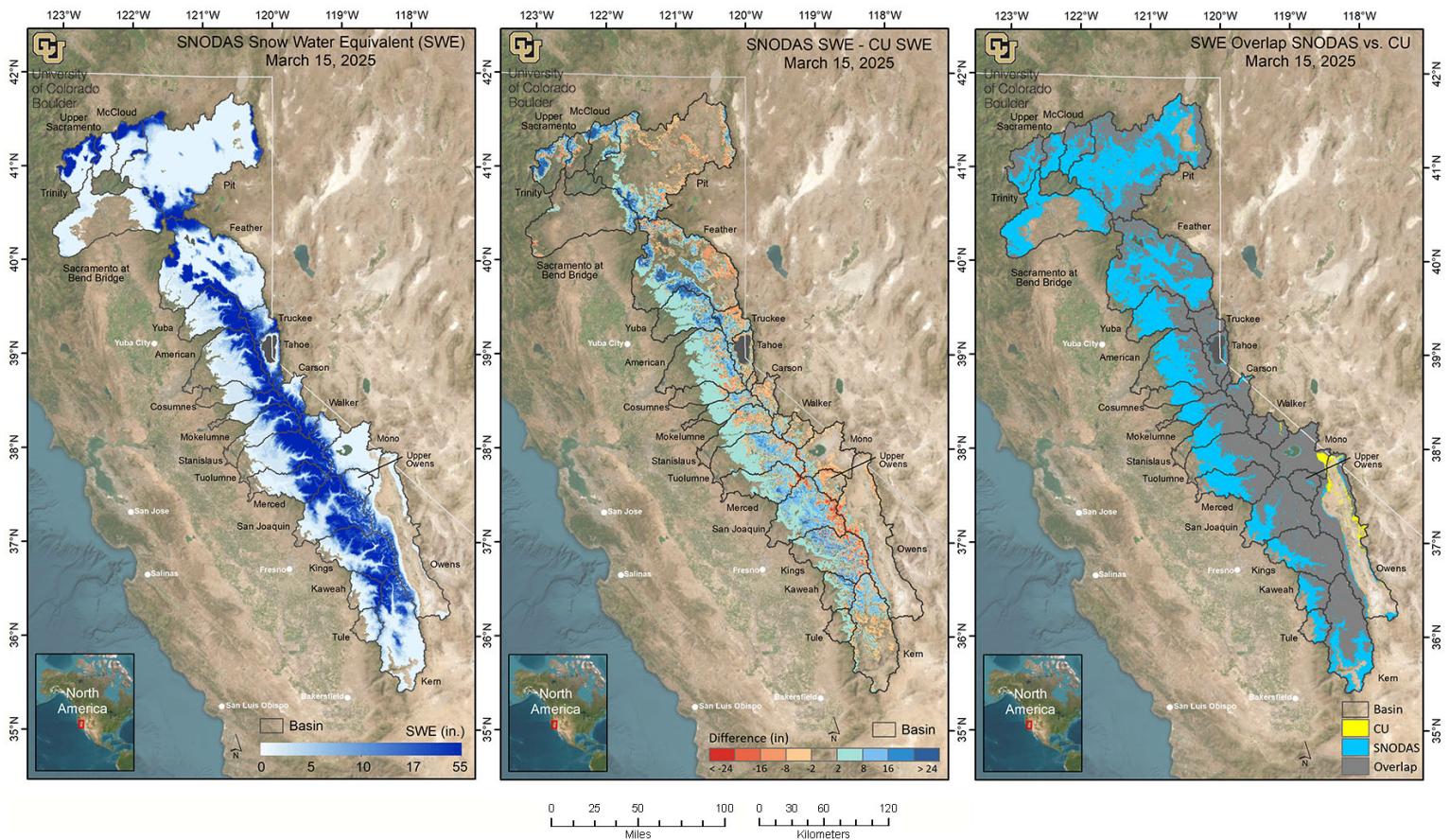


Figure 6. Comparison of CU regression SWE product and SNODAS SWE for the Sierra Nevada. The map on the left shows estimated SWE from the NOAA National Weather Service's National Operational Hydrologic Remote Sensing Center (NOHRSC) SNOW Data Assimilation System (SNODAS). The middle map shows the difference between the SNODAS SWE estimate and CU SWE-fusion estimate. Red pixels denote areas where SNODAS SWE is less than CU SWE and blue pixels show areas where SNODAS SWE is higher than CU SWE. The map on the right shows the snow-cover extent of SNODAS and CU SWE estimates. Yellow pixels show where the location of CU snow extends beyond the location of the SNODAS snow extent. Blue pixels show where the SNODAS snow extends beyond the CU snow extent. Gray areas indicate regions where both products agree on the snow-cover extent.

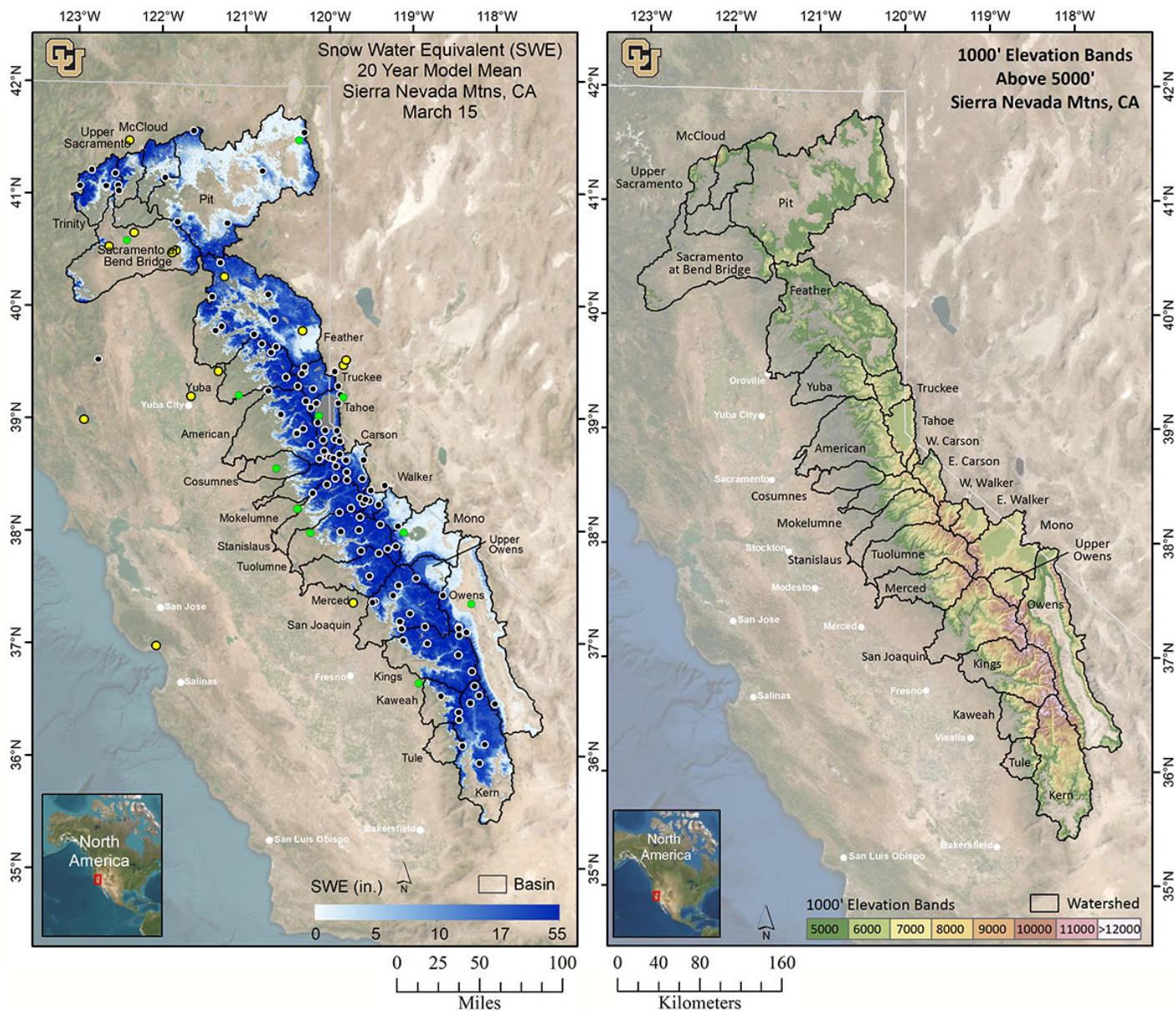


Figure 7. Historical average CU SWE and Elevation Bands for the Sierra Nevada. Long-term (2001-2021) average CU SWE (left), and the Banded Elevation map (right) identifies basins used in this report (black boundaries) and 1000' elevation bands (colored shading) that match those used in Table 1 and Table 2. Map on left shows snow pillow sensor sites recording SWE (black), sites that were offline are shown in red, and sites recording zero are shown in yellow. CoCoRaHS observations if applicable are shown in green and zero values are shown in yellow.

Methods

The spatial SWE-fusion estimation method is described in Yang, et al. (2022) and Schneider and Molotch (2016). The method uses linear regression in which the dependent variable is derived from the operationally measured in situ SWE from all online snow pillow sensor sites in the domain. The snow pillow sensor SWE observations are scaled by the fractional snow-covered area (fSCA) across the 500 m pixel containing that snow pillow sensor site before being used in the linear regression model. The fSCA is a combination of a near-real-time gap-filled and cloud-free MODIS satellite image which has been processed using the Snow Today algorithm (Rittger, et al. 2019, <https://nsidc.org/snow-today>), the SPIReS algorithm (Bair, et al. 2021), and the MODIS cloud-gap-filled algorithm (Hall, et al. 2019).

The following independent variables (predictors) enter into the linear regression model:

- Physiographic variables that affect snow accumulation, melt, and redistribution, including elevation, latitude, upwind mountain barriers, slope, and others. See Table 1 in Yang, et al. (2022) for the full set of these variables.
- The historical daily SWE pattern (1985-2021) retrospectively generated using historical MODSCAG data, and an energy-balance model that back-calculates SWE given the fractional Snow-Covered Area (fSCA) time series and meltout date for

each pixel. See Fang, et al. (2022) for details. (For computational efficiency, only one image during the 1985-2021 period that best matches the real-time snow pillow-observed pattern is selected as an independent variable.)

The real-time regression SWE-fusion model for this date has been validated by cross-validation, whereby 10% of the snow pillow data are randomly removed and the model prediction is compared to the measured value at the removed snow pillow stations. This is repeated 12 times to obtain an average R-squared value, which denotes how closely the model fits the snow pillow data. During development of this regression method, the model was also validated against independent historical SWE data collected in snow surveys at 9 locations in Colorado, and an intensive field survey in north-central Colorado. Data utilized to generate this report change to optimize model performance. To maintain consistency across the historical record, the percent of average values are based on our baseline algorithm and therefore there can be discrepancies between absolute SWE values and corresponding percent of averages.

List of All Known Data Issues/Caveats – any of these could apply to this model run

- SATELLITE FSCA - Recent snowpack accumulation may be under-estimated due to issues with satellite-observed fSCA.
- NEW AVERAGE CALCULATIONS – Average calculations are based on 2001-2021 model values, this includes the drought years (2012-2016) which brings our overall average SWE down considerably, thereby increasing percent of averages.
- RECENT SNOWFALL – There are occasionally problems with lower-elevation SWE estimates due to recent snowfall events that result in extensive snow-cover extending to valley locations where measurements are not available. This scenario results in an over-estimation of lower- elevation SWE.
- LIMITED SNOW PILLOW DATA – When snow at the snow pillow sites melts out, but remains at higher elevations, the model tends to underestimate SWE at the under-monitored upper elevations. This issue typically occurs late in the melt season, resulting in less accurate SWE prediction at higher elevations compared to earlier in the snow season.
- CLOUD COVER – Cloud cover can obscure satellite measurements of snow-cover. While careful checks are made, occasionally the misclassification of clouds as snow or *vice versa* may result in the mischaracterization of SWE or bare-ground.
- LOW LOOK ANGLE – When a satellite does not pass directly over a region but the area is still included within the satellite sensor's field of view, this is referred to as a low "look angle". The resulting image has lower effective resolution – this "blurry" MODSCAG data still contains useful information but may lead to overestimation of SWE near the margins of the snow-cover extent.
- POOR QUALITY SNOW SENSOR DATA – Although data QA/QC is performed, occasional sensor malfunction may result in localized SWE errors.
- ANOMALOUS SNOW PATTERNS – Anomalous snow years or snow distributions may cause SWE error due to the model design to search for similar SWE distributions from previous years. If no close seasonal analogue exists, the model is forced to find the most similar year, which may result in error.
- DENSE FOREST COVER – Dense forest cover at lower elevations where snow-cover is discontinuous can cause the satellite to underestimate the snow-cover extent, leading to underestimation of SWE.
- MISSING SWE VALUES - Data omitted due to inconsistencies with independent SWE estimates.
- PERCENT OF AVERAGE CALCULATIONS - Data utilized to generate this report change to optimize model performance. To maintain consistency across the historical record, the percent of average values are based on our baseline algorithm and therefore there can be discrepancies between absolute SWE values and corresponding percent of averages.
- MODELING METHODS - We work to generate the best SWE estimates for each reporting date. Our methods can change from one report to another. Sometimes data changes between reports is an artifact of method changes.

Table 1. Estimated SWE by basin. The basin-wide SWE values and averages, are across all pixels at elevations >5000'. Shown are percent of current average SWE (between 2001-2021 as derived from the regression model), mean SWE, percent of snow-covered area, water volume (acre-feet), the area (mi^2) inside each basin that contains data pixels (not including cloud-covered pixels, lakes or other satellite no data pixels), survey data, and snow pillow data, for those areas collected, summarized for each basin. The last column shows mean SWE by basin from SNODAS*.

Basin	3/1/25 % 3/1 Avg.	3/15/25 % 3/15 Avg.	3/1/25 SWE (in)	3/15/25 SWE (in)	3/15/25 % SCA	3/15/25‡ Vol (af)	Area (mi^2) > 5000'	3/1/25 Pillows	3/15/25 Pillows	3/15/25 SNODAS* (in)
Trinity	113	108	23.1	22.6	86.5	386,682	321.4	27.8 (4)	31.0 (4)	34.3
Upper Sacramento	119	105	22.5	19.4	82.3	119,249	115.2	32.3 (1)	30.3 (1)	30.0
McCloud	126	110	20.3	18.2	86.4	160,110	164.9	28.0 (1)	33.3 (1)	35.4
Pit	115	143	7.3	7.1	49.4	779,447	2,063.1	22.0 (7)	24.5 (7)	8.0
Sac at Bend Bridge	70	79	8.8	8.9	46.6	113,831	239.6	NA	NA	15.2
Feather§	69	90	9.0	10.3	63.3	1,147,173	2,085.6	23.9 (6)	27.7 (6)	13.6
Yuba	81	90	12.8	17.8	71.4	490,598	516.1	37.7 (5)	43.9 (5)	28.5
American	63	88	11.3	17.0	68.6	716,209	791.9	16.2 (11)	20.8 (11)	19.3
Cosumnes	24	68	2.9	7.6	39.1	37,330	91.9	NA	NA	8.7
Mokelumne	64	88	11.6	17.0	66.2	284,372	314.1	22.0 (3)	25.8 (3)	19.9
Stanislaus	71	95	12.5	17.6	71.4	521,600	557.1	23.8 (5)	27.3 (5)	18.6
Tuolumne§	70	98	11.2	16.3	71.9	788,950	909.4	20.4 (7)	25.9 (7)	19.8
Merced	69	97	11.0	15.2	65.3	435,996	538.8	22.7 (2)	28.1 (2)	19.0
San Joaquin§	75	95	12.7	13.8	77.0	887,213	1,207.1	12.5 (7)	17.9 (7)	16.7
Kings§	76	93	12.8	16.5	80.0	1,060,525	1,207.0	13.6 (5)	23.4 (6)	17.3
Kaweah§	67	94	7.2	9.8	63.4	164,496	314.1	25.5 (1)	20.8 (2)	14.1
Tule	59	103	3.5	5.4	47.0	39,869	137.6	5.2 (1)	11.3 (1)	6.1
Kern§	70	89	5.1	6.3	60.1	565,240	1,682.1	9.0 (3)	16.0 (6)	7.0
Truckee	75	98	12.4	16.3	85.0	357,829	411.7	18.5 (6)	19.5 (6)	17.7
Tahoe	65	93	10.9	16.1	77.3	261,544	305.4	17.0 (7)	21.4 (7)	15.3
W Carson	85	102	16.0	20.9	88.3	71,761	64.3	17.9 (3)	20.6 (3)	19.4
E Carson	77	103	9.8	13.6	76.2	256,625	354.3	11.9 (4)	14.3 (4)	12.0
W Walker	85	108	14.1	19.6	91.3	187,300	179.6	18.2 (4)	21.7 (4)	20.6
E Walker	75	124	5.8	9.0	79.9	167,899	350.7	12.6 (1)	14.7 (1)	8.2
Mono	54	159	2.5	4.4	70.1	237,096	1,003.4	NA	NA	2.9
Upper Owens	75	107	6.8	8.5	83.1	170,472	373.8	27.3 (1)	36.4 (1)	6.3
Owens	65	104	2.9	4.0	39.7	381,959	1,772.1	12.8 (5)	14.9 (5)	3.0

§ Data in all ASO-collected basins have been bias-corrected using ASO data and therefore the SWE changes might not represent snowmelt/accumulation but rather an update to the SWE estimates based on airborne data.

‡ For volume totals above Shasta Lake add Upper Sac, McCloud and Pit volumes. For volume totals above Bend Bridge add Upper Sac, McCloud, Pit and Sac at Bend Bridge volumes.

* This is a comparison to the SNODAS (SNOW Data Assimilation System) nationwide product from the National Weather Service.

† Deep and recent snow in areas that typically are snow-free can report high percent of average for this date because the mean 2001-2021 regression-derived SWE for that area is low or 0.

- Data omitted due to inconsistencies with independent SWE estimates.

Table 2. Estimated SWE by basin and elevation band. The basin-wide SWE values and averages, are across all pixels at elevations >5000'. Elevation bands begin at 5000' and extend past the highest point in the basin. Note that the area of the highest 2-5 bands is typically much smaller than the lower bands. Shown are percent of current average SWE (between 2001-2021 as derived from the regression model), mean SWE, percent of snow-covered area, water volume (acre-feet), the area (mi²) inside each basin that contains data pixels (not including cloud-covered pixels, lakes or other satellite no data pixels), survey data, and snow pillow data, for those areas collected, summarized for each 1000' elevation band inside each basin. The last column shows mean SWE from SNODAS*.

Basin	Elevation Band	3/1/25	3/15/25	3/1/25	3/15/25	3/15/25	3/15/25†	Area (mi ²)	3/1/25	3/15/25	3/15/25
		% 3/1 Avg.	% 3/15 Avg.	SWE (in)	SWE (in)	% SCA	Vol (af)	> 5000'	Pillows	Pillows	SNODAS* (in)
Trinity	5000-6000'	101	112	17.8	19.0	81.5	154,345	152.3	23.9 (2)	28.2 (2)	25.5
	6000-7000'	123	107	27.2	25.0	90.6	177,051	133.0	31.7 (2)	33.9 (2)	40.7
	7000-8000'	116	101	30.3	28.6	92.3	53,677	35.1	NA	NA	48.7
	> 8000'	108	95	32.5	31.3	89.7	1,609	1.0	NA	NA	50.5
Upper Sacramento	5000-6000'	110	106	18.0	16.4	78.9	55,981	64.1	32.3 (1)	30.3 (1)	21.9
	6000-7000'	127	106	26.0	21.8	85.7	42,037	36.2	NA	NA	36.3
	7000-8000'	115	102	26.6	24.3	88.9	11,396	8.8	NA	NA	44.9
	8000-9000'	117	100	26.8	22.9	84.5	2,828	2.3	NA	NA	53.5
	9000-10,000'	96	89	29.2	30.0	91.2	2,776	1.7	NA	NA	62.9
	10,000-11,000'	169	85	57.3	32.0	85.8	1,481	0.9	NA	NA	57.4
	> 11,000'	>200†	96	-	44.5	95.6	2,749	1.2	NA	NA	51.8
McCloud	5000-6000'	126	118	15.9	14.3	83.0	73,822	96.8	28.0 (1)	33.3 (1)	27.4
	6000-7000'	128	108	24.2	21.5	89.6	47,752	41.7	NA	NA	37.8
	7000-8000'	117	100	25.8	24.5	94.3	18,577	14.2	NA	NA	54.2
	8000-9000'	102	100	23.8	25.1	89.0	8,646	6.5	NA	NA	67.4
	9000-10,000'	111	98	31.4	31.9	93.1	5,259	3.1	NA	NA	64.5
	10,000-11,000'	143	89	48.2	37.1	99.8	2,868	1.5	NA	NA	68.7
	> 11,000'	>200†	87	-	51.6	97.7	3,185	1.2	NA	NA	59.3
Pit	5000-6000'	93	161	3.5	3.7	37.3	275,273	1,409.9	38.4 (1)	44.4 (1)	4.2
	6000-7000'	131	133	13.6	12.3	71.9	330,954	502.5	20.8 (3)	22.8 (3)	13.0
	7000-8000'	138	125	21.2	20.6	86.4	141,943	129.4	17.7 (3)	19.6 (3)	27.1
	8000-9000'	147	128	26.1	27.5	91.0	28,432	19.4	NA	NA	29.1
	> 9,000'	121	111	26.4	27.6	83.5	2,846	1.9	NA	NA	37.8
Sac at Bend Bridge	5000-6000'	44	64	3.6	4.2	32.4	35,184	155.9	NA	NA	9.5
	6000-7000'	89	92	14.7	14.2	67.4	47,763	63.1	NA	NA	21.4
	7000-8000'	122	100	28.4	27.2	91.0	22,726	15.6	NA	NA	35.6
	8000-9000'	122	96	33.7	31.2	87.2	7,234	4.3	NA	NA	48.6
	> 9,000'	102	92	30.1	29.9	87.5	924	0.6	NA	NA	60.7
Feather§	5000-6000'	53	77	4.8	5.9	49.2	383,362	1,228.5	25.1 (1)	30.5 (1)	9.9
	6000-7000'	84	101	13.3	15.0	82.2	584,129	729.8	25.3 (4)	29.8 (4)	17.7
	7000-8000'	102	105	24.4	26.1	91.4	170,831	122.5	16.7 (1)	16.5 (1)	25.9
	> 8,000'	97	102	32.3	34.4	96.4	8,851	4.8	NA	NA	33.0
Yuba	5000-6000'	32	54	1.6	6.2	38.4	63,260	190.7	NA	NA	17.6
	6000-7000'	95	102	14.7	22.2	89.6	246,002	207.6	35.9 (4)	42.3 (4)	31.8
	7000-8000'	107	108	27.3	28.7	92.7	172,291	112.5	44.8 (1)	50.5 (1)	39.7
	> 8,000'	103	106	34.7	31.9	89.9	9,046	5.3	NA	NA	53.5
American	5000-6000'	15	47	1.6	4.8	30.8	74,416	288.6	4.7 (4)	9.1 (4)	8.0
	6000-7000'	71	100	12.9	20.0	88.2	281,819	263.8	23.5 (1)	30.7 (1)	19.5
	7000-8000'	93	107	20.6	27.4	93.6	240,560	164.9	20.9 (4)	25.3 (4)	31.7
	8000-9000'	91	106	22.0	29.8	90.3	106,768	67.2	26.4 (2)	30.1 (2)	35.4
	> 9,000'	87	100	22.9	31.9	90.2	12,646	7.4	NA	NA	33.9
Cosumnes	5000-6000'	1	42	0.0	2.1	15.7	6,877	60.5	NA	NA	4.7
	6000-7000'	37	91	5.6	15.6	81.0	19,803	23.8	NA	NA	12.5
	> 7,000'	80	104	17.4	26.2	94.8	10,650	7.6	NA	NA	28.8
Mokelumne	5000-6000'	4	24	0.2	1.3	11.2	5,667	80.5	NA	NA	4.8
	6000-7000'	36	83	5.1	12.5	71.8	42,057	63.0	10.6 (1)	11.1 (1)	12.6
	7000-8000'	85	104	17.5	23.9	90.1	109,917	86.1	NA	NA	27.5
	8000-9000'	91	106	21.1	28.0	90.2	115,062	76.9	27.8 (2)	33.2 (2)	32.1
	> 9,000'	90	103	21.8	29.1	87.7	11,669	7.5	NA	NA	31.3
Stanislaus	5000-6000'	10	36	0.4	1.9	19.4	10,935	105.2	NA	NA	4.5
	6000-7000'	57	90	7.6	13.1	75.0	89,884	129.0	NA	NA	11.7
	7000-8000'	80	102	15.6	20.8	86.2	158,673	143.3	23.4 (2)	24.0 (2)	22.5
	8000-9000'	89	107	19.9	25.8	87.1	159,018	115.4	24.5 (2)	29.9 (2)	29.2
	9000-10,000'	86	106	21.3	29.4	86.9	81,053	51.6	23.2 (1)	29.0 (1)	29.2
	10,000-11,000'	86	101	22.5	33.1	92.2	21,452	12.2	NA	NA	26.0
	> 11,000'	89	95	22.4	28.4	93.0	585	0.4	NA	NA	16.9

Basin	Elevation Band	3/1/25	3/15/25	3/1/25	3/15/25	3/15/25	3/15/25‡	Area (mi2)	3/1/25	3/15/25	3/15/25 SNODAS* (in)
		% 3/1 Avg.	% 3/15 Avg.	SWE (in)	SWE (in)	% SCA	Vol (af)	> 5000'	Pillows	Pillows	
Tuolumne§	5000-6000'	3	50	0.1	1.9	23.7	17,222	166.9	NA	NA	4.0
	6000-7000'	46	93	3.0	8.2	76.9	61,265	140.5	7.2 (1)	8.8 (1)	9.9
	7000-8000'	77	101	9.7	13.3	86.6	105,553	148.6	24.9 (1)	34.3 (1)	22.2
	8000-9000'	87	106	17.0	21.7	82.0	192,404	166.4	21.8 (3)	27.7 (3)	29.8
	9000-10,000'	82	106	20.1	28.2	84.1	262,725	174.5	22.5 (2)	27.7 (2)	29.9
	10,000-11,000'	79	104	18.5	27.0	83.8	123,980	86.2	NA	NA	24.9
	11,000-12,000'	77	97	13.4	19.4	83.9	24,623	23.8	NA	NA	12.9
	> 12,000'	86	88	7.9	9.2	81.9	1,179	2.4	NA	NA	6.8
Merced	5000-6000'	3	61	0.0	0.6	9.2	2,330	69.7	NA	NA	3.9
	6000-7000'	28	87	1.5	6.7	56.0	28,096	78.3	NA	NA	8.9
	7000-8000'	70	95	8.3	14.5	74.7	101,916	131.9	NA	NA	18.6
	8000-9000'	81	101	16.4	18.5	75.7	121,398	122.8	22.7 (2)	28.1 (2)	27.8
	9000-10,000'	79	103	20.3	22.8	78.5	102,156	84.1	NA	NA	27.6
	10,000-11,000'	80	100	19.5	27.4	83.8	58,071	39.7	NA	NA	23.1
	11,000-12,000'	83	96	16.6	33.1	89.4	19,605	11.1	NA	NA	13.8
	> 12,000'	109	89	18.3	33.6	90.4	2,423	1.4	NA	NA	9.2
San Joaquin§	5000-6000'	11	82	0.3	1.6	36.5	11,178	133.4	NA	NA	4.9
	6000-7000'	54	89	5.1	3.4	76.6	31,878	175.5	9.8 (3)	14.2 (3)	10.1
	7000-8000'	74	93	11.3	6.9	85.6	76,886	208.3	11.9 (3)	18.7 (3)	16.6
	8000-9000'	82	96	14.6	13.3	80.2	137,818	194.1	NA	NA	23.8
	9000-10,000'	82	98	16.8	20.7	81.3	220,976	200.5	22.8 (1)	26.7 (1)	25.2
	10,000-11,000'	82	100	18.8	26.6	83.1	220,543	155.7	NA	NA	19.6
	11,000-12,000'	82	95	20.3	25.9	86.0	154,673	112.2	NA	NA	12.7
	12,000-13,000	88	91	22.7	22.9	87.2	31,796	26.1	NA	NA	7.7
Kings§	> 13,000	74	86	17.7	19.0	87.5	1,465	1.5	NA	NA	5.4
	5000-6000'	11	79	0.2	1.1	28.9	5,435	95.3	NA	NA	3.9
	6000-7000'	33	84	2.0	4.9	67.7	33,475	127.0	1.8 (1)	9.0 (1)	6.8
	7000-8000'	63	84	6.7	8.9	80.9	79,642	168.2	3.9 (1)	NA	12.4
	8000-9000'	79	91	13.9	16.2	83.0	181,307	210.0	NA	26.2 (1)	21.1
	9000-10,000'	85	97	17.8	21.5	84.8	248,236	216.8	20.5 (1)	25.2 (1)	24.6
	10,000-11,000'	88	99	18.2	23.4	90.5	243,918	195.4	21.0 (2)	30.8 (2)	23.4
	11,000-12,000'	85	96	18.4	25.2	92.7	197,807	147.4	NA	18.6 (1)	17.7
Kaweah§	12,000-13,000	82	92	20.6	28.1	93.2	66,002	44.1	NA	NA	12.4
	>13,000'	82	86	23.7	31.5	89.7	4,704	2.8	NA	NA	8.7
	5000-6000'	0	178	0.0	0.3	10.2	853	55.5	NA	NA	3.3
	6000-7000'	28	106	1.1	3.5	56.6	11,019	59.5	NA	5.5 (1)	5.4
	7000-8000'	46	84	4.6	8.0	73.2	25,605	60.1	NA	NA	10.3
	8000-9000'	65	89	8.5	11.5	81.1	34,916	56.8	NA	NA	17.0
Tule	9000-10,000'	83	97	14.7	17.1	80.4	39,505	43.4	25.5 (1)	36.2 (1)	27.3
	10,000-11,000'	92	99	20.1	25.2	89.1	39,700	29.5	NA	NA	30.6
	>11,000'	88	95	20.5	26.1	90.0	12,897	9.3	NA	NA	27.0
	5000-6000'	94	>200†	0.0	0.1	5.5	275	51.6	NA	NA	3.2
	6000-7000'	28	151	0.8	3.2	52.1	6,785	40.0	NA	NA	5.0
Kern§	7000-8000'	56	91	7.1	10.7	88.2	15,250	26.8	5.2 (1)	11.3 (1)	7.7
	8000-9000'	71	86	12.6	15.9	90.4	12,836	15.2	NA	NA	12.1
	> 9,000'	84	94	16.9	21.8	90.3	4,723	4.1	NA	NA	20.2
	5000-6000'	8	55	0.1	0.2	9.4	2,741	246.2	NA	NA	1.3
	6000-7000'	31	78	1.0	2.0	36.8	35,710	341.5	NA	NA	1.8
Kern§	7000-8000'	56	86	3.5	4.9	69.1	85,422	326.6	1.6 (1)	3.7 (1)	3.0
	8000-9000'	79	88	6.3	6.8	80.1	114,651	314.7	NA	NA	6.7
	9000-10,000'	86	91	9.0	9.3	79.8	94,131	189.2	NA	17.7 (2)	15.0
	10,000-11,000'	88	96	12.3	14.6	84.7	100,878	129.3	12.7 (2)	15.7 (2)	20.2
	11,000-12,000'	88	99	14.4	19.1	93.1	92,530	91.0	NA	25.4 (1)	18.6
	12,000-13,000	83	93	12.7	17.3	92.5	34,653	37.6	NA	NA	13.5
	>13,000'	77	87	10.3	14.4	83.4	4,524	5.9	NA	NA	8.7

Basin	Elevation Band	3/1/25	3/15/25	3/1/25	3/15/25	3/15/25	3/15/25†	Area (mi ²)	3/1/25	3/15/25	3/15/25	SNODAS* (in)
		% 3/1 Avg.	% 3/15 Avg.	SWE (in)	SWE (in)	% SCA	Vol (af)	> 5000'	Pillows	Pillows		
Truckee	5000-6000'	44	92	4.6	8.8	77.3	27,565	58.6	NA	NA	8.6	
	6000-7000'	72	95	10.8	13.9	84.3	150,430	203.0	16.1 (4)	17.1 (4)	13.1	
	7000-8000'	88	102	17.0	21.3	89.3	126,881	111.7	23.4 (2)	24.5 (2)	25.7	
	8000-9000'	86	105	19.2	25.6	87.8	41,707	30.5	NA	NA	36.4	
	9000-10,000'	79	106	17.6	26.5	87.8	10,520	7.4	NA	NA	30.4	
	10,000-11,000'	80	105	18.2	28.2	93.0	726	0.5	NA	NA	26.9	
Tahoe	6000-7000'	38	75	4.5	7.6	61.3	45,304	112.3	13.1 (2)	17.5 (2)	6.2	
	7000-8000'	71	97	12.4	18.0	85.0	101,132	105.1	19.3 (4)	23.7 (4)	19.8	
	8000-9000'	83	103	16.9	24.2	89.6	90,793	70.5	15.8 (1)	19.7 (1)	24.7	
	9000-10,000'	82	103	18.0	26.2	86.5	23,063	16.5	NA	NA	25.0	
	> 10,000'	81	98	15.6	22.1	83.3	1,252	1.1	NA	NA	17.6	
W. Carson	5000-6000'	0	74	0.0	2.6	87.0	40	0.3	NA	NA	5.0	
	6000-7000'	38	82	4.0	7.1	67.9	729	1.9	NA	NA	6.7	
	7000-8000'	88	102	15.3	18.4	87.4	27,055	27.5	NA	NA	19.0	
	8000-9000'	86	105	17.3	23.6	90.2	34,344	27.3	17.9 (3)	20.6 (3)	20.4	
	9000-10,000'	83	101	17.3	24.9	89.5	9,230	7.0	NA	NA	21.3	
	> 10,000'	85	87	17.2	23.4	98.7	362	0.3	NA	NA	18.8	
E. Carson	5000-6000'	7	49	0.1	0.7	14.8	1,203	32.6	NA	NA	0.7	
	6000-7000'	37	99	2.0	5.5	68.1	23,214	79.3	0.0 (1)	0.9 (1)	2.7	
	7000-8000'	85	108	9.5	12.4	87.1	66,287	100.2	13.8 (1)	16.5 (1)	10.2	
	8000-9000'	91	106	16.0	20.4	88.2	105,767	97.3	16.8 (2)	19.9 (2)	19.8	
	9000-10,000'	84	103	18.0	24.9	85.5	45,929	34.7	NA	NA	24.8	
	>10,000'	83	101	18.7	26.1	81.9	14,225	10.2	NA	NA	21.3	
W. Walker	6000-7000'	74	124	2.0	4.8	89.0	1,897	7.3	NA	NA	5.4	
	7000-8000'	88	122	6.8	7.9	88.0	16,311	38.6	6.2 (1)	6.0 (1)	8.1	
	8000-9000'	91	109	13.7	16.7	91.6	41,200	46.1	13.8 (2)	16.8 (2)	20.1	
	9000-10,000'	84	106	17.9	26.4	93.1	85,358	60.7	39.1 (1)	47.1 (1)	28.5	
	10,000-11,000'	82	102	19.9	30.1	92.4	39,931	24.9	NA	NA	26.2	
	>11,000'	77	95	17.0	25.3	88.7	2,603	1.9	NA	NA	18.1	
E. Walker	6000-7000'	7	>200†	0.1	1.0	63.2	2,964	56.9	NA	NA	1.3	
	7000-8000'	59	163	2.2	3.8	73.3	22,579	110.0	NA	NA	3.0	
	8000-9000'	84	127	6.4	9.3	87.6	43,522	88.1	NA	NA	8.7	
	9000-10,000'	84	107	12.1	17.9	92.3	51,254	53.7	12.6 (1)	14.7 (1)	18.0	
	10,000-11,000'	82	102	14.2	21.6	87.8	39,999	34.7	NA	NA	19.4	
	>11,000'	82	101	12.2	19.4	87.7	7,581	7.3	NA	NA	12.7	
Mono	6000-7000'	1	>200†	0.0	0.5	60.9	7,436	297.1	NA	NA	0.3	
	7000-8000'	20	>200†	0.5	1.9	67.1	40,018	389.9	NA	NA	0.9	
	8000-9000'	64	135	3.6	6.0	78.6	57,118	178.7	NA	NA	3.3	
	9000-10,000'	79	105	9.1	13.0	86.8	43,793	63.2	NA	NA	12.5	
	10,000-11,000'	80	101	14.4	21.9	88.9	54,513	46.7	NA	NA	18.5	
	11,000-12,000'	80	97	15.9	23.4	87.0	29,346	23.6	NA	NA	12.2	
Upper Owens	> 12,000'	84	91	17.3	21.5	85.4	4,872	4.3	NA	NA	6.7	
	6000-7000'	41	165	0.9	1.2	78.8	3,920	61.0	NA	NA	1.3	
	7000-8000'	69	120	4.1	4.9	82.4	37,391	143.4	NA	NA	2.3	
	8000-9000'	84	98	10.1	11.1	86.5	44,600	75.0	NA	NA	9.7	
	9000-10,000'	80	102	11.0	14.1	83.9	33,012	43.8	27.3 (1)	36.4 (1)	15.0	
	10,000-11,000'	80	102	12.4	18.0	84.2	30,802	32.1	NA	NA	13.8	
Owens	11,000-12,000'	81	103	14.2	21.5	84.8	17,805	15.5	NA	NA	9.0	
	> 12,000'	82	103	12.4	19.1	85.3	2,943	2.9	NA	NA	5.3	
	5000-6000'	0	>200†	0.0	0.0	3.0	5	421.9	NA	NA	0.0	
	6000-7000'	9	>200†	0.0	0.1	16.2	1,680	342.5	NA	NA	0.1	
	7000-8000'	17	163	0.2	0.7	35.4	11,009	314.8	NA	NA	0.7	
	8000-9000'	35	116	1.1	2.0	54.0	19,339	178.7	NA	NA	3.2	
	9000-10,000'	61	95	4.4	5.8	73.2	46,025	147.7	12.1 (3)	14.1 (3)	7.2	
	10,000-11,000'	75	94	8.7	11.4	83.6	99,611	163.5	13.8 (2)	16.0 (2)	9.9	
- Data omitted due to inconsistencies with independent SWE estimates.	11,000-12,000'	81	93	12.9	18.0	89.3	126,710	131.9	NA	NA	9.7	
	12,000-13,000	86	93	15.0	20.7	89.8	68,455	62.1	NA	NA	6.9	
	>13,000'	82	95	10.3	18.7	89.4	9,125	9.2	NA	NA	5.0	

§ Data in all ASO-collected basins have been bias-corrected using ASO data and therefore the SWE changes might not represent snowmelt/accumulation but rather an update to the SWE estimates based on airborne data.

‡ For volume totals above Shasta Lake add Upper Sac, McCloud and Pit volumes. For volume totals above Bend Bridge add Upper Sac, McCloud, Pit and Sac at Bend Bridge volumes.

* This is a comparison to the SNODAS (SNOw Data Assimilation System) nationwide product from the National Weather Service.

- Data omitted due to inconsistencies with independent SWE estimates.

† Deep and recent snow in areas that typically are snow-free can report high percent of average for this date because the mean 2001-2021 regression-derived SWE for that area is low or 0.

Location of Reports and Excel Format Tables

<https://github.com/CU-Mountain-Hydrology/SierraNevada>

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