



Snow Survey and Water Supply Bulletin – January 1st, 2013

The January 1st snow survey is now complete. Data from 70 snow courses and 53 snow pillows around the province and out-of-province sampling locations, and climate data from Environment Canada, have been used to form the basis for the following reports¹.

Weather

Weather across British Columbia has been variable over the early portion of the snow accumulation season (October to December). With a few exceptions, weather was near normal through most of this period across most of the province. Wetter than normal conditions were present through the latter part of October along the Coast, and above normal temperatures occurred through November across most of the province. The persistence of Arctic air masses in December led to below normal temperatures in northern BC.

Snowpack

Snow conditions are near normal for this time of year across most of the province. Snow basin indices ranged from a low of 62% of normal, to a high of 130%. Wetter weather through December has led to higher than normal snow packs through the south-west parts of the province (South Coast, Lower Fraser, and Vancouver Island). In the Nechako basin, snow packs are well below normal, with a basin index of 62%. While not well reflected in the snow basin index values, areas around the Nechako basin, including the Chilcotin to the south, the North Coast to the west, and the Bulkley River to the north, have a number of individual survey sites which recorded below normal January 1st snow water equivalents.

BC Snow Basin Indices – January 1, 2013

Basin	% of Normal	Basin	% of Normal
Upper Fraser	96%	Kootenay	112%
Nechako	62%	Okanagan-Kettle	99%
Middle Fraser	89%	Similkameen	97%
Lower Fraser	122%	South Coast	127%
North Thompson	101%	Vancouver Island	130%
South Thompson	100%	Peace	98%
Columbia	96%	Skeena-Nass	95%

Outlook

In contrast to the La Niña episodes which occurred during the 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 winters, this year has seen neutral conditions favouring neither El Niño or La Niña. Current forecasts from the Climate Prediction Centre with the U.S. National Weather Service (NOAA) favour neutral conditions into the spring of 2013. Current 3-month seasonal forecasts from Environment Canada indicate some increase likelihood of below normal temperatures in southern BC, with normal temperatures more likely in the rest of the province. For

1. Every effort is made to ensure that data reported on these pages are accurate. However, in order to update the graphs and indices as quickly as possible, some data may have been estimated. Please note that data provided on these pages are preliminary and subject to revision upon review.



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precipitation, current 3-month forecasts indicate an increased likelihood of drier than normal conditions through the Upper Fraser (Rocky Mountains), North Thompson and Upper Columbia areas, with normal precipitation more likely in the rest of the province.

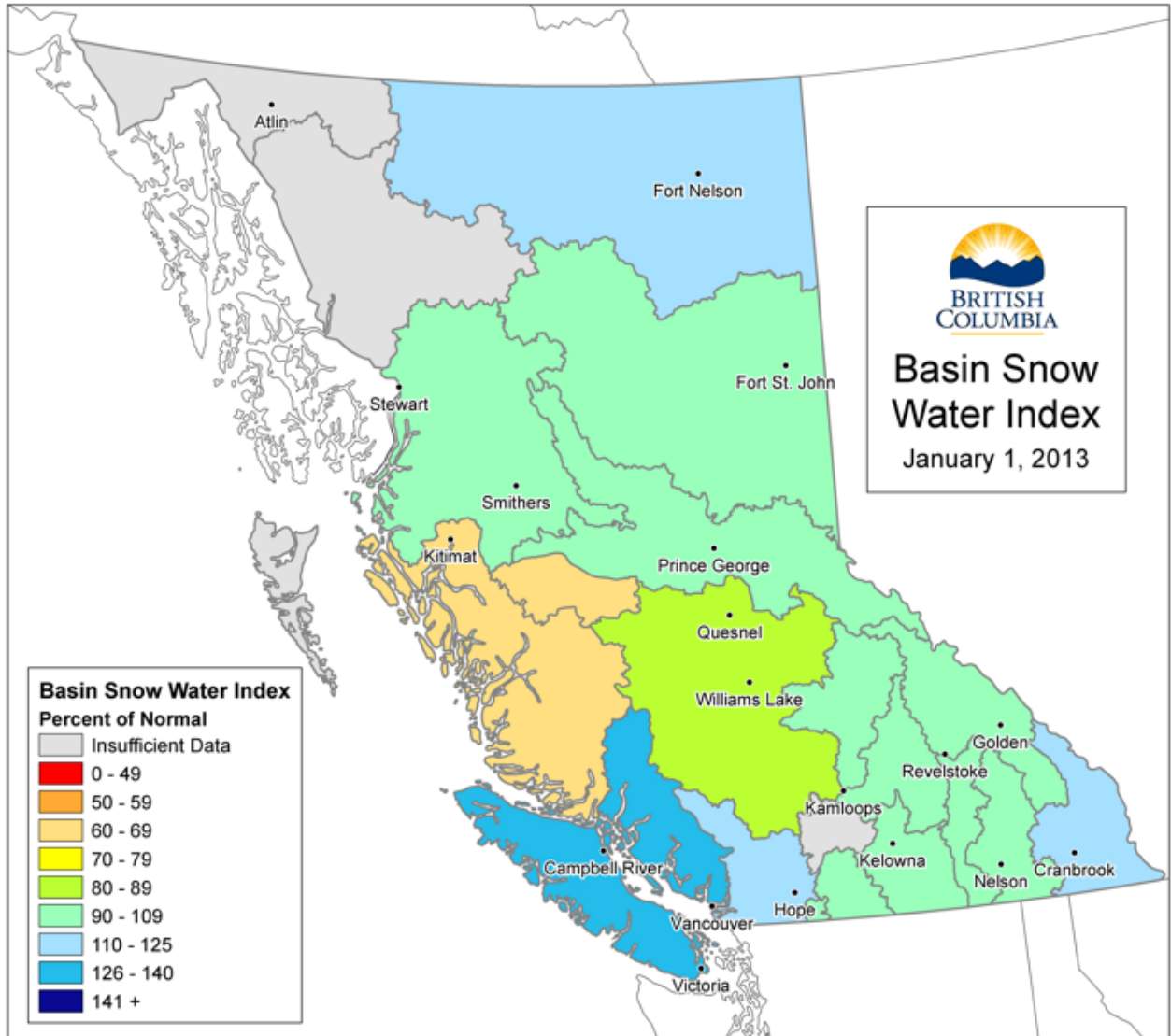
By this date, generally about one-half of the annual BC snowpack has accumulated. January 1st represents an early snapshot of seasonal snow conditions; the outlook for spring freshet can change significantly over the next three or months. For the most part, snow packs at present are normal across the province and there are no early indications of increased seasonal flood risk. Below normal snow packs in the Nechako and surrounding areas may pose a concern for the potential for decreased seasonal flows during freshet and into the summer. At this point there are no strong indications of a high likelihood of extreme wet or dry seasonal weather through the rest of the accumulation season.

Produced by: BC River Forecast Centre
January 8, 2013



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Map 1: Basin Snow Water Index-February 1st, 2012



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UPPER FRASER Drainage Basin

Snow Course Name and Number	Elev. metres	Date of Survey	Jan 2013			Yrs of Record	
			Snow Depth cm	Water Equiv. mm	% of Normal		
PRINCE GEORGE A	1A10	690	03-Jan	42	86	123	50
PACIFIC LAKE	1A11	770	05-Jan	122	378	122	28
BURNS LAKE	1A16	800	07-Jan	46	84	109	37
PHILIP LAKE	4A13	980	03-Jan	76	217	145	30
HEDRICK LAKE	1A14	1100	05-Jan	126	408	122	20
HEDRICK LAKE	1A14P	1100	01-Jan	141	419	132	12
KAZA LAKE	1A12	1190	03-Jan	84	200	105	27
LU LAKE	4B15P	1310	01-Jan	56	137	98	15
MOUNT SHEBA	4A18	1490	05-Jan	146	491	123	23
BARKERVILLE	1A03P	1520	01-Jan	70	162	96	31
KNUDSEN LAKE	1A15	1580	05-Jan	108	351	86	20
MCBRIDE (UPPER)	1A02P	1620	01-Jan	79	173	80	17
REVOLUTION CREEK	1A17P	1690	01-Jan	161	392	94	27
LONGWORTH (UPPER)	1A05	1740					22
DOME MOUNTAIN	1A19P	1820	01-Jan	111	323	97	6
YELLOWHEAD	1A01P	1860	01-Jan	N/A	229	67	16

CMMT

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NECHAKO Drainage Basin

Snow Course Name and Number	Elev. metres	Date of Survey	Jan 2013			Yrs of Record	
			Snow Depth cm	Water Equiv. mm	% of Normal		
SKINS LAKE	1B05	880				27	
TAHTSA LAKE	1B02P	1300	01-Jan	N/A	453	64	20
KIDPRICE LAKE	4B01	1370				3	
MOUNT PONDOSY	1B08P	1400	01-Jan	N/A	280	62	19
MOUNT WELLS	1B01	1490				3	
MOUNT WELLS	1B01P	1490	01-Jan	N/A	193	59	20
NUTLI LAKE	1B07	1490				3	
MOUNT SWANNELL	1B06	1620				3	

E

MIDDLE FRASER Drainage Basin

Snow Course Name and Number	Elev. metres	Date of Survey	Jan 2013			Yrs of Record	
			Snow Depth cm	Water Equiv. mm	% of Normal		
PUNTZI MOUNTAIN	1C22	940	30-Dec	12	20	50	38
NAZKO	1C08	1070	27-Dec	23	36	65	26
BIG CREEK	1C21	1140	30-Dec	12	15	42	25
GRANITE MOUNTAIN	1C33A	1150	28-Dec	48	102	102	7
BRIDGE GLACIER (LOWER)	1C39	1400	03-Jan	94	280	93	17
BRALORNE	1C14	1450	03-Jan	40	86	96	18
BOSS MOUNTAIN MINE	1C20P	1460	01-Jan	102	268	84	19
LAC LE JEUNE (UPPER)	1C25	1460					39
BRENDA MINE	2F18P	1460	01-Jan	N/A	148	82	17
BARKERVILLE	1A03P	1520	01-Jan	70	162	96	31
MOUNT TIMOTHY	1C17	1660					16
YANKS PEAK EAST	1C41P	1670	01-Jan	65	409	97	16
GREEN MOUNTAIN	1C12P	1780	01-Jan	N/A	357	81	19
MCGILLIVRAY PASS	1C05	1800					18
MISSION RIDGE	1C18P	1850	01-Jan	N/A	229	84	25
DOWNTON LAKE (UPPER)	1C38	1890	03-Jan	116	388	91	16
TYAUGHTON CREEK (NORTH)	1C40	1950	03-Jan	79	226	129	16
BRALORNE(UPPER)	1C37	1980	03-Jan	97	304	83	17

LOWER FRASER Drainage Basin

Snow Course Name and Number	Elev. metres	Date of Survey	Jan 2013			Yrs of Record	
			Snow Depth cm	Water Equiv. mm	% of Normal		
DISAPPOINTMENT LAKE	1D18P	932	01-Jan	N/A	834	122	10
DICKSON LAKE	1D16	1070	30-Dec	297	884	113	17
DOG MOUNTAIN	3A10	1080	27-Dec	253	790	165	26
KLESILKWA	3D03A	1130	30-Dec	73	181	98	21
SPUZZUM CREEK	1D19P	1180	01-Jan	244	863	131	14
STAVE LAKE	1D08	1210	30-Dec	288	916	145	21
WAHLEACH LAKE	1D09	1400	30-Dec	119	315	121	23
WAHLEACH LAKE	1D09P	1400	01-Jan	N/A	459	88	20
NAHATLATCH RIVER	1D10	1520	30-Dec	222	679	113	18
CHILLIWACK RIVER	1D17P	1600	01-Jan	220	811	124	20
TENQUILLE LAKE	1D06P	1680	01-Jan	160	458	91	11

NORTH THOMPSON Drainage Basin

Snow Course Name and Number	Elev. metres	Date of Survey	Jan 2013			Yrs of Record	
			Snow Depth cm	Water Equiv. mm	% of Normal		
BLUE RIVER	1E01B	670	02-Jan	52	124	78	26
BOSS MOUNTAIN MINE	1C20P	1460	01-Jan	102	268	84	19
MOUNT COOK	1E02P	1550	01-Jan	190	659	107	9
AZURE RIVER	1E08P	1620	01-Jan	192	647	104	16
KOSTAL LAKE	1E10P	1770	01-Jan	133	410	91	28

SOUTH THOMPSON Drainage Basin

Snow Course Name and Number	Elev. metres	Date of Survey	Jan 2013			Yrs of Record	
			Snow Depth cm	Water Equiv. mm	% of Normal		
MONASHEE PASS	2E01	1370				30	
CELISTA	1F06P	1500	01-Jan	168	459	104	7
KIRBYVILLE LAKE	2A25	1750				28	
PARK MOUNTAIN	1F03P	1890	01-Jan	145	429	100	26

UPPER COLUMBIA Drainage Basin

Snow Course Name and Number	Elev. metres	Date of Survey	Jan 2013			Yrs of Record	
			Snow Depth cm	Water Equiv. mm	% of Normal		
DOWNIE SLIDE (LOWER)	2A27	980	31-Dec	109	288	90	24
GLACIER	2A02	1250	28-Dec	97	284	87	42
VERMONT CREEK	2A19	1520	30-Dec	92	243	106	26
AZURE RIVER	1E08P	1620	01-Jan	192	647	104	16
DOWNIE SLIDE (UPPER)	2A29	1630	31-Dec	235	792	115	24
KICKING HORSE	2A07	1650	04-Jan	59	157	90	32
KIRBYVILLE LAKE	2A25	1750					28
MOUNT REVELSTOKE	2A06P	1830	01-Jan	N/A	568	95	17
FIDELITY MOUNTAIN	2A17	1870	28-Dec	131	538	87	38
BEAVERFOOT	2A11	1890	30-Dec	50	122	102	28
KEYSTONE CREEK	2A18	1890					28
GOLDSTREAM	2A16	1920	31-Dec	175	585	98	28
BUSH RIVER	2A23	1920	31-Dec	148	480	109	28
MOUNT ABBOT	2A14	1980	30-Dec	182	619	101	28
MOLSON CREEK	2A21P	1980	01-Jan	N/A	540	97	32
SUNBEAM LAKE	2A22	2010	31-Dec	163	522	110	28

LOWER COLUMBIA Drainage Basin

Snow Course Name and Number	Elev. metres	Date of Survey	Jan 2013			Yrs of Record	
			Snow Depth cm	Water Equiv. mm	% of Normal		
FERGUSON	2D02	880	28-Dec	67	200	73	33
FARRON	2B02A	1220	02-Jan	55	140	90	28
MONASHEE PASS	2E01	1370					30
WHATSHAN (UPPER)	2B05	1480					22
BARNES CREEK	2B06	1620	03-Jan	80	213	82	24
BARNES CREEK	2B06P	1620	01-Jan	N/A	234	84	19
ST. LEON CREEK	2B08	1800	03-Jan	174	571	93	20
ST. LEON CREEK	2B08P	1800	01-Jan	N/A	492	91	16
KOCH CREEK	2B07	1860	03-Jan	156	473	130	16
RECORD MOUNTAIN	2B09	1890	02-Jan	180	575	180	26
EAST CREEK	2D08P	2030	01-Jan	N/A	460	98	31

EAST KOOTENAY Drainage Basin

Snow Course Name and Number	Elev. metres	Date of Survey	Jan 2013			Yrs of Record	
			Snow Depth cm	Water Equiv. mm	% of Normal		
FERNIE EAST	2C07	1250	02-Jan	60	147	104	35
SULLIVAN MINE	2C04	1550	28-Dec	67	176	128	27
MOUNT JOFFRE	2C16	1750	30-Dec	85	253	141	25
MORRISSEY RIDGE	2C09Q	1800	01-Jan	N/A	253	76	29
MOYIE MOUNTAIN	2C10P	1930	01-Jan	60	178	99	33
THUNDER CREEK	2C17	2010	30-Dec	75	196	145	27
FLOE LAKE	2C14	2090	30-Dec	154	494	116	27
FLOE LAKE	2C14P	2090	01-Jan	N/A	429	118	17
MOUNT ASSINIBOINE	2C15	2230					28

WEST KOOTENAY Drainage Basin

Snow Course Name and Number	Elev. metres	Date of Survey	Jan 2013			Yrs of Record	
			Snow Depth cm	Water Equiv. mm	% of Normal		
FERGUSON	2D02	880	28-Dec	67	200	73	33
NELSON	2D04	930	03-Jan	47	121	69	53
CHAR CREEK	2D06	1310	01-Jan	118	310	124	29
KOCH CREEK	2B07	1860	03-Jan	156	473	130	16
MOUNT TEMPLEMAN	2D09	1860					19
EAST CREEK	2D08P	2030	01-Jan	N/A	460	98	31
REDFISH CREEK	2D14P	2104	01-Jan	267	712	130	11

KETTLE Drainage Basin

Snow Course Name and Number	Elev. metres	Date of Survey	Jan 2013			Yrs of Record	
			Snow Depth cm	Water Equiv. mm	% of Normal		
FARRON	2B02A	1220	02-Jan	55	140	90	28
MONASHEE PASS	2E01	1370					30
GRANO CREEK	2E07P	1860	01-Jan	71	278	124	15

OKANAGAN Drainage Basin

Snow Course Name and Number	Elev. metres	Date of Survey	Jan 2013			Yrs of Record	
			Snow Depth cm	Water Equiv. mm	% of Normal		
SUMMERLAND RESERVOIR	2F02	1280	02-Jan	43	97	85	49
TROUT CREEK	2F01	1430					3
TROUT CREEK (WEST)	2F01A	1430					1
BRENDA MINE	2F18P	1460	01-Jan	N/A	148	82	17
GREYBACK RESERVOIR	2F08	1550					28
ISINTOK LAKE	2F11	1680	02-Jan	36	82	95	47
MISSION CREEK	2F05P	1780	01-Jan	81	240	112	42
GRAYSTOKE LAKE	2F04	1810					6
MOUNT KOBAN	2F12	1810					35

SIMILKAMEEN Drainage Basin

Snow Course Name and Number	Elev. metres	Date of Survey	Jan 2013			Yrs of Record	
			Snow Depth cm	Water Equiv. mm	% of Normal		
ISINTOK LAKE	2F11	1680	02-Jan	36	82	95	47
BLACKWALL PEAK	2G03P	1940	01-Jan	129	383	99	43

SOUTH COASTAL Drainage Basin

Snow Course Name and Number	Elev. metres	Date of Survey	Jan 2013			Yrs of Record	
			Snow Depth cm	Water Equiv. mm	% of Normal		
PALISADE LAKE	3A09P	880	01-Jan	N/A	606	110	12
DOG MOUNTAIN	3A10	1080	27-Dec	253	790	165	26
GROUSE MOUNTAIN	3A01	1100	27-Dec	253	800	167	32
ORCHID LAKE	3A19	1190	02-Jan	294	820	109	28
ORCHID LAKE	3A19P	1178	01-Jan	N/A	N/A	N/A	17
SQUAMISH RIVER (UPPER)	3A25P	1340	01-Jan	228	792	108	21
NOSTETUKO RIVER	3A22P	1500	01-Jan	54	218	84	20
MOSLEY CREEK (UPPER)	3A24P	1650	01-Jan	28	108	56	23

VANCOUVER ISLAND Drainage Basin

Snow Course Name and Number	Elev. metres	Date of Survey	Jan 2013			Yrs of Record	
			Snow Depth cm	Water Equiv. mm	% of Normal		
ELK RIVER	3B04	270				27	
WOLF RIVER (LOWER)	3B19	640				23	
WOLF RIVER (MIDDLE)	3B18	1070				24	
FORBIDDEN PLATEAU	3B01	1130				30	
JUMP CREEK	3B23P	1160	01-Jan	214	620	145	17
WOLF RIVER (UPPER)	3B17P	1490	01-Jan	N/A	775	130	24

NORTH COASTAL Drainage Basin

Snow Course Name and Number	Elev. metres	Date of Survey	Jan 2013			Yrs of Record	
			Snow Depth cm	Water Equiv. mm	% of Normal		
TAHTSA LAKE	1B02P	1300	01-Jan	N/A	453	64	20
BURNT BRIDGE CREEK	3C08P	1330	01-Jan	88	258	66	11

SKAGIT Drainage Basin

Snow Course Name and Number	Elev. metres	Date of Survey	Jan 2013			Yrs of Record	
			Snow Depth cm	Water Equiv. mm	% of Normal		
KLESILKWA	3D03A	1130	30-Dec	73	181	98	21

PEACE Drainage Basin

Snow Course Name and Number	Elev. metres	Date of Survey	Jan 2013			Yrs of Record	
			Snow Depth cm	Water Equiv. mm	% of Normal		
FORT ST. JOHN A	4A25	690	07-Jan	58	117	205	36
PACIFIC LAKE	1A11	770					28
WARE (LOWER)	4A04	980					22
PHILIP LAKE	4A13	980					30
AIKEN LAKE	4A30P	1040	01-Jan	N/A	128E	94	23
TUTIZZI LAKE	4A06	1070					22
TSAYDAYCHI LAKE	4A12	1160					29
KAZA LAKE	1A12	1190	03-Jan	84	200	105	27
PULPIT LAKE	4A09	1310	04-Jan	106	250	114	24
PULPIT LAKE	4A09P	1310	01-Jan	N/A	250	103	21
FREDRICKSON LAKE	4A10	1310					23
PINE PASS	4A02	1399	02-Jan	170	530	85	28
PINE PASS	4A02P	1400	01-Jan	N/A	475	87	22
TRYGVE LAKE	4A11	1400					24
SIKANNI LAKE	4C01	1400	04-Jan	65	142	98	28
MORFEE MOUNTAIN	4A16	1450	02-Jan	150	446	99	16
LADY LAURIER LAKE	4A07	1460	04-Jan	92	230	85	28
MOUNT SHEBA	4A18	1490	05-Jan	146	491	123	23
GERMANSEN (UPPER)	4A05	1500	03-Jan	76	194	100	29
MOUNT STEARNS	4A21	1500	04-Jan	53	100	125	23
JOHANSON LAKE	4B02	1540					29
MONKMAN CREEK	4A20	1550	05-Jan	103	323	79	17
WARE (UPPER)	4A03	1570	04-Jan	77	189	130	23
KWADACHA RIVER	4A27P	1620	01-Jan	N/A	161	94	26

E

LIARD Drainage Basin

Snow Course Name and Number	Elev. metres	Date of Survey	Jan 2013			Yrs of Record	
			Snow Depth cm	Water Equiv. mm	% of Normal		
FORT NELSON A	4C05	380	31-Dec	50	91	154	44
DEASE LAKE	4C03	820	02-Jan	48	79	111	44
SIKANNI LAKE	4C01	1400	04-Jan	65	142	98	28

SKEENA/NASS Drainage Basin

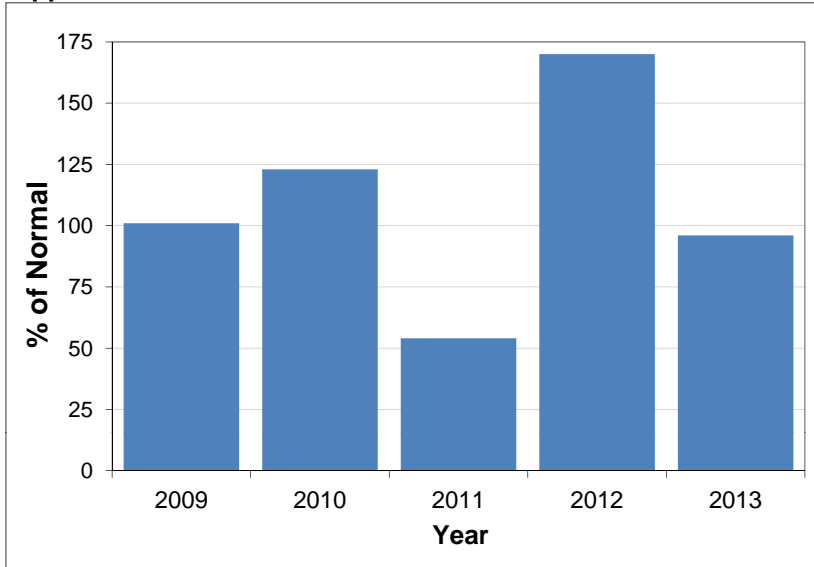
Snow Course Name and Number	Elev. metres	Date of Survey	Jan 2013			Yrs of Record	
			Snow Depth cm	Water Equiv. mm	% of Normal		
TERRACE A	4B13A	180	27-Dec	26	31	42	28
GRANDUC MINE	4B12P	790	01-Jan	N/A	488	56	7
CEDAR-KITEEN	4B18P	885	01-Jan	76	199	69	12
KAZA LAKE	1A12	1190	03-Jan	84	200	105	27
LU LAKE	4B15P	1310	01-Jan	56	137	98	15
TSAI CREEK	4B17P	1360	01-Jan	131	504	84	14
TRYGVE LAKE	4A11	1400					24
HUDSON BAY MTN.	4B03A	1480	31-Dec	87	239	84	37
SHEDIN CREEK	4B16P	1480	01-Jan	102	307	73	15
JOHANSON LAKE	4B02	1540					29

STIKINE/TAKU Drainage Basin

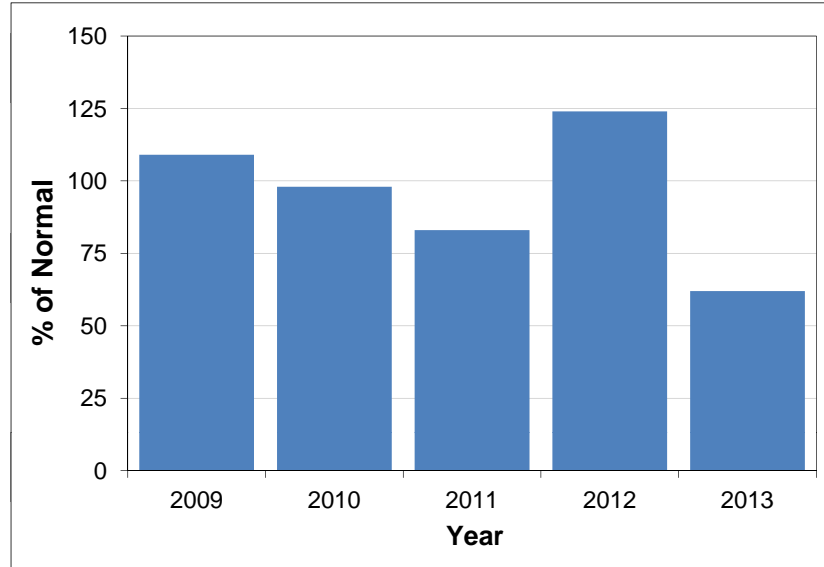
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			Snow Depth cm	Water Equiv. mm	% of Normal	
DEASE LAKE	4C03	820				44
A - SAMPLING PROBLEMS WERE ENCOUNTERED B - EARLY OR LATE SAMPLING C - EARLY OR LATE SAMPLING WITH PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED E - ESTIMATED BASED ON AREAL AVERAGE * - PERIOD OF RECORD AVERAGE N/A - NOT AVAILABLE NOTE: 1971-2000 NORMALS BEING USED						

Snow Basin Index Graphs - January 1, 2013

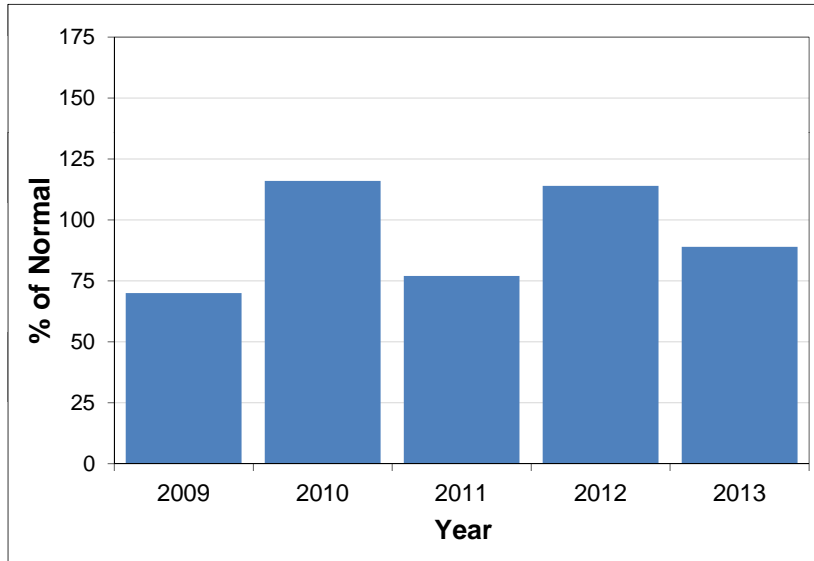
Upper Fraser



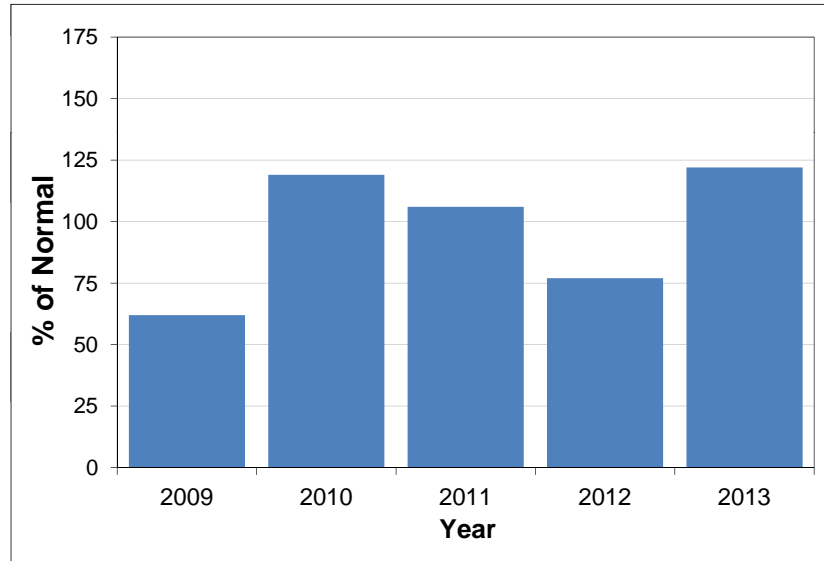
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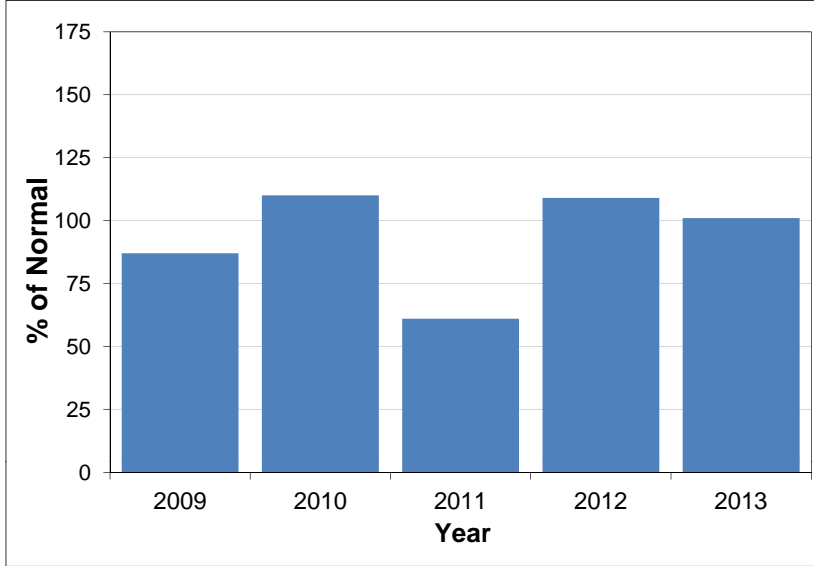
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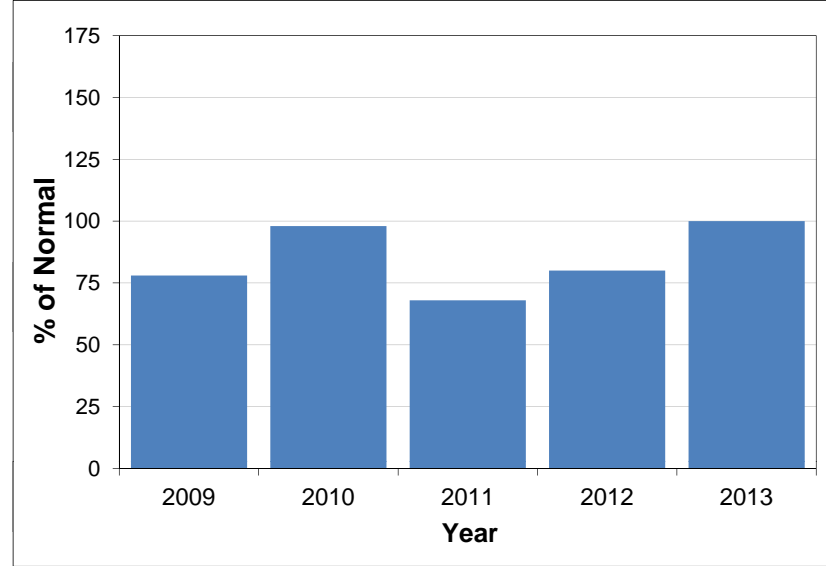
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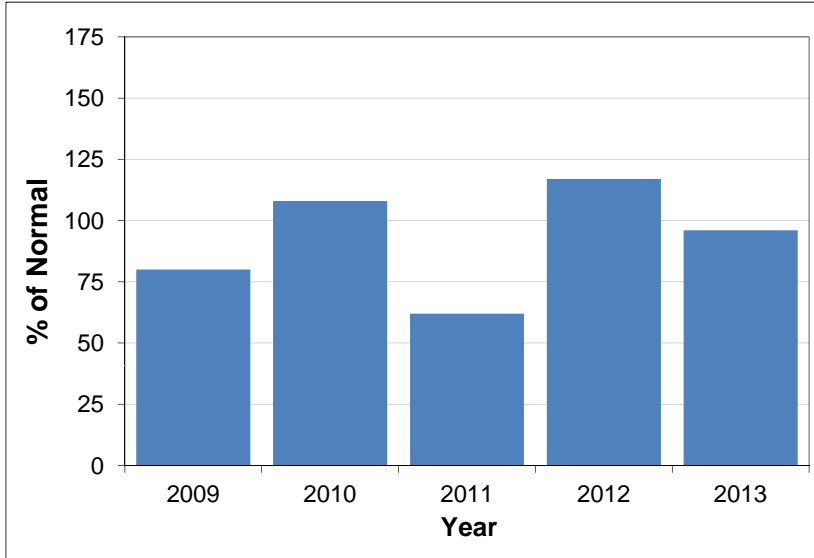
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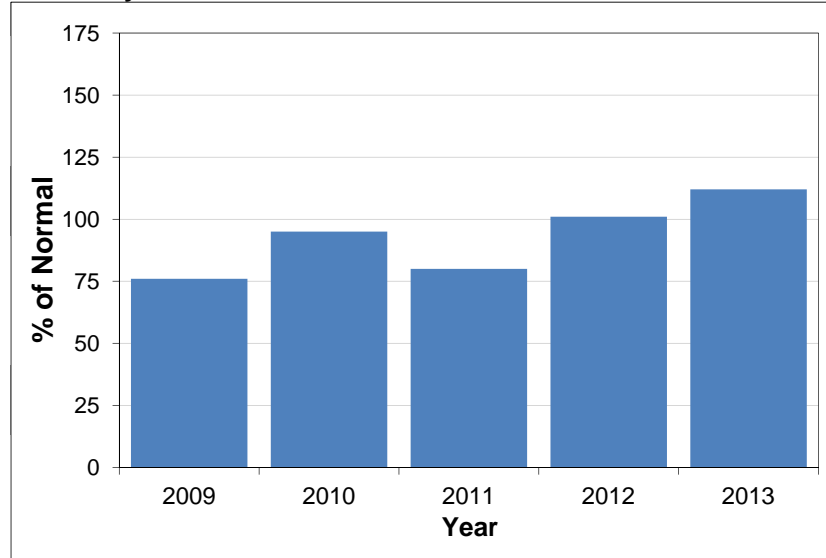
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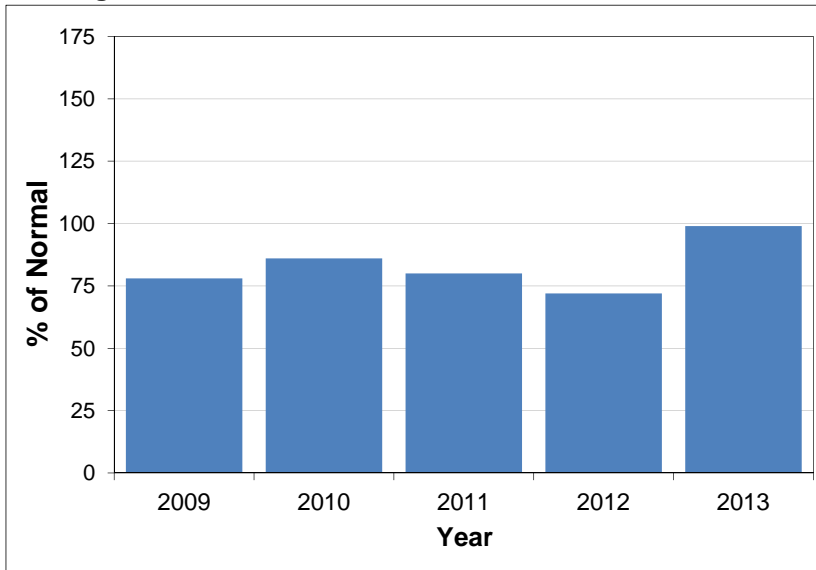
Columbia



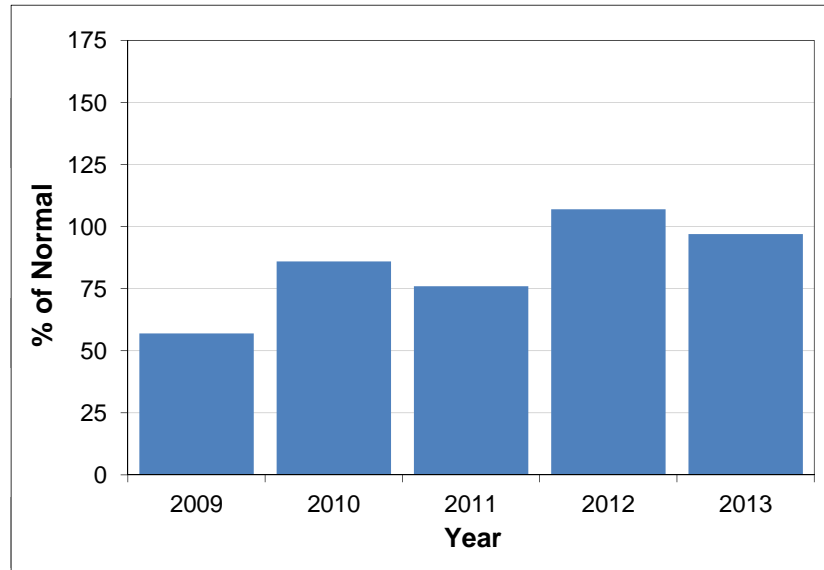
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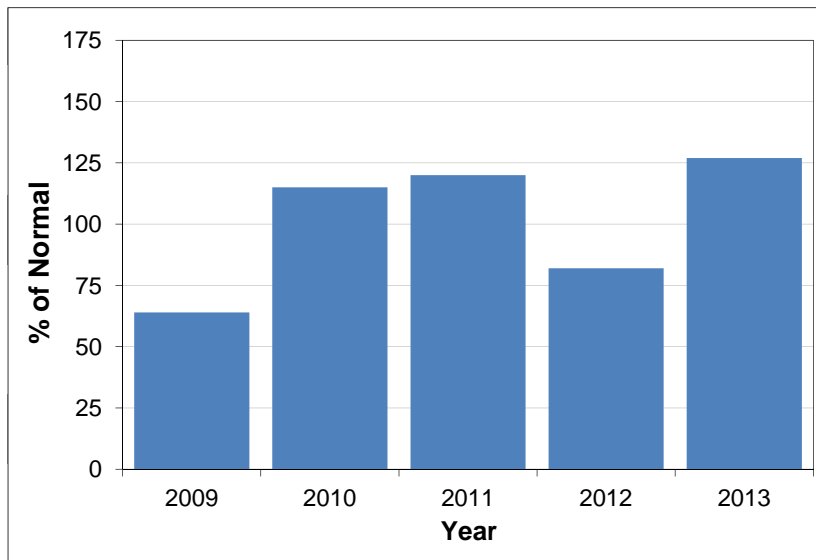
Okanagan-Kettle



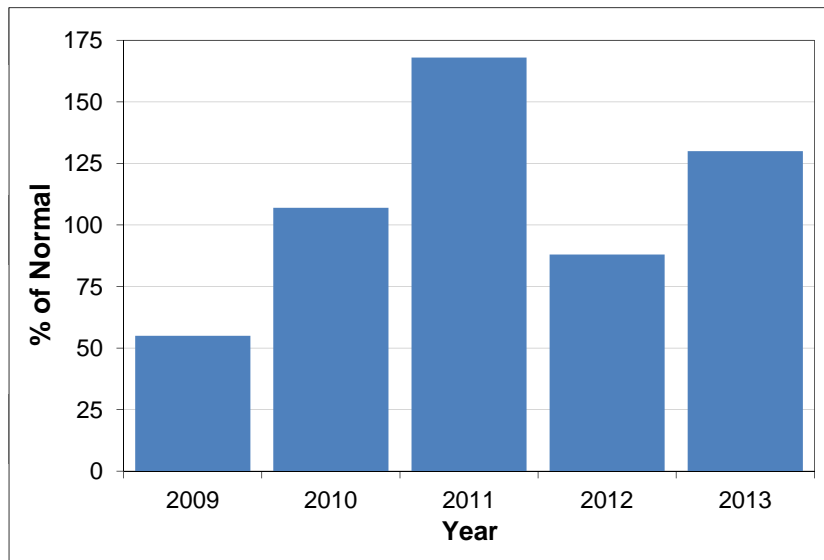
Similkameen



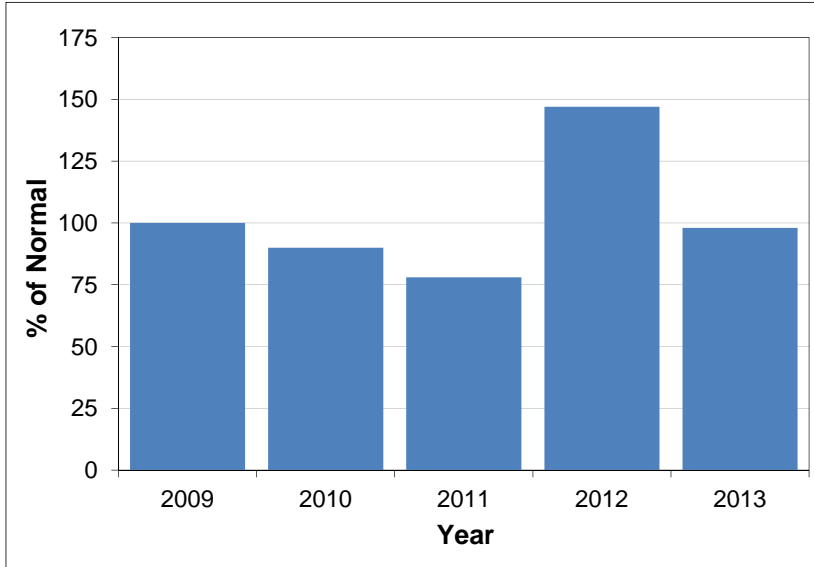
South Coast



Vancouver Island



Peace



Skeena-Nass

