



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Columbia-Cascades Area Office
1917 Marsh Road
Yakima, WA 98901-2058

IN REPLY REFER TO:

BFO-1400
2.2.4.23

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Prineville Reservoir Storage Contractors
See the enclosed list

Subject: Final Storage Allocations for 2026, Prineville Reservoir, Crooked River Federal
Reclamation Project, Oregon

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

The 2026 date of allocation¹ for Prineville Reservoir occurred on April 17, 2026, and this letter is being sent to inform Crooked River Project contractors of their Final 2026 Prineville Reservoir Storage Allocations—i.e., the amount of storage water available for use. Your final 2026 storage allocation can be found in the blue-highlighted Column K on Enclosure 1 and a description of the table can be found in Enclosure 1A.

Last year in allocating water amongst the various accounts in Prineville Reservoir, Bureau of Reclamation adjusted all accounts pro-rata to account for the active capacity of the reservoir (sedimentation) and evaporative and seepage losses (losses). Reclamation has allocated the 2026 water supply using a similar process as last year in which sedimentation and losses were allocated pro-rata across all "first-fill" and "uncontracted" accounts. Reclamation continues to complete its review of the Crooked River Collaborative Jobs and Water Security Act of 2014, the existing contracts and the analysis in the BiOp and HCP to understand how they inform sedimentation and losses in this reservoir. In the future we may adjust the protocol for allocating sedimentation and losses or adopt other actions following our review of this process, hence our approach this year is not prejudicial to future approaches. Reclamation will complete this review within Calendar Year 2026 for implementation in Water Year 2027.

Important Reminder: Project contractors are required to follow the procedure in Enclosure 2 to request delivery of your storage this irrigation season. The procedure for requesting and delivering storage from Prineville Reservoir during the 2026 season along with weekly storage delivery reports showing your remaining storage allocation balance can be found on Reclamation's website: <https://www.usbr.gov/pn/cca/projects/PrinevilleResStorage/PrinevilleResStorage.html>

¹ "Date of allocation" refers to the date on which the reservoir reaches its maximum storage content and releases of storage water from the reservoir began.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. David Weidinger, Bend Field Office Manager, at (458) 218-5229. If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services.

Sincerely,

**CANDACE
CARMACK** Digitally signed by CANDACE
CARMACK
Date: 2026.06.04 12:51:18 -07'00'

Candace Carmack
Acting Columbia Cascades Area Manager

Enclosures – 3

Identical Letter sent to:

William Nashem, Crooked River Water Master OWRD, (william.d.nashem@water.oregon.gov)

Bruce Scanlon, Ochoco Irrigation District, (bruceoid@crestviewcable.com)

Peter Cooper, Reclamation, (pcooper@usbr.gov)

Corinne Horner, Reclamation, (chorner@usbr.gov)

Distributed to Dry Year Plan Distribution List electronically

Attachment 1: Final Storage Allocation Table

April 17, 2026

Prineville Reservoir Storage Contracts			Final Water Year 2026 Storage Allocations								
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
Contractor	Contract Amount (acre-feet)	% of Contracted	October 1, 2025 Carryover Storage (acre-feet)	Carryover Storage Use prior to the Day of Allocation (acre-feet)	New Fill (acre-feet)	Reserved for Projected 10 cfs Releases from Storage (acre-feet)	WY2026 Allocation Before Loss (acre-feet)	Estimated Reservoir Losses (acre-feet)	Estimated Sedimentation Loss (acre-feet)	WY2026 Storage Allocation After Loss (acre-feet)	WY2026 Storage Allocation After Loss (% of Contract)
Ochoco Irrigation District	57,899	67.24%	20,002	1,249	39,146	0	57,899	1,733	1,337	54,829	94.70%
Peoples Irrigation Co.	3,497	4.06%	1,019	62	2,540	0	3,497	105	81	3,312	94.70%
Ulupalakua Ranch, Inc.	2,176	2.53%	802	50	1,424	0	2,176	65	50	2,061	94.70%
Quail Valley Ranch, LLC	1,243	1.44%	685	2	560	0	1,243	37	29	1,177	94.70%
Quail Valley Ranch II, LLC	1,205	1.40%	666	24	563	0	1,205	36	28	1,141	94.70%
City of Prineville	724	0.84%	724	0	0	0	724	22	17	686	94.70%
William Sigman	350	0.41%	350	0	0	0	350	10	8	331	94.70%
Low Line Ditch Company	330	0.38%	330	0	0	0	330	10	8	313	94.70%
Jack & Kathryn Riley	286	0.33%	286	0	0	0	286	9	7	271	94.70%
Larry & Barbara Goss	135	0.16%	135	0	0	0	135	4	3	128	94.70%
Butler Ranch, Inc.	104	0.12%	104	0	0	0	104	3	2	98	94.70%
Neary Living Trust	97	0.11%	97	0	0	0	97	3	2	92	94.70%
South Valley Bank & Trust	84	0.10%	84	0	0	0	84	3	2	80	94.70%
Clara Varcoe	50	0.06%	50	0	0	0	50	1	1	47	94.70%
Crooked River Water LLC	39	0.05%	39	0	0	0	39	1	1	37	94.70%
Crooked River Water LLC	19	0.02%	19	0	0	0	19	1	0	18	94.70%
Nick & Mary Maithonis	19	0.02%	19	0	0	0	19	1	0	18	94.70%
Robert Dellenback	16	0.02%	16	0	0	0	16	0	0	15	94.70%
McKay Creek Land (OID)	2,740	3.18%	2,740	0	0	0	2,740	82	63	2,595	94.70%
NUID Temp Contract	10,000	11.61%	0	0	10,000	0	10,000	299	231	9,470	94.70%
City of Prineville 5100	5,100	5.92%	386	386	5,100	0	5,100	153	118	4,830	94.70%
Contracted Storage Totals	86,113	100%	28,553	1,773	59,333	0	86,113	2,577	1,988	81,547	94.70%
Uncontracted Storage	62,520		52,236	35,682	3,859	0	20,413	611	471	19,331	30.92%
Total Active Capacity	148,633		80,788	37,455	63,192	0	106,526	3,188	2,460	100,878	67.87%

See Attachment 1A for Storage Allocation Table Descriptions

Attachment 1A: Final Storage Allocation Table Descriptions

April 17, 2026

Column	Column Title	Column Description
A	Contractor	The name of each contractor
B	Contract Amount (acre-feet)	The amount of the storage contract space for each contractor
C	% of Contracted	The % of the total contracted space for each contractor
D	October 1, 2025 Carryover Storage (acre-feet)	Carryover storage into the 2026 season consists of the physical water in the reservoir at the end of the day September 30, 2025 (80,788 acre-feet). Contractors in Column A carried over storage amounts listed in this Column. NUID Temp Contract, no carryover entitlement.
E	Carryover Storage Use prior to the Day of Allocation (acre-feet)	Carryover Storage use prior to the day of allocation totalled 37,682 acre-feet for winter flows 10/1/2025 through 4/16/2026: => 386 acre-feet of City of Prineville => 1,249 acre-feet of Ochoco Irrigation District storage => 138 acre-feet of other Contractor storage => 35,682 acre-feet of uncontracted storage
F	New Fill (acre-feet)	New fill during the winter and spring of 2026 totalled 63,020 acre-feet. The new fill was distributed proportionally based on Contract Amount to all contracted accounts until full. Remainder of new fill is uncontracted.
G	Reserved for Projected 10 cfs Releases from Storage (acre-feet)	Not applicable for the 2026 season because flows past A.R. Bowman Dam are anticipated to be in excess of 10 cfs for other purposes.
H	WY2026 Allocation Before Loss (acre-feet)	WY2026 Allocation Before Loss for each account is calculated as Carryover Storage (Column D) - Storage Use Prior to Day of Allocation (Column E) + New Fill (Column F) - 10 cfs Reservation (Column G). For 2026, this equals 100% of the contract amount due to reservoir fill.
I	Estimated Reservoir Losses (acre-feet)	Storage allocations have been adjusted proportionally based on Allocation before Loss to account for estimated reservoir losses (e.g. evaporation, seepage, etc.). The amount of 3,188.3 acre-feet was determined based on a historical analysis of subtracting April 17 (Day of Allocation) through September 30 (end of water year) computed unregulated flow (change in storage + discharge) volume at Prineville Reservoir from the April 17 through September 30 flow volume at the Crooked River above Prineville Reservoir near Post. Historical years with > +/- 1 Standard Deviation were excluded as outliers, and the average for the non-excluded 1994-2025 period was used.
J	Estimated Sedimentation Loss (acre-feet)	Storage allocations have been adjusted proportionally based on Allocation before Loss to account for approximately 2,459.5 acre-feet of sedimentation that is estimated to have occurred in the active reservoir space below the 2026 day of allocation reservoir elevation (full pool 3234.8 feet) since the time of the 1998 Prineville Reservoir Sedimentation Survey: (https://www.usbr.gov/tsc/techreferences/reservoir/Prineville%20Reservoir%201998%20Sedimentation%20Survey.pdf). The estimate is based on guidance provided in the study that used a theoretical distribution of future sediment in the reservoir computed using the Empirical Area Reduction Method.
K	WY2026 Storage Allocation After Loss (acre-feet)	WY2026 Storage Allocation After Loss for each account is calculated as WY2026 Allocation Before Loss (Column H) - Estimated Reservoir Losses (Column I) - Estimated Sedimentation Loss (Column J). This column represents the amount of storage water each contractor has available for the 2026 Season. NOTE: The 2026 Storage Allocations shown in Column K are not reduced for 2026 storage allocation that has already been released for the user this season. See the latest weekly storage report for current remaining storage allocation balance.
L	WY2026 Storage Allocation After Loss (% of Contract)	WY2026 Storage Allocation After Loss (% of Contract) is calculated as WY2026 Storage Allocation After Loss (Column K) ÷ Contract Amount (Column B).

Attachment 2: Requesting and Delivering Storage Water:

Date: April 17, 2026

The following procedure describes the process for requesting and delivering storage water from Prineville Reservoir. To allow flexibility to adapt to changing hydrologic conditions or other circumstances, the procedure set out below is subject to change. The latest version of the procedure can be found on Reclamation's website at:

<https://www.usbr.gov/pn/cao/projects/PrinevilleResStorage/PrinevilleResStorage.html>

Anyone with questions regarding this procedure, or who would also like to receive email notifications of procedure updates, should contact David Weidinger, Reclamation Bend Field Office Manager, at dweidinger@usbr.gov or (458) 218-5229. Weekly storage reports will be posted on Reclamation's website.

Step 1: To request storage water, contractors must contact the Ochoco Irrigation District (OID) office (541-447-6449) prior to each Tuesday by 12:00 pm PT, requesting their desired storage water flow rate from Prineville Reservoir for the subsequent 7-day Wednesday through Tuesday period.

Step 2: OID, Reclamation, and the Watermaster will coordinate on Tuesday afternoons to determine the final flow rate target from Prineville Reservoir with consideration of the storage water flow rate orders from Step 1, reservoir inflow, and other pertinent factors.

Step 3: OID will travel to Prineville Reservoir and will set the outflow to the flow rate determined in Step 2 to the extent practical on Wednesday morning, unless conditions dictate otherwise.

Step 4: Reclamation will compute storage water remaining for each contractor based on the contractor's storage allocation and to-date storage water delivered from Prineville Reservoir. A Weekly Storage Report will be posted on Reclamation's website above as soon as practical each week.