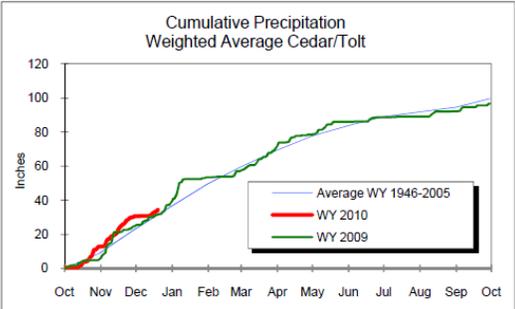
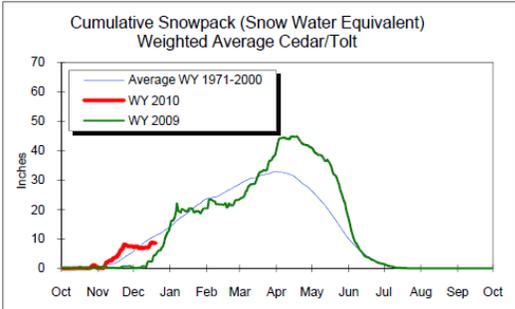


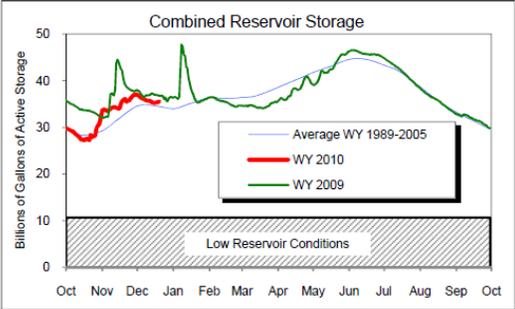
**Seattle Public Utilities Water System Synopsis as of December 20, 2009**



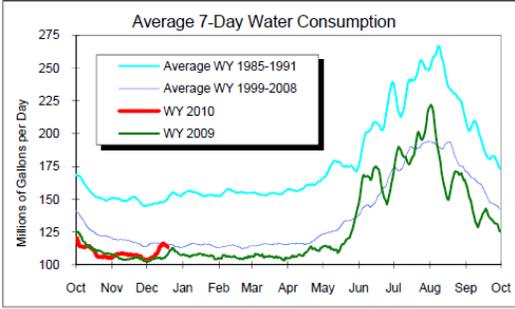
Precipitation was recorded in the Cedar and S.F. Tolt watersheds over the past week.



The average snow accumulation across the sites that we monitor is estimated to be about 8.6 inches snow water equivalent which is below the long term average for this time of the year.



The combined reservoir storage of Chester Morse Lake, Masonry Pool, Lake Youngs and South Fork Tolt Reservoir is above the long term average for this time of year.



Water use over the past week averaged about 113 million gallons per day (mgd), which is less than the 116 mgd used during the same period over the years 1999-2008.

All data is provisional and subject to revision.

Our overall water supply situation and outlook is good.

During the week preceding Dec. 20th, 3.44 inches and 3.30 inches of precipitation were recorded in our Cedar and South Fork Tolt River watersheds, respectively.

Chester Morse Lake at the Overflow Dike is at elevation 1550.8 feet, about 0.9 feet higher than last week, and about 0.8 feet above its long-term average (based on the years 1989 to 2005). Masonry Pool Reservoir at Masonry Dam is at elevation 1538.7 feet, about 9.1 feet lower than last week, and about 11.6 feet below its long term average. The South Fork Tolt Reservoir at the South Fork Tolt Dam is at elevation 1755.3 feet, about 1.7 feet higher than last week, and about 3.5 feet above its long-term average. Water releases from reservoir storage are actively being managed to balance water supply, fish habitat, hydropower and flood management objectives for both the Cedar and South Fork Tolt Rivers.

Water consumption for the Dec. 13 to Dec. 20th averaged approximately 113 mgd. That is more than the 108 mgd consumed during the same period last year, and less than the average of 116 mgd used during the same period over the years 1999-2008.

# Climate Outlook (From the NOAA Climate Prediction Center in Washington D.C.)

## 30-Day Climate Outlook (Issued 17 December 2009)

The Puget Sound Region climate probability forecast for the month of January 2009 calls for a shift towards above normal temperature (as averaged over the 1-month period) and for a shift towards below normal total monthly precipitation accumulations.

## 90-Day Climate Outlook (Issued 17 December 2009)

The Puget Sound Region climate probability forecast for the 3-month January-February-March 2010 period calls for a shift towards above normal temperature (as averaged over the 3-month period) and for a shift towards below normal total 3-month precipitation accumulations.

## El Niño/Southern Oscillation (ENSO) (Issued 21 December 2009) ENSO Cycle: Recent Evolution, Current Status and Predictions

[http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis\\_monitoring/lanina/enso\\_evolution-status-fcsts-web.pdf](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/lanina/enso_evolution-status-fcsts-web.pdf)

### Summary

- El Niño is present across the equatorial Pacific Ocean.
- Sea surface temperatures (SST) are at least +1.0°C to +2.0°C above-average across much of the central and east-central equatorial Pacific Ocean.
- Based on current observations and dynamical model forecasts, El Niño is expected to continue and last at least into the Northern Hemisphere spring 2010.

