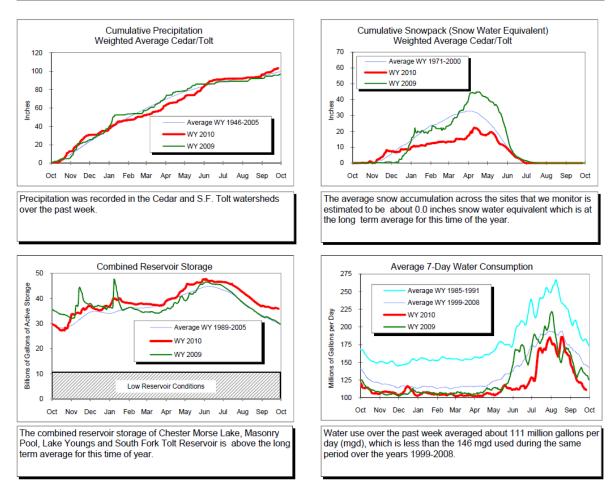
# Seattle Public Utilities Water System Synopsis as of September 27, 2010



All data is provisional and subject to revision.

#### Our overall water supply situation and outlook is good.

Last week, 1.93 inches and 1.35 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 1552.8 feet, about 0.4 feet lower than last week, and about 3.8 feet above its long-term average (based on the years 1989 to 2005). Masonry Pool Reservoir at Masonry Dam is at elevation 1552.4 feet, about 0.4 feet lower than last week, and about 15.2 feet above its long term average. The South Fork Tolt Reservoir at the South Fork Tolt Dam is at elevation 1749.2 feet, about 0.6 feet higher than last week, and about 6.8 feet above its long-term average. Water releases from reservoir storage are actively being managed for water supply and fish habitat objectives.

Water consumption for the previous seven days averaged approximately 111 mgd. That is less than the 131 mgd consumed during the same period last year, and less than the average of 146 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 16 September 2010)

The Puget Sound Region climate probability forecast for the month of October 2010 calls for a shift towards below normal temperature (as averaged over the 1-month period) and a shift towards above normal total monthly precipitation accumulations.

# **90-Day Climate Outlook** (Issued 16 September 2010)

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

#### El Niño/Southern Oscillation (ENSO) (Issued September 27, 2010)

## **Summary**

- La Niña is present across the equatorial Pacific.
- Negative sea surface temperature anomalies persist across much of the Pacific Ocean.
- La Niña is expected to last at least through the Northern Hemisphere winter 2010-11.

#### **Instream Resources**

Chinook and sockeye salmon are spawning in the Cedar River. Chinook salmon are spawning in the Tolt system. Chinook spawning usually peaks in early to mid-October and continues through mid-November. Sockeye spawning typically peaks in mid- to late October and continues into December.

Adult Coho salmon continue migrate through the Ballard Locks into Lake Washington. As of September 21, an estimated 1741 coho had passed through the locks. Significant numbers of coho usually begin to enter the Cedar and Tolt systems in early October. Spawning activity is believed to peak in November or December and continues into February. Adult summer-run steelhead continue to hold in the South Fork Tolt where they will spawn this winter and early spring.