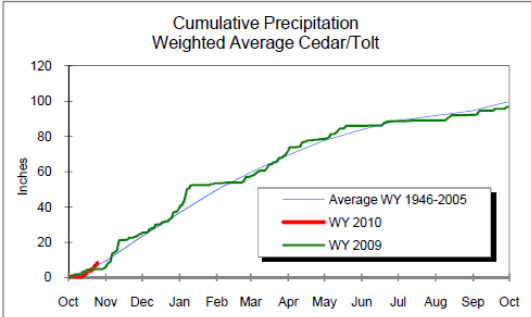
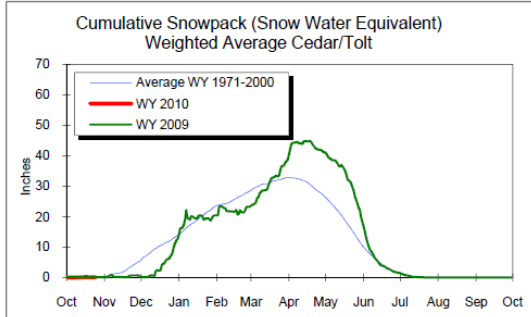


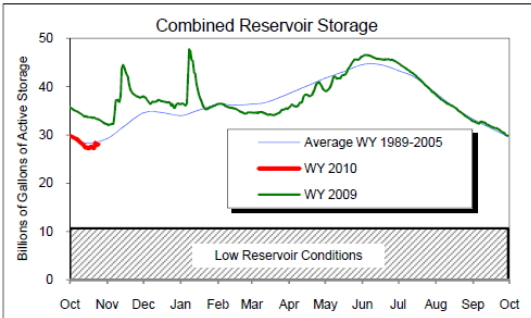
**Seattle Public Utilities Water System Synopsis as of October 25, 2009**



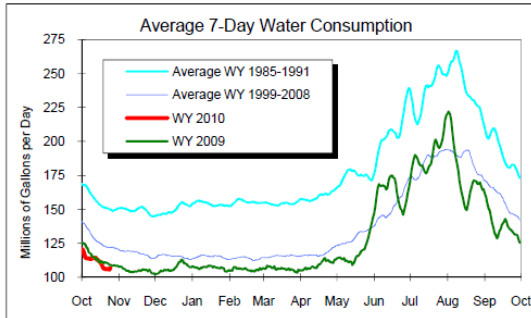
Precipitation was recorded in the Cedar and S.F. Tolt watersheds over the past week.



The average snow accumulation across the sites that we monitor is estimated to be between 0.0 and 0.15 inches snow water equivalent which is close to 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 close to the long term average for this time of year.



Water use over the past week averaged about 107 million gallons per day (mgd), which is less than the 122 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. Recent rains have helped improve our reservoir inflow conditions and these reservoir inflows are beginning to refill our water supply storage reservoirs after the summer and early fall reservoir drawdown period.

Last week, 4.27 inches and 5.61 inches of precipitation were recorded in our Cedar and South Fork Tolt River watersheds, respectively, as a series of rain storms moved through the Pacific Northwest region.

Chester Morse Lake at the Overflow Dike is at elevation 1547.2 feet, about 0.1 feet higher than last week, and about 1.3 feet above its long-term average (based on the years 1989 to 2005). Masonry Pool Reservoir at Masonry Dam is at elevation 1520.3 feet, about 5.0 feet higher than last week, and about 14.2 feet below its long term average. The South Fork Tolt Reservoir at the South Fork Tolt Dam is at elevation 1738.0 feet, about 2.7 feet higher than last week, and about 4.6 feet below its long-term average. Water releases from reservoir storage are actively being managed to balance water supply and fish habitat management objectives for both the Cedar and South Fork Tolt Rivers.

Water consumption for the previous seven days averaged approximately 107 mgd. That is less than the 109 mgd consumed during the same period last year, and less than the average of 122 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 15 October 2009)

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

### **90-Day Climate Outlook** (Issued 15 October 2009)

The Puget Sound Region climate probability forecast for the 3-month November-December-January 2009-10 period calls for equal chances for above, below and near-normal temperature (as averaged over the 3-month period) and for a shift towards below normal total 3-month precipitation accumulations.

## **Cedar River Instream Resources**

Chinook spawning is winding down, sockeye salmon continue to spawn throughout the Cedar River. Chinook spawning typically peaks in early to mid-October and continues through mid-November. Sockeye spawning usually peaks in late October and continues into December.

Coho salmon are entering the Cedar and other tributaries to Lake Washington and should be starting to spawn. Coho spawning activity is believed to peak in November or December and continues into February.

## **South Fork Tolt River Instream Resources**

Adult summer-run steelhead continue hold in the Tolt system. Most of these fish enter the system during the summer and fall, then hold in the upper reaches of the South Fork Tolt River where they will spawn next winter and spring.

Significant numbers of adult Chinook and pink salmon continue to spawn in the Tolt system. Some of these fish spawn in the lower 1.5 miles of the S. F. Tolt. Chinook spawning typically continues through mid-November. Adult coho are entering the system and should be starting to spawn. Although most coho are believed to spawn in smaller tributaries, some fish spawn in the mainstem, South Fork Tolt and North Fork Tolt. Coho spawning is believed to peak in November or December and continues into February.

During the spring, summer and early fall, reservoir intake elevations are adjusted to provide beneficial water temperatures for instream resources downstream of the South Fork Tolt Dam. Relatively dynamic temperature conditions this triggered more frequent intake gate operations to meet temperature management objectives. The intake elevation was switched to the deepest level available on September 22 to ensure that river water temperatures remain within Department of Ecology standards. The reservoir appeared to “turnover” and thoroughly mix during the week of October 12. Resulting temperatures of reservoir releases remained sufficiently cool to ensure that water temperatures in the South Fork Tolt will remain within Department of Ecology standards for salmon.

The primary concerns for instream flow management are: i) spawning and incubation conditions for Chinook salmon and coho salmon; ii) rearing conditions for juvenile coho, and steelhead; and; iii) holding conditions for adult steelhead.