

Short Attention Span Brief

- Weather this week is looking quite variable - something for everyone!
 - Monday-Wednesday fairly warm with **significant increases in snowmelt flows** out of the higher elevations in eastern Sierra, Tahoe, and into Walker River. Continuing into Thursday and maybe Friday.
 - **Increasing W/SW winds** starting Wednesday, peaking Friday with widespread strong winds. Turning **dramatically cooler Friday-Saturday** with temperatures 10-15 degrees below normal. Slowing snowmelt flows over the weekend.
 - **Light to moderate rain showers** with high elevation snow showers at times late Thursday into Friday, and again early Sunday. Local heavier rains possible Friday morning near the Sierra Crest north of Echo Summit. Some impact possible for Tahoe Basin.

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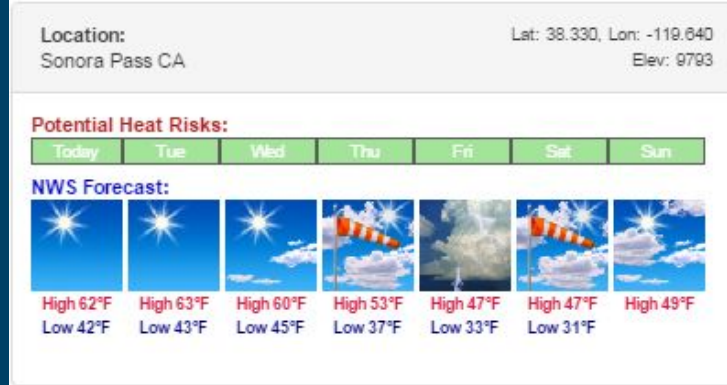
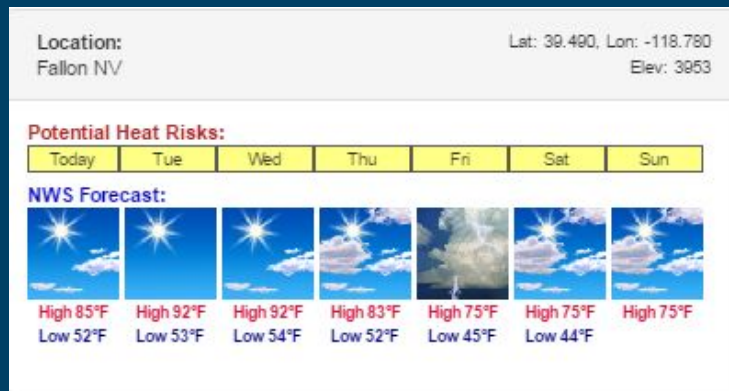
- Deep high elevation snowpack has finally accumulated enough energy to significantly contribute to melt.
- West Walker River and creeks and streams draining high elevation terrain (especially in Mono County) are attaining highest flows so far this year. **Flows exceeding Moderate Flood stage on the West Walker. Odds of experiencing peak flow for West Walker this week are increasing.**
- Highest flows expected Monday - Wednesday nights into early morning in headwaters and **likely exceeding Moderate flood stage Thursday - Sunday in Mason Valley.**
- Cooler temperatures Thursday through Sunday will slowly reduce headwater flows. Flows will rebound next week with warming temperatures. To what magnitude still highly uncertain.

Situational Awareness - When Should I Freakout?

Chris' 7-Day Regional Freakout Forecast for the Sierra and western Nevada

	Today ^{6/5}	Tuesday ^{6/6}	Wed. ^{6/7}	Thursday ^{6/8}	Friday ^{6/9}	Saturday ^{6/10}	Sunday ^{6/11}
Wind	typical winds		increased W/SW winds afternoon	increased W/SW winds afternoon	more widespread strong W/SW winds all day	continued gusty W/NW winds	
River & Snowmelt Flooding	Main concern is Tahoe, eastern Sierra streams + Walker River due to increases in high elevation snowmelt. Minor-moderate flooding		Likely peak river stages, moderate to possibly major flooding Walker + a few eastern Sierra and mountain streams.		Downward trend in headwater flows due to cooler temps, slower snowmelt, but flooding moving downstream to main-stem Walker where moderate flooding is likely.		
Flash Flooding (fast paced flooding of streams, poor drainage and steep terrain areas, rock slides, burn scar runoff)	no heavy rainfall				Some localized heavy rains near the Sierra Crest - N. of Tahoe	no heavy rainfall	
Thunderstorms	a few buildups each afternoon over mountains					isolated non-severe storms possible mainly N of I-80	
Unusual Cold or Heat		warmest days in sequence, with heat issues for sensitive groups, outdoors in W Nev					
Fire Weather			increased breezes with low RH - fast moving grass fires possible where dry		breezier Friday but likely too moist, with showers		
What Does This Mean? Integrates impacts and confidence	No worries 😁	Low freakoutness 😊	Moderate freakoutness 😐	High freakoutness 😞	End of this (aka really bad) 😡		

Temperature Trends Hot Today through Wednesday, Cooling Thursday-Sunday



Situational Awareness - When Should I Freakout?

Chris & Tim's Rough Sketch on Timing the Highest Risks of Snowmelt Flooding

	Next Two Weeks	Rest of June	July	August
Walker River Basin	basin at highest risk of significant flooding, excessive high elevation snowpack; significant flooding likely.		likely on a downward trend but uncertain how quickly	high water but likely on downward trend
Carson River Basin	continued daily cycles of minor flooding upper Carson, but probably past peak risk for significant flooding	areas of minor flooding possible during warmer temperatures	above normal flows continue	
Truckee River Basin	heavily regulated system; main flood issues above Truckee, CA high flows persist; flood risk depends on heavy rain trigger		above normal flows continue	
Tahoe Basin Creeks/Streams	areas or minor flooding during heat periods		high water but likely on downward trend	
NE California Basins	past peak, localized minor flooding issues			
E Sierra Creeks/Streams	areas of minor to moderate flooding likely, possibly more significant if we get a 5+ day hot period; many unknowns; don't let your guard down		high water but likely on downward trend	
Lower Humboldt River Basin	slow moving flood; impacts most substantial Winnemucca eastward			

What Does This Mean?
Integrates impacts and confidence

No worries



Low
freakoutness



Moderate
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High
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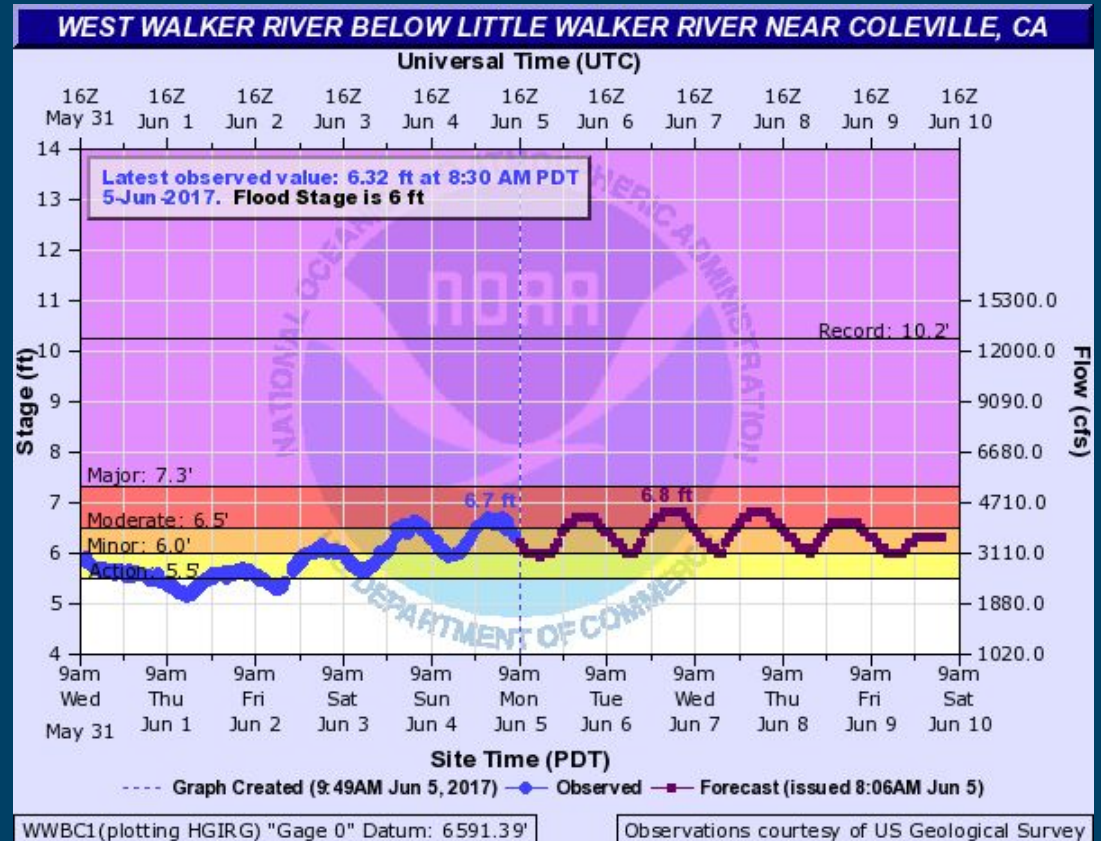
End of this (aka
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5 Day Forecast West Walker @ Sonora Junction

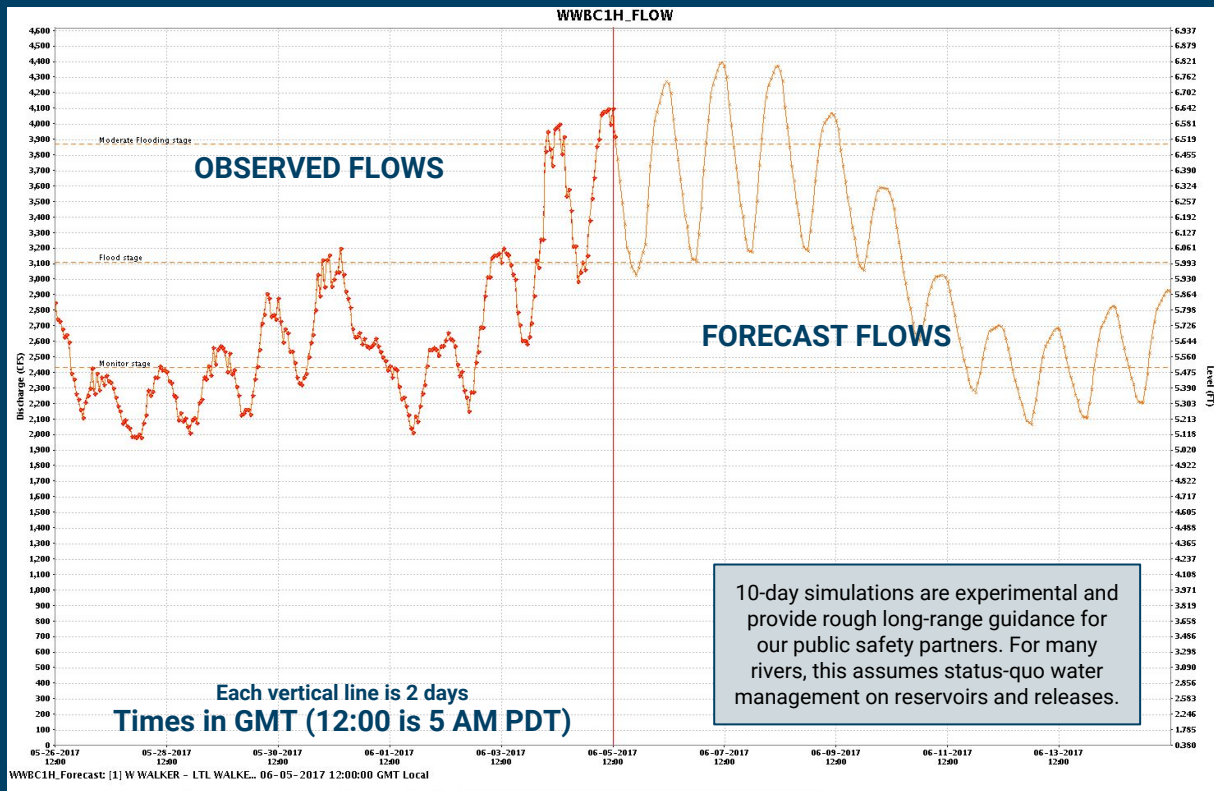
5-day official forecasts - [CNRFC](#) or [NWS Reno](#)

- Highest flow so far observed last night
- Slightly higher flows expected next three nights.
- **Minor flooding ongoing**, many agricultural areas impacted in Antelope Valley. Possible impacts to recreation areas and rural roads in Walker Canyon.
- Odds increasing that flows this week could be peak depending on magnitude of warm up next week and remaining snow covered area.
- Fast, cold flows until further notice.



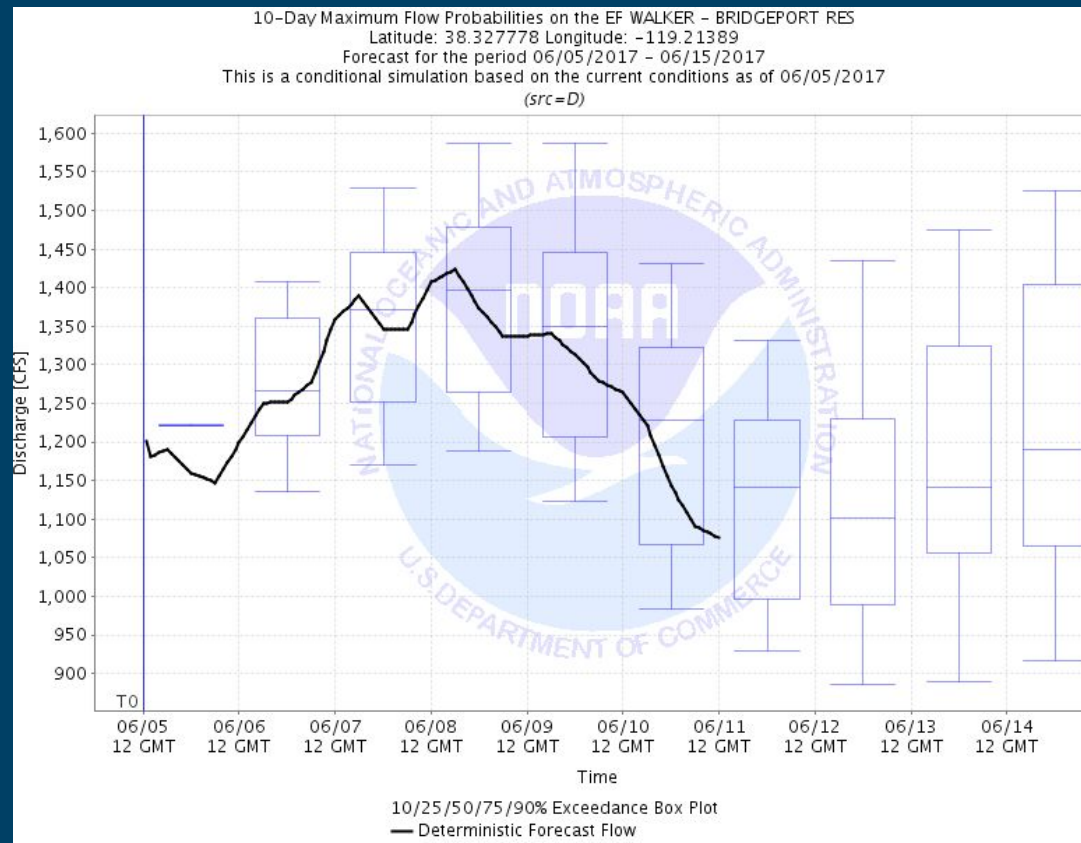
10 Day Simulation West Walker @ Sonora Jct

5-day official forecasts - [CNRFC](#) or [NWS Reno](#)



10- Day Ensemble Forecast East Walker Bridgeport inflow

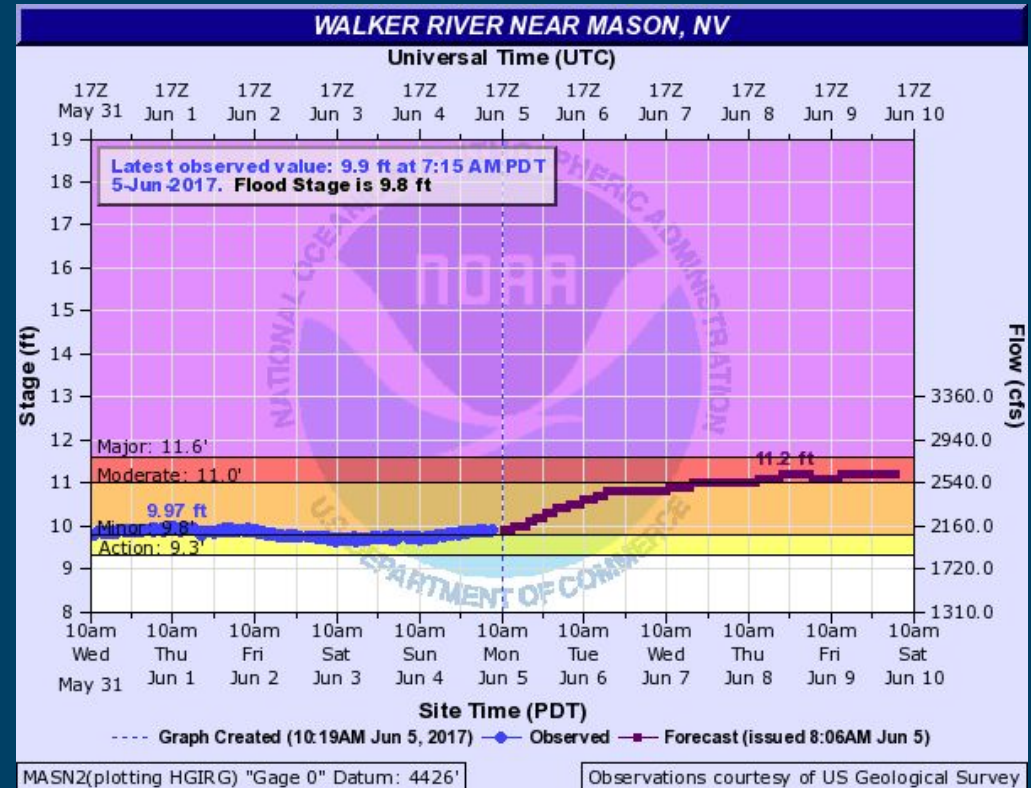
- **IMPORTANT:** These are estimated inflows, no gauging data to calibrate from so increased margin of error.
- Flows increasing into Thursday, then decreasing with cooling temperatures.
- Inflows consistently exceeding current releases.



5 Day Forecast Walker River @ Mason/Yerington

5-day official forecasts - [CNRFC](#) or [NWS Reno](#)

- Minor flooding increasing to moderate Wednesday evening. Expanding impacts to agricultural areas including rural and secondary roads. Possible flooding of some yards and basements of low lying low-lying homes near the river in Mason and Yerrington.
- IMPORTANT:** This new forecast factors in latest water management scenario, which may change depending on later forecasts and stream response.



Reno National Weather Service

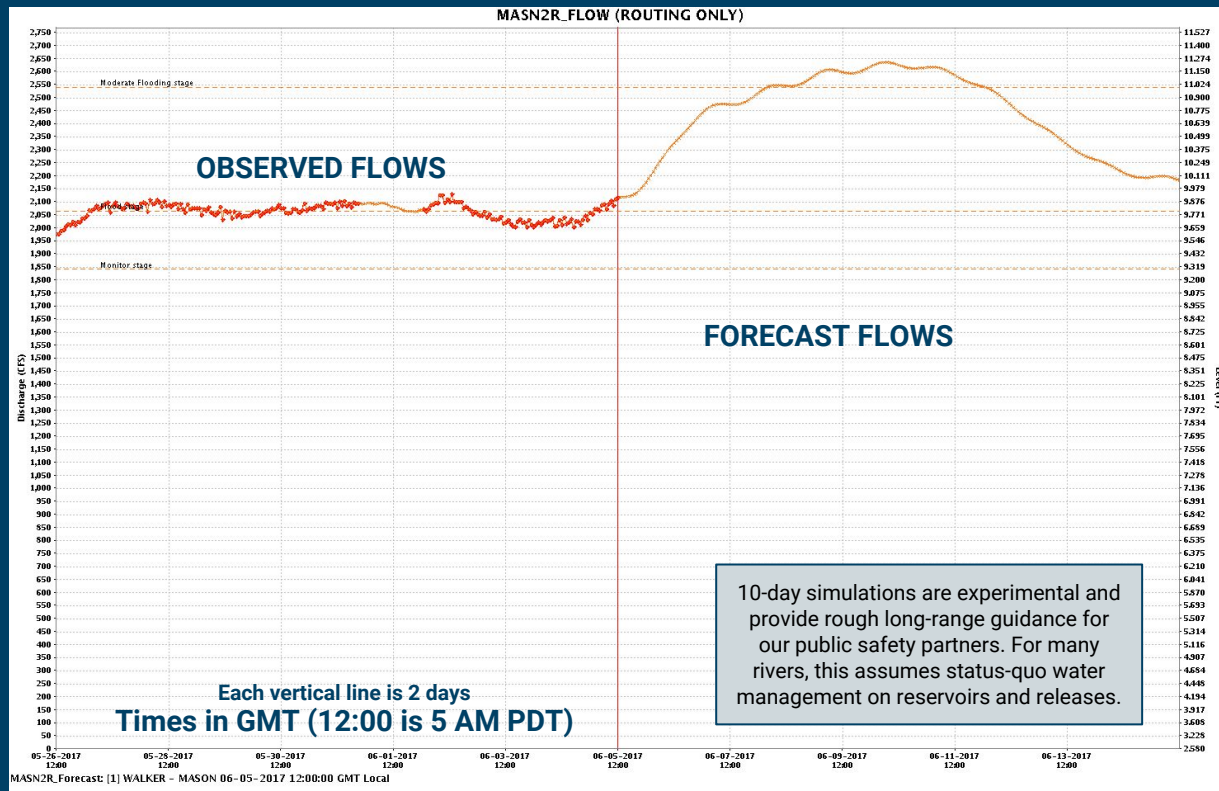
Forecasting for the Sierra and western Nevada since 1905



10 Day Simulation Walker @ Mason/Yerington

5-day official forecasts - [CNRFC](#) or [NWS Reno](#)

- **IMPORTANT:** Simulation assumes status quo water management and heat scenario for next week.
- Given this - rising moderate flood stage late Wednesday early Thursday is likely.
- **Confidence - medium** due to uncertainty in upstream attenuation due to minor flooding and agricultural diversions.



Reno National Weather Service

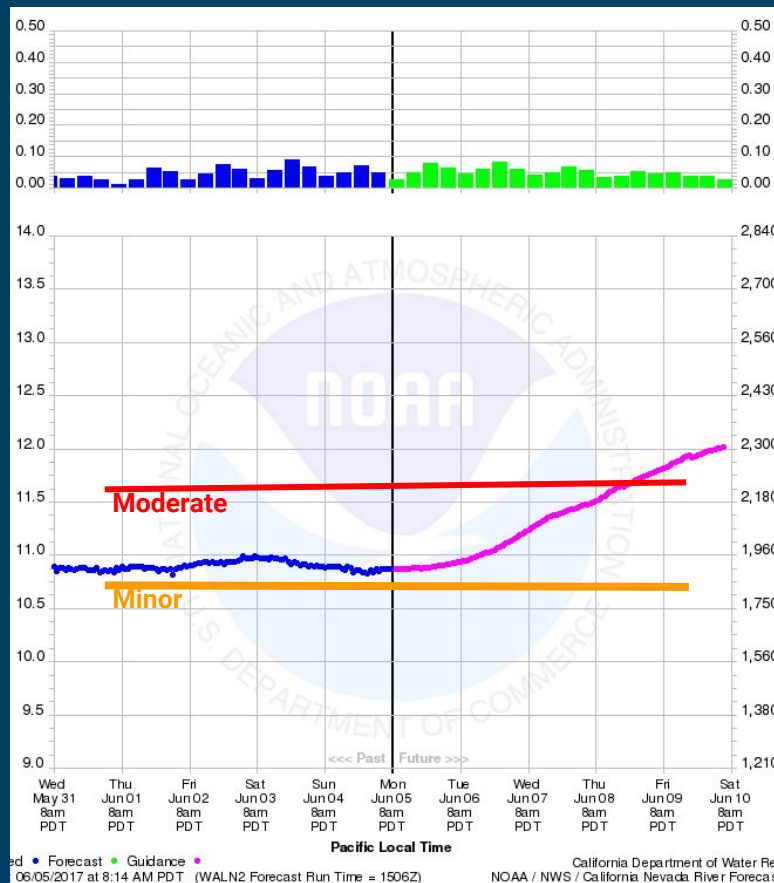
Forecasting for the Sierra and western Nevada since 1905



5 Day Forecast Walker River @ Wabuska

5-day official forecasts - [CNRFC](#) or [NWS Reno](#)

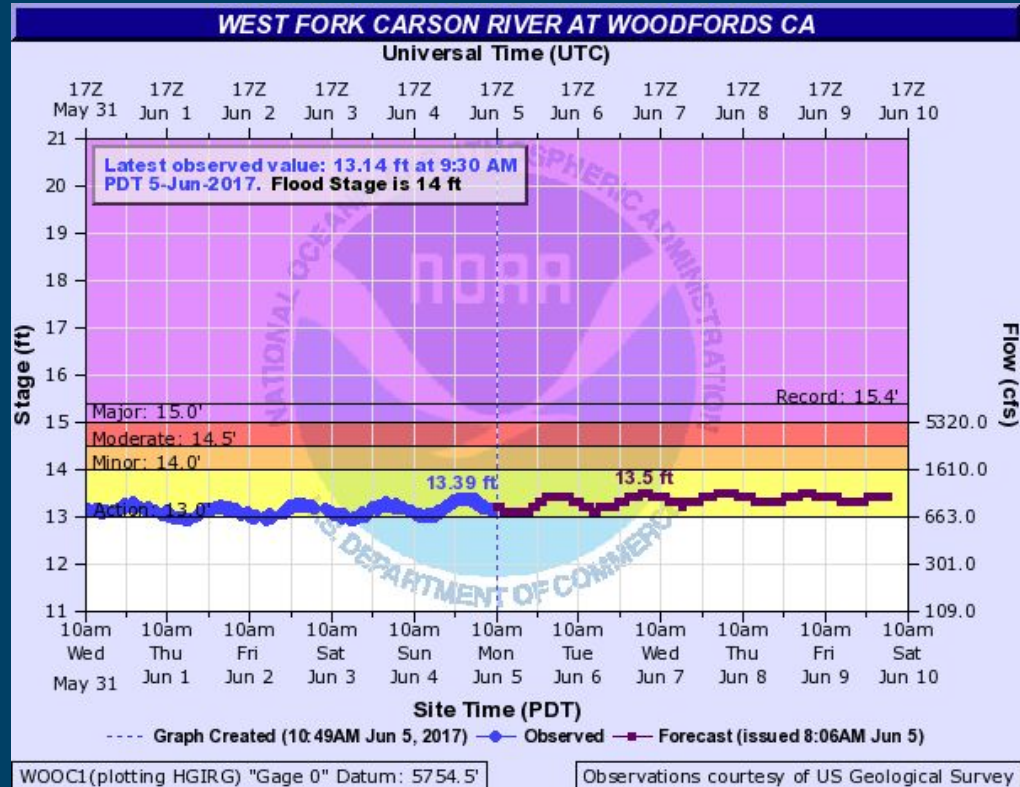
- High flows, increasing from minor-moderate flood stages this week.
- ~ 18 to 24 hour lag to Weber Reservoir.
- Long duration and high volume event may result in minor to moderate flood impacts below Weber Reservoir.



5 Day Forecast West Carson @ Woodfords

5-day official forecasts - [CNRFC](#) or [NWS Reno](#)

- Possible minor night-time flooding with diurnal peaks.
- Possible Impacts - Isolated minor flooding in the southwestern Carson Valley between Centerville and Genoa NV.
- Odds of being past peak flow are high due to decreasing contributing area, but high flows will continue for many weeks.



Reno National Weather Service

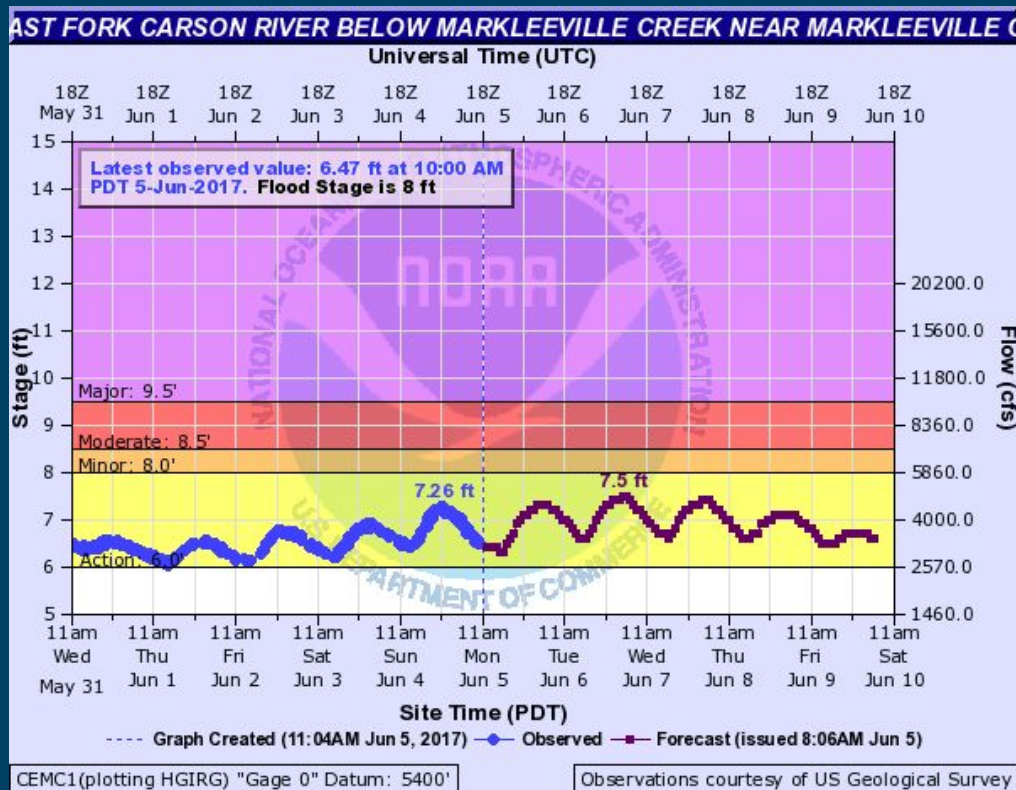
Forecasting for the Sierra and western Nevada since 1905



5 Day Forecast East Carson @ Markleeville

5-day official forecasts - [CNRFC](#) or [NWS Reno](#)

- Remaining in the monitor stages this week. Could still approach minor flood stage.
- Possible impacts - Isolated minor flooding in the southwestern Carson Valley between Centerville and Genoa NV.
- Odds of being past peak flow are moderate-high due to decreasing contributing area, but high flows will continue for many weeks.



Eastern Sierra Outlook General Guidance

- Very high flows continuing through Wednesday night dropping back somewhat Thursday and more significantly Friday and into the weekend due to cooler temperatures.
- Odds increasing that flows this week could be the peak. Depending on the magnitude of the cool down and the warm up next week.
- Reported impacts on Rush and Hilton Creeks, additional minor to moderate impacts for areas near creeks/streams are likely.



Source - [LADWP Real-time data](#)



NWS does not have specific river simulations in the eastern Sierra, aside from Walker River basin. So we use projected rises on the Walker River and internal (highly) experimental National Water Model guidance.