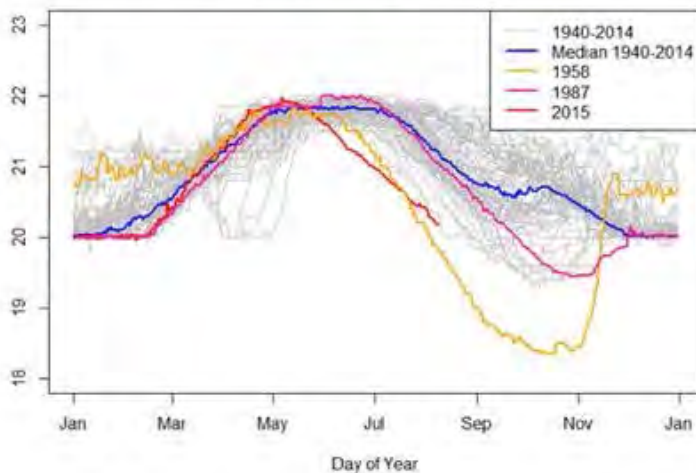


Science and Technical Support Section Drought Monitoring

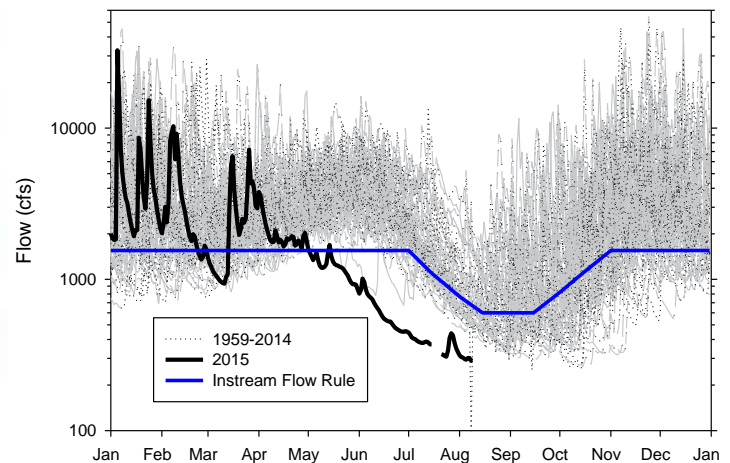
Stream flows and temperatures during this unusually warm and dry year are being monitored daily by the Science and Technical Support Section. The following report is extracted from their summary for the week of 8/3 - 8/9. If you are interested in receiving their full reports, please contact Jim Simmonds at jim.simmonds@kingcounty.gov.

1940-2015 Lakes Washington & Union Elevation



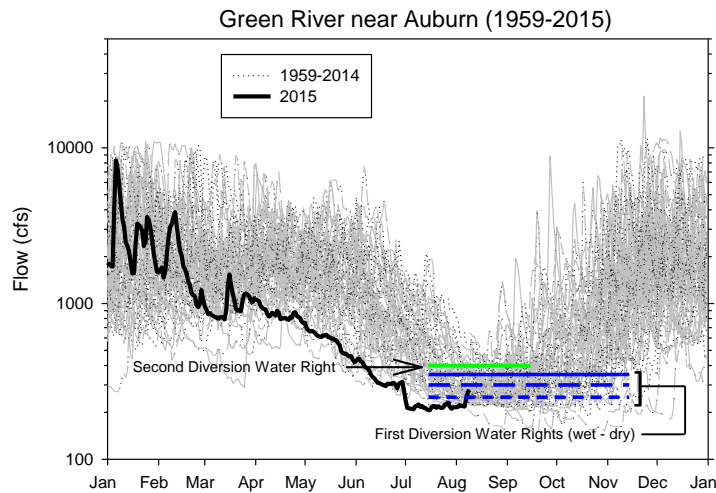
Lake Washington water levels are the second lowest ever recorded for the week based on U.S. Army Corps of Engineer records that go back to 1940, above the 1958 minimum. The Corps of Engineers anticipate Lake Washington's level will drop below 20 feet this summer, the first time since October 1987.

Snoqualmie near Snoqualmie (1959-2015)

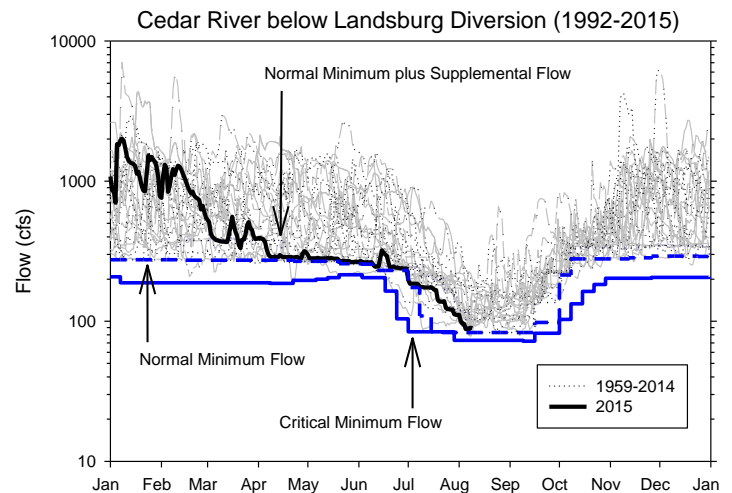


Flow in the Snoqualmie River is lower than the minimum instream flow established by Washington Administrative Code, which allows the state to curtail withdrawals by holders of junior water rights.

(Continued on page 2)



Flows in the Green River are higher than instream flows required during drought years for Tacoma Public Utilities to withdraw water from the Green River using its primary water right claim under agreements with the Muckleshoot Tribe, but are below the minimum instream flow established by Washington Administrative Code for Tacoma Public Utilities to withdraw water from the Green River with its second diversion water right.



Flows in the Cedar River are higher than the normal minimum flow required by the Habitat Conservation Plan to be maintained by Seattle Public Utilities during normal years.

Stream gauges show that 11 of 16 rivers and 6 of 23 creeks with over 15 years of flow data and real-time data delivery had the lowest flows ever recorded for the week ending August 9. Lower-than-normal flows and elevated water temperature can harm salmon and other fish at several points of their life cycles. In particular, adult salmon could have difficulties reaching upstream spawning grounds if flows remain below normal. Low flows also decrease available wetted habitat for spawning and rearing, limit food availability, and increase predation.

Data collected by the Muckleshoot Tribe show that 994 adult Chinook salmon and about 33,000 sockeye salmon had migrated past the Ballard Locks into the Lake Washington watershed as of August 9. This is about 31% of the 10-year average Chinook return by August 9 and about 27% of the 10-year average sockeye return by that date. Over the past 10 years, an average of 98% of the sockeye run had passed the Ballard Locks by August 9.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife is encouraging people to submit reports of suspected blockages or distressed fish or wildlife on their website.

On August 11, Seattle, Everett, Tacoma, and the Cascade Water Alliance moved to the second stage – voluntary reduction – of their water shortage response plans and are now asking customers to help by voluntarily reducing water use by 10 percent.

More information is available at: www.seattle.gov/util/MyServices/Water/AbouttheWaterSystem/WaterSupply/index.htm and here <http://www.savingwater.org/>.

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