

## **National Weather Service Western Water Supply Services**

**Chad Kahler**

*National Weather Service, Tucson WSFO  
Tucson, Arizona*

The National Weather Service (NWS) routinely makes forecasts for seasonal streamflow run off volumes for snow melt dominated basins in the western United States. Water supply forecasts rely on two primary tools: Statistical Water Supply (SWS) and Ensemble Streamflow Prediction (ESP). SWS is based on regression equations while ESP is based on the NWS continuous forecast model. These tools are augmented by forecaster experience and the coordination process with other forecasting entities.

In 2005, the NWS initiated a project to improve water supply forecast services. Forecasts from all six of the NWS River Forecast Centers were consolidated into a single web page. Graphs displaying the current year forecast evolution were developed consistently for all forecast points. Current developments are being directed towards (1) providing a forecast evaluation tool, (2) enhancing ensemble forecast services, and (3) providing more interactive plots and access to data.

The current NWS web service is located here: [www.cbrfc.noaa.gov/westernwater](http://www.cbrfc.noaa.gov/westernwater)