



## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

### **2010 SPRING RUNOFF FORECAST**

The Saskatchewan Watershed Authority has compiled a forecast of potential spring runoff conditions for the province.

The forecast calls for well above normal runoff for the southwest part of the province and an above normal runoff south of a line from Kindersley to Moosimin. The rest of the province has a normal to below normal runoff projected. The recent high temperatures in the north will have reduced the potential runoff.

Meanwhile, beyond the province's borders, snowpack accumulations in the mountain headwaters of the North Saskatchewan and South Saskatchewan River basins are currently below normal. Unless above-normal precipitation occurs over the spring months, flows into Lake Diefenbaker are expected to be below normal, and the lake will likely not reach its full supply level. Similarly, flows on the North Saskatchewan River are projected to be below normal for the summer months.

The provincial runoff forecast is estimated based on soil moisture conditions at freeze-up and existing snowpack accumulations as of the end of February, and assumes average climatic conditions to the end of spring runoff. This assumption includes a typical rate of melt and normal spring precipitation. Above normal precipitation prior to runoff and/or a faster than normal melt could result in significantly higher runoff.

This forecast is based on very limited precipitation data and should be used as a general guide for large areas. Local conditions may vary significantly.

The provincial runoff forecast is available at [www.swa.ca](http://www.swa.ca).

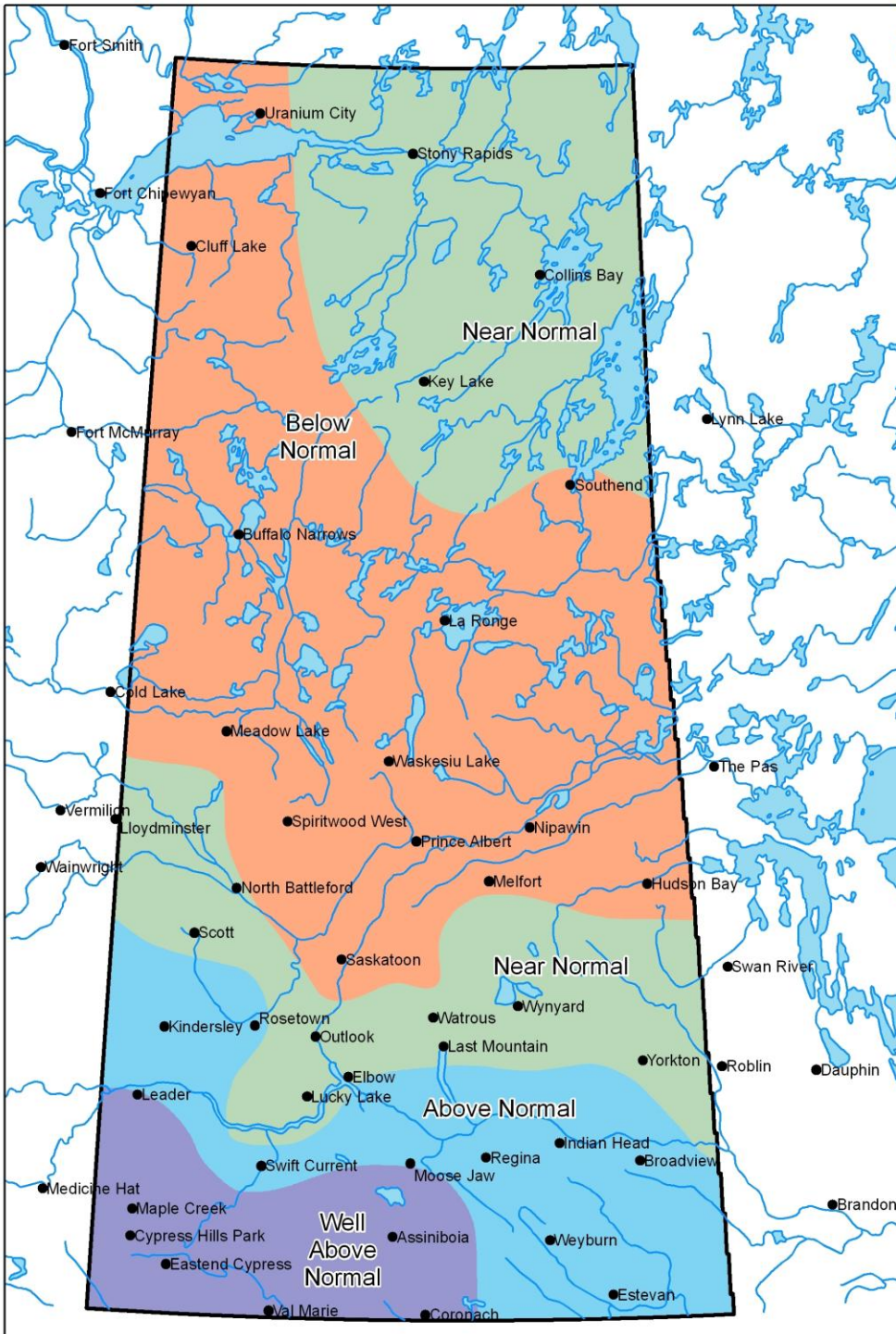
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# Spring Runoff Potential As Of March 1, 2010



Saskatchewan  
Watershed  
Authority



## Legend

### Potential Runoff

-  Well Above Normal
-  Above Normal
-  Near Normal
-  Below Normal

SWA prepares maps with varying degrees of accuracy and completeness dependent on the circumstances and available data. SWA makes no representation that this map will be sufficient for all uses. The user is advised to confirm the information contained herein in the event that precision and currency of data are required.

Figure 1