



MEDIA CONTACTS

David Costlow, CROA
Ph: 720.260.4135 | dcostlow@croa.org
Amy Larson
Ph: 720.260.4153 | amy@croa.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Late Season Snow, Rain Slow Snowmelt and Buoy Hopes for “Normal” Season for Colorado Rafting Companies

May 23, 2022 – Denver, Colorado – This past weekend’s spring storm dumped upwards of 20 inches of snow, delivering much-needed moisture and providing some relief to wind-swept snowpack levels across the state. This most recent moisture, combined with cooler temperatures and additional storms predicted over the next week are building confidence in the upcoming rafting season for Colorado river outfitters.

After 2021’s record-breaking visitor numbers, the Colorado River Outfitters Association (CROA) is predicting a return to a “normal” rafting season, both in terms of demand and water flows, that is projected to run through late summer on most rivers across the state.

“We predict that river flows this summer will be perfect for families to get out and discover a new favorite adventure together,” said David Costlow, CROA Executive Director.

Based on current conditions, CROA forecasts the following outlook for rivers across the state:

Western Slope (Taylor & Animas): Lower water levels may hit earlier than normal, but outfitters are expecting great family runs through mid-August and perhaps later.

Colorado River: Flows are currently slightly lower than normal near Kremmling due to early season water being held in the reservoirs. The river near Glenwood Springs is currently seeing higher flows due to contributions from the Eagle River and Roaring Fork. When the reservoir water is released later in June, levels will come up and runs will last through September.

Clear Creek: Clear Creek is currently running strong and anticipated to run through the end of July and perhaps into early August if weekly moisture continues.

Poudre: Benefitting from great late-season moisture, the Poudre River will likely provide strong runs through August.

Arkansas River: The Arkansas’ Volunteer Flow Management program should ensure water for recreation through mid-August.

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About CROA The [Colorado River Outfitters Association](#) (CROA) is a trade association representing more than 50 licensed professional whitewater rafting outfitters across the state of Colorado. CROA's mission is to: (1) promote Colorado as the premier river rafting destination in the United States, (2) support members' efforts to attract visitors to Colorado and (3) provide a reasoned voice on industry developments and matters of policy affecting commercial boating and Colorado's tourism economy as a whole.