Summer Supply Update
September 24, 2013

The following are highlights related to key components of the 2013 Supply Strategy. Attached is a drawdown curve updated to reflect the latest actual supply/demand conditions experienced since publication of the plan.

Weather Forecasts: The current forecasts go through the middle of December and indicate it will be wetter than average through the entire forecast period.

Bull Run Status: Drawdown of the Bull Run reservoirs began on July 3, about one week earlier than usual. As of September 24, there were 4.9 billion gallons, or about 50% of usable storage, remaining in the Bull Run reservoirs. This is 6.4% above the storage level on the same calendar date in 2012 and 2.2% above the average storage on the same calendar date in the previous 5 years.

Demand: Demand averaged 102 MGD in May, 117 MGD in June, 135 MGD in July, and 124 MGD in August. May demand was 7.2% above 2012 demand and 7.1% above the average May demand for the previous 5 years (2008-2012). June demand was 14.1% above 2012 demand and 4.8% above the average June demand for the previous 5 years. July demand was 9.9% above 2012 demand and 0.1% below the average July demand for the previous 5 years. August demand was 8.6% below 2012 demand and 8.8% below the average August demand for the previous 5 years.

Groundwater Status: Supply projections in the Bull Run watershed suggest that use of the Columbia South Shore Well Field for supply augmentation in 2013 will be unnecessary. However, for purposes of exercising equipment and identifying needed repairs, a short groundwater maintenance operation was conducted on seven days between July 30th and August 8th. This maintenance operation allows Portland Water Bureau operations and engineering staff to exercise all supply well pumps, booster pumps and water quality treatment equipment; to take semiannual water quality samples; and to monitor well, pump and motor performance. An average of about 4.8 million gallons of groundwater was pumped on each day of operation, and a total of 33.4 MG of groundwater was delivered to the distribution system during the maintenance run.

Fish Releases/Downstream Flows: Minimum fish flows in the Lower Bull Run River are set at 120 cfs until June 15th, then ramp down by 5 cfs per day until the end of June. From July 1 until the end of September, flow releases in the lower Bull Run River vary daily within the range of 20 to 40 cfs or more depending on supply and Headworks project needs. Each day's flow target depends on the temperature of the water being released from Headworks and the forecast maximum air temperature for that day and/or other variables related to projects. These flow variations are designed to meet the water temperature goal of keeping the 7-day average of the daily maximum water temperatures at the warmest point on the Bull Run River to below 21 degrees Celsius (approximately 70 degrees Fahrenheit). This temperature has been met so far in 2013.

In October and November, minimum downstream flows are based on a percentage of the reservoir inflows, determined on a weekly basis. October flow targets are set at 50% of the reservoir inflow, with a minimum of 70 cfs and a maximum of 400 cfs. November flow targets are 40% of the inflow with a minimum of 150 cfs and a maximum of 400 cfs.

Conservation Activities:
Various water-efficiency education, outreach, and assistance activities have been carried out throughout the summer supply season. These include residential, regional, and BIG program activities as described below.

Residential Water Efficiency:

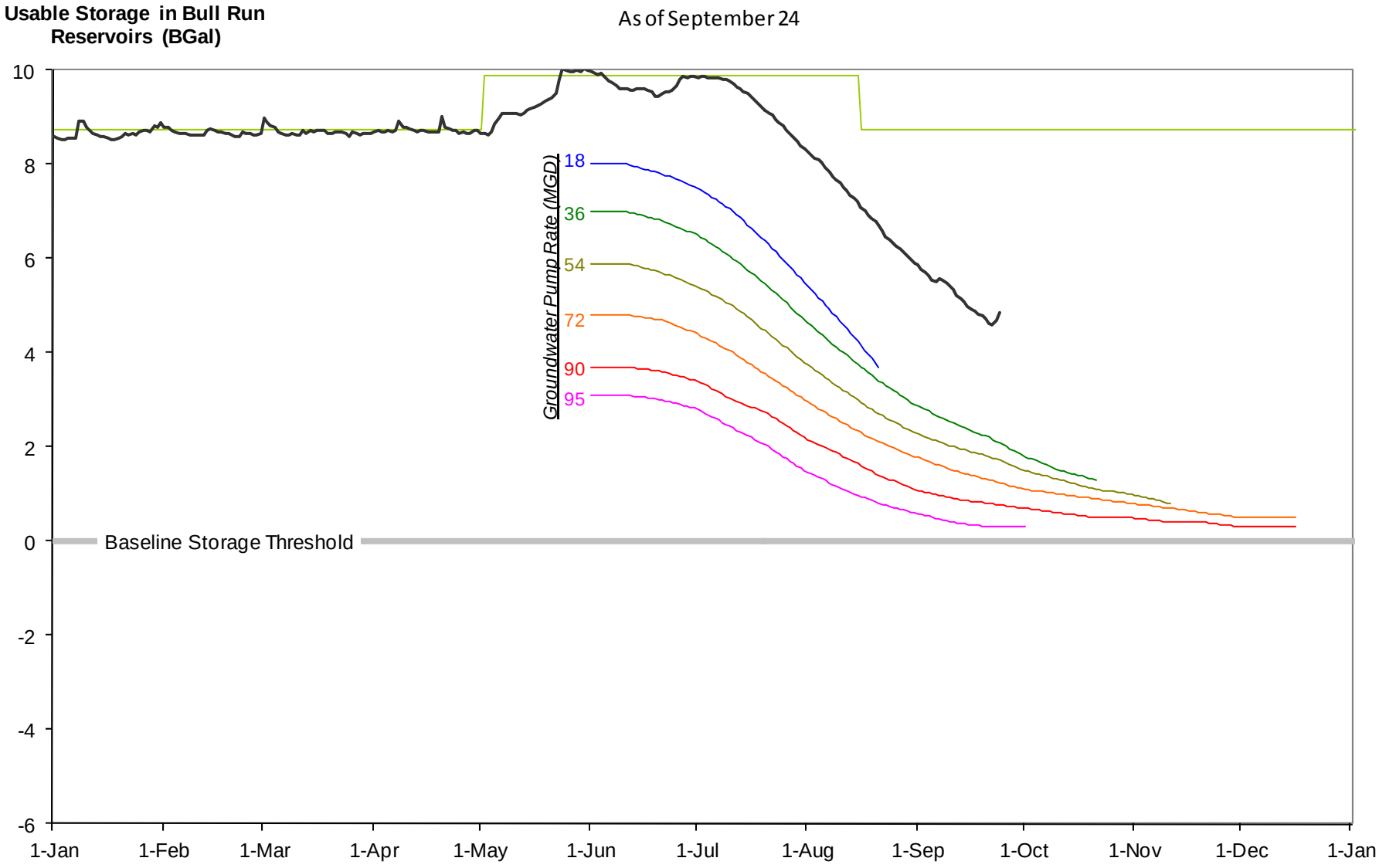
- Home water assessments continue to be offered in partnership with other water providers and the Energy Trust of Oregon.
- Water efficiency information is distributed to a targeted neighborhood by bicycle in partnership with the Portland Bureau of Transportation's Smart Trips program. Our component of this program is called "Smart Drips."
- Conservation devices are distributed to customers through our Customer Service center as well as to customers that call or email the efficiency program
- Water efficiency staff participate in a variety of events around the city. For example, water conservation information is distributed through the "Your Sustainable City" outreach partnership.
- Water efficient toilet and irrigation rebates are offered to all customer classes.
- A water-wise demonstration garden at the Hazelwood HydroPark continues to be maintained and a guide to efficient plants and irrigation is available at the garden.

Regional Conservation:

- The Regional Water Providers Consortium (RWPC) continues to send out quarterly e-newsletters. In addition, they send out an email to customers who have selected the weekly-watering number option.
- The RWPC developed water conservation radio ads with the Portland Area Radio Council which are airing from June through September.
- TV partnership with KOIN and KUNP (Univision) and the Garden Time program is running water conservation messages and news stories from June through August. Messaging was done through a series of stories in both English and Spanish.
- Print media conservation messaging was quite successful between March and August. RWPC-directed stories appeared in many neighborhood newsletters, regional papers and the Oregonian. Online media was also successful.
- Tri-met buses, featuring water conservation messaging, are running throughout the Portland Metro region from June – August.
- Water conservation outreach materials have been distributed throughout summer through events, website, newsletter articles and media stories.

Business, Industry, and Government (BIG) Conservation:

- Business, Industry, and Government (BIG) staff continue to work with commercial and multifamily customers to reduce water use as requested by our customers. BIG has worked with numerous customers this summer including a large number of multifamily facilities, restaurants, The Japanese Garden, and others.
- The Water Efficiency group is testing data logging with key customers including Widmer Brewing and Concordia University that allows them to view water use online.
- The BIG program receives referrals from the Sustainability at Work program housed at the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability. Additionally, BES has implemented their FOG (Fats, Oils & Greases) surcharge for food producers, bakeries and restaurants resulting in increased demand for BIG services.

2013 Drawdown

As of September 24