

Long Range Streamflow Forecast for Colorado Streams

J.D. Salas, C. Fu, and B. Rajagopalan.

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Colorado State University

Abstract. Several river systems have their headwaters in the State of Colorado, namely the Colorado River, the Arkansas River, the San Juan River, the South Platte River, the Yampa-White River, the Gunnison River, and the Rio Grande. The management of water resources in these rivers is complex, controversial, and conflicting because of the growth and development in the basins, increasing demands of water resources in the downstream states, and the occurrence and impacts of severe droughts. A better understanding of the streamflow variability in the basins is urgently needed for providing a common basis for better utilizing the water resources. The purpose of this paper is to investigate procedures for forecasting the April-July streamflow in the referred river systems.