

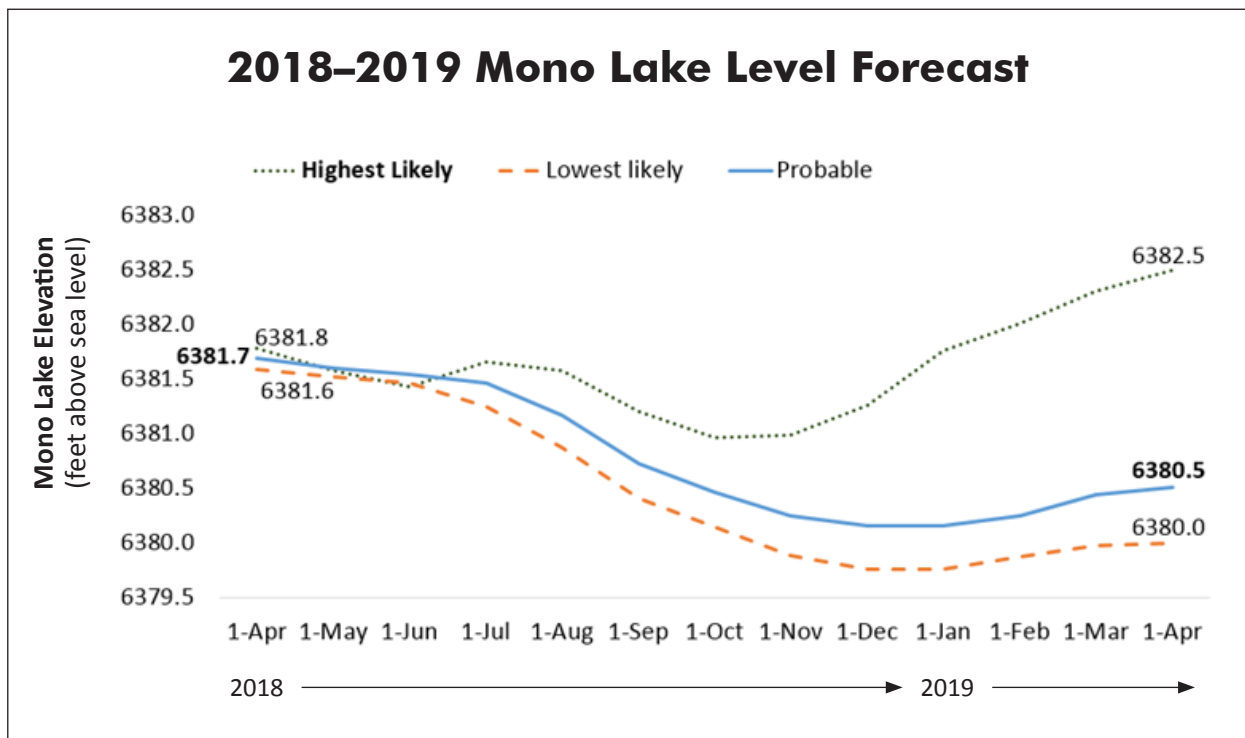
2018 Mono Lake Level Forecast

Prepared by the Mono Lake Committee March 15, 2018

Following the 2017 record snowpack, runoff, and lake rise, Mono Lake rose slowly during winter 2018 to 6381.6 feet above sea level on March 1, 2018.

April 1, 2018 is the start of the 2018 runoff year; the runoff forecast, as of March 15, is 66% of average. The graph below shows the range of possible Mono Lake elevations for the time period of April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019. The “highest likely” and “lowest likely” projections are produced by Mono Lake Committee modeling using historical wet and dry hydrology sequences that can reasonably be expected given current conditions.

This early-season forecast shows that the most probable lake level for March 31, 2019 is 6380.5 feet above sea level. An updated forecast will be issued in April after winter snow surveys are complete.



Reference Lake Levels

- State Water Board mandated lake level to protect Mono Lake: 6392 feet above sea level.
- Lake level rise from March 1, 2018 needed to achieve the mandated level: 10 feet.
- From the 2012–2016 drought low point of December 2016, the extremely wet year of 2017 raised the lake level 4.5 feet, leaving Mono Lake 2.4 feet lower than before the drought.



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Mono Lake Elevation

