

# Snowpack 'double whammy' may hit streams

By Benjamin Spillman, Reno Gazette-Journal

Changing snowmelt cycles could be more damaging to mountain streams and reservoirs in the Western U.S. than previously thought, according to recently published research.

That's according to research that shows slow-melting snowpack reduces the amount of water that makes it into streams and reservoirs.

The results have ramifications for everyone from water managers to anglers to kayakers, essentially anyone who values mountain streams.

What's interesting about the research is that it shows a slower snowmelt results in less water making it into streams and reservoirs. That's counterintuitive for many who assume, under a climate change scenario, faster snowmelt would be a bigger problem.

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