



WATERSHED 360°

GRADES 9-12

EPISODE 2 | "WEIGHT OF WATER"

THE WEIGHT OF WATER (5:11)

Viewer Guide

"One would like to think that because the water fell here that it is ours, but that is not the case." Hydrologist, Lexi Landers, and Snow Survey Supervisor, Brian Domonkos take the viewer to Berthoud Summit in the Colorado Rockies to show how snow is measured and weighed. The viewers will see one of the shelters used to store snow measuring equipment. Lexi and Brian tell their audience why the snow is so important to nearly everyone in the U.S. from need to irrigate food crops to providing necessary habitat for wildlife.

CAPTIONS

- Snowpack is monitored to predict spring runoff and surface water levels 1:33
- Snowmelt runoff is a major source of fresh water around the globe 2:51
- Snowpack impacts water supply for millions of people downstream 3:02
- Snowmelt is the source of 75 percent of water in the American West 3:14
- Headwaters are biologically, chemically and hydrologically connected to downstream rivers 4:13

Pre-Questions

1. Does a foot of snow always have the same amount of water in it if it were melted down no matter the place or time of year that it fell?
2. How could one measure the amount of moisture in snow without melting it?

Post-Questions

1. How did Lexi and Brian both measure and weigh the snow?
2. Why did Lexi and Brian both measure and weigh the snow?
3. Why is the snow pack important to people even if they don't care about skiing?
4. Could Colorado just contain and use all of the snow melt that falls in their state for use in homes and agriculture? Why or why not?

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