

# DROUGHT UPDATE

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July 2017

# US Drought Monitor

## U.S. Drought Monitor Montana

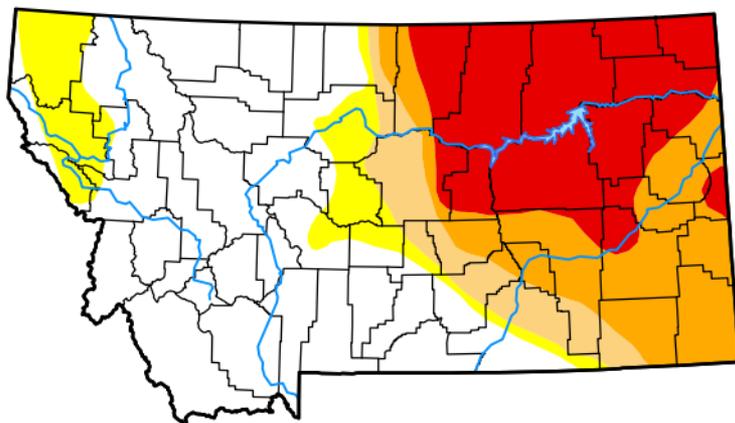
**July 11, 2017**

(Released Thursday, Jul. 13, 2017)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	45.80	54.20	44.72	37.74	22.00	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> <i>07-04-2017</i>	52.28	47.72	42.94	34.93	12.89	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> <i>04-11-2017</i>	87.57	12.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> <i>01-03-2017</i>	74.25	25.75	4.87	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> <i>09-27-2016</i>	55.14	44.86	25.49	5.86	0.33	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> <i>07-12-2016</i>	70.52	29.48	8.74	0.47	0.00	0.00



**Intensity:**

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

*The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.*

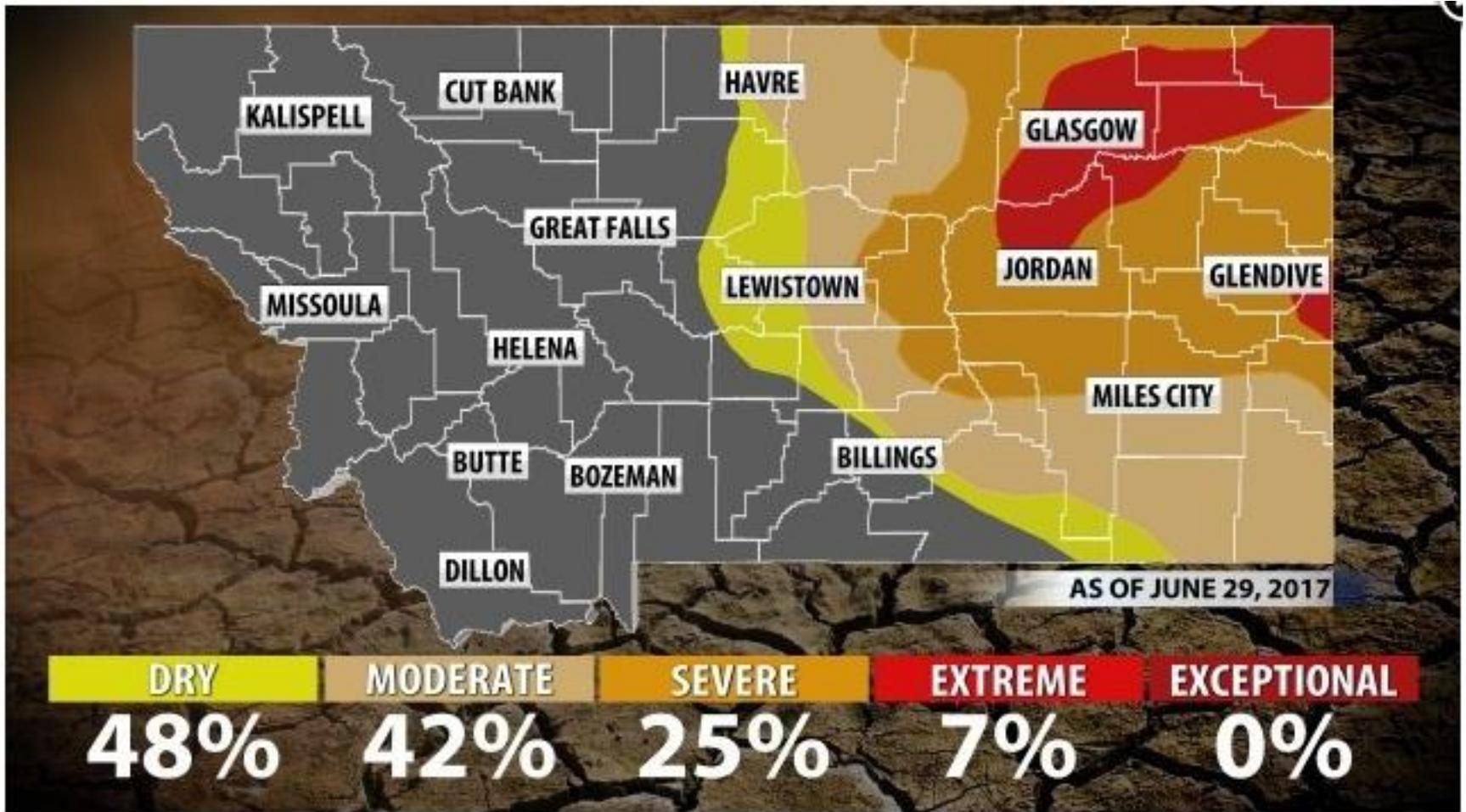
**Author:**

David Simeral  
Western Regional Climate Center

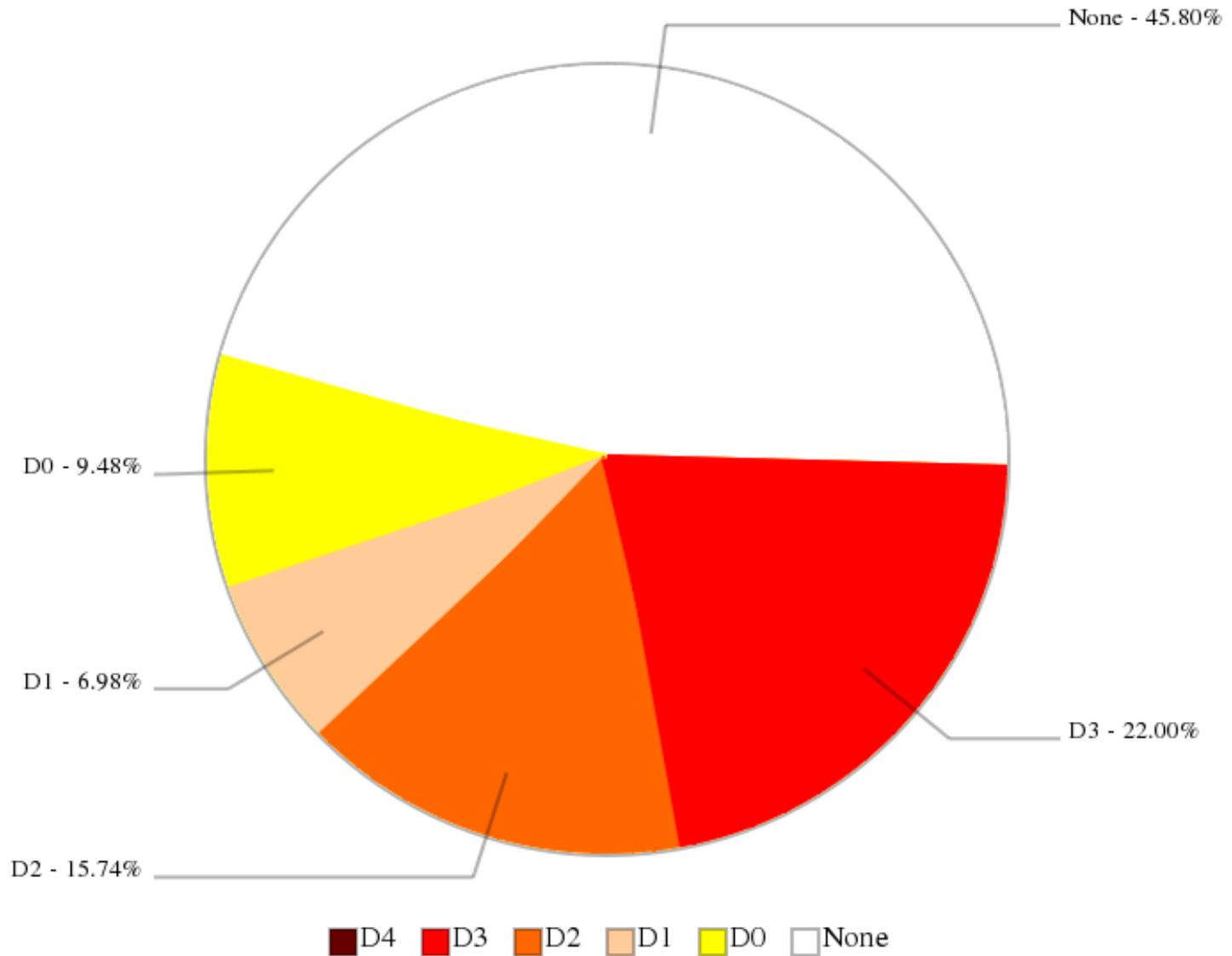


<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

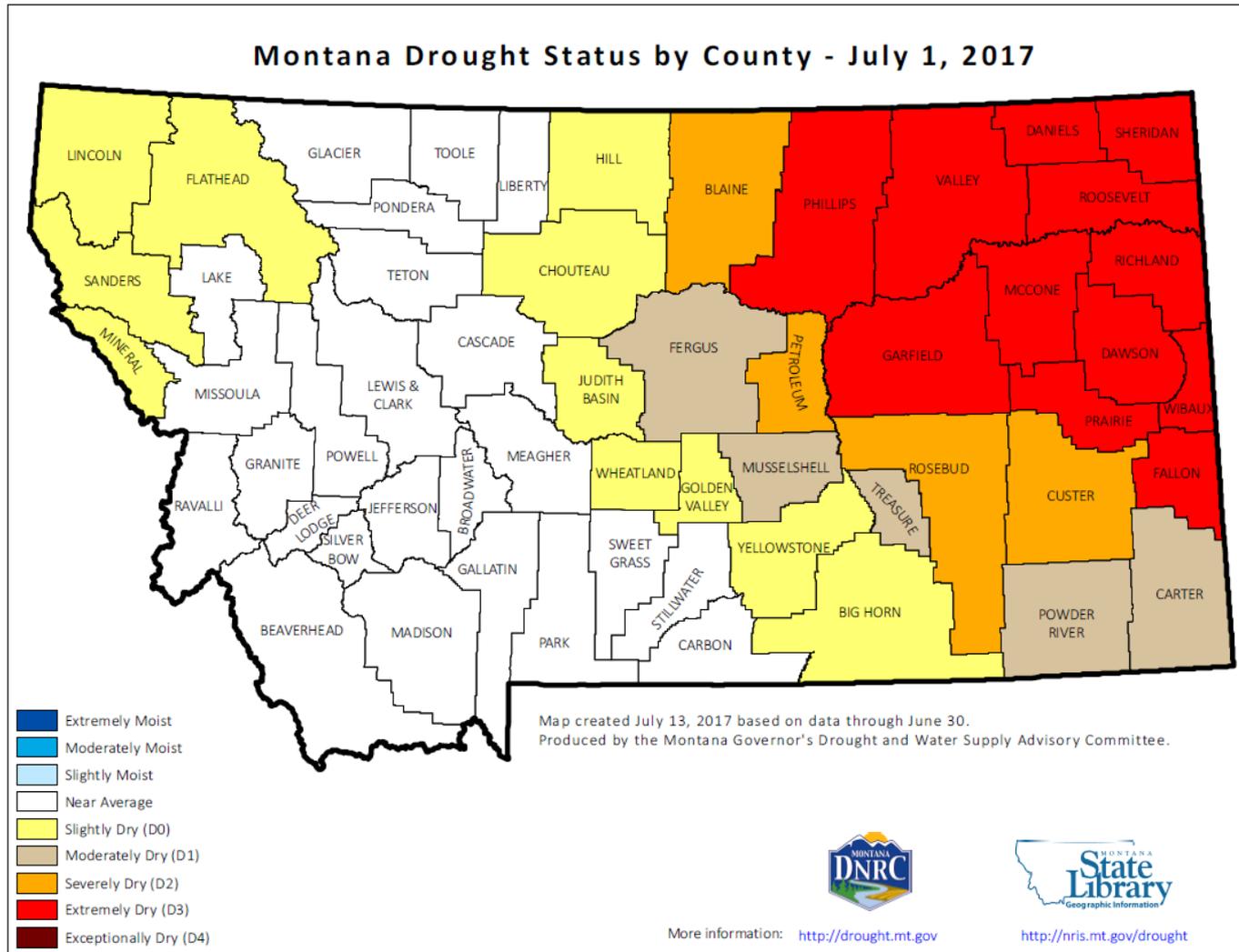
As of July 5, 2017



As of 07/11/2017, percent area of drought for  
Montana



# Montana County Drought Status Map

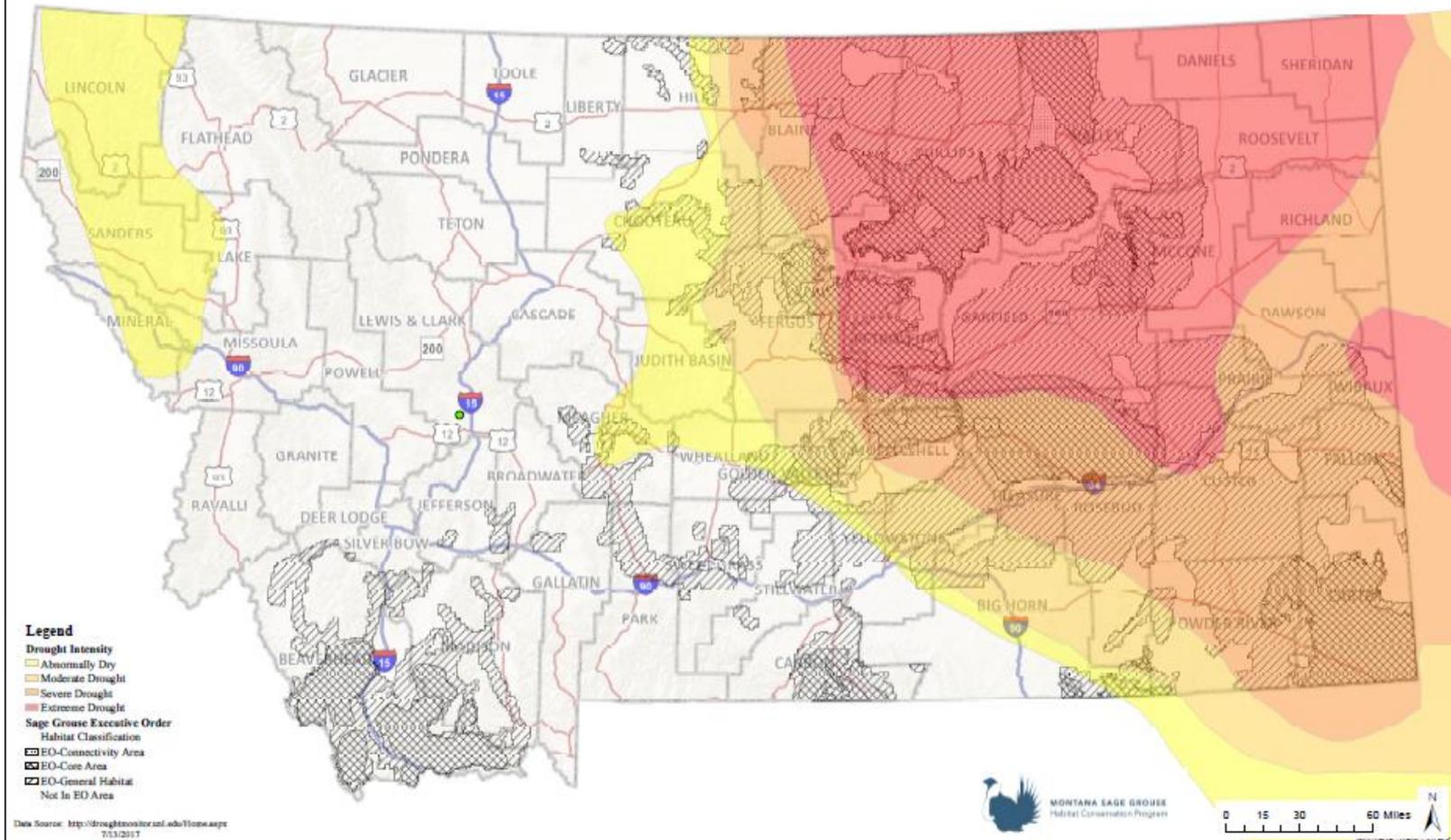


# Drought Impacts to Agriculture



# Drought Impacts to Sage Grouse

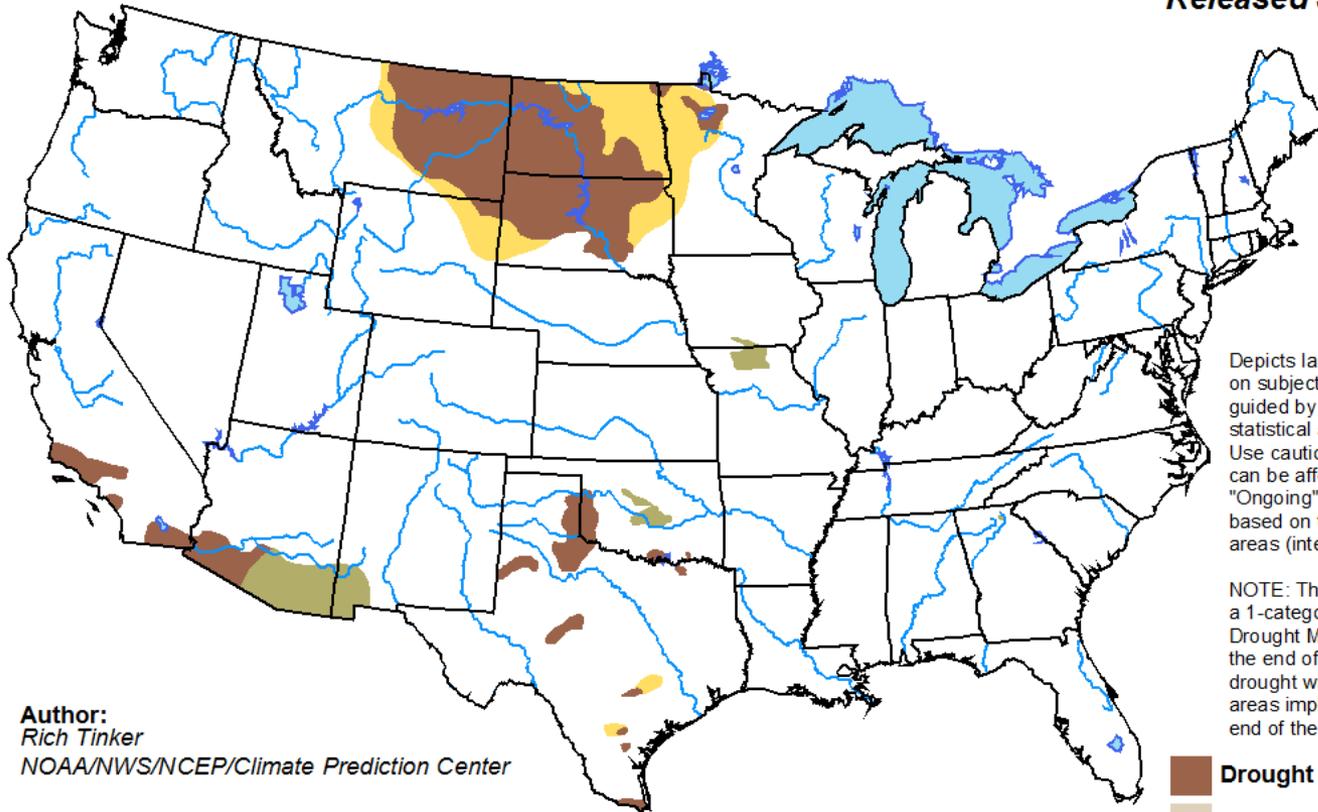
Montana U.S. Drought Monitor Map



# U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook

## Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for July 2017  
Released June 30, 2017

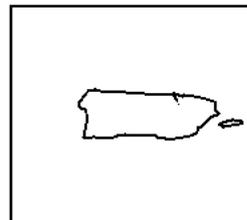
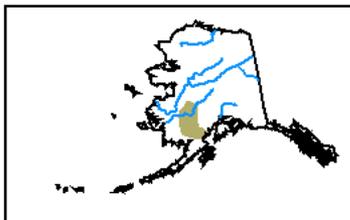


Author:  
Rich Tinker  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

-  Drought persists
-  Drought remains but improves
-  Drought removal likely
-  Drought development likely



<http://go.usa.gov/3eZGd>



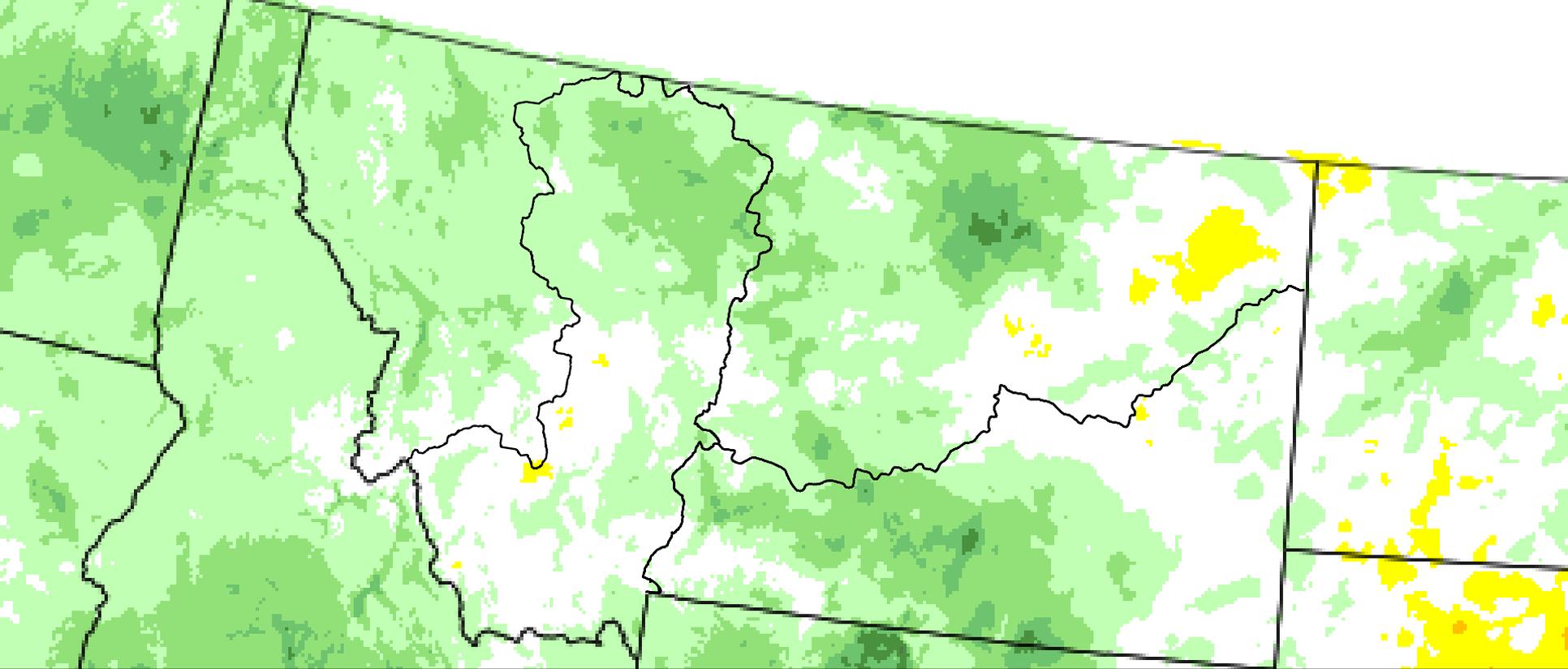
# Montana DWSAC Briefing



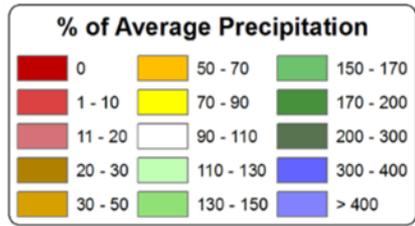
July 18, 2017



**Weather-Ready Nation**  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



Jul 16 – Jun 17 Precip Anomaly





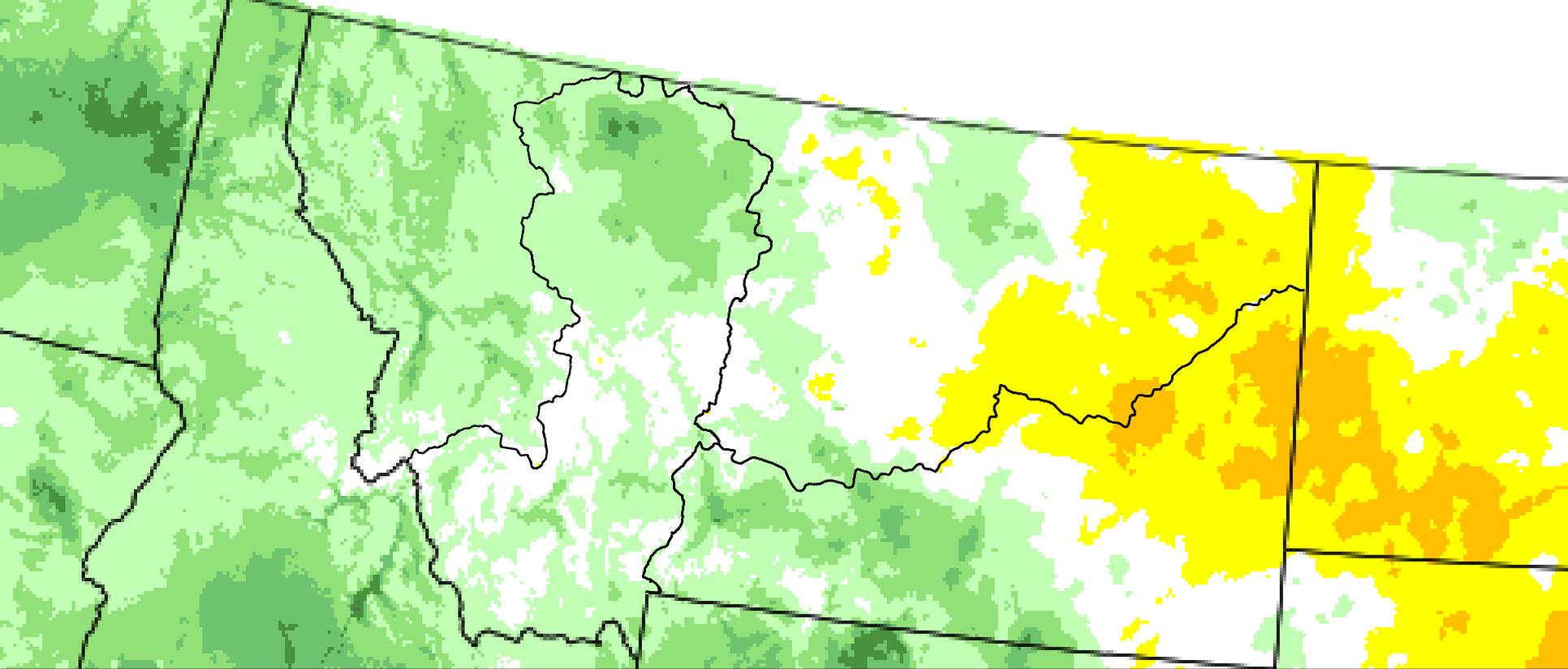
# Montana: Jul 2016 – Jun 2017

24<sup>th</sup> Warmest on Record

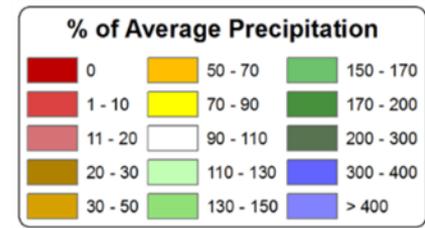
Avg Temp	20 <sup>th</sup> Century Average	Departure
42.9°F	41.1°F	1.8°F

20<sup>th</sup> Wettest on Record

Precip	20 <sup>th</sup> Century Average	Departure
20.99"	18.66"	2.33"



# Water Year 2017 Precip Anomaly



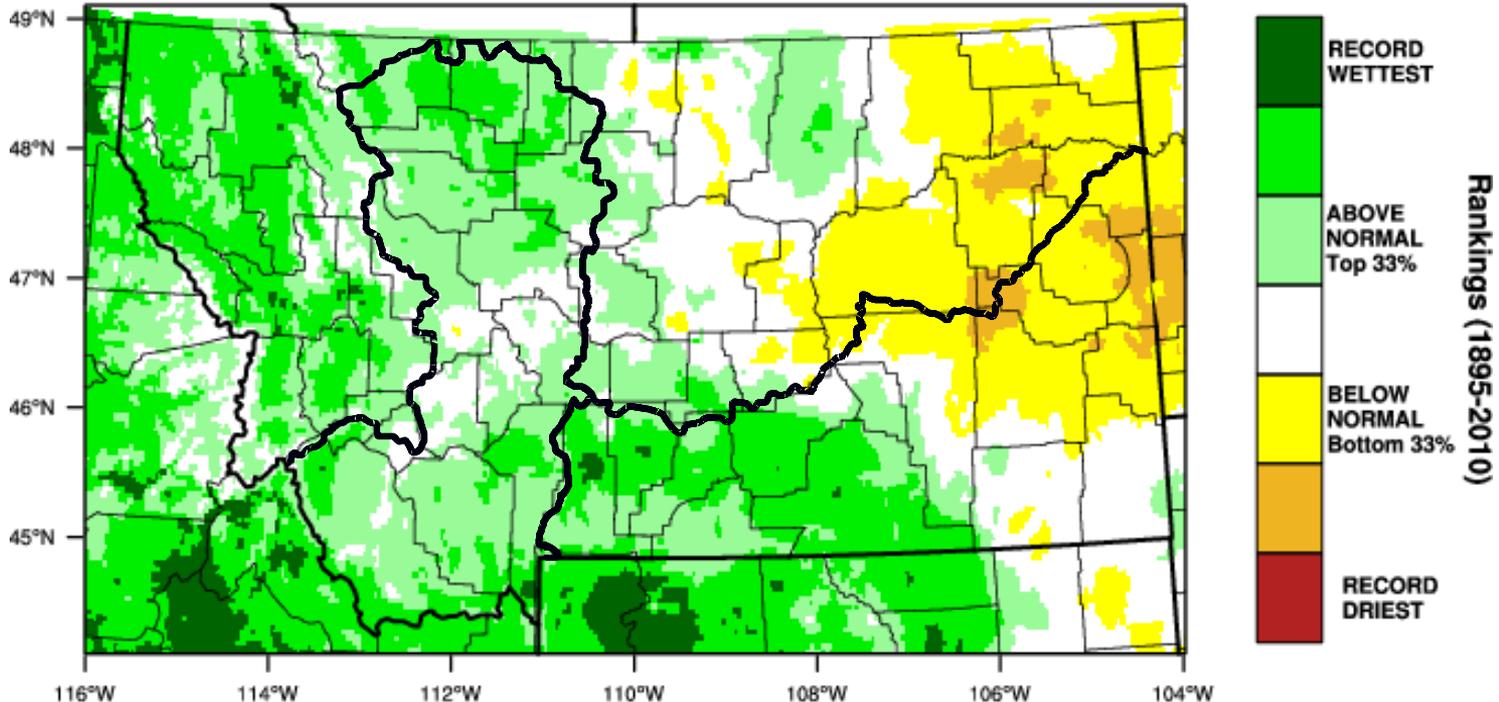


# Precipitation Ranking Water Year 2017



## Montana - Precipitation

October-June 2017 Percentile



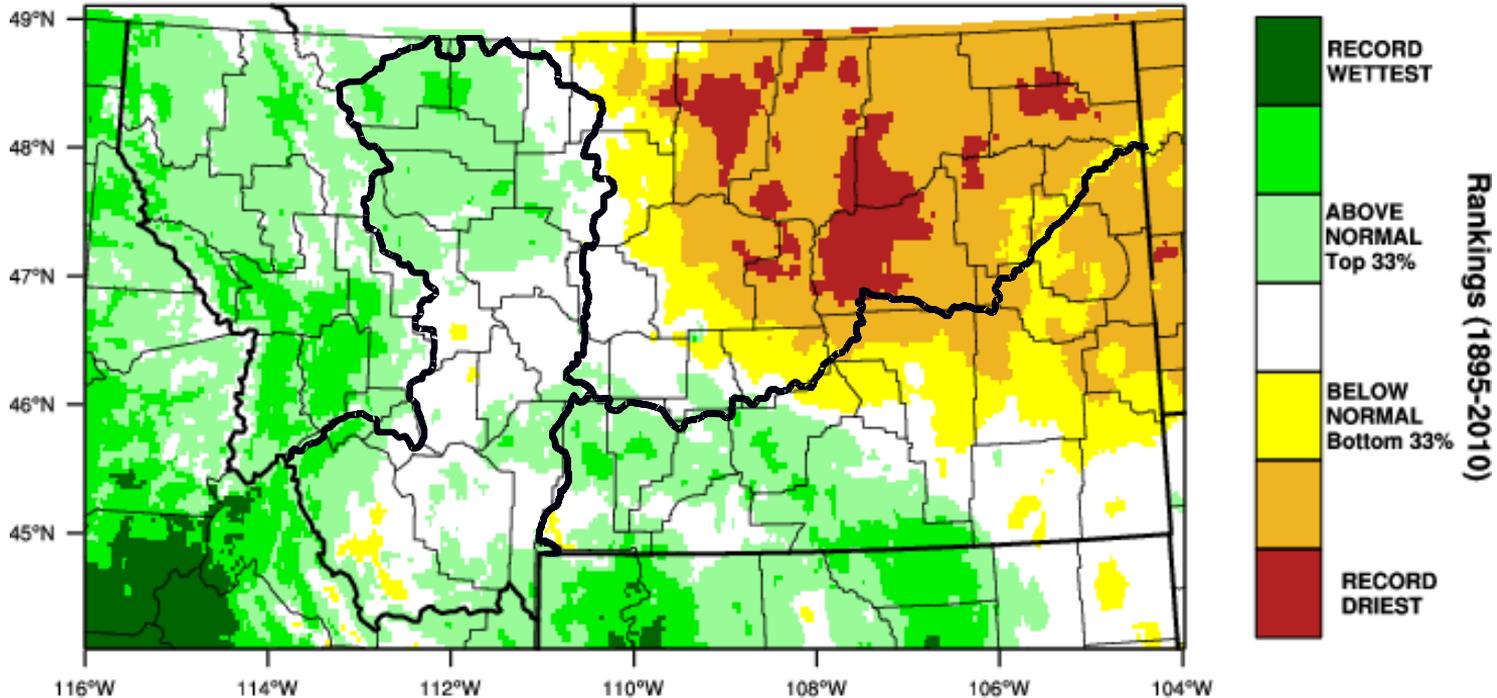
WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 16 JUL 2017



# Precipitation Ranking Calendar Year 2017



Montana - Precipitation  
January-June 2017 Percentile



WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 16 JUL 2017

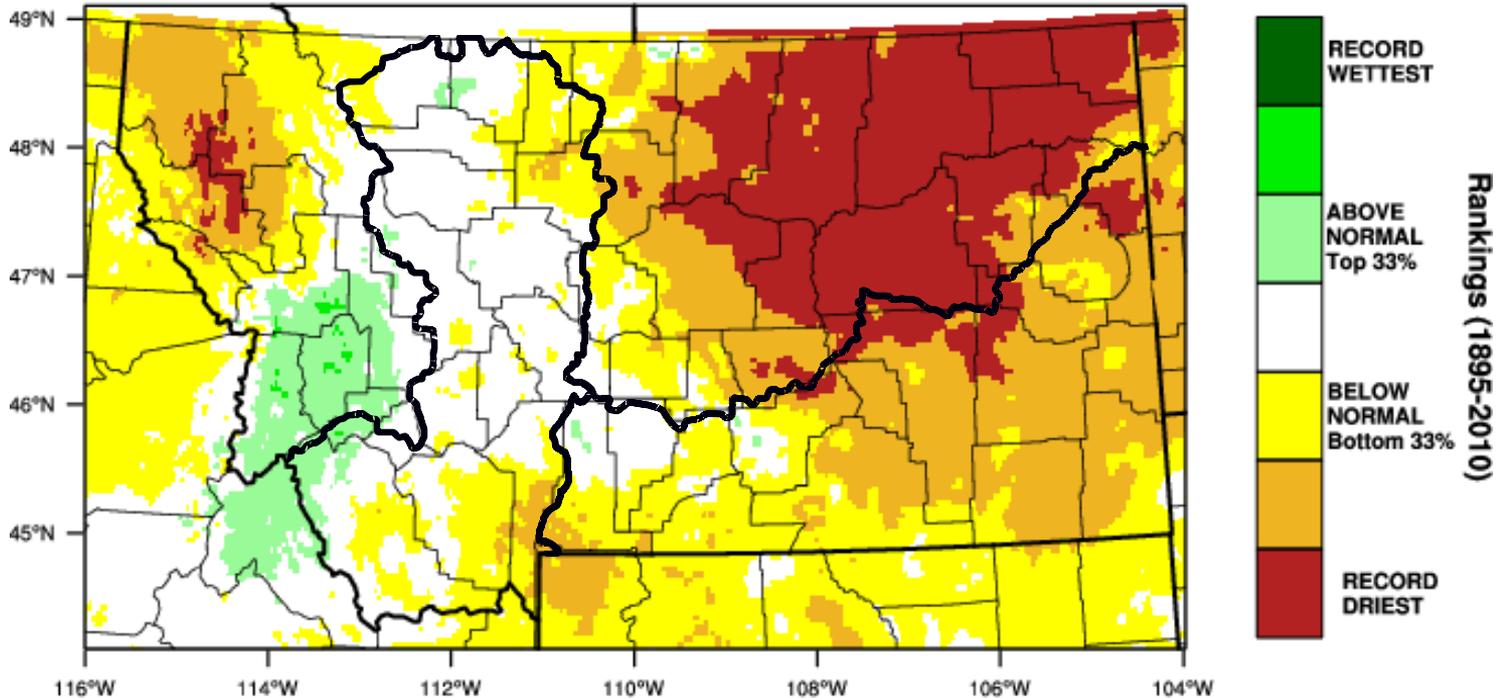


# Precipitation Ranking

## May-Jun 2017



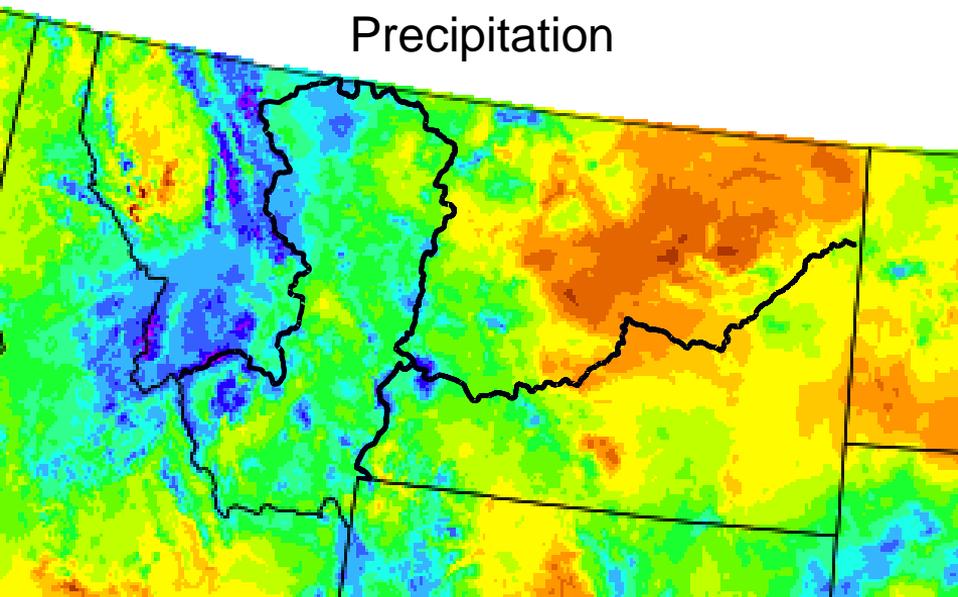
Montana - Precipitation  
May-June 2017 Percentile



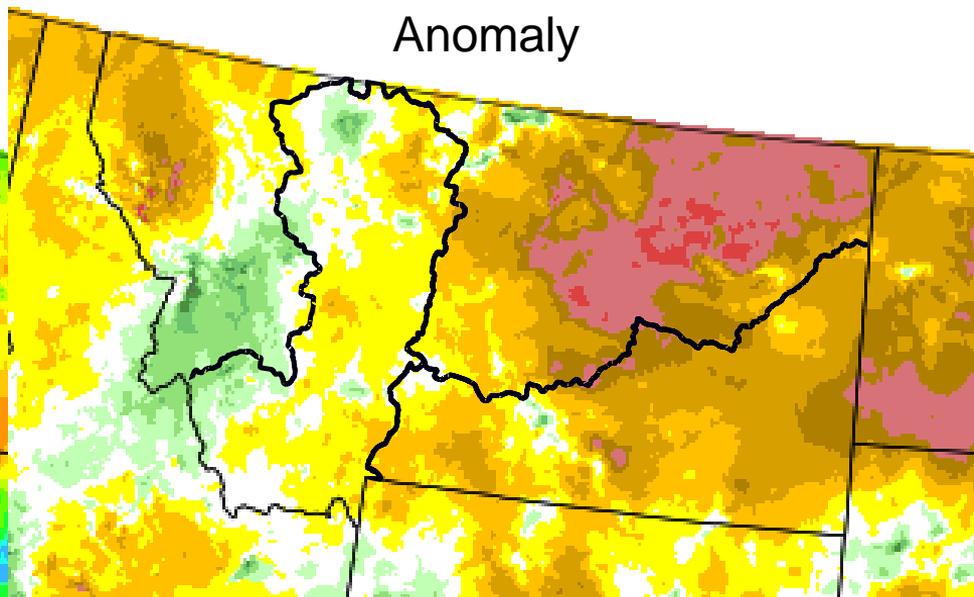
WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 16 JUL 2017

# Jun 2017 Precip vs Anomaly

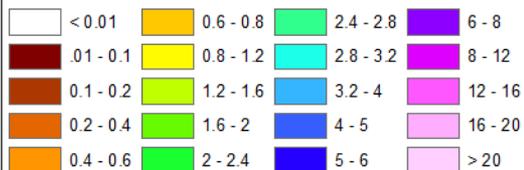
Precipitation



Anomaly



Monthly Precipitation (in.)

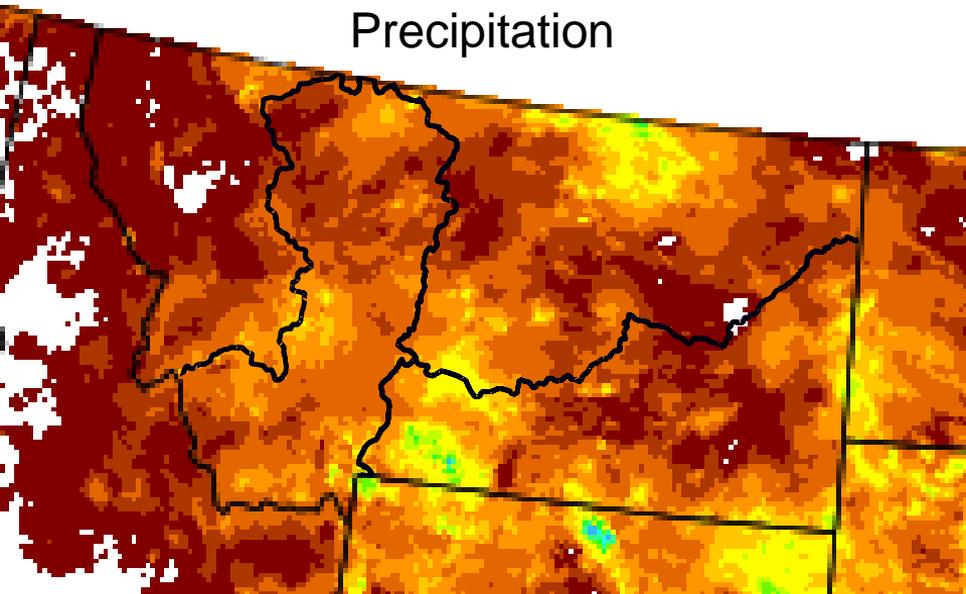


% of Average Precipitation

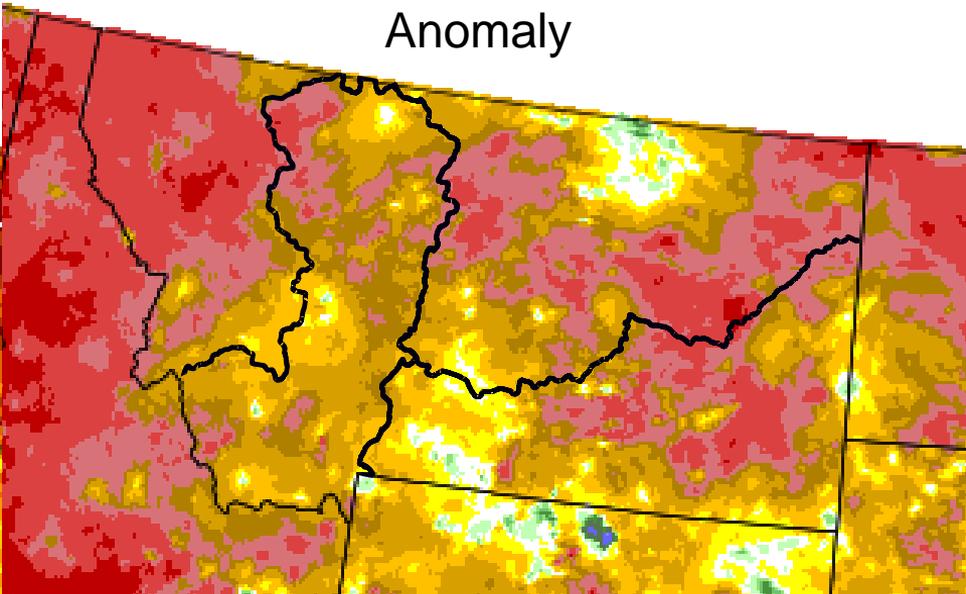


# July Precip vs Anomaly – as of 7/17

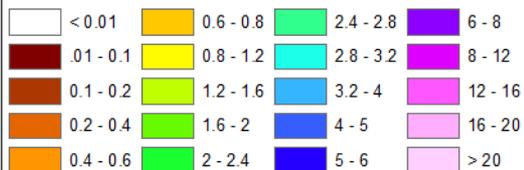
Precipitation



Anomaly



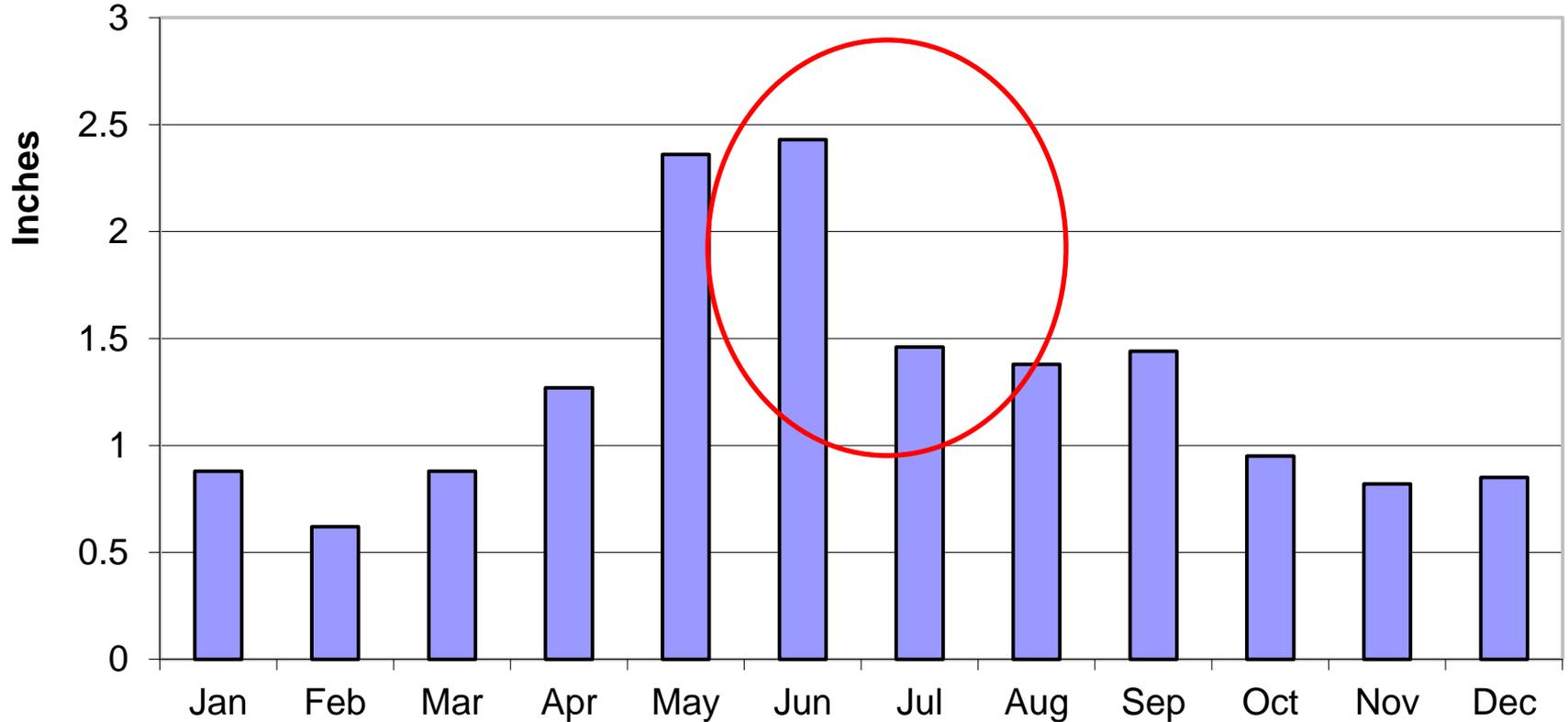
Monthly Precipitation (in.)



% of Average Precipitation



# Statewide Precipitation by Month

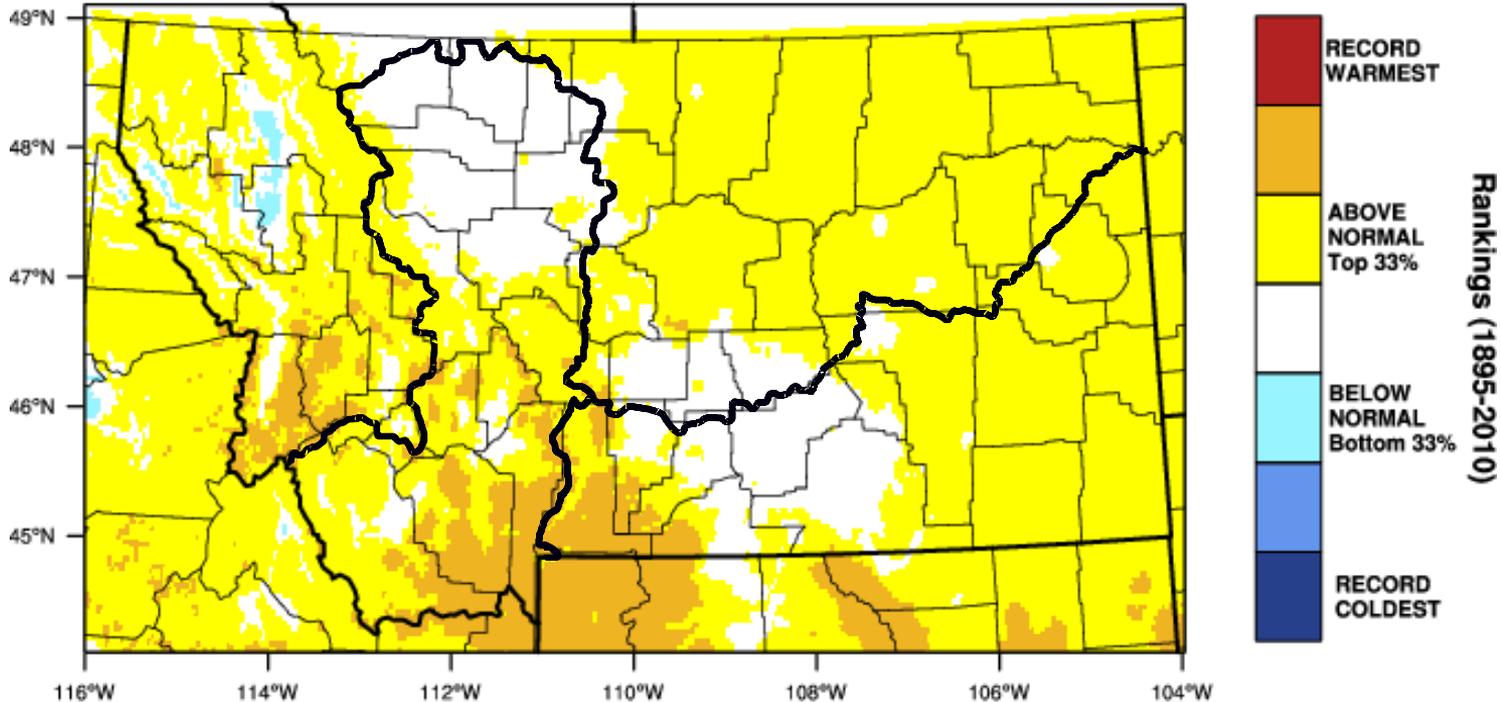




# Mean Temperature Ranking Water Year 2017



## Montana - Mean Temperature October-June 2017 Percentile



WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 16 JUL 2017



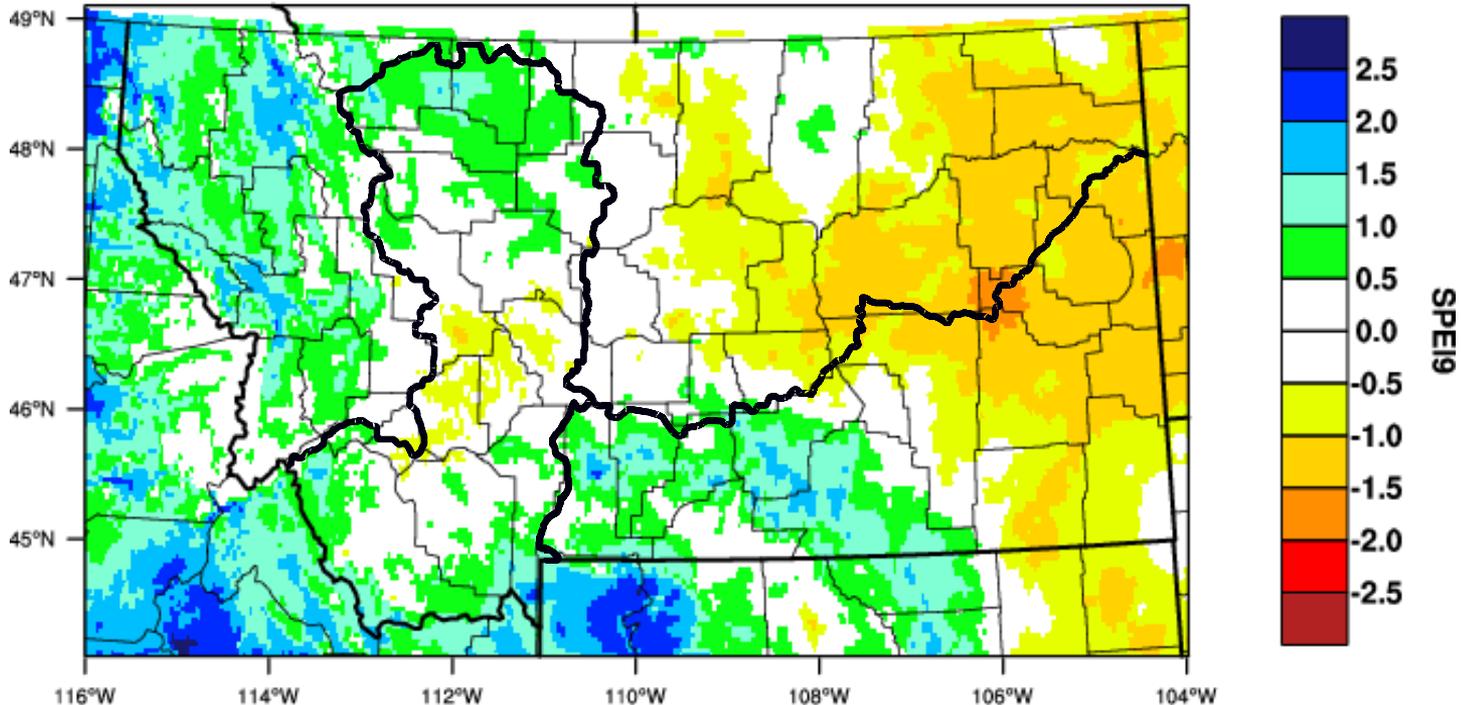
# PRISM SPEI

## Water Year 2017



Montana - 9 month SPEI

June 2017



WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 16 JUL 2017



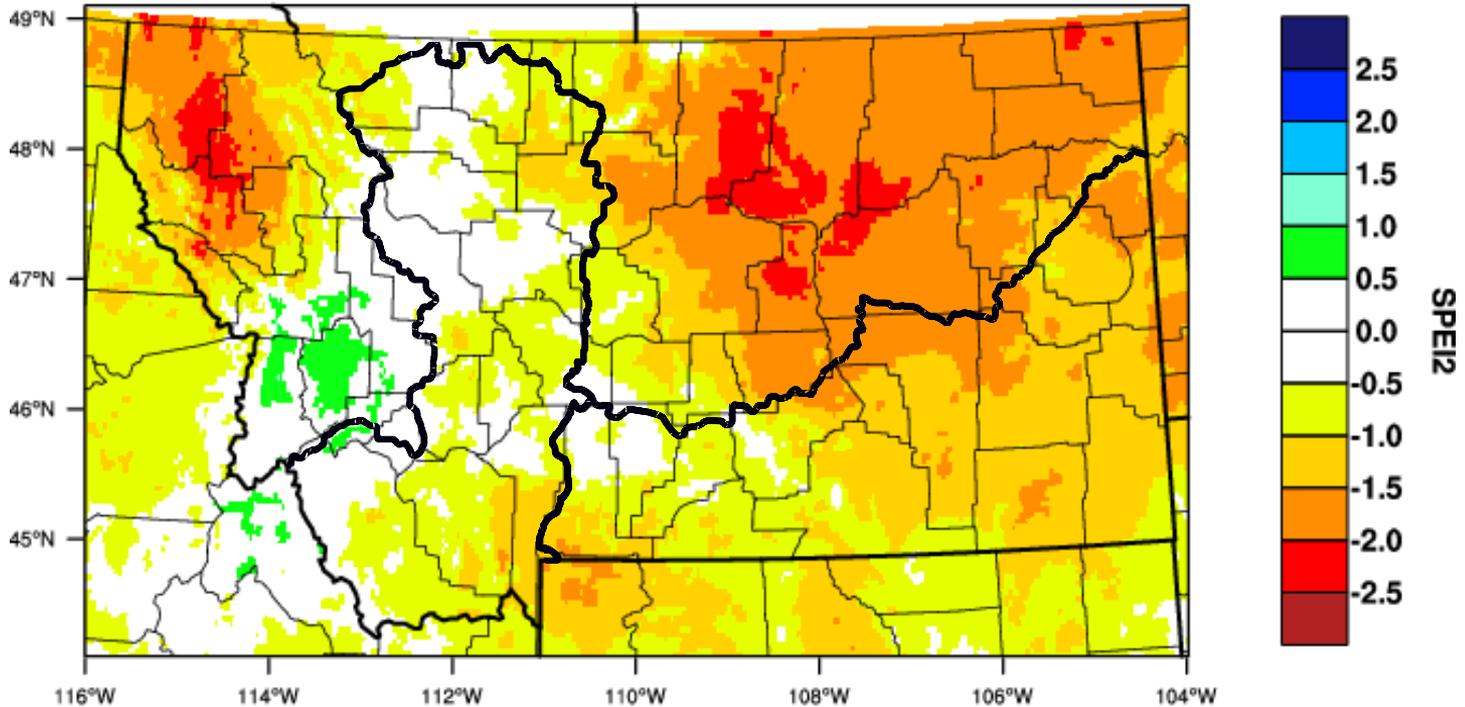
# PRISM SPEI

## May-Jun 2017

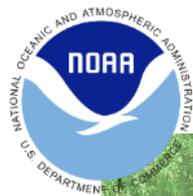


Montana - 2 month SPEI

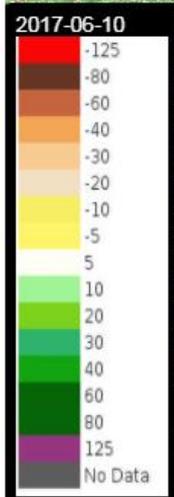
June 2017



WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 16 JUL 2017



# Normalized Difference Vegetation Index



8-day composite ending July 16

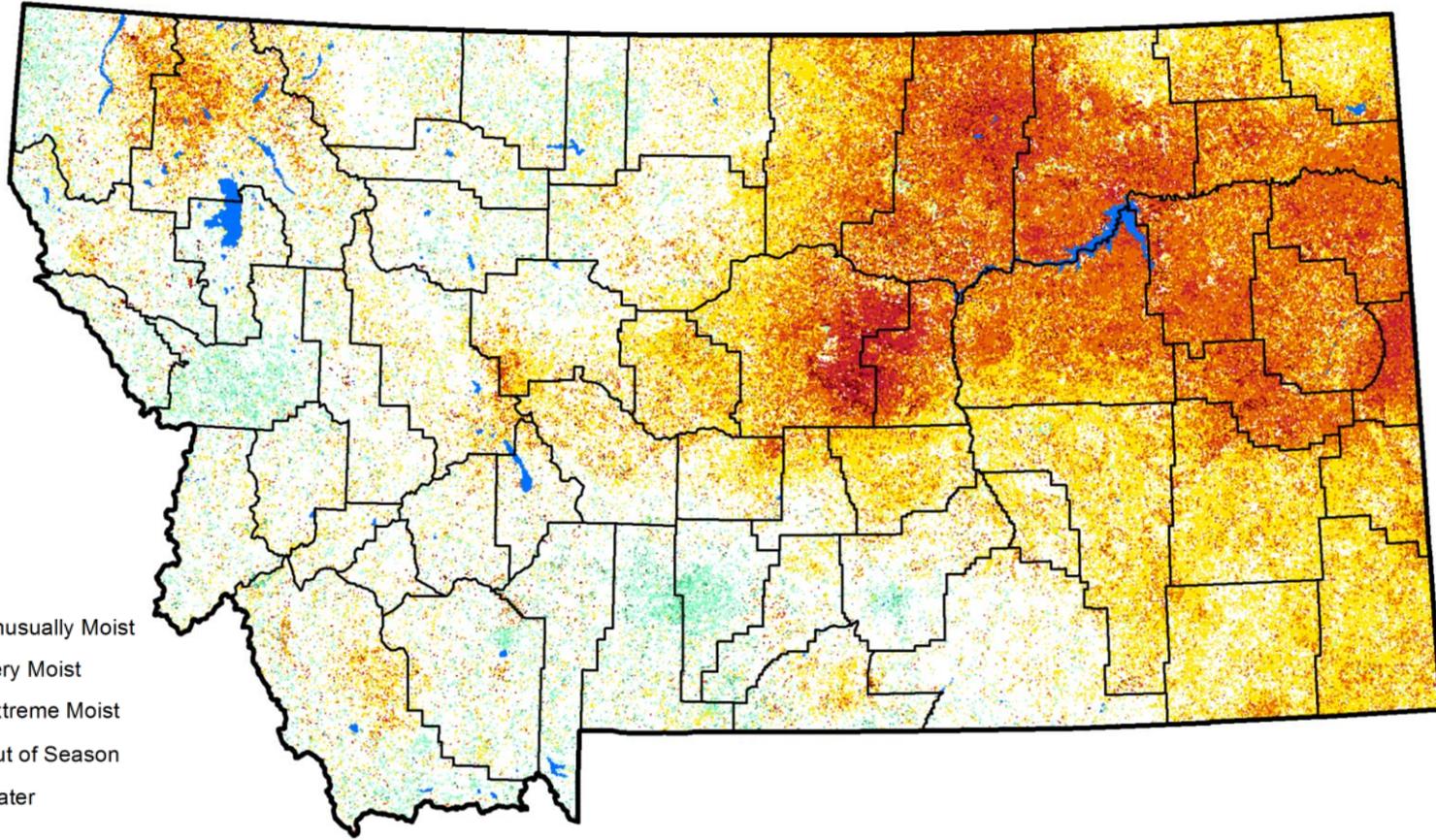
Scale Fourths



# Vegetation Drought Response Index



As of July 9



## Vegetation Condition

- |   |   |
|---|---|
|  Extreme Drought     |  Unusually Moist |
|  Severe Drought      |  Very Moist      |
|  Moderate Drought    |  Extreme Moist   |
|  Pre-drought stress |  Out of Season  |
|  Near Normal       |  Water         |

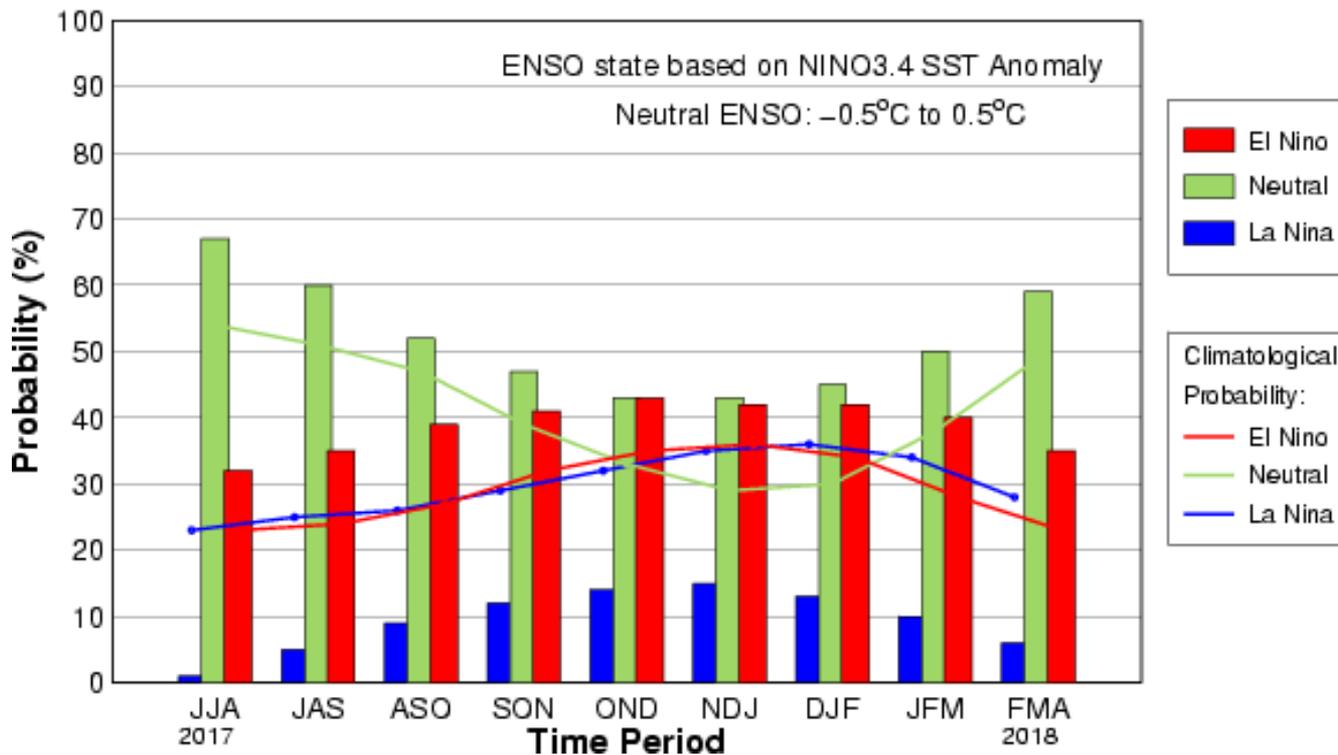


# ENSO

## El Niño Neutral



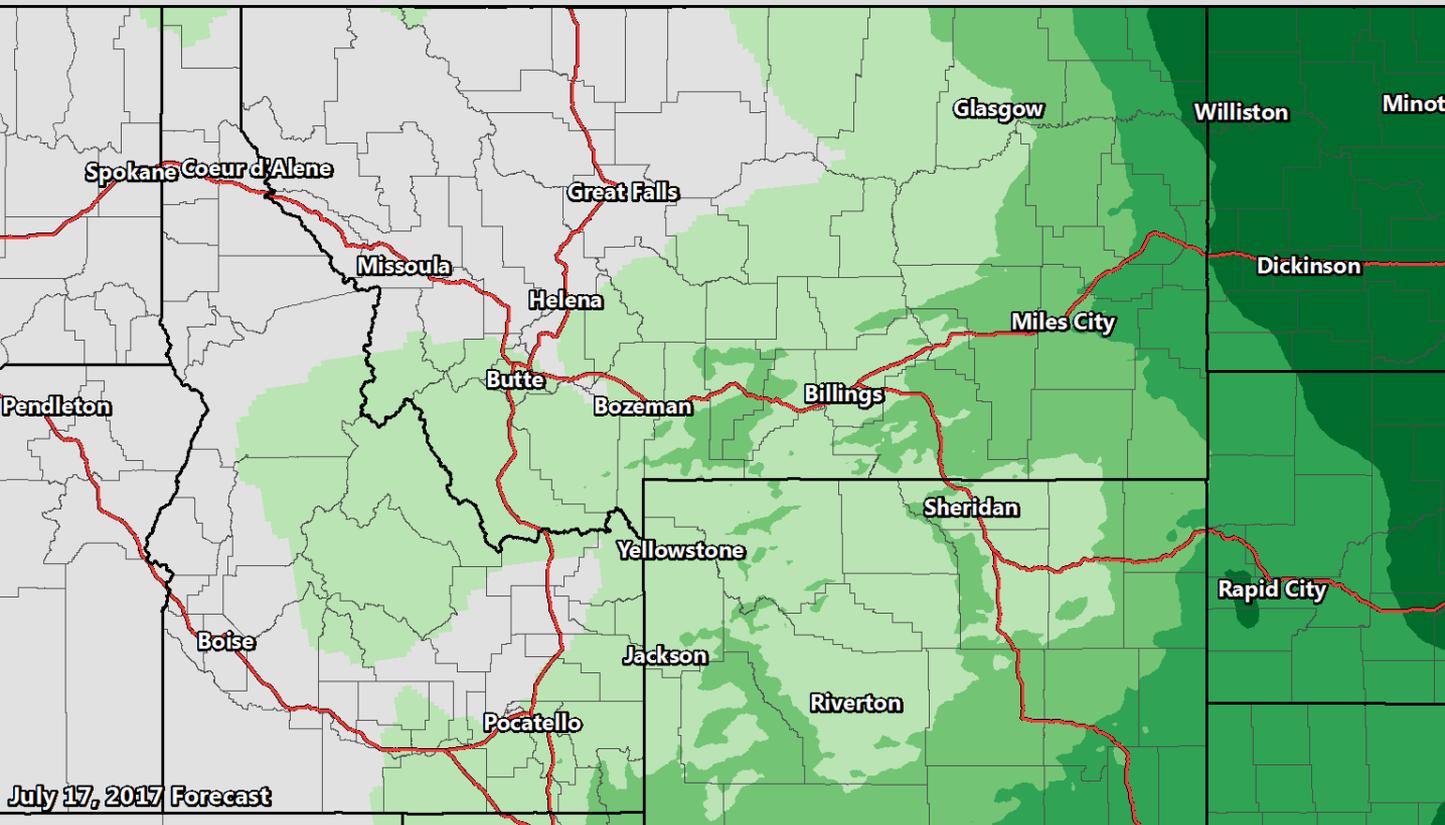
Mid-Jun IRI/CPC Model-Based Probabilistic ENSO Forecast





# 7-Day Precipitation Forecast

Through 6PM 07/23/2017



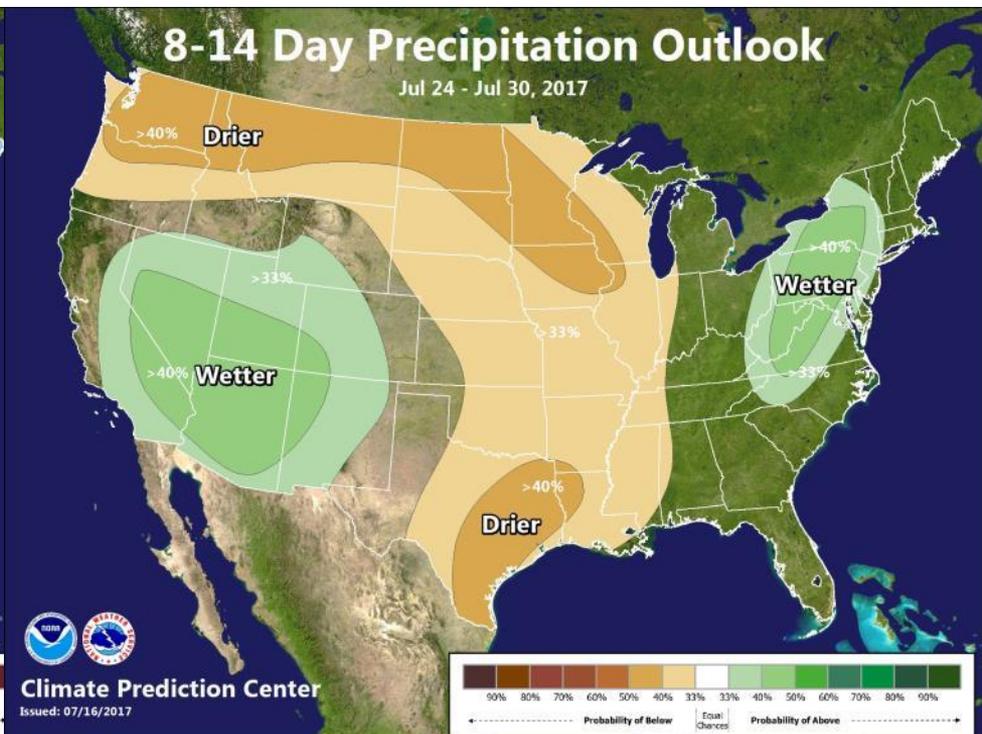
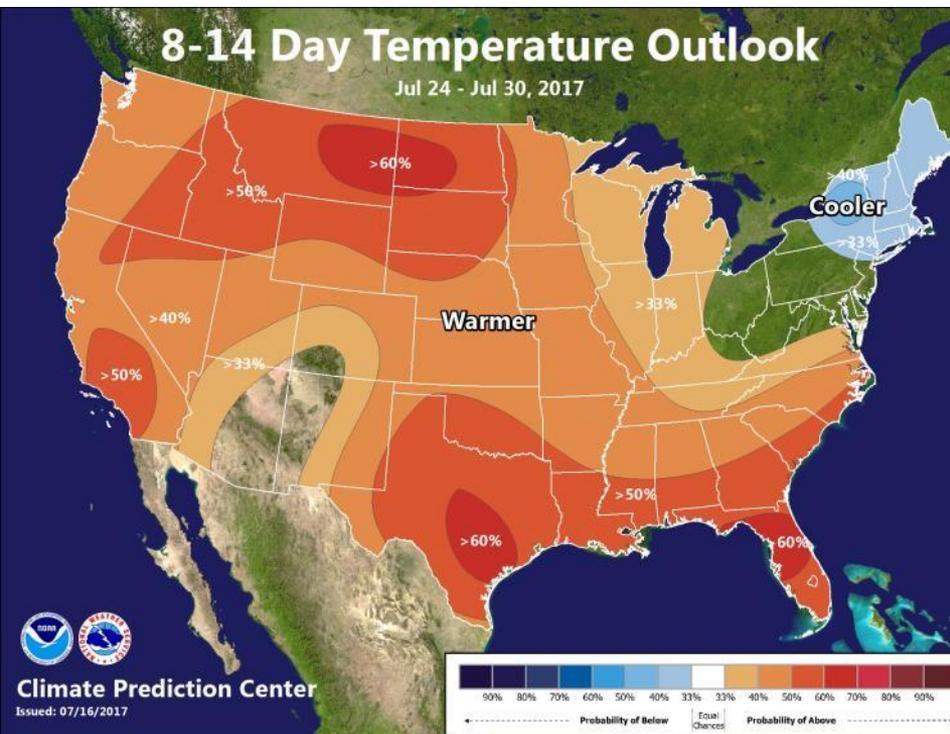
## 7 Day Precipitation Forecast

Created  
July 17



# 8-14 Day Outlook

Created July 16



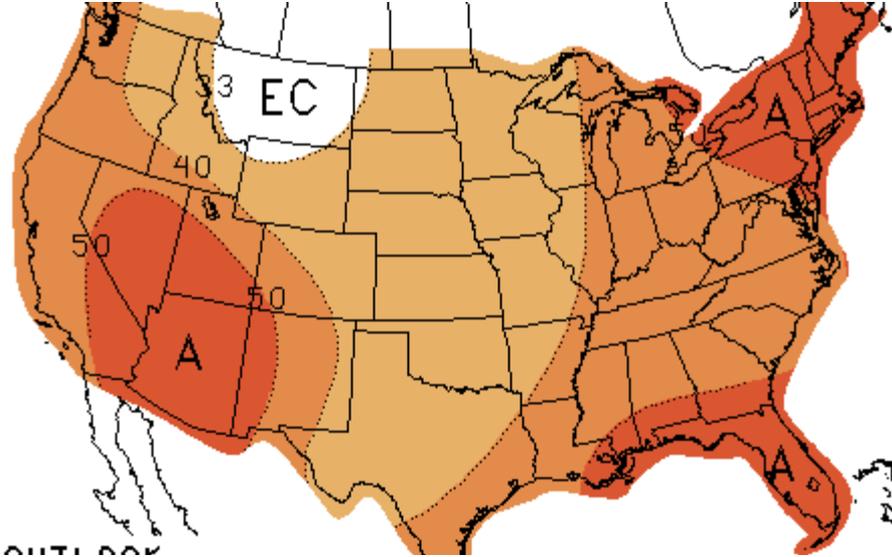


# Jul-Sep Outlook

Created June 15

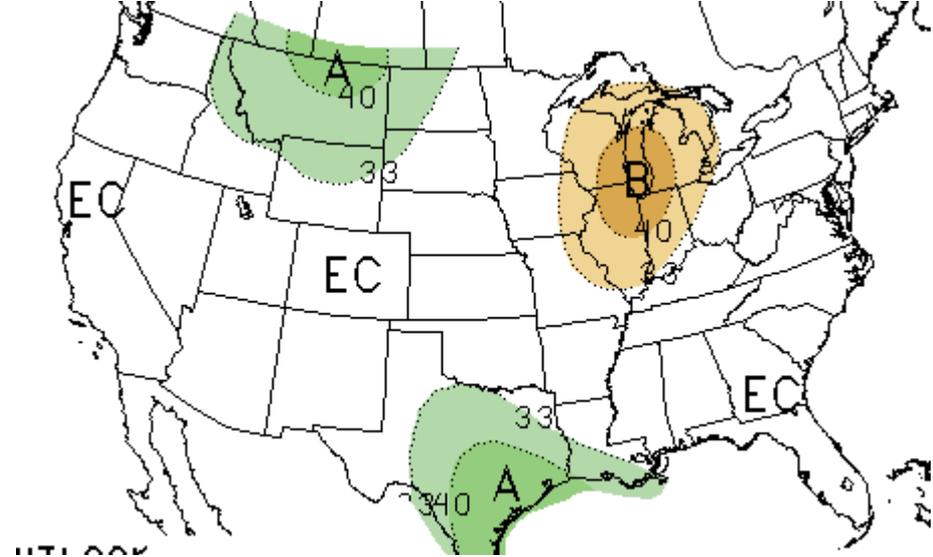


## Temperature



Equal chances for above normal or below temperatures over most of Montana

## Precipitation



33% chance of above normal precipitation over eastern Montana, but 40% chance of above precipitation northeast Montana

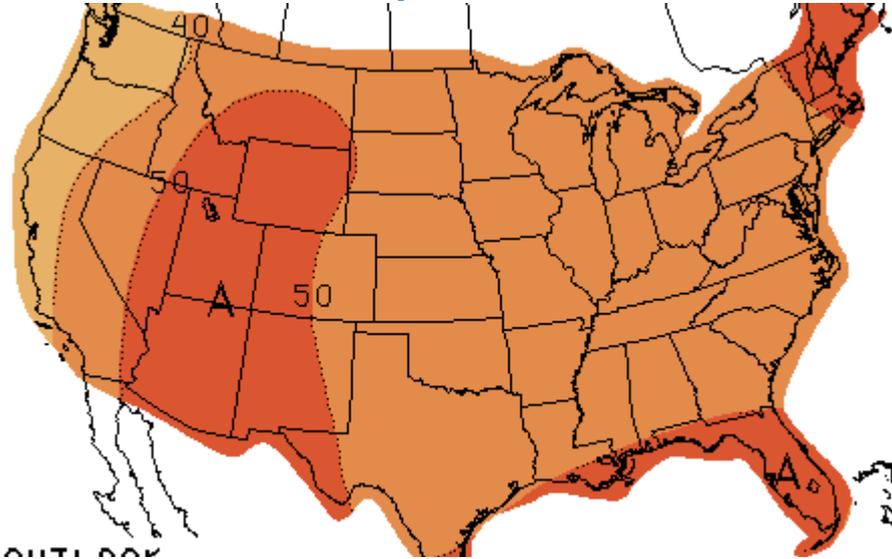


# Sep-Nov Outlook

Created June 15

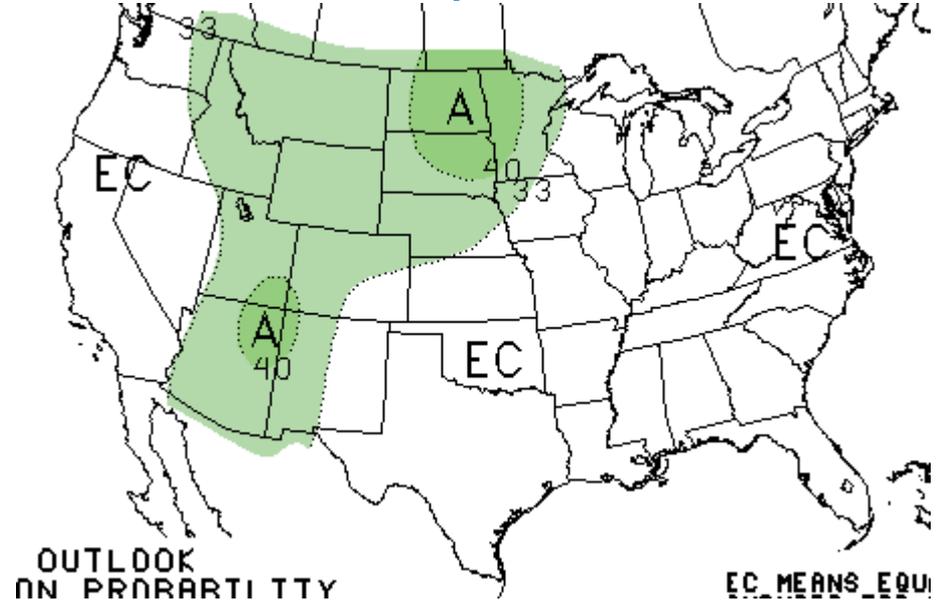


## Temperature



40% chance of above normal temperatures north, 50% chance of above normal temperatures south

## Precipitation



33% or greater chance of above normal precipitation

EC MEANS EQUI

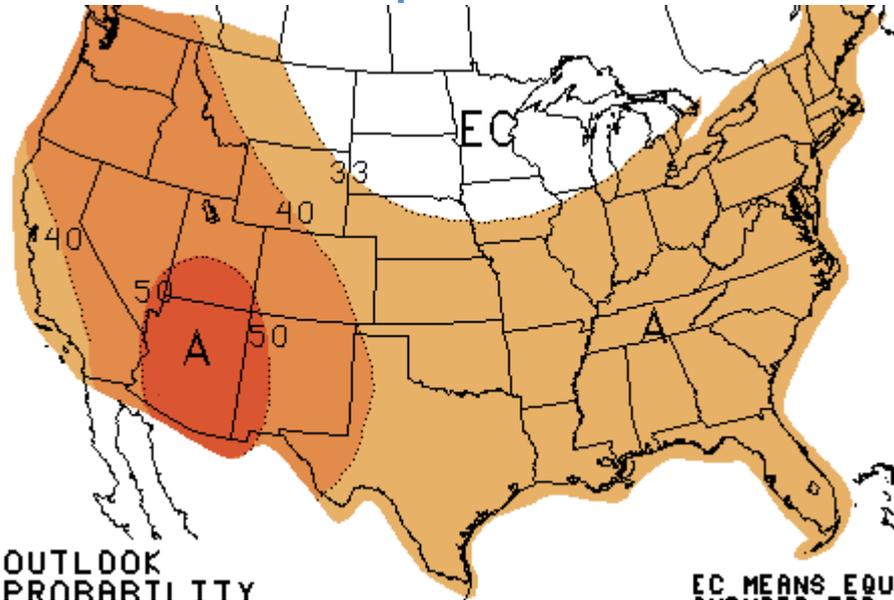


# Dec-Feb Outlook

Created June 15

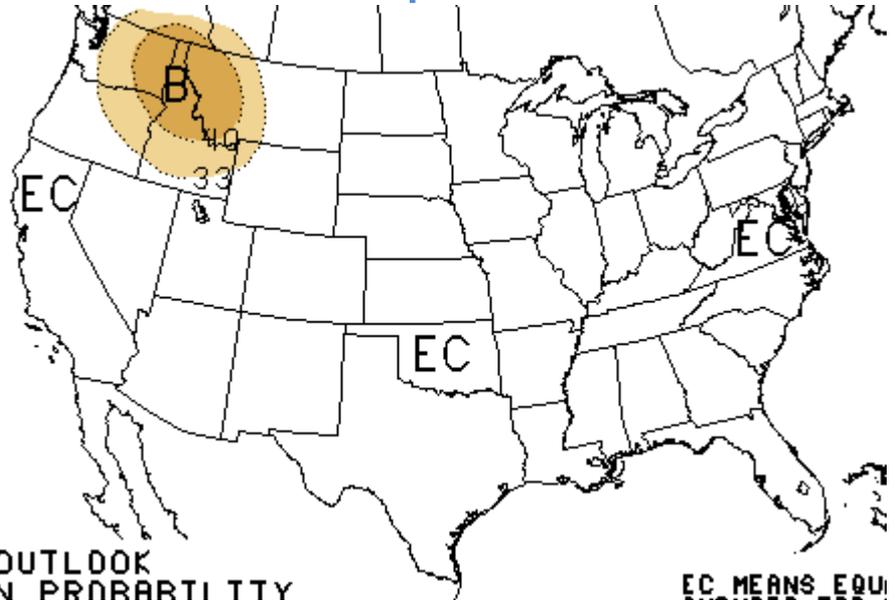


## Temperature



33% chance of above normal temperatures, with equal chances northeast Montana

## Precipitation



Equal chances of above or below normal precipitation, except 33% chance below normal east slopes westward

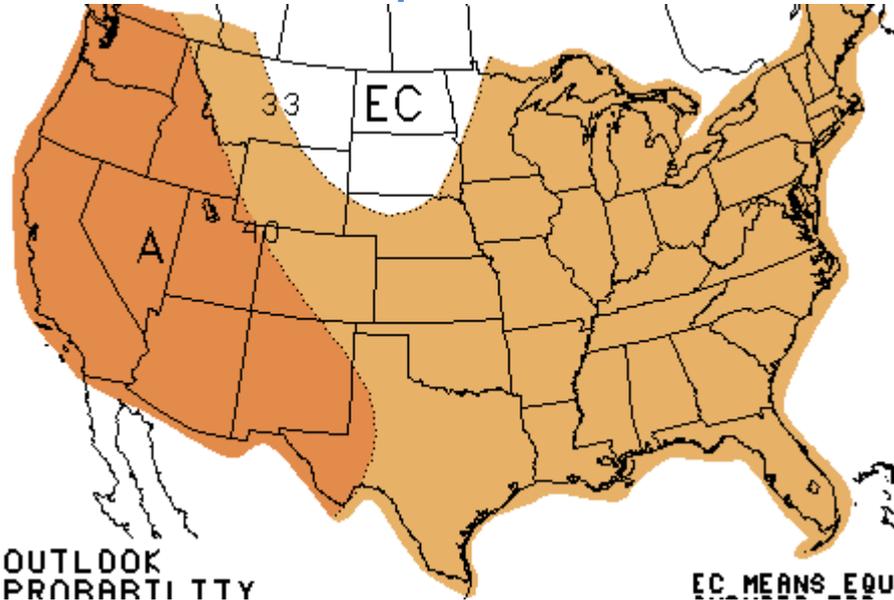


# Mar-May Outlook

Created June 15

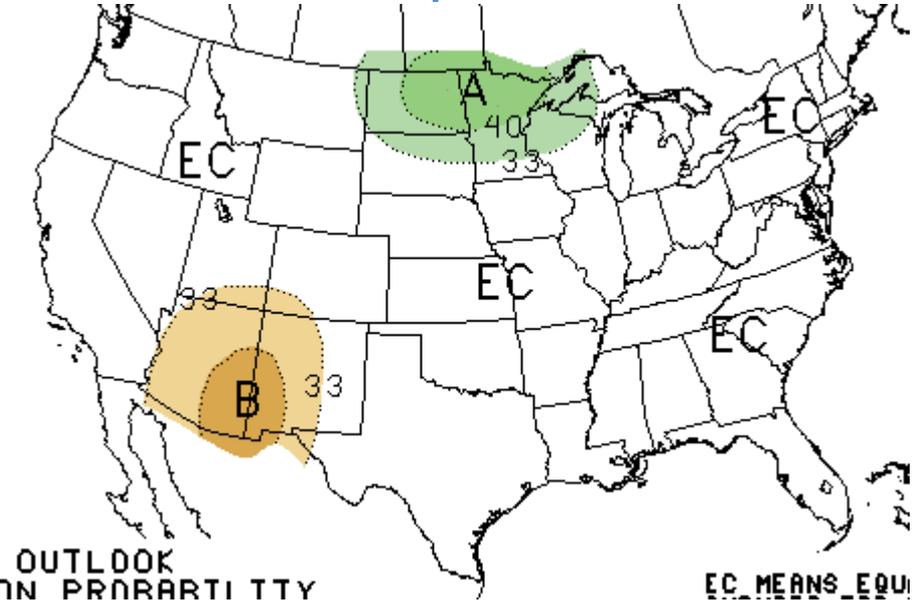


## Temperature



Equal chances for above normal or below normal temperatures northeast Montana, 33% chance or greater over western half of Montana

## Precipitation



Equal chances of above or below normal precipitation statewide



[weather.gov](https://weather.gov)

[weather.gov/billings](https://weather.gov/billings)

[weather.gov/glasgow](https://weather.gov/glasgow)

[weather.gov/missoula](https://weather.gov/missoula)

[weather.gov/greatfalls](https://weather.gov/greatfalls)



**Weather-Ready Nation**

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



## ***Montana – Recent Streamflow Conditions***

**John Kilpatrick**

**Wyoming-Montana Water Science Center**

**U.S. Geological Survey**

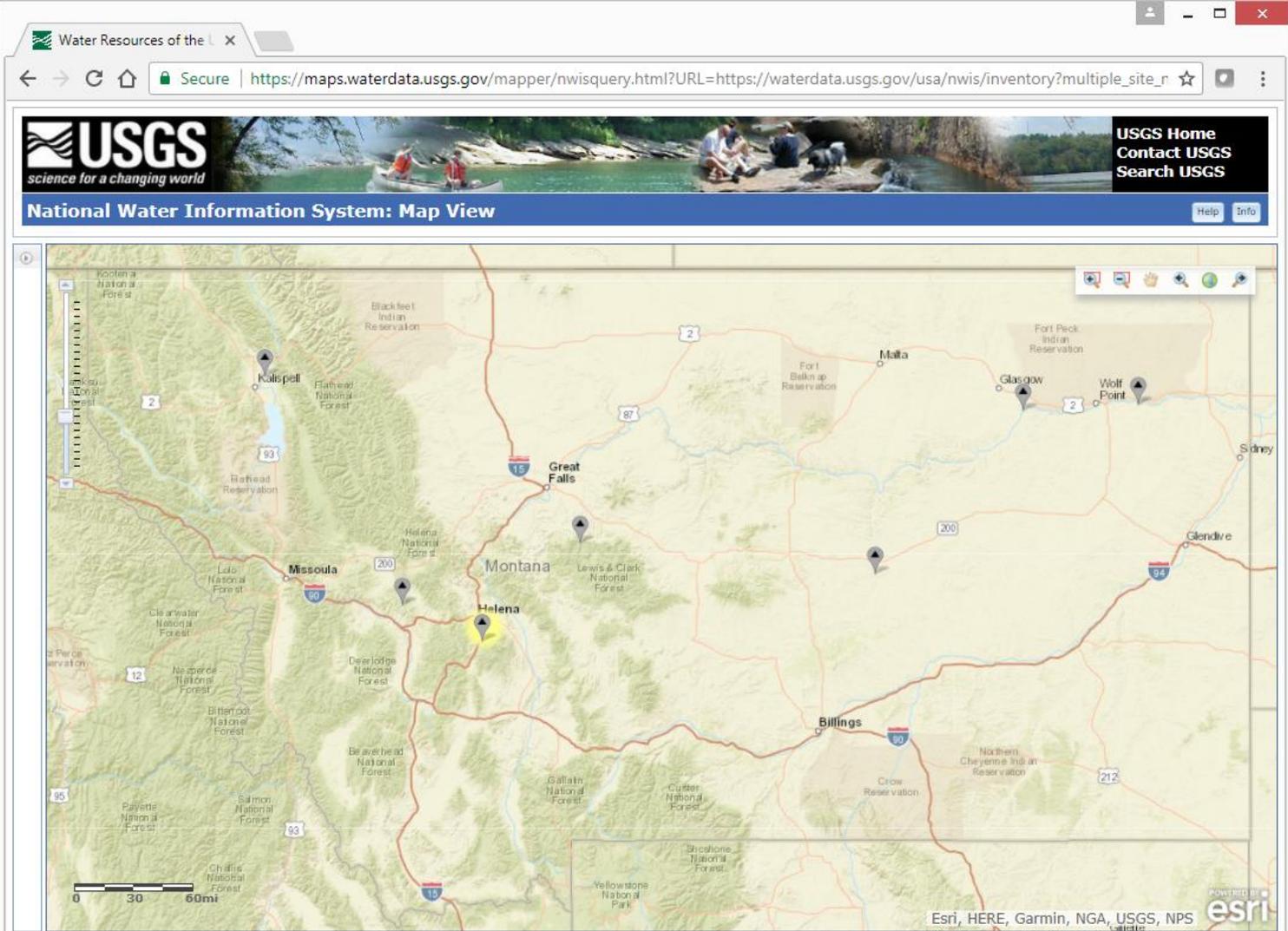
**Prepared for the State of Montana**

**Governor's Drought and Water Supply Advisory Committee**

**July 18, 2017**

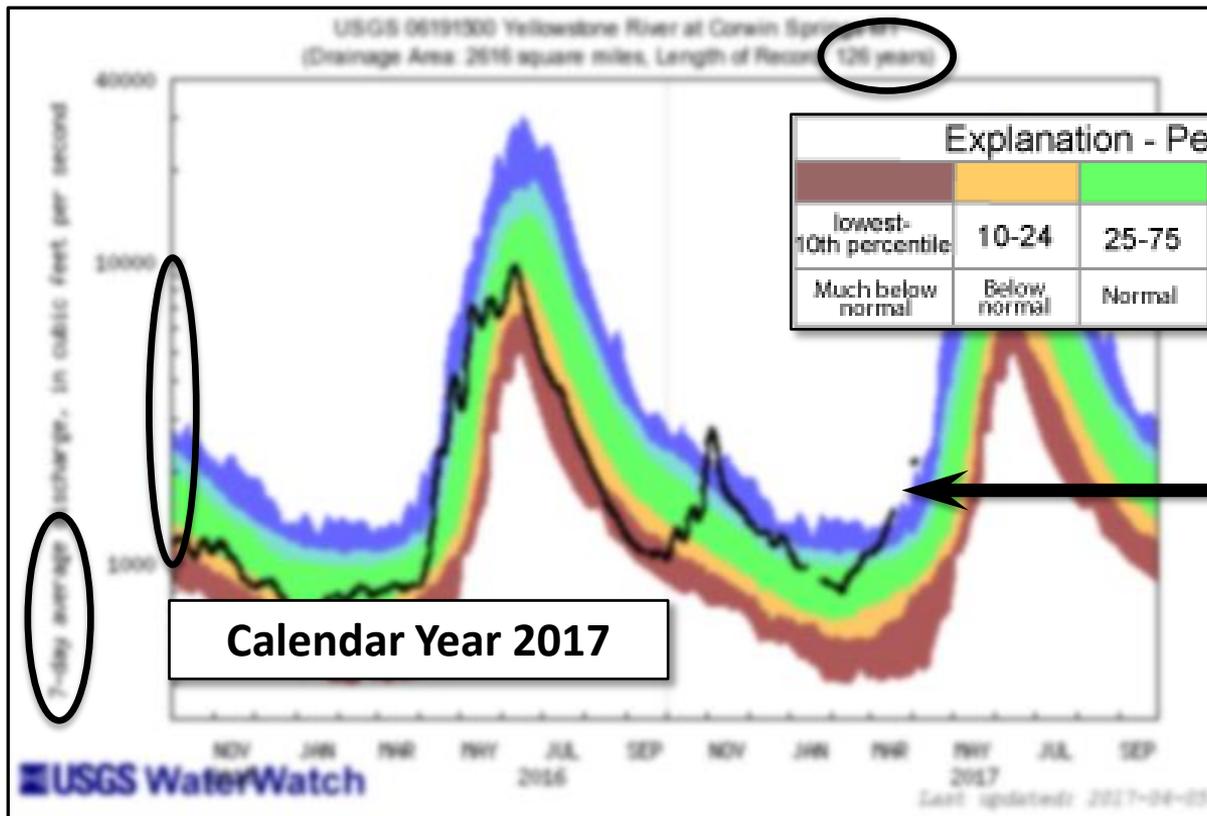
# Recent streamflow conditions

## Location map



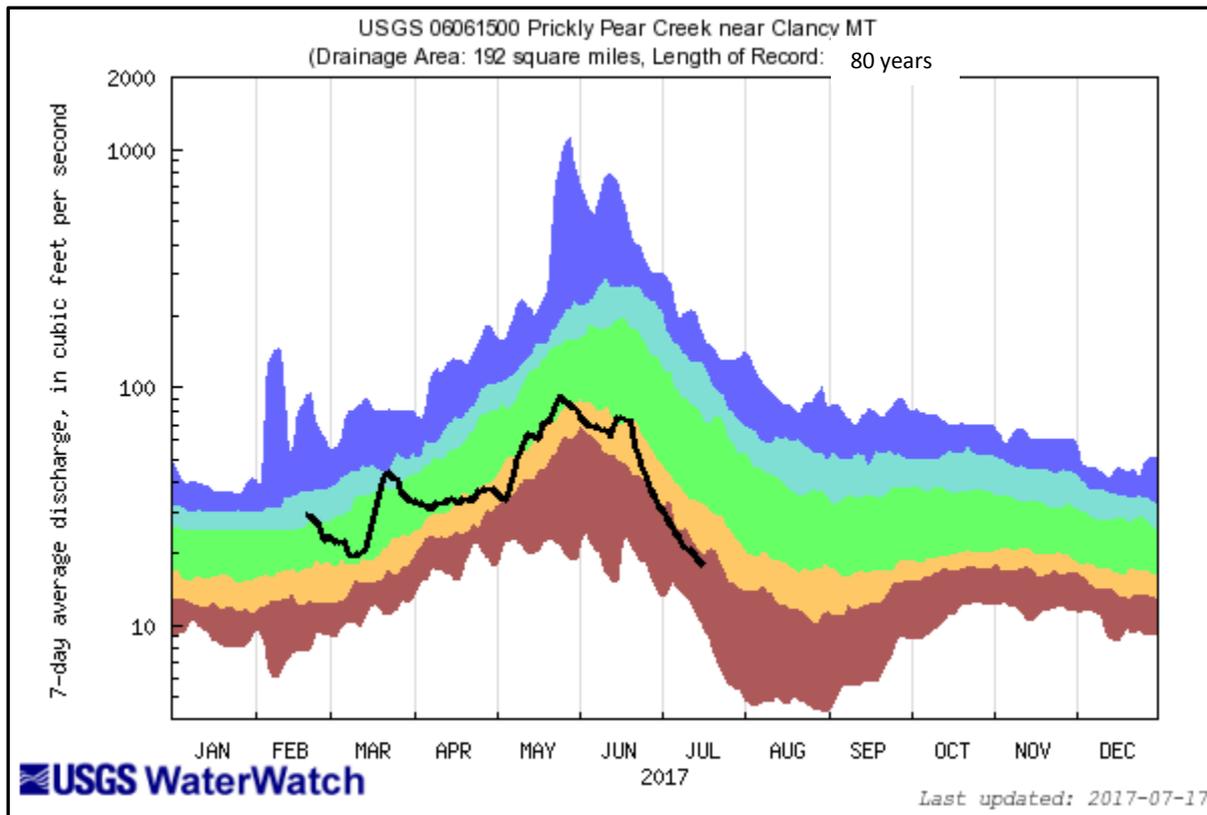
# Recent streamflow conditions

**USGS Station Number** **USGS Station Name** (*Region*)



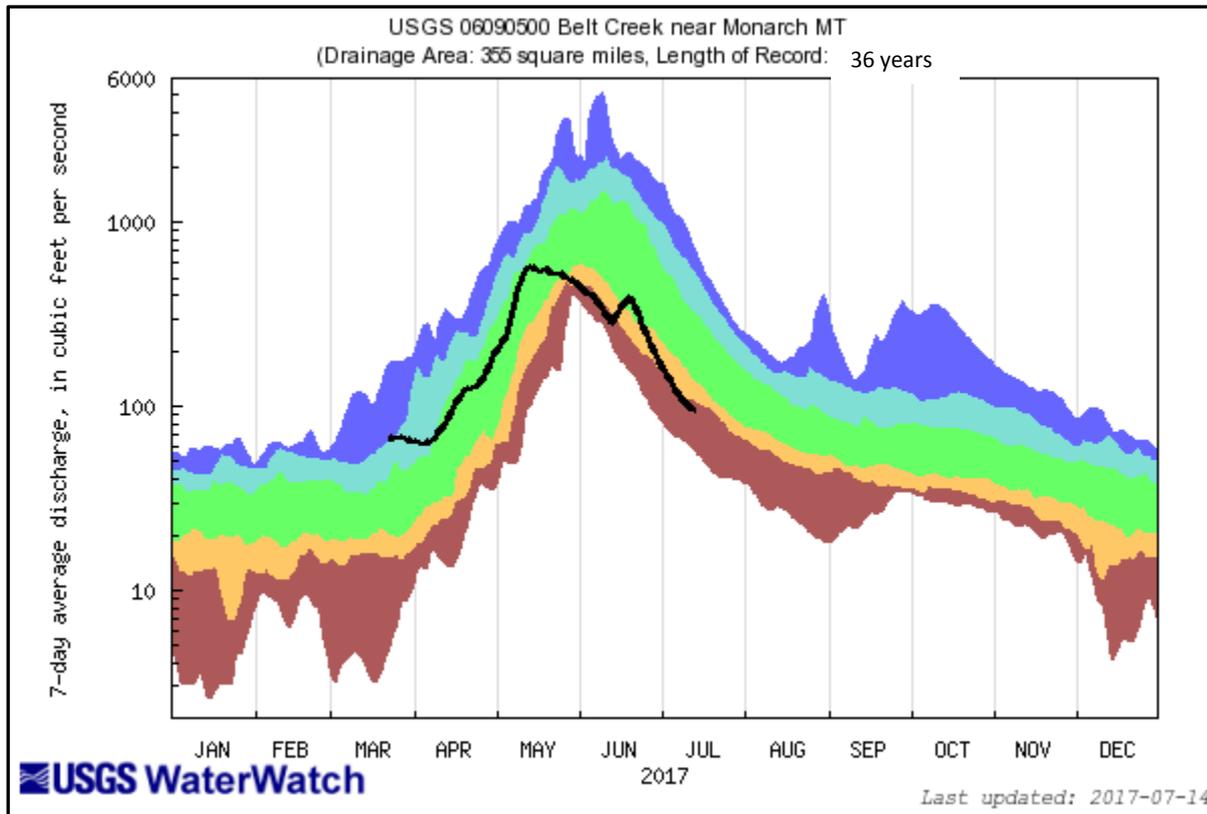
# Recent streamflow conditions

## 06061500 Prickly Pear Cr nr Clancy (Upper Missouri)



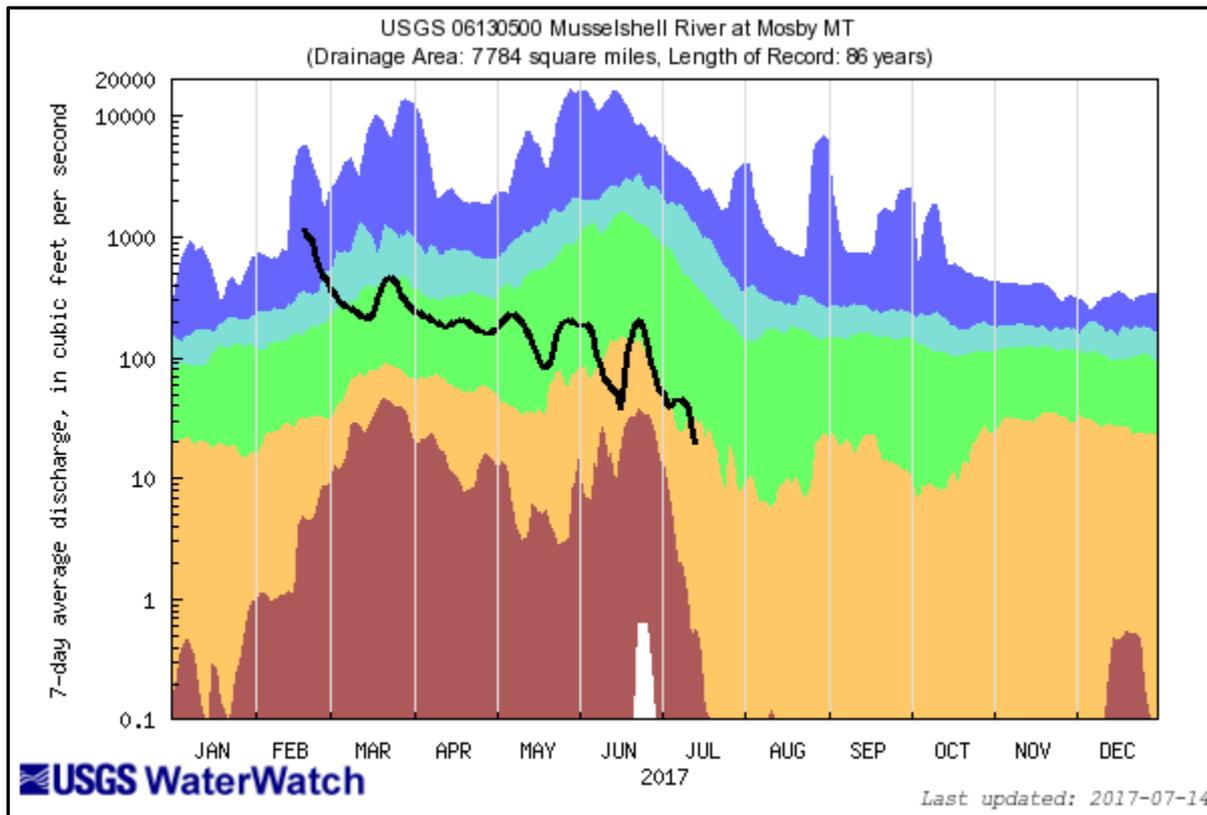
# Recent streamflow conditions

06090500 Belt Cr nr Monarch (*Upper Missouri*)



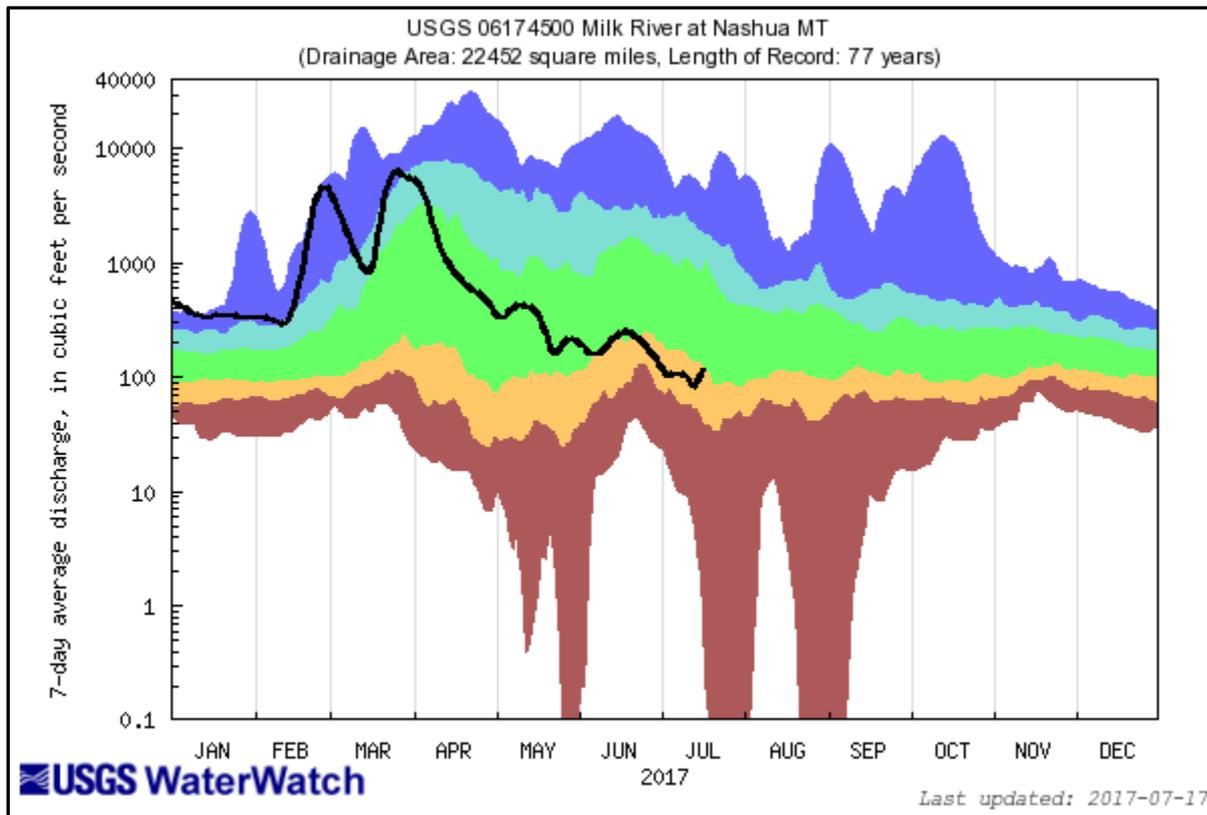
# Recent streamflow conditions

## 06130500 Musselshell R at Mosby (*Musselshell*)



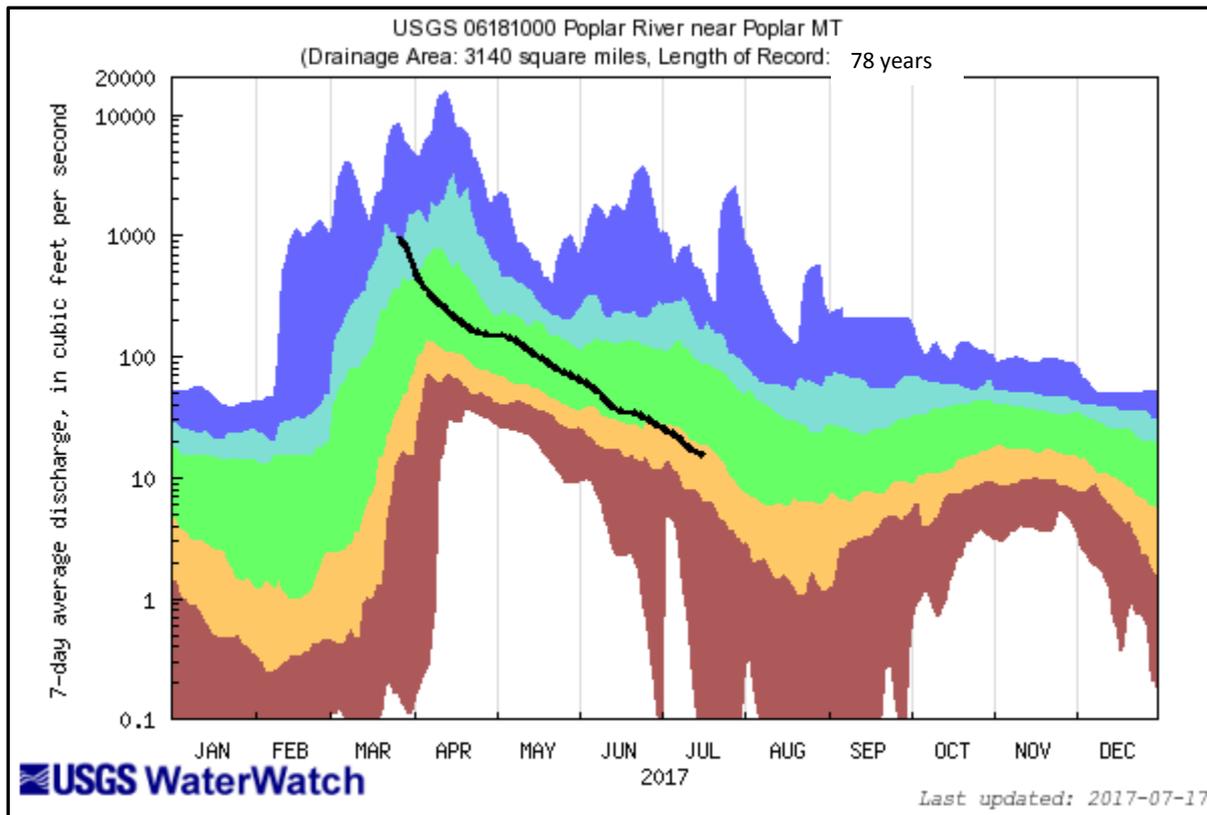
# Recent streamflow conditions

## 06174500 Milk R at Nashua (Milk)



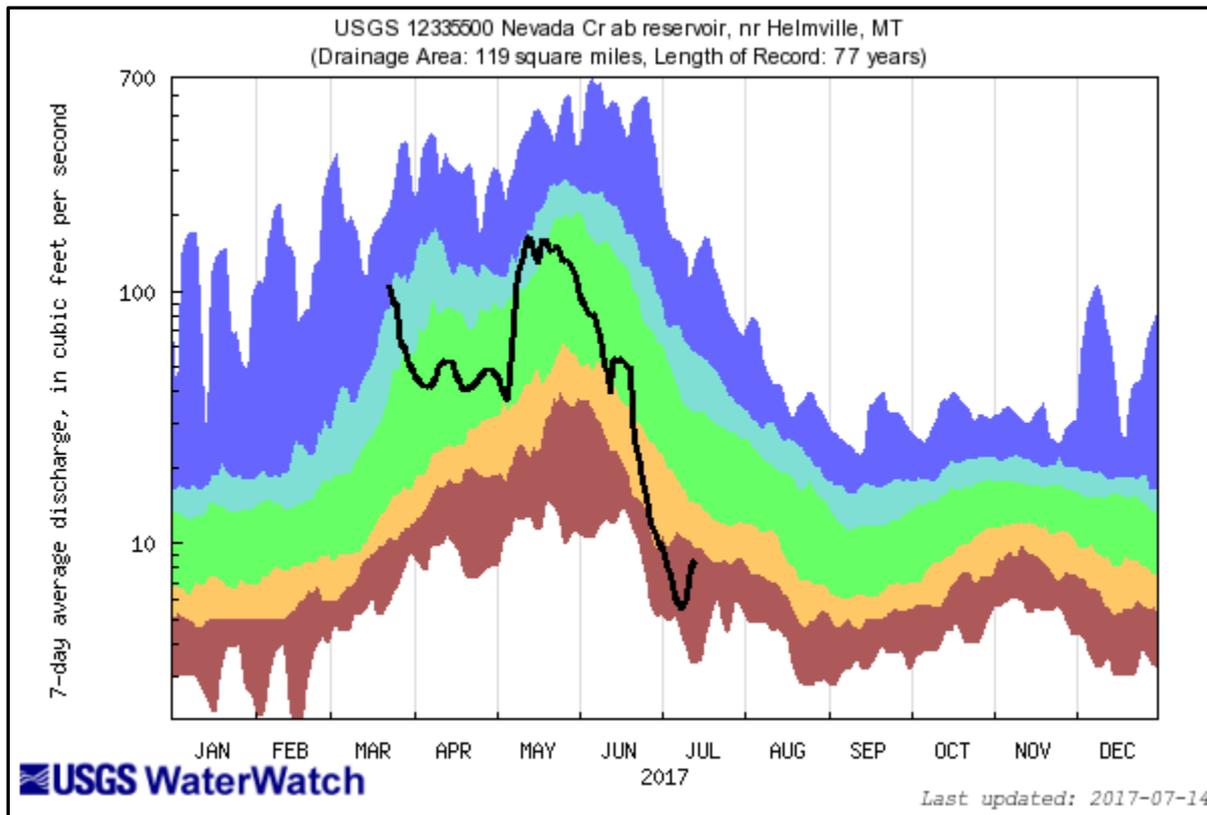
# Recent streamflow conditions

06181000 Poplar R nr Poplar (Missouri-Poplar)



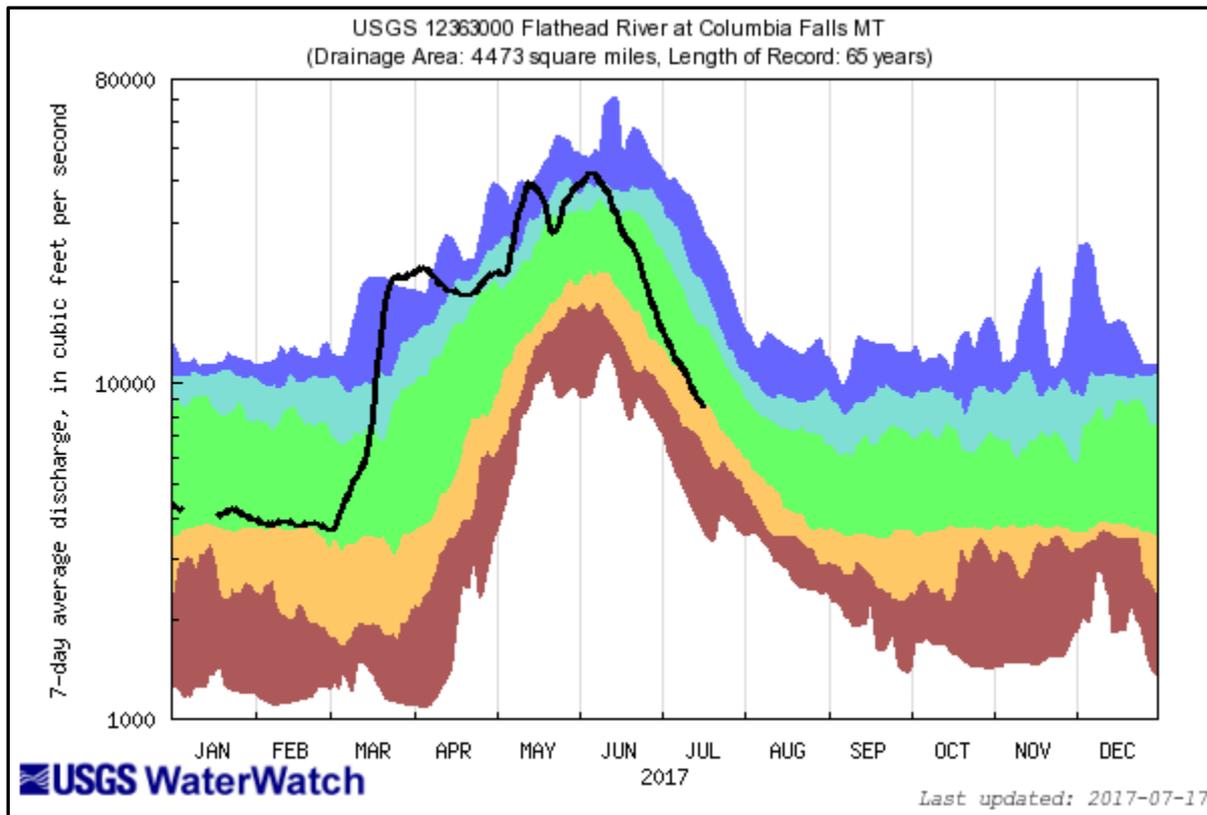
# Recent streamflow conditions

12335500 Nevada Cr ab reservoir nr Helmville (*Blackfoot*)



# Recent streamflow conditions

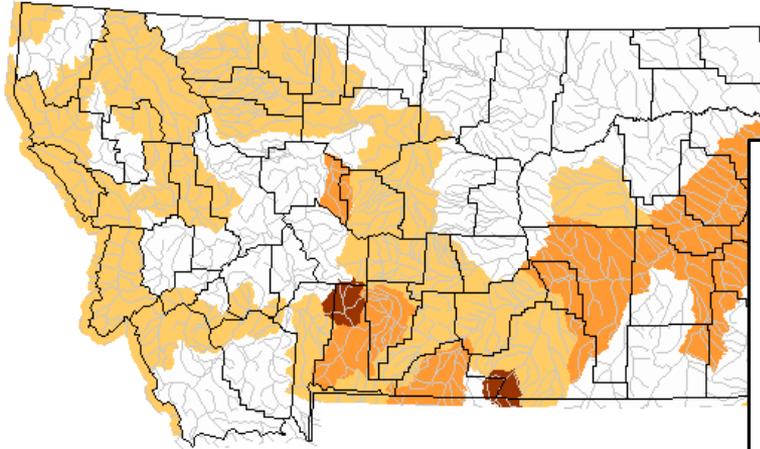
## 12363000 Flathead R at Columbia Falls (Flathead)



# Statewide below normal streamflow conditions

## Comparison with one year ago (July 12)

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

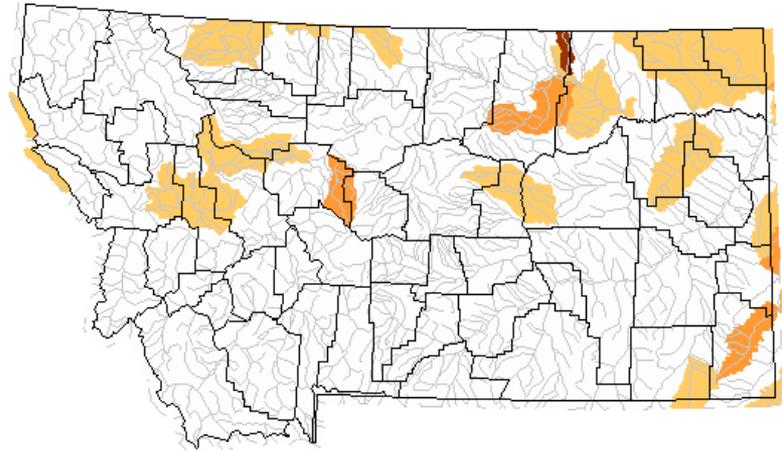


USGS

### Explanation - Percentile classes

Low	<=5	6-9	10-24	Insufficient data for a hydrologic region
Extreme hydrologic drought	Severe hydrologic drought	Moderate hydrologic drought	Below normal	

Wednesday, July 12, 2017

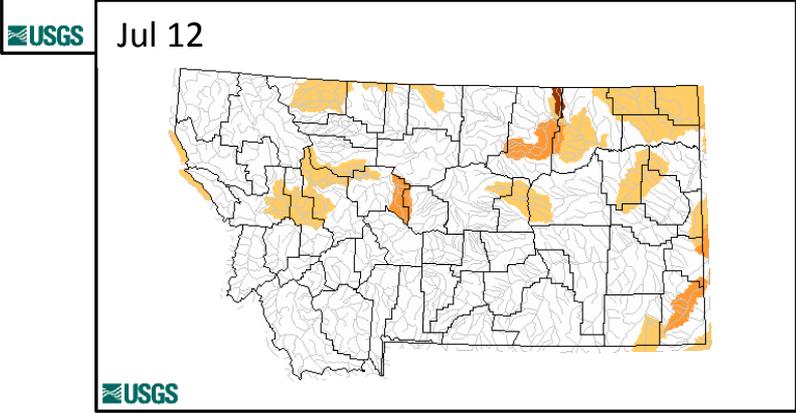
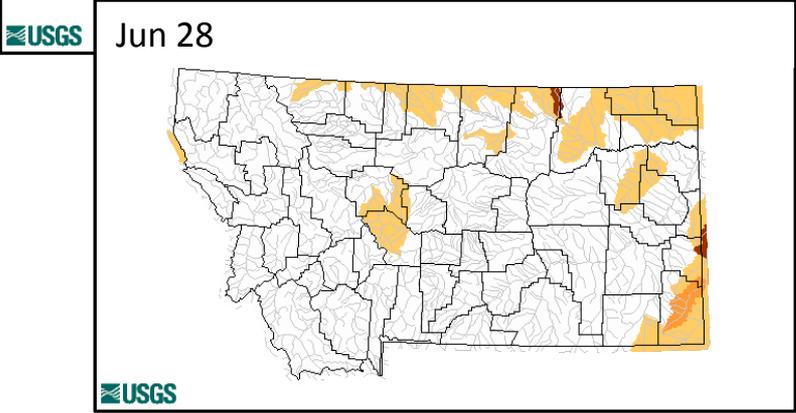
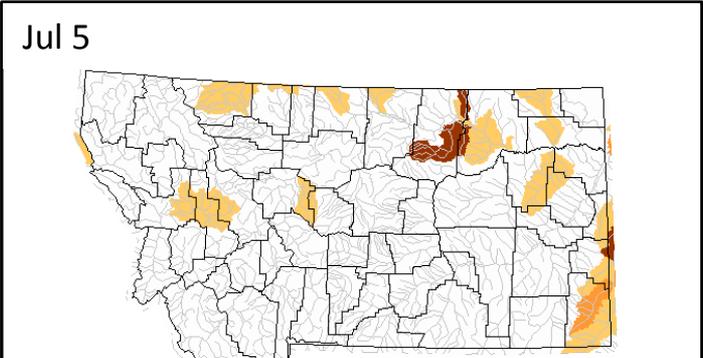
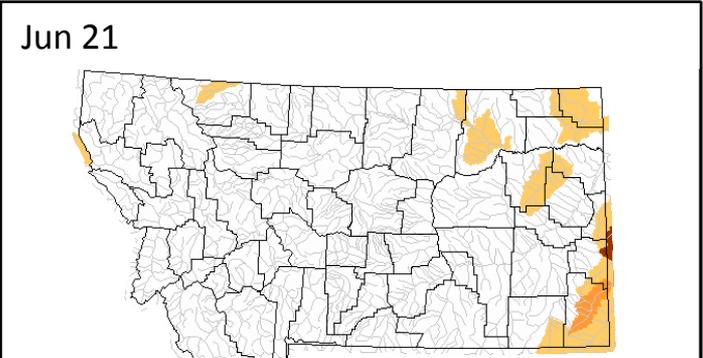


USGS

USGS

# Statewide streamflow conditions

## Comparison of last 4 weeks (Wednesday)



# Recently discontinued USGS streamgages

## UPDATES

“Rescued” – Partner commitment to fund

- 06088500 Muddy Cr at Vaughn
- 12324200 Clark Fork at Deer Lodge
- 12324680 Clark Fork at Goldcreek

Discontinued effective July 1

- 06071300 Little Prickly Pear Cr at Wolf
- 06077500 Smith R at Eden
- 06130000 Flatwillow Cr nr Mosby \*
- 12338300 N Fk Blackfoot R ab Dry Gulch nr Ovando \*\*

## ***U.S. Geological Survey contacts***

- **Wyoming-Montana Center Director**
  - John Kilpatrick ([jmkilpat@usgs.gov](mailto:jmkilpat@usgs.gov)) (406) 457-5902
- **Wyoming-Montana Surface-Water Specialist**
  - Kathy Chase ([kchase@usgs.gov](mailto:kchase@usgs.gov)) (406) 457-5957
- **Wyoming-Montana Data Chief**
  - Kirk Miller ([kmiller@usgs.gov](mailto:kmiller@usgs.gov)) (307) 775-9168

# Governor's Drought and Water Supply Advisory Committee

Wildland Fire Briefing

Bruce Suenram  
Deputy Chief

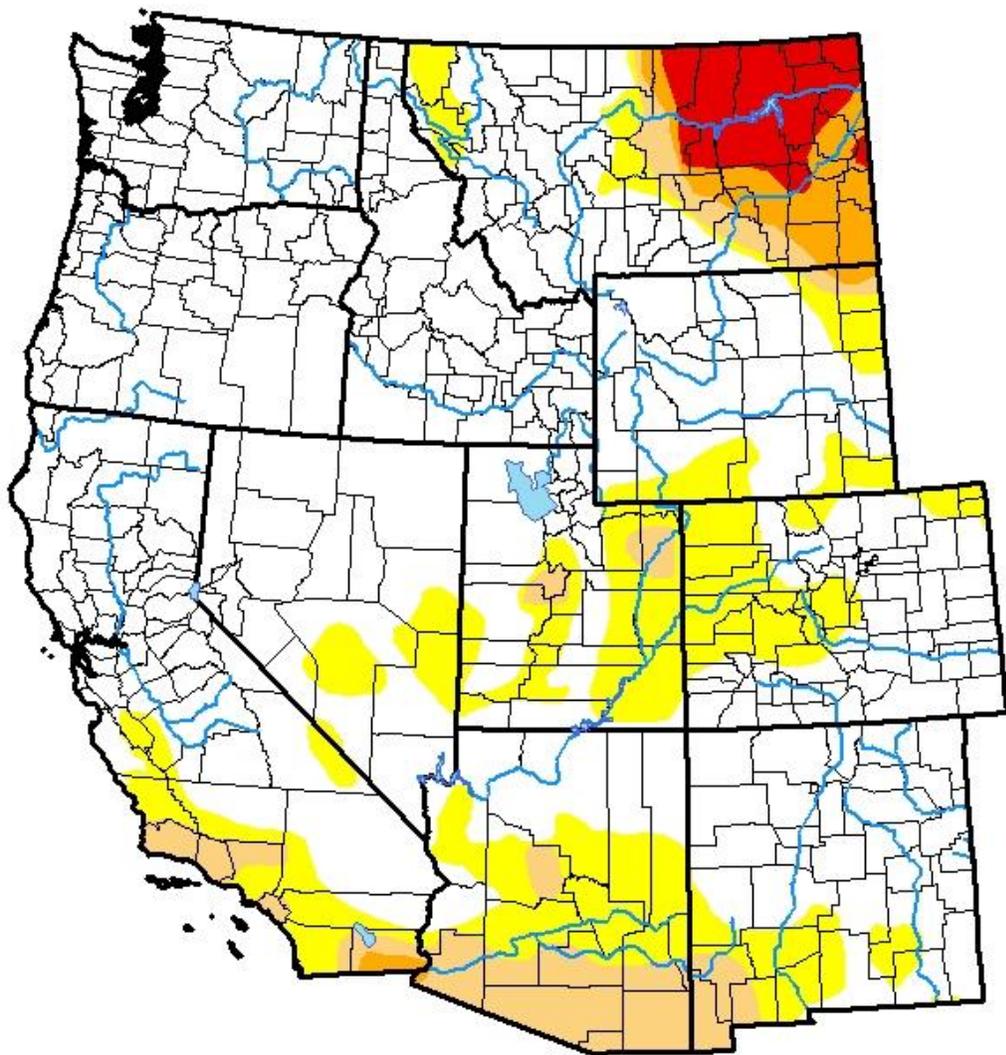


# U.S. Drought Monitor West

July 11, 2017

(Released Thursday, Jul. 13, 2017)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	72.11	27.89	10.86	4.94	2.73	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> <i>07-04-2017</i>	75.35	24.65	10.27	4.49	1.60	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> <i>04-11-2017</i>	81.58	18.42	5.02	0.16	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> <i>01-03-2017</i>	54.19	45.81	21.51	8.53	5.11	2.44
<b>Start of Water Year</b> <i>09-27-2016</i>	27.78	72.22	30.95	13.45	5.77	2.81
<b>One Year Ago</b> <i>07-12-2016</i>	34.31	65.69	28.08	11.11	5.80	2.81

Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

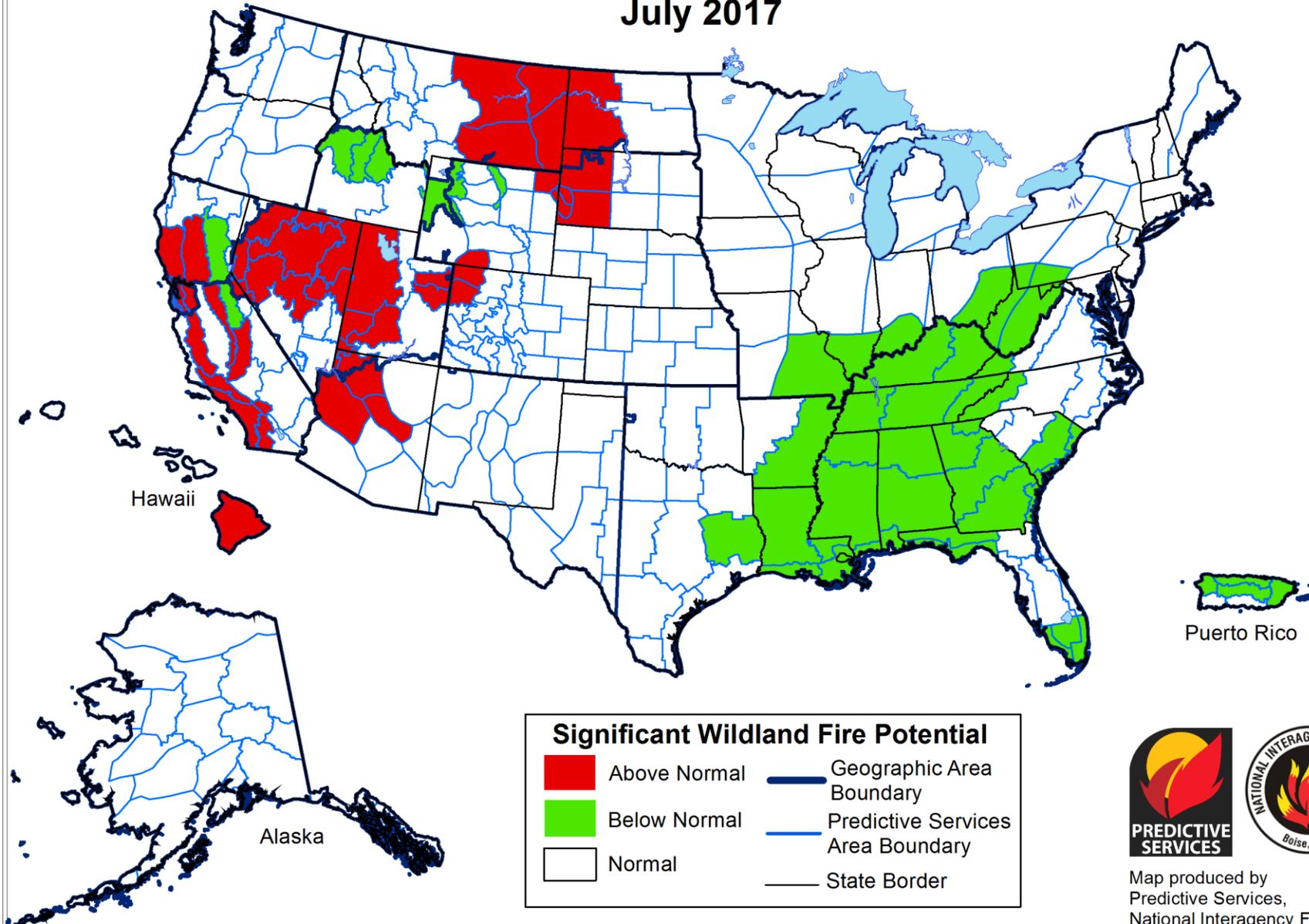
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

Author:

David Simeral  
Western Regional Climate Center



# Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook July 2017



Above normal significant wildland fire potential indicates a greater than usual likelihood that significant wildland fires will occur. Significant wildland fires should be expected at typical times and intervals during normal significant wildland fire potential conditions. Significant wildland fires are still possible but less likely than usual during forecasted below normal periods.

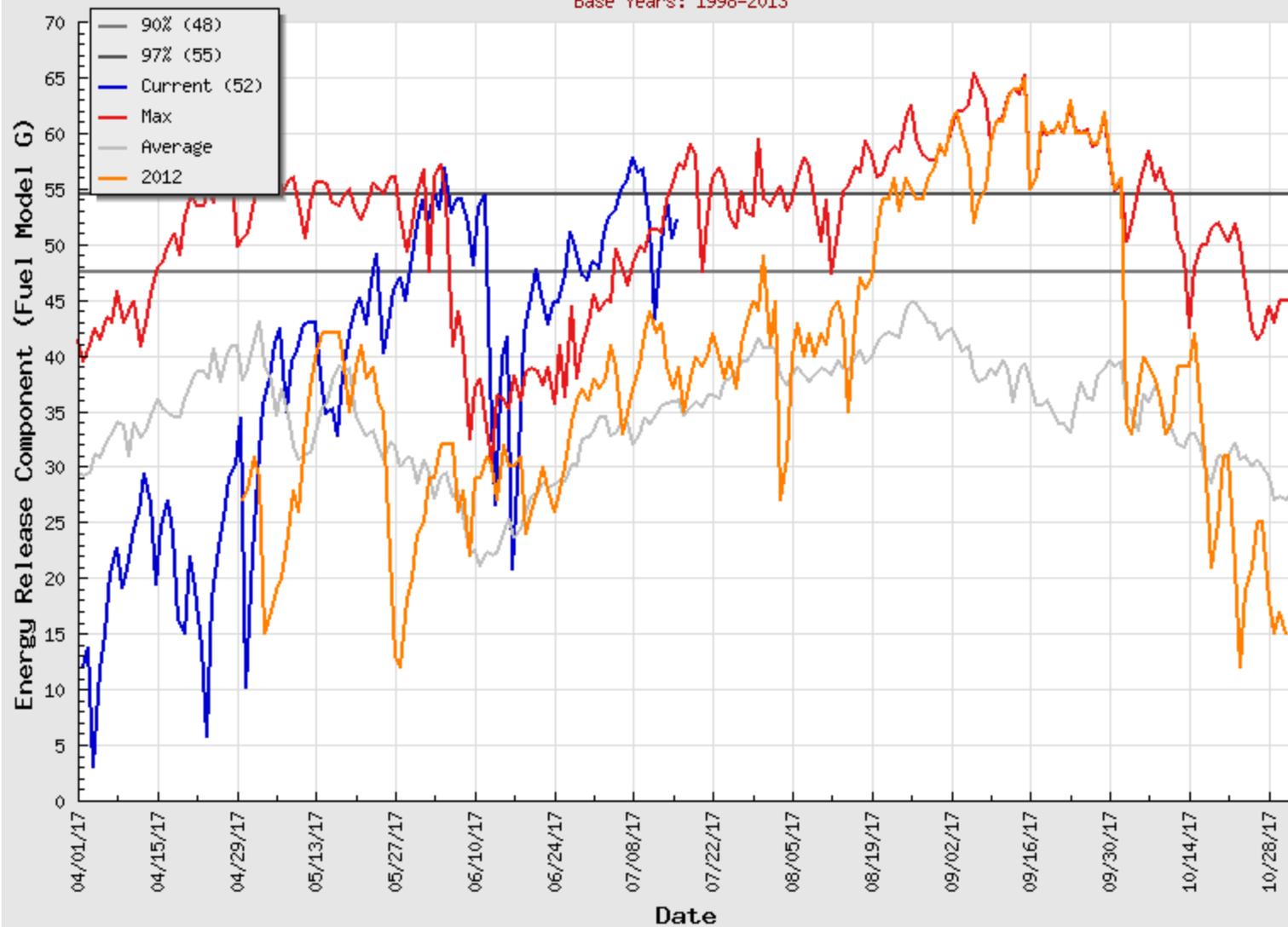


Map produced by  
Predictive Services,  
National Interagency Fire Center  
Boise, Idaho  
Issued July 1, 2017  
Next issuance August 1, 2017

### NR15 - Northeast Montana and Northwest North Dakota

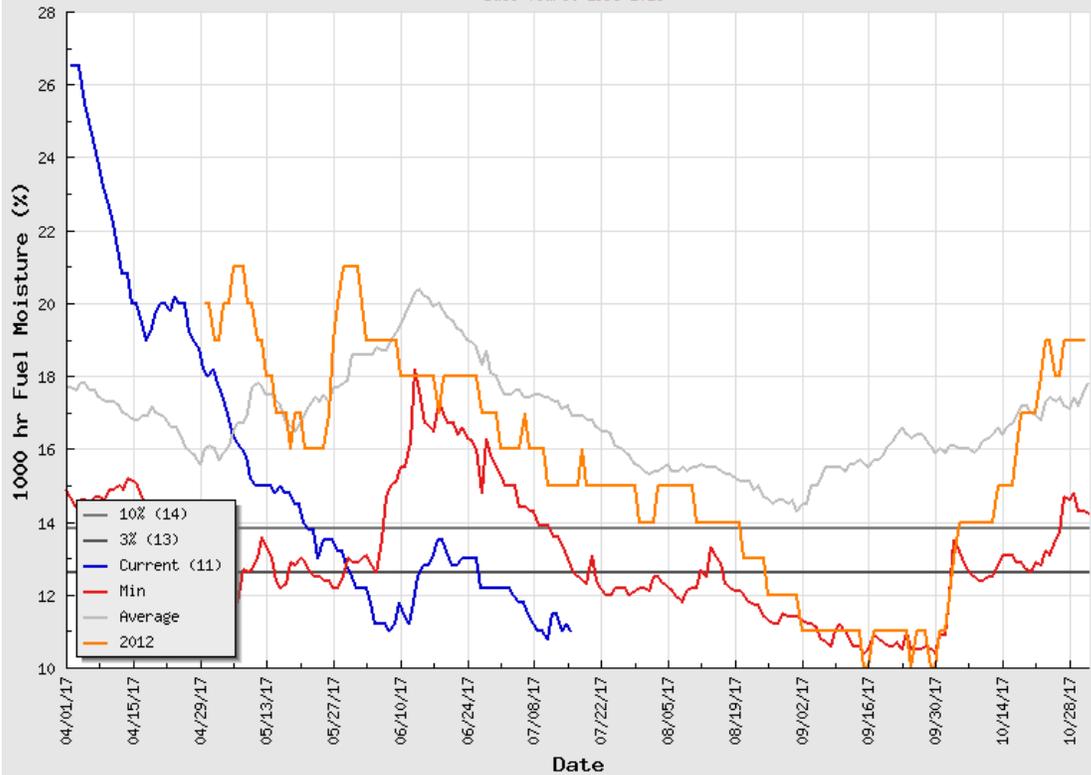
Valid Date: 16-Jul-2017

Base Years: 1998-2013



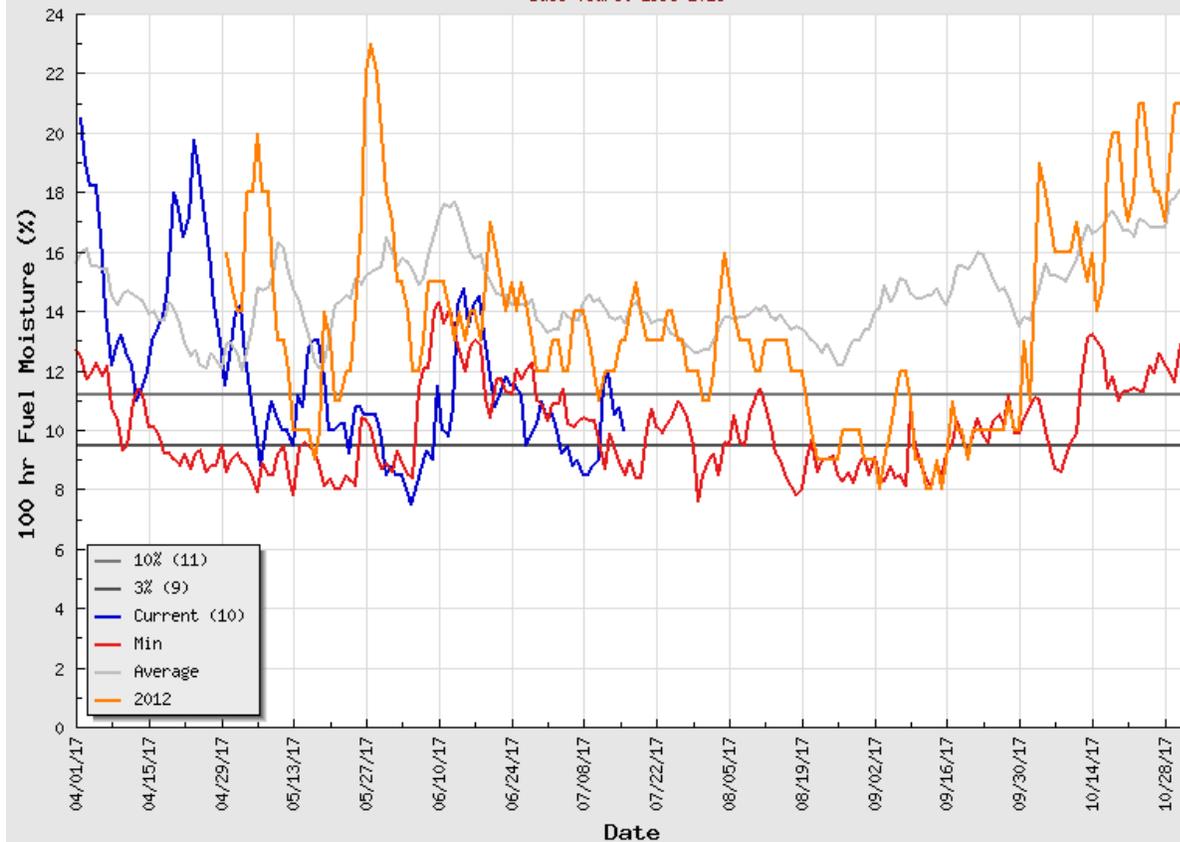
### NR15 - Northeast Montana and Northwest North Dakota

Valid Date: 16-Jul-2017  
Base Years: 1998-2013



### NR15 - Northeast Montana and Northwest North Dakota

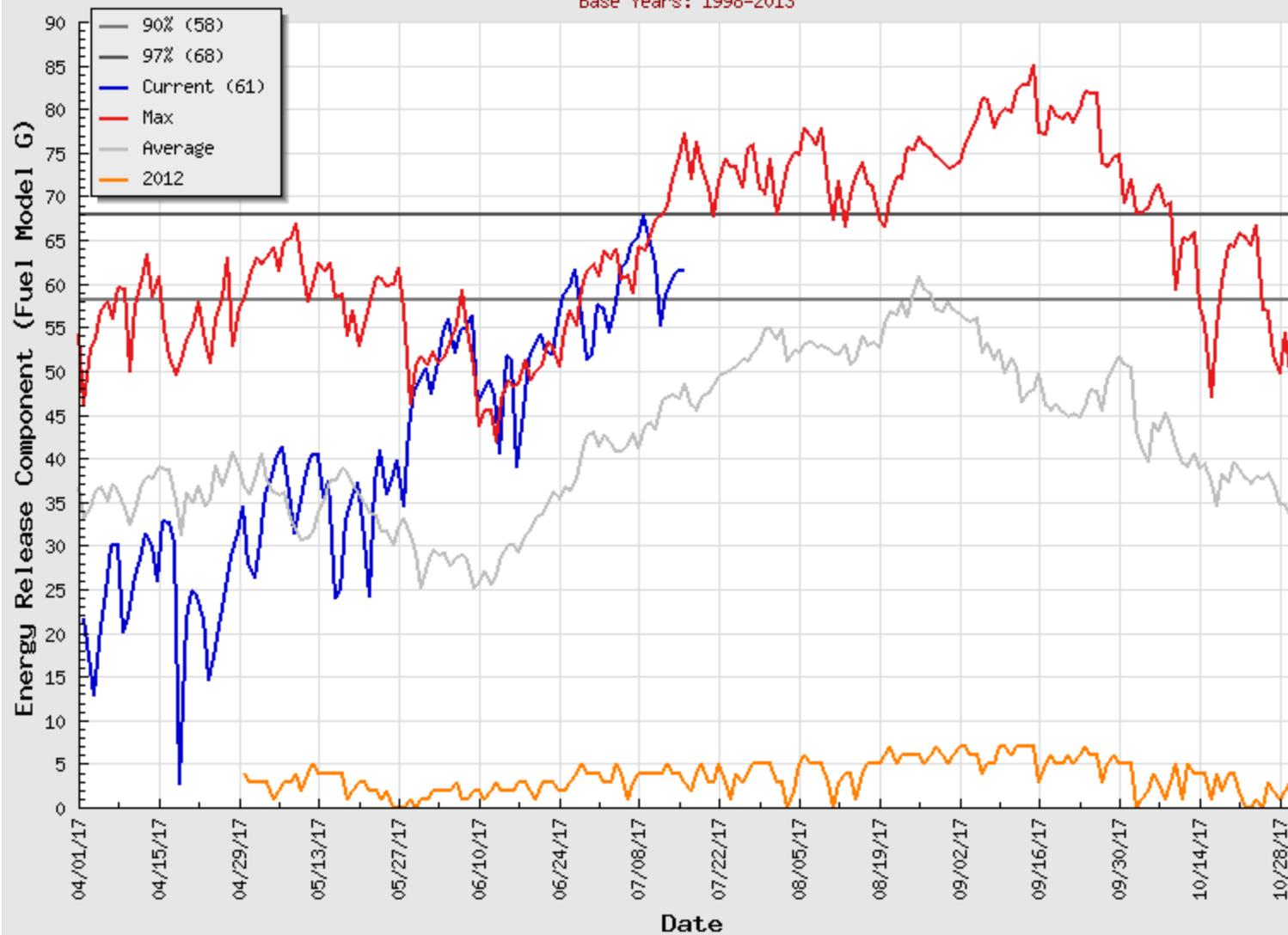
Valid Date: 16-Jul-2017  
Base Years: 1998-2013



# NR16 - Southeastern Montana and Southwest North Dakota

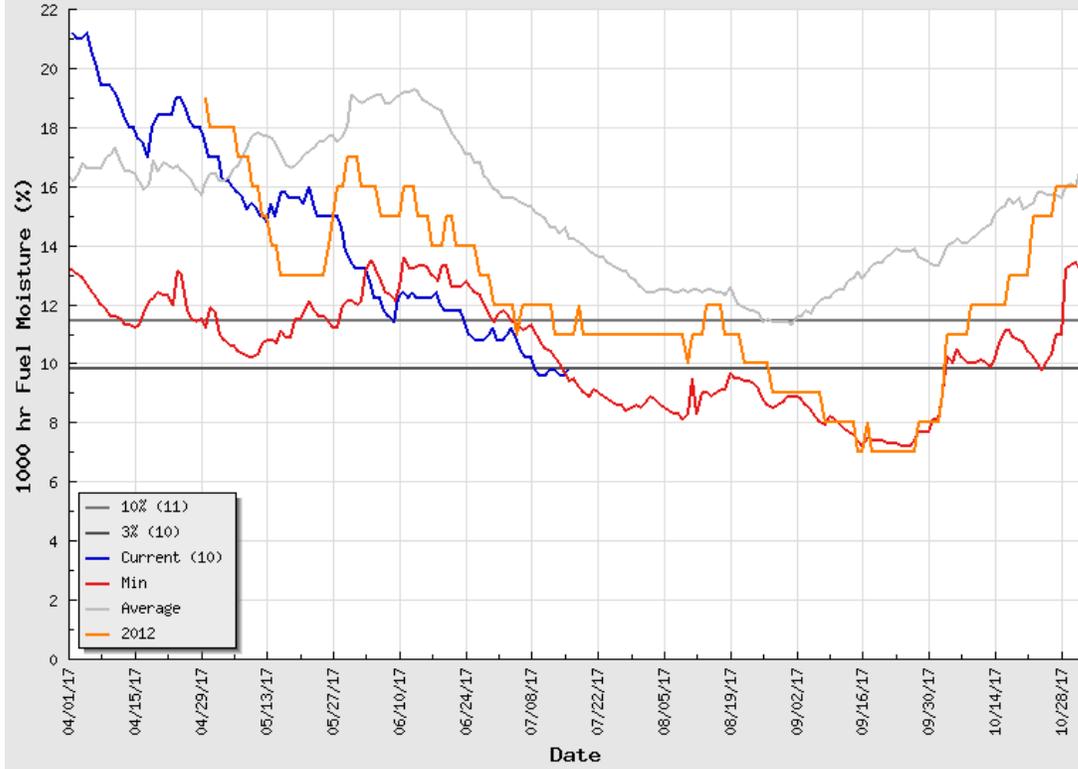
Valid Date: 16-Jul-2017

Base Years: 1998-2013



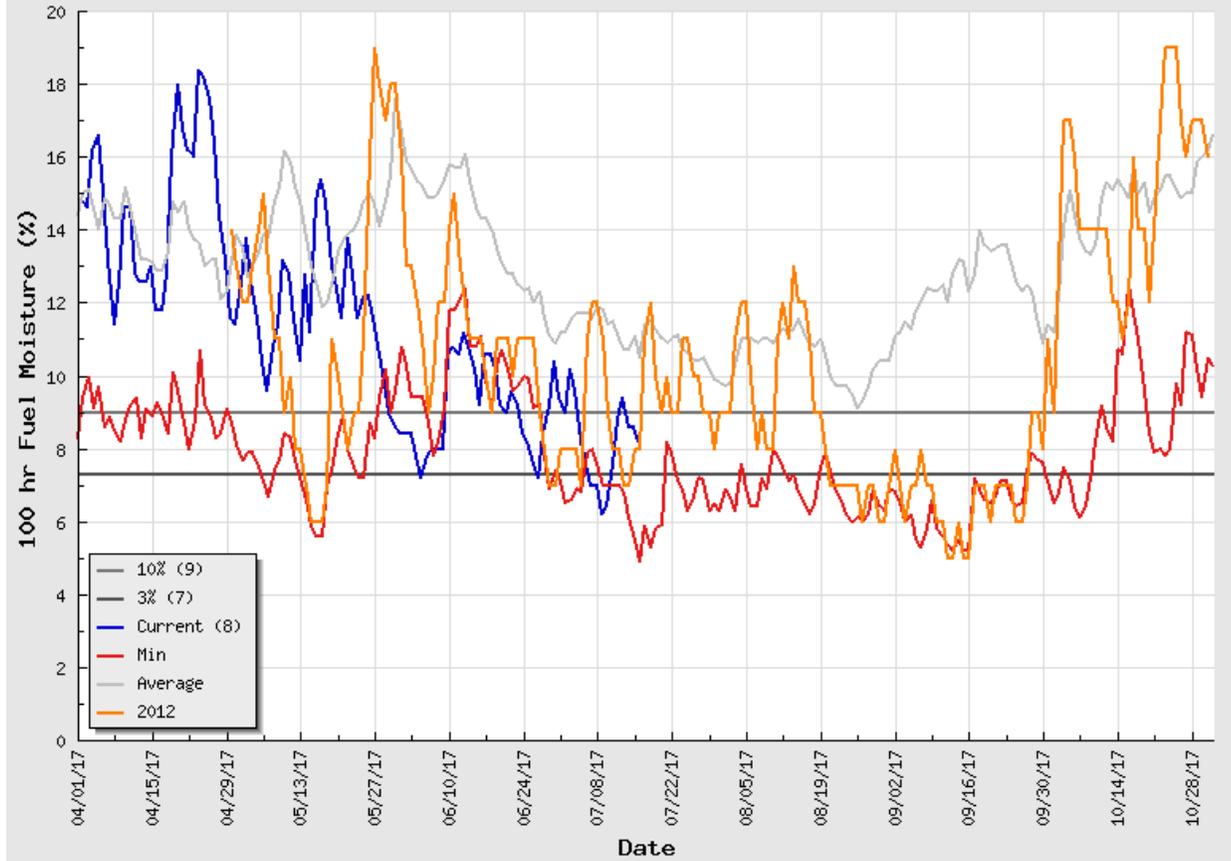
### NR16 - Southeastern Montana and Southwest North Dakota

Valid Date: 16-Jul-2017  
Base Years: 1998-2013

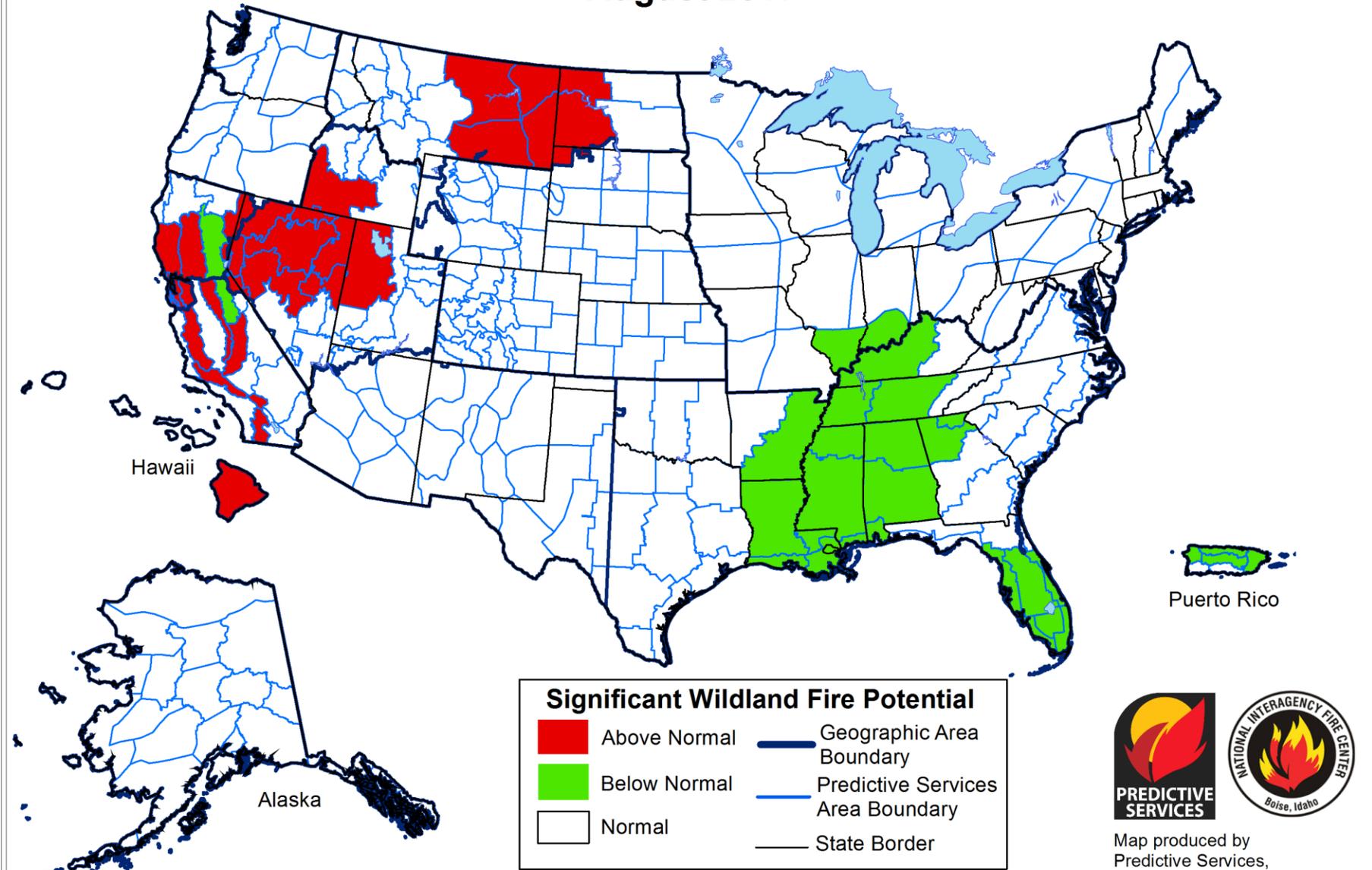


### NR16 - Southeastern Montana and Southwest North Dakota

Valid Date: 16-Jul-2017  
Base Years: 1998-2013



# Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook August 2017

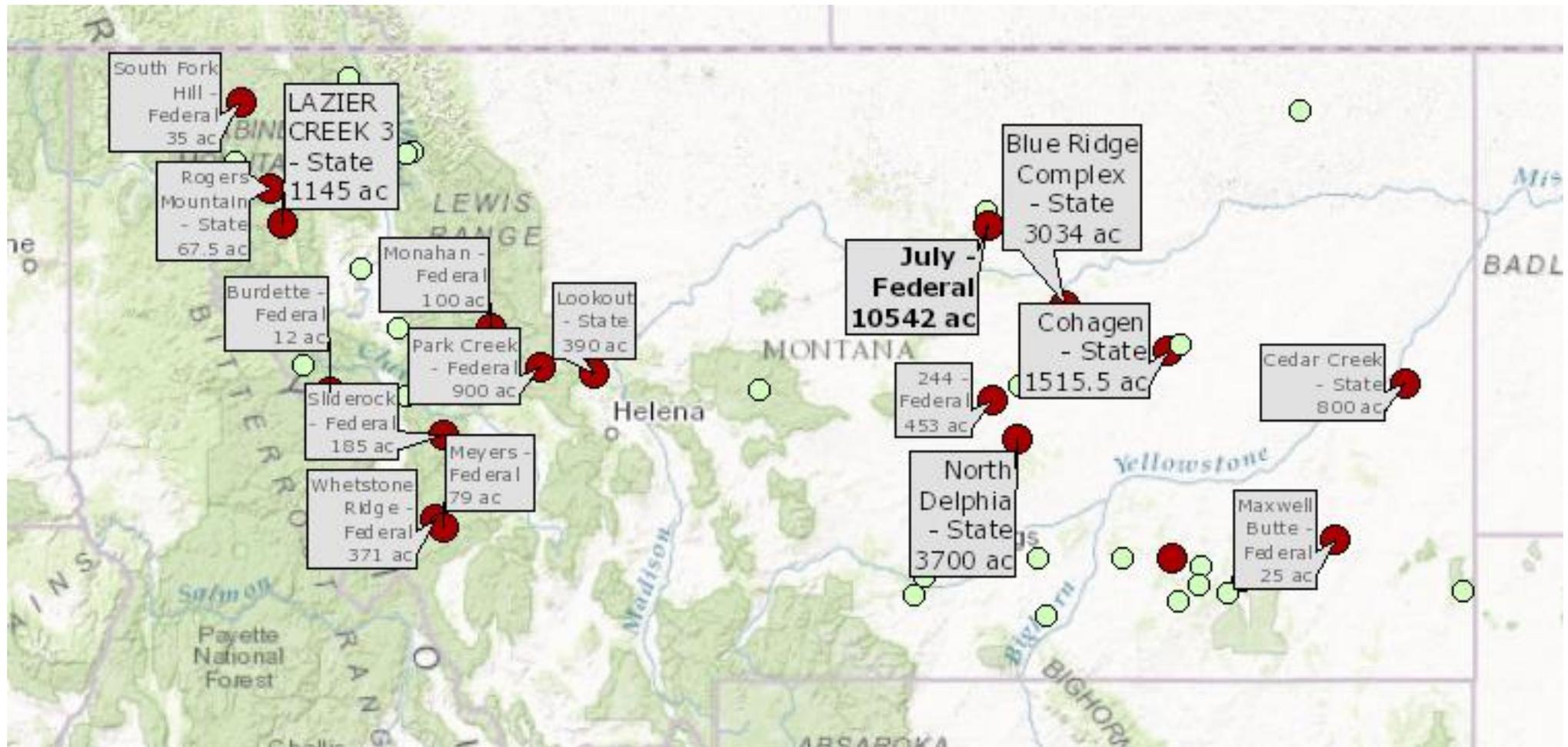


Above normal significant wildland fire potential indicates a greater than usual likelihood that significant wildland fires will occur. Significant wildland fires should be expected at typical times and intervals during normal significant wildland fire potential conditions. Significant wildland fires are still possible but less likely than usual during forecasted below normal periods.

Map produced by  
Predictive Services,  
National Interagency Fire Center  
Boise, Idaho  
Issued July 1, 2017  
Next issuance August 1, 2017

# Fire Restrictions & Burn Bans

Stage 1 Restrictions		Stage 2 Restrictions	Burn Bans
Carter	Richland	Musselshell	Cascade
Chouteau	Rosebud	Yellowstone	Daniels
Custer	Wibaux		Flathead
Fergus			Jefferson
Garfield			Lake
Golden Valley			Lewis & Clark
Hill			Missoula
Judith Basin			Ravalli
Petroleum			Sanders
Phillips			Wheatland
Powder River			



# RECLAMATION

*Managing Water in the West*

## River and Reservoir

## Status Briefing

### RESERVOIR AND RIVER OPERATIONS

Montana Area Office

Billings

July 18, 2017



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Reclamation

SHERBURNE

117%



TIBER

103%



FRESNO

60%



NELSON

91%



GIBSON

99%



PISHKUN

96%



WILLOW CREEK

99%



CANYON FERRY

104%



Key

Reservoir Name



100%

Reservoir Storage  
Percent of Average (%)

BIGHORN

120%



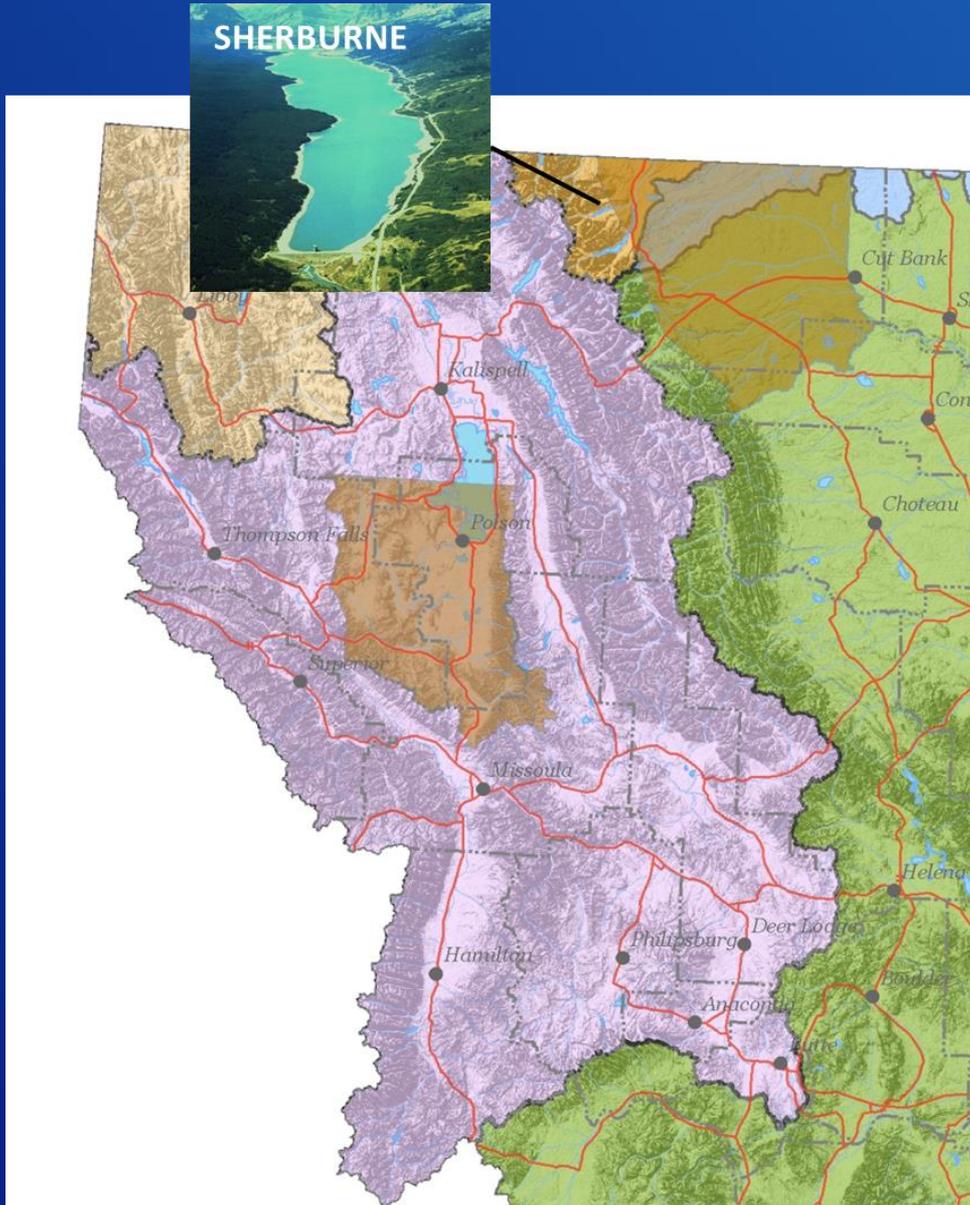
CLARK CANYON

129%



Reclamation: Montana Area Office  
Reservoir Storage Status : July 16, 2017

# Summary of Conditions



- Reservoir Elevation – 1 ft below full pool
- Reservoir Release – 400 cfs

RECLAMATION

TIBER



GIBSON



PISHKUN



WILLOW CREEK



CANYON FERRY



CLARK CANYON

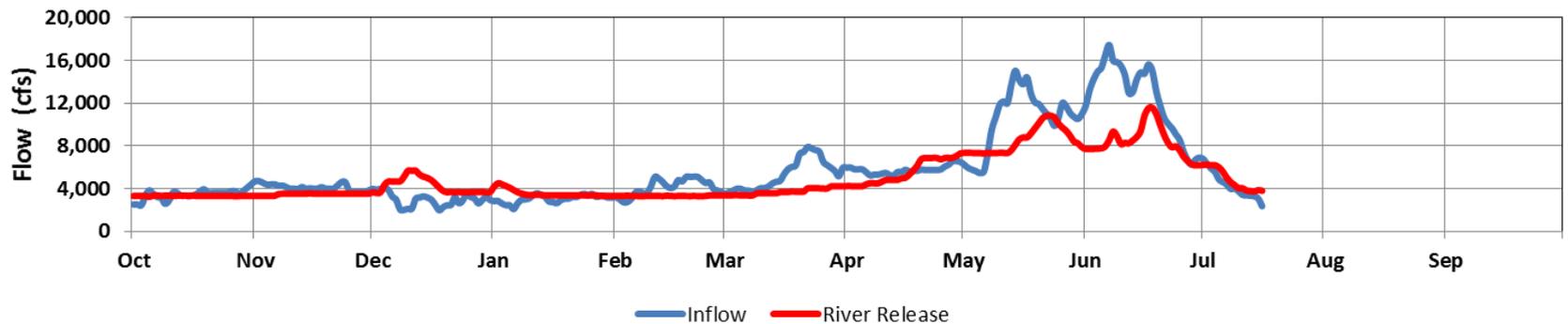
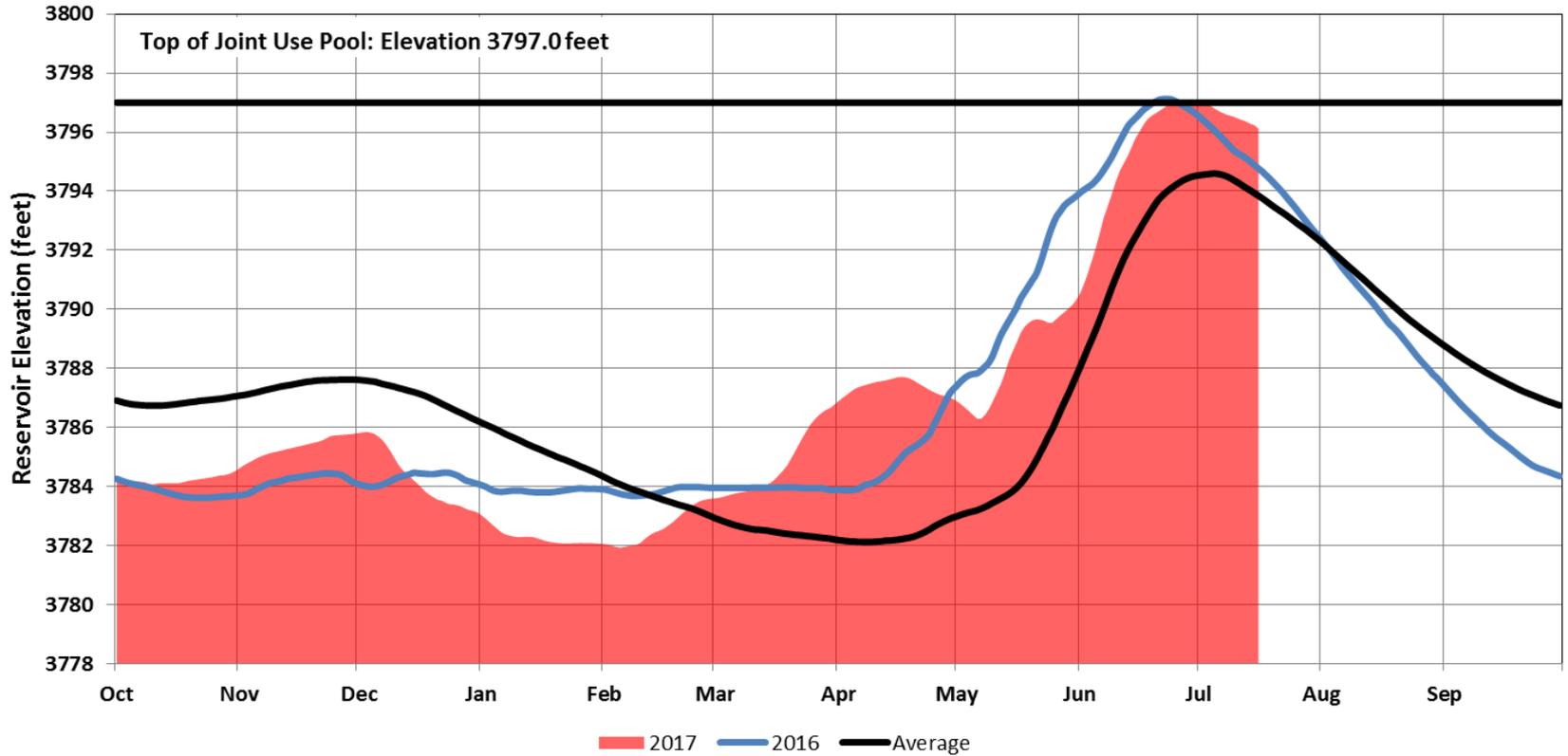


-  Clark Fork
-  Kootenai
-  Little Missouri
-  Lower Missouri
-  St. Mary - Hudson Bay
-  Upper Missouri
-  Yellowstone
-  Montana Indian Reservations

# Upper Missouri Basin

# RECLAMATION

# Canyon Ferry Reservoir Operations



# Summary of Conditions

- **Full Irrigation Allotments**

**East Bench & Clark Canyon Company**

**Greenfield Irrigation District**

- **River Flows**

**Sun River below Diversion Dam – 130 cfs**

**Missouri River below Holter Dam – 4,200 cfs**

**Marias River below Tiber – 750 cfs**

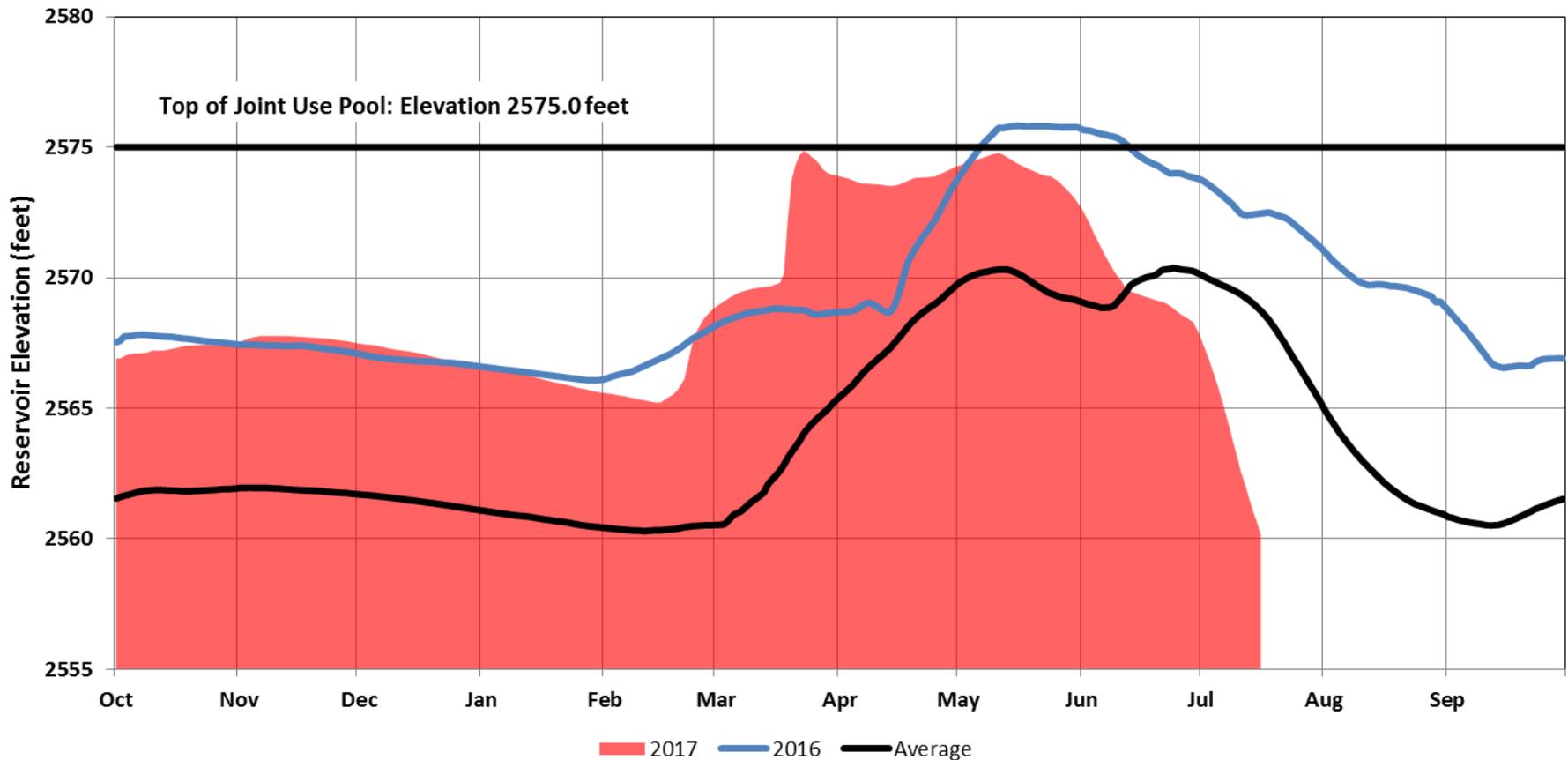
**Beaverhead below Clark Canyon – 790 cfs**

# Lower Missouri Basin



RECLAMATION

# Fresno Reservoir Operations



- Irrigation on Milk River shut down August 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Fresno Release – 1,080 cfs
- Nelson Release – 600 cfs

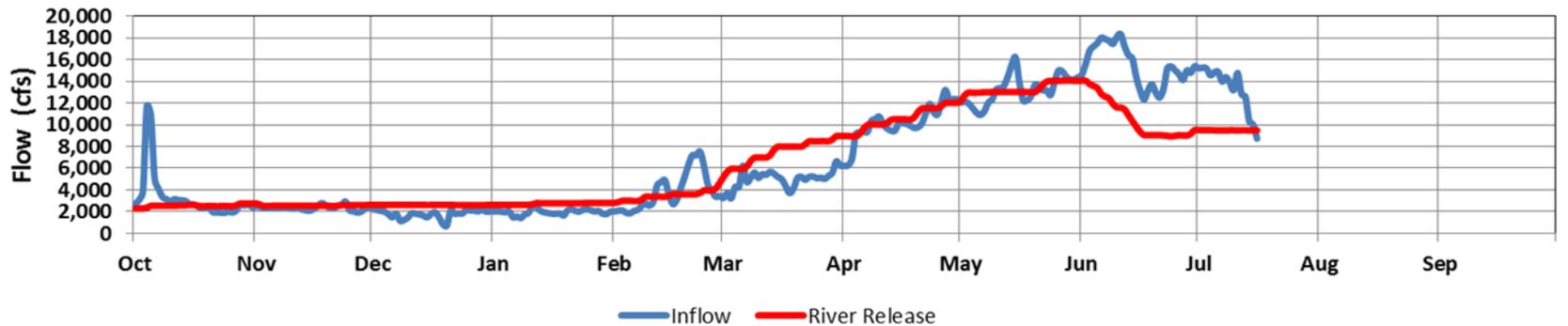
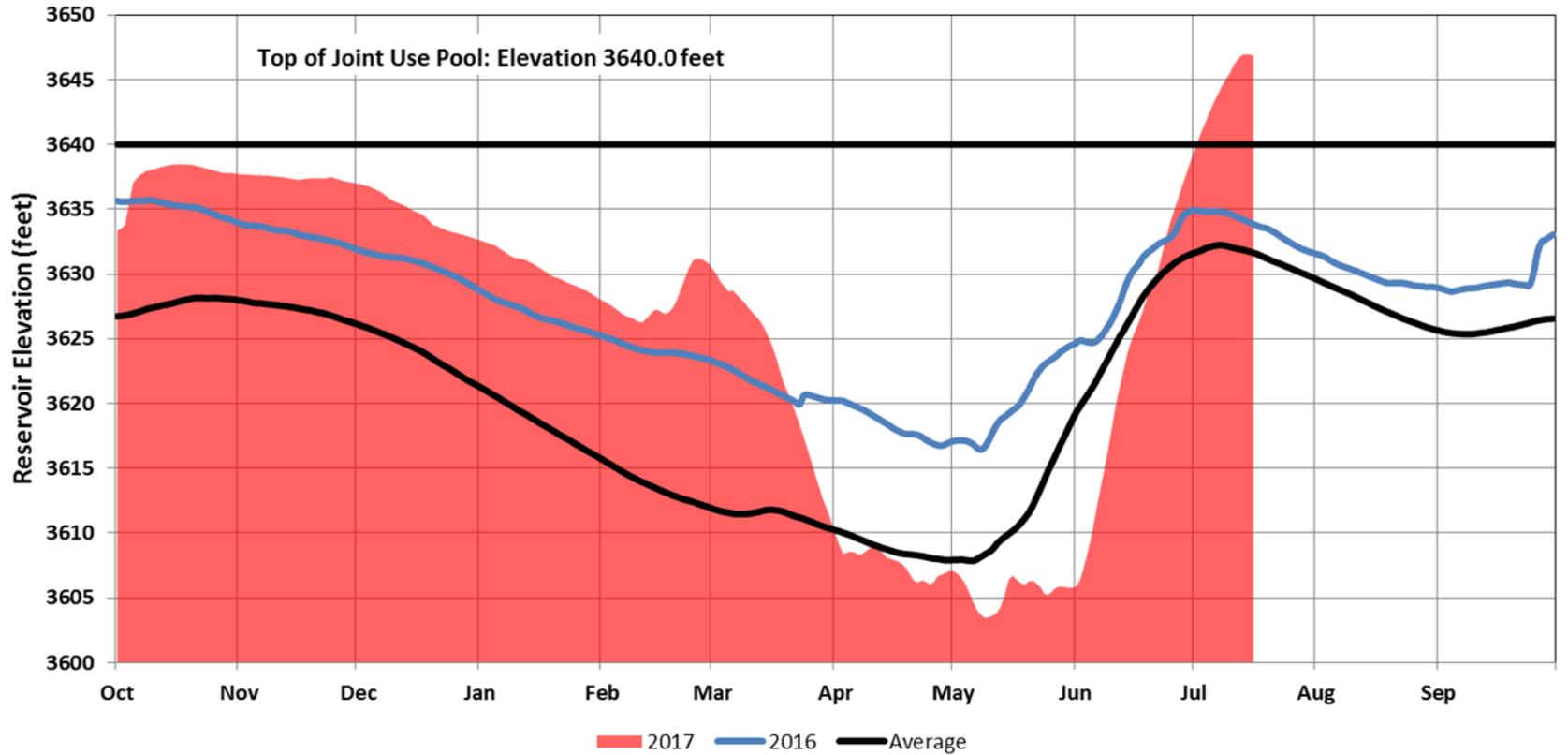
RECLAMATION

# Yellowstone Basin



RECLAMATION

# Bighorn Lake (Yellowtail Dam) Operations



# Summary of Conditions

## Yellowtail Dam

**Bighorn River Release – 9,500 cfs**

**Boysen River Release – 6,500 cfs**

**Buffalo Bill River Release – 2,000 cfs**

# Reclamation's Internet Website

<http://www.usbr.gov/gp/hydromet/>

- near real-time data available through the HYDROMET data system
- summaries and plots of historical data
- annual reservoir operating plan publication
- monthly water supply reports
- project data
- snow plots
- links to related internet sites

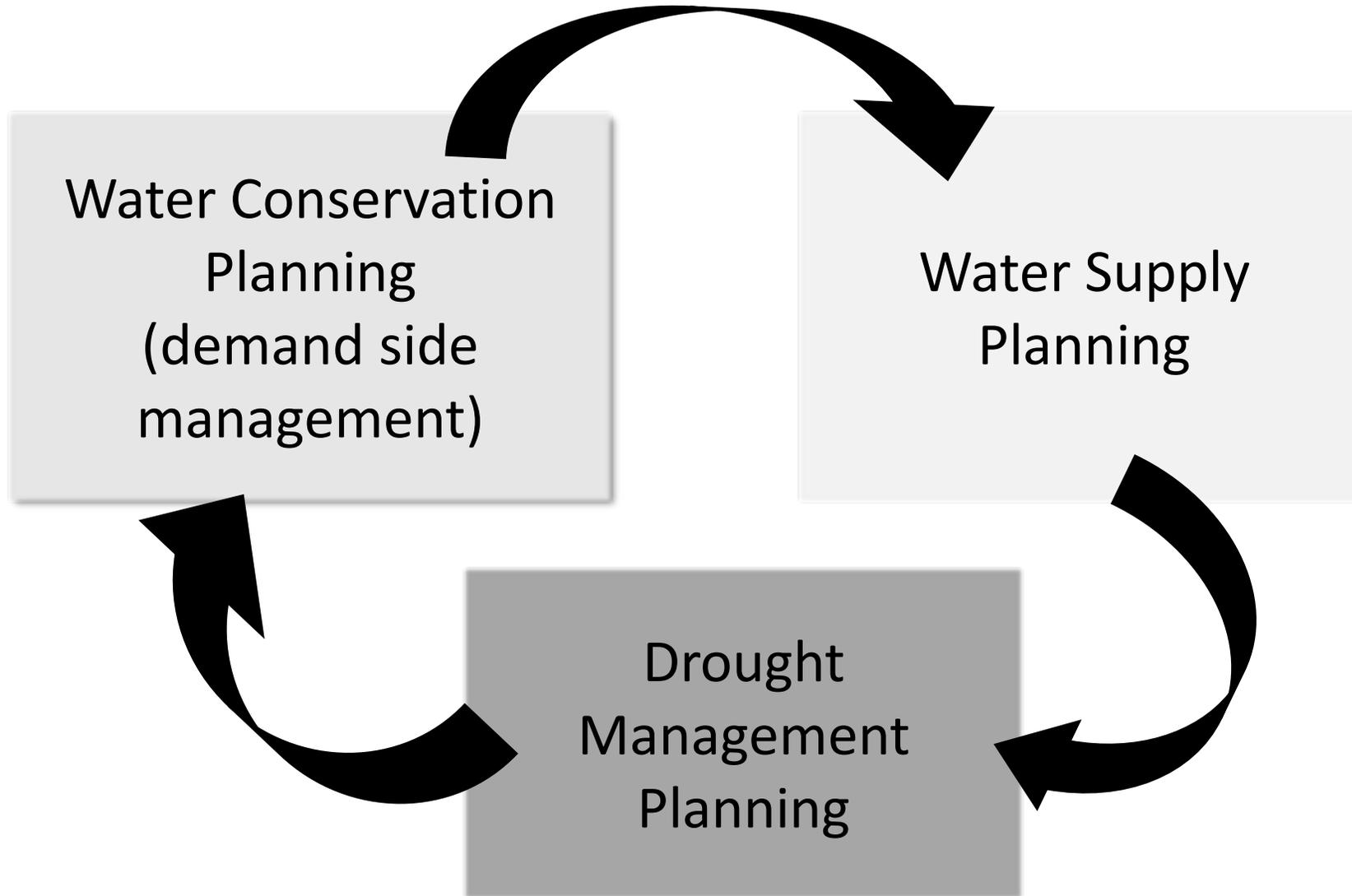
RECLAMATION

# City of Bozeman 2017 Drought Management Plan

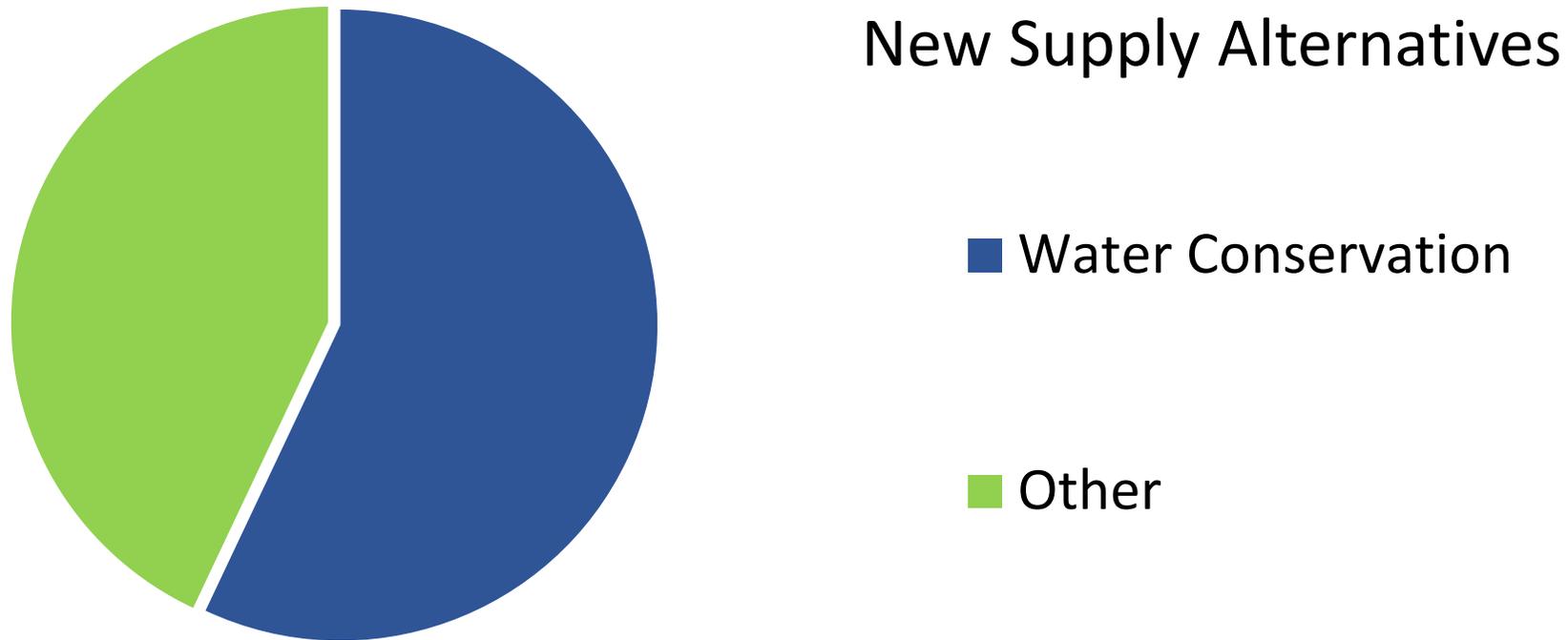


Presentation to the Governor's Drought and Water  
Supply Advisory Committee – July 18, 2017

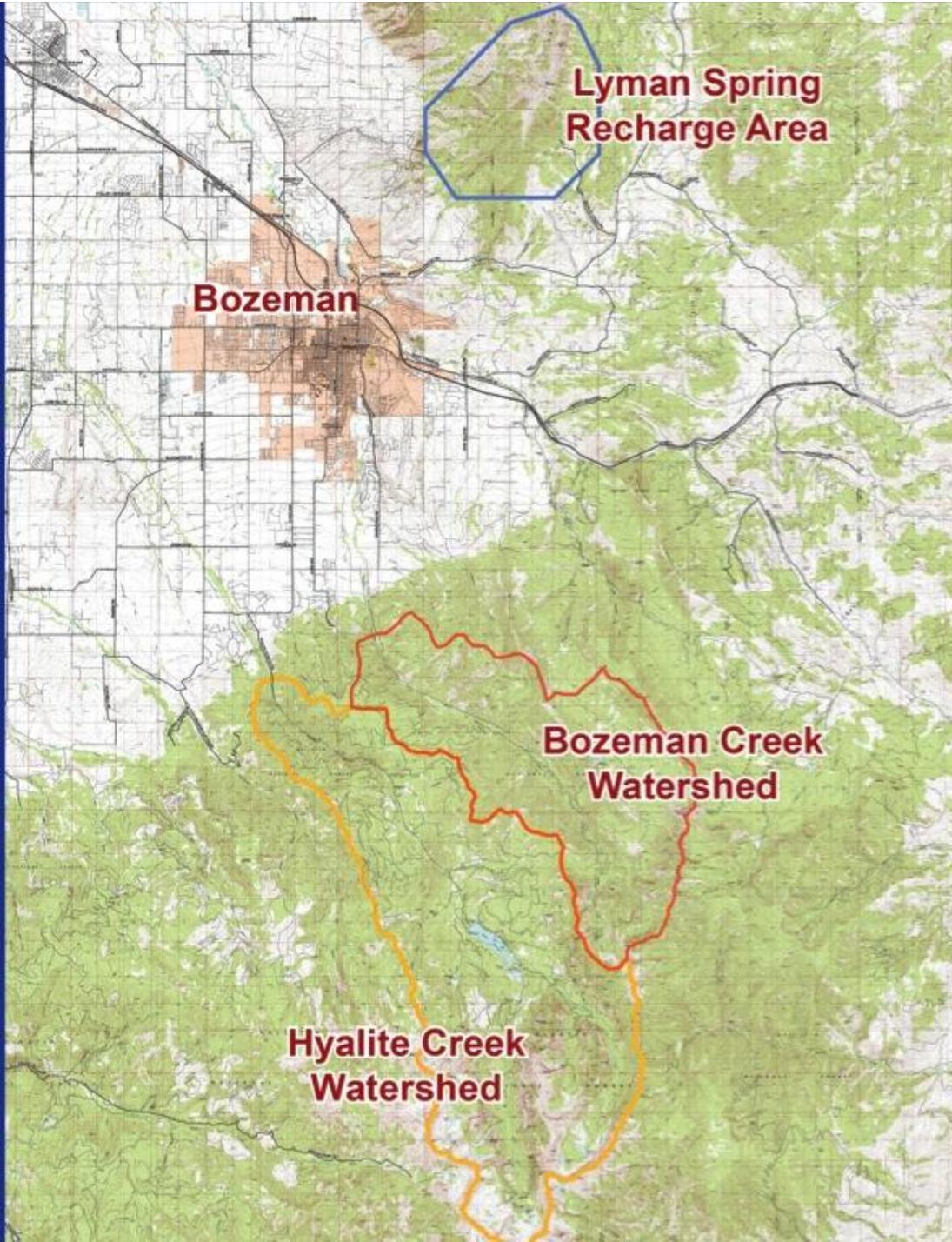
# Integrated Water Resources Planning



# City of Bozeman Integrated Water Resources Plan



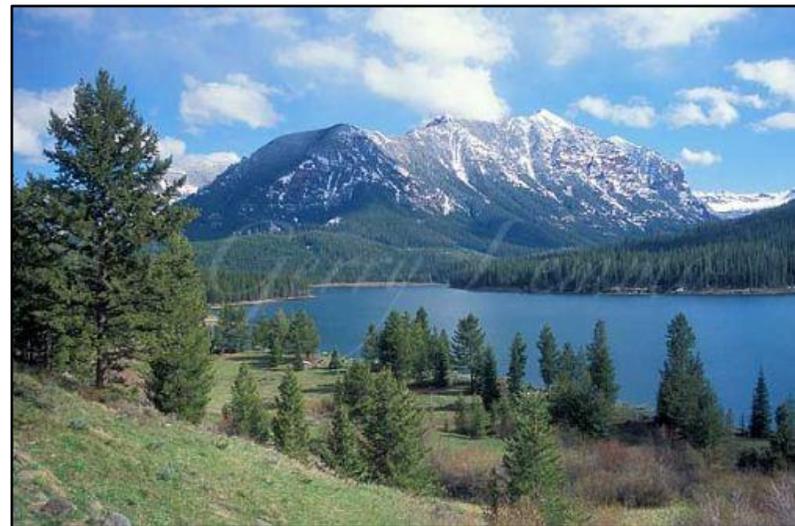
“Water conservation and water-use efficiency should be the bedrock of the city’s water resource management” - IWRP



# Bozeman's Water Supply

17 acre-feet/day

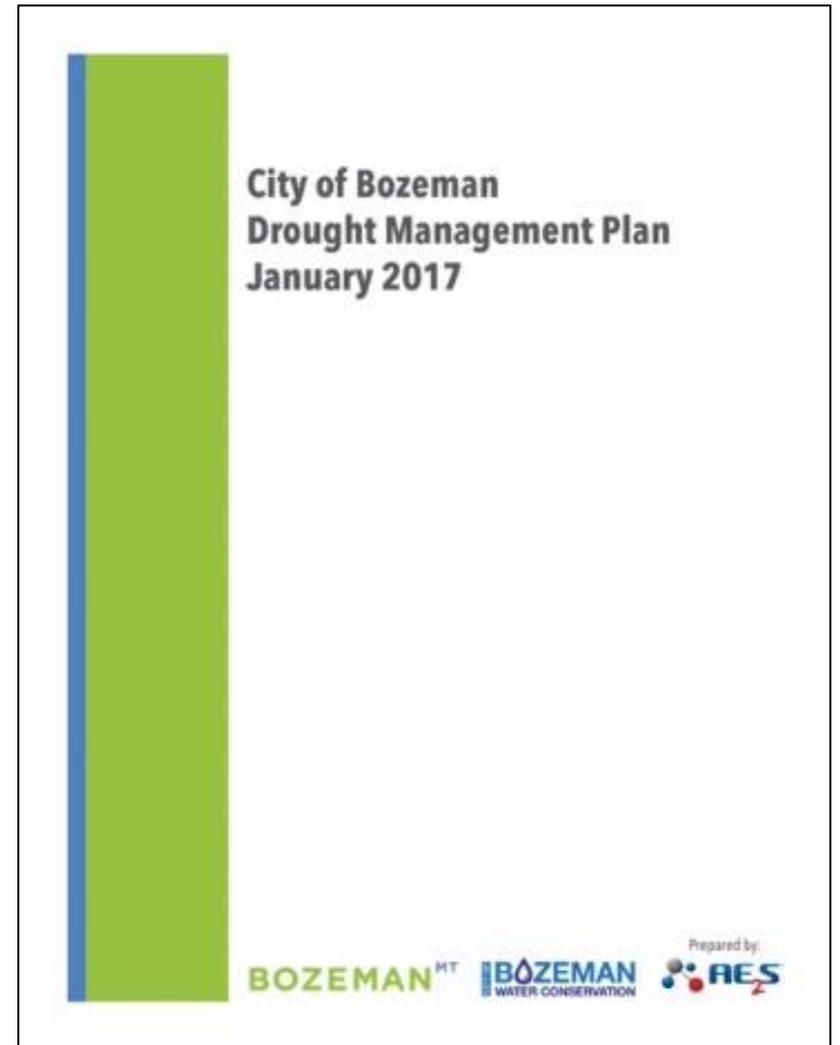
- Hyalite Creek (40%)
- Bozeman Creek (40%)
- Lyman Creek (20%)



# Drought Management Plan Objectives

“...Maximize available water supplies and reduce use during times of shortage...”

- Preserve essential public services.
- Reduce adverse impacts (health, safety, economy, environment).
- Provide a complete but flexible roadmap for implementation.
- Develop an effective public communications strategy.
- Coordinate drought management (city, county, state).



# City of Bozeman Drought Management Plan

- Vulnerability Assessment
- Drought Monitoring
- Drought Response Actions and Program Enforcement
- Drought Response Program Measures
- Ongoing Drought Communications Campaign



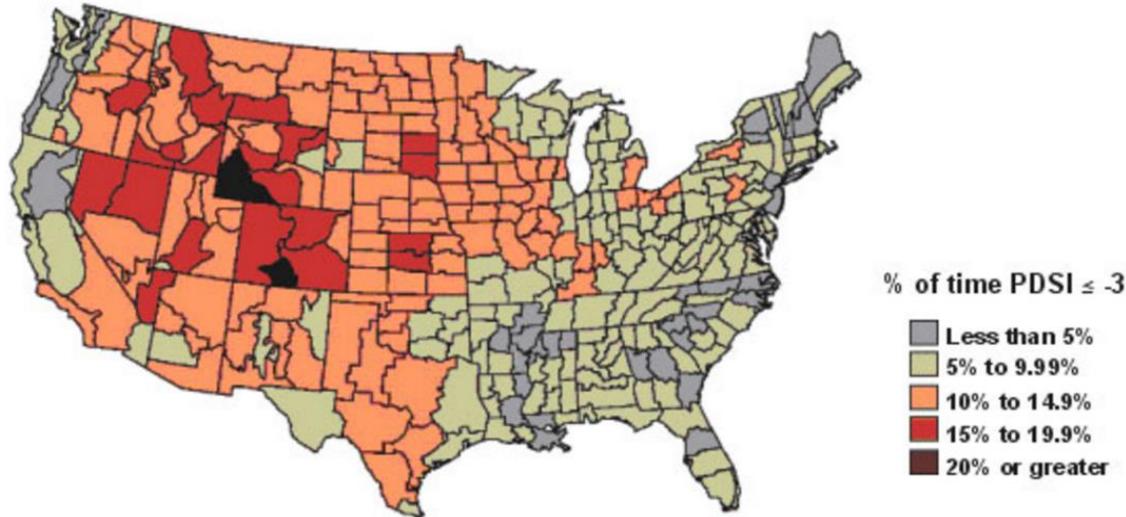
# Vulnerability Assessment

## Drought History

### Palmer Drought Severity Index

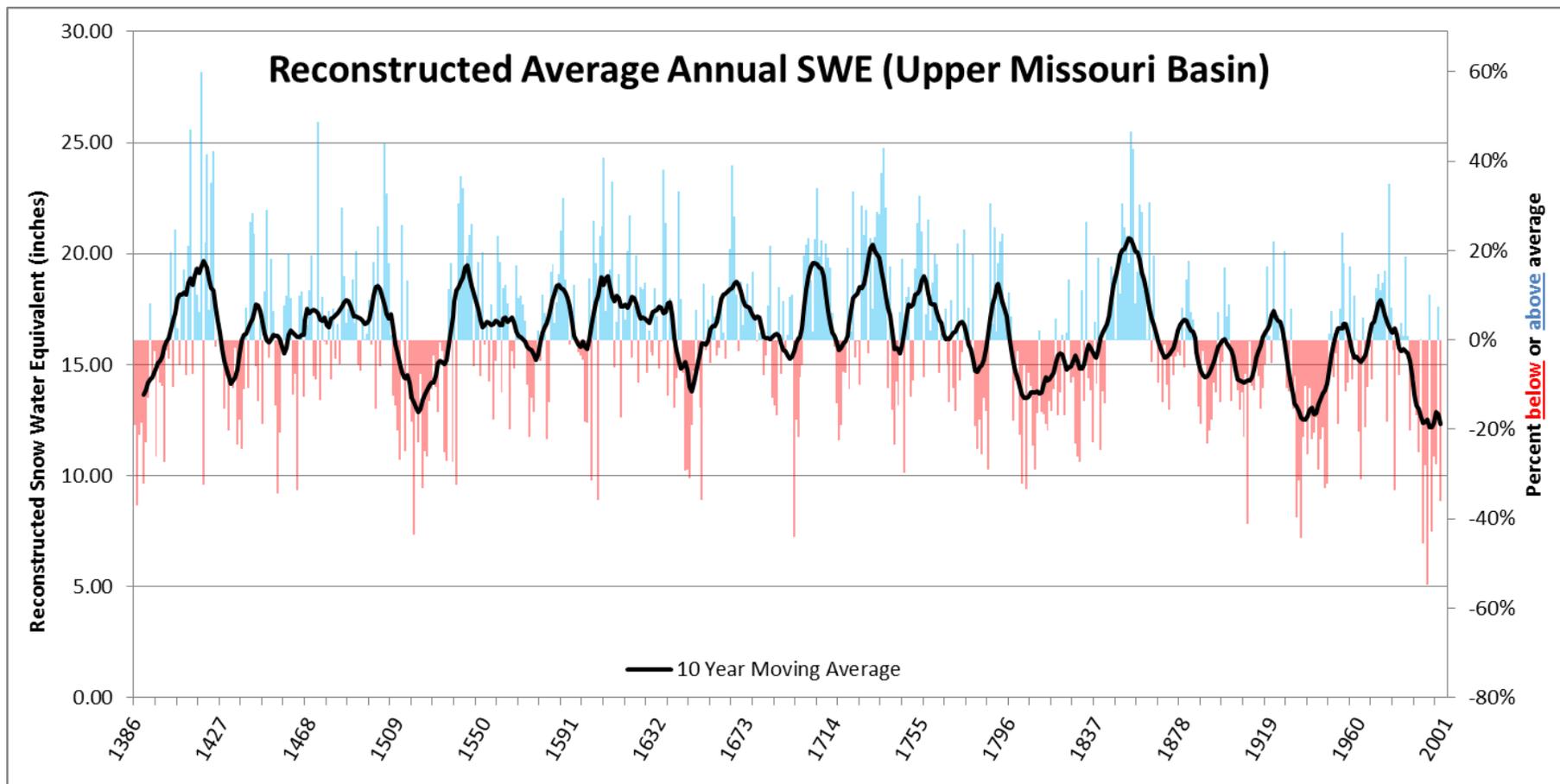
1895–1995

Percent of time in severe and extreme drought



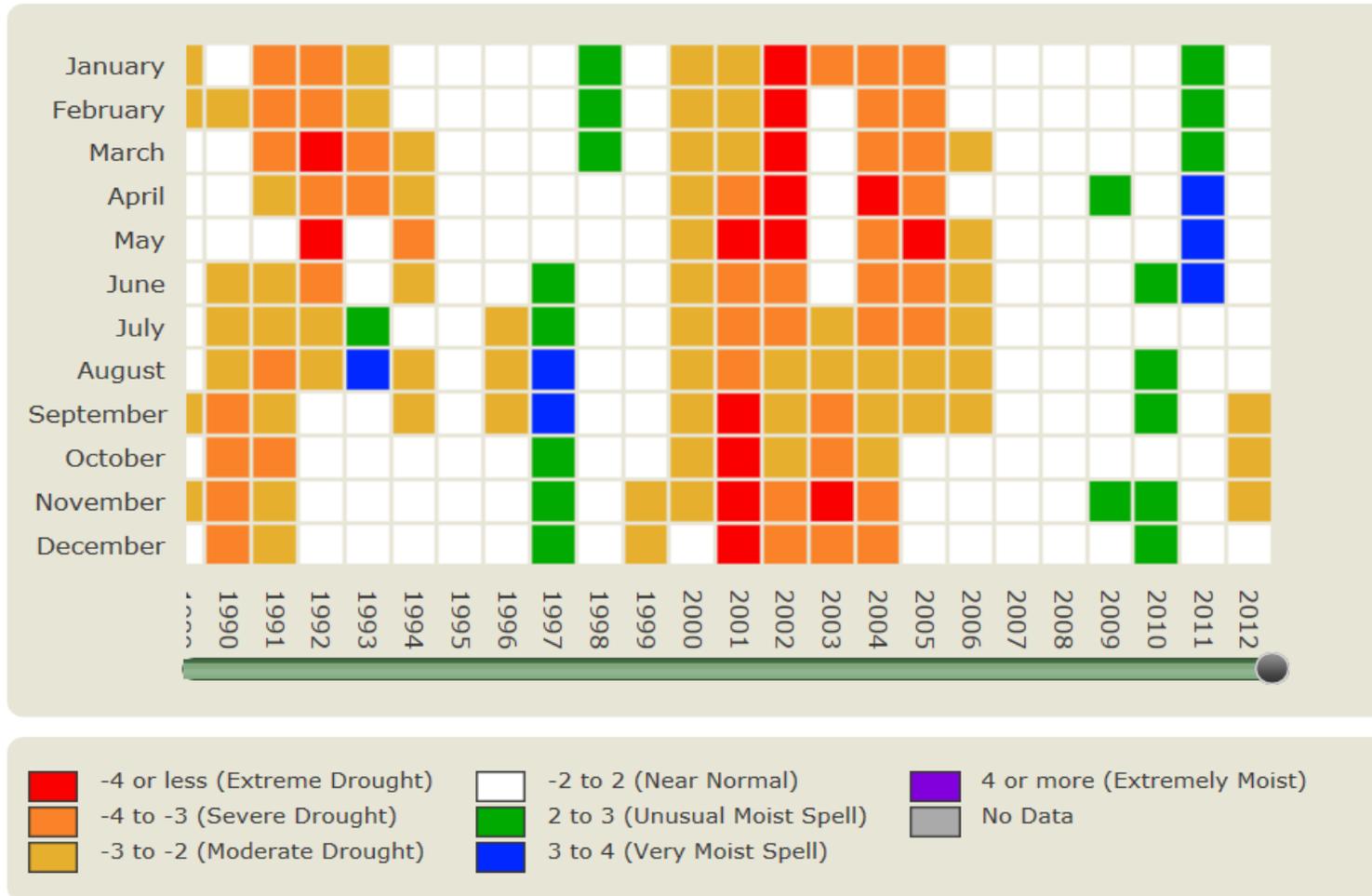
SOURCE: McKee et al. (1993); NOAA (1990); High Plains Regional Climate Center (1996)  
Albers Equal Area Projection; Map prepared at the National Drought Mitigation Center

- Southwestern Montana was in severe or extreme drought 15% to 19.9% of time between 1895 and 1995
- Only southwest Wyoming and south central Colorado are more susceptible to drought conditions.



Historical Streamflow and Snow Water Equivalent Trends from Tree-Ring Data for the Upper Missouri Basin (1386-2001).

- Dust Bowl was the fifth driest 5-year period from 1676-1966
- Prolonged and severe drought in the area is chronic



- Moderate to extreme drought in several months between 2000 and 2006.
- Late spring/early summer precipitation and evapotranspiration rates correlate to Bozeman water demand.

Monthly PDSI for Bozeman Region (1990 – 2012).

# Vulnerability Assessment

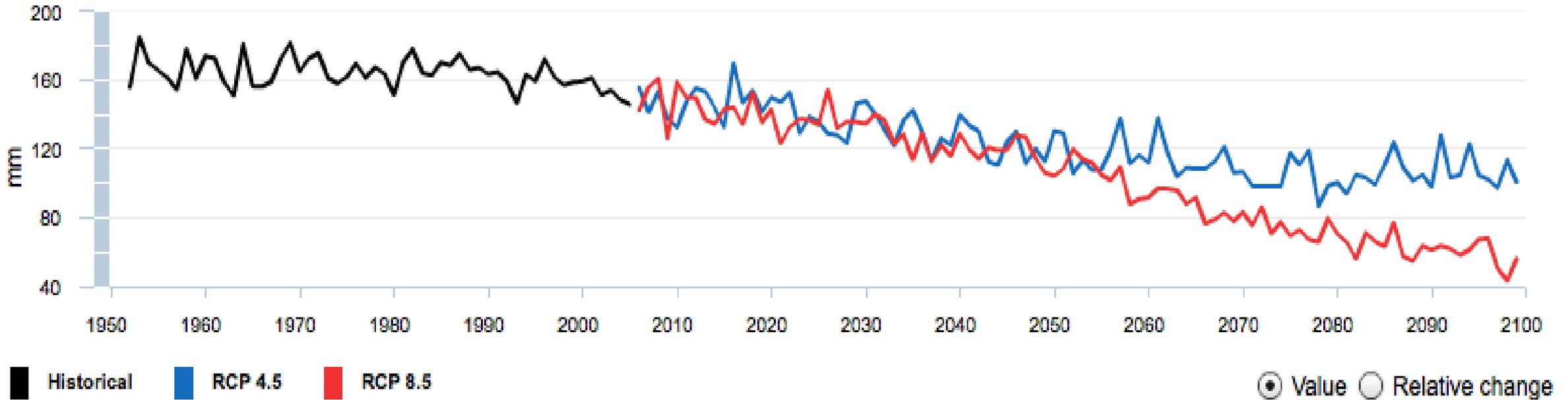
## Potential Climate Change Impacts

- Regional warming
- Longer dry spells
- Earlier melting of snowpack and peak runoff
- Increased evapotranspiration
- Reduced stream flows in late spring and summer
- Increased climate variability



Bozeman's reliance on snowpack and limited storage will result in significant impacts from even a short-term drought.

April Snow for Missouri Headwaters, Missouri Region (Mean Model)

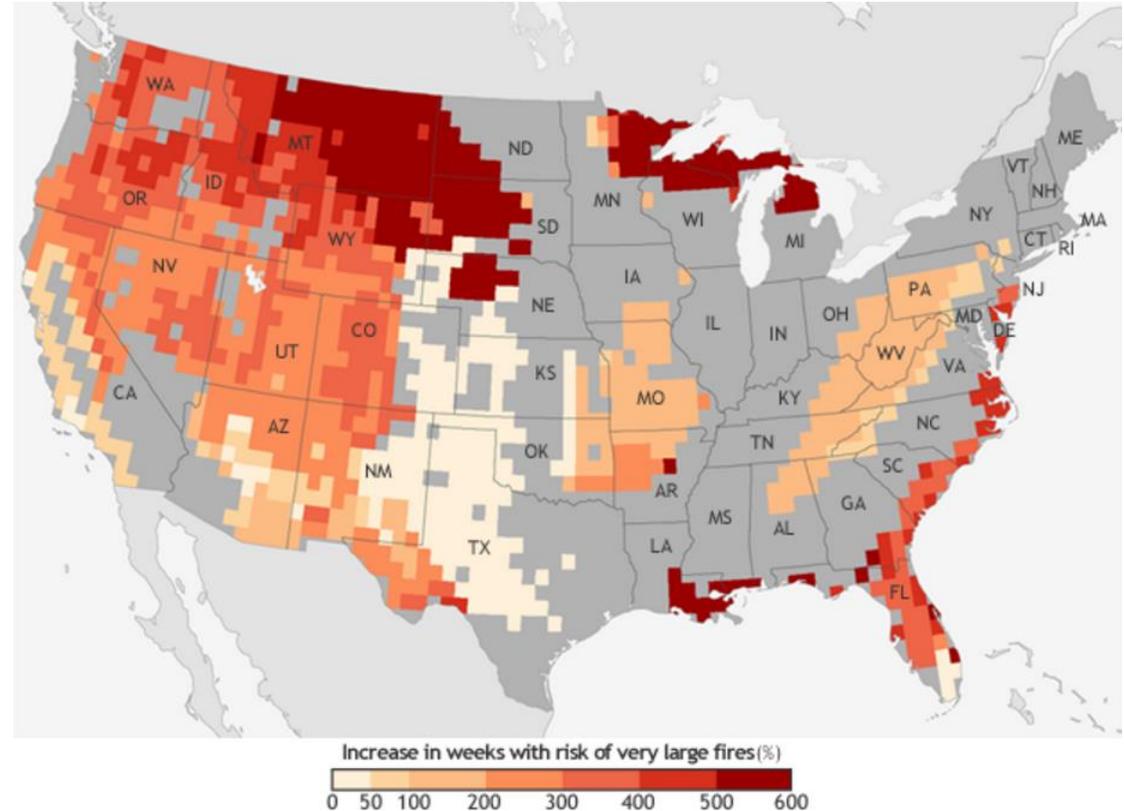


Historical and Projected April Snow for Missouri River Headwaters Region (1950 – 2100).

# Vulnerability Assessment

## Wildfire Risks and Impacts

- Increased wildfire frequency and duration, as well as longer fire seasons are predicted.
- Bozeman's watersheds are forested and susceptible to wildfire. A fire in Hyalite watershed could increase sediment deposition and reduce the capacity of Hyalite Reservoir.

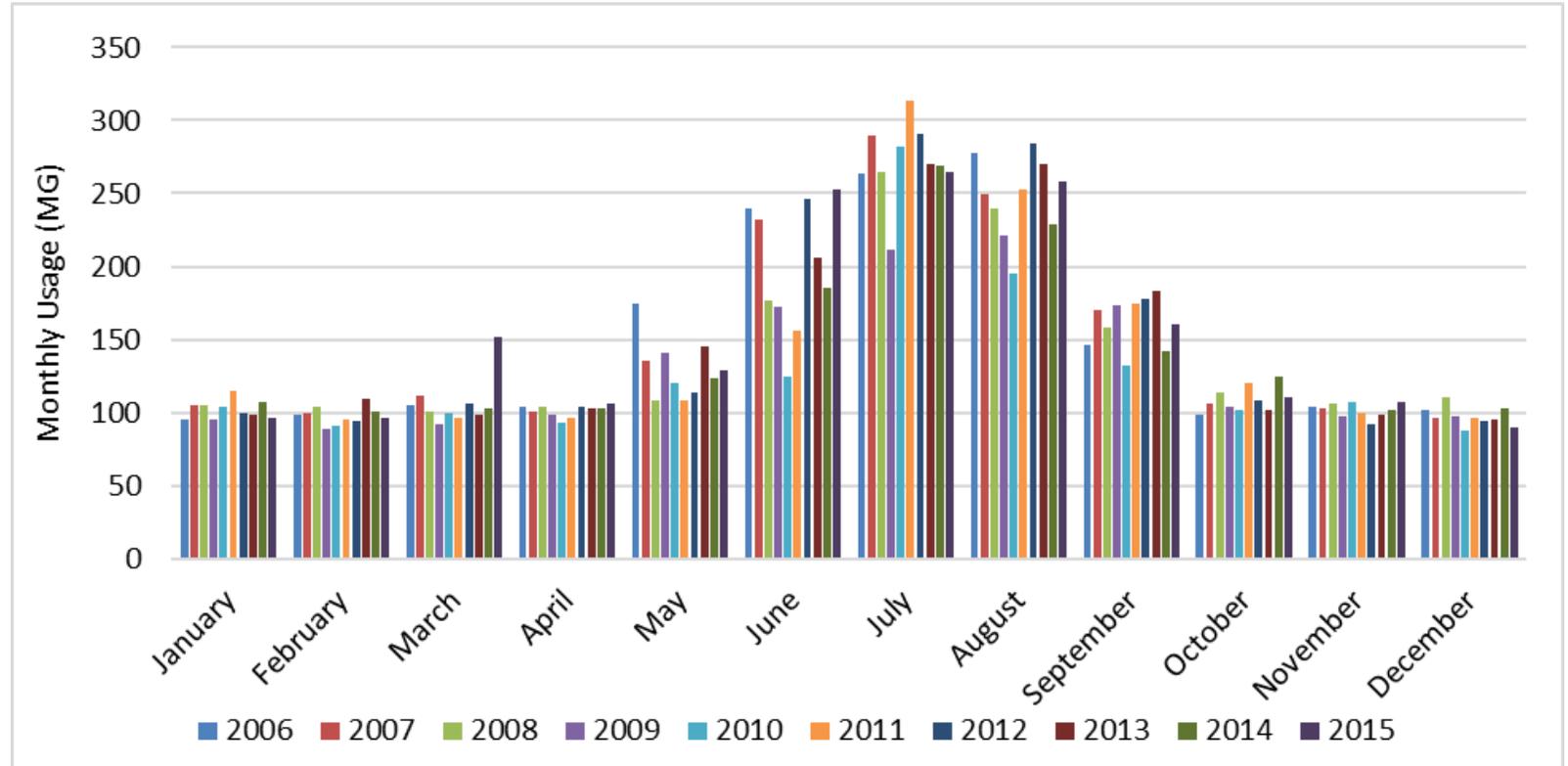


Relative Increased Risk of Very Large Wildfires in Contiguous U.S.

# Vulnerability Assessment

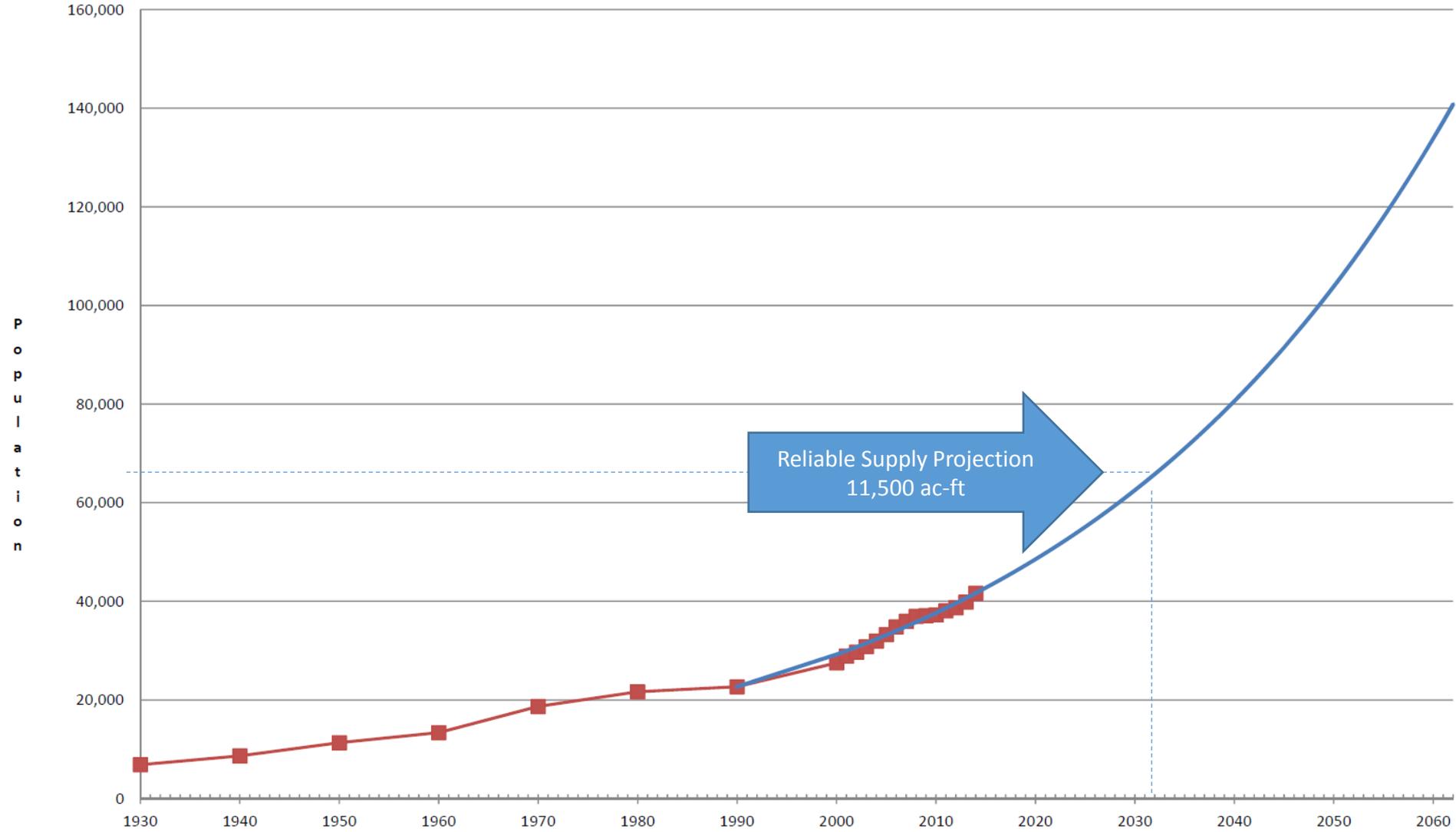
## Increased Summer Consumption and Population Growth

- Peak summer demands for lawn watering are nearly 240% of the average winter demand.
- Correlation between water demand and evapotranspiration.
- The hotter and drier it is, the more residents irrigate.



City of Bozeman Total Monthly Water Usage (2006 – 2015).

Figure-2: Historical Population and Future Projections



# Vulnerability Assessment

## Requirements of Neighboring Water Users

- Agriculture interests
- Adjacent cities, towns, and residential communities
- Recreational interests
- Environmental interests



*Photo: Bozeman Daily Chronicle*

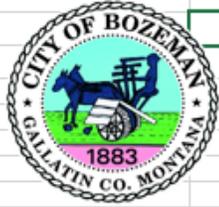
# Drought Monitoring

## Local Indicators

- Reservoir storage (40%)
  - percent exceedance
- Area streamflow (15%)
  - percent exceedance
  - Gallatin River at Logan (100%)
  - Hyalite Creek
- SNOTEL (20%)
  - percent exceedance
  - Shower Falls (75%)
  - Sacajawea (25%)
- City well (0%)
  - depth to water table

## National Indicators

- Palmer Drought Severity Index (5%)
  - -1.0 to -4.0
- Standard Precipitation Index (5%)
  - -0.5 to -2.0
  - 6-month SPI (80%)
  - 12-month SPI (20%)
- U.S. Drought Monitor (15%)
  - D1 – D4



City of Bozeman

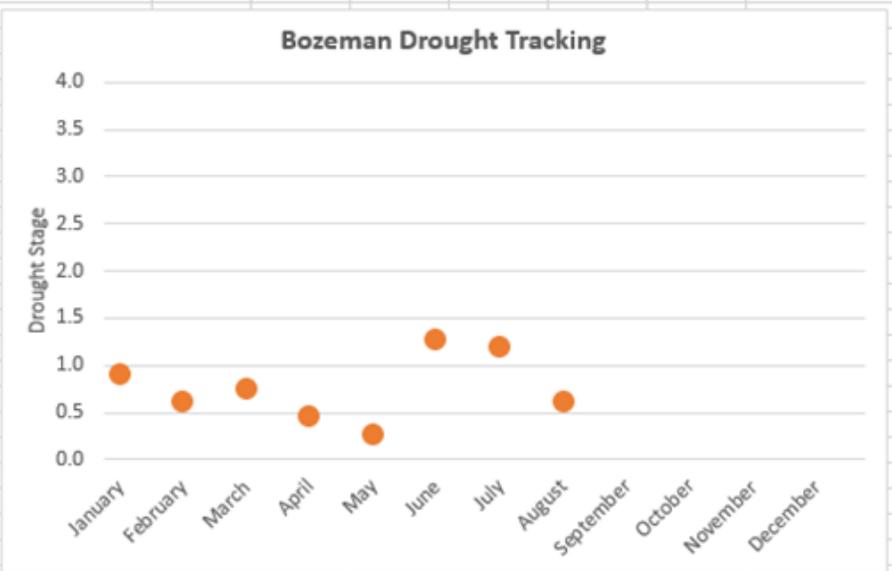
Drought Monitoring

2016 Tracking

8/17/2016

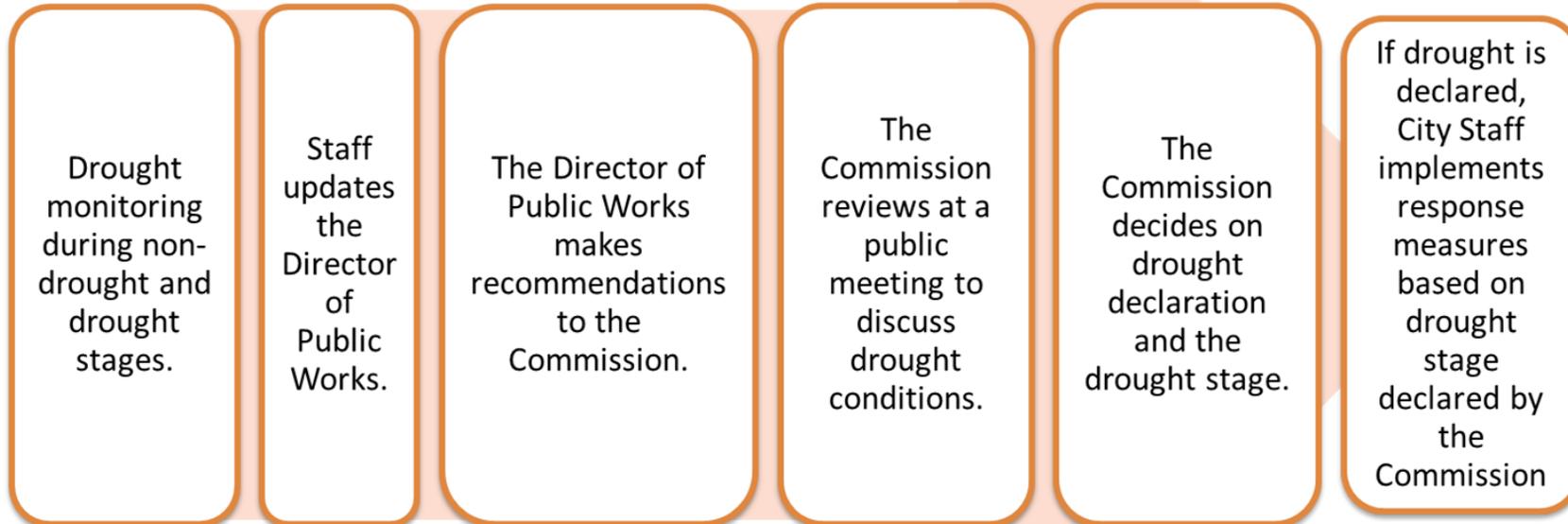
Month	SNOTEL Data		Streamflow Data		Reservoir Data	Well Data	Regional Drought Indicators - Southwest Montana										Composite Drought Stage
	Shower Falls Snow-Water (in)	Sacajawea Snow-Water (in)	Gallatin River Flowrate (cfs)	Hyalite Creek Flowrate (cfs)	Middle Creek Storage (ac-ft)	Bozeman Well Depth (ft)	Palmer Drought Severity Index	Standard Precipitation Index		US Drought Monitor - Percent Area							
	6-Month	12-Month	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4									
January	Value	8.3	6.4	624	20	5545	24.24	-1.33	0.34	-0.28	9.74	56.03	31.08	3.16	0	0	0.90
	Date	1/15/2016	1/15/2016	1/15/2016	1/15/2016	1/15/2016	1/15/2016	1/15/2016	1/15/2016	1/15/2016							
February	Value	12.2	10.7	705	18	5551	24.24	-1.39	0.25	-0.28	9.74	57.93	32.18	0.15	0	0	0.60
	Date	2/15/2016	2/15/2016	2/15/2016	2/15/2016	2/15/2016	1/15/2016	2/15/2016	2/15/2016	2/15/2016							
March	Value	15.2	12.5	740	22	5557	24.24	-1.01	0.04	0.11	9.74	90.26	0	0	0	0	0.75
	Date	3/15/2016	3/15/2016	3/15/2016	3/15/2016	3/15/2016	1/15/2016	3/15/2016	3/15/2016	3/15/2016							
April	Value	20.7	10.6	1370	30	9164	23.6	-1.4	0.09	0.07	100	0	0	0	0	0	0.45
	Date	4/15/2016	4/15/2016	4/15/2016	4/15/2016	4/15/2016	4/5/2016	4/15/2016	4/15/2016	4/15/2016							
May	Value	18.8	0	2320	47	9164	23.6	-1.4	0.09	0.07	100	0	0	0	0	0	0.25
	Date	5/17/2016	5/17/2016	5/17/2016	5/17/2016	4/15/2016	4/5/2016	4/15/2016	4/15/2016	4/15/2016							
June	Value	0	0	1800	144	9908	24.42	-2.02	-1.02	-0.11	98.78	1.22	0	0	0	0	1.26
	Date	6/12/2016	6/5/2016	6/15/2016	6/15/2016	6/15/2016	7/6/2016	6/15/2016	6/15/2016	6/15/2016							
July	Value	0	0	351	78	7806	24.42	-2.14	-0.83	-0.46	98.77	1.23	0	0	0	0	1.18
	Date	7/5/2016	7/5/2016	7/15/2016	7/15/2016	7/15/2016	7/6/2016	7/15/2016	7/15/2016	7/15/2016							
August	Value	0	0	237	55	7157	24.42	-2.14	-0.83	-0.46	0	87.67	12.33	0	0	0	0.60
	Date	8/5/2016	8/5/2016	8/16/2016	8/16/2016	8/17/2016	7/6/2016	7/15/2016	7/15/2016	7/15/2016							
September	Value																-
	Date																
October	Value																-
	Date																
November	Value																-
	Date																
December	Value																-
	Date																

Weighting Factors		Criteria		Stage Triggers			
				Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4
15%	10%	Stream Flow					
	90%	Hyalite	Annual PCT Exceedance	90.0%	95.0%	97.0%	99.0%
		Gallatin	Monthly PCT Exceedance	85.0%	92.0%	96.0%	98.0%
30%		Reservoir - Middle Creek	Monthly PCT Exceedance	70.0%	80.0%	90.0%	95.0%
20%		SNOTEL					
	75%	Showers Falls	Monthly PCT Exceedance	70.0%	80.0%	90.0%	95.0%
	25%	Sacajawea	Monthly PCT Exceedance	75.0%	85.0%	90.0%	95.0%
10%		Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI)		-1.00	-2.00	-3.00	-4.00
10%		Standard Precipitation Index (SPI)					
	80%	6-Month		-0.5	-1.0	-1.5	-2.0
	20%	12-Month		-0.5	-1.0	-1.5	-2.0
10%		City Well off South 3rd	Depth to Water (Feet)	25.0	25.5	26.0	26.5
5%		US Drought Monitor Index	Stage				
		None	0.0				
		D0	1.0				
		D1	1.5				
		D2	2.0				
		D3	3.0				
	D4	4.0					



# Drought Response Actions and Program Enforcement

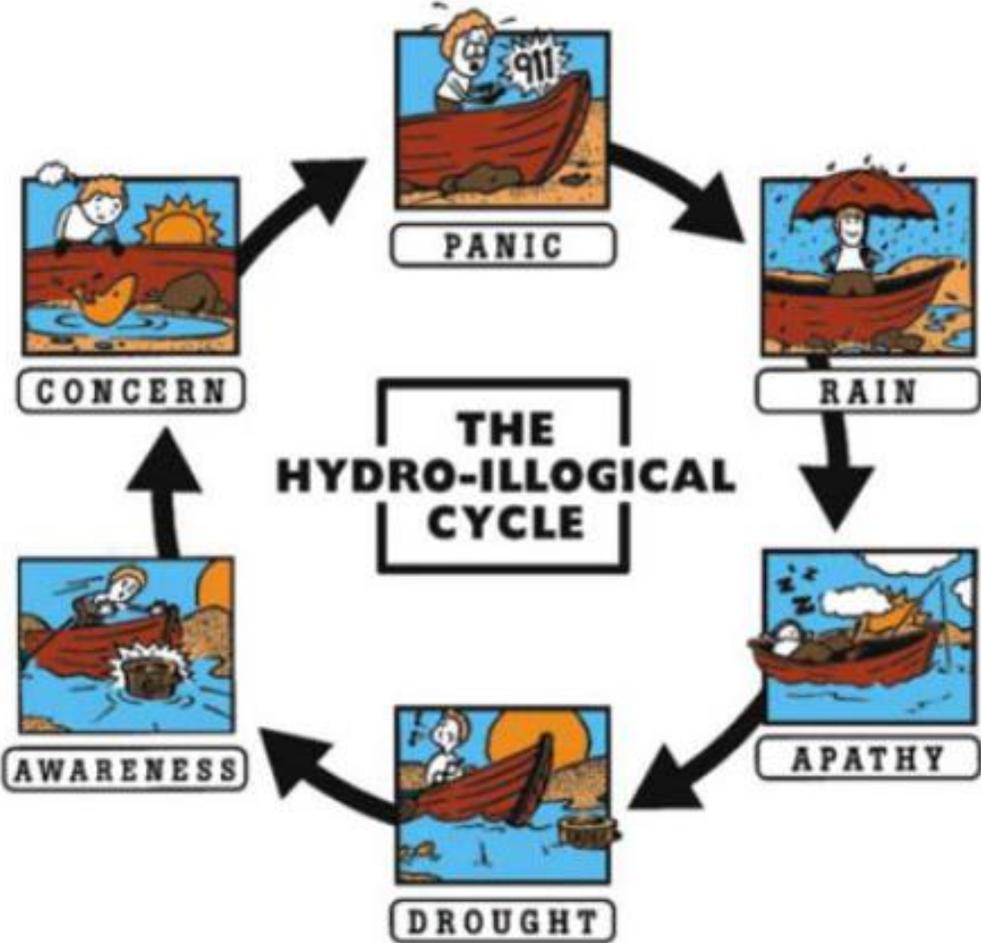
## Monitoring and Evaluation



## Enforcement

- Authority resides in Bozeman Municipal Code
- Violator can be fined \$100 - \$500

# Drought Communications Campaign



© National Drought Mitigation Center

# Drought Response Program Measures

System-Wide Water Reduction Target	Watch 10%	Advisory 20%	Warning 30%	Emergency 40%
------------------------------------	--------------	-----------------	----------------	------------------

Specific response measures outlined for:

- Outdoor Watering
- Water Features
- Washing/Events
- Commercial and Institutional Processes

## STAGE 1: DROUGHT WATCH

**What happens:**  
Conserving water is encouraged but not mandatory.

In a Stage 1 drought we encourage everyone to pitch in and look for ways to save water in and around homes and businesses.

## STAGE 2: DROUGHT ADVISORY

**What happens:**  
Mandatory outdoor watering restrictions begin.

When Stage 2 drought hits, the City sets a few temporary rules. We ask everyone to water only on certain days and at the most efficient times, to forgo new plantings, and make other adjustments. At this stage, we include exceptions for new sod establishment.

## STAGE 3: DROUGHT WARNING

**What happens:**  
Lawn watering ban in effect, and other outdoor water use is restricted.

In Stage 3 drought, we require everyone to let their lawns go unwatered, only water gardens and trees on assigned days, and use a commercial car wash instead of washing cars at home. We ask hotels to restrict laundering, and restaurants to not serve water unless requested.

## STAGE 4: DROUGHT EMERGENCY

**What happens:**  
Water is rationed for essential uses only.

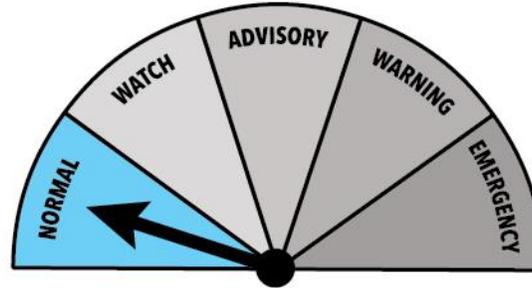
Stage 4 drought is unlikely, but we've got a plan, all the same. At this stage, we'd require everyone to refrain from watering lawns and gardens entirely (except trees)—including golf courses, parks and athletic fields. Other restrictions would include holding off on street cleaning and construction projects that require water.

# City of Bozeman Next Steps / Drought Mitigation Efforts

- Ongoing Water Conservation Division Efforts (public outreach)
- Drought Tool
  - Ongoing refinement
  - Improving data pull frequency
  - Incorporating new data (Lyman, Eagle Rock Ranch well, Sourdough SNOTEL, Sourdough streamflow data)
- Sunset Hills Cemetery and Lindley Park Irrigation Project
  - Improve efficiency of Story Ditch (1,082 AF saved)
  - Use non-potable water to irrigate cemetery and park (201 AF saved)
- Strategic Water Reserve (drought reserve) Study
  - Year over year storage not currently reservoir management practice
- Sourdough Creek Natural Storage Study
- Rate Study (water conservation and drought rates)

# BOZEMAN DROUGHT METER

**What happens:**  
Water conservation  
is always encouraged.



**FIND OUT MORE >>**

Jessica Ahlstrom

City of Bozeman Water Conservation Division

Thank you!

[jahlstrom@bozeman.net](mailto:jahlstrom@bozeman.net)

406-582-2265



**Montana  
Climate  
Office**

# Montana Mesonet: Beginnings of a Drought and Water Supply Early Warning System

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Kelsey Jencso

*Montana Climate Office*





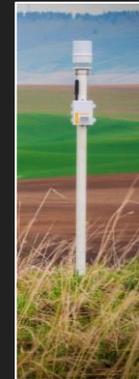
# MT Mesonet

- A densely spaced network that serves landowners and agencies with local soil moisture and weather information required for daily to seasonal decisions
- Conduct research and education for application of data
- Co-develop user-guided applications and web-interfaces to share data and products
- Use Mesonet data to verify and improve gridded data sets across MT (e.g. Drought and Evapotranspiration)

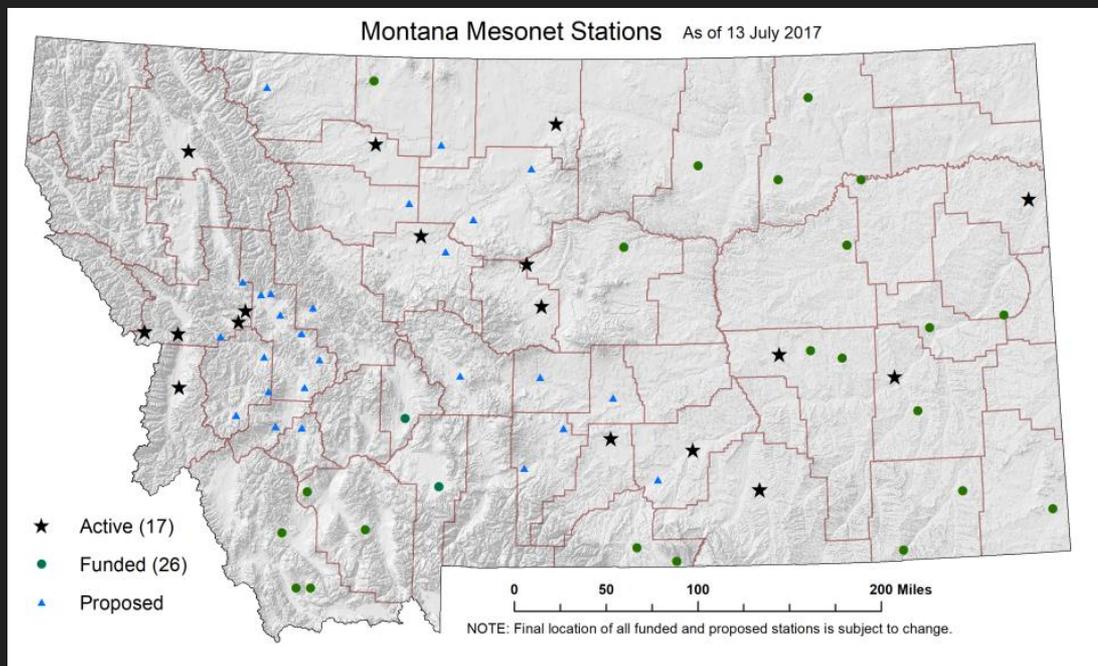


# Mesonet Benefits

- Precision Agriculture
  - irrigation scheduling, spraying recommendations, frost protection, planting and harvesting and prescribed burning
- Natural Resources
  - Local drought and water supply assessments
  - Fuel moisture and fire danger
- Calibrate and ground-truth satellite and soil moisture models
- *Oklahoma mesonet = \$2,000,000 to \$5,000,000 in savings annually*



# A Collaborative Framework



- Initial \$45,000 from the MT MREDI
- \$360,000 invested from 2016 to present

## Federal, State, and Private Partnerships

- National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA MADIS)
- DOI Bureau of Land Management
- USDA Forest Service
- USDA Agricultural Research Service
- MSU Extension
- MSU Agricultural Research Centers
- Bureau of Indian Affairs: Little Big Horn College, Crow Agency
- Lolo Watershed Group
- Blackfoot Challenge
- Trout Unlimited
- National Drought Resiliency Partnership
- Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS)
- Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
- Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology
- Roberts L7 Ranch
- Tureck Ranch
- E Bar L Ranch
- Merja Farms

# Station Measurements

## Mesonet Station Set-up

### SOIL METRICS:

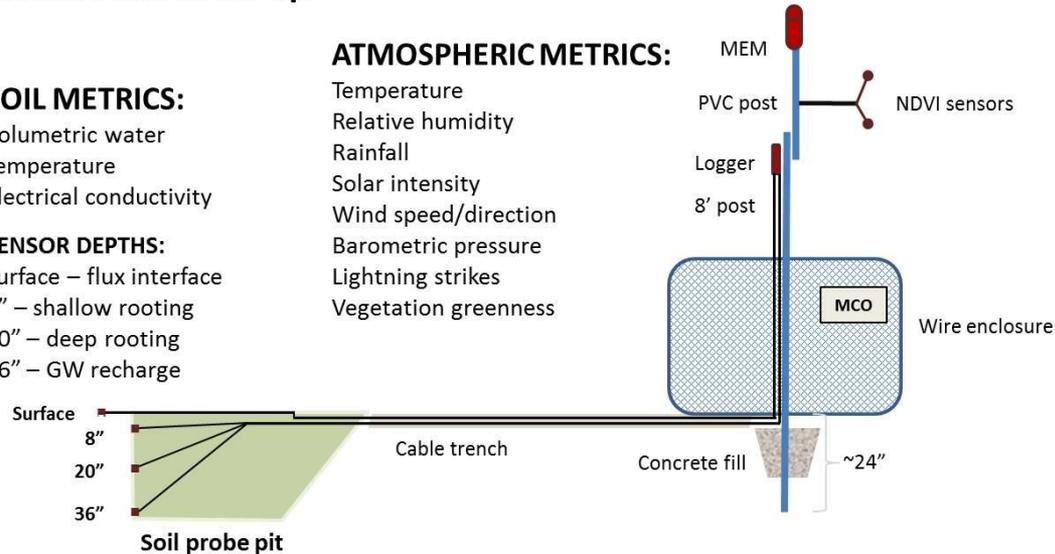
Volumetric water  
Temperature  
Electrical conductivity

### SENSOR DEPTHS:

Surface – flux interface  
8" – shallow rooting  
20" – deep rooting  
36" – GW recharge

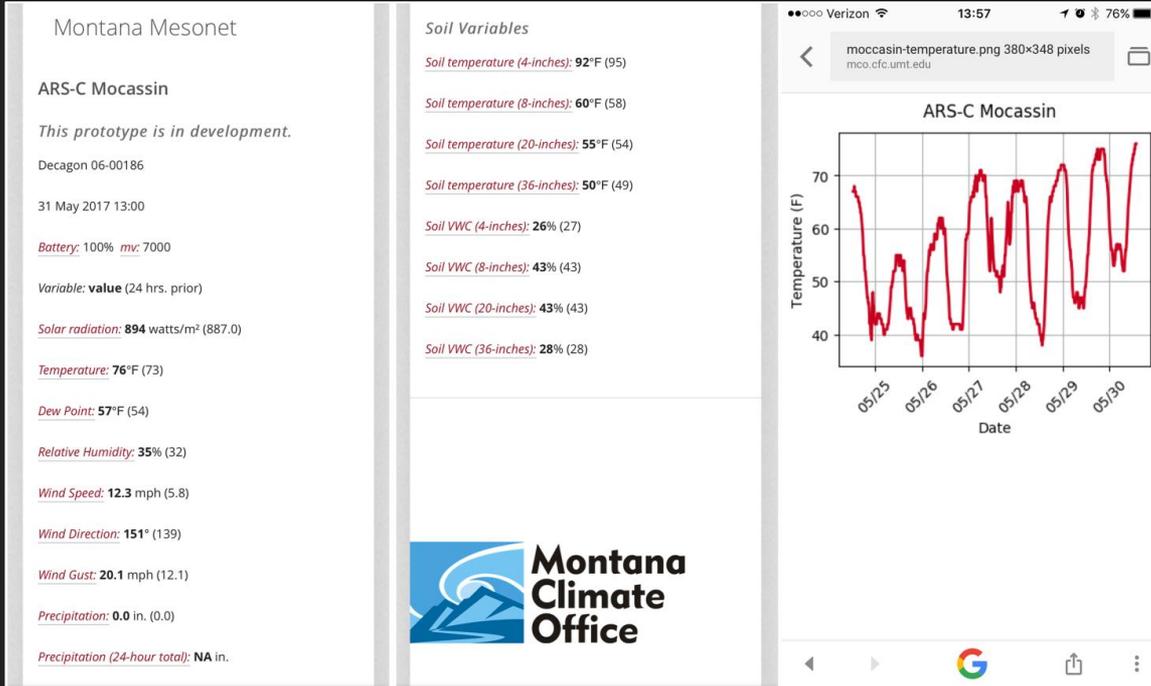
### ATMOSPHERIC METRICS:

Temperature  
Relative humidity  
Rainfall  
Solar intensity  
Wind speed/direction  
Barometric pressure  
Lightning strikes  
Vegetation greenness



- \$6,200 science grade station custom built by METER Devices with a 20% discount
- Same design being used to complete the TAHMO a network of 20,000 stations across Africa

# Data Availability

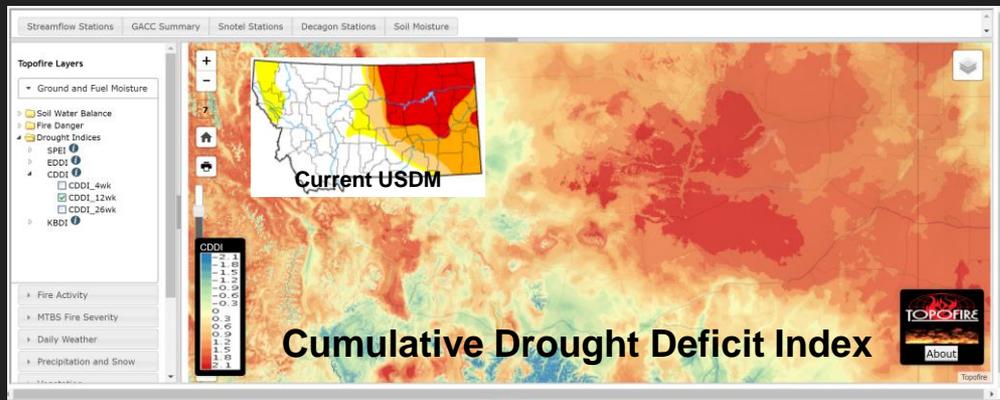


- Publicly available
- Graphical summary
- Updated every 30 minutes
- Smartphone accessible
- Web accessible
- Stewards can access historical data

[climate.umn.edu/mesonet](http://climate.umn.edu/mesonet)



# Next Steps: Spatially continuous drought and ET characterizations



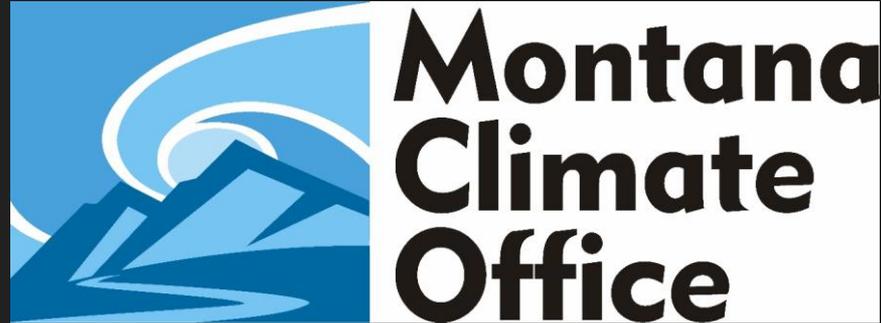
TopoFire – \$1.2 million NASA sponsored project at USFS/UM

Operational Products?



- Interactive
- Daily to weekly
- 30m - 1km resolution
- Require local calibration (mesonet)

# Questions?



[state.climatologist@umontana.edu](mailto:state.climatologist@umontana.edu)

<http://www.cfc.umt.edu/mco/>