



UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

Wyoming State Climate Office

Dept 3943, 1000 E. University Ave.

Laramie, Wyoming 82071

Phone: (307) 766-6651

Email: stateclim@wrds.uwyo.edu

Wyoming's Climate: July 2012

Streamflow

Streamflow in Wyoming ranges from Normal to Dry with a few exceptions (Highline Ditch near Dayton in Sheridan County, Bull Lake Creek in Fremont County, Shell Creek near Shell in Big Horn County, Platte River below Whalen Diversion in Goshen County, and Belle Fourche at the Stateline in Crook County). Generally the northwest part of the state is seeing Normal conditions along with the northeast (Belle Fourche) and east-central (the North Platte from Orin to the State Line). The southwest is mostly at the 24th percentile or less while flows in Carbon, Natrona, and Albany counties are generally in the 10th percentile and less.

Precipitation

Following a very dry June, July saw a bit more precipitation around the state. Laramie, Albany, Carbon, and Sublette counties saw mostly above normal precipitation. Park (with the exception of Yellowstone), Big Horn, Hot Springs, Washakie, Fremont Natrona, Converse, Weston, Niobrara, Platte, and Goshen counties all saw below to well below normal precipitation again this month though, for the most part, it was slightly improved from June.

Other areas that saw improvement with some stations on the plus side of Normal were Sheridan, northern Johnson, Northern Campbell, Lincoln, Teton, Uinta, and Sweetwater counties. In these latter counties precipitation distribution was mixed such that some of the station were above and some below the Normal. All were improved with respect to their Normals compared to in June, however.

Temperature

The above-Normal temperatures in June continued in July and the areas of western Wyoming which were more near Normal in June were about 2°F to 4°F above normal in July. For July, all reporting stations were at least 2°F above normal. The departure from normal tended to increase from the southwest toward the northeast with stations in the northeast being 4°F to 8°F above their respective Normals.

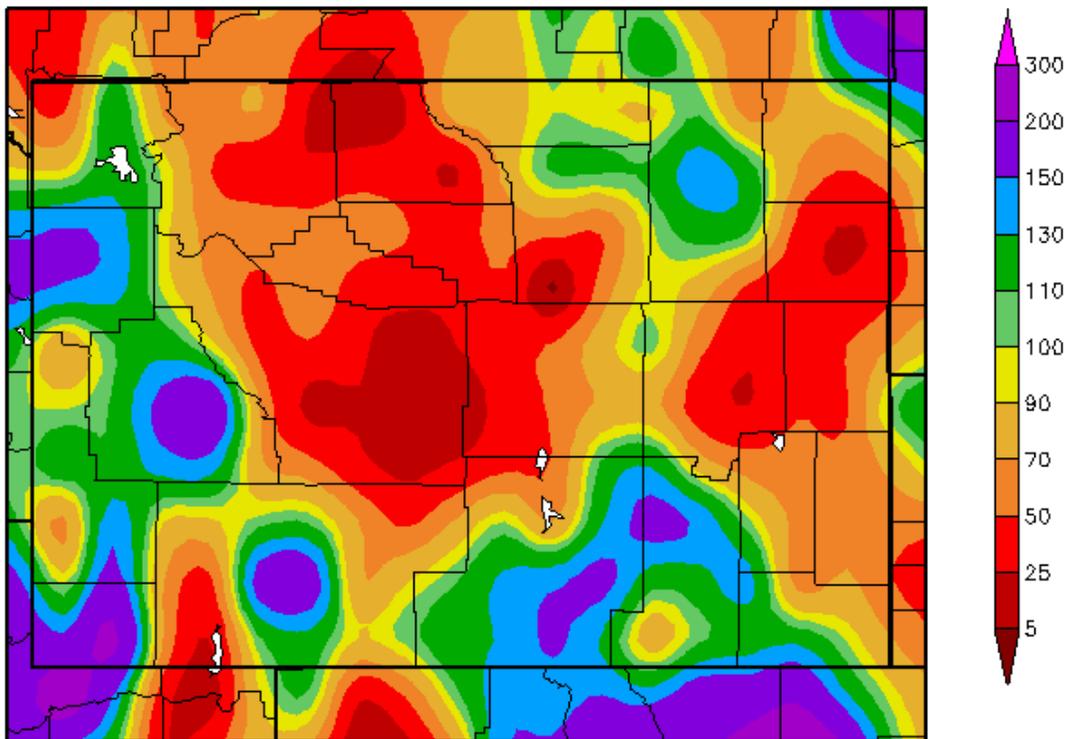
Drought levels continued to expand and increase in July. D3 (Extreme Drought) coverage increased to encompass most of Sweetwater County in the southwest, and was expanded into very southern Sublette and Fremont counties as well as southeastern Lincoln and western Carbon counties. In the east, D3 was introduced covering all of Niobrara, most of Weston, and large portions of Converse, Platte, Goshen, and Crook counties.

D2 (Severe Drought) was expanded to cover the remainder of Crook, Converse, Goshen, and Platte, Laramie, and Natrona counties. D2 was introduced into Parts of Hot Springs and most of Campbell counties and all of Washakie and Big Horn. More parts of Teton and Park counties

were classed as D0 (Abnormally Dry) and the hole of D-Nothing in the northwest shrank even more so that only extreme northern Teton and western Park are included. July saw the largest percentage of Wyoming being at or greater than D1 (Moderate Drought) since 24 April 2007.

This report was prepared by the Wyoming State Climate Office, which is part of the Wyoming Water Resources Data System at the University of Wyoming. More information can be found at: <http://www.wrds.uwyo.edu> and http://www.wrds.uwyo.edu/sco/climate_office.html. Special thanks to the National Weather Service's Riverton and Cheyenne Office, the NRCS Casper Office, and the Cheyenne US Geological Survey Office, and Wyoming CoCoRaHS observers for supplying much of the data and information used in this report.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%) 7/1/2012 - 7/31/2012

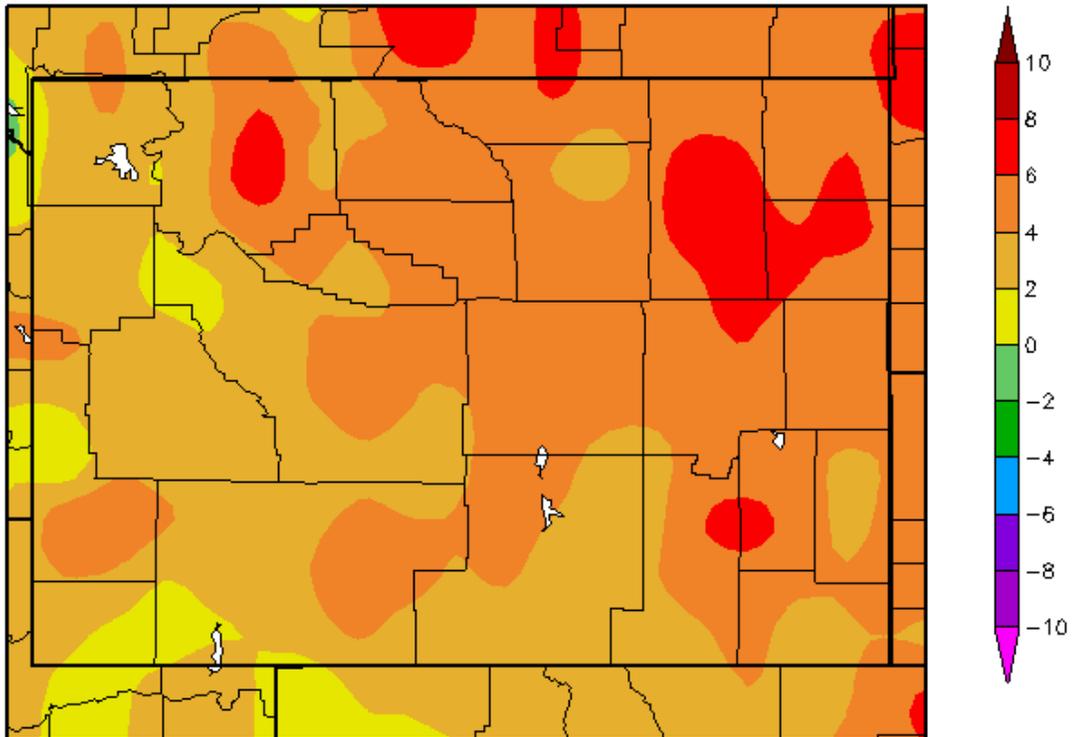


Generated 8/5/2012 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers

Map showing July 2012 precipitation as a percentage of historical averages (vs. 1971-2000 “normal” period) for Wyoming. Courtesy of the High Plains Regional Climate Center.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
7/1/2012 – 7/31/2012



Generated 8/5/2012 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers

Map showing mean July 2012 temperatures as departures from historical averages (vs. 1971-2000 “normal” period) for Wyoming. Courtesy of the High Plains Regional Climate Center.

U.S. Drought Monitor

July 31, 2012

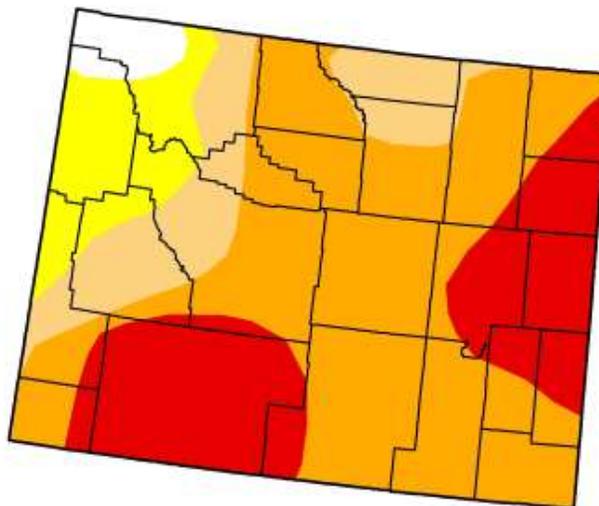
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Wyoming

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	2.72	97.28	87.51	73.20	25.10	0.00
Last Week (07/24/2012 map)	2.72	97.28	87.51	73.20	25.52	0.00
3 Months Ago (05/01/2012 map)	61.20	38.80	7.63	0.08	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year (12/27/2011 map)	99.84	0.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year (09/27/2011 map)	98.26	1.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago (07/26/2011 map)	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:



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

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>

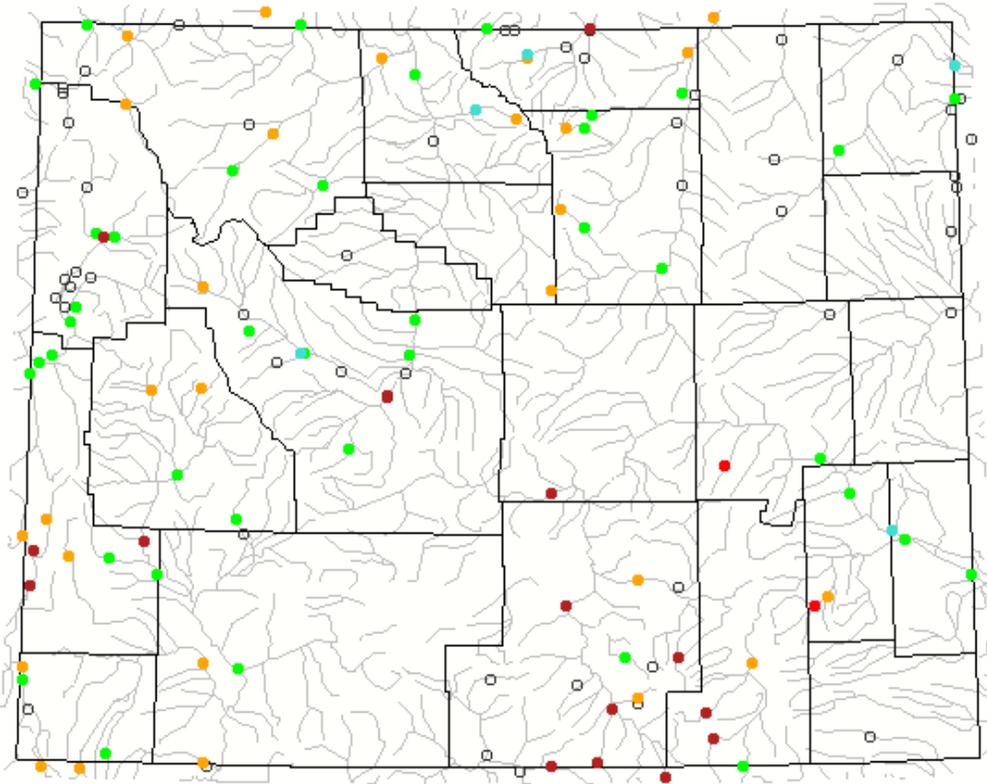


Released Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mark Svoboda, National Drought Mitigation Center

Map showing Wyoming Drought Status as of the end of July 2012. Courtesy of the US Drought Monitor.

Friday, August 10, 2012 09:30ET



Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	Not-ranked
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

Map showing Streamflow conditions as of the end of July 2012. Courtesy of the US Geological Survey.