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Wyoming's Climate: June 2012

Streamflow

Streamflow in the Wyoming ranges from Normal to Dry with one Wet exception (Highline Ditch near Dayton in Sheridan 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 at the 24th percentile or less while flows in Carbon and Albany counties are in the 10th percentile and less.

Precipitation

Following a dry May was an even drier June. Only the extreme southeast part of Wyoming saw above normal precipitation and that was due largely in part to two days of heavy rain near the beginning of the month. The rest of the state was less than 50% of normal with a large percentage of stations being below 25% of normal. There were a few stations that were exceptions but they were all still below the normal.

The continued dryness and high temperatures have prompted an early start to the fire season and by the end of the month there were fires in the far east (Oil Creek in Weston County), the far west (Fontenelle in Lincoln and Sublette counties) the north (Index Creek in Park County, Cato in Johnson County, and Otter Creek in Washakie County) and in the south (Arapaho and Squirrel Creek in Albany County)

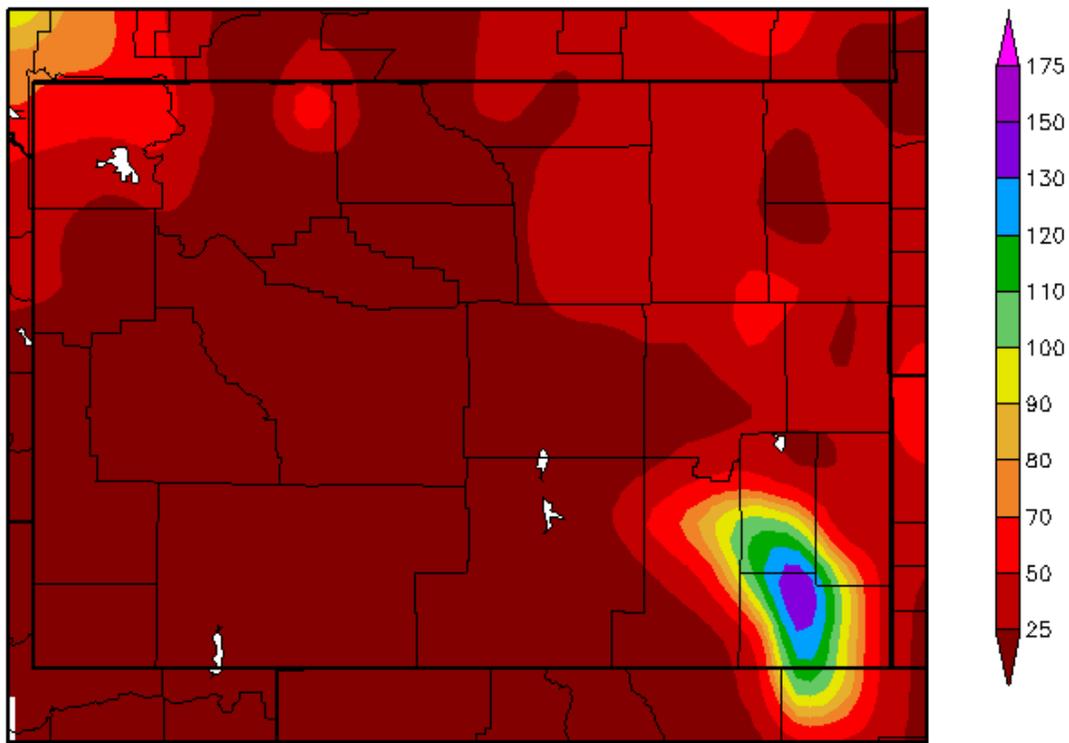
Temperature

The cooler than normal conditions in the northwest during May mostly gave way to above normal temperatures with only a few stations in Park, Teton, and Lincoln counties being between normal and 2°F below normal. The remainder of the state was up to 8°F above normal with the eastern counties seeing the greatest departure to the plus side of normal. The positive departure from normal generally increased as one went from the western part of the state to the eastern.

June saw an expansion and intensification of Drought in Wyoming. By the end of June, over 90% of the state was at or worse than D0 (Abnormally Dry) and almost 85% was in Drought (D1 to D4). D3 was introduced into Wyoming in June for the first time since October of 2007. The D0 existent in May was increased to D1 or D2 for all but the west central and northwest portions which remain at D0. The D2 that barely touched the southwest of Carbon and southeast of Sweetwater counties was expanded to cover most of southern Wyoming with the exception of Laramie and southern Plate/Goshen counties. D1 was expanded northward all the way to the Montana border, and D3 was introduced to southern Sweetwater County along with the eastern portions of Uinta and Lincoln counties. A small portion of southwestern Carbon County was also intensified to D3. The D2 will be expanded farther into the northeast part of the state in July.

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 (%)
6/1/2012 – 6/30/2012

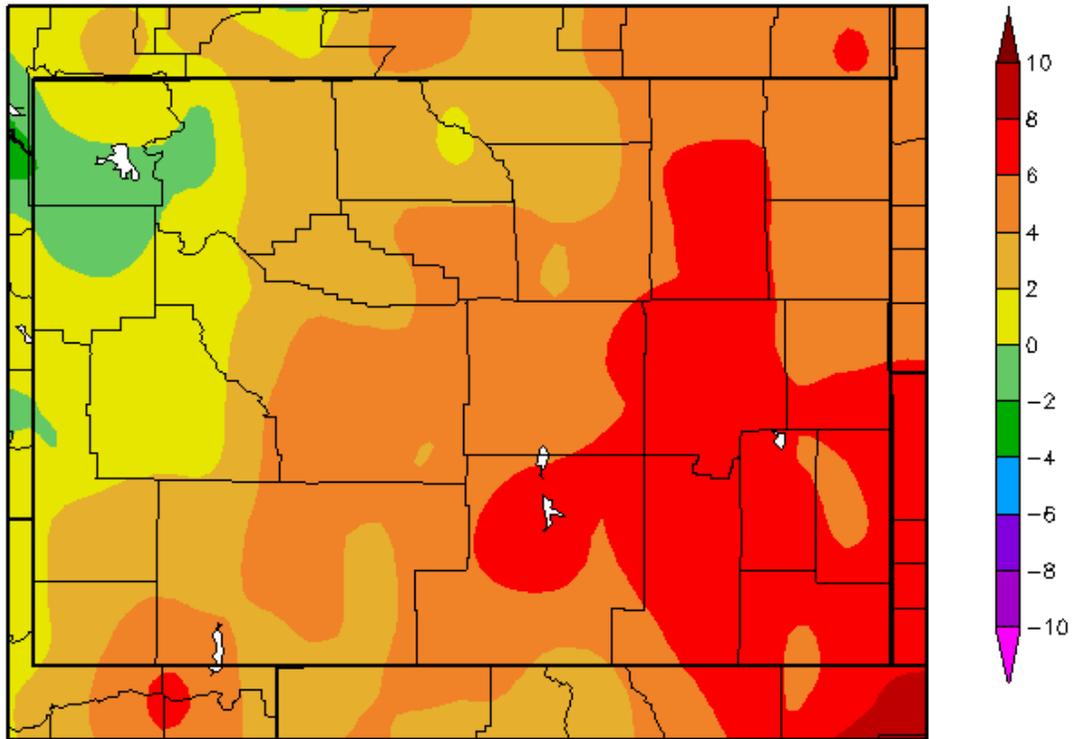


Generated 7/2/2012 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers

Map showing June 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)
6/1/2012 – 6/30/2012



Generated 7/2/2012 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers

Map showing mean June 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

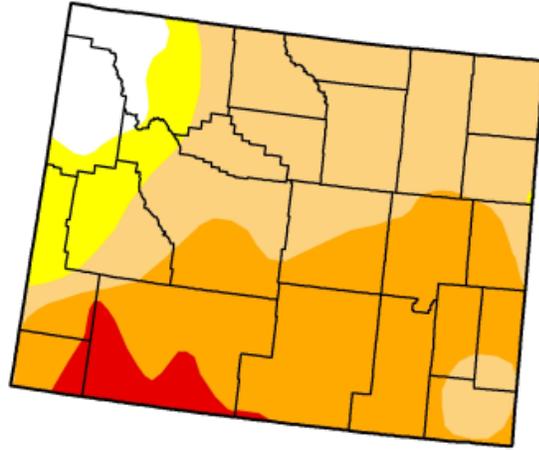
Wyoming

June 26, 2012
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	6.50	93.50	84.25	43.20	4.59	0.00
Last Week (06/19/2012 map)	8.64	91.36	55.86	15.12	3.95	0.00
3 Months Ago (03/27/2012 map)	86.16	13.84	2.34	0.00	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 (06/21/2011 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.

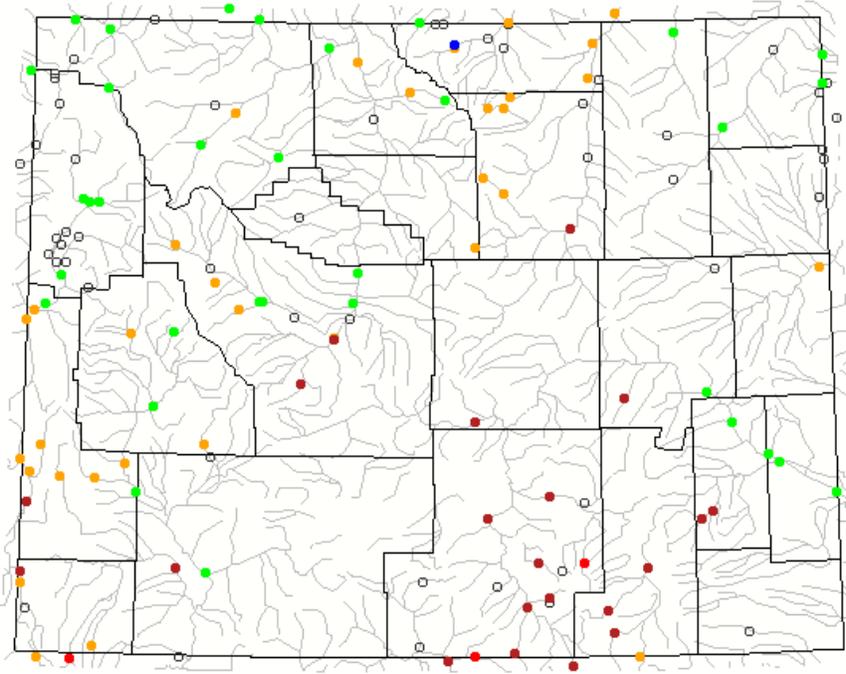
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>



Released Thursday, June 28, 2012
Richard Heim, National Climatic Data Center, NOAA

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

Wednesday, July 04, 2012 13:30ET



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

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