



## UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

### Wyoming State Climate Office

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## Wyoming's Climate: September 2012

### Precipitation

Compared to the 1981-2010 Normal period, September was mostly drier than August with the exception of the extreme northwest. So far, Cheyenne and Old Faithful were the only locations above their 1981-2010 Normals. Cheyenne was just slightly above normal and Old Faithful was between 130% and 150% above. This is in stark contrast to most of the rest of the state, especially the northern half where most stations were less than 50% of Normal. The southern portion of the state was also dry although a few stations made it to the 80%-90% of Normal level.

Nine of the Reference ET (Short Grass) gauges that have been deployed through the CoCoRaHS network had 90% of the records complete and those stations ranged from 3.94" of ETo in Big Horn County to 6.01" in Casper. For September the Water Balance ranged from -3.25" to -5.5".

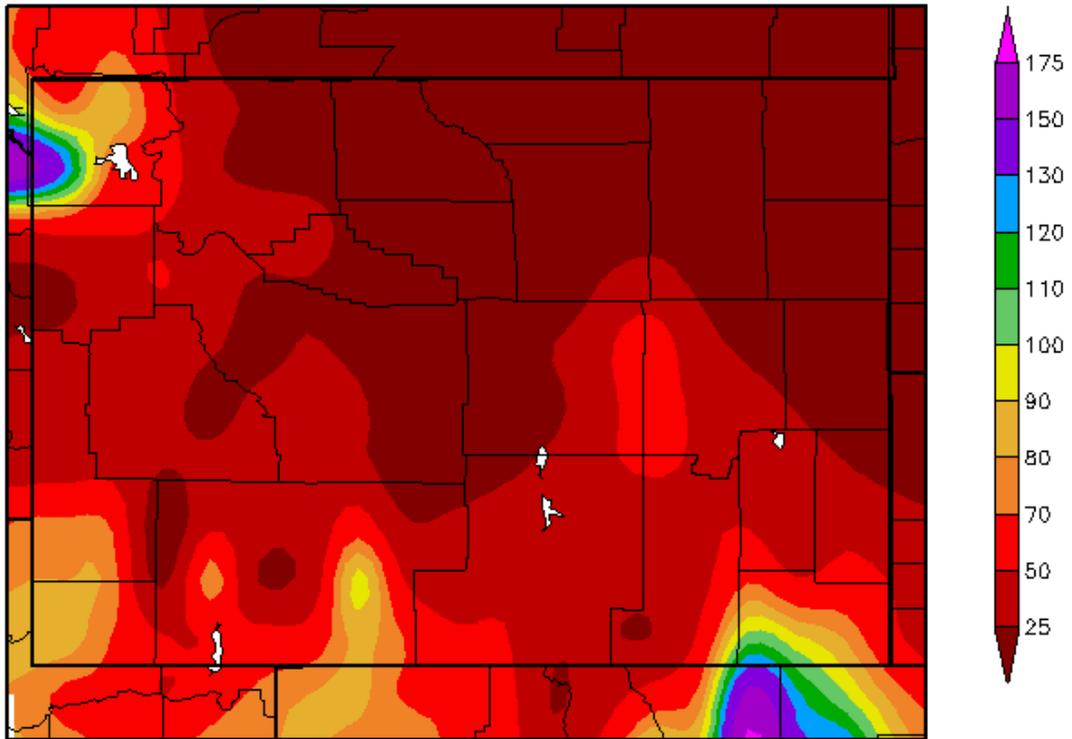
### Temperature

Temperatures across the state were above Normal again for September with one exception in Albany County that was just below its Normal. Much of the state was 2°F to 4°F above Normal with the far west counties being just above Normal.

Drought levels remained mostly the same in September with only a slight expansion of D4 in extreme eastern Laramie County. At the end of September, 98.01% of Wyoming was in drought (D1, D2, D3, or D4) and this is the highest percentage since February 6, 2007 when 98.74% of the state was in one level or another of drought. 2.72% of the state is currently in D4 which is the most since May 3, 2005.

*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](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 (%)  
9/1/2012 – 9/30/2012

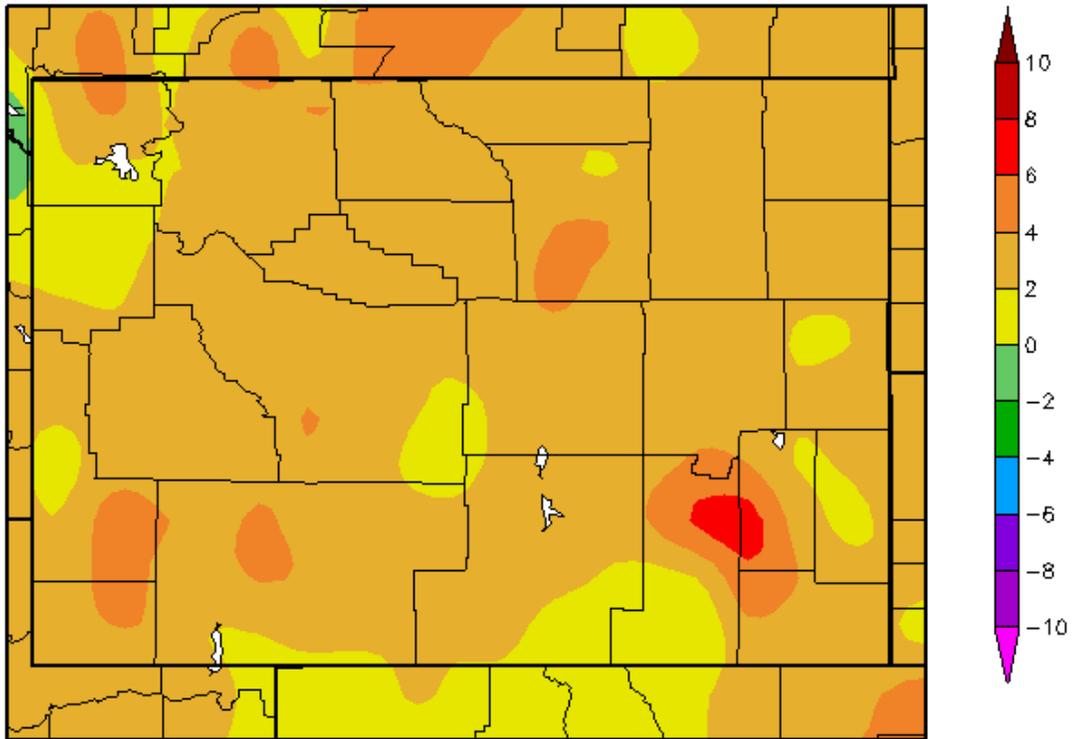


Generated 10/2/2012 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers

**Map showing September 2012 precipitation as a percentage of historical averages (vs. 1981-2010 “normal” period) for Wyoming. Courtesy of the High Plains Regional Climate Center.**

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
9/1/2012 - 9/30/2012



Generated 10/2/2012 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers

**Map showing mean September 2012 temperatures as departures from historical averages (vs. 1981-2010 "normal" period) for Wyoming. Courtesy of the High Plains Regional Climate Center.**

# U.S. Drought Monitor

September 25, 2012

Valid 7 a.m. EST

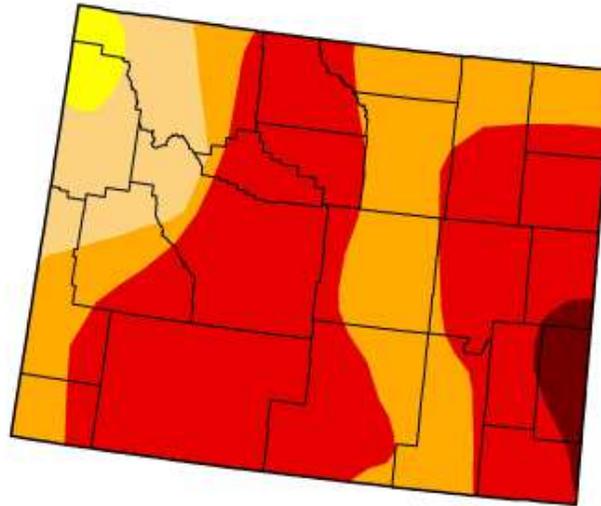
## Wyoming

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	98.01	87.30	58.34	2.72
Last Week (09/18/2012 map)	0.00	100.00	97.92	87.30	58.35	2.70
3 Months Ago (06/26/2012 map)	6.50	93.50	84.25	43.20	4.59	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 (09/29/2011 map)	98.26	1.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

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



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, September 27, 2012  
Anthony Artusa, NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

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