













WY Conditions & Outlooks:

Precipitation, Temperatures, Drought, Floods, & Everything In-between

March 23, 2023















Presentation Outline

- Current Conditions: Overview
 - SWE
 - Streamflow
 - Reservoir Supply
- Outlooks: Temperature & Precipitation
- Highlight of the Month
 - CoCoRaHS
- Questions















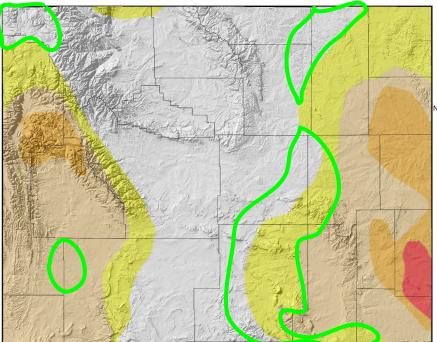
Current Conditions



US Drought Monitor for March 21, 2023

(Released Thursday, March 23, 2023) Valid 8 a.m. EDT

US Drought Monitor for 21 Mar 2023





Map Created by: National Drought Mitigation Center https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu







Map Layout Prepared by: Wyoming State Climate Office http://www.wrds.uwyo.edu



Drought LevelPercentileNone>30D0 (Abnormally Dry)21 to 30D1 (Moderate Drought)11 to 20D2 (Severe Drought)6 to 10D3 (Extreme Drought)3 to 5D4 (Exceptional Drought)0 to 2

https://youtu.be/45MQ1GB-uTc

Improvements since the last webinar. Recent snows have led to some large areas of improvements.

The U.S. Drought Monitor, is a weekly map of drought conditions produced jointly by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC) at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, The U.S. Drought Monitor website is hosted and maintained by the NDMC, http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Map Layout Created 23 Mar 2023 http://www.wrds.uwyo.edu



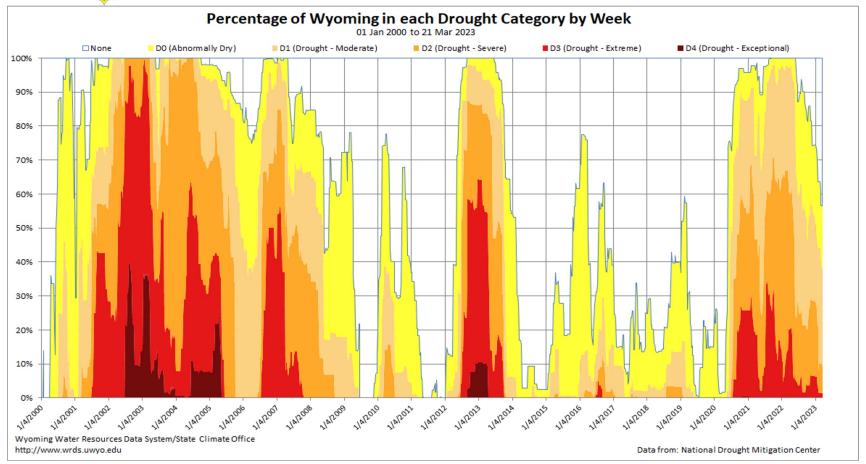




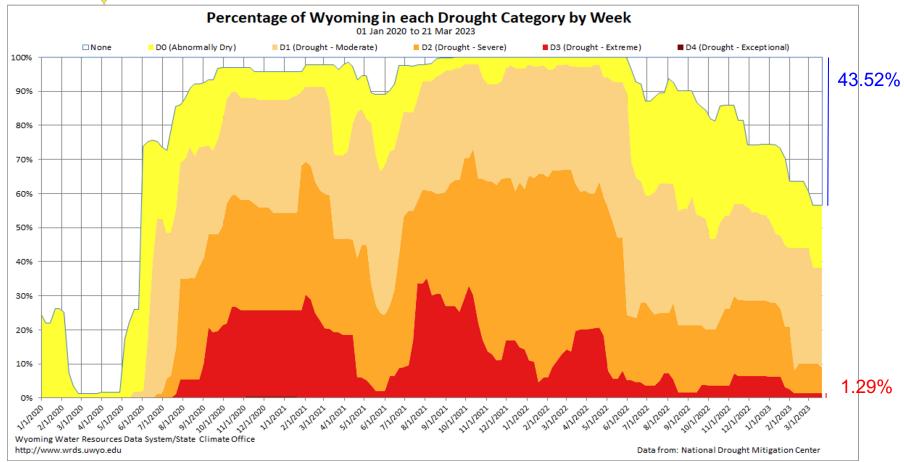




Wyoming Area Affected: 56.48% D0-D4; 38.11% D1-D4









14-Day Precipitation Percentile (09 Mar 2023 to 22 Mar 2023)

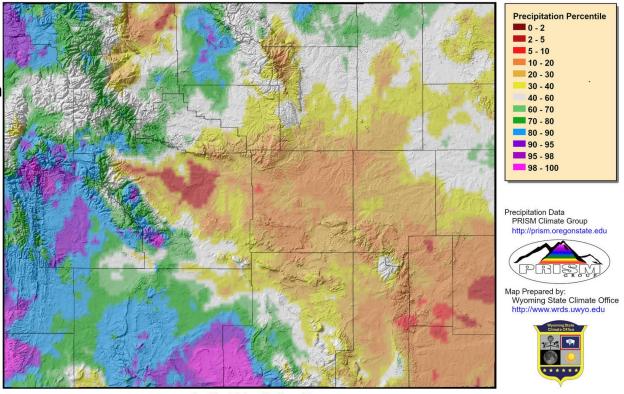
14-Day Precipitation (Percentile) for 09 Mar 2023 to 22 Mar 2023

Above Median:

- West except Wind Basin and eastern Park County
- Far northern Johnson and eastern Sheridan Counties

Below Median (Areas of Concern):

- Central Wyoming
- Southeast Wyoming
- Eastern Park County
- Bighorns



Provisional data, subject to revision

Daily precipitation data from PRISM Climate Group, Copyright ©2021, PRISM Climate Group, Oregon State University, http://prism.oregonstate.edu

Map Created 23 Mar 2023 http://www.wrds.uwyo.edu
Daily percentiles created from PRISM daily precipitation grids



90-Day Precipitation Percentile (23 Dec 2022 to 22 Mar 2023)

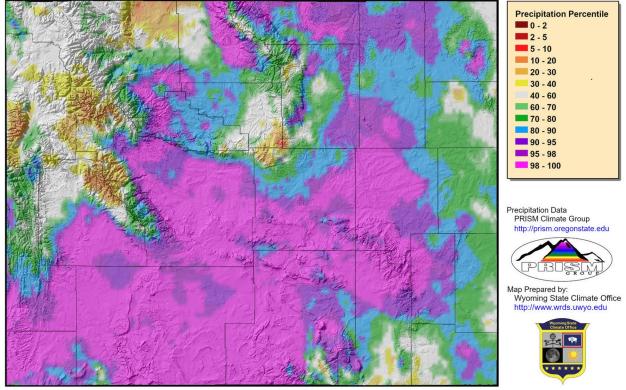
90-Day Precipitation (Percentile) for 23 Dec 2022 to 22 Mar 2023

Above Median:

Much of Wyoming

Below Median (Areas of Concern):

- Northwest
- Northeastern Park County
- Southern Bighorns



Provisional data, subject to revision

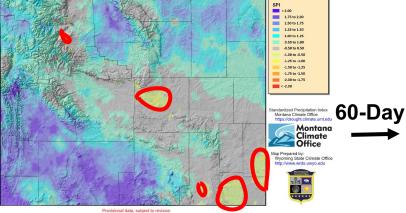
Daily precipitation data from PRISM Climate Group, Copyright ©2021, PRISM Climate Group, Oregon State University, http://prism.oregonstate.edu

Map Created 23 Mar 2023 http://www.wrds.uwyo.edu Daily percentiles created from PRISM daily precipitation grids



30-Day

30-Day Standardized Precipitation Index (20 Feb 2023 to 21 Mar 2023)



Standardized Precipitation Index Created by Montana Climate Office https://drought.climate.umt.edu

Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI)

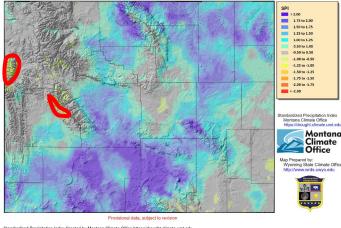
Short term: Central and Southeast, Much of

North and Southwest

Long term: Southeast. Areas of Winds/Tetons

1-Year

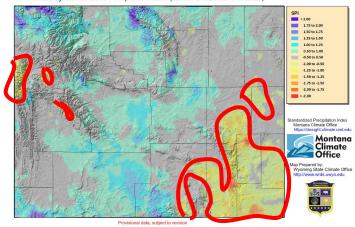
60-Day Standardized Precipitation Index (21 Jan 2023 to 21 Mar 2023)



Standardized Precipitation Index Created by Montana Climate Office https://drought.climate.umt.edu

Map Created 23 Mar 2023 http://www.wrds.uwvo.edi

365-Day Standardized Precipitation Index (22 Mar 2022 to 21 Mar 2023)



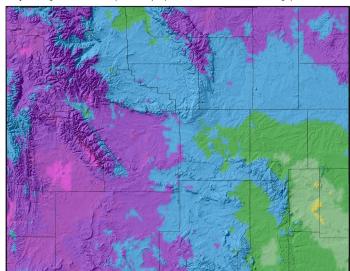
Standardized Precipitation Index Created by Montana Climate Office https://drought.climate.umt.edu Man Created 23 Mar 2023 http://www.wrds.uwvo.edu



14-Day Average Minimum Temperature (09 Mar to 22 Mar)

- Average minimums still below freezing
- Upper Green and Yellowstone Plateau <0F
- Highest average lows in southeast

 14-Day Average Minimum Temperature (Departure from 1991-2020 Average) for 09 Mar 2023 to 22 Mar 2023



12 to 15 Temperature Data PRISM Climate Group http://prism.oregonstate.edu Wyoming State Climate Office

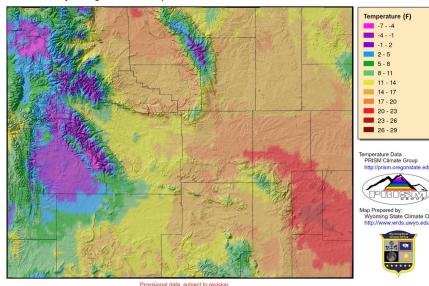
Temperature Departure from Normal (F) < -15 -15 to -12 -12 to -9

-3 to 0 0 to 3 3 to 6

9 to 12

Provisional data, subject to revision

Daily Temperature data from PRISM Climate Group, Copyright @2021, PRISM Climate Group, Oregon State University, http://prism.oregonstate.edu Map Created 23 Mar 2023 http://www.wrds.uwyo.edu Temperature averages created from PRISM daily tempWYerature grids



Daily Temperature data from PRISM Climate Group, Copyright @2021, PRISM Climate Group, Oregon State University, http://prism.oregonstate.edu Map Created 23 Mar 2023 http://www.wrds.uwyo.edu Temperature averages created from PRISM daily tempWYerature grids

14-Day *Departure from Normal*

Average Minimum Temperature

- Below average except border areas between Goshen and Platte Counties (up to 3F abv avg)
- Southeast up to 6F below average
- Rest 6F to >15F below average
- West & far northeastern tier greatest departure

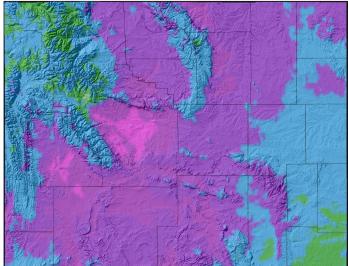


14-Day Average Maximum

Temperature (09 Mar to 22 Mar)

- Most Low Elev areas, highs >32F
- SE warmest, Upper Green & High Elev,

14-Day NGO NEON Temperature (Departure from 1991-2020 Average) for 09 Mar 2023 to 22 Mar 2023



3 to 6 9 to 12 12 to 15 Temperature Data PRISM Climate Group http://prism.oregonstate.edu

Temperature Departure

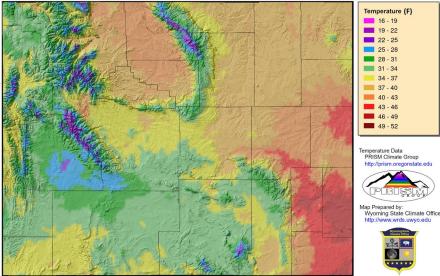
from Normal (F) < -15 -15 to -12 -12 to -9 -9 to -6 -6 to -3 -3 to 0 0 to 3



Map Prepared by: Wyoming State Climate Office

Provisional data, subject to revision

Daily Temperature data from PRISM Climate Group, Copyright @2021, PRISM Climate Group, Oregon State University, http://prism.oregonstate.edu Map Created 23 Mar 2023 http://www.wrds.uwyo.edu Temperature averages created from PRISM daily tempWYerature grids



Daily Temperature data from PRISM Climate Group, Copyright ©2021, PRISM Climate Group, Oregon State University, http://prism.oregonstate.edu Map Created 23 Mar 2023 http://www.wrds.uwvo.edu Temperature averages created from PRISM daily tempWYerature grids

14- Day *Departure from* Normal

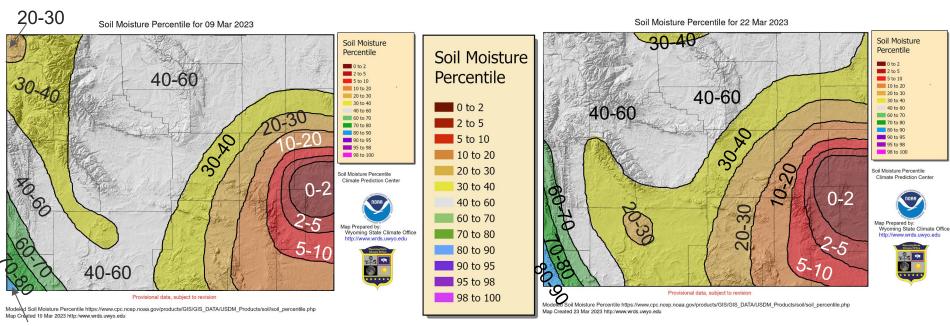
Average Maximum

- Below average statewide **Temperature** Far NW and SE 3F to 6F below average
- Parts Upper Green and Wind >15F below average
- Remainder 6F to 15F below average



Soil Moisture Percentile

Two Weeks Ago 22 March 2023



80-90

Improvement in far southwest and northwest, but worsening in east and south central



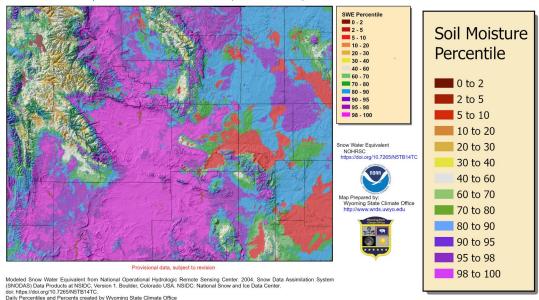
Map Created 09 Mar 2023 - http://www.wrds.uwyo.edu

Snow

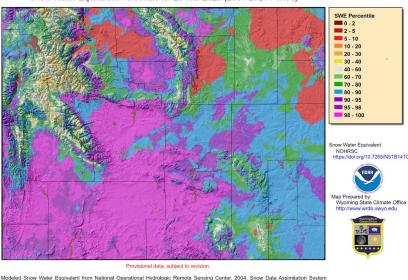
Two Weeks Ago

March 23, 2023





Snow Water Equivalent Percentile for 23 Mar 2023 (2004-2021 Period)



Modeled Snow Water Equivalent from National Operational Hydrologic Remote Sensing Center, 2004, Snow Data Assimilation System (SNODAS) Data Products at NSIDC, Version 1. Boulder, Colorado USA. NSIDC: National Snow and Ice Data Center, doi: https://doi.org/10.7265/NSTB14TC.

Daily Percentiles and Percents created by Wyoming State Climate Office
Map Created 23 Mar 2023 - http://www.wrds.uwvo.edu

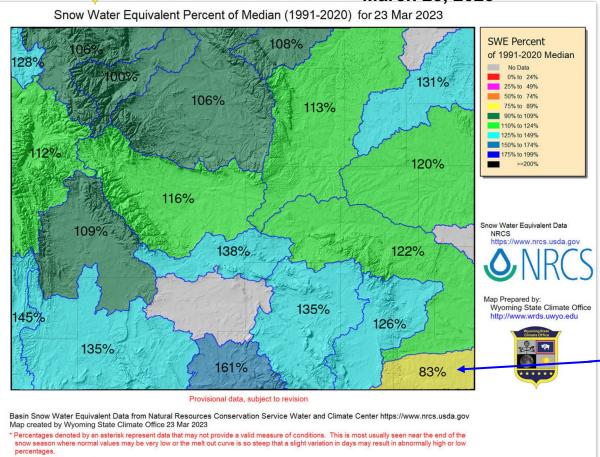
Losses in the Northeast and Bighorn Basin.

Improvements in the Southwest and East Central

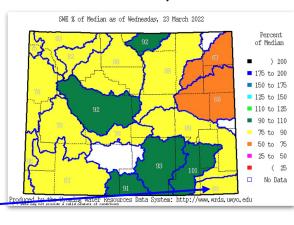


Snow

March 23, 2023



March 22, 2023



http://www.wrds.uwyo.edu/wrds/nrcs/snowmap/snowmap.html



Snow

March 23, 2023

Peak Snow Water Equivalent Dates and Totals by Basin With Meltout Dates

This year's "to-date" peak snow water equivalent (SWE) compared to median.

Red indicates earlier peak date or lower SWE compared to median

Blue indicates later peak date or higher SWE compared to median

A Click Column Headers to Sert

10

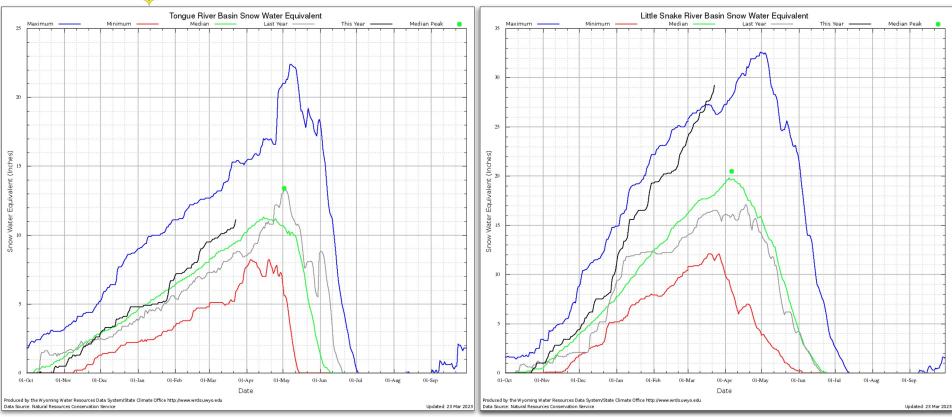
Q

	2	3	4	5	0	1	Ö	9	10
Basin Click to View Chart	This Year Peak Date	This Year Peak SWE (inches)	-	Peak SWE Dif (inches)	Percent of Median Peak SWE	Median Peak Date	Median Peak SWE (inches)		Median Meltout Date
South Platte	23 Mar 2023	5.4	-6	-1.8	75%	29 Mar IMG	7.2 IMG	5.4	26 Apr IMG
Tongue	23 Mar 2023	11.1	-40	-2.3	83%	02 May IMG	13.4 IMG	11.1	09 Jun IMG
Bighorn	23 Mar 2023	10.0	-33	-1.7	85%	25 Apr IMG	11.7 IMG	10.0	19 Jun IMG
Shoshone	23 Mar 2023	15.7	-32	-2.4	87%	24 Apr IMG	18.1 IMG	15.7	29 Jun IMG
Powder	23 Mar 2023	9.5	-25	-1.1	90%	17 Apr IMG	10.6 IMG	9.5	08 Jun IMG
Wind	23 Mar 2023	13.0	-30	-1.0	93%	22 Apr IMG	14.0 IMG	13.0	25 Jun IMG
Laramie	23 Mar 2023	15.1	-27	-0.8	95%	19 Apr IMG	15.9 IMG	15.1	12 Jun IMG
Lower North Platte	23 Mar 2023	12.2	-23	-0.6	95%	15 Apr IMG	12.8 IMG	12.2	29 May IMG
Yellowstone	23 Mar 2023	20.6	-32	-0.6	97%	24 Apr IMG	21.2 IMG	20.6	02 Jul IMG
Upper Green	23 Mar 2023	15.7	-21	-0.3	98%	13 Apr IMG	16.0 IMG	15.7	18 Jun IMG
Snake	23 Mar 2023	22.2	-20	1.6	108%	12 Apr IMG	20.6 IMG	22.2	28 Jun IMG
Cheyenne	23 Mar 2023	8.2	-10	0.7	109%	02 Apr IMG	7.5 IMG	8.2	30 Apr IMG
Madison	23 Mar 2023	26.1	-23	2.3	110%	15 Apr IMG	23.8 IMG	26.1	24 Jun IMG
Upper North Platte	23 Mar 2023	26.9	-24	2.5	110%	16 Apr IMG	24.4 IMG	26.9	26 Jun IMG
Lower Green	23 Mar 2023	15.1	-17	1.5	111%	09 Apr IMG	13.6 IMG	15.1	12 Jun IMG
Sweetwater	23 Mar 2023	17.0	-26	2.0	113%	18 Apr IMG	15.0 IMG	17.0	05 Jun IMG
Belle Fourche	23 Mar 2023	8.2	-10	1.3	119%	02 Apr IMG	6.9 IMG	8.2	30 Apr IMG
Upper Bear	23 Mar 2023	21.4	-20	4.8	129%	12 Apr IMG	16.6 IMG	21.4	15 Jun IMG
Little Snake	23 Mar 2023	29.2	-14	8.7	142%	06 Apr IMG	20.5 IMG	29.2	19 Jun IMG

Data from Natural Resources Conservation Service SnoTel Network



Snow Water Equivalent by Basin (23 Mar 2023)



Tongue River Basin (83% of Median Peak SWE)

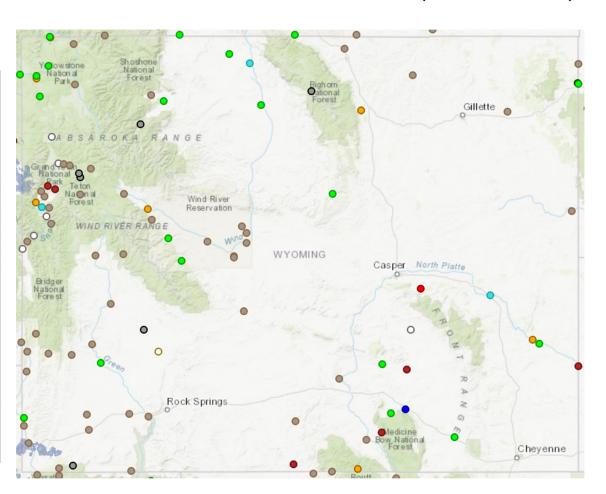
Little Snake River Basin (142% of Median Peak SWE)



Current Streamflow Conditions (Mar 23, 2023)

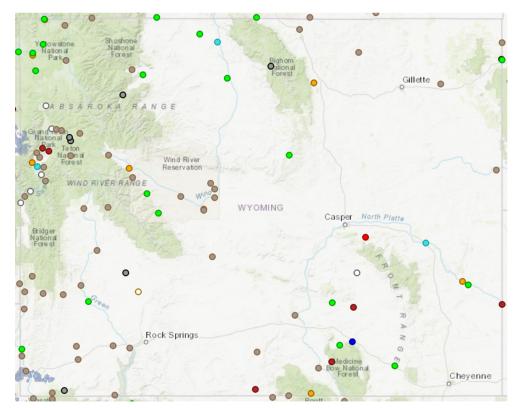
Streamflow Status





https://dashboard.waterdata.usgs.gov/



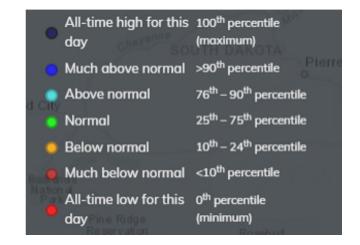


https://dashboard.waterdata.usgs.gov/

https://waterdata.usgs.gov/

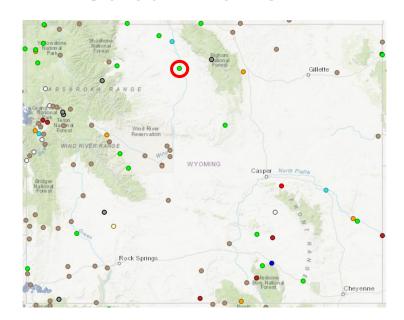
Early Spring Streamflows

- Winter is generally a time of low flow
- Most sites still ice-affected (grey)
- A few sites coming up from lowelevation snow melt
- Still a mix of conditions, with sites from much below to much above normal





Select WY Streamflows

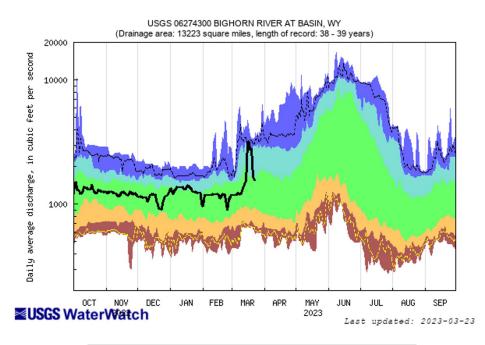


https://dashboard.waterdata.usgs.gov/

https://waterdata.usgs.gov/

Bighorn River at Basin, WY

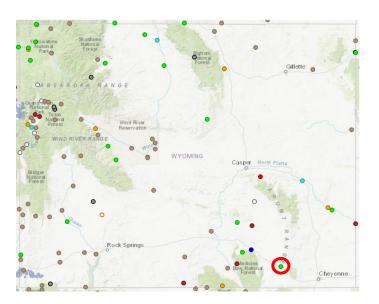
Last updated Mar 22, 2023



	Е	xplana	tion - Pe	rcentile	classes	3	
lowest- 10th percentile	5	10-24	25-75	76-90	95	90th percentile -highest	Flow
Much below Normal		Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much a	bove normal	



Select WY Streamflows

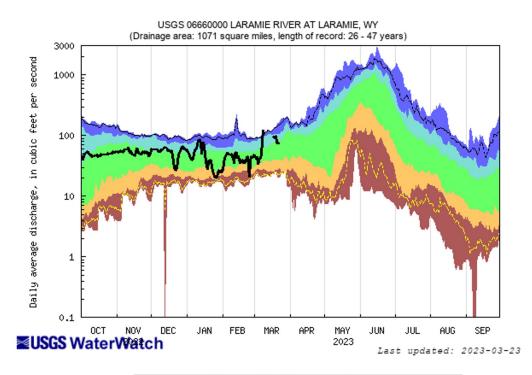


https://dashboard.waterdata.usgs.gov/

https://waterdata.usgs.gov/

Laramie River at Laramie, WY

Last updated Mar 22, 2023

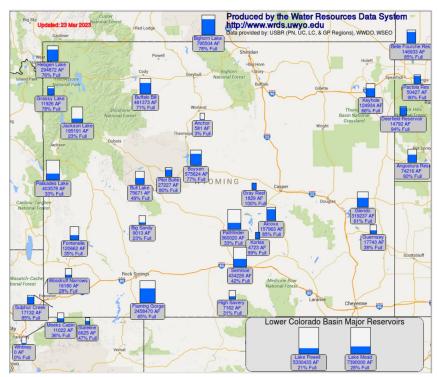


	Е	xplana	tion - Pe	rcentile	classes	3	
lowest- 10th percentile	5	10-24	25-75	76-90	95	90th percentile -highest	Flow
Much below Normal		Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much a	bove normal	



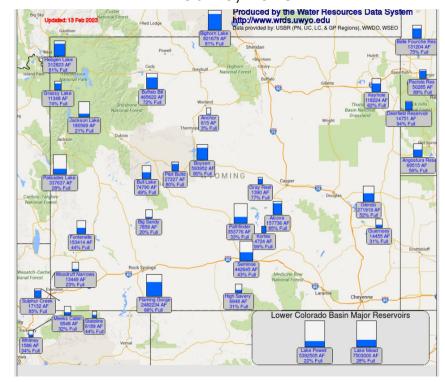
WY Reservoirs

Mar 23, 2023



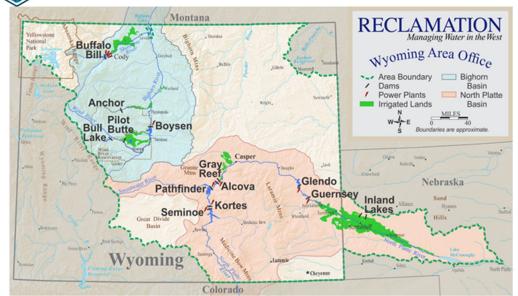
Slight increases at most reservoirs

Feb 16, 2023





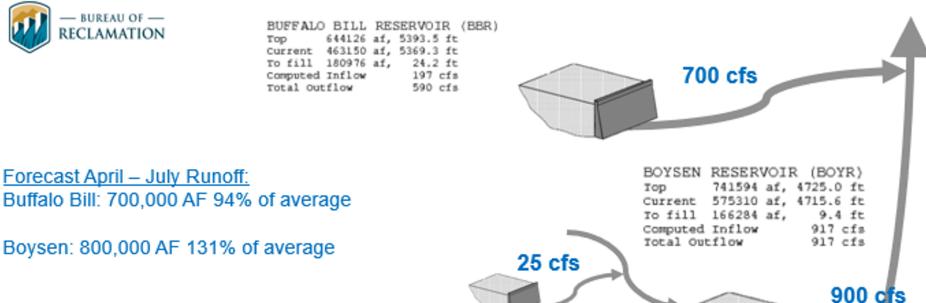
Current Reservoir Conditions: Bighorn System



As of March 21, Bighorn System: 72% of Full

Reservoir	Content	Capacity	% of Full	% of Avg
Bull Lake	75,622	152,500	50%	98%
Buffalo Bill	463,150	646,600	72%	101%
Boysen	575,310	741,600	78%	105%





Boysen: 800,000 AF 131% of average

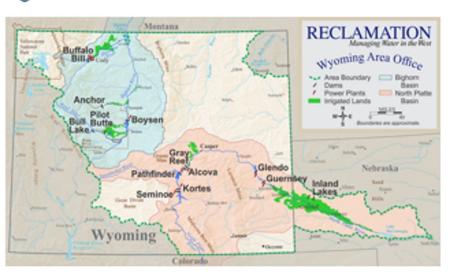
Forecast April – July Runoff:

BULL LAKE (BLR) Top 152459 af, 5805.0 ft Current 75622 af, 5777.7 ft To fill 76837 af, 27.3 ft Computed Inflow 40 cfs Total Outflow 28 cfs

Wyoming Area Office Water Order Changes – https://www.usbr.gov/gp/woc/indexwy.html



RECLAMATION Current Reservoir Conditions: North Platte System



Forecast April – July Runoff:

Forecast Point	Runoff (AF)	% of Avg
Seminoe	870,000	121
Sweetwater above Pathfinder	80,000	150
Alcova to Glendo	150,000	103

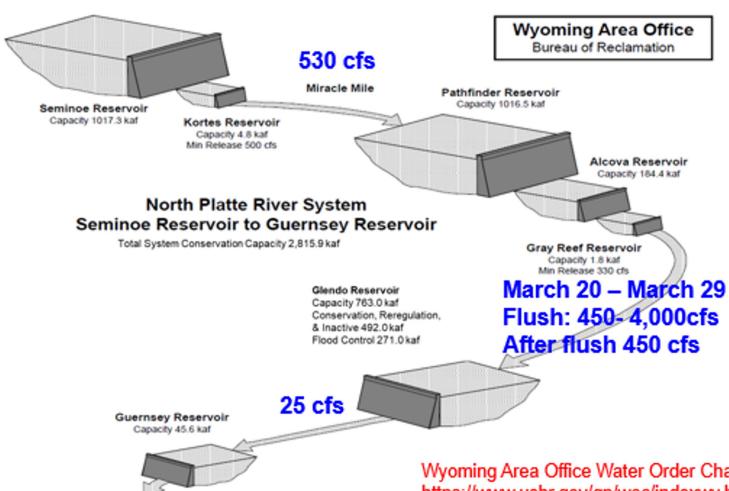
As of March 20, North Platte System:

44% of Full, 74% of Average

Reservoir	Content (AF) Capacity	% of Full	% of Avg
Seminoe	434,100	1,017,300	42%	81%
Pathfinder	363,200	1,070,000	34%	59%
Glendo	315,300	492,000	64%	86%
Guernsey	17,700	45,600	39%	98%



0 cfs



Wyoming Area Office Water Order Changes https://www.usbr.gov/gp/woc/indexwy.html















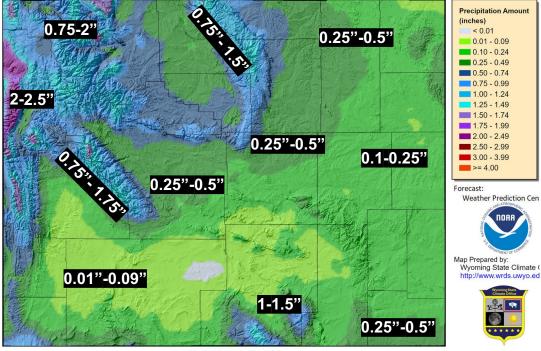
Forecasts & Outlooks



7-Day Total Precipitation Forecast

March 23 - 30

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast 23 Mar 2023

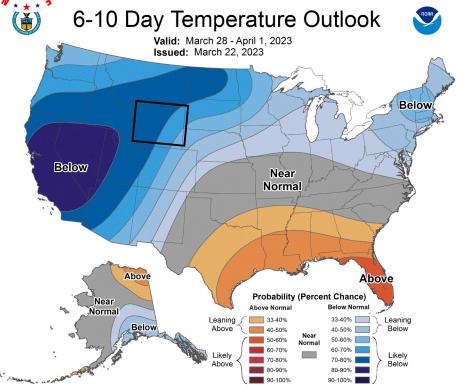


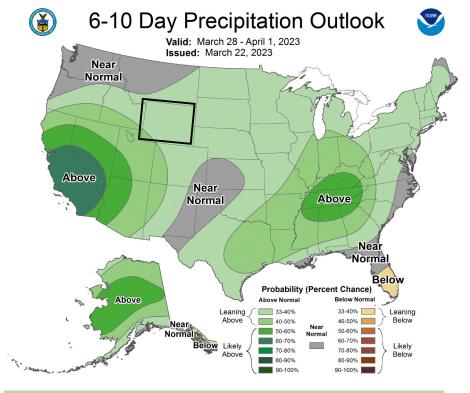
- The west will see very few breaks in the snow showers.
- Northern Wyoming will see quite a bit of snow with the next storm Friday afternoon / evening through Saturday night.
- There will be a break in the snow Monday to Tuesday, with the next storm moving in on Wednesday.

Provisional data, subject to revision

6-10 Day Temp & Precip Outlook

March 28 - April 1



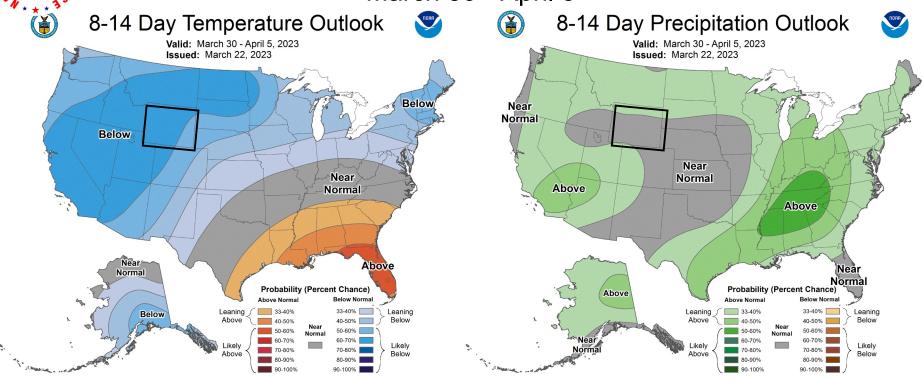


Strong signal for below normal temperatures, especially across western Wyoming

Slightly favored above normal precip Wyoming

8-14 Day Temp & Precip Outlook

March 30 - April 5



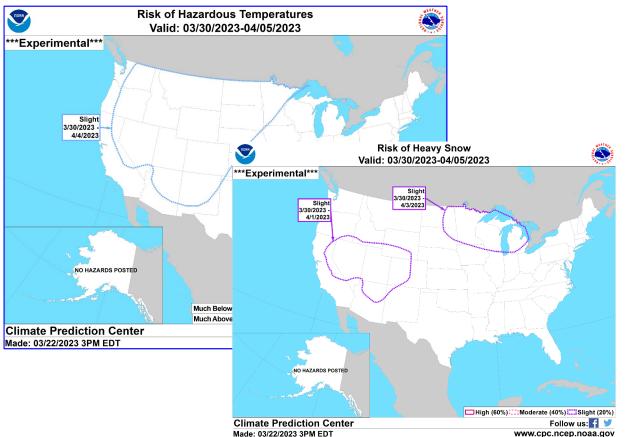
Favored likely colder than normal to continue for all of Wyoming.

Near normal precipitation for the majority of Wyoming.



NWS Climate Prediction Center

8-14 Long Range Hazard Outlook



CPC Link: https://bit.ly/3zFP82z

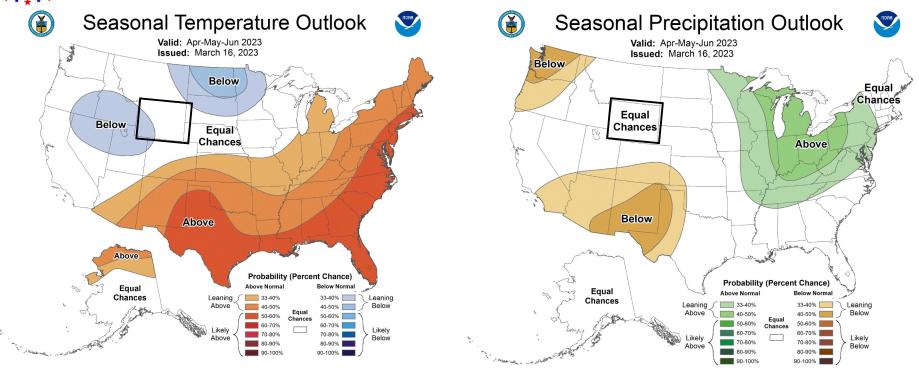
Risk & Confidence of cold temperatures is Slight across Wyoming through the beginning of April.

Risk of Heavy Snow amounts is Slight across southern Wyoming



3-Month Temp & Precip Outlook

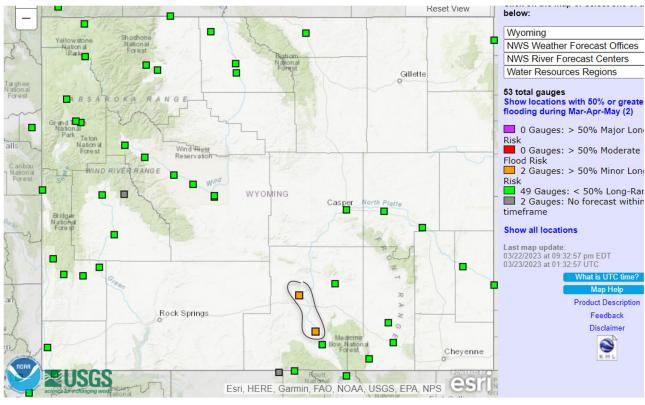
April - May - June 2023



Equal chances for most of WY = climatology is the best forecast



National Weather Service April-May-June Flood Potential



Minor flooding likely along the North Platte River

Other rivers of some concern:

- Popo Agie
- Little Wind
- lower Laramie
- Snake
- Little Snake
- Bear

NOAA released U.S. Spring Outlook on 16 March















Highlight of the Month ...

CoCoRaHS The Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow Network



What is CoCoRaHS?

CoCoRaHS is a network of volunteer precipitation observers

Measuring precipitation in 50 States

...and Canada

...and the Bahamas

Largest provider of Daily Precipitation Observations in the country

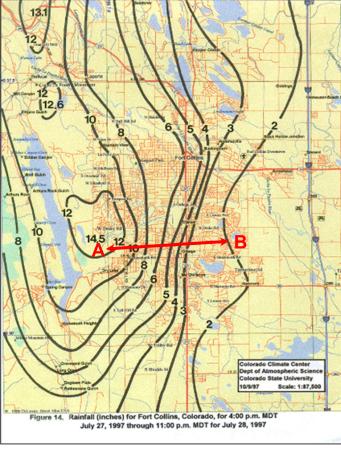


CoCoRaHS was born in response to the Fort Collins, Colorado flood of 1997





The flood pointed out:



- **1.** The **extreme local variations** in rainfall possible from convective storms.
- 2. The important role individuals can play in measuring, mapping and reporting precipitation.

Distance between \mathbf{A} and $\mathbf{B} = 5$ miles

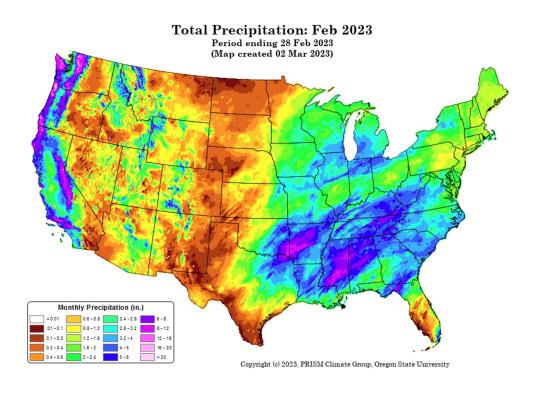
A = 14.5 inches

B = 2.0 inches



Why CoCoRaHS?





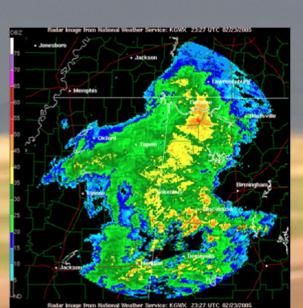
Precipitation varies considerably - both locally and nationally. Rain gauges are relatively far apart – CoCoRaHS is high density and starts to fill gaps



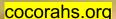


CoCoRaHS Data are used by many

- National Weather Service
- Other Meteorologists
- Hydrologists
- •Emergency Managers
- City Utilities
 - -Water supply
 - -Water conservation
 - -Storm water
- Insurance adjusters
- •USDA—Crop production
- Engineers
- Scientists studying storms
- Mosquito control
- Ranchers and Farmers
- Outdoor & Recreation



- •Teachers and Students
 - **⇒**Geoscience education tool
 - ⇒Taking measurements
 - ⇒Analyzing data
 - **⇒Organizing results**
 - ⇒Conducting research
 - ⇒Helping the community





Setting up your Gauge

CORDHS COM	HUNITY COLLABORATIVE RAIN, HAIL & SNOW NETWORK "Secause every drop counts" Nome Countries States View Data Maps My Data My Account Admin Logout	COCORAHS CO	MMUNITY COLLABORATIVE RAIN, HAIL & "Because every drop counts" Home Countries States View Data Maps My Data M	E
	Welcome to CoCoRaHS! "Volunteers working together to measure precipitation across the nations."		Become a CoCoRaHS Observer	
Main Menu	CoCoRaHS March Madness 2023	Main Menu	Observer Information	Postal Address
Join CoCoRaHS Soptact Us Donate	March 1–31, 2023 How many new volunteers can your recruit in your state?	Home About Us Join CoCoReHS Contact Us Donate	First Name Last Name Home Phone Day Phone	Address State Alabama County Select County >
Resources FAQ / Help Education Training Slide-Shows	Reports received today 3/21/2023 as of 12:06 PM EDT	Resources • FAQ / Help • Education	Email Confirm Email Physoy Policy Daily Internet Access: O Yes O No	City Zip
Videos Condition Monitoring Evapotranspiration Soil Moisture NCEI Normals		Training Slide-Shows Videos Condition Monitoring Evapotranspiration Soil Moisture NCEI Normals	Station Location Information Station Information: Location Description: (example: Gauge located	Station Address Same as Postal Address
Volunteer Coordinators Hall Pad Distribution/Drop-off Help Needed Printable Forms		Volunteer Coordinators Hail Pad Distribution/Drop-off Help Needed Printable Forms	at the 3rd house South of Fifth Ave on Vine.)	State Alabama County Select County V
The Catch Message of the Day Publications CoCoRaHS Blog Web Groups State Newsletters Master Gardener Guide	24-hour Precipitation Mar 21, 2023 4.00-93 am insured dels time N A Zero	The Catch Message of the Day Dublications CoCoRaHS Blog Web Groups	Location Coordinates: (if available) in decimal degrees. Latitude (40.5993): Longitude (-105.1152):	Zip
State Climate Series March Madness WxTalk Webinars	0 Trace 0 000-00 in 0 000-00 in 0 000-02 in 0 21-04 in	State Newsletters Master Gardener Guide State Climate Series March Madness WxTalk Webinars	Additional Information How did you find out about CoCoRaHS? Are you 18 years old or younger? Yes No	
Sponsors Links CoCoRaHS Store	0 0.44 - 0.83 n. 0 0.83 - 0.94 in. 0 .84 - 2.10 in.	• <u>Sponsors</u> • <u>Links</u> • <u>CoCoRaHS Store</u>	Age: Parent or Guardian Name: Grade:	
AMBASSADOR™	Daily Precipitation	LAMPAGE POR	Rain gauge	



Leaving it in the box ranks as one of the all-time least effective places to have it





Reporting your Precipitation



How much precip in the gauge? Enter it.

Winter: Do NOT enter the amount of snow, enter the value after it is melted

> Allow it to melt naturally, measure it Add hot water, melt it, subtract the melt Weigh it.

Add comments if you like. How much snow fell?

How much snow on the ground?

When did precipitation start? When did it stop?

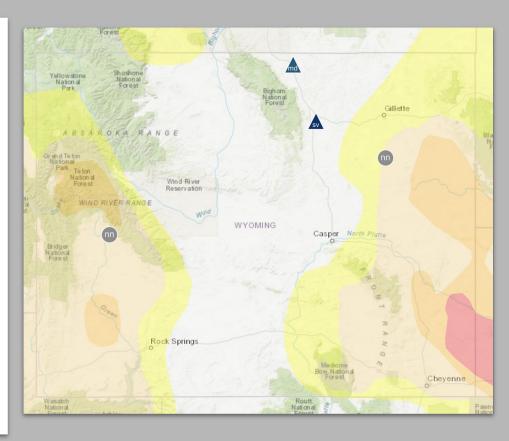
Simple form. Your zero is pre-filled, just change it to the amount you read and submit it. Winter precipitation takes a bit more effort. cocorahs.org





Reporting your Conditions

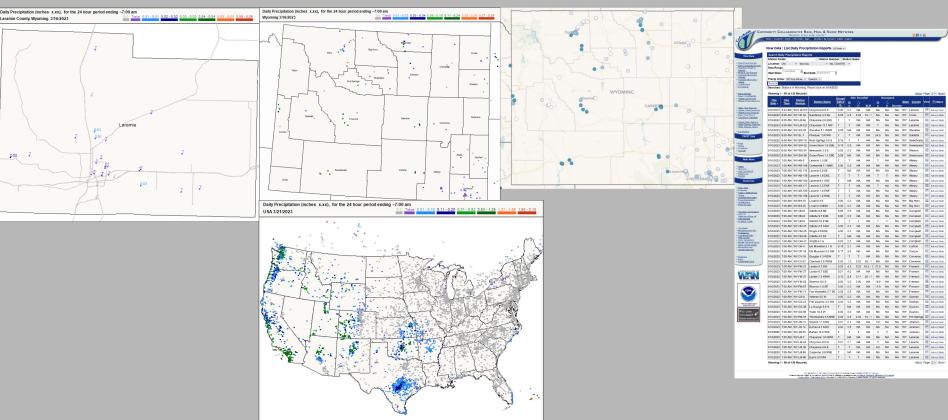




What are conditions like in your area?



Viewing your (and others) Data

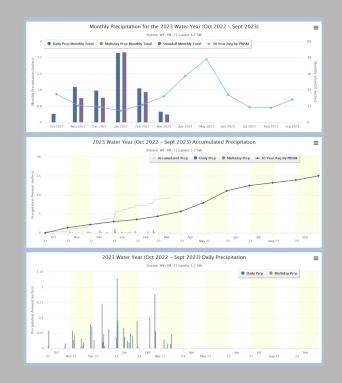


Data entered appear on maps.



Viewing your (and others) Data

STATION LIST	OVERVIEW	CHARTS	DAYS IN WA	TER YEAR	DAILY PRECI	P OBS MULT	IDAY PRECIP OBS	HAIL OBS			
Station Over	view				S	Station Loc	ation				
Station Number Station Name: Elevation:	AA 1-1 IAI-7 I			County: Latitude: Longitude:			Fremont, WY 42.762989 -108.793333				
Mi Download as	Excel File										
Water Year	Overvie	w									
Year-Month	30 Yr Avg by PRISM	Total Precip Sum	Days Covered by All Obs	Daily Precip Sum	Daily Obs Count	Multiday Precip Sum	Days Convered by Multiday Obs	Multiday Obs Count	Days with Precip	Days with Trace	Tot Sno
Oct 2022	1.39	0.42	31	0.42	31	0.00	0	0	4	0	
Nov 2022	0.82	1.76	30	1.76	30	0.00	0	0	10	5	
Dec 2022	0.75	1.58	31	1.58	31	0.00	0	0	7	1	
Jan 2023	0.57	3.44	30	3.44	30	0.00	0	0	11	1	
Feb 2023	0.86	1.68	28	1.68	28	0.00	0	0	3	2	
March 2023	1.28	0.54	16	0.54	16	0.00	0	0	6	1	
April 2023	2.29	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	
May 2023	3.11	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	
June 2023	1.36	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	
July 2023	0.74	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	
Aug 2023	0.71	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	
riug zozo	1.12	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	
Sept 2023	1.12										



Tables, downloadable spreadsheets, charts, comparison to PRISM normals, and more.



Help Us - Join CoCoRaHS



cocorahs.org
See your data on the map. Compare your data to PRISM















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Get Involved!

Submit a Condition Monitoring Observer Report

Brian Loving

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The Wyoming Conditions Monitoring Team (WCMT) organized and hosted this webinar. The WCMT is a collaborative effort of state, federal, tribal, and university partners that monitor conditions & impacts throughout the state on a weekly basis and communicate this information to the U.S. Drought Monitor among others. **Learn more at:** https://drought.wyo.gov

Thank you! Questions?