WY Conditions & Outlooks:

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

February 19, 2026

The University of Wyoming is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

Presentation Outline

- **Current Conditions:** Overview
  - Drought, Temperature, Precipitation, Soil Moisture, and Snow Water Equivalent
  - Streamflows
  - Reservoir Levels
  - Water Calls & Allocations
- **Outlooks:**
  - Temperature & Precipitation
  - River Flooding & Water supply
- **Highlight of the Month:**
  - Probabilistic Precipitation Portal
- **Questions**

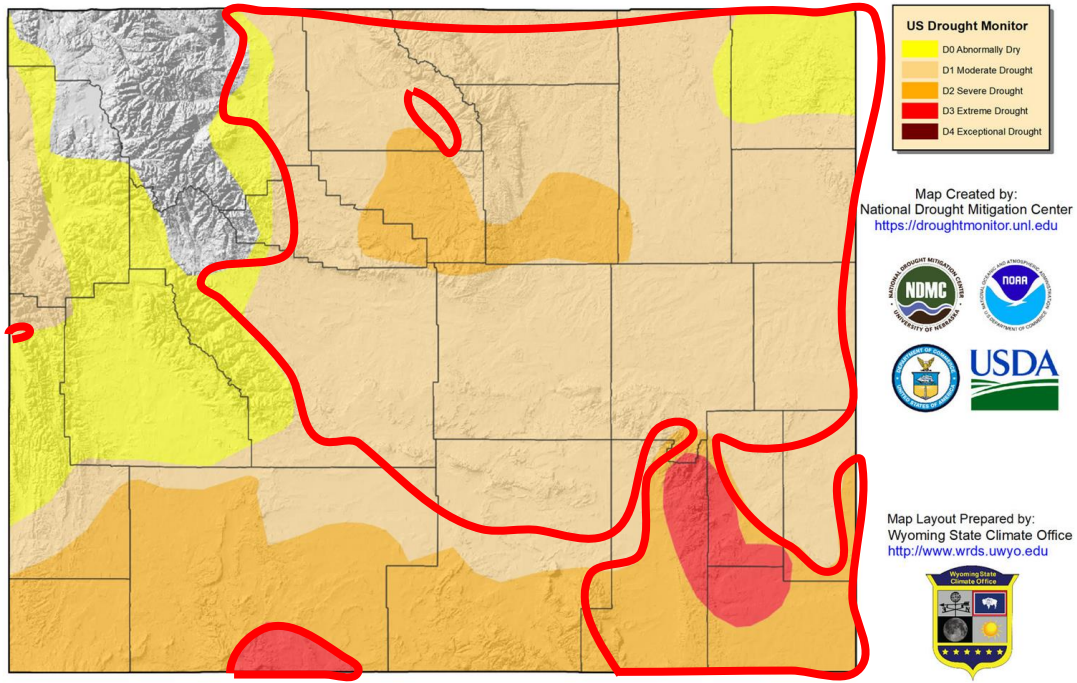
Current Conditions

US Drought Monitor for February 17th, 2026

(Released Thursday, February 19th, 2026)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Level	Percentile
None	>30.01
D0 (Abnormally Dry)	20.01 to 30
D1 (Moderate Drought)	10.01 to 20
D2 (Severe Drought)	5.01 to 10
D3 (Extreme Drought)	2.01 to 5
D4 (Exceptional Drought)	0 to 2



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 19 Feb 2026 08:29 https://www.wrds.uwyo.edu

How are Drought categories assigned?
https://youtu.be/45MQ1GB-uTc

Degradations in the east.

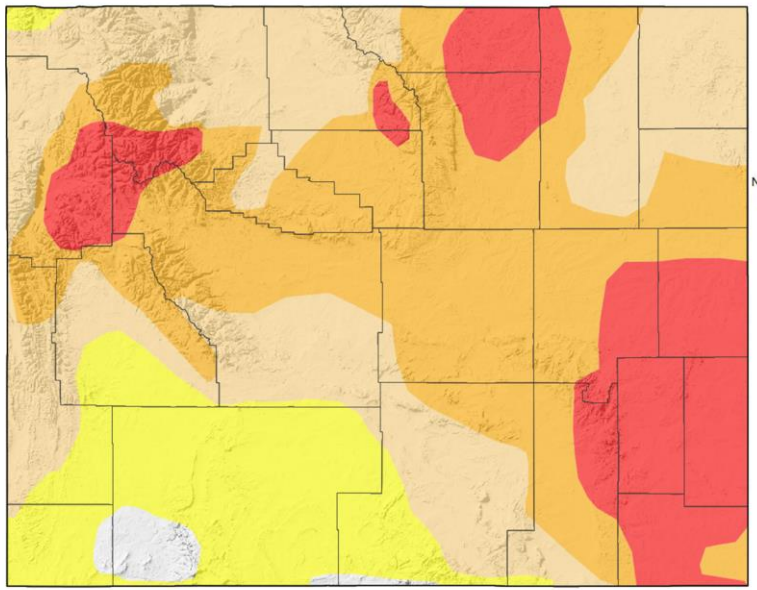
https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu

droughtmonitor.unl.edu

WRDS
Water Resources Data System

One Year Ago

US Drought Monitor for 18 Feb 2025



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

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

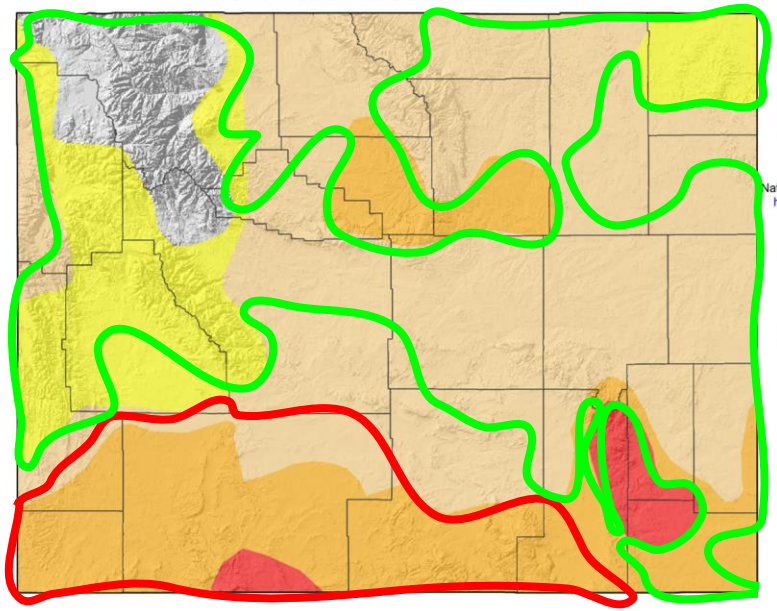
Map Layout Prepared by:
Wyoming State Climate Office
http://www.wrds.uwyo.edu

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Map Layout Created 20 Feb 2025 https://www.wrds.uwyo.edu

Today

US Drought Monitor for 17 Feb 2026



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

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

Map Layout Prepared by:
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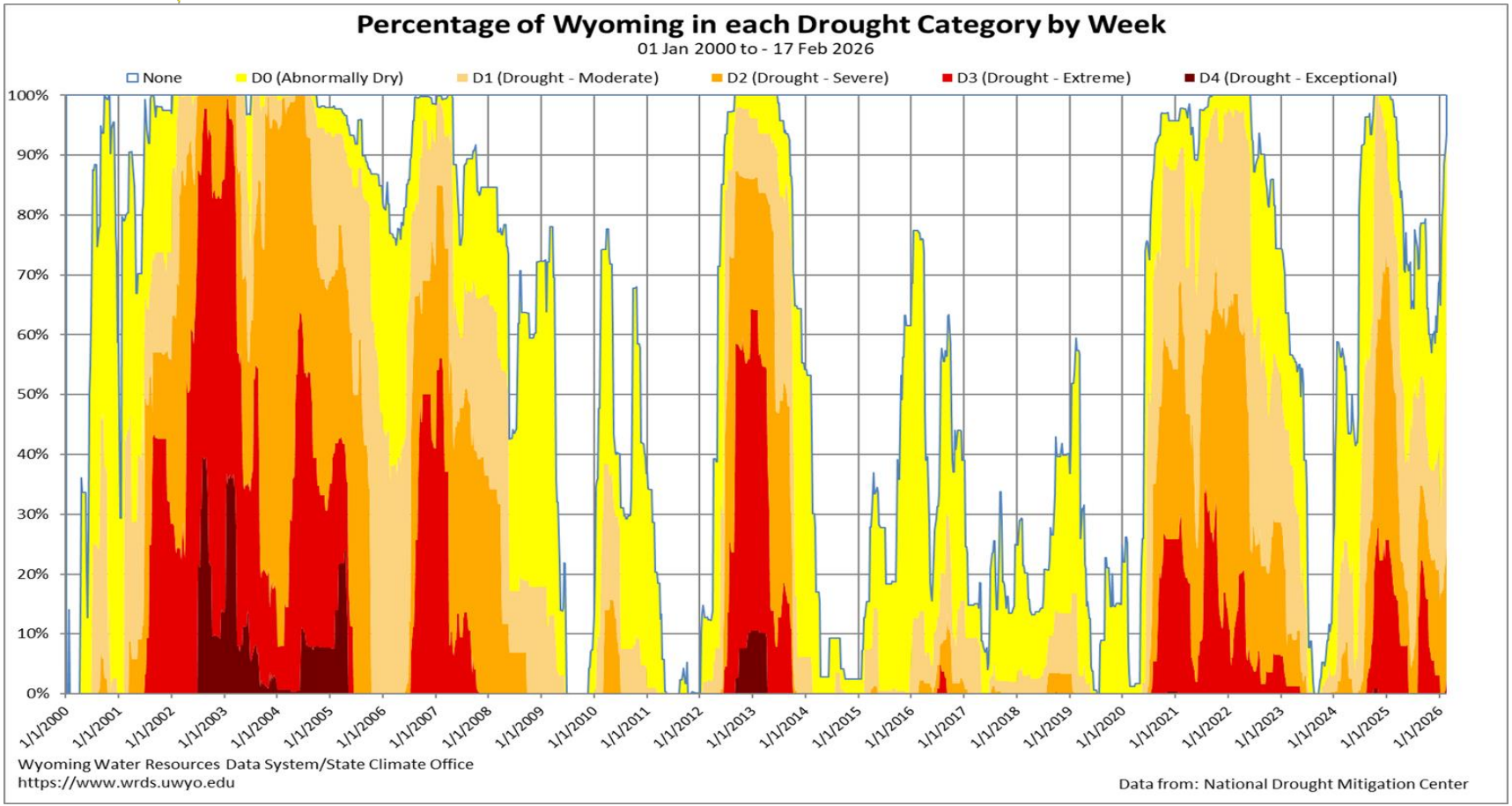
Map Layout Created 19 Feb 2026 08:29 https://www.wrds.uwyo.edu

https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu

droughtmonitor.unl.edu

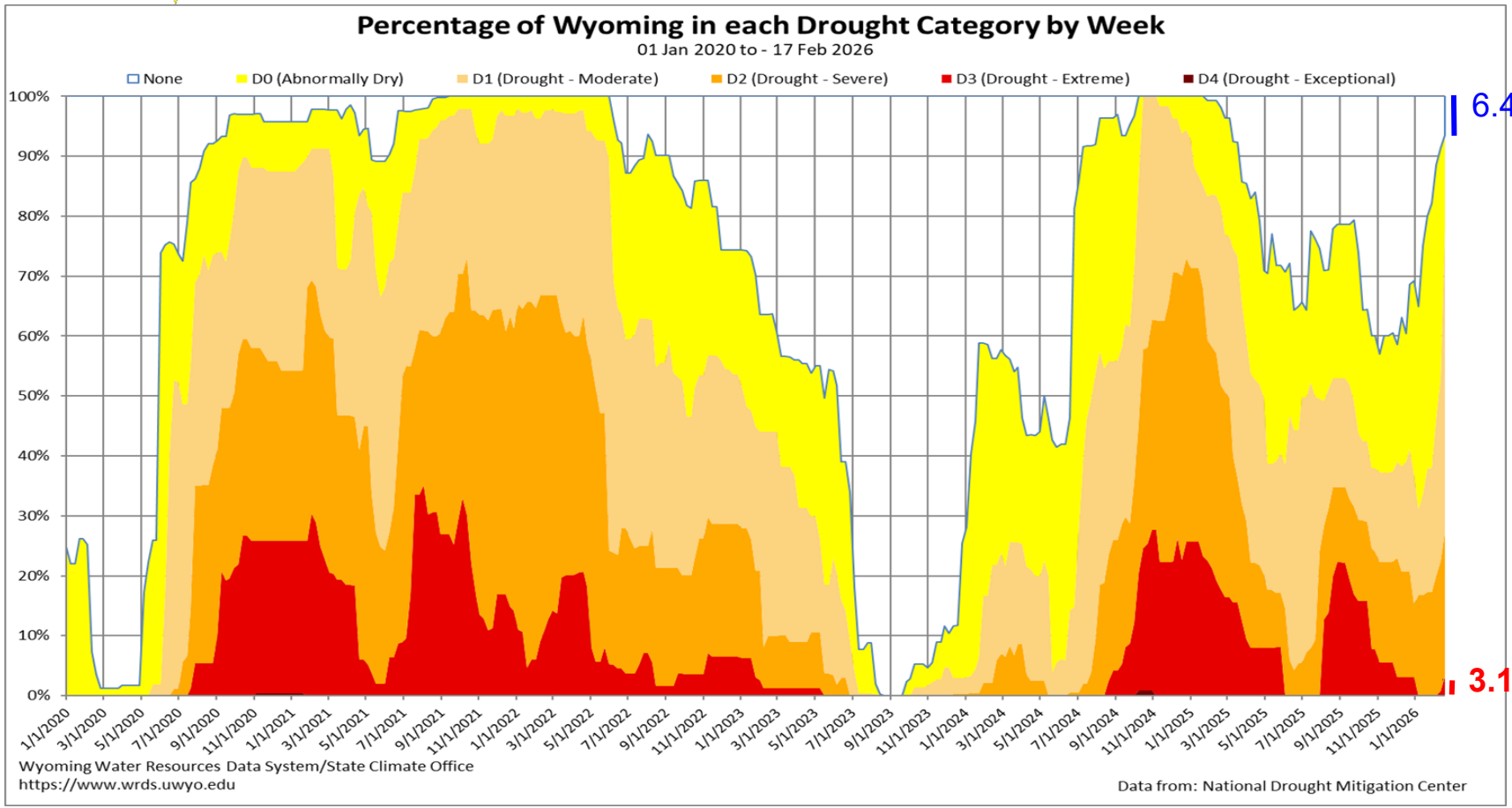
WRDS Water Resources Data System

Wyoming Area Affected: 93.53% D0-D4 ; 78.42% D1-D4

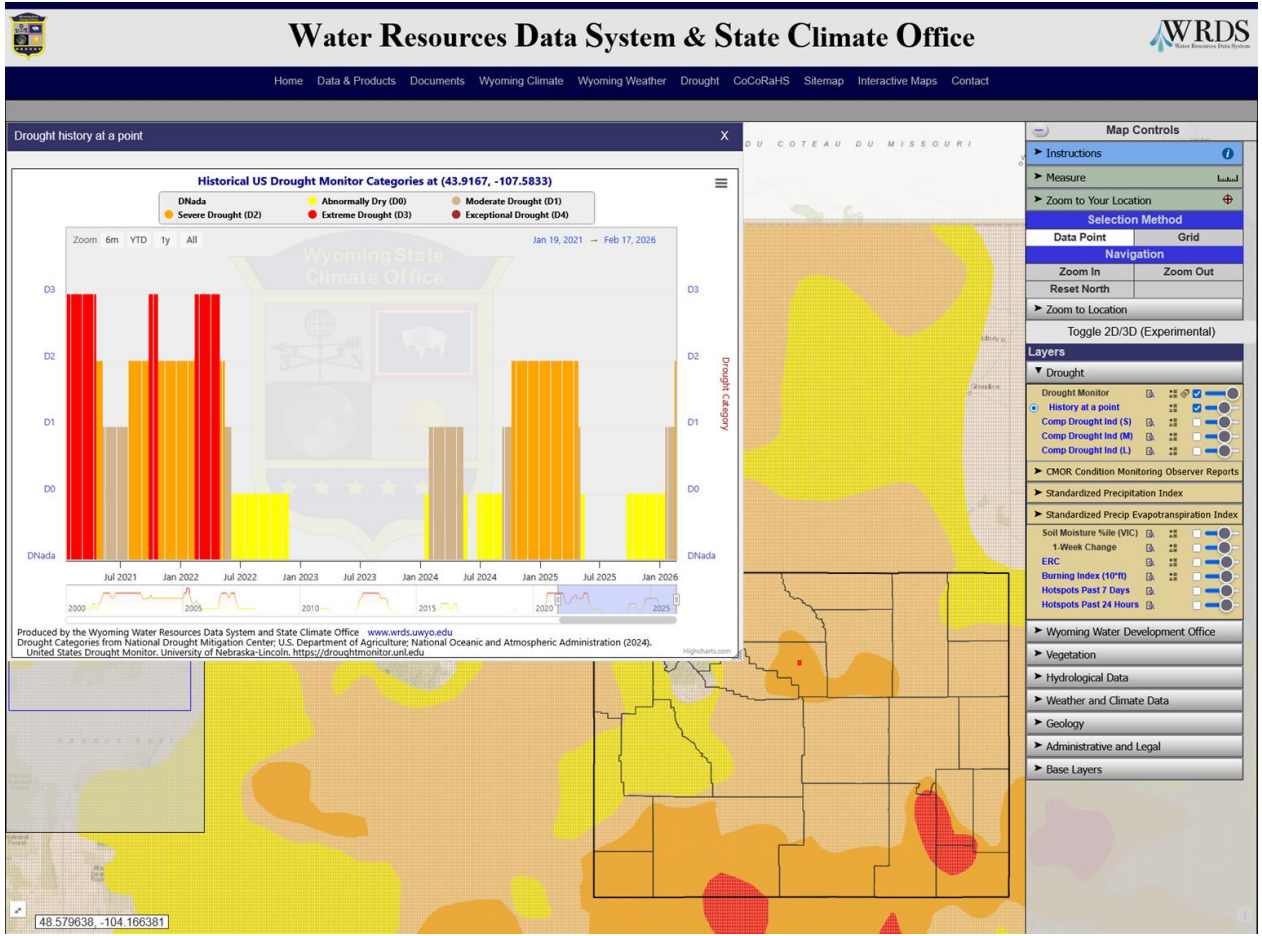


https://www.wrds.uwyo.edu/drought/droughttimeline.html

WRDS
Water Resources Data System



https://www.wrds.uwyo.edu/drought/droughttimeline.html



https://www.wrds.uwyo.edu/wace.wacehome.html

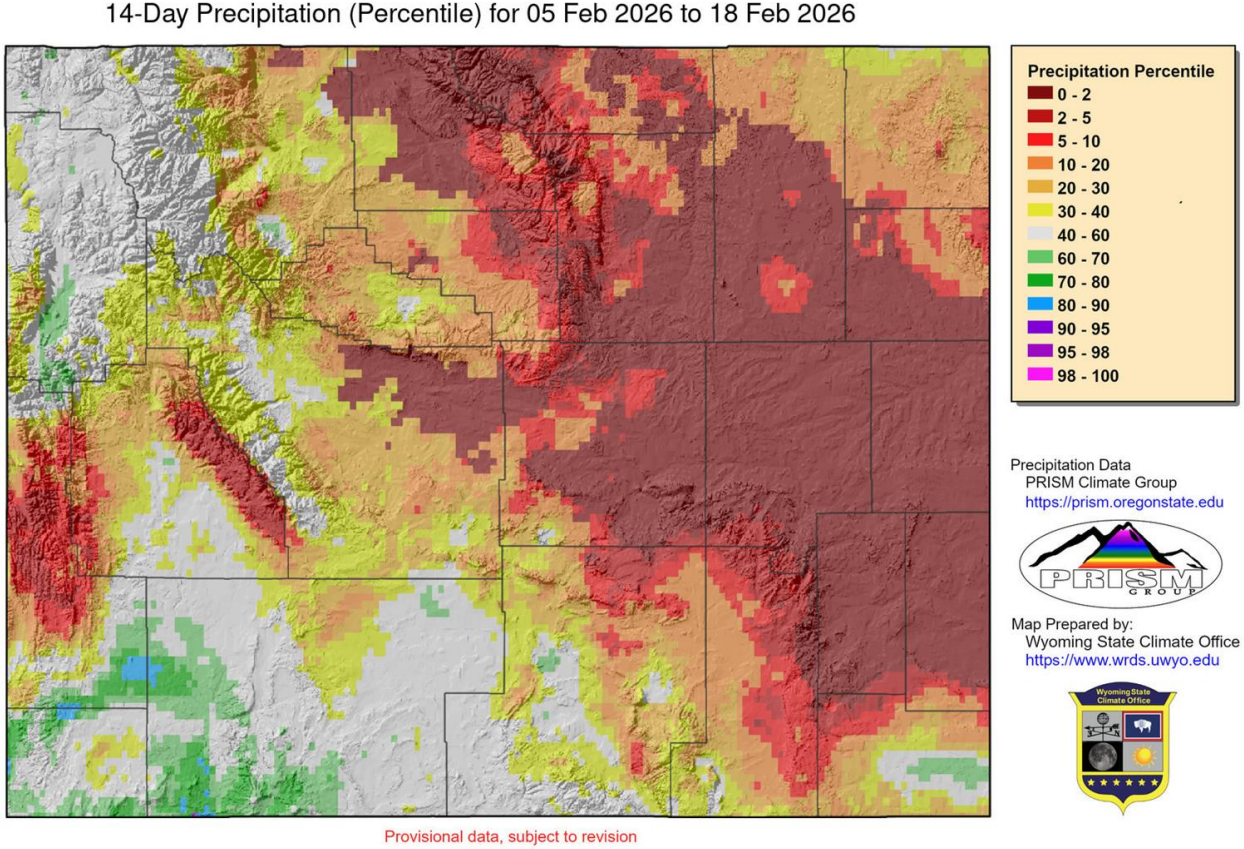
14-Day Precipitation Percentile (05 Feb 2026 to 18 Feb 2026)

Above Median:

- The southwest and a few small areas in the northwest and southeast

Below Median (*Areas of Concern*):

- West Central Wyoming
- Southwest side Wind River Range
- Generally east of the Divide



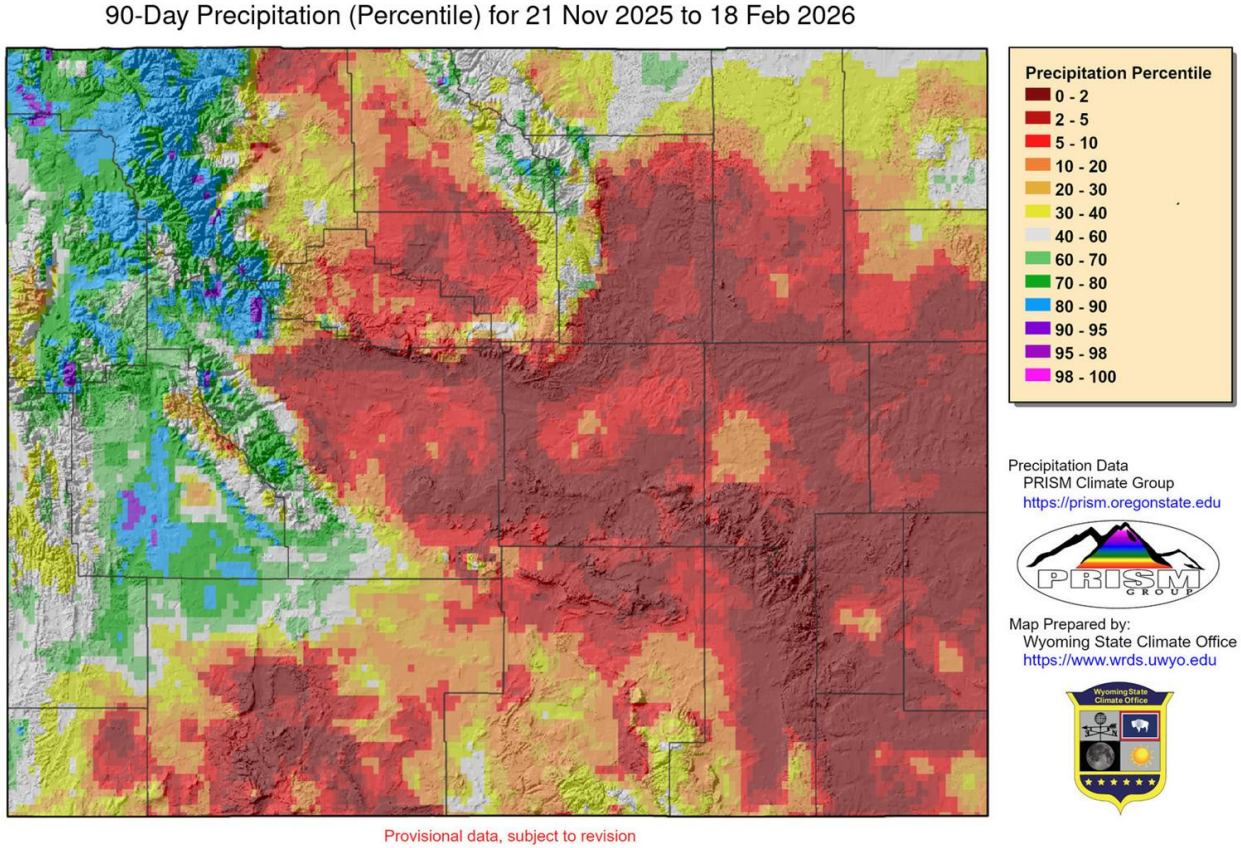
90-Day Precipitation Percentile (21 Nov 2025 to 18 Feb 2026)

Above Median:

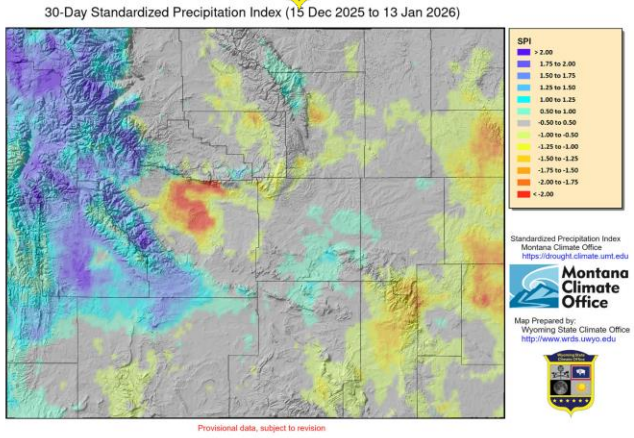
- West/Northwest

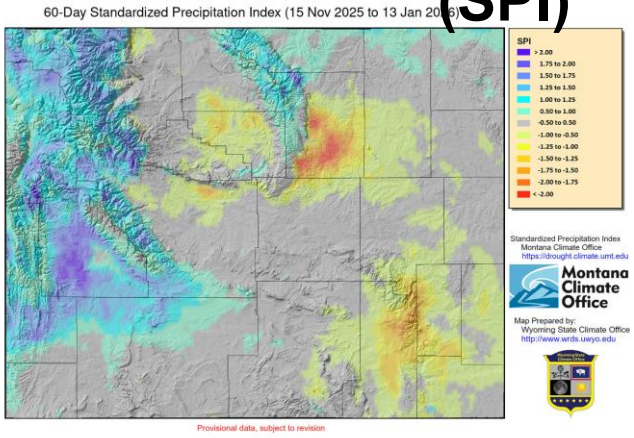
Below Median (*Areas of Concern*):

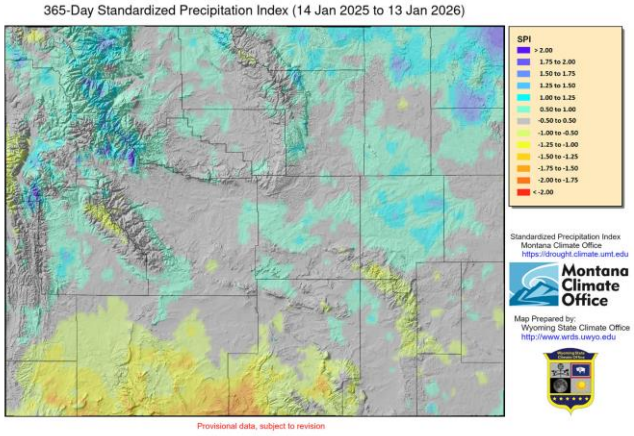
- Southern Wyoming
- Eastern Wyoming
- Bighorn Basin
- Wind River Basin



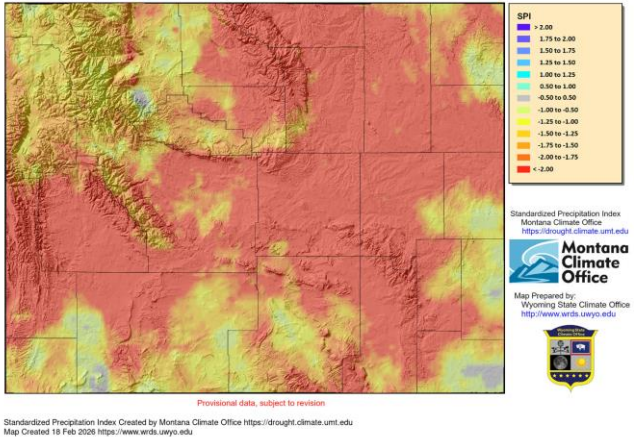
Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI)



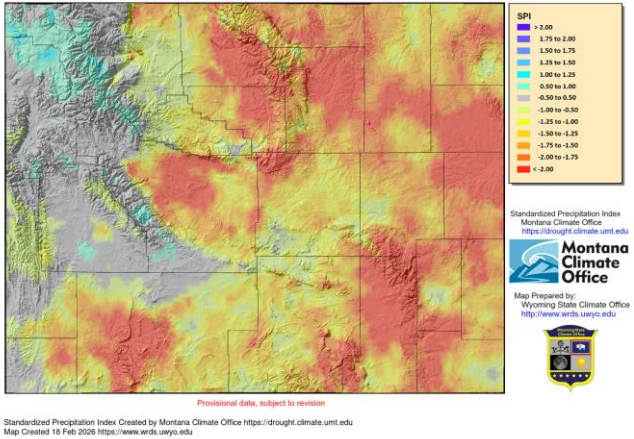




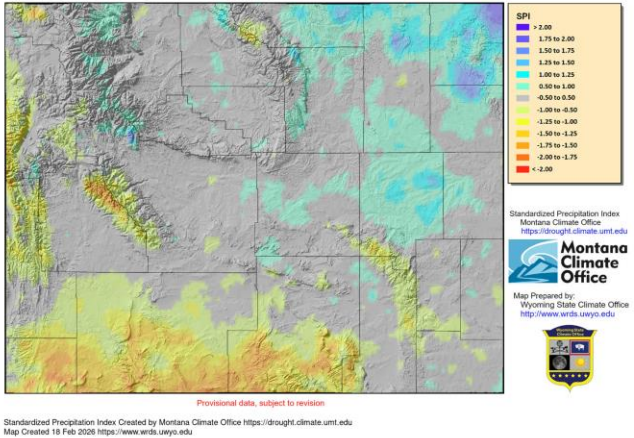
30-Day



60-Day



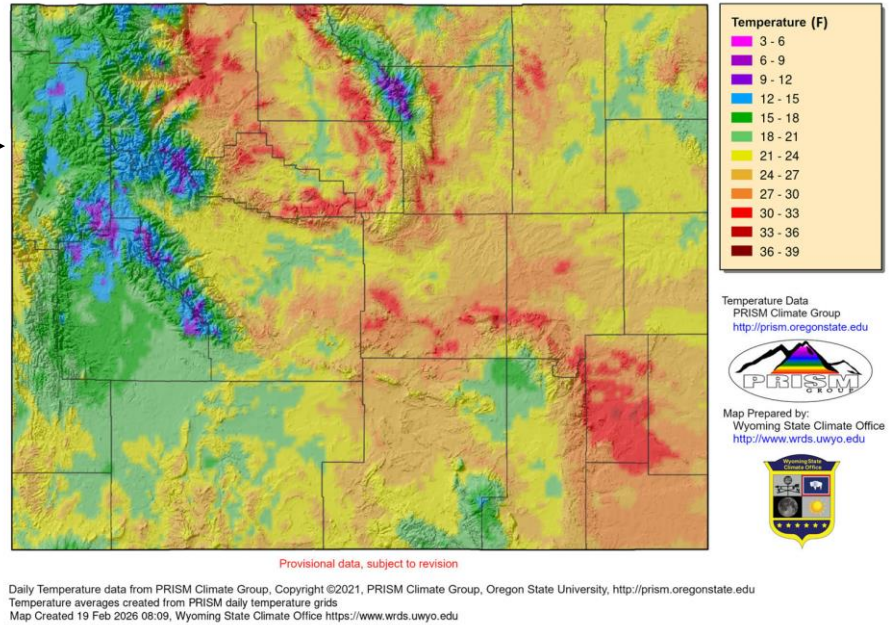
1-Year



https://drought.climate.umt.edu

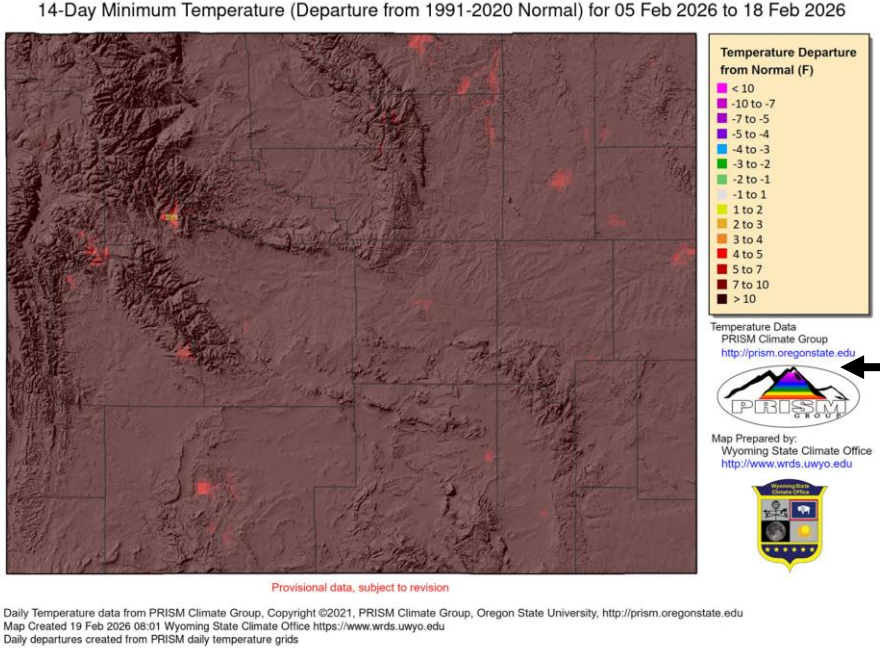
14-Day Average Minimum Temperature (05 Feb to 18 Feb)

- Nighttime lows mostly below freezing
- Platte County and edges of BH Basin warmest



14-Day *Departure from* Normal Average Minimum Temperature

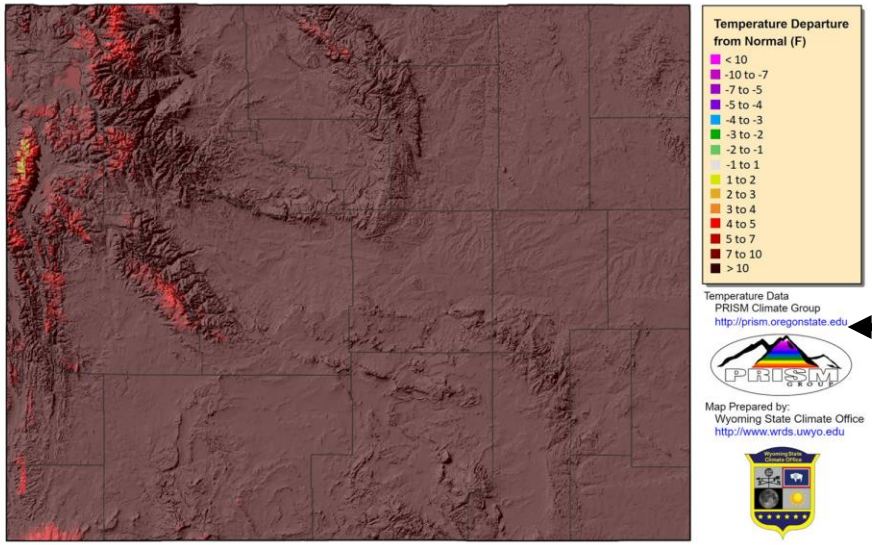
- Above normal
- >10F above normal
- Few small areas a little less



14-Day Average Maximum Temperature (05 Feb to 18 Feb)

- Very high elevations at or below freezing
- Eastern Plains mid to upper 50s/low 60s
- Southwestern ⅔ of WY in the low to mid 40s

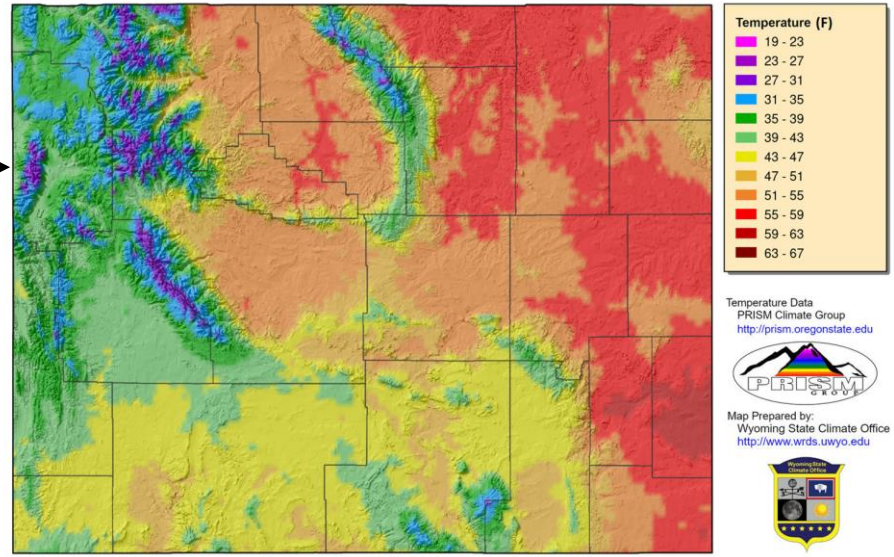
14-Day Maximum Temperature (Departure from 1991-2020 Normal) for 05 Feb 2026 to 18 Feb 2026



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 19 Feb 2026 07:55 Wyoming State Climate Office https://www.wrds.uwyo.edu
Daily departures created from PRISM daily temperature grids

14-Day Average Maxmimum Temperature for 05 Feb 2026 to 18 Feb 2026



Provisional data, subject to revision

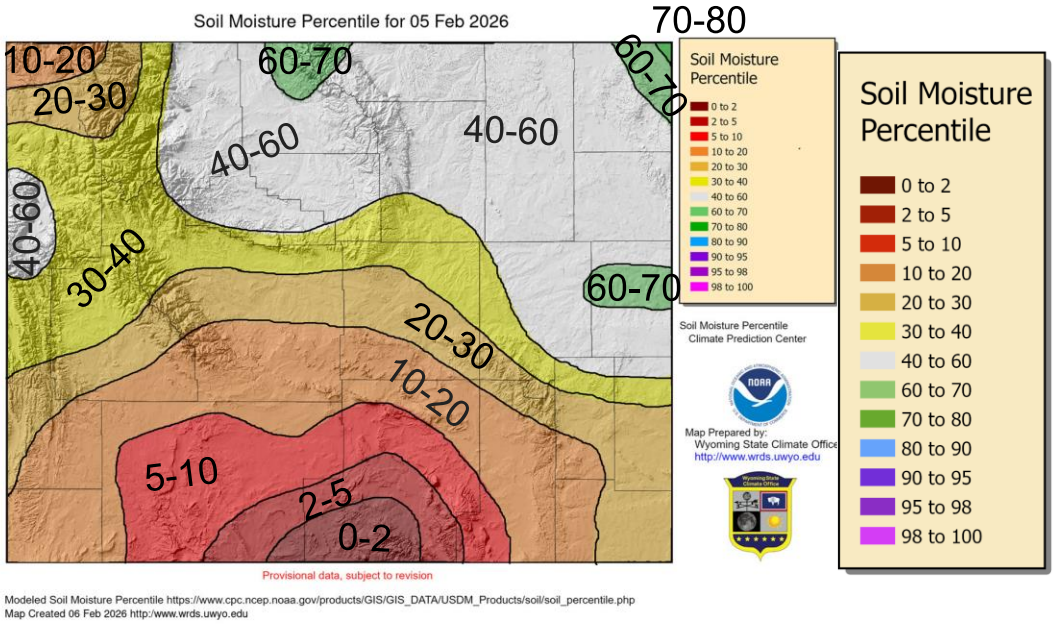
Daily Temperature data from PRISM Climate Group, Copyright ©2021, PRISM Climate Group, Oregon State University, http://prism.oregonstate.edu
Temperature averages created from PRISM daily temperature grids
Map Created 19 Feb 2026 08:10, Wyoming State Climate Office https://www.wrds.uwyo.edu

14- Day *Departure from* Normal Average Maximum Temperature

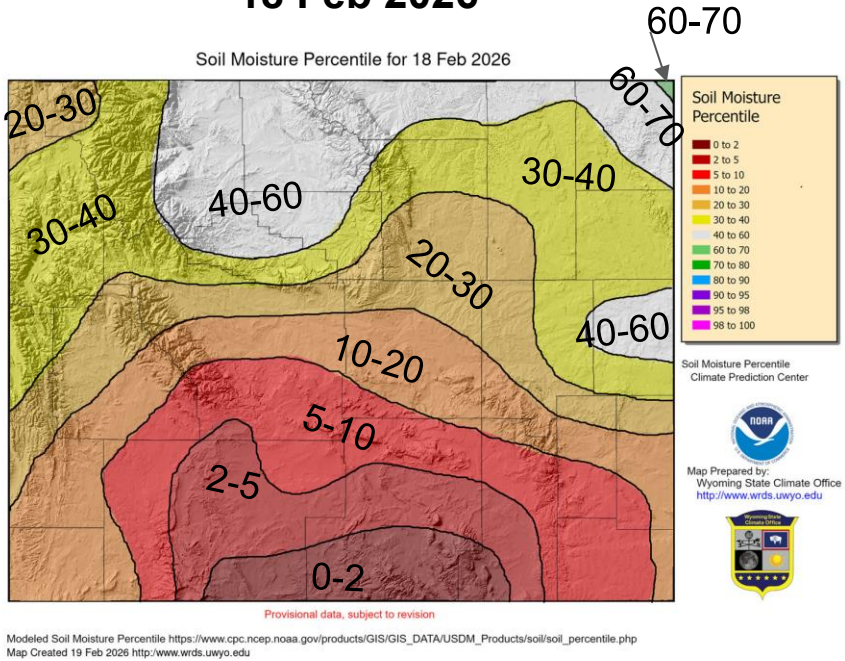
- Departures were the lowest in the mountainous areas but still 4F to 10F above normal
- Most of the state >10F above normal

Soil Moisture Percentile

~Two Weeks Ago



18 Feb 2026



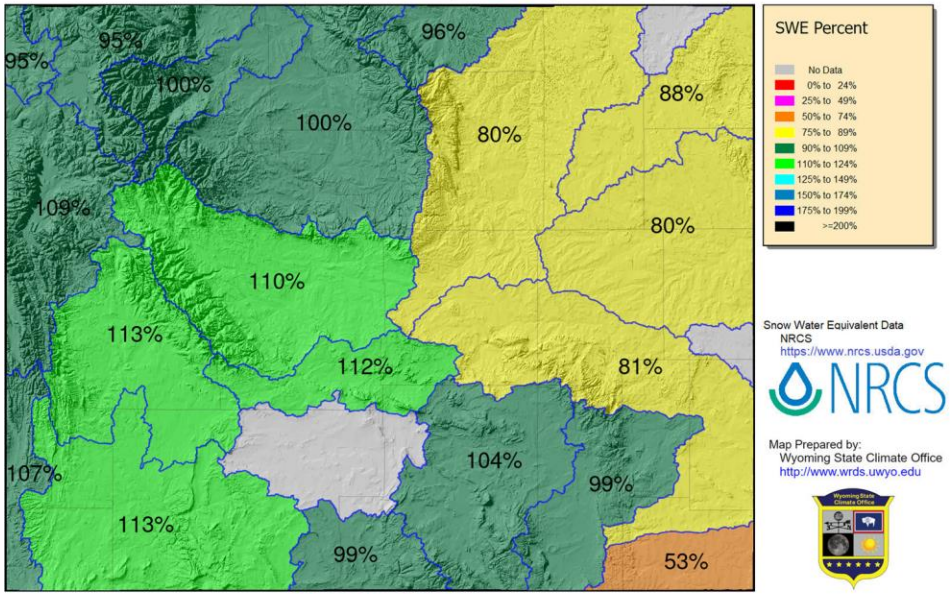
https://www.wrds.uwyo.edu/Soil/Current_SoilMoisture_Ptile.html

In general, status quo or degradations statewide with slight improvement in the northwest.

Snow Water Equivalent by Basin

One Year Ago

Snow Water Equivalent Percent of Median (1991-2020) 19 Feb 2025



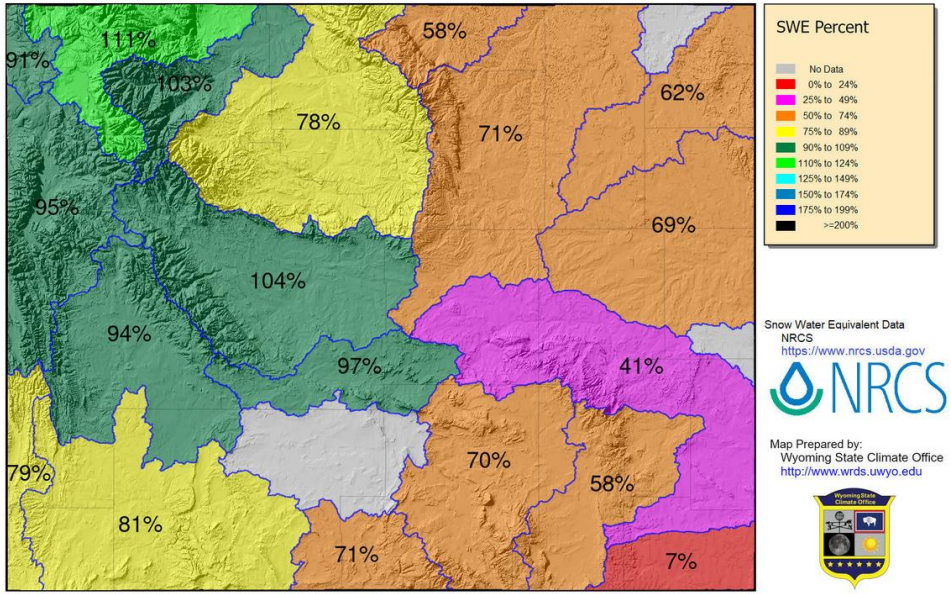
Provisional data, subject to revision

Basin Snow Water Equivalent Data from Natural Resources Conservation Service Water and Climate Center https://www.nrcs.usda.gov
Map created by Wyoming State Climate Office 19 Feb 2025

* Percentages denoted by an asterisk represent data that may not provide a valid measure of conditions. This is most usually seen near the end of the snow season where normal values may be very low or the melt out curve is so steep that a slight variation in days may result in abnormally high or low percentages.

19 Feb 2026

Snow Water Equivalent Percent of Median (1991-2020) 19 Feb 2026

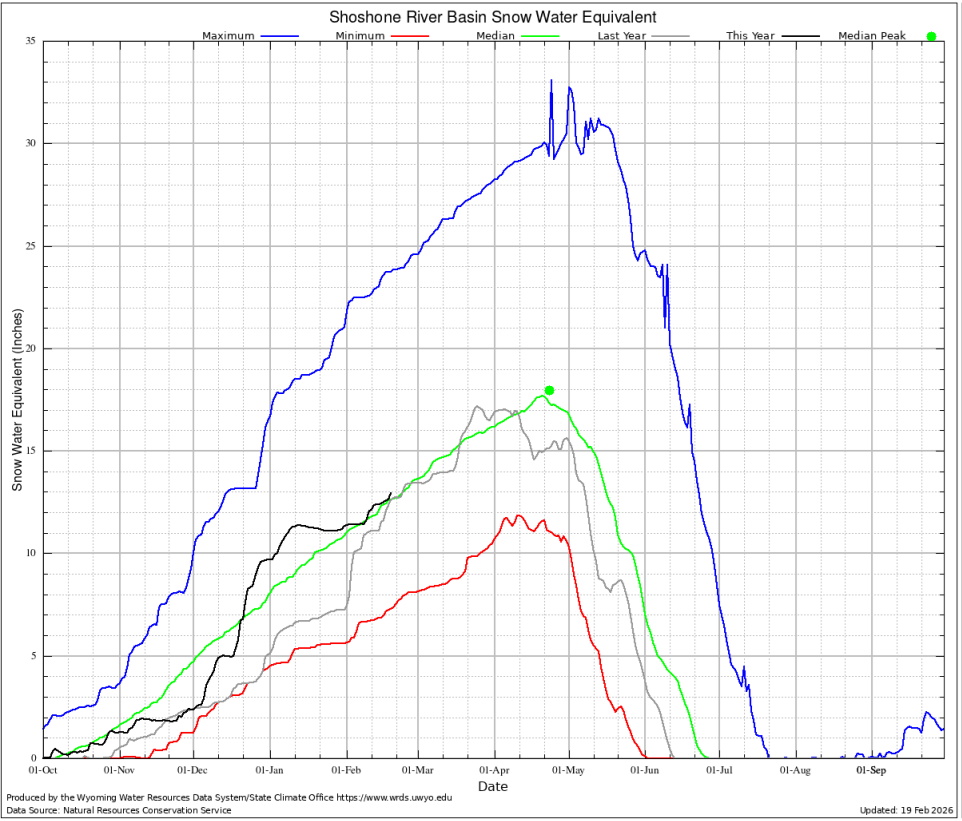


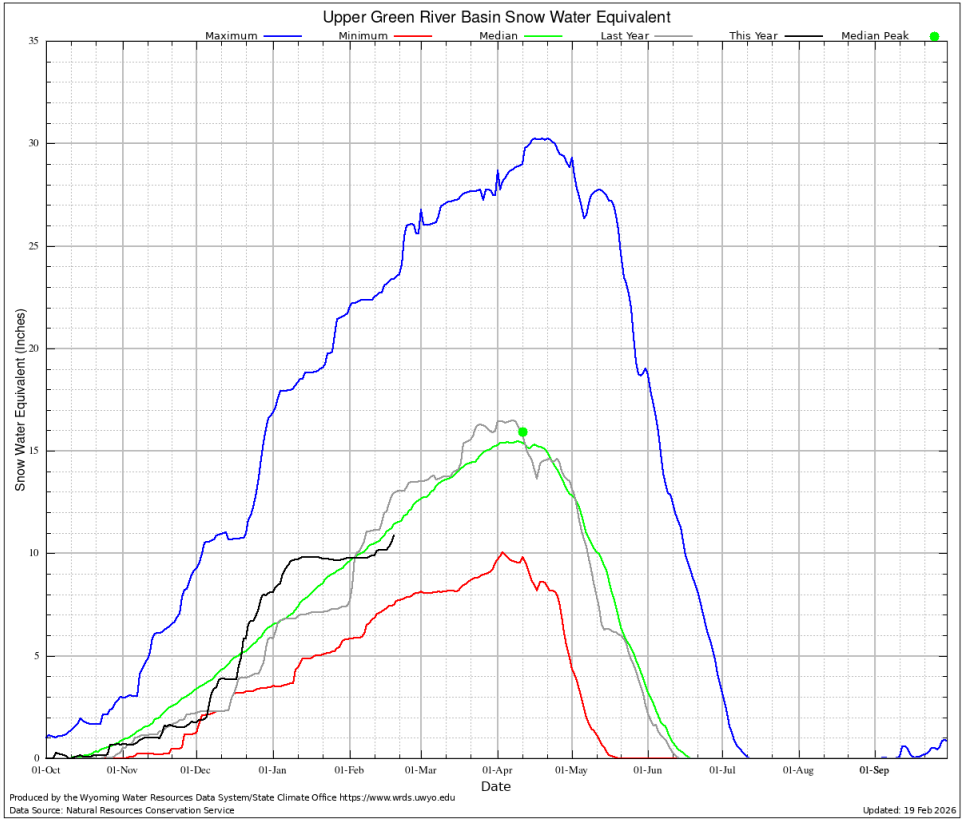
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Basin Snow Water Equivalent Data from Natural Resources Conservation Service Water and Climate Center https://www.nrcs.usda.gov
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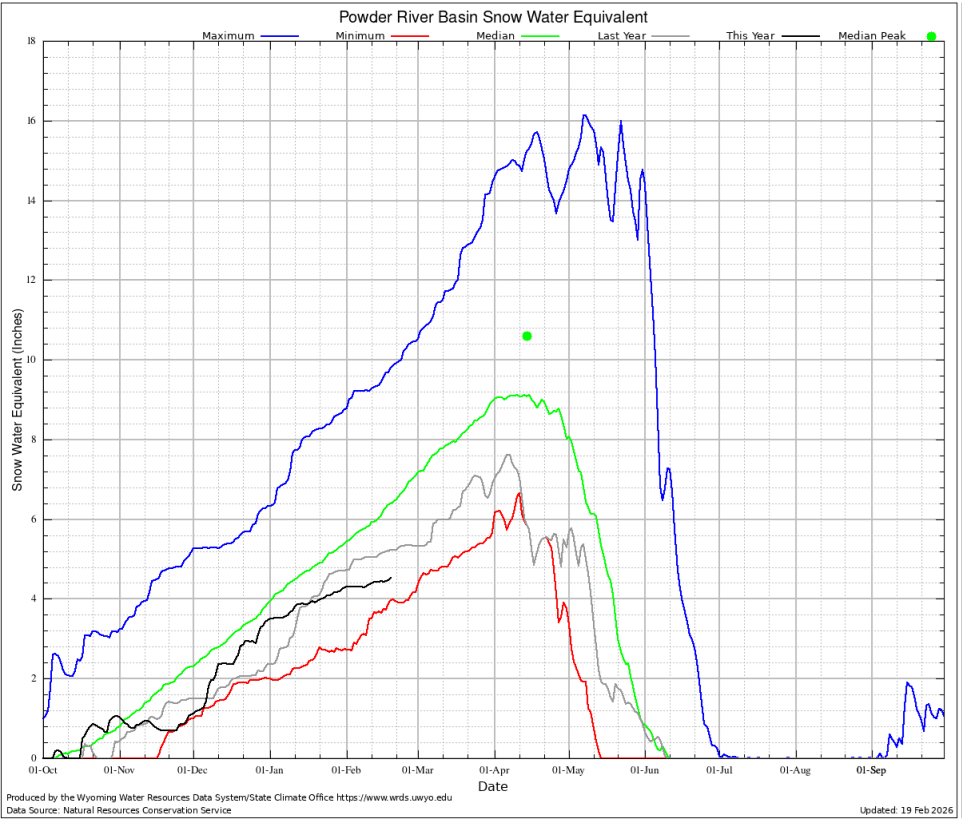
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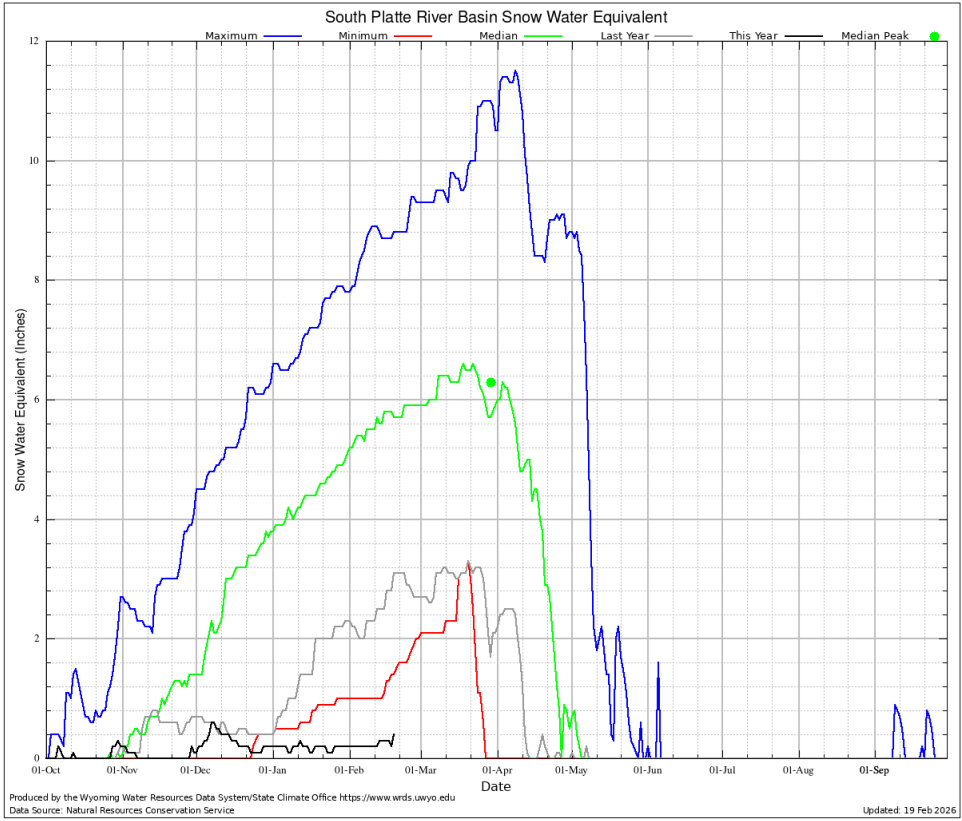
Snow Water Equivalent by Basin



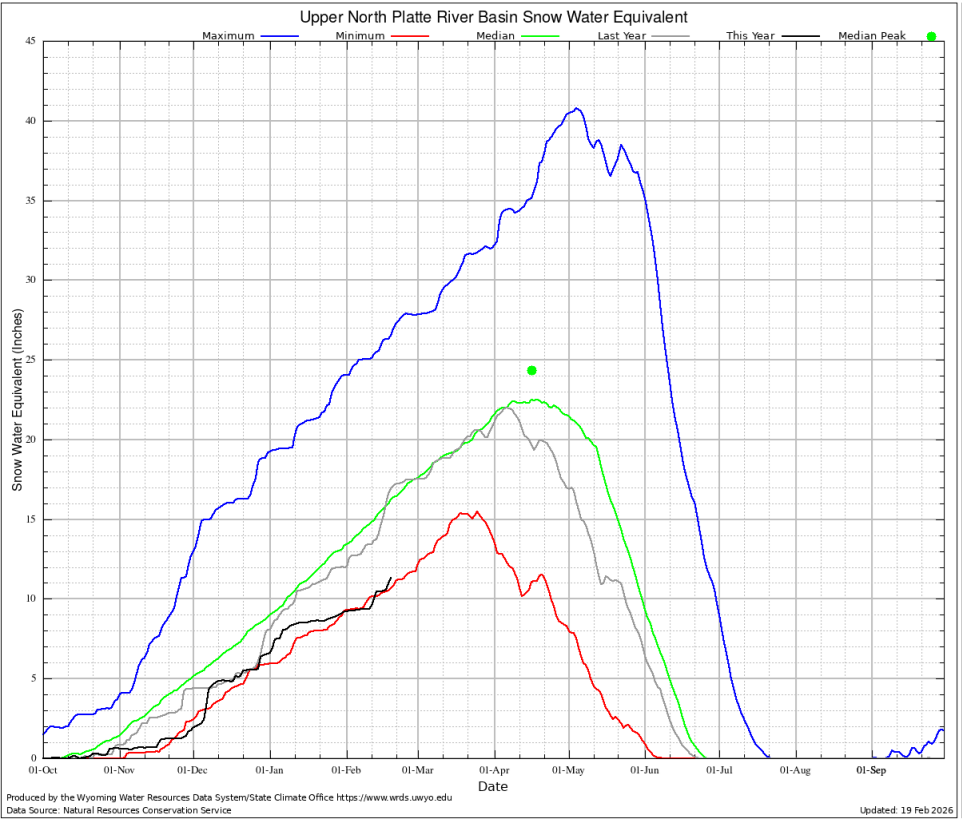


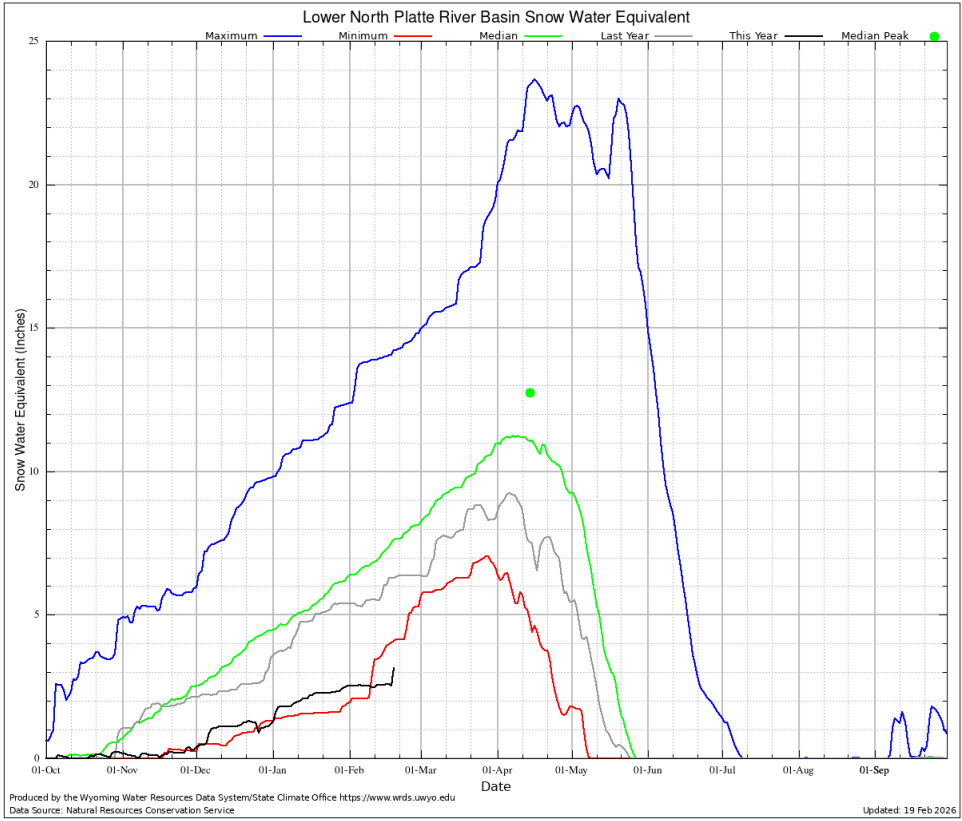
Snow Water Equivalent by Basin





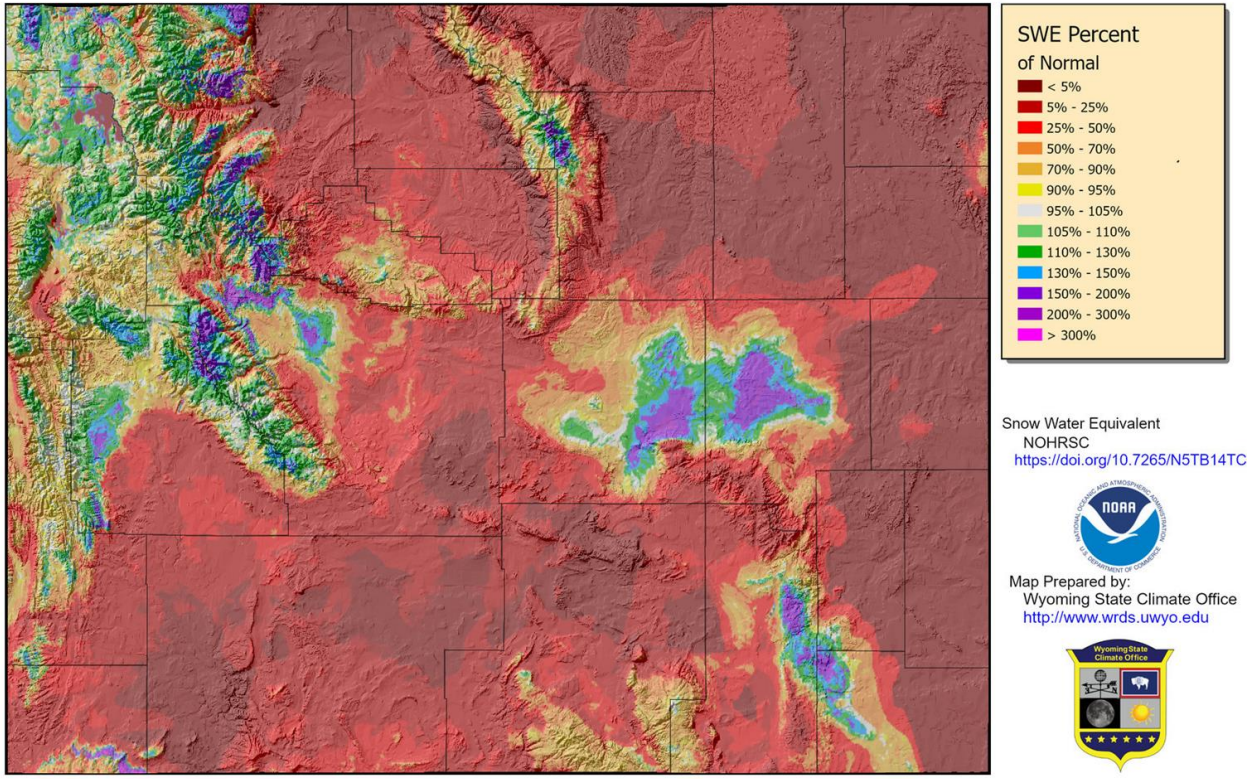
Snow Water Equivalent by Basin





Snow Water Equivalent

Snow Water Equivalent Percent of Average (2004-2020) for 19 Feb 2026



Snow Water Equivalent
NOHRSC
https://doi.org/10.7265/N5TB14TC

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

Provisional data, subject to revision

Modelled 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/N5TB14TC.
Daily Percentiles and Percentages created by Wyoming State Climate Office
Map created 19 Feb 2026

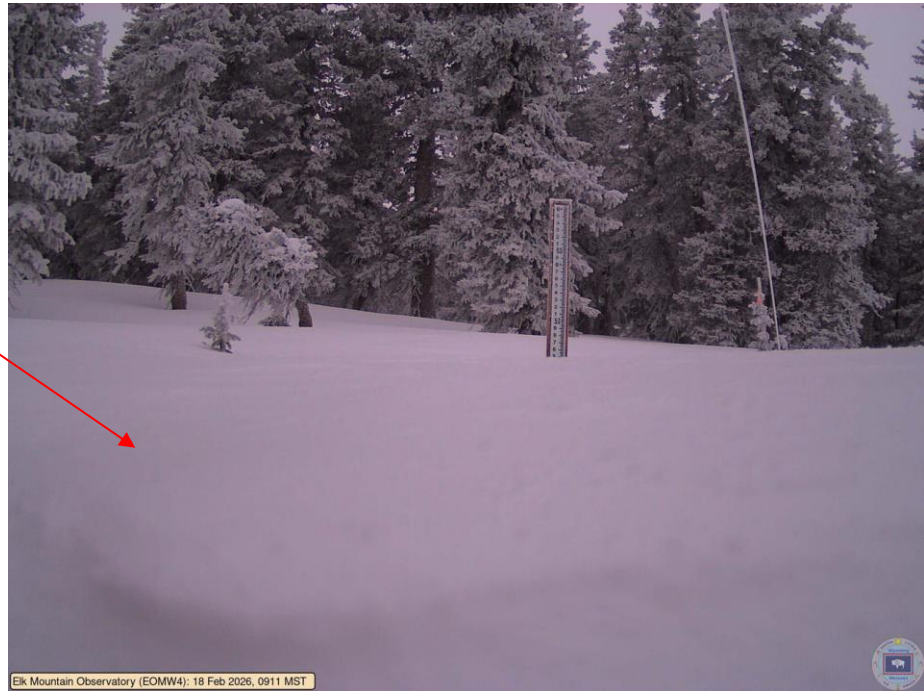
Snow - Elk Mountain



Looking South



11,045ft



10,850ft Looking West

Only an additional **7** inches of snow since last webinar

Depth: **4.5 feet**

SWE: **6.7** Inches

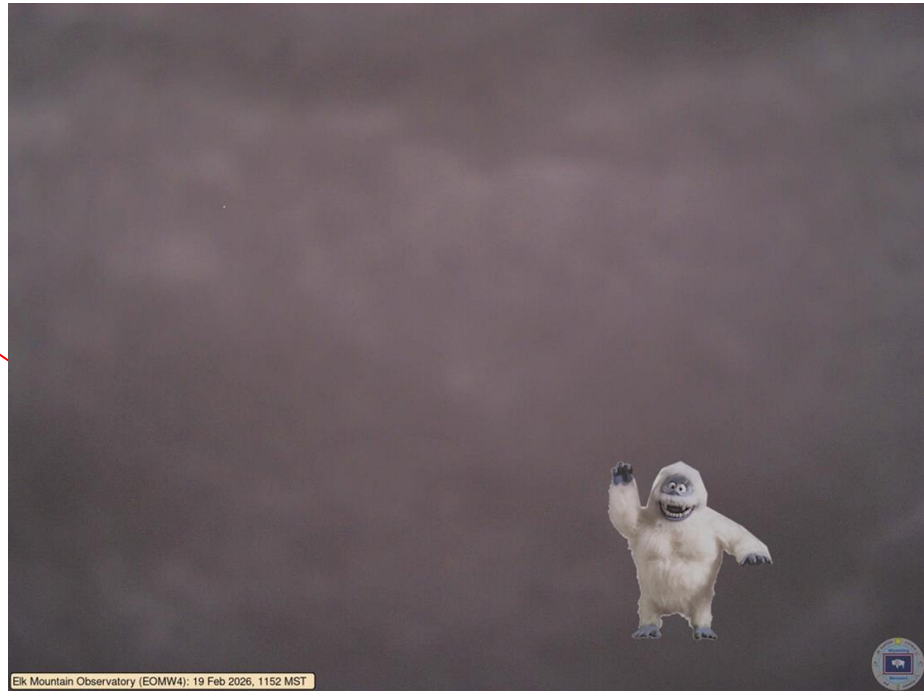
Snow - Elk Mountain



Looking South



11,045ft



10,850ft Looking West

Only an additional **7** inches of snow since last webinar

Depth: **~5 feet**

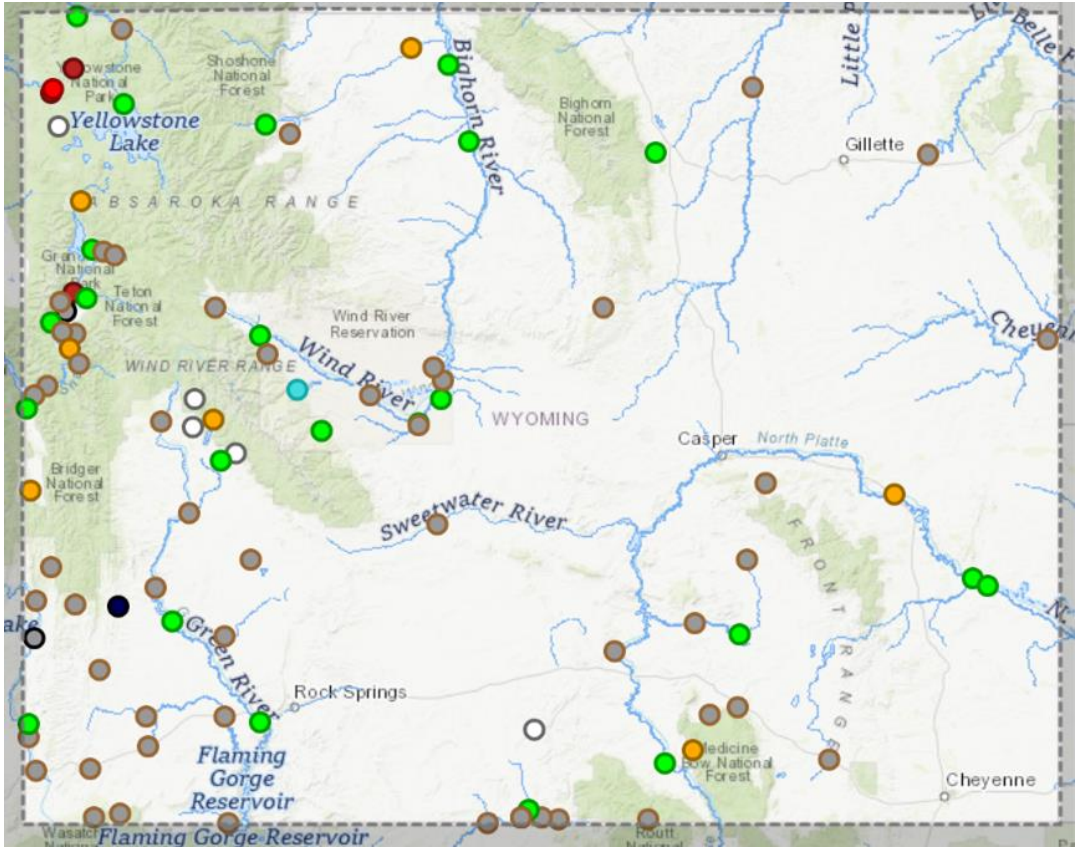
SWE: **7.5** Inches

Current Streamflow Conditions

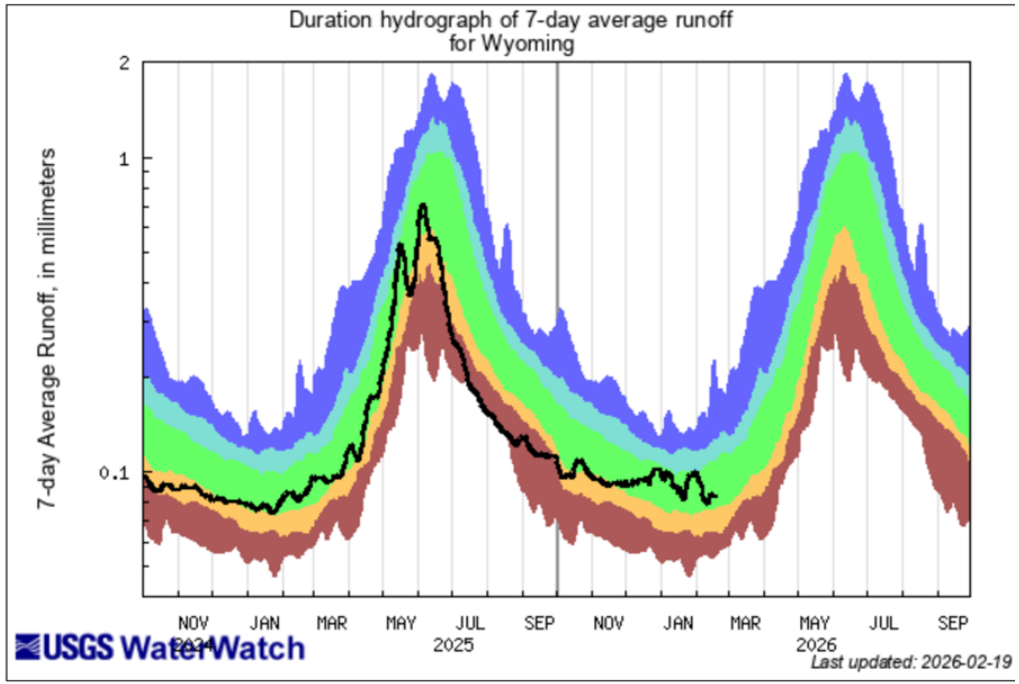
Streamflow Status

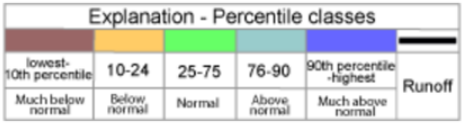


https://dashboard.waterdata.usgs.gov/



Where Are We In The Water Year?





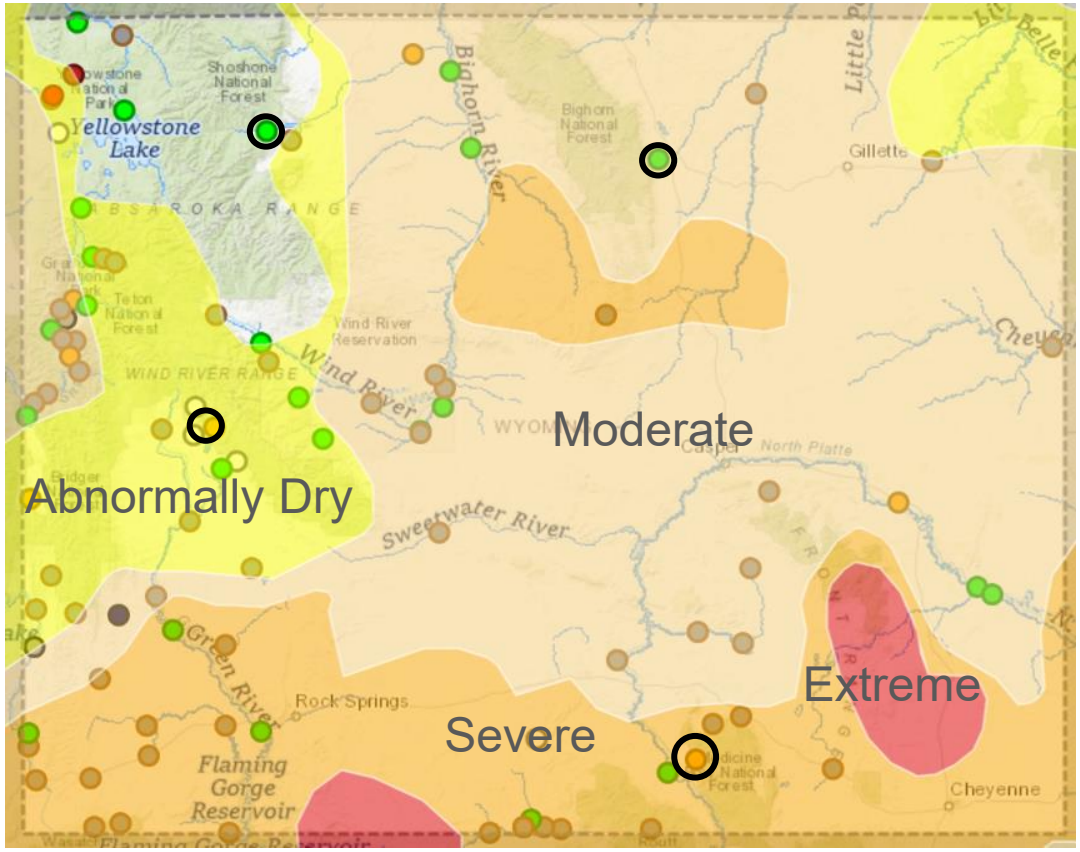
- “Winter” baseflow.
- Generally times of stable low flow.

https://waterwatch.usgs.gov/

Current Streamflow and Drought Conditions

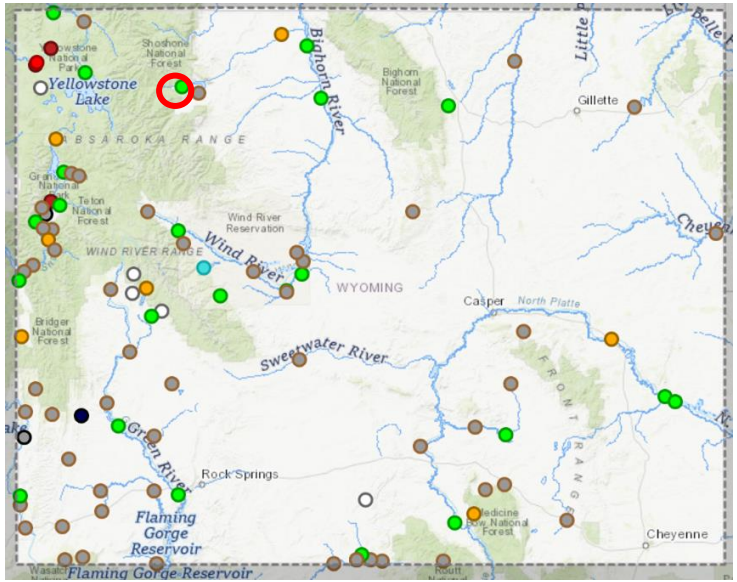
Streamflow Status





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

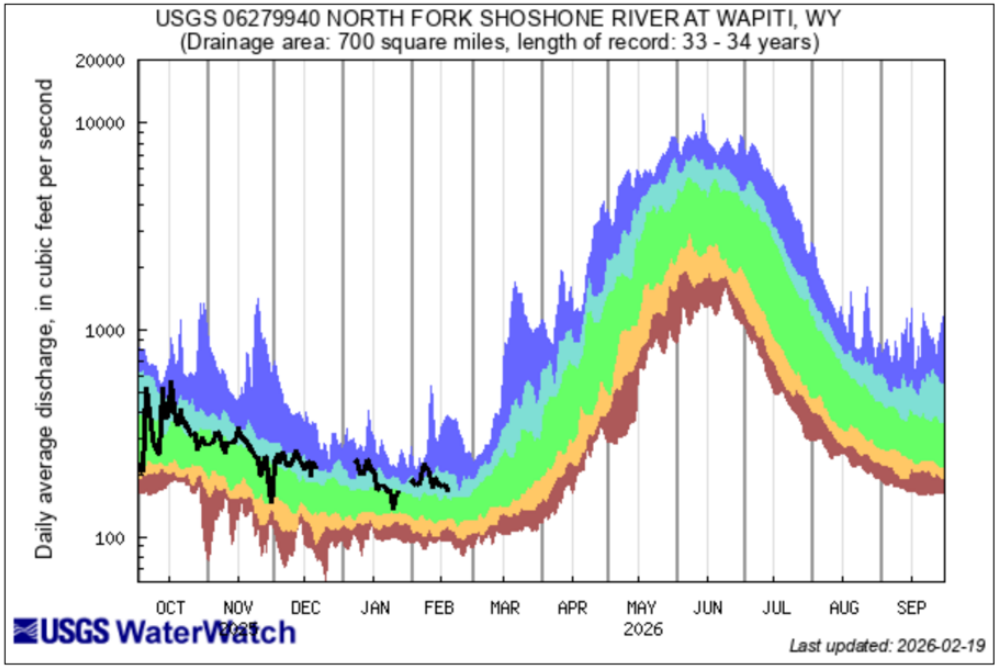
Select WY Streamflows

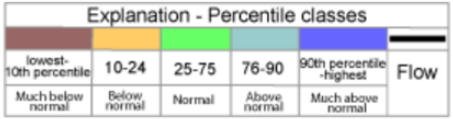


https://dashboard.waterdata.usgs.gov/

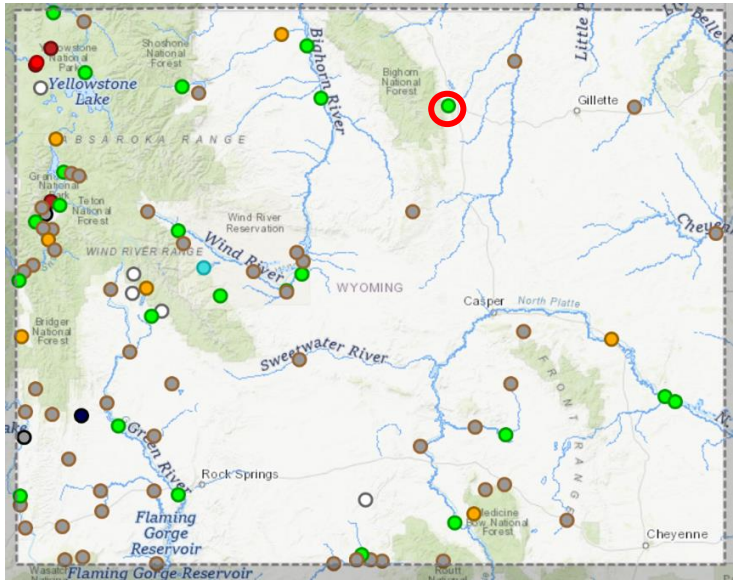
https://waterwatch.usgs.gov/

North Fork Shoshone River, at Wapiti, WY





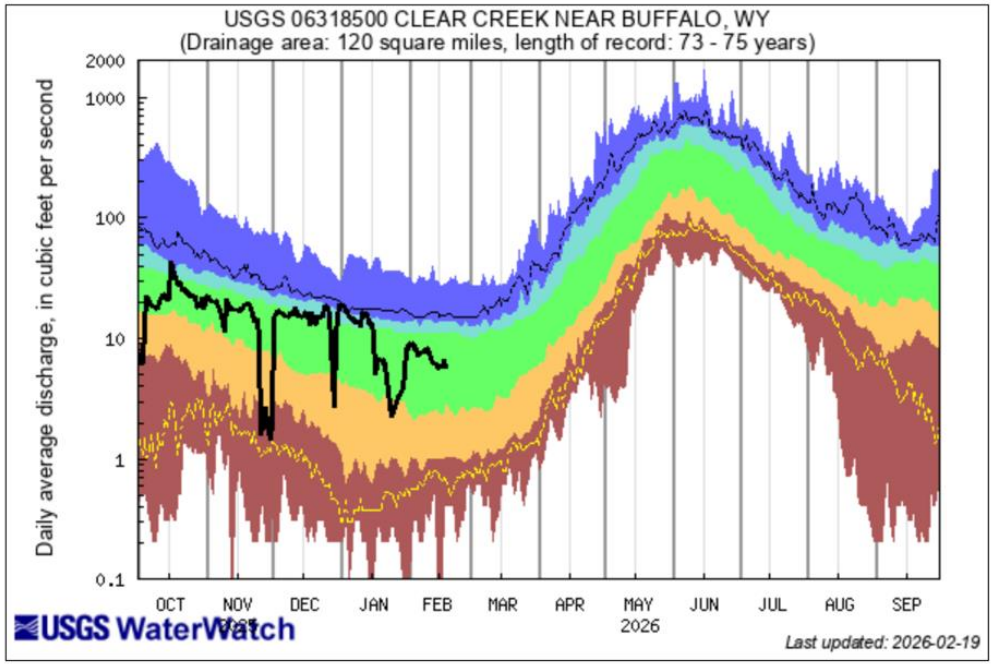
Select WY Streamflows

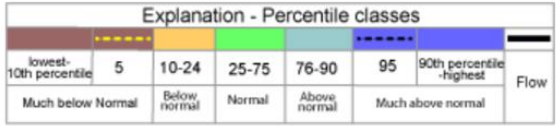


https://dashboard.waterdata.usgs.gov/

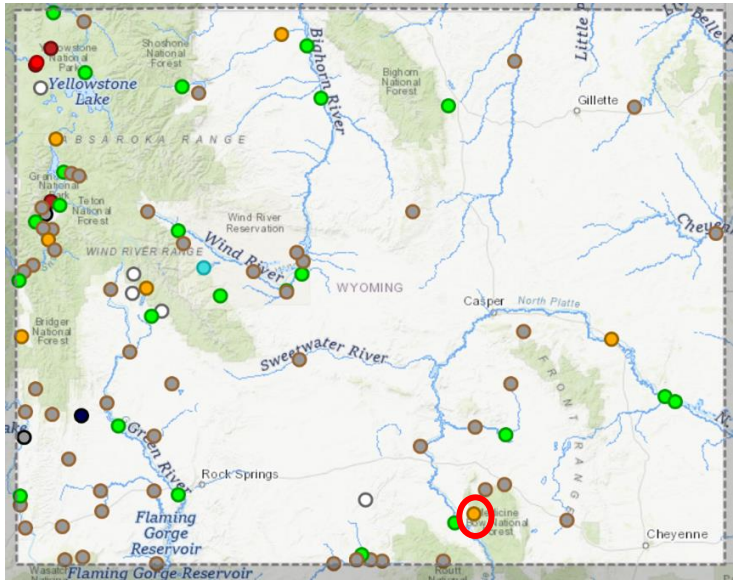
https://waterwatch.usgs.gov/

Clear Creek, near Buffalo, WY





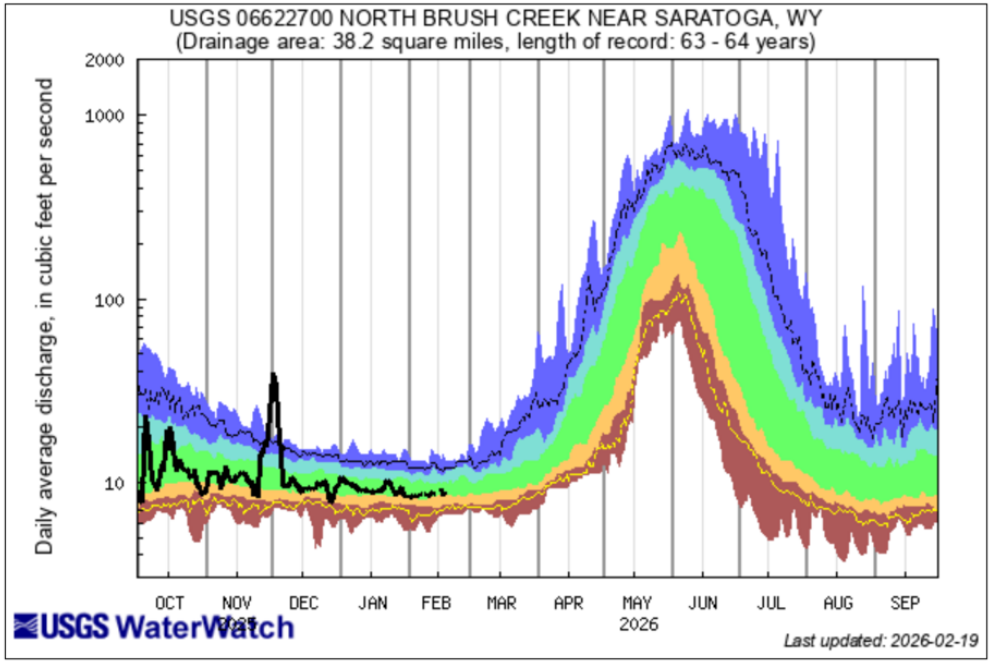
Select WY Streamflows

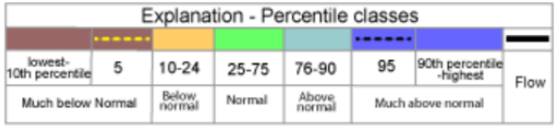


https://dashboard.waterdata.usgs.gov/

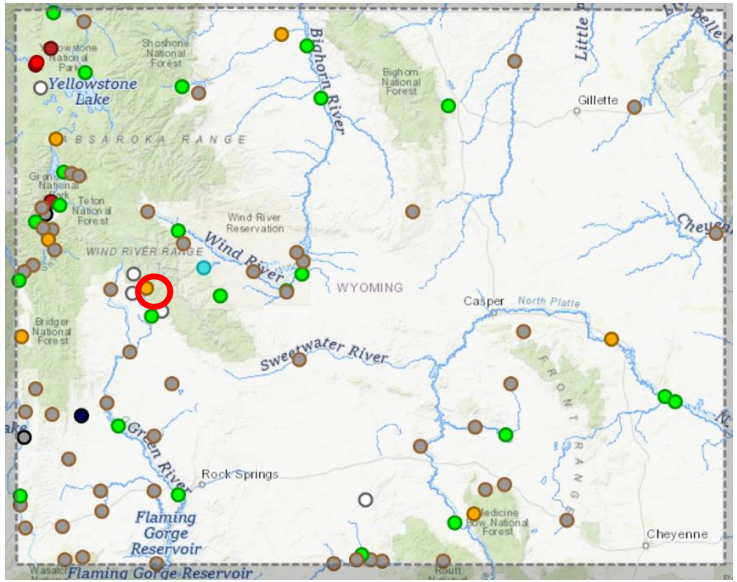
https://waterwatch.usgs.gov/

North Brush Creek, near Saratoga, WY





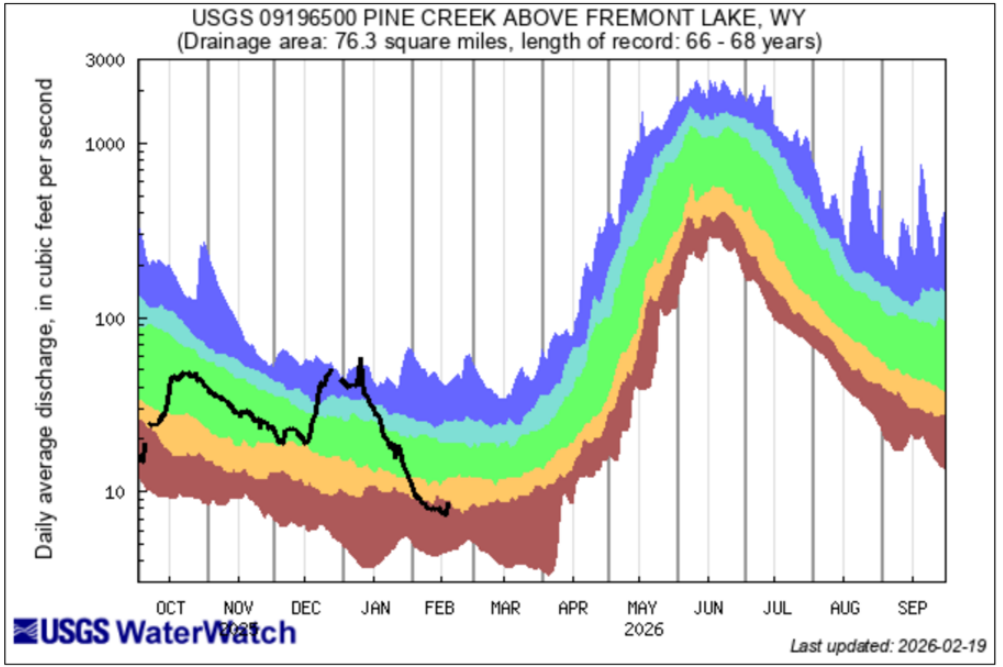
Select WY Streamflows

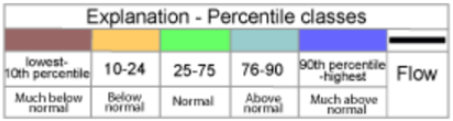


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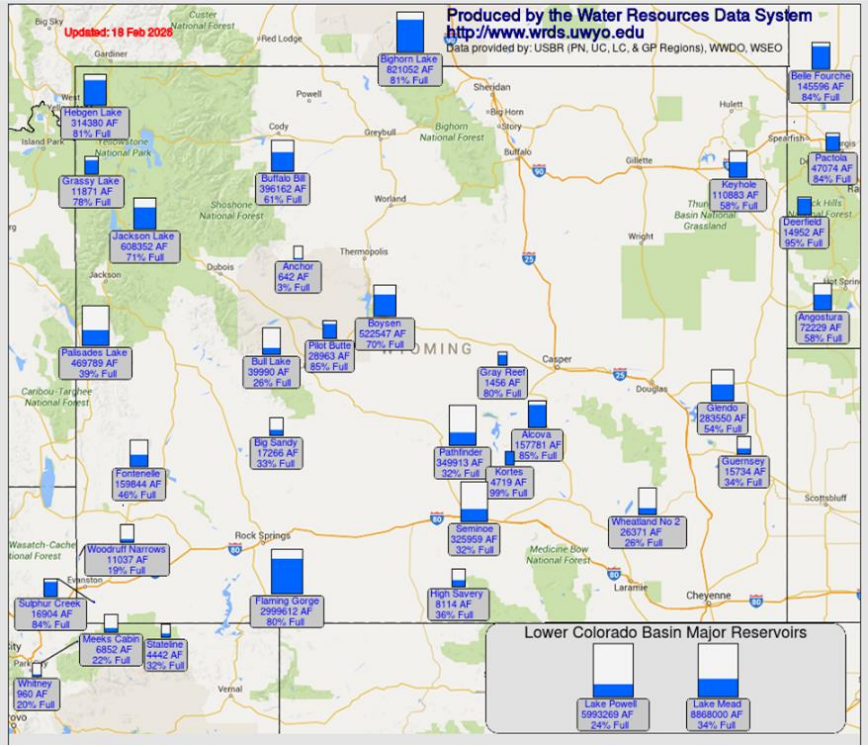
https://waterwatch.usgs.gov/

Pine Creek, above Fremont Lake, WY





Wyoming Reservoirs



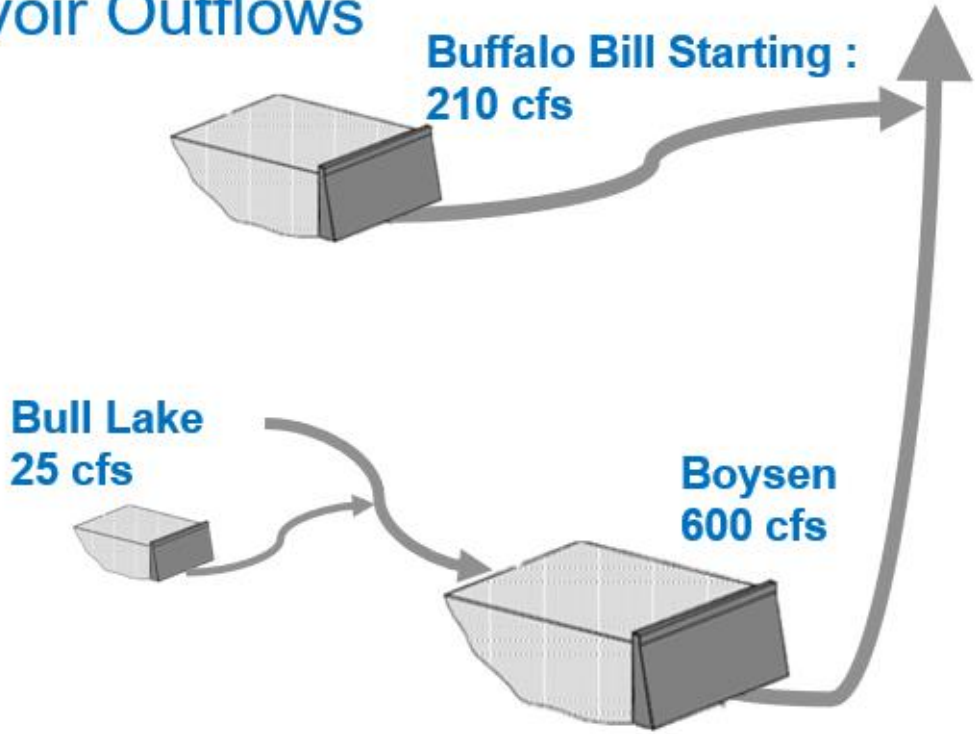
Reservoir Storage

- Minor changes since January, except
- Fontenelle continues to decrease
- Palisades continues to increase

https://www.wrds.uwyo.edu/surface_water/teacups.html

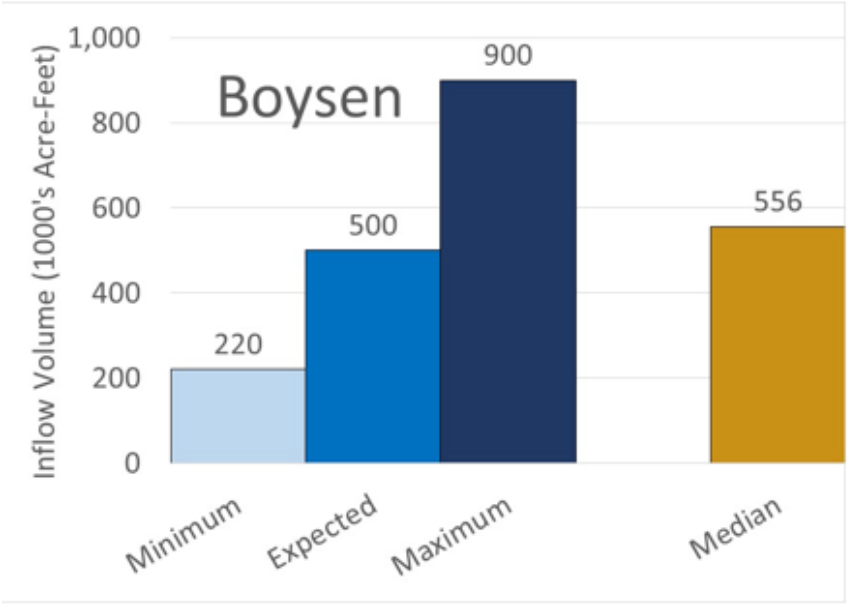
Current Reservoir Outflows

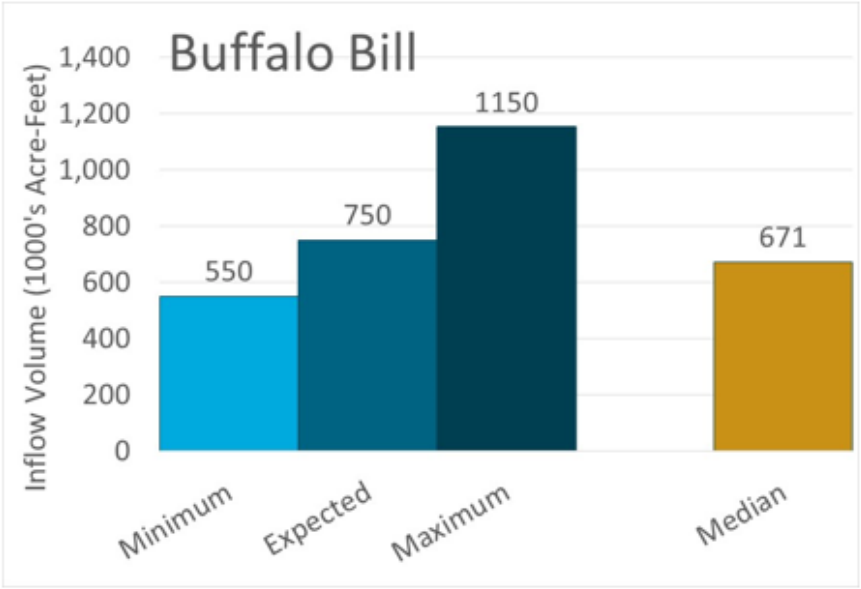

Boysen



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

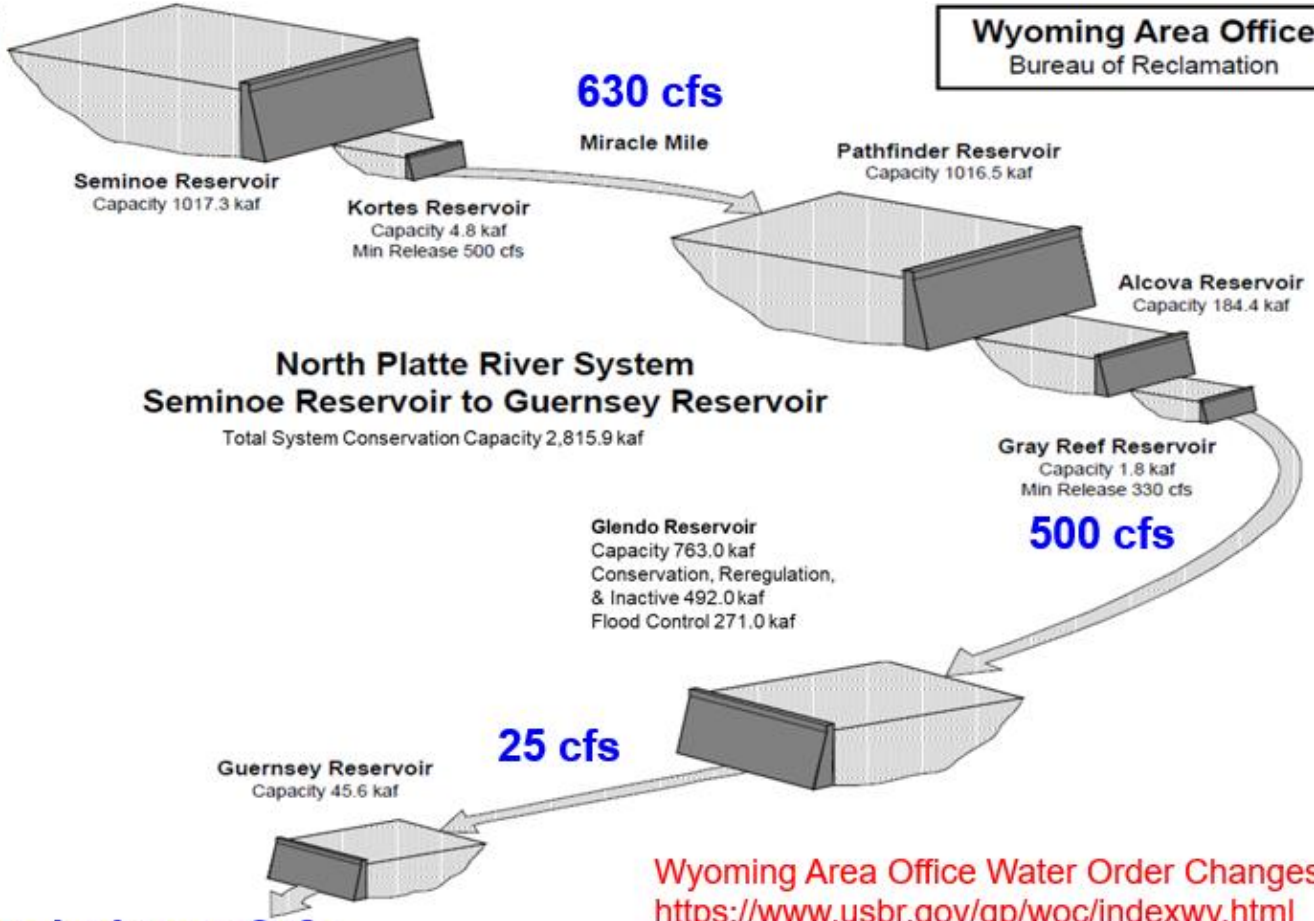
April – July Forecast (Issued February 1)





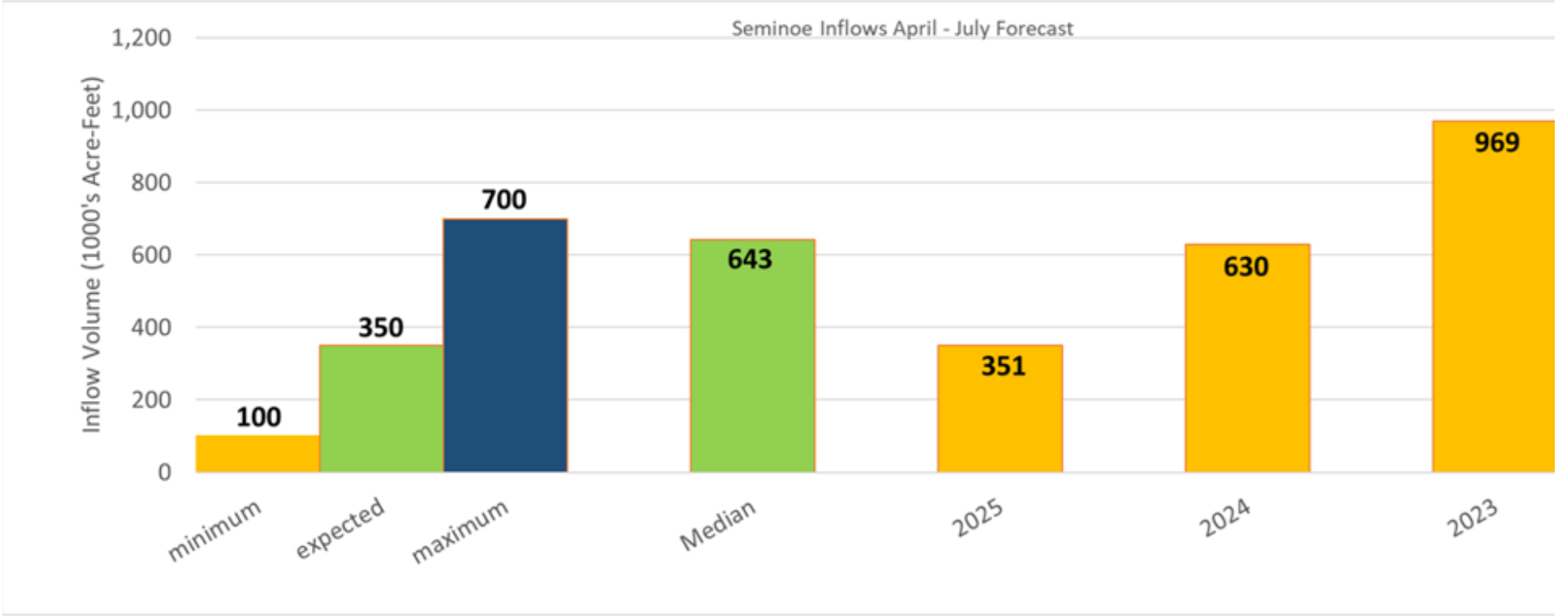
— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION

Wyoming Area Office
Bureau of Reclamation



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

April – July Forecast Seminoe Inflow (Issued February 1)



WY SEO Divisions and Superintendents

Contact information for calls and administration

Division 3

Joshua Fredrickson, 856-0747

Division 2

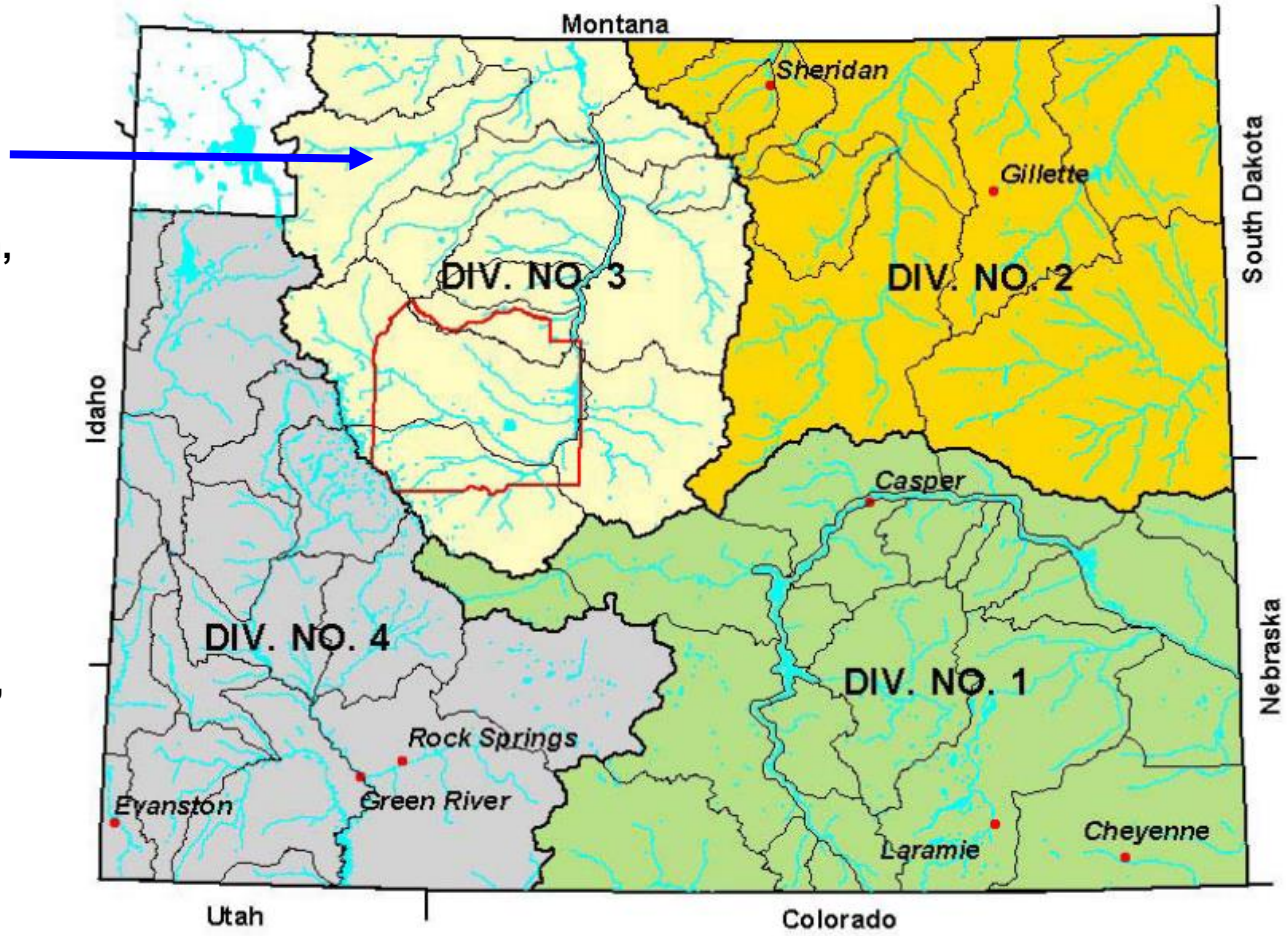
David Schroeder, 674-7012

Division 4

Kevin Payne, 279-3441

Division 1

Josh DeBerard, 532-1272



WY SEO Divisions and Superintendents

Contact information for calls and administration



<u>Division 1:</u>

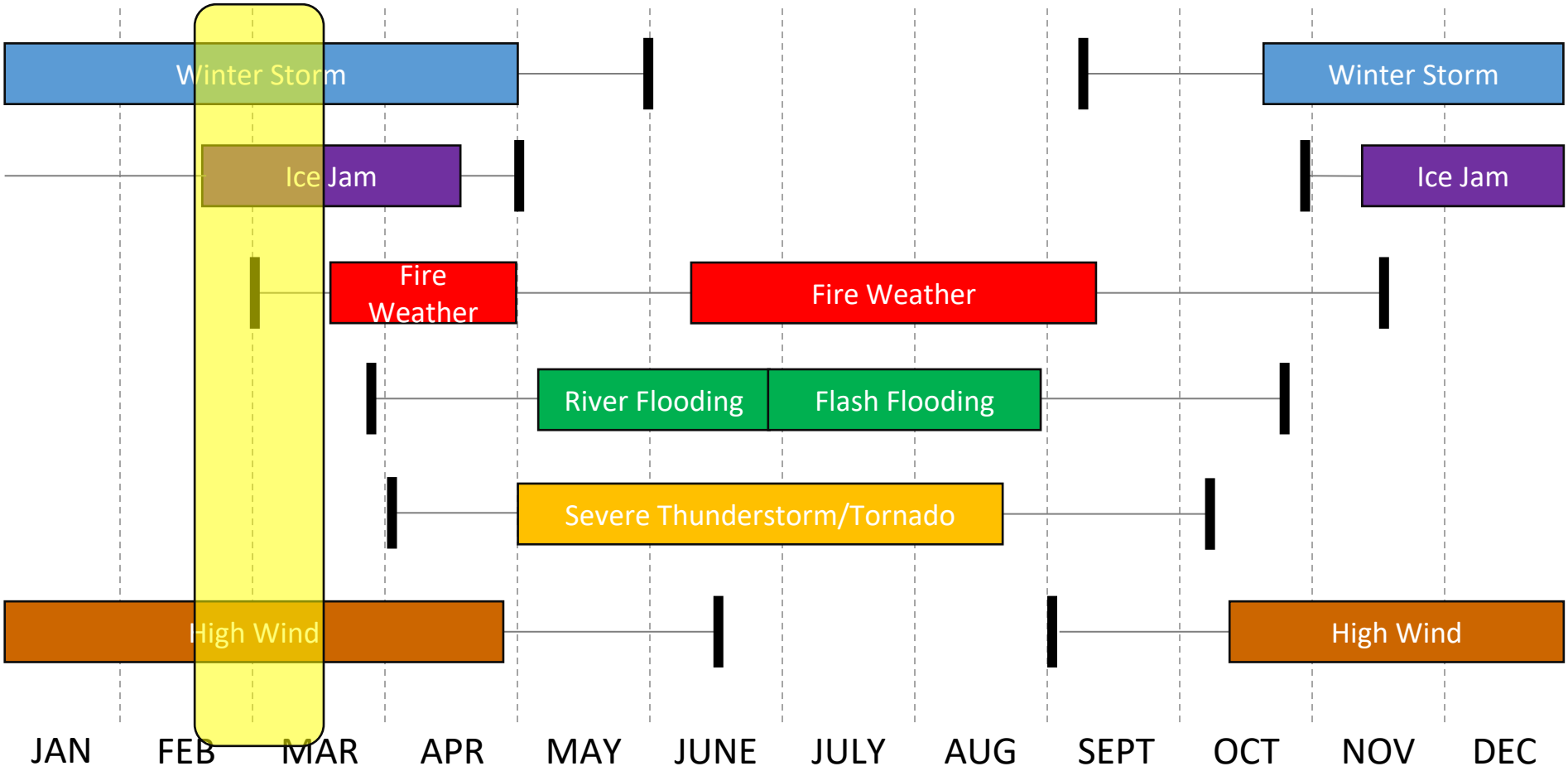
Priority Administration on the North Platte River and tributaries

Above Pathfinder Sub Basin:
December 6, 1904
Between Pathfinder to Guernsey Reservoirs:
April 20, 1923

For questions contact:
Michelle Hubbard, 777-7641
Josh DeBerard, 532-1272

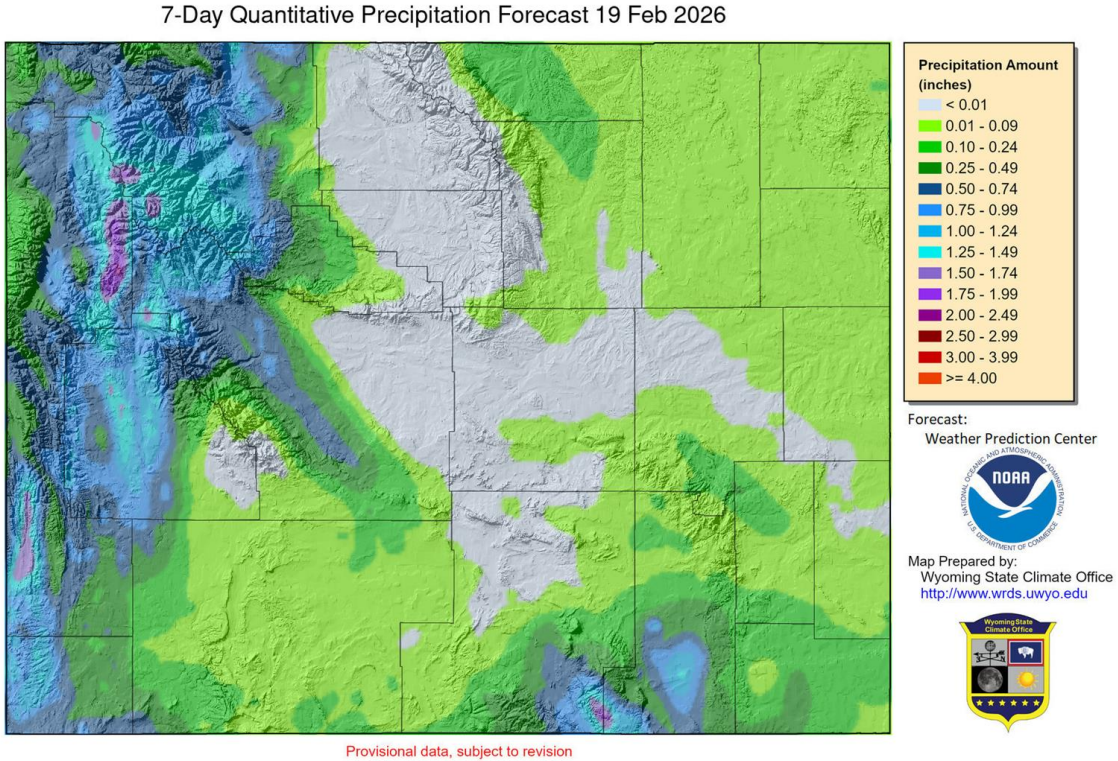
Weather Info & Forecasts

NWS Wyoming - Typical Hazard Calendar



7-Day Total Precipitation Forecast

(Feb 19 - Feb 25)



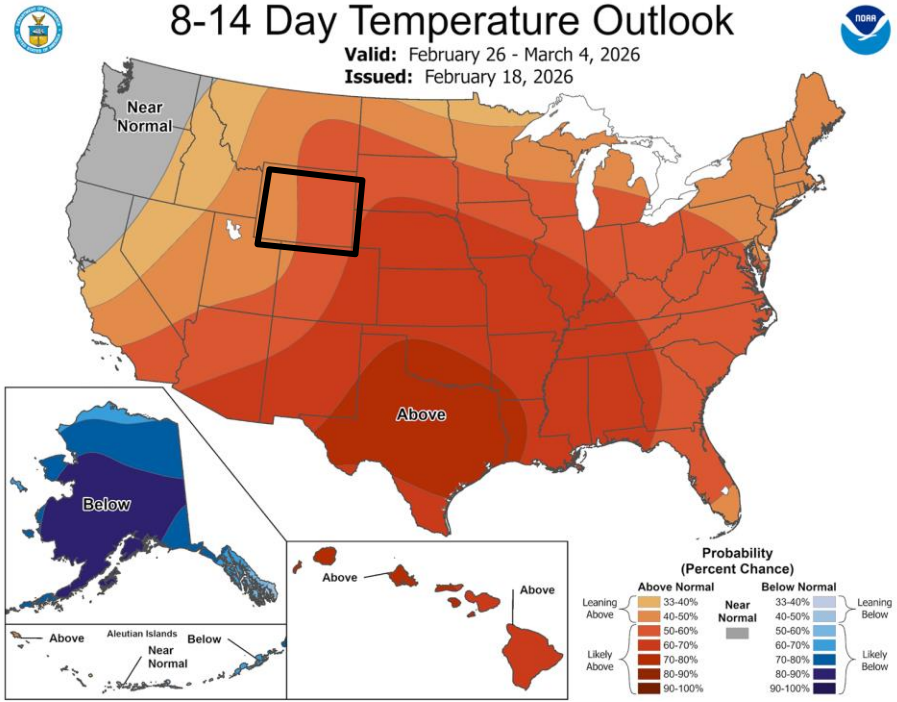
The Quantitative Precipitation Forecast shows the liquid amount of forecasted precipitation over the next 7 days
The Forecast is created by the National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center
Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, National Centers for Environmental Prediction, and Weather Prediction Center - https://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov
Map Layout Created 19 Feb 2026 https://www.wrds.uwyo.edu

- Widespread low elevation snow yesterday into this morning.
- Light snow continues in the western mountains and across the east this afternoon.
- Dry statewide this weekend into early next week.
- Most of the precipitation shown is for the next weather system Tuesday into the middle of the week.
  - Mainly a mountain & western valley snow event

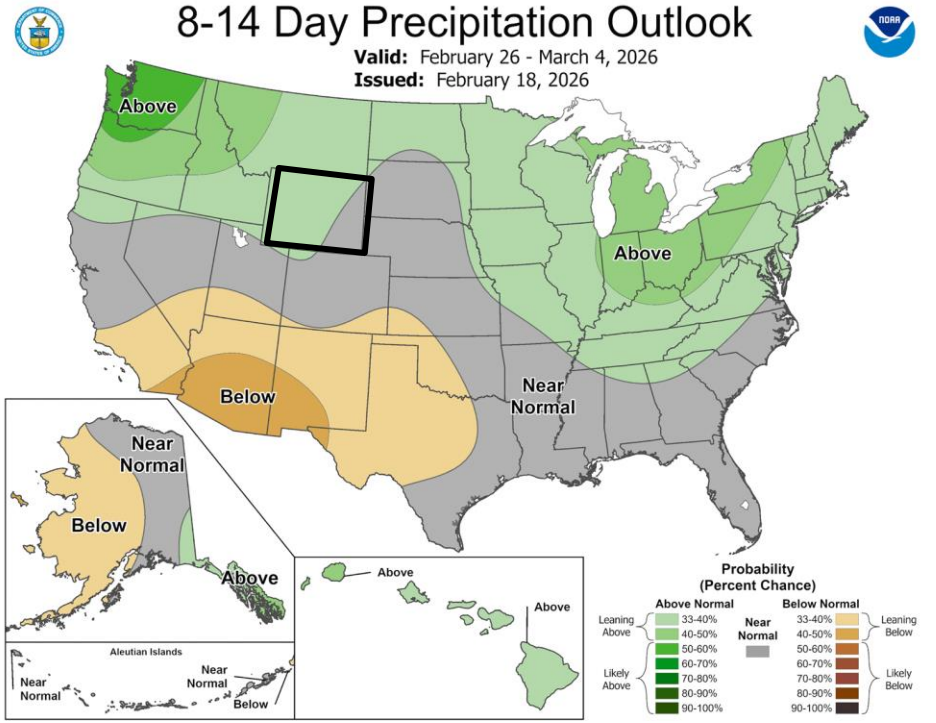
https://bit.ly/7_dayQPForecast

8-14 Day Outlook
(Feb 26 - Mar 4)

https://bit.ly/CPC8_14Day



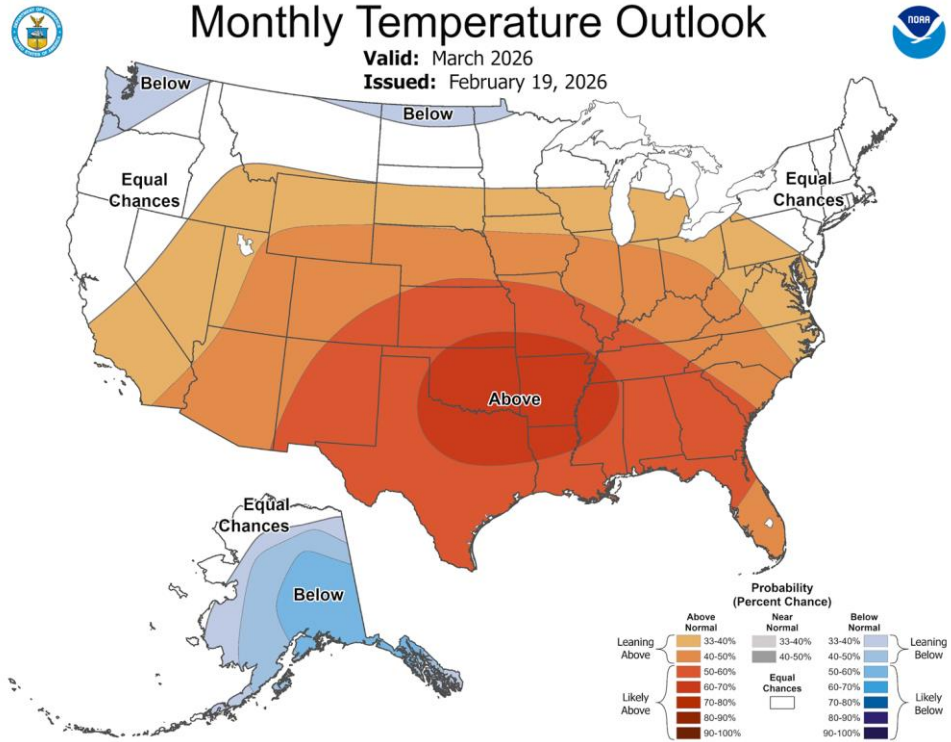
- Likely above normal statewide
- Interactive Version: cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/814day/interactive/index.php

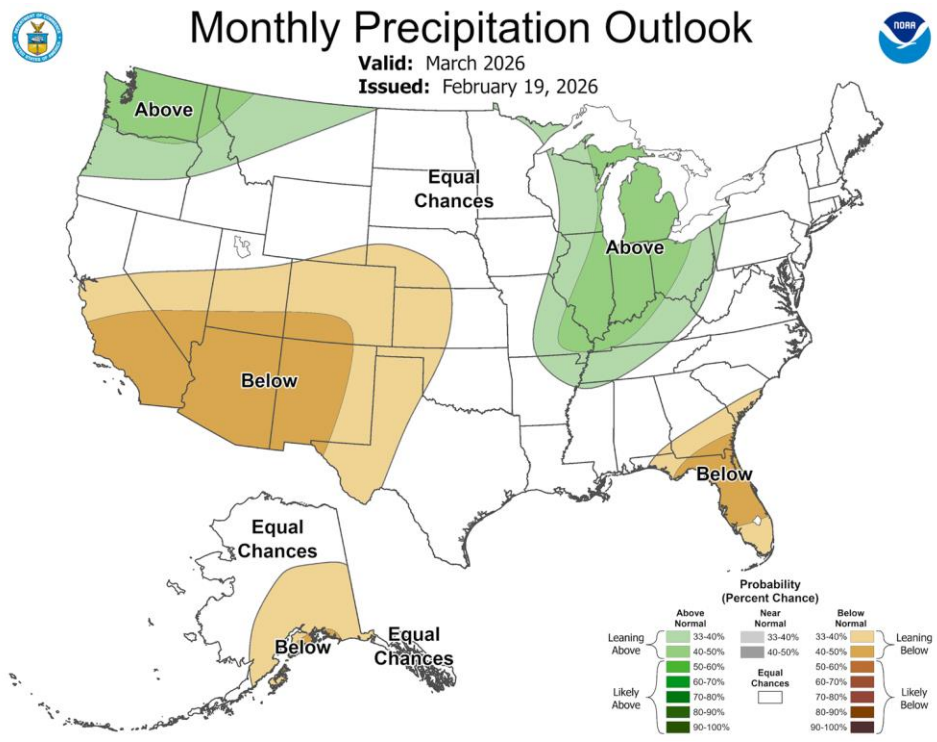


- Slight lean towards wetter than normal for most of the state

1 Month Outlook
(March)

cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/30day/



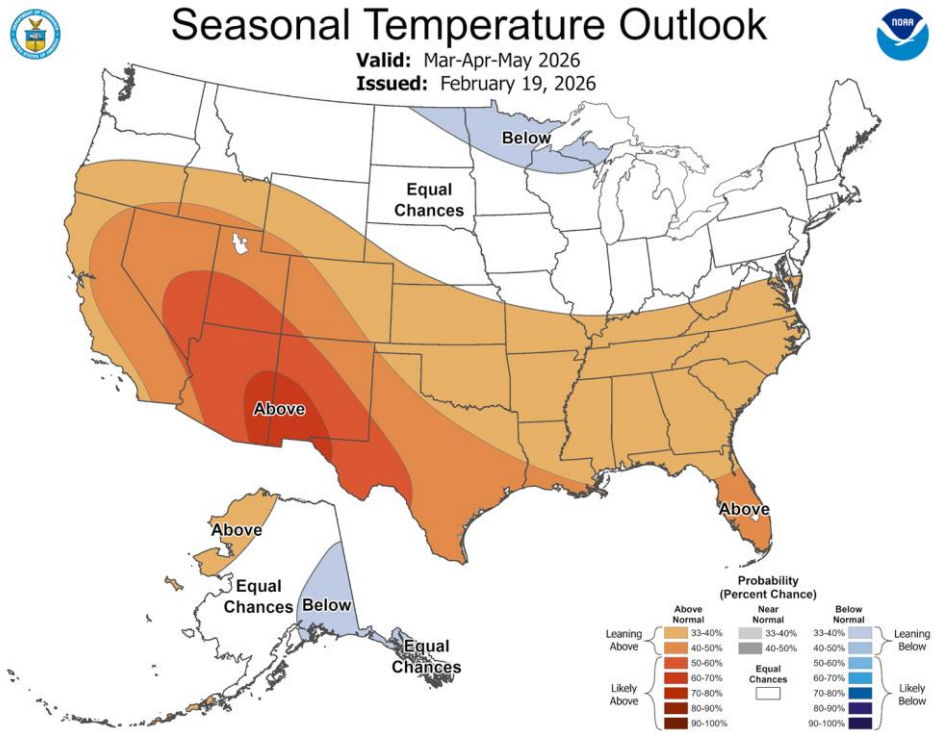


- Lean toward above normal statewide
- “Equal chances” for a majority of the state (i.e. 30-yr climatology/averages are the best forecast)

3 Month Outlook

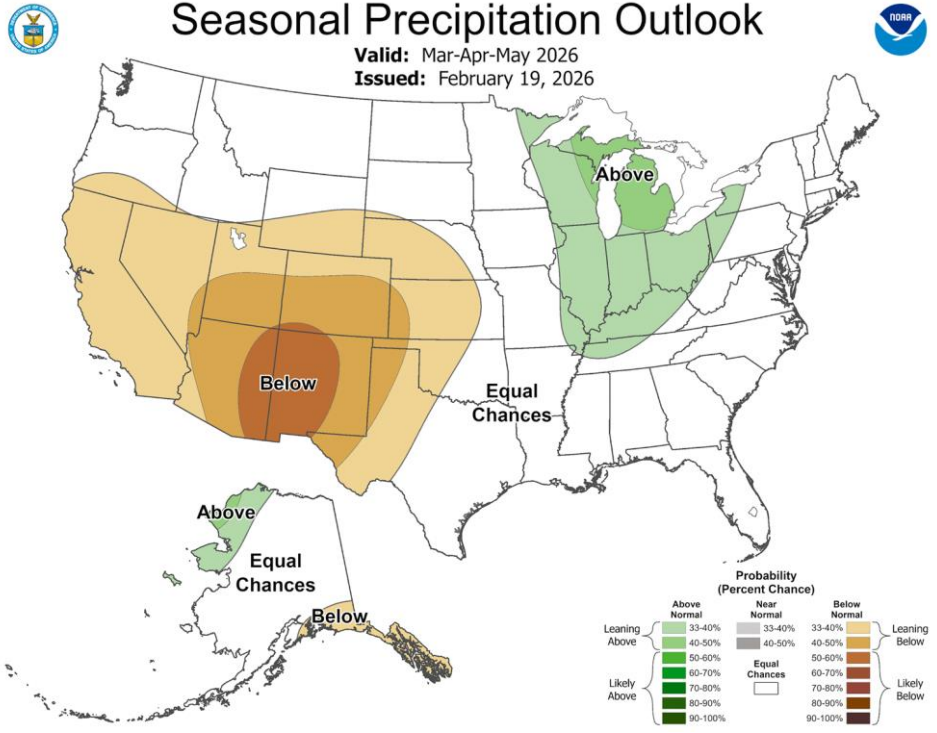
https://bit.ly/CPC_Seasonal

(Mar-Apr-May)



- Lean toward above normal for the south
- Equal chances for northeast WY (climatology is the best forecast)

(Mar-Apr-May)

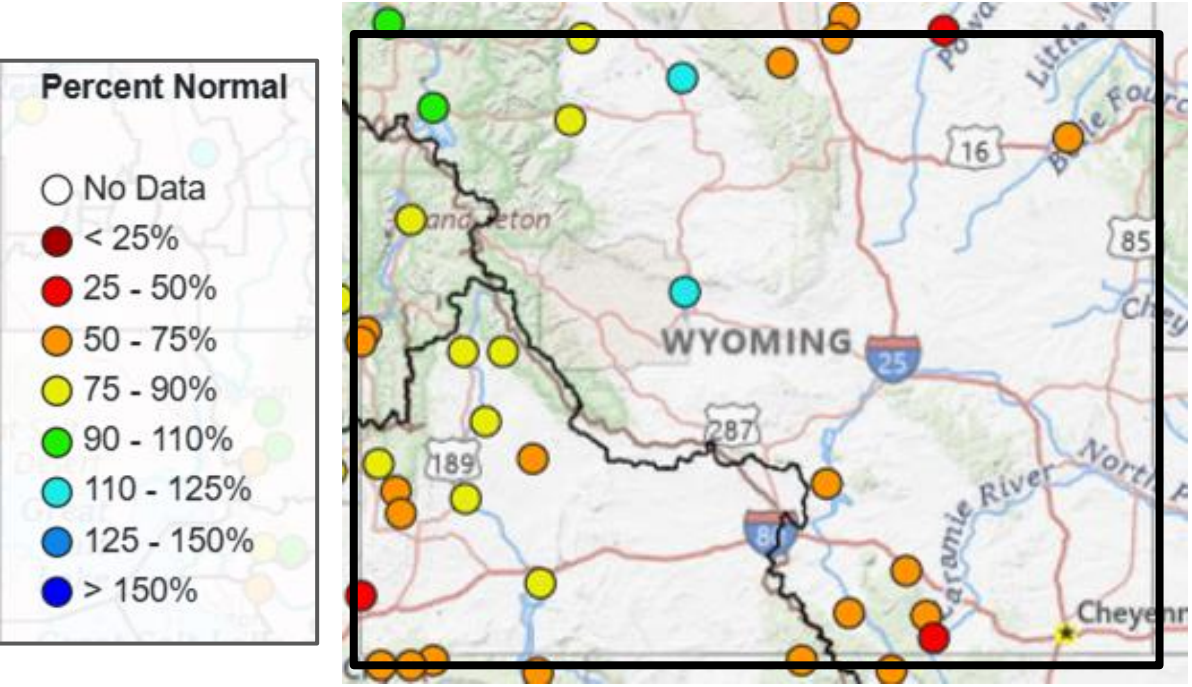


- Slight lean toward below normal for the south
- Equal chances for northern WY (climatology is the best forecast)

River Flooding & Water Supply Outlook

Wyoming Water Supply Outlook

Valid April-September



https://www.cbrfc.noaa.gov/wsup/graph/west/map/esp_map.html

April thru September runoff volumes below normal, to near normal.

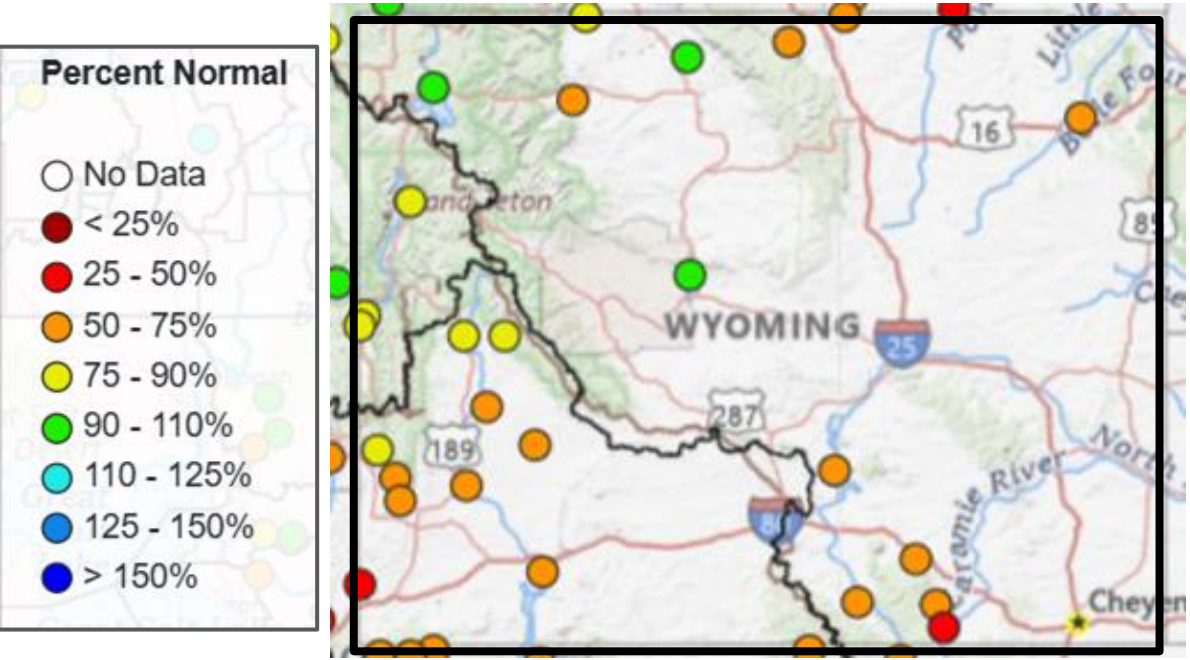
This graphic depicts the NWS water supply outlook locations, colored by the percent of April-thru-September volumetric normal. Many Wyoming stations are projected to see lower-than-normal volumes (yellows, oranges), with some stations primarily in the Bighorn Basin forecasting near normal (greens and blues).

Official forecast valid February 2026.

**Please note that the Colorado River basin colors reflect April-thru-July percent-of-normals.*

Wyoming Water Supply Outlook

Valid April-September



https://www.cbrfc.noaa.gov/wsup/graph/west/map/esp_map.html

April thru September runoff volumes below normal, to near normal.

This graphic depicts the NWS water supply outlook locations, colored by the percent of April-thru-September volumetric normal. Compared to the official forecast, conditions as of mid-February are indicating a continued decrease in forecasted runoff for many Wyoming stations.

Unofficial forecast valid February 2026.

**Please note that the Colorado River basin colors reflect April-thru-July percent-of-normals*.

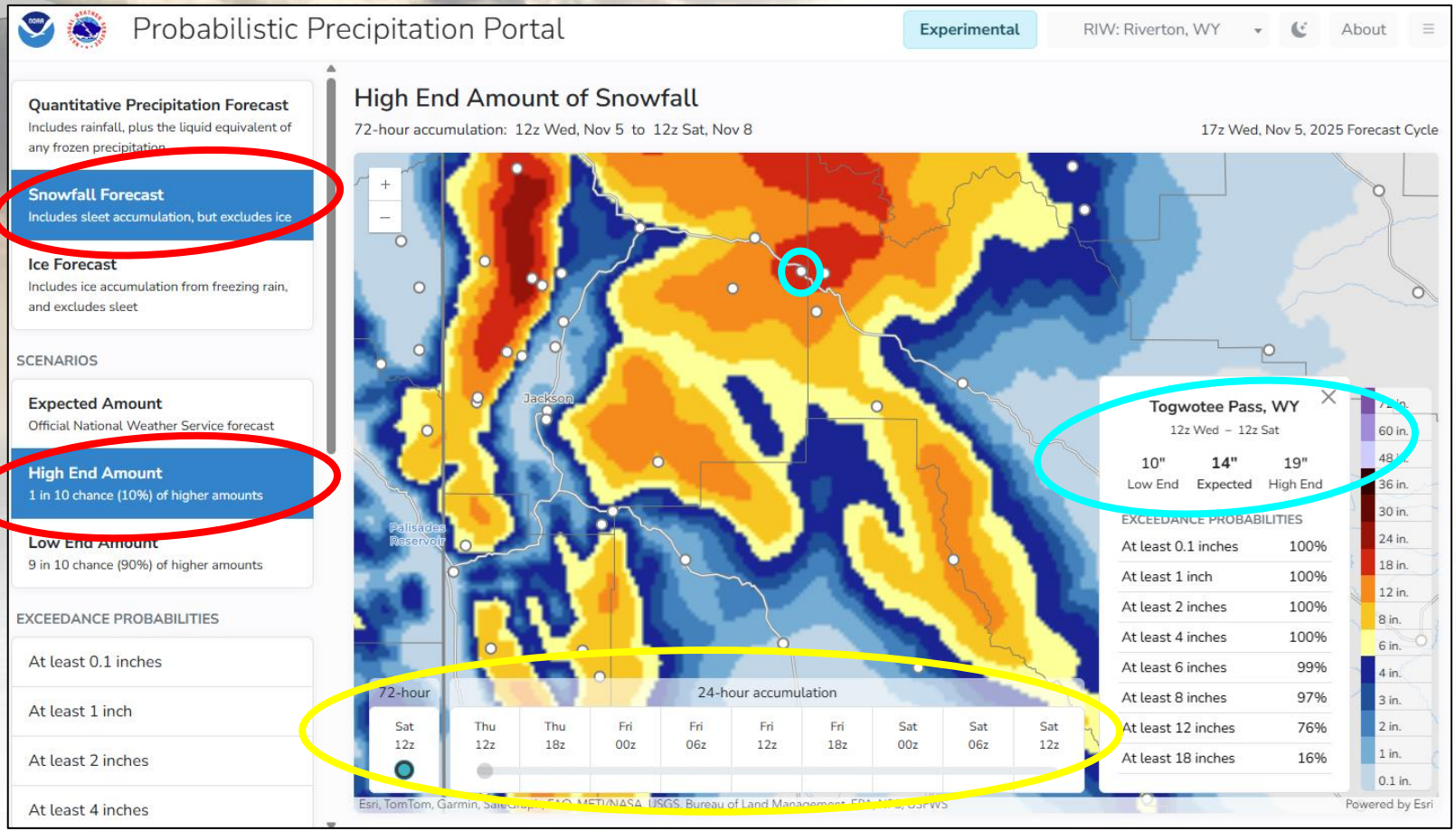
Highlight of the Month:

Probabilistic Precipitation Portal

www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/Prob_Precip

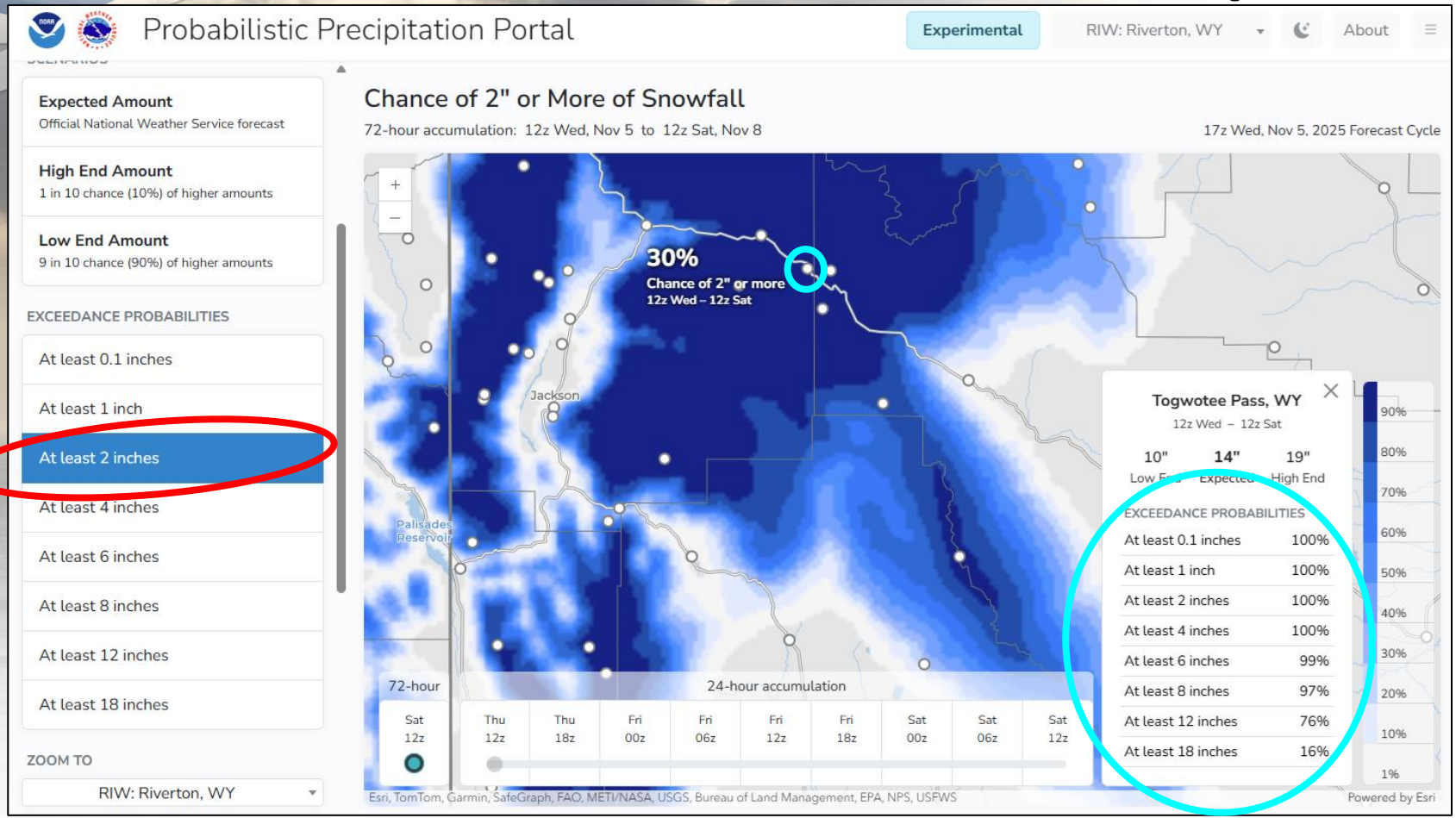
Probabilistic Precipitation Portal (PPP)

- New Forecast Tool
- Best way to see the range of forecast possibilities
- Expected Amt
- High End
- Low End
- Uses over 100 weather models (ensemble)



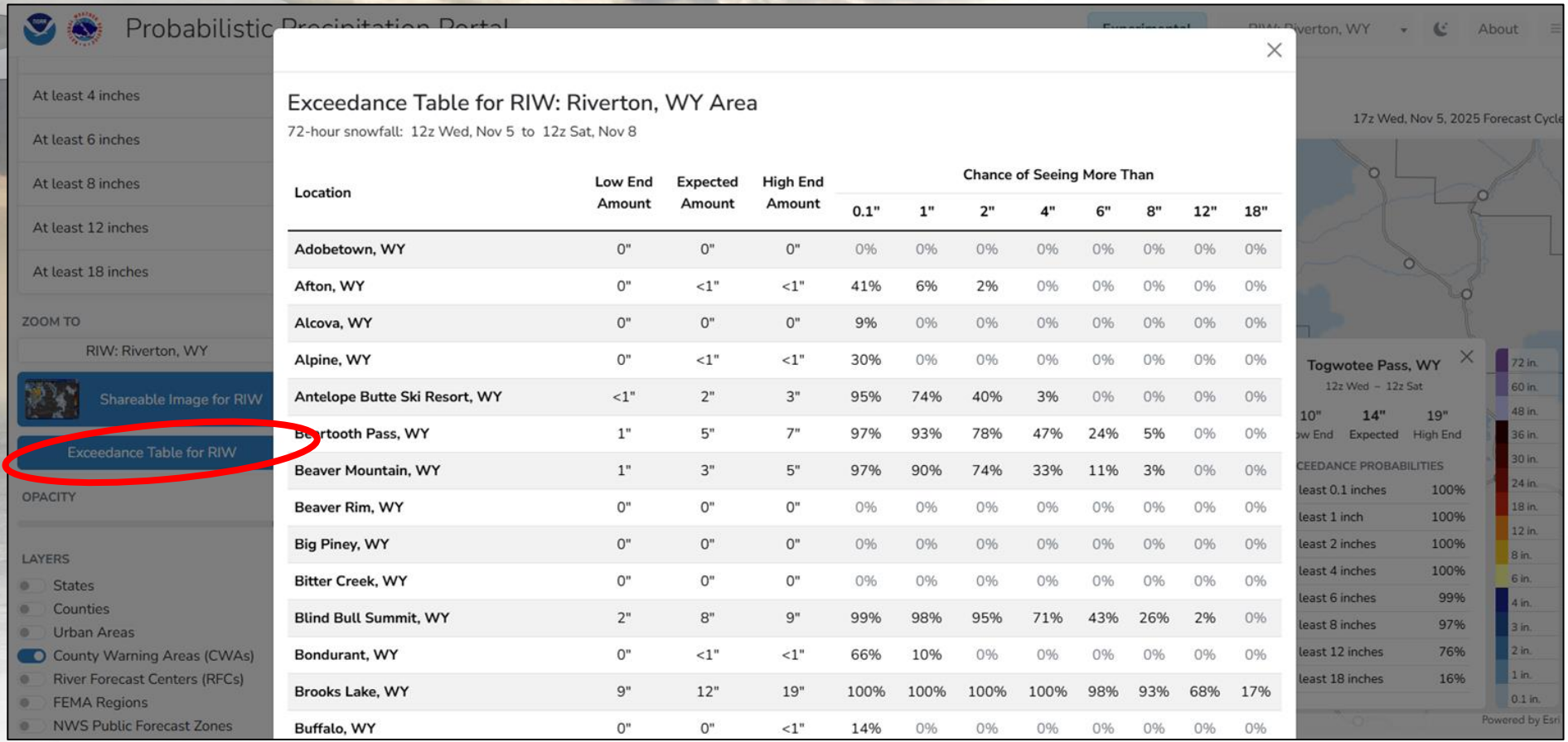
Source: wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/Prob_Precip/?zoom=RIW

PPP Exceedence Probabilities Map



 Source: wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/Prob_Precip/?zoom=RIW

PPP Exceedance Probabilities Table



Exceedance Table for RIW: Riverton, WY Area

72-hour snowfall: 12z Wed, Nov 5 to 12z Sat, Nov 8

Location	Low End Amount	Expected Amount	High End Amount	Chance of Seeing More Than							
				0.1"	1"	2"	4"	6"	8"	12"	18"
Adobetown, WY	0"	0"	0"	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Afton, WY	0"	<1"	<1"	41%	6%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Alcova, WY	0"	0"	0"	9%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Alpine, WY	0"	<1"	<1"	30%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Antelope Butte Ski Resort, WY	<1"	2"	3"	95%	74%	40%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Beartooth Pass, WY	1"	5"	7"	97%	93%	78%	47%	24%	5%	0%	0%
Beaver Mountain, WY	1"	3"	5"	97%	90%	74%	33%	11%	3%	0%	0%
Beaver Rim, WY	0"	0"	0"	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Big Piney, WY	0"	0"	0"	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Bitter Creek, WY	0"	0"	0"	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Blind Bull Summit, WY	2"	8"	9"	99%	98%	95%	71%	43%	26%	2%	0%
Bondurant, WY	0"	<1"	<1"	66%	10%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Brooks Lake, WY	9"	12"	19"	100%	100%	100%	100%	98%	93%	68%	17%
Buffalo, WY	0"	0"	<1"	14%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

 Source: wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/Prob_Precip/?zoom=RIW

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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!

The University of Wyoming is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.