



<http://drought.mt.gov>

Map Key

Drought Impact Type

Continental Divide

Moisture Status

Current Month

- Extremely Moist
- Moderately Moist
- Slightly Moist
- Near Average (Normal)
- Slightly Dry
- Moderately Dry **(Drought Alert)**
- Extremely Dry **(Severe Drought)**

Drought Impact Types -

A = Agricultural - Soil Moisture, Range conditions

H = Hydrological - Water Supplies, Streamflow, Groundwater

Drought Alert - Governor's Drought Advisory Committee strongly encourages local officials to convene local drought committees.

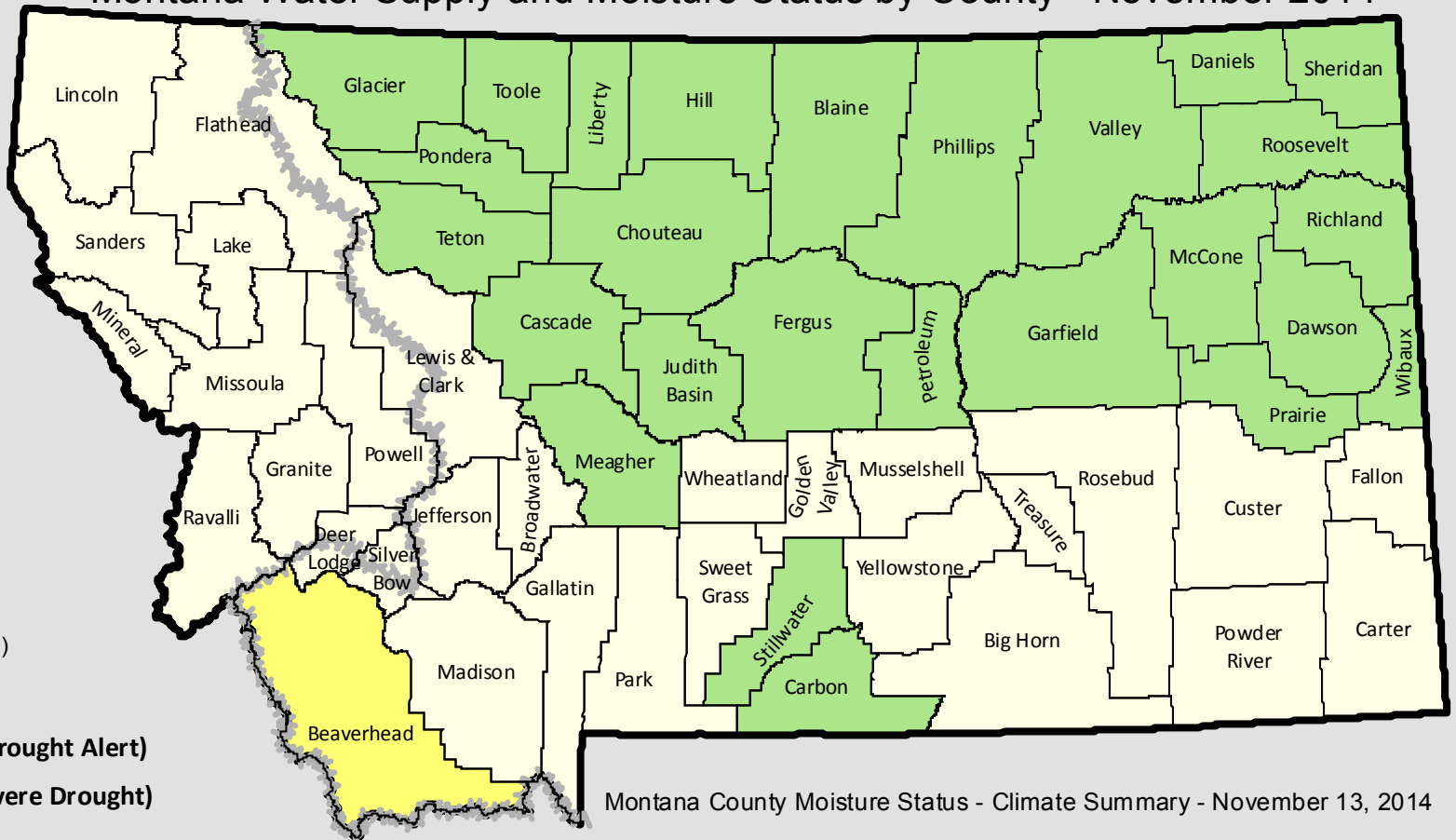
Severe Drought - Local officials should have local drought planning efforts underway or should reconvene the local drought committee at the earliest opportunity.

For recommended responses, see the Montana Drought Plan



http://apps.msl.mt.gov/Geographic_Information/Maps/Drought

Montana Water Supply and Moisture Status by County - November 2014



According to the National Weather Service, Water Year (October 1, 2014 – November 13, 2014) precipitation totals at valley elevations ranged from about 70 - to 90-percent of normal for the southwest region; 90- to 115-percent for the western region; 40- to 80-percent for the northeastern region; 50- to 70-percent for the central region; 90- to 150 percent for the northcentral region; 30- to 70-percent for the southcentral region, and 40- to 70-percent for the southeast region, with exceptions in all seven regions above.

Flows in the Yellowstone River Basin are rated as below normal to normal; the Missouri River basin, normal to much above normal, and the Clark Fork River Basin, below normal to above normal according to the USGS as of November 13, 2014: http://waterwatch.usgs.gov/new/index.php?id=ww_current

The October 1, 2014 NRCS Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) map rates only three of 54 Montana river basins as below its Near Average legend category: The Beaverhead River basin in the headwaters of the Missouri River basin, and the North Fork of the Flathead River and Bitterroot River basins, both west of the Continental Divide and in the Clark Fork River basin, rated as Slightly Dry at this time: http://ftp.geoinfo.msl.mt.gov/Documents/Maps/Collections/SurfaceWaterSupplyIndex/SWSI_201410_map.pdf

According to the week-ending October 26, 2014, USDA NASS Crop Progress report, "Range and pasture conditions remain above last year and the 5-year average with 52 percent rated as good to excellent, compared with 49 and 33 percent respectively. Cattle are being moved slightly behind last year and the five-year average, with 72 percent moved, while sheep are being moved ahead of last year and the 5- year average with 85 percent moved. Supplemental feeding of livestock had begun with 14-percent of cattle and 27-percent of sheep being fed. Topsoil moisture rated adequate and surplus was 79 percent, compared with 75 percent last year and the 5-year average of 57 percent. Subsoil moisture was rated 81 percent adequate and surplus compared with 72 percent last year and the 5-year average of 52 percent."