



<http://drought.mt.gov>

Map Key

- Continental Divide
- Drought Impact Type

Moisture Status

June 2012

- 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.

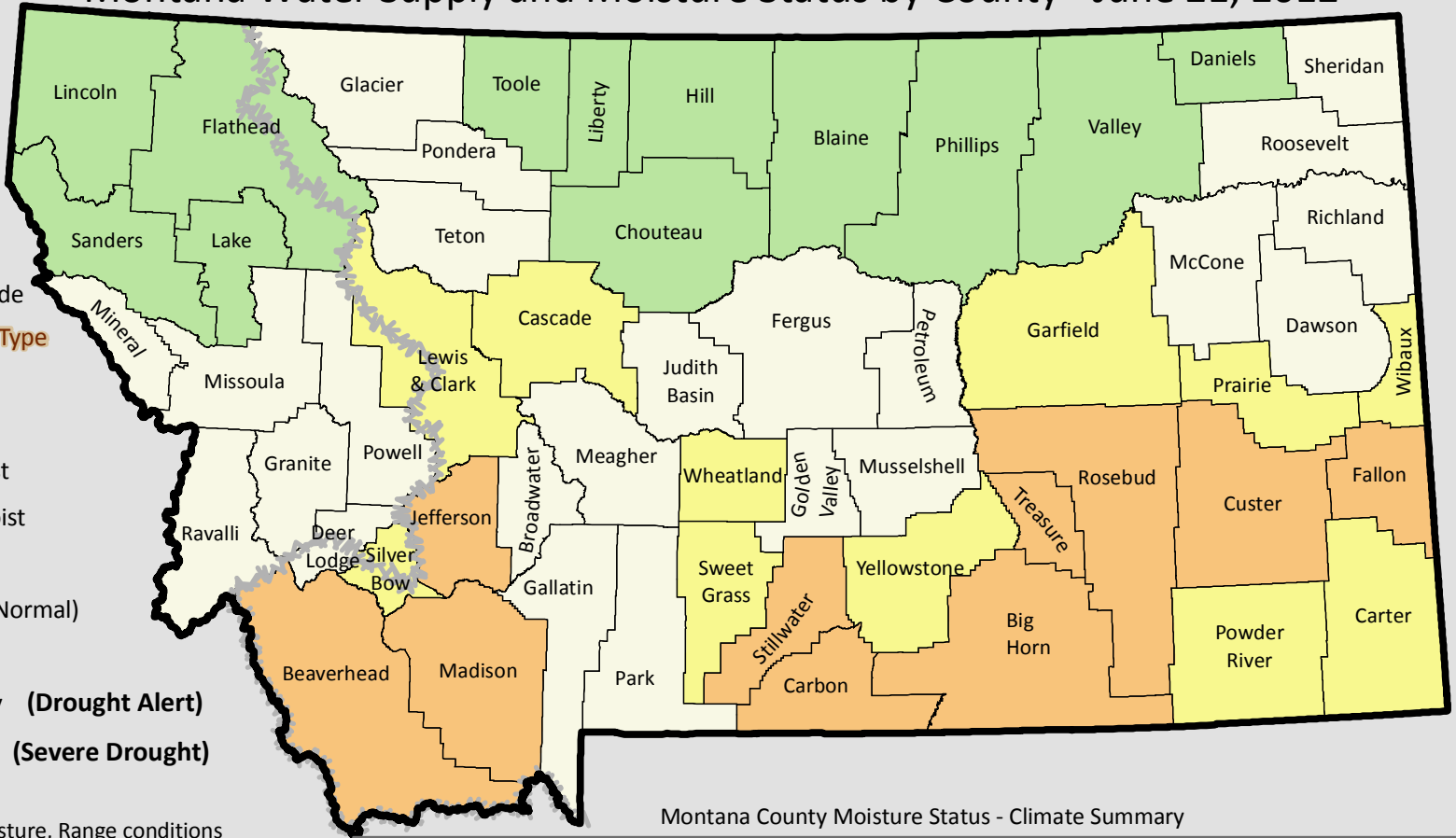
Severe Drought - Local officials

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://nris.mt.gov/drought/>

Montana Water Supply and Moisture Status by County - June 21, 2012



Montana County Moisture Status - Climate Summary

According to the USDA Crop Weather Report for the week ending June 24, 2012, "Summer arrived bringing hot days with little precipitation to most of Montana during the past week." Daily high temperatures are reaching into the high 80s and low 90s and the 6-10-day Outlook from NOAA's Climate Prediction Center calls for a return to near normal temperatures over most of the state with the eastern tier of the state slightly warmer. Precipitation is expected to be slightly higher than average in the northeast quarter of the state. The 8-14-day forecast calls for the southeast one-half of the state to be warmer than the northwest quarter which is expected to be normal. The southern tier is expected to be drier than the remainder of the state where normal precipitation is expected. Crop year precipitation ranges from 75- to 140 percent of normal across the state with some exceptions.

The report has topsoil moisture statewide at 64 percent adequate and surplus and subsoil moisture at 67 percent adequate to surplus at this time. Dry and windy conditions are hampering pasture grazing conditions and causing evapotranspiration to increase and plant water demand to run up as irrigators prepare for or take their fist cuttings of hay and alfalfa. The June 1 forecast yield for winter wheat is 40 bushels/acre and the crop is rated 53-percent good to excellent. Spring wheat is rated as 70-percent good to excellent.

The NRCS reports that mountain snowpack persists in the Kootenai and Flathead basins of the northwest corner of the state but the melt out of snow has been reached already in most of the remainder of the state. Streamflow prospects as of June 1 are mostly rated as normal with a near equal number of basins in the above and below average categories. The June 7 Surface Water Supply Index indicates that five river basins of 54 basins are rated as slightly dry with one basin extremely dry - Red Lodge / Rock Creek in Carbon County. The remaining 48 river basins are normal to moderately wet with the exception of two basins in the extremely wet category. The next meeting of the Governor's Drought Advisory Committee is set for July 19.