



Montana Crop Progress

Issue: 14-02

Issued: Weekly: Apr-Oct
Monthly: Nov-Mar

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Released: March 3, 2014
For the Month Ending:
February 28, 2014

Weather Summary

Montana had a mild period mid-month that was bookended with two bitterly cold and snowy spells during the month of February. Alberton received the highest amount of precipitation for the month with 3.96 inches of moisture. Most other stations reported receiving 0.05 to 3.91 inches of precipitation. High temperatures ranged from the upper 40s to lower 50s, with the state-wide high temperature of 53 degrees recorded at Billings, Joliet, Roundup, and Townsend. Most stations reported lows below 0 degrees with the coldest being Wisdom at -48 degrees, followed by West Yellowstone with -47 degrees.

The weather outlook for March 10th through March 16th is for above normal temperatures and near normal precipitation both east and west of the Continental Divide. Normal temperatures for this period in Montana are highs in the mid 30s to the upper 40s with lows 0 degrees to the mid 20s.

Both topsoil and subsoil moisture levels remain above last year. Topsoil moisture is 78 percent adequate and surplus compared with 55 percent last year. Subsoil moisture was 80 percent adequate and surplus compared to 40 percent last year.

Soil Moisture Table	This Month	Last Month	Last Year
Topsoil Moisture			
Very Short	5	9	15
Short	17	16	30
Adequate	73	73	51
Surplus	5	2	4
Subsoil Moisture			
Very Short	4	8	25
Short	16	20	35
Adequate	76	71	39
Surplus	4	1	1

Livestock Report

Livestock grazing conditions remain well behind last year with 17 percent open compared to 45 percent last year due to heavy snows. Livestock birthing continues with 12 percent of calving and 6 percent of lambing complete, which is down slightly from the previous year and there are reports of weather-related losses throughout the state.

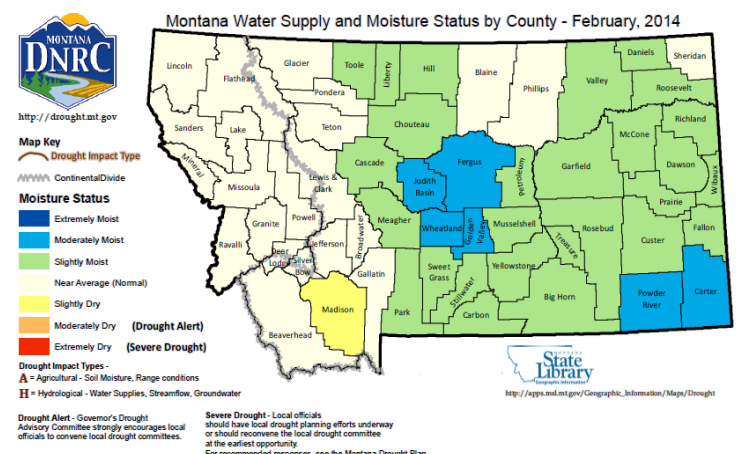
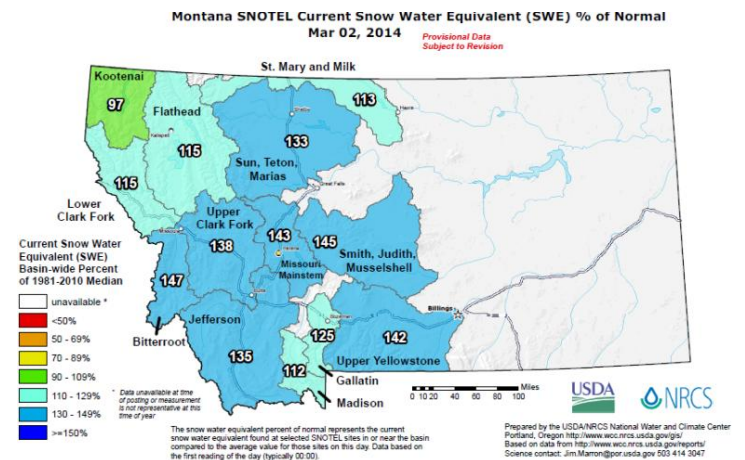
Range & Livestock Table	This Month	Last Month	Last Year
Livestock Grazing			
Open	17	23	45
Difficult	31	34	22
Closed	52	43	33
Livestock Receiving Supplemental Feed			
Cattle & Calves	99	95	98
Sheep & Lambs	97	96	98
Livestock Birthing			
Calving Completed	12	3	16
Lambing Completed	6	1	8

na – Not Available

Field Crops Report

Winter wheat condition is 53 percent good to excellent compared to 38 percent last year. Winter damage remains slightly higher than last year due to high winds and periods of sustained subzero weather. Snow cover did improve during the month of February 32 percent good to excellent compared with 18 percent at the same time last year.

Crop Progress and Condition Table	This Month	Last Month	Last Year
Winter Wheat			
Very Poor	1	1	3
Poor	8	5	7
Fair	38	48	52
Good	42	43	36
Excellent	11	3	2
Winter Wheat – Wind Damage			
None	74	76	65
Light	19	20	30
Moderate	6	4	4
Heavy	1	0	1
Winter Wheat – Freeze & Drought Damage			
None	76	78	69
Light	16	15	24
Moderate	7	6	6
Heavy	1	1	1
Winter Wheat – Protectiveness of Snow Cover			
Very Poor	6	3	17
Poor	22	11	36
Fair	40	72	29
Good	25	12	16
Excellent	7	2	2



Weather Information for the Month ending 02/28/14

Station	Temperature				Precipitation February			Precipitation October 1 to date		
	Hi	Low	Avg	DFN	Total	DFN	% Nrm	Total	DFN	% Nrm
NORTHWEST										
Alberton	46	-22	21	-8	3.96	+3.19	514	8.34	+3.57	175
Anaconda	45	-29	19	-10	1.69	+1.23	367	3.92	+0.57	117
Clinton	45	-24	21	-3	2.46	+1.37	226	5.77	-0.93	86
Corvallis	50	-21	22	-10	2.34	+1.80	433	4.18	+0.61	117
Creston	49	-23	19	-9	1.11	-0.08	93	5.51	-1.38	80
Deer Lodge	46	-30	15	-14	1.06	+0.78	379	1.66	-0.30	85
Drummond	45	-27	20	-8	2.10	+1.49	344	4.85	+1.09	129
Hamilton	49	-19	22	-9	3.91	+3.05	455	7.13	+2.16	143
Kalispell	48	-23	18	-9	1.10	-0.05	96	6.90	+0.22	103
Missoula	45	-23	21	-9	2.42	+1.65	314	5.02	+0.25	105
Olney	47	-34	13	-11	1.05	-0.96	52	8.33	-2.13	80
Polson	45	-22	19	-12	1.93	+1.05	219	5.84	+0.45	108
St Ignatius	51	-30	20	-12	2.15	+1.38	279	5.91	+0.87	117
Seeley Lake	45	-41	17	-9	3.79	+2.14	230	10.20	-0.03	100
Sula	45	-22	23	-5	2.29	+1.49	286	5.72	+0.64	113
Superior	50	-17	24	-9	3.09	+1.95	271	9.54	+2.49	135
Swan Lake	47	-25	17	-10	2.54	+0.16	107	8.85	-5.73	61
Thompson Falls	51	-14	24	-10	3.68	+1.64	180	9.85	-1.85	84
West Glacier	42	-22	18	-10	2.08	-0.11	95	11.91	-1.83	87
NORTH CENTRAL										
Chester	48	-35	11	-12	0.28	+0.02	108	3.43	+1.56	183
Chinook	49	-28	12	-9	0.05	-0.27	16	1.53	-0.97	61
Choteau	47	-29	16	-14	0.73	+0.54	384	2.25	+0.82	157
Cut Bank	45	-35	12	-12	0.11	-0.17	39	1.82	-0.07	96
Ft Assiniboine	46	-25	12	-11	0.26	-0.07	79	2.06	-0.51	80
Fort Benton	52	-31	14	-15	0.57	+0.18	146	3.23	+0.43	115
Goldbutte	45	-28	12	-13	0.16	-0.17	48	3.01	+0.59	124
Harlem	48	-27	12	-11	0.22	-0.10	69	2.81	+0.73	135
Havre	47	-25	14	-9	0.24	-0.12	67	2.67	+0.26	111
Malta	51	-22	14	-5	0.16	-0.13	55	1.46	-0.90	62
Rudyard	47	-35	11	-13	0.45	+0.27	250	2.77	+1.36	196
Shelby	47	-32	13	-13	0.43	+0.10	130	2.79	+0.52	123
Turner	44	-20	12	-8	0.09	-0.09	50	1.59	-0.27	85
Valier	46	-30	13	-14	0.69	+0.45	287	2.77	+0.96	153
NORTHEAST										
Bredette	47	-18	9	-11	0.07	-0.15	32	1.48	-0.44	77
Culbertson	48	-16	11	-9	1.06	+0.83	461	2.36	+0.17	108
Glasgow	50	-19	12	-8	0.26	+0.00	100	2.02	-0.06	97
Glendive	44	-19	15	-8	0.32	-0.01	97	2.85	+0.22	108
Jordan	48	-30	14	-9	0.37	+0.01	103	3.09	+0.39	114
Nashua	48	-24	12	-12	0.14	-0.05	74	1.51	-0.37	80
Opheim	42	-24	7	-9	0.58	+0.35	252	2.80	+1.05	160
Plentywood	47	-19	8	-11	0.21	-0.10	68	2.04	-0.11	95
St Marie	42	-18	10	-10	0.10	-0.16	38	0.86	-1.22	41
Scobey	43	-19	10	-8	0.06	-0.08	43	0.82	-0.90	48
Sidney	49	-13	14	-9	0.12	-0.24	33	2.68	-0.23	92
Wolf Point	48	-21	12	-9	0.08	-0.17	32	0.74	-1.40	35
CENTRAL										
Cascade	48	-31	17	-11	1.16	+0.79	314	3.46	+0.68	124
Grass Range	51	-31	17	-12	0.68	+0.37	219	3.82	+0.55	117
Great Falls	50	-34	15	-12	1.09	+0.58	214	4.47	+1.09	132
Harlowton	49	-30	16	-12	1.11	+0.72	285	6.05	+3.43	231
Helena	51	-26	17	-10	1.88	+1.50	495	3.32	+0.82	133
Lewistown	46	-33	14	-12	0.42	-0.15	74	3.83	-0.26	94
Martinsdale	47	-31	17	-11	0.91	+0.59	284	3.64	+1.04	140
Neihart	48	-32	15	-13	1.40	+0.74	212	6.45	+1.44	129
Rogers Pass	48	-30	15	-12	1.54	+0.91	244	3.46	-0.59	85
Roundup	53	-33	19	-12	0.92	+0.56	256	3.80	+1.18	145
Ryegate	52	-29	15	-12	1.06	+0.77	366	3.76	+1.21	147
Stanford	47	-29	15	-14	1.00	+0.52	208	6.13	+2.67	177
Townsend	53	-29	17	-12	0.91	+0.68	396	2.12	+0.19	110
Valentine	52	-34	13	-11	0.43	+0.11	134	2.59	-0.10	96
Wht Sulphur Spr	45	-36	14	-12	0.87	+0.49	229	2.29	-0.46	83
SOUTHWEST										
Boulder	47	-29	15	-12	1.29	+0.99	430	2.20	-0.10	96
Bozeman	46	-28	18	-11	1.39	+0.69	199	5.26	+0.22	104
Butte	45	-36	15	-8	0.61	+0.14	130	2.36	-0.56	81
Dillon	44	-28	18	-10	0.21	+0.01	105	0.68	-1.01	40
Ennis	48	-34	18	-12	1.12	+0.67	249	2.43	-0.58	81
Lakeview	42	-41	20	+4	0.90	-0.06	94	1.98	-3.60	35
W Yellowstone	46	-47	15	-3	2.33	+0.56	132	9.29	-0.05	99
Wisdom	44	-48	16	-3	1.68	+1.17	329	4.30	+0.92	127
SOUTH CENTRAL										
Billings	53	-23	19	-11	2.09	+1.51	360	7.97	+3.90	196
Cooke City	44	-30	18	+1	1.59	-0.20	89	4.73	-5.23	47
Gardiner	48	-30	19	-10	0.58	+0.25	176	2.90	+0.36	114
Hardin	51	-29	18	-12	1.41	+1.06	403	6.81	+3.49	205
Huntley	50	-28	16	-12	1.14	+0.66	238	7.15	+3.69	207
Hysham	52	-25	17	-11	0.56	+0.22	165	6.04	+2.95	195
Joliet	53	-29	17	-11	1.63	+1.00	259	6.61	+2.35	155
Livingston	51	-30	20	-11	1.15	+0.67	240	4.10	+0.48	113
Nye	49	-33	20	-12	2.09	+1.51	360	7.73	+3.59	187
Rapelje	50	-30	17	-12	1.17	+0.63	217	4.37	+0.71	119
SOUTHEAST										
Albion	47	-19	16	-6	0.62	+0.31	200	6.97	+4.45	277
Baker	47	-26	13	-10	0.22	-0.22	50	3.34	+0.09	103
Broadus	52	-24	17	-11	0.57	+0.16	139	4.94	+1.71	153
Ekalaka	47	-25	14	-12	0.54	+0.03	106	6.38	+2.33	158
Miles City	49	-24	15	-11	0.14	-0.20	41	2.14	-0.80	73
Plevna	47	-26	13	-11	0.46	+0.02	105	3.61	+0.36	111

Compiled by AWIS, Inc. based on NWS data. DFN - Departure from normal 1971-2000.