



Under the Big Sky e-letter September 1, 2009

September is National Preparedness Month!

Are You Ready? This is the catchy headline FEMA uses with its preparedness outreach, but really think about it. If a major disaster were to happen, would you be prepared? How about even the minor disasters? The three main points of National Preparedness Month are:

1. **Get a Kit** (actually a few, one for home, one for each vehicle you have, and one for work)
2. **Make a family emergency plan** (where will you all meet, who is a point of contact in a different community farther away)
3. **Be Informed**

At the <http://www.ready.gov> there are a ton of resources for you to use. You can also download or order publications (I highly recommend the “Are You Ready” book) for your personal use at: <http://www.ready.gov/america/publications/allpubs.html>

One other site that I found intriguing was Do 1 Thing. This website takes you month by month on how to do something small that will have you prepared for disasters by the end of a year. It can be costly to do everything at once, but this allows you to do it small bits at a time: <http://www.do1thing.us/>

And last, but not least, the Montana Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN), and Montana Disaster and Emergency Services has a ton of resources as well: <http://montanahelp.org/> and <http://dma.mt.gov/des/>

Expansion of the CANL System for winter 2010! If you are a livestock producer, we’d like to invite you in to the office for a free lunch, and to provide some feedback on the Cold Advisory for Newborn Livestock system. Please join us on September 15th from noon to 1 pm here at the NWS Glasgow office. We’ll review a few events from last year, get feedback and comments from those in the livestock industry, and discuss the plans for expanding this system to other areas in the northern plains for the upcoming winter season. To RSVP, contact Tanja Fransen at 406-228-2850.

Did You Know?

With a growing global population, there will be over 10 billion mouths to feed on the planet by 2029? With even the most basic calculations, the world's farmers will have to double production to maintain global food stocks? (Taken from the Harvest States Elevator e-letter and an article by Rebecca Bratter, USW Director of Policy)
How do you think land use changes and climate change may impact that supply?

Did you Know?

In Great Britain, research by one company found that a 10C hike in temperature leads to a 300% uplift in sales of barbecue meat and a 50% increase in lettuce sales. A drop in temperature has the opposite impact - and increases sales of foods such as soups and broccoli.

<http://news.aol.co.uk/environment-news/tesco-team-to-predict-the-weather/article/20090823111503186556554>

Upcoming Weather: The outlook doesn't look so great for those of you who are looking to do any harvesting. The Climate Prediction Center has Sept 6-10 (6 to 10 day outlook) and Sept 8-14 (8-14 day outlook) with below normal temperatures and above normal precipitation. To see the outlooks, go to:

<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/610day/index.php>

<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/814day/index.php>

NWS Glasgow Happenings:

Diana's Retirement Banquet: We said our goodbyes to Diana Koenig, who has been the administrative assistant at our office for 14.5 years. In this photo are Steve Apfel, current Meteorologist in Charge (MIC), and Jim Rea, the MIC who hired Diana in 1995.



New Administrative Assistant Selected: Jeannie Davis-Anthony, the current City Clerk for Glasgow will be joining the National Weather Service as our Administrative Assistant starting in October 13th.

Weather Happenings:

No sunspots for 52 days: The sun hasn't had a sunspot in 52 days, and while this isn't a record, it is a record for it being the last calendar month without a sunspot since 1913. In 1913, there was a total of 92 days in April, May and June that had no sun spots at all. For further information, go to:

<http://www.spaceweather.com/glossary/spotlessdays.htm?PHPSESSID=tp5jhugk4s2gc7mervkc1jd11>

California Wildfires: You've probably heard that fire season has kicked in, mainly in California. Over 10,000 people are evacuated, several hundred homes have been destroyed, and sadly two firefighters have died while fighting the fires. The largest is just north of the LA area. The following website has some amazing time lapse of a forest fire in the Angeles National Forest. I recommend loading it up, and then watching it. Otherwise it may be really choppy. But, it really shows the convective nature of large burns.

<http://www.brandonz.com/Video/HTML/ZeroPercentContained.html>

And some more photos really showing the devastation:

<http://news.yahoo.com/nphotos/Smoke-Station-Fire-rises-over-downtown-Los-Angeles-Monday->

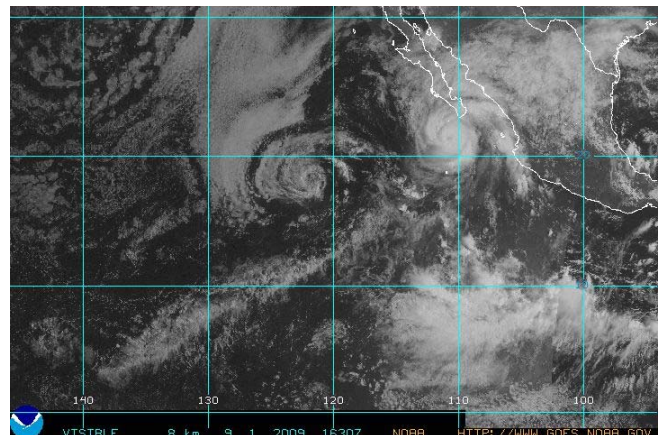
[Aug/photo//090831/480/7f0cb03c71364bfe8df94a6a87f8ed1d//s:/ap/20090901/ap_on_re_us/us_wildfires](http://photo//090831/480/7f0cb03c71364bfe8df94a6a87f8ed1d//s:/ap/20090901/ap_on_re_us/us_wildfires)

Coldest, Driest and Calmest Place on Earth Found: With our winds in northeast Montana, we get disqualified from this category! The winner is: (drum roll please) A point called Ridge A, 13,000 feet high on the Antarctic. The average winter temperature is -94 degrees Fahrenheit (makes us look like a tropical paradise). To read the recent article, go to:

http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/32635049/ns/technology_and_science-science/

Category 4 Hurricane Jimena about to strike Baja Mexico: For the latest updates on this very strong hurricane, go to: <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/#JIMENA>

This satellite image taken at 1030 am today shows not only Hurricane Jimena just south of the Baja, but also Tropical Depression Kevin further to the west and slightly south of Jimena.



NOAA News:

NOAA Study shows that Nitrous Oxide (aka Laughing Gas!) is the top depleting ozone depleting emission: From the article, the "study has evaluated nitrous oxide emissions from human activities in terms of their potential impact on Earth's ozone layer. As chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), which have been phased out by international agreement, ebb in the atmosphere, nitrous oxide will remain a significant ozone-destroyer, the study found. Today, nitrous oxide emissions from human activities are more than twice as high as the next leading ozone-depleting gas." For more information, go to: http://www.noanews.noaa.gov/stories2009/20090827_ozone.html

Humor for the Week: This made me think of Gull Island on Fort Peck Lake this past weekend. You couldn't walk anywhere without getting smacked by dozens of grasshoppers, and the kids caught at least 6 frogs (that did not make it home with us although there was some heated pleading from our 9 year old)



And in honor of National Preparedness Month:

