

# Montana Drought/Precipitation Summary

July 16, 2003

## Montana weather and precipitation summary, July 1-16 2003.

Through July 16, the most notable feature in precipitation distribution across Montana is the lack of precipitation. On July 2, isolated thunderstorms produced over one inch of rain at Glendive, then again on July 8, isolated thunderstorms dropped over one inch of rain in areas around Glasgow, Jordan and Sidney. Most of the rest of the state has seen little, if any, precipitation. Much of the state has had less than 25 percent of their July-to-date precipitation. Additionally, temperatures have been very warm to hot, especially during the past week. Temperatures over 100 degrees have been recorded in many areas. At Helena, the temperatures have been running six degrees above average, while at Dillon and Billings, temperatures have been averaging four degrees above normal. Winds have been above average at most locations. Cut Bank, Havre, Helena and Jordan have recorded winds at least 1.5 mph above normal, with Cut Bank leading at 12.5 mph for the month-to-date.

**Historical Rank of Precipitation (inches)  
for the Past Month and Water Year to Date**

Location	Ju1 1 - Jul 16	% of Normal	Oct 1 - Ju1 16	% of Normal	Rank	Years on Record
Billings	0	0	8.53	71	14 <sup>th</sup> driest	69
Bozeman	0.06	9	11.05	95	24 <sup>th</sup> driest	62
Butte	0.19	24	7.32	76	18 <sup>th</sup> driest	84
Cut Bank	0.11	14	4.71	53	3 <sup>rd</sup> driest	90
Dillon	0.01	2	6.40	87	17 <sup>th</sup> driest	65
Glasgow	1.49	157	7.88	96	35 <sup>th</sup> driest	110
Great Falls	0.03	4	8.15	72	14 <sup>th</sup> driest	110
Havre	0.40	51	7.73	91	33 <sup>rd</sup> driest	123
Helena	0.03	4	7.20	86	20 <sup>th</sup> driest	123
Kalispell	0.01	1	8.58	61	7 <sup>th</sup> driest	103
Lewistown	0.33	30	11.49	85	24 <sup>th</sup> driest	77
Livingston	0.09	11	12.06	99	22 <sup>nd</sup> wettest	54
Miles City	0.25	28	8.58	83	22 <sup>nd</sup> driest	109
Missoula	0.34	56	11.03	99	25 <sup>th</sup> driest	54

For an automated version of this chart, updated daily, go to  
<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/cgi-bin/greatfalls/getproduct.pl?PCPNTOTALS>

For a state map of % of normal water year precipitation (updated around the 7<sup>th</sup> of each month), go to:  
[http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/Greatfalls/tfx.php?TEXT+wateryear\\_percent.html](http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/Greatfalls/tfx.php?TEXT+wateryear_percent.html)

For the latest information on mountain snow pack from the NRCS, go to:  
[Western Mountain Snowpack - NRCS](#)

For the latest U.S. Drought Monitor, issued weekly by the Climate Prediction Center (CPC), go to:  
[Drought Monitor](#)

## **Montana precipitation forecast.**

As of July 1<sup>st</sup>, CPC forecasts equal chances of wetter and drier than normal conditions across Montana for the period through August 2003. Graphics and text relating to these outlooks, and additional long-range forecasts can be found at  
[CPC long range predictions](#)

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Further inquiries about the moisture conditions can be directed to Dave Bernhardt, Gina Loss, or Ken Pomeroy at (406) 453-2081. Many more links can be found on the Drought Information Page of the NWS Great Falls web site at  
<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/Greatfalls/tfx.php?HTML+drought>