

# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Climate data and station list

Climate data is important in the search for trends or other weather pattern shifts. These may reveal climate trends and even climate changes. To help in sorting through the volumes of data, and to keep a standard of stations, the National Climatic Data Center has established climate divisions in each state. In Montana, there are seven climate divisions which include anywhere from four to nine stations per division (Fig. 1). Also, they have established a list of stations comprising the HCN (Historical Climatology Network) that are used to create baselines for normals and other climatic variables (Table 1).



Figure 1. Montana climate divisions

Table 1. List of NCDC Historical Climatology Network Stations and the climate division that the station is located within.

Div	Location
1	Anaconda
1	Forks 4NNE
1	Fortine 1N
1	Hamilton
1	Kalispell AP
1	Libby 1NE
1	Philipsburg

1	St Ignatius
1	St Regis 1NE
2	Bozeman MSU
2	Dillon WMU
2	Ennis
2	Hebgen Dam
2	Norris Madison PH
2	Virginia City
2	West Yellowstone
3	Cascade 5S
3	Chinook
3	Choteau
3	Cut Bank
3	Ft Assiniboine
3	Malta 7E
3	Valier
4	Augusta
4	Flatwillow 4ENE
4	Great Falls AP
4	Helena AP
4	Hysham 25SSE
4	Moccasin Exp Stn
4	White Sulphur Springs
5	Big Timber
5	Huntley Exp Stn
5	Livingston 12S
5	Red Lodge
6	Glasgow AP
6	Glendive
6	Jordan
6	Medicine Lake 3SE
6	Savage
6	Vida 6NE
7	Ekalaka
7	Mildred 5N
7	Miles City AP
7	Plevna