

Blackfoot Water Supply Report

February 6, 2024



Montana Water Supply Report data as of February 1, 2024 (from NRCS):

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/.../montana/montana-snow-survey/water-supply-outlook-reports-montana>

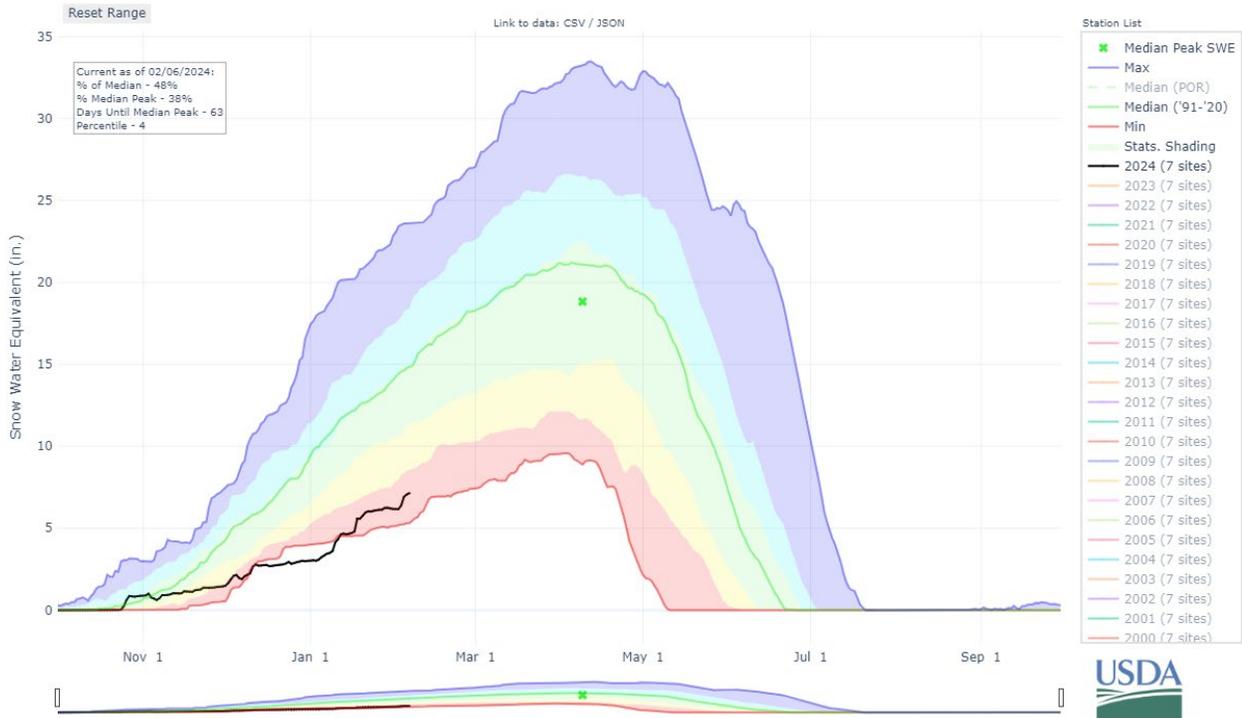
Overview

After record-breaking low snowpack heading into the month of January, hopes for above normal precipitation for the month have not materialized. The Blackfoot watershed received only 70% of its normal precipitation for the month, reflecting much of the rest of the State. Only the northwestern corner of the State received near normal precipitation for the month. Snowpack in the Blackfoot has improved some since last month, but at about 50%, conditions remain well below normal. The vast majority of the Blackfoot is now classified as being in Severe Drought. Across the State, 80% of Montana is classified as being Abnormally Dry to Severe Drought, up from 56% last month.

There are still 2-3 months of snowpack accumulation left this year, but given current deficits, well above normal precipitation is needed all three months to recover by May with normal conditions. Even if the next three months bring average precipitation, snowpack peak will be well below normal. If our snowpack does not recover, above normal spring and summer precipitation could help improve summer streamflows.

The three-month climate outlook is calling for below average precipitation and above average temperatures from February through April. Water supply forecasts should be available next month.

Blackfoot River Basin Snow Water Equivalent



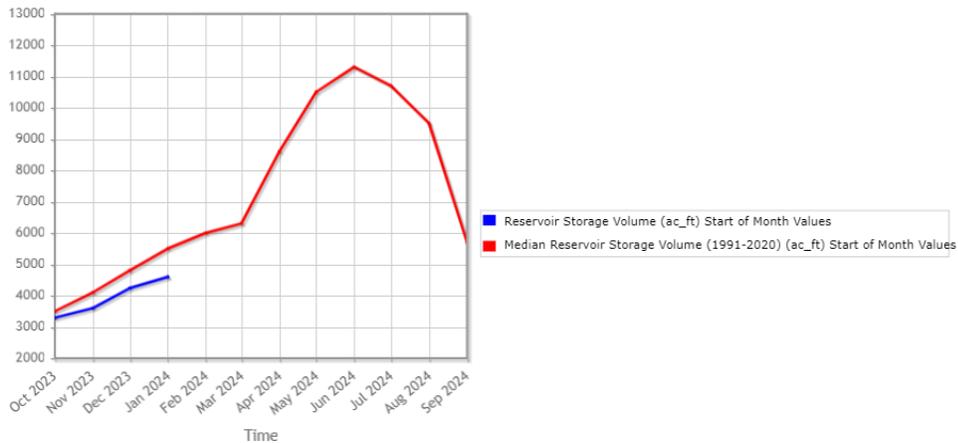
Black line: 2023/2024 Water Year

Green line: 30-year median

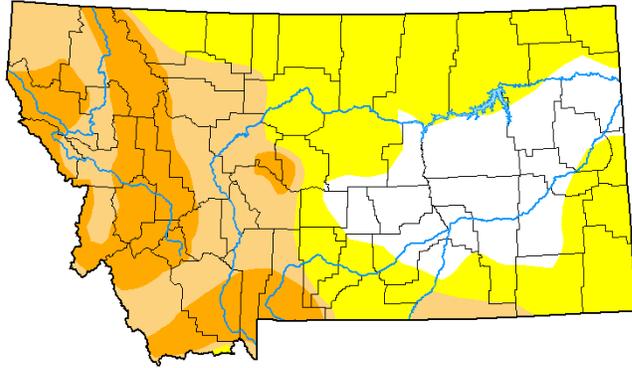
Reservoir Storage

Storage values for Nevada Creek reservoir are currently not available; however, at the beginning of January, the reservoir was reported to be at 84% of medium storage volume.

Nevada Creek Res (12336500) Montana RESERVOIR Site - 4616 ft Reporting Frequency: Monthly; Date Range: Oct 2023 t 2024



Montana Drought Monitor – February 1, 2024

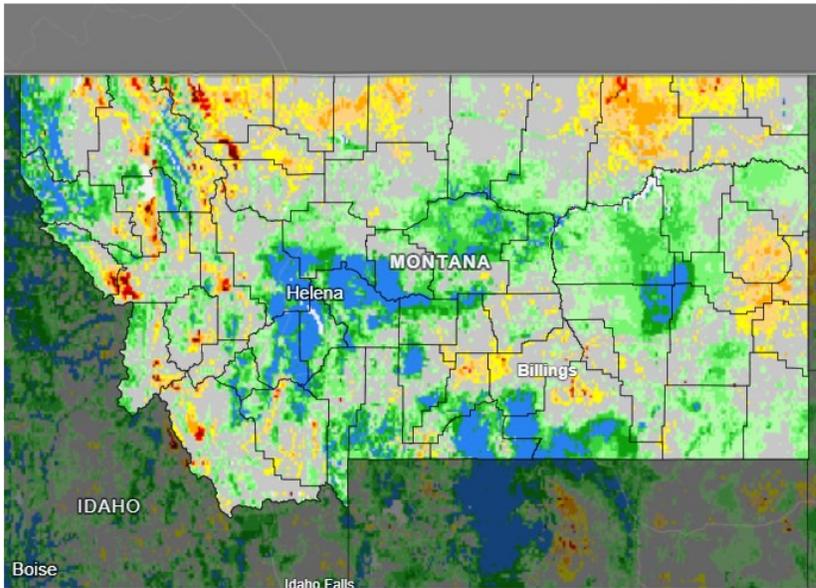


Drought Intensities

- None: No Drought
- D0: Abnormally Dry
- D1: Moderate Drought
- D2: Severe Drought
- D3: Extreme Drought
- D4: Exceptional Drought

Soil Moisture – February 6, 2024

0–100 cm Soil Moisture Percentile



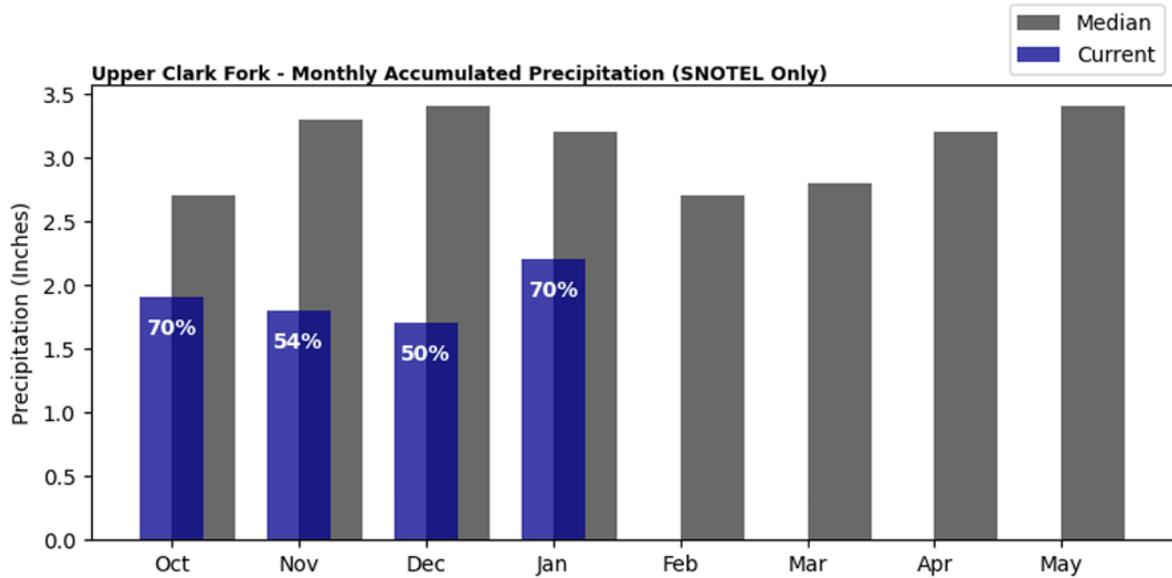
0–100 cm Soil Moisture Percentile



Source(s): NASA
Data Valid: 02/06/24

[Drought.gov](https://drought.gov)

Upper Clark Fork SNOTEL Precipitation: February 1, 2024



February 6, 2024 USGS Real Time Stream Flow Conditions

Nevada Creek above Reservoir

Discharge, cubic feet per second

Most recent instantaneous value: Ice affected

Blackfoot River above Nevada Creek

Discharge, cubic feet per second

Most recent instantaneous value: 133 cfs on 2/6/2024 at 7:45 MST

North Fork Blackfoot

Discharge, cubic feet per second

Most recent instantaneous value: 75.2 cfs on 02/06/2024 at 7:00 MST

Blackfoot River at Bonner

Discharge, cubic feet per second

Most recent instantaneous value: Ice affected

Streamflow Forecast:

Insufficient data exists to forecast streamflow currently. Forecasts will become available beginning in March.

Three-Month Climate Outlook: February 2024

National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center

<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/>

Above normal temperatures for February through April are predicted.

Below normal precipitation is predicted for February through April.

