

Blackfoot Water Supply Report

June 8, 2023

Montana Water Supply Report data as of June 1, 2023 (from NRCS):

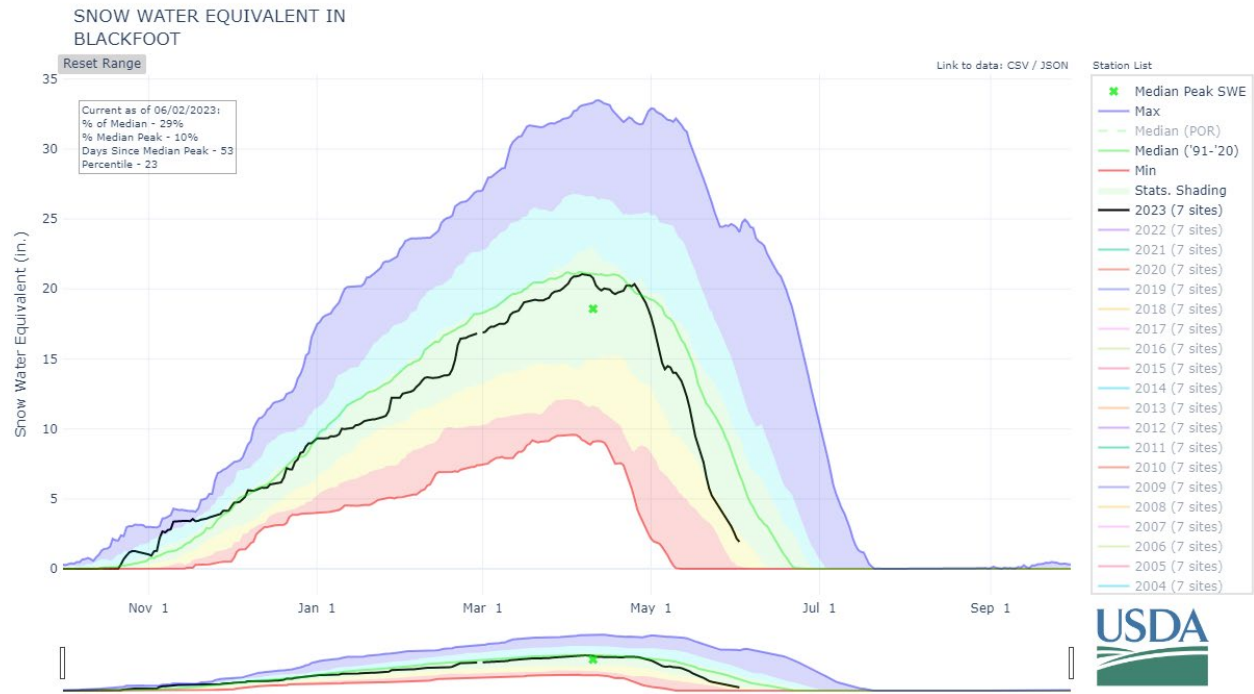
<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/wcc/home/quicklinks/states/montana/waterSupply/>

Overview

The month of May brought an earlier than usual runoff across much of Montana including the Blackfoot. From the beginning of the month to the end, snowpack in the Blackfoot dropped from 82% of normal to just 29% of normal, indicating the early melt off. Overall, we still had a slightly above average snowpack this year, but it came off about 20 days earlier than normal. That resulted in early peak flows on the river as well. At the beginning of May flows were around 250% of normal. Flows peaked at 10,400 cfs on May 7th this year, again around 20 days earlier than typical. By the beginning of June, the river has dropped to around 3,000 cfs, about 55% of normal for this time of year.

The early runoff has resulted in decreased streamflow predictions for the basin. Last month the predictions still called for above average streamflow around 120% of normal. By June, the forecast has dropped to 75% of normal for the Blackfoot River. Typically, precipitation accumulation during the month of June is the second highest behind the month of December for the Blackfoot basin. Good precipitation through this month will be necessary to sustain normal streamflows into the summer. The one-month weather outlook calls for above average temperatures and above average precipitation. The three-month outlook calls for above average temperatures and average precipitation.

Blackfoot River Basin Snow Water Equivalent



Black line: 2022/2023 Water Year

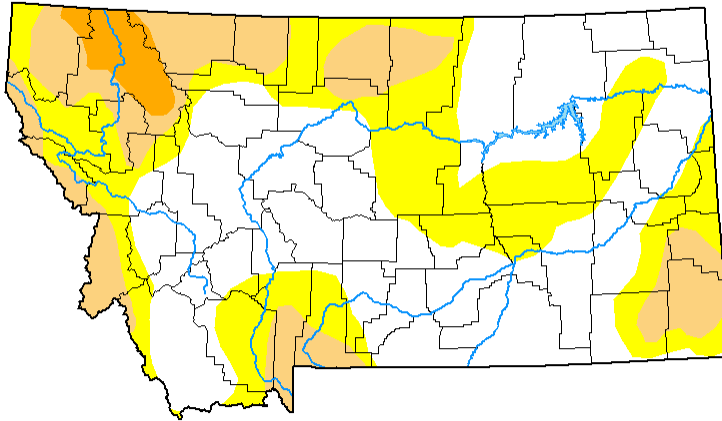
Green line: 30-year median

Reservoir Storage

Reservoir storage in the basin is currently good. Nevada Creek Reservoir is reporting 99% of normal which is significantly better than it was last year at this time at 80%.

Upper Clark Fork	Current (KAF)	Last Year (KAF)	Median (KAF)	Capacity (KAF)	Current % Capacity	Last Year % Capacity	Median % Capacity	Current % Median	Last Year % Median
Georgetown Lake	31.0	29.4	29.7	31.0	100%	95%	96%	104%	99%
Nevada Creek Res	11.1	9.1	11.3	12.6	88%	72%	90%	99%	80%
Lower Willow Creek Reservoir				4.9					
Silver Lake									
East Fork Rock Creek Res	14.4	10.2	12.4	16.0	90%	63%	77%	116%	82%
Basin Index					95%	82%	90%	106%	91%
# of reservoirs					3	3	3	3	3

Montana Drought Monitor – June 1, 2023

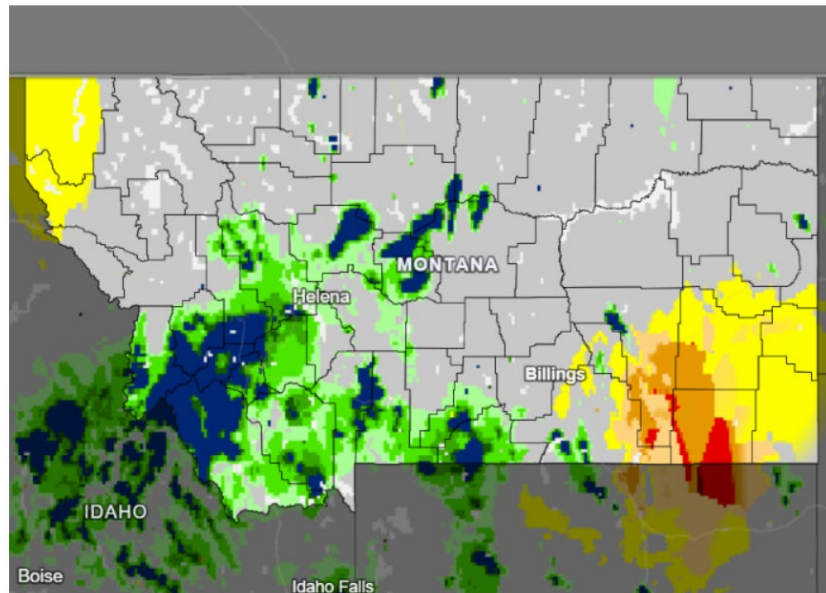


Drought Intensities

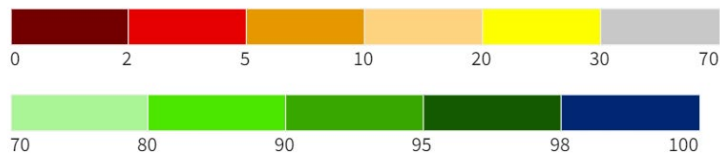
- None: No Drought
- D0: Abnormally Dry
- D1: Moderate Drought
- D2: Severe Drought
- D3: Extreme Drought
- D4: Exceptional Drought

Soil Moisture – June 5, 2023

20 cm Soil Moisture Percentile



20 cm Soil Moisture Percentile

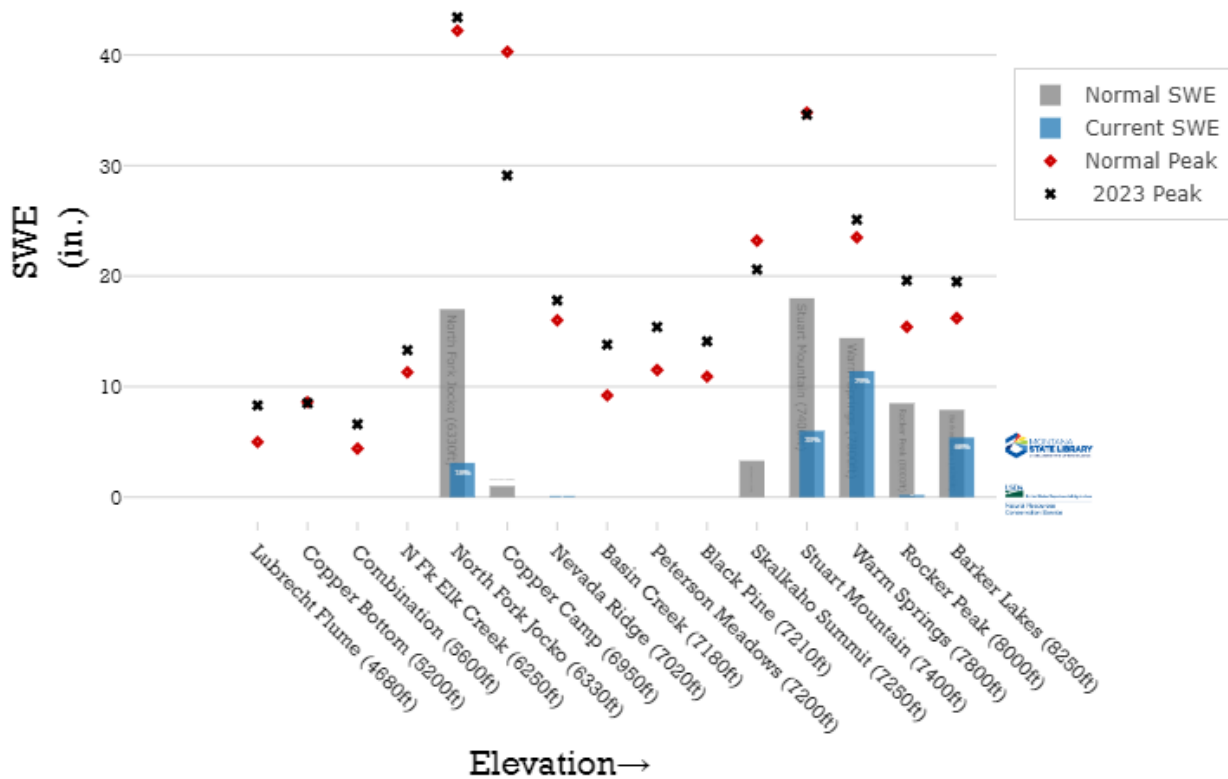


Source(s): NationalSoilMoisture.com
Data Valid: 06/05/23

Drought.gov

Montana SNOTEL Snow Water Equivalent (SWE): June 5, 2023

**UpperClark
Snow Water Equivalent
2023-06-05**



June 5, 2023 USGS Real Time Stream Flow Conditions

Nevada Creek above Reservoir

Discharge, cubic feet per second

Most recent instantaneous value: 59.5 on 6/5/23 at 7:45 MST

Blackfoot River above Nevada Creek

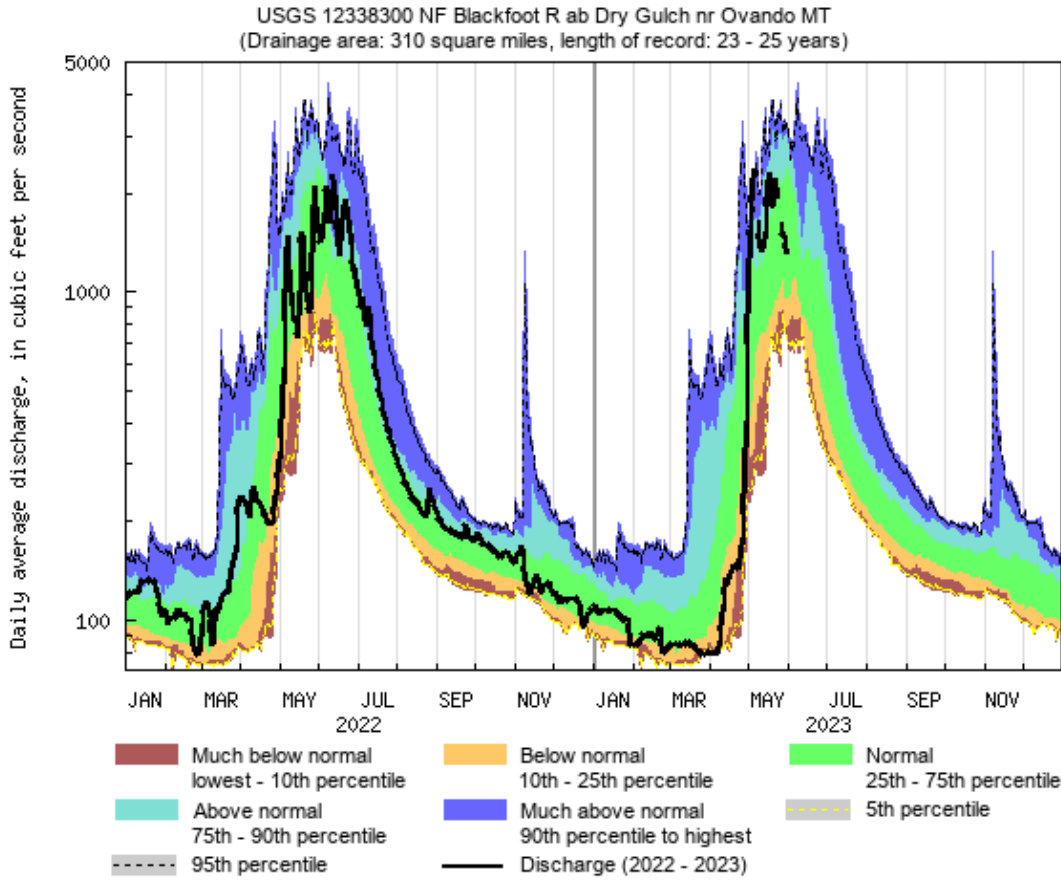
Discharge, cubic feet per second

Most recent instantaneous value: 894 on 6/5/2023 at 7:45 MST

North Fork Blackfoot

Discharge, cubic feet per second

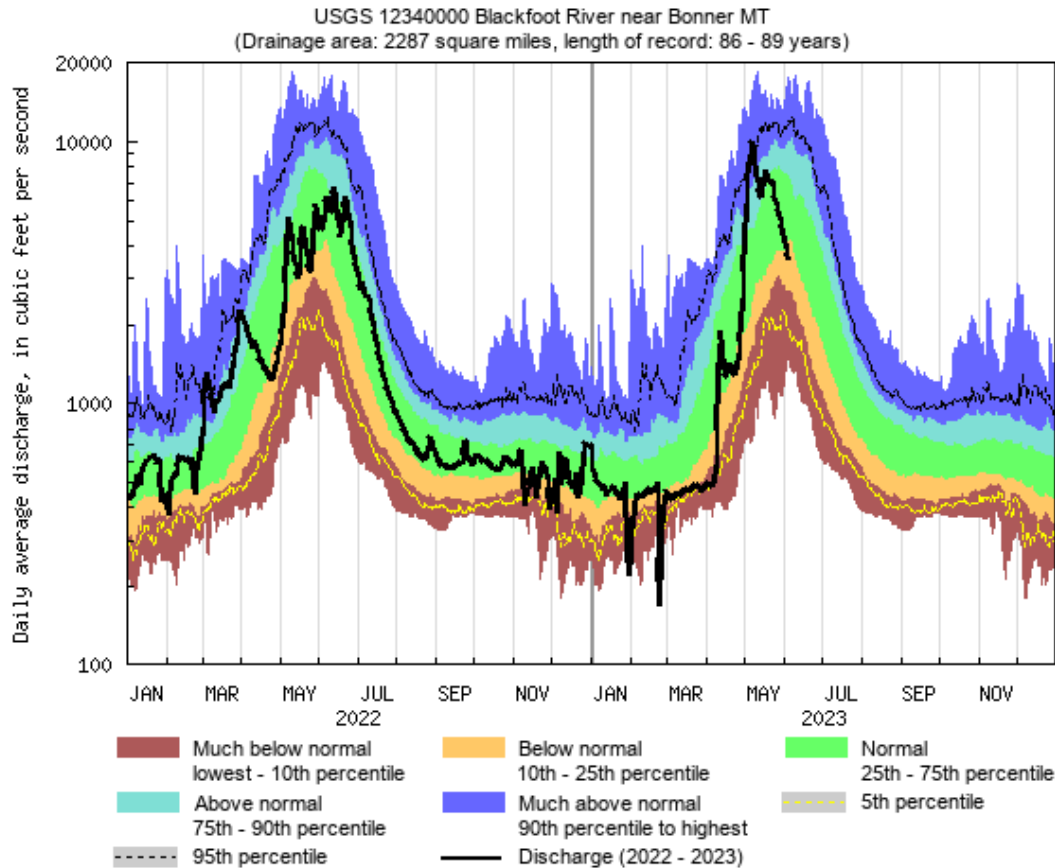
Most recent instantaneous value: no current reading due to equipment malfunction



Last updated: 2023-06-05

Blackfoot River at Bonner Discharge, cubic feet per second

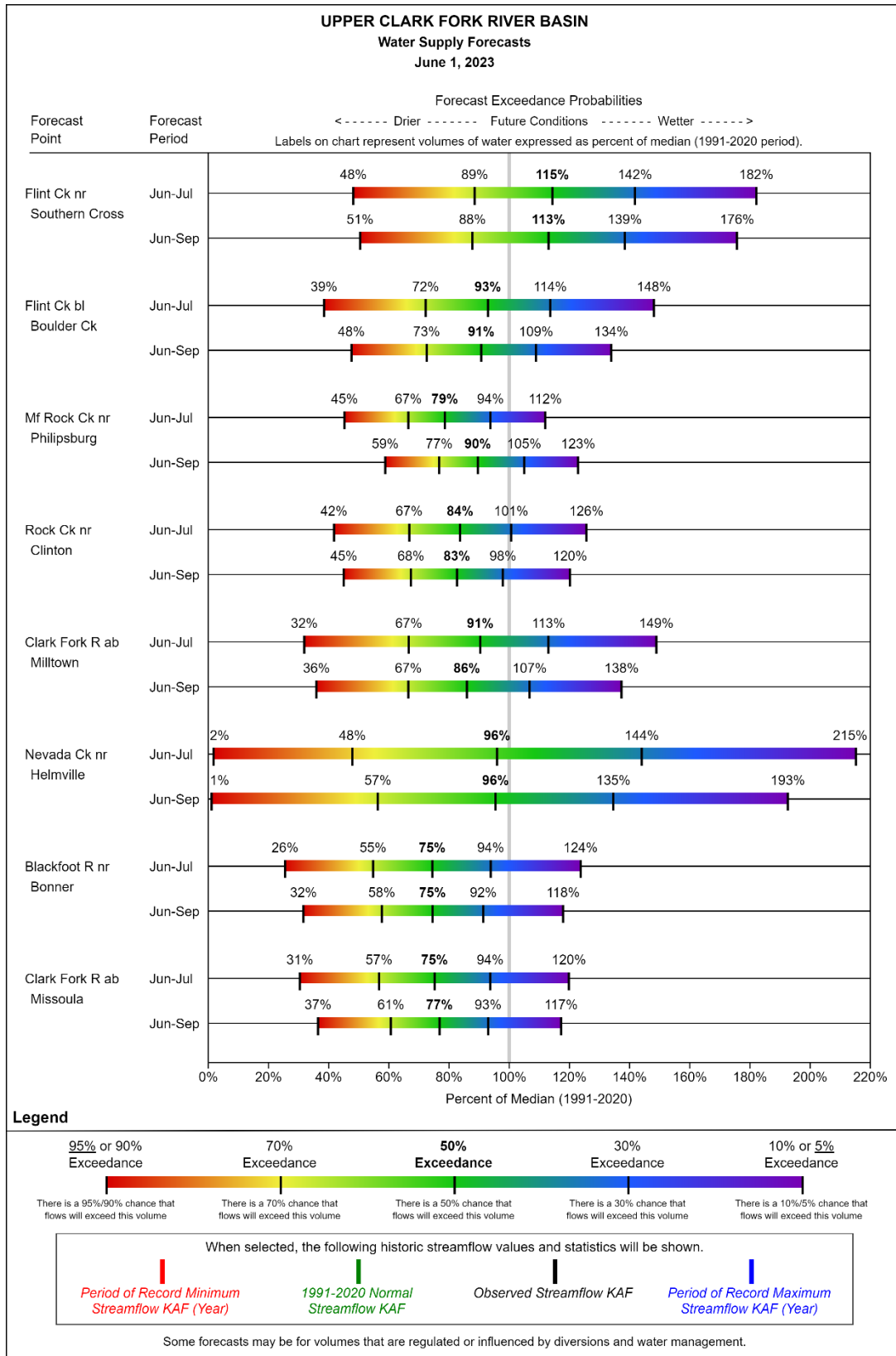
Most recent instantaneous value: 3,340 on 6/5/2023 at 7:45 MST



USGS WaterWatch

Last updated: 2023-06-05

Streamflow Forecast: June 2023



Three-Month Outlook: June 2023

From
National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center

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

Above normal temperatures for June through August are predicted.

Normal precipitation predicted for June through August.

