

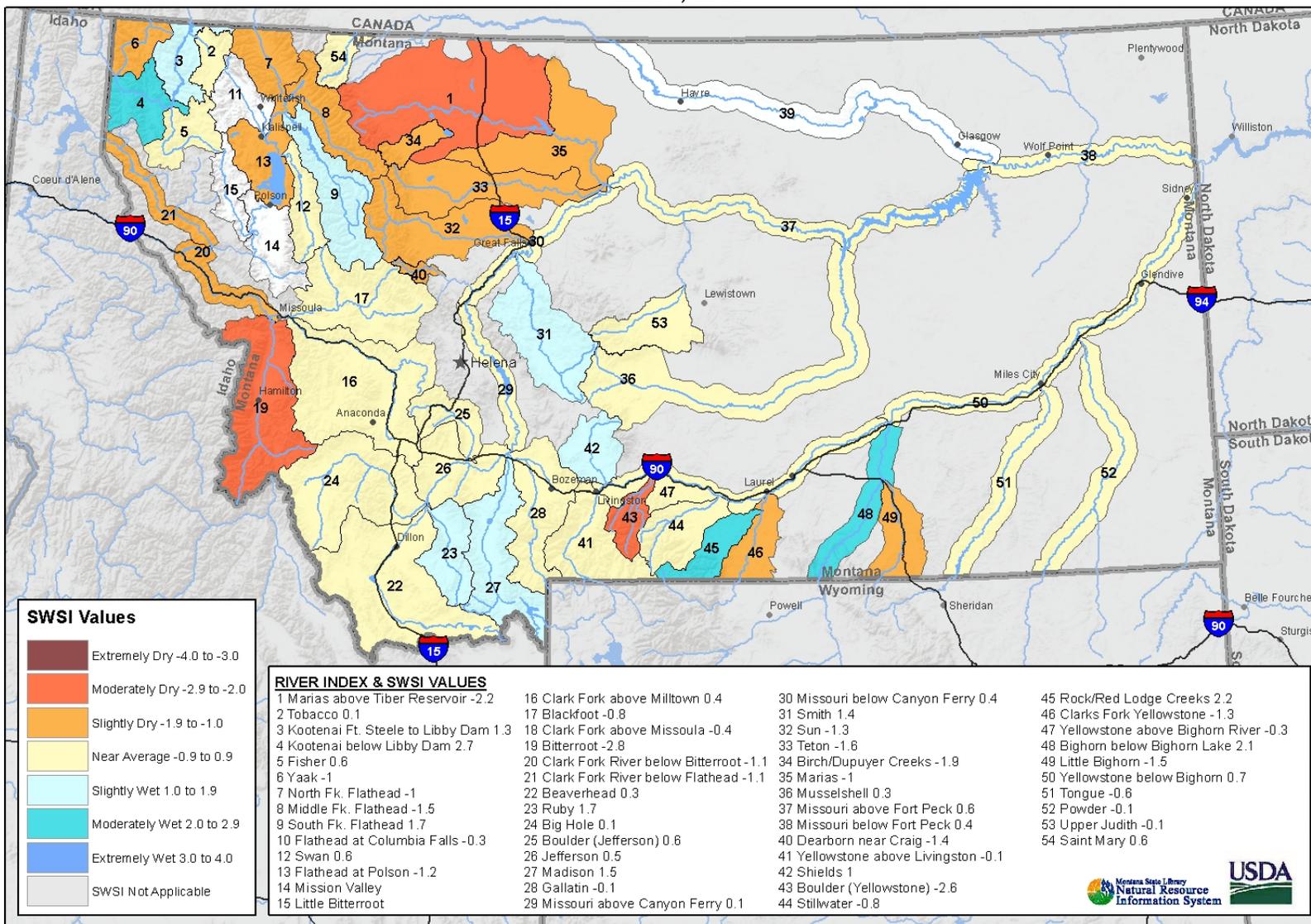
# OBSERVED IMPACTS: MONTANA

JUNE – JULY 2016



# JUNE 2016

Montana Data Collection Office  
 Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI)  
 June 1, 2016



Note: Data used to generate this map are PROVISIONAL and SUBJECT TO CHANGE



JUNE 2016

### Montana Water Supply and Moisture Status by County - June 2016



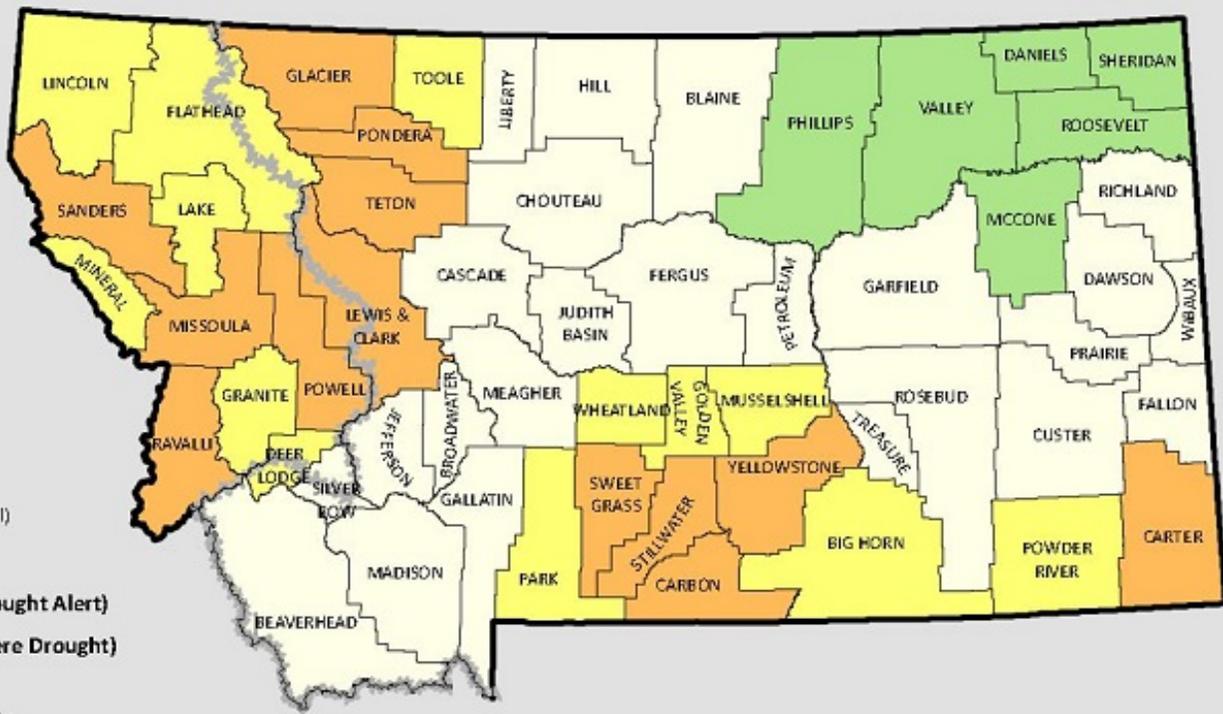
<http://drought.mt.gov>

#### Map Key

Continental Divide

#### Moisture Status

- Extremely Moist
- Moderately Moist
- Slightly Moist
- Near Average (Normal)
- Slightly Dry
- Moderately Dry (**Drought Alert**)
- Extremely Dry (**Severe Drought**)



**Drought Alert** - Governor's Drought Advisory Committee strongly encourages local officials to convene local drought committees.

**Severe Drought** - Local officials should have local drought planning efforts underway or should reconvene the local drought committee at the earliest opportunity. For recommended responses, see the Montana Drought Plan

Map created June 30, 2016

This map was created using the US Drought Monitor and the monthly NRCS Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) as a guide. In general, a county was assigned a Moisture Status based on the highest drought category intersecting any part of the county. The map was then compared to the monthly SWSI, PRISM, and other precipitation products. The Montana Governor's Drought and Water Supply Advisory Committee, made up of experts from the National Weather Service, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, the Farm Service Agency, United States Department of Agriculture, the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, the Montana State Library, and the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, reviewed the map.

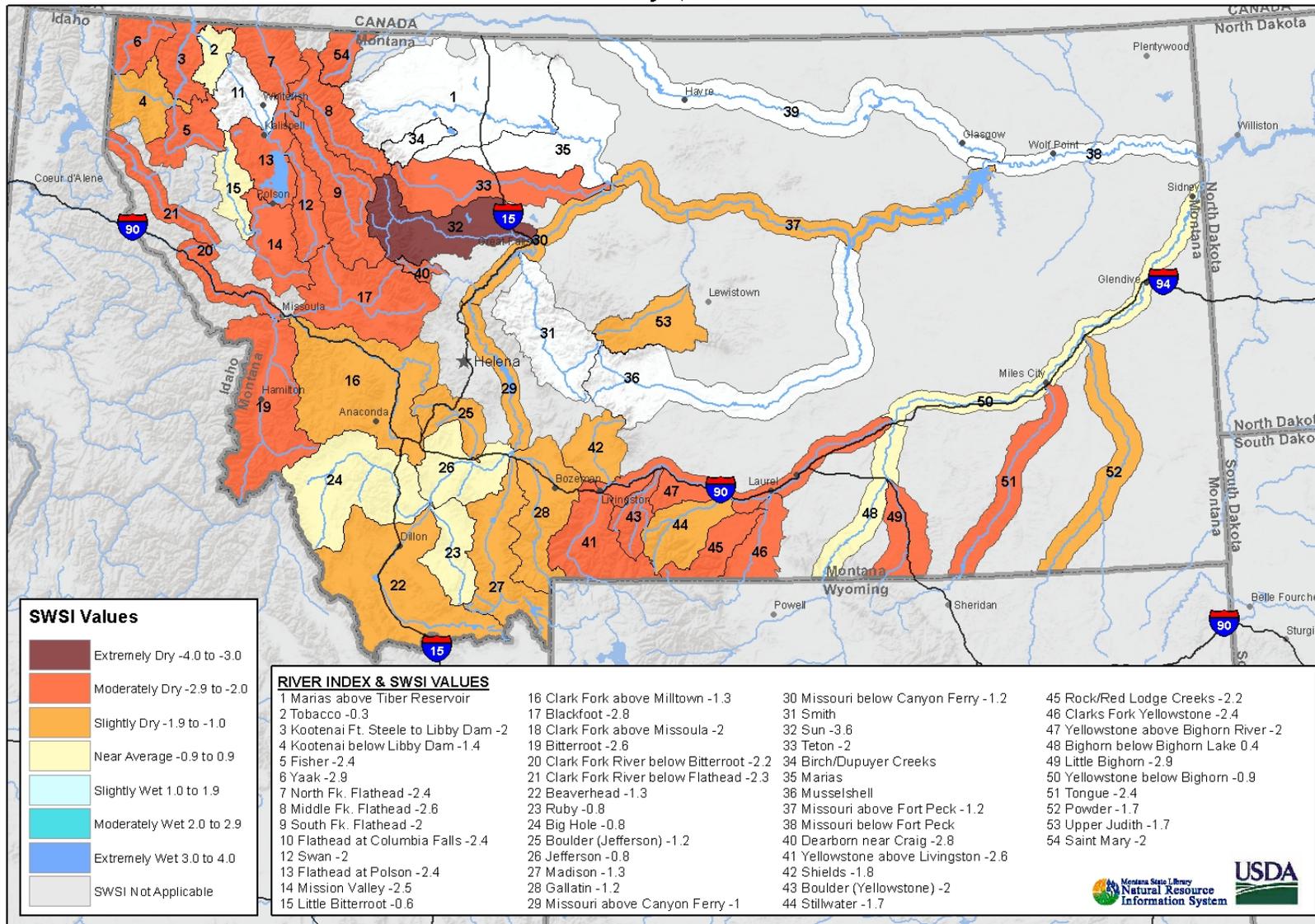


<http://nris.mt.gov/drought>



# JULY 2016

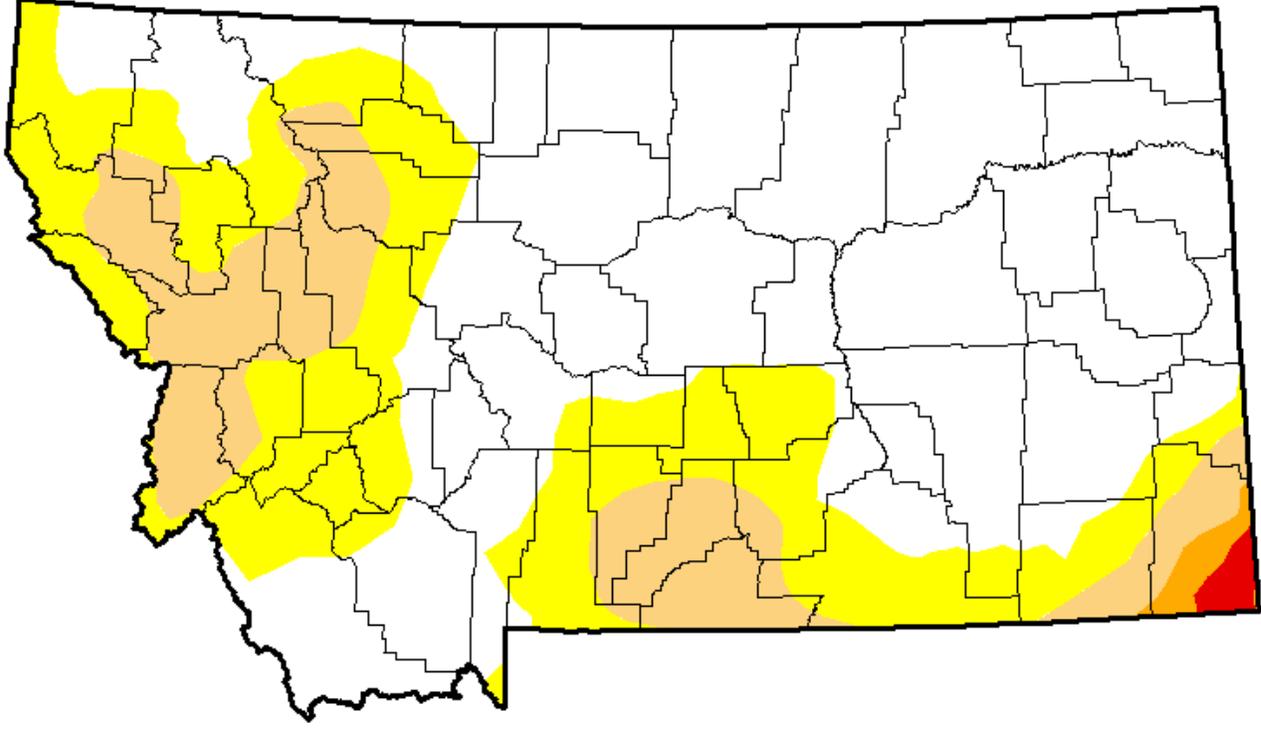
Montana Data Collection Office  
Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI)  
July 1, 2016



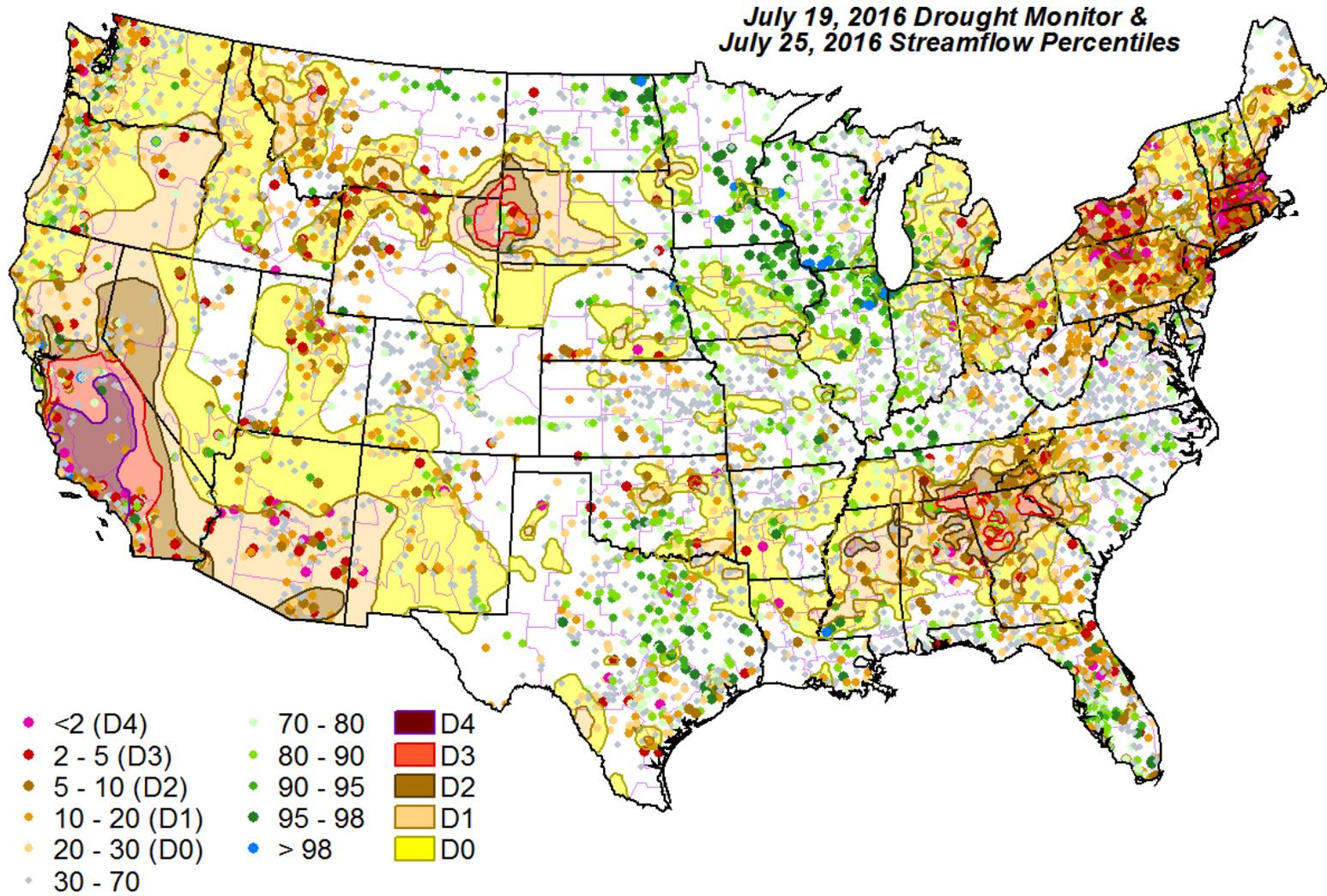
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# ANTICIPATED IMPACTS



# ANTICIPATED IMPACTS



# MITIGATION ACTIVITY

- The Lt. Governor declared a “Drought Alert” in 9 counties, urging county commissioners to work with FSA CEDs to document any crop loss, and to coordinate with DES on any necessary emergency preparedness.
- Newsletters to each planning basin were created to provide more locally oriented water supply information ([drought.mt.gov](http://drought.mt.gov)).
- Montana will host 4 Community Drought Forums in August and September to kick off its Drought Response Plan update process.



# MITIGATION ACTIVITY

- The NDRP program continues to move forward in the Upper Missouri thanks to additional funding from the BOR. This process will be critical to the update of the state's response plan by hopefully providing a "template" for building local drought resiliency.

## Montana

### **Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Building Drought Resilience in the Missouri River Headwaters in Montana**

**Reclamation Funding: \$200,000**

**Total Project Cost: \$400,000**

The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation will develop nine watershed drought resilience plans for each tributary of the Missouri River headwaters basin in southwestern Montana. The core elements and data of each individual watershed plan will then be incorporated into a regional Headwaters Basin Drought Resilience Plan that considers downstream effects and evaluates impacts at the regional scale. The Missouri headwaters basin covers 14,700 square miles and is at risk from frequent drought and the changes in the timing of run-off, which will occur earlier in the year as a result of climate change. The State of Montana will partner with the National Drought Resilience Partnership, a consortium of federal agencies working to build long-term drought resilience, as well as state and local stakeholders to conduct these planning efforts.

