



# Wyoming Drought Information



**Big Sandy River near Farson—April 28, 2003** (Photo: P. Spatz, USGS.)

**July 25, 2007**

## **...Extreme hydrologic drought conditions expand over the Upper Green and Snake River Basins...**

**...June inflows into Pathfinder, Buffalo Bill, and Boysen Reservoirs were 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest in 30 years ...**

### **.Synopsis...**

Except for early June precipitation across Wyoming, much of Wyoming continued to be under moderate to extreme hydrologic drought. The early June rainfall did little to alleviate serious precipitation deficits that exist over many parts of western and central Wyoming. By the end of June, Lander had recorded only 42 percent normal precipitation for the calendar year. Riverton was close behind with only 57 of normal for the calendar year.

Lack of June rainfall expanded the extreme hydrologic category over the Upper Green and Snake River Basins. Moderate to severe drought continues continued for many drainage basins

Depletion of the mid high-altitude snowpack in almost all areas across Wyoming has occurred 3 to 4 weeks earlier than normal. As a result, peak flows across Wyoming have occurred 3 to 4 weeks earlier than normal.

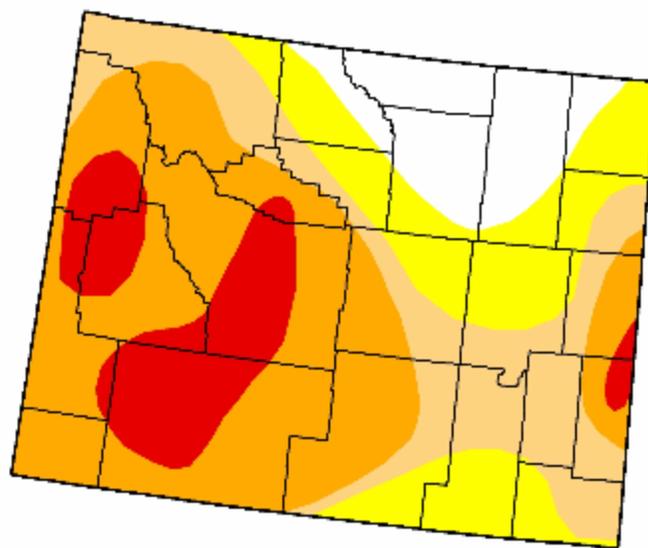
The true measure of drought conditions in Wyoming is the amount of water that runs off into streams and lakes from the mountain snowpack. The most notable fact during this year's runoff is that the inflows for major reservoirs like Boysen, Buffalo Bill, and Pathfinder was the 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest in 30 years. Also, many streams across western and central Wyoming have been running at the lowest percentiles for several weeks.

# U.S. Drought Monitor

## Wyoming

July 17, 2007  
Valid 7 a.m. EST

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	11.8	88.2	69.0	49.3	13.6	0.0
Last Week (07/10/2007 map)	16.6	83.4	63.3	48.0	12.7	0.0
3 Months Ago (04/24/2007 map)	0.0	100.0	90.3	53.0	10.2	0.0
Start of Calendar Year (01/02/2007 map)	1.6	98.4	92.1	71.5	40.9	0.0
Start of Water Year (10/03/2006 map)	0.3	99.7	97.2	69.0	50.0	0.0
One Year Ago (07/18/2006 map)	10.2	89.8	79.1	44.1	7.1	0.0



Intensity:



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements

<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>



Released Thursday, July 19, 2007  
Author: Brad Rippey, U.S. Department of Agriculture

### .Local area affected...

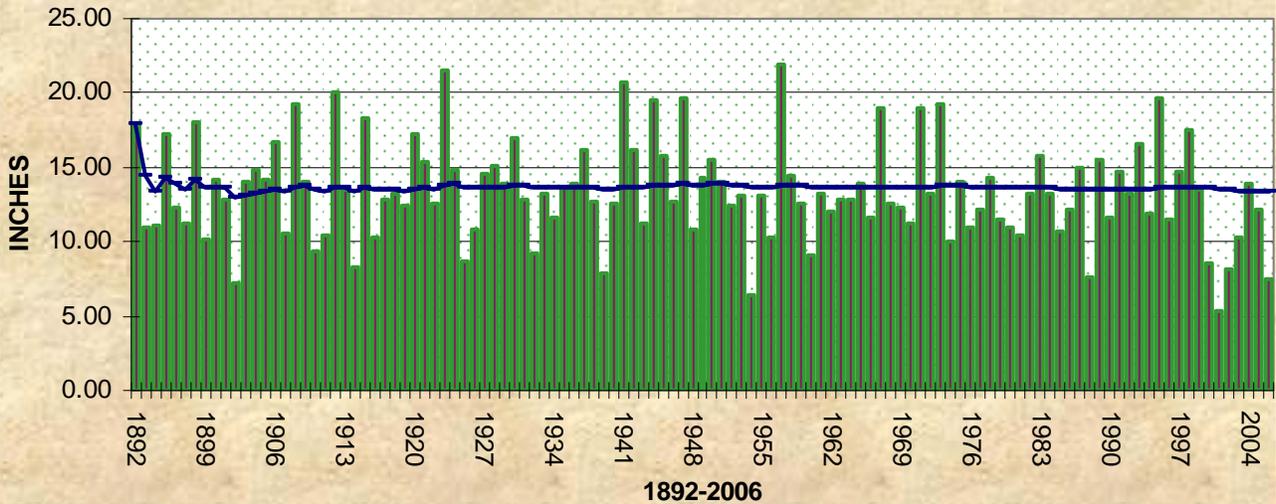
All major river basins and counties in western and central Wyoming as well as extreme eastern Wyoming.

### .Climate Summary...

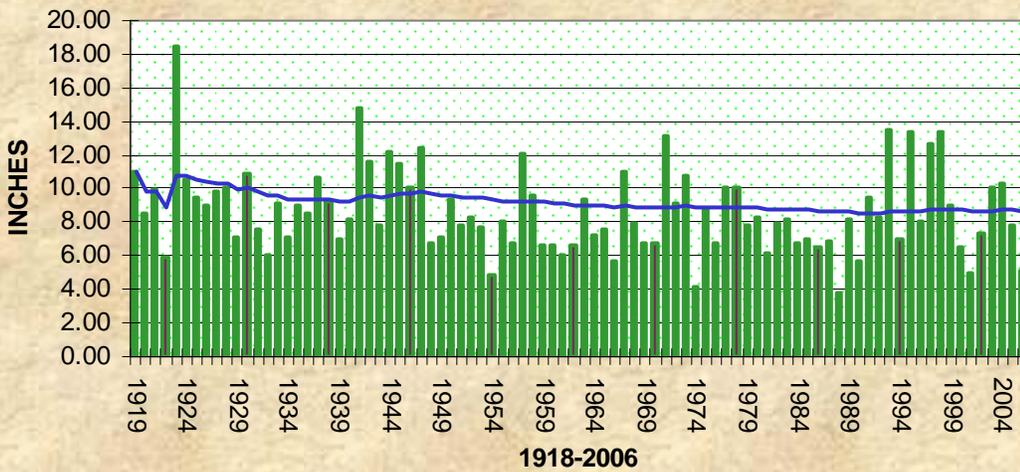
#### >>Long Range Precipitation Trends...

Lander's precipitation records go back to 1892—Riverton's precipitation records go back to 1919—and Casper's precipitation records go back to 1940.

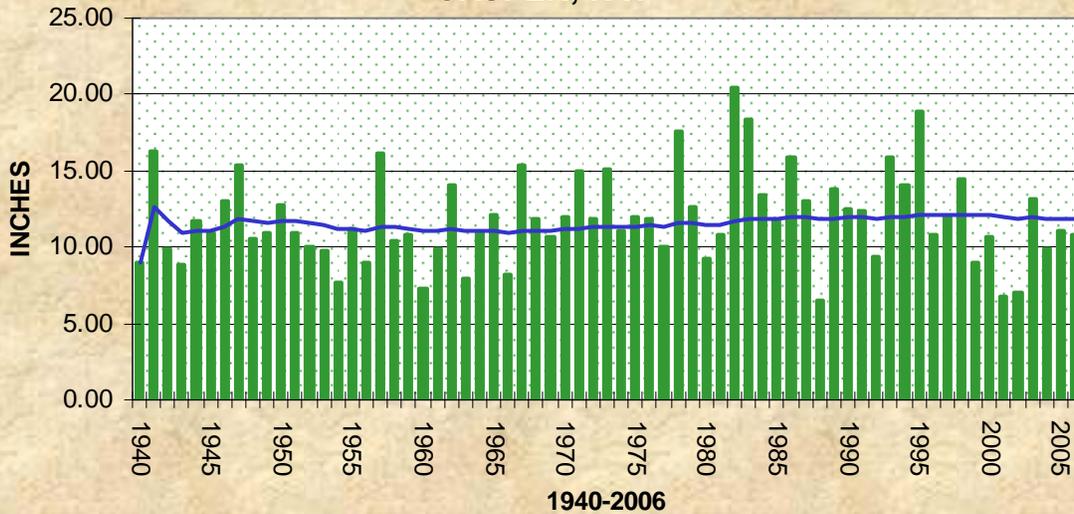
### ANNUAL PRECIPITATION AT HUNT FIELD LANDER, WY.



### ANNUAL PRECIPITATION RIVERTON, WY.



### ANNUAL PRECIPITATION CASPER, WY.



## >>Current Precipitation Trends...

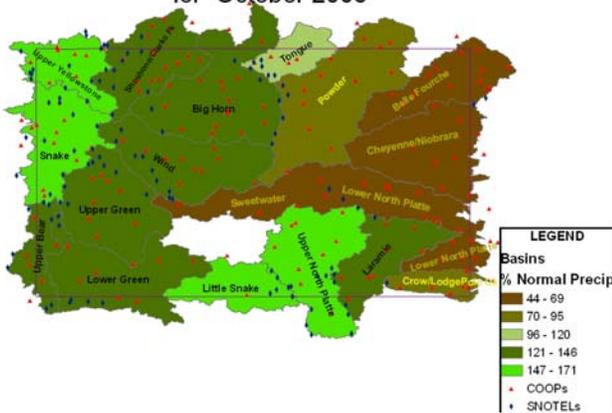
### Calendar Year

	JAN - JUN PRECIP	AVERAGE	% AVERAGE
SHERIDAN	9.84	8.62	114
CHEYENNE	5.41	8.09	67
DOUGLAS	6.59	6.08	108
LARAMIE	3.78	5.69	66
RAWLINS	2.81	5.21	53
CASPER	6.09	7.45	82
LANDER	5.30	7.93	42
RIVERTON	2.86	4.97	57

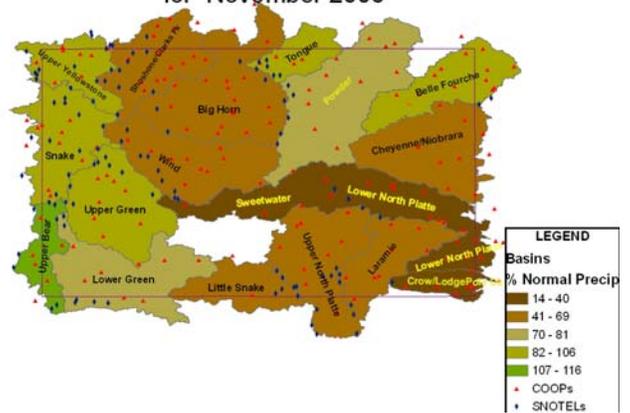
### Water Year (Last 7 Months)



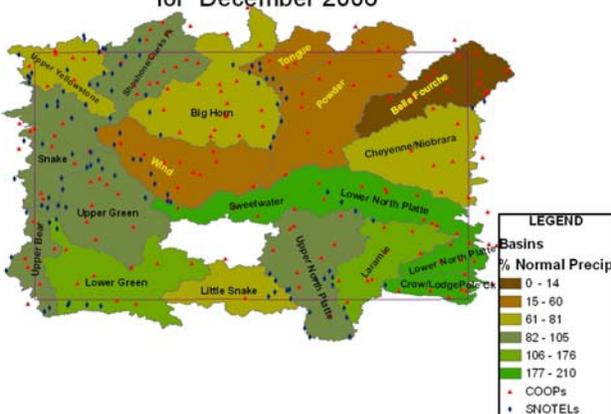
Percent of Normal Precipitation  
by Basin  
for October 2006



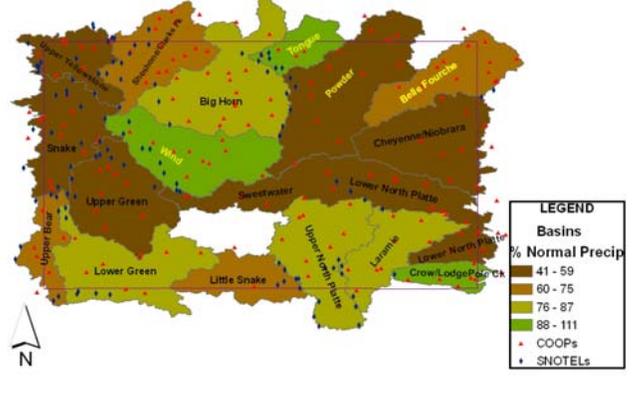
Percent of Normal Precipitation  
by Basin  
for November 2006



Percent of Normal Precipitation  
by Basin  
for December 2006

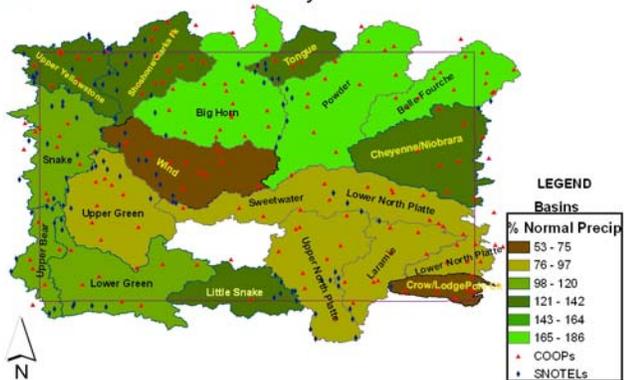


Percent of Normal Precipitation  
by Basin  
for January 2007

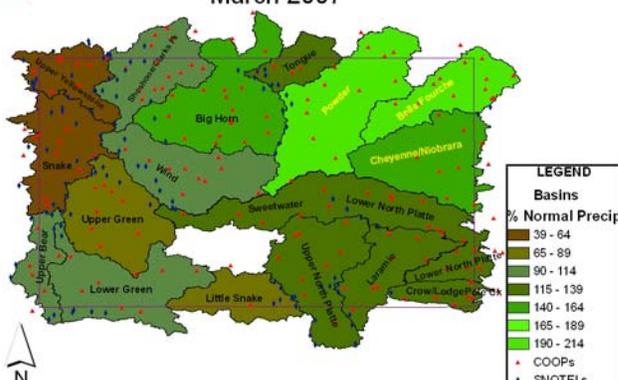




Percent of Normal Precipitation  
by Basin  
for February 2007



Percent of Normal Precipitation  
by Basin  
March 2007



Percent of Normal Precipitation  
by Basin  
April 2007



Percent of Normal Precipitation  
by Basin  
for May 2007



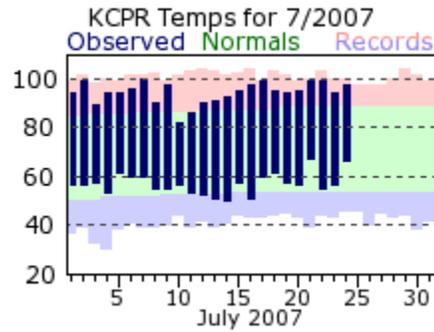
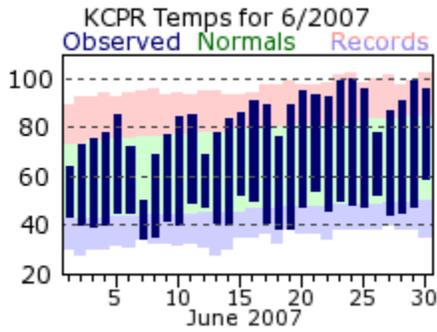
Percent of Normal Precipitation  
by Basin  
for June 2007



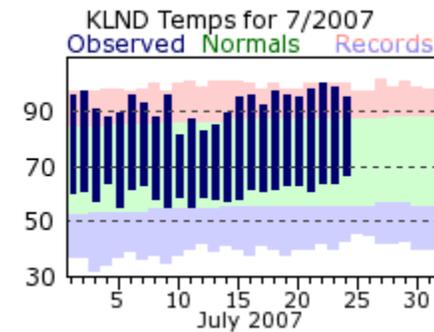
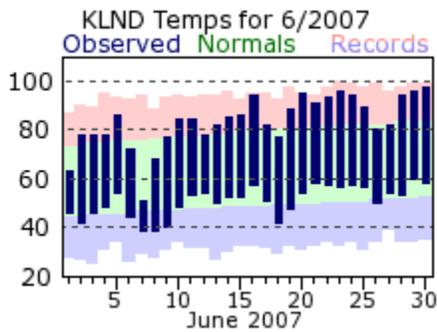
## >>Temperature Trends...

Near normal for first 3 weeks of June--than above average rest of June and into the middle of July.

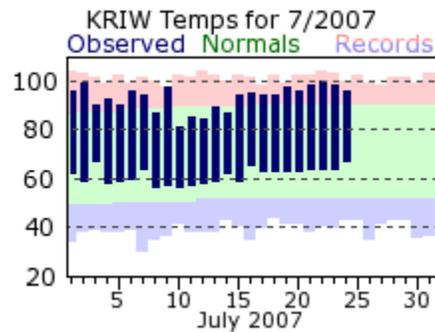
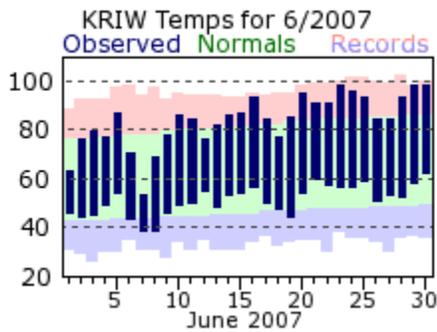
### Casper



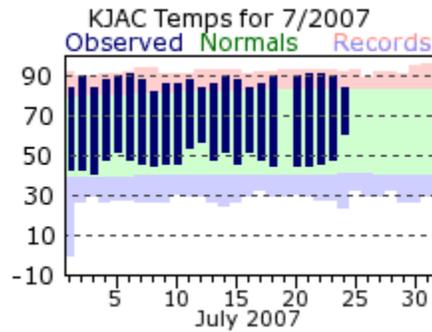
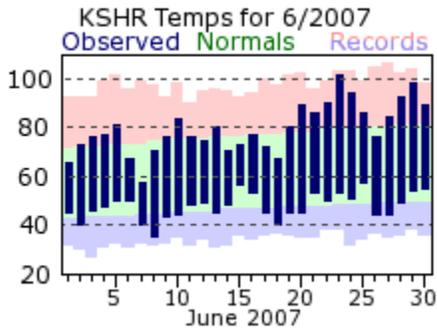
### Lander



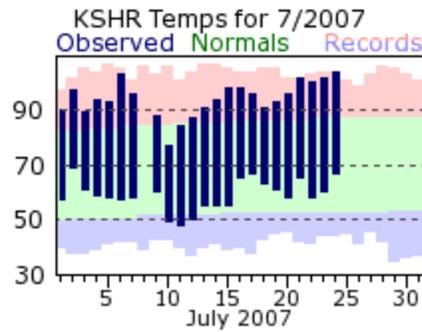
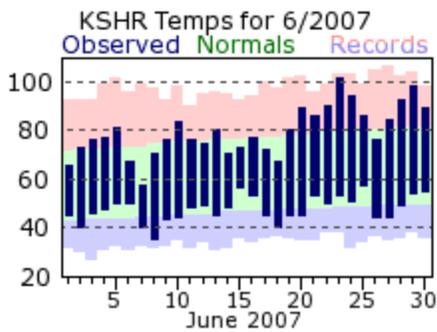
### Riverton



## Jackson



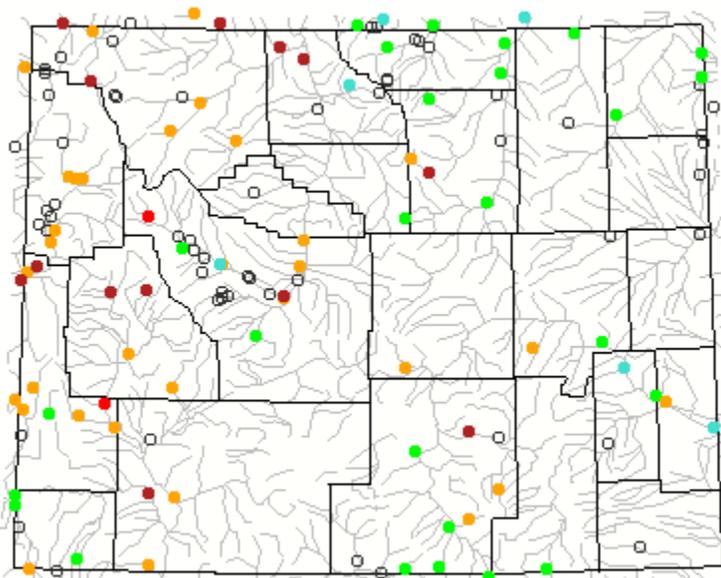
## Sheridan



## .River and Streamflow Conditions...

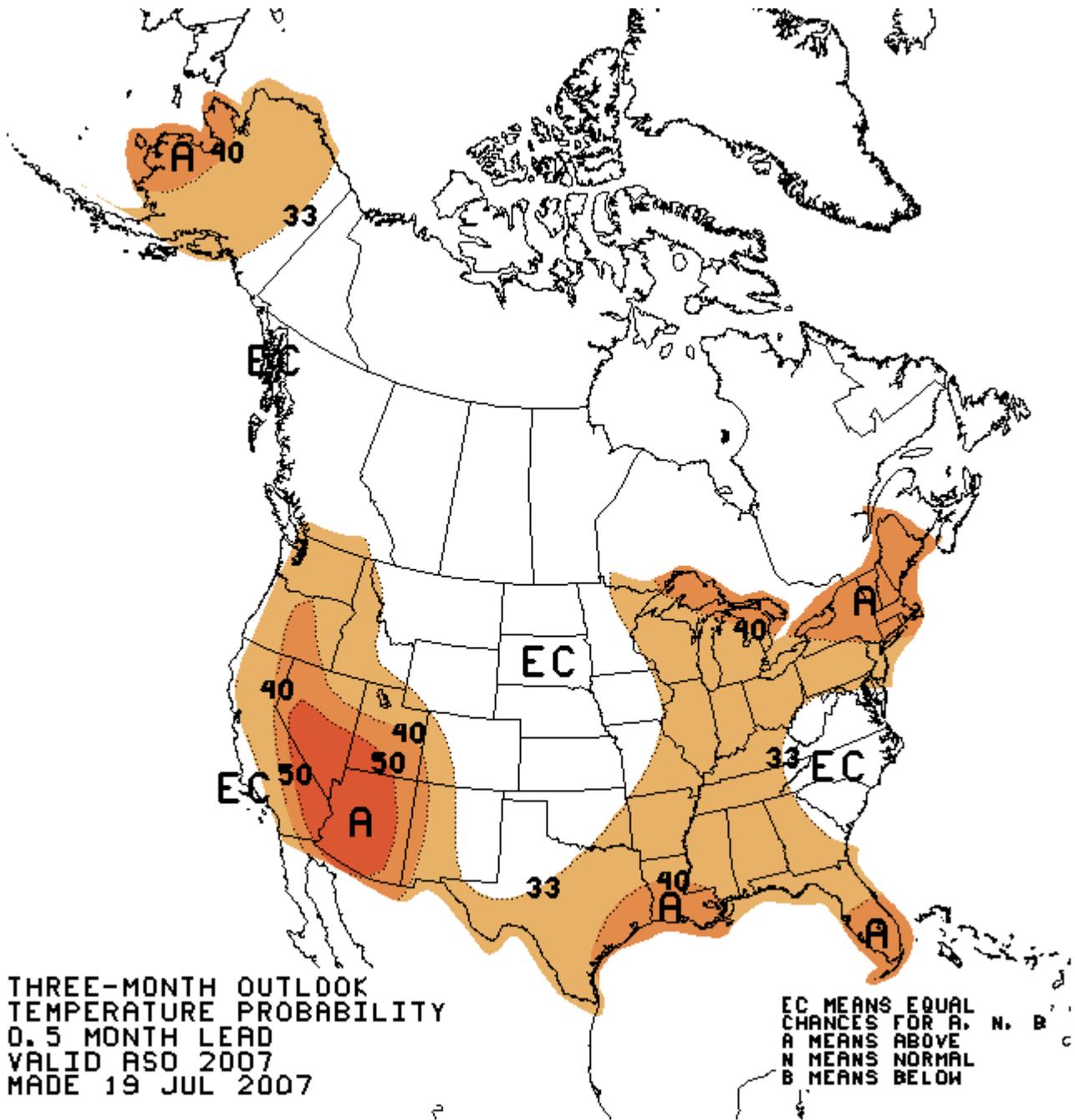
Streams and rivers across western and central Wyoming have been flowing at below normal levels for the past 3-4 weeks. Near normal flows have been occurring in eastern Wyoming.

Wednesday, July 25, 2007 15:06ET

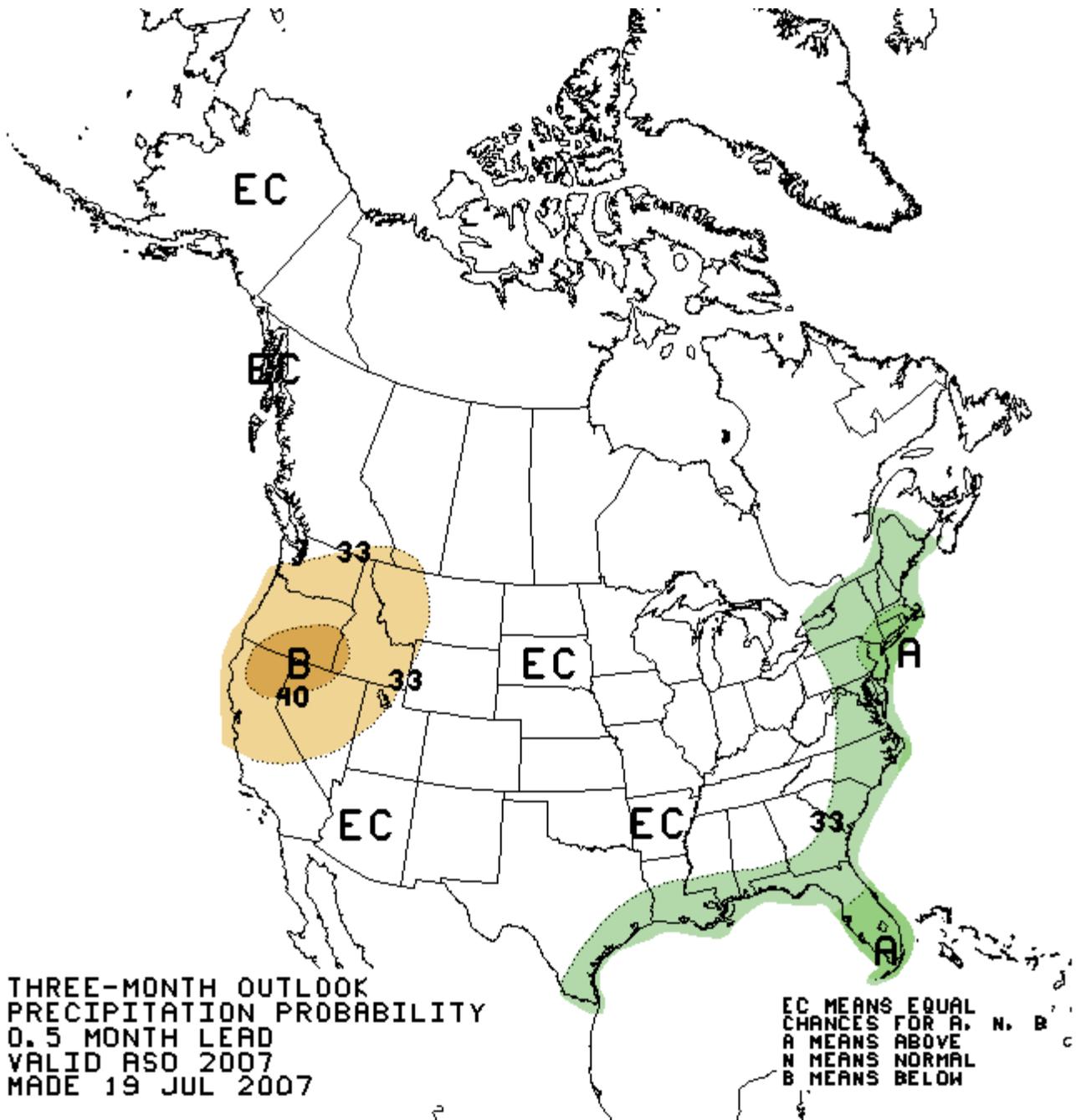


## .Precipitation/Temperature Outlook...

The 90-day outlook (August-October) indicates that there is a 50 percent chance for either warmer or colder than normal temperatures for Wyoming.



During August-October, Wyoming is expected to have equal chances (50% either side) of a wetter or a drier than normal precipitation scenario throughout the period.



## **.Questions or comments...**

If you have any questions or comments about this drought information, please contact:

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## **.Related web sites...**

Wyoming Drought Site...  
[www.wrds.uwyo.edu/wrds/wsc/dtf](http://www.wrds.uwyo.edu/wrds/wsc/dtf)

USGS Wyoming Drought Watch...  
[www.wy.water.usgs.gov/projects/drought](http://www.wy.water.usgs.gov/projects/drought)

U.S. Drought Monitor...  
[www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html](http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html)

NOAA Drought Page...  
[www.drought.noaa.gov](http://www.drought.noaa.gov)

Western Regional Climate Center...  
[www.wrcc.dri.edu](http://www.wrcc.dri.edu)

NOAA/NWS Climate Page...  
[www.weather.gov/climate/index/php?wfo=riw](http://www.weather.gov/climate/index/php?wfo=riw)

Wyoming River Information...  
NWS - [www.crh.noaa.gov/ahps2/index.php?wfo=riw](http://www.crh.noaa.gov/ahps2/index.php?wfo=riw)/(or cys/unr)  
<http://ahps2.wrh.noaa.gov/ahps2/index.php?wfo=slc>/(or byz)

USGS - [www.waterdata.usgs.gov/wy/nwis/rt](http://www.waterdata.usgs.gov/wy/nwis/rt)

NRCS Snow Survey/Snowpack Information...  
[www.wrds.uwyo.edu/wrds/nrcs](http://www.wrds.uwyo.edu/wrds/nrcs)

Climate Prediction Center...  
[www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov)

## **.Acknowledgements...**

This Drought Informational Statement is a multi-agency effort involving NOAA's National Weather Service and the National Climatic Center, the NRCS, Wyoming State Climatologist's Office, regional center climatologists, and the National Drought Mitigation Center. Information for this statement has been gathered from the NWS and FAA observation sites...state cooperative services...the NRCS...and the USGS.

## **.Next issuance...**

This product will be updated by the **20<sup>th</sup> of August.**