



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Manti-La Sal
National Forest

Moab/Monticello Ranger District
62 East 100 North
P.O. Box 386
Moab, UT 84532
Phone # (435) 259-7155
Fax # (435) 259-7737

File Code: 2210/2230

Date: June 27, 2013

Paul D. Redd
c/o Steven Redd
P.O. Box 624
Monticello, Utah 84535

**CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN
RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Dear Mr. Redd:

This letter will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the South Paradox, North Paradox and Deep Creek C&H Allotments for the 2013 grazing season. This AOI is made part of your Term Grazing Permit consistent with Part 1, item 3 and Part 2, item 8(a). A failure to follow these instructions is a violation of your permit. The AOI complies with the standards and guidelines found in the Forest Plan. **Please read your instructions thoroughly.**

AUTHORIZED USE FOR 2013

Allotment	Numbers	Kind	Class	Season	Permittee	Non-use	
						Resource protection	Personal convenience
South Paradox (Hop Creek and Two Mile Divisions)	135-510*	Cattle	Cow/Calf	Between 06/28 and 10/31	Paul D. Redd		
South Paradox (Pine Ridge Division)	16**	Cattle	Cow/Calf	11/01 to 06/10	Paul D. Redd		
North Paradox	301	Cattle	Cow/Calf	Between 10/10 to 11/10	Paul D. Redd		
Deep Creek	23	Cattle	Cow/Calf	08/10 to 9/14	Paul D. Redd		

*Variable numbers and season permit, grazing schedule below will give numbers and dates grazed in more detail.

**Grazed in conjunction with adjacent BLM lands in the spring and fall equivalent to 16 c/c for a season from Nov 1 to June 10.

GRAZING SYSTEM AND SCHEDULE

South Paradox:

Pasture	Number	Kind	Approximate Dates
Hop Creek Unit	510	Cattle	10/10 – 10/31
Paradox Creek Unit	REST		



Hang Dog Unit	135	Cattle	06/28 – 07/28
Two Mile Unit	235	Cattle	07/08 – 07/28
Pine Ridge	16	Cattle	Between 11/01 and 06/10

North Paradox*:

Pasture	Number	Kind	Approximate Dates
Buckeye Unit	301	Cattle	10/10 – 10/30
Dry Point	301	Cattle	10/10 – 10/30
Roc Creek Unit	301	Cattle	Trail through 10/10 – 10/15
East Carpenter Unit	301	Cattle	Trail through 10/30 – 11/10
West Carpenter Unit	301	Cattle	Trail through 10/30 – 11/10

*North Paradox is being trailed through to exit State and Private grazing lands, this is why the dates are similar and overlap in the pastures, the herd will likely be moving through the allotment for about one month.

Deep Creek**:

Pasture	Number	Kind	Approximate Dates
Deep Creek	23**	Cattle	08/10 – 09/14

**This small allotment is used in conjunction with surrounding private lands. The use on the Forested portion is estimated to be equivalent to 23 c/c for a period of Aug 1 to Oct 15.

Permitted pack and saddle stock authorized on the allotment for livestock management will not exceed four head.

Management Response to Drought Conditions

You are planning on grazing at a 40% lower stocking rate on South Paradox and about 60% lower stocking rate on North Paradox due to current below normal snow pack, precipitation and soil moisture conditions and because current forecasts are predicting a continuation of drought conditions into this summer (*see enclosed documents concerning current conditions and forecasts*). The lower rate at North Paradox is also due to the fire last spring. Management may need to be adjusted depending upon actual conditions on the ground. Livestock may need to be removed from the allotment earlier than planned if drought conditions worsen.

Your allotment should be inspected for range readiness to determine forage growth and fence and water improvement conditions. **The pasture move dates shown above are an estimate, and may change on the basis of actual range conditions.** Situations may develop during the grazing season which requires changes to these instructions. If this becomes necessary, or if you cannot comply with some part of these instructions, contact the District Ranger and obtain approval before initiating changes or deviating from these instructions.

PROPER GRAZING-USE INDICATORS

Utilization standards are tools used in achieving or moving towards desired rangeland conditions. Utilization standards are not the desired conditions or management objectives themselves, they are indicators. Desired conditions and objectives are discussed in the 1986

Forest Plan and/or the South Paradox, North Paradox and Deep Creek Allotment Management Plans.

The proper use criteria listed in the box below are within the ranges identified in the 1990 Forest Plan amendment. However, these more specific criteria have been established through the completion of the South Paradox Allotment EA in 2011.

1. Forage Utilization on Key Species: Uplands			
Maximum Forage Utilization Based on the Average Current Year's Growth (includes use by livestock and wildlife)			
Uplands			
Management System	Percent Use of Key Species*		
	June pastures	July-Aug pastures	Sept-Nov pastures
Deferred Rotation	40	40-50	50
Rest Rotation	40	40-50	50

Management systems that may be used on the allotment include but are not limited to those listed above.

2. Browse Utilization on Key Woody Shrubs: Riparian and Upland (non-Aspen)
Browsing hits on new leaders of key riparian (willow) and upland woody shrubs should not exceed 45%.

3. Browse Utilization on Aspen Suckering
Midseason browse should be avoided over consecutive years. Intensity of terminal leader browse should be minimized during mid- and late season. Repeat browsing of suckers within a growing season should be avoided.

4. Forage Utilization on Key Species*: Riparian, Greenline, and Wetland**

Vegetation Type	Percent Utilization by Season Used (measured in general riparian area).			Stubble Height (measured on the Greenline)	Comments
	June	July/Aug	Sept/Nov		
Greenline/Riparian Hydric Species	< 45	< 45	< 40	4-5"	Utilization at the time livestock are in the pasture, stubble height, vegetation remaining at end of the growing season.
Hydric species in wetlands** not influenced by streams	< 45	< 45	< 40	4-5"	Utilization at the time livestock are in the pasture, stubble height, vegetation remaining at end of the growing season.
Non-hydric species in riparian areas	< 45	< 45	< 40	2-3"	Utilization at the time livestock are in the pasture, stubble height, vegetation remaining at end of the growing season.

* The key species selected will depend upon the plant species in the present plant community, the present ecological status, and the desired conditions for the specific sites monitored.
**Typically perennially wetlands are not grazed, this refers to seasonal wetlands.

5. Soil Disturbance

Riparian, Wetlands, Springs and Seeps

Stream bank alteration – *Current year stream bank alteration due to shearing, trampling and trailing – no more than an average of 30% of the **reach area monitored.

Wetland, spring or seep soils – No more than an average of 30% of the wetland, spring or seep area will be disturbed by *current year trampling or trailing.

*Current-year alteration is discernible from previous years' alteration because of weathering effects of freeze/thaw cycles, rain events, and erosion by stream flow or vegetative regrowth.

**A stream reach is the length of the stream selected for monitoring. A suitable size is usually no less than 100m long and ideally it should have a variety of flows.

Upland Soils –

Slopes 0-25% - No more than 30% soil disturbance***

Slopes 26-40% - No more than 20% soil disturbance***

Slopes over 40% - No more than 10% soil disturbance***

– Generally slopes over 40% are too steep for cattle and do not get used.

***This is current year disturbance attributed to cattle use within the key area monitored. Soil Disturbance includes both subsurface and surface soil alteration which adversely impacts soil health, function and productivity.

There is a difference between where percentage utilized is applied and where stubble height is applied to determine proper use in riparian areas. Percent utilized is used for plant species that are within the larger riparian area (the area that is influenced by the stream and the water table) but not along the greenline. The greenline is the first perennial vegetation on or near the stream's edge that is at least one foot wide. Stubble height measurements are used to determine proper use along the greenline. The plant species considered are typically water loving species (hydic species) such as sedges.

It is your responsibility as the permittee to recognize when proper use has been reached and promptly move all cattle as necessary. If you need some assistance, or methods and tools for determining proper use, please contact Tina Marian.

When proper use has been reached in the unit being grazed, your cattle are to be herded to the next scheduled unit. **When proper use is reached in the last unit grazed, all cattle are to be removed from the allotment, even if this date is prior to the end of your grazing season.** Cattle found on the Allotment before or after the permitted grazing season will be billed at the unauthorized use rate and permit non-compliance actions will be initiated.

You should be aware that Forest Service policy provides that “an authorized officer may require the permittee to monitor and report information on compliance with the grazing permit, allotment management plan and annual operation instructions as a term and condition of your permit.”

To facilitate livestock moves, gates may be opened a few days prior to the scheduled move date only when moving into an adjacent pasture. Gates must be closed and the grazed pasture entirely

cleaned of livestock no later than five days following the scheduled move date. Grazed pastures must be kept clean of livestock following the pasture move.

IMPROVEMENTS

Thank you for completing the fence agreement for 2012. It was inspected on May 28th and found to be to standard.

You did clean out ponds as agreed, although two of the ponds you had agreed to clean in 2011 were still not done in 2012 but instead two different ponds were cleaned. Because you did clean a total of 8 ponds on the allotment, I will hold that your agreement was completed for 2012.

North Paradox agreements were put on hold due to the fire last spring.

As discussed during your 2013 AOI meeting:

FENCE AGREEMENTS: For 2013 in South Paradox, you have agreed to complete heavy maintenance on and bring to standard the several gap fences that are along the southern portions of the Two Mile and Hop Creek units of the South Paradox Allotment as approximately shown on the map attached.

They are listed in your permit as:

42023	Two Mile Drift Fence (above road)
42074	Two Mile Drift Fence (below road)
42075	Lower Twomile Drift Fence
42024	Lower Hopcreek Drift Fence
42081	Lower Dry Draw Drift Fence

For 2013 in North Paradox, we have agreed to assess the damage to fences that occurred as the result from the fire last May/June and focus of getting those fences rebuilt.

POND AGREEMENTS: For 2013, you agreed to clean and bring to standard 2 ponds in the Hop Creek pasture as shown on the map attached.

When you complete your fence and spring agreements you must fill out and sign the Improvement Agreement Form (pink) that is found in your folder. I suggest that you provide photographs of before and after conditions to assist in documenting compliance with maintenance requirements. I also encourage you to contact Tina when you complete your maintenance so she can schedule a timely inspection.

If you fail to bring the above agreed improvements up to standard by **November 30th 2013**, you will not be allowed to stock the allotment in 2014 until the agreement is fulfilled and you may receive a non-compliance letter.

Range improvements are essential in ensuring that livestock are well distributed and that Forest standards and guides are met.

- Improvements are to be maintained to standard prior to livestock entering the pasture and that failure to do so is a violation of their permit and action will be taken when violations are documented.
- If improvements have not been maintained, then develop a schedule to bring them up to standard.
- Until all improvements are functional it is not appropriate to authorize full numbers or season of use, unless assurances can be made that utilization standards will not be exceeded.

The maintenance of all structural improvements listed under part 3 of your Term Grazing Permit, Special Terms and Conditions: *Construction and Maintenance of Structural Improvements* is a requirement and should be completed prior to your entry into each pasture. The allotment permittee or permittees are responsible for the maintenance of all structural range improvements on this allotment. For allotments managed by an Association or Herd Manager specific maintenance responsibilities may be assigned to individual permittees by the Association President or Herd Manager.

If you wish to use forest products (trees and oak brush) from the National Forest to maintain your fences/spring enclosures on your allotment, you must receive authorization from either the Moab or Monticello Office prior to cutting.

NEPA and PLANNED PROJECTS

As discussed during the AOI meeting, an Environmental Assessment was completed for the South Paradox Allotment in 2011. An Allotment Management Plan (AMP) is currently being developed to implement the decision that was made. The AMP shall become a part of Part 3 of the Term Grazing Permit. A monitoring plan is part of the AMP and a map which shows current key areas on the South Paradox Allotment that are to be monitored is attached.

MISCELLANEOUS

Refer to Special Terms and Conditions in Part 3 of Term Grazing Permit for specific instructions pertaining to maintenance standards for range stock water developments, range fences, corrals, and herding standards.

All permitted livestock must be branded with your registered brand as documented in your Term Permit before they enter the National Forest.

Place salt blocks away from water, roads, meadows and other open areas so as to draw livestock into areas that receive light utilization. When livestock leave a pasture move the salt out of the pasture as well.

You will furnish sufficient riders or herders to achieve proper distribution of livestock.

Certified Weed Free Hay must be used if you do any supplemental feeding of horses on the allotment while gathering or moving cattle.

If you find the need to use mechanical clearing (tractors, bulldozers etc.) of fence lines or to clean ponds or other water improvements, you must have proper archeological clearance and permission from the District Ranger.

Enclosed in your AOI folder you will find an Actual Use Record sheet. As your 2013 grazing season progresses, please fill out this form in detail and return it promptly at the end of the grazing season. There are also extra sheets included in the folder where you are encouraged to document management on your allotment.

PAYMENT OF FEES

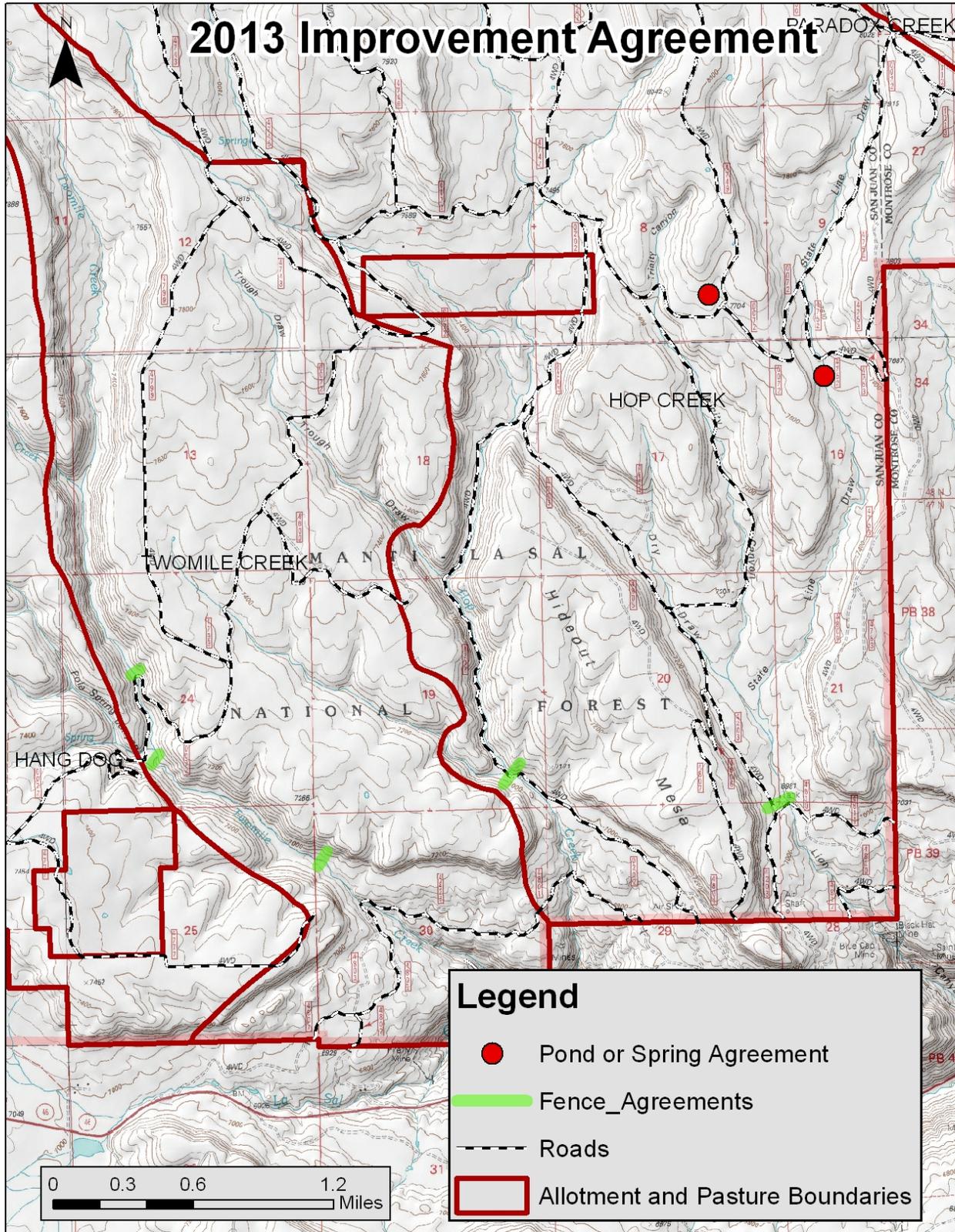
The permittee will not allow owned or controlled livestock to be on Forest Service-administered lands unless the fees specified in the Bill for Collection are paid and confirmation of payment through the "lock box" process is received prior to livestock entering NFS lands.

I am looking forward to working with you this summer. Please call Tina Marian (435-636-3368) if you have any questions or if we can be of assistance.

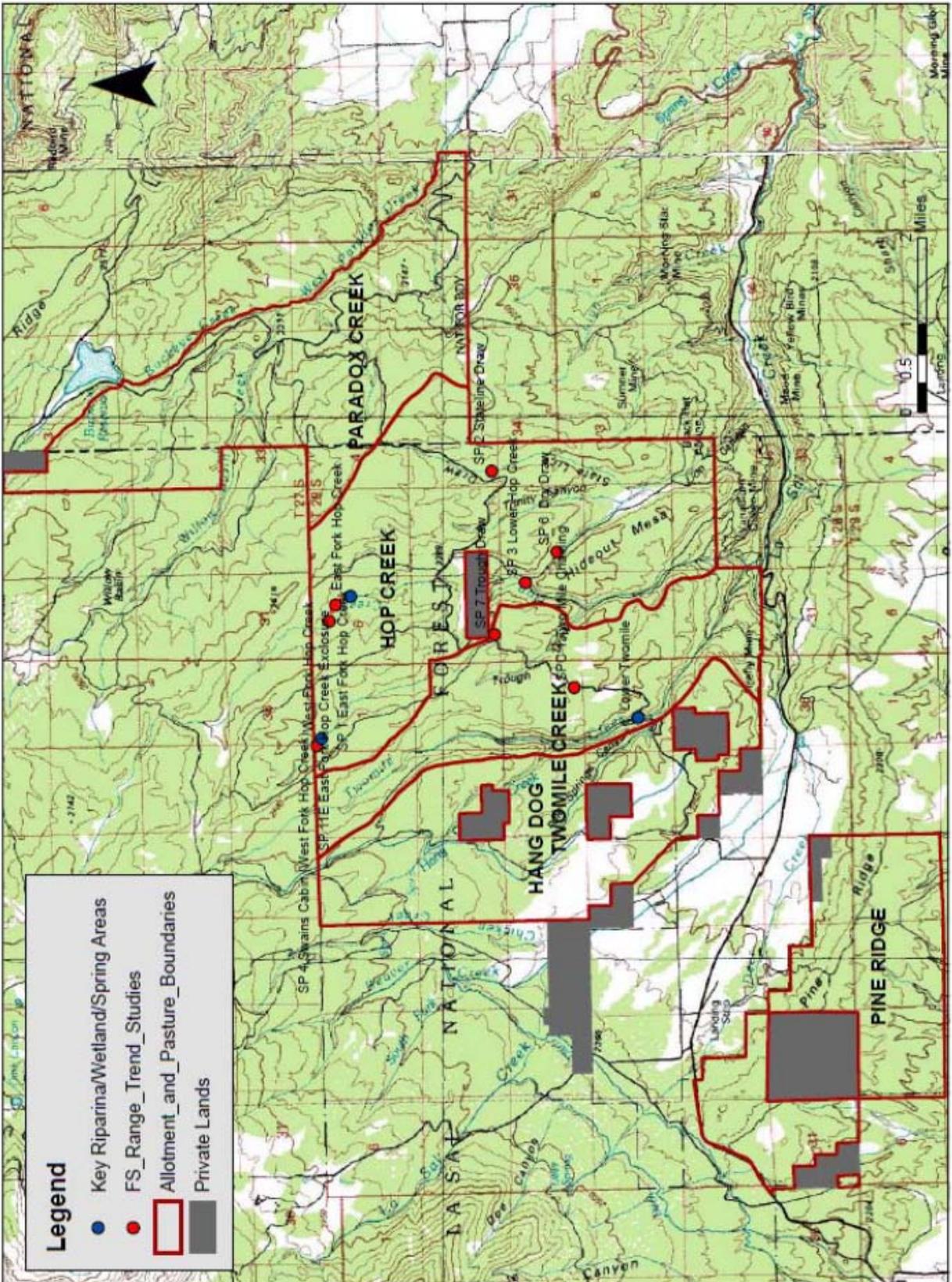
Sincerely,



for MICHAEL DIEM
District Ranger

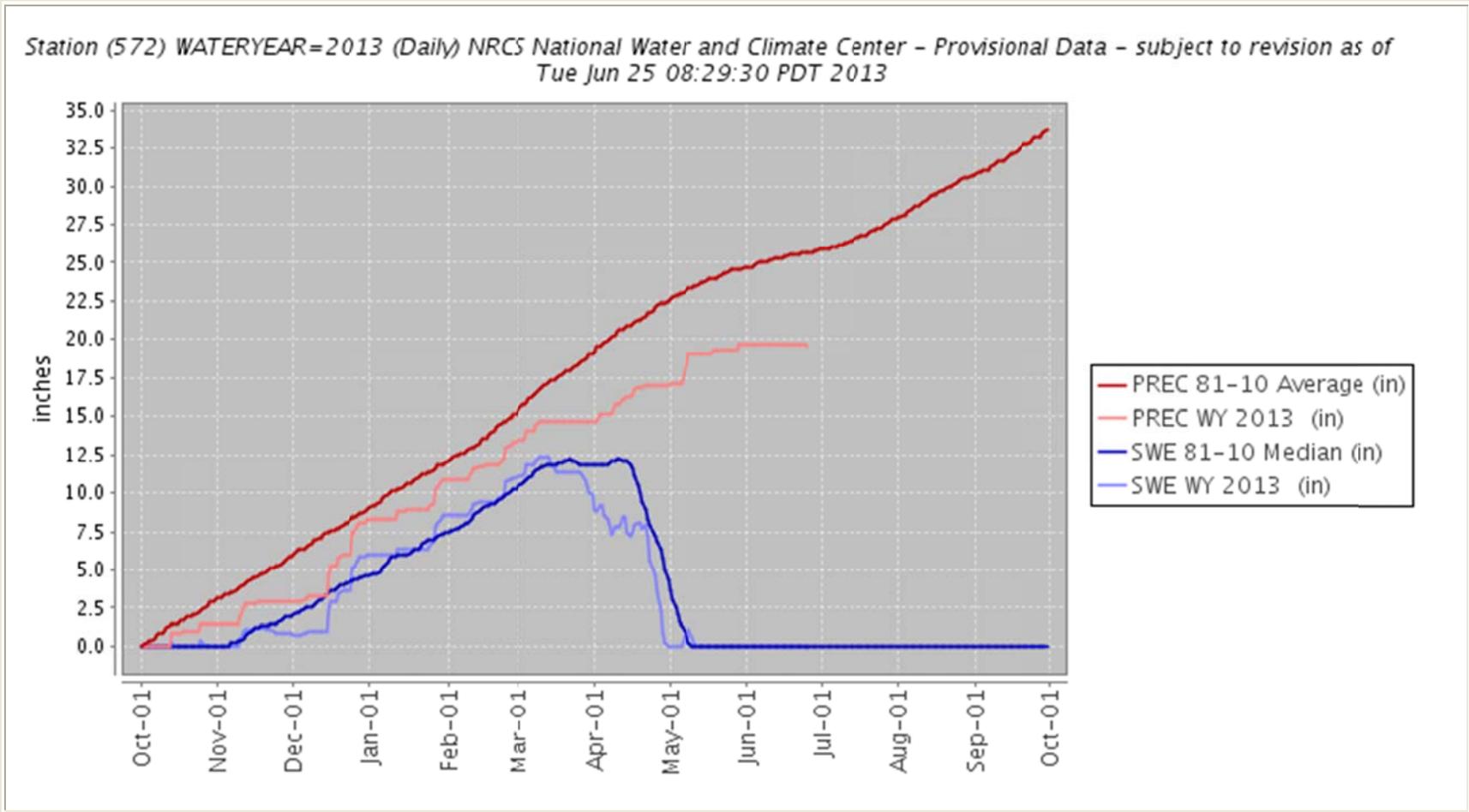


South Paradox Key Areas Map



Utah (PST) SNOTEL Site LASAL MOUNTAIN (572) (09L03S) Daily series for wateryear=2013

NRCS National Water and Climate Center - Provisional Data - subject to revision as of 2013-June-25. Notes on dates - Daily sensors (e.g. TAVG.D-1) report a summary value for the previous day. Hourly sensors (e.g. TAVG.H-1) report a summary value for the previous hour. Instantaneous sensors (e.g. TOBS.I-1) report a single observation on the hour.



Below normal for 2013

Utah Climate and Water Report

June 2013



Spooky SCAN Site, Kane County with Fifty-Mile Mountain in background;
April 2013

Photo by Kent Sutcliffe

Utah Climate and Water Report

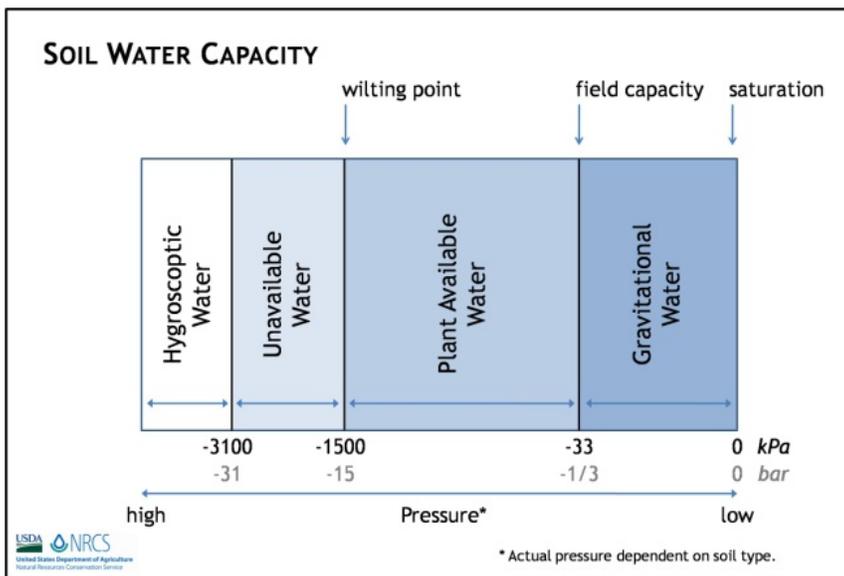
The purpose of the Climate and Water Report is to provide a snapshot of current and immediate past climatic conditions and other information useful to agricultural and water user interests in Utah. The report utilizes data from several sources that represent specific parameters (streamflow data from the United States Geological Survey, reservoir data from the Bureau of Reclamation, and other sources), geography including high elevation United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Snowpack Telemetry (SNOTEL) data, and agriculturally important data from the USDA-NRCS Soil Climate Analysis Network (SCAN). Data on precipitation, soil moisture, soil temperature, reservoir storage, and streamflow are analyzed and presented. These data analyses can be used to increase irrigation efficiency and agricultural production. As with all data and analyses, there are limitations due to data quality, quantity, and spatial application.

Climate and Water Information

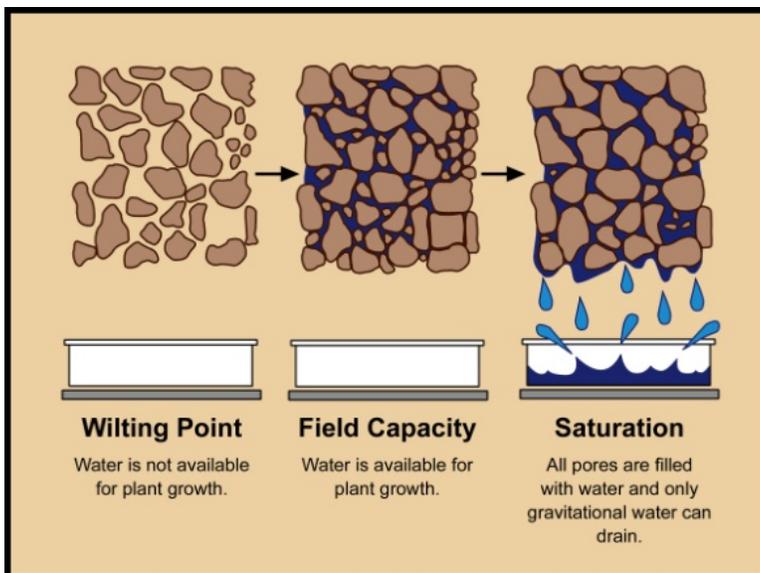
Soil Climate Analysis Network

Soil Climate Analysis Network (SCAN) stations are primarily located on low- to mid-elevation, agriculturally important landscapes that maintain representative soils. Elevations range from 3,000 to 7,000 ft. The SCAN network provides real-time soil moisture and temperature data coupled with additional climate information for use in natural resource planning, drought assessment, water resource management, and resource inventory. Stations are situated on non-irrigated, native soils, are remotely located, and collect hourly atmospheric and soils data that are available to the public online.

In order to summarize SCAN data, the 35 sites in Utah are grouped by climate divisions (North Central, Northern Mountains, Uintah Basin, Southeast, South Central, Dixie, and Western).



Explanation of soil water capacity definitions. Field capacity (FC) and wilting point (WP) are calculated in the laboratory for each soil horizon. The amount of water held between field capacity and wilting point is plant available.



Visual explanation of soil water capacity definitions.

Utah Hydrologic Summary

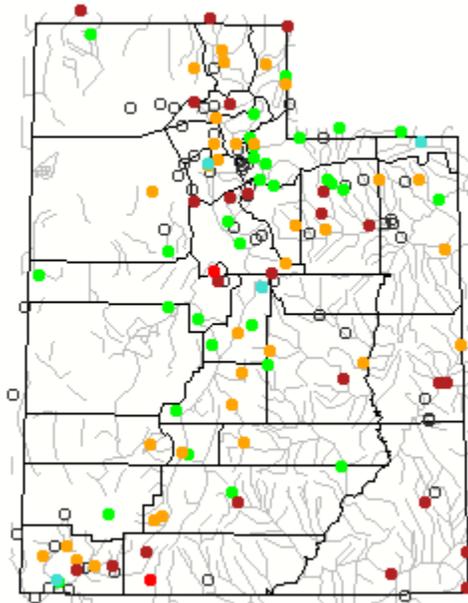
June 1, 2013

Current Conditions

Current runoff, as shown in the USGS graphic below, is mostly below to much below average for non-regulated stream flow across many areas of Utah. Most rivers are in recession and flows will be at summer base flows quickly. Snow packs have melted out over the entire state at this point. Much of this year's snowmelt has gone to recharge soil moisture which is currently average in the north and dry in the south. Southeastern Utah is exceptionally dry and this is reflected in the observed streamflows. May precipitation was below average statewide, in the north (60%-80%) and in the south (70%-90%). Reservoir storage is 15% less than last year, near 73% of capacity across the state. This is up just 1% from May's figure of 72% of capacity **indicating that we have used much of this year's runoff as it came into the reservoirs**. Reservoir storage in some areas such as the San Pitch (0%), Southeast Utah (56%), and the Enterprise area (24%) are very low. Poor runoff conditions will and already have had impacts on agriculture across the state with water allocation cuts. The National Climate Prediction Center forecasts for the area suggest warmer conditions for the next 3 months. Based on all available water supply data, (reservoir storage, observed streamflow, climate forecasts, etc) agriculture producers and others will have to determine how best to manage current water supplies in order to minimize risk and maximize production in what is now back to back water limited years.

Current Utah Stream Flow - Courtesy US Geological Survey

Wednesday, June 05, 2013 12:30ET



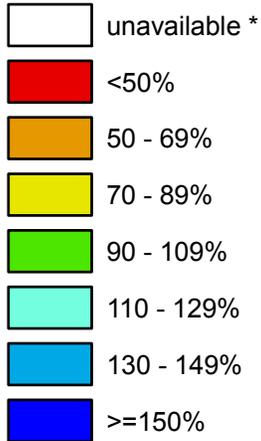
Explanation - Percentile classes							
●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○
Low	<10 Much below normal	10-24 Below normal	25-75 Normal	76-90 Above normal	>90 Much above normal	High	Not ranked

Utah

SNOTEL Water Year (Oct 1) to Date Precipitation % of Normal

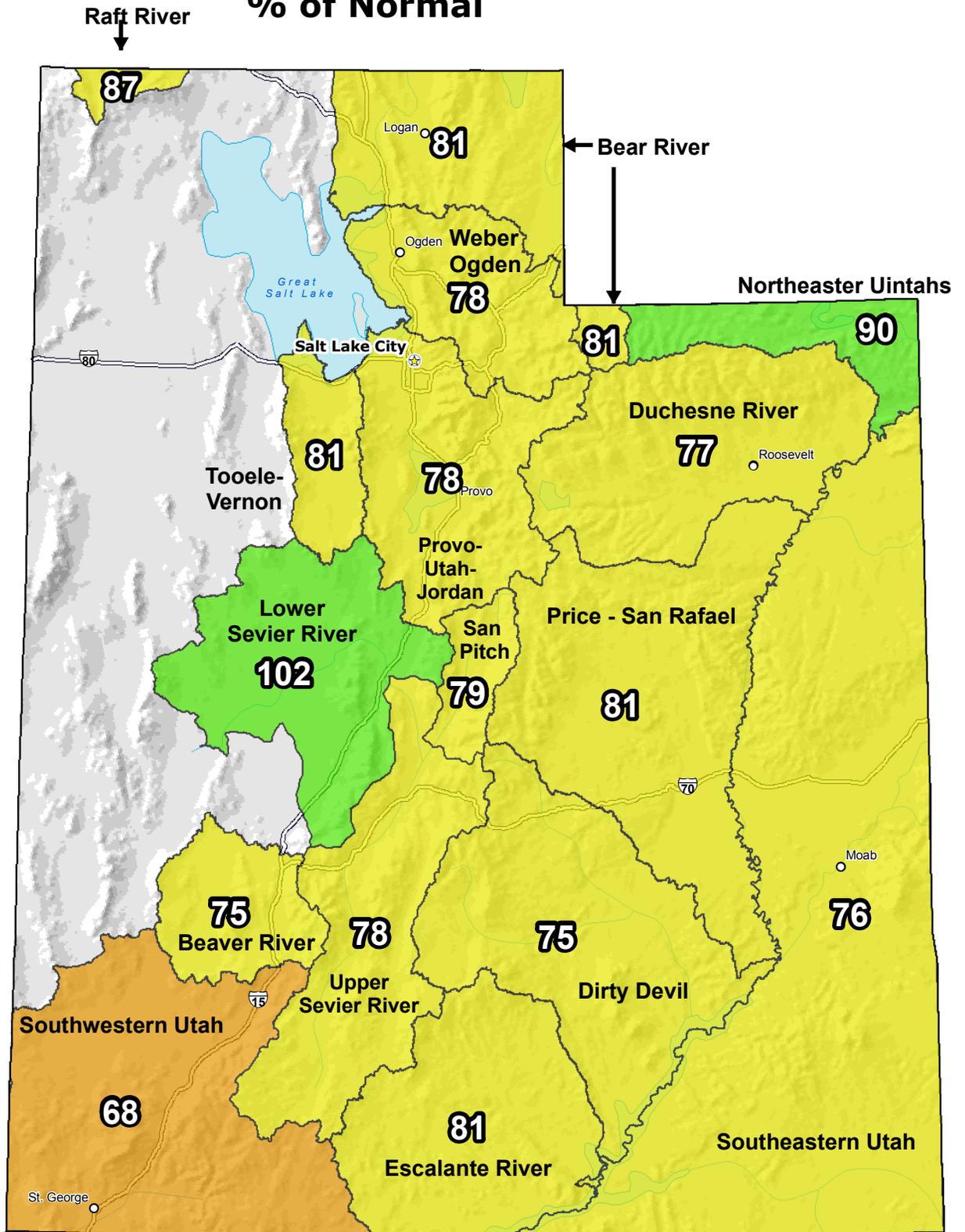
Jun 06, 2013

**Water Year
(Oct 1) to Date
Precipitation
Basin-wide
Percent of
1981-2010
Average**



* Data unavailable at time of posting or measurement is not representative at this time of year

**Provisional Data
Subject to Revision**



The water year to date precipitation percent of normal represents the accumulated precipitation found at selected SNOTEL sites in or near the basin compared to the average value for those sites on this day. Data based on the first reading of the day (typically 00:00).

Prepared by the USDA/NRCS National Water and Climate Center
Portland, Oregon <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/gis/>
Based on data from <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/reports/>
Science contact: Jim.Marron@por.usda.gov 503 414 3047

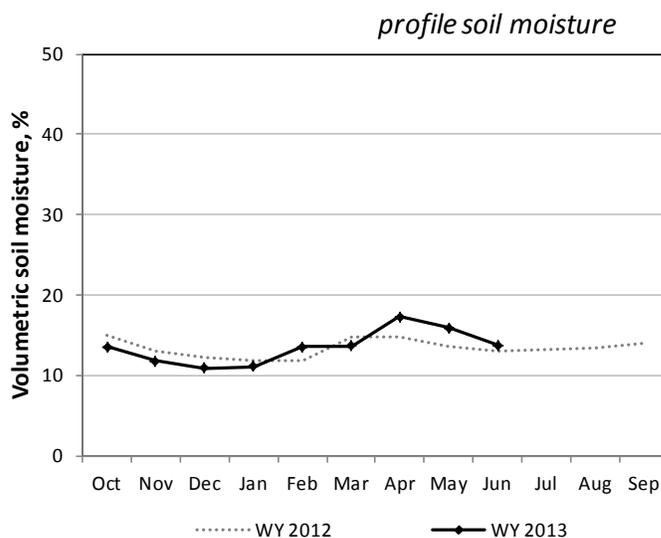
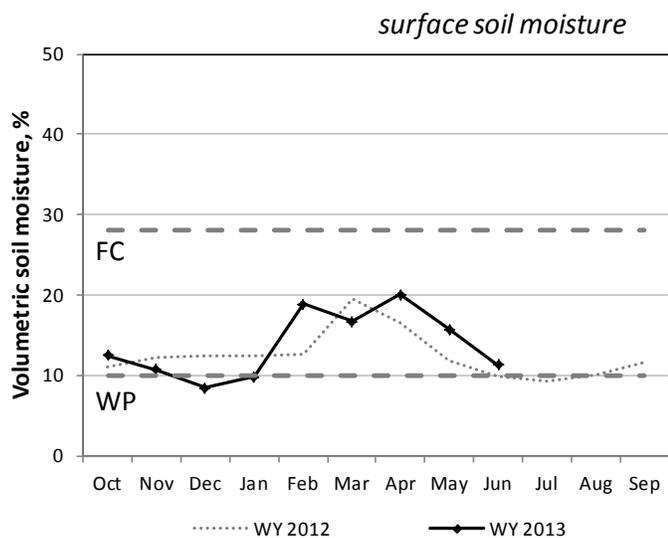
Southeast

Soil Climate Analysis Network (SCAN)

Site name	Precip to Date*	Monthly Precip	Soil Moisture					Soil Temperature				
			2"	4"	8"	20"	40"	2"	4"	8"	20"	40"
			in.					in.				
			volume %					°F				
SOUTHEAST												
Price	4.7	0.4	1	11	18	17	20	60	66	67	63	60
Green River	2.8	1.0	6	9	10	6	9	68	71	73	70	66
Harm's Way	4.1	1.0	8	0	16	17	8	65	59	65	60	56
West Summit	3.0	0.3	6	11	15	17	18	60	64	65	59	55
Eastland	3.5	0.5	9	12	12	30	33	58	60	62	57	55
Alkali Mesa	4.5	0.3	6	7	16	19	14	64	64	66	62	59
McCracken Mesa	5.0	0.3	7	13	18	20	14	65	71	73	66	63

* Precipitation since October 1 (beginning of the water year). Monthly Precip is the amount of precipitation accumulated in the past month. SCAN sites utilize tipping bucket rain gauges which do not accurately measure precipitation in the form of snowfall. Soil moisture and temperature values reflect conditions measured on the first of the month.

Southeast



Surface soil moisture is the weighted mean of the water content measured at depths of 2, 4, and 8 inches. **FC** is the mean field capacity, **WP** is the mean permanent wilting point for the soil surface (0 to 12 inches) at SCAN sites within the region, and **WY** is the water year lasting October through September. *Profile soil moisture* is the weighted mean of water content measured at depths of 2, 4, 8, 20, and 40 inches.

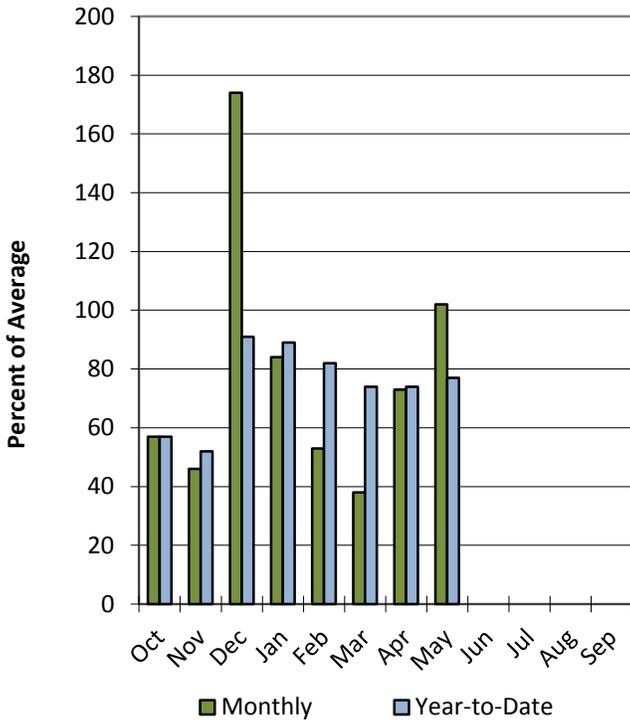
Additional data available at the SCAN website, including: hourly air temperature, relative humidity, wind speed, wind direction, barometric pressure, precipitation, solar radiation, soil temperature, and soil moisture.

Southeastern Utah Basin

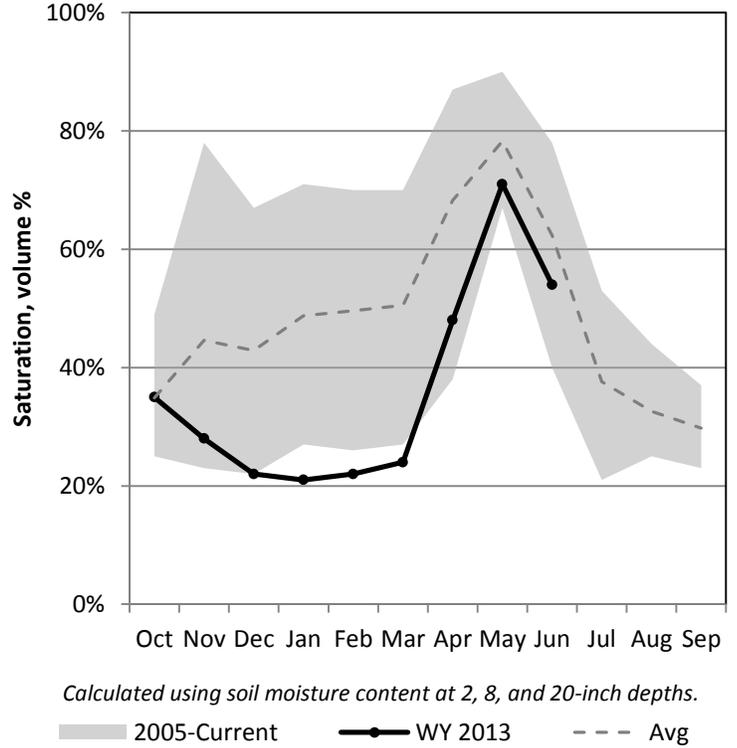
6/1/2013

Precipitation in May was near average at 102%, which brings the seasonal accumulation (Oct-May) to 77% of average. Soil moisture is at 54% compared to 41% last year. Reservoir storage is at 26% of capacity, compared to 52% last year. The water availability index for Moab is 4%.

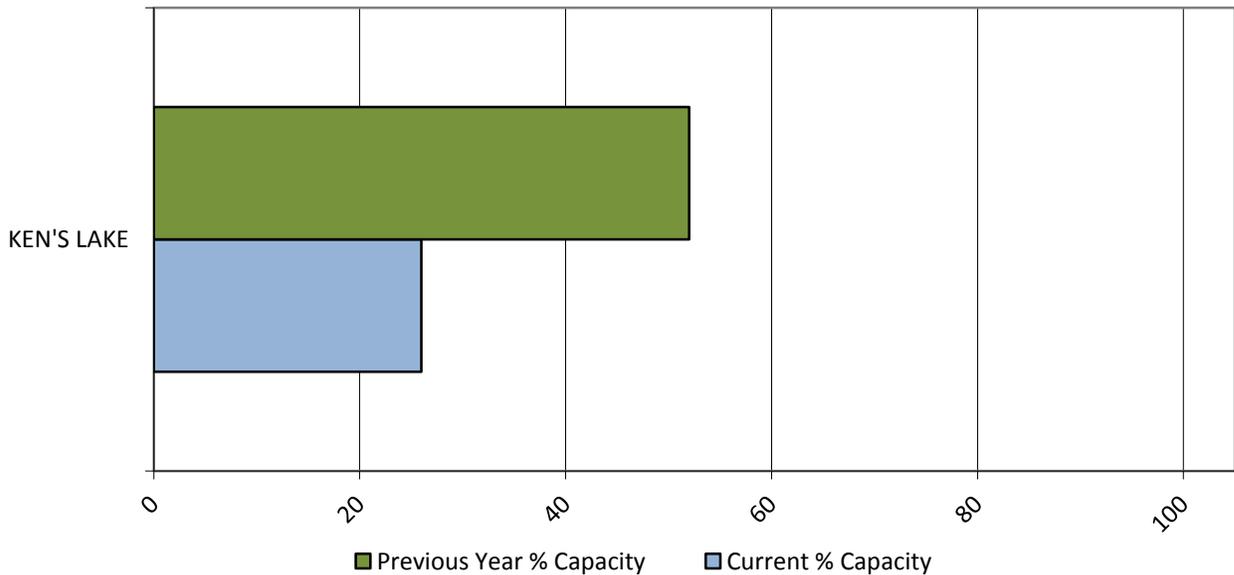
Precipitation



Soil Moisture



Reservoir Storage



June 1, 2013

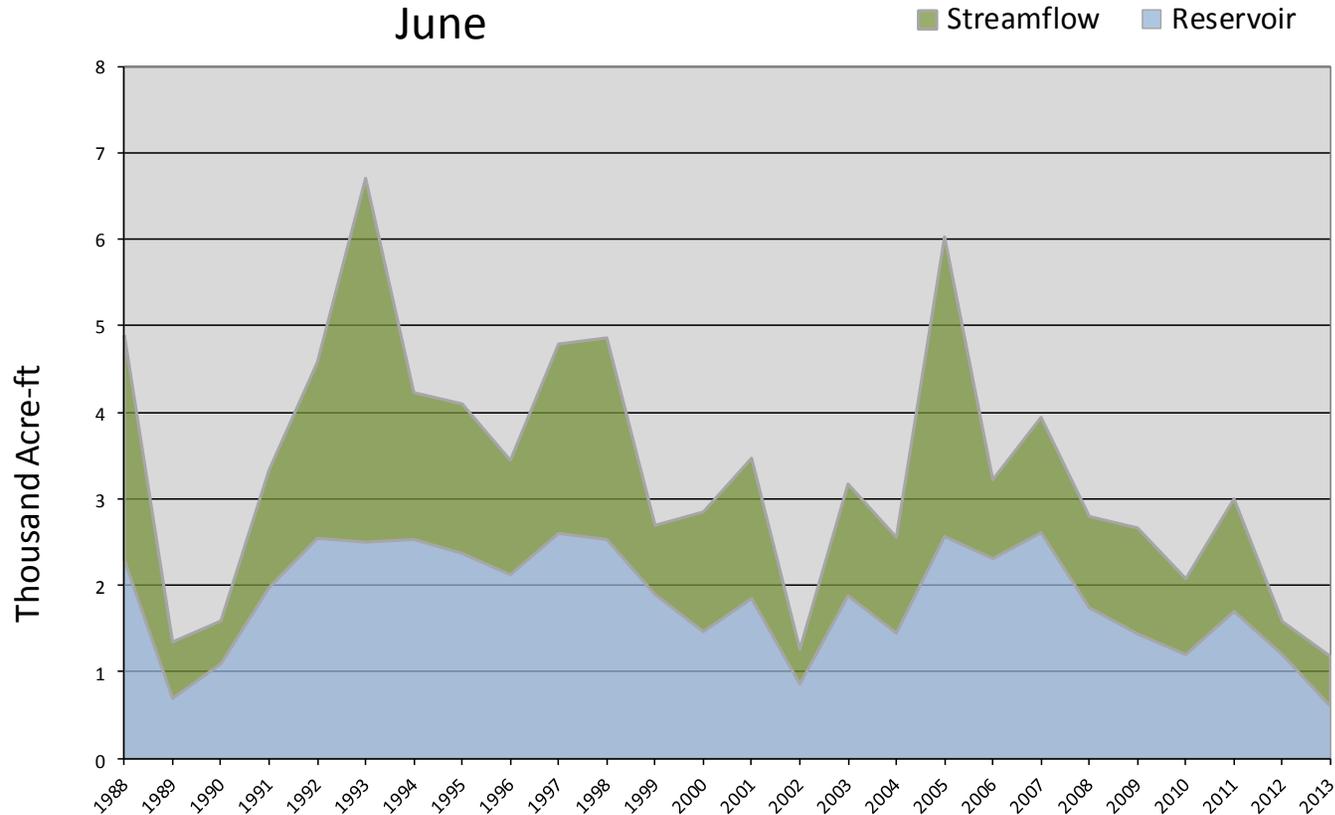
Water Availability Index

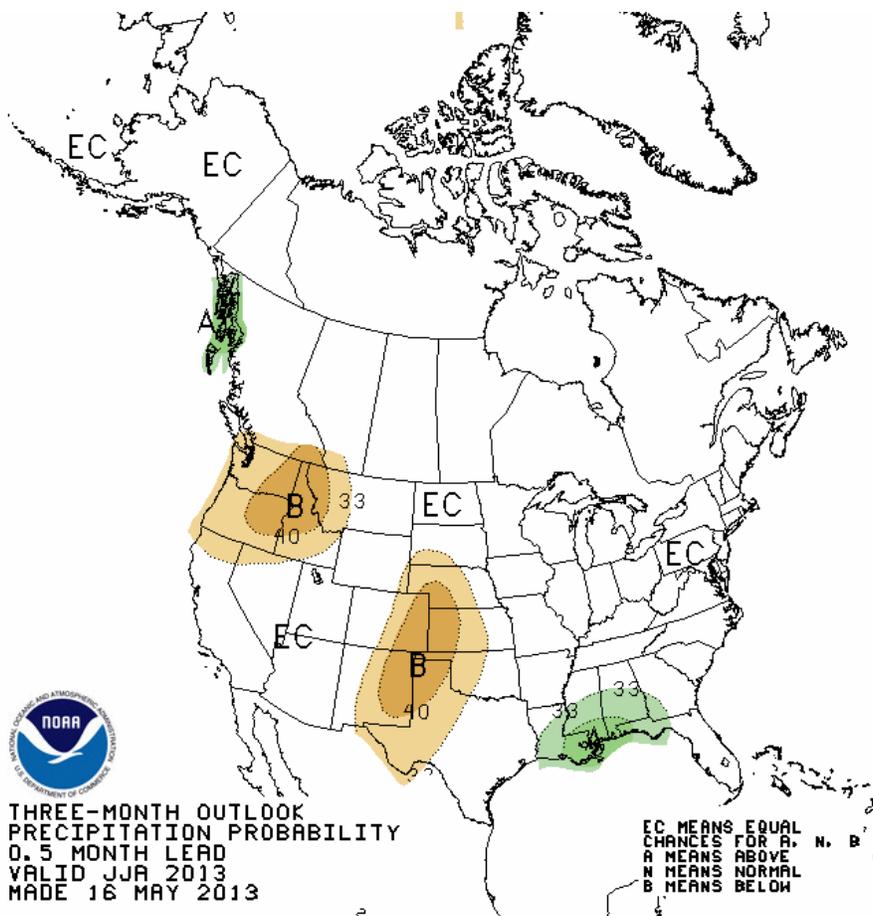
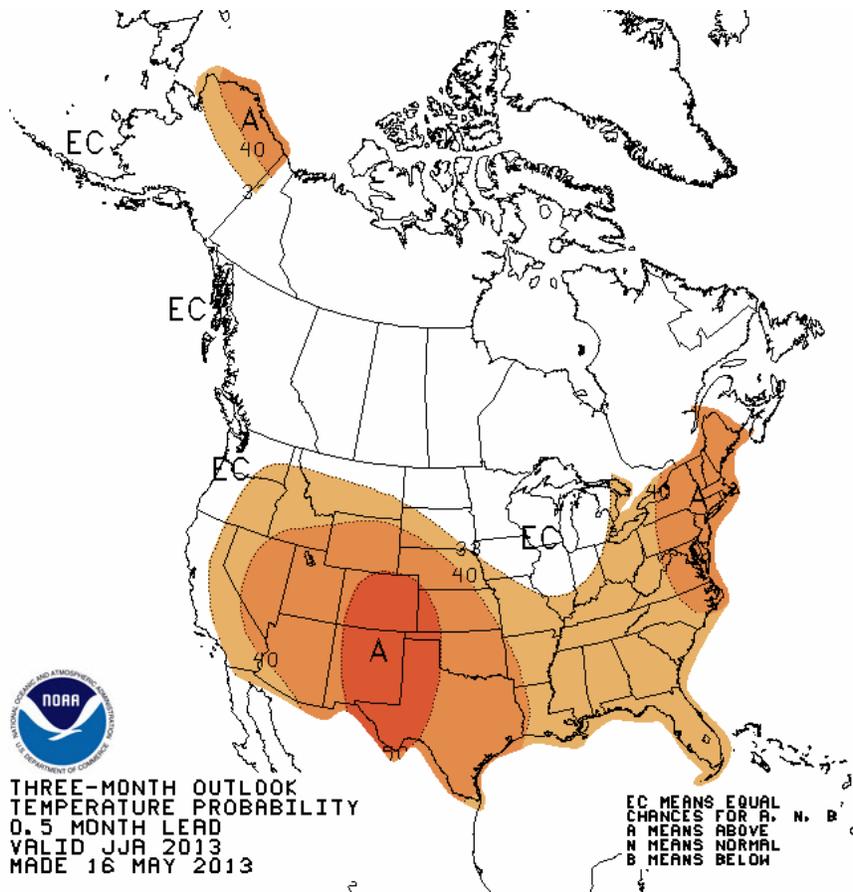
Basin or Region	May EOM* Ken's Lake Reservoir	May accumulated flow Mill Creek at Sheley (<i>observed</i>)	Reservoir + Streamflow	WAI [#]	Percentile	Years with similar WAI
	KAF [^]	KAF	KAF		%	
Moab	0.6	0.6	1.2	-3.86	4	02, 89

*EOM, end of month; [#] WAI, water availability index; [^]KAF, thousand acre-feet.

Moab - Water Availability Index

June





U.S. Drought Monitor

June 18, 2013

Valid 7 a.m. EST

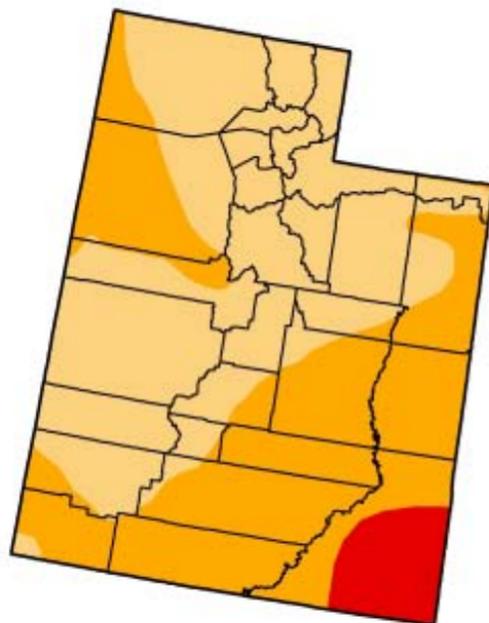
Utah

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	99.99	48.04	5.29	0.00
Last Week (06/11/2013 map)	0.00	100.00	99.99	47.53	0.81	0.00
3 Months Ago (03/19/2013 map)	0.00	100.00	96.27	46.36	1.53	0.00
Start of Calendar Year (01/01/2013 map)	0.00	100.00	99.99	66.47	21.34	0.00
Start of Water Year (09/25/2012 map)	0.00	100.00	100.00	83.18	22.53	0.00
One Year Ago (06/12/2012 map)	1.05	98.95	85.56	43.27	2.26	0.00

Intensity:

-  D0 Abnormally Dry
-  D1 Drought - Moderate
-  D2 Drought - Severe
-  D3 Drought - Extreme
-  D4 Drought - Exceptional



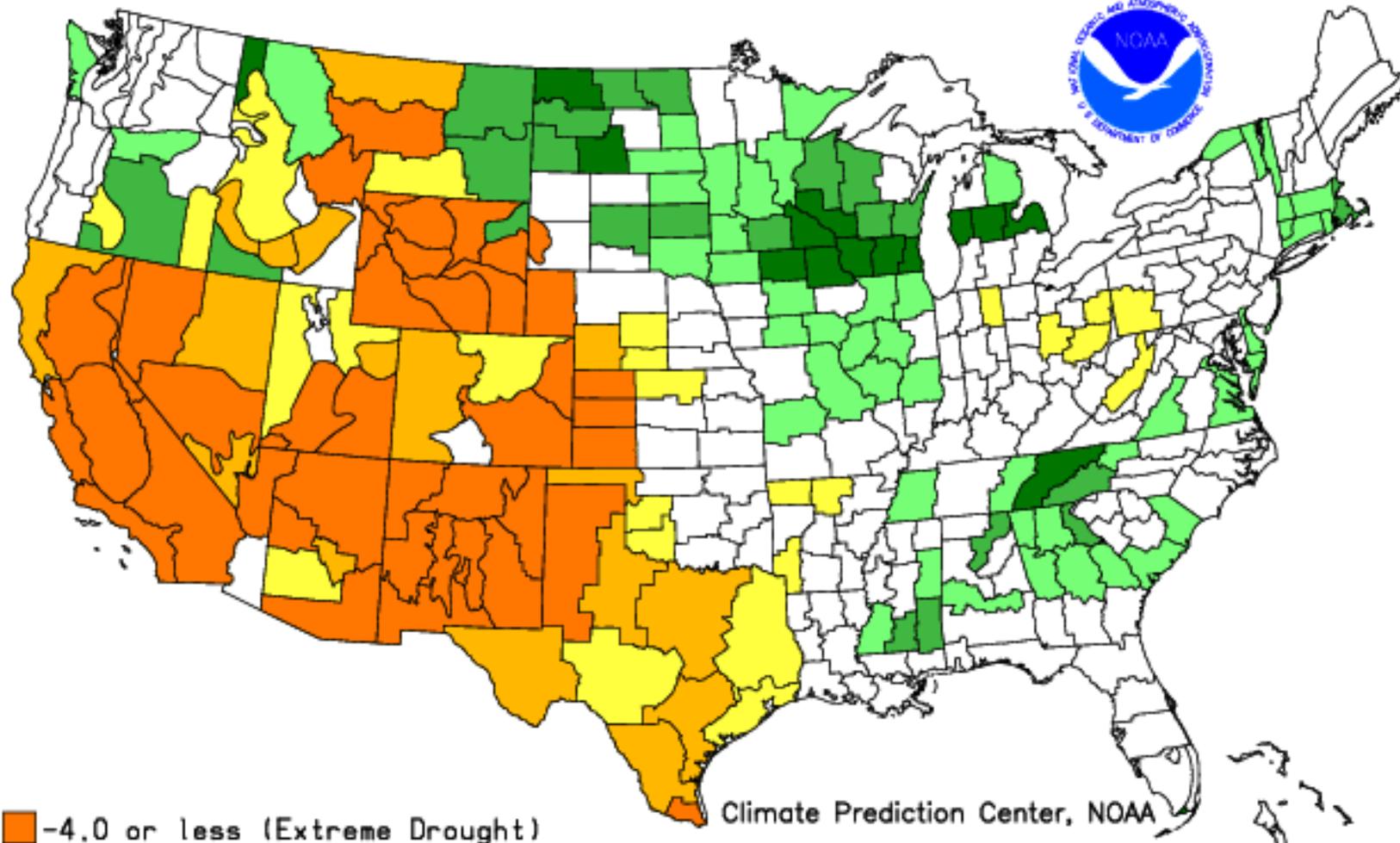
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>



Released Thursday, June 20, 2013
National Drought Mitigation Center,

Drought Severity Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending JUN 22, 2013
Long Term Palmer



- 4.0 or less (Extreme Drought)
- 3.0 to -3.9 (Severe Drought)
- 2.0 to -2.9 (Moderate Drought)
- 1.9 to +1.9 (Near Normal)

Climate Prediction Center, NOAA

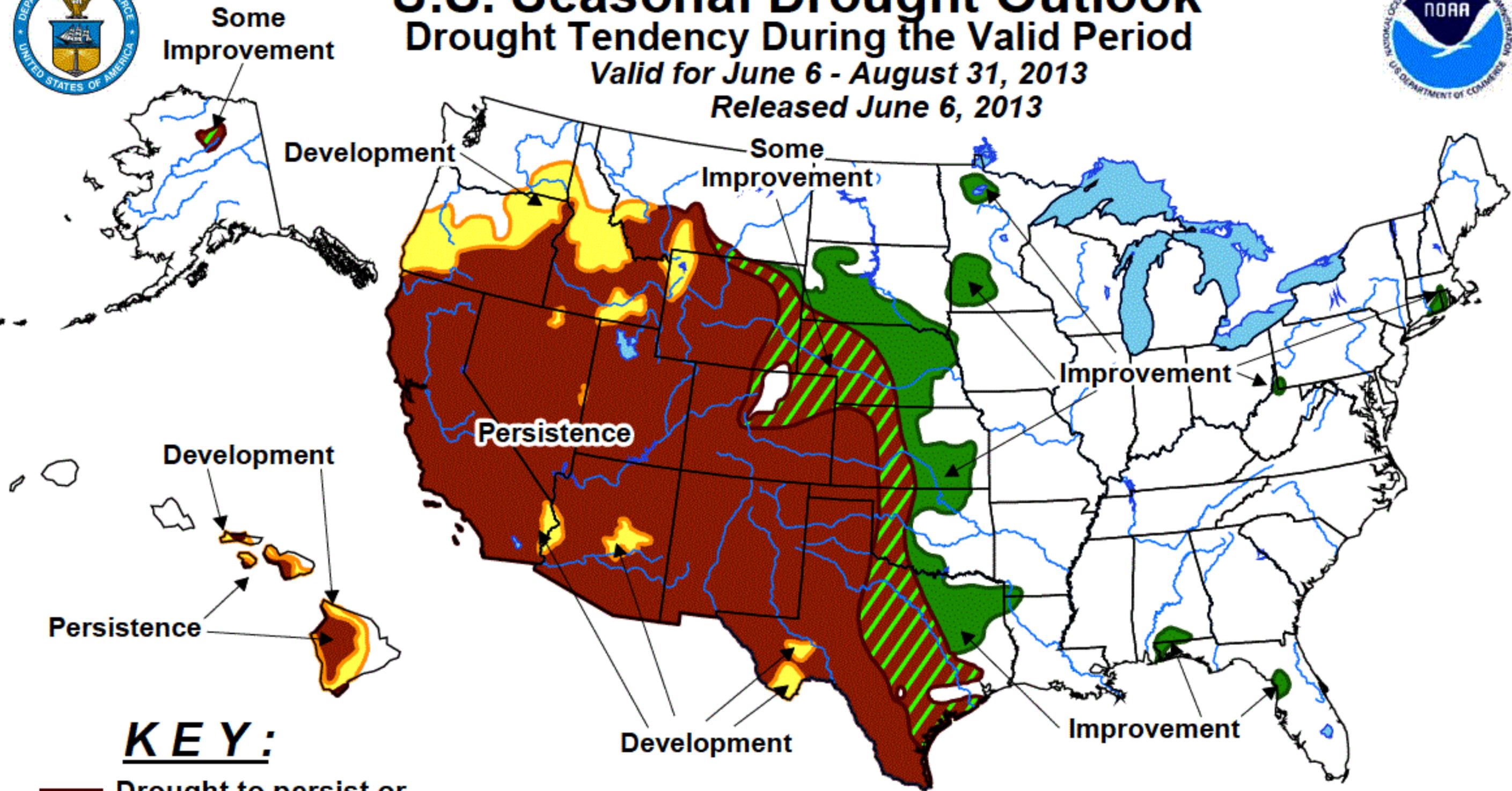
- +2.0 to +2.9 (Unusual Moist Spell)
- +3.0 to +3.9 (Very Moist Spell)
- +4.0 and above (Extremely Moist)



U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for June 6 - August 31, 2013
Released June 6, 2013



KEY:

-  Drought to persist or intensify
-  Drought ongoing, some improvement
-  Drought likely to improve, impacts ease
-  Drought development likely

No Drought Posted/Predicted 

Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Short-term events -- such as individual storms -- cannot be accurately forecast more than a few days in advance. Use caution for applications -- such as crops -- that can be affected by such events. "Ongoing" drought areas are approximated from the Drought Monitor (D1 to D4 intensity). For weekly drought updates, see the latest U.S. Drought Monitor. NOTE: the green improvement areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels, but do not necessarily imply drought elimination.