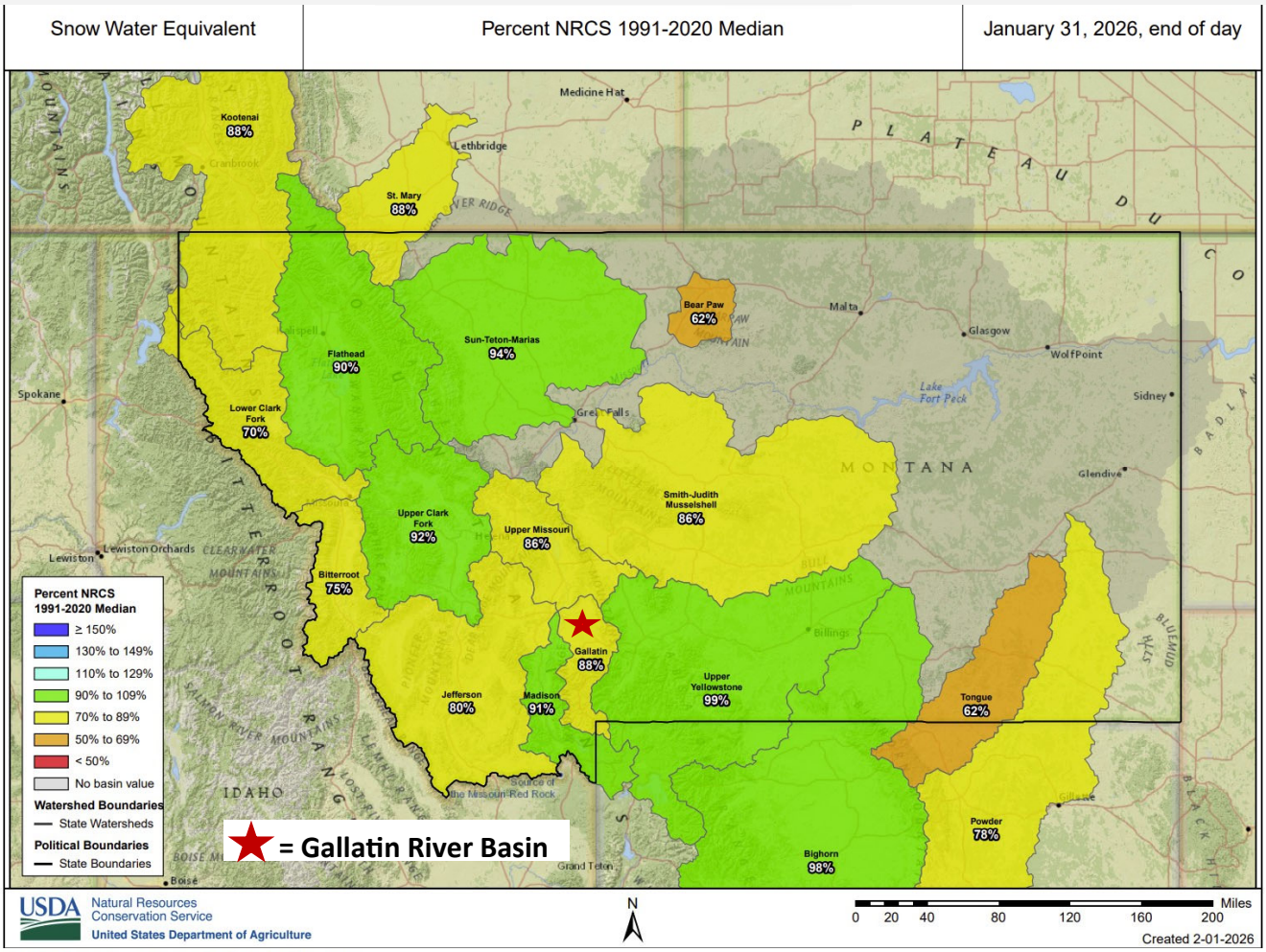
Gallatin Water Supply Outlook
January 2026



PRECIPITATION ACCUMULATION IN GALLATIN

SNOWPACK SUMMARY (Water Year (WY) = October 1st—September 30)

*Data current as of 2/1/2026

We are currently in Water Year 2026 (black line). The Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) was below normal (median, green line) within the Gallatin River Basin on January 31st, 2026 at 9.7 inches (a 1.3 increase since last month). Last year, on January 31st, 2025, the SWE was at 10.5 inches (central blue line). Detailed end-of-month SNOTEL site information follows.

'Tale of two snowpacks,' water supply report shows elevation matters | Daily Montanan

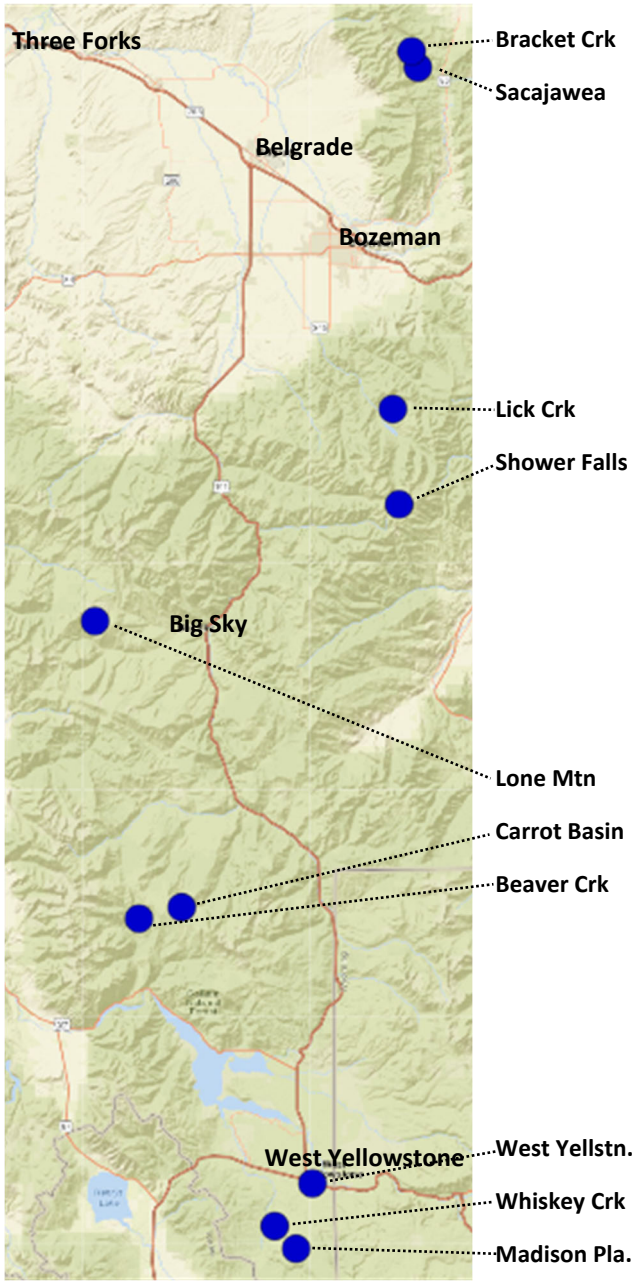
Snowpack Data
Gallatin River Basin—January 2026

Gallatin Valley Region (Bozeman-Belgrade-Four Corners)					
Station Name	*Date*	*Snow Depth (in)*	*SWE (in)*	*SWE % Normal*	*Normal SWE 1971-2000 (in)*
Brackett Creek	Jan. 2025	36	10.1	76	13.3
	Jan. 2026	31	10.1	76	
Sacajawea	Jan. 2025	27	7.4	83	8.9
	Jan. 2026	12	4.7	53	

Hyalite Region (Gallatin Gateway)					
Station Name	*Date*	*Snow Depth (in)*	*SWE (in)*	*SWE % Normal*	*Normal SWE 1971-2000 (in)*
Lick Creek	Jan. 2025	30	7.5	101	7.4
	Jan. 2026	12	3.4	46	
Shower Falls	Jan. 2025	53	15.2	109	14.0
	Jan. 2026	35	11.8	84	

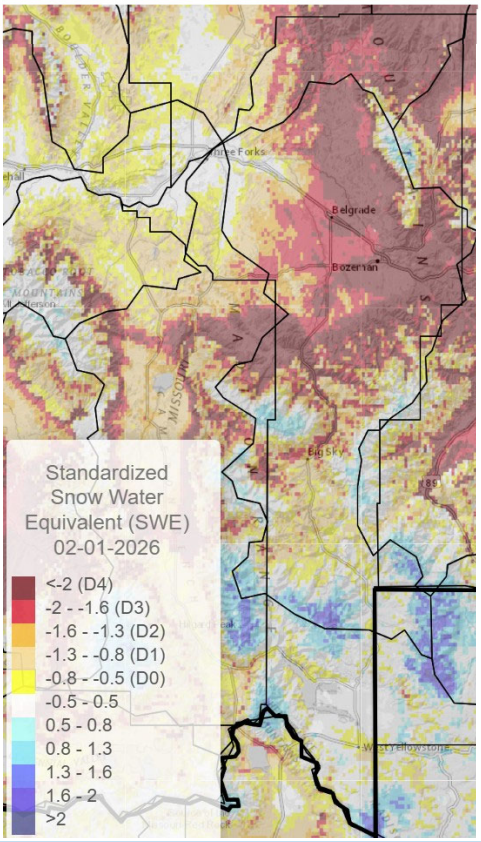
Lee Metcalf Wilderness Region (Big Sky)					
Station Name	*Date*	*Snow Depth (in)*	*SWE (in)*	*SWE % Normal*	*Normal SWE 1971-2000 (in)*
Beaver Creek	Jan. 2025	33	8.5	74	11.5
	Jan. 2026	35	9.8	85	
Carrot Basin	Jan. 2025	52	14.4	80	18.1
	Jan. 2026	59	18.5	102	
Lone Mountain	Jan. 2025	41	11.2	93	12.1
	Jan. 2026	34	10.1	83	

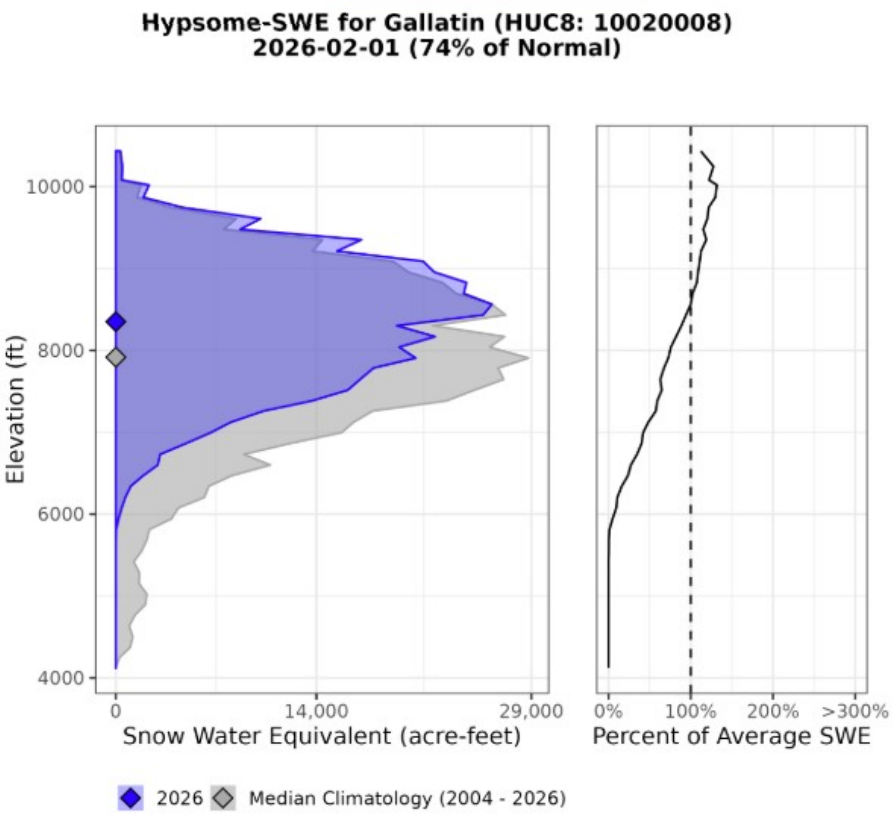
West Yellowstone Region					
Station Name	*Date*	*Snow Depth (in)*	*SWE (in)*	*SWE % Normal*	*Normal SWE 1971-2000 (in)*
Madison Plateau	Jan. 2025	40	10.3	64	16.2
	Jan. 2026	44	13.3	82	
West Yellowstone	Jan. 2025	26	5.7	66	8.6
	Jan. 2026	21	5.7	66	
Whiskey Creek	Jan. 2025	34	7.8	70	11.1
	Jan. 2026	30	8.2	74	



Standardized SWE from SNODAS & Hypsome-SWE

Gallatin River Watershed—January 2026





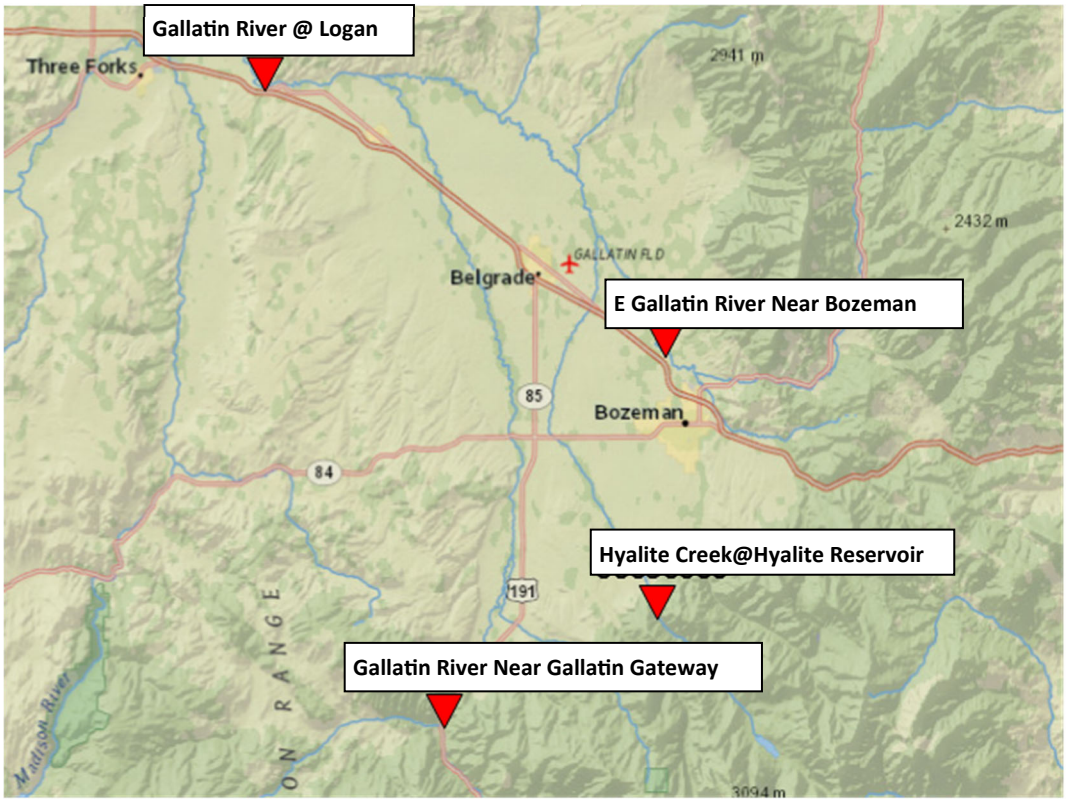
OVERVIEW *Data current as of 2/1/26

Left Map: This data set contains estimates of standardized snow pack anomalies based on the snow water equivalent (SWE) depth from the NOAA National Weather Service's National Operational Hydrologic Remote Sensing Center SNOw Data Assimilation System (SNODAS). SNODAS is a modeling and data assimilation system created to provide the best possible estimates of snow cover and associated parameters to support hydrologic modeling and analysis. Negative (red) values represent less than average SWE, while positive (blue) values represent greater than average SWE. Standardization is based on data from 2004-present and computed daily.

Right Graph: Hypsome-SWE represents a method to evaluate the distribution of SWE across watersheds. Hypsome-SWE is loosely based on hypsometry, the area-elevation relationship of a basin. Instead of evaluating the area-elevation relationship, here they evaluate the cumulative SWE and elevation relationship. More specifically, in this module, they compare the median hypsome-SWE curve for January using the SNODAS period of record (2004-present) to the January 2026 SWE distribution. This allows for a rapid assessment of the distribution of SWE within a basin with respect to elevation and allows for easy comparison to the expected distribution given the SNODAS period of record.

Streamflow Data

Gallatin River Basin—January 2026



February 1st 2026 Gallatin Watershed Streamflow					
Station Name	2026 Discharge (cfs)	% Normal	Normal Discharge (cfs)	2025 Discharge (cfs)	Period Of Record (Yrs)
Gallatin at Logan	653	98	665	689	109
E Gallatin near Bozeman	Ice affected	-	48.5	56.1	11
Hyalite Creek at Hyalite Reservoir	Ice affected	-	18	21.3	71
Gallatin near Gallatin Gateway	288	97	297	306	95

STREAMFLOW SUMMARY *Data current as of 2/1/26

The E Gallatin near Bozeman and Hyalite Creek sites are ice affected.

The Gallatin at Logan and Gallatin near Gallatin Gateway sites have slightly below normal discharge values for this time of year and they are below what they were at this time last year.

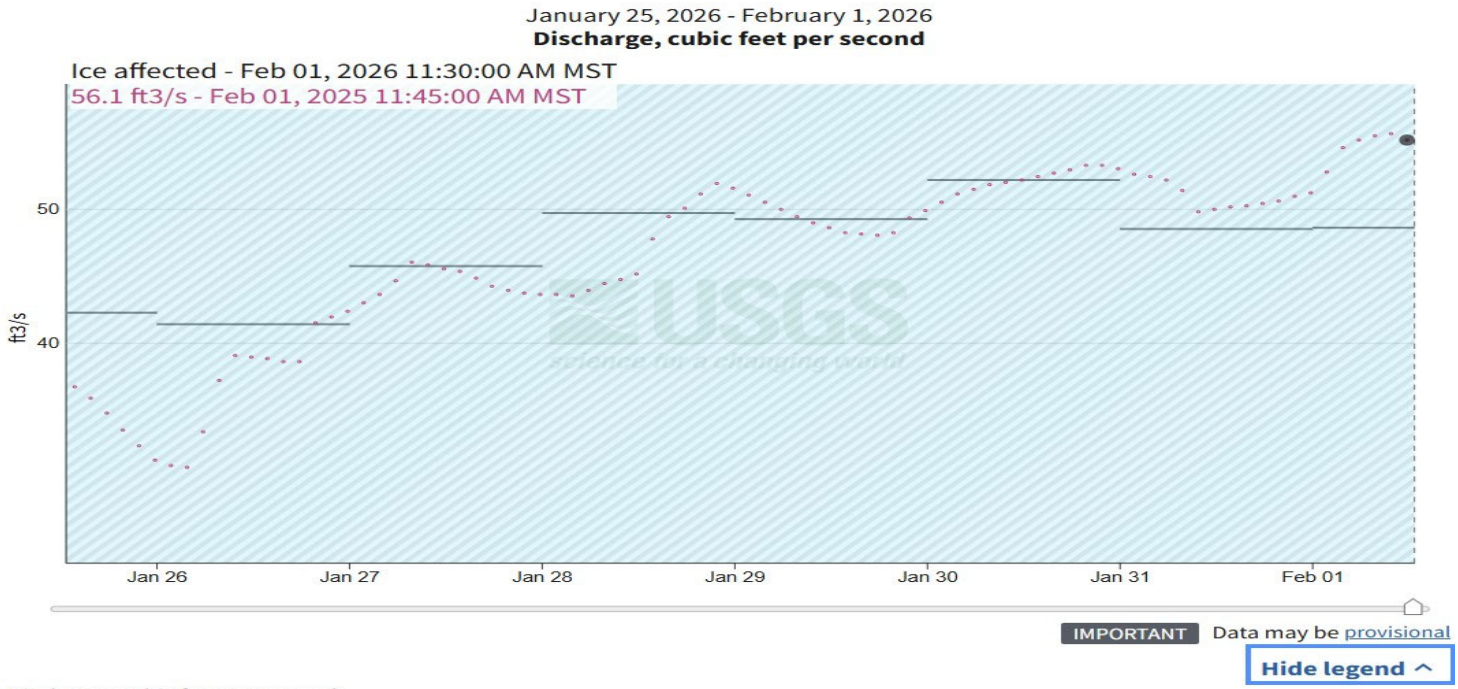
Streamflow Data

Gallatin River Basin—January 2026

Gallatin River at Logan MT - USGS-06052500 Subscribe to WaterAlert

Discharge data is slightly below normal.

E Gallatin R ab Water Reclamation Fa nr Bozeman MT - USGS-06048650 Subscribe to WaterAlert

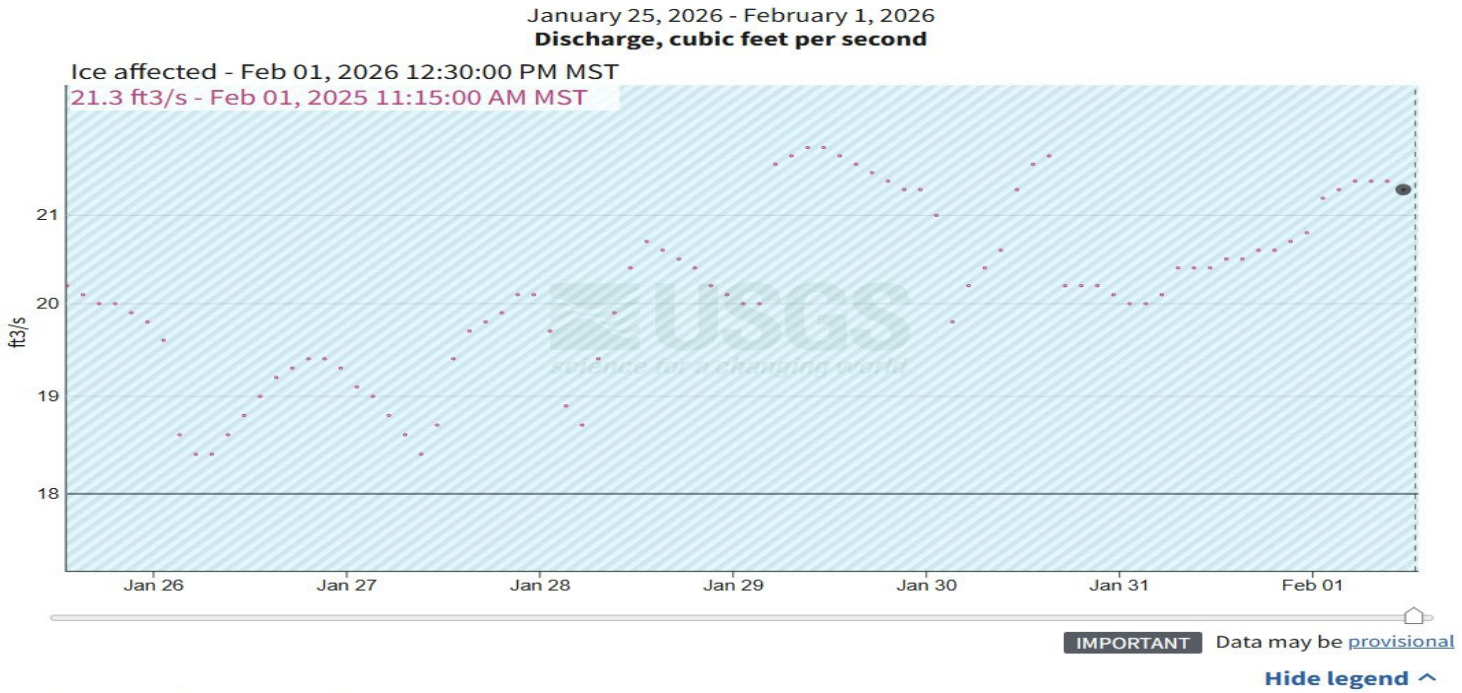


Discharge data is ice affected.

Streamflow Data

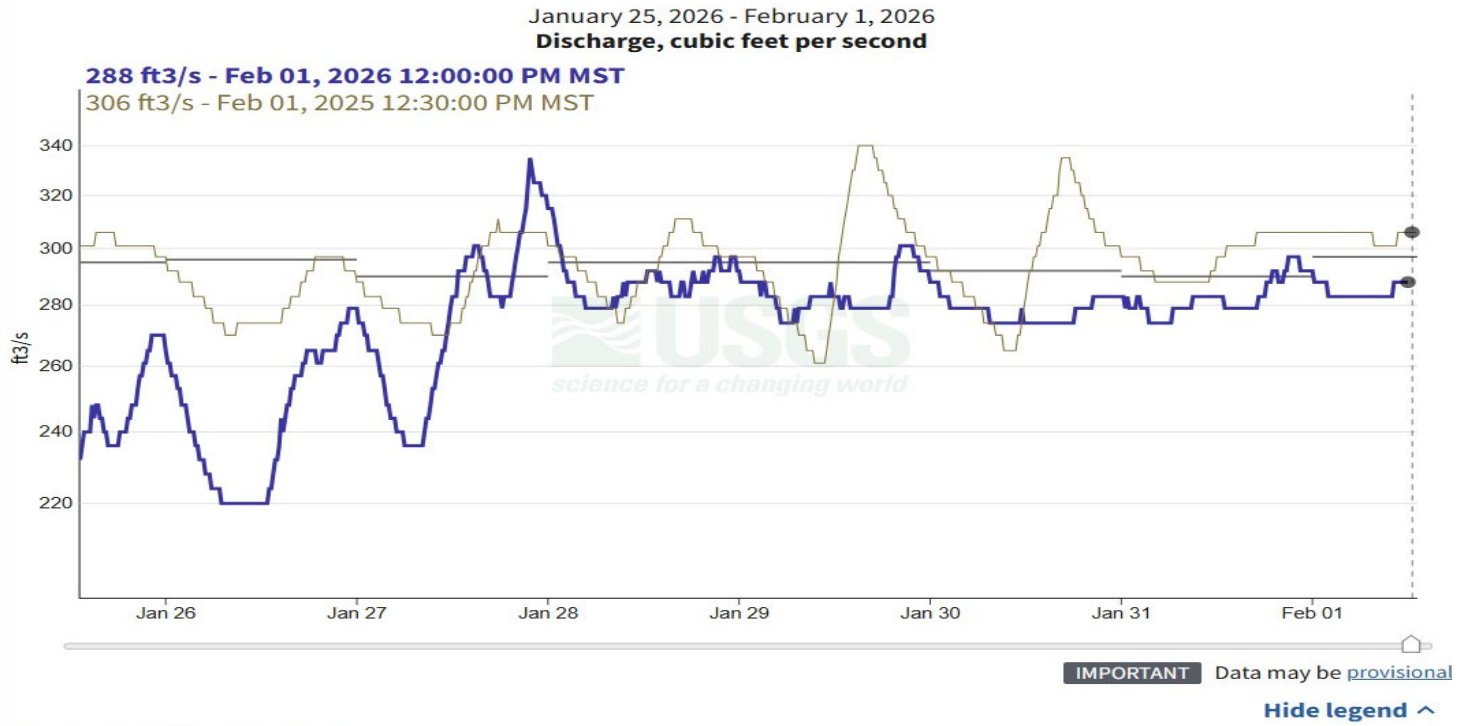
Gallatin River Basin—January 2026

Hyalite C at Hyalite R S nr Bozeman MT - USGS-06050000 Subscribe to WaterAlert



Discharge data is ice affected.

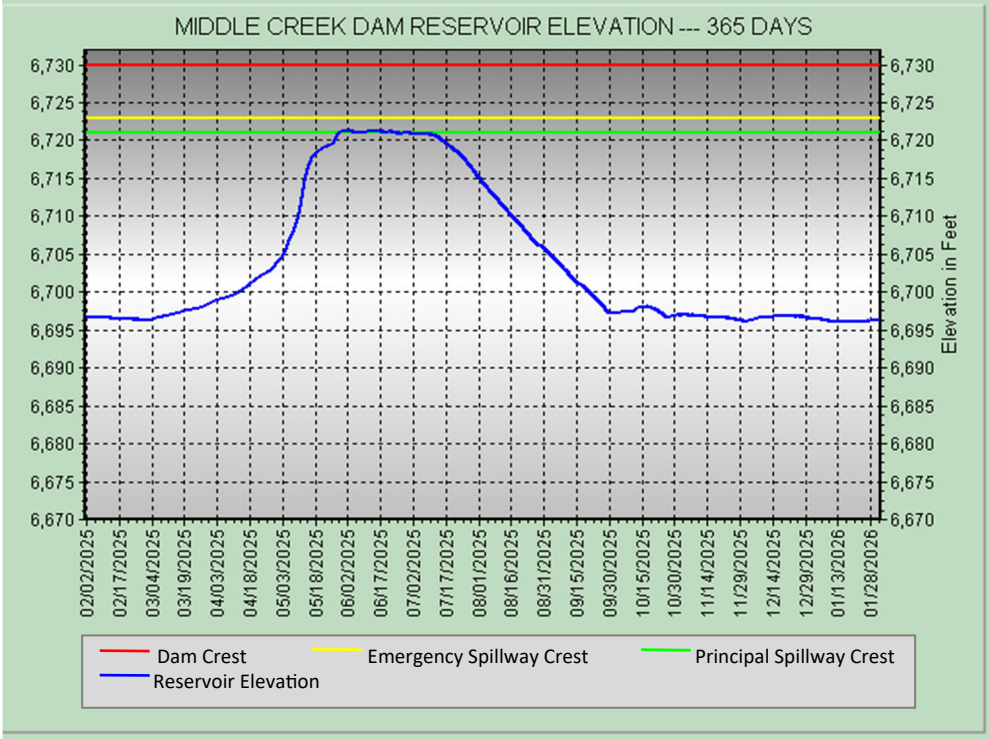
Gallatin River near Gallatin Gateway, MT - USGS-06043500 Subscribe to WaterAlert



Discharge data is slightly below normal.

Water Storage Data

Middle Creek Dam, Hyalite Reservoir—January 2026



TIME OF LAST READING	2/1/2026 10:00 AM
RESERVOIR ELEVATION	6,696.3 FT
RESERVOIR VOLUME	5,362 AF

REFERENCE INFORMATION	FT (MSL)	AC-FT
DAM CREST	6730	12,790
EMERGENCY SPILLWAY CREST	6723	10,707
PRINCIPAL SPILLWAY CREST	6721	10,184
LOWEST USEABLE ELEVATION	6637	0

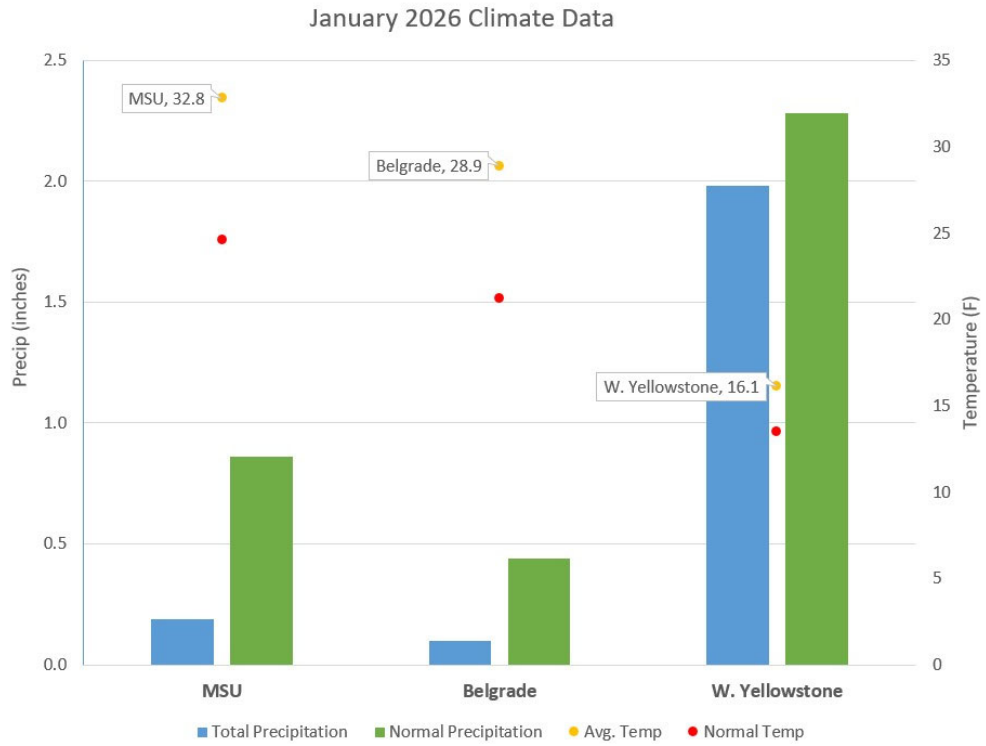
*** PROVISIONAL DATA SUBJECT TO REVISION ***

RESERVOIR SUMMARY *Data current as of 2/1/26

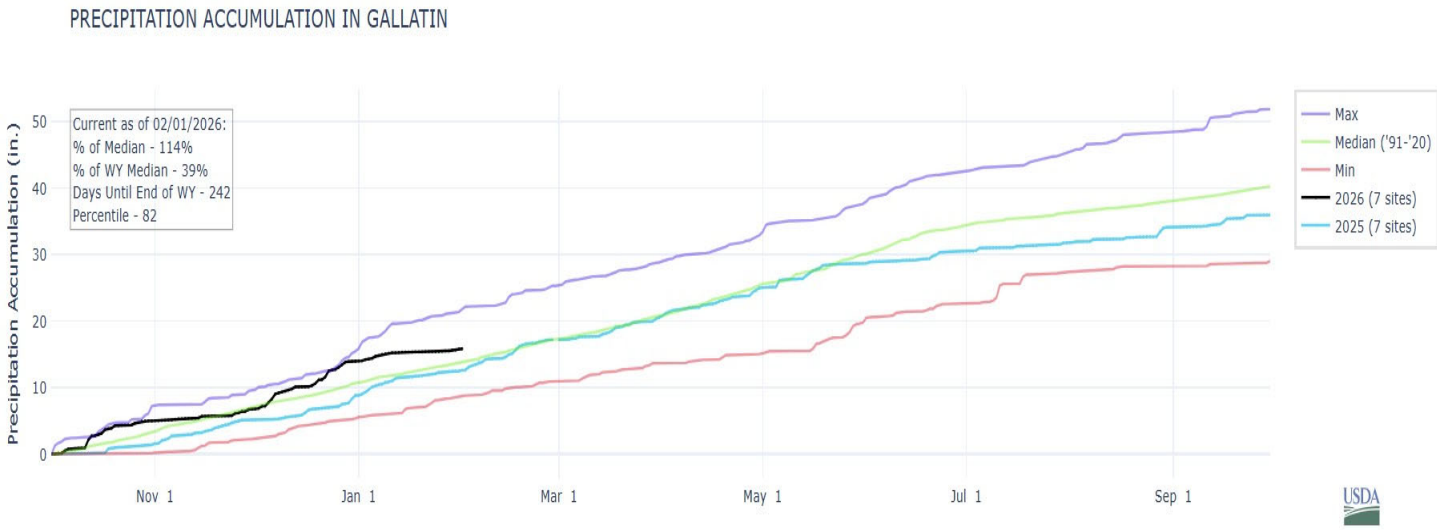
Middle Creek Dam Reservoir elevation is 6,696.3 ft, which is 24.5 ft below the principal spillway crest (6,721 ft). The reservoir elevation has decreased by 0.2 ft since January 1st, 2026 (date of last relevant WSO report). Reservoir volume is 5,362 acre-ft, which is 22 acre-ft less than on January 1st, 2025.

Climate Data

Gallatin County—January 2026



Above graph depicting ACIS climate data representing the entire month of January 2026.



TEMP & PRECIP SUMMARY (Water Year (WY) = October 1st—September 30)

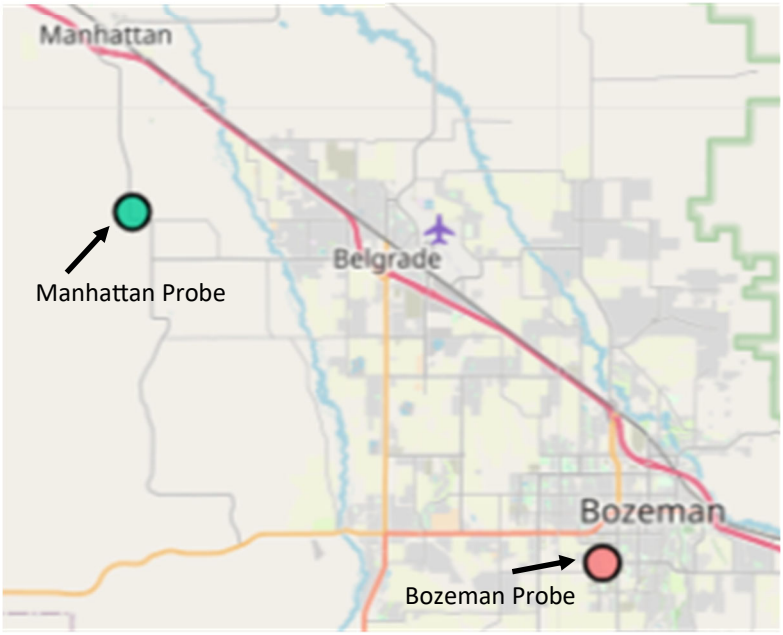
*Data is current as of 2/1/26

Average temperatures have decreased at the MSU, Belgrade, and West Yellowstone sites since December 2025. All sites have had above normal temperatures for this time of year. All sites experienced below average precipitation in January 2026 (ACIS graph).

We are currently in Water Year 2026 (black line). The total accrued precipitation for the Gallatin River Basin as of January 31st, 2026 is above normal (median, green line) at 15.8 inches (USDA graph). The total accrued precipitation for WY 2025 on January 31st, 2025 was 12.5 inches (central blue line).

Soil Moisture Data

Mesonet Stations—January 2026



Manhattan Soil Probe Depth (in)	Soil Temp (°F)	Soil Water Content (%)
8" - Surface	30.74	19.80
20" - Shallow rooting	33.08	8.00
36" - Deep Rooting	37.04	19.00

Bozeman Soil Probe Depth (in)	Soil Temp (°F)	Soil Water Content (%)
4" - Surface	31.46	16.15
8" - Shallow rooting	31.46	18.10
20" - Deep Rooting	33.35	18.40

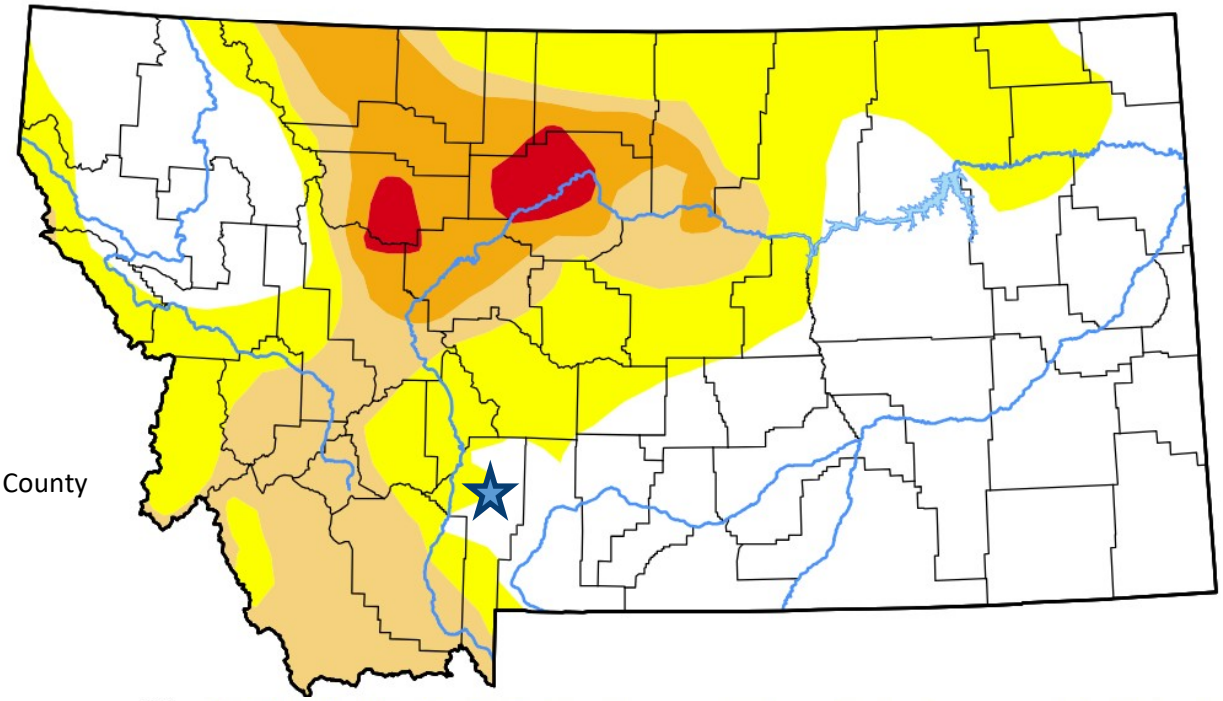
SOIL MOISTURE SUMMARY *Data current as of 2/1/26

At the Manhattan and Bozeman stations, the soil temperature has decreased at both stations at all depths since December 2025.

Since December 2025, the soil water content at the Manhattan station has decreased at the surface while remaining the same or very similar to last month at 20” and 36”. At the Bozeman station, soil water content decreased at the surface and 8” while increasing at 20”.

Drought Index Data

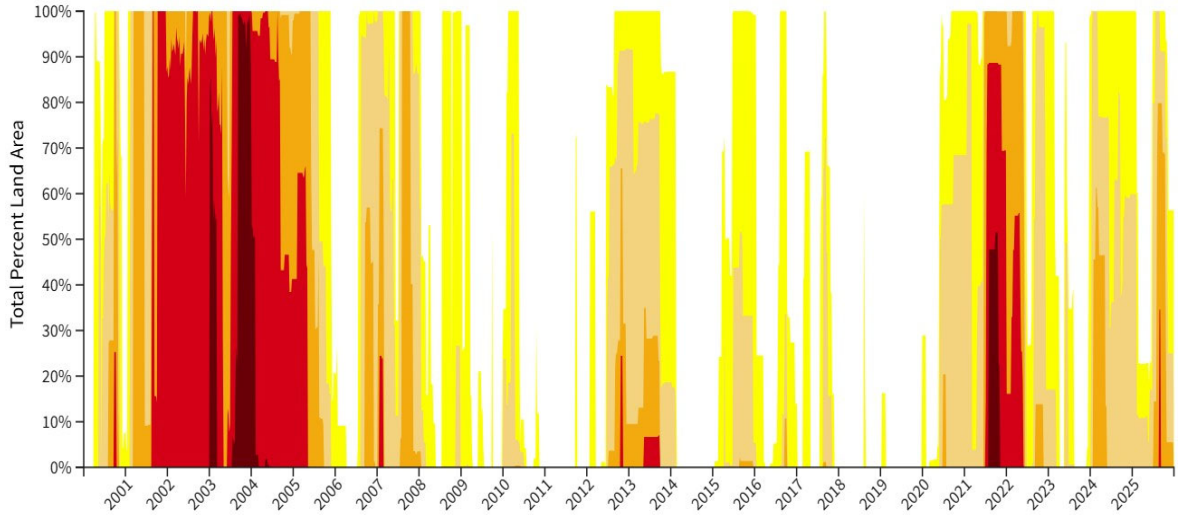
Gallatin County— January 2026



= Gallatin County

Intensity:

- None
- D0 (Abnormally Dry)
- D1 (Moderate Drought)
- D2 (Severe Drought)
- D3 (Extreme Drought)
- D4 (Exceptional Drought)
- No Data



Historical Conditions for Gallatin County, 2000-Present

DROUGHT INDEX SUMMARY

*Data is current as of 1/29/26 and 2/1/26

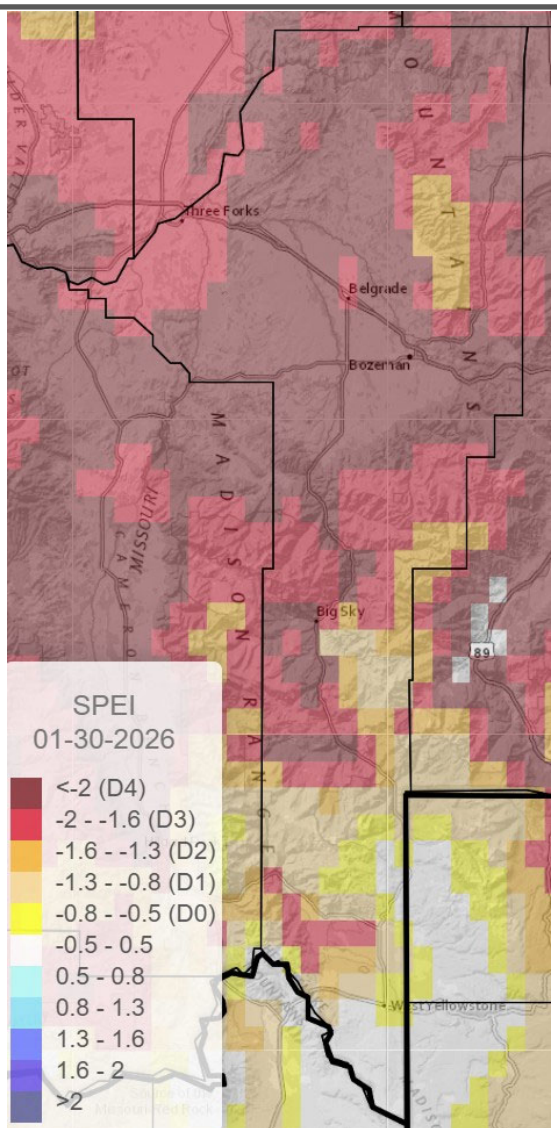
24.01% of Gallatin County is not experiencing drought.

69.72% of Gallatin County is experiencing abnormally dry drought conditions. Impacts include low soil moisture contributing to poor crop germination and dry pastures, increased fire danger, and low streamflow with impacts to recreational fishing.

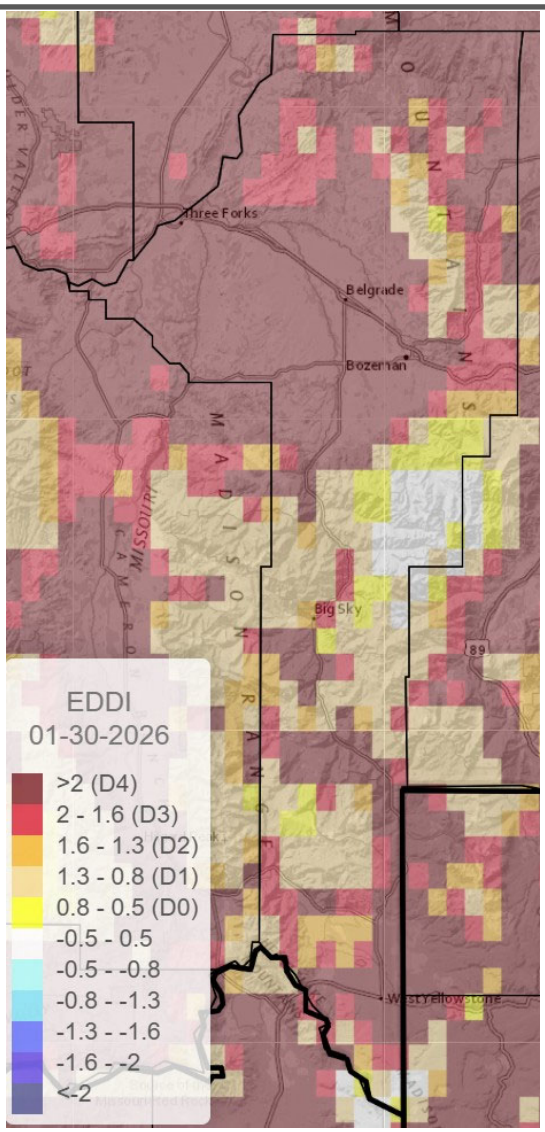
6.27% of Gallatin County is experiencing moderate drought conditions. Impacts include feeding livestock supplemental hay, crops are stressed, and growth is poor. Fire restrictions may be implemented.

Help ground truth information with the MT Drought Impact Reporter! Submit reports anytime of year, wet or dry! https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/9256e9943a964af5ad7e0280e1407712

Standardized Precipitation Evapotranspiration Index



Evaporative Demand Drought Index



SPEI & EDDI Overview *Data is current as of 1/30/26

The maps above show the current Standardized Precipitation Evapotranspiration Index (SPEI, Left) and Evaporative Demand Drought Index (EDDI, Right) for January 2026.

SPEI takes into account both precipitation and potential evapotranspiration to describe the wetness (positive blue values) or dryness (negative red values) of a time period. SPEI has been calculated for January 2026 to represent drought impacts on hydrological conditions for the past 30 days. SPEI incorporates the important effect of atmospheric demand on drought.

EDDI has examined how deviated from normal the atmospheric evaporative demand is for Gallatin County in January 2026. EDDI is an experimental drought monitoring and early warning guidance tool. EDDI can offer early warning of agricultural drought, hydrologic drought, and fire-weather risk. Positive (red) values represent dryness categories, while negative (blue) values represent wetness categories.

Gallatin County Water Supply Outlook

Source Information & Helpful Links

Gallatin Conservation District:

- Archive of Water Supply Outlook Reports
- Living by the Water
- 310 Permit Forms & Info

Snowpack:

- USDA / NRCS Interactive Map
- Montana Snow Survey Homepage
- NRCS / NWCC National Water & Climate Center
- Standardized Snow Water Equivalent (SWE from SNODAS & Hypsome –SWE

Streamflow:

- USGS Real Time Streamflow
- State of Montana Gaging Stations
- DNRC Water Right Query System

Water Storage:

- DNRC Water Projects—Middle Creek Real Time Data
- Middle Creek Early Warning System
- BOR—Montana Lakes and Reservoirs

Climate:

- ACIS Database
- NRCS Montana Current Conditions
- Montana Snow Survey Homepage
- US Climate Data

Soil Moisture:

- Montana Mesonet
- DNRC Drought Status by County

Drought:

- US Drought Portal
- US Drought Monitor

SPEI & EDDI:

Standardized Precipitation Evapotranspiration Index

Evaporative Demand Drought Index

Helpful Partner Websites:

- Department of Natural Resources & Conservation
- Gallatin County MSU Extension Office
- Gallatin Local Water Quality District
- Gallatin River Task Force
- Gallatin Watershed Council
- Montana Fish, Wildlife, & Parks
- Montana Natural Resource Conservation Services
- Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigators