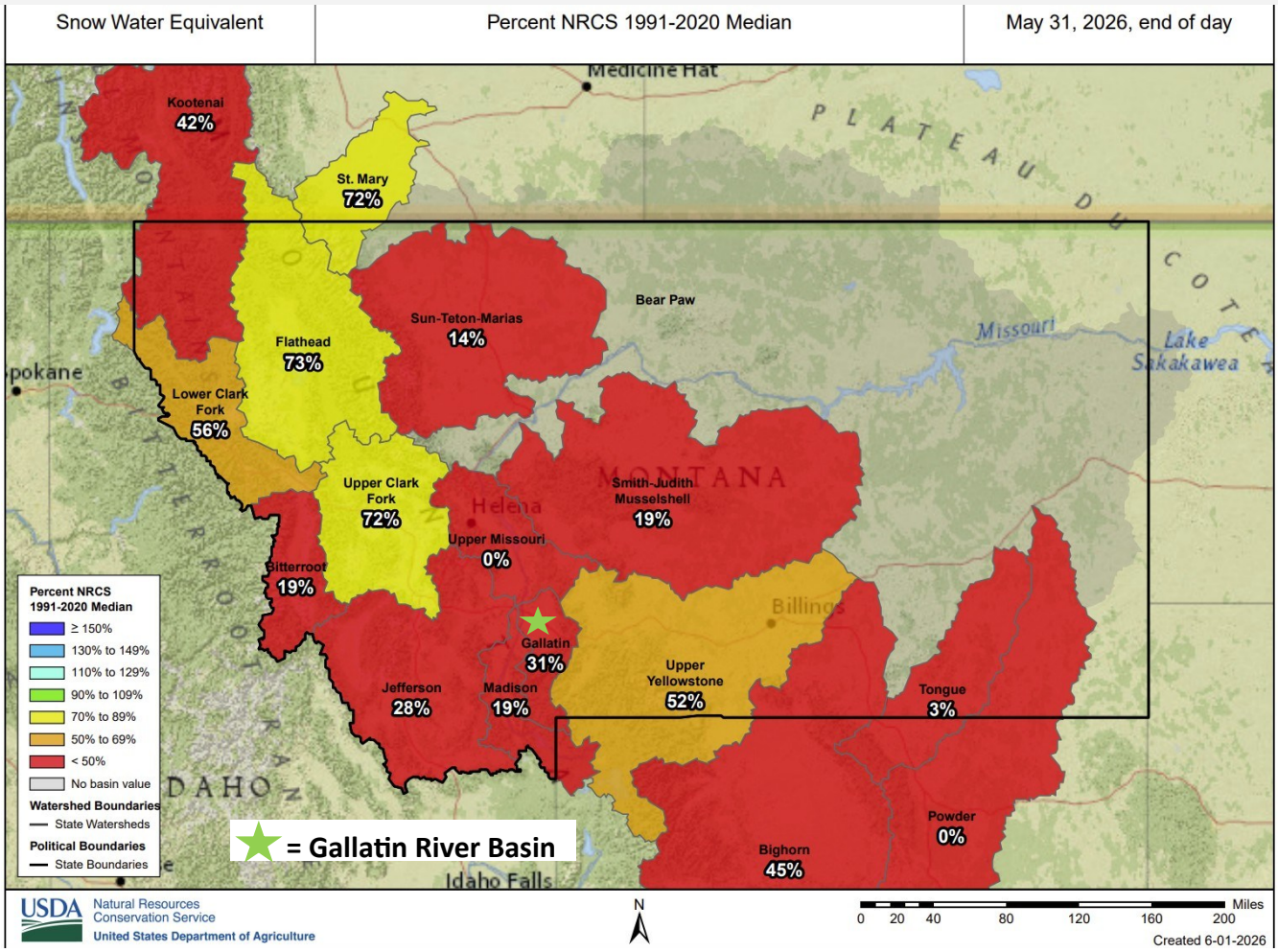
Gallatin Water Supply Outlook
May 2026



SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN GALLATIN

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

*Data current as of 5/31/26 and 6/1/2026

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 May 31st, 2026 at 2.7 inches (a 10.2 decrease since last month). Last year, on May 31st, 2025, the SWE was at 5.9 inches (central blue line). Detailed end-of-month SNOTEL site information follows.

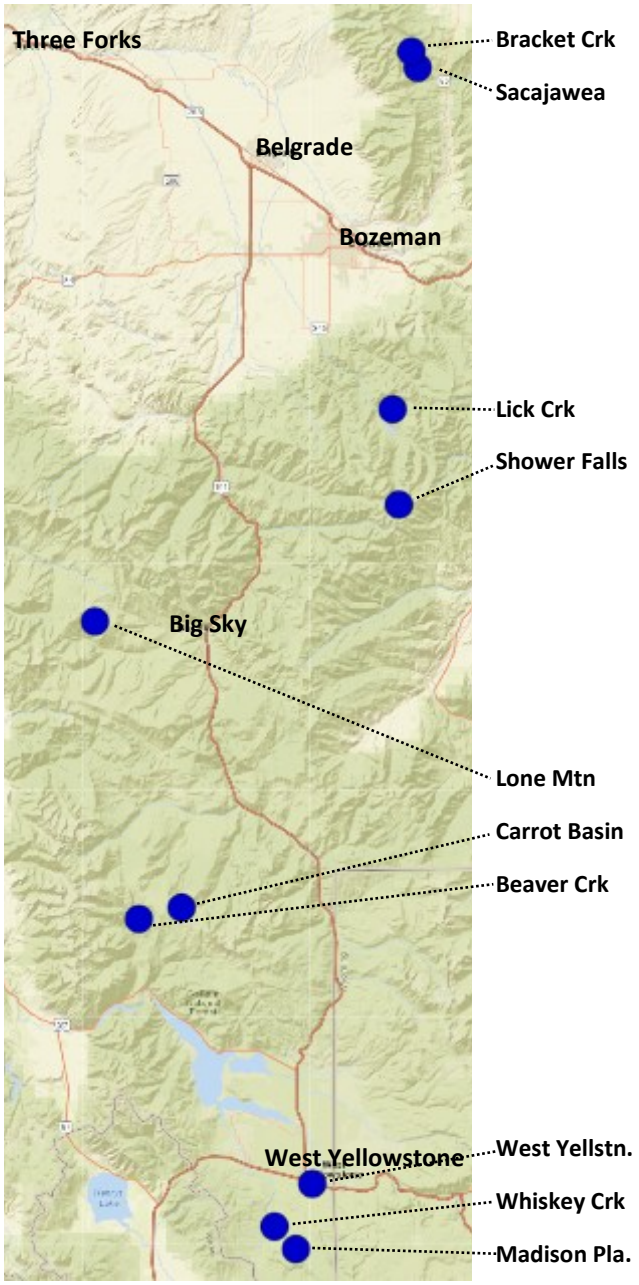
Snowpack Data
Gallatin River Basin—May 2026

Gallatin Valley Region (Bozeman-Belgrade-Four Corners)					
Station Name	*Date*	*Snow Depth (in)*	*SWE (in)*	*SWE % Normal*	*Normal SWE 1971-2000 (in)*
Brackett Creek	May 2025	0	0.0	0	15.7
	May 2026	0	0.0	0	
Sacajawea	May 2025	0	0.0	0	4.0
	May 2026	0	0.0	0	

Hyalite Region (Gallatin Gateway)					
Station Name	*Date*	*Snow Depth (in)*	*SWE (in)*	*SWE % Normal*	*Normal SWE 1971-2000 (in)*
Lick Creek	May 2025	0	0.0	0	5.2
	May 2026	0	0.0	0	
Shower Falls	May 2025	41	18.9	71	26.6
	May 2026	18	7.1	27	

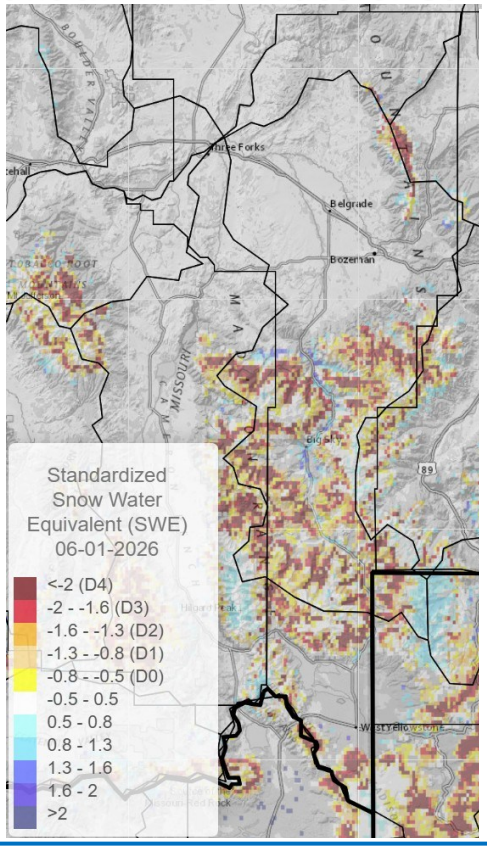
Lee Metcalf Wilderness Region (Big Sky)					
Station Name	*Date*	*Snow Depth (in)*	*SWE (in)*	*SWE % Normal*	*Normal SWE 1971-2000 (in)*
Beaver Creek	May 2025	0	0.0	0	16.0
	May 2026	0	0.0	0	
Carrot Basin	May 2025	26	12.1	41	29.7
	May 2026	20	10.1	34	
Lone Mountain	May 2025	13	5.9	31	18.9
	May 2026	0	0.0	0	

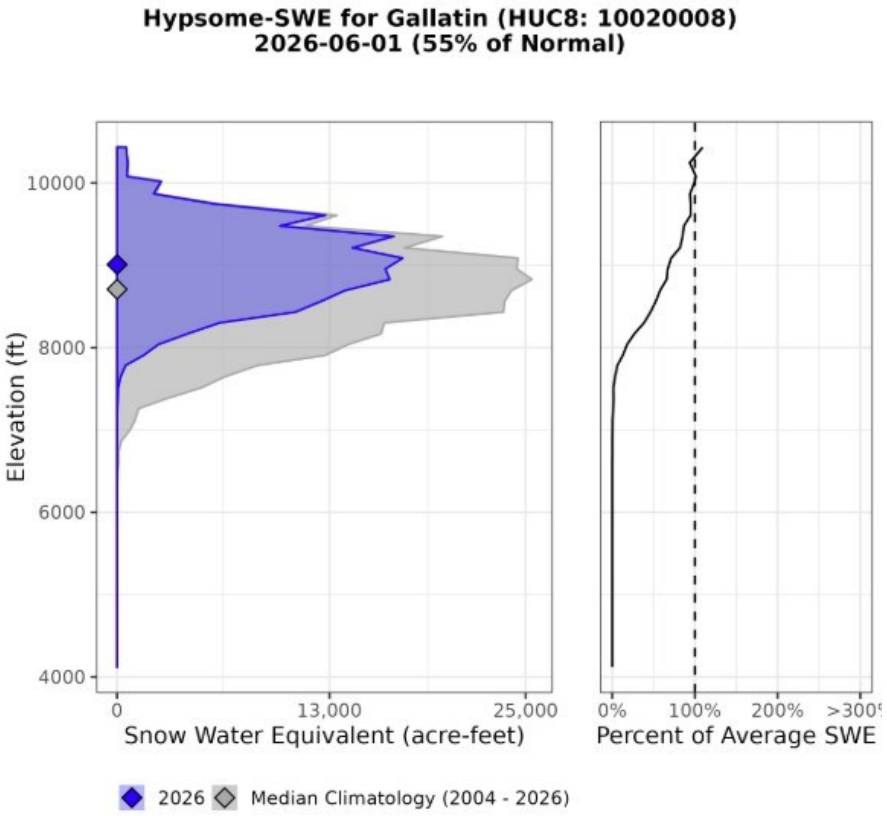
West Yellowstone Region					
Station Name	*Date*	*Snow Depth (in)*	*SWE (in)*	*SWE % Normal*	*Normal SWE 1971-2000 (in)*
Madison Plateau	May 2025	0	0.0	0	19.5
	May 2026	0	0.0	0	
West Yellowstone	May 2025	0	0.0	0	0.9
	May 2026	0	0.0	0	
Whiskey Creek	May 2025	0	0.0	0	9.8
	May 2026	0	0.0	0	



Standardized SWE from SNODAS & Hypsome-SWE

Gallatin River Watershed—May 2026





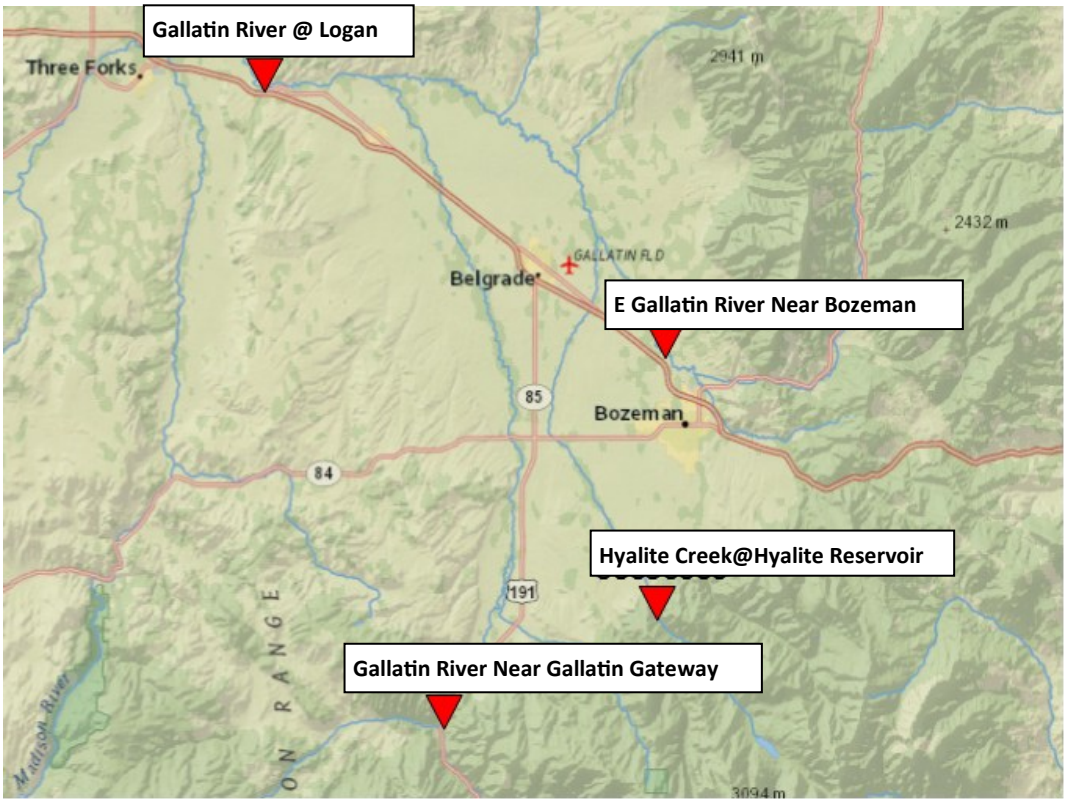
OVERVIEW *Data current as of 6/1/26

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 May using the SNODAS period of record (2004-present) to the May 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—May 2026



June 1st 2026 Gallatin Watershed Streamflow					
Station Name	2026 Discharge (cfs)	% Normal	Normal Discharge (cfs)	2025 Discharge (cfs)	Period Of Record (Yrs)
Gallatin at Logan	2680	95	2830	3960	109
E Gallatin near Bozeman	336	114	296	298	11
Hyalite Creek at Hyalite Reservoir	160	88	181.5	232	76
Gallatin near Gallatin Gateway	2200	82	2690	3980	96

STREAMFLOW SUMMARY *Data current as of 6/1/26

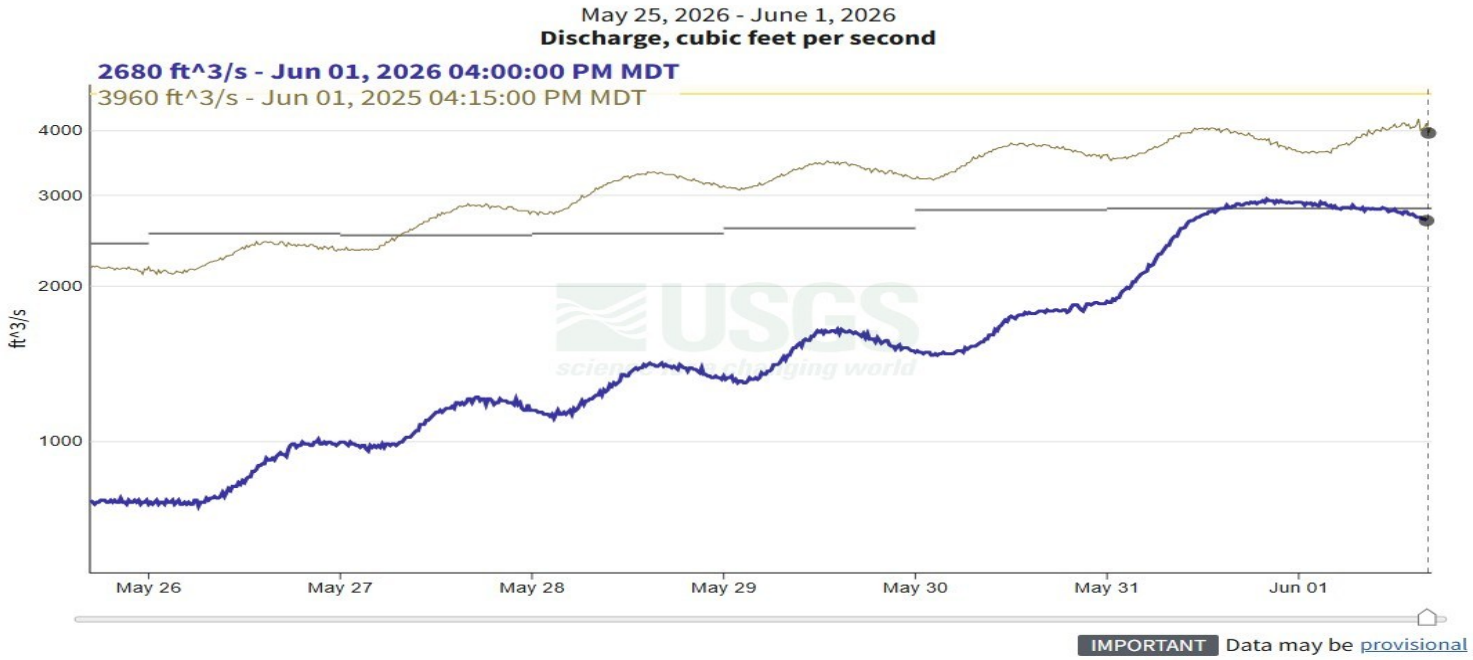
The Gallatin at Logan, Hyalite, and Gallatin near Gallatin Gateway sites have below normal discharge values, while E Gallatin near Bozeman site had discharge values above normal.

All sites except the E Gallatin near Bozeman site, have discharge values below what they were at this time last year.

Streamflow Data

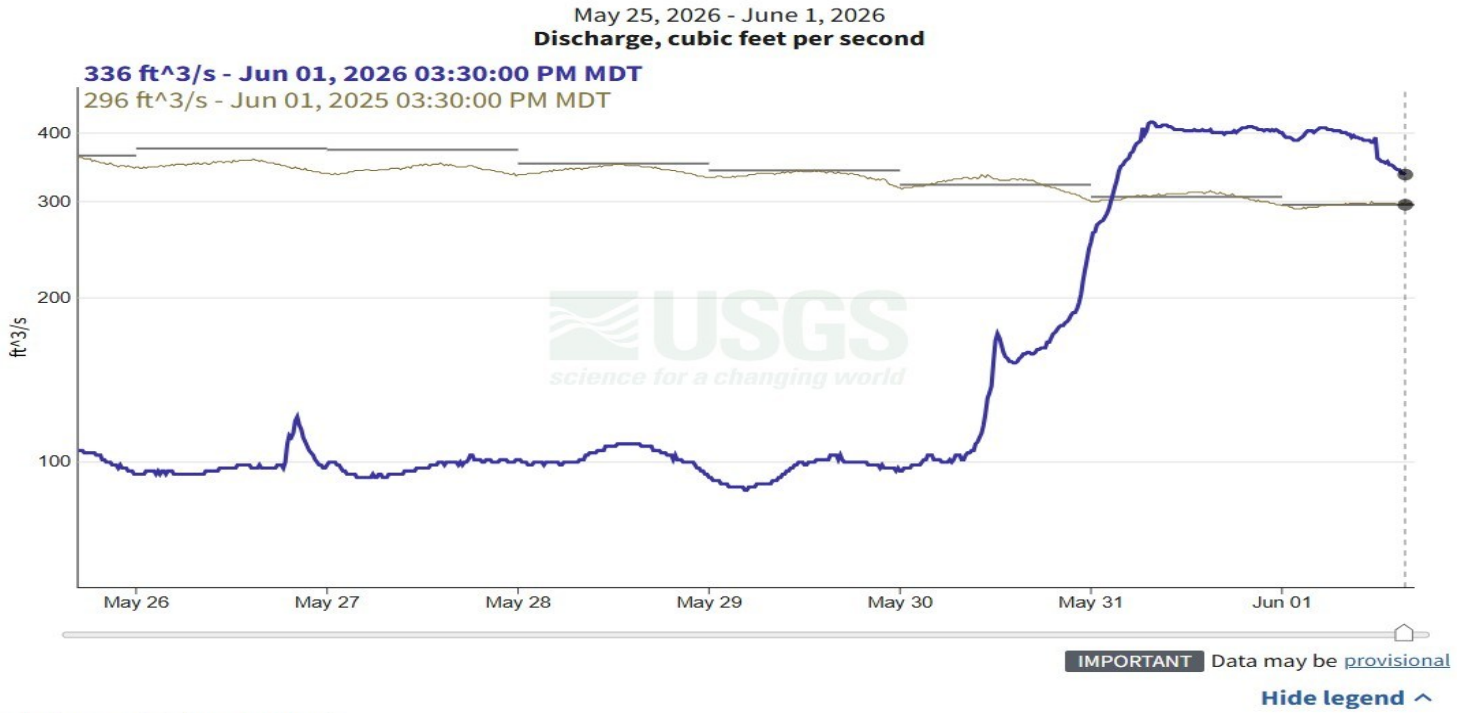
Gallatin River Basin—May 2026

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



Discharge data is below normal.

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

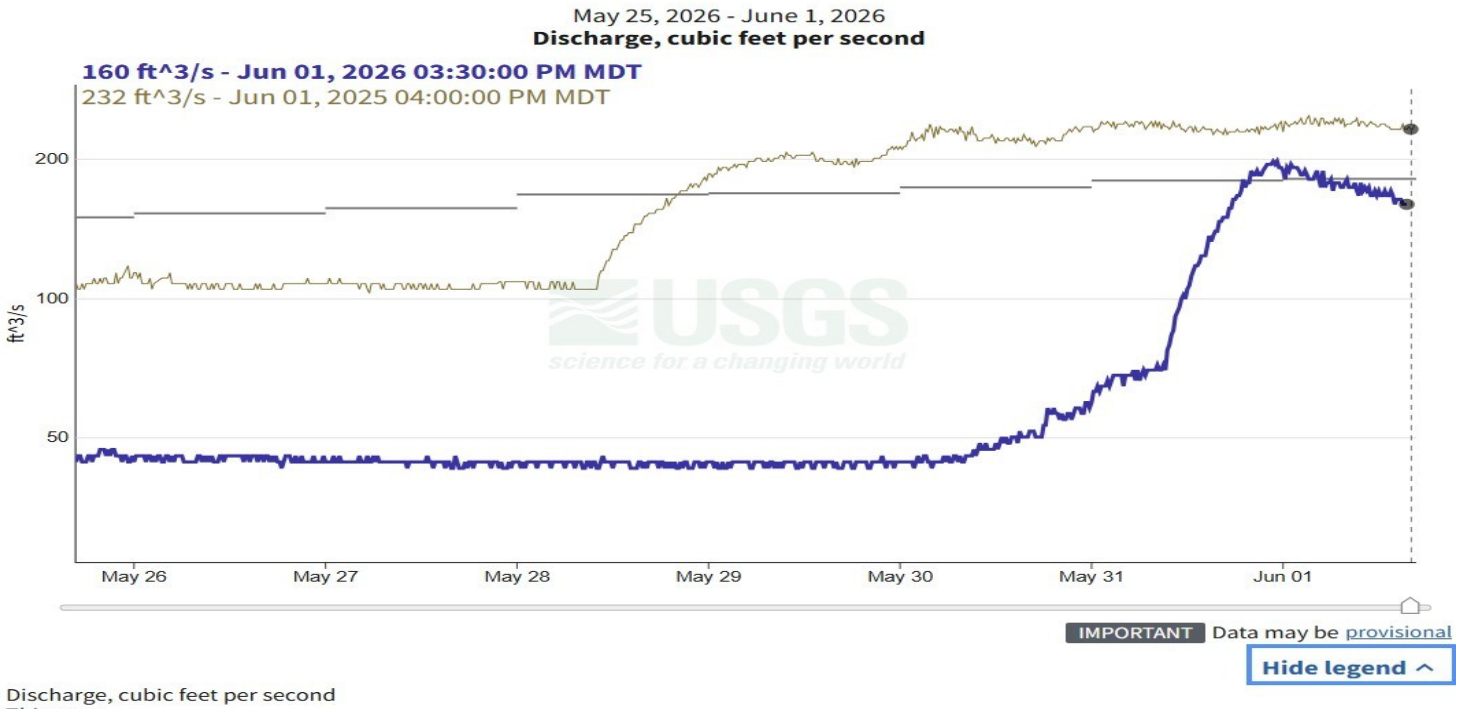


Discharge data is above normal.

Streamflow Data

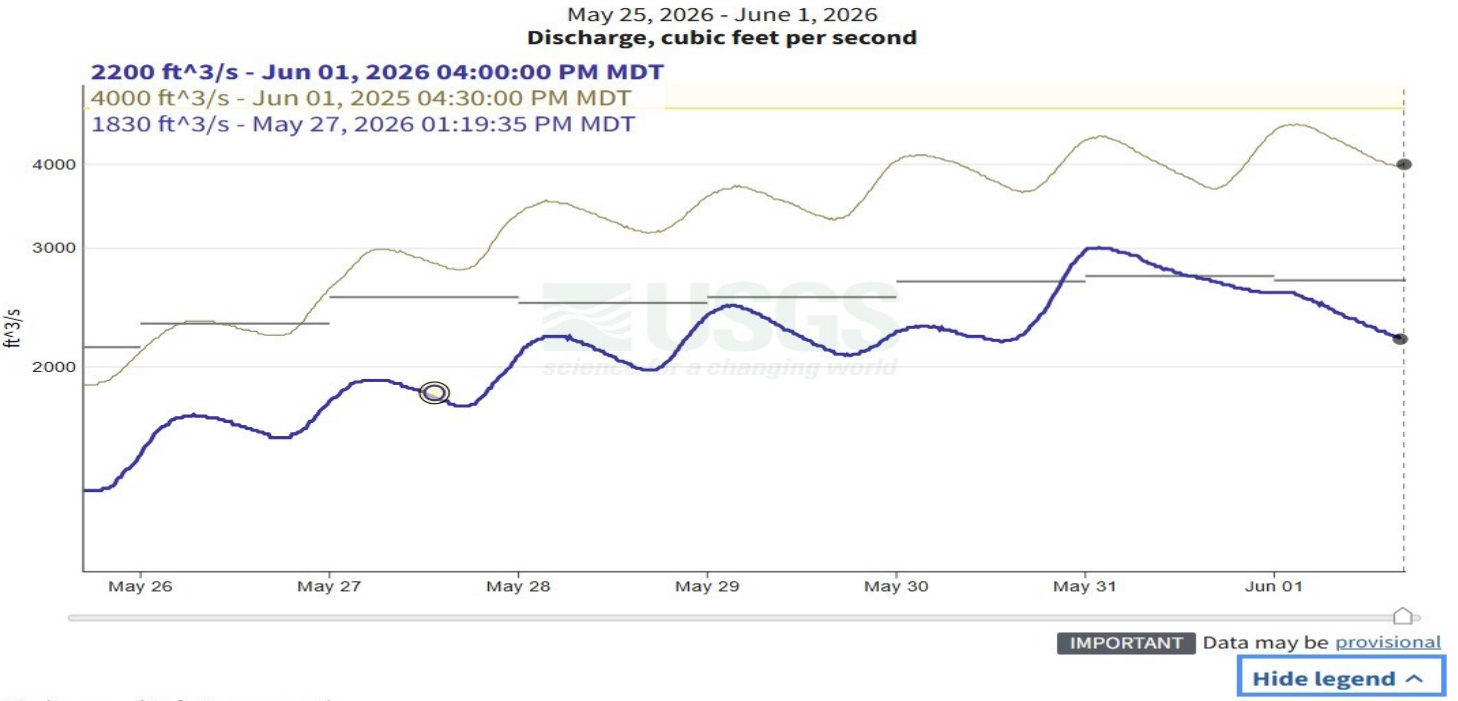
Gallatin River Basin—May 2026

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



Discharge data is below normal.

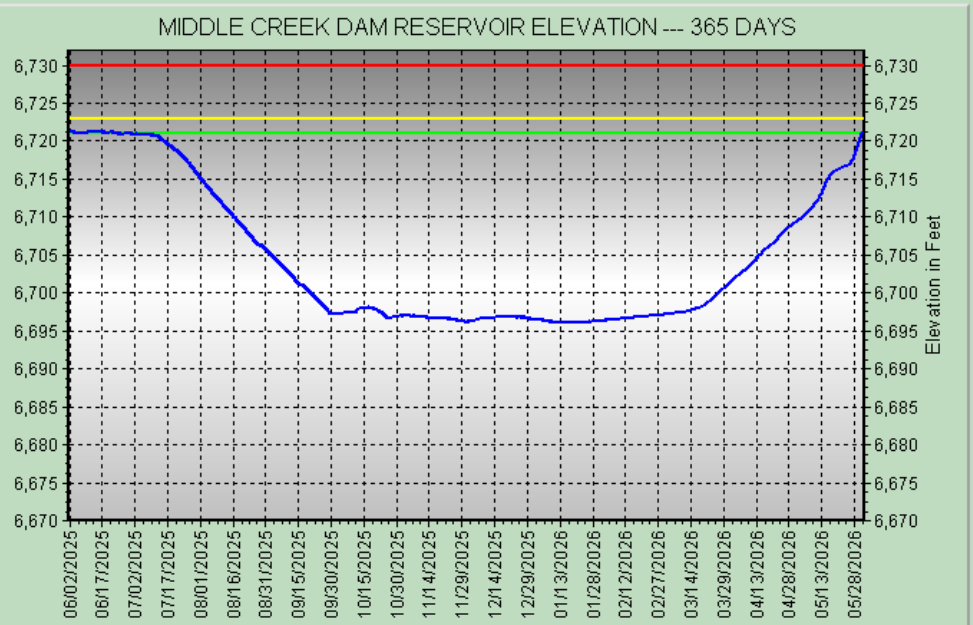
Gallatin River near Gallatin Gateway, MT - USGS-06043500 Subscribe to WaterAlert

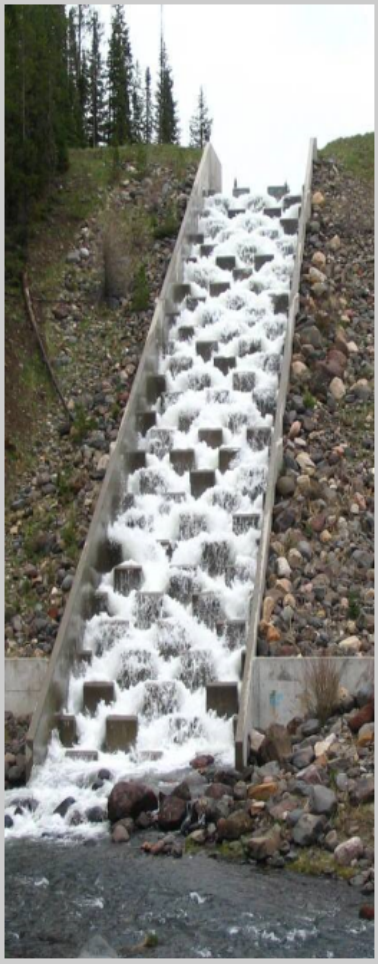


Discharge data is below normal.

Water Storage Data

Middle Creek Dam, Hyalite Reservoir—May 2026





TIME OF LAST READING	6/1/2026 3:00 PM
RESERVOIR ELEVATION	6,721.1 FT
RESERVOIR VOLUME	10,208 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

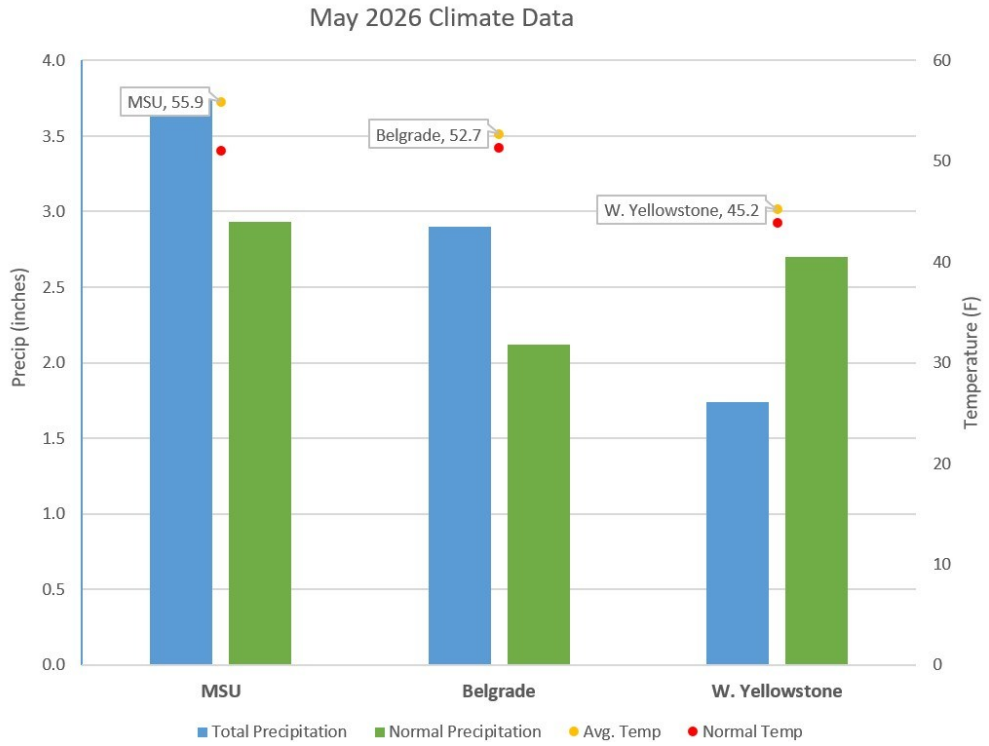
*** PROVISIONAL DATA SUBJECT TO REVISION ***

RESERVOIR SUMMARY *Data current as of 6/1/26

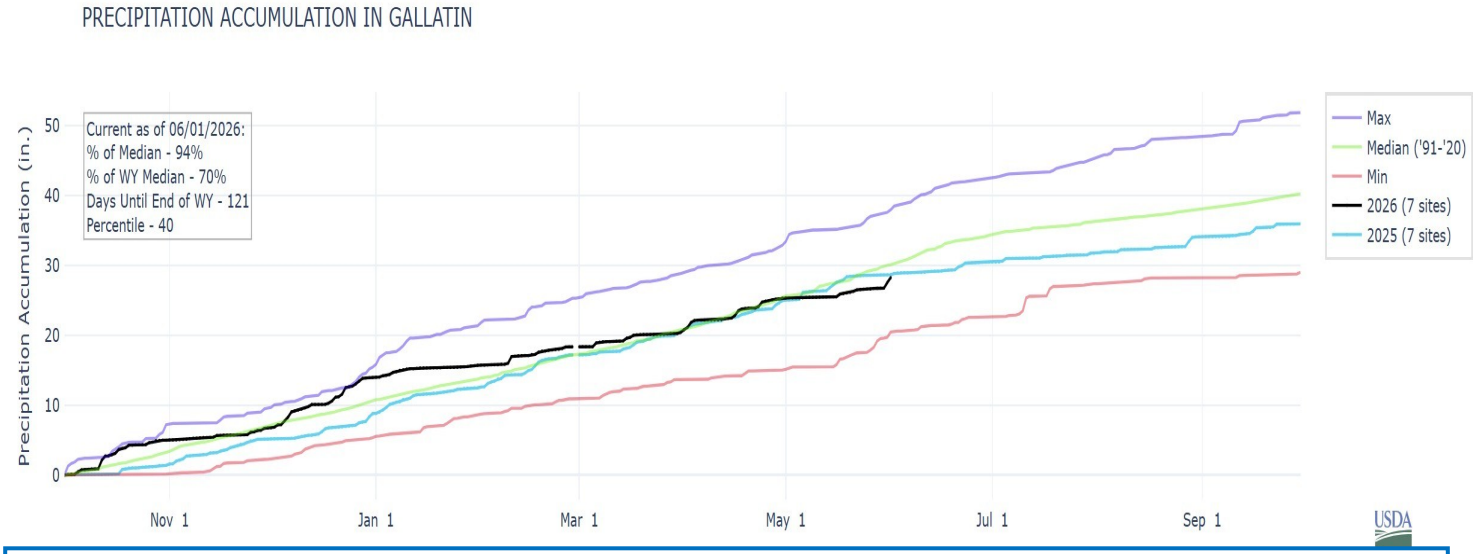
Middle Creek Dam Reservoir elevation is 6,721.1 ft, which is 1.0 ft above the principal spillway crest (6,721 ft). The reservoir elevation has increased by 11.9 ft since April 30th, 2026 (date of last relevant WSO report). Reservoir volume is 10,208 acre-ft, which is 2,678 acre-ft more than on April 30th, 2026.

Climate Data

Gallatin County—May 2026



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



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

*Data is current as of 6/1/26

Average temperatures have increased at all sites since April 2025. All sites have had above normal temperatures for this time of year. MSU and Belgrade sites experienced above average precipitation in May 2026, while West Yellowstone site experienced below normal precipitation. (ACIS graph).

We are currently in Water Year 2026 (black line). The total accrued precipitation for the Gallatin River Basin as of May 31st, 2026 is just below normal (median, green line) at 27.5 inches (USDA graph). The total accrued precipitation for WY 2025 on May 31st, 2025 was 28.7 inches (central blue line).

Soil Moisture Data

Mesonet Stations—May 2026

Manhattan Soil Probe Depth (in)	Soil Temp (°F)	Soil Water Content (%)
8" - Surface	57.92	24.3
20" - Shallow rooting	56.12	8.5
36" - Deep Rooting	51.98	18.9

Bozeman Soil Probe Depth (in)	Soil Temp (°F)	Soil Water Content (%)
4" - Surface	63.59	32.25
8" - Shallow rooting	56.93	29.75
20" - Deep Rooting	55.85	21.1

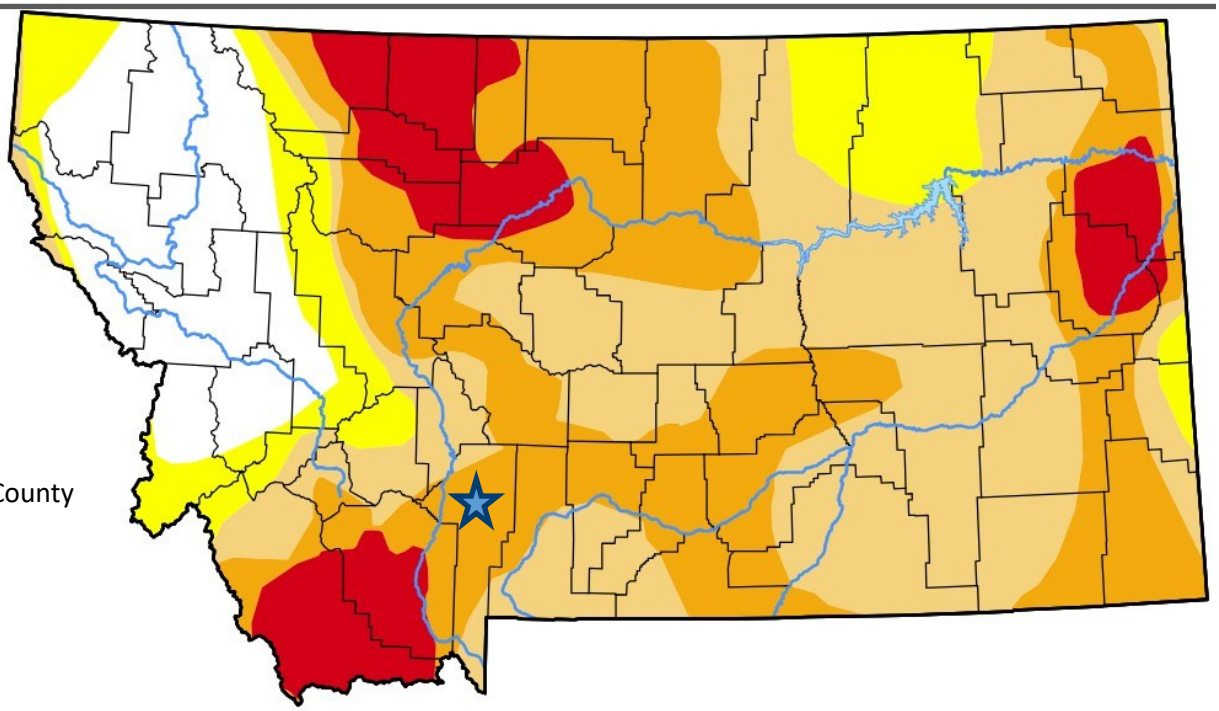
SOIL MOISTURE SUMMARY *Data current as of 6/1/26

Since April 2025, at the Manhattan and Bozeman stations the soil temperature increased at all depths.

The soil water content at the Manhattan station has decreased at all depths. At the Bozeman station, soil water content increased at 4” and 8”, while decreasing at 20”.

Drought Index Data

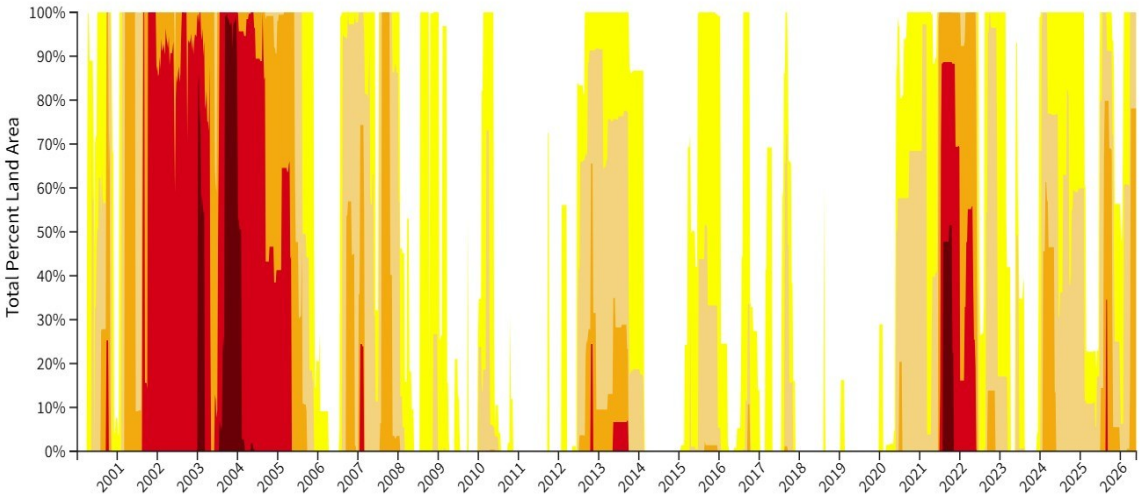
Gallatin County— May 2026



= 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

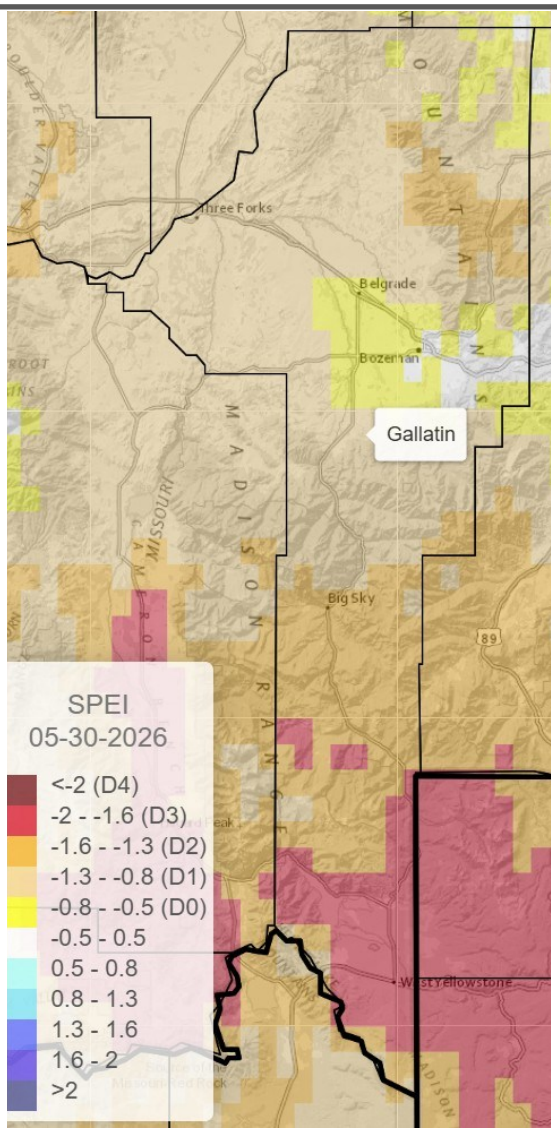
DROUGHT INDEX SUMMARY *Data is current as of 5/28/26

21.90% 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.

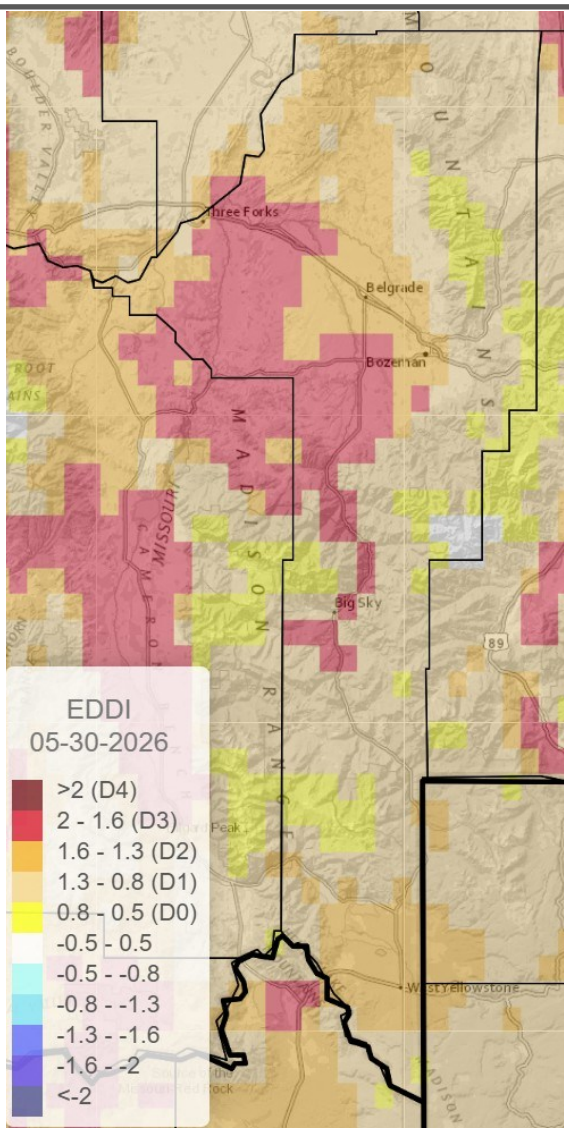
78.10% of Gallatin County is experiencing Severe Drought conditions at this time. Impacts include lower hay and crop yields, lower hay quality, non-existent subsoil moisture, high danger and fire count, poor air quality, low to dry livestock ponds, and stressed water wells.

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 5/30/26

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