

Climate Presentation

Montana Land Information Advisory Council, March 3, 2011

PRESENTERS:

Jess Aber, Water Resource Planner, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC), Water Resources Division, Staff, Drought Advisory Committee

The mission of the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation is "Helping to ensure that Montana's land and water resources provide benefits for present and future generations." In 1991, the state legislature enacted MCA 2-15-3308 Drought Advisory Committee setting forth the Committee's role and representation. In recent years, the Committee has established relationships with climate research entities, including the Montana Climate Office, in promoting a better understanding of how cyclical climate anomalies define much of Montana's wide range of natural climate variability allowing for better long-range forecasting of water supply and moisture conditions.

Michael Sweet, Montana Climate Office, The University of Montana

In 2006 Governor Schweitzer designated the Montana Climate Office as the official Montana State Climate Office. The sole mission of the Montana Climate Office is to provide easy access to Montana climatologic services.

This presentation includes discussion of climate and the institutional framework for climate services in Montana.

CONTACTS:

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- Host Unit, Numerical Terradynamic Simulation Group (NTSG), The University of Montana, Dr. Steve Running (co-Director)
- State Government Climate Contact, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Water Resources Division, Jesse E. Aber, III, M.Sc. (Staff, Governor's Drought Advisory Committee) www.drought.mt.gov
- State Climatologist, The University of Montana, Dr. Donald Potts (co-Director)
- Eastern Montana Office, Grants and Sponsored Programs, Montana State University - Billings (MSUB), Dr. David McGinnis