



Monthly Climate Report

NWS Reno NV

Issued: 7/16/2026



Weather Synopsis & Highlights:

June 2026 temperatures were warmer than average regionwide by about 2-5 degrees (Figure 1), with Reno equaling the 4th warmest June on record. Precipitation was generally drier than average, with much of eastern CA and parts of western NV receiving less than 25% of June average precipitation. Farther north near the OR border, precipitation was only slightly below average (Figure 2). However, the thunderstorm activity on June 19 produced much heavier precipitation in isolated portions of western NV, which was not represented by the map's resolution.

The warming trend that closed out May continued into early June, with temperatures climbing about 10 degrees above average from the 2nd through 5th, resulting in highs near or above 90 degrees in lower elevations and near 80 for Sierra valleys.

A dry cold front then swept across the region on the 6th, bringing a prolonged period of gusty winds with low humidity with Red Flag Warnings in effect. Temperatures dropped to near average through the weekend of the 6th and 7th, then another storm brushing across northwest NV brought further cooling on the 8th and another round of gusty winds. Rainfall was sparse with this system, with amounts 0.10" or less in far northeast CA and far northwest NV, and only trace amounts to the Reno-Tahoe region.

After this storm departed, a notable warming trend returned from the 9th through 12th. Temperatures rose to the mid 90s in lower elevations and mid 80s for Sierra valleys starting on the 12th, with a few sites reaching 100 degrees from the 16th through 18th, including Reno's first 100 degree high of the year on the 16th. Most of the region remained dry, except for isolated late afternoon showers and thunderstorms with spotty light rainfall mainly near the Sierra and adjacent areas of far western NV south of US-50 from the 11th through 14th.

Thunderstorm activity returned on the 18th with isolated storms mainly near the Sierra and into northeast CA. The strongest storms produced a peak gust around 60 mph near Meyers, along with reports of hail up to $\frac{3}{4}$ " diameter. The most impactful storm event occurred on the afternoon of the 19th, as a cluster of strong to severe thunderstorms produced widespread lightning (over 2500 strikes), heavy rainfall of 1 to over 2 inches and several reports of flash flooding in western NV from Stagecoach to southeast Reno/Hidden Valley, east Sparks to Lockwood and Spanish Springs (more details below in the Hydrology section). Hail up to 1" diameter and wind gusts of 60-75+ mph also occurred with these storms as they pushed across northwest and west central NV.

A drier pattern returned from the 20th through 23rd with temperatures warming into the 90s for lower elevations and lower 80s near the Sierra. Several days of breezy conditions occurred from the 24th onward, with the strongest wind gusts on the 26th and 27th (40-50 mph) associated with a cold front. Red Flag warnings were in

effect both days as these winds combined with low humidity and drier vegetation from recent warm days. This front brought a sharp drop in temperatures from the 26th through 28th, with highs only in the 60s and lower 70s. Light showers accompanied the coldest air across northeast CA and northwest NV, with even a light dusting of snow on some higher peaks above 8000 ft on the early morning of the 28th (Photo 6). Light showers lingered mainly near the Sierra on the 29th, then the final day of June brought drier conditions and a slow warmup to the 80s for lower elevations and lower 70s near the Sierra.

Hydrology:

With the exception of the 19th, June was an uneventful month for hydrology. As mentioned above during the afternoon and early evening of the 19th, strong thunderstorms produced intense heavy rain causing damaging flash flooding and some debris flows. The most impacted areas included the Hidden Valley neighborhood, Long Valley Creek above Lockwood, the Truckee River below Vista, and the Stagecoach neighborhood of Lyon County. Additional street flooding was reported throughout the area including Sparks and Spanish Springs. Thunderstorms parked over the ridgeline between Hidden Valley and Long Valley Creek released large amounts of mud and rock from the canyons above Hidden Valley damaging homes, vehicles, landscapes and roads in the Hidden Valley neighborhood (Photos 1 & 2). Six homes were reported badly damaged or destroyed. This same storm produced a large debris flow partially blocking the Truckee river downstream of the Vista gage and the water reclamation plant (Photo 3), and caused major damage to Canyon Way along Long Valley Creek above Lockwood (Photo 4). An hour or two later, heavy rain caused significant flood damages in and around Stagecoach NV (Photo 5). As is often the case for thunderstorm events, the heaviest rain missed most of the weather stations in the area. The highest ground measurements reported storm totals of 1.25" near D'Andrea in Sparks, and 1.13" in Stagecoach. Other ground based measurements were less impressive. Radar based estimates show storm totals up to ~2.25" above Hidden Valley and about 1.5" in the Stagecoach area, most of which fell in about one hour (Figure 3).

No other flooding or significant hydrologic events were reported or observed during the month of June. Mountain precipitation as measured by SNOTEL was near to above normal in June for the northernmost basins in Nevada, but well below normal for the east side of the Sierra (Figure 4). Water year mountain precipitation remains near normal for the rivers draining the Sierra into Nevada, and below normal in north and eastern Nevada (Figure 5). The early snowmelt has had a significant impact on mountain soil moisture as measured by SNOTEL. In the combined Tahoe, Truckee, Carson and Walker basins, the soil moisture is near the 10th percentile. In the combined upper and lower Humboldt basin, soil moisture was at record lows until recent rains brought it slightly above the record low (Figure 6). Satellite-derived soil moisture shows a modest positive response in far northern California and Nevada to late June rains, while the remainder of the region shows a dry anomaly (Figure 7). Water year observed flow to date remains near to above normal for rivers and streams draining the east side of the Sierra, and well below normal for rivers and streams in northeastern CA and far northern Nevada (Figure 8). Unregulated streamflows are currently below to well below normal. Little residual water year flows are expected between now and the end of the water year on September 30th. End of June reservoir conditions remain above normal for the Lake Tahoe and the Walker basins, near normal for the Truckee and Carson basins, and well below normal in Rye Patch reservoir on the lower Humboldt basin (Figure 9).

Drought Update:

The U.S. Drought Monitor depicts the slight majority of the NWS Reno service area in D0 (abnormally dry) , and about 30% of the area in D1 (moderate drought), with D2 Severe drought covering about 11% of the area, and mostly confined to eastern Pershing County (Figure 10 top). Since last month, parts of Plumas, Lassen and Churchill counties were improved one category from D1 to D0, and parts of Pershing county were degraded on category from D1 to D2 to reflect very dry conditions and limited water resources in and around the lower Humboldt (Figure 10 bottom). The very warm water year temperatures (Figure 11) contributed to early snowmelt, drying soils and low summer streamflows. Areawide water year precipitation has been generally near average, except leaning wetter than average for northeast CA and drier than average from west central NV southward to eastern Mono County (Figure 12).

Additional Information on Drought and Climate:

[Report Drought conditions here](#)

[Nevada statewide Drought update](#)

[NV State Climate Office](#)

[NV Living with Drought](#)

[Drought Monitor](#)

[New Drought.gov](#)

[California Nevada Drought Early Warning System](#)

[NOAA CPC Drought page](#)

[CNAP Drought tracker](#)

[California Nevada River Forecast Center](#)

[WRCC Drought Tracker](#)

[WRCC Enso page](#)

[WRCC Monthly Climate Summaries](#)

[Evaporative Demand Drought Index](#)

[US Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

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<https://www.weather.gov/rev/>

Photos:



Photo 1. Debris flow impacts in Hidden Valley, image courtesy of Washoe county Sheriff's Office.



Photo 2. Debris flow material retained above road fill above Hidden Valley Neighborhood. Photo courtesy of Scott McCoy UNR



Photo 3. Debris flow partially blocking the Truckee River downstream of the Vista gage. Photo courtesy of Truckee Meadows Flood Management Authority.



Photo 4: Clearing flood debris from Canyon Way along Long Valley Creek above Lockwood NV after the 6/19 flooding event. Photo courtesy of Storey County.



Photo 5: Aftermath of flooding near Stagecoach NV on 6/19. Photo courtesy of Lyon County.

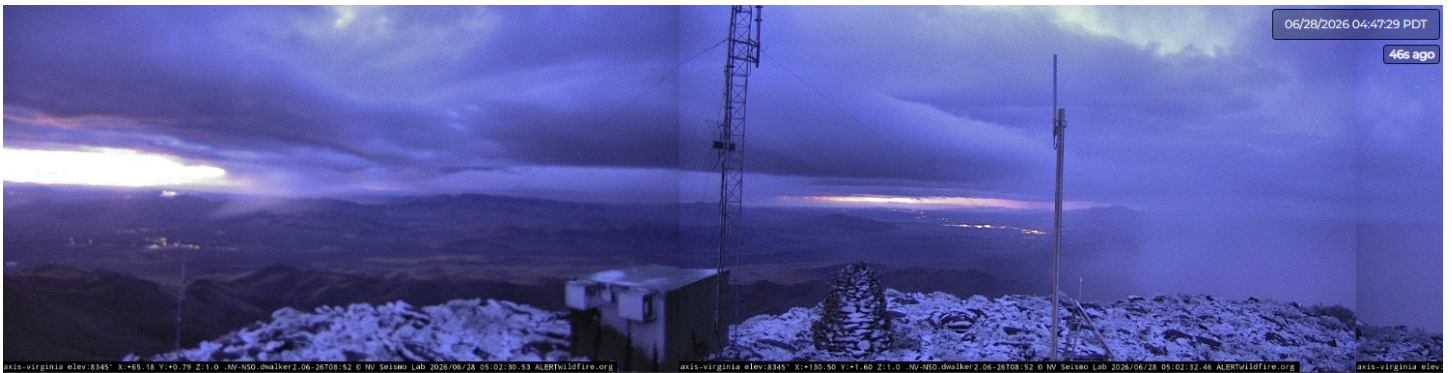
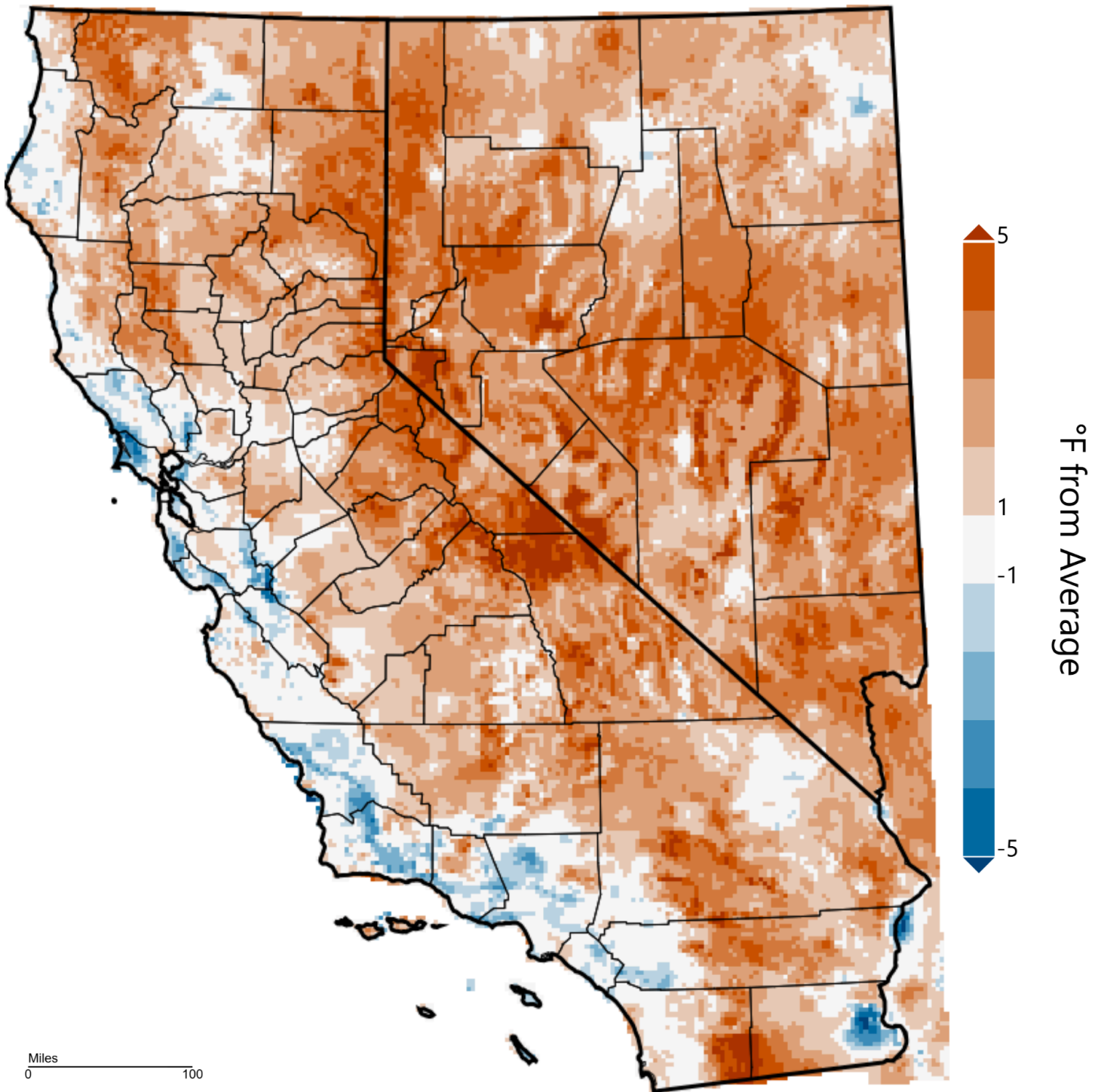


Photo 6: A light dusting of snow at the radar site on Virginia Peak on the early morning of 6/28.

Figures:

California-Nevada - Mean Temperature June 2026, Departure from 1991-2020 Average

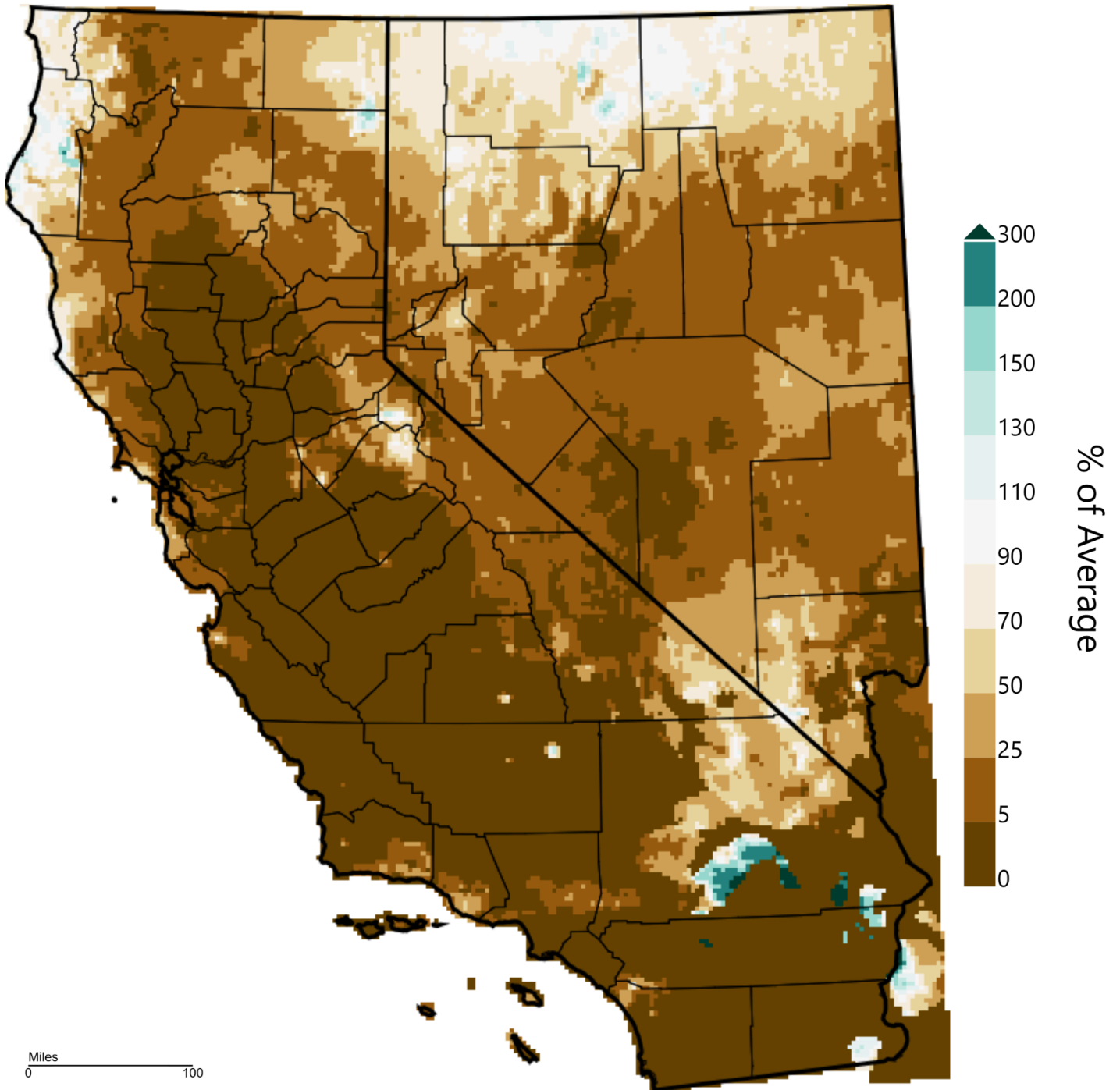


WestWide Drought Tracker, WRCC, Climate Engine, Data Source: PRISM Prelim, created 05 Jul 2026

Figure 1: Departure from normal temperatures for May 2026. ([WWD T](#))

California-Nevada - Precipitation

June 2026, Percent of 1991-2020 Average



WestWide Drought Tracker, WRCC, Climate Engine, Data Source: PRISM Prelim, created 05 Jul 2026

Figure 2: Percent of normal precipitation for May 2026. ([WWDT](#))

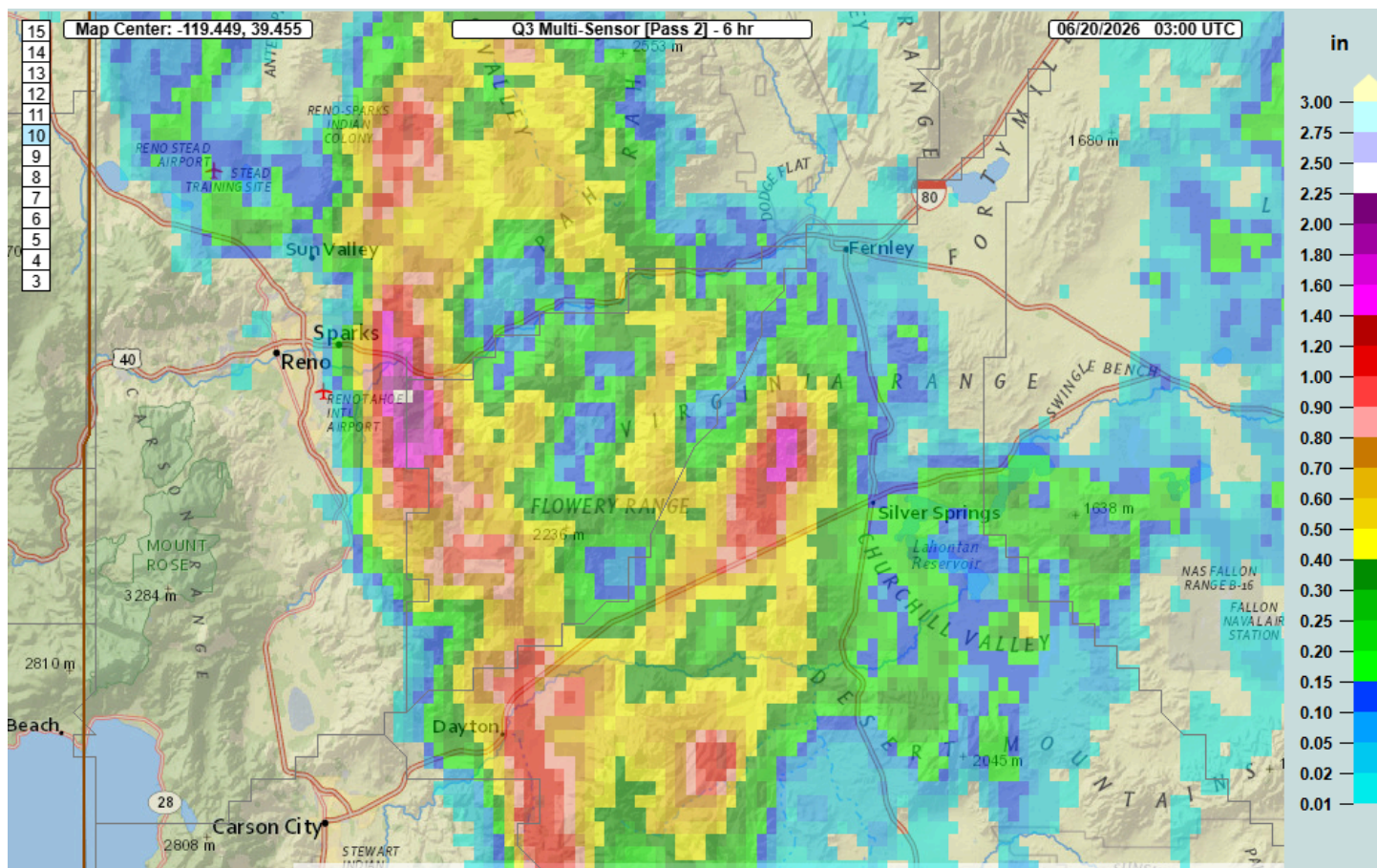


Figure 3: Multi-radar-multi-sensor estimated storm total precipitation for the afternoon and evening of 6/19. Note the time stamp is in UTC (subtract 7 hours for local time) and the vast majority of this rain fell in about one hour.

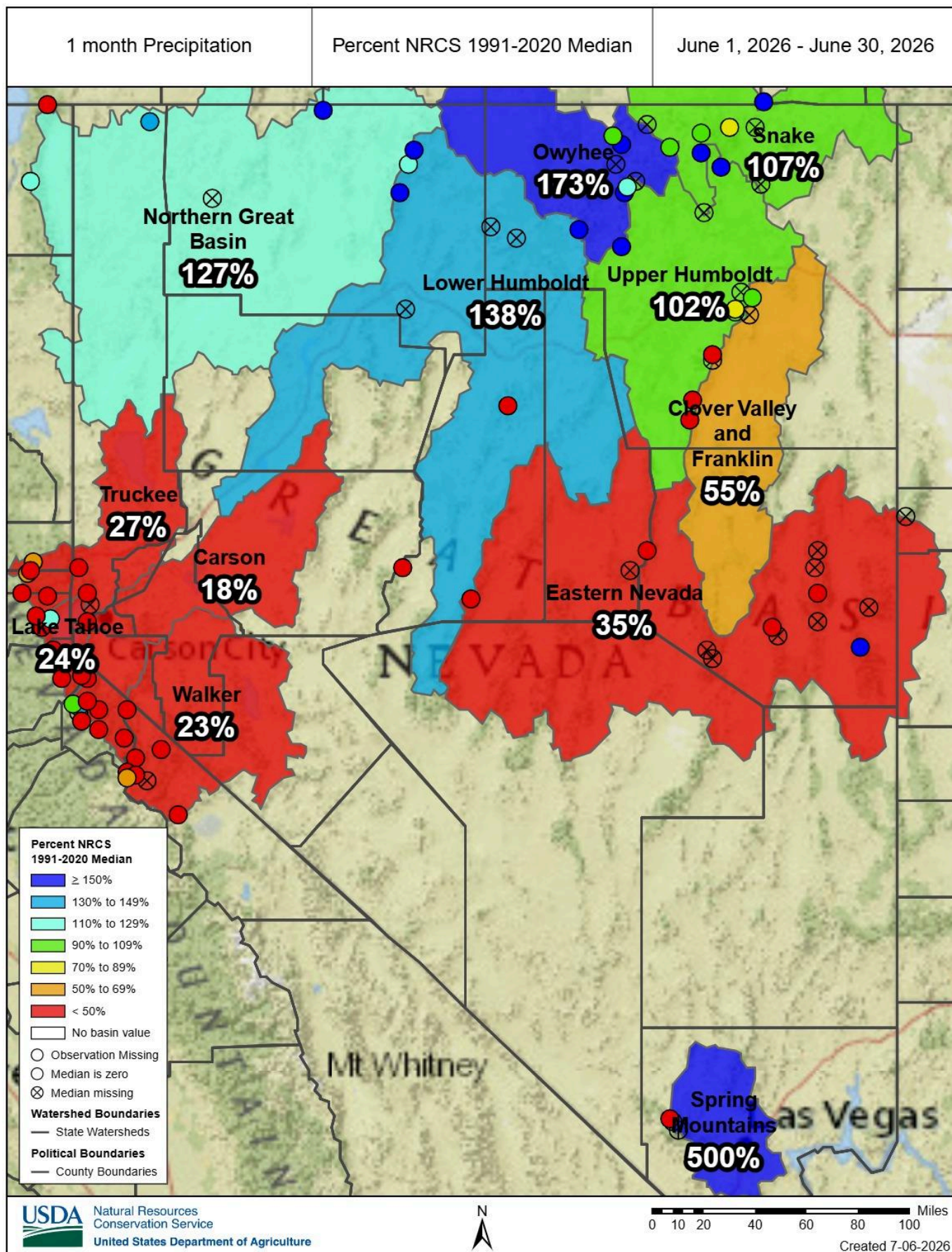


Figure 4. SNOTEL mountain precipitation for June 2026.

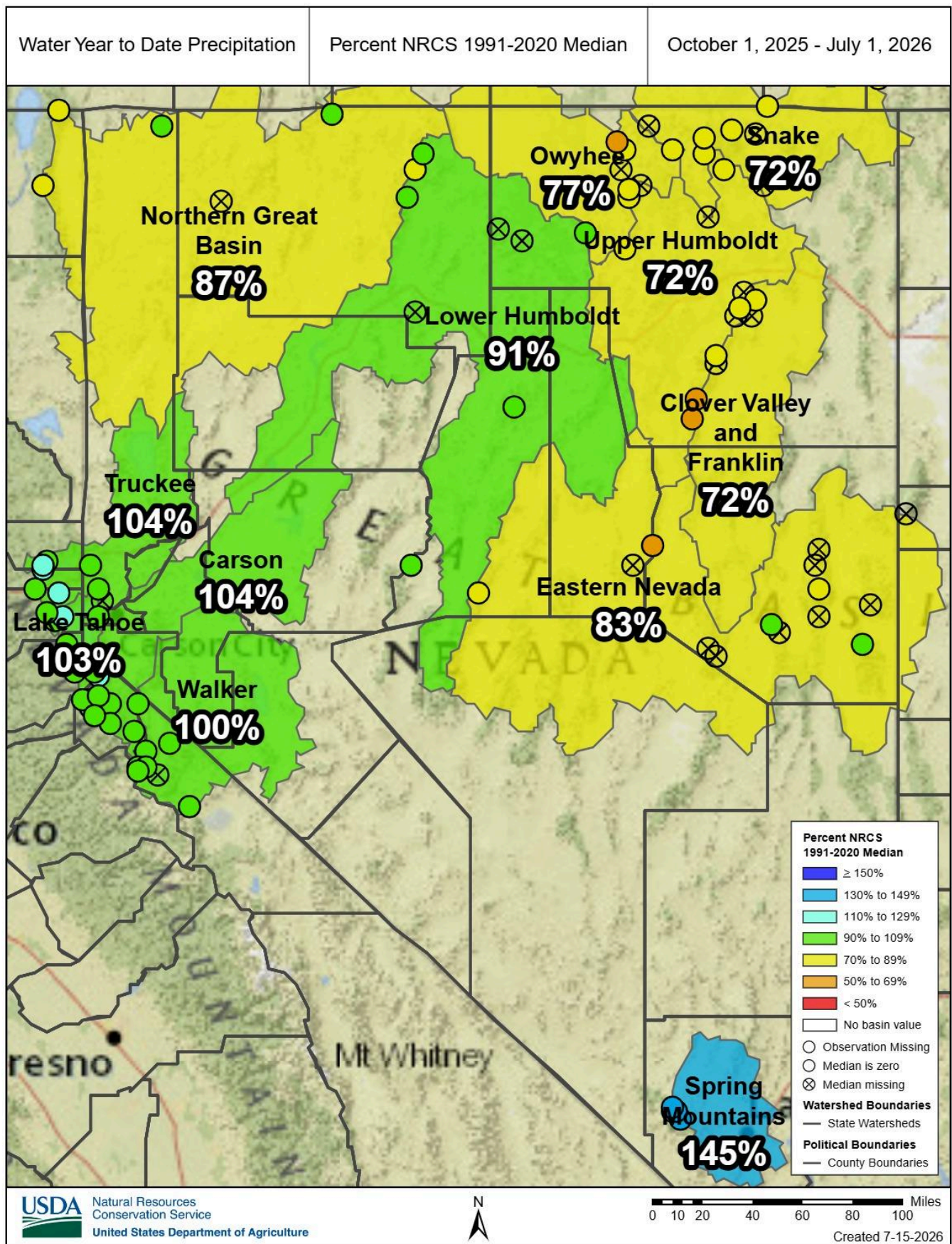


Figure 5. [NRCS SNOTEL basin Water year precipitation as % of Median](#) through July 1st, 2026

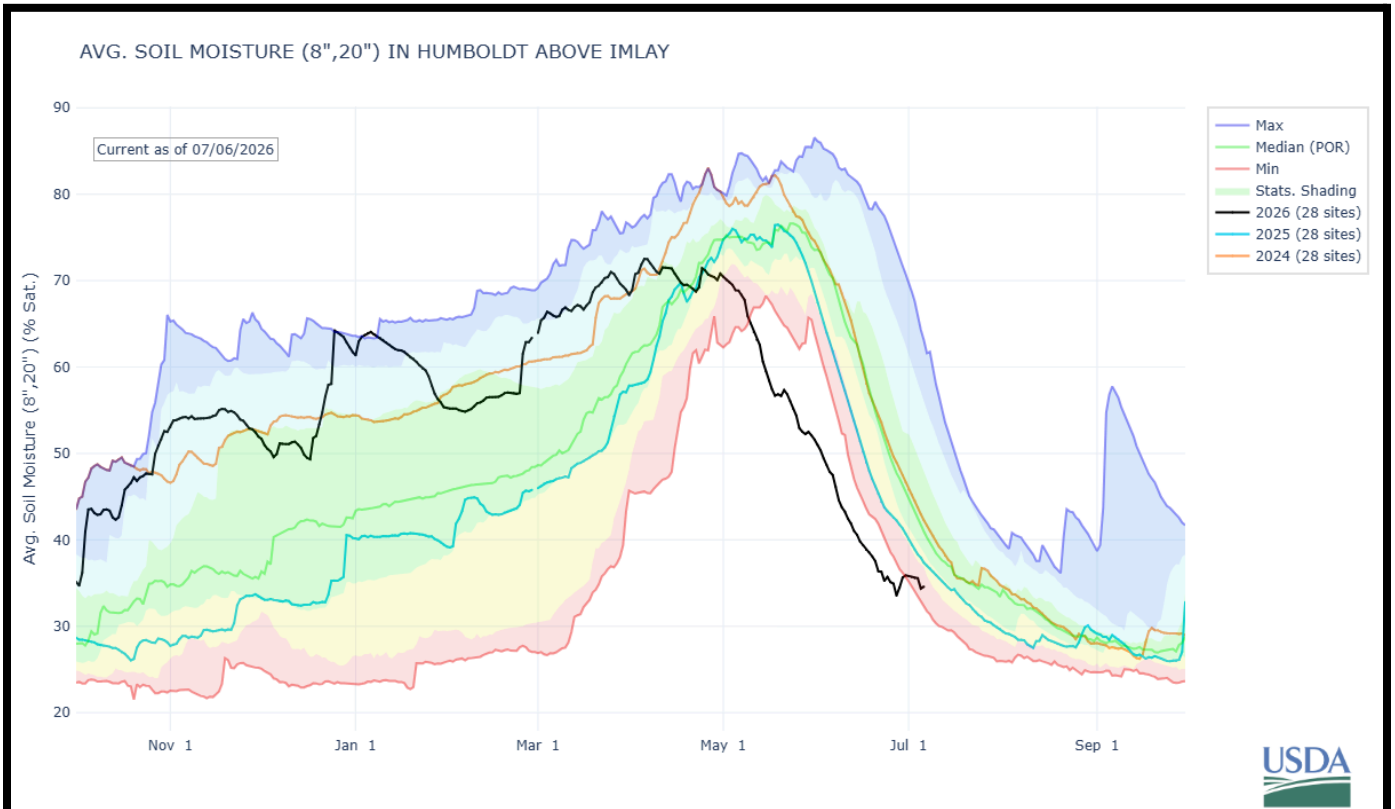
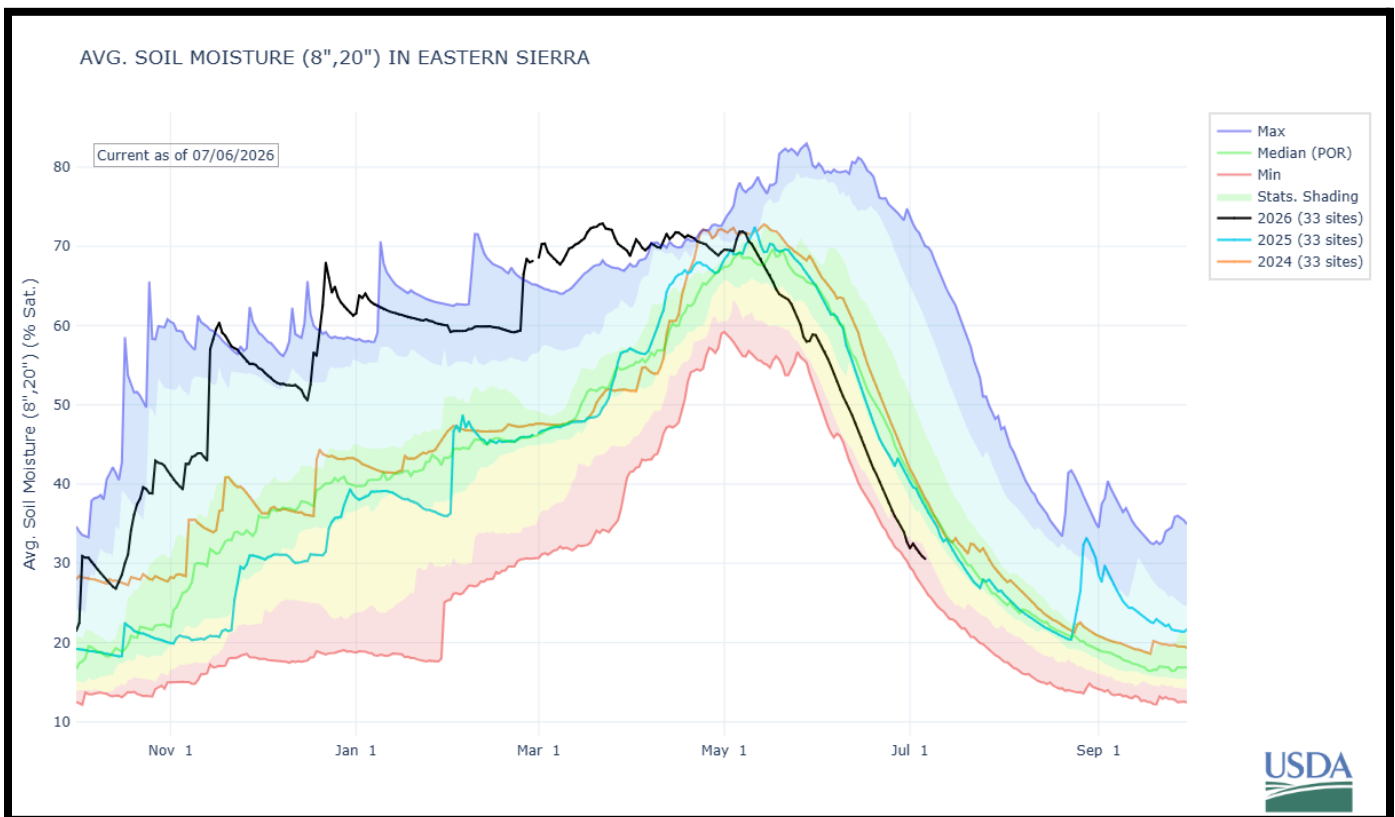


Figure 6. [NRCS SNOTEL soil moisture](#) for the combined Tahoe, Truckee, Carson and Walker basins (top), and Humboldt basin (bottom) indicated in black for the water year 2026. Water years 2025 and 2024 are plotted in blue and orange respectively for additional perspective.

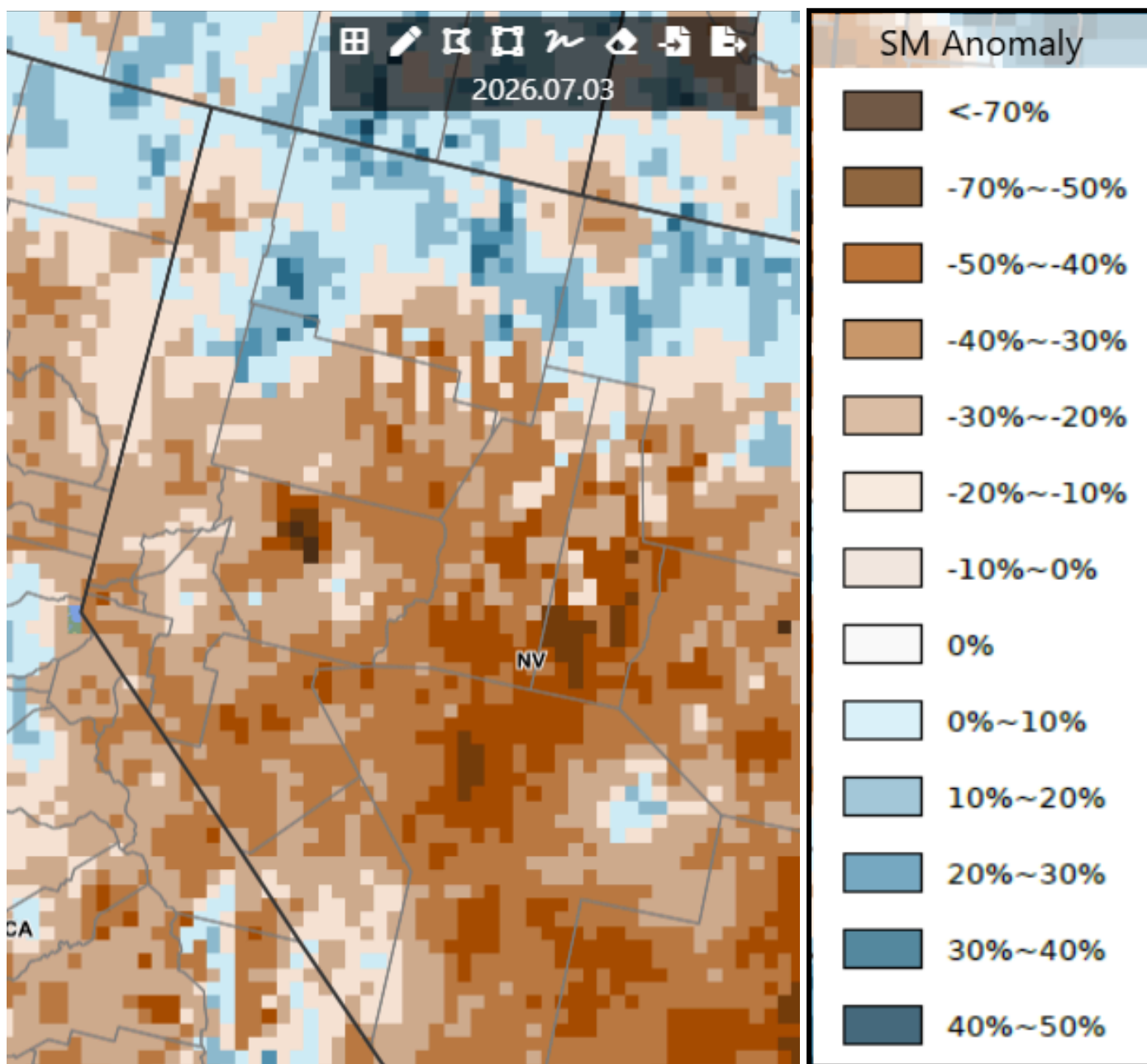


Figure 7. [Crop-CASMA](#) Soil Moisture Anomaly 07/03/2026

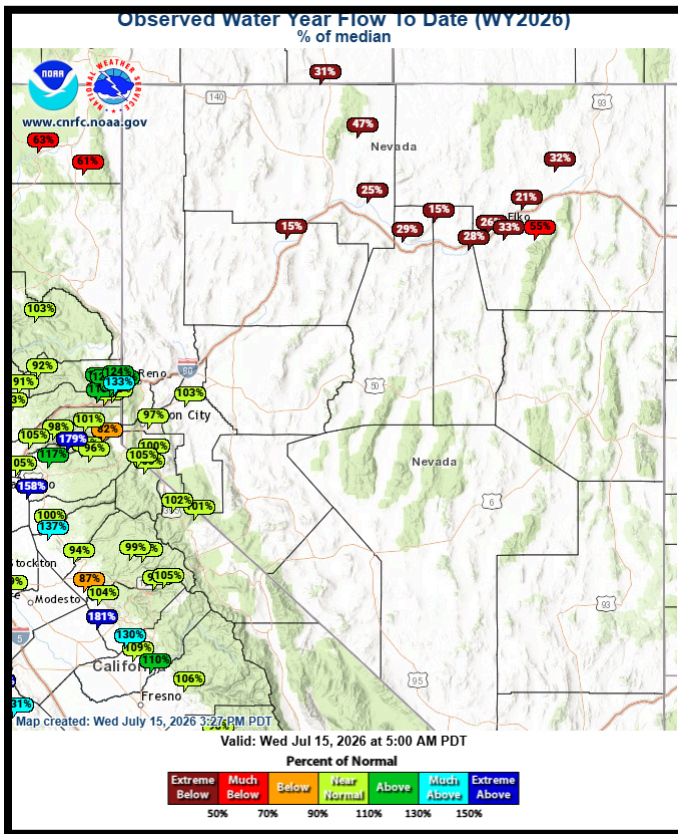


Figure 8. [CNRFC](#) Water year 2026 observed flow to date as % of median and as of July 15th.

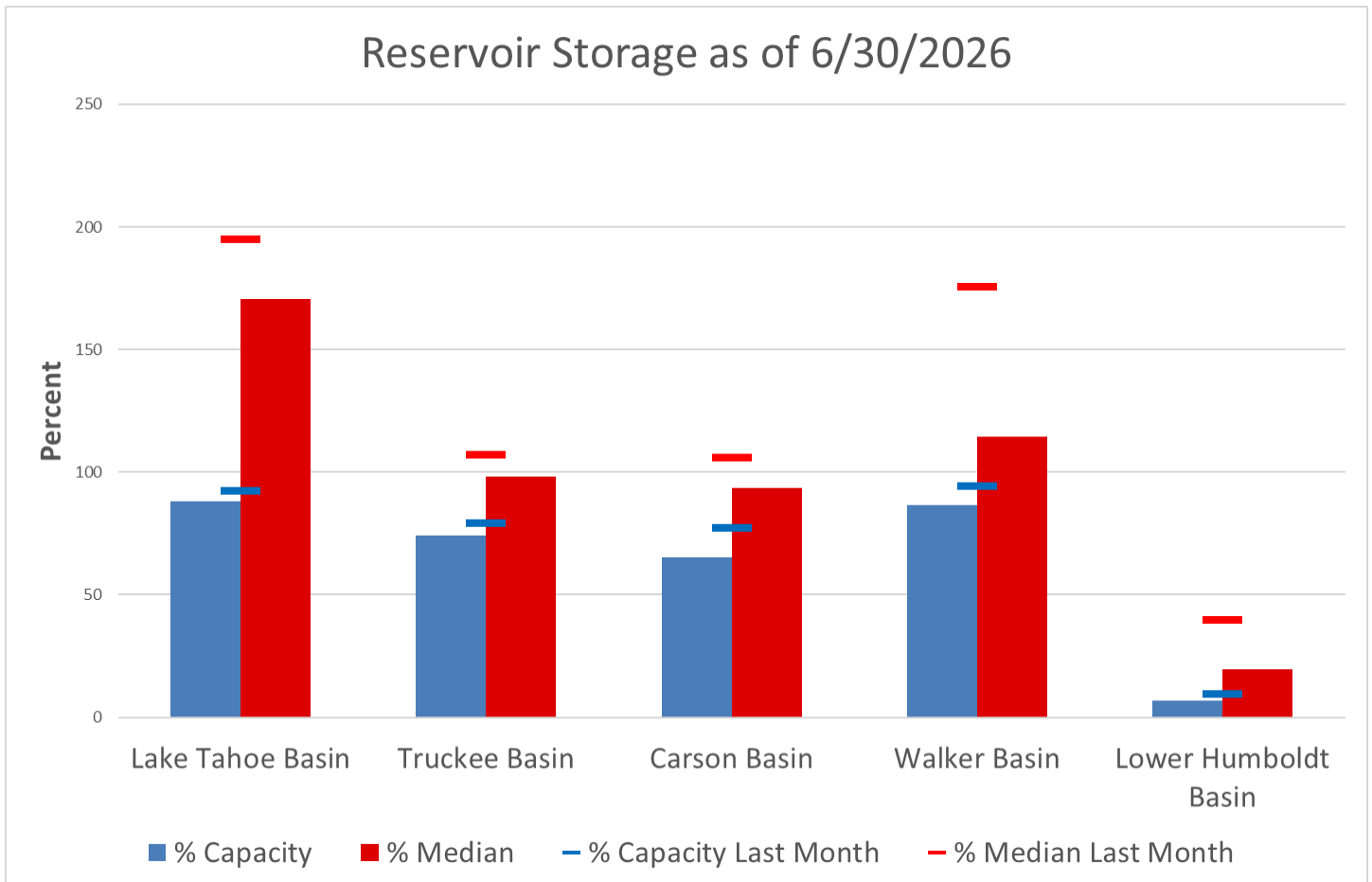


Figure 9. End of June reservoir storage relative to capacity and **median*** for this month and last month.

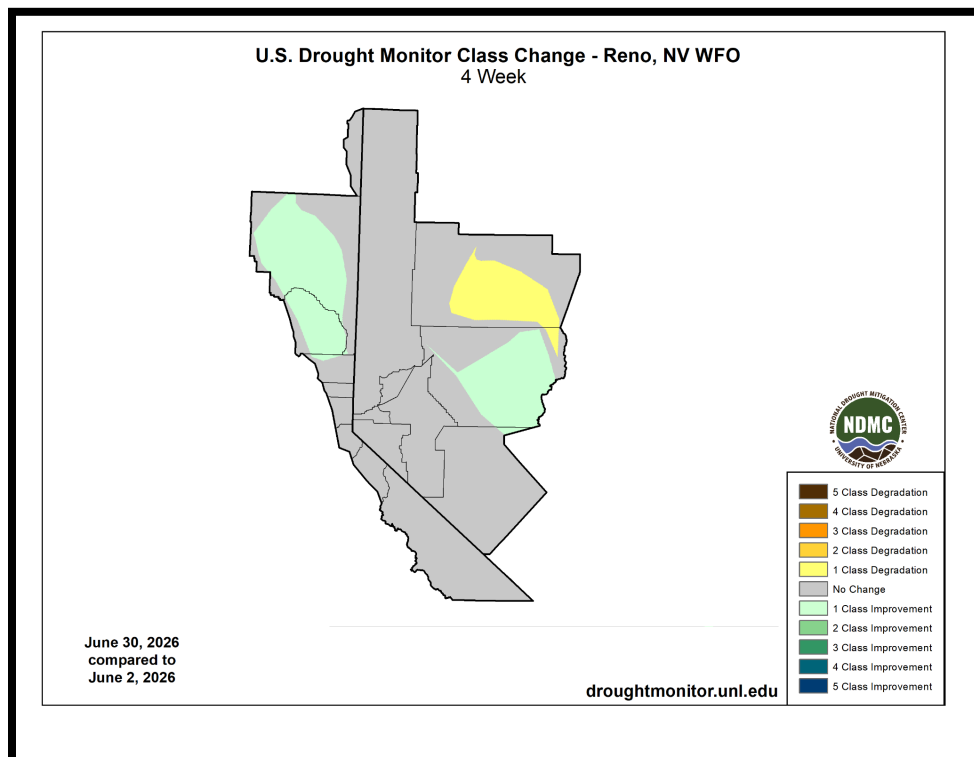
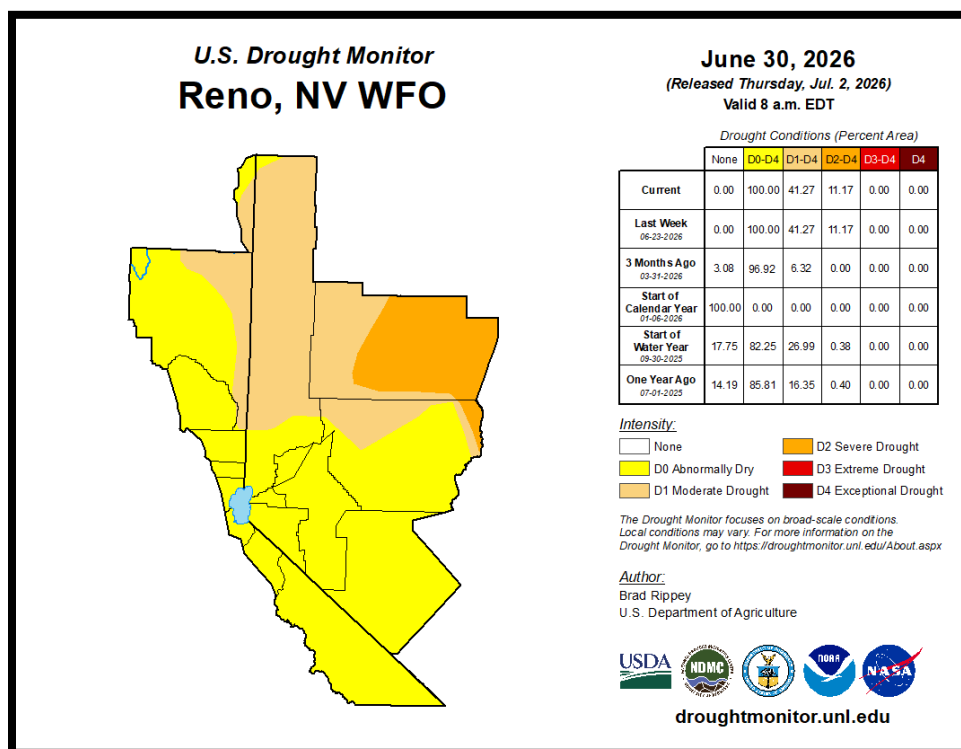
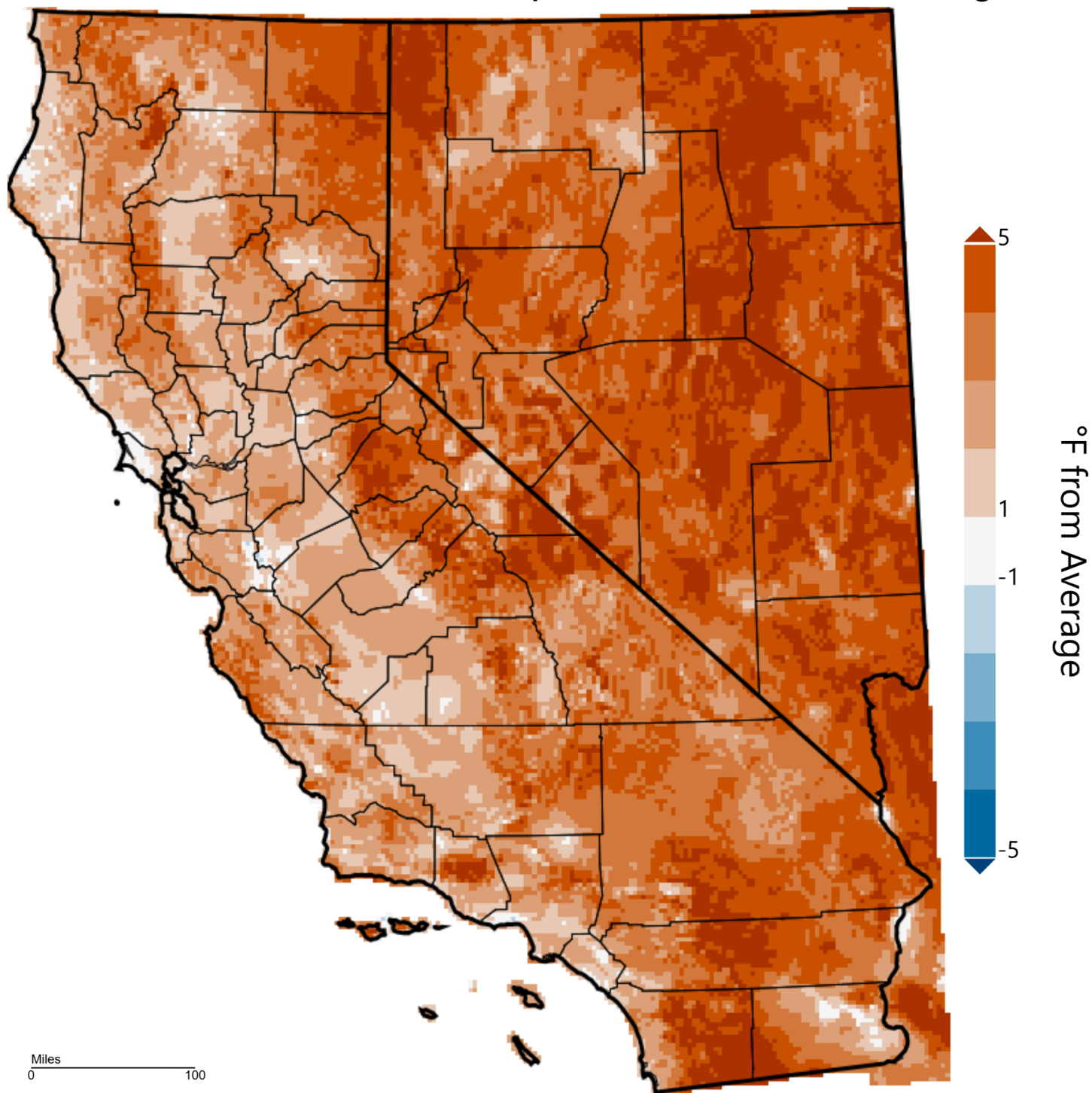


Figure 10. Drought Monitor Status on June 30th (top) and the 4 week change map (bottom). Check for updates at: [Drought Monitor](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu).

California-Nevada - Mean Temperature

October 2025 - June 2026, Departure from 1991-2020 Average

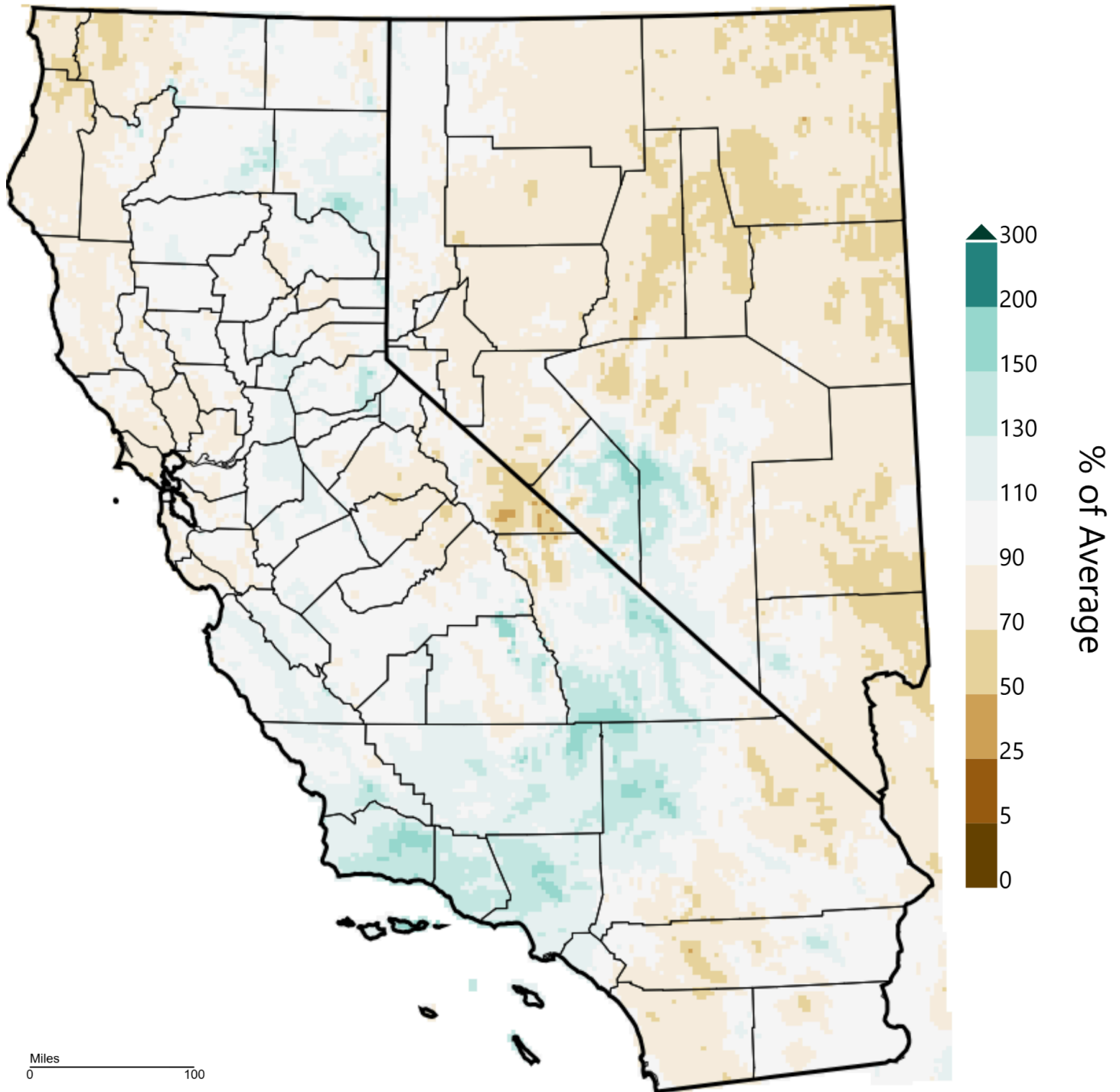


WestWide Drought Tracker, WRCC, Climate Engine, Data Source: PRISM Prelim, created 05 Jul 2026

Figure 11. Water year to date mean temperature departure. Courtesy of West Wide Drought Tracker. ([WWDTr](#))

California-Nevada - Precipitation

October 2025 - June 2026, Percent of 1991-2020 Average



WestWide Drought Tracker, WRCC, Climate Engine, Data Source: PRISM Prelim, created 05 Jul 2026

Figure 12. Water year to date precipitation. Courtesy of West Wide Drought Tracker. ([WWDT](#))