

Drought and Water Supply Update

June 20, 2013

Jess Aber, Staff

Governor's Drought and Water Supply Committee

- Carryover conditions from 2012 – Reservoirs – Benefits of 2011 forward provided head start for this year's demand even after the high demands of summer 2012. Clark Canyon and Canyon Ferry may not fill. Otherwise, most state and federal projects will.
- Soil moisture – Plentiful precipitation has addressed top- and sub-soil deficits in most regions and crop outlook is good – now we need sunshine and warmth. SC, SE
- Streamflow – Concerns are in Missouri Basin headwaters although current trend is very positive. Base flows are good following last 4 of 6 relatively wet years. We are moving through longest days of year with cool temperatures addressing fishery stress potential.
- Flooding – With saturated soils continued precipitation is causing local flooding on both sides of the Divide expected to go through the weekend. NC, Central, East-central areas flooding now. FEMA team in state now assessing flood damage.
- Precipitation is taking the pressure off irrigation water supplies resulting from snowpack woes of winter 2012-2013.