



North Dakota Monthly Climate Summary

June 2014

Precipitation:

June 2014 in a word was wet. A high percentage of North Dakota recorded well above average rainfall during the month. (Figure 1). The only exception was in west central North Dakota and a small area of near normal monthly rainfall around Wells County in the central part of the state. Using data from the North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network (NDAWN), the statewide average precipitation for the month of June was 4.69 inches. That is well above the June average of 3.34 inches. That would rank June 2014 as the 20th wettest on record. The U.S. Drought Monitor did not include any part of North Dakota in drought conditions.

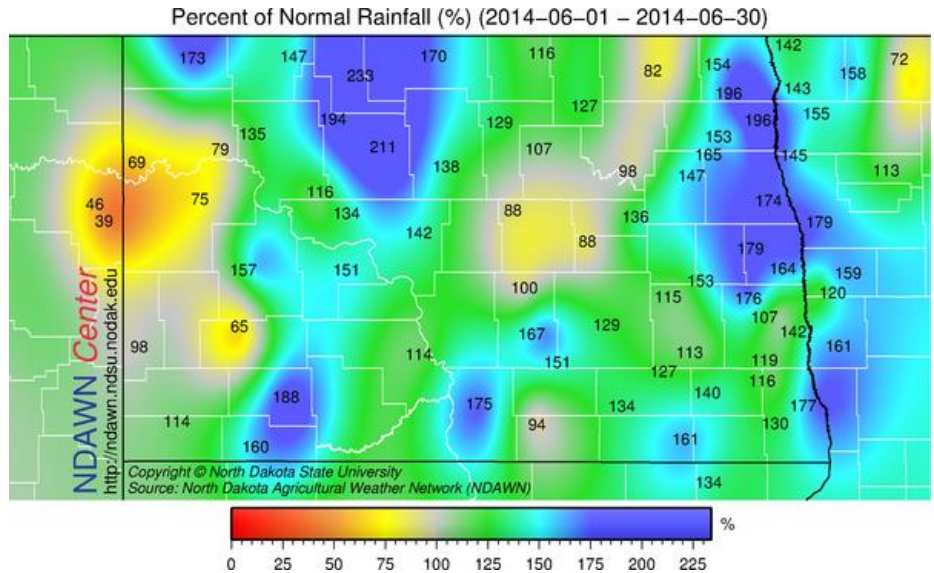


Figure 1. Precipitation Percent of Normal in June 2014 for North Dakota (North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network, NDAWN)

Temperature:

The average temperature during the month of June finished very near the 30 year average across all of North Dakota. The slightly below normal temperatures in western North Dakota were offset by the slightly warmer than normal temperatures across much of eastern North Dakota (Figure 2). The NDAWN stations recorded an overall average temperature of 63.2 degrees, right at the average of 63.3 degrees for the month of June. That would rank the month as tied for the 68th coldest June since such records began in 1895.

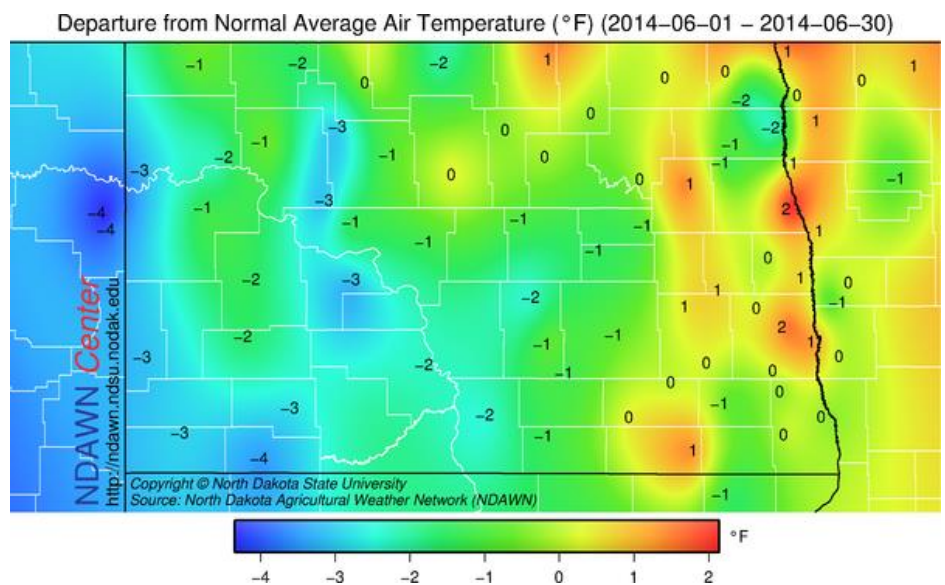


Figure 2. Temperature Departure from Normal in June 2014 for North Dakota (North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network, NDAWN)

Notable Weather:

The excessive rain was the most notable weather feature during the month of June on not only North Dakota but also for much of the upper Midwest and the northern plains. After a very difficult planting season attributed to the cool and moist conditions throughout much of May, the wet June did not allow for late season planting in many locations and for some, the heavy June rains flooded crops that were emerging.

The abundant moisture over the past several weeks has pushed the Palmer Drought Severity Index into the Extremely Moist or Very Moist values as the month of June ended (Figure 3). These moist conditions were also present in parts of South Dakota and Minnesota that were in drought conditions earlier in the year. That is a testament to how exceptionally wet the region has been in the past several weeks.

The above average rainfall during the month of June once again pushed area rivers above flood stage. The Red River Valley recorded high flows in the moderate flood stage in the southern part of the valley and minor flood stage levels were reached in the northern end of the valley. A heavy rain event during the last weekend in June in north central North Dakota also pushed the Souris (Mouse) River and tributaries well above flood stage.

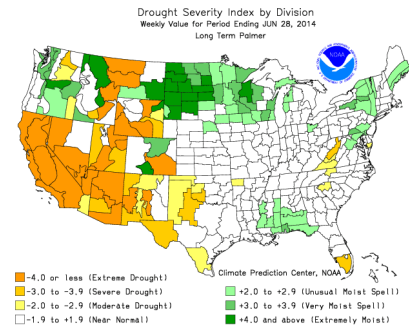


Figure 3. Palmer Drought Severity Index June 28, 2014

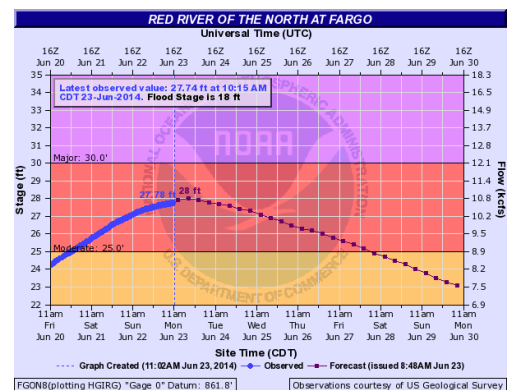


Figure 4. The Red River level and projection at Fargo, ND on June 23, 2014

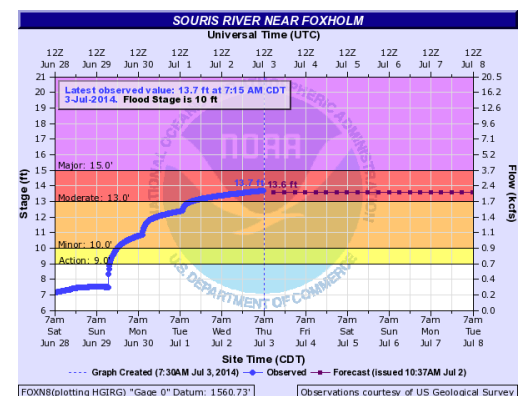


Figure 5. The Souris River level and projection at Foxholm, ND on July 3, 2014