Nevada Habitat Status & Trend

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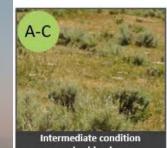
Nevada Ecostate Map Invasive Species and Wildfire Drought followed by 2022/2023 Winter

Ecostate Map: Sagebrush Threats Based Mapping

Vegetation cover maps based on broad functional groups:

- Specific Mapping Rules based on:
 - Shrub Cover
 - Tree Cover
 - Perennial Grass and Forbs
 - Annual Grass and Forbs
- Data from the Rangeland Analysis Platform remotely sensed products
- Analyzed in 5-year time slices to average out inter-annual variability

Produced in conjunction with the Oregon Sagebrush Conservation Initiative: https://oe.oregonexplorer.info/externalcontent/sagecon/Oregon_Ecostate_Time_Series_Map_Description.pdf



shrubland Rule set: Shrub >=10% AFG:PFG 0.333-1.0, Tree <5%



Rule set: Shrub >=10%. AFG:PFG < 0.333, Tree < 5%

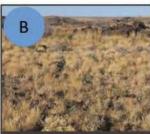


Rule set: Shrub >=10%. AFG:PFG >=1.0, Tree <5%



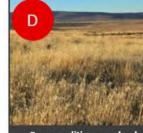
Juniper: low-mid cover

Rule set: Tree 5-20%



Good condition grassland

Rule set: Shrub <10%, AFG:PFG < 0.333, Tree < 5%

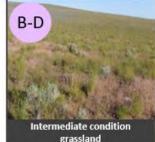


Poor condition grassland



Juniper: high cover

Rule set: Tree >=21%



Rule set: Shrub <10% AFG:PFG 0.333-1.0, Tree <5%

Rule set: Shrub <10%, AFG:PFG >=1.0, Tree <5%



1986 - 1990

Ecostates



1986 - 1990

Ecostates

A: Good condition shrubland
A-C: Intermediate condition shrubland
B: Good condition grassland
B-D: Intermediate condition grassland
C: Poor condition shrubland
D: Poor condition grassland
Juniper: low-mid cover
Juniper: high cover

S.M.

8.9

11.7

0.51

40.5

2016 - 2020

Ecostates

2016-2020 -

A: Good condition shrubland
A-C: Intermediate condition shrubland
B: Good condition grassland
B-D: Intermediate condition grassland
C: Poor condition shrubland
D: Poor condition grassland
Juniper: low-mid cover
Juniper: high cover

0 12.1

30.8

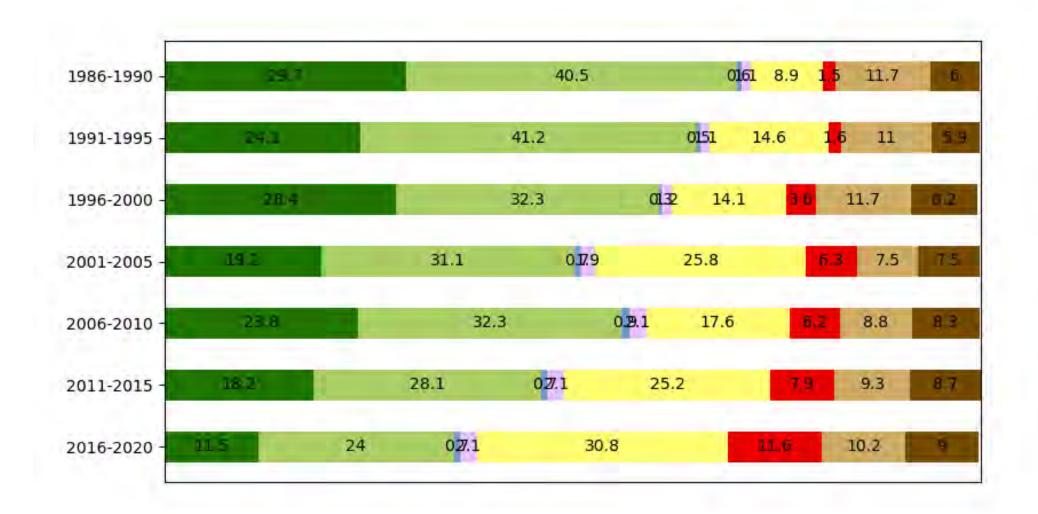
21

a state

10,2

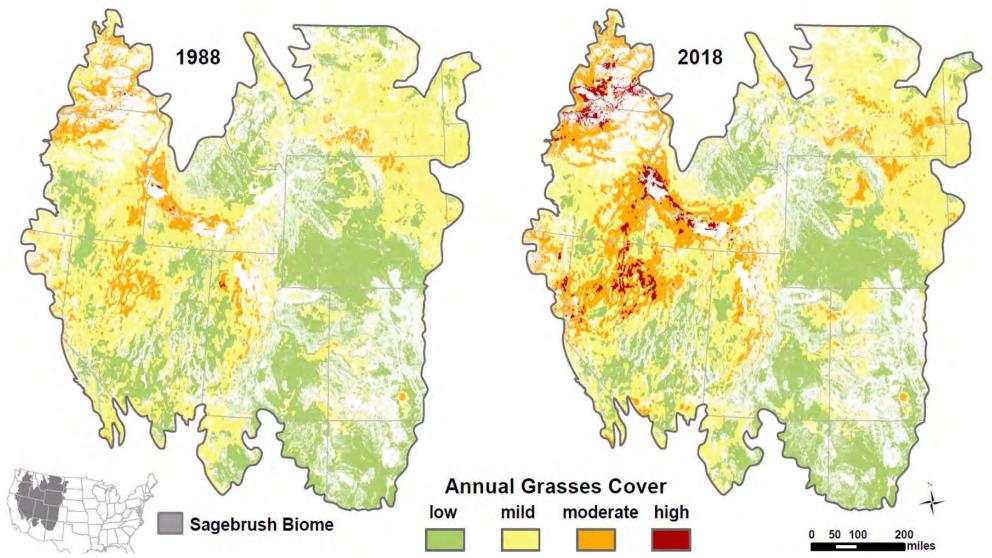
1986-1990 -

Over the last 30 years Nevada's habitats characterized as moderate-togood shrub and grasslands have decreased by half while areas classified as being in poor condition have increased four-fold.



Invasive Species & Wildfire

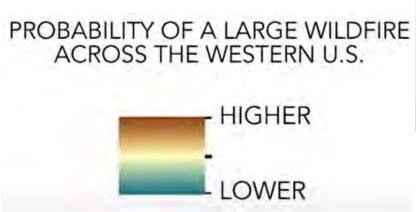
~73% of changes are attributed to complex ecological problems (SCD).

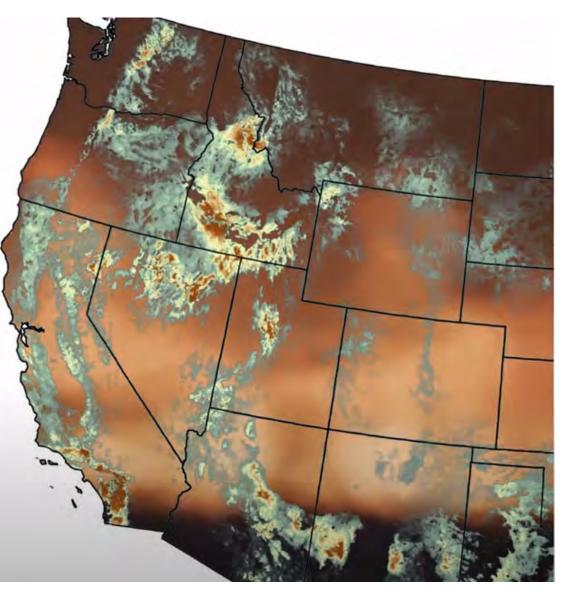


https://www.wlfw.org/publication-alert-a-geographic-strategy-for-cross-jurisdictional-proactive-management-of-invasive-annual-grasses-in-oregon/

Invasive Species & Wildfire

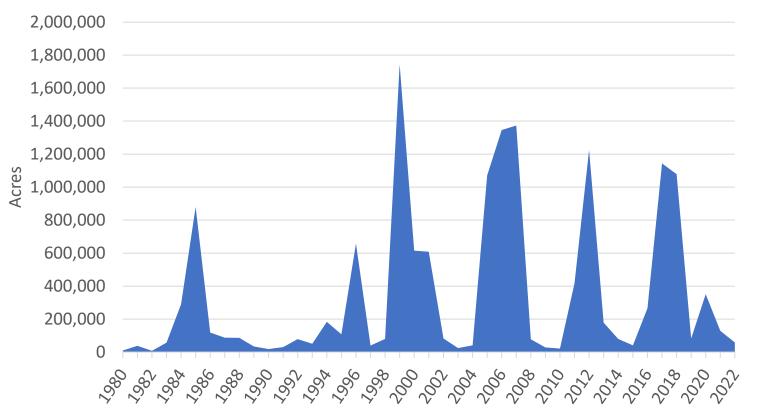
- Invasive annual grasses significantly increase the chance, rate, and spread of wildfire
- Projections: Increase I&W
- Growing Gap between the magnitude and scale of the I&W problem vs. Resources (e.g. capacity, infrastructure, seed, funding, etc.)



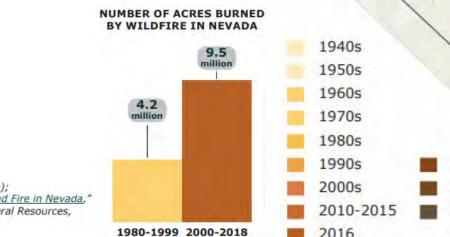


Cheatgrass in Sagebrush Country: Fueling Severe Wildfires by Audubon, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, IWJV

Nevada Acres Burned

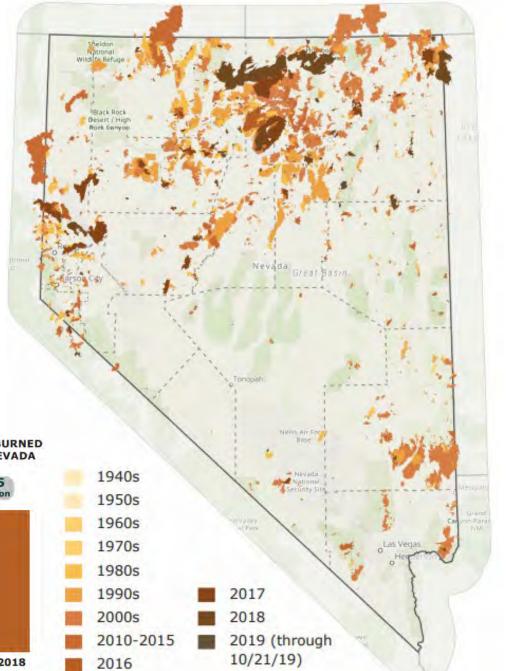


Year



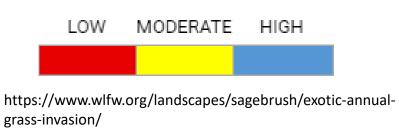
Sources: Bureau of Land Management (map); Nevada's Division of Forestry et al., "<u>Wildland Fire in Nevada</u>," presented to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Feb. 14, 2019 (chart).

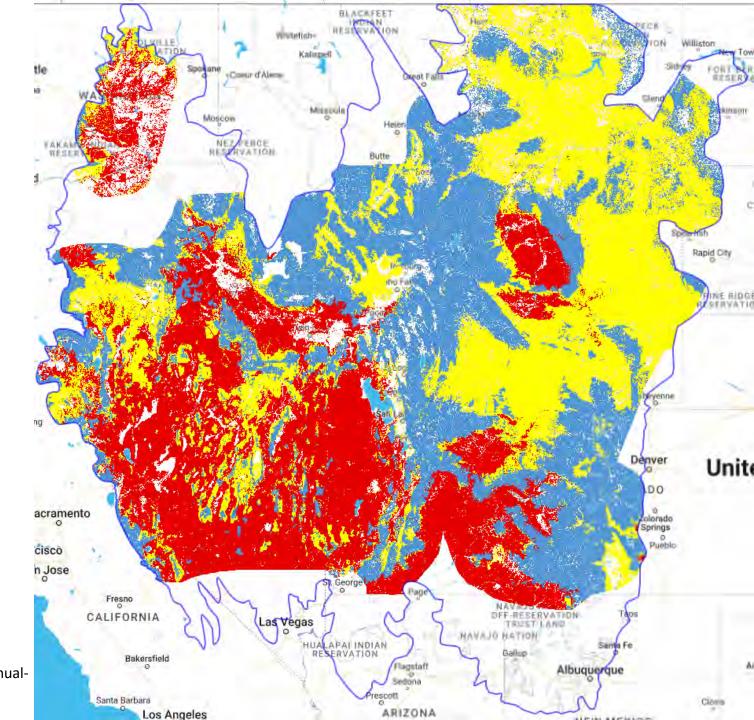
NEVADA WILDLAND FIRE HISTORY, 1941-2019



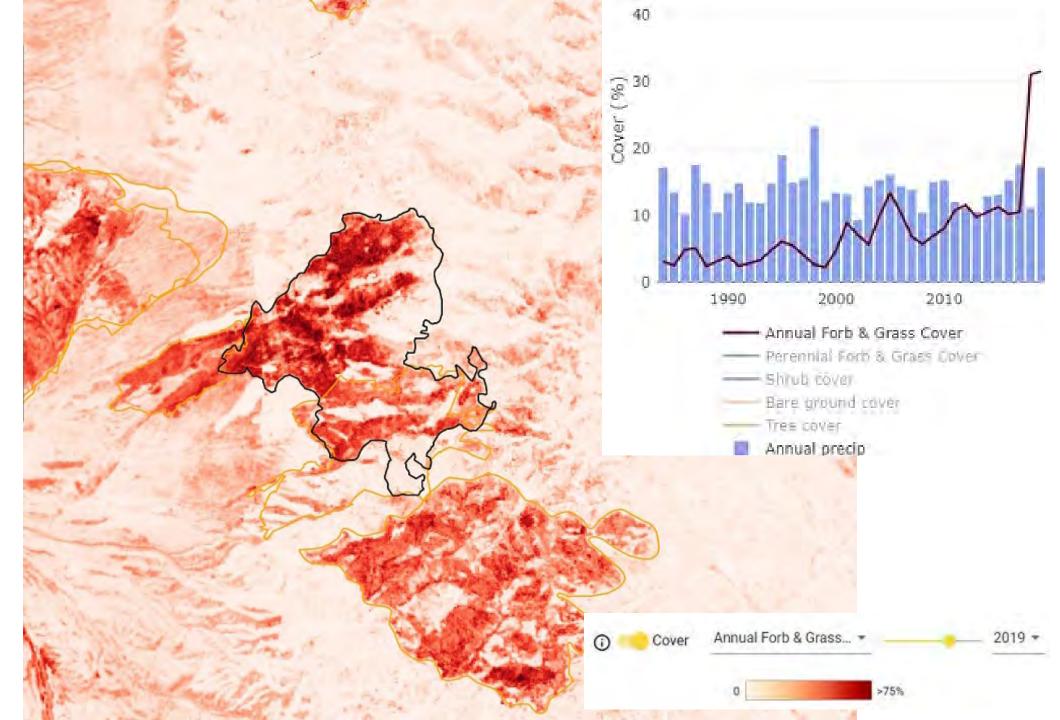
Resistance and Resilience

- <u>**Resistance**</u> the capacity of an ecosystem to retain its fundamental structure, processes, and functioning despite stresses, disturbances, or invasive species.
- <u>**Resilience**</u>-the capacity of an ecosystem to regain its fundamental structure, processes, and functioning when altered by stressors like fire, invasives, drought, overgrazing, etc.





Little Den Fire – burned in 2016 – annual herbaceous cover went from 8-10% before the fire to >30% after one full growing season (2018).



UTM: 11S 433282mE 4352653mN Elevation: 7371.75ft Accuracy: 20.0ft Azimuth: 338° (N) Pitch: -2.9° (2.4°) Time: 07-10-2018 11:27 Note: little den fire

> UTM: 11S 432547mE 4352142mN Elevation: 7161.84ft Accuracy: 15.1ft Azimuth: 36° (NE) Pitch: -3.7° (2.1°) Time: 07-10-2018 10:21 Note: little den fire

Map released: Thurs. April 21, 2022 Data valid: April 19, 2022 at 8 a.m. EDT

Intensity



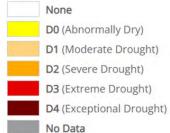
The drought that has enveloped southwestern North America for the past 22 years is the region's driest "megadrought" — defined as a drought lasting two decades or longer — since at least the year 800, according to a new UCLA-led study in the journal Nature Climate Change.

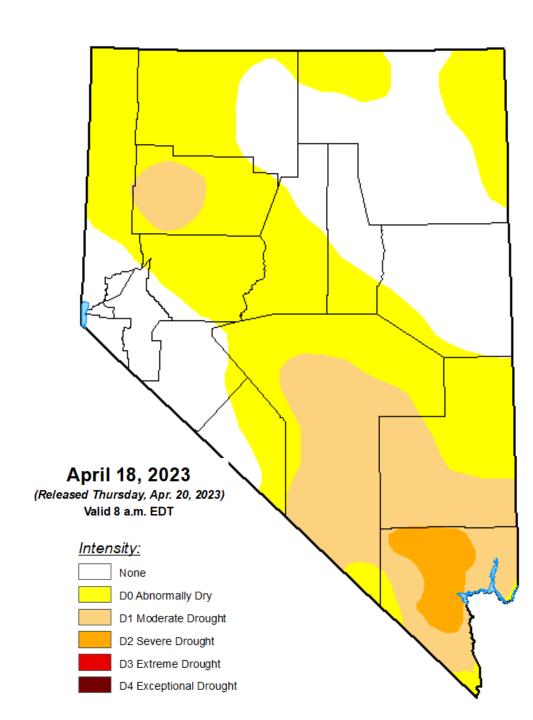


Map released: Thurs. April 21, 2022

Data valid: April 19, 2022 at 8 a.m. EDT

Intensity

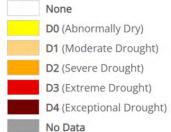




Map released: Thurs. April 21, 2022

Data valid: April 19, 2022 at 8 a.m. EDT

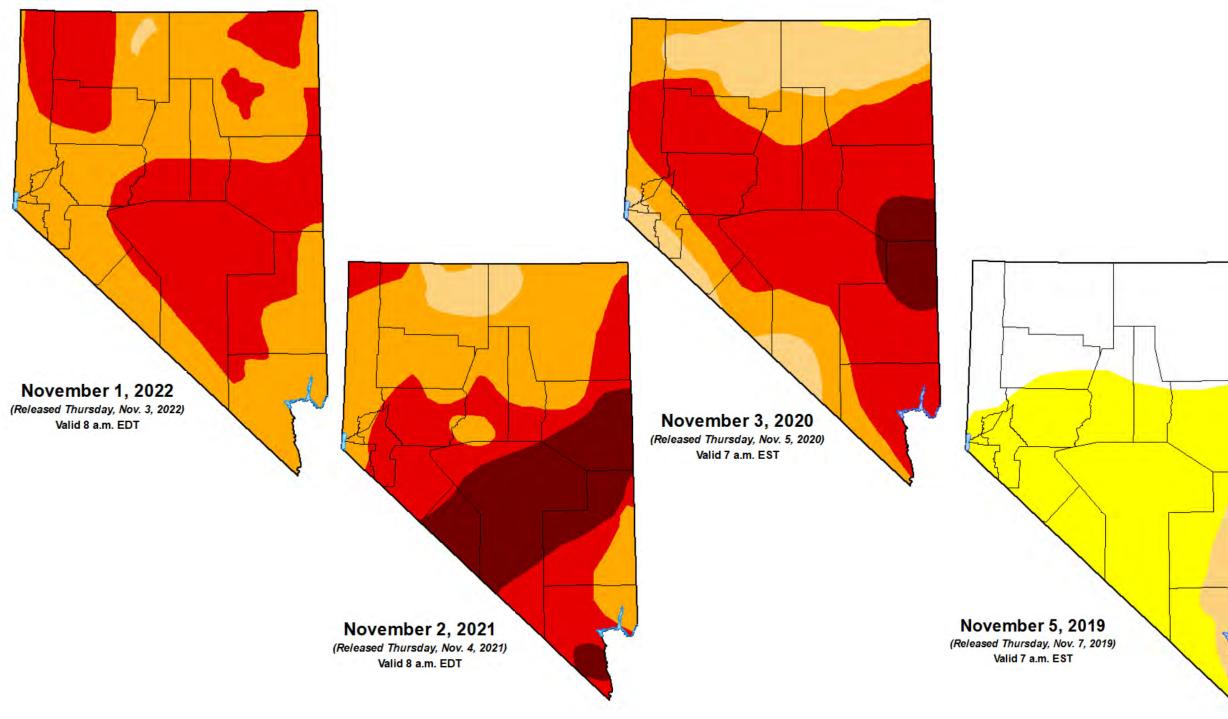
Intensity



November 22, 2022 (Released Wednesday, Nov. 23, 2022) Valid 7 a.m. EST

Intensity:

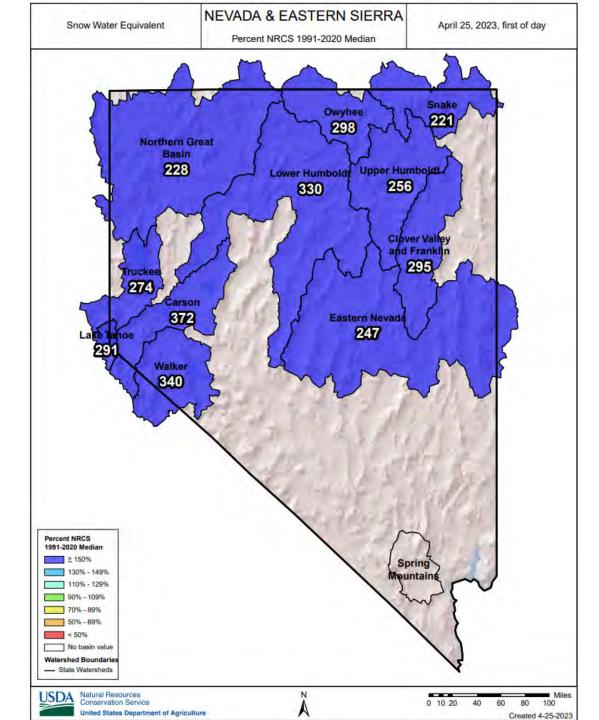






E – Menacing snow drifts hang over Mount Rose Highway (Jeff Anderson)

USDA NRSC Nevada Water Supply Outlook Report April 1, 2023 (https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/wcc/home/quicklinks/states/nevada/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)



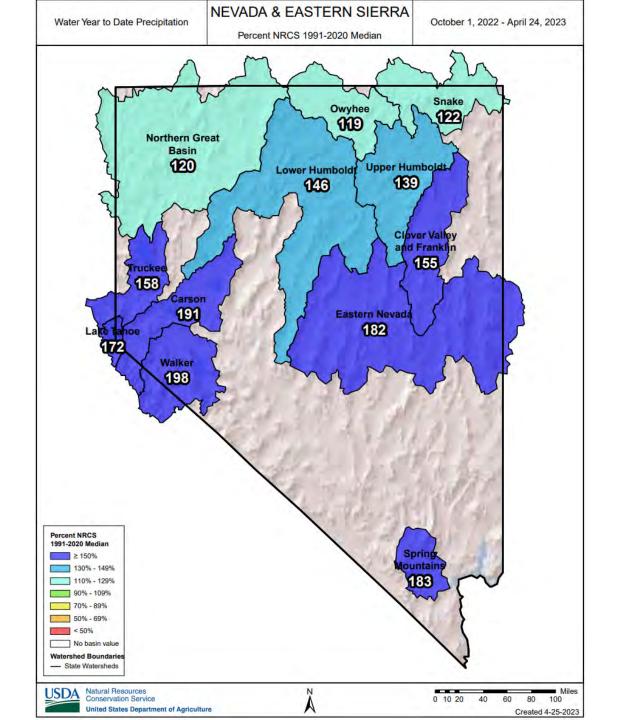


Figure 2: Basin-wide snow water in the Carson and Walker basins compared to historical data range.

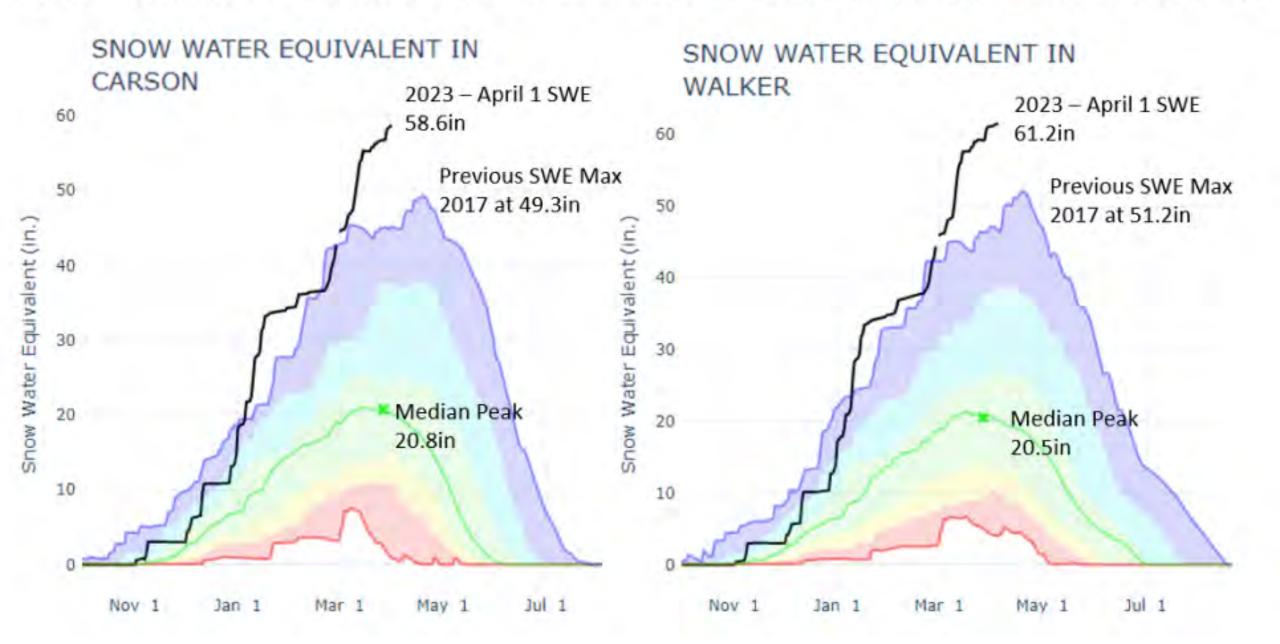
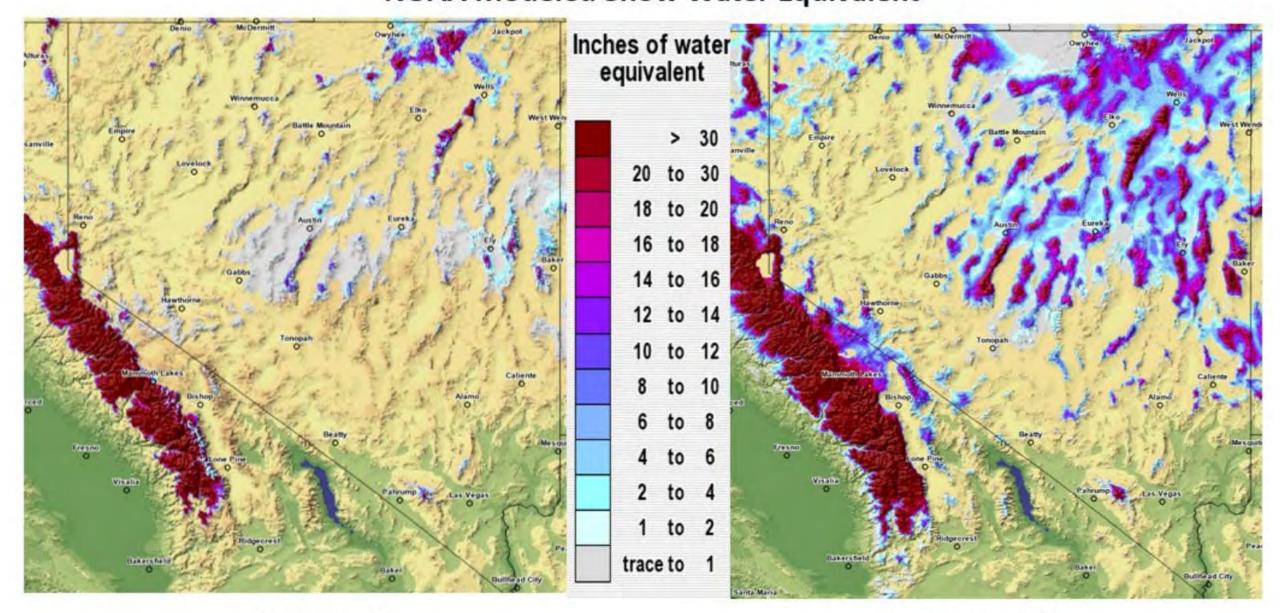


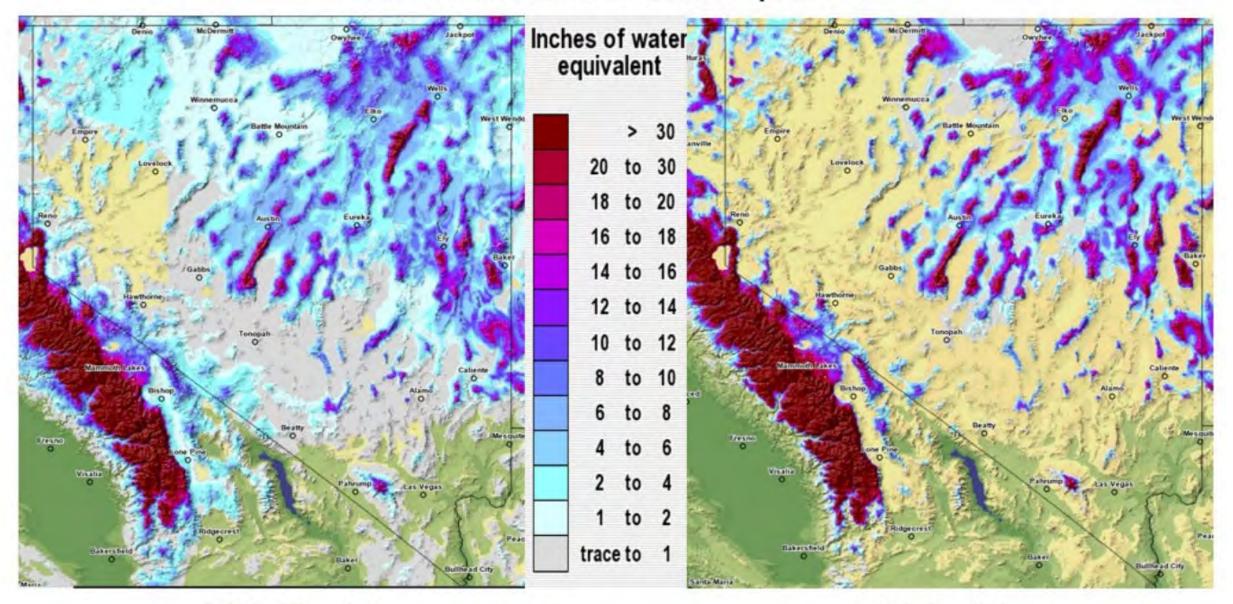
Figure 3: Modeled snow water content across Nevada April 1, 2017 (left) vs April 1, 2023 (right), source: <u>NOAA</u> NOAA Modeled Snow Water Equivalent



2017 April 1

2023 April 1

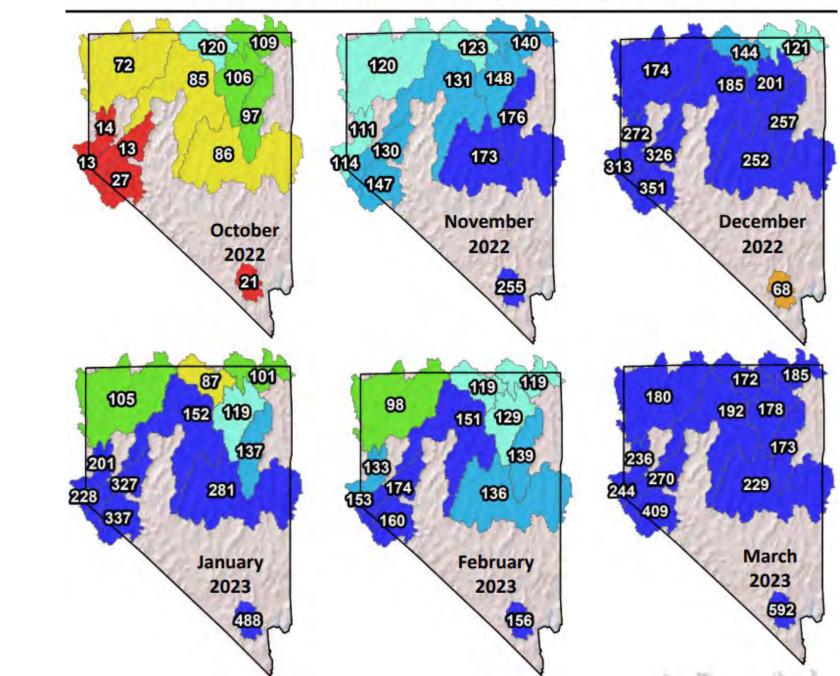
Figure 5: Modeled snow water content across Nevada 3/1/23 (left) vs 4/1/23 (right), source: <u>NOAA</u> NOAA Modeled Snow Water Equivalent

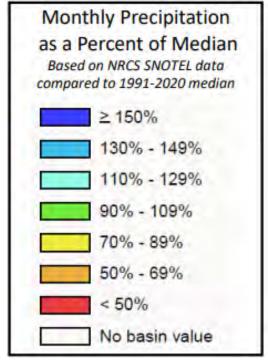


2023 March 1

2023 April 1

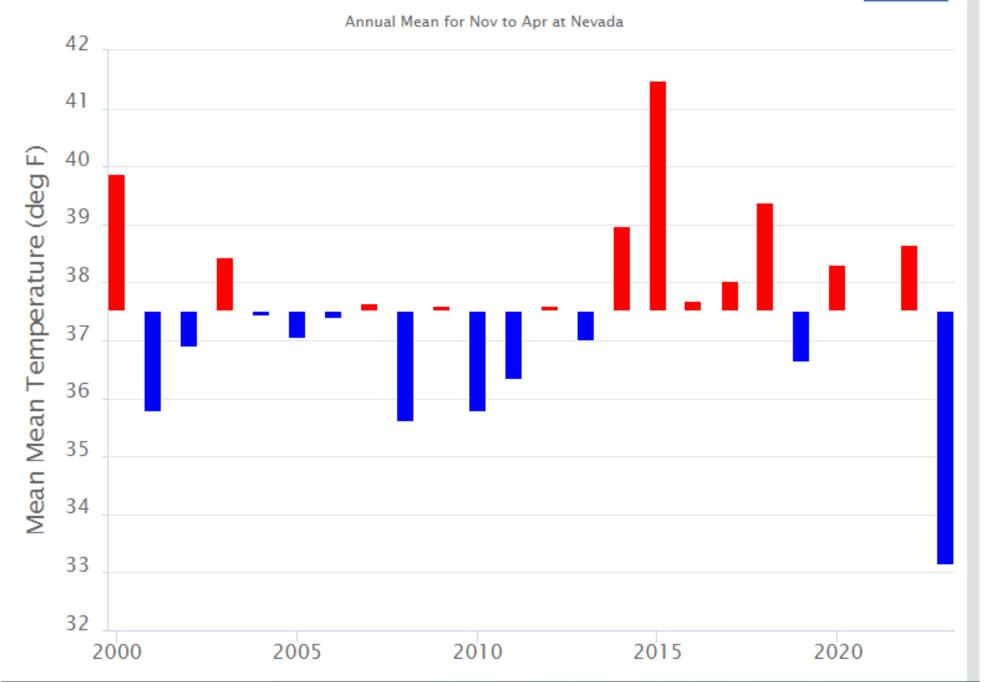






Deviations from 37.51 deg F Mean Temperature (PRISM MONTHLY)

Download



Restoration and Rehabilitation 2017 to 2022:

- 570,609 acres at \$11.7 million
- 44,831 acres pinion juniper removal at \$4.2 million
- 1,680 acres spring, meadow, riparian enhancements at \$1.9 million

Questions