

AUGUST 2015

Weather Digest

Weather Summary

August In Pictures

Special Features

**Temperature &
Precipitation**

Severe Weather

August 2015 Weather Summary

Despite the monsoon pattern continuing for the majority of the month, August was a bit of a disappointment because to a large degree rainfall across the area was slightly below normal. For the monsoon season (June 15 through August), most of the area is still above normal, thanks to a very wet July. September is generally drier, although the past two Septembers have been abnormally wet for many places.

Getting back to August, temperatures ran a bit above normal for the area, probably due to the fact that we were not receiving much rain. The Borderland still received it's fair amount of harsh weather. Of most prominence, very strong downburst thunderstorms winds hit the Elephant Butte Reservoir area on the 18th and damaged some of the marina areas. Heavy rainfall hit the El Paso area on the 2nd, causing some minor flooding in various parts of town. On the 17th, very heavy rain fell in the Silver City area, with nearly 3 inches recorded in a short time. Fortunately, most of the rain fell near the airport and the lowlands south of town, so no major flooding issues were reported.

August finishes up the meteorological summer (June-August), and if you had to characterize this summer, it would be well above normal temperatures but not very extreme. El Paso's summer was the 4th warmest on record, with an average temperature of 84.8 degrees. Despite this warmth, El Paso recorded 17 days with highs above 100 degrees, only 2 days above normal.

August 2015 Weather Summary (con'td)

Looking ahead, the forecast for a strong El Niño pattern continues on track. El Niño patterns usually are not as pronounced in the summer, and indeed this summer did not display El Niño traits as the temperatures were mostly above normal, while precipitation was barely above normal. The pattern usually displays the opposite—above normal precipitation and below normal temperatures. However we are now nearing the fall season and active El Niño patterns usually become more apparent.

What will this September bring? The past two Septembers have been extremely wet and that is without an El Niño pattern. Stay tuned.

August Lightning....



August (Sturgeon) Full Moon



The Full Moon on Saturday, August 29 was a "Supermoon" which was about 10-15% larger than the average size moon. August brought a "perigee" full Moon. This is the time each month when the Moon is nearest to Earth in its orbit (the moon's orbit is an ellipse). When this happens, there are some physical effects, such as elevated tides.

In recent years, the term "Supermoon" has become popular. It's just a catchy way to say "perigee full Moon." In fact, there will be three Supermoons before the end of the year—in August, September and October. The traditional Native American names for this trio of moons is Sturgeon, Harvest, and Hunter moons. Looking forward, September's full moon will bring the closest Supermoon of the year. Further, it will align with a total eclipse of the moon!

**Near Virden
August 1**



**El Paso
August 2**



**El Paso
August 2**



**Alamorgordo
August 10**



El Paso August 1



Alamogordo August 11



WESTERN WILD FIRE SMOKE CIRCULATES AROUND HIGH PRESSURE AND BRINGS A HAZY SKY ALOFT TO THE BORDERLAND



**Silver City-Distant thunderstorm
August 16**



Silver City August 16



Elephant Butte Marina Del Sur takes a wind hit of 70 mph from the north from thunderstorm outflow on August 18



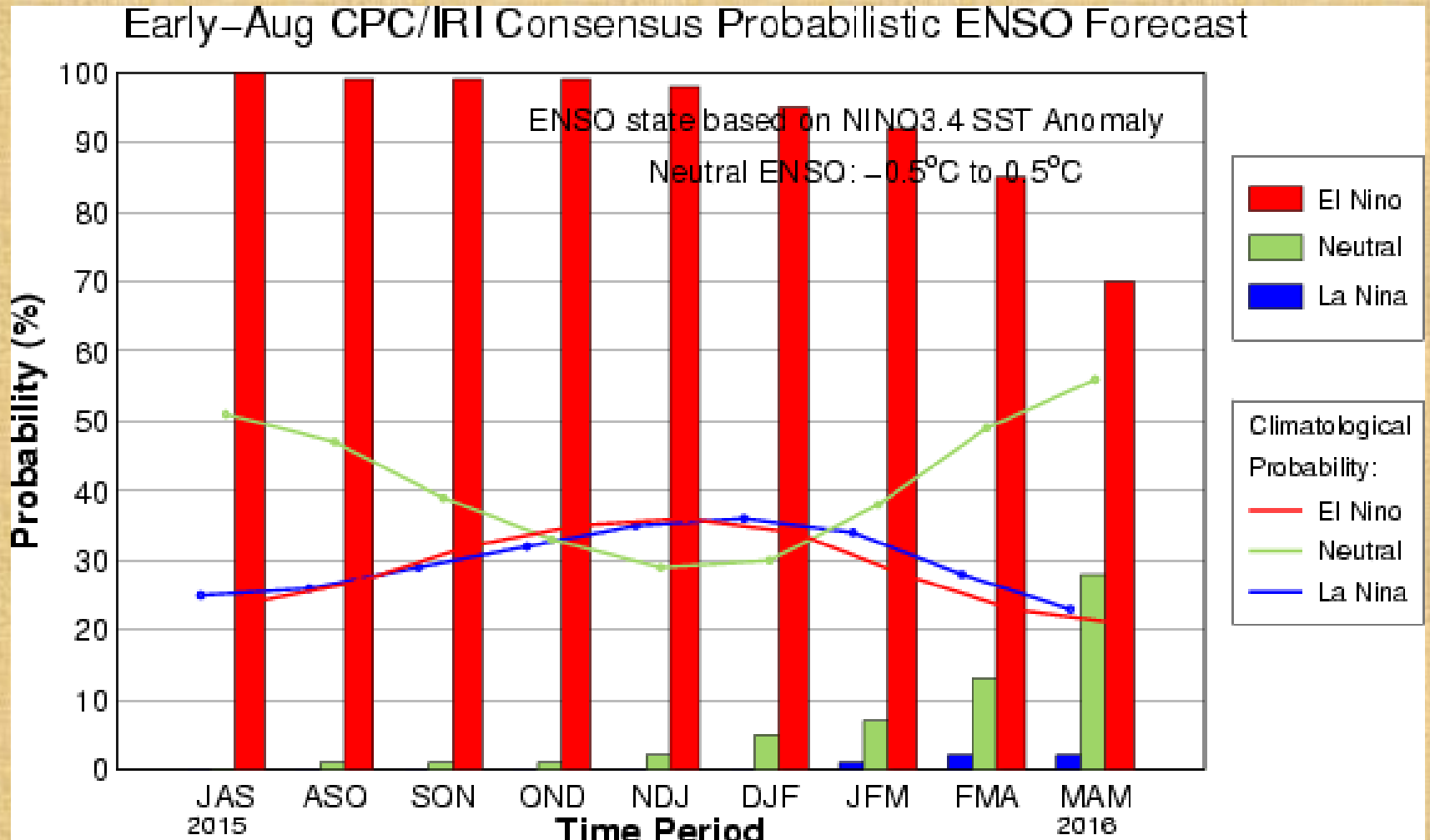
**BLOWING DUST ON THE DISTANT HORIZON AS SEEN FROM INTERSTATE
10 WEST OF LORDSBURG... A FAMILIAR AND POTENTIALLY
DANGEROUS SCENE.**



**CONSECUTIVE DAYS Max Temp 90F or more El Paso Texas-
Still active into September**

Rank	Run Length	Ending Date
1	97	2015-08-31
2	80	1983-09-12
3	79	1994-08-14
-	79	1980-08-10
5	66	1982-09-09
6	65	2011-07-28
7	63	2014-07-28
8	61	2009-08-23
9	57	1956-07-23
10	56	1977-07-22
Period of record: 1942-12-01 to 2015-08-31		

ENSO Forecast from Mid August

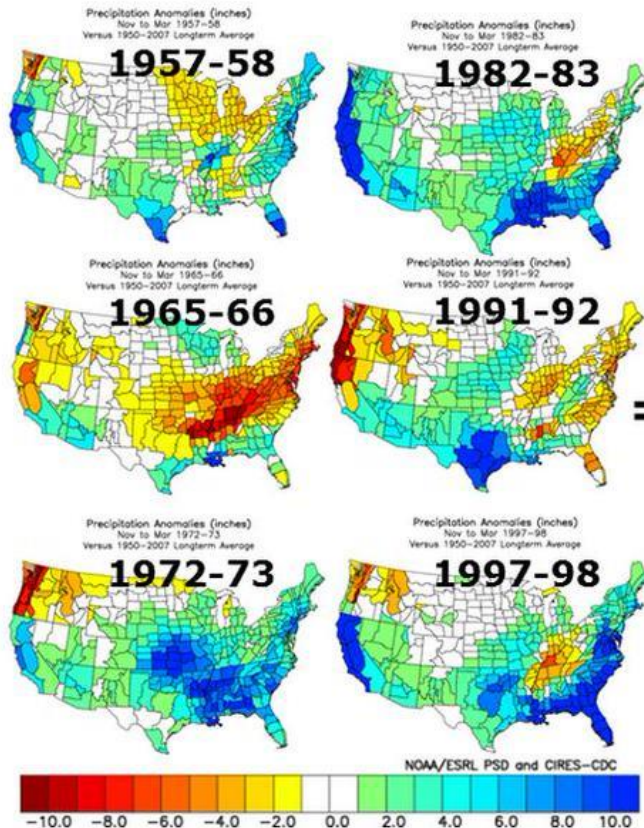


STRONG EL NINO STILL FORECAST INTO SPRING OF NEXT YEAR.

El Niño Precipitation Fingerprint On the Borderland

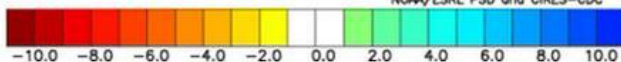
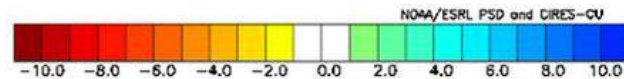
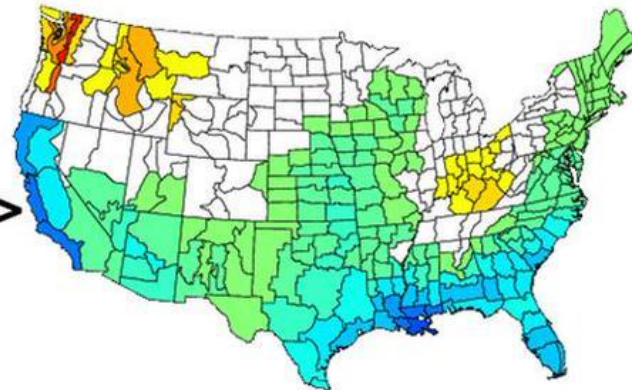


Precipitation Anomalies



Composite

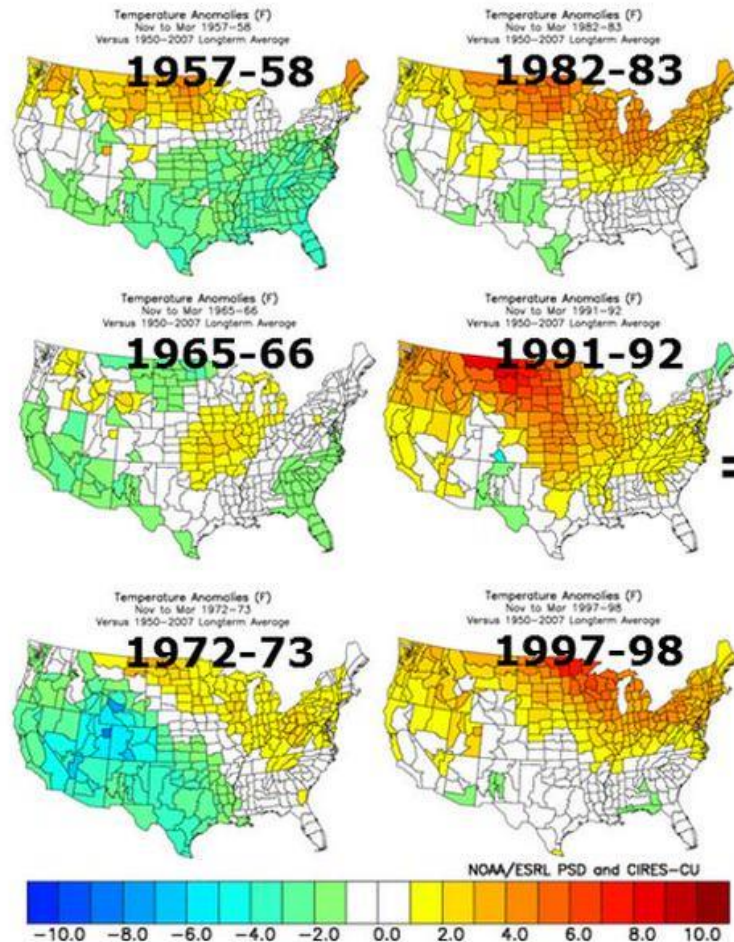
NOAA/NCDC Climate Division Composite Precipitation Anomalies (in)
Nov to Mar 1957-58, 1965-66, 1972-73, 1982-83, 1991-92, 1997-98
Versus 1950-2007 Longterm Average



El Niño Temperature Fingerprint On the Borderland

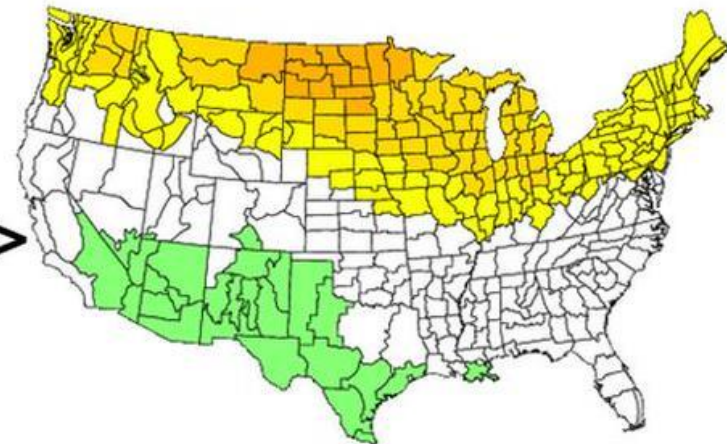


Temperature Anomalies



Composite

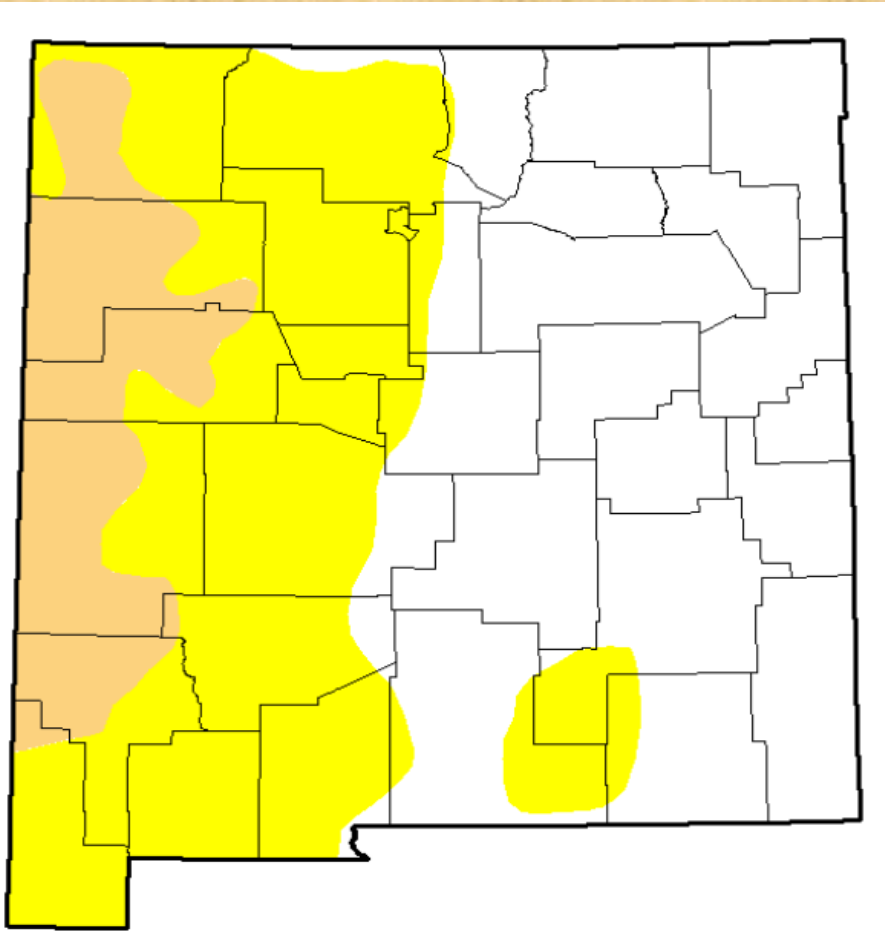
NOAA/NCDC Climate Division Composite Temperature Anomalies (F)
Nov to Mar 1957-58, 1965-66, 1972-73, 1982-83, 1991-92, 1997-98
Versus 1950-2007 Longterm Average



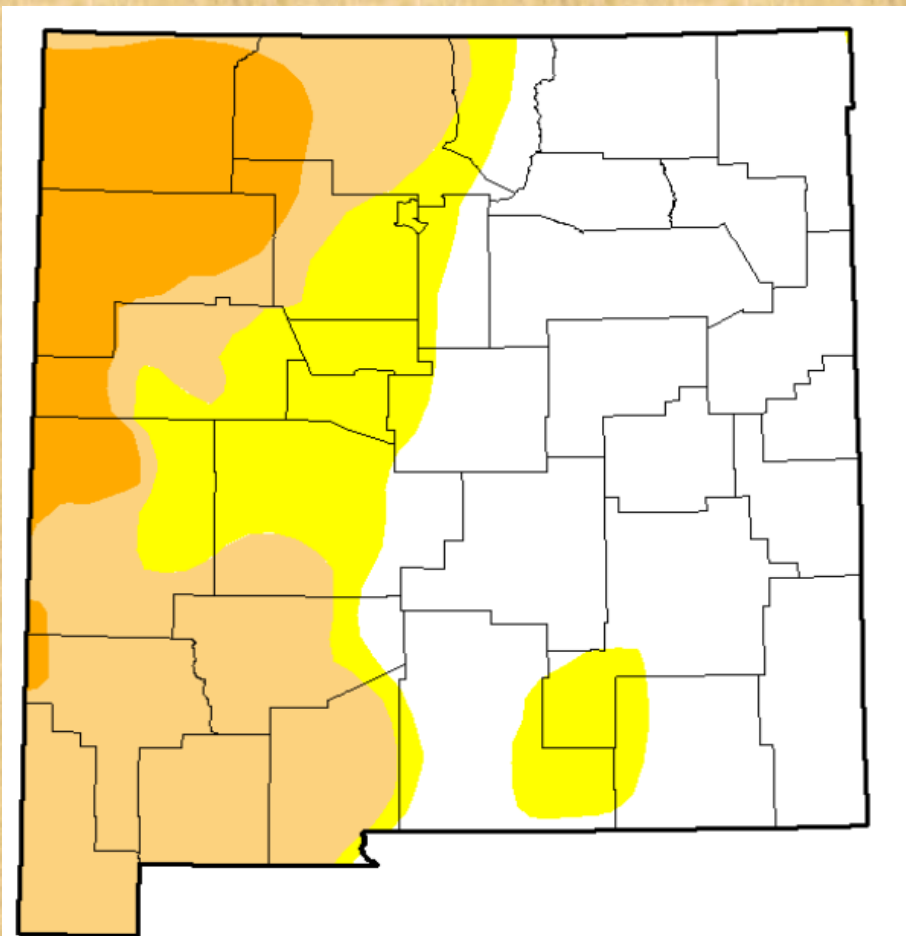
Current drought conditions for New Mexico and 3 month change

- Abnormally Dry – D0
- Moderate Drought – D1
- Severe Drought – D2
- Extreme Drought – D3
- Exceptional – D4

August 25, 2015








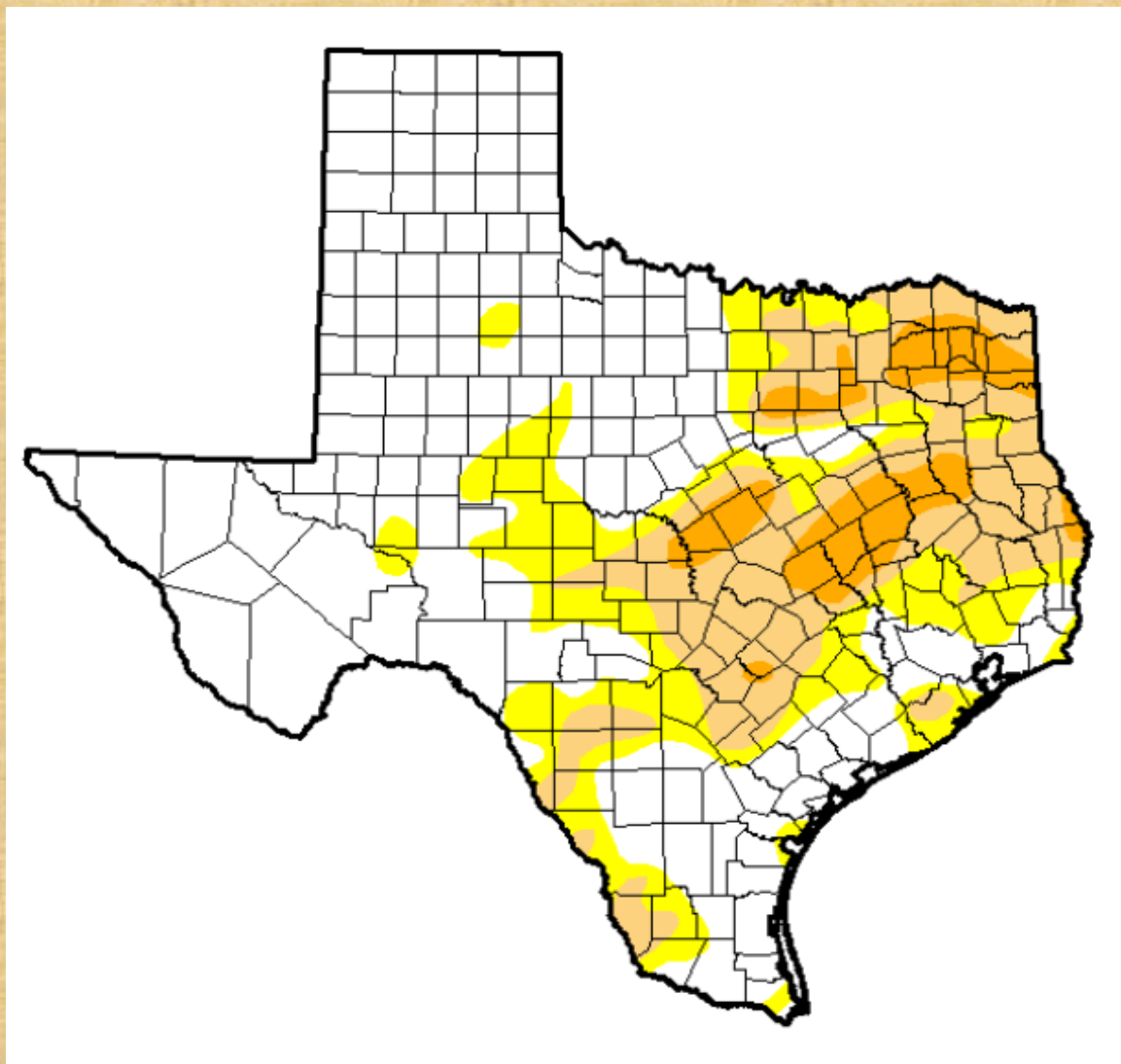
May 26, 2015



Current drought conditions for Texas as of August 25, 2015

Intensity:

-  D0 - Abnormally Dry
-  D1 - Moderate Drought
-  D2 - Severe Drought
-  D3 - Extreme Drought
-  D4 - Exceptional Drought



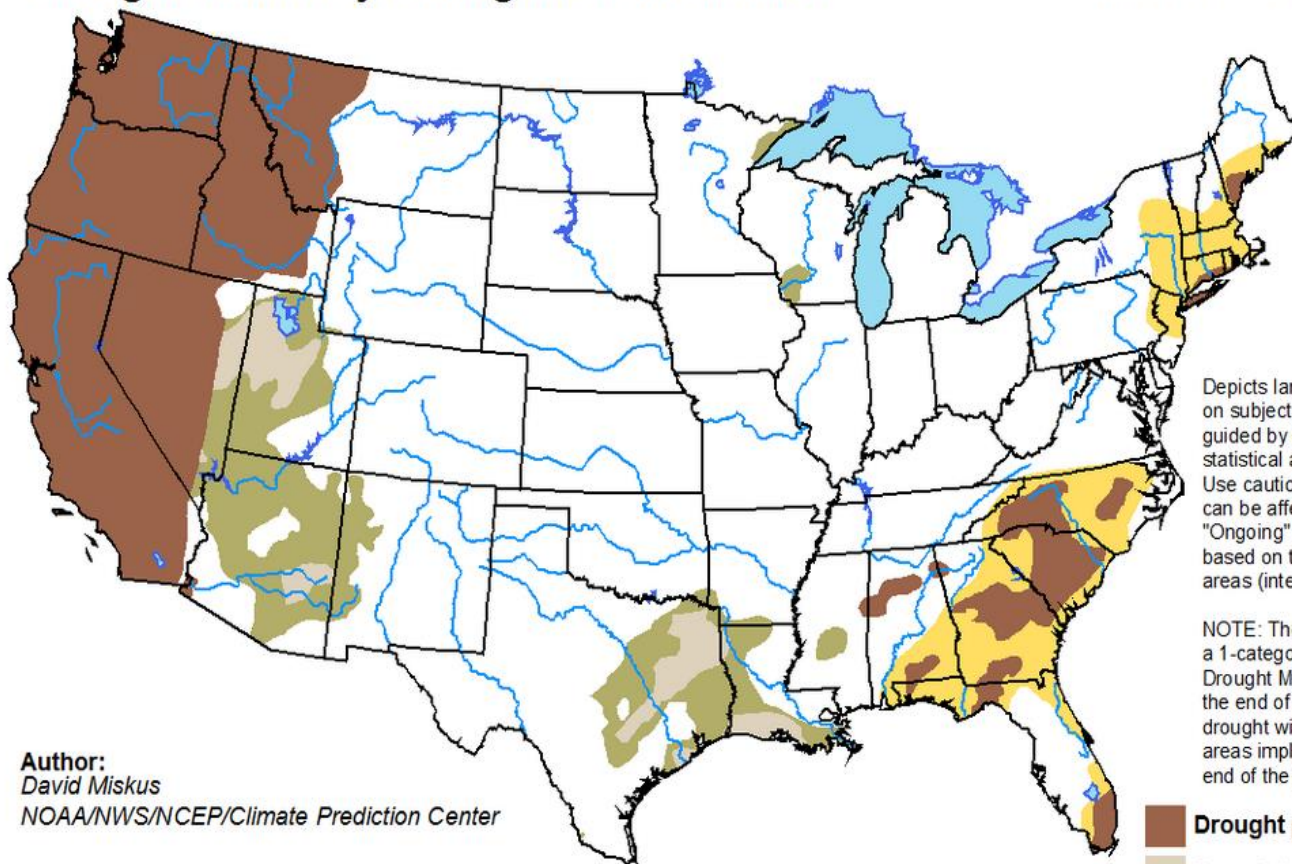
Build your own custom slider maps here at:

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/MapsandData/ComparisonSlider.aspx>

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period





Valid for August 20 - November 30, 2015
Released August 20, 2015

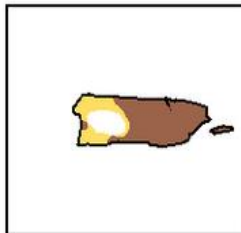
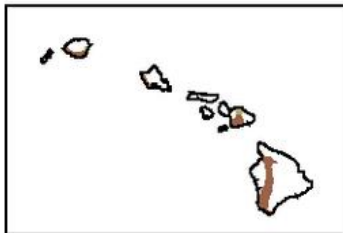
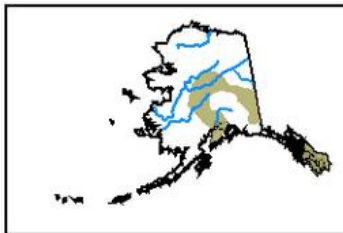


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

Author:
David Miskus
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

-  Drought persists/intensifies
-  Drought remains but improves
-  Drought removal likely
-  Drought development likely

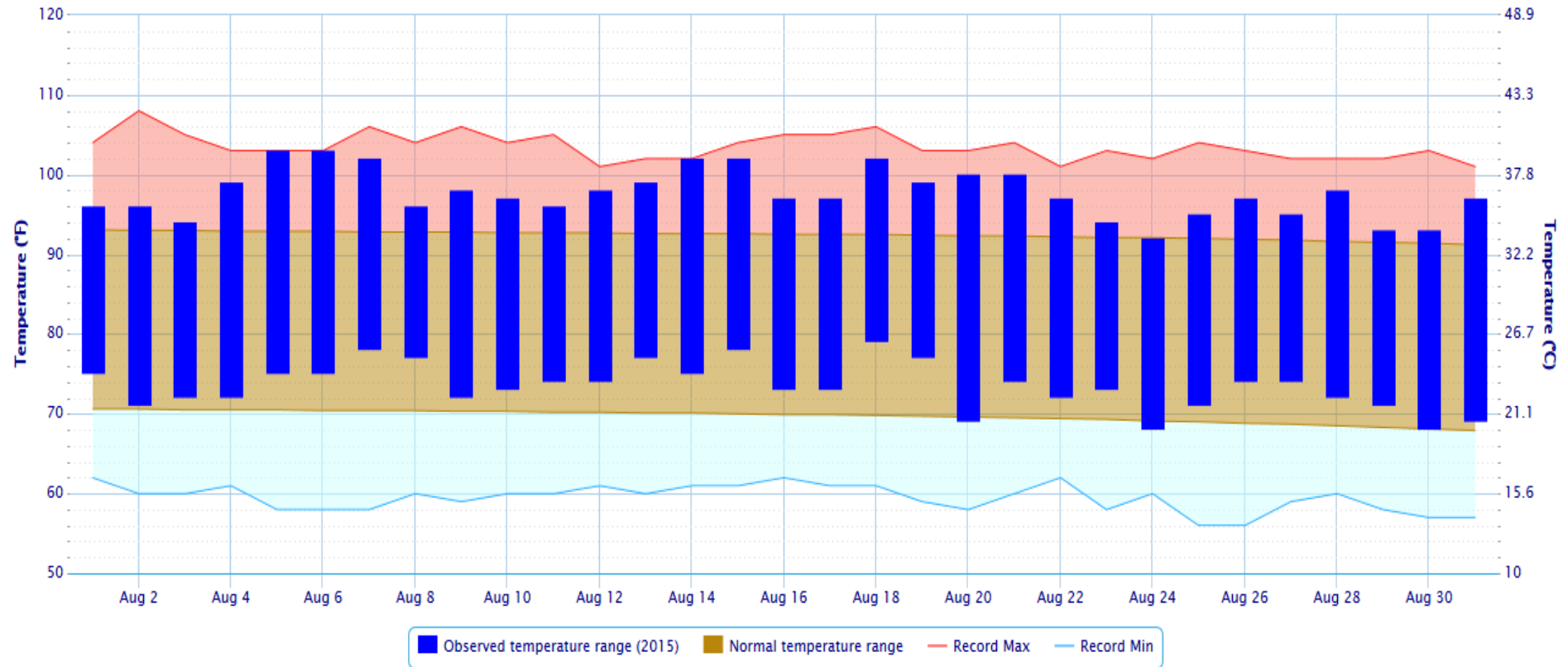


<http://go.usa.gov/hHTe>

Daily temperature data for August in El Paso

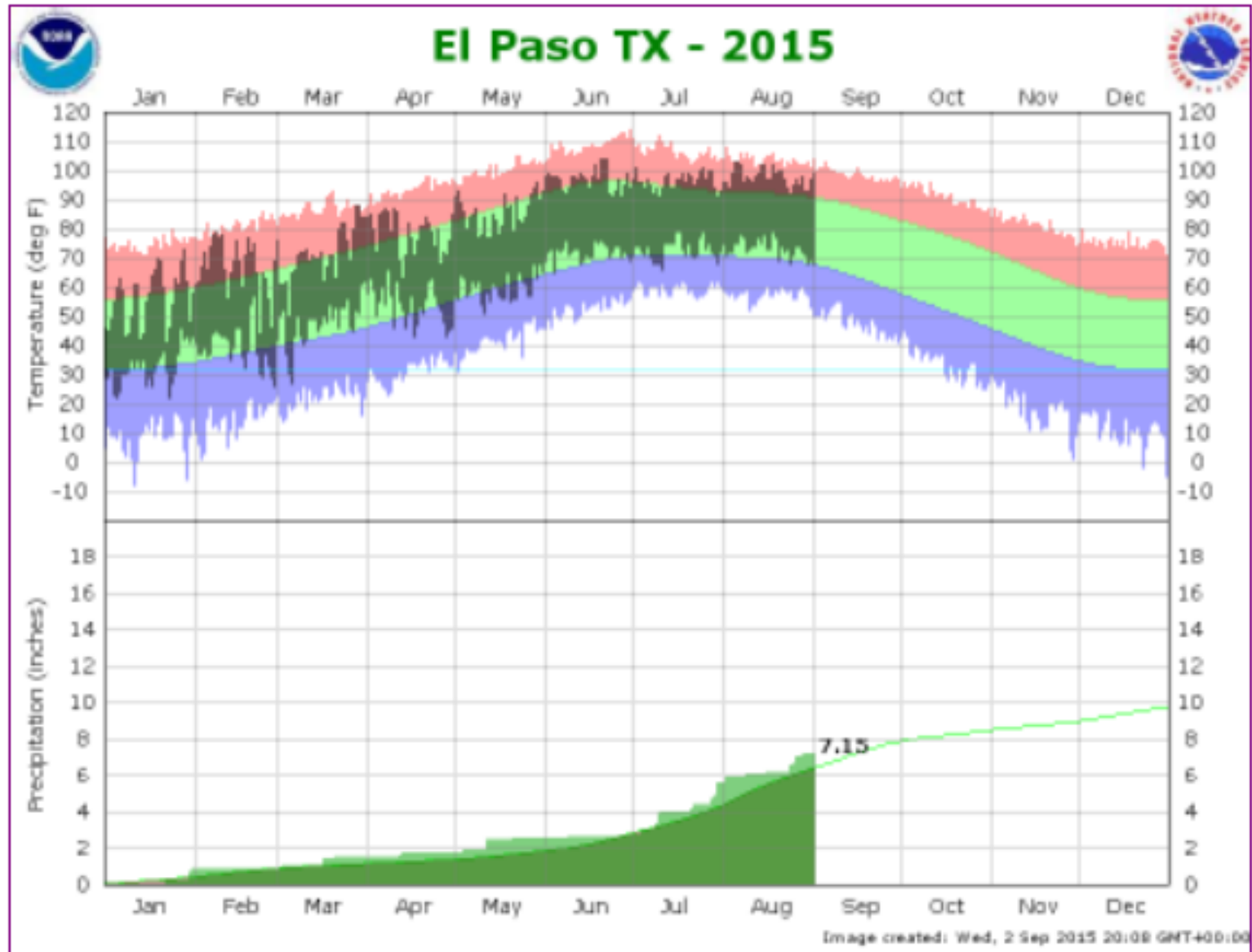
Daily Temperature Data - EL PASO INTL AP, TX

Period of Record - 1942-12-01 to 2015-09-01. Normals period: 1981-2010. Click and drag to zoom chart.



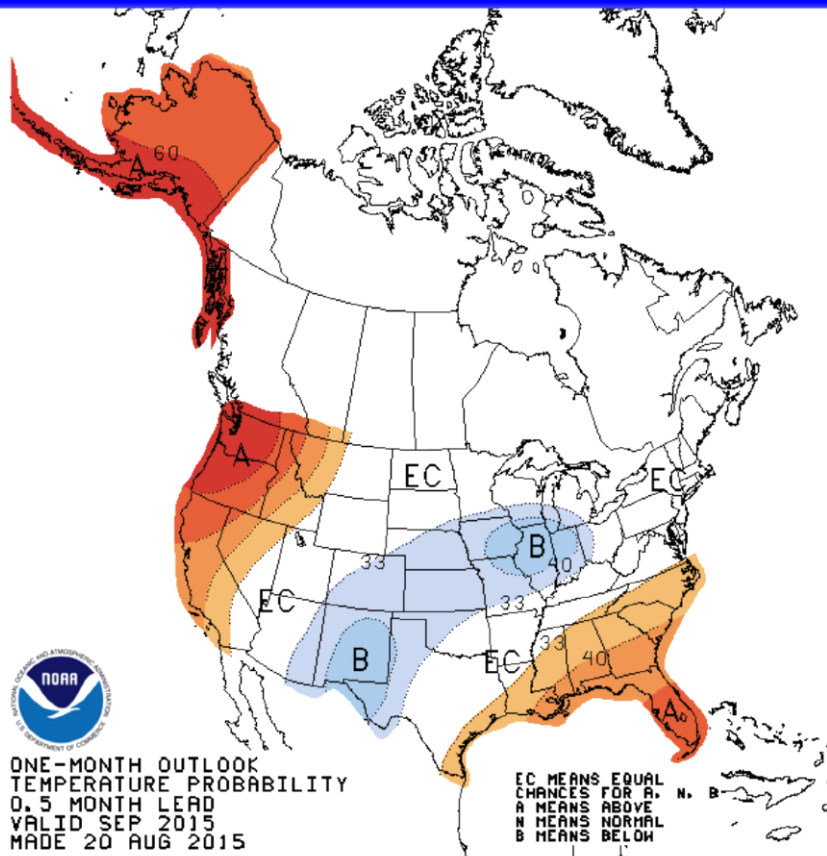
8 days of Max Temp 100F or more...total for year 17

Daily temperature/precipitation data for August in El Paso

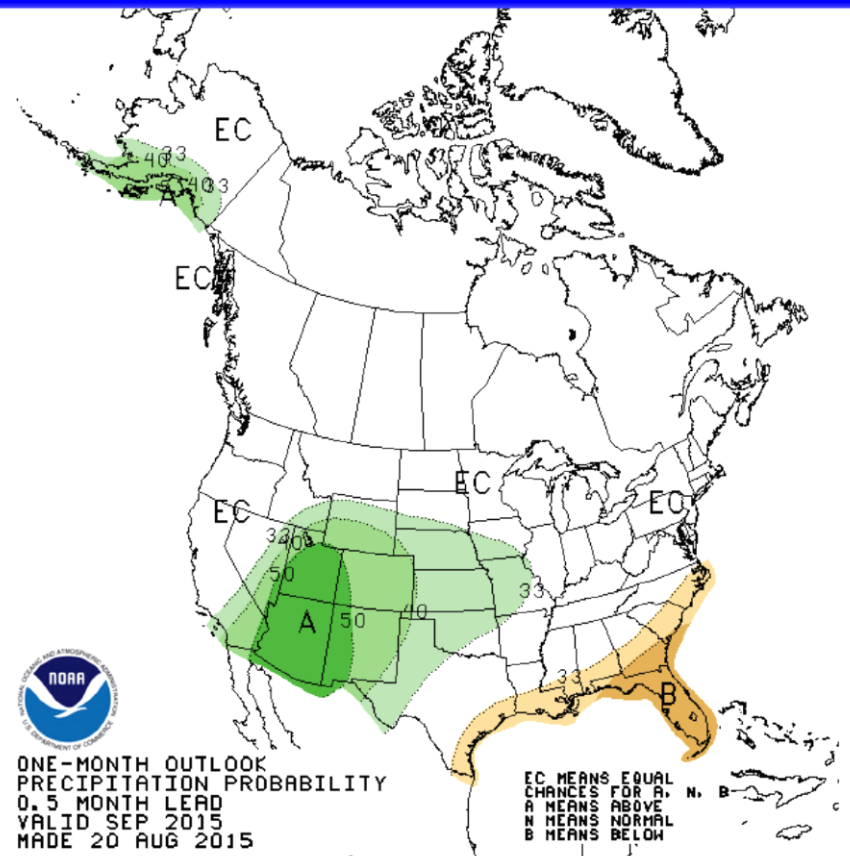


Temperature and precipitation outlook for September 2015

Temperature

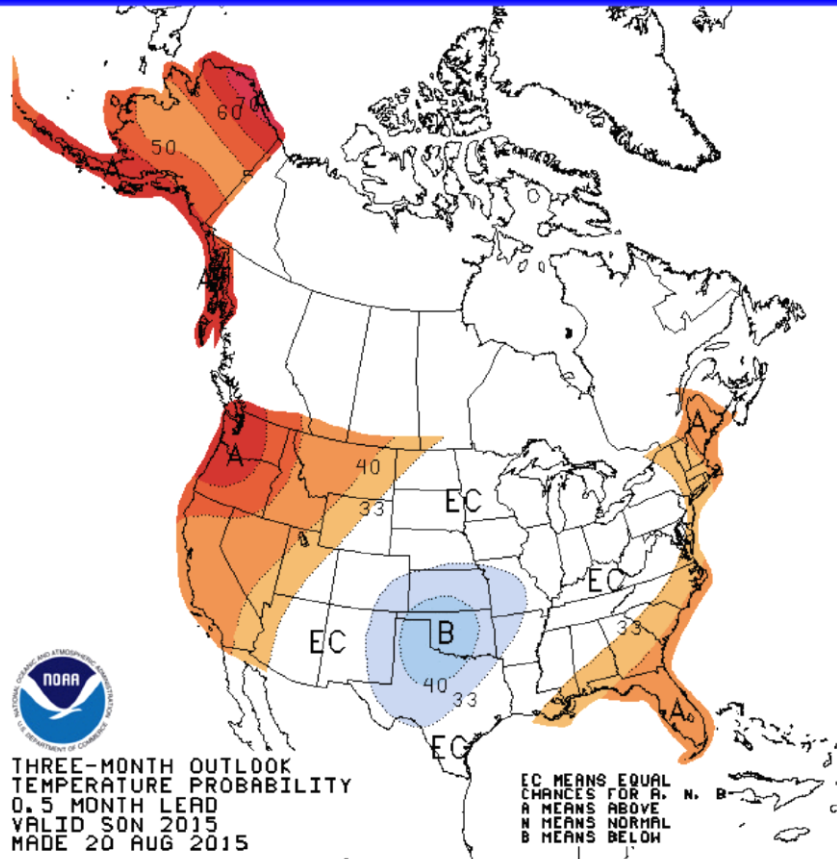


Precipitation

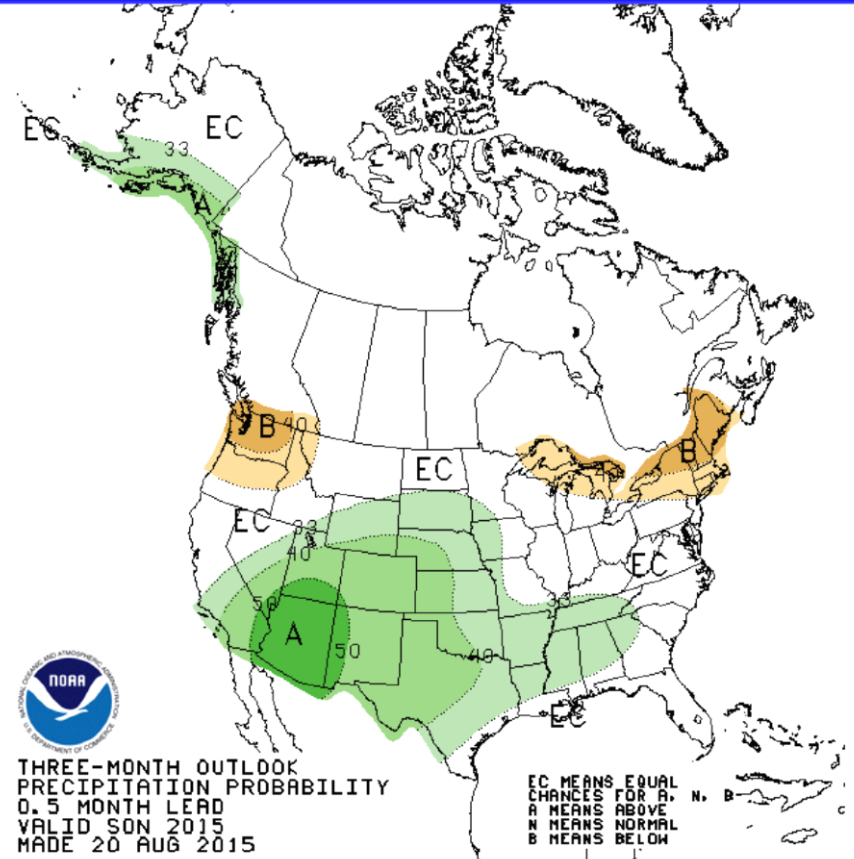


Temperature and precipitation outlook for Sep - Nov 2015

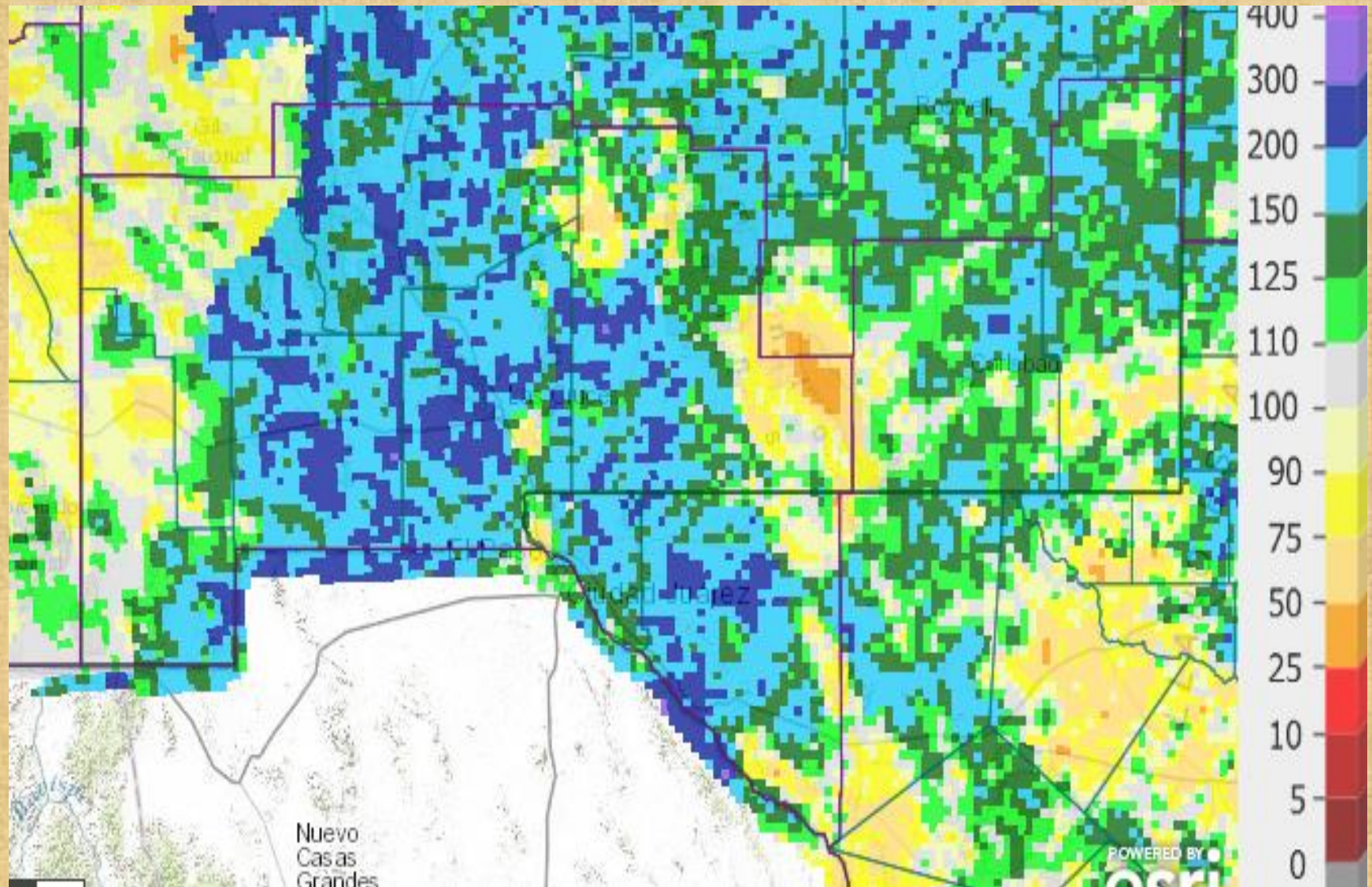
Temperature



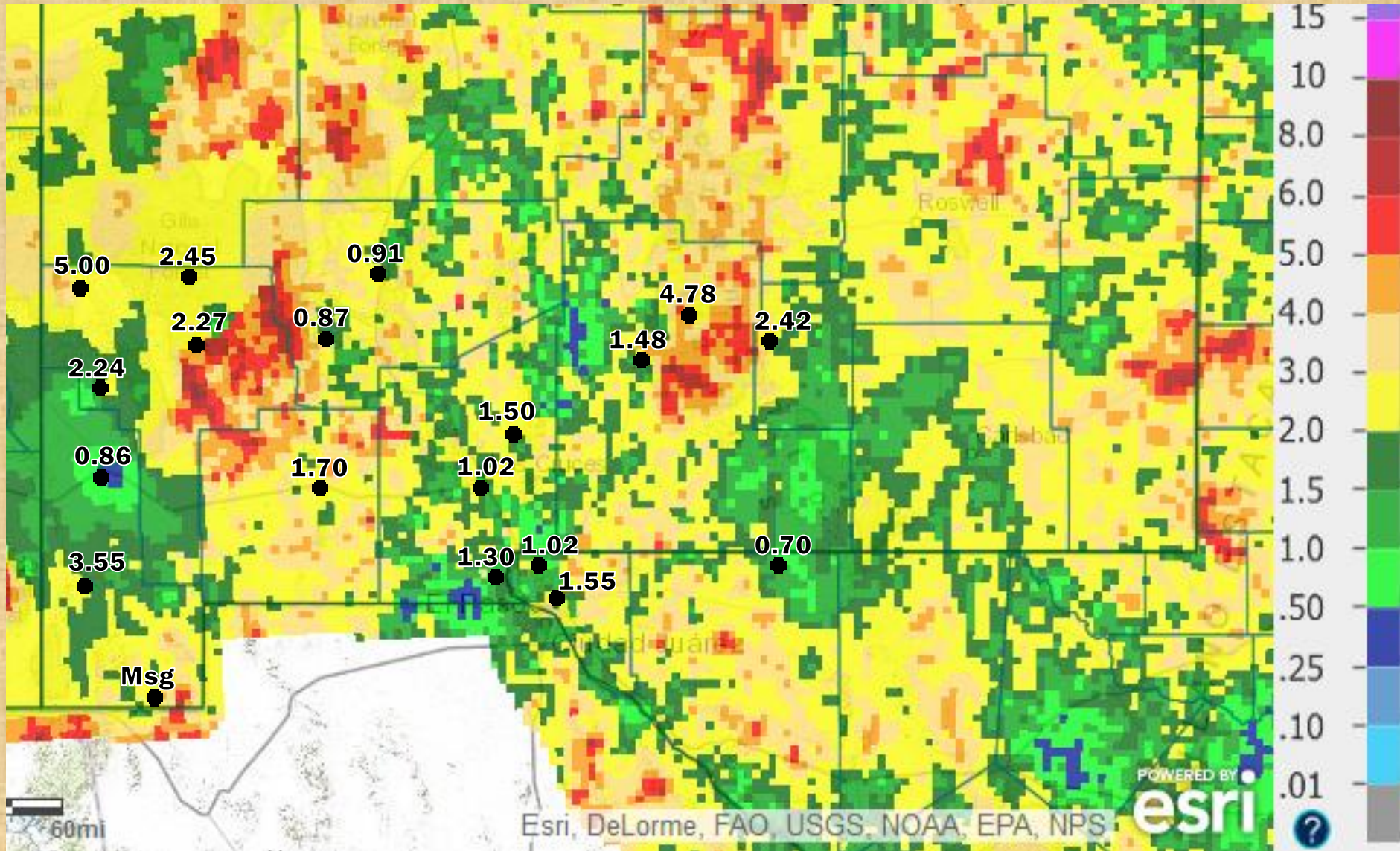
Precipitation



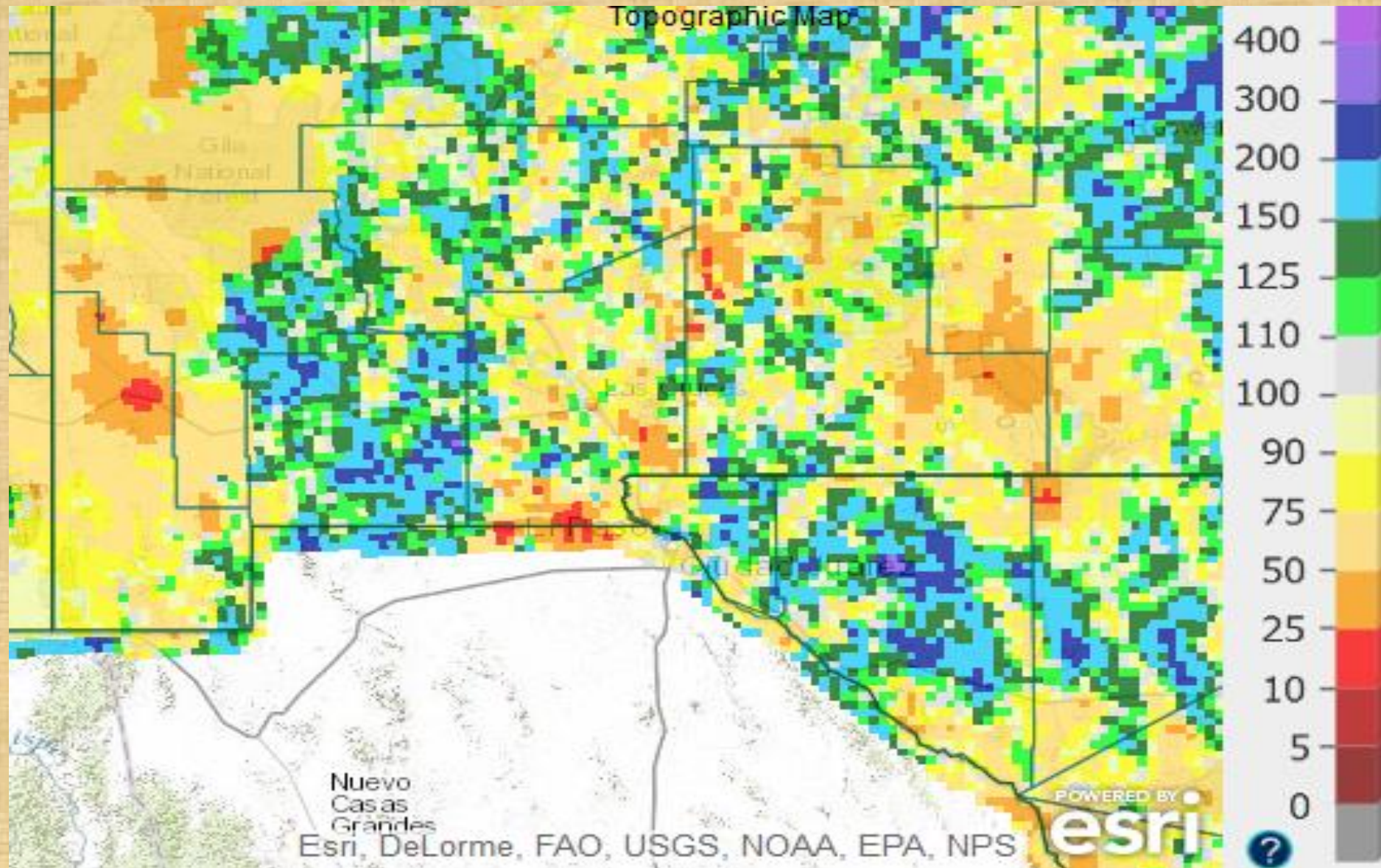
Monsoon season so far: June – August Radar Rainfall (Percent of Normal)



August 2015 radar rainfall estimate with surface rainfall reports

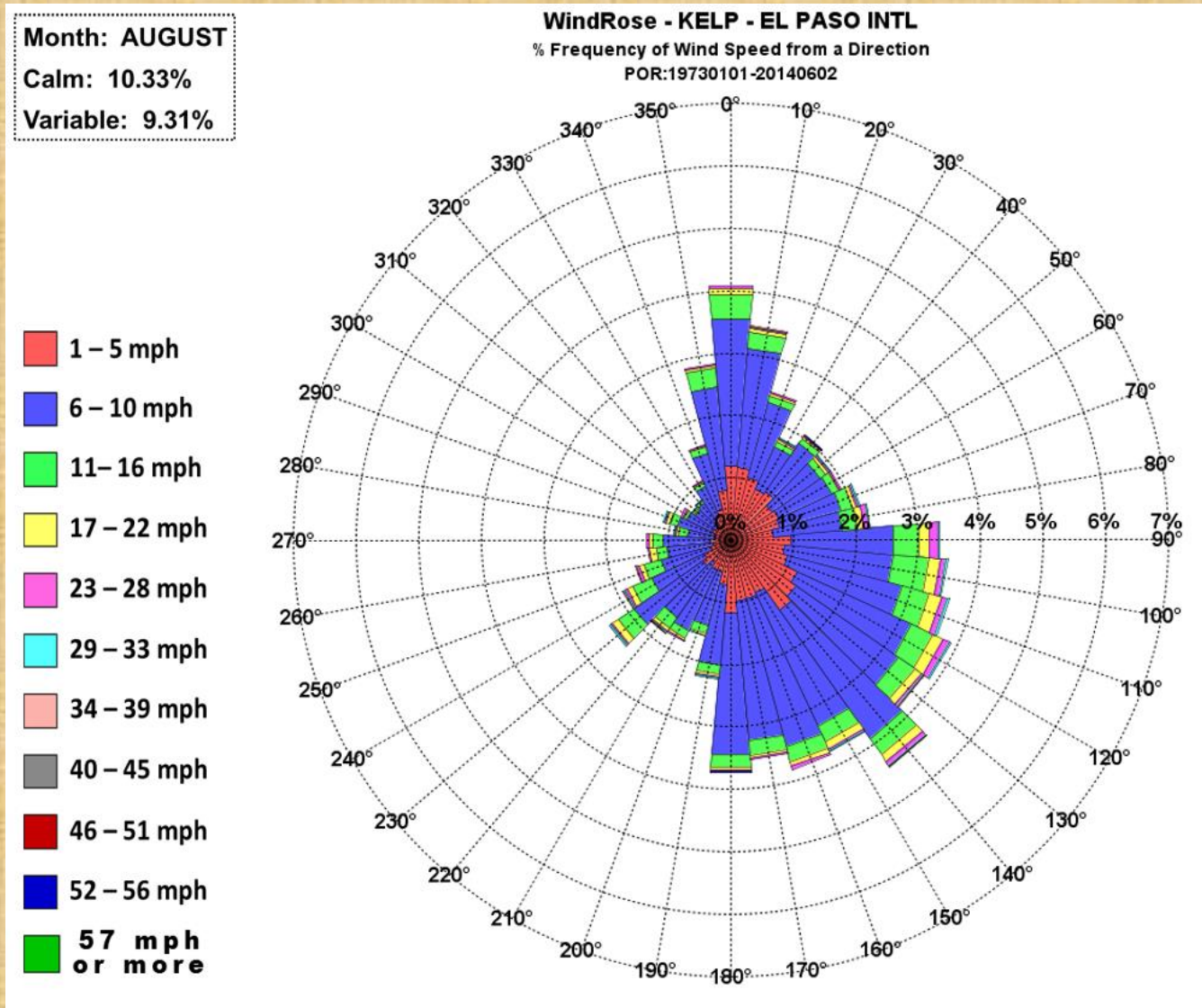


August 2015 Radar Rainfall Estimate (Percent of normal)



Special Features

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/epz/?n=elpwindrosedata>



Selected weather reports August 2015

Date/Time	Location (County)	Event
8/02/2015 819 PM	3 E EL PASO	1.60 INCH RAIN
8/02/2015 845 PM	EL PASO	FLASH FLOOD; WATER RESCUE NEAR BASSET CENTER
8/02/2015 853 PM	3 E EL PASO	FLASH FLOOD; GATEWAY WEST CLOSED NEAR AIRWAY
8/02/2015 700 PM	3 NE EL PASO	.50 INCH HAIL
8/03/2015 700 AM	ANTHONY-DONA ANA CO	.70 INCH RAIN
8/03/2015 700 AM	GILA- GRANT CO	.55 INCH RAIN
8/03/2015 800 AM	COLUMBUS-DONA ANA CO	.60 INCH RAIN
8/03/2015 700 AM	7 SE EL PASO	1.42 INCH RAIN
8/03/2015 700 AM	8 SE EL PASO	1.10 INCH RAIN
8/03/2015 800 AM	2 SW EL PASO	.77 INCH RAIN
8/03/2015 700 AM	ANTHONY-DONA ANA CO	.70 INCH RAIN
8/04/2015 439 PM	3 NE TYRONE-GRANT CO	1.20 INCH RAIN
8/09/2015 834 PM	MULE CREEK-GRANT CO	1.00 INCH RAIN

Selected weather reports August 2015

Date/Time	Location (County)	Event
8/15/2015 510 PM	EL PASO	50 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
8/16/2015 617 PM	TULAROSA-OTERO CO	1.00 INCH RAIN
8/16/2015 319 PM	SILVER CITY-GRANT CO	60 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
8/22/2015 955 PM	SILVER CITY AIRPORT-GRANT CO	2.96 INCH RAIN
8/17/2015 613 PM	BAYARD-GRANT CO	1.50 INCH RAIN
8/17/2015 153 AM	3 NE LAS CRUCES	86 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
8/10/2015 330 PM	ALAMOGORDO, OTERO CO	3.0+ INCHES RAIN EAST SIDE
8/22/2015 800 PM	1 NE FT BAYARD-GRANT CO	.50 INCH HAIL

**National Weather Service office circa 1900
Known then as the Weather Bureau.
Located in the Sheldon Hotel on Oregon St.
Downtown El Paso. Col. Lane and Mr.**

